

THE BELL NEWS

And Ringers' Record.

VOLUME II.

"Great then are the Myteries of Bell Ringing."—SOUTHEY.

London :

E. W. ALLEN, AVE MARIA LANE, PATERNOSTER ROW.

(And of all Booksellers.)

[ENTERED AT STATIONERS' HALL.]

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No. 53. [NEW SERIES.]—VOL. II.

SATURDAY, APRIL 7, 1883.

[ONE PENNY.]



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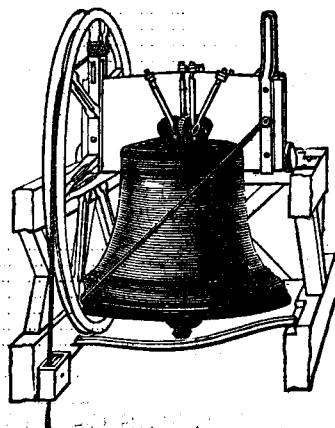
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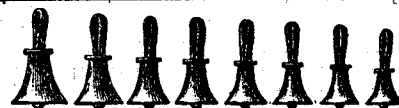
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Easter Meetings and Festivities.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

A SPECIAL MEETING of this Association was held at Writtle on Easter-Monday, when between twenty and thirty members assembled to bid a last farewell to the founder of the Association, their Hon. Secretary, the Rev. J. B. Seaman, who in a few weeks leaves England for Manitoba. Amongst those present were the Assistant Secretary, and Messrs. de Lisle and Scotcher (Galleywood), Gervas, Holmes Esq. (Redenhall), Messrs. S. Hammond, A. Hucksion, and F. Rudkin (Braintree), J. Dains, W. Rowland, W. Hawkes, W. Harvey, and J. Parmenter (Widford), B. Keeble and A. J. Perkins (Romford), A. Pye (Little Heath), H. Argent (Boreham), J. W. Aldridge and F. Bidgood (Brentwood), G. Fitch (Writtle), and M. E. Durrant of Chelmsford.

Ringling at the tower commenced at 10.30. and was carried on till one o'clock, when refreshments were provided at the "Cock and Bell." After the business meeting, and tea at the Vicarage, which was kindly provided by Mr. Seaman, it was resumed, and carried on till about seven o'clock. In the course of the day touches of Grandsire Triples, Bob Major, and Oxford Treble Bob were rung, and courses of Stedman Triples and Kent Treble Bob. Several courses and touches of Grandsire Triples, Bob Major, and Bob Minor etc., were rung double-handed on the handbells.

At 2 p.m. the business meeting was held in the schoolroom, the chair being taken by the Rev. J. B. Seaman. The minutes of the last meeting having been read and signed, the following members were elected: Hon.: Mr. G. Hilliard, Writtle; Ringing, Master E. A. de Lisle, Galleywood, Mr. E. Bedford, Chelmsford, and Mr. J. H. Wilkins, Walthamstow. Mr. Seaman then proposed that the Hon. Assistant Secretary, the Rev. H. A. Cockey, be requested to undertake the duties of Hon. Secretary till Whit-Monday. This proposition was seconded by Mr. Holmes, and carried unanimously. The report for 1882-1883 having been read by Mr. Seaman, who said that its late appearance was partly due to the great quantity of private business which had fallen to his lot during the past year, and partly to the dilatoriness of some of the members whom he could not get to send in their subscriptions till about a week ago, the following resolutions were passed:—"That the report be accepted" moved by Mr. Perkins. "That in future the Hon. Secretaries' expenses at meeting of the Association be charged under the head of expenses at such meetings," moved by Mr. Seaman. "That the election of Mr. F. E. Dawe, in the belfry at Chelmsford, on the occasion of the peal of December 26th, and a similar election at Walthamstow, on December 30th, be confirmed," moved by Mr. Cockey. Certain alterations were then made in the rules, and two new rules added, notification of which will be sent to each belfry at the earliest opportunity.

At the conclusion of the business, Mr. Seaman having resigned his Secretaryship, Mr. Cockey asked the members present to elect Mr. Seaman a life member of the Association, and this request having been unanimously acceded to, he proceeded in a short but expressive speech to bid farewell in the name of the Association to their founder and late Secretary, the Rev. J. B. Seaman. After alluding in warm terms to the greatness of the work which Mr. Seaman had done, and the untiring way in which he had worked for the good of the Association, and having assured him of the high esteem in which he always had been, and always would be, held by every member of the Society, he asked him to accept from the ringing members of the Association, as a slight testimonial of their regard, a set of twelve handbells. The bells were then brought forward and rounds and "Queen's" rung upon the twelve. Mr. Seaman then thanked the subscribers for their appropriate and most acceptable present, and bade them all farewell, assuring them that their faces would often rise before his mind's eye as he handled those bells in a distant land.

Messrs. Hucksion, Hammond, and Rudkin then rang two tunes on the bells, and Messrs. Pye, Keeble, Perkins, and Hammond a touch of Grandsire Triples. All who heard them agreed that the bells, which are by Mears and Stainbank, in G, were one of the most melodious sets they had ever heard, and their fittings came in for a special word of praise. The tenor will bear the inscription:—"Presented to the Rev. J. B. Seaman, by the ringing members of the Essex Association, 1883." The next meeting will be the Annual Meeting, which will be held on Whit-Monday, May 14th.

All communications are in future to be addressed to the Rev. H. A. Cockey, Rettendon Hall, Battles Bridge, S.O., Essex.

ANNIVERSARY MEETING AT GARSTON, LANCASHIRE.

EASTER MONDAY, March 26th, being the fourth anniversary of the opening of Garston bells, ringers attended from Liverpool, Chester, Farnworth, and Runcorn, and rang during the day several touches of Grandsire Triples, Bob Major, Bob Minor, &c. By the kindness of Miss Lightbody (the donor of the bells), and Mr. S. Gough, church-

warden and Superintendent ringer, an excellent dinner was provided in the Cocoa Rooms, when upwards of thirty ringers sat down, presided over by the vicar, the Rev. J. F. Hewson.

After dinner the following ringers rang upwards of 3000 changes of Bob Major, time not permitting of a full peal being rung, owing to the number of ringers present.

* Mr. S. Gough (Garston), 1; J. Errington (Chester), 2; J. Large (Farnworth), 3; J. Gibson (Chester), 4; * J. R. Pritchard (Liverpool), 5; J. Moulton (Chester), 6; C. Price (Chester), 7; * J. Aspinwall (Liverpool; conductor), 8. * College Youths.

An excellent tea was served up at 7.0 p.m. (again in the Cocoa Rooms), after which several touches were rung on the handbells, including Grandsire and Bob Maximus, Grandsire Caters, Kent Treble Bob Major, &c. Also a touch of Grandsire Caters (684 changes), by the following:—T. Beacall, 1-2; J. Gibson, 3-4; J. Moulton, 5-6; J. R. Pritchard (conductor), 7-8; J. Errington, 9-10.

Altogether a most enjoyable day was spent by all present, and a hearty vote of thanks was accorded to Miss Lightbody and Mr. Gough for their kind hospitality.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

THE ringing world will probably look in the pages of "THE BELL NEWS" at this festive season (Easter) of the year for some performances, or, at least, an account of the proceedings of the above noted society, but as we can be in only one place at a time, can only therefore attempt to give a short account of what took place (by way of ringing) in the neighbourhood of that part of the county of York called "Hallamshire."

On Saturday, March 24th, the following members from Sheffield, Rotherham, London, Leeds, and Ashton-under-Lyne, met to ring a peal of Stedman Caters on the noted peal of ten at Wakefield, but unfortunately, they did not succeed, through a mishap, after ringing twelve courses. W. Pawson, 1; T. Lockwood, 2; F. E. Dawe, 3; C. H. Hattersley (conductor), 4; J. Hutchinson, 5; T. Hattersley, 6; S. Wood, 7; G. Flint, 8; R. Binns, 9; C. H. Rawson, 10. Tenor 32 cwt. in D. Treble Bob Royal was then rung, and after the company had adjourned, and performed courses of Caters and Cinques on some antique handbells, Mr. S. Wood, at the earnest request of the London visitors, tapped a course of Treble twelve, followed by a touch of Grandsire Cinques, on the pianoforte, which brought a very pleasant (though unsuccessful meeting to a close.

On Monday, the 26th, a company met to attempt a peal of Stedman Caters upon the famous Rotherham bells, which are a sister peal to those at Wakefield, but after ringing nine courses, it was found impossible to proceed further on account of the tenor going so badly. G. Briggs, 1; C. H. Hattersley, 2; F. Coates, 3; J. Athey, 4; W. Coates, 5; J. Hale, 6; G. Flint, 7; T. Hattersley, 8; F. E. Dawe (conductor), 9; A. Rodgers and G. Potter, 10. Tenor 32 cwt. in D.

A visit was also made to Chesterfield (Derbyshire), the place with the curious twisted spire, and other ringing took place.

THE COLLEGE YOUTHS AT BARKING, ESSEX.

As will have been seen by our records of last week, a few members of this Society visited this little Essex town to enjoy a pull on the bells of the ancient Abbey of St. Margaret. We have before alluded to the gentleman who is at the head of ringing affairs here—the courteous steeple-keeper, Mr. Sewell, and it is through his influence that a new treble, by Messrs. Warner and Sons, has been erected in the place of the old one. After the peal recorded, (which is the first rung with the new bell) the ringers adjourned to the "Red Lion" with many friends from London, where they passed a very enjoyable evening, by ringing on handbells, songs, etc., Mr. Dwight kindly contributing his popular song, "The Famous Peal of Stedman Cinques." The company dispersed at an early hour after passing a hearty vote of thanks to Messrs. Davies and Sewell and other of the Barking ringers for the kind reception they had received.

WORCESTER DIOCESAN AND ADJOINING DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

ON Easter-Monday, March 26th, a Quarterly Meeting of this Association was held, by the kind permission of the Churchwardens (in the absence of the Vicar), in the School-room adjoining the parish church of Kidderminster, when a good number of ringers attended from various parts of the Diocese. Ringing commenced about mid-day on the fine ring of bells at the old church, and was kept up till 7 o'clock in the evening. The Association, which is newly-formed, is making good progress. Its financial position is not to be despised for so young a body, the funds at present amounting to something over £7. Votes of thanks being passed to the presiding officers, and to the Churchwardens for the use of the tower and school, the meeting terminated. Afterwards, the ringers adjourned to the "Sailor's Return" inn, where tunes and touches of Grandsire Triples, Treble Bob, and Cinques, were rung upon handbells, and a very pleasant day was spent.

BEDALE, YORKSHIRE.

THE town of Bedale is situate in Wensleydale, and is chiefly noted for its excellent peal of eight bells, the tenor of which is reputed to weigh 28 cwt, but sounds and pulls as if it were something less. The two trebles were added to the old six a few years ago, at which tune the peal was rehung by Mr. T. Mallaby, of Masham. The go of the bells is very fair, except the excruciating noise from the pullies, and the fittings of the ringing-chamber would be more complete if they included sally-beams to guide the ropes at a proper distance above the ringing-floor, and the bigger bells were provided with boxes. On Easter-Monday, a party of ringers from Stockton and Ripon visited the town, and rang some Bob Major and Grandsire Triples, which was generally well struck, although few touches were completed. This was the fate of a date touch of Grandsire Triples, composed and conducted Mr. T. Clark, and rung in excellent style within a few leads of the end, when two bells became displaced. The Rector and other gentlemen of Bedale entertained the visitors and local ringers to dinner at the "Black Swan," where twenty-two sat down.

Amongst those present in the belfry in the afternoon, was Sir H. B. Peirse, Bart., of Bedale Hall. The Stockton ringers, accompanied by Messrs. Clark and Pick of Ripon, visited Northallerton on their way home, where some Bob Major was rung. A set of bells more out of tune than these it would be hard to find, and as a ringer observed, they are only fit to be fired at a wedding.

On Tuesday, Messrs. Clark and Pick, and four of the Stockton company, rang a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor at Stockton, and on the same afternoon, some Bob Major at Middlesbrough.

THE ROYAL CUMBERLANDS AT WALTHAMSTOW.

ON Easter-Monday, eight members of this society succeeded in ringing on the bells of St. Mary's church, a true peal of Kent Treble Bob Major, 5024 changes, in 3 hrs. 10 mins., of which method there has not been a peal rung on these bells for 105 years, the last being rung in the Oxford variation by the Ancient Society of College Youths. Several of the party afterwards adjourned to a respectable hostelry not far from the church, where some capital handbell ringing was done, touches of Grandsire Triples, Caters, and Cinques, Treble Bob, and Stedman Triples being performed, and in which the following ringers took part:—Messrs. Gobbett, Jarman, Doran, Gardom, Randall, and Bate, all members of the above society; with Messrs. Davidson and Smith, of the College Youths. The visitors wish to return thanks to Mr. Maynard for having everything in readiness in the tower, but the greatest disappointment was that the worthy Editor of "THE BELL NEWS" did not put in an appearance, which was looked for by all.

[We assure our valued contributor that we were entirely unaware of this meeting; and we are somewhat surprised that one or two of our oldest ringing friends, who were present, did not advise us of their intention to visit Walthamstow on the above day.—ED.]

THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

THE first annual meeting of this body was held at the Swan, Bedford on Easter Monday. The proceedings began at two o'clock with a substantial repast, of which 32 practising and honorary members from Cambridge, Woburn, Biddenham, Bedford, &c., partook. The Rev. R. E. R. Watts presided, and, with Mr. Elger (treasurer) in the vice chair, was supported by the Vicar of Bromham, Mr. Thomas Bull, Mr. Edwin Ransom, Mr. Baker (secretary to the Cambridge Society and son of the Rector of Eversholt), Mr. Charles Herbert, the indefatigable secretary, and later on by Mr. Bagnall, of Milton Ernest Hall. After grace the Secretary read many letters of regret from absent supporters and friends, especially from the Bishop of the diocese, Mr. C. L. Higgins, the Archdeacon of Bedford, the Rector of Toddington (enclosing his subscription), Mr. Cary Elwes Mr. Blayds, Mr. Hurst, of Cavendish Grammar School, Suffolk, and the Rev. K. A. Smith, Cambridge, who held out hopes of a change-ringing society being soon formed for the whole diocese.

Mr. Herbert read the report from the committee, and Mr. Elger his financial report, which on the motion of Mr. Bull and Mr. Chasty, were ordered to be printed and circulated, and we no doubt shall be able on a future occasion to refer to it more fully than we can at present.

Mr. Bull proposed that steps be taken to provide Seage's, apparatus for the St. Paul's bells, by which means practice may be carried on by ringers without sounding the bell. He offered, from a fund at his disposal, £2 towards the cost, which is nearly £20, and on the motion of Mr. Hill and Mr. Ransom, a like contribution was voted out of the Association's funds. Mr. Elger supported the proposal, which was agreed to, under the feeling that though bellringing was incidental to St. Paul's square, the inhabitants who desire to have less of the sound should not be put to the whole cost of this apparatus, which was invented in the interest of scholars of the art. The Chairman

mentioned the subject of a special "bell" library, to which Mr. Ransom had given a few books by way of beginning. The interesting reunion continued till five, when a special service was held in St. Paul's Church.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

A QUARTERLY MEETING of the above Association was held on Easter Monday, at Christ Church, Southport. Over sixty members were present from Manchester, Bolton, Ormskirk, Eccles, Walton-le-Dale, Westhaughton, Walkden, &c. Ringing was commenced at 10 a.m., and continued at intervals during the day by various mixed bands, who rang touches of Grandsire Triples principally. There were also rung two 720s of Plain Bob Minor. At 5.0 p.m. a meeting was held in the schoolroom, under the presidency of the Rev. Canon Clark, M.A., vicar of Christ Church. He approved most heartily of the objects of the Association, as he thought it most desirable that all who were officially connected with a church should be known as sober, respectable, and God-fearing men. He trusted that in their several districts they would be able to work harmoniously with their clergy and churchwardens, as without unity very little good could be effected.

Five new performing members were then elected, and one honorary member (Rev. Canon Clark). A vote of thanks was then proposed to the Rev. Canon Clark for allowing the Association the use of the bells, and also to the Rev. H. R. Williams, M.A., through whose energy, enthusiasm, and instrumentality, two new bells had lately been added to the old ring of six and the old six rehung. Both votes were carried with acclamation. A cordial vote of thanks was also passed to the local ringers for the very kind manner in which they had received the Association, and also for the very efficient arrangements made.

Afterwards the secretary showed to the meeting a specimen copy of the certificate which it is intended to issue to the members of the Association. This certificate is the result of the deliberations of the committee of the Association and a sub-committee appointed at the last annual meeting. The certificate appeared to meet with the general approval of the ringers present.

The old six bells have recently been rehung with new gudgeons by Mr. Thomas Peat, engineer and millwright, of Farnworth, near Bolton. The same gentleman has made and fixed Ellacombe chiming apparatus to them, on an improved principle, the whole of his workmanship giving the highest satisfaction to the Churchwardens and the bells committee.

Any visitors to Southport may be favored with a touch on the bells in any of the three following methods: Kent Treble Bob, Plain Bob, or Grandsire Triples. Practice-nights, Monday and Thursday, at Eight p.m.

AN IMPORTANT NOTIFICATION.—On Monday, April 9th, a mixed band of Ringers of the Norwich Diocesan Association, will make an attempt to ring the long peal of 16,608 changes of Treble Bob Major, at St. Mary's church, Debenham, Suffolk, the composition of the late Mr. T. Day, of Birmingham. Debenham is a small town situated 14 miles from Ipswich by road, and 7 miles from Eye, the nearest Railway Station.

AN ANSWER WANTED.—A well-known ringer writes:—"Dear Mr. Editor,—My attention has been drawn to two paragraphs in the *Ipswich Journal*, of March 27th, neither of which can I understand, much as I should like to. The first is the marvellous discovery made by some ringers at Eye, Suffolk, on Easter Monday, in the work-shops of Messrs. Day and Son, church bell hangers—That in the bell frame, undergoing inspection, the 'Bells will all hang level.' Do you see the joke? The other, which I think wants explanation, is the performance at the Tower, Ipswich, during the afternoon of the same day, when 'A grand peal of double fives was attempted.' What's double fives? When do they try it again? Dear Mr. Editor, please let me know what you think of the 'rare goings on in our county.'—Your old friend—ALLINAMUDDLE.

HEIGHINGTON CHURCH BELLS (Durham).—On Tuesday, March 27th, in the presence of many of the parishioners, the three old bells of Heighington Church were lowered from their resting place in the tower, where for about 450 years they have sounded forth "over hill and dell," preparatory to be sent to Messrs. Taylors' Foundry, at Loughborough, to be quarter turned and sent back with three large bells. These bells are some of the most interesting in the North of England, dated from about 1430. All have inscriptions—1. O Mater dia, un sana, Virgo Maria; 2. Tu Petre, pulsatus, perousos mitiga flatus; 3. Purgatos aule coeli, tros jurigito, Paule; and the first one has an image of the Virgin and child. The tone of all these bells is remarkable good, and if the other three are equal in tone, Heighington will have to be congratulated upon possessing a splendid peal of bells.

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

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

STOKE-UPON-TRENT ARCHIDIACONAL ASSOCIATION.

THE MONTHLY MEETING for the Uttoxeter District, was held last Saturday, March 31st, at Checkley. Uttoxeter, Leigh, Stoke, and the home band spent a most enjoyable afternoon and evening, both in the tower, and in this pleasant country village. The Church is a very beautiful one, lately restored, and here the ringers stand on the ground floor. The bells, (a set of six) go fairly well, but the pull is almost too long, and the gear wants attention. J. W. Philips, Esq., of Heybridge, one of the vice-presidents, kindly came to the tea, and spoke to the ringers, as also the Vicar, the Rev. E. Philips.

The meetings for the month of April will be:—7th, Kingsley, (Leek District); 14th, Barlaston (Stoke District); 21st, Tunstall (Wolstanton District); 28th, (Uttoxeter District).

THE HOLY TRINITY SOCIETY, HULL.

On Thursday, March 29th, a company from Holy Trinity church, Hull, paid a visit to the pretty little village of Kirk Ella, by the kind invitation of the Rev. Jas. Foord, the vicar, and rang upon the musical peal of six at St. Andrew's church, a date touch of 1883 changes, in the following methods:—720 of Grandsire Minor; 720 of Kent Treble Bob; and 443 of Bob Minor, in 1 hr. 15½ mins. F. Drabble, 1; W. Southwick, 2; J. Dixey, 3; H. Jenkins, 4; C. Bennett, 5; C. Jackson, 6. Arranged and conducted by C. Jackson. Tenor 19½ cwt.

After which the young company at Kirk Ella (which was formed in January last, and has been under the tuition of C. Jackson), rang the bells in Queens and rounds very creditably. The ringers then repaired to the "Wheat Sheaf" Inn, and sat down to a good substantial dinner, provided by the liberality of the Vicar. The cloth having been removed, Mr. C. Jackson, of Hull, was asked to take the chair, and Mr. Addison, sen., of Kirk Ella, the vice-chair.

The toast of "the Queen and the Royal Family" having been duly honoured, the health of the vicar and churchwardens was drunk, with musical honours, next the thanks of the company was given to the host and hostess. Songs were sung by Captain Slingsby, Messrs. Southwick, Marshall, Addison, junr., Jackson and Jenkins. Tunes upon the handbells were played by Messrs. Southwick, Bennett, Drabble and Jackson. Courses of Caters, Major and Minor, were rung, and a very pleasant evening's entertainment was brought to a close with "God Save the Queen," and the party returned to Hull, well pleased with their outing.

THE DUNDEE SOCIETY.

On Thursday evening, March 22nd, eight members of the above Society, rang the bells of the Old Steeple, full muffled, as a mark of respect to the memory of Wm. Harris, Esq., Merchant of Dundee, and in special commemoration of his gift of one of the peal of bells, erected in 1872, bearing the following inscription:—

GULIELMUS HARRIS
EX MERCATORIBUS TAODUNENSIBUS UNUS
ET UNUS QUONDAM EX MAGISTRATIBUS
HUIUS OPPIDII QUO ORIUNDUS
HOCCE DONUM DEDIT.
MDCCCLXXII.

It may be mentioned that Mr. Harris is the first of the donors whose death has occurred, his funeral having taken place on the above date.

A NEW LIGHT.—The battle of the lights seems a never-ending one. But at last, though, Colonel Chamberlain has hit the happy medium in his gas, which can easily be made alike in town and county mansions, while its cheapness and facility of making, and the brilliant light it gives, fairly enables it to lay claim to being the *ne plus ultra* of gas lights. Far from the retort, &c., being regarded as a nuisance from the noxious vapours proceeding therefrom, the apparatus can be fitted up in a garden, and made a thing of beauty by training flowers, &c., around it. Our readers would do well to call at either the city offices, 43, New Broad Street, or at 10, Lower Belgrave Street, S.W., where they may see the process of making, and examine the light itself.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

THIS Association held a very successful Quarterly District Festival at Colerne, Wilts., on Thursday, March 29th. The Association was represented on this occasion by ringers from Bristol. Two new trebles have recently been added to the ring of six and the entire fabric including the tower and its accessories, have undergone a thorough and judicious restoration, so that it was a pleasure to ring in such a well-ordered belfry. Divine Service was held on the arrival of the members and the Vicar, the Rev. J. J. S. Bird gave a practical address.

At Two o'clock the members of the Association, joined by the Colerne Ringers, Churchwardens, and several of the neighbouring Clergy, sat down to an excellent dinner, provided by the generosity of the Squire and Vicar, the latter gentleman presiding and having on either side the Revs. J. A. Johnson (Biddeston), A. Sare (Dauntsey), Pitt Eykyn (France Lynch) and E. Evans (Colerne), Dr. Sudlow (Box), Mr. J. Drinkwater, Master of the Association, Messrs. Pinchin and Weeks, Churchwardens, &c. The loyal toasts were duly honoured, after which the Bishop and Clergy were proposed by Mr. Churchwarden Pinchin, and responded to by Rev. J. A. Johnson.

The Vicar gave "Prosperity to the Change-ringers' Association," coupled with the name of the Master, who suitably replied. Mr. Staddon then proposed the health of the Hon. Secretary, the Rev. Pitt Eykyn, who briefly responded, remarking that the Association would long remember the hospitable way in which they had been entertained at Colerne. The health of the Colerne ringers was then proposed by Dr. Sudlow and responded to by Messrs. Weeks and Dowding.

The health of the Squire and Vicar were given with musical honours, and then after the election of some Honorary and performing members, the ringers then adjourned to the belfry. During the day some very creditable ringing took place, consisting of Grandsire Doobles, Grandsire Minor and Grandsire Triples and Major.

J. DRINKWATER,
Master of the Association.

CORRECTIONS.—We regret that in arranging the very numerous records of peals sent to us last week for publication, several mistakes occurred. The peal rung at Barnsley is stated as the first peal rung by Mr. M. Tomlinson. This is not correct, as any one who has carefully perused our reports will be aware that this gentleman's name has been seen before in connection with such performances. In the same report sufficient asterisks were not placed to denote that several of the band belonged to the Yorkshire Association, but in this instant, after a perusal of the copy sent, we think with all deference to our correspondent, it might have been made a little clearer. In the peal rung at Manchester Cathedral, Messrs. West and Pollit are reported as belonging to the College Youths, and as Mr. Wreaks' first peal. This should read the contrary way. We regret these errors exceedingly, and tender our apologies for their occurrence, but we are anxious for our friends to believe that they are the result of accident. We also hope that our Heywood correspondent will smooth matters over with his Company and accept what we have here written as sufficient.

OBITUARY.—The St. Michael's company of Melbourne, Derbyshire, deeply regret to have to record the somewhat sudden death of Mr. F. F. Fox., of Melbourne, which melancholy event took place on March 24th. This gentleman succeeded his father in the stewardship of Earl Cowper's estates. He was also steward for Lord Ferrers' (of Staunton) estates, and vicar's churchwarden for the past two years, and has taken great interest in the church and also in the ringers. The deceased gentleman will be sorely missed by many in this parish. The interment took place on the following Wednesday, when the bells were deeply muffled, but owing to one of the company being unable to attend a peal was not rung, but the bells were rung slowly in rounds while the procession passed on to its last resting place. The bells were kept muffled during Sunday afternoon, when eight 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles were rung as a last token of respect to the late gentleman. H. Hulse, 1; J. Warren, 2; F. Calow (conductor), 3; G. C. Tunnicliff, 4; T. Hollingsworth, 5; C. Garratt, 6. Tenor 16 cwt. in F#. Called differently.

PRESENTATION.—On Monday, March 26th, Messrs. Pawson and Binns of Leed's, presented to Mr. R. H. Pease, Captain of the Barnsley Society of Ringers, a beautiful model of a tower-bell, with wheel and oak frame highly finished, as a mark of their respect and esteem.

A subscriber to this paper would feel greatly obliged if any one could inform him where the peal of six bells, formerly in the tower of All Hallows Staining (Fenchurch Street, City), was sent to, when taken down at the demolition of the church.

"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. R. PRITCHARD.—All received, and will appear in time.

The Bell News & Ringers' Record.

SATURDAY, APRIL 7, 1883.

It is with feelings of immense satisfaction that on the beginning of our second volume we are enabled to effect an extension of our pages of a permanent character. As allusion has been made beforehand to such enlargement, we need not dwell at any length upon the subject. But we should like to point out in a few sentences how our friends may contrive, by a little systematic arrangement, to assist us in the work of production week by week. At present we request that everything sent for insertion in the current number shall reach our office by the first post not later than Thursday morning; but correspondence intended for publication should arrive a day earlier. To this arrangement we must of course adhere; but it would be a great assistance to those who have to get through the mechanical labour attendant upon getting out a weekly journal, if our friends would forward their contributions as early as possible. We will not refer to the good appearance or otherwise of this journal; the quality of its contents; or its right or no-right to be considered as the chief organ of the Exercise. But we may, without being accused of blowing our own trumpet too loudly—and our brother-ringers may congratulate themselves on the fact—certainly boast that "THE BELL NEWS" has attained its present position solely through the steady and gradual support which ringers of all sections of society have given it. But care has to be exercised in the financial arrangements of such a paper as this, whose only aim, from a commercial point of view, is to be self-supporting. We have, in order that copies may reach our readers in time, to employ to some extent the usual paraphernalia of a newspaper printing office. Compositors desire to be fed; press-men, machinists, and the like, have the same peculiarity; while Editors—but we will say nothing about such individuals as these. We are anxious to show that the

employment of a larger staff than we actually need affects our resources. This may be prevented, in a great degree, if all our correspondents will refrain from holding back their communications till the last moment. It being a matter of vital importance to us, we trust our readers will endeavour to meet our views by forwarding reports of performances as soon as possible after they have been rung.

The plan we have adopted in the publication of peals of 5040 changes and upwards, appears to have found favour in the eyes of our readers. This mode was carried out in deference to an idea that such records should be made to appear as like belfry tablets as possible, precluding from them any matter not usually to be found on peal-boards. But the majority of our correspondents generally manage to add some other intelligence beyond the bare record of such achievements, and we see no reason to discourage the publication of such additional matter, only we ask our friends to be as concise as possible in these particulars.

The index to our first volume is in course of compilation, and will shortly be issued in conjunction with a neat title-page. The idea of issuing covers for binding is under consideration, and we will inform our readers what determination is arrived at with respect to this feature at the earliest opportunity.

This is all we need say, perhaps, as an introduction to our second volume. Long before its close we hope to be able to announce some additional, and let us add, permanent attraction. To our brother-ringers, our thanks are due for their liberal support; those gentlemen who, being anxious for the establishment of a ringers' paper on a substantial basis, labour to advance the interests of this journal in their several posts as correspondents, merit our warmest gratitude. With confidence we enter upon the second part of our peal; the bells are in good compass; the course-ends appear one after another at the proper time; and though one or two of the band have "knocked-up," and their places have been filled by others, the bob-caller pursues the even tenour of his way, not at all disconcerted by mishaps which happily are past.

The Metropolis.

THE SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.
 WALTHAMSTOW, ESSEX.

On Monday, March 26, 1883, in Three Hours and Ten Minutes.

AT ST. MARY'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;
 IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 19½ cwt.

ARTHUR H. GARDOM, Esq. Treble.	NATHAN PITSTOW 5.
JOHN GOBBETT 2.	JOHN WOODS 6.
FREDERICK BATE 3.	WILLIAM DORAN 7.
HARRY RANDALL 4.	SAMUEL JARMAN Tenor.

Composed by JOHN COX, and conducted by ARTHUR H. GARDOM.

This peal has the 6th the extent in 5-6; 5th the extent at home; and the 4th the extent in 6ths.

Mr. Pitstow hails from Saffron Walden, and Mr. Woods from Redenhall.

This is supposed to be the first peal in the method on these bells. The last peal of Treble Bob was rung in 1778, but that was Oxford.

THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.—BATTERSEA.

On Saturday, March 31, 1883, in Two Hours and Fifty-five Minutes,

At ST. MARY'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S 10-PART PEAL. Tenor 15 cwt.

CHARLES E. MALIM, Esq. Treble.	SAMUEL GREENWOOD .. 5.
GEORGE PELL 2.	JOSEPH FAYERS 6.
DANIEL SPRINGALL 3.	JOHN WRIGHT 7.
JAMES STRUTT 4.	HENRY PATES Tenor.

Conducted by GEORGE PELL.

The Provinces.

THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.—KINGSTON-ON-THAMES.

On Tuesday, April 3, 1883, in Two Hours and Fifty-nine Minutes,

At ALL SAINTS' CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S ORIGINAL ONE-PART PEAL. Tenor 33 cwt.

WILLIAM PHILLIPS Treble.	GEORGE GRAY 5.
ALFRED CHALLIS 2.	JAMES STRUTT 6.
CHARLES SLADE 3.	JOHN WRIGHT 7.
JOSEPH PARSLOW 4.	JOHN GREEN Tenor.

Conducted by JAMES STRUTT.

Mr. W. Phillips, who rang the treble in this peal, is in his 70th year.

HYDE, CHESHIRE.

On Saturday, March 31, 1883, in Three Hours and Thirty-five Minutes,

At ST. GEORGE'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 6160 CHANGES;

Tenor 16 cwt. in F.

JAMES S. WILDE Treble.	JOHN A. FILDES 5.
RALPH PRICHARD 2.	SAMUEL BRADLEY 6.
JAMES SHAW 3.	THOMAS WILDE 7.
WALTER SLATER 4.	DAVID LEIGH Tenor.

Composed by WILLIAM SHIPWAY, and conducted by JAMES S. WILDE.

MOTTRAM, CHESHIRE.

On Saturday, March 31, 1883, in Three Hours and Eighteen Minutes,

At ST. MARY'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5568 CHANGES;

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

THOMAS MOSS Treble.	BENJAMIN BROADBENT .. 5.
JAMES ADAMS 2.	JOSEPH MELLOR 6.
JAMES WOOD 3.	GEORGE LONGDEN 7.
SAMUEL WOOD 4.	JOHN THORP Tenor.

Conducted by SAMUEL WOOD.

The above is the first part of Mr. T. Day's peal of 16,608, which is intended to be rung at Mottram shortly, when notice will be given. All the above band hail from Ashton-under-Lyne.

Date Touches.

THE BIRMINGHAM AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATION.

BIRMINGHAM.—On Saturday evening, March 31st, the above Association rang at St. Chad's, a date touch of Grandsire Triples, 1883 changes, in 1 hr. 7 mins. W. Saniger, 1; B. Stevens, 2; W. Brooks, 3; J. Perry, 4; J. Carter (composer and conductor), 5; R. Hackley, 6; T. Miller, 7; A. Hackley, 8. This touch has the Queens, Tittums and Whittingtons, also the twenty-four 6-7s.

CHESTERFIELD (Derbyshire).—On Monday, April 2nd, at the parish church, eight members of the Chesterfield society rang a date touch of Grandsire Triples, 1883 changes, in 1 hr. 7 mins. Henry Nuttall, sen., 1; David Farthing, 2; George Topliss, 3; William Ellis, 4; John Ellis, 5; Arthur Knights (conductor), 6; Henry Nuttall, jun., 7; Thomas Mee, 8. Composed by Alfred Millis of Leicester. Tenor 24½ cwt.

WEDNESBURY (Staffordshire).—On Sunday, April 1st, for Divine Service in the evening, at the parish church, a date touch of Stedman Triples, 1883 changes, in 1 hr. 10 mins. William Smith, 1; Thomas Horton, 2; John Astbury, sen., 3; Abel Malborn, 4; Joseph Bale, 5; William Rock Small, 6; John Astbury, jun. (conductor), 7; Joseph Fullwood, 8. Composed by William Hallsworth, of Walsall. Tenor 24 cwt.

Miscellaneous.

THE BIRMINGHAM AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATION.

HARBORNE (Staffordshire).—Muffled Peal.—On Easter Monday, the following members of the above association rang at the parish church, a funeral peal with the bells muffled as a mark of respect to Mr. Green, who has been a ringer of the above place for a large number of years, and was buried in the parish churchyard. Ringers met for a peal of 5040, but owing to no gas, and daylight not being sufficient, the attempt was not made. The ringing was kept up for about an hour. G. Farmer, B. Stevens, T. Chaytor (Harborne), J. Carter, J. Perry, R. and A. Hackley (Birmingham), J. Wright, and F. and W. Palmer (King's Norton.)

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

DARLINGTON.—On Tuesday evening, March 20th, six members of the Darlington branch of the above Association rang at St. John's, a 720 of Grandsire Minor, in 26 mins. J. Bolton, 1; * W. J. Blakiston, 2; W. Patton, 3; R. Moncaster, 4; J. H. Blakiston, 5; G. A. Overton (conductor), 6. Tenor 10 cwt. *First 720 with a bob bell.

NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.—On Easter Sunday, at 8 a.m., at St. John's church, a 720 of Plain Bob Minor, with eighteen bobs and two singles, in 28 mins. C. L. Routledge, 1; Geo. Campbell, 2; W. G. Routledge (conductor), 3; S. J. Des Forges, 4; F. Lees, 5; Geo. Herdman, 6. And on Easter Tuesday morning, immediately after the election of churchwardens, and as a compliment to them, a 720 of New London Pleasure, in 27½ mins. Geo. Herdman, 1; C. L. Routledge, 2; F. Lees, 3; W. G. Routledge, 4; W. Story, 5; R. S. Story, 6. This is the first 720 in this method by all this band with the exception of F. Lees. And on Monday night, April 2nd, a 720 of Duke of York, in 27½ mins. W. Eggleston, 1; C. L. Routledge, 2; F. Lees, 3; W. G. Routledge (conductor), 4; W. Story, 5; R. S. Story, 6. This last is the first 720 in this method by all the band with the exception of F. Lees. It is also the first in this method rung by the members of this Association, and the first in the method on the bells. Previous to entering the belfry on this occasion only one of the band had ever rung the method before. Tenor 14 cwt.

NORTH SHIELDS.—On Easter Tuesday afternoon, the ringers of Christ Church were visited by the following band from Newcastle: E. Wallis (St. Stephen's), J. Power (St. Stephens), F. Lees (St. John's), J. Campbell (St. John's) and Bros. Routledge and Story (St. John's). At the time of the arrival of the Newcastle band, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor was being rung by the North Shields ringers, on the back six, in 25½ mins. S. Nott, 1; A. Sawyer, 2; J. Rossiter, 3; R. Wignall, 4; Joel Hern, 5; R. Smith (conductor), 6. Ringing on the higher numbers then commenced at 3 o'clock and was kept up till 9 p.m., Stedman Triples being principally practised, Treble Bob was also indulged in, and Grandsire Triples, the particulars of a touch of which is appended, as it was the first for the ringer of the sixth on seven bells. 350 Grandsire Triples. W. Reed, Esq. (conductor), 1; R. Smith, 2; W. G. Routledge, 3; R. Wignall, 4; R. S. Story, 5; W. Story, 6; Joel Hern, 7; G. Campbell, 8. The good going of this peal of ten and the commodious and spacious belfry, invariably make a visit well worth paying, and the ringers separated well pleased with their meeting. Tenor 19 cwt.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

SOUTHPORT.—On Easter Monday, March 26th, on the back six, at Christ Church, a 720 of Plain Bob Minor, with eighteen bobs and twenty-four singles, in 26 mins. Hy. Diggles, 1; W. Diggles, 2; W. J. Chatterton, 3; A. E. Holme, 4; W. Savage, 5; W. Hargreaves (conductor), 6. Also on the same day at the same place, 720 of Plain Bob Minor, with sixteen bobs and two singles, in 27 mins. W. Diggles, 1; P. Gregson, 2; W. Hargreaves, 3; J. Robinson (conductor), 4; E. Balshaw, 5; W. Savage, 6. Tenor 10 cwt.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

LEICESTER.—On Sunday evening, March 18th, the St. Margaret's society, also members of the above Association, rang at St. Mark's church a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples, with the bells muffled as a mark of respect to the late Canon Burfield, vicar of St. Mark's, Leicester, in 50 mins. J. Wilson, 1; T. Wilson, 2; A. Wilson, 3; Geo. Burrows, 4; J. Cooper, 5; S. Cooper, 6; J. Buttery (conductor), 7; W. Cooper, 8. Tenor 23 cwt in Eb.

THE NORWICH ASSOCIATION.

Diss (Norfolk).—On Monday, April 2nd, eight members of the Diss Branch attempted a peal of Bob Major, but unfortunately after ringing 5088 changes, in 3 hrs. and 20 mins., a shift occurred, much to their regret, as two of the company were trying for their first peal. C. Webster, 1; J. Rudd, 2; W. Scales, 3; T. Ford, 4; E. Francis, 5; E. Batram, 6; W. Ireland (conductor), 7; W. Brown, 8. Tenor 24 cwt.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

READING.—On Easter Monday, at St. Mary's church, by kind permission of the vicar, a half-peal of Grandsire Triples, 2520 changes, in 1 hr. 35 mins. R. Swain, 1; W. J. Williams, 2; T. Newman, 3; S. Paice, 4; J. M. Routh, Esq., 5; H. Egby (conductor), 6; W. Newell, 7; J. Sadler, 8. Tenor 28 cwt. in D.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

Tewkesbury.—On Easter Monday, at the ancient Abbey, the Abbey Society, who are also members of the above association, started for Holt's six-part peal of Union Triples, but after 2044 changes came to grief. R. H. Witherington, 1; S. Cleal, 2; F. Moore, 3; J. Hale, 4; J. Wathen, 5; Rev. C. D. P. Davies, 6; Jos. Wathen (conductor), 7; Wm. Haines, 8. In the afternoon of the same day, touches of 490 and 350 were rung, assisted by Mr. H. Karn and Mr. William Pates, who hail from Cheltenham, this being their first attempt to ring Union Triples.

BRAINTREE (Essex).—On Wednesday, March 28th, a 720 of Oxford Delight. F. Bumpstead, 1; F. Calthorpe, 2; W. H. Dyson, 3; S. Hammond (conductor), 4; F. Rudkin, 5; A. Huckson, 6. On Saturday, March 31st, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob. F. Bumpstead, 1; F. Calthorpe, 2; W. H. Dyson, 3; H. E. Hammond, 4; S. Hammond, 5; F. Rudkin (conductor), 6. On Sunday, April 1st, a 720 of College Exercise, F. Calthorpe, 1; W. H. Dyson, 2; H. E. Hammond, 3; S. Hammond (conductor), 4; F. Rudkin, 5; A. Huckson, 6. Tenor 14 cwt.

BOURNEMOUTH.—On Saturday evening (Easter Eve), there was rung at St. Peter's church, for the first time by a band of Bournemouth ringers, a plain course of Grandsire Triples. Seage's apparatus has been fixed about a fortnight, which has enabled the ringers to practice without being an annoyance to outsiders, and which has resulted in their being able to ring several courses very fairly. On Sunday the same was repeated at both morning and evening services. A. Grist, 1; J. Bennett, 2; H. Vivash, 3; H. A. Garrett, 4; T. Green, 5; S. Merritt, 6; C. C. Child, Esq. (College Youths), 7; T. Belben, 8. It is proper to mention that Mr. Child is a member of the Oxford University Society, and an accomplished ringer.

CLOPTON (Suffolk).—On Sunday, April 1st, a 720 of Bob Minor and 360 of Oxford Treble Bob. J. Cullum, 1; E. Wightman, 2; A. S. Wightman, 3; S. W. Wightman, 4; W. Shipp, 5; P. E. Meadows (conductor), 6.

GRUNDISBURG (Suffolk).—On Sunday, April 1st, a 720 of Bob Minor. A. S. Wightman, 1; D. G. Wightman, 2; A. Hatcher, 3; S. Wightman, 4; W. Shipp, 5; P. E. Meadows (conductor), 6.

BIDDULPH (Staffordshire).—On Tuesday evening, March 29th, the local company rung a 720 of Grandsire Minor, with thirty-four bobs and two singles, in 27 mins. W. Moss, 1; C. Lawton, 2; A. Cottrell, 3; S. Thornhill, 4; M. Moss, 5; W. Carter (conductor), 6.

HITCHIN (Herts).—On Monday, March 5th, being Confirmation-day, the local society rang their first 6-score of Grandsire Doubles, and on Easter Sunday, was rung several 6-scores in the same method, called different ways. James Randall, 1; William A. Tyler (conductor), 2; Frank Furr, 3; John Hare, 4; William Allen, 5; Samuel Hare, 6; William Kitchener, 7; William Elson, 8. The above was rung on the first five bells with the 7, 6, 8, behind. Tenor 28 cwt. in Eb. Our correspondent adds:—"Mr. Allen is parish clerk of Hitchin, and has taken a great interest in ringing, and wishing to get on in the art has succeeded in getting a change-ringer to come and reside here, and so far we have got on well. Mr. Tyler came down here in December, and has worked with such energy as to bring us on to master Doubles, then he intends us to master Minor, then Triples." But Mr. Tyler wisely tells his pupils their success or otherwise depends greatly upon themselves; if they will unite together, no doubt they will be good ringers one day, and we wish them all success in their endeavouring to become so.

HULME (Manchester).—On Easter Sunday evening for Divine Service at Holy Trinity church, a 720 of Plain Bob Minor, in 26 mins. W. Diggles, 1; C. Woodward, 2; W. J. Chatterton, 3; W. Savage, 4; W. Hargreaves, 5; W. Roberts (conductor), 6. Tenor 15½ cwt.

HAVERSTOCK HILL (Middlesex).—On Wednesday, March 28th, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor, with nine bobs, in 25 mins. J. Leach,

1; J. Page, 2; T. Titchener, 3; T. Gleed, 4; J. Hannington (conductor), 5; A. Jacob, 6. Also on Sunday evening, April 1st, at St. Martin's church, for Divine Service, a 720 of Plain Bob Minor, eighteen bobs and two singles, in 26 mins. P. S. Kendall, 1; A. Jacob, 2; T. Titchener, 3; J. Leach, 4; J. Hannington (conductor), 5; T. Monks, 6. After Divine Service a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor, fifteen bobs, in 25½ mins. J. Barry, 1; T. Gleed, 2; T. Titchener, 3; J. Hannington (conductor), 4; A. Jacob, 5; E. Chapman, 6. Tenor 12½ cwt.

LIGHTCLIFFE (Yorkshire).—On Thursday, March 29th, at St. Matthew's church, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor, in 28 mins. J. Lawson, 1; F. Prince, 2; J. Robnett (conductor), 3; G. Lawton, 4; W. Sherwood, 5; J. Reed, 6. Tenor 20 cwt.

MARTLEY (Worcestershire).—On Sunday, April 1st, at St. Peter's, a 720 of Grandsire Minor, with thirty-four bobs and two singles, in 27½ mins. F. Owen, 1; G. Cleal, 2; W. Webb, 3; G. Hobbs, 4; H. Wilks (conductor), 5; J. F. Hastings, Esq., 6. Tenor 18 cwt. in F. This is the first 720 ever rung on this fine peal of six, which were all cast in 1673, by Richard Keene, and as tradition says, in the churchyard.

OFFLEY, NEAR HITCHIN (Herts).—On Easter Monday, the Hitchin society rang at the parish church several 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles, each called differently. James Randall, 1; John Hare, 2; Frank Furr, 3; William A. Tyler, 4; William Allen, 5; William Kitchener, 6; William Elson and C. Monk also rang the tenor behind. Conducted by W. A. Tyler and W. Allen. C. Monk is one of the Offley Ringers.

OTLEY (Suffolk).—On Sunday, April 1st, a 720 of Plain Bob, with eighteen bobs and two singles, was rung in 26 mins. S. Meadows, 1; D. G. Wightman, 2; J. Cullum, 3; S. Wightman, 4; A. S. Wightman (conductor), 5; N. W. Meadows, Esq., 6. Also a 360 of Oxford Treble Bob and a course of Kent Treble Bob. P. Meadows, 1; N. W. Meadows, Esq., 2; J. Cullum, 3; N. Whiting, 4; S. Meadows, 5; S. Wightman, 6. Conducted by P. Meadows.

READING.—On Tuesday evening, April 3rd, for practice, the newly formed band connected with St. Lawrence's, rang in good style, six courses of Grandsire Triples, viz., 336 changes. H. Bawden, 1; E. Bishop, 2; W. Johnson, 3; W. J. Williams, 4; W. Holloway, 5; J. Willshire, 6; W. Newell (conductor), 7; G. Talbot, 8. Tenor 24 cwt. in Eb. The above performance shows that the members have made good progress in the art of change-ringing, as most of them have had but about eight months practice since the bells were rehung, and they hope soon, by further perseverance, to be able to record a peal of 5040.

SUNBURY (Suffolk).—On Easter-day, the local company rang for early service at St. Gregory's church, a touch of Kent Treble Bob Major, 960 changes. F. Tolliday, 1; W. Griggs, 2; J. Campin, 3; W. Howell, 4; C. Sillitoe, 5; H. Harper, 6; W. Cross, 7; A. Scott, 8. Also on Easter Monday, at St. Peter's, a peal of Bob Major was attempted, but after ringing 3360 changes in 2 hrs. 20 mins. it collapsed. G. L. Andrews, Esq., 1; J. Campin, 2; W. Campin, 3; W. Griggs, 4; W. Howell, 5; C. Sillitoe, 6; H. Harper, 7; A. Scott, and W. Cross, 8. Also on Sunday, April 1st, after evening service at St. Peter's, 1056 changes of Bob Major, in 46 mins. G. L. Andrews, Esq., 1; M. Silvester, 2; T. Tolliday, 3; W. Griggs, 4; C. Sillitoe, 5; J. Campin, 6; H. Harper, 7; A. Scott and W. Cross, 8. The whole was conducted by A. Scott. Tenor of St. Gregory's, 16 cwt., St. Peter's, 22 cwt.

TIVERTON (Devon).—On Tuesday, April 3rd, the St. Peter's Society rang a death knell at St. Peter's church, in memory of Mr. Arthur Acland-Troyte, eldest son of Colonel Troyte, of Huntsham Court, President of this Society, and of the Guild of Devonshire Ringers.

WEST HAM (Essex).—Recently the members of the society of Royal Cumberland Youths attempted a peal of Stedman Caters, but after ringing about 3700 changes in 2 hrs. 35 mins., came to grief through the rope slipping the wheel of the third bell. G. Newson (conductor), 1; C. Hopkins, 2; A. H. Gardom, 3; H. Randall, 4; J. Hannington, 5; J. Gobbett, 6; J. Woods (Kenninghall), 7; W. Doran, 8; S. Jarman, 9; F. Searle, 10. Tenor 28 cwt.

WORCESTER.—On Monday, March 26th, at St. John's church, a 720 of Grandsire Minor, with thirty-four bobs and twenty-eight singles, in 27½ mins. J. Hinton, 1; G. Hobbs, 2; W. Webb, 3; S. Price, 4; J. F. Hastings, Esq., 5; G. Cleal (conductor), 6. Tenor 16 cwt. in F. And at All Saints' church, on Monday, April 2nd, a touch of 125r Grandsire Caters, in 49 mins. N. Wale, 1; G. Hobbs, 2; G. Cleal, 3; W. Webb, 4; S. Price, 5; W. Blandford, 6; H. Wilks (conductor), 7; J. Reynolds, 8; J. F. Hastings, Esq., 9; T. Malin, 10. Tenor 23 cwt. in Eb.

YORK BELL FOUNDERS.—V.

(Continued.)

SAMUEL SMITH.

Son of James Smith, whom he succeeded. He lived in Micklegate and had his bell-house on Toft Green. His earlier bells have generally either one or other of the following inscriptions upon them:—

- (a) "Venite exultemus Domino"
(b) "Soli Deo gloria pax hominibus"

1662—ETTON (a) also "W.F. N.W."

LECKONFIELD (a) also "S.S. fecit."

LOCKINGTON (a) also "S.S. fecit."

"Soli Deo gloria"

1663—BEVERLEY.—St. Mary.

" + S + S "

St. John (a) also "S.S."

BISHOP BURTON (a) also "S.S. fecit I.I. C.K."

HUNMANBY (a) "S.S. fecit RB. MW." (b)

KILHAM (b) "S.S. fecit M.E. HD. TS."

GOODMANHAM (a) "Robert Clarke, Parson."

SA. RT. SS."

" + S + S "

RUDSTONE.

Tvtamen Regis Solamen Gregis SS fecit 1663
WP WV

1664—ALDBOROUGH, Holderness.—

"Stephanvs Gere Vicar vehemens et S. Bartholemevs
vox qvasi tvba lvs 1664 SS"1665—BAINTON (a) also "SS. IS. CH. CW. Church S."
wardenHUGGATE (a) "Ano Dom 1665 Caroli 2 Regis 17 SS."
RISTON LONG.—

"Soli Deo Gloria 1665 SS.

Timothie Rhodes Rector HW. CW. TV chvrch
warden S "

1667—LECKONFIELD.—

"Jesvs bee ovr speed 1667

MB Chvrch
warden
SS"NEWBALD, NORTH (a) also "EP. WB. EB Church S SS."
warden

1671—YORK MINSTER.—

"Te Deum Laudamus Johannes Lake, Residus,
Robertus Hitch, Decanus: Robertus Soresby. Precentor,
Christopherus Stone, Cancellarius 1671"

From the above inscriptions it will be seen that this bell was cast during the time that the Rev. John Lake was fulfilling the duties of Canon-in-residence. He had been appointed to the prebendary of Fridaythorpe in the Cathedral of York the year previous. His zeal for the restoration of good order and discipline in the Church especially, his determination to abolish the irreverent custom into which the people had fallen of walking about the aisles of the Cathedral, and talking during the celebration of divine service, excited great ill will among the vulgar. On October 9, 1680, this broke out with great violence on his being installed Archdeacon of Cleveland, when the most painful scene in his life occurred. The rabble forced themselves into the Minster in great numbers, wearing their hats, and raised a tumultuous riot. Lake, whose courage was indomitable, rose from his seat, and taking off the hats of those who were within reach, admonished them on the sacrilegious nature of their proceedings in the house of God, bidding them either remain and join in the service, or leave the church. Awed by the impressiveness of his language they left the church but presently a fresh crowd collected and burst open the south door, and defied him in the most brutal language, and endeavoured to provoke him to strife. Lake, however, preserved his temper, even when, without the Minster they followed him home, and but for the courageous promptitude of Captain Honeywood, the deputy-governor, would have plundered and pulled down his house.

THE PANCAKE BELL.

The following Shrove Tuesday a fresh outbreak took place, in consequence of Lake's determination to stop the heathenish license claimed on that day by the sturdy apprentices and young men of York. It had been their custom from very ancient times to ring one of the Minster bells, which they called the pancake bell. This practice obtained in other places in Yorkshire; for in Dr. Lake's native town there was a popular rhyme circulated as a proverb, and having reference to the inauguration of Shrovetide festivities:—

"When pancake bell begins to ring,
All Halifax lads begin to sing."

But Lake was determined that in York Minster no singing should be tolerated, save to the glory of God. The Dean and Chapter advised him to wink at the saturnalia, and not to stir up the rabble by contesting a privilege which they had enjoyed from time immemorial, of having the Minster, from crypt to tower, thrown open for the pleasure of themselves and their country cousins on Shrove Tuesday. Lake, however, courageously endeavoured to prevent the desecration of the Minster, first by reproving the rabble, and then by taking steps for their expulsion. They assailed him as before with brutal ferocity, and would have torn him to pieces if some of the more moderate had not interposed and advised him to retire, unless he wished to be slain on the spot. "I have faced death too often in the field," he replied, "to shrink from the danger of martyrdom in the performance of my duty; but I should be sorry if any of your lives were to be endangered through your cruel and cowardly attack on me; but leave the ground at your bidding, I will not." He was with difficulty rescued by the governor and his assistance force. Though Dr. Lake might have retired to either of his livings, his high spirit would not cower before the storm, and he continued, at the imminent peril of his life, to reside in York, till he had convinced his ferocious adversaries that they were not to convert the house of God into a place of idle riot. His firmness and courage finally conquered. In 1682 he was consecrated Bishop of Sodor and Man; in 1684 he was translated to Bristol; and in the following year to Chichester. He was one of the seven bishops who were committed to the Tower of London in the reign of James II. He died August 30, 1689; and was buried at St. Botolph's Church, London.—Rev. R. V. Taylor's "Leeds Worthies."

G. B. (York.)

(To be continued.)

HOLT'S SINGLES.

BY THE REV. CHARLES D. P. DAVIES.

I trust I may be allowed to say how heartily I concur in the advice given in the leading article of "THE BELL NEWS" of March 24th. It has always struck me that these singles deserve more attention and practice than is generally bestowed upon them. In days of old—I mean the days of Annable and Holt—there seems to have been the greatest reluctance to putting the bells out of course, unless for some very urgent and weighty reason. Should we not be doing well to imitate our predecessors in this as far as possible? A gratuitous number of singles I have never been able to regard otherwise than as a violation of good taste, more or less.

In support of this opinion, let me quote from *Church Bells* of Dec. 30, 1876, where Mr. Snowdon is giving on account of Annable's ms. He says: "I conclude that Annable did not consider the use of ordinary singles in Grandsire was consistent with the method, and that he at least did not recognise such peals which are now considered Grandsire to be entitled to that name." Annable seems to have gone further, and "having set up this standard, would not even abate his opinion, when Holt's peal, with only two singles, was produced." This of course we cannot endorse. But I think we may safely say he would have yielded to Holt, when he saw, as we have some cause at least for seeing now, that the hope of a peal altogether without singles was destined to disappointment.

The leading article mentions only the singles in the ten-part peal. To them let me add those in the six-part; and if any of the readers of this paper are ringers of Union, the singles also in Holt's six-part peal of Union Triples.

Three or four years ago, there was a letter in *Church Bells* pointing out that the substitution of Holt's singles for the common singles in Holt's Original does not affect the truth of the peal; that both the second and the sixth thereby escape being called before, and that the whole is then in-course—an object to which Holt seems always to have strained, and which he achieved by what may be termed a gigantic effort in his 720 of Bob Minor.

May we not suppose that he would himself have used his ten-part singles in the Original, if only they had been invented?

STRIKE OF CHURCH BELLRINGERS.—The inhabitants of Tetterhall and the adjacent parts of the borough were much concerned on Good Friday and Easter-day to miss the customary peal of the six musical bells hanging in the hoary old tower of the newly-restored parish church. Rumour says that the ringers are offended by the building up of their outside doorway to the tower, and the consequent necessity on their part of passing through the church to ascend the tower, and of being thus, after performing their duties, compelled to remain for service in the church. Whatever amount of truth there may be in this statement, it is a fact that the band of campanologists performed not their office on the days named, and the people of Tetterhall were called to worship by the tolling of a single bell.

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."

OVERSIGHT, OR WHAT?

SIR,—In your issue of March 24th, there is a peal by Mr. Thorp, and rung as an original at Ashton-under-Lyne, which is only Mr. Dains' 5088 commenced at a different course-end, as will be seen by referring to Mr. Snowdon's *Treatise*, part ii, page 16, and has been rung three times previously, once by the Cumberlands, and twice by the Yorkshire Association, at Gargrave and Hull. W. M.

THE TREBLE BOB QUESTION.

SIR,—In your issue of March 24th, I find the calling given of a three-part peal of Treble Bob Major rung at Ashton-under-Lyne, on March 17th, said to be the composition of Mr. John Thorp.

Allow me to inform our Ashton-under-Lyne friends that this peal is the composition of Mr. H. Dains, and was rung in London by the Royal Cumberlands early (I think) in 1879, and unless my memory misleads me, the calling was published at the time in *Church Bells*. Further, that this peal has since been rung twice by the Yorkshire Association. See report 1881-2; peals No. 172 and 175. I feel almost certain that the calling was given, but I cannot believe that a company possessing talent far above the average, (which this company undoubtedly does possess) would condescend to the cowardly practice of peal-snatching, and, granted the publication of the calling, that is the only name I see for it. But if this is not the case, is it not another proof of the utter necessity of the possession by the company of some complete collection of Treble Bob peals? Such, for instance as Snowdon's *Treatise*, p. ii., where, on page 16 this peal is to be found, the only difference being that they start with the sixth course.

YORKSHIREMAN.

PEAL-SNATCHING AGAIN.

SIR,—The 5088 published in your issue of the 24th ult. is a variation of a peal of mine on page 16 in Mr. Snowdon's *Treatise on Treble Bob*. It was first rung on January 25th, 1879, at St. Mary's, Lambeth, the performance being conducted by myself. Since that time it has been rung at St. Paul's, Burton-on-Trent, and at two or three towns in Yorkshire.

In order to show how Mr. Thorp, by using the last course of the original as first in the variation, arranged this peal, I give them below side by side.

On February 3rd last, Mr. Thorp gave another of these peals, as his own composition, in our paper, but as it did not belong to me, I said nothing. The fact, however, is, that it was just rung about two years as Mr. W. Sottanstill's peal, and to him I believe it belongs. Now Sir, this is a sad state of things to say of Mr. Thorp, who only a few years ago came out with some excellent things in Treble Bob, and I am truly sorry to notice the decline of such a man.

5088.									
2	3	4	5	6	M	B	W	H	
3	5	4	2	6	I	-			
5	2	3	6	4	-				
2	6	5	4	3	-				
6	4	2	3	5	-				
5	4	6	3	2	-	I			
5	4	3	2	6	-	I			
4	2	3	5	6	I	-			

Twice repeated.

5088.									
Original.					Variation.				
2	3	4	5	6	M	B	W	H	
6	2	5	3	4	-	2	2		
6	2	3	4	5	-	I			
6	2	4	5	3	-	I			
3	2	5	4	6	2	-	I		
2	4	5	3	6	I	-			
4	3	5	2	6	I	-			

Each twice repeated.

There are but four of these peals in this number of changes, and as Mr. Thorp has made use of and attached his name to three of them, I think it only right to give the fourth, and so save him unnecessary time and trouble. I give it according to his own taste and fashion, but wish to say that it positively belongs to the late Mr. W. Harrison.

H. DAINS.

THE WEST MIDDLESEX ASSOCIATION.—1883.

The members will meet for practice in the following belfries:—

RUISLIP—Saturdays, April 14th; May 26th; at 7.30.

HILLINGDON (St. John the Baptist)—Thursdays, April 19th; May 31st; at 7.45.

ISLEWORTH—Saturdays, April 21st; June 9th; at 7.30.

HILLINGDON (St. Andrew's)—Saturdays, April 28th; June 16th; at 7.30.

SLOUGH—Saturdays, May 19th; June 23rd; at 6.30.

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

BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION AT ECCLESTON, LANCASHIRE.

OK Thursday, March 15th, 1883, being the 80th birthday of John Heyes, a wellknown ringer in this district, about twenty-seven ringers assembled to do honour to the old gentleman. The first to ring were some of his old pupils, who rang a 720 of Plain Bob Minor, in 26 mins., for the usual Thursday evening service. William Silcock (conductor), 1; John Heyes, 2; James Bretherton, 3; Thomas Mayor, 4; A. Threlfall, 5; John Sumner, 6. Some of the ringers had walked a considerable distance to take part in this meeting. The old man whom the ringing company delighted to honour is by trade a painter, etc., and can be seen about any day running up ladders on to the roofs of houses as briskly and nimbly as any of his juniors. But John is before anything else a bellringer, and during his career he has trained six different companies, and is at the present time actively employed in training his seventh. He first began to ring at ten years of age, as it was a custom at that time to ring at 8 o'clock on Sunday morning, he was often in attendance at the steeple at that hour. Four years elapsed, and he became a regular parish ringer, and during his 66 years of ringing in which time he has seen many vicissitudes and rang a good many different peals, he has always been true to the art, and when the object of the day's meeting was referred to on Thursday, the old man was almost overcome with emotion. After the first 720 had been rung, the usual Thursday evening service was held. The sermon was preached by the Rev. Hugh Doig, who referred in feeling terms to the birthday. The text was taken from Psalm xc., v. 10 and 12:—"The days of our age are threescore years and ten: and if by reason of strength they be fourscore years, yet is their strength labour and sorrow; for it is soon cut off, and we fly away." "So teach us to number our days, that we may apply our hearts unto wisdom." The preacher said that that Psalm spoke to them of the shortness and uncertainty of human life. God had given them twenty, forty, sixty, eighty years of life in order that we might prepare for eternity. He had selected these words for the subject of their meditation, it having come to his knowledge that an old Eccleston bellringer is this day surrounded by many friends celebrating his eighty-eighth birthday. So strong and active is he, and so capable apparently of enjoying life that he (the preacher) felt justified in wishing him many happy returns of the day. Still the shadows were lengthening; O that in the evening of his life it might be light about him. The saddest of all sights was an old age without CHRIST; the gladdest of all an old age blessed and comforted by the abiding consciousness of the presence of JESUS. He was glad to have the opportunity of speaking to so many bellringers who have joined their old friend at this birthday celebration. Have (said he) a thought beyond mere bellringing, for churches were not built primarily as receptacles for bells. There were some ringers who regarded the ringing (judging from their practice of stealing away as soon as the ringing was over) as of more importance than the reading of God's word, the preaching of CHRIST'S Gospel, and the exercise of public worship. He had heard a careless inconsistent minister compared to a sign-post which showed the way but never travelled it, and what must be said of bellringers who rung out their invitations to others to come to the worship of ALMIGHTY God, but who turned their own backs upon God's sanctuary? He was glad to say he had no cause for complaint so far as his own ringers were concerned. One of the Church's wants was the perfecting of what was called parochial machinery, a perfect parochial organization was an organization in which every one did the work entrusted to him, and did it well; what was wanted from the pulpit down to the heating-stove was good earnest conscientious work; ministers who echoed their Sunday teachings in their daily lives; organists who played their instruments for God; choirs who sang with heart as well as voice, with the spirit and with understanding, and bellringers whose characters would never discredit their office, men who felt that even in pulling the bell-rope they were doing work for God. The rev. gentleman concluded by commending the old ringer to God, wishing for him that his last days might be his brightest and best, and that each and everyone, young and old, might so number their days, and so apply themselves to wisdom. Service being over, the Leyland Company rang a 720, also a company from Croston, and the young Eccleston ringers, wishing Old John many happy returns of the day, they dispersed all highly pleased with the day's proceedings.

THE SCIENCE AT BISHOP'S WALTHAM.—We have been favoured with a very interesting letter from the Rector of Bishops Waltham, who though he acquaints us with the progress his handbell company are making, modestly imagines that it is too early for them yet to rush into print. We feel bound to remark, however, that the ability they have so quickly shown, in taking part at an entertainment given at the village grammar-school—being in the possession of their bells only the previous week—is a good sign that we shall hear more about them soon. We wish them all success, and hope their skill will stand them in good stead when they practise on the ropes.

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES.

5040.

By JOHN MILLETT, Heywood, Lancashire.

2 3 4 5 6 7 The annexed is the first course (210 changes), of the first part of the peal. The first single in the second course is omitted, and a bob called in its place. The last bob in the second course is omitted, and a single is called in its place. The third course is called in the same manner as the second. The fourth course in the same manner as the first. Then this will bring the Plain lead first part-end, 5 3 2 4 6 7, which comes at plain lead.

The whole five times repeated, with a single instead of the bob half-way and end.

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CINQUES.

5082.

By ROBERT WILLIAMS, Liverpool.

6 5 3 2 4 *	4 5 6 2 3 11th with 3.
	5 2 6 4 3 11th with 4.
5 2 3 6 4 11th with 4.	6 5 2 4 3 7th with 4.
3 5 2 6 4 7th with 4.	2 6 5 4 3 7th with 4.
2 3 5 6 4 7th with 4.	6 4 5 2 3 11th with 4.
3 6 2 5 4 11th with 4.	4 2 5 6 3 11th with 4.
6 2 5 3 4 11th with 4.	5 4 2 6 3 7th with 4.
5 6 2 3 4 7th with 4.	2 5 4 6 3 7th with 4.
2 5 6 3 4 7th with 4.	5 6 4 2 3 11th with 4.
5 3 6 2 4 11th with 4.	6 2 4 5 3 11th with 4.
3 2 6 5 4 11th with 4.	4 6 2 5 3 7th with 4.
6 3 2 5 4 7th with 4.	2 4 6 5 3 7th with 4.
2 6 3 5 4 7th with 4.	

The last twelve courses repeated, produce—
2 3 4 5 6
when the peal is brought round by bobs at the following leads: 1, 1, 2, 1, 1, 1, 2, 1, 1.

* 9th in and out at three.

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR.

5024.

By SAMUEL WOOD, Ashton-under-Lyne.

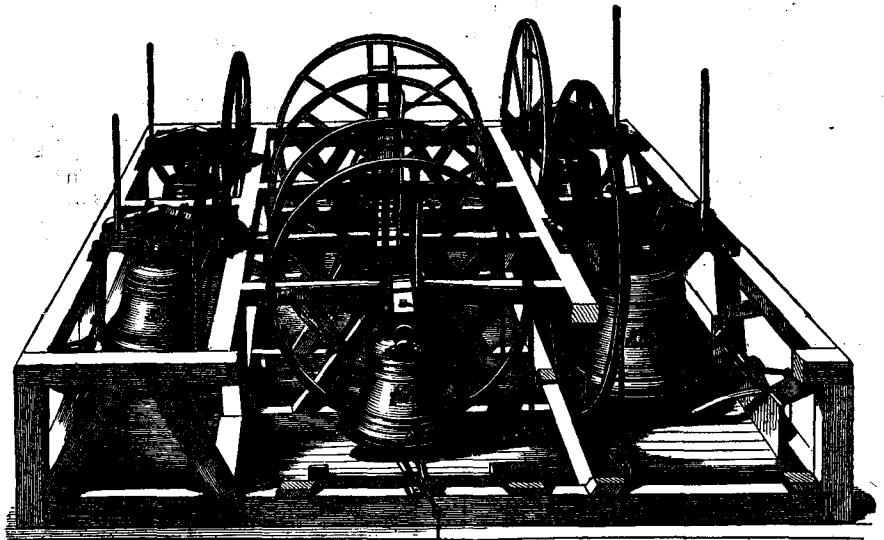
2 3 4 5 6	M	O	W	H
5 4 3 2 6		2	2	
4 6 3 2 5	1			
2 3 6 4 5		2	2	
3 5 6 4 2	1			2
5 3 2 4 6	2			2
5 2 4 3 6		1		2
2 6 4 3 5	1			2
2 4 3 6 5			1	2
4 5 3 6 2	1			2
5 2 3 6 4	1			2
2 5 4 6 3	2			2
2 4 6 5 3			1	2
4 3 6 5 2	2	-	1	2
3 2 6 5 4	1			2
2 3 4 5 6	2			2

This peal has the 5th and 6th their extent wrong and right.

Rung at St. Peter's, Ashton-under-Lyne, on March 26, 1883; conducted by its composer.

A movement is on foot in Keighley, for building another new church. The site has been presented by the Duke of Devonshire, and the Church Diocesan Society have approved of the plans and made a grant of £50 towards it. Mr. J. B. Bailey is the architect.

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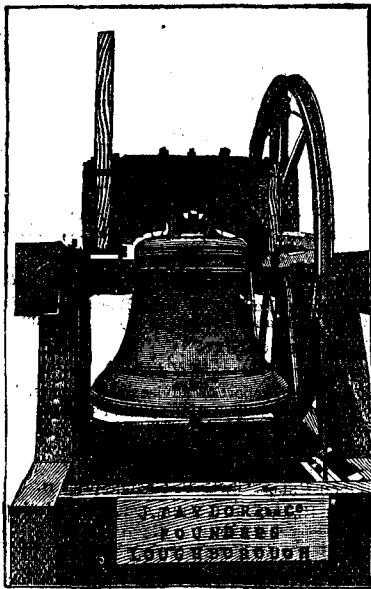
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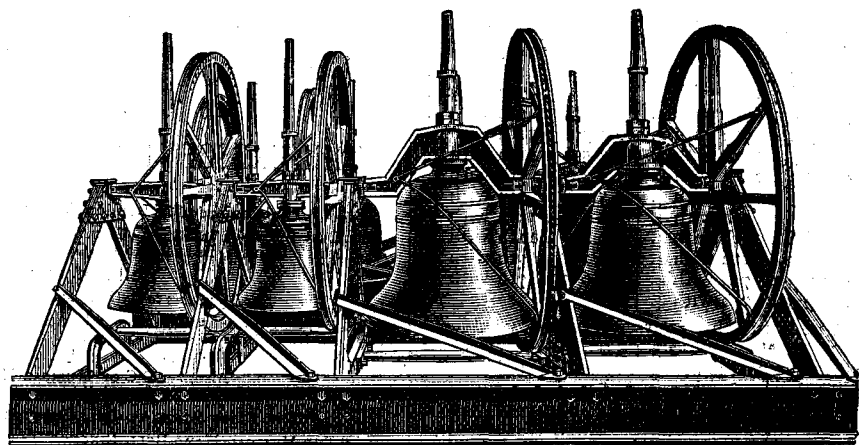
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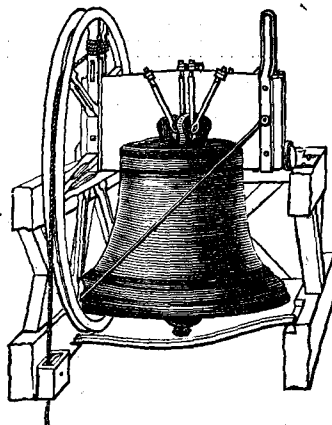
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THE tower of St. Giles contains thirty-five bells in all. Of these the belfry contains twelve. A frame beneath the beautiful open crown on the roof supports the remaining twenty-three.

Of these twelve bells in the belfry eight are of steel. These latter are hung from fixed stocks and are without clappers. They are in the key of E. The external hammers, striking on the soundbells, are moved by a revolving barrel, studded with teeth, and turned by hand. The metal part of the mechanism appears to be sound, and only slightly worn, the barrel itself is, however much warped and decayed. The arrangement is modern, and the bells have no inscriptions, except the maker's name and date of manufacture.

On the other four bells, which have wheels and heavy top counterpoises, but no stays, are the following inscriptions in Roman capitals:

No. 1.

"Archibald McAnlay, Esq., Lord Provost, Thomas Fenton, Alexander Simpson;
James Watson, James Flint, Baillies, and Patrick Lindsay, Dean of Guild; James Donaldson, Treasurer;
David Mitchel, Conveener; Robertus Maxwell me fecit Edinburgi in company (sic) Anno 1728."
[This bell has both wheel and rope.]

The above inscription surrounds the shoulder of the bell, the date being immediately below.

No. 2.

Sir Patrick Johnston, Lord Provost of Edinburgh, 1706.
Archibald Rule, William Neilson, George Lawson, George Land, Baillies.
Sir Samuel McLellan, Dean of Guild, William Jafrey, Thesaurer." (sic)
[This bell has no rope or clapper.]

The above inscription, like the previous one, surrounds the shoulder of the bell. On the waist are emblazoned the city arms.

No. 3.

"THE GREAT BELL OF ST. GILES'S."—This bell is rung for the Sunday services, and on it the hours are struck by the mechanism of the clock. It was fractured and recast in 1836. The original inscription, according to Dr. Laing, was as follows:—

"Honorabiles viri burgenses villae de Edinburch (sic) in Scotia, campanam fieri fecerunt. Anno Dmi. MCCCCLV. 1460.
Wilhelmus Hoerhen me fecerunt, Ipsamque campanam Gyelis vocari voluerunt.

Defunctos plango, vivos voco, fulmina frango."

Beneath the above inscriptions the bell is said to have borne the arms of Guelderland (it was cast in Flanders), figures of the Virgin, and other devices. The present inscription is simply:—

"C. & G. Mears Founders London 1836."

No. 4.

THE VESPER OR AVE BELL.—Round the shoulder of this small, but finely-shaped bell, is the following inscription in Gothic capitals, beautifully cut:—

"O mater Dei, memento mei Anno DMCCC." (1504)

Below the inscription is a device resembling two pastoral staves, followed by a numeral *iiii.* or *cccc.*

The approximate weight, diameter at mouth, and notes of the last four bells are as follows:—

1.—Diam. 2ft. 9in.—app. weight, 7 cwt. 3qrs.—note Db.	
2. " 3ft. 3in. " 11 cwt. 3qrs.—note Bb.	
3. " 4ft. 6in. " 30 cwt.—note Eb.	
4. " 1ft. 5in. " 1 cwt. 1 qr.—note B. (?)	

In addition to the above are the twenty-three bells forming a chime or carillon. These, as before-mentioned, hang in the open-air immediately under the crown, and are arranged in three rows, one under the other, the smaller bells at the top, and the five largest bells under a penthouse below. Six only out of the entire set are inscribed or dated.

On the 12th is the date, "1698."

On the 15th, the same date, almost effaced.

On the 17th: "Johannes Meikle nos fecit Edinburgi 1699."

On the 19th: "Gorg Lawson, Thesaurer, 1699. Sir Gorg Home of Kello Provost."

On the 22nd: "Johannes Meikle hasce omnes campanas musicas fecit Edinburgi 1698."

On the 23rd (tenor): "William Menzies, Archibald Rule, Georg Mitchell, Johannes Nairne, Baillies. Samuel McLelland, Treasurer, 1698. Patrick Halyburton, D. of Guild (sic). Alexander Thompson, Conveener, John Meikle me fecit Edinburgi." Below this there is also—

Sir
Archibald Mure
of Thorntoun
Lord Provost.

Diameter of carillon tenor at mouth, 2ft., approximate weight, 3 cwt. 2 qrs. The notes are exceedingly impure, the tenor, as far as can be made out, speaks Bb. As a mere matter of curiosity, it may be added that the treble of this carillon is 6½ inches diameter at the mouth, and weighs probably about 15 lbs. These bells are intended to be played by hand; the chiming mechanism being controlled by levers arranged in keyboard fashion, the naturals in a row at equal distances, and the sharps above at corresponding intervals. The lowermost C♯ and D♯ are dummies. The connexion between the levers and striking apparatus is entirely out of order, and much decayed. Until about five years ago, they were played by a Miss McLeod, who succeeded her father as performer. Between them they covered a space of nearly eighty years as carilloneurs at St. Giles's. The barrel carillon, with eight bells, was introduced during Provost Lawson's term of office, for the purpose of calling worshippers to church. It was only a short time in use, the mechanism proving very defective. It was wholly disused about twelve years ago. Nothing can now be ascertained concerning the tunes pricked on the barrel. Some of the beams on which the bells hang are supposed to have been taken from a vessel of the Spanish Armada.

The ancient ringing-chamber is immediately over the groining of the tower crossing. In the middle of the floor is a grating fitted into the central ring of the vault, through which the church beneath is visible. In the roughly-boarded ceiling are the holes through which the bell-ropes passed; owing to the decay of the woodwork, it is impossible to say how many ropes were originally provided for. Three or four of the holes only are perfectly marked, and it is likely that there were two or three others not now distinguishable. The chamber is now nearly dark, owing to the alteration in the pitch of the roofs in the church, 1829—33, by which all direct light from the outside was cut off. The restoration of the church is now all but complete, through the munificence of Dr. Chambers, and it is suggested that a fitting conclusion to the work would be to clear out the whole of the existing bells, substituting for them a light peal of eight, fitted for ringing in the orthodox manner.
J. S. ARCHER.

ST. JAMES'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH, LEITH.

On the evening of Thursday, April 5th, several 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles were rung on the back six bells at the above church by the following band: William A. Hyslop, 1; Samuel Bennett (conductor), 2; James Johnston, 3; William H. Martin, 4; George G. Cunningham, 5; John Maddison and John S. B. Archer, 6. Tenor 23 cwt., in Eb. The 4th was rung in one of these 6-scores by John R. Ritchie. All the foregoing, except Mr. Madison (who is steeple-keeper at St. James's) and Messrs. Ritchie and Archer, are members of the St. Mary's Cathedral Society, Edinburgh, and of the Ancient Society of College Youths. Mr. Ritchie is a probationer of St. Mary's Cathedral Society, and Mr. Archer hails from St. Mary Abbots, Kensington.

This is the first half-pull ringing that has been accomplished on these bells for many years, the performances of the local band being limited to call-changes, and the "go" of the bells, otherwise an excellent peal, having become, from various causes, exceedingly unsatisfactory, so much so, as to make half-pull ringing almost impossible.

STOKE-UPON-TRENT ARCHIDIACONAL ASSOCIATION.

ON Saturday last (7th April), the Leek District held their meeting at the village of Kingsley. Ringers attended from Leek, Cheddleton, Cheadle, Norton, Kingsley, and the Hon. Sec. and a fellow-ringer from Stoke. The weather being very beautiful, the day was made the most of by all. The tower is a very strong one, and a very old one, and some care had been taken to ensure everything being in good order for the meeting. There is much longing for a bell to complete the set, the tower at present possessing only five.

Tea was served in the adjoining schools, at which both the Vicar (Rev. T. Goddard) and the Hon. Sec. spoke to the men.

The meeting terminated about 8 p.m., many having long distances to go, from this tower lying so far away in the hills of North Staffordshire. It is much to be hoped that under the guidance and teaching of Mr. Armit (Leek), this little band at Kingsley will quickly leave behind the rudiments and show themselves apt ringers in the higher grades of the art.

The meetings for the remainder of this month will be 14th, Barlaston (Stoke District); 21st, Tunstall (Wolstanton District); 28th, Leigh (Uttoxeter District). A committee meeting will be held in the church room, Stoke-upon-Trent, on Saturday the 21st, at 4.0 p.m.

Mr. William Andrews, Secretary of the Hull Literary Club, is preparing for early publication a book on bells. In addition to a history of bells, chapters will be devoted to customs, traditions, ringers' rules, quaint epitaphs on ringers, &c. The volume will be profusely illustrated.—*Athenaeum*.

THE GUILD OF DEVONSHIRE RINGERS.

ON Saturday, April 7th, by the kind invitation of the Rector, the Rev. B. W. T. Wrey, several members of the Guild paid a visit to the picturesque little village of Coombeinteignhead, for the purpose of ringing on the peal of six bells which have lately been put in thorough order (so called) by Mr. Aggett, bellhanger, of Chagford, Devon. On arriving at Teignmouth, the party took boat up the river and proceeded towards their destination, but when almost at their journey's end, struck on a sandbank, where they remained for some time till the tide rose; the interval, however, was well spent in ringing various touches on the handbells.

On arriving at Coombeinteignhead, the party, consisting of the Hon. Sec. of the Guild, the Rev. J. S. Northcote, G. F. Coleridge, Esq., and Messrs. Goss, Shepherd (3), Swift and others, immediately proceeded to the tower and commenced ringing.

The peal, with the exception of the tenor and fifth, is comparatively a new one, the 4th, 3rd, and 2nd being added about ten years ago, and a new treble cast by Messrs. Taylor, of Loughborough, and erected by the Rector in memory of his father, the late Sir Henry B. Wrey, Bart., only a few weeks ago. The work of hanging this bell and of putting the others into thorough order, was entrusted to Mr. Aggett, bellhanger, of Chagford, Devon. The bells however were found to go badly, and the reason was quickly discovered on ascending into the bell-chamber. Neither the clappers of the fifth or tenor struck in their proper places, and both had so much play that it was almost possible to strike the lip of the bells all round the circumference with them; the 3rd was found to strike the frame badly twice in each revolution, while the gudgeons of the treble had no coverings over them (with the exception of a piece of paper over one), thus allowing plenty of March dust blown by the prevailing east winds to find its way into the bearings. Owing to this state of things only Grandsire Doubles could be attempted, of which several 6-scores were rung, but the striking, as can be imagined, was none of the best. On leaving the belfry, the party were most hospitably entertained by the Rector at a sumptuous tea in the schoolroom, together with the parish ringers, amongst whom several copies of "THE BELL NEWS" were distributed. After the repeat several touches of Grandsire Triples were rung on the handbells, and the party returned to their several destinations.

It is satisfactory to learn that on the state of affairs in the tower being explained to the Rector and Churchwardens, they promised that immediate steps should be taken to rectify all defects. When this is done, Coombeinteignhead will be able to boast of one of the prettiest peals of six in a flat in the County of Devon.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

ON Saturday last, the April meeting of the above society was held at Dewsbury, when there was a numerous gathering of members and friends. The rings of eight at the parish church, tenor 14½ cwt., and at Earlsheaton, tenor 14 cwt., were placed at the disposal of the society during the day.

During the afternoon a committee meeting was held, at which Mr. Joseph Pickering, of Kirkburton, was elected to a vacancy upon the committee. At the general meeting held in the National Schools, an invitation from the Barnsley ringers to hold the next meeting of the Association at Barnsley, on July 7th, was unanimously accepted. Votes of thanks were accorded to the vicars and churchwardens of Dewsbury and Earlsheaton, for the use of the bells, and to the ringers for the interest they had taken in the meeting. A vote of thanks to the President, Jasper W. Snowdon, Esq., for his services in the chair, concluded the business part of the proceedings.

THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

THE next Quarterly Meeting will be held at Streatham, on Wednesday, April 25th. The bells of Immanuel Church will be at the disposal of the Association. A. W. B. PERCEVAL, Hon. Sec.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

THE ATTEMPT FOR A LONG PEAL.—On Monday, April 9th, a band of the above Association attempted to ring the late Mr. T. Day's long peal of Treble Bob Major, at St. Mary's church, Debenham, Suffolk, as announced in "THE BELL NEWS" of April 7th. The first part was rung in 3 hrs. and 25 minutes, when through a shift course previous, the conductor, Mr. W. Ireland, of Diss, called "stand." The ringers wish to acknowledge their appreciation of the kindness of the churchwardens for the use of the bells, also to the inhabitants for their courteous treatment.

Touches of Kent Treble Bob Major and Grandsire Triples, were afterwards rung by ringers from Helmingham, Framsdon, Worlingworth, Brandeston, and other local parishes, in which the Rev. Blyth, of Wetheringsett, took part.

REVIEW.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—The Annual Report of the Essex Association for the year ending Whitsuntide, 1882, was issued to the members at the meeting at Writtle, on Easter Monday. We gave a report of the proceedings of the day, and as this printed paper is of a very limited description, there is no particular point for us to comment upon. We should, however, prefer to see a far more detailed report; one which would give some idea of the progress made in the art during the year in the county by the Association. Our pages during the year have shown that there are bands capable of ringing peals, and these certainly should appear in the Annual Report. Each local company should also be at liberty, in a limited way, of showing its advancement. Such information as the increase of members, the loss by death, list of new rings, rings re-hung, reopenings, dedications, and all matters relating to reformed belfries that had taken place in the county during the year would be interesting to those that take a real interest in the work of the Association, and could, in the shape of a pamphlet, be issued at a small cost.

THE BELLS AT HARLOW, ESSEX.

THE following is a description of the sizes, notes, and weights, and a copy of the inscription on the tenor:—

Diameter.	Note.	Weight. cwt qrs lbs.
1 30½ in.	E	6 3 11
2 30½ in.	D sharp.	7 1 5
3 33 in.	C sharp.	7 3 18
4 35 in.	B	8 3 11
5 38 in.	A	11 0 12
6 40 in.	G sharp.	12 1 12
7 44 in.	F sharp.	14 3 25
8 49 in. (Tenor.)	E	21 2 5
Total weight		90 3 15

TO THE GLORY OF GOD

AND IN MEMORY OF

EMILY FRANCES WALFORD, HIS WIFE,
WHO DIED JANUARY 3rd, 1880.

THIS RING OF EIGHT BELLS WAS PRESENTED TO THE PARISH
CHURCH OF HARLOW.

BY WILLIAM WALFORD, JANUARY 3rd, 1883.

CHARLES MILLER, M.A., VICAR.

PHILLIP CHAPLIN,

ROBERT NEWCOME DAY, } Churchwardens.

ECCLESIASTICAL APPOINTMENTS.—The *Guardian* has the following list of preferments and appointments:—Rev. Harry Percy Atkinson, M.A., Rector of Pudding Norton, Norfolk; Rev. H. Glanville Barnacle, M.A., F.R.A.S., vicar of Holmes Chapel (or Church Hulme), Surrogate; Rev. J. Henton Bluck, M.A., vicar of Ampney Crucis; Rev. F. B. De Chair, M.A., Hon. Sec. for S.P.G. for the Diocese of Norwich; Rev. Edward Giannini Edwards, curate, rector of Llandawke with Pendine; patron—Mr. William Beauclerc Powell; Rev. J. Fowler, M.A., chaplain-warden of St. Ann's Bedehouses, Lincoln, rector of Grimston, Norfolk; patrons—Queen's College, Cambridge; Rev. Charles Frederick Harrison, vicar of Llangunllo, vicar of St. Mary's, Haverfordwest; patron—Mr. C. E. G. Philipps; Rev. Edwin Hatch, M.A., vice-principal of St. Mary's Hall, Oxford, rector of Purleigh; Rev. Bircham Houchen, M.A., rector of South Peckham, Norfolk; Rev. Dr. McDowall, head master of Highgate School, prebendary of Mora in St. Paul's Cathedral; patron—the Bishop of London; Rev. Horatio Millett, rector of St. Nicholas, with All Saints, South Elmham, Suffolk; Rev. Charles F. Norman, M.A., rector of Mistley with Bradfield; Rev. J. E. Parsons, M.A., diocesan inspector of Schools for the Archdeacons of Winchester and the Isle of Wight, rector of North Waltham, Hampshire; patron—the Bishop of Winchester; Rev. F. H. Sutton, rector of Brant Broughton, prebendary of Langford Ecclesia in Lincoln Cathedral; patron—the Bishop; Rev. E. G. A. Winter, M.A., rector of East Bradenham, Norfolk, organizing secretary for the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel for the Archdeacons of Norwich and Norfolk.

The statement that the Dean of Peterborough has received a letter threatening to blow up the cathedral is contradicted. The letter received contained these words—"Take care, or we will blow up your house. The dynamite is ready." It was posted from an adjacent village, and is regarded by the police as a hoax.

ROCHESTER CATHEDRAL TOWER.

A few remarks as to this deformity are extremely characteristic, relative to much that has appeared in "THE BELL NEWS." From the earliest period we always remember having pointed out to us, by persons who knew nothing of architecture or churches, the great eyesore in the centre of this Cathedral. The repairs which took place in the earlier part of this century, were under the direction of Mr. Cottingham, who was commended by Pugin on several occasions, but not for anything here. There had previously existed, over the four great tower piers, a sort of cot, and wooden spire, which was struck by lightning—what condition Mr. Cottingham found it is not generally known—a model of the spire is in the crypt. The space between the piers is 26 feet, height of pier, 32 feet, diameter of pier, 8 feet, height of masonry above arch, 83 feet.

The ascent is made in an outside wall, and to gain the tower, we pass along the choir gutter, a scene on crawling into the lower chamber is quite unusual, we should hope. An exceedingly large space, four or more tiny openings admit the least possible light, openings leading on the new roof, not guarded with a door—two great systems of trusses rising above the floor, which is covered in sawdust and other rubbish, the s.x ropes, very good new ones, falling in a wide circle. The bells; we found left up by the last team; on pulling off the noise was so great, that the conductor could not be heard!

The bells have been rehung and go well, but are very heavy, and little used. An ascent by ladder brought us into Mr. Cottingham's erection; here we have a very lofty apartment, well built and tied together; eight immense badly-pointed arches, in the stock-brick internal lining, with hideous louvres, and four semi-circular discharging arches in each wall surface; the bells in an immense frame, stilted on the floor, with a great open square in the centre—whether this would hold other bells (trebles) we could not judge, fearing, with so many strangers about, to get among them. The tenor was measured, and probably weighs over 30 cwt; the treble seemed out of tune with the rest. The question arises, "What would you advise us to do?" Well, one course only would be effectual—pull down the present erection as far as the old work, take away the bells, do what is proper and in good taste, to the centre of the church. Then erect a new independent campanile anywhere in the grounds, at the same time order four new additional trebles.

ST. MARY'S CHURCH, TEYNHAM, KENT.

This cruciform edifice, chiefly built in the First Pointed style, with late tower added at the west end, has recently received a very great enrichment. The great east window, a Third Pointed insertion has been filled with stained glass as a memorial to the late Mr. James Lake, a great landowner in the parish, and who was an advocate, in its early days, of the London, Chatham and Dover Railway, so important to this part of Kent and which runs close to the church, seen on the left after Teynham Station, on a hill by itself. Had Mr. Lake lived a little longer, he would have put the church tower and bells in order, but his successor is equally interested in the structure. Teynham bells have some repute among local ringers, but have been neglected. The tower is well designed for its purpose, there being, contrary to usual arrangement, no tower arch, but only a low convenient vestibule, flanked by another on either side, one forming vestry, the other giving access to ringing-chamber, and also the church; thus the west end has 3 entrances, instead of side porches. Treble, "R. C., 1743." 2nd. Cannons broken off, sent to London by Mr. Lake some years ago, the crown bored through, and inscription effaced. 3rd. "R. C., 1743." 4th. "Robert Catlin cast and hung us all, 1743." 6th, (this is a very fine-toned bell) "Prosperity to the parish of Tinham. Robert Catlin, fecit, 1743." Tenor, diameter, 3½ in. Inscription: "1743, Rev. Mr. John Swinton, Vicar; Richard Hubbard, Churchwarden. R. C."

The vestry of Broadwater, Sussex, have received a report and plans from Mr. James A. McConnochie, C.E., of Rotherhithe, on the works necessary to support the tower of the parish church, and decided that they be adopted, and that Mr. Scott, the Architect to the restoration committee, be requested to carry them into effect.

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 ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE COMPOSERS.

SIR,—In your last issue, three different correspondents drew the attention of your readers to the fact that Mr. J. Thorp, of Ashton-under-Lyne, had re-produced and published, as his composition, a peal by Mr. Henry Dains, of London. It is not, therefore, an agreeable task for me to point out that the peal of Treble Bob Major (5024 changes) given in the same issue as the composition of Mr. Samuel Wood, of Ashton-under-Lyne, is to be found in Snowdon's *Treatise*, part II., page 47; and there given as the composition of Mr. W. Sottanstill, with the alternative calling, used in the 14th course instead of the 13th, by Mr. Wood. Having myself reproduced this peal and many others, to my disappointment, I am well aware that now-a-days Treble Bob peals already published are likely to be reproduced again and again by composers trying for new peals; but I think there can be no excuse for Mr. Thorp or Mr. Wood, if, after having composed a peal, they do not use every endeavour to find out its originality. One of the chief objects Mr. Snowdon had in view, in bringing out his collection of Treble Bob peals, was to enable composers to test the originality of their compositions; and I hope that if Messrs. Thorp and Wood do not possess this valuable work, they will now see the absolute necessity of purchasing a copy, and also of procuring the numbers of "THE BELL NEWS" containing Mr. Snowdon's latest collection. From time to time many excellent performances by the Ashton-under-Lyne ringers have appeared in your columns; I therefore trust, in future, none of their performances will be marred by ringing published compositions as new and original ones.

N. J. PITSTOW.

Saffron Walden, 11th April, 1883.

OLD BELFRY RHYMES.

IN THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER, BISHOPS WALTHAM.—A.D. 1766.

Ye ringers all that use this Belfry
Your hats throw off, your gloves lay by,
The Steward's fees you can't deny.
And if a bell you overthrow,
You shall pay two pence e'er you go.
And if you shall a wager lay,
Or such a thing presume to say,
You shall for that a penny pay.
And if you take God's name in vain,
You shall pay sixpence for your pain,
And when you come the bells to ring,
Drink soberly, God save the King.

LINES ON CHARLCOMBE CHURCH.*

Far from the city's busy life,
With nought but Nature round;
Away from this world's angry strife
We list to Nature's sound.
In peaceful quiet it stands alone—
That Gothic little church;
In the graveyard, too, there's many a stone
'Mong which we love to search.
On Sunday morns we love to stray,
And breathe the air in country lane:
To hear the parson preach and pray,
In that ancient little fane:
After service there is o'er,
We view the landscape round,
And take a circuit to explore
The beauties to be found;
Which when we've seen we rest awhile,
Enjoying there the breeze;
While sitting on some rustic stile,
Or 'neath the shady trees.
As we our homeward steps retrace,
And leave the church behind;
The scenes that now are lost in space,
A place in memory find.

W. J. HART.

* Charlcombe is a small picturesque village, pleasantly situated about 2½ miles from Bath. The parish church, which is dedicated to St. Mary, is a small ancient structure, consisting of nave, chancel, porch, and short ivy-clad tower. The tower has but one bell, bearing this inscription and date:—"Venite Exultemus. A.D. 1245."

"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.

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.

The Bell News & Ringers' Record.

SATURDAY, APRIL 14, 1883.

A CORRESPONDENCE has at various intervals recently appeared in our columns, relative to what is sometimes known as "The Treble Bob Question," but of course the arguments which have been adduced on either side apply to any other method equally as well as the one under discussion. The main feature of this correspondence is what may in fact be termed "Piracy," intentional or otherwise. This has for some years been a bone of contention. Why it should have been so it is not very easy to explain, perhaps. The kind of blindness which has affected some composers of eminence who have taken sides in this recent tournament must create, at a future period, some little amusement. The gist of the matter seems to have escaped the notice of at least one writer who has figured in this controversy. Is such obtuseness the result of accident, or design? Is the best way of meeting the arguments of an opponent to ignore the assertions he makes, and give way to a few platitudes unconnected with the points at issue? This mode, or else an absolute silence—the latter being the most discreet—are favourite methods of getting rid of an adversary who is too powerful to encounter in open warfare. In the controversy we are alluding to—and which it would seem is not yet over—such have been the methods of defence against the attacks of Mr. DAINS and one or two other correspondents.

The questions involved are really very simple. Who amongst a few shall have the credit awarded him of composing a certain peal? seems the exact case brought within its narrowest limits. The old plan was to regard all peals as the productions of those gentlemen whose names were annexed to the original publication of such compositions; and though in olden times there were many hindrances in the way, in cannot seriously be doubted that at the present day those who wish to ensure the originality of their compositions can easily do so. The facilities for the comparison of MSS. are now so ready

to hand, that the plea of being ignorant of their existence will never be regarded henceforth as a sufficient warrant for any one, no matter how high he may stand in the estimation of his colleagues, to appropriate what may seem to him a new composition. It is the duty of every composer to carefully examine the productions of his own brain, and compare them with what has already been published in the same line, before he comes to the conclusion that such production is his own property. Such a course is absolutely necessary to maintain that prestige and recognition which among ringers the talents of a composer always secure him.

The possession of a peal has been likened to the acquisition of a patent. If the latter gets infringed, the patentee puts the machinery of the law in force, and in such case, for the delinquent to plead that he had never heard of the invention he had imitated would lay him open to ridicule, and would not render him less culpable, though he had acted honestly in the matter.

It becomes highly necessary, then, to keep to some recognised standard in the composition of peals. There certainly can be no satisfactory reason for this self-isolation by one or two very ingenious composers. We would tell them, in as respectful terms as we are able, that their popularity will not be increased, nor their memory held in greater veneration, by remaining aloof from and ignoring the works of other good men. We think that between composers a peculiar bond of union should exist, and frequent interchanges of opinion take place. But anything akin to what is known as "stand-offishness" is detrimental to the establishment of such friendly amenities.

On another page will be found a copy of the report of the most important, perhaps, of all Life Assurance Companies—the "Prudential." It is unnecessary in these days to dwell at any length upon the propriety of becoming connected with institutions of this character. Every one, especially those who have others dependent on them, hold it to be one of the cardinal principles of their existence to identify themselves, in some form or other, with them, and the question for consideration is, therefore, which among these companies have the best title to be regarded as substantial and sound. We apprehend the surest way of selecting a good assurance company would be to find the most prosperous, for in this as in everything else nothing succeeds like success. As will be seen by a brief perusal of the report, the company we are dealing with have been singularly successful. It is manifestly impossible for us to critically review the financial statement, but we may mention one or two facts in connection with the Prudential Assurance Company not altogether uninteresting.

The claims upon this company during the past year appear on the balance-sheet to an amount approaching the fabulous. In the Industrial branch of its business the total amount of claims paid is above four and a half millions, being over two thousand five hundred per day!

The report states that the premiums actually received, as compared with the previous year, show an increase of two hundred and seventy-six thousand pounds and upwards. The increase of premiums in the entire number of British offices last year was upwards of five hundred and seventy-one thousand pounds; and thus it will be seen that the increase of the Prudential alone this year is more than half the total increase shown by the whole number of British companies in their published account last year. This is a very remarkable fact, which of itself shows clearly the immense resources and strength of the Prudential Assurance Company.

The Provinces.

SUDBURY, SUFFOLK.

On Tuesday, April 10, 1883, in Three Hours and Thirty-five Minutes,

AT ALL SAINTS' CHURCH,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5040 CHANGES;

ANNABLE'S COMPOSITION. Tenor 28 cwt. in D.

ARTHUR SCOTT .. .. .Treble.	WILLIAM BACON 5.
MAURICE SILVESTER* .. 2.	*WILLIAM HOWELL 6.
GEORGE S. BROWN* 3.	*CHARLES SILLITOE (age 17) 7.
WALTER GRIGGS 4.	†HARRY HARPER Tenor.

Conducted by ARTHUR SCOTT.

The above is the first peal on these harmonious bells, which were augmented to six to eight, and the tenor recast by Messrs. Warner and Son, in 1876.

*First peal. †First peal in the method.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS. HERTFORDSHIRE.

On Wednesday, April 4, 1883, in Three Hours and Fifteen Minutes,

AT ST. ALBAN'S ABBEY,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S 10-PART PEAL. Tenor 28 cwt. in D.

HENRY LEWIS .. .. .Treble.	HERBERT BAKER 5.
NEWMAN N. HILLS* 2.	MATTHEW A. WOOD 6.
JASPER G. CRAWLEY 3.	WILLIAM A. ALPS 7.
EDWARD P. DEBENHAM .. 4.	*HENRY YOUNGER Tenor.

Conducted by MATTHEW A. WOOD.

There is no record of a peal at the above Abbey, since 1765, when a peal of Bob Major was rung.

[* First peal.]

THE BIRMINGHAM AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATION. BIRMINGHAM.

On Saturday, April 7, 1883, in Three Hours.

AT ST. CHAD'S R.C. CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

A 10-PART PEAL. Tenor 15 cwt. in F.

WILLIAM SANIGER .. .. .Treble.	THOMAS RUSSAM 5.
THOMAS MILLER 2.	JOHN CARTER 6.
BENNETT STEVENS 3.	JOHN PERRY 7.
WILLIAM H. FUSSELL .. 4.	JOHN CALLAGHAN Tenor.

Composed and conducted by JOHN CARTER.

Mr. William H. Fussell hails from Bridgenorth, and the others belong to the Birmingham Amalgamated Society.

We hear on good authority that a society of change-ringers has been or is to be immediately started at Westminster School, and Canon Farrar has given them permission to practice at St. Margaret's church. This is really good news, as it will begin to sow the good seed while the boys are young, and if they get on they will be much more likely to stick to it and persevere, and become better ringers than people who learn later in life.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

BURTON-ON-TRENT, STAFFORDSHIRE.

On Saturday, April 7, 1883, in Three Hours and Forty-two Minutes,

AT ST. PAUL'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 26 cwt.

JOSEPH GRIFFIN .. .. .Treble.	ARTHUR WAKLEY 5.
JOHN JAGGAR 2.	GEORGE APPEBY 6.
HARRY WAKLEY 3.	THOMAS HOLMES 7.
EDWARD ISAAC STONE .. 4.	WILLIAM WAKLEY Tenor.

Composed by HENRY DAINS, and conducted by JOSEPH GRIFFIN.

The figures of this peal will be found on another page.

LEESFIELD, LANCASHIRE.

On Saturday, April 7, 1883, in Two Hours and Fifty-three Minutes,

AT ST. THOMAS'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

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

JAS. W. HOLME .. .. .Treble.	JAS. BAILEY 5.
FRED CROSLAND 2.	WM. HOLDEN 6.
SAMUL STOTT 3.	JOHN HILTON 7.
THOS. EGERTON 4.	THOS. B. SHAW Tenor.

Conducted by SAMUEL STOTT.

First peal of Messrs. Holme, Egerton, Bailey, Holden, and Shaw. First peal of Mr. Hilton, with a bob bell.

This is the first peal that has been rung by this society since 1872. The society is now quite young, and has only been under the tuition of Messrs. Stott and Crosland for upwards of six months.

Mr. Crosland is a member of St. Mary's, Oldham.

GORTON, LANCASHIRE.

On Saturday, April 7, 1883, in Two Hours and Forty-eight Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S 10-PART PEAL. Tenor 14½ cwt.

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

Conducted by JAMES ADAMS.

All the above hail from Ashton.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION. FRITTENDEN, KENT.

On Monday, April 9, 1883, in Five Hours and Thirty-four Minutes,

AT ST. MARY'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 10080 CHANGES;

Tenor 14 cwt. in F#.

CALEB PAYNE .. .. .Treble.	*FREDERICK G. NEWMAN .. 5.
JAMES POTTER 2.	THOMAS POTTER 6.
EDWARD BALDOCK 3.	WILLIAM BRATTLE 7.
EDMUND POTTER 4.	*THOMAS DAYNES Tenor.

Conducted by CALEB PAYNE.

* Members of the Ancient Society of College Youths.

Mr. C. Payne hails from Maidstone; E. Potter from Dover; E. Baldock from West Malling; J. Potter from Reading; F. G. Newman from Mereworth; and the rest of the company from Frittenden.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION. ALBURGH, NORFOLK.

On Tuesday, April 10, 1883, in Three Hours and Ten Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5312 CHANGES;

IN THE OXFORD VARIATION. Tenor 12 cwt.

EDWARD SMITH .. .. .Treble.	CHARLES CANDLER, ESQ. .. 5.
JOHN BENTLEY 2.	WILLIAM MATTHEWS 6.
GEORGE PRIME 3.	GEORGE MOBBS 7.
WILLIAM SHELDRAKE .. 4.	CAPTAIN MOORE Tenor.

Composed by HENRY DAINS, and conducted by EDWARD SMITH.

Date Touches.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

HEYWOOD (Lancashire).—On Thursday, April 5th, eight members of St. Luke's church, rang a date touch of Grandsire Triples, in 1 hr. 13 mins. William Wharton, 1; George Crossley, 2; John Millett (conductor), 3; Thomas Wharton, 4; *W. B. Barrett, 5; *Joseph Street, 6; *John Harrison, 7; James Millett, 8. Those marked * are also members of the Rochdale Association. Tenor 22 cwt. 3 qrs. in Eb.

HIGHER WALTON (Lancashire).—On Saturday evening, April 7th, on the unveiling of a marble tablet, erected in the belfry of All Saints' church, to commemorate the ringing of 5040 changes in different methods, in June last, the parish ringers rang a date touch of 1883 changes, in 1 hr. 12 mins., in the following methods, viz.: 83 changes of Plain Bob; 360 of Plain Bob Reverse; 720 of College Singles; and 720 of Oxford Bob. George Thornley (conductor), 1; James Walmsley, 2; Henry Hunt, 3; Henry Brewer, 4; John Eccles, 5; *James Mather, 6. *Member of the Lancashire Association. Tenor 16 cwt. 3 qrs. 26 lbs.

Miscellaneous.

THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

WOBURN (Bedfordshire).—On Thursday, April 5th, at the tower of the Old Church, six of the above company, rang a 720 of Bob Minor, in 29 mins. *Geo. J. Harbert, 1; A. C. Wiseman, 2; W. E. Turney, 3; Chas. Herbert, 4; W. W. C. Baker, Esq. (conductor), 5; F. T. Tanqueray, Esq., 6. *First 720.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.—On Thursday, April 5th, the members of this Association attempted a 5040 Grandsire Triples, but after ringing 3360 changes a change course occurred and the conductor was compelled to call stand. J. Widdell (St. Nicholas'), 1; W. G. Routledge (St. John's), 2; F. Lees (St. John's), 3; C. L. Routledge (St. John's), 4; J. S. Simm, (St. Nicholas'), 5; S. Power (conductor), 6. R. S. Story (St. John's), 7; J. Hara (All Saints), 8. Tenor 19 cwt. Our correspondent reports that the going of these bells is very heavy, and it would have been impossible to have gone such a distance, but for the fact that one of the ringers (Mr. F. Lees), spent a couple of days in doctoring them as much as possible.

NORTH SHIELDS.—At Christ Church, the local company, with Mr. R. S. Story, of St. John's, Newcastle, attempted a 5040 of Kent Treble Bob Major, in honour of the wedding of Miss Horsley of North Shields. Shortly after reaching the half-peal, however, and after ringing 1 hr. and 40 mins., a mishap occurred, and the conductor was obliged to call "stand." Stephen Knott, 1; A. Sawyer, 2; H. Ross, 3; W. Waugh, 4; R. Smith, 5; R. S. Story, 6; W. Reed, Esq. (conductor), 7; J. Wignall, 8. Tenor 19 cwt.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

CHELTHENHAM.—On Thursday night, April 5th, the following members of this branch of the above association, rang for practice the first five courses of a peal of 5120 Treble Bob Major. This is the longest length of Treble Bob, that has been rung on the bells by Cheltenham men, for about thirty years, and by any ringers for 23 years. J. Belcher (conductor), 1; W. Morris, 2; H. Hodges, 3; H. Karn, 4; F. Musty, 5; W. Pates, 6; G. Phillott, Esq., 6; G. Acocks, 8.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

BEESTON, NEAR NOTTINGHAM.—On Saturday afternoon, April 7th, eight members of the Long Eaton society visited this place and by the kind permission of the vicar, made an attempt to ring Holt's six-part peal of Grandsire Triples, but after ringing nearly 3000 changes, a mishap occurred which brought the peal to grief. *William Grice, 1; *George Bradley, 2; John Copeland, 3; *Richard Hickton, 4; *John Ward, 5; *Arthur Widdowson, 6; *Joseph Barrow (conductor), 7; John Pritchard, 8. Also three courses of Bob Major by Beeston and Long Eaton ringers, assisted by Mr. Joseph Wibberley of Nottingham. W. Grice, 1; A. Widdowson, 2; J. Copeland, 3; *Jos. Wibberley, 4; J. Ward, 5; J. Barrow (conductor), 6; Robt. Mellors, 7; Samuel Mellors, 8. *Members of the above Association. Tenor 19 cwt. 1 qr. in F.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

OXFORD.—On Sunday, April 1st, at St. Cross, Holywell, for Divine Service in the evening, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor, in 27 mins. Harry Payne, 1; George Lapworth, 2; Thomas Payne, 3; William C. Baston, 4; Walter Payne, 5; James W. Washbrook (conductor), 6. Also after evensong, a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob Minor, in 27 mins. Harry Payne, 1; Thomas Payne, 2; William C. Baston, 3; George Lapworth, 4; Samuel Hounslow, 5; James Washbrook (conductor), 6. Also on Tuesday, April 3rd, at the same church, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor, in 25 mins. Harry Payne, 1; Thomas Payne, 2; J. W. Washbrook, (conductor) 3; Oliver Thomas, 4; William C. Baston, 5; George Lapworth, 6. Tenor 12½ cwt. Also on Thursday, April 5th, at St. Mary Magdalen, a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob Minor, in 22 mins. William Finch, 1; Thomas Payne, 2; Charles Boots, 3; Oliver Thomas, 4; William C. Baston, 5; James W. Washbrook (conductor), 6. Also on Monday, April 9th, at St. Mary Magdalen, a 720 of Bob Minor, in 25 mins. Frederick Castle (first in the method), 1; Charles Boots (first in the method), 2; William C. Baston, 3; Thomas Payne, 4; Oliver Thomas, 5; J. W. Washbrook (conductor), 6. Also on Tuesday, April 10th, on handbells, retained in hand, a 720 of Grandsire Minor, in 18 mins. Samuel Hounslow, 1-2; James W. Washbrook (conductor), 3-4; William C. Baston, 5-6. Also a 548 of Grandsire Triples, in 13 mins. Samuel Hounslow 1-2; William C. Baston, 3-4; James W. Washbrook (conductor), 5-6; Thomas Payne, 7-8.

BRANDESTON (Suffolk).—On Sunday, April 8th, 2,160 changes, being three consecutive touches of Oxford Treble Bob, Kent Treble Bob, and Plain Bob, in 1 hr. 22 mins. A. Wightman, 1; W. Meadows, Esq., 2; J. Cullum, 3; D. Wightman, 4; S. Wightman, 5; P. Meadows (conductor), 6. Also the Otley company rang a 360 of Plain Bob and various touches of Oxford. S. Meadows, 1; A. Hatcher, 2; H. Pepper, 3; J. Cullum, 4; W. Shipp, 5; W. Meadows, Esq., 6. Tenor 9½ cwt. in Ab.

BROMESBOROUGH (Cheshire).—On Saturday evening, April 7th, the Chester Cathedral Society paid a visit to the parish church at the above place to attempt a peal of Grandsire Triples, when after ringing in an excellent manner four parts of Holt's six-part peal (or 3360 changes), the whole came to grief owing to the fifth bell casting her rope. Time 1 hr. 45 mins. Alfred Peers, 1; Arthur Jones, 2; Joseph Griffiths, 3; Alfred Cross, 4; William Walton, 5; Peter Griffiths, 6; Freeman Ball (conductor), 7; Frederick Jarvis, 8. Tenor 24 cwt.

CRETINGHAM (Suffolk).—On Sunday, April 8th, two 120s of Old and Grandsire Doubles. S. Wightman, 1; Dr. F. Meadows (Otley), 2; D. Wightman, 3; A. Wightman, 4; W. Meadows, Esq., 5; Also in the afternoon by the Otley company three 120s of Grandsire and one of Plain Doubles. N. Meadows, 1; G. Wix, 2; J. Cullum, 3; A. Wightman, 4; A. Hatcher (conductor) and H. Pepper, 5. These bells are the front five of a peal of six, one was cast in the fifteenth century and the treble by J. Darby, 1661; they have not been rehung for nearly 300 years.

EARLE SOHAM (Suffolk).—On Sunday, April 8th, a mixed party visited this place with the intention of attempting a date touch, but owing to the shocking state of the bells and fittings, it was found impossible to ring more than a 120 of Old Doubles and a 120 of Grandsire. The bells have not been rehung since they were put up four hundred years ago, and the ropes have no sallies at all. S. Meadows, 1; A. Hatcher (conductor), 2; W. Meadows, Esq., 3; J. Cullum, 4; J. Beddingfield, 5; G. Meadows, 6.

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

FARNWORTH, NEAR WIDNES (Lancashire).—On Saturday, April 7th, the local company rang a 720 of Grandsire Minor, in 26 mins. J. Large, 1; A. Whitfield, 2; J. Wilde, 3; W. Patten (first 720), 4; J. T. Lowe (conductor), 5; J. Latchford, jun., 6. Tenor 12½ cwt. in G.

GREAT HALLINGBURY (Essex).—On Wednesday, April 4th, the local society rang for practice six 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles, at St. Giles's, with the tenor the observation, in all 720 changes, in 26 mins. H. Saunders, 1; W. Turner, 2; R. S. Sworder, 3; Alb. Prior, 4; F. Sworder (conductor), 5. Tenor 12½ cwt. in F#. Also several 6-scores in the same method, were rung for the following Sunday services. This is the longest length in any method on these bells for upwards of twenty years. The ringers desire to express their thanks to the Rector (the Rev. H. M. Oswald), for allowing them to use the proper ringing-

without which the above could not have been accomplished, as the bells are not in first-rate going order. And they (the ringers), also take this opportunity of thanking those of the parishioners who so liberally subscribed towards defraying the cost of new ropes, and fitting up the ringing-chamber. The above though not a "big" performance, shows that the art of change-ringing is being revived, and that the ringers (three of whom two months previously knew nothing of the art), hope to be able to ring yet more difficult methods on the bells.

HORNSEY (Middlesex).—On Sunday evening, April 8th, for Divine Service at St. Mary's, a 720 of Plain Bob Minor, with 26 singles, in 26 mins. P. S. Kerdall, Esq., 1; G. Griffin, 2; A. Jacob, 3; J. Hannington (conductor), 4; J. Leach, 5; T. Titchener, 6. After service a 720 of Plain Bob Minor, with eight bobs and six singles, in 26½ mins. G. B. Lucas, 1; G. Griffin, 2; J. Leach, 3; T. Titchener, 4; A. Jacob, 5; J. Hannington (conductor), 6. Also a 720 of Plain Bob Minor, with nine bobs and six singles, in 26½ mins. H. Barnett (first 720), 1; J. Leach, 2; G. Griffin, 3; A. Jacob, 4; T. Titchener, 5; J. Hannington (conductor), 6. Also another 720 was attempted, but after ringing 672 changes, it came to grief through the intrusion of a stranger in the belfry. P. S. Kerdall, Esq., 1; J. Hannington (conductor), 2; T. Titchener, 3; G. Griffin, 4; J. Leach, 5; A. Jacob, 6. Tenor 17½ cwt.

MIRFIELD (Yorkshire).—On Sunday afternoon, April 8th, at St. Paul's church, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob, in 27 mins. J. Lawson (Lightcliffe), 1; J. Cockroft (Brighouse), 2; J. Robnett (Brighouse; conductor), 3; G. Lawton (Brighouse), 4; W. Sharewood (Lightcliffe), 5; J. H. Reeds (Lightcliffe), 6. Tenor 15 cwt.

NETHERTON (Worcestershire).—On Saturday evening, April 7th, four members of the local society, and two from Dudley, rang at St. Andrew's church, a 720 of Plain Bob, in 30 mins. F. Hotchkiss, 1; W. Micklewright, sen., 2; W. Micklewright, jun. (conductor), 3; J. Townsend, 4; J. Prestidge, 5; J. Smith, 6. The above are all members of the Worcester Diocesan and adjoining District Association. Tenor 12½ cwt.

PONTEFRAC.—On Sunday, April 8th, for Divine Service in the evening, at All Saints, the local company rang a 720 of Bob Minor, in 24½ mins. W. Wilcock, 2; J. Brook, 2; W. Pearson, 3; J. Heckingbottom, 4; R. Brook (conductor), 5; J. Carter, 6. Tenor 11 cwt. in F.

PUDSEY (Yorkshire).—On Sunday, April 8th, at St. Lawrence's church, 2528 changes: Kent Treble Bob Minor with the bells badly muffled, as a last trial before the bells were to be sold, in memory of the late John Child, who had rung at this church for nearly forty years, who died March 17th, in the 81st year of his age. J. Carter (Tong), 1; Simeon Langstaff (Pudsey), 2; Edward Webster (Tong), 3; William Bolland (Tong), 4; James Crabtree (Shipley), 5; Joab Ross (Shipley), 6; George Bolland (Tong) (conductor), 7; John Haley (Tong), 8. Time 1 hr. 32 mins. Tenor 16 cwt.

ROMFORD (Essex).—On Sunday, April 8th, at St. Edward's church, a 720 of Bob Minor, with 22 singles, in 28 mins. S. Garratt, 1; A. J. Perkins, (conductor), 2; B. Keeble, 3; W. Hawkes, 4; G. Roughton, 5; A. Pye, 6.

SEELY OAK, NEAR BIRMINGHAM.—On Sunday, April 8th, at St. Mary's church, a 720 Grandsire Minor, in 25 mins. *H. Tarver, 1; W. H. Fussell, 2; A. Thomas, 3; A. Cresser, 4; W. Palmer (conductor), 5; *H. Bond, 6. Tenor 10 cwt. *First peal.

WESTMINSTER.—On Tuesday, April 3rd, ten members of the St. Margaret's society, rang at that church, a half-muffled peal as a mark of respect to the late Venerable Archdeacon Jennings.

WITNESHAM (Sussex).—On Saturday, April 7th, a 720 of Cambridge Surprise, in 25 mins. George Sadler, 1; Wm. Damant, 2; Wm. Woods, 3; Thomas Sadler, 4; Wm. Ramsey (conductor), 5; Wingfield Meadows, Esq., 6. Tenor 14 cwt in F#.

WOMBOURN, NEAR WOLVERHAMPTON.—On Wednesday evening, April 4th, the local company rang a 720 of Grandsire Minor, with thirty-four bobs and two singles, in 26 mins. J. Ashton (first 720), 1; A. Little (first 720 with a bob bell), 2; H. Carrier, 3; W. Devy, 4; H. Deans, 5; R. Cartwright (conductor), 6. Tenor 14½ cwt.

In the opinion of Archdeacon Norris, expressed in the course of his visitation charge at Bristol, if the disestablishment of the Church meant a sweeping measure like the Irish Church Act, it seemed most improbable. There had been a gradual process of disestablishment and breaking up of the external property of the Church, but there was a general growth from within, and out of this activity and the co-operation of the clergy and laity might be evolved a new constitution of Church and State, with more satisfactory conditions.

THE BRAINTREE BRANCH OF THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

THE third annual meeting was held in the vestry on Monday, April 2nd, the Vicar (the Rev. S. H. Bingham), in the chair, supported by Mr. R. Crickmore, and Mr. J. Rust, Churchwardens. The report showed that the ringers had done some very good work during the past year, having rung 148 complete 720's, and 178 touches on six bells, all of which have been brought successfully home, in the following methods:—Bob Minor, thirty-four; Kent Treble Bob, seventeen; College Exercise, twelve; New London Pleasure, fourteen; Court Single, seven; Oxford Delight, three; Oxford Treble Bob, seventeen; Woodbine Treble Bob, twenty; Cambridge Surprise, nine; Double Court Bob, nine; Violet Treble Bob, six. Also thirty-two 120's on five bells, in the following methods:—Bob Doubles, Grandsire Doubles, and Stedman's principle, making a total of 143,055 changes that have been brought successfully home from Easter, 1882, to Easter, 1883 inclusive. The company have added the following methods to their list during the past year:—Violet, College Exercise, Oxford Delight, and Stedman's Principle.

It is worthy of note that one of the company who has not yet seen eighteen summers, rang his first 720 of Bob Minor on the 8th day of April, 1882. He has rung a bob bell in all the above methods, which shows well for the careful training he has received, and also for the great perseverance he has shown towards learning the noble art of change-ringing.

A vote of thanks was proposed by Mr. R. Crickmore, and seconded by the Vicar (the Rev. S. H. Bingham) to the ringers for the efficient manner in which they had carried out their duties in connection with the services of the Church.

"STEEPLE JACK."

WE gave some particulars a few weeks ago respecting the ascents of "Steeple Jack" to the spire of St. Andrew's church, Bath, for the purpose of examining the weather vane. Several ascents were made, and it was found necessary to bring down the weathercock, and this has been done without accident of any kind. The difficult nature of the task may be inferred from the fact that the steeple is the highest in Bath, and the weathercock weighs 27 lbs., and measures 4 ft. 6 in. by 3 ft. 1 in.

A correspondent sends us some interesting particulars of the life of "Steeple Jack." When a sailor boy, 15 years old, he passed through Haddington on his way to join his ship at Dunbar, and observed a beautiful spire, about the same height as St. Andrew's, which he afterwards compared with his sons. A temporary staging was built at the top of the spire, and holes where the bells hung, but no one could get up and to ascend higher, and he was informed that anyone who attempted to take down the vane and replace it after being repaired would receive the sum of £40. He thought this a good haul for an aerial voyage, and offered to do the work. His offer was accepted, and the ascent was successfully made. All traffic was suspended, and thousands of people assembled to watch his movements. After completing the hazardous feat, he received the congratulations of many distinguished personages, and his tarpaulin hat was filled with better stuff than hard sea biscuits. The late Earl of Wemyss and March, then Lord Elcho, enquired his name. He told him it was James Duncan Wright. "Oh," said the nobleman, "that is too mild a name for you. I shall title you, and make you equal to one of ourselves. I will call you Steeple Jack." This is the origin of the name. The largest and most difficult undertaking that "Jack" was ever engaged upon was the chimney of St. Rolick's Chemical Works, belonging to Messrs. Tennant, city of Glasgow, which is 460 feet high—twice as high as St. Andrew's spire. He put on upwards of 30 hoops of enormous weight, all by means of kite power and tackle. At this period he had no one to assist him, and the whole work was done to the entire satisfaction of his employers, and without any accident whatever. On one occasion, while repairing a chimney close to the old Abbey and Palace of Dunfermline, the rope slipped, and he had to remain on the top of a rotten brick chimney, 150 feet high, all night. He has been in this calling nearly 40 years, and his sons have followed in the same ever since they were able to do anything. He was born on the estate of the Earl of Camperdown, near Dundee, in the year 1829.

In connection with the foregoing we have, by the courtesy of our representative for Bath and neighbourhood, been favoured with a handsome photographic view of St. Andrew's church, in that city, with the individual above referred to in position at the summit of the spire. We have also received a portrait of "Steeple Jack," with a front view of the same church. These pictures are excellent specimens of the photographer's work, and reflect the highest credit upon the local artist, Mr. W. G. Lewis. Indeed we have no hesitation in saying that these pictures, which lie before us as we write, are equal to any we have ever seen. Those who are anxious to secure the shadows of those near and dear to them, "ere the substance perish," should go to Bath, and favour Mr. Lewis, artist, of that city, with a call.

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR.
5088.

By H. DAINS, *Royal Cumberland Youths.*

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

This peal has the 5th and 6th the extent in 5-6, each at five course-ends home.
Rung for the first time at St. Paul's, Burton-on-Trent, April 7th, 1883, on the ninth Anniversary of the consecration of the church; conducted by Joseph Griffin.

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE MAJOR.
5200.

By J. R. PRITCHARD, *Liverpool.*

2	3	6	5	4	7th in and out, tenor home.
3	6	2	5	4	home.
2	5	6	3	4	tenor in and out.
3	5	6	2	4	tenor in and out, home.
5	6	3	2	4	home.
6	3	5	2	4	home.
5	2	3	6	4	tenor in and out.
6	2	3	5	4	tenor in and out, home.
3	5	2	6	4	tenor in and out.
6	5	2	3	4	tenor in and out, home.
5	2	6	3	4	home.
2	6	5	3	4	home.
3	6	5	2	4	tenor in and out, home.
6	5	3	2	4	home.
Four times repeated.					

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERS.
5076.

By J. R. PRITCHARD, *Liverpool.*

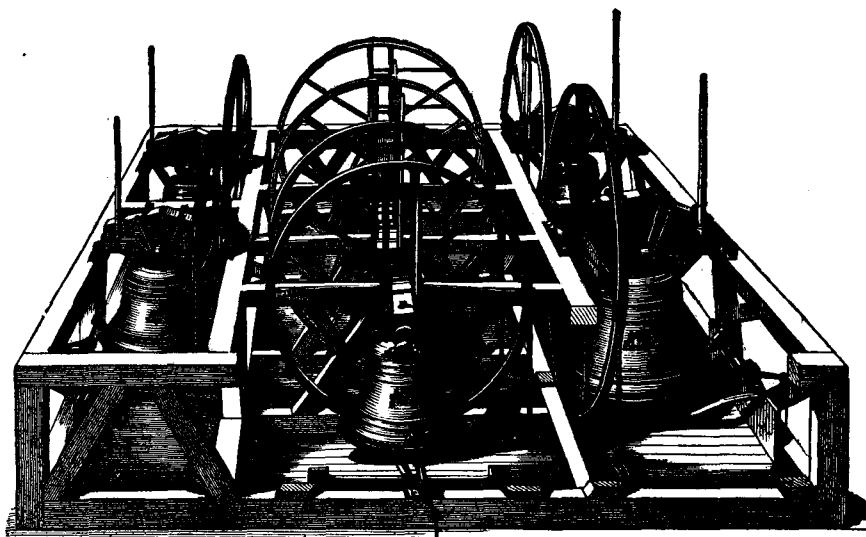
2	3	1	4	5	6
*3	4	6	1	5	2†
5	4	6	2	3	1
5	4	1	6	3	2
5	4	2	1	3	6
2	4	5	6	3	1
2	4	1	5	3	6
1	4	2	6	3	5
1	4	5	2	3	6
1	4	6	5	3	2
6	4	1	2	3	5
6	4	5	1	3	2
6	4	2	5	3	1
*2	4	6	1	3	5

The above courses, omitting those marked *, twice repeated, produce—

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

† This course is produced by bobs at 1, 6, and 15.

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Bells of every Description and Size.

References to Cathedrals and Churches in every part of the world, if desired.

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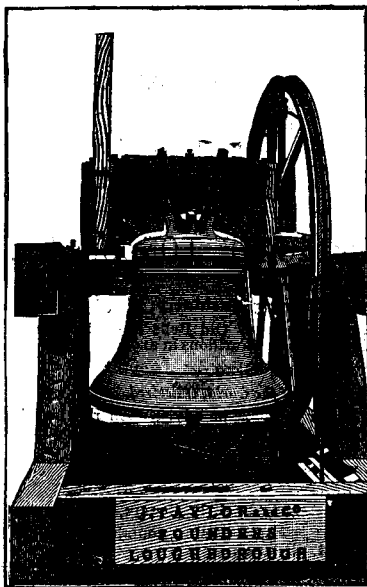
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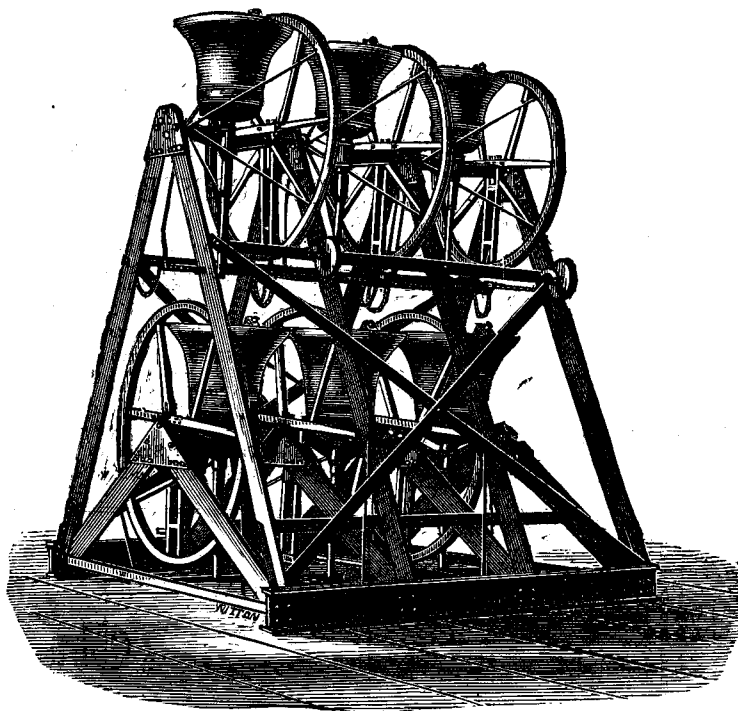
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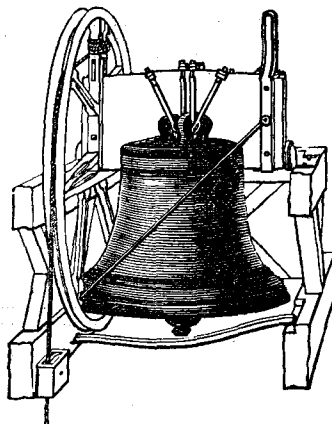
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THE BELLS OF LONG SUTTON, LINCOLNSHIRE.

LONG SUTTON is a market town in the Holland Elloe division of Lincolnshire. Near the centre of the town stands the parish church of St. Mary, a large structure about 190 feet long; the tower is surmounted by a huge leaden spire 162 feet high. This tower contains a light peal of six bells, tenor 12 cwt. All were cast by Henry Penn, of Peterborough, in 1716. The first five are merely inscribed with the date "1716," but the tenor has this inscription "HENRICVS PENN PETERBURGENSIS FVSOR, 1716." The bells are in the key of F, and are a musical little peal. There is also a clock, and a chiming apparatus erected by Jerram and Blackburn, in 1878. Before going further we will just say a word about Henry Penn and his bells. His foundry was in Broad Bridge Street, Peterborough, and he commenced business early in the 18th century, one of his earliest works being the casting of several of the peal of eight now at Lincoln Cathedral. He shortly afterwards cast a peal of ten for Peterborough Cathedral, five of which still hang there. He cast a good many bells in Northamptonshire and the neighbouring counties, and in Lincolnshire he cast peals of six for Long Sutton, Theddlethorpe, Croft, and Wrangle, and peals of five for Friskney, Fishtoft, Butterwick, Whaplode, and Sutterton (Sutterton has since been increased to eight). Nearly his last work was the casting of a peal of six for Bourne; in that year he had cast several bells for St. Ives, which for some reason or other did not suit the authorities there, who refused to pay for them. The matter ended in a lawsuit in which Penn came off victorious, but sad to relate, as he was mounting his horse to ride home he fell down in a fit and died from the effects of over-excitement. His bells were generally soft and sweet in tone, though thin and lacking in power. He was a scholar and a gentleman, and produced some well-turned Latin verses on some of his bells, though these were sometimes misspelt and spoilt by the moulder.

But to return to Long Sutton, change ringing here has lately been at a low ebb. The last six-bell peal that was rung, was a 720 of Bob Minor, February 19th, 1881, conducted by J. W. Mawby. During the last few months however Mr. Mawby has been able to establish a young company who a few Sundays ago managed to ring several five bell peals with the tenor behind, and we hope it will not be long before this musical little peal will be heard in six-bell work again.

St. Nicholas' steeple contains a light little peal of five bells, tenor only 5 cwt. Though small, they are nevertheless a melodious and musical set. There is also a clock erected in 1867, and a chiming apparatus by Jerram and Blackburn, put up in 1878. Change ringing here has also lately been at a low ebb, but we understand that Mr. Mawby is about to train a young set of ringers here as well as at St. Mary's. The bells of St. Nicholas are inscribed as follows:—

Treble & Second—" + Joseph Hayre fecit 1770. J. W. Harris churchwarden."

Third—"John Marshal, Adler Crapley, Gilbert Redhead 1770."

Fourth—"John Harrison C.W., John Marshal, Adler Crapley, Gilbert Redhead, 1770."

Tenor—"OSBORN AND DOBSON, FOUNDERS, DOWNHAM, NORFOLK, 1806. HARVEY BURGESS CHURCHWARDEN."

The tower of this church is surmounted by a spire 100 feet high.

St. James's tower contains three bells, tenor 8 cwt. They are inscribed thus:—

Treble—"Wm. Dobson founder, Downham, Norfolk, 1824."

Second—" + MVLTIVOCATI PAVCI ELECTI THOMAS WARDE VICAR 1603."

Tenor—" + CVM VOCO AD ECCLESIAM VENITE RICARDE RENTVN WILLIAM DANYEL 1603."

St. Edmund's turret contains only one bell weighing about 4 cwt. inscribed:—"Thomas Osborn, founder, Downham, Norfolk, 1801."

The modern tower of St. Matthew's, Sutton Bridge, about three miles distant, contains one large bell weighing about 14 cwt, inscribed:—"Thomas Mears founder, London, 1843," and a small "tingtang" (formerly a ship's bell), inscribed "Amerika von Stralsund 1854." There is also a clock. This tower would easily hold six bells.

THE OXFORD UNIVERSITY SOCIETY.

SUMMER TERM, 1883.

OFFICERS FOR THE TERM.

Master:—C. C. CHILD, Ch. Ch.

Secretary:—J. F. HASTINGS, C. C. C.

The Annual list of members, etc., will be published this term. Members are requested to notify any alterations necessary, especially change of address, to the Secretary, as soon as possible.

A reredos has just been placed in the parish-church of West Lavington. It has been executed from the designs of the architect of the church, Mr. Butterfield, in alabaster and dark Devon marble.

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

On Sunday last this sequestered and quaint little village was enlivened by an unusual meeting of ringing friends, and throughout the day the inhabitants were audibly reminded that something out of the ordinary had occurred, by the sounds from the church tower, and the presence of strange faces on their otherwise quiet Sabbath. Although no definite arrangements were made for such a numerous meeting, somehow they were there. The weather must claim the credit of calling them "out with a double," for there were no single arrivals. Our Slough and Farnham friends were the first to put in an appearance; while waiting for other reinforcements, they were politely shewn round the church, which has many interesting and curious objects to engage one's attention, especially some good brasses, the most ancient being to the memory of John Hawtrey, A.D. 1593. The north wall of the chancel has also an entablature to the Lady Banks, and a new carved stone reredos has recently been erected. The church, dedicated to St. Martin, internally presents a very commodious appearance, and consists of a west porch, north and south aisles, chancel, and a firm, solid tower. In the ringing-chamber is a curious oak rack with three shelves, arranged to hold four loaves each. Underneath reads the following:—

The Gift of Jeremiah Bright of London
being Two shillings worth of Bread
to be distributed by ye minister & church
wardens to the Poor every Sunday,
for ever.

For Divine Service in the morning, several 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles were rung with 4, 6, 8, behind, and while the people were leaving, a 720 of Bob Minor was creditably performed in 26 mins., on the back six, an account of which can be seen elsewhere.

After ringing for the afternoon service, the ringers were edified by an excellent sermon preached by the Rev. T. M. Everett. It was by his kind permission that they were enabled to have such an enjoyable day.

Tea was obtained at the "Swan" Inn, kept by Mr. Webster, and it was due to the energy and capacity displayed by Mrs. Webster and himself, that "both ends were made to meet" to accommodate eleven consumers, who must have done justice on this occasion, to judge by the contented look of their faces, and the lapse of time ere Mr. Webster was permitted to say "that's all." I must not forget also to mention the concern which our host must have conceived at dinner time—when he satisfied six from the country after ringing 720 of Bob Minor. Indeed, the good accommodation throughout the day must be due to a specially thought-out and well-arranged plan, which enables all to converse easily and naturally when a question is asked, "to give a jump as if one had been shot, and turn their whole bodies round."

There being no evening service, the following started for Holt's 10-part peal of Grandsire Triples, but owing to the 7th rope stranding, "stand" was called, after ringing nearly fifty mins. J. Parker, 1; J. Basden, 2; A. Fussell, 3; J. Barry, 4; W. Fussell, 5; G. Mc. Loughlin, 6; H. Tucker (conductor), 7; H. Cutter, 8.

However, another attempt for a quarter-peal was more successful, as will be seen in another column. After which a few touches were rung, and the bells were lowered, when the return journey was commenced, and a hearty "Good Night" wished to the companions who had met so unexpectedly, having enjoyed a very sociable and pleasant day.

W. H. F.

THE REOPENING OF THE PEAL OF TWELVE AT ST. PETER'S MANCROFT, NORWICH.

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

THE BELLS OF SOWTON, DEVON.

The fittings of the ring of eight bells in the church tower of this village having become much worn, they have been rehung with entirely new fittings, ropes, &c. A chiming apparatus, invented by the Rev. H. T. Ellacombe, rector of Clyst St. George, has been added. The work has been executed by Mr. Harry Stokes, of Woodbury, at the sole expense of J. Garratt, Esq., of Bishops Court. There are extensive Latin inscriptions on this ring of eight, which were cast by Messrs. Mears, in 1845.

Mr. Stokes has also on hand the rehanging of the church bells at Bishopslympton and at Stoke Rivers, in Devon, and the fine peal of six, tenor 24 cwt., at Yate, Gloucestershire.

STOKE-UPON-TRENT ARCHIDIACONAL ASSOCIATION.

THE Stoke District held their meeting on Saturday last, at Barlaston. Ringers attended from Stoke, Norton, Hanley, Barlaston, and a member of the Uttoxeter Company.

The Church's best feature is the tower which bears traces of great age, in fact the foundation dates back to the time of Stephen. There is a very easy going set of five bells of good tone. When the present Vicar came, there were but three bells, and "tradition" says that they sounded as two. This minor defect was overcome by recasting and setting up the present set, which we hope before long may be augmented to six.

At the tea the Rev. R. C. Farmer spoke kindly to those present, and expressed a hope that his Tower might be one of the first to enjoy the privilege of an instructor sent out by the Association. After tea the Hanley ringers played exceedingly well on the handbells, and ringing was kept up till 8 p.m., all returning home well pleased with their Saturday afternoon.

J. Heath, Esq., of Barlaston Hall, very kindly threw his grounds open for the Association members, and was present in the schools at the tea. The interest which the gentry have shown at these meetings augur well for the continued success of the Association.

The meetings for this month and the next are:—21st, Tunstall (Wolstanton District); 28th, Leigh (Uttoxeter District); May 5th, Biddulph (Leek District); 12th Cheadle (Stoke District); 19th, Lawton (Wolstanton District); 26th, Ellastone (probable, tower out of repair).

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

WRITTLE.—On Wednesday evening, April 11th, several of the Widford, Galleywood, and Chelmsford ringers met to ring a touch on the bells of All Saints, as a farewell to the Rev. J. B. Seaman, who by the time this appears in print will have left England. There were present Messrs. J. Dains, T. Drake, W. Harvey, W. Hawkes, J. Parmenter, and W. Rowland from Widford; E. Scotcher, C. Waskett, Master H. F. de Lisle, and the Rev. H. A. Cockey (Galleywood); E. Bedford; Chelmsford, and Mr. H. Bowell of Ipswich, who is at present engaged in rehanging the bells at Rettendon Church. A quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples was rung in 44 mins., by the following:—W. Harvey, 1; W. Rowland, 2; C. Waskett, 3; H. F. de Lisle, 4; H. Bowell, 5; W. Hawkes, 6; E. Scotcher (conductor), 7; Rev. H. A. Cockey, 8. Tenor 18 cwt. 2 qrs. 2 lbs. And a touch of Bob Major was attempted, but not brought round, by the following:—E. Bedford, 1; T. Drake, 2; J. Dains, 3; W. Harvey, 4; H. F. de Lisle, 5; J. Parmenter, 6; H. Bowell, 7; Rev. H. A. Cockey, 8. The ringing over, Mr. Seaman, with his usual hospitality, invited the ringers to adjourn to the Vicarage for refreshments. There some more ringing on the handbells lately presented to Mr. Seaman, was done, three courses of Grandsire Triples, some Bob Minor, and several tunes being rung in good style. Soon after ten the party broke up, the ringers bidding a last and hearty farewell to their worthy and highly-esteemed friend and his family.

THE SCIENCE (OR SOMETHING ELSE) IN PARTS OF BEDFORDSHIRE.

A correspondent, a practical ringer, and a member of the Bedfordshire Association, sends us the two following paragraphs, apparently taken at the time from a local paper. We hope our friend Mr. Chas. Herbert, the indefatigable Hon. Sec. of the above Association, will at the first opportunity pay a visit to these benighted parishes, and ascertain if there is any hope for the successful operations of that body. We insert the paragraphs without making the least alteration in them.

TURVEY—CHRISTMAS EVE.—A midnight peal was rung by the Turvey ringers on the church bells. It was one of the best peals that has been rung for many years; in fact, it was said by some, not in the memory of man. It consisted of 120 changes, in tantums, and there was not the slightest jar in the whole peal. It took nearly an hour to go through, and there was not a word spoken by any one but the conductor until the hour was up, when the bells were brought down. Two of the old ringers some few weeks back said they should like to have a pull this Christmas, as it would be just forty years since they rung the first midnight peal at Turvey, and they were well satisfied with the result.

UPPER GRAVENHURST—BELL RINGERS.—On Easter Monday the Gravenhurst society of bell ringers visited Shillington and rung on the Church bells, Grandsire and Changes in Tantums, conducted by H. Fisher, P.C., second G. Redman, third J. Fisher, fourth S. Jordan, fifth G. Redman, Lady rang tenor. Weight of tenor 27½ cwt. First peal of Rounds was fifty-four minutes.

THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

WILTON ERNEST.—On Friday, April 13th, five members of the above Association from Bromham, visited this place, and rang upon the five bells several 6-scores of Grandsire and Bob Doubles, each called differently. T. Tysoe, 1; W. King, 2; Master W. Biggs, 3; H. King, 4; C. Stafferton, 5. Touches of Grandsire and Bob Minor was also rung upon a new set of handbells lately purchased for the ringers of Wilton. Also on Saturday, April 14th, by invitation from the vicar of Stevington, the Rev. Gibson, the same company rang upon the five bells there the same performance. This is the first half-pull ringing that has ever been known to have been done at the above place at which the vicar expressed himself highly pleased. A new set of handbells are about being purchased, and no doubt a branch of the Association will be established here shortly. It is highly gratifying to know that belfry reform is making such progress in Bedfordshire.

WOBURN, BEDFORDSHIRE.

ON Monday, April 16th, being the anniversary of the opening of a complete ring of eight bells in 1877, and also the birthday of the Marquis of Tavistock, M.P., the eldest son of His Grace the Duke of Bedford, K.G. who gave the trebles, the bells were rung at intervals during the day, some touches of Bob Major being fairly struck by the local company.

ECCLESIASTICAL APPOINTMENTS.—The *Guardian* publishes the following list of preferences and appointments:—Rev. Carr Glyn Ackworth, M.A., Assistant Inspector of Schools for Bath; Rev. Robert Armitage, B.A., chaplain of the Military College, Cowley, Oxon; Rev. W. Vincent Barnard, curate in charge of Dogmersfield, vicar of Queen Camel, Somerset—patron, the Rev. Arundell St. John Mildmay; Rev. Samuel Edward Blomfield, B.A., rector of Burnham, Sutton, and Vicar of Overey, Norfolk—patron, the Queen; Rev. W. H. Briddon, B.A., perpetual curate of Rushton, Spencer—patrons, the Trustees; Rev. Frederick Finney, Buckingham, B.A., rector of Doddiscombsleigh—patron, himself; Rev. John Burd, M.A., prebendary of Moreton and Whaddon in Hereford Cathedral; Rev. H. B. Carr, rector of Wickham, near Gateshead, honorary canon of Durham Cathedral; Rev. Thomas Henry Chester, M.A., vicar of Holy Trinity, South Shields, rector of Ryton—patron, the Bishop of Durham; Rev. Charles Marcus Church, M.A., rector of Dinder; Rev. Henry Cooper, M.A., rector of Farmborough; Rev. Thomas John Cooper, M.A., vicar of St. Cuthbert's, Carlisle, vicar of Dalston—patron, the Bishop of Carlisle; Rev. J. G. Deed, M.A., Organizing Secretary of the National Society, Secretary to the Additional Curates' Society; Rev. Henry Ellison, rector of Melsonby, eleventh honorary canon in Ripon Cathedral—patron, the Bishop; Rev. Robert White Fiske, M.A., rector of Stockton, Wilts—patron, the Bishop of Oxford; Rev. William James Foxell, B.A., M.B., chaplain of Amersham Union Workhouse, Bucks; Rev. Montague Charles Goodford, M.A., Assistant Inspector of Schools for the District of Dunster; Rev. J. Gough, curate of Holy Trinity, Halstead, vicar of Great Maplestead—patron, the Rev. Canon Fraser; Hon. and Rev. Francis R. Grey, rector of Morpeth, Honorary Canon of Newcastle; Rev. Henry Rudge Hayward, Archdeacon of Cirencester—patron, the Bishop of Gloucester and Bristol; Rev. B. Hunter, curate of Gedling, Nottingham, vicar of Alkborough, near Brigg, North Lincolnshire; Rev. Heneage Horsley Jebb, vicar of Awliscombe—patron, the Dean of Bedford; Rev. Edward Jones, rector of Caerwys—patron, the Bishop of Llandaff; Rev. J. R. Legh, vicar of Astley, rector of Morton Corbet—patron, Sir V. Corbet, Bart; Rev. Charles Lester, perpetual curate of St. John's, Bootle—patrons, the Trustees; Rev. Arthur Henry Lister, curate of Pately Bridge, vicar of Thornthwaite—patron, the vicar of Hampsthorne, Rev. George Little, curate of Monkhesleden, perpetual curate of St. John, Monkhesleden—patron, the Bishop of Durham; Rev. William Michell, prebendary of Dinder in Wells Cathedral; Rev. Robert Burrington Miller, perpetual curate of All Saints' chapel, Sidmouth—patron, Sir J. H. Kennaway, Bart; Rev. Henry Edward Moberly, rector of St. Michael, Winchester—patron, the Bishop; Rev. David Lee Pitcairn, vicar of Monkton Combe—patrons, the Trustees; Rev. Robert Wells Risley, rector of Moulsoor, Bucks—patron, Lord Carrington; Rev. Francis Plevy Timæus, curate of Peter's, Monkwearmouth, chaplain of the Durham County Lunatic Asylum; Rev. W. H. Walter, rector of St. Mary-le-Bow, Durham, and principal of the Training College for Schoolmistresses, Honorary Canon of Durham Cathedral; Rev. John Maturin Warren, Assistant Inspector of Schools for the Deanery of Pawlett; Rev. William Longmore Watts, vicar of St. Osyth, Colchester, rector of Boxted; Rev. R. J. Weatherell, rector of Elton, Nottinghamshire—patrons, Cambridge university; Rev. Laurence R. Whigham, vicar of Polesworth, Warwickshire, rector of Millbrook, near Ampthill, Beds—patron, the Lord Chancellor; Rev. William Wilkinson, rector of Burrow-on-the-Hill—patron, the Rev. E. H. Y. Burnaby.

THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

The next Quarterly Meeting will be held at Streatham, on Wednesday, the 25th instant. The tower of Immanuel Church will be open from Two o'clock p.m. Business meeting at Half-past Five. A meat tea will be provided at The Beehive Coffee Tavern, at Six o'clock; Members 6d., non-members, 1s. 6d. each. Members intending to be present should give in their names to their local secretaries, to be forwarded to me. All ringers invited. A. W. B. PERCIVAL.

Hon. Sec.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

A Ringing Meeting will be held at St. Peter's church, Ashton-under-Lyne, on Saturday, April 28th, 1883, when the members hope to see as many ringers present as can conveniently attend. Ringing from Two o'clock.

VERSES

Copied from the Belfry of St. Nicholas' Church, Gloucester, before the Restoration of the Church, 1861.

A Solemne peale of tuneful bells
Well rung, admits no paralels,
Whether at funerall or knells,
'Tis melody divine:
It dothe enchant the ravished ear;
'Tis like the musicke of the spheare;
Or like a consort which doth cheare
At Banquettings of wine.

But tuneful bells have tuneless tones,
When rung by senseless, artless, drones:
They sound like chattering of bones—
With an obstreperous cry.

They doe not ring—they do but wrangle,
And with preposterous noise intangle
Their sound in one another's angle,
Without all harmony.

Ringe up ringers—mark your numbers;
Whoso clammes—we say he slumbers,
For his rope-mates he much cumbers.

He that plyes his rope aright,
And guides his bell by ear and sighte,
Is—be it day or night—
A ringer.

Come boys clearly, in and out,
Make true strokes at every bout,
And then we'll say you're out of doubt—
True ringers.

[The foregoing lines were supplied to one of our representatives in the North by the Rev. W. E. Houldley, Vicar of St. John's, Newcastle, who states that it was beautifully painted on the panels of the aforementioned belfry, great care having evidently been taken by the painter, who was probably an enthusiastic ringer of the "true" kind.]

SEVERE ACCIDENT TO THE REV. G. H. HARRIS.—It is with deep regret that we hear that this gentleman has met with a serious and painful accident, sustaining a fracture of the thigh through falling from his bicycle. This unfortunate occurrence is specially to be deplored just now, as the rev. gentleman, who is Hon. Sec. of the Norwich Association, was labouring to carry into effect arrangements which would have secured a decided success for the proceedings in connection with the reopening of the bells of St. Peter Mancroft, Norwich, on the 30th instant. Notwithstanding this untoward disaster, however, Mr. Harris will not suffer himself, even in his present prostrate condition, to refrain from doing anything which may expedite the pleasure of the visitors to Norwich on the above date. We fervently hope that he will speedily be himself again, and his appearance, when fully recovered, in the belfry, will be a source of the utmost satisfaction, we are sure, to all who have the advantage of his acquaintance, a satisfaction which we ourselves shall not be the last to experience.

We have received a copy of a set of rules compiled, we believe, by the Rev. W. W. Bolton—Hon. Sec. of the Stoke-upon-Trent Archidiaconal Association—for the St. Peter's company of Stoke-upon-Trent. They appear to be an admirably drawn-up code of laws for the regulation of a society of ringers, and the size of the paper on which they are printed is a very convenient one for depositing in the pocket.

Last week, Mr. J. T. Micklethwaite, F.S.A., read a paper on "The True Principles of English Ritual" before the members of St. Paul's Ecclesiological Society, at the Chapter-house. Mr. Charles Browne occupied the chair and there was a large attendance of members.

ALLEGED ATTEMPT TO BLOW UP SALISBURY CATHEDRAL.

WHAT is believed to be an attempt to blow up Salisbury Cathedral was discovered on Wednesday night. A box, 16 inches by 14 inches, was found by the police near the Lady Chapel. On the contents being examined, there seems ground for believing them to be explosive substances. The Cathedral is now guarded by the police, and the box is in the magazine. A Salisbury correspondent of an evening paper telegraphed the following particulars of the discovery:—"It is usual for the police to walk round the Cathedral at night. Police-constable Tomkins was making this round between ten and eleven when he discovered the wooden box near the outside rail of the Lady Chapel. In the lid of the box was a slit or touch-hole, in which was inserted a slip of paper which had evidently been dipped in something. Immediately under that was a bag containing some preparation, which was afterwards found to be an explosive. The box was screwed down, and bound with iron. The policeman at once communicated with his officer, and it was brought to the station, and placed under the charge of Mr. Superintendent Matthews. The authorities are properly reticent about the matter until they have instructions from London. Scotland Yard has been communicated with, and the appearance of an officer from thence is hourly expected. They are in possession of important information, which they wisely refuse at present to divulge. What is believed to be the fuse, on being lighted, burnt with a hissing noise. Great excitement prevails in the city, and all kinds of rumours prevail, one being that the fuse was burning, which is incorrect. The police patrolled the Close during the night, but saw nothing. One supposition is that the miscreants were disturbed in their work, but this is mere supposition, remembering that the character of the body of the material is not known."

The Bishop of Salisbury has received a letter marked "A day too late," advising him to take precautions, as an attempt would be made to damage the Cathedral.

HANDBELL MUSIC.—Our friend Mr. Gordon, of Stockport—whose announcements of his wares will have been seen in our advertisement pages—has probably done more than any man to popularise handbell music. The consignment we have just received is, taking the labour involved in its translation, annotation, &c., into consideration, a perfect marvel of cheapness. As is well known, Mr. Gordon is a practical ringer and an expert composer, and when we add that upon the handbells he is a skilful executant, it will be plain that those who wish to embark in the very interesting and recreative pursuit of handbell ringing, cannot do better than put themselves in communication with him. We hope that his efforts to promote the practice of really good music among handbell ringers will meet with due encouragement.

LUTON.—The parish church of Luton has recently been re-opened. The more noticeable piece of work is the new reredos. The centre-piece is a representation, in Venetian mosaic, of Da Vinci's great painting of "The Last Supper." This was executed at Venice, by the firm of Salviati. There is some alabaster work, with marble panels, on either side of the altar, and the decoration is continued to the heading of the east window in mosaics, of various designs, including the emblems of the Four Evangelists. Over the window, in mosaic work, is a choir of angels, on a gold ground. The blind window on the north wall of the chancel is filled in with pictures in mosaic, and it is intended to place in the recess nearly immediately below—that known as the Easter Tomb—a painting in stained glass of Christ raising Lazarus. The lower part of the walls is of dark maroon.

ON Tuesday night week, above twenty minutes past nine o'clock, the spire of Rochdale Town Hall was discovered to be on fire. For the last two or three weeks the joiners of Messrs. W. A. Peters and Son have been making preparation for its repair. Some time ago it was discovered that the woodwork, which consisted of pine, was affected with dry-rot, and the Council decided that Messrs. Peters should repair the spire, and the work was proceeding on Monday. The flames extended rapidly. At ten o'clock some of the heavy timber in the spire fell on to the roof of that part of the building in which the library is kept, penetrating it, and in about fifteen minutes afterwards the flame began to issue through that part of the roof through which the timber had fallen. No idea can be given of the serious damage done both to the building and library. Fortunately the building is insured.

FROM time to time important works of restoration have been effected at the fine old church of St. Mary, Kidderminster, and the latest of these undertakings has been crowned by recent festival services. By the present Bishop of St. Albans, when vicar of the church, important works of restoration were carried out. His successor, the present Dean of Salisbury, saw another stage of the restoration and improvement of the church; and now, under the present vicar, there has been accomplished a partial restoration of the venerable tower, and rehanging of the bells, supplemented by a gift of chimes, made and erected by Messrs. Lund and Blockley, of Pall-mall.

"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.

* * The number of applications for our circulars have far exceeded the supply, and we have thus been unable to send them to several of our friends who have kindly offered to distribute them. A fresh supply is, however, ordered, and we shall be glad if our kind friends will repeat their orders in a few days.

ALBERT E. WREAKS.—We should say that the mode you adopt for the purpose in view, is as quick a one as possible.

The Bell News & Ringers' Record.

SATURDAY, APRIL 21, 1883.

In our last number appeared an account of a visit paid to a little Devonshire village, rejoicing in the euphonious name of Coombeinteignhead, for the purpose of ringing the bells, which are said to have been recently "rehung, and put in order." The perusal of this report may have been productive of merriment to some of our readers, and indeed, when a peal of bells, after being "put in order" has been discovered in a condition similar to those we are alluding to, some amount of hilarity, coupled with a shadow of disgust, must be engendered, and that at the cost of the individual who in such case has had the assurance to dub himself a "church bellhanger." We read that the visitors, instead of being able to enjoy a pull where everything should have been in excellent condition, discovered just a state of things diametrically opposite to their expectations. "Neither the clappers of the fifth or tenor struck in their proper places, and both had so much play that it was almost possible to strike the lip of the bells all round the circumference with them; the third was found to strike the frame badly twice in each revolution, while the gudgeons of the treble had no coverings over them (with the exception of a piece of paper over one), thus allowing plenty of March dust blown by the prevailing east winds to find its way into the bearings!" In the course of our experience we have become acquainted with many interiors of steeples where indifference and neglect had reigned supreme for many a long year, but we never recollect ringing a bell in any of these places where the clapper had sufficient "play" to enable it to come in contact with the frame at each revolution of the bell. And we very much doubt whether there is another instance on record of the visit of

a ringing company to a steeple, almost immediately after it had been announced that the bells had been "put in order" by a "bellhanger," where the bells were found to be in such a deplorable condition as the members of the Devonshire Guild found those of Coombeinteignhead. We know nothing further of these bells beyond what the report—which was furnished by a correspondent whose veracity cannot be questioned for a moment—says. It might be considered an improper question to ask the reason why the firm who supplied the bells were not engaged to hang them in the tower also. Financial considerations may have led to the employment of a local artificer, whose plant and *matériel* being within measurable distance, the cost of transit, and other expenses incident thereto, might be greatly curtailed. But when it is well known that the county of Devon contains a church bellhanger of more than local repute, it seems a great pity that those whose knowledge has been purchased by practical experience, were not sought out and consulted, followed by such counsel and advice as none but those skilled in the art of ringing are competent to impart.

That many bells are unskilfully erected in the first instance, and their frame-work subsequently patched up and tinkered with, by those who are not acquainted in the smallest degree with the delicate calculations inseparable from the craft of church bellhanging, is a fact, most of our readers are aware. Perhaps there is hardly a remote village in the kingdom, which enjoys the honour of having a smith, or carpenter, or wheelwright, residing therein, where it would not be dangerous to publicly maintain that neither of these worthies, or in fact, all three combined, possessed the requisite knowledge to enable them to hang a church bell properly. Here and there, it is true, we come across men whose avocations are quite foreign to either of the three we have just mentioned, who seem to possess a kind of instinct for such work as bellhanging. We well recollect a person of this sort, who, after many futile attempts on the part of local tradesmen to rehang the tenor, succeeded in putting them all to shame by doing it himself, and effectively. But in this case, as in others of a similar description, the persons were practical ringers, and thus were deeply interested in the success of the work they ventured to undertake.

The question is, what really can be done to prevent the contracts for the hanging of bells falling into the hands of incompetent persons? The answer naturally arises, "Why, consult a skilled ringer in the matter." To adopt his plans and suggestions without stint, and at the same time to withhold payment of the bill till he has certified to the good quality of the work executed, would seem a safeguard against disappointment. But when, through the neglect of these or similar precautions, bells are found, after considerable sums of money have been expended, to be unringable, no hesitation should be felt in exposing the shortcomings of the bellhanger, no matter how popular he may be. We shall consider it our duty to speak out plainly, with no uncertain or faltering tone, when any *laches* on the part of bellfounders or bellhangers, in the manner we indicate, is brought under our notice.

HOW SOON SHOULD A MAN BEGIN TO RING?

This question is not so readily answered as might at first appear. In several recent numbers of this journal, the age of a particular member ringing a peal has been specified; also the intimation of an attempt to form a juvenile ringing society at Westminster. Of course it is obvious that they alone who take to this particular exercise, will continue to practise; as the performance has no public exhibition like football and cricket. Now supposing any undue enthusiasm for any particular gymnastic exercise develops itself in a lad about the age of fourteen or more, we almost always observe, in after-years, great awkwardness, in walking, and general deportment, and this is caused by the circumstances of undue development of certain muscles, producing a given motion, e.g. a certain group maintain the body in an erect position. Professor CURNOW, of King's College, used to enumerate one set of muscles, passing from the trunk to the arm, viz.: the pectorals—*latissimus dorsi*, etc.—actually as the muscles of "bell-pulling," without being actually a ringer, or having any knowledge of the art; so characteristic is the attitude, to those who have ever looked on. Now, to come more to the point, the question should be answered in this way. No juvenile—by that we mean any one under eighteen—should be allowed to ring, by older members of the company, on heavy-going or large bells generally; the phrase, "let him kill himself," should never be entertained, as a matter of serious duty, nor should he engage at any time in long touches. It has been the duty of the writer to examine the hearts of many a "bell hauler" in the country, and any infirmity caused by the exercise is very rare, even at that labour; these men being generally the oldest in the village—not that it is a survival of the fittest. On the whole, then, from a professional point of view, ringing should not be commenced at an early age; perhaps ringing rules ought to define the period subject to the assent of parents, as in the College Youths' rule, which is very proper, in that matter.

Any one, however desirous of becoming a change-ringer, having the least bodily deformity, should abstain. Briefly summing up, we will just describe the action of the ringer. The body erect, and poised on the metacarpal bones of the feet, the calf muscles become, of course, rigidly fixed; the rest of the muscles of the lower extremity, and those forming the walls of the abdomen—which, by the way, play a most important part—are in a state of action, though not actually rigid. Those muscles mentioned before are in a state of complete action, the arms being erected straight over the head. At the "pull off," the muscles of the arm generally come into play, including the biceps, although not to the extent of those coming from the trunk. It should be remembered that some muscles are capable of acting as levers of all three orders, according to the particular action put to, for example, the biceps is generally associated with "hitting straight from the shoulder," but a most important function it has also

along with others, viz.: enabling the wrist to be rotated, which we do also to a slight extent in grasping the sally. Provided, then, the bells "go" well, the chamber is wholesome in every respect, and large, it is difficult to name a more healthy exercise than ringing, in the absence of bodily infirmity or weakness, more particularly a tendency to rupture. By rupture we include any weakness in the abdominal rings which are situated on either side of the body, in a line with the swell of the hip, this is at once detected if any impulse be noticed in coughing, without taking advice in the matter.

Professor WOOD, the greatest authority on this infirmity, also of King's College, was sometimes in the habit of asking his patients if they had been ringing any bells lately!

G.

The Metropolis.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS. EDMONTON.

On Saturday, April 14, 1883, in Three Hours and One Minute,

AT ALL SAINTS' CHURCH,

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

JOSEPH DAVIDSON Treble.	*RICHARD GOODCHILD .. 5.
FRANCIS E. DAWE 2.	JAMES PETTIT 6.
WILLIAM A. ALPS 3.	*WILLIAM JIGGINS 7.
JOSEPH I. CROUCH* 4.	EDWARD MARRIOTT Tenor.

Conducted by JAMES PETTIT.

[*First peal.]

THE SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.

On Monday, April 16, 1883, in Three Hours and Twenty-four Minutes,

AT ST. CLEMENT DANES, STRAND,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERS, 5073 CHANGES; Tenor 24 cwt.

JOHN NELMS Treble.	JOHN ROGERS 6.
FRED BATE 2.	EDWARD G. HARVEY .. 7.
HARRY RANDALL 3.	WILLIAM DORAN 8.
HENRY DAINS 4.	GEORGE BANKS 9.
ARTHUR H. GARDOM 5.	EDWARD ALBONE Tenor.

Composed and conducted by JOHN NELMS.

The Provinces.

LONG MELFORD, SUFFOLK.

On Saturday, April 14, 1883, in Three Hours and Ten Minutes,

AT HOLY TRINITY CHURCH,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES; IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 16 cwt.

CHARLES HONEYBELL .. Treble.	†OLIVER GARWOOD .. 5.
ZACHARIAH SLATER† .. 2.	*CHARLES SILLITOE .. 6.
HARRY THOMPSON 3.	†ALEXANDER HURST .. 7.
SAMUEL SLATER† 4.	†FREDERICK PAUL ADAMS Tenor.

Conducted by FREDERICK PAUL ADAMS.

* First peal in the method. † College Youths. ‡ Members of the Royal Cumberland Society.

Messrs. Thompson and Hurst hail from Cavendish; Sillitoe from Sudbury; the rest from Glemsford.

The calling of this peal, which is one of Mr. N. J. Pitstow's compositions, will be found in the July, 1881, number of "THE BELL NEWS," amongst the peals compiled by Mr. Snowdon—the sixth peal in the second column. This is the first time of its performance.

LYTHAM, LANCASHIRE.

On Wednesday, April 4, 1883, in Three Hours and Five Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5120 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 14½ cwt.

WM. MILLER Treble.	JOHN MILLER 5.
WM. ATKINSON 2.	R. ALLANSON 6.
JAMES MILLER 3.	R. ATKINSON 7.
JOHN FISHER 4.	H. GREGSON Tenor.

Composed by J. WILDE, and conducted by H. GREGSON.

This is the first peal in this method rung on these bells.

CHRISTLETON, CHESHIRE.

On Tuesday, April 10, 1883, in Two Hours and Forty-eight Minutes,

AT ST. JAMES'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor 10 cwt.

THOMAS WEAVER* Treble.	*RICHARD WRIGHT 5.
WILLIAM MAYERS* 2.	JOHN MAYERS 6.
JOSEPH MAYERS 3.	†JOSEPH GRIFFITHS 7.
ARTHUR JONES† 4.	*HENRY ASTLE Tenor.

Conducted by JOHN MAYERS.

*First peal. †Chester Cathedral Society.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

BRISTOL.

On Thursday, April 12, 1883, in Three Hours,

AT ST. PETER'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

TAYLOR'S BOB-AND-SINGLE VARIATION. Tenor 20 cwt. in E.

GEORGE STADON Treble.	FRANCIS PRICE 5.
EDWARD DUCKHAN 2.	HORACE W. ABBOTT 6.
JAMES HINTON 3.	ALFRED YORK 7.
HENRY PORCH 4.	WILLIAM EMERY Tenor.

Conducted by JAMES HINTON.

These bells have recently been rehung by Mr. Alfred York, and it is the first rung on the bells for thirty-five years.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

DERBY BRANCH.

On Saturday, April 14, 1883, in Three Hours and Nine Minutes,

AT ST. WERBURGH'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S 10-PART PEAL. Tenor 17 cwt. in E.

JOHN RIDGWAY Treble.	RICHARD REDGATE 5.
JOHN WILLIAM TAYLOR 2.	HARRY C. WOODWARD 6.
AUSTIN TABERER 3.	REUBEN BOSWORTH 7.
JOHN HOWE 4.	FREDERICK WHITING Tenor.

Conducted by HARRY C. WOODWARD.

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE.

On Saturday, April 14, 1883, in Three Hours and Ten Minutes,

AT ST. PETER'S CHURCH.

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor 20 cwt. in E.

JOHN COLLINS* Treble.	SAMUEL WOOD 5.
THOS. HEYWOOD 2.	WILLIAM FRITH 6.
SAMUEL WALKER* 3.	JOHN THORP 7.
JOHN HOPWOOD 4.	GEORGE LONGDEN Tenor.

Composed and conducted by SAMUEL WOOD.

Date Touches.

THE BIRMINGHAM AMALGAMATED SOCIETY.

BIRMINGHAM.—Handbell Ringing.—On Monday, April 16th, four members of this society met at their meeting-house, the Hope and

Anchor Inn, Fisher Street, and rung upon handbells (retained in hand) a date touch of Grandsire Triples, 1883 changes, in 58 mins. J. W. Cattle (composer and conductor), 1-2; T. Miller, 3-4; J. Carter, 5-6; T. Russam, 7-8. Referees, Messrs. F. Line and S. Carter.

THE WORCESTER DIOCESAN AND ADJOINING DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

HANBURY (Worcestershire).—On Sunday, April 15th, seven members of St. John's society, Bromsgrove, with H. Lawton of Wednesbury, paid a visit to Hanbury church, and rang a date touch of Grandsire Triples, 1883 changes, in 1 hr. 12 mins. J. R. Cranford, 1; G. Bourne, 2; W. Rea, 3; H. Lawton, 4; G. Morris, 5; R. Bromfield, 6; G. Hayward (composer and conductor), 7; J. Parry, 8. Tenor 15 cwt.

DONCASTER.—On Saturday, April 14th, the local company, with Mr. J. Taylor, a former member of this society, rang a date touch of Grandsire Triples, 1883 changes, in 1 hr. 16 mins. H. Fevre, 1; H. B. Wilson, 2; W. Newsome (conductor), 3; G. Marwood, 4; J. Taylor, 5; J. White, 6; J. Jeff, 7; W. Howard, 8. Tenor 31 cwt. in Eb.

Miscellaneous.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.—On Sunday, April 15th, at St. John's church, for Divine Service in the evening, a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob Minor, in 27 mins. F. Lees, 1; C. L. Routledge, 2; W. G. Routledge, 3; T. J. Des Forges, 4; W. Story (conductor), 5; R. S. Story, 6. This is the first 720 of Minor conducted by William Story. Also on Monday, April 16th, a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob Minor, in 30 mins. W. Eggleston, 1; John Moffit, 2; W. G. Routledge (conductor), 3; James Moffit, 4; Wm. Story, 5; F. Lees, 6. First 720 of Oxford for Messrs. Moffit, who hail from South Shields. Also a 720 in the same method, in 27 mins. C. L. Routledge, 1; W. Eggleston, 2; W. G. Routledge, 3; T. J. Des Forges (conductor), 4; W. Story, 5; F. Lees, 6. First 720 conducted by T. J. Des Forges. Tenor 14 cwt.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

ROMFORD (Essex).—On Saturday evening, April 15th, at St. Edward's, eight members of the above Association, rang the musical quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1260 changes), composed by the Editor of "THE BELL NEWS," in 50 mins. G. Garnett, 1; W. Hawkes, 2; G. Stancombe, 3; A. J. Perkins (conductor), 4; J. Nunn, 5; M. Ellsmore, 6; A. Pye, 7; A. Porter, 8. This quarter-peal contains the twenty-four 6-7's, all at back-stroke.

WOODFORD (Essex).—On Sunday evening, April 16th, for Divine Service at St. Mary's church, a 720 of Bob Minor, with eight bobs and six singles (Hubbard), in 27 mins. F. Gillingham, 1; A. J. Perkins, 2; H. Nunn, sen., 3; J. Nunn, 4; M. Ellsmore, 5; A. Pye (conductor), 6.

THE ST. JAMES'S SOCIETY.

RUISLIP.—On Sunday morning, April 15th, at St. Martin's church, a 720 of Bob Minor, with twenty-eight bobs and ten singles, on the back six, in 26 mins. G. Basden, 1; J. Parker (composer and conductor), 2; J. Basden, 3; A. Fussell, 4; W. Fussell, 5; H. Tucker, 6. And in the evening of the same day, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, Holt's 10-part, in 43 mins. A. Fussell, 1; G. McLoughlin, 2; J. Parker, 3; J. Basden, 4; W. Fussell, 5; J. Barry, 6; H. Cutter, 7; H. J. Tucker (conductor), 8. Tenor 15 cwt. 3 qrs. in F.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

WITNESHAM (Suffolk).—On Thursday, April 12th, a 720 of Oxford Delight, in 26 mins. George Sadler, 1; William Damant, 2; Thomas Sadler, 3; George Pyett, 4; William Woods (conductor), 5; Wingfield Meadows, Esq., 6. Also the same evening, a 480 of Woodbine Treble Bob, by the same band. Tenor 14 cwt in F#. And on Saturday afternoon, April 14th, a 720 of Duke of York in 28 mins. Also a plain course each of Oxford Delight, Woodbine Treble Bob and Cambridge Surprise. George Sadler, 1; William Damant, 2; William Woods, 3; Thomas Sadler, 4; William Ramsay (conductor), 5; Wingfield Meadows, Esq., 6. Also on the same evening, by the same band, a touch of New London Pleasure, in 13 mins., conducted by William Woods.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

FARNHAM ROYAL (Bucks).—On Saturday, March 31st, at St. Mary's church, a 720 of Bob Minor, in 26 mins. G. Basden, 1; F. Fells, 2; A. Fussell, 3; A. Batten, 4; J. Parker (composer and conductor), 5; C. Clark, 6.

STOKE-UPON-TRENT ARCHIDIACONAL ASSOCIATION.

LEEK.—On Saturday, March 31st, a 720 of Bob Minor, with sixteen bobs and two singles, in 31 mins. W. Wood (first 720), 1; H. Carding, 2; R. Gibson, 3; T. Turner, 4; E. Sharratt, 5; W. Armitt (conductor), 6. Also on Tuesday, April 10th, a 720 of Bob Minor, in 32 mins. T. Rider, 1; S. Sheldon, 2; F. Walwyn, 3; T. Turner, 4; E. Sharratt, 5; W. Armitt (conductor), 6. Also on Thursday, April 5th, a 6-score of Bob Doubles. T. Rider, 1; H. Carding, 2; S. Sheldon, 3; T. Turner, 4; W. Armitt (conductor), 5.

AUGHTON NEAR ORMSKIRK (Lancashire).—On Sunday afternoon, April 15th, six members of the Christ Church Society rang for Divine Service at that church, on the back six, a 720 of Grandsire Minor, in 26 mins. G. Larkey, 1; J. Gardner, 2; William Fairclough, 3; C. Sharples (conductor), 4; J. Orme, 5; J. Walker, 6. Tenor 16 cwt. 3 qrs. 9 lbs.

BATTERSEA (Surrey).—On Sunday morning, April 15th, for Divine Service at St. Mary's, the local society rang a 504 of Grandsire Triples, in 19 mins. *W. Ambrose, 1; W. Baron, 2; E. J. Comb, 3; *A. G. Thomas, 4; E. Rogers, 5; *H. S. Thomas, 6; E. Robins, 7; *H. Chown, 8. Conducted by W. Baron. *First 504.

BLETCHINGLEY (Surrey).—On Thursday evening, April 12th, the Blethingley society, with Mr. W. Hawkins, of Nutfield, rang a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, 1260 changes, in 48 mins. G. Brown, 1; T. Boniface, 2; F. Smith, 3; L. Killick, 4; J. Burkin (conductor), 5; W. Hawkins, 6; W. Burkin, 7; W. Mayne, 8. Also on Sunday, April 15th, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, 1260 changes, in 47 mins. A. Wallis, 1; F. Smith, 2; T. Boniface, 3; L. Killick, 4; G. Potter, 5; J. Burkin, 6; W. Burkin (conductor), 7; J. Balcombe, 8. Tenor 19 cwt.

CHESTER.—On Thursday evening, April 12th, at the Cathedral, two 720's of Kent Treble Bob Minor, 1440 changes, with seven eight covering, in sixty-two mins. Joseph Griffiths, 1; Arthur Jones, 2; *Freeman Ball (conductor), 3; Peter Griffiths, 4; William Walton, 5; Alfred Cross, 6; William Ball, 7; Walter Cross, 8; (in first 720), Edward Edge, 8; (in second 720). *Member of the Lancashire Association. Also on Saturday evening, April 16th, on the same bells, when two members of the Aldford Society of six bell ringers visited the Cathedral Society, two 720's of Minor were rung; the first being Kent Treble Bob, in thirty-one mins. Joseph Griffiths, 1; Arthur Jones, 2; Freeman Ball (conductor), 3; Peter Griffiths, 4; William Walton, 5; William Manning (Aldford), 6; William Ball, 7; Walter Cross, 8. Also a bob-and-single 720 of Grandsire Minor, in thirty mins. Freeman Ball (conductor), 1; Joseph Griffiths, 2; William Williams (Aldford), 3; Peter Griffiths, 4; William Walton, 5; William Manning (Aldford), 6; Frederick Jarvis, 7; William Ball, 8. Tenor 33 cwt. in C.

GARSTON (Lancashire).—On Saturday, April 14th, at St. Michael's church, a 720 of Bob Minor, in 25 mins. W. Woods, 1; J. Davidson, 2; J. Large, 3; J. R. Pritchard, 4; Sergeant-Major Turner, 5; J. Aspinwall (conductor), 6. Tenor 12½ cwt.

HAVERSTOCK HILL (Middlesex).—On Sunday evening, April 15th, for Divine Service at St. Martin's church, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor, in 25 mins. J. Nixon, 1; T. Gleed, 2; T. Titchener, 3; J. Leach, 4; J. Hannington (conductor), 5; A. Jacob, 6. And on Wednesday, April 16th, a 720 of Plain Bob Minor, in 26 mins. P. S. Kendall, 1; G. Stancombe (first 720), 2; E. Chapman, 3; A. Jacob, 4; J. Hannington (conductor), 5; G. Newson, 6. Also a 720 of Double Court Bob Minor in 25 mins. B. Foskett, (first 720), 1; G. Newson (conductor), 2; A. Jacob, 3; T. Titchener, 4; J. Hannington, 5; J. Barrett (first 720), 6. Tenor 12½ cwt.

HELMINGHAM (Suffolk).—On Tuesday, April 17th, in honour of the marriage of the Hon. Miss. Tollamache, the local company rang at St. Mary's during the day various lengths of Oxford and Kent, Bob Major and Grandsire, the unsafe condition of the ropes rendering all attempts at a peal hopeless. The ringers who took part were Messrs. Dye, Thurlow, Perry, Whiting, Knights and Sherman, together with P. and W. Meadows, Esqs. Towards evening the company was reinforced by ringers from Otley, Brandeston, Framsdon, Cretingham, &c., and the bells were kept going with great spirit till a late hour.

HORSHAM (Sussex).—On Saturday evening, April 14th, the local company met at St. Mary's church, to attempt to ring Taylor's peal of Grandsire Triples, but after ringing 2300 changes, the second and third changed course, and the bells came round at the half-way, 2520 changes, in 1 hr. 36 mins. Harry Cook, 1; Elias Knight, 2; William Short, 3; Henry Chantler, 4; Thomas Andrews, 5; Henry Burstow (conductor), 6; William Wood, 7; Henry Wood, 8. Tenor 24 cwt. in E.

IPSWICH.—On Monday, April 16th, at St. Margaret's, a 720 of Plain Bob Minor, in 27 mins. W. Degee, 1; E. Pemberton, 2; C. Mee

(age 19), 3; C. Saul, 4; W. L. Catchpole, 5; S. Tillett, 6. Tenor 20 cwt. in F. This is the first 720 of C. Mee, and by the manner in which it was rung, he promises to make a good ringer, having begun change-ringing but a few months, and this is only the fourth time of his having rung Minor. Also 360 of Oxford Treble Bob. W. Meadows, 1; E. Pemberton, 2; S. Tillett, 3; W. L. Catchpole (conductor), 4; E. Reeve, 5; R. Hawes, 6.

HURWORTH-ON-TEES (Durham).—On Thursday evening, April 12th, the local company rang at All Saints' Church, a 720 of Grandsire Minor, in 29 mins. J. Simpson, 1; Rev. W. H. Deane (first 720 in the method, 2; H. Kirby, 3; J. Hern (conductor), 4; J. Temple (first 720 in the method), 5; H. Thompson, 6. Tenor 17 cwt.

LEWISHAM (Kent).—On Thursday evening, April 12th, on the back six, a 720 of Plain Bob Minor, in 28 mins. *E. Freeman, 1; W. Weatherstone, 2; T. G. Deal, 3; T. Taylor (conductor), 4; *W. Bowles, 5; A. G. Freeman, 6. [*First 720 in this method.] Also on Tuesday evening, the 17th instant, in 27 mins., the last part of Holt's Original peal of Grandsire Triples, from the plain course. E. Freeman, 1; W. Weatherstone, 2; T. G. Deal (conductor), 3; T. Taylor, 4; W. Bowles, 5; J. Crowder (his longest touch with a bob bell), 6; A. G. Freeman, 7; H. Bunn, 8. All are members of the St. James's Society, except H. Bunn. Tenor 22½ cwt. in Eb.

NUTFORD PLACE (Marylebone).—On Sunday, April 15th, at St. Luke's church, a 720 of Plain Bob Minor, with eighteen bobs and two singles, in 26 mins. G. Thurlow, 1; J. Hannington (conductor), 2; H. Driver, 3; W. Collings, 4; N. Alderman, 5; W. Griggs, 6. Also a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor, with fifteen bobs, in 24½ mins. J. Nixon, 1; J. Hannington (conductor), 2; H. Driver, 3; W. Collings, 4; N. Alderman, 5; T. Titchener, 6. Tenor 8 cwt.

OXFORD.—On Sunday, April 15th, at St. Mary Magdalen, a 720 of Grandsire Minor, in 25 mins. John Howes, 1; F. Castle, 2; Charles Boots, 3; Job Howes, 4; W. C. Baston (conductor), 5; J. W. Washbrook, 6. Also on the following Monday, on the same bells, a 720 of Bob Minor, in 23 mins. F. Castle, 1; Charles Boots, 2; J. W. Washbrook (conductor), 3; Job Howes (first 720 in the method), 4; W. Finch, 5; W. C. Baston, 6.

RUISLIP (Middlesex).—On Sunday, April 14th, for Divine Service in the morning, at St. Martin's, three 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles, with 4, 6, 8 behind. J. Parker (conductor), 1; A. Fussell, 2; W. Fussell, 3; J. Basden, 4; H. Tucker, 5; A. Watts, 6; W. George, 7; R. Martin, jun., 8. Also for afternoon service, four 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles. H. Tucker (conductor), 1; J. Basden, 2; A. Fussell, 3; W. Fussell, 4; J. Parker, 5; A. Watts, 6; W. George, 7; W. Ayers, 8.

SPALDING (Lincolnshire).—On Thursday, April 12th, at SS. Mary and Nicholas, on the occasion of the marriage of H. D. S. G. Simes, Esq., of Strood Park, Essex, to Miss Edith, second daughter of G. F. Bonner, Esq., of Ayscoughfee Hall, Spalding, two 720's of Plain Bob, with eighteen bobs and two singles, in 28 mins. each. Also a 720 in the same method, with eighteen bobs and ten singles, in 27 mins. G. Skeef, 1; J. Brown, 2; G. L. Richardson, 3; A. Brown, 4; J. S. Wright, 5; R. Mackman (composer and conductor), 6. Tenor 18 cwt.

WITNESHAM (Suffolk).—On Sunday morning, April 15th, a 720 of New London Pleasure, in 27 mins. George Sadler, 1; William Damant, 2; Thomas Sadler, 3; William Woods, 4; William Ramsay (conductor), 4; Wingfield Meadows, Esq., 6. Also in the afternoon a 500 of Woodbine Treble Bob Minor. George Sadler, 1; William Woods, 2; Thos. Sadler, 3; George Pyett, 4; William Ramsey (conductor), 5; Wingfield Meadows, Esq., 6. Tenor 14 cwt. in F#.

BOURNEMOUTH.

THE ST. PETER'S SOCIETY.—The annual general meeting of this Society was held at the coffee house, on Tuesday evening, March 25th, present—Mr. L. Mackenzie (Vice President), in the chair, and a good attendance of members and licensees. The Treasurer's statement showing a balance in hand of £1 7s. 11d., was adopted. This sum is exclusive of £22 10s., the net proceeds of the concert held at Heathcoat Hall on February 1st last, which has been carried to a separate fund, for the improvement of the belfry. The attendance at the instruction classes was found by the tower-keeper's register to be very satisfactory. For the ensuing year, Mr. Troyte was re-elected President, and Messrs. A. Cruwys Sharland and L. Mackenzie as Vice-Presidents. Mr. H. Hipsley was elected Hon. Secretary, and Mr. E. Munday Hon. Treasurer (in place of Mr. Arthur Fisher who is leaving Tiverton); and Messrs. R. Grater, J. Clements, and J. T. Ellacott, to serve on the committee. Revs. S. Hill and R. Germon, Messrs. Allnutt and S. H. Fisher were elected Hon. Members, and Messrs. H. Hipsley and T. Woodward having resigned as licensees were elected performing members of the Society.

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."

COOMBEINTEIGNHEAD BELLS.

SIR,—Will you kindly correct an error which has been made anent the above, in this week's issue of your truly useful paper. Three new bells were cast to two old ones in the year 1873; and again this year a treble (to make six) has been cast by Messrs. Mears and Stainbank, and not by Messrs. Taylor, of Loughborough, as stated. The bell-hanging work was done each time by Mr. Aggett, of Chagford, Devon.
Whitechapel Bell Foundry, W. WARSKITT,
April 14, 1883. Manager.

ALL IN A MUDDLE.

SIR,—In reply to a question by your correspondent, allow me to direct his attention to the excellent bell-cage of iron, by Messrs. Moore, Holmes, and Mackenzie, of the Redenhall Foundry, as illustrated in the advertising columns of our paper weekly. In this cage, all eight bells hang upon the same level—not a big joke, I admit. But the fact, sir, is, if the bells of St. Saviour's, Southwark, London, were hung in such a cage, there would be no such disappointments as are now and again experienced by expert ringers with this tenor, which seems through the changes of temperature, so common in this country.

It is well known to all workers of wood, and better still to workers of wood and iron, that the expansion and contraction caused by changes of temperature are greater in the former than in the latter; iron has therefore an advantage beside this, while wood can only expand or contract in one direction, iron must vary in every direction. That being so, all metal constituents of the cage and fittings remaining in the same proportion during change of temperature, no alteration in the go of the bells will be experienced.

What I have said relates only to one of two queries, but I hope it will be of some assistance to your correspondent.

OUT OF A MUDDLE.

PEAL-SNATCHING.

SIR,—In your issue of April 7th, I found myself assailed by three correspondents in regard to a peal of Kent Treble Bob which was rung at St. Peter's Church, Ashton, on March 17th. I was accused, though not directly, of "snatching" this peal from Mr. H. Dains, and some strong comments were made about me in the said correspondence. Doubtless the fact of my not answering these gentlemen last week, will be misconstrued by some as an excuse on my part to enable me to get out of the difficulty by keeping silence; but the real fact is, I was so circumstanced last week that I had not time to write. Now sir, I will endeavour to be as brief as possible. Mr. Dains says this identical peal was first rung on January 25th, 1879, at St. Mary's, Lambeth, and was composed by himself, but if he will refer to *Church Bells* for December 6th, 1873, he will see an account of the performance of this peal. Mr. Dains tries to prove that the peal which has given rise to this controversy is a variation of his own. Now sir, the fact is, that the peal rung at St. Peter's Church, is a variation of my own original peal, which was first rung at Gorton. On March 29th, I received a post-card from Mr. Dains, intimating to me that he was reluctantly compelled to write to "THE BELL NEWS" with respect to what he called "my claim to his 5088 of Kent Treble Bob Major." I answered telling him where the peal had been rung, and giving him the date, with one or two other particulars. In reply to my letter, I received one from him which at the very outset expressed his sorrow that he could not stop the publication of his letter, and asking me to try and let the matter drop amicably. He also trusted I would not be offended at what he had said in "THE BELL NEWS," as he was merely writing for information. This being so, I wish to draw his attention to a peal of 5040 Kent Treble Bob Royal, which is published in Snowdon's work (part 2, page 107), and there given as the composition of Mr. H. Dains, the peal having the 6th seven courses at home. Allow me to inform Mr. Dains that the above peal is my own composition, and first rung at Dunham-on-Massey, on February 20th, 1875, by a full company of the Ashton ringers, and in this case too, if he will refer to *Church Bells* of March 6th, 1875, he will see an account of this performance. With regard to "Yorkshireman" and Mr. Pitstow, I consider the above proof should satisfy them also, and show to your numerous readers that I am not a "peal-snatcher." JOHN THORP.

SIR,—In your issue of April 7th, Mr. Dains lays claim to a 5088 of Treble Bob Major, and says it was first rung at St. Mary's, Lambeth, in 1879. Now allow me to inform Mr. Dains that it was first rung at Gorton, near Manchester, and a record of its performance appeared in *Church Bells* of December 6th, 1873. I think it will be as well to give a copy, as some of your readers will perhaps not have a copy of

Church Bells of that date. It is as follows:—"On Saturday, November 22nd, 1873, a mixed company of change-ringers met at Gorton, and rang at Brookfield church a true and complete peal of Kent Treble Bob Major, comprising 5088 changes, in 3 hrs. 12 mins. The peal was composed and conducted by John Thorp, and has the sixth bell its full extent at nine different course-ends. The ringers were stationed as follows: W. Harrison (Mottram), 1; T. Fletcher (Manchester) 2; R. Ainsworth (Gorton), 3; T. Stopford (Ashton), 4; B. Broadbent (Ashton), 5; D. Heap (Ashton), 6; T. Whitehead (Saddleworth), 7; John Thorp (Ashton), 8." Now, as Mr. Dains has been so ready at accusing Mr. Thorpe of peal-snatching, where did Mr. Thorp snatch the above from? I should like to know if Mr. Dains had composed a peal at that time. There is also another peal which I should like to mention, and that is, a peal in Mr. Snowdon's work, part ii., p. 107, a peal of Treble Bob Royal, 5040 changes, with the sixth bell seven courses at home. Now Mr. Dains has acknowledged, in a letter to Mr. Thorp, that he got this peal after one that was rung on May 25th, 1877, published in *Church Bells* about that date. Now if Mr. Dains will look in *Church Bells* for March 6th, 1875, he will find that it was rung by the Ashton company, and composed and conducted by John Thorp. As for "W.M." and "Yorkshireman," I would mention them if they would sign their names, the same as GEORGE LONGDEN.

SIR,—In your issue of April 7th, I saw a letter by Mr. H. Dains, and which I thought very insulting to Mr. John Thorp, and of which he is not worthy. He said it was a very sad state of things to say of Mr. Thorp, and he was sorry to see the decline of such a man. Now if Mr. Dains would pause and look for information before he leaps at conclusions, he would have found in the *Church Bells*, the peal, which was rung at Brookfield church, Gorton, on November 22nd, 1873, and appeared in print December 6th, 1873. He says it was first rung on January 25th, 1879. Which does he think is the "snatcher" now, when the peal was rung above five years before he rung it? Who now appears on the "decline?" So now I think there is sufficient proof to convince Mr. Dains that the peal Mr. Thorp has snatched from him, really belongs to Mr. Thorp, and Mr. Dains is the snatcher. There is also another of Mr. Thorp's peals that has got the name of Mr. Dains attached to it as its composer, in Mr. Snowdon's work, but the peal was first rung before the work was published at Dunham-on-Massey, by the Ashton Society, and which appears in *Church Bells* for March 6th, 1875. So now your readers will see for themselves who is the "snatcher" and on the decline.

As to "W.M." and "Yorkshireman," they seem to think that there can be no original peal unless it is published in Mr. Snowdon's book, but I tell them that Mr. Thorp could perhaps produce more peals of "Treble Bob" than the work contains if required. Hoping the above proof will satisfy them also. A LANCASHIRE MAN.

We find it desirable to again call the attention of composers to the plan we adopt relative to the contents of the succeeding column. When compositions are sent to us, accompanied with a notification that the sender has proved his composition himself, we accept literally this statement, and such communications are set apart ready for insertion, in turn, as not requiring any treatment in the shape of proving, at our hands. But if such communications when forwarded are accompanied by a request that the figures should be examined, ere we allow them to appear in print, they are placed in a receptacle provided for the purpose, to be dealt with by us at the earliest moment we can, and as a rule, we take up each composition in its proper order. In our last week's number appeared a 5076 of Stedman Caters by Mr. Pritchard of Liverpool, which we have discovered repeats in every part. We understood that this composition had been proved by this gentleman himself, and that there was no necessity for us to look over it; and having gone through a peal of Treble Bob and Grandsire Major, compositions of some merit, we think, from the same composer, we certainly did not think it necessary to take upon ourselves to cast a doubt upon the accuracy of a peal of Stedman Caters, coming from the same quarter. Of course we are aware of the unpleasantness in having a peal published, and its untruth being discovered afterwards; but we must be held blameless in such cases where our friends intimate that no examination is required by us. But we wish it to be understood that while we, or any of our colleagues in the conduct of this paper are always most willing and happy to give to our readers the benefit of our experience in this particular direction, we do not intrude what little ability we may possess upon the notice of any one. If we do not solicit the honour of looking over any one's productions, we cheerfully do so when requested. Our brethren will therefore fully understand that all compositions will be inserted as they are sent without any examination on our part, unless we are requested to examine them. We think it necessary to be explicit in this matter, as interference on our part with regard to some compositions may be looked upon by their authors as impertinent.

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERS.

5333.

By FRED COATES, Rotherham.

2 3 1 4 5 6	5 16	5 1 4 2 6 3	4 5 16
6 1 4 2 5 3	-	5 1 3 4 6 2	-
6 1 3 5 4 2	-	5 1 2 3 6 4	-
6 1 2 3 5 4	-	2 1 5 4 6 3	-
2 1 6 4 5 3	-	2 1 3 5 6 4	-
2 1 3 6 5 4	-	3 1 2 4 6 5	-
3 1 2 4 5 6	-	3 1 5 2 6 4	-
3 1 6 2 5 4	-	3 1 4 5 6 2	-
3 1 4 6 5 2	-	4 1 3 2 6 5	-
4 1 3 2 5 6	-	4 1 5 3 6 2	-
4 1 6 3 5 2	-	4 1 2 5 6 3	-
4 1 2 6 5 3	#	2 1 4 3 6 5	-
2 1 4 3 5 6	-	2 1 4 5 6 3	s
2 1 4 6 5 3	s	2 1 3 4 6 5	-
2 1 3 4 5 6	-	2 1 5 3 6 4	-
2 1 6 3 5 4	-	5 1 2 4 6 3	-
6 1 2 4 5 3	-	5 1 3 2 6 4	-
6 1 3 2 5 4	-	3 1 5 4 6 2	-
3 1 6 4 5 2	-	3 1 2 5 6 4	-
3 1 2 6 5 4	-	3 1 4 2 6 5	-
3 1 4 2 5 6	-	4 1 3 5 6 2	-
4 1 3 6 5 2	-	4 1 2 3 6 5	-
4 1 2 3 5 6	-	4 1 5 2 6 3	-
4 1 6 2 5 3	-	5 1 4 3 6 2	-
6 1 4 3 5 2	-		

Brought round with bobs at 2, 6, 8, 9.

* This course is produced by bobs at 3, 9, 10, 12, 15, 18, 20, 22.

This peal has the 5th twenty-four times right and the 6th twenty-four times wrong.

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR.

5008.

By A. KNIGHTS, Chesterfield.

2 3 4 5 6	W	B	H
5 2 3 6 4	-	-	-
6 5 3 2 4	-	-	-
3 2 6 5 4	-	-	-
5 3 6 2 4	-	-	-
2 5 6 3 4	-	-	-
6 3 2 5 4	-	-	-
5 6 2 3 4	-	-	-
2 3 5 6 4	-	-	-
6 2 5 3 4	-	-	-

These nine courses, three times repeated, produce—

3 5 6 4 2	W	B	H
4 3 5 2 6	-	-	-
2 4 5 3 6	-	-	-
3 2 5 4 6	-	-	-
5 4 3 2 6	-	-	-
2 5 3 4 6	-	-	-
4 2 3 5 6	-	-	-
3 5 4 2 6	-	-	-
2 3 4 5 6	-	-	-

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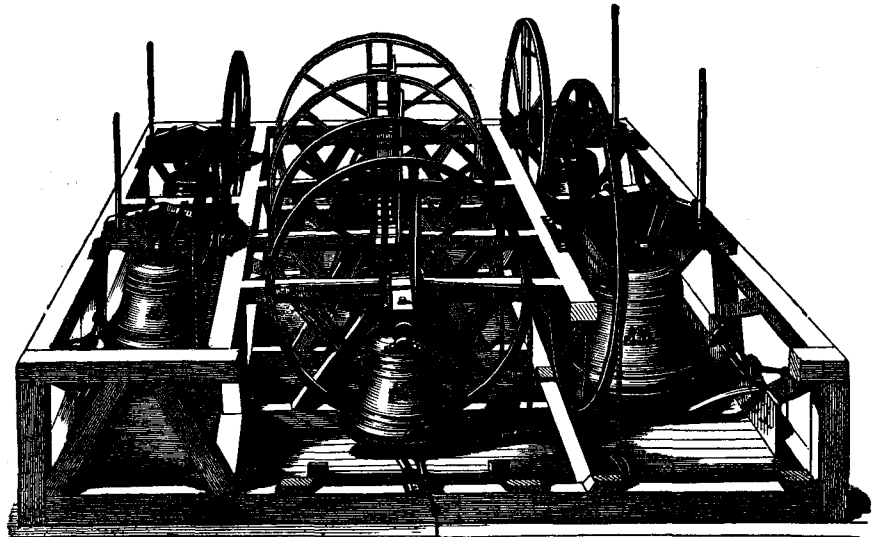
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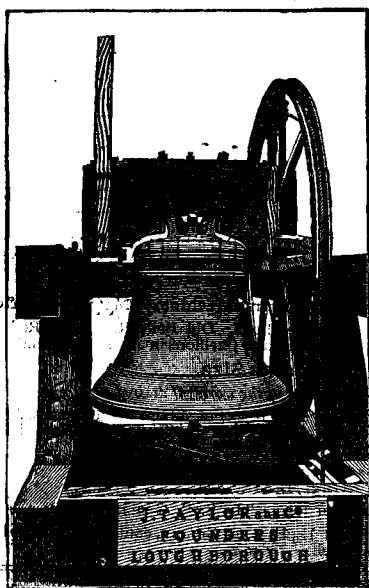
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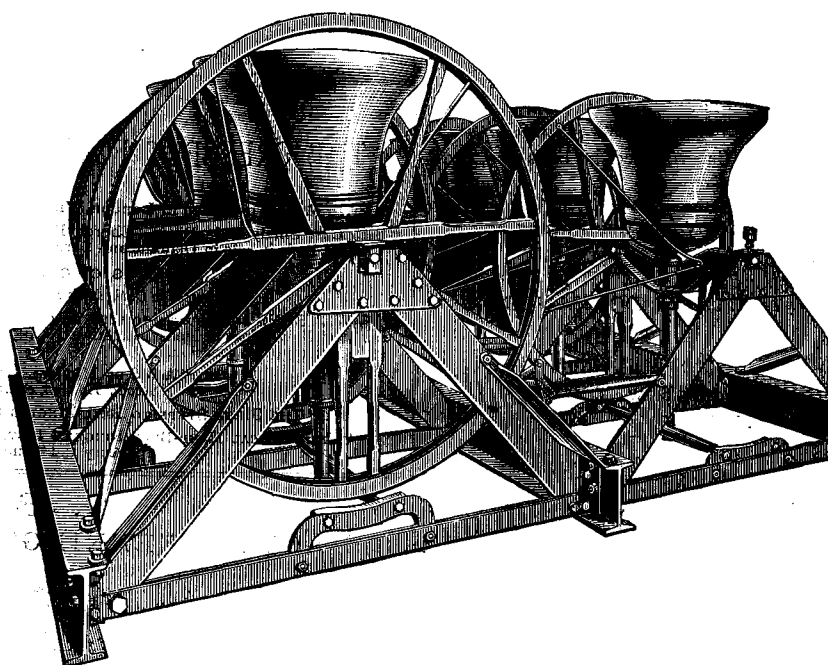
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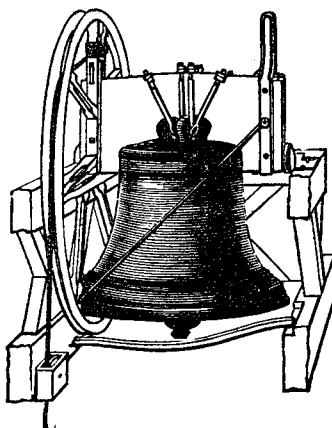
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watches so often advertised. We can honestly state
that never before in our advertising age has such a
genuine offer been publicly announced. The Watches
we now offer are of the finest possible workmanship
and finish throughout, and are guaranteed to give every
satisfaction. They are gentlemen's ordinary size (20
lines), very superior movement, extra jewelled, gold
balance, flat crystal glass, double-sunk hard white
enamelled dial, sunk seconds, bold figures, and hands of
finest quality, in thoroughly well-fitting Argentine silver
case with double back, and push spring, sprung above.
Candidly worth 3 guineas. A handsomer Watch could
not possibly be purchased at any price. Every one war-
ranted for twelve months. Money returned in full if not
as advertised in every respect.

For further particulars send stamped envelope.

HILL, BARTON, & CO.,
WATCH MANUFACTURERS AND IMPORTERS
16, PARADE, BIRMINGHAM.

YORK BELL FOUNDERS.—VI.

(Continued.)

I am obliged for the correction and particulars of Robert Mot. Being at Wistow lately, I found that one of the bells there was cast by Abraham Smith and William Cureton. It contained the following:—

1655—"Soli Deo gloria, pax hominibvs A.S et W.C. fecit Sep. 25, 1655

TR RW chvrch TH
TC RI wardens GH Gent"

Also stamp with shield—two bells, chevron and one bell; impaling shield with three braziers, two and one. Each word is from a single block.

SAMUEL SMITH (continued).

His bells have generally either one or other of the following inscriptions upon them:—

- (a) "Venite exultemus Domino"
(b) "Soli Deo gloria pax hominibvs"
(c) "Gloria in altissimis Deo"
(d) "Gloria in excelsis Deo"

1665.—YORK—St. Maurice (c).

Roos—(a) also "S.S., P.K. AR. church S."
warden

1667.—WILBERFOSS—(c) also "WD. WL church
wardens S"

1673.—YORK—St. Cuthbert (c) also "H.E.O. church SS"
warden Ebor

" St. Crux.

" Repent lest ye perish anno Domini 1673

WC. MH. MW. church S Ebor
warden
with shields.—Rawdon.

1675.—BEEFORD (d) also "TH. IS. church S SS"
warden Ebor

FILEY (d) "IN. RB GW. RS. chvrch S SS"
warden Ebor

FOLKTON (c) "TO. LC. chvrch S SS"
warden Ebor

REIGHTON (c) "RI. WK church S SS"
warden Ebor

ULROME (d) "I.I. chvrch SS"
warden Ebor

1676.—
WILLERBY (d) "SS"
Ebor

WHELDRAKE.
"Te Devm Laudamus 1676
SS"
Ebor

CAVE, SOUTH (d) also "SS"
Ebor

1677.—WHELDRAKE (d) "SS"
Ebor

KIRBY GRINDALYTH (c) also "SS"
Ebor

WEAVERTHORPE (c) "SS"
Ebor

WETWANG (a) "M^R Shirt Vicar SS"
Ebor

YORK.—Mr. Councillor Brown, Chemist, has in his possession a beautiful Mortar, weighing 14 lbs. It has upon it, the usual scroll work of the bells, terminating in what appears to be the White Rose of York, also "M.B. 1677 Ebor

1677.—SKELTON, NEAR YORK.

(d) also "Richard Maskell chvrch SS"
warden Ebor

1678.—HUTTON CRANSWICK (2) (a) also SS"
Ebor

(d) also "R.P. IB chvrch S SS"
warden Ebor

KIRKURN (a) also "C.S. Vicar SS"
Ebor

1681.—CATTON, Low (c) also "J. Horsley: J. Bolderston
chvrch S SS"
warden Ebor

WRESTLE 2. (c) also SS"
Ebor

(a) "SS"
Ebor

YORK.—St. Michael the Archangel—4.

(d) also "SS"
Ebor

"Exultate Deo Psal LXXXI SS"
Ebor

"Ivblate Domino Psal LXVI SS"
Ebor
"Deo and Regi sacrum 1681 SS"
Ebor

In 1681, these bells were cast for and hung in the Minster Belfry, in addition to the eight there, and completed the first peal of twelve bells ever hung.

In 1765 they were removed to this Church, the whole peal of twelve at the Minster, not being quite tuneable being removed, and replaced by a new peal of ten from the foundry of Messrs. Lester and Pack, of London.

YORK.—Christ Church.

"Ivblate Domino Psal LXVI 1681
SS"
Ebor

EXTRACTS FROM THE "CHURCHWARDEN'S ACCOUNT."

1684.—Mr. Samuel Smith shall be paid the money owing him by the parish out of the first collection of the assessment.

1665—July 4.—Pd. for ringing for ye Dutch victory .. 3s.

August 5.—Pd. for ringing when the Duke of York came in .. 2s.

1665—June 9.—For ringing for the victory over the Dutch .. 8d.

1677—Dec 6.—Pd. the ringers at Prince of Orange marriage .. 4s.

1681.—A new bell (see above) to be a treble to the rest that are there provided.

1688—Feb. 17.—Pd. for ringing when King William and Queen Mary were proclaimed .. 5s.

1689—April 11.—Pd. on the Coronation day for ringing .. 5s.

1690—July 19.—for ringing for news of ye conquest at ye Boyne .. 5s.

1691—Pd. ringers at ye taking of Limerick .. 5s.

1692—For ringing upon ye first report of beating ye French fleet .. 1s.

1696—Sept. 8.—Pd. ye ringers when Mint began to coyne .. 1s.

(d) also "SS"
Ebor

1682.—FILEY.

"Fiat voluntas tua pater omnipotens 1682 SS"
Ebor
EH. CB IA GH chvrch S"
warden

YORK.—St. Mary, Castlegate. (c)

GANTON.—(c) also "MD MS chvrch S SS"
warden Ebor

1684.—SKIPWITH (c) "MF Par TC WM chvrch S SS"
son TC WM chvrch S
warden Ebor

KILBURN (c) also "SS"
Ebor

1685.—DRIFFIELD, GREAT (c) also "TD church SS"
warden Ebor

TANFIELD, WEST (c) "WB chvrch SS"
warden Ebor

1687.—HEDON 2.

"Wind them and bring them and I will ring for them
SS"
Ebor

"The Gvift of Charles Dyncombe to the Corporation of
Hedon in Yorkshire 1687
SS"
Ebor

BISHOP WILTON (d) also "SS"
Ebor

1690.—POPPELTON (c) "SS"
Ebor

1693.—CARNABY (c) "SS"
Ebor

YORK.—St. Cuthbert.

"Te Devm Laudamus 1693
SS"
Ebor

YORK.—Christ Ch: the same inscription.

1694.—WOLD NEWTON (c) also "SS"
Ebor

1695.—WEST TANFIELD.

"Ante Jacetis humo sonitu respiscite mæsto 1695
SS"
Ebor

SKIPSEA (c) also "Ralph Bainton chvrch SS"
warden Ebor

1696.—PRESTON, Yorks. E.R. (d) also "SS"
Ebor

Ra: Bvrsall Gvardiani
Wil: Winder

(To be continued.)

G.B. (York.)

OPENING OF THE BELLS AT GAINSBOROUGH, LINCOLNSHIRE.

On Wednesday, the 18th, the Society of Change Ringers connected with the parish church, Dewsbury, were invited by the vicar and churchwardens of the parish church, Gainsborough, Lincolnshire, to open a peal of eight bells which have been rehung, and two new bells cast by the firm of Taylor and Co., of Loughborough. The ringers arrived from Dewsbury at 8.50 a.m., and a splendid breakfast being ready, sat down and did ample justice to the viands, and afterwards adjourned to the belfry and rang a course of Kent Treble Bob Major in first-rate style, to the satisfaction and pleasure of all who heard them—giving praise to men and bells, which is a splendid spice to the old peal, by the above-named firm. After service the men again ascended the tower and rang a peal of Kent Treble Bob Major, consisting of 5000 changes in 3 hours 14 mins. The ringers were as follows: Wm. Preston, 1; Arthur Goodall, 2; Henry Haigh, 3; Garforth Taylor, 4; Isaac Idle and Joseph Ruddlesden, 5; C. A. Fox (conductor), 6; John H. Dixon, 7; John Garforth, 8. Weight of tenor 20 cwt. The peal was composed by the late Mr. Harrison. The bells were originally cast by Pack and Chapman, in the year 1768, and at the opening a peal of 5040 changes of Grandsire Triples was rung (Mr. Holt's composition) in 3 hours 13 mins., by the following persons from Nottingham (called by J. S. Carmer): John Wright, 1; John S. Cramer, 2; Francis Draper, 3; Wm. D. Crofts, 4; James Wilkinson, 5; Robert Statham, 6; Robert Meteringham, 7; Wm. Froget and J. Schiling, 8. There was also another peal of 5040 of Bob Major rang on the 19th May, 1769, in 3 hours 15 mins. by the following persons from Nottingham (called by Mr. D. Crofts): J. Wright, 1; Thos. Robinson, 2; Wm. Bradley, 3; J. Fetteplat, 4; James Wilkinson, 5; Francis Draper, 6; Richard Stratham, 7; W. D. Crofts, 8. Another peal was also rung in the year 1848 by the Sheffield ringers, of Kent Treble Bob Major, of 5088 changes, in 3 hours 20 mins. This is supposed to be the first peal of Kent Treble Bob Major ever rung in the county of Lincolnshire. The following were the ringers: Wm. Hudson, 1; Thos. Whaley, 2; Isaac Lomas, 3; Jno. Lomas, 4; Cor. Andrews, 5; Geo. Wilson, 6; Jas. Firth, 7th; James Taylor, 8. Composed and conducted by Wm. Hudson. After the 5000 had been completed, the ringers adjourned to the Friendship Inn, accompanied by their friends, and rang some splendid touches on the handbells, after which they returned home to Dewsbury.

FESTIVITY AT PRESTBURY.—MACCLESFIELD DISTRICT.

On Saturday, April 21st, the ringers of the Macclesfield district assembled in large numbers at Prestbury, to congratulate an old veteran in the craft of his attaining his ninety-third birthday, a peal of Grandsire Triples mentioned on another page being rung to commemorate the event. After the peal, the venerable old man, who is hale and hearty, rang a short touch with the youngest ringers present, so that they could tell their successors what they had done.

After ringing, the company adjourned to the Black Boy Hotel, where a capital dinner awaited them, to which ample justice was done. A very enjoyable evening was spent, with various selections on handbells, both tunes and changes being rung. After the usual toasts "The Health of the Old Veteran" was drunk with musical honours, to which he made a feeling and suitable reply, and at his request a promise was made that they would come down to Prestbury on every anniversary of his birthday, as he intended to go on to a hundred years at least. As a proof of the old man's good health, it may be stated that he paid a visit to some friends the day after and travelled fourteen miles, seven going and seven coming back, walking all the way.

THE UNITED COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

The Quarterly Committee meeting of the above Association was held on Saturday last at Stalybridge when several performing members were elected. An important alteration was passed in rule No. 2, regarding Honorary Members' subscriptions. The committee also propose to alter the form which the emblems should take. These alterations will be submitted to the General Meeting, which will be held at Chapel-en-le-frith, in July.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

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

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

H. A. COCKEY, Hon. Sec.

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

STOKE-UPON-TRENT ARCHIDIACONAL ASSOCIATION.

The Wolstanton District held their meeting last Saturday, at Tunstall. Ringers attended in good numbers from a number of towers, Tunstall being a fairly central spot. Wolstanton, Keele, Lawton, Burslem, Norton, Biddulph, Leek, Stoke, and the home Society were represented. After an enjoyable afternoon's ringing, the members sat down to an excellent tea in the club room, kindly provided by friends of the ringers. The Vicar, the Rev. L. H. Evans, spoke pleasantly to the ringers, and a very enjoyable evening was spent, some with the handbells, others in the tower, the meeting not feeling inclined to break up when eleven o'clock struck. Nothing special was done in the way of ringing, though the Hon. Sec. was specially singled out for a thorough drilling in the rudiments of the art beyond "stone." The bells go very fairly, a fair set of six, and the belfry has lately undergone much alteration. It is certainly improved in every way and with its neatly painted walls and matting, its good benches and hat-rails, it certainly deserved the praise that the Association bestowed on it. The meetings for the next month are:—

5th, Biddulph (Leek District); 12th, Cheadle (Stoke District); 19th, Lawton (Wolstanton District); 26th, Uttoxeter.

At a Committee Meeting held in Stoke, on Saturday, it was decided to hold the Annual Meeting on June 30th. Further particulars will shortly follow.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION. BURTON-ON-TRENT BRANCH.

A General Meeting of the members of the above branch was held in the Parish Room, S. Paul's Institute, on Friday evening, April 13th, at 8 o'clock, the Rev. H. Fish in the chair.

The chairman explained the object of the Meeting to be the election of a Local Secretary for the Burton-on-Trent District, together with two members to serve on the General Committee of the Association, in accordance with rules 6 and 8.

On the motion of Mr. Griffin, seconded by Mr. A. Wakley, Mr. John Jagger, of S. Paul's society, Burton-on-Trent, was proposed as Local Secretary, and unanimously elected. The following gentleman were chosen to serve on the committee:—Mr. Dimbleby, of the Winhill society, and Mr. Thomas Leech, of the parish church society, Burton-on-Trent.

It was suggested by the chairman that as Burton-on-Trent had been fixed upon at the Annual Easter Meeting as the centre at which the June Quarterly Meeting of the Association should be held, it might be convenient to have a date specified by some of the members present, which, if approved of, could be submitted to the Local Secretaries at Derby, Nottingham, and Leicester, by way of ascertaining whether it would suit their convenience also.

Saturday, June 23rd, was proposed as a suitable day, and unanimously approved of.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

A GENERAL MEETING of this Association will be held at North Shields on May 14th (Whit-Monday). The bells at the disposal of the members will be: Ring of ten, North Shields, tenor 19 cwt.; Ring of six, S. Hilda's, South Shields, tenor 10 cwt.; also the Ring of six at S. Peter's, Jarrow, tenor 8½ cwt., and the Ring of six at Christ Church, Jarrow, tenor 17 cwt.

A Dinner will be provided at Half-past Two o'clock, at the Albion Hotel, North Shields. Members intending to be present at this Meeting are requested to apply to the Secretary for Dinner Tickets not later than Monday, May 7th.

G. J. CLARKSON,
Post Office Chambers, Stockton-on-Tees.

Hon. Sec.

We hear now and then of some very unsatisfactory goings-on in various parts of the country relative to the management, or we may say, mismanagement of several ringing societies. It is hardly our business, if we had the inclination, to interfere in local disputes, more especially as only *ex parte* statements are laid before us. A communication from Bramford (Suffolk) shows that there is a great hindrance to the promotion of real ringing in that village, from the attitude taken up by three worthies who have been "bell-rope haulers" for years. We suppose, however, it is the old, old, story. Our correspondent should have an interview with the incumbent, and state the causes of offence, and impediments to progress. Or what would be better (and we trust we shall not be taking too great a liberty in suggesting it) would be for the aggrieved parties to write to the Hon. Sec. of the Norwich Diocesan Association (the Rev. G. H. Harris), who would no doubt endeavour to induce the Bramford church authorities to bring all matters connected with the bells under appropriate regulations, which must be obeyed by all concerned.

A CORRECTION.—In last week's number, under the heading "Bournemouth," a report of the election of officers of the ringing society was given. The place should have been Tiverton.

SIX-BELL METHODS.

Compiled by W. WALKER, Leeds, Yorkshire.

Smithfield Bob.

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

Duke of Cambridge.

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

Sandal Exercise.

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

Morning Exercise.

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

Chelsea.

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

St. Wilford.

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

Darton New Pleasure.

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

Darton Exercise.

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

Albion Surprise.

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

Coventry Surprise.

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

Dusbury Surprise.

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

London Scholar's Pleasure.

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

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

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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.

S. H.—We will look it over the first opportunity.

BOR MAJOR.—Wells Gardener is the publisher of "Troyte's Guide to the Steeples of England." If you tell your local bookseller this fact, and order it, he will doubtless procure it for you. The other books you mention are out of print. Get Snowden's "Standard Methods."

JOHN HILTON.—We will let you know the earliest moment we can.

E. MATTHEWS.—We have never received the communication you refer to.

The Bell News & Ringers' Record.

SATURDAY, APRIL 28, 1883.

VARIOUS as are the performances which it is our pleasure to chronicle, week after week, in the columns of this journal, and difficult as many of these recorded achievements are, indeed, in their execution, it must be admitted that the most intricate branch of the ringer's art does not meet with that attention—taking into consideration the credit, or praise, due to such performances—it certainly deserves. It has always been admitted that double-handed ringing upon handbells, when skilfully executed, redounds to the credit of the performers in a much greater degree than a great length upon the church bells. In the annals of ringing we cannot read without amazement, it is true, of those wonderful feats where men were able to ring heavy bells, in complex methods, for several consecutive hours, and in most instances, single-handed. But such examples of physical endurance as these cannot be considered to merit a greater meed of praise than ringing, upon handbells, a peal of Stedman Triples, or some other method equally difficult. And if the "neatest" thing in bob-calling be to call a peal in this method, ringing at the same time a non-observation bell, it will readily be allowed that whoever is capable of ringing two bells of this description, at one time, in such a method as the one we are alluding to, and calling the bobs, is a ringer of no mean order.

Some time ago we endeavoured to press upon our younger readers the advisability of becoming proficient in double-handed ringing, and aim to some performance worthy of record. We believe that a great deal of talent is lying dormant amongst ringers, which only requires a stimulant—perhaps that of unity—to awaken. Among

ringers who are just beginning to make their influence felt, there is an amount of intelligence and skill displayed which augur well for the study and constant practice of handbell ringing.

We should be glad to hear of greater exertion and progress being made in this important branch of the Exercise. Not by merely ringing a course or two in the intervals between conversation at the meeting-house will this, however, be effected, but by proper and well-defined arrangements duly carried out. In a recent number of this paper we read of 720's of Minor being rung, double-handed, by ladies, trained evidently by their brother,—J. M. ROUTH, Esq.—who is a well-known and accomplished ringer. We should be glad to see frequent records of this character. The gentler sex would not be long in discovering the superiority of handbell ringing, as a recreative amusement, over many other pursuits.

UPSTAIRS OR DOWNSTAIRS?

THIS is a question referred to in some books, relative to change-ringing. It has been remarked that the churches of the Gothic periods can never be mistaken for anything else, though if you travel through every village or town no two resemble one another, or have the exact arrangement of parts. We only remember hearing of one instance of the ropes in a central tower falling on the church pavement, and that was at Lympne, in Kent, when some present members of the County Association have actually rung a peal in the pews. The bells have since been rehung dead. The centre tower of a cross church is but the developement of the open lantern; and is usually seen in the early churches, when on a small scale: the Saxon church in Dover Castle has a centre tower of this description, as also Adisham, and many others plainly not intended for bells, as in each case, we find little round-headed niches in the west gable for the small bells; an instance of these is seen at Corehampton, near Winchester. When the tower is central at the west end, and has a grand arch open to the church, nothing is more demonstrative than the circle of ropes, steadied by a handsome circle of wrought iron, not made ornamental where a rope might catch, the tower area being enclosed by an open screen, and having a handsome bench and wainscoating on all sides so that everything is seen relating to ringing. Under all other circumstances, the ringing-chamber upstairs, not too high, is the best arrangement, especially when, as is very common, the area of the tower forms a low porch to the church, in all situations the stair door opening into the porch, and not outside, which is to be condemned everywhere.

Then the tower itself should show plainly externally its internal divisions, and the purposes of the same. No fault on the score of too little daylight can be complained of in the old Gothic towers, where the ringing is still done at the intended level; large openings at the proper altitude, often very elaborate, as some in Norfolk; while in those of Sir C. Wren's period, and a little later, lighting the ringing-chamber must have been a special study, as

seen in so many instances in London, all being in harmony with the architectural effect; externally, we would instance St. Vedast, Foster Lane. On the other hand, in the case of a debased structure in every respect, St. Dunstan-in-the-West: little openings, not even in keeping with the third pointed style copied, which is remarkable for its large openings in original examples.

The Metropolis.

THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.—FULHAM, MIDDLESEX.

On Saturday, April 21, 1883, in Three Hours and Eighteen Minutes,

AT ALL SAINTS' CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS, 5003 CHANGES;

Tenor 20 cwt.

CHARLES MARTIN Treble.	JAMES TRAPPITT 6.
SAMUEL GREENWOOD* 2.	JOHN PLOWMAN 7.
CHARLES GORDON 3.	*JOSEPH FAYERS 8.
EDWARD F. COLE, ESQ.* 4.	*GEORGE PELL 9.
EDGAR BENNETT 5.	WALTER PRIME Tenor.

Conducted by E. BENNETT.

*First peal of Caters.

Messrs. Martin, Gordon, Bennett, Trappitt, and Plowman hail from Beddington; Greenwood and Pell from Stretham; Fayers from Mitcham; and Cole and Prime from London.

This peal has the 5th and 6th only behind the 9th.

The Provinces.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

KENNINGHALL, NORFOLK.

On Tuesday, April 10, 1883, in Three Hours and Twelve Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 16½ cwt.

ROBERT HUTTON Treble.	CHARLES EVERETT 5.
HENRY EAGLING 2.	JOHN WOODS 6.
GEORGE EDWARDS 3.	*JEREMIAH MORDEY 7.
JAMES SAUNDERS 4.	JONATHAN CUNNINGHAM .. Tenor.

Composed by N. J. PITSTOW, and conducted by JONATHAN CUNNINGHAM.

This peal, in one part, without a bob at the wrong, was taken from "THE BELL NEWS" of August 5th, 1882, and is the first conducted by J. Cunningham.

STALYBRIDGE, LANCASHIRE.

On Saturday, April 21, 1883, in Three Hours,

AT HOLY TRINITY CHURCH,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;

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

JOHN J. BRIERLEY* Treble.	GEORGE LONGDEN 5.
JOHN HOLDEN 2.	JAMES S. WILDE 6.
HUGH SHAW 3.	SAMUEL WOOD 7.
JAMES WOOD 4.	JOHN THORP Tenor.

Composed by JOHN THORP, and conducted by SAMUEL WOOD.

The Messrs. Woods, Longden and Thorp hail from Ashton-under-Lyne; Briery and Holden, from Saddleworth; and Wilde from Hyde.

This peal will be found on page 47, Snowdon's work, part II.

*First peal.

We understand the firm of Moore, Holmes, and Mackenzie, of Redenhall, have received an order for a ring of eight, for the new tower of St. Andrew's Church, Thorpe, near Norwich, and it is hoped that the bells will be in their places and ready for ringing sometime next month.

PRESTBURY, CHESHIRE.

On Saturday, April 21, 1883, in Three Hours and Nine Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

TAYLOR'S BOB-AND-SINGLE VARIATION. Tenor 18½ cwt. in F.

JAMES HOLT Treble.	*WM. HENRY HARDMAN .. 5.
JOHN R. HENSHALL 2.	EDWARD MATTHEWS .. 6.
SAMUEL SMITH* 3.	*WALTER INGHAM 7.
JAMES MORLEDGE 4.	*HENRY WHEELTON Tenor.

Conducted by EDWARD MATTHEWS.

*First 5040.

Messrs. Matthews, Holt, and Morledge hail from Macclesfield; Henshall from Gawsorth; Smith and Wheelton from Prestbury; and Ingham and Hardman from Higher Sutton.

Date Touches.

STOCKPORT (Cheshire).—On the occasion of a Confirmation being held at St Mary's Parish Church, Stockport, by the Right Rev. Bishop Kelly, Archdeacon of Macclesfield, acting for the Bishop of the Diocese, on Sunday afternoon, the 22nd instant, a date touch of Stedman Triples (compiled from Thurston's peal), was rung in 1 hr. 6 mins. as the service peal. John Warburton, 1; James Meakin, 2; Alfred Gordon, 3; Edward Leonard, 4; Joseph Barlow, 5; Tom Marshall, 6; William Gordon (conductor), 7; John Sutcliffe, 8. Tenor 24 cwt. in Eb.

WITNESHAM (Suffolk).—On Saturday, April 21st, a date touch of 1883 changes in the following methods:—Woodbine Treble Bob, Oxford Delight, Cambridge Surprise, Duke of York, and New London. George Sadler, 1; William Damant, 2; Thomas Sadler, 3; George Pyett, 4; William Woods (conductor), 5; Wingfield Meadows, Esq., 6. Also on Sunday, was rung 360 Cambridge Surprise, the same number of Kent Treble Bob, and 240 changes each of New London Pleasure, and Oxford Delight, with a course of Woodbine, in 41 mins., by the same band. Tenor 14 cwt. in F#.

Miscellaneous.

THE BIRMINGHAM AMALGAMATED SOCIETY.

SELLY OAK.—On Tuesday, April 24th, six members of the above society rang at St. Mary's a 720 of Grandsire Minor, in 26 mins. George Hale, 1; Henry Smith, 2; Edward Bush, 3; Thomas Lewis, 4; Edward Bryant (first 720), 5; Alfred Cole (conductor), 6.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.—On Thursday, April 19th, at All Saints' church, for practice, a 592 of Stedman Triples. C. L. Routledge (St. John's), 1; W. G. Routledge (St. John's), 2; F. Lees (St. John's), 3; R. Denton (St. John's), 4; J. Sim (St. Nicholas), 5; J. S. Power (conductor; St. Nicholas), 6; R. S. Story (St. John's), 7; E. Wallis (St. Stephen's), 8. Tenor 19 cwt. This is the first touch in the method rung by any band in this Association, and the first touch in this locality for very many years. Our correspondent is glad to state that there is every prospect of its being rung frequently by at least two bands in this Association.

STAINDROP (Durham).—On Thursday, April 19th, at St. Mary's Church, two 720's of Bob Mihor, one with 4 bobs and 26 singles, and one with 10 bobs and 14 singles, also a 720 with 16 bobs and 14 singles, but came to grief at the 57th treble lead, when the third and second changed places, and had to be brought round with a bob instead of a single. W. Mc Lean, 1; J. W. Shipp, 2; W. E. Johnston, 3; T. Leonard, 4; D. Shipp (conductor), 5; J. Brown, 6. Tenor 13 cwt.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

BRAINTREE (Essex).—On Saturday, April 21st, a 720 of New London Pleasure, also a 720 of Cambridge Surprise conducted by F. Rudkin. On Sunday, April 22nd, for morning service a 720 of College Exercise; for evening service a 720 of Woodbine Treble Bob, conducted by S. Hammond. F. Bumpstead, 1; F. Calthorpe, 2; W. Dyson, 3; H. E. Hammond, 4; F. Rudkin, 5; S. Hammond, 6. Tenor 14 cwt.

ROMFORD (Essex).—Handbell Ringing.—On Saturday evening, April 21st, three members of the above Association, rang on handbells retained in hand, Mr. Penning's 720 of Bob Minor, with forty-six calls: twenty-eight bobs and eighteen singles, in 26 mins. *A. Pye, 1-2; A. J. Perkins (conductor), 3-4; B. Keeble, 5-6. *First 720 double-handed.

STISTED (Essex).—On Sunday, April 22nd, ringers from Braintree and Coggeshall, visited this quiet and sequestered village, and rang before and after the afternoon service, 360 of Bob Minor. J. Sadler, 1; H. E. Hammond, 2; J. Aust, 3; J. Sadler, 4; W. Radley, 5; S. Hammond, 6. Also a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob. J. Sadler, 1; H. E. Hammond, 2; D. Elliott, 3; J. Sadler, 4; J. Aust, 5; S. Hammond, 6. Also a 720 of Kent Treble Bob. J. Sadler, 1; H. E. Hammond, 2; J. Aust, 3; D. Elliott, 4; W. Radley, 5; S. Hammond, 6. Messrs. J. Aust, D. Elliott, J. Sadler, and Jn. Sadler, are from Coggeshall; H. E. Hammond and S. Hammond from Braintree; W. Radley is from Stisted, and this is his first 720 of Kent with a bob bell. The whole of the ringing was conducted by S. Hammond. The bells are in first-rate going order having been put in thorough repair last year, by Mr. H. Bowell, of Ipswich. Distance from Braintree Station, about three miles.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

ECCLES.—On Sunday, April 22nd, at the parish church, a mixed company rang a 720 of Bob Minor, in 27 mins. Edward Cash (conductor); Eccles, 1; James Henry Ridyard (Worsley), 2; James Barrett (Eccles), 3; John Welsby (Walkden), 4; Joseph Brookes (Walkden), 5; William Ashcroft (Eccles), 6. Tenor 13 cwt. 3 qrs. This is the first 720 in the method by Messrs. Welsby, Brookes and Ridyard.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

BURTON-ON-TRENT.—On Sunday last, for evening service at St. Paul's, a quarter-peat of Stedman Triples in 50 mins. J. Griffin (conductor), 1; H. Wakley, 2; G. Appleby, 3; E. I. Stone, 4; J. Jaggar, 5; F. W. Appleby, 6; T. Holmes, 7; A. Wakley, 8. This composition is taken from the *Clavis*. Tenor 26 cwt.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

WITNESHAM (Suffolk).—On Wednesday evening, April 18th, was rung 1260 changes in 49 mins., being a course each of Oxford Delight, Duke of York, New London Pleasure, Oxford and Kent Treble Bob, and 180 Cambridge Surprise, and 480 Woodbine Treble Bob. George Sadler (Witnesham), 1; William Damant (Tuddenham), 2; *Thomas Sadler (Witnesham), 3; William Woods (Tuddendam), 4; William Ramsay (Swilland; conductor), 5; *Wingfield Meadows, Esq. (Otley), 6. Tenor 14 cwt. in F#. Those marked * are members of the Cumberland Society.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

OXFORD.—*Handbell Ringing.*—On Thursday evening, April 19th, on handbells retained in hand, an excellent touch of Grandsire Caters, 432 changes. Oliver Thomas, 1-2; Charles Hounslow (conductor), 3-4; Jas. Wm. Washbrook, 5-6; Wm. C. Basden, 7-8; Thomas Payne, 9-10. Also a touch of Grandsire Triples, 504 changes. Oliver Thomas, 1-2; Charles Hounslow, 3-4; Jas. Wm. Washbrook (conductor), 5-6; Samuel Hounslow, 7-8.

STOKE-UPON-TRENT ARCHIDIACONAL ASSOCIATION.

WOLSTANTON (Staffordshire).—On Monday, April 23rd, at St. Margaret's church, a 720 of Bob Minor, in 27½ mins. L. Miller, 1; W. Priestman, 2; S. Walker (first 720 with a bob bell), 3; S. Brown, 4; A. Walker, 5; W. Miller (conductor), 6.

LEWISHAM (Kent).—On Tuesday evening, April 24th, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor, on the back six, in 26 mins. A. G. Freeman, 1; J. C. Barham (his first 720 in this method), 2; E. F. Cole, 3; T. G. Deal, 4; T. Taylor, 5; W. Weatherstone (conductor), 6. Tenor 22½ cwt. in Eb.

OTLEY (Suffolk).—On Friday, April 20th, this Society was enabled to meet for the first time this year, they having previously been unable to do so on account of two of their members having left the parish. Several touches were rung of Plain Bob, Grandsire, and Oxford Treble Bob, and at the close three probationers were admitted, and received an introductory lesson in ringing rounds. J. Cullum (conductor), 1; G. F. W. Meadows, Esq., M.D., 2; N. Whiting, 3; A. Hatcher, 4; W. Shipp, 5; W. N. Meadows, Esq., 6.

RIPON (Yorkshire).—On Sunday afternoon, for Divine Service at the cathedral, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor, in 30 mins. H. Rumbold, 1; Jno. Strodder, jun., 2; Jno. Strodder, sen., 3; A. Ingleby, 4; Walter Pick, 5; T. Clark (conductor), 6. The tenor was rung behind by J. Ingleby. Tenor 21 cwt. in E.

TUDDENHAM (Suffolk).—On Sunday, April 22nd, a party of ringers visited this tower and attempted 1260 of Old Doubles and Grandsire, but the rope of the fourth bell broke when only three more changes remained to be rung. W. Leggett, 1; W. Damant, 2; W. Woods (conductor), 3; W. Meadows, Esq., 4; B. Smy and A. Scarlett, alternately, 5. Tenor 6½ cwt. in B. These bells have not been re-

rehung for 250 years, and the third and fourth are cracked, the latter so badly that an iron hoop is fastened round her to prevent her falling to pieces, the other three are exceedingly musical and are maiden bells. They were all cast by John Darby, in 1632.

CAVENDISH (Suffolk).—On Thursday, April 19th, six members of the Cavendish Society rang at St. Mary's Church a 720 of Cambridge Surprise in 25½ mins. F. J. Thompson, 1; *J. S. Page, 2; *C. W. Hurst, 3; *A. Ives, 4; *H. Thompson, 5; Alexander Hurst (conductor), 6. *First 720 in the method.

GLEMSFORD (Suffolk).—On Sunday evening, April 22nd, several members of the Cavendish Society visited the above place, and took part in a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor, at St. Mary's Church, which was rung in 28 mins. Samuel Slater, 1; F. P. Adams, 2; Charles W. Hurst, 3; Albert Ives, 4; George Maxim, 5; Alexander Hurst, 6. An 18-score of Cambridge Surprise was also rung, in which F. Wells and O. Garwood took part.

THE DEVONSHIRE GUILD.

THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING of the above Guild will be held at Exeter, on Whit-Monday, May 14th. It is proposed that a peal of 5040 shall be rung at St. Sidwell's, and that the different bands in connection with the Guild shall have opportunities of ringing together.

For further information apply to the Hon. Secretary, Rev. J. S. Northcote, The Parsonage, Upton Pyne, Exeter.

ECCLESIASTICAL APPOINTMENTS.—The *Guardian* publishes the following list of preferments and appointments:—Rev. Fowler Babington Blogg, vicar of Walmer—patron, the Queen (through the Lord Chancellor), by reason of the recent vacancy of the see of Canterbury; Rev. C. J. Boden, curate in charge of Ingesire, rector of Morley, near Derby—patron, Mr. R. S. W. Sitwell; Rev. R. C. Connolly, rector of Stepingley—patron the Lord Chancellor; Rev. G. F. Coombes (late Scholar St. John's, Cambridge), curate of Portwood, and classical master at the Grammar School, Manchester, canon and precentor of the Cathedral, and professor of classics in St. John's College, Winnipeg, Canada; Rev. Canon Cornish, vicar of Kenwyn, Truro, chaplain to the Bishop of Truro; Rev. Robert Eden, rector of Swalecliffe, near Canterbury—patron, Earl Cowper; Rev. J. Gough, formerly curate of Holy Trinity, Halstead, vicar of Great Maplestead—patron, Rev. Canon Fraser; Rev. Samuel Albert Griffith, minister of Christ Church, St. Giles-in-the-fields; Rev. W. Hayton, University of Durham, incumbent of St. John Evangelist, Toft, near Knutsford; Rev. John Hocking Hocking, vicar of Debenham, Suffolk; Rev. H. Scott Holland, senior student of Christ Church, Oxford, chaplain to the Bishop of Truro; Rev. Heneage Horsley Jebb, vicar of Awliscombe—patron, the Duke of Bedford; Rev. Charles Henry Joberns, vicar of Brampton, near Chesterfield, vicar of Christ Church, West Bromwich—patrons, the Trustees; Rev. David Jones, London Diocesan Home Missionary; Rev. Thomas Luffman, vicar of St. John's, Mansfield, vicar of Alford, Lincolnshire; Rev. J. Maxwell-Lyte, lately curate of St. Peter's, Eaton-Square, London, chaplain to the Bishop of Truro; Rev. William Henry Marsden, perpetual curate of St. Luke's, Stockport; Rev. Canon Mason, canon-missioner of Truro, and Fellow of Trinity College, Cambridge, chaplain to the Bishop of Truro; Rev. Francis Robert Mercer, vicar of Egerton, near Ashford—patrons, the Dean and Chapter of St. Paul's; Rev. William Harland Metcalfe, vicar of Everton; Rev. James Robert Mills, London Diocesan Home Missionary; Rev. T. B. Mundy, minor canon of Lichfield Cathedral, vicar of Wilne, near Derby; Rev. Edward Peters, vicar of Airmyn—patron, Mr. A. C. Heber-Percy, of Hodnet Hall, Salop; Rev. Canon Phillpotts, Porthwiggden, Devoran, chaplain to the Bishop of Truro; Rev. Sidney Porter, vicar of St. Paul's, Macclesfield—patron, the Bishop of Chester; Rev. W. Ruthven Pym, curate in charge of St. John's, Miles Platting, vicar of Holy Trinity, Wentworth, near Rotherham, and domestic chaplain to Earl Fitzwilliam—patron, Earl Fitzwilliam; Rev. T. K. Richmond, vicar of Crosthwaite, Cumberland, canon residentiary in Carlisle Cathedral—patron, the Bishop of Carlisle; Rev. C. A. Skelton, vicar of St. Thomas's, Leeds—patron, the vicar of Leeds; Rev. Alfred Cecil Smith, curate of Cheadle, vicar of St. John the Baptist, Summertown, near Oxford—patrons, St. John's College, Oxford; Rev. J. S. Stewart, rector of Charmouth, vicar of Loders, Dorset—patrons, the Lord Chancellor and Sir Molyneux Hyde Nepean; Rev. John William Vernon Taylor, vicar of Sixhills, rector of South Willingham; Rev. John Dand Todd, rector of Awnsby; Rev. William Venables, curate of Scofton, vicar of Scofton-cum-Osberton; Rev. Henry Wace, prebendary of St. Paul's Cathedral, and professor of Ecclesiastical History in King's College, London, chaplain to the Archbishop of Canterbury; Rev. H. Waters, chaplain to her Majesty's Prison, Nottingham; Rev. W. Watkins, of Bridgetown, Totness, warden of the Magdalen Hospital, Streatham; Rev. Canon Whitaker, chancellor of the Cathedral Church of Truro, and Fellow of St. John's College, Cambridge, chaplain to the Bishop of Truro.

"HOW SOON SHOULD A MAN BEGIN TO RING?"

A well-wisher of our paper, writing from Penzance, under the nom de plume of M.R.C.S., Eng., says the following in reference to the above subject:

In perusing the contribution of "G." in your issue of the 21st inst., many of your readers, who are already good ringers, may feel reluctantly compelled to desist from further practice in the art on account of their being afflicted with a slight abdominal rupture, or a tendency thereto, and especially when the evidence of such a reputed authority as Professor John Wood, of King's College Hospital, is quoted as being adverse to the practice. Being formerly a student at King's, and when attending the clinic of Mr. Wood, I well remember his advocating all athletic pursuits which have a tendency to raise the arms over the head, as a preventive against this particular infirmity, and therefore would seem especially to recommend the exercise of ringing in the true scientific method, and not in the "ups and downs and rounds" which most who are not themselves ringers consider the highest ambition of all ringers alike in town or country. I would also wish to point out that ringers during the practice are not continually on tip-toe, and poised on their metatarsal bones, but in the natural standing position, thus throwing but little extraordinary strain on one particular set of muscles of the lower extremity. Taking into consideration the fact that the whole group of muscles arising from the trunk, and inserted on the arm, are classed as extraordinary muscles of respiration, when the arm is fixed, as it momentarily is in the pull-off, it is evident that the art is most conducive to the well-being of the respiratory functions, and from this fact alone I would specially commend its practice, as most invigorating to the body generally, and as one of those few exercises which can be pursued alike in winter and summer, which has a tendency to counteract the invasion of the direst disease which the medical man of the present day has to encounter, namely, pulmonary consumption.

As to the age at which ringing may be commenced, I think no hard and fast line can be drawn; raising and lowering bells, except in the lightest peals, or the ringing of heavy ones, should be strictly forbidden at an early age (before puberty), but the more I see of ringing, the more convinced am I that the earlier scientific change-ringing is commenced as a study, the better scholars in the science, and ringers in the art, shall we possess.

HANDSOME GIFT TO CROSTON PARISH CHURCH.—On Thursday, April 19th, at the close of a confirmation service at Croston parish church, Mrs. Master, wife of the rector, formally started the handsome clock which has just been placed in the tower, to supersede the old timekeeper that has done good service for more than one generation. The clock, which is the gift of Miss Augusta Smethurst, aunt of the rector, is of entirely new design, on the lathe-bed principle. At the confirmation service on Thursday evening, the Bishop of Manchester paid a warm tribute to the generous lady who had given the clock for the glory of God and the benefit of the people of that parish. He asked the congregation to remain in their seats while the opening ceremony was being performed. Mrs. Master afterwards, in the presence of the Bishop and a number of the neighbouring clergy and the churchwardens, started the chimes, and the ringers gave a series of changes on the well-known peal of bells. The new clock, which has now been in good going order for about a fortnight, has been highly appreciated by the residents in the village.

The following sapient article has appeared in the *Daily Chronicle* :—

If all the bell-ringers of the metropolis would follow the example of those of Louth, by striking work, they would confer a great favour on the community. The sound of the "church-going bell" would no doubt have been welcome to Alexander Selkirk in his dreary solitude, but we have far too much of this kind of music in London. Since the introduction of ritualistic practices, the almost constant clanging of bells from early morn to dewy eve has become an intolerable nuisance. The *Lancet* recently called attention to the serious effect which this unnecessary accompaniment to our thousand and one street noises had upon sick persons in the hospitals. To everybody else requiring a little quiet, the perpetual ringing is a source of great annoyance. In crowded cities bell-ringing should only be permitted on state occasions, when the merrier the peal the better. But there is no more reason why discordant bells should be rung to call people to church than why the old practice of tolling the passing bell—now happily discontinued, except in the rural districts—should be revived. The Louth bell-ringers, it appears, have struck work because the vicar has insisted upon their attending the services of the church and giving up their beer. The men have no objection to ringing other people in to hear the worthy vicar preach, but they do not see why they should attend themselves. Probably, however, their aversion to teetotal principles is even stronger than their want of appreciation of the vicar's homilies.

Correspondence.

While allowing the utmost freedom for the expression of opinion, it must nevertheless be considered that we are in any way bound to statements made by correspondents.

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

PEAL-SNATCHING.

SIR,—Mr. Thorp has replied to Mr. Dains's letter, and may have convinced many of your readers of his claim to this disputed peal but before I can settle my mind upon the point, I should like to have Mr. Thorp's answers to the following questions :—

(a) On the 9th of March, 1878, a letter from Mr. Snowdon appeared in *Church Bells* stating he purposed publishing a collection of Treble Bob peals, and inviting composers to send him any unpublished compositions. Did this letter come under Mr. Thorp's notice?

(b) In the introduction to the collection Mr. Snowdon states he "personally wrote, asking all the known Treble Bob composers to send him any of their unpublished compositions." Did Mr. Thorp receive from Mr. Snowdon a communication for this purpose?

(c) When the record of its first performance appeared in *Church Bells* on the 6th of December, 1873, why was the calling of the peal not given?

(d) After it had been rung at St. Mary's, Lambeth, and the account of its performance there with the calling appeared in *Church Bells*, why did not Mr. Thorp at once challenge Mr. Dains, and not leave the matter undisputed till the present time?

Now, sir, to settle the claims of two or more persons to any particular peal, some uniform rule should be observed, and can a better one be taken than to establish the claim of the first to publish the figures. If the bare fact of a notification in "THE BELL NEWS" of the performance of a peal is all that is required, it is open for any person to say when a better peal appears, and the number of changes admit: "This peal is mine, was rung at such and such a place, on such and such a date."

As the late William Harrison rang in the peal at Gorton, it is to be regretted his testimony cannot now be had, but it is also singular that as he materially assisted Mr. Snowdon in bringing out the collection, he did not, at the time or afterwards, draw Mr. Snowdon's attention to Mr. Thorp's claim to this peal.

The last paragraph in the letter signed "A Lancashire Ringer," shews the intense irritation caused to Mr. Thorp's friends by Mr. Dains's letter, but sir, your readers don't want to be reminded of Mr. Thorp's abilities as a composer, which are well known to be of the first order, and I think I shall be right in saying that Mr. Thorp is universally regarded as one of the greatest Treble Bob composers that ever lived, and by no one more esteemed so than myself and friend Mr. Dains.

In conclusion, I trust Mr. Thorp will see the propriety of at once publishing his compositions which have not yet appeared in print, it will save future controversy and much unpleasant correspondence hereafter.

N. J. PITSTOW.

Saffron Walden.

P.S.—As in last week's letters a peal of Treble Bob Royal is referred to, I should like to mention that in *Church Bells* of 23rd August, 1879, a peal of Royal is stated to have been rung at the parish church, Ashton-under-Lyne, composed and conducted by J. Thorp. This peal is given in the 3rd edition of Hubbard's work (1868), page 136, and also in the fourth edition (1876), but it was first rung at Wrexham, 17th August, 1818, and was composed and conducted by J. Riley.

SIR,—I think there can be now no doubt but that Mr. Thorp has been the first composer of the 5088 of Treble Bob Major.

I think he deserves credit for the gentlemanly manner in which he has met the criticism, but I think he will agree with me that his own reticence has been the sole cause of the error and controversy. All composers were asked to send in their peals for insertion in part ii. of Mr. Snowdon's work. Had Mr. Thorp sent in the two peals he mentions, with the dates of their first performance, he would have been spared all this trouble, and have had the honour of the compositions. Again, why did he not challenge the peal when it appeared in print as Mr. Dains's production? He could not fail to see it. Every one will see, I think, that Mr. Dains was perfectly justified in the course he took, as if Mr. Thorp will play "blind man's buff" with his compositions, how does he expect any one to know of them?

YORKSHIREMAN.

SIR,—Please allow me space for a reply to the letter by Mr. J. Thorp, under this head in your last issue. I will say nothing to the letters by Mr. G. Longden and the "Lancashire Man," as I regard these simply as variations of the first one.

Your correspondent has been good enough to tell you that I sent him a post-card, and also a letter. He kindly told you what he

thought fit of that letter, and after putting his own construction upon it, I fancy your readers will conclude that I wrote as between man and man, on friendly terms, and although I did not wish to cause a rupture, I did not beg the question.

However, intentionally or otherwise, my friend did not give the whole contents of my letter, in which I told him plainly that if he could give me absolute proof of prior possession of those peals, I would give up my claim at once! and I repeat that my offer remains open. Why, sir, this should appease the appetite of Shylock himself; I submit that no man could say or do more. In reply to this offer, my attention is drawn to *Church Bells* of given dates, for the required proof of your correspondent's claim. In my search I turned up a copy of that paper for June 2nd, which contains report and composition of the 5040; a further search revealed the report of the performance of the 5040, as mentioned, but without the composition—the only conclusive proof, to my mind; and as I consider this enough for the present purpose, I searched no further, as I very much doubt if any better results would be found in *Church Bells* for December 6th, 1873.

Now, sir, I have to ask Mr. Thorp why it is he published one composition and not another, and while the 5040 was not given, how could I copy it? It is impossible for me to do this. The non-publication of this composition suggests the idea that it turned up false

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

The disputed peal, first published in Mr. Jasper Snowden's *Treatise*.

A new peal, and now published for the first time.

after being rung, and was not like my peal at all. Sir, these are questions your correspondent should clear up, and make plain to your readers. He should also give reasons why he did not challenge these peals when I first rang and published them, and not allow four or five years to elapse before asserting his claim to such peals. If such carelessness as this is allowed, why, sir, it is open for Tom Stiles, or Bill Snooks, to come up in ten years' time to claim the best peal Mr. Thorp has ever produced, and it is such "snatchings" as this that Mr. Snowden's works are intended to prevent.

In order to shew that my friend need not have been unhappy all this time over the loss of the

5040, I give another one, side by side of the disputed peal. If he chooses to accept it, I am agreeable, but I cannot give up the other without the required proof.

During my search over back numbers of *Church Bells*, I came across the annexed peal of Treble Bob Royal, said to have been rung at Ashton-under-Lyne, August 9th, 1879; composed and conducted by Mr. J. Thorp. (See *Church Bells*, August 23rd, 1879. I regret to have to inform my friend that this peal appears in *Shipway*, 1816, as the composition of Mr. Joseph Riley, who, as Mr. Snowden informs us, died in the year 1833. This information may be found in Mr. Snowden's valuable work—*A Treatise on Treble Bob*—and also the exact same peal. I hope your correspondent will oblige by explaining this discrepancy.

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

HENRY DAINS.

To Mr. PITSTOW.

SIR,—In reply to your letter of the 14th instant, the peal in question was attempted in 1880, at Staveley, Derbyshire, but through a misunderstanding one of the ringers set his bell, but the peal was afterwards rung at the same church on Sunday, March 14th, 1880, and I had not had the pleasure of seeing Mr. Snowden's work at that time, although I think it had appeared then. So that you will see that I had a claim to the peal, as it had been in the possession of Mr. Thorp, as my peal, for a few years before, and I certainly should have claimed it as my own still, only I find, on looking Mr. Thackrah's work over (part ii., compiled by Mr. Sottanstell), the peal appears as belonging to that gentleman; so I resign all claims, as that work appeared before my time.

I am rather surprised at the statement you make regarding the difference of the peals, if the alternate calling was used, as you say, in the 14th course it would be false at the wrongs with the tenth course, so I would advise you not to make statements at random, and also to remember that you made a rather good attempt at one of Mr.

Thorp's peals not very long ago, viz.: a 7968 of Treble Bob, in three parts, with the extents of the course, and published as being the only one of its class. Hoping this will satisfy, and clear the character of the Ashton-under-Lyne composers, yours respectfully,

SAMUEL WOOD.

"HOW SOON SHOULD A MAN BEGIN TO RING?"

SIR,—The article on this subject, in yours of the 21st, is likely to do immense harm if left unanswered. Your correspondent, "G." would never have written it, had he been practically experienced in either bell-ringing or boat-racing; the very fact of feeling conscious that you are pulling, when engaged in either of these exercises, shows that you are not in proper form, the arms in each case ought to be looked upon as connecting-rods to couple the back to the burden. If young oars were taught that the action in rowing, i.e., racing, should be a lift and a finish, and that if the arms are straight during the first and principal part of the stroke, the effect upon the muscles (of the arm) is almost imperceptible, they would do much better than is often now the case.

In the same way with ringing, specially heavy bells, or those that go badly; the weight of the body should be used, not the muscles of the arm; this is easily done by the action of the instep and knee. No doubt "G." is quite right in the latter part of his article. No person suffering from weakness of any kind in the body should be allowed to touch a rope.

Without therefore going into the question of metacarpals and pectorals, which I am sorry to say I don't understand, I should like to give your readers this piece of advice—"Put your back into it, and never mind your *latissimus dorsi*."

G. H.

COOMBEINTEIGNHEAD BELLS.

SIR,—Kindly allow me, as the writer of the report in "THE BELL NEWS" of April 14th, to correct a slight error into which the writer of the leading article in the number for April 21st has fallen with respect to these bells. The words I used were—"the third was found to strike the frame badly twice in each revolution," meaning, of course, the lip of the third bell; the writer of the article, owing, I suppose, to my badly-expressing myself, has interpreted it to mean the clapper of the third, and comments on it accordingly. This is a slight mistake, but one I think right to rectify.

My thanks are due to Mr. Warskitt for setting me right as to the founders of the new bells. I was certainly told in the belfry that Messrs. Taylor were the founders, but had no opportunity of looking at the inscriptions when examining the clappers, etc., owing to the bells being set at the time. I beg to apologise both to the Whitechapel and Loughborough firms for the mistake into which I had fallen.

G. FREDK. COLERIDGE.

ST. GILES'S, EDINBURGH.

SIR,—Your article on S. Giles's, Edinburgh, was of the greatest interest to those who know Scotland. The belfry is not shown to visitors, or was not six years ago, but the small carillon bells can be seen from all quarters; the effect, however, when played as heard in Parliament Square, was very feeble, so much so, that on a first visit to the eminent medical officers of health for the city, whose office is opposite, it seemed like anyone tapping handbells in the next street, in fact, I went out afterwards to find out the show, and the sound then led one to look up into the handsome crown-steeple—these were played at odd times of the day, as described in this journal. Whilst on this place, I should like to ask any readers if the counterpoise, or "Bollonce," as they say in the North, is ever seen out of Scotland? and what is its effect, and origin?

I could never make out why on Sunday morning a bell of that note could go up in about four strokes; could a peal be rung with the stock thus loaded?

F. G.

FURTHER ELUCIDATION REQUIRED.

SIR,—Laying aside all concealment, I feel I must write a line from this my ancestral home to thank your correspondent, "Out of a Muddle," for his kindness in trying to help me out of one of my difficulties.

The answer which he gives to the first of the two questions I asked in yours of the 7th, under the assumed name of "Allinamuddle," increases rather than otherwise the difficulties of the situation. Your correspondent "Out of a muddle" can't be a ringer, or he would never have written such a letter at all. He must know that experience proves bells can be hung well, and rung well, in wood. Can he say this of iron? New notions may be all very well—those who live longest will see most, if they don't go blind—for my part, I should like to hear of a ring of bells hung in a tower on such a fancy plan as that advertised in your paper, so that one might have a pull at them. My second question, as the new method practised at Ipswich, and which I think we might christen "Suffolk Delight," will, I suppose, remain unanswered until some Eastern Counties expert will deign to unravel the mystery.

MOREINA MUDDLENOW, F.R.S.

Single Park, Bobshire, April 23, 1883.

TWO PEALS OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR.

By JAMES S. WILDE, Hyde, Cheshire

5024.						5056.					
2	3	4	5	6	M B W H	2	3	4	5	6	M B W H
5	2	3	6	4	- 2	5	2	3	6	4	- 2
3	4	6	2	5	2 - 2	2	4	3	6	5	2 - 1
3	6	2	4	5	1 - 2	2	2	3	6	4	5 1 - 2
4	3	6	5	2	2 2	2	2	6	4	3	5 1 2
5	4	3	2	6	2 1	2	4	5	3	6	2 2 - 2
5	3	2	4	6	2 2	2	4	3	6	5	2 1 2
4	3	6	2	5	2 2	2	2	6	5	4	1 2
5	4	3	2	6	2 1	2	2	6	5	3	1 2
4	3	2	6	5	2 - 1	2	2	6	5	4	1 - 2
6	5	3	2	4	1 2	2	2	6	3	5	4 1 2
2	6	5	4	3	2 2	2	2	4	6	3	2 5 - 2
4	3	6	5	2	1 2	2	2	5	6	3	4 2 - 2
3	2	6	5	4	1 2	2	2	5	2	4	3 6 - 1
2	3	4	5	6	2 2	2	2	5	4	3	2 6 1 2
						2	2	3	4	5	6 1 - 2

The first of the above peals was rung on Tuesday, December 19th, 1882, at St. George's, Hyde; the other at St. Mary's, Mottram, on January 20th, 1883: both conducted by their composer.

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR.

6160.

By B. FRANCIS, Diss.

2 3 4 5 6 W M H

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

Four times repeated.

If the first nine courses be four times repeated, it will be reduced to 5040 changes.

TWO QUARTER-PEALS OF GRAND-SIRE TRIPLES.

By E. BARNETT (Royal Cumberland Youths), Monmouth.

4	6	2	3	7	5	8	4	6	2	3	7	5	8
5	3	4	7	6	2	1	7	5	4	2	3	6	2
6	2	5	4	7	3	2	6	2	7	3	5	4	1
3	4	6	7	2	5	1	7	5	6	2	4	3	8
S	2	6	3	4	5	7	S	2	3	7	4	5	6
S	7	5	2	3	4	6	S	6	5	2	7	4	3
4	6	7	2	3	5	8	4	3	6	2	7	5	8
5	2	4	3	6	7	1	4	2	3	p.e.			

Each to be five times repeated, substituting a single for the bob midway and end.

The first one contains the twenty-four 4-6's.

[The peal of Stedman Caters, by F. Coates, of Rotherham, given in our last, is false.—Ed.]

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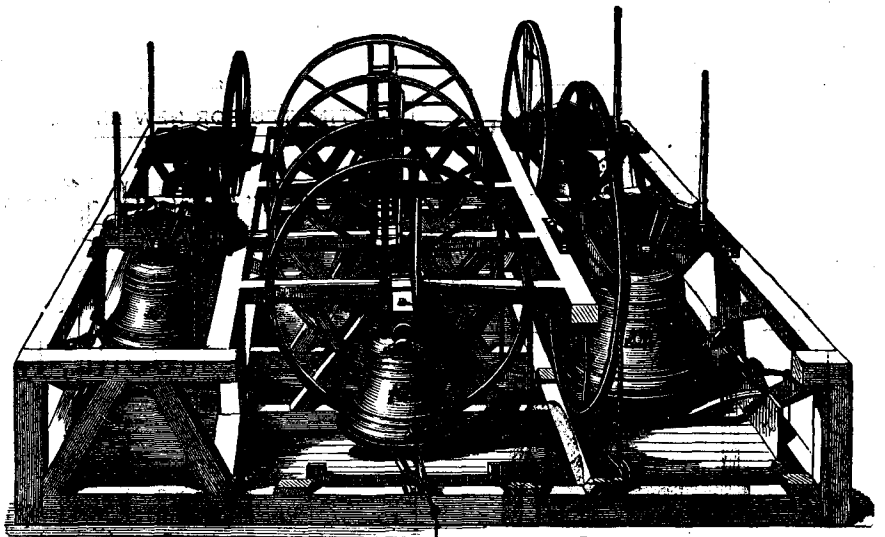
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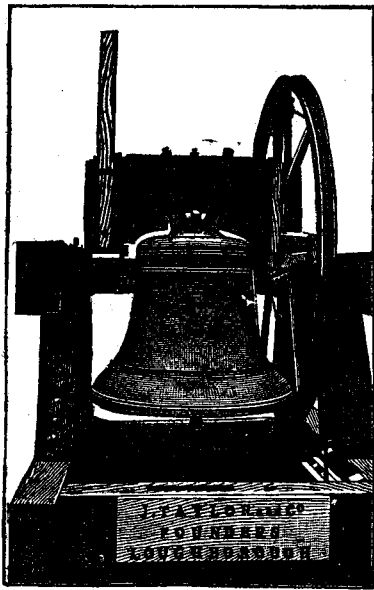
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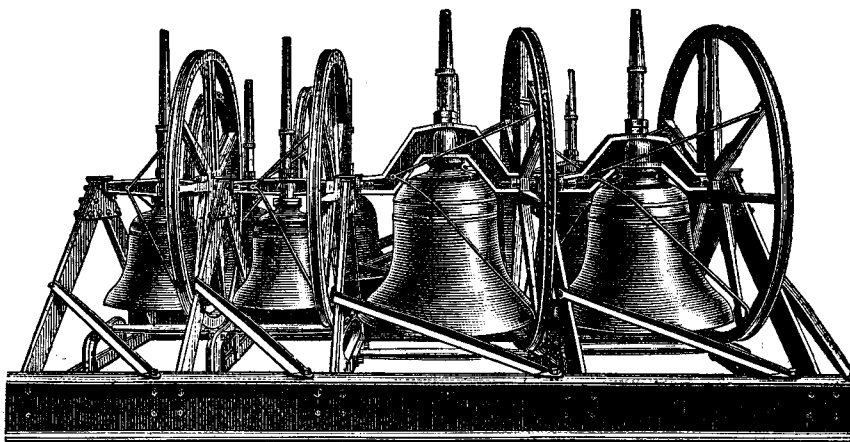
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No. 57. [NEW SERIES.]—VOL. II.

SATURDAY, MAY 5, 1883.

[ONE PENNY.]

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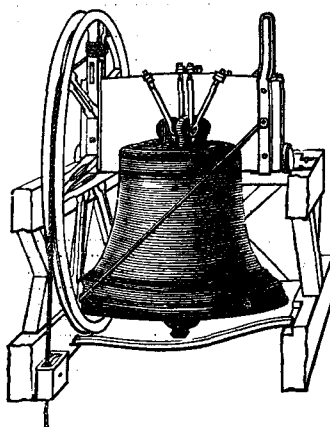
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WHAT TO OBSERVE WHEN ANOTHER COMPANY IS HANDLING THE SALLIES.

[FIRST PAPER.]

IN almost all places when we take a ringing outing, we shall be in the precincts of an ancient or modern church, and in each case a great deal will be found interesting and instructive; an instance of ringing in an old English park, is however, in the Isle of Thanet, at Quex, in a tower specially constructed for the Exercise, and we believe the only instance out of church. Well, then, having entered from the belfry, the age of the edifice should at once be an object of curiosity, and this will in all cases be judged by a little observation and comparison, as ringers enter many churches very often in one day. The chief thing to observe is the character of the arcade or arcades, as, if the church is large, it may have been altered in one part completely during such and such a century; not unfrequently the walls of a building may have actually been pierced into an arcade so as to afford enlargement. Supposing we enter an old church and observe very thick pillars, round, if of solid stone; or perhaps oblong, if of rubble and corner masonry, with round arches overhead, we at once refer this part of the building at least to a period before the first crusade, and then remember our English history and the introduction of Christianity, and the relative age is obvious. In the case of observing tall pillars with pointed arches overhead, the building we know to have been put up in one of the three periods so often referred to in this paper, viz.: either of the thirteenth, fourteenth, or fifteenth century, the distinguishing features of each of these periods would require as many volumes to thoroughly detail, but we will just mention that at the close of the last period the arches are much flatter, and the moulded parts plain, as compared with the earlier. A great many old churches, even when small, constitute entire illustrations of the Gothic or pointed-arch style of architecture, in all its periods. We have thought it better to dwell on the piers and arches, rather than the windows, because they may be all after-insertions in many churches, and form no guide to the age of the walls they are in. A description of window-tracery will form an interesting article in a future number, as also how to recognise ancient glass paintings. Of course in cases of visiting wealthy cities such as London, we find the edifices of a more modern date. Independently of "great fires," the desire for Palladian architecture, such as St. Martin's church, during the seventeenth century, quite eclipsed the pointed style. During this period no study whatever was made of it, and even in the country, when means were at hand to lay out on the church, the alterations were all of the Roman order, quite out of keeping with the edifice. It is true Sir Christopher Wren, and no doubt others at the time, were occasionally pressed by a conservative party, who although not at all clear what they did want in buildings, knew very well what they did not want. Such an instance is the church of St. Mary Aldermary, in Bow Lane, pointed indeed in general outline, but hardly having a single detail of right character.

THE CHURCH BELLS OF SALISBURY.

In the account of the above in the issue of October 14th, 1882, the bells of St. Paul, Fisherton, in this borough, were omitted, the inscriptions having not then been taken. The steeple contains a clock and six bells, tenor 13 cwt in G. The bells are thus inscribed:—

Treble.—Thomas Mears founder, London 1842.
2nd and 4th.—T. Mears of London fecit 1832.
3rd—GIVE GOD THE GLORY. R.B. 1616 R.I.: E.W.
5th—PRAYSE THE LORD. 1609.
6th—Thomas Mears founder London 1843.

The last five bells hang on a level, the treble being hoisted.

At present the ropes fall rather awkwardly on the second floor, the clock occupying a good deal of the space; but it is to be hoped that Mr. Lanham, the head ringer who has charge of these bells, as well as those at St. Thomas', will shortly be able to effect an improvement in this respect. This gentleman has been indefatigable in promoting the interest of ringers within the district, and there is no doubt that he will shortly manage to improve the above defect. The bells go well, and if the position of the ropes were altered, a little change-ringing might be practised with the greatest facility here.

STOKE-UPON-TRENT ARCHIDIACONAL ASSOCIATION.

THE Uttoxeter District held their meeting last Saturday in the pretty little village, or rather hamlet, of Leigh. Here there is a beautiful church, evidently the care and pride of its Rector (the Rev. Ernald Lane). It is of very old foundation, and the restoration has

been exceedingly well done. It is of cruciform shape, and in "Ancient" times the ringers stood on the floor of the church. This has been done away with, and a walk up a very giddy and narrow flight of steps carries one into a good sized belfry. The massive wood-work there visible testifies to the age and strength of the tower. We found all neat and nicely arranged, and though the bells (a peal of five) are very heavy (the tenor weighing a ton), yet the "go" of them was not bad. As the Hon. Sec. said at the tea, the Leigh ringers must be complimented on the mastery they have gained over the bells under their care. Their striking was even and exceedingly good. Ringers attended from Uttoxeter, Checkley, Leigh, and Stoke. We had the pleasure of having two clergy "unwrapping" and entering heartily into the work of the afternoon. At the tea, held in one of the schools near by, the Hon. Sec., in proposing a vote of thanks to the worthy Rector, called upon the Leigh ringers to keep the Rev. W. Lane up to the mark, as one who had taken the bow-oar in a 'varsity eight, must have a love for athleticism, and the strength to carry it out. The Rector promised in a few kind words to carry out a suggestion of Mr. Bolton, that of getting a set of handbells, and introducing a number of "THE BELL NEWS," our official paper, weekly into his tower. A very pleasant meeting closed about 9 p.m. Meetings for May, 5th, Biddulph; 12th, Cheadle; 19th, Lawton; 26th, Uttoxeter.

SITTINGBOURNE, KENT.

THE ST. MICHAEL'S SOCIETY.—The second annual meeting was held last Monday evening in the ringing-chamber of St. Michael's church. There was a full attendance of ringing members, and several honorary members, including Mr. Chapman and Mr. H. T. Tidy (churchwardens); Mr. Payne, Mr. H. Payne, Mr. Elliott, &c., were present. The vicar, president of the society, was unable to attend. The first act of the meeting was to adopt the report, recording the progress of the society, whose acquirements have, since the last annual meeting, advanced from the plain course to the 720 of Bob Minor, the first 720 being rung on December 19th, 1882, and is commemorated by a handsome brass tablet, placed in the tower by one of the members. Several other methods—Grandsire Doubles, St. Simon's Doubles, and Grandsire Minor—have also been acquired with more or less proficiency. At the request of the society, the churchwardens in July last allotted seats in the church for the use of the ringers, a concession of which they have since availed themselves with great regularity. The excursions of the society were also noticed, especially a day spent in the metropolis, when several rings of bells were handled, and "Great Paul" was tolled by some of the members. The financial statement showed a balance of over £2 in the hands of the treasurer. After the election of officers for the ensuing year, and a few slight alterations in the rules and bye-laws, some touches of Bob Minor were rung in good style. At half-past nine the meeting adjourned, and were supplied with supper, under the management of Mr. Owens. Before separating, Mr. Payne expressed his pleasure that the use of the fine peal of bells possessed by the town had fallen into the hands of those who were evidently and with some success, trying to develop the musical capacities hitherto left dormant in the bells, and referred to his confident hope that at no distant date his fellow townsmen would unite to provide and hang the two small bells wanted to complete the "ring."

CROYDON, SURREY.

THE PARISH CHURCH BELLS.—The bells of the Croydon parish church are now being rehung by Messrs. Warner and Sons. The frame is being prepared for ten bells, though there are at present only eight. It is said, and we hope with perfect accuracy, that some unknown friend is to present the two bells which are required to make up the ten. The re-hanging has become necessary by reason of the bad condition of the frame, and the difficulty that even experienced ringers had in ringing even a touch on the bells, to say nothing of a quarter or half-peal. So bad had the bells become, that the Croydon belfry had obtained the unenviable description of "the slaughter-house" from ringers who came from other parts, some of them celebrated in the art. The local ringers have only been able to get one peal off the bells since the restoration of the church after the fire. Some time since, Mr. Jephson caused a sum of £60 to be expended on the frame, but the alterations were not sufficient. Messrs. Warner are now making a thorough job of it, and their representative asserts that they mean to leave everything right if they spend double the price that is to be paid them. The cost of the work, which will be at least £100, will be defrayed out of the Church Tenements Charity. It may be mentioned that Mr. C. A. Blogg has recently accepted the hon. secretaryship of the Ancient Society of Croydon Handbell Ringers, who have lately had presented to them by Mrs. Russell, formerly of the Rose and Crown, opposite the church, a set of twenty-three musical handbells. The gift, as will be readily understood, is much appreciated.—Local paper.

RE-OPENING OF THE PEAL OF TWELVE AT ST. PETER MANCROFT, NORWICH.

ON Monday last, April 30th, as announced previously in these pages, the re-opening ceremony of this famous peal of bells was held. Ringers from Cambridge, Ipswich, Beccles, Bungay, Dereham, Yarmouth, Lynn, Saffron Walden, Kenninghall, Aylsham, Eye, Ditchingham, Redenhall, Halesworth, and other places in East Anglia were present, but the London Exercise was represented by two solitary members of the Royal Cumberlands, not a single "Collegian" from the metropolis putting in an appearance. Touches were rung in the course of the day in various methods: Grandsire Cinques, Grandsire Caters, Treble Bob Maximus and Treble Bob Royal, both in the Oxford and Kent variations. While referring to the performances of the day, we must not omit to mention that seven members of the Redenhall company, with Mr. N. J. Pitstow, of Saffron Walden, visited the church of St. Giles, and rang two courses of that intricate but musical method, Superlative Surprise, standing in the following positions: E. Smith, 1; J. Tann, 2; W. Matthews, 3; N. J. Pitstow, 4; G. Prime, 5; John Smith, 6; Gervas Holmes, Esq., 7; Captain Moore, 8. Some touches of Stedman Triples were afterwards rung at this church by mixed bands. At St. Peter's, what was considered to be the best ringing, and was the longest touch of the day, was two courses of Kent Treble Bob Royal, called by E. Smith, of Redenhall, the tenor being rung by Captain Moore.

The work of rehanging the peal was entrusted to the hands of Messrs. George Day and Son, of Eye, Suffolk. All the accounts we have heard relative to the manner in which this firm have executed their instructions, agree that the "go" of the bells is excellent. The massive framework has been strengthened, and secured by iron ties at each angle. Ten of the bells have been turned, so that the clappers are now made to strike in other places. All the clappers, wheels, and stocks, are new. There are new iron guides for the ropes, which pass through polished oak bosses. Without going further into detail, we may say that the whole work of the bellhanger has been most satisfactorily performed.

In the afternoon, the St. Peter's Company and many of the visitors, to the number of over one hundred, were entertained by subscription at a substantial and excellent dinner, served in the large room of the White Hart, the vicar, the Ven. Archdeacon Nevill, presiding. Among the company were several worthy citizens and local celebrities; Gervas Holmes, Esq., the Revs. Prebendary Sutton, C. F. Blyth, A. G. Blyth, and N. Bolingbroke, L. Procter, Esq., and others. After the loyal toasts had been drunk, the Vicar stated that members of seventeen companies were represented at that gathering. They had come to Norwich to take part in the day's proceedings, and he heartily welcomed them. With the toast of "The Visitors" he coupled the name of the Rev. A. Sutton, who responded. Gervas Holmes, Esq., in proposing "The St. Peter's Company," said that forty or fifty years ago they took the lead in the kingdom. There was no other company that could compete with them. He hoped they would regain the old position, for if they did not they ought to do with such a magnificent peal of bells to handle. Mr. F. Knights, Master of the company, responded. He said that great credit was due to Messrs. Day and Son for the way in which they had done the work of rehanging the bells. Every bell went well, whether singly or in peal. No ringer ever attended the opening of a peal where the bells went better. He hoped the Vicar, Churchwardens, and all engaged in the work of restoration would live long to enjoy many a merry, merry peal on the bells. The Vicar next proposed "The Norwich Diocesan Association," which he said was doing a good deal of good, as it had brought out a strong feeling of enthusiasm in behalf of bellringing. He deeply regretted the cause of the absence of the energetic Secretary of the Association, the Rev. G. H. Harris. The Rev. N. Bolingbroke, whose name was coupled with the toast, remarked that no man in the county had done more for bellringers and bellringing than Mr. Harris. Other toasts being given and responded to, Mr. Churchwarden Chamberlin proposed "The Health of Mr. Day," the bellhanger, who had so well carried out the work entrusted to him. Mr. Day having responded, the pleasant meeting came to a close.

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

ST. JAMES'S, BOLTON, BRADFORD, YORKS.

ON Friday evening, April 27th, the ringers of this church, together with a few members of the congregation, were entertained to dinner by the retiring wardens. After dinner, which was of a very substantial kind, the chair was taken by J. H. A. Jowett, Esq., Vicar's Warden, and the vice-chair by Mr. G. Booth, People's Warden. After the loyal toasts had been duly honoured, Mr. John Berwick, a late warden, proposed "The Health of Mr. J. H. A. Jowett," at the same

time expressing his regret that Mr. Jowett, who had held the office since the consecration of the church, in 1875, should have resigned. The toast was drunk with musical honours, and was briefly responded to by Mr. Jowett. In proposing "The Health of the People's Warden," Mr. B. T. Copley (conductor of the society), referred to the good feeling which had always existed between churchwardens and ringers at Bolton. Mr. Booth, in responding, spoke of the reason which had caused himself and Mr. Jowett to resign their office; expressing the hope that the ringers would keep united in the future, and that the bells would always be rung. The chairman then proposed in very warm terms "The Health of the Bolton Company," which toast was responded to by the conductor, who briefly reviewed the progress of the society since its foundation, and thanked the churchwardens, both past and present, for the uniform kind manner in which they had always been treated, and the ready way in which their requirements had been attended to. "The Health of the Founder of the Church" (J. A. Jowett, Esq.), was afterwards drunk with musical honours, after which "The Toast of the Sidesmen," to which Mr. P. Metcalfe responded, and of "The Hostess," Mrs. Shaw, to whom great praise was due for the manner in which she had provided the dinner. That lady having briefly responded, the singing of the "National Anthem," brought the very pleasant gathering to a close.

THE CAVENDISH SOCIETY.

ON Tuesday, May 1st, five members of the above society, with S. Slater of Glemsford, assembled at the church of St. Mary, Cavendish, and rang a 720 of Kent Treble Bob, with the bells deeply muffled; a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob, with the bells open at back-stroke; and an open 360 of Bob Minor, as a last tribute of respect to the late Mr. Arthur Ambrose, who was laid to rest on the above date, at the parish church of Long Melford.

The deceased, who was an accomplished ringer, and conductor, was closely connected with Cavendish ringing about twelve years since.

The most noteworthy performances in which he took part are a peal of 5040 in seven different methods, rung at St. Mary's church, Cavendish, on March 1st, 1870, and a 6160 of Bob Major, which was rung by four members of the Cavendish and Glemsford United Society, upon handbells, on January 20th, 1869. The deceased rang 1-2, and conducted the peal.

BIRMINGHAM AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATION.

THE next Quarterly Meeting of the above will be held at The Green Man Inn, Harborne, on May 12th. The tower will be open at 4 p.m. for ringing. All members who can, are respectfully requested to attend.

JOHN WRIGHT, Hon. Sec.

MUFFLED PEAL AT SALISBURY.

ON Monday, April 30th, the remains of the late R. M. Wilson, Esq., J.P., were interred in the cloisters at the Cathedral. The deceased died suddenly in the chapter-house, immediately after he had finished his speech at the Diocesan Synod, on the previous Thursday. He was a member of the Town Council, registrar of the County Court, clerk to the Guardians, and held a variety of other public offices. After the funeral a muffled peal was rung at St. Martin's church, as a last mark of respect to his memory. W. Lanham, J. Parsons, junr., J. R. Jerram, T. Blackburn, S. Dowling, W. Gifford, H. Dowling, and C. Clements. Tenor 16 cwt. Only set changes were rung.

STOWMARKET, SUFFOLK.

FUNERAL OF A DECEASED RINGER.—The remains of a veteran ringer (Mr. William Last, aged 70), were borne to their last resting-place on Wednesday, April 18th, in the cemetery with every token of respect. Ringers from Ipswich, Wetherden, and Hangley, testified their affection and regard by being present, and bearing the remains to the grave, Rev. W. Wright officiating. The chimers testified their regard by ringing a muffled peal to the grave, and an open one on the return, to one who had for twenty years ably conducted the ringing at the tower. A muffled peal was rung in the evening by those who bore the body to the grave. He was a member of the Norwich Diocesan Association, and was well known throughout the Eastern Counties as a good 6 and 8 bellringer.

SOWTON, DEVONSHIRE.

THE St. Sidwell's Society of ringers, being also members of the Guild of Devonshire ringers, visited the village of Sowton on Saturday, for the purpose of trying the bells recently rehung by Mr. H. Stokes, of Woodbury. Their ringing was greatly admired, and at the conclusion they pronounced the bells to be in excellent order. The changes rung were 504, 1,036, and 2,520, being the first half of Holt's ten-part peal. The ringers stood as follows:—J. Alford, jun. 1; Ferris Sheppard (conductor), 2; W. Goss, 3; H. Swift, 4; A. Sheppard, 5; W. B. Fulford, 6; E. Sheppard, 7; G. Townsend, 8.

SIX-BELL METHODS.

Compiled by W. WALKER, Leeds, Yorkshire.

Superlative Surprise.

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

London Surprise.

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

Royal Bob.

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

Cheapside.

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

Noah's Ark.

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

Westminster Bob.

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

Steeple Delight.

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

Morning Pleasure.

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

Ringers' Delight.

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

City Delight.

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

Bishops' Delight.

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

Mirfield Delight.

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

Navigators' Delight.

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

A PFAL OF STEDMAN CATERS.

5297.

By JAMES WILLIAM WASHBROOK, Oxford.

1 2 3 4 5 6	5 16	1 4 3 6 5 2	-
4 6 1 2 5 3	-	6 2 1 3 5 4	- s
2 6 4 1 5 3	-	3 2 6 1 5 4	-
1 6 2 4 5 3	-	1 2 3 6 5 4	-
4 3 1 6 5 2	-	6 4 1 2 5 3	-
6 3 4 1 5 2	-	2 4 6 1 5 3	-
1 3 6 4 5 2	-	1 4 2 6 5 3	-
4 2 1 3 5 6	-	6 3 1 4 5 2	-
3 2 4 1 5 6	-	4 3 6 1 5 2	-
1 6 3 2 5 4	-	1 2 4 3 5 6	-
2 6 1 3 5 4	-	3 2 1 4 5 6	-
3 6 2 1 5 4	-	4 6 3 2 5 1	-
		2 1 4 6 5 3	- †

This peal starts with a quick six.

These twenty-four courses repeated, calling the bob marked* a six earlier, and omitting the bob marked †, produce—

I 3 2 4 6 5
when bobs at 2, 5, 12, and 13 complete the peal.

The above peal contains the 5th and 6th each twenty-four courses behind the 9th.

A TOUCH OF STEDMAN TRIPLES.

By the same Author.

1 2 3 4 5 6	2 II	1 4 2 5 3 6	2 II
1 4 5 2 3 6	-	1 4 3 2 5 6	-
1 4 3 5 2 6	-	1 4 5 3 2 6	-
1 4 2 3 5 6	-	1 3 2 4 5 6	-
1 3 5 4 2 6	-	1 3 5 2 4 6	-
1 3 2 5 4 6	-	1 3 4 5 2 6	-
1 3 4 2 5 6	-	1 5 2 3 4 6	-
1 2 5 3 4 6	-	1 5 4 2 3 6	-
1 2 4 5 3 6	-	1 2 3 5 4 6	-
1 5 3 2 4 6	-	1 2 4 3 5 6	-
1 5 4 3 2 6	-	1 2 5 4 3 6	-
1 5 2 4 3 6	-	1 2 3 4 5 6	- s
1 5 3 4 2 6	- s		

A DATE TOUCH OF STEDMAN TRIPLES.

1883.

By the same Author.

1 2 3 4 5 6	3 12	1 2 5 3 4 6	3 12
1 4 5 2 3 6	-	1 2 4 5 3 6	-
1 4 3 5 2 6	-	1 5 3 2 4 6	-
1 4 2 3 5 6	-	1 5 4 3 2 6	-
1 3 5 4 2 6	-	1 5 2 4 3 6	-
1 3 2 5 4 6	-	1 5 3 4 2 6	- s
1 3 4 2 5 6	-		

The above once repeated produce the course—

I 2 3 5 4 6 7
when the following bobs complete the touch :

1 2 3 5 4 6 7
2 6 1 3 5 7 4
2 6 3 5 1 7 4
6 5 7 3 2 4 1
5 3 4 7 6 1 2
3 7 1 4 5 2 6
7 4 3 5 1 6 2 with s.
4 6 2 5 7 1 3
2 1 3 5 4 7 6 with s.

Round at hand.

(These date touches begin with a quick six.)

[The compositions in this column have all been proved by one of our staff, who is a most distinguished composer.—Ed.]

"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.

C. LAFLIN.—Thanks; anything in the way you mention we can deal with.

J. R. FRITCHARD.—Forward an addressed envelope.

ALB. H. WREAKS.—We intended it as an answer to your question.

The Bell News & Ringers' Record.

SATURDAY, MAY 5, 1883.

THOSE amongst the readers of this paper who week by week scan the comments which usually appear on this page cannot have forgotten the gist of the observations we thought fit some time ago to make relative to the duties connected with the office of steeple-keeper. What was then written, and published, may by some of our friends have been considered too severe a criticism upon a very useful section of the ringing community; but it should be borne in mind that it was the abuse of the power which is placed in the hands of these Church officials at which our strictures were directed. The value to the Exercise of those who, filling such positions, strive to manage everything so as to meet with the approval of their ringing brethren, especially those whom they are in the habit of meeting at stated periods for practice, we shall be among the last to underrate. And therefore, knowing from our experience what is the worth of a good officer of this description, and his power for good or evil, it is not beyond our province to animadvert upon his conduct when, unfortunately, it appears open to censure, any more than to bestow approbation when his labours and tact deserve it.

Though we write thus, the idea that we have met with a rebuke on account of our comments upon this matter, even of the most gentle description, need not be entertained for one moment. In fact, the communications we have received relative to our remarks upon this subject are of a nature the exact opposite to reproof. Many correspondents, though not a particle of intelligence as to their doings has ever reached us, have declared that the language we used on the occasions to which we are referring was peculiarly appropriate to their case. And it is not at

all cheering to find that there are far too many instances where, as one correspondent naïvely added, "the cap fitted."

Hardly a week passes without some communication reaching us of an unpleasantness occurring amongst a society of ringers, the origin of which may be laid at the door of one individual. And how many instances could we name where the pleasure of visitors to a strange belfry have been greatly lessened by the individual in charge? As we write, a complaint of this latter character lies before us. A talented company recently paid a visit to a church a few miles distant, possessing a celebrated peal of ten. In the morning permission to ring was very graciously accorded them, but as they had the temerity to set at naught the wishes of one individual in selecting a house of entertainment not in consonance with his ideas, the intention of the party to ring in the afternoon was frustrated, and a mean subterfuge unsuccessfully employed to mask the odium attendant on such a transaction. The idea of applying to the incumbent, for permission to ring, and thus ignoring the existence of the steeple-keeper, is one we should not, as a rule, recommend, but in cases where the fantastic tricks of those who are clothed with a little brief authority have a tendency to injure the prospects of our Art, we should be inclined to adopt a plan which they would no doubt consider the reverse of complimentary.

We hope to hear of no more cases of unpleasantness in which the steeplekeeper is the cause. Of such officials much is expected, perhaps, but only tact and forbearance, with a little self-denial on their part, is required to cause every thing to go along smoothly in connection with their office.

BELFRY WINDOWS.

THESE are very important both to ringers and bells, and in speaking of modern churches, we mentioned how inconveniently they are constructed, and this also brings us to church windows generally. The earliest openings with the view of letting in light and air in the Saxon and Romanesque, commonly called Norman periods, are very small, often mere slits; any idea of letting out sound was not thought of, the bell or bells, when present, hanging in special niches, as was explained in a previous number. The presence of a tower during these ages must have been for the purpose of refuge in case of invasion. Glass was not commonly used till a later period, and often up the older towers we ascend, the hooks for shutters of wood are seen. During the restoration of several churches the writer has found the actual shutter plastered up and quite rotten, not only in towers but other parts of the church, these forming a series of windows, and not belonging to the category of single "high side windows" or "low ditto." Such is the case at the church at Halstow, in Kent, and many others, the little openings being now generally seen plastered and bricked up, and large inserted windows, of a century or more later, by their side. The introduction of painted glass in the 13th century caused an entire revolution in the form and

manner of constructing windows, the openings in the wall, which generally had round heads, were first enlarged to such an extent as was thought safe, not to the superstructure, but the painted glass itself. In those days, they knew not how to make great sheets of the substance, but only small pieces leaded together, stained and painted. The first step in the development of what is generally observed to be a church window was the placing of two or more long openings, with pointed heads, very near each other, and over these piercing the wall again in some regular shape, such as a circle, or oval, etc. Very soon the space between any two openings was reduced to a mere division by a stone upright, and in that manner multiplied at pleasure, the whole structure being in itself very strong: in the 15th century, or last period of this manner of building, the whole sides and ends of the edifices become windows; an example of this is seen in Henry VII. chapel in Westminster Abbey, while in the older parts, the arrangement of placing two openings together as before described is seen side by side with the latest development of window tracery. We may just mention how that old painted glass is recognised, when examining a building outside, as it is seen on its outer surface, very much eaten away by weather. This is noticed in walking anywhere in the city of York, when, in passing many a church, the hand can feel the roughness, and you can almost decipher the subject, so much is this the case. Having explained the growth of a church window, we will briefly say that belfry windows require to be large both in the ringing-loft and bell-chamber, where especial attention should be directed to the louvres; these might well be in clear plate-glass, set at the right angle. In a new church, four-leaves, three-leaves, and other geometric tracery is best avoided in the bell-chamber, unless the back be blank. In the case of our own, a town church, most of the windows are of the 14th century, the four belfry windows each have two trefoil lights, and a multifoil between them above, but on inspection we find grooves for glass everywhere, clearly showing the tower was intended to go higher, although properly finished off in another century. The multifoil above is requisite to let out sound, it cannot be fitted with louvres of any kind, consequently, all condition of weather is experienced among the bells, often many inches of snow. We should like to see some such firm as that at Redenhall, making a model for the guidance of architects both with respect to the louvres, and some easily applied shutter for bad weather to the louvres themselves. The character of openings since the 15th century has been alluded to. They are little better than stable windows, and had square or round heads, and occasionally bad pointed, as the builder directed; and in the better class of work, outside, a pediment, in one or other shape. Was an archdeacon ever seen up the tower?

MIDHURST.—This parish church has been re-opened after restoration, enlargement, and re-building, from the plans of Mr. Lacy W. Ridge, of London, the diocesan architect. The first section of the work was the renovation of the tower, to which a spirelet has also been added; this contract was carried out by Mr. John Marshall, of Midhurst, and the bells have been rehung by Messrs. Mears, of Whitechapel. For the partial rebuilding of the nave, and the erection of a new aisle to the north, the tender of Mr. R. Pink, of Milford, near Godalming, was accepted. The new work is Perpendicular in style, agreeing with the portions of old work retained.

The Provinces.

ROCHDALE, LANCASHIRE.

On Saturday April 28, 1883, in Three Hours,

AT ST. ALBAN'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S ORIGINAL ONE-PART PEAL. Tenor 18½ cwt. in F.

WILLIAM ADSHEAD Treble.	JOSEPH GRIMSHAW 5.
JAMES HARDMAN* 2.	GEORGE MEE 6.
SAMUEL WEST 3.	ALBERT E. WREAKS 7.
JOHN E. POLLITT 4.	*WILLIAM BUTTERWORTH..Tenor.

Conducted by ALBERT E. WREAKS.

*First peal.

The treble, second, and tenor ringers are of St. Albans, and are also members of the Rochdale and District Association; the rest belong to Manchester Cathedral. This is the first time that this peal has been rung at Rochdale.

After descending the tower, the ringers were met by several members of the Rochdale and District Association, who congratulated them on their success, and who asked them to have a pull before going home, at the parish church, which they accordingly did, and rang a short touch of Grandsire Triples, conducted by Mr. A. Hurst, the President of the Association. The Cathedral ringers returned home very much pleased with their outing.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

CRETINGHAM, SUFFOLK.

On Monday, April 30, 1883, in Two Hours and Fifty Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

5040 CHANGES: IN TWENTY-ONE DIFFERENT METHODS ON FIVE BELLS;

Being two 6-scores of each, in the following order:

MORNING STAR	COLLEGE PLEASURE	LONDON DOUBLES
THE DREAM	COLLEGE DOUBLES	ANTELOPE
ST. PETER'S DOUBLES	CHACE	GOG MAGOG
CAMBRIDGE JOURNEY	ST. DUNSTAN'S	GRANDSIRE
CAMBRIDGE DELIGHT	VICTORY	APRIL DAY
LYMINGE DOUBLES	FORTUNE	PLAIN DOUBLES
LYMINGE PLEASURE	ST. PATRICK'S	OLD DOUBLES

Tenor 11 cwt.

S. MEADOWS Treble.	G. WICKS 3.
D. G. WIGHTMAN 2.	A. S. WIGHTMAN 4.
S. WIGHTMAN Tenor.	

Conducted by D. G. WIGHTMAN.

Date Touch.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

BRANDESTON (Norfolk).—On Sunday, April 22nd, six members of the above Association rang a date touch of 1883 changes, in the following methods:—720 of Oxford Bob; 720 of College Single; and 443 of Bob Minor; in 1 hr. 5 mins. S. Meadows, 1; D. G. Wightman, 2; H. Coleman, 3; A. S. Wightman, 4; S. Wicke, 5; S. Wightman, (conductor), 6. And on Wednesday, April 25th, 720 Court Single; 720 Bob Minor; and 360 Oxford Bob. S. Meadows, 1; D. G. Wightman, 2; H. Coleman, 3; A. S. Wightman, 4; G. Wicks, 5; S. Wightman (conductor), 6.

Miscellaneous.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

ALNWICK (Northumberland).—On Saturday, April 28th, four members of the North Shields branch, and four of the St. Stephen's (Newcastle) branch, visited St. Paul's church. Several touches were attempted, but owing to the second bell casting the rope, nothing was completed. A 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor was rung by leaving the second out. E. Scott, 1; W. Reed (conductor), 3; W. Sawyer, 4; R. Willins, 5; H. Ross, 6; T. Denton, 7; G. Stobart, 8. It is four years since the bells have been rung.

NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.—On Monday evening, April 30th, at St. John's church, for practice a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob Minor, in 27 mins. F. Lees, 1; C. L. Routledge, 2; W. Eggleston (first 720 as conductor), 3; T. J. Des Forges, 4; W. Story, 5; R. S. Story, 6. Tenor 14 cwt.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

BRAINTREE (Essex).—On Saturday, April 28th, 720 Oxford Treble Bob. F. Calthorpe, 1; F. Bumpstead (his first 720 on a bob bell), 2; W. H. Dyson, 3; H. E. Hammond, 4; F. Rudkin (conductor), 5; S. Hammond, 6. On Sunday, April 29th, for morning service 720 of Oxford Delight. H. E. Hammond, 1; F. Calthorpe, 2; W. H. Dyson, 3; S. Hammond (conductor), 4; F. Rudkin, 5; A. Huckson, 6. Also 180 of Double Court Bob. F. Bumpstead, 1; F. Calthorpe, 2; W. H. Dyson, 3; H. E. Hammond, 4; F. Rudkin, 5; S. Hammond (conductor), 6. Also for Divine Service in the evening, a 720 of Violet Treble Bob. F. Bumpstead, 1; F. Calthorpe, 2; W. H. Dyson, 3; H. E. Hammond, 4; F. Rudkin, 5; S. Hammond (conductor), 6. Tenor 14 cwt.

WOODFORD (Essex).—On Thursday evening, April 26th, at St. Mary's, for practice, the members of the above Association rang a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor, with nine bobs, in 26 mins. H. Nunn, sen., 1; H. Scarlett, 2; G. Akers (conductor), 3; J. Nunn, 4; M. Ellsmore, 5; A. H. Gardom, Esq., 6. Also the same evening, another 720 of Kent Treble Bob, with nine bobs, in 27 mins. M. Ellsmore (conductor), 1; G. Akers, 2; J. Nunn, 3; W. Manning (first 720 in the method with a bob bell; Walthamstow), 4; A. H. Gardom, Esq., 5; H. Scarlett, 6. Also on Sunday, April 29th, for Divine Service in the evening, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob, nine bobs, in 26 mins. H. Nunn, sen., 1; A. J. Perkins (conductor), 2; A. Porter, 3; J. Nunn, 4; A. Pye, 5; H. Scarlett, 6. Also another 720 of Kent Treble Bob, with nine bobs, in 24½ mins. M. Ellsmore, 1; J. Nunn, 2; A. Pye, 3; A. J. Perkins (conductor), 4; J. Priest, 5; A. Porter, 6. Tenor 13 cwt.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

BURTON-ON-TRENT.—On Thursday, April 26th, eight members of the Burton-on-Trent branch attempted at St. Paul's church, T. Thurstan's peal of Stedman Triples. After ringing for 3 hrs. 17 mins. a shift-course occurred in the middle of the 19th part, and the conductor called "Stand." J. Jaggar, 1; E. I. Stone, 2; H. Wakley, 3; J. Griffin, 4; A. Wakley, 5; G. Appleby, 6; W. Wakley (conductor), 7; T. Holmes, 8. Tenor 26 cwt.

LONG EATON (Derbyshire).—On Monday, April 30th, for practice 720 of Grandsire Minor in 26 mins., being the first 720 in this method ever rung on the bells, and the first attempt of all. William Grice, 1; George Bradley, 2; John Ward, 3; William Gilson, 4; Arthur Widdowson, 5; Joseph Barrow (conductor), 6.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

PULHAM MARKET (Norfolk).—On Sunday, April 29th, for evening service a 360 of Oxford Treble Bob Minor. John Smith, 1; Charles Brown, 2; William Cullum, 3; Fred Surridge, 4; John Allen, 5; William Roope, 6. Also for the same service a 360 in the same method. Charles Tann, 1; Charles Brown, 2; William Cullum, 3; (no ringer of the 4th given) John Allen, 5; John Smith, 6. Messrs. Smith (conductor), and Tann hail from Pulham St. Mary.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

OXFORD.—*Handbell Ringing.*—On Tuesday, April 25th, on handbells, retained in hand, an excellent touch of Grandsire Triples, 2064 changes, in 1 hr. 5 mins. William C. Baston, 1-2; Charles Hounslow, 3-4; J. William Washbrook (conductor), 5-6; Samuel Hounslow, 7-8. Also the same evening, on handbells, a 720 of Plain Bob Minor, in 18½ mins. Samuel Hounslow, 1-2; J. W. Washbrook (conductor), 3-4; William C. Baston, 5-6.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

OSSETT (Yorkshire).—On Sunday morning, April 29th, for Divine Service at Holy Trinity church, 2528 changes of Kent Treble Bob Major in 1 hr. 38 mins. Frederick Scholefield, 1; Walter Norton, 2; Arthur Spurr, 3; William Scholefield, 4; George Crawshaw (conductor), 5; Joseph Chappel, 6; David Stephenson, 7; Willoughby Dixon, 8. Tenor 26½ cwt.

CAVENDISH (Suffolk).—On Thursday, April 26th, a 720 of Cambridge Surprise, in 26 mins. F. J. Thompson, 1; J. S. Page, 2; C. W. Hurst, 3; S. Slater (Glemsford), 4; H. Thompson, 5; Alexander Hurst (conductor), 6. Also on Monday, April 30th, the Cavendish Society rang their first 720 of College Exercise, in 25 mins.; and a 720 of Cambridge Surprise, in 26 mins. F. J. Thompson, 1; J. S. Page, 2; C. W. Hurst, 3; A. Ives, 4; H. Thompson, 5; Alexander Hurst (conductor), 6. The above 720 of College Exercise is the first in the method upon the bells, and also the first recorded in the county Tenor 12 cwt.

CHARISFIELD (Suffolk).—On Sunday, April 29th, the Otley company visited this church and rung several 120's of Old Doubles and Grandsire. Noah Witing, 1; John Cullum, 2; William Shipp, 3; Alfred

Hatcher, 4; Wingfield Meadows, Esq., 5. The Grandsire was conducted by W. Shipp, and the Old Doubles by A. Hatcher. Tenor about 10 cwt. in Gt. These bells had till recently been out of ringing order for above 30 years but latterly through the exertions of Mr. Mayhew, one of the leading tradesmen of the village, they have been restored and the frame considerably strengthened. The treble has a hole in the crown a foot in diameter, and no cannons, she is suspended to the stock by means of iron bolts through her waist and an iron band round the shoulder. The 2nd bears the date of 1068, in bold figures, but it is highly improbable that she was cast so early. James Edebre was the founder. The 4th and 5th were cast at Bury St. Edmunds.

DEERHURST (Gloucestershire).—On Wednesday evening, April 25th, for practice by the local society, a 720 of Bob Minor, in 25 mins. S. Roberts, 1; C. Willis, 2; C. Roles, 3; C. Awford, 4; G. Willis, 5; J. Bartlett (conductor), 6. Previous to the above on Easter Sunday, the same company rang a 720 of Bob Minor in 24½ mins., with 18 bobs and 2 singles.

DONCASTER.—On Sunday, April 29th, for Divine Service in the evening, seven members of the Doncaster Society, assisted by Mr. Gardiner of Sheffield, a former member of the society, rang a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (bob-and-single), in 49 mins. H. Fevre, 1; H. G. Wilson, 2; W. White, 3; W. Newsome, 4; W. Gardiner (conductor), 5; J. White, 6; J. Jeff, 7; W. Howard, 8. Tenor 31 cwt. in Eb.

DUNDY (Somersetshire).—The bells of the parish church, which were much out of repair have been rehung by Mr. A. York, of Bristol, and on Saturday last the ringers rang an excellent 720 of Grandsire Minor, believed to be the first ever rang on the bells. George Morgan (conductor), 1; Edward Duckham, 2; Francis Price, 3; Alfred York, 4; John Norton, 5; Edward Beake, 6.

HAVERSTOCK HILL (Middlesex).—On Sunday morning, April 29th at St. Martin's church, for Divine Service, a 720 of Plain Bob Minor (14 singles and 4 bobs), in 23 mins. T. Titchener, 1; G. Stancombe, 2; J. Leach, 3; J. Nixon, 4; J. Hannington (conductor), 5; T. Monks, 6. Tenor 12½ cwt.

HELMINGHAM (Suffolk).—On Thursday, April 26th, the Helmingham and Framsdon companies rang at St. Mary's church, a touch of 960 changes, being 864 of Oxford Treble Bob, with three leads of Kent, W. Whiting, 1; J. Knights, 2; J. Perry, 3; G. Thurlow, 4; N. Whiting, 5; W. Dye (conductor), 6; G. Sherman, 7; W. Meadows, Esq., 8. Also a musical 720 of Grandsire Triples, composed by Wm. Dye, and containing the Queens and Titmums. J. Last, 1; G. Knights, 2; W. Dye (conductor), 3; G. Thurlow, 4; N. Whiting, 5; A. Whiting, 6; J. Perry, 7; W. Meadows, Esq., 8. Tenor 20 cwt. in D.

HINDLEY (Lancashire).—On Sunday morning, April 29th, at St. James's, in 1 hr. 29 mins., 1st ¼ of Mr. J. Reeves's variation of Holt's 10-part peal of Grandsire Triples, 2520 changes, called the reverse way. This was rung on the occasion of the preaching of the Annual Sermons, on behalf of the Ringers. Richard Calland, 1; Edward Prescott, 2; Edmund Brown, 3; William Chisnall, 4; Edward Kay, 5; Thomas Tickle, 6; Joseph Prescott (conductor), 7; Thomas Eccleston, 8. Tenor 14 cwt. 1 qr.

PETITREE (Suffolk).—On Sunday, April 29th, the Otley company rung several touches of Oxford Treble Bob, Grandsire, and a 720 of Bob Minor, in 21½ mins. A. Hatcher, 1; W. Shipp, 2; N. Whiting, 3; J. Cullum, 4; J. Potter, 5; W. Meadows, Esq., 6. Tenor about 12 cwt., but the 5th bell is nearly 2 cwt. heavier. Afterwards some good double-handed ringing was done at the residence of Mr. Potter, touches of Grandsire Triples and a course of Bob Minor. W. Meadows, Esq., 1-2; N. Whiting, 3-4; J. Potter, 5-6. W. Shipp and J. Cullum taking the other two bells between them in the Triples.

RUSHOLME.—On Sunday, April 29th, at St. James's, Birch, Rusholme, after evening service, six members of the local company, rang a 720 of Grandsire Minor, in 25½ mins. E. Borrowoughs, 1; J. Hindle, 2; W. E. Ryder (conductor), 3; F. Ryder, 4; R. Borrowoughs, 5; W. H. Idle, 6. This is the first 720 by all except J. Hindle. Tenor 13½ cwt.

RAUNDS (Northamptonshire).—On Saturday, April 7th, at St. Peter's church, the local company rang a 720 of Oxford Bob Minor, with eighteen bobs and two singles, in 28 mins. E. Kirk, 1; J. Willmott, 2; R. Pendrick, 3; W. Gilbert, 4; W. Hall, 5; H. Stubbs (conductor), 6. Also on Saturday, April 28th, a 720 of Oxford Bob Minor, with eighteen bobs and two singles, in 27 mins. J. Willmott, 1; W. Hall, 2; R. Pendrick, 3; F. Gilbert, 4; W. Gilbert, 5; W. Parker (conductor), 6. W. Parker is one of the Higham Ferrers Society. Also on Monday, April 30th, a 720 of College Little, with eighteen bobs and two singles, in 27 mins. A. Coles, 1; J. Willmott, 2; H. Stubbs, 3; F. Gilbert, 4; W. Hall, 5; W. Gilbert (conductor), 6. Tenor 20 cwt.

WITNESHAM (Suffolk).—On Tuesday, April 24th, a 360 of New London Pleasure, and 360 of Cambridge Surprise, in 27 mins. George

Sadler, 1; Thomas Sadler, 2; William Ramsay, 3; George Pyett, 4; William Woods (conductor), 5; Wingfield Meadows, Esq. 6. Tenor 14 cwt. in F#. Also on Saturday, April 28th, 600 Cambridge Surprise by the same band, composed and conducted by William Woods. Also 240 of Duke of York Minor immediately afterwards, in 34 mins. Tenor 14 cwt. in F#.

WOMBURN (Staffordshire).—On Sunday, April 22nd, a 720 of Grandsire Minor. Thos. Darby, 1; Jno. Guest (conductor), 2; Geo. Howells, 3; E. S. Chapman, 4; Wm. Lawrence, 5; Rd. Bidmead, 6.

WORDSLEY (Staffordshire).—On Saturday, April 28th, a 720 of Plain Bob Minor in two parts. T. Darby, 1; R. Bidmead, 2; J. Guest, 3; W. H. Hughes, 4; W. Lawrence (conductor), 5; E. S. Chapman, 6.

"A FEW DAYS' HOLIDAY."

We have received permission to publish the following portions of a private letter from Mr. Jasper W. Snowdon to a ringing friend, which, the recipient thinks, may be interesting to some of our readers, as they may not only be glad to learn that Mr. Snowdon has something in preparation for our columns, but also, that although his name has not lately appeared in our records of performances, he is nevertheless in excellent health.

"DEAR SIR,

"Although it would almost look like it, I have not given up ringing, but hope to start again some day, the early part of the year is always my 'slack season.' Last year I never rang or attempted a peal until April 22nd, and from that date to December 26th, I took part in twenty-eight 5000's of which, as an Irishman would say, two were 7000's, and one a 6624.

"The more I ring the less I write, and therefore, before I think of ringing, I hope to complete a collection of peals of Grandsire Triples for publication in "THE BELL NEWS," and also a rather lengthy description of the earliest peals in the method. For several years I have had a good deal of the matter for this description in my possession, but have never had time or inclination to finish it. Now, however, when we have such a capital ringers' paper as "THE BELL NEWS," I have no longer any excuse for thinking that even if I had the description written there would be no paper which would care to publish it. . . . I only hope that all ringers will remember that it is to ringers and ringers only that "THE BELL NEWS" can look for support, and it is therefore the duty of every ringer to become a subscriber to this paper.

"Do not think I am getting past ringing. . . . I took a few days' holiday at Easter, and by way of variety, walked from Leeds to London. . . . The following are the stages, and the times taken over them. I give the time spent each day in actual walking, and also the total time taken for each stage, including stoppages during the day. On the whole, the roads were good, and the weather fine, although I didn't escape without a wetting. The only day I walked quickly was on the fifth, and then I did knock along.

	Stages.	Distance.	Walking.	On Road..
First day	Leeds to Bawtry	36 miles	8h. 50m.	9h. 42m.
Second day	Bawtry to Newark	29 miles	7h. 19m.	7h. 56m.
Third day	Newark to Stamford	35 miles	8h. 30m.	9h. 6m.
Fourth day	Stamford to St. Neots	34 miles	8h. 32m.	9h. 27m.
Fifth day	St. Neots to Hatfield	36 miles	7h. 47m.	9h. 2m.
Sixth day	Hatfield to London	19 miles	4h. 33m.	4h. 48m.

"I intended to have had an evening amongst my ringing friends in town, but got to King's Cross so early as 1.18 p.m., and as I wanted to be back in Leeds as soon as I could, had some lunch in the station, and took the 3.15 for the North."

JASPER W. SNOWDON."

ST. MARY'S, FARNHAM ROYAL, BUCKS.

ON Whit-Monday, a friendly meeting, to celebrate the sixth anniversary of the new tower, and its ring of six bells, will take place at this church.

The local company will be glad to welcome any visitors on that day. Ringing will probably commence early in the day. The church is about two-and-a-half miles from Slough Station, on the G. W. R.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

A RINGING MEETING of the above Association was held at St. Peter's church, Ashton-under-Lyne, on Saturday last which was fairly attended, considering the unsettled state of the weather. Representatives were present from Liverpool, Bolton, Stockport, Eccles, Swinton, and Heywood. Various mixed bands rang touches of Treble Bob, Stedman, Bob Major, and Grandsire Triples. The members of the Association were kindly received by the local society, and a hope was expressed that they would again visit Ashton on some future occasion. Votes of thanks were also accorded for the use of the bells.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

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

Members intending to be present at the dinner are particularly requested to apply to the Secretary for tickets (price one shilling) before May 11th. Belfry open at 11.15. Service with an address by the Ven. Archdeacon Carey, at 12.30. H. A. COCKEY, Hon. Sec.
Rettendon Hall, Battles Bridge, S.O., Essex.

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."

REPLY TO MR. WOOD.

SIR,—In noticing the slight alteration you made in Mr. Sottanstell's peal, I am sorry I failed to point out to you the difference between the original peal and your variation. To be more explicit, I give both, as under.

Now Sir, if you will take the trouble to count the courses in both

Original Peal.						Mr. W's. variation.									
2	3	4	5	6	M B W H	2	3	4	5	6	M B W H				
3	6	4	5	2	I	2	5	4	3	2	6	2	2		
6	2	4	5	3	I	2	4	6	3	2	5	I	2		
2	6	3	5	4	2	2	2	3	6	4	5	2	2		
2	3	5	6	4		I	2	3	5	6	4	I	2		
3	4	5	6	2	I	2	2	5	3	2	4	6	2		
4	2	5	6	3	I	2	2	5	2	4	3	6	I	2	
2	4	3	6	5	2	2	2	2	6	4	3	5	I	2	
6	3	4	2	5		2	2	2	4	3	6	5	I	2	
3	5	4	2	6	I	2	2	4	5	3	6	I	2	2	
2	4	5	3	6		2	2	2	5	2	3	6	I	2	
4	6	5	3	2	I	2	2	2	5	4	6	3	2	2	
6	4	2	3	5	2	2	2	2	4	6	5	3	I	2	
2	6	2	3	4		I	2	2	4	3	6	5	2	- I	2
2	5	3	4	6	2	- I	2	2	3	2	6	5	4	I	2
2	3	4	5	6		I	2	2	2	3	4	5	6	2	2

peals, you will find in the original the alternative calling (to lengthen the peal), is used in the fourteenth course, and in your variation, in the thirteenth course.

This is what I said briefly in my former letter, and is the random statement you accuse me of.

As to the accusation of "making a good attempt at one of Mr. Thorp's peals," I plead not guilty. After I composed the 7968 of Treble Bob, I took the proper course in forwarding it to Mr. Snowdon,

peals, you will find in the original the alternative calling (to lengthen the peal), is used in the fourteenth course, and in your variation, in the thirteenth course. This is what I said briefly in my former letter, and is the random statement you accuse me of.

As to the accusation of "making a good attempt at one of Mr. Thorp's peals," I plead not guilty.

After I composed the 7968 of Treble Bob, I took the proper course in forwarding it to Mr. Snowdon, and it appeared with many others in "THE BELL NEWS," compiled by that gentleman. I believe shortly afterwards Mr. Snowdon was informed by Mr. Thorp that it belonged to him, but as he (Mr. Thorp) had rung it in a mutilated form, I think Mr. Snowdon must be exonerated from all blame in the matter.

Saffron Walden.

N. J. PITSTOW.

FURTHER ELUCIDATION ATTEMPTED.

SIR,—I am as open as the columns of "THE BELL NEWS," and have nothing I wish to keep from your Bobshire correspondent. I freely admit that I am only part of a ringer, that is, I have never yet rang a peal of Grandsire Triples without a single of some kind.

I am willing to admit that bells can and have been well hung in wood, and that many a peal thus hung go well for years, and now that the march of metal has commenced, no doubt great efforts will be made to bring up the old style of hanging to as near perfection as possible.

I must also admit that I have never rang upon a peal of bells hung in an iron frame, and so have to base all my remarks upon the testimony of a trusted and valued friend; indeed, I believe but one ring is as yet put up upon this "fancy plan." I have, however, such good faith—and if I may venture a prediction, I would say that ere many weeks elapse your correspondent will be enabled, by means of a journey to the Eastern metropolis, to view the local experts performing upon a new peal hung upon this plan, and will then be able to put to a practical test, the whole question, for himself, for I read that a ring of eight are being put up somewhere in that ancient city, Norwich. If no solution be forthcoming to the second query from this visit, some of the Eastern veterans may then and there giveacular demonstration of their abilities in the art, and so solve the mystery.

I trust your correspondent will soon find himself—

112, Norwich Court,
Union Square, C.Y.

OUT OF A MUDDLE.

SIR,—Will you kindly allow me to reply to Mr. "Moreina Muddle-nor, F.R.S." as he seems to be completely "fogged" on the subject about which he writes?

Let me first of all assure him that I am not the person who signs

himself "Out of a Muddle," nor have I any idea who that individual may be. But "Moreina Muddlenow" may take it for granted that he is not only a ringer, but a good ringer, or he would never have written the letter he did. No doubt bells can be hung well, and rung well, in wood, if the bellhanger chooses to take the necessary trouble and pains. But your correspondent asks "Can he say this of iron?" Undoubtedly he can; and so can I. The fact is, that taken all round, and *all the year round*, iron is infinitely superior to wood as a material for bell frames. "Moreina Muddlenow" has evidently had no experience of iron bell frames of the pattern turned out by the Redenhall Foundry; and, having no experience, he presumes to sneer at the system adopted by this firm, and to dub it a "fancy plan," saying he "should like to hear of a ring of bells thus hung, and to have a pull at them." Well, sir, so he can, if he likes to take the trouble. He can, if he likes, see and have a "pull at" a ring of bells hung on this system in the tower of Weybread Church, Suffolk, and in a few weeks' time, he will probably have the opportunity of doing the same by visiting the new tower of Thorpe Hamlet Church, near Norwich. I speak from actual experience (and so could you, sir, if it were your place), when I say that no bells could go better than the Weybread bells do. But whether wood or iron, the "go" of the bells depends on the hanging; it is a question of workmanship. A badly-constructed iron frame, and careless hanging, would result in badly-going bells: as is the case with the usual wood frames over and over again. The hanging apart, however, there can be no question in the minds of those who know anything at all about the matter, that a well made wrought-iron frame is in every way superior to a well-made wood one. Those who like your correspondent so pertinaciously cling to the clumsy system of our forefathers, and the rule-of-thumb principles and practice of the ordinary bell-hanger, are running their heads against a wall. For my own part, I am confident that the system pursued by the Redenhall firm will outlive the prejudices of the present, and become the fashion of the future. When "Moreina Muddlenow" has had experience of this system, I shall be surprised if he does not tell a different tale. Wishing him well out of his present "bob-jolly," I beg to describe myself as

ONE WHO IS NOT AT ALL IN A MUDDLE ON THIS QUESTION, BUT
SINCERELY PITIES THE MULTITUDE WHO ARE.

April 30th, 1883.

P.S.—With regard to his second difficulty, let me advise him not to take everything for gospel which he reads about ringing in local journals.

THE PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERS AT ST. CLEMENT DANES, STRAND, LONDON.

SIR,—It is with deep regret, but peal-ringing principles compels me to say a few words about the above "so-called peal." Now sir, I for one, read in your last issue of "THE BELL NEWS," just as hundreds in London and the provinces do, of the above peal being rung, and had it not been for myself and a few others hearing the ringing, it would have passed off as a correct peal.

Now sir, with all due respect toward those who took part in it, I cannot call it a peal, as at intervals such specimens of firing and the making of course-ends, are very rarely to be heard, but coming to the last course (which was very coarse), it consisted of nothing but clashing, which eventually turned into rounds. Now for a band so conspicuous for its composers and conductors to ring and record such a performance with impunity, it ought to be exposed, and if they can call it a peal (not meaning the composition), there never was a false peal rung. I trust the next peal of Stedman Caters they start for, will be rung well to make amends for this disgraceful attempt at peal-ringing.

J. W. ROWBOTHAM.

SIR,—I was very surprised to read in your issue of the 21st inst. a record of a peal of a peal of Stedman Caters, rung at St. Clement Danes, Strand, which I heard, and am sorry to say a more disgraceful apology for a peal it was impossible to hear. For the first forty minutes the ringing was good, then a mistake occurred which led into firing, and I thought they had stopped, but it was continued (the firing) for five minutes. After getting into compass a bit and the course-end coming up, the conductor had to place the bells, which could be distinctly heard outside; this occurred three or four times during the progress of the peal; and at last ended in another fire, when the conductor thought it advisable to say rounds. I am very sorry to expose this so-called peal; but I feel it my duty to the ringing world.

C. F. WINNY.

COMBEINTEIGNHEAD BELLS.

SIR,—I am (through the medium of your journal of April 28th), in receipt of the thanks of your correspondent, G. F. Coleridge, for my correction of the error he had made in writing to "THE BELL NEWS" as to the founders of the new bells at the above place. I however cannot quite understand whether his apology to the Whitechapel firm

is meant as a compliment or the reverse, seeing that he also apologises to the Loughborough firm. In his letter descriptive of the opening of the bells, referring to certain matters to be rectified in connection with the hanging, he says, "when this is done, Combeinteignhead will be able to boast of one of the prettiest peals of six in Ab in the county of Devon." If such be the case, the second apology was not needed. That which had been made public was an unqualified praising of good productions, so that apologising to the Loughborough firm for having given them by mistake the credit of making such good bells, seems altogether out of place. But perhaps it was in deference to the "Great Authority" on bells, the apology of Mr. Coleridge to the Loughborough firm was deemed necessary as an amendment for the praise bestowed by mistake on the Whitechapel firm, and intending to convey an idea, that although good for Whitechapel, yet better still might have been expected if from Loughborough. Of course it will require but little wisdom on the part of any ordinary observer to understand why I am so anxious to have the present dim light of the Whitechapel excellence brought from under its bushel. Being, so to speak, under the ban of the Great Invincible Bell Pedagogue, a great man no doubt in his way, "and yet not greatly good" to any who dare to differ with his notions of goodness; the few crumbs of approbation that may chance to fall to the lot of the Whitechapel foundry on account of its bells, I am very careful to pick up and to keep them from going in wrong directions. Hence my rushing with such seeming haste into print to make known the good news which however justly deserved, seldom comes but by mistake.

W. WARESKITT.

Bell Foundry, 267, Whitechapel Road.

"PEAL-SNATCHING."

SIR,—As there have been a number of letters under the above heading in your paper lately, I trust you will find space for a few remarks of mine.

It appears to me that one person composes a peal and publishes it, sometime afterwards another person composes a peal on exactly the same lines (although he may not have seen or heard of the previous peal). He is immediately dubbed a "peal-snatcher," and a lot of correspondence ensues, into which a deal of personal feeling is conveyed, which, instead of cementing ringers and composers together, as it were, causes the direct opposite, and does ringing practically more harm than good.

Here is a case in point. In last Saturday's issue you published a peal of Bob Major (6160) by Mr. B. Francis, of Diss. Now I do not know Mr. Francis, nor does he know me, yet strange to say, I have a peal the same length as his, composed by myself so far back as 1879, the only difference being in the first course—the remaining ten courses being called exactly the same as in his peal. Now what I want to submit to your notice, and those of the ringing world at large, is this, "Can I be called a peal-snatcher on the principle that his peal has

6160.							5040.						
2	3	4	5	6	W	M	2	3	4	5	6	W	M
4	3	6	5	2	-	-	4	3	6	5	2	-	-
6	5	4	3	2	-	-	6	5	4	3	2	-	-
4	6	5	3	2	-	-	4	6	5	3	2	-	-
5	4	6	3	2	-	-	3	4	5	6	2	-	-
6	3	5	4	2	-	-	5	6	3	4	2	-	-
5	6	3	4	2	-	-	3	5	6	4	2	-	-
3	5	6	4	2	-	-	6	4	3	5	2	-	-
6	4	3	5	2	-	-	3	6	4	5	2	-	-
3	6	4	5	2	-	-	4	5	3	6	2	-	-
4	5	3	6	2	-	-	Four times repeated.						
3	4	5	6	2	-	-	Four times repeated.						

Four times repeated.

been published before mine?" Again, I had already sent you a peal of 5040 on the same lines, and which you would receive before you published his. This I consider pretty conclusive evidence of the originality of my peals, and I must certainly say that I cannot see that the fact of his peal having been published first, does away with my claim to the same. Mr. Francis has evidently been studying the method, and has arrived at the same result as myself. I shall feel obliged if you will publish the peals annexed, also this letter, as no doubt it will open up a new field for comment.

JOHN R. PRITCHARD.

Liverpool.

[We think it right to state that the peal of Bob Major from Mr. Francis reached us at least three weeks before the composition of our Liverpool correspondent.—Ed.]

A REQUEST.

SIR,—In your issue of April 21st, there appeared an account of a 720 of Bob Minor, rung at Spalding, Lincolnshire, composed by R. Mackman. Would your correspondent be kind enough to send the course-ends and calling for publication in "THE BELL NEWS."

ANXIOUS.

RECEIVED.—A communication from Ashton-under-Lyne, without the name or address of the sender. We call attention to the notice, on another page, relative to correspondence intended for insertion. We must abide by that arrangement.

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERS.

5555.

By H. JOHNSON, SEN., Birmingham.

1 2 3 4 5 6 4 5 16

* 3 1 6 2 5 4
 3 1 4 6 5 2 -
 3 1 2 4 5 6 -
 2 1 3 6 5 4 -
 2 1 4 3 5 6 -
 2 1 6 4 5 3 -
 6 1 2 3 5 4 -
 6 1 4 2 5 3 -
 4 1 6 3 5 2 -
 4 1 2 6 5 3 -

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

* This course is produced by bobs at 1, 3, 8, 10, 12, 15, 16, 18, 20, 22, 26.

The last ten courses, twice repeated produce:-

6 1 4 3 2 5 4 5 16

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

Brought round with the following bobs:-

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

Round at one six and five changes.

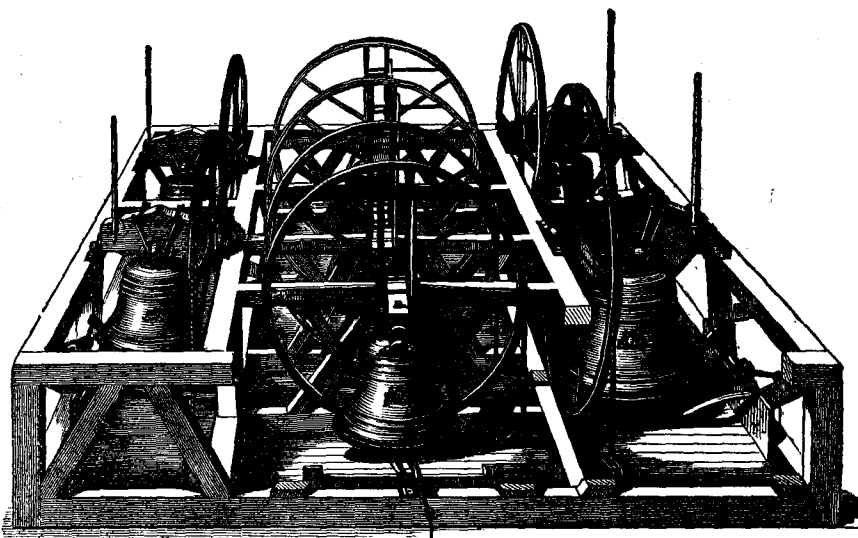
First rung at St. Giles's, Camberwell, by the Ancient Society of College Youths, on February 3rd, 1883; conducted by Francis Edward Dawe.

A 5040 OF GRANDSIRE CATERS.—We have a peal in this method sent us by Mr. J. Wright, of Kingston-on-Thames, though we are afraid it cannot be regarded as altogether an original production. We may give it thus: the opening course is 7th in and out at two twice, bringing the 6th behind the 9th. Then ten courses consisting of two 97's and two 89's alternately, the last with a single; then ten courses more (no single), two 89's and two 97's alternately, and to which part is added a 978, which finishes the second part. At a full course after this 978 a bob is called, and then ten courses same as first part (with a single) bringing up the third part-end, 42356. Then ten courses more: two 89's and two 97's alternately, adding at the end another 978, bring up 34256. The 8th and 9th before, and two 89's, complete the peal.

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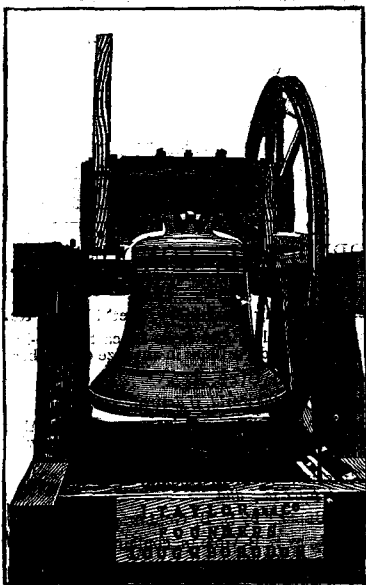
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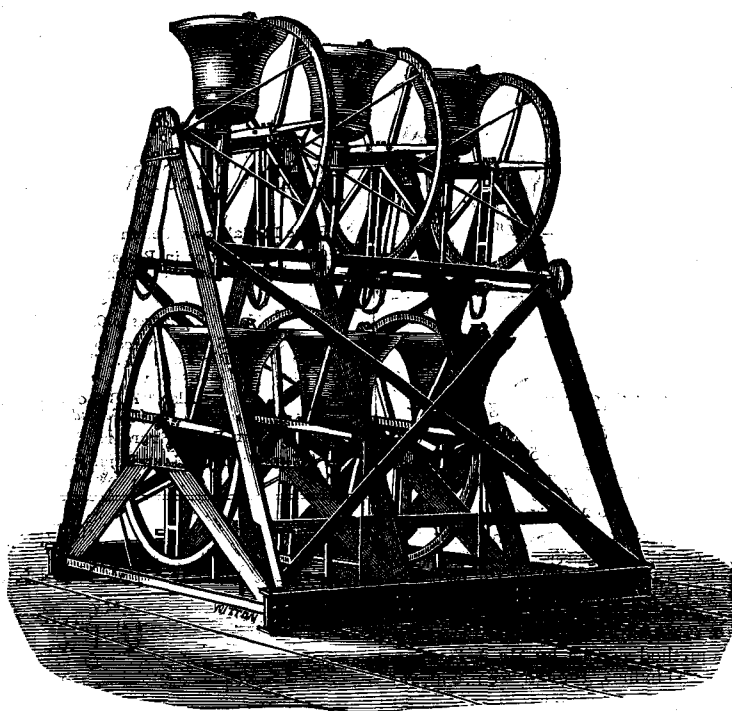
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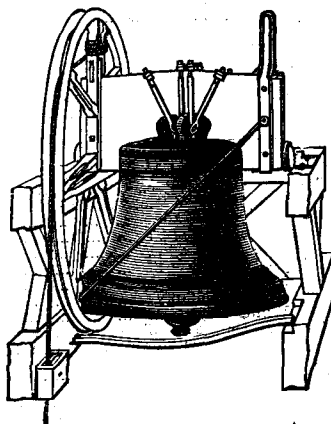
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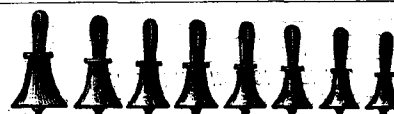
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THE BELLS OF ST. PETER MANCROFT, NORWICH.

In addition to the account we gave last week of the re-opening of this celebrated peal, the following additional details about them and the ancient sacred edifice of St. Peter may not be considered uninteresting. We see with deep regret that there is a considerable deficit on the sum required to carry the desired restoration into effect, and as the majority of our readers have a peculiar interest in this church, it would not be at all out of place if those, who are able, would contribute to so worthy an object. Now that the bells are restored, we shall expect to hear of many visits being paid to Norwich to hear this renowned peal, and no doubt an opportunity for the bestowal of the smallest sum will present itself to visitors. We have no positive authority for saying so, but should think that any help from afar towards the object the church authorities have in view, would be gladly received.

On Saturday night, after three years silence, St. Peter Mancroft bells rang a jubilant peal. Their re-awakened music sounded in the ears of the citizens like the voice of an old friend after a long absence. While masons have been busy repairing and strengthening the grand old tower, the bell-hangers have been repairing and re-hanging the famous peal, the cost being liberally defrayed by Messrs. Gurney. The old Norman church, which was dedicated to the Apostles Peter and Paul, had five bells. This number comprised the first peal of the present church, which was finished and consecrated in the year 1455. In 1602 a treble was added, and between 1672-6 the peal was increased to eight bells. For sixty years the peal continued at this number. There was great rivalry in the art of ringing between the St. Peter's company, led by Thomas Melchior, and St. Michael's Coslany company, led by Edward Crane. Each church had its eight bells, and each company of ringers prided themselves on ringing the most intricate peals with "never a bell out of course, nor changes alike." Their campanological contests did not always produce harmony, at least among the ringers. The St. Michael's Company carped and cavilled at the St. Peter's Company's performance, and themselves essayed a peculiar peal, which the critics among their opponents pronounced to be imperfect. So high did this controversy run, that wagers were laid on the rival companies, and affidavits were made before the magistrates as to the number of changes rung. A bellman went the round of the city reciting "scandalous verses" on St. Michael's company. People who assembled in the streets to hear St. Michael's Company ring quarrelled and fought over the matter. The St. Peter's company repudiated having given any encouragement to those who had thus acted as their partisans. Such was the tone of feeling among the ringers of the 18th century. But that was an age of coarseness. How different the spirit animating the ringers of the 19th century. Thanks to the Diocesan Campanological Association, they all work together as brethren who recognise each other's skill and strive to promote general proficiency in the art. The old exclusive spirit has been broken down. Qualified companies are given the opportunity of having a touch on other bells than those of their own belfry. Five years after the dispute between the rival ringers, the St. Peter's Company was placed in a position of superiority by their peal being increased to ten bells. A board in the steeple states that in 1736 the two bells were subscribed for by gentlemen of the parish. Forty years later, on 31st January, 1775, it was announced at a vestry meeting that £530 had been subscribed towards purchasing a complete peal of twelve bells, the tenor to weigh 38 cwt. The bell-founders entrusted with the order were Messrs. Pack and Chapman, of London, who with Mr. S. Turner, the bell-hanger, were required to enter into a bond to fulfil their engagements in a workmanlike manner. Seven of the ten old bells, weighing nearly four tons, were sent to London, and two others weighing a ton were sent to Bungay. On the 21st of June, 1755, after a grand "Te Deum," "Jubilate," the chorus from *The Messiah*, and the Coronation anthem, had been performed in the church "to a genteel and numerous audience," the "music of the twelve bells" was opened by the ringers. It was at first apprehended that the note of the tenor was not deep enough to cover the peal with dignity, but her majestic and sonorous sound soon proclaimed her supremacy, and the execution of the whole has reflected honour on the founders, and the gentlemen who tuned these harmonious and silver-tongued bells. The cost of the bells with the hanging was £1238 19s. 2½d. The tenor was unfortunately split in 1814. It was re-placed by the present tenor from the foundry of T. Mears of London. Upon it is the inscription, "To the King, Queen, and Royal family this harmonious peal of twelve bells is dedicated."

The bells rang a welcome on Sunday, April 29th, to the Bishop of Liverpool (the Right Rev. Dr. Ryle), who was announced to preach in the morning on behalf of the Church Restoration Fund. A large congregation responded to the summons of the bells. The Mayor, Sheriff, magistrates, and Corporation attended in state. The service was an impressive one. The musical portion was as follows:—Psalms,

Chants, Camidge in A and Crotch in E; "Te Deum Laudamus" and "Jubilate Deo," Bunnett in G; anthem, Psalm 122 (Prayer Book version), Bunnett, "I was glad when they said unto me." The Right Rev. the Bishop of Liverpool preached from Haggai ii. 9, "The glory of this latter house shall be greater than the former, saith the Lord of Hosts." In the course of a most impressive sermon his lordship said that in these days God looked down upon every additional house reared to His glory and every ancient house restored and made what it ought to be. He thanked God that in these latter times the hearts of Englishmen had been stirred to paying attention to the houses of God throughout the land. He was old enough to remember the days when the parish churches handed down from our forefathers were in a most slovenly and discreditable condition. But during the last fifty years there had been a banishment of slovenliness, disorder, and everything of that kind from the house of God. £30,000,000 had been spent during the half-century on building new and restoring old churches. He gloried in the work which had been done in this Church of St. Peter Mancroft. Let the citizens be encouraged to go on and perfect the work so well done. If our forefathers did so much, how much more ought we to do, living as we do in wealthier times. He called upon his hearers to consecrate this restored church by fervent and earnest prayer to God for his blessing upon it. Let them pray that the Lord Jesus Christ be continually present there, that there may never be wanting a man to stand up in the pulpit to preach the whole truth, and nothing but the truth—the gospel, the real gospel, nothing added to it and nothing taken from it.

The Restoration Committee have issued the following statement as to the work that has been done, and what remains to be executed:—

"Having reached the final stage of the restoration of the exterior of the church, it is right that a short account should be given of the different works which have been accomplished during the past three years. Under the advice and superintendence of Mr. G. E. Street, the nave and chancel and aisles have been re-roofed, the clerestory windows repaired and reglazed, and the greater part of the tower refaced. On Mr. Street's death the Committee determined faithfully to carry out his design with regard to the parapet, the angle pinnacles of the tower, and the flèche. These, except the flèche, are now completed, and never during the last 400 years has the tower stood out so grandly as at the present day. By means of the liberal donation of Messrs. Gurney and Co., the twelve bells have been repaired and rehung; three houses which stood on the churchyard have been purchased and taken down, the accumulated soil has been removed from the church walls, and the churchyard levelled. It still remains to erect a new and handsome railing round the churchyard, and to lower the soil on the south side. No further work is at present contemplated with regard to the exterior of the church. In October last it was stated by the vicar and churchwardens that £1500 would be sufficient for the rehanging of the bells, the purchase of the Cambridge publichouse, and the alteration of the churchyard. Of that amount about £800 has since been received. A further sum of £700 remains to be collected, and the estimate for the completion of the tower was £200 or £300 below the actual expenditure. £1000 will still be required to complete the necessary work."

THE SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.

The first Annual Meeting will be held in Salisbury, on Wednesday, May 30th. There will be service at St. Edmund's Church at 11.30 a.m., with a sermon by the Rev. A. D. Hill, vicar of Downton. The dinner will be at 1.0 p.m., at which the Right Hon. Earl Nelson (President of the Guild), will take the chair. After dinner the General Meeting of the Guild will be held for the transaction of business, and the election of officers for the ensuing year. The following belfries have been kindly placed at the disposal of the Guild for the day. St. Thomas's, eight bells; St. Edmund's, six bells; St. Martin's, six bells; St. Paul's, six bells. Dinner Tickets may be obtained of the Hon. Sec., the Rev F. Wright-Anderson, Warminster, price 2s. each, but if obtained on or before May 16th, 1s. 6d. The 3rd class railway fares of the ringing members who attend the meetings will be wholly or in part repaid after the meeting, out of the funds of the Guild.

SALEHURST (Sussex).—A correspondent from this place writes:—"Perhaps you might find a place in your columns to say a few words for the Salehurst church bells, which I have heard say are as good a peal as any in Sussex. There are eight bells, the tenor being 20 cwt. in E, cast by Pack and Chapman, in 1771. They are in very good going order, and we should like to hear some talented company come and ring them. Salehurst is about one mile from Robertsbridge Station, S.E.R. We have a young party who have now started to try to learn the art of change-ringing but as there never has been any done in the parish before, we should like to hear some talented company that could do it." We hope our correspondent will have his wishes gratified when fine weather becomes the rule, not the exception.

THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

A QUARTERLY Meeting of this Association was held at Streatham, on Wednesday, 25th ult. Representatives attended from London, Beddington, Croydon, Epsom, Leatherhead, Kingston, Mitcham, Wimbledon, and the home company. No ringing was done till after tea, as there being a sick person in a house near the church, only the peal of eight at Emmanuel church was available, the Association being refused admission to the six at St. Leonard's, the parish church, on account of a disagreement which took place about five years ago between the steeplekeeper and the ringers. We understand that the former, who is not a change-ringer himself, obtained the dismissal of the ringers, because they would not be satisfied with ringing the melodious "Stoney" in which he delighted, and beyond which he had no aspirations. However this may be, the ringers were dismissed and a chiming machine bought, which has since held sole possession of the tower.

At 5.30, a Business Meeting was held at the Beehive Coffee Tavern. His Grace the Archbishop of Canterbury, having accepted the Presidency of the Association, was formally elected to that office. The Rev. J. M. Braithwaite, Vicar of Croydon, was elected an Hon. Member; four performing members, among who were representatives from two parishes, which had not before joined the Association, viz. Nutfield and Bletchingley, were also elected.

Letters expressing regret at being unable to attend, were read from the Archbishop of Canterbury, Captain Troyte, and Rev. Stenton Eardley, Vicar of the parish. That from the vicar, who is absent at present through ill-health, contained some strong remarks on the conduct of some ringers who are content to call others to the services which they themselves do not attend.

It was decided that in future there should be a Master, in addition to the other officers of the Association, and E. F. Cole, Esq., was elected Master, *pro tem.*, everyone hoping that he would be persuaded to hold the office for a permanency. The meeting then resolved that a report of the Association from its foundation to the present time should be printed, containing names of officers, honorary and performing members, list of churches in the Association, with ordinary times of practice number of bells, etc., and balance sheet. This report will be ready shortly, and will be supplied to members at a small charge. The Annual Meeting was fixed to be held in July next at Croydon, where the ring of eight is being rehung by Messrs. Warner, and as they are leaving pits for two trebles, there is some hope of getting a touch of Caters there.

Soon after 6 p.m. twenty-two members sat down to an excellent tea at the "Beehive," the manager of which, Mr. H. Daniels, is himself a ringer and steeple-keeper at the church. After tea, permission to set the bells in motion was given by the doctor attending the sick person mentioned above, and the remainder of the evening was spent in ringing touches of Kent Treble Bob Major, Grandsire and Stedman Triples. About 9 o'clock, the meeting broke up, not, however, before a hearty vote of thanks was given to the vicar for his kindly welcome.

THE ROCHDALE AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATION.

THIS Association held their Quarterly Meeting at Todmorden, on Saturday, May 5th, and was very well attended, the following districts being represented:—Manchester, Heywood, Rochdale, Todmorden, Walsden, Milnrow, and Newhey, a few districts not being represented on this occasion. The above meeting was one of the best ever witnessed by this Association, showing as it did very great progress. The bells of the church was opened at 12 o'clock, when each society, according to their names, rang several touches of Grandsire Triples, half-an-hour being granted to each up to the time of the meeting and tea (viz. 5.30), which was held in a room specially prepared for them by the Todmorden ringers at the York Hotel. About thirty-four members sat down to a very substantial repast, after which the meeting commenced, at which eight new members were added. The business concluded, the room was prepared for the concert (Mr. John Greenwood, pianist, and Mr. Jas. Greenwood, violinist). The President, Mr. Albert Hurst, occupied the chair. The concert was opened by the Todmorden Handbell Ringers, and several songs were rendered by the company. Intermediate ringing on the handbells by the Todmorden and Milnrow ringers gave great satisfaction to the company (the musical selections being beautifully rendered). Scientific changes were also rung by several of the company and a very pleasant evening was spent.

The intermediate meeting (if permission be granted) will be held at Newchurch, near Bacup, on Saturday, June 16th.

The quarterly meeting will be held at the Manchester Cathedral, the first Saturday in August.

JAMES ADSHEAD, Sec.
1, Sydney Street, Tudden, Rochdale.

The old parish church of Torver, near Cornistown, is about to be rebuilt from plans prepared by Messrs. Paley and Austin, of Lancaster.

REOPENING OF BELLS AT CHRIST CHURCH, BACUP.

SATURDAY last, May 5th, was rather an important day for the ringers of Christ Church, Bacup. The bells of that church, which have for a long time been in a most shaky condition, within the past few weeks have been rehung, and the fittings thoroughly repaired, the work being done in a most satisfactory manner by Messrs. Jas. Shaw, Son, and Co., bellfounders, of Bradford. It was decided that the reopening should be made into a jubilee of some kind, and to further this, invitations were sent to various societies, Padiham being the one invited to ring the opening peal. They took the ropes at 2.30, and opened the bells with a 720 of Bob Minor, which was rung in 27 mins. Other societies also took part, various 720's being excellently rung, in fact it may be said that from 2.30 until 8.30 the bells were not at rest beyond five minutes at a time. An excellent repast was afterwards provided, and a most enjoyable evening was spent.

ST. PAUL'S, WALKDEN, LANCASHIRE.

ON Sunday last, May 6th, this church was visited by two members of the Eccles company, it being the occasion of the Anniversary Sermons on behalf of the School. In the evening, the Very Rev. the Dean of Manchester (Dr. Cowie) preached to a numerous and attentive congregation. The school-children were dressed in white, and walked from school to church, preceded by the choristers, and the day being fine enhanced the picturesqueness of the scene. The choir, together with the children, sang a processional hymn as they wended their way to the church, accompanied by the sweet tones of two silver cornets, played by two young men, members of the Ellenbrook brass band. A 720 of Bob Minor was rung on the bells by Edward Cash (Eccles; conductor), 1; James Barratt (Eccles), 2; *John Worthington (Walkden), 3; John Welsby (Walkden), 4; Joseph Brookes (Walkden), 5; *William Denner (Walkden), 6. Time, 26 mins. Tenor 13 cwt. 3 qrs. *First 720.

THE BIRMINGHAM AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATION.

ON Sunday, April 6th, two members of the above Association, left Birmingham at 6 a.m. for a walk to King's Norton, a distance of 6½ miles, to have a pull with the ringers at the parish church, who usually ring on the first Sunday in every month at 8 a.m. A start was made for a ½-peal of Grandsire Triples, but after ringing all but two leads, the conductor was forced to call "stand" owing to a shift-course. Time 44 mins. H. Gorman, 1; H. Sumner, 2; J. Wright, 3; T. Russam, 4; J. Cooks, 5; T. Scrivens, 6; W. Palmer (conductor), 7; F. Palmer, 8. They are a nice peal of bells, but go rather hard. Tenor 18 cwt. After a rest and a look around, a start was made for Northfield, a distance of about 1½ miles, where there is a peal of six, but owing to the red-tapeism on the part of the church authorities, entrance to the belfry was denied. It seems that they became short of funds, and thus could not pay the ringers, who generously then offered their services gratuitously, but they have erected a chiming apparatus, and are therefore become independent of ringers. On leaving the church, an adjournment was made to the tower-keeper's (Mr. Bond) house, who kindly brought out the handbells (a pretty peal in F. by Taylor), when a 120 of Grandsire Doubles were rung. W. Palmer, 1-2; T. Russam (conductor), 3-4; H. Gorman, 5-6. A start was then made for Selly Oak, a distance of about 2 miles, when meeting some of the ringers (who are always willing to oblige), a visit was quickly paid to the tower, where there are a pretty peal of six, tenor 11 cwt. in G. The bells being set going, a 360 of Grandsire Minor was rung in 13 mins. H. Gorman, 1; T. Russam (conductor), 2; E. Smith, 3; T. Lewis, 4; T. Bryan, 5; W. Palmer, 6. It was thought better to refresh the inner man, before making another start. The visitors were invited by Mr. Bryan to see his handbells, a very musical peal of 20, in splendid condition, when 120 of Grandsire Doubles was rung. W. Palmer, 1-2; T. Russam (conductor), 3-4; T. Bryan, 5-6. After taking leave of the Selly Oak company, another start was made for Harborne, about 1½ miles distant, where at St. Peter's church, there as a peal of eight in good going order, but a stop was not made here, and meeting some of the Harborne ringers were soon put on the right road for Halesowen, about 5½ miles (all the ringers of the above churches being also members of the above Association). In walking to Halesowen there is a splendid view of Clent, Bromsgrove Lickey, Wharton, and Bromsley hills, extending about 8 miles. Entering Halesowen, a visit was paid to the parish church, where there are a peal of eight bells, tenor 19½ cwt. An invitation being given to have a pull, it was accepted, but the "go" of the bells rendered anything like good striking or comfortable ringing out of the question. There are two bands here, seniors and juniors, but they are badly in want of an experienced ringer to teach them; they are always glad to see any strangers, and will give them a hearty welcome. After obtaining some refreshments, another start was made, this time to Old Hill, a distance of about two miles. Darkness coming on, it was time to think of returning to Birmingham, which was done by train, arriving home at 10.30. being highly pleased with the day's ramble.

SONNING, BERKS.

On Saturday evening, May 5th, the members of St. Laurence parish church, Reading, visited Sonning by the kind permission of the Venerable Archdeacon Pott. The following members met at St. Andrew's church at 5.30: Messrs. W. Johnson, H. M. Bawden, E. Bishop, H. Tidbury, T. Hayward, C. Guy, W. Holloway, G. Talbot, W. J. Williams, J. Willshire, and W. Pocock, assisted by W. H. Fussell, and Mr. Russell, of Sonning. During the evening ringing was continued till 8 p.m. the bells having been well looked to by the steeple-keeper, Mr. J. Ford. Several touches of Grandsire Triples were rung. A touch of 336 was creditably struck by the following: H. M. Bawden, 1; E. Bishop, 2; J. E. Willshire, 3; W. J. Williams (conductor), 4; W. Holloway, 5; George Talbot, 6; W. H. Fussell, 7; Mr. Russell, 8.

Praise is due to the Society for the progress made in the art, during the short time it has been established, under the instruction of Mr. W. Newell, who was detained in Reading on business matters, and Mr. W. J. Williams. Both have diligently worked to promote the method in a band who knew nothing of change ringing before their formation, most of them having never previously pulled a bell. As is usual in starting a young society many difficulties had to be borne still they have been aided by an excellent Tower Warden: the Rev. Charles Kerry, who has always energetically supported them, and endeavoured to promote their interests in every way, attending all meetings, and taking great interest in the progress made. Sonning has a well-known name in connection with ringing, so far back as a century ago, viz; August 4th, 1783, when a contest was held at the same church and with seven of the same bells, for a silver cup, now in the possession of the Ancient Society of College Youths, who were the successful competitors against two other societies from Farnham and Oxford.

Since that time only one performance of 5000 is known to have taken place, which was a peal of Grandsire Triples by the Reading branch of the Oxford Guild, a board for which is about to be placed in the tower. I am sorry to find no tablet to record the first performance which was rung so long ago, although not a peal. The trophy was the gift of Mr. Peter Bluck, of Sonning, and a tradition still lingers that this Mr. Bluck gave the two trebles which completed the octave, as there were only six bells up to 1778.

The following extracts are taken from the *Parish Magazine*, published October, 1869, by E. Blackwell and Son, London Street, Reading. "The tower is sixty-four feet six inches in height (nearly forty feet lower than the vault of the nave of Westminster Abbey). It is almost a square, being twenty-four feet by twenty-three feet. Before the restoration there was a ringing gallery a few feet below the basement and this and the space below were dark and gloomy in the extreme. The gallery was pulled down, the ropes being lengthened, the bells were rung from the basement. At that time fears were entertained that it would be impossible to ring so near the bells as the story next below them, but it answers perfectly well, and the bells are now rung from the clock-room."

We have, I am glad to say, a record concerning some of the bells in an old parish book. It is much to be regretted that there are so few of these ancient records remaining. The entry is as follows, under November 15th, 1640, a memorable year, that of the opening of the Long Parliament in the reign of King Charles I.:-

"Whereas ye charge of ye casting ye foure bells of ye parish together with ye addition of new metall for ye enlarging of ye same, is guest by ye churchwardens and others that it will arise to ye value of £130, this day it was ordered and agreede upon by consent of vestry, that that part of ye parish which lies in Oxfordshire shall pay £40 for their part of ye whole, and ye whole and that ye other £90 shall be layd upon the other 3 divisions of ye parish, viz. Sunning, Erly, and Woodley."

There are some inscriptions upon these bells, which we must leave for a future occasion.

W. H. F.

SUDBURY, SUFFOLK.

On Tuesday evening, May 1st, the local company met at All Saints, church, to erect a tablet, and rang a touch of Kent Treble Bob Major. T. Tolladay, 1; M. Silvester, 2; G. S. Brown, 3; C. Sillitoe, 4; W. Bacon, 5; W. Griggs, 6; A. Scott (conductor), 7; H. Harper, 8. Also touches of Grandsire Triples and Bob Major, in which W. Cross, W. Howell, and H. Brackett, took part. After ringing, they adjourned to The Bull Inn, where a capital repast awaited them, to which due justice was done. The cloth being removed, the usual loyal toasts, followed by "The Health of the Vicar and Churchwardens," were drunk with musical honours. During the evening songs were sung by H. Harper and others. Touches of Bob Royal, Grandsire Caters, Stedman Triples, and several other methods, were also rung for the handbells, C. Sillitoe ringing 1-2-3-4 to a course of Bob Major, and 3-4-5-6 to a course of Grandsire Triples. Votes of thanks having been passed to the vicar for the use of his bells, and to Mr. W. Bacon for presiding, the company separated about eleven o'clock.

THE HAPPY DISCOVERY,

OR

THE CULPRITS FOUND OUT.

ONE Tuesday night, not long ago,
My mind to disencumber,
I took a solitary walk,
Upon the banks of Humber.
While musing there of by-gone days,
With thoughts delight to cherish,
Of early friends, whose once lov'd forms
From memory ne'er can perish.
At once I paus'd, dismiss'd my thoughts,
And put them to the wing;
As well I might, when suddenly,
The bells began to ring.
The sound was sweet, the music full,
The notes distinct and clear;
A gentle breeze conveyed the tone,
And brought them to my ear.
I linger'd on the water's brink,
And heard the careful rise;
That's good thought I, it merits praise,
And censure it defies.
The bells they paused a little while,
And then they made a start,
With beat so true, as prov'd them rung
By men who knew the art.
The dulcet changes soon struck off,
In regular succession,
Like soldiers trained, or lodges taught,
To move in due procession.
The peal was "Grandsire Triples" call'd,
So term'd by all our ringers,
For they have names for every peal,
As tunes have names for singers.
It sounded well, and promis'd fair
To reach its destin'd round,
'Twas like a vessel gliding soft,
And to its haven bound.
When lo! a misadventure came,
I cried, "What's now the matter?"
For all at once the music ceased,
And all was jar and clatter.
The bells were jumbled in the peal,
And no one knew its place;
The dogs came falling on the fox,
And finished up the chase.
And now a silence interven'd,
And all was still and quiet;
Dear me, thought I, how sweet and calm
That supersedes a riot.
But since I know those worthy men,
Who labour in the steeple,
I'll e'en go in and ask them,
"Why thus annoy the people?"
The resolution form'd—I went,
A private key befriending,
And as I mounted up the steps,
Kept bending—bending—bending.
At length I reach'd the door I sought,
And lifted up the latch,
I found the youths assembled there—
A neat and goodly batch.
'How's this my lads?' I soon exclaimed,
'Why, don't you know the peal?'
Ben T—k—h taught you how to ring,
And that you know and feel."
The first that spoke I long had known,
His name was William P—;

His words were few, he merely said,
"I'm sure it is not me."
"Nor me," said Joseph H—, "I'm sure,
My bell ne'er left its place;
When I was clearly in the hunt,
How could it be the case."
Said Thomas S—, "I made my thirds,
And down again to lead;
In one I met the treble bell—
So I'm from censure freed."
The next to speak was Thomas N—,
And he expressed no doubt,
"That some near neighbour, not himself,
Had put the 'Grandsire' out."
"It was not me," said Edward A—,
"I met the bell in two,
So I was dodging four and five,
What ought I else to do?"
"Come, come," said Charlie P—, "be still,
We some of us were wrong;
The fault, however, let me say,
Does not to me belong."
James A— was equally sure
That he was in the right,
He always counted up and down
And kept the ropes in sight.
The last to speak was Joseph B—,
Upon the platform mounted,
The Tenor Bell of all the peal
Most worthy being accounted.
To clear himself he neatly said
"Of order I'm a lover;
I never wander up and down,
But always wait to cover."
Well, this is passing thought,
A singular affair,
The men were all so confident,
It made me stand and stare.
At length a lucky thought occur'd
Which showed the matter clear,
And prov'd a fact which should be known
By ringers far and near.
Now gentle reader I don't be stunned,
While I this fact unfold,
Although it be the strangest thing,
That poet ever told.
As sure as mourner ever wept,
Or singer sang a song;
Altho' the ringers all were right,
The bells themselves went wrong.
"There!" every voice at once exclaimed,
When once they saw the matter;
"Tis plain enough where lies the blame,
Of all this noise and clatter."
'Twas not with us who pull'd the ropes,
And pulled them so true;
The culprits are above our heads,
As sure as blue is blue.
The rascals are on mischief bent,
They've join'd in firm alliance,
To play the master when they please,
And set us at defiance.
And now from henceforth be it known,
Whene'er a peal turns lame,
The *Ringers* never are in fault,
The *Bells* are all to blame.

REV. WILLIAM KNIGHT, Vicar of Hull.

IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENTS.—On Saturday, May 12th, a band of the Norwich Association intend again attempting, at Debenham, in Suffolk, the late T. Day's peal of 16,608 Treble Bob Major; and on the following Friday, May 18th, the same peal will be attempted by the Ashton-under-Lyne company at the parish church of Mottram-in-Longdendale, Cheshire; the nearest station is Mottram or Broad-bottom, on the Manchester, Sheffield, and Lincolnshire line.

BELCHAMP WALTER (Essex).—On Sunday, May 6th, after Divine Service in the afternoon, three members of the local company, with three from Sudbury, rang on the back six of St. Mary's, a 720 of Bob Minor, with eighteen bobs and two singles, in 26 mins. William Stammers, 1; Maurice Sylvester, 2; George Brown, 3; Charles Sillitoe, 4; William Finch, 5; Nelson Hawkins (conductor), 6. This is the first 720 that has been rung on the bells since the Harvest Thanksgiving. [This report has been accidentally omitted in its proper place.]

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

One copy, 12 months	6s. 6d.
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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. R. PRITCHARD.—Better luck next time.

The Bell News & Ringers' Record.

SATURDAY, MAY 12, 1883.

THE principal London societies, and for aught we know, many of those in the provinces, are apt to boast of their connection, at some time or other of their history, with various illustrious personages. Any one anxious to join a metropolitan company of note, and halting as to which—whether College Youths or Cumberlands—he should grace by his presence, need not very long remain in ignorance of their several claims to favour in this respect. By a loquacious individual he would probably be informed, in mellifluous language, that the former of these two societies was founded in the year 1637—12th CHARLES I.—by Lord BRERETON, SIR CLIFF CLIFTON, Knight, and other gentlemen; that upon its rolls may be found the names of many gallant officers of the army and navy, some of the most eminent practitioners in law and physic, a numerous array of clergy, and various distinguished civilians and laymen. On the other hand, he would probably be impressed by the tradition that the last-named of these societies was, previous to the victory of Culloden, known as "The London Scholars," that on greeting the victorious Duke of Cumberland with a welcome-home peal on his return from the Scottish campaign, they were allowed to style themselves "The Royal Cumberland Youths," a medal, long in their possession, being struck as a trophy of the circumstance. Nor can the holding out of such inducements be considered in any degree blameable. If royal and aristocratic connections with ringing societies have been the cause of preserving their continuity, we in the present day may be grateful for such patronage. But a change for the better has taken place in the composition, or selection of those whose countenance we desire to help in the establishment and extension of our art. The attachment to our various ringing Associations of so many learned divines in the Church, and of Churchmen of high and noble birth, is a

fact upon which ringers may find ample cause for self-congratulation, and future chroniclers in the pages of "THE BELL NEWS" will no doubt be able to affirm, that the patronage accorded to ringing in the latter half of the nineteenth century was of infinitely greater value than the countenance of the hero of Culloden, or the attachment of temporal peers in the reign of any member of the House of Stuart.

In our columns this week will be found announcements relating to the Salisbury Diocesan Guild and the Surrey Association. By the former we learn that at the first Annual Meeting of that Guild the chair will be taken by Earl NELSON, the President; while a very satisfactory feature of intelligence which transpired at the meeting of the last-named body is that His Grace the Archbishop of CANTERBURY had accepted the Presidency of the Association. When a retrospect of the condition of the Exercise in former years is taken, and the odium which many good citizens unfortunately had to bear because of their connection with ringing is taken into consideration, is it too much to say that the contest which real ringers have waged for years is nearly over, and our triumph not far off? When the head of the Anglican Church in the whole world, and one of the most eminent and pious laymen of the same Communion hesitate not to identify themselves with ringers' work, it will assuredly be seen by all concerned in Church-work—aye, and that soon—that the regulation of the belfry is an important part of Church administration. The indifference and contempt awarded to many occupants of the belfry by those who were expected to practise a little of the charity they preached is now gradually becoming a thing of the past, and the Exercise may attribute such a healthy change to the ramifications of our several Guilds and Associations, an acknowledgment of whose labours is shown in the frequent addition to their ranks of those who are in authority in the Church.

Perhaps we may be able at no distant date to publish intelligence to the effect that some such a subject as "Bell Restoration" may be one of the topics dealt with at a Church Congress. The very interesting paper read by Mr. TROYTE a few years ago no doubt gave a great impetus to ringing, and was the means of many persons, who had thought nothing of it previously, becoming ardent enthusiasts. A similar effort would work incalculable good just at the present time, and we respectfully suggest to those of our readers who possess the qualifications, to attempt the task at the earliest opportunity.

OF THE CAUSES OF WEAKNESS IN BELL-TOWERS.

THIS subject might be better dealt with by those who, in one way or another, are called in to rectify or pull down, what has actually taken place. Not unfrequently, however, the extent of danger is more seen, and the original cause better known by those who make old churches a study. Generally speaking, when a fracture or sinking is visible, the blame at once goes to the bells, which as it happens most times, are not concerned at all. The first great cause is vault-digging, both within and

without; ordinary gravemaking is less dangerous. What happens is as follows: a wall of the tower and aisle of the church often form a right angle—this was about ninety years ago and afterwards pounced down upon by some big people as the “warm corner”—and the whole is dug deep out, and bricked; frequently, however, the sets-off of the tower foundation are exposed, and no masonry is put in on that side; the angle referred to before is afterwards enclosed in Pagan-looking, cast-iron railings, and in time the enclosure becomes full of rank vegetation, and a receptacle for half the dead cats of the village.* In further process of time it may be that one of the tower buttresses, instead of doing its work, has become a dead weight hanging on, and actually pulling away a portion of the tower wall. Another cause is the effect of lightning. This is often quite unsuspected, and some custodians use their eyes so little, as not to see, often, the four faces of their tower scarred and rent away, especially near the top; flints, if they be the building material, being torn out. Again, a frequent source of rending was the insertion in the fifteenth century of large traceried windows, this will be often noticed, also heightening the structure beyond all bounds of its original designers.

We do not intend in this article making any mention of bellhanging mischief at work, this would be well received from a professional artist. The writer has seen a new bell-frame, only a year after fixing, oscillate visibly in the most alarming way. We cannot forget reading in the public press, notices of church towers falling, on the average of two yearly, in a small period of investigation. To conclude, we will just mention in our own county, the only circular tower, fell, after ringing bells in the seventeenth century, viz., at Osping,† in Kent.

WHAT TO OBSERVE WHEN ANOTHER COMPANY IS HANDLING THE SALLIES.

[SECOND PAPER.]

IN our last paper we mentioned the Romanesque, commonly called Norman style, found in the early churches, and the pointed-arch style in the centuries following, also the Palladian. This article more particularly refers to that manner of building, and it is the style of our best steeples (for peal-ringing), as this had just come in, and as a matter of course, studied by the architect in the tower interiors. The first building in this country, erected in all the purity of the Renaissance, was the banquetting-hall for a large mansion at Whitehall; the chief characteristic being the introduction of detail derived from Grecian buildings, on regularly-laid masonry, the joints of which are strongly emphasized, for about as much reason, Professor Ruskin says, as a child scribbles all over a slate, not knowing what to do. So on followed a portico to old St. Paul's, Cathedral, in no keeping with its surroundings in any sort or form. Pugin would have said of it “heavy, dull, and uninteresting.” In due course the fire of London gave a splendid chance to Wren, who, rather fortunately, had not travelled to the extent of Inigo Jones, the author of the first two mentioned specimens, and so his works have an extraordinary originality, and in each case more particularly steeples, a decidedly Gothic outline; what can equal Bow Steeple? The churches of this

* The other half into the nearest trout stream.

† We have only to look up old numbers of the *Illustrated London News* in the last twelve years to see, and read of, plenty of instances of towers falling. Little can be generally done after mischief has caused fractures; on the other hand, our object should be to prevent the same, and not tear up foundations to insert three-inch gas mains, because the path happened to run close to the tower, as actually occurred at Gillingham last year, luckily with no bad result, the base being ample.

period are uncommon in the country, but Mereworth, in Kent, is an instance, and can never be mistaken, the windows being like those of stables, and the ornamental detail within, heavy, and seldom constructive, as in the pointed periods, by constructive we mean, forming no essential necessity to the fabric itself. About the end of the last and the first twenty years of this century, churches were built in either debased Palladian, or debased pointed, indiscriminately. These are usually classed as belonging to the churchwardens' style. Ringers have but little to thank architects of this time, unless as in some few cases, study of the requirements of the bells was insisted on. The church of St. Pancras might be named at this juncture, but in that instance there was a craze for “pure Greek,” neat as imported, which luckily lasted very little time. St. John's, Waterloo, London, is, however, very good in its way, but only a front to a packing-case behind. Still the little belfry has been, and is a great enjoyment to many, and therefore not to be despised. Modern churches will form another paper at a future time.

The Metropolis.

THE SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS. CAMBERWELL, SURREY.

On Saturday, May 5, 1883, in Three Hours and Fourteen Minutes,
AT ST. GEORGE'S CHURCH,

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

GEORGE NEWSON Treble.	WILLIAM BARON 5.
JOHN GOBBETT 2.	JAMES HANNINGTON 6.
JAMES LEACH† 3.	JONATHAN CUNNINGHAM .. 7.
ARTHUR JACOB* 4.	SAMUEL JARMAN Tenor.

Composed by HENRY DAINS, and conducted by GEORGE NEWSON.

†First peal with a bob bell. *First peal in the method.

This peal has the 6th the extent home, and in that position at the last five courses in each part, is the first composed on this plan, and has never been previously performed.

After an interval of twenty minutes, a peal of Double Norwich Court was attempted, but after ringing 3584 changes, in 2 hours 12 minutes, it came to grief. G. Newson, 1; T. Titchener, 2; C. Hopkins, 3; A. Jacob, 4; H. Hopkins, 5; J. Hannington, 6; J. Gobbett, 7; J. Barrett, 8.

The Provinces.

LIVERPOOL, LANCASHIRE.

On Tuesday, May 1, 1883, in Three Hours,
AT ST. LUKE'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES; HOLT'S 10-PART PEAL. Tenor 16 cwt.

R. S. MANN Treble.	W. JAMES 5.
F. W. MOORE 2.	*T. HAMMOND 6.
J. DAVIDSON 3.	J. R. PRITCHARD 7.
J. H. MOORE* 4.	*J. BROWN Tenor.

Conducted by F. W. MOORE.

[Those marked * are members of the St. Peter's pro-Cathedral Society.]

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

IPSWICH, SUFFOLK.

On Tuesday, May 8, 1883, in Three Hours and Thirty-eight Minutes,
AT ST. MARY-LE-TOWER,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CINQUES, 5015 CHANGES; Tenor 32 cwt.

WILLIAM L. CATCHPOLE .. Treble.	CHARLES SAUL 7.
HENRY BEVAN 2.	ROBERT HAWES 8.
ISAAC S. ALEXANDER 3.	EDWARD REEVE 9.
EDGAR PEMBERTON 4.	SAMUEL TILLET 10.
JAMES MOTTS 5.	ROBERT H. BRUNDLE .. 11.
WILLIAM MEADOWS 6.	JONATHAN MILLER Tenor.

Composed and conducted by W. L. CATCHPOLE.

The calling of the peal to be found at page 314, No. 39, vol. 1 of “THE BELL NEWS” for December 30, 1882. All the above are members of the Ancient Society of College Youths.

THE ST. MARTIN'S SOCIETY.—BIRMINGHAM.

On Thursday, May 3, 1883, in Three Hours and Six Minutes,

At St. John's Church, Deritend,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

THURSTANS' WELL-KNOWN COMPOSITION. Tenor 12 cwt.

HENRY JOHNSON, JUN. Treble.	C. H. HATTERSLEY 5.
THOMAS MILLER 2.	SAMUEL REEVES 6.
HENRY JOHNSON, SEN. 3.	JOHN BUFFERY 7.
WILLIAM ROCK SMALL 4.	ALFRED THOMAS Tenor.

Conducted by SAMUEL REEVES.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—LEEDS, KENT.

On Sunday, May 6, 1883, in Three Hours and Seven Minutes,

At St. Nicholas' Church,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor 20 cwt.

C. ROLF Treble.	J. FERGUSSON* 5.
A. MOORCRAFT 2.	G. PAWLEY 6.
A. H. WOOLLEY 3.	H. PEARCE 7.
R. SIMMONDS 4.	G. MOORCRAFT Tenor.

Conducted by G. PAWLEY.

*First peal.

BLETCHINGLEY, SURREY.

On Tuesday, May 8, 1883, in Three Hours and One Minute,

At the Parish Church,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S ORIGINAL ONE-PART PEAL. Tenor 19 cwt.

ARTHUR WALLIS* Treble.	JOHN BURKIN 5.
WILLIAM WEBB 2.	WALTER HAWKINS 6.
LUKE KILICK 3.	WILLIAM BURKIN 7.
EDGAR KENWARD 4.	WILLIAM MAYNE Tenor.

Conducted by WILLIAM BURKIN.

*First peal.

The conductor of this peal is twenty-one years old, and deserves great credit for the manner in which he called it.

Miscellaneous.

THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

BIDDENHAM.—On Friday, May 4th, six members of this Association met for practice at St. James's church, and rang a 720 of Bob Minor, eighteen bobs and two singles, in 27 mins., being the first 720 in this method on the bells. W. Allen, 1; *W. Biggs, 2; *C. West, 3; *C. Clarke, 4; I. Hills, 5; J. Frossell (conductor), 6. Tenor 14 cwt. in G. [*First 720 with a bob bell.]

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.—On Sunday, May 6th, for Divine Service in the evening at St. John's church, a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob Minor, in 29 mins. C. L. Routledge (conductor), 1; F. Lees, 2; R. S. Story, 3; W. G. Routledge, 4; W. Story, 5; Geo. Herdman (first 720 in the method with a bob bell), 6. Also on Monday evening, May 7th, for practice, a 720 of Bob Minor, with 22 singles, in 28 mins. F. Sneath (first 720), 1; C. L. Routledge, 2; F. Lees, 3; S. J. Des Forges, 4; W. Story, 5; R. S. Story (conductor), 6. Tenor 14 cwt.

SOUTH SHIELDS.—On Monday, May 7th, at St. Hilda's church, four of the South Shields branch, with H. Ross and R. Smith, of North Shields, rang a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor, in 27 mins. John Moffatt, 1; A. Moffatt (aged 70; first 720), 2; R. Scrafton, 3; Jas. Moffatt, 4; H. Ross, 5; R. Smith (conductor), 6. Tenor 10 cwt. in C.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

HELMINGHAM (Suffolk).—On Monday, May 7th, eight members of this Association rang at St. Mary's church, 1000 Grandsire Triples; 504 Bob Major; and 224 Treble Bob. W. Dye (Helmington), 1; J. Knights (Helmington), 2; P. Meadows (Creetingham), 3; N. Whiting (Otley), 4; G. Sherman (Framdsen), 5; A. Whiting (Framdsen), 6; W. N. Meadows, Esq. (Otley), 7; C. Ward (Melton), 8. Tenor 20 cwt. in D.

PULHAM MARKET (Norfolk).—On Friday, May 4th, for practice, a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob Minor. Charles Tann, 1; Charles Brown, 2; William Tann, 3; Frederick Surridge, 4; John Allen, 5; William Roope (conductor), 6. First 720 conducted by William Roope.

N.B.—The ringer of the fourth bell at the above place, noticed in last week's issue, was Frederick Surridge.

WINSTON (Suffolk).—On Sunday, May 6th, five members of this Association visited this parish, and through the kindness of the rector (Rev. —. Allan), were enabled to ring several 6-scores of Plain and Grandsire Doubles, on the bells of St. Andrew's church. Caleb Monsor, 1; Jonah Thurlow, 2; Noah Whiting (conductor), 3; —. Perrey, 4; Wingfield Meadows, Esq., 5. The fittings of these bells are in very good order, they having been lately put in repair and provided with new ropes. The treble and second were cast by John Darby, in 1662; the third and fifth by Miles Gray, in 1638; and the fourth by Gardiner in 1737. They are in fairly good tune but the fourth is cracked. Tenor 7 cwt. in A.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

OXFORD.—On Saturday, May 5th, at the Cathedral, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor, on the back six, in 30 mins. W. Finch, 1; O. Thomas, 2; C. C. Child, Esq. (Ch. Ch.), 3; Samuel Hounslow, 4; J. W. Washbrook (conductor), 5; G. F. Coleridge, Esq., 6. Also on Sunday, May 6th, at St. Mary Magdalen, two 720's of Bob Minor, each in 22 mins. First: F. Castle, 1; C. Boots, 2; Job Howes, 3; Jas. W. Washbrook (conductor), 4; O. Thomas, 5; W. C. Baston, 6. Second: John Howes, 1; Job Howes, 2; O. Thomas, 3; Chas. Boots, 4; Jas. W. Washbrook (conductor), 5; W. C. Baston, 6. Tenor 42 cwt. in C.

READING.—On Sunday, May 6th, for Divine Service in the morning, at St. Giles's, a 720 of Grandsire Minor, in six parts, in 27 mins. William Goseltine, 1; William H. Fussell, 2; Richard Allen, 3; Jas. Potter, 4; William Newell, 5; H. Egby (conductor), 6. Also a touch of Bob Minor. Also Monday, May 7th, at St. Mary's, a 504 of Grandsire Triples. R. Swain, 1; W. J. Williams, 2; T. Newman, 3; W. H. Fussell, 4; J. M. Routh, Esq., 5; H. Egby, (conductor), 6; W. Newell, 7; A. Paice, 8.

SHIPLAKE.—On Sunday, May 6th, after the noon service, at the parish church, a 720 of Grandsire Minor, in 25½ mins. W. Goseltine, 1; R. Allen, 2; T. Newman, 3; W. H. Fussell, 4; W. Newell, 5; H. Egby (conductor), 6. Also several 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles. W. Pocock, 1; T. Newman, 2; H. Egby, 3; W. Goseltine, 4; W. Newell (conductor), 5; Mr. Wenman (Shiplake), 6. Also another 720 of Grandsire Minor, in four parts, with forty bobs and eight singles, in 25 mins., composed by Mr. J. J. Parker, of Farnham Royal. W. Goseltine, 1; W. H. Fussell (conductor), 2; H. Egby, 3; R. Allen, 4; W. Newell, 5; T. Newman, 6.

STOKE-UPON-TRENT ARCHIDIACONAL ASSOCIATION.

BIDDULPH (Staffordshire).—On Saturday, May 5th, at the Association's Meeting, a 720 of Plain Bob, in 28 mins. T. Rider (Leek), 1; S. Spencer (Tunstall), 2; *W. Carter (Biddulph), 3; T. Turner (Leek), 4; E. Sharratt (Leek), 5; W. H. Armitt (conductor; Leek), 6. *First 720 in this method. Also a 720 of Grandsire Minor, in 25 mins. *Rev. W. W. Bolton, 1; W. Carter, 2; A. Cotterill, 3; M. Moss, 4; J. Pointon, 5; S. Spencer (conductor), 6. *His first 720.

CHEDDLETON (Staffordshire).—On Thursday, May 3rd, being Ascension Day, a 720 of Bob Minor, with nine bobs and six singles, in 28 mins. J. James, 1; E. Spooner, 2; J. Gilbert, 3; H. Rogers, 4; F. Clowes (conductor), 5; J. Renshaw, 6. This is the first 720 on the bells for upwards of fifteen years, and the first 720 by the above ringers.

HORTON (Staffordshire).—On Sunday, May 6th, a party of ringers from Cheddleton rang a 720 of Bob Minor, with sixteen bobs and two singles, in 26 mins. J. Parker (first 720), 1; H. Rodgers, 2; J. Gilbert, 3; F. Clowes (conductor), 4; H. Birch (first 720), 5; J. Renshaw, 6. Tenor about 16 cwt. They were afterwards very kindly entertained by the vicar (the Rev. B. Blakeway), who provided them with refreshments, and congratulated them on the good work that was being done by the Association, both at his own and other towers.

THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

STREATHAM.—On Monday, May 7th, six members of the above Association rang at Emmanuel church, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor, in 26 mins. W. Shephard, 1; E. F. Cole, Esq., 2; D. Springall, 3; J. Fayers, 4; G. Pell, 5; S. Greenwood (conductor), 6. Also for practice the same evening, with H. Daniels, H. Pates, and W. Malim, Esqs., members of the above, a 216 of Stedman Triples and 518 of Grandsire Triples.

BIRCH-IN-RUSHOLME (Lancashire).—On Monday, May 5th, at St. James's church, the local company rang a 720 of Grandsire Minor, in 25½ mins. E. Borrowghs, 1; Wm. Woodhead (first 720), 2; Wm. E. Ryder (conductor), 3; F. Ryder, 4; R. Borrowghs, 5; Wm. H. Idle, 6. Tenor 13½ cwt.

BIRMINGHAM.—On Tuesday, May 8th, the St. Martin's company made an attempt for a peal of Stedman Cinques, but after ringing over 3 hours, the tenor rope came down, which brought the bells to a stand. Amos Cresser, 1; Job Joynes, 2; C. H. Hattersley (conductor), 3; H. Bastable, 4; W. R. Small, 5; H. Johnson, senr., 6; T. Miller, 7; J. Buffery, 8; S. Reeves, 9; F. H. James, 10; H. Johnson, junr., 11; T. Reynolds, 12. Tenor 36 cwt. in C.

BROMSGROVE (Worcestershire).—On Sunday, May 6, before evening service, nine of the St. John's society, with Mr. H. Martin, of Bell-broughton, being also members of the Worcester Diocesan Association, rang a quarter-peal of Bob Royal, in 50 mins. Joseph Crawford, 1; George Bourne, 2; William Duffill, 3; Thomas Albutt, 4; Henry Martin, 5; Henry Lawton, 6; George Hayward (composer and conductor), 7; Elijah Crump, 8; Walter Rea, 9; Reuben Broomfield, 10.

CAVENDISH (Suffolk).—On Tuesday, May 1st, at St. Mary's, a 720 of Cambridge Surprise, in 26½ mins. F. J. Thompson, 1; J. S. Page, 2; S. Slater (Glemsford), 3; A. Ives, 4; H. Thompson, 5; A. Hurst (conductor), 6. Also on Wednesday, May 2nd, on the occasion of the marriage of Mr. F. J. Thompson, the Hon. Secretary of the Cavendish society, a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob, in 26½ mins. Zach. Slater, 1; J. S. Page, 2; C. W. Hurst, 3; S. Slater, 4; H. Thompson, 5; A. Hurst (conductor), 6. Also the same evening, a 720 of New London Pleasure, with twenty-one bobs, in 27 mins. Z. Slater, 1; J. S. Page, 2; C. W. Hurst, 3; A. Ives, 4; S. Slater, 5; A. Hurst (conductor), 6.

FARNWORTH NEAR WIDNES (Lancashire).—On Thursday morning, May 3rd, at St. Luke's church, a 720 Grandsire Minor in 30 mins., with the bells deeply muffled for the funeral of the late Mr. Johnson, as a token of respect to his memory. The deceased had been a Church-worker for many years. *J. Large (conductor), 1; *A. Whitfield, 2; J. Wilde, 3; W. Patten, 4; *P. Case, 5; *J. T. Lowe, 6. Also on Sunday, May 6th, for Divine Service in the morning, with the bells half-muffled, a 720 of the same method, in 30 mins. J. Large, 1; A. Whitfield, 2; J. Wilde, 3; W. Patten, 4; J. T. Lowe, 5; J. Latchford (conductor), 6. Tenor 12½ cwt. in G. Those marked thus * are members of the Lancashire Association.

GLADWICK (Oldham, Lancashire).—At St. Mark's church, a 720 of Grandsire Minor (38 bobs and 22 singles), in 28 mins. John Hilton, 1; Jas. Priestley, 2; Fred Crosland, 3; Clement Dronsfield, 4; Samuel Stott, 5; George Henry Beever (conductor), 6. [No date given.] Messrs. Hilton and Stott hail from Lees; Priestley and Crosland from Oldham; and Dronsfield and Beever from Gladwick.

GREAT BARR (Staffordshire).—On Saturday, May 5th, at St. Margaret's church, ten 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles, each called differently, in 42 mins. John Sanders, 1; Edward Unitt, 2; Thomas Reynolds, 3; George Smith, 4; James Cotterell, 5; John Buffery (conductor), 6.

HAVERSTOCK HILL (Middlesex).—On Sunday evening, May 5th, at St. Martin's church, for Divine Service, a 720 of Plain Bob Minor (ten singles and eight bobs), in 26 mins. A. Jacob, 1; G. Griffin, 2; G. Stancombe, 3; J. Hannington (conductor), 4; G. Sheppard, 5; T. Titchener, 6. After service a 720 Oxford Treble Bob Minor, in 25 mins. J. Nixon, 1; G. Sheppard, 2; J. Hannington (conductor), 3; T. Titchener, 4; A. Jacob, 5; E. Chapman, 6. Also a 720 Double Court Bob Minor in 25 mins. J. Leach, 1; E. Chapman, 2; T. Titchener, 3; A. Jacob, 4; J. Hannington (conductor), 5; J. Barrett, 6. Also on Wednesday evening, May 9th, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor, in 26 mins. G. Griffin, 1; E. Chapman, 2; J. Nixon (first 720 with a bob bell), 3; J. Hannington (conductor), 4; A. Jacob, 5; G. Newson, 6. Tenor 12½ cwt.

LIVERPOOL.—Handbell Ringing.—On Sunday, May 6th, being the fifty-second birthday of Mr. Thos. Beacall, of this city, the following friends met at his house, Lark Lane, and rang on handbells the first half of Holt's 10-part peal (2520 changes), in 1 hr. 7 mins. T. Beacall, 1-2; J. Aspinwall (conductor), 3-4; J. R. Pritchard, 5-6; J. Davidson, 7-8.

LOUGHBOROUGH (Leicestershire).—On Sunday, May 6th, for morning service, on the occasion of a special sermon being preached in aid of the Parochial Sunday Schools, the Loughborough company rang a touch of 672 Grandsire Triples. T. Grundy, senr., 1; H. Bradley, 2; Jos. Hardy, 3; T. Cooper, 4; R. Lane, 5; J. W. Taylor, sen. (conductor), 6; J. W. Taylor, jun., 7; E. Wightman, 8. Tenor 24 cwt. in D.

MONEDDEN (Suffolk).—Handbell Ringing.—On Sunday, May 6th, after attending Divine Service, three of the Monedden handbell society rang, with the bells retained in hand, a 720 of Bob Minor, in

19 mins. Stephen Martin, 1-2; Joseph Tarrant, 3-4; R. H. Hayward (conductor), 5-6. This is the first 720 by Messrs. Martin and Tarrant and the first double-handed by the conductor.

NUNEATON (Warwickshire).—On Monday evening, May 7th, at St. Nicholas' parish church, the local company rang for practice, three 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles, each called differently. First: Wm. Adler, 1; Tho. Lingard, 2; J. J. Mawby, 3; Hy. Horwood, 4; Thos. Bates, 5; Wm. Powers, 6. Second and third: J. J. Mawby, 1; Tho. Lingard, 2; Wm. Powers, 3; Hy. Horwood, 4; Thos. Bates, 5; G. E. Swain, 6. First and second conducted by Hy. Horwood and the third by Wm. Powers. Tenor 14½ cwt. in E.

SPALDING (Lincolnshire).—On Sunday, May 6th, for evening service, at St. Paul's church, 360 Oxford Treble Bob Minor on the back six. C. Creasey, 1; E. Quinton, 2; J. W. Creasey, 3; R. Creasey (conductor), 4; J. Wilson (of the Essex Association), 5; J. Croxford, 6.

WARNHAM (Sussex).—On Sunday, May 6th, at St. Margaret's, 720 of Oxford Bob Minor, with thirty singles. J. Street, 1; W. Short, 2; T. Andrews, 3; H. Cook, 4; H. Wood, 5; H. Chantler, 6. Also 720 in the same method, with 22 singles. J. Street, 1; T. Worsfold, 2; G. Tullett, 3; T. Andrews, 5; W. Wood, 5; H. Chantler, 6. These were conducted by H. Chantler. Also a 720 of Canterbury Pleasure, with forty-two singles. E. Turner, 1; W. Short, 2; H. Chantler, 3; H. Wood, 4; T. Andrews, 5; H. Burstow, 6. Also a 720 of Oxford, with thirty-four bobs and twenty-six singles. J. Street, 1; H. Cook, 2; G. Tullett, 3; W. Wood, 4; T. Chantler, 5; H. Burstow, 6. They were conducted by H. Burstow. Also 720 of Canterbury Pleasure, with eighteen bobs and two singles. T. Chantler, 1; W. Short, 2; G. Tullett, 3; H. Wood, 4; T. Andrews, 5; H. Chantler, (conductor), 6. Also a 720 of Court Bob with thirty singles. H. Cook, 1; W. Short, 2; G. Tullett, 3; T. Andrews, 4; W. Wood, 5; H. Wood, 6. Conducted by H. Burstow.

STOKE-UPON-TRENT ARCHIDIACONAL ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday last (May 5th), the Leek District held their meeting at Biddulph. Ringers attended from Leek, and a good muster from the home society, whilst its close proximity to the pottery district drew ringers from Burslem and Stoke, Wolstanton and Norton. The belfry is made evidently to be "rung" in, as great difficulty was found in lookers-on getting seats. It is a lofty chamber, whitewashed, with a stone floor, but anything short in the belfry is quite made up by the bells (a ring of six), which are hung admirably, and are of a nice full tone. The Association meant business, and it will long be remembered as a useful meeting. It is the first meeting where two 720's were accomplished, and perhaps it may interest those who were not present to know that their Secretary handled the treble through his first 720. The performances, which were rung in excellent style, will be found on another page.

Tea was served in the schools attached, and the Revs. W. Hope and W. Bolton spoke to those assembled. A long afternoon came to an end about 11 p.m. The church is some distance from the village, and it is believed that the inhabitants (being at a safe distance) like the sound of the bells. Meetings for May 12th, Cheadle; 19th, Lawton; 26th, Uttoxeter.

S. STEPHEN'S, LEWISHAM, KENT.—DEDICATION OF A NEW BELL.

On Saturday last, May 5th, at Five o'clock p.m., the ceremony of dedicating the new bell, weighing 13½ cwt. (which has been cast for this church by Messrs. Mears and Stainbank, bellfounders, of White-chapel), took place. A large number of persons, comprising members of the congregation worshipping at S. Stephen's, and neighbouring residents, assembled to witness and to take part in the service, which consisted of psalms, anthems, and hymns, with appropriate collects and prayers, concluding with a sermon preached by the Rev. J. P. Waldo, Vicar of S. Stephen's, Kensington. The following is the inscription on the bell, which is of a very good tone:—

"Mears and Stainbank made me to call to prayer and Eucharist, the faithful of S. Stephen's, Lewisham, A.D. 1883.

R. RHODES BRISTOW, Vicar.

EVAN VAUGHAN,

EDWARD CAFFIN,

} Churchwardens.

The Master is come, and calleth for thee."

The church was erected about the year 1864, but the tower then commenced was left, and is still in a very unfinished state. When completed, the interior dimensions will be 15 feet between the walls, a grand finishing appendage to such a noble Gothic fabric. The new bell, which takes the place of a small one put up at the opening of the church—since taken down and hung for use in another church recently built in the parish—hangs in a temporary belfry placed partly over a portion of the future stair turret. It will form one of a ring of eight bells, which, with the completion of the tower and a spire, the worthy Vicar and Wardens are most anxious to soon see accomplished.

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."

"PEAL-SNATCHING."

SIR,—Mr. Dains wishes to know why the peal of 5088 was not published in 1873. I can only say I was not aware of any peals being published at that time in *Church Bells*; and as to me not claiming the peal when rang at St. Mary's, Lambeth, I have not taken that paper in for many years, and I was not aware of its performance till we had rung the peal at St. Peter's, Ashton, when Mr. Longden and Mr. S. Wood told me it had been published. Now Mr. Dains must not think we rang the peal a second time to claim it, it was because of its containing the extent of the 5th and 6th right, the 6th at nine different course-ends, which no other peal of 5088 contains. As to the 5040 of Treble Bob Royal not being published in the above-named paper, I can only say the same as I do of the Major—we were not aware of peals being published at this early time. I did not say Mr. Dains had copied this peal; I told him it was the same peal we rang at Dunham Massey, before the time of Snowden's work. Now as Mr. Dains has composed a new peal of 5040 for us, I think he had better keep it for himself, and leave us the original, thereby saving our ringers the trouble of erasing it from their book, to substitute the new one. As to the peal of 5000, rung at Ashton-under-Lyne on August 9th, 1879, composed and conducted by me, I must say I composed the peal, as well as my older brother-ringer, Mr. Joseph Riley. I never saw the peal before I composed it. We have not above one copy of Shipway's work in the town of Ashton-under-Lyne, and it is a long time since I saw it, but if the peal is in that work, as Mr. Dains says, I give up all claim to it.

Now to the questions put by Mr. Pitstow. What I have said to Mr. Dains will do for him so far as the questions *c* and *d* are concerned. As to questions *a* and *b*, I recollect the time well when Mr. Snowden wrote several letters to me, wishing me to oblige him with some of my peals. But I did not answer him, as I had made up my mind not to write to another book to have my peals taken and turned all ways, except it was to some one near at hand, such as the late Mr. Harrison. If Mr. Pitstow thought as I do, he would not like his peals turned the same as mine; for instance, if he will look at "THE BELL NEWS" for September, 1881, he will there find eight peals which he has taken from my peal of 8544, which I had in my book since 1869. This I do not call composing, as he makes use of the same natural course-ends, that is, four leads in every course are the same as those in the 8544. Annexed are two sister peals.

7008.									7104.								
2	3	4	5	6	M	O	W	H	2	3	4	5	6	M	O	W	H
3	5	2	6	4	-				3	5	2	6	4	-			
5	6	3	4	2	-				5	6	3	4	2	-			
6	4	5	2	3	-				6	4	5	2	3	-			
6	4	2	3	5	-	I			6	4	2	3	5	-	I		
3	6	2	4	5	I				3	6	2	4	5	I			
5	4	2	6	3	I	I	I		4	2	5	6	3	I	I		
6	5	2	4	3	I				3	2	6	5	4	I	2	I	
5	3	2	4	6	I		2		5	3	2	4	6	I		2	
3	4	2	5	6	I	-			3	4	2	5	6	I	-		

JOHN THORP.

SIR,—I cannot quite agree with the remarks of your correspondent upon this point. In my opinion it is infinitely better for one to know that his name is attached to one original composition than to a dozen of which belong to other persons. The only way to get at the truth of these things is either to publish, or send peals, as I and some others have done, to a recognised dépôt, there to be tested. Perhaps the peal may be there when sent by yourself, and so lost to the sender, if so, then the only way I know of is to set to work and compose another at once, better than the last if possible. Meanwhile, condole yourself that you are going on well, but have been forestalled by some one.

Mr. J. R. Pritchard has proved that two persons may compose the same peal. I am glad to know this, and may remind him that in the good-old-days-of-yore the same peal would probably be rung in three or four different places at various times, and in each instance would be given as composed by the local bob-caller. I cannot name an instance of the kind, and do not insinuate to any one person. But sir, you will see how easy the thing could be done. Surely this is not the system to which Mr. J. R. P. would have us return! I think not, as with all the faults and shortcomings of the present system, it certainly is better for one to know that he has a peal which is beyond impeachment, than to be ringing and calling one of doubtful originality his own.

Your correspondent then asks if he can be called a "peal-snatcher." Well sir, the fact is this: while he may have obtained the peal by legitimate means, any one may, I think, see that it could be obtained by less troublesome means. I hope he will not think me unkind, but

this appears to be the state of the case. Proving and composing are two different things: the one is finding if a thing will run true, the other is finding a thing that will run true; a slight distinction with a significant difference. To compose safely is no easy matter nowadays; one has to study about fifty times as much as was required of a proficient composer a few years ago. While every facility is given for such a study, yet a sharp outlook has to be kept for one to escape the censure of the multitude. Of course now and again a close cut is made to the wind, but one should always steer clear of variations and actual peals.

Your correspondent has my hearty good wishes, and I don't think he can be called a "peal-snatcher."

HENRY DAINS.

London, May, 1883.

BELFRY WINDOWS.

SIR,—I see in your excellent article of last week on the subject of Belfry Windows, the following sentence: "We will briefly say that belfry windows require to be large both in the ringing-loft and bell-chamber, where especial attention should be directed to the louvres; these might well be in clear plate-glass, set at the right angle." I am quite at one with your very sensible remarks, as to the desirability of a well-lighted ringing-loft, for if there is one thing more than another requisite for good ringing it is a sufficiency of light. May I, however, as a ringer, venture to suggest that it is possible to have the windows of the bell-chamber above too large, a common fault in modern towers, and that plate-glass louvres, even when set at the right angle, are a mistake. Here we have large windows and glass louvres, as your article advises, and the consequence is, we would gladly be rid of both.

BURTON-ON-TRENT.

IRON VERSUS WOOD.

SIR,—Some correspondence having appeared in your paper relative to iron v. wood as framework for bells, I offer my testimony in favour of the former.

We have here, in Liverpool, a fine peal of eight bells, at St. Luke's church, hung in iron by a local man (Mr. W. Gillibrand), which were cast by Downham, of Norfolk, the tenor weighing 16 cwt. They were first rung (I believe), in April, 1829, from which time till 1876, some very heavy work was done on them, both as regards peal-ringing and also twice each Sunday for service. In the latter year ringing for service was discontinued, and chiming substituted, but several peals have been rung on them since, in fact I rang the 7th no later than the 1st instant, in a peal of Grandsire Triples (Holt's 10-part).

The "go" of the bells are perfect in every respect, and so far as my experience of them goes (extending over twelve years), cannot be better, and the testimony of other ringers combined induce me to make the assertion that no peal of bells hung in wood could go better (considering the time they have been hung), and no repairs to speak of, required.

This I think, ought to close the correspondence regarding the question raised by those who profess to be in a "muddle" over the matter, and also prove conclusively that iron as a framework for bells is not at all a new idea.

JOHN R. PRITCHARD.

Liverpool.

"PAYMENT TO PERMANENT RINGERS ESSENTIAL."

THIS was the heading to an excellent article upon this subject written in 1873 by the Rev. H. T. Ellacombe, the venerable Rector of Clyst S. George, Devon. A correspondent has sent us a copy of it, for insertion in this paper, but we have not the space to spare for the purpose. We have also received from the same source a copy of the *Hampshire Advertiser*, which contains a protest, in the form of a letter, against the conduct of a churchwarden of the Church of the Holy Rhood (at Bournemouth, we suppose, as our correspondent writes from there) by name Bishop. The letter states that this gentleman refused to let the ringers have the keys to ring for a wedding unless they paid a guinea for the use of the bells! This is "Payment to Ringers" Reverse; a slight variation from the orthodox method. Mr. Bishop is evidently acquainted with the nature of a "dodge," though he "cuts" the wrong way. Mr. Bishop, churchwarden, has suddenly become notorious. When in years to come ringers ask each other if they have ever heard of Churchwarden Bishop, the story of his unreasonable demand will be recapitulated. Now the ringers have resigned in consequence, perhaps Mr. Bishop is happy.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION OF SIX-BELL RINGERS.

THE Annual Meeting of the above Society will be held at Eccleston, on Whit-Saturday, May 19th. The bells will be open for ringing from 1 o'clock, and Tea will be provided at 5 o'clock, after which the usual meeting will take place.

JOHN G. HIGSON, Sec.

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS.

5003.

By ROBERT WILLIAMS, *Liverpool.*

4 2 3 5 6*
 3 4 2 5 6 9th in three.
 2 3 4 5 6 9th in three.
 4 3 6 5 2 8 9
 6 3 2 5 4 8 9
 2 6 3 5 4 9th in three.
 3 2 6 5 4 9th in three.
 6 2 4 5 3 8 9
 4 6 2 5 3 9th in three.
 2 4 6 5 3 9th in three.
 6 4 3 5 2 8 9
 3 6 4 5 2 9th in three.

6 5 4 3 2 8th in three.
 4 6 5 3 2 9th in three.
 5 4 6 3 2 9th in three.
 6 4 2 3 5 8 9
 2 4 5 3 6 8 9
 5 2 4 3 6 9th in three.
 4 5 2 3 6 9th in three.
 2 5 6 3 4 8 9
 6 2 5 3 4 9th in three.
 5 6 2 3 4 9th in three.
 2 6 4 3 5 8 9
 4 2 6 3 5 9th in three.

The last twelve courses twice repeated,
 produce— 2 3 5 6 4

when by calling the 9th in and out at two with
 a double; two 9-8's, and 8th in three, the peal
 is completed.

*7th in and out at three.

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
 4 3 2 6 5 I I
 5 6 2 3 4 2 - 2 I
 5 4 6 3 2 2 I I
 4 3 5 2 6 -
 3 5 4 2 6 in and 5ths.
 5 4 3 2 6 in and 5ths.
 3 4 2 5 6 I - I
 4 5 2 3 6 I -

First rung on Saturday, May 5th, 1883, by the Royal
 Cumberlands, at S. George's, Camberwell; conducted by
 George Newson. (*Vide reports of performances.*)

A meeting of the committee intrusted to
 select a site for the cathedral building for the
 diocese of Liverpool, has been held. A list of
 the suggested sites was read, and various
 opinions were expressed respecting some of
 them. The city surveyor was in attendance to
 show sites on the largest ordnance map, and to
 mention the areas; but it was found that much
 information on various points required to be
 gathered, and this would be best done by a
 smaller committee, who should be authorised to
 call in the assistance of experts if necessary.

CHANGE-RINGING: A POEM.

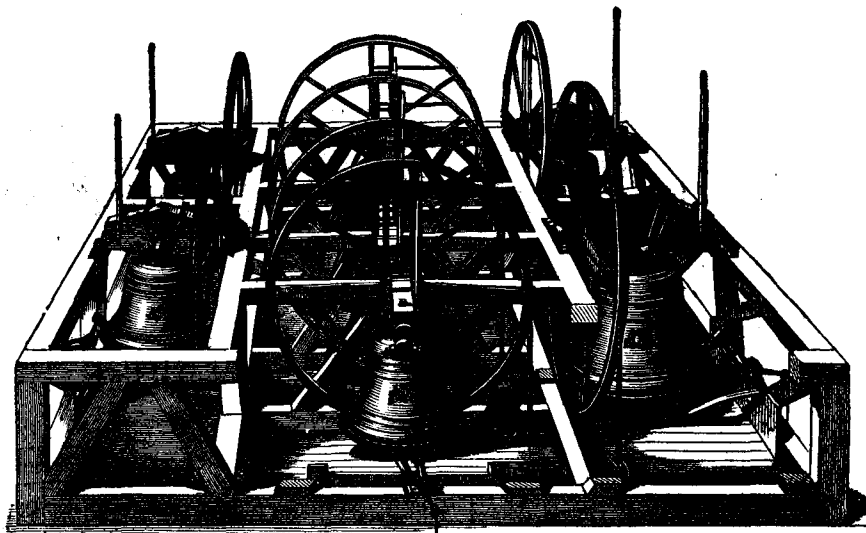
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 HANDBELLS, very old, and considered a very
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 ringers, bells from G 25 to G 04. Subscription for the whole year, 12s.
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 No. 91. Euterpe Mazurka, April number, 1s. 6d.
 Also, just out, new editions to No. 66.—"The Blue Bells of Scotland," one variation, 1s. No. 63.—"Glorious
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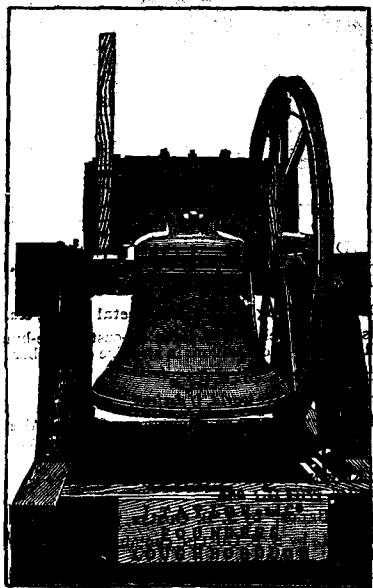
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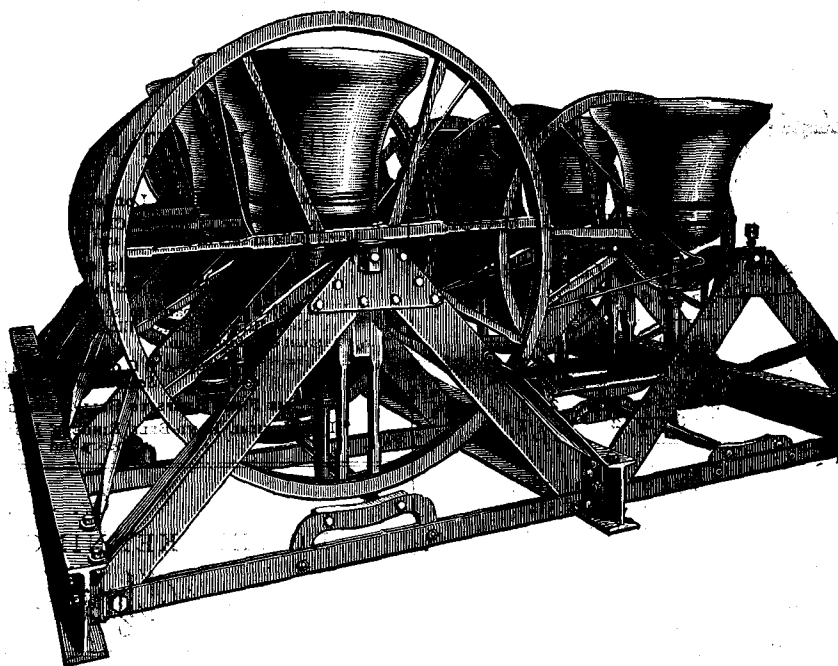
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No. 59. [NEW SERIES.]—VOL. II.

SATURDAY, MAY 19, 1883.

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"Its proportion of fruit acid, saline substances, and grape juice solids generally are exactly what they should be in a natural wine. The proportion of saccharine matter is appropriate in a wine intended chiefly for Altar use."

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See announcement on last page.

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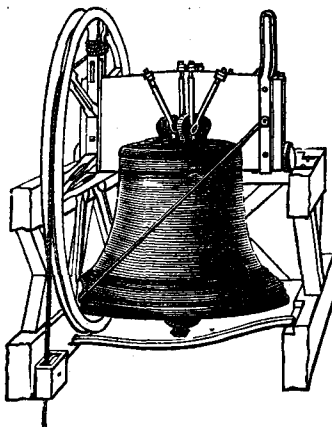
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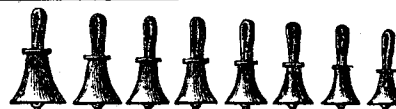
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OUR RING OF BELLS: HOW IT GREW.

BY AUDITOR TANTUM.

DURING the last fifteen or sixteen years several most interesting books have been compiled regarding the church bells of divers counties, giving the inscriptions on all the bells, and extracts from the parish registers and other records which throw light on their history. For these books we are indebted to the Rev. H. T. Ellacombe, to the Rev. Dr. Raven, to Messrs. L'Estrange, North, Daniel-Tyssen, and other gentlemen, whose industry and ability in collecting and arranging such masses of detailed information are beyond all praise.

As such works are of necessity very costly, and but few copies of each are printed, they are not generally accessible to the Exercise, and the present writer proposes, with the aid of some of these books, to give a short history of a few of the more interesting rings, and trusts that this preliminary acknowledgment of his indebtedness to the above-named gentlemen will absolve him from the accusation of piracy.

REDENHALL, NORFOLK: EIGHT BELLS.

In 1552, the sixth year of the reign of King Edward VI., the fine tower of Redenhall church contained five bells, ranging in weight from 10 cwt. to 24 cwt.; of these the only one which remains to this day is the venerable tenor. This very fine bell had been recast some thirty-eight years before (in 1514), at the foundry at Bury St. Edmunds, probably by Thomas Church. It bears for inscription an invocation to the Blessed Virgin, as "Stella Maris," or "Star of the Sea." After hanging in safety for upwards of 200 years, it had a narrow escape, for in 1722 it fell down. The ring is now in such good hands that there is no fear of a repetition of this disaster. Next to the tenor in age, and even superior in tone, is the sixth bell. This was recast at Thetford in 1588, by Thomas Draper, and is reputed to weigh 13 cwt. Very few bells by this worthy are now in existence, but while the Redenhall sixth and the tenor at Mattishall in the same county remain, Thomas Draper of Thetford will hold a place among the very best bell-founders.

The next of the Redenhall family is the 7th, aged 262 years. In 1621 she was taken to Thetford, to be recast by John Draper, son of Thomas, and came out of the furnace nearly 18 cwt. This was too heavy, for she was taken again to Thetford and again cast, 16 cwt. 6 lbs., as at this day. This John Draper did a very extensive business, nearly two hundred bells by him are still in existence, and their quality is generally excellent.

After this, nothing much was done for nearly 100 years, but in 1717 a treble was added to make the ring six. By this time the Thetford foundry had been closed, and the Norwich foundry was employed to provide a treble. This was done by John Stephens, who supplied the present 3rd bell, and in the following year recast the then 3rd bell, which had been split.

And now the art of change-ringing being extensively practised, the good folks of Redenhall determined to have the complete octave, and the necessary funds were promptly subscribed. The new work was entrusted to the Whitechapel foundry, at that time in the able hands of R. Phelps, who a few years before had turned out a noble ring of ten for S. Mary's, Cambridge, eight of which are still in that tower. Phelps provided two trebles for Redenhall, and a year or two later (in 1738) recast the 5th, which was, perhaps, too light, as cast by Stephens. This 5th is now "a fine strong bell, and the noisy one of the ring." Although this ring has been thus made up by degrees, the general result is surprisingly good, and the bells are in every way worthy of the eminent company who use them so ably.

LEICESTER—S. MARGARET: TEN BELLS.

This ring is very highly esteemed, one author goes so far as to write: "the noblest peal of ten bells, without exception, in England, whether tone or tune be considered, is said to be in S. Margaret's, Leicester." Having heard the Bow, Exeter, and Coventry bells, but never having heard the Leicester bells, I can only say "these be prave 'ords;" and when I get a chance I will go to Leicester and hear for myself.

The old ring of six, cast in the second half of the sixteenth century, being considered unsatisfactory, Hugh Watts, the celebrated bell-founder of Leicester, was called in to provide a better ring, in 1633. Hugh Watts had been in the business for upwards of thirty years, and had obtained a high reputation; specimens of his work are still found in considerable numbers, and are noted for the beauty and fullness of their tone. He had attained to the dignity of Mayor of Leicester, and was no doubt anxious to surpass all he had previously achieved, so when the arrangements for casting the tenor bell (which was to weigh 30 cwt.) were in an advanced state, young Francis Watts, Hugh's second son, persuaded his father to go up to London and hear the best-toned tenor there before the final casting. So Hugh started for town, and as soon as his back was turned Master Francis cast the bell; not being pleased with it he cast it again, and contrived to have the bell hung before his father's return, and to let him hear it ringing

as he entered the town. Hugh was delighted to hear a bell better than the best in London, and this grand bell still remains the masterpiece of Master Francis Watts.

Watts' ring of six was thought all that was wanted for some eighty years, when Abraham Rudhall, of Gloucester, was employed in 1711 to add two trebles. In 1738, Mr. William Fortrey, of King's Norton, an enthusiastic admirer of church bells, proposed to make the ring ten. He employed Thomas Eayre, of Kettering, who recast Rudhall's bells, and added two trebles. In the following year he recast Hugh Watts' second bell (the present 6th), and in order to give his testimony to the great reputation obtained by the old founder, placed upon it the following inscription: "Hugh Watts of Leicester the foremost in his art cast the six largest bells in 1633." At the same time the whole ring was rehung, Mr. Fortrey bearing the greatest portion of the expense. The bells are now as they were left by Eayre in 1739, and it was lately found that they are in a dangerous state, and cannot be rung until they have been rehung.

EXETER CATHEDRAL: TEN BELLS.

This ring is in several respects remarkable; the tenor weighs no less than 67 cwt., and the ring of ten was made complete so long ago as 1676. The bells have unfortunately never been in the hands of change-ringers, and have not been thoroughly overhauled for upwards of 100 years; the larger bells are usually rung at something a good way short of a set pull, and hence the gudgeons are irregularly worn, so that a fabulous number of men is employed to ring the ten bells. I forget how many tail-ropes are attached to the tenor, I think not less than five. Now all this is an anachronism. If the bells were properly hung by a competent bell-hanger, Caters could no doubt be rung, even if two men were needed to keep up the mighty tenor. The tone of these bells is so fine that it is a thousand pities they are not used for changes.

In 1552 there were eight bells in the south tower, and although none of these identical bells are still in existence, yet we find the names "Grandison," "Stafford," and "Doom," which are still used.

In 1616 one John Birdall was employed that a ring of eight bells in the south tower might be made perfect and tuneable; the present 2nd bell was cast by Birdall at that time.

In 1630, the fourth bell (a flat) called "Pongamouth," was recast by Thos. Pennington, of Exeter; this is an extra bell, and is not used with the ten. In 1658 the 3rd was recast by John Pennington.

In 1676 much more was done. Thos. Perdue of Closworth, cast the 4th (a natural), the 7th, "Gobthorne" (weighing 30½ cwt.), and the 9th, "Stafford" (weighing nearly 41 cwt.). Two years later the bells were all hung "sally way," at a cost of £60. In 1693, No. 6—"Doom-bell"—was recast by Th. Perdue. Lastly, in 1729, Wm. Evans, of Chepstow, recast the treble, the 5th, the 8th (called "old nine o'clock"—38 cwt.), and the tenor, "Grandison." Mr. Ellacombe justly remarks: "Looking at the various dates of the several bells which compose this noble ring, surpassed by none in the kingdom either in weight of metal or richness of tone, it is a matter of surprise that they harmonise so perfectly together." As to the question whether such heavy bells are fit for change-ringing, I would only remark that the tenor is, after all, only 5 cwt. heavier than the tenor at S. Paul's Cathedral, London; if the Dean and Chapter will have the bells rehung by a competent firm, the members of the Devon Guild will do the rest.

AYLSHAM, NORFOLK: TEN BELLS.

The graceful tower of Aylsham Church was provided with a ring of five bells so long ago as the beginning of the 16th century, for in 1529 a worthy shoemaker of the town bequeathed money for "a tribill belle to the five bellys in the steeple of Ailsham." This bequest however did not take effect, for in 1552 there were still only five bells. None of these veterans remains. The oldest of the present ring is the 6th, which was cast by E. Tooke of the Norwich foundry in 1677, who at the same time recast the next largest bell. Tooke died soon after, and was succeeded by S. Gilpin, who in 1700 was employed to increase the ring to eight. At that time the present tenor (20 cwt.) and 5th bells were cast, as well as two others no longer in existence; the result was not very satisfactory, for seven years later the treble had to be recast. In 1726 John Stephens, also of Norwich, recast the present 8th bell, then the 6th, at a cost of upwards of £17.

A few years later, in 1741, a travelling bell-founder, Thos. Newman, recast the 9th bell (at that time the 7th) on the spot, and we may imagine what excitement this would cost in the quiet old market town. Bricks were bought for the furnace, and three loads of clay; the labourers were treated with ale, and money was spent on a special cleaning up of the Church after the bell was "run." The Aylsham men were great change-ringers, and the ring was increased to ten before 1753. But the small bells were not satisfactory, and just at the time when the superb ring of twelve was being hung in the tower of S. Peter's at Norwich, the Aylsham men called in Messrs. Osborn and Arnold of S. Neot's, by whom Nos. 1, 2, 3, and 4 were cast in 1755.

Osborn, soon after this, left Arnold and set up for himself a foundry at Downham, in the hundred of Clackclose, in West Norfolk. From this foundry some 50 years excellent bells were turned out, at first by Osborn, and then by his grandson Dobson. These bells are to be found in great numbers in the Eastern Counties, and as far from home as Yorkshire and Lancashire.

The ring of ten thus formed at Aylsham was well employed and cared for, till it was found necessary in 1860 to recast the larger of Tooke's bells; this work was done by G. Mears of London. It was reported a year or two ago that some of the bells were going very "false"; the veteran ringers of Aylsham should see to this, and also take care to bring on young hands, that this interesting old ring may not want ten men to handle it in the proper manner.

CAMBRIDGE—GREAT S. MARY: TWELVE BELLS.

In 1514 Thomas Church, of Bury St. Edmunds, was employed to cast a tenor bell for St. Mary's, Cambridge. The addition of this tenor made a ring of four in that tower. This tenor was recast in 1595, and in 1596 "all the bells were rung out" which "never was before." In 1611 the bells were cast into five by John Yorke of Cambridge, who received £18 for his work; the old tenor, however, seems to have been preserved. In 1620 and 1621 two of the bells were again cast and another added, making the ring six—this was probably the work of Tobias Norris of Stamford. In 1667 two more bells were added, perhaps by R. Gurney of Bury St. Edmunds. Thus was formed a complete ring of eight with the tenor of 18½ cwt., and this advance we may fairly attribute to the influence of Fabian Stedman, who lived at Cambridge at that time, and may be called "the father of the science." Changes were first rung about 1600, but with five bells they could only make twenty variations, called the "twenty-all-over"; to make these, each leading bell in turn went up behind, while the others made no more change than to make room for the one bell which moved. By another method, 48 changes, called "Cambridge eight-and-forty," were obtained on five bells; the treble and 2nd never being allowed to go behind, and the 4th and 5th never coming to lead. Next a complete six-score was discovered, in which the treble had a plain hunt, but the peal consisted entirely of single changes, which looks complicated to a modern eye. An immense step was taken when a rule was made that every bell which could move should do so. The adoption of this principle soon led to the discovery of "Old Doubles" and "Grandsire," and Fabian Stedman surpassed even these with his "New Doubles" and "Stedman's principle." Stedman published his "Campanologia" in 1677, and it is interesting to learn that 1680 was the greatest number of changes that had been rung up to that time.

In the early part of the 18th century the Whitechapel foundry had acquired a high reputation in the hands of Richard Phelps; in 1722 Phelps was called in to furnish a ring of ten for St. Mary's, and he did so; his tenor weighing just over 26 cwt. Nearly fifty years later, in 1770, Pack and Chapman, of the same foundry, cast the present tenor. As it does not appear that Phelps' tenor was broken, and as the present bell is more than 3 cwt. heavier than its predecessor, the reason for the change was probably because the old tenor was somewhat too light. The new bell, a "maiden," is renowned for the excellence of her tone. In 1825 Phelps' 9th bell (upwards of 21 cwt.) was recast by Dobson of Downham; Dobson's bell is a very beautiful one, and worthy of her place beside the tenor. Thus of the ten cast by Phelps the eight smallest bells are still in their places.

The ringers were so pleased with the new tenor that they raised subscriptions and bought two trebles from the Whitechapel foundry in 1773. The less we say about these bells the better; during my time at Cambridge I only remember their being used once in three years; indeed they spoil the ten, and should be recast. I may mention that the Cambridge bells hang the wrong way, and that the ceiling of the ringing-room is dangerously low. The famous quarters, which are now being copied all over the country, are founded on a phrase in Handel's lovely air, "I know that my Redeemer liveth," and, lastly, in this tower in 1788 was rung the "longest length" of Plain Bob Maximus, 6600 changes.

(To be continued.)

THE BRADFORD OLD COMPANY.

ON Whit-Monday, the Bradford Old Company paid a visit to Lytham. On arriving, they were met by the Vicar and the local company. After ringing a short touch, they attempted a peal of Kent Treble Bob, but after ringing about an hour, they were obliged to stop owing to one of the company being seized with cramp. They spent the remainder of the day in the delightful seaside resort, and returned home well pleased with their outing. The peal is one of Mears and Stainbank's, in F#; the tone of the bells is excellent, and the peal in first-class ringing order.

* * Correspondents will be good enough to bear in mind that their communications are likely to be delayed if not forwarded direct to our office.

STOKE-UPON-TRENT ARCHIDIACONAL ASSOCIATION.

CHEADLE was the fixture for last Saturday, and although many things were against holding a good meeting, the weather being bad, and the distance great from any station, a very pleasant time was spent amongst ringers from Hanley, Stoke, Leek, Norton, and the home society.

Tea was served in the Wheat Sheaf Hotel, at which the churchwarden and the curate attended, and interested themselves with the ringers and their doings.

Some handbell ringing was indulged in after tea, and a pleasant outing broke up about 10 p.m.

The old Church, full of reminiscences, has been pulled down, and one of the style of sixty years ago been built in its stead. The tower is a substantial one, and contains a nice peal of six. They are of good tune, and go easy. The belfry-chamber is curiously placed, being in the gallery at the back of the organ, this of course entails a long pull. The association generally manages to carry out the suggestions of the writer in this paper, what to look at when others are handling the sallies, and very interesting things are week by week come across. In this churchyard lie the remains of Judge Hales, and a notable warrior, Lieutenant Blood, whose deeds require over three-thousand letters to record. Here also the ancient custom of ringing the Curfew bell is still retained.

Meetings: 19th, Lawton; 26th, Uttoxeter.

OVERTON, NEAR FRODSHAM, CHESHIRE.

ON Saturday afternoon, May 5th, a mixed company of the Daresbury and Warrington Societies visited the pretty little village of Overton, which in summer is frequented by great numbers of pleasure seekers, chiefly on account of the beautiful scenery which can be viewed from the summits of the hills. The church has recently been restored, but the tower, containing a ring of six mellow-toned bells, has undergone no other alterations than that the belfry-floor has been lowered some six or seven feet, and the tower arch thrown open to the church. The bells, hung many years ago, having very large wheels, and consequently a great length of rope in hand, are ill adapted for change ringing; but by the kind permission of the Vicar, the Rev. H. B. Blogg, the company raised the bells in peal, and afterwards rang two 720's of Bob Minor, in 30 and 28 minutes respectively, conducted by Mr. J. Webb. J. Webb (Warrington), 1; P. Johnson (Daresbury), 2; T. Critchley (Warrington), 3; P. Hamblett (Daresbury), 4; G. Bebbington, junr. (Warrington), 5; T. Houghton, junr. (Daresbury), 6. Tenor about 18 cwt. A 720 of Bob Minor was rung at this church in 1875 by the Daresbury society, which was said to be the only 720 rung on the bells for upwards of half-a-century.

THE HERTFORD COLLEGE YOUTHS.

ON Whit-Tuesday, the 15th instant, the members of this society paid a visit to Baldock, and were much pleased with the fine ring of eight bells which have recently been overhauled by Messrs. Taylor, of Loughborough, and put into good ringing order. The tenor is about 28 cwt.

After dining together in the parish room, which was kindly placed at their disposal by the Rev. Canon Kewley, the ringers proceeded to Hitchin, and rang several touches at St. Mary's church, where there is another good ring of eight, the tenor weighing about the same as at Baldock. Several touches of Grandsire and Stedman Triples, and Bob Major, amounting in the aggregate to more than 4000 changes, were brought round during the day.

The members present were: the Rev. Woolmore Wigram, Messrs. A. Baker, H. Baker, F. G. Crawley, J. G. Crawley, J. Cull, F. George, J. Godfrey, J. Staples, H. J. Tucker, and C. Tyler. Mr. W. A. Alps, of Waltham, and Messrs. Frossell and Biggs, of Bedford, joined the party at Baldock.

THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

ON Whit-Monday, May 14th, the following members of this Association, by the kind invitation of E. F. Cole, Esq., visited Immanuel church, Streatham, and attempted a peal of Stedman Triples, but owing to a mishap in the tenth course, the conductor called "stand." J. W. Trappitt, 1; E. F. Cole, Esq., 2; E. Bennett, 3; D. Springhall, 4; G. Pell, 5; J. Fayers, 6; S. Greenwood (conductor), 7; J. Zealey, 8. The company then adjourned to the Beehive Coffee Tavern, and partook of a substantial meat tea, generously provided by E. F. Cole, Esq. They again repaired to the tower, and with Messrs. W. Shepherd, G. Russell, and B. Fosskett, rang several touches in the following methods: Kent Treble Bob Major, Grandsire Major, Plain Bob Major, Stedman Triples, Plain Bob Triples, Union Triples, Grandsire Triples, and also a 6-score of Grandsire Doubles to oblige a stranger who came into the tower while ringing was going on. The company returned home after enjoying a most agreeable afternoon.

ANNUAL MEETING OF THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Whit-Monday, May 14th, the Annual Meeting of the above Association was held at Chelmsford, the tower and bells of S. Mary's Church being placed at the service of the members by kind permission of the Rector and Churchwardens. The muster was not so large as last year, but this may in some degree be accounted for by the fact of a Special Meeting having been held in the same neighbourhood but a short time ago.

Ringling commenced at 11.15, and at 12.30 Service was held at S. Mary's, at which a most eloquent and appropriate address was given by the Ven. Archdeacon Carey on Ps. cxxxiv., in the course of which he called attention to the suitability of this psalm, the last of those entitled "songs of degrees" (or "steps"), to the present gathering of those, who, in the performance of their duty, ascend the "stairs" which lead to the belfry, or as the word really means the "Castle of Peace," it being derived from two old English words—"bel" meaning "castle," and "fry," "freedom" or "peace," and being in no way connected, as is generally thought, with the word bell. The words "Ye that by night stand in the house of the Lord" seemed to him specially adapted to ringers, who so often are engaged in their work at night; and, considering all this, he wished to impress upon them the duty enjoined in the next verse in the words "Lift up your hands in the Sanctuary, and praise the Lord." He asked them not to grieve the Holy Spirit of God by absenting themselves from the service to which they had just summoned all who were within sound of their bells; and when they went to ring either for practice or for service, to remember that they were engaged in a work for God, as His servants, and had not met together for mere amusement.

At two p.m. forty sat down to a cold dinner, provided by Mr. Hicks, in the Charity School, which had been kindly lent by the Trustees, the Rev. J. D. Maine, Curate of Chelmsford, kindly presiding in the unavoidable absence of the Rector. Dinner over, and the usual loyal toast of "the Queen" having been duly honoured, the Secretary announced that as Archdeacon Carey had to leave at once, he would now, instead of at the usual time, propose a most hearty vote of thanks to him for his most impressive and appropriate address, and in so doing he could not forbear expressing a hope that all who had heard that address would remember and act up to the advice which they had received. The Archdeacon, in replying, spoke of the pleasure it gave him to come amongst them, and of the close way in which he should in future be connected with ringers, seeing that it was now his duty to inspect the towers of the churches in his district.

The members then proceeded to business, the Rev. C. P. Greene of Coggeshall taking the Chair. The minutes of the last meeting, at which the Rules of the Association were revised, were read by the Secretary and confirmed, and the Secretary then read his Report for the past year, which showed that the Association had been making progress in all ways. The Accounts shewed a balance in hand of £3 9s. 3d., besides a deposit of £41 12s. 11d. in the Savings Bank, and several subscriptions still unpaid. The Secretary drew attention to the very great trouble caused by the carelessness of members in not paying their subscriptions when due, and expressed a hope that in future there would be less ground for complaint. The President, Vice-Presidents, Committee, and Hon. Sec. of the past year were then unanimously re-elected. The following members were elected: honorary—the Rev. A. L. Hunt, Maldon, Mr. T. E. Bland, Maldon, and Mr. J. Dutton, Chelmsford; ringing: Mr. J. Porter, Little Heath; probationers: Mr. H. Smith, Rayleigh, and Mr. J. Battle, Galleywood.

It was suggested by Mr. Randall that some steps should be taken by the Secretary in the matter of Certificates of Membership. Mr. S. Hayes suggested that it would be well if the Secretary would communicate with the authorities of the G.E.R., with a view to the issue of tickets to members attending the Annual Meeting, at single journey fares. The Secretary made some severe comments on a letter written some months back to the *Chelmsford Chronicle* by "a member of the E.A.C.R. and C.Y." Having spoken of the unpleasant and carping tone of the letter, which referred to "a muffled peal" rung by the Chelmsford ringers at the funeral of the late Mr. Baker, he warned those present of the great harm which such a spirit may do to the Association, and of the ill-feeling caused amongst ringers by it.

Mr. S. Hayes referred to the matter of the Galleywood and Writtle peal-boards, and, after some discussion, it was agreed that though the resolution passed at the last Annual Meeting could not be reversed, it was much to be regretted, and that in future it would be most undesirable to pay for such boards out of the funds of the Association. Rule XII. will in future prevent the members being taken by surprise by such a motion.

Votes of thanks having been passed to the Rector and Churchwardens for the use of the church and the bells, to the Trustees of the Charity School for the use of the room, and to Mr. Greene for occupying the chair, the meeting concluded.

Some good ringing was got through in the course of the day, the most noticeable touches being a 504 of Grandsire Triples before the

service, a touch of Kent Treble Bob Major previous to the dinner, and another shortly after the meeting, three courses of Bob Major, and a date touch of Grandsire Triples, conducted by the Hon. Sec., which brought the day's ringing to a close. Particulars of this touch will be found amongst our ringing news.

Amongst those who were present at the Dinner were Archdeacon Carey, General Carey, R.E., the Revs. C. P. Greene and G. L. H. Ley (Coggeshall), J. D. Nairne (Chelmsford), and H. A. Cockey, Hon. Sec., Mr. E. Durrant, and Messrs. J. M. Hayes, S. Hayes, H. Randall, H. Bowell (Ipswich), E. J. Comb (Hampstead), W. Chalk, J. Young, W. Hawkes, E. Scotcher, E. Clayden, &c., &c.

Six of the Maldon ringers rang at Broomfield on their way to Chelmsford, a 360 Oxford Treble Bob Minor and 720 Bob Minor; and a mixed band rang a 720 Bob Minor at Galleywood in the morning.

Copies of the Revised Rules may be obtained from the Secretary.

THE S. MARY'S SOCIETY, BATTERSEA, SURREY.

ONE of those pleasant gatherings which bell-ringers occasionally enjoy took place at Whitsuntide, at Birchington, Kent, that pretty and rising seaside resort, about four miles this side Margate. Some of the members of the above society journeyed down to this spot in the Isle of Thanet, on Saturday last, and extended their stay until the following Monday evening. Capital quarters were provided at the New Inn, and on Saturday evening the visitors gave a display of their skill in Quex Park belfry, by the kind permission of the owner, H. H. P. Cotton, Esq., who thoughtfully looked after the comforts of the vigorous ringers by providing refreshment to enable them to perform the task with due spirit. On Sunday morning, a trip to Margate, to ring for morning service, and then after a good dinner, the proprietor of the New Inn provided an excellent conveyance, and in brilliant weather the ringers enjoyed a drive through the charming scenery of the Isle of Thanet, by way of Minster, and thence to Pegwell Bay, returning through Ramsgate, Broadstairs, and Margate. The beauties of the spring season charmed the eye, and the fresh air invigorated the bodies of the party, who were joined on Monday morning by more of the Battersea company. Touches of Grandsire Triples were rung at Quex Park by Messrs. H. S. and A. G. Thomas, Orchard, Ludwig, Baron, Chown, and Ambrose, with Messrs. Reed, Wiltshire, and Painter, of the local company, conducted by Mr. W. Baron. Mr. T. B. Reed, who has charge of the bells, keeps them in excellent condition, and is well-known in the locality for the warm interest he takes. After a good dinner a lively game at "rounders" took place, and the return home was occupied with reminiscences of the agreeable outing.

RUNCORN, CHESHIRE.

ON Whit-Monday, the 14th instant, a mixed band visited the parish church of Runcorn, the bells having been placed at their disposal by the Rev. Canon Barclay, Vicar. An attempt was made for a peal of a peal of Bob Major, 5040 changes, but, unfortunately, a "shift" occurred after ringing about 2500 changes, and "stand" had to be called. S. Gough (Garston), 1; J. Errington (Chester), 2; F. Turner (Garston), 3; J. Gibson (Chester), 4; J. R. Pritchard (Liverpool), 5; J. Moulton (Chester), 6; C. Price (Chester), 7; J. Aspinwall (Liverpool) 8. Conducted by J. Aspinwall. Afterwards a 720 of Grandsire Minor was rang in 26½ mins. S. Hoxworth (Runcorn), 1; T. Beacall, (Liverpool), 2; J. Davidson (Liverpool), 3; J. Aspinwall, 4; J. R. Pritchard (conductor), 5; F. Turner, 6. Several touches were also rung upon handbells (retained in hand), by Messrs. Aspinwall, Beacall, Davidson, and Pritchard, of Liverpool; and Messrs. Errington, Gibson, Price, and Moulton, of Chester, and comprised a touch of Grandsire Maximus (conducted by T. Beacall); and 612 of Grandsire Caters and 224 of Kent Treble Bob Major (conducted by J. Moulton); like several 500's of Grandsire Triples, conducted alternately by T. Beacall and J. Aspinwall.

MEETING OF RINGERS AT BOURNEMOUTH.

ON Whit-Monday, several of the Salisbury ringers visited Bournemouth, and rang for Divine Service in the morning, at St. Peter's church, several six-scores of Grandsire Doubles, with the 4th, 6th, and tenor as a cover. A. Grist, 1; C. Staden, 2; T. Blackburn, 3; W. Lanham, 4; H. Marrett, 5; J. Tapper, 6; J. R. Jerram, 7; G. Davenport, 8. Also some with H. Garrett, 3; and C. Clements, 4. Tenor 20 cwt.

A public meeting was recently held in the public hall, Carlisle, for the purpose of considering the report of the Dean Close Memorial Committee. It was reported that the Dean and Chapter had given permission for the erection of a recumbent effigy on the stone bench in the second bay of the south aisle. A committee was appointed to receive subscriptions, and it was stated that about £1000 would be required.

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

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" 3 "	1s. 8d.

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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.

W. D. (West Ham).—We would, as you know, have not the least objection to insert your communication, if it were yours, but we cannot admit the remarks of anonymous writers, taken from local papers, who nine times out of ten, are not acquainted with ringing matters. We should, by inserting what you have sent, be publishing statements by (to us) some one unknown, which we are sure you would not wish us to do.

W. DUFFILL.—You should have sent earlier, then the figures of the peal would have found a place in this number.

The Bell News & Ringers' Record.

SATURDAY, MAY 19, 1883.

In the month of April, in the year 1868, one, if not the most remarkable peal of the present century was rung at the parish church of St. Matthew, Bethnal Green, London. This performance, as many of our readers are aware, was a peal of 15,648 changes of Treble Bob Major, composed by the celebrated THOMAS DAY, of Birmingham. About this time, a greater length in this method was produced by the same composer. It is a debateable point, however, whether DAY had not obtained the greater length previous to the 15,000 being rung. An impression prevails in some quarters that he had. Be this as it may, a 16,000—we dispense with the odd hundreds—soon appeared, and this peal was reported, and was for some time believed to have been rung, in nine hours and forty-eight minutes, at Earlsheaton, Yorkshire.

It is not intended here to give more than a hasty sketch of one or two of the events which transpired in connection with the performance last mentioned. It had been published in the columns of our contemporary as a true peal, a statement believed in for some time by the Exercise; but various surmises, which found expression in a mass of correspondence, made public, threw grave doubts upon the matter, when a most conclusive letter, written, we believe, by Mr. JAMES LOCKWOOD, eventually dissipated what hopes were favourably entertained with regard to it.

In our last number appeared a notice of the intentions of two skilful ringing companies, in different parts of the country, to attempt DAY's 16,000. Since we commenced this article, we have received information that the first of these, by eight members of the Norwich Association, at

Debenham, in Suffolk, has resulted in failure, through the indisposition, before the first part-end had been reached, of one of the band. The opportunity is thus afforded to the Ashton-under-Lyne company—who before these lines are read will have probably made the attempt—to ring this length in Treble Bob Major for the first time.

It would be a step in the right direction if the chief ringing centres would send an accredited representative at such times when anything of an especial character, such as those we are dealing with, is attempted. It is no reflection upon the abilities or honesty of any company attempting such a length to say that competent and unprejudiced persons should be appointed, who could note down the peal as it progressed. And the favourable testimony—if successful—accorded to such performances by their brethren from a distance, must be a source of satisfaction to ringers themselves. It would be a most appropriate duty for the College Youths or Cumberlands to take upon themselves. Not only could the peal be verified by such means, but notes on the quality of the striking, and other interesting particulars, could be embodied in a report, which we should be glad to reproduce in our columns. Such a plan if adopted, would be the means of detecting any irregularity, and prevent the publication of anything which may afterwards turn out to be valueless.

WINDOW TRACERY.

In past numbers we have attempted to point out the gradual growth and development of the openings in walls for sundry purposes. It was shown how the mere slits were first multiplied by being placed side by side, and the space above them often pierced, the whole being encircled with a hood-moulding of stone externally. This early variety is called plate-tracery, the openings being cut through a plate of stone. Bar-tracery begins in the latter part of the second period of pointed architecture, soon afterwards tre-foils and quatre-foils (meaning three-leaved, and four-leaved respectively), not enclosed in circles, were developed.

The heads of the windows were at first cut out in the solid, but afterwards became actually part of the tracery. During the fourteenth century the lines of windows take a flowing character, very often many individual counties have their characteristic type. Kentish-tracery, as it is called, belongs to this date, and is very difficult to describe, but may be defined as cusping the cusps; one form is very beautiful, and exactly resembles an oak leaf; this is seen at Chartham in a series of windows, Bobbing, and one or two old domestic moat-houses. Our own country possesses quite a national style of window-tracery, which to describe simply is to say that the lines are reduced to right angles, a tendency to this is seen in the later fourteenth century examples; though not rigidly designed, as during the fifteenth century. The type of tracery simultaneously used on the continent was called the "flamboyant" i.e. flamelike, instances of this are seen in places open to shipping intercourse as Rye, and the Scotch abbeys. The development of the "Perpendicular"

type as it is always called, tended to prevent the fourteenth century types from going into insipidity, as was the case in Germany, where they actually began to carve real imitations of trunks of trees at the inposts of a door or window. No further development of window-tracery has ever taken place, a sort of compromise is occasionally attempted in Palladian buildings by placing pilasters in the opening, supporting semi-circles, as seen in a little church opposite Cannon Street Station, this is a restoration, whatever that means, the same too at St. Michael's, Cornhill, the grand tower of which, however, shows how Sir CHRISTOPHER WREN could deal with mullions, etc., when desired. The Westminster Abbey towers will at once be quoted as instances to the contrary, but it now seems very improbable that Sir CHRISTOPHER WREN did after all actually design them, but a later architect. The word tracery was first used by WREN as designating the decorated supports of a window arch: we may remark that it is, if rightly designed, essentially constructive. The same person also first styled the pointed architectural periods of the thirteenth, fourteenth, and fifteenth centuries respecting "Gothic."

In reply to "BURTON-ON-TRENT," it should be mentioned that there is no decay about plate-glass, which only requires to be deep enough internally; if not suitable to the style of architecture, to project externally. Papers on "Tower Design" are appearing in the *Building News*, in odd numbers.

WHAT TO OBSERVE WHEN ANOTHER COMPANY IS HANDLING THE SALLIES.

[THIRD PAPER.]

In our last article reference was made to the Italian or Palladian style, also the copying of pure Grecian detail, and the debased periods. This brings us up to about 1830, or a little later, and of the pointed new churches of that time it is generally observed a tendency to copy the actual detail of old examples, without the arrangements or divisions of the structure. What would have followed if Pugin had never lived is difficult now to tell. Would the Palladian style have again taken root, or otherwise? The career of this extraordinary man is surprising; he set to work to reform Catholic and Protestant structures alike; nothing was right in his eyes in building matters that had been done since the fifteenth century; he wrote, worked, carved, single-handed, in the most eccentric way, the fruit has been the constant adoption of the three periods of the pointed style, in all new churches in both communions, excepting for a few order of priests, such as Brompton oratory, etc. Within the last few years the first pointed style has assumed a certain manner of originality in some hands: such is St. John's, Red Lion Square, more by departing from fixed types. In few new churches are the belfries well-lighted, or at all large, Sir E. Beckett calls them enlarged chimneys, such is, however, not always the case. What the ringer will notice in new churches will be the character of the new stained glass windows, the excellence or otherwise of the materials, labour, etc., and above all, the cleanliness, or reverse, too often the latter. The church is not an outhouse. Nothing can be too excellent here, not a single dirty corner within or without should be found, no shed or outhouses against the walls.

The following was published during the life of Augustus Pugin, after the appearance of one of his writings:

Oh! have you seen the work just out,
By Pugin the great builder?
Architectural contrasts he's made out,
Protestants to bewilder.

The Catholic Church—she never knew,
Till Muster Pugin taught her,
That Orthodoxy had to do
At all with bricks and mortar.

But now its clear to one and all,
Since he's published his lecture,
No Church is Catholic at all,
Without Gothic architecture.

In fact he quite turns up his nose
At any style that's recent,
The Gracian, too, he plainly shews,
Is wicked and ondecant.

There's not a bit of pious taste,
Ever since the Reformation;
'Twas Harry the VIIIth—the nasty baste—
Who introduced the Gracian.

When they denied the truth outright
Of Transubstantiation,
They built them then in composite,
That great abomination.

Next thing their frien's, to build dozing pews
In the most systematic way, go;
They'll be kilt, they say, the other way,
With rheumatics and lumbago.

MORAL.

Some raise a front up to the street,
Like ould Westminster Abbey,
And then they think the Lord to cheat,
And build the back part shabby;

For stuccoed bricks, and sich-like tricks,
At present all the rage is;
They took no one in, those fine old min,
In the pious Middle Ages.

The Metropolis.

DEPTFORD, KENT.—THE TRINITY YOUTHS.

On Monday, May 14, 1883, in Two Hours and Fifty-seven Minutes.

AT ST. JOHN'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

THE ORIGINAL BOB-AND-SINGLE PEAL. Tenor 14 cwt. in F.

JOHN ROSE Treble.	†THOMAS TAYLOR 5.
WILLIAM PEAD 2.	HENRY FREEMAN 6.
THOMAS G. DEAL† 3.	†ABRAHAM G. FREEMAN .. 7.
WILLIAM WEATHERSTONE* 4.	JOHN LAWS Tenor.

Conducted by WILLIAM WEATHERSTONE.

†Royal Cumberland Youths. *College Youths.

All the above are members of the St. James's Society, except the treble and tenor ringers.

This peal was rung as a farewell peal to the Rev. Canon Money, who is leaving St. John's to take charge of St. Luke's, Cheltenham. The rev. gentleman is highly respected and beloved by all his late parishioners.

The Provinces.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.

On Saturday, May 12, 1883, in Three Hours and Fourteen Minutes.

AT ALL SAINTS' CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

T. DAY'S (OF BIRMINGHAM) PEAL. Tenor 19 cwt.

J. WEDDLE Treble.	J. SIMM 5.
W. G. ROUTLEDGE* 2.	SENCEANT POWER 6.
W. REED, ESQ. 3.	*R. S. STORY 7.
G. J. CLARKSON 4.	*J. HARA Tenor.

Conducted by SENCEANT POWER.

*First peal.

This is the first peal as conductor by S. Power. J. Weddle belongs to St. Andrew's; W. Reed, Esq., to North Shields; G. J. Clarkson to Stockton; J. Simm to St. Nicholas; S. Power to St. Stephen's; Messrs. Routledge and Story to St. John's; and J. Hara to All Saints'.

The fine old church of St. Michael's, Coventry, so well-known to our readers, having become obviously in need of restoration, the vestry have consulted Mr. J. O. Scott, who has presented a report upon the that a heavy fall of snow might lead to a failure of the roof. The work state of the building. The chancel roof he describes as in a condition which, in Mr. Scott's opinion, requires to be done to the church would, he estimates, cost some £12,000, while to properly restore and repair the tower and spire would cost £18,000 additional.

THE ROCHDALE AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATION.

ROCHDALE.

On Thursday, May 10, 1883, in Three Hours and Three Minutes,

At St. ALBAN'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

REEVES'S VARIATION. Tenor 18½ cwt. in F.

THOS. ADSHEAD† Treble.	JOS. STREET 5.
WM. ROBT. BARRETT* 2.	*JAS. PRESCOT 6.
JOHN HARRISON* 3.	WM. HOWARTH 7.
JAS. ADSHEAD 4.	WM. BUTTERWORTH .. Tenor.

Conducted by WM. HOWARTH.

†First peal. *Members of the Lancashire Association.
Three of the above belong to St. Alban's; three to St. Luke's, Heywood; and two to St. Mary's, Balderstone.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—GUISELEY.

On Saturday, May 12, 1883, in Three Hours and Six Minutes,

At THE PARISH CHURCH OF ST. OSWALD'S,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

IN THE OXFORD VARIATION. Tenor 10½ cwt.

OLIVER FRANKLAND† .. Treble.	WILLIAM DEMAINE 5.
JAMES SLATER† 2.	JOSEPH YEADON 6.
HARRY DEMAINE* 3.	JAMES BALDWIN 7.
SAMUEL BROWN 4.	DAVID E. RHODES .. Tenor.

Composed by WILLIAM SOTTANSTALL, and conducted by JAMES BALDWIN.

This peal will be found in *Snowdon's work, Part II., page 19, and on another page of this paper.*

*First peal. †First peal in the method.

This is the second Treble Bob peal rung by the Guiseley company. The first was published in "THE BELL NEWS" of February 1881, in the Kent Variation. It is intended shortly to have a tablet erected in the belfry, to record the two performances.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

DEBENHAM, SUFFOLK.

On Saturday, May 12, 1883, in Three Hours and Thirty-eight Minutes,

At ST. MARY'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5536 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 20 cwt.

W. IRELAND Treble.	W. CATCHPOLE 5.
JAMES MOTTS 2.	R. BRUNDLE 6.
ROBT. HUTTON 3.	E. COLLINS 7.
C. EVERETT 4.	E. PEMBERTON .. Tenor.

Composed by T. DAY, and conducted by W. IRELAND.

Messrs. Motts, Catchpole, Brundle, and Pemberton, hail from Ipswich; Everett and Hutton, from Kenninghall; W. Ireland from Diss; and E. Collins from Worlingworth.

Touces of Kent, and Oxford Treble Bob Major, Grandsire, and three courses of Stedman Triples, were afterwards rung, in which James Rudd, of Diss, and other local ringers took part. The ringers wish to return their sincere thanks to the new vicar and the churchwardens for the use of the bells.

The above peal was the first part of Day's 16608.—see another page.

THE WORCESTERSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—BROMSGROVE.

On Monday, May 14, 1883, in Three Hours and Thirty Minutes,

At THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF BOB ROYAL, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor 20 cwt.

JOSEPH CRAWFORD .. Treble.	HENRY LAWTON 6.
GEORGE BOURNE 2.	GEORGE HAYWARD 7.
ELIJAH CRUMP 3.	WILLIAM DUFFILL 8.
THOMAS ALBUT 4.	WALTER REA 9.
HENRY MARTIN 5.	REUBEN BROMFIELD .. Tenor.

Composed and conducted by GEORGE HAYWARD.

The ringers had only three practices, and succeeded in ringing the peal at the first attempt.

Mr. Martin hails from Belbroughton.

Date Touches.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

CHELMSFORD.—On Monday, May 14th, at St. Mary's church, at the close of the Annual Meeting, a date touch of Grandsire Triples, 1883 changes, in 1 hr. 6 mins. S. Hayes, 1; W. Roland, 2; A. Pye, 3; H. F. de Lisle, 4; J. Murray Hayes, 5; H. Howell, 6; Rev. H. A. Cockey (conductor), 7; E. Scotcher, 8. This touch was composed by Mr. John Carter, of Birmingham, and contains Queens, tittums, Whittingtons, and twenty-four 6-7's. Tenor 22½ cwt.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

OXFORD.—On Saturday, May 12th, at the Cathedral Church of Christ, a date touch of Grandsire Triples, 1883 changes, in 1 hr. 16 mins. *Frederic Castle, 1; Job Howes, 2; Charles Boots, 3; George Lapworth, 4; C. C. Child, Esq., 5; Charles Hounslow, 6; James Wm. Washbrook (composer and conductor), 7; G. F. Coleridge, 8. *First touch of Triples. Tenor 42 cwt.

WILLENHALL (Staffordshire).—On Monday, May 14th, at St. Giles's church, a mixed company rang a date touch of Grandsire Triples, 1883 changes, in 1 hr. 5 mins. S. Ackins (Willenhall), 1; B. Dalton (Tettenhall), 2; J. W. Cattle (Birmingham; composer and conductor), 3; W. Smith (Darlaston), 4; W. Bryant (Birmingham), 5; J. Jones (Tettenhall), 6; J. Rogers (Tettenhall), 7; F. Goodchild (Willenhall), 8. Tenor 12½ cwt.

Miscellaneous.

THE BIRMINGHAM AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATION.

KING'S NORTON (Worcestershire).—On Thursday, May 10th, at the parish church, eight members of this Association, rang a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, 1260 changes, containing the twenty-four 6-7's; and all the 7-5-6's, in 45 mins. Frank Palmer, 1; W. H. Sumner, 2; J. Wright, 3; J. Cooks, 4; Fred Palmer, 5; Fred Scrivens, 6; W. Palmer (conductor), 7; D. Taylor, 8. All the above belong to King's Norton, and it is the longest touch completed on the bells for upwards of eight years. Also on Whit-Sunday, May 13th, a 720 of Grandsire Minor, with the 6th and 8th behind, in 25 mins. Fred Townsend, 1; W. H. Sumner, 2; Fred. Palmer, 3; J. Wright, 4; J. Cooks, 5; D. Taylor, 6; W. Palmer (conductor), 7; J. Beddington, 8. Tenor 18 cwt.

SEELY OAK (Worcestershire).—On Friday, May 11th, the local company rang for Confirmation Service, a 720 of Grandsire Minor. George Hale, 1; Henry Smith, 2; Edward Hinton, 3; Edward Bush, 4; Edward Bryant, 5; Alfred Cole (conductor), 6.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.—On Sunday, May 13th, for morning service at St. John's Church, 720 Oxford Bob Minor in 28 mins. F. Lees, 1; C. L. Routledge, 2; R. S. Story, 3; W. G. Routledge, 4; W. Story, 5; G. J. Clarkson (Stockton, conductor), 6. Also at St. Stephen's for evening service, 840 Grandsire Triples. Challoner, 1; W. West, 2; S. Power, 3; E. W. Pyle, 4; F. Ord, 5; E. Wallis (conductor), 6; G. J. Clarkson, 7; G. W. Stobart, 8. Tenor 30 cwt.

STOCKTON-ON-TEES.—On Wednesday evening, May 9th, a 720 of Double Court Bob Minor. S. Whitfield, 1; G. I. Clarkson (conductor), 2; J. Clarkson, 3; T. Burdon, 4; T. Stephenson, 5; W. Newton, 6. Also a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor. G. J. Clarkson (conductor), 1; J. Clarkson, 2; H. E. T. Gover, Esq. (first 720 in the method), 3; W. Stephenson, 4; T. Burdon, 5; W. Newton, 6. Also a 720 of Bob Minor. T. Whitfield, 1; G. I. Clarkson, 2; W. Stephenson, 3; T. Waller (first 720), 4; T. Burdon (conductor), 5; J. Clarkson, 6. Tenor 12 cwt.

THE ST. JAMES'S SOCIETY, LONDON.

ST. GEORGE-THE-MARTYR (Southwark).—On Saturday evening, May 12th, six members of the above Society, rang a 720 of Grandsire Minor, on the back six, in 27 mins. *S. T. McLaughlin, 1; *J. Waghorn, 2; *W. Jones, 3; W. Weatherstone (conductor), 4; J. M. Routh, Esq., 5; *A. J. Perkins, 6. Tenor 17½ cwt. *First 720 in this method. A peal of Grandsire Triples was attempted previous to this, but came to grief after ringing 1½ hrs.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

SOUTHPORT.—On Thursday, May 10th, the Christ Church Society attempted a peal of Kent Treble Bob Major, 5184 changes (composed by the late W. Harrison, of Mottram), but suddenly came to grief, after ringing 5088 changes, in 2 hrs. and 52 mins., by the 6th getting out of its place. *David Rimmer, 1; *Thomas Johnson Fielding, 2;

*Abel Fielding, 3; *James Henry Heywood, 4; Richard Hill, 5; *Henry Spencer, 6; *George Robert Heywood, 7; *Charles Fielding Heywood (conductor), 8. *First attempt at a peal of Treble Bob Major. Also on Monday evening, May 14th, an attempt was made to ring Mr. Penning's one-part peal of Grandsire Triples; but after ringing 3122 changes, in 1 hr. and 40 mins., the tenor ringer was unable to proceed for want of better ventilation in the belfry. J. H. Heywood, 1; F. J. Fielding, 2; A. Fielding, 3; John Carter (conductor), 4; R. Hill, 5; H. Spencer, 6; G. R. Heywood, 7; E. Greenwood, 8. Tenor 10 cwt. Mr. Carter hails from Birmingham, and is a member of the Birmingham Amalgamated Society.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

OXFORD.—On Sunday, May 13th, at St. Mary Magdalen, a 720 of Bob Minor, in 25 mins. F. Castle, 1; Chas. Hester, 2; Job Howes, 3; Chas. Boots, 4; Oliver Thomas, 5; J. W. Washbrook (conductor), 6. Tenor 9 cwt. Also the same evening, at St. Cross, Holywell, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor, with 15 bobs, in 27 mins. H. Payne, 1; G. Lapworth, 2; W. Payne, 3; S. Hounslow, 4; T. Payne, 5; James W. Washbrook (conductor), 6. Tenor 12 cwt.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

KIRK ELLA.—On Tuesday evening, May 8th, a party of this Association from Beverley Minster, visited the ancient tower of St. Andrew's church, and rang a 720 of Grandsire Minor, in 28 mins. James Chapman, 1; John Uney, 2; John Smelt, 3; George Witty, 4; James Campey, 5; David Roberts (conductor), 6. The tower (which has lately been restored by Messrs. Simson and Malim, of Hull), is an ancient structure of Gothic build, about 400 years old. The four old bells have been taken down, and six new ones put up by the firm of J. Taylor and Co., of Loughborough. Tenor 19½ cwt. in E.

BURY ST. EDMUNDS.—On Whit-Sunday morning, eight ringers of St. James's church met to ring for the 7 o'clock celebration of the Holy Communion, when they attempted a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, 1260 changes, but when within two courses from home, after ringing 50 minutes, the electric bell sounded, and "stand" was called by the conductor, which brought to a close some very excellent ringing. A. Osborne (conductor), 1; *A. Alderton, 2; R. Wilding, 3; *G. Debenham, 4; J. Adams, 5; *S. Peck, 6; R. Moore, 7; W. Melton, 8. Tenor 30 cwt. in D. Those marked thus * are junior ringers, having received instruction from the conductor during the past winter, and is their first attempt at a long touch, which would most probably have been successful had time permitted. [We are very pleased to hear of the progress of the science in Bury, and compliment Mr. Osborne on his success. Knowing the condition of the bells both at St. James's and St. Mary's churches, we should be glad indeed to hear that their restoration was to be taken in hand at an early date, as it is certainly a great pity that such excellent rings of bells are not in the condition they deserve to be.—ED.]

BLETCHINGLEY (Surrey).—On Thursday, May 10th, the local company rang a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, 1260 changes, in 48 mins. A. Wallis, 1; T. Boniface, 2; J. Bashford, jun., 3; L. Killick, 4; G. Potter, 5; J. Burkin, 6; W. Burkin (conductor), 7; J. Balcombe, 8. Tenor 19 cwt.

HAVERSTOCK HILL (Middlesex).—On Wednesday, May 16th, for practice, 1000 Bob Minor. P. Kendall, Esq., 1; T. Titchener, 2; J. Leach, 3; J. Hannington (conductor), 4; A. Jacob, 5; W. Meadows, Esq., 6. Also three courses of Double Oxford Bob Minor. J. Barrett, 1; G. Newson (conductor), 2; E. Chapman, 3; A. Jacob, 4; T. Titchener, 5; W. Meadows, Esq., 6.

LONG MELFORD (Suffolk).—On Thursday, May 3rd, being Ascension Day, for Divine Service, two 720's of Bob Minor, each in 30 mins., on the back six. F. R. Steed (parish clerk of Long Melford), 1; Zackh. Slater, 2; Chas. Honeybell, 3; F. Wells, 4; O. Garwood, 5; S. Slater (conductor), 6. Also on Saturday, May 12th, 1008 of Bob Major. *F. R. Steed (Long Melford), 1; *Alex. Hurst (Cavendish), 2; *H. Thompson (Cavendish), 3; S. Slater (Glemsford), 4; *A. Ives (Cavendish), 5; F. Wells (Glemsford), 6; *O. Garwood (Glemsford), 7; F. P. Adams (Glemsford; conductor), 8. *First 1000 in the method.

LOUGHBOROUGH (Leicestershire).—On Whit-Sunday, at All Saints' church, 518 Grandsire Triples for morning service. W. Billingham, 1; H. Bradley, 2; T. Cooper, 3; R. Lane (conductor), 4; S. Smith, 5; J. W. Taylor, sen. 6; J. W. Taylor, junr. 7; T. Grundy, 8.

SPALDING (Lincolnshire).—On Thursday evening, May 10th, at St. Paul's, Fulney, a 504 of Grandsire Triples. R. Creasey, 1; J. W. Creasey, 3; E. Quinton, 4; J. S. Wright, 5; C. Creasey, 6; J. Wilson (of the Essex Association), 7; J. Croxford, 8. The second left out. Also a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob Minor. C. Creasey, 1; E. Quinton, 2; J. S. Wright, 3; J. Croxford, 4; J. W. Creasey, 5;

R. Creasey (conductor), 6. Also on Sunday, May 13th, for Divine Service in the morning, a 504 of Grandsire Triples. E. Quinton, 1; J. W. Creasey, 2; E. Mason (Boston), 3; J. Croxford, 4; A. W. Walker, 5; J. Wilson (Essex Association), 6; R. Creasey, 7; C. Creasey, 8.

STANSTEAD (Suffolk).—On Saturday, May 5th, six members of the Glemsford Society rang a 720 of Cambridge Surprise, in 28 mins. S. Slater, 1; Zackh. Slater, 2; F. Wells, 3; O. Garwood, 4; Charles Adams, 5; F. P. Adams (conductor), 6. The first 720 in this method on the bells. And on the same evening, in 52 mins., 720 of New London Pleasure (also the first 720 in this method on the bells), and a 720 of Kent Treble Bob. Z. Slater (conductor), 1; F. Wells, 2; C. Adams, 3; F. P. Adams, 4; S. Slater, 4; O. Garwood, 6.

TEWKESBURY ABBEY (Gloucestershire).—On Thursday evening May 4th, for practice, the Abbey Society rang 1680 of Union Triples, in 1 hr. 4 mins. R. H. Witherington, 1; S. Cleal, 2; F. J. Moore, 3; J. Hale, 4; J. Wathen, 5; C. Awford, 6; Jos. Wathen (conductor), 7; W. Haines, 8. Tenor 23 cwt. 3 qrs. 19 lbs.

WITNEHAM (Suffolk).—On Monday, May 8th, 500 changes of Cambridge Surprise, 360 Oxford Delight, and 180 of New London Pleasure. George Sadler, 1; Thomas Sadler, 2; William Ramsay, 3; George Pyett, 4; William Woods (conductor), 5; Wingfield Meadows, Esq. 6. Tenor 14 cwt.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

DEBENHAM, SUFFOLK.—ATTEMPT FOR A LONG PEAL.

On Saturday, May 12th, by the kind permission of the vicar (the Rev. J. Hocking), and the churchwardens, an attempt was made by eight members of the above Association, to ring the late Mr. T. Day's long peal of Treble Bob Major, in the Kent Variation, at St. Mary's church. After ringing about 3 hours and 15 minutes, one of the band being indisposed, requested the conductor to bring the bells home at the first part-end, which was successfully accomplished in 3 hours, 38 minutes. W. Ireland (conductor; Diss), 1; James Motts (Ipswich), 2; Robt. Hutton (Kenninghall), 3; C. Everett (Kenninghall), 4; W. Catchpole (Ipswich), 5; R. Brundell (Ipswich), 6; E. Collins (Worlingworth), 7; E. Pemberton (Ipswich), 8. Tenor 20 cwt. Touches of Kent and Oxford Treble Bob Major, Grandsire, and three courses of Stedman Triples, were afterwards rung in which Mr. James Rudd, of Diss, and other local ringers took part. The ringers wish to return their sincere thanks to the new vicar and the churchwardens for the use of the bells.

SHIPLAKE, OXFORDSHIRE

On Sunday, May 4th, a few members of the Reading branch of the Oxford Diocesan Guild, visited this picturesque spot. The parish church is situated on an eminence commanding a beautiful view of the surrounding country and the river Thames, which it almost overhangs. It is a characteristic little fabric, constructed of flint and stone in the pointed Gothic style, consisting of chancel, nave, north and south aisles, and an entrance porch in the south aisle, from which the ground abruptly descends to the river's edge. The tower is placed at the west end of the north aisle, the ringing-chamber being on the same level as the aisles, the only entrance being through the nave. The interior of the church is well arranged, the chief features being a handsome alabaster pulpit, and some fine stained glass windows from the Abbey church of St. Bertin, at St. Omer. The patrons are the Dean and Canons of Windsor. The tower contains a peal of six. From its summit twelve different steeples can be discerned. The following is a copy of the inscriptions upon them, which go thoroughly under the care of Mr. Wenman.

Treble—Cast by John Warner and Sons London.

Presented by the Vicar of Shiplake 1863.

2nd—Michall: Faylor: C.W. 1694.

3rd—Henri: Knight: made: this: Bell: Anno: Domini: 1613:

4th—Recast by John: Warner and Sons: London:

5th—Thos: Mears: of: London: Fecit: 1790:

: Mr. Taylor: Mr. House: Church: Wardens:

Tenor—Robt: Patrick: of: London: Founder 1784:

: Matthew: Taylor: Thomas: Cobb: Church: Wardens:

An account of the ringing will be seen in "THE BELL NEWS" of last week, and I am glad to find our paper supported in this small country village where only "Churchyard Bobs" are rung to the gravediggers' delight.

W. H. F.

RETTENDON, ESSEX.

It is hoped that the bells at the above church will be re-opened on the 29th or 30th of this month. One bell has been recast, and two new ones added to the peal, to make six, by Messrs. Mears and Stainbank. The whole will be rehung in a new oak frame, by Mr. H. Bowell, of Ipswich. Full particulars will appear in our next number.

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."

SALEHURST, SUSSEX.

SIR,—At page 63 of last week's "BELL NEWS," a correspondent writes from Salehurst, stating that there has never been any change-ringing done in that parish. I beg to inform your correspondent that there has been change-ringing done on the Salehurst bells, as I have by me a copy of the peal-book of the late Mr. James Barham, of Leeds, in Kent, and by it I find that the Leeds Youths rang the first peal on the bells, 5184 of Oxford Treble Bob Major, I therefore append the record from that book.

"No. 52.—Tuesday, December 26th, 1771, was rung at Salehurst in Sussex, 5184 complete changes of Oxford Treble Bob in 3 hours and 13 minutes, being the first peal rung on them bells. William Tilly, 1; William Davis, 2; Stephen Bayley, 3; John Freeland, 4; George Tilly, 5; Thomas Austin, 6; James Barham, 7; Thomas Lacy, 8. N.B.—We was well entertained by the two Esqrs. Packhams, near Hurst Green, in this parish."

SAMUEL SLATER.

Glemsford, Suffolk.

"PEAL-SNATCHING."

SIR,—In answer to Mr. Dains' letter published in your last issue, I wish to inform him that I do not wish to return to the system of the good-old-days of yore. My letter was simply intended to convey the fact that it is quite possible for more than one person to compose the same peal about the same time, and also if possible to assist as far as I can in suppressing those jealousies which unfortunately exist between composers of the present day, and which has, in the matter of Thorpe v. Dains, led to a deal of recrimination, which I think might easily have been avoided.

I readily grant Mr. Dains' assertion, that it requires fifty times more study to compose original peals now than formerly, and at the same time wish to suggest, that anyone who may compose a peal should forward it to the ringers' paper for publication, and if such peal should encroach on another previously published, for some ringer to inform him of the fact, through the same paper (of course giving proof of publication), and so far as possible avoid that un-English word "Peal-Snatcher."

I thank Mr. Dains for his letter, as well as for his good wishes on my behalf, and beg to assure him that he has my good wishes, and I hope this correspondence will result in good to the cause we all have at heart.

JOHN R. PRITCHARD,

Liverpool.

THE RINGING AT THE OPENING OF ST. PETER'S, NORWICH.

SIR,—Will you kindly allow me a small space in your next issue to correct a statement which was made about the ringing at the opening of these bells? In "THE BELL NEWS" of May 5th, 1883, it read as follows: "What was considered to be the best ringing, and was the longest touch of the day, was two courses of Kent Treble Bob Royal, called by E. Smith of Redenhall, the tenor being rung by Captain Moore." This was not so, an attempt was made to ring it, but after clashing, the bells were jumped home at the supposed to be "all"; it was listened to by several experienced ringers who were waiting outside for a pull, thinking every minute the bells were coming to a stand. Allow me to say the best ringing of the day was one course of Kent Treble Bob Maximus, rang by the following: W. Freeman (Norwich), 1; H. Bevan (Ipswich), 2; J. S. Alexander (Ipswich), 3; W. Ireland (Diss), 4; J. Hannington (Royal Cumberland Society, London), 5; W. Meadows (Ipswich), 6; J. Fiddament (Norwich), 7; F. Day (Eye), 8; F. Knights (Norwich), 9; J. Skinner (Norwich), 10; W. Smith (Norwich), 11; G. Smith (Norwich), 12. I admit it is a very trifling thing to write about, but I do not see it right for certain ringers to go away and take the credit of what never was done, as they might have done if no ringers were outside to hear it. I have enclosed my card, and will sign myself

CREDIT WHERE CREDIT IS DUE.

IRON versus WOOD.

SIR,—Will you kindly correct an error your correspondent, John R. Pritchard, has made in his communication to last week's "BELL NEWS." Giving an account of the Bells of S. Luke's Church, Liverpool, he says: "We have here, in Liverpool, a fine peal of eight bells at S. Luke's Church . . . which were cast by Downham of Norfolk." He should have said, "cast by William Dobson of Downham," (i.e. Downham Market) in the County of Norfolk. W. W.

* * We again call attention to the day on which we must receive correspondence intended for insertion in the current number. See centre page.

THE BELLS OF ST. ANNE'S, HAUGHTON, LANCASHIRE.

THE bells of this church, six in number, were opened on Christmas-day last after a short dedication service had been gone through by the vicar, assisted by the choir. The ringers came from St. George's, Hyde, who found it impossible to ring changes on them owing to their not being able to hear the bob-caller for want of a deadening floor. However, this little difficulty has just been overcome, and on Saturday, May 5th, the Hyde ringers were again invited to try their skill upon them, which they did by ringing 720 of Kent Treble Bob in 32 mins. James Shaw, 1; R. Pritchard, 2; R. Ainsworth, 3; R. Woolley 4; H. Rostron (conductor), 5; J. S. Wilde, 6. The bells are a very musical peal, and were cast by Messrs. Taylor and Co., of Loughborough; weight of tenor 17 cwt. A society has been formed of young ringers, and under the tuition of Mr. Richard Ainsworth, they are making capital progress, and hope ere long to ring a 720 of Bob Minor. After the ringing in the tower was over the ringers adjourned to the Lowes Arms to open a peal of musical handbells, thirteen in number. Courses of Triples, Major, Caters, Royal, Cinques, and Maximus, in Grandsire and Treble Bob methods, also a number of tunes, were rung during the evening. The proceedings were enlivened in addition to the ringing with some capital songs and selections on the violin. Mr. Ainsworth officiated as chairman, and Mr. Rostron as vice-chairman, and at the close, votes of thanks were awarded them for the able manner in which they had done their duty.

THE BIRMINGHAM AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday last, the above association held their quarterly meeting at Harborne, Staffordshire, when a fair sprinkling of ringers from town and district assembled. Touches of Grandsire and Stedman Triples, and Bob Major were rung on the musical bells of St. Peter's church, which by the way are in splendid going order, and reflects credit on those who had the management of the rehanging of them some few years since. After the above touches, the several bands who had assembled, repaired to the Green Man Inn, the club house of the Harborne branch of the Association, where the business of the Association was transacted. Several new members were elected, bringing up the total to about seventy, which it is hoped by the annual meeting (to be held at the Hope and Anchor, Fisher Street, Birmingham, on Saturday, August 11th), will be so augmented as to chronicle 100 members. A tune on the handbells brought the night's proceedings to a close at the early hour of 10 p.m.

THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

SOUTHILL (Beds).—On Whit-Monday, at the parish church, several 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles; and a 720 of Grandsire Minor, with thirty-eight bobs and twenty-two singles, in 26 mins. W. Allen, 1; S. J. Cullip, 2; W. Biggs, 3; J. Adkin, 4; W. Hall, 5; J. Frossell (conductor), 6. A 360 of Plain Bob Minor, in 14 mins.: W. Allen, 1; W. Biggs, 2; C. Clarke, 3; J. Adkin, 4; W. Hall (conductor), 5; C. Craddock, 6. Also a 720 of Plain Bob Minor, eighteen bobs and two singles, in 27 minutes. J. Frossell, 1; W. Allen, 2; C. Clarke, 3; C. Craddock, 4; W. Hall (conductor), 5; I. Hills, 6. An attempt at a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob (in three parts), but after ringing nearly to the second part-end, came to grief. W. Allen, 1; J. Frossell, 2; C. Craddock, 3; J. Adkin, 4; W. Hall (conductor), 5; I. Hills, 6.

RINGING A BELL.

Say is not our life like ringing a bell,
Its dodges and changes not few,
If we keep to the rule we should certainly feel
The pleasure of knowing 'tis true.
This world is a belfry, and we are the bells,
Then aye to be true let us aim,
Till each action and note its full harmony tells,
In ringing and living the same.
In Doubles, and Triples, in Caters, and Cinques,
In Minor and Major as well,
In Royal and Maximus, often methinks,
This life is like ringing a bell.

Though others around us may clash and break down,
Or try not to live their lives well,
We will not condemn them, but look to our own,
As if we were ringing a bell,
Then when our conductor the last bob shall call,
And bring our life peal to a stand,
Who can tell but that us the blest lot may befall,
To ring in some far away land.

In Doubles and Triples, in Caters and Cinques,
In Minor and Major as well,
In Royal and Maximus often methinks,
There is heaven in the sound of a bell.

GEORGE LUMMIS, Coddensham, Suffolk.

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR.

5088.

By W. SOTTANSTALL, *Sowerby, Yorkshire.*

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

Twice repeated.

Rung at St. Oswald's, Guiseley, on Saturday, May 12th, 1883, in the Oxford variation; conducted by James Baldwin.

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR.

5056.

By JAMES S. WILDE, *of Hyde, Cheshire.*

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

TWO PEALS OF TREBLE BOB ROYAL.

By SAMUEL WOOD, *of Ashton-under-Lyne.*

6840.

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

5120.

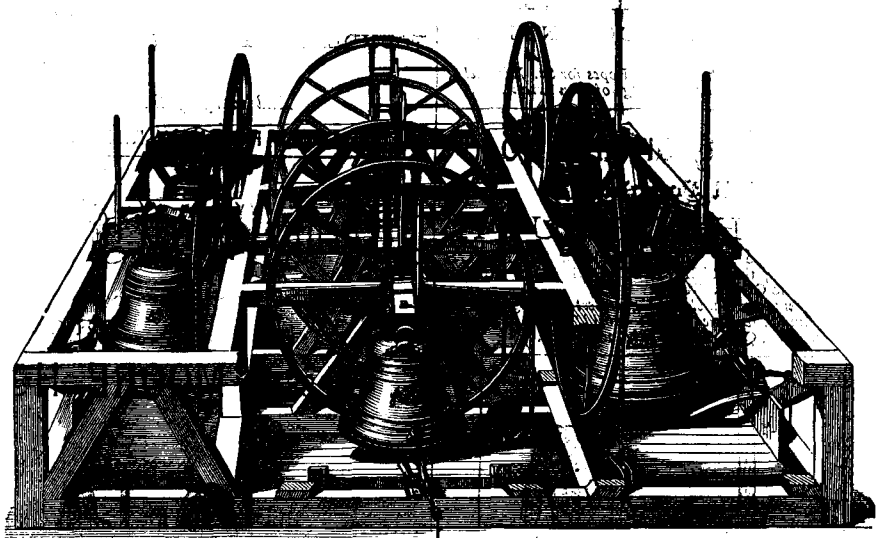
2	3	4	5	6	M	W	H
4	6	5	3	2	1	1	2
2	4	3	6	5	2	1	2
4	2	5	6	3	2		2
2	3	5	6	4	1		2
6	2	3	4	5	2	2	
6	3	4	2	5		1	2
3	5	4	2	6	1		2
2	4	5	3	6		2	2
2	5	3	4	6		1	2
2	3	4	5	6		1	2

A disgraceful hoax has been played on the Rev. F. Metcalf, curate of St. Bartholomew's, Clay Cross. On Tuesday morning, when about to administer the Sacrament, the rev. gentleman poured the contents of the wine bottle into the silver cup. It was then found that the wine had been abstracted and ink substituted. The shameful trick was at once detected, and when another bottle had been procured the service proceeded as usual.

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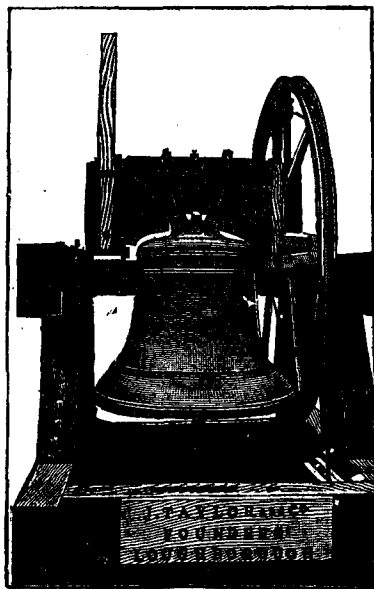
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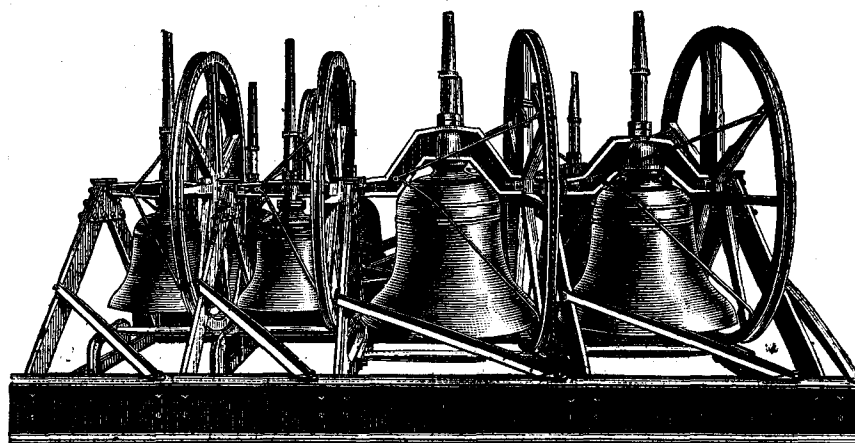
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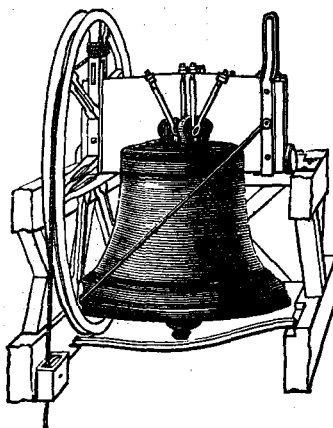
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CHURCHES ON THE MISSBOURNE STREAM, BUCKS.

On looking at a map of Buckinghamshire, in the southern district, the course of the Missbourne will be readily perceived, and that there are five churches and one abbey near its banks, during the course of the sixteen miles that it runs, previous to discharging its waters into the River Colne.

Half-a-mile from the junction of these two streams is situated the village of Denham and its church. As I purpose taking the religious edifices as they come in their respective orders, I will briefly describe this. Denham is situated two and a quarter miles from Uxbridge and seven from Beaconsfield; through it the Grand Junction Canal passes; its parish is divided from Middlesex by the Colne. This village is irregular and old fashioned, and was the scene of the ever to be remembered "Denham murder." Pope lived here some considerable time, and he completed his translation of "Æneid" during his residence in the village.

The church of S. Mary is a Gothic building lately restored, consisting of chancel, nave, aisles and tower, with clock and a fine set of eight bells, the Rev. Charles Antil Hall, M.A., being rector.

In the year 1799 there existed a good band of change-ringers at Windsor. This society rang a "true and complete" peal of Grandsire Triples upon these bells on September 15th, 1799, in 3 hrs. 12 mins., the following being the performers: Hen. Sedgwick, 1; Wm. Darwent, 2; Jos. Avis, 3; Ric. Ball, 4; John Thompson, 5; Ric. Lovegrove, 6; Thos. Lovegrove, 7; W. Wise and C. Prentice, 8. There is no tablet in the belfry to record this peal, and the only mention to be found of it is a note at the bottom of a peal-board at St. John's church, Windsor. In 1773, the Ancient Society of College Youths rang a peal of 5040 Bob Major, in 3 hrs. 16 mins. The tablet to record this is in a very dilapidated condition, and sadly requires a renovating hand. There is an ancient font in the church, and several ancient brasses to R. Peckham, and another perpetuating the memory of Sir Edmund Peckham, and Anne, his wife, A.D. 1564. Sir Edmund was privy councillor to Queen Mary, and during the brief reign of Lady Jane Grey he was one of the first to raise troops in Buckinghamshire to place Mary upon the throne, with the assistance of Sir Robert Drury, Sir Edward Hastings, Lord Windsor, and others. His death occurred just ten years after Lady Jane was beheaded on Tower Hill. Denham Court is remarkable as being the place where Charles II. was concealed by Lady Bower. The next church we find is

CHALFONT S. PETER,

dedicated to that saint, erected in the reign of George I., and comprises chancel, nave, south chapel, and tower with six bells. The east end has been enlarged in the early pointed Gothic style. It contains three memorial windows to the Wells and Hibbert families. The Vicar is the Rev. George Martin Bullock, B.D., and the register dates from the year 1528.

The 2nd bell of the peal here is cracked. The leading article in "THE BELL NEWS" of October 21st might well be applied to the ringers of this little village, who are trying their best to get the 2nd bell recast. They have received an estimate for the work, and the subscriptions for defraying such expense have, at the time I write, reached the sum of £28. The ringers have already devoted several sums of money received by them for ringing at weddings to this object. With the help of the worthy and energetic Vicar it will not be long before such a desirable work is accomplished.

CHALFONT S. GILES,

Twenty-three miles from London, four from Beaconsfield, and three from Amersham, is an ancient structure, very plain, with a tower originally Norman. It contains brasses to the Gardiner and Fleetwood families, and the tomb of Hare, Bishop of Chichester and Dean of St. Paul's.

In 1665 John Milton resided in this village, the house in which he lived in still stands, with his name and coat of arms over the doorway. "Paradise Lost" was completed in this house, and it is affirmed that "Paradise Regained" was composed, under many difficulties, in the same building. (See "Milton's Poetical Works," by Rev. T. Thomson.) Ainsworth's "Old Saint Paul's" is a book well calculated to give one an idea of the Plague of London—it was to escape the ravages of this fearful scourge that Milton retired to Buckinghamshire; the inhabitants of that county can thank his friend Mr. Elwood for procuring the honored visit of this renowned poet, who at that time had entirely lost his sight. These last two villages are very similar to each other, both situate in a very pleasant valley, through which the stream runs babbling along. One can just discern the gray stone tower nestling among the old-fashioned houses that the last village principally consists of. The tower is 13 ft. 6 in. square, and contains a peal of six bells, with inscriptions (of no particular interest) upon them. The treble is hoisted. The next place we arrive at is

AMERSHAM.

Here we find a large market town, and a polling-place for the county, with houses of nearly all the same description, and similar to those at Denham, lying in a fertile valley twenty-six miles from London,

seven from High Wycombe, eight from Berkhamstead, five from Beaconsfield, and three from Chesham. The church of St. Mary is an extremely ancient edifice, built in a handsome Gothic style, though now disfigured with an external coat of plaster. I hear this objectionable eyesore is about to be removed, and the church restored. It has a fine lofty nave, north and south aisles, and a spacious chancel, with carved stone reredos. Several elaborate marble and stone monumental tombs are also present: to the left is the family tomb-house of the Drakes, in which the remains of Thomas Thyrwhitt Drake are interred. He represented the town of Amersham for twenty-seven years in Parliament. A large marble monument is erected to his memory. There are numerous other monuments and brasses to the descendants and relatives of this family: one to his son, Arthur Thyrwhitt Drake (late Lieut.-Col. in the Guards), who died suddenly on his marriage-day: another to his only surviving daughter, who lived at Slough many years. The present Rector, the Rev. E. T. Drake, is a descendant of the family. The register dates from the year 1651. The tower is situate at the west end, a very grand structure, 19 ft. 6 in. square internally, and over 76 ft. high. The sexton, Mr. Priest, I found an easy-going old gentleman, in his 77th year, having been in office over fifty years. He was unable to mount the stairs with me, so Mr. Elburn, the head ringer, kindly assisted me to get what particulars I wished connected with the bells, of which there are six, tenor 24 cwt. The old 3rd bell of this peal was cracked while ringing for the marriage of the present squire Drake's father, and was replaced by him. There is ample room for a peal of ten in this tower, and it is surprising that a town possessing the importance of Amersham, having such a fine church, should be content with only a peal of six; surely a ring of eight ought to be the least such a tower should possess.

The town principally consists of two main thoroughfares, crossing each other at right angles in the centre, at this juncture stands the market-place and town-hall, built (A.D. 1665) of solid red brickwork, the upper part supported by bold arches. The clock attached to the building is old and very interesting, and strikes upon a bell of foreign manufacture. It was cast in Holland soon after the erection of the building, and has coins of the period cast round the shoulder.

Sir William Drake founded (A.D. 1657) six almshouses for the same number of poor widows of farmers and tradesmen, who receive seven shillings per week, and a new gown every two years; one-and-fourpence on the shortest, and four-and-fourpence on the longest day annually. Fairs are held every Whit-Monday and on September 19th.

"Churchyard Bob" is performed every Tuesday night at Amersham church. Mr. Elburn, who is an old member of the Ancient Society of College Youths, has often tried to introduce change-ringing, but of no avail; "you can take a horse to water, but you cannot make him drink," is an old saying—but suppose he was kept without till he did.

But it's getting late, the Missbourne stream is hurrying on, and so must I.

I chatter over stony ways, in little sharps and trebles,
I bubble into eddying bays, I babble on the pebbles,
I chatter, chatter, as I flow, to join the brimming river,
For men may come, and men may go, but I go on for ever.

The two remaining churches on our course are

LITTLE AND GREAT MISSENDEN.

The former has a small plain church, dedicated to S. John the Baptist, the services being performed by the Rev. Denis Carey, B.A.; it was repaired in 1853, and consists of chancel, nave, aisles, and lofty square tower, with four fine-toned bells. Great Missenden is two and a half miles from Little Missenden, six from High Wycombe, and four from Chesham. The church, which is cruciform, in the Early English style of architecture, is very ancient, having nave, aisles, and transepts, and tower with six bells. The register dates from 1694. The vicar is the Rev. Joshua Greaves, M.A.

It is a painful fact that very little change-ringing is done in this district, indeed I don't hear of a single 720 ever being performed upon any of the rings of bells described in this account. I see no reason why this should continue so, the bells all going fairly well. Some of the Slough and Farnham ringers must visit these churches, when we may hear of some improvement thereat.

Lastly, I will allude to the old Abbey—a monastic institution founded in the 12th century.

I looked far back into other years, and lo! in bright array,
I saw, as in a dream, the forms of ages passed away,
It was a stately convent with its old and lofty walls;

No sound of busy life was heard, save from the cloister dim,
The tinkling of the silver bell, or the sisters' holy hymn.

The remains exist now of its old grandeur. Like many similar establishments erected about the same time, it was speedily dissolved in the reign of Henry VIII. Even as I gazed at the ruins, I thought—

Perhaps in this neglected spot is laid
Some heart, once pregnant with celestial fire;
Hands that the rods of empires might have swayed,
Or waked to ecstasy the living lyre.

I must once more refer to Gray, before I cry "that's all," to the account of my peregrinations up the Missbourne—

Now fades the glimm'ring landscape on the sight.

W. H. F.

WHIT-MONDAY AT SAWBRIDGEWORTH.

THE usual festivity which is generally held at this little Hertfordshire town on Easter-Monday, was this year postponed—through other ringing meetings being held in the vicinity on that day—till Whit-Monday. We need not remind our readers that this annual friendly gathering owes its existence to Mr. George Rochester, a well-known ringer, a member of the Ancient Society of College Youths, and bell-warden of Sawbridgeworth. Long may this gentleman be spared to dispense his magnificent hospitality; a wish we desire to be extended to the members of his family, who on these festive occasions so warmly second the efforts of Mr. Rochester in conducting to the enjoyment of their guests.

The first visitors to arrive on the scene were some gentlemen from the ancient town of Saffron Walden, who were followed a few minutes after by Mr. Haley, sen., from London, looking as well as ever, though labouring under such a terrible affliction as partial blindness. Then came the squire of Bennington, with his band; and, by the same train, Messrs. Dymock and Alps, of Waltham Abbey and Broxbourne respectively. On the way, the visitors who came from the direction of London called at Harlow, and rung a touch of Stedman Triples upon the new ring of eight recently erected there by Messrs. Warner and Sons. This over, the compass was set for Sawbridgeworth, a good muster of ringers being soon assembled. Mr. Rochester, as is usual, entertained the party to dinner, thirty-three (including the members of the local company) partaking of the good things provided. In addition to those we have already named, Messrs. Pitstows, Penning, and Martin, of Saffron Walden, Mr. Taylor, of Cambridge, and Messrs. Tarling, Thurgood, and Colverd, of Waltham Abbey, were also present.

The rev. Vicar of Sawbridgeworth presided, supported on his right by L. Procter, Esq., on his left by H. Rivers, Esq., Hon. Secretary and Treasurer. The repeat being over, and the usual loyal and patriotic toasts having been duly honoured, the toast, "Success to Change-Ringing," was proposed by the Chairman, who coupled with it the name of L. Procter, Esq., who made an appropriate reply. The "Health of Mr. Rivers" being next proposed, that gentlemen suitably responded. Then amidst the greatest enthusiasm,

The CHAIRMAN gave "The Healths of our worthy Host and Hostess," and as the former rose to reply, he was met with ringing cheers from the assembled company. Silence having been restored,

Mr. ROCHESTER said: Mr. Chairman and gentlemen, on behalf of Mrs. Rochester and myself, I beg to return our sincere thanks for the very kind manner in which this toast has been proposed and received, and I can assure you that if our humble hospitality has met with your approbation, it affords us at the same time the greatest pleasure, and on future occasions we shall be only too pleased to make you feel welcome.

At four o'clock Divine Service was held at the church, when an appropriate sermon was preached by the Rev. — Purcell, of Eastwick. During the day touches in no less than seven methods were rung.

DEPTFORD.—REVIVAL OF THE ANCIENT SOCIETY, THE TRINITY YOUTHS.

ON the evening of Whit-Monday, May 14th, it being the first Whit-Monday of the incumbency of St. Nicholas, Deptford, by the new vicar, the Rev. J. M. Vaughan, and also the first Whit-Monday during the charge of the churchwardens, the ringers, after ringing the peal at St. John's, rang at St. Nicholas' about 700 of Grandsire Triples. J. Waghorn, 1; W. Pead, 2; T. G. Deal (conductor), 3; T. Taylor, 4; W. Weatherstone, 5; A. G. Freeman, 6; H. Freeman, 7; J. Lawes and W. Bowles, 8. After which they were entertained at the school-room, by the kind and hospitable liberality of the Vicar, to a substantial dinner, the rev. gentleman presiding, supported by his lady and the churchwardens (Messrs. Locker and Wallen); Jonas Broad, Esq. (sidesman), and the verger (Mr. Fitch), being also present. After ample justice had been done to the good things provided, the chairman said that as he could not remain throughout the proceedings, he would propose, as the toast of the evening, "The Health and Prosperity of the Trinity Youths of St. Nicholas, Deptford," which toast, it is almost needless to say, was well received. Mr. Fitch then proposed, and Mr. Pead seconded, a vote of thanks to the Vicar for the kindness he had shown to the ringers. This toast was well received, and heartily applauded. The rev. gentleman having retired, the chair was taken by Mr. Broad, who greatly contributed to the harmony of the evening. A touch of Grandsire Triples having been rung, conducted by Mr. Weatherstone, the brothers Freeman and Mr. Bowles played upon the handbells, at intervals, selections of popular music; and the company, having enjoyed a very agreeable afternoon and evening, separated at a late hour.

We again request that all communications intended for insertion in this paper, may be sent direct to our office, not to the publisher.

STOKE-UPON-TRENT ARCHIDIACONAL ASSOCIATION.

SATURDAY last was the fixture for Lawton, but through the sudden death of the wife of one of the chief farmers whose house is in close proximity to the church, the meeting had at the last moment to be abandoned. This was much to be deplored, as the ringers of Lawton have been looking forward with much interest to their meeting, and the tower, containing a nice peal of six, would have given the Association an opportunity for some thoroughly good ringing. Those who, despite the meeting being done away with, went over, were very well pleased with all they saw. The little church, many centuries old, stands on a good position, and the effect of some water (though it is but a canal), adds considerably to the mellow tone of the bells. These have lately been rehung by Taylor and Co., and a sixth bell added by the same firm. They cannot be too highly praised for the way in which they have used the room at their disposal. Compact and firm in their iron frame, the bells run beautifully. The five old bells bear the date 1713, the former treble having been presented by the then ironmasters of Lawton, as a mark of regard to the church of the land. The ringers have been making praiseworthy efforts, with their Rector at their head, no less than £200 having been raised for the late belfry improvements. Whilst the bells are in such order, the belfry is no whit behind, and the ringers themselves are very anxious to leave the "old things" behind, and come out as first-class "half pull" practitioners. We feel sure that another year will see them well on their way to this desirable end.

On Whit-Monday, a party of members of this Association, with their Hon. Sec., went for an outing to Penkridge, where they were kindly and hospitably entertained by the Vicar, the Hon. and Rev. C. J. Lyttelton. Arriving by an early train, an attempt was made to ring the peal of eight in this grand old church, but great difficulty was found in so doing, for the length of rope from the ground floor is far too long, without some better provision for their guidance to the bell-chamber. A start was made about 1 p.m. for Lord Hatherton's estate, Tedesley Hall, and a stroll over these grounds with a stand up lunch brought the members back again in time for some more ringing before tea time, when both the Penkridge and the associates met at the vicarage. Evensong brought the day to a very pleasant end.

FARNHAM ROYAL, BUCKS.

ON Whit-Monday, May 14th, a friendly meeting of ringers took place to celebrate the sixth anniversary of the opening of St. Mary's tower, and its ring of six bells. Ringers came from Burnham, Reading, and Slough, and the local company were somewhat disappointed at not seeing some of their Willesden friends, who had promised to attend. Ringing commenced about 2 o'clock with a 720 of Bob Minor, followed by a 720 of Grandsire Minor, and another 720 of Bob Minor, and a variety of short touches in various methods. The local ringers with their visitors then adjourned to the schoolroom, where a bountiful tea had been provided as usual, agreeably to the good wishes of the rector (the Rev. S. F. Marshall, and Mrs. Marshall), who visited the ringers, and listened to some touches on the handbells, and kindly enquired if the strangers had enjoyed themselves. Tea over, the ringers returned to the tower, and rang another 720 of Grandsire Minor, when their Reading friends were obliged to think of returning home, well pleased with their afternoon's ringing, Mr. Egby and Mr. Goseltine having each rung their first 720 of Bob Minor, and the latter gentleman his first 720 of Grandsire Minor, with a bob bell. It was their intention to have tried some Treble Bob and Stedman, but time would not allow. Those who were not so far from home, rang the visitors to Taplow Station, with a 720 of Oxford Bob Minor, followed by a 6-score of Stedman Doubles. The company then separated well pleased with their afternoon's ringing, they having rung during that time five complete 720's, and some touches of Minor and Triples, on handbells (double handed), were also rung during the day. The company wish to express their thanks to their worthy rector, the Rev. S. F. Marshall, for his kindness. Particulars of the ringing will be found amongst the performances.

St. Giles's Cathedral, Edinburgh, was reopened on Wednesday by the Earl of Aberdeen, Lord High Commissioner to the Church of Scotland General Assembly, in presence of a large assemblage. The Cathedral has been restored chiefly through the liberality of the late Dr. William Chambers.

The movement initiated by the Dean and Chapter of Canterbury, with the cordial approval of Archbishop Benson, for raising, by public subscription, a fund with which to build a new organ for the Metropolitan Cathedral, the present instrument being considered unworthy of that important building, has progressed so satisfactorily that the Chapter have entered into negotiations with Mr. Henry Willis for the erection of a new instrument, which it is intended to place in a site to be chosen by him. The amount promised towards the fund up to yesterday was £1050.

SEDGLEY PARISH CHURCH, STAFFORDSHIRE.

After undergoing extensive alterations, the ancient parish church of Sedgley has been reopened. The side galleries have been removed, the west gallery has been extended, the nave and chancel have been paved with encaustic tiles, the body of the church and the gallery reseated, and the whole of the fabric has been cleansed and painted. The organ has been removed from the west gallery, and when restored by Messrs. Nicholson and Lord, of Walsall, will be erected in the chancel. The improvements have been carried out at a cost of £1,200. The sacarium has been decorated by Mr. Walter Egginton. The contractor was Mr. John Hilton, the architect Mr. A. P. Brevitt, and the heating apparatus has been erected by Messrs. Evans and Co., of Wolverhampton.

It will be in the recollection of many of our readers that we published some strictures upon the arrangements of the belfry of this church some time ago, sent to us by a correspondent. In the *Sedgley Quarterly Magazine*, the Vicar replied to these remarks, not altogether in an unkindly spirit, though an attempt at sarcasm, at our expense, was made. The vicar of Sedgley stated in the magazine of which he is the able Editor that a faculty had been obtained to "empower them to renovate and re-arrange the whole interior of the church, including the tower and its chambers," and "the faculty which we have obtained empowers us to remove the belfry floor, which is over the present vestry, and bring the ringers down to the ground floor, where they will be much more accessible; and thus it enables us to put in force regulations which we have long been anxiously considering, which hitherto it would have been almost hopeless to attempt to introduce, but which will now be within our capabilities. We are of those who know how very much more may be effected by one wholesale reform to-morrow than by two or three little tinkering to-day; and also how the few little tinkering of to-day may postpone for a month, or a year, or a lifetime, that more satisfactory and complete reform which would otherwise have come to-morrow. We had therefore patiently awaited our time, and were now quietly pursuing our work, when the Sunday stroller, and 'THE BELL NEWS,' . . . thus lifted up their voices."

By the "Sunday Stroller" is meant our correspondent, who visited the belfry on the Sunday in question, and informed us of its condition. We have taken the above brief account of the reopening from a paper which is usually very precise, but there is no mention of any alteration in the belfry. We hope that the good intentions in this respect expressed in the *Sedgley Quarterly Magazine* have not been altogether lost sight of. Making the ringing-chamber fit to be looked into may not be perhaps so important as the alterations and improvements which have been effected at a cost of £1,200, but we think when faculties are obtained to "renovate and rearrange the whole interior of the church, including the tower and its chambers," it is reasonable to expect in a report of such alterations, a brief allusion to what amelioration has been made to the tower and its chambers, and what steps have been taken to prevent a recurrence of those unseemly irregularities which are frequently enacted in a totally-neglected belfry. And amidst all these alterations and improvements—to which we shall be among the last to demur—is it impertinent to ask what has been done in connection with repairs to the bell-fittings? Has a competent man been called in to report upon their condition? We trust that such questions can be affirmatively answered, and also that the general condition of the ringing-chamber has been improved, and we should be pleased to see in the next number of the *Sedgley Quarterly Magazine*, an intimation to the effect that every thing appertaining to the steeple was as it should be.

RETTENDON, ESSEX.

THE bells of the parish will be re-opened on Wednesday next, May 30th, by a band of the Essex Association from Widford. There will be a service at 3.30. Ringing will commence at 2.30. The old frame has been replaced by a new oak frame, and the ring increased to six, by the addition of two trebles, by Messrs. Mears and Stainbank, of the Whitechapel foundry, the old tenor, which was about a note-and-three-quarters lower than the old fourth (which is now the tenor), having been removed, and the old third, which was cracked, having been recast. The notes and weights of the six bells are as follows:—

		cwt.	qr.	lbs.	note.
Treble	(new)	3.	2.	14.	F sharp.
2nd.	(new)	3.	3.	26.	E.
3rd.		4.	1.	0.	D.
4th.		5.	0.	0.	C sharp.
5th.	(recast)	6.	0.	0.	B.
Tenor		8.	1.	7.	A.

The bells have been hung by Mr. H. Bowell, of Ipswich. The ropes are by Nicoll, of Bermondsey. The church is nine miles from Chelmsford Station, G.E.R., and seven-and-a-half from Pitsea Station of the London, Tilbury, and Southend Railway. Any members of the Essex Association will be welcomed.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

THIS Association held its Quarterly Meeting at North Shields on Whit-Monday, and was one of the most successful meetings it has ever experienced, the ring of ten, the only one in the two dioceses, being open to the members, as well as the belfries of Christ Church and St. Peter's, Jarrow, and St. Hilda's, South Shields. On the Saturday previous, a Newcastle band, which included, however, the president (W. Reed, Esq.), and the Hon. Sec. (G. J. Clarkson, Esq., of Stockton), rang a 5040 of Grandsire Triples on the bells of All Saints, Newcastle, being the first 5040 rang in that city for more than twenty-five years, and this seemed to have infused an enthusiastic feeling into the various members who handled the sallies, and good ringing was the order of the day. In the particular of striking there was a marked improvement on the last two or three meetings, and this fact goes to prove the good the Association is doing. Members attended from Stockton, Darlington, Newcastle, South Shields, Jarrow, Staindrop, Winlaton, etc., etc., and eighty-three sat down to a capital dinner at the Albion Hotel. The chair was taken by the Rev. —. Humble, supported by Jos. Baker, Esq. (ex-Mayor, and Churchwarden of the parish church), and the Rev. —. Russell, the vice-chairs being occupied by the president (W. Reed, Esq.), and one of the vice-presidents (G. Overton, Esq. of Darlington). After the toasts of "The Queen and Royal Family," and "The Bishops and Clergy of the two Dioceses" had been drunk, and the latter replied to, the chairman proposed the "The Health of the President," which was drunk with great cordiality, and amidst great applause. In returning thanks for "The Visitors,"

Mr. Jos. BAKER stated that he intended to become a member of the Association; and took the opportunity to pay a very high tribute to the North Shields ringers, referring to a fact which was not generally known, viz., that when the church was recently in debt, they contributed a quarter's salary towards the liquidation of the same. He proposed their health, and coupled with it the name of Mr. Stephen Knott, a well-known North Shields ringer.

Mr. KNOTT, in returning thanks, proposed "The Health of Mr. S. Power," the conductor of the 5000 rung on the previous Saturday, and trusted that he might long be spared to conduct many more peals.

The Hon. Sec. stated that he had issued between sixty and seventy of the new certificates of membership, thus proving the rapid strides which were being made in the science by the Association. After several new members were proposed, including the names of Mr. Jos. Baker and the Rev. Canon Lloyd, Vicar of Newcastle Cathedral, whose name was received with loud applause, a most enthusiastic meeting separated with three cheers for the president.

The ringing during the day will be found recorded in its proper place in another column, and in addition to that Stedman Triples, Kent Treble Bob Royal, and Grandsire Caters were indulged in on North Shields bells.

THE CAREFUL RINGER.

[The following lines are sent by a well-known correspondent. It is to be presumed that the funny vein in which they are written, is the cause of them possessing very little rhyme, if they contain heaps of reason; so upon that account, they should not be read too critically. Out of respect to our correspondent, who is certainly "a very good fellow," we refrain from giving his name to this, his first poetical effusion. Perhaps, like good wine, he will improve with age.]

There was a ringer who boasted once;
To any one he met;
That if he learnt a method well,
He never could forget:
The rules whereby to keep his place,
And surely ring his bell;
But when to dodge in 4-5 down,
He really could not tell.
He joined a band of ringers,
And attended every week,
And thus excused himself when wrong,
"I can't hear the treble speak."
And when by the course method,
He was further told to ring,
He could never count the places
Where he passed the treble in.
He always knew when a peal was rung,
And the time and all correct,
He was acquainted with nearly ev'ry rule
That was ever invented yet.
He was A 1 at "compass ringing,"
And would always have you know,
That the "hand-stroke" blows should
be nice and quick,
And the "back-stroke" wide and slow
While as for "Stedman Triples,"
He counted every six,
But somehow when he should go "slow,"
He mostly went in "quick."
In fact he was "Jack of all methods,"
But surely was master of none,

He knew a bit of every peal,
But had never rang through one.
He was like one of that worthy band,
(I mustn't mention his name.)
As a ringer he was "never in fault,"
"The bells were all to blame."
He was full of the "Art of ringing,"
And was always "on the job,"
He took a delight in every kind,
"Turkey Driving," and "Churchyard
Bob."
He once did a bit of calling,
And composing in a form,
His changes nearly all repeat,
And the peal rung e'er he was born.

MORAL.

Now listen to me ringers all,
Before my course is done,
And take heed well to what I say,
Known most by every one.
This is the golden maxim,
For ringers and every one,
"Keep eyes and ears about you,
And always hold your tongue."

I hope that none are offended,
Young and old and one and all,
We are "home," my tale is ended,
So we'll "stand" after saying "that's
all."

"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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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. W. GREENWOOD.—Thanks for your kind letter. We were aware of the errors, which are merely misprints, but if you cannot unravel the matter, let us know.

E. BENNETT.—We shall feel a pleasure in settling the question for you. About Monday or Tuesday you shall hear.

P. HAMBLETT.—Your case is being enquired into.

TO COMPOSERS SENDING PEALS FOR PROOF.—It is gratifying to see that the facilities we offer for proving peals is taken advantage of to a great extent. We have nearly forty peals now on hand from different composers. Up till now, this work has been got through by ourselves and our distinguished colleague, Mr. Henry Johnson, but shall be compelled to impress a third worker into the service. We mention this as a kind of palliative for the seeming delay in replying to some of our friends. It entails some extra work, and when in the future we prove a peal, and publish it as true, we shall require a corresponding advantage. Therefore, be it known, to all whom it may concern, that for every peal or touch proved by us, it is our wish that the composers of the same will secure a fresh subscriber to this paper.

The Bell News & Ringers' Record.

SATURDAY, MAY 26, 1883.

THE honour of ringing the greatest length of Treble Bob Major belongs to the Ashton-under-Lyne company, who on Friday week succeeded in their attempt at the peal of 16,608 in that method, at the parish church of Mottram-in-Longdendale, Cheshire. Another of the "palms of victory"—to use a poetical expression of a well-known ringer—becomes therefore, transferred from London to the provinces. Previous to the 9000 of Stedman Cinques being rung at Birmingham, the Metropolitan societies enjoyed the prestige of ringing the longest peal in that method, as also the greatest lengths in Treble Bob Major and Treble Bob Royal. The latter peal, which was one of 12,000 changes, rung at S. Leonard's, Shoreditch, by the Society of Cumberlands, still retains its position at the head of the Treble-ten list, though its place of honour there has been more than once threatened. The College Youths' long peal of Stedman Cinques was superseded at the Midland capital in 1881, and now, after an interval of fifteen years, their peal of 15,840 of Treble Bob, rang at S. Matthew's, Bethnal Green, on the 27th of April, 1868, has in point of time and number of changes, been beaten by the Ashton company on Friday week.

In complimenting Mr. S. Wood and his associates in achieving such an extraordinary performance, we hope that if there exists any one who is dissatisfied with it, he will publish his criticisms at once, and not utter a word here and there, in any corner he may chance to find himself. If the accurate performance of long peals are questioned, those who doubt their truth should not hesitate to state

publicly the grounds for the existence of such incredulity, and not endeavour by inuendo to throw discredit upon them. We were compelled to hear animadversions upon a portion of the striking of the Birmingham peal, and also the long peal of Double Norwich rung at Beeston, Notts. But we place no value on such statements, as we think that whoever feels a doubt upon such matters should express themselves to that effect publicly, and have every thing cleared up. And this should be done as soon after the performance as possible, and when settled, the disappointed and doubting persons should ever after hold their peace.

That more than one company were intent upon ringing this peal appears to show that the race of ringers possessing the attributes of a chivalrous rivalry are not yet extinct. As there is no likelihood of the same peal being again attempted by the members of the Norwich Association who were unsuccessful the other day at Debenham, as also from the fact that there is no greater length yet composed in this method, the chances of this Mottram peal being superseded by one of greater length is very remote indeed. That it is possible to obtain a greater length in this method we certainly believe; and the task is open to any of those clever composers who within the past few years have made their mark in this branch of the science. But at any rate, the names of those ringers who took part in this wonderful Treble Bob performance must be admitted upon the "rolls of fame," as worthy successors of such men as GRANT, POVEY, GROSS, PURSER, MARLTON, MUGGERIDGE, and other worthies of the past.

THE JOHN HOLT PEAL TABLET.

In another column will be found a letter from a correspondent relative to this very interesting record. Our readers, none of them, we should hope, are ignorant of the fact that the talent of HOLT gave an impetus to the ringing science. As is well known, his peal was first rung at the church of S. Margaret, Westminster. The tablet which records this is in such a dilapidated condition that its early restoration is imperative. It is not intended to have a new tablet, with the taste and art of a modern painter, for an inspection of the old one has led to the discovery that it exhibits—hidden till now by the dust of years—in no ordinary degree, great talent on the part of the artiste who was intrusted by HOLT and his friends with its execution. The sum required to make this tablet "a thing of beauty" if not "a joy for evermore," is very trifling. Some time ago a penny subscription was mooted but we are afraid that has been held to be impracticable. If the various societies would instruct their secretaries to forward small sums, even so low as sixpence in amount, the object in view could be attained. And if our numerous correspondents who send us reports of performances and other matter for insertion in "THE BELL NEWS" of next week, will only enclose a stamp, we will acknowledge it in our next issue, and forward all such contributions to the Treasurer, whose address will be found in the letter we

have referred to. Who will help, or rather, who will abstain from helping to redeem such a tablet from decay? To have to ask the Exercise more than once to preserve such a record from total oblivion is *infra dig.*, certainly. We hope that all those who have at any time felt pleasure and gained credit in ringing the compositions of JOHN HOLT will be of opinion that this attempt to keep his name fresh in the memory of posterity, is an effort in which it is something like their duty to assist.

The Metropolis.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.
FULHAM, MIDDLESEX.

On Tuesday, May 15, 1883, in Three Hours and Five Minutes.

AT ALL SAINTS' CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
HOLT'S 10-PART. Tenor 22 cwt.

THOMAS HATTERSLEY Treble.	GEORGE McLAUGHLIN .. 5.
JOHN W. ROWBOTHAM .. 2.	CHALLIS F. WINNY .. 6.
RICHARD FRENCH 3.	EDWIN HORREX 7.
JOHN M. HAYES 4.	WALTER PRIME Tenor.

Conducted by THOS. HATTERSLEY.

Mr. Hattersley hails from Sheffield. It was anticipated that the company would start for Grandsire Caters, but unfortunately Messrs. Booth and Steer, also visitors from Sheffield, arrived after the above peal had commenced. After the peal, all adjourned to the College Youths' Meeting Room, where the peal-books were inspected by the visitors, who were highly pleased with the same.

THE WATERLOO SOCIETY.—LAMBETH.

On Monday, May 21, 1883, in Two Hours and Fifty-six Minutes,

AT ST. MARY'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
HOLT'S 10-PART. Tenor 18 cwt.

J. SCOWEN* Treble.	H. HOPKINS 5.
H. A. ANDREWS† 2.	J. M. ROUTH, Esq. .. 6.
W. COPPAGE 3.	W. BARON 7.
W. JONES 4.	J. BARRY Tenor.

Conducted by W. BARON.

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

The Provinces.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.
CRAYFORD, KENT.

On Sunday, May 13, 1883, in Two Hours and Fifty Minutes,

AT ST. PAULINUS' CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
HOLT'S 10-PART. Tenor 12½ cwt. in F.

EDWARD SAXBY Treble.	FREDERICK FRENCH .. 5.
FREDERICK M. JACOBS .. 2.	ALFRED COLE 6.
GEORGE CONYARD 3.	JAMES SAXBY 7.
HENRY J. SHADE 4.	THOMAS WEBB Tenor.

Conducted by FREDERICK M. JACOBS.

Edward Saxby was elected a member of the above Society previous to starting for the peal. Mr. Henry J. Shade hails from Greenwich, and the rest from Crayford. The bells were struck off at ten minutes to five in the morning, and were brought round in good style at twenty minutes to eight.

CASTLE HALL, STALYBRIDGE, LANCASHIRE.

On Monday, May 14, 1883 (no time given),

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5376 CHANGES.

JAMES SHAW Treble.	THOMAS WILDE 5.
RALPH PRITCHARD 2.	SAMUEL BRADLEY 6.
THOMAS BRADLEY 3.	JAMES S. WILDE 7.
ROBERT WOOLLEY 4.	SAMUEL BENNET Tenor.

Composed by JAMES S. WILDE and conducted by THOMAS WILDE.

Mr. Bennet, formerly of Hyde, hails from Edinburgh; the rest of the company from Hyde.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

BURTON-ON-TRENT, STAFFORDSHIRE.

On Tuesday, May 22, 1883, in Three Hours and Sixteen Minutes,

AT ST. PAUL'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

THURSTANS' COMPOSITION. Tenor 26 cwt.

GEORGE APPLEBY Treble.	ARTHUR WAKLEY 5.
EDWARD ISAAC STONE .. 2.	FREDERICK WM. APPLEBY 6.
JOHN JAGGAR 3.	WILLIAM WAKLEY 7.
JOSEPH GRIFFIN 4.	THOMAS HOLMES Tenor.

Conducted by WILLIAM WAKLEY.

Rung on the occasion of the Freemasons holding Provincial Grand Lodge in St. Paul's Institute, and attending Divine Service in St. Paul's church.

EYE, SUFFOLK.

On Thursday, May 17, 1883, in Three Hours and Twenty-one Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF SS. PETER AND PAUL,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5184 CHANGES;

IN THE OXFORD VARIATION. Tenor 24 cwt.

FREDERICK DAY, JUN. .. Treble.	EDWIN GIBBS, JUN. .. 5.
GEORGE DAY, SEN. 2.	GEORGE FORD 6.
ROBERT FORD 3.	JOHN BUMPSTEAD 7.
ROBERT E. GIBBS, SEN. .. 4.	GEORGE MURTON Tenor.

Composed by J. WILDE, and conducted by GEORGE MURTON.

E. Gibbs, junr. (a member of the Ancient Society of College Youths), hails from London, being on a visit to Eye, his native place, where he received his first lesson on change ringing, under the able tuition of F. Day.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—BRAINTREE.

On Saturday, May 19, 1883, in Three Hours and Nine Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL AND ALL ANGELS,

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

Being a 720 of each of the following:—

OXFORD DELIGHT; KENT TREBLE BOB; WOODBINE;
OXFORD TREBLE BOB; NEW LONDON
PLEASURE; COLLEGE EXERCISE; AND BOB MINOR.

Tenor 14 cwt.

H. E. HAMMOND Treble.	*S. HAMMOND 4.
F. CALTHORPE 2.	*F. RUDKIN 5.
W. H. DYSON* 3.	*A. HUCKSON Tenor.

Conducted by F. RUDKIN.

*College Youths.

This is the first 5040 ever rung at Braintree, and the first, since the formation of the Essex Association, upon six bells, and also the first by any of the company. The striking was excellent throughout.

MOTTRAM-IN-LONGDENDALE, CHESHIRE.—THE

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE SOCIETY.

On Friday, May 18, 1883, in Nine Hours and Forty-eight Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 16,608 CHANGES;
IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 14 cwt. in G.

THOMAS MOSS Treble.	BENJAMIN BROADBENT .. 5.
JAMES ADAMS 2.	JOSEPH MELLOR 6.
JAMES WOOD, JUN. 3.	GEORGE LONGDEN 7.
SAMUEL WOOD 4.	JOHN THORP Tenor.

Composed by the late THOMAS DAY, of Birmingham, and conducted by SAMUEL WOOD.

This is the longest peal ever rung in any method, by one set of men.

The rebuilding of the ancient church of the Knight Templars, near Bodmin, which has been in ruins for over a century, is now nearly completed. The church consists of tower with battlements, nave, chancel, and one transept. The east, west, and north windows have just been filled with stained glass. The east window has two lights, one representing the Ascension of Our Lord. The other the Nativity. Above these lights there is elaborate tracery filled with rich stained glass representing the shield of the Knight Templars, and various ecclesiastical designs.

ROCHDALE AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATION.—ROCHDALE.

On Tuesday, May 15, 1883, in Three Hours and Five Minutes,

AT ST. ALBAN'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S 10-PART (REVERSE). Tenor 18½ cwt. in F.

WILLIAM HENRY SMITH .. Treble.	*WILLIAM PHILLIPS 5.
JAMES ADSHEAD 2.	†JOSEPH STREET 6.
JOHN HAGGARD* 3.	*JAMES WAUGH 7.
JOHN HARRISON† 4.	EDWARD STEPHENSON .. Tenor.

Conducted by JAMES ADSHEAD.

*First peal. †Members of the Lancashire Association.

The above band consisted of three from St. Chad's, Rochdale; two from St. Luke's, Heywood; and three from St. Alban's.

Date Touches.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

FARNHAM ROYAL (Bucks).—Early on Sunday morning, May 13th, it being Whit-Sunday, at St. Mary's, a date touch, 1883 changes, being 720 of Bob Minor; 720 of Grandsire Minor; and 443 of Grandsire Minor; in 1 hr. 8 mins. F. Fells, 1; J. Basden, 2; J. Parker (composer and conductor), 3; W. Fussell, 4; A. Fussell, 5; C. Clarke, 6. Tenor 12 cwt.

SOUTHPORT (Lancashire).—On Friday evening, May 18th, six of the above ringers and Mr. Carter, of Birmingham, met at the tower of Southport for a date touch of Kent Treble Bob Major, one being short started for a date touch of Grandsire Triples on seven bells, and succeeded in ringing it in 1 hr. 5 mins., containing the Queens, Tittums, and Whittingtons, and 24 6-7's. D. E. Rimmer, 1; J. Carter (composer and conductor), 2; A. Fielding, 3; C. F. Heywood, 4; R. Hill, 5; H. Spencer, 6; G. R. Heywood, 7. Tenor 10 cwt.

Miscellaneous.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

JARROW.—On Monday, May 14th, 740 Oxford Bob. S. Whitfield (Stockton), 1; W. Patton (Darlington), 2; C. L. Routledge, 3; W. Stephenson (Stockton), 4; F. Stephenson (Stockton), 5; G. J. Clarkson (Stockton, conductor), 6. Tenor 8½ cwt. Time 27½ mins.

NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.—On Thursday, May 17th, for evening service at St. John's church, 720 Violet Treble Bob Minor. F. Lees, 1; C. L. Routledge, 2; W. Eggleston, (first 720 in the method), 3; W. G. Routledge (conductor), 4; W. Story, 5; R. S. Story, 6.

NORTH SHIELDS.—On Monday, May 14th, 640 Kent Treble Bob Major. John Whitfield (Darlington), 1; W. G. Routledge (Newcastle), 2; J. Rossiter (North Shields), 3; G. Overton (Darlington), 4; R. W. Wignall (North Shields), 5; J. Simm (Newcastle), 6; R. Smith (North Shields), 7; W. Reed, Esq. (conductor), 8. Also 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor on the back six. S. Nott, 1; J. Rossiter, 2; D. Shipp (Staindrop; first 720 in the method), 3; R. Smith, 4; R. W. Wignall, 5; W. Reed (conductor), 6. Also 504 Grandsire Triples. Challoner (West Hartlepool), 1; C. L. Routledge (Newcastle), 2; J. Rossiter, 3; F. Ord (Newcastle), 4; Joel Hern (North Shields), 5; S. Power (conductor), 6; W. Story (Newcastle), 7; J. W. Stobart (Newcastle), 8. Tenor 19 cwt.

SOUTH SHIELDS.—On Monday, May 14th, at St. Hilda's, 720 College Single. J. Bolton (Darlington), 1; C. L. Routledge, 2; G. J. Clarkson 3; R. S. Story (Newcastle), 4; S. Stephenson (conductor), 5; J. Moffitt (South Shields), 6. Also 720 Grandsire Minor. Challoner, 1; J. Moffitt, 2; S. Power, 3; D. Shipp, 4; J. Hopper (South Shields), 5; E. Wallis (Newcastle, conductor), 6. Tenor 10 cwt. Stedman Triples Kent Treble Bob Royal, and Grandsire Caters were also indulged in on the North Shields bells.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

MALDON (Essex).—On Monday evening, May 21st, at All Saints', a 720 of Bob Minor, and a 720 of Double Court Bob Minor, in 52 mins. S. Cable, 1; F. Fitch, 2; T. Mansfield, 3; G. Mansfield, 4; W. Chalk (conductor), 5; W. Mansfield, 6. Also 120 of Grandsire Doubles, conducted by Mr. Cable. The above were rung to commemorate the seventieth birthday of Mr. Stephen Cable, who has rung at the above church over 40 years. Tenor about 13 cwt.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

LOUGHBOROUGH (Leicestershire).—On Tuesday, May 15th, eight members of the above Association, rang at All Saints' church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, 1260 changes, in 49 mins. *W. Billinghamurst, 1; *H. Bradley, 2; J. Hardy, 3; J. W. Taylor, jun., 4; *S. Smith, 5; J. W. Taylor, sen., 6; J. Howe (conductor), 7; *E. Wightman, 8. Tenor 24 cwt in D. *First quarter-peal.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

FARNHAM ROYAL (Bucks).—On Saturday evening, May 12th, at St. Mary's, a 720 of Bob Minor, with eight bobs and fourteen singles, in 26 mins. F. Fells, 1; A. Fussell, 2; J. Parker (composer), 3; W. Fussell, 4; J. Basden (conductor), 5; C. Clarke, 6. And for Divine Service in the morning, on the following Sunday, a 720 of Grandsire Minor, in 26½ mins. J. Parker (conductor 1; F. Fells, 2; G. Basden, 3; A. Batten, 4; J. Basden, 5; C. Clarke, 6. And on Monday, May 14th, a 720 of Bob Minor, with eighteen bobs and two singles, 25 mins. W. Fussell (conductor), 1; A. Fussell, 2; J. Parker, 3; A. Batten, 4; J. Basden, 5; H. Egby, 6. Also a 720 of Grandsire Minor, in 26 mins. A. Fussell, 1; F. Fells, 2; G. Basden, 3; J. Basden, 4; W. Fussell, 5; H. Egby (conductor), 6. Also a 720 of Bob Minor (in two parts, with thirty-four bobs and six singles), in 25½ mins. W. Goseltine, 1; F. Fells, 2; J. Parker (composer and conductor), 3; W. Fussell, 4; J. Basden, 5; H. Egby, 6. Also a 720 of Grandsire Minor, with thirty-four bobs and two singles, in 26 mins. J. Basden, 1; A. Fussell, 2; J. Parker, 3; W. Goseltine, 4; W. Fussell, 5; H. Egby (conductor), 6. And a 720 of Oxford Bob Minor, in 25 mins. F. Fells, 1; J. Basden, 2; A. Fussell, 3; A. Batten, 4; J. Parker (conductor), 5; W. Fussell, 6. Tenor 12 cwt.

WOOBURN (Bucks).—On Whit Monday, May 14th, by the kind permission of the vicar, eight members of the Maidenhead branch of the above Guild, with Mr. R. Flaxman, of Farnham Royal, also a member of the Guild, rang at the parish church, a half-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 1 hr. 31 mins. The band started for a whole peal, but unfortunately owing to the unmanageable condition of the tenor, which required two men to ring, the conductor was compelled to bring them home at half-way. J. Eldridge, 1; H. Rogers, 2; Edward Rogers, 3; R. Flaxman, 4; R. Smith, 5; W. A. Garra-way (conductor), 6; J. Wilkins, 7; Edwin Rogers and R. House, 8.

THE ST. PETER'S SOCIETY, TIVERTON, DEVON.

On Sunday, May 20th, before Divine Service in the evening, at St. Peter's church, eight members of the above society rang a touch of 1008 Grandsire Triples (first and second parts of Holt's 10-part peal), in 40 mins. R. Grater, junr., 1; T. Woodward, 2; J. Grater, junr., 3; E. Munday (conductor), 4; Lewis Mackenzie, 5; J. Grater, 6; J. Clements, 7; J. Fewings and H. Hippiusley, 8. Tenor 29 cwt. This is the longest touch that has ever been rung by this society. [We give this touch as it is sent to us, but if the bells were allowed to run home after the second part-end had come up—and it is not a "touch" unless the bells are brought round—more than a 1008 changes were rung. But we would point out that in this case, the touch would not be true, because in running home after the second part-end, change which appeared at the first part-end are again brought up. Reeves's variation of Holt's 10-part peal is the best to utilise for touches in this manner.—ED.]

THE WORCESTERSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

WORCESTER.—On Whit-Monday, May 14th, eight members of this Association rang at St. Helen's church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples containing the twenty-four 6-7's, composed by the Editor of "THE BELL NEWS," who is a native of this city, and who rang and called his first peal at this church. W. Hunt, 1; S. Price, 2; J. Hinton, 3; W. Blandford, 4; W. Reynolds, 5; H. Wilks (conductor), 6; F. Owen, 7; J. Holden, 8.

ARBORFIELD (Berks).—On Saturday, May 19th, a 720, consisting of six 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles, in 25 mins, by the kind permission of the Rector the Rev. Walsh, at the parish church. W. R. Pocock (first 720), 1; Ernest Bishop, 2; Wm. H. Fussell, 3; J. E. Wiltshire, 4; W. J. Williams (conductor), 5; J. T. Waldron, 6. Tenor 14 cwt. in G. Five of the above are members of St. Lawrence's society.

BENHILTON (Surrey).—On Trinity Sunday, at All Saints' church, six members of the local company, rang for early celebration of the Holy Communion, at 8 a.m., a 720 of Plain Bob Minor, with twenty-one bobs and twelve singles, in 29 mins. Lewin Charles Ferridge, 1; John Francis, 2; James Trendell, 3; George Petre, 4; Charles Trendell, 5; John Trendell (conductor), 6. This is the first 720 in this method ever rung on the bells, and also the first for all the ringers.

HANDSWORTH (Staffordshire).—On Sunday, May 13th, for Divine Service at St. Mary's, a 720 of Grandsire Minor, in 27 mins. F. Workman, 1; H. Bastable (conductor), 2; F. Banks, 3; T. Reynolds, 4; J. Buffery, 5; W. Verry, 6. Tenor 14 cwt. in F. [This report was accidentally overlooked last week.]

HAVERSTOCK HILL (Middlesex).—On Sunday, May 20th, for evening service at St. Martin's church, 720 Bob Minor in 22½ mins; Peter Kendall, Esq., 1; James Leach, 2; Thomas Titchener, 3; Arthur Jacob, 4; James Barret (conductor), 5; Wingfield Meadows, Esq., 6.

LEESFIELD (Lancashire).—On Whit-Friday, May 18th, the first half of Reeves's ten-part peal, 2520 changes, in 1 hr. 28 mins. Jas. W. Holme, 1; Fred Crosland, 2; Edwin Shaw, 3; Thomas Egerton, 4; Jas. Bailey, 5; Samuel Stott (conductor), 6; John Hilton, 7; Thos. B. Shaw, 8. Tenor 14 cwt. It was intended for a peal, but in consequence of the Sunday School Processions, which commenced at nine o'clock, we were requested to ring the first half only, this Whit-Friday being the seventeenth anniversary of the bells.

READING (Berks).—On Thursday, May 10th, at St. Giles's, a 720 consisting of six 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles, in 25 mins. H. Smart, 1; J. E. Wiltshire, 2; R. Allen, 3; W. Goseltine, 4; W. J. Williams (conductor), 5; R. Hopgood, 6. Also on Sunday morning, May 20th, for Divine Service, a 720 of Grandsire Minor, in 25½ mins. Ernest Bishop (first 720), 1; Richard Allen, 2; W. H. Fussell, 3; William Goseltine, 4; Thomas Newman, 5; H. Egby (conductor), 6.

ROMFORD.—(*Chiming*).—On Sunday afternoon, May 20th, two members of the Essex Association chimed for Divine Service, a 360 of Oxford Treble Bob Minor, upon the back six of St. Edward's ring, and for evening service a 720 of Extreme Minor. A. J. Perkins, 1-2-3-4; B. Keeble (composer and conductor), 5-6. This 720, which is obtained by nine extremes and three singles, has the second undisturbed throughout, the third at home at each of the singles, and contains the smallest number of calls possible in a 720 of any plain method.

SOUTHGATE (Middlesex).—On Monday, May 21st, a party of the London Society of Royal Cumberlands visited this picturesque village, with the intention of ringing a peal on the far-famed bells of Christ Church, but owing unfortunately to a mis-arrangement, one of the band did not put in an appearance. Determined not to go back to London without having a pull, the following members rang a 720 of Bob Minor, in 32½ mins. P. Kendall, Esq., 1; J. Leach, 2; A. Jacob, 3; W. Meadows, Esq., 4; T. Titchener, 5; G. Newson (conductor), 6. After a short interval, the bells were again put in motion, and a 720 of Real Double Court Bob Minor was rung in 32 mins. Peter Kendall, Esq., 1; James Leach (first 720 in the method), 2; Wingfield Meadows, Esq., 3; Arthur Jacob, 4; Thos. Titchener, 5; G. Newson (conductor), 6. This is the first 720 in this method on the bells. Mr. Dawes, the steeple-keeper, here returning, and it being now a late hour, a finishing 700 of Plain Bob, was rung, with eighteen bobs and two singles, in 31 mins., after which the bells were fallen in peal. A. Dawes, 1; J. Leach, 2; A. Jacob, 3; T. Titchener, 4; W. Meadows, Esq., 5; G. Newson (conductor), 6. Tenor 25 cwt.

WALTON (Lancashire).—On Tuesday evening, May 15th, at the parish church, a 720 of Grandsire Minor, with thirty-four bobs and two singles, in 25 mins. T. Ashcroft (Liverpool), 1; T. Elson (Childwall), 2; R. H. Stanley (Liverpool), 3; J. Bradshaw (Bootle), 4; C. E. Wilson (conductor; Walton), 5; E. Yates (Bootle), 6. Tenor 10 cwt.

WOBURN (Bedfordshire).—On Saturday, May 19th, a 6-score of Grandsire Doubles on the back six. *W. E. Turney, 1; *A. C. Wiseman, 2; Chas. Herbert, 3; I. Hills (Bedford), 4; *F. T. Tanqueray, Esq. (conductor), 5; *George Archer, 6. *First 6-score of Grandsire Doubles. Tenor 13 cwt.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION OF SIX-BELL RINGERS.

THE ANNUAL MEETING of the above Association was held at Eccleston, on Saturday, the 19th instant, when upwards of sixty members attended. Several 720's of Plain Bob were rung during the afternoon.

At 5 o'clock, tea was served out at the Brown Cow Hotel, after which the usual meeting was held, when the report of the past year was read and adopted, showing the society to be in a flourishing condition. The retiring officers were re-elected.

After the meeting, the members enjoyed themselves by singing, and touches on the handbells. The Blackrod and Chorley handbell ringers discoursed some excellent music on the handbells; altogether a very enjoyable afternoon being spent.

JOHN G. HIGSON.

* * Just as we are about going to press, we have received a letter, signed "A Practical Ringer," without the actual name of the writer. We must adhere to our established rule.

THE DEVONSHIRE GUILD.

The Guild of Devonshire Ringers held their general annual meeting at Exeter on Whit-Monday. There was a large gathering of members of the Guild, and the meeting was most successful. The bands who attended the meeting were the Exeter band, the Tiverton band, the Huntsham band, the Ilfracombe band, and the Upton Pyne band. There were also representatives of several other bands in different parts of the county. The following church towers were kindly lent to the Guild for the day:—St. Sidwell's and Alphington, each containing eight bells, and St. David's and St. Petrock's, each containing six bells. Several touches were very well rung by the different bands, and the day passed off most agreeably. At three o'clock a general business meeting was held at 160, St. Sidwell's, the President of the Guild, Colonel Chas. A. W. Troyte, in the chair. The Treasurer's accounts were read and passed, and a loan of £20, formerly made by Colonel Troyte to the Guild, were ordered to be repaid out of the balance in the hands of the Treasurer. The yearly report was read and adopted. The Chairman impressed upon the meeting the importance of making determined efforts, both collectively and individually to promote belfry reform, and to encourage change-ringing in the county. The Hon. Secretary (the Rev. J. S. Northcote), was instructed to arrange a plan for sending out skilled teachers to any tower at which the ringers desired to study the art of change-ringing. A vote of thanks to Mr. W. B. Fulford, the late treasurer, was carried unanimously, and a vote of thanks to the chairman closed the meeting.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

By the death of Mr. James Crabtree, of Shipley, which occurred very suddenly on the 26th of April, the above society has lost one of its Vice-presidents, and one of the most energetic of its committeemen. Mr. Crabtree had been connected with the Shipley society for many years, and was well-known amongst ringers in Yorkshire. The interment took place at Windhill, on Saturday, April 28th, when a large number of ringers, and of the local body of Odd Fellows, were present. The president and secretary, Messrs. Jasper W. Snowdon and Wm. Whitaker of Leeds, attended as representatives of the above Association.

BELL INSCRIPTIONS.

On the tenor of St. Benet's, Cambridge:—

"John Draper made me in 1618 as plainly doth appear
This bell was a broake and cast again with tyme churchwardens were
Edward Dixon for the one whoe stode close to his tacklin,
And he that was his partner then was Alexander Tacklyn."

At St. Mary Devizes, on the treble:—

"I am the first, altho' but small,
I will be heard above you all."

On a bell at Alderton:—

"I'm given here to make a peal
And sound the praise of Mary Neale."

At Normanton-on-Soar.

"I sweetly tolling men do call
To taste on meate that feeds the soul."

A fire-bell cast in 1652, in the church of Sherbourne, has:—

"Lord! quench this furious flame:
Arise, run, help, put out the same."

On the bells of New College, Oxford (very sentimentously and dubiously grammatical):—

1. "Manners maketh Man. A.R. 1712." 2. "Manners maketh Man. W.W. 1712." 3. 5. 8. 10. "Michael Darbie made me. W.W. 1665." 4. "Manners maketh Man. A.R. 1703." 6. "Henry Knight of Reading made me. 1672." 7. "Prosperity to New College. A.R. 1712." 9. "Manners maketh Man. A.R. 1723."

On the great bell at Glasgow Cathedral. (This is a very talkative bell):—

"In the yeare of grace 1583 (300 years exactly), Marcus Knox, a merchant in Glasgow, zealous for the interest of the Reformed religion, caused me to be fabricated in Holland for the use of his fellow-citizens of Glasgow, placed me with solemnity in the tower of their Cathedral. My function was announced by the impress on my bosom: 'Me audito venias doctrinam sanctam ut discas,' and I was taught to proclaim the hours of unheeded time. 195 years had sounded these awful warnings, when I was broken by the hands of inconsiderate and unskilful men. In the year 1790, I was cast into the furnace, reformed at London, and returned to my sacred vocation. Reader! thou also shalt know a resurrection; may it be to eternal life. Thomas Mears, fecit, London, 1790."

EXTRAORDINARY LONG PEAL AT MOTTRAM-IN-LONGDENDALE, CHESHIRE.

In pursuance of the intentions of eight members of the Ashton-under-Lyne society to attempt the longest peal of Treble Bob Major yet composed, such attempt was made on Friday in Whitsun-week, at the parish church of the above village, and we are glad to be able to add, that the peal was, at the first attempt, successfully accomplished. The formal record of this grand performance will be found in its proper place in another column, but the character of such an important achievement deserves at our hands something beyond a mere announcement of its execution. When it was first decided to attempt this peal, the ringers, all of whom are natives of Ashton-under-Lyne, and members of the ringing company of that town, visited Mottram, and rang the first part of the peal there, and by bringing the bells home from the first part-end, they on that occasion obtained a long 5000 peal, true, which duly appeared among our records of performances. After this a determination was come to that this peal—16,668 changes, composed by the late T. Day, of Birmingham, should be attempted at the same place, according to notice given.

On Thursday evening, May 17th, the company proceeded to Mottram, taking with them the ropes belonging to S. Peter's church, Ashton, as grave doubts were entertained whether those at Mottram would stand the length. Eleven o'clock the same evening saw them in the tower, making everything safe and ready for morning. To bed at twelve; up at four o'clock in the morning, into the country for a walk. Returning at half-past five to the village, they sat down to an excellent and substantial breakfast provided by Mr. William Middleton. They then repaired to the tower, and all preliminaries being arranged, everything in apple-pie order, "as the sayin' is," the bells were set swinging at twenty-five minutes past six; and rounds being rung for five minutes, the order to "Go" was given. At this time not more than half-a-dozen ringers were present, two of them having journeyed a distance of seven miles 'cross country to be present at the commencement of the peal. As the day wore on, the number of visitors began to swell considerably, ringers pouring in from all parts of the country. Amongst those present we noticed Mr. Peter Johnson, of Wigan; the brothers Wilde, of Hyde, Cheshire; Mr. Richard Ainsworth, of Denton; and ringers from the following places: Hadfield, Hayfield, Saddleworth, Stockport, Manchester, Glossop, Edinburgh, and other places. Mr. James Wood, sen., of Ashton-under-Lyne, was also present, and in company with that veteran ringer, Mr. James Hamilton, of Mottram, listened to the peal from its commencement to its completion. And with regard to the striking, we are pleased to hear that it was the universal opinion of those who were competent to judge in such a matter, that better ringing it would have been impossible to hear.

When the time approached at which rounds were momentarily expected to be heard, the visitors flocked in large numbers to the belfry-door; and at the finish, when the ringers presented themselves to the assemblage in the order in which they stood in the peal, they were warmly congratulated on their prowess. The company stood as follows: Thomas Moss, *Treble*; James Adams, 2; James Wood, jun., 3; Samuel Wood, 4; Benjamin Broadbent, 5; Joseph Mellor, 6; George Longden, 7; John Thorp, *Tenor*. Composed by the late Mr. Thomas Day, of Birmingham, and conducted by Mr. Samuel Wood.

It would be invidious to select any of this band for special praise or commendation, where all did so well. In these great lengths the men at the heavy end generally are regarded with admiration, though the clear and regular striking of the little bells is a work which should not be ignored. The fact that Mr. Samuel Wood rung what we may term a non-observation bell, and called this long peal, must entitle him to a prominent place among the ranks of first-rate bob-callers. We hope that the whole company will live many years to enjoy the laurels they have so worthily gained.

The "go" of the bells left nothing to be desired; and the ringers wish to return their sincere thanks to those gentlemen who took the trouble to look after them; and also to the Vicar and Churchwardens of Mottram for their kindness in so readily granting permission.

ASPLEY GUISE, NEAR WOBURN, BEDFORDSHIRE.

A new ring of six has been placed in the church tower of Aspley Guise, by Messrs. Taylor and Co., of Loughborough. They are a very musical little ring, tenor Ab, about 8½ cwt. Special dedication services will be held on Tuesday, May 29th, at 11 a.m., and 7.30 p.m. The Archdeacon of Bedford will preach the morning sermon, and the Rev. S. Harvey Gem, a former Rector who initiated the movement for the present ring, will preach in the evening. The Woburn company of ringers, as members of the Bedfordshire Association, have undertaken to ring the bells on the above occasions. We understand that it is in contemplation to form a change-ringers' society in connection with the above church. The Woburn Company have already given practical assistance to some learning friends, Mr. C. Herbert lending them a set of handbells.

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 JOHN HOLT TABLET.

SIR,—You will remember that in August last year the condition of this tablet was the subject of some correspondence, and a valuable article in your popular paper, but since then, I am sorry to say, we have heard little more of the matter. The St. Margaret's society, however, naturally feeling a great interest in the subject, have decided to endeavour to collect the necessary funds to enable the board to be restored to something like its original condition, and as you have kindly expressed your willingness to receive subscriptions for this purpose, I am desired to ask you to be so good as to call the attention of the ringing public, through the medium of your valuable journal, to the matter, by which means the St. Margaret's society hopes that this ancient record will not long remain in its present deplorable condition. Our Treasurer, Mr. J. Dod, of 52, Queen Anne's Gate, Westminster, will be happy to receive any subscriptions which may be sent him, and I hope, Sir, you will be able to see your way to help this matter forward to a successful issue.

S. Margaret's (Westminster) Society.

ALFRED SMITH,
Hon. Sec.

THE RECENT PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES AT EDMONTON.

SIR,—A few weeks ago, a letter appeared in the *Tottenham Herald* signed "College Youth," calling in question the correctness of the peal of Grandsire Triples recently obtained at Edmonton. As nothing is said in your paper about so serious a charge, I write these few lines in the hope of calling forth some comment in the proper place. Whether the peal was true or not, I don't know, but I do think, as it was reported in "THE BELL NEWS," that an accusation of this kind should be brought in such a manner as to give the ringers an opportunity of clearing themselves before your readers. One can only suppose that "College Youth" is not prepared to go on with the matter; but if that is the case, surely he should say so publicly.

A NEIGHBOUR.

THE HACKNEY SOCIETY, MIDDLESEX.

THE Annual Dinner of the members and friends of the above Society will take place at the Maidenhead Inn, Hertford, on Tuesday, June 26th. There are two peals of bells in the town, All Saints, ten, and St. Andrew's, eight, in good going order. Any friends wishing to attend the dinner (tickets 3s. each), will kindly intimate the same to the undersigned. Fares at a reduced rate can be obtained by those leaving with the majority of the company from Hackney Downs Junction, at 8.20 a.m., on the above date.

5, Downs Crescent, Stoke Newington.

P. A. COARD, JUN.,
Hon. Sec.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

A RINGING MEETING will be held on Saturday, June 2nd, 1883, at Christ Church, Barlow Moor, Didsbury, Manchester. Ringing from 2.30 p.m. The secretaries hope to see a good attendance of members, and also cordially invite all non-members. Ringing limited to half-an-hour each set, until all have rung.

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

THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

A RINGING MEETING will be held on Saturday, June 9th, at Epsom. The tower (eight bells), will be open from 1 p.m. All ringers invited. Eagle House, Wimbledon.

A. W. B. PERCEVAL, Hon. Sec.

OBITUARY.—It is with regret we record the death of Mr. James Price, a member of the St. Stephen's Society, Bristol, who died at his residence on Whit-Monday after a short and painful illness. This is the sixth death that has occurred in this society in a very short time. The company met at St. Mary Redcliff church, on Tuesday, and rang a deeply muffled peal as a token of respect to the deceased, who was much beloved by the whole of his ringing associates; they also met again at the same church after his funeral on Saturday, and rang a like peal, everyone regretting the loss they had sustained.

At the last meeting of the Hants Diocesan Church Building Society, grants were made of £200 for rebuilding and enlarging nave of Alverstoke church; £50 for new aisle at Eastleigh; and £25 for restoration at Ellingham.

A PEAL OF BOB ROYAL.

5040.

By GEORGE HAYWARD, Bromsgrove,
Worcestershire.

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

The above three times repeated produce—

5 2 3 6 4

the following courses complete the peal.

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

Rung at St. John's, Bromsgrove, Worcestershire, on
Monday, May 14th, 1883; conducted by its composer.

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS.

5057.

By A. KNIGHTS, Chesterfield.

5 2 4 3 6*	5 3 2 4 6 8th in 3.
4 2 6 3 5 8 9.	2 3 6 4 5 8 9.
6 2 5 3 4 8 9.	3 6 2 4 5 7 8.
2 5 6 3 4 7 8.	6 2 3 4 5 7 8.
5 6 2 3 4 7 8.	3 2 5 4 6 8 9.
2 6 4 3 5 8 9.	5 2 6 4 3 8 9.
4 6 5 3 2 8 9.	2 6 5 4 3 7 8.
6 5 4 3 2 7 8.	6 5 2 4 3 7 8.
5 4 6 3 2 7 8.	2 5 3 4 6 8 9.
6 4 2 3 5 8 9.	3 5 6 4 2 8 9.
2 4 5 3 6 8 9.	5 6 3 4 2 7 8.
4 5 2 3 6 7 8.	

The last eleven courses twice repeated, produce

2 3 5 6 4

When by calling the 9th in and out at two,
and the 8th in three, rounds are produced.

* 7th in and out at two with a double, twice.

TWO PEALS OF TREBLE BOB ROYAL.

By JOHN THORP, of Ashton-under-Lyne.

5080.

2 3 4 5 6 M W H

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

5080.

2 3 4 5 6 M W H

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

CHANGE-RINGING: A POEM.

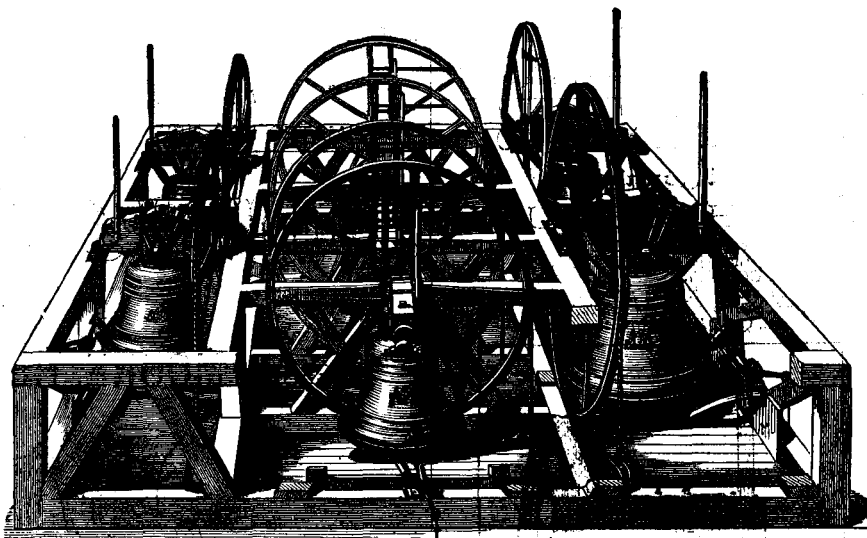
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numbers are now ready, arranged for medium peal, six ringers, bells from C 22 to C 1; or large peal, seven
ringers, bells from G 25 to G 04. Subscription for the whole year, 12s.
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N.B.—"The Sphinx" Quadrille is also arranged for full brass band of twenty instruments, price 2s.

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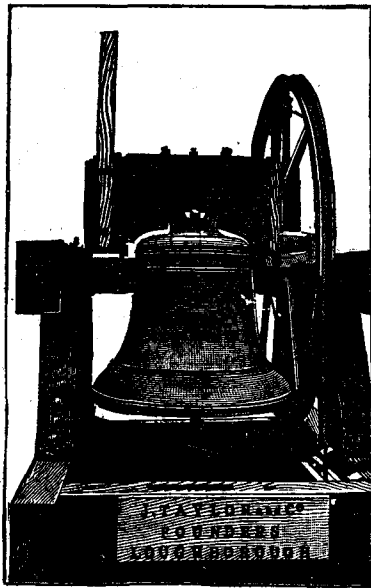
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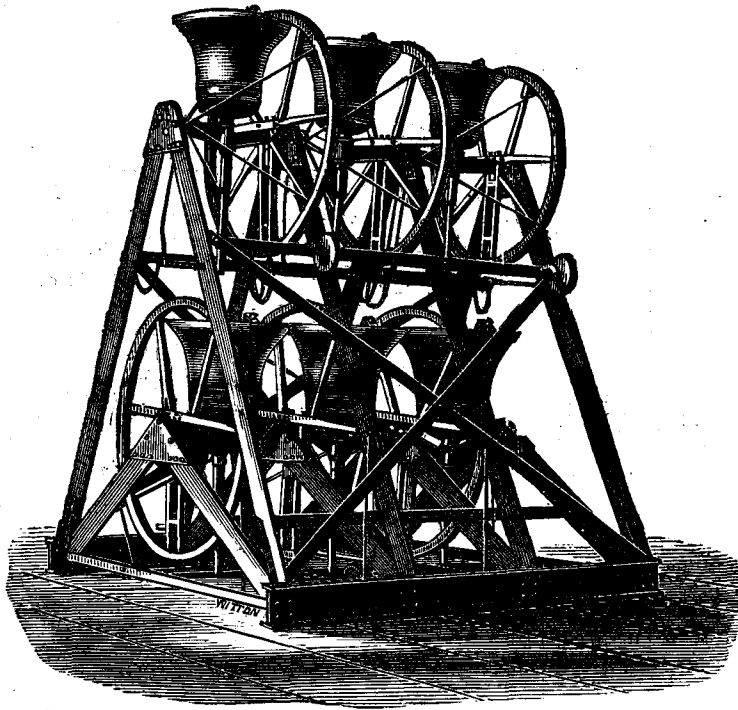
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SATURDAY, JUNE 2, 1883.

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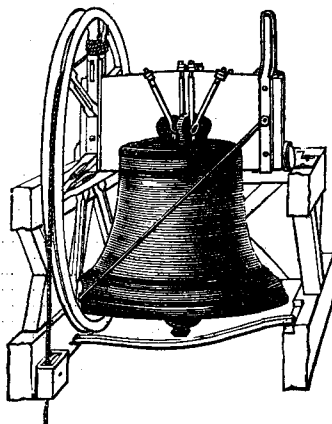
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BOB-AND-SINGLE PEALS OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES.

BY THE REV. CHARLES D. P. DAVIES.

THE continued multiplication of what are generally known as "Bob-and-Single Peals of Grandsire Triples," seems to demand a short explanation of their nature, together with a few words as to the method of arranging them.

The following is an outline of their construction:—

They consist of six "parts" of 840 changes; each part contains four "divisions" of 210 changes, or fifteen leads; and each division may be conveniently subdivided into five portions of three leads.

One bell repeats its work every three leads, and comes home every third lead throughout the peal. This may be termed the *three-lead bell*.

Another bell repeats its work every division, and comes home at the end of each division. This may be named the *division bell*.

It will be seen therefore, that at the end of each division, that is, twenty-four times in the course of the peal, there are at least two bells at home, the three-lead bell and the division bell.

A third bell repeats its work every part, that is, every four divisions, or six times in the peal, and is brought home at the end of the part. This may be called the *part bell*.

Therefore at the end of every part, or at every 840 changes, there are three bells, the three-lead bell, the division bell, and the part bell at home.

The part bell must be made to fall into a different position in corresponding leads of each of the four divisions in a part. It is caused to do this by the substitution of common Grandsire singles in lieu of bobs in those places where necessary. This will be further explained presently. Here, however, it may be observed that the only opportunity for the exercise of any originality in composing these peals has lain wholly in the distribution of the singles that govern the work of the part bell. That opportunity for the display of originality will be *entirely removed*.

Proceeding now to speak of the work of the three bells above specified, we come, first, to the three-lead bell. This must be either the 3rd, the 5th, or the 6th. Its work may be seen at a glance, as follows:—

- 7 5 2 6 3 4	2 5 3 7 4 6	- 7 5 2 6 3 4
- 4 6 7 3 5 2	- 6 7 2 4 5 3	7 6 5 4 2 3
4 3 6 2 7 5	- 3 4 6 5 7 2	- 3 4 7 2 6 5

In every three leads there is one plain lead. At this the three-lead bell is before. At the other two leads there are calls. At the call immediately following the plain lead the three-lead bell is at the wrong. At the call immediately preceding the same it is at the middle. In the first of the above instances, the 3rd only comes home at the end, and is therefore the three-lead bell; in the second it is the 5th, and in the last it is the 6th. Any one of these sets of three leads, which are merely variations of one another, may be repeated four times, producing fifteen leads, or 210 changes. By introducing suitable singles to prevent it coming round, this touch is converted into a division of the peal. At the end of each of these divisions, the division bell, which must never be disturbed by the singles, comes home.

We now come to the division bell. Prick down, both handstroke and backstroke, the whole fifteen leads, or division, taking the 6th as the three-lead bell.

	<i>Handstroke.</i>	<i>Backstroke.</i>
In this the three-lead bell, the 6th,	5 7 6 2 4 3	7 5 2 6 3 4
falls just five times into every place,	6 7 4 5 3 2	7 6 5 4 2 3
five times in second's, five times in	4 3 2 7 5 6	3 4 7 2 6 5
third's, and so on. Next note the	2 5 6 3 7 4	5 2 3 6 4 7
places of any other bell all through in	6 5 7 2 4 3	5 6 2 7 3 4
conjunction with the 6th. Any bell	7 4 3 5 2 6	4 7 5 3 6 2
may be taken, but the 7th is most	3 2 6 4 5 7	2 3 4 6 7 5
suitable. This let us keep as division	6 2 5 3 7 4	2 6 3 5 4 7
bell; and then in no case must its work	5 7 4 2 3 6	7 5 2 4 6 3
be disturbed by singles, that is to say,	4 3 6 7 2 5	3 4 7 6 5 2
no single must ever be substituted for	6 3 2 4 5 7	3 6 4 2 7 5
a bob where the 7th falls either in	2 5 7 3 4 6	5 2 3 7 6 4
second's or third's place. And for the	7 4 6 5 3 2	4 7 5 6 2 3
following reason: If its work be	6 4 3 7 2 5	4 6 7 3 5 2
examined in conjunction with the 6th,	3 2 5 4 7 6	2 3 4 5 6 7

it will be found that the two fall into every possible position with respect to one another. To prove this take those rows where the 6th holds second's place, and then those with the 6th in third's. They are as follows:—

6 7 4 5 3 2	7 6 5 4 2 3
6 5 7 2 4 3	4 6 7 3 5 2
6 4 3 7 2 5	5 6 2 7 3 4
6 2 5 3 7 4	3 6 4 2 7 5
6 3 2 4 5 7	2 6 3 5 4 7

And so for every place into which the 6th falls. The 7th will be seen to occupy a different place each time, and will occupy just

once every place that it possibly can. This is often expressed by saying that the two work their *complement* together. If the work of the 7th or division bell were to be disturbed, some positions of 6-7 would come twice over, while others would be wanting altogether.

Let it be carefully noted here that these two bells, the three-lead bell and the division bell, completely manage themselves. They simply have to be let alone. In every Bob-and-Single peal their work is precisely the same. Therefore, as far as they are concerned, no credit whatever belongs to the would-be composer.

And now as to the part bell. This must be made to repeat its work every four divisions. Four divisions make a part. The part bell must do different work in each division of a part, and come home at the end of the part. It will therefore repeat its work six times in the peal. It is caused to do this by singles. These may be used instead of bobs wherever the division bell does not fall into second's or third's place. It will be seen from the subjoined bob leads of a division that these opportunities occur at the second, third, fifth, seventh, eighth, and tenth calls of each division. Here, and here only, may singles be called instead of bobs, because at the others the 7th is either in second's or third's place. The calls marked are those where singles may be employed.

The simplest manner in which to explain what has to be accomplished by these singles is to prick down, side by side, in a skeleton form, two or three similar leads in the four divisions of a part. Take the first three calls in each division, inserting only the two bells whose work is fixed, the three-lead bell and the division bell:—

7--6--	7--6--	7--6--	7--6--
--7-6-	--7-6-	--7-6-	--7-6-
---6-7	---6-7	---6-7	---6-7

In each of these it will be seen that there are four places vacant. What has to be done is this. The part bell, and for this purpose let the 5th be taken, has to be made to occupy all the vacant places in rotation. For instance, as regards the last of these horizontal rows: In one division it must be 5--6-7, in another --5-6-7, in another --5-6-7, and in another ---6-5-7. All these positions may be brought up in any order, provided only that at the end of the part all three bells, the three-lead bell, the division bell, and the part bell, be brought home simultaneously, thus ---5-6-7. When this has been effected, the three will have worked their complement together.

The only vestige of ingenuity that ever was required for the "composition" of Bob-and-Single peals has lain in the arrangement of the singles that direct the course of the part bell. The exercise of this ingenuity is destroyed for the future by the publication of the subjoined table, which contains every possible variation in the arrangement of these singles. The variations are twelve in number, and are inserted in the order in which the computations produced them.

	3	5	7	8	10	2	3	5	7	8	10	2	3	5	7	8	10	2	3	5	7	8	10
1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
7	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
8	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
9	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
10	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
11	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
12	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

The numbers at the top represent the number of the call in each division at which singles are used. The numbers down the side are those of the different variations. Take for an instance, the tenth variation. In this the third, fifth, and seventh calls in the first division of each part must be singles; in the second division, the second, fifth, and tenth calls are singles; in the third division, the second, seventh, and tenth; and in the fourth division, the third call.

The fourth variation is Annable's peal, published in *Church Bells*, December 30, 1876. The seventh variation is given in the *Clavis* and also by *Shipway*: it is identical with Taylor's variation. In the *Clavis* it is ascribed to an unknown author. May we not suppose that he, whoever he may have been, elected to remain *incognito*, regarding it as a mere variation of a plan already old and unworthy of the name of "composition?" It is by no means to be confused, as it has sometimes been, with Holt's six-part peal, which contains only two singles, and is a production in every way worthy of so talented a man. On this point see *Church Bells* for May 17, 1879.

It will be noted that no attempt has been made to classify the foregoing twelve variations, some of which may quite possibly be variations of one another.

And now, lastly, as to the three remaining bells. At least two singles must be called upon them, but *there never need be more*. The object of these is to bring up, at the part-end, either the row 3 4 2 5 6 7 or 4 2 3 5 6 7. Any two bobs may be converted into singles for this purpose.

The first part of the peal is now composed, and all that remains to be done is to repeat the calling five times—with one exception, in which we have two alternatives. One single on 2 3 4 must be omitted somewhere in the first half of the peal, and again at the same place in the second half; or a single may be inserted on two of these same bells somewhere in the first half, where there would not otherwise be one, and the same repeated at the same place in the second half. It is in the singles on 2 3 4 that the would-be composer is in danger of being "inebriated" with his own "exuberance," for they may be literally carted in wholesale. It makes not the slightest difference how many they may be, or where they be used, provided only that the two afore-mentioned conditions as to the part-ends, and the extra calls or omissions, be fulfilled. Therefore, in estimating the qualities of a Bob-and-Single peal, all singles not affecting the part bell must be entirely put out of consideration.

All praise and credit to Annable for having composed his peal. But this once done, all others are mere variations. Taylor's variation, owing to its more symmetrical arrangement of singles, and also in that there are only forty-six of them in lieu of fifty in Annable's peal, is more elegant than the latter. Not to deprive Bob-and-Single peals of their due, one point in connection with them deserves mention, which is, that where the 6th is three-lead bell, and the 7th division bell, the course-ends come up regularly throughout at intervals of 210 changes, that is, at the end of each division. Of course, even this advantage is negated when any other bells than those just named are employed either as three-lead and division bells.

As compositions, Bob-and-Single peals have been of use to many in earning a cheap notoriety. By the ancients they were stigmatised with the name "Gogmagog"—it may well be questioned whether they deserve a better appellation. To a conductor not much troubled by conscience they afford only too many opportunities of patching up a false peal by the substitution of singles for bobs, or bobs for singles, when any two bells that may have shifted come together in front. It is this that has earned for them in some quarters the not inappropriate designation of "Bob-and-Swindle." They are advantageous to the band that need arousing to a sense of their duty two leads in every three all through a peal. To the majority of ringers they are intensely wearisome and monotonous.

Two examples are appended; the first showing how any peal may be deduced from the table given above, the second showing how any variation may be detected, whatever bells be chosen for three-lead, division, and part bells.

EXAMPLE I.—This is the sixth variation in the table. The singles governing the part bell are at the third and tenth calls in the first division; at the seventh in the second; at the seventh and tenth in the third; and at the third in the last. The two singles on 2 3 4 have been placed at the tenth calls in the second and fourth divisions, as these places seemed most symmetrical, but they have been thrown into brackets to intimate that they do not really pertain to the composition of the peal. At midway and end these singles should be omitted.

This peal has merely been written down without any attempt at proof, but I am prepared to stake my reputation upon its accuracy.

7 5 2 6 3 4	7 2 3 6 5 4	7 2 4 6 3 5	7 2 5 6 4 3
3 4 7 2 6 5	5 4 7 3 6 2	3 5 7 4 6 2	4 3 7 5 6 2
s2 5 3 6 4 7	2 3 5 6 4 7	2 4 3 6 5 7	s5 2 4 6 3 7
4 7 2 3 6 5	4 7 2 5 6 3	5 7 2 3 6 4	3 7 5 4 6 2
5 3 4 6 7 2	3 5 4 6 7 2	4 3 5 6 7 2	2 4 3 6 7 5
7 2 5 4 6 3	7 2 3 4 6 5	7 2 4 5 6 3	7 5 2 3 6 4
3 4 7 6 2 5	s4 5 7 6 2 3	s5 3 7 6 2 4	4 3 7 6 5 2
2 5 3 7 6 4	2 3 4 7 6 5	2 4 5 7 6 3	5 2 4 7 6 3
4 7 2 6 5 3	5 7 2 6 3 4	3 7 2 6 4 5	3 7 5 6 2 4
s3 5 4 2 6 7	(s) 4 3 5 2 6 7	s5 4 3 2 6 7	(s) 4 2 3 5 6 7

EXAMPLE II.—Directions for transposing and detecting any variation.

- Prick down the calls of the first part.
- Discover which of the three, the 3rd, the 5th, or the 6th, is the three-lead bell. If it be the third, the division-ends and part-ends will come at the plain lead, following the last call in each division, and must be pricked below each division.
- Discover which bell in addition to the three-lead bell, comes home at the end of each division. This is the division bell, and will be found uninterrupted all through by the singles.
- See what additional bell comes home at the part-end. This is the part-bell.
- Examine all the singles, cancelling those in which the part bell is not concerned, these, some two only excepted, being mere aimless appendages.
- Look for the call in which the part bell falls into fifth's, the three-lead bell into sixth's, and the division bell into seventh's. Underline this lead.

(g) Start from the underlined lead as from rounds, and prick down straight through all four divisions, round again to the underlined lead, employing all calls just as found, with the exception of the cancelled singles, in place of which bobs are to be pricked.

(h) Lastly, see with which variation in the table the peal so transposed, corresponds.

For this purpose we will take the latest published Bob-and-Single peal, that by Mr. Millett in "THE BELL NEWS" of April 7th, 1883.

7 5 2 6 3 4	7 6 2 4 3 5	7 5 6 4 3 2	7 2 5 4 3 6
s6 4 7 3 5 2	5 4 7 3 6 2	2 4 7 3 5 6	s4 6 7 3 2 5
(s) 2 5 6 7 3 4	s2 6 5 7 3 4	s6 5 2 7 3 4	(s) 5 2 4 7 3 6
4 7 2 3 6 5	4 7 2 3 6 5	4 7 6 3 5 2	6 7 5 3 2 4
s6 5 4 2 3 7	s5 6 4 2 3 7	(s) 2 5 4 6 3 7	(s) 4 2 6 5 3 7
7 2 6 3 5 4	7 2 5 3 6 4	7 6 2 3 5 4	7 5 4 3 2 6
5 4 7 6 3 2	6 4 7 5 3 2	5 4 7 2 3 6	2 6 7 4 3 5
s6 2 5 3 4 7	(s) 5 2 6 3 4 7	s2 6 5 3 4 7	(s) 4 5 2 3 6 7
4 7 6 5 3 2	4 7 5 6 3 2	4 7 2 5 3 6	6 7 4 2 3 5
2 5 4 3 7 6	s6 2 4 3 7 5	s5 6 4 3 7 2	5 2 6 3 7 4
2 3 5 6 4 7	6 3 2 5 4 7	5 3 6 2 4 7	5 3 2 4 6 7

- The above are the bob and single leads of the first part.
- The third is the three-lead bell. Therefore the division ends and part-ends come at the plain leads, which are pricked below each column.
- In addition to the 3rd, the 7th comes home at all the division ends, and her work is all through uninterrupted by singles. The 7th, therefore, is the division bell.
- Besides the 3rd and 7th, the 6th comes home at the part-ends, and is therefore the part bell.
- The singles in which the part bell is not concerned, have been thrown into brackets.
- In the row 2 5 4 6 3 7 the part bell, the 6th, is in fifth's; the three-lead bell, the 3rd, is in sixth's; and the division bell, the 7th, is in seventh's. This lead is accordingly underlined.
- Here follows the peal pricked down, starting from the underlined lead, as directed.

7 5 2 6 3 4	7 2 3 6 4 5	7 2 5 6 3 4	7 2 3 6 5 4
3 4 7 2 6 5	4 5 7 3 6 2	3 4 7 5 6 2	5 4 7 3 6 2
s2 5 3 6 4 7	2 3 4 6 5 7	s5 2 3 6 4 7	2 3 5 6 4 7
4 7 2 3 6 5	5 7 2 4 6 3	4 7 5 3 6 2	4 7 2 5 6 3
s3 5 4 6 7 2	3 4 5 6 7 2	- 2 3 4 6 7 5	s5 3 4 6 7 2
7 2 3 4 6 5	7 2 3 5 6 4	7 5 2 4 6 3	7 2 5 4 6 3
s4 5 7 6 2 3	s5 4 7 6 2 3	3 4 7 6 5 2	3 4 7 6 2 5
2 3 4 7 6 5	2 3 5 7 6 4	s2 5 3 7 6 4	s5 2 3 7 6 4
5 7 2 6 3 4	4 7 2 6 3 5	4 7 2 6 5 3	4 7 5 6 2 3
- 3 4 5 2 6 7	s5 3 4 2 6 7	s3 5 4 2 6 7	2 3 4 5 6 7

- The peal is the eleventh variation.
- Two singles on 2, 3, 4, must be inserted, preferably in the first and third divisions, to bring up as part-end either 3 4 2 5 6 7, or 4 2 3 5 6 7. They might be placed, for instance, at the calls marked with a stroke.
- Though the table given above was prepared before the publication of Mr. Millett's peal, he, so far as I know, has been the first to publish the eleventh variation, the glory of which, therefore, such as it is, belongs to him.

It may be added that the argument of this article may be applied, with due modifications, to the case of peals on this plan in other triple methods, such as Union Triples and the like.

P.S.—In what has been said above, I trust that no one will think me altogether inimical towards the whole system of Bob-and-Single peals, or that I have expressed myself too harshly concerning them. The chief aim of the article has been the refutation of any present claims to originality in their so-called composition—a point upon which it would be difficult to comment too severely. As one of the plans upon which a peal of Grandsire Triples may be constructed, these are certainly of value. Which of all the known plans is the best must ever remain a matter of opinion. The only plea I would put forward is this:—we have Taylor's peal, and a very good one it is; why not be content to adhere to that, without needlessly, and, it must be added, foolishly multiplying mere childish variations?

WE hear that eight members of the Ancient Society of College Youths intend attempting, this Saturday, on the eight bells at St. Saviour's church, Walthamstow, a 10,000 of Double Norwich Court Bob. The Vicarage lies almost 'neath the shadow of the steeple, and though one would naturally think ringing would be considered an inconvenience under such circumstances, yet the worthy Vicar—the Rev. T. H. Grantham-Robinson—never hesitates to give permission for a peal unless illness of a parishioner, or a such-like cause, is existent.

THE CHURCH BELLS OF WINCHESTER.

The following account of the bells in the churches of Winchester has been kindly furnished by the Rev. A. D. Hill, Vicar of Downton, Wilts, late Secretary of the Winchester Diocesan Guild.

The Cathedral has eight bells, tenor 56in. diameter, note C., 32 cwt. The bells are in good order, and up to a few months ago, Grandsire Triples was rung here very fairly. The ropes fall in a good circle, and the belfry is clean and well kept. Mr. W. Masters is the steeplekeeper, and he spares no pains to keep everything in good going order. The inscriptions on the bells are as follows:—

Treble—"R. Wells, Aldbourne, fecit. MDCLXXII."

2nd—"Theodore Ecclestone, Esq. 1742. T.L."

3rd—"R. Phelps, Londini. Fecit. 1734."

4th—"James Wells, Aldbourn. Wilts. Fecit. 1804."

5th—"R. Phelps, Londini. Fecit. 1734."

6th—"James Wells, Aldbourne. Wilts. Fecit. 1814."

7th—"R. Phelps, Londini. Fecit. 1737."

Tenor—"R. Phelps, Londini. Fecit. 1734. + God bless the Reverend Charles Naylor Dean and the Reverend Prebends of this church."
O O O (coins of William III.)

These bells hang in the large central tower, and are rung from the upper floor. There is a chiming apparatus attached to the last six bells, the manual of which is placed below in the south transept, but it is so far from the bells that it is almost a failure.

The tower of the Chapel of the College, founded by William of Wykeham, formerly contained five bells, they have lately been augmented to six. They are in good going order, and a short time ago a company was formed from among the older boys in the college for practising Grandsire Doubles, under the management of the Rev. A. D. Hill. These bells are thus inscribed:—

Treble—"Mears & Stainbank, founders, London. Deo dante dedit.
J. D. Walford, 1866."

2nd—"IF WITH MY FELLOWS I AGREE THEN HEARKEN TO MY
HARMONY. Frances Foster, 1659."

3rd—" + AVE GRACIA " (in Lombardic letters)

4th—"R. Phelps. Fecit. 1737."

5th—"CÆLESTES AVDITE SONOS MORTALES. I.W. 1593."

Tenor—"JOHN-HAR-IS-XARDENE-OF-THE-COLEDG-NEARE xintone
1636"

This bell is supposed to have been cast in Belgium by P. Van den Gheyn. The letter x is used for w in the inscription, which should be read: "John Harris Warden of the College near Winton 1636." It is 39½in. diameter, note G., 12 cwt.

The church of S. Bartholomew Hyde had three bells, tenor 10 cwt., but the two largest, which were cracked, have lately been sold. The remaining bell has on it—"IN - H - FF - 1659 -"

The churches of Holy Trinity and Christ Church have each one small modern bell.

St. John the Baptist has five bells in very bad order, and unringable. They are thus inscribed:—

Treble—"A A A A (on the crown) ANNO-DOMINI. 1574. FEARE GOD.
LOVE. GOD. AND. OBAYE. THY. PRINCE. BY. ME. JOHN. COLE.
BELL. FOUNDER. A. (cracked)

2nd—"Sancte Petre Ora Pro Nobis +++"

3rd—"Give. God. the. Glory. R.B. 1606."

4th—"In. God. is. my. hope. R.B. 1606. A + W."

Tenor—"1654." (Diameter 44½ ins. F., 16 cwt.)

Sanctus bell—O O (impression of two coins.)

St. Lawrence has also five bells in fair going order, thus inscribed:—

Treble—"Ellis. and. Henry. Knight. made. me. 1674."

2nd—"W. Colson. L-V-R-B-A + B-1621 + Quarite-Dominum-
Esay-55."

3rd—"W. Colson-L-V-R-B-A + B-TS-1621 + Desuper Omnia."

4th—"Lancelot-Vibart-W. Colson R.B. + Anthony Bond made me-
1621- +."

Tenor—"Lancelot Vibart and W. Colson-Church-Wardens-RB +
Anthony Bond made me. + Me resonare jvbet pietas mors atque
voluptas." (Diameter 36½ ins. 8 cwt.)

St. Maurice has also a peal of five in very bad order. They are thus inscribed:—

Treble—" + SERV - GOD. O. IH - 1639."

2nd—"A coin, a lion's face, a cross, and a fleur de lis.)

3rd—"PRAYSE. THE. LORD. I.W. 1603."

4th—(a lion's face a coin, and a fleur de lis.) "Sancte Cleste Ora
Pro nobis."

Tenor—"GIVE GOD THE GLORY. R.B. 1610."

The Tingtang—"1674."

St. Michael's has also a peal of five, tenor in G., 36½in. diameter, 9 cwt. They are unringable. The inscriptions are as follows:—

Treble—"I.W. 1611."

2nd—"WILLIAM. BVDD. 1611. I.W."

3rd—"Spetic Aba E—Pulcrimittinde Ene + M.H."

4th—" + AVE GRACIA PLENA + " (a bird).
(In Lombardic characters.)

Tenor—"GOD. BE. OVR. GYDE. R. B. 1610."

St. Peter, Cheesehill, has three bells, inscribed:—

Treble—"Lester and Pack of London Fecit. 1765."

2nd—" + AVE GRACIA " (in Lombardic letters.)

Tenor + "Santa mar qrtia ora pro nobis." (In black letter.)
(Weight 17 cwt.)

St. Swithin has two small bells in a turret. They were cast in 1593.

St. Thomas has but one bell, 44½ ins. in diameter, 15 cwt., cast by Warner, and a "tingang." The large bell is inscribed, "Cast by Jn. Warner and Sons, London 1858. G. Bowen rector, J. Carter, G. P. Jacob, churchwardens. J. Lampard Esq: chief contributor 1858." On the "tingtang" is simply "J. Warner and Sons London 1875."

On the curfew bell at the old Guildhall, is "C. Winton, O | (a fleur de lis), O H. Sharp O Mr 1st 2: Ann: 1702. Clefant Tosier cast mee in the year O of O 1702 O. This bell weighs 8 cwt.

At the new Guildhall are four quarter-bells and an hour bell, all cast by Warner and Sons, 1873. The hour bell weighs 15 cwt.

St. Cross has two very good bells, inscribed thus: 1. W. and T. Mears, late Lester, Pack and Chapman 1789." 2. Thomas Mears of London Fecit. 1811." The largest is 41 inches in diameter.

AT ST. PAUL'S CATHEDRAL, LONDON.

On Tuesday, the 22nd May, being the practice-night, thirteen members of the Ancient Society of College Youths rang a quarter-peal of Stedman Cinques, containing 1306 changes, in 1 hr. 8 mins. J. Pettit, 1; H. C. Haley, 2; W. Cooter, 3; J. R. Haworth, 4; M. A. Wood, 5; E. Wallage, 6; G. Dorrington, 7; E. Clark, 8; W. D. Smith, 9; E. Carter, 10; F. E. Dawe (composer and conductor), 11; W. Greenleaf and W. Prime, 12. Tenor 62 cwt., in Bb.

And on Monday, the 28th May, several members sat down to an excellent supper, under the able presidency of Mr. G. Dorrington, at the "Goose and Gridiron," St. Paul's Churchyard, and after justice had been done to the things catered for by host Making, the chairman, after a very appropriate speech, proposed "The Health of Frank Dawe," which was received with enthusiasm.

Mr. DAWE, after responding, said it was a great pleasure to him to give a supper in honor of the peal of Stedman Cinques rung at St. Saviour's to commemorate his twenty-first birth-day, and that his object in calling them together was to give him the opportunity of thanking them one and all, for their kindly aid with reference to that performance.

A beautifully-illuminated card recording the achievement, and photo of himself, was then presented to each one; after which he alluded to the great honour he considered he had received at their hands in calling the quarter-peal on the Cathedral bells, especially as some of the gentlemen concerned rang Stedman Cinques before he came into existence.

Several songs were given, and toasts, healths, etc., proposed, among which were the names of the absent tenor-man, Mr. G. Breed, of York; Mr. Pettit; Mr. Cox (who responded for "The Visitors;" "The Success of the Ancient Society of College Youths," and others; after which a vote of thanks to the chairman, and a course of Grandsire Cinques on the handbells, brought a very pleasant evening to a close: W. Jones, 1-2; J. Pettit, 3-4; J. Cox, 5-6; C. F. Winny, 7-8; F. E. Dawe, 9-10; W. Greenleaf, 11-12.

THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, May 26th, a party of this Association visited Wootton, Bedfordshire, and by the kind permission of the Vicar, the Rev. A. J. Foster, rang several 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles on the bells of St. Mary's, conducted by Mr. W. Biggs, of Bromham. Touches of Grandsire and Bob Minor were also rung upon the handbells. The bells, a ring of five, are in good order, and notwithstanding the continual downpour of rain, all the ringers with one single exception kept their appointment, and a very pleasant outing was the result.

"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.

B. KEEBLE.—Your questions are too abstruse, generally. Something under £20 we should say, would be about the cost. It's a sorry mishap about the two distinguished performers being wrongly placed. We hope one of them at least feels domesticated.

The Bell News & Ringers' Record.

SATURDAY, JUNE 2, 1883.

ONE of the objects we have ever had at heart since this paper appeared as a weekly was to give, in addition to the ringing records, notices, reports of meetings, anniversaries and the like, a variety of short articles, which, while not being affiliated, as it were, to ringing, yet should be of that character which would not be uninteresting to ringers. Of such a class of articles we may point to those which in this number is brought to a conclusion—"What to be observed when another company is handling the sallies." These papers have been written expressly for our columns by a gentleman who is an archæologist of no mean order, a ringer, and a member of a County Association to boot. It is very gratifying to receive from various quarters, approval for the variety—week by week—of our contents. We trust to be able, by the kindness of our friends, to continue such an interesting and important feature of our journal.

When reading the papers above alluded to, an idea occurred to us that a great many ringers on a visit to a strange town are, as a rule, to a great extent, if not wholly, absorbed in the object of their journey, and lose sight of a great many interesting features of the district in which they are temporarily located. Hurriedly making a visit to a neighbouring town or village, and immediately on arrival rushing into the ringing-chamber, and when finished there spending the remainder of the time at their disposal *solely* in what is sometimes called "harmony" is not the most poetical way, in our opinion, to enjoy such a visit. While among the last to prohibit or restrict the purveyance of creature comforts, or the social intercourse with our friends who we are always glad to meet on such occasions, we think a little time in looking around beyond the precincts of the ringing-chamber or meeting-house, is

not unprofitably spent. One of our favourite haunts—though unfortunately of late we have not been able to visit it—is the Abbey of Waltham, or rather what is left of it. Here are eight good bells, in capital order; a model steeple-keeper, well-known to many as a most obliging and conciliatory brother-ringer; a talented band, who seem to anticipate the desires of all who visit them, and renowned for their double-handed Stedman practice; yet with all these attractions we should not feel satisfied if we did not on each occasion wander into "fresh fields and pastures new." And in this manner adding to our enjoyment, we do not place the primary object of our visit into a secondary position; the longing and infatuation for a "pull" is not extinct or even dormant. The enjoyment of ringing is indeed enhanced by the study of nature and other objects which in this country of ours are always to be met with.

It has been naïvely remarked, that listening to the progress of a peal, and noting the part-ends or course-ends, is under many circumstances, a rather wearisome occupation. But such monotony is increased by being located in one spot while the peal is being rung. It may be difficult to tear one's self away from a numerous company, who are constantly putting the question—"Where are they now?" but we think that if the surroundings of a "teller" were on many occasions different to what they are, after-discussions relative to the performance would not be so frequent.

JOHN COX'S BELLRINGING JUBILEE.

AN advertisement in another column informs us that the friends and admirers of this veteran composer and ringer are making an effort to render the evening of his life free from the cares of necessity, and this year being the jubilee of his ringing career—having rung his first peal on October 7, 1883, at the parish church of St. Mary, Islington—it is thought a most fitting occasion to make an appeal to his friends, especially to those members of the Exercise who have at various times benefitted by his practical advice and counsel, to assist in making a provision to this effect. A circular has been issued to ringing circles advocating this object. Previous to this a subscription list was circulated among a small knot of friends, but sufficient funds to prevent the worst reaching Mr. Cox are not, as yet, come to hand. It appears that from continued ill-health during the last fifteen months he has been scarcely able to attend to his duties as steeple-keeper of St. Bride's, Fleet Street; and other employment being out of the question, the remuneration for the work appertaining to such office is his only source of livelihood. Frequently, owing to his ailments, having to engage a deputy to perform these duties, a serious inroad is made upon his already too small salary.

This is the case set before the benevolently-disposed. We hope that it will meet with an adequate response, if only to show that the brotherly-feeling begat by the companionship of ringers is not of an ephemeral character.

We may inform those of our readers whose acquaintance with ringing is but recent, that men possessing the attainments of JOHN COX are very rare. His abilities as a bob-caller and composer are second to none. His willingness to "look over" the productions of younger men is proverbial, in fact, we have ourselves received the benefit of his experience in this direction years ago. We hope then to hear that this appeal on his behalf will be successful.

The Provinces.

LEESFIELD, NEAR OLDHAM, LANCASHIRE.

On Thursday, May 24, 1883, in Two Hours and Fifty-six Minutes,

AT ST. THOMAS'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

REEVES'S VARIATION. Tenor 14 cwt.

JAS. WARD HOLME Treble.	JAS. BAILEY 5.
FRED. CROSLAND† 2.	WM. HOLDEN 6.
EDWIN SHAW* 3.	SAML. STOTT 7.
THOS. EGERTON 4.	JOHN HILTON Tenor.

Conducted by SAMUEL STOTT.

This peal was rung in honour of Her Majesty's birthday.

* First peal. † Member of St. Mary's, Oldham.

AUGHTON, NEAR ORMSKIRK, LANCASHIRE.

On Saturday, May 26, 1883, in Two Hours and Fifty-five Minutes,

AT CHRIST CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S 10-PART. Tenor 16 cwt.

J. R. PRITCHARD Treble.	*W. FAIRCLOUGH 5.
J. DAVIDSON 2.	J. ASPINWALL 6.
J. ORME* 3.	*J. WALKER 7.
C. SHARPLES* 4.	R. BENTHAM Tenor.

Conducted by JOHN ASPINWALL.

* First peal.

Messrs. Pritchard, Davidson, and Aspinwall, hail from Liverpool, the remainder are members of the Aughton Society.

Miscellaneous.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.—On Monday evening, May 28th, at All Saints' church, in honour of the wedding of Mr. J. Donald, one of the ringers of the Cathedral, 1008 of Grandsire Triples. J. Weddle (St. Andrew's), 1; W. G. Routledge (St. John's), 2; F. Lees (St. John's), 3; J. West, 4; J. Simm (St. Nicholas), 5; T. Power, (St. Andrew's), 6; T. Denton (conductor), 7; W. Eggleston (St. John's), 8. Tenor 19 cwt.

NORTH SHIELDS.—On Monday, May 20th, for Divine Service at Christ Church, a 756 of Stedman Triples, in 29 mins. R. Wignell, 1; W. Waugh, 2; J. Rossiter, 3; J. Hern, 4; R. Smith, 5; H. Ross, 6; W. Reed, Esq., (conductor), 7; S. Nott, 8. Tenor 19 cwt. in E.

SOUTH SHIELDS.—On Monday, May 21st, at St. Hilda's, four of this branch, with H. Ross and R. Smith of North Shields, rang a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor, in 27 mins. R. Hopper (first 720), 1; A. Moffatt, 2; John Moffatt, 3; Jas. Moffatt, 4; H. Ross, 5; R. Smith (conductor), 6. Tenor 10 cwt. in C.

STOCKTON-ON-TEES.—On Thursday, May 24th, the bells of the parish church were rung in honour of the Queen's birthday, when the following 720's of Minor were rung; Oxford Bob, College Single, Court Bob, Kent Treble Bob, and St. Simon's. After a 504 of Kent Treble Bob, the bells were ceased in peal for evening service. The ringers were T. Whitfield, G. J. Clarkson, T. Burdon, W. Stephenson, T. Stephenson, W. Newton and H. E. T. Glover, Esq., B.A. Total number of changes rung during the day 4104.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

BOCKING.—On Saturday, May 26th, in honour of the Queen's birthday, at St. Mary's church, a 720 of Cambridge Surprise. H. E. Hammond, 1; F. Calthorpe, 2; *S. Hammond, 3; W. H.

Dyson, 4; *F. Rudkin (conductor), 5; *E. Carter, 6. Also a 720 of Double Court Bob Minor. F. Calthorpe, 1; E. Carter, 2; H. E. Hammond, 3; W. H. Dyson, 4; F. Rudkin (conductor), 5; S. Hammond, 6. It was intended to attempt seven 720's, but owing to the bells going very heavy it proved a failure. Tenor 19½ cwt. *College Youths.

BRAINTREE.—On Sunday, May 27th, for Matins, a 720 of New London Pleasure. F. Bumpstead, 1; F. Calthorpe, 2; *W. H. Dyson, 3; H. E. Hammond, 4; *F. Rudkin, 5; *S. Hammond (conductor), 6. Also 240 of Bob Minor. J. Savil, 1; F. Bumpstead, 2; F. Calthorpe, 5; and the others as above. Also for Divine Service in the evening, a 720 of Court Single, and 180 Double Court Bob. F. Bumpstead, 1; F. Calthorpe, 2; W. H. Dyson, 3; H. E. Hammond, 4; S. Hammond (conductor), 5; *A. Huckson, 6. Tenor 14 cwt. *College Youths.

ROMFORD.—(Chiming).—During Thursday, May 24th, two members of the Essex Association chimed on the back six at St. Edward's, 120 of St. Dunstan's, 120 of Westminster, two 120's of Stedman Doubles, a course each of Kent, Oxford and Grandsire, two of Double Court, and 360, 216, and 108 of Bob Minor. Also 120 of Grandsire Doubles on the back five. A. J. Perkins, 1-2-3-4; B. Keeble (conductor), 5-6. Also a 120 of Grandsire and 120 of St. Dunstan's, W. H. Skingsley, 5-6. Also three 120's of Grandsire. B. Keeble, 1-2-3-4; J. Keeble, 5-6. Total 2412 changes. On Sunday, by Messrs Perkins and Keeble, a course of Kent, three courses of Double Court Minor, and two 120's of Stedman Doubles, two 120's of Grandsire, and 120 of St. Dunstan's. B. Keeble (conductor), 1-2; A. J. Perkins, 3-4; H. Skingsley, 5-6. Also a course of Grandsire Triples, in the same order W. J. Keeble (age 11 years), 1-2.

WALTHAMSTOW.—On Saturday, May 26th, at St. Saviour's church, the following members rang the first half of Holt's ten-part peal of Grandsire Triples, 2520 changes, in 1 hr. 26 mins. W. Keit, 1; A. H. Gardom, 2; R. Maynard, 3; J. H. Wilkins, 4; W. B. Manning, 5; H. Scarlett (conductor), 6; F. W. Bines, 7; W. Crockford, 8.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

READING.—On Sunday morning, May 27th, at St. Giles's, a 720 of Grandsire Minor, in 26½ mins. *Henry Smart, 1; R. Allen, 2; W. H. Fussell, 3; J. Potter, 4; W. Newell, 5; *H. Egby (conductor), 6. *First 720 of Minor.

THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

MITCHAM (Surrey).—On Saturday, May 21st, six members of the above Association rang at SS. Peter and Paul, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor, in 26 mins. Charles Bance, 1; Edward F. Cole, Esq., 2; Edgar Bennett (conductor), 3; Joseph Fayers, 4; John Plowman, 5; James Trappitt, 6. Tenor 15 in F#. This is thought to be the first 720 in this method on the bells.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

UPTON ST. LEONARD'S (Gloucestershire).—On Monday, May 28th, six members of the above Association rang at the parish church, a 720 of Plain Bob Minor, in 29 mins. John Middlecote, 1; Joseph Yeates, 2; Daniel John Ashton, 3; Alfred Waite, 4; Henry Mitchell, 5; Henry George Gardner (conductor), 6. Tenor 17 cwt. 3 qrs. in F#.

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE.—On Thursday evening, May 24th, eight members of the above society rang at St. Peter's church a quarter peal of Stedman Triples, 1260 changes, in 48 mins. Thomas Moss, 1; Joseph Mellor, 2; James Wood, 3; James Adams, 4; Benjamin Broadbent, 5; John Thorp, 6; Samuel Wood (conductor), 7; George Longden, 8. The above was rung in honour of the Queen's birthday, and was the longest length of Stedman Triples ever rung by the above. Tenor 20 cwt. in E.

BOXLEY (Kent).—On Sunday, May 27th, the East Peckham society paid a visit to this village, and by the kind permission of the vicar succeeded in ringing two 720's of Bob Minor, first in 26 mins. J. Rogers, 1; G. Bishop, sen., 2; W. Alldridge, 3; R. Bishop, 4; C. Bassett, 5; H. Pearce, 6. Second in 27 mins. J. Rogers, 2; G. Bishop, sen., 2; W. Alldridge, 3; G. Bishop, jun. (first 720), 4; H. Pearce, 5; C. Bassett, 6. Tenor 12 cwt.

CAVENDISH (Suffolk).—On Wednesday, May 23rd, a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob, in 27 mins., a 720 of Plain Bob, with eight bobs and six singles, in 26 mins., and a 720 of Kent Treble Bob, in 25 mins. F. J. Thompson, 1; J. S. Page, 2; C. W. Hurst, 3; A. Ives, 4; H. Thompson, 5; A. Hurst (conductor), 6. Also on Monday, May 28th, for practice, a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob, in 29 mins. F. J. Thompson, 1; J. S. Page (conductor), 2; C. W. Hurst, 3; A. Hurst, 4; H. Thompson, 5; A. Ives, 6.

HANDSWORTH (Staffordshire).—On Thursday, May 24th, at St. Mary's, ten 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles, each called differently, in 43 mins. Joseph Bastable, 1; John Buffery (conductor), 2; Frank Banks, 3; Thomas Verry, 4; William Verry, sen., 5; Frederick Workman, 6.

HIGHER WALTON (Lancashire).—On Thursday, May 24th, after firing the Royal Salute, five of the local company, with Mr. Joshua Walker, rang a touch of 768 changes (being Her Gracious Majesty's age in months), consisting of 48 of Plain Bob, 360 of College Single, and 360 of Oxford Bob. Joshua Walker (conductor), 1; Jas. Walmsley, 2; Hy. Hunt, 3; Hy. Brewer, 4; Jno. Eccles, 5; Jas. Mather, 6. Tenor 16 cwt. 3 qrs. 26 lbs.

HULL (Yorkshire).—On Saturday, May 26th, at Holy Trinity church, several touches of Grandsire Triples, were rung, and salutes fired, to commemorate Her Majesty's birthday. F. Merrison, 1; A. Taylor, 2; W. Southwick, 3; F. Drabble, 4; J. Dixey, 5; D. Roberts, 6; C. Jackson, 7; C. Bennett, 8.

KIRK ELLA (Yorkshire).—On Thursday, May 24th, at St. Andrew's church, in honour of Her Majesty's birthday, a company of ringers from Hull, paid a visit to this village, and rang a 720 of Bob Minor, in 28 mins. F. Merrison, 1; T. Stockdale, 2; R. Chaffer, 3; H. Jenkins, 4; C. Jackson, 5; C. Bennett (conductor), 6. Tenor 19½ cwt. After ringing, they partook of refreshments at the Wheat Sheaf Inn, where a couple of hours were pleasantly spent in ringing a few courses and tunes on the handbells, when the company separated after singing "God Save the Queen."

SPALDING (Lincolnshire).—On Thursday, May 17th, a 720 of Bob Minor, with eighteen bobs and two singles. J. W. Creasey, 1; E. Quinton, 2; J. S. Wright, 3; J. Wilson, 4; Rev. R. G. Ash (vicar), 5; R. Creasey, (conductor), 6. Also on Sunday, May 27th, for Divine Service in the morning, a 360 of Oxford Treble Bob Minor, on the back six. R. Creasey, 1; E. Quinton, 2; A. W. Walker, 3; J. W. Creasey, 4; J. Wilson (conductor), 5; J. Croxford, 6. Also for Divine Service in the evening, a 504 of Grandsire Triples. G. Keal, 1; 2nd left out; R. Creasey, 3; E. Quinton, 4; A. W. Walker, 5; C. Creasey, 6; J. W. Creasey, 7; J. Croxford, (conductor), 8.

WIVELSFIELD (Sussex).—On Sunday, May 27th, a band of ringers from Worth, with Mr. J. Gasston, of Balcombe, visited this tower, and rang twelve 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles, called various ways by the following: J. Gasston, six; E. Streeter, four; F. Rice, two. This is the first time for many years that this has been rung on these bells. The tenor weighs about 9 cwt., giving the note Bb., with an additional bell Ab., this would be one of the prettiest light rings of six in the county. The third was cast by Edmund Giles, at Lewes, about 1600; the treble and second were cast by Lester and Pack, London, 1766.

ST. MARY'S, KIDDERMINSTER, WORCESTERSHIRE.

WHILE staying at Kidderminster on one occasion, and having a little time to spare, I made my way to an ancient church, espied in the distance, which out to be St. Mary's, a very grand structure, and one that would give an archæologist a good morning's study to examine the many beautiful and interesting features in its architecture.

The attraction on this occasion being its bells, I soon wound myself up the spiral stone staircase detached from the church, and presently came to the ringing-floor, which I thought was in a wretched condition, however, on ascending higher, I was surprised to hear the sounds of life, which proved to be caused by the workmen of Messrs. Lund and Blockley, of London, busy with all the paraphernalia of a chiming apparatus that was speedily being arranged into working condition. Here was a find. I was quite elated to see this work going on, which shewed that the church authorities had not been idle. Arriving amongst the bells, I found also that the old peal of eight had been entirely rehung with new frame and fittings complete, by Messrs. Taylor and Co., of Loughborough, and that three new bells had been added, for the chimes to strike upon.

The old ring of eight are thus inscribed:—

Treble.—": The: Gift: of the Rt: Hon: Ld: Foley: A: R: 1754: "

2nd.—": When: you: us: Ring: we'll sweetly sing: A: R: 1754: "

3rd.—" Fear God Honour the King: A: R: 1754: "

4th.—": Peace: and: good: neighbourhood: A: R: 1754: "

(5th—no cannons).—" Prosperity: to this: Parish: and: the: trade: thereof: A: R: 1654: "

(6th—no cannons).—" We: were: all: cast: at Gloucester: by: Ab: Rudhall: 1754: "

(7th—no cannons).—" Non: clamor: sed: amor: gantat: in: urbe: dei: "

Below the reeds:—

"The Revd Legh Cloughton Vicar

Alsigratie Bishop of Rochester:

Henry: Toye: Woodward: }

James: Minifie: }

Charles: Bannister: }

John G. Boraston: }

Church: Wardens:

April: 20th: 1867: "

Tenor (no cannons). Diameter 4 ft. 5 ins.

Six reeds with the following lines:—

" : I: to: the: church: the: living: call: and: to: the: grave: "

do: summon: all: "

: C: and G: Mears: founders: London: "

The Revd. Legh Cloughton Vicar.

: Herbert: Willis: Moses: }

: William: Knowles: }

: Joseph: Page: }

William Richd. Morton: }

Church Wardens."

In the south window of the bell chamber, a small "Sanctus bell" is fixed so that it swings between the louvre boards.

" : Come away: make no delay: 1780: "

The three new bells have a rich and full tone, what the full effect may be singly, I cannot tell, not having heard them playing. On the largest one of the three is:—

" : I: Taylor: and: Co: Bell: Founders: Loughboro: 1882: "

Redeem: the: time: that: flies: as: we: chime: "

T. S. Cloughton Vicar 1882.

Saml: Stretton

Harry: Taylor

Chas: Bannister

Michael Tomkinson

Jas: Chambers

Church Wardens."

The other two bells have the Vicar's, Churchwarden's, and Founders' name repeated, the same as on the second, also—

" : IN TERRA PAX: "

and the smaller one having—

" : GLORIA: IN: EXCELCIS: DEO: "

As to the chiming gear the working is extremely easy, as may be judged by the readiness with which the heavy hammers, weighing 36 lbs. each strike, by means of the patent levers which the firm have fitted up so well, the mechanism being perfect in every respect, for efficiency and exactness. The apparatus has three barrels, arranged to play sacred and secular airs.

A true and complete touch of 104 changes in the Grandsire method is also well-arranged, so that the open lead, every second change, is kept, thereby avoiding that "hurdy-gurdy" sameness usually heard with chiming machines of the present day. From what I was given to understand, St. Mary's is the only tower in the town containing a ring of bells. Up to the time they were rehung, very little ringing of any account was done. Now that there remains no excuse as to the going of the bells, we may expect to be reminded of the existence of a band of change-ringers at Kidderminster, especially now the Worcester Diocesan Association has made a fair start, and the tower of St. Mary's has joined with this society for the advancement of change-ringing, and improvement of the most neglected part of the house of God.

It is with sincere regret we hear of the failing health of the Vicar, the Rev. T. L. Cloughton, eldest son of the Bishop of St. Alban's, which compelled him to travel from his parishioners and the work he which he laboured so hard to bring about ere it had been completed, let us trust he may return, and be spared long to hear his bells

"Ring-out the false, Ring in the true." W. H. F.

THE "JOHN HOLT" PEAL-BOARD.—In response to the request we made last week respecting the restoration of this historical relic, we have received several sums, chiefly in stamps. We pointed out that if our numerous correspondents would each enclose a stamp with their communications, the object in view would be attained, so there need not be any hesitation in forwarding so small a sum. The first contribution was sent by a gentleman who has called Holt's Original a great many times, and in doing so has successively rung each bell from the treble to the tenor inclusive. The various suggestions which have been made by some of the contributors we shall have the pleasure of submitting to the committee in due time.

Sums received:—Mr. James Pettit, 1s.; The Kingston-on-Thames (Surrey) company (per Mr. J. Wright), 1s.; a 3d. subscription by the Beddington (Surrey) company (per Mr. J. W. Trappitt), 2s. 6d.; the St. Paul's (Spalding, Lincolnshire) company (per Mr. R. Creasey), 1s.; the Mersham (Kent) company (per Mr. F. Finn), 2s. 6d.; Mr. R. Smith (North Shields), 6d.; Mr. J. Atkins (Elstow, Beds.), 1d.; the Holy Trinity (Bolton, Lancashire) Society (per Mr. Joel Redford), 2s. 6d.; Total 11s. 1d.

WHAT TO OBSERVE WHEN ANOTHER COMPANY IS
HANDLING THE SALLIES.

[LAST PAPER.]

HAVING in former numbers as briefly as possible described the guides necessary in the observation of old churches, with regard to date and manner of building, it only remains to us to say a few words relative to furniture and the window glazing. We will at once dismiss the former by saying, that both in woodwork, such as screens, and stone in fonts, and monuments; the detail of the architectural period in which they were made is in all cases observable. With regard to stained glass designs, we casually mentioned that in the early history of glazing windows, the smallness of the manufactured specimens determined the manner of its Mosaic appearance. The earliest series of painted windows is in Canterbury Cathedral; here all the glass in small fragments is first stained through, of the right colour, and the subject then delineated with enamel brown, a substance composed of iron and copper, which fluxes with the glass at a high temperature. These 12th and 13th century examples are not uncommonly scattered about in little pieces among other glass. The ornamental detail such as leaves is not copied from nature. During the fourteenth century, however, the glass painters closely copied natural forms, notably the leaves of ivy, maple and oak. In the 15th century the architectural detail is like that of stonework of the same date, while the foliage, etc., is as though of the last period, pressed flat. During all this time the texture of the substance was altered, particularly the red strain, in the first period this was very deep, while in the last mentioned period, and in our own day (since the art has been revived) it is a mere film on the surface of the glass, of greater or less depth of colour. In the examples of the 15th century, such as are occasionally found complete in the large openings of this date, much plain white glass is used, instead of the brilliant effect of the first examples. Modern stained glass is unmistakable, and generally the detail is now copied from the three periods of the Pointed style of architecture. In conclusion we may mention that amongst the magnificent ancient glass in York Cathedral is the "Bell founders' window," in the nave.

WORCESTER DIOCESAN AND ADJOINING DISTRICTS
ASSOCIATION.

A Committee Meeting of the above Association will be held in the National School Room, Halesowen, on Saturday, June 9th, at four o'clock, to make arrangements for the Annual Meeting, and transact any other business that may be brought forward.

S. SPITTLE, *Secretary*.

ECCLESIASTICAL APPOINTMENTS.—The *Guardian* publishes the following list of preferments and appointments:—Rev. George Augustus Aldridge, vicar of East Moredon, Dorset; Rev. J. H. Coghlan, rector of Christ Church, Bradford-cum-Beswick, vicar of St. Peter's, Halliwell, near Bolton—patron, the Bishop of Manchester, by lapse; Rev. Prebendary Coleman, rector of Allerton, vicar of Cheddar, Somerset—patrons, the Dean and Chapter of Wells; Rev. Claud E. L. Corfield, senior curate of Rotherham, vicar of Shirley, Derby—patron, Mrs. Shirley; The Very Rev. R. T. Davidson, Dean of Windsor, resident private chaplain to her Majesty at Windsor Castle; Rev. A. H. Ellaby, curate of St. Stephen's, Lansdown, Bath, vicar of Hales, near Market Drayton, Salop; Rev. Joseph Gilbert, senior curate of St. Cuthbert's, Wells, rector of Allerton; Rev. Charles Osborne Gordon, rector of Gratwich, near Uttoxeter, vicar of Goosnargh, near Preston—patrons, the Dean and Chapter of Christ Church, Oxford; Rev. A. Hamilton, vicar of Chilton, Bucks, chaplain and secretary of Partis College, Bath—patrons, the trustees; Rev. Robert Walter Churchill Hamilton, sole charge of Sutton Mallett and Stawell, Bridgewater, rector of Elmsthorpe, and vicar of Earl Shilton—patron, the Earl of Lovelace; Rev. L. R. Hearn, curate in charge, vicar of St. Paul's, Astley Bridge, Bolton—patron, the Bishop of Manchester; Hon. and Rev. James Wentworth Leigh, vicar of Leamington, rector of St. Mary's, Bryanston-square—patron, the Crown; Rev. Maurice Meyrick, vicar of Northleigh, Oxon—patron, the Lord Chancellor; Rev. John Mitchell, perpetual curate of Minsterley, Salop; Rev. John Swayne, vicar of Willingale Doe, vicar of Berners Roding, Essex; Rev. Henry Thorpe, rector of Noke, Oxon—patron, the Duke of Marlborough; Rev. H. Toft, rector of Axbridge; Rev. H. J. S. Wood, curate in charge of New Farnley, Leeds.

ROPE-SIGHT;

AN INTRODUCTION TO THE ART OF CHANGE-RINGING; BY
JASPER W. SNOWDON.

After being out of print for some months, a new edition of Mr. Snowdon's book is now ready. The purpose of *Rope-Sight* is to explain in the most detailed way the difficulties which will beset every beginner in the art of change-ringing. The book is, however, so well known to the Exercise generally, that a further description of its contents is unnecessary. In this, the third edition, a number of peals of Minor, Triples, and Major, have been added. Some further information concerning the conducting of peals has increased the length of the book to fourteen pages more than were contained in the second edition. The price has not, however, been altered, and the book may now be obtained from any bookseller through the London publishers, Messrs. Wells Gardner, Darton and Co.; or post free for 1s. 6d. from J. W. SNOWDON, Old Bank Chambers, Leeds.

GREAT PAUL.—We hear that the workmen of Messrs. Taylor and Co., of Loughborough, the founders of this bell, are at work upon its headstock, effecting some alterations.

Mr. W. F. MEADS, of Lindfield, Sussex, writes:—"Speaking of the 'Coronation of the Czar' in Monday's *Telegraph*, the correspondent mentions several times about the 'Bells of the Kremlin' being rung in 'full peals,' etc. If any of the readers of our paper are acquainted with Russia, perhaps they might be able to enlighten us as to the style of ringing over there, it would be read with interest, probably."

A CORRECTION.—Mr. James S. Wilde, of Hyde, Cheshire, writes:—"I take this opportunity of correcting two mistakes which I made in sending you an account of the peal which was rung at Castle Hall, Staley Bridge, of which you made a due report in your last issue. The date which I sent you was wrong, it should have read May 21st, instead of May 14th, as given in your issue, the time occupied was 3 hrs. 15 mins. By inserting this correction in your next issue you will greatly oblige the company who rung it."

We take the liberty of publishing the following letter from a correspondent in Staffordshire. It shows on the part of the writer a desire to promote the art, and, at the same time, to extend the sphere of our paper:—"Dear sir—I am informed that there will be a meeting at Lichfield on Saturday next, with a view to form an Association for that district, and as I do not see a notice of the meeting in our paper, it would appear that it is not in circulation in that district to any extent. If you will kindly forward me a few of your circulars, I will go and distribute them for you, which would no doubt tend to extend the circulation to the class for which it is intended, and every little will help to make it a success." If those of our readers who some time ago desired handbills will kindly repeat their application, a batch shall be forwarded to them.

The third Session of the Rochester Diocesan Conference was commenced on Wednesday. The Bishop presided, and said the fund for the erection of new churches in the diocese now amounted to 40,000*l.*, and before the end of the year he hoped to consecrate five of the new churches, three of which would be free and open. He spoke in favour of the establishment of a Clergy College in South London, which should be a training school for those wishing to enter Holy Orders. A resolution was passed to the effect "that it be referred to the Law and Parliamentary Committee to inquire what ancient endowments appropriated to Church purposes, now obsolete, may be properly applied to educational purposes in the diocese."

BARNSTAPLE.—SS. Peter and Paul's Church, Barnstaple, one of the few in the West Country boasting a spire, and which has been under restoration intermittently for the last twenty years, has just had its last section finished, and was re-opened last week. Prior to the recent works about £5000 has been spent under Sir Gilbert Scott's direction, and lately some £2000 more has been applied towards the completion of the old church. The work just finished embraces the restoration of the north aisle, the building of a new arcade on that side, and much internal work. The bays of the new arcade are particularly graceful, the arches springing from ornamental stone corbels. The new roofs are of oak, and are stopped at all the intersection of their ribs and purlins by bosses. The old Jacobean pulpit, which had little about it to make it valuable, has given place to one in Bath stone. The chancel steps are of polished Plymouth marble; and encaustic tiles of rich design are laid in the floor of the sanctuary. The chancel stalls and fittings generally are of oak, and were made some fourteen or fifteen years ago.

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 MOTTRAM PEAL.

SIR,—Permit me through the medium of your valuable paper, wherein appeared the account of the long peal rung at Mottram-in-Longden-dale, to tender to those gentlemen who took part in that worthy performance, the sincere congratulations of the Reading members of the Oxford Diocesan Guild.

The whole of the members are pleased at the success of the peal, both with regard to the endurance of the band and their skill, yet many would like to know a few interesting particulars, such as the following: the respective age of the performers, if they trained in any way or restricted their diet, what was the state of their faculties, mentally and physically, and condition of their energies.

It is not out of any disrespect these questions are asked, as the particulars would be of interest to others. And there are many like myself who could not possibly get to hear the peal or see the men when they left the tower, and hear what they said on the subject themselves.

W. H. FUSSELL.

SIR,—I read with much pleasure the account of the long peal rang at Mottram. I am of the same opinion as you, that too much cannot be said in praise of such a performance; and now that our highly-esteemed paper has reached its present proportions, I think, Mr. Editor, that everyone who loves the art as I do, will endorse what I have to say, that is, to ask you if you would kindly favour us with a copy of the peal the full size of the paper, I mean one page. It would afford us an opportunity of having it framed, so we could constantly glance at this great performance; I will endeavour to get as many orders for it as I can the week it would appear. I look at "THE BELL NEWS" as the fly-wheel for change-ringing. I have got several to take it, and I find the more they read it the more anxious they are to learn the art, therefore, Mr. Editor, I feel that we, as ringers, cannot be too grateful to you for supplying our wants to such an extent. I shall always try to extend its circulation. I should like to hear what other ringers think of my proposal respecting the long peal.

W. A. TYLER.

THE LONG PEAL AT MOTTRAM; *vs* THE TENOR BELL.

SIR,—It is with the greatest pleasure and interest I read in last week's edition of this valuable Paper, that the above wonderful performance had been accomplished, and it is needless for me to compliment Mr. Samuel Wood and his band on the same, considering so many others have done so; but I think in so important a peal as the longest ever rung by one set of men, it is essential to have everything correct. The weight of the tenor bell is given as "14 cwt. in G." the "G." is quite correct, but the "14 cwt." isn't. The bells were cast in Gloucester, as Rudhall's list has been handed to me and the weight is given as "11 cwt. in G." and the diameter, "3ft. 4½ ins.," which corroborates it.

This little correction will, I hope, not take the slightest gilt off the performance; but I have been desired by several London ringers (though I would rather someone else more competent) to correct the only error that seems to have occurred with reference to the peal everyone far and near are pleased to hear was achieved in the manner we have every reason to believe it was.

May 30th.

FRANCIS EDWARD DAWE.

THE BIRMINGHAM PEAL.

SIR,—In reading the leading article of your valuable publication for May 26th, I was pleased to see that you made a remark respecting the accuracy of our peal of Stedman Cinques, which (as one of the band) I can safely say was a true and honest peal, and will bear the most severe criticism of any Stedman ringer. Thanking you for bringing the matter before the ringing public, and trusting that anyone who doubts its accuracy, will at once come forward, and show what foundation he has for condemning our band as gross impostors, or else "for ever hold his peace."

JOB JOYNES.

8, Skinner Lane, Birmingham.

A thorough restoration has just been made at Salisbury Cathedral, of the doorway leading to the cloisters from the south transept, as well as the first bay of the cloisters. Both were in a very dilapidated state, the Purbeck marble shafts being broken, and only held together by wire bands, while the caps and other details of stonework had perished.

It is proposed that the memorial in Canterbury Cathedral to Archbishop Tait shall take the form of a new reredos, instead of a recumbent effigy, as was originally arranged.

STOKE-UPON-TRENT ARCHIDIACONAL ASSOCIATION.

The Uttoxeter Meeting was held in beautiful weather, and those who attended were well satisfied with the outing. This tower is most anxious to get benefit from the instructors of the Association, and this point is one which we hope will be brought very prominently forward at the forthcoming Annual Meeting. Stoke, Leigh, Cheekley, and some from Derby attended, but nothing beyond call-changes were rung on this beautiful peal of eight.

At the tea, the Rev. H. Abud (Rural Dean), decided to see at once about the purchase of handbells, to enlighten the ringers somewhat into the method of change-ringing.

Some members of this tower have been much pleased and spurred on, by a visit and ring on the Cathedral bells of Lichfield, at the late Choral Festival.

The tea, an excellent one, was provided by the host of the Cross Keys Hotel. It is to be hoped that some more towers will join in this district—this will cause more enthusiasm, and prevent the meetings coming too soon round again.

The fixtures for the month of June are: 2nd, Horton; 9th, Norton; 16th, Wolstanton; and 23rd, Cheekley.

Saturday the 30th, is the first Annual Meeting—to be held at Stoke, at which the Dean of Lichfield has very kindly consented to preach. Further particulars of the 30th will shortly appear.

THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

A RINGING MEETING will be held on Saturday, June 9th, at Epsom. The tower (eight bells), will be open from 1 p.m. All ringers invited. Eagle House, Wimbledon. A. W. B. PERCEVAL, Hon. Sec.

A TOAST.

Come all Brother Strings, who delight to take part
In sweet Campanology's wonderful Art;
Fill, fill up your glasses, where'er you may be;
I'll give you a toast which you'll honor with glee.

Where's he who has love for the sound of a bell,
And can handle the quick-dancing sallie as well,
Who will not be blithe to wish "Health and Good Luck,"
To Ashton's bold heroes of mettle and pluck?

'Twas on a May morning right early they wended
To Mottram's fam'd steeple, whose steps they ascended:
With muscles like iron, and hearts fill'd with hope,
Each took up his station, and took up his rope,

The bells were set swinging without loss of time,
Sweet "Treble Bob Major" the name of their chime—
The sun rose aloft, and the birds gaily sang;
The hours circled onward—and still the bells rang.

Bright Sol from his zenith declined to the west,
Yet the bold, joyous music continued with zest;
While, outside, there listen'd with heart and with ear
Full many a ringer from far and from near.

Each course-end is noted—time rolls on apace—
The wild merry bells must soon finish their race;
Expectant, and anxious, all list for the sound—
"Hark! hurrah! they have done it—the bells they are round."

What a rush to the door, and a wring of the hand
With each manly wight of this wonderful band:
And a like admiration all ringers must feel,
For, truly, till then, ne'er was rung such a peal.

Then here's to Tom Moss, who the work first begun,
Though an Englishman true, he's a good "No. 1";
And his equal James Adams, by all must be reckon'd,
Though "second" he rang, yet to nobody second.

Here's to noble James Wood, who stood third in the peal;
At the fourth, Sam, his namesake, conducted right well,
By Jove! all must own—without meaning a joke—
The "wood" they're composed of, is true British Oak.

And here's to Ben Broadbent, who, stationed at five,
In mettle has proved himself "Big Ben" alive;
Also worthy Joe Mellor, the sixth of the band,
Whose fame as a ringer for ever shall stand.

Here's to Longden and Thorp, who rang seven and eight;
With ringers their names must be ever of weight:
And may calumny never be able to rob
Of their laurels, these heroes of sweet Treble Bob.

H. EGBY, Reading.

TWO PEALS OF TREBLE BOB ROYAL.

5040.

By H. DAINS, *Royal Cumberland Youths.*

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

Each of the above peals have the 6th home at seven course-ends, the last of the two is obtained from the first of the two 5080's, given in last week's issue, and belong to the author of that peal.

A QUARTER-PEAL OF UNION TRIPLES.

By JOSIAH WATHEN, *Tewkesbury.*

2 3 4 5 6 7

6 4 2 5 7 3⁸
 5 4 6 2 7 3⁵
 7 6 5 2 3 4⁸
 3 5 7 2 4 6⁸
 5 4 3 6 7 2⁴
 6 4 5 3 7 2⁵
 7 5 6 3 2 4⁸
 2 6 7 3 4 5⁸
 5 3 2 4 6 7¹

[We hear that the second peal given in this column last week as the production of Mr. J. Thorp is to be found in Hubbard's 1876 edition as the composition of the late W. Harrison.]

BELLRINGING JUBILEE OF MR. JOHN COX.

THE ringing friends of Mr. John Cox, taking into consideration his advancing years, and the precarious state of his health, intend making exertions to raise a fund to provide for him those necessities which are the sole sustenance of age.

This year—being his ringing jubilee, he having rang his first peal at the church of St. Mary, Islington, on the 7th of October, 1833—is thought peculiarly appropriate for this appeal to be made.

Mr. Cox's only source of income—the salary attached to the office of steeple-keeper of St. Bride's, Fleet Street—is often seriously diminished, through being compelled to frequently employ a substitute to perform the duty.

The Treasurer to the fund is Mr. W. Baron, and Mr. H. Dains has consented to act as Secretary. Any further particulars may be had on application to the latter, 147, Barnsbury Road, Islington, London, N.

TO ANTIQUARIES.—AN EXTREMELY CURIOUS AND UNIQUE OLD DOCUMENT, beautifully written on fine parchment, and in fine preservation, 7½ in. wide, and 25 ft. 4 in. long. Also a smaller roll, 5½ in. wide, and 22½ in. long. The larger roll is endorsed outside—

"AXCC. AND COPPIC.—A Rental of all the lands in Tottenham made ad 6to Ed. 4th and grost'd. 1606 by J. O. Whyler."

The two £2 2s. Well worthy the attention of Antiquaries and collectors. For sale by F. MAYHEW, Bookseller, Higham Hill, Walthamstow, London.

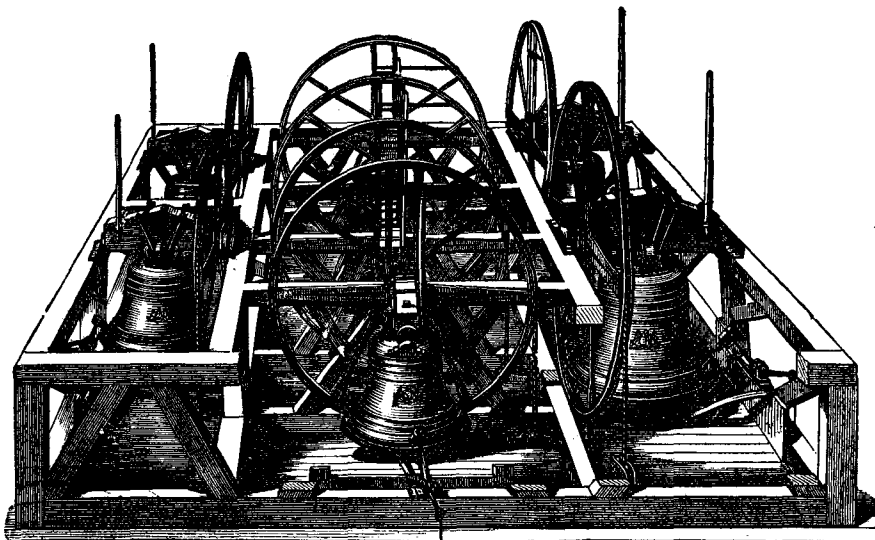
CHANGE-RINGING: A POEM.

Also some lines on "THE BELL NEWS." With an Acrostic. Post-free for two stamps.

J. F. PENNING, Station Road, Saffron Walden, Essex.

A PEAL OF MUSICAL HANDBELLS FOR SALE, 44 in number, in the key of F, by Warner and Sons, of London.

For price and particulars apply to—"J. C., No. 17, Clensmore, Kidderminster."

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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.

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THE ANNUAL JOURNAL FOR 1883 WILL CONSIST OF TWELVE PIECES OF DANCE MUSIC, value 27s., if purchased separately. The first two monthly numbers are now ready, arranged for medium peal, six ringers, bells from C 22 to C 1; or large peal, seven ringers, bells from G 25 to G 04. Subscription for the whole year, 12s.

No. 86. "The Sphinx" Quadrille (January No. journal music), price 3s., separately.

No. 88. "The Crocus" Polka (February No. journal music), 1s. 6d. separately.

No. 90. The "Old Time" Waltz, March number, 3s.

No. 91. Euterpe Mazurka, April number, 1s. 6d.

Also, just out, new editions to No. 66.—"The Blue Bells of Scotland," one variation, 1s. No. 63.—"Glorious Apollo," 1s. For six ringers, small peal, two octaves, in G.

N.B.—"The Sphinx" Quadrille is also arranged for full brass band of twenty instruments, price 2s.

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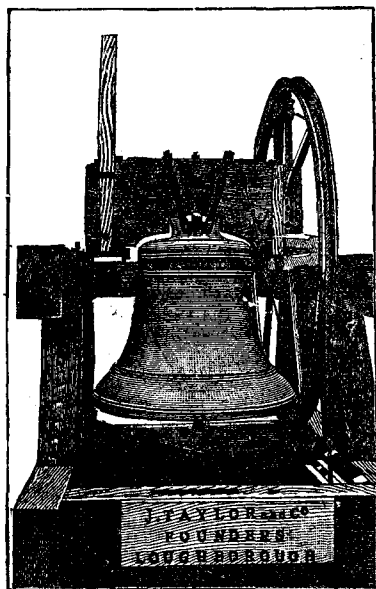
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The Ring of Ten, Tenor 41 cwt., for St. Mary's Cathedral, Edinburgh

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*Bells Re-hung with New Fittings, Wheels, &c.
The Ellacombe Chiming Hammers fixed complete for £1
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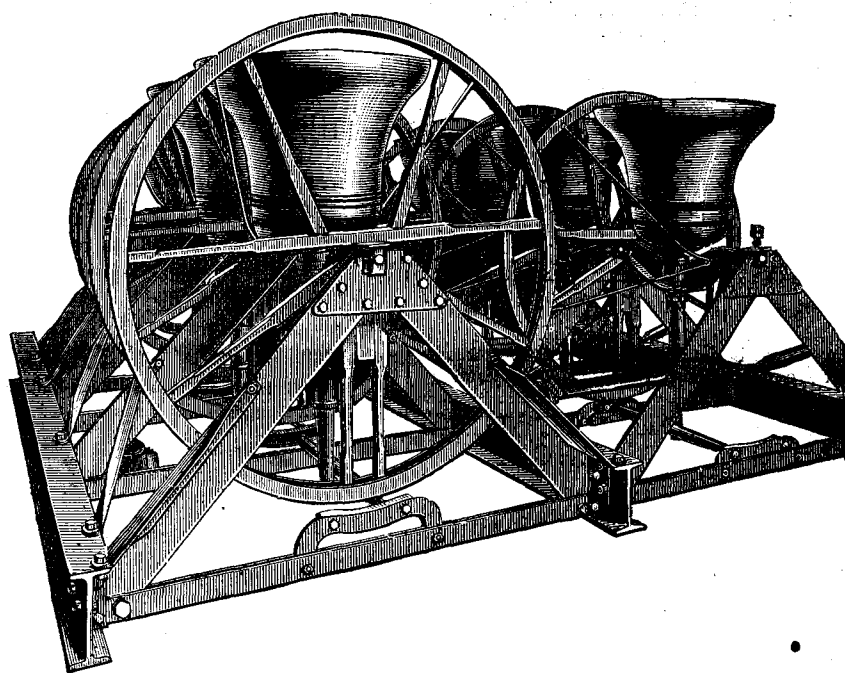
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ROPE-SIGHT:
BY JASPER W. SNOWDON.

*The Third Edition, revised and extended, will be ready in a few days. See
future announcements.*

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And Ringers' Record:

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

No. 62. [NEW SERIES.]—VOL. II.

SATURDAY, JUNE 9, 1883.

[ONE PENNY.]



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Analysis of "Vino Sacro," by Professor Attfield, F.R.S., Professor of Practical Chemistry to the Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain, &c., &c.

"I have carefully analysed this Wine. Unlike most of the wines of the Spanish Peninsula, it contains NO added alcohol, while it has sufficient to stamp it as a true grape wine of natural strength, viz., 104 per cent.

"It possesses an extremely pleasant, fruity, vinous odour and flavour and a rich natural colour.

"Its proportion of fruit acid, saline substances, and grape juice solids generally are exactly what they should be in a natural wine. The proportion of saccharine matter is appropriate in a wine intended chiefly for Altar use."—JOHN ATTFIELD.

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An Essay on the In and Out-of-Course of the Changes;

The mode of pricking touches and peals; the qualities and mode of transposing peals; elaborate instructions on the Proof and Composition of peals; and a chapter on conducting and calling round.

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STANDARD METHODS IN THE ART OF CHANGE-RINGING.

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Full explanations and rules for ringing all the best methods, from 5 to 8 bells, with plain course diagrams of each method printed in full, with coloured lines.

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ROPE-SIGHT; By JASPER W. SNOWDON.

See announcement on last page.

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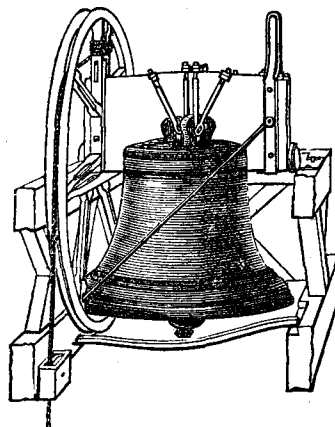
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THE SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.

THE First Annual Meeting of this Guild was held at Salisbury on Wednesday, May 30th, and was a very successful gathering as regards the number of members attending, and the enthusiastic nature of the speeches which were delivered by influential Churchmen at the dinner. Not many years ago, this part of the country was absolutely dead to the least semblance of scientific ringing. At the time of which we write a resident "ringer" was not to be found in the counties of Hants, Wilts, Dorset, Devon, or Cornwall. What a different state of things exists at the present moment! We believe, that with the exception of Dorset, reports of performances of some kind or other, from these counties have at times appeared in our columns. The change is very pleasant to note. And the initiatory festivity of the Salisbury Guild, which took place on the 30th ult. under such happy auspices, is very cheering to those who are so anxious to see the practice of real ringing extended. The circumstances of this important meeting remove from an hazardous classification the prophecy that the time is not far off when the men of Wilts (at least) will be able to give a good account of themselves among the members of the Exercise.

The ringing of the day was opened by the Trowbridge company, who with the assistance of Messrs. Blackburn and Jerram, rang one or two touches of Grandsire Triples at St. Thomas's church. W. Alley, 1; W. Lane, 2; J. Hayward, 3; T. Blackburn, 4; W. McLuffey, 5; J. R. Jerram, 6; W. Palmer, 7; J. Cooper and J. Head, 8. These bells are in very bad order, and it was with the greatest difficulty that three courses in the above method were rung. A plain course of Grandsire Triples was afterwards got through. At St. Martin's several 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles were rung J. T. Bennett, 1; C. Staden, 2; Rev. A. D. Hill, 3; S. Marrett, 4; J. R. Jerram, 5; W. Lanham, 6. Tenor 15 cwt. Also by R. Grist, 1; Rev. E. G. Wyld, 2; C. Staden, 3; S. Marrett, 4; H. Vivash, 5; W. Lanham, 6. At St. Edmund's, two 6-scores of Bob Doubles: J. Parsons, 1; T. Blackburn, 2; W. W. Giffard, 3; J. R. Jerram, 4; Rev. C. L. Bode, 5; A. Pinckney and J. Arnold, 6. Tenor 36 cwt.

An important feature of the day's proceedings was the holding of Divine Service, which was celebrated at St. Edmund's parish church. The service was choral. Two appropriate hymns, "Pleasant are Thy courts above," and "Blessed City, Heavenly Salem," were sung, the congregation, chiefly composed of ringers, joining heartily, making it a thorough hearty congregational service, as it should be. The first lesson was read by the Rev. F. Wright-Anderson (the indefatigable Hon. Sec. of the Guild), and the second by the Rev. G. J. Cowley-Brown, the Rev. W. Heygate, intoning the service. The Vicar of Downton (the Rev. A. Du Boulay Hill, one of the best ringers in this part of the country), preached the sermon. He took as his text, 1 Cor. x. 31, "Whatsoever ye do, do all to the glory of God."

"He was not going to speak to them, as he might, about the lessons that the bells had for those who were ringers. The bells themselves had a lesson indeed; they had a lesson in their outspoken sweetness of tone—their business of calling others to worship God. They had a lesson oftentimes in the sacred legend that was inscribed upon them, recording the devotedness or piety of those who gave them. But it was especially about themselves, the bellringers and their work, that he wanted to speak to them these few words. They had met there that day to inaugurate and begin a Guild of ringers, and he was glad to see such a number of men there whose hearts he hoped were in the work, and who would go home that day feeling that their work was perhaps a higher and a nobler one, one that gave more opportunities than perhaps they thought of before, for that meeting was to help in many ways. Let them think for a moment of the first rule laid down in their list of rules, and which those who were members intended to keep. The rule was that the objects of the Guild should be to recognise ringers as Church officials—to recognise their work as being in part amongst the manifold work man might do for God's glory in and about God's holy habitation, in calling others and in helping others to worship Him, as God above in heaven was to be worshipped. Secondly, it was for the purpose of encouraging the due care and use of the bells. Should not these instruments of glory to God, the open voice of the Church, be treated with due care and be applied only to the proper use? And so that Guild sought these ends and objects, and would truly direct them in their work, and help them as they went back and met again Sunday after Sunday, and at other times, in their own belfries, to remember that these instruments of praise that were committed to their care and entrusted to their using were for God's glory. And then, thirdly, the object before them was to cultivate change-ringing—to cultivate, that was to say, that part of the art which gave them an interest in it, and made them feel they were giving time, pains, and intellect to the glory of God, and to the better using of those things devoted to Him. So there were three objects, viz., that those who were ringers were to be regarded as Church officials; that the bells they used were instruments dedicated to God's glory; and that their art of ringing bells was capable of being raised and elevated to a higher level. All these were principles which they felt were to help them and carry them forward in raising themselves and their work. There was one underlying principle in all these, and that underlying principle was the remembrance of God in all—"Whatsoever ye do, do all to the glory of God." Now, they might say, and he dared say many of them had said so, that—"That was not the purpose for which I became a bellringer; I became one for my own pleasure, because I personally was attracted to it; because my friends and companions persuaded me; in fact I liked it without any thought of the glory of God we were furthering, or that of the Church and the people. We had no thought of that in our minds." Now he wanted to point out to them that there was no objection to their being bellringers for God's sake; there was no objection for [working for God's glory when they did not take up this work on purpose—when they took it up for their own pleasure. It was quite right for any of them to have done so—to have done what they felt inclined to do, to have felt that it gave them pleasure and interest; but what he wanted them to see was that there was a greater gain when their work and pleasure was of such a nature that it could be directed to God's glory as well. . . . Many of them, he had no doubt, were singers as well as ringers, and did they not find their interest and pleasure in music as well as in ringing? Did it not raise the work and elevate it, putting it upon a different level altogether, to find that that

which they were interested in, that which a source of pleasure, could be used solely for the glory of God? So it was with other interests and pleasures. The love of the beautiful was, perhaps, implanted in the breasts of them all. Who of them could go into the Cathedral of this city and not be struck with the marvellous work? Those cloisters of columns and beautiful symmetry of form; that lofty spire towering up and pointing its finger ever upwards to God and heaven? . . . Again, one common underlying purpose like this—what they were doing was for the glory of God—might help them still further by binding them all closer to God. And an underlying principle, one great purpose running through a number of hearts, what things it had accomplished in the world! Let them think how the spirit of obedience and duty in our soldiers inspired them to courage greater than any individual man could accomplish. Had they ever heard that thrilling story of the "Birkenhead" troopship, which was carrying out a regiment of soldiers, and which, in the still darkness of the night, ran upon a hidden reef? It was but a moment they had to consider themselves, and the word of command was given to the whole shipful—that regiment of British soldiers—and they drew themselves up in a line upon the deck, and stood firm whilst the women and children on board were got into the boats. There they stood; not one attempted to move. The whole regiment remained firm, until but a few minutes later, when the boat loads of women and children had just cleared the wreck, the leak gained faster than it could be stopped, and the whole ship went silently down into the deep, with every man in the regiment not moving from his place which duty and obedience had bidden him hold. Perhaps not one of them alone would have been able to do this, had it not been for that great underlying principle which had become their second nature. So too, with their own purpose—the glory of God. They might ring for their lawful pleasure, but not only for that, but for God's glory too, all subject to one law, and all guided by one word of command. This, then, was the great advantage of the Guild and their meetings, that they might have the encouragement from seeing others, not only their own set belonging to their own belfry at home, but those from other towers standing shoulder to shoulder by them, engaged in the same work, animated by the sense of co-operation and of unity, carrying out the same great and noble purpose, and from a hundred belfries and more throughout this diocese ringing out the one grand peal, "Glory to God in the highest; on earth peace; and good will towards men."

After service, at one o'clock, the ringers assembled in the parish schoolroom for dinner. This agreeable repast was served by the manager of an adjacent coffee-tavern, under the directions of the Rector of the parish, the Rev. G. J. Cowley-Brown, who with his curates, displayed warm interest in the gathering. Earl Nelson, who is the President of the Guild, presided, being supported by the Ven. Archdeacon Lear and the Rev. F. Wright-Anderson. There were also present the Revs. G. J. Cowley-Brown, W. Heygate, and C. L. Bode, St. Edmund's; C. N. Wyld and W. Sherard, St. Martin's; A. D. Hill, Downton; A. Earle, Fovant; T. F. Bigg, Handley; F. B. Howell, Charlton; E. P. Barrow, Cholderton; E. G. Wyld, Mere; C. W. Hony, Bishops Cannings; C. Brown Cave, Edington; A. Kemble, Berwick St. John; Lancelot Ridley, St. Thomas; J. D. Morrice, Longbridge; W. H. Awdry, Ludgershall; and C. Mountford; also Mr. W. Pinckney, Mr. Churchwarden Lane, Mr. Churchwarden MacGill, and others. About 170 ringers were present, the following parishes being represented:—St. Edmund's, St. Martin's, and St. Thomas's, Salisbury; Berwick St. John, Bishops Cannings, Bratton, Bromham, Cattistock, Dinton, Fovant, Downton, Great Bedwyn, Heytesbury, Kingston Deverill, Longbridge, Ludgershall, Mere, Sturminster Newton, Trowbridge, Westbury, Warminster, Mildenhall, and Seend.

Grace before and after meat having been said by the Rector of St. Edmund's, and the toast, "The Health of our beloved Queen," having been duly and loyally honoured,

Earl NELSON proposed "The Bishop and Clergy of the Diocese." He was glad to find that his lordship had consented to become the patron of the Guild. He coupled with this toast the name of one whose health he was sure they would all gladly drink—he meant one in the accession of whom in their midst there was a grand addition to their ringing powers in the Diocese of Salisbury, and who certainly appeared to him (Earl Nelson) that day to have rung out a very true peal from the pulpit. He referred to Mr. Hill, the Vicar of Downton, whom he was sure they all thanked for his sermon.

The Rev. A. DU BOULAY HILL, in acknowledging the toast, remarked that he had not expected to speak again after what he had so seriously said that morning in the pulpit, as to the responsibilities of being ringers. He had recalled to his mind the story of a man who once entered a church for a felonious purpose—that of stealing some of the communion plate; he was discovered, and tried to escape by seizing a rope at the bottom of the church, and then trying to climb up the wall. But unfortunately the rope was the bell-rope, and as the bell gave notice of his presence he was caught. "Ah," said he, speaking to the bell, "If it had not been for your empty head and long tongue, I should not have been in this predicament." And perhaps if he (Mr. Hill) had never caught hold of a bell-rope he should never have been in his present predicament of having to speak to them again. He was glad to see so many present, and he hoped they would go back to their parish belfries with pleasant memories of the first meeting of the Salisbury Diocesan Guild. He was sure that he was speaking the minds of his brother-clergy in saying that they wished to be united with the laity in this work.

In giving the toast of the day—"Success to our Guild"—Lord NELSON, in the course of a lengthy speech, said that when he stood at the entrance to the church, he was glad to see such a gathering of faces, evidently from many parts of the diocese, who had laboured in this cause. He felt proud of his ringers, and also to think that he had been asked to become their president. He overheard the good Vicar

of Downton say a mysterious thing in giving advice to a friendly ringer. In reply to a question he said: "Begin by treble dodges." At the sight of all these ringers he thought himself the lowest of the low, for he had never rang a bell, except one, in his life, and that was a solitary bell in his chapel. He had not the slightest doubt that he rung it wrong. At the same time, whether any of them were at the top of the tree, or, like himself, at the bottom of it, he was certain that by belonging to this Guild they may learn a great deal and improve themselves in several ways. He sincerely hoped that the Guild would take deep root in the diocese and do a great work by degrees. But they must have patience. Bits of knowledge will be picked up one by one, and they may hope that other dioceses will in the matter of bells be stirred up. Where more bells are wanted, people no doubt will give them. He then proposed "Success to the Salisbury Diocesan Guild."

The noble CHAIRMAN then said that they must thank Mr. Cowley-Brown for so kindly lending them that room, and making such capital arrangements for the dinner, also for the service which he had given them that day. The Rev. G. J. Cowley-Brown having suitably replied,

The Ven. Archdeacon LEAR—who arrived late—said that he should have been sorry if the business which had detained him elsewhere had kept him away altogether. In the office which held he was extremely anxious to be there that day as Archdeacon of Sarum, and show his sympathy with the Salisbury Diocesan Bellringers. It was his duty sometimes to go and inspect churches, and report to the Bishop with regard to their condition, their furniture, and so on. While he held the office of Rural Dean he had often to ask questions regarding the state of the bells, and when he met the clergyman of a parish, and the churchwardens, he put to the latter this question, "What is the state of your bells and belfry?" They replied it was very good, and further questioned, said that the harness of the bells was good too, but as to whether the clapper had worn the sides of the bell, one of the churchwardens would perhaps say, "I don't know, sir, for I never seed 'em." He (the Archdeacon) afterwards found that the ladder leading to the bells was in a questionable condition, and perhaps that the clapper had worn a hole in the bell. He would tell them about a particular belfry in this neighbourhood. He asked the churchwarden about the state of the bells, when he received as a reply from one of them, "I am afraid not very good." "How many bells have you got?" he (the Archdeacon) then said. "Only three: there ought to be six," was the reply. "What state are they in?" "Well," was the answer, "one is on the ground and we cannot use 'em, the second is slat, and the third is not much better." That was a perfectly correct statement. The conversation passed before the days of the Salisbury Diocesan Guild. Now there were six bells sending out a merry peal. The Archdeacon then proposed "The Health of our excellent Chairman." He hoped that his lordship would long continue to preside over them, and he would propose, not only his health, but "That he be re-elected President of the Salisbury Diocesan Guild." Lord Nelson was a man who always did his duty. Yesterday he (the Archdeacon) held his Visitation Court, and one of the first Churchwardens who came in to make his presentation was the noble lord—doing his duty as churchwarden. In his own church Lord Nelson had not a very good peal of bells, for he (the Archdeacon) was there some time ago, and did not hear a very happy peal, but he hoped that the incumbent would not rest satisfied till he had got a good peal at Charlton.

The toast was heartily received, and his lordship, in responding, said that change was good now and then, and that a bell at times got "slat" and needed to be recast.

The RECTOR of Berwick St. John proposed a cordial vote of thanks to the Dean and Chapter of the Cathedral for the permission granted to visit the same, and intimated that the Guild would feel great pleasure in supplying ringers for the belfry of the Cathedral.

Archdeacon LEAR, as a member of the Chapter, said that it gave the Capitular body extreme pleasure to facilitate inspection by the ringers of the Cathedral that afternoon. He was very sorry that when they arrived there they would not find a peal of bells. Bells there would have a melancholy sound in one sense, for 100 years ago there was a good peal in the bell tower on the north side of the Cathedral, but now there was little vestige of the bell tower. He did not despair, however, of the time coming when the Cathedral would have a peal of bells. It would not do to put the peal under the beautiful spire. He would tell a little story. Some years ago there was a choral festival at the Cathedral, and several hundred singers were present, two boys from Sherborne went round, when one of them said, "This is a fine place." "Yes," was the reply, "but we beats 'em at Sherborne, for they have only one bell, and we have eight."

The Secretary of the Guild (the Rev. F. WRIGHT-ANDERSON) then made his statement, from which it appeared that the Guild was started by the Bishop and the three Archdeacons; a meeting was held at Salisbury on the 22nd of June. A public meeting followed on September 14th, under the presidency of the Archdeacon of Sarum, about thirty-five or forty persons being present, and officers being elected. There were now twenty-five companies enrolled in union with the

Guild. There were forty honorary members and 185 ringing members. The Secretary referred to the importance of getting new honorary members, and alluded also to change-ringing, regarding which provision could perhaps be made by supplying a company for a local meeting.

On the motion of Lord NELSON the Secretary received a very cordial vote of thanks, and was unanimously re-elected. The rev. gentleman suitably replied.

The officers were re-elected, the five elected members of the committee being the Revs. W. Butt, G. J. Cowley-Brown, A. D. Hill, and E. G. Wyld; and Mr. C. C. Child.

Bell-ringing was afterwards resumed, two 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles being rung at St. Paul's, Fisherton, and round ringing was indulged in by several of the visiting companies. The Cathedral was visited: and the company separated about seven o'clock.

[In connection with this meeting, a correspondent, who is anxious to promote the circulation of this journal, writes:—"Copies of 'THE BELL NEWS' were freely circulated among the members present, some of the local papers mentioning it in terms of commendation; and the *South Wills Express* reprinted a rhyme from its issue of May 26th."]

HEYWOOD (LANCASHIRE) ANNIVERSARY.

ON Saturday evening, June 2nd, being twenty years since the bells were opened, the ringers of St. Luke's church and the old ringers from Rochdale, who opened the bells, sat down (twenty in number), to an excellent tea in the coffee house. After justice had been done to the things set on the table, the Rev. James Pickop was voted to the chair, and after making some few remarks on the bells and the ringers, Albert Wolstenholme, Esq., one of the churchwardens, made some relevant observations. Courses of Grandsire were rung on the handbells; and the old ringers then went to the tower, and rung a 504 of Grandsire Triples (one of them, Mr. John Bamford, being 80 years of age). This brought a very pleasant evening to a close.

SHEFFIELD.

ON Tuesday, May 28th, a meeting of ringers took place at the Queen Hotel, High Street, Sheffield. Mr. William Booth, being voted to the chair, opened the proceedings with an energetic speech on the necessity of forming a society for weekly practice, and urging young ringers to come forward. Mr. Thomas Hattersley and Mr. Thos. Dixon made some very suitable remarks. The object of this meeting was to amalgamate the three societies, St. Peter's, St. Marie's, and All Saints'; the first practice to take place at St. Peter's, at 7.30 on Tuesday, June 5th; St. Marie's, the Monday following, at 7.30; and at All Saints' the Saturday week following at 6.30., and to continue through the year; this society to be called "The St. Peter's Society."

The following officers were next elected: Mr. Thos. Dixon, *Master*; Mr. Thos. Hattersley, *Treasurer*; Mr. John Mulligan, *Secretary*; Messrs. Burgar, Smith, and Willey were elected as *Stewards*.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

ON Saturday, June 27th, fifty-six ringers attended a ringing meeting of the above Association, which was held at Christ Church, Barlow Moor, Didsbury. Members were present principally from Bolton, Ashton, Stockport, Eccles, and Manchester. During the day touches of Grandsire Triples, Stedman Triples, Bob Major, and Plain Bob Minor were rung by various mixed bands. All expressed themselves extremely pleased with the tone and go of the bells, which were placed in the new church built at the sole cost of Mr. W. Roberts, The Oaks, Didsbury, who kindly gave permission to the Association to hold the Meeting.

The bells were cast by Messrs. Mears and Stainbank, London. The thanks of the Association are due to Mr. W. Roberts, and also to the local ringers.

THE SOUTH LINCOLNSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

THE next Quarterly Meeting of the above Association will be held on Saturday, June 23rd, at Wainfleet St. Mary's. Dinner will be provided at the Angel hotel, at 3 o'clock p.m. All members wishing to attend must send in their names to me, on or before the 16th day of June, or the usual allowance for refreshment will not be allowed.

R. CREASEY, *Hon. Secretary*.

By a reference to our advertising columns it will be seen that Mr. William Gordon, of Stockport, is about to set to music the verses published in our last issue on the Mottram peal. This, with the view of Mottram church on the title-page, will be a most appropriate memento of this renowned performance, and it is hoped that the enterprise shown by this distinguished musician and ringer in publishing it may meet with a corresponding amount of patronage.

ASPLEY GUISE, BEDFORDSHIRE.

ON Tuesday, the 29th of May last, memorable in the annals of the parish of Aspley Guise, the new ring of six bells was formerly dedicated to their respective uses by special services, as well as by special ringing. At an early hour change-ringers from various distances were wending their way to be present at what was considered in this county an unusual proceeding, a dedication service; first among the arrivals were the Woburn company, accompanied by their Warner, Mr. C. Herbert, the devoted Sec. of the Bedfordshire Association, and Mr. Taylor of the Loughborough foundry; soon followed by friends from Bedford, Biddenham, and Elstow, and T. G. Elger, Esq., the Hon. Treasurer of the Bedfordshire Association, was present with the ringers. Morning service was as follows: Hymn before service: "O God of Hosts, the Mighty Lord;" Special Psalms, xxix., cxxx., and cl.; 1st Lesson, Num. x. to v. xi; Second Lesson, Rev. v. to v. vi. After the third collect was sung the hymn of dedication "Lift them gently to the Steeple," during which the Archdeacon of Bedford and other clergymen, including the Rev. R. S. R. Watts, Bedford, Rev. C. E. Haslam, Toddington, Rev. W. S. Baker, Eversholt, and the Rev. J. N. Hamilton, Woburn Sands, proceeded to the porch under the belfry.

The Archdeacon read the dedicatory prayers, at the close of which four of the Aspley ringers, assisted by two members of the Bedfordshire Association, raised the bells in peal. The hymn "When morning gilds the Skies," was sung, and the Archdeacon proceeded with his sermon, in which he stated that it was the first time he had during his official capacity taken part in such a service. The Rev. M. B. Nepean presided at the organ.

At the close of the service some touches of half pull ringing were given by members of the Bedfordshire Association. The Archdeacon, clergy and ringers, were hospitably entertained at a luncheon provided at the rectory, after which the ringers proceeded to display their skill upon the charming little six, when a 720 of Bob Minor was rung by the following: G. Harbert, 1; A. C. Wiseman, 2; A. Morrison, 3; W. E. Turney, 4; F. T. Tanqueray, Esq. (conductor), 5; W. Biggs, 6. Also a 720 of Grandsire Minor. Geo. Archer, 1; S. Cullip, 2; W. Hall, 3; I. Hill, 4; J. W. Taylor (Loughborough), 5; J. Frossell (conductor), 6. A 6-score of Grandsire Doubles was then rang, an elderly ringer (Abel Dolton of Steppingley), taking the tenor and covering the changes for the first time in his life. This man has an evident love for bells, and was quite elated at the result of the attempt, and will be encouraged to attempt change-ringing at Steppingley.

An adjournment from the tower to the coffee room for tea, and another nicely-struck 720, the evening service was commenced, being well attended, the Rev. S. Harvey Gem, preaching the sermon, taking as his text Ps. xix, part of v. 4., prayer-book version, "Their sound is gone out." It was with this gentleman, when rector of Aspley, that the Bell Fund, which has led to so satisfactory a result, was initiated; and in the course of his sermon he very touchingly alluded to the many and varied associations with which the bells and their uses were connected with all of us, and speaking also of their influence and power, proceeded to quote, amid rapt attention, the most touching story of the founder of the bells of Limerick Cathedral. They were not originally made for that edifice, but had been cast by an enthusiastic Italian for a convent, near which he made his home, and lived a calm and happy life for many years, one of his greatest delights being to sit and listen to the chimes from the convent belfry. Years rolled on, and troubles swept away the monastery and its bells, and sent the broken-hearted founder a wanderer over the earth. At length, after a long interval, his wanderings brought him to Limerick. "On a calm and beautiful evening, as the vessel which bore him floated along the broad stream of the Shannon, he suddenly heard the bells peal forth from the cathedral tower. They were the long lost treasures of his memory. Home, happiness, friends, all early recollections were in their sound. Crossing his arms on his breast, he lay back in the boat. When the rowers looked round, they saw his face still turned to the Cathedral, but his eyes had closed for ever on the world."

The collections during the day, £11 4s., will be placed to the Bell Fund, and a bazaar in July is to be the means of furnishing the small deficiency to make up the balance required to defray the cost of the bells.

The tenor bell has the following inscription:

"To the glory of God.

T. C. Maltby, M.A. Rector: G. A. D. Mahow,
W. Smith, Churchwardens. April, 1883."

And here we venture now to express the hope that the study and practice of change-ringing will be followed by the intelligent and respectable inhabitants of Aspley Guise, and that they will, with healthy emulation and friendly rivalry, compete with their ringing friends at Bedford, Biddenham, Woburn, and elsewhere, in the attainment of proficiency in our well-beloved craft.

WALTHAM ABBEY, ESSEX.

SATURDAY, May 26th, being the day appointed for the celebration of Her Majesty's birthday, the Abbey bells were rung at intervals. In the evening, Mr. George Marriott's quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples was rung in 45 minutes by W. Dymock, 1; T. Powell, 2; T. Mitchell, 3; G. Thurgood, 4; D. Tarling, 5; P. Cleverley, 6; W. A. Alps (conductor), 7; T. Colverd, 8. On Saturday, June 2nd, several ringers paid a visit to the Abbey with the intention of attempting a peal, but when the band for the same had assembled at the belfry, two gentlemen from Ripon (belonging to the Ripon Cathedral Society), Mr. Clarke and Mr. Strodger, sen., put in an appearance. Under these circumstances, it was decided not to start for the peal, and the visitors, together with the local company, had a very pleasant evening together. Several touches of Grandsire and Stedman Triples were rung upon the Abbey bells, at the end of which, the company repaired to the meeting-house (The Three Tuns), where a course of Grandsire Cinques was rung in hand by J. Davidson, 1-2; T. Powell, 3-4; W. A. Alps, 5-6; P. Cleverley, 7-8; F. E. Dawe, 9-10; T. Colverd, 11-12. Also a touch of Stedman Triples: T. Powell (conductor), 1-2; W. A. Alps, 3-4; G. Thurgood, 5-6; David Tarling, 7-8. The last-mentioned touch was greatly appreciated by the company, one of the visitors remarking, "I wish I could do it like that." In reference to this observation, our representative for Waltham and district adds: "What a pity it is that these young men don't try; they must know that wishing will never overcome the difficulty. I should like to hear of more double-handed ringers, for it is indeed time we heard of some in London, I mean fresh ones, to follow the example of the older celebrities."

RETTENDON, ESSEX.—REOPENING OF THE CHURCH BELLS.

ON Wednesday, May 30th, the bells at the parish church were reopened after having been thoroughly repaired. The old peal consisted of five bells, the first four being of the notes D, C#, B, and A., a complete peal of four, while the 5th was rather more than a note and three-quarters lower than the 4th. This bell has been removed, and two new trebles added to the peal, so that the old 4th is now the tenor of the peal of six. The old 3rd, which was cracked and broken, has been recast. The casting has been done by Messrs. Mears and Stainbank, and reflects great credit on that well-known firm. The bells have been hung in a new oak frame by Mr. H. Bowell of Ipswich, who has done the work in a most satisfactory manner. A company of the Essex Association from Widford were engaged to open the bells, Ringing commenced at about 2 p.m., and was continued with two intervals, for the service and the dinner, till nearly 10 o'clock. Three 720's were rung: Cambridge Surprise, New London Pleasure, and Bob Minor, and touches of Oxford and Kent Treble Bob, College Exercise, and Double Court, also some Stedman and Grandsire Doubles. In most of these the band stood as follows: W. Harvey, 1; J. Dains, 2; W. Rowland, 3; W. Hawkes, 4; T. Drake (conductor), 5; M. Rolfe, 6., but the following members of the Association, also took part in the ringing. Messrs. E. Scotcher, C. Waskett, H. F. de Lisle, E. de Lisle (Galleywood), the Rev. H. A. Cockey, and Mr. H. Bowell.

Service was held at 3.30., the sermon being preached by the Rev. G. St. A. Godson, vicar of Moulsham, who took as his text, Ps. ciii., 1. The collection after the service amounted to £3 16s. 9d. At six o'clock, the ringers and several of the leading parishioners sat down to a substantial dinner at the Hawk Inn, the chair being taken by the Rev. H. A. Cockey, curate of Rettendon, who was supported by the two churchwardens, Mr. Bell and Mr. Mann. The inhabitants of Rettendon may be congratulated on the acquisition of such a musical peal as that which now hangs in the fine old tower of their church.

It is hoped that the old 5th bell, which weighs about 11 cwt., will be placed in the new tower of Moulsham church, and that the two bells now there will be taken back to their original places in S. Mary's, Chelmsford, so that the county town may once more possess a ring of ten bells.

THE ROCHDALE AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATION.

THE intermediate Meeting of the Rochdale and District Association will be held at Newchurch, Rossendale, on Saturday next, the 16th of June, when all members will be expected to attend. All ringers (non-members) are invited within the radius which extends ten miles (Rochdale being the centre). The bells of the church will be open from 8 a.m. to 10 p.m. on that day, all companies being allowed half-an-hour.

The meeting for business will be held at 5.30 p.m., after which there will be an entertainment. The Newchurch ringers have kindly granted the use of their handbells (a peal of 60). The Todmorden and Milnrow handbell ringers will be present. All communications to be addressed to the Secretary,

J. ADSHEAD,
1, Sydney Street, Sudden, Rochdale.

"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.

The Bell News & Ringers' Record.

SATURDAY, JUNE 9, 1883.

THE article on Bob-and-Single peals which MR. DAVIES contributed to our last number will, we feel sure, be read with interest by a large number of our subscribers. There is moreover a peculiar fitness in the introduction of this article to these columns at a time when we are just about to place before our readers a collection of peals of Grand-sire Triples which has been compiled by Mr. SNOWDON. This collection, which deals with peals in the order in which they have been composed, commences with those on the three-lead course plan the interest of which will be much enhanced by MR. DAVIES' valuable article on the composition of such peals.

Although in his paper MR. DAVIES has dealt a death blow to the composition of further peals on this plan another lesson may be drawn from this article which may, in another way, be productive of further result. The lesson to which we allude is the way in which subjects like the one that has been under consideration should be dealt with. Instead of a young composer wasting his time in the construction of one or two peals of doubtful originality let him take a subject and thrash it out in the way MR. DAVIES has done with this one. Let any one for instance, take the peal of 5040 of Bob Major on ANNABLE'S plan, and the peal, or variation, by HOLT, in which latter composition every bob possible is called. In these peals the sixth is brought home at every fifth course, and the fifth at the part-ends. Now instead of composing a peal on this plan, certain intermediate bobs being omitted, let him investigate the plan on which such peals are constructed, and shew—as we may term it—the mechanical mode of producing such compositions. He will then, as we have said, instead of producing a peal of doubtful originality have made a valuable contribution to the study of composition. In the same way the constructive principles governing the composition of five-part peals of

Bob Major, in which one bell is retained in a certain position throughout each part, are worthy of investigation. The base of the construction of these peals is the attachment of an additional course in each part to eight courses in which the main calls are 1 W, 3 H; 1 W, 2 H and 1 W, 3 H.

A step beyond this is the construction of peals of Stedman Caters and Cinques into which eight courses, similar to those mentioned above, are introduced into each part. Such peals with the various intricacies dependent upon the going off and coming round changes present a large field for intellectual study. Our desire however, at the present time is not to point out what may be done, but to point out that little has hitherto been done with the object, so well attained in MR. DAVIES' paper, of analysing the principles of the plans upon which some of the best known compositions are constructed, and that such investigations are much to be preferred to the composition of a number of very ordinary peals which will necessarily become the subject of comment as to their originality.

THE successful Meeting at Salisbury, a full report of which is given in another part of this journal, must be gratifying, not only to those immediately connected with the Diocesan Guild, but to many of our readers. The gathering of such a numerous body from all parts of the county must have a happy effect, generally, upon the fortunes of bell-ringing. The number of clergy who attended this Meeting may be taken as a favourable omen that their exertions in such an important matter as bell-restoration will not be of a lukewarm character. The condition of the bells in the various churches of the Cathedral city do not appear to be in anything like ringing order, and the same may no doubt be said of various parts of the county. But better things may now be looked for. One of the speakers after dinner, the Ven. Archdeacon LEAR, caused a little merriment in relating his experiences among rural churchwardens when interrogating them as to the condition of the bells and belfry under their control. The same speaker informed the company that "in his own church Lord NELSON had not a very good peal of bells." The fact of his lordship being chairman at the time these words were uttered makes it more than probable that that particular church will soon have a good peal of bells. Bell-restoration must be considered the primary object, at present, of the Salisbury Diocesan Guild.

A peal, the first in the county, is reported from Cornwall. This performance has been achieved by a company who we think are not likely to lose much time in merely admiring their own skill, but we may expect to shortly hear of some other feat of a similar kind. We must however, compliment the Cornishmen of Penzance on having broken the ice, as it were, and giving another instance where the greatest of difficulties are by dint of an unflinching perseverance, overcome. The ringing of this peal may be the prelude to the establishment of an Association for the diocese of Truro.

The Metropolis.

THE ST. JAMES'S SOCIETY.—CAMBERWELL, SURREY.

On Saturday, June 2, 1883, in Two Hours and Fifty-nine Minutes,

AT ST. GEORGE'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S 10-PART.

HENRY LANGDON Treble.	ERNEST ROBINS 5.
WILLIAM PEAD 2.	WILLIAM WEATHERSTONE .. 6.
WILLIAM CHEW 3.	J. MARTIN ROUTH, Esq. .. 7.
WILLIAM JONES 4.	JOSEPH WAGHORN Tenor.

Conducted by WILLIAM WEATHERSTONE.

The Provinces.

THE ST. LUKE'S SOCIETY.—LIVERPOOL, LANCASHIRE.

On Tuesday, May 29, 1883, in Two Hours and Fifty Minutes,

AT ST. LUKE'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

A BOB-AND-SINGLE VARIATION. Tenor 16 cwt.

RICHARD S. MANN Treble.	RICHARD BRANAGAN 5.
JOHN R. PRITCHARD 2.	*THOMAS HAMMOND 6.
WILLIAM JAMES 3.	JOHN ASPINWALL 7.
FREDERICK W. MOORE 4.	*JOHN BROWN Tenor.

Conducted by WILLIAM JAMES.

Those marked thus * are members of the St. Peter's pro-Cathedral Society.

This is the first peal conducted by William James.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—HEYWOOD.

On Thursday, May 31, 1883, in Three Hours and Six Minutes,

AT ST. LUKE'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor 22½ cwt. in Eb.

ALBERT SCHOFIELD Treble.	*WILLIAM R. BARRETT 5.
GEORGE CROSSLEY 2.	*JOSEPH STREET 6.
JOHN MILLETT 3.	*JOHN HARRISON 7.
THOMAS WHARTON 4.	JAMES MILLETT Tenor.

Composed and conducted by JOHN MILLETT.

Those marked thus * are members of the Rochdale Association.

The figures of this peal will be found in "THE BELL NEWS" for April 7th.

PENZANCE, CORNWALL.—THE DEVONSHIRE GUILD.

On Monday, June 4, 1883, in Three Hours and Seventeen Minutes,

AT ST. MARY'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

TAYLOR'S BOB-AND-SINGLE VARIATION. Tenor 21 cwt. in E.

GEORGE SELLERS Treble.	JOHN RICHARDS 5.
CHARLES BOASE 2.	THOMAS HICKS 6.
JOHN HODDER 3.	JOHN SYMONS 7.
WM. H. DALL 4.	REV. A. B. BERRY Tenor.

Conducted by JOHN SYMONS, M.R.C.S., Eng.

This is the first 5040 rung in the county, and the first by either member of the above company.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—WOKINGHAM, BERKS.

On Tuesday, June 5, 1883, in Three Hours and Eight Minutes,

AT ST. PAUL'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

TAYLOR'S BOB-AND-SINGLE VARIATION.

RICHARD SWAIN Treble.	JAMES POTTER 5.
THOMAS NEWMAN 2.	HARRY EGBY 6.
WILLIAM H. FUSSELL 3.	WILLIAM NEWELL 7.
STEPHEN PAICE 4.	*WILLIAM GOSELTINE Tenor.

Conducted by HARRY EGBY.

*First peal.

*This is the first peal by all members of the Reading Branch of the Guild, and the first called by the conductor.***Bluffed Peal.**

THE ST. SAVIOUR'S SOCIETY, LEICESTER.

On Tuesday, June 5, 1883, in Three Hours and Twenty-seven Minutes,

AT ST. SAVIOUR'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S 10-PART. Tenor 27 cwt. in E.

ENOS GARNER* Treble.	*JOSEPH NEEDHAM 5.
ALFRED MILLIS* 2.	*J. TAYLOR, Esq. 6.
ARTHUR BROWN 3.	GUYDO DICKINSON 7.
HERBERT NEEDHAM* 4.	GEORGE NEEDHAM Tenor.

Conducted by ALFRED MILLIS.

Those marked thus * are members of the Midland Counties' Association.

*The bells were muffled as a token of respect to the late Major-General Burnaby, M.P. for the northern division of the county of Leicester.***Date Touch.**

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

CRAYFORD (Kent).—On Sunday morning, June 3rd, for Divine Service at St. Paulinus, a date touch, 1883 changes, in 1 hr. 2 mins. E. Saxby, 1; G. Conyard (composer and conductor), 2; F. M. Jacobs, 3; C. Hammant, 4; F. French, 5; J. Saxby, 6; J. Garrard, 7; F. G. Newman, 8. Tenor 12½ cwt. in F. No method named.

Miscellaneous.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

DARLINGTON.—On Saturday, June 2nd, eight members of the above Association met at St. Cuthbert's church, and attempted a 5120 of Kent Treble Bob Major, but after ringing about 3500 changes, in good style, a change took place and it was necessary to set the bells. G. J. Clarkson (Stockton), 1; H. E. S. Glover, Esq., B.A. (Stockton), 2; S. Power (Newcastle), 3; T. Burdon (Stockton), 4; G. Overton (Darlington), 5; W. Newton (Stockton), 6; W. Reed, Esq. (President; North Shields; conductor), 7; R. S. Story (Newcastle), 8. Tenor 16 cwt.

NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.—On Monday night, June 4th, at St. John's Church, for practice, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor, with fifteen bobs, in 27 mins. C. L. Routledge (conductor), 1; R. S. Story, 2; W. G. Routledge, 3; T. J. Des Forges, 4; W. Story, 5; F. Lees, 6. Also a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob Minor, with twelve bobs, in 27 mins. C. L. Routledge (conductor), 1; W. G. Routledge, 2; R. S. Story, 3; T. J. Des Forges, 4; W. Story, 5; F. Lees, 6. Tenor 14 cwt.

STOKE-UPON-TRENT ARCHIDIACONAL ASSOCIATION.

HORTON.—On Saturday, June 2nd, at the Association Meeting, a 720 of Bob Minor, in 31 mins. T. Ryder, 1; S. Sheldon, 2; R. Gibson, 3; W. Carter, 4; E. Sharratt, 5; W. H. Armitt (conductor), 6. W. Carter from Biddulph, the rest from Leek.

THE WANSTEAD AMALGAMATED SOCIETY.

LEYTONSTONE (Essex).—On Wednesday, May 30th, a 720 of Plain Bob Minor, in 27 mins. W. Campfield, 1; W. Smith, 2; G. Akers, 3; J. Nunn, 4; M. Ellsmore (conductor), 5; J. Priest, jun., 6.

This 720 was rung as a farewell for W. Campfield, who is leaving England.

WANSTEAD (Essex).—On Tuesday, May 8th, at Christ Church, a 720 of Plain Bob Minor, with sixteen bobs and two singles, in 24 mins. J. King (conductor), 1; W. Smith, 2; J. Priest, jun., 3; G. Cornell, 4; A. H. Gardom, Esq., 5; G. Akers, 6. Also on Sunday, May 27th, in honour of the Annual Choir Festival, being held at this church, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob, in 24 mins. W. Smith, 1; J. Priest, jun., 2; G. Akers (conductor), 3; J. Gobbett, 4; A. H. Gardom, Esq., 5; M. Ellsmore, 6. Tenor 9 cwt.

WOODFORD (Essex).—On Thursday, May 10th, a 720 of Plain Bob Minor, in 25 mins. A. H. Gardom, Esq., 1; W. Smith, 2; J. Nunn, 3; H. Scarlett (conductor), 4; F. W. Elbourn, 5; W. Priest, jun., 6.

ROSS (Herefordshire).—On Thursday evening, May 31st, six of the local company with two visiting friends rang a quarter-peal of Grand-sire Triples, in 48½ mins. T. M. Preece (Monmouth), 1; H. Bird, 2; J. Alkins, 3; G. Price, 4; F. Day (Eye, Suffolk), 5; A. Bird, 6; C. Young (conductor), 7; R. Clark, 8.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

CHURCH-KIRK (Lancashire).—On Friday, June 1st, the ringers of the parish church rang a 720 of College Single, with eighteen bobs and two singles in 28 mins. J. Horrocks (conductor), 1; H. Hayes, 2; J. Eastwood, 3; J. Pickles, 4; W. Pattinson, 5; T. Horrocks, 6. This is the first 720 in this method by all. Tenor 15 cwt.

WHALLEY (Lancashire).—On Sunday June 3rd, six ringers of the Church-kirk parish church company, rang for evening service a 720 of Plain Bob Minor, with sixteen bobs and two singles, in 28½ mins. J. Horrocks (conductor), 1; H. Hayes, 2; J. Bullock, 3; J. Pickles, 4; W. Pattinson, 5; T. Horrocks, 5. Tenor 18 cwt.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

OXFORD.—*Handbell Ringing*.—On Saturday, May 26th, on handbells, retained in hand, a 720 of Grandsire Minor, in 15 mins. W. C. Baston, 1-2; J. W. Washbrook (conductor), 3-4; S. Hounslow, 5-6. Also on Monday, June 4th, an excellently struck quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 34 mins. W. C. Baston, 1-2; C. Hounslow, 3-4; J. W. Washbrook (conductor), 5-6; S. Hounslow, 7-8. And on Sunday, May 27th, for Divine Service at Holywell, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor, in 25 mins. H. Payne, 1; G. Lapworth, 2; S. Hounslow, 3; W. C. Baston, 4; W. Payne, 5; J. W. Washbrook (conductor), 6. Also on Sunday, June 3rd, another 720 in the same method, in 26 mins. C. Hounslow, 1; G. Lapworth, 2; S. Hounslow, 3; O. Thomas, 4; W. C. Baston, 5; J. W. Washbrook (conductor), 6.

BIRMINGHAM.—On Thursday, May 31st, at St. John's, Deritend, a 720 of Grandsire Minor, in 28 mins. A. Cresser (St. Philip's), 1; J. Perry, (St. Martin's), 2; A. Thomas (St. Martin's), 3; F. H. James (St. John's and St. Martin's), 4; C. Carmell, (St. John's), 5; T. Westwood (conductor; St. Philip's), 6. Tenor about 12 cwt.

DARLEY DALE (Derbyshire).—On Saturday, June 2nd, five of the local society assisted by Mr. R. Bosworth, of Derby, rang at St. Helen's, five 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles in 22 mins. F. T. Pilkington, 1; R. Bosworth (conductor), 2; W. Gill, 3; J. Siddall, 4; H. Gregory, 5; C. Whymark, 6. Tenor about 13 cwt. Owing to the kindness of the Rector and Churchwardens of Darley, in providing the assistance of Mr. R. Bosworth, of Derby, this is the first time any change-ringing has been rung by method by any Darley ringers.

DEERHURST (Gloucestershire).—On Sunday, May 27th, the local company rang a 720 of Bob Minor, in 24½ mins. S. Roberts, 1; C. Willis, 2; C. Roles, 3; C. Awford (conductor), 4; G. Willis, 5; J. Bartlett, 6. Tenor 15 cwt.

GOSPEL OAK (Middlesex).—On Wednesday, May 23rd, for practice, a 360 of Treble Bob, in 13 mins. J. Nixon, 1; T. Monk, 2; J. Stancomb (first touch in the method), 3; T. Titchener, 4; Geo. Newton (conductor), 5; W. Meadows, 6. Tenor 12½ cwt.

HIGHER SUTTON, MACCLESFIELD (Cheshire).—On Sunday, June 3rd, at St. James's church, for Divine Service, the local company rang a 720 of Grandsire Minor, with thirty-four bobs and twenty-six singles, in 27 mins. William Walmsley, 1; William H. Ingham, 2; Edward Matthews (conductor), 3; John M. Davenport, 4; Walter Ingham, 5; William H. Hardman, 6. Also on Monday evening, June 4th, for practice, a 720 of Bob Minor, with thirty-two bobs and two singles, in 29 mins, taken from *Rope-Sight*. William H. Ingham, 1; James Holt, 2; Edward Matthews, 3; J. M. Davenport, 4; William H. Hardman, 5; Walter Ingham, 6. This is the first 720 in the method ever rung on the bells. Also a 720 of Grandsire Minor, with thirty-eight bobs and twenty two-singles, in 27 mins. W. H. Ingham, 1; James Holt, 2; Edward Matthews, 3; John M. Davenport, 4; William H. Hardman (conductor), 5; Walter Ingham, 6. Tenor 12 cwt in G.

LICHFIELD.—On Sunday, June 3rd, at St. Michael's church, a 720 of Grandsire Minor, in 28 mins. H. King, 1; W. Tredgold, 2; H. Meacham, 3; F. Sedgwick, 4; E. Gallimore, 5; T. Meredith, (conductor), 6. Tenor 14 cwt. in A.

SPALDING (Lincolnshire).—*Muffled Peal*.—On Monday evening, June 4th, 1036 of Grandsire Triples, with the bells deeply muffled as a last token of respect to the late T. Garfit, Esq. J.P. who was interred at Boston on that day, and was an honorary member of the South Lincolnshire Association. John Brown, 1; Rd. Creasey (conductor), 2; Jas. Wilson (Holbeach), 3; Ed. Quinton, 4; Jas. S. Wright, 5; J. Wilson, 6; J. A. Croxford, 7; A. Creasey, 8.

SALISBURY.—*Muffled Peal*.—On Saturday, June 3rd, a muffled peal was rung at St. Edmund's church, as a last mark of respect to Mrs. Swayne, wife of the Rev. Chancellor Swayne, the Close, Sarum. She was buried in the Cathedral cloisters on the same day. The ringers were as follows: J. Parsons, 1; J. Usher, 2; W. W. Gifford, 3; W. Phillimore, 4; Rev. C. L. Bode, and J. R. Jerram, 5; T. Blackburn and J. Arnold, 6. Tenor 38 cwt. in Db.

THE ISLE OF THANET.

"1819, June 4th, John P. Powell, Esq., of Quex Park, Thanet, having erected a tower in his park, in which he placed a complete set of bells for his amusement, being very partial to bell ringing, had the same opened this day by a select set of ringers, and in his usual liberal manner entertained a large party of friends."—*Mockett's Journal*.

MORE old ringers will have visited this place than those now rising; but it is satisfactory to hear it is still kept up, as related in a recent number of this journal. About two years ago the Kent County Association visited the tower, and found all in order, but it appeared as if the back eight were alone used. The bells are hung in two tiers. During the interval of one party ascending to turn the clappers, if necessary, some others ascended by another staircase to the lowest, which had been raised; those uppermost being at first unable to find the raised bells. The building is in the nondescript style of that date, and is like a chimney ornament on a grand scale, with an iron edition of Faversham Steeple on the top, itself being a copy of St. Dunstan-in-the-east, and others. While in the Isle of Thanet, many will naturally visit the village of Reculver, which is interesting, when the true story of how they got rid of the Church is related—we will proceed. This place is of Roman origin, and the church not only occupied the centre of the castrum, but actually had portions erect of the prætorium, viz: the division of the church from the chancel, by two pillars, and three Roman brick arches, very neat. The sea had gradually gained on the place, the hill being composed of Thanet sand, not London clay, like Sheppey. Many versions will be told of what was done, but after search into every document relating to the affairs, the writer finds the descriptions by the old clerk quite correct. It begins with notes taken in 1805, and following years.

"1805.—Reculver church and Village stood in safety.

6.—The sea made a little inroad in the Village.

7.—The farmers begun take up the sea side stones, and sold them to the Margate pier company, for the new pier and the timber by action, as it was good oak fit for their home use and than the willage became a total rack to the mercy of the sea."

Here some remarks we find wanting, and others not necessary now to insert, we come to the action of the minister which the clerk now reviews (the vicar only just appointed).

1809.—"Mr. C. C. nailor *been* vicar of the parish, his mother thought the church was a poppit show, she persuaded *har* son to take it down, *sum* was for it and *sum* against it, then Mr. nailor wrote to the Archbishop to know if he might have the church took down, and his answer was, "it must be *dun* by a majority of owners in the place, so *hafter* a long time he got the majority of one, so down come the church," then follows a list of those who voted—the parson leading the majority! "The last *tax* Mr. nailor took was these words, 'let your ways be the ways of rightness and your paths the peace,' and down come the church, and *whot* *was* *is* *thouts* about his flock that day no one knows."

In another paper we will describe the character of the church, and the circumstances of its twin steeples being saved, also its Roman features, and how much of the old church went into the majority's pocket, and how much for a new out-house a mile inland, to miscall the new church. It should be mentioned that a very slight expenditure, would have prevented the sea ever coming near; and also did not the decree go forth "Secure your lands on either side, but let the church go?" old prints fully testify this.

CHANGE-RINGING IN SALISBURY.

To those who know Salisbury, the above heading sounds somewhat an anomaly, but nevertheless change-ringing has been practised here on a small scale for more than six months past. On the Queen's birth-day, several 6-scores of Bob Doubles were rung at St. Edmund's with the tenor behind. J. Parsons, 1; T. Blackburn, 2; W. W. Gifford, 3; J. R. Jerram, 4; Rev. C. L. Bode, 5; A. Pinckney and J. Arnold, 6. Tenor 30 cwt. The weight of the bells, which are only six in number, makes it very difficult to ring them in five or six-bell work, the tenor requiring two men to manage her with any degree of ease, as also the tenor at St. Thomas. On the 29th inst. four consecutive 6-scores of Bob Doubles, rang without a break, were managed at St. Edmund's, called on the four extreme bells in succession by the same party above mentioned. The St. Martin's company also managed to ring a plain course of Grandsire Doubles on the handbells the same evening. Tenor 15 cwt. An account of the ringing on May 30th, the Guild Anniversary, will be found in another column.

STOKE-UPON-TRENT ARCHIDIACONAL ASSOCIATION.

HORTON was the fixture for Saturday last, and it will long be remembered as one of the most successful and pleasant meetings of the season. It being a glorious day and a fairly accessible place, ringers turned up in large numbers from Leek, Cheddleton, Stoke, Biddulph, Norton and Tunstall. Arriving shortly before 4 p.m. the bells were kept going till late in the evening. They have lately been rehung by Taylor, and are one of the easiest going peals of six in the Archdeaconry. Both bells and ringers have evidently the care of their worthy vicar over them; and a prettier little church both inside and out can hardly be imagined. The ringers stand in what in other churches would be the west gallery. A great deal of self-control will be necessary when ringing, so that the necessary "bob" and "single" shall not disturb the assembling congregation. At the tea provided at a neighbouring inn, both the Vicar (Rev. B. Blakeway, and the Rural Dean (Rev. T. H. B. Fearson) were present. After a substantial repast, kindly provided by the friends of the Horton ringers, the Hon. Secretary (Rev. W. W. Bolton), spoke of the steady growth of the Association and the work that it was doing and intended to do. He had arranged a good programme made out for the 30th of this month and looked for a good attendance of members and a really useful discussion at the Annual Meeting. After some kind words from the Vicar and Rural Dean, an adjournment was made to the belfry, and a very pleasant meeting slowly broke up.

Fixtures: 9th, Norton; 16th, Wolstanton; 23rd, Checkley; 30th, Annual Meeting.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

ON Sunday, June 8th, six members of this Association, with five members of the Prestbury society, paid a visit to the villages of Deerhurst and Chaceley. Arriving first at Deerhurst, the Prestbury company, with F. Musty, of the Association, rang 700 of Grandsire Doubles: T. Steele, 1; D. Davis, 2; W. T. Pates (conductor), 3; F. Musty, 4; T. Davis, 5; E. Savory, 6. Following this the under-mentioned members of the Association rang a 720 of Grandsire Minor: T. Hooper, 1; W. T. Pates, 2; H. Hodges, 3; F. Musty, 4; G. H. Phillott, Esq., 5; H. Karn (conductor), 6. Tenor 15 cwt. These bells have recently undergone a thorough restoration at the hands of Messrs. Taylor, of Loughborough, and the go of them is all that can be desired. The company then went on to Chaceley, and while there were visited by the Rev. C. D. P. Davies; the Prestbury company, stationed as before, opening with 480 of Grandsire Doubles, conducted by T. Steele. The Association members, in company with Mr. Davies, then attempted a 720 of Treble Bob, but failed to bring the bells home. Two 6-scores of Stedman Doubles were afterwards rung, conducted by F. Musty. Tenor 14 cwt. The Rev. C. D. P. Davies then invited the whole of the company to tea. This welcome repast being over, and thanking the rev. gentleman for his kind hospitality, and wishing him a hearty good-bye, the ringers wended their way homeward.

It is worthy of note that the 720 of Grandsire Minor rang at Deerhurst is the first rung on the bells for eighty-three years.

On Friday, May 24th, the Cheltenham branch of the above Association rang a 720 of Grandsire Minor at the parish church of Charlton Kings, Gloucestershire, the local ringers averring it could not be done, on account of the 5th and tenor being in such bad order. T. Hooper, 1; F. Musty, 2; H. Hodges, 3; W. T. Pates, 4; G. H. Phillott, 5; H. Karn (conductor), 6. Tenor 24 cwt.

WORTH, SUSSEX.

ON Sunday afternoon, June 3rd, after service, at the parish church, the local company rang a 720 of Oxford Bob Minor, with twenty-one bobs and twelve singles, in 25 mins. W. Owden, 1; B. Payne, 2; W. Denman, 3; F. Streeter, 4; F. Rice, 5; E. Streeter (conductor), 6. Also three 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles. W. Owden, 1; F. Streeter, 2; W. Denman, 3; E. Streeter, 4; F. Rice, (conductor), 5; T. Post, 6. Also to oblige a visitor, three 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles. W. F. Meads (Lindfield), 1; W. Denman, 2; F. Streeter, 3; F. Rice, 4; E. Streeter (conductor), 5; T. Post, 6. Each called differently. Tenor 8½ cwt.

The old four bells of this church were recast into six in 1844. There is a very energetic party of ringers here, and a stranger is always welcomed heartily. The bells are rung the first Sunday in the month, before and after morning and afternoon services, and Wednesdays and Saturdays for practice. The band has made rapid progress during the past year, under the able tuition of the Messrs. E. and F. Streeter, and Mr. J. Gaston of Balcombe, having mastered Grandsire, Oxford, and Plain Bob methods; on the Wednesday week previous six of the members rang a 720 each of Oxford and Plain Bob at the first attempt.

DEATH OF AN OLD PRESTON RINGER.

ON Tuesday afternoon last there were committed to their final resting-place in the Church of England portion of the Preston cemetery the remains of Mr. Thomas Thompson, a man who though he never attained to high rank or social position, held for many years a not unworthy place in the estimation of his fellow-townsmen. Born in Tithebarn Street, Preston, on the 22nd of October, 1802, the descendant of a family who had been located in the town for many generations, he inherited his ancestors' pride of birth, and was in due course enrolled as a freeman of the borough, a privilege which his father and grandfather had enjoyed before him. At the early age of eight he rang the curfew-bell, and from that time to within a few years of his death he pursued the art of ringing with great enthusiasm, and had attained to considerable efficiency therein. Ringing records inform us that on the occasion of the coronation of King William IV., on Thursday, September 8, 1830, the change-ringers of Preston rang at the parish church a true and complete peal of Bob Major, comprising 5120 changes, in 3 hrs. 10 mins. In this peal the deceased rang the 2nd. On the occasion of the Queen's visit to Preston, on the 13th of October, 1852, he took part in another peal in the same method, with the same number of changes as the one we have just mentioned. As a ringer, Mr. Thompson had visited many of the great cities and towns of England, and had even gone as far as Paris. He was also an accomplished handbell ringer. Mr. Thompson, in early life, joined his father in the business of a builder, and the firm erected many of the cotton mills in Preston. The father of Mr. Thompson also constructed the viaduct for the Preston and Wyre Railway, and during the progress of the work a melancholy accident occurred which resulted in the loss of six lives. The deceased gentleman was the last survivor of four sons of the late Mr. Henry Thompson. Throughout his long life he was a consistent member of the Church of England, and he is said to have been the oldest worshipper at the parish church. The funeral, as above-stated, took place on Thursday, the first portion of the service being performed at the parish church, the Vicar of Preston officiating. Since Saturday the bells of the parish church have been half-buffed, and muffled peals were rung at intervals on Sunday and Monday, and also on the occasion of the funeral.

THE CHURCH BELLS OF MOULTON, LINCOLNSHIRE.

MOULTON is a pretty village in the Holland Elloe division of Lincoln, standing among the trees just off from the high road from Lynn to Spalding. The church is a magnificent specimen of the 14th century style, and has a lofty tower with a crocketed spire, which is visible for many miles. This spire ranks among one of the highest in England, and the exterior of the steeple is decorated with many carved images in niches of ancient date. There are five bells, tenor 18 cwt. in Eb, with inscriptions upon them of no great interest. They are very fine bells, and would bear augmenting to eight.

Unfortunately, through the wilful stupidity of the architect, the ringers were put up into the clock-chamber, when the church was restored in 1867, and thus change-ringing was rendered somewhat uncomfortable. Nevertheless, a band of change-ringers has been formed by the Rev. J. M. Coates, a good practical change-ringer, who can ring a variety of five bell peals in various methods under his direction.

In 1785 the steeple was accidentally set on fire, when the old 3rd bell was destroyed and the present one put up in its place.

Just opposite the west end of the church is the Grammar-school, founded by John Harrox in 1560, where the writer of this article was educated. John Harrox lies buried in the north aisle of the church under a stone with a simple inscription. I am sorry to say that this school has of late years been ("improved?") according to the modern principles of education. That is to say, Latin and Greek have been put on one side (the latter having been almost, if not entirely abolished), and modern science, modern languages, etc., substituted in their place. I visited the place last summer when I was executing some repairs to the bell gear in the steeple, and found a very different state of things to what there used to be in my school days. I hope your readers will pardon this digression from the subject, considering that it comes from an old "Moultonian," and one who spent some of the happiest days of his boyhood under the roof of the old school, under the tutorship of the Rev. J. W. Johnson (the then head master), and under the very shadow of the old steeple, the sound of whose bells first incited a love for ringing within him.

J. R. J.

THE "JOHN HOLT" PEAL TABLET.

WE have this week received the following sums: W. Meadows, 3d.; Mr. C. W. Herbert, 6d.; Mr. C. H. Hattersley (Sheffield), 1s.; Mr. Alb. E. Wrecks (Manchester), 2s. 6d.; the All Saints' society, Sheffield (per Mr. J. Taylor, jun.), 2s. 6d.; the St. John's Guild, Newcastle (per Mr. R. S. Story), 2s. 6d.; the Southampton society (per Mr. E. Parker), 6d., total, 9s. 9d. Amount received published last week: 11s. 1d., grand total, £1 0s. 11d.

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 LONG PEAL OF STEDMAN CINQUES AT BIRMINGHAM.

SIR,—I was glad to see in your last issue a reply from my friend Mr. Job Joynes, to a portion of your article of the 26th, where you state that you were compelled to hear animadversions upon a portion of the striking of the Birmingham peal. I know that remarks have been made which are altogether misleading, and perhaps a few observations from me may satisfy those individuals that made them. Now Mr. Editor, I don't exactly know what you may have heard about the striking, but as I had the honour of taking part in this performance, I heard the whole of it, and can tell you and the rest of the ringing community, that it was clear ringing and every course end came up very distinct and in proper order. I lay claim to have some knowledge about Stedman ringing, and my observations are always taken as being truthful on matters relating to the accomplishment of peals. I well remember perusing a letter sent to my brother from one of his London friends some few months after the peal in question had been rung, in which it asked, had we looked the peal over? if not to do so (inferring that it was false in the composition), as Mr. So and So had told Mr. So and So there was something wrong. Now all this kind of thing displays in my opinion a great amount of jealousy. If there was anything to be said why not do it publicly, and not make these unwarrantable assertions at private meetings. It is very deplorable when two prominent members of the London Exercise blow their horns and the sound happens to come out of the wrong end. I am not one of those individuals who take every opportunity of rushing into print, but I think I am justified in this case and on behalf of my Birmingham friends I resent the untruthfulness of that portion of your article relating to the bad striking of the long peal of Stedman Cinques.

Snider Works, Sheffield.

C. H. HATTERSLEY.

THE RECENT PEAL AT EDMONTON.

SIR,—No doubt your readers will have noticed that the College Youth, who signed himself as "Truth," has been silent on the subject of the correctness of the above peal. He has neither written again to the local paper, nor to "THE BELL NEWS." He has not, as he said he should, opposed the entry of the peal in the books of the College Youths. In short, after making an anonymous and cowardly attack on one of the most experienced and trustworthy ringers we have, he has not advanced one jot of evidence to prove his assertions.

Instead of bringing his charge in a place where it would be treated with the criticism of ringers, he brings it in a paper whose readers have no knowledge of the art, and are consequently unable to judge for themselves. He attempts to injure the Edmonton band in the estimation of their fellow-parishioners, but is afraid to speak up before the ringing world. It is possible that he may yet disclose his name and standing; there is nothing to induce him to do so certainly, and there is every likelihood that he will not, preferring to remain a disgrace to the Exercise generally, a disgrace without a name.

A NEIGHBOUR.

[We think there can be no doubt that the individual who sent the letter in question to the local print, labelled the *nom de plume* he employed as a signature to his letter. Of course we should have required his name and address, had he sent his effusion to this paper, when the veracity or otherwise of one of his statements would have been apparent. Our correspondent may spare his indignation for a more worthy object.—ED.]

THE 7200 OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR.

SIR,—In your leading article of May 26th, reference was made to the striking in the above peal. The subject having thus been brought up may, if allowed to go without remark from some one connected with the peal, be considered to have more meaning attached to it than a mere criticism of the striking would convey. I wish therefore to say that the peal was perfectly true, no shift of course ever occurred or was likely to occur, that we never had more than a slip or two, and nothing like a "jumble" throughout the peal, and that the striking was fairly good throughout.

In any ordinary peal there are, of course, plenty of opportunities for criticism afforded by the striking but I have had sufficient experience amongst ringers, and in human nature generally, to believe that a peal has not yet been rung with regard to the striking in which some criticisms were not made. It is so easily done, and by this running down process is not your own ability made evident? besides these considerations, if a true peal has been rung, how can it be abused except through the striking? If, therefore, any one is pre-disposed or desirous to believe that the 7200 in question was one continuous

clatter from end to end I am sure that anything I may say to the contrary will not make the slightest difference in his opinion. I will only add that, so far as I am concerned, such persons are heartily welcome to their opinions, and all I ask of them is that in their descriptions, whether they heard the peal or not, they will, while they are at it, "make it bad enough" and will also encourage them to persevere by reminding them of the old adage that "where mud enough is thrown some of it, at least, will stick."

Old Bank Chambers, Leeds.

JASPER W. SNOWDON.

OPENING OF HEIGHINGTON BELLS, DURHAM.

SIR,—As the forthcoming opening of these bells has been much looked forward to by the different companies of ringers in this and the adjoining county of Northumberland, several of whom intended to have been present, I will avail myself of the columns of "THE BELL NEWS," with your permission, to inform them that a local company have kindly offered their services, and that as their offer has been accepted, these kindly-disposed ringers are to have this opening all to themselves. Whether such an action savours of that feeling of brotherhood so generally diffused in the relations of ringers to each other, or whether it is rather the act of a selfish band anxious to sustain a declining reputation, I leave your readers to judge for themselves. The test of time will show whether the prospect of change-ringing on this new peal has been improved by this event.

G. J. CLARKSON.

Hon. Sec. to the Durham and Newcastle Association.

THE MOTTRAM TENOR.

SIR,—In your last issue I find a letter from Mr. Dawe, in reference to the weight of the tenor at Mottram. I am a native of the above place, and was taught the art of change-ringing there by the late Wm. Harrison, and taken part in many peals of Treble Bob Major there with him and other companies, but never before heard the tenor quoted at less than 14 cwt. The peal was originally one of six, cast by Rudhall of Gloucester, in 1723, and two trebles added in 1805 by the same firm. I am not prepared with the diameter, &c., of the bell in question, but hope some one of my Mottram friends will supply that information for your readers of "THE BELL NEWS." From my own observations of our tenor at Southport, which is 10 cwt. 8 lbs., and my knowledge of the Mottram tenor, the one here is neither so large by far in appearance, nor yet so strong in tone, both in the key of G, and very sweet-toned bells. Perhaps Mr. Dawe feels a little disturbed now the laurels for the longest peal has been taken from the London company, and merited so justly by a provincial one. We have lately been treated with several letters on peal-snatching, and may be favoured with some on laurel-snatching. I for one, can say that a likelier band of men could not be found, for such a task (as they are all men of great talent and energy in the art of change-ringing), having had the pleasure of ringing several long touches of Caters and Treble Bob Royal at Ashton with them. Hoping to see the question in dispute cleared up, and then let us give honour to whom honour is due.

RICHARD HILL.

Southport, June 5th, 1883.

EXTREME MINOR.

SIR,—I see by your issue of May 26th, a 720 of Extreme Minor was chimed for Divine Service at Romford, on May 20th. This 720 which is obtained by nine extremes and three singles, has the second undisturbed throughout, the third at home at each of the singles and contains the smallest number of calls possible in a 720 of any plain method, composed and conducted by B. Keeble. If our Essex friend will refer to No. 247, Vol. 5 of *Church Bells*, published on the 18th of September, 1875, he will find the identical peal as composed by me. I have also a 5040 in sixty courses upon the same principle published in No. 249, Vol. 5, of *Church Bells* on 2nd October, 1875. I think a Mr. Otley, another Essex ringer, also composed this 720.

Southampton.

EDWARD PARKER.

DOG IN THE MANGER.

SIR,—As some of the St. Mary-le-Tower ringers have recently taken the trouble to assert in a public room that the 5000's and different 720's that have been reported in your columns as having been rang by the Winesham Society were never rang at all, as the Society cannot ring the methods, will you allow me space in your paper to invite them to our village at any convenient time, when notwithstanding we have lost two of our inside men, we will be happy to meet and do our best to satisfy the doubting minds for the future of those who are so kind as to make such assertions.

THOMAS SADLER.

Winesham, Suffolk.

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS.

5004.

By A. KNIGHTS, *Chesterfield.*

2 3 4 5 6

4 3 6 5 2 97
4 3 6 5 2*
3 6 4 5 2 78
6 4 3 5 2 78
4 5 3 6 2 8th in three.
5 6 3 4 2 8th in three.
6 3 5 4 2 78
3 5 6 4 2 78
5 4 6 3 2 8th in three.
4 6 5 3 2 78
6 5 4 3 2 78
5 3 4 6 2 8th in three.
3 4 5 6 2 78

2 6 4 3 5 8th in two.
6 3 4 2 5 8th in three.
3 2 4 6 5 8th in three.
2 4 3 6 5 78
4 3 2 6 5 78
3 6 2 4 5 8th in three.
6 4 2 3 5 8th in three.
4 2 6 3 5 78
2 3 6 4 5 8th in three.
3 4 6 2 5 8th in three.
4 6 3 2 5 78
6 2 3 4 5 8th in three.

The last twelve courses twice repeated, produce 2 3 4 5 6 9 7 8, and by calling the 9th and 8th in and out at three with a double, the bells are brought round.

* 7th in and out at three with a double.

[We hope our friends will look to the originality of their compositions before sending them for insertion.]

BELLRINGING JUBILEE OF MR. JOHN COX.

THE ringing friends of Mr. John Cox, taking into consideration his advancing years, and the precarious state of his health, intend making exertions to raise a fund to provide for him those necessities which are the sole sustenance of age.

This year—being his ringing jubilee, he having rang his first peal at the church of St. Mary, Islington, on the 7th of October, 1833—is thought peculiarly appropriate for this appeal to be made.

Mr. Cox's only source of income—the salary attached to the office of steeple-keeper of St. Bride's, Fleet Street—is often seriously diminished, through being compelled to frequently employ a substitute to perform the duty.

The Treasurer to the fund is Mr. W. Baron, and Mr. H. Dains has consented to act as Secretary. Any further particulars may be had on application to the latter, 147, Barnsbury Road, Islington, London, N.

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CHANGE-RINGING: A POEM.

Also some lines on "THE BELL NEWS." With an Acrostic. Post-free for two stamps.

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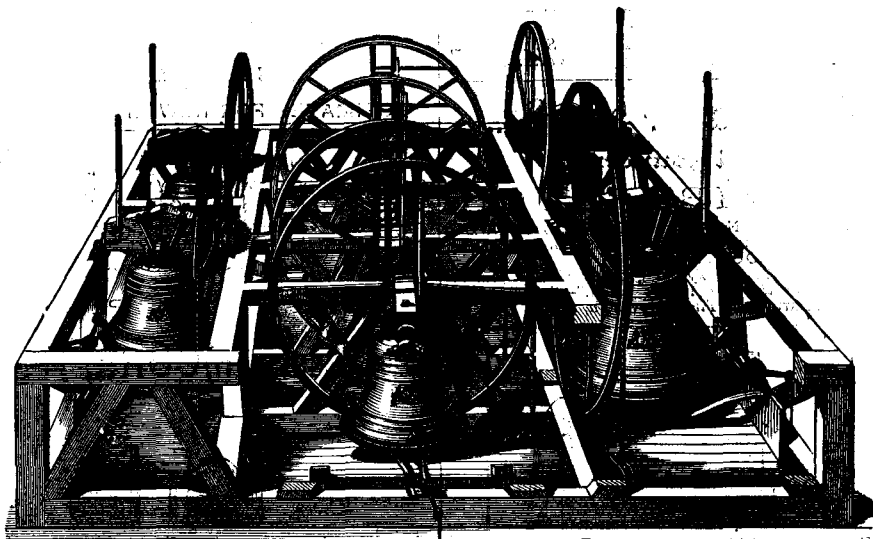
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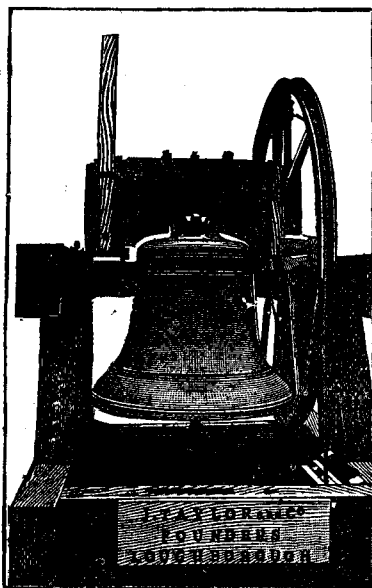
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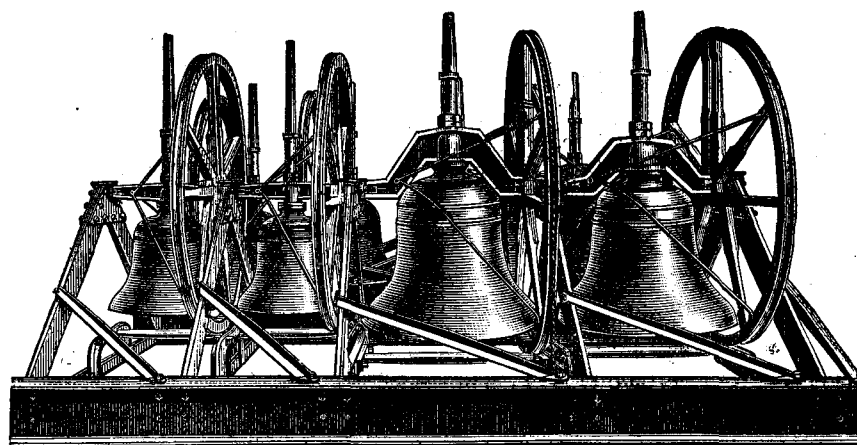
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SATURDAY, JUNE 16, 1883.

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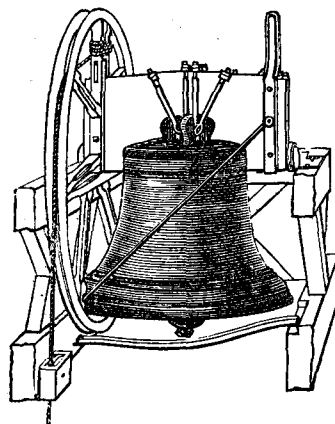
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OXFORD CATHEDRAL—TEN BELLS.

In the reign of King Henry VIII., there was at Osney, near Oxford, a grand Abbey; in 1546 the last abbot was made a bishop, and the see transferred to Oxford. The conventual church at Oxford, dedicated to St. Frideswide, was constituted the Cathedral of the see, and called "Christ Church." At the same time, five bells belonging to the Abbey were removed to the Cathedral tower, and form the basis of the present fine ring of ten. The 2nd and 3rd bells of this venerable family of five are still in existence; from the marks on them they may be safely attributed to William Founder of London; the exact date of this worthy's work is not known, but by some it is put as early as 1450. The other three bells have been recast, first, the tenor in 1589, by a founder whom I cannot name; next the treble, in 1611, by William Yare, of the Whitechapel foundry; and last of all, the 4th, in 1640, by a founder whose initials are "A.R." He placed the inscription—"Prosperity to this College," on the bell, which is much in the style of inscriptions on bells from the Gloucester foundry, and one is tempted to set the bell as the work of A. "Rudhall;" but I believe it is many years older than the oldest bell by any known Rudhall. In the same year, 1640, a treble was added to the five, no doubt by the same hand. The trebles of the ten are by Abraham Rudhall, of Gloucester, and are dated 1698, in which year no doubt the ring was completed; the 4th bears the initials, "A.R." and is not dated, it is the work of either Abraham or Abel Rudhall; the 3rd was cast in 1747, and is doubtless the work of Abel Rudhall. Thus at a very early date was completed this fine ring, the tenor of which is reputed to weigh 42 cwt. Some years ago (perhaps twenty) fears were felt lest the bells should injure the cathedral tower, and they were accordingly taken down. To receive them a large square wooden structure was erected over the entrance to the College Hall, this was known as "the meat-safe," and gave rise to numerous witticisms. It answered its purpose, however, for although the ringing-room is somewhat noisy, the bells go well, and were shown to be pealable quite recently, the tenor being rung single-handed. The ugly square box has been hidden by an outside tower of stone, in a style of architecture to correspond with the surrounding buildings.

MAGDALEN COLLEGE, OXFORD.—TEN BELLS.

Of all the towers I have ever seen, there is none which I admire so much as that of Magdalen College, Oxford. Its beauty does not consist in ornament, for, with the exception of its graceful pinnacles, it is rather plain, but its proportions are so exquisite, and its situation so fine, that once seen it can never be forgotten.

This charming tower had at least five bells in 1623, when the present 6th and tenor bells were cast by Ellis Knight, of Reading. I have been assured by an excellent authority that this celebrated tenor does not exceed 19 cwt., and as the diameter is only 47½ inches, I have no doubt that is about the weight. If then, such a fine tone could 250 years ago be obtained from such a small amount of metal, how is it that some founders use 25 cwt. and more to produce the same note? The 7th bell is ancient; its marks show that it was the work of William Founder of London. The 9th was recast in 1641; it has no name or initials, but was, perhaps, cast by the founder who in the previous year was employed about the 5th and 9th at Christ Church. The ring was made eight in 1712, when the present 3rd and 4th bells were cast by Abraham Rudhall, of Gloucester, who at the same time recast the 8th bell. Next, William Freeman, Esquire, a member of the College and a great lover of bells, gave two trebles in 1740; these were cast by Abel Rudhall, who eight years later recast the 5th bell at the expense of the same gentleman. Lastly, the 8th, cast by Abraham Rudhall in 1712, was recast by R. Taylor in 1828. This ring, though thus made up by degrees, is one of unusual excellence; I doubt if there is in the kingdom another ring of the same weight which is equally musical. The bells, then, are worthy of the tower.

The visitor to Oxford should not omit to ascend the tower of St. Mary, Oxford, and inspect the unique "music-bell." This is so named from having for inscription four lines of music, scored in the lozenge-shaped notes of the period. This bell was cast by Newcombe, of Leicester, in 1612, and is the 4th in a heavy ring of six, tenor 53½ inches in diameter, and about 28 cwt.

NEW COLLEGE, OXFORD—TEN BELLS; MERTON COLLEGE—EIGHT BELLS.

The authorities of New College were rather unfortunate as to their bells, in falling into the hands of a founder named Michael Darbie. Of him Dr. Raven writes: "Michael's wretched bells are to be found in many districts, for one specimen of his casting appears to have been enough for a neighbourhood." The College had a ring of five ancient bells so heavy that when they were made eight in 1655 the surplus metal was more enough to pay all the expenses. The eight were cast by Michael Darbie, and of these the treble, 3rd, 6th, and tenor (now

3rd, 5th, 8th, and tenor) still remain, but the 4th had to be recast in 1672 by Henry Knight, of Reading, and then the 2nd in 1703, probably by Abraham Rudhall, who in 1712 added trebles, making a ring of ten. Abraham Rudhall, perhaps a son of old Abraham, recast Darbie's 7th in 1723, since which date the bells have remained in *statu quo*. The tenor is 49 inches in diameter, and probably weighs 21 cwt., its note is a little deeper than that of the tenor at Magdalen, but far inferior in quality; the ten are very uneven in power, and some of the bells are harsh and unmusical.

It appears from the Rev. W. C. Lukis's book, *An Account of Church Bells*, that in 1657 Michael Darbie secured employment in recasting the five bells of Merton College. The tenor of this old ring of five was of remarkably good quality, and was said to be the best in England; and there was a general and strong wish that this noble bell should be preserved, and the ring augmented to six by the addition of a new treble. But Michael Darbie had found the New College job so profitable that he was not likely to let such a chance slip through his fingers; the warden was away; the sub-warden was gained over; and the bells were cast into eight. They were first rung on May 14th, 1657, but were found most unsatisfactory, and in 1680 the whole ring was recast by Christopher Hodgson of London. None of these bells have been touched since. The Merton bells are a good ring of eight. The tenor measures 54 inches in diameter, and weighs about 28 cwt., though often stated to be much heavier.

NORWICH ST. ANDREW—TEN BELLS.

In 1552 there were six bells in this tower. They had been all recast in 1526, and a note was made of their weight: treble 7 cwt., 2nd, 7½ cwt.; 3rd, nearly 10 cwt.; 4th, 12½ cwt.; 5th, nearly 16 cwt.; tenor nearly 22 cwt. In 1566 this tenor was recast, and made nearly 27 cwt. In 1633 the tenor was again cast, and reduced to 23 cwt. 1 qr. 10 lbs. When the ring was augmented to eight in 1705, this bell was taken away and cast into small bells. The present tenor was the old 5th recast in 1621 by William Brend of Norwich. Its diameter is 44½ inches, and its weight probably under 17 cwt. The old 4th bell was recast in 1589, and again in 1608, by William Brend. The old 3rd has disappeared, and its place is occupied by the former tenor of St. John, Underhill, which was bought when the tower of that church fell down in 1784. This bell is dated 1617, and is attributed to Wm. Brend. Next, in 1623, the old treble was recast by William Brend, and the old 2nd (now the 7th), by that wandering founder, Michael Darbie, in 1661. In 1705 the work of making the ring eight was entrusted to Henry Pleasant, who had a foundry at Bracondale, Norwich. As mentioned above, he took away the old tenor, thus reducing the ring to five, and added two trebles and a 3rd bell, which bears the name of John Draper. It was cast at the Thetford foundry in 1634. In 1713, Thomas Newman, of Norwich, recast Brend's old 4th bell (dated 1608) into the present 9th, and Pleasant's 2nd into the present 4th bell. Lastly, in 1825, the trebles of the ring were given by Mr. Thomas Hurry, of Norwich, being cast by Thomas Mears, of Whitechapel. Thomas Hurry (generally known as "Old Tom Hurry") was a bell-hanger by trade, and an accomplished ringer and composer; he was generally to be found at the heavy end, and rang the 10th at St. Peter's, Norwich, in the only peal of Norwich Court Bob Maximus which has ever been accomplished. In the same tower he rang the tenor in a peal of Treble Bob Royal, the first time she ever was rung single-handed through a peal. Mr. Hurry was so pleased with S. Thurston's skill shown in ringing the tenor in the peal of Maximus above mentioned, that he gave the latter a silver medal and clasp. From his actions we judge he was a very generous as well as energetic supporter of change-ringing. In 1844 he rang the treble in a long peal (7126 changes) of Stedman Cinques. He died in 1869, at the good old age of eighty-six years.

NORWICH ST. GILES AND ST. MILES—EIGHT BELLS EACH.

The tower of St. Giles's church was built early in the fifteenth century, and very soon after three bells were placed in it; they were in all probability the work of Richard Baxter, who was founding bells at Norwich before 1420. These bells were remarkable for the beautiful type used to produce the inscriptions. As was usual at that time, the finest capital letters were placed on the tenor bell. This fine specimen of Mediaeval art is no longer in existence: like scores of other bells it was split by clogging, and had to be recast in 1869, the inscription, however, was preserved by cutting a band out of the bell. Baxter's treble and 2nd are the present 6th and 7th of the ring, they are nearly 500 years old. The 5th is also a very old bell, and was cast by one of the Brasers of Norwich, in the second half of the fifteenth century. The 4th bell was added by William Brend, and is dated 1593. The 3rd has no inscription, but from the shape of its cannons it is known to have been made by S. Gilpin, and must have been cast before 1705. The ring was augmented to eight in 1738, the trebles being the work of Thomas Newman, of Norwich, in that year. Thus the whole ring, except the new tenor, which was cast by Warner and Sons, of London, came at different times from the local foundry. As was generally the

case in old times with churches dedicated to this saint, the church of St. Giles was built outside the city walls: it is said that John of Coulton, a citizen of Norwich, one night when coming towards the city, lost his way, and was in danger of being drowned. Any one who knows the land on each side of the Dereham Road is aware that there was a very real danger, for the traveller, in trying to avoid the river Yare, might easily fall into the river Wensum. But just as Coulton had given himself up for lost, he suddenly heard the great bell of St. Giles, was guided by the sound, and so escaped. In gratitude for his preservation John of Coulton bequeathed an acre of land to the parish on condition that the curfew bell should be rung nightly for ever. The will is dated January 9th, 1457, and corroborates the tradition. The ring is a light one, the tenor being under 15 cwt.

St. Michael's at Coslany, commonly called St. Miles, has a light ring of eight, very similar to that at St. Giles's. The oldest bells, the 7th and tenor, are the work of one of the Braysers in the second half of the fifteenth century, while the 5th came from the foundry at Bury St. Edmunds, perhaps at the beginning of the 16th. The 6th is by John Brend, successor of William, and was cast in 1638, no doubt from an older bell. In 1676 two more bells were added, making a ring of six. These were by Edward Tooke, of Norwich. The two smallest bells were bought by public contribution, and hung on the 5th February, 1726. They are the work of John Stephens, of Norwich. In the next year, a "quarter-peal" of Oxford Treble Bob Major was rung, i.e., 10,080 changes; this was for seventy-three years the longest length in the method. Another celebrated peal was rung in this tower, viz., 6160 changes of Double Norwich Court Bob Major, on the first of November, 1831, which remained until the other day, that is, for more than fifty years, the longest length in that musical method. These peals will always be remembered to the honour of the Norwich ringers and the bells of St. Miles.

MELTON MOWBRAY, LEICESTERSHIRE—EIGHT BELLS.

In the 6th year of the reign of King Edward VI., there were five great bells in the tower of Melton Mowbray Church. Only one of these remains, as at the day when the inventory of that year, 1552, was made. This is the 4th of the present ring of eight, and was the treble of the ancient ring of five. By whom this bell was cast is, I believe, not known. In 1562 the 2nd bell of the old ring, which was called "Our Lady Bell" was taken down and sent to Leicester, to Master T. Newcombe, and recast by him. In 1601 the old 4th bell was recast, and again in 1766, as at this day. Similarly the old 3rd was recast in 1610, and again in its present form in 1730. Two years before the last date the ring had been augmented to six, by the addition of a treble (the present 3rd bell) on which are inscribed the names of "benefactors," but not that of the founder. The ancient great bell of the old ring was recast in 1656, and so remained for nearly 100 years; until, in 1753, it was recast by Thos. Eayre of Kettering. This bell is still the tenor of the ring, and is reputed to weigh 35 cwt. Lastly in 1802 John Briant of Hertford was employed to add two trebles, making the octave complete.

Mr. North, from whose work the above particulars are gathered, writes: "I heard the following tradition in Melton some years ago:—When the Prince Regent visited Belvoir Castle, early in the present century, he stayed at Melton to see the horses belonging to the many sportsmen then in that metropolis of hunting. The ringers, hearing his approach, rang out a full peal, and in due time made their application to the Prince for a gratuity. This, however, not being forthcoming, they began to hint, then to say, that he was something which sounded the very opposite of a gentleman, and, the townspeople being generally of the same opinion, they saluted him upon his appearance in the streets with a strong body of snowballs, no doubt very much to his astonishment. We have dictated to several of our monarchs, and beheaded one, but this is probably the only instance in which a monarch, or his representative, has been dealt with in such a style as that in which the bell-ringers of Melton, according to this tradition, expressed their opinion to the Prince Regent."

OUNDLE, NORTHAMPTONSHIRE—EIGHT BELLS.

Before 1688 there would seem to have been five bells in the beautiful tower of Oundle church. Of these the tenor bell was given by a worthy weaver of Oundle named Thomas Franklin, in the first half of the 16th century; this bell hung in the tower for upwards of 100 years, when it was recast in 1748 by Thos. Eayre of Kettering: it dwelt in safety in the old steeple for 120 years until the disaster to be related later on. The next biggest bell was an ancient one and very long, so that one man alone could not raise her, although, the weight could not have been much over one ton. This old bell was recast in 1801 by Thos. Osborn of the Downham foundry, and is the present 7th bell of the existing ring.

Of the three smallest bells of the old ring of five we have no particulars; the smallest was recast in 1735 by Thos. Eayre, the next by the same founder in 1742, and the third in 1763 by Joseph Eayre of St. Neots. These three remain the 4th, 5th, and 6th of the present ring.

In 1688 John Lewis, Apothecary, of Oundle, gave a treble making the ring six; it was cast by Henry Bagley of Ecton. Next in 1780 Thos. Osborn cast two trebles making a ring of eight. The next event relating to these bells is told by Mr. North in the following words:—

"At an early hour on Sunday morning, the 16th August, 1868, an exceedingly hot and dry month-smoke was seen to issue from the belfry windows of the church. The belfry was on fire, and great fear was felt as to the fate of the beautiful steeple. The fire was, however, extinguished before serious damage was done to the stone-work. The clock and bell-frame were destroyed, and four bells (1st, 2nd, 3rd, and 8th) were cracked. The fire had evidently originated under the tenor bell. The belfry floor had been covered a foot or more deep, with sawdust to deaden the sound of the ringing in the church, hence some attributed the mischief to spontaneous combustion; but others who knew that workmen had been employed on the previous afternoon in repairing the clapper of the great bell held a different opinion. This clapper would appear to have a propensity to produce mischief, for when the bells were being rung upon a festive occasion in 1875, it flew out of the bell, but fortunately lodged on the frame and so did no further harm." The cracked bells were recast in the following year by Messrs. Mears and Stainbank, of the Whitechapel Foundry. The tenor measures fifty-three inches and weighs about 27 cwt. The new bells are said to be, if anything, superior to their former selves.

KENNINGHALL, NORFOLK—EIGHT BELLS.

In 1552, the sixth year of the reign of King Edward VI., Kenninghall had four bells, of these only one remains, the present 6th bell. From the marks on it, it may be put down as the work of Richard Brasyer, of the Norwich Foundry, about 1450. Blomefield, author of the *History of Norfolk*, who wrote about the year 1735, says there were then in the tower five very large tuneable bells, showing that the present 5th bell had been added before that time, this bell was probably cast in the second half of the sixteenth century, but the founder of it is, I believe, not known. Blomefield gives the inscriptions on the three largest bells, these are the same as are found on early bells from the Norwich Foundry, and the bells may be safely attributed to Richard Brasyer, or his predecessor Richard Baxter, and to the first half of the fifteenth century. In 1743, Thos. Newman of Norwich, was called in to augment the ring to eight. He melted down the grand old tenor, which was said to weigh 25 cwt., and cast four small bells, the present treble, 2nd, 3rd, and 4th bells, leaving the old fourth for a tenor, this last-named bell was recast by Pack and Chapman in 1774, and measures 44 inches in diameter, and weighs about 16 cwt. the present 7th bell was recast by Dobson of Downham, in 1812.

LODDON, NORFOLK—EIGHT BELLS.

In 1552, Loddon church had four bells, but not one of these have survived to the present time. The oldest of the existing ring is the 5th, which was cast by Wm. Brend, of Norwich. In 1616, it is known that the increased to five in this year, and that he was the maker of the new treble bell, which weighed 6½ cwt. Two years later he was employed to recast the tenor, which remains as he left it, and weighs about 11 cwt., for this he received 8l. 17s. 4d. In 1669, the old fourth bell was taken to Ipswich, and there recast by John Darbie. Between 1669 and 1706, a treble was added and the ring made six, but in 1752 this and Brend's treble were sent to London, and recast by Lester and Pack, forming the 3rd and fourth of the present ring. In 1809, the 4th bell was recast by Thomas Mears and Son, of London, and is the present 6th bell. In 1853 Dr. Hood gave two trebles, cast by C. and G. Mears, and thus completed the octave.

IMPORTANT MEETING AT LICHFIELD.

On Saturday, June 2nd, an important meeting of Church bellringers was held in the belfry of Lichfield Cathedral for the purpose of founding an Association of Church bell-ringers for the archdeaconry Stafford similar to that already existing in North Staffordshire for the archdeaconry of Stoke-upon-Trent. Representatives were present from the Cathedral, St. Mary's, add St. Michael's, in Lichfield; Brierley Hill, Wombourn, Wolverhampton, St. Peter's, Darlaston, Westbromwich parish church, and also from Christ Church; Walsall Willenhall, Tamworth, Burton-on Trent, and St. Mary's, Stafford. The Ven. Archdeacon Iles presided. The objects of the Association are (1) to recognize the position of Church ringers as Church workers, (2) to promote the art of change-ringing, and (3) belfry reform. Draft Rules, temporarily deciding as to admission, subscriptions, and qualifications of members, were adopted. Honorary members will be admitted at a subscription of 5s. per annum. The Rev. J. R. Keble, chaplain to the Lord Bishop of Lichfield, was appointed secretary, and Mr. A. Wood, treasurer, *pro tem*. The meeting concluded with several touches of Grandsire Caters which were rung on the Cathedral bells.

A PROPOSED RINGERS' CONFERENCE.

It is proposed to hold a meeting in the Church Congress week (the first week of October), at Reading, at which papers shall be read, and discussion invited, on the subject of Church Bell-ringers' Guilds and Associations, and it is hoped that all persons who are interested in the subject will make a point of attending. The day and hour of the meeting, together with further details, will be published as soon as they are settled. Meanwhile, the following gentlemen have formed themselves into a committee for making the necessary arrangements, and any suggestions or other communications addressed to them, or to the Secretary, will receive attention:—

Rev. C. D. P. DAVIES, Chaceley, Tewkesbury.
 Rev. G. H. HARRIS, Tunstead Vicarage, Norwich.
 Rev. A. DU BOULAY HILL, Downton Vicarage, Salisbury.
 Rev. F. E. ROBINSON, Drayton Vicarage, Abingdon.
 Rev. WOOLMORE WIGRAM, Hertford.
 JASPER W. SNOWDON, Esq., Old Bank Chambers, Leeds.
 C. A. W. TROYTE, Esq., Huntsham Court, Devon.
 Captain ACLAND-TROYTE, 2, Chester Street, London, S.W.
 Secretary—Rev. DOLBEN PAUL, Bearwood Rectory, Wokingham.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

THE Annual Festival of the Oxford Diocesan Guild will be held at Windsor on Thursday, July 26th. Divine Service at St. John's church at 11.30, with sermon by the Rev. Woolmore Wigram. Dinner at Two o'clock; the Archdeacon of Bucks in the chair; and ringing afterwards. Free dinner tickets will be forwarded to all ringing and probationary members whose names are sent to the Secretary before July 20th. Honorary members can have dinner tickets on payment of 2s. 3d. each to the Secretary. The railways will convey members who shew their dinner tickets at reduced fares. Application to be made to the Rev. Dolben Paul, Bearwood Rectory, Wokingham.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

A QUARTERLY MEETING will be held at Whalley, on Saturday, June 23rd, 1883. Ringing from 2.30 p.m. Tea at the "Shoulder of Mutton" Inn. Tickets, price 1s. 3d. each, may be had from any member of the committee, or from the secretaries.

Cheap trips are run from Manchester, Bolton, and various stations on the Lancashire and Yorkshire railway. All ringers invited.

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

N.B.—The new certificate of membership will be shewn, and may be obtained at the meeting, price 1s. each.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

LYMINGE (Kent).—On Saturday, June 9th, the Aldington Branch of the above Association visited this place to commemorate the 50th anniversary of Mr. E. Hyder's first outing, and rung during the day, at the parish church of SS. Mary and Eadburgh, upwards of 5000 changes of Bob Minor and Doubles, in honour of the occasion, on this fine toned peal of bells, which have the following inscriptions:—

Treble—"T Mears & Son of London Fecit. Wm Sawkins J Cloak Church Wardens. 1810."

2nd—"John Wilnar. Made me 1631. W N."

3rd—"Messrs Thos Forder & Jno Swaine. C. Wardens. Wm Mears of London Fecit 1785."

4th—"Willm March. Robert Wood. C. W Sam Knight. 1727."

5th—"Messrs Thos Forder & Jno Swaine. Church Wardens. Wm Mears of London Fecit 1785."

Tenor—"Mr Richard Church Warden 1759. Lester & Pack of London Fecit."

First a 720 of Plain Bob Minor, with nine bobs and six singles, in 28 mins. Charles Slingsby, 1; David Hodgkin, 2; Albert Tanton (Lyminge), 3; Philip Hodgkin, 4; Edward Hyder (conductor), 5; William Post, sen., 6. Also another 720 of Bob Minor, with four bobs and fourteen singles, in 29 mins. William Post, jun., 1; Thomas Hodgkin, 2; A. Tanton, 3; Thomas Hooker (Elmsted), 4; William Hyder (conductor), 5; P. Hodgkin, 6. Also a 720 of Bob Minor, with twenty-one bobs and six singles, in 28½ mins. C. Slingsby, 1; T. Hodgkin, 2; P. Hodgkin, 3; E. Hyder, 4; W. Hyder (conductor), 5; W. Post, sen., 6. Also 720 of Bob Minor, with two bobs and twenty-two singles, in 29 mins. C. Slingsby, 1; T. Hodgkin, 2; A. Tanton, 3; T. Hooker, 4; W. Hyder (conductor), 5; W. Post, sen., 6. Also another 720 of Bob Minor, with twenty-two singles. C. Slingsby, 1; D. Hodgkin, 2; A. Tanton, 3; T. Hooker, 4; E. Hyder (conductor), 5; W. Post, sen., 6. Tenor 18½ cwt., in F.

One notable feature of the day was a swarm of bees in the tower nearly as high as the bells,

THE READING BRANCH OF THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

It is with pleasure we hear of the success of our Reading friends, who as members entirely of this branch, have secured their first peal together. We have often heard of their failures, and this success shows a determination on their part to persevere, by adhering to the principle involved in the line—

"If at first you don't succeed, try, try, try again."

The band we are alluding to had never before attempted a peal together, previous essays having been made by a company of members of this branch differently constituted. The successful attempt was the sixth time, in nearly every other case untoward events, over which they had little or no control, arising to prevent the accomplishment of the peal. On arriving at Wokingham, the company were welcomed by the steeplekeeper, Mr. R. Blake, who gave them the keys of the tower, where they found everything in readiness. After ringing for over forty minutes they came to grief, but at the next trial the long-wished for performance was achieved, the stentorian voice of the conductor, when giving utterance to the magic words, "that's all," giving infinite delight to the other performers.

The members here desire to express their thanks to the Rector, the Rev. J. T. Brown, who so cordially gave them permission to visit his tower, and who, even when the ringing was continued till nearly ten o'clock, expressed his appreciation at the spirit of perseverance they had exhibited in starting again after the first failure that day.

ECCLESIASTICAL APPOINTMENTS.—The *Guardian* publishes the following list of preferments and appointments:—Rev. Henry Anderton, vicar of Garway, Ross; Rev. Frederick Aston, curate in charge of Emmanuel, Cheltenham, vicar of Bushbury, Wolverhampton—patrons, the Trustees; Rev. Herbert W. Barclay, curate of Gillingham, with charge of Milton, Dorset; Rev. W. A. Brameld, curate of St. Margaret's, Lee, Kent, principal of St. Paul's Mission House, Burgh-le-Marsh; Rev. J. H. Browne, vicar of Lowdham, rector of Plumtreecum-Normanton, Notts—patron, Mr. John Burnside; Rev. J. Studdholme Brownrigg, late rector of Moulsoe, organizing secretary of the National Society for the Southern District; Rev. Thomas Cheese, curate of Hackness, vicar of Brayton, near Selby—patron, the Archbishop of York; Rev. Arthur Faber, rector of Sprotborough, examining chaplain to the Archbishop of York; Rev. John Henry Hodgson, minor canon of Winchester Cathedral, chaplain to the Royal Hants County Hospital—patrons, the Governing Body; Rev. Francis Howson, perpetual curate of Hubberholme; Rev. T. Percy Hudson, canon of York and rector of Gilling, succentor of York Minster; Rev. Henry Charles Lambart, vicar of Baydon, Wilts—patrons, the Baroness Burdett-Coutts, and Mr. W. L. A. Burdett-Coutts; Rev. Canon J. T. B. Landon, vicar of Ledsham, examining chaplain to the Archbishop of York; Rev. J. Rawson Lumby, Norrisian Professor of Divinity, Cambridge, examining chaplain to the Archbishop of York; Rev. John Mitford Morton, chaplain in Her Majesty's Fleet; Rev. William Miles Myres, vicar of Swanbourne, rural dean of Mursley; Rev. Edward Powell Nicholl, vicar of Ascot-under-Wychwood, Oxon—patron, the Bishop of Oxford; Rev. John A. Scott, honorary canon of Durham Cathedral; Rev. S. G. Scott, vicar of St. Saviour's, Battersea, rector of St. Mary's, Woolwich; Rev. Walter R. Welch, the Missions to Seamen chaplain, the Humber; Rev. B. F. Westcott, Regius Professor of Divinity in the University of Cambridge, chaplain to the Archbishop of Canterbury; Rev. David Wilkie, vicar of East Witton, Yorkshire; Rev. Thos. J. Williams, rector of Waddesdon, vicar of Over-Winchendon, Bucks, and rural dean, chaplain to the High Sheriff of the county of Buckingham.

The working men of Sheffield on Tuesday evening presented His Grace the Archbishop of York with a splendid cabinet of cutlery, as a mark of esteem and in recognition of the services which he has rendered to the cause of truth and morality in the town. The Archbishop, in acknowledging the gift, said the working men were the best listeners he ever had; it was impossible to send them to sleep. It would be possible to select an audience recruited from very serene regions who would get very tranquil after a sermon of twenty minutes, but the working men always listened attentively, yet he had never flattered them. The more strongly he spoke about the peculiar weaknesses which beset them so much the better did they receive his words. Sheffield had spent nearly £400,000 on Church work. It was therefore of the deepest importance that they should not be governed by thoughtless, careless, people. He denied that scepticism was spreading amongst working men.

Several of our correspondents persist in forwarding their communications to the publisher. This plan invariably causes delay. On the next page full instructions will be found relative to this. And it would greatly assist us if some of our friends would discontinue the practice of holding back their communications till the last moment.

"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.

W. L. CATCHPOLE.—With the exception you indicate, correct.

W. H. F.—At Wooburn, on a fine day, from our hotel. You and J. to arrange.

J. R. PRITCHARD.—We forget your address, or would write.

E. PARKER.—Kindly send us the name of the work, and by whom published.

The Bell News & Ringers' Record.

SATURDAY, JUNE 16, 1883.

AN announcement in another column of this paper, of a proposed meeting of ringers in the week in which the next Church Congress is to be held, must be perused with feelings of uncommon pleasure and satisfaction. We do not arrogate to ourselves the suggestion of such a movement, though it will not be disputed that some such scheme, for the promotion and extension of the science, has at various times been urged in this portion of "THE BELL NEWS." A congress of ringers, discussing the many questions, interesting and important to themselves, which nevertheless may lie outside the region of practical ringing, must prove to be most beneficial, from whatever standpoint is used at which to gauge its value. The necessity for such brief period of intercourse has for a long time been apparent, and we doubt not that a successful meeting of this description will give a fillip of no ordinary character to the popularity of the Exercise, among those whose countenance on its behalf we are all so anxious to secure.

A feature of this intended meeting, and one which we desire to lay stress upon, is that it is hoped that "all persons who are interested" will be present. The gentlemen who have initiated the movement, therefore desire the co-operation of all. Its success or otherwise will depend on the amount of enthusiasm shown to it by the general body of ringers. It is to be hoped, therefore, that the indifference to questions which lie beyond the vista of the belfry-door—an indifference, it is said, peculiar to ringers—will be roused into genuine activity through this project. The formation of Guilds and Associations, and the nature of the work they are especially fitted to deal with, seems a most appropriate topic to be set down for discussion when the assembly has met. We need not

anticipate, however, the subjects which may be chosen. Rather let us keep to the one pleasant fact that a kind of ringers' conference, representative in its character, where some among the number will be able and willing to teach, while others are no less ready to be instructed, is about to take place.

Though it is gratifying to find the preliminaries of this affair in the hands of gentlemen who are well-known ringers, and the constitution of this Committee being fairly representative, we confess to a feeling of disappointment at the absence of other well-known names. But we may hope to reckon upon their support and presence, notwithstanding. And if the experiment is found to be so successful that annual gatherings of this sort may be determined on, is it impertinent to suggest that the Committee, if there be one, may include ringers of all ranks of society; at any rate, within reason? We hope not.

THE ISLE OF THANET.

(Continued.)

IN our last paper we described how a community, headed by their minister, got rid of the oldest piece of masonry in the land, viz., portions of the church of Reculver. We will briefly describe what the edifice was. A large parish church with twin western towers, each having timber and lead spires, altogether equal in height, each 106 feet, forming prominent marks at sea; these were first pointed, as also the nave and its two side aisles, sixty-seven feet. Between the nave and chancel, which had no aisles, were two round pillars with singular capitals, as related before, and were generally stated to be Saxon. In the year 1860, these pillars entire were actually discovered by a person on the look-out for them in an orchard near Canterbury, and have since been put up behind the Cathedral. Those best qualified to judge have pronounced them Roman, and not only so, but were actually *in situ*, as a Roman pavement of concrete was found laid round them, which could not have been moved from elsewhere as the pillars may have been; also a semi-circular apse of Roman masonry has since been found among the foundations at Reculver. The chancel had undergone, in the 13th century, lengthening, when the Roman apse was pulled down, but the pillars and arches maintained in their place. The twin towers were open to the church, the northern had four bells by Hatch (1635), some say five—this is uncertain—others four, in each tower, but this is quite incorrect. The demolition of this grand edifice was begun, as related, in 1809, and a writer at the time saw forty tons of lead from both spires, and roofs which were entirely covered with that material; crushing the pavement, and the bells cleared out; the numerous monuments all destroyed, and the materials sold to anyone who would bid. But the Trinity Corporation, at the end of the year, purchased the site with the ows—which had been too big to begin upon as yet—and immediately began a restoration of them, as well as enclosing the space, and also laying pavement on the shore, thus preventing the disgraceful sight of bones projecting from the cliff. Mr. Nailor might have petitioned the Archbishop a year before to obtain funds for a sea wall to prevent such a spectacle, instead of a year after wishing to pull down the house of God, and invoking aid in the same quarter for permission to "break down the carved work thereof." A small building was eventually put up, with a small portion of the materials of the old church, one mile inland, which lasted till about ten years ago, when it would have dropped; it is needless to say those marketable articles, lead, bell-metal, etc., etc., did not in any shape enter into its constituents. A new church on the site has been built, and all the recognizable fragments of monuments, etc., have been displayed in the edifice, which is very well built, the old treble bell is in the west gable. It is, however, demonstrative that within one hundred yards of the old towers stands a nonconformist building, and most of the inhabitants dwell round the hallowed site, including a large coast-guard station. Visitors may ascend the ancient staircase of the northern tower, when after gaining

the first chamber, by means of a triforium passage leading through the gable between the towers (which has escaped destruction), they may ascend either tower by ladder at pleasure. The wood work of the ancient spires disappeared in a gale soon after the lead was removed, but the Trinity board have placed a stump of beams on each, with great vanes. The other portions remaining are parts of the east and northern walls of the church, and south chancel wall, while a general idea of the plan may be obtained when between the towers, all the foundations being now exposed. The old inhabitants used to relate that no one who in the least way was concerned in the profit of the church destruction, in any way prospered afterwards. Mr. Robert Brett, the old clerk who took the notes related in the previous paper, had been in office forty years, and was an owner voting against the pulling down. Other parishes in Thanet will conclude the island.

The Metropolis.

THE ST. JAMES'S SOCIETY.—CAMBERWELL, SURREY.

On Thursday, June 7, 1883, in Two Hours and Forty-eight Minutes,

AT ST. GEORGE'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

REEVES'S VARIATION OF HOLT'S 10-PART.

HENRY LANGDON Treble.	SAMUEL HAYES.. .. 5.
RICHARD FRENCH 2.	WILLIAM JONES 6.
JOHN W. ROWBOTHAM .. 3.	J. MARTIN ROUTH, Esq.. 7.
CHALLIS F. WINNY 4.	*TOM COXHEAD Tenor.

Conducted by RICHARD FRENCH.

*First peal.

This peal was rung to commemorate the twenty-sixth anniversary of the wedding of the vergers and steeplekeeper, Mr. T. Windley; the bells having been placed at the disposal of the ringers for this purpose, by the kindness of the Rev. Samuel Smith, vicar.

THE ST. JAMES'S SOCIETY, LONDON; AND THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, June 11, 1883, in Three Hours and Thirty Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. CLEMENT DANES, STRAND,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERS, 5081 CHANGES.

RICHARD FRENCH Treble.	JOHN W. ROWBOTHAM .. 6.
EDWIN HORREX 2.	WILLIAM BARON 7.
CHARLES T. HOPKINS .. 3.	FREDERICK PITSTOW .. 8.
CHALLIS F. WINNY 4.	JOHN M. HAYES 9.
GEORGE NEWSON 5.	WILLIAM COPPAGE Tenor.

Composed by H. W. HALEY, and called by JOHN M. HAYES.

F. Pittsow hails from Saffron Walden.

The Provinces.

MARLOW, BUCKS.—THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, June 9, 1883, in Three Hours and One Minute,

AT ALL SAINTS' CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

A BOB-AND-SINGLE VARIATION. Tenor 15 cwt.

H. ROGERS Treble.	J. W. WILKINS.. .. 5.
GEO. WILKINS 2.	W. A. GARRAWAY 6.
R. FLAXMAN 3.	EDN. ROGERS 7.
EDWD. ROGERS 4.	EDWD. KEELEY.. .. Tenor.

Conducted by W. A. GARRAWAY.

It is forty years since a peal was rung in the above steeple. A tablet recording one by the College Youths, bears date June 3rd, 1843. The belfry is well cared for, and great credit is due to the steeplekeeper, Mr. Truss. A volunteer band of ringers has just been started under the superintendence of—Awdry, Esq., who (following the example of C. A. W. Troyte, Esq.) is learning himself, and at the same time teaching others the art, and we wish him and them every success.

Date Touch.

SPROUGHTON (Suffolk).—On Friday, June 8th, at All Saints' church, a date touch of 1883 changes of Grandsire and Plain Doubles, in 1 hr. 15 mins. W. Mee, 1; H. Brown, 2; C. Mee (conductor), 3; F. Mee, 4; T. Brown, 5. Tenor about 11 cwt. in B.

Miscellaneous.

THE ST. JAMES'S SOCIETY, LONDON.

On Monday, June 11th, at St. Giles-in-the-Fields, the first half of Holt's 10-part peal, 2520 changes, in 1 hr. 27 mins. Henry Lewis (St. Alban's), 1; George Stancombe (Canterbury), 2; Harry G. Fairbrass (Canterbury), 3; Samuel Hayes, 4; Newman N. Hills (St. Alban's), 5; Joseph Barry, 6; Henry J. Tucker (conductor), 7; William H. George, 8. The above started for a peal, but owing to a mistake, the conductor called "stand." Tenor 18 cwt. in F.

THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

BROMHAM.—On Sunday, June 10th, for Divine Service in the afternoon, a 720 of Bob Minor, in 30 mins. *T. Tysoe, 1; *H. King, 2; C. Clarke, 3; *W. King, 4; *C. Stafferton, 5; W. Biggs (conductor), 6. *First 720. This is the first time of conducting for W. Biggs, and the first 720 ever rung on the bells. Tenor 20 cwt.

THE BIRMINGHAM AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATION.

SELLY OAK (Birmingham).—On Sunday, June 3rd, at St. Mary's church, a 720 of Grandsire Minor, with thirty-four bobs and two singles, in 26½ mins., and on Sunday, June 10th, they rang the same 720 over again, in 26 mins. George Hale, 1; Henry Smith, 2; Edward Bush, 3; Thomas Lewis, 4; Edward Bryant, 5; Alfred Cole (conductor), 6.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

RUNCORN (Lancashire).—On Saturday, June 9th, the members of the above Association rang a 720 of Grandsire Minor, in 26 mins. J. Davidson, 1; J. Large, 2; J. Aspinwall, 3; J. T. Lowe, 4; C. Sharples, 5; J. Latchford (conductor), 6.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

FARNHAM ROYAL (Bucks).—On Saturday, June 2nd, at St. Mary's, a 720 of Bob Minor, with twenty-seven bobs and twelve singles, in 27½ mins. C. Clarke, 1; F. Fells, 2; J. Parker (composer and conductor), 3; A. Batten, 4; A. Fussell, 5; W. Fussell, 6. This 720 is in three parts, bobs being called every lead in each part except the 1, 2, 3(s), 4, 7, 10(s), 13, 14, 15, 17(s), and 20(s).

STOKE-UPON-TRENT ARCHIDIACONAL ASSOCIATION.

CHEDDLTON (Staffordshire).—On Thursday, June 7th, 720 of Bob Minor with eighteen bobs and two singles, in 27 mins. J. James, 1; E. Spooner, 2; J. Gilbert, 3; H. Rogers, 4; F. Clowes (conductor), 5; J. Renshaw, 6.

NORTON (Staffordshire).—On Saturday, June 9th, at the Association's Meeting, a 720 of Bob Minor, in 23 mins. T. Rider, 1; S. Sheldon, 2; R. Gibson, 3; T. Turner (conductor), 4; E. Sharratt, 5; W. Carter, 6. Carter hails from Biddulph; the rest from Leek. Also a 720 of Grandsire Minor, in 25 mins. H. Holdcroft (Norton), 1; S. Moores (Biddulph), 2; L. Miller (Wolstanton), 3; J. Pointon (Biddulph), 4; M. Moss (Biddulph), 5; W. Carter (conductor; Biddulph), 6.

THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

WIMBLEDON.—On Tuesday, June 12th, the members of the above Association rang a 720 of Grandsire Minor in 23½ mins. G. Byde, 1; J. Fayers, 2; C. Byde, 3; S. Frost, 4; A. Garrett, 5; A. Perceval, Esq. (conductor), 6. Tenor 13 cwt. in G.

BIRMINGHAM.—On Monday evening, June 4th, at St. Philip's church, a 720 of Grandsire Minor, in 27 mins., call every lead. A. Cresser, 1; H. Bond, 2; F. Evens, 3; C. Barnicle (first 720), 4; T. Westwood (conductor), 5; H. Tarver, 6.

BIDDULPH (Staffordshire).—On Tuesday evening, June 12th, at the parish church, a 720 of Plain Bob Minor, with eighteen bobs and two singles, in 27 mins. W. Moss, 1; *S. Moore, 2; F. B. Wallwin, (Leek), 3; *A. Cottrell, 4; *M. Moss, 5; W. J. Carter (conductor), 6. *First 720 in the method.

CAVENDISH (Suffolk).—On Sunday, June 3rd, after evening service, a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob, in 27 mins. F. J. Thompson, 1; H. Thompson, 2; F. P. Adams, 3; A. Ives, 4; G. Maxim, 5; A. Hurst (conductor), 6. Also a 720 of Cambridge Surprise, in 28 mins., F. J. Thompson, 1; F. P. Adams, 2; F. Wells, 3; A. Ives, 4; O. Garwood, 5; A. Hurst (conductor), 6. And on Sunday, June 10th, before Divine Service in the evening, a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob, in 26 mins. F. J. Thompson, 1; J. S. Page, 2; F. Wells, 3; A. Ives, 4; O. Garwood, 5; A. Hurst (conductor), 6. Also after service, a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob, in 25 mins. F. J. Thompson, 1; O. Garwood, 2; A. Ives, 3; F. Wells, 4; H. Thompson, 5; A. Hurst (conductor), 6.

CASTLE DONINGTON.—On Saturday, June 9th, six members of the Melbourne (Derby) society visited this place, and rung at the parish church four 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles, each called differently. H. Hulse, 1; J. Warren, 2; F. Calow, 3; G. C. Tunncliffe, 4; Thos. Hollingworth (conductor), 5; Chas. Garratt, 6. Tenor 18 cwt. in F.

FOXEARH (Essex).—On Wednesday, May 30th, the Cavendish Society rang a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob in 25 mins. at the parish church. F. J. Thompson, 1; H. Thompson, 2; A. Hurst, 3; A. Ives, 4; J. S. Page, 5; C. W. Hurst (conductor), 6.

GAINSBOROUGH (Lincolnshire).—On Tuesday evening, June 6th, at All Saints' church, a 720 of Bob Minor, with eighteen bobs and two singles, in 30 mins. W. D. Tinker, 2; H. Tate, 3; J. C. Tinker, 4; F. Linley, 5; E. Mason (conductor; Boston), 6; W. Green, 7; J. W. Giles rang the tenor behind. This is the first 720 of Minor rung here for many years, and considering the short time the above company, except Mr. Mason, has been in practice, the performance is highly creditable to them.

HAVERSTOCK HILL (Middlesex).—On Sunday, June 3rd, for Divine Service in the evening, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor, in 25 mins. J. Nixon, 1; T. Gleed, 2; J. Hannington (conductor), 3; J. Leach, 4; T. Titchener, 5; A. Jacob, 6. Also after service, a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob. J. Nixon, 1; J. Hannington, 2; A. Jacob, 3; T. Titchener, 4; G. Newson (conductor), 5; W. Meadows, 6. Tenor 12½ cwt.

HERTFORD.—On Wednesday evening, June 13th, Mr. Fairbrass, of the Canterbury Cathedral society, and Messrs. Lewis and Hills, of St. Albans, visited the ancient town of Hertford, where they were kindly met by the Hertford College Youths, and rang at St. Andrew's church a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, 1260 changes, in 46 mins. Frederick G. Crawley, 1; William L. Randall, 2; Henry Lewis, 3; Henry G. Fairbrass, 4; Newman N. Hills, 5; John Godfrey, 6; Herbert Baker (conductor), 7; Frederick George, 8. Tenor 16 cwt.

HIGHER SUTTON, MACCLESFIELD (Cheshire).—On Sunday, June 10th, at St. James's church, for Divine Service, four of the local company with Mr. William Hargraves, and Mr. William Roberts, from Holy Trinity Church, Hulme, Manchester, rang a 720 of Grandsire Minor, with thirty-four bobs and twenty-six singles. William H. Ingham (conductor), 1; William H. Hardman, 2; Walter Ingham, 3; John M. Davenport, 4; William Hargraves, 5; William Roberts, 6. Also to oblige the visitors, after service a 720 of Bob Minor, with thirty-two bobs and two singles. Also on Monday, June 11th, for practice, a 720 of Grandsire Minor, was rung with thirty-four bobs and two singles, in 28 mins. William Walsmsley, 1; W. H. Ingham, 2; E. Matthews, 3; J. M. Davenport, 4; Wm. H. Hardman (conductor), 5; Thomas Mottershead, 6.

HORNSEY (Middlesex).—On Sunday, June 10th, at St. Mary's church, for Divine Service in the evening, a 720 of Plain Bob Minor, with eighteen bobs and two singles, in 27 mins. G. B. Lucas, 1; G. Griffin, 2; J. Leach, 3; A. Jacob, 4; J. Nixon, 5; T. Titchener (conductor), 6. Also after service a 720 of Plain Bob Minor, with fourteen bobs and two singles, in 26 mins. G. B. Lucas, 1; G. Griffin, 2; J. Nixon, 3; T. Titchener (conductor), 4; J. Leach, 5; A. Jacob, 6. Also a 720 of Kent Treble Bob, in 26 mins. J. Nixon, 1; A. Jacob, 2; G. Stancombe, 3; T. Titchener, 4; J. Leach, 5; G. Newson (conductor), 6. Also two 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles. G. Griffin, 1; H. Barnett, 2; F. Parker, 3; G. B. Lucas, 4; W. Dawes, 5; T. Titchener, 6. Tenor 17½ cwt.

HORNCHURCH (Essex).—On Sunday evening, June 10th, after Service at St. Andrew's, a 720 of Bob Minor, with nine bobs and six singles, in 32 mins. W. Hall, 1; *J. Perkins, 2; *J. Nunn, 3; *A. Pye (conductor), 4; G. Dear, 5; I. Dear, 6. Tenor 20 cwt. in Eb. *Members of the Essex Association.

HULME (Manchester).—On Thursday, June 7th, at Holy Trinity Church, a 720 of Plain Bob Minor in 29 mins. Henry Diggle, 1; Wm. Diggle, 2; C. Woodward, 3; W. H. Lockett (first 720), 4; W. Hargreaves (conductor), 5; W. Savage, 6. Tenor 15½ cwt.

MAIDSTONE (Kent).—On Saturday, June 9th, eight members of the All Saints' church company made an attempt to ring a 5040 of Grandsire Triples, but owing to the warm weather and the bells being out of order, stand was called after ringing 3800 changes in 2 hrs. 15 mins. C. Relf, 1; M. Relf, 2; H. Pearce (conductor), 3; R. Simmonds, 4; A. H. Woolley, 5; G. Pawley, 6; A. Moorcraft, 7; G. Moorcraft, 8.

ROSS (Herefordshire).—On Saturday, June 9th, the Ross company, assisted by Mr. Day, of Eye, Suffolk, attempted Holt's ten-part peal of Grandsire Triples, but it came to grief soon after having passed the half-way single. H. Bird, 1; J. G. Wall, 2; J. Atkins, 3; G. Day, 4; A. Bird, 5; E. Barnett (conductor), 6; C. Young, 7; R. Clarke, 8. Tenor 25 cwt.

RUNCORN (Lancashire).—On Saturday, June 9th, a mixed company of ringers attempted to ring, at All Saints' church, Holt's ten-part peal of Grandsire Triples, but after ringing about 2300 changes "stand" was called owing to a shift. S. Hoxworth (Runcorn), 1; J. Davidson (Liverpool), 2; C. Sharples (Aughton), 3; J. Large, (Farnworth), 4; J. R. Pritchard (conductor; Liverpool), 5; J. Latchford (Farnworth), 6; J. Aspinwall (Liverpool), 7; T. Williamson, (Runcorn), 8.

SHIPLAKE (Oxford).—On Saturday, June 9th, several members of the St. Lawrence's society, Reading, visited this picturesque village, and rang at the parish church, a 720 comprising six 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles, called differently. W. R. Pocock, 1; E. Bishop, 2; W. Johnson, 3; J. E. Wiltshire, 4; W. J. Williams (conductor), 5; J. T. Waldron, 6. Also several courses of Grandsire Minor. W. R. Pocock, 1; J. T. Waldron, 2; W. Johnson, 3; E. Bishop, 4; J. E. Wiltshire, 5; W. J. Williams, 6. Tenor 16 cwt in G.

SUNBURY (Suffolk).—On Sunday, June 10th, at All Saints' church, the following members of the local company rung for Divine Service in the evening 464 of Bob Major, and after service 560 in the same method. W. Campin (conductor), 1; M. Silvester, 2; G. S. Brown, 3; W. Bacon, 4; H. Brackett, 5; W. Howell, 6; A. Scott, 7; H. Harper, 8. Tenor 28 cwt. in D.

WORDSLEY (Staffordshire).—On Thursday, June 7th, six of the local society rang at Holy Trinity church, in commemoration of the fifty-fifth birthday of Mr. William Lawrence, (who now and for many years past is the conductor of change-ringing in the above tower), a 720 of Grandsire Minor, in 28 mins. George Pagett (first 720), 1; William Henry Hughes, 2; John Guest (conductor), 3; Richard Bidmead, 4; William Lawrence, 5; Ernest Samuel Chapman, 6.

WORTH (Sussex).—On Saturday, June 9th, at the parish church, a 720 of Oxford Bob Minor, with forty bobs and two singles, in 25 mins. W. F. Meads (first 720; Lindfield), 1; F. Rice, 2; W. Denman, 3; G. Illman, 4; F. Streeter, 5; E. Streeter (conductor), 6. Also two 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles. J. Post, 1; W. Denman, 2; F. Streeter, 3; E. Streeter, 4; G. Illman (conductor), 5; Jno. Hudson (Haywards Heath), 6. Tenor 8½ cwt. in G.

THE "JOHN HOLT" PEAL TABLET.

We have received the following additional sums:—The Holy Trinity (Bolton) Society (per Mr. Joel Redford), 2s. 6d.; The members of the St. Luke's society (Liverpool) who rang a peal of Grandsire Triples last week (Mr. J. R. Pritchard), 2s.; Mr. E. Rogers, Maidenhead, 1s.; the Aldington (Kent) society (per Mr. Philip Hodgkin), 1s. 6d.; Mr. W. F. Meads, Lindfield, Sussex, 6d.; total 7s. 6d.; amount received as announced in our last number, £1 os. 10d.; total amount received by us up to present date, £1 8s. 4d.

We are requested to acknowledge also, the following sums which have been received by the Treasurer:—J. W. Snowdon, Esq., 2s. 6d.; the St. Mary Abbots (Kensington) Guild, 2s.; the St. Margaret's (Westminster) society, 10s. 6d.; the Bletchingley and Nutford societies (per Mr. W. Burkin), 2s.

About £6 we believe is required to restore this tablet adequately, and the amount yet received, as will be seen, falls considerably below that sum. We should be glad to close "THE BELL NEWS" list in a fortnight from the present date, therefore those of our readers who intend forwarding subscriptions to us will oblige by doing so as early as possible. There need be no hesitation in sending the smallest possible sum which is represented by a postage-stamp.

THE HOLY TRINITY SOCIETY, HULL.

On Tuesday evening, a company of the above society met together to receive from the founders a new peal of handbells, but they were disappointed through the bells not arriving. However after an hour's pull on the church bells, the company adjourned to the Malt Shovel inn, where a good substantial supper was provided by the host, Mr. E. Lyons, and to which the company did ample justice. After the cloth was removed, Mr. Southwick took the chair, Mr. C. Jackson ably officiating as vice. The toasts of "The Queen and Royal Family," and "Success to the Holy Trinity and St. Andrew's societies," having been duly honoured, several of the company rang various touches on handbells, as well as a few tunes. Harmony was promoted by a few songs given, Mr. Baker accompanying on the piano. The strains of the "National Anthem" denoted the breaking-up of the party, and all departed home agreeably satisfied with their few hours' rational enjoyment.

STOKE-UPON-TRENT ARCHIDIACONAL ASSOCIATION.

NORTON.—On Saturday last, the above held their meeting at this tower. A beautiful day, a capital tower, and a well-liked Rector, combined to make this perhaps the most successful of all the meetings yet held. Ringing commenced at 3.30, but work kept many back till tea, after which some capital ringing was got through. The Norton leader, Mr. Glover, kindly undertook to see that each company had their share of the ringing, and some such arrangement as this might well be followed at subsequent meetings. Over fifty ringers sat down to tea in the schools at which both the Rector and Mrs. Fearon, as also the Chairman of the Association and the Hon. Sec., were present. Many kind friends present made the repast a bright one; and some earnest stirring words of counsel were given to the company by the worthy Rector. Ringing was then continued with, and a bright and happy meeting came to a conclusion at 9.30.

The fixtures for the remainder of this month are: 16th, Wolstanton; 23rd, Checkley; 30th, Annual Meeting.

The following is the programme for the 30th:—

ORDER OF MEETING: The belfry will be open from 10.30 a.m. The Annual Meeting, to elect officers, receive reports, etc., will be held at 3.30; Divine Service at 5 o'clock, at which the Very Rev. the Dean of Lichfield will give an address. Tea in town-hall at 6.30., followed by handbell-ringing, etc. Tickets for tea, 1s. each, may be procured from the Hon. Sec. Rule 14 is set down for discussion at the Annual Meeting. It is requested that early application be made for tea-tickets, so that the numbers intending to be present may be known to the Hon. Sec., Rev. W. W. Bolton, Woodhouse Terrace, Stoke-upon-Trent.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

LICHFIELD.—On Saturday, June 9th, a party of members of this Association visited this place, and by the kind permission of the vicar (the Rev. Canon Scott), rang at St. Mary's, a quarter peal of Grandsire Triples, 1260 changes, in 49 mins. J. Ridgeway, 1; R. Bosworth, 2; A. Taberner, 3; J. Newbold, 4; J. W. Taylor, 5; H. C. Woodward (conductor), 6; J. Howe, 7; F. Whiteing, and L. Lomas, 8. Tenor 20 cwt. in E. After leaving St. Mary's the party proceeded to the Cathedral, the belfry of which was open to visitors by the kind permission of the authorities, and after raising this grand ring in peal eight members attempted another quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, on the back eight, but failed after ringing over 40 mins., through two of the bells shifting courses. The following mixed band of Cathedral ringers and members of the Association then rung three courses of Grandsire Caters. *R. Bosworth, 1; J. Key, 2; F. Sedgwick, 3; H. Meacham, 4; F. Cope (conductor), 5; *J. Howe, 6; A. Whitley, 7; T. Meredith, 8; A. Greenwood, 9; *L. Lomas, 10. Tenor 28 cwt. in D. The afternoon's ringing was then brought to a close by seven of the Cathedral ringers and J. Howe of Derby, ringing a 514 of Grandsire Triples, after which the party returned to Derby, highly pleased with their afternoon's outing. *Members of the above Association, the rest who rung in the touch of Caters are members of the Lichfield Cathedral society.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

ST. PETER MANCROFT, NORWICH.—On Wednesday, June 6th, 1883, seven members of the Norwich scholars, assisted by Mr. J. Smith, of Pulham, attempted Mr. H. W. Haley's three-part peal of Treble Bob Major, in the Oxford Variation, upon the largest eight bells in the above tower, but after ringing 3 hours and 10 minutes, to the regret of the ringers, a shift occurred. Being near to the close of the peal, and to test the feeling of the ringers, the conductor allowed the bells to go till the end, thus ringing 5088 changes, in 3 hours and 35 minutes. J. Smith, 1; P. Sadler, 2; J. Fiddament, 3; J. Smith (Pulham), 4; F. Knights (conductor), 5; W. Smith, 6; J. Skinner, 7; G. Smith, 8. This is the greatest number of changes ever rung upon the bells with one man at the tenor. Weight of tenor 41 cwt. in C. Our correspondent adds: "We do not much approve of ringing Major in a twelve-bell tower, but what are we to do when we have not another peal of eight in the city in fit condition for a peal? We only wish other churchwardens in Norwich would follow in the same steps as the churchwardens of St. Peter, to have the bells under their charge put in order, so that they could be rung. Any ringing friends visiting the city wish for a ring upon the bells, will be welcome. By applying to the Master of the company one day previously, arrangements will be made to meet them at the tower."

TO CORRESPONDENTS.—The affixing of printed matter to post-cards is a breach of Post Office Regulations concerning this cheap and useful mode of communication, and causes a demand to be made upon the receiver when so used. We shall feel obliged by our friends remembering this when they send to us any newspaper cuttings.

THE HACKNEY SOCIETY, MIDDLESEX.

THE Annual Dinner of the members and friends of the above Society will take place at the Maidenhead Inn, Hertford, on Tuesday, June 26th. There are two peals of bells in the town, All Saints, ten, and St. Andrew's, eight, in good going order. Any friends wishing to attend the dinner (tickets 3s. each), will kindly intimate the same to the undersigned. Fares at a reduced rate can be obtained by those leaving with the majority of the company from Hackney Downs Junction, at 8.20 a.m., on the above date.

P. A. COARD, JUN.,
Hon. Sec.

5, Downs Crescent, Stoke Newington.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

A QUARTERLY MEETING of the above Association will be held at Burton-on-Trent, on Saturday, 23rd instant. Visitors on arrival are requested to proceed to St. Paul's Institute (five minutes' walk from the Railway Station), where bands may be formed, prior to proceeding to the various towers. Committee meeting in the parish room St. Paul's Institute at 4 o'clock. Tea and subsequent business meeting in the Large Hall at 5.0 p.m. The following towers will be open: St. Modwen's, 8; St. Paul's, 8; Winshill, 6; and Horninglow, 6. JOSEPH GRIFFIN, Hon. Sec.

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 CORRECTION.

SIR,—On reading the last issue of your valuable paper, I noticed a report of members of the Gloucester and Bristol Diocesan Association visiting Deerhurst and Chaceley, but there is a mistake made in the date, it should be June 3rd, instead of June 8th. This is an error of no consequence. Report say they rang a 720 of Grandsire Minor; and further on I read: "It is worthy of note that the 720 of Grandsire Minor, rung at Deerhurst, is the first rung on the bells for eighty-three years." This statement, I (as a local ringer), entirely dispute, as our society have several peals of Grandsire Minor, see "BELL NEWS," November 4th, 1882, within the last two years, also several peals of Plain Bob Minor. We were very pleased to be visited by our ringing friends, but do not think it right for the above assertion to be made without substantial ground for it. CHARLES AWFORD.

Deerhurst.

THE MOTTRAM TENOR.

SIR,—In last week's issue I noticed a letter from Mr. R. Hill concerning the Mottram tenor, the weight of which needs no further comment upon, as Rudhall's list fully clears that up (as published in Mr. Dawe's Letter), and with regard to the latter part of his letter I hope our London friends will not think that our company have had anything to do with it whatever, in fact we all thought it would have been better left alone. And whilst writing, I may as well answer Mr. Fussell's letter with regard to the ages, etc. Treble, aged forty: 2nd, twenty-three; 3rd, thirty-one; 4th, twenty-six; 5th, thirty-five; 6th, twenty-six; 7th, twenty-three; tenor, thirty-nine. No training or restriction of diet whatever, and with one exception could have rung a good deal longer, and he was not very dreadfully fatigued. SAMUEL WOOD.

SIR,—If your paper is to be of any practical value to posterity as a record of events in the ringing world, the facts recorded in it should at any rate be accurate. If the Mottram tenor is 11 cwt. and no more, why should the statement that it is 14 cwt. and no less pass unchallenged?

Is the swinging of 3 cwt. of metal by one man, and of many pounds by others, for close upon 10 hours, such a small matter in a feat of which the chief merit is endurance, that if they did not do it they are to have the credit of having done it; and that if they did do it, they they should not have due honour for an authentically-recorded performance?

It would be absurd to argue that the weight a racehorse carries, makes so little difference to him that it is immaterial whether he won a certain race with 11 st. on his back or 14. And yet when a letter from Mr. Dawe, couched in terms of unmeasured admiration (which all ringers must feel), at the performance, mildly calls in question the weight of the tenor, and upon no less authority, mark you, than the founders' record of the weight, he is accused by your correspondent, Mr. Hill, of seeking to deprive the Ashton ringers of their laurels, through jealousy, that they had beaten a peal which was rung when he was five years old!

If there had been less abuse of Mr. Dawe in Mr. Hill's letter, less trumpeting of his own performances, and more facts relating to the

bell in question, ringers would pay more attention to what he says, but what evidence does he bring forward to controvert the founders' statement? the founder who is being paid by weight being the last person, I should imagine, to make out the weight as being less than it really is.

He says he never heard the bell quoted at less than 14 cwt. Quoted, indeed! is it not of common knowledge amongst ringers that in nine cases out of ten, a country tenor is reputed to be more than she really is? I quite agree with Mr. Hill that the matter should be cleared up, but I do not think gratuitous insinuations directed against a man who has brought to light a valuable piece of evidence bearing on the question likely to help the enquiry in any way. "JOE."

SIR,—In the last issue of this valuable little paper, I was astonished to find a rare and remarkable communication, signed "Richard Hill," which, as well as taking up a lot of space that could be put to a much better purpose, contains not the slightest sign of facts, or anything else that can lead to the settlement of this question. Now, Mr. Editor, bell-founders, I believe, as a rule, do not publish the weight of tenor bells much lighter than they really are; but in my first letter you will see there is a slight mistake, I gave the diameter as 3ft. 4½ins., which is half-an-inch too much, as it measures 4oins. exactly. Excepting this my letter quotes actual foundry facts (not fiction, as Mr. Hill seems only able to deal with). I also gave Mr. Wood and his colleagues the warmest congratulations, without being absurd, that was possible for pen and ink to do. My remarks, I am sure, could not possibly have hurt the feelings of the tenor bell herself; if Mr. Hill had taken the trouble to read my letter to her, and ask her advice before writing such an unnecessary letter. He further states that he is not prepared with the diameter of the bell in question, but is capable of judging the exact weight by simply looking at it; and lastly, the most absurd remark is, this gentleman thinks I am disturbed now the laurels are taken away from the College Youths; but if he will just cast a hurried glance at my first letter, he will see that such a remark was entirely uncalled for. I have received a private letter from a gentleman who took a very important part in this long peal, in which he asserts that my remarks are quite correct.

I may add, in conclusion, that I once visited a little village 200 miles away, where a fine-toned ring of six, tenor weighing between 18 and 19 cwt. (certainly not a ton), was kept in anything but good going order, and on asking a local ringer the weight of that bell, he replied, "She must be quite 53 cwt., as it takes two of us to swing her, and it wants just as much pullin' as your Bow tenor do in London." Perhaps Mr. Hill has a similar way of calculation, so when he again encroaches on your valuable space, I hope he will not use such poor means to get into the good graces of the Ashton-under-Lyne company; and also make such a faint attempt to "get at" me, by laying himself open to the jeers and laughter of a whole nation of ringers.

FRANCIS EDWARD DAWE.

SIR,—As one of the Mottram ringers, I have examined the bell, and I find that Mr. Dawe's diameter is not right. Now I ask him to send me the date of it from Rudhall's list together with the inscription upon it. I see Mr. Hill of Southport, gives the date of it, but that is not right, the original peal was five bells, then the tenor was added to make a peal of six, after a time, in 1805, two trebles were added, which made a peal of eight. Now, will Mr. Dawe explain whether it was the tenor of five bells, or the tenor which was added to make the peal into six, was eleven cwt.

P.S.—I will give you all particulars respecting the bells after I have seen the answer to this. R. WRIGHT.

Church Brow, Mottram-in-Longdendale.

[We must respectfully, but firmly, decline to admit any more correspondence on this question. We have seen a very old printed list, published by Rudhalls, of the bells cast by them, and it is no doubt the same list to which Mr. Dawe has had access. We will look over it again, and next week publish the result of our investigation.—ED.]

BOB-AND-SINGLE PEALS.

SIR,—Will you kindly allow me a few words relative to my article on this subject which appeared in your last issue but one? The credit of having composed the first peal upon this plan is there ascribed to Annable. It has since been represented to me, by one whose opinion carries very great weight, that this statement is open to question. As I cannot pretend for a moment to have any historical knowledge of the subject, I wish to cede the point entirely. Secondly; as regards the sentence: "To the majority of ringers they are intensely wearisome and monotonous." This I should like to retract—for the simple reason that quite possibly it may not be strictly true. I was thinking at the time more especially of London, where a Bob-and-Single peal is comparatively of very rare occurrence. The words too, might seem inconsistent with the sentence

that preceded them, though in reality they are not so. The regular flow of the calls may be likened to the regular beat of the waves on the shore, which, though at first a most awakening sound, very often succeed in the end in lulling to gentle sleep.

Chaceley, Tewkesbury.

CHARLES D. P. DAVIES.

THE CONDITION OF BELLS AT SALISBURY.

SIR,—I must ask you to correct a statement which you made in your account of the meeting at Salisbury, as to the condition of the bells in the city, which from what you said in your leading article would appear to be all in a bad state. The fact is the bells at St. Edmund's, St. Martin's, and St. Paul's, all go fairly well, as any of those who rang them on the 30th ult. will tell you. The bells of St. Edmund's are heavy for a peal of six, and consequently it is rather a laborious task to ring five bell work on them, which is all the ringers there are capable of doing as yet. St. Martin's and St. Paul's both go well, although at the latter place the ropes fall very awkwardly being nearly all within six inches of the wall. As to the bells of St. Thomas' no bells could possibly go worse to be ringable at all, and the sooner they are rehung by some competent person the better. The bells in the towers generally throughout the diocese are, as you say, for the most part in very bad order; although of course there are exceptions here and there. R. S.

MR. COX'S FIRST PEAL.

SIR,—Will you allow me to correct a slight error in regard to the ringing jubilee of Mr. John Cox. I saw the steeple-keeper of All Saints, Poplar, one day last week, and I told him about the fund that was going to be raised, also that he rang his first peal at St. Mary's, Islington, on October 7th, 1833. He then told me if I went to Poplar I should see an account of a peal rung previous to the Islington one. I was at Poplar last night and I took a copy of the peal-board which is the following: Cumberland Society, 1833. Rang on May 4th, a true and complete peal of Grandsire Caters, containing 5003 changes, in 3 hrs. 20 mins. Performers: J. Bibbings, 1; H. Pratt, 2; R. Ashley, 3; W. Wise, 4; J. Cox, 5; H. Burwash, 6; E. Giles, 7; W. Field, 8; A. Frost, 9; J. Norman, 10. Conducted by E. Giles. Churchwardens, W. Kerbey, Esq., Captain Thos. Harby. I saw Mr. Cox previous to writing this letter, and told him about it and he said I was wrong, but now I have seen the board I am sure there is a mistake somewhere. H. RANDALL.

THE 7200 OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR.

SIR,—Having heard a number of changes extending upwards of two hours and a half in the above-mentioned peal, I beg to confirm one or two remarks of J. W. Snowden's in your last issue, that as far as my hearing of it went, there was no jumble, and the ringing was fairly good. I remember the Burton-on-Trent ringers were heartily congratulated on their performance by a few friends, all of whom I have known for a number of years, and of whose sincerity I never have had the least doubt, and will venture to say, if there had been anything to grumble at by the listeners, it would have been done at the time.

25, Hollow Stone, Nottingham.

ALFRED ARCHER.

THE PROPOSED ASSOCIATION FOR THE DIOCESE OF ELY.

SIR,—Having taken your journal since its commencement, I have read with much interest the many excellent performances by the metropolitan and provincial societies, also the formation of many Guilds and Associations, the good they are doing not only to the ringers, but to bells and belfry reform. But sir, I have been expecting every week to hear of something being done in the Ely diocese. It was brought forward last year at the reopening of the Ely bells by Gervas Holmes, Esq., who, like a gentleman, offered all the assistance in his power to form one for the diocese, but I have never heard anything further about it. Is it a hopeless task? or are the clergy and laity indifferent about it altogether? It is time, I think, something should be done.

Although the diocese of Ely can boast of only one peal of twelve, St. Mary's, Cambridge, it can boast of some of the finest rings of ten and eight in the kingdom, but alas! some in a very deplorable condition. It also possesses some ringers, for one has only to read your journal every week, and they will see some performance recorded by the Glemsford, Cavendish, Cambridge, Sudbury, and other societies. Embracing as it does one of the Universities, it ought to be one of the foremost, for there is plenty of work to be done if the authorities would only see after it. A. H. OSBORNE.

Bury St. Edmunds.

INFORMATION WANTED.

SIR,—Will any of your readers, through the medium of "THE BELL NEWS," be good enough to furnish me with a list of the highest church towers and spires in England, giving the altitude of each, including those of York Minster, and Wakefield parish church.

5, Barstow Square, Wakefield.

JNO. T. HOLLIS.

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS.

5003.

By JOHN THORP, Ashton-under-Lyne.

2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
7	5	2	9	3	8	4	6
4	6	7	3	8	2	9	5
4	2	3	5	6			
					M	W	H
3	2	6	5	4	-		
2	6	3	5	4		-	
6	3	2	5	4			-
5	6	2	3	4	-		
3	5	2	6	4		-	
5	2	3	6	4			-
3	2	4	6	5	-		
4	2	5	6	3	-		
6	4	2	5	3		-	
5	4	3	2	6	-		
3	4	6	2	5	-		
4	6	3	2	5		-	
6	3	4	2	5			-
4	3	5	2	6	-		
3	5	4	2	6		-	
3	3	4	5	6	-		

These course-ends twice repeated, and brought round from the course-end 2 5 3 4 6, by the 9th in and out, and the 7th twice.

The above peal has the 5th and 6th each twelve times wrong and right.

First rung on March 17th, 1872, at the Cathedral, Manchester, and was the first peal of Caters rung on the bells in the new tower.

The neighbourhood of Painswick was visited on Sunday evening by a severe thunderstorm, during which the church spire was totally destroyed by lightning, and the church partially wrecked. The spire, which was 175 feet high (the tower of which contains twelve bells), has stood for nearly three centuries, and was remarkable for its fine proportions. The church has lately been restored at a cost of 2000*l*. The ruins are in a very dangerous condition, and will have to be demolished immediately.

BELLRINGING JUBILEE OF MR. JOHN COX.

THE ringing friends of Mr. John Cox, taking into consideration his advancing years, and the precarious state of his health, intend making exertions to raise a fund to provide for him those necessities which are the sole sustenance of age.

This year—being his ringing jubilee, he having rang his first peal at the church of St. Mary, Islington, on the 7th of October, 1833—is thought peculiarly appropriate for this appeal to be made.

Mr. Cox's only source of income—the salary attached to the office of steeple-keeper of St. Bride's, Fleet Street—is often seriously diminished, through being compelled to frequently employ a substitute to perform the duty.

The Treasurer to the fund is Mr. W. Baron, and Mr. H. Dains has consented to act as Secretary. Any further particulars may be had on application to the latter, 147, Barnsbury Road, Islington, London, N.

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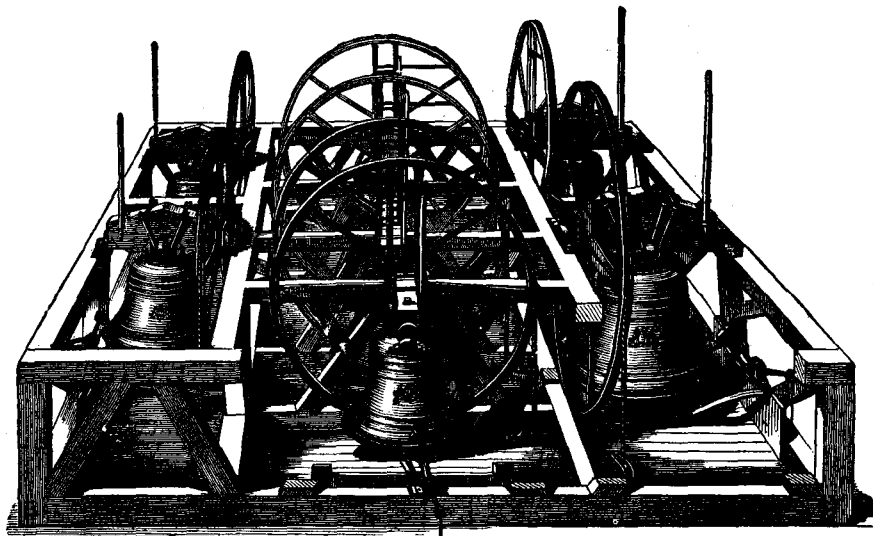
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BY PERMISSION OF THE AUTHOR, the verses on the above subject, entitled, "A TOAST," which appeared in last week's number of this paper, are being set to music by Mr. William Gordon. The accompaniments will be arranged for both Handbells and Piano-forte, so as to be performed either separately or together.

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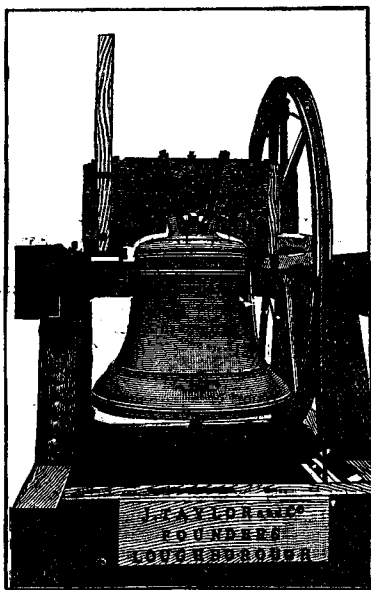
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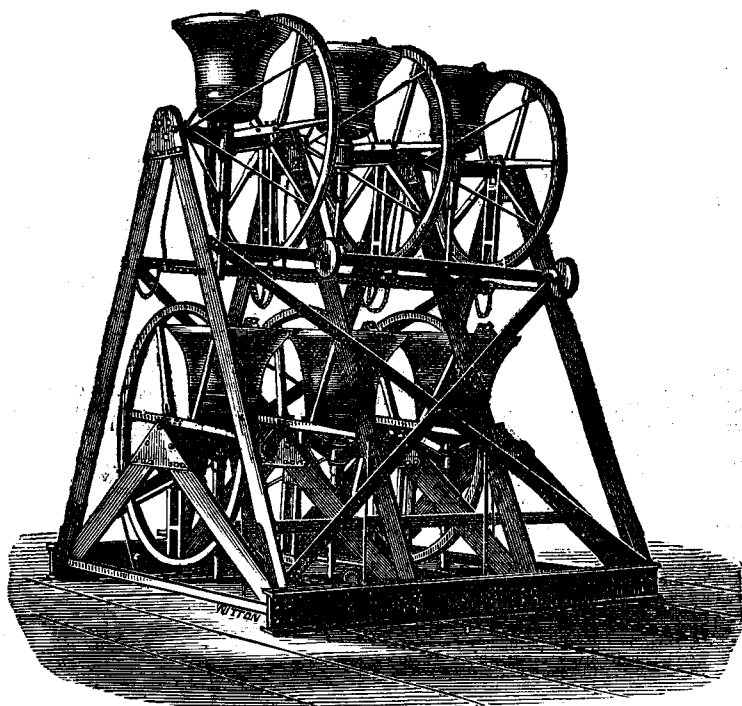
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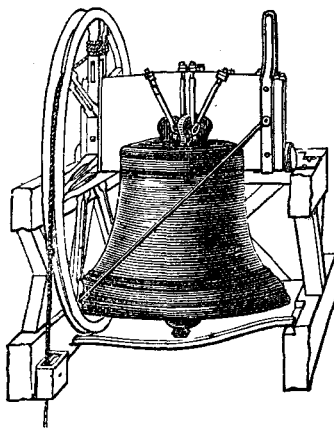
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YORK BELL FOUNDERS.—VII.

(Continued.)

SAMUEL SMITH (continued).

- (a) "Venite exultemus Domino"
 (b) "Soli Deo gloria, pax hominibus"
 (c) "Gloria in altissimis Deo"
 (d) "Gloria in excelsis Deo"

1699.—OTTRINGHAM 3.

- (a) also "SS"
 Ebor
 (c) "SS"
 Ebor

"Clangore dvlcisono Psallam tibi Deo 1699 SS"
 Ebor

1700.—HUMBLETON (a) also

"An. Slater Chvrch S SS"
 Tho. Owbridge Warden Ebor

Roos (c) also "SS"
 Ebor

KILNICK-JUXTA-WATTON 2.

- (a) also "SS"
 Ebor
 (c) "SS"
 Ebor

DUNNINGTON (c) also "T. Lothrinton chvrch S SS"
 G. Harrison warden Ebor

SKIPWITH.

"Ut tvba sic sonitv Domini condux cohortes 1700
 I. Jackson. Vic: Tho: Waide Chvrch S SS"
 Ar: Hovle Warden Ebor

1700.—FILEY (b) also "SS"
 Ebor

YORK—St. Margaret 2.

- (a) also "SS" diameter 2 ft. 6½ ins.
 Ebor
 (c) "SS"
 Ebor " 2 ft. 8 ins.

1701.—NORTON (a).

1702.—CHERRY BURTON (a) also "SS"
 Ebor

1703.—BEVERLEY St. John—south tower—
 "Soli Deo gloria pax hominibus MDCCIII
 SS"
 Ebor

BEVERLEY—St. Mary.

"Ante Iacitis hmo sonitv recipiscite mæsto SS"
 Ebor
 Sa. Robinson Ed. Farmer
 Io. Barton Rl. Greyborne Gwardiani

1704.—BARLBY (a) also "SS"
 Ebor

1705.—WATTON.

"Cum voco venite 1705 Tho. Bell church S
 SS"
 Ebor
 Timo. Hall warden

BOYNTON (a) also "SS"
 Ebor

1706.—SKIDBY.

"Voci veni precare 1706 Robert Marr Church S
 Rob Jackson warden

FISHLAKE.—the bells were cast by this founder.

In this incomplete List I have given the inscriptions of about ninety bells cast by the elder Samuel Smith, and shall be glad to receive any additions, so as to make the list as complete as possible. Many of his bells occupy the towers of adjoining counties, of which I have no particulars.

Samuel Smith died at the beginning of April, in the year 1709, and was buried on the 12th, at the church of Holy Trinity, in Micklegate. He bequeathed his bell-house on Toft Green to his two sons—Samuel and James.

SAMUEL SMITH (II.).

Son of Samuel Smith, whom he succeeded, and nephew of Giles, the celebrated glass painter. He served the office of Chamberlain in 1713, and that of Sheriff in 1723-4. His bells are similar to those of his father, and he used the same stamp, "SS" on each bell.

(e) "Voco veni precare"

1879.—NABURN (e)

In 1879, this bell was removed, along with two others, and replaced by four bells by Warner, given by Mrs. Lloyd, of Lingcroft.

WINTRINGHAM.—

"Remember man and take good heed for I
 shall toyl when you are dead
 Ia. Welbank chvrch S 1709 SS"
 Tho. Heigh warden Ebor

1712.—POCKLINGTON.—

(e) also "Io. Lowe Vic. I. Manby chvrch S"
 G. Baitson warden

1713.—BEDALE (e).

1720.—NORTH BURTON, known also as BURTON FLEMING (c).

RUDSTONE (e).

THWING.—

"Richard Ash Tho. Vickerman chvrch S
 SS"
 Ebor warden

BISHOP AUCKLAND (S. Church) 5 bells (communicated by Mr. W. H. Howard).—

"(a)"
 "Cantata Domano canticum novum"
 "Gloria laudate altissimis"
 "Dominum cymbalis sonoris clangorem"
 "Beatus est populus qui agnoscunt"

1722.—POCKLINGTON.

"Memento mori Joseph Lowe Vicar Geo. Overend
 John Horsley chvrch SS"
 warden S 1722 Ebor

1724.—WEST TANFIELD.

"Beatus est populus qui exavidnt clangorem 1724
 SS"
 Ebor

1725.—TOPCLIFFE.

"Devs salvet ecclesiam suam 1725
 SS"
 Ebor

1726.—NORTH FERRIBY.

"Gloria in svpremis Deo 1726 Chr. Watson church S
 Peter Bvrrill warden SS"
 Ebor

BARMBY-MARSH.

"Wil: Brown Ric Bvrler Rob: Leaper Ro: Underwood Nat Brown
 1726 SS"
 Ebor

MYTTON, NEAR WHALLEY, LANCASHIRE.

"Robert Parker Tho. Walmsley Ric. Mayson John Emmett.
 Wil. Hall church S 1726
 warden SS"
 Ebor

At the "Three Fishes" hotel, opposite this church (1882), is a mortar about 40 lbs. weight. It has four bands of foliated ornament around, and in one of the centre bands occurs "ss"

1727.—DUNNINGTON (?)

"Deo Gloria 1727 (name obliterated) Curate
 John Bell Chvrch
 John Preston Warden

FOLKTON.

"John Boyes John Colley church S of Fovghton 1727
 SS"
 Ebor warden

1729.—THIRSK.

(e) also "Talbot Hessel. Rich. Temple chvrch S
 SS"
 Ebor warden 1729

SOWERBY, NEAR THIRSK.

"Soli Deo Gloria 1729 John Richardson
 Church SS
 Warden Ebor?"

1731.—YORK—Holy Trinity, Micklegate.

"1731
 SS"
 Ebor

Samuel Smith (II) died in this year, and on August 12th, was interred at this church.

WILLIAM SELLER,

Lived in the parish of St. Sampson, and had his Bell House Jubbergate. He used several stamps, and placed his initials "W. S." upon his bells, the inscriptions being in black letter text.

1662.—PRESTON (Yorks E.R.) from Mr. W. C. Boulter's list.

" + Ut sic tuba sonitu Domini condux cohortas Ano. Dom 1662 W.S "
 " + Marmaducus Smith Francus Turnholme Gwardiani Ecclesie
 Ano. Dom 1662 W.S "

ROBERT OGLEBY,

Commonly known by the name of the "Old Tinker," was born at Ripon on the 16th of November, 1654, as appears by the register, and

to corroborate which, his own account of himself is that he was put apprentice, in 1668, to one Sellers, a brazier, at York, when he was fourteen years of age; that he served seven years in that capacity, and two years more as journeyman. He then began business for himself at Ripon, which he carried on five years, and failed. After which he went to Hull, and wrought journey work there four years, when he entered into King James's service; was sent with the regiment into Ireland, where he changed his master, and was among those who fought under King William at the battle of Boyne in 1690, where he saw the Duke of Shomberg fall. He served about twenty-three years longer in the army in different places, and was discharged after the Peace of Utrecht; but having neither wounds nor infirmities to plead for him, he got no pension, so he resumed his old trade, or rather took up the new one, of travelling brazier, which he continued till about four years of his death; and at the amazing age of 110 would carry his budget twenty miles in a winter's day, and do his business with as much alacrity as any other man at fifty. But he soon after grew infirm, and was obliged to give up the itinerant trade he had carried on for above fifty years, and take to begging. He died at Leeds in 1768, after having completed the 114th year of his age. From *Moxon's Agreeable Companion*, Leeds, 1782. G. B. (York.)

(To be continued).

THE CHURCH OF ST. THOMAS, PORTSMOUTH.

WE cull the the following account of this church from a local guide-book, kindly sent us by a correspondent:—

ST. THOMAS' CHURCH is in the centre of Portsmouth, with entrances in the High Street and Lombard Street. It was erected between 1210—20, and underwent a complete change in 1690; the body, nave, and tower being pulled down and rebuilt in an improved style. Within the interior are a number of remarkable monuments, the most interesting being one to the memory of the Duke of Buckingham, consisting of a large urn, supposed to contain the heart of the Duke, surrounded by a number of allegorical figures.

Some say the duke was gracious, virtuous, good,
And basely Felton did not spill his blood;
If that be true, what did he then amiss
In sending him the sooner to his bliss?
Pale death is pleasing to a good man's eye,
And none but bad men are afraid to die:
Left he this kingdom to a passage better?
Why Felton then hath made the duke his debtor.

The west tower of the church is 120 feet high, and from here at high water the prospect is very interesting. It has a peal of eight bells, and a gilt model of a ship, six feet long, as a vane.

The following may prove interesting to a stranger:—

In the reign of the Emperor Claudius, when the Roman Legion were engaged in the subjugation of Gaul and Britain, they erected at the heights of Boulogne and Dover a pharos or beacon tower, to guide the navigation of their vessels in the narrow sea which separates the two countries.

In after ages the pharos at Boulogne fell, with a portion of the cliff on which it stood, into the sea, the continual washing of the waves having undermined the range of cliffs, and swallowed up eventually land which, with their pharos, the Romans imagined would endure for ever. The pharos at Dover still stands, although its beacon light has long been extinguished. It was a stronghold to the Romans as well as a guiding light to their war galleys. It witnessed the final departure of their glorious eagles, the advent and flight of the Danish ravens, the deadly struggles of the Saxon and Norman hosts, and lit the paths of their war galleys as it had lit those of the Romans; and remains now, with its curious walls of tophos, the oldest historical finger-post in England. At some time in the period of England's history, a set of five bells were hung within the walls of the old pharos, but history has been careless in this matter, as she has been in many others, and neglected to record the date.

The legend says that in 1220, or thereabouts, Lord Richard de Grey of Codnore, then constable of Dover Castle and custodian of its pharos, having an ambition to assert his equality with his Roman predecessors, gave orders to have carved over the entrance arch of the pharos his name, rank, and coat of arms. Whilst the workmen were engaged in carrying out their lord's orders in this respect, there arose within the pharos a dreadful clangour as of warrior's helmets, swords, and shields clashing in heat of battle. The workmen alarmed, left their task, and the noise ceased. Lord Richard de Grey, however was too stout a Norman to be frightened by mere sounds, and the workmen were compelled to resume and complete their work; but so long as the chisels struck the stone, their clangour was again resumed and continued within the tower, as though in protest of the proud Norman's design. The work completed, the strange noises ceased, as though submitting to destiny accomplished.

Lord Richard, having safely hung his coat of arms on the Roman walls, determined to ascertain the cause of the diabolical sounds which had so terribly alarmed the poor masons, and with a strong following

—for rumour had spread the tale far and wide that the Roman pharos was demon-possessed—the archway entrance was passed through, and search was made from topmost stone to base, when, high up on an antique beam, was found hanging five bells of queer shape and still queerer-shaped tongues.

Time wore on, and the fear with which the bells were regarded gradually wore away, and the people began to discredit the tales of the extraordinary voices the bells were said to possess in years long gone by, for since their discovery by Lord de Grey they had remained silent, and it was thought that the bells which had spoken so well for their own pleasure once upon a time, had no claim to remain silent now when wanted to administer to the pleasures of honest folks: so the country people brought stout ropes and made them fast to the bells, and swung them about lustily, banging the tongues of the bells against their lips, and bringing out in roaring strains the voices which had been dead so many years.

At first they spoke in harsh clanging tones, as of the shock of mailed hosts and battle-fields; and, at times, in low sorrowful pealings, as in grief of far-gone days when other flags than the Norman flung their shadows over their dwelling place; yet soon their measures changed, and it was now with quick melodious notes of rejoicing, and fortelling (so the monks of Battle Abbey translated the language of the bells) the future grandeur of the country, Britain, now called England.

Seamen, as they lent listlessly over the bulwarks of their becalmed ships in the Straits below, listened with hushed breath to the weird and changeful sounds flung upon the face of the sea from off the top of the Dover Cliffs, and the peasant on the opposite land of France has, on still summer days, heard the silvery ring of their fairy voices stealing across channel, whispering to their sister bells which once hung in the old Roman pharos at Boulogne.

The fame of the Dover bells grew with the lapse of years, until at length a gallant English seaman became entranced by their magic tones, and, sailor-like in all ages, became possessed with a desire to have them as his own.

Now Sir George Rooke was a man of quite as stubborn a nature as was the old Norman lord, Richard de Grey, but still the old seaman felt that what the Norman baron did in his time could not be taken as a precedent in the art of appropriation, and that however bewitched he might be with the five bells of Dover, they would never hang on board of his flag-ship or beneath the roof-tree of his ancestors ashore.

Sir George loved his ship; he loved Spithead when his ship lay there flying his flag bravely at her royal mast-head; he also loved the old town of Portsmouth, with its broad High Street; and he professed great love and veneration for its old church, built, as the jolly old Admiral expressed it, "by that cleverish Norman fellow, Peter Rupibus." The Admiral loved, also, other things when at Portsmouth, but was for the nonce enslaved by the Dover bells, and he determined that, as he could not hang them on board his ship, nor beneath the roof-tree of his ancestors, the next best thing would be to hang them in the tower of Portsmouth Church, so that he might hear them when he was on shore, and also, at times, from the quarter deck of his own ship when she might be lying at Spithead.

Sailors have always been proverbially the most ready-witted of mankind, and Sir George Rooke was among the readiest of the ready that ever wore a pigtail.

Prince George of Denmark was then a great man in England, a shrewd man in the main, who had a policy to serve, and to aid that policy was anxious to make friends. Sir George Rooke was also a great man, for he was the first sailor in England. He was also, a shrewd man, as we have shown; he also had a policy to serve: he wanted his bells; and he was quite as anxious to make friends with the Prince as the Prince was with the Admiral commanding the fleets of England.

The Admiral hated tedious forms of diplomacy, and always shot straight at his mark, and, in this instance, must have struck the bull's eye of the Prince's inclination and policy most effectually, for old archives record that "Prince George of Denmark, by the intercession of Admiral Sir George Rooke, caused the bells to be removed from the old pharos, within the walls of Dover Castle, to the tower of the church dedicated to St. Thomas a' Becket at Portsmouth."

And thus Portsmouth Church Tower received the wondrous Dover bells.

"Ye second Boke containing ye remaining part of ye history of Dover bells lyeth hidden in ye tower of Portsmouth Church."

THE MOTTRAM TENOR.

AFTER the letter of Mr. S. Wood, published in our last number, it seems hardly necessary to add any more upon this subject. We have however, seen Rudhall's list of bells cast by them, amongst which the Mottram peal is given as a ring of eight, tenor 11 cwt. There can be no doubt as to the authenticity and correctness of this document. It was printed at Gloucester, at a time when the foundry of the Rudhalls was in full vigour.

THE ST. LAURENCE PARISH CHURCH SOCIETY, READING, BERKS.

Just sixty-eight years ago on Monday last, one of the principal events in our national history took place, namely—The Battle of Waterloo. A few weeks ago a meeting was held in St. Laurence belfry to arrange for some excursion, that the members of this Society might have a change, accordingly their Tower Warden, the Rev. Chas. Kerry, having agreed with the members that Dorchester should be their destination, the necessary arrangements were placed in the hands of Mr. Newell, who very ably carried out the programme on the eventful 18th day of June.

As early as 7 a.m., the neighbourhood of the "Mitre" in Friar Street, Reading, began to assume a lively aspect. When the vehicles arrived, a muster of eighteen members were speedily seated, and the day's proceedings commenced as they left the town in two parties with "The trumpet's martial sound."

ST. JAMES'S, PANGBOURNE.—Ringing was commenced at 8 a.m., several 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles being rung on the ring of six. T. Waldron, E. Wiltshire, W. Johnson, W. H. Fussell, W. Newell (conductor), and R. House. Leaving here at 9 o'clock, the remainder of the band were overtaken at Streatly, where some Doubles were rung at St. Mary's by W. J. Williams (conductor), W. R. Pocock, H. Bawdon, W. Holloway, G. Talbot, E. Bishop, F. Hayward, and F. Round. Unfortunately the bells are not in a very satisfactory state here, the 2nd stay being broken, and other evils, which rendered ringing far from pleasant, yet the visitors were heartily glad of the permission to ring here.

At 9.40 a.m., the whole were on their journey again, all being well so far. On the road to Wallingford, many attempts were made to get the handbells in use, a set being provided to each company, but after a few touches the scenery, which is very beautiful along this road as it winds by the river Thames, was a far greater attraction for the time being.

ST. MARY'S, CHOLSEY, was the next tower, which contains an excellent ring of six lately rehung by Messrs. Mears and Stainbank, of London. Here the ringers were heartily welcomed by the Vicar, the Rev. R. W. P. Circuit, the curate, and head ringer, who met them as they approached the church. Four 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles were rung. F. Round, 1; J. E. Wiltshire, 2; W. Johnson, 3; W. J. Williams (conductor), 4; T. Waldron, 5; H. House, 6. The tenor, 14 cwt. in F, is a good bell, and it is pleasing to hear that two new trebles are likely to be added before another Waterloo Anniversary. Ringing over, they were conducted to the vicarage, where, after partaking of refreshment, provided by the vicar, and using a set of handbells he possessed, the journey was continued, with the invitation to visit him on some future occasion. Meanwhile party No. 1 had reached Wallingford, and the belfry of St. Mary's was soon assailed with ringers, but some, horrified at the state of affairs, quickly left, others staying to see the ruins, made several fruitless attempts to ring. There are eight good bells, a strong-toned tenor, weighing over a ton, in fact an excellent peal of eight, hardly ever rung—there being no stays to three bells—and allowed to fall into decay. The band felt some disappointment, yet they were very pleased at the permission so readily granted by the Rev. C. A. Raymond, and they feel sure that he is not the one to allow such a state of things to exist much longer, to the discredit of an historical town like Wallingford, with its castle and other numerous interesting connections.

The excursionists having now amalgamated, the whole wended their way towards Dorchester, and leaving Wallingford at midday, their destination was reached shortly before 1 o'clock. Pulling up before the "Fleur-de-Lis," mine host appeared, and before the village could be well surveyed by the visitors, dinner was ready. I shall not say much about the repast, which, being well served, was certainly much appreciated, and no doubt justice done, considering the drive in the morning air, and the exercise engaged in. Grace over, a slight rest resuscitating their energies, the ringers adjourned to the grand old church of SS. Peter and Paul. Here the St. Laurence Society experienced a real pleasure, everything in connection with the church and tower was just as it should be; orderly and decently, and the members were soon eagerly engaged in ringing this splendid-toned peal of eight, and again resounding their notes to the glory of God. In 1867 two bells were added to the old ring of six, which bear inscriptions of no great interest.

The belfry contains two tablets, one to record a peal of Grandsire Triples by the Appleton men, and a 720 of Grandsire Minbr by members of the Oxford Diocesan Guild. Throughout the afternoon many touches were rung, in which all the members took part alternately, and in the meantime some found their way to the river, and a boat was brought into requisition, some enjoying an examination of the church, and many features are to be found, abounding in antiquarian lore, in connection with this very ancient edifice.

Arrangements were made with Mr. Sarvit of Oxford, who successfully took two negatives of the Society, grouped together on the north side of the church, their tower-warden being with them. Tea was

provided at 5 p.m., after partaking of which, the time was due for the return, which began at 6 p.m. On the way the parish church of St. Laurence, Warborough, was visited, when several scores of Doubles were rung, to wind up for the day, upon the peal of six: tenor, 13 cwt. in G. Once more the conveyances were on the move for home, and after a last stop at Streatley, the town of Reading was gained shortly before 11 p.m.

Thus ended an outing which was thoroughly enjoyed by all, the weather being most favorable. Nothing can exceed the courtesy shewn to them by all the ringers encountered, and the readiness with which permission was granted to use the respective rings of bells by the clergymen. The St. Laurence Society of change-ringers express their best thanks for the kindness shewn by preparing the towers ready for them on the occasion of their first outing, and on such a well-to-be-remembered day.

W. H. F.

VISIT OF THE ST. MARTIN'S YOUTHS (BIRMINGHAM) TO COVENTRY.

On Saturday, June 9th, a company of ringers from St. Martin's, on the invitation of the Vicar and Churchwardens, visited St. Michael's, Coventry, to attempt a peal on the far-famed bells, which until recently have been in a rather neglected condition, but have now been overhauled by a local bellhanger, and made pealable at an outlay of between £80 and £90.

On arriving at the tower, the ringers found that the musical chimes were giving out their harmonious sounds, they therefore waited outside until the melody had ceased, then ascending to the belfry, they started for a peal of Stedman Caters, which was rung in good style, the striking throughout being excellent. The record of this peal will be found in its place in another column. The ringers and friends were afterwards hospitably entertained at "The Dolphin," the Rev. E. Green-Price occupying the chair, supported by the churchwardens, Messrs. Maycock, Slingsby, and Curtis. After the repast, the usual toasts having been proposed and duly honored,

The CHAIRMAN, in eulogising the manner in which the peal had been rung, said he had always taken an interest in ringing, and he hoped the peal would arouse the St. Michael's ringers, and encourage them to imitate their Birmingham friends.

Mr. MAYCOCK, in a neat speech, thanked the St. Martin's ringers, on behalf of the Vicar and Churchwardens of St. Michael's, and the people of Coventry, for ringing so beautiful a peal. He never remembered listening with so much interest and pleasure to a peal of bells as he had done that day, and hoped that it would stimulate Coventry ringers, and be a starting-point for them to "go and do likewise." He had great pleasure in proposing "The Health of the St. Martin's Company," coupling with the toast the name of Mr. Johnson, sen. This having been received with applause,

Mr. HENRY JOHNSON, sen. returned his sincere and hearty thanks, in the name of the company, for the kind way in which the toast had been received, and although it was forty-seven years since he first rang on St. Michael's bells, he still felt a thrill of delight when he again heard their beautiful music. He had taken part in 135 peals, but he never enjoyed ringing Caters so much as when he came to Coventry. He then proposed "The Vicar, Curates, and Churchwardens of St. Michael's, and the inhabitants of Coventry generally." This toast was received with enthusiasm.

The remainder of the evening was spent in ringing tunes and changes on handbells. Several of the ringers visited the Conservative Club, and, by request, rung, with a mixed band, a course of Grandsire Caters, those present being greatly interested. The party left by a late train, delighted with the reception which had been accorded to them, and by request, promised to pay another visit, at no very distant date, to that masterpiece of the bellfounders' art—the peal of ten at St. Michael's, Coventry.

THE ROCHDALE AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATION.

This Society, by kind permission of the vicar and churchwardens of the parish church, Newchurch (Rossendale), held their intermediate meeting on Saturday, June 16th. It was not over well attended as on former occasions, the following districts only being represented: Rochdale, Milnrow, Todmorden, Walsden, and Manchester (just one-half of their districts and out of twelve companies), but in all the meeting was well attended, Newchurch and Bacup ringers being present, making between forty and fifty. The ringing was opened about 3.30 by the Newchurch ringers, the other companies following on according to their arrangement, and also mixing companies. Several touches of Grandsire Triples were rung (also Bob Minor by the Bacup ringers), and was continued till 7.30. Afterwards they retired to a room specially prepared for them by the Newchurch ringers, to which they brought their handbells, and on which several selections were rendered by the Rochdale, Todmorden, and Newchurch handbell ringers, a very pleasant evening being spent.

"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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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.

JOSIAH WATHEN.—We never received what you mention.

FALSE PEALS.—The peal of 6059 Stedman Caters, by J. W. Washbrook, and the 6591 in the same method by J. Wright, are both false. The 6051 by the last-named is true. Two peals of Bob Major, 6160 changes each, by E. Francis, one is false, and in connection with the other he is referred to Shipway.

The Bell News & Ringers' Record.

SATURDAY, JUNE 23, 1883.

It may be within the remembrance of our readers that we once tendered in this column a few remarks upon the hanging of bells. We were led to plead most strongly that it should on no account be entrusted to mere local tradesmen, who had never served an apprenticeship, nor had an habitual practice in this particular branch of work. Our purpose was to shew that bells and their mechanical arrangements are not altogether the artless things they seem to the uninitiated eye, and that they cannot be successfully taken in hand by the first carpenter or blacksmith that chances to come in the way, however clever and efficient he may be in his own particular craft. Bells require a special technical education and knowledge. This argument was addressed more especially to churchwardens and those who are responsible for the efficiency of the internal arrangements of the tower. It presupposed that the fabric of the tower itself was in existence, and in good repair.

But now let us take the case of the erection of a new tower, or restoration of an old one. Here we are brought face to face with the architect. In pleading with him the cause of the bells, it must be remembered at the outset that he often has many difficulties with which to cope. He is frequently pressed hard on opposite sides by rival claims. Artistic claims, utilitarian claims, pecuniary claims, all demand a hearing. The latter being imperative and compulsory, the only real battle that remains is the old one between use and ornament. Our present contention is that the former should not be wholly made subject to the latter, as has sometimes been only too sadly the case. At least let there be some attempt at a compromise. In any case let the ringers—and by ringers we mean half-pull change-ringers, and those only—be consulted, and their views taken upon the subject. If their opinions were allowed

even half the weight due to them, the effect could not be otherwise than beneficial, and in many cases plans would be abandoned which from a ringing point of view would have ended in nothing short of the grotesque. But we would urge our architects to go even further than this. We would persuade them to a more general and extensive acquaintance with this branch of building. We would impress upon them the utility and importance of making themselves conversant with the general requirements of a tower intended to contain a ring of bells. The best way towards the attainment of this object would be to make it a custom to visit belfries at ringing time. They would then have opportunities of watching bells in action; they would discover the best arrangements for lighting, access, and so forth; and by familiarity with ringers would gain a knowledge of the differences, many of them so slight to a mere outsider, between a comfortable ringing-chamber and an uncomfortable one; between an abortive tower, and one suited to the purpose of its existence. At present it cannot be denied that few, very few, in the profession to which we have alluded, possess this most requisite knowledge. The revival of sounder Church principles and a truer Church spirit has caused a corresponding revival in the fitness and style of our churches. May the wider spread of change-ringing and its continually increasing recognition speedily bring about a similar effect in our towers.

THE ISLE OF THANET.

(Continued.)

To conclude the notices of the parishes in this insular part of Kent which so many thousands yearly visit, is the intention of this paper. We have mentioned the foundation of "Quex," which some say was owing to the then parson of Birchington refusing a handsome offer in some shape for the church. Of the exact circumstances nothing is now known positively, certain it is that the tower (Birchington), would have held the twelve bells, (at present five all duly clocked) and also that a most singular provision is made at the west end of the south aisle for another tower, the existing tower and spire standing at the east end of the same.

The other parishes are Minster (Thanet) five bells, inscriptions uninteresting, the tenor ancient. These went well at a recent visit, when two 120's were done by way of experiment. The church is reckoned the finest in the county; Norman and First Pointed, the choir groined over in stone.

Margate bells have been often mentioned, with the well-known popular translation of the tenor—latin inscription—about Daundelon and his big dog etc.

Ramsgate has no bells at all; St. Lawrence six, tower unsafe; St. Nicholas-at-Wade, five, no ringing done at present.

The ancient town of Sandwich is on the margin, where they have three large churches, two of which have been remarkable for the frequent falling of their steeples. St. Mary's, after the last time (which seems to have squashed everything inside, except the congregation, who should have kept the place in repair, pillars and all), has not been rebuilt, or the inside likewise. The present arcade is of wood, which makes nave and aisles all one space: its bells went to Elham, up the country. St. Peter's tower, rebuilt of bricks made of the harbour mud, has eight bells, a fine modern set. Tablet:—

"December 27th, 1823.—A complete peal of Grandsire Triples, 5040, 3 hours one minute, by the Quex Institution, directed by J. P. Powell, Esq."

The stability of this erection is at present doubtful. St. Clement's church is in good condition everywhere, with its magnificent Norman tower, but the bells have disappeared!

At the west end of Monckton church in this isle was formerly written in latin, the following lines, translated:—

"Thanet's round isle, compassed with water round,
Fruitful and neat, the like is not to be found."

THE HACKNEY SOCIETY, MIDDLESEX.

THE Annual Dinner of the members and friends of the above Society will take place at the Maidenhead Inn, Hertford, on Tuesday, June 26th. There are two peals of bells in the town, All Saints, ten, and St. Andrew's, eight, in good going order. Any friends wishing to attend the dinner (tickets 3s. each), will kindly intimate the same to the undersigned. Fares at a reduced rate can be obtained by those leaving with the majority of the company from Hackney Downs Junction, at 8.20 a.m., on the above date. P. A. COARD, JUN.,
5, Downs Crescent, Stoke Newington. Hon. Sec.

The Metropolis.

THE SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.
TOTTENHAM, MIDDLESEX.

On Saturday, June 16, 1883, in Three Hours and Two and $\frac{1}{2}$ Minutes,

AT ALL HALLOWS CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor 20 cwt.

PETER SLADE KENDALL*..Treble.	THOMAS TITCHENER.. .. 5.
GEORGE NEWSON 2.	ARTHUR JACOB 6.
JOHN MANSFIELD 3.	WILLIAM DORAN 7.
CHARLES T. HOPKINS 4.	JOSEPH BARRY Tenor.

Conducted by GEORGE NEWSON.

*First peal.

This is a new composition by Mr. John F. Penning, Saffron Walden, and contains 130 bobs and two Holt's singles in last five leads, and is the first time of its being rung.

The figures of this peal will be found on another page.

The Provinces.

COVENTRY.—THE BIRMINGHAM ST. MARTIN'S SOCIETY.

On Saturday, June 9, 1883, in Three Hours and Thirty-Three Minutes,

AT ST. MICHAEL'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERS, 5063 CHANGES;

Tenor 32 cwt. 9 lbs.

H. BASTABLE Treble.	T. MILLER 6.
JOB JOYNES 2.	J. BUFFERY 7.
AMOS CRESSER 3.	F. H. JAMES 8.
H. JOHNSON, SEN. 4.	H. JOHNSON, JUN. 9.
J. DUNN 5.	T. REYNOLDS Tenor.

Composed by HENRY JOHNSON, SEN., and conducted by
HENRY BASTABLE.

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE, LANCASHIRE.

On Saturday, June 16, 1883, in Two Hours and Fifty-eight Minutes,

AT ST. PETER'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

REEVES'S VARIATION OF HOLT'S 10-PART. Tenor 20 cwt. in E.

JOHN HILTON Treble.	SAML. STOTT 5.
JOHN HOPWOOD 2.	GEO. LONGDEN 6.
FRED CROSLAND 3.	JOSEPH MELLOR 7.
ISAAC SCHOFIELD* 4.	WM. FRITH Tenor.

Conducted by SAMUEL STOTT.

Messrs. Hilton and Stott hail from Lees; Hopwood, Longden, Mellor and Frith, from Ashton; Crosland from Oldham; and Schofield from Staleybridge.

*First peal.

THE BIRMINGHAM AMALGAMATED SOCIETY.

Handbell Ringing.

On Sunday, June 17, 1883, in Two Hours and Thirty-five Minutes,

ON HANDBELLS, RETAINED IN HAND,

AT MR. J. CARTER'S RESIDENCE, HOCKLEY,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE MAJOR, 5040 CHANGES.

T. RUSSAM 1-2.	T. MILLER 5-6.
J. CARTER 3-4.	*J. W. CATTLE 7-8.

Composed and conducted by J. CARTER.

*First peal upon handbells.

Mr. J. T. Perry acted as referee.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

Handbell Ringing.

On Monday, June 18, 1883, in Two Hours and Twenty-two and $\frac{1}{2}$ Minutes,

ON HANDBELLS, RETAINED IN HAND,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S 10-PART.

WILLIAM C. BASTON .. 1-2.	JAMES W. WASHBROOK .. 5-6.
CHARLES HOUNSLOW .. 3-4.	SAMUEL HOUNSLOW .. 7-8.

Conducted by JAMES W. WASHBROOK.

This is the first peal rung in this city on handbells, and also the first by the above Guild. Messrs. Thomas Hill and Thomas Payne acted as referees.

The above are also members of the Ancient Society of College Youths.

BIRMINGHAM.—THE ST. MARTIN'S YOUTHS.

On Monday, June 18, 1883, in Three Hours and Thirty Minutes,

AT ST. PHILIP'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS, 5075 CHANGES;

Tenor 29 cwt. in D.

T. REYNOLDS Treble.	J. SAUNDERS 6.
T. MILLER 2.	J. BUFFERY 7.
T. WESTWOOD 3.	F. H. JAMES 8.
W. ROCK SMALL 4.	ALF. THOMAS 9.
J. T. PERRY 5.	C. HIPKISS Tenor.

Composed by HENRY JOHNSON, SEN., and conducted by J. BUFFERY.

This peal has the 5th and 6th twenty-four times behind the 9th, and has never been previously performed.

Miscellaneous.

THE BIRMINGHAM AMALGAMATED SOCIETY.

On Saturday, June 2nd, at Bishop Ryder's church, seven members of the above society, with Mr. W. Palmer, of King's Norton, near Birmingham, rang a touch of 1008 Grandsire Triples, with the bells muffled, as a token of respect to the late G. Leach, aged seventy-three, who was a member of the above society, until a short time of his death. H. Gorman, 1; J. W. Cattle (composer and conductor), 2; T. Miller, 3; W. Palmer, 4; T. Russam, 5; B. Stevens, 6; W. Saniger, 7; J. Hodson, 8. Also on Wednesday, June 6th, a 720 of Grandsire Minor, in 26 $\frac{1}{2}$ mins., with the bells muffled. J. W. Cattle, 1; T. Miller (conductor), 2; T. Russam, 3; J. Perry, 4; R. Hackley, 5; B. Stevens, 6. Tenor 14 cwt.

WILLENHALL.—On Monday, June 11th, a mixed band attempted Penning's one-part peal of Grandsire Triples, but after ringing 1 hr. and 6 mins., a change course occurred, and the conductor called "stand." S. Kershaw, 1; W. Bryant, 2; J. W. Cattle (conductor), 3; T. Russam, 4; W. Smith, 5; J. Jones, 6; J. Rogers, 7; C. Trupshaw, 8. Tenor 13 $\frac{1}{2}$ cwt.

Handbell Ringing.—On Saturday, June 16th, six members of the above society, met at the "Hope and Anchor," Fisher Street (the society's club-house), and rang for practice the following courses and touches upon handbells, retained in hand: courses of Plain Bob Royal, and Kent Treble Bob Major; touches of New Grandsire Triples, 210 changes; Grandsire Major, 320 changes; and Stedman Triples, 180 changes. T. Russam, J. Carter, J. W. Cattle, B. Stevens, and T. Miller.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.—On Thursday, June 14th, at St. John's church, for Divine Service in the evening, a 720 of Buxton Treble Bob Minor. W. Iggleson, 1; C. L. Routledge, 2; R. S. Story, 3; W. G. Routledge, 4; W. Story, 5; F. Lees (conductor), 6. This is the first 720 in the method by all this band, excepting F. Lees, who, with J. Woodhouse, in 1863, composed this method. Both these gentlemen then were located at Glossop, Lancashire.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

FARNHAM ROYAL (Bucks).—On Wednesday, June 13th, at St. Mary's parish church, a 720 of Grandsire Minor (thirty-two bobs and sixteen singles), in 27 $\frac{1}{2}$ mins. J. Parker (composer and conductor), 1; F. Fells, 2; G. Basden, 3; A. Fussell, 4; W. H. Fussell, Esq., 5; C. Clarke, 6. And on Sunday afternoon, June 17th, for Divine Service, a 720 of Bob Minor, in 26 mins. F. Fells, 1; J. Parker (conductor), 2; W. Fussell, Esq., 3; A. Batten, 4; A. Fussell, 5; C. Clarke, 6. This last completes the 100th 720 that has been rung on the bells, in the following methods: three of Grandsire Doubles, two of Bob and

Grandsire Doubles, one of Bob, Stedman, and Grandsire Doubles, sixty-seven of Grandsire Minor, twenty-four of Bob Minor, and two of Oxford Bob Minor. The following touches, comprising chiefly Grandsire Minor, has also been rung for Divine Service on Sundays: 47, 95, 131, 252, 300, 335, 336, 408, 420, 443, 444, 503, 504, 552, and 600. Fifty-two 720's were rung during last year (1882-83).

WRAYSBURY (Bucks).—On Saturday, June 16th, at St. Andrew's, a 720 of Bob Minor, in 28 mins. C. Clark, 1; F. Fells, 2; Captain Acland-Troyte, 3; J. Parker (conductor), 4; A. C. Fussell, 5; W. H. Fussell, 6. This is the first in the method on these bells. Also a 6-score of Stedman Doubles. F. Fells, 1; J. Parker (conductor), 2; Captain Acland-Troyte, 3; W. H. Fussell, 4; A. C. Fussell, 5; C. Clarke, 6. Tenor about 14 cwt.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

WROTHAM (Kent).—On Friday, June 8th, at St. George's church, a 720 of Bob Minor, in 28 mins. T. Hosmer (first 720), 1; W. Taylor, 2; C. Taylor, 3; W. Harden, 4; F. Shoobridge, 5; W. Leonard (conductor), 6. Also, on June 13th, being a choral festival, a 720 in the same method, in 26½ mins. W. Cole, 1; D. Hall, 2; E. Baldock, 3; W. Harden, 4; F. Shoobridge, 5; W. Leonard (conductor), 6. Tenor 21 cwt.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

FRAMLINGHAM (Suffolk).—On Saturday, June 16th, eight members of the above Association met at St. Michael's church, with the intention of ringing a peal of Kent Treble Bob. The bells were raised in peal, and after about forty-five minutes good ringing the conductor (Mr. F. Baldry), was obliged to call "stand" owing to the 7th going so badly. F. Baldry, 1; R. H. Hayward, 2; H. Beddingfield, 3; S. Wightman, 4; R. King, 5; E. Sherwood, 6; E. Collins, 7; D. Collins, 8.

THE WATERLOO SOCIETY, LONDON.

CLERKENWELL.—On Sunday, June 19th, at S. James's, eight members rang for morning service, 1008 changes of Grandsire Triples, in 39 mins. W. Deveraux, 1; Jas. Rumsey, 2; H. Hopkins (conductor), 3; J. Barry, 4; E. Moses, 5; C. Hopkins, 6; J. M. Routh, Esq. 7; Jas. Wheeler, 8. Tenor 22 cwt. in D.

THE SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.

HENDON (Middlesex).—On Sunday, June 10th, for Divine Service at St. Mary's Church, six members of the above Society rang a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor in 27 mins. James Nixon, 1; Thomas Gleed, 2; James Leach, 3; Thomas Titchener, 4; Arthur Jacob, 5; James Barrett (conductor), 6. Tenor 16½ cwt. This is supposed to be the first 720 in the method on the bells.

ARLSEY (Bedfordshire).—On Wednesday, May 30th, the Hitchin Society visited this place, and rang five 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles, in the following order. J. Randall, 1; J. Hare, 2; F. Furr, 3; W. A. Tyler (conductor), 4; W. Allen, 6; W. Kitchener, 6. Afterwards a 6-score in the same method. W. French, 1; F. Furr, 2; W. Allen, 3; J. Hare, 4; W. A. Tyler (conductor), 5; S. Hare, 6. And 120 of Bob Doubles. W. French, 1; J. Hare, 2; F. Furr, 3; W. A. Tyler (conductor), 4; W. Allen, 5; G. Gentle (Baldock), 6. Tenor about 12 cwt. Also another 6-score with the ringers as first placed. Our correspondent adds:—"The local ringers ring for the services on Sundays, and have the pleasure of coming down a large step-ladder fixed nearly upright in the church. Would any one believe they could have made such blunders in the nineteenth century? The church has only lately been restored, and I believe the tower rebuilt, as it has the appearance of being new both inside and out. The bells are by Warner and Sons, erected some four years since."

CHEDDLETON (Staffordshire).—On Tuesday, June 12th, a 720 of Bob Minor, with thirty singles and six bobs, in 26½ mins. J. James, 1; E. Spooner, 2; J. Gilbert, 3; H. Rodgers, 4; F. Clowes, 5; J. Renshaw (conductor), 6.

COLN ST. ALDWYN.—On Sunday, June 17th, the local company rang a 720 of Plain Bob Minor, with sixteen bobs and two singles, in 27 mins. W. Fowles, 1; T. Hawkins, 2; C. Bate, 3; J. Williams, 4; R. Jefferies, 5; J. Kitchener (conductor), 6.

EDMONTON (Middlesex).—June 20th being the Accession of Her Majesty to the Throne, the bells of All Saints' church were rung at intervals during the day. Mr. Marriott's quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples was rung by J. Davidson, 1; J. Cressey, 2; H. Barnett, 3; J. Crouch, 4; R. C. Goodchild, 5; W. A. Alps, 6; W. Jiggins, 7; J. W. White, 8. During the afternoon a visit was made to Christ Church, Southgate, where, by kind permission of the vicar, touches of Grandsire Triples were rung. Altogether about 4250 changes were rung at both churches. The ringers take this opportunity of thanking the vicar of Southgate for his courtesy towards them. The ringing was conducted by W. A. Alps.

GARGRAVE (Yorks).—On Sunday, June 17th, the following members of the local company rang for Divine Service in the evening at St. Andrew's church a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob Minor. W. Clarke, 1; Wm. Whitaker, 2; Herbert Middlebrook, 3; Wm. Mallinson, 4; James McGoun (conductor), 5; John McKell, 6. The first 720 of Treble Bob by Messrs. McGoun, Middlebrook, and Whitaker.

RETTENDON (Essex).—On Tuesday evening, June 19th, the new company of ringers at All Saints' church, with the assistance of Mr. Bowell, of Ipswich, rang five 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles. W. Jay, 1; A. Jarvis, 2; H. Bowell, 3; M. E. Moat, 4; Rev. H. A. Cockey (conductor), 5; F. Cardy, 6. These are the first 120's rung by any of the above, excepting Mr. Bowell and the conductor, and none with the exception of these two and Cardy, had ever handled a church bell previous to May 20th. Handbell practice was commenced in November last.

ROMFORD (Essex).—On Sunday, June 17th, for Divine Service at St. Edward's, 720 of Plain Bob Minor with eighteen bobs and two singles in 26 mins. W. Keeble, 1; A. J. Perkins (conductor), 2; B. Keeble, 3; G. Roughton, 4; A. Pye, 5; A. Porter, 6. *Handbell Ringing.*—On Tuesday evening, June 19th, with bells retained in hand, Holt's 720 of Bob Minor, without a single, in 20 mins. A. Pye, 1-2; A. J. Perkins (conductor), 3-4; B. Keeble, 5-6. Called with twenty-one bobs.

TOTTENHAM (Middlesex).—On Tuesday, June 19th, for practice at All Hallows church, six 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles, with 6, 4, 8 behind, each called differently, in 27½ mins. J. Langran, 1; H. Barnett (conductor), 2; E. F. Strange, 3; T. Clarkson, 4; G. Bower, 5; H. Forster, 6; W. Pye-English, 7; A. Richards, 8. Tenor 20 cwt.

THE PROPOSED ASSOCIATION FOR THE DIOCESE OF ELY.

It will be remembered that upon the page devoted to correspondence, in our last issue, appeared a letter relating to this proposed movement; and this week we print an epistle from another correspondent on the same subject. We have much pleasure in publishing the following letter from the Rev. K. H. Smith, which will no doubt be satisfactory to those who are anxiously looking for some movement to be made in the matter. The rev. gentleman writes:—

"SIR,—In reply to your correspondent, A. H. Osborne, allow me to state that a Provisional Committee has been formed, several meetings held, and we hope to have the movement recognised by the Conference now sitting (20th), and sanctioned by the Bishop of the Diocese. Having had the principal share of work in bringing the Restoration of St. Mary's bells to a successful issue, allow me also to say that I have ever since done my very utmost to carry out my esteemed old friend, Mr. Gervas Holmes's, suggestions. I am sorry that A. H. O. has never heard of our beginning, and shall be glad to hear from him.—Yours truly,
K. H. SMITH,
Cambridge Road, Ely. Hon. Mem. Soc. Camb. Youths."

THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

A QUARTERLY MEETING of the performing members of this Association was held at Woburn, on Saturday, June 16th, at which a happy gathering of ringers attended. Precisely at 3 p.m. practice commenced at the tower, a number of the practitioners having previously paid a visit to the Church at Aspley Guise, where some touches were rung upon the new bells. Among the later arrivals at Woburn were Messrs. Hills and Cullip of Bedford, who assisted in some Bob Major and Grandsire Triples. Tea at 5 o'clock, a short business meeting, electing Mr. Tysoe of Bromham a member, distributing the Annual Report for 1882-3, and a discussion as to the propriety of a delegate of the Association attending the Reading Congress, then ringing again at the tower until 8 o'clock, when the company separated, bringing to a close a pleasant and well spent afternoon. The next District Meeting will be held at Toddington.

THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

A Ringing Meeting was held at Epsom, on Saturday, June 9th. Ringing began about 3 p.m., and was kept up with little intermission till nearly ten o'clock p.m. Touches of Kent Treble Bob Major, Grandsire and Stedman Triples, were rung by mixed bands of members from London, Streatham, Beddington, Kingston, Mitcham and Wimbledon. The ringing-chamber was found clean and neat, and the "go" of the bells is excellent. There are several tablets recording peals rung in the tower, and till recently there was a good band of Stedman ringers in the parish. Several of them were present and rang on this occasion, and we hope to see them soon united again, and giving a good account of themselves in the Association peal-book.

The Annual Meeting will be held at Croydon next month. Further particulars will be published shortly. A. B. PERCEVAL, Hon. Sec.

FALL OF A CHURCH BELL.

SUNDAY last, being "Walking Day" at Stockport, the market-place and streets adjacent were thronged with strangers. As the term, "Walking Day," is sure not to be understood by a vast number of the readers of this paper, a little explanation may not be out of place. Stockport possesses the largest Sunday School in the world, perhaps, its scholars number 5000, and its teachers nearly 500, besides visitors, inspectors, committee, and a general staff of management, from whom seven mayors of Stockport have been chosen, the present one being the General Inspector, in the 2nd year of his mayoralty. Its teaching is unsectarian, the class-book being the Bible only. Reading, writing, and arithmetic are taught within its walls, and it is looked upon by the people from miles around (thousands of whom are old scholars), as a most noble institution; added to all this, the school is under the immediate patronage of Her Majesty the Queen. Sunday last, then, was "Walking Day," the nearest Sunday to the 15th of June, on which date, in 1805, the foundation-stone of the building was laid. On these annual occasions, it is the custom for the teachers and scholars to leave school in procession, walk slowly through the streets of the town, and assemble in the market-place, and there sing a hymn, together with, or rather led by, the music of a brass band, and then disperse homewards. The Stokeport parish church stands on one side of the market-place, and there are three services held each Sunday: at 10.30, 3.0, and 6.30. At the first and last of these services the eight bells are rung, but at the afternoon service there is only one bell rung. At 2.35 last Sunday one of the young ringers was ringing the tenor, while crowds of country people were taking up positions in the market-place to wait for the scholars, and listen to the selections from oratorios played by the band before the arrival of the procession, when a fearful crash was heard from the church tower, which caused every one's attention to be directed thereto. A group of Stockport, Hyde, and Gorton ringers were standing about 100 yards away, and those interested in the matter went up to ascertain the cause, and found the young man "distilled almost to jelly with the act of fear," he having thought the whole steeple was coming down upon him. However, the extent of the mischief was soon determined, which amounted to this—while the large bell (25 cwt.) was swinging, one of the gudgeons broke, and the bell fell in an oblique direction, smashing the wheel, stay, etc., until the intersecting stout beams stopped its further progress downwards. It is not known yet whether the bell has suffered any injury, but it is thought to be all right. Nine years ago a similar accident happened to it, and previous to that, in the middle of a 5000, in which the writer was taking part, the clock-hammer caught the bell just at the lip, and wedged it fast. There were eight ringers in the tower on that occasion, and the consternation among them may readily be conceived, the whole fabric shaking violently. The usual touch on last Sunday afternoon, at the dispersion of the scholars, was necessarily omitted, to the no small astonishment of the unenlightened, and the disappointment of several strangers, or rather friends, from a distance.

That there may be no further disappointment, this notice is inserted with the promise, that when the bell is made all right, the fact will be duly notified.

THE "JOHN HOLT" TABLET.

Sums received this week:—Captain J. E. Acland-Troyte, 2s. 6d.; Rev. G. H. Harris, 2s. 6d.; Mr. Robert Tuke (Ilkley), 2s. 6d.; the Dundee Society (per Mr. G. Paton), 1s.; Mr. J. Taylor (Doncaster), 6d.; Mr. J. Jeff (Doncaster), 3d.; Mr. H. G. Wilson (Doncaster), 3d.; the All Saints (Maidstone) Society (per Mr. A. H. Woolley), 4s. 6d.; total 14s. Announced in last number, £1 8s. 4d.; total received by us up to present date, £2 2s. 4d.

The Treasurer also wishes us to acknowledge the following sums:—C. M. F., 5s.; the Royal Cumberland Society, 5s.; Messrs. P. Hamblett, T. Houghton, and P. Deprez (per Mr. P. Hamblett, Daresbury), 1s. 6d.

OBITUARY.—The death of Mr. C. Ottley, of Navestock, Essex, which took place on the 31st ult., removes a prominent five-bell ringer. The deceased had for some years suffered from heart disease, and his death took place very suddenly, not before however he had passed the age of three-score years and ten. He was well known as a five-bell ringer, and had in his possession a miscellaneous collection of five-bell peals, some of which were rather intricate. His name came rather prominent before the exercise a few years ago, when he claimed to be the author of a peal of Grandsire Triples without a bob, which unfortunately proved to be false. On the day of the funeral muffled peals were rung by the Ingrave ringers. The deceased was a member of the Essex Association, and a band from Romford and Little Heath intended to honor his name by visiting the village for the purpose, but were prevented by other engagements.

ST. MARY'S, CHELMSFORD.

It is with great pleasure that we are able to announce to our readers that the fine ring eight at the above church will shortly be increased to ten by the restitution of two trebles, which have for the last forty years been hanging in the turret of Moulsham church. The present ring of eight, by Mears, was augmented in the year 1821 by the addition of two trebles by Dobson, of Downham, Norfolk. But about twenty years after this, when Moulsham church was built, these two bells were handed over by the Chelmsford authorities. There is no record to show whether they were sold, or given, or only lent, to Moulsham, but having been there ever since, they are now looked upon as the property of the younger church. The way in which their restitution to their old places in Chelmsford tower has been brought about, is somewhat remarkable, involving, as it does, a considerable amount of chopping and changing of bells. A new tower has just been built at the west end of Moulsham church, in which it is proposed to place a clock, and as their two bells are neither of them more than 5 cwt., the parishioners were desirous of having one large bell for the clock to strike upon. Such a bell has been found at Rettendon, where the bells have lately been rehung, and one of them, weighing about 11 cwt., though a perfectly sound and good bell in itself, had to be discarded owing to its being of such a note that it could not be made to accord with the other bells. This bell has been purchased by the Moulsham authorities, and the Chelmsford people have agreed to hand over £50 to Moulsham for the two bells now there. It is mainly owing to the exertions of the Rev. H. A. Cockey, secretary of the Essex Association, that this satisfactory arrangement has been arrived at, though had it not been for the fortunate coincidence of the restoration of the Rettendon bells taking place at the same time as the building of Moulsham tower, the two bells would have been replaced at Moulsham, and the golden opportunity lost. The bell to be hung in Moulsham tower is by Miles Graye, 1677.

DAGENHAM, ESSEX.

SEVERAL improvements having been made in the above belfry, the Re-opening of the bells is fixed to take place on Sunday, July 1st. Ringing, by the Romford and Little Heath bands of the Essex Association, will commence shortly after two o'clock, and be continued after the service, and before and after Evensong. A tea will be provided in the school-room for the ringers, and members of the above Association will find a hearty welcome.

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES.

By JOHN F. PENNING, *Saffron Walden.*

2 3 4 5 6 7

6 7 2 4 5 3 1	3 4 7 5 2 6 4	4 3 5 6 7 2 4	3 2 4 6 5 7 5
3 4 6 5 7 2 1	7 2 3 4 6 5 8	5 7 4 3 2 6 3	6 2 3 7 4 5 1
7 2 3 6 5 4 2	4 2 7 5 3 6 5	6 3 5 2 7 4 1	5 7 6 4 2 3 1
2 3 7 6 5 4 2	7 3 4 2 6 5 8	5 7 6 3 4 2 8	2 3 5 6 4 7 2
5 4 2 7 6 3 2	5 2 7 6 3 4 1	6 4 5 7 2 3 9	4 7 2 5 6 3 2
3 7 5 6 4 2 1	7 3 5 2 4 6 8	3 6 2 4 5 1 1	6 3 4 2 5 7 2
6 7 3 2 5 4 1	6 2 7 4 3 5 1	6 4 3 7 5 2 8	7 2 6 5 3 4 1
4 2 6 5 7 3 1	2 7 6 4 3 5 4	5 2 6 3 7 4 2	3 4 7 6 5 2 2
5 2 4 3 6 7 5	5 4 2 3 7 6 1	6 7 5 2 4 3 8	5 2 3 7 6 4 2
6 7 5 4 3 2 2	2 7 5 4 6 3 8	4 3 6 5 2 7 2	4 7 5 6 2 3 1
3 2 6 5 4 7 2	4 7 2 3 5 6 5	6 2 4 3 7 5 8	6 7 4 3 5 2 2
6 4 3 2 7 5 8	3 7 4 6 2 5 5	4 7 6 2 5 3 8	7 4 6 3 5 2 4
2 4 6 5 3 7 8	4 2 3 7 5 6 8	2 7 4 3 6 5 5	2 3 7 5 4 6 1
6 3 2 4 7 5 8	6 7 4 5 2 3 1	5 3 2 6 7 4 1	7 4 2 3 6 5 8
2 7 6 3 5 4 3	2 3 6 4 5 7 2	6 3 5 4 2 7 5	5 3 7 6 4 2 1
5 4 2 6 3 7 2	4 3 2 7 6 5 5	7 4 6 2 3 5 1	7 4 5 3 2 6 8
3 7 5 2 6 4 2	5 7 4 6 3 2 1	2 4 7 5 6 3 5	5 2 7 4 6 3 8
2 7 3 4 5 6 5	3 2 5 4 6 7 2	6 3 2 7 5 4 2	3 4 5 6 2 7 1
4 7 2 6 3 5 5	7 4 3 6 2 5 1	5 4 6 2 7 3 2	2 7 3 5 6 4 2
2 3 4 7 5 6 8	6 4 7 5 3 2 5	3 2 5 7 4 6 1	7 3 2 5 6 4 4
6 7 2 5 3 4 1	3 2 6 7 5 4 2	5 4 3 2 6 7 3	5 3 7 4 2 6 6
2 3 6 7 4 5 8	4 7 3 5 2 6 1	4 3 5 2 6 7 4	6 4 5 2 3 7 1
5 7 2 4 3 6 1	3 2 4 7 6 5 8	7 2 4 6 3 5 1	5 3 6 4 7 2 8
7 2 5 4 3 6 4	5 7 3 6 2 4 1	6 2 7 5 4 3 5	2 4 5 7 3 6 1
6 4 7 3 2 5 1	2 4 5 3 6 7 2	4 3 6 7 5 2 2	7 4 2 6 5 3 5
4 7 6 3 2 5 4	7 3 2 6 4 5 1	5 2 4 6 7 3 2	4 2 7 6 5 3 4
5 3 4 2 7 6 1	6 3 7 5 2 4 5	6 2 5 3 4 7 5	5 3 4 7 6 2 2
4 7 5 3 6 2 8	2 4 6 7 5 3 2	7 3 6 4 2 5 1	2 7 5 6 3 4 1
3 7 4 2 5 6 5	3 7 2 5 4 6 1	4 3 7 5 6 2 5	
2 7 3 6 4 5 5	7 2 3 5 4 6 4	3 7 4 5 6 2 4	s 3 2 5 4 7 6
3 4 2 7 5 6 8	3 4 7 2 6 5 8	5 7 3 2 4 6 5	s 2 3 5 4 7 6
6 7 3 5 4 2 1	2 4 3 5 7 6 5	6 2 5 4 7 3 1	
4 2 6 3 5 7 2	3 7 2 4 6 5 8	5 7 6 2 3 4 8	s 3 2 4 5 6 7
7 3 4 5 2 6 1	5 4 3 6 7 2 1	4 2 5 3 7 6 1	s 2 3 4 5 6 7

Rung at AN Hallows, Tottenham, on Saturday, June 16th, by the Royal Cumberlands; conducted by George Newson.

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 HEIGHINGTON BELLS.

SIR,—In your issue of the 9th instant, there appears a letter from the Secretary of the Durham and Newcastle Association (Mr. G. J. Clarkson), respecting the opening out of a new peal of bells at Heighington (co. Durham), and containing insinuations which I, as one of the ringers against whom they are directed, feel incumbent upon me to refute. The writer of this uncourteous and uncalled for effusion, appears to be labouring under a fit of what may be termed "vexations grief," and has taken umbrage at the action of the worthy vicar of Heighington in kindly asking the Hurworth ringers to open the bells, and in his letter goes on to remark "whether such an action savours of that feeling of brotherhood so generally displayed in the relation of ringers to each other, or whether it is rather the act of a selfish band anxious to sustain a declining reputation, I leave your readers to judge for themselves."

With regard to the latter part of the quotation, I should very much like to know how your readers could form any true judgment of the case, when the writer has failed to give any facts, his remarks it will be seen being entirely based on supposition, perhaps your readers will be in a better position to "judge for themselves" when I give you the facts of the case, which are these:

The Hurworth bell-ringers some short time ago were kindly asked by the vicar of Heighington to open the bells upon their completion, which offer was at once gladly accepted. The Association had also apparently anticipated the pleasure of opening out the bells, and naturally felt very acutely the disappointment at thus having their hopes blighted. These are the plain facts, and while we give the Association every credit for the great amount of good it has done in the diocese in the way of belfry reform, and advancing the science of change-ringing, yet we cannot but express our sorrow and surprise that the secretary, acting as the mouthpiece of the Association should stoop so low as to try to damage the ringing reputation of our band of ringers, and I would refer him to the first part of his quotation which he appears to have altogether ignored, viz., the feeling of brotherhood which should be extended from one ringer to another. I am reluctantly inclined to think that the spirit of the letter savours more of ill feeling rather than of a desire to promote the welfare of change-ringing, brought about by the Hurworth ringers, as a body, not being members of the association.

HENRY THOMPSON.

THE PROPOSED ASSOCIATION FOR THE DIOCESE OF ELY.

SIR,—It was with extreme pleasure that I read the letter written by Mr. Osborne, concerning the proposed Association for this diocese, though at the same time I regret that such a letter should ever have been necessary. Like Mr. Osborne, I have been expecting every week to hear of something being done in the diocese of Ely. There is an old proverb that runs thus: "Hope often opens the door for disappointment to shut it;" this, in the case of the projected Association for the diocese of Ely has been but too painfully illustrated; but let us still hope that its formation has not been abandoned, but only delayed. I must confess, however, that I am quite at a loss to know why such a delay has taken place, especially when I consider all the circumstances surrounding the meeting at Ely last year. I there had the pleasure of speaking with Archdeacon Emery upon the subject, and that gentleman appeared highly pleased with the idea of having an Association for the diocese; he also remarked that other Associations were doing a deal of good about the country. We can even go further than this. An announcement appeared in this paper of June 10th, 1882, requesting all persons who felt interested in the formation of this Association, to forward their addresses to the Rev. K. H. Smith, Cambridge Road, Ely. Now, sir, when we think of the fine old cathedral of Ely, when we think of the city of Cambridge—the birthplace of the celebrated Fabian Stedman, and when we think of the encouraging remarks, and the advocacy of the movement that appeared in our paper, all this would certainly lead numbers of persons to believe that the authorities intended going on with the work at once. But alas! we hear of no progress being made. I hope that when a start is made, the gentlemen entrusted with the work will rush on with increased vigour, and so make up for lost time. Then, and not till then the diocese of Ely may obtain a popularity unprecedented in the annals of change-ringing and belfry reform.

Waltham Abbey, Essex.

BOB-AND-SINGLE PEALS.

SIR,—On reading the Rev. Mr. Davies' explanation on Bob-and-Single peals of Grandsire Triples, in "THE BELL NEWS" of June 2nd, I send you the following peal, as an original, for insertion. You will observe that instead of one bell coming home every three leads, there are two bells that come home only once in thirty leads. I have also sent you

the quarter-peal, so that you may see almost at a glance its simplicity and truth. Begin at the bottom line where the 2nd and 3rd are at home, you will find that they never come in that position again in the first part, and so it is the same in all the lines throughout the part, and as 5 6 7 are altered at the part-end, it is impossible for them to repeat.

2 3 4 5 6 7

A bob must be called when the singles are omitted. The single thus:—

5 3 7 2 6 4 5

3 1 5 2 7 4 6

4 2 5 6 3 7 1

1 3 5 2 7 4 6

* 6 2 4 7 5 3 5

7 2 6 3 4 5 5

3 2 5 7 4 6 5

7 2 3 6 5 4 5

2 3 7 6 5 4 4

This course repeated, and by omitting the second single in the second and fourth courses, would come round at 1680 changes, but by making a fifth's place bob in the fourth course, in lieu of the bob marked *, brings up the part-end, 2 3 4 6 7 5, which being twice repeated, completes the peal. This peal contains only

eighty-four calls, the fewest number known. JAMES LOCKWOOD.

THE UNITED COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

THE half-yearly District Meeting of this Association will be held at the house of Mr. John Taylor, Royal Oak Hotel, Chapel-en-le-Frith, on Saturday, July 7th, 1883.

Dinner will be provided at the same place at 1s. 6d. each, and those intending to be present are respectfully requested to inform Mr. Taylor, on or before Monday, July 2, so that he may be made acquainted with the probable number who are likely to be present. Dinner at 5.30 p.m., prompt. Ringing from 1.0 p.m.

This Association operations extend to the following counties:—Yorkshire: Saddleworth, Royal George. Lancashire: Ashton-under-Lyne (two churches), Stalybridge, Gorton. Cheshire: Mottram-in-Longdendale, Hyde. Derbyshire: Chapel-en-le-Frith, Hayfield, Glossop, Dinting.

Chapel-en-le-Frith, Derbyshire.

GEORGE FORD,

Hon. Sec.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

A QUARTERLY MEETING of the above Association will be held at Burton-on-Trent, on Saturday, June 23rd. Visitors on arrival are requested to proceed to St. Paul's Institute (five minutes walk from the railway station), where bands may be formed prior to proceeding to the various towers. Committee meeting in the Parish Room, St. Paul's Institute, at 4 o'clock. Tea and subsequent business meeting in the large hall at 5 p.m. The following towers will be open: St. Modwen's, eight; St. Paul's, eight; Winshill, six; Horninglow, six.

JOSEPH GRIFFIN, Hon. Sec.

BISHOPS WALTHAM.—INTERESTING COMMEMORATION.

ON Friday, June 8th, being the eve of the jubilee of the esteemed rector of St. Peter's, the Rev. W. Brock, who preached his first sermon in this parish on Sunday, June 9th, 1833, the local company of ringers, with their new peal of handbells, thirty-nine in number, went into the rectory grounds, and gave a selection of music on the bells, and were highly commended by the few friends who were fortunate enough to hear them. And on Saturday morning they were again at their post, to give honour to whom honour is due, for they were in the belfry sending forth joyous peals at as early as 5 o'clock, and rang several 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles, concluding the morning peal by fifty rounds of firing. In the evening they again met and rang more Grandsire Doubles for about an hour. T. Shorney, 1; J. H. Garnett, 2; T. Savage, 3; W. Shorney, 4; E. N. Garnett, jun. (conductor), 5; W. Cook, 6. Tenor about 17 cwt.

Such little amenities as this give us infinite pleasure to record, and we hope the worthy rector of Bishops Waltham will be able for many years yet to see that his parishioners are acquainted with his worth. Our correspondent, Mr. Garnett, the respected parish clerk, writes us a courteous letter, and what will be agreeable to many of our readers, he hopes to be able successfully to recommend our paper to all his ringing and non-ringing friends. If many who are occupying in the Church similar positions to Mr. Garnett, would but imitate his example in promoting the circulation of "THE BELL NEWS," we think it would soon become quadrupled.

STOKE-UPON-TRENT ARCHIDIACONAL ASSOCIATION.

THERE was a fairly attended meeting on Saturday last at Wolstanton, which was good considering the strike amongst the miners, which caused many to stay away. Ringers attended from Lawton, Biddulph, Keele, Tunstall, Norton, Newcastle, Burslem, Stoke, Hanley, and the home society. Owing to two funerals it was past 5 o'clock before the bells were got into swing, but after that they were kept going till 10 p.m. Touches of Grandsire and Plain Bob Doubles, were rung. The company sat down to a substantial tea and received a hearty welcome from the Vicar. Various courses were rung on the handbells during the evening. Meetings for this month: Checkley, 23rd; Annual Meeting, 30th. For latter see last week's issue.

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CINQUES.

5959.

By W. L. CATCHPOLE, Ipswich.

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

4 6 2 3 5†	
6 3 2 4 5	10th in four.
2 6 3 4 5	8th in four.
3 2 6 4 5	8th in four.
2 4 6 3 5	10th in four.
4 3 6 2 5	10th in four.
6 4 3 2 5	8th in four.
3 6 4 2 5	8th in four.
6 2 4 3 5	10th in four.
2 3 4 6 5	10th in four.
4 2 3 6 5	8th in four.

The 8th in four bring up rounds.

*7th in and out at five, with a double.

†11th in and out at two, with three bobs.

This peal has the 5th thirty-six courses wrong; the 8th and 9th to lie still on going off.

At the morning service in Westminster Abbey on Tuesday last the Rev. C. W. Furse, Principal of Cuddesdon College, Oxford, was installed into the Canonry of Westminster, vacant by the death of Archdeacon Jennings, the ceremony being performed by the Dean. The other clergymen present were the Rev. Canons Barry, Duckworth, Rowsell, Prothero, and the Rev. S. Flood Jones, Precentor.

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BELLRINGING JUBILEE OF MR. JOHN COX.

THE ringing friends of Mr. John Cox, taking into consideration his advancing years, and the precarious state of his health, intend making exertions to raise a fund to provide for him those necessities which are the sole sustenance of age.

This year—being his ringing jubilee, he having rang his first peal at the church of St. Mary, Islington, on the 7th of October, 1833—is thought peculiarly appropriate for this appeal to be made.

Mr. Cox's only source of income—the salary attached to the office of steeple-keeper of St. Bride's, Fleet Street—is often seriously diminished, through being compelled to frequently employ a substitute to perform the duty.

The Treasurer to the fund is Mr. W. Baron, and Mr. H. Dains has consented to act as Secretary. Any further particulars may be had on application to the latter, 147, Barnsbury Road, Islington, London, N.

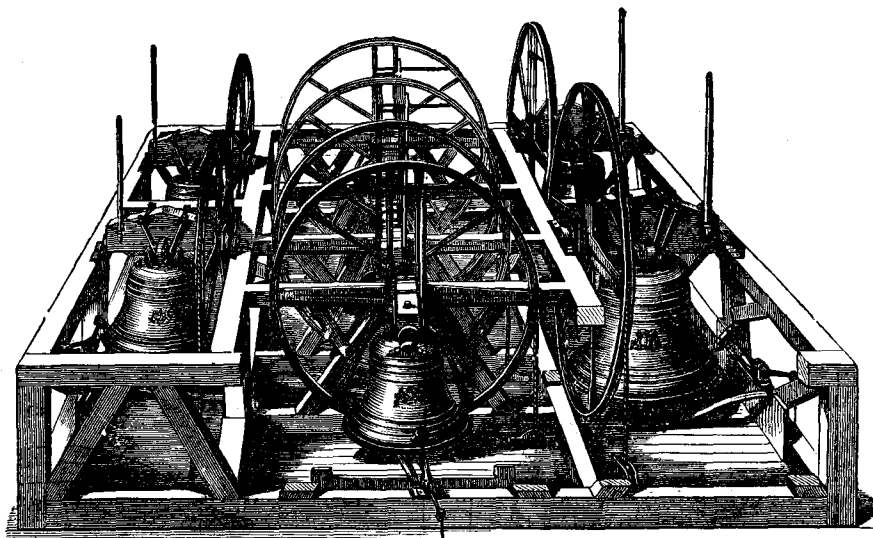
CHANGE-RINGING: A POEM.

Also some lines on "THE BELL NEWS." With an Aesthetic. Post-free for two stamps.

J. F. PENNING, Station Road, Saffron Walden, Essex.

A PEAL OF MUSICAL HAND-

BELLS FOR SALE, 44 in number, in the key of F, by Warner and Sons, of London. For price and particulars apply to—"J. C., No. 17, Clensmore, Kidderminster."

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HANDBELL MUSIC.

SONG ON THE LONG PEAL AT MOTTRAM, NOW READY.
BY PERMISSION OF THE AUTHOR, the verses on the above subject, entitled, "A TOAST," which appeared in a recent number of this paper, have been set to music by Mr. William Gordon. The accompaniments are adapted for both Handbells and Piano-forte, and arranged so as to be performed either separately or together.
Price—Piano-forte part, 9d. nett; Title-page—View of Mottram church (taken during the progress of the peal), also interesting sketches from the neighbourhood.
Handbell accompaniment for medium peal, C 22 to C1, six ringers, 1s. Title-page same as above.
Mr. Gordon would be glad if intending purchasers would order early, as a limited number only will be printed.
Post Office Orders made payable to

W. GORDON, 20, CROWTHER STREET, STOCKPORT.

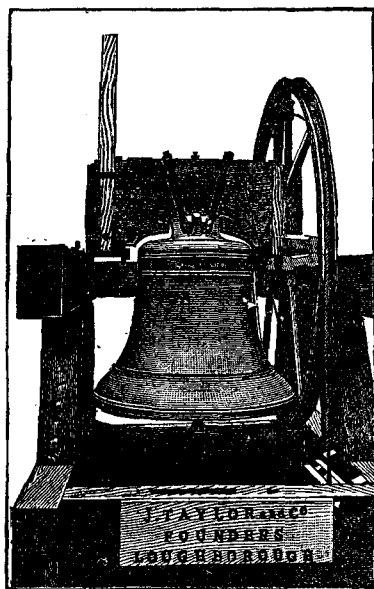
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CLOCK AND CHIME ROPES,
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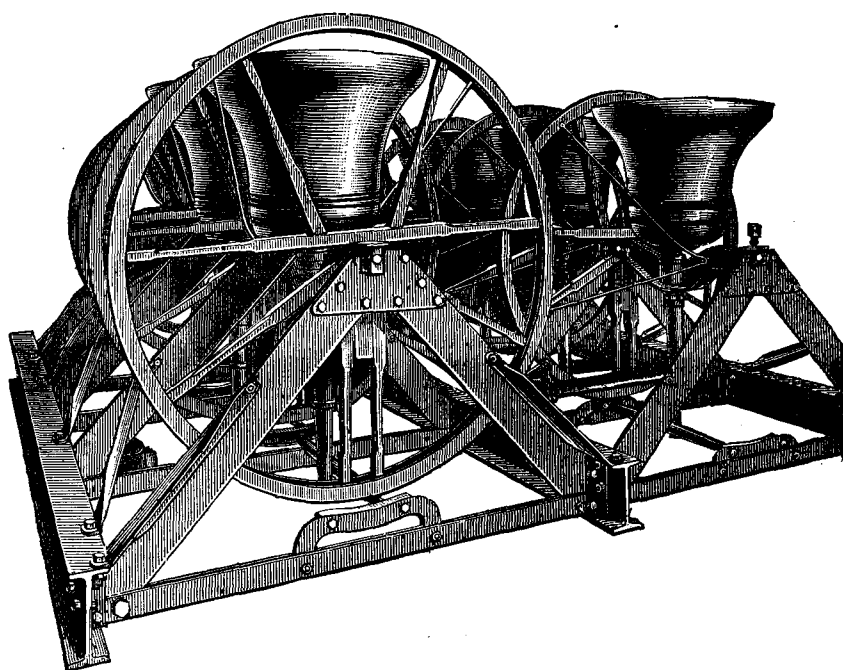
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SATURDAY, JUNE 30, 1883.

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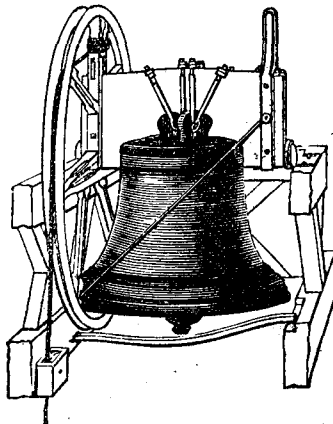
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ST. MARY-IN-CASTRO—DOVER CASTLE CHURCH.

If no remarks in this journal were made about this edifice at this period, the link in the chain would be missing after the account of St. Thomas's Church, Portsmouth. Till about twenty-two years ago this church was used as the coal store, having been abandoned about the time the bells were sent away. The "pharos," which is situated a very few feet to the west end of the nave, is a massive eight-sided structure of Roman-brick and flint, open to the sky; having at the top some Third Pointed windows.

The church is plain cruciform, without aisles and has a centre tower, vaulted over within, but left rough at the top. Under the late Sir G. Scott the whole was roofed in, and repaired properly. It is regularly used by the soldiers, which is a matter of congratulation to all concerned. Like Reculver, the place is of Roman foundation, with First Pointed enlargements, and insertions within and without. After attending a country meeting at Folkestone two years ago, the writer had occasion to visit the church. Just upon entering the detached "pharos" our eyes lighted on a hanging "sally," this was new. On looking up, a new bell, properly hung, was seen. The female custodian remarked, "Oh you may give it a pull," little expecting the performance that followed. Having coiled up; in a very few minutes the bystanders beheld the bell silent, but hanging the wrong way up. The good dame, however, remarked, "the soldier that was tolled off to first ring, a few weeks back, had the same accident." He was however by a "jerk," able to correct it; and was admonished not to pull so hard in future. Whether it was expedient to hang a single bell with such nice fittings, all in the open is a question; the access being very difficult. The bell might have weighed five cwt; so much for the successor to the ancient five. We should like to be told if any or all the originals are at Portsmouth, and if not what inscriptions they had. St. Mary's Church in the town of Dover has a good ring of eight, but unused; on the score of supposed tower insecurity. St. James's bells (six) are of steel: our readers have however seen peals chronicled off them by county associates.

Connected with the same subject, another correspondent sends the following paragraph:—

In the reign of Henry II, a peal of five bells was placed in the pharos, within the walls of Dover Castle, which soon gained celebrity, far and wide, for the harmonious tones they were said to possess. In after years, Prince George of Denmark, at the request of Sir George Rooke, had these bells removed from the old pharos at Dover, and presented them to the citizens of Portsmouth, who hung them with considerable exultation and formality, in the tower of the town church, an edifice erected by Peter de Rupeleus in 1210-1220, and dedicated to St. Thomas a'Becket. Three other bells were afterwards added, and subsequently, owing to some fancied defect in harmony of the tones of the eight, the five ancient ones were taken down and recast, as an inscription on one of them testifies, by one "Myers of London." The townsmen soon learned to love, or to say they loved their bells, and there exists a tradition that in their sounds there is a weird tone peculiar to themselves, and widely different to all other peals, such as seamen in the olden times, when lying becalmed in their ships in the narrow strait which separates the coasts of England and France, have heard chiming out so strangely from the loftiest point of Dover heights. In this 19th matter-of-fact century, romance necessarily has been banished from our councils, national and municipal, and among other radical changes, the good folk of Portsmouth, in common with many others, have exercised the discretionary power given them by the laws, and banished with romance compulsory church rates. With the abolition of the rate for the church was inaugurated a retrenchment of church expenditure in all that tended to the personal gratification of the parishioners, and as a natural and not unforeseen result, the bells, which for some time had required some little attention and expenditure of money bestowed upon them, became silent. Such a state of things could not endure for ever, and various spasmodic attempts have been since made for raising a fund for resuscitating the famous bells. No great success attended the first efforts, but a recently and better organized scheme for "rehanging the bells of the church of St. Thomas" has met with better results, and there is now a certainty of the bells soon again flinging out their daily peans of melody.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

A Quarterly Meeting of the above Association was held at Burton-on-Trent on Saturday, June 23rd, 1883, when by the kindness of their respective Vicars, the bells of the parish church and St. Paul's, Burton-on-Trent, and also of the churches at Horninglow and Winshill, were placed at the disposal of the members. Tea was partaken of in the hall of St. Paul's Institute at Five o'clock, and at the subsequent meeting the following, among other business, was transacted. Mr. Griffin (Burton) proposed, and Mr. Jagger (Burton) seconded, and it was carried unanimously, "That the names of five patrons, thirteen honorary members, and four ringing members, be entered on the books of the Association." Mr. Dawson (Derby) proposed, Mr. Maskery (Derby) seconded, and it was carried unanimously, "That the names of three honorary members and two ringing members be entered on the books." Mr. Henson (Lenton) proposed, Mr. Ward (Long Eaton) seconded, and it was carried unanimously, "That the next Quarterly Meeting be held at Nottingham on Saturday, October 6th." The Chairman (the Rev. James H. Fish, Vicar of St. Paul's, Burton-on-Trent, and President of the Association) stated that six peals had been rung since the last meeting, viz.: by the Derby branch, two peals of (5040) Grandsire Triples; by the Leicester branch, one peal of (5040) Grandsire Triples; and the Burton-on-Trent Branch, the three peals following—Kent Treble Bob Major (5008), Stedman Triples (5040), and Grandsire Triples (5040).

The President read a letter from Mr. Henry Dains, of London, respecting Mr. John Cox's bell-ringing jubilee, and made an appeal for funds in aid of Mr. Cox, which resulted in a sum of *1l. 16s. 6d.* being collected from the members present. It was also suggested that the local secretaries be requested to bring the matter before their respective districts, and forward any contributions they might receive to the Honorary Secretary at an early date. The President also brought before the notice of the meeting the rules of the society of change-ringers lately established for the Archdeaconry of Stafford, and advised the members of the Association to encourage by every means in their power the growth of societies having for their object the cultivation of change-ringing, and the recognition of ringers as bodies of Church-workers.

Touches of Stedman and Grandsire Triples, and of Kent Treble Bob Major, were rung during the day, and in the morning an attempt was made to ring Thurstan's peal of Stedman Triples, which unfortunately failed at the tenth part, after 2400 changes had been rung in 1 hour and 30 mins.

The following officers of the society were also present: Mr. William Wakley, Hon. Treasurer; Mr. J. Griffin, Hon. Secretary (both of Burton-on-Trent); Messrs. Dawson and Woodward (representing Derby and district); Messrs. Hickman, Henson, and Ward (representing Nottingham and district); Mr. Wilson (from Leicester and district); and Messrs. Jagger and Dimbleby (Burton-on-Trent and district). The attendance of ordinary members of the Association was not so large as usual.

STOKE ARCHIDIACONAL ASSOCIATION.

At a committee meeting held at Stoke on Saturday last, the point of instructors was considered at some length. It was finally decided to appoint one instructor to each of the four districts into which the Archdeaconry is divided, leaving such instructor power to appoint a deputy in case of necessity. Application for such instructor is to be made through the tower's district secretary. The instructor's time and travelling expenses to be paid out of the general funds of the Association. The names are as follows: Mr. S. Spencer, 19, Sneyd Street, Tunstall, instructor for Uttoxeter District; Mr. W. Millar, Wolstanton, instructor for Wolstanton district; Mr. W. Carter, Biddulph, instructor for Leek district; Mr. H. Page, Mount Pleasant, Stoke, instructor for Stoke district.

THE SOUTH LINCOLNSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday last, the Quarterly meeting of this Association took place at Wainfleet St. Mary, Lincolnshire. The bells of the parish church were raised in peal at 10.30, and afterwards some very good ringing in Plain Bob, Oxford Treble Bob, and Double Grandsire methods was rung by different members. At 3 o'clock, the members sat down to an excellent dinner at the "Angel Hotel," provided by Host J. Cooke, to which ample justice was done. After dinner several Honorary and Probationary members were elected, and Caythorpe was selected for holding the next meeting. A discussion then took place as to the propriety of forming a County Association, the general feeling being in favor of such, and each member was requested to communicate to absent members, and ascertain their opinion by the next Meeting.

R. CREASEY, Secretary.

HEIGHINGTON PARISH CHURCH—DEDICATION OF THE BELLS.

THE dedication of the new bells at the parish church of St. Michael, Heighington, took place on June 19th. In the morning Holy Communion was celebrated, and at 11.30 a special dedication service was held in the church. The old Norman structure was filled with a fashionable congregation. The bells of the church have hitherto been only three, but they were considered one of the finest sets of their number in the country. They are about 450 years old. Such was the beauty of their design and their sweetness of tone that when recently at Loughborough, at the foundry of Messrs. J. Taylor and Co., who have cast the three new bells, that firm sought and obtained permission to exhibit them at an important conversation held in their district, where they were much admired. Messrs. Taylor are now engaged in fixing a peal of bells at Chester-le-Street parish church, to commemorate its thousandth anniversary. The three additional bells have been cast in the key of F sharp, and weigh respectively 8 cwt., 11 cwt., and 16 cwt., the latter, the heaviest, being of course the tenor. The old bells weigh but 4 cwt., 5 cwt., and 7 cwt. respectively. Both old and new bells ring in singularly correct unison, and at this opening ceremony their tuneful notes were heard to great advantage. The tenor bell was generously given by Mr. H. E. Surtees, Rewdorth Hall, and the fifth and fourth bells respectively by Mrs. Tyzack, Sowerby House, Thirsk, and Miss Hodgson, Heighington. Mrs. Tyzack supplemented the gift with an Ellacombe chiming apparatus, and Seage's silent practice apparatus. Miss Hodgson also supplied the church clock with quarter chimes. At the dedication service the following clergy were in attendance, wearing their surplices:—Rev. Horatio Spurrier, vicar of Shildon; Rev. C. C. Chevallier, vicar of Heighington; Rev. E. Cheese, rector of Haughton-le-Skerne; Rev. W. Cumby, Heighington; Rev. C. J. A. Eade, vicar of Aycliffe; Rev. L. G. Maine, vicar of Sowerby, near Thirsk; Rev. H. C. Lipscombe, Staindrop; Rev. W. A. Rouse, Walkeringham; Rev. D. S. Guy and Rev. A. Willink, Bishop Auckland; and Rev. J. Deane, Hurworth. The Rev. C. C. Chevallier read the morning prayer; the Rev. L. G. Maine the First Lesson; the Rev. C. J. A. Eade the Second Lesson; and the Rev. W. Cumby spoke the service in dedication of the bells. The Rev. Horatio Spurrier preached an eloquent and appropriate sermon on Romans, c. x., v. 13—"Their sound has gone out to all the world."

A luncheon was afterwards partaken of in the schoolroom, the vicar presiding. The viands were provided by the parishioners, and were of an excellent description. Handsome bouquets of flowers stood on the tables, having been sent by Mr. G. P. Vyvian Aylmer, Walworth Castle, and the school-room was adorned with plants and flowers, supplied by Mr. Jerome Delicate, Redworth, and Mr. C. T. White, Heighington.

The toast of the Queen having been loyally honoured, Mr. H. FELL PEASE proposed "The Bishop and Clergy of the Diocese." He thought it a great privilege that, although some of them might differ upon certain matters, they were able to unite together in one common object—the promotion of Christian work.

The Rev. H. SPURRIER responded, and referred to the necessity of the hearty co-operation of the laity if the clergy were to be thoroughly successful in their work. The Rev. C. C. Chevallier had the happy knack of carrying the laity with him in his several enterprises, and the results were wholly successful.

The Rev. W. CUMBY proposed "The Health of the Donors of the Bells."

Mr. H. E. SURTEES, who was most heartily received, said on behalf of the donors of the bells he begged to return them his sincere thanks for the very hearty manner in which the toast had been received. This he had pleasure in doing on behalf of Mrs. Tyzack, who had given one bell; Miss Hodgson, who had given another; and for himself. At one of the meetings which took place upon the subject of the church bells, he offered to give a tenor, and curiously enough on the following morning a letter came from Mrs. Tyzack making a precisely similar offer. As it so happened that there was a probability of still another bell being forthcoming from another source, the arrangements were altered to suit the improved circumstances of the case, and it came about that three additional bells were promised to the three already hanging in the church. In the course of an interesting speech Mr. Surtees said that one of the first regular peals of five bells was sent to King's College, Cambridge, in 1456. Then there was formed a society of College Youths, the most ancient society of ringers, and which was established in the 16th century. The first to introduce change-ringing was one Fabian Stedman in 1631. There were many mysteries with regard to bell-ringing. Perhaps his hearers might have heard of some of them. There was hunting, touching, flourishing, snapping, place-making, plain bobs, bobs treble, bob majors, bob majors reversed, double majors, Grandsire maximus, and various other strange-sounding names. Some time ago the question of the stability of the Heighington church tower, in view of its receiving the new large

bells, was raised, but Mr. Christian, architect to the Ecclesiastical Commissioners, had declared he would stake his professional reputation upon the tower of the church being sufficiently strong to carry the six bells which it was proposed to put there. An opinion was expressed by a late Astronomer Royal, whose name he could not just then recall, that a tower which would withstand any wind that blew would carry any peal of bells which was likely to be hung in it. Before he sat down, there was another subject upon which he would like to touch. With reference to the ringing of the bells, he believed there was no doubt that the vicar legally had entire control over the matter, and he felt sure that their excellent vicar would so regulate the practising that it would never prove an annoyance to the parishioners. He would not detain them longer, but again thank them on behalf of the other donors of the bells for their very cordial reception of the toast.

The CHAIRMAN proposed the healths of the bell-founders, Messrs. Taylor, of Loughborough. He said the most sensitive and correct musical ear must fail to detect the slightest error in the correctness of the tones of the six bells now hanging in the tower. It was wonderful how the tones of newly-made bells could be with such nicety assimilated with those of bells cast some 450 years ago. The biggest bell in England was "Big Paul," in London, whose weight was nearly 17 tons. That bell was constructed by Messrs. Taylor, of Loughborough, so that the new bells at Heighington might almost be looked upon as younger brothers of "Big Paul."

The toast having been duly honoured, and others being proposed and responded to, the proceedings concluded.

ST. ALBANS, HERTS.

ON Friday, June 22nd, L. Procter, Esq. of Bennington, Herts, visited the city of St. Albans, to ring on the bells of St. Peter's, two of which (8th and 9th, formerly the 10th and 11th, the trebles of the twelve having been removed) have just been recast by Messrs. Taylor and Co., of Loughborough. Double Norwich Court Bob Major, Stedman and Grandsire Caters, were rung. L. Procter, Esq. Chapman S. Page, J. Kitchener, T. Page, Sharnbrook and Warner from Bennington; Messrs. M. A. Wood, J. R. Haworth, C. F. Winny, and Jameson from London; Messrs. H. Lewis and N. N. Hills of St. Albans, and Mr. W. H. George of Pinner, Middlesex. The work of recasting gave great satisfaction to those present. The Double Norwich Court was conducted by T. Page, and the Stedman and Grandsire Caters by J. R. Haworth.

TWO-PART PEALS OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR.

By H. DAINS, Royal Cumberland Society, London.

5184.						5184.					
2	3	4	5	6	1	2	3	4	5	6	1
4	3	6	5	2	-	6	5	3	2	4	-
3	5	6	4	2	-	2	3	5	6	4	-
4	6	5	3	2	-	5	3	4	6	2	-
6	3	5	4	2	-	4	3	2	6	5	-
4	5	3	6	2	-						
5	6	3	4	2	-	3	5	2	6	4	-
6	4	3	5	2	-	2	5	4	6	3	-
5	3	4	6	2	-	4	5	3	6	2	-
3	6	4	5	2	-						
6	5	4	3	2	-	3	4	2	5	6	-
3	4	5	6	2	-	4	5	2	3	6	-
						5	3	2	4	6	-
4	2	5	6	3	-	4	2	3	5	6	-
2	6	5	4	3	-	2	5	3	4	6	-
6	4	5	2	3	-	5	4	3	2	6	-
2	5	4	6	3	-						
5	6	4	2	3	-						
6	2	4	5	3	-						
5	4	2	6	3	-						
						2	5	3	4	6	-
5	4	3	2	6	-						
4	2	3	5	6	-						
5	3	2	4	6	-						
3	4	2	5	6	-						
4	5	2	3	6	-						

This part three times repeated with single used at last six of second and last part, complete the peal. The 6th twenty-four times each way, in 5-6, and is thought to be the first published on this plan.

This peal has the 6th twelve times each way in 5-6. Singles may be used in similar places, as before mentioned, when the changes will be 10,368.

"GEORGES D'AMBOISE."

In the course of some researches into the history of the more important bells, past and present, in this country and on the Continent, I have come across the following apparent discrepancy in regard to the inscription or inscriptions upon the great bell of Rouen, "Georges d'Amboise," founded by Jean le Maçon in 1501, and destroyed in 1793.

Paulus Merula, in his *Cosmographia* (4to Raphelengii, 1605) p. 531, after giving the dimensions of the bell, states that it bore on its circumference the following verses.—

Ipsa ego sum, quamvis sonitu veneranda Tonanti,
Prima est Auctori gloria Lauda meo;
Namque ter et denis cum ternis millibus oeris,
Obtulit hoc vero dona dicata Deo.
Scilicet Ambosius, qñi sancta Georgius arma,
Cunctaque Francigenis tractat habenda viris;
Protomagum tanto felix Antistite gaudet,
Quum sit cardinei gloria summa chori.

So says Merula. Now the inscription commonly associated with this bell is of a very different character, without any claim to elegance, and in the ordinary vernacular. For the sake of comparison I quote it, as given by Blarignac in his interesting work, "La Cloche" (Paris 1877) p. 9:—

Je suis nommée Georges d'Amboise,
Qui plus que trente six mil poyse;
Et si qui bien me poysera,
Quarante mill'y trouvera.

Such, no doubt, is the correct form of the inscription. Another version of it is quoted in the article upon bells in the *Quarterly Review*, September, 1854:—

Ye suis George d'Ambois,
Qui ai trente-cinq mille pois;
Mais lui qui me pesera,
Trente-six mille me trouvera.

which incorrect transcript is reproduced by Werner thus:—

I am George of Amboise,
Thirty-five thousand in pois;
But he that shall weigh me,
Thirty-six thousand shall find me.

Not only have we here two versions of the same inscription differing materially from each other, but we have on the one hand, Merula, who says nothing about any inscription whatever, as existing on the bell, in addition to the Elegiacs above quoted; and on the other a careful compiler, such as M. Blarignac, who gives the French doggerel, but says nothing about the Elegiacs. How is this to be explained? Was there really only one inscription, and that the French one? and is the Latin of Merula merely an extended and pompous paraphrase composed for the pages of the *Cosmographia*, to which the vernacular French was deemed unworthy of admission? It would be satisfactory if some one of my readers could throw light upon the question, either from another historical record, or from actual inspection of the fragment of the great bell preserved in the museum of Rouen. Perhaps this fragment displays only the legend painted upon it, subsequently to the breaking up of the bell in 1793:—

Monument de vanité,
Détruit pour l'utilité,
L'an deux de la liberté.

For the credit of those who, at the Revolution, consigned so many of the ancient bells of France to the furnace, to re-appear in the form of cannon and "sous," it is consolatory to know that in this case at least, the Vandalism was pardonable. "Georges d'Amboise" had become practically useless seven years before the mandate for the destruction of herself and her race was issued. She was cracked while celebrating the entry of Louis XVI. into Rouen on the 26th June, 1786.

The fame of this great bell for nearly 300 years, the glory of France, must be my excuse for troubling the readers of this paper with a query which has no practical value, except from an archaeological point of view.

G. G. CUNNINGHAME.

STOKE-UPON-TRENT ARCHIDIACONAL ASSOCIATION.

THE Uttoxeter branch of this Association held their meeting at Checkley tower on Saturday last, when they were favoured with a beautiful day. Ringers attended the meeting from Uttoxeter and Leigh, and commenced their delightful music on the bells at 3.30 p.m. and continued till 5 p.m., when tea was provided for the ringers through the hospitality of the Rev. E. Phillips, who, after the repast was over, spoke a few words of advice and counsel to those present, and alluding to the present state of the Association, wished it every success. These timely observations being replied to by one of the Uttoxeter company, the remainder of the proceedings passed off very pleasantly, the arrangements made being very good, and ringing being kept up until eight p.m., when all returned home delighted with their visit. Since the last meeting the tenor has been put into repair by Mr. E. Taylor, and, adds our correspondent, "THE BELL NEWS" will be purchased for this tower, which I hope every member will take in."

HEYTESBURY, WILTS.

A few weeks ago the writer of this article visited the Collegiate Church of Heytesbury. The church is cruciform, and measures 116 feet from east to west, and fifty-two feet across the transepts. It is well restored, and the choir is handsomely decorated. There is a low but large square central tower, the ringing-floor of which is approached by a staircase in the south aisle. Ascending this we cross one corner of the leads, and enter the belfry by means of a short step ladder, the floor being some four feet lower than the doorway. Here we find six ropes hanging down, those of the fifth and tenor being clumsy and thick in the extreme, and measuring nearly 1½ inches in diameter! On the west side is a clock which chimes the quarters on two bells. Ascending the stairs in the north-west corner, we are somewhat startled on entering the next chamber to come face to face with two hideous images representing a certain Thomas Moore and his wife, who died in 1623, and lie buried in the church. Beside them is another smaller one, a headless infant. In the middle of this chamber, is a barrel chiming apparatus, set to play rounds only. On ascending the ladder on the south side, we come to the bell-chamber. The Treble is inscribed—"Wm Cockey Bell Founder 1732."; 2nd—"L. 1668. Richard Markes. Edward Brice C W."; 3rd—"Jas. Burrough in Devizes Bell Founder Fecit 1755. Mr Wm Childs and Mr Richard Young Ch: Wardens."; 4th—"ANNO. DOMINI. 1612. R (a bell) P."; 5th—"Thomas Mears founder London 1843."; Tenor—"Intonat A Celis Vox Campanæ Michaelis +." (in black letter); also a crown and a shield with a cross dividing it into quarters, and eight smaller crosses interspersed, and another bearing a bar, a chevron, a crescent, and three stars. This tenor is 21 cwt. in E. All the six bells hang on a level.

The frame and fittings are in a very bad condition, and the former oscillates violently whilst the bells are ringing. Notwithstanding all this, the first four bells go tolerably well, considering. The fifth and tenor, although only weighing about 16 and 21 cwt. respectively, are each rung by two men with a strapper, but the immense thickness of the ropes makes these bells go much worse than they would otherwise do.

The ringers here ring nothing but "Churchyard Bob," as may easily be supposed. A man has the "changes" all written on a board, and walks round to each ringer whilst they are ringing, and tells him which bell to pull after next, and when he has been all round, he stamps his foot as a signal for the change!

[There is evidently room here for the operations of the Salisbury Diocesan Guild.—Ed.]

ECCLESIASTICAL APPOINTMENTS.—The *Guardian* publishes the following list of preferences and appointments:—Rev. R. Adams, rector of St. Thomas's, Red Bank, vicar of Lever Bridge, Lancashire—patron, the Bishop of Manchester; Rev. Herbert Candy, curate of Warkworth, near Banbury; Rev. Hugh Doig, vicar of St. Chad's, Saddleworth—patron, the Bishop of Manchester; Rev. Frederick Roy Dowson, curate of Cranston, rector of Thorpe-on-the-hill, Lincoln; Rev. William Methuen Gordon Ducat, principal of Leeds Clergy School, vicar of Cuddesdon, and principal of Cuddesdon Theological College—patron, the Bishop of Oxford; Rev. Canon W. Evans, domestic chaplain to the Bishop of Llandaff; Rev. Thomas Fletcher, rector of Christ Church, Bradford-cum-Beswick; Rev. Arthur Trosse Fortescue, vicar of Hainton-with-Sixhills; Rev. Bernard Knollys Foster, minor canon and sacrist of Gloucester Cathedral, precentor of Gloucester Cathedral; Rev. D. Griffith, curate of Brecon, rector of Llanfihangel-Talyllyn with Llanywern—patron, the Bishop of St. David's; Ven. J. Griffith, archdeacon of Llandaff, Welsh Examining Chaplain to the Bishop of Llandaff; Rev. Joseph Alfred Halloran, curate of Laceby, vicar of Holton-le-Clay; Rev. Charles Edward Graham-Jones, vicar of South Banbury—patron, the Bishop of Oxford; Rev. William Ward Nicholls, chaplain Royal Hants County Hospital, rector of Charmouth, Dorset—patron, Mr. F. S. Hunt; Rev. F. E. H. Paine, vicar of Hanover Church, Regent Street—patron, the Rev. E. Chapel Cure; Rev. Henry Martin Sharpe, curate of Hotton, Huntingdon, East London Missionary at Tottenham; Rev. Frederick Smith Swindell, London Diocesan Home Missionary; Rev. Herbert Spenser Swithinbank, curate of Holme Pierrepont, Notts., rector of Adwick-le-Street, near Doncaster—patron, the Rev. C. G. Fullerton; Rev. C. J. Thompson, domestic chaplain to the Bishop of Llandaff; Rev. Henry Toft, curate in charge of Langport, Rector of Axbridge—patron, the Bishop of Bath and Wells; Rev. John Woollam, vicar of Yorkhill, rector of Burton-le-Coggles; Rev. F. P. Wright, senior curate of Rochdale parish church, vicar of St. James's, Milnrow—patron, the vicar of Rochdale.

A handsome tablet has been placed in Beverley Minster by the non-commissioned officers and men of the 15th Regiment, in memory of their comrades who fell during the late campaign in Afghanistan.

"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, E. W. 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.

H. BASTABLE.—Will you kindly send us another copy, and we will at once insert it?

The Bell News & Ringers' Record.

SATURDAY, JUNE 30, 1883.

THERE has been laid down, by the writers of what may be called the text-books of the science, if not hard and fast rules for ringing deportment, at any rate wise and valuable suggestions, not only for the proper handling of a bell, but also for the position in which a performer should stand to his work, so as to maintain a symmetrical, if not an elegant, attitude. Though it is a well-known saying that no two members of a company are in this respect alike, yet whoever among a society happens to be affected by any marked peculiarity, indicating clumsiness, is sure to gain a most unenviable notoriety. And not only is such an undesirable reputation earned by those who have drifted into an ungainly position, but the adoption of a system of handling the rope which to a practical eye is most ungraceful, and at the same time totally unnecessary, causes such ringers to be regarded as slovenly practitioners. The plan of allowing the rope to glide through the hand immediately after the sallie has been pulled; pulling at backstroke with the fingers of both hands placed in the loop at the end of the rope; and such-like practices, appears to us nothing but gross affectation. Yet these are not the only errors of style which all, especially the young, should take care to avoid.

We are told by a most trustworthy authority that in the practice of change-ringing the eye has an important duty to perform. This is a most indisputable fact. Yet at times may be seen a member of a company taking part in a touch, his attention being apparently wholly concentrated on the opposite wall of the ringing-chamber, at a point a few inches above the heads of the other ringers. He deigns not to look around, to make use of his eyes to find his proper place; he is able to ring without such an aid as this; and he is anxious to let the company know and be witnesses to such transcendent abilities. Here we see very faulty deportment, in fact, such behaviour

savours of conceit. The young ringer who does not condescend to look around him while ringing, is said to be "showing off," and other allusions, anything but complimentary, are frequently made concerning him. And such is certainly deserved.

We regret that there is still to be found a certain section of ringers, who will not brook the least control or restraint; who set themselves up as dictators to determine everything; who address the old and highly-respected members of the company with an impudent familiarity; who are the most troublesome and noisy on the dinner-day, and at such times render themselves unpleasantly conspicuous, if not positively repulsive. They are to be found among those who "show off" in the belfry, who set up a style of ringing peculiar to themselves, a feature of which is to avoid looking around them. We strongly advise our young friends not to take such people for their pattern, but rather adopt the advice contained in the phrase—"Keep your eyes and ears about you, and hold your tongue."

With our next number but one, will be given the index and title-page to our first volume. We must apologise for having delayed it so long, but its compilation has not altogether been an easy matter; however, better late than never. We cannot undertake to provide cases for binding. Such would require a great outlay, which our experience teaches would not be met by an adequate return. Nor should we recommend the binding of books in this manner. The sheets that require binding should not be made to fit the cover, but the reverse. Bookbinding in ready-made covers is seldom strong and durable.

The Provinces.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

BURTON-ON-TRENT.

On Thursday, June 21, 1883, in Three Hours and Eighteen Minutes,

AT ST. PAUL'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S SIX-PART PEAL. Tenor 26 cwt.

JOSEPH GRIFFIN Treble.	ARTHUR WAKLEY 5.
EDWARD ISAAC STONE 2.	WILLIAM WAKLEY 6.
GEORGE ROBINSON 3.	THOMAS HOLMES 7.
HARRY WAKLEY 4.	JOHN JAGGAR Tenor.

Conducted by JOSEPH GRIFFIN.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

IPSWICH, SUFFOLK.

On Tuesday, June 26, 1883, in Three Hours and Forty-four Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY-LE-TOWER,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CINQUES, 5059 CHANGES;

Tenor 32 cwt.

WILLIAM L. CATCHPOLE .. Treble.	CHAS. SAUL 7.
ISAAC S. ALEXANDER 2.	HENRY BOWELL 8.
ROBT. H. BRUNDLE 3.	EDWARD REEVE 9.
HENRY BEVAN 4.	ROBERT HAWES 10.
JOHN FOSDIKE 5.	EDGAR PEMBERTON 11.
WILLIAM MEADOWS 6.	SAMUEL TILLET Tenor.

Composed and conducted by W. L. CATCHPOLE.

THE BIRMINGHAM AMALGAMATED SOCIETY.

Handbell Ringing.

On Thursday, June 21, 1883, in Two Hours and Twenty-three Minutes,

ON HANDBELLS, RETAINED IN HAND,

AT THE "HOPE AND ANCHOR" INN, FISHER STREET, BIRMINGHAM,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5040 CHANGES.

THOMAS RUSSAM 1-2.	JOHN CARTER.. .. 5-6.
THOMAS MILLER 3-4.	WALTER BRYANT 7-8.

Composed and conducted by JOHN CARTER.

Referees: Messrs. J. W. Cattle, B. Stevens, and J. Perry, who marked off every course as it was rung.

This is the first peal of Plain Bob rung by any of the above, and is the first peal of the above method rung upon handbells in the Midland Counties, and is the second peal ever rung in hand in the method. The above are also members of the Birmingham and District Association.

STALYBRIDGE, CHESHIRE.

On Saturday, June 23, 1883, in Three Hours and Ten Minutes,

AT HOLY TRINITY CHURCH, CASTLE HALL,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5280 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 14 cwt.

WILLIAM SMITH Treble.	EDMUND SCHOFIELD .. 5.
HUGH SHAW 2.	JAMES S. WILDE 6.
JAMES WOOD 3.	THOMAS WILDE 7.
JOHN THORP.. .. 4.	SAMUEL WOOD Tenor.

Composed by ROBERT WILLIAMS, of Stalybridge, and conducted by SAMUEL WOOD.

The above peal is taken from a 7200, by the same composer, the longest peal ever obtained in twenty courses, which is intended to be rung shortly by the same company, when particulars of the peal will be given.

Messrs. Smith, Thorp, and Wood Brothers hail from Ashton-under-Lyne; Wilde Brothers from Hyde; and Shaw and Schofield from Stalybridge.

Miscellaneous.

THE BIRMINGHAM AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATION.

WORCESTER.—On the Choral Festival day, at Worcester, six members from King's Norton rang at St. John's church, 360 of Grandsire Minor in 13 mins. F. Palmer, 1; J. Wright, 2; Fred. Palmer, 3; Fred. Scrivens, 4; J. Cooks, 5; W. Palmer (conductor), 6. Weight of tenor, 14 cwt. A pretty peal of bells, but go rather hard. With the assistance of the cathedral ringers, a quarter-peal was started for, but owing to a shift in the last course, the conductor was obliged to call "stand." Also at the parish church, King's Norton, on Tuesday, June 19th, a 720 of Grandsire Minor was rung on the back seven bells in 27 mins. F. Palmer, 1; W. H. Sumner, 2; Fred. Palmer, 3; F. Scrivens, 4; J. Wright, 5; W. Palmer (conductor), 6; D. Taylor, 7. On Thursday, June 21st, at the invitation of the rector of St. Lawrence, Northfield, a visit was paid to that place, and a 720 of Grandsire Minor rung in 26 mins. Frank H. Palmer, 1; J. Cooks, 2; Fred. Palmer, 3; F. Scrivens, 4; J. Wright, 5; W. Palmer, 6. Conducted by W. Palmer. Weight of tenor, 14 cwt.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.—On Monday, June 25th, at St. John's, for practice, a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob Minor, with fifteen bobs. C. L. Routledge (conductor), 1; F. Lees, 2; W. G. Routledge, 3; F. J. Des Forges, 4; W. Story, 5; R. S. Story, 6. Tenor 14 cwt.

STOKE-UPON-TRENT ARCHIDIACONAL ASSOCIATION.

CHEDDLETON (Staffordshire).—On Sunday evening, June 24th, for Divine Service, a 720 of Bob Minor, with sixteen bobs and two singles, in 27 mins. J. Parker, 1; H. Rogers, 2; J. Gilbert, 3; F. Clowes (conductor), 4; H. Birch, 5; J. Renshaw, 6.

THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

BROMHAM.—On Sunday, June 24th, for Divine Service in the afternoon, a 720 of Bob Minor, in 32 mins. T. Tysoe, 1; H. King, 2; C. West, 3; W. King, 4; C. Stafferton, 5; W. Biggs (conductor), 6. Tenor 20 cwt. in D.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

LITTLE HEATH (Essex).—On Saturday evening, four six-scores of Extreme Doubles, being four of Bob Doubles and two of Hudibras, in 40 mins. R. Gillingham, 1; J. Pye, 2; A. Pye, 3; B. Keeble (conductor), 4; A. Porter, 5. Tenor, 5 cwt.

DAGENHAM (Essex).—Chiming.—On Sunday evening, 216 Bob Minor and 120 Grandsire Doubles. A. J. Perkins, 1-2-3-4; B. Keeble, 5-6.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

MERSHAM (Kent).—Muffled Peal.—On Thursday, June 21st, after the funeral service of an old ringer, Mr A. Robus, a 800 of Bob Major, with the bells muffled. W. Weeks, 1; G. Paine, 2; Ed. Ruck (conductor), 3; D. Paine, 4; J. Laker, 5; G. Finn, jun., 6; F. Finn, 7; E. Finn, 8. Also 784 in the same method, with the bells half open. W. Weeks, 1; G. Paine, 2; W. Jay, 3; D. Paine, 4; E. Ruck, 5; G. Finn, jun., 6; F. Finn, (conductor), 7; E. Finn, 8. And two courses with the bells open.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

WALKDEN (Lancashire).—On Saturday, the 23rd inst., six members of the above Association rang at St. Paul's Church, a 720 of Bob Minor in 28 mins. Charles Cash (Swinton), 1; Edward Cash (Swinton), 2; John Worthington (Walkden), 3; John Welby (Walkden), 4; Joseph Brooks (Walkden), 5; William Denner (Walkden), 6. Conducted by Edward Cash. Weight of tenor, 13 cwt. 3 qrs.

ECCLES.—On Monday evening, June 25th, six members of this Association rang at the parish church, a 720 of Bob Minor, in 26 mins. John Barratt, 1; Thomas Yates (conductor), 2; James Barratt, 3; Richard Ashcroft, 4; George Henry Johnson, 5; William Ashcroft, 6. Tenor 13 cwt. 3 qrs.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

ABINGDON (Berkshire).—On Friday, June 22nd, at St. Nicholas church, four of the local company, with Messrs. G. and E. Holfield, rang a 720 of Grandsire Minor, in 29 mins. E. Holfield, 1; H. Holfield, 2; W. Sandell, 3; G. Holfield (conductor), 4; R. Giddings, 5; J. Smart, 6.

FARNHAM ROYAL (Bucks).—On Saturday, the 23rd June, a 720 Bob Minor, 16 bobs and 2 singles, in 27 mins. G. Basden, 1; F. Fells, 2; J. Parker, 3; W. Fussell, 4; A. Fussell (conductor), 5; C. Clarke, 6.

STOKE POGES (Bucks).—On Sunday evening, June 24th, at St. Giles, for Divine Service, a 720 Bob Minor, in 28 mins. G. Basden, 1; A. Fussell, 2; J. Parker (conductor), 3; A. Batten, 4; W. Fussell, 5; C. Clarke, 6. Tenor about 16 cwt.

THE ST. JAMES'S SOCIETY, LONDON.

WALWORTH (Surrey).—On Thursday, June 21st, six members of the above society rang at St. Peter's church, a 720 of Bob Minor, with eighteen bobs and two singles, in 25½ mins. Willm. Jones, 1; James Bonney (conductor), 2; Joseph Barry, 3; Martin Routh, Esq., 4; David Stackwood, 5; Wingfield Meadows, Esq., 6. Also 360 in the same method, in 13 mins. Tenor 16½ cwt.

THE WORCESTERSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

NETHERTON.—On Sunday, June 24th, being the Sunday School Anniversary, the local company rang for Divine Service in the morning at St. Andrew's church, in 27½ mins., six 6-scores in the following methods: three of Grandsire Minor; one of Oxford Singles; one of Maids' Delight; and one of Shepherds Delight; making 720 changes. B. Townsend, 1; J. Townsend, 2; J. Smith (conductor), 3; R. Round, 4; J. Prestidge, 5; F. Felton, 6. Also before and after Divine Service in the evening of the same day, a mixed company rang 360 changes of Grandsire Minor, and several touches of Plain Bob. J. Bayliss (Dudley), 1; J. Townsend (Netherton), 2; S. Spittle (Dudley), 3; W. Micklewright (Dudley), 4; J. Prestidge (Netherton), 5; J. Smith (Netherton), 6. Tenor 12½ cwt.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

HULL.—On Tuesday, June 26th, at Holy Trinity church, six members of the above Association, rang a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor, in 29½ mins. F. Merrison, 1; T. Stockdale, 2; W. Southwick, 3; J. Dixey (conductor), 4; C. Bennett, 5; C. Jackson, 6. Tenor 25 cwt.

BARNLEY (Yorkshire).—On Sunday, June 24th, it being Hospital Sunday, eight members of the local society rang for Divine Service, a touch of Kent Treble Bob Major, 1760 changes, in 1 hr. 5 mins. William Bedford, 1; Chas. Hollin, 2; Jos. Fox, 3; Adam Wilson, 4;

Robert Sparks, 5; Wilfred Richardson, 6; Geo. S. Tyas, 7; Richard Hy. Pease, 8. Tenor 15 cwt. The Quarterly Meeting of the Yorkshire Association will be held at Barnsley, July 7th. The bells go well, and are in excellent condition.

BRIGHTON.—On Wednesday, June 13th, a date touch of Grandsire Triples, 1883 changes, in 1 hr. 9 mins., at St. Peter's church. E. St. John, 1; J. Secorle, 2; C. Tyler, 3; J. Jay, jun., 4; H. Boniface, 5; G. F. Attree (conductor), 6; J. Jay, sen., 7; — Butler, 8.

CHESTER (Cheshire).—On Tuesday, June 26th, at the Cathedral, a half of one of Holt's peals of Grandsire Triples, 2520 changes, 7th the observation, in 1 hr. 36 mins. John Gibson, 1; Joseph Errington, 2; Joseph Griffiths, 3; James Moulton, 4; William Walton, 5; Alfred Cross, 6; Freeman Ball (conductor), 7; Frederick Jarvis, 8. Tenor 33 cwt. in C.

FAKENHAM (Norfolk).—On Thursday, June 21st, being one of the County Agricultural Show Days, ringers from St. Peter's, Norwich, and Aylsham, visited this place for a pull. Some touches of Oxford Treble Bob Major, etc., were rung during the day, which was highly appreciated by the ringers here, as this method had not been rung here in such creditable style for many years. Treble Bob Royal and Grandsire Caters were rung on Mr. F. Knights' handbells.

GLODWICK, NEAR OLDHAM (Lancashire).—On Wednesday, June 20th, an attempt was made to ring a peal of Grandsire Major, 5040 changes, but it came to grief after ringing 4528 through the fourth rope breaking, in 2 hrs. 42 mins. John Hilton, 1; George Hy. Beaver, 2; Albert Clegg, 3; Jas. Platt, 4; Fred Crosland, 5; Clement Drönsfield, 6; Samuel Stott, (conductor), 7; James Priestly, 8. Messrs Hilton and Stott hail from Lees; Beaver, Clegg and Drönsfield from Glodwick; Platt, Crosland and Priestly from Oldham.

HULL (Yorkshire).—On Sunday, June 24th, at Holy Trinity church, for Divine Service, a 720 of Bob Minor. A. Taylor, 1; W. Southwick, 2; J. Dixey, 3; F. Drabble, 4; C. Bennett, 5; C. Jackson (conductor), 6; F. Merrison, 7. Tenor, 25 cwt. Also on Monday, June 25th, six members of the Yorkshire Association, with W. H. Hardman, and W. Ingham, of Sutton, near Maëclesfield, rung at St. James's, a 504 of Grandsire Triples, also a touch of Bob Minor. F. Drabble, 1; R. Chaffer, 2; J. Dixey, 3; C. Bennett, 4; W. H. Hardman, 5; C. Jackson (conductor), 6; W. Ingham, 7; F. Merrison, 8. Tenor, 16 cwt.

KIRK ELLA (Yorkshire).—On Thursday, June 21st, a company of ringers from Hull, paid a visit to this village, and rang a 720 of Bob Minor, in 28½ mins. F. Drabble, 1; J. Dixey, 2; W. Southwick (conductor), 3; H. Jenkins, 4; C. Bennett, 5; C. Jackson, 6. Tenor 19½ cwt.

MITCHAM (Surrey).—On Sunday, June 24th, for Divine Service at the parish church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, 1260 changes, in 43 mins. G. Foster, jun., 1; J. Drewitt, jun., 2; A. Brockwell, 3; G. Welling, 4; *G. Pell, 5; *J. Fayers (conductor), 6; *S. Greenwood, 7; *H. Pates, 8. *Members of the Surrey Association.

NUNEATON (Warwickshire).—On Friday evening, June 22nd, the local company met at St. Nicholas parish church, and rang three 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles, each called differently, with the bells half muffled as a mark of respect to the late Mr. G. Whemay, who was organist at the above church for over twenty years, and was deeply regretted. Wm. Adler, 1; Tho. Lingard, 2; Wm. Powers (conductor), 3; Hy. Horwood, 4; Tho. Bates, 5; John Jas. Mawby, 6. Tenor 14½ cwt. in E.

PERRY BARR (Staffordshire).—*Muffled Peal.*—On Saturday, June 23rd, eight members of the St. Martin's (Birmingham) Society, visited St. John's church for the purpose of ringing a muffled peal to the memory of the late Rev. C. B. Snapp, L.L.M., being the third anniversary of his death, but owing to a shift course the bells were called round after ringing 1 hr. and 20 mins. W. Haywood, 1; S. Reeves, 2; H. Bastable, 3; J. Buffery (conductor), 4; H. Johnson, sen., 5; W. R. Small, 6; J. Saunders, 7; J. Johnson, 8. The ringers were afterwards very kindly entertained by Mrs. Snapp, to refreshments, for which they take this opportunity of thanking her.

REIGATE (Surrey).—On Tuesday, June 26th, at the parish church, in honour of the marriage of H. H. Somers Cocks, Esq., of the Coldstream Guards, to Miss B. M. S. Clogstown, the local company rang several touches of Grandsire and Plain Bob Triples, the longest touch being a quarter peal of Grandsire Triples, 1260 changes, in 47 mins. E. Dewey, 1; F. T. Hoad, 2; W. Bone, 3; W. Argent, 4; T. Fuller, 5; E. Kenward (conductor), 6; W. Webb, 7; J. Howard, 8. Tenor 21 cwt.

WOODHOUSE (Leicestershire).—On Saturday, June 23rd, six of the Loughborough Society visited Woodhouse church, and by kind permission of the vicar, rang a 720 of Grandsire Minor in 27 mins. W. Billingham, 1; R. Lane, 2; J. Hardy, 3; J. W. Taylor, 4; S. Smith, 5; J. W. Taylor, jun. (conductor), 6. Also several six-scores of Grandsire Doubles. R. Lane (conductor). Tenor, 10 cwt.

WEST MALLING (Kent).—On Sunday evening, after Divine Service at the parish church, a 720 of Plain Bob Minor, in 24 mins. D. Betts, 1; W. Driver, 2; E. Baldock, 3; W. Harding, 4; C. Payne (conductor), 5; D. Hall, 6. During the year 1882 eighty 720's of Minor rung on these bells in Plain Bob and Grandsire methods.

WORCESTER.—June 20th. being the Anniversary of Her Majesty's Accession to the Throne, ten members of the Cathedral society rang (at the Cathedral) a quarter-peal of Grandsire Caters, 1350 changes, in 1 hr. and 7 mins. F. Owen, 1; J. Hinton, sen., 2; N. Wale, 3; H. Pleasant, 4; S. Price, 5; W. Blandford, 6; H. Wilks, 7; J. Reynolds, 8; G. Hobbs (conductor), 9; T. Malin, 10. Tenor 50 cwt.

HURST, BERKS.

On Saturday last, June 23rd, the St. Lawrence Society (Reading) paid a visit to the pretty little village of Hurst. Permission to ring had been previously solicited of the Vicar, the Rev. E. Broome, who readily gave his consent, and invited the members to meet the Hurst ringers at tea. An arriving they were met by the Vicar, and an inspection of the vicarage grounds having been made, the party sat down to an excellent tea on the lawn. Full justice being done to the good things provided, the ringers repaired to the church, and the beautiful little peal of six bells (tenor about 18 cwt. in F) was speedily set going, and a 720, comprising six 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles, all called differently, was rung by the following: H. Bowden, 1; E. Bishop, 2; W. Johnson, 3; J. E. Willshire, 4; W. J. Williams (conductor), 5; C. Guy, 6. Several touches followed, including a 6-score of Grandsire Doubles, by T. Hayward, 1; W. R. Pocock, 2; W. Holloway, 3; E. Bishop, 4; J. E. Willshire (conductor), 5; H. Bowden, 6. Also several courses of Grandsire Minor by H. Bowden, 1; J. T. Waldron, 2; W. Johnson, 3; E. Bishop, 4; J. E. Willshire, 5; W. J. Williams, 6.

All the ringers were pleased with the go of the bells, and the perfect state in which the belfry is kept.

The bells having been lowered, the ringers returned to the vicarage, and rang several touches of Grandsire Triples on the handbells, and then took their leave, promising to pay another visit during the summer months. After a pleasant walk, Reading was reached about eleven o'clock, all the members having thoroughly enjoyed the outing, and here they wish to express their appreciation of the Vicar's kindness and hospitality.

THE BELLS OF ST. MARY REDCLIFFE, BRISTOL.

It appears that in 1636 there were but four bells here. In 1698 they were increased to eight by A. Rudhall of Gloucester. In 1763 the then 3rd, 4th, 5th, and 6th were recast by Bilbie, of Chewstoke. In 1823 two trebles, cast by T. Mears of Whitechapel, were added to make ten, and in 1872 two trebles above them were added to make twelve. These last were cast by Mears and Stainbank, and inscribed with the names of Rev. H. C. Randall, vicar, C. B. Hare and M. K. King, churchwardens, Wm. Procter Baker, mayor, A. Jones, conductor, and W. Dowling, steeple-keeper; and on the 2nd is "Laus Deo"; the 3rd has on it, "Prosperity to our benefactors," as also the 4th; the 5th has, "You mee tru ring I'll sweetly sing"; the 6th, "Prosperity to all our worthy benefactors"; the 7th, 8th, 9th, and 10th, the names of the churchwardens at that time; and the 11th, "DRAWE NEARE TO GOD, TS. IE. T + P. CW. 1622"; whilst the tenor is inscribed "+ COME WHEN I CALLE TO SERVE GOD ALL, 1622 + TS + IE T + P. C. W. The tenor is in the key of C.; diameter, 61 in.; weight, 48 cwt. (some say 52 cwt.) On the bell-frame is "T. Roome of this cittie, carpenter, anno dominie 1626. James Wathing, John Read, churchwardens."

At a special meeting of the Council of the Incorporated Free and Open Church Association, held on Wednesday, Earl Nelson presiding, the following resolution was passed and ordered to be forwarded to the Committee of the Church Congress:—"That it be respectfully suggested to the Committee of the Church Congress that, following the precedent of the popular gatherings of working men, they should further enable the inhabitants to join in the opening services by appointing Congress preachers for all the churches in the towns visited, with free admission, instead of confining the services to one or two churches, and practically restricting admission to holders of Congress tickets."

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

ON Saturday afternoon, June 16th, some members of this Guild from Farnham Royal, and the Fussell Brothers of Slough, made a little excursion to the picturesque villages of Old Windsor and Wrybury. Our Farnham friends—with the exception of Mr. Batten, who made use of his tricycle—on arriving at Datchet chartered a boat, in which old father Thames quietly floated them down stream, till the spire of the parish church of Old Windsor came in sight, cosily nestling in a clump of tall elms—hardly to be perceived unless such an edifice was known to exist. Here a landing was effected, and the church being near to the river side, the ring of six was soon in motion. After several touches of Grandsire Minor, a 720 was completed in 27 mins. At this point the vicar, the Rev. E. Harwood, came to the tower and invited the ringers to the Vicarage, where a repast was provided, to which the ringers, as usual, did justice, heartily enjoying their meal, more so perhaps on account of Mrs. Harwood, who was present, kindly attending to their requirements. The tower was again visited, and some Doubles rung with the local men ringing. The tenor is a fair bell. After the recovery of H.R.H. Prince of Wales, a new treble was added, which is thus inscribed: "Mears and Stainbank, Founders, London," with a Latin quotation. While ringing the Doubles, Mr. Hall from Wrybury appeared, and he accompanied the visitors across the river to St. Andrew's, Wrybury, where they were met by the vicar, the Rev. J. H. Hinson, and Captain Acland-Troyte. A 720 of Bob Minor was rung in 28 mins., and a 120 of Stedman Doubles, both being the first performance in the method upon these bells, which go very well. The treble has been recently added through the endeavours of the vicar.

The parish of Wraydisbury, as it originally was called, is $3\frac{1}{2}$ miles long, in the Diocese of Oxford; 22 miles from London. The parish church, a Gothic structure, is supposed to have been built by King John, and consisted of nave, chancel, aisles, tower, and well-proportioned spire. The early registers are believed to have been destroyed by fire; present one dates from 1734.

On the Aukerwycke Estate, the property of Captain Harcourt, the ruins of a Benedictine nunnery, founded in the reign of Henry II., still exist, and on an adjoining estate is a portion of King John's hunting lodge, now a farm-house, in which was found the massive oak table, and on which the Magna Charta was signed by the king. This is now in the possession of William Clifford, Esq., of Magna Charta Island, in this parish.

There are many interesting particulars in relation to the two parishes which would occupy too much space at present to describe.

W. H. F.

ST. MARY'S, SELLY OAK, BIRMINGHAM.

ON Saturday, June 23rd, the members of this Society went to Hampton-in-Arden, Warwickshire, where, by the kind permission of the Rev. T. J. Morris, they rang two 720's of Grandsire Minor, the first in 25½ mins., and the second in 23 mins. First: Robert Wilson (first 720), 1; Henry Smith, 2; John Nix, 3; Thomas Lewis, 4; Edward Bryant, 5; Alfred Cole (conductor), 6. Second: George Hale, 1; Edward Boylin, 2; Edward Bush, 3; Edward Hilton, 4; Edward Bryant, 5; Alfred Cole, 6. These are supposed to be the first 720's ever rung on the bells. After they were rung, the ringers sat down to a good substantial tea at the "White Lion" Hotel, where they all done ample justice to the repast. After tea, the tower of the parish church was again visited, and two 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles were rung. G. Hale, 1; E. Boylin, 2; A. Cole, 3; T. Lewis, 4; John Findon (first 6-score), 5; E. Bryant, 6. All the ringers belong to the Birmingham Association, and John Findon is a ringer of Hampton-in-Arden.

THE "JOHN HOLT" TABLET.

Sums received:—Mr. J. T. Hollis (Wakefield), 1s.; Mr. Josiah Wathen (Tewkesbury), 6d.; Mr. Francis Edward Dawe, 1s.; Mr. James Hinton, sen. (Worcester), 3d.; Mr. John Carter (Birmingham), 1s.; the St. Laurence's (Reading) society (per Mr. W. Newell), 3s. 6d.; the Eccles parish church company (per Mr. James Barratt), 2s. 6d.; the St. Peter's (Swinton, Lancashire) company (per Mr. Jas. Barratt), 2s.; the Tottenham (Middlesex) society (per Mr. Pye-English), 11s.; the Rev. J. H. Fish (St. Paul's, Burton-on-Trent), 2s. 6d.; total, £1 5s. 3d. Announced in last number, £2 2s. 4d.; total amount received by us up to present date, £3 7s. 7d.

Next Friday evening, July 6th, being the meeting-night at St. Margaret's, Westminster, we shall make a point of attending, and pay over what we have received from our friends to the Treasurer. Those who intend to entrust to our hands any further sums, will be kind enough to do so, therefore, during the coming week. We shall, in the number for July 14th, state the total amount which has been collected.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

THE Two Hundred and Forty-Sixth Anniversary Dinner of this Society will take place on Saturday, July 7th, 1883, at the "Duke's Head" inn, Wallington, Surrey. Tickets, 3s. 6d. each. Application for same to be made to the Hon. Sec., Mr. George Muskett, at the "King's Head," Winchester Street, Southwark, on or before Tuesday, July 3rd.

Wallington is within easy distance of Beddington, where is a very good peal of ten, in first-class order.

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 PROPOSED ASSOCIATION FOR THE DIOCESE OF ELY.

SIR,—I was glad to see and read the letters that has appeared in the "BELL NEWS" respecting the formation of an Association for this Diocese, for the reason that when we come to know that within its boundary are included the birth-place of the father of change-ringing (Fabian Stedman, who was a native of Cambridge), and that the first books ever published in the art were printed in this town, leaving all other and looking at these instances alone, it leads me to think that we ought to have an Association, and as change-ringing is at a low ebb at head quarters, I think there is great need of something being done, especially when we are aware of the fact that at some of the principal towers a band cannot be mustered for even a course of Plain Bob.

The Rev. Mr. Smith states that he is sorry A. H. O. has never heard of the beginning of this idea; all I can say is that no one in this neighbourhood was aware of the fact. For my own part I thought it was completely dropped, as we had not heard anything more than the notice that appeared in "THE BELL NEWS" after the opening of St. Mary's bells, Ely, last year. I should be pleased and delighted to see the Association fully established, and heartily wish it success.

Glensford, Suffolk.

SAMUEL SLATER.

P.S.—I was pleased to read in "THE BELL NEWS" last week that the Chelmsford trebles are to be restored to their original places, so that the ring of ten may be complete once more. I have by me the following tradition:—

"On January 21st, 1821, was rung at Chelmsford, on the ten bells, a peal of 5040 changes, which was completed in 3 hours and 40 minutes."

The method is not mentioned, nor the names of the performers: can any one give the particulars of this peal? if so, it would be interesting. I visited the belfry in 1879, but saw no tablet recording such a peal.

SIR,—Upon reading the letter of the Rev. K. H. Smith's, I was agreeably surprised to find that a start has been made in this good and great work in the diocese of Ely. With regard to the arrangements in connection with the meeting at St. Mary's church, last year, they were everything that could be desired. I now thank the above-mentioned gentleman for having furnished us with this welcome information. I hope he may meet with a earnest worker in every parish, so that their labours may be blessed with every success.

W. A. ALPS.

Waltham Abbey, Essex.

SIR,—It was not my intention to have occupied your space and time further upon this subject, but I think my thanks are due to Mr. Alps for his kind remarks towards me and the kind support he gave to my views, which I have no doubt are shared by many besides ourselves.

Also to the Rev. K. H. Smith for his information so kindly given. I myself have no doubt he has tried his utmost, for I know he worked very hard at the reopening of the Ely bells last year, and had a very difficult task to perform. If others would show the same zeal, I really think things would not be as they are, and I would suggest that as soon as possible all ringers and others interested, be invited through the medium of your journal (or by other means), to meet at Ely, and rally round Mr. Smith, and endeavour to make a commencement, for there is no doubt it is a great undertaking, therefore he needs all the assistance that can be given him.

Bury St. Edmunds.

A. H. OSBORNE.

A STEP IN THE RIGHT DIRECTION.

SIR,—Being a regular subscriber to your adaptable paper, though not a bell-ringer, and very much interested in the art, I am always glad to meet with an harmonious band. I have also read, with pleasure,

your articles on various topics, which are always brief and pithy, but fearless and bold, and your dagger-point at times has been sufficiently sharp to penetrate either thin or thick skin, and deep enough to allow all the ill blood to diffuse, where there is any, and clear the minds of every stain of strife, contention, and the petty jealousies, I have known to exist, in my long connection with the ringing fraternity. Seeing in one of your recent issues an intimation of all Sheffield ringers joining in one harmonious band—the high road to prosperity—I thought I would send you a few particulars, as the ringers here were getting like a bundle of sticks, with some drawn out, the string being loose, and in a scattering condition, but am pleased to inform you that a few zealous patriots have succeeded in drawing the bundle together again, and bound it firmer than ever. At the suggestion of a few ringers a meeting was convened, to be held at the house of Mr. J. Redfern, Victoria Hotel, High Street—all ringers cordially invited—and was well responded to. Our highly-respected friend and ringer, Mr. Wm. Booth, being elected to the chair, explained the objects of the meeting in sincere, earnest, and energetic terms, urging on his hearers the desirability of using every effort in the advancement of change-ringing, and hoped the seeds of harmony sown on that occasion would grow up and produce an harvest of good results. These sentiments all seemed heartily to enjoy. Next came the election of officers. The post of secretary fell to Mr. H. Mulligan, North Church Street, whose able and courteous manner and business tact ranked him in front for that occupation, where all enquiries and information will be promptly attended to. The office of treasurer was entrusted to Mr. T. Hattersley, who is so well known that it needs no comment from me, only to say, that his never-ceasing and untiring efforts to promote the art of change-ringing has been a marvel of endurance, and the office consigned to him I have no doubt will receive the same attention. The society, although new, is to retain the old title of "St. Peter's," and the acting stewards at present are Messrs. T. Dixon, J. Rowley, and H. Buggan, in whose hands we can rely on having efficient and impartial management, and leave nothing unturned to promote the warfare of the new-formed society. The first ringing meeting took place on June 5th, at St. Peter's church, when the ringers mustered in good force, and their united condition enabled them to open the meeting with a course of Stedman Cinques; after that a touch of Grandsire Cinques, which, with other methods, brought the meeting to a close.

The company then adjourned to the Victoria Hotel, where courses of different methods were rung on the hand-bells, to the enjoyment and satisfaction of all present. Each meeting has been well attended, and instead of seeing some five or six ringers together, you may now see, once a week, some twenty-five or twenty-six. So, I think, Mr. Editor, you will coincide with me, that this is a step in the right direction, and I hope, ere long, to be able to send you some records worthy of notice.

A WELL-WISHER.

THE BELLS OF NEW COLLEGE, OXFORD.

SIR,—In the account of New College Bells in "THE BELL NEWS" of June 16th, by "Auditor Tantum," I am spoken of as a bell of very inferior quality, compared with the tenor of Magdalen College, and I hope you will grant me a small place in your valuable paper to "speak out" for myself, as it is not the first time I have been misrepresented, the *Clavis* stating that I am only 19 cwt., and Magdalen tenor over 20 cwt. A. T. says my note is a little deeper than Magdalen, but far inferior in quality; now I think this is too bad, as I claim to be as good a bell, individually, as Magdalen tenor, and a whole note deeper; thus the remark of A. T. (if such a fine tone could 250 years ago be obtained from such a small amount of metal, &c.) applies with double force to me, when you remember that he only credits me with being 2 cwt. heavier. I own that we are far from being an "harmonious whole," and I think I can prove that it is not the fault of the four large bells; the 5th and 6th have always been used for chapel service, and have been turned about till they have lost any good qualities they may have had, although the 6th never seemed to fit in with the rest of us, and contributes largely to the "harsh and unmusical" sound spoken of by "Auditor Tantum;" then the 4th has no cannons, and is held up by two pins through the crown, and when rung by itself gives only a "ting"—no vibration whatever, so that Henry Knight of Reading failed to improve on the work done by our much-maligned founder, Michael Darbie.

It is the opinion of the Oxford ringers that 7, 8, 9, 10 are particularly good bells, and if we could get three bells to replace 4, 5, 6, we should be a better peal than Magdalen, although our good qualities are so different, Magdalen being bright and musical, and ours a pleasing melancholy.

NEW COLLEGE TENOR.

AFFAIRS AT BRAMFORD, SUFFOLK.

SIR,—Will you kindly allow me space in your valuable paper to state a few words upon Bramford church bells, and its ringers (so called)? I think it a great pity that the pretty peal of six should be

spoilt by set changes. The following singular occurrence I heard of a month ago. As the Bramford ringers were ringing set changes, three change-ringers from Sproughton (Suffolk) visited the tower, to teach the three youngest ringers how to ring a course of Doubles. One of the party coming down to unlock the door, the Bramford conductor (!) (Hardwicke) dropped the tenor, and told two others to drop the bells they had been ringing, which they did as quick as possible, so that scientific ringing should not be attempted, as this conductor does not like the thought of change-ringing being introduced. I consider this course of conduct by the Bramford head ringer and two of his companions very improper, and under such circumstances, if I were one of the Bramford local party, I should refuse to ring there till these three worthies had altered for the better, and given up such "exclusiveness." I think that the incumbent and churchwardens should know the reason why change-ringing cannot be performed on their bells as well as those of other parishes in the neighbourhood.

It is such.

G. F.

HEIGHINGTON BELL OPENING.

SIR,—Mr. Thompson, writing to "THE BELL NEWS" on behalf of the Hurworth ringers, expresses a strong disapproval of a letter which was never intended for their especial admiration, but in giving the facts of the case he goes on to state that "the Hurworth bell-ringers some short time ago were kindly asked by the vicar of Heighington to open the bells upon their completion, which offer was at once gladly accepted." The vicar of Heighington, in writing to me on May 26th, states, "I have already made arrangements with the Hurworth bell-ringers to come on June 19th. They kindly offered to do so, and I gladly availed myself of the offer, which, of course, cannot now be rescinded." Mr. Thompson will perhaps explain the discrepancy in two such widely-different statements. When I first wrote to the vicar of Heighington about the opening (not knowing that any arrangements had been made), I told him that the usual and proper thing was to invite all change-ringing companies in the district, and in giving him the names of such companies, included that of Hurworth. Mr. Thompson's suppositions of ill-feeling towards a non-associate company therefore fall to the ground, and at the same time it will be seen that it was never attempted to make this opening exclusively an Association affair. Bell openings are held elsewhere than in Durham, and the question of what is the proper way to carry them out is a matter of more than local interest. Such an opening as was recently held at Norwich may be described as a magnificent assembly of ringers, and worthy the occasion. The opening at Ely was another such instance, and amongst a large number of openings I might mention Weybread, which village entertained 120 ringers. In other cases the opening is undertaken by one company, even in the heart of a change-ringing district, as in the case of the Hurworth ringers at Heighington. Bell-founders and bell-hangers seldom interest themselves in such matters, which they seem quite willing to leave in the hands of any company that may turn up. As I should like to see the opinion of other ringers on this important subject appear in the columns of "THE BELL NEWS," I will conclude by giving my own, which is, that change-ringers should be regarded as a privileged class, whose presence, from whatever quarter, should be always welcomed at a bell-opening; that even an Association has no right to take such an event exclusively into his own hands; that a single company doing such a thing, to the exclusion of its neighbours, deserves to incur their odium and contempt.

G. J. CLARKSON.

[We should be glad to publish the opinions of some of our friends on the subject of "Openings" expressed briefly in this column.—Ed.]

MR. COX'S FIRST PEAL.

SIR,—Seeing a letter in our valuable paper of the 16th instant concerning Mr. Cox's first peal, I should like to say a few words (on his behalf) in reply to Mr. H. Randall. Mr. Cox went with me to Poplar last week, and saw the board in question, which reads as Mr. Randall states, but on referring to our peal-book I find the names, number of changes, and time, are correct, but instead of the peal having been rung on May 4th, 1883, it was rung on Saturday, March 22nd, 1834. Mr. Cox, therefore, did ring his first peal at St. Mary, Islington, and below are the particulars of it from the peal-book of the Cumberland.

St. Mary, Islington.—On Monday, 7th October, 1833, eight members of this society rang at the above church a true and complete peal of Grandsire Triples, containing 5040 changes, in 3 hrs. 9 mins. W. H. Burwash, treble, conductor; H. Pratt, second; J. Cox, third; W. Ludford, fourth; John Oldfield, fifth; W. Kellitt, sixth; A. G. Frost, seventh; Jas. Furrien, tenor.

All of which are dead, except Mr. Cox. He also rang his other first peals at the following churches:—

Treble eight, St. Dunstan, Fleet Street; Caters, St. Alphage, Greenwich; Treble ten, St. James, Bermondsey; Cinques, St. Saviour, Southwark; Treble twelve, St. Saviour, Southwark.

J. BARRY.

We find it necessary to again call attention to our regulations on the centre page.

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Mr. Cox's only source of income—the salary attached to the office of steeple-keeper of St. Bride's, Fleet Street—is often seriously diminished, through being compelled to frequently employ a substitute to perform the duty.

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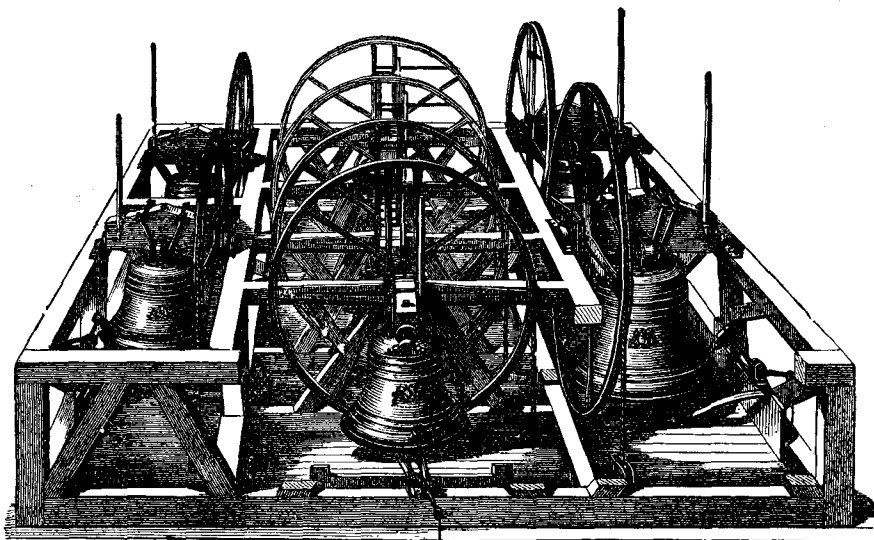
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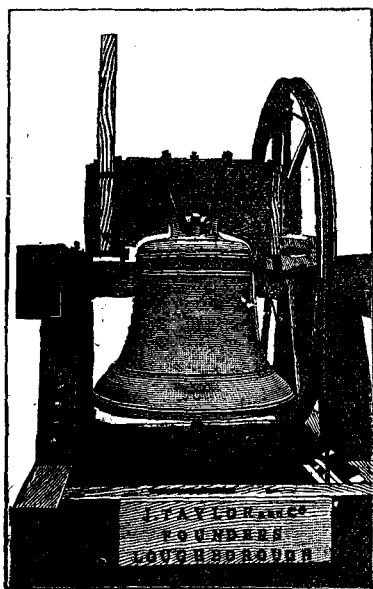
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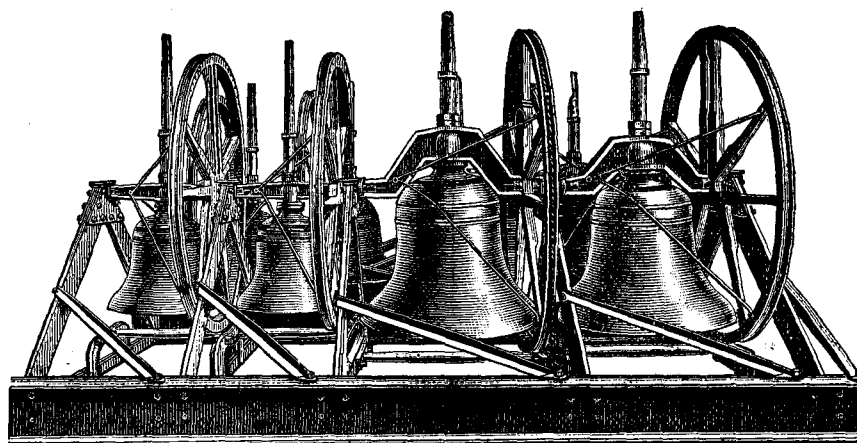
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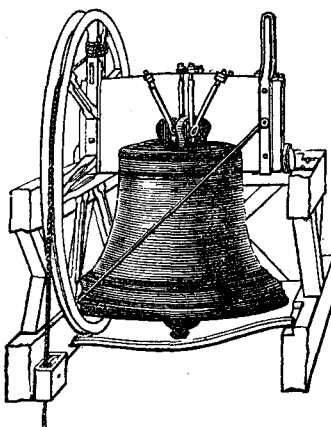
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PEALS OF TEN THOUSAND CHANGES.

By JASPER W. SNOWDON.

MUCH of the interest attached to many of the performances accomplished in peal-ringing rests upon a knowledge of what has previously been done in the same direction. For this reason I have for some time collected particulars of all the peals of 10,000 changes and upwards which have come under my notice. When, however, I consider the many different ways in which the particulars given in the following list have been obtained, I can hardly flatter myself that some peals of this length which have been rung will not have escaped my notice. Still, as in most of the cases in which a peal of this length has been accomplished it will doubtless have been considered worthy of more than a passing record, I think that this list will probably contain all such peals as are of much interest. Should any of the readers of these lines have particulars of any other peals of this length, I shall be much obliged if they will forward the same to me.

As all the most interesting of these performances have already been alluded to in my various articles on the different methods in change-ringing, I do not now intend to make more than a passing allusion to some of them. Although it would doubtless have been interesting to have had the peals in this list arranged according to the order in which they were accomplished, I gave up this way of arrangement in favour of the one adopted, in which the different methods are grouped together according to the different numbers of bells on which they were performed, and the numerical length of the peal, the various peals being arranged according to priority of date, except in the cases where the numbers run into another thousand.

The earliest performance in the list is the peal of 10,080 of Oxford Treble Bob Major, rung at St. Michael's, Norwich, in 1727, this is followed in the next year, 1728, by a 10,080 of Bob Major, rung at St. Mary's, Bermondsey, by the College Youths. In this peal, Benjamin Annable, who, from the performances accomplished by this society about that time, was evidently a ringer who not only liked a

long length but was also always to be found at the heavy end, acted a conductor and also rang the tenor.

With regard to the three peals of Bob Major rung at Leeds, in Kent, which I have given after the other Bob Major peals, there is some doubt as to whether they should be allowed to rank amongst authentic performances as the truth of the ringing in some of Barham's long peals is somewhat doubtful.

In some of the earlier peals it is doubtful whether the bells now in the steeple are the same as those upon which these lengths were rung. In certain cases I have given the weight of the tenor which was then in the tower, but in other cases where the bells have to my knowledge been recast, and I have not been able to ascertain the weight of the old tenor, I have entered the word "recast" in the column under "Weight of tenor." Whenever I have been able to obtain the name of the conductor, and the society of which the ringers were members, I have added these particulars.

When the numerous trivial causes which often prevent the accomplishment of a peal of 5000 changes are taken into consideration, it is evident that these peals of double that length cannot all have been accomplished without numerous trials having in many cases been made. Probably a full account of the disappointments met with in attempting these lengths would even be of more interest than an account of the peals themselves. In an old ms. book, supposed to have belonged to John Martin, of Leicester, I have found an entry concerning the 10,080 of Grandsire Caters rang in that town in 1777, which I think of sufficient interest to quote in full:—

"It was agreed on by the Leicester change-ringers to go for a peal of 10,080 Grandsire Caters in ye tittoms, which they did every Monday morning, and after a trial of several times, they completed their desires. Four times they rang 8000, and once they rang 9000, and then ye man that rung ye third missed his sally, and ye peal was lost. Another trial took place on the 25th day of February, and 5000 changes was rung in the morning, and in ye afternoon of ye same day they completed the great peal, 10,080 Grandsire Caters, in ye tittoms, in seven hours and twelve minutes. The next day the society met, and chaired three of the oldest members through the principal streets of the town, and the inhabitants of ye town made a subscription, and it rose to the height of thirty-three pounds and upwards."

No.	DATE.	WHERE RUNG.	CHANGES.	METHOD.	TIME. H. M.	TENOR IN CWTs.	CONDUCTOR.	SOCIETY.	No.
1.	Feb. 27, 1775	Whaplode, Lincolnshire	10,080	84 peals of Doubles	7: 26	13	—	Whaplode.	1.
2.	Apr. 2, 1815	Wath, Yorkshire	10,080	14 peals of Minor..	5: 25	12	Wm. Blackburn ..	District.	2.
3.	—	Darton, Yorkshire	10,800	15 " " " "	5: 25	10	—	Darton.	3.
4.	Feb. 18, 1817	Horbury, Yorkshire ..	10,080	14 " " " "	5: 50	Recast.	Thomas Carr	Horbury.	4.
5.	Jan. 29, 1845	Newdigate, Surrey ..	12,960	Two six-bell mthds.	7: 21	8	Thomas Gad	Newdigate.	5.
6.	Feb. 27, 1816	Wath, Yorkshire.. ..	15,120	21 " " " "	8: 27	12	Wm. Blackburn ..	Wath.	6.
7.	Apr. 9, 1751	Hillingdon, Middlesex	10,840	{ 5800 Db. B. M. 5040 Pl. B. M. 5040 Gr. Trip. 5040 Gr. Trip. Trip. Bob Trip. Ox. Sngl. Trip. 5040 T.B. Trip. 5152 Su. Su. M. }	7: 30	21	John Nott	Union Scholars.	7.
8.	Feb. 20, 1787	Otley, Yorkshire	10,080	{ 5800 Db. B. M. 5040 Pl. B. M. 5040 Gr. Trip. 5040 Gr. Trip. Trip. Bob Trip. Ox. Sngl. Trip. 5040 T.B. Trip. 5152 Su. Su. M. }	6: 22	16	—	Otley.	8.
9.	May 12, 1788	Wakefield, Yorkshire	10,080	{ 5800 Db. B. M. 5040 Pl. B. M. 5040 Gr. Trip. 5040 Gr. Trip. Trip. Bob Trip. Ox. Sngl. Trip. 5040 T.B. Trip. 5152 Su. Su. M. }	7: 1	Recast.	—	Wakefield.	9.
10.	Nov. 5, 1821	Huddersfield, Yorkshire	10,192	{ 5800 Db. B. M. 5040 Pl. B. M. 5040 Gr. Trip. 5040 Gr. Trip. Trip. Bob Trip. Ox. Sngl. Trip. 5040 T.B. Trip. 5152 Su. Su. M. }	5: 56	16	B. Thackrah	District.	10.
11.	May 18, 1728	St. Mary's, Bermondsey	10,080	Plain Bob Major..	—	14	B. Annable	College Youths.	11.
12.	Jan. 26, 1735	All Saints, Fulham ..	10,080	" " " " " "	6: 40	21	—	Fulham.	12.
13.	Mch. 16, 1742	Mortlake, Surrey.. ..	10,080	" " " " " "	5: 55	14	John Sharpe	Eastern Scholars.	13.
14.	May 24, 1750	Harrietsham, Kent ..	10,080	" " " " " "	6: 50	13	—	District.	14.
15.	Mar. 16, 1767	Debenham,	10,080	" " " " " "	6: 1	20	—	—	15.
16.	May 10, 1768	Long Melford, Suffolk	10,080	" " " " " "	6: 17	16	John Carder	Melford.	16.
17.	Nov. 8, 1773	Stourbridge, Worcstr..	10,080	" " " " " "	6: 20	19	Samuel Green	Stourbridge.	17.
18.	Feb. 14, 1775	Bromley, Kent	10,080	" " " " " "	6: 13	—	Wm. Cooke	Bromley Youths.	18.
19.	Aug. 26, 1776	Mortlake, Surrey.. ..	10,640	" " " " " "	6: 31	14	James Worstor ..	College Youths.	19.
20.	Feb. 25, 1777	St. Mary's, Shrewsbury	10,080	" " " " " "	—	21	—	—	20.
21.	Apr. 25, 1778	Braughing, Herts. ..	10,080	" " " " " "	6: 34	20	James Walker	Braughing.	21.
22.	Sep. 30, 1783	Oldham, Lancashire ..	10,080	" " " " " "	5: 30	14	Thomas Kay	Oldham.	22.
23.	Apr. 23, 1785	Shiffnal, Shropshire ..	10,080	" " " " " "	6: 30	19	Samuel Lawrence	—	23.
24.	Sep. 29, 1788	Aston, Birmingham ..	10,080	" " " " " "	6: 23	21	—	District.	24.
25.	Dec. 27, 1790	Leeds, Yorkshire	10,080	" " " " " "	6: 15	15½	Joseph Tebbs	Leeds.	25.
26.	Sep. 29, 1792	Aston, Birmingham ..	10,192	" " " " " "	6: 26	21	—	District.	26.
27.	Nov. 23, 1795	Edmonton, Middlesex..	10,080	" " " " " "	6: 29	18	George Gross	Cumberlands.	27.
28.	—	Borden, Kent	10,080	" " " " " "	—	21	—	—	28.
29.	Mch. 25, 1817	Mottram, Cheshire	10,080	" " " " " "	5: 48	13	—	Mottram.	29.
30.	July 11, 1818	Hythe, Kent	10,080	" " " " " "	6: 17	19	—	—	30.
31.	Mch. 7, 1819	Great Baddow, Essex..	10,080	" " " " " "	5: 55	13	Joseph Howard ..	Chelmsford.	31.
32.	Jan. 18, 1830	Ashford, Kent	10,304	" " " " " "	6: 25	24	John Friend	District.	32.
33.	Apr. 21, 1839	Leeds, Kent	10,080	" " " " " "	5: 55	20	Richard Gibbons..	—	33.
34.	July 27, 1807	Kenninghall, Norfolk ..	10,080	" " " " " "	5: 46	16½	Jeremiah Mordey..	Kenninghall.	34.
35.	Apr. 9, 1883	Frittenden, Kent	10,080	" " " " " "	5: 34	14	Caleb Payne	Kent County Assoc.	35.
36.	May 24, 1779	St. Nicholas, Brighton	11,088	" " " " " "	6: 50	18	George Gross	Cumberlands.	36.
37.	April 6, 1822	Bolney, Sussex	11,216	" " " " " "	—	—	Richard Cook ..	District.	37.
38.	May 10, 1779	Braughing, Herts. ..	12,240	" " " " " "	7: 34	20	James Walker	Braughing.	38.

PEALS OF TEN THOUSAND CHANGES.—Continued.

No.	DATE.	WHERE RUNG.	CHANGES.	METHOD.	TIME. H. M.	TENOR IN CWTs.	CONDUCTOR.	SOCIETY.	No.
39.	Mch. 5, 1773	Leeds, Kent	13,440	Plain Bob Major ..	7: 36	20	—	District.	39.
40.	May 4, 1846	Hythe, Kent	13,440	" " " ..	7: 55	18½	Jno. Friend	"	40.
41.	Feb. 16, 1780	Aston, Birmingham ..	14,224	" " " ..	8: 45	21	Chas. Shuter	Birmingham.	41.
42.	Jan. 4, 1784	Oldham, Lancashire ..	14,480	" " " ..	8: 24	14	Thomas Kay	Oldham.	42.
43.	Nov. 21, 1734	West Ham, Essex ..	15,120	" " " ..	8: 40	28	P. Mainwaring ..	Eastern Scholars.	43.
44.	Oct. 24, 1847	Oldham, Lancashire ..	15,120	" " " ..	8: 46	14	Joseph Newton ..	Oldham.	44.
45.	Oct. 1, 1793	Aston, Birmingham ..	15,360	" " " ..	9: 31	21	Joshua Short	District.	45.
46.	Dec. 30, 1752	Leeds, Kent	14,500	" " " ..	9: 30	20	—	Leeds.	46.
47.	Jan. 13, 1753	" " " ..	20,163	" " " ..	13: 34	20	—	"	47.
48.	Apr. 7-8, 1761	" " " ..	40,320	" " " ..	27: 0	20	—	"	48.
49.	Dec. 8, 1746	Harrietsham, Kent ..	10,080	Double Bob Major	7: 0	13	—	District.	49.
50.	Feb. 4, 1861	Walsall, Staffordshire..	10,032	Grandsire Major ..	6: 15	24	Wm. Hallsworth...	Walsall.	50.
51.	Apr. 1, 1727	St. Michael's, Norwich	10,080	Oxfr. Tbl. Bb. Maj.	6: 28	14	—	District.	51.
52.	Jan. 3, 1796	Leeds, Kent	10,080	" " " ..	6: 26	20	—	"	52.
53.	Apr. 28, 1800	Edmonton, Middlesex	10,112	" " " ..	6: 29	18	George Gross	Cumberlands.	53.
54.	May 17, 1808	Leatherhead, Surrey ..	10,080	" " " ..	6: 4	20	Benj. Simmons....	Leatherhead.	54.
55.	Jun. 21, 1813	Keighley, Yorkshire ..	10,080	Kent " " ..	6: 3	14	Geo. Hattersley ..	Keighley.	55.
56.	Nov. 13, 1820	Huddersfield, Yorks ..	10,080	" " " ..	5: 45	16	Jon. Womersley ..	Huddersfield.	56.
57.	Jan. 1, 1841	Liversedge, Yorkshire..	10,208	" " " ..	5: 46	16	J. Firth	Liversedge.	57.
58.	Jun. 13, 1844	Marsham, Norfolk ..	10,080	Oxford " " ..	5: 43	7	Thos. Greenwood..	District.	58.
59.	Mch. 21, 1851	Low Moor, Yorkshire	10,080	Kent " " ..	6: 2	14	J. Barraclough ..	"	59.
60.	Mch. 23, 1860	Redenhall, Norfolk ..	10,080	Oxford " " ..	6: 25	24	Benj. Smith	"	60.
61.	Mch. 14, 1871	Kenninghall, Norfolk ..	10,176	" " " ..	6: 20	16½	Jeremiah Mordey..	"	61.
62.	Apr. 10, 1871	Liversedge, Yorkshire	10,272	Kent " " ..	5: 38	16	Jno. Illingworth ..	Liversedge.	62.
63.	Feb. 24, 1872	Earlsheaton, Yorkshire	10,176	" " " ..	6: 10	14	Charles A. Fox....	District.	63.
64.	Nov. 16, 1868	Bolton, Bradford, Yorks	10,176	" " " ..	5: 59	15	Tom Lockwood ..	Yorkshire Assocn.	64.
65.	Oct. 16, 1880	Debenham, Norfolk ..	10,272	" " " ..	6: 35	20	Wm. Ireland	Norwich Assocn.	65.
66.	Nov. 4, 1882	Mottram, Cheshire ..	10,080	" " " ..	5: 41	11	Samuel Wood	District.	66.
67.	Oct. 16, 1762	Otley, Yorkshire ..	12,320	" " " ..	7: 15	16	—	"	67.
68.	Feb. 12, 1821	Oldham, Lancashire ..	14,016	" " " ..	7: 26	14	Joseph Newton ..	Oldham.	68.
69.	Dec. 26, 1831	Elland, Yorkshire ..	15,168	" " " ..	8: 43	15	Two conductors ..	District.	69.
70.	Apr. 27, 1868	Bethnal Green ..	15,840	" " " ..	9: 12	14	H. W. Haley	College Youths.	70.
71.	May 18, 1883	Mottram, Cheshire ..	16,608	" " " ..	9: 48	11	Samuel Wood	Ashton-under-Lyne	71.
72.	Mch. 1, 1735	Painswick, Gloucester ..	10,080	Grandsire Caters ..	6: 27	28	—	Painswick.	72.
73.	Mch. 29, 1762	Fulham, Middlesex ..	10,098	" " " ..	6: 53	21	W. Underwood....	College Youths	73.
74.	Oct. 17, 1762	West Ham, Essex ..	10,188	" " " ..	7: 11	28	W. Underwood....	College Youths.	74.
75.	Feb. 25, 1777	St. Margt's, Leicester	10,088	" " " ..	7: 12	30	Wm. Bull	Leicester.	75.
76.	Mch. 3, 1778	St. Mary's, Nottingham	10,260	" " " ..	7: 22	35	W. D. Crofts	Nottingham.	76.
77.	Jan. 27, 1803	Kingston-on-Thames ..	10,386	" " " ..	6: 56	29	Robert Collins	Kingston.	77.
78.	Apr. 5, 1808	St. Chad's, Shrewsbury	10,397	" " " ..	6: 50	41	Wm. Bull	Shrewsbury.	78.
79.	Mch. 27, 1815	New College, Oxford ..	10,008	" " " ..	6: 48	19	E. Nicholls	Oxford Cumb. Yths.	79.
80.	Sep. 23, 1816	Painswick, Gloucester ..	10,278	" " " ..	6: 42	28	James Savory	Painswick.	80.
81.	May 19, 1842	St. Nicholas, Bristol ..	10,133	" " " ..	5: 58	36	W. Smith	Bristol.	81.
82.	Apr. 8, 1844	Ashton-under-Lyne ..	10,259	" " " ..	6: 10	20	W. Underwood ..	District.	82.
83.	Jan. 1, 1858	" " " ..	10,277	" " " ..	6: 8	20	James Adams	—	83.
84.	May 21, 1861	Wednesbury, Stafford...	10,061	" " " ..	5: 55	23	W. Micklewright..	—	84.
85.	Mch. 29, 1864	Walsall, Staffordshire..	10,079	" " " ..	6: 17	24	—	—	85.
86.	Mch. 4, 1871	Appleton, Berkshire ..	10,080	" " " ..	6: 21	14	Fred. White	Appleton.	86.
87.	Mch. 8, 1737	St. Peter's, Norwich ..	12,600	" " " ..	8: 15	23	—	Norwich Scholars.	87.
88.	Apr. 18, 1737	Painswick, Gloucester ..	12,006	" " " ..	7: 55	28	—	Painswick.	88.
89.	May 5, 1817	" " " ..	12,312	" " " ..	7: 44	28	James Savory	"	89.
90.	May 15, 1837	Fulham, Middlesex ..	12,096	" " " ..	7: 50	21	Thomas Tolliday..	St. James's Youths.	90.
91.	Mch. 8, 1859	Aston, Birmingham ..	10,047	Stedman Caters ..	6: 16	21	John Perks	St. Martins' Youths.	91.
92.	Feb. 18, 1777	Shoreditch, London ..	10,000	Oxfr. Trbl. Bb. Rl.	7: 28	31	Charles Purser....	College Youths.	92.
93.	May 10, 1777	" " " ..	10,200	" " " ..	7: 20	31	George Gross	Cumb. Youths.	93.
94.	Dec. 5, 1863	Bradford, Yorkshire ..	10,000	Kent Tb. Bb. Ryl.	6: 54	27	Jno. Gill Holroyd ..	District.	94.
95.	May 19, 1777	" " " ..	11,080	" " " ..	8: 2	31	Charles Purser....	College Youths.	95.
96.	Mch. 27, 1784	" " " ..	12,000	" " " ..	9: 5	31	George Gross	Cumb. Youths.	96.
97.	Dec. 9, 1833	Painswick, Gloucester ..	10,224	Kent T. B. Maxms.	6: 50	28	Wm. Estcourt	Painswick Youths.	97.

THE LONG PEAL AT MOTTRAM.

We have received a capitally-executed group photograph of the performers of this peal. It is of large size, and is a most fitting souvenir of this extraordinary achievement. They stand in two rows, or rather, the first four are seated, the others standing behind. By looking from left to right, the order in which these gentlemen stood in the peal is easily discerned. Mr. Samuel Wood holds a book in his hand, and from what we can make out, Mr. Thorp has a copy of "THE BELL NEWS," which he holds on a pedestal. This photo is really

a work of art, and we have the satisfaction of announcing for the benefit of our readers that copies may be had, price 2s. each, post-free, from Mr. Joseph Mellor, 40, Newman Street, Ashton-under-Lyne.

Mr. W. Gordon, of 20, Crowther Street, Stockport, has sent us the music (composed by himself) which he has set to the lines written by H. Egby of Reading, and which we published some time ago. This is a lively essay, without being boisterous, and the low price at which it is published ought to ensure a quick and ready sale. A cheaper selection of music we have never seen.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

THE Annual General Meeting of this Association was held on June 27th, at Ashford, and was attended by about ninety members.

The town of Ashford was, until the railway came into being, quite out of the world; but its bells have always been justly celebrated; and in an article at a future period, we shall deal with the belfry, and the tablets therein. About eleven o'clock in the morning, members of the Association could be observed in little knots about the streets; two members drove twenty miles to be present, this distance was however walked over by a member just two years ago. A mixed band rang a touch of Minor for the special service at noon, those then present being five or six men of incomplete companies. At the close of Divine Service the Rector preached an admirable sermon of a practical nature. The respected Hon. Secretary of the Association—the Rev. R. B. Knatchbull-Hugessen—read the special and shortened service used on such occasions. Seldom could the stately structure have looked so well—the upper part of the nave well filled with men; a few females aloft in the other parts. The tower space is now cleared right out, and has a marble pavement, the four great piers being composed of solid masses of Kentish rag. The belfry aloft between the four wings of the church is an example to many a wealthy Cathedral body, while this is but the church of a small market town.

At the dinner, which took place shortly after the service, Lord Harris presided, and congratulated the Association on its progress remarking that his acquaintance with the art was limited, as the one attempt he made to pull up the tenor of his parish church at Throwley, resulted in his nearly going up himself.

Ringling took place both at Ashford and Mersham on eight bells, and on six bells at Kennington and Great Chart; the distances between the places were, however, found to be awkward.

Mersham Church should be visited by all "strings" who may ever be near. There a belfry will be found well-ordered, and when that is the case in the present day, the condition of the other parts of the edifice may be guessed. The present rector is the Hon. Secretary of the Kent County Association, above named.

Unfortunately no report of the Rochester meeting, held in April last, was given in "THE BELL NEWS," and thus the performance of a long touch rang at Cliffe-at-Hoo (eight bells), is not recorded. The writer would be glad to see arrangements made for a preparation of a general report of these meetings from all correct sources, and from one who is something more than a treble-man.

THE WALTHAMSTOW SOCIETY AT WALTHAM ABBEY.

On Saturday last, a few members of this society visited this old-fashioned and picturesque spot. The party, which comprised only a moiety of the ringing company, strengthened by the presence of a few friends, made the journey by road, in excellent conveyances supplied by a courteous and obliging local purveyor, through what may be termed the loveliest part of Essex, which in this district certainly does not sustain the character it has of being a flat, unromantic county.

On arriving at the ancient town, the house of our old friend, Mr. Thomas Powell—the "Three Tuns"—was soon filled with visitors, and as the day was excessively warm, the various compounds for which this establishment is famed were soon in demand. But in a spacious apartment at the top of the premises, the worthy hostess had prepared a most refreshing and welcome repast—the cup that cheers, accompanied by a bountiful supply of solids, with relays of choice salads, and of which the company gratefully partook. Every arrangement was here made to please the eye and palate of the most fastidious—the table was decked with choice plants, in all the luxuriance of foliage, and the requirements of her guests were superintended by Mrs. Powell in her usual obliging manner. Tea being over, those of the visitors who were acquainted with the mysteries of ringing went to the Abbey tower hard by, and where the bells were soon involved in the labyrinth of Stedman Triples. The bells here are in such order that a 5040 may easily be rung upon them without the least sign of fatigue, in fact such a feat may be done here easier than on many a lighter peal. The ringing-chamber is a spacious apartment, and very well appointed; the windows enabling the performer to view, while ringing, some of the stately vegetation around him, and he can thus meditate upon the fair scenes of nature presented to his vision while meandering through the mazes of whole and half-turns. Let him not be caught napping, however, or he may be awakened from his poetical reveries by Mr. Powell calling on him to "make the bob;" the stentorian voice of Mr. Alps instructing him to "run in quick;" and the quiet but no less effective sign from Mr. Thurgood intimating that he is required to "lead a whole-pull."

The amount of ringing done on the Abbey bells was not great. A touch each of Stedman and Grandsire Triples only were rung, the majority of the company preferring a perambulation of the district to the ordeal of ascending to the belfry. In the cool of the evening they again repaired to the "Three Tuns," where, screened from vulgar

gaze, four members rang touches in the above-named methods, upon handbells, conducted by W. A. Alps; and five members of the Abbey company afterwards played some well-known tunes in an admirable manner. At length, the hour of departure drew nigh, and taking their places in the vehicles as before, the visitors proceeded homeward, enlivened on the way by the vocal abilities of Mr. William Crockford, and the innocuous hilarity of Mr. Thomas Watson.

RE-OPENING AT DAGENHAM, ESSEX.

THE Dedication Festival of Dagenham Church was held on Sunday last, and as an effort is being made to raise a fund for the restoration of the belfry, a part of which has already taken place, an opportunity was taken to make an attempt to re-open the bells, which was entrusted to the Romford and Little Heath members of the Essex Association. Those present were Messrs. A. Deards (Dagenham), Perkins, B. Keeble, W. Keeble, J. Keeble, G. Roughton, and H. Skingsley (Romford), A. Pye, A. Porter, and J. Porter (Little Heath), W. J. Aldridge (Brentwood), F. Bidgood (Woolwich), and J. Nunn (Walthamstow). Unfortunately there were several drawbacks to any satisfactory performances, for with the close atmosphere in the small ringing chamber, without any means of ventilation whatever, new ropes (which are very good), and the need of considerable further improvements in most of the appliances, it was impossible to bring home a 720, consequently only short touches of Plain and Kent Treble Bob, with some Grandsire Doubles, were accomplished. There is, however, a good prospect that such will not long remain the condition here owing to the lack of attention. The Rev. F. Alban Wyld, the well-known mission preacher, is now curate-in-charge of the parish, and one of the first matters to receive his attention has been the condition of the belfry. The rev. gentleman has also commenced to learn to ring, and is seeking for funds to carry on the work. Should such be forthcoming, we feel confident that before long we shall have the pleasure of reporting that through his energetic labours Dagenham belfry has become a model one. Those present desire to record their thanks to the rev. gentleman for providing them with tea between the services.

THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, June 30th, by the kind invitation of Mr. Biggs, the Warner of the Bromham Society of change-ringers, a visit was made to the belfry of Bromham church by ringing friends from Bedford, Elstow, Biddenham, and Woburn, all members of the Association. On the visitors arriving at the church they were kindly received by the Rev. C. J. E. Smith, the vicar, who is an hon. member of the same Association acting upon the Committee of Management. This gentleman very courteously pointed out to the ringers the various objects of interest in and about the church, and with much forethought, the day being an excessively hot one, had provided a plentiful supply of non-intoxicants for the use of the ringers in the little room over the northern porch which in days of yore had doubtless served as an hermitage. Attention has here been given both to the bells and the ringing-chamber, and the Bromham ringers, with their vicar amongst them, stand with the foremost in the vanguard of those who with untiring perseverance have been endeavouring to establish the practice of half-pull ringing in Bedfordshire. Unfortunately, owing to the fourth rope casting the wheel, several break-downs occurred, but ultimately a 720 of Bob Minor was accomplished. It is probable that at no distant date a ring of eight will grace the tower. At five o'clock Mr. Biggs, the elder, of Bromham Mills, the vicar's warden, generously entertained the ringers at his house to a most refreshing tea, and as that gentleman is a reader of "THE BELL NEWS," the visitors through the medium of this paper take the opportunity of conveying to him and to his good lady, Mrs. Biggs, their thankful appreciation of the hospitable reception accorded to them. Returning from Bromham, a passing visit to the steeple of Biddenham church was made, where Frossell, as pioneer, detailed incidents of the progress of the ringers, work there, and the visitors, elated with the happy proceedings of the afternoon, hastened to the Bedford Railway Station, and respectively departed for their homes. Among the company during the day were Messrs. Herbert, Morrisson, Turney, Woburn; Allen, Clarke, Cullip, Fook, Bedford; Frossell, Biddenham; Biggs, King, Stafferton, and Tysoe, Bromham.

THE BELLS OF ST. THOMAS'S, SALISBURY.—When the bells were raised on the morning of the Coronation Day, June 23rd, the 6th bell was found to be so loose in the stock, as to be almost unringable even in rounds. The nuts appeared to be completely rusted on the cannon straps, so that it was impossible to tighten her up. Nothing has yet been done to remedy the evil.

We are compelled to postpone the insertion of several matters until our next issue.

"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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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.

HENRY BAREFIELD.—We are much obliged for your kind letter, and hope you will continue your exertions in the cause.

The Bell News & Ringers' Record.

SATURDAY, JULY 7, 1883.

THE season for the holding of those festivities which by many of the operatives who are employed both in large and small establishments are denominated "bean-feasts," may now be said to be at its height. The "hands" employed in nearly every conceivable industry, if their annual festival has not yet been held, are almost hourly occupied in discussing the arrangements which are being made by those to whom authority in such matters has been delegated. Such "coming events" as these certainly "cast their shadows before" in a remarkable manner; in many households—we are afraid not the best regulated—every energy is actively employed in providing various extravagances for the coming fête-day, and the hoardings of weeks very often squandered in pursuits the reverse of healthy relaxation or innocent enjoyment. We believe that if the organisers of these outings, by whatever name they are known by—"beanfeast," "wayzgoose," or what not, could arrange to connect with them some special feature of interest, an entertainment of some kind which would act as a restraint upon those disposed to over-indulgence, a great change for the better would be made in their procedure.

At this time, also reports of festivals among our ringing brethren frequently appear in the columns of this paper. We claim that these meetings possess that element of recreation which we insist should be a principal ingredient at holiday-time. During the past few years there has been a great improvement in the conduct of even ringers' festivities. The accounts we read concerning them serve to illustrate the fact that the refining process is at work in connection with them. We need only glance this week at the reports of the annual dinner of the St. John at Hackney company, and the festival of the Stoke-upon-Trent Archidiaconal and the Kent County Associations,

to find that no one, however noble or gentle of birth, need refrain from attending ringers' festivals on the plea that they are brought into too close a connection with fustian habiliments. It is very gratifying to see so many of the clergy who are not practical ringers, identifying themselves in so prominent a manner with the affairs of their various ringing companies. The example of the esteemed Rector of Hackney will, it is hoped, be widely followed by those of the clergy who are, like himself, unacquainted with the art of change-ringing. The recognition of ringers in this manner will in time to come prove of incalculable benefit to the Church, by the erection of what we may term an outer bulwark against the onslaught of opposing forces.

While not attempting to dictate as to the manner in which the preliminaries of a ringers' festival should be adjusted, we should like to hear less of what may be called "the foreign element" at such gatherings. If it is found desirable to invite non-ringing friends to "make up" the party, at least allow such invitations to be given only to those who have a sympathy with the art, or an affection for "the bells and chimes of motherland." The conversation of such persons would not be likely to grate on the ear. The ringers' outing is not an appropriate season to hear of the "straight tip" upon an approaching horse-race, or to discuss the "points" and staying powers of the first favourite.

NORTH GOSCOTE SOCIETY OF BELL-RINGERS, LEICESTERSHIRE.

THE second annual meeting of the ringers of the North Goscote Deanery was held at Asfordby on Monday, June 25th, when ringers were present from the following parishes; Asfordby, Great Dalby, Ratcliffe, Syston (two companies), Thrussington, and Wymeswold. Ringing commenced at 10.15, and continued until 12.45, without intermission. At one o'clock the various companies adjourned to the village schoolroom, where they found an excellent dinner awaiting them, provided by Mr. Roberts, of the Temperance Hotel, Leicester.

After dinner, the Secretary proceeded to read his report and the statement of accounts, and new members were then elected, including the Wymeswold and Syston Junior Companies. Ringing again commenced at 3 o'clock, and continued until 4.30, when all once more reassembled at the school for afternoon tea. Several members of the Syston Senior Company afterwards performed on the handbells, and were warmly applauded. Ringing then again commenced at the tower, and the bells were kept going until 6.45.

During the intervals of ringing, there was ample amusement to be had in the pleasant grounds of Ashfordby Rectory, where a choice could be had between the games of cricket or quoits, or boating on the river which runs through the grounds.

The day's proceedings were concluded with a hearty service at the church, at which a sermon was preached by the Rev. A. M. Rendell, Rector of Coston, and Secretary of the Framland Society of ringers, from Numbers x. 10, in which the ringers were reminded how honourable an office they held, and what manner of men they should be who performed that office.

In conclusion we would warmly congratulate the different companies, on the steady progress made during the past year. At the last meeting there was but one company that attempted anything like change-ringing, while this year only two companies were satisfied with ringing "cross changes." This ought indeed to be an encouraging sign to the promoters of the Society. At the same time we hope that those companies who can ring a well struck 6-score of Grandsire Doubles, will bear in mind that this is not the only five-bell method in existence, and that it gets rather monotonous to those who are listening outside, to hear nothing but the well known changes of the Grandsire method rung out over and over again, by each succeeding company. It is much to be deplored that there are not more rings of six bells in this Deanery, as there are several fine rings of five, which would be much improved by the addition of a treble, notably that of Sibby, the reputed weight of its tenor being 22 cwt. We hope that as the various companies advance, the funds will be forthcoming to remedy this deficiency.

The Provinces.**GLODWICK, NEAR OLDHAM, LANCASHIRE.**

On Saturday, June 30, 1883, in Five Hours and Twenty-nine Minutes,

AT ST. MARK'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE MAJOR, 9600 CHANGES;

Tenor 8½ cwt.

JOHN HILTON* Treble.	FRED. CROSLAND* 5.
GEO. HY. BEEVER 2.	CLEMENT DRONSFIELD .. 6.
ALBERT CLEGG 3.	SAML. STOTT 7.
JAMES PLATT* 4.	JAMES PRIESTLEY Tenor.

Composed by JOHN THORP, of Ashton-under-Lyne, and
Conducted by SAMUEL STOTT.

*First peal in the method.

This peal, which was composed eighteen years ago, is the extent that can possibly be obtained with the tenors together, and is now rung for the first time. It is also the longest peal that has been rung in Oldham since 1824, a period of about fifty-nine years.

Messrs. Hilton and Stott hail from Lees; Beever, Clegg, and Dronsfield from Glodwick; and Platt, Crosland, and Priestley from Oldham.

Miscellaneous.**THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.**

BROMHAM (Bedfordshire).—On Saturday, June 30th, at a friendly gathering of the above Association, six members rang a 720 of Bob Minor, with eighteen bobs and two singles. T. Tysoe (Bromham), 1; W. Allen (Bedford), 2; *T. Foote (Bedford), 3; J. Atkins (Elstow), 4; C. Stafferton (Bromham), 5; W. Biggs (Bromham, conductor), 6. *First 720 with a bob bell. Tenor 18 cwt.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

SITTINGBOURNE.—On Monday, July 2nd, at St. Michael's church, a 720 of Grandsire Minor, with thirty-four bobs and two singles, in 29 mins. Francis Grayling, 1; F. C. Mattison, (conductor), 2; E. J. Cooper, 3; J. Bottle, 4; S. Snelling, 5; W. H. Judd, 6. Tenor about 21 cwt.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

CHURCH KIRK.—On Thursday, June 28th, being Coronation Day, six members of the above Association rang a 720 of Plain Bob Minor, with sixteen bobs and two singles, in 28½ mins. James Horrocks (conductor), 1; Henry Hayes, 2; John Bullock, 3; James Pickles, 4; Thomas Doran, 5; William Pattison, 6. Tenor 15 cwt.

DEANE, BOLTON (Lancashire).—On Sunday, June 24th, a 720 of Bob Minor, in 26 mins. H. W. Jackson, 1; W. Marsden, 2; J. H. Jackson, 3; J. E. Turner, 4; W. Hamer, 5; J. Pears, 6. Tenor 14 cwt.

WHALLEY.—On Saturday, June 23rd, a 720 of Plain Bob Minor, in 27 mins. Jas. Horrocks (conductor), 1; Hy. Hayes, 2; John Bullock, 3; James Pickles, 4; Wm. Pattison, 5; Thos. Horrocks, 6. Also a 720 of Grandsire Minor, in 26 mins. H. W. Jackson, 1; W. Marsden, 2; J. Curtis, 3; W. Warburton, 4; W. Parker, 5; W. Hamer, 6. Tenor 18 cwt.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

EAST HARLING (Norfolk).—On Sunday, June 14th, after Divine Service, four of the local company, with Mr. West of Garboldisham, and Mr. Woods of Kenninghall, rung at the parish church, a 720 of Bob Minor, in 26 mins. W. West, 1; J. Adams, 2; A. Hunt, 3; H. Sucker, 4; J. Woods, 5; C. Pall (conductor), 6. Tenor 12 cwt.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

OXFORD.—On Thursday, June 28th, at St. Mary's church, a 720 of Grandsire Minor, in 35 mins. A. Fox, 1; S. Hounslow, 2; W. Finch, 3; T. Payne, 4; W. J. Smith (conductor), 5; C. Hounslow, 6.

THE SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.

TROWBRIDGE (Wiltshire).—On Thursday, June 28th, two 336's, and a 504 of Grandsire Triples, were rung. W. Alley (conductor), 1; J. R. Jerram, 2; S. Webb, 3; J. Hayward, 4; W. McCaffery, 5; W. Lane, 6; W. Palmer, 7; J. Cooper, 8. Tenor 21 cwt. 1008 were started for, but after ringing above 700 changes, two of the bells got crossed. It should be stated that the Trowbridge company are the only change-ringers in Wilts.

STOKE-UPON-TRENT ARCHDIACONAL ASSOCIATION.

CHEDDLETON (Staffordshire).—On Sunday evening, July 1st, for Divine Service, a 720 of Bob Minor, with nine bobs and six singles, in 27 mins. J. James, 1; E. Spooner, 2; J. Gilbert, 3; H. Rogers, 4; F. Clowes (conductor), 5; J. Renshaw, 6.

ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD ASSOCIATION

On Saturday, June 30th, at St. Michael's church, a 720 of Grandsire Minor, in 29 mins. F. Sedgwick, 1; W. Walker, 2; G. Robinson, 3; John Fowler, 4; W. R. Small, 5; J. Astbury, jun. (conductor), 6. Also on Sunday, July 1st, at the same church, after evening service, a 720 of Plain Bob Minor in 28 mins. E. Gallimore, 1; H. Meacham, 2; F. Cope, 3; R. Annis, 4; A. Thomas, 5; Thos. Meredith (conductor), 6. Tenor 14 cwt. in A.

ECKINGTON (Derby).—On Sunday, July 1st, at the parish church, a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob Minor, with fifteen bobs, in 28 mins. J. Hunt, 1; W. Price, 2; W. Worthington (conductor), 3; H. Madin, 4; A. Knights (Chesterfield), 5; G. Marsden, 6. Also 720 of Violet, with twenty-one bobs. A. Knights, 1; J. Hunt, 2; J. Shaw, 3; G. Norman, 4; W. Worthington (conductor), 5; H. Madin, 6. Tenor 16 cwt. 14 lbs.

GISLINGHAM (Suffolk).—On Saturday, June 30th, six of the Diss company paid a visited to St. Mary's church, and rang a 720 of Bob Minor, in 29 mins. C. Webster, 1; W. Scales, 2; E. Francis, 3; B. Francis, 4; W. Ireland (conductor), 5; W. Brown, 6. Also 600 in the same method. T. Selsby, 1; C. Webster, 2; H. Ireland, 3; W. Ireland, 4; E. Francis (conductor), 5; W. Brown, 6. Tenor 18 cwt. Our correspondent adds: This peal of bells ought to be increased to eight.

MIRFIELD (Yorkshire).—On Saturday, June 30th, six of the St. Mary's parish church ringers rang at St. Paul's church, three 720's in the following methods: Oxford, Violet, and New London Pleasure; being the longest length ever rung on these bells, which was rung in 1 hr. 15 mins. John Crowther, 1; Ralph Ellis, 2; Henry Hinchcliffe (conductor), 3; Jesse Holt (aged 77), 4; Benjamin Robinson, 5; Joah Peacock, 6. Tenor 14 cwt. 2 qrs.

PONTEFRAC.—On Thursday evening, June 28th, six members of this company rang at All Saints' church, a 720 of Bob Minor, with 22 singles, in 25 mins. W. Wilcock, 1; J. Brook, 2; J. Hickingbottom, 3; J. Pollard, 4; J. Brook, 5; W. Pearson (conductor), 6. Also on Sunday morning, July 1st, for Divine Service, a 720 of Bob Minor was rung, with 9 bobs 6 singles. W. Wilcock, 1; W. Pearson (conductor), 2; J. Hickingbottom, 3; J. Hickingbottom, 4; R. Brook, 5; J. Carter, 6. Tenor 11 cwt. in F.

PRESCOT (Lancashire).—On Saturday, June 30th, the following members of the St. Mary's church society met in their tower, and with the assistance of Mr. Richard and Mr. Robert Williams, and Mr. Geo. Helsby, of Liverpool, rang three plain courses of Grandsire Triples. Jonathan Finney, 1; John Renshaw, 2; John Case, 3; Joseph Eaton, 4; Robert Williams, 5; Richard Williams, 6; Thomas Byron, 7; Geo. Helsby, 8. Afterwards two courses were rung with Walter Scarisbrick at the 4th. These are the first courses rung by this society since its formation three months since, who are under the tuition of Robert Williams, of Liverpool.

RUNCORN (Cheshire).—On Saturday, June 30th, at the parish church, a 720 of Grandsire Minor, in 25½ mins. S. Hoxworth (Runcorn), 1; *J. Davidson, (Liverpool), 2; *J. Large (Farnworth), 3; T. Brown (first 720; Runcorn), 4; J. R. Pritchard (Liverpool), 5; *J. Aspinwall (conductor; Liverpool), 6. *Members of the Lancashire Association. Also 504 and 840 of Grandsire Triples. S. Hoxworth, 1; J. Davidson, 2; W. Owen, 3; J. Large, 4; J. R. Pritchard (conductor), 5; T. Brown, 6; J. Aspinwall, 7; T. Williamson, 8. Tenor 16 cwt.

SOUTH ANSTONE (Yorkshire).—On Sunday, July 1st, 120 of Oxford Treble Bob Minor. R. Fox, 1; T. Silvester, 2; J. Bland, 3; W. Wright, 4; C. Fowler, 5; W. Hall, 6. Tenor 12 cwt. This is the first 120 by any of the band.

STISTED (Essex).—On Tuesday evening, July 3rd, a 720 of Bob Minor in 26 mins. E. Chapman (first 720), 1; W. H. Dyson, 2; Jno. Sadler (first 720 inside), 3; Jas. Sadler, 4; F. Rudkin (conductor), 5; W. Radley, 6.

WEST MALLING (Kent).—On Sunday evening, after Divine Service, two 720's of Plain Bob Minor, were each rung in 25 mins. W. Driver, 1; E. Baldock, 2; D. Hall, 3; W. Harding, 4; W. Leonard (conductor), 5; C. Payne, 6. Our correspondent adds:—Two trebles are much wanted here, to make the peal complete, then we should be able to send 5000's and upwards; the belfry also should be rid of the lumber it contains, viz.: grave diggers' tools in abundance; an old clock dial, dated 1699; also a large coal-shed, large enough to hold

three or four tons of coal; and in another corner there is very often a wheelbarrow, and biers, and ladders. The floor is level with the church floor but it does not look much like it, the flooring being deficient, parts of it expose the bare earth. It was once swept, and the walls white-washed, but that was over twenty years ago. Such is the state of the west end of God's house at Malling.

CROWLAND (Lincolnshire).—On Thursday, June 28th, five members of the South Lincolnshire Association, by the kind invitation of R. Wyche, Esq., rang at St. Guthlac's Abbey, several 6-scores of Grandsire and Bob Doubles, assisted by that gentleman. G. Skeef, J. Brown, A. Brown, J. S. Wright, and R. Mackman. Tenor about 15 cwt.

SPALDING (Lincs.).—On Thursday, June 28th, it being Coronation Day, a 720 of Bob Minor was rung at 7 a.m., and a 720 in the same method was rung at noon. G. Skeef, 1; J. S. Wright, 2; G. L. Richardson, 3; R. Mackman, 4; A. Brown, 5; J. Brown, 6. And on Sunday evening, after Divine Service, a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob, in 28 mins. *J. Brown, 1; J. S. Wright, 2; G. L. Richardson, 3; J. Wilson (Essex Association), 4; *J. Wilson (Holbeck), 5; R. Mackman (conductor), 6. *First 720 in this method. Tenor 18 cwt.

WORCESTER.—On Thursday, June 28th, at St. John's, six 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles were rung. S. Paton, 1; J. Hinton (conductor), 2; W. Hunt, 3; G. Cleal, 4; W. Webb, 5; G. Hobbs, 6. Also 360 of Grandsire Minor in 13 mins. S. Paton, 1; J. Hinton, 2; W. Hunt, 3; G. Hobbs, 4; W. Webb, 5; G. Cleal (conductor), 6. Also a 720 of Grandsire Minor, with a call every lead, in 27 mins. S. Paton, 1; J. Hinton, 2; W. Hunt, 3; G. Cleal (conductor), 4; G. Hobbs, 5; W. Webb, 6.

WREXHAM (Denbighshire).—On Sunday evening, for Divine Service, nine members of the local society, assisted by Mr. J. Moulton, of Chester, rang 918 changes of Grandsire Caters. A. Lea, 1; R. W. Evans, Esq., 2; R. Jones, 3; J. Williams, 4; J. Ellis, 5; J. Moulton (conductor), 6; T. Bailey, 7; T. Newell, 8; E. Evans, 9; E. Rowland, 10. And on the following day, June 25th, for practice, six members of the local society rang a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor, in 27 mins. R. Jones, 1; J. Williams, 2; J. Ellis, 3; T. Newell, 4; E. Evans, 5; E. Rowland (conductor), 6. Tenor 28 cwt. in D. The first in the method by all the company.

THE HACKNEY SOCIETY.

On Tuesday, June, 26th, the members and friends of this Society held their Annual Dinner at the "Maidenhead Inn," Hertford, the Rev. Woolmore Wigram, Vicar of St. Andrew's, Hertford, in the chair, Rev. Arthur Brook, Rector of Hackney, and President of the Society, occupying the vice-chair. It was not known until the last-named rev. gentleman made his appearance that he would be able to attend, as he had promised to take his choir boys to the Fisheries Exhibition, but as late as 10.30 p.m. on the previous evening he postponed their holiday until the Wednesday, so as to be present at the dinner, where he arrived just in time. The cloth being removed, the "health of the rev. chairman" was proposed by Mr. W. D. Smith, the Master of the company, seconded by the Rev. A. Brook. The Rev. Woolmore Wigram, in response, said that he invariably tried to make the visits of ringers to Hertford most enjoyable and welcome, but there was one thing he regretted, and that was, that the visitors were debarred from a touch on the ten bells of All Saints, owing to the serious illness of a gentleman living in close proximity to the church. He wished success to the Hackney Society, and thanked them for drinking the toast. "The health of the vice-chairman" was proposed by Mr. R. J. Turner, seconded by Mr. P. A. Coard, the Hon. Sec. of the Society. The Rev. Arthur Brook, in acknowledging the compliment, thanked the company very much for their kindness, and remarked that though unexpectedly present, it gave him great satisfaction to be amongst them, and considered these annual visits had a very salutary and binding influence with those who took part in them, bringing men into communion with each other who otherwise probably would have remained strangers. The rev. gentleman expressed a desire to visit the church, but time being limited he was unable to visit the tower. "The health of the Master of the Society" was then proposed by Mr. A. H. Gardom, seconded by Mr. J. Gobbett, and Mr. W. D. Smith, in thanking the company for their good wishes, and the general support they had received from all to make these annual meetings a success, said he was pleased to see the President of the Society with them.

During the morning an attempt was made to ring a peal of Grandsire Triples, but after ringing over 2000 changes in 1 hr. 13 mins. it came to grief owing to the tenor man calling "stand" on account (through some unexplained cause), the tenor going so badly, though the striking was all that could be desired. The ringers were; P. A. Coard, 1; A. H. Gardom (conductor), 2; J. Gobbett, 3; R. J. Turner, 4; W. D. Smith, 5; W. Doran, 6; H. Randall, 7; T. Scarlett, 8.

Friends from Waltham Abbey, Mr. T. Powell, W. A. Alps and

Dymock, and others from Hitchin came over in the afternoon, when some very good Stedman, Treble Bob, and Grandsire was rung on the bells of St. Andrew's church.

Too much praise cannot be bestowed upon the Rev. W. Wigram and Mr. F. G. Crawley, for their indefatigable efforts to make everything and everybody as welcome and comfortable as possible. When it became known that the visitors would be unable to ring at the ten bell tower (All Saints), a letter was forwarded to the Secretary to that effect, and also that arrangements had been made to have the bells of Ware (eight) at their disposal should they feel inclined to visit that ancient tower. Some good double handed ringing—Triples, Major, and Cinques was given during the evening by the Hackney and Waltham Abbey ringers in which Messrs. Powell, Alps, Cox, Randall, Gobbett, Doran and W. D. Smith took part.

A remark fell from the Rev. A. Brook to the effect that the dinner was being held during the Festival of the Church of St. John at Hackney, a most suitable time—which was followed by Mr. W. Smith saying that to celebrate the festival next year endeavours should be made to augment the noble eight at Hackney so that at the next festival of St. John-the-Baptist, ten bells might ring out from the tower.

Mr. J. Staples, Secretary of the Hertford College Youths, enlivened the evening with a Fantasia on an English concertina, songs were given by others of the company, when the singing of "God save the Queen" brought a very enjoyable day to a close.

We trust that the wish expressed by the courteous Master of this company, with regard to the augmentation of the peal at St. John at Hackney to ten bells, and the rehangings of the whole in an entirely new frame, may before this time next year become an accomplished fact.

THE BELLS OF CHRISTCHURCH, HANTS.

We take the following account of these bells from a pamphlet, entitled—*Remarks on the Architecture of the Priory Church, Christchurch, Hants*, kindly forwarded by a correspondent:—

The Bells, in a fine and lofty west tower, are eight in number, two of them, the fifth and sixth, of much interest from their beautiful casting and considerable antiquity, which probably exceeds that of the tower itself.

The inscriptions are as follows:—

Treble—"The gift of Sr Thos. Robinson Knt and the Honble Ino Mordaunt Esqr. A.R. 1755." Incised just below the date—"Thos. Mews, Gent. Mayor."

2—Exactly the same as the treble.

3—"Thos Rudall Gloucester Founder 1776."

4—"I. pre. sequar. an. no. do. mi. ni. 1663. W.P."

5—" + Sit nobis omen Touzeuns cum sit tibi nomen. Virtus campane faciat nos vivere sane."

6—" + Mox Augustinus necdum resonat prece magnus. Assis festinus pestes pios ut fugat agnus."

7 and 8—"Saml Roy and Hen. Oake Gentm Churchwardens. Edwd Bowen Vicar. A.R. 1730."

The initials "A.R.," on four of the bells, stand for Abraham Rudhall, of Gloucester who were bell-founders there for many generations.

The third bell is cracked, and has been mended with three iron bands bolted down upon leather.

The inscription on the fourth means "Go before; I will follow." On each side of the initials (probably those of the founder) is the device of a bell, and next to it something like a tree.

The fifth and sixth appear to be of the same date and workmanship. The meaning of both the inscriptions is obscure, and has been rather variously interpreted. I think that on five may be translated—"As your name is *All Saints'* (tous saints), may that prove an omen to us; may the virtue of the bell cause us to live soberly."

In favour of this interpretation it may be remarked that the French *tous* is spelt *tuz* in a Norman-French inscription on the ancient map in Hereford cathedral; but on the other hand, the "omen" which is to make men live "sane" suggests that "Touzeunes" was intended for *tutsan* "all-heal," which is still the name of one of our wild plants. A bell might be so called from its supposed efficacy in driving off storms, demons, and pestilence.

The sixth bell calls on the patron-saint of the Augustinian canons to bring speedy aid. It is to be feared that the jingle of the rhyme was more cared for than exact grammatical meaning. Perhaps the sense intended was this: "Augustin (will be heard) soon, for not as yet does the great preacher give tone. May you come speedily to our aid when the kindly lamb of God is driving away pests." Perhaps this bell was rung both for the sermon and the consecration at the Mass. The allusion in *pestes fugat* is explained by the ancient (Gnostic) notion, which is still perpetuated by the ringing of a hand-bell at the Mass, that the sound of a bell exorcised the evil spirits which had possession of material things, and therefore of the elements before consecration.

The letters of these two very curious inscriptions are beautifully clear and sharp, of the form commonly known as "Langobardic."

THE SAFFRON WALDEN SOCIETY.

ON Wednesday, the 27th June last, this Society celebrated its 260th Anniversary. The day is known amongst the inhabitants of this ancient borough as "Great Ringing Day," and owes its origin to one Thomas Turner, who, by his will, left a sum of money "to be bestowed yearly upon a preacher who shall make a Memorial Sermon, and upon such persons who shall ring the bells of Walden upon the day of my burial, and to the parish clerk of the town of Walden aforesaid, for the time being, for his pains in preparing the bells." This charity the ringers have uninterruptedly enjoyed since 1623.

The ringing commenced at 7 a.m., with a touch of Bob Major, followed by a touch of Grandsire Triples, by members of the society. Afterwards visitors arrived from Stanstead, Sawbridgeworth, Great Hallingbury, and London, and touches of Kent Treble Bob Major, Double Norwich Court Bob Major, Bob Major, and Grandsire Triples, were rung by mixed bands during the day.

The ringers dined at the "King's Arms" Inn, at two p.m., when a capital repast was served by the landlord, Mr. Daniel Rose. The vicar presided, supported by Churchwarden Taylor as vice.

After dinner the vicar intimated that owing to a previous engagement he was prevented staying longer, and expressed his regret at leaving an assemblage he had so much pleasure in meeting. Mr. F. Pitstow then, amidst cheers, proposed the health of Churchwarden Taylor. Mr. Taylor responded, saying, he had the greatest interest in the society, which had given him so hearty a welcome, and assured all present that he would do all in his power to promote their welfare.

Mr. Penning then arose, and stated that he was pleased to see the vicar and Churchwarden Taylor amongst them on this occasion, which he believed had not been the case for many years. He was glad to see ringers now recognised as church-workers, and congratulated the brotherhood in the improvement effected in their position generally. Some years back, ringers, as a rule, thought the less they had to do with parsons and churchwardens, and the more they kept them out of distance, the better, but now, he was glad to say, this was altered, and instead of their being regarded as intruders, they were looked upon, in most instances, as their truest friends. He could not help saying a few words about one present, Mr. George Rochester (applause); no one had ringers and ringing more at heart, and one particular way he had in showing this was in giving a general invitation to all upon the Sawbridgeworth Anniversary (Easter Monday), when a dinner and other refreshments are provided by Mr. Rochester gratis.

Churchwarden Taylor, on hearing this, said he was pleased to know Mr. Rochester, and to hear the interest he took in ringing, and concluded by saying he would follow his noble example, so that next year, instead of the ringers inviting him, he would invite the ringers, and hoped to see Mr. Rochester then present, and also Mr. Prior of Stanstead.

The sermon was preached at a 7.30 p.m. service, by the vicar, on Zechariah, xiv. ch. 20 v.—"In that day shall there be upon the bells of the horses—Holiness unto the Lord."

On the eve of the Anniversary (according to custom) the ringers met at the tower, and the following members rang a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1330 changes): John Freeman, 1; N. J. Pitstow, 2; Ernest Pitstow (first quarter-peal), 3; George Martin, 4; J. F. Penning, 5; Charles Freeman, 6; F. Pitstow (conductor) 7; James Bacon, 8. Tenor 24 cwt., key D.

To produce this touch refer to Holt's "Original," proceed to the 13th bob change, 2 5 4 3 7 6, then call the following bells "before": 6, 4, 2, 4, 7, 4, 7 respectively, the last bob giving 6 7 5 4 3 2, the 131st bob change in the "Original"; conclude with the remainder of Holt's peal.

THE "JOHN HOLT" PEAL-BOARD.

Sums received this week:—Mr. H. Dains, 1s.; Mr. I. G. Shade, 1s.; Mr. H. Burstow (Horsham), 6d.; the Gloucester and Bristol Diocesan Association (per the Treasurer, Rev. E. Browne Witts), 5s.; Mr. J. F. Penning (Saffron Walden), 1s.; the St. Peter's (Tunbridge Wells) society (per Mr. H. Barefield), 2s. 6d.; total, 11s. Announced in last number, £3 7s. 7d.; total amount received by us, £3 18s. 7d.

The Treasurer requests us also to acknowledge the following sums: From the Waterloo Society, 5s.; Mr. H. Hopkins, 1s.

With this our list is closed. We shall give full particulars in another number.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

KENNINGHALL (Norfolk).—On Wednesday, June 13th, the members of the above branch met at the tower of St. Mary's church to celebrate the eighty-fourth birthday of the Earl of Albemarle, of Quidenham Hall, and during the day touches of Stedman and Grandsire Triples, and Kent and Oxford Treble Bob Major, and Bob Major, were rung by the following: Messrs. Rudd, Hutton, Edwards, Mordey, Woods, Nudds, Eagling, Oxer, Wade, and Avis. Afterwards some good handbell ringing in the following methods were rung: Kent Treble and Plain Bob, Grandsire Caters, Treble Bob Major, and London Double Court Bob; and at three o'clock the company sat down to an excellent dinner served by host Claxton, of the Red Lion Hotel, in his usual good style. The party broke up at ten o'clock, highly pleased with their day's enjoyment. It was arranged to have started for a peal, but owing to the heat of the day, it was not attempted.

ENGLEFIELD, BERKS.

ON Saturday last, June 30th, several members of St. Lawrence's Society, Reading, visited this picturesque spot, which is situated in the park of—Benyon, Esq., and having viewed the interior of the church, repaired to the tower, where, by the kind permission of the vicar, the Rev. C. H. Travers, the bells were set going. The tower only contains six bells, so the ringers contented themselves with Grandsire Doubles. A 720 was accomplished in 27 mins., consisting of six 6-scores (called differently) by the following members:—H. Bawden, 1; E. Bishop, 2; W. J. Williams (conductor), 3; J. T. Waldron, 4; J. E. Willshire, 5; G. Talbot, 6. After which several 120's were got through, conducted by J. E. Willshire, and to finish, a 360, consisting of three 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles by the Englefield ringers, with W. J. Williams, of Reading, as conductor. A. Harris, 1; W. Allen, 2; W. Sims, 3; W. Horne, 4; W. J. Williams, 5; W. Bradley, 6. Tenor about 9½ cwt. The ringers were visited in the tower by the vicar, who kindly invited them to partake of refreshment, which he had generously provided in the parish room. After thoroughly enjoying the repast, they expressed the gratification of the vicar's kindness and hospitality, and then journeyed on to the neighbouring village of Theale. Here the vicar, the Rev. T. Butler, was interviewed, with the object of obtaining permission to ring, which he readily granted. The St. Lawrence's Society headed the ropes first, and rang several 120's of Grandsire Doubles, when it was discovered that six William's were present, so the aforesaid determined to start for 720, consisting of six 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles, which they accomplished in 27 mins., the striking being excellent. William Pocock (Reading), 1; William Allen (Englefield), 2; William Sims (Theale), 3; William Horne (Englefield), 4; William Williams (conductor, Reading), 5; William Bradley (Englefield), 6. Tenor 13 cwt. The home journey was started at quarter to ten, Reading being reached by eleven o'clock; the walk being in the cool of the evening was very much enjoyed, and so was the outing generally. The ringers wish here to express their thanks for the kindness of the vicars, in granting them the use of the bells.

ANNIVERSARY AT SUDBURY, SUFFOLK.

ON Friday, June 29th, the ringing anniversary was held as usual in this town. At 7 a.m. the bells of St. Peter's were raised by the local company, and a touch of Bob Major was rung. All Saints' tower was next visited, and a touch of Grandsire Triples was rung. They were then joined by Mr. T. Hume, of Bures, and N. Hawkins, of Belchamp, and went to St. Gregory's tower, where another touch of Bob Major was rung. Touches in various methods were then indulged in till 2 p.m., when an adjournment was made to "The Bull" inn, where a capital dinner awaited them, to which due justice was done. The vicar of All Saints' (the Rev. C. J. Stower), occupied the chair, and G. L. Andrews, Esq., the vice-chair. There were also present the Rev. R. Selwyn, curate of St. Peter's, Mr. F. Wheeler, and Mr. N. W. Taylor. After the cloth was removed, various toasts and healths were drunk, and some very good courses in different methods were rung on the handbells, till nearly 5 p.m., when tower ringing became the order of the day, Mr. A. Hurst, of Cavendish, and Mr. G. Grimwade, of Walthamstow, having appeared during the afternoon. At 7 p.m., a short service was held at All Saints, to which all the ringers attended. The sermon was preached by the vicar, who delivered a very good discourse, suitable to the occasion. Ringing was then kept up till nine o'clock, when afterwards a very pleasant evening was spent with songs and handbell ringing, the company breaking up about eleven o'clock well pleased with their day's enjoyment.

STOKE-UPON-TRENT ARCHIDIACONAL ASSOCIATION.

THE first annual meeting of the above Association was held in the Church-room, Stoke, on Saturday afternoon. The President of the Association, the Ven. Archdeacon Stamer, occupied the chair, and was supported by the Rev. T. H. B. Fearon, of Norton, the Rev. H. Abud, of Uttoxeter, and the Rev. W. W. Bolton, Hon. Sec. and Treasurer. There was a fair attendance of members, including representatives of the following belfries in the archdeaconry:—Biddulph, Burslem, Checkley, Hanley, Norton, Keele, Leek, Leigh, Norton, Stoke, Tunstall, Uttoxeter and Wolstanton. The annual report, which was read by Mr. Bolton, traced the progress of the Association since its organisation in January of this year. The archdeaconry was divided for the purposes of the Association into four districts—Leek, Stoke, Wolstanton, and Uttoxeter, each having its district secretary, and holding monthly meetings. Of the thirty-nine belfries in the archdeaconry nineteen had joined the Association. There were 149 ringing members on the roll-book, and thirty-three honorary members, making a total of 183. The statement of accounts showed a balance in hand of £4 12s. 3d. Referring to the work of the Association since its formation, the report showed that the weekly ringing meetings in the towers of the Association had been very successful, and that improvements had been effected in the ringing at Cheddleton and Norton churches, and in the towers at Burslem, Cheddleton, Ellastone, Norton, and Tunstall. The ringing in the belfries of the archdeaconry was as a whole poor, and the ringers greatly needed instruction. It was suggested that a sick and benefit fund should be founded in connection with the Association, the amount of the drawings to be dependent upon the average attendance of the members at the ringing meetings. The report was adopted, and the officers re-elected with the following changes: The Rev. T. H. B. Fearon was appointed Hon. Treasurer, and, jointly with Mr. Glover, of Norton, Hon. Sec. in the place of the Rev. W. W. Bolton, who is leaving in September to undertake mission work in India, under the auspices of an Oxford Mission; and the Rev. B. Blakeway, of Horton, was added to the committee. The rules of the Association were then considered, and it was decided to amend the rule relating to the payment of the services of district instructors at the rate of 6d. an hour, to the effect that the tower receiving instruction should bear half the expense. A cordial vote of thanks was passed to Mr. Bolton for his energetic services in organising and promoting the usefulness of the Association. The company then repaired to the parish church, where a full choral evensong was held. The prayers were intoned by the Rev. E. D. Pollock, and a sermon was preached by the Ven. Archdeacon Stamer, in the regretted absence of the Dean of Lichfield. The Archdeacon spoke of the need that existed for the work of the Association in promoting unity and good feeling among those engaged in the bell-ringing portion of church work, and of the necessity of a faithful discharge of their duties to the Church. Tea was provided in the Town Hall, and followed by a well attended meeting, an interesting feature in which was a presentation to Mr. Bolton. The Ven. Archdeacon Stamer again presided, and referring to Mr. Bolton's intended resignation, said he much regretted that the useful service Mr. Bolton had rendered to the church at Stoke and to the Association would soon be lost to both. On behalf of the Association he then presented Mr. Bolton with a case containing a peal of eight handbells, together with a copy of Troyte's work on the art of change-ringing, and an address in the following terms: "The Stoke Archidiaconal Association of change-ringers beg the Rev. W. W. Bolton (the founder and promoter of the association), to accept, on the occasion of his leaving to devote himself to missionary work in India, the accompanying peal of handbells as a small token of their respect in which he is held by them, and of their appreciation of the warm and hearty sympathy which he has shewn to them."—Mr. H. Page added a few words, after which Mr. Bolton thanked the members for this quite unexpected expression of their esteem, assuring them that what work he had done had been a source of great pleasure to him.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

A QUARTERLY MEETING was held on Saturday, June 23rd, at St. Mary's church, Whalley, which has six bells. Members were present from Manchester, Church, Walton-le-Dale, Bolton, Padiham, Blackrod, etc. Ringing was commenced by the church ringers, who rang a 720 of Plain Bob Minor, and was continued until 5.15., when tea was partaken of at the "Shoulder of Mutton" inn. Here ample justice was done to the very excellent tea provided by the hostess. After tea a short meeting was held, at which eight new members were elected, and various routine business transacted. After tea ringing was continued by various bands until 8.30. p.m. The thanks of the committee are due to the Whalley ringers for the reception and the efficient accommodation made for the comfort of the ringers in every respect. During the course of the afternoon, visits were paid to the Abbey, and

to the interior of the church, which is very old, and contains many curious objects of interest an account of which it is impossible to give in this short report.

It is requested that all who desire copies of the certificate, will kindly notify to that effect to the local secretary of their own district, in order that the certificate may be signed by the officers at the next committee Meeting.

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."

OPENINGS.

SIR,—Enthusiastic change-ringers are at times very apt to forget that bells are placed in church towers not to have changes rung upon them, but to resound "to the glory of God," and to call his faithful people to worship. Such being the case, one would almost imagine that upon the occasion of the dedication of a ring of bells to the service of God, the clergy would not give an indiscriminate invitation to all who chose to avail themselves of it, but that they would rather ask those with whom they were personally acquainted or had some knowledge of. I am sorry to have it to say, but to be a ringer, or even a change-ringer, is not a sure mark of respectability, and far less of good churchmanship. I am well aware that things have improved vastly of late years, but very much remains to be done. What man would allow his team of horses to be driven by a man who thought solely of his own pleasure, and altogether ignored the will of the owner. Until ringers as a class have reached a higher stage of churchmanship, I say never give an indiscriminate invitation, but ask only those of whose conduct you have some knowledge. If ringers of the lowest stamp are to have all the privileges of those who love the "house of God," "wherein His honour dwells," what incentive is there for our young ringers to act as becomes officers of the church?

A CHANGE-RINGER.

SIR,—I see in your last number of "THE BELL NEWS" a little matter respecting bell-openings. I may say that I have had many such, some of which have been very good, and others not so profitable. I think it is a very great difficulty to please all who think themselves first in all matters of this kind. If you want a band to open a peal of bells, you cannot employ a whole society. My opinion is, that if bell-founders and bell-hangers complete their work, they then give up possession of bells and tower to those in authority. Let them, if they choose, invite the whole community of bell-ringers to come, at their own expense, and return on the same terms: bell-founders and bell-hangers would then be spared much trouble, expense, and annoyance.

G. R. BANKS.

A QUERY—THE TERM "GRANDSIRE."

SIR,—In the present day, by "Grandsire," we understand the name of a method more properly an odd-bell one, but applicable, nevertheless, to even numbers. Now, in the old campanologias, we are given a course of Plain Bob on six bells, with this heading: "The Course of Grandsire or Plain Bob." Also in Painswick belfry there is, I am told, a board recording a peal of "Grandsire Stedman Caters." May I ask some of your readers to explain these anomalies, for I cannot.

J. R. JERRAM.

ONE-PART PEALS OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES.

SIR,—Will you allow me to make a few remarks concerning Mr. Penning's two one-part peals of Grandsire Triples—the one published in "THE BELL NEWS" for October 18th, 1882, and the other on June 23rd, 1883. While congratulating Mr. Penning on getting out peals with less calls than in Holt's, I must say that his 1882 peal seems to me to be Holt's one-part peal cut up into about seven patches, averaging about 40 leads in each, spliced together by means of a few suitable calls. The other peal does not bear so much resemblance to Holt's one-part, but more so to the 1882 peal, inasmuch as there is one patch in each of Mr. Penning's peals of 182 leads (more than half the peal), which correspond with each other, viz., from the 53rd to the 235th lead in the 1882 peal, and from the 14th to the 196th lead in the other peal, beside other smaller patches. If Mr. P. continues to get out peals after this fashion, in time they will bear little or no resemblance to Holt's; at the same time, in reality, they will have all sprung from Holt's one-part peal. My contention is that these peals are not new peals or compositions, but alterations or variations of Holt's.

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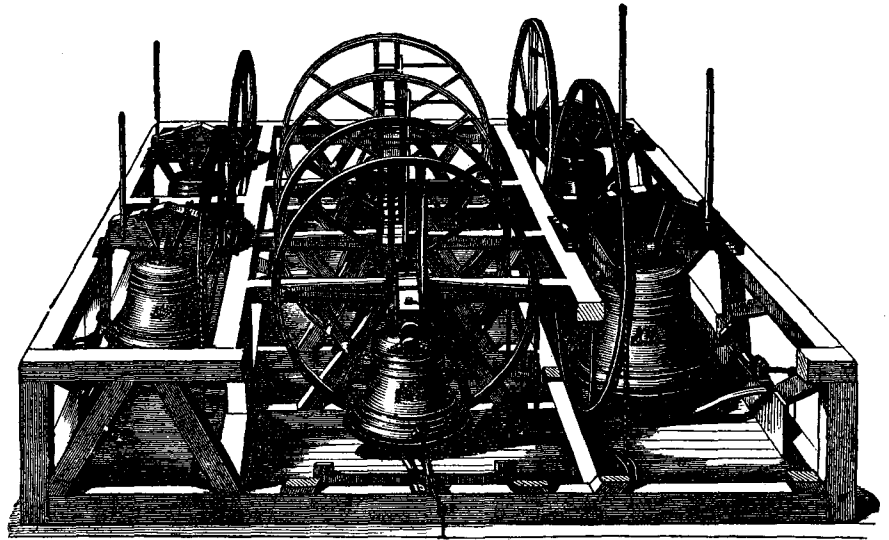
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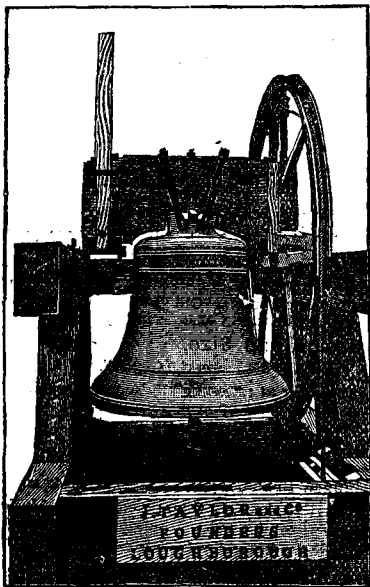
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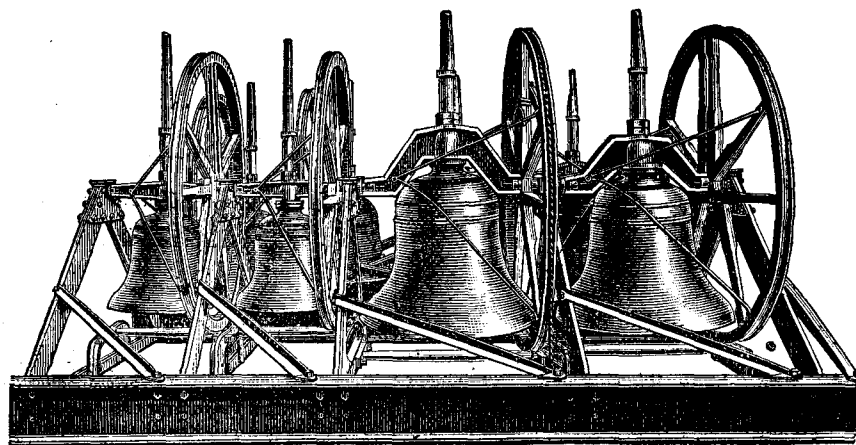
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And Ringers' Record:

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

No. 67. [NEW SERIES.]—VOL. II.

SATURDAY, JULY 14, 1883.

[ONE PENNY.]



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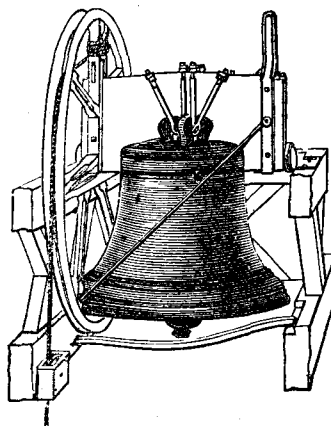
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SAINT MICHAEL'S (COVENTRY) BELLS AND CLOCK.

The following brief history of St. Michael's bells is forwarded to us for insertion, with the hope that it may be of interest to our readers:

The bells were hung up in St. Michael's steeple in 1429, and as the tower was only finished in 1395, perhaps this was the first regular peal put up in it.

In 1467 was an Order of Leet—"Also yt ye clerks of both churches ryng both day bell and curfewe in due tyme, and yt ye klok be duly kept up ye peyn of ijd at ev'y default."

In 1488. This year was great peace throughout the realm, and for joy the churchwardens of St. Michael's and other well disposed people brought to St. Michael's a great bell, and called it *Jesus Bell*. This motto was written about it:—"Jesus Nazarenus Rex Judeorum, in me misericordia."

In 1496, the ensuing order of Leet for regulating the prices of ringing death peals was made:—"Hit is ordeyned at y'is p'sent lete, that all man p'sones thatt heraftur will have the belles to ryng after ye decease of eny their frends, they shall pay for a pell rynging w't all ye belles ijs xxd y'rof to ye churchward, and iiijd to ye clerks. And yf he woll have but iiij bells xvjd, xijd to the church, and iiijd to ye clerks. And as for iiij bells, ev'r p'son y't woll have theym, to paye but iiijd to ye clerks."

1607. The 3rd and 4th bells of St. Michael's steeple were cracked and cast again; the 4th bell was cast three times before it was in tune.

1674, March 18. The Vestry agreed with Henry Bagley, sen., and H. B., jun., of Chacombe, in Co. Northampton, that they shall have £55 for casting the 6 bells into 8 tunable ones, of as deep tone and sound as they now are, to be recast by the 24th of June next.

It appears by the following extract that the new peal was considerably lighter than the old one:—

1674. The six bells of St. Michael were cast into 8; the six weighed more than the eight by 756 lbs. (viz., 5 tons, 7 cwt., 7 lbs). The 1st bell weighs 711 lbs.; 2nd, 754 lbs.; 3rd, 905 lbs.; 4th, 1113 lbs.; 5th, 1370 lbs.; 6th, 1582 lbs.; 7th, 1972 lbs.; and 8th, 2812 lbs.

The inscriptions upon the bells in St. Michael's steeple, copied by H. Wanley, January 17th, 1690-1:—

Treble.—"Cantate Domino canticum novum, 1675. H.B."
2nd.—"Henry Bagley made mee, 1675."
3rd.—"T. E. F. Georg Downing, A.D.V.S.M., 1675."
4th.—"I ring at six to let men know
 When to and from their worke to go. 1675."
5th.—"Richard Coling, John Remington, Thomas Redhead, Humphrey Thacker,
 John Lilley, Ralph Phillips, Churchwardens, 1675."
6th.—"Henry Bagley made mee, 1675."
7th.—"I ring to sermon, with a lusty bome,
 That all may come, and none may stay at home. 1975."
Tenor.—"I am and have been call'd the comon bell,
 To ring when fier breaks out, to tell. 1675."

In 1774 a new peal of ten bells was contracted for with Pack and Chapman, of London, according to the ensuing proposals made by them:—

	£	s.	d.
To recast the eight present bells into a peal of eight musical ones, both in tone and tune, at 28s. per cwt. recasting....	140	0	0
Eight new clappers, weight 2 cwt., at 9d. per lb.	8	8	0
Two new trebles, to make a complete peal of ten, to weigh 12 cwt., a little more or less, at £6 per cwt.	72	0	0
Two new clappers, 50 lbs., at 9d.	1	17	6
	£222	5	6

The weight of this new peal was as follows:—treble bell, 6 cwt. 3 qrs. 2 lbs.; second, 7 cwt. 0 qrs. 8 lbs.; third, 8 cwt. 1 qr. 13 lbs.; fourth, 9 cwt.; fifth, 9 cwt. 2 qrs. 21 lbs.; 6th, 11 cwt. 2 qrs. 16 lbs.; seventh, 14 cwt. 0 qrs. 26 lbs.; eighth, 17 cwt. 1 qr. 23 lbs.; ninth, 23 cwt. 0 qr. 20 lbs. Tenor 31 cwt. 1 qr. 14 lbs; total, 6 tons 8 cwt. 2 qrs. 11 lbs.

Inscriptions:

Treble.—"Although I am both light and small
 I will be heard above you all."
2nd.—"If you have a judicious ear
 You'll own my voice to be sweet and clear."
3rd.—"Such wondrous pow'r to music's given,
 It elevates the soul to heav'n."
4th.—"While thus we join in cheerful sound,
 May love and loyalty abound."
5th.—"To honour both of God and king,
 Our voices shall in concert ring."
6th.—"Music is a medicine to the mind."
7th.—"Ye ringers all, that prize your health and happiness,
 Be sober, merry, wise, and you'll the same possess."
8th.—"Ye people all, that hear me ring,
 Be faithful to your God and king."
9th.—"In wedlock's band all ye who join,
 With hands your hearts unite;
 So shall our tuneful tongues combine
 To laud the nuptial right."
Tenor.—"I am and have been call'd the comon bell,
 To ring when fire breaks out, to tell."

Mention had been made of lowering the bells, and hanging them upon a frame-work unconnected with the tower, and rising from the ground. The bells were disposed in two heights, the lighter ones being

uppermost; but in 1804, when the tenor was recast by Mr. Bryant, of Hertford (having been cracked in 1802), they were all new hung, and placed upon one level, still supported by the frame-work. The present tenor is 32 cwt. 0 qr. 9 lbs. The first peal was rung on St. Michael's bells on 11th of November, 1774.

It has already been observed that the tower of this church was finished in 1395, and the preceding article shews that a peal of bells was hung there in 1422; the usual appendage of a clock and chimes was presently added, as we learn from the following items;—

1465, 21st January. The Mayor and Council granted 40s. annually for keeping the clock and chimes in St. Michael's Church, to be paid by the wardens.

1467. Ordered also yt ye wardens of yis cite shall amend ye clock and ye chyme, and aft'r yt ye keeper yrof to kepe it well, up' ye peye to lese his office.

1577. Pd for tymber and makyng the barrel for the chyme vs. Sundry old iron also given this year, to Henry Bankes, for altering the "chyme and setting hit newe."

1584. An Order of Council was made that Henry Bankes should keep the clock and chymes of St. Michael and Bablake, for 21 years, to set them in good repair, and keep and leave them so, receiving £17 13s. 4d. at the sealing of his agreement, and £3 yearly fee.

The three following items from the church accounts shews that a clock dial once disfigured the beautiful tower of this church, an instance of bad taste which it is to be hoped will not again be witnessed.

1626. Paid for taking donne the diall, 6d.

1627. It' for making a cocke for the dyall that Doctr Hinton gave to the church 7s. 6d.

1649. Pd for coulloring the dyall hand, 8d. 1650. Pd. for keeping the clock and chymes in order, £3.

1676. The chimes were directed to be set in order at the city expense, and tried for a quarter of a year, for which 30s. was allowed. 1680 George Tagg allowed £3 by the city, to make the chimes go on three tunes.

1690. The chimes were made to strike the 113th Psalm as before, they having for some time been made to strike *Lilli Burlero*.

1778, March 28. The parish agreed to order a new set of chimes and a clock, which order was most admirably executed by Mr. Worton, of Birmingham. The clock was put up in the course of that year, and the chimes completed in the year following, costing together £277.

Chimes tunes in 1818:—104th Psalm—Sir C. Sedley's minuet—Mudges's Air—Shady Bowers—Highland Laddie—Step in—The Lass of Peaty's Mill.

THE ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.

ON Saturday, July 10th, several members of the above society visited the town of Romford, with the intention of attempting a peal of Stedman Triples at St. Edward's church, but owing to one of their number not putting in an appearance at the time appointed, and there being no one else available except a "tenor behind man," the idea was forced to be abandoned—at least for the time being. As several members were unwilling to return without having a touch of some sort, the following started for a peal of Grandsire Triples, which unfortunately, came to grief after ringing about 2000 changes:—G. Newson, 1; W. Meadows, 2; J. Hannington, 3; A. J. Perkins (conductor), 4; C. Hopkins, 5; J. Barry, 6; W. Doran, 7; H. Skingsley, 8. Tenor 17 cwt. After which five courses of Stedman, conducted by G. Newson, the band standing the same as before. Retiring to the meeting-room of the Romford Society, a very pleasant evening was spent, enlivened by numerous songs, &c., with tunes, and touches of Grandsire Triples, Kent Treble Bob Major, &c., on the handbells. The hour for departure having at length arrived, several of the visitors took their leave, the remainder determining to remain and ring for service at St. Edward's on the following day: accordingly for morning service a well-struck touch of 1008 Bob Major was rung in 35 mins., being the most in this method on these bells since the year 1813. G. Roughton, 1; G. Newson (conductor), 2; A. Pye, 3; A. Porter, 4; B. Keeble, 5; J. Hannington, 6; A. J. Perkins, 7; W. Meadows, Esq., 8. Also after service a touch of Grandsire Triples by the same band. In (the afternoon a journey was made to the village of Hornchurch, about two miles distant, where a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor was rung in 28 mins., being the first in this method on this famous ring, and also the quickest on record. * I. Dear, 1; A. J. Perkins, 2; W. Meadows, Esq., 3; A. Pye, 4; J. Hannington, 5; G. Newson (conductor), 6. Also 360 of Bob Minor by the same band, with the exception of W. Halls ringing the treble and I. Dear the second. Tenor 20 cwt.

It was much regretted that, although only lately repaired, the state of Dagenham bells was such as to render change-ringing well-nigh impossible on them, and an intended visit to South Weald had to be forgone on learning that permission to ring there was not always to be obtained.

Returning in the evening to the residence of Mr. Isaac Dear, the company were entertained to tea by that gentleman, and after ringing

various touches on his handbells, spent some time in examining the church, and admiring the magnificent view from the summit of its tower—a view which is, perhaps, unequalled from any other steeple in the county of Essex—until the rapid approach of night caused an unwilling leave to be taken of their courteous entertainers, all being well pleased with their visit, and promising to come again at their earliest opportunity.

THE LIGHTEST PEAL OF EIGHT IN ENGLAND. MARSHAM, NORFOLK.

I BELIEVE I am correct in stating that the above is the lightest peal of eight in this country, although, I think, that there was, formerly, a lighter yet at St. Ebbe's, Oxford. The tenor at Marsham is in the key of B, and weighs only 7½ cwt. The ringers there have been, and I believe still are, proficient, in change-ringing. (Mr. Snowdon, in his list of 10,000's in your last issue, refers to this peal.) In 1621 there were but three bells at Marsham, the largest weighing 13½ cwt. These were re-cast into four in that year, the tenor then weighing 10 cwt. The present tenor (probably the third of those), is the only one of them that now remains. In 1703 these bells were made into a peal of six. The then treble and two more bells are said to have come from Blickling church. In 1824 the four middle bells of the six were re-cast.

Before I go further I must notice a tablet in the belfry, commemorating a 5040, made up of six-bell peals, rung before the peal was made into eight. It is thus inscribed:—

"This tablet is erected to commemorate the following peals, which have been rung in this steeple since the year 1837. A touch, consisting of seven different peals, each containing 720 changes, was rung December 14th, 1837, in 3 hrs. and 3 mins. Names of peals as follows: London Surprise, Cambridge Surprise, Kent Treble Bob, Oxford Treble Bob, Oxford Double Bob, Double Court Bob, and Stedman's Slow Course. Conducted by Thomas Edridge, and rung by the following persons: John Edridge, treble; Thomas Gooch, second; Thomas Greenwood, third; Charles Middleton, fourth; John Delph, fifth; Thomas Edridge, tenor."

This tablet also commemorates several other peals, which I shall notice afterwards.

In 1842 the peal was augmented to eight by the addition of two treble. I here give the weights and inscriptions:—

Treble, "Thomas Mears, founder, London, 1842," 3 cwt. 1 qr. 2½ lbs.; Second, "Thomas Mears, founder, London, 1842," 3 cwt. 0 qr. 17 lbs.; Third, "Charles Newman made me, 1703," 3 cwt. 2 qr.; Fourth, "1824," 4 cwt.; Fifth, "1821," 4 cwt. 1 qr. 17 lbs.; Sixth, "Wm. Goodall, Rector, John Howlett and Thos. Rayson, church.w.; 1824," 5 cwt. 0 qr. 9 lbs.; Seventh, "Willm. Dobson, founder, Downham, Norfolk, 1824," 5 cwt. 3 qr. 1 lb.; Tenor, "Anno Domini 1621, A B W," also three shields, ermine, each charged with three bells, 7 cwt. 2 qrs.

This tablet above alluded to also commemorates the following performances since the peal was made eight:—

"A peal of 5280 changes of Oxford Treble Bob Major was rung July 23rd, 1842, in 2 hrs. and 56 mins., conducted by T. Greenwood, and rung by the following persons: Francis Goodwin, treble; Thomas Gooch, second; Chas. Clements, jun., third; Zachariah Hunt, fourth; Samuel Maidstone, fifth; William Crane, sixth; Thomas Greenwood, seventh; John Delph, tenor."

This was, evidently, the first peal after the bells were increased to eight. Next comes:—

"A peal of 6400 changes of Oxford Treble Bob Major was rung October 25th, 1842, in 3 hrs. 43 mins. Composed and conducted by T. Greenwood, and rung by the following persons: Thomas Greenwood, treble; Thomas Gooch, second; Charles Clements, jun., third; Edward Fitt, fourth; Samuel Maidstone, fifth; William Crane, sixth; John Delph, seventh; Thomas Edridge, tenor."

Next comes the *magnum opus* mentioned by Mr. Snowdon in your last issue:—

"A peal consisting of 10,080 changes, Oxford Treble Bob Major, was rung in a masterly style, July 13th, 1844, in 5 hrs. 43 mins. Composed by Eversfield, Esq., of Gravesend. Conducted by Thomas Greenwood, and rung by the following persons: Th. Greenwood, first; T. Gooch, second; C. Clements, jun., third; S. Maydstone, fourth; T. Fox, fifth; W. Crane, sixth; J. Delph, seventh; T. Edridge, tenor."

And last on this board is:—

"A peal of 5,088 Kent Treble Bob Major was rung April 7th, 1846, in 3 hrs. 2 mins., composed and conducted by Thomas Greenwood, and rung by the following persons: T. Gooch, treble; C. Clements, jun., second; E. Fitt, third; Zachariah Hunt, fourth; T. Greenwood, fifth; S. Maidstone, sixth; J. Delph, seventh; T. Edridge, tenor."

On another board in the belfry is the following record:—

"On Tuesday, the 18th February, 1851, the Aylsham and Marsham Society of change-ringers ascended the tower and rang 5152 changes of Norwich Double Court Bob Major in 2 hrs. and 56 mins. This is the only peal rung in the county, except by St. Peter's Society, Norwich, on this intricate method. It was composed by Mr. T. Hurry, of Norwich, conducted by T. Greenwood, and rung by the following persons: T. Greenwood, treble; H. Edridge, second; G. Clements, third; J. Edridge, fourth; E. Fitt, fifth; T. Gooch, sixth; S. Maidstone, seventh; T. Edridge, tenor."

From these records it appears that this little peal was not increased to eight for nothing, and it is to be sincerely hoped that change-ringing may always continue to flourish at Marsham. J. R. JERRAM.

GEORGES D'AMBOISE.—In our issue of a fortnight ago on the above subject the following errors occurred: in the second line of the Latin verses, read not "Lauda" but "danda"; in the last line but one of the same, read not "Protomagum" but "Rotomagum"; also for "Blarignac" read "Blavignac"; and for "Werner" read "Weever."

STOKE-UPON-TRENT ARCHIDIACONAL ASSOCIATION.

A successful and pleasant outing was held at Leek on Saturday last. Representatives attended from the following towers: Cheddleton, Horton, Cheadle, Wolstanton, Biddulph, Stoke Norton and the home society. A deal of ringing was gone through on this beautiful peal of eight, though nothing worthy of record was done. Tea was served at the "Swan Inn" and done ample justice to. Mr. Bolton kindly proposed a vote of thanks to the Leek men for the way in which they had entertained the society, to which the Rev. Mr. Thomas (one of the curates of the old church) suitably replied.

Several influential people were unavoidably detained from attending the meeting, the High Sheriff sending word of his regretted absence. Many members took the opportunity of seeing this pretty old town, and all went home well pleased with the meeting. The belfry itself looked even better than it did at the first meeting held here in February. The room has been thoroughly white-washed and painted, the doors neatly grained, and a truly ringing dado painted round the walls. The tower is worthy of a visit.

Next Saturday, July 14th, the meeting was to be at Hanley, but the architect having decided that ringing is unsafe, there will be no meeting.

SOCIETY OF CHURCH BELL RINGERS FOR THE DIOCESE OF ELY.

The Rev. K. H. Smith writes as follows: "I am desirous of giving your correspondents and readers all the information in my power respecting what has been done, and what has to be done, to start and establish this society. When the subject was first broached in Ely by my friend Mr. Holmes (it had been in my mind for many years by the way) last year, at the opening of Ely St. Mary's bells, after restoration, accomplished by myself, it was too late to get the subject put on the agenda paper for discussion and approbation at the Diocesan Conference in June. In the meanwhile I sent a letter—printed—upon the subject to every dignitary, Rural Dean, and all of local influence, asking for suggestions and support to the proposed Association. I have received a certain number of replies. I gather that all things are ripe and now ready. The association has been introduced at this year's Diocesan Conference, and the Bishop of the Diocese has given his formal sanction, and become patron, wishing us all success. A provisional committee has been formed. We propose to inaugurate with a religious service at St. Mary-the-Great, Cambridge, and a ringing at as early a date—say bank holiday in August, if convenient—as possible. Meanwhile I shall be glad to hear from all interested, and trust that though a dull phlegmatic fenman by birth, I have done justice to the Lancashire blood in my veins; and not been idle in support of campanology."

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—DISTRICT MEETING.

A DISTRICT MEETING of the above Association will be held at Waltham Abbey, by the kind permission of the vicar, on Tuesday, July 24th. Belfry open at 11 a.m. Tea at the "Three Tuns" Inn, at 4.30. Business meeting immediately after. Members intending to be present are *particularly* requested to inform the Secretary of their intentions at an early date. Tea Tickets, price 1s. may be obtained of the Secretary,

Battles Bridge, S.O. Essex.

July 14th.

H. A. COCKEY, Hon. Sec.

STOKE-UPON-TRENT ARCHIDIACONAL ASSOCIATION.

Will members of the above kindly note the following instructions of the Committee:—

1. Any one can know the charge for tea, by making application to the District Secretary.
2. All intending to be present, should let the District Secretary know in good time.
3. Any tower desiring an instructor, must make application to the General Secretaries.
4. The leader of the tower at which the meeting is held, has the management of the ringing for such occasion.

The names and addresses of the Secretaries are:—Clerical: Rev. T. H. B. Fearon, The Rectory, Norton-le-Moors, Stoke-upon-Trent; Lay: Mr. E. Glover, Dogcroft, Smallthorne, Stoke-upon-Trent.

The Treasurer is the Rev. T. H. B. Fearon.

An account of the re-opening of the bells of St. Mary's church, Monmouth, in consequence of arriving late at our office, is postponed till next week.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

THE Two Hundred and Forty-sixth Anniversary Dinner of this society took place on Saturday last, at the "Duke's Head" inn, Wallington, Surrey. Tempted by the delightful state of the weather, several of the company left home early, and accomplished a few miles of the latter part of the journey on foot, and were thus enabled, by the aid of the local party, to have nearly their fill of ringing before the arrival of what may be termed the main body. At three o'clock, dinner was laid in a commodious room of the above-named inn, to which about forty-seven sat down. The chair was taken by the Master of the company, Mr. Edwin Gibbs, who fulfilled the duties of president very satisfactorily; the vice-chairmen were Mr. George A. Muskett (Hon. Sec.) and Mr. George Mash (the courteous *charge d'affaires* at St. Saviour's, Southwark). Mr. Mash was accompanied by his two sons—College Youths in *embryo*—who bid fair to maintain the family honours. Many of the old veterans of this society, whose names are familiar to ringers as household words—Cooter, Pettit, Jameson, and Matthew Wood—were conspicuous by their absence, and this fact gave rise to frequent discussions in the course of the day among the members and friends. We believe the non-appearance of the first-named gentleman at this annual festivity is rare. Years ago, when the younger members of this company were supposed to be less precocious than is said to be the case at present, it used to be admitted generally that the spot selected by Mr. Cooter for the dinner to be held would eventually be determined on. Ourselves looked forward last Saturday to a *tête à tête* with him, as, though of most unassuming demeanour, he possesses a stock of varied information from which one may always learn something. Mr. James Dwight—the only ringer living who has rung the tenor of St. Saviour, Southwark, through a peal of treble twelve, arrived rather late. A glance round the tables during dinner discovered him seated among a small knot of ringers whom he playfully designates as his "boys," from the circumstance of their having commenced their ringing career at a church where for we know not how many years, Mr. Dwight has been a parochial ringer. If Father Dwight has had any hand in the ringing education of his "boys," he has no reason to be ashamed of them. Mr. H. W. Haley, though suffering from his terrible affliction, was present, with his son, Mr. H. C. Haley, and we also noticed L. Procter, Esq., with a small retinue, Messrs. Dawe, Dorrington, Greenleaf, Haworth, Horrex, Hayes, etc., and E. Bennett, Gordon, Zealey, and others of the Beddington company.

Dinner being over, grace having been said by the worthy Master, and the usual post-prandial arrangements being satisfactorily concluded, it was announced from the chair that the towers of All Saints, Carshalton (eight bells), and St. Mary's, Beddington (ten bells) were by the kindness of the respective authorities, open for ringing. Mr. Russell, a member of the Beddington society, said that if any of the company would like to visit Croydon, and ring on the grand peal of bells there, permission could without doubt be obtained. This remark appeared to affect the risible faculties of those who heard it, the real cause of which, however, did not transpire.

The party now dispersed, some proceeding to Beddington church, others to Carshalton, while not a few remained behind to repose under the shadow of the trees upon the greensward opposite the above-named hostelry. In company with Mr. Bennett, the bob-caller of the local company, we visited the church of St. Mary, Beddington. The edifice, which has a very pretty square tower, is approached from the road by a path across a park, through which runs the river Wandle. Here at this spot, the aspect of the landscape was most romantic. The church appears to be situated in the centre of the park, and the graveyard is beautifully kept. As we neared the sacred structure, it became evident that only eight bells were being rung, and a well-struck touch of Double Norwich Court Bob was brought home shortly after we entered the churchyard. Arrived in the ringing-chamber, a comfortable apartment, the attention of the visitor is soon drawn to an announcement concerning this journal. It may here be stated that the Rector of Beddington, the Rev. Canon Bridges, is a warm supporter of ringing. When we add that the rev. gentleman presented the company with two beautiful peal-tablets, the relationship which exists between the parson and his ringers in this delightful Arcadia will easily be imagined. It was a disappointment in not being able to view the interior of the church, but there was no help for it, and after taking part in a short touch of Grandsire Caters, we left for the neighbouring parish of Carshalton. Here however, ringing had ceased for the day, but an inspection of the ancient church proved very interesting.

At half-past six o'clock, the company again met in the room in which they had dined. By that time, however, fresh accessions of ringers had arrived from London, and thus a good number were able to participate in that entertainment which has been defined as "the feast of reason and the flow of soul." The Master of the company again presided, and mentioned that since the last dinner-day there had been forty peals rung by the company. The most notable of these per-

formances was the first peal of Stedman Cinques on the bells of St. Leonard, Shoreditch; a peal in the same method at St. Michael's, Cornhill; a 6000 of Double Norwich (the greatest length in this method yet rung in London) at St. Giles's-in-the-Fields; a peal of Oxford Treble Bob Royal at St. James's, Bermondsey (the first in this variation in London for forty-one years); a peal of Stedman Caters (5555 changes) at St. Giles's, Camberwell; and a peal of Stedman Cinques at Saviour's, Southwark. This last performance is remarkable from the fact that it was composed and conducted by the youngest man that has ever called a peal of Stedman Cinques, Frank Dawe, he at the same time ringing so far back as the eleventh bell in the peal. The Master also stated that the company had £30 at the bank, and there was also a good round sum in the hands of the Treasurer.

The remainder of the evening was devoted to song and sentiment, Mr. Dwight troling out his quaint ballad—"The Famous Peal of Stedman Cinques, the College Youths did ring"—now however superseded by a peal more "famous." The personal toasts which were given, had, generally, musical honours accorded them. The healths of the Master, the Hon. Sec. (Mr. Muskett), and Mr. Haley, sen., all of whom responded in appropriate terms, were drank with the greatest enthusiasm.

Just before the break-up of the company, Mr. Swift referred to the long peal recently performed at Mottram. He said that he should like it to go forth that this influential meeting of members of the Ancient Society of College Youths heartily congratulated the Ashton-under-Lyne gentlemen upon their wonderful achievement. They had now a newspaper entirely their own; he believed the gentleman who so ably edited that paper was among them that evening; and he hoped he would see fit to publish the tenour of his (Mr. Swift's) observations. These remarks were received with the utmost cordiality by all present, and we have great pleasure in giving publicity to such worthy sentiments.

The company shortly afterwards broke up.

THE HOLY TRINITY SOCIETY, HULL.

ON Saturday last, July 7th inst., the Holy Trinity Society paid a visit to Lincoln for the purpose of ringing a peal upon the bells of St. Peter-at-Arches, accompanied by Mr. W. Pawson of Leeds. They were met by several of their friends of the St. Peter's and the Cathedral companies, and proceeded very shortly after their arrival to the St. Peter's tower. The bells were raised, and after a short pause (the bells being in very good order) "go" was called. The sun was not shining scarcely at all when they began to ring, but when they had proceeded about ten minutes, it came forth in all its brilliancy upon the 3rd and 4th, so that they were compelled to call "round" after ringing 1 hour 17 mins., as they could not see. F. Drabble, 1; A. Taylor, 2; R. Chaffer, 3; W. Southwick, 4; J. Dixey, 5; C. Jackson, 6; C. Bennett, 7; F. Morrison, 8. Tenor 20 cwt. They next proceeded to the fine old Cathedral, where they raised the peal (8), and rang touches of Grandsire Triples and Kent Treble Bob, in which Mr. Pawson took part. The go of the 7th and tenor is anything but satisfactory. After this they went with their friends to the "Black Boy," and partook of refreshments. Here they were very much interested by the introduction of an ancient leather jug, emblazoned with the arms of the city, with the words "Presented to the Ringers of the City, 1782, by Alderman Bullen." Mr. W. Pawson was asked to make a few remarks upon the art of change-ringing. He said he was highly pleased with his visit to Lincoln, and regretted that there was not more encouragement given to the art of change-ringing in the city. It had been a very great pleasure to him to hear the Hull men strike the bells in the manner in which they had done, and hoped that the Lincoln men would soon be able to muster, and make themselves more prominent in the science. He urged them to take "THE BELL NEWS" as a means of assistance in the matter; it was a most valuable paper, and depended exclusively upon the ringing world for support. He might say that he was informed that one company in Hull, with their friends, took above twenty numbers weekly. He should go back to Leeds and inform his friends that he had taken part in as good courses of changes upon handbells as ever he had done in his life, and hoped that it would not be long before he visited Lincoln again. He should not forget to inform his friends about the celebrated leathern jug. The party returned to Hull, and intend to visit Lincoln again shortly. They were most kindly received by the ringers of Lincoln.

The last peal rung upon the fine bells of St. Peter-at-Arches was on the 12th February, 1780.

A BELL-RINGING TOUR.—Three members of the Durham and Newcastle Diocesan Association, desiring to make a fortnight's bell-ringing tour in Yorkshire, in August, wish to meet with three bell-ringers who would join them in the excursion. Must be Treble Bob ringers. Address W.S., Box 129, P.O., Newcastle-on-Tyne.

"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, E. W. 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. HINTON AND J. R. PRITCHARD.—The information you require in our next number.

The Bell News & Ringers' Record.

SATURDAY, JULY 14, 1883.

A prominent feature in Church administration of the present day is the co-operation of pious laymen to assist in developing the religious work which is going on around them. This earnestness in the cause of religion may take a variety of forms, which need not be minutely specified here; sufficient is it to say that it is generally comprehended within the term "lay-help."

In some places which have been recently brought under our notice, attempts have been made to introduce the principle of "lay-help" and apply it to ringers. Ringers have been advised that as Church workers they should regard the functions of their office as "lay-help," and thereby regard it as an honour to minister in the Church without wishing or expecting any pecuniary advantage. That this is a most commendable idea, no one can gainsay. But we are afraid that in those places where its adoption has of late been so pertinaciously advocated, something else is concerned that is perhaps not easily apparent. We have been amused in the examination of a set of cartoons issued from an establishment whose publications circulate among the extreme section of the High Church Party. These illustrations are merely a set of contrasts. One of them is supposed to be a faithful picture of the belfry and its occupants of a past age, with all the abominations therein. The other is the contrast of the present day, and represents a half dozen persons clad in cassocks, behind an ornamental screen on the floor of the church handling the ropes in a not very scientific manner. These we suppose are intended to represent "lay-helpers." Such a spectacle as this would no doubt be very edifying, but we fear the time has not yet arrived for ringers to regard their duties as a kind of Church work for which they should not, where possible, receive some kind of honorarium.

While not presuming to question the establishment of honorary lay-help, as connected with the office of a ringer, we think the attempt to compel ringers to perform their work, under such a plea, is at present ill-advised, and in many cases, if persisted in, will inevitably lead to confusion, and is sure to promote unpleasant comparisons. It cannot be denied that even in the present day there are instances of respectable bodies of ringers being held by their respective Church authorities at a value very little above the gravedigger, while at the same time the choir, whose general intelligence may be below the standard of the occupants of the ringing-chamber, are petted and caressed. In such a case as this, it seems unwise to endeavour to press upon the ringers that they should perform the duties required of them in a spirit befitting a body of Churchmen, gratuitously, while their existence is only considered at the season when they make application for the pecuniary reward which for many years they have been accustomed to receive. This is, certainly, trying to make a virtue of necessity. In many places, no doubt, the arrangements for the payment of ringers are of a most unsatisfactory nature, and need a complete revision, but the difficulty will not be overcome by mellifluous phrases about lay-help and so forth. When the clergy, upon the whole, admit ringers to the position to which they have a right, and on equality, at least, with other officials, then, and not till then, ringers, as a body, will feel an interest in devoting their energies without fee or reward.

THE publication of the Index to the first volume is unavoidably postponed till next week. Our friends must be good enough to spare their reproaches at its non-appearance, as it is a matter entirely out of our hands. The compiler did not return his proofs in time for this week's number. While upon this subject, we may, as well inform our readers that the index will be printed and folded up with the outside sheet, so that that sheet will have to be cut in two, reserving one half for the current number, and the other for the first volume.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

ON Saturday afternoon last, the July meeting of this society was held at Barnsley, when there was a good muster of members, and the eight bells of St. Mary's were kept going during most of the day. A Committee Meeting was held at three o'clock, at four the members sat down to tea at "The Millstone" inn, and at half-past five the General Meeting was held in the schoolroom, the president, Jasper W. Snowdon, Esq., in the chair. A resolution was passed that the meeting desired to express to the Shipley society the regret that the Yorkshire Association felt in the removal by death of Mr. James Crabtree, one of the Vice-Presidents of the Association, and a member of the Shipley society. In the absence of a direct invitation to hold the October meeting at any town, it was decided that the choice and arrangement of the next place be left to the discretion of the Committee. Notice was given of a proposition to be brought before the next meeting of an alteration in the rules to the effect that the General Meetings in future be three instead of four in each year, namely, the Annual Meeting in October, and General Meetings in February and June. Messrs. Tuke and Copley were appointed to act as auditors and returning officers at the October meeting. A vote of thanks was passed to the Vicar and Churchwardens of Barnsley for the use of the bells, and to the ringers for their kind preparations. The Rev. Norman Shelton, of Barnsley, who at the Committee Meeting had been admitted as a ringing member of the Association, returned thanks. A vote of thanks to the chairman concluded the business of the meeting.

The Metropolis.

CAMBERWELL, SURREY.—THE ST. JAMES'S SOCIETY.

On Thursday, July 5, 1883, in Two Hours and Fifty Minutes,

AT ST. GEORGE'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S ORIGINAL ONE-PART PEAL. Tenor 14 cwt.

HENRY LANGDON Treble.	CHALLIS F. WINNY.. .. 5.
JOHN W. ROWBOTHAM .. 2.	FREDERICK G. NEWMAN.. 6.
RICHARD FRENCH 3.	HENRY J. TUCKER 7.
SAMUEL HAYES 4.	DANIEL NEWTON Tenor.

Conducted by HENRY J. TUCKER.

The Provinces.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

REDENHALL, NORFOLK.

On Saturday, July 7, 1883, in Three Hours and Twenty Minutes,

AT ST. MARY'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;

IN THE OXFORD VARIATION. Tenor 24 cwt.

E. SMITH Treble.	GEORGE MOBBS 5.
W. MATTHEWS 2.	R. WHITING 6.
F. MATTHEWS 3.	W. GOBBETT 7.
J. E. HERN 4.	CAPTAIN MOORE Tenor.

Composed by H. DAINS, and conducted by E. SMITH.

Mr. J. E. Hern hails from Hurworth-on-Tees, and is now on a visit to his native place, Hickieburgh, Norfolk; and Mr. Gobbett hails from Wingfield, Suffolk.

The figures of the peal appeared in "The Bell News," June 10th, 1883.

WALTER BELCHAMP, ESSEX.

On Sunday, July 8, 1883, in Two Hours and Fifty-seven Minutes,

AT ST. MARY'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 11 cwt.

ZACHARIAH SLATER .. Treble.	THOMAS OLIVER GARWOOD 5.
SAMUEL SLATER 2.	FREDERICK WELLS 6.
FREDK. PAUL ADAMS .. 3.	FREDERICK PITSTOW .. 7.
ALEXANDER HURST 4.	N. J. PITSTOW Tenor.

Composed by N. J. PITSTOW, and conducted by FREDERICK PITSTOW.

The figures of this peal (in two parts) appeared in "The Bell News" for December, 1881.

All of the above company are members of the Royal Cumberland Society, with the exception of Mr. Hurst.

Miscellaneous.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.—On Tuesday, July 10th, at St. John's church, a 720 of Bob Minor, with 30 bobs and 2 singles. A. C. High, 1; C. L. Routledge (conductor), 2; F. Lees, 3; W. G. Routledge, 4; W. Story, 5; R. S. Story, 6. Tenor 14 cwt.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

WANSTEAD (Essex).—On Tuesday evening, July 10th, at Christ church, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor was rung in 26 mins. H. Nunn, sen., 1; W. B. Manning, 2; J. Nunn, 3; * F. Bines, 4; A. H. Gardom, Esq., 5; A. J. Perkins (conductor), 6. Called with 12 bobs. * First 720 in this method. Tenor 9 cwt.

STOKE-UPON-TRENT ARCHIDIACONAL ASSOCIATION.

LAWTON.—On Tuesday, July 3rd, a company of ringers from Wolstanton, visited this tower, and rang a 720 of Grandsire Minor, in 26½ mins., this being the first 720 ever rung upon the bells. S. Walker, 1; L. Miller, 2; S. Spencer, 3; W. Priestman, 4; W. Carter, 5; W. Miller (conductor), 6.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

BURTON-ON-TRENT (Staffordshire).—On Thursday evening, July 5th, at St. Paul's church, a 2544 of Double Norwich Court Bob Major, being the first half of Mr. H. Johnson's peal of 5088, in 1 hr. and 47 mins. H. Wakley, 1; E. I. Stone, 2; A. Wakley, 3; J. Griffin, 4; J. Jaggar, 5; F. W. Appleby, 6; T. Holmes, 7; W. Wakley (conductor), 8. Owing to one of the above company being unexpectedly detained until an hour after the time agreed upon for commencing, the ringers were obliged to stop at the half-peal end instead of attempting the whole peal, according to their original intention. Tenor 26 cwt.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

FARNHAM ROYAL (Bucks).—On Saturday, June 30th, a 720 of Oxford Bob Minor, in 27 mins. G. Basden, 1; J. Basden, 2; A. Fussell, 3; A. Batten, 4; J. Parker (conductor), 5; W. H. Fussell, Esq., 6.

WALTHAM ST. LAWRENCE (Berks).—On Saturday, June 30th, a 720 of Grandsire Minor, in 26 mins. R. Smith, 1; R. Flaxman, 2; W. A. Garraway (conductor), 3; H. Rogers, 4; E. Rogers, 5; J. W. Wilkins, 6. Tenor 11 cwt. This is believed to be the first 720 on these bells. They are a musical little peal, augmented to six in 1822, but the "go" of them is about equal to double their weight.

BOUGHTON (Kent).—On Sunday, July 8th, seven members of All Saints' company, Maidstone, visited this place, and rang a 720 of Grandsire Minor, in 24 mins. G. Moorcraft, 1; A. H. Woolley, 2; R. Simmonds, 3; J. Horton, 4; A. Moorcraft, 5; H. Pearce, 6. Tenor 18½ cwt.

BRAINTREE (Essex).—On Saturday, June 23rd, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob. H. E. Hammond, 1; F. Bumpstead (first 720 with a bob bell), 2; W. Bearman, 3; F. Calthorpe, 4; F. Rudkin (conductor), 5; S. Hammond, 6.

BRIERLEY HILL (Staffordshire).—On Saturday evening, July 7th, several members of St. Thomas's society, Dudley, and St. Andrew's society, Netherton, met at this place and rang at St. Michael's church, a 720 of Grandsire Minor, in 24 mins. A. Whatmore (first 720; Brierley Hill), 1; J. Townsend (Netherton), 2; Wm. Micklewright (Dudley), 3; J. Robinson (Netherton), 4; S. Spittle (Dudley), 5; J. Smith (conductor; Netherton), 6. Tenor 13½ cwt.

COLTISHALL (Norfolk).—On the evening of Wednesday, July 4th, Mr. G. Holmes and two of the men from Redenhall Bell Foundry, who are at work in the neighbourhood, paid a visit to St. John's church, Coltishall, and with three of the village company, rang a well-struck 720 of Bob Minor, in 24 mins. John Harmer, 1; J. Tann, 2; G. Holmes, Esq., 3; J. Smith, 4; Jacob Harmer (conductor), 5; G. Clements, 6. Tenor 11 cwt.

GLEMSFORD (Suffolk).—On Saturday evening, July 7th, the following met at the tower and rang 720 of Cambridge Surprise Minor: N. J. Pitstow, 1; Alexander Hurst, 2; Samuel Slater, 3; Oliver Garwood, 4; Zachariah Slater 5; Frederick Pitstow (conductor), 6. Tenor 16 cwt. Afterwards, at the house of Mr. Samuel Slater, 1008 of Double Norwich Court Bob Major, a course of Treble Bob Royal, and a course of Grandsire Caters on the handbells.

HAVERSTOCK HILL (Middlesex).—On Sunday, July 1st, for Divine Service, a 720 of Bob Minor, with twenty bobs and two singles, in 25 mins. T. Titchener (conductor), 1; G. Sheppard, 2; J. Nixon, 3; G. Griffin, 4; J. Barrett, 5; T. Monks, 6. Tenor 12½ cwt.

HORNSEY (Middlesex).—On Sunday evening, July 8th, for Divine Service, a 720 of Bob Minor in 25 mins. G. B. Lucas, 1; G. Griffin, 2; E. F. Cole, 3; J. Leach, 4; T. Titchener (conductor), 5; T. Monks, 6. After service 720 Bob Minor in 25 mins. G. B. Lucas, 1; J. Leach, 2; G. Griffin, 3; J. Nixon, 4; E. F. Cole, 5; T. Titchener (conductor), 6. Tenor 17½ cwt.

LEYLAND (Lancashire).—*Muffled Peal.*—On Monday, July 9th, the first half of a 720 of Plain Bob Minor, was rung with the bells muffled, as a mark of respect to the late Henry Barrow, who was clerk of the parish church for twenty-five years, and was sexton for eight years. He was highly respected, and was interred on that day, after which the latter half of the 720 was rung. Oliver Warden (conductor), 1; Thos. Bowling, 2; W. Bowling, 3; H. Greckson, 4; Thos. Baron, 5; Jas. Banister, 6. Tenor 18½ cwt. in F.

LIGHTCLIFFE (Yorkshire).—On Tuesday evening, July 10th, on the back six bells, at St. Matthew's church, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor, fifteen bobs, in 30 mins. J. Shooter (Balif Bridge), 1; J. Lawson (Lightcliffe), 2; J. Robnett (Brighouse, conductor), 3; F. Broomhead, (Hove Edge), 4; W. Shearwood (Hipperholme), 5; J. H. Reads (Balif Bridge), 6. Tenor 20 cwt.

LINTON (Kent).—On Sunday, July 8th, seven members of the All Saints' company, Maidstone, visited this place, and rang a 720 of Grandsire Minor, in 25½ mins. G. Moorcraft, 1; R. Simmonds, 2; J. Horton, 3; J. Fergusson, 4; A. Moorcraft, 5; H. Pearce (conductor), 6. Tenor 18½ cwt.

MAIDSTONE (Kent).—On Thursday, June 28th, at All Saints' church, the first half of a variation of Holt's Ten-part Peal of Grandsire Triples, in 1 hour 34 mins. G. Moorcraft, 1; W. Elliott, 2; H. Pearce (conductor), 3; R. Simmons, 4; A. H. Woolley, 5; G. Pawley, 6; A. Haigh, 7; W. Haigh and A. Alldridge, 8. A. and W. Haigh hail from New Brompton.

PONTEFRAC. —On Sunday, July 8th, at All Saints' church, six members of the local company, rang for Divine Service in the morning, a 720 of Bob Minor, with four bobs and fourteen singles, in 25 mins. W. Wilcock, 1; J. Brook, 2; J. P. Heckingbottom, 3; J. Heckingbottom, 4; R. Brook (conductor), 5; W. Pearson, 6. Also for Divine Service in the evening, a 720 of Bob Minor, with 42 singles, in 25½ mins. W. Wilcock, 1; J. Pollard, 2; W. Pearson (conductor), 3; J. Heckingbottom, 4; R. Brook, 5; J. Carter, 6. Tenor 11 cwt. in F.

SNATH (Yorks).—On Thursday, July 5th, being the Agricultural show, six members of All Saints' church society, Pontefract, rang at St. Lawrence a 720 of Bob Minor, with twenty-two singles, in 26½ mins. W. Wilcock, 1; J. Brook, 2; J. P. Heckingbottom, 3; J. Pollard, 4; W. Pearson (conductor), 5; J. Carter, 6. Tenor 12 cwt. These bells are hung reverse way, viz.: from left to right.

ANNUAL MEETING OF THE GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

THE Annual Meeting of this Association was held on Monday week at Gloucester. It was not this year marked, as is generally the case, by early ringing, for no bells were heard till the afternoon. Many of the members attended morning service at the Cathedral, at the conclusion of which the Annual Meeting for business purposes was held in the Chapter-house. The Rev. F. Poynder, Cheltenham, was voted to the chair. The attendance also included—Revs. W. T. S. Allen, St. Briavels; R. C. Lynch Blossie, Coaley; R. P. Davies, Hatherop; C. D. P. Davies, Chaceley, Tewkesbury; T. Holbrow, Sandhurst; Reginald Horton, Dymock; Mowbray Trotter, Gloucester; F. E. Broome Witts, Norton (treasurer); Pitt Eykyn, France Lynch, Stroud (secretary); and the following performing members:—Messrs. R. Barrett, W. Bowers, B. Etheridge, J. J. Meaton, P. Preedy, J. Thomas, G. Wanklin, H. Wheeler, of Gloucester; H. G. Gardner, Upton St. Leonard's; G. Miles, H. Mitchell, and J. Yeats, Barnwood; J. Price, Brockworth; W. Bick, Hardwicke; T. Brown and W. Guilding, Elmore; W. Brown, A. Harris, C. Houldey, C. Lyes, T. Mansfield and H. Wren, Quedgley; J. Belcher, T. Hooper, W. Morris, F. Musty, and G. H. Phillott, Cheltenham; W. Brunson, Maisemore; S. Cleal, C. Halford, Josiah Wathen, John Wathen, W. Williams, and R. Witherington, Tewkesbury; J. Drinkwater, A. Halford, and S. Newman, Sandhurst; E. Beake, Bray Brook, J. Davies, R. S. Knill, D. Morgan, D. Palser, J. Palser, H. Porch, H. Schusler, G. Staddon, and A. York, Bristol; T. Davis, H. Grainger, and W. Wintle, Newent; E. Devereux, Kemerton; E. Eeles, J. Hayward, C. Jones, H. Lafford, R. Mills, and I. Paget, Windrush; J. Hewlett and G. Latham, Stroud; and E. King, Avening.

THE SECRETARY read the minutes, which were confirmed.

THE CHAIRMAN said the members would be sorry to hear that the Rev. J. P. Bowers, minor canon of the Cathedral, had been unable to carry out his intention of preaching at the service, in consequence of illness. The first business was the election of officers. It was then agreed that the President, Vice-President, Master, Hon. Secretary, and Hon. Treasurer be re-elected.

A discussion then ensued relative to the alteration of some of the rules, and also respecting the collecting of subscriptions, the Rev. T. Holbrow observing that the members of the Committee ought to hold themselves responsible for getting in the subscriptions of members; he as a committee-man should consider himself to blame if any members of his company got into arrears. It was suggested by the Rev. F. E. Broome Witts that new ground should be broken by the next meeting being held in the Moreton-in-Marsh district, and a proposition to this effect was carried. The committee having had under consideration the question of having an emblem or certificate of membership printed, an estimate for the same was received from a Bristol firm, and Mr. Staddon proposed that the Association get their emblems printed. This proposal, however, was not entertained. The Rev. Charles D. P. Davies proposed that when any band in union with the Association had rung a peal, that they forward an account of it and the calling to the secretary, for publication in the annual report. A suggestion made by Mr. Phillott, that the Association should have a peal-book, was approved, and a resolution the effect was carried. The voting of 5s. to the fund for the restoration of the John Holt tablet,

and 1l. to the fund being raised for the benefit of Mr. Cox, followed by a vote of thanks to the chairman, terminated the business of the meeting.

The Dinner took place at the "Spread Eagle" Hotel. The Rev. Mowbray Trotter presided, and the vice-chairs were occupied by Revs. F. E. Broome Witts, T. Holbrow, A. Nash, and C. D. P. Davies. Besides those at the morning meeting there were also present Rev. C. E. Dighton, Rev. J. J. Luce, and Rev. H. E. Hooper (Chedworth), and some other members, the company numbering altogether about one hundred.

REV. F. POYNDER proposed the toast of "The Queen," which was cordially received, and a verse of the National Anthem was sung.

MR. MEATON exhibited a model of a bell hung in a church tower showing how the bell was raised, which he suggested would be a fine ornament for many of their parlours.

THE CHAIRMAN proposed "The Bishop and Clergy of the Diocese," and asked the Rev. T. Holbrow to respond.

REV. T. HOLBROW acknowledged the toast in a few brief remarks.

MR. DRINKWATER, the Master, asked the Cheltenham company to give them a course of Stedman Cinques on the handbells. Mr. Belcher and five others thereupon gave the desired performance, which was received with applause.

THE CHAIRMAN said the rapt attention with which the performance just heard had been regarded, and which was brought round so well reminded him of an anecdote of the late Chief Baron Brady. As counsel named Bushewas earnestly pleading his cause, a donkey outside commenced braying, when the learned judge interrupted the counsel's speech by the remark, "One at a time, Brother Bushe." Under this and the accompanying laughter the counsel of course nearly collapsed but he took his revenge on the Judge soon afterwards, when his lordship was summing up, and the donkey again commenced braying. "I beg your lordship's pardon," said the counsel, "there is such an echo in the court that I am unable to hear a word." They had not been troubled by any interruptions of that sort while their peal just finished was being rung. They were met not merely to propose certain toasts: but for the purpose of doing honour to one who was intimately connected with their Association—he referred to the Rev. Pitt Eykyn. Many present would remember a few years ago when they met in the Chapter-Room and initiated this society for the furtherance of the bell-ringing interest in their diocese, and they hoped that though the society was still young, those interests had been in some measure furthered, and that the trouble which had been taken by the committee and the enthusiasm which had been shown by many performing members, had not altogether been thrown away; and that there was a higher tone prevailing than some of the older ringers could look back to among the ringing confraternity in the diocese. They were trying while cultivating the grand art of peal-ringing, to superadd good conduct. He was sure, when he said this, that they would agree with him that no one more than the Rev. Pitt Eykyn had had the interests of the Association at heart. That gentleman had shown himself a warm friend and kind associate with many of them, while he had always kept to the fore-front his high and holy office of a clergyman of the Church of England. He had always tried, whether in the belfry (if he was one of their performing members), or wherever he was, to always try to magnify his office, and he (the Chairman) was quite sure they would all agree with him that he had not tried in vain. No body knew perhaps much better than himself what an immense amount of labour Mr. Eykyn had expended on this work, as hon. secretary of the Association. He (the Chairman) was privileged to work with him for a few years as hon. treasurer, and he knew, as they all knew, that he spared no pains to advance the best interests of the Gloucester and Bristol Diocesan Association of Change-Ringers. Whenever there had a meeting Mr. Eykyn was there. Whenever any difficulty arose he was ready with his counsel and advice, which was always the best, and he was sure whatever success had attended the first years of the course of the Association must to a great degree be set down to the account of their friend and brother-ringer, Mr. Eykyn. They did not wish these thoughts merely to remain thoughts, but they wished to give practical expression to them, and therefore several of them had banded themselves together with a kindly rivalry to present him with a handsome case of handbells, which was before them with address, which he read as follows:—"To the Rev. Pitt Eykyn, Hon. Sec. of the Gloucester and Bristol Diocesan Association of Change-Ringers. We, the undersigned members desire on this occasion of our Annual Meeting to present you with a set of handbells as a small token of our united esteem and regard; at the same time we desire to assure of our deep gratitude to you our Hon. Sec., for your self-denying efforts for the welfare of our Association, and to express our hope that we may long enjoy the benefit of your very valuable help." The address was subscribed with the names of 131 members. He would conclude by presenting Mr. Eykyn with the framed testimonial as the box of bells in the name of his brother-members of the Association.

REV. PITT EYKYN on rising was received with prolonged applause. He said—Mr. Chairman and Brother Ringers, I am sure I can hardly

find words adequately to express my gratitude for this extremely kind present, which I did not in the least deserve, or ever for a moment look forward to receive. When in the train some months ago with our respected master, Mr. Drinkwater, I happened to let slip an expression that I had a great many young men in my parish whom I hardly knew what to do with, and how glad I should be if the church possessed a ring of bells; that I could find many willing hands to ring them if I only had them, and that I thought of getting a set of handbells when I could afford to do so. I had not the slightest thought he would ever put into practical effect what has now been so kindly done. With regard to the extremely kind words which have fallen from Mr. Trotter, I am not at all deserving of half what he has said, and if you think I have done anything for the Association, I assure you I have done it with the very heartiest goodwill. I often wish we could have a more efficient secretary; I mean a secretary that would be able to give more of his time, and be able to go about to your various parishes, and ring with you in your various belfries. I think that is the sort of secretary we want in this Association, and I hope some day we shall be able to get one. Allow me once more to thank you most heartily for your present.

At the suggestion of Mr. Drinkwater, the Gloucester company, under Mr. Wanklin, gave a course of Caters on handbells, which was warmly applauded.

The CHAIRMAN proposed three cheers for the Association and the worthy Master, Mr. J. Drinkwater, which were heartily given, and the proceedings terminated, after it had been announced by the Chairman that tea would be provided at the Old Crypt Schoolroom.

After dinner the ringers visited the various churches which have peals of bells, and in the course of the day the citizens were treated to an almost unparalleled amount of scientific bell-ringing. By the request of the Dean, the bells of the Cathedral were rung muffled as a mark of respect to the Bishop of the Diocese, in consequence of the death of his mother. The Tewkesbury Abbey company rang 462 changes of Union Triples, conducted by Josiah Wathen; a mixed band rang a 504 of Grandsire Triples; a mixed band rang a 336 of Bob Major, conducted by G. H. Gardner; at St. Mary de Crypt the Cheltenham band rang a very good touch of Kent Treble Bob Major, conducted by J. Belcher; and a mixed band rang a 504 of Stedman Triples; at St. Michael's, a 360 of Bob Minor, two courses of Kent Treble Bob Minor, and three 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles were rung, conducted by G. H. Gardner; and during the day Grandsire Doubles and Grandsire Minor, were rung by mixed bands at St. Nicholas and St. Mary-de-Lode churches. All the performances were exceedingly well executed, and the Association may be congratulated on the ability of their members in the interesting art of bell-ringing, and the successful manner in which the Annual Meeting of the Association passed off.

EPITAPH IN ST. PETER'S (PRO-CATHEDRAL) CHURCHYARD, LIVERPOOL.

HERE the remains of Robert Lever lies,
Who whilst he lived did ringing highly prize.
Thus, by what he did love, such was his fate,
Amongst the bells his life did terminate.
Therefore you ringers all, take care to shun
Mischance by bells, before your glass is run.

He died October 24th, 1761, in the 45th year of his age.

The above Robert Lever happened to be among the bells when the ringers came in the tower, they, not thinking any one was above, commenced ringing, and rang until some of them found their ropes and hands stained with blood, and on proceeding upstairs found his mutilated remains.

INTERESTING CRICKET MATCH.

Church Bell Ringers v. Handbell Ringers.—Leesfield, Lancashire.

Church Tower Ringers.			Hand-bell Ringers.		
NAME.	OUT.	SCORE.	NAME.	OUT.	SCORE.
John Hinton ..	bowled ..	16	Jas. Platt ..	bowled ..	4
James Bailey ..	do. ..	2	Jas. Priestly ..	run out ..	2
Thomas Egerton ..	caught ..	2	Abraham Egerton ..	bowled ..	7
Fred. Crosland ..	bowled ..	3	Joshua Platt ..	caught ..	0
Wm. Holden ..	do. ..	0	Wm. Thos. Shaw ..	leg before ..	0
Hy. Gartude ..	do. ..	1	J. F. Kershaw ..	caught ..	6
John Knott ..	do. ..	0	George Platt ..	bowled ..	0
Thos. B. Shaw ..	do. ..	6	Jas. Buckley ..	do. ..	4
Jas. W. Holme ..	st. out ..	0	Jos. Wilkinson ..	do. ..	2
Wm. Bailey ..	not out ..	2	Jos. Egerton ..	do. ..	0
Wm. Sanderson ..	bowled ..	1	Robert Cocker ..	not out ..	2
Extras ..	..	9	Extras ..	..	10
Total ..	42	—	Total ..	37	—

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."

WEIGHTS OF TENORS.

SIR,—It is a pity some of your correspondents do not ascertain more accurately the weights of tenors before publishing them in accounts of performances. In your last issue, Crowland tenor was quoted at "about 15 cwt." Now this bell is in the key of G or thereabouts, and measures 39 inches in diameter, so any of your readers who understand such matters at all will see that 9 cwt. would be the outside of what she could possibly weigh. Again, Spalding tenor is quoted at 18 cwt. just above the account of Crowland. This bell is 44 inches in diameter, note F, so it will be seen that 16 cwt. would be the outside of her weight by any scale. I should have thought that after the late discussion about the Mottram tenor, correspondents would be more careful to ascertain weights more accurately before publishing. No one should ever place any confidence in what old ringers (especially round ringers) say about the weight of bells. I know of a 15 cwt. bell which the ringers of the place call 25 cwt., and of an 18 cwt. one which the old ringers call 2 tons!

VERITAS.

THE JOHN COX JUBILEE FUND.

SIR,—I hope you will allow me to thank you for placing the columns of your paper at the disposal of those engaged in the above object, and that you may not weary in well doing, but continue to assist in the movement to the end. As to the end I can at present say but little. However, it has been suggested that an annuity be purchased for Mr. Cox, and in order to do this, a certain sum is required, and if we may venture a guess at what has been done during the time the circulars have been in circulation, it seems that Christmas will be upon us ere the required sum is forthcoming. While thanking heartily those gentlemen who have so liberally come forward with subscriptions, I beg them to use every influence they possess, to make the case known to their friends generally. Let them emulate the action taken by the worthy vicar of St. Paul's, Burton-on-Trent. The rev. gentleman asks me, in a letter, as others have done, what we wanted to get, and what we intended to do with the sum realised. In reply I could only say we wanted as much as we could get, and so he has gone to work, and with success, on the strength of that simple reply.

Again thanking those who have assisted, with the expectation of hearing a similar result (no matter how small), from all those who have not yet subscribed.

HENRY DAINS,

Hon. Sec. Cox's Jubilee Fund.

P.S.—Should any subscription have been sent me previous to date, and is not in the list, I shall be glad to receive a notification of the fact. I shall be pleased to send circulars to any one requiring them.

HEIGHINGTON CHURCH BELLS.

SIR,—Mr. Clarkson's remarks in your issue of the 30th ult., respecting the opening of Heighington church bells are, to my mind, extremely vague relating chiefly to the right or propriety of the clergy in asking any individual company of ringers to a bell inauguration. One point, however, he wishes me to explain, and that is, with respect to our having offered to open out the bells, an allegation I, in my previous letter, denied. The fact is, some short time previous to the completion of the re-hanging of the bells, it having come to the knowledge of the respected vicar of Heighington that we (the Hurworth ringers) had expressed a wish to open the bells, he at once very generously wrote, asking us if we would kindly undertake to open them, and we, of course, readily consented. Mr. Clarkson, in his first letter, implied that we had thrust ourselves forward to the exclusion of other bands of ringers, which is altogether untrue. Surely the clergy or authorities of any church or place at which a bell-opening takes place, are acting within their rights in asking what number or companies of ringers they choose to participate in the ceremony, and I contend the Northumberland and Durham Association have in this case greatly exceeded their duty in thus attempting to dictate as to what was the proper course to pursue at the inaugural ceremony. Mr. Clarkson endeavours to bear out his remarks as to the usual mode of bell-opening by quoting such well-known ringing centres as Norwich, Ely, &c., it being customary on such occasions for the assembling of change-ringers, and suggesting that the same should have been done at Heighington, but, as one of the parishioners, in a letter which appeared in a local paper, pertinently remarked, "they cut their coat according to the cloth," it not being practicable or convenient at all places to entertain perhaps fifty or a hundred ringers. I should like to see the opinions of other ringers expressed through your columns respecting the opening of bells.

HENRY THOMPSON.

PEALS OF BOB MAJOR.

5040.	5040.
By B. FRANCIS, <i>Diss.</i>	By B. FRANCIS, <i>Diss.</i>
2 3 4 5 6	2 3 4 5 6
W M H	W M H
4 2 6 3 5 - -	4 5 2 3 6 - -
6 3 4 2 5 - -	6 2 4 5 3 - -
2 6 4 3 5 - -	4 5 6 2 3 - -
4 3 2 6 5 - -	3 6 4 5 2 - -
6 4 2 3 5 - -	4 3 6 5 2 - -
3 6 2 4 5 - -	5 4 6 3 2 - -
2 4 3 6 5 - -	6 3 5 4 2 - -
6 2 3 4 5 - -	5 6 3 4 2 - -
3 4 6 2 5 - -	3 5 6 4 2 - -

Four times repeated.

6128.
A. KNIGHTS, *Chesterfield.*

2 3 4 5 6	W B M H
5 2 3 6 4 - -	- -
3 5 2 6 4 - -	- -
2 3 5 6 4 - -	- -
5 6 2 3 4 - -	- -
2 5 6 3 4 - -	- -
6 3 2 5 4 - -	- -
2 6 3 5 4 - -	- -
3 2 6 5 4 - -	- -
6 5 3 2 4 - -	- -
3 6 5 2 4 - -	- -
5 3 6 2 4 - -	- -

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

First eleven courses repeated produce—

6 5 2 4 3	M B W H
2 4 5 3 6 - - -	- - -
5 2 4 3 6 - - -	- - -
4 3 5 2 6 - - -	- - -
5 4 3 2 6 - - -	- - -
3 2 5 4 6 - - -	- - -

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

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

This peal contains fifty-nine 78's before.

By omitting the first three bobs at home in the first three parts, and adding one at home at fiftieth course-end, 3 4 2 5 6, the bells will come round at 5008 changes.

5040.	5040.
By B. FRANCIS, <i>Diss.</i>	By B. FRANCIS, <i>Diss.</i>
2 3 4 5 6	2 3 4 5 6
W M H	W M H
4 5 2 3 6 - -	4 5 2 3 6 - -
6 2 4 5 3 - -	6 2 4 5 3 - -
4 5 6 2 3 - -	4 5 6 2 3 - -
3 6 4 5 2 - -	3 6 4 5 2 - -
4 3 6 5 2 - -	4 3 6 5 2 - -
5 4 6 3 2 - -	5 4 6 3 2 - -
6 3 5 4 2 - -	6 3 5 4 2 - -
5 6 3 4 2 - -	5 6 3 4 2 - -
3 5 6 4 2 - -	3 5 6 4 2 - -

Four times repeated.

5040.
By J. CARTER, *Birmingham.*

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

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

Twice repeated.

Rung upon handbells June 21st, 1883, conducted by its composer.

5040.
By J. R. PRITCHARD, *Liverpool.*

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

Four times repeated.

5200.
A. KNIGHTS, *Chesterfield.*

2 3 4 5 6	W B M H
5 2 3 6 4 - -	- -
6 5 3 2 4 - -	- -
2 6 3 5 4 - -	- -
3 5 2 6 4 - -	- -
6 3 2 5 4 - -	- -
2 5 6 3 4 - -	- -
3 2 6 5 4 - -	- -
5 3 6 2 4 - -	- -
6 2 3 4 5 - -	- -

Four times repeated.

PEALS OF GRANDSIRE CATERS.

5039.	5039.
By ROBERT WILLIAMS, <i>Liverpool.</i>	By ROBERT WILLIAMS, <i>Liverpool.</i>
* 4 5 2 3 6	2 3 4 5 6 8th in two.
2 4 5 3 6 9th in three.	4 2 3 5 6 9th in three.
5 2 4 3 6 9th in three.	3 4 2 5 6 9th in three.
4 2 6 3 5 8 9	2 4 6 5 3 8 9
6 2 5 3 4 8 9	6 4 3 5 2 8 9
5 6 2 3 4 9th in three.	3 6 4 5 2 9th in three.
2 5 6 3 4 9th in three.	4 3 6 5 2 9th in three.
6 5 4 3 2 8 9	6 3 2 5 4 8 9
4 6 5 3 2 9th in three.	2 6 3 5 4 9th in three.
5 4 6 3 2 9th in three.	

The last nine courses three times repeated, produce—

3 2 4 6 5	
† 5 2 4 3 7 6 9 8	
4 5 2 3 6th in three.	
2 4 5 3 6th in three.	

Calling the 8th in three, twice, bring the bells round.

* 7th in and out at two with a double, and 7th in and out at two.

† 9th in and out at two.

5075.
By H. JOHNSON, *Birmingham.*

2 3 4 5 6	2 3 4 5 6
* 4 5 2 3 6	1 single
3 5 2 4 6	9th in three.
2 3 5 4 6	1 single
4 3 5 2 6	8th in two.

5 4 2 6 3 8th in 2.	6 4 3 5 2 9th in 3.
3 6 4 5 2 8th in 2.	2 5 4 6 3 8th in 2.
2 3 6 5 4 9th in 3. s	3 2 5 6 4 9th in 3. s
4 2 3 5 6 9th in 3. s	4 3 2 6 5 9th in 3. s
3 4 2 5 6 9th in 3.	2 4 3 6 5 9th in 3.
2 3 4 5 6 9th in 3.	3 2 4 6 5 9th in 3.
6 2 3 5 4 9th in 3. s	5 3 2 6 4 9th in 3. s
4 6 2 5 3 9th in 3. s	4 5 3 6 2 9th in 3. s
2 4 6 5 3 9th in 3.	3 4 5 6 2 9th in 3.
3 2 4 5 6 9th in 3. s	2 3 4 6 5 9th in 3. s
6 3 2 5 4 9th in 3. s	5 2 3 6 4 9th in 3. s
4 6 3 5 2 9th in 3. s	4 5 2 6 3 9th in 3. s
3 4 6 5 2 9th in 3.	2 4 5 6 3 9th in 3.
6 3 4 5 2 9th in 3.	5 2 4 6 3 9th in 3.
2 6 3 5 4 9th in 3. s	3 5 2 6 4 9th in 3. s
4 2 6 5 3 9th in 3. s	4 3 5 6 2 9th in 3. s

6 4 2 5 3 9th in 3.	5 4 3 6 2 9th in 3.
2 6 4 5 3 9th in 3.	3 5 4 6 2 9th in 3.
3 2 6 5 4 9th in 3. s	2 3 5 6 4 9th in 3. s
4 3 2 5 6 9th in 3. s	4 2 3 6 5 9th in 3. s

2 4 3 5 6 9th in 3.	3 4 2 6 5 9th in 3.
6 2 4 5 3 9th in 3. s	5 3 4 6 2 9th in 3. s
3 6 2 5 4 9th in 3. s	2 5 3 6 4 9th in 3. s
4 3 6 5 2 9th in 3. s	4 2 5 6 3 9th in 3. s

* 7th in two leads, out with a double. 7th in two and out. Round as usual.

This peal was composed in 1840, and rung at St. Philip's, Birmingham, on Monday evening, June 18th, 1883.

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR.

5008.	5008.
By A. KNIGHTS, <i>Chesterfield.</i>	By A. KNIGHTS, <i>Chesterfield.</i>
2 3 4 5 6	W B H
5 2 3 6 4 - -	5 4 6 3 2 - -
3 5 2 6 4 - -	6 5 4 3 2 - -
2 3 5 6 4 - -	4 3 6 5 2 - -
5 6 2 3 4 - -	6 4 3 5 2 - -
3 5 6 4 2 - -	3 6 4 5 2 - -
5 6 3 4 2 - -	4 5 3 6 2 - -
3 5 6 4 2 - -	3 4 5 6 2 - -
6 3 5 4 2 - -	

The last ten courses three times repeated.

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE MAJOR.

5040.	5040.
By J. CARTER, <i>Birmingham.</i>	By J. CARTER, <i>Birmingham.</i>
2 3 4 5 6	2 3 4 5 6
6 5 3 2 4 8 2 s	6 5 3 2 4 8 2 s
3 2 5 6 4 8 2	3 2 5 6 4 8 2
6 2 5 3 4 8 3	6 2 5 3 4 8 3
5 3 2 6 4 8 2	5 3 2 6 4 8 2
2 6 3 5 4 8 2	2 6 3 5 4 8 2
5 6 3 2 4 8 3	5 6 3 2 4 8 3
3 2 6 5 4 8 2	3 2 6 5 4 8 2
4 5 2 3 6 8 2 s	4 5 2 3 6 8 2 s
2 3 5 4 6 8 2	2 3 5 4 6 8 2
5 4 3 2 6 8 2	5 4 3 2 6 8 2
3 2 4 5 6 8 2	3 2 4 5 6 8 2

Five times repeated : 8th in three instead of 8th in two in the last course of the 2nd, 4th, and 6th parts. All the 6 7 8's.

Rung upon handbells June 17th, 1883, conducted by its composer.

PEALS OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR.

By H. DAINS, *Royal Cumberland Youths.*

5184.	5056.
2 3 4 5 6	2 3 4 5 6
I 5 6	I 5 6
4 3 6 5 2 - -	4 3 6 5 2 - -
3 6 4 5 2 - -	3 6 4 5 2 - -
6 4 3 5 2 - -	4 6 2 5 3 - -
5 3 4 6 2 - -	6 2 4 5 3 - -
3 4 5 6 2 - -	5 4 2 6 3 - -
4 5 3 6 2 - -	4 2 5 6 3 - -
6 3 5 4 2 - -	2 5 4 6 3 - -
3 5 6 4 2 - -	6 4 5 2 3 - -
5 6 3 4 2 - -	4 5 6 2 3 - -
3 6 2 4 5 - -	5 2 6 4 3 - -
6 2 3 4 5 - -	2 4 6 5 3 - -
2 3 6 4 5 - -	6 4 3 5 2 - -
6 2 5 3 4 - -	3 4 2 5 6 - -
3 5 2 6 4 - -	4 5 2 3 6 - -
5 6 2 3 4 - -	5 3 2 4 6 - -
2 3 5 6 4 - -	4 2 3 5 6 - -
6 3 2 5 4 - -	2 5 3 4 6 - -
5 2 3 6 4 - -	5 4 3 2 6 - -
2 6 3 5 4 - -	
6 5 3 2 4 - -	
2 3 5 6 4 - -	
3 6 5 2 4 - -	
2 5 6 3 4 - -	
5 3 6 2 4 - -	
3 2 6 5 4 - -	

This peal contains the 4th and 6th twelve times each way in 5-6, with the additional property of the 5th being twelve times at home.

The last six courses to be repeated when 2 4 3 6 5 will be produced. This is the first part-end of a two-part peal containing the 5th and 6th twelve times wrong and right.

It is thought that these are the first published peals having their respective properties.

TWO PEALS OF TREBLE BOB ROYAL.

By JOHN THORP, *Ashton-under-Lyne.*

8000.	10000.
2 3 4 5 6	2 3 4 5 6
M W H	M W H
5 2 3 6 4 2 2 2	5 6 3 4 2 I 2 2
2 5 4 6 3 2 2 2	3 6 4 5 2 2 I
4 5 6 2 3 2 I	3 4 5 6 2 I 2
	5 4 6 3 2 2 I

Four times repeated.

Four times repeated.

** All the foregoing compositions need not be questioned, as we have proved nearly every one, those which we have not, being the productions of eminent composers whose names are sufficient to guarantee their truth.

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Wimbledon Branch (Surrey Association)	0	3	6
Mr. James Hinton, Worcester	0	1	0
Mr. Charles Attley, Ealing	0	2	6
Mr. George Ilsley, Acton	0	1	0
Mr. George Flavel, Northampton	0	5	0
The Gloucester and Bristol Diocesan Association	1	0	0
Jasper W. Snowdon, Esq.	0	5	0
Mr. G. R. Banks, Church Bell Hanger	0	10	6
— Vincent, Esq.	0	2	6
Mr. W. Wilder	0	1	0
E. Cole, Esq.	0	10	0
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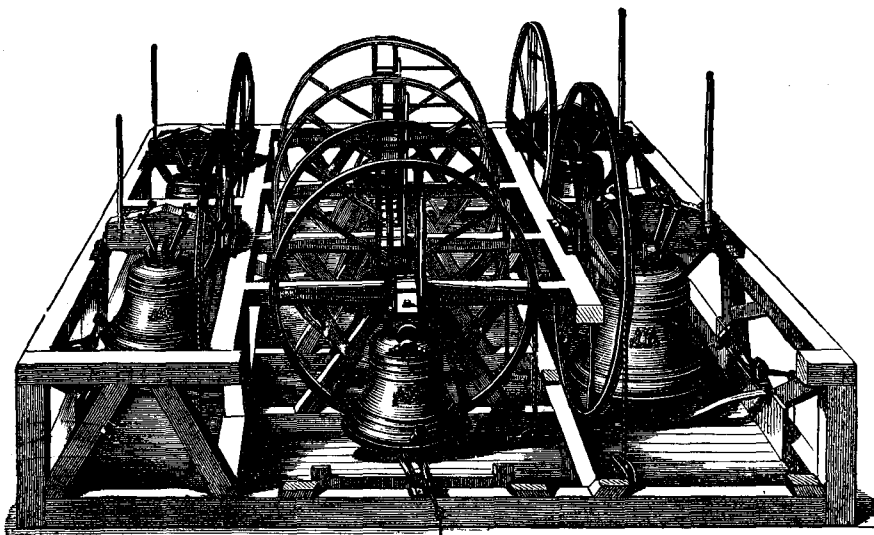
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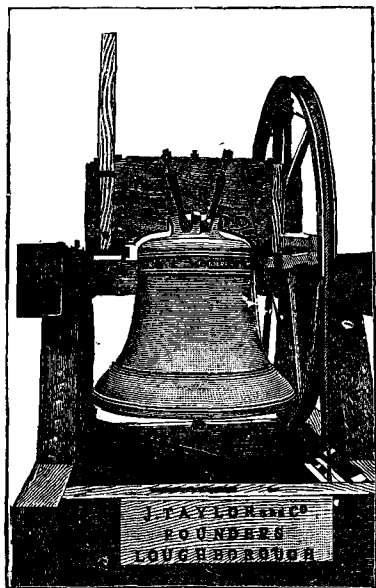
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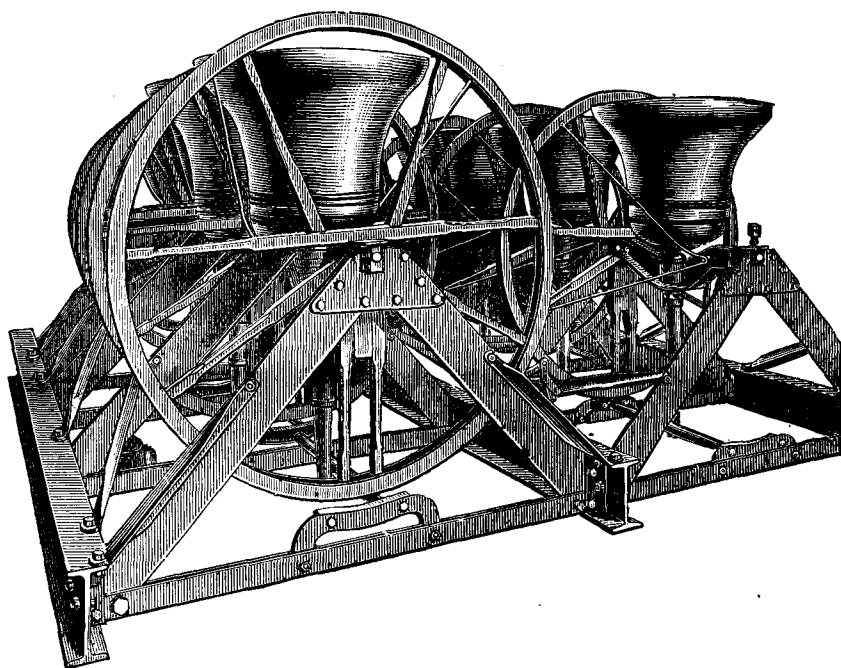
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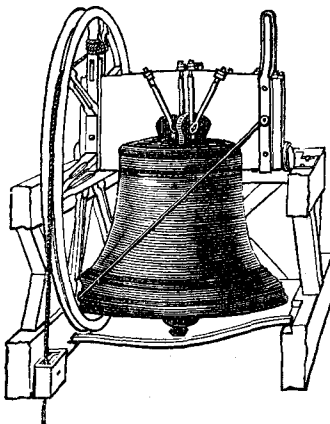
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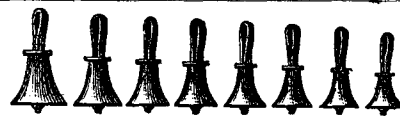
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YORK BELL-FOUNDERS.—VIII.

(Continued).

Extracts from the church-wardens' books, belonging to the parish of St. Michael, in Spurriergate, in the city of York.

1520.—Item—paid for a Baldrege to the second belle	s. d.
Item—paid for a belstryng for the lyttill bell	vj
1540.—Item—paid for helpyng of ij bawtrys off the bells ..	vij
1610.—Item—paid for a Gallon of Aile for the Ringers on the 5th of November	vijj
Item—paid for a Pound of Candylls for the ringers ..	v
1641.—Item—for Ringing for joy of the Triennial Parliament. 3	4
Item, for ringing at the King and Prince's coming to York, the 18th March, 1641	3 8
Item, for Ringing at the King's return from Scotland, November, 1641	2 6
1642.—Item, for ringing when the Duke of York come to this City	3 8
Item, for ringing the day the Queen came to York, 7 March, 1642	1 0
1688.—Paid for ringing the day King William and Queen Mary was proclaimed, Feb. 17th	5 0

EDWARD SELLER.

Succeeded William Seller. Served the office of Sheriff in 1703-4. He used a stamp with E. Seller upon his bells. He died in 1724, and was buried at the parish church of St. Sampson.

The bells contains inscriptions similar to those already given.

- (a) "Venite exultemus Domino."
 (b) "Soli Deo gloria, pax hominibus."
 (c) "Gloria in altissimis Deo."
 (d) "Te Deum Laudamus."

1710.—YORK—St. Maurice (a) diameter 1 ft. 7½ ins.

SELBY ABBEY—5 bells recast.

- (b) also "Michael Marshall." diameter 3 ft. 1½ ins
 "Cantate Domino canticum novum."
 "Voco veni precare, Galfrid Rishton, Incumbent,"
 "Ut tyba sic sonitu Domini conduco cohortes,"
 (Passing bell).—"De profundis clamavi, Olim campana sancti Germani Reconsolata."

RUFFORTH.—

- (c) also William Turner Church
 Henry Cartwright Wardens.
 "Exultate Deo, 1710."

1710.—FOXHOLES (c) also "John Church"
 Milne warden

1713.—HILSTON (c).

1714.—PENISTONE, St. John's (d).

On each side of the shoulder are the arms of De Gunthwaite.

1716.—Sutton-on-Forest (c).

1717.—NUNBURNHOLME.

- "Deo Gloria Thos. Harper,
 Warden."

1718.—YORK—St. Mary, Castlegate.

"Olin Campana Beate Mariæ Virginis Refusa A.D. 1718."

YORK—St. Dennis.

- (c) also Joshua Greenbury Church
 Michael Bennington Wardens."

EASTINGTON.—

- "Populum Voco Deum Laudare 1718.
 Robert Church
 Blyth Warden"

1719.—SANCTON (c) also "Tho. Wauldby church
 Wil. Marshal wardens"

CATTON, LOW.

- "Vos Jubilate Deo 1719
 Wil Wilson Church
 Hen Lofthouse Wardens"

1723.—BUGTHORPE.—

- "Populum Voco"

EDWARD SELLER (II.).

Succeeded his father. Served the office of chamberlain in 1727, and that of Sheriff, in 1731-2. Died November, 20th, 1764.

1725.—WALKINGTON 2.—

- (c) & "Vox Jubilate Deo"

1726.—WINTRINGHAM.—

- "You that in holiness abound rejoyce at the ecco of my sound
 Matthew Curate Geo. Marshal Church Mich Clarke."
 Holdsworth Wil. Petch Wardens. Gill
 "Sweetly towleing on men do call to God for food that feed the
 soul 1727 John Lovell Church
 John Marshall Wardens Mich. Gill Clark."

1729.—YORK—St. Martin-le-Grand.

The whole of the eight bells are by this founder. Five of them were cast in 1729, and were generously given to the parish by William Thompson, Esq. Gent says: "The delightful sounds of which, through melodious skill, dilate sweetly over the neighbouring stream."

"Hoc campanarum concentio E dono Gulielmi Thompson hugus parochia
 William Dobson Esquire Lord Mayor John Marsden
 Henry Baynes Esquire Alderman Samuel Waud Commissioners.
 John Mayor Church
 Samuel Waugh Wardens 1729" Diameter 3ft. 2ins.

William Dobson, apothecary, chamberlain in 1709; Sheriff in 1713-4; and Lord Mayor in 1729; died 31st July, 1748 and buried in this church. Henry Baynes, toyman son of Adam Baynes, Esq., M.P. for Leeds—served the office of Sheriff in 1702-3, Lord Mayor in 1717, and 1732, died 31st March, 1735, and buried at this church.

John Marsden was apprenticed to the above-mentioned William Dobson in 1710. Filled the office of chamberlain in 1724. In 1733-4, he superintended the laying out of the New Walk. He died in 1737.

- (c) diamtr 2ft 10½ in (d) diamtr 2 ft 6½ ins
 "Invoco Deum" diamtr 2 ft 4½ ins
 "Vos Jubilate Deo" 2 ft 8½ ins

The largest bell at this period had upon it:—

"All you that hear my mournful sound,
 Repent before you lie in ground."

It was 3 ft. 5½ ins. in diameter, and seems to have been removed shortly after the peal of five were placed in the belfry.

1730.—In this year, these five bells were increased to eight, by three others, two the gift of the York Society of Campanologists.

- "Dono Societatis Campanistarum Ebor 1730"
 "Dono amicor Societatis Campanistarum Ebor 1730"
 "Sonitu respiscite Mœs To Ametis Acetis Humo
 Richard John Mayerson Church
 Warneford Vicar John Rossfield Wardens

YORK—St. Saviour.

"Jacobvs Whitehead 1730"

SHIPTON (c).

HEMINGBROUGH 5.

- (c) (d) "Invoco Deum"
 "Soli Deo Gloria"
 "Cum sonem memento mori Marmad. Teasdale, Vicar. Jno Barrett
 Jos Butler, Na Andrews, John Simpson Church
 Wardens S"

In 1722, the clerk's fee was fixed at fourpence for tolling at death, unless the person deceased be the head of a family, or worth 40 pounds, for which, tolling of the bell should be twelve pence and no more.

HOTHAM (c).

1731.—BARMSTON (c).

1732.—YORK—St. Mary, Castlegate.

"Johannes Bryne, Rector, Jaques Priestley, Ricardos Corney, Guardians."

The Rev. John Bourne, was Rector of this Parish 27 years and 2 months. He died very suddenly on April 14th, 1741. It is recorded that "he was indefatigable in the discharge of his duty, and was generally well esteemed."

Jaques Priestly, draper, served the office of Chamberlain in 1730. Richard Corney, miller, served the office of Chamberlain in 1729.

1733.—THE MINSTER.—

In 1733, the frames of all the bells in the Minster Belfry were renewed, and the bells rehung in a manner much more commodious for ringing than before; towards the expense of which a number of public-spirited citizens, great admirers of this kind of music and exercise, contributed £20. They also, at their own expense, built a new floor, 21 feet higher than the old one, for greater convenience in ringing the bells.

1738.—THORGANBY.—

- (c) also "Franc Ainsley L.D. John Sutton
 New Brown Church Curate
 Edw Smithson Wardens"

1739.—POCKLINGTON.—

- (c) also "Will Chambers Church E
 Thos Linton Wardens Seller
 Ebor"

YORK—St. Lawrence.—

"Deo Gloria"

COTTINGHAM.—

"Soli Deo Gloria Tho Mease Vicar John Heslewood Church
Wil Whitehead Wardens"

1742.—CATTON, LOW.—

"Hopulum voco festa decoro Wil Stor
Curate
Wil Wilson Church
Joh Quarton Wardens"

G. B. (York).

(To be continued.)

REOPENING OF THE BELLS OF ST. MARY, MONMOUTH.

THE peal of eight bells in the parish church having been rehung by Messrs. Day and Son, bellhangers, of Eye, Suffolk, were heard for the first time, after an interval of many months, on Monday, the 2nd instant. The wooden supports were condemned as dangerous some time ago, and with the restoration of the church itself it was but natural that a desire should be enkindled to have the bells put in good working order also. This has now been done, thanks to the energetic efforts of the Vicar, and especially of the Rev. D. G. Davies, through whose kindly interest the local Lodge of Freemasons were induced to subscribe very liberally towards the restoration fund. One of the most pleasing features in connection with this restoration is that by the instigation of the Vicar, a Ringers' Guild has been formed, with, says a local print, Mr. Honeyfield as manager; Mr. T. Jones, secretary; Mr. Barnett, treasurer and instructor; and the Vicar and Churchwardens presidents *pro tem*. We cannot understand the nature of the duties which may be connected with the office of "manager" to a Guild of ringers. There is an unprofessional ring about the word when applied to ringers. In a society of this description it is possible, unfortunately, to have too much management. In a young ringing society, where there is a skilled ringer present, as is the case at the town of Monmouth, it will be generally be found the best plan to leave all the "managing" details to him. This young Guild must be deemed fortunate in having such a promising ringer as Mr. Barnett among them. Had he remained in the metropolis, he would, by this time, have been a valuable member of that society to which he belongs—the Cumberland Youths. We will conclude this digression by expressing a hope that we may shortly hear a favourable report of the progress of the Guild of Ringers belonging to St. Mary's church, Monmouth.

The bells were to have been rung as early as eight o'clock on the morning of the day above mentioned, but out of respect for the sad bereavement which had fallen on General Somerset and family, the ringing was deferred till ten o'clock, when eight members of the Monmouth society essayed their skill upon them. Afterwards, the Ross company, with Mr. George Day and Mr. Barnett, rang a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 45 minutes. This quarter-peal has the twenty-four 6-7's, all the right way, and is a variation—by Mr. Barnett—of one which appeared in this paper early last year. Other touches were also rung.

At one o'clock, a public luncheon was held at the "White Swan," to which the whole of the ringers were invited. The Vicar presided, being supported on either hand by Captain Noel, R.E., the Revs. D. G. Davies and C. C. Mills, Alderman T. R. Hyam, Mr. G. B. Cullerne and Mr. Wall (Ross). Mr. T. H. Perkins occupied the vice-chair; and amongst others present were several who in former years have officiated in the belfry. The company numbered between thirty and forty. At the conclusion of the repast,

The VICAR said they had better not spend more time than was necessary in sitting round the tables on such a beautiful afternoon; at the same time it would not do to separate without his taking the opportunity of saying a few words respecting the object of their gathering on this auspicious occasion. He would first propose a very old and ancient toast, which as Englishmen they would all loyally receive, and that was, "The Church and Queen." This toast having been well received, the rev. chairman next gave "The Health of the Ross Bell-Ringers," to whom, he said, they were very much indebted. As they probably knew, the society in Monmouth had just been re-formed, and although they were going to be the best ringers in the world, they were not quite so yet, and it was therefore found necessary to look abroad for help. They had hoped to have seen that day some ringers from Cheltenham and Gloucester, but it so happened that they were holding their Diocesan Association meeting that day at Gloucester, and were therefore unable to come. Hence they were doubly grateful to the Ross ringers for the assistance which they had rendered, and could appreciate it even more than they might have done. People coming in from the country had already said how beautiful the bells sounded, and in token of their gratitude for the hard work which the Ross ringers had performed, he would ask them to accord them a very hearty vote of thanks. He would call upon Mr. Wall to respond, who would no doubt be able to tell them that the bells had been rehung with great success, and that they worked as well as they sounded.

Mr. WALL, in acknowledging the toast, said they had spent a very

pleasant day in Monmouth, and were all extremely obliged for the hospitality which had been extended towards them. He was glad if he and his friends had been of any service in introducing the Monmouth ringers to their work a little. They might depend upon it they would not learn all at once; they must buckle themselves to, think well of what they were going to do, keep to the rules which had been drawn up, work well together, and always respect and obey their leader. They had the instruments, and must now strive to learn to play them. Messrs. Day and Son had done their work quite as well as they did in Ross, and he and his friends would be pleased to come at any time to help with the ringing. They had rung a quarter-peal that morning, and soon he hoped to hear of the Monmouth men ringing a peal.

The Rev. D. G. DAVIES proposed "The Health of Mr. Day," the bellhanger. He had been a frequent visitor to the belfry while the work of restoration was in progress, and could bear full testimony to the excellent manner in which it had been carried out. He did not pretend to be a skilled workman, nor would he say upon his own authority that the materials used were all of first-class quality, but having usually taken up some gentleman in whose practical ability he had confidence, he was able to speak with some assurance. Of bell-ringing he also knew practically nothing, but should imagine that in order to control a bell properly, a man must first know how to control himself. Much skill was required to ring the bells as well as to put them in order. Mr. Day had certainly done his part well.

Mr. DAY responded. He was not in the habit of making speeches, being more used to working with his hands than with his tongue. He hoped now that the bells were restored they would establish a good company to ring them. It was necessary above all things that they should work together, and although differences would sometimes arise between men they must try to overlook them all. They knew the old maxim, "A house divided against itself cannot stand." There were some people, he knew, who did not like to hear the bells rung, but he had no opinion of such persons. Who was there while walking by the river side on a beautiful summer's evening that could not feel the charm of the distant bells? and the wanderer returning home after a long absence, or sitting round the fire with the rest of the family on a winter's morning, would be moved by the same influence, and all would feel proud of such a peal of bells. Of late years, happily, ringing had been greatly patronised by the clergy and gentry, and its prospects had become much brighter. He hoped the bells might long stand, and that they would live long to listen to them.

The VICE-CHAIRMAN said they could not leave the room without proposing a vote of thanks to the Rev. D. G. Davies for the great interest he had taken in bringing about the rehanging of the bells, and for taking upon himself, in conjunction with the Vicar, the responsibility of defraying the cost of the work.

The Rev. G. D. DAVIES, in replying, said he felt that it was himself who first put his shoulder to the wheel, and although he could not handle the rope he was content to know that he had assisted in pushing the wheels round. The idea, however, emanated not so much from himself, as from a number of gentlemen who were talking over the subject in the Freemasons' Lodge-room, and it was thought the thing might be done. He need not tell them he heartily rejoiced to hear the bells again. When they were the bells of his own parish he liked to hear them, and now that he had got a little distance off he was still more pleased with the sounds they gave forth. Though he knew nothing about bells he always knew what sounds pleased his ears, and St. Mary's bells always filled him with much pleasure. He proposed the health of the Vicar.

The VICAR in responding, said he was most delighted when he read Mr. Davies's letter generously proposing on behalf of the Freemasons to guarantee a handsome sum towards the rehanging of the bells. His one wish was that the work which they had inaugurated that day might go on and prosper, but he must confess that his great anxiety had been the bell-ringers themselves. From what he had read in a little book by Mr. Ellacombe, he had gathered the fact that bellringers had a very bad name. But those days were long past, and, as he took occasion to say from the pulpit on Sunday, he was very pleased at the hearty and unanimous feeling which had been shown amongst the ringers. They had drawn up a number of rules, not himself, but all of them together, and he was in hopes that many happy hours would be spent by them in the belfry.

The company then adjourned to the church, the Clergy and Churchwardens and two or three other gentlemen being admitted to the bell-chamber, where they watched the movements of the bells as they were rung for a short time.

The vicar has kindly presented the young company of ringers with a peal of handbells.

THE JOHN "HOLT PEAL" TABLET.

WE are requested by the Treasurer to acknowledge the following sum received: Messrs. G. Muskett, G. Dorrington, E. Gibbs, and J. Rowbotham (per Mr. G. Muskett), 2s. 6d.

THE UNITED COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

THE Half-yearly Meeting of this Association was held at Chapel-en-le-Frith, Derbyshire, on Saturday, July 7th. Visitors begun to arrive early in the morning, the first to put in an appearance being the Saddleworth company, who were also the first to ascend the steeple, opening the day with a 6-score each of Oxford and Violet, and a 720 of the latter method. Companies from the following places arrived early in the afternoon:—Hayfield, Glossop, Dinting, Aughton, Mottram, Stalybridge, Hyde, and Ashton-under-Lyne. There were also ringers present from Manchester, Disley, Castleton, and other places. An excellent dinner was provided by Mr. Taylor, of "The Royal Oak" inn, to which a company of ringers and friends, numbering over a hundred, sat down. After dinner, it being the town-feast and fair, the company were not able to secure a room sufficiently capacious, and their business meeting was held in the open air. The president, Mr. John Holden, of Saddleworth, took the chair, and there were also present the vice-president, Mr. George Ford, of Chapel-en-le-Frith, and the Secretary, Mr. James S. Wilde, of Hyde. After a few introductory remarks, the president called on the respected parish clerk, Mr. Bramwell, to address the meeting. In doing so Mr. Bramwell pointed out the good that inevitably resulted from joining ringing associations. He drew a comparison between the present state of affairs, as connected with ringing, and the past, and urged upon those present the importance of the office they held in the Church, strongly advising them, when they called others to pray, not to neglect the act of worship themselves.

A code of rules was submitted to the meeting, and approved of. Mr. Swift, photographer, took negatives of the ringers, in group, in the churchyard, but we have no means of knowing with what success.

Votes of thanks having been accorded to Mr. Bramwell for his address, to the Vicar and Churchwardens for the use of the bells, to the host of the "Royal Oak," to the Chapel-en-le-Frith ringers for the excellent arrangements made by them (the tower and bells—a ring of six, tenor 12 cwt.—being in first-class order), to the president for presiding, passing a resolution to hold the next meeting at Aughton, and enrolling new members, closed one of the most important meetings of the Association. Several of the ringers and friends afterwards repaired to the "Royal Oak," where handbell ringing and singing became the order of the evening, Mr. James Wrigley, of Saddleworth, entertaining the company with "The Long Peal at Mottram."

SERIOUS ACCIDENT TO MR. H. W. HALEY.

On the eve of going to press we regret to hear of a serious disaster which happened to this gentleman last Sunday evening. Most of our readers are acquainted with the fact that for several years at least Mr. Haley has suffered from kind of ophthalmia. A year or two ago he became an inmate of one of the principal London hospitals, where he underwent a succession of operations, but as it seems, without any good result, for since then his sight has become more feeble, so much so that he could not without difficulty find his way about unaided after daylight had passed, and artificial light made matters worse. We gather from the information we have received, that when returning home from one of the City churches on Sunday evening, in attempting to cross Bishopsgate Street—at all times a busy thoroughfare—he was run over by a passing cab, and sustained serious injuries, one or more of his ribs being fractured. This is all the information we have received respecting this sad event. The sympathies of every reader of this paper will, we are sure, be given to Mr. Haley on account of this unfortunate occurrence.

THE BELLS OF TENTERDEN AND THEIR RINGERS.

In connection with the above, the following letter has been sent to the *Kentish Express* :—

"SIR,—As a parishioner of Tenterden, I am aggrieved at the 'laughter' (as quoted in your last week's paper) produced at the large meeting of the Kent Bell-ringing Association, at Ashford, under the presidency of Lord Harris, and feel that we ought not to have been subjected to this by our bell-ringers. They have allowed us to expend £50 on re-hanging the bells in order to learn change-ringing, and, having sent in their names to join the Kent Bell-ringing Association for the same purpose, and solicited extra subscriptions to meet the increased expense, they subsequently withdrew on the plea that the bells are too heavy, and now they are rehung are heavier than they were before, to say nothing of the number of new bell-ropes that have had to be bought to meet their complaints. There is an old proverb, 'Bad workmen find fault with their tools.' It is remarkable that the firm which has given satisfaction everywhere else where they have been employed in re-hanging bells should have so signally failed with us. The laughter produced at the bell-ringing meeting at Ashford, by the plea set forth by our ringers, that our bells are too heavy, shows what experienced hands think of it. If our

present bell-ringers cannot learn change-ringing, no doubt others might be found who could. Meanwhile, let us hope, the present ringers will begin to understand that the bells are the property of the parishioners, and to be used for their pleasure, and not that of the ringers; that the people who attend church will no longer be annoyed by meeting the ringers coming out of the church in their work-day clothes, as they are going in; and that the captain to whom we look with perfect confidence will take care that no one becomes a bell-ringer who is not in every way thoroughly respectable, and will observe all the rules of decency and order suitable to such a place and occupation.—I am, Sir, etc., AN AGGRIEVED PARISHIONER."

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—DISTRICT MEETING.

A DISTRICT MEETING of the above Association will be held at Waltham Abbey, by the kind permission of the vicar, on Tuesday, July 24th. Belfry open at 11 a.m. Tea at the "Three Tuns" Inn at 4.30. Business meeting immediately after. Members intending to be present, are particularly requested to inform the Secretary of their intentions at an early date. Tea Tickets, price 1s., may be obtained of the Secretary.

Battles Bridge, S.O. Essex.

July 14th, 1883.

H. A. COCKEY, Hon. Sec.

Obituary.

WILLIAM FARTHING.—It is our duty this week to record the death of the above somewhat remarkable member of the Exercise. Farthing, it is stated, was born at Framdsen, in Suffolk, and at a very early age exhibited a great love for bells, and, as he grew up, never lost an opportunity of trying the bells of every church he visited, which was no small number, as he was fond of making country excursions for the purpose. Thus he not only became well known, but an efficient ringer, and has, although we are not able to say where, taken part in several 5000's. He was employed on the G.E.R., and, in his declining years, was put in charge of the railway crossing adjoining the churchyard of St. Mary's, Kelvedon, Essex, a village known to most travellers upon the Colchester line by its fields of exquisite floral beauty upon one side of the line, and the parish church on the other. Soon after, or just about the time of his arrival, it was resolved to restore the church. Farthing, finding the bells, a heavy ring of five, out of order, went to work with a will, and was fortunate in getting the support of one of the churchwardens, who afterwards became a ringer, and, leaving no stone unturned, he ultimately succeeded in having the belfry included with the other restoration; in fact so energetic did he become, that the bells were restored and re-opened some considerable time before the church was re-opened. The tenor proved to be 21 cwt., instead of 28 cwt., as estimated, and Farthing's desire was a ring of six, if not eight, but the parishioners were determined not to part with their melodious tenor, and as funds were not forthcoming to increase the ring, Farthing had to be contented with seeing the five restored. These proved the most harmonious five we ever had the pleasure of listening to, and, at the reopening, when there were from fifty to sixty ringers present, it was universally acknowledged to be the finest and richest-toned five in the county. Farthing soon got some young hands together, and, proving peculiarly adapted for teaching, he soon had as good a five-bell band as any in the Eastern Counties. He afterwards removed to Ipswich, but, returning into Essex, he became an inmate of the Braintree Union, where he breathed his last on the 14th inst., at the age of 66. Our duty is to speak of him as a ringer, and no further; but it is a pity he had to seek such shelter, for he has delighted thousands at public entertainments, by his clever and unique handbell performances, some of which were most marvellous. Possessed of a capital set, he was in the habit of placing one on each arm, one on each elbow, two in each hand, seated in a chair, with one on each foot, would play numerous national airs, and ring touches of Plain Bob Royal, and, with an assistant, has executed a course of Bob Maximus. His dying request was that he might be laid to rest under the sound of the bells he so dearly loved; this was granted, the funeral taking place at Kelvedon on the afternoon of the 6th, when the orthodox muffled peal was rung, consisting of ten six-scores, viz., nine of Grandsire, and one of Oxford. These were rung: three as the procession approached the church, with the four front bells fully-muffled, and the tenor half-muffled, three when the corpse was lowered in the grave, all muffled, two half-muffled, and two open after the funeral. The ringers were R. Elliott, 1; H. Evers, 2; D. Elliott, 3; J. Elliott, 4; H. Elliott (conductor), 5.

JOHN SMITH.—With feelings of deep regret the ringers of St. Michael's, Bishop Wearmouth, have to record the death of the above-named, on May 31st last. He was well-known as one of the oldest change-ringers in this district, it being over thirty years since he entered Bishops Wearmouth. Deceased being buried on Sunday, June 3rd, the bells were only half-muffled during morning service. He was a member of the Durham and Newcastle Association,

"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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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. S.—Not inscriptions; only a list of bells founded, and that is incomplete. We thank you for your kind letter.

The Bell News & Ringers' Record.

SATURDAY, JULY 21, 1883.

IN the process of what is known as Church Restoration, it is frequently found that that part of the church called the tower has its interior mutilated and cut about to a most alarming extent, to gratify the taste, if not the caprice, of the architect. In most of these instances the bells and their belongings are positively ignored, and the idea of accommodation being left for ringers is absolutely scouted. Even in cases where a "restoration" can be well effected without impinging upon the ringing-room or bell-chamber, a disposition to "tinker" with something connected with these parts of the edifice appears to be a not unimportant feature in the plans and specifications submitted to the respective authorities.

It is not wrong to suppose that when any professional man has *carte blanche* in the way of Church Restoration allowed him, nothing but what appears to him as the fittest shall be allowed to survive.

Many readers of this journal are aware that during the so-called restoration of churches, if the tower should happen to come in for a share of attention that peal-tablets are frequently missing after all is over. Instances could be quoted, not only of the removal of these tablets to places quite out of sight, and their permanent disfigurement and total demolition. Who has not heard of the 12,000 Treble Bob Royal rang at St. Leonard's, Shoreditch in the last century? Yet how many would readily believe the fact that the tablet recording this performance, one of the most handsome we have ever seen, written upon a large sheet of copper, with an elaborate wood carving around it, was lying for some years in a coal-hole, and was rescued from there by a ringer who had the presence of mind to detect what it was. Now it is again upon the walls of the steeple, but much of this valuable record is obliterated through the shameful usage it

has met with. We have also seen a peal-board recording a 5040 of Grandsire Triples, we think, in a parlour of a house in Stepney, carried hither to escape these iconoclasts who delight to break-up or put out of sight everything not within their ken. A tower of a parish church in our native city, possessing a beautiful peal of eight bells, had, when we used to meet there for practice, a ringing-chamber not badly appointed. But on a visit there some three years ago, a change for the worse had evidently been effected. The east wall had been taken away under the pretence of giving more light to the interior of the church, and a rail placed across the opening thus made, which compelled the tenor man to stand in an angular fashion to ring, instead of his being able to take in the rest of the company at one glance while standing in a proper position. And another act of Vandalism was the removing the whole of the tablets, recording some famous peals of Treble Bob—amongst them REEVES'S 8448—to a height upon the walls of the room which rendered it impossible for any one to decipher them from below. Such instances as these, we are afraid, are too common, and in cases where, unfortunately, a perverse churchwarden is the ruler of affairs, or the indifference of the incumbent is the evil, we cannot see any real practical remedy. Once a tablet is erected in the steeple, no matter at what cost, it becomes the property of the Church, and is at the mercy of her custodians for the time being. But it would be well if our Archdeacons and others in authority over us would take care that the Churchwardens, when they have their hybrid schemes of restoration afloat, should experience a check upon that mania for wholesale destruction which frequently accompanies such projects. Peal-tablets, simple in appearance though they may be, are seldom more hideous to look upon than other things we could mention.

SOME of our friends, when sending touches or letters to appear in this paper, are in the habit of enclosing two stamps, and requesting us to send them a copy of our next issue. We have always endeavoured to meet with the wishes of our correspondents in this particular, though we are afraid in some instances they may have been overlooked. Without discussing whether it is the province of an Editor to become a kind of news-agent, it would oblige us very much if our brethren would order what copies of our paper they require through their local bookseller. There is no difficulty whatever in obtaining copies through this source, if they are ordered from a local news-agent a day or two in advance of publication. In requesting our readers to adopt such a system, we hope to be clearly understood. Though our paper is not of vast size, we find plenty of employment connected with it, which, to do effectually we must be relieved from posting copies. The conduct of this paper entails a mass of correspondence between many of our readers and ourselves that is hardly conceivable. Besides this, the compositions sent for our approval or otherwise take up a deal of time. Therefore we hope not to be mistaken when we request that we may not be called upon to send copies. If it is considered

advisable to have "THE BELL NEWS" sent through the post, our publisher will be happy to comply with all demands. While we are upon this subject, we would again impress upon our readers the necessity of sending all communications intended for publication to us. If they come through the publisher delay is inevitable. And as will be seen by the notice at the commencement of the previous page, all letters intended for publication in the current number must reach us a day sooner than any other matter. It will no doubt be gratifying to our supporters to hear that the circulation of this paper is steadily increasing. We solicit the continued co-operation of our friends in still further extending it by every means within their power. No one who reads these lines is more anxious than we are that the programme marked out for "THE BELL NEWS" shall meet with an early fulfilment.

The Provinces.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION, AND THE ST. PAUL'S SOCIETY.

BURTON-ON-TRENT, STAFFORDSHIRE.

On Friday, July 13, 1883, in Three Hours and Thirty-four- $\frac{1}{2}$ Minutes,

At St. Paul's Church,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5376 CHANGES; IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 26 cwt. in F.

WILLIAM WAKLEY Treble.	JOHN JAGGAR 5.
HARRY WAKLEY 2.	FREDERICK W. APPLEBY.. 6.
ARTHUR WAKLEY 3.	THOMAS HOLMES 7.
JOSEPH GRIFFIN 4.	FRANCIS E. DAWE Tenor.

Composed by HENRY JOHNSON, SENR., and conducted by
FRANCIS EDWARD DAWE.

The conductor hails from London, and this is the first peal he has called in the above method.

Date Touches.

CHESTERFIELD (Derbyshire).—On Saturday, July 14th, six members of the Chesterfield society, with four from Staveley, rang a date touch of 1883 Grandsire Caters in 1 hr. 12 mins. A. Knights (composer), 1; H. Madin (Staveley), 2; H. Nuttall, sen., 3; W. Ellis, 4; G. Topliss, 5; J. Hunt (Staveley), 6; W. Worthington (Staveley), 7; J. Broadhead (Staveley), 8; H. Nuttall, jun. (conductor), 9; T. Mee, 10. Tenor 24 $\frac{3}{4}$ cwt.

LIVERSEDGE (Yorkshire).—On Monday, July 9th, the Liversedge company met to celebrate the 83rd birthday of Mr. William Sottanstill, of Sowerby, by ringing 1883 changes of Kent Treble Bob Major, but owing to a mishap by a rope casting the wheel they had to stand, but they met again on Tuesday night, and rung it in 1 hr. 10 mins. T. Whitworth, 1; J. Illingworth, 2; W. Firth, 3; T. North (conductor), 4; L. Illingworth, 5; T. Goodall, 6; A. Briggs, 7; M. Ramsden, 8. Composed by Mr. William Sottanstill.

PONTEFRAC (Yorkshire).—On Sunday, July 15th, six members of local company, rang for evening service a date touch of 1883 Bob Minor, in 1 hr. 7 mins. W. Wilcock, 1; J. Brook, 2; W. Parson (conductor), 3; J. Hickingbottom, 4; R. Brook, 5; J. Carter, 6. Tenor 11 cwt. in F.

Miscellaneous.

THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

BEDFORD.—On Thursday, July 12th, at St. Paul's church, the local company rang various touches of Grandsire Triples on the occasion of the unveiling of the Harpur Memorial Window, which has been put up by public subscription in the east end of the church, and was

unveiled by S. Whitbread, Esq., in the presence of the Mayor and Corporation, and a large congregation of people, at 3.30 p.m. For the evening service, the same company rang a 672 of Grandsire Triples, this being the longest length the company has rung in this method. W. Allen, 1; S. Cullip, 2; C. Clark, 3; W. Hall, 4; W. Biggs, 5; J. Atkins, 6; J. Frossell (conductor), 7; T. Hills, 8. And on Sunday morning, for Divine Service, a 504 in the same method. T. Foot, 1; W. Allen, 2; S. Cullip, 3; W. Hall, 4; C. Clark, 5; J. Atkins, 6; T. Hills, 7; J. Spencer, 8. Tenor 28 cwt.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.—On Thursday evening, June 12th, at St. John's church, for Divine Service, a 720 of Merchants' Return, being the first in the method by all the band except F. Lees. W. Eggleston, 1; C. L. Routledge, 2; F. Lees, 3; W. G. Routledge (conductor), 4; W. Story, 5; R. S. Story, 6. Also on Sunday, July 15th, for evening service, a 720 of Bob Minor (three bobs and eighteen singles), in 26 minutes. A. C. High, 1; C. L. Routledge, 2; F. Lees, 3; Geo. Herdman, 4; W. Story, 5; R. S. Story (conductor), 6. And on Tuesday, July 17th, for practice, a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob Minor. Geo. Campbell, 1; F. Lees, 2; *E. W. Scott (St. Stephen's), 3; C. L. Routledge, 4; W. Story, 5; R. S. Story (conductor), 6. *First 720 in the method. Tenor 14 cwt.

NORTH SHIELDS.—On Sunday, July 8th, for Divine Service at Christ Church, morning and evening, two 720's of Treble Bob Minor (Kent and Oxford), in 27 mins. each. S. Nott, 1; A. Sawyer, 2; R. Smith, 3; R. Willins, 4; H. Ross (conductor), 5; J. Hern, 6. On Tuesday, July 10th, six members of this branch, with Messrs. Jas. and John Moffett, of South Shields, rang a touch of 576 changes of Treble Bob Major in 19 mins. S. Nott, 1; John Moffett, 2; H. Ross, 3; Jas. Moffett, 4; R. Willins, 5; W. Reed, Esq., 6; R. Smith (conductor), 7; J. Hern, 8. And on Sunday, for Divine Service at the same church, a touch of Stedman Triples, 504 changes, in 18 mins. A. Sawyer, 1; J. Hern, 2; J. Rossiter, 3; H. Ross, 4; W. Waugh, 5; R. Willins, 6; R. Smith (conductor), 7; S. Nott, 8. Tenor 19 cwt.

SOUTH SHIELDS.—On Monday, July 2nd, four members of this branch, assisted by H. Ross and R. Smith of North Shields, rang a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor in 27 mins. R. Hopper, 1; R. Smith, 2; John Moffett, 3; Jas. Moffett, 4; J. Hopper, 5; H. Ross (conductor; first 720), 6. Tenor 10 cwt.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

LEYTONSTONE (Essex).—On Sunday evening, July 15th, at the church of St. John-the-Baptist, for Divine Service, a 720 of Bob Minor was rung in 27 mins. H. Flanders (first 720), 1; W. Smith, 2; G. Akers, 3; A. Pye (conductor), 4; J. Priest, 5; J. Marks, 6. Called with twenty-nine bobs and twelve singles. Also after service, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob, in 26 $\frac{1}{2}$ mins. H. Nunn, sen., 1; A. Pye, 2; G. Akers (conductor), 3; J. Nunn, 4; J. Priest, 5; S. Hayes, 6.

STISTED (Essex).—On Saturday, July 14th, six members of the above Association rang 720 of Cambridge Surprise. F. Calthorpe, 1; W. H. Dyson, 2; S. Hammond, 3; H. E. Hammond, 4; F. Rudkin (conductor), 5; A. Hucksion, 6. Also 720 Bob Minor, in 20 mins. *A. Chapman (first 720), 1; F. Calthorpe, 2; S. Hammond, 3; W. Radley, 4; F. Rudkin (conductor), 5; W. H. Dyson, 6. Tenor 10 cwt. All belong to Braintree.

STOKE-UPON-TRENT ARCHIDIACONAL ASSOCIATION.

WOLSTANTON (Staffordshire).—On Sunday evening, July 15th, a 720 of Bob Minor, in 26 mins. S. Walker, 1; L. Miller (conductor), 2; W. Priestman, 3; S. Spencer, 4; A. Walker, 5; W. Miller, 6.

HORWICH (Lancashire).—On Sunday, July 15th, several 720's were rung by members from Leyland, Horwich, and Padram, on the occasion of the annual Sunday school sermon being preached, the collection in aid reaching £116 4s. 6d. Oliver Worden (conductor), 1; George Hickson, 2; W. Caudwell, 3; H. Gregson, 4; Thos. Baron, 5; Jos. Harper, 6. Tenor 11 cwt.

HIGHER SUTTON, MACCLESFIELD (Cheshire).—On Sunday, July 15th, for Divine Service at St. James's church, the local society rang a 720 of Grandsire Minor, with thirty-four bobs and two singles, in 29 mins. William Walmsley, 1; William H. Ingham (conductor), 2; Walter Ingham, 3; John M. Davenport, 4; William H. Hardman, 5; Thomas Mottershead, 6. Tenor 12 cwt. in G.

HULL (Yorkshire).—On Wednesday evening, July 11th, at St. St. James's church, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor in 27 mins. T. Stockdale, 1; A. Taylor (conductor), 2; S. Slingsby, 3; C. Bennett, 4; R. Chaffer, 5; J. W. Stickney, 6. Messrs. Taylor and Bennett belong to the Holy Trinity Society, the rest to St. James's. Tenor 15 cwt.

LONDON.—On Saturday afternoon, July 14th, at St. Sepulchre's, a touch of 500 Grandsire Triples, with the bells half-muffled, as a last mark of respect to the memory of the Rev. J. Abbiss, for many years the rector of St. Bartholomew's, Smithfield. H. Dains (conductor), 1; J. Rumsey, 2; J. Mansfield, 3; W. Hoverd, 4; W. Matthews, 5; W. Jones, 6; W. Meadows, Esq., 7; W. Wheeler, 8. Tenor 33 cwt. Also at St. Bartholomew-the-Great, four members of the City of London Society assisted by Mr. F. Bate, rang various touches of Grandsire with the bells half-muffled as a token of respect to the late rector, the Rev. J. Abbiss. J. Rumsey, 1; D. Lovett, 2; F. Bate, 3; W. Matthews, 4; W. Meadows, Esq., 5. Tenor about 6 cwt.

LOUGHBOROUGH.—On Wednesday, July 23rd, at all Saints' church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 57 mins. W. Billingham, 1; J. Wibberly, 2; T. Rose, 3; J. Hardy, 4; S. Smith, 5; J. W. Taylor, Esq. (conductor), 6; J. W. Taylor, Esq., jun., 7; E. Wightman, 8. Tenor 24 cwt in D.

LONG EATON (Derbyshire).—On Tuesday, July 17th, for evening practice, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob, in 25 mins. William Grice, 1; George Bradley, 2; Samuel Clarke, 3; William Gilson, 4; John Ward, 5; Joseph Barrow (conductor), 6. Also two 6-scores of Plain Bob Doubles. William Grice, 1; George Bradley, 2; John Ward (conductor), 3; William Gibson, 4; Dr. Sellon (Castle Donnington), 5; Rev. W. T. Longman (Curate of Long Eaton), 6. Also two 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles. Dr. Sellon, 1; G. Bradley, 2; John Ward (conductor), 3; S. Clarke, 4; J. Barrow, 5; Rev. W. T. Longman, 6.

SPALDING (Lincolnshire).—On Sunday, July 15th, at St. Paul's, Fulney, for Divine Service in the morning, a 700 of Grandsire Triples, was rung in 26 minutes. R. Skeef, 1; R. Creasey (conductor), 2; J. Wilson, 3; E. Quinton, 4; A. Walker, 5; J. Croxford, 6; J. W. Creasey, 7; C. Creasey, 8. And on Monday evening, July 16th, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 45 mins. R. Skeef, 1; second left out; J. S. Wright, 3; E. Quinton, 4; A. Walker, 5; J. Wilson, 6; R. Creasey (conductor), 7; J. Croxford, 8.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—WIDFORD COMPANY.

On Sunday, July 15th, Mr. H. Howell, of Ipswich, who has just finished hanging the single bell at Moulsham church, met the Widford company at their church, and rang with them for morning service 18-score of Double Court, and the same of Oxford Treble Bob. In the first touch the band stood as follows: W. Harvey, 1; W. Rowland, 2; T. Drake, (conductor), 3; W. Hawkes, 4; H. Howell, 5; M. Rolfe, 6. And in the other J. Dains took the place of T. Drake, the others standing as before, and M. Rolfe conducting. Tenor 12 cwt. In the evening the same band, with the exception of T. Drake, walked to Sandon church, and being joined by Mr. A. Rowland, of Great Baddow, rang for evening service on the nice peal of five at that church, two 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles. A. Rowland, 1; W. Rowland, 2; W. Hawkes, 3; H. Howell, 4; M. Rolfe, 5. Tenor 11 cwt. Returning by the way of Great Baddow, they asked permission to ring a touch on the eight bells in the parish church (tenor 12 cwt.), but found that ringing after service was not allowed.

On Monday evening, a meeting took place at Galleywood, where a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples was rung. W. Harvey, 1; J. Dains, 2; W. Rowland, 3; H. F. de Lisle, 4; W. Hawkes, 5; E. Scotcher, 6; H. Howell (conductor), 7; J. Broomfield, 8. Time 42 mins. Tenor 14 cwt. 2 qrs. 16 lbs. On Tuesday Mr. Howell paid another visit to Rettendon before returning home, and rang with the local band of beginners several 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles, and two touches of Grandsire Minor, on the church bells, and three courses of Stedman Doubles on handbells. The band stood as follows: Doubles: H. Jones, 1; W. Jay, 2; Mr. W. Pavitt, 3; H. Howell, 4; Mr. E. Moat (conductor), 5; F. Cardy, 6. Minor: H. Jones, 1; W. Jay, 2; A. Jarvis, 3; H. Howell, 4; Mr. E. Moat, 5; Rev. H. A. Cockey (conductor), 6. Stedman: Mr. W. Pavitt, 1; Mr. E. Moat, 2; H. Howell, 3; W. Jay, 4; Rev. H. A. Cockey, 5-6.

THE BRIGHTON SOCIETY.

On Tuesday, July 10th, the members of this society held their annual festival at Hastings. They were accompanied on this occasion by Mr. Henry Hopkins, of the Royal Cumberland Youths, London, who was visiting Brighton at the time. The weather on the above day being all that could be desired, the members and friends spent a very pleasant day. Arriving at their destination, and permission being kindly granted by the respective incumbents, the towers of All Saints' and St. Clement's churches were visited. The latter church has a peal of eight steel bells, but not in good ringing order. No touch of length could be rung on these bells, it being impossible to keep the tenor going for any time. At the church of All Saints there is a ring of five, in good going order. With an additional three bells,

these would make a pretty peal of eight, which augmentation we should be glad to hear the good people of Hastings had taken in hand, and brought to a successful issue. Some Grandsire Doubles were rung upon these bells.

The visitors then repaired to the "Anchor Inn," where they sat down to an excellent dinner. After this repast, the loyal and complimentary toasts having been observed, they set out upon a trip to Battle Abbey, and an examination of this historical ruin afforded them much interest, and in addition they were kindly permitted by the dean to ring on a peal of eight at a church close by. The only thing required here is a deadening floor between the ringing-chamber and the bells, it being impossible to hear the conductor. Time being very short, nothing of any importance was done, and the party had to hasten homeward, arriving at Brighton at a late hour, well satisfied with their day's enjoyment.

WALTHAM ABBEY, ESSEX.

On Saturday, June 14th, Mr. John Carter, of Birmingham, having paid a friendly visit to this ancient town, with three members of the local company rang at Mr. Powell's house (the "Three Tuns" inn), upon handbells, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples, in 41 mins. J. Carter, 1-2; W. A. Alps (conductor), 3-4; G. Thurgood, 5-6; David Tarling, 7-8. On the following Sunday morning, for Divine Service at the Abbey, a touch of Grandsire Triples was rung. After dinner, a journey was made to Loughton parish church, but not hearing the bells, returned to Waltham after a survey of the church had been made. For Divine Service in the evening at the Abbey, some Stedman and Grandsire Triples were chimed. On Monday evening, an unsuccessful attempt was made to ring a peal of Stedman Triples in hand, but after ringing twenty-three courses, it was abandoned. A touch of 592 Grandsire Major, composed and conducted by J. Carter, was then rung. Mr. Carter then rung 1-2-3-4 in a touch of Grandsire Triples, two of the Waltham Abbey company ringing the remaining four bells; conducted by W. A. Alps.

SOCIETY OF CHANGE-RINGERS FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.

THE society of change-ringers recently formed for this Archdeaconry, held their first general meeting on Saturday week, in the Cathedral belfry, the Rev. J. J. Serjeantson, Vicar of St. Michael's, presiding. The business consisted of confirming and amending the rules, of which a draft had been drawn up at the previous meeting on June 2nd. The Rev. J. J. Serjeantson was elected treasurer, and the Rev. J. R. Keble and Mr. W. A. Wood, secretaries for the year. About fifty ringers joined the Society, representing Lichfield, Wombourne, West Bromwich (All Saints' and Christ Church), Wolverhampton (St. Peter's), Tettenhall, Wednesbury, Tamworth, and Burton-on-Trent. The following gentlemen joined the society as Hon. Members: Rev. W. J. Heale, Vicar of Wombourne; Rev. R. Hodgson, Vicar of Walsall; Rev. W. McGregor, vicar of Tamworth; Rev. H. E. Butler, curate, St. Peter's, Wolverhampton; Colonel Bagot Lane, King's Bromley; and Colonel Bagnall, Shenstone, Moss. The evening was spent in ringing several touches at St. Mary's and St. Michael's towers, tea being served in the Coffee House.

BRISTOL RINGERS IN LONDON.

On Monday, July 9th, some of the members of the St. Stephen's society of Bristol, with Mr. R. Knill, of the St. James's society in the same city, having selected London as the scene of their outing, arrived in the metropolis at 10 o'clock a.m. The visitors were met in the evening by Mr. E. Moses—who is a member of the St. Stephen's society—and they were escorted by him to St. Bride's, Fleet Street, where Mr. John Cox, with his usual affability, had arranged so that they could ring in that steeple, where they accomplished a touch of Grandsire Triples, conducted by Mr. James Hinton. Some of the Bristol gentlemen being obliged to return home the same evening, those who remained paid a visit to St. Mary's, Lambeth, and with the members of the Waterloo society rang touches of Grandsire and Stedman Triples, and a course of Treble Bob Major. The visitors on parting expressed their gratification at the result of their first ringing visit to London.

DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION OF CHANGE-RINGERS FOR THE DIOCESE OF ELY.

It is proposed to hold a meeting at Cambridge, on August 16th, Bank Holiday. Further arrangements, as far as possible, will be announced.

Address: Rev. K. H. SMITH, Cambridge Road, Ely.

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."

HEIGHINGTON BELLS.

SIR,—The correspondence which has taken place on the above subject has not, I think, been in any way calculated to improve the brotherly love and good feeling which should at all times exist amongst church bell-ringers.

The Durham and Newcastle Association has been blamed for dictating to clergymen and others as to who should open the bells when placed in the church towers. Now I feel that to allow such an impression to go without contradiction would be prejudicial to the Association in the eyes of those in authority over us in ringing matters. I am therefore obliged to deny that any such feeling has ever existed. The Association has never been consulted about the Heighington bells, and if Mr. Clarkson thought proper to write as he did about them I do not think it is fair of Mr. Thompson to accuse the Association of the acts of one member.

WILLIAM REED,

President of the Durham and Newcastle Diocesan Association.

SIR,—Mr. Thompson has explained the discrepancy referred to in my last letter, and I think in a way that adds nothing to his reputation as the writer of a letter asserting to give a true statement of the case. He now says, "It having come to the knowledge of the respected Vicar of Heighington that we (the Hurworth ringers) had expressed a wish to open the bells, he at once very generously wrote asking us if we would kindly undertake to open them." Why not have said straight out that a member of the Hurworth belfry conveyed this wish on behalf of the company, who in this way thrust themselves forward to the exclusion of other bands of ringers? Mr. Thompson contends that the Northumberland and Durham Association has in this case greatly exceeded its duty. Myself and other change-ringers who happen to be members of this Association most certainly regard the conduct of the Hurworth men with a feeling something akin to contempt, but I am not aware that the Association, as such, has attempted to deal with the matter in any shape or form. Mr. Thompson refers to a pertinent remark in a local paper; I ask Mr. Editor to insert this letter in full, with its vulgar signature, and append to it a paragraph which appeared in the same local paper of the same date, as a test of its veracity. If the opinion implied by this signature is also the opinion of the Heighington parishioners about ringers in general, I can only say that in this opening a golden opportunity for removing such an opinion has been thrown away, all through the Hurworth ringers expressing a wish in such a way, that somehow or other it came to the knowledge of the Vicar of Heighington. "A Change-Ringer" writes to "THE BELL NEWS" objecting to change-ringers being freely invited to bell-openings on the ground that bells are not put up merely for pleasure-peals. Would he keep them away because if they came, they would be sure to enjoy themselves? I am perfectly well aware that some change-ringers are not all that could be desired, but my experience is that there are very few that are not susceptible to good influences, and the largest congregation of ringers I ever had the privilege to witness was at the service held on the occasion of the opening of the new peal at Weybread. If some local ringers had expressed a wish to open the bells of St. Mary's, Ely (of course without the slightest intention of excluding other bands, if such a thing is believed to be possible there), the Vicar would have been acting within his undoubted rights in "very generously" inviting them to undertake the opening. Had those bells been opened in that miserable style, the columns of our paper would not now be revealing the fact that that opening has borne fruit in the forthcoming Association for the Diocese of Ely, an association which will be second to none when it gets fairly to work.

G. J. CLARKSON.

The following is the letter and paragraph alluded to by Mr. Clarkson:—

"SIR,—In your issue of this morning I see a letter, written by Mr. G. J. Clarkson on 'Campanology,' in which he reflects upon the manner in which the new bells at Heighington were opened. I know nothing about the usual opening ceremonies, but I do think it very cool of Mr. Clarkson to propose that all change-ringers within distance (which, I suppose, would include ringers from Newcastle, Shields, Jarrow, Gateshead, Durham, Bishop Auckland, Stockton, &c.), should be invited to attend, and be feasted at the expense of the parishioners. I myself, as a parishioner, am decidedly against any such needless expense, and am of the opinion that, instead of any discredit being attached to the responsible parties at Heighington, they are worthy of great praise for having the moral courage to 'cut their coat according to their cloth.'"

I am afraid Mr. Clarkson had not the interests of bell-ringing at heart when he wrote his letter, or he would not have aspired to the position of the Goddess of Discord at the marriage of Peleus and Thetis.—Yours, &c., ANTI-GUZZLE.—Heighington, June 22nd, 1883."

"The Luncheon Committee in connection with the dedication of the Heighington Church bells having been left with a surplus of viands, &c., resolved to give the aged people and children of the parish a treat. This took place on Thursday night, when 60 of the former and 70 of the latter sat down to a substantial supper in the schoolroom."

A QUESTION.

SIR,—In last week's "BELL NEWS" I see a 720 of Grandsire Minor at Waltham St. Lawrence, Berks, when it was found that the "go" of the bells was about equal to double their weight. Perhaps some of those gentlemen could inform me if that peal was rehung a few months back by a firm at Appleton.

J. E.

Reading.

"THE LIGHTEST PEAL OF EIGHT IN ENGLAND."

SIR,—In your last number, Mr. Jerram speaks of the peal of eight at Marsham as the lightest peal of eight in England, since that at St. Ebbe's, Oxford, was reduced to six. I have no wish to engage in a controversy with Mr. Jerram, who of course, has much more experience than myself, but I should like to mention that I have rung a good many times on the six at St. Ebbe's, and always understood, as I should have thought from her pull, though I never measured her, that the tenor was a 9 cwt. bell.

In July, 1880, I visited the village of Ullenhall, in Warwickshire. The church was built in 1875, and the tower contains a peal of eight bells, tenor certainly under 4 cwt. They are all properly hung for ringing, fitted with iron stays, as there is not room for wooden ones to work. The bells were cast by Warner, and are fitted with Ellacombe hammers. The tower is so small, that two bells almost swing through each of the four windows, which are quite unprotected. I believe no change-ringing has ever been done here, the bells are too light to go well, and the parish ringers can only chime them. The ropes were good, though of local manufacture, but the ringing-chamber is very small.

A. PERCEVAL.

SIR,—Allow me to correct my friend, Mr. Jerram. There is a peal or ring of eight bells hung to ring with a tenor 25 inches diameter, note Eb., weight 3 cwt. 0 qrs. 25 lbs., in England. S. B. GOSLIN.

Crescent Foundry, Cripplegate, E.C.

BELL-OPENINGS.

SIR,—I think Mr. Banks is rather out of place in his opinion of bell-openings. If he has sometimes lost money at that kind of work, he has only done the same as tradesmen do in other businesses. He should base his calculations so as to allow for ringers' expenses, in order that the bells may be tested by a competent company who are accustomed to ring together, not by mixed bands who are—one good at one method, and one good at another, and in the end make poor striking, and satisfy no one.

I do not agree with Mr. Banks's idea of not paying ringers, no more than I should of not paying bell-hangers. There is an old saying which is applicable in this case: "When you pay the piper, you can choose your tune." Qualified ringers will not neglect business, &c., without some remuneration.

W. SOUTHWICK.

A CORRECTION.

SIR,—As a member of the Cheltenham Society of ringers, allow me to correct a statement in "THE BELL NEWS" to the effect that our society rang a course of *Stedman Cinques* on handbells, at Gloucester, on the occasion of the Annual Meeting of the Diocesan change-ringing Association. The error is no doubt due to a mistake on the part of a reporter. It should have been *Grandsire Cinques*. A very good course of the latter was rung, I only wish we could ring as good a one of *Stedman Cinques*.

I may mention that we are having our bells here all rehung, and two out of the peal (which is ten), tenor 23 cwt., recast.

Notice of reopening will be published in this paper, and any ringing friends will meet with a hearty welcome who may honour us with a visit on that occasion.

G. H. PHILLOTT.

WEIGHTS OF TENORS.

SIR,—Allow me to observe that it appears to me that "Veritas" may be in error as to the weight of a bell 39 inches in diameter, note G. Such a bell would weigh from 10 to 10½ cwt., not 9 cwt. or 15, as quoted under the above heading. Again, a 44 inch bell, note F, would weigh from 14½ to 15 cwt.

S. B. GOSLIN.

Crescent Foundry, Cripplegate, E.C.

TWO PEALS OF TREBLE BOB ROYAL.

By JOHN THORP, *Ashton-under-Lyne.*

5200.

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

Repeated.

5280.

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

Repeated.

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS.

By ROBERT WILLIAMS, *Liverpool.*

5003.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

*7th in and out at three with a double.
†8th in two. †8th in three.

The course in the first column produced by 8th in three; in the second column by 9th in three.

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERS.

5076.

By J. R. PRITCHARD, *Liverpool.*

2 3 1 4 5 6 Bob on 7, 8, 9.

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

The above courses three times repeated produce:—

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

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS.

By JNO. T. HOLLIS, *Wakefield.*

5220.

With eighty-eight singles only.

2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
7	9	2	8	5	6	3	4
6	4	7	3	8	5	9	2
3	5	6	2	4	9	7	8

4	6	3	5	7	2	8	9
4	6	3	5	7	2	8	9
5	2	4	9	6	8	3	7
3	6	5	4	7	2	8	9

6	3	4	2	5	9	7	8
6	3	4	2	5	9	7	8
5	4	6	3	7	2	8	9
3	2	5	9	4	8	6	7

6	4	3	5	7	2	8	9
6	4	3	5	7	2	8	9
5	2	6	9	4	8	3	7
4	5	6	3	7	2	8	9

4	6	5	2	3	9	7	8
4	6	5	2	3	9	7	8
5	4	3	6	9	7	8	2
6	3	5	4	7	2	8	9

4	2	6	9	3	5	7	8
4	2	6	9	3	5	7	8
5	3	4	6	9	7	8	2
3	6	5	2	4	9	7	8

The last part twice repeated produces:—
2 5 3 6 4 9 7 8
from which the following singles bring the bells round:—

7	4	2	3	8	5	9	6
7	4	2	3	8	5	9	6
6	9	7	8	5	2	3	4
2	4	6	3	8	5	9	7

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CINQUES.

5060.

By JOHN R. PRITCHARD, *Liverpool.*

2 3 4 5 6

*6	5	3	2	4
*6	5	3	2	4
5	2	3	6	4
2	6	3	5	4
3	2	6	5	4
2	5	6	3	4
6	2	5	3	4
2	3	5	6	4
3	6	5	2	4

The above courses repeated three times, except * instead of which call 11th in with 3, produce:—

5 2 6 4 3

2 4 6 5 3†

4 5 6 2 3

5 2 6 4 3

10th in with 4.
10th in with 4.
10th in and out at 3.
7th in with 4.
†11th in and out at three, with a double.

A HALF-PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES.

By JOHN R. PRITCHARD, *Liverpool.*

2520.

2 3 4 5 6.

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

Four times repeated.

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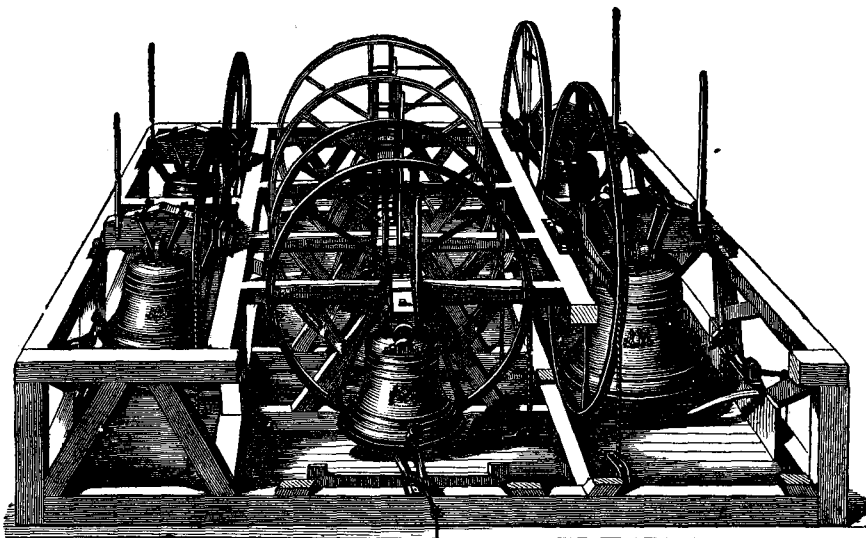
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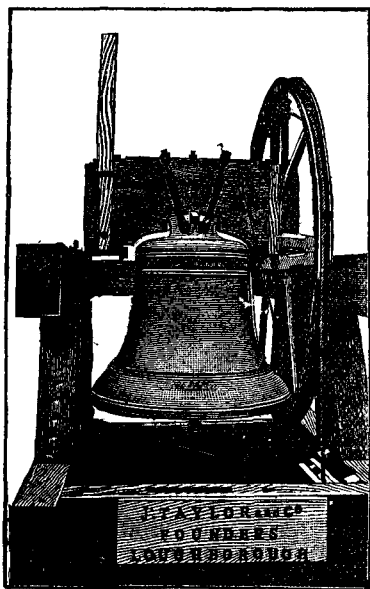
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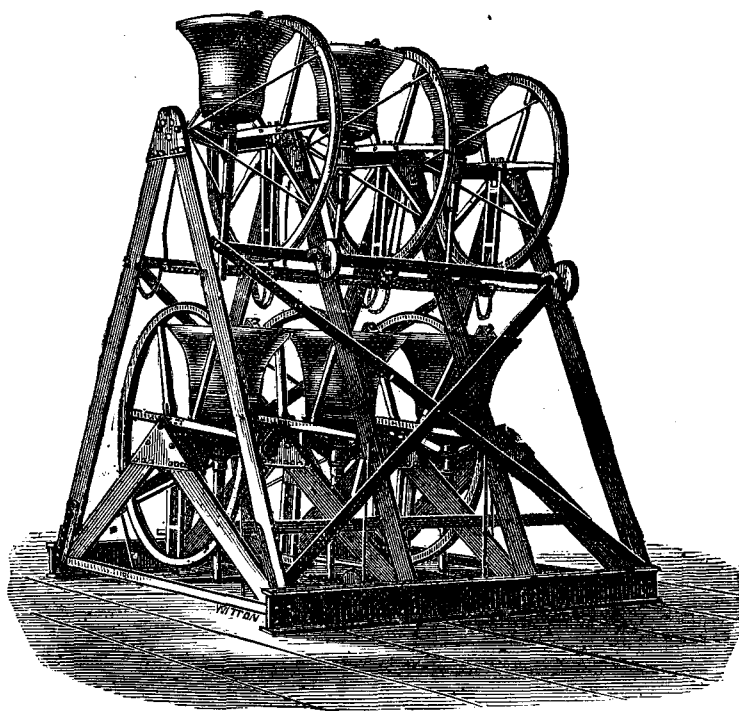
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A Weekly Journal of the Ringing Exercise; and Compendium of Information for the Clergy and Churchwardens.

No. 69. [NEW SERIES.]—VOL. II.

SATURDAY, JULY 28, 1883.

[ONE PENNY.]

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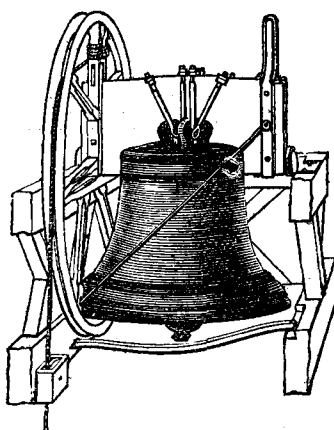
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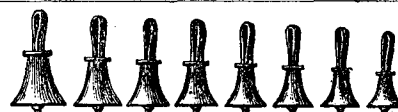
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OUR RING OF BELLS: HOW IT GREW.

By AUDITOR TANTUM.

ST. ALBANS.—ST. PETER.

Regarding the bells which hung in this tower before 1729, I have no information, but from the wording of the inscription on the present tenor-bell it may be inferred that they were made over in the above-named year to that excellent founder, Richard Phelps, of Whitechapel, to be cast into a ring of six. At the same time, the Rev. Dr. Rumney, the Vicar of the parish, obtained subscriptions for the purchase of two small bells, and the result was that in 1729 Phelps supplied the tower with an excellent ring of eight bells. Next (in 1787), J. Briant, of Hertford, added two trebles, making a ring of ten, and a first-rate splice he effected. When I had the pleasure of helping to ring a touch of Caters on these bells in 1880, they seemed to be a particularly musical and handy ring. In 1805 the tower was rebuilt; the ringing-room is lofty and well-lighted. At this time Briant was employed to recast Phelps' 5th bell, and seven years later he performed the same operation for Phelps' treble. Mr. Lukis, in his *Account of Church Bells*, says that when he copied the inscriptions, the 7th bell (of the ten) i.e. that recast by Briant in 1805, was lying jammed in the frame, the cannons having broken off during ringing; this had been put right before December, 1857, when a peal of Stedman Caters was rung by the College Youths.

In 1868 an attempt was made to increase the ring to twelve, but the trebles added at that time were so out of tune with the rest of the ring that they quite marred the excellent effect of the back ten when rung with them. Indeed there was little probability that a satisfactory ring of twelve could be had at St. Peter's by merely adding trebles. Mr. Lukis gives the diameter of the tenor as 49½ inches, and this indicates a weight of about 22 cwt.; her note is a rather sharp D, and the small bells would have to be so high in pitch that their tone could hardly be of first-rate quality. It is now pretty well agreed that a treble bell should never be of higher pitch than G natural; in other words that the tenor of a ring of twelve should not be a higher note than C natural, and the tenor of St. Peter's ring, though an excellent bell of its weight, has not the grandeur and dignity of tone that is absolutely necessary in the tenor of a fine ring of twelve. There is a good deal of truth in the dictum that rings of twelve are a mistake. Given equally good striking, the musical effect of Caters and Royal is far superior to that of Cinques and Maximus. If any reader has any doubt on this point, let him listen attentively to ten bells in changes, and then to twelve bells, and unless the ten bells were badly struck, he will I believe, candidly admit that the music of the ten is superior. The ringing of Cinques and Maximus, however, is such a noble exercise for mind and body, that it is well there should be rings of twelve at the great ringing centres, but as a rule the number of bells in a ring should not exceed ten.

I much regret to learn that the 10th and 11th bells at St. Peter's have recently been cracked; this is a great misfortune, for they can hardly be recast better than they were, and (so great is the difficulty of making a good splice) they may be cast worse. If the sale of the two useless trebles helps to pay for two new bells, in perfect tune with, and a perfect match for, the rest of the ring of ten, they can hardly be put to better use.

ST. ALBANS—THE ABBEY (NOW THE CATHEDRAL).—EIGHT BELLS.

The central tower of the Cathedral is very spacious, some 33 feet square, inside measurement. The heavy ring of eight (tenor about 29 cwt.) occupies only a small portion of the space available, and hangs in an elevated cage in one corner of the tower. In 1880 the ringing-room was very low and dark; if it is still in the same state, the band which recently rung a peal of Grandsire Triples on these bells achieved that success under very great difficulties, and they are entitled to the greater credit.

The Abbey, in the seventeenth century, was supplied with five old bells, but the history of the present ring commences in 1699, when the old bells were made over to Philip Wightman, of London, to be cast into a ring of six. Of Wightman's bells the treble, 2nd, 5th, and tenor remain to this day. In 1730 Richard Phelps, of the Whitechapel Foundry, added two trebles, "bought by free gifts of sundry good people." The larger of these still remains; the treble had an eventful history. She was first recast by J. Briant, then in 1829, she broke off at the cannons, being bumped in ringing, then she was suspended by holes being bored in the crown, and at last she was cracked, and recast in 1845 by C. and G. Mears. The inscription on the 2nd bell indicates that Phelps had a very high opinion of his own work. He placed on it the words, "natu minor laude prior," presuming that his bell, though newer than those of Wightman, would be better than they. I have never heard these bells, but the tenor is said to be very fine. In the year following that in which he cast the trebles, Phelps recast Wightman's 3rd bell, the 5th of the present ring.

WARMINSTER, WILTSHIRE.—EIGHT BELLS.

Before the Reformation Warminster seems to have had four large bells: the treble and 3rd of this heavy ring are still in existence, and form the 5th and 7th of the present ring. The tenor was recast by Abel Rudhall, at Gloucester, in 1737. Her diameter is, according to the Rev. W. C. Lukis, 53½ inches, and her weight, therefore, about 29 cwt. The ring was increased to five in 1739, when a treble was cast which bears the initials "W. C." with the figure of a bell between them. This was no doubt the work of one William Cockey, of Frome, Somersetshire, who a few years before (1731) cast a ring of six for Kingston-Deverill, three of which bells bear his name, and the other three bear the mark found on the bell at Warminster. Next the old 2nd bell (the 6th of the present ring) was recast by Th. Rudhall in 1765; and forty years later a treble-bell (making the ring six) was added from the foundry of James Wells, at Aldbourne. With this ring of six the good folk of Warminster were contented for the greater part of a century, till in 1881 it was determined to augment the bells to eight by the addition of two trebles; these were cast by Messrs. Warner and Sons, of Cripplegate. At the same time, the bells were rehung in a new oak frame, and fitted with the Ellacombe hammers for chiming. The bells were opened with a peal of Grandsire Triples, rung by a select band of the Royal Cumberlands. The tenor, however, on this occasion, had to be rung double-handed.

WESTBURY, WILTSHIRE.—SIX BELLS.

There is a ring of six at Westbury, near Warminster, which ought to be dealt with in the same manner as the Warminster bells. The tenor has a diameter of 58 inches, and probably weighs 36 cwt. She was recast in 1714 by Abel Rudhall, and is the largest bell in the county. Even the treble of this ring is dated so far back as 1671, which seems to show that there has been a ring of six in this tower for more than 200 years. The oldest bell of the ring is the 5th, dated 1616; the 3rd is by Roger Purdue of Salisbury, cast in 1650. The 2nd is by William Cockey, of Frome, 1738, and the 4th was recast by Mr. Thomas Mears in 1836.

BEDWYN MAGNA, WILTSHIRE.—SIX BELLS.

This is another famous ring which deserves well to be augmented to eight. There is no bell in the tower which is not more than 200 years old. The oldest is the tenor, cast in 1623; she bears the initials of John Wallis, a founder of Salisbury, who did an extensive business. Her diameter is 52½ inches, and probable weight 27 cwt. Of the 5th Mr. Lukis says she "for liveliness and clearness of tone is not to be surpassed by any." She is the work of Wm. Purdue, of Salisbury, and was cast in 1656. The four smallest bells are by Henry Knight, of Reading, and were cast in 1671.

ST. BOTOLPH, BISHOPSGATE, AND ST. GEORGE'S-IN-THE-EAST SOCIETIES.

THE annual excursion of the above Societies took place on Saturday, July 14th, to Kingston-on-Thames, where the Stewards (Messrs. W. Mole and W. J. Williamson), had previously obtained permission to ring upon the ancient peal of ten. On arriving at Kingston, the party met with great disappointment in consequence of the tower having that morning been struck by lightning, which prevented ringing at that time. Hopes were entertained, however, that the company would be able to ring later on in the day, and therefore many of them enjoyed a constitutional by the river-side, returning about 2.30 to the Leopold Coffee Tavern, where twenty-six members, joined by our friend, Mr. Phillips, steeplekeeper, Kingston, sat down to an excellent dinner, presided over by Messrs. H. Brand and W. Kerridge. This repast having been done justice to, the Chairman proposed the Health of the Rector, Churchwardens, and Subscribers of Bishopsgate; also the Rector, Churchwardens, and Subscribers of St. George's-in-the-East, which toasts were drank heartily. While these sentiments were being duly honoured, enquiries were being made respecting ringing, but it was not considered advisable to ring until the tower had been examined. This of course caused further disappointment to all, but being determined to make the best of the matter, a visit was paid to Hampton Court, where a touch of Grandsire Triples was rung. Others of the party enjoyed a walk through Bushey Park to Hampton Court, and then back to Kingston, when the horses were put to, and the party left for London by way of Wimbledon Common, all having enjoyed themselves in spite of the disappointments above alluded to.

The officers for the year 1883, are: ST. BOTOLPH, BISHOPSGATE: Mr. R. Cook, *Master*; Mr. W. Scholes, *Treasurer*; Mr. W. J. Williamson, *Secretary*. ST. GEORGE'S-IN-THE-EAST: Mr. H. Brand, *Master*; Mr. W. Mole, *Treasurer*; Mr. W. Scholes, *Secretary*.

[We should be glad of the address of Mr. William Mole.—ED.]

THE WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

THE Annual Meeting was held on Wednesday, July 18th, at Havant. Early in the morning the ringers began to arrive from all parts of the diocese, and by 10.30 few of the bands in the Guild were unrepresented. The earlier part of the day was occupied chiefly in ringing short touches on the eight bells of the parish church by mixed bands; the only noteworthy performance being a 720 of Oxford Single Bob on the back six, in 26 mins. by the Cranleigh band. H. Henson, 1; W. Charman, 2; W. Waller, 3; W. Streeter, 4; J. Charman (conductor), 5; G. Farnfield, 6. At 11.30., the Guild attended Divine Service in the parish church, when the Rev. F. T. Madge intoned the prayers, and the Venerable Archdeacon Wright preached the sermon, in the course of which he remarked on the improvement in the condition of belfries and the status of the ringers, and hoped they would always remember that they were officers of God's House. After the service the ringers adjourned to a large marquee erected in the grounds of the "Dolphin Hotel" for dinner, to which ninety-nine sat down. The chair was occupied by the Rev. A. Du B. Hill, until recently Secretary of the Guild, who was supported by the Rev. H. A. Spyers, F. T. Madge, W. W. Howard, and W. H. W. Poole, Esq. and others. At the conclusion of the dinner, the Guild proceeded without delay to the business of the day. The chairman on rising called the attention of the meeting to the fact that at the last Annual Meeting owing to want of time, no officers had been elected for the year; the retiring officers had therefore resumed office, a proceeding which he hoped would meet with the approval of the Guild. The business of electing officers for the current year was then proceeded with; the Rev. W. W. Howard was elected president, *vice* the Bishop of Newcastle, and the Rev. H. A. Spyers secretary in the place of Rev. A. Du B. Hill, who had resigned, having left the diocese. The remainder of the old committee were re-elected, and the place of the Rev. H. A. Spyers filled by the election of C. C. Child, Esq., of Bournemouth. After a vote of thanks to the Vicar of Havant, for the use of his bells and church was carried, Mr. Brooker, of Leatherhead, proposed three cheers for the Rev. A. Du B. Hill, saying that all present ought to know that the foundation of the Guild was due almost entirely to that gentleman. This proposal having been heartily responded to, the meeting broke up and the ringers dispersed to various towers in the neighbourhood. The ringers from Ashted, Leatherhead, Bournemouth, and Weybridge took train to Chichester, where they visited the Cathedral campanile. Here they found a belfry that any other might take as a pattern, fitted with everything that could possibly be introduced to add to the comfort of the ringers, and in apple-pie order. The bells too were in equally good order, and besides shorter touches one of 420, and another of 504 Grandsire Triples were rung, in which the following took part: G. Sayer, jun., S. Brooker, Rev. A. Du B. Hill, C. Boxall, H. Boxall, sen., H. Boxall, jun., T. Rose, H. Sayer, R. Harding, C. Dudley, J. Hewett, and J. Lisney. It is matter for regret that with such a belfry and bells, and a society of sixteen ringers, the Chichester folk should never be treated to anything better than "Churchyard Bob," except when they have visitors such as the present Guild. We hope that this state of things may soon cease to be. We were sorry also to see that though the completeness of the belfry was further increased by the addition of a small ringing library, the existence of such a paper as "THE BELL NEWS" appeared to be unknown to the Chichester ringers. We hope soon to be introduced to these gentlemen, when we are sure they will not regret having made our acquaintance. Bosham church was visited by the Cranleigh and Hursley ringers, who were unable to ring owing to the state of the bells, which had been reported to the Secretary as in good order, but turned out to be far otherwise. The Vicar however entertained the visitors with an historical account of his church, and assured them that they should find the bells in better condition if they again favoured him with a visit. A party from Bishop's Waltham, West Meon, and Gosport visited Petersfield, another from Soberton, Swanmore, Havant, and Fareham drove to Hambledon, but we have not been able to ascertain that anything worthy of record was performed at either place. The remaining bands, viz., those from Farnham, Godalming, Southampton, and Winchester remained at Havant, where they rang several short touches of Grandsire Triples, conducted by Messrs. Parker, of Southampton, and Manfield of Godalming. It was at one time in contemplation to start for a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, but the "go" of the tenor was so bad that the idea was abandoned; in fact it was with the greatest difficulty that Mr. Farnfield managed to ring her through the 720 in the morning. The meeting was in every way successful, and drew together a number which is a very good proportion of the members of the Guild, for which the fineness of the day is possibly to a certain extent accountable. The Third Annual Report which was issued before the meeting, contains the names of 138 ringing and 59 honorary members, the former representing sixteen different towers. This seems a somewhat small proportion of the towers in the diocese, and we hope that by the next Annual Meeting we may be able to announce a considerable increase in the above numbers. The report contains a notice of one

peal of Union Triples and a half-peal of Grandsire Triples, these we hope are only a sign of what the Guild will do, for with even the present number of members the reports of performances could well be more numerous. We should also be glad to see some steps taken to follow the example of most of the other Guilds, in providing qualified instructors for towers in need of them. A copy of the rules of the Guild would also be a not unwelcome addition to a future report, for the benefit of new members and others.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—DISTRICT MEETING.

A District Meeting of the above Association was held at Waltham Abbey on Tuesday, July 24th, by kind permission of the Rev. J. Francis, who most kindly entertained the members at his house at one o'clock, a substantial cold dinner being provided in a tent on his lawn, to which about eighteen sat down. Among those present at the table in addition to the Vicar were the Rev. — Parkinson, the Rev. H. A. Cockey (Hon. Sec. of the Association), L. Procter, Esq., and Mr. Churchwarden Gardner. Ringing commenced at about 2.15, with a good touch of Stedman Triples, on the fine peal of eight at the Abbey, tenor 19 cwt. Two other touches of Stedman Triples, and three of Grandsire Triples, were also brought round in the course of the day; and two touches of Treble Bob were attempted, but not brought round. The Vicar and curate of Waltham entered the belfry while ringing was in progress.

At 4.30, the members sat down to tea at Mr. Powell's house, "The Three Tuns," the Vicar presiding, the Rev. H. A. Cockey being vice-chairman. Tea over, the business meeting was held. The minutes of the Annual Meeting were read and signed, and the following members were elected:—*Honorary*: the Rev. C. L. Payne, Writtle; *Ringers*: Messrs. F. Bumpstead, Braintree; W. Neverd and Josiah Taylor, Great Bromley; W. Keit, Walthamstow; E. Moat, W. Paritt, G. Freeman, A. Jarvis, W. Jay, H. Jones, Rettendon; and Mr. H. Bowell, of Ipswich, *Distinguished Ringer*.

Some discussion took place as to certificates of membership, but it was decided that the matter had better stand over for the present. Mr. Maynard suggested that steps should be taken in order to lessen the expenses of members attending meetings of the Association; the opinion of the meeting was favourable to this suggestion, but that at the same time care should be taken not to put the Association to too much expense in this way. The Hon. Sec. drew attention to the trouble and perplexity caused by members who intend to be present at meetings of the Association neglecting to give notice to him, in order that provision may be made for them.

The Rev. J. Francis, in answer to a vote of thanks to him for his hospitality and kindness, said that he was only too glad to receive the Association, and he hoped it would not be long before the members met there again. He referred to the absence of Mr. Britten, who, he said, was not able to be with them that day; and the rev. gentleman also mentioned the sad accident which had happened to Mr. Haley, and he hoped some one present would convey to those two gentlemen the sympathy of their friends and brother-ringers who where then assembled. Votes of thanks were passed to Mr. Powell for his excellent arrangements for the comfort of the members present, and to the Hon. Secretary.

In addition to those already mentioned, the following were present: Messrs. M. A. Wood, J. R. Haworth, London; T. Maynard, Walthamstow; E. A. Davies, Barking; A. Deards, Dagenham; Davidson and W. D. Smith, Hackney; Sharnbrook, Bennington; Laffin and McDonald, of the Surrey Association; and A. Cockey, Esq., of the Lancashire Association.

THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

ASPLEY GUISE.—On Monday, July 23rd, the Annual Flower Show was held in the grounds of E. E. Dymond, Esq. A sale of work of useful and fancy articles was held at the same time and place, the proceeds of the same to be devoted towards defraying the debt on the Aspley Church bells. Unfortunately the rain was continuous during the whole of the afternoon and evening, consequently the attendance at the Show was somewhat meagre, nevertheless a goodly sum was realized from the fancy sale. Six members of the Woburn company of change-ringers, true to their promise, journeyed in the wet to Aspley Guise, and rang a 720 of Bob Minor in 29 minutes, also a 6-score of Grandsire Doubles. H. Turney (first 720), 1; Chas. Herbert, 2; A. Morrison, 3; W. E. Turney, 4; W. W. C. Baker, Esq. (conductor), 5; F. T. Tanqueray, Esq., 6.

It is to be regretted that the Rev. J. C. Maltby should countenance the practice of "Churchyard Bob" on these beautiful little instruments, and with such assistance as is available in the immediate neighbourhood (Woburn) for the practice of true ringing. Something better than mere call-changes should be proceeded with, or else the money just raised for the new bells would have been far better given to the poor.

In Memoriam.

REV. G. H. HARRIS, M.A., late VICAR OF TUNSTEAD, NORFOLK;
AND HON. SEC. OF THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

It is our melancholy duty to announce the death of the above-named gentleman, which sorrowful event occurred at Tunstead Vicarage on the 13th instant. Our readers will not have forgotten the brief account which appeared in these columns some weeks ago of the accident which befel him in connection with a fall from a bicycle, when he sustained a fracture of the thigh. This happened just before the reopening of the bells of St. Peter Mancroft, after restoration, and to which object, combined with the arrangements of the opening-day, he had laboured to make a success. His letter, alluding to this untoward event, while busily occupied in these preliminaries, lies open before us as we write, and from the tenour of it there is no doubt he had great hopes that under skilful management he would soon be about again, and taking his place in the steeple. Another letter we received from him a short time afterwards was not so favorable, but there was nothing in it to lead any one to expect the sad intelligence which we this week record. The accident he met with perhaps rendered him more easy a prey to illness, for though he had recovered to such an extent as to be able to bear nearly the whole of his weight on the broken limb, congestion of the lungs, through taking cold during the prevalence of sharp east winds, supervened. He however recovered from this, but about a month ago was seized with an attack of paralysis, and on Friday, the 13th instant, a second attack, which in a very short time proved fatal, and on the very day three months after he had met with his fall, he yielded up his spirit unto God who gave it.

It is not too much to say that in the demise of this widely-beloved gentleman, the interests of ringers in the Eastern Counties suffers the loss of a powerful advocate. As Honorary Secretary of the Norwich Diocesan Association, he worked hard to carry out those objects which ringers of his calibre hold dear. He was indeed, every inch a ringer. From a conversation we had with him last year at Bury St. Edmunds, we should say he was somewhat of Mr. Clarkson's opinion with respect to "openings," and such-like festivals. We know that just previous to being laid low by his cruel mishap he was busily employed in concocting measures so that every visiting ringer to Norwich on the day of the reopening of St. Peter's bells should be hospitably entertained. A correspondent in this week's number, whose intimacy with the deceased gentleman qualifies him to give an opinion, calls him "the much to be lamented and kindest of ringers' friends." Vicar of Tunstead for twenty years, his kindness of heart must have endeared him to all his parishioners as it did to those ringers who were fortunate enough to be acquainted with him. As a ringer, the peals in which he had taken part show his abilities to have been of no mean order. When he entered upon the duties of his benefice, there were five bells at Tunstead; he augmented them to eight. The reports we have received of muffled peals teem with expressions of the most poignant sorrow at the loss the writers have sustained. Knowing his worth, and having had some experience of his kind and genial nature, the task devolving upon us, in referring to it, is doubly painful. "Among the ringers whom I have met," says another correspondent, "Mr. Harris was a universal favourite, and they are, one and all, quite overcome by the sad event." But in the knowledge that this faithful servant of CHRIST has entered into that rest which is prepared for God's people, there is consolation to be found.

The funeral took place at Tunstead, on Wednesday, July 18th. More than twenty clergymen were present, and a very large number of friends. The sad rites being over, a muffled peal was rung upon the bells. Muffled peals were also rung at several of the churches in Norwich, and, as will be seen by our records, at many other places. The deceased gentleman was in his 58th year.

We take the following paragraph from the *Ipswich Journal* :—

MUFFLED PEAL.—On Wednesday evening, July 18th, at St. Mary-le-Tower, Ipswich, the following members of the Norwich Diocesan Association (Ipswich branch), rang a funeral peal for the late Rev. G. H. Harris, rector of Tunstead, Norfolk, and hon. sec. of the Association, who was buried on that day at Tunstead, having died on the previous Friday, from the result of a bicycle accident. 3000 changes of Kent Treble Bob Major, being part of a peal of 5088 changes composed by the Rev. H. E. Bulwer, was rung in 2 hrs. 15 mins., by E. Pemberton, 1; W. Motts, 2; C. Saul, 3; W. L. Catchpole (conductor), 4; J. S. Alexander, 5; R. Hawes, 6; E. Reeve, 7; R. Brundle, 8. Tenor 32 cwt. The rev. gentleman was a staunch supporter of the Association, and had been Hon. Sec. from the time of its formation in 1877, and the success which characterised all its proceedings were largely due to his energy. He rang his first peal at Redenhall, on the 13th January, 1879, in a 5024 of Oxford Treble Bob Major; in 5120 Oxford, at Kenninghall, on June 14th, 1880; 5056 of Oxford, December 7th, 1880, at Alburgh; 720 of Oxford Minor, with five other clergymen, about the first ever rung by a company composed

entirely of clergymen, at Methwold, January 4th, 1881; 5024 of Kent Treble Bob, at Diss, December 5th, 1881; 5056 Oxford, at Tunstead, January 2nd, 1882; 5312 Oxford, at Redenhall, January 12th, 1882; 5024 Oxford, at Alburgh, February 13th, 1882; 5280 Oxford, at Kenninghall, June 13th, 1882; 5040 Keat Treble Bob Royal, at Ipswich, November 28th, 1882; 5000 Oxford, at St. Giles's, Norwich, November 30th, 1882; and a 5000 at Marsham, 27th March, his last peal. The deceased gentleman was very popular with all the members of the Association, and his genial kindly manner won many over to the cause he so warmly espoused, and secured him many friends throughout the district.

THE ST. PETER MANCROFT SOCIETY, NORWICH.

Muffled Peals.

ON Wednesday afternoon, July 18th, funeral peals were rung by members of this society at the churches of St. John (Maddermarket), St. Gregory, and St. Lawrence, Norwich, as a token of respect to the memory of the late Rev. G. H. Harris, late Vicar of Tunstead, the Hon. Sec. and one of the founders of the Norwich Diocesan Association. This gentleman, says our correspondent, was well known and greatly respected, and his loss will be most acutely felt by every company throughout the Association. The above company were represented at the funeral by the Master, and the Redenhall company by Captain Moore. After the interment, a touch of 704 Oxford Treble Bob Major, with the bells deeply muffled, were rang by B. Smith (Plumstead) 1; N. Mack, Esq., 2; C. Clements (Aylsham), 3; Rev. N. Bolingbroke, 4; F. Knights (Norwich), 5; J. Gower, 6; J. Cooper, 7; Captain Moore, 8. Captain Moore and Mr. F. Knights returning in the evening to Norwich, the St. Peter's company rang, with their bells muffled, three courses of Grandsire Cinques. W. Freeman, 1; W. Potter, 2; W. Smith, 3; J. Youngs, 4; P. Sadler, 5; J. Fiddament, 6; J. W. Spratt, 7; J. Skinner, 8; F. Knights, 9; G. Smith, 10; Captain Moore (Redenhall), 11; R. Pelgrave, 12. This touch was listened to by a great concourse of people assembled in the market-place with feelings of the deepest regret, which feeling also pervaded the St. Peter's company, knowing they had lost a kind friend who was always with them, but who, alas! they will look for again in vain.

AYLSHAM (Norfolk).—On Wednesday, the 18th inst., the Aylsham and Marsham companies, members of the Norwich Diocesan Association, were represented at the funeral of their late Secretary, the Rev. G. H. Harris, of Tunstead, by Mr. C. Clements, and, on his return to Aylsham, eleven ringers met at the belfry, and eight of them rang a muffled peal of 1008 changes, conducted by T. Greenwood. Seldom or ever had the ringers met with heavier hearts, and it appeared difficult to realise that one who was always kind, always genial, and who had a kind word for all, would meet them no more. Muffled peals were also rung by the same companies the following evenings at Marsham and Buxton, the latter being a ring of five lately rehung by Messrs. Day and Son, of Eye.

STOKE-UPON-TRENT ARCHIDIACONAL ASSOCIATION,

KEELE.—On Saturday last, the above held their meeting at this tower. The attendance was small, due chiefly to bad weather and the distance of Keele from the sister towers. The few who faced and overcame these difficulties were well repaid with some excellent ringing on this beautiful little peal of six. Our ringing column records two 720's, the first that have been rung at a meeting of the Association in two different methods. The following towers were represented:—Wolstanton, Norton-le-Moors, and the home company. The Hon. Sec., Rev. T. H. B. Fearon, was also present. The fixture for next Saturday is Leigh.

THE "JOHN HOLT" PEAL-BOARD.

We are requested to acknowledge the receipt of the following sums by the Treasurer of this fund: Stewart Helder, Esq., churchwarden of St. Margaret's, 10s.; Mr. C. E. Malim, 2s. 6d.; Mr. H. Reeves (Oxford Diocesan Guild), 6d.; Mr. Atlee (Ealing), 1s.

THE CLERGY MUTUAL ASSURANCE SOCIETY.—Our attention has been drawn to the prospectus of this important Corporation. The security offered; the bonus; and the premium are worthy of the consideration of those of the clergy who anticipate making a provision for their relatives and friends by way of Life Assurance. The profits earned by the society accrue almost absolutely to the assured, none of those liberal commissions, which are the bane of many insurance offices, being allowed for the introduction of new business, while the expenses of management are kept within bounds, being in the last financial year only £3 15s. per cent. of the total revenue. The English Archbishops are the patrons; and the Archbishops of Ireland are among the Trustees; the Dean of Westminster being Chairman,

On July 27th, and every Friday, Price ONE PENNY.

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" 6 " 3s. 3d.

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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.

W. WALMSLEY.—You shall know in a day or two.

H. BAREFIELD.—No other edition since.

W. H. INGHAM.—Shall be attended to at once.

E. MOSES.—We are anxiously awaiting further particulars.

The Bell News & Ringers' Record.

SATURDAY, JULY 28, 1883.

THE present is the time when many of the Secretaries of our Ringing Guilds and Associations are compiling and issuing their Annual Reports of the past year's proceedings. One or two of these interesting documents have recently been brought under our personal observation, through being printed at the office of this paper. And in the latest that has come under our notice—that of the Essex Association—there is a feature dwelt upon by the Hon. Secretary—the Rev. H. A. COCKEY, that we think not an improper subject for a brief comment.

On perusing a report of the kind we are alluding to, the fact that the members of the particular Association or Guild has increased in number during the past year, is generally made plain. And while the members can congratulate themselves upon such augmentations to their name-book, it should not be lost sight of that the more members a ringing association can boast of, the more work falls to the secretary of such a body. Therefore it is not out of the way to suppose that if the members cannot by any means assist the Secretary in those duties which, for pure love of the thing, he has willingly undertaken, they will not hinder him in the performance of such duties, but make them as light and pleasant as they possibly can. The office of Secretary of a Ringing Association is not the sinecure an outsider may suppose it to be. It is not confined to clerical work. There are a great many matters to be attended to which take up a deal

of valuable time, and which do not become visible to the ordinary observer. Therefore we may venture to express an opinion that it is the duty of the members to use every care to prevent extra and unnecessary trouble to those gentlemen who devote themselves to the furtherance of their interests in undertaking such an office.

A great evil, and one which tends to throw unnecessary work upon a Secretary, is the laxity exhibited in paying the yearly subscription. This is generally a very small sum, and should, in order to keep matters straight, be forwarded as early as possible after becoming due. The neglect of this causes a deal of trouble to those who endeavour to keep the accounts of the Guild or Association correct. We are sorry to find that the balance-sheet of the Association we have just named shows a neglect of the members in this particular, which involves a sum that cannot be ignored, and the non-receipt of which somewhere near the time understood for payment, is a source of infinite trouble. The continual delay in the non-completion of the year's account is very embarrassing to those who are anxious to have everything settled up in proper and business-like order. We hope, for the credit of ringers, to hear less of this kind of neglect in the future. Perhaps we may be considered too precipitate in thus referring to such a matter. We hope, however, that our remarks will be taken in the spirit in which they are offered, and that they will lead to a little more regularity.

The Provinces.

MOTTRAM-IN-LONGDENDALE, CHESHIRE.

THE ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE SOCIETY.

On Thursday, July 19, 1883, in Two Hours and Fifty-eight Minutes,

AT ST. MICHAELS' CHURCH,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5120 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 12 cwt. in G.

THOMAS MOSS	Treble.	BENJAMIN BROADBENT	5.
SAMUEL WOOD	2.	GEORGE LONGDEN	6.
JAMES WOOD	3.	JOHN THORP	7.
WILLIAM MIDDLETON	4.	FRANCIS E. DAWE	Tenor.

Composed by SAMUEL WOOD, of Ashton-under-Lyne, and conducted by FRANCIS EDWARD DAWE.

It was previously arranged that seven of the recent long peal men should take part in this performance, but only six were able to be present.

STAVELEY, DERBYSHIRE.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Sunday, July 22, 1883, in Three Hours and Twenty-Two Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5184 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 18 cwt. 3 qrs. 22 lbs. in F.

HENRY MOTTERSHALL	Treble.	ARTHUR KNIGHTS	5.
HERBERT MADIN	2.	WALTER WORTHINGTON	6.
THOMAS HATTERSLEY	3.	JAMES HUNT	7.
JOHN HARRIS	4.	FRANCIS E. DAWE	Tenor.

Composed by CHARLES HENRY HATTERSLEY, and conducted by FRANCIS EDWARD DAWE.

Mr. Hattersley hails from Sheffield; A. Knights from Chesterfield; F.E. Dawe from London; the others from Staveley.

LEESFIELD, LEES, LANCASHIRE.

On Saturday, July 21, 1883, in Two Hours and Fifty-two Minutes,

AT ST. THOMAS'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S TEN-PART REVERSED. Tenor 14 cwt.

JAS. HY. GARTSIDE* Treble.	JAS. BAILEY 5.
SAMUEL STOTT 2.	WM. HOLDEN 6.
FRED CROSLAND† 3.	JOHN HILTON 7.
THOS. EGERTON 4.	THOS. B. SHAW Tenor.

No conductor's name mentioned.

*First peal. †Member of St. Mary's, Oldham.

SHEFFIELD.—THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS, AND THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, July 23, 1883, in Three Hours and Eight Minutes,

AT ST. MARIE'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

BROOK'S VARIATION. Tenor 25 cwt. in D.

CHARLES H. HATTERSLEY Treble.	GEORGE FLINT 5.
JOSEPH MULLIGAN 2.	THOMAS HATTERSLEY .. 6.
CHARLES BOWER 3.	FRANCIS E. DAWE 7.
JOHN MULLIGAN 4.	GEORGE WILSON, JUN. .. Tenor.

Conducted by CHARLES HENRY HATTERSLEY.

SHEFFIELD.—THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Tuesday, July 24, 1883, in Two Hours and Fifty-two Minutes,

AT ALL SAINTS' CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S TEN-PART. Tenor 15 cwt. in F.

JOHN MULLIGAN Treble.	CHARLES H. HATTERSLEY 5.
SAMUEL SEED 2.	THOMAS HATTERSLEY .. 6.
JOSEPH MULLIGAN 3.	GEORGE FLINT 7.
FRANCIS E. DAWE 4.	GEORGE WILSON, JUN. .. Tenor.

Conducted by FRANCIS EDWARD DAWE.

The above band met for a peal of Treble Bob, but, unfortunately, short, through illness, so a Grandsire peal was rung instead.

Miscellaneous.

THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

HOUGHTON CONQUEST.—On Saturday, July 21st, several members visited All Saints' church, and by kind permission of the Rector, rang a 720 of Bob Minor (the first on the bells) in 24 mins. J. Atkins, 1; F. W. Smith (son of the Vicar of Bromham: his first 720), 2; C. Clark, 3; W. Biggs, 4; J. Frossell (conductor), 5; I. Hills, 6. Tenor about 14 cwt.

BIRMINGHAM AMALGAMATED SOCIETY.

BIRMINGHAM.—On Saturday, July 14th, at Bishop Ryder's church, a 720 of Grandsire Minor, in 28 mins. *H. Gorman, 1; J. Perry, 2; R. Hackley, 3; T. Russam, 4; *A. Hackley, 5; B. Stevens (conductor), 6. *First 720. The above are all members of the Birmingham and District Association.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

CHESTER-LE-STREET.—On Wednesday, July 18th, being the Millenary of the church and the opening of the new peal of bells, a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob Minor. W. Reed, Esq., President, (conductor), 1; W. G. Routledge, 2; R. Smith, 3; R. S. Story, 4; Francis Lees, 5; G. J. Clarkson, 6. Also 720 of Kent Treble Bob. F. Lees, 1; W. G. Routledge, 2; W. Story, 3; G. J. Clarkson, 4; W. Reed, Esq., 5; R. S. Story (conductor), 6. Also a 720 of Oxford Bob Minor. R. Smith, 1; W. G. Routledge, 2; W. Reed, Esq., 3; R. S. Story, 4; F. Lees, 5; G. J. Clarkson (conductor), 6. Also on Saturday, July 21st, a 720 of Bob Minor, with eighteen bobs and two singles. G. J. Clarkson, 1; J. W. Shipp, 2; J. Clark, 3; R. Alcock, 4; D. Shipp, 5; W. Newton (conductor), 6. Also a 720 of Kent Treble Bob. J. Clarkson, 1; — Glover, 2; C. L. Routledge, 3; R. Alcock, 4; D. Shipp, 5; G. J. Clarkson (conductor), 6. Also a 720 of College Singles. John Moffatt, 1; Jas. Moffatt, 2; W. Story, 3; R. S. Story, 4; R. Wignall, 5; W. Reed, Esq., (conductor), 6. Also a 720 of Double Court. J. Clarkson, 1; G. J. Clarkson (conductor),

2; C. L. Routledge, 3; R. S. Story (first 720 in the method), 4; S. Burdon, 5; W. Newton, 6. Also a 720 of Bob Minor, with twenty-two singles. Jas. Moffatt, 1; W. Reed, Esq. (conductor), 2; John Moffatt, 3; R. Wignall, 4; C. L. Routledge, 5; R. S. Story, 6. Tenor 18 cwt.

NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.—On Tuesday, July 24th, for practice, at St. John's, a 720 of Woodbine Treble Bob, in 26½ mins. W. Eggleston, 1; C. L. Routledge, 2; F. Lees, 3; W. G. Routledge, 4; W. Story, 5; R. S. Story (conductor), 6. This is the first 720 in the method for all the band. Tenor 14 cwt.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

LEYTONSTONE (Essex).—On Wednesday, July 18th, at St. John-the-Baptist, 720 of Bob Minor, in 25 mins. H. Flanders, 1; W. Manning, 2; H. Scarlett, 3; J. Nunn, 4; J. Priest, 5; A. H. Gardom (conductor), 6.

ROMFORD (Essex).—Chiming.—On Sunday afternoon, July 22nd, for Divine Service, a 360 of Oxford Treble Bob Minor. Also in the evening, a 720 of Plain Bob Minor, in 25 mins. A. J. Perkins, 1-2-3-4; B. Keeble, 5-6. This 720 is the composition of Mr. Francis of Diss, containing ten singles and eight bobs. Conducted by A. J. Perkins.

THE ROYAL CUMBERLAND SOCIETY.

HIGHGATE.—On Saturday, April 21st, eight members of this society attempted a peal of Stedman Triples, at St. Ann's church, but after ringing fifty-eight courses, and being within seven minutes of its completion, the sudden movement of the gear connected with the chiming apparatus caused its collapse. George Newson (conductor), 1; Charles Hopkins, 2; Wingfield Meadows, 3; James Hannington, 4; Thomas Titchener, 5; William Doran, 6; James Barrett, 7; Thomas Gleed, 8. Tenor 14 cwt.

HENDON (Middlesex).—On Sunday evening, July 22nd, for Divine Service, a 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor (15 bobs), in 26 mins. J. Nixon, 1; J. Page, 2; J. Leach, 3; J. Hannington (conductor), 4; T. Titchener, 5; G. Newson, 6. Also a 720 Oxford Treble Bob Minor (9 bobs), in 25½ mins. *T. Gleed, 1; T. Titchener, 2; *J. Leach, 3; G. Newson, 4; J. Hannington (conductor), 5; J. Barrett, 6. Also 360 Plain Bob Minor, in 13 mins. J. Hannington (conductor), 1; J. Page, 2; J. Nixon, 3; T. Gleed, 4; J. Barrett, 5; T. Monks, 6. Tenor 16½ cwt. *First 720 of Oxford.

THE ST. JAMES'S SOCIETY.

LONDON.—On Wednesday, July 25th, being St. James's day, eight members of the above society attempted a peal of Grandsire Triples (Holt's Original), but after ringing two hours it unfortunately came to grief through the seventh man being taken ill. James Nixon, 1; James Haworth, 2; James Pettitt (conductor), 3; James Page, 4; James Leach, 5; James Hannington, 6; James Barrett, 7; James Munday, 8. Tenor 23 cwt. This took place at the church of St. James, Clerkenwell.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

KENNINGTON, NEAR ASHFORD (Kent).—On Saturday, July 21st, the Mersham company rang a 720 of Bob Minor. E. Ruck, 1; Rev. R. B. Knatchbull-Hugessen, 2; G. Paine, 3; G. Finn, jun., 4; F. Finn (conductor), 5; E. Finn, 6. Also 360 of Kent Treble Bob. E. Ruck (conductor), 1; G. Paine, 2; G. Finn, sen., 3; G. Finn, jun., 4; F. Finn, 5; E. Finn, 6. The above is the first 720 rang on these bells since a new treble was added by Messrs. Mears and Stainbank.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

BANHAM (Norfolk).—Muffled Peal.—On Sunday, July 22nd, after Divine Service in the evening, a muffled peal was rung as a last mark of respect to the late Rev. G. H. Harris, late Vicar of Tunstead, and Secretary of the above Association, 720 Kent Treble Bob; 240 Oxford Treble Bob; one course of Bob Minor; the bells were then ceased without a pause. C. Everett, 1; J. Saunders, 2; R. Patrick, 3; W. Nudds, 4; R. Nudds, 5; R. Hutton (conductor), 6.

KENNINGHALL (Norfolk).—Muffled Peal.—On Wednesday, July 18th, eight members of the above Association of ringers met at the tower of St. Mary's church, and rang a funeral peal, a touch of Kent Treble Bob Major, as a mark of respect to the late Rev. G. H. Harris, of Tunstead, who was secretary of the above Association. The rev. gentleman has, on many occasions, rung with the ringers of St. Mary's, at the above place, by whom he was held in high estimation. His loss will be felt by a large circle of friends. The ringers were as follows: W. Oxer, 1; H. Eaglings, 2; G. Edwards, 3; G. Saunders, 4; R. Patrick, 5; J. Woods, 6; R. Hutton, 7; J. Mordey (conductor), 8.

PULHAM ST. MARY (Norfolk).—On Wednesday evening, July 18th, six members of the above Association rang a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob, with the bells muffled, as a mark of respect to the Rev. G. H. Harris.

SOUTH ELMHAM.—*Muffled Peal.*—On Wednesday evening, July 18th, a muffled peal was rung at St. Margaret's church, in memory of the much to be lamented and the kindest of ringers' friends, the Rev. G. H. Harris, by members of the St. Margaret's branch of the above Association.

STOKE-UPON-TRENT ARCHIDIACONAL ASSOCIATION.

BIDDULPH (Staffordshire).—On Sunday evening, July 15th, 720 of Grandsire Minor, in 27 mins. W. Moss, 1; C. Lawton, 2; A. Cottrell, 3; S. Thornhill, 4; M. Moss, 5; W. Carter (conductor), 6. Also on Sunday, July 22nd, a 720 of Bob Minor, in 26½ mins. C. Lawton, 1; S. Thornhill, 2; A. Cottrell, 3; D. Bradbury (first 720), 4; M. Moss, 5; W. Carter (conductor), 6.

KEELE (Staffordshire).—On Saturday, July, 21st, 720 of Bob Minor, in 24 mins. A. Walker, 1; L. Miller, 2; W. Priestman, 3; James Baddeley (first 720), 4; S. Spencer, 5; W. Miller (conductor), 6. Also a 720 of Grandsire Minor, in 25 mins. S. Walker, 1; A. Walker, 2; W. Priestman, 3; L. Miller, 4; S. Spencer, 5; W. Miller (conductor), 6. J. Baddeley hails from Norton-le-Moors; the rest from Wolstanton.

CASTLE DONNINGTON (Derbyshire).—On Saturday, July 21st, seven of the Long Eaton society paid a visit to the above place, and rung a 720 of Kent Treble Bob, in 26 mins. William Grice, 1; George Bradley, 2; William Gilson, 3; Richard Hickton, 4; John Ward, 5; Joseph Barrow (conductor), 6. Also a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob, in 27 mins. Joseph Barrow, 1; George Bradley, 2; Richard Hickton, 3; William Gilson, 4; Samuel Clarke, 5; John Ward (conductor), 6. Also a 720 of Plain Bob Minor, in 26 mins. W. Grice, 1; G. Bradley, 2; J. Ward, 3; W. Gilson, 4; S. Clarke, 5; J. Barrow (conductor), 6. Also 120 of Plain Bob Doubles. W. Grice, 1; J. Hutchby, 2; R. Hickton, 3; William Gilson, 4; J. Ward (conductor), 5; S. Clarke, 6. Also 120 of Stedman Doubles. J. Barrow (conductor), 1; G. Bradley, 2; J. Ward, 3; R. Hickton, 4; S. Clarke, 5; W. Grice, 6. Tenor 17 cwt. in F.

HIGHER SUTTON (Cheshire).—On Sunday, July 22nd, six members of the local company rang for Divine Service in the morning, 720 of Grandsire Minor (with 38 bobs and 22 singles), in 27 mins. William Walmsley, 1; William Ingham, 2; Walter Ingham, 3; John M. Davenport, 4; William H. Hardman (conductor), 5; Thomas Mottershead, 6. Also for Divine Service in the afternoon, 720 of Grandsire Minor (with 38 bobs and 22 singles), in 26 mins. W. Walmsley (conductor), 1; W. Ingham, 2; W. Ingham, 3; John M. Davenport, 4; W. H. Hardman, 5; Thomas Mottershead, 6. This 720 is the first ever conducted by William Walmsley.

LONG EATON (Derbyshire).—On Sunday, July 22nd, being the Sunday School Anniversary, at eight o'clock in the morning, Annable's 720 of Bob Minor was rung in 25 mins. William Grice, 1; George Bradley, 2; John Ward, 3; William Gilson, 4; Samuel Clarke, 5; Joseph Barrow (conductor), 6. This was pronounced by a great many ladies and gentlemen to be the best-struck 720 that has ever been rung upon these bells. Also, for evening service, a 720 Kent Treble Bob, in 26 mins. William Grice, 1; Richard Hickton, 2; John Ward, 3; William Gilson, 4; Arthur Widdowson, 5; Joseph Barrow (conductor), 6. Tenor 11 cwt., in G.

MAIDSTONE (Kent).—On Saturday, July 21st, seven of the All Saints' company, with Mr. Haigh, of New Brompton (late of York), rang at the parish church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 50 mins. C. Relf, 1; R. Simmonds, 2; A. Haigh, 3; A. Moorcraft, 4; G. Pawley, 5; A. Woolley, 6; H. Pearce (conductor), 7; G. Moorcraft, 8. Tenor 31 cwt.

NORTHFIELD.—On Saturday, July 14th, the ringers of St. Mary's, Selly Oak, paid a visit to this place, and by kind permission of the vicar, Mr. Wilde, rang on the bells of St. Laurence's church, two 720's of Grandsire Minor. First: George Hale, 1; Henry Smith, 2; Edward Boylin, 3; Thomas Lewis, 4; Edward Bryant, 5; Alfred Cole (conductor), 6. Second: Robert Wilson (first 720), 1; Thomas Lewis, 2; Edward Boylin, 3; Edward Bush, 4; Edward Hinton, 5; Alfred Cole, 6. Tenor 16 cwt.

NORTON, NEAR SHEFFIELD (Derbyshire).—On Sunday, June 17th, for morning service at St. James's church, 720 of Bob Minor (with 16 bobs and 2 singles), in 28 mins. F. Ward, 1; H. Ward, 2; J. Goucher, 3; J. Atkin (conductor), 4; J. Biggin (first 720), 5; J. Allen, 6. Also on July 8th, a 720 (with 8 bobs and 6 singles), in 28 mins. J. Goucher, 1; J. Atkin, 2; W. Biggin, 3; H. Ward, 4; J. Biggin, 5; J. Allen (conductor), 6. Tenor 11½ cwt. in D.

RETTENDON (Essex).—On Saturday afternoon, July 21st, the ringers of All Saints, Maldon, visited Rettendon, and, by kind permission of the Rev. H. A. Cockey, rang 720 Bob Minor, 720 Oxford Treble Bob, 720 Kent Treble Bob, and 360 Double Court Bob. Those who took part were: Rev. H. A. Cockey, Hon. Sec. of the Essex Association, S. Cable, F. Fitch, R. Hutson, T. Mansfield, G. Mansfield, W. Chalk (conductor), and W. Mansfield. Also 120 Grandsire Doubles, with

three of the Rettendon company. Through the kindness of the Rev. H. A. Cockey, the ringers were invited to the Hall, where a substantial repast was provided for them. Afterwards the handbells were brought into requisition, on which several tunes were played. The party started for home about nine o'clock, well pleased with their afternoon's outing. All the above-named are members of the Essex Association.

SOUTH ANSTONE (Yorkshire).—On Sunday, July 22nd, at St. James's church, five members of the Eckington society, with Mr. W. Hargreaves, of Shireoaks, rang a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob Minor, in 25 mins. G. Smith, 1; W. Price, 2; J. Shaw, 3; G. Norman, 4; W. Hargreaves, 5; G. Marsden (conductor), 6. Also 360 Oxford Treble Bob Minor by the Tickhill society, with Mr. Watkinson of Worksop, who is 82 years old. J. Fitzjohn, 1; J. Watkinson, 2; W. Hargreaves, 3; H. Watkinson, 4; C. Ainley, 5; F. Jinkinson (conductor), 6.

TUNBRIDGE WELLS (Kent).—On Sunday evening, July 22nd, for Divine Service, six 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles, all different callings, in 26 mins. J. Coulthorpe, 1; R. Sharvill, 2; *H. Barefield (conductor), 3; W. Latter, 4; G. Kember, 5; J. Muggridge, 6. Tenor 13 cwt. 3 qrs. As this is the first time such a thing has been done by the local band, it is thought worthy of record. *Member of the College Youths and Oxford Diocesan Guild.

WEST BROMWICH.—On Thursday, July 19th, the following members of the Christ Church Society rang on the bells of the above church, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples (1260 changes), in 47 mins. W. Ellesmore, 1; R. Hall, 2; T. Horton, 3; J. Fullwood, 4; W. Beeson, 5; W. R. Small, 6; S. Reeves (conductor), 7; W. H. Wayte, 8. Tenor 23 cwt. 3 qrs. All the above are members of the Society for the Archdeaconry of Stafford, except the fourth.

WEST MALLING (Kent).—On Sunday evening, July 22nd, after Divine Service, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor, in 26 mins. *D. Hall, 1; C. Payne, 2; *E. Baldock, 3; F. G. Newman (conductor), 4; *W. Leonard, 5; *A. H. Woolley, 6. This is the first 720 in the method on the bells. *First 720 in the method.

WORDSLEY (Staffordshire).—*Muffled Peal.*—On Sunday, July 22nd, was rung as a token of respect to Miss Parrish, of Wordsley; Mr. Thomas Mills, of Kingswinford; and Mrs. Stainworth, of Wordsley, a 720 of Grandsire Minor, with the bells muffled. Thomas Darby, 1; W. H. Hughes, 2; John Guest (conductor), 3; E. S. Chapman, 4; W. Lawrence, 5; E. G. W. Husselbee, 6.

ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION OF THE ST. MARTIN'S SOCIETY, BIRMINGHAM.

On Saturday, the 21st of July, being the One Hundred and Twenty-eighth Anniversary of this society, nearly thirty of its members paid a visit to the "faithful city" of Worcester, and after ringing on the bells of the Cathedral (twelve) and All Saints' (ten) and St. Helen's (eight) churches, sat down to a good dinner at the "Red Lion" inn, to which they did ample justice. The cloth having been drawn, the chair was taken by the president of the society, who in a few words kindly thanked their Worcester friends for the trouble they had taken in getting the different church towers open, and the bells ready for ringing. The rest of the evening was devoted to harmony, and the company returned to Birmingham very much pleased with their visit.

THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

The Annual Meeting of the above Association will be held at Croydon, by the kind permission of the Vicar, on Tuesday, July 31st. Belfry open from 1.0 p.m. Business meeting at the Victoria Coffee Tavern, Church Street, at 5.30 p.m. Tea at 6 p.m. A special service in the parish church at 7 p.m. The Vicar will preside. The tea will be free to ringing members; others 1s. 6d. each. All ringers invited to attend.
A. B. PERCEVAL, Hon. Sec.

THE ROCHDALE AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATION.

This Association will hold their Quarterly Meeting on Saturday next, the 4th of August, at the Manchester Cathedral. The bells will be opened at two o'clock, the meeting to commence at five o'clock prompt. Ringing to cease during business. All ringers within the radius of ten miles are earnestly invited. Communications to be addressed to the Secretary,
JAS. ADSHEAD,
1, Sydney Street, Sudden.

BIRMINGHAM AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATION.

The first Annual Meeting of the above Association will take place on Saturday, August 11th, at Birmingham. The towers of St. Chad's and Bishop Ryder's will be open from 3 p.m. Business transacted at the club house, "Hope and Anchor," Fisher Street, at 6.30, when all members are earnestly requested to attend. After the ordinary business, the election of officers for the ensuing year will be proceeded with.
JOHN WRIGHT, Hon. Sec.

OPENING OF A PEAL OF BELLS AT CHESTER-LE-STREET, DURHAM.

THE inhabitants of the town of Chester-le-Street (an old Roman encampment, as its name signifies), in the County of Durham, have been celebrating the millenary of their church, a rather rare occurrence. The venerable fabric has, to some extent, been restored, the whole of the chancel being re-seated, a new screen erected, along with a very beautiful pulpit, and a new peal of six bells, tenor 18 cwt., by Messrs. Taylor and Co., has been supplied, with new frame-work and fittings complete. The church is a very pretty structure, but owes a great deal to the tower and spire, which stands at the west end, and through which is the principal entrance. The tower has a large square base, in which is the ringing-chamber, and is continued in octagon shape for several feet, and in this part the bells are hung. From this springs a very fine lofty spire, which reaches high above any of its surroundings, and is an object of great beauty. The festival, which lasted five days, commenced with the dedication of the new peal of bells, by the Bishop of Durham, on Wednesday, the 18th inst., at 10.30 a.m., immediately after which they were opened by six members of the Durham and Newcastle Diocesan Association, in capital style, with a 720 Oxford Treble Bob. Morning service was then held, being very well attended, the procession including a great number of the clergy from the surrounding neighbourhood. The Bishop preached a most eloquent sermon, in which he referred to the interesting story of St. Cuthbert's body, which, in its many wanderings, rested for a short time at Chester-le-Street, before finally reaching Durham.

Immediately after the service, a luncheon was held at the "Lambton Arms," the Rev. Canon Blunt, rector of the parish, in the chair. After luncheon, the chairman having proposed the loyal toasts, said it was his duty and privilege that day to look backward, as well as to consider the present. In 1409 three bells were presented to the church, one by the Bishop of Durham, another by Lord Lumley, and the third by the Dean of Chester-le-Street; and those three bells had been rung from that time to almost the present. The big tenor bell was cracked in 1665, and again at the beginning of this century. The second, or middle bell, was cracked last year, in ringing the curfew. These two bells had been smelted, and used in making the new bells, which had been heard for the first time that morning. There remained one old bell. The tenor bell was given by Cardinal Langley, Bishop of Durham, and that generous gift had been equalled by the generous gift which the Bishop of Durham had given to the fund for the alterations at the church. He proposed the health of the Bishop. The Bishop suitably replied, in a very interesting speech. Several other speeches followed, after which the ringers were not sorry to return to the belfry, when a 720 Kent Treble Bob, and a 720 Oxford Bob Minor were completed in a very creditable manner.

It had been arranged that as the vicar and churchwardens would have their hands very full with their many illustrious visitors, only seven or eight members should attend on the first day, to represent the Association in opening the bells, and that on the following Saturday, being a more convenient day for all concerned, the bells should be open to all comers, the vicar and churchwardens very kindly providing a luncheon for all ringers attending. Accordingly on Saturday the Stockton band, and one or two more members, mustered in time to ring for morning service, when the Archbishop of York preached, and about mid-day some fifteen or twenty ringers were in attendance.

About 2.30 p.m. the members of the Association were entertained at luncheon at the "Lambton Arms" Hotel, the rector's churchwarden (Mr. William Hall) being in the chair, and Mr. G. E. Steel, one of the parish churchwardens, in the vice-chair. On the removal of the cloth, the chairman gave "The Queen." The chairman next proposed "The Bishop and Clergy of the Diocese." The vice-chairman then proposed "The Durham and Newcastle Diocesan Association." They had all, he said, listened with pleasure to the music of the bells, and they were indebted to the gentlemen who were present there that day. He coupled with the toast the name of Mr. Clarkson, the secretary of the Association. Mr. Clarkson, in replying, said they were glad to have had the pleasure of inaugurating the new peal of bells, which, he hoped, would play their proper part in the religious life at Chester-le-Street. This re-opening of the church was only the beginning, not the end of their work, for ringers would have to be trained. The Association would lend a helping and willing hand; but he would remind them that a tough struggle was before them. He concluded by proposing "The Health of the Churchwardens."

After the luncheon, the ringers returned to the belfry, and continued ringing was the order of the day, until the evening service. Every one was much pleased with the bells, the "go" of them being all that could be desired, and Messrs. Taylor and Co. have, on this occasion, erected a very satisfactory peal. It was feared that the bells being rather near the ringers there would be too much noise, but the first round was a most agreeable surprise, as each bell could be heard quite distinctly. The day was, unfortunately, very wet, otherwise, no doubt, there would have been a larger attendance of ringers, as Mr.

Clarkson, the energetic secretary of the association, has taken especial care to make the particulars of the opening as widely known throughout the entire district as possible, the following belfries amongst the number being invited: St. John and St. Cuthbert, Darlington, Hurworth, Staindrop, Stockton, North and South Shields, Durham, Newton Hall, Morpeth, Ripon, Bishopwearmouth, and the Newcastle branches. In spite of the wet, however, every one was well pleased with the day's proceedings.

There is some prospect of this peal being made into eight, and it is most sincerely to be hoped that this may be done while the funds are obtainable, as it would make one of the handiest peals of eight in the district. During the two days, eight 720's were rung in the following methods: Oxford and Kent Treble Bob, Double Court, Oxford Bob, College Single, and Plain Bob Minor, particulars of which will be found in the usual place.

OPENING OF A NEW PEAL OF BELLS AT ENFIELD, MIDDLESEX.

ON Wednesday, July 18th, eight members of the Ancient Society of College Youths attended the consecration service of the new church of St. Mary Magdalene, Enfield, to open the ring of eight bells placed there by Messrs. Warner and Sons. The ringers were Messrs. H. C. Haley, G. Musket, R. Jameson, E. Gibbs, G. Marshall, J. M. Hayes, E. Horrex, and W. Greenleaf. The bells were rung at 9.0 a.m.; before and after the morning service; at intervals during the afternoon; and before and after evening service; Grandsire and Stedman Triples, and Kent Treble Bob Major being rung. The company (together with the local ringers) were entertained at dinner and tea at the residence of Mrs. Twells, at whose sole cost the church has been erected. Just before the company left, this lady expressed her admiration of the day's ringing.

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."

REPLY TO J. E.

SIR,—In reply to J. E.'s question of the 21st, referring to the bells of Waltham St. Lawrence, Berks., I, being one of the company who rang there on the 30th ult., would advise him to muster a band, run up and ring a 720 of Minor on them; which will enable him to form a correct opinion as to the "go" of them; also he will have a good opportunity to enquire of the proper authorities, when, and by whom the bells were hung, which we are unable to give. E. ROGERS.

THE LIGHTEST PEAL OF EIGHT IN ENGLAND.

SIR,—I beg to thank your correspondents, Mr. A. Perceval and Mr. S. B. Goslin, for their corrections as to the lightest peal of eight in England. I had never heard of any lighter than Marsham before. Still, as my statement has brought these other two peals to light, there is no harm done. I am also quite willing to accept what Mr. Perceval says about St. Ebbe's, Oxford. I never was there myself; my information was gleaned from *Lukis's Church Bells*. I merely mentioned St. Ebbe's, incidentally in connection with Marsham. I should feel greatly obliged if Mr. Goslin would tell us where the peal of eight with a tenor 3 cwt. 25 lbs. is, and who is the founder. I am not disputing his word about it, but I think an account thereof would prove of interest to your readers. J. R. JERRAM.

WEIGHTS OF TENORS.

SIR,—Many thanks to Mr. Goslin for his corrections. Let us, therefore, give Crowland tenor all the weight we can conscientiously afford, and call it 10½ cwt., certainly not 15 cwt. Scales in the present day vary much, but of course Mr. Goslin would know more about such matters than any one not in the trade. I am glad he has also set us right about Spalding tenor. It appears that even in detracting from what it was stated to weigh, I ascribed more weight to it than I ought. VERITAS.

THE TENTERDEN BELLS.

SIR,—Might not the front six or five have been used by the local company for change-ringing, before they (the company) retired from the County Association? The same plea is made about the bells of Rainham, which tenor has been described in this paper; about one-half the weight, I believe, of that at Tenterden. Rainham bells have now no ropes we hear. TOLIAPIS.

MESSRS. SHAW SON, & Co., bell-founders, of Bradford, have just rehung, with great satisfaction, the bells of the parish church, Haslingden, Lancashire, and have in hand those of the parish church, Rothwell, near Leeds, Whalley, and Bacup, in the same county.

A QUARTER-PEAL OF UNION
TRIPLES.By JOSIAH WATHEN, *Tewkesbury.*

7 4 2 6 3 4 1
6 5 7 2 3 4 5
7 4 6 5 2 3 2
3 5 7 2 4 6 1
2 5 3 7 4 6 5
3 6 2 5 7 4 2
3 5 7 4 6 2 P. L.
3 4 6 2 5 7 P. L.

Four times repeated.

PEALS OF GRANDSIRE MAJOR.

By JOHN THORP, *Ashton-under-Lyne.*

9600.

2 3 4 5 6

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

Nine times repeated with a single instead of a bob at the end of the 5th and 10th part-ends.

The above peal was composed in 1864, and was rung for the first time on June 30th, 1883, at St. Mark's church, Glodwick-near-Oldham, Lancashire.

The whole of the following peals of Grandsire Major are by WM. HALLSWORTH, of *Walsall, Staffordshire.*

5008.

2 3 4 5 6

5 3 2 6 4 M
3 5 2 6 4 7th in three. M
6 3 2 5 4 M
3 6 2 5 4 7th in three. M
2 6 4 5 3 M
4 6 3 5 2 M
6 4 3 5 2 7th in three. M
3 4 2 5 6 M
2 4 6 5 3 M
4 2 6 5 3 7th in three. M
6 2 3 5 4 M
3 2 4 5 6 M
5 2 4 3 6 8th in three. M
4 3 2 5 6 8th in two. M
2 3 6 5 4 M
3 2 6 5 4 7th in three. M
6 2 4 5 3 M
4 2 3 5 6 M
2 4 3 5 6 7th in three. M
3 4 6 5 2 M
6 4 2 5 3 M
4 6 2 5 3 7th in three. M
2 6 3 5 4 M
3 6 4 5 2 M
6 3 4 5 2 7th in three. M
4 5 3 6 2 8th in two. H
5 4 3 6 2 7th in three. H
3 4 2 6 5 M
2 4 5 6 3 M
4 2 5 6 3 7th in three. M
5 2 3 6 4 M
3 2 4 6 5 M
2 3 4 6 5 7th in three. M
4 3 5 6 2 M

This peal has the 6th twenty-four times wrong and right; the 5th twenty-four times at home; and all the 867's and 857's.

GRANDSIRE MAJOR (continued).

10,032.

4 3 6 5 2 M
3 6 4 5 2 H
6 4 3 5 2 H
5 6 3 4 2 W
2 5 6 4 3 7th in two.
6 4 5 2 3 8th in two.
5 2 4 6 3 8th in two.
3 5 2 6 4 7th in two.
4 3 5 6 2 7th in two.
2 4 3 6 5 7th in two.
3 6 4 2 5 8th in two.
4 6 5 2 3 M
6 5 4 2 3 H
5 4 6 2 3 H
6 4 3 2 5 M
4 3 6 2 5 H
4 3 5 2 6 7th in two. H
3 5 4 2 6 H
5 4 3 2 6 H
2 4 3 5 6 8th in three. H

Twice repeated.

The 120 course-ends, tenors together throughout

The above peal was rung at Walsall, on February 4th, 1861, in 6 hrs. 18 mins., conducted by its composer.

10,144.

4 3 6 5 2 M
3 6 4 5 3 H
6 4 3 5 2 H
5 6 3 4 2 W
2 5 6 4 3 7th in two.
6 4 5 2 3 8th in two.
5 2 4 6 3 8th in two.
3 5 2 6 4 7th in two.
4 3 5 6 2 7th in two.
2 4 3 6 5 7th in two.

The course marked thus * must be a bob at home in the 2nd, 3rd, 5th and 6th parts.

10,656.

4 3 6 5 2 M
3 6 4 5 2 H
6 4 3 5 2 H
5 6 3 4 2 W
2 5 6 4 3 7th in two.
6 4 5 2 3 8th in two.
3 6 4 2 5 7th in two.
4 2 6 3 5 8th in two.
6 3 2 4 5 8th in two.
2 4 3 6 5 8th in two.

This peal must be taken as being in six parts; a single to be called half-way and end.

A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH
COURT BOB MAJOR.By H. DAINS, *Royal Cumberland Youths.*

8064.

The following is a three-part peal, which contains the 5th and 6th each twenty-four times wrong and right. We give the first part of each half of the peal.

2 3 4 5 6	I	4	5	6	2 3 4 5 6
3 6 4 5 2	-	-	-	-	4 6 3 5 2
6 2 4 5 3	-	-	-	-	6 2 3 5 4
2 4 6 5 3	-	-	-	-	2 3 6 5 4
6 2 3 4 5	-	-	-	-	6 2 4 3 5
2 3 6 4 5	-	-	-	-	2 4 6 3 5
3 6 2 4 5	-	-	-	-	4 6 2 3 5
2 3 5 6 4	-	-	-	-	2 4 5 6 3
3 5 2 6 4	-	-	-	-	4 5 2 6 3
5 4 2 6 3	-	-	-	-	5 3 2 6 4
4 3 2 6 5	-	-	-	-	3 4 2 6 5
2 4 5 3 6	-	-	-	-	2 3 5 4 6
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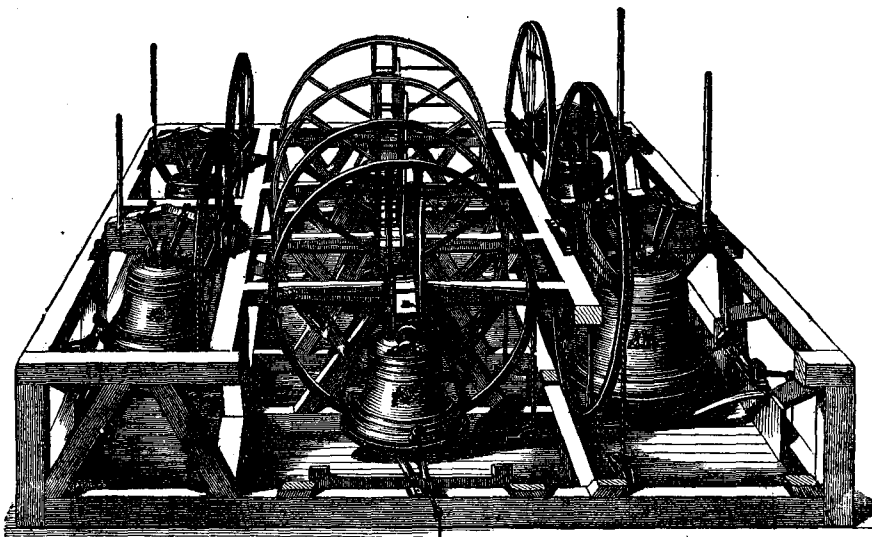
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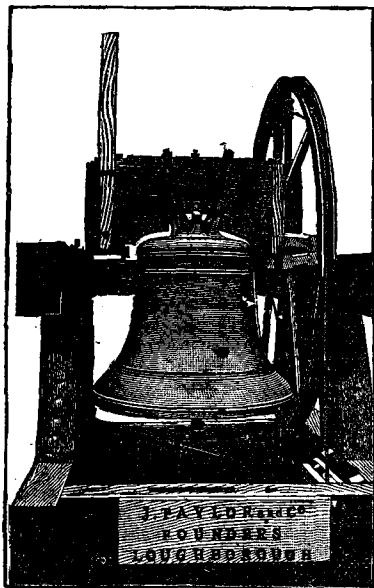
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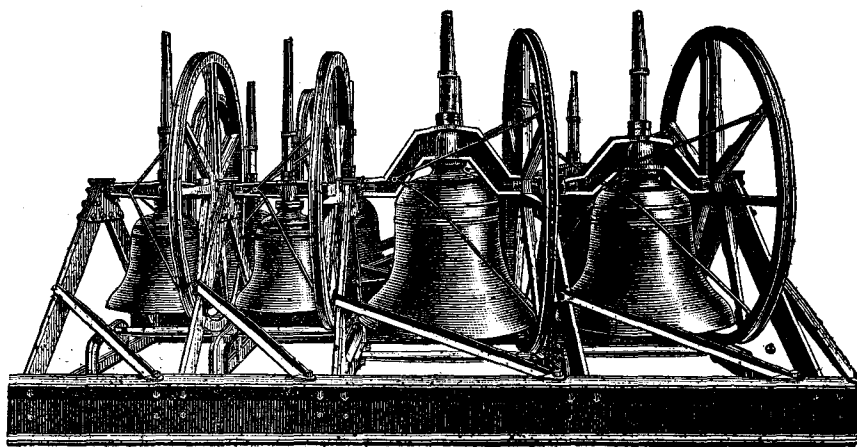
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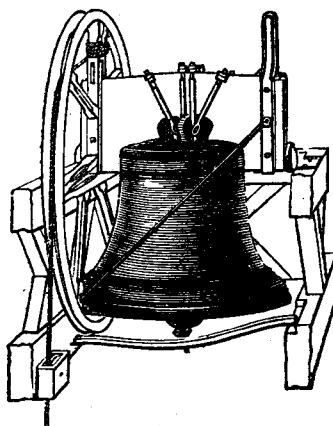
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FRANCIS RAVENSCROFT, Manager.

Southampton Buildings, Chancery Lane.

"USES."

It is instructive to call to mind the cause to which we, ringers, owe the melodious rings of bells on which we practise our fascinating art. It is quite certain that in the very early days of bell-founding, bells were not cast in tune; yet, for all this, the ancient towers of our churches were generally furnished with three or more bells.

These several bells, as well as the different ways in which they were used, pointed out to the people the precise nature of the service which was about to commence.

Later on (when bell-founders had learnt how to cast a bell to a given pitch, or thereabouts, and also how to raise or lower the pitch of a bell by chipping the edge), rings of bells were gradually made "tuneable," and thus their value as musical instruments was vastly increased. We owe, then, our musical bells to the desire on the part of our ancestors that the precise nature of each of the church services about to be performed should be indicated to the people by the several bells, and by the manner in which they were from time to time used.

Now "tuneable" bells are as well, and better, fitted for the above work: and no bellfounder at the present day would dream of placing in a tower a set of bells which was not arranged according to a musical scale; yet, owing to the vast diversity of "uses" and the want of some method, our bells do not, at the present time, fully answer the purpose for which they were intended.

Again, the bells in a tower may be regarded as a very costly musical instrument, whose tones are directed for the pleasing and instructing the folk outside as the music of the organ pleases and instructs the congregation assembled inside the church for the time being: and some of the intelligence which is applied to the use of the organ might well be given to the matter of the use of the bells.

When all the bells are rung in peal the loudest and grandest tones are elicited. Ringers who ring for service therefore seem to make a mistake in this way: they deprive themselves of the power of giving any emphasis to the seasons of the Church. They act as an organist who (disregarding the character of the music and the words being sung), plays with the full force of the organ, and with all its stops drawn, throughout the whole year. Ringing for service should be kept to mark the great festivals of the church; Christmas, Easter, Ascension, Whit-Sunday, and Trinity Sunday: also for the dedication Festival of the particular Church, if that day is observed. The ringers selected on these occasions should be the best strikers and the steadiest hands in the company; the method and the touches chosen should be simple, and of a kind well-known to the band; in fact every precaution should be taken that on these days the striking should be first-rate, and that no "jumble-out" should mar the effect of the ringing. These however, are exceptional days, and it is of more practical importance to see how to mark the services of an ordinary Sunday. To learn this we should go to the bells themselves, and study their mottoes or legends. Take the simple case of a mid-day Sunday service consisting of morning-prayer and sermon; how should the bells be used to announce clearly to the people the precise nature of the service which is about to commence? The bells say:—

To call the folk to church in time,
We chime.

At least half-an-hour then, before-hand, the bells should be chimed; and this chiming should be continued, with intervals for rest, until fifteen minutes before the time for beginning the service. This chiming should be taken to mean that morning or evening prayer, as the case may be, is about to be said or sung.

Then for the sermon, look at your bells, and perhaps you will find on the tenor bell the following legend:—

I ring to sermon, with a lusty boome,
That all may come, and none may stay at home.

For sermon, then, the tenor should be rung-up and kept ringing until two or three minutes before the hour and then ceased.

But suppose there is, in addition to the sermon, the administration of the Lord's Supper; again go to the bells, and perhaps you will find this legend:—

I, sweetly tolling, men do calle;
To taste on meate that feeds the soule.

The tenor having been appropriated for the "sermon bell," the

sweetest-toned and most silver-tongued of the rest should be selected and used as the "sacrament bell." It should be rung up and kept ringing for 5 or 6 minutes between the chiming and the sermon bell. In case of a celebration in the early morning, the sacrament-bell only would be rung, thus indicating that morning prayer would not be read at that service. Briefly, chiming would indicate prayers; the tenor rung would indicate a sermon: and the sacrament-bell, Holy Communion.

The extended practice of change-ringing has led to much attention being paid to the state of the bells in many towers containing five or more bells; but in the numberless towers containing four bells and less we must look to some other motive for reform. That reform is sadly needed in such belfries is only too clear. Ascend an average village tower containing three bells; if one of the three is hung in such a manner that it can be rung up it is as much as it can be hoped for: the other two bells are perhaps more than 200 years old, and have never been "hung sallywise." Now the "use" indicated above is the better for the fact that it is applicable to any number of bells from two to twelve (and even one bell might be raised on the occasion of the sacrament, and the great festivals, and merely chimed on other days). The plan also deserves a trial because it entails as a *sine qua non* that the bells, be they few or many, should be overhauled, and put into such order that every one of them could be rung up with safety, and then maintained in that condition. No one will contend that we should rest content with anything short of this in any tower; yet such a condition of affairs would involve an amount of belfry reform far more extensive than has yet been contemplated.

There is no reason why a tower should be neglected merely because it contains only one or two or three bells, and if the overhauling of the bells is only carried out where the bells are numerous the much needed reform will be only partial.

To conclude, any ringer who will contribute to the introduction of the scheme above indicated (or any other plan which will lead to the bells being used in an intelligent way, and so as to indicate to the people outside the precise character of the service in which they are invited to join), will feel that he is acting up to the noble old legend:—

Who rings this belle, let him loke welle,
To honde, and hedde, and harte:
Ye honde for werke, ye hedde for wytte,
Ye harte for worshyppe's part.

AUDITOR TANTUM.

CHRIST CHURCH AND ST. ANDREW'S SOCIETY OF RINGERS, BATH.

THE annual outing of this enterprising young band of ringers was held on Monday last week, Poole and Bournemouth being the places visited. Having arrived at the former place the members proceeded to the parish church, where the fine-toned ring of eight bells had been most kindly placed at their disposal by the Rev. J. A. Lawson, Rector, and rang on them some excellent touches of Grandsire Triples. Descending from the tower the members then wended their way to St. Peter's Church, Bournemouth, where they were met by the ringers, who gave them a very hearty and kindly reception. Ascending the tower they rang on the musical-toned ring of bells (eight in number), some good courses of Grandsire, the Rev. G. S. Ram, Vicar, and churchwardens having very generously allowed the members the use of the bells for that purpose. Ringing over, the remainder of the day was spent in boating, bathing, etc., etc., the members returning home to Bath in the evening highly pleased with their day's outing.

In recording this outing the members of this society desire to tender their sincere and best thanks to the Rev. J. A. Lawson, Rector of Poole, and the Rev. G. S. Ram, Vicar, and churchwardens of St. Peter's, Bournemouth, for having so very kindly allowed the use of the bells of their respective churches. They also wish to thank most heartily A. H. Garrett, Esq., St. Peter's Society, and his band of ringers, for the very hearty and kindly welcome which they gave the St. Andrew's ringers, on the occasion of this their first outing to Bournemouth.

WORCESTER DIOCESAN AND ADJOINING DISTRICT ASSOCIATION.

THE first ANNUAL MEETING of the above Association will be held at Worcester, in All Saints' Schoolroom, on Monday, August 27th, 1883. Full particulars in next week's number of this paper.

WHY THE CHIMES ARE NEVER HEARD FROM FORRABURY STEEPLE, CORNWALL.

Mr. Wilkie Collins, in his *Rambles Beyond Railways*, gives the old legend in the following words:—

"In ancient times, when Forrabury church was still regarded as a building of recent date, it was a subject of sore vexation to all the people of the neighbourhood that their tower had no bells, while the inhabitants of Tintagel still possessed the famous peal that had rung for King Arthur's funeral. For some years this superiority of the rival village was borne with composure by the people of Forrabury, but in process of time, they lost all patience and it was publicly determined by the rustic council that the honour of their church should be vindicated. Money was immediately collected, and bells of magnificent tones and dimensions were forthwith ordered from the best manufactory that London could supply.

"The bells were cast, blessed by high ecclesiastical authorities, and shipped for transportation to Forrabury. The voyage was one of the most prosperous that had ever been known. Fair winds and calm seas so expedited the passage of the ship, that she appeared in sight of the downs on which the church stood, many days before she had been expected. Great was the triumph of the populace on shore, as they watched her working into the bay with a steady evening breeze.

"On board, however, the scene was very different. Here there was more uproar than happiness, for the captain and the pilot were at open opposition. As the ship neared the harbour, the bells of Tintagel were faintly heard across the water, ringing for the evening service. The pilot, who was a devout man, took off his hat as he heard the sound, crossed himself, and thanked God aloud for a prosperous voyage. The captain, who was a reckless, vain-glorious fellow, reviled the pilot as a fool, and impiously swore that the ship's company had only to thank his skill as a navigator, and their own strong arms and ready wills, for bringing the ship safely in sight of harbour. The pilot, in reply, rebuked him as an infidel, and still piously continued to return thanks as before; while the captain, joined by the crew, tried to drown his voice by oaths and blasphemy. They were still shouting their loudest when the vengeance of Heaven descended in judgment on them all.

"The clouds supernaturally gathered, the wind rose to a gale in a moment: an immense sea, higher than any man had ever beheld, overwhelmed the ship; and, to the horror of the people on shore, she went down in an instant, close to land. Of all the crew the pilot only was saved.

"The bells were never recovered. They were heard tolling a muffled death-peal, as they sank with the ship; and even yet, on stormy days, while the great waves roll over them, they still ring their ghostly knell above the fiercest roaring of wind and sea."

RE-OPENING OF THE BELLS AT NORTH CURRY, TAUNTON.

THE fittings of these bells have recently been repaired by Messrs. Cattle and Son, of Bradford, Taunton, and the peal was re-opened by the village ringers on July 24th. Nothing but rounds and Churchyard Bob was rung, and there seems to be no desire to do anything better. Up to 1811 there were five bells only, but in that year, one or two of them being cracked, they were cast into a peal of six. They are inscribed thus:—

1, 2, 3, 4, and 5.—T. Mears fecit 1811.
T. Mears fecit. R. M. Whatley and W. House, churchwardens.
"May all whom I shall summon to the grave,
The blessing of a well spent life receive."

Diameter 47½ ins.

The church is in the form of a cross, with the octagonal tower in the centre. The belfry is low and rather dark, but spacious. The tone of the bells is good.

THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

THE ANNUAL MEETING of the above Association was held at Croydon on July 31st, the Rev. J. M. Braithwaite, vicar, in the chair. About 25 members were present, including visitors from Beddington, Bletchingley, Croydon, Kingston, Nutfield, Streatham, and Penge. The officers and two new members were elected, and it was decided to hold the next District Meeting (for ringing only) at Ashted, early in September, and the Quarterly Meeting at Reigate, early in October. There was a short service in the parish church at 7 o'clock, with an appropriate address from the vicar, after which the members adjourned to the tower, and several touches in the following methods were rung: Stedman Triples, Grandsire Triples, Bob Major, Union Triples, Bob Triples. Ringing terminated shortly before 10 o'clock.

A. B. CARPENTER, Hon. Sec.

NORTH PETHERTON.—The parish church, a fine structure, with a grand tower, is about to be restored.

STOKE-UPON-TRENT ARCHIDIACONAL ASSOCIATION.

LEIGH.—The Association's Monthly Meeting, in the Uttoxeter District, was held here on Saturday, July 28th, but the attendance was extremely small, including only three from Uttoxeter in addition to the home company. No ringing to speak of could be got up, and much disappointment was felt by the few present. The Rector, Rev. Ernald Lane, and Mrs. Lane, had prepared a hearty welcome for the ringers, kindly entertaining them at the rectory. Finding ringing under the circumstances rather slow work, the belfry was abandoned for the Rector's hayfield, where hay-making was carried on with vigour till dusk. Two reasons will account for the small attendance, first—Leigh is almost inaccessible by railway from Stoke and the Potteries, there being no train stopping there between 12 and 10 p.m., and no return trains after 5 p.m. Second, being a lovely day in the middle of the hay season all hands were wanted in the fields. The fixture for next Saturday is Cheddleton, in the Leek District.

Another correspondent sends us the following account respecting this meeting:—

In bright and breezy "hay" weather, the meeting of the above Association was held at Leigh, on Saturday last, July 28th. Excuses were more numerous than attendances, and even attendances fell short of intention. Some of the Wolstanton company had expressed their intention to be present and their presence was looked to as a prospect of excellent teaching, but they came not. The day however, was so fair as to be sufficient excuse for the non-attendance of anyone within reach of the smell of hay, and those that came found all the inhabitants of grassy Leigh busy in the hay-field.

Three members of the Uttoxeter company, however, joined four of the home company and did some good work on the bells, which they found were more manageable than on the last occasion. After tea in the rectory garden, they found the claims of hay so pressing that one and all had the goodness to turn into the Rector's hay-field and assist him in "carrying" several loads of capital hay—most valuable aid on a fine Saturday with a falling barometer, and good evidence of the brotherly spirit which exists amongst bell-ringers. "All was executed in a most workmanlike manner."

THE ST. MARY'S SOCIETY, BEDDINGTON, SURREY.

ON Saturday, June 28th, the members of the above society, with their wives and lady-loves, had their Annual Excursion, the place selected being Twickenham. It had been arranged to ring at Mortlake on the way thither, but owing to a funeral taking place ringing was prevented. The feelings engendered by this disappointment having to be calmed, a move was made towards Kew, much to the delight of those members of the fair sex who honoured the company with their presence. Here the time was devoted, not to ringing, but to the pleasures of the Terpsichorean exercise, the pretty gardens adjoining the "Coach and Horses" hotel affording a capital area for the purpose. After thoroughly resting themselves, and recruiting the inner man, the company wended their way, arriving at their destination at midday. Here ringing formed a most important part of the day's proceedings, Bob Major and Grandsire and Stedman Triples being rung. An adjournment was then made to the "Island Hotel," and ample justice was done to the fare provided by host Anderson. Dinner, to which about thirty sat down, being over, a small fleet of boats was chartered, and the company departed on the outward voyage to Teddington, but on arriving off the "Anglers" hotel, it was thought expedient to land for the purpose of taking in more provisions in order to neutralise the sad effects caused by being delayed through stress of weather. However, all proceeded as merry as a marriage-bell, the homeward-bound voyage being satisfactorily performed, all reaching Eel-pie Island safe and sound. After a few tunes on the handbells, the tower was again visited, and short touches of Stedman Triples and Treble Bob Major were rung. At length the hour for departure drew nigh, and having bade adieu to Twickenham, and calling at Kingston on the way, where they were met by the "jolliest" of steeplekeepers—Mr. Phillips—with whom, and Messrs. Wright and Strutt, they rang touches of Grandsire Caters and Stedman Triples, they safely arrived at their destination (to the tune of "Home, Sweet Home," about 11.20 p.m., every one fully satisfied with the day's outing. The company beg to thank their Rector and the gentry who so liberally contributed to the day's enjoyment.

The above company having decided to hold the fourteenth anniversary of the opening of the bells on Bank Holiday, the tower will be open tower will be open for ringing at 2 p.m. There are ten bells in excellent going order. Any ringers honouring us with their company will be most cordially welcomed.

J. W. TRAPPITT,

Hon. Sec.

Last week the Archdeacon of Bristol preached at St. George's, Brandon Hill, on behalf of the Gloucester and Bristol Diocesan Association.

THE BOMBAY UNIVERSITY CLOCK.

From the *Bombay Gazette*.

What was described as the "inaugural ceremony" in connection with the Bombay University Clock took place on Saturday morning, when the National Anthem was played, and the joy bells rung, simultaneously with the firing of the salute by the troops under review on the Esplanade, in honour of the Queen's Birthday. At twelve o'clock noon the melody of "Home, Sweet Home" was played, and at half-past five all the tunes were played, namely, a Sinfonia by Handel, "Those Evening Bells," "When the Rosy Dawn," "Luther's Hymn," "Hanover" (hymn tune), "God Save the Queen," "The Harp that once in Tara's Hall," "St. Bride's," (hymn tune), "The Blue Bells of Scotland," "My Lodging is on the Cold Ground," "The March of the Men of Harlech," "The Last Rose of Summer," "Rule Britannia," "Home, Sweet Home," "The Harmonious Blacksmith," and "Auld Lang Syne." Several of the tunes were repeated at 9 p.m. It had been arranged that the public should be admitted into the clock-tower between the hours of 9 a.m. and 9 p.m. So many availed themselves of this privilege, however, that it was found necessary to curtail it, and after six o'clock in the evening nobody was admitted. Notwithstanding the disappointment of those who had unfortunately delayed their visit until the evening, it must be admitted that Mr. Lund exercised wise discretion in adopting this course, for with a constant stream of visitors ascending and descending the winding stairs leading to the clock tower, there was always a danger of accidents occurring, especially as there were no means of lighting the stairs. From dusk up to about ten o'clock the dials and tower were illuminated through the agency of electricity supplied by the Eastern Electric Lighting Company, the effect being very satisfactory. This is noteworthy as being the first instance in which the dials of a large public clock have been successfully illuminated with electric light, other attempts of the kind having signally failed or been unsatisfactory. As being indicative of the interest taken in the clock, which is supposed to be the largest piece of horology in Asia, it may be mentioned that in the evening there was a large concourse of persons, and a goodly collection of carriages, in the neighbourhood of the tower. The clock, which of course keeps Bombay time, is the gift of Mr. Premchund Roychund, and is called after his mother, Rajabai. The work of constructing it was entrusted to Messrs. Lund and Blockley, of 42 Pall Mall, London. The clock shows time on four dials, each 13 feet in diameter, glazed with opal glass for illumination either by means of gas or electricity. It is sufficiently powerful, however, to show time on dials fifty feet in diameter. Inside minute and seconds dials are provided for setting the exterior hands, and the necessary apparatus is applied by which the clock will transmit the time current to Messrs. Lund and Blockley's office, and synchronise to correct time all clocks having electric wire communication with. The escapement is that known as Denison's double three-legged gravity. There are sixteen bells in the clock, arranged in a couple of tiers, the eight smaller bells forming the upper tier and the eight bigger bells the lower tier. The bell frame consists of two iron wheels, one above the other, from which the bells are suspended between the spokes. To each bell are attached two hammers, each held by wire connections by a separate catch to the carrillon machinery ready to drop and strike its blow. A pin in the music or change-barrel in the machinery withdraws the catch, and the hammer falls on the bell, the heavy action of relifting being done by a rapidly revolving independent cam. The machinery is of a compound character, one part being for the chiming of the quarters and striking the hours, and the other for playing the tunes. The tunes are played at intervals during the day. It is so arranged that when one tune has been played, the next one follows automatically. The diameter of the pin barrel is only twelve inches instead of six feet, as it must have been if constructed on the old chimes plan. The barrels also being made of wood instead of iron, as is usually the case, there is no difficulty in substituting one barrel for another. Ordinarily clockmakers use a weight and a train of wheels for striking the hours, another for chiming the quarters, and a third for playing the tunes. In the University clock, however, both the chiming of the quarters, and the striking of the hours and the playing of the tunes are done by means of only one weight and train of wheels. The whole of the clock is so constructed that any one part can be removed for repair without disturbing the rest. As has been stated above, the carrillon machinery plays sixteen tunes. Any number of tunes can, however be added hereafter, and it is to be hoped that arrangements may be made for adding a barrel of eight native tunes.

THURLOXTON, TAUNTON.

THE treble of the ring of four in this tower has long been cracked, having become so, as tradition says, by contact with the head of a parishioner during the ringing on some great public rejoicing. A bazaar has recently been held to raise money towards the cost of recasting this bell, and to provide a fifth. About £100 is required to do the work.

THE SCIENCE AT THE ANTIPODES.

WE have been favored with the following extracts from Australian newspapers. They will doubtless be read with interest by many of our readers. The first is an article from the *Ballarat Courier* :—

"IN THE BELFRY."

"In response to an invitation from the Ballarat Bellringers' Club, several members of the Victorian Bellringers' Association, Melbourne, and the Geelong Club, visited the City Hall belfry on Saturday, for the purpose of having a friendly ring together, and partaking of the hospitality of the Ballarat club. On the arrival of the morning train, the visitors were received at the Ballarat West station by several members of the local club, and on proceeding to the belfry the bells were placed at their disposal by Captain Bracher. No time was lost in getting to work, and peal after peal rolled out merrily, as the Eight Hours' Demonstration procession wended its way through the city and town, the teams generally being made up of combination. The ringing was excellent throughout; the visitors expressing their admiration of the bells, and the good order of everything pertaining to the belfry. A large number of ladies and gentlemen, including members of the City Council, were present during the day, and, for their delectation, the Melbourne team gave some excellent exhibitions of hand-bell ringing, for which they were loudly applauded, and a general wish was expressed that on their next visit they would repeat their performance in public. During the afternoon the visitors, comprising Captain J. Guest, C. Crang, J. C. Nolan, J. Heatner, J. Murray, W. Shenton, and — Davis (Melbourne), Messrs. M. Cox and M. Watts (Geelong), were entertained at dinner in the City Hall; Councillor Salter occupying the chair, and Councillor Lewis the vice-chair. The toast of "The Visitors" was proposed by the chairman, who expressed his pleasure at witnessing such good feeling amongst bell-ringers, and trusted that the interchange of visits would be more frequent, as, by this means, they would improve each other in the science. Captain Guest responded, and congratulated the Ballarat bellringers upon having such an excellent set of bells, and a considerate City Council to back the club by providing such an excellent belfry and appliances. He (the speaker) said the bells and belfry were, without doubt, the best in the southern hemisphere, and he only wished that the Melbourne bellringers had such an excellent set to practise upon. On behalf of his brother ringers, he desired to thank the Ballarat club for their hospitality, and would have great pleasure in reciprocating the good feeling shown when they visited Melbourne. Mr. Cox responded on behalf of the Geelong club, and apologised for the absence of many of his brother ringers, who, through business engagements, were precluded from partaking of the Ballarat club's hospitality. Captain Guest proposed the health of the Ballarat club, to which Captain Bracher responded; and Mr. Martin proposed 'The Mayor and City Council,' to which the chairman and vice-chairman replied. The toast of 'The Press' was acknowledged by the representative of *The Courier*, and an adjournment was again made to the belfry, where ringing and change-ringing were indulged in until late in the afternoon. The visitors returned home by the evening train, all expressing their pleasure at the day's proceedings."

The following is a letter to the Editor of another Australian paper :

"CHANGE-RINGING."

"SIR,—Of late a new science has been introduced into Victoria in the shape of tower and hand-bell change-ringing. This science is very popular all over England, and is fast becoming so in the colonies, especially in Victoria. On Eight Hours' Day the Melbourne and Geelong ringers visited Ballarat, in response to an invitation from the Ballarat Bellringers' Club. They were very cordially received, and the ropes were at once handed over to the visitors, who rung during the day some grand touches of Grandsire Triples and Doubles. At intervals a grand display of handbell ringing was given by the members of the Melbourne team in the presence of the Mayor and councillors, who expressed their delight at the performance, after which all adjourned to an excellent luncheon. The mayor proposed the health of the visitors, which was responded to by the captain, Mr. J. Guest, and all present sung the National Anthem, and the visitors returned to town by the last train, well pleased with their day's enjoyment."

THE CLERGY MUTUAL ASSURANCE SOCIETY.—Last week we drew attention to the prospectus of this society, and in this number will be found full particulars of the advantages which accrue to those who insure with such a substantial office. We need not recapitulate the benefits held out to intending assurers by the "Clergy Mutual," our readers are now enabled to judge for themselves of their full value. The names of the patrons, the trustees, the chairman and deputy-chairman, to which may be added those of the actuary and secretary, all of which appear in the prospectus, is a most ample guarantee of the soundness and respectability of this company.

Messrs. Henry Taunt and Co., of Oxford, have just completed a photographic group of the members of the St. Laurence society, Reading, taken on the occasion of their first outing to Dorchester.

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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.

W. DAY.—We will send you the work you mention. If you order this paper from a local bookseller, he will obtain it for you. And we should feel obliged if you would try and promote its circulation within your neighbourhood.

A. R.—We have repeatedly said that we cannot hold out any hope of reprinting. At the request of some of our readers we reprinted our Christmas number last year, but the result is that we have too many left on hand. You will do well to secure back numbers at once, as since the index to the first volume appeared, there has been a demand for them.

BOB MINOR.—The strict but necessary economy adopted in the production of this paper precludes us from the enjoyment of such luxuries.

W. H. FUSSELL would be glad to receive a letter from Mr. J. Hannington.

The Bell News & Ringers' Record.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 4, 1883.

THE subject of Bell-openings, notably in connection with an event of this description which has recently taken place in the north, has during the past two or three weeks come into prominence somewhat, if our correspondence column can be regarded as any criterion. We need not make more than a brief allusion to this affair of Heighington, as the actual position of all parties does not seem sufficiently clear. We could well understand the drift of MR. CLARKSON'S observations, expressed as they were with his usual pungency. But it seems to us that the particular arrangements which that gentleman had in view respecting this opening have not yet been accurately defined. If the Vicar had made an arrangement, or had arrived at some understanding with the Durham and Newcastle Association that they should be entrusted with the conduct of the affair, why did he listen to the overtures of an independent local party? We think the system advocated by MR. CLARKSON is undoubtedly the proper one to be adopted at these opening festivals. And that such a plan would be productive of union and good

feeling among ringers, no one in his senses can doubt. The affair it seems has caused a little stir, correspondence in the local papers being no in wise slack. But to one of these writers, who had the taste to select "Anti-Guzzle" as his *nom de plume*, we would give a word of advice, and that is, never to speak or write upon a subject of which he is profoundly ignorant.

That some change in the conduct of these ceremonies is wanting many of them go a great way to prove. It has often been a source of enquiry what system of selection is adopted in the choice of ringers out of a numerous company where so many are proficient for such a duty. Let us imagine that a liberal-minded Churchman has expressed a desire to give a ring of bells to his parish church. The bells are cast and erected, and then perhaps the propriety of having a good band to open them, is after discussion, determined on. The conduct of an opening like this frequently falls into the hands of one or two persons, and they select who they please for the transaction, and it is to be feared that personal feelings of like or dislike is a important ingredient of such selection. But even in such case, the published report of such "opening" have tacked on to it the prestige of the Society to which the band belong, though they really are in fact, performing the duty not as members, but as private individuals; the Society having nothing whatever to do with it. This certainly is not as it should be. And therefore a movement in the direction advocated by MR. CLARKSON should be countenanced as far as possible. Supposed vested interests may no doubt be attacked and acute susceptibilities wounded, by the general adoption of such a system, but what must be held to be an irregularity will be removed.

Perhaps in some instances the circumstances attendant upon an "opening" may not be of a sufficiently favorable character to give hospitality to all comers, and then there is no other course open but to engage a select band from some well-known society. When this is done, and the selection of the performers is left to one individual—no matter how eminent he may be—his choice of a party will be sure to meet with animadversions from many of those who consider they have a kind of freehold in such transactions. Better would it be, we think, could the secretary or some responsible officer of the society with whom it is intended to negotiate be communicated with, and then by his bringing it before the members, the selection of performers could be made a feature of such society's business. Such a plan is certainly preferable, as tending to avoid favoritism and other concomitant evils of the system now in vogue. But where a successful festival is desired, we unhesitatingly prefer the idea of a general invitation to all scientific ringers in the immediate neighbourhood. Stress has been laid upon the Weybread opening, and we can imagine that the founders of those bells, being practical ringers—able to take part in the most abstruse methods—would be among the first to recommend a kind of general festival at an opening of new bells cast by them. Now that almost every county has its ringing Guild or Association, the plan of sending many

miles for a company to open bells is not so frequently adopted as formerly, and therefore, the distribution of good cheer to all and sundry daily becomes less difficult.

We should be glad to hear frequently of these festivities, not for the mere purpose of affording a holiday, but for the special behoof of the art in general. It cannot be questioned that the stir occasioned by an opening ceremony raises a spirit of enquiry among the inhabitants of the neighbourhood which ultimately brings an accession of recruits to the belfry. We could point to instances where such good effects have been realised. And as each addition to the ranks comprises many of those whose influence have a great tendency to promote and foster the art under very conceivable condition, it is necessary that all should labour to promote the frequency and success of such festivities.

The Provinces.

STREATHAM, SURREY.—THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

Muffled Peal.

On Saturday, July 21, 1883, in Two Hours and Fifty-three Minutes,

AT EMMANUEL CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S ORIGINAL. Tenor 17 cwt. 3 qrs.

HENRY DANIELS, JUNR. .. Treble.	GEORGE PELL 5.
GEORGE RUSSELL 2.	WILLIAM SHEPHERD .. 6.
WILLIAM J. PELL 3.	SAMUEL GREENWOOD .. 7.
DANIEL SPRINGHALL .. 4.	WALLACE ELIH Tenor.

Conducted by SAMUEL GREENWOOD.

The above peal was rung as a last token of respect to the late Rev. Stenton Eardley, B.A., who was laid to rest in Norwood cemetery on the above date, aged 61 years. He had been vicar of Emmanuel church for twenty-eight years, and was honorary member of the Surrey Association.

Miscellaneous.

THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

BROMHAM (Bedfordshire).—On Saturday, July 28th, a 720 of Bob Minor, with eight bobs and six singles, in 26 mins. T. Foote, 1; F. W. Smith, 2; C. Clark, 3; I. Hills, 4; J. Atkins, 5; W. Biggs (conductor), 6. Also a 720 of Grandsire Minor was started for but the bells came round at the fifth part-end owing to a shift-course. J. Spencer, 1; W. Allen, 2; C. Clark, 3; W. Biggs, 4; J. Atkins, 5; I. Hills (conductor), 6.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.—On Thursday, July 26th, at St. John's, a 720 of Merchant's Return, in 26 mins. F. Lees, 1; C. L. Routledge, 2; *W. Eggleston, 3; W. G. Routledge, 4; W. Story, 5; R. S. Story (conductor), 6. *First 720 in the method.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

LITTLE HEATH (Essex).—Several 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles were rang at St. James's church, on Sunday last, by the local company after evening service (Dedication Festival) a 6-score each of London Doubles, St. Dunstan's, and London Singles. A. Deards, 1; B. Keeble, 2; A. Pye, 3; A. Porter, 4; J. Pye, 5.

STISTED (Essex).—On Tuesday, July 31st, by the following mixed company, a 720 of Bob Minor, in 22 mins. H. Bearman (Bocking), 1; Wm. Moore* (Bocking; conductor), 2; Wm. Bearman* (Bocking), 3; S. Hammond* (Braintree), 4; H. E. Hammond (Braintree), 5; Wm. Radley (Stisted), 6. Tenor 10 cwt. Those marked thus * are members of the Ancient Society of College Youths.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

CHURCH KIRK (Lancashire).—On Friday, July 27th, the local company rang at the parish church a 720 of College Single, with eighteen

bobs and two singles, in 28½ mins. James Horrocks (conductor), 1; Henry Hayes, 2; John Bullock (first 720 in the method), 3; James Pickles, 4; William Pattinson, 5; Thomas Horrocks, 6. Tenor 15 cwt.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

OTLEY (Suffolk).—*Muffled Peal*.—On Sunday, July 29th, in the evening, a muffled peal was rung as a last mark of respect to the late Rev. G. H. Harris, late secretary of the Association, and Vicar of Tunstead, 720 Bob Minor. J. Cullum, 1; Dr. G. F. W. Meadows, 2; Thos. Sadler, 3; A. Hatcher, 4; W. Whiting, 5; W. Shipp (conductor), 6. Also a touch of Bob Minor. W. Shipp, 1; F. Furnish, 2; T. Sadler (conductor), 3; W. Whiting, 4; A. Hatcher, 5; H. Pepper, 6. Tenor 11 cwt in G.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

BURFORD (Oxford).—On Monday, July 16th, the Burford members of the Guild, with J. Field of Oxford, visited Great Barrington, Gloucestershire, and rang on the bells of the parish church, several 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles, and also touches of Minor, finishing with a capital 720 in 25 minutes, the following took part in the ringing. W. Brown, Esq., D. Francis, J. Smith, F. E. Ward, Esq. T. E. Glanville, Esq., W. Large. This is the first performance ever known to be recorded by Burford ringers and reflects great credit on W. Brown, Esq. who has been the means of getting a company together in Burford. He hopes soon to record a 5040 on their peal of eight.

WINDSOR (Berks).—On Thursday, July 26th, at the parish church (St. John's), a 882 of Grandsire Triples, in about 32 mins. A member of the Guild, 1; C. Boots, 2; J. Parker, 3; J. Field (conductor), 4; W. Fussell, 5; A. Fussell, 6; T. Newell, 7; C. Clarke, 8. And at the same church, a 504 in the same method. J. Parker, 1; W. H. Fussell, 2; A. C. Fussell, 3; Captain Acland-Troyte, 4; C. Hounslow, 5; J. R. Haworth (conductor), 6; W. Newell, 7; C. Clarke, 8. Tenor 21 cwt. These touches were rang on the occasion of the Annual Meeting of this Guild, held at Windsor on the above date. A touch of 741 Grandsire Triples—Queens, tittums, and round at hand—by the last-mentioned band, and a touch of 504 Stedman Triples, by the following band, seemed to attract the greatest attention: J. R. Haworth, 1; J. Field, 2; L. Procter, Esq., 3; J. Collier, 4; C. Hounslow, 5; C. C. Child, Esq., 6; Rev. E. F. Robinson (conductor), 7; D. Francombe, 8. These last two were rung on the heavy peal of eight at Windsor Castle, tenor 36 cwt. The touch of Stedman is supposed to be the first in the method rung upon them.

FARNHAM ROYAL (Bucks).—On Saturday, July 28th, a 720 of Bob Minor, in 26 mins. G. Basden, 1; W. Fussell, 2; J. Parker, 3; A. Batten, 4; A. Fussell (conductor), 5; C. Clarke, 6. Previous to this a 720 of Grandsire Minor was started for, but came to grief after ringing 684 changes, T. W. Udell, of Windsor taking part. On Sunday evening, July 29th, a 720 of Oxford Bob Minor, in 27 mins. G. Basden, 1; F. Fells, 2; A. Fussell, 3; A. Batten, 4; W. Fussell, 5; J. Parker (conductor), 6. And a 720 of Grandsire Minor, composed by J. Parker (in two parts), with twenty bobs and forty singles, conducted by W. Fussell. Tenor 12 cwt.

THE ST. JAMES'S SOCIETY.

WILLESDEN (Middlesex).—On Thursday evening July 26th, 1883, the above society met at the parish church, and rang a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor in 25 mins. J. Nixon, 1; H. Cutter, 2; N. Alderman, 3; S. Hayes, 4; A. Jacob, 5; H. J. Tucker (conductor), 6. Also a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob Minor, in 26 mins. R. Kilby, 1; H. J. Tucker, 2; N. Alderman, 3; W. Collings, 4; A. Jacob, 5; S. Hayes (conductor), 6. Tenor 10 cwt.

BALDERSTONE, ROCHDALE (Lancashire).—*Muffled Peal*.—On Sunday morning, just before 9 o'clock, the local ringers rang at St. Mary's church, a half-peal of Grandsire Triples, Reeves's variation, consisting of 2520 changes, with the bells deeply muffled as a mark of respect to Mary, the late beloved wife of Mr. S. Bibbington, of "The Limes," Castleton, in 1 hr. 30 mins. *Charles J. Silverwood, 1; Abraham Fitton, 2; John E. Howarth, 3; *Samuel Hartley, 4; Herbert Dearnley, 5; James H. Prescott, 6; William Howarth (conductor), 7; *Thomas Fitton, 8. Tenor 16½ cwt. in F. *First half-peal.

CAVENDISH (Suffolk).—On Sunday evening, July 29th, the following rang before service a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob, in 26 mins. After service a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob (with fifteen bobs), in 26 mins. F. J. Thompson, 1; F. P. Adams, 2; H. Thompson, 3; A. Ives, 4; G. Maxim, 5; A. Hurst (conductor), 6. And on Monday, July 30th, a 720 of Cambridge Surprise, in 25 mins. F. J. Thompson, 1; J. S. Page, 2; A. Hurst, 3; A. Ives, 4; H. Thompson, 5; F. P. Adams (conductor), 6. Also a 720 of Kent Treble Bob, in 27 mins. F. J. Thompson, 1; H. Thompson, 2; A. Hurst, 3; A. Ives, 4; G. Maxim, 5; F. P. Adams (conductor), 6.

GREAT HALLINGBURY (Essex).—On Sunday, July 29th, for Divine Service in the afternoon at St. Giles's, four members of the above society, assisted by R. A. Swarder (it being the anniversary of his birth), rang four nicely-struck 6-scores of Bob Doubles, each called differently. R. A. Swarder, 1; W. Turner, 2; R. S. Swarder, 3; A. Prior, 4; F. Swarder (conductor), 5.

GODSTONE (Surrey).—On Saturday, July 28th, several members of Nutfield society visited the parish church, and rang a 720 of Grandsire Minor, in 23 mins. J. Burkin, 1; T. Boniface, 2; L. Killick, 3; W. Hawkins, 4; J. Tidy, 5; W. Burkin, (conductor), 6. Also a 720 of Plain Bob Minor, in 24 mins. J. Burkin, 1; T. Boniface, 2; E. Fuller, 3; W. Hawkins, 4; J. Tidy, 5; W. Burkin (conductor), 6. Also a plain course of Oxford Treble Bob. Tenor about 10 cwt.

HAVERSTOCK HILL (Middlesex).—On Sunday morning, July 29th, at St. Martin's church, for Divine Service, a 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor (15 bobs), in 22 mins. J. Nixon, 1; G. Sheppard, 2; J. Hannington (conductor), 3; J. Leach, 4; A. Jacob, 5; T. Titchener, 6. Also for Evening Service a 540 Plain Bob Minor, in 17 mins. J. Hannington (conductor), 1; J. Leach, 2; J. Nixon, 3; A. Jacob, 4; G. Sheppard, 5; T. Titchener, 6. Tenor 12½ cwt.

HUMNER (Flintshire).—On Sunday, July 29th, six members of the Whitchurch (Shropshire) paid a visit to this place, and by kind permission of the Vicar, the Rev. Matthew Henry Lee, rang for Divine Service in the afternoon, and after service, several 6-scores of Stedman Doubles. R. Houlden, 1; J. Doulton, 2; R. Langford, 5; T. Barron, 4; Geo. Woodhull (conductor), 5; E. Langford, 6. Tenor 9 cwt. Afterwards the company were kindly invited to tea by the Vicar, who is a change-ringer, having taught his ringers how to ring Grandsire Doubles, and they are anxious to learn Minor. Belfry reform is here carried out to the letter: the worthy Vicar has had the floor of the ringing-chamber removed, bringing the ropes down to the floor of the church, "having," adds our correspondent, "ringers, singers, and Minister all present at service, as it should be."

KINGSTEAD (Northamptonshire).—On Saturday, July 21st, at St. Mary's church, a 720 of London Single, with eighteen bobs and two singles, in 26 mins. H. Stubbs, 1; J. Willmott, 2; R. Pendered, 3; W. Hall, 4; F. Gilbert, 5; W. Gilbert (conductor), 6. Also 360 of College Little, with nine bobs, in 13 mins. A. Coles, 1; W. Gilbert, 2; R. Pendered, 3; W. Hall, 4; J. Willmott, 5; H. Stubbs (conductor), 6. Tenor 15 cwt.

PRESCOT (Lancashire).—On Saturday, July 28th, seven members of St. Mary's Society, with Mr. Richard Williams, of Liverpool, rang ten plain courses of Grandsire Triples. Jonathan Finney, 1; John Renshaw, 2; John Case, 3; Joseph Eaton, 4; *John Cook, 5; Richd. Williams, 6; Thomas Bryon, 7; Walter Scarisbrick, 8. * His first course.

RAUNDS (Northamptonshire).—On July 1st, at St. Peter's church, for early service, a 720 of Plain Bob Minor, with nine bobs and six singles, in 27 mins. G. Kirk, 1; F. Gilbert, 2; K. Pendered, 3; H. Stubbs, 4; J. Willmott, 5; W. Gilbert (conductor), 6. Also a 720 of College Single, with eighteen bobs and two singles, in 28 mins. A. Coles, 1; W. Gilbert, 2; R. Pendered, 3; F. Gilbert, 4; W. Hall, 5; H. Stubbs, (conductor), 6. For evening service, 720 of Oxford Bob Minor, with thirty-eight bobs and twenty-two singles, in 27½ mins. R. Nevill (Irthlingborough), 1; H. Stubbs, 2; R. Pendered, 3; J. Willmott, 4; F. Gilbert, 5; W. Gilbert (conductor), 6. Also on July 2nd, an attempt was made for a 5040 changes in seven different methods, and after ringing two hours the bells got out of course, and "stand" was called. A. Coles, 1; F. Gilbert, 2; R. Pendered, 3; J. Willmott, 4; H. Stubbs, 5; W. Gilbert (conductor), 6. Also on Saturday, July 28th, being the 17th birthday of F. Gilbert, a 720 of College Little, with eighteen bobs and two singles, in 26 mins. A. Cole, 1; T. Stubbs, 2; R. Pendered, 3; H. Stubbs, 4; W. Gilbert, 5; F. Gilbert (conductor), 6, this being the first 720 he has called. Also 360 of Yorkshire Court, with nine bobs, in 13½ mins. G. Kirk, 1; W. Gilbert, 2; R. Pendered, 3; F. Gilbert, 4; W. Hall, 5; H. Stubbs (conductor), 6. This is the first 360 in this method. Tenor 20 cwt.

REIGATE (Surrey).—On Thursday, July 26th, the local company rang in honour of a wedding, some touches of Grandsire Triples, in the morning, and returning in the evening they rang a quarter-peal in the same method, in 48 mins. James Howard, 1; William Bone, 2; Thomas Fuller, 3; William Burt, 4; Thomas Brown, 5; Edward Kenward, 6; William Argent, (conductor) 7; John Stedman, 8. Tenor 21 cwt.

ROCHDALE.—On Tuesday, July 24th, the marriage of the Rev. F. B. Wright, senior curate of Rochdale parish church, and Vicar-elect of Milnrow, to Miss C. C. Atkinson, daughter of Dr. Atkinson, of the Grange, Rotherham, was solemnised at St. Thomas's church, Wincobank, the chief part of the ceremony being performed by the Rev. Canon Maclure, Vicar of Rochdale, the assisting clergy being the uncle of the bride (the Rev. — Atkinson) and the Rev. John Julian,

vicar of St. Thomas's, Wincobank, Rotherham. During the day several touches of Grandsire Triples were rung on the bells of Rochdale parish church, in honour of the event. The bridegroom is an accomplished ringer, and is very fond of the art.

SPALDING (Lincolnshire).—*Muffled Peal.*—On Tuesday, July 26th, at SS. Mary and Nicholas, a 720 of Plain Bob, with eighteen bobs and ten singles, was rung as a mark of respect to the late Mrs. Morris, wife of Clarke R. Morris, Esq., surgeon, who was that day interred in Spalding cemetery. It is only a little over two years since their wedding peal was rung on the above bells. J. S. Wright, 1; G. Skeef, 2; G. L. Richardson, 3; R. Mackman (conductor), 4; A. Brown, 5; J. Brown, 6. Weight of tenor unknown.

SPALDING (Lincolnshire).—On Saturday, July 28th, at St. Paul's, Fulney, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, 1260 changes, in 46 mins. R. Skeef, 1; R. Creasey (conductor), 2; E. Mason (Boston), 3; E. Quinton, 4; J. S. Wright, 5; J. Wilson, 6; C. Creasey, 7; A. Creasey, 8.

WITHINGTON (Gloucestershire).—On Sunday evening, July 29th, the Withington change-ringers assembled to meet Mr. R. Brunson, who was formerly a member of their company, and master of the National School. It was intended to have had a long peal, but the shades of evening coming on and no lights being obtainable, only six 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles, were rung in 24 mins. T. Belcher, 1; J. Robins, 2; C. Humphris, 3; Wm. Barnfield, 4; R. Brunson (conductor), 5; J. Miles, 6. The company decided to resume taking "THE BELL NEWS" which had been discontinued for some time. Tenor 14 cwt. in F#.

[We trust our friends will not again suffer themselves to relapse into neglect of this paper.—Ed.]

WORCESTER.—On Saturday, July 21st, at St. Martin's, a 720 of Bob Minor, in 25 mins. J. Buffery, 1; T. Miller, 2; H. Bastable, 3; T. Meredith (conductor), 4; J. Saunders, 5; A. Thomas, 6. Mr. Meredith hails from Lichfield, all the rest from Birmingham. And on Sunday, July 29th, at St. John's, before evening service, 720 of Grandsire Minor in 27 mins. F. Owen, 1; J. Hinton, 2; G. Hobbs, 3; H. Wilkes, 4; G. C. Cleal (conductor), 5; A. Thomas, 6. Tenor about 16 cwt. All this band with the exception of the 6th are local men

THE OAKS CHURCH, CHARNWOOD FOREST, LEICESTERSHIRE.

THE above charmingly situated church was reopened on Thursday, July 26th, after a most thorough restoration at the hands of Edward Christian, Esq., architect, the expense being most generously defrayed by Mrs. Perry Herrick, of Beaumanor, who has in addition placed in the tower a most effective peal of six bells, cast by Messrs. John Taylor and Co., of Loughborough, the tenor weighing about 10½ cwt. The bells were very ably handled (whilst the congregation was assembling for service), by the following, who rang a 720 of Bob Minor in 28 mins. Francis E. Dawe (London), 1; R. Lane (Loughborough), 2; Joseph North (Syston), 3; C. Andrews (Barrow), 4; J. W. Taylor, jun. (Loughborough), 5; Joseph Wibberly (Nottingham; conductor), 6. After the dedication service, and also before and after evening service, several touches of Grandsire and Bob Minor were rung by mixed bands who had gathered on this most festive occasion from the neighbouring towns, and villages of Loughborough, Syston, Wymeswold, Long Eaton, and Nottingham. On the evening of the same day, a mixed band started for a peal of Grandsire Triples, at All Saints' Loughborough, but after ringing 2 hours and 46 mins. came to grief. J. Wibberly (Nottingham), 1; H. C. Woodward (Derby), 2; J. Hardy (Loughborough), 3; J. W. Taylor, jun. (Loughborough), 4; S. Smith (Loughborough), 5; F. E. Dawe (London; conductor), 6; J. Howe (Derby), 7; E. Wightman (Loughborough), 8. Tenor 24 cwt. in D.

THE ST. STEPHEN'S (HAMPSTEAD) SOCIETY.

On Monday, July 30th, the members of this Society paid a visit to Hemel Hempstead. On arriving in the town at 10.30 a.m., they were met by the Rev. Oswell Thompson, vicar, and Mr. Hooton, president of the Hemel Hempstead Society, and who very kindly gave them free access to the church steeple for the day. After ringing some short touches of Grandsire Triples, they made their way to the "Sun" Inn, where dinner was provided. After doing full justice at the table, the company were cordially treated by the vicar, then taking a walk round the church, they again rang several touches of Triples, of 504 changes. Having spent a pleasant day, the happy party made for Boxmoor Station, there to take the 9.36 p.m. train for Hampstead.

MINSTER ABBEY bells, in the Isle of Sheppey, are being rehung by Mr. Snelling, of Sittingbourne, previous to being rung after many year's disuse. No. 1 has been recast at Croydon, a treble is still required to make up six, the space having always existed for it in the old frame.

THE HEAVIEST PEAL OF EIGHT IN ENGLAND. SHERBORNE ABBEY.

A week or two ago I gave an account of the lightest peal of eight in this country. I now send you a short account of the heaviest one. In the year 1490 we find that Sherborne bells were destroyed by fire. Cardinal Wolsey contributed largely to the peal of six which followed these. The tenor of this peal weighed 52 cwt. and was, and is, called the "Wolsey Bell" from its original donor.

In 1858 two trebles were added to make eight. They are thus inscribed.—

Treble.—"We hang here to record—that the church was restored—in the year of our Lord—1858. C. & G. Mears, founders, London."

2nd.—"Lord, let the folk below—resound with living song—Thy praise, as we do now—with iron tongue.—C. & G. Mears founders London 1858."

On the first Sunday in Advent 1858, whilst these bells were ringing for evening service, the noble tenor suddenly cracked. She remained in this condition until 1865, when she was recast by Warner. Her weight, according to Warner's list, is now 46 cwt. The present inscription is partly a reproduction of the old one, and runs as follows:—

"Gustavus Horne Walter Pride Churchwardens. This bell was new cast by me, Thomas Purday, October 20th, 1876.—By Wolsey's gift I measure time for all:—To mirth, to grief, to church I serve to call. G.H. Recast 1865. Edward Karston, vicar, James Huddinnott, Francis Stokes, churchwardens."

She is now a very shallow and short-waisted bell. Two of the present peal were recast by Bilbie in 1786, and the sixth by C. and G. Mears in 1852, when the trebles were added. The seventh is called the "Lady bell." Until lately these bells were only rung at stock level, and I am told that it used to take 21 men to do this, for the six bells. I must just add that there is a fine bell of peculiar shape, very long and curved in at the lip, and having a very dismal sound. This is inscribed:—

"Lord quench this furious flame, Arise, run, help, put out the same. I: W. I: C. 1852."

There is also a Sanctus bell inscribed:—

"Ave Maria ora pro nobis."

I have never heard of any change-ringing being done here.

J. R. JERRAM.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

THE Third Annual Festival of this Guild was held at Windsor last Thursday week. Upwards of 180 members attended, the weather being most delightful. The day's programme was most effectually carried out, the only cause for regret being the absence of the Honorary Secretary, the Rev. Dolben Paul. An account of the principal items of the day's ringing will be found among our records.

THE TENTERDEN CHURCH BELLS.

The following letter, is from the *Kentish Express*:—

"SIR,—Will you allow me a little space in your valuable paper to answer the letter of the parishioner who ventilates his substantial grievances in your issue of July 7th. He evidently does not belong to the order of Pachydermata, and I am almost afraid to reply to him lest I should further injure the tender susceptibilities which were so easily wounded by the 'laughter' at the meeting of the Kent Bell-ringers' Association, but I cannot allow his remarks to pass unchallenged, as I consider they are unfair to the bell-ringers. That their plea of the bells being too heavy is not mere pretence is fully shown by the words of an experienced change-ringer, who, soon after the bells were re-hung, distinctly stated 'No man living could ring a peal of 5040 on these bells.' As a matter of fact, our peal is the heaviest in Kent, and nearly twice the weight of any within a considerable distance. Perhaps, however, there are other aggrieved parishioners who might combine with your correspondent to form the band he mentions, who will be able to out-do the present ringers and make manifest the ignorance of this skilled hand. The pocket appears to be one tender point in my thin-skinned friend, although I am quite unable to understand why the purchase of eleven new bell-ropes in seven years should be considered so unreasonable an expense. I cannot reconcile the statement that the bells are to be used as the parishioners think fit with No. 13 of the bell-ringers' rules, which makes mention of the 'entire control over bells and belfry, which by law belong to the vicar.' I will not deign to rebut the insinuations contained in his letter of the want of decency and order among the ringers, but I presume that the disreputable appearance they present in their work-day clothes, which seems to be another thorn in the flesh, is an objection which might be obviated if they would go to their work in the superior broadcloth and kid gloves of their self-constituted adviser. I am sorry that the ringers should be compelled to be at variance with the parish on some points, and should be glad to see their differences adjusted. They are willing to comply, as far as possible, with the wishes of the parishioners, but they certainly do not intend to become mere 'tools,' to be used and found fault with by such 'bad workmen' as 'An aggrieved Parishioner.' Apologising for thus trespassing on your space, I am, Sir, ONE OF THE RINGERS."

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."

"OUR RING OF BELLS, HOW IT GREW."

SIR,—Your correspondent "Auditor Tantum" is not quite correct in what he says about Warminster bells. The facts are simply these; Several of the peal of six being cracked, in 1881 it was determined to have a new peal of eight with a lighter tenor. The old tenor however, being considered a fine bell, it was afterwards thought desirable to retain her, so seven new bells were cast by Messrs. Warner out of the old ones with additional metal, keeping the original tenor.

J. R. JERRAM.

THE COMPOSER OF THE 7200 OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT.

SIR,—At the time the 7200 of Double Norwich Court was rung at Beeston in November last, there was some doubt as to who had composed the peal, and it was therefore returned as the work of an "unknown" composer.

This peal was first published in 1867 in Mr. Sottanstell's collection, but no name was attached to the composition. Immediately below this peal the well-known 6160 by S. Thurston appeared, and that composer's name was given at the foot of the page. In 1874 the 7200 again appeared in Mr. Banister's book, with the name of S. Thurston appended. The late Henry Hubbard told me that he had never heard of such a peal being composed by Thurston, and I always considered, and on enquiry now find that I was right in the supposition, that Mr. Banister had taken the 7200 from Mr. Sottanstell's collection, and seeing Thurston's name at the foot of the page had considered that it was intended to apply to both of these peals. It will therefore be seen that Thurston's name has accidentally been attached to the peal without there being any desire on the part of any one to claim the peal in his name.

I now find that the peal was originally sent with others in this method, to Mr. Sottanstell on April 20th, 1865 by Mr. Henry Johnson of Birmingham, and that there is no doubt that the peal is the original composition of Mr. Johnson and that his name was inadvertently omitted when the peal appeared in Mr. Sottanstell's collection.

Old bank Chambers, Leeds.

JASPER W. SNOWDON.

HEIGHINGTON BELLS.

SIR,—I was rather surprised to see a letter in your paper of the 21st ult. from the president of the Northumberland and Durham Diocesan Association, disclaiming any ill feeling on the part of that body against the Hurworth Ringers. I certainly was, and am still, under the impression that Mr. Clarkson was acting in his capacity of Secretary of the Association when he penned his first letter, for not only did he sign himself as such, but until now no other member of that body attempted to contradict or deny any of the remarks contained in my previous letters. I must decline to continue this correspondence with Mr. Clarkson as an individual, for after Mr. Reed's statement it would be idle to prolong a controversy which has from the commencement been very distasteful to my colleagues and myself, but which I was compelled to take up owing to the aspersions cast upon us.

HENRY THOMPSON.

Two other letters have arrived, but came too late for insertion in this number.

TWO PEALS OF STEDMAN CATERS.

5021 or 5063.

Composed by HENRY JOHNSON, SENR., Birmingham.

1 2 3 4 5 6 5 16	5 16	2 1 4 6 5 3 4 16	5 16
4 1 2 5 6 3	—	2 1 3 4 5 6	—
5 1 2 4 6 3*	—	3 1 2 6 5 4 5 16	—
5 1 3 2 6 4	—	3 1 4 2 5 6	—
5 1 4 3 6 2	—	4 1 3 6 5 2	—
4 1 5 2 6 3	—	4 1 2 3 5 6	—
4 1 3 5 6 2	—	4 1 6 2 5 3	—
3 1 4 2 6 5	—	6 1 4 3 5 2	—
3 1 5 4 6 2	—	6 1 2 4 5 3	—
3 1 2 5 6 4	—	6 1 3 2 5 4	—
2 1 3 4 6 5	—	3 1 6 2 5 4	—
2 1 5 3 6 4	—	—	—
2 1 4 5 6 3	—	—	—
4 1 2 3 6 5	—	—	—

*This course produced by bobs at the following sixes: 2, 4, 6, 8, 10, 12, 16. Last course for the 5021: 1, 2, 3, 5, 8. Last course for 5063 is called by bobs at: 3, 6, 10, 16. Both peals round at the 5th change.

The 5021 was rung at St. Mary's, Warwick, September 25th, 1869, by the Birmingham St. Martin's Society; the 5063 was rung at Coventry, June 9th, 1883.

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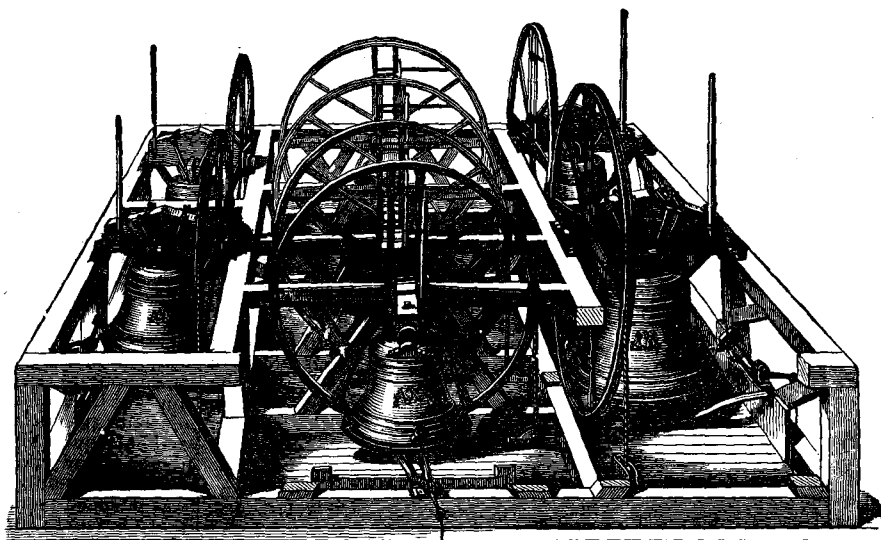
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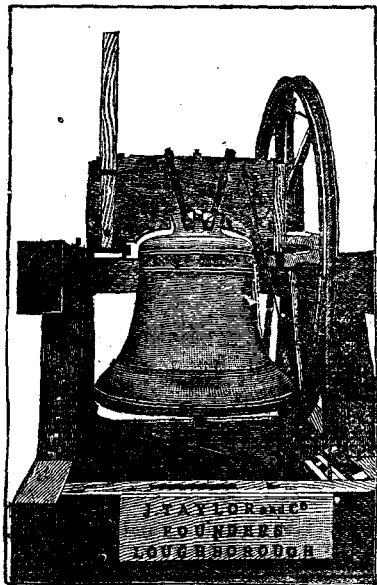
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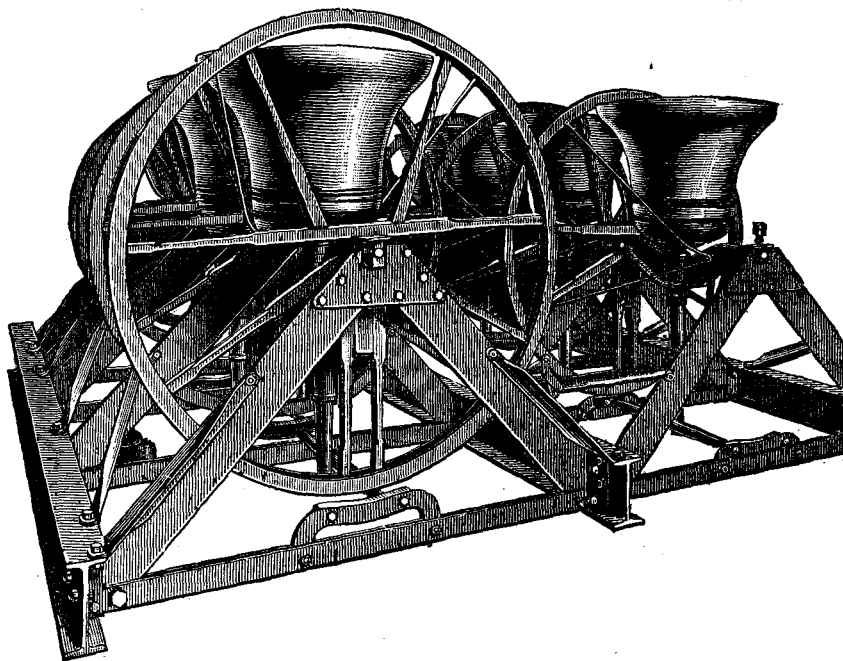
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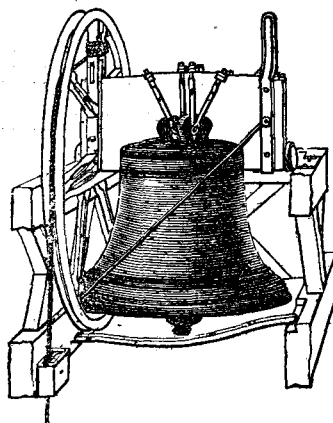
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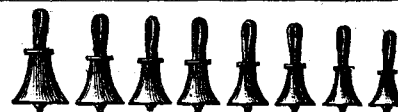
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BELL-HUNTING IN EAST ANGLIA.

BY AUDITOR TANTUM.

If any one interested in bells and ringing is inclined to spend a holiday in East Anglia, he will do well, after leaving Lavenham, to go to Bury St. Edmunds, where he will meet with a kind welcome from Mr. Osborne and his company. Here are two splendid churches, one dedicated to St. James, and the other to St. Mary; the latter is undoubtedly one of the finest churches in England. These are situated close together, and I think that Bury can fairly boast that in all England there are not, in an equally small space, two such grand fanes. The church of St. James has a detached tower, an admirable specimen of Norman architecture; and from its solidity and dimensions capitally suited for the accommodation of a ring of bells. The bells, too, are worthy of the tower: they are a fine ring of ten (tenor 30 cwt.), turned out complete from the Downham Market Foundry either at the end of the last or the beginning of the present century. They are very harmonious bells, but even a few years ago seemed in need of a thorough over-hauling; the 6th bell, I well remember, oscillated in a most unpleasant way as she came to the balance. St. Mary's church, also, has a good ring of eight, tenor about 26 cwt.; it is, I believe, a made up ring, but I know nothing of its history, and had no time or opportunity to copy the inscriptions on the bells. From Bury the visitor should go to Eye, and then to

DISS.—EIGHT BELLS.

At the latter town he will find the last ring turned out by William Dobson of Downham Market, and certainly one of his best. The weight of the tenor is 23 cwt. 3 qrs. 26 lbs. Here too is an excellent company of change-ringers. It is worth while to cross over into Suffolk to visit a pretty village ring of six at Palgrave; tenor 9 cwt. The bell-hunter should next turn his face in the direction of Harleston, and he may take the opportunity to visit the Pulhams which lie close to the line of railway between Tivetshall and Harleston.

PULHAM MARKET.—SIX BELLS.

This was a ring of six cast complete by John Stephens, of the Norwich Foundry, in 1724; the third was recast in 1833 by Mr. Thos. Mears; the rest remain as turned out by Stephens. The tenor of this ring weighs about 17 cwt.

PULHAM ST. MARY.—SIX BELLS.

In 1552 there were in this tower four bells weighing 6, 9, 12, and 13 cwt. respectively; one of these, (the present 4th) still remains; it is a very ancient bell and its founder is unknown. In 1611 a treble was added from the Norwich Foundry, at that time in the hands of William and Alice Brend; in 1708 the present fifth was cast by John Goldsmith of Redgrave, and nine years later the ring was made six by the addition of a treble by John Thornton of Sudbury, whose bells are good but scarce. The tenor was recast by Th. Newman of Norwich in 1739; she weighs about 14 cwt.; the 3rd was recast in 1828 by Wm. Dobson of Downham Market.

HARLESTON

Is a neat little town, the parish church of which is at Redenhall, about one mile away. At the foundry of Messrs. Moore, Holmes, and Mackenzie the visitor is sure to find much to interest him. In the matter of bell-hanging we are very much as we were 300 years ago; beyond reducing the bulk of the old-fashioned clumsy stocks and some improvement in the "tucking up" of bells no material advance had been effected since bells were first hung "sally-ways." The Redenhall firm has introduced some novelties which are now under trial, and which will, I believe, prove to be most important improvements. Near Harleston is

ALBURGH.—EIGHT BELLS.

There is a light ring of eight, tenor 11 or 12 cwt., a very ancient bell (by one of the Brasyers of Norwich) being nearly 400 years old. The 6th is of the same period and by the same hand. In 1733 there four bells, and it is not unlikely that they came, a complete ring of four, from the old Norwich Foundry. In 1730, Richard Phelps, of the Whitechapel Foundry, removed one of the old bells, probably the tenor, and supplied three bells in its place the present 3rd, 4th, and 5th, making a ring of six. In 1737, after completing the octave at Redenhall, Phelps supplied two trebles to Alburgh. In 1766 his successors, Lester and Pack, recast the 7th bell. Alburgh is a favorite tower with the Redenhall ringers; in old days it was frequently visited by the "Norwich Scholars," who rang some very long peals in Alburgh tower.

BROCKDISH.—SIX BELLS.

At Brockdish (to the west of Harleston) is a ring of six; in 1552 there were four bells, and of these, one, the 4th, remains as it came from the old Norwich Foundry. The 5th is a very old bell from the

foundry at Bury St. Edmunds; there is a tradition that this bell was brought from Pulham in exchange. In 1697 Henry Pleasant cast two trebles for Brockdish, the smaller remains. Subsequently, a bell cast by Edward Tooke of Norwich (who flourished from 1671 to 1679), was brought from the church of St. Martin-at-Palace, Norwich, but this and Pleasant's larger bell were recast in 1866, I believe, by the Taylors of Loughborough. The tenor had been recast by Thomas Osborn of Downham Market in 1801, and weighs about 11 cwt.

WEYBREAD.—SIX BELLS.

Before finally leaving Harleston the visitor should take a pretty walk through the fields and across the river Waveney—here a charming streamlet, and then on to Weybread church, to examine the ring of six (tenor 9 cwt.) from the Redenhall Foundry. The tower is round, and only ten feet in diameter, and the ingenious manner in which the bells have, without any crowding, been accommodated in the very limited space available cannot fail to extort admiration.

Our traveller will no doubt be tempted to proceed down the valley of the Waveney to the picturesque old town of Beccles, but he will only find disappointment there, owing to the awkward way the bells (a ring of ten from the Whitechapel foundry, tenor 28 cwt.) are hung. He will do better to turn to the west, and put up for a while at Kenninghall, calling on his way at Tibenham, where is a heavy ring of six (tenor 20 cwt.), by Th. Osborn, of the Downham foundry, cast in 1787. The treble was recast in 1863 by Warner and Sons, of London.

BANHAM.—SIX BELLS.

A few miles to the north of Kenninghall is Banham, where is a ring of six bells, tenor about 12 cwt.. The history of these bells is told on the 2nd bell in these words:—

Thomas Newman of Norwich made me, 1741.

We trebles cam by small consent,
Our birth I hope will give content,
Twins from old tenor, our lost dad,
Some we make merry and some are sad.

This shows that in spite of much opposition the old tenor was cast into two trebles; no wonder some "were sad." This bell was the tenor to a ring of five, probably cast before 1500; the four bells which remain bear the mark known to have been used by the early Brasyers of the old Norwich foundry. The tenor was no doubt cast at the same time by the same founder. If the good folk of Banham had been generous enough to buy a new treble to these venerable products of antiquity they would have had what is now hardly to be found in the whole kingdom, a complete ring of five mediæval bells of the 15th century. By the addition of a treble they would have secured a heavier, and presumably, better ring than they have at present. The legend on the treble bell is grossly vulgar and irreverent, and quite out of place on an ornament of the House of God.

NEW AND OLD BUCKENHAM.—SIX BELLS EACH.

Near Banham, one a little to the east and the other a little to the west, are New Buckenham and Old Buckenham. The ring of six at New Buckenham was cast complete in 1814, by Dobson, of Downham Market, and on the tenor (about 11 cwt.) is written:—

In commemoration of peace these six bells were cast in the year 1814. This was that short peace which was so soon interrupted by the escape of the first Napoleon from Elba. The following ridiculous advertisement shows how badly in those days the people were taught as to the proper way of opening a new ring of bells, and promoting the practice of change-ringing:—

TO LOVERS OF HARMONY.—The new peal of bells in the parish church of New Buckenham will be opened on Wednesday, 28th September (1814), and a prize of six hats, value 10s. each, will be given to the company of six who shall give proof of their skill in ringing the best peal. In order to impartiality the precedence in ringing is to be decided by lot.

In 1552 old Buckenham church had but one bell, but Mr. Matthew Sturdyvant, who died in 1604, left by his will 20*l.* towards three bells. These were probably cast by John Draper, of Thetford, at that time the nearest founder, and the present 4th bell was made by him, and is dated 1622. Exactly 100 years later the tenor and treble of this old ring were recast by Thomas Gardiner, of Sudbury. The ring was made six in 1757 by the addition of trebles by Lester and Pack, and their successors recast the 5th in 1772.

ATTLEBOROUGH.—SIX BELLS.

Attleborough lies a short distance north of Old Buckenham. In 1552 there was but one bell here, but three were soon after added. An extract from the Parish Register (given by Bloomefield in his history) runs thus:—

1617.—This year, on May 5th, the 1st, 2nd, 3rd, and 5th bells were finished by William Brend, Bellfounder, in Norwich, and so out of four there were now five bells; cost 16*l.*

A new treble was added soon after, and "new run" by Robert Gurney, of Bury St. Edmunds, in 1671. Ten years later, the 5th bell was recast by John Brend, of Norwich, and again in 1702 the 2nd bell was recast by C. Newman, also of Norwich. Lastly, the tenor was recast in 1825, by William Dobson, of Downham Market.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

THE THIRD ANNUAL MEETING of the Guild was held at Windsor on Thursday, July 26th. The proceedings commenced with Divine Service at St. John's church, at 11.30. at which owing to the lateness of the trains, the attendance was smaller than might have been wished. The sermon was preached by the Rev. Woolmore Wigram, Rector of St. Andrew's, Hertford. The preacher being a ringer himself looked at the ringers' duties from a ringing point of view, and gave those who heard him some excellent advice on every point connected with their work; urging them among other things to remember that as ringers they must not act as individuals, but as members of a Society wherein each is dependent on all the others, and the shortcomings of one are a hindrance to all the rest; so that each must do his best in every way out of consideration for his fellows. The meeting of the Guild that day was distinctly a religious one, for religion in good old times had its place to control our occupations, and purify our amusements. The care which the Church extended to the art of the ringers reached on the Church herself. Thus a good band of change-ringers as part of the parochial machinery meant a church tower in proper condition, a band of change-ringers meant also an important page of local history preserved, for the bells with their inscriptions, the belfries with their ringing tablets, could often tell a tale which a parish could ill afford to regret. Experience had taught them that nothing checked belfry abuses so much as Guilds like this. The belfry could find headwork for hands and handwork for heads. The bells too, could form a link to bind together the various ranks of Society. Ringing has also its discipline. It taught a man how to go "behind" and stay "behind," till he was required to come down in due course to take the lead, and not snatch it from his fellow-ringer, it taught him to keep his place, and be "up" to time; good ringing meant a quick eye, a trained ear, a careful hand, sustained attention, great perseverance, and mutual consideration.

At the conclusion of the service the Guild assembled in a room of the Albert Institute for the General Meeting for business. The Archdeacon of Bucks (Archdeacon Randall) occupied the chair and opened the meeting by informing the Guild that the Secretary, the Rev. Dolben Paul, was exceedingly sorry to be away, but was unable to attend through illness, being confined to his bed. The Rev. J. T. Brown was acting under instructions from the Secretary to fill his place as far as possible. The first business was the election of officers for the year. The only change made was, that the Rev. A. Majendie was elected on to the Committee instead of the Rev. H. Barter. The Guild were informed that Mr. J. Eastman had resigned the representation of the Bradfield Deanery Branch, and the Branch had not yet elected a successor, and that the Newbury Branch had elected Mr. C. Swain as their representative in the place of the Rev. R. Williams. The list of qualified instructors of the Guild was revised. Mr. Garraway, of Maidenhead, being elected in the place of Mr. Bradford, of Dunsden, Reading, resigned.

The Guild then proceeded to consider a number of motions brought before it for the amendment of rules, etc. One important alteration made was to the effect that all members must be members of the Church of England; this was proposed by the Rev. J. F. Marshall, and carried unanimously. A committee was appointed to consider the rate of pay for instructors, with a view to uniformity in their charges, and also to draw up a form of prayer for use in the belfries in connexion with the Guild. This committee was also instructed, on the motion of the Rev. A. Drummond, to consider the advisability and practicability of issuing a certificate to all belfries in connexion with the Guild, certifying the fact of their connexion. A suggestion was made that the general committee should consider the advisability of utilizing part of the time at subsequent meetings, by organizing lectures to the members by experienced ringers, some to beginners with hints for ringing, and others to more advanced ringers on such subjects as in and out of course. The Rev. J. T. Brown was asked if he could inform the Guild as to the finances, but the only thing he was able to say was that the Secretary had said they were in a very satisfactory state.

The business having been disposed of, the Guild adjourned to the large hall of the Institute for dinner, to which 185 sat down. After justice had been done to the catering of Mr. Layton, the Archdeacon of Bucks rose to propose the first toast, "Church and Queen," which he did in a few well chosen words, after which he proposed "The Preacher," saying that he was sure they all had learnt something from the able sermon they had heard that morning, and he hoped they might on all future occasions find such a practical ringer to occupy the pulpit. He was sure he was not asking too much if he asked the preacher in the name of the Guild to allow his sermon to be printed, that not only his hearers of that morning but all their brother ringers throughout the country might be able to benefit by the wholesome advice he had given that morning from the pulpit (applause). The Rev. J. T. Brown then proposed "Prosperity to the Oxford Diocesan Guild of Church Bell Ringers" which was responded to by the Master, the

Rev. F. E. Robinson, in a short speech, in which he urged on his hearers that their duty was two-fold; that of church officers to call people to church, and that of change-ringers to advance change-ringing. A looker on in India had reproached the Guild with sticking to the three methods; Grandsire, Stedman, and Treble Bob, he hoped this would not long be possible, he knew of one band who were trying for a peal of Double Norwich Court, and meant when they had done that, to go on to Superlative Surprise, and he hoped many would follow their example. He then proposed the health of the Chairman, who briefly responded, and said that he was sure he was only expressing the wishes of the Guild in asking the acting Secretary to convey to Mr. Paul an expression of their regret for his illness, and their hope for his speedy recovery.

The Guild then adjourned to the towers in the neighbourhood, where they rang touches during the afternoon, Stedman being the order of the day. At the curfew tower (8), and Grandsire at St. John's (8.) The towers at Old Windsor (6), Clewer parish church, (5), Slough, (6), and Wraysbury (6), were also open to members of the Guild. The numbers present 185, shews a satisfactory increase over the number (120) present at the meeting last year at Oxford.

INDUCTION OF THE NEW VICAR OF SADDLEWORTH.

LAST Friday evening week, a special service was held at the Saddleworth parish church for the purpose of inducting the new vicar, the Rev. Hugh Doig, late of Royton. There was a good attendance of the parishioners, who assembled in the churchyard to await the coming of their new pastor, who, with the Rev. Davenport Kelly, M.A., vicar of Christ Church, Ashton-under-Lyne, and Rural Dean, reached the church a little after the appointed time. As is customary on such occasions, the church doors were locked. About a quarter to eight the two rev. gentlemen, attired in full canonical dress, issued from the vestry door at the west end of the church, and walking through the midst of the congregation assembled, approached the principal entrance. The Rural Dean then inquired for the churchwarden in charge, from whom the key of the church was obtained. The Rev. D. Kelly then placed the key in the hand of the new vicar, who unlocked the church door, the Rural Dean keeping his hand upon that of the vicar while this was being done. Immediately previous to this it should be stated that the Rural Dean turned to those assembled, and spoke as follows:—"By virtue of a mandate received by me from the Right Reverend James, Lord Bishop of Manchester, I, James Davenport Kelly, Master of Arts, clerk, vicar of Christ Church, Ashton-under-Lyne, and Rural Dean, do give and hereby induct you, Hugh Doig, clerk, into the real, actual, corporeal possession of this vicarage and parish church of Saddleworth, with all the rights, members, and appurtenances thereof." The new vicar then entered the church, locked himself in, and ascending the belfry rang the church bell, the Rural Dean and the congregation remaining outside the while. Descending from the belfry, the new vicar opened the church door in answer to the Rural Dean's knocking, and bid the congregation enter, which they did, proceeded by the vicar, the Rural Dean, and churchwardens. The Rural Dean occupied the lectern and the new vicar sat at the east end of the chancel. The Rural Dean then read a text, "I will arise and go to my Father, and I will say unto Him, Father, I have sinned against heaven and before thee, and am not worthy to be called thy son."—Luke xv., 18, 19. The general confession was then chanted by the congregation, led by the dean, and this was followed by prayer. The choir next sang the 18th Psalm, "I will love thee, O Lord, my strength." The Rev. Hugh Doig, the vicar-elect, then read the 18th chapter of St. Matthew, and immediately after the choir sang the psalm beginning "Lord, now lettest thou thy servant depart in peace." A prayer by the Rural Dean followed, and the choir sang directly after the hymn beginning, "Cause thy face on us to shine." After another hymn had been sung by the congregation, the Rev. Davenport Kelly, Rural Dean, delivered an appropriate address having special reference to the duties of the clergy and laity, and dwelling upon the necessity of complete harmony of action between the two bodies in all things, particularly those connected with the church. At the conclusion of the services, close on nine o'clock, the church bells rang out a peal in honour of the auspicious event, an account of which will be found among our records.

THE ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

At a meeting of Ringers held at Cambridge on Monday last, August 6th, (Bank Holiday), and after a short service at St. Mary-the-Great, where a most appropriate address was given by the Rev. D. Luard, Vicar, an Association of Change-ringers for the diocese of Ely, under the patronage of the Lord Bishop, was formed, and established. Full particulars will appear in the next number of this paper.

N.B.—A special meeting of the Association will be held at St. Mary's, Ely, on Saturday, October 20th.

VISIT OF THE COLLEGE YOUTHS TO READING AND NEIGHBOURHOOD.

On Saturday last, August 4th, there took place at the pleasant little village of Sonning, Berks, a meeting, an account of which must prove interesting to all campanologists; especially those of an antiquarian turn of mind. Just a century ago, on August 4th, 1783, the bells of Sonning, a musical ring of eight, were sending forth their merry music in response to the skilful manipulation of competing bands of ringers, hailing from Oxford, Farnham, and London respectively. The guerdon for which they handled the ropes was a silver cup, presented by Mr. Peter Bluck, of that parish; and this trophy was triumphantly carried off by the redoubtable representatives of the "College Youths." What more natural, then, than that such worthy and enthusiastic successors of these "Brother Strings" as Messrs. Haworth, Pettit, Wood, J. M. Routh, Esq., Greenleaf, Mash, and Newell, should carry out with avidity and success the idea of marking the centenary of this event, by ringing a peal on the selfsame bells. This happy suggestion thrown out some little time since, was carried out with complete success on Saturday last.

Booking from Paddington to Twyford, five of the band had a most enjoyable walk across country to Sonning, where they were joined by Messrs. Routh, Newell, and H. Egby, the latter attending at the request of Mr. Haworth, to provide against the contingency of there being an absentee. Here they met with bad news—Mr. J. Ford, the genial and kindly steeple-keeper, having received an intimation that in consequence of a sudden illness at the Vicarage, the peal could not proceed. However, that gentleman, whose sympathetic concern was greater than of the band themselves, resolved to do what might be done, and he and Mr. Egby mounted to the bell-chamber, where, with the aid of some old carpeting, they contrived to so cover the windows nearest the house, that the sound of the bells on that side was reduced to a minimum, and the peal was begun, and rung in splendid style, without let or hindrance, to a successful close. The party then adjourned to a marquee, where a sumptuous and well-furnished repast was provided by "mine host" Mr. Bright, of the Bull. The Rev. Charles Kelly, of St. Lawrence, Reading, very kindly attended, and took the post of honour, everybody present enjoying himself with greater zest for the genial presence of the rev. gentleman.

On the removal of the viands, the old trophy, won by the College Youths of a hundred years ago, was produced, and after the toasts of "The Queen" and "The Prince and Princess of Wales" had been duly honoured, this fine old cup was filled with wine, and the chairman rose to propose "Prosperity to the Ancient Society of College Youths." In the course of his remarks, which were extremely beautiful, the rev. gentleman exhorted the College Youths there present to strenuously oppose any suggestion of alteration with a view to modernising or "improving" their ancient trophy. He said that this cup, which had doubtless been quaffed from in token of brotherhood by generations of the College Youths, now cold in dust, was the link and visible sign of that bond of fellowship which united every member of the Society, past and present, in a common and fraternal unity; and peddling or meddling with such a sacred thing would be an unpardonable act of Vandalism. The cup itself, which is of solid silver, has engraved on it the names of the winners and donor, was then passed round. All present quaffing from it in turn, and wishing all good things for the Ancient Society of College Youths. After other enjoyable and appropriate toasts and speeches, the guests separated, with many expressions of thanks and goodwill to Mr. J. Ford, whose indefatigable exertions were the Alpha and Omega of the whole affair.

On Sunday, August 5th, some members of the Oxford Diocesan Guild proceeded to Tilehurst, at the invitation of J. Martin Routh, Esq., and rang some six-scores of Doubles, in order to let their friend Mr. J. R. Haworth hear these splendid bells. Having been hung by an incompetent local, these bells are scarcely ringable, therefore Minor could not be attempted. After the ringing, a pleasant conversational hour was spent at the Rectory adjoining.

On Monday, August 6th, while some of the local change-ringers, assisted by Mr. Haworth, were ringing a touch in that method known as "the feast of reason, and the flow of soul" at Mr. Newell's, they were very agreeably interrupted by the sudden entry of Messrs. F. E. Dawe and W. Greenleaf, of London, whose presence prompted an immediate resort to St. Mary's tower, where several short touches of Grandsire Triples were indulged in by the following: E. Bishop, 1; J. R. Haworth, 2; T. Newman, 3; H. Egby, 4; F. E. Dawe, 5; W. Greenleaf, 6; W. Newell, 7; W. Goseltine, tenor. A very pleasant evening was subsequently passed, at Mr. Newell's, "The Mitre," which was wound up by the Reading men seeing their visitors to the train, and bidding them farewell, with many wishes for another speedy visit to Reading.

THE SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTAS.

On Monday, August 6th, the annual outing of the city branch of this society took place at Dorking, Surrey, when about twenty persons sat down to a sumptuous dinner, provided by "mine host" of the "Three Tuns" hotel. Mr. Boxall, a local ringer, kindly met and conducted the visitors to the parish church belfry, when some first-class touches of Grandsire Triples were rung upon the fine-toned ring of bells, tenor 24 cwt.

Ample justice having been done to the good things provided, and so excellently arranged by the stewards, Messrs. D. Lovett and W. Devereux, the usual loyal toasts, with that of the Vicar of Dorking for his kindness in granting permission to ring, was cordially given; with the latter toast was coupled the name of Mr. Boxall, who replied. Mr. James Wheeler, the chairman, not being in his happiest mood, was unable to initiate the harmony of the meeting, but Mr. C. Hopkins came to the rescue with his usual prompt manner, and the vocal and instrumental duties were well sustained, the Danish march being well given, and touches of Grandsire Caters, Stedman Triples, and Treble Bob Major, being performed in a manner which met with approval. The health of the chairman and stewards having been given and responded to, an adjournment took place, those who delighted in a touch on the bells repaired to the belfry, where, however, they were sadly disappointed by the breaking of a rope. Others of the party betook themselves for a ramble, where they successfully climbed and descended Box Hill, visiting a spot where tradition says a local gentleman of wealth is buried in a vertical position upon his head, this worthy being under the hallucination that at the last great day all things will be inverted, when he of course would be upon his feet again.

A curious feature obtains here in connection with the churchyard, every tombstone being laid flat upon the ground instead of being erected in the usual position.

The day was truly lovely, and all the good people of Dorking seemed bent on pleasure, as also did the ringers, and never was landscape seen to better advantage. The whole party returned to town, highly delighted with their day's enjoyment.

Mr. H. Devereux ably acquitted himself when in the position of vice-chairman, and many thanks are due to Mr. Lovett for his exertions that everything should pass off comfortably. We must not omit to mention that Mr. John Nelms replied in very appropriate language, to the toast of "The Visitors."

THE ST. JOHN'S GUILD, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.

The members of the above Guild held their fourth Annual Excursion on Monday, August 6th, through the kindness and liberality of the churchwardens and other friends to whom they beg through this channel to tender their most hearty thanks.

This Guild has twice previously held its excursion at Brancepeth, and it has become quite a favourable spot with all the members. The village and castle looked just as charming when the band of holiday-makers, which included several ladies, made their way from the station to the church, which is prettily situated in close proximity to the castle. The band was favoured with the company of W. Reed, Esq., President of the Durham and Newcastle Diocesan Association; and Mr. Clarkson, the Hon. Sec. of the Association, paid them a visit from Stockton. A 720 of Oxford Treble Bob, and a 720 of Merchants' Return were rung early in the day, and after tea, which was kindly prepared by the ladies, a band of six or seven devoted themselves to the tower, and utilized the time before departure in completing a 720 of Woodbine, and a 720 of Plain Bob, the striking throughout the day being very good.

Leaving Brancepeth at 7 o'clock, Newcastle was reached at 8 p.m. when a capital supper was partaken of at the "Alliance" Hotel, the chair being taken by the Rev. W. E. Houldey, vicar of St. John's, being supported by churchwarden Woodger, the vice-chair being occupied by the Rev. A. M. McPhee, the curate of the parish.

After the removal of the cloth, the chairman proposed success to the Guild of St. John's, and spoke in high terms of the manner in which the members fulfilled their voluntary duties in connection with the church. After several other toasts, and some very good remarks from Mr. Reed, pointing out the necessity of ringers attending Divine Service after ringing, the company separated after having spent a most enjoyable day.

THE "JOHN HOLT" PEAL BOARD.—The Treasurer to this fund requests us to acknowledge the receipt of 2s. 6d., from the Rev. E. C. Browne (St. Margaret's); and we have also received from the Holy Trinity Society, Hull (per Mr. R. Bruce Reed), the sum of 2s. 6d. for the same fund.

"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, E. W. 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.

The Bell News & Ringers' Record.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 11, 1883.

In another page will be found a report of a meeting held at Bradford for the purpose of amalgamating the ringers of that town into one body for practice and intercourse. A few weeks ago we recorded a similar meeting at Sheffield. These are healthy signs, and if the example thus set by our Yorkshire friends was to be followed in other places, ringers would soon find themselves entering on a new and brighter phase in the history of their work. The advantages of these amalgamations, particularly in our large towns, where there are two or three companies, are many and obvious. If properly managed, they cannot fail to give an impetus to the work of change-ringing, and be the means not only of improving striking, but also of strengthening companies that are "shorthanded," and of materially increasing the number of good ringers.

The more this project is considered, however, the more important it will appear. Let us, therefore, examine it carefully and see what are its advantages.

Primarily, it will be the means of affording a more close and intimate intercourse among ringers, whether attached or not to any company. Our county associations have already very forcibly proved the great benefit of this periodical meeting together; and it requires no argument to show the many advantages which must accrue from these regular gatherings of old and young ringers. Then there is the joint practice, which forms an essential element in this scheme. How often do we find in our large towns the two or three companies meeting in their own towers for the weekly practice, and perhaps none of them able to get their full complement of members to have a ring, and consequently they have either had no practice at all, or else it has not been worth the trouble of meeting for? How many promising young ringers have been lost to the art, and even companies broken up, through the failure of having good weekly practices? If instead of

these different companies meeting separately they were joined together in unity, they would be able each practice-night to make up at least one good ring.

Another advantage might accrue from this scheme, viz., the occasional exchange of towers. This would be beneficial not only in affording a pleasant change in the monotony of the work, but also in conducing to better ringing. It is well known that the best ringers are those who have travelled about to various towers, and made themselves acquainted with the various peculiarities of other peals than their own. We too often find stay-at-home companies, who never go away from their own belfry, and who although they might ring their own bells in a creditable manner, yet were they to "tackle" any other peal they would be completely at sea, and good ringing would be totally out of the question.

But the great advantage to our mind, of this plan, is the very superior organisation we should have throughout the country, were it to be universally adopted. The benefits of a good organisation can hardly be over-estimated. We are, or ought to be, as ringers, one brotherhood throughout the country; but this fraternal feeling can never be fully realised unless we have some organisation which shall reach every town and village where there is a company of ringers. We have experienced already some of the benefits of this organisation through our county associations, but it is impossible that they can carry it out to its fullest extent. To achieve this, we require these local associations to keep up and maintain, week after week, the work of cementing themselves, as it were, together at home, and utilizing their forces there to the best advantage for and with one another, working in harmony with the county association.

We will recur to this subject of organisation more fully at some other time; but at present would strongly advise all thoughtful ringers to give this scheme their careful consideration, and trust that before long we shall be receiving reports from other parts, of companies amalgamating together, like our Sheffield and Bradford friends, for more mutual intercourse, and to assist each other to perfect themselves in the Art.

The Metropolis.

THE SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.
LONDON.

On Monday, August 6, 1883, in Three Hours and Twenty-five Minutes,

AT ST. ANDREW'S CHURCH, WELLS STREET,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 20 cwt.

JOHN GOBBETT	Treble.	ARTHUR JACOB	5.
N. J. PITSTOW	2.	WINGFIELD MEADOWS ..	6.
H. E. T. GLOVER, ESQ., M.A.*	3.	J. F. PENNING	7.
E. CHAPMAN	4.	G. NEWSON	} Tenor.
		J. HANNINGTON	

Composed by the late WILLIAM HARRISON; conducted by
GEORGE NEWSON.

*First peal. +First peal in the method.

Messrs. Pitstow and Penning hail from Saffron Walden, and Mr. Glover is a member of the Cambridge University Society, and the Durham and Newcastle Diocesan Association. This is the first peal ever rung on the bells, which were lately put in the tower, but the fact that it required two to ring the tenor, and the time taken to complete the peal, shews that the bells are badly hung.

The Provinces.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.
SONNING, BERKSHIRE.

On Saturday, August 4, 1883, in Three Hours and Seven Minutes,
At the Parish Church,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
HOLT'S ORIGINAL. Tenor 22 cwt.

JAMES R. HAWORTH Treble.	WILLIAM GREENLEAF .. 5.
JAMES PETTIT 2.	J. MARTIN ROUTH, Esq. .. 6.
GEORGE MASH 3.	WILLIAM NEWELL 7.
MATTHEW A. WOOD 4.	GEORGE PAYNE Tenor.

Conducted by JAMES PETTIT.

BICESTER, OXON.—THE OXFORD SOCIETY.

On Monday, August 6, 1883, in Three Hours and Thirteen Minutes,
At St. EDBURGH'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
HOLT'S TEN-PART PEAL.

W. JEFFERY† Treble.	G. LAPWORTH 5.
C. HOUNSLOW 2.	G. WARNER 6.
A. FOX* 3.	W. J. SMITH 7.
F. WILLIAMSON 4.	A. STRANGE Tenor.

Conducted by W. J. SMITH.

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

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE, LANCASHIRE.

THE HYDE SOCIETY.

On Saturday, August 4, 1883, in Three Hours and Twenty-six Minutes,
At St. PETER'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5536 CHANGES;
IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 20 cwt.

SAMUEL WOOD Treble.	JAMES WOOD 5.
RALPH PRICHARD* 2.	*SAMUEL BRADLEY 6.
THOMAS BRADLEY* 3.	THOMAS WILDE 7.
WALTER SLATER* 4.	JAMES S. WILDE Tenor.

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

The above peal has the 5th and 6th their extent each way, and is now rung for the first time. Messrs. Wood Brothers hail from Ashton-under-Lyne; the rest from Hyde.

*First peal in the method.

LYTHAM, LANCASHIRE.

On Saturday, August 4, 1883, in Two Hours and Fifty-five Minutes,
At the Parish Church,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
TAYLOR'S BOB-AND-SINGLE VARIATION. Tenor 14½ cwt. in F#.

JOHN MILLER Treble.	GEORGE LONGDEN 5.
WILLIAM GREGSON 2.	HENRY GREGSON 6.
WILLIAM ATKINSON 3.	ROBERT ATKINSON 7.
JOHN FISHER 4.	ROGER ALLANSON Tenor.

Conducted by HENRY GREGSON.

UPTON ST. LEONARDS, GLOUCESTERSHIRE.

On Monday, August 6, 1883, in Three Hours and Seven Minutes,
At the Parish Church,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
HOLT'S TEN-PART PEAL.

H. HODGES Treble.	G. H. PHILLOTT, Esq. .. 5.
H. GARDNER 2.	H. KARN 6.
W. T. PATES 3.	G. ACOCKS 7.
F. MUSTY 4.	*A. HUMPHRIES Tenor.

Conducted by H. KARN.

(The first time of his conducting a peal.)

*First Peal.

All except the tenor-man are members of the Gloucester and Bristol Diocesan Association.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION, AND THE
ST. PAUL'S SOCIETY.

BURTON-ON-TRENT, STAFFORDSHIRE.

On Thursday, August 2, 1883, in Three Hours and Twenty-seven Minutes,
At St. PAUL'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR,
5088 CHANGES. Tenor 26 cwt. in F.

HARRY WAKLEY Treble.	JOHN JAGGAR 5.
EDWARD ISAAC STONE 2.	GEORGE APPLEBY 6.
ARTHUR WAKLEY 3.	THOMAS HOLMES 7.
JOSEPH GRIFFIN 4.	WILLIAM WAKLEY Tenor.

Composed by HENRY JOHNSON, SENR.; and conducted by WILLIAM WAKLEY.

The above is a three-part peal and was published in "The Bell News" among Mr Snowden's collection of Double Norwich peals. It has never been previously performed.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—LITTLE HEATH.

On Saturday, August 4, 1883, in Two Hours and Forty-two Minutes,
At St. JAMES'S CHURCH,

5040 CHANGES, BEING 42 6-SCORES OF DOUBLES;

Being, without repeating the calling in the same order, 4 Bob Double Extremes; 2 Hudibras; 4 The Dream; 4 London Dream; 4 London Singles; 4 Grandsire Singles; 4 St. Dunstan's; 3 The Dreamer; 2 London Doubles; 2 Sunshine; 2 Old Doubles; 2 Old Double Extremes; 1 Antelope; 1 Westminster; and 1 Grandsire.

ROBERT GILLINGHAM .. Treble.	ALFRED PYE 3.
JOHN PYE 2.	BENJAMIN KEEBLE 4.
ARTHUR PORTER Tenor.	

Conducted by BENJAMIN KEEBLE.

This is the first 5040 rang by the above Association upon five bells, and is the first in which the band has not included members of one or both of the metropolitan companies, and is believed to be the first by any local band upon five on record in the county.

Miscellaneous.

BIRMINGHAM AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATION.

REDDITCH (Worcestershire).—On Monday, August 6th, the King's Norton Branch of the above Association paid a visit to this place, when the Rector kindly gave the use of the tower. They were met by the Redditch company, when after ringing Grandsire Doubles a 720 of Grandsire Minor was started for with Mr. Jethro Govier, of Redditch, but after ringing about 240 changes the treble rope slipped the wheel, and the attempt was given up. J. Govier, 1; W. H. Summer, 2; Fred. Palmer, 3; Fred. Scrivens, 4; J. Cooks, 5; W. Palmer (conductor), 6. Tenor, 14 cwt. The party then paid a visit to the club house, when the Redditch men rang a plain course of Grandsire Triples, double-handed, also a selection of tunes on the handbells, in which the King's Norton men took part, the ringing being intercepted with songs and recitations. "THE BELL NEWS" was brought forward, they having never seen a copy before. Later on a part of the Bromsgrove Company came over, but unfortunately too late for ringing purposes. After a ramble round the town, seeing the Fair, also a visit paid by some of the visitors to Mr. Govier's needle manufactory, the party returned home pleased with their day's outing.

THE SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.

LONDON.—On Saturday, August 4th, eight members of the above society attempted a peal of Double Norwich Court Bob at St. Giles-in-the-Fields, but after ringing 2 hrs. and 12 mins. the conductor called "Stand." G. Newson (conductor), 1; J. F. Penning (Saffron Walden), 2; C. Hopkins, 3; A. Jacob, 4; H. Hopkins, 5; T. Titchener, 6; J. Hannington, 7; N. J. Pitstow (Saffron Walden), 8. Tenor 18 cwt.

ST. SEPULCHRE'S (Snow Hill).—On Sunday morning, August 5th, at the above church, a 500 of Grandsire Caters. James Hinton (Worcester), 1; Chas. Hopkins, 2; Henry Hopkins, 3; John Nelms (conductor), 4; Henry Dains, 5; Edward Moses, 6; J. F. Penning, 7; William Doran (West Ham), 8; Wingfield Meadows (Otley), 9; Edward Jarman (Leytonstone), 10. Tenor 33 cwt.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

DURHAM.—At St. Oswald's church, on the occasion of the reopening, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob. G. J. Clarkson (conductor), 1; J. F. Mallaby, 2; W. Reed, Esq., 3; R. W. Wignall, 4; T. Stephenson, 5;

W. Newton, 6. Also a 720 of Woodbine Treble Bob. W. Reed, Esq., 1; J. F. Mallaby, 2; W. Newton, 3; G. J. Clarkson (conductor), 4; T. Stephenson, 5; F. Lees, 6. Also a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob. G. J. Clarkson (conductor), 1; W. Reed, Esq., 2; F. Lees, 3; W. Story, 4; T. Stephenson, 5; W. Newton, 6. Tenor 16 cwt.

BRANCEPETH. — On Monday, August 6th, at the church of St. Brandon, a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob Minor, was rung on the occasion of the annual excursion of the St. John's Guild. Geo. Campbell, 1; W. Eggleston, 2; C. L. Routledge, 3; W. Reed, Esq. (North Shields; conductor), 4; W. Story, 5; F. Lees, 6. Also a 720 of Merchants' Return. Geo. Campbell, 1; F. Lees, 2; W. Eggleston, 3; W. Reed, Esq., 4; C. L. Routledge, 5; R. S. Story (conductor), 6. Also a 720 of Woodbine. W. Eggleston, 1; W. Reed, Esq., 2; F. Lees, 3; C. L. Routledge, 4; R. S. Story, 5; G. J. Clarkson (Stockton; conductor), 6. And a 720 of Bob Minor, with twenty-two singles. C. L. Routledge, 1; Geo. Campbell, 2; W. Reed, Esq. (conductor), 3; R. S. Story, 4; W. Eggleston, 5; G. J. Clarkson, 6. Tenor 9 cwt.

THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD ASSOCIATION.

Six members of the above visited Colwich, and rung a 720 of Grand-sire Minor in 25 mins. F. Sedgwick, 1; H. Meacham, 2; A. Whitby, 3; T. Meredith (conductor), 4; E. Gallimore, 5; A. E. Greenwood, 6. Tenor about 11 cwt.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

WRITTLE (Essex). — On Tuesday evening, July 31st, eight members of the above Association, met at All Saints' church, and rang a quarter peal of Grandsire Triples, in 45 mins. W. Harvey, 1; J. Dains, 2; C. Waskett, 3; H. F. de Lisle, 4; W. Rowland, 5; W. Hawkes, 6; E. Scotcher (conductor), 7; W. Battle, 8. Tenor 18 cwt. 2 qrs. 2 lbs.

THE ST. JAMES'S SOCIETY.

ST. SEPULCHRE (Snow Hill). — On Thursday, July 27th, being the Annual Jubilee of the scholars of St. Sepulchre's parish, the following members of the above society rang towards midnight a 500 of Stedman Triples, and 360 of Grandsire. J. Nelms (conductor), 1; C. Hopkins, 2; R. Haworth, 3; H. Dains, 4; J. Barry, 5; E. Moses, 6; W. Meadows, Esq., 7; W. Wheeler, 8. Tenor 33 cwt.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

ECCLES (Lancashire). — On Sunday morning, July 25th, a mixed band ascended the tower of the parish church and rung the first half of Mr. Day's bob-and-single peal of Grandsire Triples, consisting of 2520 changes in 1 hr. and 24 mins. It was intended to go for the whole peal, but owing to the tenor man being unwell he asked the conductor to bring the bells round at half-way. The following took part in the ringing. Edward Cash, 1; Charles Cash, 2; James Barratt, 3; James Ridyard, 4; James Scholey, 5; Richard Ashcroft, 6; George Henry Johnson (conductor), 7; William Ashcroft, 8. Tenor 13 cwt. 3 qrs. Messrs. Cash hail from Swinton; Ridyard, from Worsley; and the rest from Eccles. And on Monday evening, the 6th inst., six of the above society rang at the parish church, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor, in 26½ mins. John Barratt, 1; Thomas Yates, 2; James Barratt, 3; Edward Cash, 4; James Scholey, 5; George Henry Johnson (conductor), 6. The above is the first 720 in this method by Messrs John and James Barratt, Yates and Cash.

ACKWORTH. — On Tuesday evening, August 7th, the Pontefract company paid a visit to this place, on the occasion of the Flower show, and rang at the parish church two 720s of Bob Minor, in the second of which Mr. Netstrop, of Ackworth, took part. First 720; W. Wilcock, 1; J. Brook, 2; J. P. Heckingbottom, 3; J. Pollard, 4; R. Brook, 5; W. Pearson, 6. Second 720; W. Wilcock, 1; J. Brook, 2; J. P. Heckingbottom, 3; W. Pearson, 4; — Netstrop, 5; J. Carter, 6. Both 720s were conducted by W. Pearson, the first with six bobs and thirty singles, the second with nine bobs and six singles. Tenor 14 cwt. in F.

BALDERSTONE, ROCHDALE (LANCASHIRE). — *Muffled Peal.* — On Sunday morning, shortly before nine o'clock, the ringers of St. Mary's rang the first half of John Holt's ten-part peal of Grandsire Triples, 2520 changes, in 1 hr. and 29 mins., with the bells half-muffled, as a last mark of respect to Emily, the late beloved daughter of Mr. C. E. Clegg, of Green Bank, Rochdale. Charles J. Silverwood, 1; Abraham Fitton, 2; John E. Howarth, 3; Samuel Hartley, 4; Herbert Dearnley, 5; James H. Prescott, 6; William Howarth (conductor), 7; John Aspinall, 8. Tenor 16½ cwt. in F. The funeral

took place on the previous Wednesday, when several touches of Grandsire Triples were rung with the bells deeply muffled.

HAVERSTOCK HILL (Middlesex). — On Wednesday, August 1st, at St. Martin's church, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor, in 25 mins. T. Glead, 1; B. Foksett, 2; J. Nixon, 3; J. Hannington (conductor), 4; T. Titchener, 4; A. Jacob, 6. Tenor about 12½ cwt.

NORTON (Derbyshire). — On Sunday, August 5th, at St. James's church, three ringers from Eckington, with H. Madin, and J. Broadhead, of Staveley, and S. Allen, jun., Dronsfeld, rang a 720 of Violet in 27 mins. Geo. Smith, 1; W. Price, 2; S. Allen, jun., 3; H. Madin, 4; Geo. Marsden (conductor), 5; Jno. Broadhead, 6. Also a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob Minor, in 26 mins. Geo. Smith, 1; S. Allen, sen., 2; W. Price, 3; Geo. Norman, 4; S. Allen, jun., 5; Geo. Marsden (conductor), 6. Tenor 11½ cwt.

OCKLEY AND CAPEL (Kent). — On Monday, August 6th, five members of the Eltham Society paid a visit to Ockley and Capel. They were met at Ockley Station by Mr. D. Jordan, and joined by the other members of the Capel Society at Ockley church, where ringing was at once commenced. A 720 of Bob Minor was attempted and lost in the last lead through the fifth rope slipping the wheel. C. Muskett, 1; E. Jordan, 2; G. Sheppard (conductor), 3; J. Smith, 4; F. Fraser, 5; T. Titchener, 6. After a few short touches, the ringing at Ockley was finished with a 720 of Kent Treble Bob. A. Tidy, 1; F. Fraser, 2; R. Jordan, 3; G. Sheppard, 4; T. Titchener, 5; D. Jordan (conductor), 6. Tenor 16 cwt. in F. The party then went to Capel, where, having partaken of a good dinner at the "Crown Inn," they rang a 720 of Bob Minor in 23 mins. C. Muskett, 1; F. Fraser, 2; E. Jordan, 3; J. Smith, 4; T. Titchener, 5; G. Sheppard (conductor), 6. A 720 of Grandsire Minor was the attempted but owing to a shift-course the bells came home at 600. R. Jordan, 1; E. Jordan, 2; C. Muskett, 3; J. Smith, 4; G. Sheppard (conductor), 5; T. Titchener, 6. A 720 of Oxford Treble Bob was next rung. T. Titchener, 1; F. Fraser (first 720 in the method), 2; A. Tidy, 3; G. Sheppard, 4; R. Worsfold, 5; D. Jordan (conductor), 6. As a final touch, 360 of Double Oxford Bob. C. Muskett, 1; E. Jordan, 2; A. Tidy, 3; R. Worsfold, 4; T. Titchener, 5; D. Jordan (conductor), 6. A very pleasant evening was spent, all parties thoroughly enjoying themselves.

PONTEFRAC. — On Sunday morning, August 5th, six of the local company rang for Divine Service at All Saints' church, a 720 of Bob Minor, with eighteen bobs and two singles, in 25½ mins. W. Wilcock, 1; J. Brook, 2; J. P. Heckingbottom, 3; J. Pollard, 4; R. Brook, 5; W. Pearson (conductor), 6. Also for Divine Service in the evening, a 720 of Bob Minor, with four bobs and fourteen singles, in 25 mins. W. Wilcock, 1; J. Brook, 2; W. Pearson, 3; J. Pollard, 4; R. Brook (conductor), 5; J. Carter, 6. Tenor 11 cwt. in F.

QUEX PARK (Birchington). — On Saturday, August 4th, 504 Grandsire Triples in 19 mins. †P. A. Reed, 1; *J. Mansfield, 2; *W. Malim, 3; *A. G. Thomas, 4; †T. B. Reed, 5; *H. S. Thomas, 6; *W. Baron (conductor), 7; †W. Basden, 8. *From London; †Local men.

SADDLEWORTH. — On Friday, August 3rd, at St. Chad's church, on the occasion of the induction of the Rev. Hugh Doig, the newly appointed Vicar, a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob Minor, in 25½ mins. John J. Brierley (conductor), 1; Joseph Radcliffe, 2; John Holden, 3; James Wrigley, 4; Edgar Buckley, 5; Joseph Wood, 6. Also on Sunday evening, August 5th, when Rev. Hugh Doig, read himself in (previous to the service), a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob Minor, in 25 mins., 20 seconds, by the following: Joseph Marsden (conductor), 1; John Holden (one of the Wardens), 2; James Wrigley, 3; Joseph Wood, 4; Edgar Buckley, 5; Edward Wood, 6. Tenor 12 cwt.

SPALDING (Lincolnshire). — On Sunday, August 5th, at St. Paul's Fulney, for Divine Service in the morning, a 1036 of Grandsire Triples. A. Hayes (Boston), 1; R. Creasey (conductor), 2; J. W. Creasey, 3; E. Quinton, 4; A. Walker, 5; J. Wilson, 6; J. Croxford, 7; C. Creasey, 8. Tenor 15 cwt.

SUDBURY (Suffolk). — On Tuesday evening, August 7th, the local company met at All Saints' church, and rang with Mr. John Bonney, of London, a touch of Bob Major. J. Tolliday, 1; J. Bonney, 2; G. S. Brown, 3; W. Campin, 4; H. Brackett, 5; J. Campin, 6; W. Howell, 7; H. Harper, 8. Also touches of Grandsire Triples and Kent Treble Bob, in which W. Bacon and M. Silvester took part. Mr. Bonney, who is a member of the Ancient Society of College Youths, ably conducted all the above.

TITCHMARSH (Northamptonshire). — On Saturday, August 4th, two members of the Bedfordshire Association paid a visit to Titchmarsh, and by the kindness of the Rector the ringers were enabled to have

a pull on the beautiful peal, when a 720 of Bob Minor was rang with 26 singles in 26 mins. J. Upchurch, 1; *C. W. Clarke, 2; H. Upchurch, 3; W. Upchurch, 4; *W. Allen, 5; J. T. Allen (conductor), 6. Tenor 21 cwt. in Eb. And on Monday, August, 6th, Mr. Clarke and Mr. Allen paid a visit to Oundle church and by the kindness of the ringers were enabled to have a friendly pull on the splendid peal of eight. It is to be regretted that change-ringing is not practised at Oundle, as they are a fine peal of eight, and in good order, and the visitors wish to return their sincere thanks to the Rector and ringers for the kind manner in which they were welcomed.

WILLESDEN (Middlesex).—On Thursday, August 2nd, several 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles was rung in order to initiate some young hands into the art. J. Jackman (conductor), 1; H. Cutter, 2; A. Kirby, 3; M. Murphy, 4; A. Pittam, 5; W. Kendall, 6. Also courses of Grandsire Triples on handbells, retained in hand. Harry Cutter, 1-2; Richard Kilby, 3-4; Martin Murphy, of Eardington, near Birmingham, 5-6; Joseph Jackman, 7-8.

ST. MARY'S SOCIETY, BEDDINGTON, SURREY.

ON Monday, August 6th, the above society celebrated the fourteenth anniversary of the opening of the bells. Visitors began to arrive about 2 o'clock, and the bells were soon set in motion. Proceedings commenced with a touch of Stedman Triples; Grandsire Caters was the next on the list, being a very pretty touch in the tittums. By this time there was a good muster of ringers, noticeable among them being Mr. Alps, of Waltham Abbey; Messrs Peel, Greenwood, and Springhall, of Streatham; Burkin, sen., and Boniface, of Nutfield; Bruce, Verrall, Saunders, and Russell, of Croydon; Reuben Flaxman of Farnham Royal; and Messrs. Smith and McLaughlin of London; numbering altogether between thirty and forty. The bells were kept going merrily till 9.15 p.m., throughout the afternoon touches were rung in the following methods: Stedman Triples and Caters; Grandsire Triples and Caters; Plain Bob Triples and Major; and Kent Treble Bob Major; the honours of conductorship being divided by Messrs. Bennett, Alps, and Greenwood. The above company wish to thank those gentlemen who honoured them with their presence on Monday, thus assisting to make their fourteenth anniversary a success.

THE STATE OF AFFAIRS IN CARDIFF.

MR. J. BELCHER, of Cheltenham, sends us the following note of a visit to Cardiff:—"I was at Cardiff last week, for a few days, and at my friend's house where I was staying I saw *The Parish Magazine* on the table, wherein I read that the vicar was asking for young men to come forward to learn the art of change-ringing. Well, I thought that was very good of the vicar, so I found out the ringers' meeting-night, and went up and met them on Monday evening. When I got into the belfry I was very sorry to see such a state of things; the ropes were like great waggon ropes, too large for a man to handle, and the "go" of the bells is very bad, all want rehangings. There is an opening here for Belfry Reform if you like. Well Sir, we got the bells up with much hard work, and what do you think, we could ring 14 changes all told! this was rung over and over again. Now Sir, is this not a disgrace to a town like Cardiff, with a hundred thousand inhabitants. Well, I had a talk with the verger, who is the leading man there, and we talked over all that is wanted to be done to the bells and belfry. As I say, it is no good to ask young men to come forward to learn the art of ringing till all is put in good order, at present it is a disgrace. There is a very good peal of eight bells in the tower, and about £150 would put everything in good order. I had a copy of "THE BELL NEWS" with me, which I left with the ringers, and they are going to take it in regularly. They did not know there was such a paper. So I think the work will be done in such a town as Cardiff, where money is no objection, and I hope to see by this time next year, that by the aid of your valuable paper, and what I have done, that we shall hear of some good ringing from Wales."

A CORRECTION.—In the account of Sherbourne Abbey Bells, in our last week's issue, for a "fine bell" read "fire bell."

J. R. JERRAM.

THE SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.

THE ANNUAL DINNER of the above Society will take place on Saturday, September 8th, at Kingston-on-Thames. Members are requested to attend the next meeting held at the "Green Man," 54, St. Martin's Lane, on August 17th, to consider final arrangements, etc.

7, Ashdown Street, London, N.W.

J. HANNINGTON, Hon. Sec.

THE ST. PAUL'S, FULNEY (SPALDING), SOCIETY.

AT Louth, North Lincolnshire, on Thursday, August 2nd, the Flower Fruit, and Poultry Show was held in the grounds of The Cedars, the property of J. Bennett Esq., J.P. The above company having received an invitation from the Mayor, J. W. Morton, Esq., through G. Edwards, Esq., of London, they were met at the station by those gentlemen, and a substantial breakfast was provided for them, to which ample justice was done. They then repaired to the tower of the parish church, to try their skill on the eight heavy bells, the tenor weighing 30 cwt., just as heavy again as those to which they have been accustomed. The bells were raised in peal, and several touches of Grandsire Triples were rang, G. Edwards taking the treble in some of them. At 2 o'clock they adjourned to Heighfield House, the residence of the Mayor, where a most sumptuous dinner was served, the Mayor taking the chair and G. Edwards Esq., the vice-chair, supported by the Mayoress, Alderman Fowler, C. E. Lucas, and H. Meredith, Esqs. and the Rev. C. F. Brotherton. After dinner, Ald. Fowler proposed the health of the Mayor and Mayoress, and thanked them on behalf of the visitors, for their hospitable entertainment. The Mayor, in responding, thanked the ringers for the pleasure they had given to them and the inhabitants of Louth that day, by the music of change-ringing, which he hoped the Louth company would profit by. The ringers then rang a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples in 47 minutes, then several touches, and ceased the bells in peal. They afterwards visited the show, for which tickets had been generously given to them, then proceeding to the station for home expressing in enthusiastic terms their thanks to those gentlemen who had so liberally provided such a day for them. The following are the names of the ringers: R. Skeef, J. W. Creasey, E. Quinton, A. F. Walker, J. Wilson, J. Croxford, R. Creasey, (conductor), A. Creasey of St. Paul's, E. Mason, of Boston, and J. S. Wright.

BRADFORD, YORKSHIRE.

FOR some time back a feeling has been growing among some of the members of the parish church and St. James's companies in favour of some scheme for amalgamating the ringers of the town into one Society for joint practice, and generally assisting to promote the art of change-ringing. This idea culminated in a meeting of the two companies held a few days ago, when it was unanimously resolved to form an Amalgamated Society of change-ringers for Bradford. An executive committee was elected, consisting of representatives from each company, with Mr. J. Cheetham as chairman, Mr. J. Angus, vice-chairman, and Mr. B. T. Copley, secretary. The committee are at present engaged in drawing up a code of rules, and making all necessary arrangements for the proper management of the society.

On Monday last, eight members of the new society met at St. James's, and rung several touches of Kent Treble Bob Major, in honour of a gala given by the Mayor, Ald. F. Priestman, J.P., in Peel Park, where it is estimated over 100,000 persons were present. The ringers were Messrs. A. Moulson, J. Fisher, T. Pollard, and J. H. Hardcastle, of the parish church, and J. Broadley, B. Sugden, W. Barraclough, and B. T. Copley, of St. James's; Mr. Hardcastle conductor.

OFFICE OF "THE BELL NEWS AND RINGERS' RECORD."—This week we enter on a new phase of our existence. Some of our readers are unacquainted with the early days of this paper, and the straits we were put to in its production. "Cribbed, cabined, and confined," as we were, in a small space, in which, for economy's sake, we had to perform our allotted task, it seems a marvel how each number has been produced in time. This week "THE BELL NEWS" is printed in a brand-new building not, of course, specially erected, but one which will enable our printers to work with greater pleasure, and where we ourselves can enjoy the luxury of a separate apartment to scan in peace the letters of our courteous correspondents. In the removal of the printing plant, along with our own papers, we are afraid more than one communication has been lost or mislaid, so that if anything which has been sent does not appear, we hope to be favored with our friends' indulgence. Now that another addition is made to our expenditure, it is believed our supporters will not relax their efforts in promoting the interests of a journal exclusively their own. We hear week by week of places where "THE BELL NEWS" is yet unknown; we should be glad if our representatives would give special attention to such cases, and act accordingly. The change of office we had better add, requires no change of address in forwarding communications to us.

ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION OF THE HOLT SOCIETY,
ASTON, BIRMINGHAM.

ON Monday last, August 6th, being the Anniversary of the above society, twenty of its members visited the ancient town of Tewkesbury, in Gloucestershire. Arriving there about 10 a.m., some of the ringers were soon informed that there existed a peal of bells at the Abbey Church, and being anxious to hear them, applied to the rev. the Vicar, who kindly consented for them to ring during the day. After a short service in the Abbey, no time was lost in putting the bells in motion, and the visitors were pleased to hear a splendid peal of eight bells, tenor 24 cwt., which were proved to be in fair going order, rolling their mellow tones from the large strongly-built tower. It seems a pity that the ringing community of this district cannot arouse the public and those in authority at the Abbey to the fact that the present peal, with the addition of two trebles, could be made into a very good peal of ten bells, as there is plenty of room for the purpose, which could be effected at a comparatively small cost, and the visitors hope, when they again make this ancient borough the scene of their annual festivity, to be able to record touches on ten bells. A touch of Grand-sire Triples, 1290 changes, was rung in 47 minutes by W. Dunlevy, 1; H. Bastable, 2; J. Benn, 3; M. Murphy, 4; J. Carter (conductor), 5; J. Buffery, 6; J. Plant, 7; B. Dunlevy, 8. The company then adjourned to the "Bell Hotel," where they sat down to an excellent dinner. After justice had been done to the good things provided, some of the party again repaired to the tower, and in company with the Rev. C. D. P. Davies, rang a touch of Stedman Triples, the ringers being stationed as follows: Rev. C. D. P. Davies (of Chaceley, near Tewkesbury), 1; H. Bastable, 2; J. Carter (conductor), 3; J. Buffery, 4; J. Wathen (of Tewkesbury), 5; W. Kent, 6; C. Stanbridge, 7; T. Reynolds, 8. Also a touch of Grandsire Triples: F. H. James, 1; H. Bastable, 2; J. Carter, 3; M. Murphy, 4; J. Buffery (conductor), 5; T. Miller, 6; T. Reynolds, 7; B. Dunlevy, 8.

After a walk round this historical borough, and a row on the Queen of English rivers—the Severn—the company were refreshed with a substantial tea. This being concluded, the handbells were introduced, and the following members succeeded in ringing a date touch of Grandsire Triples, on a small peal, retained in hand, in 53 minutes, composed and conducted by Mr. J. Carter, the course-ends being checked by Mr. H. Bastable. Jas. Plant, 1-2; J. Carter, 3-4; W. Kent, 5-6; W. Ansell, 7-8. Thus the evening came to a close, and the party returned home, very much pleased with their visit.

THE ROCHDALE AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATION.

ON Saturday last this society held their Quarterly Meeting at Manchester Cathedral, when there were about sixty members present from the following districts: Manchester, Rochdale, Milnrow, Walsden, Todmorden, Moorside, and Oldham; also independent Members of this Association (non-members present being the Halliwell society). The ringing commenced after the service at 4.30, several touches of Grandsire Triples and Caters were rung by mixed companies up to the time of the Meeting, 5.30., which was held at the "Crown Hotel," Blackfriars, Salford, in an upper room, prepared by the Cathedral ringers. The Meeting, which was of great importance to all the members, lasted over 2 hours, Mr. Albert Hurst, President, Chairman. After which the ringing was resumed as before, also handbell ringing (changes) until ten o'clock.

The Meeting broke up with a cordial and unanimous vote of thanks to the Dean for the use of the bells, &c. The following resolutions were passed respecting their next two Meetings, providing permission be granted. That they wish to hold the Intermediate Meeting at Christ church, Bacup, and the Quarterly Meeting at St. Thomas's, Moorside, near Oldham.

Intermediate Meeting, Saturday, September 15th, 1883, Quarterly Meeting, Saturday, November 3rd. The Society consists of 120 Members. All communications to be addressed to the Secretary,

JAMES ADSHEAD.

STOKE-UPON-TRENT ARCHIDIACONAL ASSOCIATION.

CHEDDLETON.—There was barely a muster here on Saturday last, only two ringers from Norton, including Mr. E. Glover, the Lay-Secretary, putting in an appearance, in addition to the home Society. There are no ringing feats to record. The claims of haymaking seem to be paramount just now, and it will be a question for the committee whether the Association meetings should not be suspended, or be less frequent at this time of the year. The Meeting on Saturday next was to have been at Stoke, but as it is "Wakes week" there, which means that every one is holiday taking, it will not take place, and Tunstall will be the next rendezvous, on Saturday, the 18th.

REOPENING OF THE BELLS OF ST. OSWALD'S,
DURHAM.

THE Church of St. Oswald, Durham, has been undergoing restoration, and amongst the improvements is included the general restoration and rehang of the bells, a peal of six, tenor 16 cwt., or thereabouts. These bells have for a long time been in a very unsatisfactory state, having probably never been rehung since they were placed in the tower in 1694, in which year they were founded by Christopher Hodgson, who also supplied several of the bells in the Cathedral, and as they were hung in accordance with ideas of those days, were open to great improvement. The work has been excellently carried out by Mr. Mallaby of Masham, who has supplied an entirely new set of fittings, and has quartered the two largest bells, so as to make them strike in new places, this improvement being rendered necessary to prevent these bells from being worn too thin. The 2nd and 3rd bells have been flattened to bring them more into harmony with the other three.

The reopening took place on Wednesday, August 1st, by members of the Durham and Newcastle Diocesan Association, who were assisted by Messrs. Mallaby and Son. Although this event followed closely upon the opening of the new peal at Chester-le-Street, ringers attended from Newcastle, North Shields, and Stockton, and three excellent 720's of Minor were rung, one each of Kent, Oxford, and Woodbine Treble Bob, particulars of which will be found in another column. In addition to the above 720's, the proceedings of the day included a stupendous attempt in the way of a 720 of Bob Minor, in the calling of which, the conductor made use of singles innumerable, and succeeded in working out a length of changes distinguished for developing the musical properties of 5-6, dodging wrong together behind, the bad effects of which were compensated to some extent by a frequent introduction of the melodious Queen's change. As this peal showed no signs of exhaustion within the ordinary limits, it was ultimately brought to an undignified and summary conclusion. The improvement in the bells is very marked, but a further improvement may be looked for as the new clappers adjust themselves to the bells by frequent ringing, an increase in the brilliancy of their tones being perceptible during the day.

The striking throughout the day was very good, especially that of the 720 Oxford Treble Bob. The bells were raised in peal by the Stockton band, assisted by Messrs. Mallaby, afterwards ceased in peal and chimed for morning service, at the request of the Vicar. A 120 of Grandsire Doubles was rung, in which J. Wheatley of the St. Oswald's company rang the fourth. Also a touch of Oxford Bob after morning service. There is some prospect of this peal being increased to eight.

It is to be hoped the St. Oswald's ringers, who have hitherto been struggling against heavy drawbacks, will not be slow to turn to good account the facilities now put within their reach, and that the citizens of Durham may frequently listen to and learn to love the beauties of change-ringing, as heard from the tower from St. Oswald's on the one side of the Wear, and to appreciate at its true value the Grindstone Bob, to which they are so frequently treated from the Cathedral tower on the other side.

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."

WEIGHTS OF TENORS.

SIR,—I am very sorry to trouble you with any more correspondence upon so trivial a subject; but in your last issue I again see an account of some ringing at Spalding, with this note at the end "Weight of Tenor unknown." Now I think this is quite an unnecessary and uncalled for assertion after what has been said, viz., first it was reported 18 cwt. then I gave the diameter (44 ins.) and the note (F) and quoted it at 16 cwt., then Mr. Goslin, whose opinion (from his practical experience) I am quite willing to accept in preference to my own, quotes it at from 14½ to 15 cwt. Now why not let the matter rest here and call it 15 cwt., giving it all the weight that we can possibly ascribe to it. Surely it should not be a very difficult matter to settle the weight of so small a bell at least within a hundredweight. I hope the correspondence on this subject may close here. VERITAS.

THE LIGHTEST RING OF EIGHT IN ENGLAND.

SIR,—The small ring of eight bells were cast by J. Warner and Sons, and supplied in December, 1874, to a gentleman in Hereford, for another in Staffordshire, I believe Harborne. J. W. and Sons did not hang them, but they were hung; the back six are generally rung as the two trebles were considered somewhat wild, as very small bells often are, although in tune with the larger bells, and may be rung.

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BELLRINGING JUBILEE OF MR. JOHN COX.

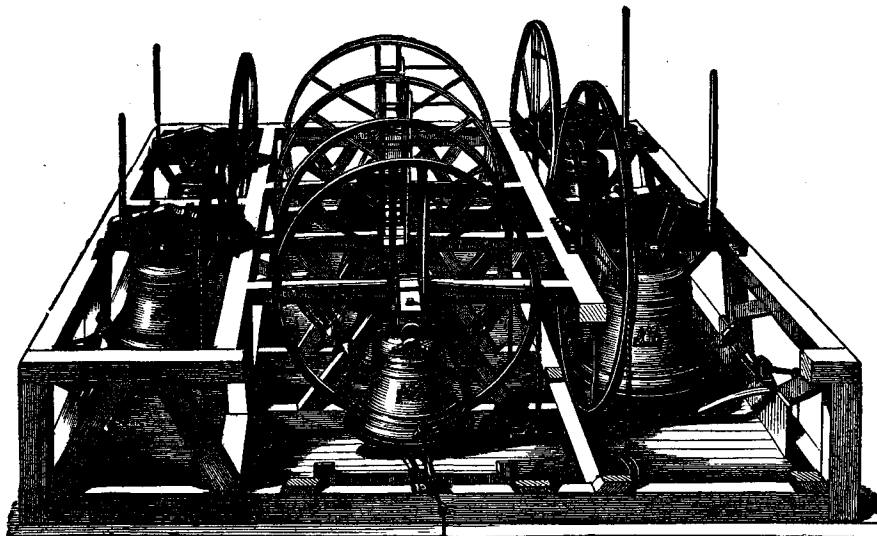
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The Treasurer to the fund is Mr. W. Baron, and Mr. H. Dains has consented to act as Secretary. Any further particulars may be had on application to the latter, 147, Barnsbury Road, Islington, London, N.

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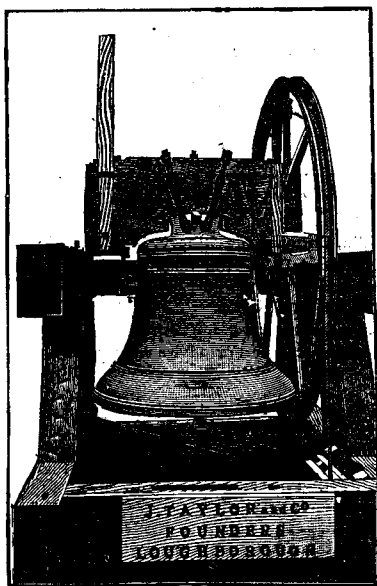
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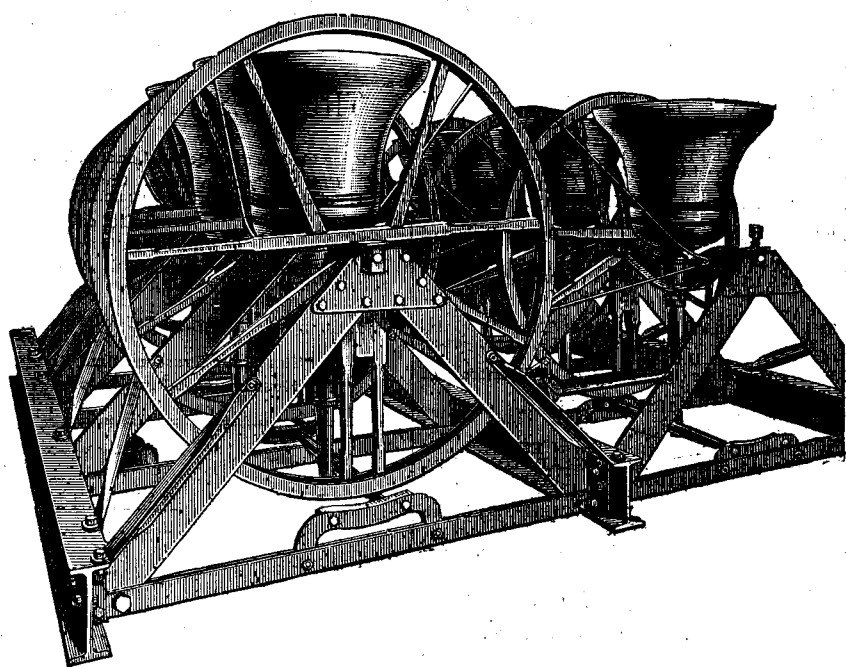
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SATURDAY, AUGUST 18, 1883.

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WITH APPENDIX AND INDEX.

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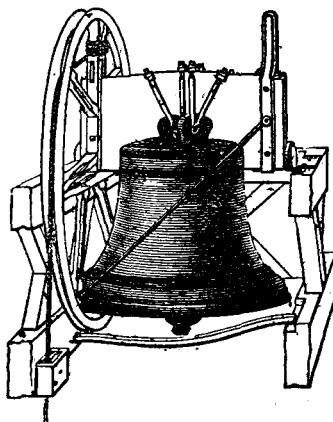
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OUR RING OF BELLS: HOW IT GREW.

BY AUDITOR TANTUM.

PETERBOROUGH CATHEDRAL.—FIVE BELLS.

In early days Peterborough Cathedral was well supplied with bells. From an inventory taken on November 30th, 1539, we learn that there were three bells to ring in "the Chappel of Low," and one little bell in the "Infirmary Chappel" also ten bells "in the two steeples of the monastery at the front." During the civil war the soldiers of the commonwealth, who were quartered at Peterborough, amused themselves by continually jangling the bells. The inhabitants were annoyed and disturbed by this, and some of them "by night took away the clappers, and hid them in the roof of the church . . . which gave occasion to such as did not know it to think the soldiers had stolen them away."

The ten old bells were taken down in 1709, and the work of casting a new ring of ten was entrusted to Henry Penn, who had set up a foundry at Peterborough shortly before. Some idea of the size of the old bells may be gathered from the fact that the metal in the four largest bells sufficed to supply a ring of ten bells with a tenor measuring 56½ inches in diameter, and weighing some 32 cwt. Making allowance for waste, we find that the weight of the four largest bells could not have been far short of 150 cwt. The sale of the six smallest bells defrayed the whole charge of casting and hanging in a new or repaired frame; and the founder gave a benefaction of £50 to the Cathedral. From all these facts Mr. North concludes that the ten old bells were much heavier than the present unrivalled ring at Exeter. The weight, however, of the four largest bells in the ring at Exeter is some 177 cwt., and there seems hardly sufficient evidence to justify the conclusion that the old Peterborough bells were at all heavier than those at Exeter.

The new ring of ten was hung in the north-western tower, but was not much used; the vibration being supposed to endanger the safety of the celebrated west front of the Cathedral; in 1831 the five smallest bells were sold to William Dobson, the well-known bell-founder of Downham Market, in Norfolk, who at that time recast the old 9th bell. Mr. North says the present five bells, which remain in the position they occupied when there was a ring of ten, are never rung in peal: the 1st and 5th only have stays. The Cathedral authorities have been most unfortunate in their management of the bells: the obvious course open to them in 1709 when the state of the west front was discovered, was to build a detached campanile similar to that so ruthlessly destroyed at Salisbury.

PETERBOROUGH, ST. JOHN.—EIGHT BELLS.

It is a relief to turn to the history of the bells of the parish church of St. John. In the 16th century this tower boasted the possession of five great bells. In 1540 the tenor (having been cracked) was changed for "the great bell of the Abbey of Leicester," which had been bought by Robert Newcombe bell-founder of Leicester, upon the dissolution of the Abbey. Before 1700, the five ancient bells had been cast into a ring of eight. Matthew Wyldbore, Esq., sometime M.P. for the city, was a ringer; and it is said that his health was much improved by the exercise: accordingly in his will he charged his estate with the annual payment of £5 to the minister of the parish, to be given to the ringers on the anniversary of his death for ever, on condition that one or more peals were rung on that day. Mr. Wyldbore died on the 15th of March, 1781, and the day is still observed in the way he desired. The present fine ring of bells was cast in 1808 by William Dobson. The ring is a heavy one as will appear from the weights given below:—

	cwt.	qrs.	lbs.		cwt.	qrs.	lbs.
Treble.	8	1	8	5th.	12	1	26
2nd.	8	0	14	6th.	14	1	12
3rd.	9	0	22	7th.	20	1	2
4th.	10	2	12	Tenor.	28	1	3

BRISTOL, ST. MARY REDCLIFFE.—TWELVE BELLS.

The oldest of these are the 11th and tenor, cast by Wm. and Roger Purdue of Salisbury, in 1622: they were probably recast from the old 5th and tenor of an ancient and very heavy ring of six. The diameter of the tenor is now sixty-one inches, but the dimensions of the bell have been considerably reduced by chipping: the note is C natural (rather flat), and its weight is estimated at 48 cwt. The bell has still a fine tone, but is probably not quite so good as she was before she was chipped. The 11th is a very grand bell, 54½ inches in diameter, and over 30 cwt. The ring was made eight in 1698, when Abraham Rudhall (senior) of Gloucester cast the present 5th and 6th bells, the former being of particularly fine tone. In 1763 T. Bilbie of Chewstoke, Somersetshire, took away the old bells between those of Rudhall and those of the Purdues, and cast the present 7th, 8th, 9th, and 10th bells; of these the 8th and 9th are esteemed very fine bells. In 1823 the ring was augmented to ten by Th. Mears of Whitechapel; and in 1872 to twelve by Mears and Stainbank, of the same foundry. On the whole the ring is reported to be one of the finest rings in England.

BRISTOL, ST. NICHOLAS.—TEN BELLS.

The church of St. Nicholas has a ring of ten bells, of which the tenor is most admired. She weighs about 36 cwt., and was cast by Mr. Thos. Mears senior, in 1804. The treble and second were cast by Mr. Thos. Mears junior, in 1817 and 1809 respectively, and most of the rest of the ring by Thos. Rudhall of Gloucester, in 1764.

BRISTOL, ST. JAMES.—TEN BELLS.

The foundation of the present ring of ten in the church of St. James was a fine ring of eight cast by Abel Rudhall (one of his later works), in 1755. Of these eight the six smallest remain, but in 1778 the 7th was recast by Thos. Rudhall. In 1839 Mr. Thos. Mears, junior, recast the tenor: she weighs 28 cwt., but is a harsh and unmusical bell: the trebles which were added in 1866 have not improved the ring, and on the whole the ring is not a good one.

BRISTOL, CHRIST CHURCH.—TEN BELLS.

There is a light but musical ring in the tower of Christ Church. Abraham Rudhall, senior, supplied a ring of eight in 1716, the tenor weighing about 22 cwt., and its note being E natural. In 1789 Wm. Bilbie of Chewstoke was called in to augment the ring to ten, and he lowered the pitch of the old bells one semitone, no doubt in order to avoid having to cast a treble of higher pitch than G natural. This process could not fail to harm the old bells, and it is to be regretted that the ring was augmented by these means. Still the ring is by no means a bad one.

Of the numerous rings of eight in Bristol, the heaviest is in the tower of St. Thomas's Church. There was an old ring of four or five ancient bells, of which two remain, and form the fifth and sixth of the present ring. The two largest were recast in 1666 by Thomas Purdue of Salisbury, and the bells he supplied were very fine ones. The tenor, which weighs about 28 cwt., is unfortunately cracked, but the 7th remains—a splendid bell—to this day; the 4th bell was added or recast in 1617, and the three smallest bells came from the Chewstoke Foundry.

St. Matthew's Church has a ring of eight, tenor about 21 cwt., this is not a musical ring.

The fine tower of the Temple church, has a ring of eight of about the same weight as those at St. Matthew's; the oldest of these bells are the 3rd, 5th, and 6th bells, which were cast by Wm. and Roger Purdue in 1657 and 1658. The 7th and tenor are dated 1721, and the treble and second 1726, and all came from the Chewstoke Foundry, as did the fourth, which was recast in 1740.

St. Stephen's Church has a ring of eight, tenor 20 cwt., cast complete by Abel Rudhall of Gloucester, in 1759; this is esteemed the best ring of eight in Bristol.

All Saints' Church has also a ring of eight, cast complete by Abraham Rudhall, jun., in 1727.

St. Peter's Church has another ring of eight complete by A. Rudhall, tenor 18 cwt.

The church of St. Mary-le-port has a ring of eight, cast by Wm. Evans Chepstow, tenor 18 cwt.

St. Philip's Church has a ring of eight, which came complete from the Chewstoke Foundry.

There is no city or town in the provinces, which has such a number of rings as Bristol, and it is therefore a matter of regret that the reports of change-ringing from this city are, comparatively, so few in number.

READING, ST. LAWRENCE.—TEN BELLS.

Before the present ring of ten was hung in the tower of the church of St. Lawrence, Reading, there was an old ring of eight cast in Reading by the Knights, who did business there as bell-founders from 1587 till the end of the 17th or the beginning of the 18th century. Robert Catlin, who cast the new ring of ten, was a London founder. It is probable that he was employed by the good folks of Reading, in consequence of his connection with the Knights, for he was executor and residuary legatee under the will of Samuel Knight, the last of the Reading founders, who, before his death had removed to the parish of St. Andrew, Holborn. Robert Catlin had also done some work on the ring of eight at St. Mary, Reading, in 1740 and 1743, which seems to have given satisfaction. However that may be, he was employed in 1748 to cast the new ring of ten. Eight of his bells remained when the inscriptions were copied by Mr. Lukis. The diameter of Catlin's tenor is 51½ inches, and the weight about 24 cwt. In 1793 Mr. Thos. Mears of Whitechapel, recast the 9th, and in 1809 the 8th.

ABINGDON, ST. HELEN.—EIGHT BELLS.

In this beautiful tower there is a ring of eight bells cast by Messrs. Lester and Pack, of the Whitechapel Foundry, in 1764; I was informed on excellent authority that the quality of these bells is of quite unusual excellence; unfortunately the 7th is cracked; it is much to be regretted that such a musical set of bells should be marred by one of their number remaining useless, and there is every reason to

believe that the present owners of the Whitechapel Foundry could satisfactorily restore the excellent work of their predecessors if they were employed for that purpose. The fine 7th bell which was in recent times cast for Lavenham, Suffolk, at the Whitechapel Foundry, is a proof of this. Lester and Pack's tenor weighs 19 cwt. There is a report that this tower oscillates very much when the bells are rung, and that boys slip pennies into a horizontal crack in the masonry, near the ground, in order to see them flattened.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

A well attended meeting of the Committee of the above Association was held in Norwich on July 28th. The Rev. W. W. Hutt, Vicar of Hockwold-cum-Wilton, was voted to the chair. It was resolved that an entry be made in the minute-book of the Association expressing their sorrow at the death of their late Secretary, the Rev. G. H. Harris, their high regard for his memory, and the great debt of gratitude which they owe to him for his unvarying energy and kindness. It was then unanimously resolved, on the proposal of Gervas Holmes, Esq., J.P., and seconded by Mr. George Day, of Eye, that the Rev. N. Bolingbroke, Vicar of St. Etheldred, Norwich, be requested to act as Secretary until the ensuing Annual Meeting.

The proposed District Meetings at Reepham, and Stonham Aspal, were reluctantly postponed, but every step is to be taken to have a successful Annual Meeting at Norwich during the coming month of September. The Rev. N. Bolingbroke requests that all communications with regard to the Association may be addressed to him at 4, Bracondale Terrace, Norwich.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Monday, August 6th, several members from Farnham Royal and Slough had an outing, and it being a ringing-day at Windsor, they visited that borough. Arriving there at seven o'clock, they rung upon the bells of the parish church and those of the castle, and after refreshing themselves with breakfast, they made for Clewer (Berks), and with the consent of the Rector, rang six 6-scores (720 changes) of Grandsire Doubles, each called differently, in 26 mins. C. Chapman, 1; F. Fells, 2; J. Parker, 3; J. Basden, 4; A. Fussell, 5. These bells go well, showing that they are cared for by the worthy Rector, but the addition of another treble would make them a nice musical peal of six; tenor about 12 cwt. The company then returned to Windsor, and rang again at the parish church. After dinner they departed for Staines (Middlesex), but knowing that nothing could be done on the ring of eight there, going, as they do, "like houses," another start was made for Egham (Surrey). A curious circumstance here occurred. As the party were proceeding by rail, one of them, Mr. Fells, being anxious to have a good look at the fine tower of Staines parish church, which appears nestled in a clump of trees just the other side of old father Thames, while leaning out of the window for that purpose, became suddenly divested of his head-gear. After marching about the little town of Egham for some time (which caused some merriment through one of the party being hatless), a good lady, having an extra child's hat, came to the rescue, much, we hope, to the satisfaction of the bereaved gentleman. The bells were soon set going, and a 720 of Grandsire Minor was rung in 27½ mins. C. Chapman, 1; J. Parker (conductor), 2; G. Basden, 3; J. Basden, 4; W. Wilder, 5; A. Fussell, 6. Tenor about 12 cwt. The company then returned home rather tired, some of them having walked many miles. The day's proceedings were enlivened by the performance, by Mr. Joseph Parker, of several popular airs upon an English concertina.

THE FORTHCOMING RINGERS' CONFERENCE AT READING.

It will be remembered that some weeks ago, we announced that this meeting of ringers would be held at Reading, in the Church Congress week, in October next, and gave list of the committee. Two more names have been added, those of Mr. James Pettit, of London, and Mr. Field of Oxford, the latter gentleman being head instructor of the Oxford Diocesan Guild. A room has been engaged at Reading for the 4th October, at which the meeting will take place. It is hoped that all parts of the country will send delegates to take part, and that some good ringing may be done after the meeting.

MERE-FOR-ZEALS, WILTSHIRE.

On Wednesday, August 8th, a Meeting took place at the above place, several 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles were rung at Zeals, with the tenor behind. C. Clements, jun., 1; J. R. Jerram, 2; Rev. E. G. Wyld, 3; Rev. A. D. Hill, 4; Rev. C. W. Hony, 5; W. Lenham, 6. Tenor 12 cwt. Also at Mere by the same, W. W. Gifford, 2; and J. R. Jerram, 4. Tenor 27 cwt. The company were entertained at the Vicarage by Rev. E. G. Wyld.

THE ASSOCIATION FOR THE DIOCESE OF ELY.

[From the *Cambridge Chronicle*.]

A gathering of ringers took place in Cambridge on Monday (Bank Holiday), and the opportunity was taken for establishing a Diocesan Society in support of change-ringing. What could be a more fitting cradle for the infant Society, than the town which will ever be to lovers of the art ennobled by the memory of Fabian Stedman. Ringers from all parts make to St. Benedict's tower as their "Cuaba," for here practised the renowned master, and here was rung the first piece of Stedman. Added to this the grand ring of St. Mary-the-Great, and the abilities and courtesy of the company of Cambridge Youths, afforded very special attractions to ringers on Bank Holiday, and a fair number were present from Bury, Swaffhams (2), Ely, Fenn Ditton, Cherry Hinton, and several other places.

The unavoidable shortness of the notice doubtless prevented many from attending. The Archdeaconry of Bedford, in which exists a flourishing society, sent delegates from Woburn; and several amateurs also joined the meeting. After several touches had been rung on the bells of St. Mary-the-Great, the ringers were invited to church by the sound of the redoubtable peal of twelve, which is but seldom heard. Here at 12 noon, by the very kind permission of the Vicar, the Rev. Dr. Luard, Registrar of the University, a short service was held at which he officiated, and delivered a short address. The Rev. Dr., in welcoming the ringers to his church, and for such a purpose, dwelt in scholarly language on the history and use of bells; justifying the establishment of the Association on religious, national, and intellectual grounds. Many of the ringers expressed a desire to read what they had heard in church.

An adjournment was then made to the Alexandra Restaurant, Petty-cury, where the company sat down to a cold collation. The Rev. Dr. Luard presided, the Rev. K. H. Smith, of Ely, occupying the vice-chair; and being supported by Mr. M. C. Potter, B.A., St. Peter's College, Mr. R. Baker, B.A., Clare College, Mr. Tanqueray, and others.

After dinner, a meeting was held, the Rev. the vicar of St. Mary the-Great being in the chair. The Rev. K. H. Smith, of Ely, opened the subject by stating that from statistics which he had obtained, he believed the Diocese was ripe, eager, and ready for action, and he had no fear that what Norwich had done, could also be carried out in Ely Diocese. The Bishop had kindly afforded his patronage, and he had received the support and "imprimatur" of the Diocesan Conference, after an introduction by the kindness of the Archdeacon of Ely. Before sitting down he would remind them that the idea was proposed at the re-opening of St. Mary's bells, at Ely, by his friend Mr. Holmes, of Emmanuel; and he had received the kindest support from that enthusiastic bell ringer and excellent parish priest, Mr. Harris, rector of Tunstead, but lately called away to his rest. He would say *Requiescat in pace!* and was sure that they would all add a hearty Amen. Time was short, and they must to business.

It was then proposed by Mr. Ellis (Ely), and seconded by Mr. Osborne (Bury), "That a Diocesan Association of Ringers be formed." This was carried unanimously.

It was proposed by Mr. Baker (Bedford), and seconded by Mr. Tanqueray (Bedford), "That the Norwich Diocesan Association Rules—subject to alterations, be adopted."

This was also carried unanimously.

On the motion of Mr. Potter (Cambridge), seconded by Mr. Tanqueray, it was unanimously resolved that "The Rev. K. H. Smith, of Ely be appointed Secretary."

The following motions were also carried unanimously:—

Proposed by Mr. Cullip (Bedford), and seconded by Mr. Bacon (Ely), "That M. C. Potter, Esq., be appointed the Treasurer."

Proposed by the Rev. K. H. Smith, and seconded by Mr. Pilgrim (Ely), "That the Ven. Archdeacon Emery be requested to accept the office of President."

Proposed by Mr. Osborne, and seconded by Mr. Tanqueray, "That the first special meeting of the Society should be at Ely, on the third Saturday in October next."

A vote of thanks to the Chairman, and to the Vicars of St. Andrew the Great and St. Benedict, for the use of their bells, concluded the business of the meeting, and the members adjourned to the various towers for practice. The Rev. A. H. F. Boughey, of Trinity College, was unavoidably prevented from attending the meeting.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION OF SIX-BELL CHANGE-RINGERS.

THE USUAL QUARTERLY MEETING of the above Association will be held at Preston on Saturday, September 1st. The bells of St. Mark's church will be open for ringing from 12 o'clock. The Meeting will take place in St. Mark's schoolroom, at 5 o'clock.

JOHN HIGSON, Sec.

THE BIRMINGHAM AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATION.

THE above Association held their first Annual Meeting on Saturday, the 11th inst., at the club-house of the Birmingham contingent,—"The Hope and Anchor," Fisher Street. The balance-sheet, owing to the absence of the President, could not be presented, consequently it had to be deferred till next Quarterly Meeting to be held at Westbromwich, on November 17th, the meeting of course being greatly disappointed by the non-production of the same. In the stead of the retiring president, Mr. Bennett Stevens, Mr. J. W. Cattle was unanimously elected for post of president for the ensuing year, Mr. J. Wright being again elected as Secretary, and Mr. J. Carter again filling the office of Treasurer. After the ordinary business had been transacted Mr. Carter, who it may be stated, is ever striving for the elevation of the Association, produced several samples of paper and binding, the meeting finally selecting one of the samples with which will be made a peal book, containing 300 leaves, and which will be paid by voluntary subscription, thus reserving the funds of the Association, which, when the balance-sheet is produced, will show a very satisfactory balance on the credit side of the Association, and which will (considering the expense of the formation of the Association), prove the efficiency of the officers entrusted with the supervision of printing, etc. For some time it has been the wish of a great part of the Association that the Ministers of the several districts should be permitted to join the Association, it was therefore resolved, on the motion of Mr. J. Carter, that the Secretary should write to the several ministers of the districts, some, it may be stated, having expressed a desire to become members. Mr. T. Russam, who unfortunately came late, suggested that the tower-keeper of each tower should be requested by the Secretary to ask the minister, where such tower-keepers reside, to become members. Mr. Russam's proposal was finally accepted instead of Mr. Carter's. The advisability of life members instead of honorary membership, after an animated discussion, was referred to committee, for this consideration. In the afternoon a muffled date touch of Grandsire Triples was started for at Bishop Ryder's church (it being the anniversary of the death of the late Mr. John Bannister), but after ringing 1 hr. and 10 mins., it came to grief. It being late the band fell the bells, and retired to the club-house. The touch was composed and conducted by J. W. Cattle. After business was disposed of, several touches and tunes on handbells were creditably rendered, interspersed with songs and recitations, and the meeting closed, but not till having most heartily thanked the President, Secretary, and Treasurer for their past services, and looking forward with hope as regards the prosperity of the Association, as not only doing their duty as officers so very efficiently, but by each being good change-ringers, their prosperity was thus doubly insured.

NEW RING OF BELLS FOR ST. MICHAEL'S, ARDSLEY, YORKSHIRE.

The following extract from the July number of the *East Ardsley Magazine*, is forwarded to us for insertion:—

"The Vicar is making strenuous efforts to raise funds for a peal of eight bells, about to be erected in the tower of the new church. Mr. Charles Eckersley Daniel, the last surviving son of the late Vicar, has given the 4th bell. Miss Hill and Miss Augusta Hill, of Earl's Court House, London, have, during their stay at the Vicarage, raised the sum of £60 16s. 1d., to pay for the 2nd bell. Mr. Eli Simpson, of Ardsley Mill, has promised £30, and the Vicar has collected about £80 more, by letter from strangers; but the sum of £470 is still required to make up the amount wanted.

The bells are of the following weight and cost:—

	cwts.	£	s.	d.
Treble.	5	56	3	9
2nd.	5½	59	6	3
3rd.	6½	65	11	3
4th.	8½	74	18	9
5th.	10½	87	8	9
6th.	11½	96	16	3
7th.	15½	120	5	0
Tenor.	20	148	7	6

Total...83½ cwts. 708 17 6

The order has been given to Messrs. Llewellyns and James, Bell Founders, Bristol, and the peal will be hung about the end of October. An Ellacombe chiming apparatus will be attached to the bells, so that one man can work them all. The cost of this will be £14 extra."

YEAR-BOOK OF THE STOKE-ON-TRENT ARCHDIACONAL ASSOCIATION. —This is a small brochure, compiled by the late Honorary Secretary of the above Association, the Rev. W. W. Bolton. It consists of the rules the Association has adopted, with a variety of information necessary to a member of a ringing Guild. Mr. Bolton has worked very hard indeed to bring the Stoke-upon-Trent Association to its present position, and this little book, his last official labour in connection with it is an appropriate souvenir of his connection with the ringers of the Stoke Archdeaconry.

THE KENT ARCHÆOLOGICAL SOCIETY.

THE members this year met at Ashford, and had two days perambulation of the district; the weather being very fine a rich treat was enjoyed. The churches of Hinxhill, Brook, Boughton Aluph, and Kennington were examined on the first day. The first place is not upon a scale to expect a ring of bells, nor could the two under the spire be had access to, by one or two strings present. Brook was found to be a very singular building, having a large square Norman tower, which would hold ten bells, the ringing-loft opens to the nave by two windows, and in the chamber is a *fresco*, this was formerly a cell for a recluse, and would now make a fine ringing-room; three bells by Hatch occupy one corner above; of no particular interest.

Boughton Aluph is more worthy of remark. The edifice is very large, and cross-shaped, with large centre tower, the ropes of three bells were found coming down into the benches. We found five bells, the tenor, of the fourteenth century, with most elegant letters and ornaments (I am called Gabriel, etc.); this is unfortunately badly cracked. Another was presented in the time of Cromwell. What is here most remarkable is that instead of the usual four heavy piers of a centre tower, the arcade alone affords support; the four pillars at the crossing being very slightly increased in diameter; they are slightly out of plumb. The whole would perhaps collapse with the swing of a heavy ring. The church contains most handsome windows, with much old stained glass.

The whole party then walked through Eastwell Park, the thirty or more carriages proceeding slowly across the grass.

Kennington was next reached, after inspecting the ugly mansion, the sound of "bells up" was evident for the first time. A spliced ring of six in good order was found, all the visitors passing between the ropes as the church was entered; one member being seen to take a rope from one of the ringers and proceed in his place. The second day Eastwell, Westwell, Charing, etc., were visited. Eastwell is in the park, at the head of the lake, its tower has a really good light ring of six, which were rung as the party arrived, the "go" being excellent.

Westwell has only four bells, some being cast by Wilner of Borden. Next was reached:—

"Dirty Charing, all in a hole,
Has but one bell
And that they stole."

This is all libel, the place is very clean and well situated, never stole a bell, after its steeple was burned; and has as pretty a little family of six bells as ever were raised, in its lofty stone tower.

The local band showed them off, but only practiced Churchyard Bob, which is a pity. The bells were presented by one of the clergy, formerly of the place. It was expected that the great ring at Ashford would have pealed forth, but this was unfortunately forgotten by those who strained every nerve to welcome the society.

The curfew is still rung there at 9 p.m., and during the evening meeting the members were reminded of the day of the month, a single stroke on the fine tenor, after the 4th had gone up and down.

THE WORCESTER DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

THE ANNUAL MEETING of the above Association will be held at Worcester, on Monday August 27th. The members will meet at the Bridge Inn, Bridge Street, at 11 o'clock, to arrange for ringing on the different peals of bells in the City. The Meeting for business will be held in All Saint's schoolroom at 2 o'clock. The members of each society in the Association are invited to attend. Any society not receiving a special invitation will please accept this as one, as I have not yet been furnished with the addresses of the societies in the Association. Any further information will be supplied on application to.

21, Great Hill, Dudley.

S. SPITTLE,

VISIT OF THE ST. MARTIN'S (BIRMINGHAM) SOCIETY TO CRADLEY, WORCESTERSHIRE.

ON Monday, August 13th, 1883, being a fine day, a party of the St Martin's Society of Ringers, Birmingham, chartered a break at the "Black Swan" Inn, and proceeded to Cradley, in Worcestershire, taking with them a peal of handbells upon which they performed at intervals during the journey, touches of Grandsire Triples, and courses of Stedman Triples, and Grandsire Caters. Arriving in Cradley at 2 p.m., and after having refreshed themselves, ascended the tower of the parish church, and succeeded in ringing, at the first attempt the late Mr. Thomas Day's six part peal of Grandsire Triples, a report of which will be found in another column. Having left the tower the party regaled themselves with tea, and having spent a hour or so in singing, and a plain course of Grandsire Caters on the handbells, they started back on the homeward journey, arriving at Birmingham at 10 p.m., very much pleased with their day's enjoyment.

"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, E. W. 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.

S. MARSH.—We have sent your communication to Mr. Snowden.

S. H. (Braintree).—When you have time, send again what you refer to.

The Bell News & Ringers' Record.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 18, 1883.

A notable feature in the programme adopted by many of our most prominent Ringing Guilds and Associations is that of having an organization of teachers of the art, either paid or unpaid. We must not be considered as being opposed to such a plan when we merely express a fear that in some cases persons not the most efficient as preceptors are selected to fill such offices. Of course, in the wholesale employment of teachers in other sciences, as well as ringing, different degrees of competency may be looked for, and varying results, the effects of the quality of instruction given, will be apparent. In the choice of a ringing instructor, we should look for abilities which may be considered peculiar to the subject on which information is to be imparted, and its surroundings. Whoever has proved to be a successful instructor in the art of ringing, will be found upon examination, to possess the faculty called "tact" in an eminent degree. The adjective is italicised, so that our use of it may be understood in its strict sense. An efficient instructor is not one who merely takes a rope with his pupils, and while ringing shouts out to them to do this or that, thus only making confusion worse confounded. He should, in addition to giving his scholars the rule of the method on paper, have tact and ingenuity enough to illustrate its theory by plain and well understood remarks; should be able, in short, to give to them a kind of brief lecture, to assist them in their difficulties. We have heard of persons, who were supposed to possess a capability for teaching who while in company with their young academicians, very rarely spoke only to find fault with some one who happened to forget himself while ringing. Others we have heard of have satisfied themselves with continually impressing upon the "youths" to "mind their striking," leaving them to find out everything else how they may. We admit that such

"instructors" are not very common; but the fact of their existence is in most instances a serious disadvantage instead of an assistance. And what is more disappointing to a young company to find that after entering into an engagement for a season with some one to teach them, for a liberal consideration, perhaps, that they have been deceived in their estimation of the capabilities of that individual?

At the meeting of the Oxford Diocesan Guild at Windsor the other week, a most valuable suggestion was made, which if it ever comes to be realised, will act as a species of corrective to the shortcomings of those who in some cases intrude themselves upon the notice of youthful companies of ringers under the pretence of being fully competent to teach. This suggestion was "that the general committee should consider the advisability of utilizing part of the time at subsequent meetings, by organizing lectures to the members by experienced ringers, some to beginners with hints for ringing, and others to more advanced ringers on such subjects as in and out of course." The value of such a plan, if thoroughly carried out, really cannot be over-estimated. We fail to see what is exactly meant by the words "subsequent meetings." An additional meeting of a ringing company now and then may be arranged, and negotiations entered into with some one fully competent to explain and illustrate some particular branch of the science. That there are many among us who are able and willing to thus give their services in such a manner, there is not the slightest doubt. And we should rejoice in being able to publish in our columns a list of such lecturers, with the titles of the subjects they would undertake to deal with. We think such instrumentality in teaching the art would often be called into requisition.

THE ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS AT EASTBOURNE, SUSSEX.

On Saturday, August 11th, eight members of this Society visited Eastbourne by kind invitation of Messrs. Warner and Sons, of the Crescent Foundry, Cripplegate, London, this firm having just erected a new peal of eight bells at All Saints' church, tenor 18 cwt. in E. They are hung in a massive oak frame, and are fitted with Warner's improved chiming apparatus, by which one man can chime the whole of the eight bells for service. Arriving at Eastbourne the band at once proceeded to the church, when ringing was started with a 576 of Kent Treble Bob, afterwards followed with a musical touch of a 504 of Stedman Triples. An adjournment was then made to Mr. Vines restaurant, where a good and substantial dinner was provided by the liberality of the worthy vicar. Ample justice having been done to the good fare, the tower was again ascended, when the following touches were rung at intervals during the afternoon: 504 of Grandsire Triples; 336 of Bob Major; 224 of Double Norwich Court Bob Major; and 224 of Oxford Treble Bob. In the evening the band were kindly shown round the town by Messrs. Harding and Hunnisett, of the local society. A visit was also paid to All Souls' church (a peal of 5), and Christ Church (a peal of six), where several 6-scores and 720's were rung, particulars of which will be found on another page. It was hitherto thought impossible to ring changes at All Souls' church, owing to the rocking of the tower. On Sunday morning the visitors were taken to the parish church, St. Mary's (a peal of 8), when a 576 of Kent Treble Bob was rung for service, and a 444 of Stedman Triples after service. Adjourning to the "Lamb" Hotel, a capital dinner was served by the worthy host, who expressed himself highly pleased with the ringing, and said he would willingly give £50 if he could do the same. In the afternoon another visit was paid to All Saints' church, when 1260 of Stedman Triples was rung for service. After this a stroll was taken to Beechy Head, which is upwards of 600 feet above the level of the sea, and from whence a splendid view of the sea and surrounding country can be obtained. This brought the day to a close, and the visitors returned to town well pleased with their outing. The ringers who took part in the above ringing were: G. Newson (conductor), 1; W. Meadows, 2; T. Titchener, 3; J. Gobbett, 4; A. Jacob, 5; E. Chapman, 6; J. Hannington, 6; J. Barrett, 8.

The Provinces.**WEST BROMWICH, STAFFORDSHIRE.**

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS, AND
THE ST. MARTIN'S (BIRMINGHAM) YOUTHS.

On Saturday, August 11, 1883, in Three Hours,

AT ALL SAINTS' CHURCH,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

THURSTANS' COMPOSITION. Tenor 14 cwt.

HENRY JOHNSON, JUN. .. Treble.	WILLIAM ROCK SMALL .. 5.
JOB JOYNES 2.	SAMUEL REEVES 6.
HENRY BASTABLE 3.	JOHN BUFFERY 7.
HENRY JOHNSON, SEN. .. 4.	ALFRED THOMAS Tenor.

Conducted by SAMUEL REEVES.

This is the first true peal of Stedman Triples rung in West Bromwich, permission being very kindly given by the Rev. M. M. Connor, vicar, for which the party take this opportunity of thanking him. Previous to starting for the peal, the ringers of the 4th and 5th bells were elected members of the Ancient Society of College Youths.

CRADLEY, WORCESTERSHIRE.

THE (BIRMINGHAM) ST. MARTIN'S SOCIETY.

On Monday, August 13, 1883, in Two Hours and Fifty-seven Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

T. DAY'S COMPOSITION. Tenor 12 cwt. in G.

JOHN JAMES Treble.	THOMAS MILLER 5.
JOB JOYNES 2.	JOHN BUFFERY 6.
SAMUEL REEVES 3.	ALFRED THOMAS 7.
HENRY BASTABLE 4.	ROBERT JONES Tenor.

(No conductor mentioned.)

RHYL, NORTH WALES.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION, AND THE
ST. PAUL'S SOCIETY OF BURTON-ON-TRENT.

On Monday, August 13, 1883, in Three Hours and Twenty-six Minutes,

AT ST. THOMAS'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES. Tenor 17½ cwt. in F.

HARRY WAKLEY Treble.	JOHN JAGGAR 5.
EDWARD ISAAC STONE .. 2.	GEORGE APPLEBY 6.
ARTHUR WAKLEY 3.	THOMAS HOLMES 7.
JOSEPH GRIFFIN 4.	WILLIAM WAKLEY Tenor.

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

For the figures of the above, see Mr. Snowdon's collection in "THE BELL NEWS," vol. I, page 283, being the second of the peals of 5088 there published. It has never been previously performed, and is the first peal of Double Norwich, rung in Wales.

STALYBRIDGE, CHESHIRE.—THE HYDE SOCIETY.

On Monday, August 13, 1883, in Two Hours and Fifty-eight Minutes,

AT HOLY TRINITY CHURCH, CASTLE HALL,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5184 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 14 cwt.

JAMES SHAW Treble.	*JOHN FILDES 5.
RALPH PRICHARD 2.	SAMUEL BRADLEY 6.
JAMES S. WILDE 3.	SAMUEL BENNETT 7.
ROBERT WOOLLEY 4.	THOMAS WILDE Tenor.

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

*First peal in the method.

The peal will be found in Snowdon's Treatise on Treble Bob, part II, page 21.

A CORRECTION.—In the account which we published a short time ago of the Winchester Guild Annual Meeting, an error occurred in the name of the president. The president of the Guild is Charles Churchill, Esq., of Weybridge Park, Surrey. This gentleman's name was sent to us by the Hon. Sec. of the Guild, but the letter being incorrectly addressed, it did not reach us before we went to press.

OXFORD.—THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Thursday, August 9, 1883, in Three Hours and Ten Minutes,

AT THE CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF CHRIST,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S TEN-PART PEAL. Tenor 42 cwt.

CHARLES HOUNSLOW* .. Treble.	*WM. CHAS. BASTON .. 5.
GEORGE LAPWORTH 2.	*WILLIAM FINCH 6.
THOMAS PAYNE† 3.	JAMES WM. WASHBROOK .. 7.
OLIVER THOMAS* 4.	ALFRED BARNEY Tenor.

Conducted by JAMES WILLIAM WASHBROOK.

†First peal. *Members of the Ancient Society of College Youths.

Miscellaneous.**THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.**

BROMHAM.—On Sunday, August 12th, at St. Owen's church, for Divine Service in the morning, a 720 of Bob Minor, with six singles and eight bobs, in 28 mins. T. Tysoe, 1; F. Smith, 2; H. King, 3; W. King, 4; C. Stafferton, 5; W. Biggs (conductor), 6.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

COGGESHALL (Essex).—On Sunday morning, August 5th, at St. Peter's church, for Divine Service, a 1008 of Bob Major, in 41 mins. John Sadler, 1; William Dyer, 2; James Nicholls, 3; Harry Randall (West Ham), 4; James Aust, 5; James Sadler, 6; William Nicholls, 7; James Potter (conductor), 8. Also in the evening, a 360 of Oxford Treble Bob Minor. John Sadler, 1; William Dyer, 2; James Aust, 3; David Elliott, 4; William Nicholls, 5; Harry Randall, 6. Tenor 22 cwt.

ROMFORD (Essex).—Chiming.—On Sunday evening, August 12th, on the back six at St. Edward's, a 720 of Bob Minor, with four bobs and fourteen singles, in 26 mins. A. J. Perkins, 1-2-3-4; B. Keeble (conductor), 5-6.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

FARNHAM ROYAL (Bucks).—On Tuesday, August 7th, being the occasion of the Farnham Royal Horticultural Society's Show, a 720 of Grandsire Doubles, in 25½ mins. C. Chapman, 1; F. Fells, 2; G. Basden, 3; J. Basden, 4; J. Parker (conductor), 5; T. Brown (first 720), 6. Also on Saturday, August 11th, a 720 of Bob Minor in five parts, with twenty-five bobs and ten singles, in 26 mins. F. Fells, 1; W. Fussell, 2; A. Fussell, 3; J. Parker (composer and conductor), 4; H. Cutter, 5; C. Clarke, 6. Mr. Cutter hails from Willesden.

OXFORD.—Handbell Ringing.—On Monday evening, July 23rd, the following members of the above Association met at the residence of Mr. John Collier, and rang on handbells, retained in hand, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, 1260 changes, in 34 mins. Charles Hounslow, 1-2; William C. Baston, 3-4; James W. Washbrook (conductor), 5-6; John G. Collier, 7-8. This quarter-peal was marked off as it was rung by Mr. S. Hounslow. Also on Tuesday, July 17th, a 720 of Grandsire Minor, in 18 mins. Oliver Thomas, 1-2; James W. Washbrook (conductor), 3-4; William Baston, 5-6.

OXFORD.—On Wednesday, August 8th, at St. Michael's church, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor, in 27 mins. George Warner, 1; Samuel Hounslow, 2; Tom Payne, 3; Charles Hounslow, 4; James William Washbrook (conductor), 5; William Finch, 6. Tenor 13 cwt. in F. This is supposed to be the first 720 in this method on the bells, which go very badly.

WANTAGE (Berks).—On Sunday, August 12th, six members of this branch rang in good style three 6-scores of Stedman Doubles. G. Gregory, 1; J. Gardener, 2; F. May, 3; F. Money, 4; A. Gregory, 5; A. Bunce, 6. Also 120 of Grandsire Doubles. G. Gregory, 1; *W. R. Pocock, 2; F. May, 3; F. Money, 4; A. Gregory, 5; H. Smith, 6. Tenor 23½ cwt. *Member of the St. Lawrence Parish church society, Reading.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

MELBOURNE (Derbyshire).—On Saturday, August 11th, at the parish church, six members of the above Association visited the above place, and by the kind permission of the Vicar (Rev. J. Deans), rang a 720 of Bob Minor, in 29 mins. R. Bosworth, 1; A. Taberer, 2; R. Redgate, 3; H. C. Woodward, 4; J. Newbold, 5; J. Howe (conductor), 6. Also a 720 of Grandsire Minor, in 28 mins. R. Redgate, 1; A. Taberer, 2; J. Newbold, 3; H. C. Woodward, 4; R. Bosworth, 5; J. Howe (conductor), 6. This is the first 720 in the method on the bells. After the above had finished five members of the local company, with Mr. W. Busher of Derby, rang two 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles, called differently. H. Hulse, 1; J. Warren, 2; W. Busher, 3; G. C. Tunni-

cliff, 4; T. Hollingworth (conductor), 5; F. Kinsey, 6. The ringers afterwards repaired to the Blue Bell Inn for refreshments, where a course of Triples were rung on handbells in very excellent style. J. Newbold, 1-2; R. Bosworth, 3-4; J. Howe, 5-6; H. C. Woodward, 7-8. The visitors were highly pleased with their afternoon's outing, and expressed their opinion of the excellent go of the bells.

LONG EATON (Derbyshire).—On Sunday, August 5th, for evening service, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor, with fifteen bobs, in 27 mins. G. Bradley, 1; A. Widdowson, 2; S. Clarke, 3; W. Gilson, 4; W. Grice, 5; J. Barrow (conductor), 6. Also on Monday evening, August 13th, for practice 360 Grandsire Minor. R. Hickton, 1; G. Bradley, 2; J. Barrow, 3; W. Gilson, 4; W. Grice, 5; J. Ward (conductor), 6. Also 120 Stedman Doubles. J. Barrow (conductor), 1; G. Bradley, 2; W. Gilson, 3; W. Grice, 4; R. Hickton, 5; J. Pritchard, 6. Tenor 11 cwt.

STOKE-UPON-TRENT ARCHIDIACONAL ASSOCIATION.

CHEDDLETON (Staffordshire).—On Sunday, August 5th, a 720 of Bob Minor, with eighteen bobs and two singles, in 25 mins. J. James, 1; G. Walker (first 720), 2; J. Gilbert, 3; Hy. Rodgers, 4; F. Clowes (conductor), 5; J. Renshaw, 6. G. Walker hails from Norton-le-Moors, the rest from Cheddleton.

ANSTON (Yorkshire).—On Sunday, August 12th, at St. James's church, a 360 of Oxford Treble Bob Minor. R. Fox, 1; T. Silvester, 2; J. Bland, 3; W. Wyatt, 4; C. Fowler, 5; W. Hall (conductor), 6. Tenor 12 cwt.

ARDLEIGH (Essex).—On Thursday, July 9th, for the opening service, two 720's of Bob Minor was rung by a mixed band. J. Taylor (conductor), 1; G. Bowell, 2; W. Smith, 3; H. Bowell, 4; G. Smith, 5; W. Nevard, 6. Also on Sunday, August 12th, a 720 in the same method, in 27 mins. J. Taylor (conductor), 1; G. Bowell, 2; H. Bowell, 3; J. Sargent, 4; W. Nevard, 5; J. Starling, 6. Tenor 14 cwt.

AUGHTON (Lancashire).—On Friday evening, August 10th, at Christ Church, a 720 of Grandsire Minor, was rung on the front six, with 7-8 covering. G. Larkey, 1; W. Fairclough, 2; J. Orme, 3; C. Sharples (conductor), 4; W. Bentham, 5; J. Walker, 6; J. Gardner, 7; J. Gaskell, 8. Tenor 16 cwt. in F.

BEIGHTON (Derbyshire).—On Sunday, August 12th, at the parish church, five of the Eckington company, with Mr. S. Allen, sen., of Dronsfield, rang a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob Minor, in 25 mins. G. Smith, 1; S. Allen, 2; E. James, 3; W. Price, 4; Geo. Marsden (conductor), 5; T. Lunn, 6. Tenor 10 cwt.

BRIERLEY HILL (Staffordshire).—On Sunday morning, August 12th, at the parish church, a 720 of Grandsire Minor. John Hayward, 1; W. H. Hughes, 2; J. Guest (conductor), 3; G. Howells, 4; W. Lawrence, 5; R. Bidmead, 6. J. Hayward hails from Longton.

EASTBOURNE (Sussex).—On Saturday, August 11th, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor, in 24 mins. J. Gobbett, 1; J. Hannington (conductor), 2; W. Meadows, 3; E. Chapman, 4; A. Jacob, 5; J. Barrett, 6. Also a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob Minor, in 25 mins. W. Meadows, 1; E. Chapman, 2; J. Hannington (conductor), 3; A. Jacob, 4; T. Titchener, 5; G. Newson, 6. Also a 6-score of Stedman Doubles. G. Newson, 1; W. Meadows, 2; J. Gobbett, 3; J. Hannington (conductor), 4; T. Titchener, 5; J. Barrett, 6. Also a 6-score of Grandsire Doubles. J. Hannington (conductor), 1; G. Newson, 2; F. Harding (Eastbourne), 3; W. Meadows, 4; T. Titchener, 5; H. Cox (Eastbourne), 6. Tenor 7½ cwt.

ECCLES (Lancashire).—On Saturday, August 11th, the following members of the Leesfield society visited this place, and rung at St. Mary's the first half of J. Reeves's ten-part (variation) peal of Grandsire Triples, 2520 changes, in 1 hr. 29 mins., time not permitting of a full peal. Jas. H. Gartside, 1; Fred Crosland, 2; Edwin Shaw, 3; Samuel Stott (conductor), 4; James Bailey, 5; Wm. Holden, 6; John Hilton, 7; Thos. B. Shaw, 8. Tenor 13½ cwt. This peal of bells are without stays.

NOTTINGHAM.—On Sunday, July 29th, the newly organized band of the above church rang for Divine Service in the morning and evening, a 700 of Stedman Triples. J. Wibberley, 1; Thos. Cooke, 2; W. Langley, 3; Horace W. Abbott, 4; Ed. Robinson, 5; J. Hickman, 6; G. Middleton (conductor), 7; J. A. Wibberley, 8.

SOUTHPORT (Lancashire).—On Monday, August 13th, seven of the Christ Church ringers, assisted by Mr. Joseph Cheetham, of the Bradford Old Society, rung as a friendly peal, at that church, the first half of Holt's 10-part peal, in 1 hr. and 23 mins. J. H. Heywood, 1; T. J. Fielding, 2; C. F. Heywood (conductor), 3; Jos. Cheetham, 4; R. Hill, 5; H. Spencer, 6; G. R. Heywood, 7; A. Fielding, 8. Tenor 10 cwt. 8 lbs. *Member of the Ancient Society of College Youths, and the Yorkshire Association.

TETTENHALL (Staffordshire).—On Saturday, July 28th, the local company rang at the parish church, rang for practice a 720 of Grandsire Minor, in 27 mins. T. Roberts, 1; E. Nicholls, 2; B. Dalton, 3; W. Edwards, 4; J. Fowler, 5; J. Jones (conductor), 6. Also on Saturday, August 4th, the company had their Annual trip, and went to Kidderminster, and rang a touch of Grandsire Triples, 1883 changes, being the date of the present year, in 1 hr. 18 mins. W. Purdoo, 1; B. Dalton, 2; E. Nicholls (composer), 3; W. Edwards, 4; W. Smith, 5; J. Jones (conductor), 6; J. Fowler, 7; T. Roberts, 8. All the above, with the exception of Mr. Smith, belong to the Association of the Archdeaconry of Stafford. Tenor 29½ cwt.

TEWKESBURY ABBEY (Gloucestershire).—On Sunday afternoon, August 12th, on the occasion of a Special (Hospital) Service being held in the Abbey church (to which about 500 Odd Fellows and Foresters attended), the Abbey society met and rung 1008 changes of Union Triples. R. H. Witherington, 1; S. Cleal, 2; J. J. Moore, 3; G. Cleal, 4; John Wathen, 5; J. Hale, 6; Josiah Wathen (composer and conductor), 7; W. Haines, 8. Tenor 24 cwt.

WORDSLEY (Staffordshire).—On Thursday evening, August 9th, a 720 of Grandsire Minor. John Hayward, 1; E. S. Chapman, 2; J. Guest (conductor), 3; W. H. Hughes, 4; W. Lawrence, 5; E. G. Husselbee, 6. J. Hayward hails from Longton.

WORTH (Sussex).—On Sunday, August 5th, for service in the afternoon, a 720 of Oxford Bob, with eighteen bobs and two singles. W. Owden, 1; B. Payne, 2; J. Tullett, 3; W. Denman, 4; G. Illman, 5; F. Rice (conductor), 6. After service a 720 of Oxford Bob, with twenty-two singles. W. Owden, 1; B. Payne, 2; F. Rice, 3; W. Denman, 4; F. Streeter, 5; E. Streeter (conductor), 6. After service in the morning, a 360 of Oxford Bob, with six bobs and three singles, standing in the same order as first, and conducted by F. Rice. On Sunday, August 12th, before afternoon service, a 720, with fifteen bobs and six singles. W. Owden, 1; F. Streeter, 2; W. Denman, 3; G. Illman, 4; F. Rice, 5; E. Streeter (conductor), 6. Also after service, a 720 with thirty singles. W. F. Meads (Lindfield), 1; W. Denman, 2; F. Rice, 3; E. Streeter, 4; F. Streeter, 5; Jno. Gasson (conductor), 6. After which another 720 was started for, but owing to a shift course it was extended to 840, with thirty-six bobs and twenty-two singles. W. F. Meads, 1; F. Rice, 2; W. Denman, 3; J. Gasson, 4; F. Streeter, 5; E. Streeter (conductor), 6. Also 360, with twenty-one bobs. W. Owen, 1; W. Denman, 2; F. Rice, 3; J. Gasson, 4; F. Streeter, 5; E. Streeter (conductor), 6. All the above are in the Oxford Bob Method. Tenor 8½ cwt. in G.

OPENING OF THE NEW BELLS AT ST. NICHOLAS'S CHURCH, HALEWOOD, LANCASHIRE.

THE above tower and bells, the gift of Mr. French, the Lindens, Gateacre, were consecrated by the Lord Bishop of Liverpool, assisted by the Rural Dean, Rev. J. W. Diggle, and the Rector, the Rev. T. Chambers. The bells (a peal of eight by Warner), are hung in English oak frame, with all requisite appliances for ringing and chiming, are in G natural. Tenor (39 inches diameter), about 11 cwt. The clock supplied by Messrs. Potts and Son, Leeds. The tower bells and clock cost about £2200. The Architect not allowing the bells to be rung up, the tower not being dry enough, the bells were chimed by members of the Garston society. It is hoped the tower will be fit for ringing purposes by Harvest Festival. The local ringers are making good progress in ringing matters.

STAFFORD ARCHIDIACONAL ASSOCIATION.

ON Saturday, August 11th, five Lichfield members of the above Association, at the kind invitation of the vicar (the Rev. G. Hodgson, visited St. Matthew's, Walsall, where they were received by the vicar and ringers, and, with the assistance of the latter, rang touches of Grandsire and Stedman Triples, Kent Treble Bob Major, and Grandsire Caters, in which the following took part:—Rev. J. R. Keble (Lichfield; clerical Hon. Sec. of the Association); W. Hallsworth, J. Astbury, sen., J. Astbury, jun., W. Walker, D. Wesley, D. Chapman, E. Taylor, E. Gallimore (Lichfield), T. Meredith (Lichfield), H. Meacham (Lichfield), and F. Cope (Lichfield). After attending Divine Service, the party (numbering about seventeen), were kindly entertained to tea by the worthy Vicar, who spoke upon the work of the Association. The Rev. J. R. Keble suitably replied; and thanked the Vicar and ringers for their hospitality and welcome. An adjournment being made to the church, after several touches, a date touch of Stedman Caters was rung in 1 hour 10 mins., by F. Hallsworth, treble; F. Cope, 2; J. Astbury, sen., 3; W. Walker, 4; T. Meredith, 5; D. Wesley, 6; J. Astbury, jun., 7; D. Chapman, 8; W. Hallsworth, 9; E. Taylor, tenor. Composed and conducted by W. Hallsworth. Weight of tenor, 24 cwt. in Eb.

VISIT OF THE ST. PAUL'S SOCIETY BURTON ON TRENT,
TO RHYL, NORTH WALES.

ON Monday last, August 13th, the members of the above Society, in conjunction with the choirs of St. Paul's and St. Margaret's churches visited this pretty watering place, on the occasion of the annual excursion of the united choirs of St. Paul's parish. The London and North Western Railway had kindly consented to run a special train for the accommodation of the members and their friends leaving Burton-on-Trent at 6 a. m.; and the party, which was joined at Alrewas by a considerable accession of pleasure seekers, reached Rhyl at 9.30 a.m., travelling by Lichfield, Stafford, Crewe, and Chester. At Rhyl, a capital breakfast had been provided by the churchwardens of St. Paul's (Messrs. W. Wakley and E. F. Daniel, who carried out the entire arrangements of the day to everybody's satisfaction) to which about 100 sat down, by way of refreshing the inner man after their long journey. Breakfast ended, eight of St. Paul's ringers started off under the guidance of the energetic and affable steeple-keeper of St. Thomas' Church, to try for a peal upon the bells, permission for which had been granted by the favour of the Rev. T. Richardson, the Vicar of this beautiful Church. They found the bell-chamber capitally fitted up; and the go of the bells, a handy peal of Messrs. Taylor, every thing that could be desired. Unfortunately the sound of the bells in the ringing chamber is so overpowering, owing to the want of an intermediate floor, that it is difficult to distinguish the bells, unless they are rung very "high," and this will account for the comparative slowness of the peal which was subsequently achieved. If it would not be considered impertinent, where everything else is in such good order, and so admirably arranged, to make a suggestion we should like to state, that in our opinion, it would be a great improvement in the interests of change-ringing at this church, to carry the ropes down through the present ringing chamber, into the room below. This latter seems to us to have been originally intended for the ringing chamber, than which arrangement indeed nothing could have been better; but this room, as we believe, used for storage purposes at present, whilst the ringers stand in the chamber above. If this state of things were exactly reversed, there would be no better place to be found in the Principality for peal ringing on eight bells. The party started for a peal of Double Norwich Court Bob Major, but after half an hour's ringing, found that the speed at which they commenced was incompatible with good striking, owing to the drawback above mentioned. A stand was therefore called, and a fresh start made, which resulted in the completion of a 5088 by Mr. Henry Johnson, sen., in 3 hrs. and 26 mins., see record. A dip in the sea of course followed this achievement, the interval before dinner being kept in surveying the various attractions of the town and neighbourhood. Dinner was served at the Alexandra Hotel at five o'clock. The Rev. James H. Fish officiating as chairman and proposing subsequently the various toasts which are invariably honoured on the occasions of this Annual Excursion. The party left Rhyl at 8 p.m., and arrived safely at Burton at 1.30 a.m., thoroughly tired, but thoroughly pleased with a very enjoyable day's outing.

THE CHURCH YEAR-BOOK AND RINGER'S GUILDS.

We have much pleasure in printing the following important communication from the Rev. Woolmore Wigram;—

"Allow me, through your columns, to direct the attention of ringers to chapter vi. of the Church Year-book, published by the S.P.C.K. Also to request, that they will communicate to me any mistakes, or omissions made last year. And in particular, that they will furnish me with the address, etc., of new Guilds; or any other information, which will tend to secure that "the Exercise" be properly reported in the Official Year-book for 1884.

W. WIGRAM.

Address during August,
Rothbury, Morpeth."

THE "JOHN HOLT" FUND.—Our Treasurer requests us to acknowledge the receipt of 4s. from Mr. Samuel Smith (steeple-keeper at St. Margaret's), towards this fund.

Several matters are unavoidably left over until our next issue.

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."

HEIGHINGTON OPENING.

SIR,—Mr. Thompson says he was, and still is, under the impression that in writing my first letter I was acting in the capacity of secretary of the Association. Of course I was. The great majority of change-ringers within distance of Heighington are members of the Association, and naturally looked to me, their Secretary, to inform them of the arrangements respecting that opening. The letter referred to, conveyed that information, and was therefore an official letter and signed as such. The Hurworth ringers are most certainly welcome to all the consolation they can derive from Mr. Reed's letter, who I am quite sure never intended to convey the very false impression that the Heighington arrangements have not given great offence to several members of the Association. I am in a position to state that his letter would never have been written but for the fact that the Association had been accused of dictating to clergymen in what way and by whom their bells should be opened. There is I believe a vast difference between dictating upon such a matter, and recommending what measures would meet with the greatest approval by ringers of repute, and afford the best results. If the Hurworth ringers feel that they have been rather severely handled, I must remind them that this is the third opening in three consecutive years in this district that has been utterly spoiled by the action of ringers in the immediate neighbourhood. Regretting as I do the advantages that have been lost to the science in this way, I felt it was high time to speak out. As I do not intend to again refer to this incident, I will add that I sincerely hope that any feeling which this correspondence may have aroused will pass away, and that the spirit of exclusiveness in such matters as bell openings will henceforth become a thing unknown.

G. J. CLARKSON.

PEALS RUNG UPON HANDBELLS.

SIR,—I think this is a question that every ringer should take special notice of, not only should he take notice, but give all the assistance he possibly can to the object now in view, viz.: the formation of a complete record of peals rung upon handbells, a record which would be very interesting to a great many ringing friends, especially when we consider the great difficulties there are in obtaining peals double-handed which is the principal reason why we should have a record of all peals so rung. I think it could be done without putting our friends to any very great trouble. If they would be kind enough to forward all such peals that have been rung from August 1876 to February 1882, inclusive, to Mr. J. Carter, 33, Ford Street, Hockley, Birmingham, a step in the right direction will be gained. Now that we have a paper always ready to publish all peals sent for that purpose, I think it is entirely ringers' own faults if their peals are not recorded. In the event of a peal being rung in the country and not being made public, I contend that the London ringers would be quite justified in concluding that no such peal had been rung, or *vice versa*. I think Sir, that we as brother-ringers, should assist our Birmingham friend in the work he has voluntarily undertaken. Trusting that the appeal I have now made, may meet with a prompt response, I am Sir, yours respectfully,

W. A. ALPS.

THE BELLS OF WALTHAM ST. LAURENCE, BERKS.

SIR,—Having read the letters which have appeared in "THE BELL NEWS" concerning the "go" of the above bells, and as Mr. F. White, of Appleton, who rehung the bells last winter, is an old friend of mine, I thought I should like to see and know for myself the correct state of the bells, so on a recent Sunday I mustered a party, and went up and rang on the bells for about an hour and a half. We did not ring a 720, as one of the band failed to put in an appearance at the starting-point, so we had to put up with ringing Doubles, and a few courses of Minor, which we enjoyed very much, and we considered the "go" of the bells satisfactory, from treble to tenor, both for striking and easy-going. They are also a most musical peal. We found one difficulty, and that was, the ropes being new, were very elastic, and when such is the case, as all ringers know, it is difficult at first to get good striking, especially where, like this, there is a long draught (about sixty feet), with only one guide to steady the ropes. No doubt these were the reasons which militated against the success of the Boyne Hill (Maidenhead) company, and that they could not get on so well as they anticipated. I have no doubt that as soon as the ropes get well in use, the bells will be pealable for anything or anybody.

W. NEWELL.

Reading.

PEALS OF DOUBLE NORWICH
COURT BOB MAJOR.By H. DAINS, *Royal Cumberland Youths.*

5024.					
2 3 4 5 6	I	4	5	6	I 4 5 6
53624	-	-	-	-	42536
26354	-	-	-	-	35246
34265	S	-	-	-	54236
54362	-	-	-	-	43256
24563	-	-	-	-	52346
42365	-	-	-	-	24356
52463	-	-	-	-	45326
32564	-	-	-	-	23546
23465	-	-	-	-	24536
53264	-	-	-	-	25436
43562	-	-	-	-	53426
					32456

Repeated.

The above peal has the sixth twenty-four times right.

5008.					
2 3 4 5 6	I	4	5	6	I 4 5 6
54263	-	-	-	-	34526
24365	-	-	-	-	25436
34562	-	-	-	-	53426
42563	-	-	-	-	32456
52364	-	-	-	-	54236
32465	-	-	-	-	43256
25463	-	-	-	-	35246
45362	-	-	-	-	42536
35264	-	-	-	-	23546
53462	-	-	-	-	45326
43265	-	-	-	-	52346
23564	-	-	-	-	24356
35462	S	-	-	-	43526
45263	-	-	-	-	25346
25364	-	-	-	-	54326
54362	-	-	-	-	42356
34265	-	-	-	-	53246
24563	-	-	-	-	34256
43562	-	-	-	-	45236
53264	-	-	-	-	32546
32465	-	-	-	-	24536
23564	-	-	-	-	35426
52463	-	-	-	-	52436
42365	-	-	-	-	23456

The above peal has the 6th twenty-four times wrong and right in the least possible number of changes in which a peal in this method can be obtained with the tenors together.

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR.

5536.

By JOHN THORP, *Ashton-under-Lyne.*

2 3 4 5 6	M	B	W	H
36452	I			2
34562			I	2
42563	I			2
23564	I			2
32465	2			2
64235			2	2
62345			I	2
63425			I	2
25346	2	-		2
42356			I	
26345	I			2
52643			-	2
45236			-	2
34256			I	
46253	I			2
54632			-	2
35426			-	2
23456			I	

First rung at St. Peter's church, Ashton-under-Lyne, August 4th, 1883, conducted by James S. Wilde.

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CINQUES.

5104.

By GEORGE HAYWARD, *Bromsgrove.*

2 3 4 5 6	
65324	9th in and out at three.
36524	7th in with four.
56423	10 II
45623	7th in with four.
64523	7th in with four.
32465	11th in with three.
43265	7th in with four.
24365	7th in with four.
34562	10 II
53462	7th in with four.
45362	7th in with four.
35264	10 II

The last seven courses three times repeated, produce:— 2 3 4 5 6;

Bobs at I, I, 2, I, I, I, 2, I, I, bring the bells round.

PEALS OF TREBLE BOB MAXIMUS.

By H. C. HALEY, *College Youths.*

5040.					
2 3 4 5 6	M	W	H		
52364	2	2	2		
25463	2	2	2		
34562	I		I		
63524	2	2	2		
45236	I	I	2		
25346	2	I			
23456	I	2			

The last two to be repeated.

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERS.

6051.

By J. WRIGHT, *Kingston-on-Thames.*

2 3 4 5 6	Bob on 789
315624	4 5 16
314526	- -6-
413625	- -
415326	- -
514623	- -
513426	- -
516324	- -
615423	- -
613524	- -
614325	- -
416523	- -
613245	- -
615342	- -
516243	- -
513642	- -
315246	- -
316542	- -
312645	- -
213546	- -
216345	- -
215643	- -
512346	- -

The last eleven courses three times repeated, produce—

2 1 3 4 5 6

When bobs at 2 8 9 and 15 bring the bells round.

We again impress upon our friends the desirability of aiming at originality in their compositions. Some we have sent us entrench very close upon the old composers; and others are copies of peals produced by ourselves, and probably others, years ago. In the latter case, we shall of course ignore our own.

A QUARTER-PEAL OF GRANDSIRE
TRIPLES.By JOSIAH WATHEN, *Tewkesbury.*

752634 ¹	653472 ⁶
657423 ⁵	246753 ¹
236745 ²	462753 ⁴
732564 ⁶	374562 ¹
327564 ⁴	573246 ⁶
643752 ²	625473 ¹
746235 ⁵	642357 p.l.
357624 ²	634725 p.l.

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Copy of Shipway's Art of Ringing, accompanied by the Sheet of Peals of Stedman Triples, by Tebbs and others, which have been bound up with the work.—Apply to the Editor.

THE CHRISTMAS NUMBER (1882),

of "THE BELL NEWS."—A few copies are left on hand at the publisher's, the remnant of a second edition. Contains—Portrait, with Biographical Sketch, of Mr. Henry Johnson, of Birmingham; Peals and Touches; Christmas Eve at St. Gundulph's; The Bell Founder of Breslau; Acrostic; a Touch for Christmas; and other curious and entertaining matter.

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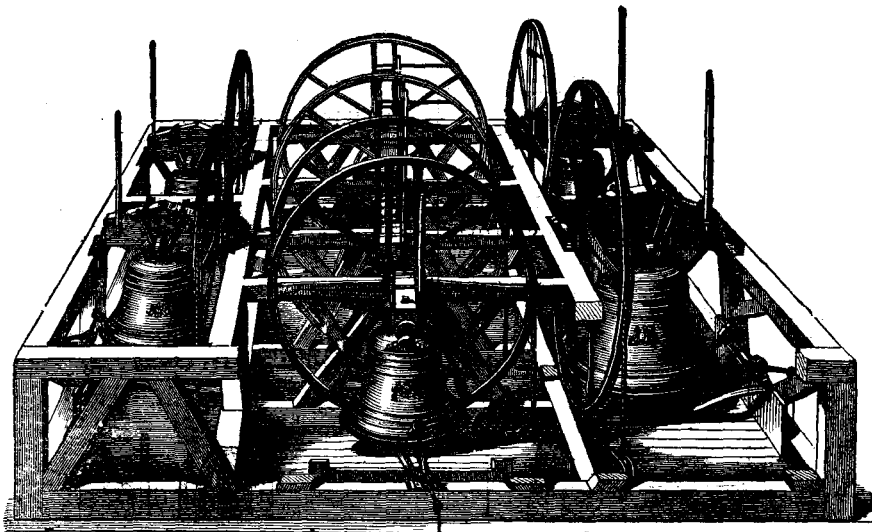
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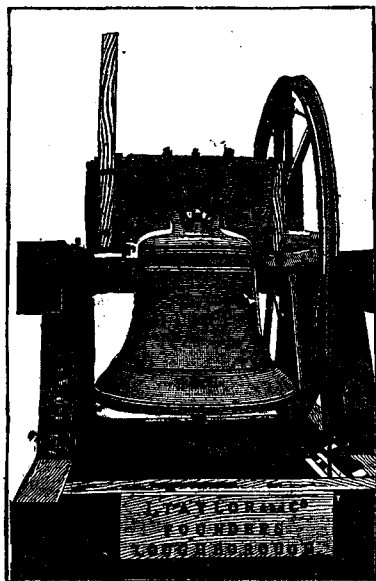
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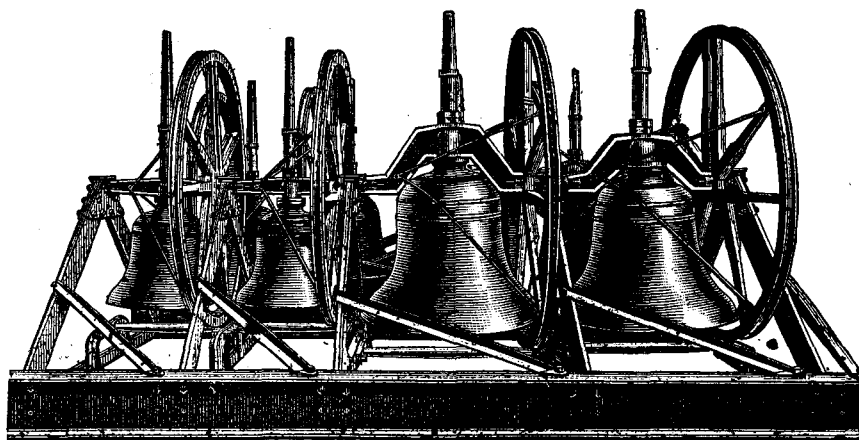
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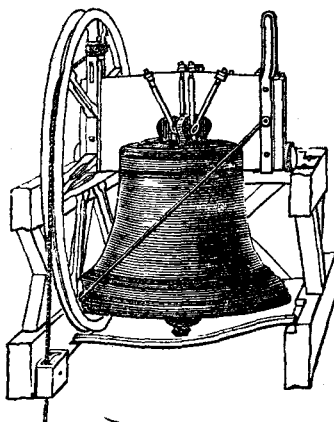
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GRANDSIRE TRIPLES.

By JASPER W. SNOWDON.

ABOUT ten years ago I gathered together a good deal of information concerning the earliest peals of Grandsire Triples which I now hope to have the pleasure of placing before the readers of "THE BELL NEWS." Before doing this, I think it will be as well to put before them the different compositions that have, from time to time, been produced in this method. I shall then, in my historical description, be able to refer to the actual figures of any particular peal.

Besides the foregoing reason for giving a collection of peals of Triples in the Grandsire method, there is an additional one in the fact that no collection has yet been published in which the best examples of the various plans on which peals have been composed have appeared. I shall not at this time, however, make anything more than a passing allusion to the peals in this collection, except with regard to the plans on which they have been composed.

No attempt has been made to make this a complete collection of all the variations upon these different plans. My endeavour has been to select the earliest examples, and then to include any improvements that may have been brought out at a later date. Why men will produce and ring inferior peals I am at a loss to understand. Why, for instance, will a man waste a lot of time in composing a peal on the three-course plan, in which he manages to substitute one or two singles for the bobs in each part? If a peal was composed on this plan with the greatest possible number of singles that a composer could introduce, we should then know that an almost endless number of variations could easily be produced which would contain an intermediate number of singles between the number in this peal and the number in a peal with the fewest possible singles in it. Such intermediate peals are, as Mr. Davies has lately shown, entirely devoid of interest.

PEALS ON THE THREE-LEAD-COURSE PLAN.

SIX-PART PEALS.

As the earliest peals were composed on this plan, I have therefore first selected it for notice.

In connection with these peals it will be an advantage to have the following table of three-lead course-ends before us:—

2 3 4 5 6 7	I 2	2 3 4 5 6 7	I 3	2 3 4 5 6 7	2 3
4 3 6 2 7 5	- -	3 4 7 2 6 5	- -	3 4 6 5 7 2	- -
4 3 6 2 5 7	s -	3 4 5 2 6 7	s -	3 4 7 5 6 2	s -
6 3 4 2 7 5	- s	4 3 7 2 6 5	- s	4 3 6 5 7 2	- s
6 3 4 2 5 7	s s	4 3 5 2 6 7	s s	4 3 7 5 6 2	s s

The following peal was first rung on August 26th, 1718, at St. Peter's Mancroft, Norwich, by the Society of Norwich Scholars, and is supposed to be the first true peal of Grandsire Triples ever composed or performed. Three different calls are used in this composition, viz.: ordinary bobs, fifths-place bobs, and "bob-singles." This latter call is merely a single made in conjuncture with a fifths-place bob, and might be termed a "fifths-place bob-single."

2 3 4 5 6 7	I 2 3	4 3 5 2 6 7	I 2 3
2 4 7 5 6 3	- * -	3 5 7 4 6 2	- - -
2 7 3 5 6 4	- * -	3 7 2 4 6 5	- * -
7 3 4 2 6 5	- - -	7 2 5 3 6 4	- - -
3 4 5 7 6 2	- - -	2 5 4 7 6 3	- - -
4 5 2 3 6 7	- - -	5 4 3 2 6 7	- - -
4 2 7 3 6 5	- * -	5 3 7 2 6 4	- * -
2 7 5 4 6 3	- - -	5 7 4 2 6 3	- * -
7 5 3 2 6 4	- - -	7 4 3 5 6 2	- - -
5 3 4 7 6 2	- - -	4 3 2 7 6 5	- - -
3 4 2 5 6 7	- - -	3 2 5 4 6 7	- - -

The above twice repeated would come round at the quarter-peal, but by the substitution of a fifth-place bob for the common one at the 30th course-end, the course-end 1 4 3 5 2 6 7 is produced.

The mark * represents a fifth-place bob.

The above ten courses twice repeated, with the substitution of a bob-single at the 60th course-end, produces 1 4 3 2 5 6 7, the end of the first half-peal. Both halves are called alike.

The bob single is { 3 1 4 5 2 6 7
1 3 5 5 2 7 6
1 4 3 2 5 6 7

JOHN GARTHON.

The following peal, by Vicars, is one from the note-book of Dr. Mason, now in the library of Downing College, Cambridge. It will be seen that there are only eight ordinary singles in each part, which seems to be the least number with which a peal on this plan can be composed. These singles are also disposed in a very symmetrical manner.

In this and the following peals, singles have to be substituted or omitted at the third and sixth part-ends, accordingly as the last call in each part is a bob or single.

5040.

<u>2 3 4 5 6 7</u>	I	3				I	3				I	3				I	3
3 4 7 2 6 5	-	-	5 4 7 3 6 2	-	-	3 5 7 4 6 2	-	-	4 3 7 5 6 2	-	-	3 7 5 4 6 2	s	-	7 5 2 3 6 4	-	-
4 7 2 3 6 5	s	-	4 7 2 5 6 3	-	-	5 7 2 3 6 4	-	-	3 7 5 4 6 2	s	-	7 5 2 3 6 4	-	-	5 2 4 7 6 3	-	-
7 2 5 4 6 3	-	-	7 2 3 4 6 5	-	-	7 2 4 5 6 3	-	-	7 5 2 3 6 4	-	-	5 2 4 7 6 3	-	-	4 2 3 5 6 7	s	-
2 5 3 7 6 4	-	-	2 3 4 7 6 5	s	-	2 4 5 7 6 3	s	-	5 2 4 7 6 3	-	-	4 2 3 5 6 7	s	-			
3 5 4 2 6 7	-	s	4 3 5 2 6 7	-	s	5 4 3 2 6 7	-	s	4 2 3 5 6 7	-	s						

VICARS.

Annable's peal, which follows, cannot be said to be as good a peal as Vicars's, as the singles are placed in a much more irregular manner. This peal is supposed to have been composed between the years 1730 and 1737.

5040.

2 3 4 5 6 7	I 3		I 3		I 3		I 3
3 4 7 2 6 5	- -	3 4 7 5 6 2	- -	4 5 7 3 6 2	- s	5 3 7 4 6 2	- s
4 7 5 3 6 2	- -	4 7 2 3 6 5	- -	5 7 2 4 6 3	- -	3 7 2 5 6 4	- -
7 5 2 4 6 3	- -	7 2 3 4 6 5	s -	7 2 3 5 6 4	- -	7 2 5 3 6 4	- -
2 5 3 7 6 4	- s	2 3 5 7 6 4	- -	2 3 4 7 6 5	- -	5 2 4 7 6 3	- s
3 5 4 2 6 7	- -	3 5 4 2 6 7	- -	4 3 5 2 6 7	- s	4 2 3 5 6 7	- s

B. ANNABLE.

The peal by the unknown author, that follows, was first published in the *Clavis* in 1778, and resembles Annable's composition in the irregular disposition of the singles.

5040.

2 3 4 5 6 7	I 3	I 3	I 3	I 3			
3 4 7 2 6 5	- -	4 5 7 3 6 2	- s	5 4 7 3 6 2	- s	4 3 7 5 6 2	- s
4 7 2 3 6 5	s -	5 7 2 4 6 3	- -	4 7 2 5 6 3	- -	3 7 5 4 6 2	s -
7 2 5 4 6 3	- -	7 2 3 5 6 4	- -	7 2 3 4 6 5	- -	7 5 4 3 6 2	s -
2 5 3 7 6 4	- -	2 3 4 7 6 5	- -	2 3 5 7 6 4	- -	5 4 2 7 6 3	- -
3 5 4 2 6 7	- s	3 4 5 2 6 7	- -	5 3 4 2 6 7	- s	4 2 3 5 6 7	- -

UNKNOWN.

The following peal, by E. Taylor, in which the singles are placed at regular intervals, is said by Shipway to be an improvement by Taylor upon the unknown author's peal. Although this latter statement is obviously correct, the peal cannot be said to be any improvement upon the one by Vicars. As Taylor's peal was, however, given in Shipway's *Art of Ringing*, published in 1816, and is frequently rung, I have thought it worthy of a place in this collection.

It is however only fair that I should mention that it is doubtful whether Taylor was the first to compose this improved peal, as the same peal was claimed by Benjamin Pugh, a well-known Birmingham ringer. This peal was rung at King's Norton, near Birmingham, on December 11th, 1811, when it was conducted by Henry Cooper and was entered in the peal-book of the Birmingham St. Martin's Youths, by whom the peal was rung, as the composition of B. Pugh. This composition has always been known in Birmingham as "old Ben's peal."

5040.

2 3 4 5 6 7	I 3	I 3	I 3	I 3			
3 4 7 2 6 5	- -	4 5 7 3 6 2	- s	5 3 7 4 6 2	- s	4 3 7 5 6 2	- -
4 7 2 3 6 5	s -	5 7 2 4 6 3	- -	3 7 2 5 6 4	- -	3 7 5 4 6 2	s -
7 2 5 4 6 3	- -	7 2 3 5 6 4	- -	7 2 4 3 6 5	- -	7 5 2 3 6 4	- -
2 5 3 7 6 4	- -	2 3 4 7 6 5	- -	2 4 5 7 6 3	- -	5 2 4 7 6 3	- -
3 5 4 2 6 7	- s	4 3 5 2 6 7	- s	5 4 3 2 6 7	- s	4 2 3 5 6 7	- s

E. TAYLOR.

Day's peal, which follows, cannot be said to have any distinguishing excellence in its composition, but is of interest, not only on account of the ability of its composer, but also because while 5-6 come home at the end of each five-course division, 6-7 are behind at the last four course-ends in each part. This peal was first rung in 1827, at Kidderminster, by the Birmingham and Stourbridge ringers. It was conducted by its composer, who also again conducted it at Aston, on January 12th, 1830, the first peal in which Mr. Henry Johnson of Birmingham ever took part.

5040.

2 3 4 5 6 7	I 3		I 3		I 3		I 3
3 4 7 2 6 5	- -	3 7 4 2 6 5	- -	7 3 4 2 6 5	- -	2 3 4 7 6 5	- -
4 7 5 3 6 2	- -	7 4 5 3 6 2	- -	3 4 5 7 6 2	- -	4 3 5 2 6 7	- s
7 5 2 4 6 3	- -	4 5 2 7 6 3	- -	4 5 7 3 6 2	- s	3 5 2 4 6 7	s -
5 2 3 7 6 4	- -	5 2 7 4 6 3	s -	5 7 2 4 6 3	- -	5 2 4 3 6 7	s -
2 3 7 5 6 4	s -	2 7 3 5 6 4	- -	7 2 3 5 6 4	- -	4 2 3 5 6 7	s s

THOMAS DAY.

The following peal is interesting on account of the simple disposition of the singles. This peal came to me, without name, amongst the late William Harrison's papers.

5040.					
2 3 4 5 6 7	2 3	2 3	2 3	2 3	2 3
3 4 6 5 7 2	- -	7 4 6 5 2 3	- -	3 7 6 5 2 4	- -
4 6 7 5 2 3	- -	4 6 2 5 3 7	- -	7 6 2 5 4 3	- -
6 7 2 5 3 4	- -	6 2 3 5 7 4	- -	6 2 4 5 3 7	- -
2 7 3 5 4 6	- s	2 3 4 5 7 6	s -	2 4 7 5 3 6	s -
3 7 4 5 6 2	- s	4 3 7 5 6 2	- s	7 4 3 5 6 2	- s

FROM HARRISON'S MSS.

It will be seen that in the foregoing peals two consecutive divisions are generally called alike, that is, the second and third divisions in each part, and the fourth and first, in the next part, are called in the same way. In the following peals, which are on the same plan as the foregoing, the first and third and the second and fourth divisions are called alike and thus the peal, practically, becomes one in twelve parts as the calling of the first two divisions has to be repeated for the second two divisions, or, in other words, the scale of calling is common to the two parts given. The second of the following peals is merely the reverse variation of the first peal. The third peal is a variation on the same plan which only differs from the other in the disposition of the singles. In each of these peals a bob has to be called instead of the last single before the half-peal end.

5040.					
2 3 4 5 6 7	2 3	Continued—	2 3 4 5 6 7	1 2	Continued—
3 4 6 5 7 2	- -	2 3 7 5 6 4	4 3 6 2 7 5	- -	2 3 7 5 6 4
4 6 7 5 2 3	- -	3 7 6 5 4 2	7 3 6 4 5 2	- s	6 3 7 2 4 5
7 6 2 5 3 4	- s	6 7 4 5 2 3	5 3 6 7 2 4	- s	4 3 7 6 5 2
2 6 3 5 4 7	- s	4 7 2 5 3 6	6 3 2 5 4 7	- -	7 3 5 4 2 6
6 3 4 5 7 2	- -	7 2 3 5 6 4	2 3 4 6 7 5	- -	5 3 2 7 6 4
3 4 7 5 2 6	- -	2 3 6 5 4 7	4 3 7 2 5 6	- -	2 3 6 5 4 7
4 7 2 5 6 3	- -	3 6 4 5 7 2	7 3 5 4 6 2	- -	6 3 4 2 7 5
7 2 6 5 3 4	- -	6 4 7 5 2 3	6 3 5 7 4 2	s -	7 3 4 6 2 5
6 2 4 5 3 7	s -	7 4 3 5 2 6	4 3 5 6 2 7	- s	2 3 4 7 5 6
4 2 3 5 7 6	- s	3 4 2 5 6 7	5 3 2 4 7 6	- -	4 3 5 2 6 7

S. BIDDLESTON.

S. BIDDLESTON.

5040.					
2 3 4 5 6 7	1 3	Continued			
3 4 5 2 6 7	s -	2 3 7 4 6 5			
4 5 2 3 6 7	s -	3 7 4 2 6 5			
5 2 7 4 6 3	- -	7 4 5 3 6 2			
2 7 3 5 6 4	- -	4 5 2 7 6 3			
7 3 4 2 6 5	- -	5 2 3 4 6 7			
4 3 5 7 6 2	- s	3 2 7 5 6 4			
3 5 7 4 6 2	s -	2 7 5 3 6 4			
5 7 2 3 6 4	- -	7 1 4 2 6 3			
7 2 4 5 6 3	- -	5 4 3 7 6 2			
4 2 3 7 6 5	- s	3 4 2 5 6 7			

S. BIDDLESTON.

THE SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.

The annual outing of the North West branch of this society took place at Bromley, in Kent, on Saturday, August 18th, and the weather being so favourable induced several friends to meet them there. During the afternoon the following touches were rung: 640 Kent Treble Bob Major. J. Hannington, 1; J. Page, 2; H. Driver, 3; T. Gleed, 4; T. Titchener, 5; A. Jacob, 6; W. Meadows, 7; G. Newson (conductor), 8. And 1168 Bob Major. G. Newson (conductor), 1; J. Page, 2; J. Hannington, 3; T. Gleed, 4; W. Meadows, 5; A. Jacob, 6; E. Chapman, 7; J. Barrett, 8. An adjournment was then made to the "Greyhound" inn, when after refreshing the inner man, the tower was again ascended, and numerous touches of Treble Bob, Stedman, and Grandsire were rung, in which the friends and local ringers took part. This brought a very pleasant day to a close, and the visitors returned to town highly pleased with their outing.

SEA TRIPS.—The London Steamboat Company deserve every support for the enterprising way in which they cater for the pent-up Londoner. They not only run their boats for cheap daily trips to Gravesend, Southend, and Sheerness, but their splendid steamer, the *Glen Rosa*, makes daily excursions to Clacton-on-Sea, a most delightful watering-place—affording an agreeable and economical day's outing.

BIRTHDAY FESTIVITIES.

ON Saturday, August 18th, the Rev. H. R. Heywood, vicar of Swinton, attained his 50th birthday, and great rejoicing was manifested throughout the neighbourhood, the vicar, by his many acts of kindness, having endeared himself to the hearts of every one who has the pleasure of knowing him personally. Before the Special Service which took place in the morning, in commemoration of the event, the local company rang a 600 of Grandsire Triples, in 23 minutes, being as many changes as the Vicar had lived months. After service the same company rang 2608 of Grandsire Triples, in 1 hr. 28 mins., this being the number of days the Vicar had lived up to the above date. These touches were composed Mr. George Henry Johnson, of Eccles, and the following took part in the ringing: William Crossley, 1; Charles Cash, 2; Richard Pearce, 3; William Haughton, 4; James Urmston, 5; Edward Cash (conductor), 6; John Edge, 7; Thomas Jones, 8. Tenor 21 cwt. The bells were kept going at intervals during the whole day, and on Thursday, the Vicar will entertain the ringers at his residence. The rev. gentleman is a life member of the Lancashire Association, and he takes great interest in it. At the last Annual Meeting, held at Bolton, he preached an excellent sermon to the ringers present and had it published at his own expense, and distributed copies to the members of the Association. It is hoped he will be spared to enjoy the rest of his life in the manner he has hitherto done. He has been at Swinton upwards of 17 years, and may he still remain there until he has finished his course on this earth is the earnest wish of all his parishioners, for "he is a man, take him all and all, they may not look upon his like again."

THE BRAINTREE (ESSEX) ASSOCIATION.

The following is the record of doings by this Society during the month of July:—On Saturday, July 7th, 720 Violet; 59 Grandsire Doubles; 144 Bob Minor; 240 College Exercise. On Sunday, July 8th, 720 Woodbine; 720 Cambridge Surprise; 120 Oxford Delight. On Wednesday, July 11th, 59 Grandsire Doubles; 144 Bob Minor; 240 College Exercise; 360 Cambridge Surprise; 240 Kent Treble Bob; 240 Oxford Treble Bob; 120 Double Court Bob; 120 Oxford Delight. On Saturday, July 14th, 720 Cambridge Surprise; 720 Bob Minor. On Saturday, July 21st, 120 Grandsire Doubles. On Sunday, July 22nd, 720 Oxford Delight; 360 Kent Treble Bob. On Thursday, 26th, 720 Oxford Treble Bob; 720 Bob Minor; 720 Double Court Bob; 720 Oxford Treble Bob; 108 Bob Minor. On Sunday July 29th 720 Violet; 144 Kent Treble Bob.

BOURNEMOUTH AND CRANBOURNE BELLS.

ON Sunday last, August 19th, a visit was paid to the above well-known watering place. At St Peter's, the parish church, is a peal of eight bells, cast by Messrs. Taylor and Co. in 1870, tenor 20 cwt. Considering that this is not a change-ringing district, the ringers at St. Peter's have made considerable progress in the art. On Sunday morning they rang several 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles, and in the evening, in company with our correspondent, they rang one or two courses of Grandsire Triples. The services at St. Peter's were well attended, in fact, the church was densely crowded by visitors, in addition to the regular congregation. The services were fully choral, and there were two celebrations of the Holy Communion, the midday one being choral.

At Holy Trinity Church the visitors found a set of five bells, cast by Messrs. Gillett and Bland, of Croydon, 1880. These are tuned 1, 2, 3, 6, 10, the first four being intended for the clock to chime the Cambridge quarters upon, and the tenor being the hour bell. The first three are chimed for service, after which the tenor is rung up. On Monday, our correspondent, in company with Mr. Grist (the head ringer at St. Peter's), proceeded to Cranbourne. Here is a peal of six bells, tenor 15 cwt. in F. They are in very fair order, with the exception of the tenor. The two trebles and fourth and fifth were cast by Messrs Mears in 1841. Before this date there were but five bells, the old tenor then being made into two trebles, and two other bells being recast. The third is a very ancient bell, inscribed "AVE GRACIA PLENA +." The inscription on the tenor is somewhat curious, and runs thus: "P. John Floyd jun. Richard Rook churchwardens, pes this day (sic). Clement Tosier cast me in the yere 12 of Q Ann Rain 1713." What "pes this day" means it is difficult to say. The inscription is perfectly clear, and there can be no mistake about the words. The belfry is large and would easily hold eight bells. In the chamber below is a modern reproduction of the old belfry rules, so common in belfries, beginning "He that in ringing takes delight," etc. There is an old disused chiming apparatus. Change-ringing, we fear, does not flourish here.

By F. E. DAWE.

BURTON-ON-TRENT.

LUDLOW.

THE "JOHN HOLT" PEAL-BOARD.—SUBSCRIPTION LIST.

THE CHURCH YEAR-BOOK AND RINGERS' GUILDS.

Address during August,
Rothbury, Morpeth.

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

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

TAIL-END.—You had better communicate with the publisher. G. P. C. (s.s. "Peveril.")—Let us know of your whereabouts. Will H. E. J. Glover, Esq., B.A., kindly forward his address to J. Hannington, 7, Ashdown Street, London, N.W.?

The Bell News & Ringers' Record.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 25, 1883.

"HEADWORK for hands, and handwork for heads." This sentence, one of the most striking passages uttered by the Rev. WOOLMORE WIGRAM, in a sermon preached at Windsor, on the occasion of the Annual Meeting of the Oxford Diocesan Guild, the other week, is of itself a capital text to adopt whenever an opportunity presents itself to take the art of ringing as a theme for a discourse. It is not our purpose, however, to dilate upon this object here. Our aim, and the object we have in view, naturally tends in the direction of claiming every credit we can, and in advancing to the utmost of our power, the interests of *real* ringing. We merely allude to the assertion made in the pulpit, not by one whose knowledge upon the subject on which he speaks is vague and superficial, but by an English clergyman, a rector of a parish, whose practical acquaintance with the matter in question entitles him to attest with authority that the practice of scientific ringing provides employment for the mental faculties of those whose lot it is to pursue a mere mechanical routine, and handwork for those who are employed in sedentary pursuits, where their corporeal powers are not called into play.

Now, though there need not be any surprise manifested at the phraseology employed by the above-named rev. gentleman in speaking, as he did, of the beneficial effects accruing from the practice of ringing, there is certainly a kind of novelty in his remarks which augur well for ringers and ringing in time to come. We say "a kind of novelty," and a very pleasing and satisfactory novelty too. Divine Service, with a sermon, in connection with the Annual Meetings of our Guilds and Associations, is, we are very glad to say, not infrequent, but such a ringers' sermon as the one we are referring to is certainly rare.

While having all the charms which is said to accompany novelty, in dealing with subjects in which ringers, *prima facie*, have a deep interest, every advantage accruing to the Church from having a well-ordered belfry is pointed out with a master-hand.

In another portion of our paper, we print a brief summary of this discourse, sent to us by one who heard it preached. No doubt many of our readers will read it with some interest, if only through knowing that the preacher is a ringer like themselves, and a very pleasant and agreeable "Brother String" to boot. We think the suggestion afterwards made at the meeting that this sermon should be printed and published, would, if carried out, do an incalculable good, and we hope to see that the Council of the Guild before whom it was preached will take measures to get the suggestion realized.

THE REV. WOOLMORE WIGRAM'S SERMON.

We have been favoured with the following brief summary of this excellent discourse. The rev. gentleman's text was from Ruth ii., 4.

The salutation between Boaz and his reapers is an example of the way in which religion can sanctify the business of life, and forms a fitting text for a gathering which combines the three thoughts of religion, of business, and of amusement.

It was needless to speak much of the art of Change-Ringing, because all present loved it; nor of belfry abuses, because a Diocesan Guild is the best possible safeguard against them; nor of belfry reform, because a Diocesan Guild is the most powerful agent which can be organised for its promotion; so this part of the subject might be left with the remark that these matters must not be forgotten, because what had been once might be again, and although a danger apprehended might be always a danger defended, yet a danger despised was always, so far, a danger feared.

The practice of change-ringing was useful in many ways. It found headwork for hands: men who live by wages are in danger of becoming too mechanical, but no one could ring Stedman Triples by mere rule of thumb; it found also handwork for heads: the men who sat all day at their desks would find great benefit from handling a rope. Ringing drew together the various ranks of a parish. It also secured the proper care of one portion of the House of God, and examples were quoted of the neglect and decay of Church towers where there was no ringing, while the value of the bells was pointed out as a portion of the historical records of the place, viz.: the black-letter inscriptions, and invocations of the saints, so common on pre-Reformation bells, tells of the altars which once stood below, or of the dedication of the church itself; the coats of arms tell of the old families to whom the adjacent manors belonged; the names of Churchwardens, and the founders' stamps, tell of other ranks and inhabitants; and all the manifold associations of the bells recall the fine old ballad:—

"For full five hundred years I've swung,
In my old grey tower on high,
And many's the varied peal I've rung,
As the time went stealing by."

The discipline of the belfry is very valuable, if we only apply like principles to more important matters, e.g., a ringer must keep his temper: a man who cannot bear to be told he has made a mistake; a man who cannot put up with the mistakes of other people; who cannot remember that a mistake, however annoying, is no just cause of offence; such a man is unbearable in a belfry. A ringer must persevere, and never be discouraged, he must work at his new methods outside the tower, and no work in life may lawfully be done negligently. A ringer must be punctual: to keep people waiting is downright bad manners. In nothing may a man by selfish want of thought, selfish carelessness, or selfish indulgence of any kind, inflict on others the inconvenience, disappointment, and loss of time which arises out of an engagement broken. If a man learns in the belfry command of temper, perseverance, diligence, punctuality, and proper consideration for others, he has come there to very useful purpose.

A good band of ringers resembles a good circle of ropes: it means a body of men all united together as one whole; men with quick eyes, cool heads; men accustomed to work diligently, to persevere; to command themselves and consider others; to be patient with learners, and to be undismayed by difficulties.

The terms of the ringers' art might be employed to teach lessons on higher subjects, oh! that all might learn them. Each be ready to "take the lead" when wanted, but not before; never to snatch it from another, out of turn, but to "come down, either quick or slow," as the work in hand demanded; "to go out behind," and to "stop up behind" too, and to work properly with any one who might be sent up, whether a great bell or small one, and although your companion might be some one very different from what was expected. Thus might each "keep his course" properly, thus might each "make a place" in the esteem of those whose esteem was worth the winning, and at last "all come round true" when the peal was rung out, and "the bells brought home."

CONSISTENT.—Many of our readers have noticed upon several occasions the antagonistic manner in which the *Daily Telegraph* has treated the subject of bell ringing, whenever it has cropped up, notably in the case of the grand peal at St. Paul's. We are glad to see in a lengthy article upon the Lady Godiva procession at Coventry, that our contemporary can see some music in bells, as the following quotations will show; "The mellow bells of Trinity rang out their musical peal," and again, "The bells of St. Michael's poured out their matchless music upon the breeze." These be great changes, surely!

The Provinces.

MOTTRAM, CHESHIRE.

On Saturday, August 18, 1883, in Two Hours and Fifty-Three and $\frac{1}{2}$ Minutes.

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5120 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 12 cwt.

JOSEPH MELLOR Treble.	JOHN THORP 5.
HERBERT MADIN 2.	SAMUEL WOOD 6.
JAMES WOOD 3.	JAMES HUNT 7.
WALTER WORTHINGTON .. 4.	GEORGE LONGDEN .. Tenor.

Composed by JOHN THORP, and conducted by GEORGE LONGDEN.

Messrs. Madin, Worthington, and Hunt hail from Staveley; the rest are members of the Ashton Society.

Date Touch.

SHAROW NEAR RIPON (Yorkshire).—On Sunday evening, August 19th, for Divine Service at St. John's church, being the last of this season, the Ripon Cathedral Society, assisted by Mr. S. Langley, of the Boroughbridge Society, rung 1883 changes of Grandsire Triples, in 1 hr. and 7 mins., being the date of the present year of our Lord, on the musical peal of the above-named church. H. Rumbold, 1; Jno. Strodder, jun., 2; Jno. Strodder, sen., 3; S. Langley, 4; A. Ingleby, 5; S. Clarke (composer and conductor), 6; G. Ingleby, 7; Jos. Rumbold, 8. Tenor 13 cwt. in G.

Miscellaneous.

THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Thursday, August 16th, at St. Paul's, on the occasion of a wedding, the Bedford company rang several touches of Grandsire Triples, and also their first quarter-peal, in 49 $\frac{1}{2}$ mins. T. Foote, 1; W. Allen, 2; W. Hall (composer and conductor), 3; S. Cullip, 4; C. Clarke, 5; J. Adkin, 6; J. Frossell, 7; F. Chasty, 8. Tenor 28 cwt. in D.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

ROMFORD.—Chiming.—On Sunday afternoon, for Divine Service at St. Edward's, a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob on the back six, with 9 bobs, in 26 mins. A. J. Perkins, 1-2-3-4; B. Keeble (conductor), 5-6.

THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

CROYDON.—On Wednesday evening, August 15th, at the parish church of St. John the Baptist, for evening service, a start was made for a half-peal of Grandsire Triples as a mark of respect to the late Mr. Chas. Walker, who was for many years a member of the Croydon Society, but time did not allow more than 1386 changes being rung. H. Dudley, 1; G. A. Russell, 2; E. Bennett, 3; T. Verrell, 4; J. Trappitt, 5; W. Sanders (conductor), 6; A. Bruce, 7; J. Zealey, and W. States, 8. Tenor 32 cwt. The bells have just been rehung by Messrs. Warner and Sons, who have considerably improved the "go" of them. The above was rung with the bells muffled.

BIRMINGHAM.—Handbell Ringing.—On Thursday, August 9th, the Holt society, Aston, rang on handbells, retained in hand, a 720 of Grandsire Minor. J. Benn, 1-2; W. Kent, 3-4; J. Plant (conductor), 5-6; Tenor C. size 22.

DUNDEE.—On Sunday August 19th, for Divine Service at St. Mary's (or old steeple), several 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles were rung with 7 6 8 behind. W. Chalmers, 1; A. Allan, 2; W. Henderson, 3; W. Paul, 4; R. Knight (conductor), 5; G. Hill, 6; J. Knight, 7; D. Donald, 8. This was repeated for afternoon service with D. Donald, 1; W. Chalmers, 6; G. Hill, 8. It may be stated that a great improvement has been made in the ringing room of this steeple, by a deadening floor having been put in, and the members of the society would take this opportunity of thanking Mr. Crossman, of the Ancient Society of College Youths, as it was chiefly through him that the improvement was made.

FOXEARH (Essex).—On Wednesday, June 27th, Messrs. G. Maxim, J. Lee, and D. Ward, of the newly-formed society in the above parish, rang their first 720 of Bob Minor, in 27 mins., having commenced the study of change-ringing in January of this year. G. Maxim, 1; J. Lee, 2; W. Gridley, 3; R. Mingay (conductor), 4; D. Ward, 5; W. Inch, 6. Also on Sunday, August 12th, the first 720 of

Cambridge Surprise upon the bells was rung in 24 $\frac{1}{2}$ mins. A. Ives (Cavendish), 1; F. P. Adams (Glensford), 2; S. Slater (Glensford), 3; O. Garwood (Glensford), 4; H. Thompson (Cavendish), 5; A. Hurst (Cavendish; conductor), 6. Also a 720 of Kent Treble Bob in 26 mins. S. Slater, 1; A. Hurst, 2; O. Garwood, 3; A. Ives, 4; G. Maxim, 5; F. P. Adams (conductor), 6. Tenor 9 cwt.

GLODWICK, NEAR OLDHAM (Lancashire).—On Sunday, August 19th, the following ringers from St. Chad's, Saddleworth, paid a visit to St. Mark's, Glodwick, and rang 120 of Oxford Treble Bob Minor, also 240 in the same method, and 240 of Violet. John J. Brierley, 1; John Holden, 2; James Wrigley, 3; Joseph Wood, 4; Edgar Buckley, 5; John Buckley, 6. Also three touches of Treble Bob Major, the last touch being a 520. John J. Brierley, 1; John Holden, 2; Frank Brierley (conductor), 3; James Wrigley, 4; Edgar Buckley, 5; Joseph Wood, 6; Thomas Whitehead, 7; Edward Wood, 8.

KING'S WARDEN (Hertfordshire).—On Friday, August 17th, the Hitchin society visited the above place, and rang at the parish church, in the following order, on this nice little peal of six bells, which has a short time back been rehung, and the 3rd and tenor recast by Messrs. Warner and Co.; first, two 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles, called differently by W. A. Tyler; second, two 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles, conducted by Mr. W. Allen; third, six 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles, each called differently, in 27 mins. J. Randall, 1; W. A. Tyler (conductor), 2; F. Furr, 3; J. Hare, 4; W. Allen, 5; W. Kitchener, 6. W. French rang the treble in the first two 6-scores. Afterwards a 6-score of Bob Doubles. Tenor about 12 cwt.

MAIDSTONE (Kent).—On Sunday, August 19th, for Divine Service in the evening, at the parish church of All Saints', a 720 of Grandsire Minor, in 25 mins. J. Constable, 1; G. Pawley, 2; J. Horton, 3; A. H. Woolley, 4; J. Furgusson, 5; H. Pearce (conductor), 6.

MITCHAM (Surrey).—Muffled Peal.—On Friday evening, August 17th, at the parish church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, 1260 changes, in 43 mins. *S. Greenwood, 1; G. Foster, jun., 2; J. Drewett, 3; A. Brockwell, 4; *D. Springall, 5; *G. Welling, 6; *G. Pell (conductor), 7; *J. Fayers, 8. *Members of the Surrey Association. The above was rung as a token of respect to the late Mr. Charles Walker, of Croydon society, formerly a member of the Mitcham society.

SADDLEWORTH.—On Wednesday, August 15th, at St. Chad's, in commemoration of the marriage of Mr. M. Hirst to Miss Mary Hughes, a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob. Joseph Wood, 1; John Holden (conductor), 2; John T. Holden, 3; James B. Holden, 4; James H. Shaw, 5; James Radcliffe, 6. And on Sunday, August 19th, for service, the local company rang a 360 of Oxford Treble Bob Minor. Samuel B. Brierley (conductor), 1; Joseph Radcliffe, 2; John J. Holden, 3; James B. Holden, 4; James Hy. Shaw, 5; James Radcliffe, 6. All the above are members of the Saddleworth society. Tenor 12 cwt.

SELLY OAK (Worcestershire).—On Sunday, August 19th, for Divine Service in the evening, a 720 of Grandsire Minor, with a call every lead. George Hale, 1; Alfred Cole (conductor), 2; Edward Boylin, 3; Thomas Lewis, 4; Edward Bryant, 5; Edward Hinton, 6.

SPALDING (Lincolnshire).—On Sunday, August 19th, at SS. Mary and Nicholas, after Divine Service in the evening, a 720 of Oxford Bob, with eighteen bobs and two singles. J. S. Wright, 1; G. Skeef (first 720 in the method), 2; J. Wilson (first 720 in the method), 3; R. Mackman (conductor), 4; A. Brown, 5; J. Brown, 6.

TWEEKSBURY (Gloucestershire).—On Monday, August 20th, at the Abbey church, the first part of Holt's 10-part peal of Grandsire Triples. H. Witherington, 1; Rev. C. Davies, 2; F. Moore, 3; John Wathen, 4; G. Woodhall, 5; C. Awford, 6; Josiah Wathen (conductor), 7; W. Haines, 8. This is the longest touch of Triples yet accomplished by Mr. Woodhall, who comes from Whitchurch, Salop, and for whose sake the meet was kindly arranged by the Tewkesbury Society.

THE SURREY ASSOCIATION

A DISTRICT MEETING of the above Association (for ringing only) will be held at Ashted, on Saturday, September 1st. Permission to ring at Leatherhead has also been obtained.

A. B. CARPENTER, Hon. Sec.

We have received an imperfect report of a date touch from Southport, Lancashire, giving neither the method nor the date when it was rung. If our correspondent will amend his report, we will insert it next week.

OUR RING OF BELLS: HOW IT GREW.

BY AUDITOR TANTUM.

DRAYTON, NEAR ABINGDON.—EIGHT BELLS.

Drayton had a light ring of six from the Whitechapel Foundry, tenor 7 cwt. In 1880 this was made into a ring of eight, and a charming little ring too, by the addition of a treble, and a tenor of about 10 cwt. It was not found necessary to recast the old 4th, although her note was changed from C \sharp to C natural. The hanging was perfectly done by Mr. F. White, of Besselsleigh; the ropes hang down to the pavement of the church, and the distance to the ceiling is considerable; but a handsome circle of metal has been fixed some 12 feet above the pavement, which holds stout thimbles of wood, through which the ropes run. The result is, that you have here as pleasant a pull as possible, and the appearance of the whole from the body of the church, is very handsome and appropriate.

CUMNOR, BERKSHIRE.—SIX BELLS.

Cumnor Church has a venerable ring; the treble, 2nd, 3rd and 4th bells are attributed to Henry Knight, senior, of Reading, and belong to the early part of the 17th century. The 5th was cast in the same year as the beautiful tenor of Magdalen College, Oxford, and by the same founders, viz., Ellis Knight, in 1623. The Cumnor tenor was recast in 1700 by Abraham Rudhall (senior) of Gloucester.

PANGBOURNE, BERKSHIRE.—SIX BELLS.

Pangbourne has a complete ring of six cast at one time by A. Rudhall, senior, of Gloucester, in 1720; they were hung in a new frame, and remain without any change. The tenor weighs about 11 cwt.

READING, ST. MARY.—EIGHT BELLS.

From the inscriptions on the bells, it seems likely that a ring of six, was cast for this church in 1640; the present third, fourth, and tenor bells bearing that date. On the fourth bell are the initials W.M., perhaps the initials of the founder; who he was, however, I have not been able to ascertain. In 1740, Robert Catlin, of London, was employed to add two trebles, making the ring eight, and in 1743 he recast the present fifth, sixth, and seventh bells. The old tenor is a large bell, the diameter being fifty three and a half inches, and the probable weight about 29 cwt.

LAVENHAM, SUFFOLK.—EIGHT BELLS.

The bells of Lavenham are justly celebrated; the steeple-keeper told me that very many persons visited Lavenham, like myself, to hear and examine these famous bells. The church and tower, moreover, are so fine that the visitor is well repaid for his trouble in making a pilgrimage to this rather out of the way village. The present fifth and sixth bells were cast in 1603 by Richard Bowler. This worthy is believed to have opened the foundry at Colchester, and to have brought up as his successor, Miles Gray, who afterwards acquired such a great reputation as a founder of bells. One author (Mr. Sperling), writes of Miles Gray, who afterwards acquired such a great reputation as a founder of bells. One author (Mr. Sperling,) writes of Miles Gray: "He was the most celebrated bell-founder in the seventeenth century. His headquarters were at Colchester, but he itinerated considerably; the number of his bells yet remaining is marvellous, and not the less remarkable is the exceeding beauty of their tone. There are some twenty or thirty of his tenors yet in Suffolk, and that at Lavenham, though in no way better than several others, has often been moulded by bell founders. So great was Gray's reputation that the great bell at St. Nicholas, Newcastle upon Tyne, was sent all the way to Colchester to be recast by him. The bell frame at Lavenham seems to have been made originally for five or six bells, and it is probable that Richard Bowler cast a ring of at least five bells in 1603, and that Bowler's tenor was recast by Miles Gray in 1625. This renowned bell weighs about 23 cwt., its shape is very elegant, and the tone most musical. Just ninety-nine years after Bowler's bells were cast, in 1702, Henry Pleasant was employed about the bells. As Pleasant was the successor of the Gray's at Colchester, the reason for his being selected is pretty clear; he had, moreover, removed from Colchester to Sudbury, and his foundry was therefore a few miles only from Lavenham. At this time, (if not before), the ring was made six; the present third and fifth bells are by Pleasant, and it is said that he recast the seventh bell also. This last, however, was finally recast in 1846 by Messrs. C. and G. Mears, of the Whitechapel Foundry, and many competent judges consider her to be as good as the tenor; be that as it may, she is a very fine bell. More than 100 years elapsed, and in 1811 subscriptions were raised for augmenting the ring to eight. The work was entrusted to Wm. Dobson, of Downham Market, who cast two bells, a treble weighing 7 cwt. 4 lbs, and a second weighing 6 cwt. 2 qrs. 8 lbs. and hung them over the six old bells. The visitor cannot fail to be struck with the great waste of room in the mode of hanging these bells, the space being sufficient for hanging ten bells level. The ringing-room which

is reached after climbing an enormous number of steps, is lofty and well lighted. But the bells unfortunately hang the wrong way. It is much to be regretted that the local band at Lavenham has fallen off in change-ringing, and that no peals by Lavenham ringers on these harmonious bells have been reported for many years.

LONG MELFORD, SUFFOLK.—EIGHT BELLS.

While in the neighbourhood of Lavenham the visitors should not fail to go and see the magnificent church at Long Melford; after admiring the countless beauties of this exquisite building, he will be struck with the hideous contrast presented by the ugly brick tower. It contains, however, a fair ring of eight bells, tenor about 16 cwt. If time permits, he should walk over and call on that excellent ringer, Mr. S. Slater, of Glemsford. Here he will find a first-rate company of ringers, and a charming ring of six bells, with a tenor about the same weight as that at Melford. In the centre of the cage at Glemsford there is a vacant space which might well be filled with two trebles; these would be much appreciated and well used by the Glemsford ringers.

EYE, SUFFOLK.—EIGHT BELLS.

Eye is fortunate in having a fine church-tower, a good ring of eight bells, and an able company of change-ringers. The ring is interesting in many ways; and especially because of the remarkable instance it affords to prove that the excellence of the tone of a bell does not necessarily depend upon its shape. The 7th and tenor at Eye are both very fine bells; the former came from the old Norwich Foundry, and was probably cast by one of the Brasyers in the 16th century; the tenor was cast by Miles Gray in 1640. The diameter of the tenor is 48 inches, and her height to shoulder is 30 inches; the diameter of the 7th is 42 $\frac{1}{2}$ inches only, and yet her height is half an inch greater than that of the tenor. Although these bells differ so much in shape, yet it is said to be very difficult to decide which of the two is superior in tone. The 6th bell is by Miles Gray, and was cast in the same year as the tenor. The ring was made six in 1721, when John Stephens, of Norwich, cast three bells, one of which was recast in 1779 by Pack and Chapman, of Whitechapel. Lastly, in 1789, as a thank-offering for the restoration of the health of King George the third, two trebles were added; these were cast by Th. Osborn, of the factory at Downham Market. The Eye tenor is usually said to weight 24 cwt; but judging from the diameter she can hardly be held to be much above one ton.

(Concluded.)

THE FORTHCOMING RINGERS' CONFERENCE.

The Committee which was formed to make arrangements for a Conference of those who are interested in Belfry Reform, to be held at Reading during the meeting of the Church Congress, are able to make the following announcement.

The West Street Hall, Reading, has been engaged for Thursday, October 4th, and will be open all day, so that it may be used as a "rendezvous" for all ringers attending the meeting. During the morning, diagrams of a new invention to prevent injury to bells from the ordinary chiming apparatus will be exhibited, and a peal of hand-bells will be provided for use at any time. At 2.30 p.m. a meeting will be held, at which a paper will be read by the Rev. A. du Boulay Hill, on "Bellringing Associations, their Objects, and Organization," and another paper by the Rev. C. D. P. Davies, on "Change-Ringing in connection with such Associations." Discussion will be invited upon each. Ringing will be kindly allowed in some of the church towers at a fixed time in the day, probably between 5 and 7 p.m.

This notice is forwarded to the secretaries of the Bell Ringing Associations, in hopes that they will send one or more delegates to the Conference, and that they will make the above facts known to their several societies.

The following are the names of the Committee: Rev. C. D. P. Davies Chaceley, Tewkesbury; Rev. A. du Boulay Hill, Downton, Salisbury; Rev. F. E. Robinson, Drayton, Abingdon; Jasper Snowdon, Esq., Old Bank Chambers, Leeds; Lieut.-Col. Troyte, Huntsham Court, Devon; Captain Acland-Troyte, 2, Chester Street, London, S.W.; Rev. W. Wigram, Hertford; Mr. Pettit, St. Thomas's Square, Hackney; Mr. J. Field, New College, Oxford. Secretary, Rev. Dolben Paul, 3, Victoria Terrace, Weymouth.

STOKE-UPON-TRENT ARCHIDIACONAL ASSOCIATION.

TUNSTALL.—There was a good meeting here on Saturday last, August 18th, the following towers being represented: Tunstall, Norton-le-Moors, Wolstanton, Burslen, Lawton, Biddulph and Uttoxeter. Touches of Grandsire Doubles and Bob Minor were rung. Tea was served in the church room, at which the Rev. L. H. Evans presided. The Clerical and Lay Secretaries, and the Rev. W. W. Bolton were present, the latter for the last time before his departure from the district. The members were delighted to see him, and if good wishes avail, he has them from all. The meeting on Saturday next is at Ellastone, the station for which is Norbury.

YORK BELL FOUNDERS.

E. SELLER II.

"G.B. (York)" may like to know that the 2nd bell at Carlisle Cathedral is by this founder. Inscription:—

GEORG FLEMING DD DECANUS { E. Seller }
Ebor

GLORIA IN ALTISSIMIS DEO, 1728.

Sir George Fleming, Bart, son of Sir Daniel Fleming, Kt., of Rydal Hall, Westmorland, born in 1667, was appointed Archdeacon of Carlisle in 1707, Dean in 1727, retaining both offices until he became Bishop of Carlisle in 1734; he died in 1747. He was not donor of the bell, the ordering of which is recorded in the Cathedral books.

Another of this founder's bells is at St. Anthony's chapel, Cartmel Fell, Westmorland, inscribed:—

GLORIA DEO, 1734.

The Cumberland and Westmoreland Archæological Transactions, vol. 2, page 398, say that it was cast by "Selby Ebor;" which must be a mistake for "Seller."

W. SELLER.

On the treble at Edenhall, near Penrith, is inscribed:—

Sr. P. M. 1665, W. S.

"Sr. P. M." stands for Sir Philip Musgrave, who lies buried in Edenhall church, to which he was a great benefactor. His life is well-known.—"In bello civili Caroli I. auspiciis sequebatur, potens consilio, opibus, manu. Regias partes, fortuna deserente, non deseruit. Vixit annos septuaginta. Decessit æra Xpi MDCLXVII, Feb. vii." (*Epitaph in Edenhall Church*.) The initials W.S. are doubtless those of William Seller, of York, of whom Mr. T. North in his *Church Bells of Lincolnshire*, p. 137, says, "His bells from 1662 to 1685 have the initials W.S. only."

W. O.

The treble at Dacre, near Penrith, has for maker's mark a bell in a shield, the shoulder of the bell separating the initials W.O.; which we learn from one of G.B.'s interesting papers ("THE BELL NEWS," vol. I. p. 406) are the initials of a founder who was at work in York from 1634 to 1645. In the same paper G.B. mentions, as probably cast by Abraham Smith and William Cureton, a bell at Bolton Percy, in the East Riding, inscribed:—

NON FORMAN SPECTAS DOMINI SED SVPLICE FLECTAS, &c., 1640.

The "&c." seems to imply that there are other lines of which this is the first. But I am informed by a Yorkshire correspondent that there is but one line on this bell, and that the date is 1620. The Dacre treble, however, is inscribed:—

NON FORMAN SPECTAS DNO SED SVPLICE FLECTAS
CLAMITO TE TEMPLY QUOD VENERE DEV
TER MALE DISSONVI TV QVOTIDIE CECIDISTI
SVM PRECE TV FIAS CORRIGE SANA FIAS
F. H. 1606.

The initials "F.H." may be those of the donor. The inscription, which seems to be a protest addressed to the nation against religious formalism, presents to the translator a difficulty which is not wholly due to its being "veiled in the obscurity of a learned language." He may think that he sees his way clearly enough through the first twolines, and that the fourth line is not unintelligible on hypothesis of the word "sana" having been separated from "fias" to meet the exigencies of the metre. But the meaning of the third line is a mystery which the following translation makes no attempt to rescue from its original obscurity:—

Low to the Lord of form regardless bend
Thee to the church to worship God I call
Ill sounds the thrice-told tale of daily fall
I pray thou mayst have sense thy ways to mend.

Perhaps G.B. or some other of your readers may be able to throw light on this subject. I would suggest to G.B. that the Bolton Percy, bell, if not positively known to have cast by Smith and Cureton, may have been cast by W.O., who seems to have had a long innings, covering at least the period 1606-45, unless these initials, when found on the later bells of this period, are those of a son and successor of the founder of the Dacre treble.

H. W. (Cumberland.)

THE WORCESTER DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

The ANNUAL MEETING of this society will be held on Monday next, August 27th, in All Saints' school-room, Worcester, at 2 o'clock, when Lord Alwyne Compton, D.D., Dean of Worcester, will preside. All members who have not received an invitation to attend will please accept this as one. The Dean has kindly granted the use of the Cathedral bells on this occasion.

S. SPITTLE, Hon. Sec.

ERRATUM.—We are requested to state that a printer's error appeared by the insertion of a figure 2 in the place of a figure 4 in front of the word Hudibras, in the list of six-scores rung at Little Heath on August 3rd. The peal rung at Cradley (Worcestershire), on the 13th inst., was conducted by Mr. John Buffery, and was the first peal of Grand-sire Triples on the bells.

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."

HOW RINGERS ARE MULCTED.

SIR,—As you are doubtless aware, there has been much ink expended lately anent the enormous sum in which His Grace of Canterbury was mulcted before he came in legal possession of his see. Among other items was the sum of "one guinea to the bell-ringers of Bow church." Now this "minnow among the tritons," one would naturally conclude, was divided among twelve men, twelve being the number of the bells hung in the steeple of St. Mary-le-Bow, Cheapside; and had it been so divided, the sum to each individual could hardly be considered in the light of excessive payment for small services. But this poor solitary guinea was well "sweated" before it reached the ringers. Two men only were employed, who chimed six bells, for which they each received three shillings and sixpence, the remaining fourteen shillings going, where? It is no wonder at the fees mounting up to such enormous dimensions if this one instance is to be taken as a type; certain services rendered, a certain sum paid to the persons who actually did the work, and exactly double as much to some other person as commission or perquisite.

The sum in question is but small, but I think the scandal deserves to be classed as great.

A YORKSHIRE PAID RINGER.

THE POSITION OF THE RINGING-CHAMBER.

SIR,—Knowing that we ringers often labour under what might be serious difficulties in the way of the position the ringing-chamber is in, I think that if this matter was considered in this very valuable journal it might lead to alterations in some cases, and in new towers that are about to be built, as apparently the last thing that is considered is the tower and bells. Having rang in a variety of towers, some close under the bells, others middle-way between ground and bells, and others on the ground-floor open to the church, the last one I detest for these reasons: first, that it is very objectionable to church people to see the ringers in shirt sleeves; second, that the Vicar and Churchwardens object to hear any talking or words uttered which we are all aware cannot be done without at times in our difficult pleasure, especially with young bands; third, that bells are never so easy to handle with long ropes, especially heavy rings, and at times the ropes will spring several inches before one has any command of his bell; fourth, that in these several drawbacks the Vicar and Churchwardens refuse to allow the bells to be rang regularly for services—though they might be rang gratuitously,—only on the great festivals. On the other hand we have belfries close under the bells, they have faults such as being too noisy, but I believe that is the greatest fault, which is very easily remedied, the best ringing-chamber and also the best bells I have rang on and go well, is at Baldock. These have lately been recast and rehung in new frame by Messrs. Taylor and Co., of Loughborough. The belfry is close under the bells; the floor is of sufficient thickness to regulate the sound. I should like to hear what my brother strings have to say on this important subject. At Peterborough there is a belfry about twelve feet from the ground, when the window is shut it is very difficult to hear the first four bells, though they are strong bells, especially the treble. I think I never heard a brighter and sweeter note. This is often the case with belfries half-way between ground and bells, and adds in a great manner to bad striking on account of the ringers not being able to hear them evenly.

A CLAPPER.

SPALDING TENOR.

SIR,—If you will kindly allow me a small space in your next issue I would like to ask your correspondent "Veritas" a question, as he seems to trouble himself so much about Spalding tenor. Now, Sir, at first the vicar (Canon Moore) said it weighed a ton, because an old ringer was said to have borne it on his shoulder, as he was capable of bearing a ton. When the dispute first arose, Canon Moore told me to have it measured, which I did, by the gentleman that rehung them in 1866, and he gave the weight 18 cwt.; then second, comes J. R. Jerram, Esq., a well-known bell hanger in Lincolnshire, and gives the weight from 15 to 15½ cwt.; third, Mr. Goslin comes forward and says the weight is 14 to 14½ cwt.; then I find by Mr. Taylor's list that the weight is 16½ cwt. Seeing that the discision of these scientific men differ so wide, I would ask "Veritas" whether he would not accept the decision of the gentleman who rehung them and had the management of them for so many years, to a stranger who, perhaps, has never seen them at all.

R. MACKMAN.

EARDISLEY CHURCH BELLS, HEREFORDSHIRE.

THESE bells have been rehung by Mr. F. White, of Appleton, with all new fittings. The bells, we hear, go well, and the work of the bell-hanger has given great satisfaction.

PEALS OF 'GRANDSIRE MAJOR.

By H. JOHNSON, SEN., *Birmingham.*

9600.									
2	3	4	5	6	M	H		M	H
4	5	3	2	6*				5	2
3	5	6	2	4	-			4	2
6	5	4	2	3	-			2	6
5	4	6	2	3	-			6	4
6	4	3	2	5	-			2	4
4	3	6	2	5	-			5	4
3	6	4	2	5	-			4	6
4	6	5	2	3	-			4	5
5	6	3	2	4	-			2	5
6	3	5	2	4	-			5	6
5	3	4	2	6	-			6	2
3	4	5	2	6	-			2	6

*8th in two.

The above four times repeated. The longest length to be obtained on this plan without singles. Composed in 1848.

9600.					10,752.				
2	3	4	5	6		2	3	4	5
6	5	3	2	4*		4	3	6	5
3	2	5	6	4	8th in two.	3	6	4	5
5	6	2	3	4	8th in two.	6	4	2	5
2	3	6	5	4	8th in two.	5	6	2	4
4	5	3	2	6*		3	5	6	4
6	2	5	4	3*		5	3	4	6
5	4	2	6	3	8th in two.	2	5	3	6
2	6	4	5	3	8th in two.	4	2	5	6
4	5	6	2	3	8th in two.	3	4	2	6
3	2	5	4	6*		2	6	4	5
6	4	2	3	5*		6	2	3	4
2	3	4	6	5	8th in two.	3	2	5	4
4	6	3	2	5	8th in two.	5	2	6	4
3	2	6	4	5	8th in two.	6	5	2	4
5	4	2	3	6*		2	5	3	4
6	3	4	5	2*		5	3	4	2
2	5	3	6	4*		4	2	3	5
4	6	5	2	3*		1	4	6	5
5	2	6	4	3	8th in two.	3	4	2	5
3	4	2	5	6*		5	2	6	4

*8th in and out with a single.

The above twice repeated would come home at the 3rd part, but by omitting the single in the 3rd part marked thus +, then the whole repeated, will be the extent on this plan, viz.: 9,600. The tenors are not parted one lead throughout the peal. The tenors are always called in and out throughout the peal. Composed this year.

A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR.

By HENRY DAINS.

By calling the following thirteen courses, instead of the first fifteen courses of my 5008, given in "THE BELL NEWS" of last week, another peal is produced containing the magic number,

5008.

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

continued

I 4 5 6

2 4 3 6 5

3 4 5 6 2

5 4 2 6 3

4 2 5 6 3

2 5 4 6 3

4 5 3 6 2

5 3 4 6 2

PEALS OF BOB MAJOR.

5040.

2	3	4	5	6	W	M
4	3	6	5	2	-	
2	6	4	3	5	-	
3	2	4	6	5	-	
5	4	3	2	6	-	
3	5	4	2	6	-	
4	3	5	2	6	-	
6	5	4	3	2	-	
4	6	5	3	2	-	
5	4	6	3	2	-	
6	3	5	4	2	-	
5	6	3	4	2	-	
3	4	5	6	2	-	
5	3	4	6	2	-	
4	5	3	6	2	-	
3	4	2	5	6	-	

Twice repeated.

This peal has the 6th twelve times wrong and right.

By E. FRANCIS, *Diss.*

5040.

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

Four times repeated.

By E. FRANCIS, *Diss.*

TREBLE BOB MAXIMUS.

5088.

By N. J. PITSTOW, *Saffron Walden.*

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

Repeated.

TREBLE BOB MAXIMUS.

By N. J. PITSTOW, *Saffron Walden.*

5040.

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

The above peal contains the 6th her extent at home.

Several peals forwarded by various composers we find to be false. If those who think their productions may thus be concerned, will forward a stamped addressed envelope, we will return them, otherwise we will publish the list next week.

5120.

By B. FRANCIS, *Diss.*

2	3	4	5	6	W	5th	B	H
2	3	5	6	4	-			
5	6	7	2	4	3	-		
7	2	3	5	4	6	-		
3	5	7	2	4	6	-		
7	3	5	2	4	6	-		
2	7	5	3	4	6	-		
5	3	6	2	4	-			
6	5	3	2	4	-			
3	6	5	2	4	-			

Four times repeated.

5040.

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

Four times repeated.

TREBLE BOB ROYAL.

5000.

By J. R. PRITCHARD, *Liverpool.*

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

Four times repeated.

BOB MAXIMUS.

By J. R. PRITCHARD, *Liverpool.*

5016.

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

The last four courses three times repeated complete the peal.

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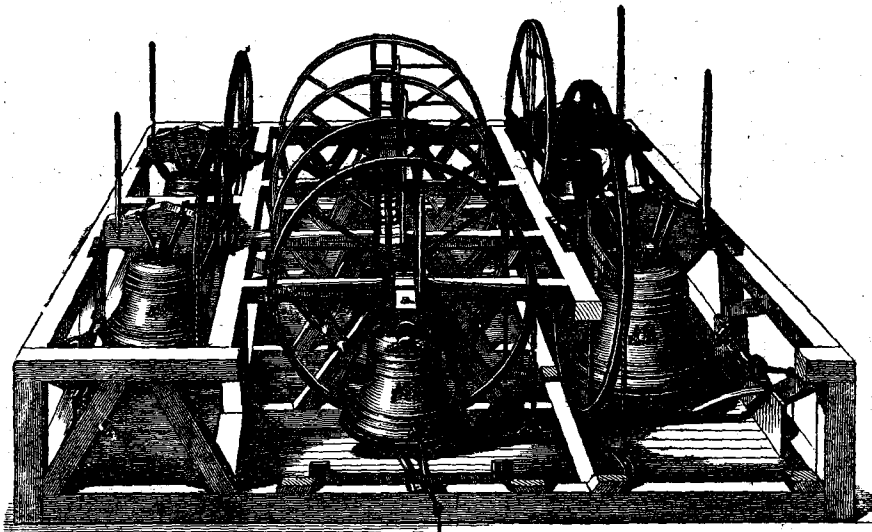
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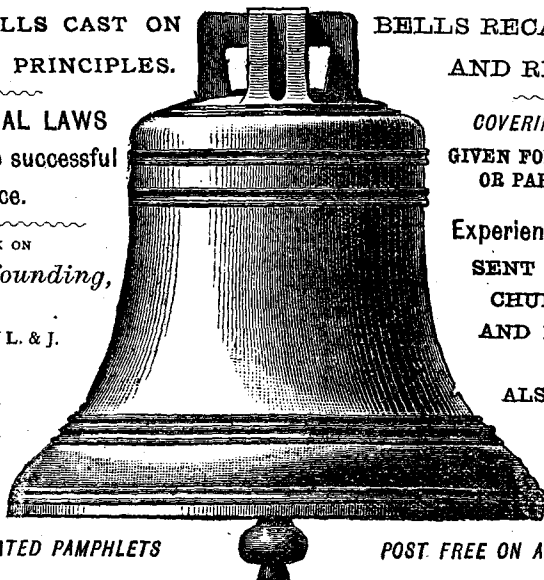
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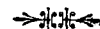
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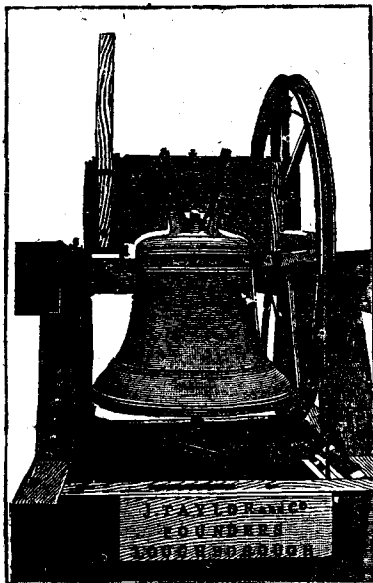
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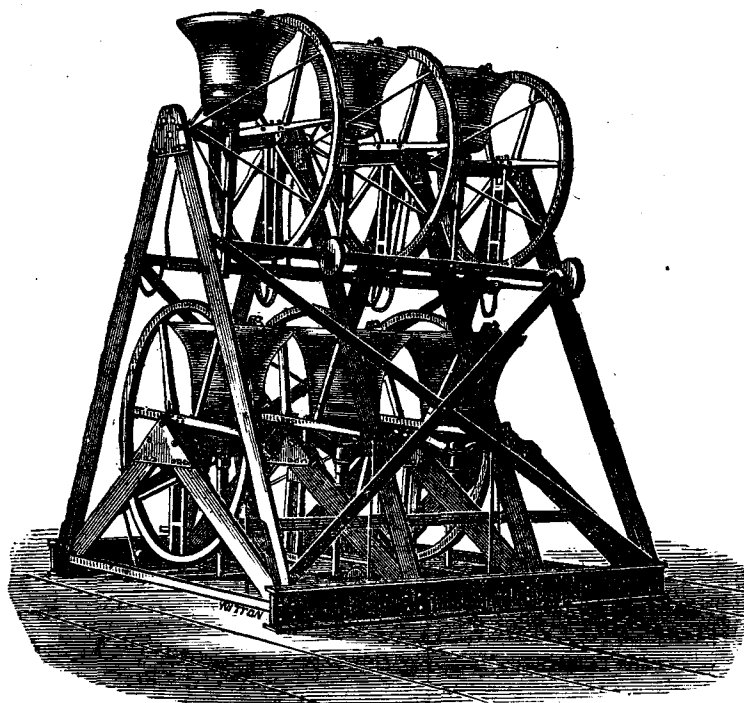
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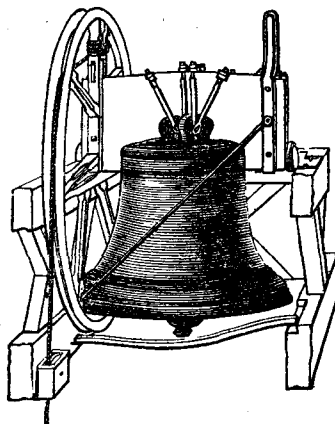
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GRANDSIRE TRIPLES.

By JASPER W. SNOWDON.

FIVE-PART PEALS.

Peals on the three-lead-course plan have been obtained in five parts. In such peals, however, the number of singles is very much in excess of that of the bobs, indeed the calls under one of the leads in each of the following peals are invariably singles. A call is also introduced at another lead, besides the two leads at which calls are always made. With the exception of this last-mentioned call, the calling is the same in each of the two main divisions into which each of the five parts may be said to be divided. A single or bob has, respectively, to be substituted for the call at each of the half-peal ends. Thos. Thurstans, of Birmingham, was the first to compose a peal on this plan, but, although the following peal was composed more than fifty years ago, I do not know when it was first rung. Particulars of the earliest performance of which I have been able to find any record are appended.

5040.					Continued—				
2 3 4 5 6 7	I	2	3				I	2	3
3 2 4 7 6 5	S	-	S		3 7 4 2 6 5	S	S		
2 4 7 3 6 5	S	-			7 4 2 3 6 5	S	-		
4 7 3 2 6 5	S	-			4 2 3 7 6 5	S	-		
3 7 2 4 6 5	S	S			3 2 7 4 6 5	S	S		
2 7 4 3 6 5	S	S			7 2 4 3 6 5	S	S		
7 4 3 2 6 5	S	-			2 4 3 7 6 5	S	-		
4 3 2 7 6 5	S	-			4 3 7 2 6 5	S	-		
2 3 7 4 6 5	S	S			7 3 2 4 6 5	S	S		
7 3 4 2 6 5	S	S			2 3 4 7 6 5	S	S		
3 4 2 7 6 5	S	-			3 4 7 2 6 5	S	-		
4 2 7 3 6 5	S	-			4 7 2 3 6 5	S	-		
2 7 3 4 6 5	S	-			7 2 3 4 6 5	S	-		

T. THURSTANS.

Rung on September 4th, 1848, at Hexham, Northumberland, by the Union Society of Newcastle-upon-Tyne; conducted by Robert Balmбра.

5040.					Continued—				
2 3 4 5 6 7	I	2	3				I	2	3
4 3 7 2 6 5	-	S			2 3 7 4 6 5	-	S		
7 3 2 4 6 5	S	S			7 3 4 2 6 5	S	S		
2 3 4 7 6 5	S	S			4 3 2 7 6 5	S	S		
4 3 5 2 6 7	-	S			2 3 5 4 6 7	-	S		
5 3 7 4 6 2	-	S			5 3 7 2 6 4	-	S		
7 3 4 5 6 2	S	S			7 3 2 5 6 4	S	S		
4 3 5 7 6 2	S	S			2 3 5 7 6 4	S	S		
5 3 2 4 6 7	-	S			5 3 4 2 6 7	-	S		
2 3 7 5 6 4	-	S			4 3 7 5 6 2	-	S		
7 3 5 2 6 4	S	S			7 3 5 4 6 2	S	S		
5 3 4 7 6 2	-	S			5 3 2 7 6 4	-	S		
4 3 2 5 6 7	-	S			3 5 2 7 6 4	-	S		

Four times repeated.

The foregoing peal is a simple variation by Thos. Day upon Thurstans's peal. Singles are invariably called at the third lead, instead of the first lead-end in Thurstans's peal, and the bells in thirds and sixths places are kept in those places at the course-ends throughout each part.

PEALS WITH A CALL AT EACH LEAD-END.

Amongst the curious compositions in Grandsire Triples, peals which have a call at each lead-end, must necessarily be noticed. Two peals upon the three-lead-course plan, with a call at every lead, were composed by Mr. Henry Johnson, in 1850. In such peals another call beyond the ordinary Grandsire "bob" and "single" has to be used. These extra calls are generally termed "doubles," and partake of the nature of a bob and a single. In Mr. Johnson's peals the two doubles that follow are respectively used.

Double used in first peal.

5 7 1 4 2 6 3
5 1 7 2 4 3 6
1 5 7 4 2 6 3
1 7 5 2 4 6 3
7 1 5 4 2 3 6
7 5 1 2 4 6 3

Double used in second peal.

5 7 1 6 2 4 3
5 1 7 2 6 3 4
1 5 2 7 6 4 3
1 5 2 6 7 3 4
5 1 2 7 6 4 3
5 2 1 6 7 3 4

5040.

2 3 4 5 6 7 I 2 3	I 2 3	I 2 3	I 2 3
2 3 6 5 4 7 - S -	3 5 6 2 4 7 - S -	4 3 6 2 5 7 - S -	5 4 6 2 3 7 - S -
6 2 3 5 4 7 - D - S	6 3 4 2 5 7 - D - S	6 4 5 2 3 7 - D - S	6 5 4 2 3 7 - D - S
2 5 3 6 4 7 - D - S	2 3 4 6 5 7 - D -	2 4 5 6 3 7 - D -	5 2 4 6 3 7 - D - S
5 6 3 2 4 7 - D - S	3 6 4 2 5 7 - D - S	4 6 5 2 3 7 - D - S	2 6 4 5 3 7 - D - S
3 5 4 2 6 7 - D - S	4 3 5 2 6 7 - D - S	5 4 3 2 6 7 - D - S	4 2 3 5 6 7 - D - S

HENRY JOHNSON.

First rung on May 19th, 1853, at Dudley, conducted by W. Micklewright.

The following peal is arranged in a more simple manner than the foregoing, as there is perhaps less difference between the calling of the four divisions into which each part is divided.

5040.

2 3 4 5 6 7 I 2 3	I 2 3	I 2 3	I 2 3
3 6 5 2 4 7 - S - D	2 6 3 5 4 7 - S - D	4 6 2 3 5 7 - S - D	5 6 4 2 3 7 - S - D
6 3 5 2 4 7 - S - S	6 2 3 5 4 7 - S - S	6 4 2 3 5 7 - S - S	6 5 4 2 3 7 - S - S
3 5 2 6 4 7 - D - D	2 3 5 6 4 7 - D - D	4 2 3 6 5 7 - D - D	5 4 2 6 3 7 - D - D
5 2 6 3 4 7 - D - D	3 4 6 2 5 7 - D - D	2 5 6 4 3 7 - D - D	4 2 6 5 3 7 - D - D
5 2 4 3 6 7 - S - S	3 4 5 2 6 7 - S - S	2 5 3 4 6 7 - S - S	4 2 3 5 6 7 - S - S

HENRY JOHNSON.

First rung on January 6th, 1862, at St. John's chapel, Deritend, by the Birmingham (St. Martin's) Youths, as a mourning peal to the memory of the late Prince Consort. Conducted by its composer.

Having given all the peals of any interest, with which I am acquainted on the three-lead-course plan, I shall now proceed to give those in which the courses are not curtailed in this regular manner, and shall classify them according to the number of parts into which they are divided.

TEN-PART PEALS.

The famous peal by John Holt is the only original example on this plan. A single which, although not definitely known to have been invented by Holt, bears the name of a "Holt's single," has to be called at the ends of each half-peal. As examples of this single are given in most elementary works on ringing, I do not think it necessary to produce them here. Each half-peal is divided into five parts, but the second half-peal is not produced by merely repeating the calling of the first half. The second half consists of the reverse of the calling used in the first half. In Reeves's variation of Holt's peal, a bob "before" is introduced, which brings up the changes at this point which would, in the original peal, be introduced in another part. The only advantage in Reeves's variation is that as each part finishes with a lead-end of the plain-course, and these lead-ends turn up in their plain-course order, the peal will run round true from any part-end in the first half of the peal.

5040.

2 3 4 5 6 7	2 3 5 4 7 6
7 5 2 6 3 4 1	6 4 2 7 3 5 1
3 4 7 2 6 5 2	7 4 6 5 2 3 5
2 4 3 5 7 6 5	5 4 7 3 6 2 5
5 4 2 6 3 7 5	3 4 5 2 7 6 5
7 6 5 3 4 2 1	7 6 3 5 2 4 2
3 6 7 2 5 4 5	5 6 7 4 3 2 5
5 4 3 7 2 6 2	2 4 5 3 6 7 1
7 4 5 6 3 2 5	3 4 2 7 5 6 5
6 4 7 2 5 3 5	7 4 3 6 2 5 5
2 4 6 5 7 5 5	2 5 7 3 6 4 2

J. HOLT.

5040.

2 3 4 5 6 7	2 3 5 4 7 6
7 5 2 6 3 4 1	6 4 2 7 3 5 1
3 4 7 2 6 5 2	7 4 6 5 2 3 5
2 4 3 5 7 6 5	5 4 7 3 6 2 5
5 4 2 6 3 7 5	3 4 5 2 7 6 5
7 6 5 3 4 2 1	7 6 3 5 2 4 2
3 6 7 2 5 4 5	5 6 7 4 3 2 5
5 4 3 7 2 6 2	2 4 5 3 6 7 1
7 4 5 6 3 2 5	3 4 2 7 5 6 5
6 4 7 2 5 3 5	7 4 3 6 2 5 5
2 4 6 5 7 5 5	2 5 7 3 6 4 2

REEVES'S VARIATION.

(To be continued.)

The foundations of the south-east pier which supported the now demolished Lantern Tower of Peterborough Cathedral, were unearthed on Monday, and were found in a crumbling state many inches below the original level. A conference of the architect, the contractor, and the Chapter will be held.

THE church at Penmaenmawr, says the *Figaro*, which will owe its bell, when it gets one, to Mr. Gladstone, is dedicated to St. Seiriol, and the vicar, though young, is an able and energetic man. Mr. Gladstone, however, promised the bell conditionally. When the tower of the church has been erected he will be prepared to find the bell. Money is being collected as fast as possible, but, unless the inhabitants and others are generous in their contributions, it will be a considerable time before the ding-dong now in force can be dispensed with. The church was consecrated this week by the Bishop of Bangor.

BELL-HUNTING IN EAST ANGLIA.

BY AUDITOR TANTUM.

STARTING from Kenninghall, and facing towards Thetford, the traveller will soon come to

EAST HARLING.—SIX BELLS.

This church has a fine old tower, which was finished in 1449; in 1552 there were three bells, and in 1616 John Draper, of Thetford, cast one "Littel Bell," making a ring of four. The weight was 10 cwt., and the cost £44 18s. The inscription on this bell is quaint—

John Draper made me, 1616.
"Thomas: Porter: of: Wilbe: Tounde:
Gave me to make: a: plasant: sounde."

Mr. L'Estrange thinks that the old tenor was cast into the present 3rd and 4th in 1677; and the next largest into the present trebles in 1746. The bell given by Thos. Porter is the present 5th. The present tenor (weight about 12 cwt.), is an "alphabet bell," and may have been one of the original ring which was placed in the tower in 1465.

A few miles south of Harling are Garboldisham and South Lopham.

GARBOLDISHAM.—SIX BELLS.

This tower boasted a ring of six bells at a very early period. In 1552 there were four bells, veterans from the Norwich Foundry; soon after 1552 a treble was added, the work of William Schep, supposed to have been a London founder. In 1653, John Brend, of Norwich, recast the largest but one of the old bells, and in 1677 a treble was added (making the ring six) by John Darbie, a bell-founder of Ipswich. These bells were all in existence in 1859, the treble and tenor, however, were cracked. In 1862 the tenor was recast by J. Taylor and Co. (and is said to weigh 12 cwt.), and the ring was reduced to five, the treble being removed. Since 1869 it has again been augmented to six.

SOUTH LOPHAM.—SIX BELLS.

This is a very interesting old ring. There were as many as five bells here so long ago as 1552; they weighed respectively 4, 8, 12, 16, and 20 cwt. Of these three still remain, forming the 2nd, 3rd, and 5th of the present ring. The 5th is attributed to William Founder, probably a Londoner, and is no doubt more than 400 years old. The 2nd and 3rd are also very old, and bear the mark of the Bury St. Edmunds foundry. In 1735, Thos. Gardiner recast the present 4th bell, and in 1733 added a treble. The tenor was recast in 1831 by William Dobson, and weighs 19 cwt. 3 qrs. 18 lbs.

Next the bell-hunter arrives at Rushford, where is a new complete ring of six, cast by Messrs. Taylor and Sons, of Loughborough, in 1855. And so on to Thetford.

Here, in St. Peter's church, will be found a ring of eight bells cast in 1790 by Thos. Osborn, of the Downham Market Foundry; tenor 19 cwt. These bells, if I recollect right, have recently been rehung. In 1789 the tower of the church was found to be so ruinous that it had to be taken down and rebuilt; it contained six very old bells, which were sold towards paying for the new ring. On the Suffolk side of the river is St. Mary's church, with a ring of six; a made-up ring, treble and 3rd by Lester and Pack; 2nd and 5th by John Draper; 4th by Gardiner, of Sudbury; and tenor by John Goldsmith, of Redgrave, Suffolk.

WEST TOFTS.—EIGHT BELLS.

The lover of bells will next turn due north, and visit the village of West Tofts, with its pretty church and sweet ring of eight bells. Before 1849 there were but two bells here, when the Rev. Augustus Sutton (himself a ringer), gave a ring of six, five new bells from the Loughborough foundry, and one of the old bells (by John Draper, dated 1618) retained for the third. In 1856 the ring was augmented to eight by the addition of trebles from the same founders. The tenor of this ring weighs about 12 cwt. Near Tofts is

TOTTINGTON.—SIX BELLS.

The oldest bell is the tenor, cast by John Brend of Norwich; in 1650 the 5th was cast by Rob. Gurney, of the foundry at Bury St. Edmunds. The 2nd, 3rd, and 4th are by Lester and Pack of Whitechapel, and the treble by John Taylor and Son, of Loughborough in 1856. The tenor is reputed to weigh 9 cwt. A few miles to the west of Tofts is

METHWOLD.—SIX BELLS.

The fine tower and spire of this church is a landmark for many a mile; a good ring of six was cast for this church in 1630 by John Draper, of Thetford. The treble was recast by Osborn and Arnold of St. Neots, in 1775, and the tenor by the same firm in 1778. The tenor of this ring weighs between 13 and 14 cwt. South of Methwold is

WILTON.—SIX BELLS.

The rector of Wilton is the Rev. W. Hutt, late fellow of Caius College, Cambridge. A "Cambridge Youth," and a good ringer. Of

the six bells the 4th, by John Draper, 1613, is the oldest; the next is the tenor, by the same maker in 1618. The treble and third are by Thos. Newman of Norwich, and are dated 1714; the 2nd was recast by Joseph Eayre, of St. Neot's, in 1772; and the 5th was recast by Thos. Osborn in 1785. The diameter of the tenor is under thirty-five inches, and her weight about 7 cwt.

DOWNHAM MARKET.—EIGHT BELLS.

On arriving in this quiet little town, the bell-hunter will remember that he is in the neighbourhood of a celebrated foundry, closed just fifty years ago, which, from 1710 to 1832, turned out many excellent bells; for instance, a ring of twelve (tenor 41 cwt.) for the church of St. Nicholas, Liverpool; rings of ten at Bury and Wisbeach; of eight at Soham, Poole (Dorsetshire), Godmanchester, St. Botolph's (Bishopsgate, London), St. John's (Peterborough), Woodbridge, Suffolk, Birstall, Liversedge, and Elland, Yorkshire, and elsewhere; also rings of five and six in very large numbers. The bells at Downham are a made-up ring, and the inscriptions on them do not throw much light on their history. The 2nd, 3rd, 5th, and 6th, (dated 1771, 1766, 1769, and 1767 respectively) are by Joseph Eayre of St. Neots. The 4th and tenor are by Osborn and Arnold of St. Neots; cast in 1744 and 1773: the 7th by Pack and Chapman in 1771; the treble by Osborn in 1787 after he had settled at Downham. The tenor weighs about 12 cwt. Near Downham, a few miles to the south is

HILGAY.—EIGHT BELLS.

The ring was cast complete by Osborn in 1779, about the last ring cast by him at St. Neots; the 7th was recast by Dobson in 1825. When I was in Hilgay many years ago the belfry and ringing-room were not so clean as they should have been, and there was a neglected and unused look about the bells which is not uncommon where changing is not practised. The weights of the bells are:—

	cwt. qrs. lbs.		cwt. qrs. lbs.
Treble	4 1 8	5th.	6 3 19
2nd.	4 3 22	6th.	7 3 11
3rd.	5 3 9	7th.	9 2 9
4th.	6 0 22	Tenor.	17 0 5

STOW BARDOLPH.—EIGHT BELLS.

This is a village near Downham, on the north side. Of the bells the oldest were the 5th and tenor, dated respectively 1601 and 1612. Mr. L'Estrange thinks they were cast by the Newcombes of Leicester. It was reported in "THE BELL NEWS" of May 27th, 1882, that Messrs. Mears and Stainbank, of the Whitechapel Foundry, were casting a new tenor to weigh 10½ cwt. No doubt, then, the old tenor has disappeared. The present 3rd and 4th bells were added by Joseph Eayre, of St. Neots, in 1767, making a ring of six. The 4th of this ring was recast by Osborn and Arnold in 1775, and the 5th, now the 7th, in 1809 by Wm. Dobson. In 1873 two trebles were added, cast by Messrs. Warner and Son. The traveller will probably not be disposed to cross the river Ouse, and penetrate into the somewhat monotonous fen country: where, however, he would find some unusually fine churches, there is, then, nothing to detain him until he arrives at

KING'S LYNN.

At St. Margaret's church he will find a noble ring of eight bells, in a grand massive tower. The bells were cast by Messrs. Lester and Pack, of Whitechapel, in 1766. The tenor is 55½ inches in diameter, and weighs 30 cwt.; her note is C natural, and according to the theory of modern founders she ought to be half as heavy again as she is. She however (like that other anomaly, the tenor at Magdalen College, Oxford), is a bell with a grand tone, and the whole ring would be improved by being augmented to ten, a course which was said to be in contemplation some years since. In 1800 the 7th was recast by Thos. Osborn. The Lynn ringers are an excellent company, although they have not reported any long peals lately, and are so obliging as to be willing to meet a visitor any evening. The traveller should not fail to admire the beauties of this noble old church, and its grand organ by Snetzler, which, though now somewhat antiquated, was when new, one of the best organs in England.

It is not often, I imagine, that one firm gets an order to supply two rings of eight to one town in the same year; yet this was the case here, for in the same year as they sent bells to St. Margaret's, Lester and Pack sent a ring of eight to the church of St. Nicholas also. The tenor weighed 16 cwt. Of these the 5th was recast in 1800 by Thos. Osborn, and the tenor in 1841 by Thos. Mears. The whole were taken away in 1868 and replaced by a ring of eight by Messrs. Taylor and Co., of Loughborough, the tenor of which, I believe, weighs one ton.

THE ST. JAMES'S SOCIETY, LONDON.

THE Election of Officers of this society took place on Monday, August 27th. Master: Mr. W. George; Steward: Mr. D. Newton; Treasurer: Mr. E. Albone; Secretary: Mr. G. S. McLaughlin. Auditors: Messrs J. Tucker and T. Newman.

VISIT OF THE ST. MARY-LE-TOWER SOCIETY
(IPSWICH) TO LONDON.

On Saturday last, eleven members of the above society availed themselves of the opportunity of paying a visit to the metropolis, by the Great Eastern Railway Company special excursion train, which left Ipswich at 2.20 and arrived in London at 4.55. Upon leaving Liverpool Street Station the party was reduced to the number of nine, and those proceeded to Stepney Green, where they were met by their friend Mr. E. Horrex, of the College Youths, and after partaking of tea, they proceeded to the church, where an attempt was made to ring Riley's peal of 5000 of Kent Treble Bob Royal, but after ringing one hour and seven minutes, the conductor had to call stand, on account of the bells going very heavily, and he saw no prospect of completing the peal. The band was stationed thus: W. L. Catchpole, (conductor), 1; W. Motts, 2; J. Fosdike, 3; R. Hawes, 4; I. S. Alexander, 5; J. Motts, 6; E. Pemberton, 7; R. Brundle, 8; E. Reeve, 9; E. Horrex, Tenor. The above are all members of the College Youths Society and the Norwich Diocesan Association. Upon coming from the church, they were met by Messrs. Hayes, Winny, Greenleaf, Jones, and others, and spent the rest of the evening in handbell ringing, etc. On Sunday morning two of the visitors went to St. Paul's, the others to St. Sepulchre's, where through the courtesy of Messrs. Dains and Nelms, they rang touches of Stedman and Grandsire Caters. In the afternoon they rang three courses of Grandsire Cinques at St. Paul's; and in the evening 288 of Oxford Treble Bob Major, 216 Stedman Triples, and a short touch of Grandsire Triples at St. Gabriel's, Pimlico. On Monday they were again divided, some going to Hertford, and the rest preferring to stay in London, where under the guidance of Messrs. Horrex and Winny, they visited South Kensington Museum, the House of Commons, Westminster Abbey, etc., until the time came for thinking of returning home. On arriving at Liverpool Street, they met with the Hertford contingent, and having parted with their London friends, started for home, arriving there about 10.50, after thoroughly enjoying a very pleasant outing. The Society would like to take this opportunity of thanking their London "Brother Strings" for the cordiality shewn them on this and previous occasions.

FESTIVITIES AT NUNEATON, WARWICKSHIRE.

On Saturday, August 25th, the ringers of St. Nicholas's parish church held a ringers' festival, when ringers attended from Barwell (Leicestershire). Both companies took up their position in the tower, and after raising the bells in peal, they rang four 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles, each called differently. W. Adler, 1; E. Garner, 2; J. F. Mamby, 3; H. Horwood, 4; W. Powers, 5; H. Bacon, 6. The first three 6-scores were conducted by H. Horwood; the other by E. Garner. The ringers then adjourned to the vicarage lawn for tea, which was provided by the Nuneaton company, the vicar, and Miss Bellairs and Miss Mason. After tea the vicar made a few remarks on the subject of ringing, and thanked the ringers for the improvement in the ringing of late, and hoped by still improving themselves, bells will become more popular. A hour or so was then spent in singing and handbell ringing. After an hearty three cheers for the vicar and family, the ringers again took up their position in the tower, and rang three 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles, called differently. W. Adler, 1; G. Garner (conductor), 2; G. White, 3; W. Powers, 4; F. Bates, 5; W. Swain, 6. Another 6-score was then rung, by the Nuneaton company on the first five bells with the last three bells in the position of 7 6 8. W. Adler, 1; W. Powers, 2; J. J. Mamby, 3; H. Horwood (conductor), 4; T. Bates, 5; J. Lingard, 6; H. Bacon, 7; G. E. Swain, 8. After a few rounds, and the Queens change, the bells were lowered in the Queens change, when the Barwell company returned home highly pleased with their afternoon's outing. The ringers wish us to return thanks to the vicar and Miss Bellairs for the kindness shown to them on this occasion.

MIDDLEHAM, YORKSHIRE.

On Saturday, August 25th, a party of ringers from Stockton, which is forty miles distant, paid a visit to this quaint old town of horse-training notoriety, arriving about five in the afternoon. Having obtained access to the tower, the visitors raised the bells in peal, and then rung a 720 of Oxford Bob, followed by a 720 of Kent Treble Bob, each being well struck, in 27 minutes; after this the bells were ceased in peal, and an adjournment made to the "White Swan" for tea. This was no sooner finished, then it was time to be on the way to catch the 8.10 train at Leyburn. The bells are a light and very musical peal of six, by Mears, tenor 9 cwt.; they are in good tune, and the treble is exceptionally sweet and brilliant. These bells must sound to great advantage over the picturesque valley between Middleham and Leyburn. The Stockton ringers received assurances of a hearty welcome should they again visit Middleham, and only regretted the short time they were able to spend in the place.

THE ST. PETER'S SOCIETY, TUNBRIDGE WELLS.

On Saturday, August 15th, the members of this promising young company had their annual outing at Dover. They took train at a little after seven o'clock, but at the outset it was unfortunately discovered that two of the company were unable to attend, and this caused some little disappointment, as hopes had been previously entertained that the whole company would participate in the festivities of the day. To make up for the disappointment in not having a pull together at Dover, they agreed to visit together to visit the little village of Speldhurst, distant about three miles from Tunbridge Wells. Accordingly, on the 24th instant, they walked over to this church, where they found everything appertaining to the bells in good order. This condition of affairs, is not, we suppose, to be wondered at, as our correspondent informs us that the Speldhurst men are change-ringers of some years' standing, being members of the Kent County Association, and it was through them that the Tunbridge Wells ringers became acquainted with the art of change-ringing. On the arrival of the visitors, the bells were soon set ringing, and six 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles, each called differently, were rung in 27 mins. Then the local company, with H. Barefield, of Tunbridge Wells, rang two 6-scores in the same method, and afterwards two more by the Tunbridge company before lowering the bells, concluded a very pleasant meeting.

We are glad to hear of the continued progress of this young society at St. Peter's, Tunbridge Wells. When we knew this town some sixteen years ago, change-ringing was unknown, there being no bells in the place worthy of the name. Five bells were placed in St. Peter's in 1877 by Messrs. Warner, the frame being built for eight. In 1879 a new clock was given to the new church, also a new treble. Churchyard Bob was for some time the order of the day, but visits to the neighbouring village before alluded to proved efficacious in bringing about a better state of affairs, and now Mr. H. Barefield, formerly of Wargrave, has gone to reside in the locality, their ultimate success is a foregone conclusion. We understand there is a probability of these bells being augmented to eight at no very distant period.

ARUNDEL, SUSSEX.

On Sunday, August 26th, the local ringers, assisted by Messrs. Archer and Dawe, of London, rang some Grandsire Doubles on the back six at St. Nicholas' Church, in the following order: A. Boniface, 1; T. Ede, 2; Rev. R. F. Tompkins, 3; F. E. Dawe, 4; C. Blackman, 5; J. S. B. Archer, Esq., 6; tenor 14½ cwt. in E. These bells are kept in very good going order. After the London visitors had been very kindly entertained at the house of the Rev. R. F. Tompkins, who as well as being a ringer, is very enthusiastic among bells, their origin, uses, etc.; they paid a visit to St. Mary Magdalene, Leominster, (in this district pronounced "Lemonster," while the well-known town bearing the same name in Herefordshire, is pronounced "Lempster") here "rounds and rounds and ups and downs" was performed; tenor 9 cwt. 3 qrs. 16 lbs. in G, and if the third and fifth were not so badly cracked as to enable anyone to see through them on a close inspection, this would probably be a decent peal; the Grandsire method is occasionally practised here. A stay was also made at Angmering, where St. Margaret's Church contains a pleasantly-appointed ringing-room and a ring of six, tenor about 12 cwt. in F, but the middle bells of this peal are too sharp, otherwise everything seems allright; the bells were cast in 1783. It is interesting, however, to see there is abundant evidence of Grandsire Doubles and Minor being carried on here, which is "a step in the right direction."

STOKE-UPON-TRENT ARCHIDIACONAL ASSOCIATION.

ELLASTONE.—Bell ringing does not seem to have many enthusiasts in the Uttoxeter district of this Association, for though Saturday last was a beautiful day, and Ellastone a most attractive centre, with its restored church, model belfry, and excellent peal of six just rehung by Messrs. Taylor and Co. (and therefore in good working order), only ten ringers, with the secretaries, the Rev. T. H. B. Fearon, and Mr. E. Glover, put in an appearance, representing Ellastone, Uttoxeter, and Norton-le-Moors. The home society had prepared a hearty welcome for their visitors, decorating their belfry with flowers. The Vicar, the Rev. E. H. Birley, provided an excellent tea for twice as many as sat down to it, at which, in his unavoidable absence, Mr. Bagshawe, the schoolmaster, presided. Change-ringing is not attempted here yet, but there is a strong desire expressed to learn it. It is much to be desired that some of the neighbouring parishes would join the Association, e.g., Norbury, Ilam, Alton, Rocester. At present, there are only four associated in union. The next meeting will be at Burslem on September 8th, that fixed for Kingsley on Saturday, September 1st, being omitted.

A new church is about to be built at Ynysbwl, near Pontypridd, from the designs of Mr. Edwin M. B. Vaughan, of Crockherbtown, Cardiff.

"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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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.

A. B. CARPENTER.—The idea is a very good one, and we will see what can be done.

WILLIAM STORY.—It is not permissible. Round at backstroke, and "go" into the next method the following change.

A. B.—What you have heard in connection with such a matter is not only foolish, but positively untrue. In our advertisement pages may be found the announcements of the principal bellfounders of the world, from whom bells, equal or better than those of foreign foundries, may be obtained. Take no notice of the statements of mere theorists. Get a respectable practical ringer's advice first, and then we shall have no objection to tell you our opinion of the work when complete. In a week or two we will communicate with you.

A. KNIGHTS (Chesterfield).—Your peal of 5004 Grandsire Caters is false. The other peals we have in hand of yours are true.

J. R. PRITCHARD.—You will find the information you require in the history of Mr. Dawe's peregrinations.

N. J. PIRSTOW.—We will mention the matter you allude to at the proper time. We noticed it ourselves.

The Bell News & Ringers' Record.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 1, 1883.

In our last number there appeared, in that portion set apart for the ventilation of grievances, a most remarkable letter concerning a ringing-day at the well-known church of St. Mary-le-Bow, Cheapside, London. It seems that for some kind of ceremony belonging to the induction of the Archbishop of Canterbury to his see, the bells of this church had to be rung, and for which service the sum of one guinea was allowed to the ringers. So far there is nothing to complain of; though surprise may be manifested at the smallness of the sum, considering that Bow is a twelve-bell church; but it certainly amazes us to hear how this honorarium was disposed of. According to our correspondent "two men only were employed, who chimed six bells, for which they each received one-sixth of this amount, the remaining two-thirds going, where?" Of course if such an affair as this had been hastily arranged, we should take no exception to the bells being chimed instead of being rung, as upon short notice it would be difficult to get a company together at the hour required. But not on that account should those who do the duty required of them be mulcted of any part of the sum due to them. If an allowance is provided for ringing upon any occasion, the ringers employed, be there two or twenty, should receive such allowance in its entirety, at any rate,

no middleman, not a ringer, should be allowed in the least to interfere. An account of what became of that moiety the ringers did not receive ought to be at once forthcoming.

It may be thought that upon such an occasion as the one we are dealing with, the ringers of this church may have given their services, without expecting any fee, and we shall be among the last to say that they would be adverse to such a notion. But this forms no part of the question at issue. A certain amount is placed to the ringers' credit for a special occasion: if the Rector or Churchwardens are of opinion that the duty done is of a nature that a part of that amount is sufficient, their decision must be acquiesced in; but in cases where those not having authority intrude themselves, and control such matters while having no right to do so, a full explanation of their conduct should at all times be insisted on.

The Metropolis.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.
CAMBERWELL, SURREY.

On Thursday, August 23, 1883, in Three Hours and Six Minutes,

At ST. GEORGE'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5184 CHANGES;
IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 14 cwt.

RICHARD FRENCH Treble.	JOHN M. HAYES 5.
SAMUEL HAYES 2.	HENRY J. TUCKER 6.
CHALLIS F. WINNY 3.	CHARLES JACKSON 7.
JOHN W. ROWBOTHAM 4.	GEORGE LONGDEN Tenor.

Composed by HENRY W. HALEY, and conducted by
HENRY JAMES TUCKER.

(His first attempt at calling a peal in this method.)

This peal was rung to commemorate the twenty-fifth anniversary of the birth of the conductor, he having attained his 25th year the day previous; the bells having been placed at the disposal of the members for this purpose by the kindness of the vicar, the Rev. Samuel Smith.

Charles Jackson hails from Hull, Yorkshire; and George Longden (whose name is well-known in connection with the Long Peal of Treble Bob at Mottram-in-Longendale, Cheshire), hails from Ashton-under-Lyne, Lancashire.

[We wish our friend Mr. Tucker "many happy returns."—Ed.]

THE SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.
HOLLOWAY, MIDDLESEX.

Muffled Peal.

On Saturday, August 25, 1883, in Three Hours and Nineteen Minutes,

At ST. MARY'S CHAPEL-OF-EASE,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
BROOK'S VARIATION. Tenor 19 cwt. in E.

GEORGE NEWSON Treble.	*ARTHUR JACOB 5.
JOHN GOBBETT 2.	WILLIAM DORAN 6.
WINGFIELD MEADOWS, ESQ. 3.	JAMES BARRETT 7.
JAMES HANNINGTON 4.	†GEORGE GRIFFIN Tenor.

Conducted by GEORGE NEWSON.

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

This peal was rung with the bells deeply muffled as a last mark of respect and esteem to William Pascal Smithett, Esq., Churchwarden of the above church, and he had also been connected with the parish for the last forty years as Vestryman, Guardian, and Chairman of the Board.

A memorial tablet in statuary marble to the late Canon Reeve, has been placed in the south aisle of nave of Bristol Cathedral. The work has been executed by Mr. Frank Bell, of College Green, Bristol.

The Provinces.**LONG CRENDON, BUCKS.—THE CRENDON SOCIETY.***On Thursday, May 20, 1883, in Three Hours and Three Minutes,*

AT ST. NICHOLAS'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

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

R. W. ROSE	Treble.	M. WARNER	5.
L. ING	2.	J. WARNER, JUNR. .. .	6.
G. CADLE	3.	W. CADLE	7.
G. WARNER	4.	J. GOVIER & JAS. WARNER	Tenor.

Conducted by JOHN WARNER, JUN.

John Warner, jun., is a member of the Waterloo Society, London, and this is the first time of his conducting a peal.

*We are requested to announce that through some mistake, the publication of this peal has been overlooked.***THE DUNSTER GUILD.—DUNSTER, SOMERSET.***On Thursday, August 23, 1883, in Three Hours and Eight Minutes,*

AT ST. GEORGE'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

TAYLOR'S BOB-AND-SINGLE VARIATION. Tenor 20 cwt. 3 qrs.

J. FIELD	Treble.	C. B. CRAZE	5.
B. THORNE	2.	R. HOLE	6.
J. GRABHAM	3.	REV. J. U. TODD	7.
B. THRUSH	4.	J. PAYNE	Tenor.

Conducted by J. FIELD.

This is the first peal on the bells, and the first by members of the Dunster Guild. J. Field hails from Oxford.

LYTHAM, LANCASHIRE.*On Saturday, August 25, 1883, in Two Hours and Fifty-eight Minutes,*

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

REEVES'S VARIATION. Tenor 14½ cwt.

WM. GREGSON	Treble.	SAMUEL STOTT	5.
JAMES MILLER	2.	JOHN FISHER	6.
WM. ATKINSON	3.	ROBERT ATKINSON	7.
GEORGE MILLER	4.	RODGER ALLANSON	Tenor.

Conducted by SAMUEL STOTT.

Mr. Samuel Stott hails from Lees, near Oldham.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

STAVELEY, DERBYSHIRE.

On Sunday, August 26, 1883, in Three Hours and Twenty-two Minutes,

AT ST. JOHN'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5216 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 19 cwt.

ARTHUR KNIGHTS	Treble.	JOHN HARRIS	5.
HENRY MOTTERSHALL .. .	2.	WALTER WORTHINGTON .. .	6.
WILLIAM HARRIS	3.	JAMES HUNT	7.
HERBERT MADIN	4.	JOHN BROADHEAD	Tenor.

Composed and conducted by ARTHUR KNIGHTS.

This peal has the 5th and 6th their extent wrong and right, without a bob before, and has never been previously performed.

Date Touches.**BRADFORD AMALGAMATED SOCIETY.**

BRADFORD.—On Tuesday, August 28th, the members of the above society held their opening ringing meeting, when they rang a date touch of Kent Treble Bob Royal, in 1 hr. 12 mins. A. Moulson, 1; Jesse Naylor, 2; R. Tuke, Esq., 3; J. Broadley, 4; John Fisher, 5; T. Pollard, 6; J. Cheetham, 7; J. H. Hardcastle (composer and conductor), 8; J. Angus, 9; John Wilson, 10. Tenor 27 cwt.

DRIGHLINGTON (Yorkshire).—On Sunday, August 19th, at St. Paul's church, a date touch of Kent Treble Bob Major, 1883 changes, in 1 hr. 10 mins. Herbert Robinson, 1; Jeremy Thornton, 2; Rufus Thornton, 3; William Bolland, 4; Dick Newton, 5; Henry Houdy,

6; Dick Thornton, 7; Henry Smith (composer and conductor), 8. Tenor 16 cwt. The above touch was rung with the bells muffled as a mark of respect to the late Mr. James Booth, who was Churchwarden for many years at the above place, and was much esteemed.

Miscellaneous.**DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.**

MIDDLETON (Yorkshire).—On Saturday, August 25th, six members of the Stockton branch of the above Association, a 720 of Oxford Bob. T. Whitfield, 1; G. J. Clarkson (conductor), 2; J. Clarkson, 3; T. Burdon, 4; W. Newton, 5; T. Stephenson, 6. Also a 720 of Kent Treble Bob. G. J. Clarkson, 1; T. Burdon, 2; J. Clarkson, 3; W. Stephenson, 4; T. Stephenson (conductor), 5; W. Newton, 6.

NORTH SHIELDS.—On Sunday, August 26th, at Christ Church, for Divine Service, a 756 changes of Stedman Triples, in 28 mins. A. Sawyer, 1; J. Hern, 2; J. Rossiter, 3; H. Ross, 4; W. Waugh, 5; R. Wignell, 6; R. Smith (conductor), 7; S. Nott, 8. Tenor 10 cwt. in E.

SOUTH SHIELDS.—On Monday, August 20th, four members of the South Shields branch, assisted by R. Smith and H. Ross, of North Shields, rang at St. Hilda's church a 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor, in 27 mins. R. Smith, 1; Jas. Moffett, 2; R. Scrafton, 3; H. Ross, 4; J. Hopper, 5; John Moffett (first time of conducting), 6. Tenor 10 cwt.

THE SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.

LONDON.—On Monday, August 27th, eight members of this society attempted a peal of Treble Bob Major, at St. Giles's-in-the-fields, but owing to the 6th rope slipping the wheel, it was lost when only three more courses remained for its completion. Thomas Titchener, 1; Harry Page, 2; James Hannington (conductor), 3; Thomas Gleed, 4; Edward Chapman, 5; Arthur Jacob, 6; Wingfield Meadows, 7; James Barrett, 8. Tenor 18½ cwt. in E.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

CAVERSHAM (Berks).—On Sunday, August 26th, at the parish church a 360 of Grandsire Minor, 360 changes, in 14 mins. E. Bishop, 1; R. Swain, 2; T. Hill (Oxford), 3; T. Newman, 4; W. Newell, 5; H. Egby (conductor), 6. Also on Tuesday, August 28th, at the parish church, Sonning, a half-peal of Grandsire Triples, the first half of Holt's ten-part peal, in 1 hr. 38 mins. T. Hill (Oxford), 1; H. Egby (conductor), 2; R. Swain, 3; S. Paice, 4; J. Potter, 5; T. Newman, 6; W. Newell, 7; R. Hopgood, 8.

FARNHAM ROYAL (Bucks).—On Wednesday, August 22, four 6-scores of Oxford Bob Doubles, and four of Grandsire Doubles (960 changes), each called different, in 34 mins. C. Clarke, 1; F. Fells, 2; J. Parker (conductor), 3; A. Batten, 4; W. Fussell, 5; T. Brown (not a member of the Guild), 6. Also a 720 Bob Minor, with fourteen bobs and two singles (bobs at 3 5 5 1 5 5 1 5s), repeated (see *Rope-Sight*), in 26 mins. G. Basden, 1; F. Fells, 2; J. Parker (conductor), 3; A. Batten, 4; W. Fussell, 5; C. Clarke, 6. Also on Sunday afternoon, for Divine Service, a 720 Grandsire Minor, in 25½ mins. C. Chapman, 1; F. Fells, 2; G. Basden, 3; J. Parker (conductor), 4; W. Fussell, 5; C. Clarke, 6.

MAIDENHEAD (Berks).—On Saturday, August 25th, at All Saints, Boyne Hill, a 2520 Grandsire Triples, in 1 hour and 32 mins. B. Smith, 1; G. Wilkins, jun., 2; Edward Rogers, 3; H. Rogers, 4; R. Flaxman, 5; W. A. Garraway (conductor), 6; Edn. Rogers, 7; J. Truss, 8. The band met with the intention of ringing a peal, but one of them feeling unwell, signalled to the conductor to bring them round at halfway. Tenor 17 cwt. 1 qr.

OXFORD.—On Tuesday, August 21st, at the church of St. Peter-in-the-East, 720 of Plain Bob Minor, in 23 mins. Frank E. Williamson, 1; Samuel Hounslow, 2; W. C. Baston, 3; Charles Hounslow, 4; Jas. W. Washbrook (conductor), 5; William Finch, 6. Tenor 12 cwt. Also on Thursday, August 23rd, at St. Mary Magdalen, 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor, with 15 bobs, in 26 mins. Jas. W. Washbrook (conductor), 1; Thomas Payne, 2; George Lapworth, 3; Samuel Hounslow, 4; Newland Alderman, 5; William Finch, 6. Tenor 9 cwt. Also on Saturday, August 25th, at the Cathedral, a touch of Stedman Triples, 1008 changes, in 48 mins. William Finch, 1; Newland Alderman, 2; George Lapworth, 3; Samuel Hounslow, 4; Thomas Payne, 5; William Smith (conductor), 6; Jas. W. Washbrook, 7; W. Jefferies, 8. Tenor 42 cwt. Also on Sunday, August 26th, at Magdalen College, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Caters, 1296 changes, in 54 mins. Alfred Fox, 1; Harry Mills, 2; Thomas Payne, 3; George Lapworth, 4; Charles Hounslow, 5; Samuel Hounslow, 6; Jas. W. Washbrook (conductor), 7; Newland Alderman, 8; John Eeley, 9; William Finch, 10. Tenor 20 cwt. in E. Mr. N. Alderman hails from London, and was on a visit to Oxford.

STOKE-UPON-TRENT ARCHIDIACONAL ASSOCIATION.

LAWTON (Cheshire).—On Monday, August 27th, the following members of the above Association visited this place and rang a 720 of Bob Minor, in 25 mins. L. Miller (Wolstanton), 1; W. Carter (Biddulph), 2; Jas. Baddeley (Norton-le-Moors), 3; *E. Glover (Norton-le-Moors), 4; S. Spencer (Wolstanton; conductor), 5; W. Miller (Wolstanton), 6. Also a 720 of Grandsire Minor, in 24 mins. *Rev. W. W. Bolton (Stoke), 1; W. Carter, 2; S. Spencer (conductor), 3; *E. Glover, 4; H. Page, 5; W. Miller, 6. Tenor 11 cwt. *First 720 in this method.

GARGRAVE (Yorks.).—On Sunday, August 26th, the local company were favoured with a visit from Mr. W. Gordon, of Stockport. During the afternoon a 720 of Bob Major was rung. W. Wray, 1; W. Clarke, 2; H. Birtwhistle, 3; W. Mallinson, 4; H. Middlebrook, 5; W. Gordon, 6; C. Lancaster (conductor), 7; J. McKell, 8. Also 252 of Grandsire Triples, being the only touch exceeding a plain course in the method on the bells. W. Wray, 1; W. Clarke, 2; J. McKell, 3; W. Gordon (conductor), 4; H. Birtwhistle, 5; W. Mallinson, 6; C. Lancaster, 7; J. McGonn, 8. Tenor 16 cwt. Afterwards a course of Bob Major on handbells. W. Gordon, 1-2; J. McKell, 3-4; W. Mallinson, 5-6; C. Lancaster, 7-8. Mr. Gordon delighted the company by performing—an ingenious method of picking up and replacing the bells—a course of Stedman Doubles on handbells.

GREAT YARMOUTH.—On Sunday, August 19th, for morning service, a 503 of Grandsire Triples on the back eight. W. Lea (conductor), 1; W. Blyth, 2; G. Mash, 3; W. Secret, 4; M. Long, 5; W. Fletcher, 6; W. H. George, 7; J. Wright, 8. And on Tuesday, August 21st, at St. Nicholas's, a touch of Grandsire Caters. J. Wright, 1; W. Blyth, 2; *J. F. W. Bray, 3; W. Lee, 4; *G. Mash, 5; W. Secret, 6; W. Fletcher, 7; *D. Hayward, 8; M. Long (conductor), 9; *W. H. George, 10. *College Youths.

HAVERSTOCK HILL (Middlesex).—On Wednesday, August 29th, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor, in 24 mins. B. Foskett, 1; N. Alderman, 2; *G. Griffin, 3; J. Hannington (conductor), 4; T. Titchener, 5; J. Barrett, 6. Tenor 12½ cwt. *First peal in the method.

MONMOUTH.—On Monday, August 27th, on the back six at St. Mary's church, for practice, two 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles. J. Ward, 1; W. Walters, 2; T. M. Preece, 3; E. Barnett (conductor), 4; T. H. Jones, 5; J. Morris, 6. In the second one the treble and third men exchanged places, and H. Brown rang the tenor. Tenor 20 cwt.

NORWICH.—On Monday, August 20th, at St. Peter Mancroft, on the occasion of the visit of the Duke and Duchess of Connaught to open the new hospital, three courses of Grandsire Cinques was rung. W. Freeman, 1; W. Smith, 2; J. Fiddiment, 3; J. Youngs, 4; G. Mash, 5; P. Sadler, 6; R. Stackwood, 7; J. Skinner, 8; F. Knights, 9; G. Smith (conductor), 10; Captain Moore, 11; W. H. George, 12. Tenor 41 cwt.

SALISBURY.—On Monday evening, August 27th, at St. Paul's, Fisherton, a 6-score of Grandsire Doubles was rung by C. Clements, jun., 1; A. S. Dowling, 2; W. Gifford, 3; T. Blackburn, 4; J. R. Jerram, 5; J. Short, 6. Tenor 12½ cwt. Also at St. Martin's, on Tuesday, August 28th, nine 6-scores in the same method, called in three different ways on the third and fifth alternately (six of them being rung without stopping), by C. Clements, jun., 1; A. S. Dowling, 2; J. R. Jerram, 3; W. Gifford, 4; T. Blackburn, 5; W. Lanham and H. O. Dowling, 6. These are the first 6-scores in the Grandsire method ever rung by local men in Salisbury; round ringing has hitherto been the only thing known here.

SOUTH ANSTON (Yorkshire).—On Monday evening, August 27th, at St. James's church, a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob Minor, in 27 mins. Robert S. Fox, 1; Thomas Silvester, 2; Josh. Bland, 3; William Wyatt, 4; Charles F. Fowler, 5; William Hall (conductor), 6. Tenor 12 cwt. This is the first 720 by any of the above company.

TETTENHALL (Staffordshire).—On Saturday, August 18th, several of Sedgley society, with the local company rang a 720 of Grandsire Minor, with thirty-eight bobs and twenty-two singles, in 26 mins. T. Roberts, 1; E. Nicholls, 2; B. Dalton, 3; R. Scofield, 4; J. Fowler, 5; J. Jones (conductor), 6. Tenor 12½ cwt.

TWERTON, NEAR BATH (Somersetshire).—On Sunday, August 26th, Messrs. Hinton and Sandon, of Bristol, and Mr. E. Crump, of Bromsgrove, paid a visit to that place, and assisted by four of the local ringers, rang several touches of Grandsire Minor and Stedman Doubles. J. Smith, 1; E. Crump, 2; J. Hinton (conductor), 3; F. Blakeway, 4; H. Wotton, 5; J. Wotton, 6. Great credit is due to the local ringers for the manner in which they ring and strike their bells in the Grandsire and Stedman methods, they having no knowledge whatever of change-ringing eighteen months ago.

WINFORD, NEAR BRISTOL (Somersetshire).—On Thursday, August 23rd, five of the Bristol society, with Mr. E. Crump, of Bromsgrove, paid a visit to the above place, and rang at the parish church, a 720 of Grandsire Minor, in 27 mins. J. Brane, 1; E. Crump (conductor), 2; F. Price, 3; E. Beake, 4; J. Hinton, 5; W. Emory, 6. Tenor 16 cwt. On the conclusion of the ringing, the ringers were most heartily entertained by Mr. Lovell, churchwarden.

A RINGING HOLIDAY.—"SEVENTEEN DAYS AND A BIT."

By F. E. DAWE.

(Continued from page 245.)

After visiting Church Stretton (a spot by the way a visitor would imagine himself at once in a pretty village in Switzerland), the next on the programme was to get to North Wales, and accordingly an early train brought us to Llangollen (pronounced "Llangothlin," the place where "Jenny Jones" is supposed to hail from). The valley and hills here are famed for their magnificent scenery, which is well-known and appreciated. The weather was fine and clear, and after enjoying a day here, we proceeded to the village of Rhosyllanerchrugog, and thence to

WREXHAM,

which we reached on Monday, the 16th July; here we were met by R. W. Evans, Esq., a prominent ringer of the town. St. Giles's Church stands on an eminence, and enjoys the fame of having the highest tower in Cambria, the elaborate architecture of which is commonly spoken of as one of the "wonders of Wales." It is about 170 feet high, and the sides are all entirely different, surmounted by four grand skeleton pinnacles, and from which a fine view all over the country is obtained, the whole tower being a conspicuous landmark for many miles round. The ringing room is a well appointed apartment about 22 feet square, conveniently lofty, with very antique furniture, and the Ellacombe hammers are in working order; we were allowed to try them for two hours in the afternoon, and after chiming all the national airs possible on ten—and a look at the town, a peal of Grandsire Caters was attempted, and attended by the most excellent striking for 2 hrs. and 45 mins. At the 4050th change everything was correct, but the next course-end brought the news that two bells had shifted course. The dodges are called here, but they are a promising band and stood as follows:—A. Lea (dodge-caller), 1; R. W. Evans, Esq., 2; R. Jones, 3; J. Williams, 4; J. Ellis, 5; E. Rowland, 6; T. Bayley, 7; T. Newell, 8; F. E. Dawe, (bob-caller), 9; E. Evans, 10. Tenor 28 cwt. In D. The bells are a sweet ring of ten, lately rehung by Messrs. Taylor, of Loughborough, and go so well that their equal can scarcely be found elsewhere. A pleasant evening was spent at Mr. Evans' with the ringers, during which the handbells were brought forward; and the next day after receiving a large photo of them in ringing costume, and visiting one of the large mineral water establishments of the town, I departed, accompanied by our worthy host en route for

CHESTER,

which was reached in good time after passing through more exquisite Welsh scenery. Here we proceeded to the house of Mr. Freeman Ball, the head ringer, who is well acquainted with the ins and outs of Chester and its churches. He is indeed an excellent guide, and very kindly took us round the town, which is very clean and nice, the city walls and the "rows" apparently the principal places of interest.

On Tuesday, the 17th July, a prolonged visit to the Cathedral dedicated to St. Werburgh, which is a beautiful edifice lately restored and possessing very elaborate workmanship and costly materials, which causes the building to be greatly admired. The tower is central, supported by flying arches in the church, and is a magnificent specimen of how massive towers should be built, and from the top of which (a space forty feet square), a splendid view of Cheshire and the river Dee is obtained. After walking round the triforium, six o'clock in the evening found us high up in the belfry, which is one of the finest eight bell towers I have ever been in; measuring about thirty feet square, the circle of ropes so exact in every way, so far apart, and equal in distance, that a very large space intervenes, a large barrel chiming apparatus, of rather an ancient construction with some Bob Major changes, also occupies a position in the centre of the tower; however there is one drawback, viz:—the ringing room is rather noisy, being too near the bells, which are a grand ring of eight, augmented and put in thorough going order by Messrs. Warner and Sons, of London, the tenor weighs 33 cwt. in C. The ringers were in attendance and having raised the bells in peal (the orthodox manner here), we attempted a peal of Grandsire Triples, but unfortunately a shift course upset our equilibrium, after ringing 1624 changes in one hour. A. Peers, 1; J. Mason, 2; J. Griffiths, 3; A. Cross, 4; W. Walton, 5; F. Ball, 6; F. E. Dawe (conductor), 7; W. Ball, 8; after which a touch was rung and a very pleasant evening was spent.

The next morning (the weather being all that pleasure-seekers could

wish for), myself and Mr. Ball started early in the steamer "Gipsy" for a delightful trip up the river Dee; the verdant foliage, and gigantic trees always touching the water's edge, and in many places completely overhanging the river, whilst at every turn or bend in its course, fresh landscapes "in verdure clad" with the silvery winding stream opened itself to view. After about six miles of this sort of thing, we disembarked, and pursued the remainder of the way on *terra firma*, which shortly brought us to that noble mansion known as

EATON HALL,

the seat of His Grace the Duke of Westminster. Having viewed the chapel, courtyards, gardens, grounds, and greenhouses with their orangeries and vineries, the beauty of which baffles description, we repaired to the house, which was shown us, but as the whole building is utterly indescribable, so costly, rare, and elaborate in its construction, that I shall therefore confine my description to the bell tower, which has the appearance of a continental design, with a mosaic clock face, and having had some little difficulty in getting permission to inspect this important item of the establishment, which was successfully overcome, we mounted a grand flight of stone steps, like a geometrical cathedral staircase—and passing along the roof of the chapel, at last gained the carrillon room, which is about 16 feet square; here the clock and chime barrels, with machinery for playing, is tastefully laid out in the most pleasing and workmanlike manner, at the same time exposing the covered parts to view through glass. There are five mahogany barrels each set for seven tunes, which amount in all to thirty-five melodies, sacred and secular, and one barrel is devoted to changes. They can be set to work every quarter of an hour, or once a day at the option of the carrillonneur but they generally perform after every hour. The brass plates bear the well known name of Gillet and Bland, of Croydon.

Having ascended a circular skeleton iron staircase in the centre of the tower, we very soon reached the bells, which are hung all round and in four tiers, with the tenors and basses at the bottom, and the altos and trebles on the top. They are twenty-eight in all, and each bears its number written on it in white, counting from the largest "No 1" to the smallest "28." The bells are Belgium castings, clean and beautiful to look at, and appear as well looked after as a set of untarnished handbells. The Westminster chimes are heard every quarter. The tenor or hour bell of the carillon, I am told, weighs 38 cwt., it measures exactly five feet in diameter, and in the key of C, whilst as a mere matter of curiosity the treble measures twelve inches across and weighs probably about one hundredweight—therefore in the category of being a baby-bell. Each bell bears an artistic W. encircled by a coronet beautifully chased, surmounted on the crown by canons resembling a coronet. The number of hammers to each bell vary, to allow for rapid repetitions.

The portcullis is to be found in every conceivable device, where it is possible to put it. Having ascended a stone balcony where another splendid view of Cheshire, with the pleasant waters of river Dee, winding as far as the eye can reach, we again listened to the quarters chimed, and the fine toned tenor striking the hour of departure, we rapidly retraced our steps and walked back, by way of the park, crowded with deer, to Chester, which we reached in time to have another try at Holt's ten-part, on the cathedral bells, attended unfortunately with less success than the night before, and making two unsuccessful attempts to catch a train, was compelled to stay all night again.

Early the next morning saw me away from Chester, and arriving in

MANCHESTER

a few minutes before 9 o'clock, proceeded at once to the Town Hall to hear the grand carrillon. After listening to the Westminster chimes, and the deep-toned hour bell, three verses of that most beautiful Irish melody, so well adapted for chiming on heavy bells, "The Harp that once through Tara's halls," pealed forth with all the grandeur and accuracy possible for machinery to boast of. Having previously visited this building, which is a very grand structure, quite a picture of architecture inside and out, and a place well worthy of a visit, I obtained from the steward special permission to inspect the tower, and being fortunate enough to find Mr. Barnes the steeplekeeper and carrillonneur, we ascended a grand marble staircase to a great height which brought us to the topmost gallery of the building. Here we find the ringing-room, which is of oblong shape, and as large as the interior of a small church, the circle of ropes is very good and fall about the centre of the chamber—midway 'twixt the door and window. The ringers here are all city policemen (very tall fellows, too judging from the height of the sallies). After going higher up and passing through the pendulum room, the next flight of steps brought us to the clock and carrillon room. The clock and machinery (on which the brass plates of Messrs. Gillet and Bland are to be seen), and other appurtenances, the uses of which were all fully explained to us by the carrillonneur, are kept in the most creditable manner possible, cleanliness in every way being the order of the day.

There are six mahogany barrels, the brass pegs of each are set to discharge seven times, making a total of forty-two melodies; and are so arranged that on Sundays and other special days, selections from Hymns A. and M., and other sacred music are used. The chimes are heard every three hours.

On gaining the next floor we come among the principal occupants of the tower, viz.: the bells. There are 21 altogether, and are hung in two tiers, as the tower here measures 20 ft. square. The ten that are hung for ringing are on the lower tier, the tenor of which weighs 52 cwt. in C. The remainder are found on the next tier, and the largest used in the quarters and carillon weighs 5 tons 3 cwt. in A natural, whilst the smallest weighs 5 cwt. 3 qrs. 7 lbs. in F#. All the clappers and other ironwork about the stocks and frame has lately been painted a bright vermilion red, which contrasts strongly with the dull colour of the bells, woodwork, and other surroundings, and presents a very singular appearance when standing between the two tiers. Each bell bears an inscription from Tennyson's *In Memoriam*, and the number of hammers vary from two to three, to allow for the quick successions. The next landing brought us to the dial chamber, the clock-face of which is 16 ft. dia.; leaving this, and ascending to a large stone balcony (at which we found ourselves at a great altitude), a fine view of Manchester is obtained, and inside some open stonework we find "Big Abel," which is a bell well able to speak out when near it, as we happened to arrive alongside as 10 o'clock was being struck, and therefore heard it without fear of being interrupted by the traffic down in the streets below. It weighs 8 tons 2 cwt., in G. On descending from the Town Hall, we made our way past the church they call a cathedral, which contains a very good ring of ten, tenor 25 cwt. The bells are in very good order, and go with very little labour, as I had the pleasure of calling a quarter-peal of Grandsire Caters on them last summer.

(To be continued.)

AUGHTON, LANCASHIRE.

On Saturday, August 25th, a meeting of ringers was held at the above place, when the bells of Christ Church were placed at their disposal. Ringing commenced at 2.30, and concluded at 8.30, during which time several good touches were rung, comprising Grandsire Triples and Major, Kent Treble Bob Major, and Stedman Triples, also a date touch, 1883 changes, of Grandsire Triples; the following members of the St. Luke's society, Liverpool, favoured them with a well-rung touch of Grandsire Caters, 594 changes, on the handbells. J. Aspinwall (conductor), 1-2; R. S. Mann, 3-4; W. James, 5-6; J. R. Pritchard, 7-8; J. Davidson, 9-10. Among those present were the Christ Church (Southport) society, the Ormskirk parish church society, the St. Luke's (Liverpool) society, and the home company, also Mr. Hambleton, of Mottram-in-Longdendale, Cheshire, who came along with the Southport friends. Mr. Hambleton is ninety-one years of age, but unfortunately, through an accident which happened to him a week or two ago, he was unable to ring on this day. That he may yet live long to handle the strings is the earnest wish of all who had the pleasure of meeting him. The tower is a model of neatness and cleanliness, a perfect circle of ropes, while the go of the bells are all that can be desired. The bells are by Warner, tenor 16 cwt in F, and are a really fine-toned peal. The greatest credit is due to the superintendent, Mr. H. Cave, for the excellent order in which he keeps both belfry and bells. At the conclusion of the meeting, Mr. T. Beacall, of Liverpool, addressed those present, and in a few well-chosen remarks congratulated them on their good ringing, and also on the rapid progress of change-ringing in this part of the county.

The meeting was under the auspices of the Lancashire Association, and the ringing arrangements were ably carried out by Mr. J. Aspinwall, District Secretary.

VISIT OF THE BIRMINGHAM AMALGAMATED SOCIETY TO BROMSGROVE.

On Saturday, August 25th, being the second anniversary, thirty members and friends of the above society paid a visit to Bromsgrove. Arriving there at about 3.30 p.m., they made the best of their way to the "Golden Lion," and sat down to an excellent dinner which gave satisfaction to all. After dinner the ringing members then adjourned to the tower of the parish church, and with the assistance of the Bromsgrove Company, the bells were soon set going. Touches of Kent Treble Bob Royal, Grandsire Triples and Caters were rung, but it being very hot, ringing was not kept up long, but an adjournment was made to the "Golden Lion" again, and the rest of the evening was agreeably spent in ringing touches and courses and tunes upon the handbells. The party returned to Birmingham all safe, and well pleased with their outing. And the members of this society wish to take this opportunity of thanking their Bromsgrove ringing friends for their courtesy and readiness in providing them with the use of their excellent peal of handbells.

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 AT WALTHAM ST. LAWRENCE, BERKS.

SIR,—In reply to Mr. Newell's letter which appeared in your issue of August 18th, we, the Maidenhead company, are pleased to hear that our Reading friends consider the above bells go satisfactory, and we are not aware that any of our band have publicly stated anything to the contrary, as every change-ringer knows that a 22 cwt. bell, *i.e.* double the weight of the Waltham tenor, ought to go well. When we rang there on June the 30th, we had not the difficulty of pulling with new ropes to contend with, as those we used were put on early in March last. The length, sixty feet, is not quite correct, as the order was given for forty-three feet. There was also two guides, viz., one at floor of clock-room, and the other about half-way below. No doubt a third would be a great improvement. Mr. Newell has no doubt that the bells will eventually be pealable. Thus he admits that at present they are not so, which may be a reason for ringing only a few courses of 'Minor. Let us hope, however, that next time he will be able to get a 720. Our opinion as to the "go" of them being equal to double their weight, is not at all changed, but rather confirmed by the fact that the same young man who rang the tenor, 11 cwt. in the 720 there on June 30, rang the tenor, 21 cwt., some say 22 cwt., at St. John's, Windsor, through two plain courses of Major at the Annual Meeting of the Oxford Diocesan Guild on July 26th. And on being asked how does she go, his his reply was to the effect that he would prefer ringing her for three hours to Waltham St. Lawrence for half-an-hour. I hope some day to have a little private conversation with my friend Mr. Newell, and no doubt if we do differ a little we shall still agree. E. ROGERS.

SIR,—Seeing in numbers 67, 68, and 69 of our journal, a few lines concerning the Waltham St. Lawrence bells, and also whether they were rehung by a firm from Appleton, I should like to be informed if it is the same firm that augmented and recast the bells of Thame, in Oxfordshire, some few years ago, and also why is it they have since been taken down and now lie *en masse* on the floor in the ringing-room. The tenor I believe has since been again rehung for the clock to strike upon. YOUNG CUMBERLAND.

SPALDING TENOR.

SIR,—Sorry to trouble you any more about this, but Mr. Mackman is so very incorrect in his figures (as he himself will see by referring to the back numbers of "THE BELL NEWS.") And he also makes assertions upon which no conclusive evidence rests, that I cannot forbear to answer him. In the first place what I originally said was 16 cwt., and what Mr. Goslin said was from 14½ to 15 cwt. Then Messrs. Taylor's list says 16½ cwt., which I presume refers to a bell in F sharp or G, not F, but this is of little consequence. Lastly, the gentleman who hung the bells, and has the looking after them, is a local ironmonger and house bellhanger, and although an excellent workman and skilled mechanic, we can hardly accept his opinion on the weight of a church bell when he makes such very palpably incorrect statements as to call a bell 44 inches, F, 18 cwt., which no bell-founder's list, ancient and modern, however much they may differ, would warrant. I may just add that this gentleman has done his work well as far as the hanging of the bells is concerned, and also that the bell in question is one of Osborn's, cast in 1801. Your correspondent may rest assured that we have no object in this controversy except to maintain the truth as far as possible, and to correct what is known to all who understand such matters to be a palpably incorrect statement. If we had been about to make a bargain to buy the bell, we might have an object in making it appear as light as possible, but as such is not the case, this is not so. VERITAS.

THE TERM "CONDUCTOR."

SIR,—It seems to be the universal custom nowadays in recording a peal, to state at the bottom that it was "conducted" by Mr. So-and-so, and I am afraid that in so doing a great many lose sight of the difference in meaning between this term and that of "bob-caller."

As a matter of fact there are not more than a score of men in the Exercise who know the coursing order of the bells throughout a peal, and are able at any time to put in their places those of the band who happen to make a mistake, while anyone of ordinary intelligence can simply call the bobs so long as everything "keeps going," and no old veteran happens to be outside. I wish to offend no one by these remarks, and can assure all that the motive which induces me to write them is only to lessen the abuse of the above term. I say abuse,

because there have been peals recorded as true, in which shifts have occurred without the knowledge of the so called "conductor," who, while announcing himself as such to the ringing world, forgets that in reality he is simply a "bob-caller." N. W. W. MEADOWS.
Guy's Hospital, London.

BACK NUMBERS WANTED.

SIR,—I am endeavouring to make up, and complete for binding, your valuable journal from its commencement, but find that numbers 26 (September 30th, 1882), and 40 (January 6th, 1883), are both out of print. Can any of your numerous readers oblige me with either of these numbers? I would willingly pay any reasonable sum for them. 4, Richmond Terrace, Chichester. H. H.

A CORRECTION.

SIR,—In your last issue of "THE BELL NEWS," I find that the name of the gentleman who conducted the peal of Grandsire Triples at Cradley, rang by the Birmingham company, and published by you in your issue of the 18th inst., and that he says it is the first peal of Grandsire Triples rang upon the bells at Cradley. Now sir, this I wish to correct, as a mixed band from Dudley and Netherton, in the month of July, 1879, succeeded in ringing a peal of Grandsire Triples upon the bells at Cradley, in 2 hours and 5 minutes. J. SMITH.

VISIT OF THE DUNSTER GUILD TO WIVELISCOMBE AND MILVERTON, SOMERSETSHIRE.

ON Monday, August 20th, the Members of the above Guild left Dunster by break, and after a most pleasant drive through some of the finest scenery in Somerset, arrived at Wiveliscombe (sixteen miles), and at once repaired to the belfry of the parish church, where there is a good peal of eight bells, tenor 18 cwt. They have recently been rehung by a local tradesman, and afford another proof of the advisability of employing good engineering talent in the hanging of bells. The circle is very bad, the treble standing out nearly in the centre of the tower, and obstructing the view of the second and seventh.

On starting for a touch of Grandsire Triples it was found there was something the matter with the sixth, and after half an hour's "doctoring" it was time for dinner, which was provided at the Lion Hotel, through the liberality of the Rev. J. U. Todd, captain of the Guild. After dinner, ringing was again the order of the day, but owing to the "go" of the bells only very short "touches" could be obtained: the best of these being called by C. B. Craze, and rung by the following: E. Hole, 1; W. Thorn, 2; J. Grabham, 3; C. B. Craze, 4; Rev. J. U. Todd, 5; R. Hole, 6; J. Field, 7; J. Payne, 8. As an instance of the way in which the work has been done in this tower, it may be mentioned that the frame close to the 6th bell has been cut away, to allow a rain water pipe through, and only leaving about an inch to hold the frame together.

The vicar kindly shewed the party the points of interest in the church, some very old panelling in the gallery being very good. The crypt extends the whole length of the church, and is divided into compartments, being still used for interments. The party then proceeded to Milverton, where there are six bells in very fair order, and where the local ringers boasted they could ring any of the methods but preferred the old 120, which they have rung this last twenty years, in fact so fond are the Milverton ringers of blowing their own trumpet, that they were described by the Dunster "tenor-man" in these words, "The Milverton chaps be some terrible ringers." Several six-scores were rung, but it was found impossible to ring Minor owing to the bells having been rung so low, as is the case in many parts of Somerset and Devon, where round ringing and ups and downs are considered the perfection of ringing. The party then started for the return journey, safely reaching Dunster about 10.30 p.m., well pleased with the day's outing.

EVERYONE is advised who travels from London to North Wales to avail themselves of the admirable facilities offered by the Great Western Railway Company. While the journey to Crewe is flat and uninteresting, the ride to Chester is most enjoyable. But if the Great Western route is selected, a view of the Wrekin and Shewsbury, Chirk Castle, and the vale of Llangollen will be enjoyed. The scenery from Birmingham on the Great Western route is, in fact, all that could be desired, and passengers by the ten o'clock train from Paddington can dine in North Wales the same evening.

It is now suggested that both St. Mary's-le-Strand, and St. Clement's Danes are to be pulled down. From a mere business-like point of view this is supposed to be necessary. But regret cannot but be felt, on the other hand, that this thorough course is needful, for of these two churches, one, St. Mary's, is a fair specimen of the art of Nash, while St. Clement Danes is one of Sir Christopher Wren's little masterpieces, possessing also one of the handiest peals of ten in the metropolis, and being the headquarters of what should be the most prominent ringing society in London.

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E. W. ALLEN, Ave Maria Lane, London.

BELLRINGING JUBILEE OF MR. JOHN COX.

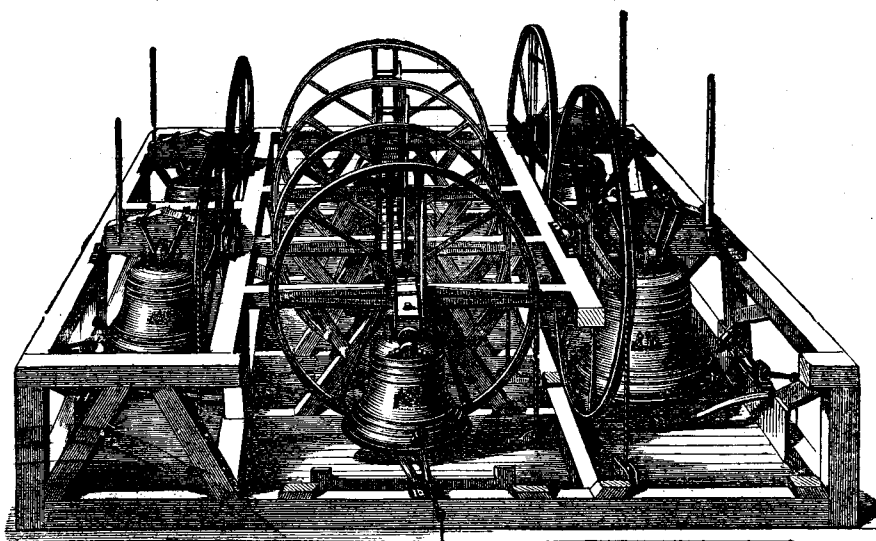
THE ringing friends of Mr. John Cox, taking into consideration his advancing years, and the precarious state of his health, intend making exertions to raise a fund to provide for him those necessities which are the sole sustenance of age.

This year—being his ringing jubilee, he having rang his first peal at the church of St. Mary, Islington, on the 7th of October, 1833—is thought peculiarly appropriate for this appeal to be made.

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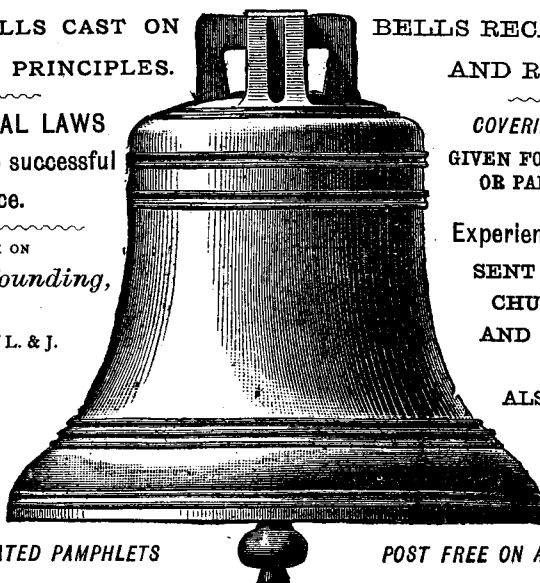
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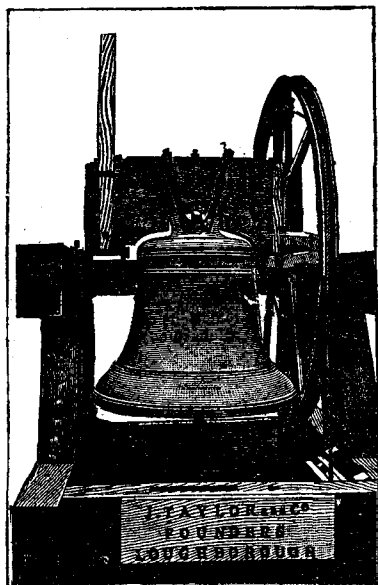


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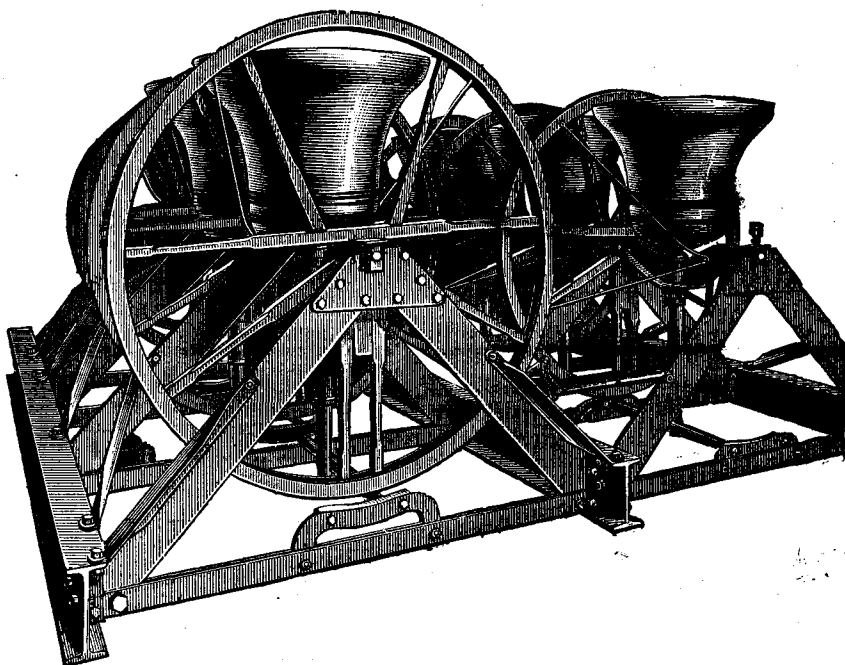
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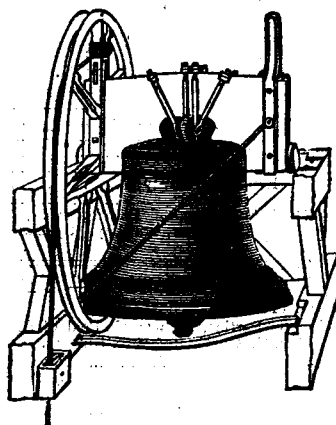
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A WEEK IN DEVONSHIRE.

It having long been the intention of some of the Oxford ringers to visit Devonshire, Mr. Coleridge, of Cadbury, was communicated with, who quickly made arrangements for a week's ringing, getting up a party of ringers composed as follows: Messrs. C. Hounslow, J. Field, and D. Francombe, from Oxford; R. French, J. W. Rowbotham, and H. Langdon, from London: these were joined by the Rev. F. E. Robinson, of Drayton, Berks, G. H. Phillott, Esq., of Cheltenham, and Mr. F. G. Coleridge, who completed the party. Great disappointment was felt at the non-appearance of Mr. J. W. Washbrook, who was literally at the last moment prevented from coming; had he been present the party would have been complete in itself for Major ringing, without seeking extraneous help.

The London contingent arrived in Exeter on Saturday, August 25th, and commenced proceedings on Sunday by visiting the church of Upton Pyne, in which parish is the picturesque seat of the Right Honourable Sir Stafford Northcote, M.P. for North Devon. The church contains a peal of six bells, a treble having lately been added by Taylor and Sons, of Loughborough; here with the assistance of the Rev. J. S. Northcote, Grandsire and Stedman Doubles were rung.

On Monday it was originally purposed to start for a peal of Stedman at Tiverton, a noble ring of eight; but the bells being in process of rehangng by Mr. H. Boswell, the meet was changed to St. Sidwell's, Exeter. Here however no peal could be accomplished owing to the fact that the St. Sidwell's men had fixed that day for their annual outing, and were accompanied by Messrs. French, Rowbotham, and Langdon. The following places of interest were visited by them: Drewsteignton, Finglebridge, and Chagford. Doubles were rung at the first and Grandsire Triples at the last-mentioned place, where is a peal of eight, but in such bad order that only two short touches could be obtained, viz., 336 and 210. Mr. Aggett, a bell-hanger, resides here. After sitting down to a substantial repast provided by Host Baker, of the King's Arms Hotel, the party returned home highly delighted with the day's pleasure. The arrangements were ably carried out by Messrs. H. Swift, Ferris Shepherd, and Sidney Herbert. Meanwhile the remainder of the party, who arrived in Exeter soon after 2 o'clock, were not idle, for after refreshing the inner man, a move was made to the Cathedral, which was greatly admired; the party then ascended the south tower and examined the ring of 10 bells, tenor 67 cwt. 1 qr. 18 lbs. in Bb. Diameter 71½ inches. So scientifically has this noble ring been constructed that besides the ring of ten in Bb which it contains, of 8 in Bb, of 6 in Bb, and six in F, it is capable of producing, by the introduction of an extra 4th bell in Ab, three other rings, viz.: one of 6 in Eb; one of 8 in C Minor, and one of 6 in C Minor (*Ellacombe*). The road to the belfry is a somewhat circuitous one, the architect, the late Sir Gilbert Scott, who was employed in the restoration, having stopped up the old convenient spiral staircase with 30,000 bricks. Leave to ring had been previously sought, but as no answer was vouchsafed, two of the party by no means the least muscular, had to be content with attempting to raise the ninth, on which a large staff of workmen were engaged in screwing up a bolt; after 5 minutes' hard work, a third had to be called in to assist, and eventually the bell was turned mouth upwards. It was suggested that the chapter could not do better than apply the £1000 which the late Dean had just left for restoration purposes, to rehangng the peal in his memory. Such a proposal, however, we are sorry to say, is not likely to be entertained; the Exonians being perfectly content to hear rounds rung on the bells a little over frame-high, about half a dozen times a year by some 16 men from neighbouring villages. In the north tower is placed the celebrated "Great Peter," weighing 125 cwt. in A, on which the clock strikes and the curfew is tolled each evening at eight.

Having duly inspected the *heaviest* ringing peal of ten in England, the party proceeded across the Cathedral yard, and by the kind permission of Mr. Churchwarden King, rang at St. Petrock's, one of the *lightest* rings of 6 in England, a 720 of Grandsire Minor, in 22½ mins. Tenor 5½ cwt.

On Tuesday, a start was made from Exeter across the fields to Sowton, where is a most musical ring of 8, cast by Mears, and lately rehung by Mr. H. Stokes, of Woodbury, to whom the greatest credit is due, everyone being delighted with the workmanlike manner in which he has done his work, the "go" of the bells being everything that could be desired. Permission having been previously obtained from the sector, the Venerable Archdeacon Sanders, Thurstans' peal of Stedman Triples was brought round true and complete in 2 hours and 43 minutes, this being the first peal ever rung on the bells. Starting from thence, tracts were made in the direction of Clyst St. George, to pay a visit to the Rev. H. T. Ellacombe, who without doubt has done so much for ringers and ringing. Passing through Clyst St. Mary, where are only three bells, the party traversed the park of Winslade, the lovely residence of Joshua Dixon, Esq., J.P., and shortly afterwards arrived at Clyst St. George, where they were heartily welcomed by the venerable rector, now in his ninety-sixth year, and whom everyone looks upon as the great nineteenth century purifier of belfries

throughout England. A wooden model was shown by him, exemplifying the old fillet arrangement on the wheel, and also an invention of his own for preventing the wearing of the rope at the wheel. This met with universal commendation, it being considered a vast improvement on all other plans. The principle has been made use of for many years by Mr. H. Stokes, and is always fitted to his wheels. We know of cases where ropes have been constantly used for ten years or more, and though frequently broken at other places, yet never once have we known of a rope wearing at the wheel when this plan has been adopted. The church was next inspected, under the guidance of the worthy rector; it would take many columns of "THE BELL NEWS" to give even a meagre account of the many beauties of this lovely little edifice, suffice it to say that it well merits its name of the "gem of the Diocese." The tower possesses a ring of six bells, the treble having been placed there by the rector to the memory of the Prince Consort. No ringing could be done, owing to something being wrong with one of the ropes, and harvest being in full swing it had not been immediately rectified; some of the party, however, ascended the tower, and inspected the rector's ingenious contrivance for shortening the ropes without unfastening them from the upright spokes of the wheel.

On the tower arch are painted all the arms of the Lords of the Manor from the conquest (1066) to the present time, thus fulfilling the maxim—"Honour to whom honour is due." After bidding a hearty good-bye to Mr. Ellacombe, the party, passing by the magnificent ranges of the 1st Royal Volunteers, which were of interest to those who were volunteers, Topsham was reached, and train taken for Exeter. Here they were met by the remainder of the St. Sidwell's men who had not joined them before, and touches of Grandsire were rung, finishing the evening with a nicely struck touch of 504 Stedman Triples. On Wednesday they proceeded by train to Torquay, for the purpose of ringing at St. Mary's church, but as a funeral was taking place, some of the party strolled down to Babbacombe beach—the most lovely spot in the "Garden of England," and enjoyed a dip in the sea; others again visited the church, rendered very beautiful by its many-coloured marbles, frescoes, mosaics, etc. Here, too, is a ring of eight, tenor about 16 cwt., in good order. On returning to St. Mary's church, the keys of the tower were entrusted to the visitors by Mr. Churchwarden Honywill, who, in the absence of the vicar, was most energetic in seeing that everything was in proper order. The ringers take this opportunity of thanking him for his great courtesy and the consideration shewn to them by him. Holt's Original was started for, C. Hounslow, conductor, but after ringing for 2 hours and 23 mins. the striking throughout being faultless, it came to an untimely end. The disappointment, however, was quickly got over, everyone being delighted with the tower, the bells, and the masterly manner in which they had been hung by Messrs. Hooper and Stokes of Woodbury about seven years ago; not the slightest exertion being required in ringing. The belfry is a perfect pattern of what such a place should be, the windows being so arranged that a copious supply of fresh air is admitted, and yet not the slightest draught was felt. The bells themselves are a fine peal of 8, tenor about 19 cwt., cast by Warner and Son, and placed in the tower, which was erected to the memory of Henry Phillpotts, Lord Bishop of Exeter, who lies buried in the churchyard. Torquay was then visited, the town being very gay with bunting, etc., the occasion being the annual regatta; the harbour was filled with yachts, and among them were several training brigs, which added fresh beauty to the scene; the visitors were much pleased with their cursory inspection of this "Queen of watering places." On the return journey, having no handbells with them, four of the party accomplished a nicely-executed course of Grandsire Triples in dumb show with their fists; supposed to be the first in the method on the South Devon Railway.

Thursday saw the party assembled at Tiverton, when two dog-carts were obtained, and a start made for Huntsham. Just previous, however one of the party exhibited a cleverly-executed sketch, entitled, "the long and short of it," which elicited roars of laughter, and continued to do so whenever it was produced on the following days. After a pleasant drive through the valley of the Lowman, Huntsham was reached, where we were met by Mr. H. Tucker, and entertained by him, Lt.-Col. Troyte being abroad at the time. A peal of 5120 Treble Bob was then attempted, with the assistance of Mr. H. Payne, of Huntsham, but after ringing for 2 hours and 29 minutes it came to grief. The party were most hospitably entertained by Mr. Tucker and Mr. Payne, to whom their best thanks are due for their kindness. Returning to Tiverton, some handbell ringing was done at the house of Mr. Cruwys Sharland.

The morning of Friday was chiefly occupied with handbell ringing at Rosebank, Miss E. Cruwys Sharland taking part in some double-handed Stedman and Grandsire Caters. It is right to say that the Tiverton ringers owe much of their success to the assiduous teaching of this gifted lady; she spending several hours weekly in teaching beginners, methods which they afterwards practise in the tower. In the afternoon the band assembled at St. Sidwell's, Exeter, a splendid peal of eight, tenor 23 cwt. 3 qrs. 2 lbs. in D, cast by Pack and

Chapman in 1873, and rehung by Hooper and Stokes in 1875. Here they rang an excellent peal of Stedman Triples in 3 hrs. 10 mins., being the first peal in that method rung in the city of Exeter. This peal was listened to by a large concourse of people, including many round ringers, who, on the company emerging from the tower, offered their hearty congratulations on the successful accomplishment of such a well-struck peal. Later on, some handbell ringing took place at the house of Mr. Ferris Shepherd, to whom the thanks of the travellers are due for his energy in perfecting the ringing arrangements.

On the Saturday previous to the party being disbanded, it was proposed to start for a peal at Alphington, near Exeter, but owing to illness in close proximity to the church, they went on to Crediton. Permission to ring having been courteously granted by the Vicar, the Rev. C. Felton Smith, the party ascended the tower of the grand old church, and first inspected the bells, the tenor weighing about 30 cwt., being 54 inches in diameter. The 6th bell appeared to have been recently operated upon, and upon enquiry it was discovered that a local smith had rehung her with new gudgeons and bearings only a few days previously, and left her, as he thought, in perfect order. Two or three of the parish ringers were in the belfry, and on seeing that only eight men were about to ring the bells, asked if one man was going to ring the tenor. On being answered in the affirmative, the cheering intelligence was imparted that the last man who had rung her by himself (for ten minutes only) had died from the effects shortly after. Nothing daunted, however, they started for an 840 of Grandsire Triples, it being manifestly impossible to do more, owing to the state of the 6th. This was only just accomplished through the indomitable pluck of Mr. G. H. Phillott, who stuck to her like a leech, the Rev. F. Robinson being stationed at the 7th, and Mr. G. F. Coleridge at the tenor, who, we are glad to say, at the time of our going to press, is still alive and well. Why those in authority will employ incompetent workmen, when there is a very competent bell-hanger only a few miles off, it is really hard to say, especially, as in this case, there is no lack of funds. The work of the local smith was, as Mr. Field justly observed, by no means a "credit to 'un." Having lowered the bells, the visitors proceeded to the station, where considerable amusement was evoked by certain adventures of one of the party with a great coat. The train coming in, the party returned to their several destinations, not without wishing that a similar meeting should be held next year.

Thus ended a very pleasant week in Devon, the weather throughout being delightful, but shortly after separating a storm of wind and rain came on, the like of which has not been seen during the month of September for at least twenty years.

This veracious history ought not to be closed without remarking that the success of this Devonshire tour is mainly attributable to the exertions of G. F. Coleridge, Esq. The management of the correspondence relating to the preliminary and other arrangements, was not so simple as it may appear, and that gentleman must be congratulated upon the results his efforts has achieved.

THE BEDFORD RINGERS AT LEICESTER.

Eight members of the St. Paul's company of change-ringers arranged to visit Leicester on Saturday last, September 1st, by the excursion that was run by the Midland. Several members of the Leicester society very kindly met them at the station, and escorted them to St. Saviour's church, where there is a good peal of eight, cast and hung by Messrs. Taylor, of Loughborough. Arrangements we made to go for Holt's ten-part peal, but unfortunately after ringing as far as the first part-end, the fifth rope broke, and after getting the rope spliced it was too late to start again for the peal. Various touches of Grandsire Triples, and courses of Bob Major were rung by T. Foote, A. Mellis (Leicester; conductor), C. Clark, W. Allen, F. W. Smith, W. Biggs, J. Atkins, J. Frossel, I. Hills. The bells were brought down in peal, and several of the Leicester ringers very kindly showed the visitors some of the principal parts of the town, and a very enjoyable evening was spent. The Bedford company take this opportunity of heartily thanking their Leicester friends for the very kind and courteous manner with which they were received, and they hope at some future occasion to have the pleasure of returning the complement in Bedford.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION OF SIX-BELL RINGERS.

The usual Quarterly Meeting of the above Association was held at Preston, on Saturday, September 1st, when upwards of twenty members from different parts of the district attended. During the afternoon several peals were very creditably rung on the bells of St. Mark's parish church.

The committee met in St. Mark's Schoolroom at 5 o'clock, when the usual business was gone through, several new members being elected.

Dootson Terrace, Blackrod.

JOHN HIGSON,
Hon. Sec.

WORCESTERSHIRE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

THE ANNUAL MEETING of the above Association was held in All Saints' schoolroom, Worcester, on Monday, August 27th. The Dean of Worcester, Lord Alwyne Compton, D.D. occupied the chair, supported by the Rev. J. P. Hastings, rector of Martley, Worcester; T. Brown, churchwarden of St. Helen's; H. Baker, Esq., &c. There were a large number of members present from the various societies in the Association, viz.: Worcester, Malvern, Bromsgrove, Dudley, Netherton, Wollaston, Bellbroughton, Halesowen, Kidderminster, Wolverley, Brierley Hill, Redditch, Droitwich, &c. The chairman in opening the meeting expressed his pleasure at being present to preside over so large a meeting of members. He trusted their deliberations would be conducted throughout in a spirit of harmony and good feeling, and result in promoting a more fervent zeal in the principal objects for which the Association was formed, viz.: belfry reform, and the cultivation of the art and science of change-ringing in the diocese. The minutes of the Quarterly Meeting held at Kidderminster, on March 26th, also the minutes of the Committee Meeting held at Halesowen on June 9th, were read and confirmed. In discussing the business arising out of the minutes, it was suggested by the chairman that a fresh start should be made from that date. The Secretary having stated that through the neglect of the late Secretary in not supplying the required information, he was not in a position to give in a balance-sheet, nor could he give a correct number of members in the Association, a resolution was carried authorizing the Secretary to provide books necessary for conducting the business of the Association. The Rev. Dr. Cosens, vicar of Dudley, the Rev. S. J. Marriott, vicar, and Messrs. Frost and Hipkiss, churchwardens of Netherton, were enrolled as honorary members. Rule v. was altered to admit of two Secretaries being elected, the diocese being so scattered it was thought the work could be more successfully performed by having a secretary at each extremity of the diocese.

The Committee of Management for the ensuing year was elected as follows: *President*: the Very Rev. the Dean of Worcester, Lord Alwyne Compton, D.D.; *Vice-Presidents*: the Revs. Canon Cattley, Dr. Cosens, vicar of Dudley, S. J. Marriott, vicar of Netherton, J. P. Hastings Worcester, E. W. Isaac, Upton, T. Rooke, Feckenham, from the clergy; and Messrs. H. Baker, and T. Brown, Worcester, from the lay; *Hon. Members*: Mr. J. Perks, Malvern (*Master*), Mr. F. Owen (Worcester), Sec. for the western, and Mr. J. Smith (Netherton), for the eastern division, with one performing member to be selected by each company. At the conclusion of the miscellaneous business, the Rev. J. P. Hastings, in proposing a vote of thanks to the President, took occasion to speak in high terms of the good results which must be derived from Associations of this kind if carried on in a proper spirit. As to the enjoyment to be derived from the cultivation of change-ringing he need say but little, those present who were change-ringers would be better able to appreciate the mental and physical benefits than he could describe them. But as regards belfry reform he could speak with more authority, having advocated it for many years. He thought the belfry as much a consecrated place as other parts of the church, and he trusted those present when they ascended the different towers to ring, would always be impressed with the feeling that they were entering the House of God. In conclusion, he must congratulate them upon having so able a chairman, one who was indefatigable in all good work, and willing at all times to help forward any movement, having for its object the well being of any branch of Church work. The Dean suitably responded. Votes of thanks were given to the past officers, and to the Rev. B. Arthure, Rector of All Saints, for the use of the schoolroom.

Several touches were rung during the day at the different churches in the city, among them being a touch of Treble Bob Royal, 880 changes, at All Saints, by a mixed band. J. Perry, 1; G. Bourne, 2; G. Haywood (conductor), 3; F. Abbutt, 4; H. Martin, 5; E. Crump, 6; W. Rea, 7; R. Bloomfield, 8; J. F. Hastings, Esq., 9; W. Duffill, 10. Also 575 changes of Grandsire Caters on the same bells. Four 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles, and several touches of Plain Bob at St. Martin's, and a touch of Grandsire Triples at St. Helen's.

The Cathedral bells were raised by the kind permission of the Dean, but owing to the late hour, and in consequence of the number wishing to ring, nothing more was attempted than a course of Grandsire Cinques and a course of Grandsire Caters. Several courses and tunes were performed upon the handbells, which brought a very pleasant meeting to a close.

NOTICE OF A PEAL.—On Saturday, September 15th, 1883, four members of the Birmingham Amalgamated Society, will attempt a peal of Grandsire Major, 10,080 changes, on handbells, at the society's meeting-house, the "Hope and Anchor," Fisher Street, near to Bishop Ryder's Church, Birmingham. Any brother-ringer wishing to come and witness the peal will receive a hearty welcome. The attempt will be made between 1 o'clock and 1.30. Any further information may be obtained by applying at any time to J. Russam, 114, Moland Street, Birmingham.

GRANDSIRE TRIPLES.

By JASPER W. SNOWDON.

SIX-PART PEALS.

The following peal by John Holt consists of six parts, three in each half-peal, the calling of the last half being the reverse of the calling of the first half. There are twenty bobs in each part, a bob is called whenever the seventh is "before," and as the fifth is called five times before and the sixth never called in that position, these observations are of much use to a conductor. The singles at the half-peal ends are the ordinary Holt's singles.

FIVE-PART PEALS.

Amongst the attempts to compose a peal of Grandsire Triples without the use of singles, that of Shipway is one of the most interesting. It is probable that his idea was to call one of the parts of Holt's ten-part peal and then at once to use the reverse calling, and thus, if possible, to produce a peal in five parts. Although unable to accomplish this entirely, he so far succeeded that by the introduction of a fifth-place bob into each of these "double parts"—as they may be called,—he produced a five-part peal which varies very little from a peal on this double part plan. This peal is given below.

SIX-PART PEAL.

5040.

2 3 4 5 6 7	2 3 5 4 7 6
6 7 2 4 5 3 2	5 7 2 3 6 4 3
2 5 6 7 3 4 8	3 7 5 4 2 6 5
4 7 2 3 5 6 1	7 5 3 4 2 6 4
2 5 4 7 6 3 8	4 5 7 6 3 2 5
3 7 2 6 5 4 1	5 7 4 6 3 2 4
6 7 3 4 2 5 8	3 2 5 4 6 7 2
5 4 6 2 7 3 1	7 4 3 6 2 5 1
6 7 5 4 3 2 8	6 4 7 5 3 2 5
4 7 6 2 5 3 8	2 5 6 3 4 7 1
3 2 4 5 7 6 1	4 7 2 6 3 5 2
4 7 3 2 6 5 8	2 3 4 7 5 6 3
6 5 4 3 2 7 2	6 7 2 5 3 4 1
7 3 6 2 5 4 1	5 7 6 4 2 3 8
2 3 7 4 6 5 8	6 2 5 7 3 4 3
5 4 2 6 3 7 1	4 7 6 3 2 5 1
3 7 5 2 6 4 2	3 7 4 5 6 2 5
7 5 3 2 6 4 4	2 5 3 6 7 4 1
2 5 7 4 3 6 5	3 7 2 5 4 6 3
5 7 2 4 3 6 4	6 5 3 4 7 2 1
4 7 5 6 2 3 5	3 7 6 5 2 4 3
Plain lead	Plain lead
part-end	part-end
at 3.	at 2.
4 2 3 5 6 7	3 4 5 2 7 9

J. HOLT.

FIVE-PART PEAL.

5040.

2 3 4 5 6 7	5 3 2 7 4 6 5
7 3 5 6 2 4 5	4 6 7 2 3 5 1
3 5 4 7 2 6 2	7 5 3 6 4 2 5
6 5 7 2 3 4 5	4 2 6 3 5 7 1
3 2 4 7 6 5 8	3 2 4 7 6 5 5
6 5 3 4 7 2 2	3 7 6 5 2 4 8
4 7 2 6 3 5 2	4 5 3 2 7 6 1
7 6 4 3 2 5 3	5 3 7 2 6 4 1
2 3 5 4 7 6 5	4 3 2 6 5 7 5
6 3 4 7 2 5 5	2 5 6 4 7 3 2
4 5 2 3 6 7 5	7 3 4 6 5 2 1
6 3 7 2 4 5 5	* 6 7 2 3 4 5 4
* 6 7 2 3 4 5 4	4 5 6 2 3 7 2
4 5 6 2 3 7 2	

Fifth's place bob.

W. SHIPWAY.

The following five-part peal is produced without a plain lead. Four different calls are used. The ordinary bobs and singles are denoted in the usual way. The letter D signifies a "double," and the letter P a "plain-lead single." This call is only used at the last lead-end in each part. Examples of the two last-mentioned calls are given below.

2 3 4 5 6 7	1	2	3	4	5	6
2 3 4 7 6 5	S	-	S	-	-	S
2 3 5 6 4 7	S	S	D	-	-	S
2 3 5 7 4 6	S	-	S	-	-	S
2 3 4 6 5 7	S	S	S	-	-	S
2 3 4 7 5 6	S	-	S	-	-	S
2 3 6 5 4 7	S	S	D	-	-	S
2 3 6 7 4 5	S	-	S	-	-	S
2 3 5 4 6 7	S	S	D	-	-	S
2 3 5 7 6 4	S	-	S	-	-	S
2 3 6 4 5 7	S	S	S	-	-	S
2 3 6 7 5 4	S	-	S	-	-	S
2 4 6 3 7 5	S	S	D	-	-	P

Four times repeated.

W. ESTCOURT.

First rung on April 4th, 1831, at St. Mary's, Painswick, by the Painswick Youths; conducted by its composer.

Calls used in Estcourt's peal.

Double	3 2 1 5 6 7 4	Plain lead single	2 3 1 5 4 7 6
	3 1 2 6 5 4 7		2 1 3 4 5 6 7
	1 3 2 5 6 7 4		1 2 4 3 6 5 7
	1 3 2 5 6 4 7		1 2 4 6 3 7 5
	3 1 2 6 5 7 4		2 1 4 3 6 5 7
	3 2 1 5 6 4 7		2 4 1 6 3 7 5

The following peal, which is upon an original plan, consists of five parts in each half-peal, the two halves being called alike. If the part be four times repeated, omitting the call at the fifth lead in the first course in each of the other parts, the first half peal will be produced. Only one call, a single, is used throughout this peal, of which the following is an example:—

5 1 7 2 6 3 4
1 5 7 2 6 3 4
1 7 5 6 2 4 3
7 1 5 2 6 3 4

This peal is an exceptionally easy one to call as the seventh is called into and out of the hunt at the beginning of each course and also called "Before" in the fifth and six courses in each series of six courses.

5040.

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

Four times repeated, omitting the call at five in the first course, produces the first half peal. The whole to be then repeated.

JAMES LOCKWOOD.

First rung on February 21st, 1874 (the second bell being the observation), at St Matthew's, Holbeck, Leeds; conducted by Tom Lockwood.

(To be continued.)

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Sunday, September 2nd, six members of the Braintree branch of this Association paid a visit to Witham, and were met by Messrs. J. M. Hayes, E. Carter, and C. F. Winny, of London. Permission being obtained by Mr. Sayer, a 720 of Cambridge Surprise was rung for Divine Service in the morning. *H. E. Hammond, 1; F. Calthorpe, 2; E. Carter, 3; S. Hammond (conductor), 4; F. Rudkin, 5; J. M. Hayes, 6. The company, after service, made their way to "The Beehive" inn, and were provided with a very nice dinner by Host Sayer, who is himself a ringer. At this time it commenced to rain very heavily, which prevented the party from ringing for afternoon service, but after service, the weather becoming more favourable, they proceeded to the church (not without obtaining wet jackets), and rung a 720 of Double Court Bob. *F. Bumpstead, 1; *F. Calthorpe, 2; †C. F. Winny, 3; S. Hammond, 4; F. Rudkin (conductor), 5; J. M. Hayes, 6. Also a 720 of Woodbine Treble Bob. F. Bumpstead, 1; F. Calthorpe, 2; †E. Carter, 3; S. Hammond, 4; F. Rudkin (conductor), 5; A. Hucksion, 6. Tenor about 19 cwt. †First 720 in the method. All except those marked thus *, are College Youths. During the day was rung upon the handbells a touch of Grandsire Triples, and courses of Bob Major and Grandsire Caters, double-handed. Great credit is due to Mr. Sayer for the admirable manner in which he provided for the wants of his visitors at so short a notice; and the ringers take this opportunity to thank the Rev. Canon Snell for giving them permission to ring.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

A COMMITTEE MEETING will be held on Saturday next, September 15th, at 12 o'clock at noon, in the private room of Messrs. Bolingbroke, Woodrow and Co's. office, 49, Upper St. Giles, Norwich, to consider final arrangements for Annual Meeting, etc. N. BOLINGBROKE,

4, Bracondale Terrace, Norwich,
September 4th, 1883.

Sec. pro. tem.

BURFORD OR BRITFORD BELLS, NEAR SALISBURY.—There hangs in the tower of Burford (or Britford has it is generally called) a light peal of five bells, tenor 10½ cwt., all cast by R. Wells, of Aldbourne, 1765, and inscribed to that effect. The tenor is also inscribed "T. H. Ieruce Esqr donor." Unfortunately the wheel of the third bell was broken several years ago, and has not yet been repaired. Consequently the bells are unringable, the frame and fittings are otherwise in tolerably good repair.

"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, E. W. 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. W. WASHBROOK.—The first opportunity we have.
 B. T. C.—We should like to hear again from you.

The Bell News & Ringers' Record.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 8, 1883.

ONE of the customs indulged in at this season of the year by every one whose means allow them to enjoy it, is that of taking a brief rest from the daily routine of business, and in doing so, seeking a change of scene. To the over-worked Londoner who looks forward for such a holiday, "the seaside" appears to be the most popular locality to resort to. But the selection of such spots for reinvigorating the physical frame seems to arise from the great desire there exists on the part of many persons to imitate the doings of those who are in a higher grade of society than themselves. And this is a notable feature in the character of the *bona fide* Londoner; to imitate, as far as possible, the characteristics of those enjoying a superior social position.

Some however, have to select localities for their annual period of relaxation suitable for a fixed purpose. Thus a ringer would look about for a town where the churches in the place possessed fair rings of bells. This qualification would be of the first importance in the selection, and *Troyte's Guide to the Steeples of England* would be brought into requisition to assist in arriving at a determination. Then having arrived at a decision, a correspondence ensues between the intending visitor and the ringers of the town he purposes visiting; as a rule, if they are scientific ringers, they welcome him with open arms, getting the steeples prepared for his reception; companies are got together to meet him; he is perhaps indulged by a touch of his favourite method; and ultimately, he returns to his own hearth with a feeling of the most uncommon satisfaction at the result of his holiday. That a good ringer may find friends in almost any town of note in England, is certainly no slight argument in favour of the Exercise.

In this number of our journal, there is a very interesting, and here and there amusing, account of a week spent in

Devonshire. We need not give here a relation of the doings of the party, as that is fully given in the recital we allude to, but we cannot refrain from hoping that such trips as this one may become popular and frequent. A party of ringers indulging together in a tour, and visiting steeples in their route, and ringing on the bells, seems a most enjoyable manner of spending a holiday. In the pursuit of such a plan there are other pleasures to be met with besides ringing; and a perusal of this interesting account, we hope, will lead others to endeavour to carry out a similar notion. Of course the preliminaries for such an outing must be entrusted to some one who will do his best to secure the success of the affair, but the trouble taken would be amply repaid. The plan seems to us so admirable that we have taken it as a subject for our comment. A perambulation of such a kind seems to give ringing a charm, and illustrates what we may call the "poetry" of ringing. And the visits paid to different places by such a company as the one we are alluding to certainly cannot but be a decided help in the promotion and extension of the art into benighted neighbourhoods.

The Provinces.

SOWTON, DEVON.—THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS, AND THE DEVONSHIRE GUILD.

On Tuesday, August 28, 1883, in Two Hours and Forty-three Minutes,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES; THURSTANS' COMPOSITION. Tenor 9½ cwt.

JOSEPH FIELD Treble.	CHAS. HOUNSLOW 5.
RICHARD FRENCH 2.	JOHN W. ROWBOTHAM .. 6.
GEO. H. PHILLOTT, Esq. .. 3.	REV. F. E. ROBINSON .. 7.
G. FREDK. COLERIDGE, Esq. 4.	DAVID FRANCOMBE Tenor.

Conducted by the Rev. F. E. ROBINSON.

This is the first peal ever rung on the bells.

EXETER.—THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS, AND THE DEVONSHIRE GUILD.

On Friday, August 31, 1883, in Three Hours and Ten Minutes,

At St. Sidwell's Church,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES; THURSTANS' COMPOSITION. Tenor 23 cwt. 3 qrs. 2 lbs. in D.

JOSEPH FIELD Treble.	GEO. H. PHILLOTT, Esq. .. 5.
RICHARD FRENCH 2.	G. FREDK. COLERIDGE, Esq. 6.
JOHN W. ROWBOTHAM .. 3.	REV. F. E. ROBINSON .. 7.
CHARLES HOUNSLOW .. 4.	F. SHEPHERD } Tenor.
	D. FRANCOMBE }

Conducted by the Rev. F. E. ROBINSON.

This is the first peal in the method ever rung in the city of Exeter.

SHEFFIELD.

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

On Saturday, September 1, 1883, in Three Hours and Sixteen Minutes,

At All Saints' Church,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5120 CHANGES; IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 15 cwt.

CHAS. HY. HATTESLEY .. Treble.	CHARLES BOWER 5.
THOMAS DIXON 2.	WALTER WORTHINGTON .. 6.
JOHN MULLIGAN 3.	JAMES HUNT 7.
HERBERT MADIN 4.	THOMAS HATTESLEY .. Tenor.

Composed by H. W. HALEY, and conducted by THOMAS HATTESLEY.

This is the first peal in the method ever rung on the bells.

STALYBRIDGE, CHESHIRE.—THE HYDE SOCIETY.

On Saturday, September 1, 1883, in Two Hours in Fifty-three Minutes,

AT HOLY TRINITY CHURCH, CASTLE HALL,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S TEN-PART PEAL. Tenor 14 cwt.

WILLIAM CHALLENGOR .. Treble.	CHARLES HEYWOOD.. .. 5.
HUGH SHAW.. .. 2.	THOMAS WILDE 6.
JAMES SHAW 3.	SAMUEL BENNETT 7.
ROBERT WOOLLEY 4.	JAMES S. WILDE Tenor.

Conducted by SAMUEL BENNETT.

Mr. Challenor hails from West Hartlepool, and is a member of the Durham and Newcastle Diocesan Association, and also the Yorkshire Association. Mr. Hugh Shaw hails from Stalybridge; and Mr. Heywood from Southport; the rest from Hyde.

Date Touches.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.—On Monday, September 3rd, at St. John's church, a date touch of Treble Bob Minor, consisting of 1883 changes, in the following methods:—83 Kent (as arranged by J. Thackray, of Armley, Leeds), 360 Violet, 360 New London Pleasure, 360 Woodbine, 360 Merchants' Return, and 360 Oxford. W. Iggleson, 1; C. L. Routledge, 2; F. Lees, 3; W. G. Routledge, 4; W. Story, 5; R. S. Story (conductor), 6. Time 1 hr. 12 mins. Tenor 12½ cwt. This branch rang a date touch some months since, which afterwards turned out to be false. They thereupon determined to ring a true 1883 in more advanced methods, which they have now succeeded in doing the first time of trying.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

BRAINTREE (Essex).—On Saturday, August 25th, the following members of the above Association rang a date touch of 1883 changes in eleven methods, in 1 hr. 9 mins. Frank Bumpstead, 1; Fredk. Calthorpe, 2; Henry Edward Hammond, 3; *Samuel Hammond (conductor), 4; *Fredk. Rudkin, 5; Alexander Huckson, 6. Tenor 14 cwt. The methods as follows: 59 Grandsire Doubles, 144 Bob Minor, 240 College Exercise, 360 Cambridge Surprise, 120 Double Court Bob, 240 Kent Treble Bob, 240 Oxford Treble Bob, 120 Woodbine, 120 New London Pleasure, 120 of Oxford Delight, and 120 of Violet Treble Bob. Compiled by Mr. G. Livermore. *College Youths.

AUGHTON (Lancashire).—On Saturday, August 25th, a mixed band of ringers rang at Christ Church, a date touch of 1883 changes of Grandsire Triples, in 1 hr. 1 min. George Larkey (Aughton), 1; James Gardner (Aughton), 2; Thomas Beacall (Liverpool), 3; Chas. F. Heywood (Southport; conductor), 4; Abel Fielding (Southport), 5; Henry Spencer (Southport), 6; William Fairclough (Aughton), 7; Ernest F. Fletcher (Southport), 8. Composed by J. Carter, of Birmingham. Tenor 16 cwt. in F.

LEESFIELD (Lancashire).—On Thursday, August 30th, the local company rang a date touch of 1883 changes of Grandsire Triples, in 1 hr. 6 mins. Jas. Hy. Gartside, 1; Fred. Crosland, 2; Edwin Shaw, 3; Samuel Stott (conductor), 4; Jas. Bailey, 5; Wm. Holden, 6; John Hilton, 7; Thomas Egerton, 8. Tenor 14 cwt. The above was composed by Mr. J. Carter of Birmingham, and contains the Queen's, Tittums, Whittingtons, and the twenty-four 6-7's.

SOUTHPORT (Lancashire).—On Friday evening, August 17th, the local company, with Mr. Joseph Cheetham, of Bradford, rang a date touch of 1883 changes of Grandsire Triples, in 1 hr. 2 mins. T. J. Fielding, 1; Abel Fielding, 2; C. F. Heywood (conductor), 3; *J. Cheetham, 4; R. Hill, 5; H. Spencer, 6; G. H. Heywood, 7; E. F. Fletcher, 8. Composed by Mr. J. Carter, of Birmingham. *Member of the Yorkshire Association and College Youths, London. Tenor 10 cwt.

Miscellaneous.

THE SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.

LONDON.—On Monday, September 3rd, the above Society attempted a peal of Treble Bob, but after ringing over 2000 changes the conductor called "Stand," owing to a mishap having occurred. Thomas Titchener, 1; James Page, 2; James Hannington (conductor), 3; Thos. Glead, 4; Edward Chapman, 5; Arthur Jacob, 6; Wingfield Meadows, 7; James Barrett, 8. Tenor 18½ cwt. in E. Also at St. Andrew's, in the evening, a 576 of Kent Treble Bob Major and several

touches of Grandsire Triples. J. Hannington (conductor), 1; J. Page, 2; Thos. Glead, 3; E. Chapman, 4; Thos. Titchener, 5; A. Jacob, 6; Wingfield Meadows, 7; J. Barnett, 8.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.—On Monday, September 3rd, at St. John's church, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor, in 26 mins. F. Lees, 1; W. G. Routledge, 2; W. Iggleson, 3; R. Smith (North Shields; conductor), 4; W. Story, 5; R. S. Story, 6. Tenor 12½ cwt.

SOUTH SHIELDS.—On Monday, August 25th, at St. Hilda's church, a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob Minor. A. Sawyer (North Shields), 1; And. Moffitt (first 720 in the method), 2; Jas. Moffitt, 3; Joel Hern (North Shields), 4; R. Smith (North Shields), 5; H. Ross (North Shields), 6. Tenor 10 cwt.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

DISS (Norfolk).—*Muffled Peals*.—On Wednesday evening, July 18th, eight members of the Diss branch of the above Association, rang at St. Mary's church, 1056 changes of Bob Major, in 45 mins. W. Ireland, 1; J. Rudd, 2; W. Scales, 3; T. Ford, 4; E. Francis, 5; E. Batram, 6; W. Brown, 7; T. Clarke, 8. Also a touch of Grandsire with the bells open. The above was rung as a last tribute of respect to the Rev. G. H. Harris, Hon. Sec. of the above Association, by whom he was universally esteemed. Also on Tuesday, September 4th, the company rang some Bob Major, as a last mark of respect to Mr. Joseph Cuthbert, who was buried that day at Westhorpe, Suffolk, where he was formerly parish clerk for eighteen years. He had only been living in Diss twelve months, and was always willing to assist the company as much as his years and health permitted. Aged 73 years.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

EXETER.—On Monday, August 27th, six members of the above Guild, being also members of the Ancient Society of College Youths, rang at St. Petrock's church, a 720 of Grandsire Minor, in 22½ mins. D. Francombe, 1; J. Field, 2; C. Hounslow (conductor), 3; G. F. Coleridge, Esq., 4; G. H. Phillott, Esq., 5; Rev. F. E. Robinson, 6. Tenor 5½ cwt.

THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

WIMBLEDON (Surrey).—On Tuesday, September 4th, six members of the above Association rang at St. Mary's church, a 720 of Grandsire Minor, in 26 mins. G. Hyde, 1; A. Roots, 2; C. Hyde, 3; S. Frost, 4; A. Garrett, 5; J. Fayers (conductor), 6. Tenor 12 cwt.

THE WEST MIDDLESEX ASSOCIATION.

ACTON (Middlesex).—On Thursday, August 30th, eight members of the above Association, rang a 1078 of Grandsire Triples, in 42 mins. W. Taylor, 1; G. Ilsley, 2; W. Barrow (conductor), 3; W. Fenwick, 4; G. Trinder, 5; W. Wilder, 6; F. Slade, junr., Esq., 7; W. Stanney, 8. Tenor 13½ cwt. The above are also members of the Waterloo Society.

ASHTON (Lancashire).—On Sunday, September 2nd, six of the local company rang for afternoon service at Christ Church, 648 changes of Grandsire Minor, without a single, in 22 mins. G. Larkey, 1; J. Gardner, 2; W. Fairclough, 3; C. Sharples (conductor), 4; W. Benthams, 5; J. Walker, 6. Composed by J. Aspinwall, of Liverpool.

BLETCHINGLEY (Surrey).—At the parish church, on Thursday, August 30th, the local society rung in honour of a wedding, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 46 mins. G. Brown, 1; T. Boniface, 2; J. Bashford, 3; F. Smith, 4; G. Potter, 5; J. Burkin, 6; W. Burkin (conductor), 7; J. Balcombe, 8. Also a 546 of Union Triples, Luke Killick ringing the 5th in this touch; first 546 of Union Triples by any of the band. Tenor 19 cwt.

DEERHURST (Gloucestershire).—On Sunday, September 2nd, for Divine Service, a 720 of Bob Minor, in 25 mins. S. Roberts, 1; C. Willis, 2; C. Roles, 3; C. Awford (conductor), 4; G. Willis, 5; J. Bartlett, 6. Tenor 15 cwt.

HACKNEY (Middlesex).—*Muffled Peal*.—On Sunday, September 2nd, after Divine Service, eight members of the Ancient Society of College Youths rang, with the bells half-muffled, a funeral peal as a last token of respect for the late Rev. Prebendary Griffiths, A.M., many years minister at Ram's Episcopal chapel, Homerton, who died at the advanced age of 86; and Mr. Samuel Fox, Builder, a very old inhabitant, and formerly Churchwarden, aged 73, who were both interred in the adjoining churchyard during the past week. F. Rumens, 1; G. Muskett, 2; C. Lee, 3; W. Greenleaf, 4; W. Jones, 5; E. Marriott, 6; J. Pettit, 7; W. D. Smith, 8. After the usual whole pull and stand, which was admirably done, a short Grandsire Triples was performed, W. D. Smith and E. Marriott changing places from tenor to 6th, and *vice versa*. Conducted by James Pettit.

HAVERSTOCK HILL (Middlesex).—On Wednesday evening, September 5th, a 720 Plain Bob Minor in 27 mins. J. Leach, 1; J. Page, 2; G. Griffin, 3; J. Barry, 4; E. Cole, Esq., 5; J. Hannington (conductor), 6. Tenor 12½ cwt.

KINGSWOOD (Surrey).—On Saturday, August 25th, five members of the Nutfield society, with Mr. William Webbe, of Chipstead, visited the parish church, and rung a 720 of Plain Bob Minor, in 27 mins. J. Burkin, 1; T. Boniface, 2; E. Fuller, 3; W. Burkin, 4; J. Tidy, 5; W. Webbe (conductor), 6. Tenor 18 cwt.

SAFFRON WALDEN.—On Tuesday, September 4th, on the back six, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor, with nine bobs. John Freeman, 1; George Martin, 2; Ernest Pitstow (first 720 in the method), 3; Charles Freeman, 4; N. J. Pitstow, 5; Fredk. Pitstow, 6.

SYSTON (Leicestershire).—On Saturday, September 1st, four members of the Loughborough company, visited this place, and by the kind permission of the vicar, rang with the assistance of Messrs. J. North and J. Pickard, a 720 of Grandsire Minor, in 29½ mins. *J. Pickard, 1; H. Bradley, 2; J. Hardy, 3; S. Smith, 4; *J. North, 5; J. W. Taylor, junr. (conductor), 6. *First 720. Tenor 15½ cwt. This is believed to be the first 720 in the method ever rung on these bells.

WYMESWOLD (Leicestershire).—On Monday, September 3rd, for practice, a 720 of Plain Bob Minor, in 26 mins. — Brooks (Wymeswold), 1; H. Bradley (Loughborough), 2; M. Brown (Wymeswold), 3; J. W. Taylor, sen. (Loughborough), 4; S. Smith (Loughborough), 5; J. W. Taylor, jun. (Loughborough; conductor), 6.

THE ST. JOHN'S COMPANY, PIMLICO, LONDON.

On Saturday, September 1st, the band of ringers from St. John the Evangelist, Wilton Road, met at that charming suburb of London, viz:—Fulham, in addition to their annual outing—the occasion being one of regret mingled with pleasure and good feeling. "Pulling together" is one of the mottoes of St. John's parish, and nearly five years ago, when the bells were dedicated, notices were posted in the church porch for men of the congregation who were church workers, etc., to come forward and form a band of volunteer change-ringers; accordingly this was acted upon by a great many (some of whom have lately become somewhat known in the ringing world). Amongst them, as an amateur ringer, was the curate-in-charge, the Rev. Wharton B. Smith, who took his place with the others, thus drawing priest and ringers together in the greatest harmony, and it was through his exertions that the bells were added to St. John's. For the past twelve months, however, very little has been done here, mainly owing to the unsteady state of the tower, which caused the bells to tumble about in the most unsatisfactory manner. Of course with the clergy and churchwardens interested in the matter, everything to make the tower well furnished and cheerful, with all necessary fittings, was instantly done; the bells are a pretty ring of eight, tenor 10½ cwt. in G. But to return to the point—the ringers were summoned to Fulham, at the special invitation of the Rev. W. B. Smith, but being a pleasant season of the year, most of the members were unfortunately away on their holiday tour, and otherwise absent.

After ringing some Grandsire Triples at All Saints, with the assistance of the Rev. J. H. Fisher, they made an excursion of about the eighth of a mile over the Thames to Putney, where a substantial meat tea was served in a comfortable and homely style at the "King's Bakery." When the repast was about three parts over, the above-named rev. gentleman rose, and in a few brief words about the ringers and the bells, told them he had taken this opportunity of drawing a truly loyal band of men together, for the purpose of saying "Good bye" to them, as he sailed from England in a month's time, bound for Grahamstown, in South Africa. Several words of encouragement and advice also fell from his lips, coupled with one or two wishes for the future, which were well appreciated; he further stated that it gave him great pleasure to know he was leaving behind him one who could so ably supply his place in the belfry as a practical ringer, viz:—the Rev. Oswald P. Yerburgh; which was greeted with applause. In responding, Mr. F. E. Dawe rose and said he thanked Mr. Smith on behalf of the ringers of St. John's for his great kindness and attention to them during the past five years, and amongst other expressions and wishes, he hoped their benefactor would have a safe voyage to his destination, and that the same accident which took him from them, might also be the means of their again seeing him in England; and after a few more words of sympathy the aforesaid "Good bye" was said, Mr. Smith taking a walk to hear the bells, and the ringers proceeding to All Saints, Fulham, where a quarter peal of Grandsire Triples was attempted with the assistance of Mr. Kelly (of All Saints), but unfortunately not not succeeded with. W. Chew, 1; Rev. O. P. Yerburgh, 2; F. T. Gover, 3; J. Kelly, 4; J. M. Hayes, 5; C. F. Winny, 6; G. T. McLaughlin, (conductor) 7; F. E. Dawe, 8; tenor 21 cwt. in Eb. After some more short touches, the ringers returned to town well pleased with their outing.

BELL-HUNTING IN EAST ANGLIA.

BY AUDITOR TANTUM.

NORTHWOLD.—EIGHT BELLS.

Quite close to Methwold lies Northwold, to which church Wm. Dobson, of Downham Market, supplied, in 1818, a good ring of six bells. The tenor was 12 cwt. In 1872, the ring was augmented to eight by the addition of a treble, and a tenor of 16 cwt. The bells were re-opened in the proper manner with a peal of Treble Bob Major, of 5152 changes, in 3 hours and 13 minutes, by a select band of the College Youths. On the way to Downham, the traveller should go a little out of his way to the north to Fincham, where is a fine church with a handsome tower containing a pretty light ring of six bells, cast by C. and G. Mears in 1844, tenor 7 cwt. At Fincham is a capital band of ringers, who (like many such village bands in Norfolk) ring Treble Bob Minor in good style.

Leaving here, the seeker after bells will do well to turn eastward and make for Swaffham; the church is placed on the highest ground in those parts, and its fine tower and short but graceful spire form a landmark for many a mile. On his way he will pass near Marham, where is a fine ring of six, cast complete by Thos. Osborn, in 1802. The tenor weighs 12 cwt.

SWAFFHAM.—EIGHT BELLS.

In 1552 there were in the steeple three bells, weighing 15, 20, and 28 cwt. respectively, and four clappers. In 1632 the parish employed John Draper, of Thetford, but a quarrel arose which ended in a lawsuit, and the parishioners transferred their custom to the great Miles Gray, of Colchester, who, in 1634, cast a ring of six for Swaffham, of which the treble, 2nd, 4th, 5th, and tenor still remain. I am sorry to say that I have never heard these bells, nor have I ever heard their merits discussed. The diameter of the tenor is 46 inches, and her weight about 18 cwt. In 1737, Thos. Newman, of Norwich, augmented the ring to eight; he recast Gray's 3rd into the present 5th, and added two trebles weighing 4½ cwt. and 5 cwt.; and so the present set was completed.

East of Swaffham is Necton; here is a modern ring of six cast complete in 1833 by Thos. Mears, of London. Diameter of tenor 42 inches. Weight 13 cwt.

Turning to the south, the bell-hunter will next find at Holm Hale. John Draper supplied a ring of five to Holme Hale, from the Thetford Foundry in 1624, and in 1652 John Brend, of Norwich added a treble. The 3rd and 5th were recast in 1746, by Thos. Gardiner, of Norwich.

A little south of Holme Hale is Ashill. For this church John Draper in 1617, cast a ring of five, of which the four smallest remain, the old 4th being the present tenor. In 1788, the tenor being cracked was made over to Thos. Osborn in exchange for two trebles, by which means the ring was augmented to six.

Still further south is Saham-Toney. In 1552 there were three bells here, weighing respectively 12, 14, and 18 cwt. In the early part of the 17th century, William and Alice Brend, of Norwich, substituted for these a ring of five, of which treble, 3rd, and tenor (42 inches in diameter, and about 13 cwt.) remain. The 2nd of the old ring was recast in 1697, by C. Newman, of Norwich; and the old 4th by Dobson in 1812. In 1841 the ring was augmented to six by the addition of a treble from the Whitechapel foundry, the gift of the rector, the Rev. W. H. Parker.

South east of Saham-Toney lies Caston, the bells of which have a curious history. Blomefield, writing of the village of West Harling, says: "There were but three bells, until Joshua Draper, Esq. when he resided here, had them new runned and added two new ones." This was in 1726, and only thirty years later the parishioners of West Harling represented to the Bishop that formerly there were only three bells, but that then there were five, which the tower was not able to support; they succeeded in getting a faculty to take down the tower and spire, and to rebuild the former without the spire, also to sell four of their five bells. They however (most ungratefully, I think), sold the whole ring to Joseph Mallows, a bell-founder of East Dereham, who in the same year, 1756, added a treble and sold the set of six complete to Caston. The weights of these bells are:—

	cwt.	qrs.	lbs.		cwt.	qrs.	lbs.
Treble.	3	2	0	4th.	5	1	26
2nd.	3	3	18	5th.	6	3	14
3rd.	4	1	17	Tenor.	8	3	21

PROGRESS OF CHANGE-RINGING IN SALISBURY.—Last week there appeared an account of the first 6-score of Grandsire Doubles rung by local ringers in Salisbury. This week one or two more have managed their first 120 on an inside bell. It is proposed shortly to begin six-bell work. Unfortunately the very unsatisfactory state of St. Thomas's bells (tenor 30 cwt.), the only peal of eight in the city, prevents seven or eight bell work being attempted here even by experienced hands, much less by beginners.

VISIT OF THE IPSWICH RINGERS TO WARE AND HERTFORD.

On Monday, August 27th, several of the Ipswich ringers paid a visit to Ware, Herts, L. Procter, Esq., with some of his well known Bennington ringers, meeting them; they rang touches of Stedman Triples and Grandsire Triples at St. Mary's, and then proceeded to Hertford, and were joined by some of the local ringers.

At All Saints, Hertford, the following methods were rung. Stedman Caters, Grandsire Caters, and Kent Treble Bob Royal, by J. R. Haworth (conductor), J. Kitchener, L. Procter, Esq., W. Meadows, J. Fosdike, E. Pemberton, H. Baker, T. Page, E. Reeve, and L. Chapman. Afterwards at St. Andrew's, Hertford, a short touch of Stedman Triples, and then the Ipswich ringers returned home, much pleased with their visit.

The same evening at Holy Trinity, Bengoe, Hertford, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor, in 26 mins. J. R. Haworth, 1; J. Kitchener, 2; L. Procter, Esq., 3; L. Chapman, 4; H. Baker, 5; T. Page, 6. Tenor 7 cwt.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

AFTER accomplishing a 5040 of Grandsire Triples at Stalybridge on Saturday last, Mr. W. Challenor reached West Hartlepool at 3.30 on Sunday morning, fresh as a daisy, and eager for another pull, and rather than go without it he took the first train back to Stockton, arriving there in time to take part in the usual Sunday morning's ringing, when a 720 of Court Bob was rung. W. Challenor, 1; J. Clarkson, 2; T. Burdon, 3; W. Stephenson, 4; T. Stephenson (conductor), 5; G. J. Clarkson, 6.

A WRITER in the holiday number (for 1877) of *London Society*, in an article entitled, "A Walking Tour on the South Pembrokeshire Coast," says: "I almost think the place might serve as the home for the legend of the Inchcape Bell. In a little hollow of the coast, lying half-way down the cliff, nestling under the hill, and sheltered by the rocks, approached from the level by one hundred and thirty well-cut steps, there you come upon the chapel of St. Gowan's. It must have been the abode of a monk, and most probably a devout hermit. If his purpose was to meditate, he could do it undisturbed; if it was to help the mariner who happened to be driven on that coast, he had plenty to occupy his time. The place is beyond doubt of ancient date. It is comprised of two parts, the inner sanctum for meditation and devotion. Here cut in the solid rock, still tracible, is the outline of the human skeleton which served to remind the occupant of his mortality. The little belfry yet standing on the western part of the chapel tells of ministrations to the simple people near by. There must have been piety, and legendary lore tells us it has left its odour still. The place is famed far and near. Outside the chapel, a little nearer the sea, is a well; the clay and the water give evidences of iron, and here marvellous cures have taken place. The simple folk believe it has miraculous virtues left by the superhuman power of the occupant. The scientific speak of its properties as a medicine, after the manner of the well-known mineral springs abounding in our country. Anyhow, many of the most astounding cures are authenticated, and people visit it in large numbers for all kind of ailments, whilst the simple-minded folk hold it in highest veneration, and guard it with befitting care. Near by the well is a large stone, having the appearance of a limestone, but it is the subject of legendary tale. If struck by a small stone it rings out sharp, clear, distinct, a good tenor sound. The story says a ship's crew on mischief bent came on shore, and stole the chapel bell. In taking it away they rested the bell on this stone. From that time the pious inmate was in want no more, for the stone preserved the identical tone of the bell, whilst as a punishment for their sacrilege a storm overtook the wicked sailors, and foundered the ship with the illgotten prize."

THE Christ Church Society, Southport, by the kindness of a few friends, gave a veteran change-ringer of Mottram-in-Longdendale, (James Hamilton, aged 91 years), a treat to Southport for a week, who returned to his native village last Saturday, September 1st, highly pleased with his visit; he never was at Southport before. He is a hale and hearty old man, with an excellent memory. During his ringing career he has taken part in ringing between eighty and ninety peals of 5000 and upwards, of Treble Bob Major and Grandsire Triples, one 10,000 of Bob Major, one 8000 of Treble Bob Major, both at Mottram, and one 7400 of Treble Bob Royal at Manchester Cathedral; he also has took part in gaining many first prizes at prize-ringing.

THE old church of St. Nicholas, Whitehaven, which is undergoing reconstruction at the expense of a lady residing in the town, has just had presented to it by Canon Heron a silver communion service, which had formerly belonged to the parish, but had been lost for many years. The chalice, which appears to be of 17th century workmanship, and which bears the inscription, "For the use of the sick poor of Whitehaven," had found its way to an old curiosity shop in London.—*Guardian*.

THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

A DISTRICT MEETING of the above Association was held at Ashted, by the kind permission of the Rector, on Saturday, September 1st. Ringing began at about 5 o'clock, and was kept up until 9.30. Some of the members found their way first to Leatherhead, where ringing also took place. About thirty members put in an appearance at Ashted, comprising representatives from the local band, from Beddington, Croydon, Kingston, Mitcham, Streatham, Leatherhead, Camberwell, and London. Several touches in the following methods were brought round: Grandsire Triples, Treble Bob Major (Kent and Oxford), Stedman Triples, Bob Major and Triples, and Union Triples. The honours of conducting were divided between Messrs. Sayer, Bennett, Greenwood, and Strutt. The thanks of the Association are due to Mr. Sayer and to the steeple-keeper for the very excellent arrangements made for their pleasure and comfort. The ringing-chamber is in capital order and the go of the pretty little peal of eight is everything that can be desired. Altogether the Association spent a very enjoyable evening.

ARTHUR B. CARPENTER,
Hon. Sec.

THE BRAINTREE BRANCH OF THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

THE following are the doings of this society during the month of August:—August, 4th, 720 Oxford Treble Bob; 5th, 720 Kent Treble Bob, 360 Kent Treble Bob; 6th, 720 Oxford Treble Bob; 11th, 240 Bob Minor, 59 Grandsire, 144 Bob Minor; 12th, 120 Double Court Bob, 120 Cambridge Surprise, 120 Bob Minor; 19th, 360 Kent Treble Bob; 22nd, 720 Cambridge Surprise; 25th, Date Touch; 26th, 720 Double Court Bob, 360 Bob Minor; 29th, 720 Kent Treble Bob, 360 Oxford Treble Bob.

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 OFFICE OF MASTER.

SIR,—In your issue of last week, there are two short paragraphs placed respectively at the bottom of pages 256 and 262, which, at a casual glance, seem not to have the least connection, but will, I think, upon examination, be seen to have a considerable bearing one upon the other. The item on page 256 refers to the election of officers for the St. James's Society, and states that Mr. W. George has been elected to fill the office of Master. The second paragraph is in reference to the threatened demolition of the churches of St. Mary's and St. Clement's Danes, and notes the fact that the latter edifice is "the headquarters of what *should* be the most prominent ringing society in London." The italics are my own.

A careful study of the peal-record reveals the fact that Mr. W. George has never done anything beyond ringing the tenor behind in some few peals, and it is therefore but reasonable to infer that that gentleman is not, in the full sense of the term, a change-ringer, consequently not the right man to fill the office of Master of a Society, which exists for the sole purpose of practising and extending the study of the art of change-ringing. As well may a society of artists elect a house-painter for their president, or an orchestra make their big-drummer band-master. I think most ringers will agree that it is an absurdity, to say the least of it, to place a mere tyro in the presidential chair of such a very prominent society as that of the St. James's. The same Society, a few years ago, suffered from a similar infliction, with a noticeable falling off in its performances in consequence, and it may be permitted to hope, Mr. Editor, that in future, as has been so often the case in the past, the office will be filled by some one of the many prominent and able members of either the Cumberlands or College Youths, who are so well qualified to give instruction and assistance to young beginners, and of whom there are so great a number, members of the St. James's Society.

It will be hardly necessary to assure Mr. W. George that not in the slightest degree is this letter meant as a personal attack upon him. He may be, and doubtless is, a very genial and obliging gentleman, well fitted in every other respect to act as chairman at a meeting of ringers, but in the most important characteristics of a president of any body of persons devoted, if I may so term it, to a certain technical study, that is, a knowledge of the subject, he is evidently sadly deficient. The principle and not the person is what is aimed at in these remarks.

EAST-ANGLIAN AND ST. JAMES'S.

A CORRECTION.

SIR,—The time for the peal of Grandsire Triples, rang by the Dudley and Netherton company at Cradley, in July, 1879, should have been 2 hrs. and 55 mins. and not 2 hr. and 5 mins, as published in your last issue. By correcting this you will greatly oblige,

JNO. SMITH.

A RINGING HOLIDAY.—"SEVENTEEN DAYS AND A BIT."

By F. E. DAWE.

(Continued from page 261.)

On leaving Manchester, we pursued our way until

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE

was reached, and at once found Mr. Samuel Wood, and soon a very pleasant introduction to the long peal men took place, who had kindly turned over work for the day, on purpose to be with me. Early in the afternoon about a dozen of us started on foot from Ashton, *en route* for Mottram, which is about six miles distant, and after passing through a smoky town called Stalybridge, a very enjoyable walk was begun—not only on account of the excellent state of the weather and beauty of the country, but for the honour of being in company with "Ashton's bold heroes of metal and pluck" as Mr. Egby's song of the long peal very justly designates them. The way was greatly enlivened by Messrs. Wood, Thorp, the "living Big Ben," (the above poet's definition of Mr. Broadbent) and others, relating the most pleasing, interesting, and amusing anecdotes of past visits and performances at the place we were bound for, but the main channel of interest was to hear all about the 16.608 from the performers themselves, each one giving a personal narrative. We also heard the full particulars of other notable places of renown near at hand, and expressed suggestions as to what should be done at a future visit. After about an hour and a half of this sort of thing, gradually going up hill all the way, we arrived at a deep gorge in the hills called "Blind Jack's Cutting," and on passing through this in another minute the whole neighbourhood of

MOTTRAM-IN-LONGDENDALE

opens itself to view, the atmosphere being very clear, upwards of thirty or forty miles in each direction could be clearly seen, and from the top of this hill where we stood, the whole scene lay like a beautiful panorama before us, rendered all the more interesting from the fact that this was the selected spot, one fine May morning, at six o'clock, for one of the grandest performances ever achieved in the tintinabulatory science. Far across in the centre of the valley rises another hill, on which the main portion of Mottram is situated, and still higher up on the very summit, is the principal object of attraction to a ringer's eye (especially one who has the science at heart), viz.:—the church of St. Michael, late St. Mary, where the job was done.

Far as the eye could reach, churches and steeples, with notable bells, and other things of interest were eagerly pointed out—among which were the Welsh mountains, fifty or sixty miles away. After contemplating this beautiful picture before us, we descended to the valley, and began to ascend the opposite side, and in due course of time arrived at Mr. Middleton's hostelry, which joins the churchyard—the late William Harrison's monument being a very few feet from his hospitable roof. This token of respect and esteem to Mr. Harrison has been elaborately described some time ago in this paper, nevertheless it is a memento every one should make a point of seeing when anywhere in the vicinity, especially those who have contributed towards its erection; it is very pretty and creditable to whoever designed and executed it. On the sides are course-ends of Treble Bob in black and white, also a model church bell, and some handbells, very nicely carved, on the stonework, below which is the well-known inscription recording the name of deceased, who the memorial was presented by, and other suitable information inscribed, characteristic of an epitaph. After tea was over, all adjourned to the tower, where everything was ready; it is a pleasant little ringing-room, with a large window, a small movable chandelier with candles; and strange to say, although so many wonderful performances have been accomplished here, not a single tablet records them; we also inspected the entire steeple, and the bells, which are packed together rather close and very awkward to gain access to, so narrow and antique are the steps; in fact the whole tower and surroundings appear to be extremely ancient: it is however a place of beauty and interest. I may say here, in passing, that it was previously arranged that seven of those gentlemen who took part in the long peal should take part in the peal we were about to start for, but as there is always service at Mottram on Thursday evenings, it was expected to be rung at Ashton instead; luckily, however, the Vicar kindly sent over in the morning to say he would put off the evening service to oblige us, and every one was informed of this excellent alteration, except Mr. J. Mellor, who to my disappointment, arrived just after we had commenced; however, Mr. Middleton was pressed into our service in his stead—we started and had the honour of calling Mr. Samuel Wood's composition of 5120 changes of Treble Bob Major, in two hours and fifty-eight minutes, which of course resulted in ringing a peal with six of the notable men, whose names are now household words. The bells sound pleasant in the ringing room, and are a much better six than eight (the trebles being nothing so good as the others). I took the dimensions of them, but unfortunately, I was not armed with my callipers, so can give no

information in the direction of thickness, etc. The dates on them were told me afterwards, the tenor was lifted out and weighed two days prior to my visit, and found (to use their own expression), to be 13 cwt. 72 lbs., but it must be recollected this includes clapper, wheel, stock, stay, nuts, screws, bolts, bars, rivets, rope, and everything just as I rang it, so people can now calculate all those items up together, and think what they like. During the peal everything went on in the greatest harmony till the last course, when, unfortunately one of the ringers was taken very ill, which proved extremely awkward. Luckily, however, this circumstance did not interfere with the ringing in the least, and it was not many minutes after "this is all" was said, that we all were seated at supper in a spacious apartment in Mr. Middleton's inn—where several change-ringers from the surrounding country had made their rendezvous for the evening. Amongst them we noticed Mr. T. Wilde, of Hyde, and many others of Treble Bob renown. Songs were freely indulged in, and speeches of welcome and thanks on both sides helped to enliven the programme of enjoyment; three leads of Treble Bob Maximus on the handbells by the following: J. Thorp, 1-2; S. Wood, 3-4; T. Wilde, 5-6; G. Longden, 7-8; F. E. Dawe, 9-10; B. Broadbent, 11-12. Also a course of Grandsire Royal, followed by Mr. Samuel Wood enchanting the company with some well struck Grandsire Cinques on the piano, in the midst of which the lights were suddenly extinguished, everything put away, and we were hurriedly informed it was time to go, so as not to endanger the worthy landlord at the hands of the Excise officers. Accordingly a hurried "Good Night," and an exit out of a side door, set everything right. Several stoppages were however made before we left the precincts of Mottram, after which a splendid midnight walk back, favoured by moonlight scenery of the clearest description, contrasted strongly with the sunlight walk there a few hours before. All the time, till Ashton-under-Lyne was reached, strange incidents of various ringing excursions to places near and far were delivered first by one orator and then another. Of course after meeting with men we had lately heard so much about, some of us experienced a great difficulty to get separated, and in fact it was not until the morning was breaking that the last of us thought about saying "adieu."

The next morning a walk of about five miles brought us to

OLDHAM,

where we at once proceeded to dig up the worthy sexton, and repair to St. Mary's church, where we soon gained admittance to the ringing-room, which is very comfortable, and well looked after, being nicely matted, and all round is some very good peal boards, recording Grandsire Cinques, Treble twelve-in, and 5104 of Treble Bob Cinques. Also tablets which were formerly in the old tower (St. Paul's, which stood on the same site as the present church), recording 14,480 and 10,080 of Bob Major, 14,016 Kent Treble Bob Major; 9999 Grandsire Major (this was false); and other records of performances well worthy of notice. They are a very good ring of twelve, hung in two tiers, and the tenor, which occupies a position in the centre of the lower tier, weighs 34 cwt. in C. The ringing-room is rather small, and egg-shaped, measuring not quite 12 feet across; it is neatly matchboarded, grained, and varnished to a height of six or seven feet; and is also lighted at one end by a very large window. The ropes fall in a very good circle, and are equal in distance apart, which gives the chamber an appearance of ease and convenience to see each other. After taking stock of a few more things, we returned to Ashton-under-Lyne, where a few pleasant and interesting hours were spent in company with Mr. James Wood, senr., and his son "our Sam," at the house of the latter, where we had been invited to attend a *tete-a-tete* overnight. Shortly afterwards we procured a large photo of the eight that rang in the long peal, which has been lately advertised in "THE BELL NEWS," and having the privilege to choose from about two dozen, the very natural consequence was that the best one "got lifted." It is very well taken, and a trophy everyone who admires the art should be possessed of, it costs but a trifle—well worth having, and is very little trouble to procure—simply this:—enclose twenty-four stamps to Mrs. Moss, Photo Studio, 9, Chester Square, Ashton-under-Lyne, Lancashire, and the applicant has it in a day or two. There are two sittings, one with all of them smiling, and the other looking as if they thought better of it. We also procured some of Mottram church, which is also well taken. (It is a custom of mine, by the way, to collect photos of different places and churches, with notable steeples and bells, in fact anything of interest when getting from one place to another; and if any ringers who happens to read this, will kindly favour me with shadows of themselves, as some have already done, it will greatly oblige).

(To be continued.)

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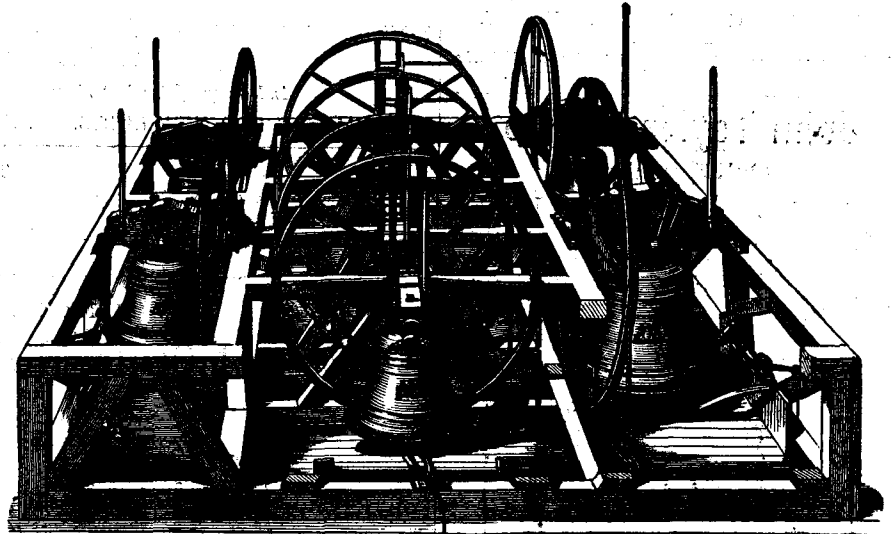
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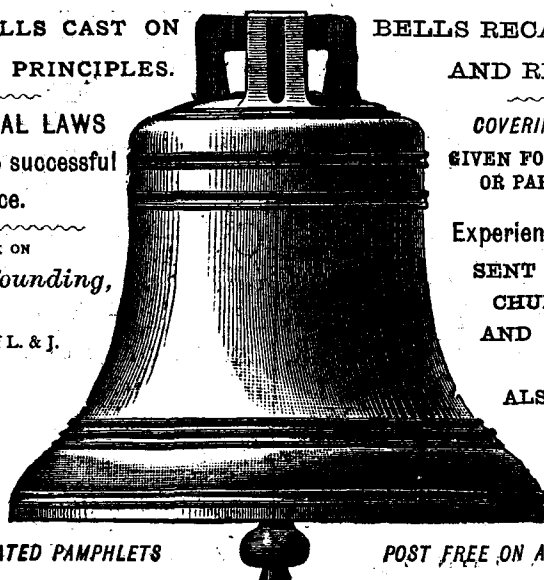
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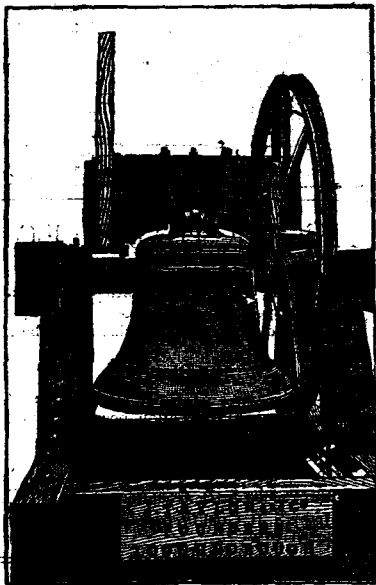


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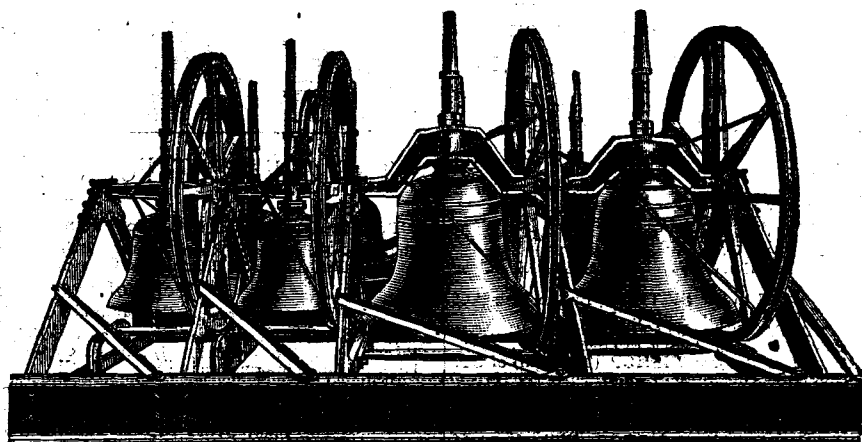
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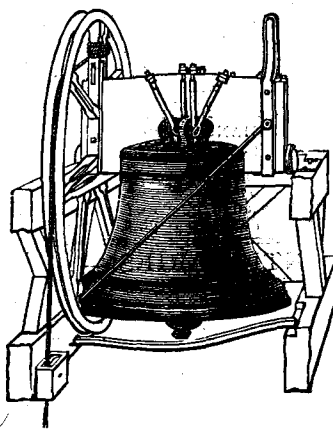
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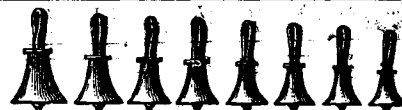
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GRANDSIRE TRIPLES.

By JASPER W. SNOWDON.

THREE-PART PEALS.

In the two following examples of three-part peals, we have, in the first place, Mr. Lockwood's peal, which contains only eighty-four calls, the least number of calls by which a peal in this method has been produced; and in the second place, Thos. Day's peal, with a call at every lead end. The calls used in Mr. Lockwood's peal consist of ordinary bobs, bob-singles (shown by the letter s), and two fifth's-place bobs, one in each half-peal, which are shewn by the asterisk (*). The singles are made thus:—

5 1 6 7 4 2 3
1 5 6 7 4 2 3
1 6 5 4 7 3 2
6 1 5 7 4 2 3

The following is the first part of the peal, the whole of which has to be twice repeated. By omitting the fifth's place bob, and calling an ordinary bobs, bob-singles (shown by the letter s), and two fifth's-place bobs, one in each half-peal, which are shewn by the asterisk (*). The singles are made thus:—

2 3 4 5 6 7			
7 5 2 6 3 4 1	7 5 6 4 3 2 1	7 5 2 3 4 6 1	7 5 3 2 6 4 1
s 6 5 4 7 3 2 5	s 4 5 2 7 3 6 5	s 3 5 6 7 4 2 5	s 2 5 4 7 6 3 5
2 7 6 3 5 4 1	6 7 4 3 5 2 1	2 7 3 4 5 6 1	3 7 2 6 5 4 1
* 2 7 4 3 6 5 5	3 7 6 2 4 5 5	4 7 2 6 3 5 5	6 7 3 4 2 5 5
3 7 2 5 4 6 5	2 7 3 5 6 4 5	6 7 4 5 2 3 5	4 7 6 5 3 2 5
5 7 3 6 2 4 5	s 5 7 4 2 6 3 5	5 7 6 3 4 2 5	s 5 7 2 4 3 6 5
6 7 5 4 3 2 5	2 7 5 3 4 6 5	3 7 5 2 6 4 5	4 7 5 6 2 3 5

P.L. 6 3 2 5 4 7 5 P.L. 2 4 6 5 3 7 5 P.L. 3 6 4 5 2 7 5 P.L. 4 2 3 5 6 7 5

JAMES LOCKWOOD.

Three calls are used in the following peal, viz.; ordinary bobs, singles and doubles, these two last are made as follows.

Single	(5 1 7 2 6 3 4 1 5 2 7 3 6 4 1 5 7 2 6 3 4 5 1 7 2 6 3 4	Double	(3 1 2 6 5 4 7 1 3 2 5 6 7 4 1 2 3 5 6 4 7 2 1 3 5 6 7 4
--------	--	--------	--

The following division is the first part of the peal, and if twice repeated would come round at the half peal-end. A bob instead of a double has therefore to be called at the second lead in the sixth course of the third part, which brings up the half-peal end (4 3 2 5 6 7), after which the whole has to be repeated.

5040.

2 3 4 5 6 7	1	2	3	4	5	6
2 3 5 6 4 7	s	-	-	s	s	D
6 2 5 3 4 7	s	D	s	s	-	-
2 6 5 3 4 7	s	-	s	s	-	-
2 3 6 4 5 7	s	D	-	s	s	D
2 3 5 4 6 7	s	-	-	s	s	-
4 2 3 6 5 7	s	D	s	s	s	D
6 4 3 2 5 7	s	D	s	s	-	-
4 6 3 2 5 7	s	-	s	s	-	-
4 2 6 5 3 7	s	D	-	s	s	D
4 2 3 5 6 7	s	-	-	s	s	-

THOS. DAY.

ONE-PART PEALS.

The peals upon this plan are the well known peal of John Holt's, which is not divided into parts and contains 148 bobs and two ordinary singles, and two recent compositions by Mr. J. F. Penning, of Saffron Walden, on the same plan. The first of Mr. Penning's peals is decidedly an improvement on Holt's, as it only contains 138 bobs and two ordinary singles. This peal was given in "THE BELL NEWS" on October 14th, 1882. The second of Mr. Penning's peals, which appeared in "THE BELL NEWS" on June 23rd ult., contains only 130 bobs and two singles, but in this peal the latter are Holt's singles and not ordinary Grandsire ones.

In connection with this subject I may add that it appears to me only a small amount of credit has been grudgingly awarded to Mr. Penning for the first of these compositions. Although Holt's peal has now been before the world for over 130 years, this is the first successful attempt to produce any simpler form of the one-part peal.

Note.—The peal of Grandsire Triples on the three-lead-course plan, which I gave from Harrison's mss. would hardly have appeared had it not been that I overlooked the fact that it was merely a reverse variation of the peal by Taylor. This reverse variation I also received from Mr. John Cox, by whom it was composed, and who conducted it at St. Botolph's, Bishopsgate, London, on March 12th, 1835.

BELL-HUNTING IN EAST ANGLIA.

By AUDITOR TANTUM.

North-east of Caston is Hingham. At the beginning of the 18th century, Hingham had a ring of six, the 2nd, 3rd and 5th of which still remain. The 2nd is a mediæval bell of the old Norwich foundry; the 3rd and 5th were cast by William and Alice Brend in 1619. The tenor was recast in 1701 at Bury St. Edmunds, and weighed 24 cwt. She was cracked in the following year, and recast in 1707, losing 2 cwt. in the process. In 1742, as we learn from a tablet on the north wall of the ringing-room, "this peal of eight was completed by a generous contribution." At this time the old tenor was removed, leaving Wm. and Alice Brend's bell, reputed to weigh 18 cwt., for the tenor of the new ring; and three small bells, by Thos. Newman of Norwich, were added. The 4th was recast in 1775 by Osborn and Arnold of St. Neots, and the 7th by Osborn, in 1785.

The traveller will now turn north towards East Dereham, calling on the way at Shipdham, where is a ring of six bells, treble, 2nd, and 3rd have no inscription; 4th and 5th are dated 1616; the tenor was a very old bell, by one of the Brasyers of Norwich, and belonged to East Bradenham; in 1833 the parishioners of East Bradenham sold it to Thos. Hurry, bellhanger, of Norwich, who in the same year transferred it to Shipdham. This bell was recast about ten years ago by Messrs. Warner and Sons.

EAST DEREHAM—EIGHT BELLS.

Here the tower (which is a detached building), of St. Nicholas' church contains a ring of eight bells, originally cast complete in 1753 by Messrs. Lester and Pack. Of these the treble, 2nd, 4th, 5th, and 7th, have at different times been recast, but always by the White-chapel foundry. The weights of Lester and Pack's bells were:—

	cwt.	qrs.	lbs.		cwt.	qrs.	lbs.
Treble.	5th.	...	...	...
2nd.	6th.	...	...	...
3rd.	7th.	...	...	...
4th.	Tenor.	...	...	...

In 1768 there was a proposal to add a treble, and a tenor of 30 cwt; and to recast the 2nd and 6th; but the cost would have been great, and the scheme was not carried out.

Near Dereham, to the south-east, is Mattishall, with a fine conspicuous tower and a ring of six. Of these the tenor is much admired: she was cast by Thos. Draper, of Thetford, in 1584. John Draper cast the 3rd in 1617, and the 4th in 1622, and thirty years later John Brend of Norwich cast the present 5th; Thos. Newman added the trebles in 1743. North of Dereham is

ELMHAM—EIGHT BELLS.

This ring was cast complete in 1757 by Joseph Mallows, of East Dereham. The tenor weighs 20 cwt. In 1815 she was recast by Thos. Mears, who recast the 4th also in 1819.

Further north is Fakenham, with eight bells. At the beginning of the 18th century there were five bells here; the treble had been given by Richard Stibberd in 1639; it is now the 4th bell; the tenor, cast by Thos. Norris, of Stamford, is reputed to weigh 20 cwt. John Brend cast the present 5th in 1647, and John Darbie (of Ipswich), the 6th in 1660. The 3rd was added in 1718 by John Stephens, and the trebles in 1746 by Thos. Lester of London. Lastly the 7th was recast in 1802 by Thos. Osborn, of Downham Market.

East of Elmham is the fine church of Sall. Sall was evidently a place of importance in former days, for in 1352 it had no less than five bells of the following very respectable weights: 10, 14, 23, 32, and 41 cwt. The three largest of these have disappeared, but of the present ring of six the 5th and tenor are very old bells. The tenor was probably cast by Richard Baxter, of Norwich; the 5th was made by Edmund De Lennie, that is by Edmund of Lynn; this bell is no doubt more than 500 years old! The ring was augmented to six in 1836, when Thos. Mears of Whitechapel cast the trebles.

Heydon, to the north of Sall, has a light ring of six (tenor 7 cwt.), cast complete in 1840 by Thos. Mears.

Marshall, to the east of Sall, has a ring of eight, one of the lightest in England. In 1621 the three old bells were cast into four with a tenor of nearly 10 cwt. by William and Alice Brend of Norwich. About 100 years later the tenor of this ring of four was (I believe) cast into two trebles, and in 1753 or thereabouts the present 3rd bell (cast in 1703 by C. Newman) was brought from Blickling church, thus forming a set of six bells at Marshall. Of these all but the treble and tenor were recast by Wm. Dobson in 1824, and in 1842 Thos. Mears of Whitechapel supplied the two trebles. The weights of these very light bells are given below.

	cwt.	qrs.	lbs.		cwt.	qrs.	lbs.
Treble.	5th.	...	...	...
2nd.	6th.	...	...	...
3rd.	7th.	...	...	...
4th.	Tenor.	...	...	...

The Aylsham ringers often ring on these bells.

A few miles east of Aylsham is Felmingham, where is a ring of six

(tenor 11 cwt.), cast complete in 1819 by Thos. Mears, of Whitechapel. Near the old market-town of North Walsham is Worstead, the ringers of which place used to be thought to be the best in that neighbourhood. The tenor of this ring of six is dated 1706, and bears this rhyming legend:—

"I: tell: all: that: doth: me: see:
That: Newman: at: Brakindel: did: new: cast: me."

This bell is reputed to weigh 22 cwt., but I have my doubts about it. The treble was cast in 1675 by Ed. Tooke, the second by John Stephens, in 1722, the third in 1640 by John Brend, and the fourth in 1723 by John Stephens, and the fifth in 1635 by John Brend, all of Norwich.

Turning in the direction of Norwich the traveller arrives at Coltishall, where is a ring of six of not very good quality.

At Wroxham, however, he will find a charming little ring. The five largest bells (tenor 9 cwt.) were supplied by Pack and Chapman in 1780, and a treble was added in 1856 by C. and G. Mears.

Near Wroxham is Tunstead, where a ring of eight bells has been procured by the liberality of the late Rev. G. Harris, the able change-ringer and secretary of the Norwich Diocesan Association. Before 1874 the state of the bells was wretched in the extreme; there were but five, and of these two were cracked; Mr. Harris first had the five bells put in order, and in 1876 added a tenor, weighing 11 cwt. A year or two later, when the local ringers had mastered Minor, two trebles were added, making the complete octave.

And now the bell-hunter finds himself in the ancient city of Norwich, the principal rings in which have already been described. Before leaving the county he should run over to Great Yarmouth, where in the tower of the church of S. Nicholas is a good ring of ten, cast complete at the Whitechapel Foundry in 1807, tenor 30 cwt. This old church, the largest parish church in England, has been judiciously restored, and the organ (which we in Norfolk, in our ignorance, used to believe to be the largest but one in the world) has been rebuilt; it is a superb instrument. Just over the border, in Suffolk, is Gorleston, to the church of which in 1873 the Whitechapel firm supplied a ring of six (tenor 10 cwt.), the quality of which is reported to be very good.

And here, for the present, our ramble ends. Perhaps at some future date, by the favour of the editor of "THE BELL NEWS," we may go again bell-hunting in the "Shires."

SUDBURY, SUFFOLK.

THE local company of this place, in conjunction with Mr. C. Herbert, Hon. Sec. of the Bedfordshire Association, and formerly a member of the Sudbury company, met repeatedly during his holidays at the several churches, and rang a number of touches upon the beautiful rings of bells in the town. On Saturday, August 12th, a double-handed course of Treble Bob Royal was rung on handbells, and also on September 1st, a double-handed course of Grandsire Cinques.

On Wednesday evening, September 5th, a touch of Bob Major, 1056 changes, was rung in 40 mins. on the bells of All Saints' church, by the following:—Felix Tolliday, 1; C. Herbert, 2; Geo. Brown, 3; Maurice Silvester, 4; H. Bracket, 5; J. Campin, 6; A. Scott (conductor), 7; H. Harpur, 8. Tenor 28 cwt. Whilst this latter ringing was in progress, Dr. Mason entered the ringing-chamber, and on the completion of the touch congratulated the ringers respecting their various achievements, and kindly invited them to partake of a supper which the genial Doctor had caused to be provided by the host of the "Bull Inn," near the church.

At the conclusion of the meal, Dr. Mason said he had the greatest pleasure in welcoming among them that evening the presence of an old friend, one who learned to ring on the formation of the first company upwards of twenty years ago, and one who had ever been faithful to his work in furthering the practice of the ringers, well-beloved craft, Mr. C. Herbert. A very pleasant evening was spent, and the meeting was in reality a happy reunion of former days. Mr. H. Harpur enlivened the party with his favourite bell-songs. It is extremely gratifying to record that Dr. Mason has most worthily and nobly stood by the ringers of Sudbury even from his youth up. We hope on a future occasion to have somewhat more to say respecting the Sudbury ringers—their work and bells.

LINDLEY, NEAR HUDDERSFIELD.

ON Saturday last, September 8th, the ringers of St. Stephen's church, Lindley, held their ninth anniversary of the opening of the bells. The band met soon after 3 o'clock, and rung a few short touches on the bells, and then adjourned to the Albion, where, with a number of friends, sat down to an excellent dinner, to which ample justice was done. After which they again adjourned to the tower assisted with a few friends from Huddersfield and Almondbury, and rung a number of touches of Treble Bob, and afterwards finished a very pleasant evening ringing the handbells, singing, etc.

A RINGING HOLIDAY.—"SEVENTEEN DAYS AND A BIT."

By F. E. DAWE.

(Continued from page 274.)

After staying at Ashton till the last minute, we hurried off to catch the train which took us along some of the prettiest of any railroad scenery in England, viz. that portion of the Manchester, Sheffield, and Lincolnshire railway between Ashton and Penistone, on each side of which are large towering hills, with lakes in the valleys which can scarcely be surpassed for grandeur and beauty of all kinds, and numerous very large reservoirs, with fountains set up in them, for supplying the town of Manchester. Shortly after leaving Ashton the first notable thing was to cross the viaduct, which extends right across the valley of Longdendale, and high up, on the hill, is situated Mottram church, which could be instantly recognized, although so far away; but as I have previously described all this, will not therefore delay any longer; accordingly in due course of time we arrived at

SHEFFIELD,

but here, strange to say, the atmosphere had quite changed (we are fond of changes), it being wet and dreary, and, as everyone knows who has been here, what a smoky dirty place this is; foggy and wet weather renders the whole town from the train the picture of misery—it being in addition just light enough to see the intense thick smoke, and the same time dark enough to see the flames of fire from the thousands of different iron and Bessemer steel works in the neighbourhood, the reflection of which somewhat resembles the "Aurora Borealis," or Northern lights, as seen from the north of Scotland, and as the town lies in a valley, this causes the whole place (in one's own imagination) to have every necessary appearance of the infernal regions when seen from an eminence. However as we had been here three or four times previous, therefore knew exactly what to expect. Let us say here in passing that the suburbs of Sheffield are superb, and perhaps the most beautiful and healthy places that can anywhere be found, probably on account of their elevation. We were not long in tracing our way to the house of Mr. Thomas Hattersley, where we always receive the greatest kindness and hospitality, then to Mr. Rowbotham's, where everything is equally the same; later in the evening found us all (a considerable number too) at a very comfortable and old established ringers' meeting-house in the High Street called the "Queen." All the meeting-houses in Sheffield and the adjoining towns in Yorkshire and surrounding counties are noted for their convenience and comfort, each landlord seems to try and outdo his neighbour by way of making his reception-rooms pleasing and taking, and such places are known by the name of "snugs" or "snuggeries." (It is a great pity there are not some on the same principle in London and other large towns, where most of our headquarters and places of rendezvous are famous for the miserable accommodation afforded—very small rooms not half large enough, badly fitted up with little or no furniture—in fact, if there is any it is generally of the most inferior character; and worst of all, badly ventilated, and otherwise imperfect sanitary arrangements which in some cases are positively offensive and objectionable in the extreme.) The above-named "Queen" is about one of the best specimens that can be found of a snuggery, and consists of small exquisitely fitted up parlours and two or three very large reception rooms, each capable of seating considerably more than a hundred at dinner. It is situated a very few steps from the parish church, and St. Marie's, Norfolk Row. Here on the present occasion, a convivial gathering was held, amongst faces very familiar, handbells were brought forward, and other amusements resorted to. The next day a band was made up and proceeded about a dozen miles to

CHESTERFIELD,

the fame of which is well-known on account of the very eccentric spire, which is pointed and twisted; it is in fact, completely "lopsided," and up till this day it is a disputed point as to the cause of this twist, some assert that it was a deliberate freak on the part of the architect and builder, others say it was the action of the weather on the timber that constitutes the twist, however, what it was really caused through I don't know, but there it is, and there to all appearances it is likely to remain. Arriving at the tower in question, which is in appearance extremely ancient, we were disappointed to find only nine, and after waiting a considerable time, we managed to find Mr. Arthur Knights, who reinforced our party in excellent manner. (The word "antique" is by no means strong to express the apparent age of these steps, which are in some places not only worn away, but completely fallen through, which renders a lighted taper extremely necessary—not only as a luxury, but as an absolute safeguard, especially as the course is first one way and then another). The ringing-room is large, and well ventilated, the circle of ropes and light of the chamber being all that can be desired; a stove is also in one corner, between the 7th and 8th, which is kept going, I am told, during the cold weather. I recollect seeing it alight on a former occasion. Arriving here, it was found to be too late for

the peal we contemplated starting for, so after a little discussion had taken place respecting it, a start was made peal fashion for Stedman Caters, simply as a bit of practice, everyone well knowing that it was far too late to attempt a five thousand of anything. After ringing an hour we began to think it was time to turn it up, and whilst in this meditation about what to do, missed a bob, which settled the matter at once, and very effectually upset the equilibrium of our specific gravity. The band stood as follows; A. Knights, 1; Joe Mulligan, 2; C. Bayer, 3; C. H. Hattersley, 4; Jno. Mulligan, 5; F. E. Dawe (conductor), 6; T. Hattersley, 7; C. Steer, 8; A. Brierley, 9; G. Wilson, jun., 10. The bells are a very nice ring of ten, and sound pleasant and distinct in the ringing-room, the tenor weighs about 25 cwt. They go with ease and steadiness, which is sufficient proof that some one has the care of them that understands what they are about, as everything seems well looked after that way. On descending from the tower it was found that the rain poured in a perfect deluge, with thunder and lightning—in fact, the night was in every way applicable to the first five lines of the old well-known song "The Bay of Biscay." We therefore hurriedly attempted to find the way to a meeting-house, kept happily by one of the ringers, and accordingly after continually taking the wrong turning, and losing ourselves in the labyrinth of alleys, etc., that constitutes a sort of market, we found ourselves at the backway to the "Bull's Head," and were soon seated inside, where a pleasant (though rather damp) evening was spent. The last train was fortunately behind time enough to take the party back to Sheffield. We may also be allowed to say here that the county for a few miles surrounding Sheffield and district is sometimes called "Hallamshire" which I understand is the ancient name for this portion of the county of York; and in nearly all the north of England, but more especially in this neighbourhood, where Rotherham grammar is fluently spoken. The tenor-bell of a peal is generally called the "Drum," with a strong emphasis at the "u m." The next morning (Sunday, 22nd July), myself accompanied by Mr. T. Hattersley started for

STAVELEY,

in Derbyshire, which is a small colliery village, and a noted hot-bed for Treble Bob. At St. John-the-Baptist, the tower is low, square and thick, what might be termed squatty, and built of stone. The ringing-room is a fair sized apartment, with everything kept in excellent order and cleanliness, the walls are perfectly crammed with peal-boards, numbering, I think, nearly thirty performances, in all nicely written by Mr. Herbert Madin, the respected and courteous head ringer of the village. The bells go with ease, as the back six have lubricators affixed to them, and are a very fair ring of eight (the two trebles are however nothing so good as the back six), tenor 18 cwt. 3 qrs. 22 lbs. in F. After luncheon, we rang Mr. C. H. Hattersley's peal of Treble Bob Major, 5184 changes, in 3 hrs. and 22 mins., which has already been recorded. The performance belongs to the Yorkshire Association, who last year achieved fifty-five peals in twelve months (the greatest number, I believe, ever accomplished by one company in that space of time.) On retiring from the belfry a pleasant afternoon was spent, after which we returned to St. Peter's parish church, at Sheffield, where, on ascending the steps outside is a sort of lady chapel, and passing over the roof of the church, the ringing-room is reached, which is of very convenient size, but the ceiling is too low. Some very good tablets occupy the walls, and the chamber is very well lighted with four large windows. The circle of ropes is very good, except that the 6th, 7th, and 8th come down in a straight line, which renders it necessary for whoever rings the 7th to stand back "just the eighth of an inch," which was the case when we rang it last Easter twelvemonth, when five from London joined a party here, and rung the first and only peal of Stedman Cinques yet rung in the north of England, about which a song is in circulation, but as I must not insert it at full, will only give the extracts of a portion of two verses, which may be taken as a specimen of the others, which number is about sixteen or so. One gentleman at the 6th is mentioned as being—"A Sheffield great gun, and in the art of change-ringing stands second to none." And another at the 10th, who "hails from the city of York, and can swing the big bells, just as if they were cork," &c. &c. The entire ditty is rendered in very pleasing and complimentary language. The bells are a grand ring of twelve, tenor 41 cwt. in C, (flat side), and at what time went with the greatest ease and comfort, but now it is rather different, and silence, as regards peal ringing, reign supreme. We are pleased to be able to say however, that Messrs Mears of London have lately received the order to thoroughly overhaul them, and after everything has been put right, no doubt the "Bell News" will be overwhelmed with records of performances, by the Sheffield branch of the Yorkshire Association, which contains some excellent ringers, who mean business when they happen to meet in good form. The chimes are heard every three hours, but are so rickety that in some cases it is impossible to distinguish the melody attempted.

(To be continued.)

FESTIVITIES AT SWINTON, LANCASHIRE.

On Saturday last, September 8th, the village of Swinton was lively and gay, there being a jubilee of the St. Peter's schools. It is fifty years since these schools were opened, and the Rev. H. R. Heywood's birthday having just passed over, it being his 50th year, the village throughout was quite *en fête*. Upwards of 2000 children walked in procession round the village, headed by a splendid brass band, Mr. Heywood and his churchwardens leading the procession. After going the distance mapped out they adjourned to a large field, where games of football were competed for in prizes, and tug of war by the ringers, races, bands playing for dancing, and other amusements. The worthy Vicar had 2000 medals distributed among both old and young, and each received a large Eccles cake as they entered the field, and a splendid day was enjoyed. The ringers set the bells going at twelve o'clock, and rang several touches of Triples, and kept them in Queens whilst the procession passed the church, and afterwards rang a date touch of 1883 changes of Grandsire Triples. The following took part in the ringing; William Crossley, treble; Charles Cash, 2; Richard Pearce, 3; William Haughton, 4; James Urmston, 5; Edward Cash, 6; John Edge, 7; Thomas H. Jones, tenor; weight of tenor, 21 cwt. Conducted by Edward Cash; rung in 1 hour 7 secs.

THE ST. PETER'S SOCIETY, BOURNEMOUTH.

On Thursday, September 6th, the members of this band met for practice in the belfry, and rang two touches of 112 Grandsire Triples, being the first time they have rung anything in Triples beyond a plain course. A. Grist, 1; H. Vivash, 2; Rev. C. Copeman, 3; J. Bennett, 4; T. Green, 5; C. Staden, 6; H. A. Garrett, 7; T. Belben, 8. Afterwards several 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles, with 4 6 8 behind. While the ringers were in the act of lowering the bells after the practice a slight mishap occurred: when the bells were about half way down a loud crash was heard overhead, and on some of them proceeding to the bell-chamber to ascertain the cause, it was found that the clapper of the 6th bell had been forced from its socket in the stock while being rung, and thrown violently on the floor beneath, striking the framework in its descent, and smashing the slider to pieces. Fortunately no further damage was done, and the bell otherwise remained intact.

STOKE-UPON-TRENT ARCHIDIACONAL ASSOCIATION.

BURSLEM (Staffordshire).—A good meeting was held here last Saturday, attended by 35 ringers and the lay secretary, Mr. E. Glover. The towers represented were Norton-le-Moors, Hanley, Tunstall, Wolstanton, Biddulph and Burslem. Some good ringing was done, and the Association may be congratulated on the progress which is being made in the science by some of its younger members. An excellent tea was provided in the schoolroom, and every effort was made on the part of the Rector, the Rev. A. Watton, and Mr. Tellwright, the churchwarden, to give a hearty welcome to the Association at this their second visit. The meeting on Saturday next will be at Lawton.

VISIT OF THE MASTER OF THE ST. PETER MANCROFT (NORWICH) SOCIETY TO LONDON.

On Monday, September 3rd, Mr. F. Knights, Master of the above company, paid a visit to the headquarters of the Ancient Society of College Youths, to whom he was introduced by Mr. G. Mash, steeple-keeper of St. Saviour's, Southwark, and was subsequently initiated a member of that company. Afterwards arrangements were made to start for Mr. H. Johnson's (Birmingham) peal of 5079 changes of Stedman Caters, at St. James's Church Bermondsey, which was attempted, but after ringing 1 hour and 25 mins., a rope slipped from the wheel, which caused the whole affair to come to grief. James Pettit, (conductor) 1; George Mash, 2; F. E. Dawe, 3; H. J. Tucker, 4; E. Gibbs, 5; C. F. Winny, 6; F. Knights (Norwich), 7; W. Smith, 8; E. Horrex, 9; W. H. George, 10; tenor 25 cwt. On Tuesday, under the guidance of Mr. E. Gibbs, St. Paul's Cathedral was visited, and "Great Paul" was duly inspected, after which the opposite tower was ascended, and a peep obtained at the peal of twelve bells whose tenor weighs 62 cwt.; afterwards the fisheries exhibition and South Kensington Museum. At St. Saviour's, Southwark, the twelve bells were raised, and some good touches of Kent Treble Bob and Stedman were rang in satisfactory style, the tenor weighing 52 cwt. Their visitor wishes to express his thanks to Mr. G. Mash, Mr. Gibbs, and also the whole body of the Ancient Society of College Youths, who have proved themselves, as usual, most hospitable entertainers, and the compliments paid on this occasion to the Norwich ringer is much appreciated.

* * Some of our correspondents are again falling into the habit of omitting to add their signature to their communications. We cannot insert anything unless so authenticated.

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

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" 3 "	1s. 8d.

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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.

The Bell News & Ringers' Record.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 15, 1883.

WE stated our intention, a few weeks ago, to recur more fully to the subject of organisation, and we now fulfil our promise. The subject is too large and of too important a nature to be lightly dealt with, and we sincerely hope that ringers throughout the country will take the matter into their serious consideration, and adopt such steps as will promote this very desirable object.

Let us, at the outset, look for a moment at the position in which we, as a ringing fraternity, have stood in times past, and stand at the present moment. Let us—so to speak—take stock, and this done, we shall be better able to deal with the subject in hand.

If we look back—say a quarter of a century—we shall find that the ringers of that day were in reality but a scattered, unconnected mass of units; every local company was of itself and by itself, having no bond of union. Each went on its own way, and in its own fashion, without any thought either of the dignity of their work, or of the high position which the ringers of our Church should hold. No wonder then if at that time the morale of ringers was at a very low point; and there can be no surprise that Churchwardens considered their ringers as but a set of men who went to the tower simply to pull away at the bell-ropes, and make a noise overhead. Certainly, the lack of musical education among the authorities most likely did help to keep up this feeling on their part, but at the same time ringers made no effort—or at least no joint effort—to maintain their position. It is evident, also, that the ringers, in a very great majority of cases, did not themselves know their true position, or estimate their work at its proper value.

Since that time, happily, a more intelligent feeling has sprung up; it has grown—if slowly, at any rate surely—and as ringers have become more enlightened, they have begun to know and feel that they are not menials in the service of the Church, but officials of an important character. As they have risen to the dignity of their

position, the clergy and Church authorities have—perhaps tardily in many places—commenced to take more interest in the work, and value it more; thus a better feeling has sprung up between the vestry and the belfry. The first result of this improved state of affairs was the realisation of the fact that some plan of unity, some sort of organisation, was required to bring ringers together, to foster unity among the scattered members, and bring about a better state of things. Then our County Associations began to form—as those who had the management of them know full well—in a small and hesitating way at first, but which by dint of perseverance and hard work have attained a position such as the promoters did not dare to anticipate. This was the first and great step towards organisation, and it is in a great measure through the efforts of these Associations that we find the position of ringers at the present day so very different, and so much improved, to what it was twenty years ago.

This is certainly very pleasant to reflect upon, but we cannot yet "rest on our oars," and think the work of organisation completed. We have before us, as a ringing fraternity, a work of even greater magnitude than what has yet been accomplished. We have gathered together, as it were, a large number of the units into sections, and bound them together; but what we now want is to complete the work thus begun, and by a more extended and perfect organisation, not only bring together the remaining units and unite them to their sections, but to convert all these sections into one harmonious and united body. What is required is to gather the whole fraternity into one national body which shall extend throughout the land, so that ringers of even the most remote places may be not isolated bodies, but members, first, of their County Associations, and then of one grand national society which shall bring all together into a bond of union. If this were accomplished, who can deny that such a body, possessing, as it would, the benefits of united and concerted action, with the support of its members all over the country, would have such a power as would bring the work of ringing to an elevated position which it has not yet attained? The elevation of our art and work is an aim which all true ringers should strive for. They ought not to imagine that their work begins and ends simply in ringing for the Sunday services at their own particular church, but that they are members of a fraternity whose work has formed the theme of author, poet, and musician, and which has helped in a great measure to cement that love for their fatherland which is manifested by our countryman in various parts of the world where they have settled, and who remember in their distant homes the lovely sound of the Sabbath bells when they were in their native land.

It may be said that the foregoing is mainly theoretical. Next week we will consider the more practical part of the question, and see how we can perfect our organisation and bring ringers more closely together; by these means not only elevate the art, but give to ringing that position, and that power which it ought to have, and is entitled to.

THE Bradford Old Society intend visiting Southport on Saturday, September 22nd. They will meet at Christ Church on arriving for a peal of Kent Treble Bob Major, the first in that method on these bells, and will be glad to meet any ringing friends who can make it convenient to be there.

The Provinces.

LEES, NEAR OLDHAM, LANCASHIRE.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, September 8, 1883, in Three Hours and Two Minutes.

At St. Thomas's Church,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5120 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 14 cwt.

JOHN J. BRIERLEY Treble.	EDGAR BUCKLEY 5.
JOHN HOLDEN 2.	JOSEPH WOOD 6.
JOHN GREEN HARDY 3.	JOSEPH PICKERING 7.
ROWLAND HILL 4.	BEN A. DODSON Tenor.

Composed by H. W. HALEY, and conducted by BEN. A. DODSON.

Messrs. Brierley, Holden, Buckley, and Wood, hail from Saddleworth; Hill and Pickering, from Kirkburton; Hardy from Kirkeaton; and Dodson from Birstall. This peal has the 5th and 6th the extent wrong and right.

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE.

THE ASHTON AND HYDE SOCIETIES.

On Saturday, September 8, 1883, in Three Hours and Seven Minutes.

At St. Peter's Church.

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5184 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 20 cwt.

WILLIAM SMITH Treble.	JAMES S. WILDE 5.
JOHN HOPWOOD 2.	SAMUEL WOOD 6.
JAMES WOOD 3.	GEORGE LONGDEN 7.
THOMAS WILDE 4.	SAMUEL BENNETT Tenor.

Composed by JOHN THORP, and conducted by SAMUEL WOOD.

This peal has the 5th and 6th their extent right, and the 5th at home at nine different course-ends, and is now rung for the first time.

Date Touches.

ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD ASSOCIATION.

LICHFIELD.—On Monday, September 10th, at St. Mary's church, seven members of this branch of the above Association, with F. Sedgwick of St. Mary's, rang a date touch of 1883 changes of Grandsire Triples, in 1 hr. 9 mins. Edwin Gallimore, 1; Francis Sedgwick, 2; Henry Meacham, 3; Joseph Key, 4; Arthur Whitby, 5; Arthur E. Greenwood, 6; Thomas Meredith (conductor), 7; Charles North, 8. Composed by W. Hallsworth, of Walsall. Tenor 19½ cwt. in Eb.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

NOTTINGHAM.—On Thursday, September the 6th, the following members of the above Association rang at St. Peter's church, a date touch of 1883 changes of Grandsire Triples, in 1 hr. 13 mins. *R. Metheringham, 1; S. Wilkins, 2; A. Archer, 3; G. Ashworth, 4; A. R. Peet, 5; S. Burton, 6; J. Hickman (conductor), 7; †H. W. Abbott, 8. Composed by Mr. A. Millis, of Leicester. *Member of the Society of Royal Cumberland Youths. †Member of the St. Stephen's Society, Bristol. The above was rung as a complimentary peal to Mr. R. Metheringham, who is in his 83rd year, and who rang his first peal of 5040 Grandsire Triples on the same bells in 1820, a period of 63 years having elapsed. Tenor 22 cwt.

THE WORCESTERSHIRE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

BROMSGROVE (Worcestershire).—On Sunday, September 9th, Mr. W. Baldwin, of Birmingham, paid a visit to Bromsgrove, and rang before the morning service, a date touch of Grandsire Triples, 1883 changes, in 1 hr. and 12 mins. W. Baldwin, 1; J. R. Crawford, 2; T. Albutt, 3; W. Rea, 4; E. Crump, 5; W. Duffill, 6; G. Hayward (composer and conductor), 7; G. Bourne, 8. In the evening, seven of the society with Mr. W. Baldwin, paid a visit to Hanbury, a distant of 4 miles, and rang a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, 1260 changes, in 45 mins. W. Baldwin, 1; J. R. Crawford, 2; G. Bourne, 3; W. Rea (conductor), 4; W. Duffill, 5; G. Hayward, 6; R. Bromfield, 7; J. Parry, 8. Composed by J. W. Washbrook, of Oxford. (Mr. Baldwin is a member the Amalgamated Society).

Miscellaneous.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

ROMFORD (Essex).—*Chiming*.—On Sunday evening, for Divine Service, at St. Edward's church, 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor, upon the back six in 27 mins. A. J. Perkins, 1-2-3-4; B. Keeble (first 720 in the method), 5-6. Called with 9 bobs, 2nd observation, by B. Keeble.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

DARLEY DALE (Derbyshire).—On Saturday, September 8th, six members of the Derby branch of the above association, rang a 720 of Bob Minor, in 27 mins. R. Bosworth, 1; A. Taberer, 2; R. Redgate, 3; J. Newbold, 4; H. C. Woodward, 5; J. Howe (conductor), 6. Tenor about 14 cwt.

MATLOCK (Derbyshire).—On Saturday September 8th, at the parish church, a 720 of Bob Minor, in 27 mins. F. Whiting, 1; A. Taberer, 2; R. Redgate, 3; J. Newbold, 4; J. Howe, 5; H. C. Woodward (conductor), 6. Tenor about 14 cwt.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

CAVERSHAM (Oxon).—On Sunday last, September 9th, six members of the above Guild rang a 720 of Grandsire Minor, in 24½ mins. H. Fossett, 1; —. Bishop, 2; R. Swain, 3; T. Newman, 4; W. Newell, 5; H. Egby (conductor), 6. Also several 6-scores of Doubles, in order to initiate some young hands in the art. G. Gibbard, 1; E. Pottinger, 2; H. Egby, 3; R. Swain, 4; T. Newman (conductor), 5; H. Fossett, 6. Tenor about 18 cwt.

STOKE-UPON-TRENT ARCHIDIACONAL ASSOCIATION.

BURSLEM.—On Saturday, September 8th, at the parish church, 720 of Bob Minor (with 42 singles), in 26 mins. *W. Holdcroft (Norton-le-Moors), 1; L. Miller (Wolstanton), 2; S. Brown (Burslem), 3; E. Glover (Norton-le-Moors), 4; Jas. Baddeley (Norton-le-Moors), 5; W. Miller (conductor, Wolstanton), 6. Also a 720 of Bob Minor, in 30 mins. J. Walker (Wolstanton), 1; L. Miller, 2; *J. Morton (Norton-le-Moors), 3; G. Walker (Norton-le-Moors), 4; W. Carter (Biddulph), 5; Jas. Baddeley (first 720 as conductor), 6. *First 720. Tenor 11 cwt.

THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

CLAPHAM (Surrey).—On Sunday, September 9th, at the church of Our Lady Immaculate of Victories, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob. H. Laffin, 1; D. Springall, 2; Wingfield Meadows, Esq., 3; Joseph Fayers, 4; A. Pell, 5; Samuel Greenwood (conductor), 6. Tenor about 12 cwt. Also several touches of Grandsire and Stedman, H. Pate ringing the tenor.

AUGHTON (Lancashire).—On Sunday evening, September 9th, six members of the Christ Church company rang for Divine Service, a 720 of Grandsire Minor, with 7 and 8 covering, in 25 mins. George Larkey, treble; James Gardner, 2; William Benthman, 3; William Fairclough (conductor), 4; Charles Sharples, 5; John Walker, 6.

BIRCH-IN-RUSHOLME (Lancashire).—On Monday, September 10th, at St. James's church, a 720 of Grandsire Minor, in 26 mins. E. Borrowghs, 1; W. Woodhead, 2; W. E. Ryder, 3; F. Ryder, 4; H. Idle, 5; T. B. Idle (conductor), 6. Tenor 13 cwt. 3qrs.

CAMBERWELL (Surrey).—On Thursday, September 6th, a friendly meeting of ringers took place, and the following started for a peal of Bob Major at St. George's church, but after about an hour's good ringing was unfortunately lost owing to a mishap with the 3rd bell. W. Jones (London), 1; J. Page (Ipswich), 2; J. Bonney (Sudbury; conductor), 3; E. Robins (Cirencester), 4; T. Taylor (Stradbroke), 5; J. Fayers (Otley), 6; A. Pell (Streatham), 7; W. Meadows, Esq. (Otley), 8. Afterwards touches of Treble Bob and Grandsire were rung, and the company being further augmented by the arrival of Messrs. Barry, Stackwood and others, an adjournment was accordingly made, and the rest of the evening passed in an agreeable manner.

CRAYFORD (Kent).—*Muffled Peal*.—On Thursday evening, September 6th, at the parish church of St. Paulinus, with the bells muffled as a last tribute of respect to the late W. Pringuer, aged 32, whose remains were interred in the cemetery of Christ Church, Bexley Heath, who had been a member of this company about six years. A start was made for Holt's Original, but after 1 hr. and 20 mins. good ringing it came to grief. His age was then solemnly tolled from the tenor, finishing up with a few well-struck rounds. E. Saxby, F. French (conductor), G. Conyard, C. Hammant, J. Saxby, A. Cole, J. Garrard, F. M. Jacobs.

HAVERSTOCK HILL (Middlesex).—On Wednesday evening, September 12th, a 720 Oxford Treble Bob Minor in 27 mins. G. Griffin, 1; B. Foskett, 2; E. Cole, Esq. (first 720), 3; T. Gleed, (first 720 inside), 4; J. Hannington (conductor), 5; T. Titchener, 6.

HORNSEY (Middlesex).—On Sunday evening, September 9th, for Divine Service, a 720 of Plain Bob Minor, with four bobs and fourteen singles, in 27 mins. J. Hannington (conductor), 1; M. Ellsmore, 2; W. Meadows, 3; G. Griffin, 4; J. Nixon, 5; A. Jacob, 6. Also after service, a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob Minor, in 25 mins. J. Nixon, 1; J. Hannington (conductor), 2; E. Moses (first 720), 3; A. Jacob, 4; W. Meadows, 5; T. Titchener, 6. Also a 360 of Plain Bob Minor, in 14 mins. —. Strange, 1; T. Titchener, 2; M. Ellsmore, 3; W. Meadows, 4; A. Jacob, 5; J. Hannington (conductor), 6. Also a 720

of Kent Treble Bob Minor, in 25½ mins. T. Titchener, 1; M. Ellsmore, 2; G. Griffin, 3; J. Hannington (conductor), 4; A. Jacob, 5; W. Meadows, 6. And two 6-scores of Bob Doubles. H. Barnett, 1; A. Jacob, 2; J. Hannington, 3; G. Lucas, 4; M. Ellsmore, 5; E. King, 6. Tenor 17½ cwt.

HURWORTH-ON-TEES (Durham).—On Sunday, September 9th, for morning service, a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob Minor, in 26 mins. Johnson E. Hern (conductor), 1; *J. Temple, 2; *H. Kirby, 3; J. Hern (North Shields), 4; *G. Garbutt, 5; H. Thompson, 6. Tenor 17 cwt. *First 720 in the method.

KINGSTEAD (Northamptonshire).—On Sunday, August 9th, it being the Feast Sunday, a 720 of London Single was rung after service, at St. Mary's church, with eighteen bobs and two singles, in 26 mins. G. Kirk, 1; F. Gilbert, 2; R. Pendered, 3; H. Stubbs, 4; J. Willmott, 5; W. Gilbert (conductor), 6. Also 360 of College Little, with nine bobs, in 12½ mins. G. Kirk, 1; W. Hall, 2; R. Pendered, 3; F. Gilbert, 4; W. Gilbert, 5; H. Stubbs (conductor), 6.

LEYTONSTONE (Essex).—On Sunday, September 9th, at St. John-the-Baptist, for Divine Service in the evening, a 720 of Bob Minor, with four bobs and fourteen singles, in 27 mins. H. Flanders, 1; J. Nunn, 2; G. Akers, 3; J. Priest, jun., 4; A. Pye (conductor), 5; J. Marks, 6. Also after service, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor, with fifteen bobs, in 26 mins. H. Flanders (first 720 in the method), 1; G. Akers, 2; J. Nunn, 3; J. Priest, jun., 4; A. H. Gardom, 5; A. Pye (conductor), 6. Tenor 13 cwt. in G.

LITTLE HEATH (Essex).—On Sunday, September 2nd, for Divine Service in the evening, six 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles, in 25 mins. H. Flanders, 1; A. Porter, 2; A. Pye, 3; J. Pye, 4; J. Priest, jun., 5. Tenor 5 cwt.

MANCHESTER.—On Monday, September 10th, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor (6th the observation bell), was rung at Holy Trinity Church, Hulme, in 26 mins. †Hy. Diggle, 1; *A. Wood (conductor), 2; *E. Ettock, 3; †W. J. Hargraves, 4; *T. Heald, 5; *J. F. Woods, 6. *Members of St. Phillip's Society. †Their first 720. Tenor 15½ cwt.

MITCHAM (Surrey).—On Sunday, September 9th, for Divine Service at St. Peter's church, a 882 of Grandsire Triples, containing Queens and tittums. W. Turner (aged 63 years), 1; F. Drewett, 2; D. Springall, 3; G. Pell, 4; J. Fayers, 5; G. Welling, 6; S. Greenwood (conductor), 7; H. Pates, 8. The last six are members of the Surrey Association. Tenor 16 cwt.

NETHERTON (Worcestershire).—On Saturday, September 8th, five of the Wordsley ringers paid a visit to Netherton church, and with the assistance of Mr. J. Prestidge, one of the local ringers, rang a 720 of Plain Bob Minor, with nine bobs and six singles. Thos. Darby, 1; W. H. Hughes, 2; John Guest (conductor), 3; E. S. Chapman, 4; W. Lawrence, 5; J. Prestidge, 6. This is the first 720 in the method by Wordsley men for more than 10 years.

NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.—On Monday, September 10th, at St. John-the-Baptist, a 720 of Bob Minor, with eighteen bobs and two singles, in 27 mins. Fred Sneath, 1; C. L. Routledge, 2; Francis Lees, 3; F. J. DeForges, 4; Wm. Story, 5; Walter G. Routledge (conductor), 6. Tenor 12½ cwt.

RAUNDS (Northamptonshire).—On Saturday, September 8th, at St. Peter's church, a 720 of Grandsire Minor, with 40 singles, in 28½ mins. J. Willmott, 1; H. Stubbs, 2; R. Pendered, 3; W. Hall, 4; F. Gilbert, 5; W. Gilbert (conductor), 6.

ROCHDALE (Lancashire).—On Thursday, August 30th, in honour of the marriage of Mr. E. Walker, of Stain Cliffe, Seaton Carew, West Hartlepool, with Miss Robinson, eldest daughter of the late Mr. John Robinson, J.P., of Mount Halinge, Rochdale, which was solemnised at St. Edmund's church, Halinge, by the vicar, the Rev. C. E. Norris, the ringers of the parish church (St. Chad's), rang various touches of Grandsire Triples, and also a quarter-peal, by Mr. Thomas Day, of Birmingham, altogether ringing over 4000 changes, besides the usual Queen's, tittums, and firing. The following took part in the quarter-peal: John Siddle, 1; John G. Holt, 2; George Hoyle, 3; William Siddle, 4; John Hoggard, 5; Albert Hurst, 6; Frank Birtwistle (conductor), 7; Edward John Stephenson, 8. John T. Lucas and Benjamin Meadowcroft also took part in the day's ringing.

WARNHAM (Sussex).—On Saturday, September 8th, six of the local company rang at the parish church, a 720 of London New Bob Minor, with eighteen bobs and two singles, in 25 mins. W. Wood, 1; W. Short, 2; H. Chantler, 3; H. Wood, 4; T. Andrews, 5; H. Burstow (conductor), 6. Tenor 15 cwt.

THE WORCESTERSHIRE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

A Committee Meeting of this Association will be held on Saturday next, September 22nd, at Four o'clock in the afternoon, in St. Thomas' Church school, Beauty Bank, Stourbridge, to consider arrangements for new Quarterly Meeting, etc.

THE ALL SAINTS' COMPANY, MAIDSTONE.

Through the kind liberality of the clergy, ladies and gentleman, and tradesmen of this town, the above company were able to have a day's outing on Monday, September 10th. They met at the church at six o'clock in the morning, and a pair-horse break being in readiness, a start was made for Harrietsham and Lenham. A death having recently occurred at Lenham, the bells could not be rung. The party subsequently proceeded to Charing, where a 720 of Grandsire Minor was rung by G. Moorcraft, 1; W. Mercer, 2; J. Horton, 3; R. Simmonds, 4; J. Fergusson, 5; H. Pearce (conductor), 6. Tenor 13½ cwt. Several short touches were also rung. The ringers then proceeded by way of Charing-hill and Throwley to Faversham, where another halt was made, and some excellent ringing was done. A 910 of Grandsire Triples were rung by J. Constable, 1; A. H. Woolley, 2; J. Barnard, 3; R. Simmonds, 4; J. Fergusson, 5; Capt. Wood, 6; H. Pearce, 7; G. Moorcraft, 8. Tenor 20 cwt. Several other touches were rung by the company. The ringers afterwards proceeded to the "Royal William," where an excellent dinner was provided by the host, Mr. Hills. Mr. A. H. Woolley presided, and Captain Wood occupied the vice-chair. The usual preliminary toasts having been given, the chairman gave "the Faversham ringers," which was responded to by Capt. Wood, who said he hoped the Maidstone ringers would come to Faversham, and ring a peal of Grandsire Triples on their bells, as they were in good ringing order. Mr. R. Simmonds hoped that every ringer would thoroughly enjoy himself during the day, and thanked those ladies and gentlemen who kindly contributed towards the outing. Cricket and other sports were entered into in the afternoon, and there was also some more ringing. In the evening the party proceeded to Sittingbourne, and rang several touches, and afterwards drove home by way of Stockbury and Debting, everyone having thoroughly enjoyed the day.

Our correspondent adds: Seeing in "THE BELL NEWS" a reference to the bells of Salehurst, Sussex, we made up our minds to visit that place the first opportunity, so seven of us started on Sunday, 9th September, at 6.30., in a trap, went by way of Cranbrook, Hawkhurst, and arrived at the latter place, twenty miles from home, at 9.30. We obtained permission to ring, but found the rope of the 5th broken and rotten. However, we procured a piece of cord and made a splice, and started for a 720 of Grandsire Minor on the back six, tenor about 20 cwt. After ringing about five minutes the rope gave way, so we had another splice, and started again, and got nearly half-way, when it broke again, this time close to the sallie, so we gave it up; they are a fine-toned ring of eight. We stood as follows: G. Moorcraft, 1; R. Simmonds, 2; J. Horton, 3; J. Fergusson, 4; A. H. Woolley, 5; H. Pearce (conductor), 6. On arriving at Salehurst, four miles further on, we were met (soon after arrival) by the courteous and obliging steeple-keeper, Mr. George Catt, and we soon repaired to the belfry, which is a snug little place, only none of the windows will open, and it was rather warm work. The bells are a melodious ring of eight, all go fairly well, the 6th and tenor are the worst. The tenor requires a deal of pulling. We started for a 720 of Grandsire Minor, and accomplished it in 26 mins. We stood as follows: G. Moorcraft, 1; R. Simmonds, 2; J. Fergusson, 3; J. Horton, 4; A. H. Woolley, 5; H. Pearce (conductor), 6. We afterwards had a little Churchyard Bob with the local ringers, and we started for home at 4 p.m. Arriving at Cranbrook at 5.30., we tried to get a ring, but nothing but chiming is done here on Sundays, "ding, dong, spat," so we had to give that up.

EXHIBITION OF FURNITURE AND DECORATION.—A new exhibition of furniture and decoration has recently been held at Humphrey's Hall, Albert Gate, Hyde Park. Such an exhibition comes under our cognisance from the fact that many interesting items of what is known as ecclesiastical art decoration and furniture were exposed for public inspection. Among the exhibitors, we need hardly inform our numerous readers who are deeply interested in such subjects, were the eminent firm of Jones and Willis, of Great Russell Street, who showed several of their unique examples of church and domestic furniture, metal-work, stone fonts, and textile fabrics, a handsome cross, with enamelled ornamentation, polished brass lecterns; and a carved oak eagle lectern of creditable design and workmanship, enjoyed a great share of attention on the part of visitors to the exhibition. Two stone fonts were also exhibited, consisting of a bowl-shaped basin, supported by corbelled pillars, the corbellings intersecting the bowl. These and the wrought iron and other brasswork show that this firm still maintain their well-earned reputation as manufacturers of church furniture. G. W. Wilkinson, Kensington Stained Glass and Tile Works, displayed various examples of stained glass in windows and panels—one subject, representing the parable of the "Sower and the Reapers," fac-similes of windows at New Hampton Church, and a cartoon for the west window, with the subject of "The Transfiguration," a bold composition. Various panel subjects, Classical and Mediaeval, and of a highly decorative character, were also exhibited.

JOHN COX'S JUBILEE FUND.

SIR.—Although this subject has been circulated in something like one thousand printed and other forms, besides your weekly gratuitous advertisement, I again beg your indulgence to make yet another appeal to those gentlemen who have not as yet assisted in augmenting this fund. In order that this exhortation may appear in good earnest, Mr. Cox has prepared and handed me a list containing the number of peals he has rung in various methods, with some particulars of the most interesting of these performances.

I beg again to thank those gentlemen who have so liberally contributed towards the £30 already subscribed, and I wish to inform your readers that a musical entertainment is being arranged with a view to further augment the above sum. As this entertainment will be both instrumental and vocal, interspersed with change-ringing, one may safely venture and hope that all available campanological musical talent will be brought into active service on this occasion. Previous to final arrangements, I shall be glad to hear from those gentlemen who render such charming music on bells who are willing to assist in this benevolent cause, so that an announcement may appear in your invaluable paper at an early date.

By the following list it will be observed that the grand old man, as several subscribing correspondents are pleased to designate him, has accomplished 222 peals of not less than 5000 changes, which number is made up as follows:—

PEALS RUNG IN THE STEEPLE.

	No. of peals.
Grandsire Triples.	50
" Caters.	20
" Cinques.	2
Stedman Triples.	34
" Caters.	27
" Cinques.	14
Court Bob Major.	1
Treble Bob Major.	37
" Royal.	25
" Maximus.	4

PEALS RUNG UPON HANDBELLS.

Grandsire Triples.	4
Stedman Triples.	2
" Caters.	3
" Cinques.	1

222

The following may perhaps be of interest to some of your readers. Mr. Cox's first peal was Grandsire Triples, in this he rang the third bell at St. Mary's Islington, Oct. 7th, 1833. On the 20th of the same month of that year, at St. Alphege, Greenwich, he rang the third in his first peal of Grandsire Caters. On November 20th of the same year he rang the third in his first peal of Treble Bob Major, Oxford variation, at St. Dunstan's, Fleet Street, and on February 11th, 1835, at St. James Clerkenwell, he rang his first peal of Stedman Triples. I term this his first peal upon Stedman's principle, although he had rung the tenor of the same ring of bells to a peal in that method, May 7th, 1834, which is the last peal I can find the celebrated Shipway taking part, and I may mention that Mr. Cox well remembers that veteran ringer. Mr. Cox about this date became a member of the Ancient Society of College Youths, and the first peal of importance in this society is one of Stedman Caters, rang at Stepney, on February 15th, 1836. At St. Saviour's, October 20th, he conducted the first peal of Stedman Caters on these bells, and on January 10th, he is conductor of the first peal of Cinques on these bells in Stedman's principle. Upon the ring of eight bells in Quex Park, August 14th, 1837, he is conductor of a peal of Stedman Caters, probably the first and only one of this method ever rung there; and at St. George's Camberwell, on February 25, 1839, he calls a peal of Treble Bob Major, probably his first in the method as conductor. I may say it is at this church that Mr. Cox first made his *début*, and gained the attention of the ringers of his day, and also that he is the only survivor of the foregoing performances. Mr. Cox now absented himself for about five years from this society, and did not take part in any peal in London until May 19th, 1844, when he appears as composer and conductor of a Stedman Caters peal, rung at All Saints, West Ham, was which peal contains 5007 changes. At St. Clement Danes, on May 16th, he is composer and conductor of a peal of Caters on Stedman's principle, containing 6485 changes, said to be the greatest number that can be obtained with treble in seconds place; and at St. James, Bermondsey, on September 25th, 1845, he again appears as composer and conductor of a Stedman Caters peal, containing the "sixty course-ends," in 6701 changes, which is the greatest number obtainable with treble in seconds place by bobs only, and two sixes only affected.

At St. Saviour's, Southwark, on July 27th, 1846, Mr. Cox is conductor of a peal of Kent Treble Bob Maximus, the first in the Kent variation ever rung in London. At Holy Trinity, December 29th, 1848, he conducted a peal of Double Norwich Court Bob Major, and in 1849, he conducted two peals at St. Saviour's, being Kent Treble Bob Maximus and Stedman Cinques respectively. One other im-

portant performance closes the career of Mr. Cox with this society, and which is the ringing of a peal, "Holt's ten part, non-conducted, a premium of £5, being offered by a gentleman to any band of ringers who should accomplish such a feat." In this Mr. Cox rung the fifth bell, January 31st 1831.

The first important peal with the Society of which Mr. Cox remains a member, was at St. Martin's-in-the-fields, July 3rd, 1854, and is the first one of Stedman Cinques on these bells for some 63 years. On the 18th of this month, at St. Clement Danes, he is composer and conductor of a peal of Stedman Caters (his favourite method for composition) containing the "sixty course-ends," in-course, in 7023 changes, having the treble in seconds place, which is obtained by the use of two doubles, and without two calls at successive sixes.

In the year 1854, he rang 3-4 and called Holt's Original, being the first time this peal was ever rung and conducted by the same person in hand, and about this time, he is conductor of a peal of Stedman Triples, with bells retained in hand, also the first performance of its kind. In this year also, he assisted in the first peal of Stedman Cinques ever rung in hand, this is a St. James's Society peal, rang February 10th, as is also the following peal of Stedman Triples, rang March 10th, of the same year, and in which no bob or single was called, nor a word spoken during the whole performance. I am told that in this peal none of the ringers made the slightest mistake. Messrs. Cox, Cooter, Haley, and M. A. Wood, were the performers. In the year 1857, Mr. Cox rang two peals in hand, the first a peal of Stedman Caters, 5000 exact. In this, Mr. J. Nelms and Mr. J. Rogers first appear in a peal of this kind; the next is a peal of Grandsire Triples, Holt's ten-part, and after again ringing this peal in hand, July 17th, 1858, in London, Mr. Cox commenced a professional tour, when, on February 25th, of this year, he is composer and conductor of a peal of Stedman Caters on the celebrated ring at St. Peter's Mancroft, Norwich, this composition has 2, 3, 4, 5, and 6 regularly and in this order behind the ninth in 5001 changes. During his stay in this city, the late Thomas Hurry challenged him to ring one bell in a plain course of Double Norwich Court Bob Royal. He consented, after explaining that no Court ten had been rung in London for some fifty years. This attempt being successful, Mr. Cox afterwards suggested a favour, and to the great satisfaction of all present, rang 3-4 in a course of the same method, but he acknowledged that to have been a very severe test to his memory. The late James Truman rang 7-8 in each case, the other bells being rung singly and by separate persons; Mr. Cox may therefore well pride himself on this performance.

The last of his noted performances are at St. Ann's, Highgate, April 27th, 1876, in a peal of Treble Bob Major, by the late W. Harrison, being 8806 changes, rang in 5 hrs. and 20 mins.; the writer's first peal in the method, but perhaps the following is as good a week's ringing as many men have achieved during a life long career. At St. Bride's, on December 3rd, 1881, he conducted a peal of Stedman Cinques. During the week, in Wiltshire, a peal of Grandsire Triples, and at St. Martin's, December 13th, a second peal of Stedman Cinques. On Boxing Day, 1881, he called his last peal. It is very doubtful if he ever again appears in such a capacity, unless he attempts to conduct a peal in hand. If this should prove to be the case, let all friends wish the old gentleman every success.

It will be interesting to add the following:—In the year 1851, Messrs. T. Powell, Cox (conductor), Cooter, Robinson, M. A. Wood, and James Dwight, met for handbell practice. Mr. D. already having the tenor in his left hand, it was then suggested and agreed that the remaining eleven bells should be picked up indiscriminately, but should nevertheless be rung in consecutive order, although not so held. In this position seventeen courses of Stedman Cinques, were rung, but as the bells did not come round, another meeting was arranged, when the bells were again given out in similar fashion, and although the same persons did not get hold of the same bells, as on the prior occasion, tenor excepted, yet this band rang six excellent courses of Stedman Cinques. This was undoubtedly a first class performance. Mr. Cox a few years since chimed a 720 of Court Bob Minor, on the six large bells of St. Bride's church, which performance shows him to possess a wonderful memory.

H. DAINS,

Hon. Sec. Cox's Jubilee Fund.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

As the Annual Meeting will be held early in October, it is particularly requested by the Secretaries that all notices of alteration of rules, also nominations for the offices of President, Secretary, and two Committee-men, be received by them within the next few days.

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

St. Madock's Church, St. Bride's Bay, was reopened by the Bishop of St. David's, on Friday week, after restoration. The church has been rebuilt on the old lines and in Early English style.

THE ROYAL CUMBERLAND SOCIETY AT KINGSTON-UPON-THAMES.

On Saturday, September 8th, the Royal Cumberland Youths held their annual dinner at Kingston. The event was previously notified in the columns of this paper, and in answer to such ample notice, a more numerous meeting was expected. During the early part of the day, the weather was rather unpropitious; fortunately, however, the afternoon proved much better, the earlier visitors having an enjoyable opportunity of beholding Kingston and its surrounding charming scenery in its perfection.

Final arrangements were made on Friday, August 17th, and accordingly instructions given to mine host of "Ye Dolphin Inn," to make the usual preparations for the occasion, which were most ably carried out.

Early in the afternoon the steeplekeeper, one who knows his duties, having regularly performed them for the past sixty years, was in waiting with the keys; and the worthy Vicar having placed the bells at the disposal of the company, the tower was entered, and a 532 of Grandsire Triples tapped off as a prelude to the evening's ringing. W. Phillips, (steeplekeeper) 1; G. Russell, 2; J. Barry, 3; W. H. Fussell, 4; H. Randall, 5; W. Doran, 6; G. Newson (conductor), 7; J. Hannington, tenor. An adjournment was then made to the inn, when a touch of Triples upon the handbells by Messrs. Doran, Fussell, Newson, and Hannington, came to grief on the arrival of Messrs. Baron, Hopkins, Mansfield, and others. Four p.m. sharp were the orders for dinner, and as the time was slightly in advance of that hour, no further delay was made, and the landlord having everything in readiness, operations were at once commenced upon an excellent repast, to which a round baker's dozen sat down, afterwards increased by the arrival of A. H. Gardom, Esq. The chair was occupied by the master, Mr. Geo. Newson, the vice-chair by Mr. Wm. Baron, both displaying great energy in supplying the voracious appetites of their brother Campanologists, and as each cavity began to assume a contented appearance upon the face of its possessor, so continued to disappear one of the most excellent dinners which the Society has held, everything being so well managed and attended to, to the credit of those who carried out the undertaking.

At the suggestion of the Master it was resolved to return to the tower while daylight still remained, and the following touches were then rung: two of Stedman Caters, the first one by the following: G. Newson, 1; H. Hopkins, 2; J. Hannington, 3; G. Russell, 4; H. Randall, 5; H. Swain, 6; W. Doran, 7; A. H. Gardom, 8; W. Baron, 9; J. Mansfield, 10. Tenor 32 cwt. in D. Friends from Acton arriving at this juncture, some touches of Grandsire Triples were rung in which Messrs. W. Taylor and G. Illsley of Acton, C. E. Malim, Esq., W. Thomas, of Battersea, and C. Slade, took part, conducted by Mr. W. Baron. A touch of Grandsire Caters by the younger Cumberlands, followed by a course of Treble Bob Royal, by W. H. Fussell, 1; H. Hopkins, 2; J. Hannington, 3; H. Randall, 4; A. H. Gardom, 5; H. Swain, 6; W. Doran, 7; J. Strutt, 8; Geo. Newson (conductor), 9; William Baron, 10. This brought the tower-ringing to a close.

Having settled down in their old dining room at the "Dolphin," and acknowledged the usual loyal toasts as Royal Cumberlands—the first toast was "Success to the Cumberland Society," by its Master. In proposing this toast, he congratulated the company on its decided improvement, not only in a financial point of view, but with regard to its science; the Treasurer not being present he could not state the exact state of the funds, but was happy to say they were in a very satisfactory condition, whilst as to the peal-ringing, the number of performances recorded for the past year was two in excess of the previous twelvemonth.

The next toast was the health of the Master, he having successfully performed that office for three consecutive years. Mr. Newson, in responding, was happy to receive this appreciation of the members, and hoped that during his mastership the Society would continue to flourish, as it would not be for the want of energy on his part.

Mr. Gardom proposed the health of the Kingston ringers, who were most of them present, greatly adding to the enjoyment of the evening, this was responded to by Mr. J. Wright, who in a warm and receptive manner, heartily welcomed the Cumberlands.

The following proposal was that of Mr. Doran, viz: the health of the vicar, the Rev. W. S. Young, who so kindly gave the permission to ring, not without some grumbling on the part of the market people, Saturday being their market day. In drinking his health the company trusted that he may be long spared to minister the duties in his grand old parish church, and through the medium of this journal, take the opportunity to express their thanks to him for the courtesy he has shewn them.

The toasts of the Secretary, Mr. J. Hannington; the steward, Mr. J. Barry; and that of Mr. Phillips, was received and responded to in a brotherly spirit. The handbells were then resorted to, and a course of Grandsire Cinques, was performed by J. Strutt, 1-2;

W. Baron, 3-4; G. Newson, 5-6; H. Hopkins, 7-8; J. Wright, 9-10; H. Randall, 11-12. Messrs. Randall, Newson, Hopkins, and Baron brought round a touch of Treble Bob Major, and a touch of Grandsire Triples by Messrs. Doran, Hopkins, Gardom, and Randall, brought the change-ringing to a *finis*.

The remainder of the evening was spent in general conversation, and genial chats with old friends, occasionally relieved by the affectionate behaviour of Mr. J. Mansfield, and some excellent handbell ringing by the Kingston ringers, a "Danish March" being well rendered, and good playing exhibited in the March from Norma, fully verifying the lines:—

"The solemn, sweet, harmonious bells,
All other music far excels."

THE ST. JAMES'S SOCIETY, BRISTOL.

THE members of this company, accompanied by Messrs. D. and G. Morgan, paid a visit to the city of Wells, Somerset, on Monday, September 10th. They made their way to the Cathedral, which they inspected, and afterwards entered the bell tower and attempted to ring, but after pulling them up somehow they found that the bells went so heavy that they had to abandon all hope of ringing changes. Mr. Morgan recommended the Wells ringers to employ a steam engine, if they wanted the bells to ring. What a pity it is that such a noble peal should be in such a wretched state. They afterwards visited St. Cuthbert's, where they found things but very little better, the most that could be done on them was 120 of Grandsire Doubles. They were very kindly treated by the Wells ringers, and by those in authority, and as it was impossible to ring their church bells they fell back upon their hand-bells, when they rang some Caters, Grandsire Major, and several tunes, which the natives thoroughly enjoyed. After expressing their gratitude for their kind reception, they took their departure as well pleased as could be expected under the circumstances.

WICKHAM MARKET BELLS.

THE restoration of these bells has commenced. Five of them are already on *terra fyra*, and one remains suspended for use. The church tower is octagonal, 2ft. 6in. in diameter, and about 60 feet high. This is surmounted by a lofty spire, which towers above the steeple another 60 feet. Originally the tower only contained four bells, the remaining two being added in 1657. Upon examination the bell frame was found to be decayed, and the fittings much worn away, and a large piece broken out of the third bell. It was therefore determined to have a new oak frame, to recast the broken bell, and to provide new fittings for the whole peal. It is to be regretted, however, the Committee are not able to raise £100 more, and add two small bells, which would complete the octave. The first bell weighs 4 cwt., and has on "Iohn Brend made me, 1657." In the churchwarden's old books appear the following:—Payd to Captaine Turner for three loads of timber used about the bell frames, £6. Easter, 1657." "Payd for bringing the first bell from Norwich, 14s." The third bell has been cracked many years, and was repaired temporarily by iron bolts fastened over the stock. A local poet forty years sang of Wickham Market, its church, and bells thus:—

"Tis the village of villages—none can stand higher,
With its church and its steeple and beautiful spire,
With a Butler its vicar—its brooks and its dykes,
Its moors, hills, and dales, 'tis an object that strikes;
A clock that ne'er tells the true hour of the day,
Six bells (one is cracked) and chimes that won't play.

The clock chimes used to play every three hours, and among the tunes played was, "Britons, strike home." The apparatus has been removed, being past repair.

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."

WEIGHING OF TENORS.

SIR,—In last week's "BELL NEWS" under the heading "A Ringing Holiday," by F. E. Dawe, it is mentioned that the Mottram tenor had been lately "lifted out and weighed." It would be very interesting to know how this was done, and what appliances are necessary for it. If it is not difficult to accomplish, many companies who are doubtful of the weight of their tenors would be able to ascertain it, at all events within a few pounds. There is no doubt that the weights of tenors are much exaggerated, and it seems quite impossible that such anomalies can exist as a G bell being 19 cwt. and a E bell 10 cwt. These are both given as the weights and notes respectively of the Cren-don and North Shields tenors in "THE BELL NEWS" of September 1. Perhaps one of the Mottram men or some other ringer would acquaint us in your paper with the method of weighing a tenor in the tower.

JAMES F. HASTINGS.

MARRIAGE LAW DEFENCE UNION.

Patrons { The Archbishop of CANTERBURY.
The Archbishop of ARMAGH.
President.—

Vice-Presidents.—The Earl of Shaftesbury, K.G.; The Right Rev. the Lord Bishop of Lincoln; the Lord Coleridge, Chief Justice of England. Chairman of Committees.—The Right Hon. A. J. B. Beresford Hope, M.P. Treasurers.—Sir Walter Farquhar, Bart., 16, St. James's Street, S.W.; Sir Charles Mills, Bart., M.P., Lombard Street, E.C.

Bankers.—Messrs. Herries, Farquhar, and Co., 16, St. James's Street, S.W.; Messrs. Glyn, Mills, and Co., Lombard Street, E.C.

This Union is formed to maintain the ancient law of the land, and in particular to resist the legalization of Marriage with a wife's sister.

LIST OF PUBLICATIONS.

1. WHAT the Bishop of LINCOLN SAYS. Price 3d.
2. WHAT the Bishop of EXETER SAYS. 3d.
3. WHAT the Archbishop of MIDDLESEX SAYS. 1d.
4. WHAT SCOTCHMEN SAY. 3d.
5. WHAT PLAIN FACTS SAY. 3d.
6. WHAT the TABLE of AFFINITY SAYS, COMPARED with LEVITICUS. 3d.
7. WHAT the TABLE of AFFINITY SAYS COMPARED with the LAW of the CHURCH. 3d.
8. WHAT the PRESBYTERIANS SAY. 1d.
9. WHAT the BISHOPS of the CHURCH of ENGLAND SAY. 3d.
10. WHAT the ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH SAYS. 3d.
11. WHAT the EASTERN CHURCH SAYS. 3d.
12. WHAT the CONSERVATIVES SAY. 1d.
13. WHAT the LIBERALS SAY. 1d.
14. WHAT Miss LYDIA BECKER SAYS. 3d.
15. A WOMAN'S OPINION on the WIFE'S SISTER BILL. 3d.
16. DECEASED WIFE'S SISTER BILL.—A VILLAGER TALK. 1d.
17. SOME REASONS against MARRIAGE with a WIFE'S SISTER. Per dozen 2d.
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24. SPEECH of the late BISHOP (Thirlwall) of ST. DAVIDS. 3d.
25. The REAL BEARING of the OPINIONS of the HEBREW PROFESSORS. By Professor CANDLISH, D.D. 1d.
25. SPEECH of the late BISHOP (Wilberforce) of OXFORD. 3d.
27. SPEECH by the EARL CAIRNS.

One Penny each.

SPEECH of HENRY, Lord Bishop of EXETER.
SPEECH of the Right Hon. W. E. GLADSTONE, M.P.
SPEECH of the Right Hon. Lord HATHERLEY.
SPEECH of the Right Hon. Lord SELBORNE.
QUESTIONS on the PROPOSED CHANGES in the MARRIAGE LAWS. 3d.

E. W. ALLEN, Ave Maria Lane, London.

BELLRINGING JUBILEE OF MR. JOHN COX.

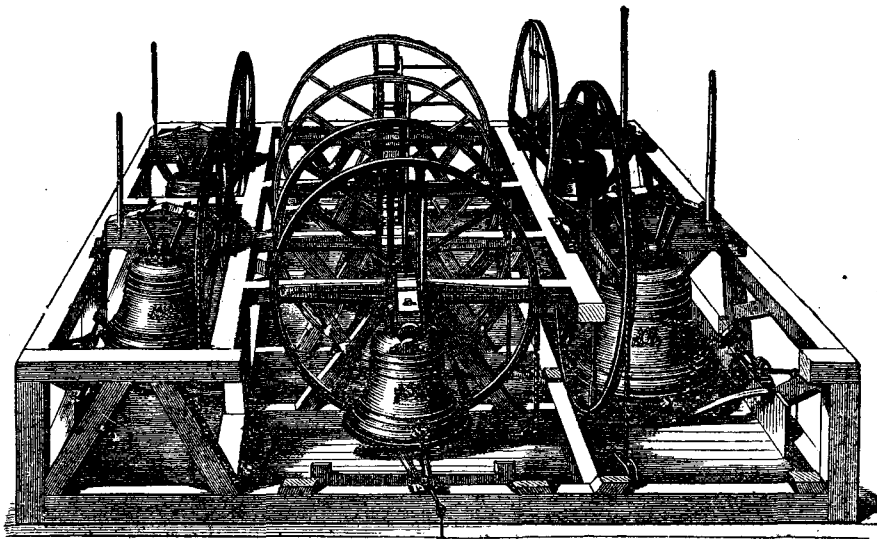
THE ringing friends of Mr. John Cox, taking into consideration his advancing years, and the precarious state of his health, intend making exertions to raise a fund to provide for him those necessities which are the sole sustenance of age.

This year—being his ringing jubilee, he having rang his first peal at the church of St. Mary, Islington, on the 7th of October, 1833—is thought peculiarly appropriate for this appeal to be made.

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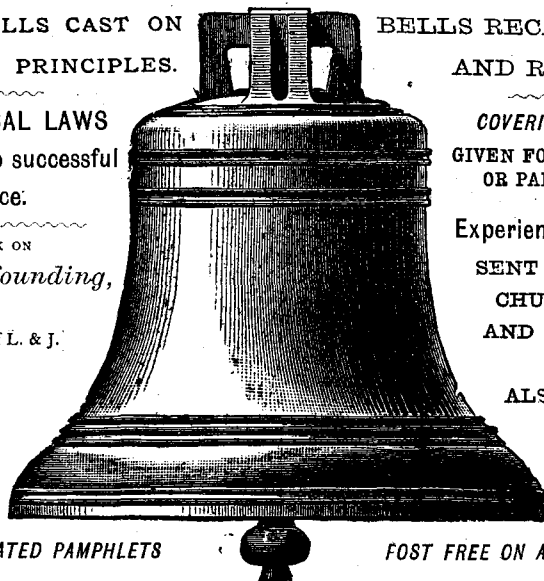
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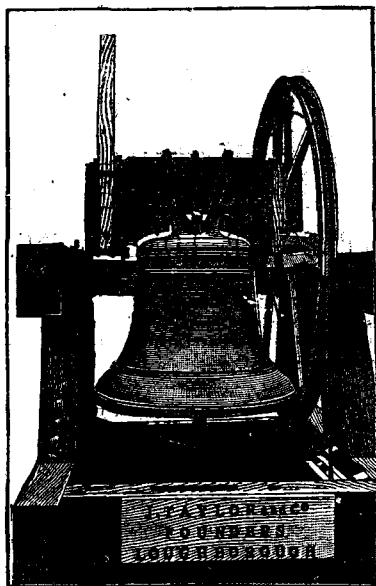
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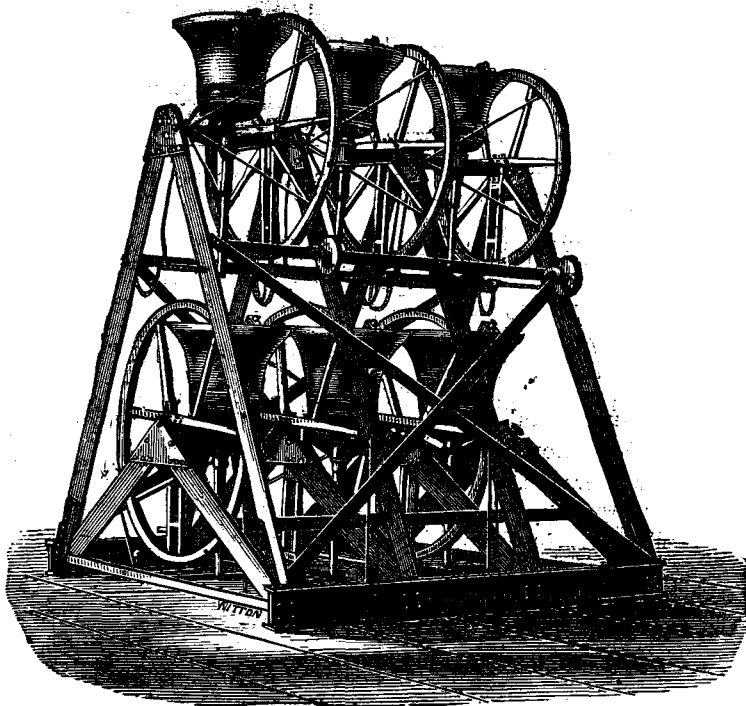
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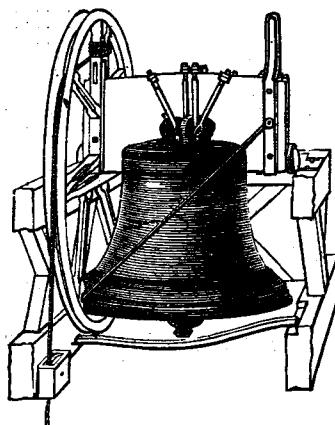
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GRANDSIRE TRIPLES.

By JASPER W. SNOWDON.

CONCERNING the date at which the Grandsire method was first practised I shall not make any conjecture, but shall commence the history of the method by an endeavour to show the time when a true peal of Triples was first accomplished.

In the book of rules of the Ancient Society of College Youths a short history of that Society is given, wherein it is stated that the first account of a peal of Grandsire Triples being rung, is one performed on January 17th, 1689-90, at St. Sepulchre-without-Newgate, in 3½ hours, by members of the Society. From what source this information is obtained I am unable to state, and although, from the known performances in change-ringing which were accomplished not very many years later, it seems not improbable that such a performance may have taken place at this date, I believe that tradition is the only source to which this statement can now be traced. I may here remark that the tablet for a peal of Bob Triples rung at St. Peter's, Mancroft, Norwich, in 1715, is the oldest known record in the form of a tablet that exists, and that the first peal, rung in 1718, entered in the peal-book of the Society of the Union Scholars, now in the British Museum Library, is the first known record that exists in writing, and so far as I am aware there is no existing record of a true peal of 5000 changes having been accomplished previous to the peal at Norwich in 1715.

Until quite recently it was the general opinion of the Exercise that the first true peal of Grandsire Triples ever obtained or rung was that known as "Holt's one-part peal," and that the next peals obtained were also the work of this composer. A few years ago it is therefore probable, that if an attempt been made to give an historical account of the first peals of Triples in this method it would simply have consisted in the enumeration of the first performances of John Holt's peals. This, at all events, was the account which was given to me when, about ten years ago, I made enquiries on the subject. Since that time I have gathered together a certain amount of information, which, I think, places the matter in a more satisfactory light, and shews that either in consequence of the earliest peals having been composed in the country or under conditions that did not meet with the approval of a certain clique amongst the ringers of the metropolis, all the peals of Grandsire Triples rung previously to Holt's peal were for some reason or other condemned, and in course of time, as the compositions were lost, were further discredited on account of their supposed falseness.

At the commencement of my enquiries into this matter, I found that nothing more was known to the Exercise in general, and the London ringers in particular, beyond that which was to be learnt from the pages of Reeves's and Shipway's *Campanologias*. This being the case, I shall by placing before my readers the information contained in these and other works, also put them in possession of such information as has been handed down to us by previous writers on this subject.

In *Campanologia or the Art of Ringing*, published in 1702, and dedicated by "J.D.C.M." to "our honoured and esteem'd friends, the Society of London Scholars," the following half peal is given:—

2520.
2 3 4 5 6 7
6 7 2 4 5 3 2
4 7 6 3 2 5 5
7 6 4 3 2 5 4
3 6 7 5 4 2 5
6 7 3 5 4 2 4
5 7 6 2 3 4 5
6 3 5 7 4 2 3
7 3 6 2 5 4 5
4 2 7 5 3 6 1
(Part-end) 4 6 5 3 2 7 2 (Plain lead)

Four times repeated.

After giving this half-peal, in allusion to any further lengths, the writers then remark:—

"What then remains thereof, is to shew the method for the whole, which is 5040 changes; but in regard that there is no certain method known whereby this peal (as to truth) can be rung, and that the number of changes contained therein, being so many that they require so long a time as four hours to perform them in, which being not only very tedious, but likewise tiresome for any person to ring a bell so long, we shall therefore, for these reasons, suspend what may be expected in reference to this matter, save only add, for the satisfaction of those that are desirous to adventure upon so great an undertaking, that the only way that hath been practised is, by making of a double change at the end of the half, wherein the bells in second and third places (when treble leads) must lie still, according to the same method and rule as the singles in Grandsire, upon five bells, then by observing the same method for the bobs, as is before shown, will double the peal to 5040 changes."

The singles given are the ordinary Grandsire singles, and if the foregoing half-peal is repeated in the manner described, it will undoubtedly be false, as the observation bell, the seventh, does not strike an equal number of times in each place in the half-peal given.

I may also remind my readers, that a peal of Grandsire Triples in parts has not even yet been composed in which two ordinary Grandsire singles only are used, Holt's first peal, which has only two of these singles, being in one part.

From the reference to "so great an undertaking" it would seem that the 5040 had been practised, although if it was rung in this form it certainly would not have been a true peal.

In the third edition, 1733, of this book, the same half-peal and the same remarks are given, but in the fourth edition 1753, although the same half-peal is given, no greater length is given, and the remarks concerning the 5040 are entirely eliminated; this is also the case in the fifth edition, published in 1766. Now when the 1753 edition was published, Holt's one-part peal had been rung, and when the 1766 edition was issued, Holt's ten-part peal had been rung, and not only this peal, but also the six-part peal had been published in a broad-sheet. How then is it that no notice of any of these peals is taken in these "improved and correct" editions? The answer to this question is to be found in the fact that these several editions were for the greater parts mere reprints, and in one or two instances exact facsimiles of former editions, and cannot therefore in any way be taken as evidence of the amount of progress that would naturally be expected, and which, as we know in this case of Grandsire Triples, was made in these early days in the art of composition.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

ORSETT, in Essex, a large scattered rural village, with a population chiefly employed in agriculture, is situated about four miles from Grays station on the London and Southend Railway. The tower of the parish church contains a ring of five bells, and as it was known that no change-ringing had been rung upon them for a number of years, a band of the above Association decided to pay a visit on Sunday last, when the annual Harvest Festival took place. The Rector, the Rev. R. T. Whittington, kindly gave permission, at the same time notifying that the bells were not in very good order, as they required rehanging, which would be done when sufficient funds were in hand to do the work, and augment the ring to six. The band, consisting of Messrs. B. Keeble and A. J. Perkins (Romford), and A. Pye, A. Porter, and C. F. Gillingham, Esq. (Little Heath), decided to venture, and having found that the charge for the use of a little horse-flesh was excessive in their own neighbourhood, after a good exercise upon shanks' pony, found themselves travelling upon the above-mentioned railway, and duly arrived at Grays. Here a conveyance was obtained at a moderate figure, and the last-mentioned of the band proving himself capable of handling the reins, the party, after a pleasant drive, arrived at their destination, without having experienced a capsize by the way. The church, dedicated to St. Giles and All Saints, is an ancient building of flint, with stone dressings, and a brick square tower, large enough for twelve moderate-sized bells. After an inspection of the interior of the edifice, the company proceeded to the ringing-chamber (which also serves as a choir vestry), and afterwards went to the roof of the tower, from which a fair view of the surrounding country was obtained, and it was proved to ocular demonstration that the assertion so frequently made that Essex is altogether flat, is an error. Although only out for five-bell ringing, having read of the novelty recently adopted upon a certain railway, a suggestion was made and carried out that an attempt should be made for a dumb course of Grandsire Triples with the fists. This was successfully done, but before its completion a salute was heard from below, given by some individual who would not encounter the risk of getting up the stairs. This was the signal for descent, and upon returning to the ringing-chamber the company met Mr. C. H. Jessop, of the College Youths, who nightly seeks repose at Orsett. At the same time, Mr. Wright, a gentleman who takes an interest in bell-ringing, invited the company to partake of his hospitality, Mr. Jessop's desire for a 120 had however first to be complied with, and a 6-score of London Doubles, followed by the same number of Grandsire Doubles, was rung. The Rector hearing the bells, came up to the church, and gave the whole company a hearty welcome. Mr. Wright's hospitality was next accepted, and "THE BELL NEWS," hitherto unknown here, was introduced to the notice of the ringers present, it being pointed out that if those present devoted one penny per week to such a journal, they would keep themselves acquainted with the ringing events of the world. Returning to the church, several 6-scores were rung for Divine Service, and afterwards a 6-score of Stedman Doubles in a very creditable manner. The time of departure arrived, and the band had to bid their newly-made friends farewell, with many thanks for the hearty welcome they had received. Fortunately there was a bright moon upon the return journey to Grays railway station, so that the company found themselves safely landed there, after having passed numerous pedestrians, without the fear of a charge of manslaughter hanging over them.

It is uncertain how long since a 120 was previously rung at Orsett, but there is not the least doubt that it is over thirty years.

HOLIDAYS AND OUTINGS.

DURING the summer months it frequently happens that ringers desire to visit some locality of interest, not only on account of any historical matter that may be attached to it, or any other engaging feature that may be attractive, such as the scenery, but a place where they can find bells and change-ringing of some description. It often happens, after selecting a rendezvous, that their hopes are frustrated by the scarcity of the latter, or by the "elegant and delicate" manner in which many rings of bells, where Churchyard Bob is the order of the day, are suspended, or by surroundings far from enlivening to the view of the holiday visitor.

I recollect well several instances when I have sallied forth, with "hopes high burning," bell-hunting, to have my spirits damped at the sight of affairs found on arrival, a condition only too well known, I am afraid, to most of us, to need repetition. It is with these shortcomings fresh in my memory that I venture to describe a few rings of bells in the neighbourhood of Windsor, so that ringers may know before going there what condition the bells and method ringing are in.

During the absence of Her Majesty, Windsor Castle is thrown open to visitors, and hundreds of people go through the State apartments daily, and inspect the numerous buildings connected with such a majestic residence. Excursions from all parts frequently run to the town by Great Western and South Western Railways; if, therefore, any member of the Exercise thinks of travelling into this part of Berkshire, by communicating with Mr. W. H. Fussell, of Slough, they will be able to obtain further information respecting the objects of interest and sights to be seen, other than what can be found in a local guide-book, and obtain orders for admission into parts of the castle, only entered by special permission. With regard to the bells connected with the castle, the old curfew tower, named "Julius Cæsar," has a ring of eight sombre-toned bells, tenor 36 cwt. These go heavy, but on the whole are fairly manageable. Any evening, providing no emergency arises, a touch may be had here. In the castle are several clock bells, which strike the quarters.

While ascending the Round Tower, a bell will be found weighing 17cwt. 1qr. 21lbs. (dia. 47in.), which was captured during the Crimean war, and brought from Sebastopol in 1855. On gaining the summit, one can behold an extensive panorama, which it is impossible to adequately describe, and it would be as well here to survey the surrounding churches espied in the distance, and briefly describe any local attractions that may be interesting.

Immediately under the walls of the castle is St. John's parish church, having a ring of eight bells, tenor 21 cwt. These go much better than the castle bells, in fact, are a good going peal. A touch might be arranged here if sufficient time is given to obtain permission. It is thirty years since a 5000 was rung upon them, and it seems probable that a similar space of time is likely to elapse ere such a performance is repeated.

A little to the right, and further on, will be seen the church of the Holy Trinity, with a tower that might be termed "the sleeping partner," for whatever benefit the remainder of the edifice derives from it is not apparent, there being no bells whatever here. Further on to the right again is St. Andrew's, Clewer, with five bells, close to the river Thames, and about a mile out of the town.

Following the road which crosses the bridge, the "Old King's Head" will be passed, where, if we wish to stay, very good accommodation may be had. On the left-hand side, St. John's church will be seen, with a handsome stone tower, surmounted by a spire, quite useless, there being only one bell. Continuing along this road, we come to Eton College, when another mile will bring us to Slough. At St. Mary's church is a light ring of six, tenor about 9½ cwt., all of which go well, and I am sure the ringers would at any time welcome a stranger, and arrange a meeting any evening.

Three miles from Slough is the church of St. Mary, Farnham Royal, the Rev. S. F. Marshall, Rector, where there is another ring of six, in capital order, tenor 14 cwt. A visitor is welcome any evening during the week, and good accommodation is to be found at the "Duke's Head," at which hostelry a ringer is sure to be made comfortable. Mr. J. J. Parker, one of the instructors to the Oxford Diocesan Guild, is the obliging steeplekeeper at Farnham, and he will inform the visitor that the methods practised at St. Mary's church are Grandsire, Oxford, and Plain Bob Minor, and Stedman Doubles. Perhaps it may not be uninteresting to some of the readers of these lines to know that this village of Farnham is one of the favorite retreats of our Editor, and at this very time more than one inhabitant of the parish is looking forward with pleasure to his next visit. Two miles from here are the celebrated Burnham Beeches, and the villages of Burnham and Stoke Poges are not far away. While at Slough, a run of six miles per Great Western Railway to Maidenhead, is worth attempting. At All Saints' church is a peal of eight, tenor 17 cwt.; and by communicating with Mr. Edwin Rogers, High Street, I have no doubt he will be pleased to receive a visitor. Quarry Woods and Cliveden close by the river are favourite resorts.

Returning to our elevated position on the Round Tower (supposing my visitors have arrived by this time), if the course of the river is followed downwards, at Datchet a ring of five will be found, unringable, owing to the tower being unsafe, caused by an ingenious arrangement of some carpenters building the framework into the walls. At Old Windsor is a set of six bells not in good repair, but I believe the Vicar, the Rev. T. E. Harwood, is anxious to have them rehung. A ferry close by will convey us across the river, where at St. Andrew's, Wraysbury, the Rev. J. H. Hindson will receive anyone who would like to have a pull on this pretty little ring of six, which are in good going order. Runnymede, where Magna Charta was signed, is not far distant, and a peal of six at Egham, on the way. A visit could also be paid to the "Bells of Ousley," where the drooping spirits could be revived at this Riverside House.

After descending the tower, supposing we have viewed all we wish attached to the Castle, a journey would be very enjoyable to the Copper Horse, or by calling a boat into requisition we could wind our way up the river, and after a good pull against the stream, effect a landing on the well-known "Monkey Island." Still further on, the old quiet village of Bray will appear, and a heavy peal of six at St. Michael's found, not in very good condition, the 3rd bell being unsafe to ring; Tenor 30 cwt. It was at this church that the old vicar of Bray (see "THE BELL NEWS," No. 26, page 206, Vol. I.), held forth during the reign of four successive sovereigns.

W. H. F.

THE ST. MARY'S SOCIETY, EASTBOURNE.

THE members of this company had their annual outing at Steyning, on Monday, September 10th. According to arrangements the members met at the Belfry in the morning at 5.30, and rang a couple of touches; then leaving the tower they were then joined by the Rev. R. S. Woodward and Mr. J. Welch, and conveyed in Mr. Chapman's break to the station. A special carriage was reserved for the accommodation of the party, and during the journey they enlivened the time by several tunes on their handbells. On their arrival at Steyning, soon after nine o'clock, the Vicar gave them a hearty greeting, and led them to a local coffee tavern, where refreshments in plenty had been provided. After full justice had been done to the breakfast, the keys of the church, being in the possession of the proprietor of the tavern, were handed to Mr. H. Bennett, who soon conducted the company to the belfry, the ring of six good-toned bells being raised in peal, and several six-scores of Grandsire Doubles, were rung in quick succession. After inspecting the sacred edifice, the ringers, accompanied by the Rev. Mr. Pridgeon, the vicar, started for Chantonbury Ring, a well known spot, giving a splendid view of the surrounding country for many miles, arriving there after an hour's good climb. A short rest being taken, the company descended a steep hill on the return journey, wending their way, to their delight, through Wiston Park, the estate of the Rev. J. Goring. Reaching Steyning about one o'clock, they sat down to a capital hot dinner, the Rev. Mr. Pridgeon in the chair, who was supported by the Rev. R. S. Woodward, and Mr. J. Welch, Mr. Leonard Huggett being in the vice-chair. After dinner, the Chairman, in highly gratifying terms, proposed the toast, "The health of the Rev. R. S. Woodward," (he having to return to Eastbourne at an early hour), and it was enthusiastically received. In responding, the rev. gentleman made some appropriate remarks, and expressed his pleasure at being present. Mr. J. Welch, in proposing "The Eastbourne ringers," coupled with the toast the names of Mr. H. Bennett and Mr. L. Huggett, the conductors, and spoke in a complimentary manner respecting them, Messrs. Bennett and Huggett, in reply, remarked on the favourable position of the society and the promising progress of the young ringers. "The health of Mr. J. Welch," was proposed and admirably responded to. Great regret was expressed that, through the unavoidable absence of the churchwardens from Eastbourne, they could not accompany the ringers. Before leaving, the Rev. R. S. Woodward proposed "The health of the chairman," which was drunk with musical honours. A tea and more ringing brought a most enjoyable evening to a happy conclusion. The company returned to Eastbourne soon after seven o'clock.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Monday, September 17th, Messrs. Newell, Egby, and Paice, visited Oxford, and having an hour to spare in the evening, were kindly met by some of the Oxford ringers, at St. Peter's church, where a 720 of Grandsire Minor was rung in 25 mins. T. Hill, (Oxford), 1; S. Paice (Reading), 2; S. Hounslow (Oxford), 3; J. Washbrook (Oxford), 4; W. Newell (Reading), 5; H. Egby, (conductor; Reading), 6. From thence a quick shift was made to Magdalen College, where some beautifully struck touches of Grandsire Caters and Triples were indulged in, conducted by Messrs. J. Field and H. Egby. A short spin at Stedman Triples concluded the programme, and the visitors left delighted with their visit, and kindly and fraternal reception, by their brother strings of Oxford.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS, AND THE SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.

ON Saturday last, Mr. J. Davidson, of London, paid a visit to Salisbury, himself being a member of the College Youths. Here he met two other members of the same society, Messrs. J. R. Jerram and T. Blackburn, who have lately been trying to teach change-ringing in Salisbury. In company with several of the Salisbury Diocesan Guild they rang at St. Martin's, on Saturday evening, 180 of Bob Minor. J. Davidson, 1; C. Clements, jun., 2; A. S. Dowling, 3; T. Blackburn, 4; W. W. Giffard, 5; J. R. Jerram, 6. Tenor 15 cwt. This is only the second time of the Salisbury men trying six-bell work.

On Sunday afternoon, a few rounds and set changes were rung at St. Paul's, tenor 13 cwt., and in the evening set changes and "Grindstone ten" were rung at St. Edmund's, tenor 30 cwt. On Monday the same party visited Wilton, and by kind permission of the Rector, the Rev. D. Olivier, they rang 180 Bob Minor on the light peal of six there, tenor 7½ cwt. standing in the same order as at St. Martin's, also several six-scores of Grandsire Doubles, W. Lanham, tenor. This steeple is very small, and looks more like a smoke tower than a church steeple. The church is in the Byzantine style, and it is said that there is not another like it in England. The bells were cast by Thos. Mears, in 1831 and 1832. They hang 1, 3, 5, at the top and 2, 4, 6, below. The fourth rope falls in a very awkward position but could easily be altered without interfering with the position of the bells above. The party then returned to Salisbury, and in company with Mr. Lanham raised the heavy peal of eight at St. Thomas's, tenor 32 cwt. The bells are in such bad order as to be almost unringable. However, two 120's of Grandsire Doubles were rung on the front five with 7, 6, 8, as a cover. J. Davidson, 1; T. Blackburn, 2; A. S. Dowling, 3; W. W. Giffard, 4; J. R. Jerram, 5; W. Blake, 6; W. Lanham, 7; J. Short and C. Clements, jun., 8. This finished the proceedings. It should be mentioned that while the party were ringing at Wilton, a lad entered the belfry who we believe we are correct in stating to be a descendant of the original John Holt the composer. This lad is one of the ringers at Wilton, but as yet has not had much opportunity of learning change-ringing.

THE ROCHDALE AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATION.

THE members of this Association held their intermediate meeting at Christ Church, Bacup, on Saturday last, when the following representatives were present: Rochdale, Manchester, Milnrow, Walsden, and Moorside. The officers were very much disappointed to find such a poor attendance of members on this occasion. The bells were opened about 3 o'clock, a few touches of Grandsire and Bob Minor being rung. Afterwards a 720 of the last-named method was performed by the Bacup, Heptonstall, and Rochdale ringers. A. L. Hardman (Bacup), 1; George Hoyle, 2; William Smith (Bacup), 3; Arch. Chew (conductor), 4; Wm. Robertshaw (Heptonstall), 5; Albert Hurst (President of the Association), 6. Tenor 10 cwt. 3 qrs. in E.

The business meeting was held at 6 o'clock, at which a proposition was brought forward that each member should have a certificate, or emblem, as a member of the Association of Rochdale and District (but the further consideration of this was transferred to the Quarterly Meeting). The President, Mr. Hurst, spoke in a very lucid and clear manner to the friends from Bacup, respecting the benefit gained by being members of the Association (their representative promising to lay the matter before that company). The meeting then broke up with the best vote of thanks to the vicar and wardens for the use of the bells and schoolroom, also thanks to the chairman.

STOKE-UPON-TRENT ARCHIDIACONAL ASSOCIATION.

LAWTON.—Forty ringers, from Tunstall, Norton-le-Moors, Bid-dulph, Wolstanton, Keele and Lawton, met together here on Saturday last with the Clerical Secretary of the Association, the Rev. T. H. B. Fearon. It was the first meeting of the Association in this tower, which is affiliated by special act of grace, being neither in the county of Stafford, Diocese of Lichfield, nor Province of Canterbury. It is a border parish in the county and Diocese of Chester, and in the Province of York. Due appreciation was shown of the favour bestowed, by the heartiness of the welcome given by the Rector, the Rev. S. Nunn, the churchwardens, and the ringers. Originally a peal of five, a sixth bell has lately been added (treble), and the whole rehung by Messrs. Taylor and Co. The bells go first-rate; at a little distance they sound very well, though in the ringing-chamber a slight discrepancy of tone and tune is noticeable. Some good ringing was done, particulars of which will be found among our records.

A good tea was provided for the moderate charge of eightpence per head, after which the Rector addressed a few words of welcome and encouragement to the visitors, and was followed by the Rev. T. H. B. Fearon, who returned thanks on behalf of the Association. The Wolstanton company rang an excellent touch on their handbells. The next fixture is Uttoxeter, on Saturday next.

THE TWELVE-BELL STEEPLES OF LONDON.

As it is my object in these papers to give a short account of the twelve-bell steeples in the Metropolis, I may as well begin with St. Paul's Cathedral, which is the heaviest peal in the city. The facts connected with the erection of this peal are so recent, that it would be superfluous for me to give more than a very brief account of them, all particulars about them having come before the public in the newspapers not less than seven years ago. St. Paul's now possesses a ring of twelve bells, cast by Messrs. Taylor and Co., of Loughborough, in 1876-7. Tenor 62 cwt. in Bb. The treble and second are inscribed "Unto God only be honour and glory. Presented by the Drapers' Company. Peter Rolt, Esq., Master." The third, fourth, fifth and sixth have "By faith I obteigne. Presented by Baroness Burdett Coutts, and the Turners' Company, Edward Caffin, Esq., Master." The seventh has "Sal sapit omnia. The gift of the Salters' Company, James Carr Fisher, Esq., Master." The eighth, "Concordia parvæ res crescent. Presented by the Merchant Taylors' Company, Samuel Mason, Esq., Master." The ninth, "All worship be to God only. Presented by the Fishmongers' Company, Edward Edwards, Esq., Prime Warden." The tenth, "My trust is in God alone. Presented by the Clothworkers' Company, James Wyld, Esq., Master." The eleventh "God grant Grace. The gift of the Grocers' Company, W. J. Thompson, Esq., jun., Master." And the tenor has on her "Domine dirige nos (city arms). This tenor bell was presented by the corporation of the city of London. The Right Hon. W. J. R. Cotton, M.P., Lord Mayor, September 14th, 1876."

Each bell has also on it the arms of the Dean and Chapter, and those of each of the several companies who presented them.

Formerly there was but one bell in this (the north) tower. It weighed about a ton, and was "made by Philip Wightman, 1700, according to the inscription thereon. The south tower, until 1882, contained but three bells, viz. the old "Great Bell" cast by Richard Phelps, in 1716, from the metal of an older bell, and said to weigh 5½ tons; and the two quarter jack bells. In 1882 "Great Paul" was added, weighing about 17 tons, and inscribed "Vœ mihi si non evangeli savero," also cast by Messrs. Taylor and Co. The peal of twelve was opened on All Saints' Day, 1878, with a touch of Stedman Cinques, rang by members of the Ancient Society of College Youths. We will now pass on to St. Mary-le-Bow.

"Bow Bells" have ever been notorious from the supposition that to be a true "cockney," one must have been born within their sound. With regard to their history we find that in very early times a citizen named John Downes left two tenements in Bow Lane "To the maintenance of ye great bell." In 1496, it was ordered by the Common Council that the curfew was to be rung nightly, at 9 o'clock. Both bells and steeple were destroyed in the fire of 1666. When the steeple was rebuilt by Wren in 1679, it was prepared for twelve bells, but only eight were hung there. These in time got out of order, and in 1735 the tenor being cracked, was recast by Richard Phelps. In 1758 it was determined to recast the other seven, and to add two trebles to make ten. This was done, the bells being cast at the Whitechapel foundry by Lester and Pack (successor to Phelps) in 1762. They were rung for the first time, June 4th, 1762, being King George's birthday. Thus they remain a peal of ten until 1881, when two more trebles, cast by Messrs. Mears and Stainbank, were added to make a complete peal of twelve. The following are the weights as they now are: treble, 8 cwt. 0 qrs. 21 lbs.; 2nd, 8 cwt. 2 qrs. 16 lbs.; 3rd, 8 cwt. 3 qrs. 7 lbs.; 4th, 9 cwt. 1 qr. 5 lbs.; 5th, 10 cwt. 1 qr. 4 lbs.; 6th, 12 cwt. 0 qrs. 7 lbs.; 7th, 13 cwt. 3 qrs. 22 lbs.; 8th, 16 cwt. 0 qrs. 4 lbs.; 9th, 21 cwt. 0 qrs. 23 lbs.; 10th, 26 cwt. 9 qrs. 13 lbs.; 11th, 34 cwt. 2 qrs. 6 lbs.; Tenor, 53 cwt. 0 qrs. 25 lbs., note C., diameter 64½ inches. The following tablets are in the belfry. One recording 5200 changes if Treble Bob Royal, rung by the Cumberland Society, January 3rd, 1803, in 4 hours 7 mins. Another, 5200 changes of Oxford Treble Bob Royal, by the same, March 28th, 1837, in 3 hrs. 53 mins. Another, 5079 Stedman Caters, by the same, March 17th, 1840, in 3 hours 47 mins. Another 5049 in the same method, by the same, March 8th, time 3 hours 40 mins. And another recording 5081 Stedman Caters, by the College Youths, December 19th, 1863, in 3 hours 42 mins.

J. R. JERRAM.

THE SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.

ON Friday, Sep. 14th, the annual election of officers took place at the society's headquarters, 54 St. Martin's Lane, when the following persons were unanimously returned: Master, Mr. John Nelms; Treasurer, Mr. W. Baron (retaining office), Steward, Mr. William Devereux; Secretary, Henry Dains.

The new Master was also elected to serve as delegate at the forthcoming conference to be held at Reading, in October next.

LAVERSTOCK, WILTS.—A brass jewelled altar cross has been presented to Laverstock church by a stranger, and was first used on Sunday, September 9th, being the day of the Harvest Thanksgiving.

"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, E. W. 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.

ONE WHO KNOWS.—The publication of your letter would lay us open to an action for libel.

The Bell News & Ringers' Record.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 22, 1883.

WE spoke last week of the need for further and more perfect organisation; let us this week consider, in a practical sort of way, how this desideratum can be brought about.

In the first place, organisation, like charity, properly begins at home. We should commence at once, if we have not already done so, in our own local companies, to put the regulation of our work into a systematic way, by making rules for the proper management of our societies, and by appointing officers to see those rules carried out. There should be in every company a recognized head—call him conductor, president, master, or what not—and a secretary. If this plan be worked properly there will soon be found an absence of that happy-go-lucky style of business which too often characterises the management (or mismanagement) of our belfries. When there are men appointed to perform special duties, if these men are "worth their salt," those duties will be performed properly, thus preventing that slovenliness in carrying on the work of ringing which we too often see in places where the various duties are performed by anybody (or generally nobody). This setting of our own belfries in order will be one great step towards the attainment of the objects in view.

The next step in advance is the forming of amalgamations. In every town where there are two or more companies, and in every country district where two or more companies are within practicable distance of each other, their companies should join together, at regular and stated times, for practice and intercourse. They should have their rules and officers as in their separate companies, and be in fact, so far as the general work of ringing is concerned, the one body of ringers for the town or district. These amalgamations should not, of course, interfere with each company's management of its own belfry, but should be, for the purpose of joining the

companies and the unattached ringers together—instead of two or three small bodies—one society, which, by its numbers and its systematic mode of carrying on its business, would possess more influence, to a considerable degree, in advancing and elevating the work of ringing than could possibly be the case where the ringers are disunited. Here the benefits of organisation would soon be felt by the ringers themselves in many ways. There would be the certainty of a company at practice, and the change of towers and mixture of companies would be a useful as well as a pleasant relief from the monotony of ringing the same bell, and with the same men, year after year. So that while helping on the work of organisation in this way, ringers would also be improving themselves, and rendering their work more pleasant.

Then, as the local companies should be to the amalgamations, so should these latter be to the County Associations; feeders, and, in a manner, district branches. We need not dwell much upon the question of County and Diocesan Organisations. Happily, our County Associations are an accomplished fact, and if they have demonstrated one thing more than another, it is the benefit of that organisation for which we plead. By their instrumentality ringers have been brought together, ideas have been interchanged, a general impetus given to ringing, and the work brought more prominently before the country than ever had been the case before. All honour is due to the promoters of these Associations, and when we consider how the pioneers of the movement had to commence literally *a priori*, without any precedent to follow, or any rules but their own sound common sense to guide them, their success is doubly creditable and praiseworthy.

The subject is, however, of that importance that we must deal with it again next week, as space in this number will not allow us to say what we desire.

The Metropolis.

THE SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.
CAMBERWELL, SURREY.

In Two Hours and Fifty-nine Minutes. No date mentioned.

AT ST. GEORGE'S CHURCH,

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

JAMES RUMSEY Treble.	WILLIAM H. FUSSELL .. 5.
ARTHUR H. GARDOM 2.	ARTHUR JACOB 6.
ALFRED C. FUSSELL 3.	JOSEPH BARRY 7.
THOMAS TITCHENER 4.	WILLIAM JONES Tenor.

Conducted by ARTHUR H. GARDOM

This peal was arranged by Mr. Jos. Barry for the Fussell Brothers of Slough, and is the first by A. C. Fussell.

The Provinces.

DRIGHLINGTON.—THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

AT ST. PAUL'S CHURCH,

In Three Hours and Eight Minutes. No date given.

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

JAMES LOCKWOOD Treble.	WILLIAM DEMAINE 5.
HENRY HUBBARD 2.	TOM LOCKWOOD 6.
MATTHEW TOMLINSON 3.	THOMAS WEST 7.
GARFORTH TAYLOR 4.	JOSEPH RUDDLESDEN .. Tenor.

Composed by HENRY DAINS, and conducted by THOMAS WEST.

The calling of this peal, which has the 6th ten course-ends home and the extent in that position, was given in "The Bell News" of May 12th, 1883.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.
HEYWOOD, LANCASHIRE.

On Thursday, September 13, 1883, in Three Hours and Fifteen Minutes,
AT ST. LUKE'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

REEVES'S VARIATION. Tenor 22½ cwt. in Eb.

ALBERT SCHOFIELD Treble.	*JOHN HARRISON 5.
GEORGE CROSSLEY 2.	*JOSEPH STREET 6.
JAMES PILKINGTON 3.	*WILLIAM R. BARRETT 7.
JOHN MILLETT 4.	JAMES MILLETT Tenor.

Conducted by JOHN HARRISON.

Those marked thus * are members of the Rochdale Association.

LEES, NEAR OLDHAM, LANCASHIRE.
THE LEESFIELD SOCIETY.

On Saturday, September 15, 1883, in Two Hours and Fifty-six Minutes,
AT ST. THOMAS'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S TEN-PART PEAL. Tenor 14 cwt.

JOHN STANDERING Treble.	FRED CROSLAND 5.
JOHN JACKSON 2.	WM. HOLDEN 6.
EDWIN SHAW 3.	JOHN HILTON 7.
SAMUEL STOTT 4.	THOS. B. SHAW Tenor.

Conducted by JOHN STANDERING.

Mr. Standering hails from Newton Heath, near Manchester.

GLOSSOP, DERBYSHIRE.—THE HYDE AND GLOSSOP
SOCIETIES.

On Saturday, September 15, 1883, in Three Hours and One Minute,
AT ALL SAINTS' CHURCH,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 15 cwt.

JOHN LAWTON Treble.	THOMAS WILDE 5.
JOHN HARROP 2.	JOSEPH ROBINSON 6.
THOMAS BRADLEY 3.	JAMES S. WILDE 7.
WALTER SLATER 4.	SAMUEL BENNETT Tenor.

Composed by N. J. PITSTOW, of Saffron Walden, and conducted by
JAMES S. WILDE.

This peal has the 6th its extent home at eight course-ends.

BRIGHOUSE, YORKSHIRE.

On Saturday, September 15, 1883, in Three Hours,
AT ST. MARTIN'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION.

HENRY WILSON Treble.	WILSON WOOD 5.
JOHN W. ROWLINSON 2.	JOSEPH COCKROFT 6.
JOHN F. PERSON 3.	CHRISTOPHER NIELD 7.
FRED CROSSLEY 4.	WALTER F. PRINCE Tenor.

Composed by WILLIAM SOTTANSTALL, conducted by
WALTER F. PRINCE.

This is the first peal by the above members of the young Brighouse company.
This peal has the 6th six times wrong, and ten courses at home.

THE BIRMINGHAM AMALGAMATED SOCIETY.

Handbell Ringing.

On Saturday, September 15, 1883, in Two Hours and Twenty-four Minutes,
AT THE "HOPE AND ANCHOR," FISHER STREET,

ON HANDBELLS, RETAINED IN HAND,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE MAJOR, 5040 CHANGES.

THOMAS RUSSAM 1-2.	JOHN CARTER 5-6.
THOMAS MILLER 3-4.	*JOSEPH W. CATTLE 7-8.

Composed and conducted by J. CARTER.

Referee: B. Hodson; Witnesses: T. Horton, and W. Elesmore. *Member of the
Society of Royal Cumberland Youths. The above are all members of the Birming-
ham and District Association.

THE STOCKTON SOCIETY.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.
STOCKTON-ON-TEES.

On Saturday, September 15, 1883, in Three Hours and Ten Minutes,
AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

5040 CHANGES, IN SEVEN DIFFERENT METHODS
UPON SIX BELLS;

Being a 720 of each of the following:—

DOUBLE COURT BOB; STEDMAN'S SLOW COURSE; ST. SIMONS;
COURT BOB;
COLLEGE SINGLES; OXFORD BOB; AND BOB MINOR.

Tenor 12 cwt. in G#.

T. WHITFIELD Treble.	T. BURDON 4.
G. J. CLARKSON 2.	T. STEPHENSON 5.
J. CLARKSON 3.	W. NEWTON Tenor.

Conducted by G. J. CLARKSON.

This is the first 5040 by any of the above company except the conductor, and is also
the first 5040 upon six bells north of the change-ringing districts of Yorkshire and
Lancashire.

This performance contained 126 bobs and fourteen singles.

SOUTHPORT.—THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, September 17, 1883, in Two Hours and Fifty Minutes,

AT CHRIST CHURCH,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5184 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 10 cwt.

DAVID E. RIMMER Treble.	R. HILL 5.
T. J. FIELDING 2.	H. SPENCER 6.
A. FIELDING 3.	G. R. HEYWOOD 7.
J. H. HEYWOOD 4.	C. F. HEYWOOD Tenor.

Composed by the late WM. HARRISON, of Mottram-in-Longendale;
Conducted by CHARLES FIELDING HEYWOOD.

The above peal was rung to commemorate the anniversary of the completion of
the octave, by adding two trebles, and opening of the same in September, 1882, and
as a mark of respect to the energetic workers of the bell committee; and is also the
first peal in the above method ever rung on these bells. The same peal was
attempted by the same company in March last, but a shift took place after ringing
5088 changes, and it suddenly came to grief.

Miscellaneous.

THE BIRMINGHAM AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATION.

KING'S NORTON (Worcestershire).—On Tuesday evening, September
19th, eight of the local company rang Mr. J. Wright's musical touch
of 1008 of Grandsire Triples, in 36 mins. J. Ashmole, 1; W. H.
Sumner, 2; J. Cooks, 3; J. Wright, 4; Fred. Palmer, 5; Fred.
Scrivens, 6; W. Palmer (conductor), 7; Frank Palmer, 8. Tenor 18
cwt. J. Ashmole, who arrived at King's Norton last week from
Burton-on-Trent, is also a member of the Midland Counties'
Association.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

BRAINTREE (Essex).—On Saturday, September 8th, for practice, 720
of Bob Minor: F. Chapman, 1; F. Bumpstead, 2; H. E. Hammond,
3; W. Dyson, 4; F. Rudkin (conductor), 5; A. Hucksion, 6. Also
720 of London Surprise: F. Bumpstead, 1; F. Calthorpe, 2; W. H.
Dyson, 3; H. E. Hammond, 4; F. Rudkin (conductor), 5; A.
Hucksion, 6. On Sunday, September 9th, 720 of Cambridge Surprise
and 240 of College Exercise. F. Bumpstead, 1; W. H. Dyson, 2; H.
E. Hammond, 3; S. Hammond (conductor), 4; F. Rudkin, 5; A.
Hucksion, 6. On Wednesday, September 12th, 720 of London
Surprise: F. Bumpstead, 1; *W. H. Dyson, 2; H. E. Hammond, 3;
*S. Hammond, 4; *F. Rudkin (conductor), *A. Hucksion, 6. Tenor 14
cwt. The first 720 of London Surprise by any of the company.
*College Youths.

ROMFORD.—Chiming.—On Sunday morning last, for Divine Service
at the parish church of St. Edward the Confessor, a 720 of Plain Bob
Minor, in 26 mins. A. J. Perkins (conductor), 1-2-3-4; B. Keeble, 5-6.
This was Penning's composition, with forty-six calls.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

AMERSHAM (Bucks).—On Saturday, September 15th, at St. Mary's,
a 720 of Grandsire Minor, in 28 mins. C. Chapman, 1; F. Fells, 2;
A. Batten, 3; J. Parker (conductor), 4; A. C. Fussell, 5; W. H.
Fussell, 6. Also a 720 of Bob Minor, in 29 mins., by the same band,
conducted by A. C. Fussell. The first time Minor has been rung on
these bells. Tenor 24 cwt in D.

CAVERSHAM (Oxon).—On Sunday, September 16th, for afternoon service, a 720 of Grandsire Minor, in 25 mins. *G. Gibbard, 1; †H. Blissett, 2; R. Swain, 3; T. Newman, 4; W. Newell, 5; H. Egby (conductor), 6. *First 720. †First 720 on a bob bell. Master George Gibbard is a pupil of Mr. H. Egby's, and has only handled a bell-rope a very few weeks.

CHALFONT ST. GILES (Bucks).—On Saturday, September 15th, a 720 of Bob Minor, in 27 mins. C. Chapman, 1; F. Fells, 2; J. Parker (conductor), 3; A. Batten, 4; A. C. Fussell, 5; W. H. Fussell, 6. Tenor 11 cwt. in G. Also at Chalfont St. Peter's, a 720 of Grandsire Doubles called differently, in 25½ mins. Conducted by W. H. Fussell. Tenor 10 cwt.

FARNHAM ROYAL (Bucks).—On Wednesday, September 5th, a 720 of Bob Minor, with thirty-one bobs and fourteen singles, in 26 mins. G. Basden, 1; F. Fells, 2; A. Fussell, 3; W. Fussell, 4; J. Parker, 5; C. Clarke, 6. Also on Wednesday, September 12th, a 720 of Grandsire Minor, with thirty-two bobs and sixteen singles, and on Sunday morning, September 16th, a 720 of Grandsire Minor, in 27 mins. C. Chapman, 1; F. Fells, 2; G. Basden, 3; J. Parker, 4; W. Fussell, 5; C. Clarke, 6. Tenor 12 cwt. Composed and conducted by J. Parker.

LITTLE MISSENDEN (Bucks).—On Saturday, September 15th, at St. John-the-Baptist, six 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles, called differently, in 26 mins. C. Chapman, 1; J. Parker (conductor), 2; A. Batten, 3; A. C. Fussell, 4; W. H. Fussell, 5. Tenor 12 cwt in G.

THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

BROMHAM (Bedfordshire).—On Wednesday, September 12th, a 720 of Grandsire Minor, in 29 mins. T. Tysoe, 1; F. M. Smith, 2; H. King, 3; W. King, 4; C. Stafferton, 5; W. Biggs (conductor), 6. First in the method for all. And on Thursday evening, September 13th, a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob Minor, in 26 mins. T. Foote, 1; C. Clarke, 2; F. M. Smith, 3; W. Allen, 4; W. Biggs, 5; I. Hills (conductor), 6. First in the method for all. Also on Saturday, September 15th, at Turvey, Beds., a 720 of Grandsire Minor, in 30 mins. T. Tysoe, 1; F. M. Smith, 2; H. King, 3; W. King, 4; C. Stafferton, 5; W. Biggs (conductor), 6. The first 720 that has ever been done on these bells.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

GARSTON.—On Sunday, September 11th, at St. Michael's church, for Divine Service, a 720 of Grandsire Minor, in 26½ mins. S. Gough, 1; C. Newton, 2; J. Large, 3; W. Hughes, 4; F. Turner, 5; Geo. W. Hughes (conductor), 6. And on Saturday, September 15th, the following met for Holt's 10-part peal, but after ringing 2000 changes in good style, something went wrong with the second bell, and the bells were called into rounds: S. Gough, 1; W. G. Mann, 2; P. Barton, 3; C. Newton, 4; J. Large, 5; F. Turner, 6; G. W. Hughes (conductor), 7; W. Weaver, 8. Tenor 12½ cwt. in G.

STOKE-UPON-TRENT ARCHIDIACONAL ASSOCIATION.

BIDDULPH (Staffordshire).—On Sunday evening, September 16th, a 720 of Bob Minor, in 25 mins. C. Lawton, 1; S. Moore, 2; D. Bradbury (Horton), 3; T. Turner (Leek), 4; M. Moss, 5; W. Carter (conductor), 6.

LAWTON (Staffordshire).—At an Association meeting on Saturday, September 15th, a 720 of Bob Minor, in 26 mins. S. Walker (Wolstanton), 1; L. Miller (Wolstanton), 2; W. Priestman (Wolstanton), 3; *W. Brough (Norton-le-Moors), 4; Jas. Baddeley (Norton-le-Moors), 5; W. Miller (Wolstanton; conductor), 6. Also a 720 of Grandsire Minor, in 25 mins. W. Moss, 1; C. Lawton, 2; A. Cotterill, 3; S. Moore, 4; W. Miller, 5; W. Carter (conductor), 6. W. Miller hails from Wolstanton; all the rest from Biddulph. *First 720.

BALCOMBE (Sussex).—On Sunday, September 16th, being the occasion of the Harvest Thanksgiving services, was rung before afternoon service, 720 Oxford Bob in 25 mins., with three bobs and eighteen singles. J. Kenward, 1; E. Streeter, 2; F. Streeter, 3; W. Denman, 4; F. Rice, 5; J. Gasson (conductor), 6. Also after service two 720's as follows: First, called with thirty singles: W. F. Meads (Lindfield), 1; E. Streeter, 2; F. Streeter, 3; W. Denman, 4; F. Rice, 5; J. Gasson (conductor), 6. Second, called with forty bobs and two singles: W. F. Meads, 1; J. Kenward, 2; W. Denman, 3; F. Rice, 4; F. Streeter, 5; E. Streeter (conductor), 6. After which two 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles, each called differently. W. F. Meads, 1; E. Streeter, 2; F. Rice, 3; E. Streeter, 4; J. Gasson (conductor), 5; J. Hudson, 6. Tenor 11½ cwt.

DARESBUURY (Cheshire).—On Sunday, September 16th, being the Harvest Thanksgiving Festival, three of the local society, assisted by Messrs. J. Webb, T. Critchley, and W. Bebbington, of St. Paul's, Warrington, rang for Divine Service at the parish church, morning

and afternoon, the following, viz.: morning, a 360 of Bob Minor, in 13½ mins. J. Webb (conductor), 1; T. Houghton, sen., 2; P. Johnson, 3; P. Hamblett, 4; T. Ellison, 5; T. Critchley, 6. Afternoon, a 720 of Bob Minor, in 26½ mins. J. Webb (conductor), 1; P. Johnson, 2; T. Critchley, 3; T. Ellison, 4; P. Hamblett, 5; W. Bebbington, 6. Tenor 12 cwt. in G.

DEERHURST (Gloucestershire).—On Sunday, September 16th, for Divine Service in the evening, a 720 of Plain Bob Minor, with thirty-two bobs and two singles, in 25 mins. S. Roberts, 1; C. Willis, 2; C. Roles, 3; C. Awford, 4; G. Willis, 5; F. Bartlett (conductor), 6. Tenor 15 cwt.

HAVERSTOCK HILL (Middlesex).—On Sunday evening, for Divine Service at St. Martin's church, a 720 of Plain Bob Minor (nine bobs and six singles), in 21 mins. W. Meadows, 1; T. Glead, 2; F. Weare, 3; J. Leach, 4; A. Jacob, 5; J. Hannington (conductor), 6. Tenor 12½ cwt.

LICHFIELD.—On Sunday evening, September 16th, at St. Michael's church, a 720 of Grandsire Minor, in 27½ mins. H. King, 1; F. Sedgwick, 2; *F. J. Cope (conductor), 3; *H. E. Meacham, 4; *E. Gallimore, 5; *A. Greenwood, 6. Tenor 14 cwt. Also on Monday evening, September 17th, at St. Mary's, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (Hubbard), in 45 mins. *E. Gallimore, 1; H. Kings, 2; *H. E. Meacham, 3; F. Sedgwick, 4; *A. Greenwood, 5; R. Armes, 6; *F. Cope (conductor), 7; C. North, 8. Tenor 19½ cwt. *Members of the Archdeaconry of Stafford Association.

LOUGHBOROUGH.—On Tuesday September 18th, the following band rang for practice a half-peal of Grandsire Triples. W. Billingham, 1; H. Bradley, 2; T. Cooper, 3; J. Hardy, 4; S. Smith, 5; J. W. Taylor, sen., 6; J. W. Taylor, jun. (conductor), 7; E. Wightman, 8. Tenor 24 cwt. in D.

WILLESDEN (Middlesex).—On Sunday evening, September 16th, for Divine Service, 360 of Bob Minor (time not allowing for a 720). Albert Pittam, 1; *H. Laffin, 2; *Richard Kilby, 3; Martin Murphy, 4; *Harry Cutter (conductor), 5; *Joseph Jackman, 6. Tenor 9 cwt. in G. *College Youths.

WOMBURN, NEAR WOLVERHAMPTON.—On Sunday, September 16th, the members of the local company assisted by Mr. E. I. Stone of St. Paul's, Burton-on-Trent, rung for morning service 280 of Grandsire Minor. J. Aston, 1; E. I. Stone, 2; A. Little, 3; W. Devey, 4; H. Deanes, 5; R. Cartwright (conductor), 6. Tenor about 11½ cwt. Also for evening service 360 of Grandsire Minor, with the ringers stationed as above.

WOODFIELD, NEAR HATFIELD (Herts.).—*Handbell Ringing.*—On Monday, September 17th, the Woodhill Handbell Ringers rang on handbells a 720 of Plain Bob Minor, with eighteen bobs and two singles, in 25 mins. James Beckett, 1-2; John Smith (conductor), 3-4; William Oliver, 5-6. This is the first 720 ever rung by this society on handbells.

WYMESWOLD (Leicestershire).—On Monday, September 17th, four of the Loughborough company visited Wymeswold, and with two of the local company rang a 720 of Grandsire Minor, in 27 mins. C. Brooks, 1; H. Bradley, 2; T. Cooper, 3; M. Brown, 4; S. Smith, 5; J. W. Taylor, jun. (conductor), 6. Tenor 13 cwt.

MEETING OF BARWELL RINGERS AT NARBOROUGH, LEICESTERSHIRE.

On Saturday, September 15th, the Barwell company accepted an invitation to open the bells at Narborough. Arriving there about 3.40 p.m., they at once proceeded to the church (All Saints). This edifice, which has just been restored, and reseated, with the addition of a new chancel, and the abolition of a gallery, presents a very pleasing appearance, and the ringers spent a very pleasant half-hour looking over the alterations and places of interest, before getting into the belfry. Another important improvement in the restoration was the raising of the ringing-chamber. Formerly it was only about 10 ft. from the ground-floor, and had an uncomfortably long draught. It has been raised about 20 ft., and of course it is now much more pleasant to ring. Ascending the tower, the bells, six in number, were raised in peal, and a band was at once formed to ring a 720 of Bob Minor, which, with good striking, was accomplished in 29 mins., by the following: Thos. Needham, 1; John Swinfield, 2; George White, 3; William A. Needham, 4; Enos Garner, 5; Herbert W. Needham (conductor), 6. The tenor, which was cast by Messrs. Taylor and Sons, was added last year, and is the gift of J. Simpkin, Esq., Churchwarden. It weighs over 21 cwt., in F. Touches of Bob Minor, and 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles were indulged in for the benefit of young pupils till about 7 p.m., when the party adjourned to "The Bell" inn. They left for home about 8.5 p.m., after having spent a very enjoyable afternoon. They wish to take this opportunity of thanking the Rector and Churchwardens for kindly granting permission to ring, and their Narborough friends for their kind reception.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

For some time past the Farnham Royal branch of this Guild have been endeavouring to organise an outing in the direction of Amersham—a brief notice of which place occurred in this journal some time ago—and accordingly, Saturday last was fixed upon for that purpose. Early on the morning of that day, the Fussell Brothers, of Slough, accompanied by J. R. Fussell, Esq., were conveyed to Farnham in a wagonette. Here the remainder of the party were picked up, being mostly members of the Farnham musical society. The journey, as the cavalcade proceeded through the classical regions of Stoke Poges, was enlivened by musical airs upon the violin by Messrs. Parker, Fells, and Batten. Chalfont St. Peter's was reached at 11.20 a.m. The Rev. —, Crucifix, who had just concluded the morning service in the absence of the Vicar (the Rev. G. M. Bullock), met the visitors, and having shewn them to the tower, 720 of Doubles only was rung, as owing to the second bell being still unrestored, Minor could not be rung. Tenor 11 cwt.

Leaving "The George" at noon, Chalfont St. Giles was reached at 12.30, and here a 720 of Bob Minor was rung. Mr. Elbourn, who had come from Amersham, met the company at the church, with one of the wardens, Mr. Gurney. Afterwards the rector, the Rev. Edw. Barber, visited them while ringing. This is a pretty little ring of six, tenor 11 cwt. in G., but do not go at all well, the woodwork being entirely defective.

Arriving at Amersham at 2.30., "The Crown" inn was made the headquarters for the afternoon, and a hearty repast was here provided at a rustic old table in the court yard, beneath some shading trees. After regaling the physical system with viands that only ringers can do justice to, a move was made to the tower of St. Mary's, and a 720 of Grandsire fairly struck in 28 mins.

A very pleasant walk brought the party to Little Missenden, through an extensive park of 340 acres, in which stands the ancient family seat of the Drakes. At this church, dedicated to St. John the Baptist, was an old ring of four, the tenor being about 12 cwt. in C, and bears the date 1663; the fourth is an older bell, inscribed: "This bell was made 1603." A new treble was recently added, and the whole rehung by Messrs. Warner and Sons. A 720 of Doubles was rung here, after which the party wended their way back to Amersham, and having partaken of a substantial tea, St. Mary's was again visited, and 720 of Bob Minor rung in 29 mins. A six-score of Grandsire Doubles was rung, in which Mr. Elbourn rang the treble and Mr. Cox the tenor.

The homeward journey was commenced at 9 o'clock, starting from "The Crown," while the local ringers resounded some tunes upon the handbells, wishing all a hearty good night. Having spent a very pleasant day, the weather was everything that could be desired, and later on, as the moon shone forth, a delightful ride home in the cool September evening, brought the holiday to a close, ending one of the most sociable outings the members have experienced, although the absence of Messrs. Basden and Clark was regretted.

EXCURSION OF THE ST. MARY'S SOCIETY, SAFFRON WALDEN.

On Thursday afternoon, September 13th, the members of the above Society visited Sawbridgeworth, Herts. A trip to Thaxted, in Essex, had been intended, but owing to the illness of a parishioner who lives near the church, the idea of ringing there had to be abandoned, and on application to bell-warden Rochester of Sawbridgeworth, permission was given to have the use of Sawbridgeworth bells.

The visitors on arriving were joined by Mr. Henry Prior, of Stansted (a true lover of the art), and also by Mr. Rochester and other members of the Sawbridgeworth company, and at once proceeded to the church.

During the afternoon, touches of Grandsire Triples, Stedman Triples, Kent Treble Bob Major, and Double Norwich Court Bob Major, were indulged in on this ring of bells, which are now in capital order. The visitors experienced a most a most enjoyable outing, and take this opportunity of thanking Mr. Rochester for his kindness in placing the bells at their use.

A peal of Treble Bob Major will be shortly attempted here by a friendly company.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

A QUARTERLY MEETING of the above Association will be held at Nottingham, on Saturday, October 6th; visitors on arrival are requested to proceed to St. Peter's school-room, Broad Marsh (on the way from the station), where the Local Committee will be in attendance to assist in forming bands to proceed to the various towers. Committee Meeting in All Saints' school room, at 4 o'clock. Tea and subsequent business meeting in the Arboretum Refreshment Rooms, at 5 o'clock. The following towers will be open: St. Peter's, eight bells; All Saints', eight bells; Beeston, eight bells; Lenton, six bells.

JOSEPH GRIFFIN, Hon. Sec.

THE BIRMINGHAM AMALGAMATED SOCIETY.

ON Saturday, September 15th, 1883, as was announced in "THE BELL NEWS" of September 8th, four members of the above Society attempted a peal of Grandsire Major, 10,080 changes, upon handbells, but after ringing 2 hours it was found that the bells were too heavy, consequently it was decided to make a 5040 of it, and then stop, which was rung in capital style. Soon after the bells came round ringers began to assemble from the following places: West Bromwich, King's Norton, Dennington, Darlaston, Willenhall, Burton-on-Trent, the St. Martin's, and St. Phillip's Societies, Birmingham; and not the last to put in an appearance were Messrs. S. Simpkin, S. Burton, S. Wilkins, and W. Burkinshaw, from Nottingham, members of the Derby and Nottingham Association. It being rather early, the handbells were brought into use again, the members who had rung the peal ringing some Grandsire Major, and with the assistance of Mr. R. Hackley, some Grandsire Caters. After some tune-playing by Messrs. Miller, Hodson, and Henry, and a pleasant hour had been passed, an adjournment was made to Bishop Ryder's church close by, a nice peal of eight. There being so many ringers present and all wanting a pull, nothing of any importance was rung, the company soon after dispersing. It has been decided to make another start for the peal on Wednesday afternoon, October 3rd.

THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

A QUARTERLY MEETING of the above Association will be held at Reigate (by the kind permission of the Vicar), on Monday, October 1st. A plain tea will be provided at the "Cross" at 6 p.m. Ringing members free; others 9d. a head. Business meeting at 6.30 p.m. All ringers are invited to attend. The tower will be open for ringing except during service (4 to 4.30 p.m.).

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."

WEIGHING OF TENORS.

SIR,—In accordance with the request of your correspondent, James F. Hastings, I, one of the Mottram Ringers, do furnish the particulars of how we got the weight of our tenor. We got a small size of steelyards and weights (kindly lent by Mr. B. Goodfellow, Engineer, of Hyde); we put a rope round the cross-beam above the bells, and attached a pair of rope blocks; we then attached the steelyards to the blocks, and a chain round the headstock of the bell, and hooked it to the steelyards, the registered weight being 13 cwt. 2qrs. 16 lbs. It was witnessed by six persons and was accomplished on the 17th day of July, 1883.

JOHN HARROP.

THE OFFICE OF MASTER.

SIR,—I consider the remarks of your correspondent under this heading last week, quite uncalled for. There is in fact nothing pertaining to the office which Mr. George has been re-elected to, that he is not well able to fulfil. As to the appointment of a good ringer to the office in question, which is nothing more or less than a complimentary office, I quite agree, but sir, there are several very good and experienced ringers who would be unable to do justice to the office, which Mr. George is able to do. In the Cumberlands, the late Master had been thrice elected, which I presume means that this society has very few men able to fill such an office.

My idea is this: as this office is a complimentary one, members of any society should look round at these election times, and see who is the next best and worthy person to receive and fill this honourable appointment.

ST. JAMES OF CUMBERLAND.

OBITUARY.—We have to record the death of an old and highly esteemed brother-ringer, William Farrants, late of Bury St. Edmunds, who departed this life after a long and painful affliction, September 13th, 1883. The deceased was an old Cumberland, having been elected a member of that Society in April, 1858, and was greatly respected by his fellow workmen, and all who knew him, as well as his brother-ringers. His mortal remains was borne to his last resting-place by four of the local company: Messrs. Osborne, Moore, Adams and Buckle, and followed by Messrs. Wilding, Milton, and others. In the evening the members met at the Norman tower, and a wish was expressed to attempt a muffled peal of Grandsire Triples, but as some of the bells go very badly, the idea had to be abandoned; after a few short touches, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples was attempted by the following: A. Osborne (conductor), 1; A. Alderton, 2; R. Wilding, 3; G. Debenham, 4; J. Adams, 5; S. Peck, 6; R. Moon, 7; E. Buckle, tenor; but after ringing two parts out three, the conductor, seeing two bells shift, called them home. This, adds our correspondent, is an appropriate custom of expressing one's sorrow and regret for our departed friend, whose counsel and advice upon all difficult matters will be greatly missed, and his loss not easily replaced.

A RINGING HOLIDAY.—"SEVENTEEN DAYS AND A BIT."

By F. E. DAWE.

(Continued from page 281.)

Our stay at Sheffield is generally the most lengthy visit of the whole lot, and therefore takes a long time to describe. On Monday, the twenty-third of July, the morning was occupied in visiting Mr. C. H. Hattersley's business premises, "Snider Works," which are alone worth a ringer's travel to Sheffield, and a place, by the way, we are very fond of frequently visiting—not of course, for the hospitality of the above-named gentleman, but for the very great value of his company, and eager willingness to enlighten us in any way, which is beneficial in the extreme whilst trying to fathom the deep mysteries of change-ringing; after which we both took a walk to Rammoor, which is situated in the prettiest suburb of the town.

The church of St. John the Evangelist stands on the side of a hill studded with houses and trees. The tower is very beautiful to look at, but unfortunately rather delicate, consequently not much ringing is done. The bells are a nice light ring of eight, as we have enjoyed ringing Grandsire Triples on them on a former occasion. Leaving this, and crossing the hayfields to Eccleshall, and thence to Bannercross, the name of which, a short time ago was well known in the newspapers, all of interest here was pointed out, after which we returned with our host, and after tea, ascended the tower at St. Marie's Roman Catholic Church, Norfolk Row, by means of a dark, narrow, turret staircase, the steps of which are rather awkward to mount, the risers and treads being the highest and broadest we have ever had to ascend, being only four or five steps to the circle. A short time ago, I forget the date, but it was in the apple-tree season, an amusing occurrence took place here. A gentleman, who was a non-ringer, got accidentally locked in this staircase during a peal of Treble Bob, and kept a prisoner for 3 hours and 22 minutes, the two doors top and bottom were securely locked and bolted, so he has never attempted to see the ringers at their labours again, as he failed in his object that time. The ringing-room is a pleasant apartment, 15 feet square, lighted by a large stained glass window, and on the wall hangs one very elaborate peal-board; the odour in the chamber caused by the burning of incense in the church is intense and sometimes overpowering, but it is soon forgotten when you hear the bells, which are one of the finest rings of eight I have ever heard, the tenor weighs 25 cwt. in D, the inscription on them are rendered in Latin, which describes that each one is dedicated to a different Saint. Everything being in readiness, a start for a peal of Stedman Triples was made, which was brought to a successful issue in 3 hours and eight minutes, being one of the finest possible to be rung, and ably conducted by Mr. C. H. Hattersley in his usual easy style. On adjourning to the "Queen," a lively evening was spent, and being a case of "Bellringers next," some excellent performances on the handbells showed that the Sheffielders could divide their memory when occasion required. The next day the company met at All Saints, where on ascending some very steep ladders, a false step on which would terminate in something extremely awkward, the ringing-room is reached; here everything is tidy, being kept in good order by Mr. Joseph Rowley; but a clock occupies the very centre of the chamber, with iron rods and machinery projecting into each wall about five or six feet high from a case in the middle, which is the dial apparatus, about the height where it ought not to be, and occasionally makes a great noise that resembles knife grinding and timber sawing simultaneously. The company met for Treble Bob, but unfortunately two short, through illness; however, we started and successfully brought round Holt's ten-part peal of Grandsire Triples, in 2 hours and 52 minutes, but after ringing such a beautiful peal the night before on such superior bells, and now finding ourselves in a noisy belfry, the ringing did not sound quite so good, though all the listeners outside gave it an excellent name; the tenor weighs about 15 cwt. in F. On the following morning, Wednesday, a visit to

ROTHERHAM,

about which we heard a curious toast, occupied a greater portion of the day. St. Ann's Church stands on an eminence, and is a most beautiful pinnacled structure, resembling a small cathedral; we did not ascend the tower, having occasionally rung here, but it is approached by means of a miserable sort of tunnel entrance, followed by a square shaft, with some perpendicular iron steps that resemble a manhole to go underground, at the top of which some very bad steps are commenced, which eventually bring the visitor to the ringing-room, which is large, clean, and comfortable, and lighted by three square windows touching the ground. Every bell goes well except the drum, and this is nearly unringable, it weighs 32 cwt. in D. They are a famous maiden ring of ten, grand and melodious, and being in a good position, and always struck well, are all that can be desired. After dining with one of the leading Rotherham ringers, Mr. George Flint, we returned to Sheffield, and passing what we had previously visited, the Cyclops and Atlas Iron and Bessemer steel works, (Sir John Brown, and Messrs. Cammell and Co.) which are a source of wonder

and admiration to visitors fortunate enough to gain admission, we at last gained the usual rendezvous, where a farewell meeting was held in true good hearted Sheffield style (based of course on scientific principles).

The next morning found us leaving Sheffield, (which we are always very sorry to do) and the next contemplated visit was to Leeds, where everything for a peal of Treble Twelve in had been arranged, but this unfortunately fell through, a day or two before, the reason of which did not transpire—nor indeed have I, or anyone else concerned in it, yet heard exactly why St. Peter's ring of twelve were not going on Wednesday, 25th July. The notice of disappointment was so short that it left no time to supply its absence with anything else in lieu of the peal, or supplement it in any way. However, in a hurry, an additional excursion to York was the next thing planned, which also fell through on recollection of having attempted a peal of Grandsire Cinqs there last summer, and well knowing that nothing had yet been done by way of a "deadening floor," for the row on that occasion was so great, that the voice of one of the ringers, who possessed a high piercing tenor, when trying to correct a trip, sounded very peculiar in the ears of his next door neighbour. It is quite a masterpiece to be able to call "bobs" loud enough to be heard, and to attempt to conduct is out of the question; the bells however go well (at least they did then) considering the tenor weighs 54 cwt. They are hung just above the stone-vaulted roof or ceiling, interlaced with rivetted girders and rolled iron joists in the ringing-room, which is a spacious apartment, well lighted, with four very large ornamental windows, one of which looks into the Minster; the entire chamber is very lofty, with iron sally guides about half way up, and the roof, floor, and all, appears to consist of little else but stone. The several letters concerning this awful annoyance that have appeared in this paper time after time, have failed as yet to set matters right, an intense noise is one of the greatest drawbacks possible for ringers to contend against, especially when at such a magnitude as this. As the time was getting short, and previous appointments had to be attended to, we could not even spare the time to visit our friends Messrs. Breed, Howard, and others; therefore nothing more was done until we arrived at

LOUGHBOROUGH,

and on proceeding to Messrs. Taylor's Foundry, found a party about to start to the dedication of a new church, which included a six-bell opening, at which we were at once invited to attend; accordingly after riding about eight miles in waggons, and passing some churches of interest on the way, the party arrived at the quiet and sequestered little church of St. James, The Oaks, Sherwood Forest, which is beautifully situated on an eminence. After inspecting the entire edifice, with its organ, tower, and bells, the dedication service followed, at which we assisted in ringing the first 720 of Bob Minor in 28 mins., after which rounds and fire, and Grandsire Doubles were performed; they are a nice ring of six, tenor about 10 cwt. in Ab. After listening to them outside from all points of the compass, and ringing some courses on the handbells under the trees, a move was at last made, and we returned to Loughborough, where in the evening a band of the Midland Counties' Association was made up, and an attempt for a peal of Grandsire Triples made on the eight at All Saints, but after some very fair striking, it was unfortunately lost after ringing nearly 4500 changes in 2 hrs. and 46 mins. J. Wibberley, 1; H. C. Woodward, 2; J. Hardy, 3; J. W. Taylor, jun., Esq., 4; S. Smith, 5; F. E. Dawe (conductor), 6; J. Howe, 7; E. Wightman, 8. Tenor 24 cwt. in D. The bells sound mellow and distinct in the ringing-room, and the go of them, the circle of ropes, ventilation, and other necessities and accommodation are all that can be required. The next morning after walking round the town, and witnessing the casting of eight bells, ourselves with Mr. Taylor, jun. and two employees from the Foundry, drove over to a village called Wymeswold, which is about six miles distant, where we repaired to the tower of St. Mary's church, and with the assistance of Mr. Marshall Brown and another ringer, rang several touches of Bob Minor. The ringing-chamber is rather small, dark, and close, the bells however can be heard to advantage. Tenor 14 cwt. in F#. It is interesting to note that the Vicar's son here can ring fairly well, and being only about nine years old, is likely (if properly instructed) to very soon know all, or at least something, about it. After returning in the evening to Loughborough we again started off and later on found ourselves in

BIRMINGHAM,

the metropolis of the Midlands; here things and places seem much the same as they have on former visits. One of the first things was to go direct to the house of Mr. Henry Johnson, sen., who I am pleased to say looks, in my opinion, better than ever, which is indeed a wonder, considering he is in his 75th year, strong, and still well able to ring in a pleasing and accurate manner, and every indication of still being able to do so, for an indefinite period; here an hour or two passed in a very beneficial and pleasant manner, and final arrangements made as to what should be done on the morrow.

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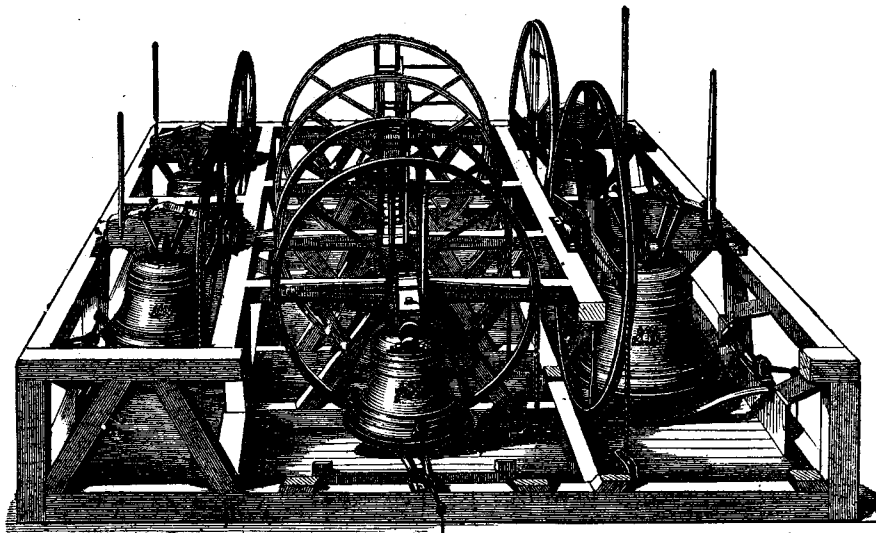
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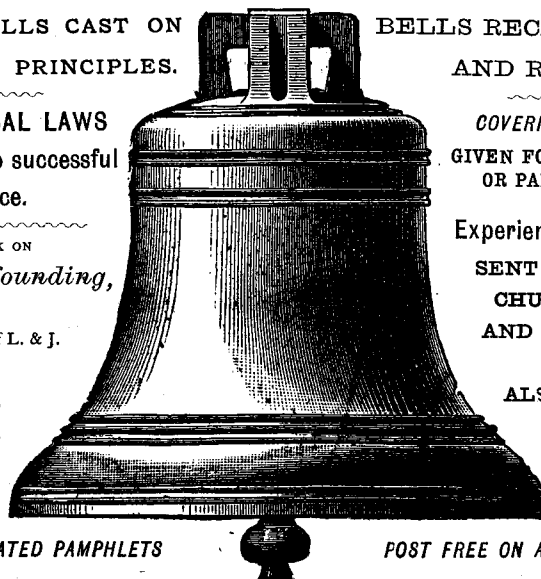
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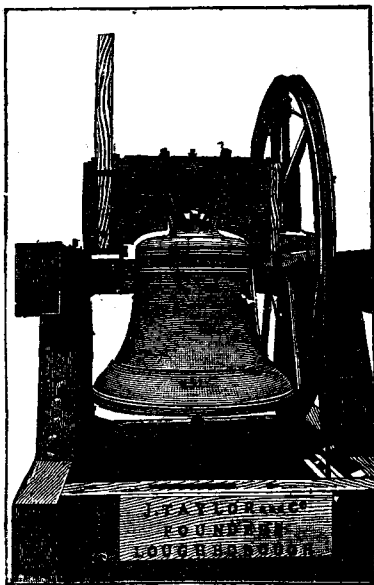
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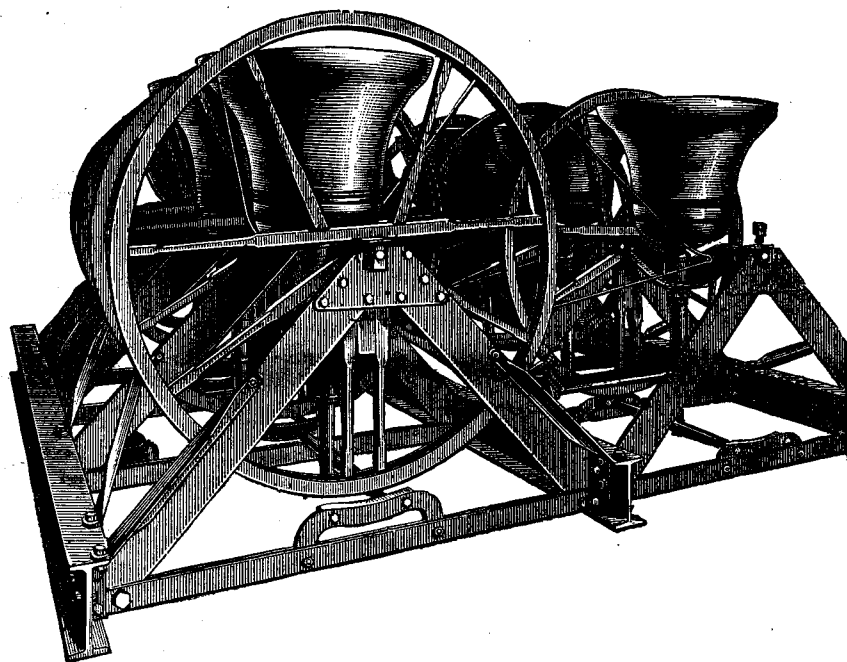
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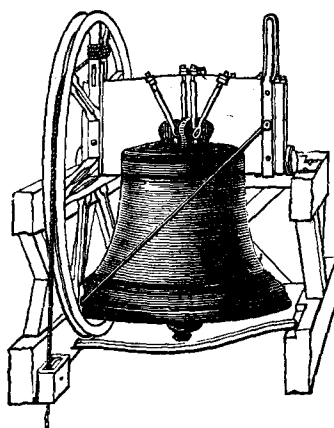
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GRANDSIRE TRIPLES.

By JASPER W. SNOWDON.

In *Clavis Campanalogia*, 1788, Holt's now well-known peals of Grandsire Triples are for the first time published in such a work, and for the benefit of those unacquainted with this book, which ran through a second edition, at least, without correction of many of the errors contained therein, the flowery remarks with which these peals are prefaced under the heading "the whole peal of Grandsire Triples" are quoted below:—

"Ever since Grandsire Triples hath been discovered or practised, 5040 changes manifestly appeared to view; but to reach the lofty summit of this great climax was a difficulty that many had encountered, though none succeeded, and those great names, viz. Hardham, Condell, Anable, &c., who are now recorded on the ancient rolls of fame, had each exhausted all their skill and patience in this grand pursuit to no other purpose than that of being convinced, that either the task itself was an utter impossibility, or (otherwise) that all their united efforts were unequal to it; and it is possible, that had it not been for the author (of whom we are now about to speak) that this valuable piece of treasure would at this day be fast locked up in the barren womb of sterile obscurity! Not but they had a peal, to be sure, which they rung; but what credit or satisfaction can arise from repeatedly practising a false peal, when so many true ones present themselves in other methods? However, thus it was until a poor unlettered youth appeared. No sooner did he approach this great pile, but, as if by magic power, he varied it into whatever form he pleased, and made it at once subservient to his will. After paying this small, though just tribute to the memory of this ingenious composer, the exercise in general can scarcely be at a loss with respect to his name, nor once doubt but that we mean Mr. John Holt, whose extraordinary abilities, aided by his surprising natural gifts, which were such as must for ever excite the astonishment and admiration of the professors in this art, whether novices or adepts."

After this, Holt's famous one-part peal is given, of which the writer says:—

"We have placed this first, nor need we hesitate to affirm that it stands foremost in point of merit of all Mr. Holt's compositions, the dividing it into parts or courses for the purpose of retaining it in memory for calling, is a matter that has totally baffled all the skill and penetration of the present age, and the author himself (we are told) could not retain it so sufficiently as to call it without book; and though he composed several peals of Grandsire Triples, yet we have great reason to believe this was his first, because it was the first that was rung and performed at St. Margaret's, Westminster, on Sunday, July 17th, 1751. After which (as we suppose) he produced that in 504's and 840's, &c., and to which we proceed."

After this, Holt's ten-part peal, with variations on it, and his six-part peal are given. These peals are succeeded by one on which the following remarks are made.

"The last peal of Grandsire Triples is on a principle very different from either of the preceding; it contains 190 bobs and 50 singles—the method is thus: The sixth (which is the observation bell) comes home every 42 changes or three leads, the seventh comes home with her every 210, and the fifth, sixth, and seventh together every 840."

The composition of this peal will be found amongst the peals I have lately given at page 248. Although Holt is especially named as the composer of the other peals no one is mentioned as the composer of this one. The remarks on Holt's peals are however so much interspersed with this peal that it is now and then, in these days, rung, and the composition attributed to Holt. The omission of Holt's name in connection with this peal is, in my opinion, intentional, and from the remarks that Shipway makes on this peal, which will presently be quoted, it will be seen that Holt was not known to him as the author.

Shipway, who was the next writer on ringing, in his *Art of Ringing*, published in 1816, gives the following information concerning the first peal of Grandsire Triples.

"From the earliest periods of this entertaining art, in all parts of the kingdom, the peal of Grandsire Triples appears to have engaged considerable attention, and to have been anxiously sought, though without success, by many eminent practitioners; who were at last inclined to consider as fruitless any attempt which had for its object the attainment of 5040 true changes. The honour of this valuable production, it seems, is claimed both by Norwich and London. The state of the controversy is as follows:—

On the part of Norwich it is said that the 5040 was the study of the most ingenious men of the age, and that all was error until John Garthorn, of that city, after considerable perseverance, discovered what had been so long hidden from the eyes of all the ringers in England. It was also stated that the peal was rung at St. Peter's Mancroft, Norwich, on the 26th of August, 1718."

On the part of London, it is asserted in the *Clavis*, "that had it not been for Mr. John Holt, this valuable treasure had probably been at this moment fast locked up in the barren womb of sterile obscurity," and that the peal was first rung by the Union Scholars, London, at St. Margaret's, Westminster, on the 7th of July, 1751.

Without pretending to decide, I shall briefly remark that if the peal had been rung in Norwich in 1718, it appears unaccountably strange that information on so important a discovery had not reached London in 1751, and that the composition of the same peal should then have been considered original, and generally attributed to Mr. Holt. It is also further remarkable that of the three peals, viz. Bob Triples in 1715, Grandsire Triples in 1718, and Stedman Triples in 1731, said to have been rung at St. Peter's, Mancroft, not one can be found to ascertain the truth, whereas Mr. Holt's peals are universally rung, and indisputably correct.

The quotation that Shipway makes in his remarks on the Norwich peal is from a tablet, still in existence, in the tower of St. Peter's, Mancroft, Norwich, of which the following is a copy:—

On the 26th of August, 1718, was rung that Harmonious Peal called Grandsire Triples, which have been ye study of ye most ingenious men of this Age who delight in ye art of Variations, but all their Projections have proved errors until it was undertook by JOHN GARTHORN, who, with long Study and Practice, have perfectly

discovered those Intricate methods which were hidden from the eyes of all the ringers in England: the extent of this peal being 5040 changes, have oftentimes been Rung with changes alike, but the first time that ever it was Rung true, was in three hours and a half, without any changes alike or a bell out of Course, by these men whose names are underwritten against their Bells as they Rung:—

JAMES BROOKE Treble.	HENRY HOWARD 5th.
JOHN BRIGGS 2nd.	WM. CALLOW 6th.
WILLIAM PALMER 3rd.	THO. MELCHIOR 7th.
ROBERT CRANE 4th.	THO. BARRETT Tenor.

From Shipway's remarks it will be seen that he did not know anything further than what could be gathered from the pages of the *Clavis*, and indeed he only condemns the Norwich peal by default, on account of no record of the composition having been preserved. As he remarks, it would have been strange if the Norwich peal had not been known in London before 1751; I think however, that it can be shewn that not only was the Norwich peal known, but that it had been rung in London many years before that time. Shipway then gives and reviews the peals of Holt previously alluded to, after which follows the peal from the *Clavis*. This peal he states to be "by an unknown author." From this it is evident that the peal was not one of Mr. Holt's, or it would have been classed with his other discoveries, as they all seem to have been well-known. It is also improbable that it was the production of a Londoner, or his name would have been known to Shipway. It would also for that reason appear to have been composed some time before Shipway's connection with change-ringing, or surely he would have known who was its author, especially had it been composed in London, because there were many old ringers alive when Shipway wrote, who could have thrown some light on the subject. Of its origin, had it been of any recent date, these men would also have heard, had it been claimed as the production of any of the metropolitan section. It is very strange that Shipway, who, from the different notes on first performances, &c., to be found in his book, always seems to have been well posted in all such matters, should have dismissed this peal without any remark or conjecture as to the date of its origin, or the name of its composer, as it is composed upon a plan which I shall hereafter shew to be as old as the Norwich peal.

Following the peal by the unknown author, Shipway gives the peal by E. Taylor, also to be found at page 243, on which, in reference to the one by the unknown author, he remarks:—

"The following, by Mr. E. Taylor, is the same peal rendered still less difficult, as the eight singles in each part are more regularly divided, having one each time 6-7 come home except at the half-way and at the end, where, instead of the two extra singles, there are two omitted, reducing them to forty-six."

If we now review the evidence afforded by these various extracts, it appears that a half-peal, which was false when repeated, is the only composition that was known to, or at least accepted by the writers as having existed previously to the appearance of Holt's peals. It was not therefore without good grounds for their assertions, that the Exercise at the time of my first enquiries on that subject, condemned all the peals rung before the performance of Holt's one part peal in 1751, as false in their composition.

(To be continued.)

RESTORATION OF A TABLET AT ST. GILES'S-IN-THE-FIELDS.

On Saturday, September 22nd, a company of the Ancient Society of College Youths met at this church to reopen a tablet which has recently been restored; the tablet in question being of a very elaborate nature, with a bold carved frame, was taken down when the ringing-chamber was cleaned some two years ago, and appeared to be little cared for, but a band going there for a peal some time back, were curious as to what such a fine tablet contained, as none of the record could be seen. After several attempts, the date was at length reached, and referring to the peal-book of the company, it was found to contain a peal of Grandsire Triples, and the more remarkable by its being the first time Holt's One-Part peal was rung and called by one of the band. The matter was therefore laid before the Society, which gave its hearty approval to restore and rescue from oblivion such an important and worthy performance. The restoration was at once proceeded with, and it has now been placed in its home of former years. A meeting was therefore convened for the purpose of ringing, when touches of Grandsire and Stedman Triples and Treble Bob was rung, and an inspection of the tablet gave general satisfaction. Appended is a copy of the wording of this interesting record:—

"Sunday, October 2nd, 1791, the Society of College Youths did ring in this steeple, the whole of the 5040 Grandsire Triples, as composed by Jno. Holt, in one continued course with Two Doubles in the four last leads. Called by Jas. Bartlett, being the only man that ever rung and called this very difficult composition. Charles Barber, treble; William Paris, second; William Kirke, third; William Brown, fourth; Charles Jones, fifth; Jonathan Langley, sixth; James Bartlett, seventh; Chaister Stratford, tenor. Mr. Goldwin, Mr. Burrows, Churchwardens.

Mr. H. W. Haley's friends and correspondents will please note that he has removed from 283, Globe Road, Bethnal Green, to 52, Atlas Road, Globe Road, Mile End, London.

WORCESTERSHIRE (AND ADJOINING DISTRICT) ASSOCIATION.

A Committee Meeting of this Association was held in St. Thomas's Schoolroom, Stourbridge, on Saturday, September 22nd. The Vicar of St. Thomas's (the Rev. H. Sherrard, M.A.) occupied the chair, supported by the Master (Mr. J. Perks, of Malvern), Messrs. J. Smith (Netherton), F. Owen (Worcester), Secretary, and Mr. W. Duffill, Treasurer (Bromsgrove). There were a good number of members present from the various societies in the Association, viz.: Worcester, Malvern, Bromsgrove, Dudley, Netherton, Belbroughton, Wollaston, Brierley Hill, Kidderminster, Stourbridge, etc. The chairman, who became an hon. member of the Association, expressed his pleasure at being present to preside over so important a meeting. He trusted that the good feeling which seemed to exist amongst the members of the Association would go on, with more zeal in promoting the objects of the Association, and he would have ringers remember that whenever they entered the belfry that it was a part of God's House, and when there on Sundays to appear decently, and after calling others to church not to walk away themselves, but to go inside the church to Divine Service.

The business of the meeting being gone into, Mr. J. Perks (Master) was appointed delegate to attend the Ringers' Conference to be held on the 4th proximo at Reading, and the Secretary, Mr. J. Smith, instructed to give the required information to the Rev. W. Wigram, Hertford, concerning the Association, and have the same entered in the "Year-Book of the Church." At the conclusion of the miscellaneous business, Mr. F. Owen (Worcester), Secretary for the western division, proposed a vote of thanks to the Vicar for presiding, and for the use of the schoolroom. Before the rev. chairman responded, several of the members spoke of the condition of the bells of St. Thomas's, Stourbridge, which they all said were not fit for peal ringing, and after a few suggestions from various delegates in reference to rehanging etc., the vicar suitably responded. From the remarks he made there is every reason to believe that ere long the Association will have great cause to be proud of this their first visit to Stourbridge, by finding the beautiful peal of eight bells in good ringing condition and so enliven the inhabitants of the town and neighbourhood. Owing to some of the delegates leaving early, only a short touch of Grandsire Triples and a 720 of Minor on the back six bells were gone through. The members parted highly pleased with their evening's enjoyment.

HANDBELL RINGING CONTEST AT BELLE VUE, MANCHESTER.

The twenty-ninth annual tune-ringing contest in connection with Belle Vue Gardens took place on Monday last at that popular pleasure resort. The day was miserably wet, and affected somewhat the attendance, but, notwithstanding the rain, there was a large assembly, the spacious ball-room—the scene of the contest—being crowded throughout the afternoon. Five prizes were offered, and in addition a gold medal was awarded to the winner of the first prize. The tunes selected to be played were "Boccaccio's Grand March" and a portion of "La Traviata," the entrance fee being 10s. Nineteen bands competed out of 27 entries, all of whom had ballotted for place. The judges chosen were Dr. Haydn Keeton, organist of Peterborough Cathedral, and Dr. Wm. Spark, organist of Leeds Cathedral, who at about half-past seven o'clock, after hearing the whole of the competitors, awarded the first prize of £15 to the Dewsbury band, under the conductorship of Mr. Wm. Lee. The second prize, £10, was given to the Hyde (St. Thomas's) contingent, with Mr. Thos. Ashworth acting as leader, while the third prize, £8, was won by the Elland (Yorkshire) band, with Mr. J. C. Pennington conducting. The fourth and fifth were won respectively by the St. Edward's, Cheddleton, Leek, Staffordshire, and Dalton Victoria. The general report of the judges stated that all the bands had played excellently. The want of bass tone greatly militated against the good and improved effect that might be obtained in the important point of tone. They also added that many arrangements of the inner parts, the falling in of the harmonies, were defective, and might be much improved in future contests.

The second and fourth prize winners (both young bands) rang from copies specially arranged for them by Mr. Wm. Gordon, of Stockport, whose advertisement appears on our first page. The fourth prize deserves more than usual notice, as it was taken by eight ringers with forty-nine bells only, viz. G 25 to G 0 4.

The Godalming Church bells were re-opened on Friday evening last, by the Godalming Ringers, who rang a touch of Grandsire Triples in 51 mins. The bells have been rehung and tuned by Messrs. Warner and Sons, London. There are eight bells, tenor 25½ cwt.

The peal of Grandsire Triples reported in our last number, rung at St. George's, Camberwell, was performed on Thursday evening, September 13th.

THE "HOLT" SOCIETY, ASTON-JUXTA-BIRMINGHAM.

THIS society wish to inform their numerous ringing friends that the new belfry ringing chamber is at last completed, and may be said to be a superior and more compact ringing-room than the old one, which became very dilapidated during the last stage of its existence. The three large Gothic tracery windows that lighted the old ringing-floor have been restored, and are now used for lighting the new principal entrance to the church, and is undoubtedly a grand improvement to the interior of the church, as it now exposes a fine moulded Gothic archway, springing from the entire width of the tower, which was hitherto hidden from view with boarding, and which separated the ringing-floor from the organ gallery; this is all now taken away, and consequently, the ringing-room is raised about twenty feet, which is a new double floor, the underside being panelled diagonally, and carved buttresses are fixed on the large moulded pitch pine framing, the windows being glazed with stained figure glass and tinted cathedral glass. It is pleasing to hear that the ringing-room has, through the exertions of the ringers, been very nicely finished; the first consideration was the sound-floor, that being considered the most important item. This consists of boarding with iron tongues, suspended from the bell frame with wrought iron straps, and wooden frames, about eight or ten feet from the bell frame, saw-dust being strewn on top about six inches thick, which answers very well, each bell being distinctly heard, especially the proud trebles, who even when amongst the large bells, let the ringers know what position they are in, although not too noisy. The belfry, eighteen feet square, is lighted with three small Gothic windows, which used to serve the clock chamber, and as they are about fifteen feet above the floor, a nice subdued light is obtained, quite equal to the occasion, and is also fitted with three gas jets suspended in the centre. The walls have been matchboarded six and a half feet high, and fitted with seats around, with a large and useful cupboard. After getting the place thus far complete, the next consideration was the painting, staining, and varnishing, and as the ringers could get nothing decided about this matter, they resolved to take it in hand, and having a practical man in the company, it was put into his hands, and the finishing touch has been done admirably.

During the alterations and extension of the chancel end, all practical ringing was put a stop to for upwards of twelve months, which has been a great drawback to this newly-formed young company.

The chancel end of the church was opened by the Bishop of Worcester on September 8th, and in the evening a peal was attempted, but unfortunately came to grief after ringing three hours; however a second start was made on Saturday last, the 22nd inst. and this time the peal was performed in a very creditable manner, it being one of Mr. Henry Johnson's musical compositions. A word of praise is due to the tenor-man (who is in his nineteenth year) for the manner in which he stuck to his work, and more so on account of not having rung many courses of Caters before.

This is the first peal in the new belfry and the second performance of the company; the last peal in the old belfry was on the occasion of the Rev. F. E. Robinson's (Drayton, Berkshire) visit to Birmingham on June 6th, 1882, when the rev. gentleman succeeded in conducting a peal of 5079 of Stedman Caters.

The bells may be said to be in fair going order, and as there is a strong promising young company now connected with the church (which has for many years been without ringers of its own), and as the Aston bells are the favourite resort of the St. Martin's Youths, we doubt not that ere long, we shall have some very good performances to record.

STOKE-UPON-TRENT ARCHIDIACONAL ASSOCIATION.

UTTOXETER.—The third and last meeting of the year in this tower was held on Saturday last, and was attended by the two Secretaries, the ringers from Ellastone and Leek, and the local company. It is much to be regretted that greater enthusiasm does not exist among the ringers of this district. They have a great deal to learn, and are missing their opportunities.

There is not a finer peal of eight in the Archdeaconry than this at Uttoxeter, and it is in good working order. Some day we hope to hear a peal of Treble Bob Major rung at a well attended Association Meeting! The ringing-chamber is the largest we have seen.

Cheadle is the fixture for next Saturday.

THE BRADFORD AMALGAMATED SOCIETY.

A Committee Meeting was held on Tuesday evening, at which R. Tuke, Esq., was unanimously elected to represent the Society at the Reading Conference. The month's practices have been arranged as follows: Tuesday, October 2nd., St. Peter's; 9th, St. James's; 16th, St. John's; 23rd, St. James's; 30th, St. Peter's, at 7.30. All communications for the Society should be addressed, B. T. Copley, 3, St. Jude's Square, Manningham, Bradford.

TWELVE-BELL STEEPLES OF LONDON.

We shall now pass on to St. Giles, Cripplegate. Here we have a peal of twelve, tenor 36 cwt. in Db. There is also a clock and a set of musical chimes (said to have been made by a working mechanic). With regard to the bells, the first three were cast by John Briant, of Hertford in 1792; T. Willats and T. Smith, churchwardens; the next eight were cast by Pack and Chapman, of Whitechapel, in 1772, and the tenor by Robert Patrick, of London, in 1787. Of these the sixth is inscribed: "Ye people all who hear me ring, be faithful to your God and King." The seventh: "Whilst thus we join in cheerful sound, may love and loyalty abound;" the eighth: "Peace and good neighbourhood;" the ninth: "To honour both of God and King, our voices shall in consort ring;" the tenth: "In wedlock's bands all ye who join, with hands your hearts unite; so shall our tuneless tongues combine, to laud the nuptial rite;" the eleventh: "Ye ringers all that prize your health and happiness, be sober, merry, wise, and you'll the same possess;" and the tenor bears the following names: "William Godfrey Brown and Richard Gouge, Churchwardens, Sir James Esdaile, Knt., Alderman. John Banner, Deputy. Robert French, William Staines and Robert Clark, Common Councillmen. John Warner, contractor. Robert Patrick, founder, 1787. There are records in the belfry of the following performances:—

November 23rd, 1732, by City Scholars, 6012 Caters; May 22nd, 1777, by London Youths, 5200 Oxford Treble Bob Royal, in 4 hrs. 7 mins. December 10th, 1844, by Cumberland Youths, 5016 Stedman Cinques in 3 hrs. 43 mins.; April 27th, 1847, by Cumberland Youths, 5136 Kent Treble Bob Maximus in 3 hrs. 53 mins. February 15th, 1848, by the same, 5376 in the same method, in 4 hrs. 14 mins.; December 3rd, 1850, by the Cumberland Youths, 5280 Stedman Cinques in 3 hrs. 52 mins.; January 6th, 1851, by the College Youths, 7534 Stedman Cinques in 5 hrs. 24 mins.; February 7th 1853, by the same, 5088 Kent Treble Bob Maximus in 3 hrs. 49 mins. J. R. JERRAM.

(To be continued.)

STOKE RIVERS, DEVON.

On Thursday week, services were held in the parish church of Stoke Rivers, near Barnstaple, in commemoration of the restoration of the tower of the church and the rehanging of the bells. The Rector of the parish, the Rev. H. Alexander, who is anxious to completely restore the sacred edifice, very wisely goes so far only as funds at his command will permit. With contributions from the landowners and parishioners, and the proceeds of a bazaar, the costs of rehanging the whole of the five bells, and substantially restoring the formerly dilapidated tower, has been defrayed. Mr. H. Stokes, of Woodbury, has done the work of rehanging in a workmanlike manner, and great satisfaction has been expressed at the way Mr. Harding, of Kentisbury, has restored the tower. The west window and door of the tower were restored by Messrs. Bryant and Sons, of Barnstaple. The cost of the bell work was about £70, and that of the tower between £300 and £400. A special service was gone through, which had reference to the use of the Church bells, one prayer asking that those who with their outward ears would hear the sound of a bell might be aroused inwardly in their spirits. During the service the ringers rang a short touch, after which the hymn was sung which commences, "Now at length our bells are mounted." The sermon was preached by the Rev. A. E. Seymour, who took for his text the Psalm xxvi. 8—"Lord, I have loved the habitation of Thine house, and the place where Thine honour dwelleth." After service a luncheon was provided at the Rectory. In the afternoon the weather cleared off considerably, and a bazaar was held in the schoolroom. The evening service was better attended, the sermon on that occasion being preached by Dr. Geikie, of St. Mary Magdalen, Barnstaple.

The bellhanger, Mr. Stokes, informs us of the following work he has in hand:—the rehanging of a peal of five, (just completed) in new oak frame, etc., at Roseash, North Devon, but they are not opened yet; and now in hand the rehanging of a peal of six at Pilton, near Shepton Mallett, Somerset, tenor 1 ton, in new oak frame; a peal of six at Atherington, North Devon; a peal of three, the frame to be made for five, at Markleigh, near Southmolton, North Devon.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

A QUARTERLY MEETING of the above Association will be held at Nottingham, on Saturday, October 6th; visitors on arrival are requested to proceed to St. Peter's school-room, Broad Marsh (on the way from the station), where the Local Committee will be in attendance to assist in forming bands to proceed to the various towers. Committee Meeting in All Saints' school room, at 4 o'clock. Tea and subsequent business meeting in the Arboretum Refreshment Rooms, at 5 o'clock. The following towers will be open: St. Peter's, eight bells; All Saints', eight bells; Beeston, eight bells; Lenton, six bells.

JOSEPH GRIFFIN, Hon. Sec.

THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, September 22nd, a Quarterly Meeting of this Association was held at Toddington, having been postponed from the 15th, in consequence of the death of Major Toseland, there. About thirty ringers attended, and after an inspection of the tower and the bells in the morning, a company proceeded to execute some touches of Grandsire Triples upon these "well-tuned cymbals." Unfortunately the tenor is loose in its bearings, and the "go" of the bells being bad, requiring much muscular power, the striking was consequently somewhat defective. Some Minor was performed upon the front six. The Rector of Toddington, the Rev. C. E. Haslam, an Hon. Member of the Association, accompanied the ringers during the day, and at five o'clock invited them to the Rectory, where they partook of some substantial refreshments. At the close the rev. gentleman addressed a few words to the company present, expressing his favourable impression of the good work produced by this and such-like kindred societies, and hoped to have the bells in better order when next the Association visited the place. Mr. C. Herbert, Hon. Sec., on behalf of the company returned thanks to the Rector and his good lady for the kindly reception accorded to them. It was then decided that the next Quarterly Meeting would be held at Luton. Then followed some change-ringing on the lawn upon handbells, touches of Grandsire Triples and Oxford Treble Bob Major, by members of the Association, the Toddington ringers (who have not yet started for change-ringing) striking some popular tunes with excellent precision. Men who can use handbells like the Toddington local company, with a little instruction and application, could soon become change-ringers. We are pleased to note that attention has been recently given to the ringing-chamber here and that it is contemplation to place the bells in a ringable condition. The thanks of the Association are especially due to W. W. C. Baker, Esq., of Eversholt Rectory, for his assiduous services in connection with and preparatory to the ringing. He observed among other things that the ropes are of local manufacture, the sallies averaging 5 ft. 2½ inches in length, that of the 3rd bell being 5 ft. 9 inches. One very pleasing feature of the day's proceedings was the pleasant and agreeable manner with which the Toddington ringers accepted the presence of the strangers in their belfry. At 7 p.m. the bells were ceased in peal, and so ended one of the happiest gatherings of the members of the Bedfordshire Association. "*Floreat et in Aeternam Scientia Campanologia.*"

SITTINGBOURNE.

THE Harvest Thanksgiving and Church Dedication Festival was held on Sunday last; the weather was brilliant but not hot; the old church appearing to great advantage, with the sunshine through its large windows on beautiful flowers, hops, and fruit.

The St. Michael's company, for Morning Prayer and sermon, rang three 720's of Doubles, and Grandsire—calling varied, continuously; and also, as usual for evening service, the same practically. It was intended to ring a 720 of Minor afterwards, but one member was required elsewhere, consequently only some long courses were scored. The ringers stood thus for morning and evening service: Francis Grayling, 1; F. C. Mattison, 2; J. Cooper, 3; E. J. Bottle, 4; S. Snelling, 5; W. Saddleton, 6.

In the absence of the treble man, Saddleton rang the treble, and William Judd the tenor, in the Minor touches. These bells go heavily, as many visitors will testify; but are regularly rung about three times in the week, always for evening service on Sunday. The last two benches in the nave are reserved for the members; notwithstanding the somewhat hard work, the arrangement is found to answer very well, and might be copied elsewhere. A solid oak screen in the first arch of the tower, to exclude draught, has been executed by Mr. Tidy, of Sittingbourne, from designs by W. L. Grant, Esq., architect, of the same place. This was erect for the first time on this occasion; the upper panels are filled with the best plate glass. The style of the work is original, the motive of the design having a 14th century character.

THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

At a meeting of the Committee of the above, held at Streatham, on Monday evening, September 24th, it was determined to send a representative to attend the Ringers' Conference at Reading, on October 4th, and Mr. Edgar Bennett, of Croydon, was chosen and consented to act as the delegate of the Association.

ARTHUR B. CARPENTER, Hon. Sec.

MAIDEN NEWTON, DORCHESTER (Dorset).—On Friday, September 21st, eight members of the Cattistock Guild of Ringers, opened a new peal of six bells, at St. Mary's, hung by H. Bond and Son, Burford, Oxford. Several good touches were rung during the evening.

The Cheddleton branch of the Stoke-upon-Trent Association on Monday last made their first attempt at hand-bell prize-ringing. They entered the lists on that day at Belle Vue, Manchester, and succeeded in carrying off the 4th prize.

"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, E. W. 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.

B. T. C.—What do you think of the splice?

Bob.—Write to Mr. S. B. Goslin, Crescent Foundry, Cripplegate, London. See advertisement on last page but one.

Those of our friends who send us cuttings from newspapers, will oblige us by affixing to them the dates of publication of the papers they are taken from.

The Bell News & Ringers' Record.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 29, 1883.

WE have been led to deal with the subject of organisation—as applied to ringers—at a greater length than was at first intended. To those who care not for the due observance of order, who scoff at all attempts to promote unity, and who prefer the reign of confusion and chaos, our observations have no doubt been unwelcome. It is however, daily manifested that some such a scheme as that which we are advocating would effect a most salutary change in more ways than one. We are, to a certain extent, behind the scenes, and are thus frequently made acquainted with unpleasant occurrences in connection with companies who are suffering from a defective organisation, where, if a nearer approach to unity was acquired, the number of such disagreeable episodes would be considerably reduced. Let us, however, take up the thread of our subject.

Our concluding remarks last week pointed out the value of the work effected by our Diocesan and County Associations; and if we may make use of a figurative expression, these Associations commenced at volume 3; volumes 1 and 2—so to speak—we have already dealt with in the shape of belfry organisation and amalgamations; and the next requirement is a National Union which shall bind together the whole. Some might consider this a bold and impracticable idea. Let us, therefore, sketch out a plan, and see if it is not only feasible and practicable, but very desirable. Suppose we take the system of the largest orders of Friendly Societies as our ground-work. These Societies have their "Annual Moveable Committees," which meet (as their name denotes) annually, and consist of a certain number of representatives from each district, according to the number of members. At their meetings the year's work is

reviewed, and propositions and suggestions for the well-being of the societies are considered. By this means not only is the work of the progress of these societies assisted, and kept moving in a proper direction, but they are brought prominently before the public. What need, then, for a better example to construct from or imitate than that? Our Church Congress is every year assuming a more important position in the life of the Church; the subjects considered at the Congress are continually becoming more varied; then why should we not elect delegates from our County and Diocesan Associations to form this National Society, which shall meet every year when and where the Congress is held, so as to form a representative body, for the purpose of reviewing our position and work, and also by means of meetings and papers, before the Church's Parliament. We need not at this time enter into details, but content ourselves for the present with sketching out a plan. The next point is—how can that plan be worked out? In this, as in all projects, there must at the commencement be one moving spirit, some one to take the initiative. Suppose one of our County Associations communicates with the Committee of each of the others, asking their co-operation, and suggesting a time and place of meeting. At that meeting a constitution and code of rules could be adopted, and a copy placed in the hands of each Secretary for consideration at the next meeting of each County Association. This work done, the remainder would be easy. Of course, it could not be accomplished without expense; but that need not be heavy, and surely there is not a County Association that is so poor in men or funds to take its share in that respect. A small annual subscription from each would suffice to cover all expenses; and, looking at it from a financial point of view, it would prove a very profitable investment. We should then be able to shew to the Church and its authorities such an organisation as would cause them to take greater interest in our work, and as a natural consequence, our bells and belfries would begin to receive that care and attention from them which they have a right to demand, and which would in numberless ways render more pleasant the work of ringing, and give it such an impetus as would effectively dispel any fear of diminution in our ranks, or degeneration in the art itself. We reiterate the hope we previously expressed that ringers will take this matter seriously to heart, and so let us obtain for our work that position in the the Church which it has a right to hold, and which it will eventually hold if we but set about it in good earnest.

The Conference at Reading next Thursday is the first movement in what we hope to see, year by year, followed. It is gratifying to hear that several Associations are adopting part of the plan we have above attempted to sketch, viz.: that of appointing delegates. The Exercise will look forward with great interest to the result of this Conference.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

THE Annual gathering of the Members and Friends of the Association will take place at Norwich on Monday, October 8th. There will be Divine Service at St. Peter Mancroft church, at 12.45. Preacher, the Rev. F. E. Robinson, Vicar of Drayton, Berks, and Master of the Oxford Diocesan Guild of Ringers. Dinner will be served in St. Andrew's Hall at 1.30. The Mayor of Norwich in the Chair. After Dinner the usual Business Meeting will take place. St. Andrew's Hall will be Head Quarters for the day.

N. BOLINGBROKE, Sec. pro tem.

4, Bracondale Terrace, Norwich.

The Metropolis.**THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.
FULHAM, MIDDLESEX.**

On Wednesday, September 19, 1883, in Three Hours and Twenty Minutes,
AT ALL SAINTS' CHURCH,

**A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERS, 5025 CHANGES;
Tenor 21 cwt. in F.**

JAMES PETTIT Treble.	JOHN M. HAYES 6.
JOHN W. ROWBOTHAM .. 2.	REV. C. D. P. DAVIES .. 7.
FRANCIS E. DAWE 3.	GEORGE MASH 8.
CHALLIS F. WINNY 4.	EDWIN HORREX 9.
EDWIN GIBBS 5.	WALTER PRIME Tenor.

Composed by Mr. HENRY JOHNSON, of Birmingham, and conducted by the Rev. CHARLES D. P. DAVIES.

The conductor's first peal on ten bells.

**THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.
LAMBETH.**

On Monday, September 24, 1883, in Three Hours and Fifteen Minutes,
AT ST. MARY'S CHURCH,

**A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR,
5152 CHANGES. Tenor 20 cwt.**

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

Composed by H. W. HALEY, and conducted by J. M. HAYES.

†First peal with a bob bell. *First peal in the method.

The above peal, the first in the method on the bells, was rung to commemorate the Harvest Festival being held at the above church, from Sunday, September 23rd, to Wednesday, September 26th.

**THE SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.
CAMBERWELL.**

On Saturday, September 22, 1883, in Three Hours and Three Minutes,
AT ST. GEORGE'S CHURCH,

**A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES.
Tenor 14 cwt. in F.**

THOMAS TITCHENER .. Treble.	JAMES HANNINGTON .. 5.
WINGFIELD MEADOWS .. 2.	ARTHUR JACOB 6.
JOHN GOBBETT 3.	WILLIAM DORAN 7.
HARRY RANDALL 4.	GEORGE NEWSON Tenor.

Composed by J. BARKER of Liversedge, and conducted by GEORGE NEWSON.

This peal has the 6th twenty-two course-ends each way.

The Provinces.**THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—THE
ST. PETER MANCROFT SOCIETY.****Handbell Ringing.**

On Wednesday, September 25, 1883, in Two Hours and Thirty-five Minutes,
AT THE "WHITE HORSE," HAYMARKET,

**A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;
IN THE OXFORD VARIATION.**

G. SMITH 1-2.	W. SMITH 5-6.
J. FIDDAMENT 3-4.	*F. KNIGHTS 7-8.

Composed by Mr. H. HALEY, and conducted by F. KNIGHTS.

Referee: Mr. P. Sadler; Witness: Mr. G. Thurtall.

It was intended to give notice of starting for this peal, after one trial, but success at the first attempt upset this arrangement. An enjoyable evening was spent in some more handbell ringing, &c., when three courses of Stedman Caters were rung. J. Fiddament, 1-2; F. Knights, 3-4; W. Smith, 5-6; G. Smith, 7-8; P. Sadler, 9-10.

*Member of the Ancient Society of College Youths.

This is the first peal ever rung on handbells by the Norwich Diocesan Association.

ASTON - JUXTA-BIRMINGHAM. — THE "HOLT" SOCIETY.

On Saturday, September 22, 1883, in Three Hours and Sixteen Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF SS. PETER AND PAUL,

**A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS, 5093 CHANGES;
Tenor 25 cwt.**

H. BASTABLE* Treble.	*J. SAUNDERS 6.
A. JONES 2.	*J. BUFFERY 7.
T. J. HEMMING 3.	*T. REYNOLDS 8.
W. ANSELL 4.	C. STANBRIDGE 9.
W. KENT 5.	†G. FERRIS Tenor.

Composed by H. JOHNSON, sen., and conducted by J. BUFFERY.

This peal contains the 6th twenty-four courses behind the 9th, and twenty-four courses behind the 8th, and has never been previously performed.

†First peal. *Also members of the St. Martin's company.

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE.—THE ASHTON SOCIETY.

On Saturday, September 22, 1883, in Three Hours and Two Minutes,
AT ST. PETER'S CHURCH,

**A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;
IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 20 cwt. in E.**

JOHN HAYWOOD Treble.	GEORGE BRADDOCK 5.
JOSEPH MELLOR 2.	BENJAMIN BROADBENT .. 6.
SAMUEL WOOD 3.	JOHN THORP 7.
JAMES WOOD 4.	GEORGE LONGDEN Tenor.

Composed and conducted by JOHN THORP.

Date Touch.

SOUTHPORT (Lancashire).—On Monday, September 24th, seven of the local company, assisted by Mr. J. Hardcastle, of Bradford, Yorkshire, rang at Christ Church, a date touch of 1883 Grandsire Triples (composed by Mr. J. Carter, of Birmingham), in 1 hr. 8 mins. David E. Rimmer, 1; Thomas J. Fielding, 2; Charles F. Heywood (conductor), 3; Joseph Hardcastle, 4; James H. Heywood, 5; Henry Spencer, 6; Abel Fielding, 7; George R. Heywood, 8. Tenor 10 cwt. Mr. Hardcastle is a member of the Yorkshire Association, and the rest are members of the Lancashire Association.

Miscellaneous.**THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF ST. JAMES'S RINGERS,
BRISTOL.**

On Monday evening, September 24th, the members of this society accepted an invitation from the ringers of St. Andrew's, Clifton, and rang a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, 1260 changes. H. Scushler, 1; C. Waters, 2; C. Thomas, 3; J. Davies, 4; J. Brain, 5; R. Knill, 6; T. Salter (composer and conductor), 7; T. Colston, 8.

BRADFORD AMALGAMATED SOCIETY.

BRADFORD.—*Muffled Peal.*—On Monday, September 24th, the local company rang at St. James's, Bolton, several touches of Kent Treble Bob Minor (with cover), the occasion being the funeral of James Atkinson Jowett, son of the ex-warden, and grandson of the venerable founder of the church. There was a large assembly of ladies and gentlemen at the funeral, and as the body was conveyed through Peel Park to Undercliffe Cemetery, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob was rung, and as the procession returned a half-muffled touch in the same method. The Rev. C. H. King, A.K.C., read the service, the choral parts being sung by the choir of St. James's.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

HEIGHINGTON (Durham).—On Saturday, September 22nd, the ringers of St. John's, Darlington, with Mr. D. Shipp, of Staindrop (members of the above Association), paid a visit to the above place, and rang on the bells of the parish church a 720 of Bob Minor, in 30 mins. J. Bolton, 1; R. Moncaster, 2; W. Patton, 3; J. H. Whitfield, 4; J. H. Blakiston, 5; D. Shipp (conductor), 6. Tenor 16 cwt. After the ringing they were entertained to tea by the vicar, the Rev. C. C. Chevallier, after which they adjourned to the tower and rang touches of Grandsire and Oxford Treble Bob Minor. They wish to take this opportunity of thanking the vicar for his kindness in providing tea, and for the use of the bells, also to the churchwardens and ringers for their kind reception.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

BURTON-ON-TRENT (Staffordshire).—On Sunday, September 23rd, eight members of the St. Paul's society rang for Divine Service in the evening at St. Paul's church, a touch of 448 changes of Superlative Surprise Major, in 18 mins. H. Wakley, 1; E. I. Stone, 2; A. Wakley, 3; J. Griffin, 4; J. Jaggar, 5; G. Appleby, 6; T. Holmes, 7; W. Wakley (conductor), 8. Tenor 26 cwt. The President has appointed Mr. W. Wakley, who is Churchwarden at the above church, to act as a delegate from the Association at the Ringers' Conference on October 4th.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

IPSWICH.—On Tuesday evening, September 25th, the following members of this branch of the above Association, rang 2898 changes, in 2 hrs. 6 mins., at St. Mary-le-Tower, in an attempt to ring Mr. H. Haley's peal of 5079 of Stedman Caters, which was lost through one of the men missing his catch. W. L. Catchpole (conductor), 1; I. S. Alexander, 2; Jno. Fosdike, 3; W. Meadows, 4; C. Saul, 5; H. Howell, 6; R. H. Brundle, 7; R. Hawes, 8; E. Pemberton, 9; J. Miller, 10. All the above are members of the Ancient Society of College Youths.

THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

BEDDINGTON.—On Saturday, September 22nd, eight members of the above branch of this Association met with the intention of starting for a peal of Treble Bob Major, but owing to news arriving at the last moment that the choir were going to have a special practice for the Harvest Thanksgiving, were obliged to be content with ringing a short touch. C. Bance, 1; E. Bennett, 2; J. Trappitt, 3; J. Harris, 4; J. Plowman, 5; J. Fayers, 6; J. Cawley, 7; C. Gordon, 8. The company were about to lower the bells, when a signal from below informed them that there were visitors outside, and upon descending the tower it was discovered that E. F. Cole, Esq., of London, and S. Greenwood, of Streatham, had journeyed down in the hope of hearing the peal, but being disappointed in that, had the pleasure of taking part in a 1152 of the same method. J. Harris, 1; E. Bennett, 2; E. F. Cole, Esq., 3; C. Bance, 4; S. Greenwood, 5; J. Fayers, 6; J. Cawley, 7; C. Gordon, 8. Tenor 21 cwt. in Eb.

STOKE-UPON-TRENT ARCHIDIACONAL ASSOCIATION.

NORTON-LE-MOORS (Staffordshire).—On Sunday morning, September 23rd, for Divine Service, a 720 of Bob Minor, in 27½ mins. W. Holdcroft, 1; E. Glover, 2; J. Morton, 3; W. Brough, 4; G. Walker, 5; Jas. Baddeley (conductor), 6.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

KIRK ELLA, NEAR HULL.—On Sunday, September 23rd, the following members of the above association rang for Divine Service, a 720 of Bob Minor, in 27 mins. F. Drabble, 1; A. Taylor, 2; J. Dixey, 3; W. Southwick (conductor), 4; C. Bennett, 5; C. Jackson, 6.

BARWELL (Leicestershire).—On Saturday, September 22nd, at the parish church, a 720 of Bob Minor, with fourteen bobs and two singles, in 28 mins. *Enos Garner, 1; John Swinfield, 2; George White, 3; William A. Needham, 4; Charles Lane, 5; *Herbert W. Needham (conductor), 6. Also a 720 of Bob Minor, with eighteen bobs and two singles, in 27 mins. Samuel Knight (first 720), 1; William A. Needham, 2; Enos Garner, 3; John Swinfield, 4; Charles Lane, 5; Herbert W. Needham (conductor), 6. And on Sunday morning, September 23rd, a 360 of Bob Minor, in 13½ mins. Samuel Knight, 1; Enos Garner, 2; George White, 3; John Swinfield, 4; William Powers, 5; Herbert W. Needham (conductor), 6. *Members of the Midland Counties' Association, Tenor 16 cwt. in F#.

ERDINGTON (Warwickshire).—On Monday, September 23rd, several members of the Birmingham Amalgamated Society were engaged to attend at a concert with the handbells, at the above place, when on arriving they were met by the SS. Thomas and Edmund Society, Erdington, and after some good tune-playing they adjourned to the "Cross Keys" inn, when the handbells were brought into use again, and a 896 of Grandsire Triples, in 25 mins., with the bells retained in hand. James Plant, 1-2; John Brown, 3-4; Thomas Miller (conductor; Birmingham), 5-6; William Dunleavy, 7-8.

HORSHAM (Sussex).—On Saturday, September 23rd, being the occasion of the Harvest Thanksgiving service, for Divine Service in the evening, the first part of Reeves's peal of Grandsire Triples, and round at 560 changes. H. Chantler, 1; E. Knight, 2; W. Short, 3; H. Wood, 4; J. Brown, 5; F. Knight, 6; H. Burstow (conductor), 7; H. Cook, 8. Also a 504 in the same method. H. Chantler, 1; J. Brown, 2; W. Short, 3; H. Wood, 4; E. Knight, 5; F. Knight, 6; H. Burstow (conductor), 7; W. F. Meads (Lindfield), 8. Tenor 24 cwt. in E.

HIGHER SUTTON, MACCLESFIELD (Cheshire).—On Sunday, September 23rd, the local company rang a 720 of Grandsire Minor, with thirty-four bobs and two singles. William Walmsley, 1; William H. Ingham (conductor), 2; Walter Ingham, 3; J. M. Davenport, 4; William H. Hardman, 5; Thomas Mottershead, 6. Also a 720 of Bob Minor, with eighteen bobs and two singles. William Walmsley,

1; William H. Ingham, 2; Walter Ingham, 3; John M. Davenport, 4; William H. Hardman, 5; Thomas Mottershead, 6. Also on Wednesday, for practice, a 720 of Grandsire Minor, with twenty-four bobs and two singles. William H. Hardman, 1; William Kenny, 2; John M. Davenport, 3; William H. Ingham (conductor), 4; Walter Ingham, 5; Thomas Mottershead, 6. Tenor 12 cwt.

NEWDIGATE (Surrey).—On Sunday, September 23rd, it being the Harvest Thanksgiving service, six members of the Chapel society visited this church, and were met by two from Charlwood, and rang for Divine Service in the evening, a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob Minor, in 25 mins. A. Mills, jun., 1; A. Tidy, 2; R. Jordan, 3; R. Worsfold, 4; D. Jordan, 5; E. Jordan (conductor), 6. Also a 360 of Oxford Bob Minor. A. Mills, jun., 1; E. Jordan, 2; R. Jordan, 3; R. Worsfold, 4; F. Wickens (Charlwood), 5; M. Heffer (Charlwood), 6. Also after service a 720 of Oxford Bob Minor, with nine bobs and six singles. Conducted by F. Wickens ringing the 6th, and M. Heffer ringing the 5th, the other four standing the same as in the 360. Tenor 8½ cwt.

PENZANCE (Cornwall).—On Sunday, September 16th, at St. Mary's church, it being the occasion of the Harvest Festival, a 720 of Grandsire Minor, with 7 and 8 covering, was rung for Divine Service in the evening, in 26 mins. W. H. Mitchell, 1; C. Boase, 2; John Hodder, 3; John Richards, 4; John Symons, 5; Thos. Hicks (conductor), 6; Martin Bassett, 7; W. Kelynack, 8.

RAUNDS (Northamptonshire).—On Saturday, September 15th, at St. Peter's church, a 720 of College Single, with eighteen bobs and two singles, in 28 mins. G. Kirk, 1; F. Gilbert, 2; W. Gilbert, 3; W. Hall, 4; J. Willmott, 5; H. Stubbs (conductor), 6. Also on Saturday, September 22nd, a 720 of Oxford Bob, with eighteen bobs and two singles, in 28 mins. A. Coles, 1; J. Willmott, 2; R. Pendered, 3; G. Kirk, 4; W. Hall, 5; W. Gilbert (conductor), 6. Tenor 20 cwt.

RIPON, SHAROW, AND BOROUGHBIDGE.—On Sunday, September 23rd, the Ripon Society was honoured with a visit from Mr. R. S. Story, of St. John's Guild, Newcastle-on-Tyne, and member of the Durham and Newcastle Diocesan Association. The local ringers, accompanied by their esteemed guest, rang for morning service at St. John's church, Sharow, 882 changes of Grandsire Triples, composed by the late H. Hubbard of Leeds, in 32 mins. T. Metcalf, 1; W. Pick, 2; G. Ingleby, 3; T. Clark (conductor), 4; A. Ingleby, 5; R. S. Story, 6; H. Rumbold, 7; J. Rumbold, 8. Tenor 13 cwt. in G. Also at Ripon Cathedral, for Divine Service in the afternoon, a 704 of Kent Treble Bob Major in 27 mins. *G. Ingleby, 1; Jno. Stodder, sen., 2; W. Pick, 3; *T. Langley (Boroughbridge), 4; *A. Ingleby, 5; R. S. Story, 6; T. Clark (conductor), 7; H. Rumbold, 8. Tenor 21 cwt. in E natural. *First touch in the method. At Boroughbridge church (St. James's), for evening service, a 720 of Bob Minor, in 26½ mins. T. Clark (conductor), 1; W. Simpson (Aldborough), 2; W. Pick, 3; R. S. Story, 4; G. Sadler (Boroughbridge), 5; T. Langley, 6. Tenor 15½ cwt. in F.

TODDINGTON (Bedfordshire).—On Saturday, September 22nd, a 720 of Bob Minor, with eight bobs and six singles, on the front six bells of the parish church, in 26 mins. T. Foote (Bedford), 1; W. W. C. Baker, Esq. (Eversholt Rectory), 2; F. M. Smith, Esq. (Bromham Vicarage), 3; W. Allen (Bedford), 4; A. Clark (Bedford), 5; W. Biggs (Bromham; conductor), 6. This 720 was rung upon the front six, in consequence of the bad go of the tenor.

WALSALL (Staffordshire).—On Sunday, September 22nd, ringing commenced at the parish church about 4.30 p.m., with a touch of Kent Treble Bob Royal, 1040 changes, in 42 mins. W. Walker, 1; W. R. Small, 2; J. Carter, 3; S. Reeves, 4; W. Johnson, 5; J. Buffery, 6; J. Astbury, 7; T. Miller, 8; F. H. James, 9; W. Hallsworth (conductor), 10. After which a touch of Stedman Caters (six courses), were rung by T. Miller, 1; W. Walker, 2; S. Reeves, 3; J. Buffery, 4; E. Lightwood, 5; W. R. Small, 6; J. Astbury, 7; F. H. James, 8; W. Hallsworth (conductor), 9; J. Taylor, 10. Tenor 24 cwt. in Eb.

WILLESDEN (Middlesex).—On Thursday, September 20th, the local company with N. Alderman, of the Cumberland Youths, rang a 720 of Bob Minor, in 24 mins. *Albert Kirby, 1; *Martin Murphy, 2; Harry Cutter, 3; Richard Kilby, 4; Newland Alderman (conductor), 5; Joseph Jackman, 6. Also another 720 in the same method, with eighteen bobs and two singles, in 25 mins. *Albert Pittam, 1; Martin Murphy, 2; Joseph Jackman, 3; Newland Alderman, 4; Harry Cutter, 5; Richard Kilby (conductor), 6. *First 720. Tenor 9 cwt. Also a 6-score of Grandsire Doubles, on handbells, retained in hand. Martin Murphy, 1-2; Harry Cutter, 3-4; Joseph Jackman, 5-6.

WOLSTANTON (Staffordshire).—On the occasion of the wedding of the Rev. A. H. Brittain, and Miss Geraldine Hyde, of Brampton Hill, Newcastle, the local ringers rang a 720 each of Grandsire and Plain Bob Minor: G. Hodgkins, S. Walker, A. Walker, S. J. Wootton, W. Priestman, W. Miller, L. Miller and S. Spencer, conductors.

ST. MARY'S SOCIETY, PENZANCE.

THE members of the above Society took their annual excursion on Tuesday, September 11th, when they visited Falmouth and Truro, having the tower of Budock placed at their disposal by the kindness of the Ven. Archdeacon Phillpotts and Colonel Bull, of Roscarac, and that of Kenwyn by Canon Cornish.

Falmouth was reached by rail, whence a very pleasant walk of about two miles over hill and dale brought the company to the church of Budock with its dark tower—a prominent feature on the hill's summit—being here received by Colonel and Mrs. Bull. This tower formerly contained three bells dating from the seventeenth century, but in 1882 these were recast and augmented to the present six by Messrs. Taylor, of Loughborough, and hung with new fittings and chiming apparatus by W. Aggett, of Chagford, the tenor about 9 cwt. in G.

Unfortunately for change-ringing, the bells are hung in the reverse order, besides being a great deal too heavily roped, the rope-ends being cut short and knotted, instead of "pig-tailed" and tucked up, causing some of our shorter members to bring into acquisition the various mats and appliances which could be found about the church. Several 120's of Grandsire Doubles were rung in various callings, many being conducted by the captain, Mr. John Richards, and in one 120 the tenor was taken by Mr. Boddy, of Kenwyn (who joined the party at Truro), and who "covered" very effectually for the first attempt. After lowering the bells, the writer ascended into the bell-loft, access to which was most difficult, from the close packing of the bells. The following inscriptions were copied from the waists, the names of the founders, with date, encircling the crown of each bell:—

Treble.—"In principio creavit Deus cœlum et terram."

2nd.—"Attright a fine usque ad finem fortiter."

3rd.—"Vox clamantis in Deserto: Parase viam Domini."

4th.—"Magnificat anima mea Dominum. Ad Dei gloriam et in piam Ricardi Michell Hodgede Menhay in isla parochia Memoriam Maria ipsius vidua me dicavit tristio semper autem gaudens."

5th.—"Factum est regnum truius mundi Domini nostri et Christie ejus, MDCCCLXXXII. E. W. Benson, Episcopo; W. J. Phillpotts, Vicario; M. V. Bull, et B. Mannell, Custodibus."

Tenor.—"Ecce nova facio omnia."

Before leaving, a saunter was taken through the church, when, amongst many old monuments, our attention was particularly arrested by the effigies in brass, with plates of arms on the floor near the altar, representing John Killigrew, Esq., of Arwenack, and Elizabeth Trewinnard, his wife; also the fine marble monument, with the kneeling effigies of Sir John and Lady Killigrew.

After refection at Falmouth, a most enjoyable walk was taken around Pendennis Castle, affording one a magnificent view of the harbour with its extensive shipping, and neighbourhood, unsurpassed for its beauty. Kenwyn was then visited on our return journey, but from our number being short, not much could be done on the eight there. Some 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles were rung on the back six, and on the eight, with the 4 6 8 and 7 6 8 covering. The same faults are to be found here as at Budock, in the ropes being too heavy and cut short and knotted—which is generally the case in the western church towers. Of these bells, the second is the oldest—Thos. Lester, fecit, 1747, with the weight, 5 cwt. 18 lbs., incised below; the 5th was recast by the Penningtons in 1788; the treble, 6th, and tenor by John Rudhall, Gloucester, 1825; and the 3rd, 4th, and 7th, by J. Warner and Sons, London, 1851-2. The tenor is about 13 cwt., and with the substitution of lighter ropes, the ring would be very efficient for change-ringing.

On the homeward railway journey, the handbells were brought into use, and some double-handed Grandsire Triples rung as a *finale*, everyone expressing themselves as having thoroughly enjoyed a good day's outing. J.S.

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."

INFORMATION WANTED.

SIR,—Will any of your readers kindly tell me the inscriptions on the bells of Charles' Church, Plymouth. W. W. GIFFORD, Devizes Road, Salisbury.

WEIGHING TENORS.

SIR,—Allow me to call the attention of your readers to the fact that in weighing bells with the stock and fittings on, it is somewhat difficult to come at the exact weight. Stocks especially vary much, both according to the size and shape of the bells, and the ideas of the bellhanger; averaging from $\frac{1}{2}$ cwt. to, say 2 cwt. for bells under 20 cwt. So also do clappers and wheels, though in less proportions; so that all this must be taken into strict account and deducted in weighing a bell.

VERITAS.

Sunday next is the Harvest Festival at Farnham Royal, Bucks. The local ringers would be pleased to see any friends.

A RINGING HOLIDAY.—"SEVENTEEN DAYS AND A BIT."

By F. E. DAWE.

(Continued from page 298.)

The morning of Saturday, the 28th July, was principally spent in visiting some of the places of interest in Birmingham, amongst which the noted Ledsham Street was seen, after which, an adjournment was again made to Mr. Johnson's house, at the earnest invitation of that gentleman, and shortly after two o'clock both sallied forth, passing two or three towers on the way, one of them being St. Philip's, which contains a ring of ten, tenor about 30 cwt., and a ringing room like an acre of ground; Mr. Johnson favoured me with the sizes, weights, etc., of them, also a very curious description of the bells, penned some years ago by a Mr. Bingham. After one or two more things of interest, we arrived at a broad, slanting thoroughfare, called "The Bull Ring," and being market-day, this was quite a novel sight to behold; however, there was something more important than looking at fairs, as the fair church of St. Martin's occupies a site at the lower extremity of the market place, and the beautiful restored tower and spire balanced itself in all the gracefulness of a noted steeple of renown. On ascending the old familiar staircase, the ringing-room is reached, which is well worthy of the credit due to the steeplekeeper, the walls are lined with a sort of rush matting to a height of about six or seven feet, which causes the place to smell like a gardener's potting shed, but by no means an unpleasant odour; some good performances are chronicled on the walls, amongst which is found a 5004 Stedman Cinques in 3 hours and 25 minutes, and a nicely-executed marble tablet, recording the long peal of 9238 in the same method, in black and white, occupies the space behind the tenth. Since the restoration, the interior arrangements of the tower have been altered, and the ringing-chamber occupies a higher position than formerly, in fact where the bells are supposed to be, which are hung at the commencement of the spire; some stone tablets of inestimable value has therefore been left in the space of the lower portion of the tower, and can be seen in the church, but are so high up that they can scarcely be read. The door of the chamber is "behind the seventh," and the Ellacombe chiming apparatus is also fixed in one corner, "behind the ninth," on which we were allowed to play some tunes on a former visit, the occasion when the fine bass voice of Mr. Hallsworth called a 5007 Stedman Cinques in 3 hours and 30 minutes. This gentleman, it will be recollected, called the long peal here, the 9238, and is therefore a conductor of very great ability. On this occasion, however, we unfortunately lacked his kind assistance, which I greatly regretted. These bells are a beautiful ring of twelve, clear and melodious, the tenor weighing 35 cwt. 8 lbs. in C. and and they can all be heard very distinctly in the ringing-room; the ropes are now entirely new, with scarcely two sallies alike, and were of course rather springy at first; the circle is good with the exception that the front ones hang rather close together, which can soon be got accustomed to. Every bell goes easy and true, except at certain seasons of the year, when the eleventh has a strong inclination to go bad, but when it happens to go well, there is something almost more than a pleasure to ring here, for the very bells, from the treble to the tenor, when handled by the men that are accustomed to do so, seem to thoroughly "know the road" (especially in Stedman's principle). When everything was ready, a start for a peal of Stedman Cinques was made, which resulted in some very good ringing, but unfortunately, after getting nearly twenty-one courses, the the eleventh had a decided objection to be turned about any longer, this of course brought the affair to a regretted standstill, as I detest above all things to see any one slave at a bell, and in fact will never allow them to do so, if it is for the sake of me, for I prefer to see the work "put out," when a peal is to be attempted. The band stood as follows: H. Bastable, 1; J. Joynes, 2; F. E. Dawe (conductor), 3; W. R. Small, 4; T. Miller, 5; H. Johnson, senr. 6; J. Dunn, 7; J. Buffery, 8; S. Reeves, 9; F. H. James, 10; H. Johnson, junr. 11; T. Reynolds, 12. After lowering the twelve in peal, and leaving the tower, an adjournment was made to a coffee palace opposite, where the last sound of St. Martin's bells was heard, as the clock chimed the rather appropriate and well known melody of "Auld Lang Syne." A very pleasant evening was spent, during which the handbells were again to the front (as Birmingham contains some excellent double-handed ringers), and amongst other touches were two or three plain courses of Stedman Caters by J. Joynes, 1-2; F. E. Dawe, 3-4; T. Miller, 5-6; H. Bastable, 7-8; J. Buffery, 9-10; also a course of Grandsire Cinques. A sort of conversazione filled up the remainder of the time, and the usual "Good bye" brought the evening to a close. The next morning, as time, who never forgets his duty, was passing quickly (*tempus fugit*), myself and a Birmingham ringer, Mr. Alfred Thomas, started early, and after a pleasant journey arrived in the famous city of

WORCESTER

(the birthplace of our worthy Editor). The "faithful city" is at all times clean and nice-looking. We at once went for St. Mary's Cathedral,

which of late years has been thoroughly restored, and is one of the finest churches of modern days. The tower is central, and is one of the most exquisite and beautiful of all English bell-towers or Campaniles, inside and out; the height and width are so well suited to each other, with splendid pinnacled and ornamental work on all sides, and is also free from the disfigurement of a massive acre of a clock-face (which spoils the beauty of many fine towers), as some are not designed for a great dial to be planted on the sides; whilst to others suited for them, they give the finishing touch of perfection, therefore anyone who looks at Worcester Cathedral tower, from all points of view, can only use the one word "grand" in expressing their opinion on it. The interior of the building is beautiful in the extreme, with the many coloured serpentine marbles, stones, tessellated pavements; also a magnificent reredos of splendour, and an elaborate pulpit, with monuments, and other ecclesiastical features to match; the west window is a wonderful piece of workmanship, in which is represented the "Creation." Several other things of beauty and grandeur, are to be seen and admired, which causes the whole place to be undecipherable. The Cathedral sacristan or custos would not allow anyone to visit the tower on Sundays (this was quickly afterwards rectified by Canon Cattley), but as we had previously rung Grandsire Cinques here, it did not matter much. The belfry is gained by means of a grand spiral staircase (the class usually found at these kind of places), and after passing over the roof of the north transept, the first chamber is reached, where the lavatory, &c., is to be found: the next is the ringing-room, which is massive, clean, and extremely beautiful, with stained woodwork, and well lighted. Independent of the excellent twelve bell circle, three additional ropes are to be seen, slightly in the rear at different places, so that lighter ringing peals can be occasionally used if required, or the muster of ringers is insufficient. These are of course principally used in the chimes. There are unfortunately no tablets to adorn the walls, but a fire hydrant, with all necessary equipments, is fixed ready for instant use on each floor. The next chamber is the clock and carillon room, the machinery is in a large glass case in the centre, with room to walk about inside, where everything is kept bright and clean, with the greatest care and attention. There are six mahogany barrels, hanging in a position on the walls, each capable of discharging seven tunes, making a total of forty-two melodies in all, which are mostly secular or national tunes. On Sundays and other special days, sacred music is used, the barrels are changed once a week; the chimes are heard every three hours (except in the middle of the night, when the rest of those living near at hand is considered) and are supposed to be some of the most beautiful and accurate that can anywhere be found in the United Kingdom. The next chamber contains the bells, of which there are fifteen hung for ringing; the back ten are very fine, the tenor weighs 50 cwt in Db, and raised above the others at one side is the 90 cwt. hour bell, which is a rich sonorous fellow, filling the air with his big Bb, and if there were eleven more of corresponding weights and notes, he would be fit in every way to play the part of a perpetual drum to the every varying melodies of Stedman or Grandsire Cinques. Each bell bears an inscription in those beautiful 15th century letters, with ornaments to match, and are all dedicated to a different Saint in Latin, for instance, the treble is "St. Matthias," and the tenor "St. Petrus," while the hour bell bears several quotations also in Latin, and his clapper weighs 246 lbs., and as there is plenty of room to get about, presents a pleasing spectacle. The louvres here consists of very thick plate-glass, which allows a great ray of light to penetrate, making the chamber cheerful. Several other interesting particulars are noticeable, which shall find their way to "THE BELL NEWS" at a future date. The next landing place is the roof, where in the centre rises a square acoustical arrangement, with small louvre boards and openings at the sides for assisting in letting the volume of sound escape, and from the top of which a splendid view of Worcestershire, Malvern Hills, and the river Severn is obtained. After crossing the river by means of the ferry, and walking along its banks on the opposite side, in company with Mr. Blandford, a grand perspective of the entire cathedral is obtained, and here we heard the twelve chimed, with the Ellacombe hammers, in rounds for a few minutes prior to the morning service, but could not fail to sympathize with whoever was attempting to do so, for it consisted of the bells going in pairs all the time. After passing the famous Porcelain Works, which are clean and beautiful to inspect, we arrived at the residence of the Rev. Canon Cattley, who received us very cordially, and a pleasant afternoon followed; being situated on an eminence, another fine view of the Cathedral presents itself, which is about a quarter of a mile or so away, therefore the bells sound to perfection, as we listened to the beautiful strains of the Easter Hymn, as it floated over on the breeze. After taking leave of the rev. gentleman, the Worcester company met us at All Saints' Church, where a muffled touch of 493 Grandsire Caters was performed as a mark of respect to the memory of an old inhabitant. A tablet in this tower records two peals of Grandsire Caters, the 6th in one and the 9th in the other being rung by our Editor. The next thing was to take leave of our Worcester

friends, and going outside to listen to the bells, which sound very nice, tenor about 24 cwt. We started off and caught the train that brought us to

LONDON,

which was reached very late in the coming round course of the 29th of July, and the next place of meeting found us among the heavy ring of twelve at the metropolitan Basilica.

Now Mr. Editor, I have endeavoured to describe to you most of the things that has happened, and have in fact been *aletheion en agape*. In an account of this description, after ringing peals, attempts, and touches to the grand total of over 45,200 changes, (and no blisters!) it is difficult to know when to "draw the line," as each notable tower contains so many things of interest to collect and explain, that this affair might be easily spun out from now to Christmas, or even further in the above mentioned manner, such as inscriptions, weights, diameters, thickness at sound bows, and notes of rings of bells, which I am working personally to collect, and to some people such particulars are of inestimable value, whilst others are less interested, but when an affair of this sort is spun out, as you are aware, readers are apt to get tired of it, and pass uncomplimentary remarks. I must however say, in passing, that having now visited over 220 different belfries, including most of the Cathedrals, Abbeys, Minsters, and principal churches in England, it is a noticeable fact that when amongst real change ringers, a sort of brotherhood springs up instantaneously, and a stranger is welcomed with open arms; at some change-ringing districts where there is perhaps only one company, and one or two towers, I was told if they got a letter on a Saturday morning, a band for a peal would be ready in the afternoon (in the metropolis it is necessary to have ten days, or not less than a week's notice, to make such arrangements). But when a stranger happens to visit a place, and would like to inspect and ring on a fine-toned peal of bells that have unfortunately fallen into the hands of a call-change party, he is very differently treated, mainly owing to sheer ignorance and jealousy, with a strong mixture of hatred and malice. Of course there are good and bad in all grades, but the slovenly call-change ringers, in my opinion, are as a rule, the very "Aborigines" of the ringing world.

When anyone starts on the job for a ringing tour, they must keep going, and not let the grass grow under their feet; it matters little about good weather—in fact a few showery days are beneficial in the extreme, especially if peals or long touches on heavy or awkward bells are intended.

As a duty, Mr. Editor, I have to thank you for granting me the extensive space you have allowed, for I have told my story in my own way; and as a duty to myself will say that in every ringing locality I visit, near and far, it is a custom of mine to make the strictest enquiry as to the sale of "THE BELL NEWS," urging every ringer to expend the minute sum of one penny per week, instead of making one number do amongst about a dozen and a half, or only to take a copy when their own 720 or so happens to appear; besides, who would not like to possess every number of a paper devoted to "nought" but our favourite art, from its very commencement, clean and beautifully bound, the same as my own collection for instance, as I take in several copies weekly for my own use, and to have by me; and I am also pleased to be able to say I have within this last two years succeeded in getting a great many subscribers to take a copy weekly, and otherwise do the needful for our own paper.

In the foregoing account it will perhaps be noticed that occasionally a queer little expression occurs, the meaning of which is probably only known to those concerned, or a select few, for instance if we go to Wakefield "we shall never be happy again," which to those who were there last Easter speaks volumes, and at Ashton-under-Lyne, "eccy waff" (Nos. 1 and 2) stand on a similar basis. Having explained that, I shall now take this opportunity of tendering my sincerest thanks to those numerous gentlemen, consisting of change-ringers, steeplekeepers, sextons, sacristans, custos, and clergymen, for their great kindness in always making my visits pleasant and beneficial, getting towers open, and bands together for a peal, personally showing and explaining all in their power, leaving me to find the rest out myself.

This last course consists of rather a curious coming round, but I don't think there is much likelihood of missing a bob or getting out within six sixes of the last change, but as we are home now, all I have to do is to use the Midland and Northern bob-callers expression when success crowns their undertakings, and say

"THIS IS ALL."

SOUTH LINCOLNSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

THE next Quarterly Meeting of this Association will be held on October 6th, at Caythorpe. The peal of eight bells at Caythorpe, and a peal of six bells at Fulbeck, are at the disposal of the Association for the day. Skilled members wishing to attend must send their names to me on or before September 29th, or the sum of 2s. will not be allowed.

R. CREASEY, Sec.

EPPS'S COCOA.**GRATEFUL—COMFORTING.**

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**BELLRINGING JUBILEE
OF MR. JOHN COX.**

THE ringing friends of Mr. John Cox, taking into consideration his advancing years, and the precarious state of his health, intend making exertions to raise a fund to provide for him those necessities which are the sole sustenance of age.

This year—being his ringing jubilee, he having rang his first peal at the church of St. Mary, Islington, on the 7th of October, 1833—is thought peculiarly appropriate for this appeal to be made.

Mr. Cox's only source of income—the salary attached to the office of steeple-keeper of St. Bride's, Fleet Street—has been seriously diminished, through being compelled to frequently employ a substitute to perform the duty.

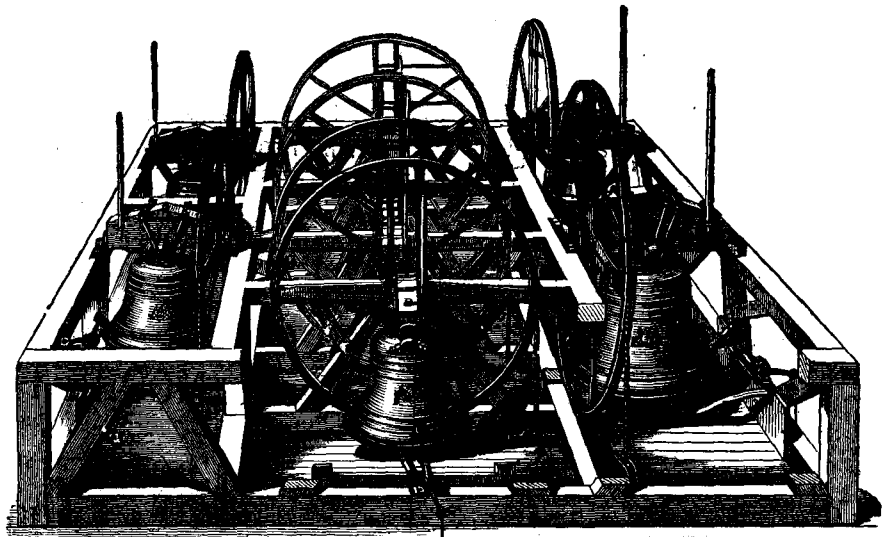
The Treasurer to the fund is Mr. W. Baron, and Mr. H. Dains has consented to act as Secretary. Any further particulars may be had on application to the latter, 147, Barnsbury Road, Islington, London, N.

SUBSCRIPTION LIST.

	£	s.	d.
Subscriptions already announced	9	12	0
Waterloo Society, London	1	1	0
Rev. E. C. Hawkins, Vicar, St. Bride's	1	1	0
The St. Mary-le-Tower Society, Ipswich	0	11	0
Mr. Langdon, London	0	1	0
York Minster Society (Yorkshire Association)	0	10	0
J. W. Snowdon, Esq. (additional)	0	5	6
Mr. M. A. Wood (College Youths)	0	5	0
Mr. E. I. Comb	0	5	0
St. Andrew's Society (Worcester Association)	0	2	6
Mr. Penymaure	0	2	6
Mr. R. Flaxman	0	1	0
Mr. W. Leader	0	1	0
Rev. H. Whitehead, Brampton Vicarage, Carlisle	0	5	0
Mr. John Lewis, London	0	2	0
Mr. J. R. Haworth	0	2	6
Rev. J. Francis, Vicar of Waltham Abbey	0	2	6
A. H. Gardom, Esq.	0	5	0
R. Sewell, Esq., Barking	0	5	0
The Hull Society (Yorkshire Association)	0	5	0
Mr. S. Jones	0	1	0
Mr. W. Jones	0	1	0
Mr. R. Jameson	0	2	0
Midland Counties' Association (Burton-on-Trent and District)	2	0	0
Mr. John Penning, Saffron Walden	0	1	0
Rev. Canon Cattley, Worcester Cathedral	0	10	0
Messrs. Warner and Sons, Crescent Foundry, London	1	1	0
S. B. Goslin, Esq.	0	10	6
Mr. Hy. Lewis, St. Albans	0	2	6
Mr. George P. Crossman	0	5	0
Folkestone Society of Ringers (Kent County Association)	0	13	0
United District Association	0	8	0
Mr. Smith, Steeplekeeper at St. Margaret's, Westminster	0	10	0
Hampstead Society	0	12	0
Dundee Society (Scotland)	0	8	0
Cheltenham Society	0	10	0
G. H. Phillott, Esq., Staunton-on-Wye	0	5	0
The Redenhall Bell Foundry, Messrs. Moore, Holmes, and Mackenzie	1	0	0
	24	6	0

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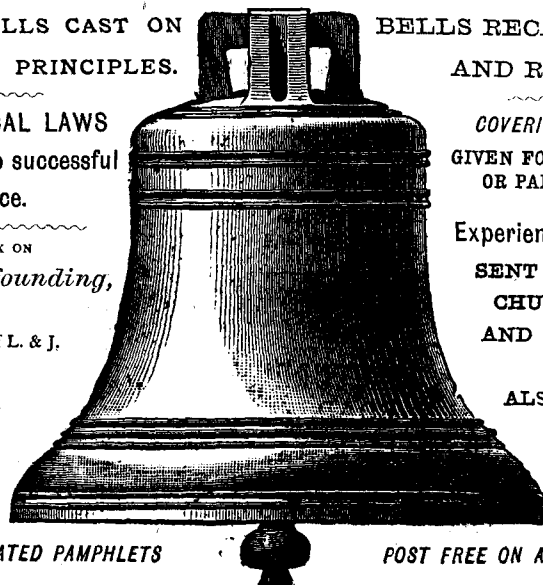
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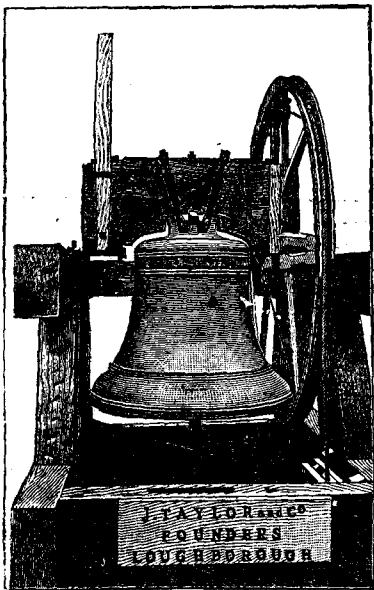
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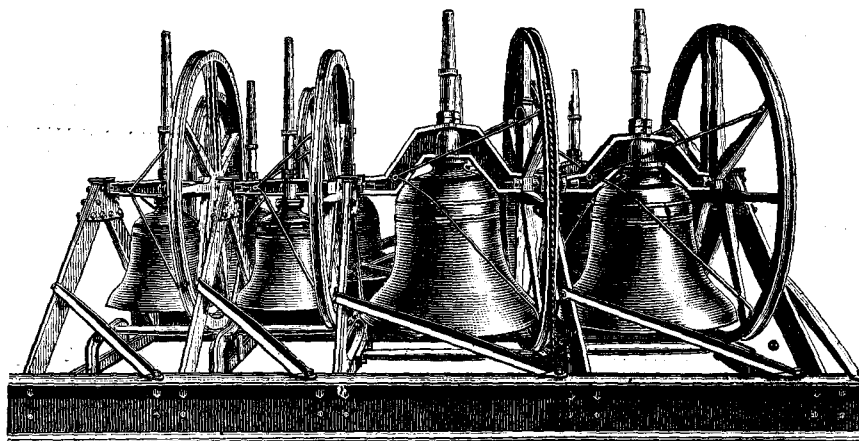
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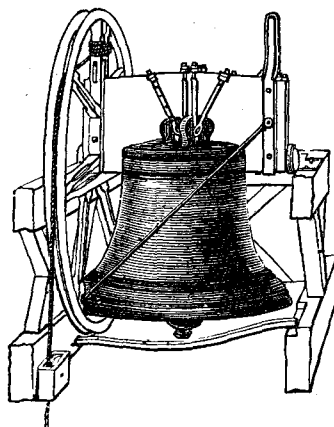
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GRANDSIRE TRIPLES.

By JASPER W. SNOWDON.

About the time I have mentioned, some ten years ago, I was quite a novice in proving peals and having turned my attention to the proof of Grandsire Triples, wrote to the late Henry Hubbard, who formerly belonged to the society of Norwich Scholars, asking him whether any record of the calling of the Norwich peal was in existence. Not only was I desirous of obtaining it because I considered a false peal would furnish me with a much more satisfactory test of my powers of proving than a true peal, but my curiosity was also aroused as to how, at a time when such methods as Plain Bob and Grandsire Triples were rung, a false peal, especially in the latter method, should have passed muster. I could hardly credit the fact, that peals known to be false, should have been rung, or that their falseness should have escaped notice until later years, by reason of the inability of their composers to prove their inaccuracies. It appeared to me, that it would be strange if the proof of such peals had not been understood some time previous to the day when ringers had attained to such proficiency in the practical branches of the art, as to be able to ring them.

In answer to my enquiries, Hubbard informed me that, curiously enough he did know something about the Norwich peal, as when he came on a visit to Leeds from Norwich in 1841, on the occasion of the opening of the opening of the ring of twelve, the then conductor of the Leeds ringers, shewed him a peal of Grandsire Triples, which he said was the false peal of Garthon's rung at Norwich in 1718. This peal, he was informed, had been brought to Leeds, by Hugh Wright (the composer of several long lengths of Treble Bob Major) who formerly resided at Nottingham, who had it from his ancestors who were said to be in some way related to Garthon.

This peal, Hubbard informed me, was composed with a multiplicity of bobs and singles, and with the curious feature, peculiar, of course, to peals on the three-lead course-plan, of the sixth bell never entering the hunt. He further informed me that in consequence of the statement that it was false he had not taken much notice of it, but, on his return to Norwich, had given the copy of the peal to C. Middleton, one of the Norwich ringers, to whom he had now written for a copy of the same. This copy soon came to hand and was forwarded to me by Hubbard, headed "Garthon's false peal;" in his next communication he however stated that he had been through the peal and had satisfied himself of the truth of the composition. The peal will be found at page 240.

My first impression was that although this might be a similar peal to the one rung at Norwich, it was possible it might be a variation of the actual peal so altered that the truth of the changes was preserved. This conjecture I afterwards dismissed as improbable, because had it been so altered the improver would in all probability have claimed it as his own composition. The conclusion that I, however, came to was that, on account of the variety of calls used, the composition had not met with the approval of those who had not been connected with its performance, and, in accordance with the proverb, "Give a dog a bad name, etc." that, from a mere condemnation of the composition on this account, its reputation had suffered so severely that its character as to truth had at length been affected, and thus eventually the peal had come to be handed about as a false composition. There was one interesting fact however established by the production of this peal and that was the antiquity of the three-lead-course plan of composition.

When the early date at which the Norwich peal was rung, is taken into consideration, I think it must be allowed that it was a most creditable composition, and until supplanted by a less complicated production, was well adapted to supply the want of a true and complete 5040 in this method. My readers, from the evidence now before them, may think that I am taking for granted, without sufficient proof, that the composition obtained from Hubbard, was the actual one rung at Norwich. Since the peal first came into my hands through this channel, additional evidence as to the identity of this peal with the Norwich performance has, however, come to hand. This evidence which I will now lay before my readers, is, I think, conclusive on this point.

In the library of Downing College, Cambridge, are three manuscript books on change-ringing, these volumes once formed the note books of Dr. Charles Mason, who from their contents evidently took great interest in the art and science of change-ringing. In 1875 I went carefully through these books and wrote a report on the contents, which report afterwards appeared in *Church Bells* and such of these notes as relate to the matter under consideration I shall here reproduce. From the records of the Society of Cambridge Youths, I found that Dr. Mason was elected a member of that company on February 15th, 1725. He is there described as "D.D. Fellow of Trinity College, and Woodwardian Professor of Fossils." From the same source I gather that he died on December 18th, 1770, aged, I believe,

seventy-two years. In the original name book of the Society of College Youths, now in the British Museum Library, I found the following entry—"1727, Charles Mason, Cambridge".

In one of these volumes by Dr. Mason, the same peal as the one given to me by Hubbard as the Norwich peal is pricked. It is headed "5040 Garthon's Triples." Here therefore we have the same peal from an entirely different source, the composition however being still ascribed to Garthon. I may here remark that it seems to me Garthon's peal has never been entirely lost sight of, as Mr. Johnson, of Birmingham, has told me that Henry Cooper of that town, a noted composer, some years ago had said that Garthon's peal contained fifth's-place bobs, which shews that Cooper knew something about the peal. Again, on looking over the Osborne's MSS. in the British Museum I found, under a copy of the Norwich tablet, the following note:—"The composition of this peal is still in existence, 1839, ? E. J. O." Although the query attached to the note shews that Osborne had not come across the calling of the peal, he had heard that it was in existence in 1839.

In another of Mason's volumes, after many pages of touches and Grandsire Triples, the same peal is given, this time headed "Garthrop's Triples, 5040." A few leaves further on, a page, otherwise blank, is headed:—

"Whose peals examined of Triples

Garthon's
Vicars's."

The remainder of the leaf is blank, and it is evident that the page was intended for a list of peals examined, or—as we should now term it—proved; and as Holt's peals are all proved in the remaining volume, and not added to the list, it is also evident that the peals on this list were proved previously to Holt's peals, and were consequently most probably in the hands of Dr. Mason before he obtained possession of those by John Holt. The right hand leaf opposite the one on which is the list of peals examined, is headed "Vicar's 5040," and on it there is some pricking in an unfinished state, but on turning over to the following page, a 5040 of Grandsire Triples, by the bob changes, is to be found. This peal, which is given on page 243, is of the greatest interest and is really a remarkable one; where it came from, and who Vicar's the composer was, unfortunately there are no means of ascertaining from these volumes, but it is such a wonderful improvement on Garthon's peal, and so much better than the one by the unknown author, which first appeared in the *Clavis*, that it is strange, since it is a true peal, that it should so easily have been forgotten. In Vicars's peal we have what I think there is every reason to believe is the earliest, or one of the earliest peals produced by ordinary bobs and singles only, and as there is no evidence of peals on any other than the three-lead-course plan being produced before those of Holt's, there is also every reason to believe that all the peals composed and rung before his peals were upon this three-lead-course plan.

(To be continued.)

CHRIST CHURCH AND ST. ANDREW'S SOCIETY OF RINGERS, BATH.

THE half yearly meeting of this enterprising young band of ringers, was held on Wednesday, evening, September 26th, in the ringing-chamber of St. Andrew's Church, when the following members were re-elected as officers of the Society for the ensuing half-year: Mr. G. Kingman, chairman; Messrs. H. J. Wyburn and F. Goodman, Wardens.

On the motion of Mr. Misson, seconded by Mr. Vabst, a hearty vote of thanks was accorded to Mr. D. H. Goodman, Honorary Secretary, for the able manner in which he had always conducted the business of the Society. On the motion of Mr. Preedy, a vote of thanks was accorded to the retiring Wardens, who were then re-elected on the proposition of Mr. Misson, seconded by Mr. Targett. A vote of thanks was also accorded to Mr. Kingman, proposed by Mr. Hendy, and seconded by Mr. Misson.

It was also decided (subject to the permission of the Rev. Canon Bernard, the much esteemed Rector of Walcot, and President of the Society) to ring a voluntary peal annually on the evening of St. Andrew's Day, November 30th, the same being proposed by Mr. F. Goodman, and seconded by Mr. Vabst, which proposition was carried unanimously.

THE COX JUBILEE FUND.

THE Handbell Entertainment in aid of this Fund is arranged to take place at "The Crown," Clerkenwell Green, on Wednesday, October 17th, commencing at 7.30 p.m. For further particulars see next week's number of this paper.

THE ST. JAMES'S SOCIETY.

THERE will be ringing at St. Clement Danes on Monday, October 8th, at 8 o'clock.

CHANGE-RINGING IN LANCASHIRE, PAST AND PRESENT.

I. THE RIVAL RINGERS: ASHTON AND OLDHAM.

(Abridged from the "Manchester City News.")

In the year 1782—exactly 100 years ago—a rivalry began between the ringers of Oldham and Ashton-under-Lyne, which has continued almost without intermission until the present day. Wherever the Oldham ringers went to a prize-ringing, there the Ashton men were sure to put in an appearance to contest the prize, and *vice versa*. This state of things continued with varying successes until the beginning of 1808, when both companies met at the opening of the new peal of eight at St. Michael's church, Flixton, the Oldham ringers in the meantime having accomplished some notable feats, especially a 10,080 of Plain Bob Major, rung at Oldham in 5 hrs. 30 mins., tenor 14 cwt., and a peal in the same method rung January 4th, 1784, consisting of 14,480 changes, in 8 hrs. 24 mins., conducted by Thomas Kay. At the close of the day's ringing at St. Michael's, Flixton, the judges were unable to come to a decision respecting the merits of the rival ringers and the prize-money was divided.

This verdict not satisfying either side, a match was soon afterwards arranged for £40, to take place at St. Michael's, Flixton, on June 24th, 1808. Articles were signed and a deposit made at the house of John Travis, a well-known local publican and bettor of Oldham, after which both sides went into serious training for the coming event, the list price at this time being even money. The Ashton ringers, evidently thinking "the better the day the better the deed," started on Sunday afternoon, the 15th of May, at St. Michael's, Ashton, for John Holt's peal of Grandsire Triples, containing 5040 changes, which they accomplished in the remarkably short time of 2 hrs. 38½ mins., or at the speed of thirty-two changes to a minute. It should here be mentioned that St. Michael's tenor weighs 28 cwt., thus making the time more remarkable still. On the Monday evening following the Oldham men rang at home the same peal in 2 hrs. 38 mins., with a tenor 14 cwt. On Tuesday, May 24th, the Ashton men rang at home the same peal in 2 hrs. 33 mins., or thirty-three changes to a minute. On Royal Oak Day, May 29th, the Oldham men rung at their own church, St. Paul's (now called St. Mary's), the same peal in 2 hrs. 29½ mins.; and on the same day, but at home, the Ashton men rung the peal in 2 hrs. 29½ mins. On Saturday afternoon, June 4, the Oldham men again rung the same peal in 2 hrs. 29 mins.

On Thursday, June 9th, the Ashton men walked to Mottram-in-Longdendale, and at the ancient church of St. Mary rang Holt's peal in the astonishingly quick time of 2 hrs. 23½ mins.; and again on the Sunday but one following they repeated the same feat at the same church, and in the same time. A writer of the period thus describes the ringing of this peal at Mottram:—"The average speed of ringing this peal was thirty-five changes per minute, and towards the close of the peal thirty-six changes per minute, being the best and quickest ringing ever performed in this kingdom." I am sorry to call into question the veracity of any writer, much more of any writer on bells or ringers, but it is an utter impossibility for any band of ringers to ring 5040 Grandsire Triples in the time stated—2 hrs. 23½ mins. At the present day the Ashton-under-Lyne ringers are admitted on all hands to be a remarkably good set of ringers, and yet on the 31st of March, 1883, it took them 2 hrs. 18 mins. to ring a peal of 5568 of Treble Bob Major on the Mottram bells, being at the rate of 28½ changes per minute, with a tenor stated to be 14 cwt. Last year the Eccles men rang a peal in 2 hrs. 45 mins., being the quickest on record with a tenor 12 cwt. Having been engaged in that peal, I certainly should have doubted the time had it not been taken by at least a dozen independent people, both inside and outside of the tower. I am therefore satisfied a 5040 cannot be rung properly, with a due regard to striking, in anything much less than the Eccles time. Again, I am afraid something besides a spirit of rivalry had sprung up between these two bands of ringers, for on a reference to the time, the first peal was rung in 2 hrs. 38 mins., the next in 2 hrs. 33 mins., then came 2 hrs. 29½ mins., followed by one in 2 hrs. 29 mins., and then came the last one in 2 hrs. 23½ mins., evidently showing that neither side would be beaten if a bit of lying could help them.

The time for the match now drawing near, the remainder of the money was staked, and at the same time Mr. Joseph Grayson, silver-plater of Birmingham, but formerly of Sheffield, was chosen umpire. Mr. Thomas Ogden and Mr. John Moss representing the Ashton men, Mr. Daniel Bamford, of Middleton, and John Amellows, of Oldham, representing the Oldham ringers, were chosen as the censurers; while the treble lead takers were Mr. Joseph Tebbs, of Leeds, and Mr. Jonathan Hague, of Manchester. Unfortunately for the veracity of the ancient writer, no such person as John Amellows of Oldham ever existed, but there was a Wolstencroft of Oldham, whose mother was a celebrated character in Oldham one hundred years ago. She went by the name of Ow'd Malley, and her son was locally known as John O'Malley's: hence John Amellows. This John was a very good ringer, but lazy, and he looked at the affairs of this world with great equanimity. When he got up in a morning he used to look in the cupboard,

and if there was enough food for a meal he did not work that day saying that one meal bout work was better than two with work. Joseph Tebbs was a composer of some fame, and also a ringer of great ability, having, in conjunction with J. Inman, rung the tenor bell, 16 cwt., at Otley church, Yorkshire, through a peal of 12,320 Treble Bob Major, in 7 hrs. 15 mins., on the 16th of October, 1762. He also conducted a peal of 10,080 Plain Bob Major, which was rung at Leeds, December 27th, 1790, in 6 hrs. 15 mins. Tenor 15½ cwt. Of the other judges I have been unable to glean anything save that they were all well-known ringers.

On the 23rd of June both sets of ringers proceeded on their way to Flixton, accompanied by their supporters and a great number of the villagers, some in carts and others on foot. In fact, so many people came to witness the match that sleeping accommodation could not be found for them all, and they had to sleep in the carts in which they came. The present Church Inn was not built then, but a public-house called the "Dog and Partridge" stood about the centre of the churchyard wall. Here the ringers put up. The bells of St. Michael's were kept going until late at night, each side being anxious to obtain the feel or the pull of the bells, and as the early closing movement was not in force then, it was not until early morning that quietness reigned supreme. Shortly after 6 o'clock the rival ringers were awake, and after taking a short walk in the meadows, returned to the "Dog and Partridge," where a knife and fork breakfast was awaiting them. The censurers then drew lots which side should begin. The Oldham men won, and at a few minutes to 8 o'clock they went into the tower. After raising the bells in peal and ringing rounds for a few minutes, they struck off into changes just as the angel's hand on the clock pointed to the figure of eight.

While they are ringing the peal, I should like to take this opportunity of explaining one or two matters in connection with prize-ringing matches. Besides the eight ringers, and the two lead takers, no one else was allowed in the belfry during the ringing, the key of the belfry door being in the possession of the umpire. The duty of the lead takers was to note down each call as it was made by the (conductor), and to see that no change of course was made. The two censurers were locked up in a room in a house near the church, the key again being in custody of the umpire. Their duty consisted in critically examining the ringing as it proceeded. If a bell was rather wide, a certain number of faults was debited to the set who were ringing, and in like manner, if two or more bells came down together, and so caused a little unsteadiness or a crash, a similar plan was followed, and at the close of the ringing the set who had the least number of faults were declared the winners, the umpire not being called into requisition unless the censurers disagreed, when his decision was final. The love of sport appears to be engrained in the character of an average Englishman, and betting follows as a natural sequence. This contest being no exception to the rule, and being mainly got up by backers for the purpose of wagering, an immense amount of money was put on the match by a gullible public, the betting at the commencement of ringing being even. Now I have no objection to a wager between friends, but I strongly object to the professional bookmaker as a great social evil, the magnitude of which is in danger of being overlooked by our spiritual pastors and masters, who would be much better employed in trying to stem this evil than in persecuting one another.

Soon after half-past ten o'clock, the people began to assemble in the churchyard, and set up a loud hurrah as the Oldham ringers brought the bells into rounds, and the judge immediately gave word that they had rung a true and complete peal in 2 hrs. 33 mins. The time of this peal I give as found in old records, but I am sure it cannot be right. On emerging from the belfry they were loudly applauded. It now became the turn of the Ashton men to ring, and as they were a younger set of men than the Oldham ringers, they had the sympathy and good wishes of the fair sex on their side. At a few minutes to eleven o'clock, the ropes having been examined and the bearings of the bells greased, they began raising the bells in peal and struck off into changes at eleven o'clock. In a previous part of this paper I have mentioned John Travis, a publican, and I may add a sinner. This John Travis was acquainted with a blind man named Abraham Fitton, who previous to being blind was a well-known ringer in Oldham. Abraham, although blind, still kept up his interest in ringers and bells. He was endowed with the rare faculty of being able to pick out and write down the lead-ends as the bells were being rung. I am not sure whether this is a natural gift or an acquired art, but certain it is there are plenty of ringers at the present day who are able to do this, but of them I would say that they stand at the head of the art of change-ringing. But more wonderful than writing down lead-ends is tapping changes on bells by one person, of whom Elijah Roberts, the stage-coach guard, was a brilliant example. Of his blowing the changes on his horn and of his tragic end, more anon.

To give an idea to non-ringers of the difficulty of writing down the lead-ends I must explain that the bells at the commencement of ringing are in the position of rounds, thus—1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, and the

first change in Grandsire Triples would be 2, 1, 3, 5, 4, 7, 6; and if the bells are rung at the speed of thirty changes to a minute, there would be 240 separate and distinct notes given by the bells each minute. The difficulty consists in finding when the treble or the bell marked 1 is leading, and noting the position at that instant of the remaining bells. Travis took Abraham Fitton with him to Flixton, and engaged a bedroom for him in a cottage near the church, where he could be quiet and away from the noise outside. Shortly before one o'clock, and soon after the Ashton men had got past the midway single, or half the peal, Abraham sent for John Travis and told him that the Ashton conductor had made a miscall. Travis, after again being assured that such was the case, perhaps in language more forcible than polite, was told by Abraham that the thing was so good he might put his shirt on it. He immediately went into the churchyard, and began laying odds against the Ashton ringers, and their partisans, not being aware of the miscall, and as the ringing was very steady, greedily accepted his offer, only to find at the close how dreadfully they had been taken in.

A few minutes before two o'clock the Ashton men brought the bells into rounds, and on coming out of the tower were greeted with a cheer, but their chagrin was great when the censurers immediately after gave the verdict in favour of the Oldham Ringers. Both sides were entertained with refreshments by Justice Wright, of Flixton, who was a great lover of ringing. He gave £100 to purchase the seventh bell at Flixton, and it was mainly by his energy and perseverance that the remainder of the money was subscribed for the other bells. He was a justice of the peace for both Lancashire and Cheshire, and used to hold his court at the Dog and Partridge. The people came from far and near to have their cases adjudicated upon by Justice Wright. After the match was over, and the Ashton ringers had departed for home, he wrote the following letter to Major Lees, of Ashton, who at that time was a member of the Ashton Old Volunteers: "Mr. Wright begs to present his best compliments to Major Lees, and to request that he will take the trouble to divide ten guineas among the Ashton-under-Lyne ringers as a small compliment due to their merit on this day, in delighting the villagers of Flixton with the most excellent peal of Holt's Grandsire Triples.—Flixton, Midsummer Day, 1808."

The names of the ringers who took part in this memorable match are as follows:—

ASHTON.		OLDHAM.	
Jonathan Wild (conductor)	Treble.	James Taylor	Treble.
Thomas Dewsnap	2.	Robert Coope	2.
Samuel Moss	3.	Henry Hindle	3.
Thomas Hammond	4.	Joseph Newton (conductor)	4.
Aaron Walker	5.	William Rigby	5.
Joseph Burgess	6.	Joshua Kershaw	6.
James Moss	7.	John Whitehead	7.
Charles Greaves	Tenor.	James Gartside	Tenor.

There is yet a sequel to this contest, which I must leave till next week.

ROVING RINGER.

OPENING OF A RING OF EIGHT BELLS AT LONG EATON, DERBYSHIRE.

On Friday evening, September 28th, a special service was held at Long Eaton parish church, to celebrate the dedication and opening of two new trebles, which has been added to the peal of six by Messrs. Taylor and Co., of Loughborough. Shortly after 5 p.m. ringers arrived from Nottingham, Loughborough, and Syston, and after the bells had been raised in peal by six members of the Long Eaton Society, and two of the Syston friends, short touches of Grandsire Triples were rung for the dedication service, at which an excellent sermon was preached by the Rev. W. A. Gilder, Vicar of Mackworth, on the various uses of church bells, and a special collection made for the bell fund. After ringing a few more touches of Grandsire Triples, Bob Major, and a plain course of Kent Treble Bob Major, the service was brought to a close. The ringers present expressed their satisfaction at the tone and go of the bells, considering the lightness of the ring, the tenor being barely 11 cwt. The Long Eaton ringers have had these two new bells placed in the tower by their own perseverance, and beside making collections from the inhabitants of the place, they have partly made the framework, and subscribed the sum of £12 out of their own pockets toward the bells.

On Sunday, September 30th, being Harvest Thanksgiving, eight members of the above society rang for afternoon service, 1260 changes of Grandsire Triples, with 33 bobs, in forty four mins. R. Hickton, 1; G. Bradley, 2; J. C. Dickens, 3; S. Clarke, 4; J. Ward, 5; A. Widdowson, 6; J. Barrow (conductor), 7; J. Pritchard, 8. This quarter-peal is taken from the note-book of the late John Martin of Leicester. Touches of Grandsire Triples and Treble Bob were also rung.

It is reported that Mr. H. Boswell, bell-hanger and change-ringer, who was formerly in the employ of Messrs. Warner and Sons, died very suddenly last Sunday from heart disease. We sincerely hope this report may be unfounded.

TWELVE-BELL STEEPLES OF LONDON.

We will now pass on to St. Michael's, Cornhill. With regard to the history of these bells we find that in the 6th year of Edward VI. there were "vj. great bells and ij. Sawnsse bells." A great many items relating to the bells and steeple appear in the churchwardens' accounts. In 1475 a new weathercock was put up, and here we find entered; "payd ffor gylding of ye fane of ye stepull a Sent Mychell, vs." The steeple was repaired in 1551, and in 1574. In 1553 the ringing at the proclamation of Queen Mary cost 12d., that at her coronation cost 2s. 4d. In 1596 the curfew was ordered to be rung. In 1549 a bell was to be rung at noon for which 4s. per year was paid. In 1598 we find "for helpe to ringe the bells as the bishoppe passed by 16d." A great many more items relating to repairs, etc. might be found. "In 1603," says Stowe, in his History of London, "Upon a certaine tempestuous St. James's night, as certaine men in the loft under the bells were ringinge a peale, an ugle shapen sight appeared to them, coming in at the south window and lighted on the north, for feare whereof they all fell downe, and lay as dead for the time, letting the bells ring and cease of their owne accord, and when they had mustered courage to get up, they found certaine stones of the north window to be rayed and scat, as if they had been so much butter printed with a lyon's clawe." "I have seen them oft," he adds, "and put a feather or small stick into the holes where the claws had entered, three or four inches deepe!" The steeple was not wholly destroyed in the great fire of 1666, and was repaired by Wren, being finished August 29th, 1721. A peal of twelve bells, cast by Richard Phelps, of Whitechapel, was placed therein in 1728. In 1740 the eight was recast by Thos. Lester (successor to Phelps), and in 1746 two trebles were recast also by Thos. Lester. The fifth and tenor were recast in 1795. The bells as they now are bear the following inscriptions:—

(1 and 2) "Thomas Lester made me 1746"; (3) "Magnificat anima. R. Phelps fecit 1728"; (4) "Jubilate Deo, R. Phelps fecit 1728"; (5) "Cast 1795. The Revd. Thomas Robert Wrench, M.A., Rector. Messrs. Lucas Birch, Philip Grub, Joseph Morville churchwardens. Thomas Mears of London fecit." (6) "Exultate Justi R. Phelps fecit 1728"; (7) "Cantat(a) (sic) Domino R. Phelps fecit 1728"; (8) "John Smith, Edmund Wayte, John Hunt, churchwardens. Thomas Lester, Londini fecit 1740"; (9) "Si Deus Nobiscum, Quis contra nos, R. Phelps fecit 1728"; (10) "To Prayers we call, St. Michael's people all; We honour the King, and joy to Brides do sing; Triumph we loudly tell, and ring the Dead Man's Knell. R. Phelps fecit 1728"; (11) "Messrs. Alexander Cleeve, John Wood, Thomas Riley, John Shipstow, William Hide, Richard Roycroft, William Marsland Trustees for buying these twelve bells, R. Phelps fecit 1728"; (12) "This bell recast Anno Domini 1795. The Rev. Thomas Robert Wrench, M.A., Rector of St. Michael's, Cornhill; Messrs. Lucas Birch, Phillip Grubb; Joseph Norville, churchwardens; Thomas Mears, of London, fecit." The tenor is in the key of C, weight 41 cwt. The ringing-chamber is a fine lofty room, well lighted and fitted up. It is a great pity that a huge unsightly sheet-iron pipe should have been carried through the centre of the floor and passed out on the south side. This, which acts as a ventilator to the sun burner below, entirely spoils the belfry.

There was formerly a tablet here recording a peal of 6204 Cinques rung by the London Scholars, November 24th, 1729. (This appears to contradict the idea that there were only 10 bells till 1746.) Of the tablets now in the belfry I notice the following:—

5015 Grandsire Cinques by the Cumberland Youths, April 11th, 1853, time 4 hours. 5232 Kent Treble Bob Maximus by the College Youths, April 11th, 1853, time 4 hrs. 7 mins., and one which I must not fail to give in full, viz:—

"Ancient Society of College Youths, established A.D. 1637. On Saturday, April 27th, 1861, twelve members of the above Society rang on this noble peal of bells, a true and complete peal of Cinques on Steadman's principle, consisting of 8580 changes, in 6 hrs. 41 mins., being the greatest number of changes ever rung in that method on twelve bells. Performers:—

H. W. HALEY	... .. Treble.	ROBERT HAWORTH	... .. 7th.
THOMAS RAY	... .. 2nd.	GEORGE E. FERRIS	... .. 8th.
JOHN BRADLEY	... .. 3rd.	MATTHEW A. WOOD	... .. 9th.
ROBERT JAMESON	... .. 4th.	EDWARD LANSDELL	... .. 10th.
WILLIAM GREEN	... .. 5th.	GEORGE MUSKETT	... .. 11th.
GEORGE STOCKHAM	... .. 6th.	JAMES DWIGHT	... .. Tenor

The above is the first peal in that method performed on the bells, and was composed and conducted by H. W. Haley."

Names of the parochial officers).

Before concluding this account I must thank Mr. Goslin for kindly supplying me with the inscriptions on these bells and also a correspondent who wrote an account of the church in a contemporary some seven or eight years ago, whence I have gleaned some historical facts connected with them.

J. R. JERRAM.

(To be continued.)

"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.

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. E. WARD.—Strictly speaking, we should say not.

The Bell News & Ringers' Record.

SATURDAY, 'OCTOBER 6, 1883.

For some time past, accounts of bells and bell towers have been appearing in these columns. Our readers have been supplied with valuable and interesting information as to the inscriptions and minutest details of workmanship of many of the most famous peals in the kingdom; and we are now in a position to review the mass of evidence thus collected, and see if any new thing can be obtained therefrom.

In glancing over the inscriptions on bells we are struck by one very curious fact. Bellfounders alone seem to have noticed and availed themselves of the means so ready to hand of "keeping their memory green." It is a thing of everyday occurrence to find a bell with the founder's name on it; but how often does it happen that the peal was cast to commemorate the work of some great and good man who has passed away? It seems to us a strange thing that this has not been more thought of. In any church we enter we find stained glass windows, beautiful in truth, but liable to be shattered by any accident; tombstones, silent and mouldering away under the stern hand of time; while that most durable and most beautiful of monuments—a peal of bells—only serves to record the founders' name, with perhaps a wretched couplet containing an exaggerated sentiment. A good bell lasts many years, and, if it should fail, would most certainly be reproduced in its original form, if one-tenth the work was bestowed on it which is seen on monuments of other kinds. And it should be remembered, moreover, that a bell is not a mere ornament (some memorials cannot deserve even this name) to a church. It takes an important part in the daily worship, and in England is inseparably associated with the observance of the Day of Rest.

No man need have a grander memorial than a peal of bells: no man, whose life is inscribed in clear letters cast

in bold relief on the founders' masterpiece, will ever be forgotten. Every visitor to the tower will be shewn the bells and told their story; and every time he hears the peal sounding tunefully in the distance, he must needs think of the man to whose memory they were raised.

Modern stained glass is of little account side by side with the old work, but this is not the case with bells. Tombstones are of no service in a church, however elaborate they may be; a peal of bells, on the other hand, is a welcome addition to any sacred edifice, and we hope that in the future this will be remembered by those who desire to raise a worthy monument to those who have gone before.

The Provinces.

RUNCORN, CHESHIRE.—THE WREXHAM SOCIETY.

On Tuesday, September 25, 1883, in Two Hours and Fifty Minutes,

AT ALL SAINTS' CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

REEVES'S VARIATION OF HOLT'S TEN-PART. Tenor 16 cwt.

ALFRED LEA Treble.	JOHN ELLIS.. .. 5.
R. W. EVANS 2.	THOMAS NEWELL 6.
ROBT. JONES 3.	EDWARD ROWLAND 7.
JOSEPH WILLIAMS 4.	EDWARD EVANS.. .. Tenor.

Conducted by EDWARD ROWLAND.

STOCKPORT, CHESHIRE.—THE HYDE SOCIETY.

On Saturday, September 29, 1883, in Three Hours and Twelve Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5184 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 25 cwt.

JAMES SHAW Treble.	THOMAS WILDE 5.
RALPH PRICHARD 2.	SAMUEL BRADLEY 6.
THOMAS BRADLEY 3.	JAMES S. WILDE 7.
WALTER SLATER 4.	SAMUEL BENNETT Tenor.

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

This peal has the extent of the 6th at nine different course-ends

Although the above peal of bells were hung in the year 1817, this is the first peal of Treble Bob Major rung on them, though several unsuccessful attempts have been made by companies before.

CHESTERFIELD, DERBYSHIRE.—THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, September 29, 1883, in Three Hours and Forty-three Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB ROYAL, 5040 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 24½ cwt.

ARTHUR KNIGHTS Treble.	CHARLES BOWER 6.
HERBERT MADIN.. .. 2.	WALTER WORTHINGTON.. 7.
THOMAS HATTERSLEY .. 3.	JOHN HARRIS 8.
CHARLES H. HATTERSLEY 4.	JAMES HUNT 9.
JOHN W. MULLIGAN.. .. 5.	JOHN BROADHEAD Tenor.

Composed and conducted by ARTHUR KNIGHTS.

This peal has the 6th its extent home and six course-ends in that position, and had never been previously performed.

Messrs. T. and C. H. Hattersley, J. Mulligan, and C. Bower, hail from Sheffield; A. Knights from Chesterfield; the rest of the company belong to Staveley.

CORRECTIONS.—In our last issue, the notice of Sittingbourne festival should read 120's for 720's; and Mr. Haley's address should be 52, Allas Road—not "Atlas" Road—Globe Road, Mile End, E.

MANCHESTER.—THE ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE SOCIETY.

On Saturday, September 29, 1883; in Three Hours and Twenty-five Minutes,

AT THE CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF ST. JOHN,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB ROYAL, 5080 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 25 cwt. in Eb.

THOMAS MOSS .. .. .Treble.	JOSEPH MELLOR .. .. .6.
JOSEPH BOWCOCK .. .. .2.	SAMUEL WOOD .. .. .7.
JAMES WOOD .. .. .3.	JOSEPH GILLOT .. .. .8.
WILLIAM SMITH .. .. .4.	GEORGE LONGDEN .. .. .9.
BENJAMIN BROADBENT .. .. .5.	JOHN THORP .. .. .Tenor.

Composed and conducted by JOHN THORP.

DRAYTON, BERKS.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS; AND
THE ST. MARTIN'S (BIRMINGHAM) SOCIETY.

On Monday, October 1, in Two Hours and Forty-five Minutes,

AT ST. PETER'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

THURSTANS' COMPOSITION.

H. JOHNSON, JUN. .. ..Treble.	J. BUFFERY .. .. .5.
JOE JOYNES .. .. .2.	S. REEVES .. .. .6.
H. BASTABLE .. .. .3.	REV. F. E. ROBINSON .. .. .7.
H. JOHNSON, SEN. .. .. .4.	A. THOMAS .. .. .Tenor.

Conducted by the Rev. F. E. ROBINSON.

Date Touch.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

HASKETON (Suffolk).—On Sunday, September 30th, it being the Harvest Festival, the parish church was beautifully decorated with corn, flowers, and fruit, arranged by the Rev. T. H. and Mrs. Simpkin, and other ladies of the parish. The bells were ringing merrily between the services during the day. After the afternoon service, five members of the above Association rang fifteen 6-scores and eighty-three changes of Grandsire and Plain Doubles, being the date of the present year. H. Burch, sen. (conductor), 1; H. Burch, jun., 2; W. Burch, 3; J. Burch, 4; S. Ward, 5.

Miscellaneous.

BIRMINGHAM AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATION.

KING'S NORTON (Worcestershire).—On Tuesday, October 2nd, seven members of the above Association rang at the parish church, a 720 of Grandsire Minor with tenor covering, in 26 mins. Frank Palmer, 1; W. H. Sumner, 2; J. Ashmole, 3; F. Scrivens, 4; W. Palmer, 5; J. Wright (conductor), 6; D. Taylor, 7. Tenor 18 cwt. This is J. Ashmole's first 720, which was rung at his first attempt.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.—On Monday, October 1st, at the Church of St. John the Baptist, a 720 of Bob Minor (eighteen bobs and two singles), in 26½ mins. C. L. Routledge, 1; Francis Lees, 2; W. Egglestone, 3; Thomas J. des Forges, 4; William Story (conductor), 5; Walter G. Routledge, 6. First 720 in this method conducted by William Story. Tenor 12½ cwt.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

BRAINTREE.—On Wednesday, September 26th, 720 Woodbine Treble Bob. S. Hammond, 1; *F. Bumpstead, 2; W. H. Dyson, 3; F. Calthorpe, 4; F. Rudkin (conductor), 5; A. Hucksion, 6. Also on September 30, 720 Imperial. †S. Hammond, 1; F. Calthorpe, 2; †W. H. Dyson, 3; H. E. Hammond, 4; †F. Rudkin (conductor), 5; †A. Hucksion, 6. This is the first 720 in this method by any of the company. *First 720 with a bob bell. †College Youths.

THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

WIMBLEDON (Surrey).—On Tuesday, September 25th, six members of the above Association rang a 720 of Grandsire Minor, with thirty-four bobs and two singles, in 27 mins. C. Hyde, 1; R. Roots, 2; G. Welling, 3; S. Forst, 4; A. Garrott, 5; T. Fayers (conductor), 6. Tenor 12 cwt.

THE SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.

CLERKENWELL (Middlesex).—On Sunday, September 23rd, was rang at St. James's church, about 1200 changes of Grandsire Triples, the calling being taken from "Holt's Original," in 48 mins. J. Deveraux, 1; W. Rumsay, 2; Henry Hopkins (conductor), 3; Edwd. Moses, 5; Wingfield Weadows, 5; Tom Taylor, 6; Joseph Barry, 7; C. Hopkins, 8.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

FARNHAM ROYAL (Bucks).—On Saturday, September 29th, at the parish church (St. Mary's), the local company, with Messrs. S. Hayes and H. Tucker of the College Youths (London), rang the following touches for practice: 360 Grandsire Minor, followed by a 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor, in 26 mins., by six members of the St. James's Society (London) this being the first 720 of Treble Bob on these bells. Mr. A. Fussell has kindly promised a tablet. *J. Basden, 1; *A. Fussell, 2; J. Parker, 3; W. Fussell, 4; S. Hayes, 5; H. Tucker (conductor), 6. Also a 360 Oxford Bob Minor, and two courses of Oxford Treble Bob Minor. On Sunday, September 30th, it being the occasion of the Harvest Thanksgiving, for Divine Service in the morning, 720 Oxford Bob Minor, in 24 mins. C. Clarke, 1; J. Basden, 2; W. Fussell, 3; *S. Hayes, 4; J. Parker, 5; *H. Tucker (conductor), 6. Also a 720 Grandsire Minor (with 32 bobs and 16 singles), in 25½ mins. C. Chapman, 1; W. Fussell, 2; F. Fells, 3; A. Batten, 4; S. Hayes, 5; H. Tucker (conductor), 6. Also two 6-scores of Stedman Doubles. H. Tucker, 1; W. Fussell, 2; J. Parker (conductor), 3; J. Basden, 4; S. Hayes, 5; C. Clarke, 6. For afternoon service, 720 Bob Minor (with 26 singles), in 24½ mins. C. Clarke, 1; F. Fells, 2; J. Parker, 3; J. Basden, 4; H. Tucker, 5; S. Hayes (conductor), 6. And in the evening, there being Harvest Thanksgiving at the Mission Hall (Farnham Common), another 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor was rung in 25 mins. *F. Fells, 1; *J. Basden, 2; S. Hayes, 3; J. Parker, 4; W. Fussell, 5; H. Tucker (conductor), 6. After which the six St. James's members rang a 720 Oxford Treble Bob Minor, in 24½ mins., and a 6-score of Stedman Doubles. *J. Basden, 1; *A. Fussell, H. Tucker, 3; *J. Parker, 4; *W. Fussell, 5; S. Hayes (conductor), 6. *First 720's in the methods. Tenor 12 cwt.

OXFORD.—On Saturday, September 8th, at St. Peter's, a 720 each of Plain Bob and Oxford Treble Bob Minor, in 50 mins. Charles Hester, 1; Oliver Thomas, 2; Samuel Hounslow, 3; George Lapworth, 4; James W. Washbrook (conductor), 5; William Finch, 6. Tenor 13 cwt. Also on Saturday, the 15th, at Merton College, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, 1260 changes, in 48 mins. William Finch, 1; Thomas Payne, 2; Alfred Fox, 3; George Lapworth, 4; Samuel Hounslow, 5; Charles Hounslow, 6; J. W. Washbrook (conductor), 7; A. Strange and A. Barney, 8. Tenor 36 cwt. Also on Monday, the 24th, at New College, on the Seage apparatus, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples, 1260 changes, in 45 mins. William Finch, 1; W. C. Baston, 2; Job Howes, 3; George Lapworth, 4; Samuel Hounslow, 5; Thomas Payne, 6; J. W. Washbrook (conductor), 7; A. Strange, 8. Also on the 25th, at the Cathedral, a 550 of Grandsire Triples, in 20 mins. S. Hounslow, 1; J. Howes, 2; A. Fox, 3; G. Lapworth, 4; Thomas Payne, 5; W. Finch, 6; J. W. Washbrook (conductor), 7; Wm. Wakelin, 8. Tenor 42 cwt.

BALCOMBE (Sussex).—On Sunday, September, 30th, for afternoon service, 720 Oxford Single Bob, with eight bobs and six singles, in 27 mins. W. F. Meads (Lindfield), 1; B. Payne, 2; F. Streeter, 3; W. Denman, 4; G. Illman, 5; Jno. Gasson (conductor), 6. After service 360 same method, called with eleven singles. W. Owden, 1; J. Kenward, 2; F. Rice, 3; H. Chapman, 4; J. Gasson, 5; E. Streeter (conductor), 6. An attempt at Plain Bob was frustrated by a shift course after ringing about 600 changes in good style, same as above except 3, which was rung by J. Tullett. After which another 720 of Oxford was started for, but time being short, on account of some wishing to catch the train, it was brought home at 600, with eighteen bobs and two singles. W. F. Meads, 1; B. Payne, 2; F. Streeter, 3; W. Denman, 4; G. Illman, 5; E. Streeter (conductor), 6.

BEAMINSTER (Dorset).—On Wednesday, September 26th, on the back six, three 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles. William Newman, 1; G. J. Pomeroy, 2; T. P. Coombs, 3; C. G. Purkis, 4; Rev. P. H. Jackson, 5; J. Trump, 6. Tenor 28 cwt. in D. All first 6-scores with the exception of the Rev. P. H. Jackson, who through the kindness of the Lytham ringers was enabled to ring his first 6-score there in the summer. The above performance is thought to be worthy of record, as it is the first change-ringing on the above bells, and the ringers, who are all of Beaminster, have taught themselves, call-changes only having been rung there previously.—[We are very glad to be able to publish this item of ringing news from Dorset.—Ed.]

BARNWOOD (Gloucestershire).—On Tuesday evening, September 25th, six members of the Gloucester and Bristol Diocesan Association rang for practice a 720 of Canterbury Pleasure Minor, in 27 mins. J. Jordan, 1; J. Yeates, 2; G. Miles, 3; A. Waite, 4; H. Mitchell, 5; R. A. Barrett (conductor), 6. And a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor was attempted, but it came to grief at the end of 340 changes. J. Yeates, 1; G. Miles, 2; A. Waite, 3; H. G. Gardner, 4; H. Mitchell, 5; R. A. Barrett (conductor), 6.

BEDMINSTER (Somerset).—On Saturday evening, September 29th, the ringers of St. Andrew's, Clifton, accepted an invitation from the sexton of St. Luke's, Bedminster, and rang on the bells a 720 of Grandsire Minor, in 25 mins. G. Morgan, 1; Edmund Duckham, 2; Alfred York, 3; Henry Porch, 4; Francis Price, 5; Wm. Emery, 6. Called by Henry Porch, it being his first attempt at bob-calling. There were also some 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles rung, in which W. Steadon and Mr. Palser took part, with several other ringing friends.

CAVENDISH (Suffolk).—On Sunday, September 30th, being the Harvest Festival, for morning service, a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob, in 25 mins. F. J. Thompson, 1; H. Thompson, 2; C. W. Hurst, 3; A. Ives, 4; G. Maxim, 5; A. Hurst (conductor), 6. Also before afternoon service, a 720 of Plain Bob, with fifteen calls, in 26 mins. After service, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob, in 24 mins. F. J. Thompson, 1; H. Thompson, 2; S. Slater, 3; A. Ives, 4; G. Maxim, 5; Alexander Hurst (conductor), 6.

CRAYFORD (Kent).—On Sunday, September 30th, being the Harvest Festival, eight members of the Crayford company rang a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, for evening service, containing 1260 changes in 42 mins. E. Saxby, 1; F. French, 2; F. M. Jacobs (conductor), 3; G. Conyard, 4; J. Saxby, 5; A. Coles, 6; J. Garrard, 7; T. Webb, 8.

CHIDDINGSTONE (Kent).—On Saturday, September 29th, several members of the Reigate (Surrey) society of change-ringers, with Mr. W. Burkin of Nutfield, paid a visit to Chiddingstone, and by kind permission attempted to ring on the bells of the parish church, Holt's Original one-part peal of Grandsire Triples, but after ringing 2450 changes came to grief through two bells changing course. It was a question whether the peal would have been gotten if no mistake had not occurred, as the bells go very indifferently; each one owned they had had quite enough of it. It is over thirty years since a peal was rung on the bells, this being the longest touch since. J. Howard, 1; F. T. Hoad, (conductor) 2; W. Burkin, 3; W. Bone, 4; T. Fuller, 5; E. Kenward, 6; W. Webb, 7; W. Argent, 8. Tenor 18½ cwt.

ELTHAM (Kent).—On Thursday, September 27th, at St. John-the-Baptist, a 720 of Bob Minor, with forty singles, in 25 mins. C. Mussett, 1; G. Sheppard, 2; C. English, 3; G. Conyard, 4; F. Fraser, 5; F. French (conductor), 6. Also a 720 of Bob Minor, with eight bobs and ten singles, in 25 mins. Conducted by G. Sheppard. Also on Sunday, September 30th, for Divine Service, a 720 of Grandsire Minor, with thirty-four bobs and eight singles, in 25 mins. J. King, 1; W. Goslin, 2; C. Mussett, 3; J. Smith, 4; G. Sheppard (conductor), 5; F. Fraser, 6.

FRAMPTON-ON-SEVERN (Gloucestershire).—On Sunday, September 23rd, after Divine Service in the afternoon, six members of the Gloucester and Bristol Diocesan Association rang 240 changes of Kent Treble Bob Minor. J. Yeates, 1; G. Miles, 2; A. Waite, 3; H. G. Gardner, 4; H. Mitchell, 5; R. A. Barrett (conductor), 6. Also a 444 of Plain Bob Minor. G. Miles, 1; J. Yates, 2; H. G. Gardner, 3; A. Waite, 4; H. Mitchell, 5; R. A. Barrett (conductor), 6. Also a 360 of Grandsire Minor. J. Yates, 1; T. Brown, 2; G. Miles, 3; R. A. Barrett, 4; H. Mitchell, 5; H. G. Gardner (conductor), 6. T. Brown is also a member of the Association.

GAINSBOROUGH (Lincolnshire).—On Thursday, September 27th, at the Harvest Thanksgiving Service at All Saints' church, a 720 of Bob Minor, with nine bobs and six singles. W. Tinker, 1; H. Tate, 2; J. C. Tinker, 3; M. B. Ashton, 4; F. F. Linley, 5; E. Mason (Boston; conductor), 6; C. Brewin rang tenor behind.

GLOUCESTER.—On Thursday evening, August 2nd, at St. Mary-de-Lode, five members of the Gloucester and Bristol Diocesan Association, with Mr. R. Allen, rang 720 of Plain Bob Minor, in 28 mins. R. Allen, 1; G. Miles, 2; A. Waite, 3; H. Mitchell, 4; R. A. Barrett, 5; H. G. Gardner (conductor), 6. This is the first 720 of the above method on these bells in the remembrance of man.

HAVERSTOCK HILL (Middlesex).—On Wednesday evening, September 26th, a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob Minor, in 26 mins. B. Foskett, 1; G. Griffin (first 720 inside), 2; J. Hannington (conductor), 3; J. Leach, 4; T. Titchener, 5; A. Jacob, 6. Tenor 12½ cwt.

HEARSEFIELD (Gloucestershire).—On Sunday evening, August 5th, five members of the Gloucester and Bristol Diocesan Association, assisted by Mr. J. Jones, one of the local band, rang 720 changes of Bob Minor in 26 mins. J. Jones, 1; J. Yeates, 2; A. Waite, 3; H. Mitchell, 4; R. A. Barrett, 5; H. G. Gardner (conductor), 6. This is the first 720 of the above method rung on these bells.

HORSHAM (Sussex).—On Tuesday evening, October 2nd, was rung at St. Mary's church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, 1260 changes, in 47 mins. Richard Dale, 1; Jacob Browne, 2; William Short, 3; Harry Wood, 4; Thomas Andrews, 5; Harry Chantler, 6; Henry Burstow (conductor), 7; John Bishop, 8.

HIGHER SUTTON (Cheshire).—On Wednesday, October 3rd, on the occasion of a wedding, six of the local society rang a 720 of Bob Minor, with four bobs and fourteen singles, in 26 mins. William Walmsley (conductor), 1; William H. Ingham, 2; William H. Hardman, 3; J. M. Davenport, 4; Walter Ingham, 5; Thomas Mottershead, 6. Also a 360 in the same method, with six bobs and six singles, in 13 mins. Conducted by W. Walmsley. And a 360 of Grandsire Minor, with seventeen bobs, in 14 mins. Conducted by W. H. Ingham, the band standing as above.

IPSWICH (Suffolk).—On Thursday evening, September 27th, touches of Treble and Plain Bob Minor, by Messrs. Degee, Meadows, Saul, Alexander, Pemberton, and Brundle. Also 360 of Plain Bob: W. L. Catchpole, 1; E. Pemberton, 2; I. S. Alexander, 3; C. Saul, 4; P. Hamblett (Daresbury, Cheshire), 5; R. Brundle, 6. Tenor 19 cwt. It was intended to have rung a 720 with Mr. Hamblett, but owing to the persistent talk of an intruder to the belfry had to be content with 18-score.

QUEX PARK, BIRCHINGTON (Kent).—On Saturday, September 29th, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, 1260 changes, was rung at the Waterloo tower in the above park, in 50 mins. W. Andrews, 1; J. Small, 2; T. B. Reed, 3; H. G. Fairbrass, 4; A. Andrews, 5; R. E. Fiske, Esq., 6; G. Stancombe (conductor), 7; W. Emptage, 8. All are members of the Kent County Association, with the exception of the treble and the seventh ringers.

SALISBURY (Wiltshire).—On Saturday, September 22nd, at St. Martin's church (for the first time by local ringers), a touch of 216 Bob Minor, with twelve bobs and two singles. H. Dowling, 1; C. Clements, junr., 2; A. S. Dowling, 3; W. Giffard, 4; T. Blackburn, 5; J. R. Jerram, 6. Tenor 15 cwt.

TEWKESBURY (Gloucestershire).—On Sunday, September 30th, for Divine Service in the evening, the Abbey Society rang 1008 changes of Union Triples in 38 mins. R. H. Witherington, 1; S. Cleal, 2; F. J. Moore, 3; J. Hale, 4; J. Wathen, 5; C. Awford, 6; Josiah Wathen (composer and conductor), 7; W. Haines, 8. Tenor 23 cwt. 3 qrs. 19 lbs. in D.

UPTON ST. LEONARDS (Gloucestershire).—On Sunday afternoon, August 26th, before Divine Service, six members of the local band rang for Divine Service, on the back six, a 720 of Bob Minor, in 28 mins. J. Middlecote, 1; J. Yeates, 2; G. Miles, 3; H. G. Gardner, 4; A. Waite, 5; R. A. Barrett (conductor), 6. On Sunday morning, September 16th, prior to Divine Service, six members of the Gloucester and Bristol Diocesan Association rang a 720 of Canterbury Pleasure Minor, in 28 mins., all being members of the local company. J. Middlecote, 1; J. Yates, 2; G. Miles, 3; A. Waite, 4; H. Mitchell (composer and conductor), 5; R. A. Barrett, 6. This is the first 720 in this method ever rung on the bells. And on Sunday morning, September 30th, previous to Divine Service, six members of the local band rang for the Harvest Thanksgiving Festival a 720 of Bob Minor, in 27½ mins. (nine bobs and six singles). J. Middlecote, 1; J. Yeates, 2; G. Miles, 3; H. G. Gardner, 4; A. Waite, 5; R. A. Barrett (conductor), 6.

TUNBRIDGE WELLS (Kent).—On Sunday, September 30th, for Divine Service in the evening at St. Peter's church, was rung a 720, consisting of six 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles, each called differently, in 27 mins. †C. Turner, 1; H. Barefield (conductor), 2; R. Sharvill, 3; W. Latter, 4; *J. Muggridge, 5; W. Ford, 6. Tenor 14 cwt. 3 qrs. †First time of ringing treble. *First 720 with a bob bell.

WALTON-ON-THE-HILL (Lancs.).—On Sunday, September 30th, being the Harvest Festival at St. Mary's church, a mixed band rang a 720 of Grandsire Minor, with thirty-four bobs and two singles, in 26 mins. G. Larkey (Aughton), 1; C. E. Wilson (Walton), 2; W. Rushton (Bootle), 3; W. Fairclough (Aughton; conductor), 4; E. Yates (Bootle), 5; J. Bradshaw (Bootle), 6. The above was rung without a plain lead being called. Weight of tenor 10 cwt.

WOOD GREEN (Middlesex).—On Sunday evening, September 23rd, at St. Michael's church, for Divine Service, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor, in 25 mins. J. Nixon, 1; W. Meadows, 2; J. Hannington (conductor), 3; M. Ellsmore, 4; T. Titchener, 5; A. Jacob, 6. After Service a 720 of Plain Bob Minor, with four bobs and fourteen singles, in 23 mins. A. Jacob, 1; E. Cole, 2; G. Griffin, 3; J. Nixon, 4; J. Hannington (conductor), 5; T. Titchener, 6. Also a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor, in 24 mins. J. Barry, 1; J. Hannington (conductor), 2; G. Griffin, 3; A. Jacob, 4; E. Cole, 5; T. Titchener, 6. Also a 6-score of Stedman Doubles. T. Titchener, 1; E. Cole, 2; A. Jacob, 3; J. Hannington (conductor), 4; J. Barry, 5; E. King, 6. Tenor 12½ cwt.

THE HITCHIN SOCIETY.

On Monday, the 24th ult., the above society had their annual outing, and by kind permission of the Vicars and Churchwardens of the various churches, which were obtained by a worthy member of the Bedfordshire Association of change ringers, Mr. J. Hills, the respected steeple-keeper of St. Paul's Bedford, Bedford, Cardington, and Bromham was visited. Leaving Hitchin by the 6.20 train, they arrived at Bedford just before 7 o'clock, and were kindly met by Mr. Foot and Mr. W. Allen, of Bedford, and Mr. Biggs of Bromham, who had walked in a pouring rain to meet the company at the station. They were then conducted to St. Paul's Church, and being informed that they could not ring the bells until 6 o'clock, were content to examine the bells and fittings in the tower, and rang a 6-score of Grandsire Doubles and a touch of Bob Minor on the handbells. The way was then made for Cardington, but after running and walking, the visitors were annoyed by seeing the train go out of the station, being about two minutes too late. After consulting together as to the best way of getting there, the cravings of the inner man reminded them of breakfast, so they were conducted to the Bedford coffee-house, where their wants were supplied. The weather by this time looking little brighter, they decided to walk to Cardington, a distance of two and a half miles, and were accompanied by three members of the Association. Arriving there and examining the bells (a ring of eight, tenor about a ton, not a bad peal if rehung and clappers adjusted), the back six were raised in peal, and a course of Grandsire Triples and several 120s of Grandsire Doubles were rung. Six courses of Grandsire Triples, with the assistance of the friends from Bedford, were attempted, but during the last course, when the seventh was before, that bell-rope by some means caught a wire belonging to the clock, which checked her, thus causing a collapse. Finding time getting short, the bells were lowered, and on leaving the belfry, the visitors were met by the Vicar, who they thanked for the use of the bells, and reminded him at the same time of what was required to make the ringing a pleasure at Cardington. It would be a good thing indeed if these bells were in good order, especially as the local company at Bedford have very limited practice, and peal-ringing is out of the question. Getting back to Bedford, the party were conducted to St. Paul's Square, where they enjoyed a capital dinner, after this a departure was made for Bromham. The ringing-room here is a very comfortable place, the tenor weighs from sixteen to eighteen cwt. is very near D, "and," says our correspondent, "one of the worst we ever heard, and is extremely flat. We were informed it was one of Chandler's bells, and on inquiring, were told that the bells have lately been rehung by a man named Rodgers, we think the flights of the clappers are from seven to nine inches in length. We rang several 6-scores of Bob Minor, with the assistance of the Association. Time getting on, we made the best of our way back to Bedford and arrived at St. Paul's in time to hear the chimes play 'My Lodging is on the Cold Ground.' On entering the churchyard we were met by several of the Association, and were glad to see and have a pull with them. After raising the bells two touches was rang of Grandsire Triples, assisted by several members of the association, and the time of departure drawing nigh we had to leave for the last train, 7.20, from Bedford, well satisfied with our day's outing, and we take this opportunity of thanking the association for their assistance and kindness in meeting us, and we hope to be able to return the compliments by meeting them at Hitchin in a short time."

THE BALDOCK SOCIETY, HERTFORDSHIRE.

On Friday evening, September 28th, the members of this Society, entertained at the "George Inn," Baldock, to an excellent supper (provided by Host Roslyns), the gift of Mrs. Pryor, a benevolent lady of the same place. Mr. R. Jackson, the Master of the above society, occupied the chair, and Mr. Smith the vice-chair. Mr. W. A. Tyler, instructor to the company, was present as a guest. After enjoying the good things, which were plentifully provided, the cloth was drawn, and several toasts proposed and responded to, viz; "The Queen," "Mrs. Pryor," "Mr. Tyler," "Mr. Jackson," and "the host." The remainder of the evening was spent in ringing 120s of Grandsire Doubles on the handbells and harmony following, a most enjoyable evening was spent.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

The Annual gathering of the Members and Friends of the Association will take place at Norwich on Monday, October 8th. There will be Divine Service at St. Peter Mancroft church, at 12.45. Preacher, the Rev. F. E. Robinson, Vicar of Drayton, Berks, and Master of the Oxford Diocesan Guild of Ringers. Dinner will be served in St. Andrew's Hall at 1.30. The Mayor of Norwich in the Chair. After Dinner the usual Business Meeting will take place. St. Andrew's Hall will be Head Quarters for the day.

N. BOLINGBROKE, Sec. pro tem.

4, Bracondale Terrace, Norwich.

HORLEY, SURREY.

THE parish church of Horley, dedicated to St. Bartholomew, is situated about a mile to the west of Horley station, on the Brighton Main Line, twenty-five miles south of London, and five below Reigate. The edifice is in the early English style of architecture, and consists of Chancel, with South Chapel, Nave, North Aisle, and Tower surmounted by shingled spire. The church was restored in 1881, under the direction of A. W. Blomfield, Esq., M.A., at a cost of over £3000; the work done including renewal of roof, refitting interior and removal of galleries, the organ, a splendid instrument, is now placed in the south chapel, the window at east end of north aisle is one of the finest in the country. In the Communion is a handsome reredos, presented by members of the "Shove" family. Going among the bells we find that in 1812 the old bells were recast into six, and two trebles added in 1839, all by T. Mears, London. They are in very good order for ringing, the diameter of tenor is 41½ inches, weight, 13½ cwt. They are rung for morning and evening service on Sundays.

THE (BRAINTREE) ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

The following is the work done by the Braintree members of the Essex Association during the month of September.—September 1st, 720 Woodbine Treble Bob; 720 New London Pleasure. September 2nd, 720 Cambridge Surprise; 720 Double Court Bob; 720 Woodbine Treble Bob. September 8th, 720 Bob Minor; 720 London Surprise. September 9th, 720 Cambridge Surprise; 120 Bob Minor; 240 College Exercise. September 12th, 720 London Surprise. September 19th, 720 Bob Minor; 720 Double Court; 120 Oxford Treble Bob. September 22nd, 720 Bob Minor. September 23rd, 720 College Exercise; 720 Woodbine Treble Bob; 240 Kent Treble Bob. September 26th, 720 Woodbine Treble Bob; 120 Bob Doubles; 120 Imperial. September 30th, 720 Oxford Treble Bob; 60 Court Single; 720 Imperial; 120 Oxford Delight; 60 Double Court Bob; 240 Violet; 240 Kent Treble Bob.

WEST MIDDLESEX ASSOCIATION.

The members will meet for practice in the following belfries:—

St. John-the-Baptist, Hillingdon.—Thursdays, October 11th, and November 15th, at 7.45.

Isleworth.—Saturdays, October 20th, and November 17th, at 7.30.

Slough.—Saturdays, October 27th, and November 24th, at 6.30.

St. Andrew's, Hillingdon.—Saturdays, November 3rd, and December 1st, at 7.30.

Ruislip.—Saturdays, November 10th, and December 15th, at 7.

The ringing will be under the direction of Mr. Baron, instructor to the Association. C. T. MAYO, Hon. Sec.

HORNCASTLE BELLS, LINCOLNSHIRE.

THE church of S. Mary, Horncastle, possesses a good peal of six bells, besides two small bells. All were cast by Mr. Henry Penn, of Peterborough (whose history was recorded in "THE BELL NEWS" some months ago), in the year 1717. The third was recast by Daniel Hedderly in 1727, and the fourth Thos. Osborn of Downham in 1801. The treble has on her, "Lectum fuge, discute Sonum;" the second, "In templo venerare Deum.—Hen: Penn nos fudit Cornuscatri;" the fifth, "Dum Spiras Spera;" and the tenor "Exeat e busto auspice Christo." Tenor 18 cwt. One of the small bells is used as a fire bell, and the other used to be the clock bell until 1861, when the clock was made to strike on the tenor. We have never heard of much change-ringing being done here. Just behind the church there lived a performer on ropes (but not on bell ropes), in fact no less a personage than the late William Marwood, whose death has lately been before the public. He lived in a small house in Church Street, close to the east end of the church. J. R. JERRAM.

THE "JOHN HOLT" PEAL TABLET.

THE restoration of this tablet is, we are informed, now being proceeded with. The estimate for the work reaches the sum of £5 10s., and the payment of this amount will leave a balance of £1 9s. 1d. The Committee are desirous of obtaining the views of subscribers to the fund as to the disposal of this surplus.

BELL RESTORATION.—The six beautiful bells of St. Mary's church, Yate, Gloucestershire, have been lately rehung by Mr. Harry Stokes, of Woodbury, Devon. Mr. Drinkwater, the Master of the Gloucester and Bristol Diocesan Association, at the request of the Committee formed for carrying out the work, has inspected it, and thinks it done most thoroughly. The ringers (change) are very pleased, and say the tenor (weighing 26 cwt.) now rings as easily as the fourth did formerly.

ACTON (ST. MARY'S) ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, September 29th, the members of the above Society paid a visit to Mortlake, where they were met by Mr. Bullen, the sexton and steeple-keeper, who had previously obtained permission of the Rev. A. S. Shutte to ring upon the bells for the evening. Ringing commenced about half-past 5, conducted by Mr. W. Baron, who has been instructor to this Society since its formation, and a touch of Grandsire Triples was rung in very good form. Visitors afterwards began to arrive, among whom were C. Malim, Esq., Mr. H. Thomas, of Battersea, and Mr. Perriman, of Slough. Several 500's were then rung in which each of the above gentlemen took part; the ringing was brought to a close by the Acton company ringing a touch of 1008. W. Taylor, 1; G. Ilsley, 2; W. Baron, 3; W. Fenwick, 4; G. Trinder, 5; W. Wilder, 6; F. Slade, Esq., 7; E. Gould, 8; when the whole party, sixteen in number, retired to the "Queen's Head" Hotel, where an excellent dinner, provided by Mr. Huntsman, the proprietor, was awaiting them. After dinner, the health of the chairman, F. Slade, Esq. being drank and responded to, and harmony prevailing, the party broke up, all feeling satisfied that this, their first annual outing, was a complete success.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

The bells of St. Thomas-ye-Martyr Church, Oxford, have been turned and rehung with new irons, new stocks and wheels, by Mr. White, Bell-hanger, of Besselsleigh, who has given every satisfaction by the way in which he has completed the work entrusted to him, at a cost of between £25 and £30. They were reopened on Wednesday the 12th ult., by the following members of the above Guild ringing a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor, in 26 mins. F. White (of Besselsleigh), 1; J. Field, 2; C. Hounslow (conductor), 3; O. Thomas, 4; S. Buckle, 5; W. C. Baston, 6. Also another 720 in the same method, in 25 mins. J. Howes, 1; T. Payne, 2; W. Finch, 3; W. C. Baston (conductor), 4; O. Thomas, 5; S. Buckle, 6. And on September 19th, at St. Mary Magdalen, 1440 of Minor, in 47 mins., comprising a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob and a 720 of Kent Treble Bob, by the following members. Job Howes, 1; T. Payne, 2; J. W. Washbrook (conductor), 3; W. Finch, 4; W. C. Baston, 5; C. Hounslow, 6.

THE ST. JAMES'S COMPANY, BURY ST. EDMUND'S.

On Sunday evening, September 23rd, six members of this company met at Fornham St. Martin, and rang for evening service. After the service was concluded, they rang 720 of Plain Bob Minor in 25 mins. R. Wilding 1; A. Alderton, 2; R. Moore, 3; A. Bridges, 4; G. Debenham, 5; A. Osborne (conductor), 6. Tenor 7 cwt. in A. At the same time a meeting of some of the above was arranged to ring for the evening service at Horringer the following Sunday. It being the day appointed for the Harvest Thanksgiving Service, and after the evening service there, the following persons rang a 720 of Plain Bob Minor in 30 mins. H. Rour, 1; G. Cockerill, 2; J. Gooch, 3; G. Cornell, 4; G. Debenham, 5; A. Osborne (conductor), 6. Tenor 10 cwt. in Ab.

A writer in the *Cornhill Magazine* of January 1876, in a paper entitled, "A Week among the Maoris of Lake Taupo, New Zealand," says the following:—

"While rambling about next morning we came upon a graveyard, and on a large church bell in its midst, lying idly in the sand, broken. It was inscribed with the following words in the Maori language, which must be pronounced like Italian, sounding, however, the aspirate: 'He mea homai noa tenei kia koutou ete hunge whakapono o mawhera (scratched out) no etahi wahine pai o kotirana, April 3rd, 1853.'—being interpreted, 'This thing was given to you, the believers of Mawhera, by certain good women of Scotland, April 1853.' An old woman, squatting by, explained that it was the present of Mrs.—, the missionary's wife, as 'a piece of soft soap to turn them to Christianity.' This, we were assured, was the old creature's literal expression. The bell's history, as I learnt afterwards, had been full of vicissitudes. Sent out to the missionary at Mawhera by certain Scotch friends, it had only arrived in New Zealand after his death. It was then transferred to the Taupo Mission, whither it was brought from Tauranga in the following way. The chiefs sent down a party to carry it, suspended from a pole; but the men, finding it too heavy, left it by the roadside, where it lay for many months. At last Poihipi of Tapuae-hararu hit on an expedient. Taking a beer-barrel, he packed the bell tight therein with fern. Then it was rolled along the track for nearly a hundred miles, transported in a canoe across Lake Taupo, and set up at Tokano. The natives, having got their bell, must needs ring it, and gave a party to the neighbouring tribe to celebrate the event. All rang so heartily that the bell broke, and has lain there ever since, useless and despoiled." This is somewhat of a fatal end to a "bell-opening."

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

THE ANNUAL MEETING will be held on Saturday, [October 13th, at Holy Trinity church, Bolton. *Agenda*.—3.45 p.m., service in Holy Trinity church. 5 p.m., Tea. 6 p.m., Business Meeting—election of President, Secretary, and two Committee-men; Admission of members. 7.30, ringing. The belfries of Holy Trinity church, the parish church, and All Souls' church, will be open till 3.30 p.m., and after 7.20 p.m. for ringing. Tickets for tea, 1s. each, may be had from any member of the committee, or from

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

STOKE-UPON-TRENT ARCHIDIACONAL ASSOCIATION.

THE order of Meetings of the Association in this month is as follows; 6th, Cheadle; 13th, Barlaston; 20th, Biddulph; 27th, Checkley.

T. H. B. FEARON, } *Hon. Secs.*
ENDON GLOVER, }

THE ELY DIOCESAN SOCIETY OF CHANGE-RINGERS.

The first meeting of the above Society will take place at Ely, on Saturday, October 20th. There will be a short service at St. Mary's Church, with an address by the Venerable the Archdeacon of Ely. Ringers from all parts of the diocese and all friends of campanology are invited, and it is hoped that the meeting will be a large and enthusiastic one. Those purposing to attend, will confer a favour if they will communicate with the honorary secretary as soon as possible. *The Cambridge Road, Ely.*

K. H. SMITH, *Hon. Sec.*

THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

A Quarterly Meeting of this association was held at Reigate, (by the kind permission of the vicar) on Monday, October 1st. Representatives attended from most of the parishes in the union. At the business meeting, held at the Red Cross after tea, it was determined that the next district meeting should be held at Beddington in the middle of November, and the next Quarterly Meeting at Kingston-on-Thames, on the first Monday in January. A hearty vote of thanks to the vicar for allowing the use of the tower to the Association, terminated the business. Ringing took place before the 4 o'clock service, from 4.30 to 6, and again after tea; it was confined to Triples in the four following methods: Grandsire, Stedman, Plain Bob and Union.

ARTHUR B. CARPENTER, *Hon. Sec.*

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."

AN OLD TABLET.

SIR,—Reading an account in your valuable journal of the 29th instant of restoring a tablet in St. Giles's-in-the-Fields, belfry, I thought I might beg a space in your next issue by inserting the following copy of a tablet in the steeple of St. Mary's, Willesden, as most of the performers are no doubt the very same persons, and it would be of a little interest connected with the above. I have copied it just as it is, and could not help noticing that in those days, the expression of "did ring," being the same as worded in "THE BELL NEWS," of last week's issue:—

Friday, February 1st, 1793, at the opening of these bells in this steeple, the Society of College Youths

Did Ring		Did Ring	
720 Treble Bob.		720 Plain Bob.	
E. RUMBALL	... .. 1st.	P. NEALBY	... .. 1st.
W. KIRKE	... .. 2nd.	W. KIRKE	... .. 2nd.
J. BROWN	... .. 3rd.	N. LOCHYER	... .. 3rd.
W. JONES	... .. 4th.	C. BARBER	... .. 4th.
J. BARTLETT	... .. 5th.	J. BARTLETT	... .. 5th.
C. BARBER	... .. Tenor.	E. SIMMONS	... .. Tenor.

Called by Bartlett.

Mr. William Nicholl, Church-Warden.

The above is exactly the same style and wording as is on the tablet, and is in good order. HARRY CUTTER.

Church End, Willesden.

WEIGHT OF TENOR WANTED.

SIR,—Would any of your readers kindly tell me the weight of a Tenor Bell, note F#, diameter 40½ inches, thickness 2½ inches, length from edge of crown to edge of mouth outside measurement, 32 inches. The bell is called 18 cwt., but this I believe to be given at more weight than it is. H. C. FLOWER.

Codford St. Mary, Wilts.

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**BELLRINGING JUBILEE
OF MR. JOHN COX.**

THE ringing friends of Mr. John Cox, taking into consideration his advancing years, and the precarious state of his health, intend making exertions to raise a fund to provide for him those necessities which are the sole sustenance of age.

This year—being his ringing jubilee, he having rang his first peal at the church of St. Mary, Islington, on the 7th of October, 1833—is thought peculiarly appropriate for this appeal to be made.

Mr. Cox's only source of income—the salary attached to the office of steeple-keeper of St. Bride's, Fleet Street—is often seriously diminished, through being compelled to frequently employ a substitute to perform the duty.

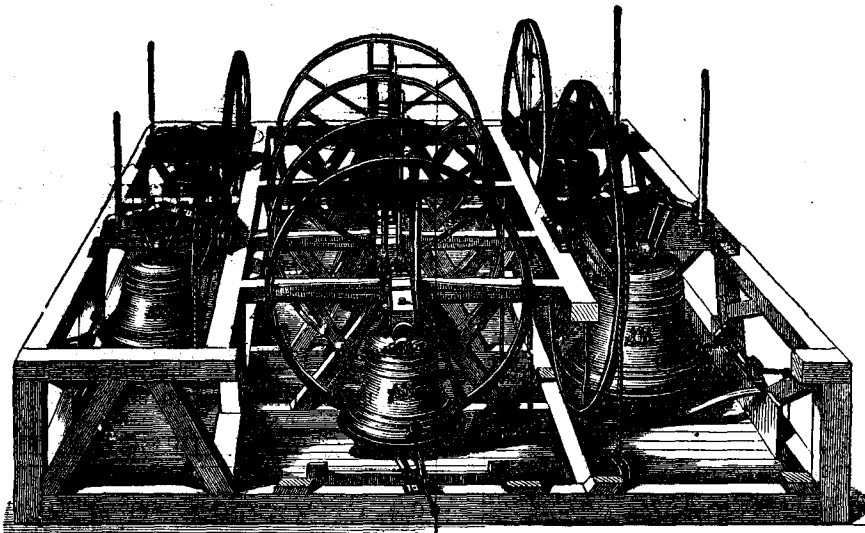
The Treasurer to the fund is Mr. W. Baron, and Mr. H. Dains has consented to act as Secretary. Any further particulars may be had on application to the latter, 147, Barnsbury Road, Islington, London, N.

SUBSCRIPTION LIST.

	£	s.	d.
Subscriptions already announced	9	12	0
Waterloo Society, London	1	1	0
Rev. E. C. Hawkins, Vicar, S. Bride's	1	1	0
The St. Mary-le-Tower Society, Ipswich	0	11	0
Mr. Langdon, London	0	1	0
York Minster Society (Yorkshire Association)	0	10	0
J. W. Snowdon, Esq. (additional)	0	5	6
Mr. M. A. Wood (College Youths)	0	5	0
Mr. E. I. Comb	0	5	0
St. Andrew's Society (Worcester Association)	0	2	6
Mr. Penymaure	0	2	6
Mr. R. Flaxman	0	1	0
Mr. W. Leader	0	1	0
Rev. H. Whitehead, Brampton Vicarage, Carlisle	0	5	0
Mr. John Lewis, London	0	2	0
Mr. J. R. Haworth	0	2	6
Rev. J. Francis, Vicar of Waltham Abbey	0	2	6
A. H. Gardom, Esq.	0	5	0
R. Sewell, Esq., Barking	0	5	0
The Hull Society (Yorkshire Association)	0	5	0
Mr. S. Jones	0	1	0
Mr. W. Jones	0	1	0
Mr. R. Jameson	0	2	0
Midland Counties' Association (Burton-on-Trent and District)	2	0	0
Mr. John Penning, Saffron Walden	0	1	0
Rev. Canon Cattley, Worcester Cathedral	0	10	0
Messrs. Warner and Sons, Crescent Foundry, London	1	1	0
S. B. Goslin, Esq.	0	10	6
Mr. Hy. Lewis, St. Albans	0	2	6
Mr. George P. Crossman	0	5	0
Folkstone Society of Ringers (Kent County Association)	0	13	0
United District Association	0	8	0
Mr. Smith, Steeplekeeper at St. Margaret's, Westminster	0	10	0
Hampstead Society	0	12	0
Dundee Society (Scotland)	0	8	0
Cheltenham Society	0	10	0
G. H. Phillott, Esq., Staunton-on-Wye	0	5	0
The Redenhall Bell Foundry, Messrs. Moore, Holmes, and Mackenzie	1	0	0
	24	6	0

HENRY DAINS,
Hon. Sec. Cox Jubilee Fund.

TO TOBACCONISTS & THOSE COMMENCING BUSINESS.—A Pamphlet can be obtained free on application, which gives an insight into the business, and explains how to open respectably with everything required, from £20 to £500. To small capitalists this book is most valuable, as it points out a way to commence a trade which many desire to do, but are incapacitated from want of experience.—Address H. MYERS & CO., Cigar and Tobacco Manufacturers, Importers of Tobacconists' Fancy Goods, 109, Euston Road, London. Manager: H. MYERS, jun., Established 25 years. Wholesale only. Shippers and the trade supplied.

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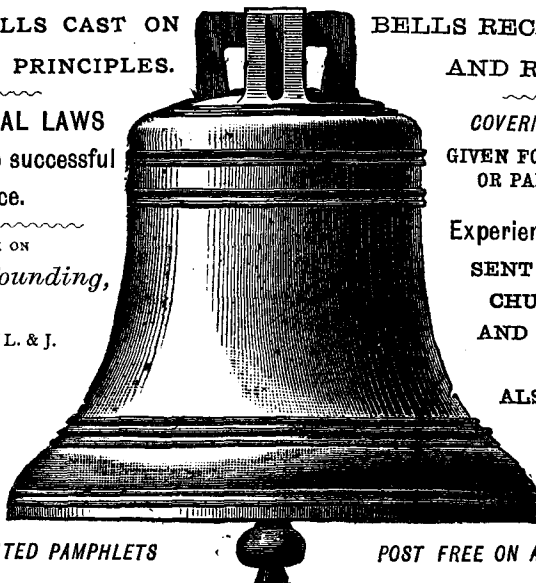
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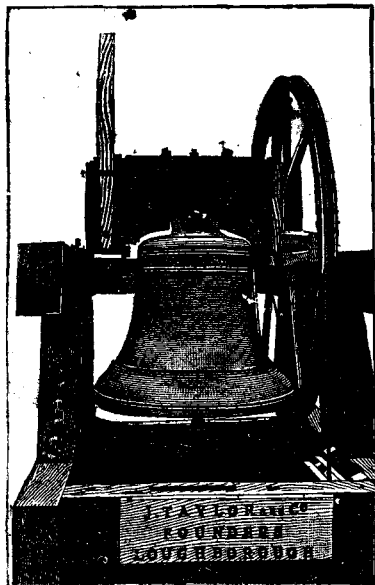
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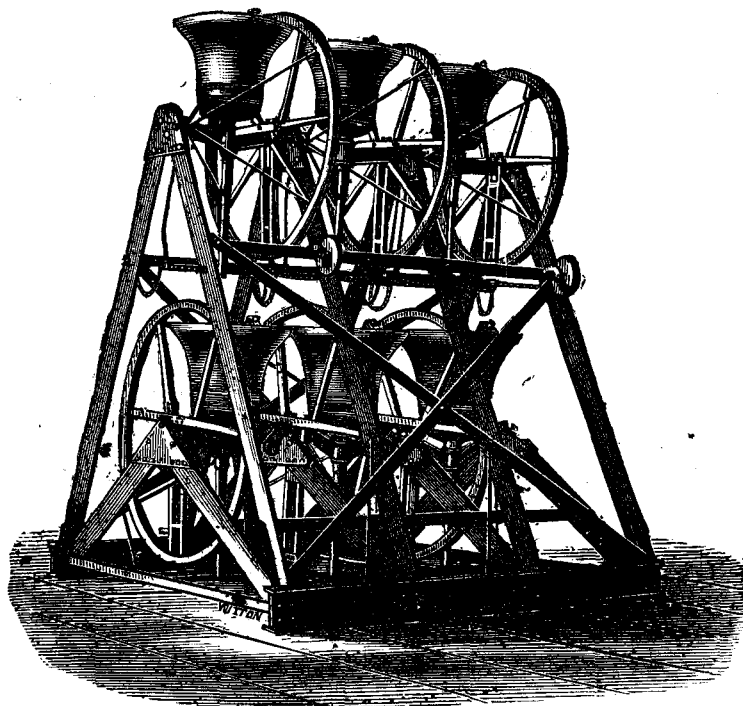
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No. 80. [NEW SERIES.]—VOL. II.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 13, 1883.

[ONE PENNY.]

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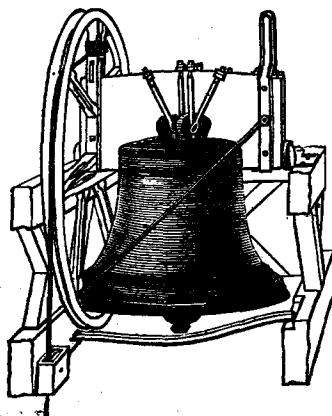
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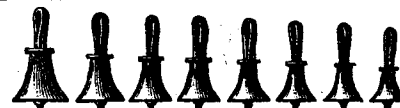
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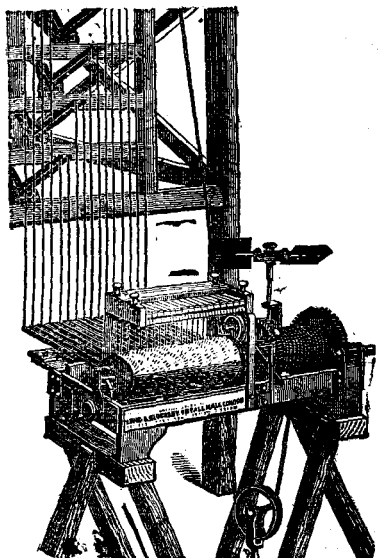
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DIRECTORS' REPORT,

Presented at the NINETEENTH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING, held at the Offices of the Company, London Bridge, City, E.C., September 28th, 1883.

YOUR Directors are again pleased to be able to report the continued prosperity of the Company.

Two Hundred and Twenty-Two Thousand and Thirty Policies have been issued during the year, representing a New Annual Premium Income of £103,837 15s. 8½d. Premium from One Halfpenny per week may now be paid either Weekly, Monthly, Quarterly, Half-Yearly, or Yearly, to meet the requirements of all classes.

The total amount of Premiums received by the Company for the Twelve Months ending June last amounted to £126,239 8s. 7d., being an increase of more than £16,000 over the previous year's income.

On the Policies in force on the Company's Books at the end of the Financial Year the Annual Premium Income equalled £153,661 10s. 8d.

Considerable attention has been given to the Extension of the Company's Business in the Provinces, with the marked result that One Thousand Two Hundred and Fifty-one new Superintendents, Assistants, and Collectors have been appointed during the past year.

Seven Thousand Four Hundred and Ninety-One Claims and Grants, amounting to £44,877 19s. 7½d., have been paid by the Company in the Twelve Months ending June, 1883, and the amount paid by the Company since its incorporation equals £225,482 16s. 6d. The area

of the Company's operations has now become so extensive that any severe accident or calamity occurring in any part of the United Kingdom, in which human life is involved, brings at once to our notice the extent of our business, and the beneficent and philanthropic result of the Company's labours. As an example, we have only to instance the late mournful accident at the Victoria Hall, Sunderland, where Fifteen of the Company's Policy-holders lost their little ones, on behalf of some of whom only a few pence had been paid. Our representative was, however, in all cases instructed to settle their claims at once and in full.

The Assurance Fund, with Capital paid-up, now amounts to £69,037 15s. 1d., £12,120 16s. 0½d. having been added during the year.

The Directors, who retire this year, and who, being eligible, offer themselves for re-election, are Messrs. KEENE, MOULLIN, and BLEASBY.

The Directors tender their best thanks to all connected with the Company, for the great success due to their exertions, and they hope to be able at the end of each recurring year to compliment them still further on the yet greater advancement of the Company resulting from their endeavours.

By Order,

P. J. FOLEY, Managing Director.

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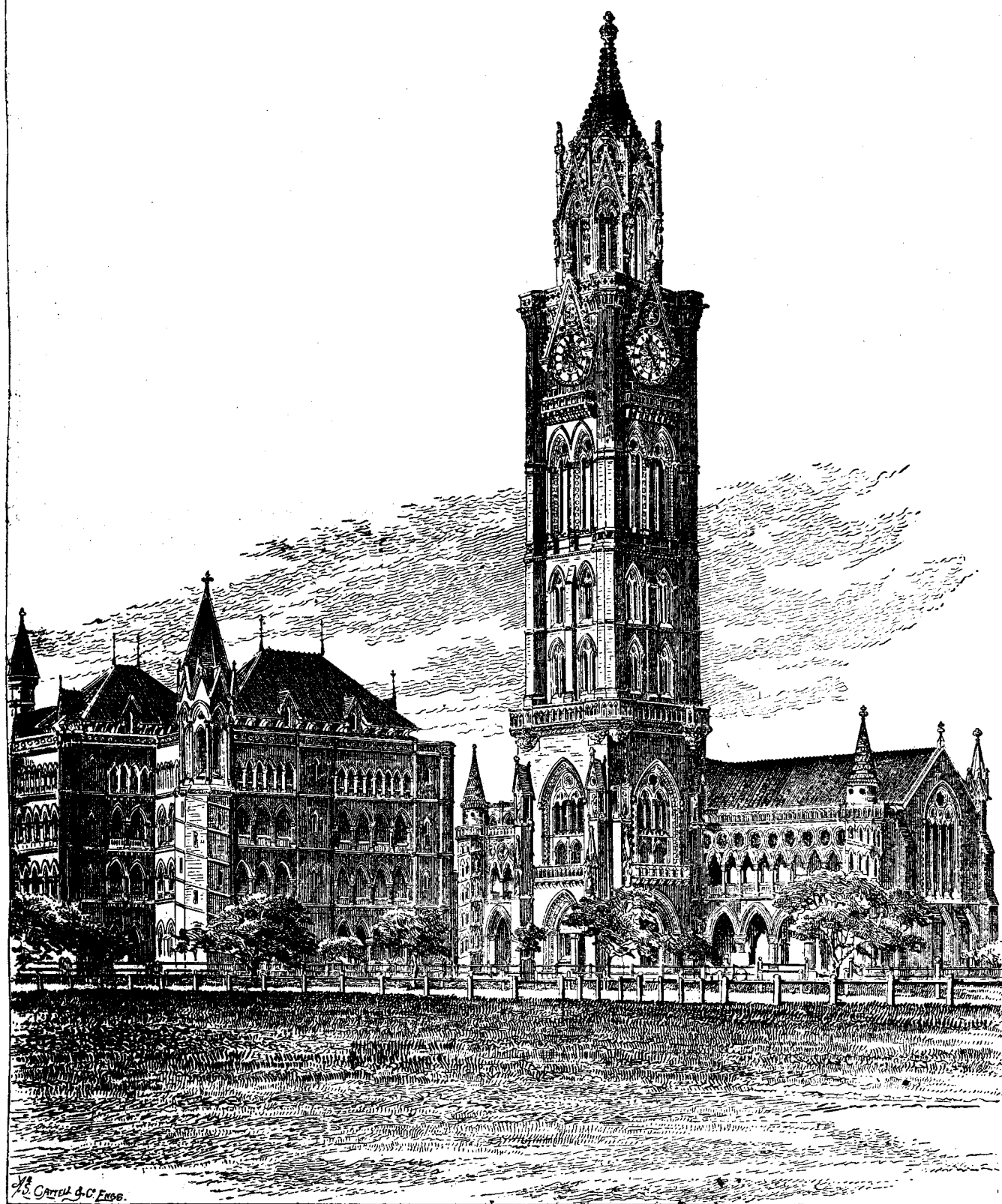
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BOMBAY UNIVERSITY. (*See page 333.*)

THE CHURCH CONGRESS.—OUR CONFERENCE.

THROUGHOUT its history—extending now over a period of twenty-three years—only once has the Church Congress become the means of bringing more prominently before the uninitiated public that portion of Church work which takes place in and is associated with the belfry. It was at the Plymouth Congress, held in 1876, that papers upon belfry reform and bell-ringing, after great pressure was brought to bear upon the Subjects Committee, were permitted to be read by Mr. Troyte and the Rev. Woolmore Wigram. During the seven years that have elapsed since County and Diocesan Associations—or Guilds, as some are called—have sprung into existence, with the result that numerous belfries are now reformed, and the science of change-ringing far more generally practised. Doubtless the Congress held at Reading last week, with its official list of nineteen subjects for discussion—although none of them had any relation to the belfry—will long be remembered by members of the Exercise as having been the means, to a certain extent, of introducing the commencement of a new era in the history of the science of change-ringing. Under the head of "Meetings during Congress Week," Mackeson's handbook announced that a Belfry Reform Association would be held on the Thursday in the West Street hall. This meeting was, as our readers will know from the announcement previously made in our columns, a Ringers' Conference, to carry out the following Committee were appointed:—Rev. C. D. P. Davies, Chaceley, Tewkesbury; Rev. A. du Boulay Hill, Downton, Salisbury; Rev. F. E. Robinson, Drayton, Abingdon; Jasper W. Snowdon, Esq., Old Bank Chambers, Leeds; Lieut.-Col. Troyte, Huntsham Court, Devon; Captain Acland-Troyte, 2, Chester Street, London, S.W.; Rev. Woolmore Wigram, Hertford; Mr. Pettit, St. Thomas's Square, Hackney; Mr. J. Field, New College, Oxford; Mr. J. Nelms, London. *Secretary*, Rev. Dolben Paul, Bearwood Rectory, Wokingham. The use of the hall was secured for the day in order that it might be used as a rendezvous for those attending the meeting. A peal of handbells were ready for use, and upon the walls was exhibited a new invention to prevent injury to bells from the ordinary chiming apparatus. Among the first to put in an appearance was Mr. Dawe, of London, and the Rev. N. L. Bolingbroke, Hon Sec. (*pro tem.*) of the Norwich Diocesan Association, and Mr. J. W. Taylor, jun., of Loughborough, who, with three or four other gentlemen, at once started for the tower of St. Lawrence's church, to inspect the fine ring of ten therein. Here they were met by the Rev. C. Kerry, Curate, who ascended the tower with the visitors, and was indefatigable in explaining every item of interest.

The whole tower underwent restoration during last year, and standing nearly 90 ft. high, is a fine specimen of Architecture. The ring of ten, the tenor of which, with some or other bells, were recast last year by Messrs. Taylor, now weighs 24 cwt., is a musical ring, and the whole of the appliances requisite for ringing, under the careful management of Mr. Newell, the courteous instructor to the St. Lawrence band, are in excellent order. The ringing-chamber is neat and clean, and the bell-chamber is replete with everything that can possibly be desired. Owing to the meetings of Congress in the Town Hall, which is situated not far off, ringing, it was considered, could not be commenced to the close of the meeting, consequently it was one o'clock before a start was effected, when an attempt was made for a touch of Stedman Caters, which, however, was not brought home. A course of Treble Bob Royal was afterwards accomplished. Touches of Stedman Caters and Grandsire Caters were also rung after the meeting in the evening. A band started for Sonning, for a peal of Treble Bob, while another band went to St. Mary's, and under the conductorship of Mr. Newell, rung some Grandsire Triples. There is here a harmonious ring of eight, with a magnificent mellow-toned tenor of 28 cwt.; the "go" of the bells is not, however, equal to that of St. Lawrence. There is also a ring of eight at St. Giles's, but so far as we could gather these were not rung.

It might be mentioned that there is a tablet in St. Lawrence's belfry recording a peal of Grandsire Triples in July, 1734; and at St. Mary's a tablet recording a peal in the same method in 1869.

THE CONFERENCE MEETING

was held in the West Street Hall in the afternoon, Lord Nelson presiding. There was was about 125 present in the body of hall, among whom we noticed: Captain J. E. Acland-Troyte, Rev. N. Bolingbroke, Rev. R. B. Knatchbull-Hugessen, Rev. J. Ulten Todd, C. C. Child, Esq., W. Reed, Esq., Gervas Holmes, Esq., J. P., Rev. Dolben Paul, Rev. H. C. Sturges, Rev. H. A. Spyres, Rev. F. E. Robinson, Leonard Procter, Esq., Captain Moore, J. M. Routh, Esq., Rev. J. R. Keble, Rev. E. C. Peake, Rev. O. P. Yerburgh, Mr. J. Belcher (Cheltenham), Mr. J. Perks (Malvern), Mr. J. Nelms (London), Mr. W. Newell and Mr. H. Egby (Reading), Mr. W. Baron (London), Mr. W. Wilder (Slough), Mr. R. Sewell and Mr. E. A. Davies (Barking), Mr. W. Wakley (Burton-on-Trent), Mr. J. W. Taylor, jun. (Loughborough), Mr. E. Bennett (Beddington), Mr. S. Reeves (West Bromwich), Mr. B. Keeble (Romford), etc., etc.

From the foregoing list it will be seen that there was a moderate attendance of clergymen. The names of most of these are, however, familiar to many of our readers as well-known ringers, and it is therefore to be regretted that there was not a larger attendance both of clergy and laity. Such might probably be obtained upon any future occasion, by a more prominent and effective announcement of such a meeting. In opening the proceedings,

The CHAIRMAN said he saw by the programme that he, as President, was expected to give a short address. He would confess they were very naughty people to hold a Conference at the same time as there was a meeting of the Church Congress, and no doubt some of them would say that he was the worst, to take the chair, but he must tell them that the pressure brought to bear upon him to do so was too strong (hear, hear), and he consented to break the law (laughter). Unhappily, as there was at the same time a meeting or Congress they were deprived of the presence of one who, if he was not a ringer himself, took great interest in the work. He referred to the Archdeacon of Ely. The Archdeacon had on the previous day given a ladies' address (laughter), and as he could not be present at this Conference, had asked him (the chairman) to mention the work that was going on in the Diocese by the formation of an Association, with the bishop as patron. It was satisfactory to learn that the work of Belfry Reform was growing everywhere. There was one point which the Archdeacon wished him (the chairman) to impress upon them, and it was one of some sadness. He referred to the great work done in the Norwich Diocese. It was only the other day that he learnt that his friend who he once knew as his brother's curate, but who afterwards moved to Norwich, where he took such great interest in bell-ringing, was gone to rest. The bells of Norwich were made to ring out their merry peals, and the whole work of bell-ringing was stimulated from one end of Norfolk to the other, they must all therefore, he was sure, regret that God had thought fit to call to his rest, at so early an age, the late Mr. Harris. As to the subject before the Conference, it was one which had his sympathy. The revival of spiritual life in church had taken many forms, and men now found that they all had a duty to perform for God. This was the case not only with the clergy, but with the laity as well (hear, hear). In the olden time we had ringers, and we had choirs as well, who used to give us, in their way, their music. But in those days the clergy and laity did not look upon such as work consecrated for God's service. In those days the ringers little thought that the bells were consecrated to God, and why? was it not because they (the ringers) were neglected? (hear, hear). Still they did it in their own way. He should not be surprised to find the day was coming, which it would bring back, in place of organs, some of the old kind of church music (hear, hear, and laughter). When they thought of the pains that some of their forefathers must have taken, in doing their work to the honour and glory of God, it was something wonderful, and it would be a pleasant thing to find some of their choirs doing the same now (hear, hear). So it was with bell-ringers; they should be taken by the hand, and given the right hand of fellowship (hear, hear). What they did in the work of the Church, was work for God, and should be sanctified. Associations should take up this kind of work, and show that it was God's work. It mattered not what they were: bell-ringers, choristers, schoolmasters, or what not, they must take it that they were permitted to do it for God's honour. He should not advise them to make too strict rules in their belfries.

The Rev. A. du BOULAY HILL then proceeded to read the following paper on

BELL-RINGING ASSOCIATIONS; THEIR OBJECTS AND ORGANIZATION.

When the subject of "Church Bells, and How to use Them" was brought forward seven years ago at the Church Congress at Plymouth, the idea of Bell-ringers' Associations, as a branch of Church organization, was in its infancy.

Since that time a dozen or more Societies have sprung into existence in Diocese, Deanery, or County, following in the footsteps of the Devonshire Guild; and endeavouring, in the strength that is gained by union, with the incentive that is supplied by the cultivation of the intellectual exercise of change-ringing, and by the influence that is brought to bear by official recognition, to raise ringing to a higher level, and to benefit men who have so often the handling of instruments they know not how to use, the duty of sounding a call they so frequently disregard themselves.

How far have these objects been attained, in what respects has experience been gained, what still remains to be done? These are the questions which we ought to answer as we glance back over these seven years.

My own experience has lain so much in places where the spirit of change-ringing has been but little evoked; and where the very first principles of belfry reform have had to be inculcated, that it is the first struggling into life which has come chiefly under my notice, the first spring-time blade of promise rather than the summer harvest of results.

The work in such places is only begun—and up-hill work it is for some time. Recognition is the first thing to be gained, encouragement from without. A demand must be created before the supply will be produced.

To begin with, the incumbent and churchwardens must be aware of the value and the use of that which is intrusted to their care (hear, hear). They are perhaps ignorant of the fact that a modest village ring of six bells with a tenor of 12 cwt. is worth some £500, irrespective of fittings. That in its present uncared for state, it is slowly but surely doing deadly damage to the tower in which it hangs.

They are as surprised on finding in their first visit that the bells speak with their mouths upwards, as they would be if the members of this meeting were to hang by their heels, and speak with their mouths downwards (laughter).

But one well appointed and well conducted belfry soon spreads its influence, removes the indifference and ignorance that prevails, and induces others to imitate.

Here the Bellringing Association takes up the work, and spreads information and interest by its meetings. Ringers perceive that they are cared for, that the bells are cared for. The knowledge of better things produces the demand for them.

And now, that the Association may become a power, laity must be stirred up to an interest in it; gentry who will maintain the spirit of true God-service in all connected with God's House, and who are prepared to support the idea of a corporate life, a union of separate bodies of ringers (hear, hear). I think we are sometimes over-hasty in expecting this to be understood at once; it is a strange idea to the ordinary ringer, that he can help others by combining in a common movement. Yet the principle of mutual help, which is essential to the accomplishment of a six-score of Grandsire Doubles, is surely one which can be grasped even in an extended form, by men who have learnt to understand it in their own belfry.

The Association then must supply the motive, and men will, I believe, be found to respond to the appeal.

In certain strongholds not yet stormed, there still remains, what I do not hesitate to call a great belfry abuse, though I do not deny that some good has been brought out of it (hear, hear). I wonder whether any here have ever attended a West Country Prize-Ringing match.

They are changing their character, however, under the influence of the general movement towards Belfry Reform. The old style is that a dozen or more sets of ringers are locked into the church to prevent ~~any of the collusion or variability inseparable from such-like sporting events, and proceed by lot to raise, ring rounds for ten minutes or so, and lower the bells.~~ Meanwhile at the church gate the local publican, armed with a special licence, erects his booth (laughter) and his barrel of beer, and drives a brisk trade (laughter), because next to ringing rounds, listening to them is most thirsty work (roars of laughter). In dignified solitude sit two judges to mark down a dot upon paper for every stroke missed, every bell that hesitates. It requires much experience and an accurate sense of time. Perhaps there are not more than half a dozen men in the county who are considered sufficiently "good judges of ringing" to attain to the dignity of this post (laughter).

Finally there is a distribution of some £12 or £15 in prizes to those who have received fewest marks upon the judge's paper.

Latterly such meetings have been preceeded by a suitable service and address to the ringers, and a main part of the abuses removed (hear, hear).

The zeal in practice before-hand, the marvellous accuracy of the performances, such as they are, would astonish many of the change-ringers here, and give many a wholesome lesson in the finish and care which can be bestowed upon the very best sound of the ceasing bells. Popular they are too, for they produce that which pleases the popular ear far more than the ragged performances which pass muster under the name of change-ringing.

It is a fallacy to suppose that change-ringing is the panacea to remove the abuse. Alone it will not do it (hear, hear). In the North peals are still rung for prizes by change-ringers; and though it is nearly stamped out, yet I confess, when I saw an account of a competition for a challenge-cup the other day, I wondered when the state of the betting on the event would be published (laughter).

How much longer will this secularization of Church bells be tolerated? When Rural Deans will inquire into, and report such things (hear, hear), as I have no hesitation in appealing to them to do; when Archdeacons will inhibit such an abuse of a part of the fabric and furniture of their churches, then no doubt it will cease (hear, hear).

But meanwhile, let our associations utilize the zeal which is thus shewn, while they explode the fallacy that prizes are necessary to encourage the ringers, by providing better incentives and higher motives (hear, hear).

I am all for the payment of regular ringers (hear, hear), but not by sweepstakes (hear, hear). What should we say if our choirs took to

increasing their emoluments by singing against one another for prizes? I suppose there is not a village cricket club in the kingdom that would not scorn the suggestion.

Bell ringing Associations, however exclusively they may be confined to change-ringing, must not overlook country ringers (hear, hear) who want their help, want their bells rehung, want their interest stirred even though they may never become change-ringers themselves. They must fit in with Diocesan work.

They must be a centre of information. Rural Deans who inspect the churches in their Deanery (and also this) will probably be aware of proposed work in any belfry, and must be able to say "Ask the Diocesan Secretary."

The Secretary will be known to other members of "the Exercise" as it is called: and will be prepared to give information as to Bells, Bellhangers, Ropes, Inventions connected with bells. He will suggest Rules when asked, and be a source of information as to the Law of Church bells.

He will be in communication with the Diocesan Church Building Society, and be able to warn them against the prevailing ignorance of the requirements of the Belfry, even among Architects who are often unwittingly sad enemies to Belfry reform (hear, hear).

Some General Principles rather than Rules must be drawn up of the objects to be attained, such as the existence of a higher intellectual Art of Ringing. The Recognition of the Belfry as a part of God's house (hear, hear), and not therefore a free and open lounging place. The Ringing of Church bells on Church Festivals, and the golden rule that ringing is suitable for any object or any time for which a Service might be held.

Suggestions may be also made with regard to Sunday ringing, to the chiming or ringing of single bells, to financial schemes which have been found to work satisfactorily, though no arbitrary uniformity can be insisted on.

The Association is to consist of Ringers and Associates. Ringers' subscriptions to be as low as possible, and in the case of bands of ringers to be a fixed sum irrespective of numbers.

Associates to supply the funds by a subscription of not less than five shillings, but who may become Life Members on payment of—say two guineas. I believe more support would be gained in this way—many would do this rather than promise five shillings a year and would be willing doubtless to respond to a further "call" if funds were wanted for any purpose. A card of membership to be supplied to all members who apply and are duly qualified.

A card, on which the principles of the Association are printed in sufficiently large and ornamental type, to be supplied to all bands and fixed in the belfry, thus losing no opportunity of keeping the object before members.

An Annual Meeting with tickets at a fixed charge per head, say three and sixpence, all other expenses to be paid by the Association. The payment per head ought to come out of the private funds of each band. Change Ringers to be provided with an opportunity of ringing, a service with special sermon, a dinner, with the necessary amount of business; all this well arranged make a very pleasant day.

While on a more humble scale, a Ringers' feast preceded by a service, for a Deanery or a District. Six or eight bands might all have the opportunity to ring, even if only rounds or call-changes. The zeal which can supply £12 or £15 to be rung for in prizes could at least collect that sum for a dinner.

In towns with two or three steeples a branch of the Association should be formed, with permission to visit each once a month, entirely distinct from the times of practice of the parish band, and under the sole direction of an efficient conductor.

In way the Diocesan Association might gradually draw into its ranks, and bring its influence to bear upon those whom now it seldom reaches (hear, hear); and will carry out perhaps more efficiently than ever its main object of ensuring the due care and use of Church Bells (applause).

At the conclusion of the paper, the CHAIRMAN said he understood discussion was to be invited, but he thought it would be as well to listen to the other paper first. Thereupon the Rev. C. D. P. Davies read his paper, entitled, "Change-Ringing: what is it?" which will be found on page 332.

THE ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

INAUGURAL MEETING at St. Mary's, Ely, on Saturday, October 20th. Address by the Venerable the Archdeacon of Ely. Return Tickets at a fare and a quarter, from principal stations, G.E.R., to members. Please address reply to REV. K. H. SMITH, the Cambridge Road, Ely.

J. R. J. writes:—"Would your Hitchin correspondent kindly inform me from what part Rodgers hails from, who rehung Bromham bells."

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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.

The Bell News & Ringers' Record.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 13, 1883.

WE are unable, from the great press of matter this week, to have our usual editorial comment. Several subjects of interest, among which are MR. SNOWDON's chapters on Grandsire Triples, are also unavoidably postponed. We hope those of our readers who may feel disappointed at their communications not appearing, will extend to us their kind forbearance. The time is not far distant, we believe, when a further enlargement of this journal will take place; intelligence of which we hope to publish when the name of the distinguished ringer, whose portrait we shall give next December, is announced.

The Metropolis.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS. SHADWELL, MIDDLESEX.

On Saturday, October 6th, 1883, in Three Hours,

At St. Paul's Church,

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

CORNELIUS P. RELTON† .. Treble.	EDWARD E. CLARKE .. 5.
WALTER B. JONES 2.	WILLIAM TANNER 6.
YORK GREEN 3.	JAMES PETTIT 7.
CHARLES BEECH* 4.	*JOSEPH JONES Tenor.

Conducted by JAMES PETTIT.

* First peal. † First peal with the treble.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS. TOTTENHAM, MIDDLESEX.

On Monday, October 8th, 1883, in Three Hours and Four Minutes,

At All Hallows' Church,

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

JOSEPH DAVIDSON Treble.	WILLIAM D. SMITH .. 5.
HENRY A. BARNETT 2.	JAMES PETTIT 6.
EDWARD F. STRANGE* .. 3.	*WILLIAM A. ENGLISH .. 7.
THOMAS PAGE 4.	*PHILIP A. COARD Tenor.

Conducted by JAMES PETTIT.

* First peal.

Mr. E. F. Strange attained his 21st year on the above date, his brother members heartily wish him many happy returns of the day.

THE SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS. BATTERSEA.

On Saturday, October 6, 1883, in Three Hours and Four Minutes,

At St. Mary's Church,

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

— ROBIN* Treble.	EDWARD MOSES 5.
JOHN NELMS 2.	HENRY DAINS 6.
JOHN PERKS 3.	A. H. GARDOM, ESQ. .. 7.
WILLIAM BARON 4.	HENRY HOPKINS Tenor.

Composed by HENRY DAINS, and conducted by
A. H. GARDOM, ESQ.

This peal was first rung at the Chapel of Ease, Holloway, and has now been rung in four different counties.
This meeting was arranged in honour of Mr. John Perks' visit to London; this gentleman is Master of the Worcestershire Guild.

* First peal in the method.

The Provinces.

RAUNDS, NORTHAMPTONSHIRE.

THE ST. PETER'S SOCIETY.

On Monday, September 24, 1883, in Three Hours and Ten Minutes,

At St. Peter's Church,

5040 CHANGES; IN SEVEN DIFFERENT METHODS UPON SIX BELLS.

Being a 720 of each of the following:—

COLLEGE SINGLE; COLLEGE LITTLE; GRANDSIRE BOB;
LONDON SINGLE; OXFORD BOB;
GRANDSIRE SINGLE; DOUBLE COURT BOB MINOR.

Tenor 20 cwt.

GEORGE KIRK Treble.	WILLIAM A. HALL 4.
FRED GILLET 2.	JOHN WILLMOTT 5.
WILLIAM J. GILBERT .. 3.	HENRY W. STUBBS Tenor.

Conducted by HENRY W. STUBBS.

This is the first 5040 by this society. F. Gillett is 17 years of age; and A. Hall 19 years.

THE HYDE SOCIETY.

BOLLINGTON, NEAR MACCLESFIELD, CHESHIRE.

On Saturday, October 6th, 1883, in Three Hours,

At St. John's Church,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES; IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 18 cwt.

JAMEE S. WILDE Treble.	JOHN FILDES 5.
RALPH PRICHARD 2.	*WILLIAM BAIL 6.
THOMAS BRADLEY 3.	SAMUEL BENNETT 7.
WALTER SLATER 4.	THOMAS WILDE Tenor.

Composed by the late WILLIAM HARRISON, of Mottram, and conducted by THOMAS WILDE.

The above peal of bells were opened in 1880, and this is the first peal in the method rung on them.

[* Formerly of Leicester.]

Miscellaneous.

THE SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.

SHOREDITCH (Middlesex).—On Thursday, October 4th, ten members of the above Society attempted a peal of Stedman Caters, but after ringing three hours and eight mins., the peal came to grief by two bells shifting course. G. Newson (conductor), 1; T. Titchener, 2; J. Hannington, 3; J. Gobbett, 4; A. H. Gardom, 5; E. Chapman, 6; W. Doran, 7; W. Meadows, 8; S. Jarman, 9; W. Tyler, 10. Tenor 31 cwt.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.—On Saturday, October 6th, some members of the above Association rang, at St. Stephen's church, 1456 changes of Grandsire Triples, part of Taylor's peal. R. Bell, 1; E. W. Pyle, 2; E. Scott, 3; L. S. Routledge, 4; S. Power, 5; E. Wallis (conductor), 6; T. Denton, 7; G. W. Stobart, 8. Tenor 30 cwt.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

WANSTEAD (Essex).—On Thursday, September 27th, the following members of the above association, rang at Christ Church, a 720 of Bob Minor, with eighteen bobs and two singles, in 26 mins. A. Smith, 1; A. H. Gardom, Esq. (conductor), 2; G. Akers, 3; G. Cornell, 4; J. Priest, jun., 5; J. Marks, 6. Also on Sunday, September 30th, for the Harvest Festival, a 720 of Treble Bob Minor, with nine bobs, in 27 mins. *G. Cornell, 1; J. Gobbett, 2; G. Akers (conductor), 3; *W. Doran, 4; J. Priest, jun., 5; S. Jarman, 6. Also on same evening, the same band, with the exception of G. Cornell, another 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor, with 15 bobs, in 27 mins. Conducted by A. H. Gardom, who rang the treble.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

BANHAM (Norfolk).—On Sunday, September 30th, six members of the above Association rang a 720 of Double Court Bob Minor, in 26 mins. Henry Eagling, 1; W. Nudds, 2; J. Saunders, 3; J. Woods, 4; R. Nudds, 5; R. Hutton (conductor), 6. Tenor about 12 cwt.

KENNINGHALL (Norfolk).—On Tuesday, October 2nd, was rung for practice 1152 of Kent Treble Bob Major, by the following; W. Axer, 1; C. Everett, 2; G. Edwards, 3; W. Nudds, 4; R. Patrick, 5; J. Woods, 6; J. Mordey, 7; R. Hutton (conductor), 8. Tenor 15½ cwt.

NORWICH.—*Handbell Ringing*.—On Tuesday, October 9th, 1883, four members of the St. Peter's Mancroft Norwich Scholars, also members of the above Association, met at their clubhouse, Haymarket, and rang upon handbells, retained in hand, 1120 changes of Kent Treble Bob Major, in 32 mins. George Smith, 1-2; John Fiddament, 3-4; William Smith, 5-6; Frederick Knights (conductor), 7-8. This is the first complete touch in the Kent variation ever rung on handbells by the above members. It is intended after a few more touches, to start for a peal in the above method, of which due notice will be given in "THE BELL NEWS."

BACUP.—*Muffled Peals*.—On Tuesday, October 2nd, the remains of Mr. George Jackson, an old ringer, were carried to their last resting-place in the Bacup cemetery. Ringers from Newchurch, Waterfoot, and Bacup (both companies) showed their respect to the deceased by attending, and carrying him to his last home. After the funeral, a muffled half-peal of Plain Bob was rung by three of his late companions, assisted by three other old ringers from Newchurch: J. Pickup (conductor; Newchurch), 1; Isaac White (Bacup), 2; J. T. Stott (Newchurch), 3; Hy. Jackson (Bacup), 4; Zeb. Lord (Bacup), 5; J. Kershaw (Newchurch), 6. Afterwards four of the Waterfoot company, with two of the Bacup young company, rung a 360 in the same method: R. Halstead (Waterfoot; conductor), 1; W. Maden (Waterfoot), 2; J. Asworth (Waterfoot), 3; Arch. Ghew (Bacup), 4; W. Smith (Bacup), 5; W. Whitaker (Waterfoot), 6. Another touch was rung by a mixed band, and on the following Sunday the bells were also again muffled. The deceased had been a ringer a great many years, and was well known and respected among ringers in and about Lancashire.

BIRMINGHAM (Warwickshire).—On Sunday, October 8th, at St. Philip's church, after evening service, a mixed band rang a touch of 896 Grandsire Triples, in 35 mins. A. Cresser, 1; T. Miller (conductor), 2; F. Banks, 3; B. Stevens, 4; C. Barnicle, 5; H. Turvey, 6; R. Hackley, 7; A. Druce, 8. Tenor 29 cwt. in D.

BOXLEY (Kent).—On Saturday, September 29th, eight of the All Saints' ringers, Maidstone, visited this place, and rang two 720's of Grandsire Minor. First 720: G. Moorcraft, 1; G. Pawley, 2; J. Furginson, 3; R. Simmonds, 4; A. H. Woolley, 5; H. Pearce (conductor), 6. Second 720: H. Pearce, 1; W. Meveer, 2; J. Horton, 3; J. Furginson, 4; A. H. Woolley, 5; G. Pawley (conductor), 6.

BURY ST. EDMUNDS.—On Saturday, October 4th, being the Harvest Thanksgiving at St. James's church, the local company met at the Norman tower, and rang before and after the evening services. On the Sunday following, the services were continued, and at the request of the Churchwarden they again met, and rang for the evening service. An attempt was made to ring a touch (1386) of Grandsire Triples, but after ringing over 1200 changes it came to grief through the breaking of a rope. A. Osborne (conductor), 1; E. Buckle, 2; G. Farrants, 3; G. Debenham, 4; A. Bridges, 5; T. Peck, 6; G. Cornell, 7; R. Moore, 8.

GREAT HALLINGBURY (Essex).—On Sunday, October 7th, being the Harvest Festival at St. Giles', was rung with the assistance of R. A. Sworder and W. Turner, for the morning and afternoon services, 480 Bob Doubles, each called differently, also at the conclusion of afternoon service, a nicely-struck 480 in the same method. R. A. Sworder, 1; W. Turner, 2; R. S. Sworder, 3; A. Prior, 4; F. Sworder (conductor), 5. Tenor about 12½ cwt.

HIGHER SUTTON (CHESHIRE).—On Sunday, October 7th, being the usual Harvest Thanksgiving Festival, for Divine Service in the

morning, 720 of Grandsire Minor, with 34 bobs and 2 singles, in 26 mins, conducted by W. H. Ingham. And for Divine Service in the evening, 720 Bob Minor with 10 singles and 6 bobs, in 25 mins, conducted by W. Walmsley. William Walmsley, 1; William H. Ingham, 2; J. M. Davenport, 3; Walter Ingham, 4; William H. Hardman, 5; S. Mottershead, 6. Tenor 12 cwt. in G.

HURWORTH-ON-TEES (Durham).—On Tuesday evening, October 2nd, six of the Hurworth company rang a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor in 28 mins. J. Simpson, 1; Rev. W. H. Deane (first 720 in this method), 2; J. E. Hern (conductor), 3; J. C. Thompson, 4; G. Garbutt, 5; H. Thompson, 6. Tenor 17 cwt.

LYTHAM (Lancs.).—On Sunday evening last, before evening service at St. John's, a 720 of Plain Bob, 16 bobs and 2 singles, in 23 mins. Wm. Bamber, 1; John Salthouse, 2; Wm. Gregson, 3; C. Kerr (conductor), 4; Jno. Fell, 5; Roger Allanson, 6. Tenor 10½ cwt.

ROSS (Herefordshire).—On Saturday, October 6th, at the parish church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples. T. M. Preece, 1; J. G. Wall, 2; J. Atkins, 3; G. Price, 4; E. Barnett, 5; A. Bird, 6; C. Young (conductor), 7; R. Clark, 8. Messrs. Preece and Barnett hail from Monmouth.

SPALDING (Lincs.).—On Thursday evening, October 4th, at St. Paul's Fulney, 1554 changes of Grandsire Triples, being the first three parts of Holt's ten-part peal. It was intended to go for the half-peal, but some of the company arriving late, three parts only were rung. Robert Skeef, 1; Richard Creasey (conductor), 2; John A. Croxford, 3; Edw. Mason, 4; Alfd. W. Walker, 5; Chas. Creasey, 6; Jas. W. Creasey, 7; Alf. Creasey, 8. And on Sunday, September 30th, at SS. Mary and Nicholas, being the Harvest Thanksgiving, for early celebration, four 6-scores of Bob and three 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles. J. Wilson, 1; G. L. Richardson, 2; R. Mackman, 3; J. Wright, 4; J. Brown, 5. Also for second service, four 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles, by the same company. Also for Divine Service in the evening, a 360 of Oxford Bob. After Service a 720 of Plain Bob, with 26 singles. A. Brown, 1; J. Wilson, 2; G. L. Richardson, 3; R. Mackman, 4; J. Brown, 5; J. Wright (conductor), 6.

TEWKESBURY (GLOUCESTERSHIRE).—On Thursday evening, October 4th, the Abbey Society rang 720 of Grandsire Minor, on the back six, in 29 mins. R. H. Witherington, 1; C. Awford, 2; S. Cleal, 3; J. Hale, 4; Jno. Wathen, 5; Josiah Wathen (conductor), 6. Tenor 23 cwt. 3 qrs. 19 lbs. Also on Monday evening, October 8th, eight members of the Abbey Society met for practising Stedman Triples, and after having two attempts, succeeded in ringing a well-struck 504 changes. R. H. Witherington, 1; S. Cleal, 2; F. J. Moore, 3; J. Hale, 4; J. Wathen, 5; Rev. C. D. P. Davies, 6; Josiah Wathen (conductor), 7; C. Slatter, 8. This is the first 504 of Stedman Triples by those at the first four bells.

We are reluctantly compelled to hold over several touches till next week.

JOHN COX'S BELL-RINGING JUBILEE.

On Wednesday evening, October 17th, 1883, a Grand Campanological and Musical Entertainment will be given at the Crown Tavern, Clerkenwell Green, in aid of Cox's Jubilee Fund. Campanologists from West Ham, Chelsea, Lewisham, etc., with several talented vocalists, will take part in the performance, commencing at eight o'clock. Mr. Thomas Harrington, Pianist. Mr. John Nelms will occupy the Chair. A few reserved seats, 1s. each. Admission 6d. Tickets may be had of the chairman, 1, Witchampton Street, N.; Mr. Daniel Lovatt, 30, Woodbridge St., Clerkenwell, W.C.; Mr. Charles Hopkins, 12, Faraday St., Walworth, S.E.; and the Treasurer, Mr. W. Baron, 8, Church Terrace, Waterloo Road, S.E.

H. DAINS, Hon. Sec.

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."

INFORMATION WANTED.

SIR,—Would any kind reader of your greatly esteemed paper, favour me with a list of Churches where bells have been *Cracked* by chucking (i.e.) by looping the Bell clapper with the ringing rope of the bell, when the clapper is chucked against the fast side of the bell, for insertion in "THE BELL NEWS," which I think would be a means of stopping this dangerous practice. A LOVER OF BELLS.

THE MUSICAL MONTHLY (F. Pitman, Paternoster Row).—This is a new monthly serial, got up by this enterprising publisher. Its appearance is of a most inviting character, and will be generally accepted as meeting a want felt by young and old aspirants in the musical world. The *Sacred Melodist*, from the same publisher, also maintains its reputation.

THE RINGERS' CONFERENCE—(Continued).

Paper read by the REV. CHARLES D. P. DAVIES, entitled:—

"CHANGE-RINGING: WHAT IS IT?"

THE paper to which we have just had the pleasure of listening has dealt with change-ringing Associations, their objects and organisation. What follows is an attempt to open up the subject of change-ringing itself.

The reply to the question—"What is change-ringing?"—is not so easy as might appear. Change-ringing stands so much alone. There is nothing to which it can be compared that will give any adequate idea of it. We may however begin by laying down at once that it is an *exact science* (hear, hear), it is as rigidly exact as the most mathematical of mathematics (hear, hear). And therefore it is doubtless something in the nature of mathematics. But in the actual practice of ringing, there are no sums to be done, and no calculations to be made. There is just something of a mathematical element in it, and that is all that can be said. There is also a musical element. All the world can hear what that is. The music of ringing is not the music of harmony, but a succession of notes, and, where choice is possible, of the most pleasing succession. Then there is, lastly, the mechanical, and muscular element. This needs no comment beyond the statement that ringing is considered by many competent authorities one of the healthiest of all known exercises (hear, hear), and the indisputable fact, which speaks for itself, that the average length of life of the ringing community is longer than that of almost any other—(hear, hear) indeed I think I am not wrong in saying the longest of all (hear, hear, and laughter). Any one who cares to go into a tower when the bells are swinging, may see for himself what is taking place. He may go first into the room below and see the men at work. He may then mount aloft, and see what the bell itself is doing above. He will easily perceive that the management of a bell is nothing very difficult, but that it needs to be learnt just like swimming, skating, or any other bodily accomplishment. When I was learning logic some six or seven years ago, logicians were sorely puzzled as to whether their study should be called an art or a science.

I wonder if they have settled it yet (laughter). Be that as it may, ringers are in no such doubt. They are all unanimous in boldly asserting that change-ringing is both an art and a science. It has its two distinct parts, a scientific part, and a practical (hear, hear). The strictly scientific part must be done, with pencil and paper, in the quiet hours at home. It is this portion of the subject that is most akin to mathematics. The beginner writes down his changes one by one according to certain rules. He notes how each one is produced from that which precedes it. He takes some particular bell, observing where that bell falls in each successive change, and from these observations he deduces rules for his guidance in the management of a bell in the tower. In this way the beginner learns his *science* of ringing. Here practice and unflagging attention gradually give him the requisite quickness of eye and power of mastering the matter in hand. But when our beginner gets on—when he is a beginner no longer, and aspires to directing his brethren by "calling" or "conducting" peals, as we term it, then he must set to work to study deeper still. He must learn more than the manner of the succession of each single change to its predecessor—he must go beyond that, and learn the causes that determine the succession. He must see when it is possible for any given place, and when it is impossible. He must be able to shew—and this is done by mathematical deduction—he must be able to shew that any given number of changes contains no two alike, and he must carry in his head the plan on which the whole number is arranged. So much for his theoretical work. For his practical, he has to manage his bell and ring the method like the rest, but in addition to this, his part in common with all, he has to bear in mind the plan of the whole, as I mentioned just now, never to forget for an instant where he is—a matter by no means so easy with all the other things weighing upon one—by no means so easy when a call made one half-second too late may throw into confusion, or when any other slip of his own or of any of the company may render good ringing, it may be of some hours' duration, all of no avail.

Thus far I have attempted to give a little outline of what change-ringing entails in its devotees. To explain what it is in itself would far exceed the bounds of a paper like the present. Our object will have been attained if I have succeeded in shewing that there is something, nay, that there is much in it, much that needs time, attention, and patience. Ringers labour at a disadvantage. Though we may not know very much about cricket or football, we may pretty fairly gauge what is passing in the mind of the players; but those who are ignorant of ringing, cannot have the faintest idea of a ringer's thoughts nothing like so much as a man that had never seen a note of music would have the first time he saw an organist on his stool. In ringing, well-nigh all is below the surface.

The question that presents itself to us to day, is that of the desirability of promoting ringing in the parish. Before now, I have heard

more than one incumbent say, "there is no desirability to have change-ringing in the parish—the fewer bells and the fewer ringers the better." Surely we shall hardly feel inclined to adopt such an opinion as that (hear, hear). It can hardly have been engendered but by some misunderstanding between the clergyman and his ringers. Far be it from me to say that all ringers are faultless, that they are never in the wrong, but the best of them can scarcely be expected not to resent even a just and proper interference, if it be wanting in tact, and unaccompanied by any sympathy with them and their favourite pursuit. From what has been said above it is clear that ringing possesses great attractions, that it is in itself a great means of interesting, employing, amusing, and refreshing them in their spare hours. Now surely anything with these qualities is worthy of all encouragement. Its influence is good in all directions. Its influence is good upon the men themselves, and, if properly managed, it works very well for the Church. One great beauty of change-ringing is that it is self-contained, if I may use the expression. Its interest centres wholly in itself and is utterly independent of anything outside. A ringer—a true and genuine ringer, needs no extraneous incentive to keep him at his work. Good ringing is its own reward. The man who gets through his first 120 on five bells feels for the time being perfectly happy (laughter). Even in the highest forms of art it has been questioned whether there is not at the very bottom the love of worldly success adding vigour to hand and head—but in the case of ringing this could scarcely be maintained. Wordly fame is far from a ringer's thoughts; for when are the best of ringers ever brought out for the public gaze and admiration? And if ever the public do get hold of a name it is as likely as not to be at the wrong end of the stick (laughter). And as for money that is no incentive to progress in a ringer. He certainly gets paid for weddings and festival days now and then, for otherwise he could not afford to lose his working hours, but he knows perfectly well that ninety-nine out of a hundred happy brides and bridegrooms and brides' fathers, and mothers (laughter), are utterly indifferent whether they hear rounds or changes, so long as the bells are kept going (laughter). And so a ringer loves to get on simply for the sake of his ringing, and for the enjoyment it brings him (hear, hear). Hence it will be seen that even apart from its connection with the Church—a connection which of course should always be its chief characteristic—it is decidedly one of those many things that are calculated to raise the tone in a parish. It occupies spare hours in a wholesome manner; it gives men something to think of and to do, and it brings them together in a friendly way devoid of all unnecessary formality (hear hear). Some of my most pleasant hours have been spent in the belfry (hear, hear, and loud applause).

But the belfry is part of the Church. Cannot the men be led thereby to feel that they have taken upon themselves a great responsibility, that in becoming ringers they have virtually engaged themselves to become Churchmen, and not merely passive Churchmen, but active, which is the truest form of Churchmanship? I know that this implies what may seem the false principle "Make a man a ringer first and a Churchman after," instead of "first a Churchman then a ringer." But human nature must be taken as it is. And so this is another point in my apology for ringing, that if right advantage can be taken of it, it may be turned into a means of attaching men to the Church. But the general result is, as I have found—especially in the country, that those who don't intend to come to church cease of their own accord to be ringers, and thus in the end the body of ringers will be found to be a body of Churchmen. In the position they occupy they can be brought into frequent contact with the parish priest. He has the opportunity at hand of influencing them more immediately than the general body of men in the parish. Is it not therefore to the Church's advantage for him to foster ringing by all the means in his power? Who knows whether his best Sunday-school teachers, his district visitors, and even sometimes a good churchwarden may not be procured from the ranks of the ringers? More than one clergyman, I feel sure, could bear testimony to the value in these ways that their ringers have been to them (hear hear).

The last few remarks are of course more especially applicable to town parishes; but good ringing need not be confined to the larger places. It is possible and useful in the country as well. There are very few villages in England unable to produce a sufficient number of capable men to ring the bells in the Church tower. As a general rule there is some sort of proportion between the population and number of bells. Of course one cannot say this with the least approach to exactitude, but what I mean is that a church tower with a ring of six bells affords some sort of presumption that the population comes somewhere near three hundred at the least. Now in a parish of three hundred, surely it cannot be a very hard matter to find six lads or men to take the bells in hand. Don't let anyone think it impossible to make good ringers out of countrymen (hear, hear). Ringing undoubtedly is a more or less intellectual pursuit, but the peculiarity of it and the beauty of it is, that standing as it does alone by itself, it does not require a special training for a man to be fitted for it (hear, hear). He who follows the plough all day is not a whit less likely to

become a fine ringer than he who turns over the leaves of a Lexicon (laughter), or exercises his brain with the Differential Calculus (laughter). Indeed I have known a case where a man who could neither read nor write has not only been a good ringer but even a conductor (hear, hear). Certainly I am at a loss to say how it was managed, but the thing has been done. On the other hand cases are frequent where men by no means slow at Latin and Greek find it impossible to master the elements of ringing (laughter). Not that Latin and Greek militate against ringing while other pursuits are favourable to it. Ringing requires intelligence and a natural bent that way—something that comes not by education but is inborn. It is as a friend once said "There seems to be a special bump in the brain for change-ringing and nothing else" (roars of laughter).

It only remains to say a word or two as to spurious imitations; let the authorities gently discourage round-ringing in all its forms. In round-ringing are included what are generally known as call-changes, where the conductor names what change he wishes to be rung, and that one is continued till he calls another—and also, the ringing of a few proper changes by heart, repeating them over and over again (laughter). In both of these the true interest and the incentives of real ringing are wanting (hear, hear), and consequently the work is rarely, if ever, undertaken for its own sake. The main idea is how to make it pay, in money, or in beer (laughter). One very trustworthy manner, in a general way, in which a non-ringer may judge whether the business is conducted on a right basis or not is by noting whether it is carried on all the year round (hear, hear). Of course in a country parish less ringing must be expected in summer than in winter—but if the men are real ringers they will be only too glad to find an opportunity of following their favourite bent; if not, you may be pretty sure not to hear much ringing except on a paying day, and for a few weeks before Christmas, when the Christmas-box begins to dawn on their view (laughter).

In conclusion—if a young man may be pardoned in speaking thus to so many who are his seniors, let me urge on all in authority to foster ringing each in his place so far as he can. In particular I would say to the clergy, "Be ringers yourselves." If you haven't tried it you can't tell the difference it makes (hear, hear). Most of us have experience of the change wrought in a choir and the singing when the parish priest or the members of his family identify themselves with it, not merely by taking an interest, but by taking a part. Ringing and ringers will be found the same (hear, hear). But if you cannot take a rope in hand yourself, at least let your men see you will do for them all that you can do. See that the bells are kept in good order. Let the belfry be comfortable. Help them in getting handbells if they haven't them already. Let them know and feel that they are in the service of God and His Church (hear, hear), that they are part and parcel of you and your parish organisation (hear, hear). Then they will take a pride in all that surrounds them, in their work, in you, in themselves; and you may be sure you will ever be far from repenting that you have gathered together a good set of ringers (loud and continued applause).

[The remainder of the report of this important Conference—taken on the spot by our own reporter, a practical ringer—will be concluded next week.]

THE SOUTH LINCOLNSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, October 6th, the half yearly meeting of this Association took place at Caythorpe, but owing to train arrangements, not many members were present. Several touches of Grandsire Triples were rang on the bells of the parish church, after which the business of the Association took place. A capital dinner was provided at the "Red Lion" Inn by hostess Tomlinson, but the majority had to hurry over it to get to the station in time for home, only about three hours being spent there. It seemed to be generally agreed that the time had come for forming a county association, but it was deferred until the next meeting to be held at Bourne in January next, when a large meeting is expected to be there, and we shall be glad to hear from any company of ringers who are willing to join in this undertaking. All communications on the above subject may be addressed to the hon. secretary, R. CREASEY, Monk's Lane, Spalding.

THE ringers of Beaconsfield held a meeting on Monday to consider what steps they could take to obtain funds for renovating the peal of bells there. The belfry and tower are now being repaired, so that the opportunity is favourable. Mr. Harry L. W. Lawson presided, and it was resolved to issue an appeal for subscriptions. It is proposed to add two new bells to complete the octave, one to be called the "Burke Bell" and the other the "Beaconsfield Bell," as a memorial of those two statesmen whose names are associated with the place. Mr. G. Allington Charsley, the coroner for South Bucks, and a former ringer, was appointed treasurer.

THE BOMBAY UNIVERSITY,

(Vide Illustration.)

SOME time ago, one of our frequent contributors to this journal happening to be at Calcutta when the clock and bells for the new University at Bombay were opened, thought fit to be present there, and most of our readers will recollect that we published a graphic account in our columns, of such ceremony. By the courtesy of Messrs. Lund and Blockley, the eminent clockmakers of Pall Mall, who made this Clock and Carillon, we are enabled to present our readers with a view of this magnificent building. To describe the architectural features of such an edifice, is, for the present at least, quite beyond our power, we must therefore be content with a brief description of what the tower contains, viz: a Clock, Carillon, and Bells.

The bells, sixteen in number, are fixed in two rows, the eight smallest being at the top, in a substantial iron frame, which rests upon eight massive corbels in the highest chamber of the tower immediately below the lantern. The hour bell weighs three tons, and the whole together, including the frame upon which they are fixed, about nine tons. The hour bell and the bells that strike the quarters are provided with three hammers, and all the others with two. By means of a clever arrangement, consisting of a steel spring fixed on a slight iron frame, each hammer, after it has struck the blow, is prevented from rebounding and striking the bell a second time. Wires corresponding with the number of hammers lead from the belfry to what, if we might term it so without disrespect, we would call the chiming machine, which is situated on the second floor below the belfry, the first floor being occupied by the clock itself. This chiming machine is an ingenious piece of mechanism constructed upon a simple principle, and yet so nicely adapted to the end which it is intended to serve, that it will never strike a false note or play a wrong tune. The most prominent feature of the machine is a wooden barrel with a number of small brass spikes upon its surface corresponding with the number of notes in the tunes which it is intended to play. This barrel revolves, and the spikes let slip a catch communicating with the wires from the belfry; and the blow is struck upon the bell by the hammer, which is so fixed as to be always ready to fall. The machinery is made to adjust itself after the tune is finished, and every part of the apparatus is devised with a view to reducing the necessity of interference to a minimum. The bells were cast by Messrs. Taylor of Loughborough. The main principle upon which this clock is made is that of all clocks of the same description. There is however, one point which is deserving of a brief reference. This is a system by which the clock can be connected by electricity with other clocks hundreds of miles away, and the correct time telegraphed at a certain time every day. The system is a very simple one, but it is so useful and so accurate in its working, that we shall not be surprised to see it introduced on to all the great railway lines in the country. Mr. Lund, of the firm of Messrs. Lund and Blockley, the manufacturers of the clock, has the clock connected by telegraph with his office in the Fort, and each hour that the clock strikes is registered in his office, so that he knows immediately if the clock goes wrong. Owing to the dispute as to what time the clock should keep, it is doubtful whether the tower will be illuminated by electricity as was at first contemplated. The Electric Light Company have already laid their wires into the tower, and the clock has been once illuminated, and the public have had an opportunity of witnessing the pretty effect produced by the lights. It has been thrown open to the inspection of the public, and hundreds of people have availed themselves of the opportunity to make a pilgrimage up the narrow stairs leading to the top of the tower. The journey was wearisome enough to most people, but the visitor was well repaid for his trouble on arrival at the top, by an inspection of the interesting apparatus combined in the clock and chimes, and by the magnificent view of Bombay which is obtainable from the summit of the tower.

It will be recollected that the firm mentioned above recently erected a set of carillons at the parish church of Kidderminster, of which we gave an account, sent to us by our representative on the spot. This workmanship, which has been tested by practical persons, gives universal satisfaction. It is congratulating to find that in such national undertakings as these, the *bona fide* manufacturer is applied to to carry out the work.

THE PEARL LIFE ASSURANCE COMPANY.—Among our advertisement columns will be found the Annual Report of this company, presented at the 19th General Meeting, held on the 28th ult. As will be seen a most remarkable business has been done, 222,030 policies having been issued during the past year; and such a figure as this represents a new Annual Premium of upwards of £103,837. The peculiar advantages of such a company as this, is that premiums are so arranged that the requirements and circumstances of all classes are considered. We cannot conclude this brief notice without expressing our admiration of the management, and Mr. Foley is to be congratulated upon the results of his administration.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday last, the Annual General Meeting of this Society was held at Wakefield. There was a large attendance of members and friends, amongst the number being Messrs. S. Wood and G. Longden, of Ashton-under-Lyne, two of the "heroes of sweet Treble Bob." The Annual Meeting was held at the "Golden Lion" at five o'clock, the president, Jasper W. Snowdon, Esq. in the chair. The annual report of the proceedings of the Society (64 pages) was placed in the hands of the members. From it we gather that the Society has, during the last twelve months, scored twenty-nine peals, and that the number of members now amounts to 425. The treasurer's account, which was read over and passed, shews that the Society now has a sum of £86 placed to its credit. The January meeting having been found to occur at an inconvenient season, a resolution was passed that instead of the four quarterly meetings, the meetings of the Society should in future be three in each year, viz., in February, June and October. The next meeting was appointed to be held at Bradford on the first Saturday in February. Votes of thanks were recorded to the Vicars, Churchwardens, and ringers of Wakefield and Sandal, for the use of the bells during the day. The Honorary Secretary of the Society, Mr. W. Whitaker, of Leeds, being absent through illness, a vote of thanks was passed to him for his past services with hopes for his speedy recovery.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

A QUARTERLY MEETING of the above Association was held at Nottingham, on Saturday, October 6th, 1883, when the bells of St. Peter's and All Saints' churches, Nottingham, together with the peals at Beeston and Lenton, were placed at the disposal of the Association by the kindness of their respective vicars. Members attended from Derby, Leicester, Burton-on-Trent, Loughborough, Long Eaton, Beeston and Wombourne; and friends from Birmingham, Sheffield, Hull, Staveley, Chesterfield, Mansfield, Leek and Bulwell, took part during the day in the ringing, which mainly consisted of short touches of Grandsire and Stedman Triples, and Kent Treble Bob Major. At 4 o'clock a Committee Meeting was held in All Saints' schoolroom, at which the following officers of the Association were present: the Rev. James H. Fish (vicar of St. Paul's, Burton-on-Trent), President; Mr. Mr. Wm. Wakley, Hon. Treasurer; Mr. J. Griffin, Hon. Secretary, and the undermentioned representatives: Mr. H. C. Woodward

(Derby and District); Messrs. Hickman, Henson, and Ward (Nottingham and District); Messrs. Cooper and Wilson (Leicester and District); Messrs. Jaggar and Dumbleby (Burton and District); and Mr. J. W. Taylor, jun., from Loughborough.

At 5 o'clock about sixty of the ringers sat down to a substantial tea, which was served in the Arboretum Refreshment Room, and at the meeting, which was subsequently held, the President reported the performance during the quarter just ended of a peal of 5376 Kent Treble Bob, and two peals of 5088 Double Norwich by members of the Association; also one date touch of Grandsire Triples, and several 720's in various methods. The chairman particularly complimented the Burton-on-Trent branch for their peal-ringing, and also the Long Eaton members for the energy displayed by them in raising funds for the two new trebles lately added to their peal of six.

Three Honorary members and nine ringing members were admitted, and their names were entered on the books of the Association. The meeting was subsequently addressed by Mr. Wm. Wakley, in explanation of the proceedings at the Ringers' Conference at Reading; and by the Rev. G. Edgecombe, vicar of St. Peter's, Nottingham, and an honorary member of the Association. It was resolved that the next Quarterly Meeting be held at Leicester, on Saturday, December 29th, being the last Saturday in the current year.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

THE ANNUAL MEETING will be held at Durham on Monday, October 29th. Ringing at the Cathedral and St. Oswald's. All members of the Association are respectfully invited to attend Divine Service in St. Oswald's Church, at 2 o'clock. Preacher, the Rev. W. O. Blunt, M.A., Rector of Chester-le-Street. Dinner will be provided at the "Three Tuns" at 3 o'clock, tickets for which should be applied for, not later than Monday, October 22nd. After dinner the usual business meeting will take place. Dinner Tickets, 1s. to members; 2s. 6d. to non-members. Members of the Committee to meet at the "Three Tuns," at 10 o'clock.

Post Office Chambers, Stockton-on-Tees.

G. J. CLARKSON,
Hon. Sec.

NOTICE.—On Tuesday, October 16th, eight members of the Birmingham Amalgamated Society will attempt the 10,000 of Grandsire Major upon the handbells, which was postponed from October 3rd, on account of the sudden illness of Mr. John Carter.

WILLIAM BLEWS AND SONS, CHURCH BELL FOUNDERS, BIRMINGHAM.

TESTIMONIALS.

From CANON WILKINSON, D.D.
St. Martin's Rectory, Birmingham,
November 30th, 1876.

I have much pleasure in saying that Messrs. William Blews and Sons executed their work in re-casting two of the S. Martin's Bells, and in re-hanging the whole of the twelve Bells, in a very satisfactory manner. One of the re-cast Bells was in perfect tune with the rest of the Peal, and the other required only the very slightest alteration.

The timber of the massive framework is very good, and the workmanship excellent.

WM. WILKINSON, Rector.

[Copy of Letter from Dr. Burgess, Vicar of Bishop Ryder's Church.]

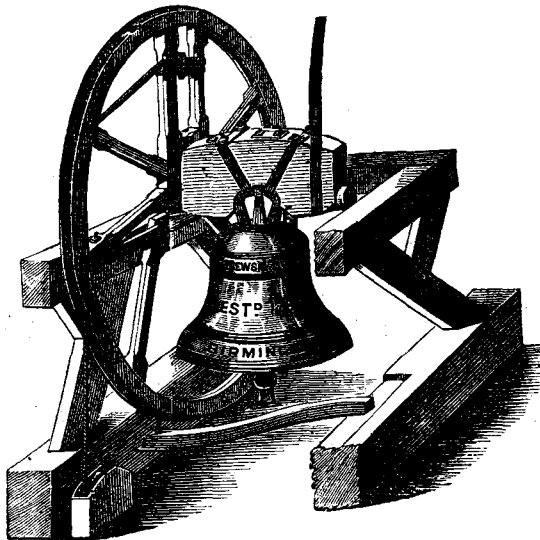
I am happy to be able to state that the peal of eight bells erected by William Blews and Sons, in the Tower of Bishop Ryder's Church, Birmingham, is a complete success. The tone is perfect and the hanging in every respect admirable.

(Signed) J. HART BURGESS, D.D.
December 18th, 1869.

[Copy of Letter from Rev. Allan B. Webb (now Bishop of Bloemfontain), Rector of Avon Dassett].

I have great pleasure in expressing the perfect satisfaction which is felt by all of us in regard to the beautiful Peal of Bells cast by your Firm for our church.

The bells are most sweet and harmonious in tone, and the workmanship in all respects has our entire approval. (Signed) A. B. WEBB.



TESTIMONIALS.

[Copy of a letter received by Messrs. Blews and Sons from Rev. Canon Cattley.]

Worcester, June 1st, 1868.

I am much gratified by my inspection of your Peal of six Bells just cast for Middlesmoor, in North Yorkshire, and you are indeed to be congratulated in having thus early produced a perfect maiden peal. Such an event is of very rare occurrence.

In my judgment they could not be in more perfect tune, though they have not been touched since they were taken out of the moulds.

(Signed) RICHARD CATTLEY.

[Extract from a speech delivered by E. B. Denison, Esq., Q.C., at the opening of Bishop Ryder's Church Bells, Birmingham. — Vide "Birmingham Gazette," January 21st, 1869.]

Mr. Denison made a few remarks respecting the progress the art of bell casting had made in recent years in this neighbourhood.

Hitherto the best bell founded in the Midland Counties had been cast at Loughborough, which till now had enjoyed a monopoly in this art.

Now, however, it was to be rivalled in Birmingham. He had that day inspected Mr. Blews' bells, and should have confidence in recommending the Birmingham foundry as a competitor on equal terms with the best Bell Foundry in England. (Applause). He would not say Mr. Blews was the best bell founder in England, but he would say that he was fully equal to the best.

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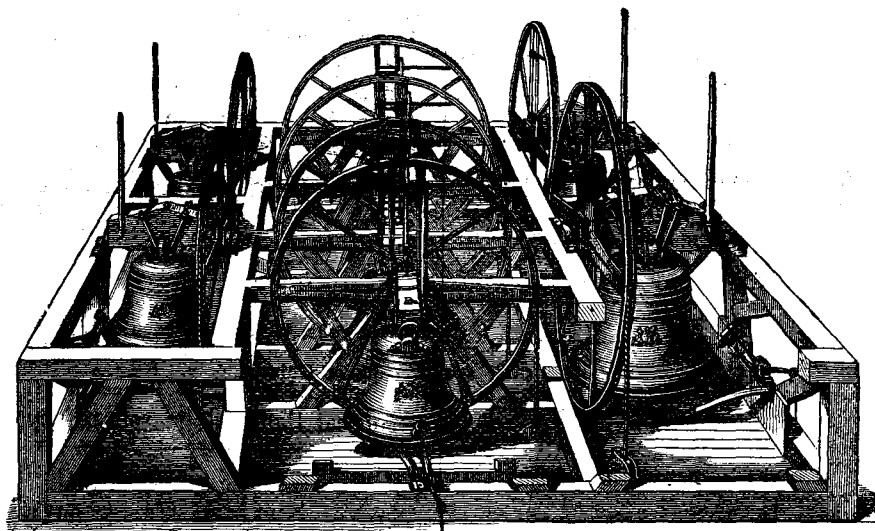
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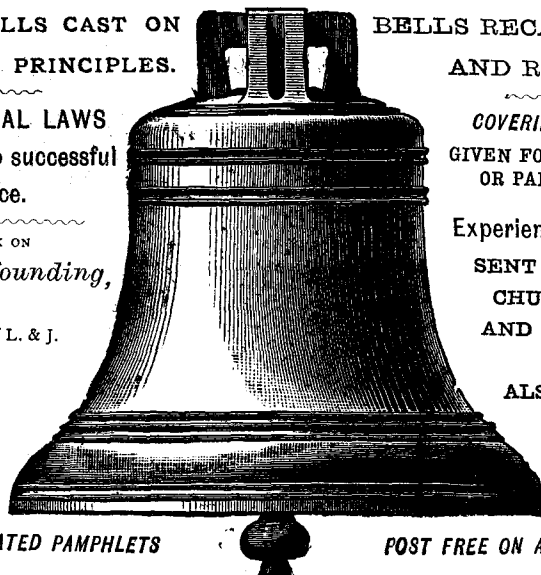
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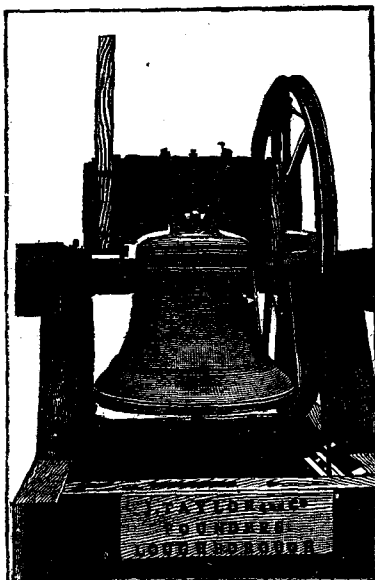
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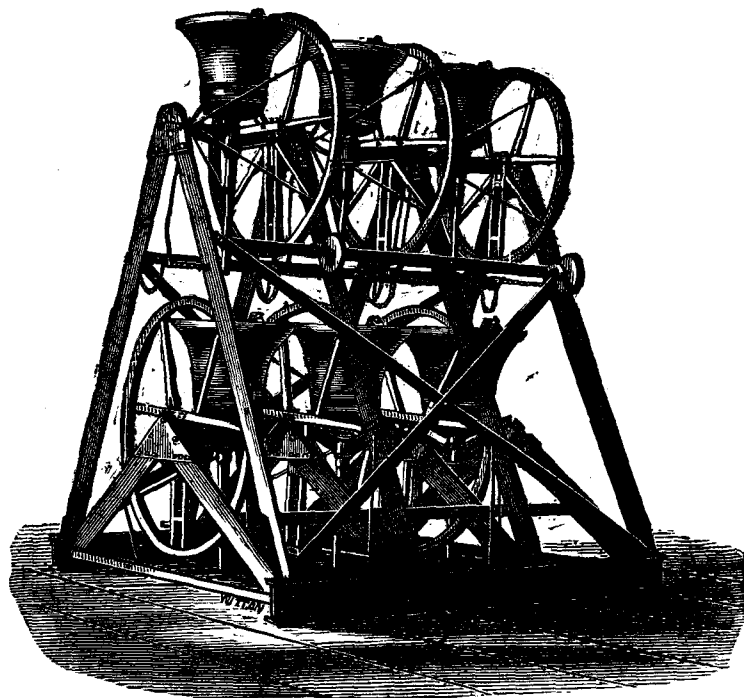
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No. 81. [NEW SERIES.]—VOL. II.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 20, 1883.

[ONE PENNY.]

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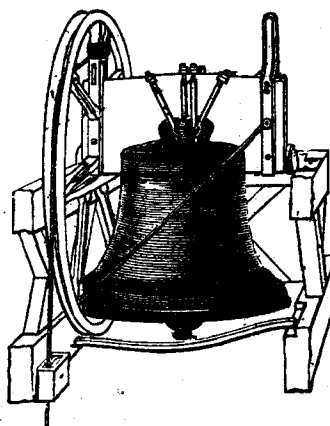
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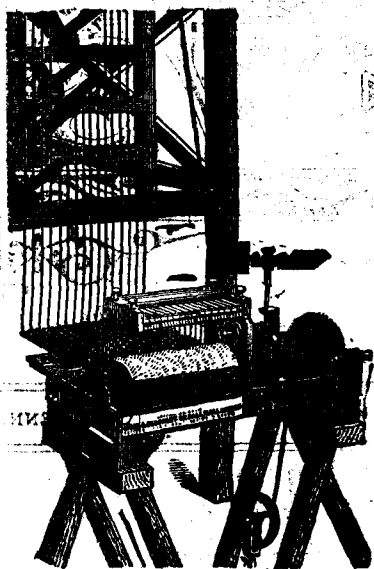
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ESTIMATES ON APPLICATION.

THE JOHN COX JUBILEE FUND.

As there appears to be several Subscription Lists in circulation, and as a desire has been expressed to allow the Fund to remain open a few weeks longer, it will so remain until further notice.

FURTHER SUBSCRIPTIONS.

Already announced	21	6	0
Mr. Lambert (Staplehurst)	0	2	6
Mr. F. Weare (Willesden)	0	1	6
Mr. Albert E. Wrecks (C.Y.)	0	2	6
The Battersea Society	1	1	0
<i>The following list is the result of a collection made in Oxford, amounting to £4. 11s.:—</i>			
The University Society	1	0	0
The Oxford Society	1	0	0
Mr. S. Hill	0	2	6
C. Hounslow	0	2	6
J. Field	0	2	6
J. G. Collier	0	2	0
C. Hester	0	1	0
W. Washbrook	0	1	0
O. Thomas	0	1	0
G. Lapworth	0	1	0
S. Hounslow	0	2	6
W. C. Baston	0	1	0
T. Payne	0	2	6
A. Strange	0	1	0
A. Barney	0	1	0

St. Peter's Society	0	4	0
The Burford Society	0	10	0
A. B. Carpenter, Esq.	0	2	6
S. F. Bridge, Esq.	0	3	0
C. C. Child, Esq.	0	2	6
C. F. Coleridge, Esq.	0	2	6
Arthur Preston, Esq.	0	2	6
<i>The following list is the result of a collection amounting to £5 1s. made by members of the Ancient Society of College Youths:—</i>			
Mr. Edwin Gibbs	0	2	6
George Mash	0	1	0
John Rowbotham	0	1	0
William Greenleaf	0	1	0
Davis (Barking)	0	2	0
Thomas Brown	0	1	0
George Musket	0	2	6
C. F. Winny	0	2	6
Richard French	0	1	0
Samuel Hayes	0	1	0
William George	0	1	0

Mr. D. Francombe	0	2	6
Edward Rogers	0	1	0
Walter Jones	0	2	6
Edward Clark	0	1	0
George Dorrington	0	1	0
Ezra Carter	0	1	0
William Cecil	0	1	0
Joseph Davidson	0	2	6
William Cooter	0	2	6
James Pettit	0	2	6
Edward Wallage	0	1	0
Richard Turner	0	2	6
Henry Edwards	0	2	0
James Monday	0	2	0
Henry Tucker	0	1	0
James Dwight	0	5	0
Arthur Cutmore	0	1	0
William D. Smith	0	1	0
Charles Lee	0	1	0
George Longden	0	2	0
John M. Hayes	0	1	0
Samuel Hayes	0	1	0
Henry Springhall	0	1	0

Mr. T. Hattersley (Sheffield)	0	5	0
Cornelius Kailton	0	1	0
Charles Beech	0	1	0
William Tanner	0	2	0
Daniel Newton	0	2	0
Edward Marriott	0	2	0
Harry Cutter	0	1	0
Fred. Knights (Norwich)	0	2	0
Richard Kilby	0	1	0
William R. Smith	0	2	0
George M'Laughlin	0	2	0
Thomas Gover	0	1	0
William Mole	0	1	0
Alford	0	1	0
Edwin Horrex	0	1	0
William P. English	0	2	6
Edwin F. Strange	0	2	6
W. Making "Goose and Gridiron"	0	3	0
York Green	0	2	0
Joseph Jones	0	1	0
Mrs. Roots	0	4	0
Anonymous per G. Musket	0	7	0

H. DAINS, Hon. Sec.

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TO RINGERS.—WANTED, A Copy of Shipway's Art of Ringing, accompanied by the Sheet of Peals of Stedman Triples, by Tebbs and others, which have been bound up with the work.—Apply to the Editor.

THE RINGERS' CONFERENCE AT READING.

(Continued from p. 333.)

PROPOSED NATIONAL ASSOCIATION.

WE omitted last week to state that, as was fitting at such a meeting, the proceedings of the Conference were opened by prayer.

At the conclusion of the reading, by the Rev. C. D. P. Davies, of his paper, entitled, "Change-Ringing: what is it?"

GERVAS HOLMES, Esq., of the Redenhall Bell Foundry, was the first speaker called upon. He assured his Lordship that he had come quite unprepared to make a speech. He would, however, accept the present opportunity of saying a few words upon the subject before the meeting. They had had the pleasure of listening to a couple of most excellent papers. He considered that the clergy ought now and then to hear what the laity had to say upon Church matters (hear, hear). The connection between the clergy and ringers was only of recent date. When he first took up ringing he was looked upon as a lunatic (laughter). There were three points which he would bring before them. This coming together of clergy and ringers was new to both. What was required on the part of clergy was clerical tact, clerical recognition, and clerical influence (hear, hear). The influence that the clergy possessed was great. When the clergy began to use their influence, and to recognise ringers, there were people who said it would not do. They said it will not answer if they, the ringers, have not been used to it, and will not put up with it. The chairman had already referred to the late Secretary of the Norwich Diocesan Association, and his influence he, the speaker, knew was great, especially with ringers—in fact few men of his class possessed such influence, and he did not believe that a better instance could be mentioned. Going from belfry to belfry, ready at all times to look after the interest of ringers, he always found for himself a hearty welcome.

As to clerical tact, when it was commenced without influence having been used over the ringers for a number of years, it was often found that things did not go on very well. It was something like a woman sweeping a room without putting down the tea leaves (laughter), which was almost sure to cause a dust. If this clerical tact was used without putting down the tea leaves a dust would arise, but if tea leaves were put down, they would find things going on much better (hear, hear and laughter). They had an idea of what clerical tact was in the right way in Norwich. At St. Peter's it was the custom when ringing the old year out and the new one in for the ringers to have an old earthenware vessel filled for drinking purposes in the belfry. When the Rev. Sidney Pelham came, he resolved to make an alteration. So he held a service at 8 o'clock in the church, and asked the ringers to ring for the same. After the service was over he invited them all to supper, inviting at the same time a number of the principal inhabitants, including the Mayor and others. This particular vessel was brought out and placed upon the supper table; here the ringers enjoyed themselves to about half past eleven, when they went to the tower and rung the old year out and the new in. This was an instance of clerical tact, and the dust was swept away without being an annoyance to any one (hear, hear, and laughter). As to clerical recognition, there was a great deal depending upon this. Generally speaking, those that were paid the most highly were the most imperfect (hear, hear, and laughter). There must be times when there must be a certain recognition, ringers must be recompensed to some extent. He considered that some small sum should be given for Sunday services (no, no, and hear, hear). For himself he always liked to hear the bells rung upon Christmas and Easter mornings (hear, hear). When at home his father's ringers always did so, and were afterwards invited to a good breakfast. This was a plan which answered well and he would recommend it to all present. He also thought the ringers should have a ringing day for which they should be paid, at least they should have one day in the year, even if it was only the Queen's birthday (hear, hear). Another thing which he considered ringers ought to have, was a seat allotted to them in the Church, and that not right at the back (hear, hear), and when possible they should be invited to take their places in the choir, and even if their voices were not found altogether suitable, they should as far as possible be tolerated (applause).

The Rev. F. E. ROBINSON said he had much pleasure in being called upon to say a few words on behalf of the ringers. He believed it was the first occasion that they had been recognised at the Church Congress by a meeting of this kind, but for this they ought to be thankful (hear hear and laughter). He considered it very desirable that those who had the laying out of money upon bells and towers should have the means of obtaining a better knowledge than they generally possessed of the right way to go to work (hear hear). The last speaker knew of something of this, for his firm cast a peal which when put up were useless for ringing purposes, and yet he told him that £3000 was spent upon the tower. [Mr. HOLMES desired to be allowed to say that the tower in which the bells were put was only finished last year, and he thought this might account for it.] He considered that when bells were put up they should be ready for ringing. He himself had often been called in and asked to give advice, and generally found that the very

thing he advised not to be done was done (laughter). Only this year he was invited to spend the day with a gentleman, and spent a very pleasant day with the ringers, but afterwards found that they had done the very thing he advised them not to do (laughter). In order to render assistance, he thought it desirable that there should be an Association which would be officially recognised by the bishops, and those that were about to erect towers, or do anything to bells, could come to such an Association for advice. There were still a number of towers in which reform was necessary in order to make them in accordance with the 19th century (hear, hear). If such an Association was formed there were many details that might be given by them, or by a duly appointed committee, such as the size of tower, and the size of ringing-chamber, so that when they went into them for the purpose of ringing they could do so with pleasure. He considered that architects should be advised to consult such a committee, for there were but few of them that understood anything about ringing matters. Guilds and County Associations, had now, some of them, existed some time, and he thought that what was now wanted was a central or National Association, so that ringers could meet together once a year, and by going into the dark regions of the earth (laughter) be doing something in their work (hear, hear). He was one of a party who recently spent a very pleasant week in Devonshire, and while there went to Crediton, where there is a peal of eight. Some of the local ringers were present, and when they saw that there were but eight in the band, they warned them against allowing one man to ring the tenor, saying that the last man that attempted to ring it single handed went home and died. However a couple of the band managed to pull her up not without, however some exertion, although they did not tell the local ringers so, and they did manage to ring them for a short time (laughter). No doubt they would all die one day (laughter) but they were not dead yet (laughter). He afterwards advised the rector to discontinue employing the village blacksmith for the purpose of bellhanging, and gave him the names of those who could be relied upon to put his bells in order. He considered that if they had a National Association, they, as ringers, would be enabled to have a very pleasant time together, which was one of the first things to be considered, and at the same time cause a much greater interest to be taken in their work. He thought there should be a Committee of reference which should be recognised by all church officials, and had no doubt that architects would be only too glad to come to it for advice. He thought that they should take some steps, now they had so many together to form some such association (applause).

C. C. CHILD, Esq. said the last speaker had taken the bread out of his mouth (laughter). They were here addressing those who believed what they said. He regretted there were not present, more of those who were not ringers, as those present knew that the village blacksmith was, like the architect, ignorant in matters connected with bells and ringing. They should, he considered, try and impress this upon the Clergy and ringers all over the country, for there still was a number of towers and bells in a bad state. He himself knew of one not far distant that was more like a pigeon-roost than a belfry. When he took a broom into it he did not believe that one had been in it for years, and there were numerous others like it. They however, must be got at in some way. Many of those that used them did not know of the existence of Guilds. They should impress upon these the necessity of reform (hear, hear). It was with such a view that the papers to which they had listened had been read. Some time since, an article appeared in the columns of "THE BELL NEWS," which he wrote and suggested should be reprinted. That article, which dwelt with the question of the village blacksmith, was now reprinted in pamphlet form, and could be purchased for the small sum of one penny. He trusted they would all bring it before their Guilds and Associations, and that it would be distributed all over the country (hear, hear). By the circulation of this pamphlet they would be putting into the hands of those requiring anything done to their tower or bells an article from the pen of one who knew all about it, which would show them the best way to go to work. The end of the pamphlet was occupied by advertisements of those who could be relied upon, so that the attention of those into whose hands the pamphlet came would be directed not only the right way to get to work, but also (to) right people to employ for such work. He should advise the associations to secure copies and forward them to the clergy of parishes where it was known that there was work to be done (applause).

The Hon. and Rev. JOHN H. NELSON said he was pleased to speak a few words upon the subject, especially as when he first heard of the meeting he did not intend to attend. He was, however, interested in the matter, and had therefore attended. The mention of the name of the late Secretary of the Norwich Diocesan Association gave him great pain, for he had hoped during the Congress to have had him as his guest. He trusted that he had gone to his rest, and that they might look forward to meeting him in a better world. As a Norfolk man he remembered how remarkable the city of Norwich was for its thirty-six churches, and its peals of bells, and remembered the time when the population of 80,000 one morning woke up to hear the

whole of the bells ringing: this was done through the instrumentality of the late Mr. Harris, who not only succeeded in bringing about this revival, but also got the Archdeacon to take an active part in the work. He not only addressed Churchwardens upon the subjects, but also was ready to preach sermons on behalf of bell-ringing associations. It was a pleasant thing to remember this. Eleven years ago when he first came to reside in that part of the country, he found at Shaw a very curious foundry bell, and made up his mind to remove it. He however, had to manage all without the assistance of a society such as had been spoken about. This was the case with many of the clergy who had to do the best they could without any advice, trusting for support from the bishops. In his own parish church there was the belfry and four bells (laughter), which were in a bad condition. So he said to one of his laymen, who was an auctioneer, that he should like to improve them, and thought of recasting the cracked bell and putting only one new one in its place, as he thought the tower would only hold four. His layman said that he would give £50 towards the work (hear, hear) and if he wanted another £50 he could have it if he would only improve the bells (applause). The order was given and very soon Messrs. Warner and Sons set the whole in order. If such an Association was formed, he should be happy to avail himself of the opportunity of the assistance of such a society, not only to keep the four bells in order, but to make them into a peal of five. (hear, hear). He trusted that they, as ringers, would still continue to hold fast to the old church, and hold fast the faith which they professed, remembering that it was their duty to love God and keep his commandments (applause).

Captain ACLAND-TROYTE said he had to apologize for the absence of some who were not able to be with them, but whose sympathies were with them. These were Mr. Snowdon (cheers) who wrote saying that he was not able to come so far. Also for Mr. Coleridge, who was prevented from coming through illness; and for Mr. Phillott, and his (Captain Acland-Troyte's) brother who was prevented at the last moment from attending. His brother read a paper at the Plymouth Church Congress, and no doubt would have spoken upon the subject had he been able to have attended.

The Rev. THOMAS ARCHER TURNER said most of the speakers had referred to the ringers of the country villages, but all ringers were not obtained from the country villages. With some, no doubt, the question as to where they should draw their ringers from, was becoming a difficulty, for with agricultural depression, young men were leaving the villages, and it was not therefore so easy as formerly to obtain their services. He would recommend them to draw their ringers from the Sunday School (hear, hear). He should, no doubt, surprise many of them when he told them that the Sunday School was entirely different in Lancashire, to those of many other parts. There they had large Sunday Schools; young men remaining in the schools to the age of twenty or thirty years—in fact till they were married, which was not so early as in some places (laughter). If these young men were taken well in hand, they would receive the clergyman warmly. It had been said that the clergy had not taken an interest in ringers; there was one exception. He could not let the meeting pass without mentioning the name of Mr. Ellacombe (applause), who was now turned ninety-three years of age, and who upon his ninety-third birthday took his bell and rung a few changes. He had always taken a great interest in ringers and their work. With respect to the repair of towers, he had gone up some hundreds, and generally found the bell gear in a dilapidated state, and that as a rule the village blacksmith is entrusted with the work of repairing. He often regretted to see the state the bells were in; how the sharp edges of the clappers for a number of years had been digging into the bell itself, and would suggest that they should have a bell life assurance (laughter), for he was sure that an assurance society would not insure a bell in such a state (laughter). One word as to belfry rules; the fewer the better (hear, hear). Some belfries had a number of rules, but how often were those rules ignored. He remembered once seeing "who sweareth here shall forfeit a pot of beer," that was a rule of which it could be said that it was both short and sweet (laughter). They should take care to make their belfries comfortable, this would secure them a better class of ringers. He never came across but one belfry in which there were any sanitary arrangements, and you would not find these in many; he should strongly recommend sanitary arrangements in belfries, for he had seen great liberties taken in the belfry owing to the want of proper sanitary arrangements. He would have architects properly instructed—in fact they should learn such matters during their articles, above all he would say, teach architects how to ring and then leave them to do the work (hear, hear).

GERVAS HOLMES, Esq., again rising, said he had had a resolution put into his hands which related to what had been his hobby for the last ten years; and that was that a grand National Association should be formed, which should combine the whole of the ringers of the country. He thought that this meeting should be considered a preliminary one, for they could not get all suggestions carried out at once. He thought there should be a committee appointed to draw up

a scheme, and a meeting called for the purpose of sanctioning the scheme. He should suggest that five names be selected to act upon the Committee, and that the Committee should put themselves in communication with the secretaries of the chief Societies and Guilds, and draw up rules which should hereafter be brought before a meeting of this kind. He would also suggest that the meeting should extend over a period of three or four days, unless they did this, it was of little use attempting to get ringers together, and he had no doubt but that his friend Jasper Snowdon (cheers), would have been present had there been the opportunity of ringing half-a-dozen peals (laughter). He should propose "that a committee of five be appointed to draw up a scheme for the formation of a National Association of ringers for England, to lay the results before another meeting in twelve months time."

The CHAIRMAN supported the resolution, remarking that the whole of the speeches had pointed to the need of such an Association. Five names had been submitted to him as the Committee, which were as follows: Captain Acland-Troyte, Rev. F. E. Robinson, Rev. R. B. Knatchbull-Hugessen, C. C. Child, Esq., Gervas Holmes, Esq., with the Rev. Dolben Paul as Secretary, with power to add to their number.

Mr. HOLMES said he had been an amateur ringer for thirty years, but for the last five he had been a professional bell-founder and bell-hanger; he therefore therefore thought it undesirable that his name should be upon the Committee.

J. MARTIN ROUTH, Esq. said that London was the great centre of ringing, and they had there the two great societies. He thought that the name of some prominent member of each society should be added, and suggested the name of Mr. James Pettit, on behalf of the College Youths, and that of Mr. William Baron, on behalf of the Cumberlands.

Mr. BARON thought that as the Cumberlands were represented there by the Master of that Society, he would be the most proper person to be elected on the Committee, and suggested that Mr. Nelms should be appointed instead of himself.

Mr. Holmes' name was withdrawn, and the names of Messrs. Pettit and Nelms added. It was also suggested that the name of the Rev. J. R. Keble, Chaplain to the Bishop of Lichfield, should be added to the Committee, but he expressed a desire not to be appointed.

The CHAIRMAN pointed out that it was not well to have a very large Committee, as there might be a trouble in getting them together. A small Committee would answer the purpose best, as they only had to draw up a scheme and report upon it.

The Rev. DOLBEN PAUL was afraid there would be a difficulty in getting a meeting of ringers together to sanction any scheme.

The CHAIRMAN suggested that the scheme should be published in the ringing papers, and that the Committee should report the same to the secretaries of the various Associations, who should be requested to bring the same before their members for discussion and criticism, and report to the Committee any suggestions that occurred to them; and that the meeting next year should be asked to sanction such scheme.

The Rev. DOLBEN PAUL considered that would answer, and mentioned that the Rev. Woolmore Wigram—who through some cause (which proved to be a mistake in the date given in the Church Congress Handbook) was not present—had told him the difficulty he had in obtaining the necessary information for publication in the "Official Year Book of the Church of England, to which he had to contribute a chapter on the ringing societies in the country." He trusted that Secretaries would forward the necessary information immediately, so that the whole of the Associations could be properly recorded.

The Rev. A. du BOULAY HILL seconded the resolution, which it was agreed should take the form as suggested by the Chairman. The rev. gentleman said the Association must be upon a sound principle, and would take twelve months to bring into working order.

The Rev. F. E. ROBINSON said that to get ringers together you must put out a good bait, and he thought in appointing a meeting the use of the whole of the towers in the neighbourhood should be secured.

The name of Mr. Henry Johnson (of Birmingham) was added to the Committee; and a vote of thanks to the noble chairman, proposed by the Rev. F. E. Robinson, seconded by Mr. J. W. Taylor, jun., having been briefly responded to, the proceedings terminated.

KIRK ELLA, YORKSHIRE.

On Wednesday, October 10th, a party from Hull paid a visit to this village, for the purpose of opening a peal of thirteen handbells from Mr. W. Pawson of Leeds. By the kindness of the Rector, a substantial supper was provided, previous to which a 720 of Bob Minor was rung upon the tower bells:—F. Drabble, 1; A. Taylor, 2; J. Dixey, 3; W. Southwick, 4; C. Bennett, 5; C. Jackson, (conductor) 6. The party then sat down to supper (the Kirk Ella company being present) over which the rector (the Rev. Mr. Foord) presided, it being very much enjoyed. "The Hull Campanologian Band" then played several tunes and courses upon the new bells, which are in perfect tune and well finished, and are highly creditable to the founder. Entire satisfaction was expressed with regard to them.

The party take this opportunity of thanking the Rev. Mr. Foord for his generosity and courtesy, as everything passed off successfully; the party returning to Hull well pleased with their outing.

ANNUAL MEETING OF THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

The members of this Association held their annual meeting on Monday, October 8th. There was a numerous attendance of ringers, the companies represented consisting of Yarmouth, Swaffham, Aylsham Redenhall, Harling, Diss, Kenninghall, Banham, Somerleyton, Halesworth, Aldborough, Hasketon, Wenhaston, and Haughley. In the course of the day several of the city peals were rung, the following belfries being open to the association:—St. Peter Mancroft, St. Andrew, St. Giles, St. John Maddermarket, St. Gregory, St. Laurence, St. Michael Coslany, and St. Mary Coslany. Access could not be given by the Rector to the tower of St. Peter Mountergate, as the church is now undergoing restoration. At half-past twelve, the ringers assembled for Divine Service at the church of St. Peter Mancroft. A shortened order of Evening Prayer was said by the Vicar, the Ven. Archdeacon Nevill; the lesson being read by the Rev. N. Bolingbroke. The hymns selected for the occasion were "O God, our help," and "We love the place, O God." A sermon was preached by the Rev. F. E. Robinson, vicar of Drayton, Berks, and Master of the Oxford Guild of Ringers, from Psalm cl., 5:—"Praise Him upon the loud cymbals; praise Him upon the high sounding cymbals." The preacher having said the text seemed to be written for ringers—for what were there the well-toned cymbals if not the bells hung in our church steeples?—proceeded to point out how they might praise God with their bells. Bell-ringers were in possession of a particular faculty, talent, or power, and this, like every other gift of God, must be employed to His praise and honour. The preacher detailed a variety of points that are essential to make a good bell-ringer and a good Christian; such as close attention to the subject, perseverance and endurance, like-mindedness, looking forward to the end, constant attention to very little points, having their "loins girded about with truth," and "condescending to men of low estate." He also referred to a prophecy in Zechariah, that most mysterious and wonderful of prophets, that "on the bells there shall be holiness to the Lord," and suggested that, taken out of the earth and suspended above the earth, the bells should teach them, amongst other things, that they were not citizens of this earth, but that their conversation was in heaven.

At the conclusion of the service the members of the Association, numbering nearly 200, adjourned to St. Andrew's Hall, and sat down to a sumptuous dinner, with dessert, most liberally provided by Mr. Leander Brown, of the Shirehall Tavern, whose catering was well praised for its excellency. The Mayor of Norwich (C. R. Gilman, Esq.), presided, and among those present were the Ven. Archdeacon Nevill, the Rev. F. E. Robinson, Rev. N. Bolingbroke, Rev. J. Jessopp, Rev. C. H. Pilkington, Rev. A. Sutton, Rev. W. M. Pigot, Rev. H. Coleman, Rev. C. Downton, Rev. S. G. Read, Rev. W. W. Hutt, Rev. R. H. Gwyn, Rev. C. J. Steward, Rev. Barnard G. Smith, L. Proctor, Esq. (Bennington, Herts), Rev. J. Cummings, Dr. Bunnett, Messrs. G. Read, Gervas Holmes, Esq., A. Bullard, E. Steward, T. Watson, G. Day (Eye),—Spratt, and others. At intervals Dr. Bunnett played selections on the organ, and the general arrangements were most satisfactorily conducted by the Rev. N. Bolingbroke, then the secretary *pro tem.*, and now the duly appointed successor to the late valued and deeply lamented secretary, the Rev. G. H. Harris.

The loyal toasts having been honoured,

The Mayor proposed "The Bishop and Clergy of the Diocese," speaking in warm terms of the Bishop's devotion to the duties of his high office, and remarking that the ringers knew from personal association, how deserving of respect were the clergy of this diocese as a body.

Archdeacon NEVILL, in responding to the toast, with which his name was coupled, said he felt that the clergy and the bell-ringers were closely bound together, and the former accepted as evidence of goodwill the several occasions on which the latter rung the bells in their honour, "all for love and not reward." On the other hand, the clergy were anxious to know as much as they could of the ringers. In the case of his own parish, St. Peter Mancroft, there was a difficulty, which he hoped might be got over. St. Peter's was not the richest of parishes, and the churchwardens had never been able to see their way to have the bells rung on Sunday; but he trusted the time would come when this difficulty would be overcome—[cheers]—and he would

suggest to the ringers of St. Peter, that they might, if they pleased, ring the bells for love if not for reward (laughter and cheers). And when that time arrived he hoped another thing, about which the clergy were anxious, might be brought to pass—that when the ringers had rung the bells before the service on Sunday, they would think it worth their while to stay in the church during the service (applause).

The Mayor, in giving "Prosperity to the Norwich Diocesan Association of Ringers," said that it must be with mixed feelings of regret and pleasure that the members of the association assembled on that occasion. They regretted that they no longer saw amongst them a gentleman who had been connected with the association from the time it was established, the late Rev. G. H. Harris, of Tunstead, who was the secretary and the founder of the society. Mr. Harris took the deepest interest in the association, and did all he could do to promote its prosperity (hear, hear). On the other hand, they were pleased on assembling in such numbers to find that the association was growing and was drawing to it many gentlemen and others interested in the art of bell-ringing. Having had no experience in that art he was ignorant of its mysteries, but it seemed to him astonishing that 5000 or 6000 changes should be rung in a short time (A Voice: "15,000"). It was a proud satisfaction to him that Norwich had in St. Peter's Mancroft belfry a peal of bells which were said to be the best in England. Loving the old city he liked to hear that in many respects she could boast a superiority over the other cities and towns of the realm (cheers). In conclusion, he associated with the toast the name of Gervas Holmes, Esq., one of the vice-presidents.

GERVAS HOLMES, Esq., in reply, remarked that he, in common with others, deeply felt the loss of the late secretary, whose good teaching he hoped the members would always remember and try to act upon (hear, hear, hear). With regard to the prosperity of the association, that depended upon the efforts of each individual member. If the Association were to prosper, each man ought to strive to be an ornament to it, and to do his best for it. Whilst the Association was increasing in the number of its members, he hoped the members on their part were improving in skill. The more peals they could see entered in their belfry book the better pleased they would be.

The Rev. N. BOLINGBROKE then read the annual report, which was received. On the motion of the Rev. F. E. Robinson (honorary member) the President, Vice-Presidents, and committee were unanimously re-elected.

GERVAS HOLMES, Esq., then nominated the Rev. N. Bolingbroke as secretary in place of the Rev. G. Harris, deceased. Having referred to Mr. Bolingbroke's fitness, he said that the post was no sinecure, the Association now numbering 600 members. This being carried by acclamation,

The Rev. N. BOLINGBROKE said that it was with a feeling of pride that he accepted the honour which had been conferred upon him in the great hall of his native city; and though, from his position as a city clergyman, he could not go about the country so much as Mr. Harris did, yet he would do his best to carry out the duties of his office to which he had been elected (applause). In conclusion, he read over a long list of new honorary and performing members, who were accepted by the meeting, and acknowledged the able assistance he had received in making arrangements for this very successful meeting from Mr. E. S. Steward and Mr. Spratt.

The meeting having resolved that the February district meeting be held at Eye, and the summer meetings at Stonham Aspal and Reepham,

The Rev. W. W. HUTT tendered the thanks of the association to the preacher of the day, the Rev. F. E. Robinson, for his sermon, and Archdeacon Nevill proposed "The health of the Mayor," observing that no chief magistrate in this city whom he had the pleasure of knowing had ever been more faithful in the performance of the duties of his office (cheers).

The Mayor having acknowledged the toast, the business proceedings terminated, and the members spent the remainder of their time in "practice" at the belfries before mentioned.

THE WATERLOO SOCIETY, LONDON.

The members will meet for practice at St. John's church, next Wednesday evening, October 24th, at 8.30 p.m., and every following Wednesday evening.
W. COPPAGE, *Steeplekeeper*.

HULL.

On Saturday, October 13th, a party of four ringers paid a visit from Sheffield. It was intended to go for a peal at Holy Trinity, but as the train arrived rather late, it was not thought advisable. They, however, ascended the tower and rang touches of Grandsire Triples and Treble Bob, after which the party paid a visit to St. James's tower, by the invitation of Mr. T. Stockdale, when a few more courses were rung. It is hoped that when the Sheffield men next pay a visit to Hull, it will be found convenient to go for a peal.

"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.

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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.

The Bell News & Ringers' Record.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 20, 1883.

THE Belfry Reform Conference at Reading, the report of which we complete in another column, marks a red-letter day in the annals of change-ringing. It is the first attempt to bring together representatives of the different Guilds and Associations to discuss matters of common interest, and we hope that it has answered this one at least of the purposes for which it was convened. The two papers which were read, and the discussion which followed, cannot fail to have afforded much useful information to many of those present. Such discussions enable those who hear them to take a more extended view of the subjects dealt with than their own narrowed experience in most cases would enable them to do; they present familiar matters in new lights, and thus enhance the value of many things whose merits have been obscured by their familiarity and regularity. Such meetings again give an opportunity for the introduction to the notice of the ringing world of new and useful inventions in connexion with the art. The Reading Conference will have effected this in the case of Hall's Automatic Interlocking gear, a useful invention for the protection of bells from damage by chiming hammers, which might otherwise have been long unknown to the ringing world.

But besides such useful results as we have here mentioned, the Conference at Reading shewed that ringing is not an art confined to any one part of the country or to any one class of society, but has spread throughout the length and breadth of the land, and serves as one of the many means now adopted to unite all classes of society by making them all have the same object, the Glory of God; an object which made the time chosen in the middle of the Church Congress a peculiarly fitting one for the Conference.

The numbers present at the Conference, though sufficient to leave no doubt as to the universal acknowledgment of the value of such a gathering, were not as large as might have been wished, and we are sorry to find that a mistake in the date of the meeting in the Church

Congress Handbook was unintentionally the means of keeping some away who would otherwise have been there. Had the publisher of that publication submitted a copy to us for our inspection, we could perhaps have taken measures to mitigate the effects caused by this error. We hope that if the meeting is repeated, the numbers will be larger in future.

The proposal to establish a National Society, with a view to promote the repetition of such gatherings at intervals, is an excellent idea; and if it should be found a feasible plan will no doubt be conducive to the promotion of Belfry Reform in every sense of the word. But there are on the face of it many difficulties to be overcome, of which by no means the least is the fact that ringers as a whole are not a wealthy body of men; and wherever such a conference is held it must almost of necessity be difficult for large numbers, whose presence is necessary to make the meeting truly representative, to afford either the time or the means to make the necessary journey. Difficulties of this sort are not, however, insurmountable, and probably most societies would manage to afford to pay the expenses of two or three of their members, if they felt that they were likely to be the gainers by the information they would obtain.

There is, however, a far more important element than this to be considered, that is whether the Exercise is ripe for such gatherings. Opinions on this subject will of course differ: and we think that that is quite the most important question for the Committee to consider. No one can doubt for a moment that the art is making good and steady progress throughout the country, but it is quite open to question whether such an important step as is contemplated might not be rather of the nature of an attempt to run before learning to walk is quite completed. There are still many dioceses where there is no guild even contemplated, and in many other ways much has to be learnt; and any attempt to stretch too far might possibly result in overbalancing the system, and causing an upset which would make it more difficult to set such a scheme on foot again in future. It may be better to abandon the scheme at present and revive it again a few years hence, than to endeavour to carry it on now, and find that the meetings are but thinly attended, and possibly by the same few every time, or only by those from the intermediate neighbourhood, so that they degenerate to mere local or district gatherings.

Do not let us be thought to wish to throw cold water on the scheme for a minute, for we would be among its warmest supporters, as the ground hitherto taken by us abundantly testifies; our aim is rather to shew that there is another side from which to look at the question, and that it will not be to the interest of the Exercise to ignore that side.

We have, however, a committee fully competent to consider these matters, and may rest assured that they will weigh the question carefully in all its bearings, and come to a decision which the Exercise will accept as that most conducive to the promotion of Belfry Reform, and the progress of the science and art of Change-ringing.

The Metropolis.

THE ST. JAMES'S SOCIETY.—CAMBERWELL, SURREY.

On Saturday, October 13, 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 LANGDON Treble.	GEORGE MACLAUGHLIN .. 5.
WILLIAM JONES 2.	HENRY J. TUCKER 6.
RICHARD FRENCH 3.	ARTHUR HAYWARD 7.
EDWARD RODGERS 4.	WALTER PRIME Tenor.

Conducted by HENRY JAMES TUCKER.

The Provinces.

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE.

On Monday, October 15, 1883, in Three Hours and a ½ Minute,

AT ST. PETER'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5184 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 20 cwt.

JAMES S. WILDE Treble.	CHARLES BENNETT 5.
GEORGE LONGDEN 2.	CHARLES JACKSON 6.
BENJAMIN BROADBENT .. 3.	JOHN THORP 7.
THOMAS WILDE 4.	SAMUEL WOOD Tenor.

Composed and conducted by JOHN THORP.

This peal has the 5th and 6th their extent right, and the 6th at home at nine different course-ends. Messrs. Jackson and Bennett hail from Hull, Wilde Brothers from Hyde, the rest from Ashton-under-Lyne.

LONG EATON.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION, AND THE ST. LAWRENCE'S SOCIETY.

On Tuesday, October 16, 1883, in Two Hours and Fifty-seven Minutes,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S SIX-PART. Tenor 11 cwt. in G.

GEORGE BRADLEY Treble.	JOHN WARD 5.
RICHARD HICKTON* 2.	WILLIAM GILSON 6.
JOHN C. DICKENS* 3.	*JOSEPH BARROW 7.
WILLIAM WELLS 4.	WILLIAM GRICE Tenor.

Conducted by JOSEPH BARROW.

Those marked * are also members of the Yorkshire Association.

This is the first peal by all with the exception of J. Ward. This is the first peal upon the bells they not having been opened three weeks until Friday, October 19th.

BIRMINGHAM AMALGAMATED SOCIETY.

Handbell Ringing.

On Tuesday, October 16, 1883, in Four Hours and Fifty-five Minutes,

AT THE HOPE AND ANCHOR, FISHER STREET,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE MAJOR, 10,176 CHANGES;

Tenor 15 size, in G.

THOMAS RUSSAM 1-2.	THOMAS MILLER 5-6.
JOHN CARTER† 3-4.	*JOSEPH W. CATTLE 7-8.

Composed and conducted by JOHN CARTER.

This is the longest peal ever rung upon handbells, likewise in the method. Referee, Mr. A. Jones (Asion), who marked off every call and course-end as they were rung. Witnesses: H. Bastable, J. Buffery, T. Reynolds, from St. Martin's; J. Perry, R. Hackley, A. Hackley, J. Callaghan, and W. Baldwin, Amalgamated Society.

This peal contains 120 course-ends, and the tenors together throughout. †Member of the Ancient Society of College Youths. *Member of the Society of Royal Cumberland Youths. The above are also all members of the Birmingham and District Association.

Miscellaneous.

THE BIRMINGHAM AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATION.

BIRMINGHAM.—On Tuesday, October 9th, six members of the above Association rang at St. Mary's, Selly Oak, a 720 of Grandsire Minor (Carter's 12-course composition), in 27 mins. W. Baldwin (first 720), 1; J. Carter, 2; H. Smith, 3; E. Boylin, 4; T. Lewis, 5; E. Bryant, (conductor), 6. E. Bryant's first time of conducting. On Tuesday October 2nd, eight members of the above Association met at St.

Chad's (R.C.) Cathedral, and attempted Taylor's 6-part peal of Grandsire Triples, but after ringing well into the third part, a slip occurred, which caused a stop. *W. Baldwin, 1; J. Callaghan, 2; W. Brooks, 3; *T. Miller (conductor), 4; *T. Russam, 5; *R. Hackley, 6; *A. Hackley, 7; *W. Saniger, 8. *Members of the Birmingham Amalgamated Society.

THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

BROMHAM (Beds).—On Friday, October 5th, six members of the above Association rang a 720 of Kent Treble Bob, in 28 mins. C. Stafferton, 1; F. M. Smith, 2; W. Allen, 3; I. Hills, 4; C. W. Clark, 5; W. Biggs (conductor), 6.

CARDINGTON.—On Saturday, October 6th, by permission of the vicar, the Rev. E. J. Hillier, the following members of the above Association arranged to try for the first half of Holt's ten-part peal, but after ringing 1520 changes in very good style some of the local ringers came into the belfry, and brought it to grief, the door not being securely locked. T. Foote, 1; W. Biggs (conductor), 2; F. M. Smith, 3; C. W. Clarke, 4; W. Allen, 5; J. Atkin, 6; I. Hills, 7; J. Frossell, 8. Also a 336 of Bob Major. C. W. Clarke, 1; S. Cullip, 2; F. M. Smith, 3; W. Biggs, 4; W. Allen, 5; J. Atkin, 6; I. Hills, 7; F. J. Frossell (conductor), 8.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

MIDDLESBROUGH (Yorkshire).—On Saturday, October 13th, a company of ringers from St. Stephen's, Newcastle and Stockton, visited this place, with the intention of ringing 5040 changes of Grandsire Triples, at St. Hilda's. This, however, had to be abandoned after two failures, and was followed by a touch which proceeded correctly for upwards of 800 changes, when two bells got displaced owing to the interruption of enraged tradesmen getting access to the belfry. W. Challenor (West Hartlepool), 1; G. J. Clarkson (Stockton), 2; E. Scott (Newcastle), 3; W. Newton (Stockton), 4; J. Power (Newcastle), 5; E. Wallis (Newcastle; conductor), 6; T. Burdon (Stockton), 7; G. W. Stobart (Newcastle), 8. Tenor 12 cwt.

On Friday, October 12th, a few members of the above Association rang a 896 of Grandsire Triples, in 37 mins. J. Weddle, 1; R. Richardson, 2; E. W. Scott, 3; F. Ord, 4; J. Power, 5; E. Wallace (conductor), 6; T. Denton, 7; G. W. Stobart, 8. Tenor 30 cwt. No name of town given with this report.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

SWINTON (Lancs.).—On Sunday, September 30th, being the Harvest Festival at St. Peter's church, the local company rang for Divine Service in the evening, 1500 of Grandsire Triples, in 51 mins. William Crossley, 1; Charles Cash, 2; Richard Pearce, 3; William Haughton, 4; James Urmston, 5; Edward Cash (conductor), 6; John Edge, 7; John Thomas Jones, 8. Tenor 21 cwt.

WALKDEN (Lancashire).—On Sunday, September 30th, being the Harvest Festival at St. Paul's church, for Divine Service in the evening, a 720 of Bob Minor, in 26 mins. C. Cash, 1; E. Cash (conductor), 2; J. Worthington, 3; J. Welsby, 4; J. Brookes, 5; W. Denner, 6. Tenor 13½ cwt. Messrs. C. and E. Cash hail from Swinton, the rest are Walkdenites.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

DERBY.—On Sunday, October 7th, after Divine Service in the evening at St. Werburgh's church, the above branch of the above Association rang a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, 1260 changes, in 48 mins. F. Whiting, 1; A. Taber, 2; L. Lomas, 3; J. Newbold, 4; J. Howe, 5; R. Bosworth (conductor), 6; H. C. Woodward, 7; W. Tooby, 8. Tenor 17 cwt. in E.

LONG EATON (Derbyshire).—On Sunday evening, October 14th, for Divine Service, the St. Lawrence's Society rang a 864 of Kent Treble Bob Major. George Bradley, 1; Richard Hickton, 2; John H. Dickens, 3; Samuel Clarke, 4; John Ward, 5; William Gilson, 6; Arthur Widdowson, 7; Joseph Barrow (conductor), 8.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

CODDENHAM (Suffolk).—On Monday evening, October 15th, six members of the Coddenham branch of the above Association, rang a 720 of Grandsire Minor (Troyte), with a call every lead. S. English, 1; O. Waspe, 2; G. Lummis, 3; H. English, 4; J. Offord, 5; E. Wells (conductor), 6. Tenor 16½ cwt.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

BURFORD (Oxon).—On Sunday, October 7th, the following members of the above Guild, with Henry Bond, jun., rang for Divine Service in the evening, a quarter peal of Grandsire Triples, in 47 mins. J. Smith, 1; D. Francis, 2; T. Brown, 3; F. E. Ward, 4; W. Large, 5; H. Bond, jun., 6; T. E. Glanville (conductor), 7; W. Launchbury, 8. This is the longest touch as yet performed by this band.

HAGBOURNE (Berks).—On Monday, October 15th, at St Michael's church, in the morning, a 1008 of Grandsire Triples, and for afternoon service, a 840 in the same method. S. White, 1; F. White, 2; G. Holifield, 3; W. Bennett, 4; J. Avery, 5; Rev. F. E. Robinson, 6; W. Newell, 7; F. Bennett, 8. Also in the morning a 504 of Stedman Triples. S. White, 1; E. Holifield, 2; G. Holifield, 3; W. Bennett, 4; J. Avery, 5; F. White, 6; Rev. F. E. Robinson, 7; W. Newell, 8. Conducted by the Rev. F. E. Robinson. The Bells were rehung by Mr. F. White, Appleton, and rung for the first time on the occasion of the Harvest Festival.

READING (Berks).—On Tuesday evening, October 16th, at St. Giles' the bells were rung half-muffled as a tribute of respect to the memory of the deceased sister of the Vicar, the Rev. C. F. J. Bourke, who was greatly respected in the parish, a 720 of Grandsire Minor, was rung in 23 mins., owing to the mishap the remaining 20 changes could not be completed. H. Smart, 1; E. Bishop, 2; W. H. Fussell, 3; W. Goseltine, 4; W. Newell, 5; H. Egby, 6.

WINDRUSH (Berks).—On Wednesday evening, October 10th, some of the Burford members of the above Guild were taken to this place by their leader, T. Brown, Esq., and after raising the bells a 6-score of Grandsire Doubles, followed by two 720's of Grandsire Minor, was rung. The first 720 of Grandsire Minor (conducted by T. E. Glanville), was brought round in 24 mins.; the second one, conducted by F. E. Ward, lasted a minute or so longer, as the striking was more distinct. The following members took part in the ringing: T. Brown, Esq., T. E. Glanville, F. E. Ward, H. Bond, jun., J. Smith, W. Large, and D. Francis.

STOKE-UPON-TRENT ARCHIDIACONAL ASSOCIATION.

CHEDDLETON (Staffordshire).—On Sunday, October 14th, being the Harvest Festival, two 720s of Bob Minor, one with eighteen bobs and two singles, the other with nine bobs and six singles, in 51 mins. J. James, 1; E. Spooner, 2; J. Gilbert, 3; H. Rogers, 4; F. Clowes (conductor), 5; J. Renshaw, 6.

HORTON.—On Sunday, October 14th, for Divine Service, a 720 of Bob Minor, with nine bobs and six singles. H. Holdcroft (Norton), 1; S. Moores (Biddulph), 2; D. Bradbury (Horton), 3; T. Turner (Leek), 4; G. Walker (Norton), 5; Jas. Baddeley (Norton; conductor), 6. Also 720 of Bob Minor, with 26 singles. H. Holdcroft, 1; S. Moores, 2; D. Bradbury, 3; J. Pointon (Biddulph), 4; G. Walker, 5; Jas. Baddeley (conductor), 6.

THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

PENGE.—On Saturday, evening, October 13th, six members of the Beddington branch of the above Association paid a visit to this place, and rang on the bells of St. John the Evangelist, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor, in 27 mins. James Harris, 1; John Branch, 2; Chas. Bance, 3; John Plowman, 4; J. Cawley, 5; C. Gordon, 6. Also a 720 of Bob Minor, in 27 mins. C. Bance, 1; J. Harris, 2; J. Branch, 3; J. Plowman, 4; J. Cawley, 5; C. Gordon, 6. Also a 120 of Stedman Doubles, with Gordon at treble and Harris at tenor, and several other touches of Treble Bob and Bob Minor, the whole of the ringing being conducted by Chas. Gordon. The bells are a musical ring of six, cast by Warner and Sons, tenor 9½ cwt. in Ab. The belfry is a model of what such places ought to be, the "go" of the bells being perfect. The Beddington ringers take this opportunity of thanking Mr. Edwards, the steeplekeeper, for his kindness in having everything in readiness at so short a notice. The bells were lowered in peal at 8.45 p.m., and the ringers returned home having spent a very pleasant evening.

BEDDINGTON.—On Sunday, October 14th, at St. Mary's church, it being the Harvest Thanksgiving, the following touches were rung for Divine Service: 11 o'clock a.m., 503 of Grandsire Caters; 3.30 p.m., 576 Kent Treble Bob Major; 7 o'clock, 1151 Grandsire Caters; finishing up after service with a musical touch of Grandsire Triples by C. Martin, J. Branch, C. Bance, J. Harris, E. Bennett, J. Trappitt, J. Plowman, J. Cawley, J. Fayers and C. Gordon.

THE WORCESTER DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

WOLLASTON (Worcestershire).—On Saturday, October 6th, at St. James's, six members of the above Association rang a 720 of Grandsire Minor, in 25 mins. E. Pugh, 1; R. Bidmead, 2; H. Dakin, 3; G. Parton, 4; G. Pagett (first 720 with a bob bell), 5; H. Martin (conductor), 6. Tenor 12½ cwt. Messrs. Martin and Parton hail from Belbroughton, the rest belong to the Wollaston company.

THE ST. MARY'S YOUTHS WOOLWICH.

WOOLWICH (Kent).—On Thursday evening, October 4th, eight members of the above Society rang a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, 1260 changes, in 44 mins. G. Hogg, 1; H. Harman, 2; C. J. Barham, 3; C. Harvey (conductor), 4; W. Wathorne, 5; T. Taylor, 6; H. Harvey, 7; T. Meadon, 8.

ASTON (Warwickshire).—On Sunday, October 14th, being the Harvest Thanksgiving Service, ten members of the Holt Society rang for Divine Service in the morning 1223 changes of Grandsire Caters, in 48 mins. W. Ansell, 1; A. Jones, 2; T. Hemming, 3; H. Bastable (conductor), 4; J. Buffery, 5; S. Sanders, 6; W. Kent, 7; T. Reynolds, 8; C. Stambidge, 9; J. Quarterman, 10. Tenor 23 cwt. in D.

AUGHTON (Lancashire).—On Sunday, October 14th, it being the Harvest Thanksgiving at Christ Church, the local company rang a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, 1260 changes, in 44 mins. G. Larkey, 1; Jas. Gardner, 2; J. Orme, 3; C. Sharples (composer and conductor), 4; W. Fairclough, 5; William Benthams, 6; J. Walker, 7; H. Cave, 8. Tenor 16 cwt. The above was also rung as a farewell touch to the ringer of the second, who sails for Sydney, Australia, this week.

BENHILTON (Surrey).—On Thursday, October 11th, at All Saints' church, for the Harvest Festival, a 720 Grandsire Minor, with thirty-eight bobs and twenty-two singles, in 28 mins. William Walker (first 720), 1; George F. Scott, Esq., 2; John Francis, 3; Charles Trendell, 4; James Trendell, 5; John Trendell (conductor), 6. Tenor 19½ cwt in E.

CAVENDISH (Suffolk).—On Monday, October 15th, a 720 of Plain Bob Minor, in 27 mins. Alexander Hurst (conductor), 1; George Ives (first 720), 2; C. W. Hurst, 3; A. Ives, 4; G. Maxim, 5; F. J. Thompson, 6.

GRASSENDAL (Lancashire).—On Sunday, October 14th, by the invitation of the superintendent of the tower, six former ringers of this (St. Mary's) church, rang after service, a 720 of Plain Bob Minor, in honour of the installation of the vicar (the Rev. John Evans, M.A.), as Canon of St. Peter's, in 25 mins. T. Beacall, 1; J. R. Pritchard, 2; J. Davidson, 3; T. Hammond, 4; J. Aspinwall, 5; Geo. W. Hughes (conductor), 6. Tenor 12 cwt.

HAVERSTOCK HILL (Middlesex).—On Wednesday, October 3rd, at St. Martin's church, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor, in 26 mins. T. Titchener, 1; B. Foskett, 2; J. Hannington (conductor), 3; J. Barry (first 720 on a bob bell), 4; A. Jacob, 5; G. Griffin, 6. Also on Sunday evening, October 7th, for Divine Service, Mr. Penning's 720 of Plain Bob Minor, with twenty-eight bobs and eighteen singles, in 25 mins. A. J. Perkins (conductor), 1; J. Hannington, 2; A. Porter, 3; J. Nixon, 4; A. Jacob, 5; T. Monks, 6. Also a 6-score of Stedman Doubles. A. J. Perkins (conductor), 1; J. Hannington, 2; A. Porter, 3; W. Meadows, 4; A. Jacob, 5; J. Leach, 6. Tenor 12½ cwt.

HEPTONSTALL (Yorkshire).—On Saturday, October 13th, the local ringers met at the parish church and rang 3240 changes in 1 hr., and 56 mins. The first 720 was New London Triples. J. Robersshaw, 1; A. Bourn (conductor), 2; J. Armstrong, 3; J. Hartley, 4; J. Nowell, 5; W. Robertshaw, 6. Second 720 was Plain Bob. W. Robertshaw (conductor). Third 720 was Oxford Triples. A. Bourn (conductor). Fourth 720 was College Singles. J. Robertshaw (conductor). They also rang 360 of Violet Triples. A. Bourn (conductor). Tenor about 12 cwt. [We insert this as sent, but we always thought seven bells were required for Triples—ED.]

HULL (Yorkshire).—The Holy Trinity Society commenced their ringing practices on Monday, October 8th, by attempting Mr. Thomas Day's bob-and-single peal of Grandsire Triples, but after 2 hrs. ringing in good style, the conductor brought them round, a shift-course having occurred. James Dixey, 1; Alfred Taylor, 2; William Southwick, 3; Henry Jenkins, 4; Harry Cutter, 5; Charles Jackson (conductor), 6; Charles Bennett, 7; Frank Drabble, 8. Also on Sunday, October 14th, for Divine Service in the evening, four courses of Bob Major. James Dixey, 1; Alfred Taylor, 2; William Southwick, 3; Charles Bennett, 4; Harry Cutter, 5; Frank Drabble, 6; Henry Jenkins, 7; Charles Jackson (conductor), 8. Tenor 25 cwt.

MANCHESTER.—On Friday evening, October 5th, at St. Philip's church, Hulme, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor, in 27 mins. H. Wood (first 720), 1; A. E. Holme, 2; J. Woods, 3; W. Roberts (first 720), 4; T. Heald, 5; W. J. Hargraves (conductor), 6. Tenor 12½ cwt. Also on Sunday, October 7th, at Stretford parish church, the Holy Trinity Society rang a 720 of Plain Bob Minor, in 26 mins. A. Carmichael (first 720), 2; W. Diggle, 2; C. Woodward (conductor), 3; W. H. Lockett, 4; W. Savage, 5; W. Roberts, 6. Tenor about 12 cwt.

PERRY BARR (Staffordshire).—On Thursday, October 11th, six members of the St. John's Society rang ten 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles, in 44 mins. G. Smith (conductor), 1; E. Unitt, 2; W. Cooper, 3; H. Brown, 4; J. Cotterill, 5; W. Long, 6. Tenor 13½ cwt. in Fb. The above was rung as a token of respect on Miss Bodington's wedding day, who conducted the ringers' Sunday morning Bible class for upwards of nine years.

PRESCOT (Lancashire).—On Monday evening, October 15th, eight members of the St. Mary's Society rang three touches of Grandsire Triples, each containing 168 changes, being their first touch with bobs called. Jonathan Finney, 1; John Renshaw, 2; John Case, 3; George Eaton, 4; John Cook, 5; Richard Naylor, 6; Thomas Byron, 7; Walter Scarisbrick, 8. Tenor 14½ cwt. Rang in the presence of their instructor, Robert Williams, of Liverpool, and complimented by J. Kershaw Slack, Esq., one of the Churchwardens, on their improvement in striking.

SOUTH LAPHAM (Norfolk).—On Thursday, October 4th, on the occasion of the marriage of Mr. Bryant and Miss Limmer of the above place, a 720 of Bob Minor was rung in 29 mins. W. Ozer, 1; H. Eagling, 2; G. Edwards, 3; J. Woods, 4; R. Hutton, 5; J. Mordey (conductor), 6. Also a 360 of Kent Treble Bob Minor, in 14 mins. W. Ozer, 1; H. Eagling, 2; G. Edwards, 3; J. Woods, 4; J. Mordey, 5; R. Hutton (conductor), 6. Tenor 20 cwt. There has not been a 720 rung on these bells, since the Duke of Norfolk came of age, i.e., for nearly twenty years. These are a fine peal of six bells, but like a great many more places, change-ringing is not the order of the day, so the bells go heavy and bad, and want practical people about them, to give them a thorough overhauling.

SPALDING (Lincolnshire).—On Sunday morning, for Divine Service at St. Paul's, Fulney, a 840 of Grandsire Triples, and for evening service a 504 of the same. R. Skeef, 1; R. Creasey (conductor), 2; J. A. Croxford, 3; E. Quinton, 4; A. W. Walker, 5; C. Creasey, 6; J. W. Creasey, 7; A. Creasey, 8. And on Monday evening, a muffled touch of Bob Minor, with eighteen bobs and two singles, with tenor behind, in 28 mins. R. Skeef, 1; R. Creasey, 3; E. Quinton, 4; J. S. Wright, 5; C. Creasey, 6; J. A. Croxford (conductor), 7; A. Creasey, 8. The above was rung as a last token of respect to the late Mr. Henry Cutforth, of Maxey, a member of the South Lincolnshire Association, who died October 8th, 1883. The deceased was one of a company who in the year 1870 rang a 720 of Bob Minor Variations, composed by W. Dixon, of Stamford, and Mr. J. Hollis, of Glington. This peal contains sixty treble leads, 138 bobs, six singles, and four extremes, and was rung for the first time on the above date. The deceased always took an active part in change-ringing, although 70 years of age. Last August he had a fall from a barley-stack, and had not wholly recovered when he fell as in a fit from which he never rallied. He was greatly respected by the ringing community in these parts, whose loss they deplore.

WALTHAMSTOW (Essex).—On Sunday, October 14th, at St. Saviour's church, after Divine Service in the evening, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 43 mins. W. Coakham, 1; A. Stacey, 2; W. Keit, 3; W. B. Manning, 4; R. Maynard, 5; J. Cullen, 6; F. W. Bines, 7; T. Watson, 8. This quarter-peal has the twenty-four 6-7s all the right way; composed by the Editor of "THE BELL NEWS," and conducted by W. B. Manning.

WARNHAM (Sussex).—On Sunday, October 6th, for Divine Service in the morning, a 720 of Oxford Bob, with twenty-six singles. H. Cook, 1; T. Andrews, 2; J. Dale, 3; H. Wood, 4; W. Wood, 5; H. Chantler (conductor), 6. Also in the afternoon, a 720 of Oxford Bob, with thirty bobs and two singles. J. Street, 1; W. Wood, 2; T. Andrews, 3; H. Cook, 4; H. Burstow, 5; H. Wood (conductor), 6. Also a 720 of London New Bob, with eighteen bobs and two singles. W. Wood, 1; W. Short, 2; H. Chantler, 3; H. Wood, 4; T. Andrews, 5; H. Burstow, 6. Also a 720 of Oxford Bob, with thirty-four bobs and twenty-six singles. J. Street, 1; W. Wood, 2; T. Andrews, 3; H. Cook, 4; H. Burstow (conductor), 5; H. Wood, 6. Also for Divine Service in the evening, a 360 of London New Bob, with twelve singles. H. Cook, 1; W. Short, 2; H. Chantler, 3; H. Wood, 4; T. Andrews, 5; H. Burstow, 6. After service a 720 of Bob Minor, with forty-two singles. J. Dale, 1; W. Short, 2; T. Andrews, 3; H. Cook, 4; H. Wood, 5; H. Burstow (conductor), 6. Also on Monday, October 15th, the local company rang at the parish church, a 720 of London New Bob Minor (with 42 singles), in 24 mins. William Wood, 1; William Short, 2; Thomas Andrews, 3; Harry Wood, 4; Henry Burstow (composer and conductor), 5; Harry Chantler, 6.

WOODHILL (Herts).—On Monday, September 24th, the Woodhill handbell ringers rang a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor, with nine bobs, in 25 mins. David Beckett, 1-2; S. Smith (conductor), 3-4; W. Oliver 5-6. Also on Wednesday, October 3rd, a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob Minor, with nine bobs, in 25½ mins. David Beckett, 1-2; John Smith (conductor), 3-4; William Oliver, 5-6. Also on Thursday, October 4th, a 720 of Grandsire Minor, with thirty-eight bobs and twenty-two singles, in 26 mins. Also on Wednesday, October 10th, two 720's of Grandsire Minor, one with thirty-four and two singles, the other with thirty-four bobs and fourteen singles, both rung in 25 mins. D. Beckett (conductor), 1-2; S. Smith, 3-4; William Oliver, 5-6. The two last 720s were rung as a tribute of respect to Mr. Groom, the steeple keeper of Hatfield church, he being married on that day. Call changes were rung at Hatfield church at eleven o'clock in the morning, on the grand peal of eight. Tenor about 22 cwt in E.

WORTH (Sussex).—On Sunday, October 7th, for morning service, a 360 of Oxford Single Bob, with six bobs and three singles, in 13 mins. W. Owden, 1; B. Payne, 2; Isaac Tullett, 3; W. Denman, 4; G. Illman, 5; F. Rice (conductor), 6. Also for afternoon service, a 720 of Plain Bob Minor, with 18 bobs and two singles, in 25 mins. W. Owden, 1; W. Denman, 2; F. Streeter, 3; G. Illman, 4; F. Rice, 5; E. Streeter (conductor), 6. Also after service, a 720 of Oxford Bob, with forty bobs and two singles, in 24 mins. W. F. Meads, 1; B. Payne, 2; W. Denman, 3; J. Gasson, 4; F. Streeter, 5; E. Streeter (conductor), 6. Also 360 in the same method, with nine bobs. T. Post, 1; J. Kenward, 2; J. Gasson, 3; W. Denman, 4; G. Illman, 5; T. Leney (conductor), 6. Also 360 in the same method, with eighteen bobs and eleven singles. W. Owden, 1; B. Payne, 2; W. Denman, 3; G. Illman, 4; J. Gasson, 5; E. Streeter (conductor), 6.

CUCKFIELD, SUSSEX.

On Saturday, October 13th, the tower of this fine old parish church was visited by a mixed band of ringers, Messrs. Boniface, Searle, Butler, Jay, jun., and Tyler from Brighton, Messrs. Gasson, Streeter, and Kenward, from Balcombe, Messrs. Rice, Denman, Illman, from Worth, M. Hudson, Haywards Heath, and Mr. W. F. Meads, of Lindfield. Ringing commenced at five o'clock with two 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles, each called differently, with 6, 7, 8, and 7, 6, 8, covering alternately. A 360 of Oxford Bob Minor, with eighteen bobs and twelve singles, 7, 8, behind, was then rung, conducted by E. Streeter. Their being a short service at six o'clock, and the ringers feeling an inward craving, an adjournment was made to the White Hart Inn, where refreshments and a snap of bread and cheese occupied the few minutes until the tower was open again. A 720 of Oxford Bob was then rung in good style, 7, 8, behind, called by J. Gasson, with eighteen bobs and two singles. The Worth ringers were now obliged to leave to catch the train, and several touches of Grandsire Triples were rung until half past nine, conducted by J. Searle of Brighton. A vote of thanks was then proposed and seconded to the vicar for the use of the bells for the evening, and a hope expressed that more meetings of this kind may take place in the county of Sussex, as an incentive to the formation of a county association, which is very desirable; perhaps the idea may emanate from—say Brighton, where there are three good rings of eight bells, and some first class ringers.

There were in 1815 six bells in Cuckfield tower; they were re-cast and two tables added in that year; and opened with a 5040 Grandsire Triples by the College Youths, tenor weighs sixteen cwt. There is a tablet in the tower recording a half-peal of Stedman Triples by Cuckfield ringers in 1846. The ringing-chamber is a spacious apartment, close to the bells, but the floor being dead-sounded, it is quite a pleasure to ring there. The bells are in charge of Mr. W. Bennett, the parish clerk, and are a credit to him as a steeplekeeper.

They are rung on the first Sunday in the month for evening service.

HARTLIP, KENT.

THIS village lies about five miles to the west of Sittingbourne, on rising ground. Few Kentish hamlets have such natural advantages in point of situation. During the time the orchards are in full blossom is the best time to visit the place. Newington is the nearest station. The church is dedicated to St. Michael; its nave and two aisles are under one roof externally, giving a very homely appearance. The chancel less lofty, the tower at west end, much repaired with brick, at the top it has a kind of spire of tiles. The late M. Bland, a resident here, gave much thought and experiment, to the construction of smaller churches, and in his work "Arches, Piers and Buttresses," various members of this structure are therein illustrated. The pillars are 1st pointed, as in fact is the structure throughout; good proportion everywhere apparent.

On the tenth of this month the Sittingbourne ringers paid a second visit here, as it is the only set of bells capable of being handled in the whole district, although there are so many rings. Since the last visit a very large piece of the treble has broken right out, from a hole in the casting in the crown, the note seemed flatter only in consequence. Two 360's of Bob and Grandsire Minor were rung; the tenor was not quite satisfactory, nor were the ropes good. The visitors had not the spare time to bring their own ropes, if this had been done several 720's would have been rung. The Rev. J. Scott takes interest in the welfare of bells and ringers. The following refers to the bells:—

Treble: A large piece now out, which has the date upon it, diameter 28½ inches. "Messrs. John Medhurst and Richard Gooch; William Mears of London fecit 1785." Second: certain names and initials "born in the parish of Hartlip for love they bore to the same have freely given this bell" 1578. Third: Effaced—or has no inscription. Fourth: "John Wilnar (of Borden) made me 1632." Fifth: This is a fine sounding and ancient bell "In multis annis resonet campana" in Gothic letters, ornaments and stops. Tenor 42½ inches in diameter, "John Wilnar made me 1628." The tower is the abode of a number of owls.

OPENING OF A PEAL AT HATHERLEIGH, DEVON.

TUESDAY, October 9th, 1883, will ever be remembered as a red-letter day in the annals of Hatherleigh, for was not that the day appointed for the opening of the bells of the parish church? For this purpose a party of members of the Devonshire Guild were invited by the vicar, composed as follows; Ferris Shepherd, A. Shepherd, W. Goss, H. Swift, S. Herbert, G. Townsend and J. Vanstone; these were joined by G. Fredk. Coleridge, Esq., of Cadbury, and Mr. W. Banister, from Devonport.

On arriving at Okehampton, they found a commodious carriage which had been kindly sent by the vicar of Hatherleigh, for their conveyance. Driving a distance of about eight miles, Hatherleigh was soon reached and steps turned towards the church, where it was discovered that service was already proceeding. After the third collect a special service of dedication of the bells was conducted by the Rural Dean, at the close of which and immediately preceding the sermon, the eight bells were skilfully raised in peal by the above ringers. The pulpit was occupied by Rev. J. L. Frances, the rector of Monkokehampton, who preached a very able sermon on bells and ringing, sketching the history of Bells, which do not appear to have been used in Christian churches before the 5th century, since previous to that time, Christians for fear of persecution, had to meet secretly, by night. After speaking of the sound of bells being heard in all lands, the preacher gave some excellent advice to ringers, urging them to be of one mind, otherwise instead of unity there would be discord; concluding by drawing a great practical lesson from church bells founded on the words of his text "Who then is willing to consecrate his service this day unto the Lord?" (1 Chron. xxix. 5).

A collection was then made in aid of the bell fund, and immediately afterwards a 630 of Grandsire Triples was rung, conducted by Mr. Wm. Banister. After examining the church, which was beautifully decorated for the Harvest Thanksgiving Service in the evening, the party sat down to an excellent and substantial dinner, kindly provided the vicar, Rev. J. W. Banks.

During the afternoon several touches of Grandsire Triples were rung, it being next to impossible to ring a peal, which was intended, owing to the necessity of having a large west door open for the sake of sound, and the belfry being on the ground floor, a large number of persons, anxious to witness scientific ringing, made their way to the entrance. When this door was closed it was found impossible to hear the front bells, owing to their being hung above the others, and no pipes had been fixed to carry the sound, this, however, we are glad to say, will be shortly rectified. There were formerly six bells, cast by Bilbie, of Cullompton, who seems to have had a mania for turning out maiden peals, utterly regardless of tune. This peal is no exception for the musicians of the party declared that there was very little difference between the 4th and 5th, and the same might have been said of the 7th and tenor, which is about 15 cwt. in G. Two trebles from the Loughborough foundry, have lately been added, the hanging of the whole having been entrusted to Mr. Thomas Hooper of Woodbury, who has made a very satisfactory job of it, everything being entirely new and of the best material; the total cost reaching £170. A public tea was held at 5 o'clock, when some tune playing on handbells was performed before a numerous and appreciative audience.

Again taking the ropes in hand a short touch or two were rung and the bells ceased in peal; they, however, were quickly set going again by members from various parishes round, who rang "ups and downs" in approved Devonshire style, for evening service.

It is very satisfactorily to learn that the practice of change-ringing is being commenced by a local band under the leadership of Major Pearce, G.M., the well-known rifle shot, who has shone so conspicuously in the international matches with America, both at Wimbledon and Creedmoore, U.S.A.

After heartily thanking the vicar for the hospitality and great kindness in fetching them from, and sending them to the station, the visitors took their departure amid the enthusiastic cheers of an excited populace. The journey was enlivened by songs and choruses, one of the party added to the enjoyment of the moonlight drive by the narration of a story founded on fact, in which the principal characters were sustained by a kitten and tramp, Exeter being reached shortly after 9 o'clock, the party dispersed, thoroughly well pleased with their day's outing.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

A DISTRICT MEETING is fixed to be held at Leeds, on Thursday, October 25th, when the following towers may be visited: Leeds, 10 bells; Ulcombe, 6; East Sutton, 6; Chart Sutton, 6; Bearsted, 6; and Hollingbourne, 6. Practising members attending are allowed 3s. 6d. each, which will be paid at Leeds between 10 and 12 on that day. The ten bells at Leeds are in very good ringing order. In the churchyard lies the remains of that well-known ringer, James Barham, of which full particulars of his ringing career will be found on his headstone.

VISIT OF THE HURWORTH-ON-TEES COMPANY TO COTHERSTONE, NEAR BARNARD CASTLE.

ON Saturday, October 6th, the above Society paid a visit to the charming little village of Cotherstone, and rang at the parish church a 720 of Grandsire Minor, in 26 mins. J. Simpson, 1; Rev. W. H. Deane, 2; J. Temple, 3; J. C. Thompson, 4; G. Garbutt, 5; J. E. Hern (conductor), 6. This is the first 720 on the bells, which were placed in the tower in July of last year by Warner and Sons, London, at the expense of Mrs. Pearson. They go beautifully, tenor weighing about 9 cwt. A 720 of Oxford Treble Bob was next rung in 25 mins. J. Temple, 1; J. E. Hern (conductor), 2; H. Kirby, 3; J. C. Thompson, 4; G. Garbutt, 5; H. Thompson, 6. Touches of Kent and Bob Minor were also rung, and a determined attempt made to get Mr. Blenkinsopp, of Cotherstone, through a 720 of Grandsire Minor, but after several attempts he rang the tenor to about 600, when it came to grief. As this was his first attempt at change-ringing, it redounds much to his credit, and it is hoped that his perseverance may soon meet its due reward, and that not only may he ring Grandsire Minor but many other methods. At 4 o'clock a capital tea was partaken of at the "Fox and Hounds" inn, served by Host Tinkler, one of the Cotherstone band, and presided over by the Rev. W. H. Deane. After this, pioneered by Mr. Blenkinsopp, the party proceeded to mount a rocky eminence, some 500 ft. above the Tees, when a most delightful scene spread out before their view, rocks, woods, and water being harmoniously blended, while a most glorious sunset was witnessed, as old Sol appeared to drop in the earth just over the top of the mighty Peninne range. The only drawback to this delightful outing was an accident to Mr. Hern's 1s. 9d. umbrella, which got smashed through his coming into collision with the Station Master.

ALL SAINTS' (SHEFFIELD) SOCIETY.

ON Saturday afternoon, October 6th, six members of the above Society, with two friends, met to attempt a peal of Grandsire Triples (in honour of the birthday of Mr. Thos. Hattersley), which unfortunately came to grief near the quarter-peal. Although unsuccessful in booking a peal, sufficient was done to qualify the treble ringer, W. Hammond, to become a member of the Yorkshire Association, to which the other nine members belong.

The evening, however, was spent in a more satisfactory manner. The whole of the members with a few fellow-ringers having met at the "Brunswick Arms," a substantial repast was partaken of, in which it may be truly said no one missed his "place," although there was a "change of course," and one or two a "bit behind."

After the cloth was removed, the time was agreeably spent in songs, toasts, handbell ringing, etc. Among the toasts of the evening were "The Success of the All Saints' Society;" "The Success of the St. Peter's Amalgamated Society;" and other ringing Associations. "The health of Mr. Thomas Hattersley" (the tutor of the Society at its formation), wishing him many happy returns of the day. The time was thus spent until the landlord announced the time of closing, when each went away, "as one remarked," capable of finding his own door.

THE WORCESTER DIOCESAN AND ADJOINING DISTRICT ASSOCIATION.

A UNITED PRACTICE (or ringing meeting) of the above Association, will take place on Saturday next, October 27th, at St. Mary's church, Kidderminster, when all members and friends are requested to attend. The bells of the above church have recently been put in good ringing condition. Ringing to commence at 2 o'clock p.m.

CHRIST CHURCH AND ST. ANDREW'S SOCIETY, BATH.

During the month of November, the members of this society will meet (on Wednesday evening) for practice, as follows:—St. Andrew's Church, 7th and 21st; Christ Church, 14th and 28th. Members to attend punctually at 7.30. Ringing to commence at 7.45 and terminate at 8.45.

THE LOST BELL OF ROSTHERNE.—The old church of Rostherne, is situated a little distance to the north of Knutsford, in Cheshire, on the brow of a steep hill which slopes down to one of the most beautiful little lakes imaginable. The bells are famous for their sweetness, it is said but there is one missing. Many years ago, when they were being raised to the church tower, one bell could not in any way be got into the belfry. After many trials it at last broke away, and rolling down the steep hill plunged into the lake. According to the legend, there exists an underground passage between the lake and the sea, and every Easter morning, a mermaid comes up to ring the lost bell, so that all who are near at the dawn of day may hear it. This seems to be similar to the children's reason for the bells being silent in Passion-Week; "They have gone to Rome to be blessed, but will come back on Easter Morning."—All the Year Round.

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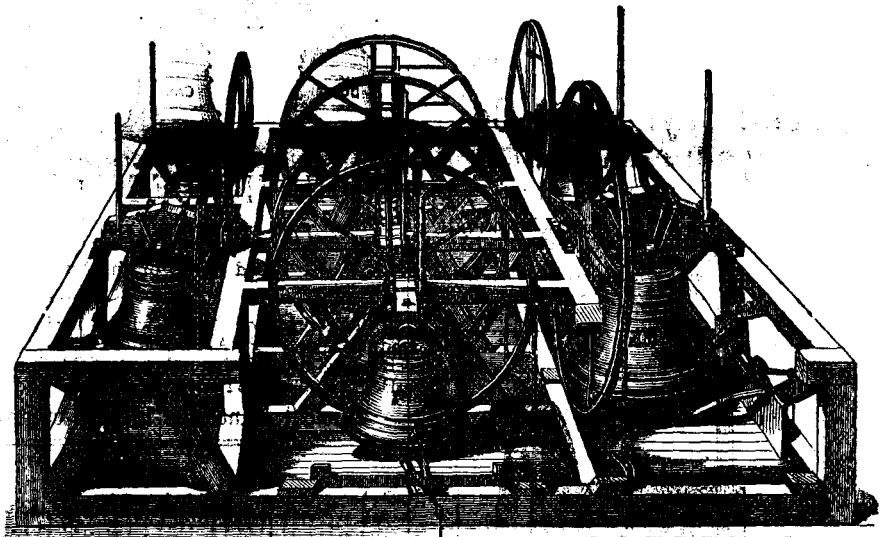
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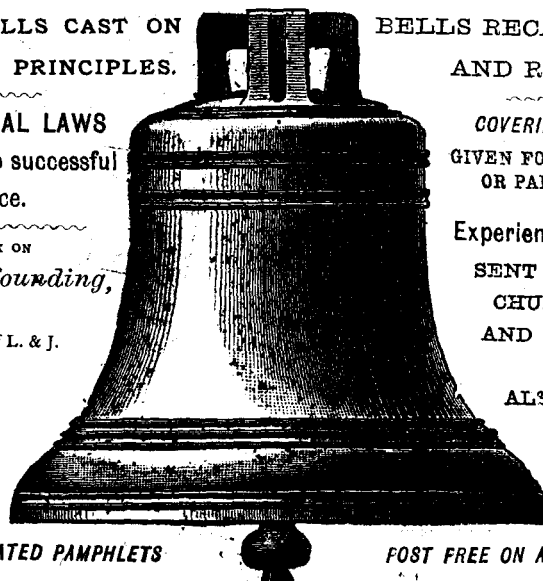
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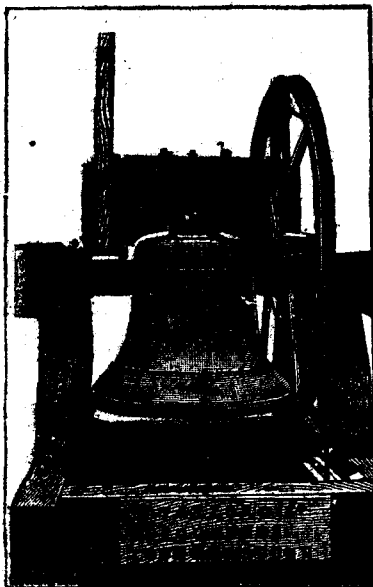
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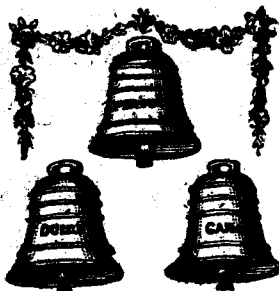
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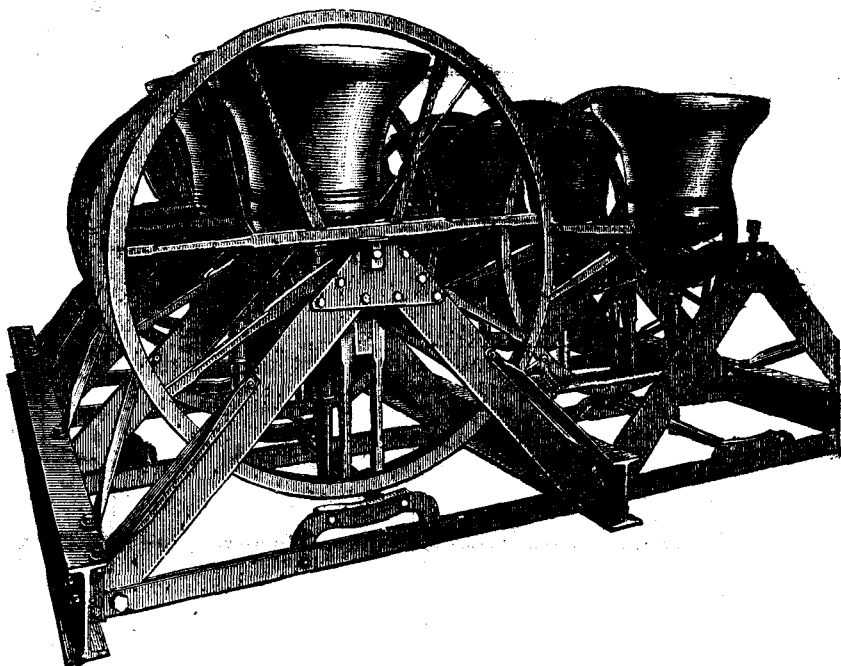
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No. 82. [NEW SERIES.]—VOL. II.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 27, 1883.

[ONE PENNY.]

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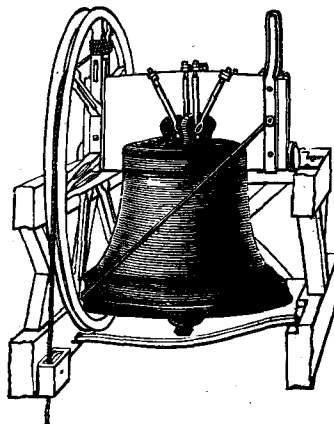
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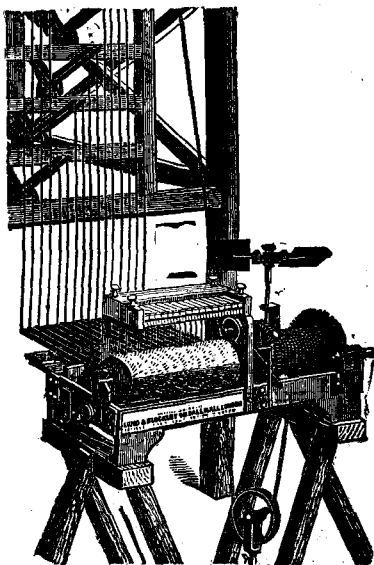
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The last chapter is devoted to a list of the names of Composers of the different peals, with various particulars, and in the cases of deceased Composers with the dates of death, age, etc.

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As there appears to be several Subscription Lists in circulation, and as a desire has been expressed to allow the Fund to remain open a few weeks longer, it will so remain until further notice.

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Already announced	24	6	0
Mr. Lambert (Staplehurst)	0	2	6
Mr. F. Weare (Willesden)	0	1	6
Mr. Albert E. Wreaks (C.Y.)	0	2	6
The Battersea Society	1	1	0
<i>The following list is the result of a collection made in Oxford, amounting to £4. 11s. :-</i>			
The University Society	1	0	0
The Oxford Society	1	0	0
Mr. S. Hill	0	2	6
" C. Hounslow	0	2	6
" J. Field	0	2	6
" J. G. Collier	0	2	0
" C. Hester	0	1	0
" W. Washbrook	0	1	0
" O. Thomas	0	1	0
" G. Lapworth	0	1	0
" S. Hounslow	0	2	6
" W. C. Baston	0	1	0
" T. Payne	0	2	6
" A. Strange	0	1	0
" A. Barney	0	1	0

St. Peter's Society	0	4	0
The Burford Society	0	10	0
A. B. Carpenter, Esq.	0	2	6
S. F. Bridge, Esq.	0	3	0
C. C. Child, Esq.	0	2	6
G. F. Coleridge, Esq.	0	2	6
Arthur Preston, Esq.	0	2	6
<i>The following list is the result of a collection amounting to £5 is, made by members of the Ancient Society of College Youths :-</i>			
Mr. Edwin Gibbs	0	2	6
" George Mash	0	1	0
" John Rowbotham	0	1	0
" William Greenleaf	0	1	0
" Davis (Barking)	0	2	0
" Thomas Brown	0	1	0
" George Muskett	0	2	6
" C. F. Winny	0	2	6
" Richard French	0	1	0
" Walter Prime	0	1	0
" William George	0	1	0

Mr. D. Francombe	0	2	6
" Edward Rogers	0	1	0
" Walter Jones	0	2	6
" Edward Clark	0	1	0
" George Dorrington	0	1	0
" Ezra Carter	0	1	0
" William Cecil	0	1	0
" Joseph Davidson	0	2	6
" William Cooter	0	2	6
" James Pettit	0	2	6
" Edward Wallage	0	1	0
" Richard Turner	0	2	6
" Henry Edwards	0	2	0
" James Monday	0	2	0
" Henry Tucker	0	1	0
" James Dwight	0	5	0
" Arthur Cutmore	0	1	0
" William D. Smith	0	1	0
" Charles Lee	0	1	0
" George Longden	0	2	0
" John M. Hayes	0	1	0
" Samuel Hayes	0	1	0
" Henry Springhall	0	1	0

Mr. T. Hattersley (Sheffield)	0	5	0
" Cornelious Raiton	0	1	0
" Charles Beech	0	1	0
" William Tanner	0	2	0
" Daniel Newton	0	2	0
" Edward Marriott	0	2	0
" Harry Cutter	0	1	0
" Fred. Knights (Norwich)	0	2	0
Richard Kilby	0	1	0
William R. Smith	0	2	0
George M'Laughlin	0	2	0
Thomas Gover	0	1	0
William Mole	0	1	0
— Alford	0	1	0
Edwin Horrex	0	1	0
William P. English	0	2	6
Edwin F. Strange	0	2	6
W. Making "Goose and Gridiron,"	0	3	0
York Green	0	2	0
Joseph Jones	0	1	0
Mrs. Roots	0	4	0
Anonymous, per G. Muskett	0	7	0

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TO RINGERS.—WANTED, A Copy of Shipway's Art of Ringing, accompanied by the Sheet of Peals of Stedman Triples, by Tebbs and others, which have been bound up with the work.—Apply to the Editor.

GRANDSIRE TRIPLES.

By JASPER W. SNOWDON.

That peals of Grandsire Triples besides the Norwich peal, were rung before Holt's peals is not an assertion without corroborative evidence is shewn by the following list of performances, of which I have been able to gather particulars; whether such peals were all false, as the authors of the *Clavis* and *Shipway* would have us believe, I leave to the consideration of my readers.

Tablet in the belfry of Stroud, Gloucestershire.—"December 4th, 1722, in this place was rung the whole peal of Grandsire Triples, containing 5040 changes, performed in 3 hours, 17 minutes, by those whose names are underwritten:—Richard Soyd, 1; Samuel Essington, 2; Thomas Little, 3; John Sander, 4; Thomas Jogler, 5; Thomas Marsh, 6; John Gardner, 7; James Chene and Richard Bridges, 8."

Among the Osborne MSS. in the British Museum Library are some notes concerning the doings of the Society of Cambridge Youths, and particulars concerning some of the peals they rang. Included in these peals are two of Grandsire Triples the first of which was rung on November 5th 1725 and the second on October 22nd 1734. Both these peals were rung at St. Mary's Cambridge, and in one of them Dr. Mason took part. The following records of these peals are, I imagine, taken from some old note-book or peal-book by Mr. Osborne when he visited Cambridge.

"St. Mary the Great, Cambridge, November 5th, 1725, was rung by the Cambridge Youths a complete peal of 5040 Grandsire Triples in three hours and a half.

Henry Milliner, 1.	John Tuck, 4.	Wm. Anderson, 6.
Thomas Scare, 2.	John Mite, 5.	Robert Barber, 7.
Hewes Carter, 3.		Thomas Cornwell, 8."

"St. Mary, Cambridge, Oct. 22, 1734 was rung by the Cambridge Youths a true peal of 5040 Grandsire Triples in 3 hours and 20 minutes.

John Deeks, 1.	John Savell, 4.	Thomas Cornwell, 6.
William Garnett, 2.	John Mite, 5.	Mr. Mason, 7.
John Bell, 3.		Samuel Roe, 8."

From the Osborne MSS. I also find that there was, though I do not know that they still exist, three tablets in St. Mary's, Dover, the first of which records "the whole peal containing 5040 Grandsire Triples" rung on March 26th 1729. The third tablet was as follows:—

"Friday, 16th November, 1750, was rung in this steeple, a complete peal of 5040 Triples, consisting of 194 bobs and 46 singles, in two hours and 54 minutes, by the following persons underwritten, it being the first peal of the sort ever rung in England, which afterwards was performed at Twickenham, and called Royal Triples:—Vincent Underdown, 1; Peter Carr, 2; John Coleman, 3; Thomas Harrison, 4; Joseph Laddington, 5; Thomas Taylor, 6; Samuel Lee, 7; Richard Worthington, 8."

It seems most probable that this was a peal of Grandsire Triples on the three-lead-course plan. The Samuel Lee who rang the seventh was a subscriber to the broadsheet of peals published by Holt, to which allusion will be made in due course.

Tablets in the belfry of Kettering, Northampton.—"Feb. 20th, 1729, the whole peal of Grandsire Triples, containing 5040 changes, was rung here in 3 hours and 18 minutes, by the following persons, viz.:—Tho. Howard, 1; Tho. Woodford, 2; John Law, 3; G. Eayre, 4; Hen. Parker, 5; Rob. Booth, 6; Jno. Carley, 7; Henry Lades, 8."

"Since it was asserted our first performance could not be rung in less than 3 hours and a half, for an experiment, and before skillful judges, on the 12th of April, 1731, ye whole peal of 5040 was completed at 30 changes each minute, in 2 hours and 48 minutes, by the persons underwritten:—Tho. Hayward, 1; Jno. Wovelford, 2; John Law, 3; G. Eayre, 4; Hen. Parker, 5; Rob. Bootle, 6; Jno. Carley, 7; Jona Barlow, 8."

Tablet in the belfry at Hillingdon, Middlesex.—"The whole peal of Grandsire Triples, of 5040 changes, was thrice performed by these persons hereafter mentioned, in ye year 1733:—Richard Astley, sen.; William Smith; Jno. Christmas; Richd. Smith; Mat Ashley; Richd. Brown; Jno. West; Richd. Ferris; Robt. Cox."

Tablet in the belfry of St. Lawrence, Reading.—"July ye 8th, 1734, the whole peal of Grandsire Triples, 5040 changes, was rung in 3 hours and 10 minutes, by those whose names are here mentioned:—Henry Samples, 1; Gyles Newbury, 2; Joseph Philips, 3; Robert Booth, 4; Thomas Shurfield, 5; Henry Peaty (bob-caller), 6; John Wells, 7; William Ford and Abram Bishop, 8."

Peal Book of Eastern Scholars at the British Museum.—"No. 1.—Wednesday the 13 March, 1733, was rung at the parish church of St. Dunstan-in-the-East, a peal of 5040 Grandsire Tribbles. The performers, Daniel Legg, tribble, 1; Seymour Hussey, 2; Stephen Wilmshurst, 3; Philean Mainwaring (called the bobs), 4; Jacob Hatl, 5; James Potter, 6; Samuel Vaughan, 7; John Long, tenor. The time 3 hours 10 minutes."

Peal Book of Union Scholars at the British Museum.—"No. 4.—Thursday, February 24th, 1736. This Society rang on the eight smallest bells at St. Martin's-in-the-Fields, the first complete peal of Grandsire Triples. Prick'd and called by Jno. Denmead. Performed in 3 hours and 10 minutes, by:—Edw. Underwood, 1; Sam. Vaughan, 2; Ralph Hill, 3; Geo. Lawrence, 4; Tho. Weatherly, 5; Jno. Dunmead 6; Ths. Barrett, 7; Sam. Watton, 8."

I do not suppose this record intends to signify that this was the first peal of Grandsire Triples ever rung, but that it was the first ever rung at St. Martin's.

Tablets in the belfry of Wye, Kent.—"On Monday, the 20th March, 1736, was rung in this belfry by the underwritten men, 5040 Grandsire Triples, in 3 hours and a half, being ye first set that ever rang it in the county, without the assistance of Londoners or others:—

Thos. Hudson.	Robt. Baker.	Louis Austen.
Chas. Baker.	Chas. Miller.	E. Pickenden and
Thos. Jarman.	Thos. Tabraham.	John Sharp."

"In this steeple was completely rung by ye men of this town as follows, viz.: Novr. ye 30, 1738, 5040 Grandsire Triples, in 3 hours and 20 minutes.

John Part, 1.	Jon. French, 4.	Robt. Baker, 6.
Wm. Drayner, 2.	Danl. Fagg, 5.	Thos. Jarman, 7.
Jas. Mace, 3.		John Scrimens, 8."

Tablet in the belfry of St. Margaret's, Lynn, Norfolk.—"Jany. ye 20th, 1740, there was rung the 5 Thousand and Forty changes of Garthing's Trebles in 3 hours and 40 minutes by ringers of ye steeple, named—

Jn. Atkin, 1.	Jn. Parkings, 4.	Wm. Moore, 6.
Jn. Streets, 2.	Jos. Raven, 5.	Ant. Berry, 7.
Mw. Atmore, 3.		Chas. Hill, 8."

In this record the method is called "Garthing's Trebles," which evidently shews that Garthon's peal was rung. A tablet in the church of St. Peter-at-Arches, Lincoln, records the ringing of a peal of "Catharans Tripples," rung there, on June 20th, 1756. This must also mean Garthon's peal. This last mentioned peal was conducted by John Foster, presumably the same man who conducted a peal in this method rung at Coddendam. Mr. Fred Day, of Eye, who kindly sent me the following copy of the Coddendam tablet, informs me that the Theodore Ellastone, Esq. mentioned in the tablet, was a gentleman who resided at Crowfield, and took much interest in ringing. He gave the eight bells to Coddendam, and also the ten to Stonham Aspell. After this he sold his estate at Crowfield, and his ringers, who worked on the same, were dispersed. I am sorry I am not able to give any further particulars concerning Mr. Ecclestone and his band.

Tablet in the belfry of St. Mary's, Coddendam, Suffolk.—"On Thursday, September ye 10th, 1741, was rung in this steeple, by ye Crowfield Society of ringers, a complete peal of Five thousand and forty of Garthine's Triples, being the first true peal that ever was prick'd with two Doubles only, it was completed in three hours and seven minutes by ye men whose names are underwritten.

Theodore Ellastone, Esq. 1.	Samuel Lullum, 4.	John Leggett, 6.
Daniel Horsham, 2.	Samuel Keeble, 5.	Stephen Garnham, 7.
John Foster, 3.		Samuel Anderson, 8.

John Foster called the bobs."

Tablet in the belfry of Dartford, Kent.—"October the 30, 1749, a peal of 5040 Grandsire Triples, rung by a society of ringers belonging to ye parish, in 3 hours and 16 minutes, by whose names are here undermentioned, viz.:

John Yates, 1.	Willm. Watson, 4.	John Potter, 6.
Richd. Ryerast, 2.	Willm. Archer, 5.	Edwd. Bell, 7.
Willm. Beadle, 3.		John Bell, 8."

(To be continued.)

STANSTEAD, ESSEX.—HANDBELL OPENING.

SATURDAY evening, October 20th, was a very pleasant one to many friends who accepted an invitation to attend a handbell opening. Five lads, sons of two of the local ringers, having amassed the goodly sum of £6. 15s. by their savings, expended it in the purchase of a peal of handbells from Messrs. Mears and Co's foundry. The bells are excellent, and were much admired. Mr. Henry Prior had catered for those invited in bountiful style, and was sorry that some were unable to attend. But the greatest treat, doubtless, was to see and hear the bells rolled by this young band, with touches in Grandsire Triples, Stedman Triples, Plain Bob Major, Yorkshire Court, Double Oxford Bob, Double Norwich Court, Kent Treble Bob, Oxford Treble Bob, Superlative Surprise, Cambridge Surprise, London Surprise, and a course of Double Norwich Court Bob Royal. These performances were effected without the slightest hitch or hesitation, and considering the ages and the little time they have practised, it augurs well for the future. Some of these are church bell ringers, and give signs of becoming proficient in the art, but unfortunately their practice is confined to six bells. We shall be glad to hear of the addition of two trebles to this ring, for with such a promising band, Stanstead would doubtless soon rank high in the ringing world. The subject has been mooted on several occasions, but it appears that little has really been done to effect such a desirable object. The names and ages are as follows: Henry Prior, 19; Charles Prior, 17; George Prior, 15; Walter Prior, 15; Willie Prior, 12. The performance will be repeated on Saturday evening, October 27th, to give those who were unable to attend the opening an opportunity of hearing and seeing the new handbells. The local ringers would like to know whether there is any other company of young men patronising the above methods.

BRADFORD AMALGAMATED SOCIETY.

On Sunday, October 13th, Harvest Festival Services were held at St. John's, when the church was beautifully decorated. The St. Peter's branch of the Society rang for morning service 1376 of Kent Treble Bob Major; conductor, Mr. J. H. Hardcastle. The St. James' branch rang for evening service 1024 of the same method; conductor, Mr. J. B. Jennings.

ST. LAURENCE SOCIETY, READING.

On Monday, October 15th, a meeting was convened at "The Queen's Hotel," with the object of presenting a farewell compliment to the Rev. Charles Kerry, who is leaving the town. Although a fortnight had elapsed ere a definite knowledge of his departure was known, arrangements were speedily made, and a successful evening was the result of the energy of both the singers and ringers.

At half past seven, thirty-two in all sat down to an exceedingly well arranged table, the hostess, Mrs. George, providing the repast, the Vicar, the Rev. J. N. Gilding, and the Rev. Charles Kerry sitting opposite—dividing the community of choir and ringers, who supported them on either side. There were sixteen ringers present, among them being Mr. W. J. Williams and E. Willshire, some of whom are members of the choir also.

The first toast was "The Queen and Royal Family," proposed by Mr. T. Staniford, the senior member of the choir, who occupied the chair, which, as usual with all loyal subjects, was well received. The Bishop and Clergy of the Diocese" coupled with the Rev. J. N. Gilding's name, was next proposed, and warmly responded to by the Vicar in very expressive terms.

A glee by Messrs. Benger, Staniford, Chad, and Holloway, called "Banish, Oh Maiden," and a song by Mr. Hayward, "The Gauntlett's Down" was well accompanied on the pianoforte by Mr. C. H. Sipple, who presided at that instrument for the evening, occasionally performing some admirable solos.

Mr. T. BENDER, sitting on the right of the Rev. C. Kerry, here proposed the health of that gentleman, and expressed, on behalf of the choir, their regret at losing so valuable a friend. From the time he came amongst them up to the present, he had always shewn great energy in their welfare, and as a small token of their esteem, he begged that he would accept the present of a double inkstand, prettily mounted, not merely on account of any value attached thereto, but as a token of their respect towards him, and as a mark of their acknowledgement of his unwearied exertions in their interest; and in giving him this simple testimony of their regard they trusted that he may long be spared to minister his duties faithfully, in a district presenting cheerless prospects at present, but with the hope that friends may be found there who will feel his loss equally as those left in Reading.

Mr. W. JOHNSON also addressed the Rev. C. Kerry on behalf of the change-ringers known as the St. Laurence's Society. He wished to convey to the rev. gentleman also their hearty good wishes for his future success in his new sphere. He could not say much more than had already been said by Mr. Benger, except that they were sorry to lose him, but he was sure that every ringer in the room agreed with the choir, that they would sadly miss him, when he no longer attended them in their old parish church. A portrait of the ringers' society taken by Taunt while on their visit to Dorchester was presented to him, framed with the sound timber out of the stock of the old tenor, "Harry," Mr. Newell having preserved the stock when the bells were restored by Messrs. Taylor of Loughborough, little thinking of the use for which it would serve like the present occasion. "A chip of the old block," as Mr. Gilding appropriately remarked.

The Rev. CHARLES KERRY, on rising, was greeted with continued applause, and said he was at a loss to express his feelings adequately at such a painful meeting as the present, when he could see so many kind faces round him which he was so soon to leave; yet it was a pleasant meeting, as it shewed there would be some friends to think of him during his absence. And though he was about to sever himself from a grand old building in whose walls it had pleased God for him to minister, he would look back with comfort and know that some good had been done. He was sure it would be some time before a meeting like this would be held, as in the district to which he was going in Derbyshire was chiefly colliery people, his parish having a population of 10,700. After a long address in affectionate terms, and giving sundry words of advice to both companies and thanking them in return for their kindnesses to him, he bade all a farewell, and accepted their presents as an expression of their feelings, which he should remember for many a long day. and on the first opportunity he should use their inkstand to write and tell them how

he was getting on, and hoping that during his absence the prayers still in use in the belfry would be continued.

Mr. W. JOHNSON, deputy captain of ringers, sang the "Four Jolly Smiths," after which Mr. Newell proposed the health of the visitors, coupled with the names of Messrs. C. O. Fullbrook and W. H. Fussell. Those gentlemen having responded, Mr. Chad, of the choir, proposed the health of the organist Mr. C. H. Sipple.

Several songs by the choir and ringers, Messrs. E. Bishop and F. Round, interspersed with solos by the organist on the piano, brought the evening to a close, Messrs. Chad and Staniford singing the duet "All's well." The remaining five minutes was occupied in singing "Auld Lang Syne" with joined hands, thus completing the evening's programme, and dispersing the most unanimous and brotherly meeting ever held in Reading, of the clergy, choir, and change-ringers combined as officers of the Christian Church.

SHALBOURNE, BERKS.

A new chiming apparatus, on Ellacombe's principle, has been fixed to the five bells in Shalbourne tower by Mr J. Parsons of Salisbury, under the direction of Messrs. Jerram and Blackburn. It was used for the first time on the occasion of the Harvest Thanksgiving, September 27th, and acted well.

BELFRY IMPROVEMENTS IN SOUTH ESSEX.—Some few years ago, when the restoration of the parish church at Stanford-le-Hope was commenced, it was found that the tower was in such a dilapidated state that it was necessary to take the whole down. The tower contained a ring of five, of which two were cracked; these were accordingly stored away, and funds now reaching a sum which has enabled the Rector (the Rev. Dr. Sedgwick), to commence the rebuilding of the tower, a contract for a peal of six bells has been entered into with Messrs. Moore, Holmes, and Mackenzie, of the Redenhall Bell Foundry, and which will include a chiming apparatus, with the necessary appliances. The bells are to be in position at the Annual Dedication, which takes place in July. At Laindon Hills, a village three miles distant from Stanford-le-Hope, a new ring of six were erected during the past summer by Messrs. Mears and Stainbank, of the Whitechapel Foundry. At Orsett, two miles from Stanford-le-Hope, the Rector is now seeking for funds to rehang the present ring of five, and adding a treble at the same time.

A correspondent writes:—"The St. Paul's (Bedford) company are labouring under a difficulty. Their bells are found to be too noisy for some of the inhabitants, and one parishioner living near has gone so far as to threaten to apply for an injunction. The tower has four large louvre windows in the bell-chamber, which are about 12 feet by 9; they have been boarded up with 2-inch boards, but they have not sufficiently deadened the sound. The tower is surmounted by a spire, with three tiers of openings in it. The ringers have thought of doubling the boards, and filling the space between them (6 ins.) with sawdust, but perhaps some of the readers of our paper have been troubled with a similar difficulty, and would give the above company their views on the matter before any further step is taken."

On Wednesday evening, the 17th instant, a miscellaneous entertainment was given at "The Crown Inn," Clerkenwell, to assist the fund now being raised for the benefit of Mr. John Cox, the veteran ringer and composer, who, at an advanced age, is now in feeble health. The programme embraced handbell ringing and tune-playing, combined with some very good selections on the pianoforte, and some songs were also well given. A numerous company attended, and we trust the exertions of Mr. Dains and his friends on behalf of Mr. Cox will be rewarded by a full measure of success.

We have on hand a great many peals sent by different composers for proof and publication. At the earliest opportunity the true ones shall appear, but lately our pages have been filled with matters which could not brook delay. We cannot forbear remarking that many of these compositions are far below the mark, while others have not the faintest spark of originality to recommend them.

Between £23,000 and £24,000 have now been subscribed towards Manchester Cathedral Restoration Fund. The work is now making marked progress. It is generally anticipated that the whole restoration on the north side of the nave will be completed by Christmas.

ANSWER TO MR. H. C. FLOWER.—The weight of a bell such as Mr. Flower describes (40½ in diameter F. 11) would be between 12 and 13 cwt. He need not have given the thickness, as that naturally depends upon the note and the diameter combined, i.e.—suppose two bells are of the same diameter, but one thicker than the other, he will find that the thickest bell will give the highest note.

J. R. JERRAM.

HAGBOURNE, BERKS.

THIS interesting village was on Monday, the 15th instant, the scene of considerable rejoicing for two reasons, viz.: the Harvest Festival, and the first occasion of ringing the peal of eight bells after having been rehung by Mr. F. White, of Besselsleigh. The parish church, dedicated to St. Michael, is a handsome old structure, with a low tower. The tenor of the peal is 24 cwt. 3 qrs., in Eb; they have been efficiently renovated by the above firm. A 1008 of Grandsire Triples was rung in the morning, also a touch of Stedman, conducted by the Rev. F. E. Robinson. In the afternoon another touch of 840 Grandsire Triples was rung previous to the 3 o'clock service, at which it was hoped the Bishop of Oxford would preach, but through illness he was unable to be present, but an excellent discourse was given by the Ven. Archdeacon Potts, and a collection was made on behalf of the bell restoration fund. The vicar, with many of the local clergy, were present. During the evening several other touches were rung, and at five o'clock p.m. a substantial dinner was provided at the "Fleur de Lis," by the host, Mr. Pithers, where a most enjoyable evening was spent. The Appleton company were assisted during the day by Mr. W. Newell, of Reading, all being members of the Oxford Diocesan Guild. Unfortunately, the latter part of the evening proved very wet, rendering the twelve-mile drive home of the Appleton men anything but a pleasant completion to the day's operations.

THE ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

THIS Association held its inaugural meeting, by the kind permission of the Vicar and Churchwardens, at St. Mary's, Ely, on Saturday last, October 20th. A goodly number of ringers mustered from Cambridge, Bury S. Edmunds, Balsham, Burwell, Bedford, Woburn, and several other centres, and the newly-restored bells of St. Mary's were soon in full swing. Amongst those present we noticed Gervas Holmes, Esq., J.P., M.A. Eman. Coll. Camb., of the Redenhall Bell Foundry, — Baker, Esq., Clare Coll. (Eversholt), C. W. Herbert, Esq. (Woburn), Rev. R. Hines (Shepreth), and others. At 12.0 noon a short service was held at St. Mary's, the prayers being said by the Rev. J. Franey (vicar), and the Rev. H. J. S. Gray (curate), the lesson being read by the Rev. K. H. Smith, Hon. Sec. of the Association, after which the Ven. the Archdeacon of Ely delivered a short and most sensible address, which came with very good grace, inasmuch as the venerable gentleman is an honorary member of the society of Cambridge Youths of many years' standing.

After service, the ringers adjourned to the sign of "The Crown and Anchor," host Ellis, of the St. Mary's company, having provided a capital spread. The Archdeacon of Ely presided, supported by the Vicar and Curate of the parish, and the hon. sec., and other gentlemen. After the usual loyal patriotic toasts had been duly honored—time being an object—the speeches were shortened, and a business meeting was held, at which several resolutions affecting the constitution of the Association were passed, a batch of members elected, and a working Committee formed. The Norwich rules were adopted subject to certain alterations left to the Committee. For instance, the Norwich qualification would exclude many struggling ringers, who are now only masters of Churchyard Bob and Tombstone Surprise, because they have not had any incentive to an upward course. The flourishing state of the Bedfordshire Archidiaconal Association—so ably managed by Mr. Herbert—shows that though change-ringing is at a low ebb in some parts of the district, yet that its votaries only want seeking out and encouraging.

The Annual Meeting was fixed for Cambridge, and it was also decided that there should be a gathering at Bury at an early date. The Glensford society sent a warm greeting, and regretted that distance and the time of year prevented their appearing.

The county of Huntingdon is almost virgin soil as regards change-ringing, and the Association has a laborious and most useful future before it.

The Hon. Sec. (the Rev. K. H. Smith), whose address is The Cambridge Road, Ely, will be glad to hear, as soon as possible, from all Masters of companies, and others interested in the work.

FUNERAL OF A RINGER AT TICHMARSH.—On Wednesday, the 17th inst., the remains of John Billings, jun., late a member of the Tichmarsh Association of change-ringers, were laid to rest in the parish churchyard. Four of the bearers were ringers. The hymn, "My God, my Father, while I stray," was sung in the church at the Burial Service. In the evening, four of the ringers, assisted by two from Raunds, rang a 720 of Plain Bob, and also 360 of London Single, with the bells half-muffled, as a tribute of respect to the memory of their departed comrade, who had been a ringer about seven years. The ringers were, J. Upchurch, 1; W. Upchurch, 2; H. Upchurch, 3; J. Wilmot (Raunds), 4; W. J. Gilbert (Raunds), 5; J. T. Allen (conductor), 6. Deceased had led a quiet and unobtrusive life, and stood high in the estimation of his fellow-ringers.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

ON Saturday, October 20th, the ringers connected with the parish church of St. Oswald, Guiseley, met to celebrate the erection of a tablet in the belfry to record two peals rung by a Guiseley company. Short touches of Oxford and Kent Treble Bob Major were rung during the afternoon. The members, with their wives, sweethearts, and friends, to the number of thirty-five, adjourned to their meeting-house, the "Ring of Bells" inn, where a substantial supper had been provided by Mrs. Booth, the hostess. After ample justice had been done to the good things provided, which gave satisfaction in every respect, Mr. W. Stephenson, churchwarden, who occupied the chair, supported by Mr. Geo. Swift, his colleague, said it gave him great pleasure to be present amongst them. Mr. Swift said he was very glad that they had a company of change-ringers who were able to record two peals by their own members. Mr. J. Yeaton replied on behalf of the ringers, and remarked that they were very well pleased to have the churchwardens among them. The remainder of the evening was spent in ringing tunes on the handbells, singing, etc., to the music supplied by one of the ringing company, Mr. O. Frankland, who is a first-class musician, and leader of the handbell ringers. This gentleman exhibited his skill on the violin, to the great satisfaction of the company. A very enjoyable evening was brought to a close by the singing of the National Anthem.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD AT FULHAM.

ON Monday, October 22nd, a company of the Maidenhead branch of this Guild, with Rev. A. H. Drummond, Vicar of All Saints, Boyne Hill, Maidenhead, took a trip to the Metropolis, for the purpose of ringing a peal, and visiting the Fisheries Exhibition. The church of All Saints, Fulham, was chosen, and reached about 10.30. After partaking of lunch and ordering dinner for 2.30, at a neighbouring inn; eight members, by the kind permission and good wishes of the Vicar, started for a peal Grandsire Triples, which they rang in 3 hrs. 10 mins. (see record). Dinner being ready at the time appointed, and having done justice to the same, the company left for the Exhibition, and after spending about three hours there, took train home, thus enjoying a most agreeable day.

A YEAR'S RINGING AT ST. PAUL'S, BURTON-ON-TRENT.

As a matter which may be of interest to the change-ringing community at large, the following statistics respecting the doings of the above Society are made public. During the twelve months ending October 20th, 1883, this Society has rung and brought round 143,139 changes in the following methods:—32,879 Grandsire Triples, including three peals of 5040 changes each; 27,456 Stedman Triples, including one peal of 5040; 41,488 Kent Treble Bob Major, including one peal of 5376, two of 5088, one of 5056, and two of 5024 changes each; 40,420 Double Norwich Court Bob Major, including one peal of 7200, and two of 5088 changes each; 896 Superlative Surprise Major. Only the peals and touches which have run true, are included in the above.

REMARKABLE ACCIDENT TO A BELL-RINGER.—A singular accident occurred lately to Charles Stratford, parish clerk and bell-ringer at Staverton, Gloucestershire, who had a very remarkable escape from fatal injury. Stratford has only one arm, the place of the missing limb being supplied by an artificial one with an iron hook at its extremity. He was tolling the church bell for a burial, when the bell was thrown, and consequently went over, jerking the bell rope with great force towards the bell-chamber. Under ordinary circumstances the rope would probably have slipped through the hands of the ringer, but Stratford was using his arm-hook as a second hand, and had passed it through the ring at the end of the rope. As a consequence, when the bell-rope was jerked up, Stratford was carried up too, with such force that his head struck violently against a beam of the belfry floor. The force of the concussion tore the artificial arm from its leather socket, and Stratford fell to the ground, a distance of about eighteen feet, leaving the wooden limb sticking in the hole through which the rope had disappeared. Stratford was for some time senseless, and the nature of the accident, and the fact that blood was flowing freely from his head and arm, led to grave apprehensions to his condition. Mrs. J. H. McIlquham, of Staverton House, was quickly in attendance on the injured man, applying restoratives and giving him such surgical aid as her womanly skill suggested. After a time he was carried to the Vicarage and thence to the Hospital, where he was properly attended to. Stratford is now at his home at Staverton going on well.

CORRECTION.—In our report last week of the Ringers' Conference an unfortunate error occurred in the speech of the Rev. Dolben Paul, one consonant being substituted for another in the words "Church Year-Book," which, we confess, causes the sentence to read absurdly. We regret very much that such an error as this should have been allowed to appear.

"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, E. W. 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.

Will Mr. Samuel Hayes kindly send us his address?

The Bell News & Ringers' Record.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 27, 1883.

At length we are in a position to be able to affirm that a Ringers' Association for the Diocese of Ely is an accomplished fact. A brief report—given in another column—of the inaugural meeting held at Ely last Saturday, will no doubt be perused with satisfaction by those of our readers who have been anxiously looking for the publication of such intelligence.

The formation of such Diocesan Ringing Guilds as this may, without expanding too greatly one's imagination, be viewed under a totally different aspect to that under which we are accustomed to regard them. That they extend the science of change-ringing, promote belfry and bell-chamber reform, with other desirable improvements, we are well aware. But how many are apt to consider what accessions are added to the Church by the establishment of such Associations? Is the connexion to the Church which membership of a Diocesan Ringing Guild gives, fragile though it may be in some instances, estimated at its proper value? The whole machinery brought into use in the working of Ringing Guilds, their nomenclature, and other marked features, clearly show with what they are affiliated.

If, then, this connexion is real and genuine—and no effort should be spared in establishing its *bona fides*—what an additional bulwark of defence the Church will possess, what a reserve force will be available against the attacks of blatant demagogues? The attractions and charms of ringing, when properly controlled by logical enactments, will in time create a species of brotherhood, assisting the Church to become stronger than ever, while fulfilling the mission to which she is ordained.

On such grounds as these we claim that the formation of such confederacies as the one we mentioned at the beginning of these observations deserve the hearty support of all true and loyal Churchmen. And what we hope to see is that the number of these Associations may still increase, and that their members may be multiplied.

The Metropolis.

THE ST. JAMES'S SOCIETY.—LONDON.

On Saturday, October 20, 1883, in Three Hours and Fifty-one Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARTIN-IN-THE-FIELDS,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CINQUES, 5019 CHANGES;

Tenor 32 cwt. in Db.

JAMES PETTIT Treble.	HENRY SWAIN 7.
CHARLES T. HOPKINS 2.	EDGAR E. CLARK 8.
CHALLIS F. WINNY 3.	GEORGE MASH 9.
JAMES HANNINGTON 4.	JOHN M. HAYES 10.
FRANCIS E. DAWE 5.	HENRY A. HOPKINS 11.
WILLIAM GREENLEAF 6.	JOHN MANSFIELD Tenor.

Composed and conducted by FRANCIS EDWARD DAWE.

This is E. E. Clark's first peal on twelve bells, also the first peal the conductor has called with a "working bell."

THE SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.

ENFIELD, MIDDLESEX.

On Saturday, October 20, 1883, in Three Hours and Eight Minutes,

AT ST. ANDREW'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 20 cwt.

A. H. GARDOM, Esq. Treble.	THOMAS SCARLETT 5.
MATTHEW ELLSMORE 2.	ARTHUR JACOBS 6.
HENRY DAINS 3.	WILLIAM DORAN 7.
GEORGE NEWSON 4.	SAMUEL JARMAN Tenor.

Conducted by A. H. GARDOM.

Messrs. Ellsmore and Scarlett's first peal in the method.

This composition was Dains' two-part peal, having the 6th the extent wrong and right, and in the latter position at the four last course-ends of each part.

Nearly twenty years has elapsed since a peal was rung on these bells, and it is interesting to note that the first peal ever rung here was by the Junior Cumberlands on June 9th, 1869.

The Enfield ringers congratulated the Cumberlands on descending the tower, expressing their delight at the ringing of this peal, and promised, through their foreman, Mr. Boswell, a tablet to record this performance, and also to become subscribers to "THE BELL NEWS" in future.

THE ST. JAMES'S SOCIETY.—WALTHAMSTOW, ESSEX.

On Saturday, October 20, 1883, in Three Hours and Seven Minutes,

AT ST. MARY'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S ORIGINAL. Tenor 19 cwt. 3 qrs. in Eb.

CHARLES CLARKE* Treble.	HENRY J. TUCKER 5.
ALFRED C. FUSSELL 2.	WILLIAM H. FUSSELL 6.
JOSEPH J. PARKER 3.	SAMUEL HAYES 7.
JOHN BASDEN 4.	DANIEL NEWTON Tenor.

Conducted by HENRY J. TUCKER.

Messrs. Parker and Clarke hail from Farnham Royal; the Fussell Brothers from Slough; and Basden from Hanwell.

*His first attempt at a 5040.

FULHAM, MIDDLESEX.—OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Monday, October 22, 1883, in Three Hours and Ten Minutes,

AT ALL SAINTS' CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor 21 cwt.

H. ROGERS* Treble.	*EDWARD ROGERS 5.
R. FLAXMAN* 2.	*W. A. GARRAWAY 6.
G. WILKINS, JUN. 3.	*EDN. ROGERS 7.
J. W. WILKINS* 4.	EDWARD KEELEY Tenor.

Conducted by W. A. GARRAWAY.

*College Youths.

The Provinces.**THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.
KENNINGHALL, NORFOLK.***On Tuesday, October 16, 1883, in Three Hours and Twelve Minutes.*

AT ST. MARY'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 16½ cwt.

HENRY EAGLING.. .. Treble.	†ROBERT PATRICK 5.
ROBERT HUTTON.. .. 2.	CHARLES EVERETT 6.
GEORGE EDWARDS 3.	*JOHN WOODS 7.
JAMES SAUNDERS.. .. 4.	JEREMIAH MORDEY Tenor.

Composed by HENRY DAINS, and conducted by JEREMIAH MORDEY.

The above peal is from Snowdon's *Treatise*, part ii, page 19.

The above peal was rung in honour of Mr. Woods having attained his 50th year, he having rung forty-five peals, two of them being 10,000's.

†First peal. *Member of the Society of Royal Cumberland Youths.

CARSHALTON, SURREY.**THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS, AND
THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.***On Tuesday, October 23, 1883, in Two Hours and Fifty-three Minutes.*

AT ALL SAINTS' CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S SIX-PART PEAL. Tenor 12½ cwt. in G♯.

CHARLES MARTIN Treble.	JOHN PLOWMAN.. .. 5.
JAMES HARRIS 2.	CHARLES GORDON 9.
EDGAR BENNETT.. .. 3.	JAMES CAWLEY.. .. 7.
JAMES TRAPPITT.. .. 4.	JOSEPH CLARK Tenor.

Conducted by JOHN PLOWMAN.

The above was rung to celebrate the 1st birthday of Mr. Harris.

BEDDINGTON, SURREY.**THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS, AND
THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.***On Saturday, October 20, 1883, in Three Hours and Twenty-six Minutes.*

AT ST. MARY'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5120 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 21 cwt. in Eb.

JAMES HARRIS Treble.	JOHN PLOWMAN.. .. 5.
EDGAR BENNETT 2.	JOSEPH FAYERS.. .. 6.
CHARLES BANCE.. .. 3.	JAMES CAWLEY.. .. 7.
JAMES TRAPPITT.. .. 4.	CHARLES GORDON Tenor.

Composed by the late W. HARRISON, and conducted by
Mr. EDGAR BENNETT.This peal has the 5th and 6th their extent wrong and right, and was taken from
Snowdon's *Treatise on Treble Bob*.This is the first peal in the method by all of the above, and the first in the method
by the Surrey Association.**WREXHAM, DENBIGHSHIRE.***On Monday, October 22, 1883, in Three Hours and Eleven Minutes.*

AT ST. GILES'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS, 5147 CHANGES;

Tenor 28 cwt. in D.

ALFRED LEA Treble.	EDWARD NEWLAND 6.
R. W. EVANS 2.	THOMAS BAYLEY 7.
ROBERT IVES 3.	THOMAS NEWELL 8.
JOSEPH WILLIAMS 4.	EDWARD EVANS.. .. 9.
JOHN ELLIS.. .. 5.	THOMAS DAVENPORT.. .. Tenor.

Conducted by EDWARD NEWLAND.

This peal will be found in page 71 in Shipway's *Campanalogia*, p. iii.; is the first peal
of Caters by all the performers; and was attempted on Monday, the 15th inst., but
was unsuccessful after ringing over 3 hrs.**GREAT MARLOW, BUCKS.—OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.***On Saturday, October 20, 1883, in Three Hours and Nine Minutes.*

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S TEN-PART PEAL.

ERNEST BISHOP* Treble.	JAMES POTTER 5.
HENRY EGBY 2.	J. MARTIN ROUTH, Esq., .. 6.
THOMAS NEWMAN 3.	WILLIAM NEWELL 7.
STEPHEN PAIGE 4.	JOHN C. TRUSS Tenor.

Conducted by HENRY EGBY.

*First peal.

Mr. Truss belongs to Marlow, the rest of the company hail from Reading.

MOTTRAM-IN-LONGDENDALE, CHESHIRE.*On Saturday, October 20, 1883, in Two Hours and Fifty-four Minutes.*

AT ST. MICHAEL'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5184 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 12½ cwt.

R. WRIGHT Treble.	W. MIDDLETON 5.
J. HARROP 2.	J. ROBINSON 6.
J. SIDEBOTHAM 3.	T. BRADDOCK 7.
G. D. HADFIELD 4.	T. BROCKLEHURST Tenor.

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

Robinson hails from Glossop; Brocklehurst from Hayfield; the rest from Mottram.

LIVERSEDGE, YORKSHIRE.*On Saturday, October 20, 1883, in Three Hours and Five Minutes.*

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5184 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION.

J. WHITWORTH Treble.	H. BROOKE.. .. 5.
J. KNOTT 2.	J. W. LANG 6.
A. BRIGGS 3.	L. ILLINGWORTH 7.
S. GOODALL 4.	M. RAMSDEN Tenor.

Composed by WM. SOTTENSTALL, of Sowerby, and conducted by
LUKE ILLINGWORTH.

This peal has the 6th at home ten courses out of the last thirteen.

ASTON-JUXTA-BIRMINGHAM.—THE HOLT SOCIETY.*On Thursday, October 18, 1883, in Three Hours and Twelve Minutes.*

AT SS. PETER AND PAUL'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS, 5039 CHANGES.

W. CARTWRIGHT.. .. Treble.	*J. PLANT 6.
A. JONES 2.	J. BUFFERY.. .. 7.
T. J. HEMMING 3.	T. REYNOLDS 8.
W. ANSELL 4.	C. STANBRIDGE 9.
J. SANDERS 5.	W. KENT Tenor.

Composed by H. JOHNSON, SEN., and conducted by J. BUFFERY.

The above peal contains the 5th and 6th their extent wrong and right, and was
rung on the anniversary of the opening of the peal of ten at the above church, in 1814.

*First peal in any method.

LEATHERHEAD, SURREY.*On Friday, October 19, 1883, in Three Hours and Two Minutes.*

AT SS. MARY AND NICHOLAS,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S TEN-PART. Tenor 20 cwt.

HENRY WOOD Treble.	*WILLIAM MARKS 5.
CHARLES WANT 2.	EDWARD HULL 6.
WILLIAM MESSAM† 3.	STEPHEN BROOKER 7.
H. W. NUNN 4.	JOSEPH LISNEY Tenor.

Conducted by WILLIAM MARKS.

*First peal as conductor.

†First peal with a bob bell.

Mr. Nunn hails from Woodford, Essex, for whom the peal was arranged to oblige.
The rest of the band are members of the Winchester Diocesan Guild.

MOTTRAM-IN-LONGDENDALE, CHESHIRE.

THE HYDE SOCIETY.

On Monday, October 22, 1883, in Two Hours and Fifty-Seven Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5184 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 12½ cwt.

JOHN SIDEBOTHAM Treble.	THOMAS WILDE 5.
JOHN HARROP 2.	WILLIAM BAIL 6.
ROBERT WOOLLEY 3.	JAMES S. WILDE 7.
WALTER SLATER 4.	SAMUEL BENNETT Tenor.

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

This peal has the 6th its extent at eight different course-ends, and contains all the 8-6's, and has never been previously performed.

Messrs. Sidebotham and Harrop belong to Mottram.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

ROTHWELL, NEAR LEEDS.

On Thursday, October 20, 1883, in Three Hours and Two Minutes,

AT HOLY TRINITY CHURCH,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 13 cwt.

THOMAS WEST Treble.	JAMES HAIGH 5.
JOSEPH HAIGH 2.	JOHN HOLLIS 6.
ROBERT TUKE, ESQ. 3.	THOMAS L. MOORHOUSE .. 7.
MATTHEW TOMLINSON .. 4.	JASPER W. SNOWDON, ESQ. Tenor.

Composed by NATHAN JNO. PITSTOW, of Saffron Walden, and conducted by JASPER W. SNOWDON.

These bells have been put in order by Messrs. Shaw and Son, of Bradford, during the summer, and, although only a few miles from Leeds, this is the first peal that has been rung on them for about fifteen years.

OXFORD.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD, AND THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

On Monday, October 22nd, 1883, in Two Hours and Twenty-nine Minutes,

ON HANDBELLS, RETAINED IN HAND,

AT THE BOAR'S HEAD, QUEEN'S LANE,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES.

OLIVER THOMAS 1-2.	JAS. WILLM. WASHBROOK 5-6.
WILLIAM CHARLES BASTON 3-4.	CHARLES HOUNSLOW .. 7-8.

Conducted by JAMES WILLIAM WASHBROOK.

Referee: Mr. Samuel Hounslow.

Miscellaneous.

THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

CARDINGTON (Beds).—On Saturday afternoon, October 20th, the following members of the Association rang the first half of Holt's ten-part peal, 2520 changes, in 1 hr. 37 mins. T. Foote, 1; W. Biggs (conductor), 2; S. Cullip, 3; C. W. Clarke, 4; W. Allen, 5; J. Atkin, 6; I. Hills, 7; J. Spencer, 8. The conductor is in his 19th year. This is the first half-peal by this Association, also the first on the bells.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.—On Monday, October 22nd, at the Church of St. John the Baptist, a 704 of Duke of York Treble Bob Minor, in 27 mins. R. Smith, 1; W. G. Routledge, 2; R. S. Story, 3; *T. J. des Forges, 4; W. Story, 5; Francis Lees (conductor), 6. Tenor 12½ cwt. *First 720 in this method.

NORTH SHIELDS.—On Sunday, October 21st, at Christ Church, for Divine Service, a 704 of Kent Treble Bob Major, in 26 mins. S. Nott, 1; A. Sawyer, 2; J. Rossiter, 3; R. S. Story (St. John's, Newcastle), 4; R. Wignell, 5; H. Ross, 6; R. Smith (conductor), 7; J. Hern, 8. Tenor 19 cwt, in E.

SOUTH SHIELDS.—On Monday, October 15th, at St. Hilda's Church, four members of the South Shields branch, assisted by R. Wignell, and H. Ross, of North Shields, rang a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob, in 27 mins. *R. Hopper, 1; R. Wignell, 2; *R. Scafton, 3; Jas. Moffett, 4; John Moffett, 5; H. Ross (conductor), 6. *First 720 in this method Tenor 10½ cwt.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

ROMFORD.—On Sunday morning, October 21st, for Divine Service, a 720 of Grandsire Minor, with 34 bobs and 2 singles. F. H. Gillingham, 1; A. J. Perkins (conductor), 2; B. Keeble, 3; J. Pye, 4; A. Pye, 5; A. Porter, 6. (First 720 in the method by all except the conductor). Also in the afternoon, a 722 of Bob Minor, with eight bobs and ten singles. J. Porter (1st 720), 1; B. Keeble, 2; A. J. Perkins, 3; A. Pye, 4; G. Roughton (formerly a member of the Association), 5; A. Porter (conductor), 6.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

TEWKESBURY ABBEY (Gloucestershire).—On Tuesday evening, October 23rd, eight members of the above Association, met at this place, and rang a date touch of Union Triples, 1883 changes, in 1 hr. and 10 mins. S. Cleal, 1; Rev. C. D. P. Davies (conductor), 2; F. J. Moore, 3; J. Hale, 4; J. Wathen, 5; C. Awford, 6; Jos. Wathen (composer), 7; Wm. Haines, 8. Tenor 24 cwt.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

NOTTINGHAM.—On Sunday afternoon, October, 21st at St. Peter's church, on the occasion of the anniversary of the Sunday schools, the following members of the above Association rang for Divine Service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, 1260 changes, in 49 mins. S. Burton, 1; S. Wilkins, 2; W. E. Holroyd, 3; A. Archer, 4; A. R. Peet, 5; W. Birkinshaw, 6; J. Hickman (conductor), 7; A. W. Sadler, 8.

BURTON-ON-TRENT (Staffordshire).—On Wednesday, October 24th, by way of celebrating the opening of the New Market Hall, Burton-on-Trent, a touch of 672 changes of Superlative Surprise Major was rung in 28 mins., by the following members of the St. Paul's Society: H. Wakley, 1; E. I. Stone, 2; A. Wakley, 3; J. Griffin, 4; J. Jaggard, 5; G. Appleby, 6; T. Holmes, 7; W. Wakley (conductor), 8. Tenor 26 cwt. Touches of Grandsire and Stedman Triples, Double Norwich, and Kent Treble Bob Major were also rung.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

OXFORD.—On October 9th, at New College, a 504 of Stedman Triples in 25 mins. J. Howes, 1; T. Hill, 2; C. Hester, 3; T. Payne, 4; C. Hounslow, 5; J. Field, 6; J. W. Washbrook, 7; A. Barney, 8. Also a course of Kent Treble Bob Major, and the following members started for a peal of Stedman Triples, but after ringing 1 hr. and fifteen mins. a shift occurred, the conductor having to call stand. J. Howes, 1; G. Lapworth, 2; J. Collier, 3; O. Thomas, 4; S. Hounslow, 5; T. Payne, 6; J. W. Washbrook (composer and conductor), 7; W. Finch, 8. Also in the evening a half-peal of Grandsire Caters. H. Mills, 1; C. Hester, 2; T. Hill, 3; G. Lapworth, 4; J. Collier, 5; O. Thomas, 6; C. Hounslow (conductor), 7; T. Payne, 8; S. Hounslow, 9; A. Barney, 10.

FARNHAM ROYAL (Bucks).—On Wednesday, October 3rd, on the occasion of the visit of the Mayor and Corporation of London to open the celebrated Burnham Beeches, a 720 of Grandsire Minor (in three parts, with thirty-six bobs and twenty-four singles, in 27 mins. J. Parker (conductor), 1; F. Fells, 2; G. Basden, 3; W. Fussell, 4; A. Fussell, 5; C. Clarke, 6.

STOKE-UPON-TRENT ARCHIDIACONAL ASSOCIATION.

BIDDULPH.—On Thursday, October 18th, the local company rang a 720 of Bob Minor, with fourteen bobs and two singles, in 25½ mins. C. Lawton, 1; J. Pointon, 2; A. Cottrill, 3; S. Moores, 4; M. Moss, 5; W. Carter (conductor), 6. Also a 720 of Grandsire Minor, with thirty-four bobs and twenty-six singles, in 25 mins. W. Moss, 1; C. Lawton, 2; J. Pointon, 3; S. Moores, 4; M. Moss, 5; W. Carter (conductor), 6. Also on Saturday, October 20th, at an Association Meeting, a 720 of Grandsire Minor, with thirty-four bobs and two singles, in 26 mins. C. Lawton, 1; J. Pointon, 2; A. Cottrill, 3; S. Moores, 4; M. Moss, 5; W. Carter (conductor), 6. All the above are of Biddulph. Also a 720 of Bob Minor, in 26 mins. G. Hodkins, 1; L. Miller, 2; W. Priestman, 3; E. Glover, 4; W. Miller, 5; S. Spencer (conductor), 6. All the above are of Wolstanton with the exception of E. Glover, who comes from Norton. Also on Sunday, October 21st, for Service, a 720 of Grandsire Minor, with thirty-eight bobs and twenty-two singles, in 25½ mins. W. Moss, 1; C. Lawton, 2; J. Pointon, 3; S. Moores, 4; M. Moss, 5; W. Carter (conductor), 6.

WOLSTANTON.—On Sunday, October 21st, the Dedication Festival, for Divine Service in the morning, a 720 of Bob Minor, in 25½ mins. G. Hodkins, 1; L. Miller, 2; G. Walker (Norton-le-Moors), 3; W. Miller, 4; W. Priestman, 5; S. Spencer (conductor), 6.

THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

BEDDINGTON (Surrey).—On Thursday evening, October 18th, six members of the Beddington branch of the above society rang a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob Minor, in 28 mins. Charles Bance, 1;

Edgar Bennett, 2; James Harris, 3; John Plowman, 4; James Trapitt, 5; Charles G. (conductor), 6. Tenor 21 cwt. in Eb. This is the first 720 in the method by all the above, and the first 720 in the method by the Association.

ESSEX (Surrey).—On Thursday, October 18th, six members of the above Association rang a 720 of Grandsire Minor, with thirty-four bobs and two singles, in 25 mins. G. Byde, 1; A. Roots, 2; C. Byde, 3; S. Frost, 4; A. Garratt, 5; J. Fayers (conductor), 6. Also 120 of Grandsire Doubles and two courses of Grandsire Minor. G. Byde, 1; A. Roots, 2; C. Byde, 3; J. Cooley, 4; J. Fayers, 5; S. Rost (conductor), 6. Tenor 8 cwt. The bells are a musical ring of six, cast by Mears.

WIMBLEDON (Surrey).—On Tuesday evening, October 12th, for practice at St Mary's church, several touches of Oxford Treble Bob, Plain Bob, and Grandsire Minor. S. Greenwood (conductor), 1; Edward Cole, Esq., 2; S. Springall, 3; Joe Fayers (Otley), 4; Albert Pell, 5; Wingfield Meadows, 6. Tenor 12 cwt. in G.

THE WORCESTER DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

WOLLASTON (Worcestershire).—On Sunday, October 21st, being the Harvest Festival, for Divine Service in the morning, six members of the above Association rang a 720 of Grandsire Minor in 25 mins. G. H. Page, 1; J. Guest (conductor), 2; R. Bidmead, 3; J. Lewis, 4; H. Dakin, 5; G. Howell, 6. Mr. Guest, hails from Brierley Hill, the rest are Wollaston ringers. Tenor 12½ cwt.

BEDMINSTER, BRISTOL.—On Thursday, October 18th, at St. Luke's church, it being St. Luke's day, the ringers of the above church rang a 720 of Grandsire Minor. H. Scushler, 1; C. Waters, 2; C. Thomas, 3; J. Davies, 4; R. Knill, 5; T. Salter (composer and conductor), 6.

BOLTON.—On Sunday, October 21st, being Harvest Thanksgiving service at All Souls' church, the ringers of St. Peter's, Halliwell, rang for Divine Service in the evening a 630 of Grandsire Triples, in 23 mins. T. Crankshaw (conductor), 1; T. Ridings, 2; J. Seddon, 3; H. Sidey, 4; R. Thornley, 5; J. Gregory, 6; W. Rhodes, 7; T. Morris, 8. Tenor 23½ cwt.

BRIGHTON (Sussex).—On Tuesday, October 16th, at St. Nicholas church, for practice, a 720 of Plain Bob Minor on the front six with 7 bobs behind, in 28 mins. *E. St. John, 1; J. Jay, jun., 3; H. Boast, 3; C. Tyler, 4; J. Jay, sen., 5; J. Searle (conductor), 6; E. Butler, 7; *H. Weston, 8. *Members of the St. Peter's Society. Tenor 12½ cwt. in F#.

ERDINGTON (Warwickshire).—*Handbell Ringing.*—On Monday, October 22nd, at the schoolroom of St. Thomas' and St. Edmund's Catholic Church, four members of the Holt's Society, Aston, near Birmingham, rang on handbells retained in hand, Johnson's 1008 of Grandsire Triples, in 31 mins. Bernard Mitchell, 1-2; John Benn, 3-4; James Plant (conductor), 5-6; Austin Hales, 7-8.

FARNWORTH-IN-WIDNES (Lancashire).—On Monday evening, October 15th, for practice at St. Luke's Church, six of the local company rang ten 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles, in good style, in 45 mins. *J. Large, 1; *A. Whitfield, 2; J. Harrison, 3; *Peter Case, 4; *J. T. Lowe, 5; R. Johnson, 6. And five 6-scores with the 3rd the observation were conducted by J. Large, and five 6-scores with the 5th the observation were conducted by J. T. Lowe. Tenor 12 cwt. in G. The names marked * are members of the Lancashire Association.

HAMSTEAD (Middlesex).—On Sunday, October 14th, at St. Stephen's church, for Divine Service in the morning, the local company rang a 504 of Grandsire Triples on the back eight, in 18 mins. S. Clarke, 1; J. Combe, 2; B. Payne, 3; H. Tyler, 4; W. Pryor, 5; N. Alderman (conductor), 6; B. Foskett, 7; W. Arscott, 8. Also for Divine Service in the evening, a 504 of Grandsire Triples, in 19 mins. E. Chapman (conductor), 1; J. Combe, 2; B. Payne, 3; C. Deal, 4; H. Tyler, 5; N. Alderman, 6; B. Foskett, 7; W. Arscott, 8. Tenor 27 cwt.

HORNSEY (Middlesex).—On Sunday evening, October 13th, a 720 of Bob Minor, with four bobs and fourteen singles, in 26 mins. H. Barnett, 1; G. B. Lucas (first 720 with a bob bell), 2; T. Titchener, 3; G. Griffin, 4; M. Ellsmore, 5; A. Jacob, 6. Also a course of Kent Treble Bob. H. Barnett, 1; J. Barry, 2; A. Jacob, 3; G. Griffin, 4; M. Ellsmore, 5; T. Titchener, 6. Conducted by T. Titchener.

NORTH CERNEY (Gloucestershire).—On Tuesday, October 16th, at the parish church, five members of the local company, assisted by Mr. Henry Karn from Cheltenham, rang 720 of Grandsire Doubles, being six different 6-scores. A. Scrivin (conductor), 1; H. Karn, 2; B. Heywood, 3; R. Enoch, 4; W. Scrivin, 5; C. Williams, 6.

OXFORD.—*Muffled Peal.*—On Tuesday, October 16th, at Christ Church Cathedral, ten members of the Oxford Society rang with one

side of the clappers muffled, in memory of Mr. H. Boswell (a native of this city, and also a member of the society), a 435 of Stedman Caters, and two courses of Grandsire Caters. J. Field (conductor), 1; C. Hounslow, 2; T. Hill, 3; O. Thomas, 4; T. Payne, 5; S. Hounslow, 6; F. Williamson, 7; W. Finch, 8; J. W. Washbrook, 9; A. Strange, 10. Tenor 42 cwt. A longer touch could not be rung owing to the College authorities refusing to allow ringing except between eight and nine p.m. once a week.

OXFORD.—On Tuesday, October 23rd, at Christ Church Cathedral, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples, 1260 changes. *Charles Hounslow, 1; Job Howes, 2; George Lapworth, 3; *Samuel Hounslow, 4; *W. Charles Baston, 5; *William Finch, 6; *James W. Washbrook, 7; William Wakelin, 8. Conducted by J. W. Washbrook. Tenor 42 cwt. in C. *College Youths.

NOTTINGHAM.—On Sunday, October 21st, being the Harvest Festival at All Saints' church, for Divine Service in the evening, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples, 1260 changes, in 45 mins. *J. Wiberly, 1; Thos. Cooke, 2; W. Langley, 3; *H. W. Abbott, 4; E. Robinson, 5; *J. Hickman, 6; G. Middleton, 7; J. A. Wiberly, 8. *Members of the Midland Counties Association. Tenor 47 cwt. in E.

READING.—On Sunday, October 14th, ten members of the St. Laurence Society rang at that church 1518 of Grandsire Triples on the front seven, with 8-9-10 as cover. H. Bawden, 1; W. J. Williams (conductor), 2; W. Johnson, 3; E. Bishop, 4; J. E. Willshire, 5; G. Talbot, 6; W. Newell, 7; W. R. Pocock, 8; J. T. Waldron, 9; H. Egby (Oxford Diocesan Guild), 10. The above was rung as a farewell touch to the Rev. Chas. Kerry, the late and much esteemed tower-warden, who has left Reading for a living in Derbyshire.

SOUTH ANSTON (Yorkshire).—At St. James's church, on Tuesday evening, October 16th, a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob Minor, in 24 mins. Also the same was rang for Divine Service on Sunday morning, October 21st, being the Thanksgiving Services for the Harvest in 25 mins. Robert S. Fox, 1; Thos. Silvester, 2; Josh. Bland, 3; William Wyatt, 3; Chas. F. Towler, 5; John W. Hall (conductor), 6. Tenor 12 cwt. in G.

SPALDING (Lincolnshire).—On Tuesday, October 16th, at the parish church, a 720 of Oxford Bob, with eighteen bobs and ten singles. J. Wilson, 1; J. S. Wright, 2; G. L. Richardson, 3; R. Mackman, 4; A. Brown, 5; J. Brown, 6. Also on Wednesday, October 17th, on the occasion of the marriage of Mr. Traylen and Miss Pridgeon, a 720 of Oxford Bob, with nine bobs and six singles, also two 360s of College Single, and a 720 of Plain Bob. J. Wilson, 1; J. S. Wright, 2; G. L. Richardson, 3; R. Mackman, 4; A. Brown, 5; J. Brown, 6. Mr. J. S. Wright, captain of this company, was highly pleased with the skillful manner in which the bells were rung, and the evenness of the striking. Throughout the day, he says, in all his 40 years' experience the bells have never been rung better in Spalding. And on October 21st, for evening service, a 360 of Oxford Bob.

STISTED (Essex).—On Thursday, October 11th, a 108 of Bob Minor. A. Chaplin, 1; E. Chaplin, 2; J. Sadler, 3; W. Radley, 4; E. Radley 5; J. Sadler (conductor), 6.

WANSTEAD AND LEYTONSTONE (Essex).—In consequence of Mr. Barnett's and Mr. Jones' (of Monmouth) visit to Wanstead on Sunday, October 21st, the bells of Christ Church were set going with a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor, with nine bobs, in 26 mins. W. Smith, 1; H. Scarlett, 2; G. Akers (conductor), 3; J. Priest, jun., 4; A. H. Gardom, Esq., 5; E. Barnett, 6. Also at St. John-the-Baptist, Leytonstone, for afternoon service, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob, with fifteen bobs, in 27 mins. W. Smith, 1; A. H. Gardom (conductor), 2; J. Nunn, 3; G. Akers, 4; J. Priest, jun., 5; E. Barnett, 6. Also after evening service, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob, with nine bobs, in 27 mins. W. Smith, 1; J. Priest, 2; G. Akers, 3; J. Nunn, 4; *E. Barnett (conductor), 5; A. H. Gardom, Esq., 6. *First 720 as conductor. Also a 720 of Plain Bob Minor, with eighteen bobs and two singles, in 26 mins. J. H. Jones (first 720), 1; A. H. Gardom, Esq., 2; G. Akers, 3; J. Nunn, 4; J. Priest, 5; E. Barnett (conductor), 6.

WARNHAM (Sussex).—On Monday, October 22nd, the local company rang Holt's 720 of Bob Minor, without singles, in 25 mins. William Wood, 1; William Short, 2; Harry Chantler, 3; Harry Cook, 4; Harry Wood, 5; Thomas Andrews, 6. Conducted by Henry Burstow. Also on Tuesday, October 23rd, being the Harvest Festival, for Divine Service in the afternoon, a 720 of Oxford Bob, with forty bobs and two singles. Joseph Dale, 1; Edward Turner, 2; Harry Cook, 3; Thomas Andrews, 4; Harry Chantler, 5; Henry Burstow (conductor), 6. Also a 720 of London New Bob, with forty-two singles. Joseph Dale, 1; William Short, 2; Thomas Andrews, 3; Harry Wood, 4; Henry Burstow (conductor), 5; Harry Chantler, 6.

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."

"CLOCKING."

SIR,—The irreparable injury that has resulted to many bells from the mischievous custom of "clocking," or "chucking," as your correspondent of last week calls it, is so clear and undeniable, that a communication on the subject in the pages of "THE BELL NEWS" is by no means uncalled for. "A Lover of Bells" will find a denunciation of the "lazy trick" in Mr. Ellacombe's paper on chiming, published as an appendix to his *Practical Remarks on Belfries and Ringers* (Bell and Son, 1878, fourth edition). Sir Edmund Beckett, in his useful letter to Church Building, quoted in the above paper, is most emphatic on the same point. "I believe," he says, "more bells are cracked by tying the ropes to the clapper than by all other means whatever." A list of bells in the metropolis, cracked by being "clocked," within the recollection of a single individual is given in a letter addressed to the *Ecclesiologist*, in August, 1863, by Mr. Ellacombe, entitled, "How Bells are Cracked." This was reprinted, with other matters relating to bells, in a pamphlet published by Masters in 1864, but which is now out of print and very scarce. The following is the list referred to:—

	Bell.	Weight.	Date as near as recollected
S. Michael, Cornhill	Tenor	41	
Christchurch, Spitalfields	Tenor	36	
S. Magnus, London Bridge	Tenor	32	1830.
S. Stephen, Coleman Street	Tenor	14	1830.
S. Catherine Cree, Leadenhall Street	Tenor	12	
S. Saviour, Southwark	11th	34	1820.
ditto	10th	26	1840.
S. Sepulchre, Snow Hill	Tenor	32	1835
S. Olave, Southwark	7th	15	
S. Leonard, Shoreditch	Tenor	31	about 1828.
ditto	Tenor	—	1860.
S. George in the East	Tenor	30	1820.
ditto	Treble, 2, 4, 5, 7th	—	1820.
S. Mary, Islington	Tenor	16	
S. Mary, Rotherhithe	Tenor	16	1833.
ditto	Tenor	—	about 1858.
S. Mary, Lambeth	6th and Tenor	—	about 1840.
S. James's, Clerkenwell	4th	—	about 1840.
S. Margaret, Westminster	9th	—	1830.
S. Alphege, Greenwich	Tenor	21	1827.
S. Nicholas, Deptford	Tenor	18	about 1836.
West Ham, Essex	9th and Tenor	—	about 1840.

Truly this is, as Mr. Ellacombe says, "a fearful list,"—sixteen fine tenors: no doubt all were clocked for funerals."

Edinburgh, October 16th, 1883.

G. G. CUNNINGHAM.

A QUESTION.

SIR,—Would any kind reader of your paper kindly inform me whether a peal of eight handbells in G, eighteenth size, would sound the same as a peal of church bells in G.

A CHURCH BELL RINGER.

A DISCLAIMER.

SIR,—The St. Andrew's ringers were very much surprised to see in your issue of October 6th, a performance of 720 of Grand sire Minor, in 25 minutes, at St. Luke's, Bedminster, on Sept. 29th. Now, sir, we wish to state that the St. Andrew's company did not visit St. Luke's on the date mentioned, or at any other time, and they also wish to state that they do not personally know the sexton. Therefore the report of the performance as coming from the St. Andrew's ringers is a pure falsehood. I hope, sir, you will insert the foregoing, and oblige the St. Andrew's ringers, Clifton.

W. H. THOMAS, Sec.

THE LAST PEAL AT SOUTH LOPHAM, NORFOLK.

SIR,—Seeing some of our Kenninghall friends have been ringing at the above named place, and stating that there has not been a 720 rung there since the Duke of Norfolk came of age nearly twenty years ago, now sir, I beg leave to say that I took part in a 720 in 1868. Here I give the peal. "On Saturday evening, a company of change ringers from Thelnetham and Hopton, ascended the tower and rang a true and complete peal of Plain Bob, of 720 changes, in thirty-two minutes; the men were stationed as follows: S. Downing, Treble; W. H. Doran, 2nd; J. Bennett, 3rd; E. Woolsey, 4th; E. H. Bennett, 5th; John Bennett, senr., Tenor." This was rung in the month of November, 1868, and published in the *Diss Express* at that time. W. H. DORAN.

West Ham.

INFORMATION WANTED.

SIR,—Will you allow me through your valuable columns to ask all interested in Campanology, living in the North or West Ridings of Yorkshire, to kindly assist me in the preparation of my history of the

bells of those divisions of the county, by sending me rubbings of the inscriptions, or copies of those on modern (*i.e.* 19th century) bells, legends and customs relating to the bells, special and other occasions when they are rung, as the number of strokes for a man, woman, and child, when tolling for the dead?

R. C. HOPE.

Albion Crescent, Scarborough.

SIR,—I have often wished to know who was the founder of our bells at Leyland. There is a ring of six, the third and fifth were taken down in 1835, and recast, as they were cracked, the other four are dated 1722. And on the second is the initials A. R. with the figure of a bell between. I think they refer to the founder. Can any of your readers reply through the medium of your paper? THOS. BARON.

A COUNTY ASSOCIATION FOR HERTS.

SIR,—Would you kindly grant me a little space in our paper to ask my ringing friends of Hertfordshire if they don't think it is quite time that a County Association was formed? We have the Rev. Woolmore Wigram at our backs, who would only be too glad to render valuable assistance in this way. There are several ringers around here who would be glad to join the movement. Mr. O. Porter, churchwarden of Hitchin, is very anxious that an Association should be established, and I have no doubt he would render valuable assistance. Let us be up and doing. I want to drive all the "stoney" out of Hertfordshire. I don't want to be first, but I'll help to pull.

W. A. TYLER.

REPLY TO J. R. J.

SIR,—Will you kindly inform my friend, J. R. J., that I don't know anything about this Mr. Rodgers, only that he is not Timothy Rodgers of Boston, Lincolnshire.

W. A. T.

STOKE-UPON-TRENT ARCHIDIACONAL ASSOCIATION.

BIDDULPH.—The Associated Ringers met in this belfry for the second time this year on Saturday last, and spent a very pleasant afternoon. The home company are to be congratulated on the greatly improved condition of their ringing-chamber. It is now thoroughly clean and nicely painted; and this we understand has been achieved by the men themselves, paint alone having been found for them by the authorities. This may be taken as a proof of the good work the Association is doing. A belfry reform carried out by the ringers themselves under difficulties! Members from Norton-le-Moors, Tunstall, Wolstanton, Lawton and Biddulph were present to the number of thirty-five, including the Clerical and Lay Secretaries, and some good ringing was done. At six o'clock a good tea was served in the schoolroom for the moderate charge of eightpence each. The absence of the clergy of the parish was regretted, but Mr. Walton, the churchwarden, was present, and took a lively interest in the proceedings. After tea the Rev. T. H. B. Fearon briefly addressed the company and congratulated them as a society of ringers on having had their science recognized for the first time, at a Church Congress. Ringing at the church, and songs and recitations in the schoolroom, brought a very pleasant evening to a close at 10 p.m. Next Saturday's meeting is at Checkley.

THE ST. MARTIN'S (BIRMINGHAM) SOCIETY.

On Monday, October 1st, 1883, seven members of the above society, by the very kind invitation of the Rev. F. E. Robinson, paid a visit to Drayton, Berksire, where they were joined by the Vicar, and succeeded in ringing the late Mr. Thurstan's peal of *Stedman Triples*. After being very hospitably entertained at the vicarage, the party returned to Oxford, and were very much pleased by being shown over the different colleges in the city, and in the evening they visited New College and rang some touches of *Stedman Caters*, and a plain course of Kent Treble Bob Royal, with the assistance of some of the Oxford Guild. The party take this opportunity of thanking the Rev. F. E. Robinson for the great kindness shown by him to them on their visit. The particulars of the peal have already appeared in our columns.

THE ROCHDALE AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATION.

THE Quarterly Meeting will be held at St. Thomas's church, Moor-side, near Oldham, on Saturday next, November 3rd. Bells will be ready at three o'clock; meeting to commence at 5.30. All Members are earnestly invited to attend, and all ringers within the radius of ten miles. Tea will be provided for all who send in their names, such names to be sent in not later than the 30th inst. to Mr. Adam Butterworth, 663, Ripponden Road, Moorside. All ringing must cease during business.

J. ADSHEAD, Sec.

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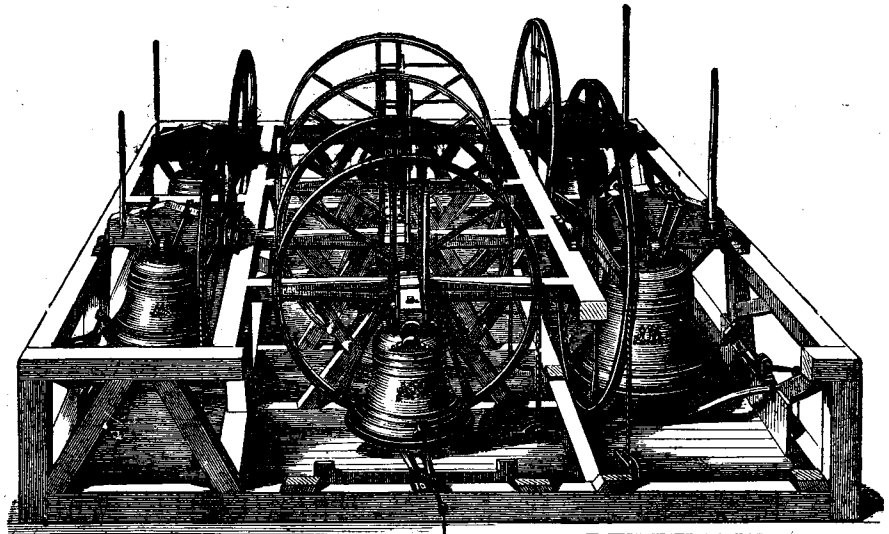
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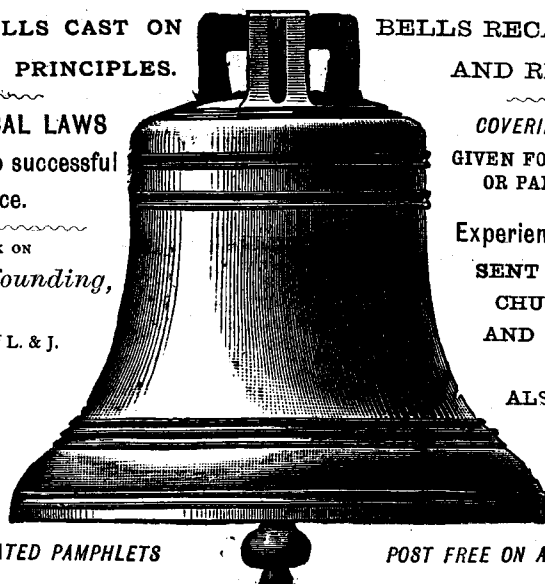
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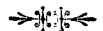
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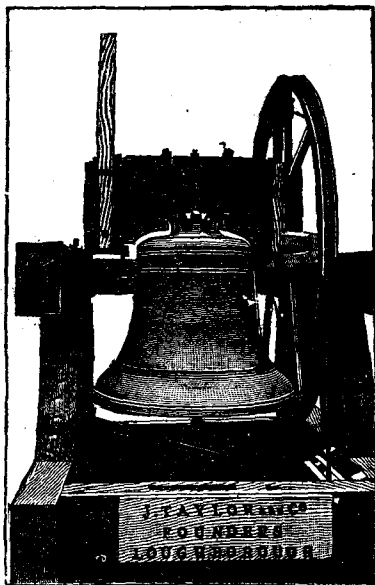
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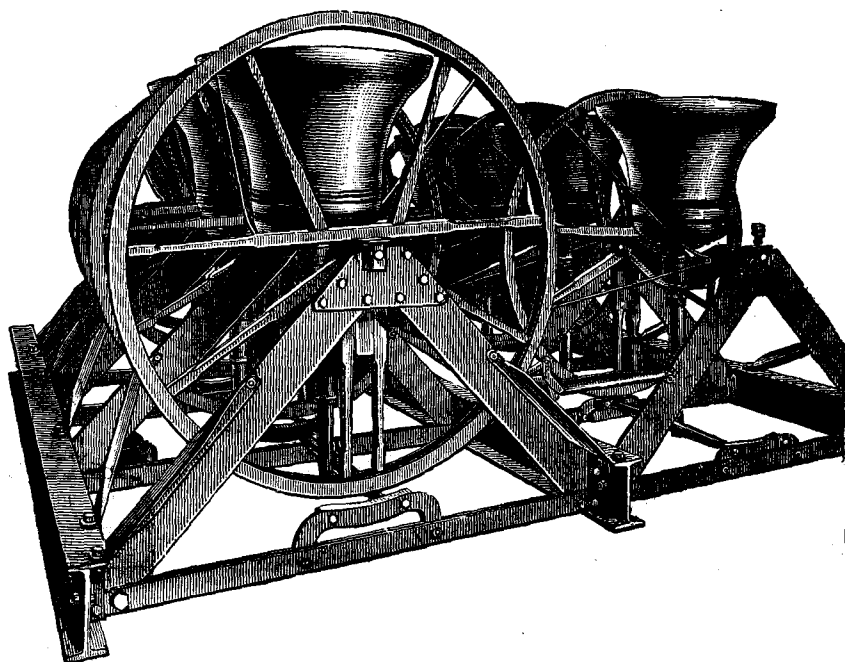
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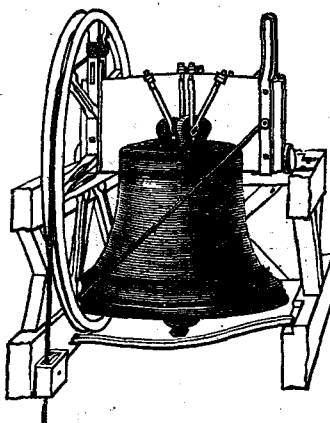
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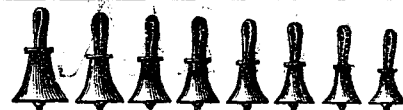
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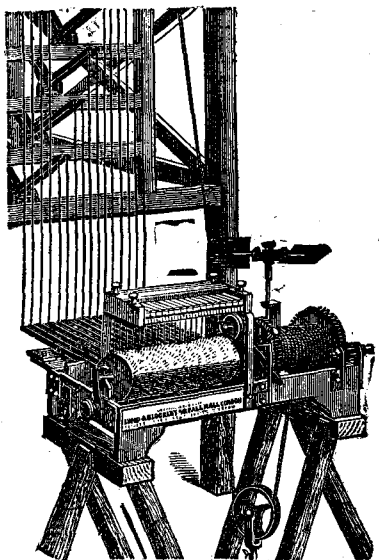
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"TO ALL ARTISTS IN RINGING.

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Those who have not an opportunity to subscribe in London, and are willing to encourage ye design, to send their subscriptions to ye printer of this paper."

At the foot of this is written—"In the *Ipswich Journal* September 1st 1753." It may interest my readers to know that in 1877, when on a ringing holiday in the Eastern Counties, I took the opportunity while at Ipswich to verify the statement that this was a copy of a paragraph in the *Ipswich Journal*. This paper, I may mention, is one of the oldest established newspapers in the kingdom, its commencement dating as far back as 1725; I called at the Journal office and was kindly allowed to examine the volume for 1753, a little more than 120 years back. A quaint old volume it was, very different in size and appearance from a newspaper "file" of the present day; turning to the required date I at once found the paragraph of which the foregoing is a copy.

It is curious to speculate on the connection of Holt with the *Ipswich Journal*. I only wish that I had had the time and opportunity to make further researches into these volumes to ascertain whether any other mention of Holt's name is to be found therein. It is probable that some particulars of the date and circumstances of his death might in this way be ascertained.

It appears from his MSS., that Dr. Mason had been endeavouring to assist Holt in obtaining subscribers to the broad-sheet of his peals, as the copy of this address is written on the back of a letter from Norwich, addressed "To the Rev. Mr. Mason of Trinity Coll. Cambridge," which is evidently in answer to one from Dr. Mason, soliciting the support of the Norwich ringers. The following is a verbatim copy of this letter:—

Norwich, Aug. 27, 1753.

Reverd. Sir,—I desire you'll excuse my not Subscribing to a Work which I have some Reason to fear will not answer to Expectation. I must Confess Our Company Seem Intirely to slight it, though I must Own it is not a Generous Way of Treating Mr. Holt's performance, but I believe they are Induc'd to this by that Ingenious Ringer Mr. Anable's not Encouraging of it, had he Approved of it, his Influence on the Colledge Youths I presume would have been sufficient to have sent it to the Press without any Further Subscriptions.

Revd. Sir, Give me leave to Observe to you that 'tis almost twenty years Since I sent to the Revd. Mr. Windhall a Whole peal of Ten with two Inferior Changes Only, Fully Explaining by an Infalible rule, how to make any proper peal on all Numbers that go with a Quick Hunt.

For Self and Co. I am Sir,
With due respect, your most humble servant,
JOHN WEBSTER.

What a valuable piece of information this is! Here we have the whole bearing of the matter placed before us. Annable did not even approve of Holt's peals; much less, then, would he approve of Garthorn's peal, indeed, as I shall hereafter show, it is evident that he did not even approve of any peals on the three-lead-course plan.

Before concluding this summary of such of the contents of Dr. Mason's MSS. as relate to Grandsire Triples, I may add that, following the letter given above, one of Holt's broad-sheets, headed, "Mr. John Holt's four peals of Tripple changes, of London, College Youth, lately deceased," is fixed into the book.

This sheet gives the treble leads of the first part of Holt's six and ten-part peals of Grandsire Triples, his six-part peal of Union Triples, and his three-part peal of Plain Bob Triples, without a single. The subscribers names, as follows, are given; it will be seen that Dr. Mason and also the Rev. Mr. Windle, who is mentioned in the Norwich letter, are amongst the number.

THE SUBSCRIBERS' NAMES TO MR. JOHN HOLT'S FOUR PEALS.

The following are of ye Company of College Youths, London:

Samuel Killican, Esq.....	7	Mr. James Watson.....	2
Mr. Robert Randell, Bell-founder,		" Christophe Pinchbeck.....	1
Fleet Ditch.....	4	" Robert Romley.....	1
" John Cundell.....	4	" William Underwood.....	1
" Thomas Lester, Bell founder,		" Thomas Bennett.....	1
White Chapel.....	4	" Joseph Griffiths.....	1
" Wm. Oram.....	4	" William Rickard.....	1
" Thos. Lowe.....	4	" Samuel Tomson.....	1
" William Skelton, jun.....	4	" Richard Wynn.....	1
" John Hardham.....	2		

The following are of ye same company residing in different parts of England:—

The Rev. Dr. Mason of Trinity College, Cambridge.....	2	The Rev. Mr. Windle.....	1
Mr. Samuel Anderson of Stourham, Suffolk.....	2	Mr. Joseph West, Cambridge.....	1
" Henry Cowley of Twittenham, Middlesex.....	1	The Nottingham Company.....	1
" John Swaine of Standwell.....	1	The Stroud Company, Gloucestershire.....	1
" Chris. Chitty, Farnham, Surry.....	1	Mr. Thomas Hancock of Biserlay, Do.....	1
" Samuel Lee, Dover, Kent.....	1	" James Archer of St. Phillips, Bristol.....	1
William Forbery, Esq. of Galby, Leicestershire.....	4	The Oxford Company.....	1
The St. Noats Company, Huntingdonshire.....	4	Mr. Joseph Levens of Croydon, Surry.....	1
The Cambridge Company.....	4	" John Short, Do. Do.....	1
		" Rayley of Kingston, Do.....	1
		" Hunt.....	1
		" Tow.....	1

These peals to be had of Mr. Cundell, at ye Golden Eagle, in Duke's Court, Bow Street, Covent Garden.

In the same volume of Dr. Mason's MSS., many of the subsequent pages are devoted to the proof of Holt's peals; the mode adopted is, however, most laborious. There is also a written copy of the one-part peal of Grandsire Triples, followed by its proof. Further on a small piece of paper is pasted into the book, headed "Vicars' whole peal of Trebles." This is the same peal as the one previously mentioned; it is written by the treble leads, and is probably the original copy forwarded to Dr. Mason.

Referring to the paragraph in the *Ipswich Journal* it will be seen that Holt claims the discovery of "a method of ringing 5040 Grandsire Triples without changes over again or the use of any other means than plain leads, bobs, and only two singles, which hath hitherto been looked upon as impossible." Now the impossibility that he alludes to is, I consider, the production of a peal with *two singles only*, and not that of obtaining a peal "without changes over again," the claim is however hardly definite enough in the wording for any argument to be based upon it. The same is also the case with the tablet recording the performance of the one-part peal at St. Margaret's, Westminster, in 1751. The following is a copy of this tablet:—

Sunday, July 7th, 1751

The Society of Union Scholars rang in this steeple
with two singles,
the first true and complete peal of
5040 Grandsire Triples
which peal was performed in 3 hours and 15 minutes
by the following persons:—

JAMES DAVIS, Treble	JAMES VICKERS,	5.
JAMES ALBION,	JAMES NEWBY,	6.
JACOB HALL,	JOHN LLOYD,	7.
Thomas JACKSON,	GEO. HENRY & ED. DAVIS, Tenor.	

The peal was composed and call'd by John Holt.
Captain Nicholas Spencer } Church Wardens.
and Mr. William Goff.

In his account of the Society of Union Scholars, Mr. Osborne, remarks concerning the above performance:—

"This peal was not inserted in the Society's book with their other peals by reason as (I suppose) it was considered irregular for the conductor to call, and not ring at the same time in the usual way."

Whether Mr. Osborne had heard anything from older ringers concerning this matter he does not state, and I infer that his conjecture merely arose from the fact that the peal, although recorded in the tower, was not entered in the peal book, and this seemed to him the only natural objection that could be brought against the performance. Is it not more probable that it was omitted for the same reason that the Norwich Scholars did not support the publication of Holt's broad-sheet, viz., because of "that ingenious ringer Mr. Annable not encouraging of it." I believe I am right in saying that Mr. Osborne considered this to have been the first true peal of Grandsire Triples ever rung, and did not know that true peals had previously been accomplished, or that Holt's peals had not been generally accepted by some of the London section at the time they were first brought out.

With regard to the tablet previously given I may say that the words "the first true and complete peal" need not in any way be taken as a claim to the first true performance in this method, as it may simply mean that it was the first true and complete peal at the church in question. Many of the old records are extremely indefinite in their wording—for instance, in the Union Scholars' peal-book, two consecutive peals of 5040's of Bob Major are recorded, the first of these is styled "the first true and compleat peal of 5040 Bob Major ever performed on those bells," and the second, which was rung at a

subsequent period at another church, is called "the first true and compleat peal of 5040 Bob Major," without any reference to the obvious meaning that it was the first peal of this description on these bells.*

It seems strange that Holt's own society did not, whatever were their reasons, recognize this first performance of his one-part peal, and as in 1752 he left the Union Scholars, and joined the Society of College Youths, Mr. Osborne has been led to think that his resignation may be accounted for by the fact that the society would not record the performance of the peal in question in their book. after the date on which the one-part peal was performed Holt rang five peals with the Union Scholars; it cannot therefore be taken as proved without further evidence that it was this decision on the part of the society that caused him to go over to the College Youths.

Holt's name is so thoroughly identified with Grandsire Triples that no apology will be necessary for the introduction of the few particulars that I am able to lay before my readers concerning his career.

John Holt's name appears in the original name-book of the Union Scholar's (Osborne mss., British Museum), as having been elected a member of that company, in 1745. He must then have been thought a great acquisition to the Society, as the entry, instead of being made in ordinary old English characters, in a similiar way to the other names, is highly ornamented in the writing. He was elected Master of the Society for the year 1749. The last peal recorded by the Society at the time that Holt joined it in 1745 was one rung in November 1741, and it was not until October, 1747, that another peal was recorded. In this peal Holt took part, as he also did in every peal afterwards recorded by the Society until September, 1752, when his name appears for the last time, and he is supposed to have left the Union Scholars. The following is a list of the peals that he rang with this society, every one of which, "with one exception" of he called, most of them also being his own compositions.

- | | | |
|--------------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------|
| 1. October 27th, 1747, | St. Margaret's, Westminster, | 5040 Bob Major. |
| 2. November 1st, " | St. Giles's-in-the-fields, | " " " |
| 3. December 9th, 1748, | St. Martin's-in-the-fields, | " " " |
| 4. July 9th, 1749, | St. Margaret's, Westminster, | 6000 " " |
| 5. August 8th, 1749, | St. Martin's-in-the-fields, | 5040 Bob Triples. |
| 6. October 15th, " | Christ Church, Surrey, | 5040 Bob Major. |
| 7. December 5th, 1749, | St. Sepulchre's, London, | " " " |
| 8. March 16th, 1750, | St. Bride's, London, | " " " |
| 9. July 8th, 1750, | St. Margaret's, Westminster, | 5040 Double Bob Major. |
| 10. September 9th, 1750, | St. George's, Southwark, | 5040 Bob Triples. |
| 11. January 20th, 1751, | " " " | 5040 Bob Major. |
| 12. January 28th, " | St. Sepulchre's, London, | 5094 Grandsire Caters. |
| 13. February 19th, " | St. Martin's-in-the-fields, | 5112 " " |
| 14. March 14th, " | St. Margaret's, Westminster, | 5120 Oxford Treble Bob. |
| 15. April 9th, 1751, | St. Mary's, Hillingdon. | 5800 Double Bob Major. |
| 16. August 26th, 1751, | " " " | 5040 Bob Major. |
| 17. October 20th, " | St. Bride's, London, | 5040 Double Bob Major. |
| 18. December 28th, 1751, | All Hallows, Chipping Wycomb, | 5104 Grandsire Cinques. |
| 19. February 16th, 1752, | St. Margaret's, Westminster, | 5040 Bob Triples. |
| 20. September 25th, " | St. Giles's-in-the-fields, | 5040 Court Bob Major. |
| 21. " | " " " | 5040 Bob Triples. |

The total number of peals entered in the Society's book is only thirty-six, these peals were rung between the years 1718 and 1757. As Holt took part in twenty-one peals between the dates 1747 and 1752 it will be seen that during the time he was connected with the Union Scholars, nearly all their peals were accomplished. Previous to his joining the Society, it had only recorded eleven peals in twenty-four years, during the time of his membership twenty-two peals (if we include the one-part peal) were rung in eight years.

ST. NICHOLAS CHURCH, HALEWOOD, LANCASHIRE.

By invitation of the Rector and Churchwardens of this parish, the Garston company visited the church on Saturday, October 27th, to try the new ring of eight bells lately presented by Mrs. French, of Gateacre. These bells were cast by Warner and Sons; tenor about 11 cwt. in G. After trying the bells in company with two local ringers, six members of the Garston company rang a 720 of Oxford Bob Minor, in 24 mins. G. Gough, 1; C. Newton, 2; W. Hughes, 3; W. Turner, 4; F. Turner, 5; G. W. Hughes (conductor), 6. The go of the bells leave nothing to be desired. Sunday, October 28th, being the Harvest Festival, the bells were rung for service for the first time by the local company, assisted by Messrs. Gough and Hughes, and considering the small amount of practice the local men have had, they acquitted themselves very well. Previous to afternoon service, eight members of the Garston company rang a 504 of Grandsire Triples in good style. S. Gough, 1; J. Alexander, 2; C. Newton, 3; P. Barton, 4; F. Turner, 5; W. Hughes, 6; G. W. Hughes (conductor), 7; W. Weaver, 8. Great interest appears to be taken in the ringing by the parishioners, which augurs well for the reception of the art among them, and everything is done to make the ringers comfortable. The Garston company wish to express their thanks to the Halewood ringers for the kindness and hospitality shown to them.

*In 1877, in conjunction with Mr. Tuke, I published a copy of the peal book of the Society of Union Scholars, which is now amongst the Osborne mss. in the British Museum Library. I can still supply a few copies, price, post free, 8d.



In Memoriam.

COLONEL TRELAWNY.

WE regret to record the decease of the Nestor of scientific change-ringing in the West, which took place at Poltair, Penzance, on the 24th ultimo. Colonel Harry Reginald Salusbury Trelawny, was the second son of the late Sir William Salusbury Trelawny, Bart., and born at Harewood, on the Tamar, in the county of Cornwall, on December 12th, 1826. Educated at Ottery St. Mary, Devon, and at Westminster, he entered the Royal Military College, Sandhurst, from whence, in 1845, he joined the 36th Regiment, subsequently exchanging into the 6th Inniskillen Dragoons, of which he was a Lieutenant for five years. Retiring in 1853, he was appointed Adjutant of the Royal Cornwall Rangers, and finally the Colonclcy in 1872, a post from which he retired a few years since on account of age. Deceased was a Justice of the Peace, and a Deputy-Lieutenant of Cornwall, besides holding other local posts. In all his offices he ever displayed a sense of strict justice and a very marked outspokenness. He was a great lover of music, being one of the committee of the Penzance Choral Society, and for many years played the double-bass in its orchestra, and taking part in the recent Handel Festival at the Crystal Palace. He will be better known to our readers, however, as a ringer, and one of no mean capability; from his boyhood he evinced a well marked love for bells and ringing, but it was not until the year 1863 that his attention was called to scientific change-ringing, when seeing the superiority of this method over the old style of call-changes, and ups and downs, and rounds, he set to work with the aid only of *Hubbard's Elements*, and in a short time was able to put his parish ringers through a 120 of Grandsire Doubles, at Calstock, and on June 24th, 1866, the first 720 of Grandsire Minor in Cornwall was rung on the bells of his parish church at Calstock.

On his removal to Poltair, in 1870, he was able to continue his ringing on the peal of eight at Penzance, and in 1873 had trained a band to accomplish a half-peal of Grandsire Triples. Colonel Trelawny never had many opportunities with ringing with those of experience, consequently has not accomplished many peals; on September 15th, 1860, he rang the 6th in a 5040 at St. Mary's, Lewisham. The most of his work has therefore been done on the soil which he himself had alone prepared; for some years past, he had not been able to pursue his favourite pastime with any regularity, owing to the infirmities resulting from repeated attacks of Rheumatic Gout; he however rang the 6th in a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples on the bells at St. Mary's, on the 13th of November last.

Colonel Trelawny was very materially assisted in his acquiring the knowledge of change-ringing by Mrs. Trelawny and family, who proved themselves so skilled as soon to accomplish touches of Grandsire and Stedman Triples, Grandsire Caters and Cinques, double-handed. On the opening of the present peal at Penzance, and more recently at the re-opening of the augmented peal at Camborne, he gave lectures on bell-ringing, with practical illustrations on the handbells.

The funeral took place on Monday afternoon at the Penzance Cemetery in the presence of a large assemblage. The coffin was of plain deal, almost wholly hidden with moss and ferns, on which lay beautiful wreaths and crosses of flowers, the ringers acting as bearers. The Rev. Prebendary Hedgeland, vicar of St. Mary's, and the Rev. A. Berry, one of deceased's brother-ringers, officiated, and in the chapel and at the graveside the choir chanted the psalms and sang deceased's favourite hymns.

On Sunday evening, the bells being half-muffled, a 720 of Grandsire Minor was rung in 30 mins., with the 7th and tenor as cover. H. Mitchell, 1; C. Boase, 2; J. Hodder, 3; J. Richards, 4; J. Symons, 5; T. Hicks (conductor), 6; M. Bassett, 7; Rev. A. Berry, 8.

On Monday afternoon, immediately after the funeral, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, with the bells half-muffled, in 55 mins. Edwin Jenkin, 1; C. Boase, 2; J. Hodder, 3; T. Hicks, 4; J. Richards, 5; G. Sellers, 6; J. Symons (conductor), 7; M. Bassett, 8.

Our readers will no doubt be glad to hear that matter for the next Christmas number for this journal is in course of preparation. One of our friends whose contributions last year were so much appreciated, has sent us a budget which will certainly amuse our friends. This packet is sent all the way from South America, and more than one application has been made for the stamps which adorned the envelope. Four of these we have given away; two others remain, for whoever is the first to apply for them.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

FOR the third year in succession the Lancashire Association, which has for its objects the cultivation of the art of change-ringing and belfry reform, held their annual meeting on Saturday, October 13th, in Bolton, when Divine Service was celebrated at Holy Trinity church, the preacher being the Rev. S. Falle, M.A., Curate of Holy Trinity, Hulme. The congregation consisted almost exclusively of ringers, and included representatives from Manchester, Liverpool, Eccles, Garston, Heywood, Pendlebury, Worsley, Walkden, and Church, the total number being about 104. At the service, which was of a specially appropriate character, the prayers were read by the Vicar, the Rev. C. Lowe, M.A., while the lesson was read by the Rev. S. Falle, who also based his sermon on the 3rd verse of the 6th chapter of St. Paul's Second Epistle to the Corinthians: "Giving no offence in anything." Addressing those present as fellow-workers of their great Church of England, he said they were taking one of the noblest callings in the Church—that of reminding men of their duties to their Heavenly Father. Their calling in times past had been almost totally disregarded. In the great reformation which passed over the Church of England some thirty years ago, and which had been passing over it ever since, they had been the last to be touched by it. He knew that their office had sometimes not even been so much as recognised. People had passed through the street of some large city, or the fields adjoining some beautiful village, and had heard the bells ringing for service or for practice, but they had never once thought of the men who were ringing them. Congregations might linger upon the lips of some eloquent preacher and go away thoroughly satisfied with him, but the bell-ringers, the sexton, and the organ-blower were treated just as though they had no souls to be saved. But a change was coming over that system, and by their presence there that afternoon, and by their connection with that society, they were justifying their cry for reform. And let him tell them—it might perhaps be only a truism—that when the cry for reform came from any society it would be double as lasting and double as purifying as if it came from outside. If he could trust a book which had been lent to him on the subject, in past times the name of bell-ringer had not always been a very creditable one. If he might judge from what he had read "ringer" and "drinker" were too often synonymous terms, and it had been inferred that according to the number of bells there was in the church there must necessarily be as many drinkers in the parish, and the testimony of broken bottles and castaway pipes too often showed the influence which callousness had upon the ringers themselves. The clergy and officers of the Church of England had to thank themselves to a very large extent for those scenes of riotousness and drunkenness which so often took place. But now the bellringers were crying for reform. It depended upon each one of them individually whether that reform should be lasting. "Give no offence in anything." By their conduct and by their manner of living they could win approval of what they were doing. They were not only calling upon men and their families to serve God, their Maker, their Creator, and their Preserver, but they were also cheering the hearts of their fellow-men by their music. They must remember they were playing music, not in some hall, however large, not to some selected audience, but they were playing their music to the world—to the slums and back streets of their large cities and the villages in the country; music as inspiring as the touching chords of the harp, or the noble strains of the organ. They must also remember that this might be one way in which God manifested Himself to men, and that their notes were words of solemn warning as well as words of cheer. In days of old they as bell-ringers received a bad name, and it was very hard to get rid of a name such as that, but it rested with each of them whether this name should remain with them or not. Might God give them grace so to live and so to act that the testimony might be wrung from unwilling lips that bell-ringing was a manifestation of God's presence on earth, and was but another form of the way in which God spoke to the hearts of men. However black and dark the past might be, that past had now gone for ever, but he would remind them that there was a future—a grand and splendid future, which was all their own.

Divine Service over, the company partook of a substantial tea in the adjoining schoolroom, after which they resolved themselves into a meeting for the purpose of hearing the report read. The chair was taken by the Rev. C. Lowe, and there was also present the Rev. W. Popplewell, M.A., Vicar of All Souls, the Rev. A. Turner, B.A., Burnley, and J. Greenhalgh, Esq. Mr. W. J. Chatterton, one of the Hon. Secs., read the annual report, from which it appeared that the treasurer was able to report a balance in hand of £4 4s. 0d. It could with justice be said that the Association had been able, if only in a slight degree, to fulfil some of its objects, namely, to raise the status of the ringer, to obtain from him a better recognition of his work and to advance the science of change-ringing. The work of the Association was acknowledged and appreciated in all parts of the county, and it only remained for the performing members to increase in every way the usefulness of the Association. They were, however, many belfries

needing reform, many places where scientific ringing was unknown, and not least, there were architects who needed educating as to the needs of ringers and the requirements of a belfry and ringing-chamber. The committee urged every ringer to become a member of some Association, and by his influence and pecuniary assistance, help those who in many cases spent much time and money in furthering the cause which they had so much at heart (applause). The Chairman then extended a cordial welcome to all those present, and assured them that it was a very great pleasure to him to meet them, and also to feel that they had a pleasure in meeting there again (hear, hear). The preacher that afternoon had thrown out most valuable and practical hints, and he trusted they would carry them home and put them in practice before the Association met again. After enlarging somewhat upon the various thoughts suggested by the afternoon's sermon, the Chairman referred to the question as to whether anything could be done to increase the habit of inducing the ringers to remain in the church after they had rung other people there, and after they had exerted themselves and done their duty in the belfry. He, the speaker, thought that if bell-ringers did not attend Divine Service after they had taken so much pains to invite other people into the House of God, they were placing themselves in a position where they were capable of giving offence by putting a stumbling-block in the way of their neighbours, who, seeing them going out of church, would think they were acting in a certain sense inconsistently. They did not want any savouring of "sham," but what they wanted was "jannock" clergymen, "jannock" choristers, and "jannock" bell-ringers, and he hoped they would all try their best to be thoroughly "jannock," and thoroughly real in the noble work in which they were engaged (applause). The following officers were then elected: President, the Rev. A. Turner; Secretary, W. J. Chatterton; Committee, G. W. Hughes (Garston), James Barrett (Eccles), J. Harrison (Heywood), and J. Curtis (Bolton). The newly-elected President returned his hearty thanks for the honour they had conferred upon him, and urged the clergy to take a greater interest in the welfare of the ringers.

Fourteen new performing members were elected. Votes of thanks were unanimously passed, to the Preacher for his sermon; to the Rev. C. Lowe, M.A., for presiding; and to the organist, choir, and local ringers of Holy Trinity Church, Bolton. Ringing took place after the Meeting at All Souls church, the parish church, and Holy Trinity church.

WORCESTER (AND ADJOINING DISTRICT) ASSOCIATION.

ON Saturday last, the members of this Association met at the fine old church of St. Mary, at Kidderminster, for a united practice, when members from Malvern, Bromsgrove, Netherton, Kidderminster, Wolverley, Chaddesley Corbett, Bridgnorth, Wollaston, Belbroughton, including the Master, Mr. Perks, Mr. Duffill (Treasurer), Mr. Smith (Secretary), also Mr. E. F. Strange, of the College Youths (who was elected a performing member of this Association), Mr. King (Bath), and Mr. Morris (Birmingham).

Ringing commenced with mixed companies about 3 o'clock p.m., when touches of Grandsire Triples, Plain Bob, and Grandsire Minor were gone through. This is the second visit that has been paid to this place in this year, and we are pleased to say that since the last visit at Easter the objects of the Association have made some progress, the walls and ceiling has been whitened and coloured, and fair progress made in the art and science of change-ringing; the local company are to be congratulated on the improvements they have made. Still there is ample room for belfry reform before it corresponds with the church to which it forms a part. About 7.30 o'clock p.m., the ringers adjourned to the "Sailors Return" Inn, where touches in various methods were gone through on the handbells.

Votes of thanks were passed to the vicar and churchwardens for the use of the bells, the meeting then terminated, and the members dispersed, highly pleased with their evening's enjoyment.

THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD SOCIETY.

THE next QUARTERLY MEETING of this society will be held at West Bromwich, on Saturday, November 10th. Members and ringers desirous of joining this Society are requested to attend at All Saints' or Christ Church steeples, at 2.30 p.m., and to signify their intention of being present to Mr. S. Reeves, 10, Bull Street, West Bromwich, as soon as possible.

Copies of the rules may be obtained on application to either of the secretaries, addressed, Lichfield.

J. R. KEBLE, } Hon. Secs.
W. A. WOOD, }

Several communications have again come to hand unaccompanied by the name of the sender. We recognise no report unless we have some voucher for its authenticity.

"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, E. W. 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.

E. MASON.—We shall be glad to make arrangements for you, if you will give us plenty of notice.

E. F. STRANGE.—We should be glad to hear from you again.

The Bell News & Ringers' Record.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 3, 1883.

WHEN in years gone by our forefathers—or we ought to say, perhaps, our predecessors—in the Exercise were wont to style England as "The Ringing Island," they evidently disregarded its geographical position in conjunction with other portions of Britain. As we know nothing of any ringing records from Scotland at the period to which we are alluding, the phrase quoted above must not be regarded as strictly correct, but as an example of what is known as poetic licence. The annals of ringing, and other incontestible evidence, lay bare the fact that the art was confined to the southron, and it is not too much to say that only in recent years has it become acclimatised in the country north of the Cheviot Hills.

The same remark—that of recent introduction and growth—can with safety be applied to Ireland. In both the sister countries one great cause, at least, may have hitherto prevented the introduction of change-ringing, viz.: the absence, if not of bells, of the necessary gear for ringing them. But that reproach has, to a certain extent, been removed. Not only have new rings of bells been erected, in a manner so that their "go" is everything to be wished, but ringing companies, comprising many of the influential inhabitants of the districts, have been formed. In Ireland, for instance, Waterford and Bray may be mentioned; and in Scotland, Edinburgh and Dundee have recently come into prominence. At these towns, the ringing companies have had, we believe, the advantage of an "instructor" in the art.

When accounts of ringing performances from Ireland and Scotland become the rule instead of the exception, we may reasonably and correctly say—"The Ringing Islands." Our friends in both countries seem rather

apathetic, so far as peal-ringing is concerned, and with a company like that at Waterford Cathedral this apathy appears somewhat remarkable. We hope to see a little more energy displayed in the direction indicated, and that our Irish and Scotch brother-ringers will, from this date, strive to be first to record a peal in our columns.

SHERBORNE ABBEY CHURCH.

FOLLOWING the example set them at other places, the people of Sherborne are about to take in hand the restoration of the tower of their venerable Abbey, famous in the West of England for its stone roof with fan vaulting and groining.

About thirty years ago, the nave, with the choir and transepts, were restored at great cost; the massive piers on which the tower rests being almost entirely rebuilt from the foundations. Cracks and settlements have been known to exist on the tower as long as any one can remember, but it was not considered to be insecure till lately, when the fall of some window tracery on the east side, prompted the Vicar and churchwardens to have the structure examined. Messrs. Carpenter and Inglew have made two reports on the present state of the tower, and from them it would appear that the Sherborne people have not stirred any too soon in the matter. The architects point out that the east side is, and always has been, the weak part of the tower, and that this weakness is caused by the removal, by the Abbots of the fifteenth century, of the Norman horseshoe arch and the substitution of a panelled arch, so that the beautiful groining of the choir could be continued in an unbroken line across the tower vault. In doing this, the fifteenth century builders, while they sacrificed strength and solidity in their eagerness for artistic beauty, never intended that the tower would have to carry, as it now does, a heavy peal of bells, said to be the heaviest peal of eight in England. The great tenor, which weighs nearly three tons, and at present requires four men to ring her, was not given to the Abbey until fifty years after the completion of the tower. This bell is (or rather was, for she is a recast, having been cracked some years since while ringing for service on Advent Sunday), one of the famous Tournay peal, which Cardinal Wolsey distributed in various parts of the country. The heavy strain and oscillation of these badly-hung bells in a tower never designed to carry them, is without doubt the cause of its present insecure condition; but the architects are confident they can remedy all defects, and make the tower enough to bear the weight.

The cost of restoration is estimated at £1,300; J. D. Wingfield Digby, Esq., of Sherborne Castle, heads the subscription list with £300, and the leading inhabitants have come forward with liberal sums.

May we not hope that a sufficient sum be raised to rehang the entire peal, and if possible add at least two trebles? Very little change-ringing is done in Dorset; Cattistock and Beaminster, with of course Bournemouth, being almost the only places where the art is practised. Cannot the ringing community urge the necessity of the rehang of the bells as well as the restoration of the tower, on the Vicar and churchwardens and inhabitants of Sherborne?

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

A DISTRICT MEETING of this Society was held at Leeds, near Maidstone, on Thursday, October 25th. There were between seventy and eighty ringers present; and the other churches visited were Ulcombe (favoured as the residence of the well-known bellfounder, Joseph Hatch, who is buried in the adjoining churchyard of Bromfield), E. Sutton, Chart Sutton, and Bearsted. Among the visitors was Mr. Haworth, of Clerkenwell, whose last visit to Leeds appears, by a record in the belfry, to have been made in 1859, when he made one in a peal of Grandsire Caters. Touches of Grandsire, Plain Bob, and Treble Bob were rung during the day. The above towers happily lie not far from each other, so that the large number attending had a fair chance of all getting a ring, but in places less well situated, it will evidently soon be necessary to make some fresh regulations with a view to limit the numbers.

STOKE-UPON-TRENT ARCHIDIACONAL ASSOCIATION.

CHECKLEY.—Ringers from Ellastone, Uttoxeter, Norton-le-Moors, and Checkley attended this meeting last Saturday, to the number of nineteen. The Lay Secretary, Mr. E. Glover, was present. The bells of Checkley are rung from the ground floor, and the great length of rope without stays makes ringing no easy matter. A pleasant afternoon was passed, and a most excellent tea provided by the Rector in the schoolroom, at which the Rev. T. W. Tomlins, one of the assistant clergy, presided.

The order of meetings for November is as follows: November 3rd, Horton; 10th, Norton-le-Moors; 17th, Wolstanton; 24th, Leigh.

The Provinces.**THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—GARGRAVE.***On Saturday, October 20, 1883, in Two Hours and Fifty-seven Minutes,*

AT ST. ANDREW'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;

Tenor 16 cwt.

WILLIAM WHITAKER* .. Treble.	*HERBERT MIDDLEBROOK.. 5.
WILLIAM CLARKE .. 2.	†JAMES MCGOUN.. 6.
HERBERT HORSMAN .. 3.	WILLIAM MALLINSON .. 7.
JNO. T. MIDDLEBROOK .. 4.	JNO. MCKELL .. Tenor.

Composed by TOM LOCKWOOD and conducted by J. McKELL.

*First peal. †First peal inside. This peal is the first in the method on the bells, and has the 6th twenty-four times wrong and twenty times right.

LOUGHTON, ESSEX.**THE SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.***On Thursday, October 26, 1883, in Three Hours and Ten Minutes,*

AT ST. JOHN'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

PENNING'S ORIGINAL 1-PART PEAL. Tenor 19 cwt. in E.

WILLIAM SMITH.. .. Treble.	MATTHEW ELLSMORE .. 5.
GEORGE AKERS 2.	JOHN GOBBETT 6.
ARTHUR H. GARDOM, Esq. 3.	SAMUEL JARMAN 7.
GEORGE CORNELL* 4.	*WILLIAM TRUSS Tenor.

Conducted by A. H. GARDOM, Esq.

*First peal.

MANCHESTER.**THE ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE SOCIETY.***On Saturday, October 27, 1883, in Three Hours and Thirty Minutes,*

AT THE CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE ROYAL, 5060 CHANGES;

Tenor 25 cwt. in Eb.

WILLIAM SMITH.. .. Treble.	JAMES WOOD 6.
JOSEPH BOWCOCK 2.	JOHN THORP 7.
JAMES GRATRIX 3.	BENJAMIN BROADBENT .. 8.
SAMUEL WEST 4.	SAMUEL WOOD 9.
GEORGE MEE 5.	GEORGE LONGDEN Tenor.

Composed and conducted by SAMUEL WOOD.

Messrs. Gratrix, West, and Mee, belong to Manchester, the rest of the company hail from Ashton.

SOUTHGATE, MIDDLESEX.**THE SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.***On Saturday, October 27, 1883, in Three Hours and Twenty-one Minutes,*

AT CHRIST CHURCH,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

BROOK'S VARIATION. Tenor 25 cwt. in D.

GEORGE NEWSON Treble.	ARTHUR JACOB 5.
THOMAS TITCHENER 2.	WILLIAM H. DORAN .. 6.
WILLIAM H. FUSSELL .. 3.	SAMUEL JARMAN 7.
JAMES HANNINGTON .. 4.	ALFRED DAWES Tenor.

Conducted by GEORGE NEWSON.

This is Messrs. Titchener and Fussell's first peal in the method, and was arranged for Mr. Fussell, who is on a visit to London.

MOTTRAM-IN-LONGDENDALE, CHESHIRE.**THE HYDE SOCIETY.***On Monday, October 29, 1883, in Two Hours and Fifty-three Minutes,*

AT ST. MICHAEL'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 12½ cwt.

WILLIAM BAIL Treble.	JAMES S. WILDE 5.
RALPH PRICHARD 2.	SAMUEL BRADLEY 6.
THOMAS BRADLEY 3.	THOMAS WILDE 7.
WALTER SLATER 4.	SAMUEL BENNETT Tenor.

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

BURTON-ON-TRENT, STAFFORDSHIRE.**THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION, AND THE ST. PAUL'S SOCIETY, BURTON-ON-TRENT.***On Thursday, October 25, 1883, in Three Hours and Thirty-three Minutes,*

AT ST. PAUL'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 26 cwt.

HARRY WAKLEY.. .. Treble.	†THOMAS MEREDITH .. 5.
EDWARD ISAAC STONE .. 2.	GEORGE APPELBY 6.
JOSEPH GRIFFIN.. .. 3.	THOMAS HOLMES 7.
ROWLAND CARTWRIGHT* .. 4.	WILLIAM WAKLEY Tenor.

Conducted by WILLIAM WAKLEY.

*First peal. †First peal in the method.

The peal is a three-part composition by D. Prentice, and is without a Bob before. It is published on page 158, vol. i., "Bell News," amongst Mr. Snowden's collection, and has never been previously performed.

Mr. Cartwright hails from Wombourne, and Mr. Meredith from Lichfield.

THE WREXHAM SOCIETY.—GRESFORD, DENBIGHSHIRE*On Monday, October 29, 1883, in Two Hours and Fifty-nine Minutes,*

AT ALL SAINTS' CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

REEVES'S VARIATION. Tenor 25 cwt.

ALFRED LEA Treble.	JOHN ELLIS 5.
R. W. EVANS 2.	THOMAS NEWELL 6.
ROBERT JONES 3.	EDWARD ROWLAND .. 7.
JOS. WILLIAMS 4.	EDWARD EVANS Tenor.

Conducted by EDWARD ROWLAND.

This is the first peal ever rung on these bells, which were augmented to eight in 1876, by Messrs Warner and Sons.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—ECCLES.*On Saturday, October 27, 1883, in Two Hours and Forty-two Minutes,*

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

A BOB-AND-SINGLE PEAL, 3RD THE OBSERVATION.

Tenor 13½ cwt.

EDWARD CASH Treble.	CHARLES CASH 5.
JAMES BARNATT 2.	RICHARD ASHCROFT .. 6.
RICHARD PEARCE 3.	ALBERT EDWARD WREAKS 7.
JAMES RIDYARD 4.	WILLIAM ASHCROFT.. .. Tenor.

Conducted by EDWARD CASH.

Messrs. Pearce and C. Cash hail from St. Peter's, Swinton; Ridyard from St. Mark's, Worsley; Wreaks from Manchester Cathedral; the rest belong to Eccles.

Miscellaneous.**THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.**

BROMHAM (Beds.).—On Sunday, October 28th, six members of this Association rang a 720 of Plain Bob Minor, with eighteen bobs and two singles, in 25 mins. T. Tysoe, 1; H. King, 2; C. Stafferton, 3; W. King, 4; C. W. Clarke (conductor), 5; W. Biggs, 6.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

NORTH SHIELDS.—On Tuesday, October 23rd, at Christ Church, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples, in 46 mins. A. Sawyer, 1; R. Smith, 2; J. Rossiter, 3; J. Hern, 4; R. Wignell, 5; W. Reed, Esq. (conductor), 6; H. Ross, 7; S. Nott, 8. This is the first 1260 by any band since the formation of the Association.

NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.—On Sunday, October 28th, for evening service at St. John Baptist, a 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor in 27 mins. G. Herdman, 1; C. L. Routledge, 2; F. Lees, 3; T. J. des Forges, 4; W. Story, 5; W. G. Routledge (conductor), 6. Tenor 12½ cwt.

CHESTER-LE-STREET.—The Members of the St. John's Guild, Newcastle, called here (on their way home from the Annual Meeting of the above Association held at Durham on Monday, October 29th), and rang a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob Minor, in 27 mins. G. Campbell, 1; W. G. Routledge, 2; W. Egglestone, 3; W. Story, 4; C. L. Routledge, 5; F. Lees (conductor), 6. Tenor 20 cwt. Also on arrival at Newcastle, rang at St. John's church, a 720 of Bob Minor, in 26 mins. R. Simm, jun. (Cathedral society), 1; G. Campbell, 2; F. Lees, 3; C. L. Routledge, 4; W. Story, 5; W. G. Routledge (conductor), 6.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

ROMFORD.—On Sunday afternoon, October 28th, a 720 of Grandsire Minor, with thirty-eight bobs and twenty-two singles. F. Gillingham, Esq., 1; J. Porter, 2; G. Roughton (formerly a member of the Association), 3; A. Pye, 4; A. J. Perkins (conductor), 5; A. Porter, 6. *Chiming*.—A 360 of the same method was chimed in the morning. A. J. Perkins, 1-2-3-4; B. Keeble, 5-6.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

GARSTON (Lancashire).—On Sunday, Oct. 21st, for Divine Service, a 720 of Oxford Bob Minor, in 25½ mins. S. Gough, 1; C. Newton, 2; W. Hughes, 3; W. Turner, 4; S. Turner, 5; Geo. W. Hughes (conductor), 6. First 720 in the method for all the above. Tenor 12½ cwt.

GRASSENDALE (Lancashire).—On Monday, October 29th, at St. Mary's church, for practice, a 720 of Grandsire Minor, in 26½ mins. S. Gough, 1; J. Alexander, 2; C. Newton, 3; F. Turner, 4; *S. Atkin, 5; G. W. Hughes (conductor), 6. *First 720. Tenor 12 cwt.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

WANTAGE.—On Sunday, October 28th, at the parish church, for Divine Service in the evening, four 6-scores of Stedman Doubles, each called differently, in 19 mins. F. Money, 1; A. Bunce, 2; F. May, 3; H. Smith, 4; A. Gregory, 5; G. Gregory, 6.

STOKE-UPON-TRENT ARCHIDIACONAL ASSOCIATION.

CHEDDLETON (Staffordshire).—On Sunday, October 21st, 720 Bob Minor, in 26½ mins. J. James, 1; E. Spooner, 2; J. Gilbert, 3; F. Clowes (conductor), 4; H. Birch, 5; J. Renshaw, 6. And on Sunday, October 28th, a 720 of Bob Minor, in 25½ mins. J. Parker, 1; D. Bradbury, 2; J. Gilbert, 3; F. Clowes (conductor), 4; H. Birch, 5; J. Renshaw, 6; also a 720 in the same method in 26 mins. J. Parker, 1; E. Spooner, 2; H. Rogers, 3; T. Turner, 4; F. Clowes (conductor), 5; J. Renshaw, 6. D. Bradbury hails from Horton and T. Turner from Leek; the rest from Cheddleton.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

LINCOLN.—On Saturday, October 27th, a party of members of the Hull branch of the above Association visited Lincoln, and attempted a peal of Grandsire Triples at St. Peter-at-Arches church, but after ringing 1 hr. and 5 mins. it was found impossible to complete the peal owing to the tenor going so badly. F. Drabble, 1; H. Cutter, 2; W. Southwick, 3; H. Jenkins, 4; J. Dixey, 5; C. Jackson (conductor), 6; C. Bennett, 7; F. Merrison, 8. Tenor 22½ cwt. They then proceeded to St. Peter-at-Gowts, and rang a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor, in 23 mins. H. Cutter, 1; H. Jenkins, 2; C. Jackson, 3; J. Dixey (conductor), 4; C. Bennett, 5; W. Southwick, 6. Tenor 9 cwt.

ANSTON (Yorkshire).—On Wednesday, October 24th, at St. James's church, a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob Minor, was rung in 25 mins., in celebration of the coming of age of the Marquis of Carmarthen, the eldest son of his Grace the Duke of Leeds. Robt. S. Fox, 1; Thos. Silvester, 2; Josh. Bland, 3; Willm. Wyatt, 4; Chas. F. Fowler, 5; Willm. Hall (conductor), 6. Also six 12-scores was rung, conducted on each bell, one of which was called with five bobs, which was conducted by Robt. S. Fox.

BALDERSTONE, ROCHDALE (Lancashire).—On Saturday, October 27th, the local company attempted to ring (at St. Mary's church), Penning's one-part peal of Grandsire Triples, but unfortunately after ringing 2 hours and 36 mins., they were brought to an abrupt termination by the breaking of a rope. Charles J. Silverwood, 1; Abraham Fitton, 2; John E. Howarth, 3; Samuel Hartley, 4; Herbert Dearnley, 5; James H. Prescott, 6; William Howarth (conductor), 7; Thomas Fitton, 8. Tenor 16 cwt. in F.

DEERHURST (Gloucestershire).—On Sunday, October 28th, the local company rang for Divine Service in the evening, a 720 of Plain Bob Minor, with fourteen bobs and two singles, in 25 mins. C. Roles, 1; C. Willis, 2; S. Cleal (Tewkesbury), 3; C. Awford (conductor), 4; G. Willis, 5; J. Bartlett, 6.

GLEMSFORD (Suffolk).—On Saturday, October 27th, at St. Mary's, a 720 of New London Pleasure, in 30 mins. Chas. Honeybell, 1; Z. Slater, 2; S. Slater, 3; F. Wells, 4; O. Garwood, 5; A. Hurst (conductor), 6. Also a 720 of Cambridge Surprise, in 27 mins. A. Ives, 1; S. Slater, 2; F. Wells, 3; O. Garwood, 4; A. Hurst, 5; F. P. Adams (conductor), 6.

GREENWICH (Kent).—On Tuesday, October 30th, on the back eight at St. Alphege, a mixed band rang a 854 of Grandsire Triples, in 29 mins. *J. Lambton, 1; W. Weatherstone (conductor), 2; T. Taylor, 3; W. Bowles, 4; H. Freeman, 5; J. Reese, 6; A. G. Freeman, 7; F. W. Thornton, 8. *His longest touch.

HATCHERSAGE (Derbyshire).—On Sunday, October 14th, at St. Michael's church, four of the local company with Mr. J. Allen and J. Atkin, of Norton, rang a 720 of Bob Minor, with sixteen bobs and two singles, in 28 mins. J. Linneyman, 1; J. A. Slinn, 2; G. Bagshaw, 3; J. Atkin (conductor), 4; W. Homes, 5; J. Allen, 6. Tenor 15 cwt.

HAMPSTEAD (Middlesex).—On Sunday, October 28th, at St. Stephen's church, for Divine Service in the morning, the local company rang a 504 of Grandsire Triples on the back eight in 19½ mins. E. Chapman, (conductor), 1; J. Combe, 2; B. Payne, 3; H. Tylor, 4; W. Pryor, 5; C. Deal, 6; B. Foskett, 7; W. Arscott, 8. Also for Divine Service in the evening, a 559 of Grandsire Triples in 21 mins. S. Clark, 1; J. Combe, 2; B. Payne, 3; C. Deal, 4; B. Foskett, 5; H. Tylor, 6; E. Chapman (conductor), 7; G. Bright, 8. Tenor 27 cwt.

HAVERSTOCK HILL (Middlesex).—On Wednesday, October 24th, a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob Minor (nine bobs) in 25 mins. W. Meadows, 1; J. Hannington, (conductor) 2; W. H. Fussell, 3; J. Leach, 4; A. Jacob, 5; T. Titchener, 6. On Sunday evening, October 28th, for Divine Service, a 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor (fifteen bobs) in 24½ mins. J. Nixon, 2; J. Hannington, (conductor) 2; A. Jacob, 3; T. Titchener, 4; W. H. Fussell, 5; W. Meadows, 6. Tenor 12½ cwt.

HIGHER SUTTON (Cheshire).—*Muffled Peal*.—On Sunday, October 28th, the local company rang for Divine Service in the afternoon, a 720 of Bob Minor, with the bells half-muffled (as a last token of respect to a late parishioner, who was laid in her last resting place on Thursday, October 25th), with sixteen bobs and two singles, in 26 mins. Wm. Walmsley, 1; Wm. H. Ingham, 2; W. Ingham, 3; J. M. Davenport, 4; T. Mottershead, 5; Wm. H. Hardman, 6.

HUNDON (Suffolk).—On Sunday, October 28th, members of the Cavendish and Glemsford societies paid a visit to the above place, and rang upon the magnificent peal at All Saints' church, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob, in 27½ mins. Alexander Hurst (conductor), 1; Harry Thompson, 2; Oliver Garwood, 3; Fred. Wells, 4; Samuel Slater, 5; George Maxim, 6. Tenor 19 cwt. Touches of Cambridge Surprise and New London Pleasure were also rung, Messrs. Z. Slater and A. Ives taking part in the same.

KERSEY (Suffolk).—On Sunday evening, October 28th, after Divine Service, a 720 of Plain Bob Minor, and a touch of Oxford Treble Bob. J. Taylor, 1; R. Keeble, 2; W. Smith, 3; J. Starling, 4; C. Parker (conductor), 5; W. Nevard, 6. R. Keeble and C. Parker hail from Monks Eleigh; W. Smith from Higham; Taylor and Starling from Gt. Bromley, Essex; and Nevard from Gt. Bentley, Essex.

LEA (Lincolnshire).—On Tuesday, October 23rd, at St. Helen's church, five members of the Gainsborough Society, with Mr. E. Mason of Boston, rang a 720 of Bob Minor, with eighteen bobs and two singles, in 25 mins. W. D. Tinker, 1; H. Tate, 2; J. C. Tinker, 3; M. W. Ashton, 4; *F. F. Linley, 5; E. Mason, 6. Tenor 14 cwt. This is the first 720 that has been rung on these bells by any company. * Member of the Ancient Society of College Youths.

LYTHAM (Lancashire).—On Sunday, October 28th, being the Harvest Festival at St. John's church, after Divine Service in the evening, a 720 of Bob Minor, in 24 mins. Wm. Bamber, 1; Jno. Salthouse, 2; Jno. Fisher, 3; C. H. Kerr (conductor), 4; Jno. Pemberton, 5; Roger Allanson, 6. Tenor 10½ cwt.

MONKS ELEIGH (Suffolk).—On Sunday, October 28th, a mixed company rang for Divine Service in the afternoon, several touches of Bob Minor and Oxford Treble Bob. R. Keeble, 1; W. Smith, 2; J. Taylor, 3; J. Starling, 4; C. Parker, 5; W. Nevard, 6.

NORTON (Derbyshire).—On Sunday, October 21st, being the Harvest Thanksgiving at St. James's, for morning service, a 360 of Bob Minor, in 14 mins. W. Lee, 1; J. Atkin, 2; W. Biggin, 3; J. Goucher, 4; J. Biggin, 5; J. Allen (conductor), 6. Also in the evening, a 720 of Bob Minor, with twenty-one bobs and twelve singles, in 28 mins. F. Ward, 1; J. Goucher, 2; W. Biggin, 3; J. Atkin, 4; J. Biggin, 5; J. Allen, (conductor), 6. Also after service, a 360 in the same method, with nine bobs, in 14 mins. J. Goucher, 1; H. Ward, 2; W. Biggin, 3; J. Atkin (conductor), 4; J. Wiggins, 5; J. Allen, 6. Tenor 11½ cwt.

PONTEFRAC (Yorkshire).—On Thursday evening, October 25th, at All Saints' church, six members of the local company rang a 720 of Grandsire Minor. W. Wilcock, 1; J. Brook, 2; W. Pearson (conductor), 3; *J. Pollard, 4; R. Brook, 5; *J. Carter, 6. First 720 in the method for all except Mr. Pearson. *Members of the Yorkshire Association. The same 720 was rung again on Sunday evening, October 28th, for

Divine Service, by the same band, stationed as in the previous 720. W. Pearson would be glad if any one would be kind enough to publish a 720 of Grandsire Minor, as he has only the two 720's that are published in "Troyte's Change Ringing." I was, says he, in conversation with a ringer from the small market town of Snaith, last week, he told me they were going to have their bells (which are a very old six, and hung the reverse way round), rehung and quarter turned, and the work is to be entrusted to Mr. T. Mallaby, of Masham. They are a very nice ring, tenor about 12 cwt., but they go very bad owing to the old frame being rickety.

SUDBURY (Suffolk).—On Saturday evening, October 13th, the following members of the local company met and rang for practice, at St. Gregory's Church, 640 of Kent Treble Bob Major. J. Tolladay, 1; A. Scott (conductor), 2; J. Campin, 3; M. Silvester, 4; W. Bacon, 5; W. Howell, 6; W. Griggs, 7; H. Harper, 8. And on the following Sunday evening, on the occasion of the Harvest Thanksgiving service at All Saints' Church, a touch of Bob Major, and 672 of Grandsire Triples. N. Taylor, 1; M. Silvester, 2; J. Campin, 3; W. Campin, 4; A. Scott (conductor), 5; W. Howell, 6; H. Harper, 7; H. Brackett, 8. Also on Tuesday evening, October 16th, for practice at All Saints' Church, 672 of Grandsire Triples. W. Crow, 1; M. Silvester, 2; G. S. Brown, 3; W. Bacon, 4; H. Harper, 5; J. Campin, 6; A. Scott (conductor), 7; H. Brackett, 8. And on Saturday evening, October 27th, at St. Gregory's, 1120 of Kent Treble Bob Major. J. Tolladay, 1; A. Scott (conductor), 2; G. S. Brown, 3; M. Silvester, 4; W. Bacon, 5; W. Howell, 6; W. Griggs, 7; H. Harper, 8. Tenor 16 cwt. in F.

TUNBRIDGE WELLS (Kent).—On Sunday, October 21st, for Divine Service in the evening, six 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles, called differently. C. Turner, 1; H. Barefield (conductor), 2; W. Latter, 3; G. Kember, 4; J. Muggridge, 5; W. Ford, 6. Also on Sunday, October 28th, another 720. H. Sharvill (first 720), 1; R. Sharvill, 2; W. Latter, 3; G. Kember, 4; J. Muggridge, 5; W. Ford, 6. Conducted by H. Barefield. Tenor 14½ cwt.

UPTON ST. LEONARD'S (Gloucester).—On Sunday, October 28th, at the parish church, five members of the Gloucester and Bristol Diocesan Association, with W. Sevier, rang a 720 of Bob Minor, with eighteen bobs and two singles, in 28 mins. J. Middlecote, 1; J. Yates, 2; W. Sevier (first 720), 3; H. Mitchell, 4; A. Waite, 5; H. Gardner (conductor), 6.

WOOLWICH (Kent).—*Muffled Peal.*—A muffled peal of Grandsire Triples was rung as a token of respect to Col. Trelawny, of Penzance, Cornwall, by the local company, with Mr. D. Hayward, of Yarmouth, Norfolk. H. Bright, 1; D. Hayward, 2; C. J. Barham, 3; T. C. Parry, 4; A. Phillips, 5; E. Richards, 6; H. Harvey (conductor), 7; J. Meadow, 8. [The above society deeply lamented the loss of Col. Trelawny, who was once a ringer at Woolwich.]

CONCERT IN AID OF NEW BELLS AT UPPERMILL, LANCASHIRE.

The first of a series of tea meetings and concerts has recently been held in the Church Schoolroom, Uppermill, when upwards of 400 sat down to a substantial tea, which had been kindly given by Mrs. John Holden and Mrs. Samuel Walker. At the after meeting the large schoolroom was well filled, and at the time for commencing the proceedings, Mr. John Holden, the parishioners' warden, stepped forward and said: Ladies and gentlemen, the duty which devolves upon me this evening is a very pleasing one, it is to introduce to you our new vicar, the Rev. Hugh Doig. This meeting has been got up by the ringers, and the proceeds are to go towards two new bells which are ordered for our church. This is the first time that a vicar of Saddleworth church has been asked to preside over a ringers' meeting, and it is the first time that a vicar has consented to preside over such a meeting. This is the first public appearance of the new vicar, and I am sure you will give him a hearty welcome. I have very great pleasure introducing the Rev. Hugh Doig to the meeting. On the Rev. Hugh Doig coming to the front he was received with loud applause, and said: Dear friends and parishioners, I cannot thank you as I should desire for the kind manner in which you have received me, and the Saddleworth people generally, for the way in which I have been received at all times. I can assure you it has far exceeded my expectations, and I hope that, with God's blessing, our relations will continue to be of the best kind, and as warm-hearted in the future as they have been since I came amongst you. After I had been here but a short time I met a worthy old man, and in our conversation he told me "that the Saddleworth people can be led but they cannot be driven." A short time after I had the pleasure of joining two together in holy matrimony, and in the conversation with the bridegroom after he told me "that the Saddleworth people can be led, but they cannot be driven." A short time after, in my walks I met a magnate, and in our talk he told me "that the Saddleworth people can be led, but they

cannot be driven." I thought it was peculiar that they should all tell me the same story, but I am in the position of the Saddleworth people. I can be led but I cannot be driven. Nor do I wish to drive you. I am not come for that purpose, and even if I was I could not do, for three reasons. First, I have not the power to do it; second I have not the will; and third, there are two ways of doing things, a hard and an easy way, and as it is the easier to lead than to drive, I prefer the leading. I have a church that any clergyman might be proud of; I have a good people, wardens, choir, and ringers. And what would the Church be without these? I hope that God's blessing may rest upon upon us all, and that we may not only celebrate our silver wedding, but our golden wedding day. I am come to Saddleworth with the intention of stopping, and I hope that the people of Saddleworth and myself may get on well together. I thank you very much for the cordial welcome which you have given to me, and I hope that we may have a prosperous meeting. The concert consisted of glees: "Awake, Æolian Lyre," "All among the Barley," and "Parting and Meeting," which were moderately sung by the choir. The handbell ringers, in giving "Beaumaris March," a course of Grandsire Triples, "Jenny Jones," "Odd-Fellows' Holiday," and Scotch Laddie," fairly brought down the house with applause, which was very well merited. Mrs. Gardener, in the songs "Tit for Tat," "Coming through the Rye," and "Home, Sweet Home," was well received, and she promises to make her mark in the vocal world. A duet, "Gathering Flowers," was very tastefully sung. Mr. J. Dunworth, of Manchester, gave two violin solos, "Concerto in D," and "Yankee Doodle," and fairly took the house by surprise by the way in which he went through the performances. Songs were also given by Messrs. C. F. Bradbury, Joseph Broadbent, Charlesworth, Dyson, and Miss Langfield. The conductor was Mr. Burton, and the pianist Mr. E. Rowbottom. The usual vote of thanks brought the meeting to a close. The amount of profit, after paying all expenses, is nearly £14, which will go towards the new bell fund.

TWELVE-BELL STEEPLES OF LONDON.

Passing eastward we come to St. Leonard, Shoreditch. Here we have a peal of twelve bells, tenor 30 cwt. in D. They were all cast at the Whitechapel foundry, the last ten by Thomas Lester in 1739, and the two trebles by Thomas Mears and Son in 1807. The tenor was, I believe, recast by W. Blews and Son, of Birmingham, about the year 1860.

There is also a clock and a set of chimes by Gillett and Bland, of Croydon, which play every three hours, and are set to fourteen different tunes.

There are a great many tablets in the belfry, one dated March 28th, 1750, records the performance of 5040 New Double Triples, in three hours and a half, by the Cumberland Society.

We shall now proceed to notice some tablets referred to by Mr. J. W. Snowdon in his *Treatise on Treble Bob*, recording a sharp contest in the last century between the College and Cumberland Youths, for the greatest length in Treble Bob Royal. The first runs as follows:—

"College Youths.—This tablet was erected by the Society to commemorate an excellent peal rung in this steeple, on the 18th of February, 1777, consisting of 10,000 changes of Oxford Treble Bob ten in, and was completed in 7 hrs. 28 mins. This curious composition, the great length of time, and the masterly manner in which it was rung, may justly entitle it the most excellent performance ever achieved from the first invention of the ingenious art of ringing to the present time.—Winstanley Richardson, 1. James Darquitt, 2. Wm. Hatt, 3. Chas. Purser, 4. John Povey, 5. Joseph Monk, 6. William Lyford, 7. Joseph Holdsworth, 8. Edmund Sylvestre, 9. Samuel Muggridge, 10."

"Insatiated with glory, the above select performers, on the 19th of May, 1777, rang a complete peal of 11,080 changes, in the above method, in 8 hrs. 2 mins. which will be transmitted to posterity as a masterpiece of the art.—The above peals was composed and called by C. Purser."

There is another tablet recording 10,200 Treble Bob Royal rung May 10th, 1777, by the Cumberland Youths, in seven hours and forty mins. Then we have another tablet which runs as follows:—

"Saturday, March 27th, 1784, the Society of Cumberland Youths rang in this steeple a complete peal, consisting of 12,000 changes of Treble Bob Royal, with 60 courses, and was performed in 9 hrs. and 5 mins. The length of time and the masterly manner in which it was rung will remain a surviving honour to the performers. It is allowed by all competent judges in the noble art to be the greatest performance ever done on ten bells. The performers were:—Geo. Gross, 1. James Barnard, 2. Francis May, 3. Thos. Reeves, 4. Isaiah Bray, 5. James Patrick, 6. Wm. East, 7. Abraham Smith, 8. Malachi Channon, 9. Allen Grant, 10.—Composed and called by George Gross, Senr."

Another tablet records 6129 Stedman Caters, rung by the Cumberland Youths, February 26th, 1805, in four hours and twelve mins.

Another tablet records 5220 Kent Treble Bob Royal by the same society, rung April 7th, 1801, in three hours and thirty-seven mins.

I am not aware that there any tablets here relating to eleven and twelve bell performances. If I am wrong in this, I shall be glad if some of your readers will correct me.

J. R. JERRAM.

[In the account of the 5015 Grandsire Cinques, rung at St. Michael's, Cornhill, for „1853” read „1837.”]

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 BOB."

SIR,—Being a Northamptonshire man I feel pleased to see a 5040 come from that quarter. I wish them every success; there is great credit due to them, as they have not been long at it, and some of them quite youths. Now I wish to ask my Raunds friends if they will kindly inform me the difference between College Single and College Little, also between Grandsire Bob and Grandsire Single. In reporting, it is always necessary to be most accurate, and by doing so no doubt arises in the minds of ringers as to the methods rang. I have seen Plain Bob Minor styled "Grandsire Bob," but in my mind there is not a particle of Grandsire about it; Grandsire is an odd bell method where thirds places are made, and dodging in 4-5, but in Bob Minor seconds place is made, and dodging is going on in 3-4 and 5-6. I recollect seeing a peal-board in St. Paul's, Shadwell, stating that a peal of Grandsire Bob Major was rung; no man could ever be acquainted with both methods, namely, Grandsire and Plain Bob, and give it that name. I hope in future our friends will not mix Grandsire with Plain Bob. Hoping that those who are in the habit of styling the methods as such, will not take this at all as censuring them, but merely correcting, as I should wish if I was wrongly informed.

W. A. TYLER.

THE 40,320 BOB MAJOR AT LEEDS, KENT.

SIR,—Would you kindly allow me to ask, through the medium of "THE BELL NEWS," if some kind friend would give me an account of the above peal, which I am told was rung some years ago. Mr. J. Barham, I am informed, rang one of the bells for thirteen hours, sat out for three hours, and then rang again for eleven hours till the peal was completed. Any particulars, such as (1) name of composer; (2) number of men employed and the number of hours each rang; (3) time occupied; (4) weight of tenor; (5) names of conductor, etc., etc., would be thankfully welcomed by

G. FREDERICK COLERIDGE.

Park Crescent, Oxford.

AN ASSOCIATION FOR HERTFORDSHIRE.

SIR,—I was pleased to see Mr. Tyler's letter in your last issue, respecting a County Association for Hertfordshire. It is true that we do not possess many change-ringing companies, but I think if such an Association were formed, the practice of the noble art might be very much extended in the county. Personally, I should hail the formation of an Association with great joy, and would do all in my power to support it. I would therefore respectfully suggest that all those holding the same views, should forward their names to the Rev. W. Wigram, with a view to a meeting being arranged at a convenient place—Hertford, Hatfield, or St Albans, to consider the matter, when at the same time a pleasant day's ringing might be obtained.

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

N. N. HILLS.

REPLIES TO MR. T. BARON.

SIR,—The bells at Leyland were undoubtedly cast by Abraham Rudhall, of Gloucester, as the initials "A. R." with the figure of a bell between, are frequently found on bells cast by him about the year 1722.

W. D.

SIR,—In reply to a question being asked in your last week's issue respecting who was the founder of Leyland bells, bearing the initials, "A. R." with a bell between, I beg to inform the enquirer—Mr. Thos. Baron—they are from the firm of A. Rudhall, of Gloucester, having rehung his bells at Monmouth (a peal of eight, tenor 20 cwt.), also a peal of eight at Ross, in Herefordshire (tenor 25 cwt.), both peals bearing the above initials, with bell between; and on the sixth bell at Ross is the following inscription: "We were all cast by the Rudhalls of Gloucester, 1761;" the tenor being given by John Kyrle, Esq., better known as "The Man of Ross." The Monmouth bells were cast in the year 1706, by A. Rudhall.

GEORGE DAY.

Eye, Suffolk.

SIR,—I see in this morning's number of "THE BELL NEWS," a letter from Thos. Baron, of Leyland, asking for information about the founder of his bells. The letters "A. R." with a bell between, were the stamp used by Abraham Rudhall, who had a foundry at Gloucester at the beginning of the last century. The foundry was carried on then by the Rudhalls, till the beginning of this century. A great number of Rudhall's bells are still found in Wiltshire and Gloucestershire, and in the neighbouring counties.

H. J. ELSEE.

St. John's College, Cambridge, Oct. 27th.

DOUBTS.

SIR,—Reading a paragraph in "THE BELL NEWS" as to the ringing at Spalding, Lincolnshire, on October 17th, I was surprised to see such credit given for the evenness of the bells, but not being a professional ringer, I can tell good ringing from bad; certainly there was not a deal of evenness about it, as the bells often struck altogether, and sometimes two and three together. If they call this evenness of ringing, I certainly don't know what good ringing is, in fact I thought it was what they call shooting the bells.

A LOVER OF GOOD RINGING.

THE RAUNDS, WELLINGBOROUGH, AND DISTRICT SOCIETIES.

In July last, through the efforts of the Rev. Hugh Bryan, M.A., Vicar of Raunds—a thorough lover of bells and bell music—a meeting was held at Raunds, and a Society formed for Raunds, Wellingborough, and district. The Ven. R. P. Lightfoot, M.A., Archdeacon of Oakham and Vicar of Wellingborough, willingly accepted the office of President of the Association; the Rev. J. P. Goodman, Rector of Keystone, was elected Treasurer; and the Rev. Hugh Bryan undertook the duties of Honorary Secretary. The attendance being but small at the opening meeting, it was determined to hold another in October. This took place on Tuesday, the 23rd ult., at the parish church of Wellingborough, by the kind permission of the Ven. Archdeacon Lightfoot, who is himself a ringer, and takes great interest in the Society. Ringing commenced at 9.30 a.m., and was continued at intervals till 7.30 p.m. Ringers attended in force from Raunds, Higham Ferrers, Burton Latimer, Rushden, Irthlingborough, Finedon, Kettering, Earl's Barton, and Doddington; representatives from each place managing to get a pull at some time or other during the day. Considering that the visitors were none of them accustomed to bells of such weight, the striking was, on the whole, very good. All seemed pleased with the "go" of the bells. There was some little complaint regarding the difficulty in hearing the treble and second bells, they being up in the spire above the back four. The grand old tenor (a good specimen of the work of Watts, of Leicester, "the foremost in his art") is accounted the heaviest bell in the county, and its full, mellow sound was generally admired. On the other hand, the harsh, discordant tone of the third bell was equally condemned. The general opinion of ringers regarding these bells is that the addition of two trebles would make a fine ring of eight. Besides adding to the music, this would render it much easier work for the tenor-man. At one o'clock a capital luncheon was provided in a room at Freeman's schools (kindly lent by the Archdeacon), to which clergy, honorary members, and ringers sat down, to the number of fifty. This was followed at 2.30 by Evensong at the parish church. As customary at Wellingborough, the bells were "falled" and chimed for the service. The sermon was preached by the Ven. Archdeacon Lightfoot. In a brief but practical and pithy discourse, the Archdeacon pointed out the true uses of the bells, and the true position of the ringers as church officials on a par with the choir; desiring those present to remember their honourable office, and live upright consistent lives, worthy of churchmen and churchworkers; and requesting them to bear in mind at all times that the belfry was a part of the house of God, therefore not the place for lightness and levity. The offertory was in aid of the funds of the Association. Next came the business meeting, the Archdeacon presiding. The Rev. H. Bryan, the energetic Honorary Secretary, gave an account of the formation and origin of the society, explained its objects, read the rules, and made some practical remarks on the subject of the reform of belfries, alluding to the evils that formerly arose and in some cases still arise, from ringing-lofts. The thanks of the Society were given to the Archdeacon for the use of the Church and bells. It was decided that the next meeting be held at Rushden, early in May next. At the conclusion of the meeting new members were admitted. The Society now numbers over twenty honorary and forty-two ringing members. The following were present during the day: the Revs. Canon Barker (Rushden), R. S. Baker (Hargrave), F. B. Newman (Burton Latimer), J. P. Goodman (Keystone), F. Ball (Wollaston), G. M. Edmonds (Stoke Doyle), and the local clergy. Also W. W. Baillie, Esq. (Oundle), Mr. Henson (churchwarden, Finedon), G. H. Burnham, Esq. (churchwarden), and Dr. W. W. Clarke, T. Cook, Esq., Mr. John Askham, and Mr. E. J. Dennes (sidesmen of the parish church, Wellingborough). There has not been such a gathering of ringers in Wellingborough for many years. The Irthlingborough men brought their handbells, which were kept going during the evening. All seemed to spend a most enjoyable day; and, what may be considered the inaugural meeting of this newly formed Society was generally acknowledged to be a complete success.

A handsome tablet has this week been placed in the tower of St. Alban's Abbey, to commemorate the peal of Grandsire Triples rung there by the Ancient Society of College Youths in April last, in which four local ringers took part.

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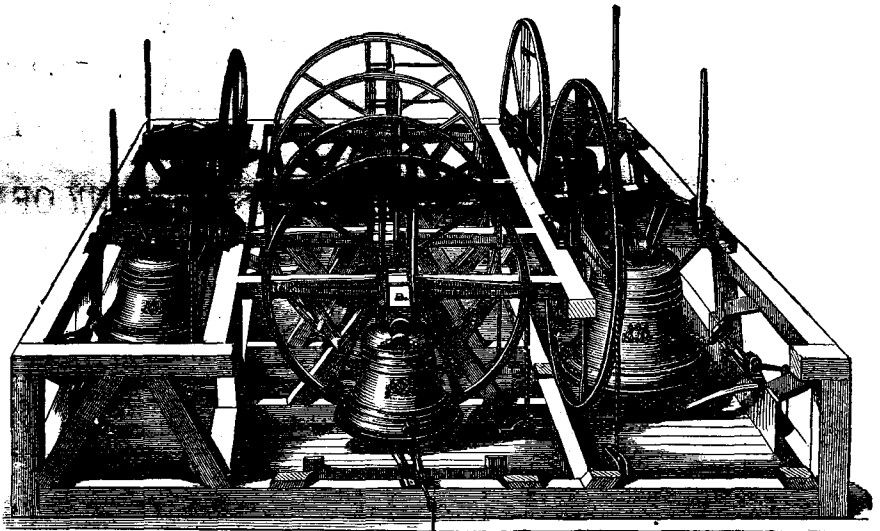
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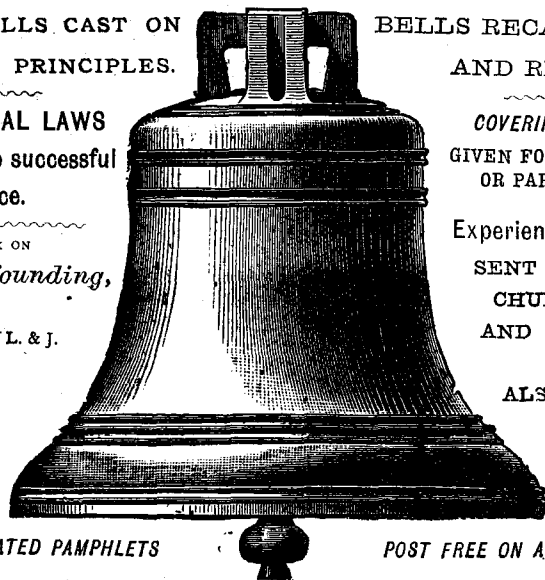
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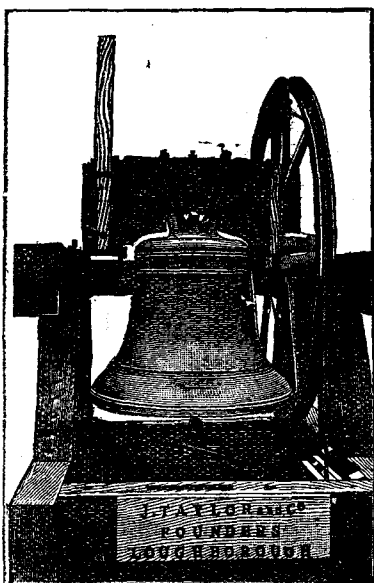
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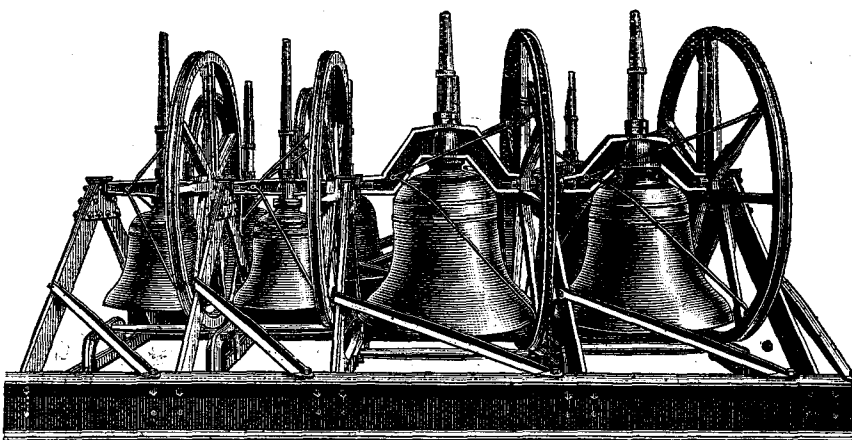
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No. 84. [NEW SERIES.]—VOL. II.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 10, 1883.

[ONE PENNY.]

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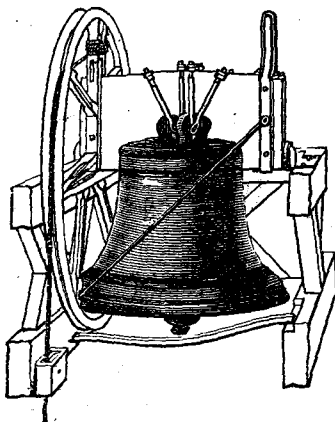
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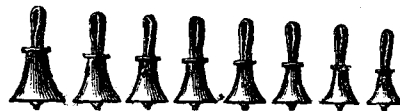
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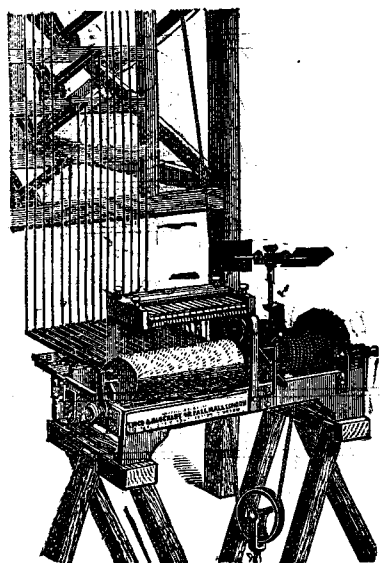
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GRANDSIRE TRIPLES.

By JASPER W. SNOWDON.

After Holt left the society of Union Scholars, it only recorded four peals in five years, and soon after that seems to have become extinct. Holt is supposed to have left the society, and joined the College Youths soon after the date of his last recorded peal with the Union Scholars, as his name appears in the same year (1752) as a new member of the society of College Youths. With this society he rang two peals of Grandsire Caters during this year, one at St. Dionis' and the other at St. Sepulchre's, these peals being the only ones recorded by the society during the year.

With the record of the last of these two peals in the book of the College Youths society, Holt's name as a ringer disappears from the scene; that he was alive on September 2nd, 1753, we are aware, as it was on that date that the notice concerning his broadsheet of peals appeared in the *Ipswich Journal*; when the broadsheet was published, we however learn from it that he was dead.

By the Norwich letter to Dr. Mason, we have learnt that Annable disappeared of Holt's compositions, and I shall now proceed to show that he also rejected peals on the three-lead-course plan, such peals not being, in his opinion, consistent with the rules of Grandsire composition. Before doing this it may, however, interest some of my readers to quote the remarks made by the writers of the *Clavis* in connection with Annable's name:—

The Honor of the invention of changes, or regular peals, is said to belong to Mr. Benjamin Annable, who first divided them into all their regular parts and proportions with that taste and judgement which surprised the practitioners of his time. What improvement he made in five and six-bell peals is unimportant; but on seven bells there is every reason to believe that he was the first to produce 5040 changes, which was the peal of Plain Bob Triples, with two singles—i. e. one at the end of each half. This was looked upon as a very great acquisition, as undoubtedly it was, until Mr. Holt's peal without a single appeared. But notwithstanding Mr. Holt deserves every eulogium, it must be admitted that he was greatly indebted to Mr. Annable for laying so correct and firm a foundation.

Mr. Annable's next effort was at Grandsire Triples, and though unsuccessful he did not entirely fail; for if he did not obtain the whole peal complete, yet he went much further than his predecessors, and his peal was in most esteem, until that of Mr. Holt made its appearance. In Bob Major he found considerable room for improvement. He saw no necessity for parting the tenors in a peal of either five or six thousand. He made the sixth perform her proper revolution in five courses, and five-six to come home together every fifteen: this was undoubtedly a very great addition to Bob Major; for those who did not admire the music of it before now confessed that it was considerably improved. Caters and Cinques, which he found in a rude and jumbled state, he threw into the harmonious tithms, where they still continue, and most likely ever will remain.

The time these improvements took place, we cannot exactly determine. Mr. Annable died in the latter part of the year 1755, between sixty and seventy years of age.

The exact date of Annable's death is stated in Dr. Mason's MSS. as February 1st, 1756. My readers will remember that I have already quoted a statement made in the *Clavis* that all peals of Grandsire Triples composed previously to Holt's peals were false, it is therefore rather difficult to understand what is meant by the above statement as to Annable's peal being in most esteem until that of Holt's made its appearance. My own opinion is that the authors of the *Clavis* knew as little about Annable's compositions as they did about the spelling of his name. With the exception of the well known peal of Bob Major, which is always ascribed to Annable, there is not a single composition known to be his given in their book, while several peals inferior to some composed by him are given.

In 1868 a manuscript note book of Benjamin Annable's came into the hands of that indefatigable seeker after such things, the Rev. H. T. Ellacombe, the rector of Clyst St. George, Devonshire. This book is now in my possession, and from its contents I have been able to gather a good deal of information concerning the ideas Annable had with regard to the rules of composition in Grandsire Triples. Although I shall place before my readers such notes as relate to Grandsire Triples, I may remark that in 1876-7 a detailed description of this note-book appeared in *Church Bells*. There is no doubt that Annable's intention at some time or other was to write a book on the subject of change-ringing, this is evident not only from the contents and arrangement of the note-book, but from the fact that in Hearne's Diaries, vol. i, 142, folio 144, under date Tuesday, July 9th, 1734, the following entry appears:—

"Anno 1733, came out at London, a little book in 12's, being the third edition of Campanologia, or the Art of Ringing. One Annables is now putting out a new edition of the same book, which 'tis said will be the best of its kind that ever yet was printed on that subject. The said Annables is one of the London ringers that rung at Oxford, at Whitsuntide, in 1733. He rang the 9th bell and is judged to understand ringing as well as, if not better than, any man in the world."

In the earlier part of this note book treble leads of various methods are given, in some cases accompanied by touches, peals, and remarks on them. Concerning Grandsire Triples, after giving a lead and a bob change, Annable writes:—

"All the different changes prick'd in this method are tripple changes. The natural course goes 70 changes, and three bobs successively brings them round."

A variety of touches from 52 changes to 2520, all obtained by bobs only, are given. After this he shews how to call the bells round from

any in-course row with 6-7 home, but makes no mention of calling round with a single, nor is any allusion made to the possibility of obtaining the extent of the changes. Other methods he, however, deals with in a very different manner. For instance, a lead of Union Triples is given, prefaced by exactly the same remark about being all triple changes as he gives with the lead of Grandsire, to this he however, now adds:

"This peal goes 5040 changes compleat with two doubles."

In addition he gives a rule for calling a 5040 of Union Triples, with two doubles, and at a subsequent page, a rule for calling a 5040 of Double Grandsire Triples, with two doubles. There is no doubt that the omission of any remarks concerning "doubles" in Grandsire Triples is intentional, and thus we find that Annable therefore took up the inconsistent position that although doubles might be admitted in the composition of Double Grandsire and Union Triples, they were not to be used in Grandsire Triples. We cannot, therefore, do anything else than conclude that Annable had set up a theory that the 5040 of Grandsire Triples could be obtained with ordinary bobs only, and even when Holt's one-part peal appeared, he would not renounce his theory, but also classed that peal with the other bob and single peals which existed before its appearance, and of which he evidently did not approve.

The next matter to be found in the note book in connection with this subject is on a page which begins thus:

Gawthorne's Hic Triples. A bob every time but when the half-hunt is before. A Hic every time the quarter hunt is in third or fourth's places, when the half hunt is before, except the half-quarter hunt be in one of those places with her."

The changes at a "Lead," a "Bob" and a "Hic" are given. These are respectively a lead, a bob, and a fifth's place bob of ordinary Grandsire Triples. Although I have not been able to identify the description of the calling by the positions of the hunts with Garthorn's peal, it is evident that it is the Norwich or a similar peal to which he alludes, as such calls are used in that peal. It will be noticed that the fifth-place bobs are called "Hics." Now "hic" is the Latin for "here," and probably the word was chosen as an emphatic call to signify that such a bob had to be made, and thus fifth's place bobs may have then been known as "hics."

As soon as I saw this mention of Hic Triples I remember noticing the same name in connection with a peal rung by the Union Scholars' and the next time I was in London I carefully examined the original record book of that society in the Library of the British Museum, and found that the peal is there recorded as one of "Hick Trebles;" it was rung on September 12th, 1718. Is it not therefore probable that this was the same composition as the Norwich peal. Another fact tending to show that it was the same peal I shall in due course place before my readers.

At this time it is evident, from the note-book, that the three-lead course plan was much worked at, as directly following these "Hic Triples" is, "The College Youth's Triples," which is a method composed of single and reverse Grandsire in courses of fifteen leads each. Further on the most interesting page in the book is reached; it is headed "Gogmagog Tripples." Now Gogmagog on five bells is only Grandsire with several singles introduced in the 120, and this is exactly the same thing in Triples; it is merely a 5040 of Grandsire on the three-lead-course plan.

Among the great number of methods described in the book, although a 120 of Gogmagog Doubles is given, the method of Gogmagog on seven bells is not given, or else we might ascertain how Annable distinguished it from Grandsire. However much he may have done so theoretically, practically he considered it Grandsire Triples, as he did not even consider it a three-lead method, as the first part of the 5040 is written out by the lead ends. The bob leads are distinguished from the plain lead by having a dot placed in front of them, the singles are marked by a cross in front of them, while the plain leads have not any sign before them. This peal was given in the collection in "THE BELL NEWS," at page 243. It seems probable that it was composed, or copied into the book about 1737-9, because a few pages back a note "B. A. 1735" appears. Between this note and the page containing the 5040, is an entry concerning the ringing of Morning Exercise in 1737, and on the page following this peal is scribbled "Easter Day, 1739."

Further on in the note book, and shewing however critical with regard to the compositions of others Annable may have been, he was hardly so careful in the nomenclature of his own work, there appears a page headed "Grandsire Triples with 24 doubles," which besides containing a variety of singles, has what are now known as "Holt's" singles at the half-lead ends.

At several subsequent pages in the book are attempts at composition on the three-lead-course plan; a good deal of pricking being expended in an endeavour to obtain such a peal without singles by omitting bobs instead of using singles. It is almost needless to add that all the attempts end in failure.

In an early part of these remarks on the earliest known peal of

Grandsire Triples, I mentioned that Garthon's peal was originally brought from Nottingham to Leeds, the composition having been in the possession of Mr. Doubleday Crofts, a solicitor and change-ringer of that town. This led me, in 1877, to enquire of a ringing friend in Nottingham whether Mr. Croft, who died in 1809, had left any MSS. behind him. My friend made enquiries and found that several MSS. books were in possession of one of his friends who, as I mentioned in my historical notes on the Treble Bob method, did not know until this enquiry was made, that he had them, nor could he then remember how they came into his hands. I had the papers lent to me and found amongst them Garthon's peal with many notes about it, more especially with regard to the method of calling it. The peal is written out by the lead ends, those only in which the fifth place bobs are called having a dot placed in front of them. The peal is given more than once in the papers and from the different notes in which it is referred to, I make the following extracts as being of most interest.

"Garthon's Tripples—5040." (Then follows the peal.) "Every time the treble leads, it is a bob of Grandsire Triples, except when the sixth makes third's place (which is every third lead), and then it is a plain lead of Grandsire Triples, unless an extremum be then called, which extremum is a plain lead of Union Triples.

The natural course of the peal without an extremum is 210 changes, and runs in Grandsire Triples by two bobs and a plain lead, or missing before by the sixth, more properly speaking.

In calling the last half-peal, the extrems of the third quarter-peal are the same as the first quarter-peal (with fifth wrong way), and in the last quarter-peal the same as in the second quarter. (With the fifth right way.)

The 6-7's all come the right way through the 5040.

We never call anything but the extrems in this peal, which are the leads marked with a dot or a point."

It seems evident that Crofts knew something about the objections made to the use of singles in composing Grandsire Triples as shewn by the following note:—

"As to Grandsire Triples (strictly) it is impossible to have 67 always come up the right way behind, therefore Garthon had advantage in that respect and though it must be admitted that in a true 5040 all the musick good or bad must fall somewhere, yet, if the whole four and twenty 6-7's are heard the right way, it is carrying the music natural as far as you can in that length."

At another page reference is again made to Garthon's peal as follows:—

"Garthon's Tripples, composed in 1717, and rung at Norwich in 1718, the first of the kind ever rung with two doubles. Rung in London in 1719."

This reference to Garthon's peal having been rung in London, is that to which I referred in connection with the peal of Hick Triples by the Union Scholars in 1718. Although Croft gives the date as 1719, I think that it is very probably the Union Scholars' peal to which he refers.

THE ROCHDALE AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATION.

THIS Association held their Quarterly Meeting, on Saturday last, at St. Thomas's church (Moorside), the following districts being represented: Rochdale (including three churches), Todmorden, Milnrow, Oldham, and Heywood, numbering about forty members. The ringing commenced at 4.30. Several touches were rung by mixed societies, viz: Grandsire Triples, also a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor was performed by the Rochdale parish church ringers, and Mr. Jas. Priestley, of Oldham (it being the first 720 in the method for the Rochdale ringers). The ringing continued up to the time of the meeting, at 6 o'clock, when they retired to an upper room at the house of Mr. Lees Dyson, "Bull's Head Inn," being specially provided for them. All business being concluded, the members sat down to a very substantial supper by the hospitality of the Vicar, and wardens, Messrs. Mellidue and Sons, Mr. Thos. Mellidue, and others of the parish. After supper, ringing was resumed.

DEATH OF AN OLD LIVERPOOL RINGER.—On Sunday night, October 28th, at 11 o'clock, Mr. William Howard, a member of the Ancient Society of College Youths, whose whole life was nearly spent in connection with the parish churches of St. Peter and St. Nicholas, Liverpool, died at his residence, 36, Knight Street, at the advanced age of 90 years. He was laid to rest in the local Necropolis on Wednesday, the 31st ultimo, and was followed to the grave by three of his brother-ringers, Messrs. Meadows, Williams, and Cooper. The members of the St. Peter's company, not knowing his end was so near, had arranged to ring in their tower on the Sunday morning, a birthday touch, in honour of his completing his 90th year, he having been born November 1st, 1793. This touch, containing 1080 changes of Grandsire Caters, was rung in 46 mins., with the bells muffled, being as many changes as he had lived months; composed by Robert Williams, conducted by Thomas Hammond. Richard Williams and G. Helsby, 1; H. Meadows, 2; E. Booth, 3; Robert Williams, 4; H. Beck, 5; J. Moore, 6; J. Brown, 7; T. Hammond, 8; E. Foster, 9; W. Brooks, 10. Deceased had rang a many peals of Grandsire, Stedman, and Treble Bob—his first 70 years ago. He was present at St. Nicholas' church, on Sunday, February 11th, 1810, when the spire fell across the body of the church, twenty-two children being killed, and he assisted in carrying seventeen of their dead bodies into the churchyard.

THE GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

THE QUARTERLY MEETING of this Association was held on Monday, the 29th ult. at Moreton-in-Marsh, the Tewkesbury Society being the selected representatives of the Association. They were accompanied by the Master, Mr. John Drinkwater, and the Hon. Sec., the Rev. Pitt Eykyn. Arriving at their destination at about 11.15, they at once proceeded to the church where a service was arranged for 11.30. Shortened form of morning prayer was succeeded by a sermon by the Rev. R. Mitford Taylor, Rector of Bourton-on-the-Hill with Moreton-in-Marsh. He gave a kind welcome to the visitors to his church and parish. After service, a touch of 500 Grandsire Triples was rung, and after dinner a long touch—rather over a quarter-peal—of Union Triples, which was succeeded by a few Stedman Triples. The following were the performers: Rev. C. D. P. Davies, Messrs. Josiah Wathen (conductor), John Wathen, J. Hale, S. Cleal, F. Moore, C. Awford, H. Witherington, W. Haines. The Rector and Mr. Lamb gave the visitors the pleasure of their company at dinner—a most excellent one, at the "Unicorn"—the rector kindly taking the chair. Next to the toast of "Church and Queen," to which a most hearty response was given, the chairman proposed "Prosperity to the Diocesan Change-Ringing Association." The Master tendered the best thanks of the Association to the rector for his presence among them, for all his kindness that day, and also for the trouble he had taken in making arrangements beforehand. He then went on to give some advice to the Moreton ringers, who were also present, as to the best way to set about learning the science of change-ringing. He mentioned some of the leading books for beginners. He assured them it was not so very hard to learn, but was careful to state that it is only to be done by perseverance, unflinching attention, both in the tower and out of it, and last, but not least—by good temper. Judging by what we saw of the Moreton ringers that day, we feel sure that they have in them every element of success. The bells are a small but bright and musical ring of eight, going very fairly. With a little looking to they might be made to go very well. Most unfortunately for change-ringing purposes, a clock-case has been interpolated between the ropes of the treble and second, almost completely hiding the ringers of those bells from each other. To practised hands this is exceedingly troublesome, to beginners it must be well-nigh insurmountable. The simplest remedy would be to lower the clockwork below the ringing-floor, running up a rod to the dial; or, better still, if possible, to construct a ringing-chamber below, which would also serve the purpose of deadening the somewhat over-loud sound of the bells at present too close overhead. At five o'clock, having spent a most pleasant day, and accompanied by the clergy to the station, the members took leave of Moreton-in-Marsh. Let none be misled by the name of this place. The soil is gravel, and the whole town looks dry and healthy. It was anciently spelt "Hinmarsh," its true interpretation being, Moreton "in the Marches," that is, "on the borders."

On the journey home a halt was made at Evesham, and admittance was soon gained to the grand old bell-tower with its beautiful ring of eight. Here a very fair touch of Union Triples was rung. The bells do not go well for their weight, the tenor being given in Rudhall's list as 28 cwt. The moment they were heard, the tower was invaded by a motley crowd with little or no reverence for the inside of consecrated walls. Tobacco smoke was not invisible. We only trust that none of these violators of the sanctity of the place were of the number of the ringers. If so, in the Evesham tower some of the worst traits of the bad "old style" still reign supreme.

Tewkesbury was reached shortly before 8 p.m.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

A DISTRICT MEETING will be held at Maldon, on Saturday, November 24th. Full particulars will be given in next week's number.

Retendon Hall, Battles Bridge, S.O.
November 7th, 1883.

H. A. COCKEY,
Hon. Sec.

THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

A DISTRICT MEETING of this Association will be held (by the kind permission of the Rector), at Beddington, on Saturday, November 17th. Tower open for ringing from 2.30 p.m.

ARTHUR B. CARPENTER, Hon. Sec.

ST. MARTIN, SALISBURY.—The bells of this church, which have been seriously out of tune ever since they were first hung in 1843, have last week been tuned by Mr. W. Greenleaf, of the Whitechapel Foundry. The inhabitants scarcely knew the sound of the bells when they first rung out in perfect tune on October 31st. The two trebles were previously nearly a half a note flat, and the effect was heretofore most discordant.

ANNUAL MEETING OF THE DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

THE Annual Meeting of the Members of the above Association was held in Durham, on Monday, October 29th, and being the largest that has yet been held, is likely to lead to some important results. The following companies were represented; Brancepeth, Bishopwearmouth, Chester-le-street, St. John's (Darlington), St. Oswald's (Durham), Heighington, Christ Church and St. Peter's (Jarrow), Staindrop, Stockton, Winlaton, St. John's (Newcastle), Newton Hall, North Shields, and Brampton. The ringers practised ringing at the Cathedral and St. Oswald's church. At two o'clock in the afternoon the members of the Association attended Divine Service at St. Oswald's church, and an appropriate sermon was preached by the Rev. W. O. Blunt, Rector of Chester-le-street. A dinner was afterwards provided at the "Three Tuns" Hotel, to which seventy-nine sat down. The Rev. A. W. Headlam, vicar of St. Oswald's, Durham; the Rev. W. O. Blunt, of Chester-le-Street; the Rev. Canon Brutton, of Tynemouth; the Rev. V. K. Cooper, of Durham; the Rev. Mr. Chevallier, vicar of Heighington; the Rev. Mr. Reid, the Rev. Mr. Birley, Mr. Reid, and Mr. Russell were present.

The CHAIRMAN (the Rev. A. W. Headlam) proposed the toast of "The Church and the Queen," which was duly honoured.

Mr. W. REED, of North Shields, president of the Association, in fitting terms proposed "The Health of the Bishop and Clergy." He remarked that the Bishop of Durham, the Bishop of Newcastle, the Dean of Durham, and the Archdeacons of Durham, Auckland, and Northumberland were their patrons. They had to thank the Rev. W. O. Blunt, for the very excellent sermon he had preached to them that morning. He had great pleasure in coupling with the toast the names of Mr. Headlam and Mr. Blunt.

The CHAIRMAN returned thanks for the manner in which the company had responded to the toast. It was well known that the Bishop of Durham was ever ready to give his help to any movement for the good of the people, and the people and the clergy, he might say, followed in his footsteps. He was sure the Association had in it the seeds of doing a great deal of good, and he was glad whenever he could help it (applause). It had been a great pleasure to him to accede to the request to place his church at their disposal; and though they had been without a choir in the church they had had a very excellent service (applause).

The Rev. Canon BRUTTON said he had great pleasure in being present to uphold Mr. Reed and the secretary in the admirable work in which they were engaged, and had it not been for them they would not probably have had such a gathering as they had that day. He was perfectly convinced that if they would look up to their heads in every difficulty, and follow in their footsteps, this Diocesan Bellringers' Association would go on and prosper. This society was a growing society, and he hoped success would attend its efforts. The first sermon to the members was preached in his church about seven years ago (applause). It was only right that they all should take an interest in the belfries. He was aware that many bellringers did not attend church; but for his part he would rather have no bellringers at all than at the commencement of the service to walk off and leave the church (hear, hear, and applause).

Mr. REED returned thanks for the way in which his name had been mentioned. They knew perfectly well that their secretary and he had the interests of the Association at heart. He was pleased to see a very much greater interest in the Association and art of bell-ringing throughout the country than formerly existed.

The Hon. SECRETARY (Mr. G. J. Clarkson); then read the annual report, which we regret our space does not allow us to publish, we hope to do so, however in a future number. The report being unanimously adopted.

The CHAIRMAN proposed the health of the secretary, and said he was quite sure that the society owed much of its welfare to his energy and skill in conducting its affairs (applause).

Mr. CLARKSON responded, and said the work was considerable, and besides journeys, etc., he had written some 500 letters in connection with the business of the society. He asked for their cordial help and sympathy, and was glad to see so much sacrifice by the members for the good of the Association, and he hoped they would continue to have the welfare of the Association at heart.

Other toasts followed, including the healths of the chairman and the Rev. W. O. Blunt. In responding, the latter gentleman said he hoped in time to have the pleasure of being able to ring himself. The bells of his church were among the oldest in the county, having been hung in 1649. They had now a set of ringers at the church.

The election of officers was then proceeded with. Mr. W. Reed, of North Shields, was re-elected president; Mr. F. Lees, Newcastle, and Mr. G. Overton, Darlington, vice-presidents; and Mr. G. J. Clarkson, Stockton-on-Tees, hon. secretary and treasurer.

The election of members was then proceeded with; and among the honorary members were the Rev. Canon Body, Durham, and the Rev.

J. Bailey, vicar of South Shields; and as honorary and performing members, the Rev. F. W. Green, of Bishop Auckland, the Rev. W. O. Blunt, of Chester-le-Street, the Rev. W. Drake, the Rev. Mr. Wadsworth. Mr. J. Strodder, of Ripon Cathedral, and Mr. John Cox, of London, were elected life members.

The next question discussed was the place of meeting, Winlaton, Staindrop, Alnwick, and Darlington being proposed, the last-named place was chosen by a large majority.

ST. JAMES'S, BOLTON, BRADFORD.

ON Saturday, last, the ringers of this church celebrated the fifth anniversary of the opening of their bells. It was intended to have rung a commemoration peal, but owing to the tenor running so badly, this had to be abandoned, and the ringers had to be content with performing short touches during the afternoon. At half-past four, a special choral service was held in the church, at which there was a good congregation. The Rev. C. H. King, A.K.C., vicar, officiated, and at the close delivered a stirring address to those present, taking as the theme of his discourse, the words, "They heard the joyful sound." He commenced by referring to the many joyful sounds which have been heard since the time when the Jewish priests sounded the silver trumpets round the walls of Jericho, to the time when the shepherds heard the angel voices at Bethlehem. And coming to later times, he referred in warm terms to the sound of the Sabbath bells, associated as it was so closely with the recollections of his childhood. The address was listened to with rapt attention.

At the close of the service, the company adjourned to the schoolroom, where a very substantial tea was provided, the tables being also decorated with very choice plants kindly sent by Mr. Weston, the gardener to the family of the late Alderman Law, which had a very pretty effect. Over sixty persons sat down to tea, and after the tables had been cleared, the chair was taken by the Rev. the Vicar, who was accompanied on the platform by Mr. Churchwarden Illingworth, and Mr. Councillor John Hitchen. The chairman having spoken briefly on the objects of the gathering, and given a cordial welcome to the visitors, the St. John's ringers performed the "Mountain Bell" schottische, with S. H. A. Jowett, Esq.'s peal of handbells, in a very creditable manner. Councillor Hitchen, in a few well-chosen words, proposed a vote of thanks to the vicar for the admirable address which he had given in church. Robert Tuke, Esq., seconded the motion, which was carried with loud cheers. The vicar having replied, Miss King favoured the company with the charming recital of the well-known poem, "The Bells," which was much applauded. Mr. B. T. Copley then proposed a vote of thanks to the gentlemen who had subscribed to defray the cost of the tea; this was seconded by Mr. Joseph Cheetham, and carried amid applause. During the evening a course of Grandsire Major and several tunes were rung on the handbells, and votes of thanks passed to Mr. Copley, conductor of the St. James's Society, and to the vicar for presiding. The pronouncing of the Benediction brought to a close a very successful and enjoyable gathering.

It is worthy of notice that the service held here on this occasion is the first ringers' service which has been held in Bradford. It is intended to hold a similar service at St. James's annually, and if possible, to induce the vicars of the parish church and St. John's to do likewise. The vicar of St. James's has intimated his intention to become an honorary member of the Yorkshire Association.

THE BIRMINGHAM AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATION.

A QUARTERLY MEETING of the above association will be held on Saturday, November 17th, at West Bromwich, when all who can are respectfully requested to attend. The towers of Christ Church (twelve bells), and the Parish Church (eight bells), will be open during the afternoon. Business transacted at 7 o'clock at the "White Lion Inn," Woodward Street.

J. WRIGHT, Hon. Sec.

THE BRADFORD AMALGAMATED SOCIETY.

THE head quarters of this society are now at Mr. Lewis Fowld's, the "Ring of Bells Inn," Bolton Road, near the parish church, where any communications may be addressed, or any information obtained by ringers visiting Bradford.

B. T. COPLEY, Hon. Sec.

We cannot tell whether any of our American cousins intend competing with some of the English societies who are renowned for their skill upon handbells, as the Frostbury (America) society have just received a consignment of bells from Messrs. Shaw, of Bradford. A local paper, the *Queen City Courier*, says: "The above society have just received a splendid set of silver-toned musical handbells, made especially for the band by the renowned firm of bellfounders, Messrs. Shaw, Son, and Co., of Bradford, England. The bells are pronounced by several judges to be of the purest tone."

"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, E. W. 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. ASPINWALL.—All received; will publish at the first opportunity.

TAIL-END.—We have a deal of matter of the kind you allude to on hand, but we really cannot tell when it will appear.

The Bell News & Ringers' Record.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 10, 1883.

It is well known that a prominent feature in connection with the Annual Meetings of the various ringing Guilds and Associations is the holding of a special service at the church which for the occasion becomes a kind of centre or head-quarters of the ringers attending such meetings. At these services, an appropriate sermon is usually preached, and the substance of these discourses are, as a rule, to be found in our columns. In most of them will be found allusions to ringers with regard to their conduct as officers of the Church—what it has been, and what it ought to be—coupled with solemn reminders of the duties and responsibilities devolving upon them as Church workers performing most important functions.

Of course this is as it should be. No sane person can question for a moment the reality of the satisfaction felt by ringers on reading that at a meeting of their brethren in the art—in some distant part of the country, perhaps—the proceedings have been accompanied by the holding of Divine Service, with the delivery of a sermon suited to the exigencies of the occasion. Who, we ask, would, on reading the report (in a recent number) of the sermon preached to the members of the Lancashire Association, fail to observe that the clergy are gradually but surely becoming the most steadfast friends of ringers?

But may we venture, with all humility, to express a wish that another topic—that of Bell-chamber Reform—should be dealt with from the pulpit on these occasions? Evidence reaches us day by day of the neglected—to use a very mild term—state of many belfries. In the annual report of the Durham and Newcastle Association we find this passage: "We may still reproach ourselves that scientific ringing is not the order of the day at either of our cathedrals." But who is culpable for such a state

of affairs? The capitular body of Durham have been repeatedly appealed to to remedy it. Numerous instances of the same kind could be quoted. Would it then be wrong to read a homily to those of our Church authorities whose supineness appears to act as an hindrance to Bell-chamber Reform? With all due deference, we think not.

The Metropolis.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.
 EDMONTON, MIDDLESEX.

On Saturday, November 3rd, in Two Hours and Fifty-eight Minutes,

AT ALL SAINTS' CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
 HOLT'S TEN-PART.

JOSEPH DAVIDSON Treble.	RICHARD E. GOODCHILD.. 5.
GEORGE THURGOOD 2.	DAVID TARLING.. .. 6.
HENRY A. BARNETT 3.	WILLIAM A. ALPS 7.
JOSEPH CROUCH 4.	EDWARD MARRIOTT Tenor.

Conducted by WILLIAM A. ALPS.

THE SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.
 HIGHGATE, MIDDLESEX.

On Tuesday, November 6, 1883, in Three Hours and Three Minutes,

AT ST. ANNE'S CHURCH,

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

GEORGE NEWSON Treble.	THOMAS TITCHENER .. 5.
JAMES PAGE 2.	ARTHUR JACOB 6.
WILLIAM H. FUSSELL* .. 3.	JAMES HANNINGTON.. .. 7.
THOMAS GLEED* 4.	†JAMES BARRETT.. .. Tenor.

Composed by NATHAN JOHN PITSTOW, and conducted by JAMES BARRETT.

This peal has the 5th and 6th their extent in 5-6 (part 2, page 48, Snowdon's *Treatise*) and was rung to commemorate the birthday of Messrs. Page and Barrett, they having attained the age of 60 and 47 respectively. †His first peal as conductor. *First peal in the method.

THE WATERLOO SOCIETY.

On Saturday, November 3, 1883, in Two Hours and Fifty-Two Minutes,

AT ST. JOHN'S CHURCH, WATERLOO ROAD,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
 HOLT'S TEN-PART.

WILLIAM COPPAGE Treble.	THOMAS TAYLOR 5.
DANIEL SPRINGHALL.. .. 2.	GEORGE BANKS.. .. 6.
JOHN MANSFIELD 3.	GEORGE PELL 7.
SAMUEL GREENWOOD.. .. 4.	EDWARD BAYFORD Tenor.

Conducted by S. GREENWOOD.

These bells have lately been put into thorough going order by Mr. Banks, of Kennington, who has carried out the difficult work to the entire satisfaction of the Vicar, Churchwardens, and the Waterloo Society.

This peal was rung in commemoration of the 59th anniversary of the Consecration of the Church.

THE WATERLOO SOCIETY.—LAMBETH, SURREY.

On Monday, November 5, 1883, in Three Hours and Ten Minutes,

AT ST. MARY'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;
 IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 20 cwt. in E.

W. BARON Treble.	*SAMUEL GREENWOOD .. 5.
DANIEL SPRINGALL* 2.	T. TAYLOR 6.
EDWARD MOSES 3.	*GEORGE PELL 7.
EDWARD F. COLE, Esq.* .. 4.	HENRY DAINS Tenor

Composed by HENRY DAINS, and conducted by WILLIAM BARON.

*First peal in the method.

The Provinces.**THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—GARGRAVE.***On Saturday, November 3, 1883, in Three Hours and Forty-two Minutes,*

AT ST. ANDREW'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 6160 CHANGES;

Tenor 16 cwt.

HERBERT HORSMAN Treble.	HERBERT MIDDLEBROOK.. 5.
WILLIAM CLARKE 2.	JAMES MCGOUN.. .. 6.
WILLIAM MALLINSON .. 3.	CHRISTOPHER LANGSTRETH 7.
HARRY BIRTWHISTLE.. .. 4.	JOHN MCKELL Tenor.

Composed by MATTHEW TOMLINSON, Leeds, and conducted by JOHN MCKELL.

This is the first 6000 on the bells, and the greatest length in this method by the Yorkshire Association.

REIGATE, SURREY.*On Thursday, November 1, 1883, in Three Hours and Seventeen Minutes,*

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S ORIGINAL. Tenor 21 cwt.

JAMES HOWARD Treble.	WILLIAM ARGENT 5.
FRANCIS T. HOAD 2.	EDGAR KENWARD 6.
WILLIAM BONE 3.	WILLIAM WEBB 7.
THOMAS FULLER 4.	WILLIAM BURKIN Tenor.

Conducted by FRANCIS T. HOAD.

Wm. Burkin hails from Nutfield, the rest from Reigate.

THE HOLT SOCIETY.—ASTON-JUXTA-BIRMINGHAM.*On Tuesday, November 6, 1883, in Three Hours and Fourteen Minutes,*

AT SS. PETER AND PAUL,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS, 5022 CHANGES;

Tenor 23 cwt. in D.

A. JONES Treble.	J. BUFFERY 6.
H. BASTABLE 2.	A. THOMAS.. .. 7.
J. CARTER 3.	T. REYNOLDS 8.
W. KENT 4.	C. STANBRIDGE 9.
J. BENN* 5.	J. SANDERS.. .. Tenor.

Composed by HY. JOHNSON, SEN., and conducted by J. BUFFERY.

This peal contains the 6th 12 courses alternately wrong and right, being the extent in this position, and was rang to celebrate the conductor's 31st birthday.

* First peal in any method.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—ROMFORD.*On Saturday, November 3, 1883, in Three Hours and Nine Minutes,*

AT ST. EDWARD'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S 10-PART. Tenor 17 cwt.

ALBERT DEARDS Treble.	JOHN NUNN 5.
ALFRED PYE 2.	WILLIAM J. ALDRIDGE .. 6.
BENJAMIN KEEBLE 3.	ARTHUR PORTER 7.
ACLAND J. PERKINS 4.	WILLIAM CROCKFORD .. Tenor.

Conducted by A. J. PERKINS.

The above is the first peal by the Essex Association at the above church, and was rung by a mixed band. Messrs. Crockford and Nunn hail from Walthamstow, Messrs. Pye and Porter from Little Heath, Mr. Aldridge from Brentwood, and Mr. Deards from Dagenham.

TEWKESBURY ABBEY, GLOUCESTERSHIRE.**GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.***On Tuesday, November 6th, 1883, in Three Hours and Seven Minutes,***A PEAL OF UNION TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;**

HOLT'S SIX-PART PEAL. Tenor 24 cwt. in D.

R. H. WITHERINGTON .. Treble.	JNO. WATHEN 5.
S. CLEAL 2.	CHARLES AWFORD 6.
F. J. MOORE 3.	JOSIAH WATHEN 7.
JNO. HALE 4.	WM. HAINES' Tenor.

Conducted by JOSIAH WATHEN.

This is the first peal in the method by members of the above Association, and probably the first in the method in the County.

This peal will be found in the "Clavis," page 73, with 108 bobs and two singles.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

KENNINGHALL, NORFOLK.

On Tuesday, November 6, 1883, in Three Hours and Three Minutes,

AT ST. MARY'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION.

N. J. PITSTOW Treble.	ROBERT PATRICK 5.
HENRY EAGLING.. .. 2.	JOHN WOODS 6.
GEORGE EDWARDS 3.	ROBERT HUTTON 7.
JAMES SAUNDERS.. .. 4.	JEREMIAH MORDEY.. .. Tenor.

Composed and conducted by N. J. PITSTOW.

This peal contains the 6th the extent in all positions, and five course-ends each way, and was never previously performed.

Messrs. Ireland and Stackwood are members of the Cumberland Society. This peal is the first in the method upon the bells.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—NORWICH.*On Monday, November 5, 1883, in Three Hours and Thirty-five Minutes,*

AT ST. PETER'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB ROYAL, 5080 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 41 cwt. in C.

N. J. PITSTOW Treble.	R. STACKWOOD 6.
P. SADLER 2.	F. KNIGHTS 7.
W. IRELAND 3.	J. SKINNER.. .. 8.
F. PITSTOW 4.	W. SMITH 9.
J. FIDDAMENT 5.	G. SMITH Tenor.

Composed and conducted by N. J. PITSTOW.

This peal was arranged to supersede the 5040 rang at St. Peter's in February, 1827, and is now the longest length ever rung upon the bells with one man at the tenor, and also the first upon the bells in the Kent Variation.

All the above are Norwich Scholars. The brothers Pitstow hail from Saffron Walden; Mr. W. Ireland from Diss; and R. Stackwood from Aylsham.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—BOLTON-LE-MOORS.*On Saturday, November 3, 1883, in Two Hours and Fifty-Two Minutes,*

AT HOLY TRINITY CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S ORIGINAL. Tenor 16 cwt. in F.

EDWARD CASH Treble.	CHARLES CASH 5.
JOSEPH GRIMSHAW* 2.	RICHARD ASHCROFT 6.
RICHARD PEARCE 3.	*ALBERT EDWARD WREAKS 7.
JAMES RIDYARD 4.	WILLIAM ASHCROFT.. .. Tenor.

Conducted by ALBERT E. WREAKS.

*Also members of the Rochdale and District Association.

Messrs. C. and E. Cash and R. Pearce belong to St. Peter's, Swinton; J. Ridyard to St. Mark's, Wordsley; R. and W. Ashcroft to St. Mary's, Eccles; and J. Grimshaw and A. E. Wreaks to Manchester Cathedral. This is the first time this peal has ever been rung in Bolton.

THE ST. PETER'S SOCIETY, LIVERPOOL.*On Monday, November 5, 1883, in Three Hours and Twenty-two Minutes,*

AT ST. PETER'S PRO-CATHEDRAL,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS, 5004 CHANGES;

Tenor 25 cwt.

RICHARD WILLIAMS .. Treble.	JOHN MOORE 6.
HENRY MEADOWS 2.	EDWARD FOSTER 7.
JOHN BROWN 3.	THOMAS HAMMOND 8.
EDWIN BOOTH 4.	ROBERT WILLIAMS 9.
HENRY BECK 5.	WM. BROOKS, WM. BOOTH Tenor.

Composed by ROBERT WILLIAMS, and conducted by THOMAS HAMMOND.

This peal was rung in honour of the arrival of the Marquis and Marchioness of Lorne in Liverpool.

The figures of this peal appeared in "The Bell News," July 29th, 1882.

Date Touches.

CHARLTON KINGS (Gloucestershire).—On Saturday afternoon, November 3rd, the local society rang at the parish church, a date touch of 1883 changes (no method given), in 1 hr. and 15 mins., in honour of the Rev. Tewkesbury Henry Wynaston (curate-in-charge of the Holy Apostles' church, Charlton Kings) returning home with his bride after their wedding tour. R. Shaylor, 1; T. Hamblett, 2; W. Dyer, 3; J. Midwinter (conductor), 4; W. James, 5; S. H. Stanley, 6 Tenor 22 cwt.

RIPON.—On Thursday, November 1st, at the Cathedral, being the election-day of councillors for the borough, the Cathedral company rang a touch of Grandsire Triples, 1883 changes, being the date of the present year, in 1 hr. 19 mins. T. Metcalf, 1; Jno. Strodder, jun., 2; Jno. Strodder, sen., 3; T. Clark (composer and conductor), 4; A. Ingleby, 5; W. Pick, 6; G. Ingleby, 7; H. Rumbold, 8. Tenor 21 cwt. in E.

Miscellaneous.

THE SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.

On Saturday evening, November 3rd, seven members of this society met Mr. J. Jay, sen., of Brighton, who was on a visit to the metropolis, and attempted a peal of Grandsire Triples at St. Giles-in-the-Fields, but it unfortunately came to grief after ringing about 1400 changes, T. Bailey, 1; H. Hopkins (conductor), 2; J. Andrews, 3; C. Hopkins, 4; W. Hoverd, 5; W. Jones, 6; John Jay, 7; J. Scowen, 8.

THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

ARLSEY (Bedfordshire).—On Saturday, November 3rd, six members of the above Association visited this place, and by the kind permission of the vicar, rang several 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles. J. Spencer, 1; C. Craddock, 2; C. W. Clarke, 3; J. Adkin, 4; W. Biggs, 5; W. Allen, 6. Afterwards a 720 of Plain Bob Minor, in 25 mins. W. Allen, 1; C. Craddock, 2; C. W. Clarke, 3; J. Adkin, 4; J. Frossell, 5; W. Biggs (conductor), 6. This is the first 720 on the bells, which which are a musical ring of six, cast by Warner in 1877, tenor 12 cwt. in G. Afterwards the ringers took train for Biggleswade, where they rang two 6-scores of Grandsire and one of Plain Bob Doubles. C. Craddock, 1; W. Biggs, 2; C. W. Clarke, 3; J. Adkin, 4; J. Frossell (conductor), 5. Tenor 16 cwt. in F. This is supposed to be first change-ringing done at Biggleswade.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

DARLINGTON.—On Tuesday evening, November 6th, at St. John's church, the local company rang a 720 of College Single, 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. *First 720 in the method. This is the first 720 in the method on the bells.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

RETTENDON (Essex).—On Saturday, October 27th, the local company succeeded in ringing their first 120 of Stedman Doubles on the church bells. Mr. W. Pavitt, 1; Mr. E. Moat, 2; A. Jarvis, 3; W. Jay, 4; Rev. H. A. Cockey (conductor), 5; G. Jones, 6. This is the first 120 in the method by all except the conductor. Tenor 8 cwt. 1 qr. 7 lbs.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

ALDINGTON (Kent).—On Thursday evening, October 18th, at St. Martin's church, a 720 of Plain Bob Minor, with four bobs and twenty-six singles. Charles Slingsby, 1; David Hodgkin, 2; Edward Hyder, 3; Thomas Hodgkin, 4; William Hyder (conductor), 5; Philip Hodgkin, 6. Also on Saturday, November 3rd, with Mr. F. Rolfe, of the Cheriton Branch, a 720 of Plain Bob was attempted, but after ringing 25 mins. it came to grief. William Post, jun., 1; D. Hodgkin, 2; P. Hodgkin, 3; T. Hodgkin, 4; W. Hyder, 5; Frederick Rolfe (conductor), 6. Also a 720 of Plain Bob, with four bobs and twenty-six singles. C. Slingsby, 1; D. Hodgkin, 2; F. Rolfe, 3; E. Hyder, 4; W. Hyder (conductor), 5; William Post, sen., 6. Tenor 14 cwt. in G.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

BRANDESTON (Suffolk).—On Wednesday, October 20th, at the parish church, a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob, 360 of Cambridge Surprise. J. Meadows, 1; D. G. Wightman, 2; H. Bedingfield, 3; A. S. Wightman, 4; H. Baldary, 5; S. Wightman (conductor), 6. And on Sunday, October 28th, 720 of Court Single, and a 720 of London New Bob. W. Bedingfield, 1; D. G. Wightman, 2; H. Bedingfield, 3; A. S. Wightman, 4; G. Wicks, 5; S. Wightman (conductor), 6. Also on Sunday, November 4th, a 720 of Oxford Bob, 720 College Single, 720 Grandsire Minor, 720 Canterbury Pleasure, 360 Bob Minor, and 240 Double Court Bob. J. Meadows, 1; D. G. Wightman, 2; H. Bedingfield, 3; A. S. Wightman, 4; G. Wicks, 5; S. Wightman (conductor), 6.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD, AND THE OXFORD UNIVERSITY SOCIETY.

OXFORD.—On Monday, October 5th, at New College, Oxford, five members of the university society, with Mr. J. Washbrook, of the town society, rang on Seage's apparatus, a 720 of Grandsire Minor, with a call every lead, in 26 mins. J. R. Vincent, Esq., 1; F. A. H. Du Boulay, Esq., 2; C. C. W. H. Griffith, Esq., 3; G. F. Scott, Esq., 4; J. W. Washbrook (conductor), 5; J. F. Hastings, Esq., 6. Tenor 13 cwt.

THE ROCHDALE AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATION.

MOORSIDE (Lancashire).—On Saturday, November 3rd, the following company rang at St. Thomas's church, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor, in 28 mins. Jno. Siddle, 1; Geo. Hayle, 2; Wm. Siddle, 3; Jas. Priestly, 4; F. Birtwistle (conductor), 5; E. J. Stephenson, 6. This is the first 720 in the method for all the above with the exception of Mr. Jas. Priestly, who hails from Oldham parish church. Tenor 18 cwt.

THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

STREATHAM.—On Monday, October 30th, at Immanuel Church, 1596 of Stedman Triples. J. Russell, 1; Daniel Springhall, 2; A. Cole, Esq., 3; Wingfield Meadows, Esq., 4; George Pell, 5; Joe Fayers, 6; Samuel Greenwood (conductor), 7; H. Pates, 8. It was intended to have started for the whole peal, but the fourth man coming too late the above touch was rung instead.

BOCKING (Essex).—*Muffled Peal*.—On Saturday, October 27th, the bells of the parish church were rang half-muffled, as a last token of respect to Mr. Joseph Eades, who died very suddenly on Sunday, October 21st. *S. Hammond, 1; *W. Moore, 2; *W. Bearman, 3; S. Sargent, 4; *J. Hayes, 5; *C. Bearman (conductor), 6. *College Youths. The deceased had been a ringer at the parish church for more than half a century, and on the day of his death had assisted in chiming for morning service. He was carried to his last resting-place in Bocking Cemetery, on Saturday, October 27th, by his fellow parish church ringers, by whom he was much respected.

COULSDON (Surrey).—On Wednesday evening, October 31st, five of the local company (who recently have been under the tuition of Wm. Webb, of the Reigate Society), rang their first 6-score of Grandsire Doubles, without the aid of their tutor. It is upwards of twenty years since a 120 of Doubles was rung by a Coulsdon company. George Jeffery, 1; Morris Martingell, 2; John Coomber, 3; Henry Jeffery, 4; George Packham (conductor), 5. Tenor about 12 cwt.

DARESBUURY (Cheshire).—On Tuesday evening, October 30th, six members of the local company rang a 720 of Bob Minor, in 29 mins. with the bells half-muffled, as a last token respect to the late Rev. W. H. Spencer, who was vicar of the above parish for 26½ years. E. De Prez, 1; T. Houghton, sen., 2; P. Johnson, 3; T. Ellison, 4; P. Hamblett, 5; T. Houghton, jun. (conductor), 6. Tenor 12 cwt. First 720 of E. De Prez.

DONCASTER (Yorkshire).—On Saturday, November 3rd, at St. George's church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 50 mins. H. Fevre, 1; W. Newsome, 2; W. White, 3; G. Marwood, 4; T. Fevre, 5; J. White, 6; J. Jeff, 7; W. Howard, 8. Arranged and conducted by H. Fevre.

EALING (Middlesex).—On Thursday, November 1st, at St. Mary's church, the Acton society met for practice, and rang a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, 1260 changes, in 46 mins. W. Taylor, 1; G. Ilsey, 2; W. Baron (conductor), 3; W. Fenwick, 4; G. Trinder, 5; G. Thomas, 6; W. Wilder, 7; E. Gould, 8. Tenor 20 cwt.

HAVERSTOCK HILL (Middlesex).—On Sunday evening, November 4th, for Divine Service, a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob Minor, in 25 mins. J. Leach, 1; J. Nunn (first 720 in the method), 2; A. J. Perkins (conductor), 3; W. H. Fussell, 4; J. Hannington, 5; A. Jacob, 6. After service a 720 of Plain Bob Minor (Mr. Penning's, twenty-eight bobs and eighteen singles), in 24 mins. J. Page, 1; T. Gleed, 2; J. Nunn, 3; A. J. Perkins (conductor), 4; W. H. Fussell, 5; E. Chapman, 6. Tenor 12½ cwt.

HIGHER WALTON (Lancashire).—On Monday, November 5th, at All Saints' church, a 720 of Plain Bob Minor, in 27 mins. Geo. Thornley (conductor), 1; *Jas. Harwood, 2; Hy. Hunt, 3; Hy. Brewer, 4; †John Eccles, 5; †Jas. Mather, 6. Tenor 6 cwt. 3 qrs. 26 lbs. *His first touch in any method. †Members of the Lancashire Association.

HULL.—On Wednesday, October 31st, at St. James's Church, the following company rang 1260 changes of Grandsire Triples in 45 mins. T. Horner, 1; J. W. Stickney, 2; S. Slingsby, 3; F. Merrison, 4; R. Chaffer, 5; T. Stockdale (conductor), 6; W. Gill, 7; R. Hare, 8. Tenor 15 cwt. The above touch was rang to qualify Messrs. Horner and Hare to become members of the Yorkshire Association.

LONG MELFORD (Suffolk).—*Muffled Touch*.—On Sunday, November 4th, the mortal remains of Harry Steed, for many years a member of the Melford Society, were laid to rest in the parish churchyard of Long Melford, consumption having carried him off at the early age of twenty-nine. Notwithstanding the stormy nature of the day, the undermentioned ringers from Cavendish and Glemsford, with two of the Melford Society, assembled at the tower, and rung a muffled touch

of Bob Major, immediately after the close of the funeral service, as a last mark of respect to the deceased. Charles Bobby, 1; John Ambrose, 2; Samuel Slater, 3; Zechariah Slater, 4; Oliver Garwood, 5; Fred. Wells, 6; Alexander Hurst, 7; George Maxim, 8.

RAUNDS (Northamptonshire).—On Saturday, November 3rd, for practice, 720 Oxford Treble Bob Minor (with 9 bobs), in 28 mins. A. Coles, 1; F. Gilbert, 2; R. Pendered, 3; J. Willmott, 4; W. A. Hall, 5; W. J. Gilbert (conductor), 6. First 720 in the method by the 2nd and 5th men. Also a 720 of Woodbine Treble Bob Minor (with nine bobs), in 28 mins. G. Kirk, 1; F. Gilbert, 2; R. Pendered, 3; W. A. Hall, 4; J. Willmott, 5; W. J. Gilbert (conductor), 6.

RIPON.—On Sunday morning, for Divine Service at the cathedral, a touch of 882 changes of Grandsire Triples, in 33 mins., and for afternoon service a 360 in the same method, in 24 mins. Also on Monday, November 5th, a musical touch of 1064 Grandsire Triples, containing eighteen bobs and twenty-six singles, and having the twenty-four 6-7's all at back stroke, was rung within three leads of the finish, as owing to the conductor calling a bob instead of a single at the last call but one, the touch was not completed. T. Clark, conductor.

SONNING (Berks).—On Saturday, November 3rd, eight members of the St. Laurence's Society, Reading, started for a half-peal of Grandsire Triples, but after ringing 1008 changes in 40 mins., it came to grief owing to a "shift." H. Bawden, 1; W. J. Williams (conductor), 2; W. Johnson, 3; W. R. Pocock, 4; E. Bishop, 5; G. Talbot, 6; J. E. Willshire, 7; W. Holloway, 8. Time not permitting them to make another attempt, they started for, and successfully accomplished a 588 of Grandsire Triples in 24 mins. The first seven men stationed as above, with W. Webb (Sonning), 8. Mr. W. Newell, instructor to the Society, intended starting for the half-peal, but was detained in Reading on business.

SALISBURY.—On All Saints Day, November 1st, a 360 of Bob Minor, at St. Paul's, Fisherton, by H. Dowling, 1; C. Clements, 2; W. Greenleaf (of London; his first 360 in the method), 3; T. Blackburn, 4; W. W. Gifford, 5; J. R. Jerram, 6. Tenor 13 cwt. Also at St. Thomas, by the same, and W. Lanham, G. Blake and G. Devenport, three 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles, with 7, 6, 8 covering.

WIMBLEDON (Surrey).—On Sunday morning, October 28th, for Divine Service, at St. Mary's church, a 720 of Grandsire Minor, in 26 mins. G. Bide, 1; A. Roots, 2; A. B. Perceval, Esq., 3; J. Parker, 4; A. Garratt, 5; T. Frost (conductor), 6. *First 720.

WORTH (Sussex).—On Sunday, November 4th, several members of the Warnham society paid a visit to this place, and rang for Divine Service in the morning, a 720 of London New Bob Minor, with forty-two singles. Harry Cook, 1; William Short, 2; Thomas Andrews, 3; Harry Wood, 4; Henry Burstow, 5; Harry Chantler, 6. Also after service, a 720 of Canterbury Pleasure, with forty-two singles. H. Cook, 1; W. Short, 2; T. Andrews, 3; H. Wood, 4; H. Chantler, 5; H. Burstow, 6. Also before afternoon service, a 720 of Court Bob, with thirty singles. Also after Divine Service, a 720 of Bob Minor, with forty-two singles. And a 720 of Oxford Bob, with thirty-four bobs and twenty-six singles. In the last four 720's the men rang the same bells. Conducted by H. Burstow. The Warnham society take this opportunity of thanking the Worth company for their kindness in meeting them, and they hope to be able in a short time to return the compliment by meeting them at Warnham.

WORTH (Sussex).—On Wednesday, October 31st, 720 Oxford Bob Minor, with eighteen bobs and eighteen singles, in 25½ mins. W. F. Meads, 1; F. Rice, 2; B. Payne, 3; W. Denman, 4; G. Illman, 5; E. Streeter (conductor), 6. Tenor 8½ 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."

CLAPPERING.

SIR,—I am very glad to see this question brought forward, and sincerely hope that all who are in possession of information in this direction will communicate the same either to "A Lover of Bells," that he may tabulate them and so bring as many instances as possible into a condensed form for the columns of "THE BELL NEWS," or send them to you as separate contributions. The latter would, perhaps, have the advantage of being signed and addressed, and thus bear the impress of individual authority.

I was recently questioned by a bell-founder of position (who, both in description and address, shall be nameless), as to what advantage Ellacombe's arrangement has over what I have always known as "clappering"—your correspondents call it "clocking," and "chucking"—by which I was to understand that the clappers are tied up near the

sound-bow, as in Ellacombe's arrangement, a plan, I believe, sometime adopted, if not at present in use, at Great St. Mary's, Cambridge. I answer much, every way; not that I look upon Ellacombe's arrangement as the antidote for all possible mischief, owing to the very possible accident of attempting to raise the bells while the hammers are up, and *vice versa*, a possibility obtaining the more when the chiming sallies are cupboarded in the ringing-room or chamber; hence my "Automatic Interlocking Gear," which renders it impossible to raise a bell, while Ellacombe's hammer is up, or a hammer while the bell is up.

But to go back to the question at issue—with Ellacombe's hammer, as it at present stands, you are risking the bell by "clocking," or "chucking," or "clappering," call it which you will, to say nothing of inconvenience, you are risking the ringer. This is forcibly brought to my mind by the recollection that on the occasion of the journey of Great Paul to London (when my interest carried me on foot with it for some seven miles), we had to abstain from raising the St. Alban's Cathedral bells in honour of the event, until one of the party had got in and out among them, and untied the clapper (chiming) ropes. Of course the proper precaution in all such cases, but one quite likely to be neglected, is to pull all the sallies up. And yet I think there are reasons why this could not well be done in this particular instance, there being, if I recollect rightly, no intermediate chamber at St. Albans, a circumstance into which, were I to go more fully, would only strengthen my argument. Then, again, the risk of injury to bells obtains more than anything else from, or through, the wrong position of the rope fall, which, being outside, has a tendency to hold the clapper after striking against the sound-bow, when, by gravity alone, Ellacombe's hammer would fall off. If "clappering" is to be tolerated at all, a pulley should be placed on the floor between the centre of the bell (or vertical position of the clapper), and the sound-bow, so that a tuck of a separate chiming rope would carry the clapper past the pulley to the sound-bow and off again.

Sir Edmund Beckett—whose opinions, both theory and practice have taught me to value and respect—says, in his sixth edition of *Clocks, Watches, and Bells*, page 365: "It is still necessary to warn clergymen and churchwardens against allowing the lazy and pernicious practice of 'clappering,' i.e., tying the bell-rope to the clapper, and pulling it, instead of the bell. More bells have been cracked in that way than by all other causes together, and there is not the least excuse for it."

As a ringer, I know full well that nothing can at all equal the grandeur of ringing, mouth upwards, or the sweetness of chiming on the swing. But men are not always to be got, especially those, perhaps, who can chime well. And that travelling showman business which brings arms, and hands, and feet, into requisition, to supply the place of delinquents, is scarcely to be admired, and especially where the ringers are on the ground-floor and open to the body of the church. One is, therefore, bound to admit that Ellacombe's apparatus is a most valuable adjunct and auxiliary in any steeple—the before-mentioned objections only excepted.

I have spoken of what I believe to be a defect in an otherwise most useful and admirable arrangement, with which, however improved upon, the name of Henry Thomas Ellacombe must for ever be associated. For my own part, I like the arrangement very much, and, as for its author, it is not too much to say that it is my privilege to know him, and my happiness to love and honour him.

Upton, Slough, Bucks.

JOHN JAMES HALL.

INFORMATION WANTED.

SIR.—Would any reader of your paper kindly inform me which bell is generally used as the parson's bell, after chiming from a peal of six. Address: Jas. Burton, High Street, Cheadle, Staffordshire.

We beg our correspondents to condense their remarks as much as possible. Several letters are unavoidably held over.

ECCLESIASTICAL ART EXHIBITION.—An exhibition under the above title is now being held at the Agricultural Hall, Islington, but we regret to state that on the occasion of a recent visit, we found it to be anything but a representative affair, most of the well-known church furnishing firms, Messrs. Jones and Willis, and such like, being absentees. We were also disappointed to find that church clock manufacturers generally were conspicuous by their absence—the only exhibitors of the kind being Messrs. Rowley, church and turret clock manufacturers, of 180, Gray's Inn Road, London, who are certainly exhibiting a most excellent collection of chiming and other clocks. The north of England School Furnishing Company exhibit several of their ingenious appliances, amongst others the Glendenning adjustable desk, which should be adapted in all schools.

THE LATE COLONEL TRELAWNY.

By the death of Colonel Trelawny, which has lately occurred in Cornwall, the ringing Exercise in the West has lost one of its most ardent supporters, and we think many of our readers may like to see a short account of his work from the pen of one of his earliest friends and coadjutors in the art.

Like so many other Englishmen, he was, as a boy, devoted to the steeple, and though his early life in the army prevented his doing very much in the ringing line, as a young man, he was at one time, when quartered in York, able to show not only his great strength, but his proficiency in the use of the rope by raising, single-handed, the large bell in the Minster, weighing 52 cwt.—no mean achievement. About the year 1863, however, his attention was called to the art of change-ringing, and he immediately became much interested in the matter.

Change-ringing in half-pulls was at that time entirely unknown in Devonshire and Cornwall, the writer of this notice having heard the possibility of such a thing loudly denied in the tower. However, to a man of Colonel Trelawny's energy and determination, the discovery that a really beautiful science could be practised, instead of the dreary old "Grave-yard Bob" to which he had been accustomed, was most welcome. He at once set to work with the ringers of Calstock, and by the summer of '66 had succeeded in calling the first 720 ever rung in Cornwall. He also, with the able assistance of Mr. William Banister, succeeded in establishing change-ringing in Plymouth, Plympton, Kelly, and Walkhampton; but alas! owing to the carelessness and want of interest shown by the clergy, and through the abominable habit of offering prizes for round-ringing and call-changes, coupled with Colonel Trelawny's removal farther west, the ringers have now in most of these places fallen back into the old groove.

Not the least remarkable success which he attained was the hand-bell ringing of his family. Well do we remember, when staying in his house, being fetched from our room in the morning by the discordant clashing of hand-bells at the bottom of the stairs, soon to be followed by an ordeal of no mean sort. As we descended, the clashing ceased, and we soon found ourselves seated, bells in hand, with him, Mrs. Trelawny, and the children—the youngest only 10 years old—to make attempts at courses of Grandsire Cinques, and touches of Grandsire and Stedman Triples. We were younger in those days by some twenty years; and the way those children picked one up, and the disdain in their countenances when we broke the whole thing down, was something to be remembered.

The same party often performed in public; and on one occasion illustrated a lecture by the Rev. H. T. Ellacombe (Sir Stafford Northcote in the chair), at Exeter, ringing various methods in hand, from Grandsire and Stedman Triples to Grandsire Cinques.

Colonel Trelawny was not a great peal ringer, but he was an ardent supporter of Belfry Reform, and had he not lived so much "out of the world"—some people think Cornwall the other side of nowhere, which is very nearly true of it as regards ringing—he would undoubtedly have made a considerable mark in the Exercise. As it is, he will be remembered and regretted as long as any of his old ringing friends are left; and we sincerely hope that the Cornish ringers will not allow all his exertions on their behalf to be wasted, but that we may hear of further progress in the art in the far West.

NEW RING OF BELLS AT CHILHAM, KENT.

On Saturday, October 6th, a ring of eight bells was inaugurated at the parish church of Chilham. The old cracked treble has been recast by Messrs. Taylor of Loughborough, who also furnished two new bells, while the entire peal was rehung by Messrs. Finn, of Mersham. The cost was defrayed by the subscriptions of a few gentlemen, Mr. C. S. Hardy giving, we hear, a donation of £100. Ringers attended from Folkestone, Mersham, Canterbury, Ashford, Aldington, and other places. The bells were opened with a touch of 672 Grandsire Triples, followed by an 800 of Bob Major, and subsequently various touches of Grandsire Triples, Bob Major, and Kent Treble Bob were given. During the ringing, the Rev. R. B. Knatchbull-Hugessen, of Mersham, and other gentlemen, came up in the belfry. Luncheon was served for the ringers at the "White Hart," the churchwardens, Messrs. S. Huntley and John Knowler, taking the part of the entertainers; and subsequently tea took place at the same house. The following took part in the ringing: The Rev. Knatchbull-Hugessen, Hon. Sec. of the Kent County Association; Messrs. Ovenden, Fairbrass, Foreman, and Andrews, of Canterbury; J. Laker and T. Foord, of Ashford; J. Harrison, S. Barker, and F. Finn, jun., of Folkestone; F. Finn, sen., G. Finn, sen., G. Finn, jun., Edward Ruck, William Jay, G. Pain, and D. Pain, of Mersham.

CORRECTION.—In the peal of Grandsire Caters rung at Wrexham, published in our number for Oct. 27th, the ringer of the 3rd should have been Robert Jones; and the 6th, Edward Rowland. We cannot be responsible for the correctness of names when the writing is not sufficiently clear.

THE PARISH CHURCH BELLS, LANCASTER.

A vestry meeting of the parishioners of Lancaster has recently been held (the Vicar in the chair), for the purpose of taking into consideration the condition of the parish churchyard. After this question had been most amicably discussed,

The VICAR said he might perhaps be allowed to mention another matter which had been before his mind and that of the churchwardens for some time, and it concerned the state of the church bells. He had been told that the bells had probably never been renewed since 1600 or 1700. People who came to his house were frequently having their ears dinned by the ringing of one of the worst set of "tin pot kettles" that were ever hung (laughter). One of the ringers said that some of the bells were worn down to such an extent that they could put their fist into the hollow in the side of them. He was the last person in the world who would like to be thought narrow-minded or sectarian, but when they had got a Roman Catholic Church near them with a set of bells which were infinitely superior, he thought it was a reflection upon the people of Lancaster if they did not have their bells recast, or at least have something done to them so that they should not be behind the church of St. Peter, as they were at the present time. The musical notes of the bells of the Roman Catholic Church were a great contrast to the jangling notes of those of the parish church, and it was rather a reproach to them.

Mr. SEWARD said he was a churchwarden there in 1846, and the bells were then put into good order—in fact, two or three new bells were put up at that time.

The VICAR said he was only speaking from hearsay, but he had been told that some of the bells had not been recast since 1600 or 1700.

Mr. HATCH said a good deal had been spent upon the repairs of the bells, and he thought the information given to the Vicar was rather overdrawn.

The VICAR thought that some competent person ought to be engaged to examine the bells and report upon their condition.

Mr. SEWARD said the funds for the bells in 1846 were raised by subscription. Vicar Turner and himself went round collecting, and the money was got very readily. He believed they raised about £150.

The VICAR said there was no doubt that the bells of St. Peter's completely overshadowed those of the parish church, and he thought there ought to be sufficient Protestant spirit in the town to provide a better peal.

Mr. HATCH said No. 2 bell seemed to be the worst.

Mr. Seward said one of the old bells went to Mr. Marton's. It had the name "Edward Marton" upon it. He bought it at the price of old metal. It was sound enough, but out of tune.

The VICAR said he should like to see not only a good set of bells but a good clock in the tower, which occupied a fine position.

The meeting then terminated.

CONCERT AT SADDLEWORTH, YORKSHIRE.

On Saturday, November 3rd, the second tea-party and concert, in aid of the fund now being raised for the addition of two new trebles to the present ring of six at Saddleworth, took place. The tea was laid in the schoolroom; the entertainment was afterwards held in the Mechanics' Hall, presided over by the Rev. Hugh Doig, M.A., Vicar. The programme embraced handbell ringing, by Mr. J. Davenport's talented young troupe from Oldham; dramatic and humorous recitals by Mr. F. Firth, of Greenfield; and the church choir very efficiently rendered a selection of part songs, glees, &c. It is gratifying to hear that such a meeting as this, in aid of so laudable an object as the augmentation of a peal of bells, has been a great success, as after the expenses incurred had been liquidated, there remained a balance of upwards of £10 in aid of the new bell fund. Votes of thanks to Mrs. Meanock (wife of the Vicar's Warden) for her hospitality, to the organist, ringers, singers, Mr. Firth, and the Vicar, concluded these interesting proceedings.

MEETING AT ST. ALBANS.

On Wednesday, October 31st, L. Proctor, Esq., of Bennington, with his company of ringers, visited St. Albans, Herts. They were joined by Messrs. Haworth, Pettit, and Winny (London); J. W. Taylor, junr. (Loughborough); W. W. C. Baker (Eversholt Rectory, Woburn, Beds.); H. Baker (Hertford); C. Chapman (Hampstead); F. G. Newman (Maidstone, Kent), and Messrs. Lewis and Hills of St. Albans. St. Peter's church was first visited, where Stedman and Grandsire Caters, Cambridge Surprise Major, and Stedman Triples were rung. After dining at the "Peaken" hotel, the company assembled at the Cathedral, where the Bennington band rang Stedman Triples and Double Norwich Court Bob Major, followed by a touch of Stedman Triples by the other visitors. The company left the town early in the evening, having spent a very enjoyable day.

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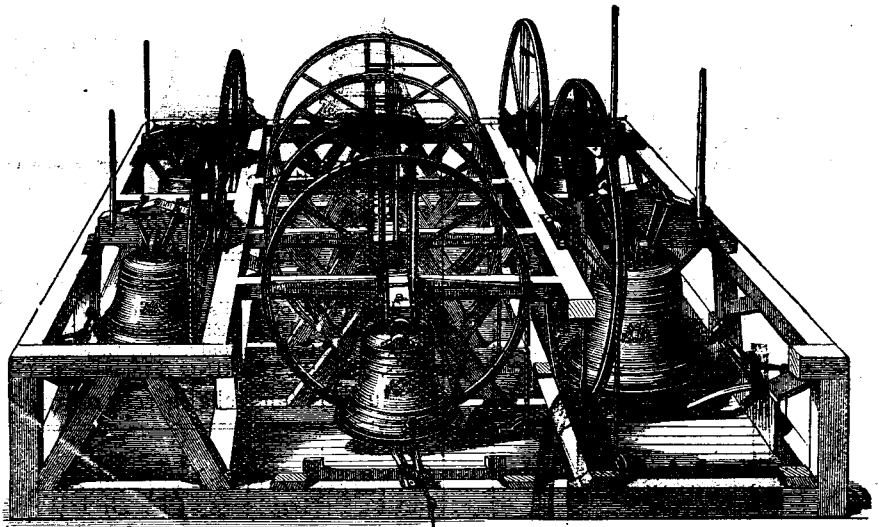
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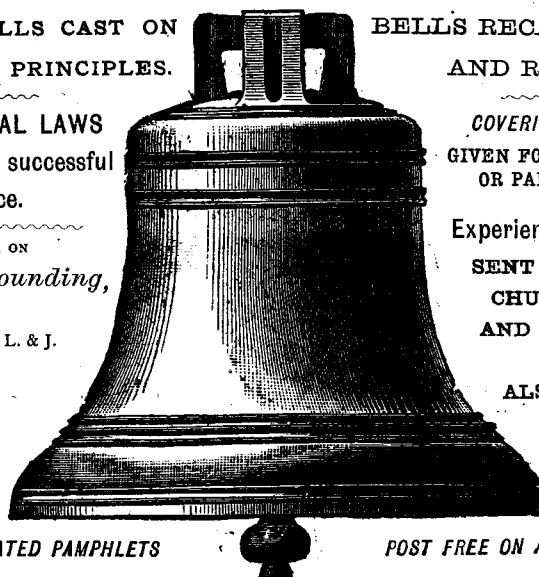
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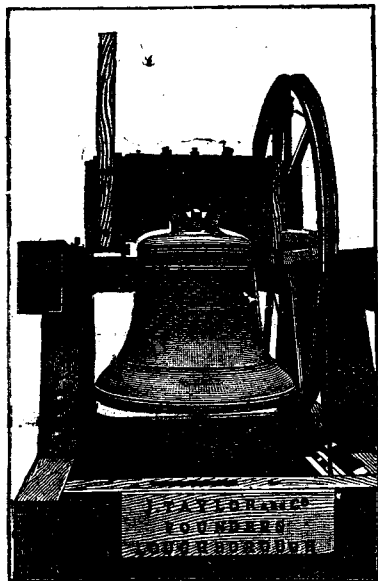
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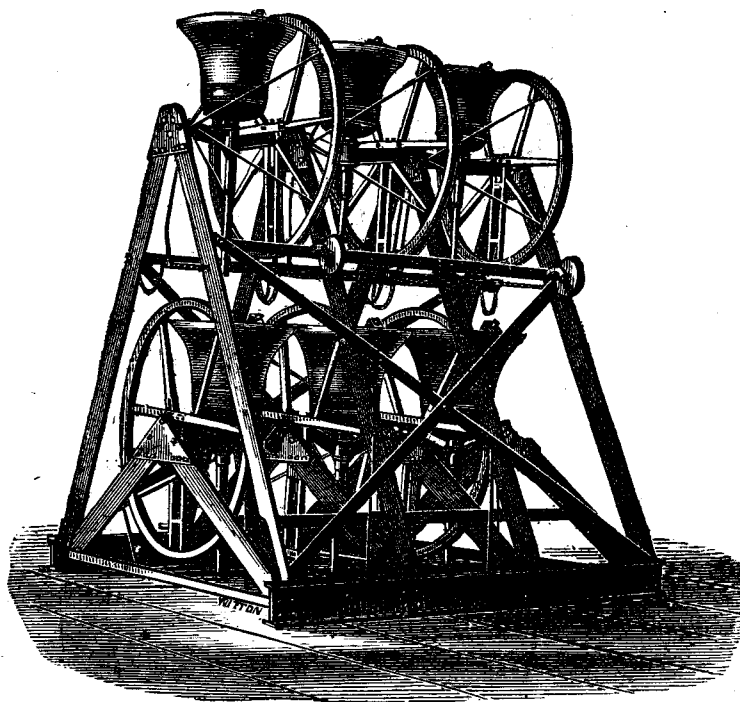
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SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 17, 1883.

[ONE PENNY.]

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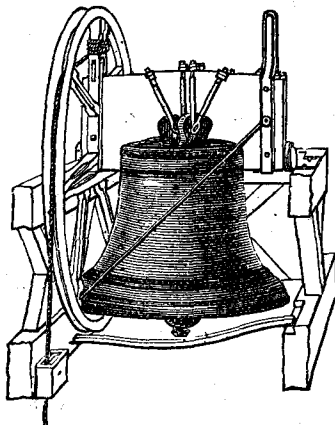
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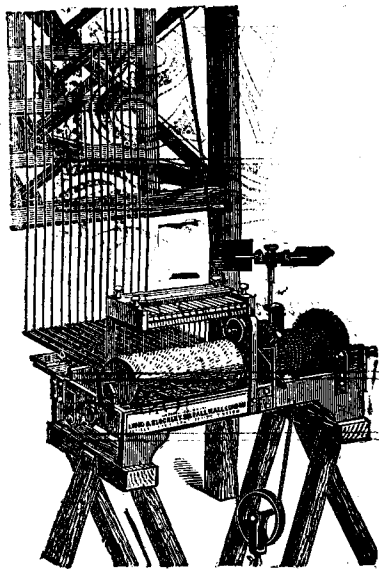
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GRANDSIRE TRIPLES.

By JASPER W. SNOWDON.

In my list of peals that were rung before Holt's I might in further evidence have mentioned a peal rung at Painswick in 1731.

In the tower of that church there is a tablet which commemorates different peals of Triples and Caters rung from 1731 to 1737: these peals were, doubtless, Grandsire. A few years ago I was favoured with the loan of the Painswick manuscript-peal book, from which I ascertained that on February 19th, 1831, the Society of Painswick Youths rang a peal of Grandsire Triples to commemorate one of these peals of Triples rung in 1731. That the latter performance was rung as a centennial peal is evident from the note appended to the record; it runs thus—"Composed by Mr. Richard Butler in the year 1731." I inquired whether this composition could now be brought forward, but, unfortunately, nothing seems to be known about it; and whether, like all those yet known to have been rung before Holt's original, it was on three-lead-course plan, or whether it was even a true peal, is yet uncertain. Still, if the composition of this peal had been preserved at Painswick for a hundred years, it may again come to light.

Having now given all the information that I can concerning the earliest known peals of Grandsire, a few remarks upon Holt's peals may be of interest. Holt, as has already been related, called his one-part peal from a manuscript copy, and did not take any other part in the performance. We may be sure that many a conductor would feel ambitious to call the peal without such assistance, but it was not until forty years after its first performance that this object was attained. On Sunday, October 28th, 1791, the College Youths rang this peal at St. Giles's in-the-Fields, when it was conducted by Charles Barber, who rang the treble, and thus gained the honour of being the first man to conduct the peal and take part in the ringing. Since that time this feat has been accomplished by many conductors, and especially by those of the present day, with some of whom it is always a favourite feat. Mr. Pettit of the College Youths has, I believe, called it from every bell, the tenor included, Mr. H. W. Haley and Mr. John Cox have both, besides frequently calling it in the tower, rung a pair of bells and called it on the handbells. In fact, I believe, that all the novel conditions under which this peal may be called have long since been exhausted.

The first time that the ten-part peal was rung, Shipway states, was in 1754, by the Society of Cumberland Youths, the record of this performance will therefore be of interest to my readers:—

From the peal-book of the Cumberland Youths:—"St. Leonard's, Shoreditch. The Society on Saturday, 12th October, 1754, rang completely a peal of 5040 Grandsire Triples, in five parts, with a single at the half-way. It was performed in 3 hours and 25 minutes. The performers were:

GEORGE PARTRICK, treble, & call'd bobs.	SAMUEL WOOD, fifth.
JOHN SIBERY, second.	FRANCIS WOOD, sixth.
HENRY BOLTON, third.	JEREMIAH GILBERT, seventh.
JOHN PARLEMENT, fourth.	JOHN CRADDOCK, tenor.

This peal was composed by Mr. John Holt."

As an instance shewing how ringing is handed down in families, I may mention that Samuel and Francis Wood, who rang in this peal, were brothers, of French extraction, and broad silk weavers by trade, their original name being *Debois*, which was Anglicised to Wood. Francis Wood, who died suddenly about 1780, left a family of eight boys and two girls, one of the former, who was then ten years old, became the father of Mr. M. A. Wood, of the College Youths, who is so well known to the present generation of change-ringers.

In connection with this peal it should be noticed that it was rung by the Cumberland Youths, a society with which John Holt does not seem to have been connected. I would also draw attention to the fact that according to the peal-books, it was not until the year 1771 that a peal of Grandsire Triples was rung by the College Youths. In my opinion this tends to show that there was a strong feeling against all of the compositions which had been produced in this method on seven bells; at any rate, as the Norwich ringer wrote, "Mr. Anable's not encouraging of it" seems to have been generally followed by the London members of the Exercise, or surely a society like the College Youths, who had previously to 1771 rung nine peals of Grandsire Cinques and twenty-two of Caters, would before that time have rung their first peal of Grandsire Triples.

In concluding this subject, I may add that probably some of my readers may think that in the foregoing descriptions of these earliest peals of Grandsire Triples I have taken the trouble to insist too frequently on the fact that many of them are evidence that true peals must have been rung years before Holt's were brought out. If however such persons could carry themselves back some ten years, they would find that, at that time, no one was found to question the assertions of the writers of the *Clavis*, and Shipway, that all peals rung before Holt's were false, and would also find that this opinion was then held by the older members of the Exercise with a tenacity that did not

admit of question from a younger member. My object has been to shew that peals of Grandsire Triples, on the three-lead-course plan, were composed and rung previous to the production of Holt's peals, but that these peals, although readily admitted at the present day were, by certain members of the Exercise not considered legitimate compositions, and treated with such contempt that in course of time as their calling was lost sight of, they were stigmatised as false, and Holt's once rejected peals found more favour, and eventually came to be considered the first true peals ever composed.

THE HOLT SOCIETY.—ASTON PARISH, NEAR BIRMINGHAM.

On Saturday last, November 10th, at the annual gathering of the Erdington Branch of this society, a well-struck peal of Grandsire Triples was performed at the church of SS. Thomas and Edmund, a record of which appears in another column. The ringers afterwards adjourned to the "Swan Hotel," where a sumptuous dinner was provided, and after the cloth was drawn, the chair was taken by Mr. John Jenks, junr. Mr. Wilton, in proposing the health of the chairman, said that no doubt had it not been for medical advice he would have been an active member of the society.

The CHAIRMAN returned thanks for the position he was honoured with that evening, and said that he was always pleased to be where the art of change-ringing was going on, and he hoped that ere long he would be able to help the society in its doings.

Mr. FRANK HALES, joint treasurer, proposed "The Holt Society," in appropriate terms, which was duly honoured, coupling with it the name of the President (Mr. William Kent), whose energy and management had undoubtedly brought the society to its present position. Although he had not taken part in the peal that day, he felt the same pleasure with hearing, and also with being present with them on the occasion of this meeting.

The PRESIDENT briefly responded, and thanked the members for the kind manner in which they had proposed his health, also for the exquisite spread they had sat down to. He was always pleased to try to further the cause of change-ringing, and hoped the younger members, or those that had not taken a practical part in it, would do their best to come forward and assist in the scientific art.

Mr. WITTON proposed the health of the donor of the bells (Mr. Genders), also present friends, and kindred associations.

Mr. GENDERS thanked the company heartily for proposing his health, also for the respect they had shown. He was happy to be present on this occasion. Being in his 76th year, he could not expect to be a ringer himself, but he always liked to hear his children speak (meaning the bells), more especially as he had heard them that afternoon.

Mr. SANDERS responded, and made a few encouraging remarks on ringing, etc.

The CHAIRMAN proposed a vote of thanks to the Host for the able manner in which he had catered for them. After a few other toasts had been drunk, the remainder of the evening was spent in songs, which were rendered effectively by some of the members, also touches and tunes were played on the handbells.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

MANSFIELD.—On Saturday, November 3rd, the following members of this Association visited Mansfield, and by the kind permission of the Vicar and Churchwardens, rang a quarter-peal (1260 changes) of Grandsire Triples, at St. Peter's church, in 47 mins. J. Wiberly, 1; S. Burton, 2; S. Simkin, 3; A. Archer, 4; R. D. Peel, 5; W. Goslin, 6; J. Hickman, 7; W. Sadler, 8. Tenor 19 cwt. in E. About thirty years ago; there was an excellent band of Treble Bob and Grandsire ringers at Mansfield, but owing to some difference between a newly-appointed vicar and the ringers, the tower was closed against them, and there has been but little change-ringing since. We are pleased in being able to state that there is now a very promising young company established, who are receiving tuition at the hands of Mr. W. Goslin, who is the only surviving member of the once famous band of Mansfield change-ringers. S. J. Potts, Esq., the vicar's warder, expressed great satisfaction at the manner in which the bells were rung, and the pleasing tunes and changes rung upon the handbells, which latter performance brought to a close an agreeable afternoon's enjoyment.

THE COX JUBILEE FUND.—At Lammas Hall, Old Battersea, on Monday, November 26th, 1883, the St. Mary's bell-ringing society will give a grand concert, the proceeds to be handed over to the treasurer of this fund. The artistes engaged are Madame Agnes Ross, Madame Lansdell-Sims, Mr. Edwin Bryant, Mr. Sebastian King; reciter, Mr. A. G. Thomas; accompanist, Mr. E. Willmott-Renshaw. The West Ham handbell ringers will also be present.

SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.

THIS Society held its Autumn Quarterly Meeting at West Bromwich, on Saturday, November 10th, which passed off most successfully. The following bands were represented: Christ Church, West Bromwich, All Saints, West Bromwich, Lichfield Cathedral, St. Mary's Lichfield, Tottenhall, and Wombourn. All the arrangements had been carefully made by Mr. S. Reeves of Christ Church, West Bromwich, and proceedings commenced at 2.30 p.m. with ringing at All Saints' and Christ Church. At 5 p.m. the members of the society attended service at Christ Church, the address being given by the Vicar. A committee meeting was afterwards held in the vestry, the most important business being the election of new members; amongst others, the Vicar of All Saints, the Rev. M. M. Connor, and the Vicar of Christ Church, Rev. C. H. Joberns were elected honorary members of the society. The Rev. C. H. Joberns had kindly asked all present to tea, which was served in the coffee house at 6 p.m. thirty two members were present, and the Secretary, the Rev. J. R. Keble, made a short speech, stating that the prospects of the society were most hopeful, and that it was being already recognized as a useful means of improving the condition of the steeples and of the ringing in the Archdeaconry; he strongly urged all present to do their best to get fresh members to join. The rest of the evening was spent in the belfries till 9.30 p.m. The ringing consisted of touches of Grandsire and Stedman Triples, Treble Bob and Grandsire Major, Grandsire Caters, and a plain course of Grandsire Cinques at Christ Church. The next general meeting of the society will be held at Wolverhampton on Saturday, January 5th, 1884.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

A DISTRICT MEETING of the above Association will be held at Maldon, on Saturday, November 24th. The towers of All Saints and St. Mary's churches (six bells each), will be open to members at 1 p.m. Business meeting at 4.30. Tea directly after. Members intending to be present are requested to inform the Secretary at an early date, as the Vicar and Churchwardens have kindly promised to contribute towards the cost of the tea.

Battles Bridge, S.O., Essex,
November 13th.

H. A. COCKEY,
Hon. Sec.

PILTON, SOMERSET.

AFTER a silence of two years, the villagers of Pilton have again heard the chimes of their own church bells. The church, which is dedicated to St. John the Baptist, has a peal of six bells, but when the church was restored in 1870 under the then vicar (Mr. Grey), the tower was left untouched, although at this period the bell-chamber and the bell fittings were in an exceedingly dangerous condition. Mr. H. Stokes, church bell hanger, of Woodbury, Exeter, has carried out his contract in a thoroughly workmanlike manner, and to the complete satisfaction of the vicar and churchwardens. All the old framing has been replaced by new oak beams and floor, new framing has also been affixed for the bells, and all the fittings have been renewed. Mr. Stokes has also fixed to the bells the Ellacombe chiming apparatus.

THE CAVENDISH SOCIETY.

The above society observed the 9th inst. as a ringing-day in honour of His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales. The bells were started at 5.30 a.m., and a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob rung in 26 mins. During the day sundry touches of Minor and several 6-scores of Bob Doubles were rung. Also a 720 of Plain Bob (22 singles) was rung in 25 mins., a 720 of Kent Treble Bob in 26 mins.; and a 720 of New London in 25 mins. The following ringers took part in the above. Messrs. Alexander Hurst, C. W. Hurst, J. S. Page, F. J. Thompson, H. Thompson, F. P. Adams, A. Ives, G. Maxim, and James Tiffin Deeks.

STOKE-UPON-TRENT ARCHIDIACONAL ASSOCIATION.

NORTON-LE-MOORS.—The second meeting of the Association was held here last Saturday, and was attended by twenty-four ringing members, representing eight parishes:—viz. Norton-le-Moors, Stoke, Burslem, Hanley, Wolstanton, Biddulph, Horton and Cheddleton. A substantial tea was provided for the visitors by the Rector and churchwardens. The fixture for next Saturday is Wolstanton.

UNITED COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

THE Committee of the above Association held their Quarterly Meeting at the "Lowe's Arms," Haughton, on Saturday last, November 10th. It was resolved, 1st: "That new members be admitted up to 1884, and the annual subscription of rs. become due in January, 1885." 2nd: "That the annual meeting be held on the third Saturday in January, 1884." 3rd: "That service be held in St. Anne's Church at 3 o'clock, and dinner at 5 o'clock." 4th: "That the bells be not rung during business hours at the Annual Meeting."

A sub-committee of local members was also appointed to carry out arrangements for the Annual meeting, which will be held at St. Anne's, Haughton, in accordance with the resolution passed at Chapel-en-le-Frith in July.

During the day, the bells were rung in Bob Minor, Oxford Treble Bob, Violet, and New London Pleasure by the local company, the Saddleworth company, and the Glossop company. The visitors were highly pleased with the tone and go of the bells. Several courses and tunes were also indulged in, after business was over.

FUNERAL PEAL AT YORK MINSTER.

ON Thursday, November 8th, upon the Minster bells, a date touch 1883 changes, of Grandsire Caters, was rung by the following members of the Minster company, in 1 hr. 28 mins. This was rung with the bells muffled as a mark of respect to the memory of the late J. J. Leeman, Esq., M.P. J. Cundall, 1; T. Hodgson, 2; G. Breed (conductor), 3; R. Thompson, 4; J. Underwood, 5; J. Thompson, 6; T. Haigh, 7; W. Morrell, 8; W. H. Howard (composer), 9; M. West and J. Daniel, 10. Tenor 54 cwt.

SIR EDMUND BECKETT AND THE ARCHITECTS.

THE following letters have recently been published in *The Building News*:—

"IGNORANCE VERSUS CULTURE."

"SIR,—Sir Edmund Beckett, in a letter which appeared in the *Times* of the 23rd inst., quotes a remark of a certain Bishop Lonsdale whose name is not perhaps known now beyond the little circle of 'his sisters, his cousins, and his aunts,' to the effect that 'no professional men generally do their work so ill as architects' (I am not responsible for the grammar of this sentence).

"Sir Edmund, on a drawing of the new façade of St. Alban's Abbey, which was reproduced in the *Building News* in March, 1881, signs himself 'Architect.' He is, therefore, quite in his right when he tells us that he, as an architect, agrees with this obscure prelate, in the opinion that no professional men do their work so ill as architects.

"Sir Edmund Beckett has made a bell, a will, and a façade. The bell is cracked, the will of Mr. Dent was not, perhaps, a success; the façade of St. Albans, and the 'Book on Building,' speak for themselves.

"It would, perhaps, have been a little difficult for a mere outsider to decide whether as bell-founder, will-draughter, or architect, Sir Edmund Beckett did his work the worst. It is, therefore, a satisfaction to have from the gentleman himself a solution of this somewhat difficult question.—I am, &c.

"AN ARCHITECT WHO IS NOT A LAWYER."

"THE LATE MR. STREET AND SIR EDMUND BECKETT."

"SIR,—It is as well, perhaps, that the *Times* has closed its columns to a correspondence which it took care to make as one-sided as possible; but it does not seem right that Sir Edmund Beckett should be left wholly unanswered.

"His reckless misstatements cannot be substantiated, as he seems characteristically to think, by simple re-assertion, still less by fresh fabrications and darkly-hinted innuendo—his favourite weapon. With what ease and force that weapon might be turned against himself all who know anything of his career must be well aware; but so long as he confines himself to butting at the living his attacks are best met with silence. Architects can well afford to contemplate the familiar spectacle of the voluble, if somewhat slipshod, Baronet running a-muck. He has done it before, and he will do it again when the fit takes him. Like the henpecked navy, we are happy in the knowledge that while it amuses him and the public, it does not hurt us, and we may feel assured that after his wildest onslaught, all people of ordinary common-sense will continue to think the profession of architecture neither worse nor better than any other. When, however, not content with attacking the living, he goes on to misrepresent and abuse one who can no longer defend himself, but whose name will doubtless be held in honour long after Sir Edmund Beckett's is buried in oblivion, I am sure that not only every architect, but every man of decent feeling, must be ready to protest against such a system of warfare.—I am, &c.,

"ARTHUR W. BLOMFIELD."

BENNETT'S CLOCK.—Every visitor to London, who happens to walk down the important thoroughfare called "Cheapside," is sure to be attracted by this wonderful piece of mechanism. A few minutes before every quarter-of-an-hour are to be seen, on the opposite side of the way, numbers of persons waiting to observe the action of the automatic figures, who, poised aloft, record the passage of time with the utmost regularity. This clock has thus become in some sort a national institution, and a veritable landmark for all residents of London who journey Citywards. And what popularity this horologe enjoys is certainly shared by its owner, Sir John Bennett, who is a great favorite with the majority of Londoners, and always is cheered to the echo whenever he takes part in a civic pageant of any kind. Knighted while serving the office of sheriff, the style and title of the Cheapside firm has not been altered to embrace the prefix belonging to the knighthood of the principal, which is, to say the least, a characteristic worthy of imitation by every recipient of similar honours.

HEWORTH-ON-TYNE PARISH CHURCH,
NORTHUMBERLAND.

THE dedication of the new bell cast for the parish church by Messrs. John Taylor and Co., of Loughborough, took place last week. The vicar, churchwardens, and all the principal residents of the district were at the service. After the service, Mrs. Steele, wife of the vicar, started the splendid new clock which strikes the hours and quarter-hours, and shows the time on three illuminated dials. The clock was made by Messrs. Wm. Potts and Sons, of Leeds. Besides striking the hours on the new large bell, the clock will strike the ding-dong quarters on the two smaller bells, one of which is one of the oldest known bells in the county, having been at Heworth for the last 200 years, and 700 years before that in the neighbouring parish of Gateshead. After the service, the inhabitants adjourned to the schoolroom, where a bazaar was being held for the clock and bells. A substantial tea was partaken of in the room below, given by a few friends in aid of the above.

BIRTHDAYS.

LAST week we recorded a peal of Treble Bob Major at Highgate, and as is usual, says a correspondent, "when a peal is successfully brought home, some sort of a celebration is sure to be made. The company, after leaving the tower, repaired to their old quarters just below the church, where, although no elaborate preparations were made, a very pleasant evening was enjoyed. 'The Health of Mr. Page,' who attained his 60th year, and 'The Health of Mr. Barrett,' who reached his 47th year, was warmly drunk, with good wishes for the future anniversaries of this momentous epoch of their lives. After these toasts had been responded to, the time was spent in singing. Mr. Page giving a page of his own composition, while Mr. Barrett was excused on the ground of his having sung enough in calling his first peal. Other members of the company also gave several popular ballads, and the hour of parting having commenced, "Good-night" was said, and Messrs. Page and Barrett, wending their way home, commenced another year of their pilgrimage."

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 RIVAL RINGERS.—OLDHAM v. ASHTON.]

SIR,—In your number of October 6th, you give an extract from the *Manchester City News*, relating to a contest between these bands, in which I find it stated that a peal rung at Eccles in 2 hrs. 45 mins., on a 12 cwt. tenor, is the quickest on record. I beg to say this is not so; on the 22nd of February, 1852, a 5056 Treble Bob Major was rung at Tipton, in this county, in exactly the same time, and on a tenor of same weight. Again, the writer considers it impossible to ring a 5040 in the short time there given. I have to state that a peal of Grandsire Triples (5040) was rung on the light eight at Christ Church, in this town, on the 25th of October, 1853, in 2 hrs. and 25 mins., tenor 8 cwt. 3 qrs. 14 lbs. The time of these peals was registered by watches hung in the belfry. With respect to the remarks as to time of the winning peal at Flixton, I consider these hypercritical. Was the peal shortened? if so what could the lead-takers be doing, who I understand were in the belfry? The Ashton men outside would surely check the time by the church clock, and how about the judges? SAMUEL MARSH.

West Bromwich, November 6th.

REPLY TO DISCLAIMER.

SIR,—In reply to the disclaimer by the so called St. Andrew's ringers, I beg to say the paragraph which appeared in your paper of October 6th, respecting the 720 rang at St. Luke's, Westminster, is perfectly correct. I, with others, have been the ringers of the above church from the time I hung the bells in 1868, and shall still term ourselves as such, until we are discharged by the Vicar or Churchwardens, as up to the present time we have not had the slightest intimation from them of our places being filled by a lot of inferior Churchyard Bob gentlemen who style themselves ringers.

19, Hillgrove Street, Bristol.

ALFRED YORK.

AN INTERESTING TABLET.

SIR,—At the Monthly Meeting of the Durham and Newcastle Diocesan Association, held on Thursday evening last, the members resolved to send a small contribution to the "John Cox Jubilee Fund," and at the same time it was suggested by the members (some of whom remember Mr. Cox when he was down here), that at the present time it might be interesting to some of your readers to know that nearly

forty-three years ago Mr. Cox conducted a peal of Holt's Grandsire Triples, on the bells of the newly-created cathedral of this city (then St. Nicholas church). A very nice memorial tablet is in the belfry of the above cathedral in commemoration of the above performance, and I was requested by the members to copy it and send it to you, not exactly with a request that you should publish it, but that it should be left to your own judgment whether you put it in or not. I append a copy of the above-mentioned tablet:—

"St. Nicholas Church, 1842.

On Easter Sunday, March 27th, the Union Ringers, in company with J. Cox and J. Freeman, two members of the Society of St. James' Youths, London, rang on the bells of this tower, a true and complete peal of Holt's Grandsire Triples, consisting of 5040 changes, in 2 hours 59 minutes, tenor 36 cwt. The following are the names of the ringers:—Chas. Walker, 1; John Elliott, 2; Allan Stephenson, 3; John Freeman, 4; John Cox, 5; Robt. Balmra, 6; George James, 7; Richard Wanless, 8. John Cox, Conductor.

JOHN DIBBLE.

"THE RETORT COURTEOUS."

SIR,—I think it is a pity that the letter referring to the striking of the bells of the parish church company on the occasion already mentioned should have appeared in your paper, as it is evident from the tone of the writer that he is no ringer at all, and is as ignorant of bell-ringing as the bells are of him, and sir, I think it would have been a credit to his prompter if he had collected his company together and gone to his tower and rung two peals half as well. It would have been good news for all the bell-ringers in this district.

While we have the credit of experienced men, and one of forty years, standing, it is not much use taking notice of Mr. "Lover of Good Ringing," or his prompter. If they will attend to their own business they will soon become as efficient in the art of ringing as the company they are finding fault with, and then they will be better able to judge what ringing is than they are at the present time, and I hope they will stand up like men boldly, and not be ashamed of their names in the future. They think they are leading us out, but they are greatly mistaken, for we shall not take any further notice of them, but shall go steadily on, prospering as we have done in the past, and hope they will make better use of their time than they have done. A. BROWN.

Cemetery Lodge, Spalding.

"CLAPPINGING."

SIR,—St. John's church, Wakefield, contains a fine ring of eight bells, the sixth of which has been cracked for the last nine or ten years. Since the subject of "clappinging" appeared in "THE BELL NEWS," I have made enquiry as to how this bell met with her misfortune. It appears that a good many peals have been rung on this handy ring (tenor about 24 cwt.) and change-ringing practised, until it was discovered a few years ago that the tower had given way, and was too weak for the bells to be rung up in the usual manner. The ropes were then tied to the clappers, and the bells rung in this way only a very short time, when the sixth had to succumb to this mischievous practice. This bell may therefore be added to the list of bells cracked by "clappinging." The bells are still "clapped," and no wonder if some of the others meet with the same fate, as I frequently hear the clappers pulled heavily to the side of the bells and held there, which is easy for an outsider to detect.

5, Barsh Square, Wakefield.

JNO. HOLLIS,

"J. R. J. AND MR. RODGERS, BELL-HANGER."

SIR,—As some of your readers seem to be under a misapprehension, allow me to inform them that I am not the "J. R. J." who asked the query about Mr. Rodgers, bell-hanger, in your issue of October 13th, nor do I know anything of the party who sent the query. I was well aware from the first that it was not my friend, Mr. T. Rogers, of Boston, who was alluded to.

The Close, Salisbury.

J. R. JERRAM.

GRANDSIRE MINOR.

SIR,—In reply to W. Pearson's request in your last issue, for some 720s of Grandsire Minor, I beg to tell him that the second one given by Troyte on page 55 is capable, by alteration of the observation-bell, of making ten different 720s, the calls being still in the same order. Below I give the calls, and opposite each lead the bell which will be the observation if the calling is commenced at that lead:

Calls.	Obsn.	Calls.	Obsn.
In	6th.	Home	3rd.
... ..	2nd.	... ..	6th.
Out at two	2nd (out at 1).	Before	5th.
Wrong	4th.	... ..	3rd.
Before	5th.	... ..	4th.

The dots represent the plain leads. For a whole 720 repeat five times, and in third and sixth parts call the observation "out at two" with a single instead of a bob. The omission to call a single in the third part will bring it round at half-way.

DODGER.

In connection with this subject, Mr. J. J. Parker, of Farnham Royal, Bucks, writes: "If Mr. W. Pearson will send me his address, shall be pleased to send him some Grandsire Minor."

"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, E. W. 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. WIBBERLEY.—The first hour or two of leisure we have, we will produce one for you. In Triples of the method you mention, it is not too easy. Caters would be much more simple.

W. BIGGS.—Your report is not sufficiently plain. What St. Paul's church do you refer to?

AUDITOR TANTUM.—All received; letter on way.

The Bell News & Ringers' Record.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 17, 1883.

EVER since this paper has been in existence, we have been favoured by correspondents with most minute and interesting accounts of peals of bells in various parts of the country. By this means there has now been accumulated a large amount of reliable information: which however is for the most part disjointed, and without continuity. It has occurred to us this might be made the nucleus of a work which shall ultimately be an authorised and complete guide to the bells and bellfounders of England.

Obviously the most easy way to carry out this idea, would be for the County Associations to take the matter up. By means of a circular, the Secretary could call on each Society to furnish the requisite details; and in cases where no ringing took place, the rector or some other person in authority would doubtless have pleasure in giving a helping hand. It would be easy to find competent men, to whom it would be a labour of love, to put the results of this action in readable form, and to supply any deficiencies therein.

Having collected the information, we imagine there would be little difficulty in publishing it in cheap form by subscription. Each society interested would of course take copies; in addition to which there should be a large demand from ringers wishing to have the whole collection. The local editors, as we may call them, should confer together so as to secure uniformity in the manner of publication; in fact the books should be arranged under one title, and be treated as so many volumes of the same work.

That this scheme will be considered impracticable by many we do not doubt; but we are sure that it will be

worth a trial. In Yorkshire, for instance, there is already so much matter available that it would be little trouble to make the account complete.

The great advantages which may be obtained thus are so evident as to need no particular reference. It only remains to add that we shall be happy to furnish every assistance in our power if any Association shows a disposition to take the matter up; and we are sure they may reckon on the hearty co-operation of all interested in the "noble art and manly exercise" of ringing.

The Provinces.

GLODWICK, LANCASHIRE.

On Tuesday, November 6, 1883, in Two Hours and Forty-six Minutes,

AT ST. MARK'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
 REEVES'S VARIATION. Tenor 8½ cwt.

DANIEL LEES Treble.	GEORGE DUNKERLEY .. 5.
GEORGE H. BEEVER 2.	CLEMOND DRONSFIELD .. 6.
JAMES RILEY 3.	THOMAS WILDE 7.
WILLIAM WARD 4.	WILLIAM RHODES .. Tenor.

Conducted by GEORGE H. BEEVER.

Thomas Wilde hails from Hyde; the rest of the company belong to Glodwick.

REDENHALL, NORFOLK.

THE SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.

On Thursday, November 8, 1883, in Three Hours and Thirty Minutes,

AT ST. MARY'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;
 IN THE OXFORD VARIATION. Tenor 24 cwt.

EDWARD SMITH Treble.	N. J. PITSTOW 5.
WILLIAM SHELDRAKE 2.	FREDERICK SMITH 6.
WILLIAM MATTHEWS 3.	GEORGE MOBBS 7.
GEORGE PRIME 4.	CAPTAIN MOORE .. Tenor.

Composed by N. J. PITSTOW, and conducted by EDWARD SMITH.

This peal contains the 6th the extent in 5, 6, and five course-ends each way, will be found in Snowdon's Treatise, Part II.

BURTON-ON-TRENT, STAFFORDSHIRE.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION, AND THE
 ST. PAUL'S SOCIETY, BURTON-ON-TRENT.

On Friday, November 9, 1883, in Three Hours and Nine Minutes,

AT ST. PAUL'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
 HOLT'S 10-PART. Tenor 26 cwt.

REV. JAMES H. FISH .. Treble.	JOHN JAGGAR 5.
WILLIAM WAKLEY 2.	ARTHUR WAKLEY 6.
HARRY WAKLEY 3.	THOMAS HOLMES 7.
JOSEPH GRIFFIN 4.	GEORGE APPLEBY .. Tenor.

Conducted by JOSEPH GRIFFIN.

Rung on the occasion of the election of George Allsopp, Esquire, as Mayor of Burton-on-Trent for the second time.

WREXHAM, DENBIGHSHIRE, NORTH WALES.

On Friday, November 9th, 1883, in Three Hours and One Minute,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
 REEVES'S VARIATION. Tenor 28 cwt. in D.

ALFRED LEA Treble.	JOHN ELLIS 5.
R. W. EVANS 2.	THOMAS NEWELL 6.
ROBERT JONES 3.	EDWARD ROWLAND 7.
JOSEPH WILLIAMS 4.	EDWARD EVANS Tenor.

Conducted by EDWARD ROWLAND.

The above peal was rung as a compliment to the Mayor, J. B. Murless, Esq., who was elected to the civic chair the day the peal was rung.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—SOWERBY.

On Saturday, November 10, 1883, in Three Hours and Fifty-nine Minutes,
At St. Peter's Church,

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

JAMES ANGUS .. .. .Treble.	JOSEPH CHEETHAM 5.
GEORGE CLAY .. .. .2.	RICHARD CULPAN 6.
JOSEPH H. HARDCASTLE .. 3.	TOM HAIGH .. .. .7.
ROWLAND HILL .. .. .4.	JASPER W. SNOWDON, Esq. Tenor.

Composed by N. J. PITSTOW, and conducted by J. W. SNOWDON.

Messrs. Angus, Hardcastle, and Cheetham, hail from Bradford, Clay, Hill and Haigh from the Huddersfield District, Culpan from Sowerby, and Snowdon from Leeds.

The peal, on Mr. Cox's plan, will be found in "The Bell News," June 10th, 1883.

After ringing the peal the ringers were entertained to tea by Mr. Culpan, at his house, the "Shoulder of Mutton Inn." Mr. Sottanstill, the veteran composer, now in his eighty-fourth year, was present.

HORSHAM, SUSSEX.

On Saturday, November 10, 1883, in Three Hours and Twelve Minutes,
At the Parish Church,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
TAYLOR'S VARIATION. Tenor 24 cwt. in E.

HARRY COOK .. .. .Treble.	THOMAS ANDREWS 5.
HARRY CHANTLER .. .. .2.	HENRY BURSTOW 6.
WILLIAM SHORT .. .. .3.	HARRY WOOD .. .. .7.
FELIX KNIGHT .. .. .4.	WILLIAM WOOD Tenor.

Conducted by HENRY BURSTOW.

LIVERSEDGE, YORKSHIRE.

On Saturday, November 10, 1883, in Two Hours and Fifty-seven Minutes,
At Christ Church,

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

J. W. LANG .. .. .Treble.	S. GOODALL .. .. .5.
J. NAYLOR .. .. .2.	M. RAMSDEN .. .. .6.
J. FISHER .. .. .3.	L. ILLINGWORTH 7.
T. POLLARD .. .. .4.	W. COLLINS .. .. .Tenor.

Composed by WM. GOODALL, of Liversedge, and conducted by L. ILLINGWORTH.

Messrs. Naylor, Fisher and Pollard hail from Bradford, the rest of the company belong to Liversedge.

ERDINGTON, WARWICKSHIRE.

THE HOLT SOCIETY (ASTON-JUXTA-BIRMINGHAM).

On Saturday, November 10, 1883, in Three Hours,
At SS. THOMAS AND EDMUND CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
HOLT'S 6-PART. Tenor 15 cwt.

A. HALES*Treble.	J. PLANT5.
T. J. HEMMING2.	W. KENT6.
J. BENN3.	C. STANBRIDGE 7.
A. JONES4.	*B. DUNLEAVY Tenor.

Conducted by W. KENT.

* First peal. This is the second peal that has ever been rung upon the bells.

WOOLWICH, KENT.—THE EASTERN SCHOLARS.

On Tuesday, November 13, 1883, in Two Hours and Fifty-two Minutes,
At St. Mary's Church,

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

H. BRIGHT .. .. .Treble.	THOMAS G. DEAL 5.
W. WEATHERSTONE 2.	HENRY HARVEY 6.
CHARLES J. BARHAM† .. 3.	THOMAS TAYLOR 7.
J. C. HARVEY .. .. .4.	*FREDK. W. THORNTON .. Tenor.

Conducted by J. CHARLES HARVEY.

(His first peal as conductor.)

This peal was rung to commemorate the 62nd anniversary of the first peal rang upon the above bells by the Eastern Scholars.

The Brothers Harvey, Messrs. Barham, Deal, and Taylor, are members of the Waterloo Society. F. W. Thornton attained the age of 20 on the above date.

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

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—ECCLES.

On Monday, November 12, 1883, in Two Hours and Fifty Minutes,
At the Parish Church,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Tenor 13½ cwt. in G.

CHARLES CASH† .. .. .Treble.	†JAMES BARRETT 5.
EDWARD CASH† .. .. .2.	†RICHARD ASHCROFT .. 6.
ALBERT E. WREAKS†* .. 3.	GEORGE H. JOHNSON .. 7.
GEORGE LONGDEN* 4.	JAMES SCHOLEY Tenor.

Composed by the late HENRY HUBBARD, and conducted by JAMES SCHOLEY.

The Brothers Cash hail from Swinton; Wreaks from Manchester; Longden from Ashton-under-Lyne; the rest of the company belong to Eccles.

This is the first peal in the method rung by the Association.

* College Youths. † First peal in the method.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION, AND THE HOLY TRINITY SOCIETY, HULL.

On Tuesday, November 13, 1883, in Two Hours and Fifty-eight Minutes,
At Holy Trinity Church,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
DAY'S BOB-AND-SINGLE VARIATION. Tenor 25 cwt.

FREDERICK MERRISON ..Treble.	*HARRY CUTTER 5.
WILLIAM SOUTHWICK* .. 2.	*CHAS. JACKSON 6.
JAMES DIXEY .. .. .3.	*CHAS. BENNETT 7.
HENRY JENKINS .. .. .4.	FRANK DRABBLE Tenor.

Conducted by CHARLES JACKSON.

Harry Cutter hails from London, and this is his first peal in the above Association.

*Members of the Ancient Society of College Youths.

This is the first time this peal has been rung by the Yorkshire Association, and was attempted on the occasion of Mr. W. Southwick attaining his 39th year.

ST. MARTIN'S YOUTHS.—ASTON-JUXTA-BIRMINGHAM.

On Tuesday, November 13, 1883, in Three Hours and Eighteen Minutes,
At the Church of SS. PETER AND PAUL,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERERS, 5040 CHANGES.

H. BASTABLE* .. .. .Treble.	W. SMALL .. .. .6.
J. JOYNES .. .. .2.	*J. SANDERS .. .. .7.
W. KENT* .. .. .3.	*J. BUFFERY .. .. .8.
C. H. HATTERSLEY..† .. 4.	H. JOHNSON, JUN., .. 9.
H. JOHNSON, SEN. 5.	*T. REYNOLDS Tenor.

Composed by HENRY JOHNSON, sen., conducted by H. BASTABLE.

The figures of this peal will appear in our next issue.

C. H. Hattersley hails from Sheffield. * Also members of the Holt Society, Aston.

Miscellaneous.

THE ST. JAMES'S SOCIETY.

ST. GEORGE-THE-MARTYR, SOUTHWARK.—On Sunday, November 11th, eight of the above society rang for Divine Service in the evening, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 44 mins. H. Langdon, 1; W. Jones, 2; J. Barry, 3; E. Rogers, 4; D. Stackwood, 5; E. Moses, 6; F. Bate, 7; W. Coxhead, 8. Tenor 18 cwt. in F. Composed by the late H. Booth, and conducted by F. Bate.

CHRIST CHURCH, BLACKFRIARS.—On Saturday, November 10th, a few members of the above society met at the above church, and rang several touches of Grandsire Triples, including a 630, in 23 mins. H. Alford, 1; H. Langdon (longest touch with a bob bell), 2; E. Steventon, 3; W. Jones, 4; G. Marriott (conductor), 5; G. T. McLaughlin, 6; J. Barry, 7; R. K. Knight, 8. Tenor 18 cwt. in F.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

NEWCASTLE-ON TYNE.—On Monday, November 12th, at St. John-the-Baptist, for practice, a 720 of College Pleasure, in 27 mins. W. Egglestone, 1; C. L. Routledge, 2; F. Lees, 3; W. G. Routledge, 4; W. Story, 5; R. Story (conductor), 6. First 720 in the method by all. Tenor 12½ cwt.

STOCKTON-ON-TEES.—On Sunday morning, November 4th, a 720 of Double Court Bob. T. Whitfield, 1; G. J. Clarkson (conductor), 2; H. E. T. Glover, B.A., 3; T. Burdon, 4; T. Stephenson, 5; W. Newton, 6. Also on Friday, November 9th, being the Mayor's day, a 720 each of Oxford Bob, Kent Treble Bob, and Double Court Bob. T. Whitfield, 1; G. J. Clarkson, 2; J. Clarkson, 3; W. Stephenson, 4;

T. Stephenson (conductor), 5; T. Burdon, 6. Also a 720 of Bob Minor. T. Whitfield, 1; J. Clarkson, 2; T. Waller, 3; T. Stephenson (conductor), 4; T. Burdon, 5; G. J. Clarkson, 6. Also a 720 of Woodbine. J. Clarkson, 1; G. J. Clarkson (conductor), 2; W. Newton, 3; W. Stephenson, 4; T. Stephenson, 5; T. Burdon, 6. Also on Sunday morning, November 11th, a 720 of Stedman's Slow Course. T. Whitfield, 1; G. J. Clarkson (conductor), 2; J. Clarkson, 3; T. Burdon, 4; T. Stephenson, 5; W. Newton, 6. And after service a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob. G. J. Clarkson (conductor), 1; T. Burdon, 2; J. Clarkson, 3; W. Stephenson, 4; T. Stephenson, 5; W. Newton, 6.

THE SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.

GLEMSFORD (Suffolk).—On Tuesday, November 13th, six members of this society rang at St. Mary's church, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor (twelve bobs), in 29 mins. Frederick Wells, 1; Zachariah Slater, 2; Samuel Slater, 3; Nelson Hawkins, 4; Oliver Garwood, 5; Frederick Paul Adams (conductor), 6. Also on the same evening, the same band rang a 720 of Cambridge Surprise, in 30 mins. Nelson Hawkins, 1; Zachariah Slater, 2; Samuel Slater, 3; Frederick Wells, 4; Oliver Garwood, 5; Frederick Paul Adams (conductor), 6. On Saturday, November 3rd, a 720 of Morning Exercise: John Slater, 1; Zachariah Slater, 2; Samuel Slater, 3; Frederick Wells, 4; Oliver Garwood, 5; Frederick Paul Adams (conductor), 6.

HORNSEY (Middlesex).—On Sunday, November 11th, at the parish church, a 720 of Double Stedman's Slow Course Minor, in 28 mins. George Griffin, 1; Wingfield Meadows, 2; James Hannington (conductor), 3; Thomas Titchener, 4; Arthur Jacob, 5; Edward Chapman, 6; tenor 17½ cwt.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

ROMFORD.—On Sunday afternoon, a 720 of Bob Minor, with fourteen bobs and two singles. F. Gillingham, 1; J. Porter, 2; B. Keeble, 3; A. J. Perkins, 4; A. Porter, 5; A. Pye (conductor), 6. *Handbell Ringing*.—On Saturday evening, a 336 and 307 of Grandsire Triples, A. Porter, 1-2; A. Pye, 3-4; A. J. Perkins (conductor), 5-6; G. Galley, 7-8.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

FARNHAM ROYAL (Bucks).—On Sunday morning, November 11th, for Divine Service, 720 of Bob Minor, in 27 mins. G. Basden, 1; F. Fells, 2; A. Fussell, 3; J. Basden, 4; J. Parker (conductor), 5; C. Clarke, 6. And in the evening, 720 of Oxford Bob Minor (with 40 bobs and 2 singles), in 26 mins. G. Basden, 1; J. Basden, 2; A. Fussell, 3; A. Batten, 4; J. Parker (conductor), 5; C. Clarke, 6. Also 720 of Grandsire Minor, in 27½ mins. A. Fussell (conductor), 1; J. Parker, 2; G. Basden, 3; A. Batten, 4; J. Basden, 5; C. Clarke, 6. Tenor 12 cwt. in F.†.

IVER (Bucks). On Saturday, November 10th, a 720 of Grandsire Minor, in 29 mins. F. Fells, 1; J. Parker (conductor), 2; A. Batten, 3; J. Basden, 4; A. Fussell, 5; C. Clarke, 6. This is the first 720 on these bells, and is likely to be the last, unless they are re-hung, and the ropes re-arranged, for some of the ringers are hid from the view of each other by an hideous clock-case. The bells are a fine ring; tenor about 19 cwt.

STOKE-UPON-TRENT ARCHIDIACONAL ASSOCIATION.

NORTON-LE-MOORS.—At an Association Meeting, on Saturday, November 10th, a 720 of Grandsire Minor, in 27 mins. Jas. Baddeley, 1; E. Glover, 2; J. Morton, 3; W. Brough, 4; J. Pointon, 5; S. Spencer (conductor), 6. Pointon hails from Biddulph; Spencer from Wolstanton; the rest from Norton-le-Moors. Also on Sunday evening, November 11th, for Evensong, a 720 of Grandsire Minor, by the parish ringers, in 28 mins. Herbert Holdcroft, 1; E. Glover, 2; J. Morton, 3; W. Brough, 4; G. Walker, 5; Jas. Baddeley (conductor), 6.

THE WORCESTER DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

WOLLASTON (Worcestershire).—*Muffled Touch*.—On Sunday, November 11th, a 720 of Grandsire Minor, in 28 mins. D. Garbett (first 720), 1; J. Guest, 2; G. Howells (conductor), 3; E. S. Chapman, 4; G. H. Pagett, 5; R. Bidmead, 6. Tenor 12½ cwt. The above was rung as a mark of respect to the late Mr. S. Burton, of Wollaston, who was buried on that day.

BRIGHTON (Sussex).—On Friday, November 9th, at the parish church of St. Peter, eight members of the SS. Peter's and Nicholas' societies attempted Taylor's 6-part peal of Grandsire Triples, in honor of the re-election of Mr. Alderman Cox to the Mayoralty of Brighton

for the third time, but after ringing for 1 hr. 23 mins. the seventh rope parted company with the wheel, and caused an interruption when 2480 changes had been rung. *O. St. John, Esq., 1; E. Hilder, 2; J. Searle, 3; *J. Jay, jun., 4; H. Boast, 5; *G. F. Attree, Esq., 6; J. Jay, 7; *H. Weston, 8. Conducted by G. F. Attree. *Members of the St. Peter's society of amateur ringers.

CANTERBURY (Kent).—On Wednesday, November 7th, at St. Stephen's Church, by the kind permission of Bishop Oxenden, Vicar, and churchwardens, six of the above company, with Mr. G. Stancombe, from London, and R. E. Fiske, Esq., from Ramsgate, rang the first half of Holt's ten-part peal of Grandsire Triples, 2520 changes, in 1 hr. and 30 mins. Walter H. Andrews, 1; George Stancombe (conductor), 2; Robert E. Fiske, Esq., 3; George T. Ovenden, 4; Alfred A. Andrews, 5; Henry G. Fairbrass, 6; John H. Small, 7; Richard Goodbourne, 8. Tenor 18 cwt. It was the intention of the company to attempt the whole peal, but time did not permit for more than the half. The bells have been put in ringing order by Mr. G. T. Ovenden, Canterbury, ringers expressed their entire satisfaction in the going of them, this being the longest touch rung in Canterbury for the last 36 years.

CAVENDISH (Suffolk).—On Thursday, November 8th, the under-mentioned met at St. Mary's, and rang a 720 of Cambridge Surprise, in 25½ mins., to open a tablet which was placed in the belfry on the previous evening, to commemorate the peal of 5040 changes in seven different methods which was rang in March last. F. J. Thompson, 1; J. S. Page, 2; C. W. Hurst, 3; A. Ives, 4; H. Thompson, 5; A. Hurst (conductor), 6. Also a 720 of Kent Treble Bob, in 26 mins. in which Geo. Maxim rung the 5th. And on Sunday, November 11th, a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob, in 27 mins. F. J. Thompson, 1; H. Thompson, 2; C. W. Hurst, 3; A. Ives, 4; G. Maxim, 5; A. Hurst (conductor), 6. Also a 720 of New London Pleasure, in 25 mins. F. J. Thompson, 1; H. Thompson, 2; S. Slater, 3; A. Ives, 4; F. P. Adams, 5; A. Hurst (conductor), 6.

FAVERSHAM (Kent).—On Friday, November 9th, two of the cathedral company from Canterbury, with Mr. G. Stancombe, paid a visit to the above place and rang with the local company during the day touches of Grandsire Triples, and in the evening rung a quarter-peal in the same method, 1260 changes, in 51 mins. A. Biggs, 1; G. Stancombe (conductor), 2; A. Foreman (Canterbury), 3; J. Barnard, 4; H. G. Fairbrass (Canterbury), 5; Capt. Wood, 6; W. Arnold, 7; E. Croser, 8. Tenor 20 cwt.

GLEMSFORD (Suffolk).—On Saturday, November 10th, at St. Mary's church, a 720 of New London Pleasure, and a 720 of Double Court, each in 30 mins. John Slater, 1; Joseph Slater, 2; Samuel Slater, 3; Alexander Hurst, 4; Oliver Garwood, 5; Paul Adams (conductor), 6.

HORNSEY (Middlesex).—On Sunday evening, November 11th, at St. Mary's church, for Divine Service, a 720 of Plain Bob Minor, with five bobs and thirty singles, in 27 mins. M. Ellsmore, 1; G. Lucas, 2; J. Hannington (conductor), 3; T. Titchener, 4; G. Griffin, 5; A. Jacob, 6. Tenor 17½ cwt.

LONDON.—*Funeral Peal*.—On Monday, November 12th, at St. Giles's in the Fields, a funeral peal was rung by the following members of the St. Giles's Society, in 45 mins., as a mark of respect for the late Mrs. Sims, sister of the steeple-keeper of the above parish church. W. Williams (conductor), 1; A. Rowe, 2; W. Lachford, 3; F. Bennett, 4; F. Thomas, 5; J. Allen, 6; W. Parlett, 7; W. Evans, 8. Tenor 18 cwt.

LONG EATON (Derbyshire).—On Sunday, November 11th, seven members of the Midland Counties Association, with Mr. Jno. W. G. Sellon, Esq., of Castle Donington, rang for Divine Service in the evening, 672 of Grandsire Triples, containing the 12 67's at home, in 25 mins. W. Grice, 1; G. Bradley, 2; J. C. Dicken, 3; S. Clarke, 4; J. Ward, 5; A. Widdowson, 6; J. Barrow (conductor), 7; J. W. G. Sellon, Esq., 8. Tenor 11 cwt.

LYMINGE (Kent).—On Saturday evening, November 10th, the local company rang at the parish church, 1260 changes of Bob Doubles, in fifty-four mins. A. Beer, 1; R. Andrews, 2; T. Beer, 3; A. Tanton, 4; J. Andrews (conductor), 5; *W. Fordred, 6. Tenor 18½ cwt. in F. All the above except * are members of the Kent County Association.

MIRFIELD (Yorkshire).—On Saturday, November 10th, at St. Paul's church, three 720's in the following methods: London Scholars' Pleasure, Violet, and Oxford, in 1 hr. and 19 mins. Jesse Holt, 1; Ralph Ellis, 2; Henry Hinchliffe (conductor), 3; Henry Robinson, 4; Benjamin Robinson, 5; Joah Peacock, 6. Tenor 14½ cwt.

PRESTON (Lancashire).—On Thursday, November 8th, at St. Mark's church, for practice, a 720 of Bob Minor, with 42 singles. J. Walker (conductor), 1; W. Heald, 2; T. Ellison, 3; J. Heald, 4; T. Bond, 5; W. Bamber, 6. Tenor 15½ cwt.

HAMPSTEAD (Middlesex).—On Sunday, November 4th, at St. Stephen's church for Divine Service in the evening, the local company rang a 559 of Grandsire Triples on the back eight in 21 mins. S. Clark, 1; B. Payne, H. Tylor, 3; C. Deal, 4; W. Pryor (conductor), 5; N. Alderman, 6; B. Foskett, 7; W. Arscott, 8. And on Tuesday November 13th, for practice, a 364 of Grandsire Triples, conducted by W. Pryor; also three courses of Grandsire Caters. *S. Clark, 1; C. Deal, 2; †B. Payne, 3; N. Alderman, 4; B. Foskett, 5; E. Chapman, (conductor) 6; W. Pryor, 7; — Hutt, 8; G. Turrell, 9; W. Arscott, 10. *First time on ten; †first time inside.

READING (Berks).—On Friday, November 9th, being the Prince of Wales' birthday, and election of the Mayor, the St. Laurence Society rang in the morning a 210 of Grandsire Triples, conducted by W. J. Williams, also another 210 of the same method, conducted by W. Newell. Also a 588 of the same method conducted by W. J. Williams, and in the evening a 840 of Grandsire Triples being the first part of Taylor's bob-and-single peal. H. Bawden, 1; J. E. Willshire, 2; W. Johnson, 3; E. Bishop, 4; G. Talbot, 5; W. Newell (conductor) 6; W. J. Williams, 7; W. Holloway, 8.

RIPON.—On Friday, November 9th, being the Prince of Wales' birthday, the ringers rang 1064 changes of Grandsire Triples, Shipway's well-known touch, in 39 mins., being the same that was misconducted, given in the last number of "THE BELL NEWS." T. Metcalf, 1; Jno. Strodder, jun., 2; Jno. Strodder, sen., 3; T. Clarke, 4; A. Ingleby, 5; W. Pink, 6; G. Ingleby, 7; H. Rumbold, 8. And on Sunday last, for morning service, 840 changes in the same method, in 31 mins. Conducted by T. Clarke.

SPALDING (Lincolnshire).—On Saturday, October 27th, at SS. Mary and Nicolas church, it being Confirmation Day, a 720 of Plain Bob, with eighteen bobs and two singles. J. S. Wright, 1; J. Wilson, 2; G. L. Richardson, 3; R. Mackman, 4; A. Brown, 5; *J. Brown (conductor), 6. *First 720 as conductor. And on November 4th, for morning service, a 360 of College Single, with 9 bobs. Also after evening service, a 720 of Oxford Bob, with sixteen bobs and two singles, also a 360 of Plain Bob, with nine bobs. And on November 9th, being the Prince of Wales' birthday, a 720 of Plain Bob, with thirty bobs and two singles, was rung at 7 a.m. Also on November 11th, for morning service, a 360 of Oxford Bob, with six bobs and two singles, and for evening service, a 360 of College Single, with nine bobs. J. S. Wright, 1; J. Wilson, 2; G. L. Richardson, 3; R. Mackman (conductor), 4; A. Brown, 5; J. Brown, 6.

TETTENHALL (Staffordshire).—On Sunday, November 11th, five of the local company, with John Astbury, jun., of Walsall, rang on the bells of the parish church a 720 of Plain Bob Minor, in 27 mins. T. Roberts, 1; B. Dalton, 2; J. Jones, 3; E. Nicholls, 4; J. Fowler, 5; J. Astbury (conductor), 6. Tenor 12½ cwt. This is the first 720 in the method by any of the band, and is the first on the bells.

WORTH (Sussex).—On Monday, November 5th, the local company rang two 720's of Plain Bob Minor, the first with fifteen bobs and six singles, and the second with twenty-one bobs and twelve singles. B. Payne, 1; W. Denman, 2; Isaac Tullett, 3; G. Illman, 4; F. Rice, 5; E. Streeter (conductor), 6. Tenor 8½ cwt.

WOODFORD (Essex).—On Tuesday, November 6th, the bells of St. Mary's church were reopened by the local company with three 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles. H. Nunn, sen., 1; J. Nunn, 2; H. Scarlett (conductor), 3; J. Marks, 4; F. W. Elbourne, 5; S. J. Wincey, 6. Also a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor. H. Nunn, 1; J. Priest, 2; A. H. Gardom, 3; J. Nunn, 4; J. Marks, 5; H. Scarlett (conductor), 6. After being a great many years in a bad condition, these bells have all been rehung and put in good working order by Warner and Son, with new ropes. A tablet is to be erected for the 720 of Treble Bob, to commemorate the day of re-opening the bells.

ST. SIDWELL'S, EXETER.

THURSDAY last, being the occasion of a fashionable wedding, the following members of the above society rang a touch of Grandsire Triples, consisting of 1260 changes, in 45 mins. Frank Sheppherd, 1; G. Townsend, 2; W. Goss, 3; N. Swift, 4; Sydney Herbert, 5; Alfred Sheppherd, 6; Ferris Sheppherd (conductor), 7; T. Halse and W. Alford, 8. The society is now making rapid progress in the Stedman method, under the efficient conductorship of Mr. Ferris Sheppherd, and during the past few weeks it has received the addition of eight new members, who meet for practice twice a week with most satisfactory results.

Her Majesty the Queen will remove to Windsor Castle about the 2nd instant, and stay till after the second week in December.

TWELVE-BELL STEEPLES OF LONDON.

BEFORE going westward again we will just cross the Thames by London Bridge, and take a look at St. Saviour's, Southwark. Here we have a large central tower, 35ft. square, containing a peal of twelve bells, and a clock with quarter chimes on two bells.

History relates that originally there were seven bells here, named respectively:—"Augustinus," "Maria," "Stephanus," "Anna," "Laurentius," "Vincent," and "Nicholas." In 1424 these were recast into eight, named respectively:—"Holy Trinity," "Mary," "Augustine," "Laurence," "Gabriel," "All Saints," "John the Evangelist," and "Christ."

In 1735, these bells, or their successors, were cast into the present peal of twelve by Samuel Knight, of St. Andrew's parish, Holborn (formerly of Reading). The old peal of eight weighed 155 cwt. 1 qr. 20 lbs., and the new peal of twelve, 215 cwt. 1 qr. 9 lbs. The cost of recasting being £629 17s. The weight of the present tenor is 52 cwt., diam. 63 inches, in B. The 11th, weighing 34 cwt., was recast in 1820, and the 10th, weighing 26 cwt., was recast in 1840, both, I believe, at the Whitechapel Foundry by Thomas Mears.

Samuel Knight came to London in 1710, and died in 1739. By his will he bequeathed his bell-foundry to Robert Catlin.

I notice the following tablets in the belfry recording, respectively:—5040 Treble Bob Maximus, rung March 12th, 1758, by the College Youths, time 4 hrs. 12 mins.; 5136 Oxford Treble Bob Maximus, rung November 10th, 1766, by the Cumberland Youths, time 4 hrs. 8 mins. The next two tablets run as follows:—

"Ancient Society of College Youths.—On Tuesday, March 10th, 1784, was rung in this steeple, a true peal of Oxford Treble Bob Maximus, containing 7008 changes in 5 hours and 48 minutes. Performers were:—W. Richardson, *treble*; W. Hatt, senr., 2nd; W. Hatt, jun., 3rd; J. Povey, 4th; J. Darquitt, 5th; G. Scarbrook, 6th; J. Worster, 7th; W. Lyford, 8th; J. Monk, 8th; J. Holdsworth, 10th; E. Sylvestre, 11th; S. Muggeridge, *tenor*. Conducted by J. Povey. This tablet was restored at the expense of the society. A.D. 1874."

"Cumberland Society.—On Monday, March 22nd, 1802, rang on these bells a complete Peal of Treble Bob Maximus, consisting of 7104 changes, it being the full extent of nine courses. The greatest performance ever done on twelve bells, which was completed by twelve men only, in 5 hours and 30 minutes. Performers were:—G. Gross, senr., *treble*; G. Gross, junr., 2nd; P. Jones, 3rd; James Nash, 4th; Wm. Shipway, 5th; Thos. Reeves, 6th; J. Barnard, 7th; A. Cavalier, 8th; J. Hints, 9th; M. Channon, 10th; Wm. Stephens, 11th; J. Marlon, *tenor*. Called by G. Gross, junr."

It appears from these tablets that a sharp contest had been kept up for many years between the two societies for the greatest length of Treble Bob twelve in.

Another tablet records 5088 Kent Treble Bob Maximus, by the College Youths, rung on January 7th, 1846, in 4 hrs. 20 minutes, and another records two performances by the same society, viz:—5184 Kent Treble Bob Maximus, in 4 hrs. 10 minutes, rung February 23rd, 1849; and 5146 Stedman Cinques, in 4 hrs. 9 mins., rung December 19th, 1849. Both these peals were composed by Mr. John Cox. Lastly, a very old tablet records that on Monday, February 19th, 1738, ten members of the society of Union Scholars rang a 5040 of Bob Major Royal, in 4 hrs. 10 mins. What "Bob Major Royal" may be I don't know.

The ringing-chamber is a large, well-lighted room on the floor above the groined dome. The clock occupies one side. Mr. G. Mash, the steeple-keeper here, spares no pains to keep everything in good order.

J. R. JERRAM.

(To be continued.)

MEETING AT WITHINGTON, GLOUCESTERSHIRE.

On Saturday, November 3rd, a party of ringers from Prestbury and Cheltenham, by the kind invitation of their Withington ringing friends, paid a visit to them, and after taking off the sharp edge of their appetites, which had been quickened by the keen air of the Cotteswolds, ascended the tower and rang a 720 of Grandsire Minor, in 28 mins. T. Steele, 1; W. T. Pates, 2; H. Hodges, 3; F. Musty, 4; G. H. Phillott, Esq., 5; H. Karn (conductor), 6. Numerous 6-scores of Grandsire and Stedman Doubles were also rung. After ringing being over, the party were hospitably entertained at a first-rate tea provided at the "Mill Inn," where they were greeted by several ringers from Compton Abdale and Chedworth, which places they hope to visit at some no distant date. The ringers who visited Withington desire to return their best thanks for the kind reception they experienced. The Withington bells are a most musical peal, and the them is excellent.

NOTICE OF A LONG PEAL.—Just before going to press we are informed that this day (Saturday), ten members of the Ancient Society of College Youths intend attempting a peal of Stedman Caters, comprising 11,000 changes, at the parish church of All Saints, Fulham, Middlesex. Meeting at 2 o'clock.

PEALS OF GRANDSIRE MAJOR.

By JOHN CARTER, *Birmingham.*

5040.

2 3 4 5 6		4 3 5 6 2	7th in 2
2 3 6 5 4	7th in 2 H	4 3 2 6 5	7th in 2 H
3 6 2 5 4	H	6 3 2 4 5	8th in 3
6 3 2 5 4	7th in 3	2 3 5 4 6	M
5 3 2 6 4	8th in 3	3 5 2 4 6	H
3 5 2 6 4	7th in 3	5 3 2 4 6	7th in 3
		4 3 2 5 6	8th in 3

Five times repeated; 8th in 2 instead of 8th in 3 in the last course of the 2nd, 4th and 6th parts. Contains the 6th twenty-four times wrong and right; 5th twenty-four times right.

5056.

2 3 4 5 6		3 2 5 6 4	8th in 2
4 3 6 5 2	M	5 6 2 3 4	8th in 2
6 5 3 4 2	8th in 2	2 6 4 3 5	M
3 4 5 6 2	8th in 2	4 3 6 2 5	8th in 2
5 4 2 6 3	M	6 2 3 4 5	8th in 2
2 6 4 5 3	8th in 2	3 2 5 4 6	M
4 5 6 2 3	8th in 2	2 5 3 4 6	H
6 5 3 2 4	M	5 3 2 4 6	H
		3 5 2 4 6	7th in 3

Three times repeated.

6000.

2 3 4 5 6		3 6 5 2 4	7th in 3
4 5 3 2 6	8th in 2	4 3 6 2 5	7th in 2
6 4 5 2 3	7th in 2	5 4 3 2 6	7th in 2
4 6 5 2 3	7th in 3	6 5 4 2 3	7th in 2
3 4 6 2 5	7th in 2	5 6 4 2 3	7th in 3
5 3 4 2 6	7th in 2	3 5 6 2 4	7th in 2
3 5 4 2 6	7th in 3	4 3 5 2 6	7th in 2
6 3 5 2 4	7th in 2	6 4 3 2 5	7th in 2
		4 6 3 2 5	7th in 3

Four times repeated.

6000.

2 3 4 5 6		5 6 2 3 4	8th in 3
6 2 3 5 4	7th in 2	6 5 2 3 4	7th in 3
5 2 3 6 4	8th in 3	3 5 2 6 4	8th in 3
2 5 3 6 4	7th in 3	5 3 2 6 4	7th in 3
6 5 3 2 4	8th in 3	3 2 5 6 4	H
5 6 3 2 4	7th in 3	2 3 5 6 4	7th in 3
2 6 3 5 4	8th in 3	6 3 5 2 4	8th in 3
6 3 2 5 4	H	3 6 5 2 4	7th in 3
3 6 2 5 4	7th in 3	2 6 5 3 4	8th in 3
		6 2 5 3 4	7th in 3

Four times repeated.

6720.

2 3 4 5 6		6 5 3 4 2	7th in 3
4 3 6 5 2	M	4 5 3 6 2	8th in 3
3 4 6 5 2	7th in 3	5 4 3 6 2	7th in 3
5 4 6 3 2	8th in 3	3 6 4 5 2	8th in 2
4 5 6 3 2	7th in 3	6 3 4 5 2	7th in 3
3 5 6 4 2	8th in 3	5 3 4 6 2	8th in 3
5 3 6 4 2	7th in 3	3 5 4 6 2	7th in 3
6 4 3 5 2	8th in 2	6 5 4 3 2	8th in 3
4 6 3 5 2	7th in 3	5 6 4 3 2	7th in 3
5 6 3 4 2	8th in 3	6 4 5 3 2	H
		3 4 5 6 2	8th in 3

Four times repeated.

Rung upon handbells, on the 29th of May, 1880, conducted by its composer.

7056.

2 3 4 5 6		2 4 3 6 5	8th in 3
2 3 6 5 4	7th in 2 H	3 4 5 6 2	M
6 3 4 5 2	M	5 4 2 6 3	M
3 6 4 5 2	7th in 3	4 5 2 6 3	7th in 3
5 6 4 3 2	8th in 3	6 5 2 4 3	8th in 3
4 6 2 3 5	M	2 5 3 4 6	M
2 3 6 4 5	8th in 2	3 4 5 2 6	8th in 2
6 4 3 2 5	8th in 2	5 2 4 3 6	8th in 2
		4 3 2 5 6	8th in 2

Five times repeated; 8th in 3 instead of 8th in 2 at the 2nd, 4th and 6th part-ends. The 5th and 6th twenty-four times wrong and right.

8000.

2 4 3 5 6		3 6 4 5 2	8th in 2
4 3 6 5 2	M	6 3 4 5 2	7th in 3
3 4 6 5 2	7th in 3	5 3 4 6 2	8th in 3
5 4 6 3 2	8th in 3	3 5 4 6 2	7th in 3
4 5 6 3 2	7th in 3	6 5 4 3 2	8th in 3
3 5 6 4 2	8th in 3	5 6 4 3 2	7th in 3
5 3 6 4 2	7th in 3	6 4 5 3 2	H
6 4 3 5 2	8th in 2	4 6 5 3 2	7th in 3
4 6 3 5 2	7th in 3	3 6 5 4 2	8th in 3
5 6 3 4 2	8th in 3	6 3 5 4 2	7th in 3
6 5 3 4 2	7th in 3	4 3 5 6 2	8th in 3
4 5 3 6 2	8th in 3	3 4 5 6 2	7th in 3
5 4 3 6 2	7th in 3		

Four times repeated. Contains the 120 course-ends.

8112.

2 3 4 5 6		2 6 5 3 4	7th in 2
6 2 3 5 4	7th in 2	4 2 6 3 5	7th in 2
3 5 2 6 4	8th in 2	6 3 2 4 5	8th in 2
4 3 5 6 2	7th in 2	3 6 2 4 5	7th in 3
2 4 3 6 5	7th in 2	5 3 6 4 2	7th in 2
5 2 4 6 3	7th in 2	2 5 3 4 6	7th in 2
4 6 2 5 3	8th in 2	3 4 5 2 6	8th in 2
3 4 6 5 2	7th in 2	5 2 4 3 6	8th in 2
6 5 4 3 2	8th in 2	4 3 2 5 6	8th in 2

Five times repeated; 8th in 3 instead of 8th in 2 in the 2nd, 4th and 6th part-ends. The 5th and 6th twenty-four times wrong and right.

9504.

2 3 4 5 6		6 3 2 4 5	7th in 2
6 2 3 5 4	7th in 2	2 4 3 6 5	8th in 2
3 5 2 6 4	8th in 2	3 6 4 2 5	8th in 2
2 6 5 3 4	8th in 2	4 2 6 3 5	8th in 2
5 3 6 2 4	8th in 2	5 4 2 3 6	7th in 2
4 5 3 2 6	7th in 2	6 5 4 3 2	7th in 2
6 4 5 2 3	7th in 2	4 3 5 6 2	8th in 2
5 2 4 6 3	8th in 2	5 6 3 4 2	8th in 2
4 6 2 5 3	8th in 2	3 4 6 5 2	8th in 2
2 5 6 4 3	8th in 2	3 4 2 5 6	7th in 2 H
3 2 5 4 6	7th in 2		

Five times repeated; singles half-way and end. Contains the 120 course-ends.

9600.

2 3 4 5 6		4 2 5 6 3	8th in 2
4 5 3 2 6	8th in 2	5 2 3 6 4	M
3 5 6 2 4	M	3 2 4 6 5	M
5 6 3 2 4	H	2 4 3 6 5	H
6 3 5 2 4	H	4 3 2 6 5	H
5 3 4 2 6	M	2 3 5 6 4	M
4 3 6 2 5	M	5 3 4 6 2	M
3 6 4 2 5	H	3 4 5 6 2	H
6 4 3 2 5	H	4 5 3 6 2	H
3 4 5 2 6	M	3 5 2 6 4	M
5 4 6 2 3	M	2 5 4 6 3	M
4 6 5 2 3	H	5 4 2 6 3	H
6 5 4 2 3	H		

Five times repeated; full extent on this plan.

7008.

2 3 4 5 6		2 3 6 5 4	7th in 2 H
2 3 6 5 4	7th in 2	6 3 4 5 2	M
6 3 4 5 2	7th in 3	3 6 4 5 2	7th in 3
5 6 4 3 2	8th in 3	5 6 4 3 2	8th in 3
4 6 2 3 5	M	4 6 2 3 5	M
2 3 6 4 5	8th in 2	6 4 3 2 5	8th in 2
6 4 3 2 5	8th in 2	3 2 4 6 5	8th in 2

Eleven times repeated; 8th in 3 instead of 8th in 2 at the end of the 2nd, 4th, 6th, 8th, 10th, and 12th part-ends. Single instead of a bob, half-way and end. The 5th and 6th twenty-four times wrong and right.

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERS.

5025.

By HENRY JOHNSON, SEN., *Birmingham*

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

The above eleven courses three times repeated, with the exception that in parts 2, 3, and 4, the first course is called by a 4 and 16, produce—

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

Brought round by Bobs at the 2nd, 4th, 5th, and 8th sixes.

* This course produced by bobs at 2 4 6 7 10 12 13 16.

Rung for the first time on September 10th, 1883, at All Saints', Fulham. Conducted by Rev. C. D. P. Davies.

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR.

5184.

By JOHN THORP, *Ashton-under-Lyne.*

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

First rung at the parish church, Mottram-in-Longden-dale, October 22nd, 1883, conducted by James S. Wilde.

A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB CATERS.

5040.

By JOHN H. BARRETT, *Bethnal Green, London.*

2 3 4 5 6		I	4	5	6	7	
6 5 3 2 4	-	-	-	-	-	-	3 6 4 5 2
3 5 2 6 4	-	-	-	-	-	-	4 6 5 3 2
2 5 6 3 4	-	-	-	-	-	-	5 6 3 4 2
5 3 6 2 4	-	-	-	-	-	-	6 4 3 5 2
3 2 6 5 4	-	-	-	-	-	-	5 4 3 6 2
6 2 5 3 4	-	-	-	-	-	-	3 5 6 4 2
2 3 5 6 4	-	-	-	-	-	-	2 4 5 3 6
3 4 6 2 5	-	-	-	-	-	-	4 3 5 2 6
6 4 2 3 5	-	-	-	-	-	-	5 3 2 4 6
4 3 2 6 5	-	-	-	-	-	-	3 4 2 5 6
3 6 2 4 5	-	-	-	-	-	-	4 5 2 3 6
2 6 4 3 5	-	-	-	-	-	-	2 5 3 4 6
4 6 3 2 5	-	-	-	-	-	-	3 5 4 2 6
6 2 3 4 5	-	-	-	-	-	-	5 2 4 3 6
2 4 3 6 5	-	-	-	-	-	-	6 3 2 5 4
4 5 6 2 3	-	-	-	-	-	-	4 3 6 5 2
5 2 6 4 3	-	-	-	-	-	-	2 3 4 5 6
6 2 4 5 3	-	-	-	-	-	-	
2 5 4 6 3	-	-	-	-	-	-	
5 6 4 2 3	-	-	-	-	-	-	
4 6 2 5 3	-	-	-	-	-	-	
6 5 2 4 3	-	-	-	-	-	-	
5 4 2 6 3	-	-	-	-	-	-	

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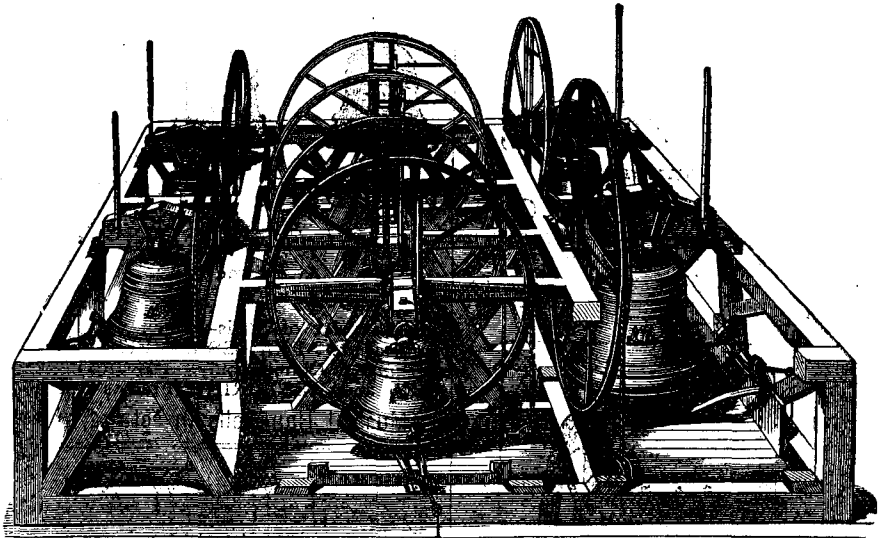
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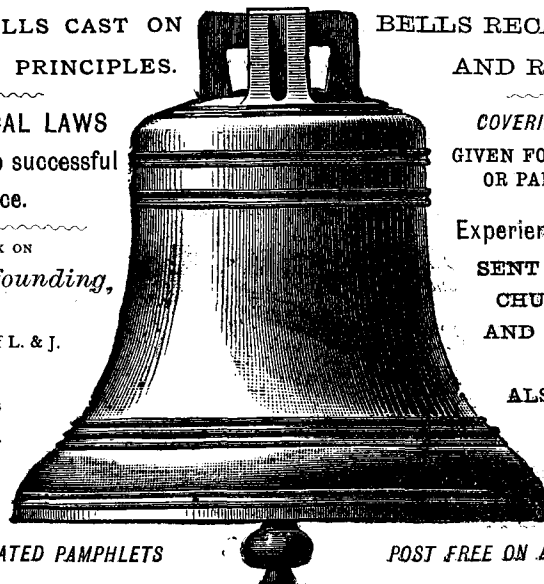
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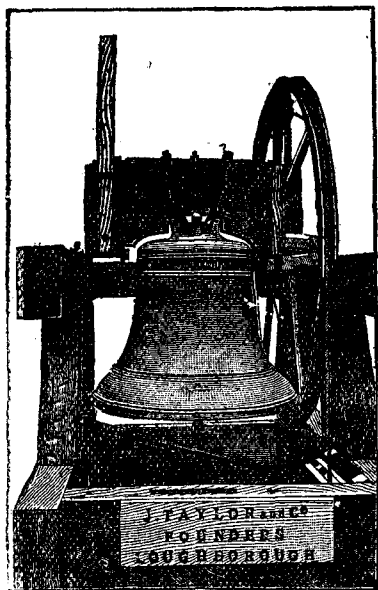
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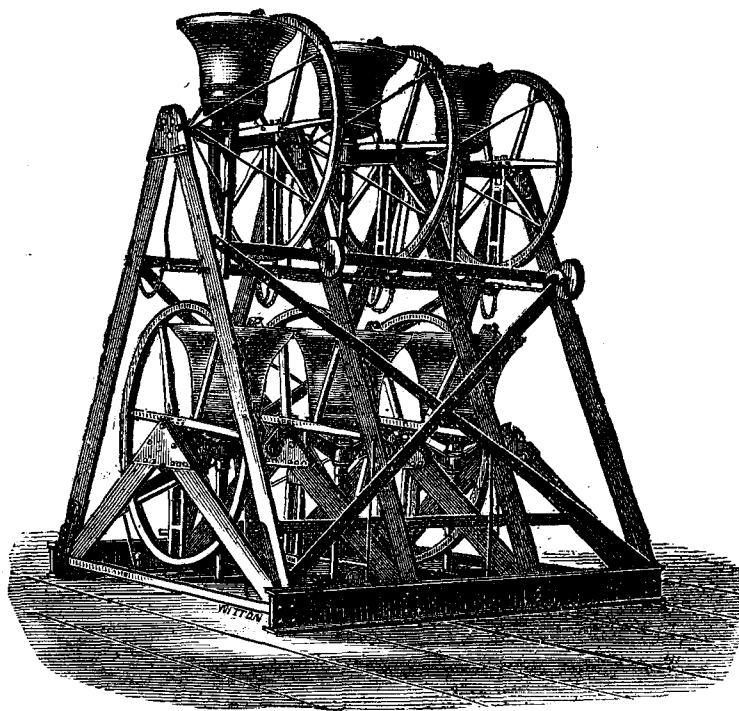
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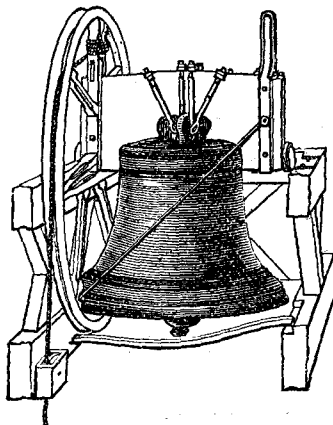
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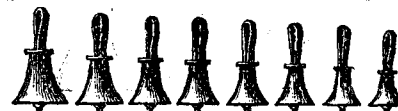
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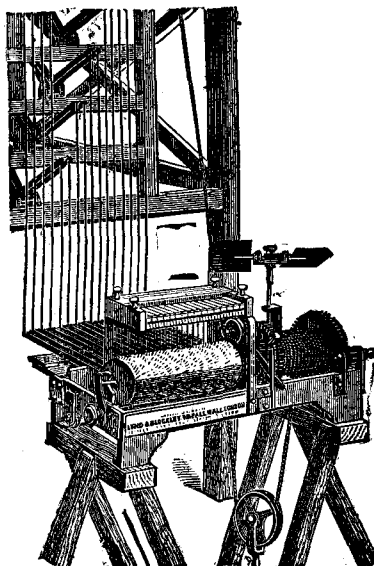
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CHANGE-RINGING IN LANCASHIRE, PAST AND PRESENT.

II.—THE FLIXTON MATCH SEQUEL.

(Abridged from the "Manchester City News.")

THE Ashton ringers and their partizans went home from the famous Flixton Match with heavy hearts and light purses, and as generally happens to the defeated in any matter, they tried to find a scapegoat on whom to lay the fault of their non-success. At first it was whispered round the company, and from whispering it became a definite charge against Jonathan Wild, the conductor, that he had sold the match to the Oldham men. No protestations of innocence on the part of Wild would be listened to by the mob, who, inflamed with drink and rage, attempted to drag poor Wild out of the cart in which he was riding, and he, seeing how matters were going, discreetly made his escape. On the arrival of the cavalcade at Ashton, the villagers, having heard of the defeat of the ringers and the supposed treachery of Wild, their rage at being sold, as they thought, and at the loss of their money on the match, found vent in curses, and afterwards in providing materials for an effigy of poor Jonathan Wild. This having been made, was taken to the market cross and placed astride of a horse, after the manner of the Black Knight of Ashton. The effigy was then paraded through the village, followed by the crowd. Towards dusk it was taken to the church of St. Michael, and a large pole was thrust through one of the louvres, with a rope attached to the end. To this rope the effigy was tied, and a light having been applied, it was swung into the air amid the execrations of the assembled multitude. The state of feeling ran so high in Ashton on this matter that it was deemed unsafe for Wild to remain in Ashton, and consequently the same night he went to Stockport. In a day or two, thinking the excitement would have subsided, he ventured back to Ashton, but no person would speak to him, no master dare give him work for fear of a turn-out, no one would let him have lodgings, and actually the provision dealers dare not serve him for fear of their customers. Boycotting is clearly not a new invention.

For twenty-six years poor Wild stayed in Stockport, where he kept up his ringing at the church of St. Mary. During Wild's stay in Stockport the old six bells at St. Mary's were sold, and sent to Disley in 1813, and a new peal of eight bought. These were opened in 1817. On the opening day the Stockport churchwardens gave four prizes for the best ringing. Eight bands competed, and the prizes were awarded as follows: first, Mottram Seniors, fourteen guineas; second, Oldham, eight guineas; third, Old Church, Manchester, six guineas; fourth Mottram Juniors, four guineas. The Oldham took two hours forty-nine minutes eighteen seconds to ring 5040 changes; tenor 25 cwt. in E flat. Wild taught the ringers to ring Grandsire Triples, and he conducted the first peal of 5040 rung on those bells by the Stockport ringers. Shortly before he died he was allowed to come back to Ashton, and he lies buried in the churchyard of St. Michael, but there is no stone to mark the spot. There can be, I believe, no doubt that the unjust treatment Wild received hastened his death. He was a mild, harmless, inoffensive fellow, who, when relating anything in connection with the Flixton match, had a habit of laying his cap on the floor between his feet, and with tears in his eyes would say, "Sithee, if ah sowl um ah hope mi hed may drop in my hat." I have been at particular trouble to try and ascertain the truth or otherwise of the allegations against Wild, and, for the honour of ringers I have come to the conclusion that he was innocent of the charge of having sold his friends. To show what men, and ringers even, will do to attain their object, there are well-authenticated cases in which a ringer has been known to sell a peal by simply omitting a call, or himself getting lost and losing the peal. Bell ropes have been known to be partly cut through, so that some time during the course of the ringing the rope may break and the peal be lost. Another method was to put sand into the bearings instead of oil, which had the effect of making ringing a peal on them such frightfully hard work that the attempt was given up.

As before mentioned, the bells were struck at the rate of thirty to a minute, and unless a conductor's mind is intently set on the touch he is calling, he may either call too soon or too late, but a difference of making a call a two-hundred-and-fortieth part of a minute will sometimes cause the loss of a peal. Besides, on the very Sunday before the match, when the Ashton men were ringing at Mottram, poor Wild omitted to make a call in the very same place in the peal where he made the mistake when the match was rung at Flixton, and having had a small experience as a conductor I am the more convinced that Jonathan Wild's one fault consisted in a slip of the memory.

The eight Ashton ringers who took part in the Flixton match are all buried within sound of those sweet church bells they loved and rung so well. Seven of them lie in St. Michael's churchyard, and one in St. Peter's. On two of them only are tombstones, the remainder having no monuments to mark their place of burial. At the bottom of each side of the tombstone on Aaron Walker's grave is a very good representation of a church bell and rope cut into the stone. The in-

scription is as follows: "To perpetuate the memory of Aaron Walker, who died January 30th, 1851, aged seventy-six years, twelve days, and was interred here on the fifth of February following. He had been a ringer at this church fifty-seven years, and had assisted in bringing round fifty-seven peals of 5000 changes and two peals of 7000 changes. He was the first man who rang the tenor bell of the said church single-handed in a peal of 5000. He rung his last peal of 5000 in his seventy-fifth year.

No more shall thy hand ring thy favourite bell,
The ninth in St Michael's, which none could excel;
Yet the bells of this church shall ring o'er thy clay,
As thy soul finds repose from life's troubled way."

Your readers may be better able to appreciate Aaron Walker's feat when they are informed that St. Michael's tenor weighs twenty eight cwt., key D. The other inscription in the churchyard is placed over the grave of James Moss, and is as follows:—"James Moss, sexton of this church fifty-three years, who after faithfully discharging the duties of the above situation, died April 18th, 1834, aged sixty-six years.

Here lies an honest inoffensive friend,
Peaceful in life and happy in his end;
Harmless in words, and in his dealings just,
Constant to his friends and faithful to his trust."

This James Moss came of a ringing family, his father, John Moss, being a celebrated ringer, singer, and composer of doggerel verses. It was he, I believe, who composed "Jonathan Wild's Lamentation." He was a great friend of the village schoolmaster, and one day, seeing one of the scholars passing with a note in hand, and thinking it was meant for him, called the boy, and took the note from him. It turned out to be a poetical effusion from the schoolmaster, and was intended for a lady named Ruth, whom he was courting. However, Moss did not send the note on to Ruth, but told the boy to come in half-an-hour for the answer. When the boy came he was entrusted with a note in a feigned hand-writing to the schoolmaster. It ran:—

If thou teachest A B C
As thou writes poetry,
I would pity a scholar of thine;
For I'll tell thee the truth, thou wilt never gain Ruth,
If thy courtship's as bad as thy rhyme.

Another curious character among this band of ringers was Thomas Hammond. He was an agreeable companion, but very sarcastic, and liked to be different from anybody else. This he strikingly showed in choosing his grave, which he did shortly before died. The then sexton of the church was John Moss, who rung in the same peal at Flixton with Hammond, and they were great friends. In walking through St. Michael's churchyard one day, Hammond drew the sexton's attention to a small triangular piece of ground, situate in the south-east corner of the yard, and near which at that time was a small lych-gate, but now the stone wall is continued all round it. He asked if anyone was buried there. The sexton answered "No." "Well," replied Hammond, "I'll have it for myself." "But if you do," answered the sexton, "you'll be laid differently to all the rest of the people in the churchyard." "Well," replied Hammond, "that's just what I want, and besides, when Gabriel blows the trumpet, I'll be out of my grave and o'er Woodhead, and half way there, before these other chaps get turned round in their coffins." After the match at Flixton, several attempts were made to get up one for 100 guineas, but it never came off, and until the year 1830 there was a continued strife between the Oldham and Ashton bell-ringers. It was carried to such a pitch that if one of the Oldham ringers strayed into Ashton and was recognized, they ran him out of the village. In concluding this account of the match at Flixton, my best thanks are due and are hereby given to Mr. James Wood, sen., of Ashton, for allowing me the use of his ringing notabilia, for the inscriptions on the tombstones, and for his ringing recollections.

In my next I purpose showing what a great change has taken place in the conduct and status of ringers since the Flixton match, by giving your readers an account of the greatest feat ever accomplished in the ringing world, and which was rung by the Ashton men "for honour."

ROVING RINGER.

BRAINTREE (ESSEX).—THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

The following is the work done by the Braintree members of the Essex Association during the month of October:—October 4th: 360 Violet, 120 Cambridge Surprise; October 6th: 720 College Exercise; October 7th: 360 Oxford Treble Bob, 720 Bob Minor; October 13th: 720 London Surprise, 720 Double Court Bob; October 14th: 180 Double Court Bob; October 17th: 360 Cambridge Surprise, 120 Woodbine; October 20th: 720 Imperial, 720 Bob Minor; October 21st: 720 Cambridge Surprise, 720 Woodbine; October 24th: 600 Oxford Treble Bob; October 27th: 720 Oxford Delight, 240 Oxford Treble Bob; October 28th: 720 Kent Treble Bob, 720 Bob Minor; October 31st: 720 Cambridge Surprise, 240 London Surprise, 120 Woodbine, 120 Double Court. Mr. Frank Bumpstead rang his first 720's on a bob bell, in the following methods during October. October 13th: Double Court Bob; October 27th, Oxford Delight.

BIRMINGHAM AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATION.

A QUARTERLY MEETING of the above Association was held at the White Lion Inn, West Bromwich, on Saturday last, when a fair number of members assembled. Touches of Grandsire Triples, Grandsire Major, and Bob Major were rung on the bells of the parish church during the afternoon. After the preliminary address of the President (Mr. J. W. Cattle), the Hon. Sec. (Mr. J. Wright), read the Report and Balance-Sheet of the past year, in which he congratulated the members on the very satisfactory progress the Association had made during the first year of its existence. The Association, said the Secretary, had its origin in the Amalgamation Society, which he was sorry to say, consisted only of two churches out of the five of which Birmingham could boast, leaving out, he was sorry to say, two companies which the Association really needed, and for which they ardently hoped would ere long see their way to casting their lot with this young Association. The Association could, through the district, boast of one peal of twelve at West Bromwich, one of ten at Bromsgrove; eight each at King's Norton, West Bromwich and Harborne; peals of six at Selly Oak, Hampton-in-Arden, and Northfield; but the most to be wished for were the companies of St. Martin's and St. Phillip's, Birmingham, peals of twelve and ten respectively. Mr. Wright was happy to say, that though the latter was not really in the scope of the Association, they had kindly given the Association the privilege of ringing on their bells when required. He dwelt at some length on the necessity of co-operation, and hoped that the St. Martin's Company, with its good name and veteran head (Mr. Henry Johnson), would ere long strengthen the Association by joining the same, for, said the speaker, if the St. Martin's Company wished to retain their good name, they would of necessity have to recruit, help and strengthen to fill the vacancies which, sooner or later, must ensue, and for that help they could rely on the Association, which boasted of some very able and very promising young ringers. Alluding to the peal of 10,176 Grandsire Major rung on handbells lately, by four of their members, said it was a sufficient guarantee of their ability, well worthy of the old town, an honour to the Association, and an example of what talent they had at their head. This young Association, therefore, was no mere name, and was such that no Company need be ashamed of. At the commencement of the year the Association had only twenty-five Members, but now could boast of upwards of seventy, or nearly three to one on the commencement of the year. They had made this year another and most important move, in soliciting the patronage of the clergy, two of whom had already become members, and he hoped, and felt confident, that others would also (ere they met again) become members, either Hon. or Life. Though only four peals could be recorded to their credit for the past year, yet they were sanguine for the future, as change-ringing was improving in the district, of which the Association had jurisdiction. In conclusion, Mr. Wright said that the financial position of the Association was all that could be desired, of which he gave an illustration; and after the cost of printing Rules, purchase of books, &c., for the formation of the Association, left a very fair balance in the hands of the treasurer. Fifteen ringers joined the Association at this meeting, some being experts. A hearty vote of thanks was accorded to the Secretary for the manner in which he had transacted the business, and for the able and satisfactory report he had given, coupled with the hope that he might long continue to hold the position of Secretary for the Association.

On the motion of Mr. Palmer, it was resolved to hold the next quarterly meeting at Bromsgrove.

A vote of thanks was accorded to Mr. J. W. Cattle, President, and the business closed, the remaining part of the evening being spent with touches and tunes on the hand-bells, interspersed with songs.

ST. PETER'S, HINDLEY, LANCASHIRE.

ON Sunday, November 18th, after Divine Service in the morning, the first half of Holt's ten-part peal of Grandsire Triples, 2520 changes, was rung in 1 hr. 32 mins., with the bells muffled at the hand-stroke, as a tribute of respect to the memory of the late Mr. Peter Johnson, who had been connected with the above tower since the opening of the bells in February, 1867, and also taught the local company the art of change-ringing. His death occurred at Haslingden, on the 13th instant, and was buried in the parish churchyard on the 17th. He was in his 76th year, having been a change-ringer for more than fifty years. The ringers were: Richard Calland, 1; Edward Prescott, 2; Edmund Brown, 3; William Chisnall, 4; Edward Kay, 5; Thomas Tickle, 6; Joseph Prescott (conductor), 7; William Westhead, 8. Tenor 14½ cwt.

THE PARISH CHURCH BELLS, CHELTENHAM.

THE ring of ten bells at the fine old parish church of St. Mary, Cheltenham, Gloucestershire, will be re-opened on Monday, December 3rd. All ringing friends will receive a hearty welcome.

THE TUNBRIDGE WELLS COMPANY AT ROTHERFIELD, SUSSEX.

ON Wednesday, November 14th, the St. Peter's company of Tunbridge Wells paid a visit to Rotherfield. The visit had been pending for some time, the Tunbridge Wells company having heard that the Rotherfield tenor had been rehung, and were in hopes of enjoying a ring upon this heavy peal of five, the tenor weighing 27 cwt. Arriving there the visitors were met by the local company, who imparted what proved to be most unwelcome intelligence, viz.: that the rehanging of the tenor had been executed by the village smith and wheelwright. Having got to the church, an attempt was made to raise the bells in peal, with two men at the tenor, but the assistance of a third was necessary before she could be got up. An attempt to ring Doubles was unsuccessful, and the twenty-four changes on the front four bells, with two of the strongest men that could be found to ring the tenor behind, was all that could be accomplished. "The other bells," adds our correspondent, "go fairly well, especially the 4th, which was cast and hung by Warner and Sons, in 1866. None of the local company remember any half-pull ringing being performed on their bells before, and some of them had been connected with the steeple for forty years. We took our handbells with us, and rang some 6-scores of Doubles in the churchyard, and also at the house of host Wickens, near the church. The host and hostess of this establishment made us very comfortable, and prepared some very nice coffee and other refreshments for those who preferred such. We wish to return them our best thanks (through the medium of our paper) to them for their kind hospitality, also to the Rotherfield company for their kind welcome and endeavours to make everything pleasant and agreeable, and we hope they will enjoy themselves as much as we did, when they return our visit. I took several back numbers of 'THE BELL NEWS' with me, and distributed them among the Rotherfield company, and hope that for the future they will become subscribers to so valuable and interesting a journal as our paper certainly is."

ATHERINGTON, NORTH DEVON.

The Church of St. Mary, Atherington, has recently been re-opened by the Right Rev. the Lord Bishop of the Diocese, after undergoing a thorough restoration (which was very much needed), at the hands of J. L. Pearson, Esq., R.A. In the restoration, care has been taken to preserve, to the fullest extent, every relic of interest. There are some ancient tombs, with recumbent monumental brass effigies, beneath which are the remains of the Bassett ancestry (Lords of the Manor), beside which there is also a much mutilated effigy, said to be of John of Gaunt, the old legend running thus:—

"I, John of Gaunt, do give and grant from me and mine to thee and thine, the Barton and fee of Umlerleigh."

The tower and turret roofs have both been re-constructed and covered with lead of substantial thickness. The tower was some few years ago re-pointed, the parapet walls, battlements, and upper portion of turret rebuilt at the sole expense of the late Robert Chichester, Esq., of Hall. The bells have been re-hung on the most modern principle, and supplied with a chiming apparatus by Mr. Henry Stokes, of Woodbury, near Exeter. At the cost of the Rector, a clock, to face north and south, is to be placed in the tower by Mr. J. Gaydon, of Barnstaple. At the south entrance a lych-gate is in course of construction, which, when finished, completes the work of restoration.

The entire cost of the restoration (exclusive of lych-gate and rehanging of the bells) has been defrayed by Mrs. Bassett, of Watermouth Castle, whose deep interest cannot but be appreciated by all who reside in the parish; while it is also due to the Rector to state that the expense of the lych-gate, bells and decoration, &c., will be defrayed by him.

ST. MARY, BATTERSEA, SURREY.

THE 106th anniversary of the parish church of St. Mary, Battersea, was observed on Sunday last. The preacher was the Rev. George Prothero, Canon of Westminster, Rector of Whippingham, Isle of Wight, and Chaplain-in-Ordinary to her Majesty. In the morning a touch of 1336 Grandsire Triples in 46 mins. W. Ambrose, 1; W. Baron, 2; W. Coppage, 3; A. G. Thomas, 4; E. Rogers, 5; H. Swain, 6; C. W. Ludwig, 7; H. Chown, 8. Also for evening service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 40 mins. W. Ambrose, 1; E. E. Robins, 2; W. Coppage, 3; A. G. Thomas, 4; H. Swain, 5; H. S. Thomas, 6; W. Baron, 7; H. Chown, 8. Both conducted by W. Baron. The above was rung as a farewell tribute to one of the most active members, Mr. H. Chown, who has now left England for Queensland, Australia. It was the last occasion on which our friend was associated with his old companions in bell-ringing, and he leaves the country taking with him the sincere good wishes of all his friends.

PROPOSED FORMATION OF A CITY SOCIETY FOR SALISBURY.

A MEETING was held in St. Thomas's School, on Thursday, November 15th, for the purpose of considering the advisability of forming a change-ringers' society for the city of Salisbury. The Rev. A. D. Hill, vicar of Downton, presided. Strong opposition was manifested by the St. Edmund's ringers, headed by the Rev. C. L. Bode, curate of St. Edmund's. This gentleman, who has for some time past been engaged in five-bell work, maintained that the formation of a society would interfere with the parochial companies generally, and with his company in particular. He did not seem anxious that more should be done in the way of change-ringing than he and his company could do, consisting of a 6-score of Bob Doubles; he also feared that the formation of a society would interfere with the parochial system generally. His objections were ably answered by the Rev. A. D. HILL.

Mr. W. LANHAM proposed that a society be formed, but his proposition was considered premature. Mr. J. Short said he for one was interested in change-ringing and intended to learn the art whether a society was formed or not, and added that several of the St. Thomas's company were against it, but that he did not see why the others should be hindered on their account. Mr. Lanham said he had been learning five-bell work for some time and intended to go on with it.

Mr. J. R. JERRAM said he wished to contradict an idea that was prevalent, viz.: that he wished a society to be formed for his own benefit. He said that he did not care on his own account whether a society was formed or not, but that when he saw several anxious to learn change-ringing he was anxious to help them. He said that if he himself wanted change-ringing he could go somewhere where there were men who could ring and take part in a peal or touch. He did not think that at present there was much to interest him in that line in Salisbury.

Mr. T. BLACKBOURN wished to ascertain the general feeling of the meeting as to the formation of a society. This was deemed premature. The Rev. C. N. Wyld, rector of St. Martin's, moved that under present circumstances (the clergy generally being neutral), it was unadvisable to form a society. The Rev. A. D. Hill moved as an amendment that the matter be postponed until the clergy of the city should be made acquainted more fully with the aim and object of the society (namely, to promote change-ringing independent of any parochial interests), and that then another meeting should be held. The amendment was carried by a small majority.

The Rev. C. N. WYLD then read a few suggestions for rules, should such a society be formed. Discussion thereon was not invited. The meeting then closed with a vote of thanks to the chairman, and to the Rev. Canon Morris for the use of the schoolroom.

Altogether the meeting was most unsatisfactory, the clergy generally being neutral, with the exception of the Rev. C. L. Bode, who was positively opposed to the scheme. The ringers with the exception of some eight or ten, were also opposed because they considered that the formation of such a society would interfere with their "Churchyard Bob" ringing; and of the few who were in favour of the project, it was found that, setting aside Messrs. J. R. Jerram and T. Blackbourn, there were only three who could ring a 720 of Bob Minor; that is, among those who were actually ringers in the city.

THE ST. PETER MANCROFT SOCIETY OF NORWICH SCHOLARS.

Handbell Ringing.—On Monday, November 19th, four members of the above Society met at their club-house, "The White Horse," Haymarket, and rang on handbells, retained in hand, 1760 changes of Treble Bob Major, in 50 mins. George Smith, 1-2; John Fiddament, 3-4; William Smith, 5-6; Frederick Knights (conductor), 7-8. The intentions are to attempt a peal, comprising over 7000 changes in the above method, upon the handbells, on Monday next, November 26th, at "The White Horse," Haymarket. Time of meeting, 3 o'clock in the afternoon. The same evening there will be practice at St. Peter Mancroft church.

In connection with the article entitled, "The Twelve-Bell Steeple of London," by Mr. Jerram, our friend Mr. George Mash writes:—"Sir,—I read an account in 'THE BELL NEWS,' from Mr. J. R. Jerram, of the tablets in the belfry of St. Saviour's, Southwark. He mentions one tablet recording a 5040 of Bob Major Royal, rang on Monday, February 19th, 1738, by the Union Scholars. I wish to state that I have been connected with the church for more than thirty years, and I have never seen any old tablet recording the same, and never heard of one, so I don't know where my friend Mr. Jerram got his information from."

THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

A correspondent writes:—"Friday, November 9th, being Lord Mayor's day, it has always been the custom to ring at St. Paul's, Bedford, from about 12 o'clock up to about 8, but now as change-ringing is rung instead of Churchyard Bob, the company are only allowed half-an-hour about noon, and about three-quarters of an hour between seven and eight, because some irritable persons who live in the square say the noise is too much. The bells are just the same now as they were before (when they used to ring Churchyard Bob all day for weddings and bank-holidays), and yet they never complained then. They used to practise when they liked on week nights, but we are only allowed one hour a week. I was not aware that change-ringing made any more noise than call-changes. Not being able to ring at Bedford in the afternoon, six members walked to Bromham, and by permission of the Vicar rang a 720 of Bob Minor in 27 mins. W. Biggs, 1; W. Hall, 2; F. Smith, 3; J. Atkins, 4; C. Clarke (conductor), 5; W. Allen, 6. Also a 6-score of Stedman Doubles. W. Allen, 1; W. Hall, 2; F. Smith, 3; J. Atkins, 4; C. Clarke (conductor), 5; W. Biggs, 6. This is the first 6-score of Stedman this Association has rung."

CRAWLEY, SUSSEX.

On Sunday afternoon, November 18th, by kind permission of the worthy rector of this parish, Rev J. B. Lennard, the following ringers, Messrs. J. Gasson, E. Streeter and J. Kenward, from Balcombe; Messrs. F. Rice, B. Payne, W. Denman and G. Illman, from Worth; and Messrs. W. F. Meads and J. Hudson from Hayward's Heath, together with some of the local ringers, met that veteran and much esteemed ringer and conductor in the art, Mr. H. Burstow, of Horsham, at this church, and rang two 720s of Minor, with 7 and 8 behind, and a touch of Triples, as below. The bells are an excellent ring of eight, tenor 14 cwt. in F. They were placed here about four years ago. The ringing-chamber is a model of what they should be: Seage's dumb-bell apparatus, and Ellacombe chiming hammers are affixed to the bells. The visitors here beg to express their hearty thanks to the Rector, for the use of the tower, and also to the Crawley ringers who gave them so cordial a reception, and hope to have another meeting at no very distant date. The following methods were rung: 720 of Oxford Bob Minor, with thirty-four bobs and twenty-six singles: B. Payne, 1; W. Denman, 2; E. Streeter, 3; G. Illman, 4; F. Rice, 5; H. Burstow (conductor), 6; — Hilliard, 7; W. Collison, 8. Also a 720 of Plain Bob Minor, with twenty-one bobs and twelve singles: W. F. Meads, 1; W. Denman, 2; Isaac Tullett, 3; G. Illman, 4; F. Rice, 5; E. Streeter (conductor), 6; Jno. Gasson, 7; — Hilliard, 8. Also 560 of Grandsire Triples: E. Streeter, 1; J. Newnham, 2; W. Collison, 3; Jno. Gasson, 4; J. Fullex, 5; — Hilliard, 6; H. Burstow (conductor), 7; F. Rice, 8. Ringing was brought to a conclusion for Divine Service, at half past six o'clock, by a few courses of Oxford Bob Minor: J. Kenward, 1; W. Denman, 2; B. Payne, 3; F. Rice, 4; E. Streeter, 5; Jno. Gasson (conductor), 6; W. F. Meads, 7; — Hilliard, 8.

THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

A DISTRICT MEETING of this Association was held at Beddington on Saturday, November 17th. The meeting was fixed for 2.30 p.m., but, owing partly no doubt to the heavy rain, it was not until 3.30 that there was a sufficient muster to ring Minor. After a little Grandsire and Plain Bob Minor had been rung, two more members put in an appearance, and then a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples was rung in about 50 mins. by the following company: J. Plowman, 1; A. B. Carpenter, 1; C. E. Malim, 3; E. Bennett (composer and conductor), 4; T. Miles, 5; J. Zealey, 6; J. Trappitt, 7; C. Martin, 8. This was the Hon. Sec.'s first quarter-peal. Plain Bob Triples came next on the list, and then an adjournment was made to get some bread and cheese. On the way back to the tower the bells were heard to go off into Kent Treble Bob Major, several fresh arrivals having taken place in the interval. The attendance was still very thin, although the weather had cleared up, many whose presence was looked upon as certain being absent. Grandsire Caters and Stedman finished up the evening, and the bells were lowered at 9 p.m. The parishes represented were Beddington, Croydon, Epsom, and Streatham, but by far the largest number present were Beddington men.

A. B. CARPENTER, Hon. Sec.

The parish church of Nafferton, near Duffield, was reopened on Friday, after partial restoration. The tower has been re-roofed and repaired, a new clock with three external dials placed in it, the roof of chancel has been lined with wood, and a new reredos designed by Mr. Temple Moore, and painted by Mr. Ward, jun., has been erected.

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

All Subscriptions and Orders for papers must be sent direct to the Publisher, E. W. 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.

We are obliged to postpone the publication of a page of peals, already in type. Will our friend Mr. Strange give us a call?

The Bell News & Ringers' Record.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 24, 1883.

IN another column of our issue of to-day will be found a report of meeting held at Salisbury on the 15th instant, for the purpose of forming a Society for that City. This account is forwarded for insertion, in the usual manner, by a correspondent whose veracity we have never had occasion to call into question. As we understand it, a proposal was afloat to establish one company alone for the city of Salisbury, instead of having separate and distinct companies at the respective churches there. But such a proposal appears to have met with a amount of opposition which is to us unaccountable. We are told that union is strength: surely there are no peculiar local circumstances or conditions in the above-named city which can for one moment establish a refutation of this time-worn adage. Yet it would almost appear that there are.

It is a well-known fact that in many towns the size of the one we are dealing with, the progress, and also the comfortable practice of the art of change-ringing is sorely hindered by the local ringers being divided into sections. A notable instance could be quoted of an important city, having many peals of bells, where it would seem that the fact of two distinct societies being there had been the cause of very few peals being recorded from that quarter in recent years. And though we generally refrain from alluding, in this part of our journal, to anything having a connection with our own neighbourhood, we may just say that it is not long since our own local party had to combat with an attempt which was made—by one who preferred rounds and firing to real ringing—to split the company into sections, which move, if successful, would inevitably have led to jealousy, dissension, and a host of concomitant evils.

Our brethren of Salisbury are of a truth but "colts" in the science. Having looked with very great interest upon

the recent efforts which have been made to promote the science in the Diocese we may be allowed fervently to hope that the ringers living in the cathedral city especially will strive to excel in the art. To do this they must not eschew or ignore the advantages which a union with their fellow-ringers is sure to give. The ringer who is in a sense cosmopolitan will have greater skill than he who preaches the doctrine of isolation. The best ringers are to be found among those who are continually seeking fresh fields and pastures new, and the co-operation and association of their fellows.

The Metropolis.

THE SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.
 WEST HAM, ESSEX.

On Saturday, November 17, 1883, in Three Hours and Thirty-one Minutes

AT ALL SAINTS' CHURCH,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB ROYAL, 5000 CHANGES;
 IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 28 cwt. in D.

GEORGE NEWSON Treble.	JOHN GOBBETT 6.
HARRY RANDALL 2.	EDWARD MOSES 7.
THOMAS TITCHENER* .. 3.	WILLIAM H. DORAN .. 8.
JAMES HANNINGTON 4.	SAMUEL JARMAN 9.
ARTHUR JACOB* 5.	*JAMES BARRETT Tenor.

Composed by NATHAN J. PITSTOW, of Saffron Walden, and
 Conducted by GEORGE NEWSON.

This peal has the 6th its extent wrong and right (see "THE BELL NEWS," No. 44, p. 355), and is now rung for the first time. * First peal of Royal.

THE WATERLOO SOCIETY.—CAMBERWELL, SURREY.

On Saturday, November 17, 1883, in Two Hours and Fifty Minutes,

AT ST. GEORGE'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
 HOLT'S ORIGINAL. Tenor 14 cwt.

J. MARTIN ROUTH, ESQ.† Treble.	†J. CHARLES HARVEY .. 5.
THOMAS TAYLOR† 2.	†HENRY HARVEY 6.
THOMAS G. DEAL† 3.	†ERNEST ROBERTS 7.
FREDERICK M. SMITH, ESQ.* 4.	JOHN CROWDER Tenor.

Conducted by THOMAS G. DEAL.

The Brothers Harvey hail from Woolwich; Deal and Crowder from Lee, Kent; and F. Smith, Esq. from Bedford town, and is also a member of the Bedfordshire Association.

*First peal. †Royal Cumberlands. ‡College Youths.

The Provinces.

WAKEFIELD, YORKSHIRE.

On Thursday, November 15, 1883, in Three Hours and Forty-eight Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS, 5004 CHANGES;
 Tenor 32 cwt. in Db.

WILLIAM MILNES Treble.	JOHN T. HOLLIS 6.
JAMES FIRTH 2.	WILLIAM FIRTH 7.
RICHARD WRIGLEY 3.	THOMAS H. ORMOND .. 8.
JOSEPH P. HEALEY 4.	THOMAS L. MOORHOUSE.. 9.
WALTER SCOTT 5.	JOHN STYLES Tenor.

Composed by JAMES BURMAN, of Yarmouth, and conducted by
 WALTER SCOTT.

The figures of this peal appear on page 83 of Hubbard's 1845 edition. Sixty-three years have elapsed since a peal in this method was rung at Wakefield.

DRIFHLINGTON.—THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, November 10, 1883, in Three Hours and Five Minutes,

AT ST. PAUL'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 16 cwt.

HERBERT ROBINSON Treble.	DICK NEWTON 5.
JEREMY THORNTON 2.	JOHN THORNTON 6.
BENJAMIN PARKINSON 3.	GEORGE BOLLAND 7.
RICHARD THORNTON 4.	HENRY SMITH Tenor.

Composed by the late JOSEPH TEBBS, and conducted by HERBERT ROBINSON.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—MAIDSTONE.

On Thursday, November 16, 1883, in Three Hours and Fifteen Minutes,

AT ALL SAINTS' CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

A VARIATION OF HOLT'S 10-PART. Tenor 31 cwt. in C.

REUBEN SIMMONDS Treble.	EDWARD ELLIOTT 5.
JAMES FURGESSON 2.	ALFRED H. WOOLLEY 6.
HARRY PEARCE 3.	*FREDERICK G. NEWMAN .. 7.
GEORGE PAWLEY 4.	GEORGE MOORCRAFT AND CHARLES RELF Tenor.

Conducted by HARRY PEARCE.

*Members of the Ancient Society of College Youths.

Mr. H. Pearce attained his 21st year on the above date. His brother-ringers heartily wish him many happy returns of the day.

KIRKBURTON, YORKSHIRE.

On Saturday, November 17, 1883, in Three Hours and Five Minutes,

AT ST. JOHN'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 13½ cwt.

DAVID COPLEY Treble.	ALLEN WOMERSLEY 5.
HENRY KAY 2.	WILLIAM WOMERSLEY 6.
*JOHN GREEN HARDY 3.	DICK WHITEHEAD 7.
JAMES BARRACLOUGH 4.	JOHN RHODES Tenor.

Conducted by ALLEN WOMERSLEY.

STALYBRIDGE, CHESHIRE.

On Friday, November 16, 1883, in Two Hours and Fifty-two Minutes,

AT HOLY TRINITY CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S TEN-PART. Tenor 15 cwt.

ALLEN MARSDEN* Treble.	*SAMUEL HILL 5.
HUGH SHAW 2.	ISAAC SCHOFIELD 6.
JOHN POWNALL 3.	*MATTHEW PAILTHORPE .. 7.
ANDREW BYROM 4.	JUSTIN ANDREW Tenor.

Conducted by HUGH SHAW.
(First peal as conductor.)

*First peal.

THE HERTFORD SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.
HERTFORD.

On Saturday, November 17, 1883, in Three Hours and Five Minutes,

AT ST. ANDREW'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S ORIGINAL. Tenor 16 cwt. in F.

JOSEPH CULL* Treble.	HERBERT BAKER 5.
ASPER G. CRAWLEY 2.	JOHN GODFREY 6.
JAMES STAPLES 3.	THOMAS GATHARD 7.
HENRY J. TUCKER 4.	FREDERICK GEORGE Tenor.

Conducted by HENRY JAMES TUCKER.

*First Peal.

(The above Society was established on September 5th, 1767.)

COLE-ORTON, LEICESTERSHIRE.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, November 17, 1883, in Three Hours and Ten Minutes,

AT ST. MARY'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S 6-PART. Tenor 14 cwt.

JOSEPH GRIFFIN Treble.	SAMUEL SMITH 5.
JOHN JAGGAR 2.	WILLIAM WAKLEY 6.
HARRY WAKLEY 3.	JOHN WILLIAM TAYLOR, JUN. 7.
EDWARD ISAAC STONE .. 4.	REV. JAMES H. FISH .. Tenor.

Conducted by JOHN WM. TAYLOR, JUN.

(First peal as conductor.)

Messrs. Taylor and Smith hail from Loughborough; the rest of the company belong to Burton-on-Trent.

GALLEYWOOD, ESSEX.—THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, November 17, 1883, in Two Hours and Fifty Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL AND ALL ANGELS,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S 10-PART. Tenor 14 cwt. 2 qrs. 16 lbs.

WALTER HARVEY Treble.	REV. HERBERT A. COCKEY 5.
ARTHUR H. GARDOM, ESQ. 2.	EDWARD SCOTCHER 6.
WILLIAM ROWLAND* 3.	HUGH SCARLETT 7.
MASTER HIRZEL F. DELISLE 4.	*WALTER BATTLE Tenor.

Conducted by HUGH SCARLETT.

*First peal.

A. H. Gardom, Esq. hails from Wanstead; and Hugh Scarlett from Walthamstow.

EARLSHEATON.—THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Sunday, November 18, 1883, in Three Hours and Eight Minutes,

AT ST. PETER'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5280 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 14 cwt.

ARTHUR GOODALL Treble.	*GEORGE RUDDLESSEN .. 5.
TOLSON HALL* 2.	ISAAC IDLE 6.
SETH SENIOR 3.	JOHN BUCKLEY 7.
GARFORTH TAYLOR 4.	JOSEPH RUDDLESSEN .. Tenor.

Composed and conducted by JOHN BUCKLEY.

All the above belong to Earlsheaton. Tolson Hall is only 16 years of age.

*First peal.

STALYBRIDGE, CHESHIRE.

On Monday, November 19, 1883, in Two Hours and Fifty Minutes,

AT HOLY TRINITY CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S ORIGINAL. Tenor 15 cwt.

JOHN POWNALL Treble.	SAMUEL HILL 5.
HUGH SHAW 2.	SAMUEL WOOD 6.
JAMES WOOD 3.	BENJAMIN BROADBENT .. 7.
EDMUND SCHOFIELD 4.	JUSTIN ANDREW Tenor.

Conducted by SAMUEL WOOD.

The Brothers Wood and B. Broadbent hail from Ashton.

Date Touches.

THE BIRMINGHAM AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATION.

BIRMINGHAM.—On Sunday, November 18th, for evening service at St. Chad's, a muffled date touch of 1883 changes of Grandsire Triples was rung in 1 hr. and 8 mins., in memory of the very Rev. Canon Bagnell, who died at his residence in the morning at Handsworth, W. Baldwin, 1; J. Callaghan, 2; W. Brook, 3; J. Carter (composer and conductor), 4; R. Hunt, 5; T. Miller, 6; A. Hackley, 7; W. Saniger, 8.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

SOUTHPORT (Lancashire).—On Monday, November 19th, eight members of the above Association rang in commemoration of the

birthday of two of the company, a date touch of 1883 changes of Kent Treble Bob Major, in 1 hr. and 5 mins. David Rimmer, 1; Thomas Johnson Fielding, 2; Abel Fielding, 3; James Henry Heywood, 4; Richard Hill, 5; Henry Spencer, 6; George Robert Heywood, 7; Charles Fielding Heywood, 8. Composed by J. Hardcastle, and conducted by Charles Fielding Heywood. Tenor 10 cwt.

STEBBING (Essex).—At St. Mary's church, on Monday, November 19th, for practice, a date touch of 1883 changes, in the following methods: fifteen 6-scores of Stedman's Slow Course and 83 of Bob Doubles, in 1 hr. and 10 mins., each 6-score being called differently. A. Barker, 1; *J. T. Barker, 2; W. Stock, 3; *E. Hynds, 4; *E. Claydon (conductor), 5. * Members of the Essex Association. Tenor 16 cwt.

Miscellaneous.

THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

BROMHAM (Beds).—On Tuesday, November 13th, for practice in the evening, a 720 of Grandsire Minor in 27 mins. F. Chastey (first 720), 1; S. Cullip, 2; H. King, 3; J. Hills, 4; W. Biggs (conductor), 5; W. Allen, 6.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.—On November 10th, at St. Stephen's, 2310 of Grandsire Triples, in 1 hr. 25 mins. Jas. Weddle, 1; E. Scott, 2; T. Denton, 3; E. Pyle, 4; F. Ord, 5; E. Wallis (conductor), 6; S. Power, 7; G. Stabart, 8. On November 15th, 2520 of Grandsire Triples, in 1 hr. 40 mins. E. Sawyer, 1; W. Reed, Esq. (conductor), 2; E. Scott, 3; — Ross, 4; R. Wignall, 5; R. Smith, 6; E. Wallis, 7; S. Nott, 8. Tenor 30 cwt. At the church of St. John the Baptist, on Sunday, November 18th, for Divine Service in the evening, 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor, in 27 mins. George Campbell, 1; C. L. Routledge, 2; Francis Lees, 3; T. J. des Forges, 4; W. Story, 5; Walter G. Routledge (conductor), 6. And at the last-named church, on Monday, November 19th, for practice, a 720 of College Pleasure in 26 mins. R. Smith, 1; C. L. Routledge, 2; F. Lees, 3; W. G. Routledge, 4; W. Story, 5; R. S. Story (conductor), 6. Also a 720 of Buxton Treble Bob Minor, in 26 mins. R. Smith, 1; C. L. Routledge, 2; R. S. Story, 3; W. G. Routledge, 4; W. Story, 5; F. Lees (conductor), 6. Tenor 12½ cwt.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

ROMFORD.—Chiming.—On Sunday afternoon, a 720 of Grandsire Minor, with thirty-eight bobs and twenty-two singles, in 27 mins. A. J. Perkins (conductor), 1-2-3-4; B. Keeble, 5-6.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

ALDINGTON (Kent).—On Thursday evening, November 15th, 1883, at St. Martin's church, a 720 of Plain Bob Minor (eighteen bobs and two singles). Charles Slingsby, 1; David Hodgkin, 2; Fred. Wanstall (first 720), 3; Philip Hodgkin, 4; William Hyder (conductor), 5; William Post, sen., 6. Also another 720 in the same method (eighteen bobs and eighteen singles), in 27 mins. C. Slingsby, 1; D. Hodgkin, 2; P. Hodgkin, 3; Edward Hyder, 4; W. Hyder (conductor), 5; W. Post, sen., 6. Tenor 14 cwt. in G.

CHERITON (Kent).—On Saturday evening, November 17th, at St. Martin's church, three members of the local company, with three of the Aldington branch of the above Association, rang a 720 of Bob Minor (eighteen bobs and two singles), in 25 mins. C. Slingsby (Aldington), 1; William Driscoll (Cheriton), 2; D. Hodgkin (Aldington), 3; Robert Beal (Cheriton), 4; Frederick Rolfe (Cheriton; conductor), 5; Philip Hodgkin (Aldington), 6. Also another 720 in the same method (twelve bobs and twenty-two singles), in 25 mins. C. Slingsby, 1; Percy Greenstreet (Cheriton), 2; D. Hodgkin, 3; R. Beal, 4; P. Hodgkin, 5; F. Rolfe (conductor), 6. Tenor 7½ cwt. in A.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

FARNWORTH-IN-WIDNES (Lancashire).—On Sunday, November 11th, at St. Luke's church, for Divine Service in the evening, six of the local company rang a 720 of Grandsire Minor, in 26 mins. J. Large, 1; A. Whitfield, 2; Peter Case, 3; Walter Patten, 4; J. T. Lowe, 5; J. Latchford (conductor), 6. Tenor 12½ cwt. in G. [The publication of this touch has been delayed through being forwarded through the publisher.—Ed.]

GARSTON (Lancashire).—On Sunday, November 10th, six members of the above Association rang at St. Michael's church, for Divine Service in the evening, a 720 of Grandsire Minor, in 26½ mins. Wm. S. Gough, 1; J. Alexander, 2; W. Brown (Runcorn), 3; W. Hughes, 4; C. Newton, 5; F. Turner (conductor), 6. Tenor 12½ cwt.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

BURTON-ON-TRENT (Staffordshire).—On Tuesday, November 20th, on the occasion of the marriage of Mr. Fred. Wm. Wallis, of Rhyl, North Wales, with Miss Mary B. Anson, of this parish, eight members of the St. Paul's society rang a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples, in 50 mins. J. Jaggar, 1; E. I. Stone, 2; A. Wakley, 3; J. Griffin (conductor), 4; H. Wakley, 5; T. Holmes, 6; W. Wakley, 7; G. Robinson, 8. Tenor 26 cwt. Mr. Wallis was formerly a member of the St. Paul's Amateur Society of Change-Ringers, and Miss Anson has won golden opinions as a Sunday-School teacher at St. Paul's Sunday-Schools.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

BANHAM (Norfolk).—On Thursday, November 1st, a 720 of Bob Minor. W. Nudds, jun. (aged 16), 1; W. Nudds, sen., 2; J. Saunders, 3; R. Hutton, 4; R. Patrick, 5; C. Everett (conductor), 6. Also on Sunday afternoon, November 11th, after Divine Service, 264 Kent Treble Bob Minor. J. Gaskin, 1; R. Hutton (conductor), 2; C. Everett, 3; J. Woods, 4; R. Nudds, 5; W. Nudds, 6. Also a 720 of Bob Minor, with eight bobs and six singles. W. Nudds, jun., 1; W. Nudds, sen., 2; C. Everett, 3; J. Woods, 4; R. Nudds, 5; R. Hutton (conductor), 6. Also a 264 of Double Court Bob Minor. C. Everett, 1; W. Nudds, 2; J. Saunders, 3; J. Woods, 4; R. Nudds, 5; R. Hutton (conductor), 6. Also on Sunday, November 18th, after Divine Service in the afternoon, a 720 of Bob Minor. W. Nudds, jun., 1; J. Gaskin, 2; J. Saunders, 3; R. Hutton (conductor), 4; R. Patrick, 5; H. Eagling, 6.

THE OXFORD UNIVERSITY SOCIETY, AND THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

OXFORD.—On Saturday, November 10th, the University Society with the town society rang a 720 of Grandsire Minor, on Seage's apparatus, in 30 mins. G. F. Scott, Esq., 1; F. A. H. Du Boulay, Esq., 2; J. R. Vincent, Esq., 3; W. Finch, 4; J. F. Hastings, Esq., 5; G. F. Coleridge, Esq. (conductor), 6. Tenor about 13 cwt. Also on Thursday, November 15th, at St. Thomas-the-Martyr, six members of the University Society rang a 720 of Grandsire Minor, in 27 mins. J. R. Vincent, 1; C. W. H. Griffith, 2; G. F. Scott, 3; F. A. H. Du Boulay, 4; J. F. Hastings, 5; G. F. Coleridge (conductor), 6. Tenor 9 cwt. And on Monday, October 19th, at New College tower, on Seage's apparatus, a 720 of Grandsire Minor. C. W. H. Griffith, Esq., 1; J. R. Vincent, Esq. (Master), 2; G. F. Scott, Esq. (Secretary), 3; F. A. H. Du Boulay, Esq., 4; J. W. Washbrook (town society; conductor), 5; J. F. Hastings, Esq., 6. Tenor 13 cwt.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

FARNHAM ROYAL (Bucks).—On Wednesday, November 14th, a 720 of Oxford Bob Minor, with thirty-eight bobs and twenty-two singles, in 27 mins. G. Basden, 1; F. Fells, 2; A. Fussell, 3; W. Fussell, 4; J. Parker (conductor), 5; C. Clarke, 6. And on Saturday, November 17th, a 720 of Grandsire Doubles. *E. T. Batten, 1; F. Fells, 2; A. Fussell, 3; W. Fussell, 4; J. Parker, 5; T. Brown, 6. *First 720.

MAIDENHEAD (Berks).—On Tuesday, November 20th, at All Saints, Boyne Hill, for ordinary practice, a 504 of Grandsire Triples, in 19 mins. J. Truss, 1; J. Eldridge, 2; W. A. Garraway (conductor), 3; R. Flaxman, 4; R. Smith, 5; G. Wilkins, jun., 6; E. Rogers, 7; E. Keeley, 8. Also a 720 of Grandsire Minor, in 27 mins. J. Eldridge, 1; W. A. Garraway (conductor), 2; R. Smith, 3; G. Wilkins, jun., 4; E. Rogers, 5; R. Flaxman, 6. Tenor 17½ cwt.

STOKE-UPON-TRENT ARCHIDIACONAL ASSOCIATION.

WOLSTANTON.—At an Association Meeting on Saturday, November 17th, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor in 26 mins., being the first in this method rung since the formation of this society. *S. Walker, 1; *E. Glover, 2; L. Miller, 3; W. Miller, 4; *J. Baddeley, 5; S. Spencer (conductor), 6. *First 720 in this method. E. Glover and J. Baddeley hail from Norton-le-Moors; the rest from Wolstanton. On Tuesday, November 20th, at the usual weekly practice, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor, in 28 mins. A. Walker, 1; L. Miller, 2; W. Miller, 3; S. Wooton, 4; W. Priestman, 5; S. Spencer (conductor), 6.

CHEDDLETON.—On Sunday, November 18th, a 720 of Bob Minor, with 26 singles, in 26 mins. J. Parker, 1; E. Spooner, 2; J. Gilbert, 3; H. Rogers, 4; F. Clowes (conductor), 5; J. Renshaw, 6.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

STAVELEY (Derbyshire).—On Saturday, November 17th, five members of the local company, with three from Chesterfield, attempted a peal of Grandsire Triples, but after ringing the first three parts (1512 changes) in 1 hour, it came to grief through two bells changing course. A. Knights (conductor), 1; H. Mottershall, 2; G. Topliss, 3; H. Madin, 4; H. Nuttall, jun., 5; W. Worthington, 6; J. Hunt, 7; S. Palmer, 8. Tenor 19 cwt.

ACTON (Middlesex).—On Thursday evening, November 8th, at St. Mary's church, for practice, a 1512 of Grandsire Triples, in 56 mins. W. Taylor, 1; G. Hsley, 2; W. Baron (conductor), 3; W. Fenwick, 4; G. Trinder, 5; W. Wilder, 6; F. Slade, Esq., 7; — Perriman, 8.

BLETHINGLEY (Surrey).—On Sunday, Nov. 18th, before evening service, a quarter-peal of Union Triples, 1260 changes, in 45 mins. Luke Killick, 1; T. Boniface, 2; J. Bashford, 3; J. Burkin, 4; W. Webb, 5; E. Kenward, 6; W. Burkin (conductor), 7; J. Balcombe, 8. This is the longest touch by any of the band in the method.

BRISTOL.—On Thursday evening, November 15th, at All Saints' Church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples in 45 mins. J. York (aged 15), 1; F. Price, 2; H. Portch, 3; J. Norton, 4; J. Hinton, (conductor), 5; E. Beake, 6; W. Emery, 7; G. Stadon, 8.

DEPTFORD (Kent).—*Muffled Touch.*—On Saturday, November 17th, at St. Nicholas' church, ringers from Greenwich, Lewisham, Rotherhithe and Bermondsey, met to ring (as a last mark of respect to the late Mr. Henry Bunn, of Rotherhithe, who was accidentally killed while at work on the South Eastern Railway, on Friday, November 10th), with the bells half-muffled, a 1736 of Grandsire Triples, taken from Taylor's Bob-and-Single Variation, in 1 hour and 5 mins. E. Freeman, 1; William Pead, 2; W. Weatherstone, 3; W. Bowles, 4; H. Freeman, 5; J. Waghorne, 6; A. G. Freeman (conductor), 7; G. Thatcher, 8. Also a 504 in 19½ mins. T. Lamb, 1; W. Weatherstone, 2; J. Waghorne, 3; W. Bowles, 4; H. Freeman, 5; J. Reese, 6; A. G. Freeman (conductor), 7; G. Thatcher, 8. Deceased was 26 years of age, and was a member of the Waterloo Society. Tenor 21½ cwt.

DUNDEE.—On Sunday, November 18th, for afternoon service at St. Mary's church, a plain course of Grandsire Triples. D. Donald, 1; A. Allan, 2; W. Henderson, 3; W. Paul, 4; R. Scott, 5; J. Knight, 6; R. Knight (conductor), 7; D. Mills, 8. This is the first Triples rung by any of the band.

EVERTON (Nottinghamshire).—On Sunday, November 11th, for Divine Service in the evening, a 720 of Bob Minor was rung, with thirty bobs and two singles, in twenty-five mins. James Holgate, 1; John Swindin, 2; George Pearson, 3; Thomas S. Philips, 4; Joseph Swindin (conductor), 5; George Brown, 6.

HAVERSTOCK HILL (Middlesex).—On Sunday, November 18th, for Divine Service in the evening, a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob Minor, with fifteen bobs, in 25 mins. J. Nixon, 2; G. Newson, 2; T. Titchener, 3; J. Leach, 4; G. Shephard, 5; J. Hannington (conductor), 6. And on Wednesday, November 21st, a 720 of Bob Minor (nine bobs and six singles), in 24 mins. James Hannington (conductor), 1; Benjamin Fossett, 2; Newland Alderman, 3; Thomas Gleed, 4; George Griffin, 5; Wingfield Meadows, 6. Tenor 12½ cwt.

MOULTON (Lincolnshire).—On Monday, November 19th, by kind permission of the vicar, the Rev. J. R. Jackson, five members of the SS. Mary and Nicolas company, Spalding, visited this place, and rang at All Saints' church, several touches of Grandsire and Bob Doubles. J. S. Wright, J. Brown, A. Brown, G. L. Richardson, R. Mackman. After being supplied with refreshments by the Rev. J. M. Coates, curate, the company returned home well pleased with their visit.

PINCHBECK (Lincolnshire).—On Wednesday, November 14th, at St. Mary's church, five members of the SS. Mary and Nicolas, company, Spalding, visited this place, and rang three 120's of Grand Doubles, and two 120's of Bob Doubles. The following were the ringers: J. S. Wright, J. Wilson, J. Brown, A. Brown, R. Mackman. These bells go very bad, although only rehung a few years back by some-one at Peterborough. Soon after being rehung, the treble jumped clean out of its bearings, and the bellhanger being communicated with, his reply was "the bell was'n't heavy enough to keep in its place." It weighs at the least 6 cwt. A little bell-chamber reform would not be out of place here.

LINCOLN.—On Friday evening, November 9th, at St. Peter-at-Gowts, two 720's and a half of Bob Minor, in 1 hr. and 3 mins. First 720: J. Cox, 1; C. Wells (first 720), 2; J. Watson, 3; E. Curtis (conductor), 4; P. Herrick, 5; W. Knowles, 6. Second 720: J. Cox, 1; E. Curtis (conductor), 2; J. Watson, 3; T. Keyworth, 4; P. Herrick, 5; W. Knowles, 6. The 360: J. Cox, 1; C. Wells, 2; E. Curtis (conductor), 3; G. Doughty, 4; P. Herrick, 5; W. Knowles, 6.

SAFFRON WALDEN (Essex).—On Sunday, November 18th, for Divine Service in the evening, at St. Mary's church, the following members of the local society rang a 504 of Stedman Triples. John Freeman, 1; J. F. Penning, 2; Ernest Pitstow, 3; Charles Freeman, 4; George Martin, 5; N. J. Pitstow, 6; Fredk. Pitstow, 7; James Bacon, 8.

SPALDING (Lincolnshire).—On Thursday, November 15th, at SS. Mary and Nicolas, a 720 of London Single, and a 360 of Oxford Treble Bob. J. S. Wright, 1; J. Wilson, 2; G. L. Richardson, 3; R. Mackman, 4; A. Brown, 5; J. Brown, 6. And on Sunday, November 18th, after evening service, a 720 of Oxford Bob, with twenty-six

singles. G. Skeef, 1; J. Wilson, 2; G. L. Richardson, 3; R. Mackman, 4; A. Brown, 5; J. S. Wright, 6. Also a 720 of London Single. J. S. Wright, 5; J. Brown, 6. Also a 360 of Oxford Treble Bob. R. Mackman (conductor). And on Tuesday, November 20th, a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob, with nine bobs. J. S. Wright, 1; J. Wilson, 2; G. L. Richardson, 3; R. Mackman, 4; A. Brown, 5; J. Brown, 6.

STEBBING (Essex).—At St. Mary's Church, on Sunday, November 18th, for morning service, four 6-scores of Stedman's Slow Course, also for evening service six 6-scores of the same method. A. Barker, 1; *J. T. Barker, 2; W. Stock, 3; *E. Hynds, 4; *E. Claydon (conductor), 5. *Members of the Essex Association. Tenor 16 cwt.

STISTED (Essex).—On Sunday, November 11th, a 720 of Plain Bob in 24 mins. A. Chaplin, 1; E. Chaplin, 2; H. E. Hammond, 3; S. Hammond (conductor), 4; E. Radley, 5; W. Radley, 6. This is the first 720 of the 2nd and 5th men. Also on Sunday, November 18th, for Divine Service in the afternoon, 18-score of Oxford Treble Bob. H. E. Hammond, 1; W. Moore, 2; W. Bearman, 3; W. Radley, 4; S. Hammond (conductor), 5; C. Bearman, 6. Messrs. Moore and Bearmans hail from Bocking, Messrs. Hammond from Braintree, and W. Radley, Stisted. After service a 720 in the same method, in 24 mins. Tenor 10 cwt.

STRATFORD ST. MARY (Suffolk).—On Wednesday, November 14th, a mixed company rang for practice two 720s of Bob Minor, in 55 mins. J. Taylor (conductor), 1; G. Smith, 2; W. Smith, 3; W. Watson, 4; J. Starling, 5; W. Nevard, 6.

SUDBURY (Suffolk).—On Tuesday evening, November 6th, six members of the local company rang for practice a 720 of Bob Minor upon the back six. W. Bacon, 1; M. Silvester, 2; H. Brackett, 3; W. Howell, 4; A. Scott (conductor), 5; H. Harper, 6. Also on Tuesday evening, November 20th, 1152 of Kent Treble Bob Major, by eight members of the same company, in 50 mins. F. Tolliday, 1; M. Silvester, 2; J. Campin, 3; W. Griggs, 4; W. Bacon, 5; W. Howell, 6; A. Scott (conductor), 7; H. Harper, 8. Tenor 28 cwt.

SYSTON (Leicestershire).—On Tuesday, November 20th, the under-mentioned members of the parish company rang a 720 of Bob Minor with eighteen bobs and two singles, in about 29 mins. W. Freeman, 1; F. North, 2; W. Bail, 3; H. Adcock, 4; J. Pickard, 5; Rev. W. Pearson (conductor), 6. Tenor 15½ cwt. in F. This we believe is the first peal of Minor that has been rung by the village company unassisted for many years.

WEST MALLING (Kent).—On Sunday, November 18th, for evening service, 720 Bob Minor (with 32 bobs and 2 singles), in 24 mins. W. Driver, 1; D. Hall, 2; E. Baldock, 3; E. Bonner, 4; W. J. Leonard, 5; F. G. Newman (conductor), 6. Also after evening service 720 Bob Minor (with 42 singles). W. Driver, 1; E. Baldock, 2; E. Bonner, 3; W. Aldridge, 4; W. J. Leonard, 5; F. G. Newman (conductor), 6. Tenor 12 cwt.

WORKINGHAM (Berks).—On Saturday, November 17th, six members of the St. Lawrence's society, Reading, rang at St. Paul's church, on the back six, a 720 of Grandsire Minor, in 27 mins. *W. Holloway, 1; *W. R. Pocock, 2; *W. Johnson, 3; E. Bishop, 4; *J. E. Willshire, 5; W. J. Williams (conductor), 6. *First 720 in the method.

WORCESTER.—On Friday, November 9th, being the Prince of Wales's birthday, the local company rang with Mr. J. Perks (Master of the Worcester Diocesan Association), rang at the Cathedral, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Caters, 1260 changes, on the back ten, in 1 hr. and 4 mins. F. Owen, 1; J. Hinton, 2; N. Wale, 3; H. Pheasant, 4; J. Perks, 5; G. Hobbs, 6; H. Wilkes (conductor), 7; J. Reynolds, 8; G. Cleal, 9; T. Malin, 10. Tenor 50 cwt.

WORDSLEY (Staffordshire).—On Sunday, November 18th, at the parish church, a mixed company rang a 720 of Grandsire Minor in 25½ mins. John Goodman, 1; Wm. H. Hughes, 2; Benjamin Johnson, 3; Robert Schofield, 4; Wm. Lawrence (conductor), 5; Ernest Samuel Chapman, 6. Tenor 13½ cwt. Messrs. Goodman, Johnson, Schofield, hail from Sedgley, the rest from Wordsley. First 720 in the method by J. Goodman.

STOKE-UPON-TRENT-ARCHIDIACONAL ASSOCIATION.

WOLSTANTON.—The Association's third meeting in this belfry was held on Saturday, and was attended by thirty ringers from Norton-le-Moors, Lawton, Keele, Wolstanton, and Tunstall. Some good ringing was done, including a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor, the first 720 in the method rung since the formation of the Association. Tea was served in the schoolroom at a cost of 9d. a head, presided over by the vicar, the Rev. O. W. Steele. Some excellent handbell ringing was given by three visitors from the Newcastle-under-Lyme belfry. This exhibition of friendly feeling will, it is to be hoped, lead the Newcastle men to join the Association. At this fine old parish church there is a good ring of eight bells.

Correspondence.

NEUTRALISATION OF THE SOUND OF CHURCH BELLS.

SIR,—I observe in "THE BELL NEWS" of the 27th of October, a query by a correspondent writing on behalf of the ringers of St. Paul's, Bedford, as to the best means of preventing the sound of bells proving an annoyance to over-sensitive residents in the neighbourhood.

Our trials at St. Mary's Cathedral church, in this city, having been rang similar in the past to those of which the Bedford society have now to complain, the remedy adopted by us may suggest something practicable elsewhere.

In the first place it will be conceded by all, that inordinate and untimely open practice by an inexperienced band is quite sufficient to stir up uncharitable feelings towards bells and bell-ringing in any locality, above all in so called "fashionable centres," accustomed only to a state of dull and dignified repose. Fortunately Seage's apparatus furnishes a complete and satisfactory remedy. In our own tower it was fitted up soon after the dedication of the ring, just in time to prevent "injunctions," or as we say in Scotland, interdicts, being fulminated against us—and has worked admirably ever since.

More serious difficulties, however, have fallen to our lot in connexion with the actual Sunday ringing. The band, it not unfrequently happened, would assemble only to be informed that owing to serious illness in the vicinity, and a strongly-worded doctor's certificate, duly endorsed by the Dean, no ringing was to take place. The interruption, whether well grounded or not, usually proved as inconvenient to a large majority of the congregation as it was trying and discouraging to the ringers. The offertories moreover suffered, for many failed to come to church at all, and empty seats in every direction proved how necessary even in the present day the traditional signal of the approach of the hour of service is still felt to be. In the course of last winter, matters reached a crisis, and the band resolved to spare neither trouble nor expense in providing a cure. Shutters lined with a material impervious to sound seemed likely to prove efficient. They had also the advantage of admitting of a difference being made in the extent of the reduction of sound as circumstances might demand. The louvres might be *wholly* closed, if it was necessary to reduce the sound to a minimum, or *partially*, if it was sufficient to check its course in any given direction.

It should be explained that the tower of the Cathedral is a central one. It is square at the level of the ringing-chamber, and octagonal at that of the belfry. Above this again is the spire—open from the bells to its apex, a huge hollow cone of masonry tapering to a height of 275 feet from the ground. In each face of the octagonal portion of the tower is a large and deeply recessed window or louvre opening. Each window is divided by a central shaft into two spaces, and in each place are six louvres. Of these windows the four larger facing the Cardinal points, exclusive of their arched headings pierced by quatrefoils, have a height of about 14 ft., and a width of 6 ft. The four smaller, towards the angles of the tower, are of the same height, but of narrower width. As a whole the louvres present a sound-emitting area of rather more than 600 square feet. In addition to this the lower part of the spire contains four long lanceolate openings, surmounted by four smaller ones. The sills of the former are nearly 40 ft. above the top of the bell-cage, and rather more than 150 ft. from the ground. It was rightly surmised that any sound proceeding from the tower at such an elevation could not materially affect the houses below. Attention therefore was confined to the louvres themselves.

Each louvre opening or window is fitted with a pair of shutters, which are simply large batten doors of ordinary make. The material employed is white wood, sacking or boarding $\frac{3}{4}$ -inches thick, well groined and tongued together. The transverse bars to which this boarding is nailed are of red pine, with a section of 5 in. by 1 in. Round the margin of each shutter, on the side that is innermost when the louvre openings are closed, is a wooden fillet $1\frac{1}{4}$ in. square. The object of this is to box in the ends of the sheets of felt with which the entire surface of the shutters is covered. The felt used is full 1 in. thick, and is of the peculiar sort adapted for enveloping boilers and steam pipes. The sheets in which it is made are of small size, 34 in. by 20 in., and so worked in with little waste. They are nailed down edge to edge, and are further supported by slips of wood fastened across them. As an additional protection to the hair felt, the texture of which is somewhat loose, lengths of ordinary roofing felt are stretched over the whole and tacked to the marginal fillet. As this fillet rises slightly above the thick hair felt, all round, a small interspace is left between the two layers of material. This doubtless prevents to some extent the lodgment of damp, and also aids in retarding the egress of sound.

The shutters are hung with "hook and band" hinges, three to each shutter. The bands were bolted to the inside of the wood-work before the affixing of the fillets and felt, and the hooks firmly screwed to red wood battens nailed and clamped to the oaken uprights of the louvre frames. When closed the shutters are secured by wooden swing-bars. These pivot on one shutter and overlap the other, the

ends bearing on rails sprigged on at top and bottom of each shutter, over the outer felt. When not in use the shutters fold back against the wall spaces between the louvre openings. They are thus not in the least in the way, and though of strong construction, as it is a standing order that they are never to be left closed at night, or during a heavy gale, no danger is apprehended even if a sudden accession of wind pressure should take place.

There was some dread while the work was in hand, that the deafening effect would be too great, or at any rate much greater than was necessary, and the grand tone of our splendid ring—acknowledged to be one of Messrs. Taylor and Co's chief masterpieces—be thereby so completely smothered as to be practically sacrificed. Fortunately this surmise has proved incorrect, for although the complete closing of the louvres immensely reduces the volume of sound as heard in the immediate neighbourhood of the Cathedral, modifies its character by the suppression of the reverberating clang complained of by invalids, it does not prevent the summons of the bells being heard in the distance. On the contrary, as a considerable part of the sound which would diffuse itself in the air at a lower level if the louvres were open, is compelled instead to make its exit from the openings in the spire at an increased elevation, it travels to a greater distance and drops upon districts of the town to which it would not otherwise penetrate.

I must apologise Sir, for the length of this letter. I trust the details into which I have entered may not be considered superfluous. It will be a great satisfaction to our company should their experience prove in any way useful to their Bedford brethren.

Edinburgh, November 15th, 1883.

G. G. CUNNINGHAM.

P.S.—Such shutters as I have described being always exposed to wind and weather require of course to be made in the first instance of good material and to be well painted. A good lead colour is inconspicuous from below. The thin felt should also have a good coating of black japan. The tar with which roofing felt is impregnated is always more or less sticky, and becomes unpleasantly so in hot weather.

THE UNION SOCIETY OF NEWCASTLE AND GATESHEAD.

SIR,—Your correspondent, Mr. Dibble, has fallen into a slight error in speaking of the monthly meeting of the Durham and Newcastle Diocesan Association, he should have said the Newcastle and Gateshead branch of this Association. I am glad to see that this branch, which was not represented at the late annual meeting at Durham, and therefore did not contribute to the subscription then made for Mr. Cox, have decided to send a contribution of their own, especially as Mr. Cox's connection with their society formed, in my opinion, the principle reason why he should be asked to join our Association as a life member, and receive on his certificate of membership an illustration of the very tower in which he conducted the 5040 referred to in the tablet published by Mr. Dibble. The Union Society of Newcastle and Gateshead is the only society in this district having the slightest pretensions to a history, and I believe, still possesses records dating back to the early days of change-ringing which would afford much matter of interest for the readers of your paper. It opened the eight bells at All Saints, in 1797, with a 5040 of Grandsire Triples, and has recorded several peals from that time to 1855, since which period change-ringing seems to have declined until it came to be regarded as something that once existed when ringing was better appreciated. The decline of change-ringing was accompanied, as it always is, with deterioration in the condition of the bells, and the 36 cwt. tenor at the Cathedral is now going so badly, that it would be severe labour for even two men to cover a 5040 with her. The All Saints' bells are in a very rickety state; and can only be kept going by continual patching up; the go of the Gateshead bells is such that no change-ringing is ever attempted on them. I have always thought that the system of amalgamation which has been carried out at Sheffield and Birmingham, would produce beneficial results in Newcastle, and could be easily managed so as not to interfere with the duties of the duly appointed ringers of each church. When the time comes that the different eight bell peals are again put into proper order, such a society should hold its weekly meetings for practice at each of them in turn. In this way a first-rate band would always be available for high-class ringing, and accustomed to handle peals ranging from the 14 cwt. tenor at Gateshead to the 36 cwt. tenor at the Cathedral.

G. J. CLARKSON.

"CLAPPERING."

SIR,—Having seen in the last issue of "THE BELL NEWS" an account of a bell being cracked by "clappering" at Wakefield, I thought I should like to give another instance of a bell being cracked by the same means. The tower of the Holy Trinity church, Long Melford, contains a peal of 8, tenor 16 cwt. About eighteen or twenty years ago it was the custom in that parish to tie a rope to the clapper and toll the bell in that manner for a funeral. It happened that the sexton as he was thus tolling, kept his weight on the rope, and the consequence was that the bell cracked. I am pleased to add that it has since been re-cast.

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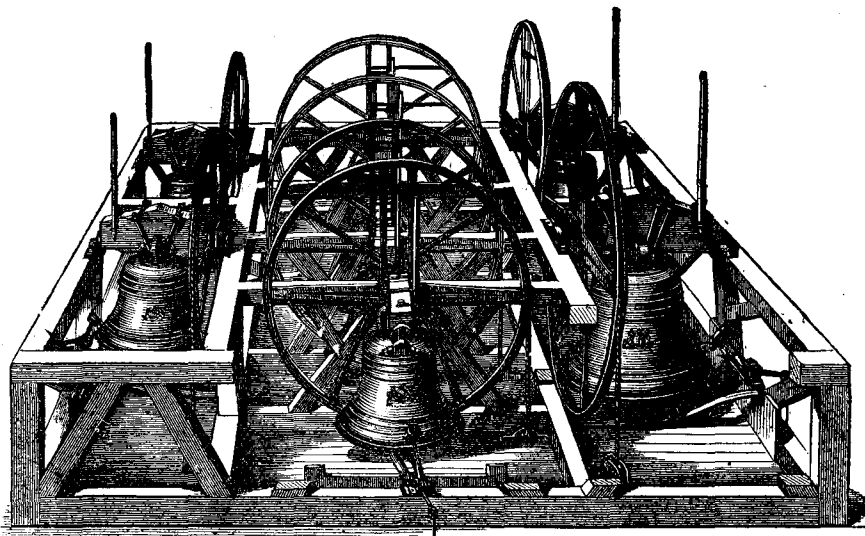
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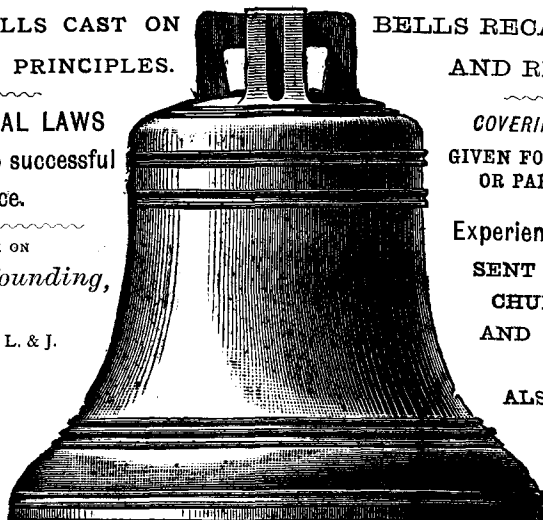
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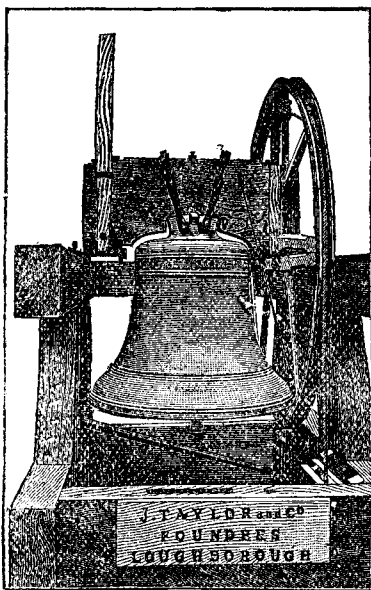
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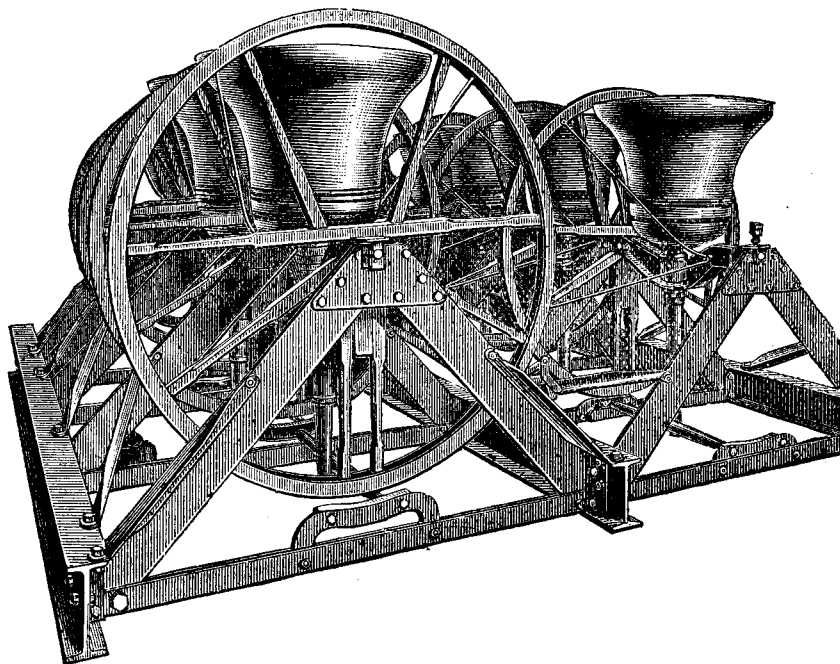
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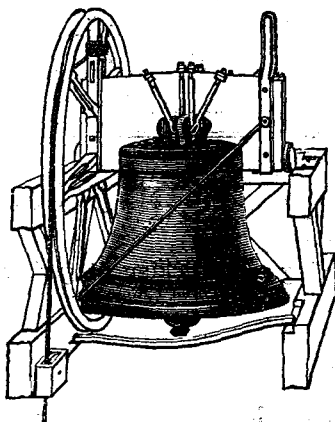
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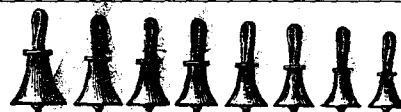
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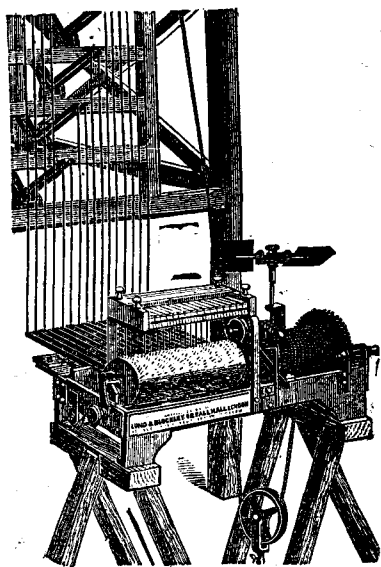
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PENWORTHAM BELLS.

There may be disadvantages in living at Broadgate, in Preston, but that locality is entitled to put down the music of Penwortham bells as something unmistakably in its favour. Few there are who are not susceptible of the sweet, and even sometimes saddening, influences of a peal from a church steeple, when heard on a Christmas night in the stillness of the country, or in some quiet corner of a great town from across the water and over some distance on a summer's eve,

In cadence sweet, now dying all away,
Now pealing loud again and louder still,
Clear and sonorous as the gale comes on.

There is indeed, to our mind, something so much akin to churchmanship in bellringing that we used to find compensation in the melody of the Penwortham bells, smoothed and softened by the good offices of the Ribble, for the absence of some little comforts and charms of churchmanship as we have known them in other neighbourhoods than this. Residence at Broadgate settled us more than ever in the firm conviction that the music of bells is so interwoven with the principal events of a Christian life that there is good reason for specially dedicating them to holy purposes in a building set apart entirely for Divine worship. They preach to all of death and judgment, of heaven and hell; they invite the loiterer and absentee, warn the neglecter of religious ordinances, and urge the Christian to pursue his course heavenward; they preach to those who never hear another preacher, and who seldom or never come within the walls of a church. When lonely, sick, and dispirited, we have occasionally listened with refreshment to the ringing of the Penwortham bells, for

The bells themselves are the best of preachers,
Their brazen lips are learned teachers,
From their pulpits of stone in the open air;
Sounding aloft without crack or flaw,
Shriller than trumpets under the law—
Now a sermon and now a prayer.

"Who is likeliest to know anything of such traditions and superstitions as linger about the Penwortham bells?" we asked the other night. "Ah," was the reply, "you should have had a talk with Godbert, he knew all about them; but try Southworth, or Webster, or Johnson, or Wright. They are all ringers, or have been in their time, and each in his way loves the bells as if they were living things, and not mere metal." And so we set off through the Penwortham lanes seeking out these worthies, and as proof positive of what we said at the outset about the relationship between Churchmanship and bell-ringing, we bear witness with pleasure—why should we not add with pride—that the kindly and courteous wife of one of these men, finding, in the absence of her husband, what was our errand, entered into the subject pending his arrival with a warmth and cordiality which showed that her interest was inspired by something higher and deeper than even her good man's passion for campanology. At last we found two of these old Penwortham ringers together, and though they could rehearse no ancient legend relating to the Penwortham bells, though they knew of no usage other than usual in relation to them, their eyes glistened with something of a zealous glow at the thought that any public mention of Penwortham bells would help to increase the interest of the rising generation of parishioners in their melodious use. And then one said, "There used to be a song about Penwortham bells when I was a lad; have you ever heard it? Let me see; how did it run?"

'Tis sweet neath the shade of the elm to be lying,
When the thrush with its melody wakens the grove,
When the heart aches with throbbing, the bosom with sighing,
And all the fond soul melts in passionate love.
But oh with what joy, and oh with what emotion
My bosom is filled, and my heart how it swells,
When I hear, with a feeling of lowly devotion,
The sweet sounding music of Penwortham bells."

Charles Lamb, in one of his delightful essays, talks about the effect of the curfew bell being that, though people might sit up in the dark and talk to each other, they would have to grope each other's faces at a humorous sally in order to ascertain whether the countenance they could not see had relaxed into a smile or not. Now, there was just sufficient light in the Penwortham house where this interview took place to make darkness visible, but had we all been wrapt in Egyptian darkness, which could be felt, that honest fellow's voice would have told, without any need for touching his features, the fond memories that verse conjured up, for he recited it with tremulous emotion and most intelligent emphasis. And though as a matter of fact, there is, we believe no belfry literature at Penwortham, though the present set of ringers, all good fellows in their way, are comparatively new beginners, though the old ringers preserve no forgotten customs, though, in short, the history of the Penwortham peal of bells is only just beginning, the Penwortham bells, for all that,

must have a history of their own which we can pretty well divine without the aid of mouldy records if we but take the trouble to think of it. Remember that glorious park-like approach to the church unequalled in the most rustical part of dear old rural England; think of the centuries of bridal processions that have trod it; think of the many and deep graven tombstones, underneath which lie the enmities of many generations, and think of the part the bells of Penwortham have played in relation to all those joyous and solemn cavalcades. We cannot linger in that graveyard among the moss-grown records of mouldering humanity which lie about like bits of wreck upon the shore of a boundless sea without fancying that Penwortham bells had to them in their day and generation all the hopes and fears they have to us to night. Wandering in that ancient "temple of silence and reconciliation," no sound disturbing the stately stillness of the hallowed shrine in its midst except where the wind plays with the grass between the burial mounds and the daws caw from their lofty rookeries hard by, we cannot loiter there and not feel strangely, mysteriously affected by the faint hum of the busy town of Preston, which slowly steals in upon the senses like the murmurs of life from some ruder world. Then when the Penwortham bells peal out their melody on the night air they have the magical effect that the harp of David had upon the troubled soul of Saul.

Still may they ring when struggles cease,
Still may they ring for joys increase,
For progress in the arts of peace,
And friendly trophies won,
When rival nations join their hands,
When plenty crowns the happy lands,
When knowledge gives new blessings birth,
And freedom reigns o'er all the earth,
Hurrah! the work is done.

Of course we are aware that it is only within a very few years that such a thing as a peal of bells has existed at Penwortham—that is to say, in modern times. We insert that clause because it pleases us to think that one very notable man of the middle ages lived at Penwortham, and either listened to actual Penwortham bells in that far-off day, or from Penwortham heard bells pealing across the water from Preston. Penwortham, we do know, was a cell of the great monastery of Evesham, and the brethren were continually passing from the one place to the other, but, of the two, the solitary seclusion of Penwortham was infinitely more calculated to inspire awful meditations than the bustle and splendour and magnificence of the other. The Revelation of the Monk of Evesham, if it were not, should have been written in Christ's Croft, in Lancashire, of which Penwortham formed a part. By whom it was written is unknown as much as it is where it was written. The author was probably an Englishman, and wrote "in this gronde of inglonde," using the English of his time, which was to some extent the English of to-day as it is spoken around Penwortham. Brooding over the wrongs and tyrannies of this epoch and animated by a fervent piety and deep spiritual aspirations, "a thought," as he says, "fell into my mind that I should pray our Lord God that he would vouchsafe to reveal and show to me in some manner of wise the state of the world that is to come, and the condition of the souls that be past their bodies after this life; and then, this openly known, I might the better understand what within short space were, as I supposed, to be dread, and what I might hope after when I should pass from this world to that world; and so by this to establish myself in the dread and love of God as long as I should live in this doubtful life." It is such a book as John Bunyan might have written had he lived five centuries earlier, and been, as he probably would have become, a monk. This young monk, lulled by the melody of bells, falls into a sleep only to be terrified with the revelation of the sights of purgatory, as he wished. Step by step he leads us from the darkness, the horror and the agony, until he shows us the glimpse he had of Paradise in his dream. In his rapturous welcome of it, no less than in the absence of any sympathy on his part with the suffering he had witnessed, we trace the true piety of the author. A man to whom the melody of "singing lauds to God" amid "the mansions of the blessed" was inestimably joyous, was himself "not far from the kingdom of heaven." Whatever criticism we may bestow upon the conception and execution of this Monk's Revelation, whom we shall always believe to have been a sojourner at Penwortham, we cannot but believe him to have been a spiritual-minded man, doing what in that dark age he thought to be a Christian work. At last the gate of heaven came in sight to him, and though that was all he saw of the glories of Jerusalem the Golden, it filled him with ineffable joy. And now we have a touch which rivals even Bunyan's famous look through the gates of the Celestial City. The Monk of Evesham, the Monk of Penwortham, as it pleases us to regard him, sad to the heart, is without the gate, with his back upon it and the crystal wall. "And while the Holy Confessor Saint Nicholas on this wise spake yet with me, suddenly I heard there a solemn peal and a ringing of a marvellous sweetness, and as all the bells in the world, or whatsoever is of sounding had been rung together at once. Truly in this peal and ringing broke out also a marvellous sweetness; a variant melody of

melody sounded withal, and I wot not whether the greatness of melody or the sweetness of the sounding of bells were more to be wondered at. And to so great a noise I took good heed, and full greatly my mind was suspended to hear it. Soothly anon as that great and marvellous sounding and noise was ceased, suddenly I saw myself departed from the sweet fellowship of my duke and leader Saint Nicholas; then I was returned to myself again." That solemn peal and marvellous sweet ringing of the bells, ringing in the Easter morn of heaven—so graphically described that we seem to hear them—is one of the crowning inventions of English literature, and not once nor twice the pealing of Penwortham bells across the placid waters of the Ribble has set us dreaming over again in Broadgate, that wonderful Monkish dream which we shall never be able to dissociate from Penwortham Priory, for it fits in better with its surroundings than with those of the "lords of fat Evesham and of Lincoln fen."—*Preston Herald*.

ST. MARGARET'S, UXBRIDGE, MIDDLESEX.

In 1716 a ring of six bells was placed in the tower of this church, cast by R. Phelps of London. Ninety-two years later, however, the 3rd was broken, and recast by Thomas Mears and Sons, of London—1808. Lord Paget was a benefactor towards these six bells, as the inscription on the treble informs one, while on the 2nd we read—"Lord Osulston, Earl of Tankerfield, was a benefactor;" both bearing the date and founders' initials. On the 4th is mentioned the name of the Honourable James Bertie, Member of Parliament for Middlesex. He contributed largely toward the expense of providing the peal. The tenor weighs between 14 and 15 cwt., measuring 42 inches in diameter, in F#. The inscription on the bell is as follows:—

: Wolfe: M.A. Vicar } of Uxbridge. Mic: Browne: } Chappel Wardens.
: Jacques: M.A. Lecturer } Mic: Ravis: }
D. Norton gave the carriage of the old and new bells to &:
R. Phelps made these six bells 1716: from London:

Norton is a very old name in Uxbridge, and can be traced back for some centuries.

Soon after 1840 a society of parish ringers was formed, rules drawn up, and a board affixed giving their names, viz:—

Ringers for St. Margaret's, Uxbridge.	
March 25th, 1843.	
Appointed.	Geo: Hill
Warren Hastings	Alf: Mercer
Wm. Gowllett	W. Hill, S. Smith.
Jn. Douglass	J. Wheeler.
Thos. Moore	} Church Wardens.
Willm. Harrison	
No Smoking allowed.	

In the rules I observed several peculiar regulations. It was evident the members of the society were particularly to understand that no smoking was allowed, being as much as to say that "this part of the House of God was not to be used as a smoking compartment." A fine of one penny was imposed on anyone pulling a bell off singly, after they were all up. Each member was to spend one shilling on receiving his payments—I have no doubt that the benefit of this rule was appreciably felt by the landlord of "The Bell Inn," which hostelry is situated on the opposite side of the main road from London to Beaconsfield, forming the High Street of Uxbridge. The townhall and market-place stands fronting this thoroughfare, just opposite "The Bell," the church being at the rear of the townhall.

A new vestry has recently been added on the north side of the tower, and was opened a few days ago. At the same time, I believe, the bells were also overhauled, and some improvements effected in the going of them. For my friend Tiny Hastings tells me "they had the best let down last Sunday week for the morning as ever he'd heard," and he has dwelt there forty years. Warren Hastings, or "Tiny," as he is usually called, from his low stature, was born in Farringdon (Berks), and served his apprenticeship at Oxford with Samuel Hounslow, and while being acquainted with him he not only learned to ring, but learned to swim also, Hounslow being an adept in the art of natation. Of all the ringers who started with him at St. Margaret's, he is the only survivor, and he will soon attain his 70th year.

On Saturday last, a party of ringers from Farnham and Slough paid him a visit, and as everything had been previously arranged, they were soon in the tower, and a very pleasant evening's ringing was enjoyed: several 720's of Minor were rung, being the first ever performed on the bells. The weather was most inclement, rain falling heavily during the day. This seemed, however, to have a tendency to sharpen the appetites of the company, for after leaving the steeple, an excellent meal was thoroughly appreciated, perhaps more so on account of the unexpected resources of the local commissariat.

Uxbridge is what may be termed the head quarters of the West Middlesex Association, and it was intended, by the kind permission of the Vicar (the Rev. C. T. Mayo), to visit St. Andrew's church, but after staying so long at the old church, the hour of departure had to be considered, and a ride home by the 10.45 train concluded an enjoyable visit.

W. H. F.

DEATH OF THE VICAR OF CHRISTCHURCH, HANTS. MUFFLED RINGING AT BOURNEMOUTH.

ON Saturday night, November 17th, the Rev. Zachary Nash, Vicar of Christchurch Priory, passed to his rest. A very long and lingering illness had prepared his parishioners (over whom he had ministered for upwards of twenty-six years) for the sad event. Endeared to the hearts of all by his kind, affable, and generous disposition, charitable even to a fault, his memory will long be cherished in the hearts of many who loved him well, and his place can scarce find a successor.

The funeral took place on Thursday last in the churchyard, and in accordance with the late vicar's written directions, was conducted with as little ceremony as possible. An immense number of persons were, however, at the funeral, including many clergy from the neighbourhood, and personal friends of the deceased; the Mayor and Corporation of Christchurch; the Trades' Benefit Society, the children of the parochial and workhouse schools, the Royal Artillery stationed at the barracks, the local Rifle Volunteer Corps, and almost every tradesman in the town. The coffin was literally embedded in white wreaths and crosses, and other floral emblems, which had been sent as tokens of affection.

To commemorate the solemn event, the ringers of St. Peter's, Bournemouth, instead of proceeding with their usual Thursday evening practice, rang the bells muffled as a mark of respect to the late vicar. The Rev. A. Copeman, Curate of Sopley, and W. W. C. Baker, Esq., of Clare College, Cambridge, who was on a visit to Bournemouth, lent assistance, and several short touches of Grandsire Triples and Doubles were rung with the back stroke only muffled. Each change being struck whole pull, sounded like an echo, and was exceedingly effective. The bells of the old Priory at Christchurch were muffled and rung at intervals during the day.

DEATH OF T. C. COBBOLD, ESQ., OF IPSWICH.

ON Monday last, November 26th, the remains of Mr. T. C. Cobbold, C.B., and M.P. for the borough of Ipswich, were interred in the Ipswich Cemetery. During the day the bells of St. Mary-le-Tower, in which parish the late member resided, were rung deeply muffled, and, remarkable to say, he was born in the same house in which he died, and although within a stone's throw of the tower, and he having undergone four very painful operations within the last twelve months, the weekly practice has continued as usual, except upon two or three occasions, one being the night before his death, which proves that the so called nuisance of bell-ringing is more imaginary than real. Touches of Grandsire Cinques were rung before the first part of the Burial Service, which took place in the above church, and during the time of the corpse being conveyed to the cemetery, 720 of Kent Treble Bob Maximus was rung. It was then decided to attempt a peal of Kent Treble Bob Maximus, which was successfully accomplished, the particulars of which appears in another page. The above named gentleman was the third son of the late J. C. Cobbold, Esq., of Holy Wells, Ipswich, to whom the town is chiefly indebted for so excellent a peal of bells, and whose death was noticed in "THE BELL NEWS" about twelve months since.

DEATH OF THE OLDEST CHANGE-RINGER IN SUFFOLK.

ON Monday evening last, a muffled peal was rung upon the bells of Stowmarket Church by the ringers of the town and district, as a last tribute of respect to the late John Elmer, who has just died. Elmer had been a ringer at Stowmarket for a great many years, having rung his first peal on the Stowmarket bells in 1815, being then in his 18th year. Since then he has composed and rung various lighths on the Stowmarket bells of which I will give a fuller account in "THE BELL NEWS" later on. Elmer presented me with his ms. peal-book about twelve months ago, also a small ms. book which he had written, and named "The Conductor, or Bob Major in Miniature," which he had composed for the jun. society of ringers.

Glemsford.

S. SLATER.

THE ST. PETER'S (TIVERTON) CLOCK AND BELLS.

A CLOCK has been presented to St. Peter's church, Tiverton, by H. S. Gill, Esq. J.P. The peal of eight bells has undergone a thorough revonation, and a service to mark the completion of the work will be held in St. Peter's church on December 5th. All the bells have been lowered from their pits, and the existing frame has been considerably strengthened. Four of the bells have been quartered. Each bell has received a new set of fittings, the old ones having become worn out and past work, and the bells have been rehung.

A special service, on the re-opening of the bells will be held at 4.30 p.m., on Wednesday, December 5th, when a sermon will be preached by the Rev. C. D. P. Davies, of Chacely, Tewkesbury.

DISPUTE AS TO OWNERSHIP OF BELLS.

A dispute between the vicar and churchwardens of St. Mary's, Hunslet, and Mr. Geo. Fothergill and seven others, formerly bell-ringers at the church, as to the ownership of a set of handbells, was the subject of an action in the Leeds county court recently—before Mr. Greenhow, the judge, and a jury. Mr. Tindal Atkinson, barrister (instructed by Mr. Brooke), was for the plaintiffs; Mr. Warren for the defendants.—Mr. Atkinson, in opening the case, said the old church of St. Mary's, Hunslet, was rebuilt in 1864. Up to that time, there had been only one bell, but when the church was rebuilt, a peal of eight was obtained. And in addition to this peal of eight there was purchased, also out of the building fund, a set of handbells for the use of the ringers at the church. After being in use a number of years those handbells wore out, and in 1877 it was considered desirable to replace them by a fresh set. The defendant Fothergill consulted at the time Mr. Nicholson, the churchwarden, as to how the necessary funds should be raised, and that gentleman suggested that it should be done by public subscription. This was accordingly done; the hat went round, and the necessary sum was subscribed by the parishioners and others, the churchwardens giving a guinea, and the vicar and others also subscribing. Fothergill was chiefly instrumental in getting up those subscriptions. He went round and collected money, was the chief of the ringers, he communicated with the bell-makers, and the invoice was made out to him. He was the agent of the vicar and churchwardens for obtaining the bells, and there was an interesting ceremony when the bells were formally presented. The vicar presided on that occasion, and on one of the bells was an inscription, which had a very important bearing on that action. The inscription was:—"St. Mary's church, Hunslet. This peal of 56 bells were purchased by subscription, and presented by the vicar and churchwardens for the use of the company of ringers in this church for the time being and for ever." Then followed the names:—Rev. Ed. Wilson, B.A., vicar; Mr. William Handforth, and Mr. Ed. Oaks churchwardens, and Mr. Jos. Nicholson, Ex-churchwarden, and the date 22nd June, 1878. On the other side of the bell was inscribed—"Geo. Fothergill, President." This inscription seemed to him (Mr. Atkinson), to prove two things. First of all, that the bells must originally have been the property of the vicar and churchwardens, or they could not have presented them, and next, that the vicar and churchwardens presented them for the use of the company of ringers at "this church for the time being and for ever." In April of the present year the ringers were requested to take less pay, they refused, and in consequence, three months' notice was given them to terminate their engagement. On the expiry of this time, the ringers left and took the bells away with them, and Fothergill had them in his possession now and refused to give them up. Hence the present action to recover possession of the bells, or their value, which with expenses of the action, was put to £29 odd. The Rev. Ed. Wilson, vicar of St. Mary's at the time the bells were purchased, but who had since resigned the living, Mr. Jos. Nicholson, ex-churchwarden, Mr. Richard Kilburn, present churchwarden, and John Thackeray, parish clerk, were called in support of the opening statement. Mr. Nicholson and Mr. Kilburn, who gave subscriptions towards the purchase of the bells, both stated that nothing was said to them, when asked to subscribe, about the bells becoming the property of the ringers, that they gave their money with the intention that the bells should be the property of the church, and that they would not have subscribed on any other understanding. Mr. Kilburn also stated that after notice was given to the ringers that their salary would be reduced from £32 to £24 a-year a complaint was made to the ringers of the handbells being used during service, and requesting that this should cease, and that the handbells should in future be kept in the church to prevent a repetition of such disgraceful conduct.

To this request, made in writing, no answer was returned. Mr. Thackeray said that the old bells were at first kept at the belfry, but at times the bells were taken to the Green Man public-house for practice, and were sometimes kept there. Mr. A. E. Hinchley (clerk to Mr. Brooke, solicitor for the plaintiffs) deposed to waiting upon Fothergill and asking him for the bells. Fothergill asked who was going to refund the money they had been out of pocket towards the purchase of the bells if they gave them up. Witness replied that he knew nothing about that, and Fothergill refused to give them up.

For the defence Mr. Warren urged that it was ridiculous to assume that these working-men bell-ringers would set afoot a subscription, and be a considerable sum of money out of pocket themselves, in order to buy a peal of bells for the church. The bells cost £26. Towards the subscription the ringers paid £4 10s., and then finding there was a deficiency of £2 5s., they first obtained the loan of that sum, and then raised the money among themselves. A considerable sum was also collected, not from members of the church, but from frequenters of the Green Man. The defendant Fothergill in his evidence said that the subscription was first begun at the Green Man. A list was hung up in one of the rooms, and in collecting subscriptions he never in a

single instance represented that the bells were for the church, but intended from the first that they should be the property of the company of bell-ringers. In ordering the bells he never consulted either the vicar or churchwardens, and he never rendered to them any account of the moneys received and paid. The new bells had never been at the church. An addition of eight bells had been made to the original peal of fifty-six, and he had never solicited subscriptions for those additional bells. Mr. Asquith, the landlord of the Green Man, said he gave his subscription of £2 to purchase the bells for the ringers, not for the church. The judge said the question the jury had to try was whom the persons subscribing intended to give the bells to. Several of the witnesses said they gave their money with the intention of the bells being given to the church, whilst Asquith gave his with the contrary intention. But if it was intended that the bells should be the property of the ringers, why should the vicar and the churchwardens have been called upon? The jury retired, and returning into court in about half-an-hour, the Foreman announced that they could not agree, there being four in favour of plaintiff and one against. The judge ordered the jury to again retire, and endeavour to come to an agreement, intimating that the circumstances of the case were such that he should not for a long time discharge them unless they found a verdict. Eventually the jury returned a verdict for the plaintiffs.

CHRIST CHURCH AND ST. ANDREW'S SOCIETY, BATH.

The members will meet for practice as follows:—At Christ Church, Julian Road, Wednesdays, December 5th and 19th. At St. Andrew's Church, Julian Road, Wednesday, December 12th, ringing from 7.30 to 8.45 p.m.

On Tuesday, December 25th (Christmas Day), there will be morning ringing as follows:—at St. Andrew's from six till seven, and at Christ Church from seven till eight.

Monday, December 31st, (New Year's Eve), a muffled peal will be rung at St. Andrew's Church, commencing at 11.45, and terminating at 12 o'clock, to mark the expiration of the present year, after which a peal will be rung with opened bells to welcome the incoming of the new year 1884.

BELLS FOR AMERICA.

We take the following from the *Philadelphia Inquirer*:—

The chime of twenty-five bells, presented by Joseph E. Temple, to the Holy Trinity P. E. Church, are in their place in the tower, and their regular ringing will be inaugurated at the meeting of the General Convention in that church, on Wednesday, October 3rd. Like the bells, the framework to support them was made in Belgium, and is of heavy oak wood. The attachment connecting the clappers of the bells with the key-board was made under the supervision of a skilled machinist, sent over to this country by the founder, to superintend the work.

The total weight of the bells is 13,982 pounds. The larger ones have a medallion likeness of Mr. and Mrs. Temple cast on them, and also the following inscription:—

"Presented to
The Church of the Holy Trinity,
Philadelphia,
By Joseph E. Temple,
In Memory of His Wife,
Martha Anna Kirtley,
Born in England, May 11, 1821.
Died in Philadelphia, Dec. 7, 1864."
Cast by Severin Van Aerschoot, Louvain, Belgium,
1882.

In order to place the character of the bells beyond question the Church appointed Dr. John Stainer, her Majesty's Inspector of Music, and organist of St. Paul's Cathedral, in London, as an expert to test the bells on behalf of the church. He accepted the appointment. Dr. Stainer's report was that the bells were of beautiful tone and in good tune, and would be a lasting pleasure to the city where they were to be placed. They are hung in the belfry at a height of 110 feet above the street, far above all surrounding buildings, making them, when rung, free from all reverberations.

It is not intended to ring the bells at unusual or early hours. They will be rung before morning and evening service on Sundays and other holy days and holidays, and at weddings and other suitable occasions. The regular ringing of the bells will be inaugurated at the meeting General Convention, which assembles in the church on Wednesday, October 3rd. They will be rung daily during the sessions of the Convention.

The bells were imported to America free of duty, by a special Act of Congress at Washington, else a heavy import duty as manufactured articles would have had to be paid.

The Ancient Society of College Youths, not having been successful in their recent attempt for the 11,111 Stedman Caters, at All Saints, Fulham, intend, by the kind permission of the vicar, to make another attempt on Saturday, December 8th. Hour of meeting, two o'clock.

IMPORTANT NOTICE.

On Saturday, December 22nd, will be published, the

CHRISTMAS NUMBER

OF THIS PAPER.

The number will comprise 16 pages at least, and will contain, in addition to the usual contents of the weekly issue, a variety of amusing and interesting matter.

A PORTRAIT

Of a distinguished Change-Ringer, with Biographical Sketch,

Will be a prominent feature of this number. Further particulars will be announced.

"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, E. W. 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.

DODGER.—You will get what you want in Snowdon's Treatise on Treble Bob. See advertisement on front page.

The Bell News & Ringers' Record.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 1, 1883.

The pressure on the space at our disposal compels us to hold over several matters until next week. We hope the time for a further enlargement of our journal is not far off, and that our friends will use further exertions in extending our circulation to a degree required to make such enlargement permanent.

The Metropolis.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.
STRATFORD-LE-BOW, MIDDLESEX.

On Wednesday, November 28, 1883, in Three Hours,

AT ST. MARY'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S ORIGINAL.

LEWIS GREEN*	Treble.	HENRY SPRINGHALL.. .. .	5.
JAMES PETTIT	2.	RICHARD TURNER	6.
ARTHUR CUTMORE*	3.	WILLIAM D. SMITH.. .. .	7.
WALTER B. JONES	4.	*DANIEL SUTTON	Tenor.

Conducted by JAMES PETTIT.

* First peal.

THE ST. JAMES'S SOCIETY.—BETHNAL GREEN.

On Saturday, November 24, 1883, in Three Hours and Eight Minutes,

AT ST. MATTHEW'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR, 5040 CHANGES. Tenor 14 cwt. in F.

JAMES R. HAWORTH*	Treble.	*ARTHUR JACOB	5.
THOMAS TITCHENER*	2.	*WINGFIELD MEADOWS	6.
JAMES HANNINGTON*	3.	†GEORGE NEWSON	7.
MATTHEW A. WOOD	4.	JAMES BARRETT	Tenor.

Composed by N. J. PITSTOW, and conducted by G. NEWSON.

*First peal in the method. †First peal with a bob bell.

This peal has the 6th twelve times each way in 5-6, and is the first peal ever rung upon this plan, see "THE BELL NEWS," No. 33, page 259. It is also the first peal in the method on the bells.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—WALTHAMSTOW.

On Tuesday, November 27, 1883, in Two Hours and Forty Minutes,

AT ST. SAVIOUR'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES; PENNING'S VARIATION. Tenor 16 cwt.

R. MAYNARD	Treble.	W. B. MANNING	5.
W. KEIT*	2.	H. SCARLETT	6.
J. NUNN	3.	F. W. BINES	7.
A. H. GARDOM	4.	W. CROCKFORD	Tenor.

Conducted by A. H. GARDOM.

*First peal.

The Provinces.

THE SS. PETER AND NICHOLAS (BRIGHTON) SOCIETIES.

On Thursday, November 14, 1883, in Three Hours and Two Minutes,

AT ST. PAUL'S CHURCH,

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

O. ST. JOHN, ESQ.*	Treble.	C. TYLER	5.
E. HILDER	2.	G. F. ATTREE, ESQ.	6.
H. BOAST	3.	J. JAY	7.
J. JAY, JUN.	4.	H. WESTON*	Tenor.

Conducted by J. JAY.

This was rung by kind permission of the vicar, the Rev. A. D. Wagner, and this is the only peal yet obtained on these bells, which have just been put in good order by him. *First peal.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.
REDENHALL, NORFOLK.

On Monday, November 17, 1883, in Three Hours and Thirteen Minutes,

AT ST. MARY'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5184 CHANGES; IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 24 cwt in Eb.

EDWARD SMITH	Treble.	GEORGE MOBBS	5.
WILLIAM SHELDRAKE	2.	ROBERT WHITING	6.
WILLIAM MATTHEWS	3.	FREDERICK SMITH	7.
GEORGE PRIME	4.	CAPTAIN MOORE	Tenor.

Composed by N. J. PITSTOW, of Saffron Walden, and conducted by EDWARD SMITH.

This peal will be found in Snowdon's "Treatise," Part ii., Page 56.

LEESFIELD, LEES, NEAR OLDHAM, LANCASHIRE.

On Friday, November 23, 1883, in Three Hours,

AT ST. THOMAS'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES; J. CARTER'S 12-PART BOB AND SINGLE. Tenor 14 cwt.

JAMES HY. GARTSIDE.. .. .	Treble.	JAMES BAILEY	5.
FRED CROSLAND	2.	WM. HOLDEN	6.
SAMUEL STOTT	3.	JOHN HOLTON	7.
THOMAS EGERTON	4.	EDWIN SHAW	Tenor.

Conducted by SAMUEL STOTT.

The above peal was rung with the bells deeply muffled, as a tribute of respect to the late Mr. John Ashworth, who was a member of the Leesfield society previous to leaving England to fulfil an engagement in India.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.
NOTTINGHAM DISTRICT.

On Thursday, November 22, 1883, in Three Hours and One Minute,

At St. Peter's Church,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
TAYLOR'S BOB-AND-SINGLE VARIATION. Tenor 21 cwt.

ALFRED ARCHER.. .. Treble.	ADOLPHUS R. PEET .. 5.
SAMUEL WILKINS 2.	JOHN HICKMAN 6.
HORACE W. ABBOTT* .. 3.	† WILLIAM BIRKINSHAW .. 7.
SAMSON BURTON.. .. 4.	ALBERT W. SADLER.. .. Tenor.

Conducted by JOHN HICKMAN.
(First peal as conductor.)

*St. Stephen's Society, Bristol. †Yorkshire Association.

The above was intended to be rung by the newly-formed band of St. Peter's Society, to commemorate the accession of a company of change-ringers to the church, but owing to the sudden illness of one of their company, Mr. H. W. Abbott, of All Saints, was called upon at the last moment to take his place. Such a thing as a regular company of change-ringers at St. Peter's church is unknown to the oldest ringer, as the tower has been in the hands of bell-haulers up to the first Sunday in October, when the company of change-ringers took possession.

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE.—ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE SOCIETY.

On Saturday, November 24th, 1883, in Four Hours and Three Minutes,

At St. Peter's Church,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 6608 CHANGES;
Tenor 20 cwt. in E.

JOHN HOPWOOD Treble.	SAMUEL WOOD 5.
JOSEPH BOWCOCK 2.	BENJAMIN BROADBENT .. 6.
WILLIAM SMITH.. .. 3.	JOHN THORP 7.
JAMES WOOD 4.	GEORGE LONGDEN Tenor.

Composed and conducted by JOHN THORP.

This peal is supposed to be the longest composed without a single with the tenors together.

CANTERBURY, KENT.

On Saturday, November 24, 1883, in Two Hours and Fifty-Three Minutes,

At St. Stephen's Church,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
HOLT'S TEN-PART. Tenor 16 cwt.

WALTER ANDREWS Treble.	ALFRED A. ANDREWS .. 5.
G. STANCOMBE 2.	CAPTAIN W. WOOD 6.
HENRY G. FAIRBRASS .. 3.	JOHN H. SMALL 7.
GEORGE T. OVENDEN .. 4.	RICHARD GOODBOURNE .. Tenor.

Conducted by GEORGE STANCOMBE.

MOTTRAM-IN-LONGDENDALE, CHESHIRE.

THE HYDE SOCIETY.

On Saturday, November 24, 1883, in Three Hours and Four Minutes,

At St. Michael's Church,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5248 CHANGES;
IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 12½ cwt.

JOHN SIDEBOTTOM Treble.	ROBERT WRIGHT 5.
RALPH PRICHARD 2.	JAMES SHAW 6.
THOMAS BRADLEY 3.	THOMAS WILDE 7.
WALTER SLATER 4.	JAMES S. WILDE Tenor.

Composed and conducted by JAMES S. WILDE.

The above peal has the 6th its extent wrong and right. Messrs. Sidebottom and Wright belong to Mottram.

ASSOCIATION FOR THE ARCHDEACONY OF STAFFORD.
WEST BROMWICH.

On Saturday, November 24, 1883, in Two Hours and Fifty-Six Minutes,

At All Saints' Church,

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

HENRY HIPKISS Treble.	WILLIAM BEESON 5.
THOMAS HORTON 2.	WILLIAM ROCK SMALL .. 6.
REUBEN HALL 3.	SAMUEL REEVES 7.
WILLIAM MALIN.. .. 4.	WILLIAM ELESMORE Tenor.

Conducted by SAMUEL REEVES.

This is the first peal rung by the above association, and was achieved by members of the Christ Church branch.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

BRANDESTON, SUFFOLK.

On Saturday, November 24, 1883, in Two Hours and Forty-five Minutes,

At All Saints' Church,

5040 CHANGES: IN SEVEN DIFFERENT METHODS
UPON SIX BELLS;

Being a 720 of each of the following:—

720 LONDON NEW BOB; 720 GRANDSIRE MINOR; 720	
CANTERBURY PLEASURE; 720 COURT SINGLE;	
720 COLLEGE SINGLE; 720 OXFORD BOB; 720 PLAIN BOB MINOR.	
Tenor 9 cwt.	

WALTER BEDINGFIELD .. Treble.	ALFRED S. WIGHTMAN .. 4.
DAVID G. WIGHTMAN .. 2.	GEORGE WICKS.. .. 5.
HORIS BEDINGFIELD .. 3.	STEPHEN WIGHTMAN .. Tenor.

Conducted by STEPHEN WIGHTMAN.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—IPSWICH.

Muffled Peal

On Monday, November 26, 1883, in Three Hours and Forty-nine Minutes.

At the Church of St. Mary-le-Tower,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAXIMUS, 5136 CHANGES;
IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 32 cwt. in C♯.

WILLIAM L. CATCHPOLE .. Treble.	CHARLES SAUL 7.
EDGAR PEMBERTON 2.	HENRY BOWELL 8.
ISAAC S. ALEXANDER .. 3.	ROBERT H. BRUNDLE .. 9.
WILLIAM MOTTS 4.	EDWARD REEVE 10.
JAMES MOTTS 5.	ROBERT HAWES 11.
WILLIAM MEADOWS 6.	SAMUEL TILLET Tenor.

Composed by J. REEVES, and conducted by W. L. CATCHPOLE.

[An account of the melancholy event which led to this peal being rung, will be found in another column.]

STALYBRIDGE.—THE ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE SOCIETY.

On Monday, November 26, 1883, in Two Hours and Fifty-four Minutes,

At Holy Trinity Church,

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

JOHN POWNALL* Treble.	EDMUND SCHOFIELD.. .. 5.
HUGH SHAW 2.	JOHN THORP 6.
JAMES WOOD 3.	SAMUEL WOOD 7.
BENJAMIN BROADBENT .. 4.	GEORGE LONGDEN Tenor.

Composed and conducted by SAMUEL WOOD.

* First peal in the method.

This peal was published in "The Bell News," vol. 1, No. 19, page 147.

Messrs. Pownall, Shaw, and Schofield belong to Stalybridge; the rest hail from Ashton.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION, AND THE
HOLY TRINITY SOCIETY.—HULL.

On Monday, November 26, 1883, in Three Hours and Eight Minutes,

At Holy Trinity Church,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;
Tenor 25 cwt.

FREDERICK MERRISON .. Treble.	FRANK DRABBLE 5.
ALFRED TAYLOR 2.	JAMES DIXEY 6.
HARRY CUTTER* 3.	*CHAS. BENNETT 7.
HENRY JENKINS 4.	*CHAS. JACKSON Tenor.

Composed and conducted by CHARLES JACKSON.

* College Youths.

The above peal, which has the 5th and 6th twelve times each way, was rung to commemorate Mr. Charles Jackson's 34th birthday, and his brother ringers wish him many happy returns.

Date Touch.

LEICESTER.—On Monday, November 26th, at St. Saviour's church, six members of the Midland Counties' Association, with Mr. E. Ashwell and Mr. G. Needham, rang a date touch of 1883 changes of Grandsire Triples, in 1 hr. and 9 mins. Enos. Garner, 1; Guydo Dickinson, 2; Samuel Smith, 3; Edwin Ashwell, 4; Joseph Needham, 5; Herbert W. Needham, 6; Alfred Millis (conductor), 7; George Needham, 8. Tenor 27 cwt in E. Mr. S. Smith hails from Loughborough, the rest are Leicester ringers.

Miscellaneous.

THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

CARDINGTON.—On Saturday, November 17th, by the kind permission of the vicar, eight members of the above Association met at this place and attempted Holt's 10-part peal of Grandsire Triples, but after ringing 600 changes, the 6th rope got out of the wheel, and brought it to grief. Another start was then made with a similar result. It was then found to be too late to start for the peal, so after falling the bell, and putting on another rope, they succeeded in ringing the last half, with three leads to get them into course, making in all 2562 changes, in 1 hr. 35 mins. S. Cullip, 1; W. Biggs (conductor), 2; C. W. Clarke, 3; W. Allen, 4; J. Frossell, 5; J. Adkin, 6; I. Hills, 7; J. Spencer, 8. Tenor 21 cwt. in Eb.

THE BIRMINGHAM AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATION.

KING'S NORTON (Worcestershire).—On Saturday, November 24th, seven of the King's Norton branch, with Mr. J. Carter, of Birmingham, made their first attempt to ring Penning's Peal of Grandsire Triples, but after ringing 2 hrs. a slip occurred, and the conductor called stand: J. Ashmole, 1; W. H. Sumner, 2; J. Carter (conductor), 3; J. Cooks, 4; J. Wright, 5; F. Scrivens, 6; W. Palmer, 7; D. Taylor, 8. Tenor 18½ cwt.

THE ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

GLEMSFORD.—On Saturday, November 24th, a 720 of Morning Exercise. Frederick Wells, 1; Oliver Garwood, 2; Samuel Slater, 3; F. P. Adams, 4; Zachariah Slater, 5; A. Hurst (conductor), 6. Also on Sunday evening, November 25th, a 720 of Plain Bob. S. Slater, 1; Z. Slater, 2; O. Garwood, 3; A. Ives, 4; H. Thompson, 5; A. Hurst (conductor), 6. Also a 720 of Kent Treble Bob. A. Ives, 1; Z. Slater, 2; A. Hurst, 3; O. Garwood, 4; H. Thompson, 5; S. Slater (conductor), 6.

THE ST. JAMES'S SOCIETY.

CLERKENWELL.—On Sunday morning last, for Divine Service at St. James's church, the last 700 of Holt's Original peal of Grandsire Triples. J. M. Routh, Esq. (conductor), 1; Henry Hopkins, 2; John Nelms, 3; William Hovard, 4; Edward Moses, 5; Henry Swain, 6; Henry Dains, 7; Charles Hopkins, 8.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

WALKDEN.—On Saturday, November 24th, at St. Paul's church, six members of the above Association rang a 720 of Bob Minor, in 26½ mins. C. Cash, 1; E. Cash (conductor), 2; J. Worthington, 3; J. Welsby, 4; J. Brookes, 5; W. Denner, 6. Tenor 13½ cwt. Messrs. C. and E. Cash hail from Swinton.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

KENNINGHALL (Norfolk).—On Tuesday, November 20th, for practice, 1600 of Oxford Treble Bob Major. J. Mordey, 1; J. Saunders, 2; G. Edwards, 3; J. Hawes, 4; R. Patrick, 5; H. Eagling, 6; J. Woods, 7; R. Hutton (conductor), 8. Also a course of Double London Court Bob Major, by the above.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

FARNHAM ROYAL (Bucks).—On Wednesday, November 21st, a 720 of Oxford Bob Minor, in 28 mins. F. Fells, 1; A. Fussell, 2; W. Fussell, 3; A. Batten, 4; J. Parker (conductor), 5; C. Clarke, 6.

UXBRIDGE (Middlesex).—On Saturday, November 24th, at the parish church of St. Margaret's, a 720 of Bob Minor, in 27 mins. F. Fells, 1; J. Basden, 2; J. Parker, 3; A. Batten, 4; A. Fussell, 5; W. Fussell, 6. Also a 720 of Oxford Bob Minor, in five parts, with thirty bobs and thirty singles, in 29 mins. J. Parker (composer), 1; J. Basden, 2; F. Fells, 3; A. Batten, 4; A. Fussell, 5; W. Fussell, 6. Also a 720 of Grandsire Minor, in 27½ mins. F. Fells, 1; A. Batten, 2; A. Fussell, 3; J. Basden, 4; J. Parker, 5; W. Fussell, 6. Conducted by J. Parker. Tenor 15 cwt.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD, AND THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

OXFORD.—On Saturday, November 24th, at New College, a 720 of Grandsire Minor, on Seage's apparatus, in 28 mins. J. R. Vincent, Esq., 1; F. A. H. Du Boulay, Esq., 2; J. W. Washbrook, 3; C. W. H. Griffith, Esq., 4; W. Finch, 5; G. F. Coleridge, Esq. (conductor), 6. Tenor 13 cwt.

STOKE-UPON-TRENT-ARCHIDIACONAL ASSOCIATION.

CHEDDLETON (Staffordshire).—On Sunday, November 25th, for Divine Service in the afternoon, a 720 of Bob Minor, with forty-two singles, in 25½ mins. J. James, 1; E. Spooner, 2; J. Gilbert, 3; H. Rodgers, 4; F. Clowes (conductor), 5; J. Renshaw, 6.

WOLSTANTON (Staffordshire).—On Tuesday, November 27th, at the usual weekly practice at St. Margaret's church, a 720 of Court Bob Minor, in 26 mins. S. Walker, 1; L. Miller, 2; W. Miller, 3; S. Wooton, 4; W. Priestman, 5; S. Spencer (conductor), 6.

ST. THOMAS-YE-MARTYR SOCIETY.

OXFORD.—On Wednesday, November 14th, at St. Thomas-ye-Martyr, a 720 of Grandsire Minor, in 25 mins. W. Wakelin, 1; F. Castle, 2; J. Washbrook (conductor), 3; J. Howes, 4; O. Thomas, 5; W. C. Baston, 6. Also on Friday, November 16th, at St. Mary Magdalen, a 720 of Grandsire Minor. W. Wakelin, 1; F. Castle, 2; W. C. Baston, 3; J. Howes, 4; O. Thomas, 5; J. W. Washbrook (conductor), 6. And on Sunday, November 18th, for morning service at St. Thomas-ye-Martyr, a 720 of Grandsire Minor. W. Wakelin, 1; F. Castle, 2; O. Thomas, 3; J. W. Washbrook (conductor), 4; J. Howes, 5; W. C. Baston, 6. Also on Tuesday, November 20th, at the same church, a 720 of Grandsire Minor, in 26 mins. F. Castle, 1; W. Wakelin, 2; J. W. Washbrook (conductor), 3; O. Thomas, 4; J. Howes, 5; W. C. Baston, 6. Also the same evening, a 720 of Plain Bob, in 25 mins. W. Wakelin, 1; F. Castle, 2; J. W. Washbrook (conductor), 3; J. Howes, 4; O. Thomas, 5; W. C. Baston, 6. After retiring from the belfry, an excellent touch of Grandsire Eaters on handbells, retained in hand, consisting of 701 changes. O. Thomas, 1-2; C. Hounslow, 3-4; J. W. Washbrook (conductor), 5-6; W. C. Baston, 7-8; S. Hounslow, 9-10.

ABINGDON (Berks).—On Sunday, November 25th, five members of the Oxford Diocesan Guild paid a visit to the above place, and by permission, rang at St. Nicholas's church a 720 of Grandsire Minor, in 26 mins. *John Howes, 1; H. Holifield, 2; *F. Castle, 3; *J. W. Washbrook (conductor), 4; *Job Howes, 5; *W. C. Baston, 6. *Hail from Oxford. Also another 720 of Grandsire Minor, in 25 mins. F. Castle, 1; H. Holifield, 2; W. Sandell, 3; W. C. Baston, 4; Job Howes, 5; J. W. Washbrook (conductor), 6.

BRISTOL.—On Friday, November 23rd, the ringers of All Saints' church, started for a peal of Grandsire Triples, in honour of the birthday of one of its members, but after ringing 3200 changes in good style it suddenly came to grief. George Morgan (conductor), 1; Edward Duckham, 2; Alfred York, 3; John Norton, 4; Francis Price, 5; Edward Beake, 6; William Parson, 7; William Emery, 8.

BURFORD (Oxon).—On Wednesday, November 21st, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, 1260 changes, in 45 mins. H. Smith, 1; W. Francis, 2; J. Smith, 3; W. Large, 4; F. E. Ward, 5; H. Bond, jun., 6; T. E. Glanville, 7; W. Launchbury, 8. All the above, with the exception of H. Bond, are Members of the Oxford Diocesan Guild. On Saturday, November 24th, an attempt was made to ring the first half of Holt's ten-part peal, but unfortunately when the end was reached in 1 hr. 31 mins., it was found that two of the bells had changed places.

CAVENDISH (Suffolk).—On Monday, November 26th, at St. Mary's, a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob, in 26 mins. F. J. Thompson, 1; C. W. Hurst, 2; J. S. Page, 3; A. Ives, 4; G. Maxim, 5; A. Hurst (conductor), 6. Also a 720 of Plain Bob, with thirty-six calls, in 27 mins. F. J. Thompson, 1; C. W. Hurst, 2; A. Ives, 3; J. S. Page, 4; G. Maxim, 5; A. Hurst (conductor), 6.

GREAT BROMLEY (Essex).—On Wednesday, November 21st, for practice, a 720 of Bob Minor, in 26 mins. A. Bloice, 1; G. Bowell, 2; J. Jaylor (conductor), 3; S. Bloice, 4; W. Nevard, 5; J. Starling, 6. Tenor 18 cwt. in F.

GREAT HALLINGBURY (Essex).—On Friday, November 23rd, at St. Giles's church, was rung for practice by the following company, four 120's of Bob Doubles, each called differently. F. Gowers, 1; H. R. Saunders, 2; R. S. Sworder, 3; F. Sworder (conductor), 4; A. Pryor, 5. Tenor 12½ cwt. This is the longest length for the treble man, who nine weeks previous could not handle a bell.

HORSHAM (Sussex).—On Sunday, November 25th, for Divine Service in the evening at St. Mary's church, the following members of the local society rang the first part of Shipway's peal of Oxford Bob Triples, 840 changes, in 32 mins. Harry Cook, 1; Jacob Browne, 2; William Short, 3; Harry Wood, 4; Harry Chantler, 5; Felix Knight, 6; Henry Burstow (conductor), 7; James Jeat, 8.

LEWISHAM (Kent).—On Sunday morning, November 25th, for Divine Service at St. Mary's church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, 1260 changes, in 38 mins. H. Grout, 1; E. Freeman, 2; G. Freeman, 3; F. Smith, Esq., 4; W. Shade, 5; C. Barham, 6; I. G. Shade (composer and conductor), 7; W. Bowles, 8. Tenor 20 cwt. The above was rung on the occasion of the annual church parade of the First Kent Artillery Rifle Volunteers.

RANMOOR, SHEFFIELD (Yorkshire).—On Sunday, the 18th instant, the Norton society visited this church, and rang a 720 of Bob Minor, with fourteen singles and four bobs, on the back six, in 28 mins. F. Ward, 1; H. Ward, 2; W. Biggin, 3; J. Goucher, 4; J. Atkin, 5; J. Allen (conductor), 6. Tenor 15 cwt. 3 qrs. This is the first 720 on the bells.

READING (Berks).—On Tuesday, November 27th, at St. Lawrence's church, for practice, a 840 of Grandsire Triples, in 32 mins. F. Round, 1; W. R. Pocock, 2; W. Johnson, 3; W. Goseltine (Oxford Diocesan Guild), 4; E. Bishop, 5; W. Newell (conductor), 6; W. J. Williams, 7; C. Guy (Oxford Diocesan Guild), 8. Also a 336 in the same method, containing Queens and Tittums. H. Bawden, 1; W. J. Williams (conductor), 2; W. Johnson, 3; W. R. Pocock, 4; W. Newell, 5; E. Bishop, 6; J. E. Willshire, 7; W. Goseltine, 8.

ROSS (Herefordshire).—On Thursday, November 22nd, the Ross company, with Mr. Gardener, of Gloucester, attempted Taylor's six-part peal of Grandsire Triples, but a change-course having occurred, "stand" had to be called, after having rung five parts. H. Bird, 1; J. G. Wall, 2; J. Atkins, 3; H. G. Gardner, 4; E. Barnett, 5; A. Bird, 6; C. Young (conductor), 7; R. Clark, 8. Also on Saturday, November 24th, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples by the same company, with the exception of the 4th and 7th men changing places. Conducted by Mr. Gardner. Tenor 25 cwt.

ROTHERHITHE (Surrey).—On Sunday morning, November 25th, at St. Mary's church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, 1512 changes, being the occasion of a church parade of the 6th Surrey Rifle Volunteers. F. W. Thornton (first quarter-peal), 1; William Pead, 2; J. Taylor, 3; J. Waghorn, 4; Wm. Weatherstone (conductor), 5; W. H. Freeman, 6; Wingfield Meadows, 7; George Thatcher, 8. Also in the afternoon a 504 by the same band in the same order. Tenor 18 cwt. in F. These bells are very false, and but rarely used, it being several years since a peal was rung on them.

SEELY OAK (Worcestershire).—Four of the local society, with Messrs. Perks and Day, late of the St. Martin's Society, Birmingham, rang at St. Mary's church, a 720 of Grandsire Minor, in 26 minutes. Edward Bryant, 1; Henry Smith, 2; John Perks, 3; Edward Boylin, 4; John Day, 5; Alfred Cole (conductor), 6. Tenor 11 cwt. [No date given.]

STANSTED (Essex).—On Thursday, November 15th, at St. Mary's church, four of the local company, with the assistance of F. and R. S. Sworder, of Great Hallingbury, rang a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor. J. Cavill, 1; C. Prior, 2; R. S. Sworder, 3; F. Sworder, 4; J. Luckey, 5; H. Prior (conductor), 6. Also a 360 of Double Court Bob Minor was afterwards rung standing as above. Also on Thursday, November 22nd, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor, with the 2nd bell the observation, in 27 mins. J. Cavill, 1; H. Prior (conductor), 2; R. S. Sworder, 3; F. Sworder, 4; Isaac Cavill, 5; C. Prior, 6. Tenor 13 cwt.

WORCESTER.—On Sunday, November 25th, on the occasion of the Mayor and Corporation attending Divine Service at the Cathedral, the local society, with Mr. Perks, of Malvern, rang a touch of Grandsire Caters, 828 changes; and after service at St. Helen's a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, 1260 changes, in 47 mins. G. Cleal, 1; N. Wale, 2; J. Perks, 3; H. Pheasant, 4; J. Reynolds, 5; H. Wilkes (conductor), 6; G. Hobbs, 7; T. Malin, 8.

AN ERRATIC COMPOSITION.

In our issue of November 17th we devoted a page to the publication of figures of various peals. Among these was what purported to be a peal of Treble Bob Major, 5184 changes, composed by Mr. Thorp. It was forwarded for insertion by Mr. Thomas Wilde, of Hyde, and coming from such a source, we had not the least hesitation in allowing it to appear in the form sent, without even the slightest attempt at proof, or checking the course-ends. Our security, however, has to a certain extent been dispelled, for having had our attention drawn to the matter, it became evident that the published figures represent no peal at all. In writing to us, the Rev. H. Earle Bulwer says: "I find it false in itself, quite independently of all misprints. The first course-end in each part produces changes alike; to be more exact, the fifth lead of the second course (first part), corresponding to the natural third lead of the plain course, is false with the treble in 5-6 up against the seventh lead of the second course (second part), corresponding to the natural fifth lead of the plain course, with the treble in 5-6 down. The call 'before' in the second course is the cause of the mischief, but so far as I can see, it is not susceptible of correction by adopting the alternative calling, without recasting the whole peal."

Much more to the same effect may be quoted. In the hope that our friend Mr. Wilde will be able and willing to explain how he came to send us such a peal—or rather no peal—for insertion, we forbear saying anything more beyond the fact that we have preserved the manuscript in case of need.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—DISTRICT MEETING.

A DISTRICT MEETING was held at Maldon on Saturday, November 24th, when about thirty ringing members put in an appearance. The two rings of six bells at All Saints' and St. Mary's churches were set going soon after one o'clock, and during the afternoon and evening two 720's of Bob Minor, one of College Exercise (by the Braintree company), several touches of Minor, and some 6-scores of Grandsire and Stedman Doubles, were rung. The business meeting was held at 4.45 in the vestry at All Saints, the Rev. H. E. Horwood in the chair. The following honorary members were present; Rev. A. L. Hunt, Vicar of St. Mary's; and Messrs. S. Ratcliff and T. E. Bland, churchwardens of All Saints. Among the ringing members present were, Messrs. S. and H. E. Hammond, A. Hucks, F. Rudkin, etc. (Braintree), W. Rowland, and W. Hawkes (Widford), W. Moore (Bocking), D. Elliot (Kelvedon), J. Young (Boreham), A. Fryett and E. Garnett (Witham), G. Jones and W. Jay (Rettendon), J. Taylor and W. Neverd (Great Bromley), C. Ablitt and W. Smith (Higham, Suffolk). The usual office having been read by the Secretary, and one ringing member, Mr. J. Savill, of Rayne, having been elected, Mr. S. Hammond suggested that the Secretary should communicate with the authorities of the G.E.R. before the next meeting, with a view to obtaining cheap tickets for members attending meetings of the Association. Another suggestion was made by the same gentleman with reference to certificates of membership, that they should be printed on cards the same size as those used for the record of peals. Mr. F. Rudkin gave notice of a motion to be brought forward at the Annual Meeting "That a set of handbells should be purchased for the use of members at meetings of the Association." Mr. Horwood, in reply to a vote of thanks to him, the Rev. A. L. Hunt, and the churchwardens, proposed by the Rev. H. A. Cockey, said that it was a great pleasure to see such a gathering in his church. He was pleased that the restoration and reform now going on so universally in our churches, had not stopped short at the belfry. The clergy used in olden times to ring the bells themselves, and this helps to remind us what an ancient high and sacred office is that of the ringers. Whatever the occasion might be on which they met in the belfry, whether to celebrate a wedding or some other joyous event, or for a funeral peal, or to call people to worship in God's house, let the ringers take heed that their feelings be in accordance to it, and let them remember the inscription on an old bell—

"Who rings this bell, let him look well
To hand and head and heart,
The hand for work, the head for wit, the heart for worship."

At the close of the meeting, an adjournment was made to the "White Horse," where a good tea was provided and done full justice to. After the tea, a course of Grandsire Triples and a course of Bob Major were rung on the handbells by Mr. F. Calthorpe, 1-2; Mr. S. Hammond, 3-4; Mr. F. Rudkin, 5-6; Rev. H. A. Cockey, 7-8. The Vicar and churchwardens of All Saints very kindly subscribed towards the expenses of the tea.

WINTERTON CHURCH BELLS, NORFOLK.

On Thursday, December 6th, the bells of Winterton church, which have lately been recast and rehung by Messrs. Moore, Holmes, and Mackenzie, of the Redenhall Bell Foundry, Harleston, Norfolk, will be re-opened. There will be service in the church at 2.30 p.m., with sermon by the Rector of Great Yarmouth. As the days are so short and the weather so uncertain, it has been decided to postpone the opening ringing meeting to May next.

A SATISFACTORY PEAL-BOOK.

The peal-book supplied by Mr. Keeble, Romford, Essex, to the Birmingham and District Association, has given very great satisfaction, the material being of first rate quality, and the workmanship and finish of the book is all that can be desired. We wish also to add that any company or association wishing to purchase a peal-book will do well in giving Mr. Keeble an order. We take this the first opportunity of expressing our approval of the book. J. WRIGHT, Hon. Sec.

King's Norton.

THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

A DISTRICT MEETING will be held at Luton, on Saturday, December 15th. The eight bells of Saint Mary's church will be at the service of the ringers. Ringing at 2 p.m., or sooner, if a company is made up. St. Albans and Hertford friends please notice.

CHARLES HERBERT, Hon. Sec.

Woburn, November 27th, 1883.

In the report of the peal of Grandsire Triples rung at St. George's, Camberwell, given in our issue of November 17th, the name of the ringer of the 7th should be Robins, not Roberts.

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 GALLEYWOOD PEAL AND MR. SCARLETT.

SIR,—In the *Essex Weekly News* for November 23rd, there is an account of a peal rung at Galleywood, which contains the following: "Mr. Scarlett may be congratulated upon the successful manner in which he conducted the peal, it being his eleventh peal in about twelve months, and his first as conductor." I see, by referring to my numbers of "THE BELL NEWS," that Mr. Scarlett has five peals to his credit in about the last twelvemonths, being one peal at the following places: Loughton, Edmonton, Walthamstow, Enfield, and Galleywood. Perhaps Mr. S. will enlighten us as to where the remaining six peals were rung? A BROTHER STRING.

PREVENTING EGRESS OF SOUND OF BELLS FROM CHURCH TOWERS.

SIR,—Mr. Cunningham's letter in last issue bears much upon what has been written in this paper from time to time, on tower design. Having witnessed the Edinburgh Cathedral erecting during the year 1877, it always occurred to me how the proposed bells would be accepted in that very particular locality: swarming in medical men, who always hate bells; and members of another religion—"Presbyterian true blue." When towers have spires with slits, there is no reason why the usual four belfry windows, with architectural elaboration, need be perforate at all. As an instance of the entire absence of the windows in question, I may mention Leeds, in Kent, which is a stump of a very large twelfth-century tower, having a spirelet with openings set very low in the bell-chamber, so that the last few feet of the tower forms a parapet, which rises much above the spire or cot windows. The ten bells hang all one level. At the last County meeting, I went into the village schools, just opposite, and questioned the master and mistress as to whether we were a nuisance, and the reply was directly negative.

In cases where there are no upper openings, one or two windows might be closed by shutters as suggested. The best method of treating (in every respect) belfry opening has yet to be demonstrated.

I have stated that the medical profession are generally averse to bells. Dr. Jarvis, of Margate, left £50 for ever to the ringers, early in this century; and some few living are change-ringers at this moment. Objections to bells mostly come from those who object to churches at all.

Mr. Cunningham should give us an account of how they have got on from first to last in change-ringing at Edinburgh, and if the steeple has shown any weakness in the building. F. G.

THE PEAL-BOARD AT ST. SAVIOUR'S, RELATING TO "BOB MAJOR ROYAL."

SIR,—In answer to my friend Mr. Mash, I must inform him that I cannot exactly say whence I got the information about the above performance, but feel pretty sure that it was from a pamphlet published by Mr. Snowden and Mr. Tuke, some years ago, which I believe is a reproduction of the Union Scholars' peal-book. Unfortunately I have not a copy of this by me, but I am pretty certain a performance of something there called "Bob Major Royal" (what that is I don't know, as I said before) is recorded as rung by that society on the date mentioned. It appears that there is no tablet relating to the same, although I was under the impression that there was, or at least if there ever was one, it has long since disappeared. Thanking Mr. Mash for his correction, and hoping that if any error should occur in the account of any of the other steeples, some one will correct it, I am, yours respectfully, J. R. JERRAM.

A REJOINDER.

SIR,—In your impression of November 17th, there appeared a letter from A. Brown, complaining that "A Lover of Good Ringing" should find fault with the ringing at the parish church on October 17th last. Now, sir, it appears to me that the truth has raised the ire of A. Brown, who to appease his anger rushes into print, and blames me as prompter to your correspondent—"A Lover of Good Ringing." Now, sir, allow me to tell him that when the letter headed "Doubts" appeared, I did not know who the writer was, and therefore I could not be his prompter. Mr. Brown goes on to say—"It would have been more to my credit to have collected my company together, and gone to our tower, and rung two peals half as well." Now, sir, my company are all voluntary ringers, who practise at least once a week, and then ring twice each Sunday for service, while the company to which A. Brown belongs are all paid men, and I greatly question if he would have handled a rope if there had been no pay attached to it. At all events, I am perfectly satisfied, as also are the inhabitants, with the manner the bells are rung at St. Paul's. It is no idle boast that

we are continually receiving compliments for our proficiency in the art of change-ringing; that is more than can be said of your correspondent A. Brown. He also gives us credit of have among our company one of forty years' standing; perhaps he may not be aware that I learnt change-ringing at the same time and at the same church as he did, viz.: SS. Mary and Nicholas, Spalding. As regards being able to judge what good ringing is, it is a long time since I heard any at his steeple, and I would give him this advice—to pay attention to his striking, and also what his captain tells him, so that he may become proficient in the art before he can give advice to his superiors. I trust he will profit by this advice, and take more pains in future, so that children coming from school shall not say—as they did in my hearing on the day in question—"What is the matter with the bells?" Any further correspondence from him we shall take no notice of.

Monks House Lane, Spalding.

RICHD. CREASEY.

THE FIRST 720 OF STEDMAN'S SLOW COURSE.

SIR,—In your number for November 17th I was pleased to see the record of a 720 being rung at Hornsey, in a very difficult method, although in a small way, viz.: "Double Stedman's Slow Course." As nothing further has transpired respecting this performance, I humbly beg to draw the attention of the ringing world to the following facts: 1st—It was the first 720 in the method performed on the bells; 2nd—I know it to be the first 720 achieved by any of the band; 3rd—I have never seen, heard, read, or known of a 720 being rung upon church bells in this complicated method previous to the one in question. I think, therefore, they are entitled to claim the first performance in the method on six bells. Now it is quite likely that there may be some controversy on the subject, and so that the matter may be firmly decided, I shall be glad to see what proofs your correspondents can produce to the contrary. W. H. FUSSELL.

DISCLAIMERS.

SIR,—Your correspondent is evidently an egotist. The fact of his being connected with bell-ringing for such a lengthy period does not render him infallible, therefore the sobriquet "Churchyard Bob" is doubtless applicable to himself also. Apparently he is unaware that the present society of St. Andrew's ringers, and the one existing about twelve months since are alien. We, the members of the present society reiterate our statement that no single member of the above St. Andrew's society participated in the 720 in question. We hope your correspondent's mistake will not prove too humiliating, and beg to state this is definite and final, having no desire for any further correspondence. W. H. BARTRAM,

Clifton.

Manager.

BEXHILL-ON-SEA, SUSSEX.

ON Saturday evening, November 24th, seven members of the St. Mary's Society of old Eastbourne, paid a visit to the above church in response to a kind invitation from the vicar, and rang several 120's of Grandsire and Bob Doubles, two of the local members joining in the former. The bells are in good going order, tenor 13 cwt., but we are sorry to add that they cannot muster six members for Churchyard Bob. Several touches of Grandsire Triples were lapped on the handbells, and a few tunes closed a happy evening.

BENEFIT CONCERT AT HANLEY, STAFFORDSHIRE.—The Mayor of Hanley recently presided in the townhall at a concert for the benefit of a sugar-maker named Oliver Columbello, who has met with an accident to one of his fingers, resulting in his arm being poisoned, and himself totally incapacitated from work. The room was crowded to inconvenience. The Longton Victoria Handbell Ringers gave valuable aid in interesting the large audience. The ringers were Frederick Warren, 5-6-7-8; Thomas Goodwin, 1st bass; William Maskery, 2nd bass; James Wilson, 3rd bass; Herbert Davies, bottom bass; conductor—F. Warren. The music was arranged (for six ringers) by Mr. W. Gordon, of Crowther Street, Stockport.

The Winter Number of *Society* for this year will be called "ROUND THE FIRESIDE," and will contain several complete stories by such well-known authors as Richard Dowling, Godfrey Turner, J. Palgrave Simpson, Ernest Warren, William Mackay, C. C. Rhys, etc., and will be illustrated by Frank Feller, Rudolf Blind, Frederick Waddy, etc. The price is to be sixpence, and the number will be ready on December 8th.

A large clock has just been erected in the tower of Wenvoe church, near Cardiff. It shows time on one large dial, and strikes the hours upon the largest church bell. It is fitted with all the latest improvements, and has a pendulum with 1 cwt. bob. Messrs. John Smith and Sons, of the Midland Clock Works, Derby, have carried out the work.

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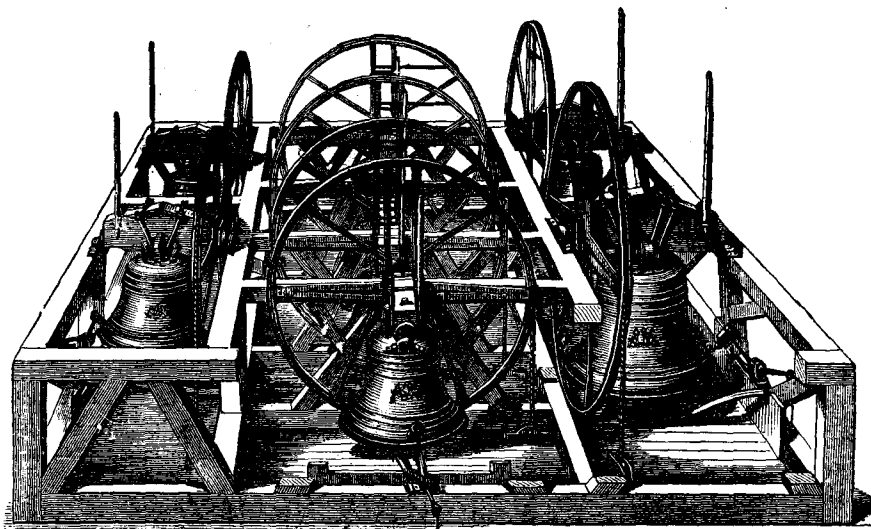
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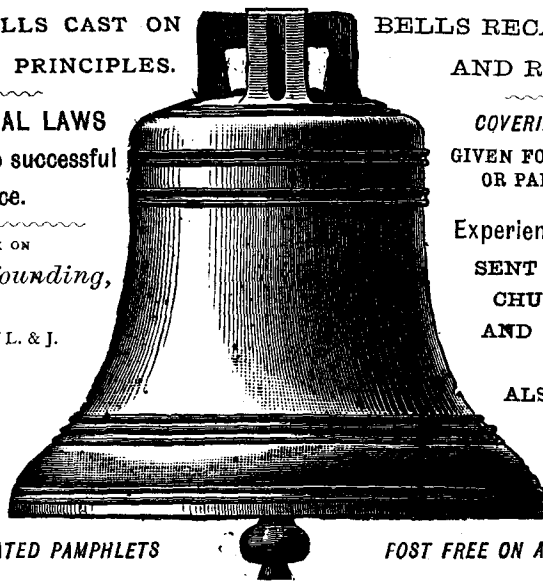
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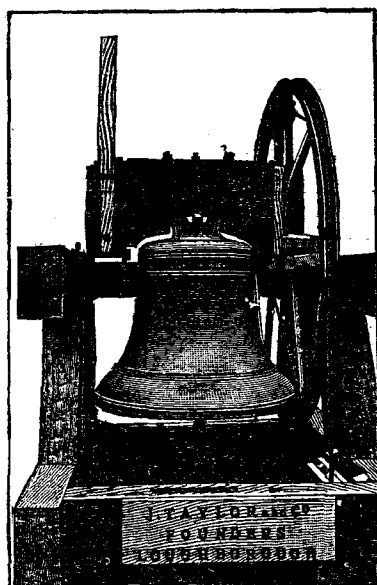
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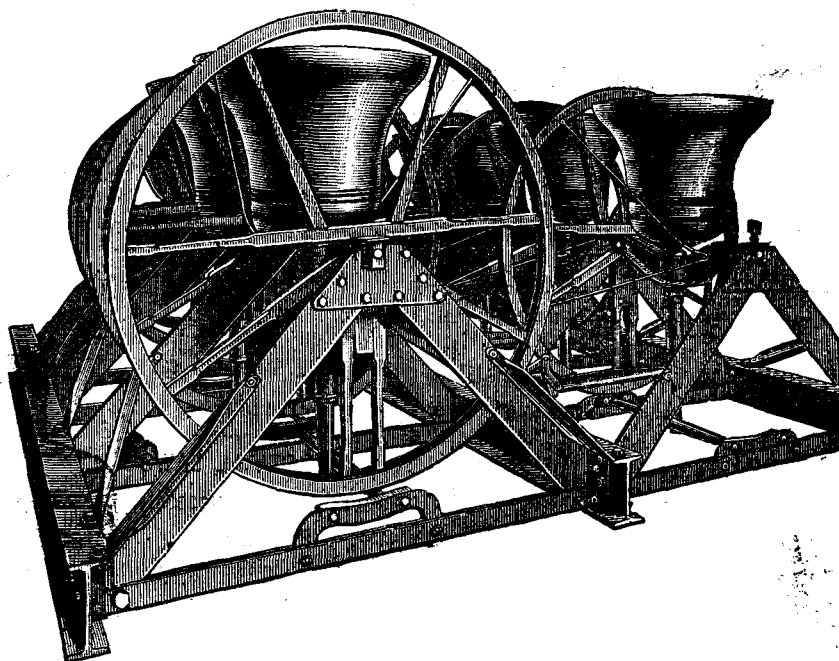
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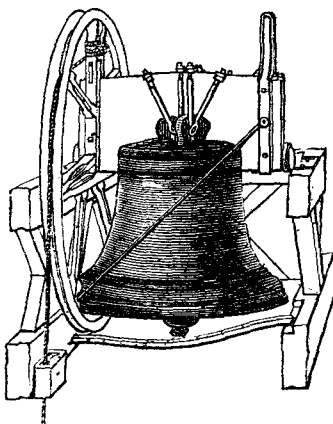
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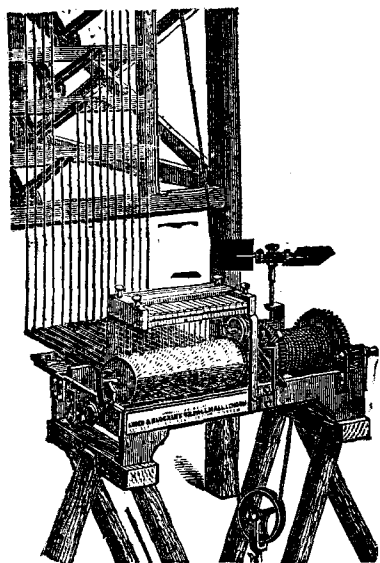
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THE RESTORATION OF BEACONSFIELD BELLS.

In reference to this much-desired object, a short notice of the intention of rehanging these bells appeared in our columns some few weeks ago, since then, however, the matter has been further taken in hand. The committee, formed of ringers, past and present, with Mr. Harry W. Lawson as chairman, elected Mr. George Charsley (of Beaconsfield) treasurer, and Mr. Geo. Henry Charsley (of Slough) secretary, both former ringers. It was proposed by Mr. Charsley to have the new bells put up to the memory of the Earl of Beaconsfield and Edmund Burke, and call them respectively the "Beaconsfield bell" and the "Burke bell," and thus augmenting the old ring of six to eight.

After examining the present dilapidated condition of the bells, Messrs. Warner and Son, of London, have given in an estimate for the entire restoration, for the sum of £500.

An attempt was made some years ago (1877, I believe), to do something in this direction. The then Lord of the Manor, Mr. Alan Morrison, gave a donation of £100, promising another of equal value as soon as the second hundred pounds had been raised. The unfortunate decease of this generous benefactor prevented any addition to this amount being raised, and the matter quietly rested till this year.

The tower is now undergoing repair, and several improvements are being effected which will greatly improve its appearance. As Mr. Lawson appropriately remarked—"The present seems a favourable opportunity for putting the bells in order, while the tower is nearing a condition worthy of a good peal."

A circular has been issued appealing for funds, and in response, subscriptions have been received and others promised. Charles Morrison, Esq., has generously given £100, and Harry W. Lawson, Esq., of Hall Barn Park, has attached his name to the list for £50. It is intended to recast the whole peal, and hang them with all necessary fittings, complete. The following is a copy of the inscriptions on this old ring of six, and as it is within the region of probability that they may not be reproduced, it might be interesting to future generations to know what was on the old bells at the time "when we were boys together."

Treble.—Thos. Mears: of London: fecit 1794:
2nd.—The Lords: name: be praised: H. B. made me 1722:
3rd.—Henry: Bagley, made: me: 1722:
4th.—W. Hobday; H. Thompson: Church: Wardens:
5th.—(A repetition of the 3rd). 12 cwt. 3 qrs. 14 lbs.
6th.—Lester and Pack of London Fecit:
Joseph: Millwood, and Wm. Horg: Church Wardens
Tenor.—Dia. 3 ft. 8 inches.
"Let Aarons Bells be continually amongst: us rung,"
"The word still preached and Alleluia sung":
Christopher: Newell: M.A.: Rector: 1722:
William Hobday, Henry Thompson: Church: Wardens
Henry: Bagley:

From the above we learn that originally Henry Bagley cast a ring of five bells for Beaconsfield in 1722, the treble being added in 1794. The church is dedicated to St. Mary, and consists of chancel, chancel aisles, nave aisles, with a square tower built of flint, with Bath stone dressings. The tower, dating from the 15th century, is considered the oldest part of the fabric. The tablet to Edmund Burke is in a good state of preservation. He purchased an estate in the locality called "Butler's Court," where in the year 1797 he died at the age of sixty-eight. His widow, who died in 1812, disposed of the property, which was, however, destroyed by fire a year after her death.

In the churchyard is a sarcophagus of marble, with four urns and a pyramid in the centre, forming the tomb of Edmund Waller, the poet, who died in 1687.

From this town, the Right Hon. the late Earl of Beaconsfield took his title. It is about 23 miles from London, on the main road to Oxford, which forms the High Street. W. H. F.

[Respecting Beaconsfield bells, *Funny Folks* says:—A CASUS BELLI.—The Ringers' Committee have added two more bells at Beaconsfield. They intend to call them "The Burke," and "The Beaconsfield" bells. As the tones of these orators often "rung" out to the country, the memorial "chimes" appropriately with their history. The oratory of Burke was at all times "striking," and more than one biographer has referred to his "bell"-like tone. Lord Beaconsfield was a distinguished member of the *belles-lettres*, and as a "speaker," decided "belli"-cose in "tone." The reasons for the memorials are distinctly "sound" ones. It is also felicitous in being the best method of ap-pealing to posterity.]

THE ROCHDALE AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATION.

This Association will hold their intermediate meeting at St. Luke's church, Heywood, on Saturday next, December 15th, at which all ringers will be earnestly invited within the radius of ten miles. (Rochdale the centre). The bells will be opened at 3 o'clock. Meeting to commence at 5.30. All communications to be addressed to Mr. John Harrison, 11, Elm Street, Heywood. JAS. ADSHEAD, Sec.

TWELVE-BELL STEEPLES OF LONDON.

We now re-cross the Thames and proceed to St. Bride's, Fleet Street. This handsome steeple contains a peal of twelve bells, tenor 28 cwt. in D. All were cast by Abraham Rudhall, of Gloucester, the last ten in the year 1710, and the two trebles in 1718. St. Bride's is said to have had the honour of having had the first peals on nine, eleven, and twelve bells rung there.

The first peal of Grandsire Caters was there rung January 11th, 1717, by the London Scholars, and the first peal of Cinques by the College Youths, January 10th, 1724. On Saturday, February 26th, 1726, the first peal of Maximus was rung by the following persons: Wm. Woodrove, treble; Robt. Cattlin, 2nd; Edmd. Chadwell, 3rd. John Ward, 4th; John Hardham, 5th; Admiral F. Geary, 6th; J. Dearmor, 7th; Saml. Jeacock, 8th; Wm. Laughton, 9th; Peter Merrygarts, 10th; William Thompson, 11th; Mr. Benjamin Annable, tenor; who called the peal. This peal consisted of 5280 changes. All the persons who took part in it left the steeple in their own carriages. The ringers in those days were often persons of high position, and at that time Fleet Street used to be thronged with carriages full of gentry who had come to hear the music of the bells. So says an old writer, and hence the well-known nursery rhyme—"Gay go up and gay go down: to ring the bells of London Town."

Mr. Benjamin Annable, who rang the tenor in the peal above mentioned, was professor of mathematics at Cambridge. He died Feb. 1st, 1756, and was buried at St. Bride's. The following is a newspaper account of the event:—

"A few nights ago was buried under the tower of St. Bride's, Mr. Benjamin Annable, the best ringer that was ever known in the world. Till his time, ringing was only called an Art; but from the strength of his great Genius, he married it to the Mathematics, and 'tis now a Science. This man of Figures and Ringing was like a Newton in Philosophy, a Ratchliffe in Physics, a Hardwick in Wisdom and Law, a Handel in Music, a Shakespear in Writing, and a Garrick in Acting.—O Rare Ben!"

The ringing-chamber at St. Bride's is rather dark. It contains several tablets; the oldest, relating to the first peal of Cinques ever rung, runs as follows:—

"On Tuesday, 10th of January, 1724, the Society of College Youths rung compleatly a peal of 5060 Grandsire Cinques, being ye first that ever was done. Ye Persons that performed the same were as follows, viz:—Wm. Woodruff, 1; Benjn. Annable, 2; Edward Chadwell, 3; John Ward, 4; Jno. Pearson, 5; Robt. Cattlin, 6; Robt. Carter, 7; Wm. Thompson, 8; Wm. Jackson, 9; Peter Merrygarts, 10; Math. East, 11; Thos. Rowland, 12. Abraham Goodwin, Aaron Jex, Churchwardens."

The next tablet runs thus:—

"College Youths.—On Sunday, Feby. 9th, 1777, was rung 5232 Treble Bob Maximus, in 4 hours and 19 minutes:—Performers: Winstanley Richardson. *Treble*: Wm. Hatt, 2nd; Chas. Purser, 3rd; Wm. Mills, 4th; Thos. Bennet, 5th; John Povey, 6th; Wm. Lyford, 7th; James Darquitt, 8th; Joseph Monk, 9th; Robt. Bly, 10th; Joseph Holdsworth, 11th; Edmund Sylvestre, *Tenor*. Composed and conducted by C. Purser."

And the next one as follows:—

"Oct. 20th, 1751, The Union Scholars rang a compleat peal of 5104 Grandsire Cinques in 3 hours 40 minutes. James Davis, 1; Wm. Underwood, 2; John Lloyd, 3; James Newby, 4; Jacob Hall, 5; Thos. Jackson, 6; James Albion, 7; James Vickers, 8; James Tichborne, 9; John Holt, 10; Robt. James, 11; George Fleury, 12. Composed and called by John Holt."

Another tablet records 5136 Oxford Treble Bob Maximus rung by the Cumberland Youths, December 11th, 1841; and another 5016 Stedman Cinques, rung by the College Youths, February 26th, 1850. Before closing I must not omit to mention that what is generally supposed to have been the first peal of 5040 Bob Royal was rung here by some of the same party who rung the Cinques in 1724. This was performed November 22nd, 1725.

A peal of 6072 Bob Maximus was also rung here, December 26th, 1749, by twelve members of the Society of Eastern Scholars. Mr. John Cox, for whose testimonial subscriptions have lately been asked, has been steeple-keeper here for many years, and has done his best faithfully to fulfil the duties of his office, and to keep everything in good order. J. R. JERRAM.

YOUNG MEN'S FRIENDLY SOCIETY, YORK.

A MEETING of this society was held in the School room, St. Mary's, Bishophill Junior, in this city, on Friday, the 30th ult. The Rev. S. H. Bennett, Vicar, presided, when Mr. George Benson read an able and interesting paper on Church Bells, referring more particularly to those of local interest. He also traced the history of the York Bell Foundry from the earliest date until it ceased to exist in the latter part of last century. Rubbings of some of the most interesting inscriptions were exhibited. The York Minster bell-ringers rang some courses of changes upon the hand-bells, which added to the enjoyment of those present. The meeting closed, after the usual vote of thanks to the reader and chairman, &c., with singing the Society's hymn.

It is proposed to add two trebles to the heavy ring of six at Wellingborough, Northants, and also to recast the third bell, which is defective. One of the new bells has already been promised.

SERMON BY THE REV. CANON BLUNT.

The following is a brief sketch of the sermon preached by the Rev. W. O. Blunt, M.A. (Rector of Chester-le-Street and Hon. Canon of Durham), in St. Oswald's church, Durham, on the occasion of the Annual Meeting of the Durham and Newcastle Diocesan Association, on October 19th, 1883. The text was Psalm xix. 3: "There is neither speech nor language; but their voices are heard among them."

He dwelt upon the truth that the voice of nature was the voice of God speaking to man from that perfect peace and harmony in which He dwells. The world is full of music, which expresses part of this harmony, and man gives utterance to his thoughts through the harmony of music; in this way it is the expression of our highest thoughts; inanimate things have no form of words, no speech nor language, but yet they have a voice. Man has the language and the voice; the most perfect music and perfect praise is to be found in the combination of the human voice and human heart. In proof of this take the utterances of the sweet Psalmist of Israel, which have formed the material for the most glorious anthems. And above all take the Divine words of Jesus Christ, so full of music, and suited to the most exalted harmonies.

The preacher then referred specially to the music of the bells. Inanimate with no language, made from earth's metals, tuned by man's divinely gifted skill, how they speak! You have power in your hands and brain to bring out the voice in praise of God. How must therefore the ringing be done to be in harmony as fit for God's praises? First it ought to be congregational. As the Church music inside is intended to be the voice of the parishioners, so likewise ought this to be. We dare not say that it cannot be brought as other music to be an expression of lofty thoughts. This idea ought to be present with us as we stand together and ring together in the same belfry, determining that this work shall be dedicated to God. We do not deny to those who minister within the church's walls high honour, and surely we are more and more realizing the dignity of the office of bell-ringer. For has he not the high privilege of sounding aloud the voice of God to the people, and at the same time the voice of the people to God. Thus may the music be congregational. We know what it is to listen in a crowded cathedral, such as that in this our city, to an anthem that touches the hearts of those present; we feel that it expresses in its beauty the thoughts of the congregation, though only the choir are singing and we ourselves are silent; so may the bells express the thought and feeling of the parishioners as they pass with joy to the House of God, the centre of the parish for worship; and sympathise with the mourners as in muffled peal or simple toll the bells proclaim the visit of the angel of death. Feel therefore that God is thus making use of the bells for His service; He calls to worship; He calls to work; He lovingly warns at the hour of death; these are distinctly God's messages to the parish, uttered in tones that can not be misunderstood. How important a place then the bells fill, and to this end no pains should be spared to make them as efficient as possible. Money, time, and skill, labour, care and thought can be spent well in the church belfry, and richly they repay all that is expended. But secondly, let not the work of the ringer be too mechanical; we all know the difference between ringing by machinery and ringing by hand; there is a life and spirit about the one which is wanting in the other. Our poet may well describe such machine-like perfection.

"Faultily faultless, icidly regular,
Splendidly null,
Dead perfection, no more."

Though changes must be maintained, do not forget the living voice. The preacher desired to speak only as a novice in the art of bell-ringing, but he compared the handling of a rope to the feeling of a pulse. There seems to be a sensation of life, when the bell unseen with a mighty swing balances itself for a moment ere it again falls, and so according to a regular order continues its way through the changes. This constant swinging and throbbing seems to speak of the life within; under the control of eye and hand, the proper gentleness and force are brought to bear which produce the harmonised voice of the bells. If ringers ever bear in mind the dignity of their work, they will not fail to hear the Divine voice speaking to them in it; they will not act or ring like mere machines, but there will be a lofty spirit influencing them, one which will invite them to the church in which they minister, and the service to which they are calling themselves as well as others to attend. Let brotherly love and union prevail, and away with all jealousy and uncharitable feelings in the chamber nearest heaven, and as you yourselves use brain and hand and sight in thus serving God and making others hear his voice far and near, let its deepest tones sink deep into your hearts, that you may rise with it here and hereafter.

Two members of the St. Lawrence society, Reading, visited Farnham Royal, last Saturday, and had a pleasant evening's ringing. There was no attempt made to ring a 5040, as was supposed.

THE JOHN COX JUBILEE FUND.

Mr. Dains sends us the following for publication:—

SIR,—In presenting this statement to your readers, I am requested to return Mr. Cox's heartfelt thanks to all friends for the very great kindness already received. In the list herewith enclosed, it will be seen that subscriptions hail from distant parts of the country, as well as from local circles. It is not in finances only that his friends are ready to do him honour, as from Stockton-on-Tees, through G. J. Clarkson, Esq., Hon. Sec. to the Durham and Newcastle Diocesan Association, I received the other day a beautiful illuminated emblem, of exquisite design, upon which was enrolled Mr. Cox's name, showing that the old Master had been elected, free of cost, a life member of this Association. In fact, Mr. Cox is hereby presented with the freedom of the Association, which is in reality similar to presenting a statesman or other distinguished gentleman with the freedom of a City Corporation, and indeed should be regarded as such, and be accepted as a great honour. The Durham and Newcastle Diocesan Association deserve credit for setting the example, as showing an easy and simple way in which the abilities of distinguished ringers may be recognised and rewarded, by those whose delight it is to do them honour. Although anxious to close this business, there are several promises not yet fulfilled, and I hope intending subscribers will forward their list at once.

I have several small subscriptions in hand but not yet mentioned, these will appear in tabulated form in due course.

Please allow me to correct a slight error that appeared in "THE BELL NEWS" of October 20th. In the College Youths list it should read 2s. 6d. instead of 2s. to the names of Mr. G. Longden and Mr. E. Marriott; and the name of Mr. D. Francombe should not appear in that list, but in the one hailing from Oxford.

	£	s.	d.
Already announced ...	£30	4	6
Since the publication of my last list, the College Youths have augmented the amount of their contribution to £5 13s. as follows:			
Mr. Phillip Coard, 5s.; Mr. Arthur Richards, 2s. 6d.; Mr. Lewis Green, 1s.; Mr. James Cliff, 1s.; Mr. F. Dawe, 2s. 6d.	0	12	0
Messrs. Pittman and Sheppard, Willeeden ...	0	1	6
Rev. F. H. Robinson, West Drayton ...	0	5	0
Rev. C. D. P. Davies, Chaceley ...	0	5	0
Mr. Allen, Hitchin ...	0	2	6
St. Mary's Society, Acton ...	0	8	0
Mr. Grimwade, Walthamstow ...	0		
The Amateur Society, "Old Battersea" ...	1	1	0
Cambridge University Society ...	1	1	0
Newcastle on Tyne Society ...	0	5	0
Society of Ringers, St. Luke's, Chelsea ...	0	10	0
Mr. Welch, handbell founder ...	0	5	0

The following is the result of a collection amongst ringers of the Diocesan Association of Durham and Newcastle: Mr.

J. E. Hern, 2s. 6d.; Hurworth ringers, 2s. 6d.; G. J. Clarkson, 2s. 6d.; Stockton ringers, 3s. 6d.; collected at Annual dinner, 19s. ...

The next list hails from Salisbury, and which runs as follows: Mr. G. Lanham, 1s.; J. R. Jerram, 2s.; T. Blackburn, 1s.; Anderson, 2s. 6d.; E. A. Foster, 5s.; W. W. Gifford, 2s. 6d.; J. Short, 1s.; J. Milton, 1s.; F. Fryer, 1s.; J. Judd, 1s.; G. Blake, 1s.; J. Tupper and G. Devenport, 6d. each ...

The following is the result of a collection amongst the Sunday morning ringers of St. Sepulchre's, Holborn, and St. Dunstan's, Fleet Street, London: Messrs. D. Lovett, 5s.; W. D. Mathews, 2s.; Jas. Wheeler, 2s.; C. J. Clarkson, 2s.; J. Rumsey, 2s.; C. H. Mathews, 1s.; John Wheeler, 1s.; W. C. Bayley, 1s.; J. H. Pearce, 1s.; Mr. Hudson, 1s.; Geo. Walker, 1s.; J. E. Bayley, 2s.; Mr. Sadler, 1s.; A. Vincent, 1s.; W. H. Devereux, 5s. ...

Total £39 3 6

HENRY DAINS,
Hon. Sec.

147, Barnsbury Road, London, N.

THE ROCHDALE AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATION.

On Monday evening, November 26th. at Rochdale parish church, the local company rang the first part of Day's four-part peal of Grandsire Triples (1260 changes), in 48 mins. This was rung on the occasion of Mr. Thomas Bamford (who till ten years ago was a ringer at this church) presenting the company with an emblem to hang in the belfry, which emblem shows him to be a member of the Ancient Society of College Youths, and the company were very happy to receive it. On the following Thursday the same band rang a touch containing 2436 changes, from the 3rd and 4th parts of the same peal, in 1 hr. 22½ mins. William Smith, 1; J. T. Lucas, 2; Thomas Bamford (aged 79 years), 3; John Siddle, 4; George Hoyle, 5; William Siddle, 6; Frank Birtwistle (conductor), 7; Albert Hurst, 8. It is the intention of the above company to attempt this peal on the 20th instant, to commemorate Mr. Bamford's eightieth birthday, the old veteran observing that he can never ring a peal younger, and adds that ringing, even at his advanced age, seems no trouble at all.

THE ST. JOHN AT HACKNEY SOCIETY, MIDDLESEX.

THE ANNUAL MEETING of the St. John at Hackney Society will be held in the vestry on Wednesday evening, December 12th, at 8.30 p.m. Business: Election of Officers.

P. A. COARD, Hon. Sec.

THE BELLS OF ST. MARY'S PARISH CHURCH,
CHELTENHAM.

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

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

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

"I to the church the living call,
And to the grave do summon all."

but when re-cast the inscription was altered to

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

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

The re-dedication ceremony took place, as stated, on Monday. The belfry looked bright and clean in its dress of new paint and whitewash, and the little chamber was crowded by the score or so of people who had assembled for the occasion. Among those present were the Rector (Canon Bell), and Miss Bell, the Mayor (Mr. G. Parsonage), Miss Parsonage, and Miss Creed, Mr. W. N. Skillicorne, Mr. Skillicorne, jun., and the Misses Skillicorne, the Rev. M.A. and Mrs. Smelt, the Revs. A. H. Palmer and T. K. Allen, Captain A. G. Welch, R.N., Mr. G. M. Kite and the Misses Kite, Mr. and Mrs. T. G. Palmer, Mrs. and the Misses Clare, Messrs Dunn, Butt, Snowsell, etc.

The Rector having offered up prayer, a hymn was sung, and afterwards the Doxology. The Rector then called upon Mr. G. M. Kite, as parish churchwarden, and as having taken a leading part in the work of restoration, to read a statement of the work accomplished, the general details of which have already been given.

Mr. Kite spoke in terms of warm appreciation of the Rector's assistance in the work. He (Mr. Kite) was quite sure every one would be satisfied with the result of the recasting and rehanging, and he ventured to say that there was now no better peal of bells in the county than the parish church bells of Cheltenham, while he was sure there were no better or more practised ringers for many miles round than the campanologists who rang those bells.

Canon Bell, who was warmly received, thanked Mr. Kite for the reference made to himself in connection with the work they had so well accomplished. There was only one thing he wished, and it was that all old bells might be recast like the bells of their parish church, so that the little discomforts of old age might be obliterated. Speaking of the inscription on one of the bells, which was the same as his motto, *Hinc clarior et fortior*—Canon Bell said it was very appropriate, and he

hoped indeed that the bells might from that time forth ring out "clearer and stronger." He wished that might be the case with the "Bell" now speaking to them, and that he might ring out a stronger, clearer note in the future (laughter and cheers). In conclusion the Rector congratulated all concerned on the successful completion of their labours.

Mr. GWINNETT then proposed that the thanks of the meeting assembled in that peculiar manner in the belfry of the old parish church, be given to the Rector of Cheltenham for his successful exertions in the work, the completion of which they were that day assembled to commemorate.

The Rev. M. A. SMELT seconded the proposition, which, on being put to the meeting was carried by acclamation.

The floor of the belfry was now "cleared for action," and the the ringers, in the presence of the company, gave Stedman's peal of 108 changes, the changes, the calls being given by the Rector. The ringers who took part in the peal were—J. Belcher (conductor), treble; G. H. Phillott, 2; H. Hodges, 3; F. Musty, 4; W. Morris, 5; G. Holfield, 6; H. Karn, 7; F. White, 8; G. Acock, 9; T. Bennett, tenor.

On the conclusion of the peal Mr. Belcher, the leader of the ringers, on their behalf, thanked the company for their attendance that day, and for the interest taken in the proceedings.

Mr. G. H. PHILLOTT next proposed a vote of thanks to Mr. Belcher for the work he had done in connection with the re-casting and re-hanging of the bells, and he added that he should like it to be known that the work of re-painting the belfry had been carried out by the ringers themselves.

A vote of thanks, coupled with the name of Mr. Kite, having been carried, the proceedings terminated. Later in the afternoon a combined company of ringers from Gloucester, Malvern, Oxford, Cheltenham, and Monmouth, under the leadership of H. Karn (Cheltenham), gave a touch of Grandsire Triples, which was followed at intervals during the afternoon by other touches.—*Local Paper.*

ERECTION OF A PEAL-BOARD.

On the 18th of January, 1882, the Reading branch of the Oxford Diocesan Guild rang their first peal of Grandsire Triples at Sonning, assisted by Mr. F. White, of Appleton, who called the peal. On Wednesday last, the inauguration of a tablet to record this peal took place by the ringing of a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples. J. Ford (Sonning), 1; J. Willshire, 2; J. Johnson, 3; S. Paice, 4; J. Potter, 5; H. Egby (conductor), 6; W. Newell, 7; G. Payne, 8.

TEA MEETING AND CONCERT IN AID OF THE SADDLEWORTH CHURCH BELL FUND.—Last Saturday, the third of a series of tea meetings and concerts was held. The tea, which was given by Miss Bradbury, of Court Street, Uppermill, was provided in the Church School, and over 400 sat down, and did ample justice to it. After tea the meeting was held in the Mechanics' Hall, Uppermill, and was presided over by the Vicar (the Rev. Hugh Doig), and he was supported on the platform by Mr. John Holden and Mr. Jonathan Bradbury. The large hall was well filled by a very respectable and attentive audience. The vocalists were Miss Hinchliffe, Miss Gardner, Mr. James Wrigley, Mr. J. Radcliffe, and Mr. Burton. The Lodge Brothers, the celebrated Yorkshire duetists, were present, and gave great satisfaction in the six duets which they sung. Mr. Eyres was the accompanist. The hand-bell ringers were present and gave four airs with their new bells, and were loudly applauded for the performance. The singing of Miss Hinchliffe was excellent, and she received an applause which she richly deserved, but to attempt to give all the particulars of the singing would be superfluous, as each and all, without exception, are worthy of great praise. The meeting was the most successful that has been held for this object. The amount realised was nearly £23, which will be devoted to the new bell fund. Great credit is due to the committee for the excellent entertainment provided.

ST. MARY'S CHURCH, WARWICK.—This fine old edifice has just been inspected by Mr. Butterfield, the eminent London architect, with a view to his reporting to the Church Council upon the repairs which have been so long and urgently needed. Mr. Butterfield finds that the roof of the building is especially defective, and that the tower is absolutely insecure. His report upon the whole matter is shortly expected.

DEATH OF THE CURATE OF THORNBURY, THE REV. A. F. CORBIN.—On Saturday afternoon, December 1st, the local company of this place met, and rung with the bells muffled, as a mark of respect to the above gentleman, who was an honorary member of the Gloucester and Bristol Diocesan Association. The bells were also rung on Sunday for both morning and evening service, muffled.

IMPORTANT NOTICE.

On Saturday, December 22nd, will be published, the

CHRISTMAS NUMBER

OF THIS PAPER.

The number will comprise 16 pages at least, and will contain, in addition to the usual contents of the weekly issue, a variety of amusing and interesting matter.

A PORTRAIT

Of a distinguished Change-Ringer, with Biographical Sketch,

Will be a prominent feature of this number. Further particulars will be announced.

"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, E. W. 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.

JOHN DIBBLE.—We think the question is one for you and Mr. Clarkson.

W. REYNER.—The lines are hardly up to the mark.

W. T. PATES.—When an opportunity presents itself. You must not feel angry at our being unable to see any special merit in them.

ECHO.—Your letter has been overlooked; shall appear in our next.

The Bell News & Ringers' Record.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 8, 1883.

It occurred to us a short time ago to ask a country ringer the simple question—"How often does your vicar come up into the belfry?" He answered without the least hesitation, "Twice in the last two years, on each occasion to inspect some alteration." And yet some people wonder why differences between the clergy and their ringers happen so frequently.

That this is a fact, and a most painful one, is well known to all acquainted with ringing matters in the provinces. Over and over again is heard the same story, "There used to be a pretty good band here, but they couldn't get on with the vicar," the result being that the bells are seldom used, and only by a lot of young men with no knowledge of change-ringing, and no one to teach them. Three instances of this kind of thing have recently happened within ten miles of each other; and in each

case the break-up might have been averted by a little tact and consideration on the part of those in authority.

We are aware that in many instances the country ringers are not quite as they should be. Beer and cider are brought into the ringing-chamber without stint, and unseemly quarrels have been known to occur in the place. This sort of thing has gone on till it has become a matter of notoriety in the village, and then all at once the vicar wakes up and gets rid of the whole band for a lot of incorrigibles. If he had been in the habit of occasionally attending the practices, such a scandal would never have arisen.

It must be understood that we do not mean to say that this is the way in which all country ringing is conducted. On the contrary, it is only the exception, but unfortunately an exception often met with. Neither do we wish to assert that the clergy are always in fault when the band is broken up. But what is really the whole cause of the matter, is the little attention given by too many clergymen to the towers of their churches. In many cases they seem to forget that the tower is as much a part of God's House as the chancel; that it is consecrated, and performs a part in the service which, if subordinate, is still an important one. Who has visited a country church, with its clean well-dusted floors and monuments, and does not recall to mind the contrast between the state of the ground floor, and that of the ringing chamber? Rotten steps, the door off its hinges, the floors covered with the accumulated dust of fifty years, and the walls with chalked-up names, wit, and nonsense of perhaps three generations of ringers. Louvers falling out, windows half-broken and with their sills full of empty bottles, greasepots, muffings for clappers, and fag-ends of rope; these are some of the characteristics of a country bell-tower. And we say fearlessly that this is a disgrace not to ringing, but to the parish, the clergy, and the Church. The fault lies not so much with those who have bad tools to work with, as with those who provide no better.

We intend these observations for those clergymen only who are not actively interested in ringing. To them these words apply; they have not recognized the evil we draw attention to, and thus have not applied the remedy where possible. But if should any such chance to read this, we beg them to examine and occasionally visit their belfries; to encourage good ringing by providing a decent place to ring in; to find out whether the ringers have a pew to sit in, before they quarrel with them for not coming to church; and above all to remember, that there is no reason why the ringing of Church bells should stand out as an exception to the Apostle's command, "Let all things be done among you in a seemly and due order."

STINCHCOMBE (Gloucestershire).—Last Thursday week, the lofty and well-built spire of Stinchcombe church was destroyed by lightning. Nearly the whole of the spire was shaken and thrown, some into the tower beneath, some into the church, and on all sides doing considerable damage and preventing the services being carried on. The fine peal of bells suffered considerably, which is to be regretted, as they were only placed there last year by Canon Cooper, as a memorial to his mother.

The Metropolis.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.
CORNHILL, LONDON.

On Saturday, December 1, 1883, in Four Hours and Two Minutes,

At St. Michael's Church,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CONQUES, 5005 CHANGES;

Tenor 41 cwt.

HENRY W. HALEY Treble.	RICHARD FRENCH 7.
FREDERICK T. GOVER* .. 2.	GEORGE MASH 8.
WILLIAM CECIL 3.	†HENRY J. TUCKER* .. 9.
CHALLIS F. WINNY 4.	EDWIN HORREX.. .. 10.
HENRY C. HALEY 5.	JOHN M. HAYES 11.
JOHN W. ROWBOTHAM .. 6.	*WALTER PRIME.. .. Tenor.

Composed and conducted by H. W. HALEY.

* First peal on twelve bells.

† First peal in the method.

The Provinces.

THE ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

LONG MELFORD, SUFFOLK.

On Saturday, December 1, 1883, in Three Hours and Twenty Minutes,

At the Parish Church,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5184 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 16 cwt. in F.

CHARLES HONEYBELL .. Treble.	ALBERT IVES 5.
HARRY THOMPSON 2.	†ZACHARIAH SLATER .. 6.
CHARLES WM. HURST .. 3.	*ALEXANDER HURST .. 7.
SAMUEL SLATER† 4.	†FREDERICK PAUL ADAMS.. Tenor.

Composed by the late W. HARRISON, and conducted by ALEXANDER HURST.

*College Youths. †Cumberlands.

The above peal, taken from Snowdon's *Treatise*, page 23, is the first in the diocese since the formation of the Ely Association; also the first peal of Major in which Charles Hurst and Ives have taken part, and the first peal of Major Mr. A. Hurst has conducted.

Messrs. Thompson, Ives, and the Brothers Hurst hail from Cavendish; the rest from Glemsford.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—BRAINTREE.

On Saturday, December 1, 1883, in Three Hours and Five Minutes,

At the Church of St. Michael and All Angels,

5040 CHANGES: IN SEVEN DIFFERENT METHODS UPON SIX BELLS;

Being a 720 of each of the following:—

CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE; IMPERIAL; COLLEGE EXERCISE;
KENT TREBLE BOB; NEW LONDON PLEASURE;
WOODBINE TREBLE BOB; OXFORD TREBLE BOB.

Tenor 14 cwt.

FRANCIS L. BUMPSTEAD .. Treble.	*SAMUEL HAMMOND .. 4.
WILLIAM H. DYSON* .. 2.	*FREDERICK RUDKIN.. 5.
HENRY EDWARD HAMMOND 3.	*ALEXANDER HUCKSON .. Tenor.

Conducted by SAMUEL HAMMOND.

*College Youths.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

ALBURGH, NORFOLK.

On Saturday, December 1, 1883, in Three Hours and One Minute,

At All Saints' Church,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5152 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 11 cwt. in G.

EDWARD SMITH Treble.	ROBERT WHITNEY 5.
WILLIAM SHELDRAKE .. 2.	GEORGE MOBBS.. .. 6.
GEORGE PRIME 3.	FREDERICK SMITH .. 7.
WILLIAM MATTHEWS .. 4.	CAPTAIN MOORE Tenor.

Composed by Mr. JOHN COX, and conducted by EDWARD SMITH.

The above was the first peal ever rung on the bells, and will be found in Snowdon's *Treatise*, part 2, page 50.

The peal rung at Redenhall on Monday last, which appeared in "THE BELL NEWS" of December 1st, should have been dated November 26th, instead of November 17th, and was first in the Kent variation by any of the band with the exception of the tenor man.

MOORSIDE, NEAR OLDHAM, LANCASHIRE.

THE LEESFIELD SOCIETY.

On Saturday, December 1, 1883, in Two Hours and Fifty-nine Minutes,

At St. Thomas's Church,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S 10-PART. Tenor 18 cwt.

JOHN HILTON Treble.	JAMES BAILEY 5.
EDWIN SHAW 2.	WM. HOLDEN 6.
FRED CROSLAND 3.	JAMES ADAMS 7.
SAMUEL STOTT 4.	ALBERT HY. ADAMS .. Tenor.

Conducted by SAMUEL STOTT.

The Brothers Adams hail from Ashton-under-Lyne.

THE HYDE AND MOTTRAM SOCIETIES.

MOTTRAM-IN-LONGDENDALE, CHESHIRE.

On Saturday, December 1, 1883, in Two Hours and Fifty-Two and ½ Minutes,

At St. Michael's Church,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 12½ cwt.

JAMES SHAW Treble.	WILLIAM MIDDLETON .. 5.
JOHN SIDEBOTTOM 2.	SAMUEL BRADLEY 6.
ROBERT WRIGHT 3.	THOMAS WILDE 7.
JAMES S. WILDE 4.	THOMAS BRADDOCK .. Tenor.

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

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—SANDAL MAGNA.

On Saturday, November 24, 1883, in Three Hours and One Minute,

At St. Helen's Church,

5040 CHANGES: IN SEVEN DIFFERENT METHODS UPON SIX BELLS;

Being a 720 of each of the following:—

ARNOLD'S VICTORY; CITY DELIGHT; COLLEGE PLEASURE;
NEW LONDON PLEASURE;
DUKE OF YORK; VIOLET; AND OXFORD.

Tenor 13 cwt. in G.

WILLIAM REYNER Treble.	WILLIAM BOLLAND .. 4.
HENRY ODDY 2.	GEORGE BOLLAND .. 5.
GEORGE MOXON 3.	JOHN HALEY Tenor.

Conducted by GEORGE BOLLAND.

Messrs. Bolland, Oddy and Haley hail from Tong, being members of the Tong branch of the Association.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—LIVERSEDGE.

On Saturday, December 1, 1883, in Two Hours and Fifty-six Minutes,

At Christ Church,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 15 cwt.

JOHN STEAD.. .. Treble.	JAMES BARRACLOUGH .. 5.
GEORGE CLAY 2.	TOM HAIGH 6.
JOHN GREEN HARDY.. 3.	JOSEPH PICKERING .. 7.
ROWLAND HILL 4.	JASPER W. SNOWDON, Esq. Tenor.

Composed by N. J. PITSTOW, and conducted by J. W. SNOWDON.

For peal, see "THE BELL NEWS," June 17th, 1882, the 2nd peal, 1st column.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

NORTH SHIELDS.

On Saturday, December 1, 1883, in Two Hours and Fifty-three Minutes,

At Christ Church,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

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

ROBERT H. RICHARDSON .. Treble.	THOMAS DENTON 5.
WILLIAM REED, Esq. .. 2.	EDWARD WALLIS 6.
ERNEST W. SCOTT 3.	SENGENT POWER 7.
EDWARD W. PYLE 4.	GEORGE STOBART .. Tenor.

Conducted by EDWARD WALLIS.

Mr. Reed hails from North Shields, the rest from St. Stephen's, Newcastle-on-Tyne. Messrs. Reed and Wallis are members of the Ancient Society of College Youths, and T. Denton is a Royal Cumberland.

HORSHAM, SUSSEX.

On Saturday, December 1, 1883, in Three Hours and Twenty Minutes,

At St. Mary's Church,

A PEAL OF OXFORD BOB TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
SHIPWAY'S 6-PART PEAL. Tenor 24 cwt.

HARRY COOK	Treble.	THOMAS ANDREWS	5.
JACOB BROWNE	2.	FELIX KNIGHT	6.
WILLIAM SHORT	3.	HARRY WOOD	7.
HARRY CHANTLER	4.	WILLIAM WOOD	Tenor.

Conducted by HENRY BURSTOW.

THE BRIGHTON SOCIETY.—BRIGHTON.

On Tuesday, December 4, 1883, in Three Hours and One Minute,

At St. Nicholas' Church,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
HOLT'S ORIGINAL. Tenor 19 cwt. in F.

E. HILDER	Treble.	*H. BONIFACE	5.
J. SEARLE	2.	J. JAY, SEN.	6.
J. JAY, JUN.	3.	H. BOAST	7.
C. TYLER	4.	*E. BUTLER	Tenor.

Conducted by J. SEARLE.

*First peal. Great credit is due to Mr. J. Searle, it being only his second attempt at calling.

Date Touch.

PRESTBURY (Gloucestershire).—On Friday, November 30th, the local company rang a date touch of 1883 changes of Grandsire Doubles. T. Cresser, 1; D. Davis, 2; T. Steel, 3; W. T. Pates (composer and conductor), 4; T. Davis, 5; T. Compton, 6. Time, 1 hr. 25 mins.

Miscellaneous.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.—On Monday, November 26th, at St. John-the-Baptist's, a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob Minor, with fifteen bobs, in 27½ mins. F. Lees, 1; R. S. Story, 2; W. Eggleston, 3; T. J. des Forges, 4; W. Story, 5; C. L. Routledge (conductor), 6. Also on Sunday, December 2nd, for Divine Service in the evening, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor, in 28 mins. G. Herdman, 1; F. Lees, 2; C. L. Routledge, 3; T. J. des Forges, 4; W. Story, 5; W. G. Routledge (conductor), 6. Tenor 12½ cwt.

THE ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

STANSTEAD (Suffolk).—On Sunday, December 2nd, the following ringers from Cavendish and Glemsford rang at the parish church, a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob, in 26½ mins. A. Hurst, 1; H. Thompson, 2; S. Slater, 3; O. Garwood, 4; G. Maxim, 5; Z. Slater, 6. Also a 720 of Kent Treble Bob, in 26 mins. C. W. Hurst, 1; H. Thompson, 2; Z. Slater, 3; A. Ives, 4; O. Garwood, 5; A. Hurst (conductor), 6.

CAVENDISH (Suffolk).—On Monday, December 3rd, for practice, a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob, in 23 mins. F. J. Thompson, 1; H. Thompson, 2; C. W. Hurst, 3; A. Ives, 4; G. Maxim, 5; A. Hurst (conductor), 6.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

SOUTHPORT (Lancashire).—On Monday night, December 3rd, seven members of the above Association met for a peal of Bob Major, but one failing to put in an appearance, they took in a young beginner, and rang a half-peal of Shipway's composition, comprising 2520 changes, in 1 hr. and 27½ mins. *Frederick Blundell, 1; T. J. Fielding, 2; J. H. Heywood, 3; G. R. Heywood, 4; R. Hill, 5; Henry Spencer, 6; C. F. Heywood (conductor), 7; A. Fielding, 8. Tenor 10 cwt. *First attempt, aged 18 years. No method mentioned.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

DERBY.—On Saturday, December 1st, 1883, eight members of the above rang at St. Werburgh's church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1260 changes), in 48 mins. F. Whiting, 1; R. Bosworth, 2; L. Lomas, 3; J. Newbold, 4; R. Redgate, 5; W. Billingham (Loughborough), 6; H. C. Woodward (conductor), 7; W. Tooby, 8. Tenor 17 cwt. in E.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

MAIDENHEAD (Berks).—On Monday, December 3rd, for practice at All Saints, Boyne Hill, a 504 of Grandsire Triples. J. Truss, 1; W. A. Garraway (conductor), 2; R. Flaxman, 3; H. Rogers, 4; R.

Smith, 5; G. Wilkins, jun., 6; Ed. Rogers, 7; E. Keeley, 8. Also another 504. E. Keeley, 1; Geo. Wilkins, jun., 2; W. A. Garraway (conductor), 3; H. Rogers, 4; Ed. Rogers, 5; J. W. Wilkins, 6; R. Flaxman, 7; J. Truss, 8. Each of the above was rung in about 19 mins. Tenor 17½ cwt.

THEALE (Berks).—On Saturday, December 1st, a 960 of Grandsire Doubles, consisting of eight 6-scores, each called differently, in 37 mins. A. Harris (Englefield), 1; W. Allen (Englefield), 2; W. Sims, (Theale), 3; W. Horne (Englefield), 4; W. J. Williams (Reading; conductor), 5; W. Bradley (Englefield), 6.

FARNHAM ROYAL (Bucks).—On Saturday, December 1st, a 720 of Bob Minor, with thirty-five bobs and six singles, in 25½ mins. C. Chapman, 1; E. Bishop, 2; J. E. Willshire, 3; J. Parker (composer and conductor), 4; A. Batten, 5; W. Fussell, 6. Also another 720 of Bob Minor, with fourteen bobs and two singles, in 25 mins. F. Fells, 1; W. Fussell, 2; A. Batten, 3; E. Bishop, 4; J. E. Willshire, 5; J. Parker (conductor), 6. An attempt was made for a 720 of Grandsire Minor, but it came to grief after ringing 660 changes. Several courses of Kent Treble Bob were also rang. Messrs. Bishop and Willshire hail from Reading, and visited Farnham expressly to ring a 720 of Bob Minor, which they rang at the first attempt; they had never struck a blow in the method before.

THE OXFORD UNIVERSITY SOCIETY.

OXFORD.—On Thursday, November 29th, at St. Thomas-the-Martyr, a 720 of Grandsire Minor, in 23½ mins. J. R. Vincent, Esq., 1; C. W. H. Griffith, Esq., 2; G. F. Scott, Esq., 3; F. A. H. Du Boulay, Esq., 4; J. F. Hastings, Esq., 5; G. F. Coleridge, Esq. (conductor), 6. Tenor 7½ cwt. The 720 reported last week was Plain Bob, not Grandsire, as wrongly stated. It should be added that it was rung in honour of the birth of a son and heir to Captain J. E. Acland-Troyte, an original member of the Society.

THE HAUGHTON ASSOCIATION, LANCASHIRE.

HAUGHTON.—On Friday, November 30th, at St. Anne's church, a 720 of Bob Minor, with sixteen bobs and two singles, in 28 mins. *John S. Leech, 1; *John Bardsley, 2; *William Wild, 3; Richard Ainsworth (conductor), 4; *Peter Smith, 5; Robert Woolley, 6. This is the first 720 rung by the above Association, having only commenced change-ringing since May last. Robert Woolley belongs to St. George's, Hyde. *First 720. Tenor, 14½ cwt.

STOKE-UPON-TRENT ARCHIDIACONAL ASSOCIATION.

WOLSTANTON (Staffordshire).—On Thursday, November 29th, at St. Margaret's church, a 720 of Plain Bob Minor, with twenty-six singles, in 27 mins. E. M. Green (first 720), 1; L. Miller, 2; S. Walker, 3; S. Wooton, 4; W. Priestman, 5; W. Miller (conductor), 6. Also on Tuesday, December 4th, a 720 of Grandsire Minor, with thirty-four bobs and two singles, in 25½ mins. D. Amos (first 720), 1; L. Miller, 2; S. Walker, 3; W. Priestman, 4; S. Wooton, 5; W. Miller (conductor), 6.

THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

BEDDINGTON (Surrey).—On Saturday, December 1st, the following members of the Beddington branch of the above Association attempted a peal of 5039 of Grandsire Caters, but after ringing about 5000 changes in 3 hrs. 20 mins. the peal was lost. Charles Martin, 1; John Branch, 2; Charles Gordon, 3; James Harris, 4; Edgar Bennett, 5; James Trappitt, 6; John Plowman, 7; James Cawley, 8; Joseph Zealey, 9; Joseph Clark, 10. Conducted by E. Bennett.

STREATHAM (Surrey).—On Monday, November 26th, a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob was rung at Immanuel church. W. Shepherd, 1; Daniel Springall, 2; Wingfield Meadows, 3; J. Fayers (Otley), 4; G. Pell, 5; S. Greenwood (conductor), 6. This is the first on the bells.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

GUISELEY (Yorkshire).—On Saturday, December 1st, at St. Oswald's church, an attempt was made to ring Mr. Sottanstell's peal of 10,272 of Kent Treble Bob Major, but unfortunately came to grief after ringing 4 hrs. 48 mins., through the 6th man being taken very ill. M. Tomlinson, 1; D. E. Rhodes, 2; W. Mallinson, 3; S. Brown, 4; J. Baldwin, 5; J. Hutchinson, 6; T. West (conductor), 7; J. McKell, 8. Messrs. Tomlinson, Hutchinson and West hail from Leeds, Mallinson and McKell from Gargrave, the rest belong to Guiseley. It is intended to make another attempt about Christmas.

BENGEO (Herts).—On Wednesday, November 28th, the ringers of this parish succeeded in ringing their first 120 of Grandsire Doubles. Edward Cains, 1; Arthur Wrangles, 2; Thomas Gathard (conductor), 3; John Cains, 4; Henry Phillips, 5; Thomas Barker, 6. Great credit is due to Mr. Thomas Gathard, for the manner in which he has taught this young band, they having no knowledge whatever of ringing six months ago.

CANTERBURY (Kent).—On Friday, November 30th, at St. Dunstan's church, 720 of Grandsire Minor, with thirty-eight bobs and twenty-two singles, in 30 mins. W. H. Andrews, 1; J. H. Small, 2; G. Stancombe (conductor), 3; A. Foreman, 4; H. G. Fairbrass, 5; R. Goodbourne, 6. It is some 36 years ago since a 720 was rung at this church, and it is the first 720 for all the above with the exception of the conductor, and the first in the method on the bells. On Tuesday, December 4th, at St. Stephen's church, a 720 of Grandsire Minor, on the back six, in 25 mins. W. H. Andrews, 1; G. Stancombe (conductor), 2; J. H. Small, 3; A. Foreman, 4; R. Goodbourne, 5; G. T. Ovenden (first 720), 6. This is the first 720 in the method on these bells.

CASTLE DONINGTON (Leicestershire).—On Tuesday last, November 27th, the newly-formed Association at the above village, with the assistance of two of the Midland Counties' Association from Long Eaton, rung a 360 of Grandsire Doubles, each called differently. This is the first performance of this band and the first change-ringing done on the bells by any local members. V. Hickin, 1; *J. Ward, 2; J. Hutchby, 3; *S. Clarke, 4; Dr. Sellon (conductor), 5; W. Frakes, 6. *Members of the Midland Counties' Association.

DEERHURST (Gloucestershire).—On Sunday, November 25th, at the parish church, the local company, with S. Cleal of Tewkesbury, rang a 720 of Plain Bob Minor, with fourteen bobs and two singles, in 25 minutes. C. Axford, 1; C. Willis, 2; C. Roles, 3; S. Cleal (conductor), 4; G. Willis, 5; J. Bartlett, 6. Tenor 15 cwt.

ECCLES (Lancashire).—On Monday evening, December 3rd, six of the local ringers rang a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor, at the parish church, in 27 mins. John Barrett, 1; Thomas Yates, 2; James Barratt, 3; Edward Cash, 4; George Henry Johnson (conductor), 5; James Scholey, 6. Tenor 13 cwt. 3 qrs.

HAVERSTOCK HILL (Middlesex).—On Sunday evening, December 2nd, for Divine Service, a 720 of Grandsire Minor, in 24 mins. G. Griffin, 1; J. Hannington (conductor), 2; J. Nixon (first 720 in the method), 3; T. Titchener, 4; Wingfield Meadows, 5; A. Jacob, 6. After service a 360 of Double Stedman's Slow Course. G. Griffin, 1; Wingfield Meadows, 2; T. Titchener, 3; J. Hannington (conductor), 4; A. Jacob, 5; G. Newson, 6. And a 720 of Grandsire Minor in 25 mins. E. Chapman, 1; Wingfield Meadows, 2; J. Nixon, 3; J. Hannington (conductor), 4; G. Griffin (first 720 with a bob bell), 5; G. Newson, 6. Tenor 12½ cwt.

MITCHAM (Surrey).—On Sunday, November 25th, for Divine Service in the morning at the church of SS. Peter and Paul, a 700 of Grandsire Triples, in 31 mins. W. Turner (aged 63 years), 1; J. Drewett, sen., 2; J. Drewett, jun., 3; G. Foster, sen., 4; A. Brockwell, 5; G. Welling, 6; J. Fayars (conductor), 7; G. Foster, jun., 8. Tenor 16½ cwt.

MONEWDEN (Suffolk).—On Friday, November 30th, five members of the Monewden handbell society, rang with the bells in hand, 540 changes of Bob Royal. R. H. Hayward (conductor), 1-2; J. Tarrant, 3-4; A. Moore, 5-6; Thos. Tarrant, 7-8; W. Tarrant, 9-10. Also a course of Grandsire Royal. And on Sunday, December 2nd, after Divine Service, a touch of Bob Royal, Mr. S. Martin ringing 1-2.

RIPON (Yorks).—On Saturday last, December 1st, being the Princess of Wales' birthday, the cathedral society rung a quarter-peal (1260 changes) of Grandsire Triples in 50 mins. T. Metcalf, 1; Jno. Strodder, jun., 2; Jno. Strodder, sen., 3; T. Clarke (conductor), 4; A. Ingleby, 5; W. Pick, 6; G. Ingleby, 7; H. Rumbold, 8. Also a plain course of Stedman Triples for the first time by this society, the treble and tenor men changing bells. Tenor 21 cwt. in E. natural.

SPALDING (Lincolnshire).—On Thursday, November 22nd, at SS. Mary and Nicholas, a 720 of Plain Bob, with eighteen bobs and two singles. J. Brown, 1; A. Brown, 2; G. L. Richardson, 3; R. Mackman, 4; J. Wilson, 5; J. S. Wright (conductor), 6. Also on Sunday, November 25th, a 360 of Oxford Treble Bob, with three bobs. also a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob, with nine bobs. R. Mackman, 1; J. Wilson, 2; G. L. Richardson, 3; J. S. Wright, 4; A. Brown, 5; J. Brown (conductor), 6. Also on Sunday, December 2nd, for Divine Service in the morning, a 360 of Oxford Bob, and 360 of Oxford Treble Bob, and after service, a 720 of London Single, and 360 of College Single. G. Skeef, 1; J. Wilson, 2; R. Mackman, 3; J. S. Wright, 4; A. Brown, 5; G. L. Richardson (conductor), 6. Also on Tuesday, December 4th, three 6-scores of Stedman Doubles. R. Mackman, 1; J. S. Wright, 2; G. L. Richardson, 3; A. Brown, 4; J. Wilson, 5. This is the first in the method on the bells. Also on Sunday, December 2nd, at St. Paul's, Fulney, for Divine Service in the morning, 630 of Grandsire Triples, and for afternoon service, a 720 of Bob Minor, and for Divine Service in the evening a 504 of Grandsire Triples. R. Skeef, 1; R.

Creasey, 2; J. A. Croxford, 3; E. Quinton, 4; A. W. Walker, 5; C. Creasey, 6; J. W. Creasey, 7; A. Creasey, 8; A. Creasey ringing the 7th in Bob Minor on the back six in the afternoon, for the first time with a bob bell. Also on Monday evening, December 3rd, some of the above company, with Mr. E. Mason of Boston, and G. Edwards, of London, rang a 700 of Grandsire Triples, G. Edwards ringing the treble. This is the longest length he has rung by method. The Louth ringers are now undergoing a course of instruction in the art of change-ringing, Mr. R. Creasey, of Spalding, having been engaged as instructor.

THORNHAM (Suffolk).—On Tuesday, November 27th, at All Saints' church, a 720 of Plain Bob Minor, with eighteen bobs and two singles, in 25 mins. Jesse Tyler, 1; Charles Rolf, 2; Robert Lockwood, 3; Frederick Alderton, 4; Benjamin Brewington, 5; George Wilding (conductor), 6. Tenor 12 cwt. This is supposed to be the first 720 on the bells, also the first 720 by any of the above band.

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

WORCESTER.—Muffled Touch.—On Tuesday, December 4th, at St. John's church, a 720 of Grandsire Minor, in 30 mins., with the bells deeply muffled as a last token of respect to their late brother-ringer, J. Pardoe, who was suddenly taken from their midst on Sunday last. F. Owen, 1; J. Hinton, 2; H. Pheasant, 3; G. Hobbs, 4; G. Cleal (conductor), 5; T. Gwynn, 6. Tenor 16 cwt.

WORSLEY (Lancashire).—On Thursday, November 22nd, at St. Mark's church, a 504 of Grandsire Triples. Heber Derbyshire, 1; James Henry Ridyard (conductor), 2; Joseph Derbyshire, 3; John Baguley, 4; Richard Ridyard, 5; Thomas Derbyshire, 6; Frederic Derbyshire, 7; Saml. Fryer, 8. This is the first 504 rung by Worsley ringers since the bells were opened in 1873.

THE SALISBURY GUILD AT DINTON AND CHILMARK.

On Saturday, December 1st, a meeting took place at these villages, when several 6-scores of Grandsire and Bob Doubles were rung on the six bells at both churches. Unfortunately there were not enough to ring Minor. The company consisted of Messrs. W. Greenleaf, J. R. Jerram, T. Blackburn, and C. A. Clements, all members of the Ancient Society of College Youths, London; Messrs. W. Lanham, and J. Short, of St. Thomas's, Mr. W. W. Gifford, of St. Martin's, and Mr. J. Parsons, of St. Edmund's company, Salisbury, and Mr. H. C. Flower, of Codford. Great credit is due to Mr. T. Wright, of Dinton, for the excellent manner in which he arranged and carried out the day's proceedings.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—RETTENDON.

On Sunday, December 2nd, the local band, with Mr. H. Bowell, of Ipswich, who is a member of the Association, succeeded in ringing their first 720 in the Grandsire method, in 26 mins. Mr. W. Pavitt, 1; G. Jones, 2; H. Bowell, 3; W. Jay, 4; Mr. E. Moat, 5; Rev. H. A. Cockey (conductor), 6. Tenor 8 cwt. 1 qrs. 7 lbs. This is the first 720 in the method on the bells, and the first in the method by any of the ringers except Mr. Bowell. For morning and afternoon services several 6-scores of Stedman and Grandsire Doubles, and three courses of Bob Minor, were rung.

SUDDEN DEATH IN THE BELFRY.—A very shocking case of sudden death occurred in St. John's belfry, Worcester, on Sunday evening last. The following ringers had met and rung for evening service: J. Pardoe (75 years old), 1; J. Hinton, 2; H. Pheasant, 3; T. Gwynn, 4; W. Webb, 5; G. Hobbs, 6. After two 6-scores had been rung, and "stand" called, one of the company (J. Hinton) called to the treble-man (J. Pardoe) to go near the gas-light to look at a lady's brooch, wrought in the shape of a bell, with the words "Great Paul" engraven upon it. Pardoe did so, and after expressing his approval, made an attempt to be seated, but in the act of doing so, fell on his face, dead. His companions raised him up, and immediately sent for the nearest surgeon, but his services were of no avail—the vital spark had fled.

ST. LUKE'S SOCIETY, LIVERPOOL.

ON Tuesday evening, November 27th, the members of the above society met for their usual practice, when they rang touches comprising 500 changes and upwards in the following methods: Grandsire Triples, Stedman Triples, and Bob Major, and also a course of Kent Treble Bob Major. This is believed to be the first time that the four methods were rung in any of the Liverpool belfries on one occasion.

The practice nights of the above society are as follows: Every Tuesday evening at St. Luke's, for the tower bells, and every Friday evening at the residence of Mr. Thos. Beacall, Lark Lane, Sefton Park, for the handbells. The society will be glad to welcome any ringing friends from a distance, at either of the above places, on the nights named.

Each member, it may be stated, is a subscriber to "THE BELL NEWS," an example to those companies who take one copy only among their members. Eight of them are proficient in double-handed ringing in any of the above methods, from Minor to Maximus, and six of them have called peals of 5000 changes and upwards.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

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

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

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 FIRST 720 OF DOUBLE STEDMAN'S SLOW COURSE.

SIR,—In your number of the 1st inst. I find that a 720 Double Stedman's Slow Course was rung at Hornsey, and your correspondent, Mr. Fussell, says he has never seen, heard, read, or known of a 720 being rung upon church bells in this complicated method previous to the one in question. I beg to inform Mr. Fussell that a 720 of Double Stedman's Slow Course was rung at Hurworth-on-Tees, Durham, on July 23rd, 1876, by four of the Hurworth ringers and two of the St. John's, Darlington, and I believe duly recorded in *Church Bells*. I also give the names of the ringers who took part in this peal: W. Loveday, 1; J. Gaines, 2; G. A. Overton, 3; R. Kay, 4; J. E. Hern, 5; and (conductor), Joel Hern, 6. The proof of this will be found in the First Annual Report of the Durham Diocesan Association, which I enclose to you.

GEORGE A. OVERTON.

SIR,—Allow me to inform Mr. Fussell that the peal rung at Hornsey is not the first in the above method, although I believe very few peals indeed have been rung of it. In *Church Bells* of August 5th, 1876, he will find an account of a peal rang at Hurworth-on-Tees, in the county of Durham, which I conducted, and which was rung by four of the Hurworth ringers, assisted by Messrs. Kay and Overton, from St. John's, Darlington. After describing the peal, &c., the following footnote was attached: "From information gathered from large ringing centres, this is believed to be the second peal ever rung in England in this intricate method. The single method is rung in the Eastern counties; the double is not. The ringers would like to know where and when the peal spoken of by Shipway was rung; also if any one knows of its having been rung anywhere else since 1816?" As no replies appeared in *Church Bells*, in response to this challenge, I think it may be taken as correct that our peal was the second ever rung (if not the first), and the first well authenticated. A peal of it by the same band (excepting the treble-man) was afterwards, I believe; rang at St. John's, Darlington. As I have not had time to scan over all my back numbers of *Church Bells*, I cannot say if any more of the same peal have been rung; at all events I do not remember seeing any others published until the Hornsey peal.

Hurworth-on-Tees.

JOHNSON E. HERN.

WEIGHT OF TENORS WANTED.

SIR,—Will you, or some readers of "THE BELL NEWS," kindly let me know, in your next week's issue if possible, the diameter of the tenor-bells of the ringing peals at the following places: St. Alban's Abbey; St. Mary, Ipswich; Leeds parish church; St. Stephen, Newcastle; the Cathedral, Newcastle (St. Nicholas); St. Nicholas, Yarmouth; Curfew Tower, Windsor Castle; St. Sepulchre, London; St. Margaret, Leicester.

GRANDSIRE BOB.

A QUICK PEAL.

SIR,—I notice in your number of December 1st that a peal of Grandsire Triples was rung at St. Saviour's, Walthamstow—5040 changes, in two hours and forty minutes. Conductor, A. H. Gardom; Tenor 16 cwt. Can any of your readers inform me if they know of a peal being rung quicker or as quick, the tenor being the same weight as above, as I am under the impression that it is the quickest peal ever recorded in your columns. I was at the opening of the bells, and I think the tenor is nearer 17 cwt. than 16 cwt., and I think cast by Warner and Sons.

A LONDON RINGER.

MR. THORP'S REPLY.

SIR,—In your issue of Saturday last, I find a correspondence respecting "An Erratic Composition," about a peal rung by the Hyde Society, and composed by me, which was first rung at Mottram-in-Longdendale, on October 22nd, 1883, and conducted by Mr. James Wilde, and published in "THE BELL NEWS" of November 17th, and which you say you have the MS. sent to you for publication, and which I would thank you to let me have to compare it with the composition in your paper, as I think it is a misprint in the calling, and which, by the calling of the first course, this first course-end could not be got again. If the calling in the second course was allowed to come, the course-end would be 43265. There is also another error in the last course of each part, viz., 2 at home should be 2 wrong. The peal that was rung by the Hyde Society is as below:

The peal—5184.

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

The peal published.

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

Repeated.

I think Mr. Wilde must have made some slight mistake in the first course-end, and the calling of the second course. I thank the Rev. H. Earle Bulwer for his drawing my attention to the above matter.

JOHN THORP.

[There is no misprint so far as we are concerned.—Ed.]

REPLY TO MR. CREASEY.

SIR,—I am sorry to trouble you with a reply to your correspondent R. Creasey, as I said in my last letter (published in your impression of November 17th) that I should not take notice of any further correspondence on the same subject, but as your correspondent has gone beyond the truth, I must emphatically deny the statements he has made. Firstly, he blames me for accusing him of finding fault with our ringing. I have not told him so, but it is evident that the cap fitted him, and I hope he will wear it, with all the honours his proficiency may gain for him. Secondly, he accuses me of neglecting to pay due courtesy to my captain; then he complains of us being paid ringers; so much the better, but there is no necessity for him to be jealous on that point. I beg to tell him that we do almost as much voluntary ringing as he and his company. I also beg to remind him that if he had taken as much notice of his captain as I do, he might have been a paid ringer still. I did not give him credit for having a ringer of forty years' standing in his company, on the other hand, we claim that honour ourselves. He also attempts to make out that he has been a change-ringer as long as our captain has, but I will prove to the contrary. I will ask him one question: was he a ringer with the following company in December, 1855; J. S. Wright, J. Clark, S. Jepson, J. Stretton, C. Naylor, and M. Dixon? I question if he remembers any one of them but the first-named, and he has been a ringer ever since that time, and at the same church—SS. Mary and Nicholas, Spalding. I hope this proof will suffice to show that your correspondent, R. Creasey, has gone far from the truth. I would advise him to find fault with me when I find fault with him, and I hope this will be sufficient to keep him in his place for the future.

Cemetery Lodge, Spalding.

A. BROWN.

SIR,—We, the undersigned, have been greatly annoyed by your correspondent, R. Creasey, and shall take no further notice of him.—J. S. Wright (captain), A. Brown, J. Wilson, G. L. Richardson, R. Mackman, J. Brown.

[This correspondence must now cease. Evidently a little unity would not be a bad thing at Spalding.—Ed.]

INFORMATION WANTED.

SIR,—Being very fond of ringing, I should like to ask through your next week's paper where peals are likely to be rung on December 26th (Boxing-Day).

R. S.

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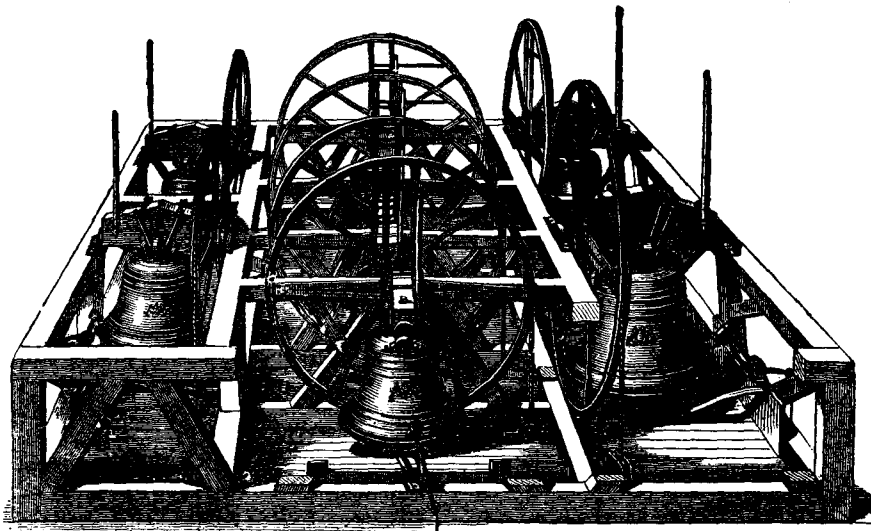
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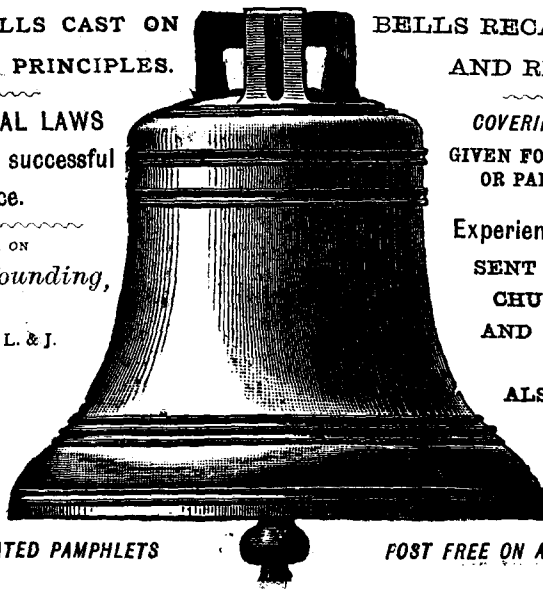
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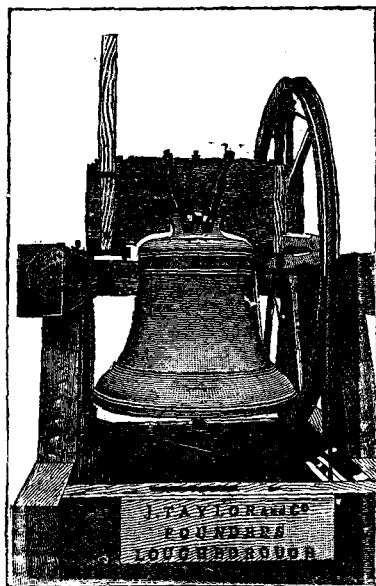
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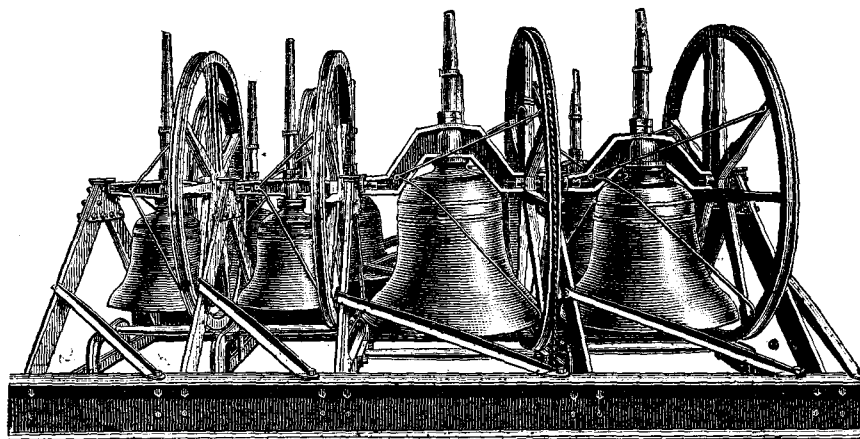
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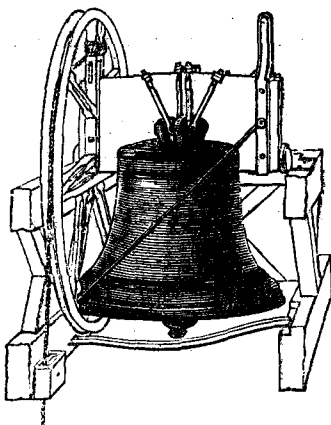
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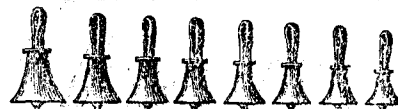
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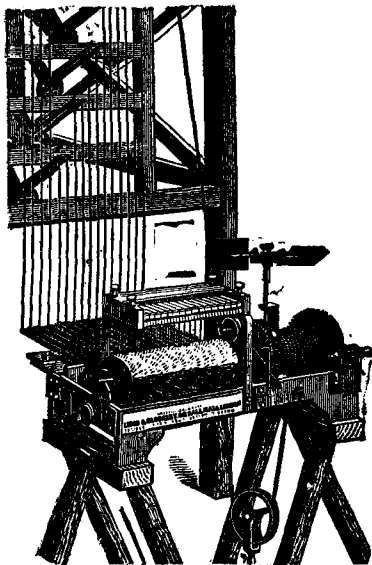
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ON Thursday, December 6th, six members of this Society visited the village of Cuddesdon, at the invitation of C. C. Child, Esq., their late Master. Leaving Oxford by train, and passing under Shotover Hill, on the top of which it is said that Queen Elizabeth's coach was overturned on her journey to Oxford, they arrived at Wheatley, where they left the rail, and walked the distance of about two miles through newly-fallen snow, to Cuddesdon. Here they were met by Mr. Child, who took them to the Theological College, to take advantage of the daylight to see the Wilberforce Memorial Chapel. This having been inspected and admired, the party proceeded to the church, a building dating from the 12th century, and containing many beautiful specimens of Norman architecture. The belfry being reached, the visitors found some old friends who were busy instructing others in the use of a rope, and their advent being the signal for the end of the lesson, the lashings were removed, and all made ready for a start. This was made with very little delay and a 720 of Grandsire Minor was brought home in 27 mins. by the following:—

J. R. Vincent, Esq., 1; G. F. Scott, Esq., 2; C. W. H. Griffith, Esq., 3; F. A. H. Du Boulay, Esq., 4; J. F. Hastings, Esq., 5; G. F. Coleridge, Esq. (conductor), 6. A few leads before the bells came round the Vicar, the Rev. W. M. G. Ducat, came into the belfry, and though he expressed himself fairly puzzled to think how it was done, he was very much pleased with the performance. The Society wish to express their thanks to him for his kindness in allowing them the use of the bells.

After a short time spent in ringing some College Single and Plain Bob, the party adjourned to the Theological College, where they were regaled with tea; and then Mr. Child's rooms were sought, and the handbells brought out. Time however would not allow of more than a little College Single Minor, and one unsuccessful attempt at a touch of Grandsire Triples with a beginner at the treble, and a course of Grandsire Triples in hand by the following: F. A. H. Du Boulay, Esq., 1-2; J. F. Hastings, Esq., 3-4; C. C. Child, Esq., 5-6; G. F. Coleridge, Esq., 7-8. Soon after half-past five the party moved off in the direction of the tower, and having arrived there got to work without delay on a 720 of Plain Bob Minor, which they accomplished in 26½ mins. J. R. Vincent, Esq., 1; F. A. H. Du Boulay, Esq., 2; C. W. H. Griffith, Esq., 3; J. F. Hastings, Esq., 4; C. C. Child, Esq. (conductor), 5; G. F. Coleridge, Esq., 6. As there were seven minutes left, 120 Grandsire Doubles were rung, and the bells let down in time to allow the Sanctus bell (better known locally as the ting-tang) to hasten late comers and near neighbours to Evensong, at 6.30.

Unfortunately the time of the last train was such as to prevent the visitors staying to Evensong, and they were obliged to adopt the practice they would otherwise have strongly deprecated of calling the congregation to Church, and then going away themselves; they had however, only just time to trudge back to Wheatley, and thence home by train after a very pleasant afternoon.

The bells of Cuddesdon are a nice ring of six, tenor about 15½ cwt. in F#, and go fairly well, having been rehung a few years since by Messrs. White, of Besselsleigh. They bear the following inscriptions:

Treble.—"The Gift of Dr. E. Smallwell Bp of Oxford &c.
John Briant Hertford fecit An: Dom 1795."
2nd and 4th.—"Henry Knight made mee, Ano 1617. +"
3rd.—"Henry Knight made this bell, 1617. +"
5th and 6th.—"G. Mears and Co. Founders London 1863."

The bells are hung quite regardless of space, and there is ample room for two trebles, which would make a nice ring of eight. It is much to be regretted that with a ring of bells such as these are, the bell-chamber should have been handed over to the pigeons for their roost, and we are glad to hear that the Vicar's attention having been called to it, the pigeons have received notice to quit, with a view to cleaning and the execution of some other very necessary repairs.

We are sorry to find that with the President of the Diocesan Guild living fifty yards from the church, the local ringers are unable to treat him to anything but rounds and Churchyard Bob, and this is the more lamentable since we hear that it is no great length of time since the services of Mr. Charles Hounslow, of Oxford, were obtained to instruct the band then existing, who were able before he left to accomplish Grandsire Doubles. It is not often that we have to record degeneration of this sort where change-ringing has once been begun, and we hope that ere long we may find the Cuddesdon men active members of the Diocesan Guild, and recording performances worthy of their bells.

A BELFRY SCARE.—On Tuesday last, the ringers of All Saints, Leighton Buzzard, Bedfordshire, met at that church for the usual practice, and when falling the bells the clapper of the tenor came out and fell upon the floor above the heads of the company, with a heavy thud, the flight projecting through the ceiling. This apparition caused some excitement, for the ringers hastily decamped from the spot, and left the bells to fall themselves. Upon examining the clapper afterwards it was found that the bolts were worn through.

REOPENING OF THE TIVERTON BELLS.

ON Wednesday, December 5th, the tower and ring of eight bells of the parish (St. Peter's) church of Tiverton, Devon, were reopened for their holy use, after having undergone thorough repair. The bells have been rehung, and most of them fitted with new wheels, stocks, and gudgeons. A most excellent clock has been presented to the church by the kind liberality of H. S. Gill, Esq., J.P. It strikes both quarters and hour, the former sounding on all the bells of the octave. The escapement is now well known as "the double three-legged gravity escapement," and is regulated by a pendulum beating every second and a half.

But the restoration has not stopped with the bells and clock. The tower itself has also been put into the most perfect order; the bell-chamber, whitewashed all over, and beautifully clean, and the belfry with its excellent circle, and every comfort that can be desired, cannot fail to move the admiration of all true Church ringers. For these things the people of Tiverton are indebted to the energy and devotion of Lewis Mackenzie, Esq., the leader of the ringers, who has been the moving spirit throughout. Ringers for the occasion had been gathered together, and were under the leadership of Lieutenant-Colonel Troyte, of Huntsham.

Divine Service commenced at 4.30 p.m., the Rev. George Hadow, one of the four rectors of the Church, reading the special prayers, which were originally taken from *Church Bells*, and may be found in Appendix H, page 134, of the *Change-Ringers' Guide*. The Psalms and Amens were chanted by the choir. At the appointed interval before the first hymn, the following rang a well-struck course of Grandsire Triples: W. Banister (Plymouth), 1; H. Payne (Huntsham), 2; W. Heard (Huntsham), 3; E. Munday (Tiverton), 4; W. Baxter (Plymouth), 5; H. Tucker (Huntsham), 6; J. Easterbrook (Plymouth), 7; Colonel Troyte (Huntsham), 8.

The sermon was preached by the Rev. C. D. P. Davies, who took for his text 2 Chronicles, xxix., 26—"And the Levites stood with the instruments of David, and the priests with the trumpets." Though it could not be maintained that the cymbals and trumpets of the ancient church of Israel were at all the same as bells, yet they might well be compared with them as regards the sacred use to which our bells are put, the calling of the assembly, and heralding the great festivals of the Church. The Church has consecrated the use and music of rings of bells almost wholly to herself since very early ages, as such they are one of many witnesses for the antiquity and genuineness of the whole Catholic Church, and of our own branch of it in particular. The Church of England was not founded, but only cleansed and purified, at the Reformation. As we are proud of the purity and beauty of tone of our bells, so let us have cause to joy in the purity of our faith. In the harmonious notes of our bells let us find an incitement to harmony of heart and soul among ourselves. The preacher concluded with a word of earnest exhortation to his brother-ringers: let them hold steadily before their eyes the highest Christian ideal; as workers in the Lord's House, let them strive to be examples in all things to their fellow Christians—in continuous waiting upon God in His Word and Sacraments.

After service, a good touch of 559 Grandsire Triples was rung by members of the Devonshire Guild, chiefly from Tiverton and Huntsham, conducted by Mr. William Banister. Ringing was continued at intervals till close on 9 p.m., and among other touches an excellent three courses of Stedman Triples. Six courses of Grandsire Triples brought to a conclusion a most happy and pleasant day.

WALTHAM ABBEY, ESSEX.

ADVENT Sunday being the 36th anniversary of the commencement of the Vicar's (Rev. J. Francis, M.A.) ministry at Waltham, the local company met at the Abbey, and rang before and after the services on that day. The Vicar has invariably preached on each of these recurring anniversaries, but unfortunately he was unable this year, owing to indisposition. The ringers were Messrs. Powell, Cleverley, Alps, Mitchell, Thurgood, Tarling, Dymock, Colverd, Barker, and Wells.

We are very sorry to hear that Mr. Thomas Britten, a well-known and widely-respected member of the Waltham Abbey company, is dangerously ill. Those of our readers who are acquainted with this gentleman, will cordially unite with us in wishing his speedy restoration to health.

BACK NUMBERS.—We are requested to state that any ringer wanting numbers 4, 8, 9, 10, 11, or 12 of the old series, or No. 38 of the new series of this paper, for the purpose of completing his volume for binding, can have the same by sending a post-card with his address, and stating which number is required, to the Rev. W. Pearson, 5, Peter's Street, Syston, Leicester.

ST. HELEN'S, SANDAL MAGNA, YORKSHIRE.

In last week's number of this paper appeared a report of a performance on these bells. In connection with this report, our correspondent, Mr. William Reyner, says:—

"Having given you an account of our peal, I will now give a short description of the bells and belfry. This ring of six are said to be one of the sweetest and most melodious rings in England. They hang in a square tower, which stands in the centre of one of the largest and most beautiful village churches in Yorkshire. The entrance to the belfry is, I think, unequalled in our county, for after ascending half-way we get into a passage 13 ft. long and 4 ft. 10 ins. in height, and many curious and laughable anecdotes may be told of strangers entering this—what I may term—subterranean passage. Only those who have been there know the difficulty in entering this belfry, which is very large for a ring of six. The bells were cast by Thomas Mears, of London, in 1812, and the following is a brief description of them:—

Diam.	Note.	Weight.	Inscriptions.
Treble.—2 ft. 5½ in.	E	5 cwt. 2 qrs. 22 lbs.	T. Mears of London, fecit, 1812.
2nd.—2 ft. 7½ in.	D	6 cwt. 1 qr. 5 lbs.	T. Mears of London, fecit, 1812.
3rd.—2 ft. 9½ in.	C	6 cwt. 3 qrs. 21 lbs.	T. Mears of London, fecit, 1812.
4th.—2 ft. 11 in.	B	7 cwt. 3 qrs. 26 lbs.	T. Mears of London, fecit, 1812.
5th.—3 ft. 2 in.	A	9 cwt. 3 qrs. 24 lbs.	T. Mears, London, 1812.
Tenor.—3 ft. 6 in.	G	13 cwt. 0 qrs. 0 lbs.	T. Mears, London, fecit—William Brown Vicar—Robert Crowder—Thomas Illingworth—Elias Wright—Sandal Magna 1812—David Wood—Thos Barraclough—J. Dyson—Churchwardens."

The 5040 rang here (seven 720s in different methods) is the first performed on the bells for about thirty years. After the feat was accomplished, the ringers, in company with a few friends, thirteen in all, adjourned to the "Castle Inn," where a sumptuous repast was awaiting them, provided by the hostess, Mrs. Dyson, and to which they did ample justice. This festivity was somewhat marred by recollections of a brother-ringer, lately deceased—Mr. Benjamin Walker, of Wakefield, who was a frequent and welcome visitor to Sandal.

STOKE-UPON-TRENT ARCHIDIACONAL ASSOCIATION.

HANLEY.—The following five towers were represented at this meeting on Saturday last: Norton-le-Moors, Stoke, Tunstall, Biddulph, and Hanley, contributing a muster of twenty-eight ringers. The tower of the old church has been undermined, and is not in a very good state for a ring of eight bells. It has however been pinned together, and is pronounced safe. The clergy and ringers gave the Association a hearty welcome, and a pleasant afternoon was passed, though no peal was accomplished. The Vicar, the Rev. T. P. Ring, and the Rev. F. W. Job, assistant curate, were present at tea in the school, and addressed the company. A meeting of the Committee will be held at Stoke on Saturday, the 22nd, to arrange the scheme of meetings for next year.

T. H. B. FEARON, Hon. Sec.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—BRAINTREE.

During the month of November the Braintree members of this Association have rung the following:—Saturday, November 3rd, 144 Bob Minor; November 4th: 720 College Exercise, 720 New London Pleasure, 240 London Surprise; November 10th: 720 Violet, 720 Court Single; November 11th: 180 Bob Minor; November 14th: 720 Cambridge Surprise, 240 London Surprise, 240 College Exercise; November 18th: 720 Double Court, 720 Oxford Treble Bob, 240 New London Pleasure; November 21st: 720 Imperial, 720 London Scholars Pleasure, 120 London Scholars' Pleasure, 129 London Scholars' Pleasure; November 24th: 720 Bob Minor, 720 College Exercise; November 25th, 720 New London Pleasure, 720 Oxford Treble Bob, 720 Kent Treble Bob, 120 London Scholars' Pleasure; November 28th: 720 Kent Treble Bob, 720 London Scholars' Pleasure.

CODFORD ST. PETER (WILTS).

The five bells in this tower have for many years been in a very unsatisfactory condition. The frame rocked violently and rolled from side to side on the beams which were supposed to support it, shifting nearly 1½ inches with each sway of even a single bell. This frame has now been made perfectly steady in every way by Messrs. Mears and Stainbank, and on being tested on Thursday, December 6th, by competent judges, was found not to vibrate at all with the ringing of the bells.

It is to be hoped that Mr. H. C. Flower, through whose exertions the above improvements have been effected, will soon be able to collect enough funds to have the bells rehung with new gudgeons and brasses, which are much needed. On December 6th, several touches were rang on the bells by J. R. Jerram, 1; C. A. Clements, 2; T. Blackburn, 3; W. W. Giffard, 4; W. Greenleaf, 5. (Methods: Grandsire and Bob Doubles). Some of the company also tried the four bells in Boyton tower, which are in very bad order.

A SHORT STATISTICAL REPORT UPON LARGE BELLS.

The history of bells is one of the most interesting in the record of inventions. They were not always made in the shape, or of the material with which we are most familiar; but of these early forms I have nothing to say at present. My business now is only with bells in their present shape, and with them only so far as they are calculated to excite our wonder by their size and tunefulness.

The earliest church bells are said to have been used at Nola in Campania; and it is to this fact that the Latin name for a bell (*campana*), and our own *campanile*, owe their origin. They are first heard of about the year 400, before which date rattles were used. In the year 610 we hear of bells in the city of Sens; the army of Clothaire, king of France, having been frightened away by the ringing of them. The first ring of bells hung in England was at Crowland Abbey, in Lincolnshire, and about the year 960. They were six in number. In those early times it was the custom to bless the bells by a sort of baptism; after which it was believed they had the power to drive away evil spirits, avert tempests, extinguish fire, and so on; and on many bells inscriptions are found, generally in old Latin rhymes, which accord with this belief. The great bell of Ghent, which played so prominent a part in the civil struggles in the Netherlands, was famous for an inscription of this nature.

Many years ago, it was estimated that there was, at least, 2,262 peals of bells in England, namely: twelve peals of twelve bells, fifty of ten, 380 of eight, 600 of six, 500 of five, and 720 of four, three, and two. The number now must be considerably greater. The single bells that have become celebrated on account of their great size are as follows: Moscow, the largest in the world, 432,000 lbs, or about 192 tons; Moscow (another), 288,000 lbs; Moscow (a third), 127,836 lbs.; Big Ben (Westminster), 56,000 lbs; Rouen (the George d'Amboise 36,000 lbs; Oxford (Mighty Tom), 17,360; Florence (Palazzo Vecchio) 17,000; Exeter (Great Tom), 13,440; St. Paul's Cathedral clock bell (Tom Growler), 11,474; Lincoln (Great Tom), 10,528; Canterbury clock bell, 7,840; Gloucester clock bell, 7,280; Beverley Minster clock bell, 5,600. I might have given St. Paul's tenor of the ring of twelve a thought in its proper place (before Beverley), I give it now, as we very well know, 6,994 lbs. The bell at Florence, notwithstanding its great weight, is elevated 275 feet from the ground; Big Ben, Westminster, nearly 200. The enormous bell of Moscow was presented to the Cathedral by the Empress Anne; and in 1731, the beam to which it was fastened, was burnt; and this marvellous bell falling, a fragment was broken out of it, leaving an opening large enough to admit two persons abreast without stooping. I find however, its tone was not affected.

I have a portrait of this bell in my kitchen, framed: here I see it with a piece out of it; the clapper lying by its side, and two persons going under the bell, each carrying a torch.

Probably, I have not given the exact weights of the bells mentioned, I can only say that I have given them according to what I have read of them. I have been several months collecting them from different sources, with the view of sending them to "THE BELL NEWS" for the good of that celebrated journal, and to interest its numerous readers; therefore if I am "wrong" in any respect (which I am, undoubtedly), don't "call" me to account, nor bring me into the "middle" of criticism.

M. ELLSMORE.

BIRMINGHAM.

On Tuesday last, December 4th, the Rev. F. E. Robinson, on returning from Cheltenham, where he had that afternoon called a peal of Stedman Caters, paid a visit to St. Martin's, Birmingham, at which place a peal of Cinques had been arranged, but owing to the late arrival of the rev. gentleman this had to be abandoned, and as a poor substitute, touches of Grandsire and Stedman were indulged in, and also a course of Kent Treble Bob Royal, after which the company adjourned to the "Black Swan," where a very enjoyable evening was spent, at the close of which, it was the general wish that the Rev. F. E. Robinson would renew his visit at no very distant date. Five courses of Stedman Cinques were rung by W. Haywood, 1; J. Joynes, 2; H. Johnson, jun., 3; J. James, 4; S. Reeves, 5; H. Johnson, sen., 6; Rev. F. E. Robinson, 7; J. Buffery, 8; J. Saunders, 9; T. Reynolds, 10; W. Hallsworth (conductor), 11; A. Thomas, 12. Also five courses of Grandsire, conducted by J. Buffery, and a course of Kent Treble Bob Royal.

The memorial to Archbishop Tait, in Canterbury Cathedral, is to take the form of a stone reredos, with wooden sedilia. Subscriptions are to be invited from America and the Colonies.

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."

COMPOSITIONS.

SIR,—My attention has been called by Mr. H. Johnson to the peals inserted in your issue of the 17th ultimo. I have therefore re-examined the whole of the peals, and find, much to my astonishment and regret, the 6720, which is the same as the 8000, with four courses cut off, and the 5040 are false. These peals were composed soon after I became a ringer, and I circulated them freely amongst my ringing friends (some being composers), and none of them made any remark about them, and I therefore concluded that they were correct, I therefore did not re-examine them, before sending them to you for insertion. I have written this letter with the object of preventing these peals being rung, and if you will kindly insert it in your next issue, you will much oblige
J. CARTER.

[This letter arrived too late for insertion in our last number.]

SIR,—Seeing a reference to the peals in your issue of the 17th ult., and that one in particular has been found to be worthless waste of valuable time and space, I trust I shall not be out of place in calling the attention of the ringing public to certain piles of figures purporting to be peals of Grandsire Major, forwarded from the Midland Metropolis. The Art would be greatly enhanced if people who wish to be classed among the ranks of composers, would forward to your columns true peals.
BOB MAJOR.

QUICK PEALS.

SIR,—Seeing in "THE BELL NEWS" of the 8th inst. that information is required concerning quick peals, the only one near 2 hrs. 40 minutes that I now of, is one rung by the St. James's Society, at St. Mary, Mortlake. It was a good peal, and rung by a good band, and I can vouch for the time, it was a little under 2 hours 42 minutes, and done without a mistake.
A. HAYWARD.

P.S.—There were several watches in the tower, and the peal was timed by those that were used to it. Those that timed the peal at Walthamstow might have made a mistake. I should think they did.

SIR,—I notice in your issue of the 8th inst., that a peal of 5040 Grandsire Triples was rang at Walthamstow, on December 1st, in 2 hrs. and 40 mins. Your correspondent, a London Ringer, says: "Can anyone inform me if they know of a peal being rung quicker, or as quick?" I beg to inform him that a peal of 5040 Grandsire Triples was rung at Christ Church, North Shields, in 2 hrs. and 31 mins., tenor 19 cwt., on September 20th, and recorded in *Church Bells*, October 1st, 1881, by the following: H. Ross, 1; W. Reed, Esq. (conductor), 2; J. Rossiter, 3; W. Waugh, 4; R. Willins, 5; R. Smith, 6; J. Hern, 7; S. Nott, 8. The above was Holt's ten-part peal.
R. SMITH.

ST. PETER'S BELLS, NOTTINGHAM.

SIR,—I had the good fortune to hear a peal of 5040 rang on the above bells, on Thursday night, November 22nd, and though not a practical ringer myself, I was very much struck with the different chords that came up, more especially when the heavy bells were behind together. I always knew, or rather considered St. Peter's a very fine peal of eight. But what seems to me a mystery is the difference in the tone of the bells when going in peal and when the clock hammer strikes the quarter, or hour, as the case might be. One of the ringers, however, explained to me the cause, and I hope those in charge will not fail to persevere, and that the worthy vicar and churchwardens will see their way clear to have these bells quartered and rehung. It is a well-known fact that it is over a hundred years since these bells were over-hauled, and further that they have been in charge of bell-haulers for a considerable time, and of course gone from bad to worse, but thanks to "THE BELL NEWS," and other influences brought to bear, we have good things in store for our ringing friends, and may we hear many a peal during the winter months. We have two peals of eight in Nottingham, and one of ten. I hope the day is not far distant when change-ringing will be the order of the day, and that the Nottingham friends may prosper in this noble art, is the earnest desire of
ECHO.

TOUCHES OF TREBLE BOB.

SIR,—Would some composer of Treble Bob Major kindly publish in your columns a few touches in that method suitable for calling before service on Sundays. They might range in length from, say 600 to 1200 changes. In most places in Yorkshire the ringers meet not less than an hour before service time, and ring up to service; and here allow me to contradict a statement I have read on more than one

occasion in your columns, to the effect that ringers of "ups and downs and rounds and rounds," are the only ones who raise and settle the bells in peal, change-ringers not having time or inclination for it. I have visited a fair number of towers in Yorkshire, and I have never yet met with one in which the bells were not so raised and settled, and in most cases neatly too. And though in most cases Treble Bob is their pride, it is surprising how many companies there are who never—so far as I see—call any thing but from the table of course-ends, repeating once, twice, or four times as the case may be. I have heard it stated that it is impossible to obtain an exact 800 in this method true. I confess I have never seen one, but I really don't see that this can be the case. Perhaps we may be favoured with an 1884 in this method.
G.

DOUBLE STEDMAN'S SLOW COURSE.

SIR,—In your number of December 1st, I find a 720 of Double Stedman's Slow Course Minor, rung at Hornsey. Mr. Fussell, your correspondent, says he has never heard or known of a 720 being rung in this complicated method. I wish to inform Mr. Fussell that a 720 in the above method was rang at Christ Church, North Shields, for Divine Service, on Sunday, May 30th, and recorded in *Church Bells*, June 12th, 1880, the names of the performers as follows: J. Rossiter, 1; J. Hern, 2; R. Willins, 3; J. T. Gibson, 4; R. Smith, 5; W. Reed, Esq. (conductor), 6. Tenor 19 cwt.
R. SMITH.
66, Rudyard Street, North Shields.

TENOR BELLS.

SIR,—I beg to inform "Grandsire Bob" that the diameter of the tenor bell of St. Mary-le-Tower, Ipswich, is 58 inches. Its weight is 32 cwt., and its note C \sharp . It was cast by John Warner and Sons, of London, in 1866, and bears the following inscription:—
+Triplex Persona Trinitas Nunc Gaudia Dona+
W. P.

SIR,—In answer to your correspondent "Grandsire Bob," I beg to say that the diameter of the tenor at St. Alban's Cathedral is 53½ inches, note Eb.
N. N. HILLS.

THE BELLS OF HARTLIP AND RAINHAM, KENT.

A correspondent, who signs himself "Bell-Ringer," writes as follows concerning the bells at these places:—

"Having paid a visit to the above churches, I ventured to look into the belfries. In Hartlip tower, where there are six bells, two boys were chiming for afternoon service. The clappers were all tied, one boy pulling four ropes and the other two ropes; the former had to swing himself first one way and then the other, so as to keep the bells in their proper place; they each pulled with great force, and the bells being stationary, I am sure it is a wonder they were not all cracked. I visited the bell-chamber and found it in a very dirty state, and infested with a great many of the feathered tribe. A great piece was knocked out of the treble, no doubt done by the way they were chimed. I understood they rung once or twice a week; surely they could not ring with such ropes as those I saw, for they were in pieces. It is a low belfry, and all the sally I could see was about two inches peeping through the holes in the floor above. I think I understood them that they were going to have new ropes.

"RAINHAM CHURCH.—Here I also found the bell-clappers tied; tenor weighing about 30 cwt., according to their estimation. Two unsightly-looking holes were made in the walls, and a beam about eight inches square was fixed across the belfry. Six holes were drilled in the beam, and the ropes passed through them; two or three boys were pulling with great force, I should say to see which could strike the loudest. There are six bells here, and I believe in very fair condition. One young man chimed several tunes by looking at figures placed before him. By the quickness with which they are pulled—the bells being still—I should not wonder at their becoming cracked. Here they have no ringing ropes at all; they have applied for them but cannot get any. I was given to understand they could find plenty of ringers willing to ring. What a shame! Has any company got a set of six old ropes to dispose of? If they have, send them to the above-named place, so that the bells may be set swinging instead of lying still."

The ringers of St. Mary's, Pinchbeck, Lincolnshire, are now undergoing a course of instruction in the art of change-ringing under the tuition of Mr. J. Wilson, of the parish church, Spalding.

Some interesting archaeological discoveries have been made during the excavations going on at Peterborough Cathedral. Among other relics unearthed is an altarpiece of great antiquity, the carved figuring of which, though much defaced, gives indications sufficient to stamp it as Roman handiwork.

IMPORTANT NOTICE.

On Saturday next, December 22nd, will be published, the

CHRISTMAS NUMBER

OF THIS PAPER.

It will consist of Twenty Pages, and will contain, in addition to the usual contents of the weekly issue, a variety of entertaining matter. The prominent features of this number will be,

A PORTRAIT

OF

MR. MATTHEW A. WOOD,

OF LONDON,

With a Sketch of his ringing career : also a full-page illustration of

THE CURFEW TOWER,

WINDSOR CASTLE,

From the Thames :—Entrance to the Ringing-Chamber ; A College Youths' Peal-Board ; the Dungeon, etc.

"THORNWOOD," A STORY FOR CHRISTMAS ;

"TURNING THE CLAPPER," A CHRISTMAS TOUCH OF
GRANDSIRE ;

THE BELLS OF CALCUTTA ;

HAPPY TERMINATION TO AN ALARMING ACCIDENT ; "TWAS
CHRISTMAS-EVE, IN LONDON TOWN ;" ACROSTIC, ETC.

The execution of the engravings for this number has been placed in the hands of one of the most eminent artists of London, and every effort has been made to make our Christmas number worthy the attention of our readers. Those who intend having more than their usual number of copies, should order them at once of their local bookseller.

"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, E. W. 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.

The Bell News & Ringers' Record.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 15, 1883.

The Metropolis.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.
FULHAM, MIDDLESEX.

On Saturday, December 8, 1883, in Seven Hours and Twelve Minutes,
AT ALL SAINTS' CHURCH,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERS, 11,111 CHANGES ;

Tenor 21 cwt.

JAMES PETTIT Treble.	EDWIN GIBBS 6.
FRANCIS E. DAWE 2.	WILLIAM GREENLEAF .. 7.
GEORGE MASH 3.	EDWIN HORREX 8.
JOHN W. ROWBOTHAM .. 4.	JOHN M. HAYES 9.
CHALLIS F. WINNY 5.	WALTER PRIME Tenor.

Composed by HENRY JOHNSON, SEN., of Birmingham, and conducted by JAMES PETTIT.

This is the greatest number of changes ever rung in this method. The peal, which is obtained without two sixes being called in succession, will be found on another page.

CAMBERWELL, SURREY.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

On Saturday, December 8, 1883, in Two Hours and Forty-eight Minutes,

AT ST. GEORGE'S CHURCH.

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES ;

HOLT'S SIX-PART. Tenor 14 cwt.

HENRY LANGDON Treble.	FREDERICK T. GOVER .. 5.
EDWARD ROGERS 2.	RICHARD FRENCH 6.
YORK GREEN 3.	FREDERICK G. NEWMAN .. 7.
JOHN BASDEN 4.	THOMAS COXHEAD Tenor.

Conducted by F. G. NEWMAN.

THE WATERLOO SOCIETY.—WESTMINSTER.

On Saturday, December 8, 1883, in Three Hours and Twenty-four Minutes,

AT ST. MARGARET'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS, 5003 CHANGES ;

Tenor 28 cwt.

W. BARON Treble.	W. JONES* 6.
J. J. SCOWEN*† 2.	C. HOPKINS 7.
C. E. MALIM*† 3.	G. PELL 8.
W. COPPAGE 4.	T. TAYLOR* 9.
E. E. ROBINS* 5.	S. SMITH Tenor.

Composed by JOHN COX, and conducted by W. BARON.

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

The Provinces.

CHELTENHAM, GLOUCESTERSHIRE.

On Tuesday, December 4, 1883, in Three Hours and Thirty Minutes,

AT ST. MARY'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERS, 5079 CHANGES.

J. BELCHER Treble.	W. T. PATES 6.
G. H. PHILLOTT, ESQ. .. 2.	REV. F. E. ROBINSON .. 7.
C. HOUNSLOW 3.	F. WHITE 8.
F. MUSTY 4.	G. ACOCKS 9.
G. HOLIFIELD 5.	H. KARN AND T. BENNETT Tenor.

Composed by H. JOHNSON, SEN., of Birmingham, and conducted by the Rev. F. E. ROBINSON.

The Rev. F. E. Robinson, F. White, G. Holifield, and T. Bennett, belong to the Appleton society ; Mr. C. Hounslow to the Oxford society ; the rest to the Cheltenham society.

The above was rung to commemorate the re-opening of the bells at the above church.

MITCHAM, SURREY.

On Tuesday, December 4, 1883, in Two Hours and Fifty-seven Minutes,

AT SS. PETER AND PAUL,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S TEN-PART. Tenor 16 cwt.

DAVID SPRINGALL Treble.	SAMUEL GREENWOOD .. 5.
JAMES DREWETT 2.	GEORGE WELLING 6.
ALFRED BROCKWELL 3.	JOSEPH FAYERS 7.
GEORGE PELL 4.	CHARLES KING Tenor.

Conducted by SAMUEL GREENWOOD.

Messrs. Greenwood, Pell, Springall, Fayers and Welling, are members of the Surrey Association.

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

On Thursday, December 6, 1883, in Three Hours and Three Minutes,

AT ST. MARY'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S 10-PART. Tenor 21 cwt.

CHARLES MARTIN Treble.	JOSEPH ZEALEY 5.
JAMES HARRIS 2.	JOHN PLOWMAN 6.
EDGAR BENNETT 3.	CHARLES GORDON 7.
JAMES TRAPPITT 4.	JOSEPH FAYERS Tenor.

Conducted by J. TRAPPITT.

(First peal as conductor.)

SOCIETY OF TRINITY YOUTHS.—ROTHERHITHE, SURREY.

On Thursday, December 6, 1883, in Three Hours and Two Minutes,

AT ST. MARY'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S TEN-PART. Tenor 16½ cwt.

FREDERICK W. THORNTON†Treble.	WILLIAM WEATHERSTONE 5.
WILLIAM PEAD 2.	*WILLIAM BOWLES 6.
THOMAS TAYLOR 3.	ABRAHAM G. FREEMAN .. 7.
JOSEPH WAGHORN 4.	WILLIAM H. FREEMAN .. Tenor.

Conducted by WILLIAM WEATHERSTONE.

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

The peal previous to this on these bells was rung by the College Youths, January 22nd, 1876. The above society has been established upwards of a hundred years. Their first peal recorded was rung at Deptford, February 1782. The longest peal recorded by them was rung at St. Mary's, Lewisham—10,080 of Bob Major, in 6 hrs. and 33 mins., February, 1784, conducted by Mr. Samuel Manley, he ringing the 7th.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—APPLETON, BERKS.

On Friday, December 7, 1883, in Three Hours and Twenty Minutes,

AT ST. LAWRENCE'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERS, 5001 CHANGES;

Tenor 14½ cwt.

F. S. WHITE Treble.	F. WHITE 6.
E. HOLIFIELD 2.	REV. F. E. ROBINSON .. 7.
G. HOLIFIELD 3.	J. AVERY 8.
W. BENNETT 4.	H. WOODWARDS 9.
B. BARRETT 5.	T. BENNETT Tenor.

Composed by Mr. H. W. HALEY, and conducted by the Rev. F. E. ROBINSON, Master of the Guild.

HEENE, WORTHING, SUSSEX.

THE SS. NICHOLAS AND PETER (BRIGHTON) SOCIETIES.

On Saturday, December 8, 1883, in Three Hours and Ten Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

TAYLOR'S BOB-AND-SINGLE VARIATION. Tenor 12½ cwt. in G♯.

O. ST. JOHN, ESQ. Treble.	J. JAY, JUN. 5.
H. BOAST 2.	G. F. ATTREE, ESQ. .. 6.
J. SEARLE 3.	J. JAY 7.
C. TYLER 4.	E. BULLER Tenor.

Conducted by G. F. ATTREE, ESQ.

The above is the first peal on these bells.

ASSOCIATION FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD. WEST BROMWICH.

On Saturday, December 8, 1883, in Three Hours and Seven Minutes,

AT ALL SAINTS' CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE MAJOR, 5023 CHANGES;

Tenor 14 cwt. in F.

EDWIN CASHMORE Treble.	WILLIAM ROCK SMALL .. 5.
FRANCIS SEDGWICK* 2.	*FREDERICK J. COPE .. 6.
SAMUEL REEVES 3.	THOMAS MEREDITH .. 7.
REUBEN HALL 4.	*ALFRED THOMAS Tenor.

Composed by J. WILDE and conducted by THOMAS MEREDITH.

*First peal of Major.

Messrs. Meredith, Cope, and Sedgwick hail from Lichfield; Mr. Thomas from Birmingham; the rest belong to West Bromwich.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—IPSWICH.

On Saturday, December 8, 1883, in Three Hours and Twenty-eight Minutes,

AT ST. MARY-LE-TOWER CHURCH,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5120 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 32 cwt.

HAWKINS ENGLISH Treble.	JAS. MOTTS 5.
ISAAC SAMUEL ALEXANDER 2.	EDWARD WELLS 6.
EDGAR PEMBERTON 3.	ROBERT BRUNDLE .. 7.
WILLIAM MOTTS 4.	WILLIAM CATCHPOLE .. Tenor.

Composed by H. HALEY and conducted by JAS. MOTTS.

Messrs. English and Wells are members of the Coddensham branch.

THE BIRMINGHAM AMALGAMATED SOCIETY AND THE BIRMINGHAM AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATION.

HANDBELL RINGING.

On Monday, December 10, 1883, in Three Hours and Twenty-nine Minutes,

ON HANDBELLS, RETAINED IN HAND,

AT THE "HOPE AND ANCHOR," FISHER STREET,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS, 6137 CHANGES;

Tenor 15 size in C.

THOMAS RUSSAM 1-2.	THOMAS MILLER 5-6.
JOHN CARTER* 3-4.	†JOSEPH W. CATTLE .. 7-8.
	RICHARD HACKLEY 9-10.

Composed and conducted by JOHN CARTER.

This is the longest peal of Grandsire Caters ever rung upon handbells, and is the second ever rung in Birmingham. The other was rung by the same society. Referees: Mr. A. Jones (Aston), J. Perry and H. Gorman, who marked every call and course-end as they were rung, and others as witnesses.

The peal contains the 6th twenty-four times right, and twenty-four times behind the ninth. 5th twenty-four times behind the ninth.

*College Youth. †Cumberlands.

BLETCHINGLEY, SURREY.—THE ST. MARY'S SOCIETY.

On Monday, December 10, 1883, in Two Hours and Fifty-nine Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S TEN-PART. Tenor 19 cwt.

GEORGE BROWN* Treble.	*GEORGE POTTER 5.
FREDERICK SMITH 2.	JOHN BURKIN 6.
THOMAS BONIFACE 3.	WILLIAM BURKIN .. 7.
LUKE KILLICK 4.	JOHN BALCOMBE Tenor.

Conducted by WILLIAM BURKIN.

*First peal.

THE ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE SOCIETY.—STALYBRIDGE.

On Monday, December 10, 1883, in Three Hours,

AT HOLY TRINITY CHURCH,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5184 CHANGES;

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

JOHN POWNALL Treble.	JOSEPH MELLOR 5.
HUGH SHAW 2.	JOHN THORP 6.
JAMES WOOD 3.	GEORGE LONGDEN .. 7.
BENJAMIN BROADBENT .. 4.	SAMUEL WOOD Tenor.

Composed by JOHN THORP, and conducted by GEORGE LONGDEN.

For peal see "THE BELL NEWS," December 8th, 1883. Messrs. Pownall and Shaw belong to Stalybridge, the rest hail from Ashton.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION AND THE HOLY TRINITY SOCIETY, HULL.

On Monday, December 10, 1883, in Three Hours and Sixteen Minutes,

At Holy Trinity Church,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE MAJOR, 5280 CHANGES;

Tenor 25 cwt.

FREDK. MERRISON Treble.	FRANK DRABBLE 5.
ALFD. TAYLOR* 2.	*WM. SOUTHWICK 6.
JAMES DIXEY 3.	*CHAS. BENNETT 7.
HENRY JENKINS 4.	*CHAS. JACKSON Tenor.

Composed and conducted by CHAS. JACKSON.

*College Youths.

The peal, which has the 5th and 6th twenty-four times right and fifteen times wrong, was rung on the occasion of Mr. A. Taylor attaining his twenty-fifth year. The company wish Mr. Taylor many happy returns.

BROMSGROVE, WORCESTER.

THE WORCESTER DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Tuesday, December 11, 1883, in Four Hours,

At St. John's Church,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS, 6043 CHANGES;

Tenor 20 cwt.

JOSEPH RICHARD CRAWFORD Treble.	ELIJAH CRUMP 6.
GEORGE BOURNE 2.	GEORGE HAYWARD 7.
THOMAS ALBUT 3.	WALTER REA 8.
WILLIAM DUFFILL 4.	REUBEN BROMFIELD 9.
OLIVER JAMES 5.	JAMES PARRY Tenor.

Composed and conducted by G. HAYWARD.

This is the longest peal of Caters ever rung on these bells.

Date Touch.

THE BIRMINGHAM AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATION.

KING'S NORTON (Worcestershire).—On Tuesday, December 11th, eight members of the above association rang at the parish church, Mr. J. Carter's date touch of 1883 changes, in 1 hr. 10 mins. J. Ashmole, 1; W. H. Sumner, 2; Fredk. Palmer, 3; J. Cooks, 4; J. Wright (conductor), 5; Fredk. Scrivens, 6; W. Palmer, 7; D. Taylor, 8. This is the greatest number of changes ever rung by any of the King's Norton band. [What method?—Ed.]

SPALDING (Lincolnshire).—On Saturday, December 8th, at SS. Mary and Nicholas, a date touch consisting of 1883 changes, comprising: 83 of Plain Bob; 360 of Oxford Treble Bob; 720 of London Single; 720 of Oxford Bob, in 1 hr. and 10 mins. J. S. Wright, 1; J. Wilson, 2; G. L. Richardson, 3; R. Mackman (conductor), 4; A. Brown, 5; J. Brown, 6.

TUNBRIDGE WELLS.—On Saturday, December 8th, the St. Peter's society rang 1883 changes of Grandsire Doubles, with the 3rd and 5th alternately the observation, in 1 hr. 20 mins. J. Coulthorpe, 1; H. Barefield (conductor), 2; R. Sharvill, 3; W. Latter, 4; G. Kember, 5; W. Ford, 6.

Miscellaneous.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.—On Saturday, December 8th, at St. Stephen's church, 1008 Grandsire Triples in 40 mins. E. Watson, 1; F. Ord, 2; E. Scott, 3; E. Pyle, 4; T. Denton (conductor), 5; E. Wallis, 6; S. Power, 7; J. Wilkinson, 8. First touch in the method by Watson and Wilkinson. Also 504 Stedman Triples in 21 mins. R. Richardson, 1; T. Denton, 2; E. Scott, 3; E. Pyle, 4; F. Ord, 5; E. Wallis, 6; S. Power (conductor), 7; G. Stobart, 8. Tenor 30 cwt. Also on Sunday, December 9th, at the church of St. John-the-Baptist, for evening service, a 720 of Bob Minor, in 25 mins. F. Lees, 1; C. L. Routledge, 2; G. Herdman, 3; T. J. des Forges, 4; W. Story, 5; W. G. Routledge (conductor), 6. Also on Monday, December 10th, for practice, a 720 of College Pleasure, in 27 mins. W. Egglestone, 1; C. L. Routledge, 2; F. Lees, 3; W. G. Routledge, 4; W. Story, 5; R. S.

Story (conductor), 6. Also a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob, in 27 mins. F. Lees (conductor), 1; W. Egglestone, 2; C. L. Routledge, 3; T. J. des Forges, 4; W. Story, 5; W. G. Routledge, 6. Tenor 12½ cwt.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

BRAINTREE.—On Wednesday, November 21st, for the first time by any of the local company, a 720 of London Scholars' Pleasure. W. H. Dyson, 1; F. Calthorpe, 2; H. E. Hammond, 3; S. Hammond (conductor), 4; F. Rudkin, 5; A. Hucksion, 6. Tenor 14 cwt.

LOUGHTON.—On Monday, December 10th, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor, on the back six, in 29 mins. A. H. Gardom, Esq. (conductor), 1; Wingfield Meadows, Esq., 2; M. Ellsmore, 3; H. Randall, 4; W. Doran, 5; S. Jarman, 6. Also a touch of 1760 in the same method on the eight, with G. Akers and J. Priest ringing the second and fifth respectively. It was intended to have attempted a peal, but meeting one short, the above was rung instead. Tenor 19½ cwt.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

ENGLFIELD (Berks).—On Saturday, December 8th, five members of the Bradfield Deanery branch, with W. J. Williams, of the Reading branch, rang 1200 of Grandsire Doubles, in 47 mins., consisting of ten 6-scores, each called differently. A. Harriss, 1; W. Allen, 2; W. Sims, 3; W. Horne, 4; W. J. Williams (conductor), 5; W. Bradley, 6.

WARGRAVE (Berks).—On Tuesday, December 4th, at St. Mary's church, a 720 of Grandsire Minor, in 28 mins. W. Bacon, 1; A. Guy, 2; A. Garraway (conductor), 3; W. Fuller, 4; B. Robbins, 5; W. Townsend, 6.

ROCHDALE AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATION.

On Monday evening, December 10th, at the Rochdale parish church, the local company rang a touch of Grandsire Triples, containing 1246 changes. William Smith, 1; John Siddle, 2; Thomas Bamford, 3; William Siddle, 4; George Hoyle, 5; Albert Hurst, 6; Frank Birtwistle, 7; Edward Collinge, 8. Tenor 17½ cwt.

STOKE-UPON-TRENT ARCHIDIACONAL ASSOCIATION.

CHEDDLETON (Staffordshire).—On Monday, December 10th, for practice, a 720 of Grandsire Minor, in 26 mins. J. James, 1; E. Spooner, 2; J. Gilbert, 3; H. Rogers, 4; F. Clowes (conductor), 5; J. Renshaw, 6. This is the first 720 in this method on the bells, and the first by any of the above ringers.

BIDDULPH (Staffordshire).—On Sunday, December 9th, for Divine Service in the evening, a 720 of Grandsire Minor, with thirty-eight bobs and twenty-two singles, in 25 mins. S. Molott (first 720), 1; S. Moore, 2; A. Cottrell, 3; D. Bradbury (first 720 in the method), 4; Moss, 5; W. Carter (conductor), 6. Mr. Bradbury hails from Horton.

THE WORCESTER DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

STOURBRIDGE (Worcestershire).—On Saturday, December 8th, several members of the above association, rang at St. Thomas's church, several 6-scores on the back six with the bells deeply muffled as a mark of respect to the late J. Pardoe, who was formerly a ringer at the above church. E. Pugh, 1; R. Bidmead, 2; H. Dakin, 3; G. Howells (conductor), 4; G. H. Pagett, 5; J. Rogers, 6. Tenor 19½ cwt. in Eb.

WOLLASTON (Worcestershire).—On Tuesday, December 11th, at St. James' church, with the bells muffled, 360 of Grandsire Minor. E. Pugh, 1; G. Howells, 2; H. Dakin, 3; J. Lewis, 4; G. H. Pagett, 5; *K. Bidmead (conductor), 6. Tenor 12½ cwt. *First time as conductor.

ARLSEY (Bedfordshire).—On Thursday, November 6th, several members of the Hitchin society visited the above place, their intention being to try for a 720 of Bob Minor, but as no one put in an appearance they rang six different 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles. H. Silsby, 1; F. Furr, 2; W. A. Tyler (conductor), 3; J. Hare, 4; W. Allen, 5; F. Hibbitt, 6.

BELGRAVE (Leicestershire).—On Monday, December 10th, the newly formed society rang six 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles, each called differently. L. Pole (conductor), 1; H. Clayton, 2; C. Hubbard, 3; S. Pole, 4; W. A. Clayton, 5.

CHESTER.—On Saturday, December 8th, at the Cathedral, the following members of the Cathedral society rang in an excellent manner, the first half of Mr. Taylor's twenty-four course peal of Grandsire Triples, containing 2520 changes, with ninety-six bobs and twenty-four singles, in 1 hr. and 33 mins. Alfred Peers, 1; Joseph Errington, 2; Joseph Griffiths, 3; John Gibbon, 4; William Walton, 5; Alfred Cross, 6; Freeman Ball (conductor), 7; Frederick Jarvis, 8. Tenor 33 cwt. in C.

CAPEL, DORKING (Surrey).—On Sunday, November 24th, after evening service at St. John's, the Capel society rang a 720 of Stedman's Slow Course Minor, in 24 mins. A. Mills, 1; R. Jordan, 2; A. Tidy, 3; R. Worsfold, 4; E. Jordan, 5; D. Jordan, 6. Also a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor, and 360 of Oxford Treble Bob in the same order. And a 360 of Oxford Bob, with D. Wenham, of Oakley, ringing the 3rd, conducted by D. Jordan. Also on Tuesday evening, December 4th, a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob Minor. A. Tidy, 1; R. Jordan, 2; *A. Mills (aged 17), 3; M. Jenkins, 4; E. Jordan, 5; D. Jordan (conductor), 6. Also a 360 of College Pleasure. A. Mills, 1; R. Jordan, 2; A. Tidy (conductor), 3; M. Jenkins, 4; E. Jordan, 5; D. Jordan, 6. Also on Wednesday, December 5th, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor. A. Mills, 1; R. Jordan, 2; A. Tidy, 3; Thomas Newman (Winchester), 4; E. Jordan, 5; D. Jordan, 6. Also a 720 of College Exercise, A. Mills, 1; R. Jordan, 2; E. Jordan, 3; T. Newman, 4; R. Worsfold, 5; D. Jordan (conductor), 6. Tenor 7½ cwt. *First touch on a bob bell.

CHILHAM (Kent).—On Saturday, December 8th, at St. Mary's church, by the kind permission of the vicar and churchwardens, the first half of Holt's ten-part peal of Grandsire Triples, 2520 changes, was rung in 1 hr. and 30 mins. W. H. Andrews (Canterbury), 1; E. Ruck (Mersham), 2; G. Stancombe (conductor), 3; G. Finn (Brabourne), 4; H. G. Fairbrass (Canterbury), 5; G. Paine (Mersham), 6; F. Finn (Mersham), 7; D. Paine (Mersham), 8. This is the first half-peal rung on these bells.

DARESBUURY (Cheshire).—On Sunday, December 9th, five of the local company, assisted by W. Brown, of Runcorn, rang at the parish church for Divine Service in the afternoon, a 720 of Bob Minor, in 26 mins. D. Houghton, sen. (conductor), 1; P. Johnson, 2; *W. Brown, 3; T. Ellison, 4; P. Hamblett, 5; T. Houghton, 6. Tenor 12 cwt. in G. *First 720 in the method with a bob bell.

HAMPSTEAD (Middlesex).—On Sunday, November 25th, at St. Stephen's Church, for Divine Service in the evening, the local company rang a 546 of Grandsire Triples in 20 mins. S. Clarke, 1; J. Combe, 2; H. Tylor, 3; N. Alderman, 4; W. Pryor (conductor), 5; C. Deal, 6; B. Foskett, 7; W. Arscott, 8. Also on Sunday, December 9th, for Divine Service in the morning, a 364 of Grandsire Triples in 13 mins., conducted by W. Pryor; and on Tuesday, December 11th, for practice, a start was made for a 503 of Grandsire Caters, but came to grief after ringing about 476 changes. S. Clarke, 1; C. Deal, 2; J. Leach, 3; N. Alderman, 4; H. Tylor, 5; B. Foskett, 6; E. Chapman (conductor), 7; —, Hutt, 8; G. Turrell, 9; W. Arscott, 10. This is the first 503 of Grandsire Caters attempted by the above company.

HIGHER SUTTON (Cheshire).—On Wednesday, December 28th, five of the local society rang with Mr. Peter Brickhill, of Northenden, Cheshire, a 720 of Bob Minor, with twenty-one bobs and six singles, in 26 mins., and an 18-score of Grandsire Minor, with sixteen bobs and eight singles, in 13 mins. Wm. Walmsley (conductor), 1; Wm. H. Ingham, 2; W. Ingham, 3; J. M. Davenport, 4; Peter Brickhill, 5; Thomas Mottershead, 6. Also on Wednesday, December 12th, a 720 of Bob Minor in six parts, with eighteen bobs and two singles, in 26 mins. William H. Ingham (conductor), 1; W. Ingham, 2; William Walmsley (first 720 with a bob bell), 3; J. M. Davenport, 4; Peter Brickhill (Northenden), 5; S. Mottershead, 6.

HITCHIN.—On Monday, November 26th, the local company rang a 720 of Bob Minor, with eighteen bobs and two singles, in 28½ minutes with the 7th and tenor behind as follows. H. Silsby, 1; J. Randall, 2; F. Furr, 3; J. Hare, 4; W. A. Tyler (conductor), W. Allen, 6; S. Hare, 7; W. Kitchener, 8. Tenor 23 cwt.

HORLEY (Surrey).—On Sunday last, December 9th, after evening service, six members of the local society rang their first six 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles on the back six, each called differently, in 25 mins. George Oram, 1; Ambrose Coomber, 2; William Edwards (conductor), 3; Walter Weston, 4; John Taylor, 5; Edward Lucken, 6. Tenor 13½ cwt. This is believed to be the first 720 rung on the bells by a local party.

HORNSEY (Middlesex).—On Sunday, December 9th, after service, a 720 of Bob Minor, in 24 mins. T. Titchener (conductor), 1; G. B. Lucas, 2; J. Hannington, 3; J. Nixon, 4; G. Griffin, 5; A. Jacob, 6. A 360 of Double Court Bob Minor: G. Griffin, 1; N. Alderman, 2; T. Titchener, 3; J. Hannington (conductor), 4; A. Jacob, 5; E. Chapman, 6. Two courses of Kent Treble Bob Minor: E. Barnett, 1; E. Chapman, 2; J. Nixon, 3; A. Jacob, 4; G. Griffin, 5; J. Hannington (conductor), 6. And a 6-score of Stedman Doubles: G. Griffin, 1; E. Chapman, 2; J. Hannington, 3; T. Titchener, 4; A. Jacob, 5; E. King, 6. Tenor 17 cwt.

MELBOURNE (Derbyshire).—On Monday evening, November 26th, on the occasion of the Lord Bishop of Lichfield holding a confirmation, six members of the local company rang four 6-scores of Grandsire

Doubles, called differently. H. Hulse, 1; J. Warren, 2; F. Calow, 3; Geo. C. Tunnicliffe, 4; Thos. Hollingworth (conductor), 5; Jno. Bartram, 6. Also on Wednesday, December 5th, to commemorate the 80th birthday of the vicar of the above church (Rev. Joseph Deans, M.A.), four 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles, called differently. H. Hulse, 1; J. Warren, 2; F. Calow, 3; Geo. C. Tunnicliffe, 4; Thos. Hollingworth (conductor), 5; F. Knicey, 6. Tenor 16 cwt. in F#.

MEREWORTH (Kent).—On Friday evening, December 7th, six 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.

MITCHAM (Surrey).—On Sunday, December 9th, at the parish church a 980 of Grandsire Triples was rung in 35 mins. Wingfield Meadows, Esq., 1; J. Foster, jun., 2; J. Foster, sen., 3; J. Drewitt, 4; Joseph Fayers, 5; G. Welling, 6; A. Brockwell, 7; C. King, 8. Tenor 16 cwt.

MONEWDEN (Suffolk).—On Friday, December 7th, five members of the Moneewden Handbell society rang, with the bells in hand, 1080 changes of Bob Royal in 47 mins. R. H. Hayward (conductor), 1-2; J. Tarrant, 3-4; A. Moore, 5-6; Thos. Tarrant, 7-8; W. Tarrant, 9-10. Also on Monday, December 10th, a 720 Bob Minor in 17 mins. R. H. Hayward (conductor), 1-2; J. Tarrant, 3-4; Wm. Tarrant, 5-6.

NUNEATON (Warwickshire).—On Monday evening, December 10th, the ringers of St. Nicholas' parish church met and rang six 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles, each called differently, with the 5th and 3rd bells the observation, in 30 mins., on the first five bells, with 7 6 8 behind. Wm. Adler, 1; T. Lingard, 2; J. J. Mawley, 3; H. Horwood (conductor), 4; T. Bates, 5; G. E. Swain, 6; H. Bacon, 7; William Swain, 8. Tenor 14½ cwt. in E.

READING.—On Tuesday, December 11th, at St. Laurence's, for practice, 896 of Grandsire Triples, in 35 mins. H. Bawden, 1; J. E. Willshire, 2; W. Johnson, 3; W. R. Pocock, 4; E. Bishop, 5; W. Newell (conductor), 6; W. J. Williams, 7; T. Hayward, 8.

SOUTH HACKNEY.—On Thursday, December 6th, at the church of St. John of Jerusalem, for practice, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples in 47 mins. H. Alford, 1; W. D. Smith, 2; R. Cutmore, 3; J. Barry, 4; G. Marriott (conductor), 5; W. Pye English, Esq., 6; E. Turner, 7; J. Balaam, 8. Tenor 20 cwt. in E.

STANSTEAD (Essex).—On Thursday evening, December 6th, at St. Mary-the-Virgin, six of the local company rang a 720 of Plain Bob Minor. J. Cavill, 1; H. Prior, 2; H. Prior, jun. (first 720), 3; G. Gray, 4; J. Cavill, 5; C. Prior (conductor), 6. Tenor 13 cwt.

TUNBRIDGE WELLS.—On Sunday evening, December 9th, for Divine service at St. Peter's church, the local company rang six 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles, each called differently, in 27 mins. C. Turner, 1; R. Sharvill, 2; W. Latter, 3; G. Kember, 4; H. Barefield (conductor), 5; J. Muggridge, 6.

WEST MALLING (Kent).—On Monday, December 10th, six of the local company rang a 720 of Bob Minor, with thirty-two bobs and two singles. W. Driver, 1; D. Hall, 2; E. Baldock, 3; W. Harding, 4; W. J. Leonard, 5; F. G. Newman (conductor), 6. Also a 720 of Grandsire Minor, with forty-two bobs and six singles. W. Cole, 1; E. Baldock, 2; D. Hall, 3; A. Moorcraft, 4; W. J. Leonard, 5; F. G. Newman (conductor), 6. Tenor 12 cwt.

WIMBLEDON (Surrey).—On December 4th, at St. Mary's church, a 720 of Grandsire Minor, in 27 mins., in honour of the marriage of Mr. Granville Smith, of the Coldstream Guards, with Lady Blanche Keith Faulconer. G. Hyde, 1; A. Roots, 2; C. Hyde, 3; J. Parker, 4; A. Garrott, 5; S. Frost (conductor), 6. Also a 360 of Bob Minor, standing as before.

WORTH (Sussex).—On Sunday, December 3rd, for morning service 360 Oxford Bob (with twelve singles). W. Owden, 1; B. Payne, 2; J. Tullett, 3; W. Denman, 4; G. Illman, 5; F. Rice (conductor), 6. For afternoon service 240 in the same method (with eight singles and one bob). W. Owden, 1; F. Streeter, 2; B. Payne, 3; G. Illman, 4; E. Streeter, 5; F. Rice (conductor), 6. After service two 720's of Oxford Bob (the first with thirty-four bobs and twenty-six singles). W. Owden, 1; F. Rice, 2; F. Streeter, 3; B. Payne, 4; G. Illman, 5; E. Streeter (conductor), 6. And the second called with twenty-six singles. W. Owden, 1; E. Streeter, 2; W. Denman, 3; J. Kenward, 4; G. Illman, 5; F. Rice (conductor), 6. After which 360 of Plain Bob (with twelve singles). W. Owden, 1; W. Denman, 2; F. Streeter, 3; G. Illman, 4; F. Rice, 5; E. Streeter (conductor), 6. Also on Wednesday, December 5th, 720 Oxford Bob (with thirty-four bobs and twenty-six singles). W. F. Meads, 1; F. Rice, 2; F. Streeter, 3; B. Payne, 4; G. Illman, 5; E. Streeter (conductor), 6. Tenor 8½ cwt.

PEALS OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR.

By HENRY DAINS, *London*.

5440.					5720.				
2 3 4 5 6	M	B	W	H	2 3 4 5 6	M	B	W	H
4 6 5 3 2	2	-	2	2	4 6 5 3 2	1	-	1	2
5 2 3 6 4	2	-	2	2	5 2 3 6 4	2	-	2	2
5 2 6 4 3	2	-	2	1	5 2 6 4 3	2	-	2	1
5 2 4 3 6	-	-	-	1	5 2 4 3 6	-	-	-	1
6 4 2 3 5	2	-	1	1	6 4 2 3 5	2	-	1	1
4 3 5 2 6	2	-	-	-	4 3 5 2 6	2	-	-	-
5 3 2 4 6	1	-	-	1	5 3 2 4 6	1	-	-	1
4 5 2 3 6	1	-	2	-	4 5 2 3 6	1	-	2	-

Each to be repeated.

In each of these peals the 6th is the extent, at home, and they each contain all the 8-6's.

By omitting the call before, in the first course in either part of the first peal, the second course-end is produced, and the peal reduced to the minimum number, 5024; and by using the alternate calling in the last course of either part of the second peal, the changes are reduced to 5056.

6106.

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

Each to be repeated.

The qualities of these peals are identical with the foregoing, and each may be reduced to 5184 changes by omitting the bob before in the first course of each part of the original, and the variation by omitting the bob before and two at home of each part.

In this form they appear in Mr. Snowdon's list of Treble Bob peals, in "THE BELL NEWS" for August, 1882.

N.B.—It is only just to add that my friend Pitstow was the first to get peals on this plan. Those that I have obtained on this plan scarcely show a trace of originality, although I have the 6th the extent home.

PEALS OF TREBLE BOB MAXIMUS.

By N. J. PITSTOW, *Saffron Walden*.

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

These peals contain the 6th the extent home.

5088.

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

Repeated.

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CINQUES.

By H. C. HALEY, *London*.

5038.					5038.				
2 3 4 5 6					2 3 4 5 6				
5 3 6 2 4*					4 2 6 3 5	11th in 3.			
3 2 6 5 4	11th in 4.				6 4 2 3 5	7th in 4.			
2 5 6 3 4	11th in 4.				2 6 4 3 5	7th in 4.			
6 2 5 3 4	7th in 4.				6 3 4 2 5	11th in 4.			
5 6 2 3 4	7th in 4.				3 2 4 6 5	11th in 4.			
6 3 2 5 4	11th in 4.				4 3 2 6 5	7th in 4.			
3 5 2 6 4	11th in 4.				2 4 3 6 5	7th in 4.			
2 3 5 6 4	7th in 4.				4 6 3 2 5	11th in 4.			
5 2 3 6 4	7th in 4.				6 2 3 4 5	11th in 4.			
2 6 3 5 4	11th in 4.				3 6 2 4 5	7th in 4.			
6 5 3 2 4	11th in 4.				2 3 6 4 5	7th in 4.			
3 6 5 2 4	7th in 4.				3 4 6 2 5	11th in 4.			

The last part repeated, with the exception of the last course, produces

2 3 4 5 6

when calling the 10th and 11th before bring the bells round.

*9th in and out at three, and 9, 10.

PEALS OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR.

By JAMES S. WILDE, *Hyde, Cheshire*.

5056.					6080.				
2 3 4 5 6					2 3 4 5 6				
4 2 6 3 5	-	5	6		4 2 6 3 5	-	5	6	
2 6 4 3 5	-	-	-		6 4 5 2 3	-	-	-	
4 2 5 6 3	-	-	-		5 6 3 4 2	-	-	-	
5 4 3 2 6	-	-	-		3 5 2 6 4	-	-	-	
5 3 4 2 6	s	-	-		5 2 3 6 4	-	-	-	
4 5 6 3 2	-	-	-		2 3 5 6 4	-	-	-	
5 6 4 3 2	-	-	-		2 5 3 6 4	s	-	-	
4 5 2 6 3	-	-	-		5 3 2 6 4	-	-	-	
5 2 4 6 3	-	-	-		3 2 5 6 4	-	-	-	
4 5 3 2 6	-	-	-		5 3 4 2 6	-	-	-	
4 3 5 2 6	s	-	-		3 4 5 2 6	-	-	-	
3 5 4 2 6	-	-	-		3 5 4 2 6	s	-	-	
3 4 5 2 6	s	-	-		5 4 3 2 6	-	-	-	
					4 3 5 2 6	-	-	-	
					4 5 3 2 6	s	-	-	

This peal contains the 6th twelve times wrong and twenty-four times right. Three times repeated.

This peal contains the 6th twenty-four times wrong and right. Three times repeated.

A PEAL OF BOB ROYAL.

5040.

By JOHN R. PRITCHARD, *Liverpool*.

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

The above seven courses twice repeated, produce—

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

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERS.

11,111.

By HENRY JOHNSON, SEN., of *Birmingham*.

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

These eleven courses seven times repeated, with a single instead of a bob at the last 16 in the fifth and tenth parts, produce—

2 1 3 4 6 5

When bobs at the 3rd, 5th, 10th, 13th and 16th sixes bring the bells round.

* Produced by bobs at 2, 4, 8, 10, 12, and 16.

Rung at All Saints', Fulham, December 8th, 1883, by the Ancient Society of College Youths; conducted by James Pettit.

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS.

By the same author.

5039.

2 3 4 5 6		4 2 6 5 3	9th in 3
4 2 3 5 6†		6 4 2 5 3	9th in 3
3 4 2 5 6	9th in 3	3 6 4 5 2	9th in 3 s
6 3 4 5 2	9th in 3 s	2 3 6 5 4	9th in 3 s
*2 6 3 5 4	9th in 3 s	6 2 3 5 4	9th in 3
		4 6 2 5 3	9th in 3 s
3 2 6 5 4	9th in 3	3 4 6 5 2	9th in 3 s
6 3 2 5 4	9th in 3	2 3 4 5 6	9th in 3 s
4 6 3 5 2	9th in 3 s		
2 4 6 5 3	9th in 3 s	3 5 4 2 6	8th in 3
		2 5 4 3 6	1 s
6 2 4 5 3	9th in 3	4 2 5 3 6	9th in 3
3 6 2 5 4	9th in 3 s	2 3 5 4 6	8th in 3
4 3 6 5 2	9th in 3 s	4 3 5 2 6	1 s
2 4 3 5 6	9th in 3 s	6 2 3 4 5	8th in 2
3 2 4 5 6	9th in 3	5 4 2 6 3	8th in 2
4 3 2 5 6	9th in 3	2 5 4 6 3	9th in 3
6 4 3 5 2	9th in 3 s	3 2 5 6 4	9th in 3 s
2 6 4 5 3	9th in 3 s	4 3 2 6 5	9th in 3 s

† 7th in and out at 3.

* Call same as from this course-end, produces 4 2 5 6 3. Round as usual.

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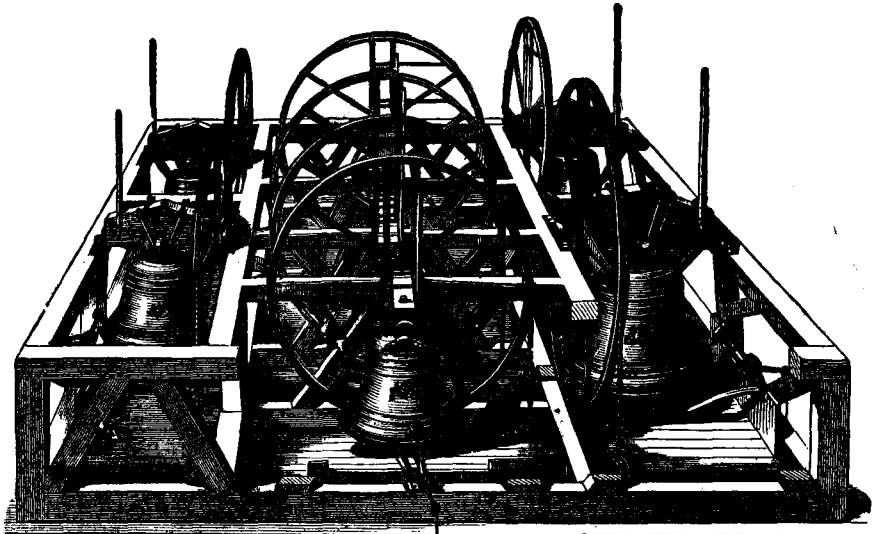
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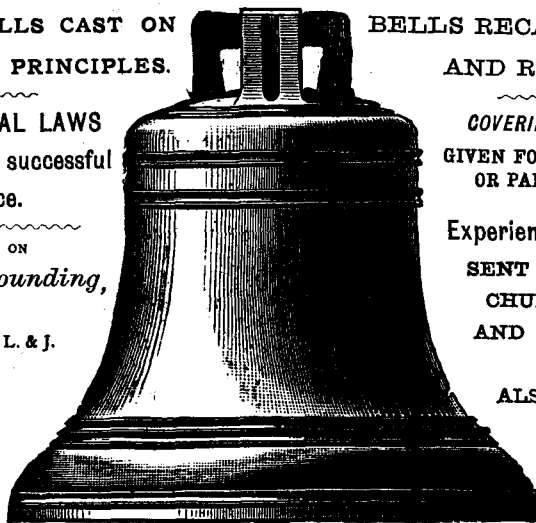
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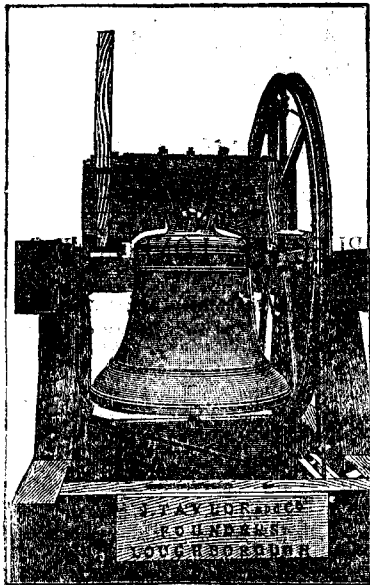
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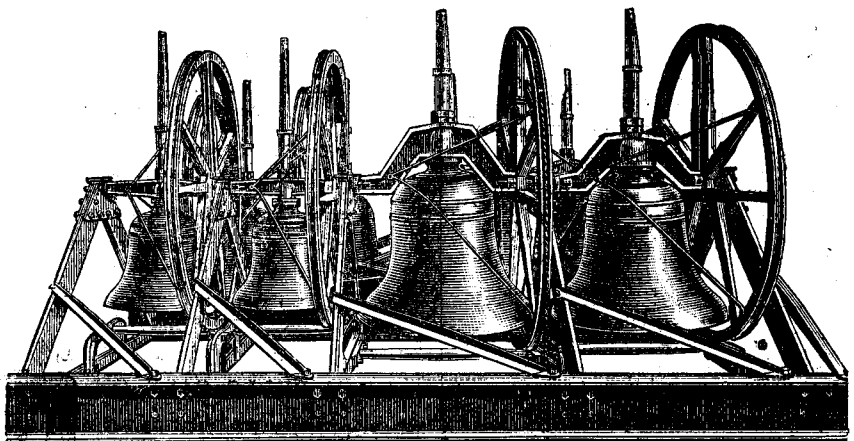
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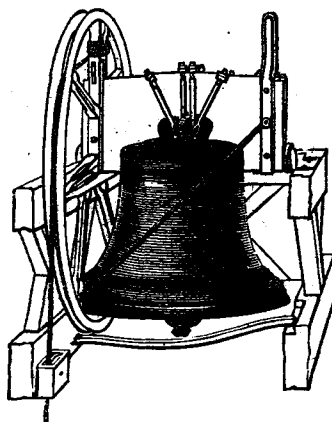
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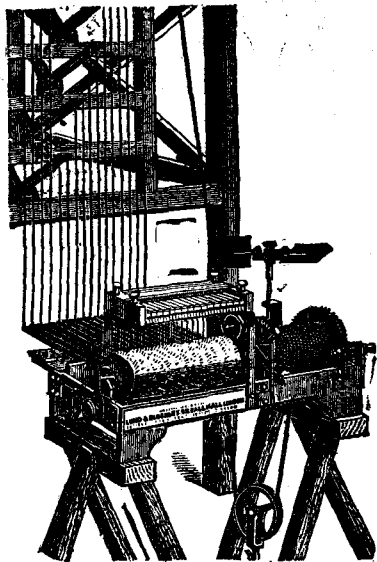
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WINDSOR CASTLE.

"The curfew tolls the knell of parting day."

THE grim old walls of the tower depicted in our illustration (No. 1) are exceedingly ancient, and no definite knowledge of their earlier formation is known. Some antiquarians suppose Julius Cæsar had something to do with this building, as it now bears his name. That there was an edifice of some description where the Curfew now stands previous to the Norman invasion in 1066 is known, for William the Conqueror strengthened and fortified this tower. Gradually the strength of fortifications increased, and each succeeding monarch added something, until the present grand and majestic pile reared its head as an almost everlasting landmark, to be seen from more than a dozen surrounding counties. It is not within the confines of this brief notice to describe the whole of the connection the Curfew Tower enjoys with the history of Windsor Castle, such an historical description would require a small volume, for the present it will be sufficient to give a few particulars connected with the bells and ringers of Windsor, and I trust that my readers will excuse any exuberant verbosity on my part, as these lines, with the accompanying illustration, is only to afford them some interest, and perhaps may add a little to the furtherance of Belfry Reform and Change-ringing.

Drawing No. 2 shows an interior of the dungeon. Each recess seen in this sketch formed a prison or cell. The one just opposite the entrance was the "torture cell," and until recently the irons and shackles were to be seen with which the tortures were inflicted. Just by are the remains of an old "stocks," these were formerly on the green in front of the chapel. The globe-like affair on a stand by the right is a christening font, once used in St. George's. The top half has a ring whereby to suspend it from the ceiling, with a chain when required for use.

In this recess, one poor unfortunate inmate carved his initials "M. T. 1119," plainly discernible at the present day. The two extreme cells on the right, and left, through which no light is admitted, are the condemned cells. Each one was secured by cross-beams and oak doors, fixed with heavy stanchions in the walls on either side; these have long since been removed, and the bare walls only remain. Sketch No. 3 is taken as the ringing-room is entered; the archway on the left is the subterranean passage leading under Thames Street; the stairs lead to the bells and the clock room. At the top of this flight is a rusty cannon, placed there by Cromwell, and another dungeon in which the Windsor butcher was imprisoned. The glimpse of the ringing-room seen from this position presents a gloomy and dark appearance, there being scarcely any means of admitting light. In the distance, a peal-board will be seen over a doorway, a sketch of which is given, showing the elaborate carving which was bestowed upon it.

Another doorway on the left leads to the steeple-keeper's retreat, two small rooms in the solid walls, serving him as a living and bed room, where he has passed the last forty years of his life, and none can say but what John Holloway has attended to his duties faithfully, although nearing his 74th year.

Here is an instance of the remarkable way in which a connection with ringing is perpetuated from one generation to another in families. We will begin with James Rolfe. His two sons, Richard and William, were both ringers, both married, and each had several sons, all of whom learnt to ring, but those of William were very little heard of. Richard's four sons, with their uncle (Mr. Liverd, who went to live at Slough), and their father, all rung. Of the sons, Fred Rolfe went to London; Henry Rolfe died in a railway carriage going to Slough; George died in Windsor, and William Rolfe is now dangerously ill. Thus we find only two survivors, without any children, of a once prolific ringing family who had been ringers in Windsor for nearly 150 years. The set of handbells they used to ring upon are now at "The Merry Wives of Windsor," they were brought from the "Split Jack," in George Street, kept by W. Liverd, their uncle, before he retired to Slough.

Henry III. added considerably to the improvements of the Castle, in 1241. The Curfew Tower, the Garter Tower (immediately on the right in the illustration), and the Salisbury Tower, further on, were increased by him, and many other works done in and around the Chapel and Castle. In 1356, William of Wykeham was employed as superintendent of the works; he retired in 1362.

1275: The town was made a free Borough.

1421: Henry VI. born in the Castle.

1500: Dean Urswick built the Deanery.

1529: About this time, Mark Fytton, the butcher of Windsor, was accused of treason, he was imprisoned in the Curfew, and from its battlements he was hung by means of a stout pole, which projected over the parapets, having a rope attached to the end; the rope was secured round the butcher's neck, and he was then pushed over in the sight of Henry VIII., who stood on the short tower on the right of our illustration, and witnessed the execution.

1648: Charles I. was brought a prisoner to the Castle. Cromwell frequently stayed at the Castle. The following narrative is an example of his military rigour:—

"In the time of Oliver Cromwell, a young soldier was condemned to die, and the time of his death was fixed at the tolling of the Curfew. Naturally such a doom would be fearful and bitter to one in the years of his hope and prime, but to this unhappy youth death was doubly terrible, since he was soon to have been married to a beautiful lady who he had long loved.

"The lady, who loved him ardently in return, had used her utmost efforts to avert his fate, pleading with the Judges, and even with Cromwell himself, but all in vain. In her despair she tried to bribe the old sexton and steeple-keeper not to ring the bell, but she found that impossible.

"The hour drew near for the execution. The preparations were completed. The officers of the law brought forth their prisoner, and waited while the sun was setting, for the signal from the distant Bell Tower. To the wonder of everybody it did not ring, only one person at that moment knew why. The poor girl herself, half-wild with the thoughts of her lover's peril, had rushed unseen up the winding stairs, and climbed the ladder into the belfry loft and seized the tongue of the bell.

"The old sexton was in his place prompt to the fatal moment. He threw his weight upon the rope, and the bell, obedient to his practised hand, reeled and swung to and fro in the tower. But the brave girl kept her hold, and no sound issued from the metallic lips. Again and again the sexton drew the rope, but with desperate strength the young heroine still held on, every movement made her position more fearful, every swing of the bell's huge weight threatened to sway her through the high tower windows; still she did not let go. At last the sexton went away; old and deaf he had not noticed that the bell gave forth no peal. The brave girl descended from the tower, wounded and trembling. She hurried from the Curfew to the place of execution. Cromwell himself was there, and was just sending to demand why the bell was silent. She saw him:—

"and her brow:—
Lately white with sickening horror,
Glowed with hope and courage now,
At his feet she told her story,
And her sweet young face still haggard
With the anguish it had worn,
Touched his heart with sudden pity,
Lit his eye with misty light."
'Go, your lover lives,' cried Cromwell,
Curfew shall not ring to-night."

King John stayed at Windsor when he met the Barons at Runnymede, and retired there after signing the Magna Charta.

1680: An equestrian statue of Charles II. by Strada, at Tabias Rustat's expense, was placed in the centre of the upper ward.

1796: W. Jas. Wyatt appointed the surveyor-general of Royal Buildings.

A great deal of historical matter which gives one some very interesting information will be found in Ainsworth's "Windsor Castle," and the "Guide to Windsor Castle." With a hope that my readers have seen one of these works, I will now proceed with something about the ringers.

When Dean Obar was in office at St. George's, on hearing only the bells of St. John's ringing as King William IV. was entering the Castle, he immediately made inquiries and then learned that only one band of ringers was engaged for the two towers, and that it was usual to ring at St. John's first, and then to go to the Curfew, thus accounting for both peals not ringing at once. From that time, however, separate bands were employed. After this a dispute occurred between the two bodies, with the result as explained hereafter.

The first installation of the Most Noble Order of the Garter took place in 1349. When on St. George's day, in St. George's Chapel (part of which appears in our view), King Edward III., with twenty-five Knight Companions, entered its then newly-erected walls, where high mass was performed by the Bishop of Winchester, who was none other than William of Wykeham previously mentioned.

Previous to 1358, some argument arose as to paying the Castle ringers their usual names due to them; however, on appealing to the Bishop of Oxford, they received a favourable decision, for which a board was fixed in the tower:—

Erected by the undermentioned in commemoration of the decision given by the Bishop of Oxford on the 11th day of Jan'y: 1858, that the ringers of St. George's Belfry should retain the fees originally paid to them, on the occasion of the instalment of the Most Noble Order of the Garter. W. Davenport, Steeplekeeper.

While Mr. H. Appleton (a member for thirty years), was steward in 1867, on the first of April he gave the Society a tablet, similar to the foregoing, with a list of the ringing days—a very good idea, as it prevents ringers from using the lame excuse, "I didn't know it was a 'Ringing Day'."

Mr. G. Fountain presented the then ringers a photograph of the Society, neatly framed in an oak Oxford frame, on August 6th, 1878, these being their names:—

J. Newport.
G. Gibbons.
J. Beauchamp.

J. Holloway, senr.
J. Holloway, junr.
A. Butter.

T. Clarke.
H. Appleton
A. Fussell.

The inscriptions are:—

Treble.—"Thomas Lester of London made me February 20th 1727."
2nd.—"Wim: T. More made me: 1650:"
"INC: IPE: DWICE: CEC: VAR:"
3rd.—"W: W: 1650:"
4th.—"VENITE: EXVLTEMUS: I: W: 1612:"
5th.—"Thomas Lester of London made me 1745,"
6th.—"Vox: DEI: GLORIA: EST: I: W: 1615,"
7th.—"Nos: AURIBUS: NOBIS: VOC: CORDIBUS: DEO: SONATE: I: W: 1612:"
Tenor.—"Searve the Lord with Feare," I: W: 1614:"

The tenor is in the key of D, weighing 36 cwt. and measuring 4 ft. 4 inches in diameter.

The two boards from which I gather the following particulars, are in their last state of preservation, the reading being very indistinct:—

On Feby: ye 21st, 1748, was rung in this steeple a complete 5040, of Union Trebles, never performed here before. Viz: Sam: Fookes, 1; Ino: Barker, 2; Will: Benning, 3; Geo: Morris, 4; Geo: Fookes, 5; Jos: Eatwell, 6; Ino: Spencer, 7; Will: Cock and Berry: Manby, 8.

Who the men were who took part in this peal I cannot at present ascertain. This was the first on the bells, and the conductor is not mentioned, perhaps some of my readers can throw a light upon the subject.

COLLEGE YOUTHS.

This Society Rang in this steeple Tuesday, April 10th, 1787, A True and Complete Peal of 5040, of Grandsire Triples in 3 hours and 14 minutes, Phillip Pilgim, Treble; Jas. Worster, 2; John Povey, 3; Benjm. Simmons, 4; Jas. Hammett, 5; Geo. Webb, 6; Ed. Simmons and Richard West, 7; John Lyford and James Bartlett, Tenor. The peal was call'd by Mr. James Worster. Messrs. Martin and Garrett, Stewards.

Banister's work mentions this peal as being rung in 3 hrs. and 13 mins., by the College Youths, an error I presume.

With regard to the clock and chimes, the following is gleaned from a local paper:—

"The curious state into which they got will be remembered by many, very few could detect when they played anything like a tune, it was almost by an accident that Sir George Elvey was unable to solve the mystery, for the stray sounds that issued from the tower at certain intervals were assuredly very mysterious. A few years since he examined the chiming barrel and discovered that several pegs were missing. These he had supplied, and the result was the tune was rendered intelligible.

"However, in consequence of the dilapidated state of the works their performance was very far from being perfect, and they were thoroughly restored under the direction of Sir G. Elvey; now they play in a very superior manner, better probably than when they were first erected. It is almost unnecessary to add that the tune played is St. David's, as usually rung to the first psalm 'How blest is he who ne'er consents,' followed by some rounds, and the Queen's Change as a sort of finish to the air."

The clock and chimes were made in 1589 by John Davis, a name well-known to readers of Windsor History; this clever workman was the son of William Davis, a blacksmith to both the King and Corporation of Windsor.

William Davis was a Royalist, and had executed various works at the Castle in the reign of King Charles the First. When patronised by Oliver Cromwell, this independent man, though he continued to do the Castle work for the sake of the veneration in which he held that edifice, would not touch a shilling of the usurper's money in return.

In the records of Windsor Castle is an entry respecting the clock and chimes being supplied to the Curfew, it is written in the quaint type of the period, and runs as follows:—

"John Davis is to supply the requisite machinery, but the price to be paid for the same is to be fixed by Sir Christopher Wren." From this it would appear that Sir Christopher had studied campanology, adding another acquirement to his numerous abilities.

In concluding this account of Windsor Castle bells, I hope the following notes of the parish church bells will not be considered out of place.

On the right of the Curfew Tower, in our illustration, will be seen four little spirelets peeping over the house tops, crowning the tower of St. John-the-Baptist parish church. On a slight eminence this edifice stands boldly fronting the High Street, built in the Gothic style of architecture. Though very plain, it is a substantial building constructed of stone. Rebuilt in 1822, at a cost of £14,000, it consists of chancel, nave, north and south aisles, and spacious galleries, the chief entrance being from the High Street, through the tower at the west end of the nave. The church presents a fine interior, and is arranged to seat 1800 people. All the windows are filled with stained glass; there is an excellent altar, an altar railing carved by Grinling Gibbons, and several interesting tombs, viz:—

William Cannon, Mayor of Windsor, 1509. An elaborate one with Corinthian columns to Dr. Richard Hale, another to John, the son of Sir William Dugdale, 1570.

The ringing-room is reached by traversing part of the gallery, this is a well-lighted and spacious room, and a comfortable ringing-chamber. There are two peal boards, the particulars of which I give

below. In 1882 Messrs. Steel, Perryman, and Fussell gave the society an illuminated copy of the inscriptions on the bells, suitably framed; this is also fixed in the belfry.

The following is a copy of the inscriptions on the bells of this tower:—

Treble.—The Gift of the Honourable Samuel Masham, Esq., Cofferer to

Queen Anne 1711.

2nd.—Richard Phelps made me 1711.

3rd.—R. Phelps fecit, 1730.

4th.—T. Mears of London, Fecit, 1824.

5th.—John Eldridge, Richard Morris, Christopher Clarke, churchwardens. 1711.

6th.—T. Mears of London, Fecit 1824.

7th.—Messrs. Thos. Phipps, H. F. Coomes, and Thos. Bigg, Church Wardens,

1730, recast by T. Mears of London 1822.

I and my seven sisters here,

Were given by the cofferer,

Whose name if you desire to know,

My eldest sister will it show.

Tenor.—The Gift of Samuel Masham, Esq., Cofferer to her Majesty Queen Anne in the year 1711. Alexnr. Staples, Thos. Dryer, Richard Hope, Church Wardens. Newcastle 1822. Thos. Adams, Thos. Jenner, Wm. Legh, church Wardens. T. Mears of London, Fecit. Diameter 4 ft. Weight 22 cwt. Key E.

Peal-board fixed over the entrance doorway:—

"The solemn, sweet harmonious bells,

All other music far excels."

On Sat. Sep. 22nd, 1798, was rung in this steeple in 3 hours and 14 minutes, a true and complete peal of 5040 or whole peal of Grandsire Triples.

By Henry Sedgwick, 1.

William Darwent, 2.

Joseph Avis 3.

Richard Ball, 4.

John Thompson, 5.

Richard Lovegrove, 6.

Phillip Lovegrove, 7.

Wm. Wise and C. Prentice, 8.

Also on Sunday, September 15th, 1799, was rung by the above company, in the steeple at Denham, in the county of Bucks, a true peal of 5040 as above, in 3 hours, and 12 minutes.

Another peal-board:—

Saint James Society, London.

On Monday, January 4th, 1830. Eight members

of the above Society rang the late

Mr. John Holt's Ten part peal of

Grandsire Triples,

Containing 5040 changes, which was performed, in 2 hours and 57 minutes,

by the following persons:—

Thos. Pollitt, 1; P. Symondson, 2; Danl. Beakley, 3; Thos. Tolladay, 4; Thos. Brooks, 5; Chas. Brown, 6; Wilm. Dunn, 7; Frank Mathew, 8.

The above was the first peal on the bells in this steeple, and was conducted by Mr. Thos. Tolladay.

Mr. Wm. Legh } Church
Jas. Bedborough } Wardens.

This board is fixed on the left hand wall entering, and has recently been rewritten, not however before it was needed. Mr. Frederick King, Peascod Street, is steeplekeeper, a position which he has dutifully kept for some years. This tower was the scene of a mournful tragedy between thirty and forty years ago. A man named Gregory by some means got amongst the bells, and was down in the framework of the 6th, which was up; it is supposed that he suddenly found the bell coming over, and throwing his head back to avoid the blow received the whole weight on his stomach, rendering him senseless, and unable to call for assistance. Nothing whatever was known of the accident until blood was seen dripping from the ceiling on to the floor, and upon examination, the unfortunate man's remains found.

In 1850 the College youths rang a peal here of Grandsire Triples in 3 hours and 2 minutes. Many of my readers will wonder no doubt, how the peal rung in 1830 by the St. James' Society, was the first in the steeple; they must remember the church was rebuilt in 1822, therefore the peals rung in 1798 and 1799, was performed in the old tower of the former church. The men who took part in these performances were inhabitants of Windsor, and the parish ringers of St. John's, and rang at the Curfew Tower also. These bells went very badly at that time, the last peal rung on them in 1787 took two men at the 7th, and two at the tenor. So they were unable to get a 5000 on the Castle bells. About that time "The Windsor Youths," as I term them, was the only change-ringing band, I should think in Berkshire, with the exception of the Reading Youths, who rang Bob Major.

Peal on, peal on—I love to hear,
The old church ding dong soft and clear;
The welcome sounds are doubly blest
With future hope and earthly rest.
Yet were no "calling changes" found,
To spread their cheering echo round,
There's not a place where man may dwell,
But he can hear an old church bell.

NOTICE OF A LONG PEAL.—On Christmas-Eve, December 24th, the Birmingham St. Martin's society intend attempting a long peal of Grandsire Caters, 13,000 changes, at the parish church of SS. Peter and Paul, Aston-juxta-Birmingham. The hour of meeting is 8 p.m.

THE CHURCH BELLS OF FAREHAM, HAMPSHIRE.

THE science of change-ringing in all its intricate ramifications is little practised in Hampshire compared with some other counties. But the proposal made some time since by several amateur enthusiasts of Fareham, who had made bell-ringing a pleasurable study, to rehang and complete the fine set of bells in the ancient belfry of St. Peter's parish church, was warmly taken up by the inhabitants. In the chancel of Fareham parish church Hampshire possesses one of its most ancient ecclesiastical monuments, built in the old English style, dating back some 600 years. The tower and belfry were added in 1742, while the body of the church, as it now stands, was erected at the beginning of the present century, and is of no special merit. Of late years the belfry, with its peal of six bells, has been sadly neglected. The proposal to rehang the bells and complete the octave emanated from the Rev. A. A. Headley, the senior curate, and Messrs. W. Kelsall and Privett, and their appeal to the public for subscriptions was liberally responded to by all classes. A bazaar was also held, and some £250 was raised. The work was entrusted to Mr. Thomas Mallaby, church bell hanger, of Masham, Yorkshire. Mr. Mallaby found the fittings in a tender and worn-out condition, so that it was dangerous to ring the bells. They were accordingly taken down, quarter-turned, and new clappers fitted to each. They were then rehung with new stocks, wheels, stays, sliders, pulleys, gudgeons and bearings. Two new bells were added to complete the octave—a second note "F," weighing 5 cwt., and a treble note "F^g," weighing 4½ cwt. On the treble bell was placed the inscription:—"Cast by John Warner and Sons, London, A.D. 1883, added by subscription. Rev. W. S. Dumergue, Vicar; W. T. Mainprise, R. Porter, Churchwardens," and on the second:—"Cast by John Warner and Sons, London, A.D. 1883, added by subscription, 1883, promoted by Rev. A. A. Headley, W. Kelsall, C. Privett." On each of the old bells suitable inscriptions also appear.

The cost of rehangng and completing this peal was about £180. The balance of £70 will be devoted to placing additional stops to the organ. The bells were re-opened for public use by the local ringers, assisted by ringers from Gosport, Soberton, Southampton and Bishops Waltham, when several touches of Grandsire Triples were rung in a masterly manner.

In the evening the event was celebrated by a dinner at the Red Lion Hotel, the company numbering seventy-eight, and an excellent repast being served by Mr. and Mrs. G. Bond. The room was prettily and appropriately decorated. The orchestra gallery was embellished with sprays of small ivy and shields, while plainly inscribed on festooned banners were the couplets "Hear the mellow wedding bells—golden bells" and "Mirth and joy are on the wing—I ring." The walls were hung with numerous banners bearing such suitable quotations as "Hear the sledges with their bells—silver bells," "Hear the tolling of the bells—iron bells," "To call folks to church in time—I chime," and "When from the body parts the soul—I toll." Over the top table was suspended the model of a silver bell, and above the lower end of the tables that of the tenor bell. The chair was occupied by Mr. W. H. Deane, J.P., the chairman of the committee, and there were also present the Revs. A. A. Headley and H. J. Lewis, Captain Ramsey, Messrs. W. Kelsall, Mallaby, R. Smith, W. Cawte, J. P. Boorn, E. Goble, Bennett, E. C. Edney, Miller, A. H. Ings, H. J. Sutton, C. Batchelor, T. Whiteman, Evans, W. G. Heath, W. Fulford, Elgar, and E. Stedham. The company was also made up of some thirty ringers, sixteen members of the church choir, the verger, sexton, and many others who were more or less interested.

The CHAIRMAN, having proposed the loyal toasts, introduced that of "The Bishop and Clergy, and Ministers of other denominations." He might almost call that the toast of the evening, because with it he should couple the name of one without whose energetic action they would not be together that evening. He referred, of course, to the Rev. A. A. Headley. Their applause testified how he was appreciated, and it would be an easy task for him to dilate on his many good qualities. They were met that evening to celebrate the completion of an undertaking which would, he believed, never have been taken in hand but for Mr. Headley, although that gentleman had received every assistance and support. When the rev. gentleman severed his connection with the town—and it would be a bad day for Fareham when he did—he would leave behind him a lasting memorial, which would prove a source of pleasure to the parishioners for many generations to come.

The Rev. A. A. HEADLEY, having spoken of the happy incident which gave rise to the undertaking, said that although he had taken active steps to attain the desired result he could never have been successful had it not been for the able assistance afforded him by the chairman of the committee, Mr. W. H. Deane, the treasurer, Mr. W. Kelsall, Mr. Privett, Mr. Whiting, and many others he could not name then. The toast of "The Ladies" that evening should not be merely of the ordinary complimentary character, but should include their hearty thanks for the material help the ladies had given them in preparing and conducting the bazaar. Now that they had a complete set of bells, what they must strive to do was to use them properly.

The CHAIRMAN next submitted "The Army, Navy, and Reserve Forces."—Captain RAMSAY responded for the Army; Mr. SUTTON for the Navy; and Sergeant Fulford for the Volunteers.—Mr. J. P. BOORN, in suitable terms, proposed "The Committee."—Mr. W. KELSALL, in reply, took the opportunity of thanking all who had co-operated with the committee to bring about the desired result. As regarded the use to which the bells were to be put, he hoped the bell-ringers would maintain their character as an orderly, God-fearing, and steady body of men, and that they would strive to acquire increased knowledge in the art, and ring more scientifically. Let them go in for "change" ringing, and not confine their attention to six bells, but utilize the whole peal (applause).—The CHAIRMAN having acknowledged the toast of "The Subscribers," the Rev. H. J. LEWIS proposed the health of Mr. MALLABY, who, in response, hoped the ringers would make good progress, as there was a wide field of usefulness open to them. Mr. E. GOBLE proposed "The Ringers," coupled with the names of Messrs. PRIVETT and WHITING, who briefly responded. Mr. C. BATCHELOR gave "The Visitors;" and Mr. HEWITT, of Gosport, replied. The other toasts were "The Ladies," and "The Press."—During the evening Messrs. D. Hill, C. Privett, Graffham, G. Passingham, and J. Whiting played some tunes with handbells, and the choir under Mr. W. Kelsall also contributed to the harmony.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—HULL BRANCH.

ON Wednesday, December 12th, this branch of the Association held their Annual Dinner at the "Malt Shovel Inn," North Church Side, when members and friends, to the number of sixty-six, sat down to a most excellent repast, the chair being occupied by Mr. J. W. Stickney, of St. James's church, and the vice-chair by Mr. J. Dixey, of Holy Trinity church. After dinner the usual loyal toasts being duly honoured, a capital evening was spent. A double course of Grandsire Triples, a course of Grandsire Caters, and tunes were performed by the St. James's and Holy Trinity handbell ringers. Tunes were also given by Messrs. Slingsby and Chaffer upon their musical glasses, which met with a hearty reception. Some excellent songs were also well rendered by the company, and the singing of the National Anthem brought a very pleasant evening to a close.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

THERE will be a Meeting of the Committee of this Association on January 1st, 1884, at 11.15 a.m., in the private room of Messrs. Bolingbroke, Woodrow, and Co's. office, Upper St. Giles, Norwich, to consider the publication of the Annual Report, and transact other business.

4, Bracondale Terrace, Norwich,
December 19th, 1883.

N. BOLINGBROKE,
Hon. Sec.

N.B.—January 1st is a ringing day at St. Peter Mancroft.

Acrostic.

Twelve months have passed away, my friends, since you and I last met
Here in this place, and now we'll take the chance to pay a debt:
Each one of you was asked to try, each man within his station,
By canvassing among his friends, to push our circulation.
Each one was asked; that all have tried, our greater sales now prove,
Largely increasing week by week, and still we onward move,
Let not your efforts slacken now, cease not your kindly labours,
Nor let weak sinners go scot free who borrow from their neighbours.
Every new face is welcome here, old ones we would not lose,
We do our best to help young friends, and old ones to amuse
Still striving hard to make our sheet the ringers' guide, "BELL NEWS."
Advertisements, the staff of life—of business life for sure—
Now fill our pages back and front, but still we've room for more.
Don't backward be, you business men, but blow your trumpet bold,
Rely that one pound spent in "Ads." will reap a thousandfold.
In fact, the man who fails to let the world know of his wares,
Not much can hope to leave behind to glad his weeping heirs.
Give thanks do we to all our friends, who've helped us on so well,
Earls, Dukes, and Barons, Bishops too, our reader's ranks now swell;
Resolved are we that still our sheet shall fearless hold it's way,
Showing the wrongs where such exist; at no man's beck or sway.
Reform of belfries "out of course" will be our constant aim,
Expecting not to credit get for which we have no claim.
Conscious of errors sometimes made; indulgence we would ask,
Of readers and contributors, to help us in our task.
Reaping according as we sow, your favours our reward
Doing our best to win success, for this the "RINGER'S RECORD."

BURTON-ON-TRENT, STAFFORDSHIRE.
THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION, AND THE
ST. PAUL'S SOCIETY, BURTON-TRENT.

On Saturday, December 15, 1883, in Three Hours and Twenty-nine Minutes,
AT ST. PAUL'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 26 cwt.

ARTHUR WAKLEY Treble.	JOHN JAGGAR 5.
EDWARD ISAAC STONE .. 2.	JOHN WM. TAYLOR, JUN.. 6.
HARRY WAKLEY 3.	THOMAS HOLMES 7.
JOSEPH GRIFFIN 4.	WILLIAM WAKLEY Tenor.

Composed by N. J. PITSTOW, and conducted by WILLIAM WAKLEY.

Mr. Taylor hails from Loughborough, and this is his first peal in the method.

The figures of the peal, which has the 5th and 6th the extent, will be published in our next number.

GLODWICK, OLDHAM, LANCASHIRE.

THE LEESFIELD SOCIETY.

On Saturday, December 15, 1883, in Two Hours and Forty-nine Minutes,

AT ST. MARK'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

TAYLOR'S BOB-AND-SINGLE VARIATION. Tenor 8½ cwt.

JAS. HY. GARTSIDE Treble.	EDWIN B. SHAW 5.
GEO. HY. BEEVER* 2.	SAMUEL STOTT 6.
CLEMENT DRONSFIELD* .. 3.	JOHN HILTON 7.
FRED CROSLAND 4.	THOS. B. SHAW Tenor.

Conducted by SAMUEL STOTT.

*Members of the local company.

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE, LANCASHIRE.

On Monday, December 17, 1883, in Three Hours and Eight Minutes,

AT ST. PETER'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION.

JOSEPH MELLOR Treble.	GEORGE BRADDOCK 5.
JOSEPH BOWCOCK 2.	*WILLIAM FRITH 6.
JOHN HOPWOOD 3.	SAMUEL WOOD 7.
JAMES WOOD 4.	JOHN THORP Tenor.

Composed and conducted by JOHN THORP.

*First peal in the method. This peal was rung to commemorate the 40th birthday of John Thorp.

MOTTRAM-IN-LONGDENDALE, CHESHIRE.

THE MOTTRAM AND ASHTON SOCIETIES.

On Tuesday, December 18, 1883, in Two Hours and Fifty Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 12½ cwt.

JOHN SIDEBOTHAM Treble.	GEORGE BRADDOCK 5.
JOHN HARROP 2.	JAMES NUTTALL 6.
JAMES WOOD 3.	SAMUEL WOOD 7.
ROBERT WRIGHT 4.	THOMAS BRADDOCK Tenor.

Composed and conducted by SAMUEL WOOD.

Messrs. Wood Brothers hail from Ashton-under-Lyne; the rest are the Mottram company.

Miscellaneous.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

FARNHAM ROYAL (Bucks).—On Wednesday, December 5th, a 720 of Grandsire Minor, in 27 mins. E. T. Batten (first 720 in the method), 1; A. Fussell, 2; W. Fussell, 3; F. Fells, 4; J. Parker (conductor), 5; C. Clarke, 6. Also on Saturday, December 15th, a 720 of Bob Minor, with thirty-five bobs and six singles, in 25 mins. J. Parker (composer and conductor), 1; F. Fells, 2; A. Fussell, 3; W. Fussell, 4; J. Basden, 5; C. Clarke, 6. Also a 720 of Canterbury Pleasure, in 25 mins. G. Basden, 1; F. Fells, 2; A. Fussell, 3; J. Basden, 4; J. Parker (conductor), 5; W. Fussell, 6. And several 6-scores of Stedman. Also on Sunday, December 16th, for Divine

Service in the morning, a 720 of Grandsire Minor, in 24½ mins. C. Chapman, 1; W. Fussell, 2; G. Basden, 3; J. Parker (conductor), 4; J. Basden, 5; C. Clarke, 6. Also for afternoon service, a 720 of Oxford Bob Minor, in 26 mins. C. Chapman, 1; F. Fells, 2; W. Fussell, 3; J. Basden, 4; J. Parker (conductor), 5; C. Clarke, 6. And for Divine Service in the evening, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor, in 26 mins. F. Fells, 1; J. Basden, 2; A. Fussell, 3; A. Batten (first 720 in the method), 4; J. Parker (conductor), 5; W. Fussell, 6.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

BANHAM (Norfolk).—On Sunday, November 18th, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor. J. Gaskin, 1; R. Nudds, 2; J. Hawes (first 720 in the method), 3; C. Everett, 4; R. Hutton (conductor), 5; W. Nudds, 6. Also on December 5th, a 720 of Double Court Bob Minor. R. Nudds, 1; W. Nudds, 2; J. Hawes, 3; J. Saunders, 4; R. Patrick, 5; R. Hutton (conductor), 6.

PULHAM MARKET (Norfolk).—On Friday evening, December 14th, for practice, a 720 of College Exercise. Charles Tann, 1; Thomas Farrow, 2; *William Cullicum, 3; *Fred. Surridge, 4; John Smith, 5; *William Roope, 6. *First 720 in the method.

THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

CHEAM (Surrey).—On Saturday evening, December 15th, seven members of the Beddington society paid a visit to this place, and rang at St. Dunstan's church a 720 of Bob Minor, in 26½ mins. Chas. Martin, 1; Josh. Zealey, 2; John Branch, 3; James Harris, 4; John Plowman (conductor), 5; Chas. Gordon, 6. Also a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor, in 26 mins. J. Zealey, 1; J. Branch, 2; J. Plowman, 3; C. Bance, 4; J. Harris, 5; C. Gordon (conductor), 6. Also a 720 of Grandsire Minor, in 25½ mins. C. Martin, 1; J. Harris, 2; J. Zealey, 3; C. Bance, 4; J. Plowman, 5; C. Gordon (conductor), 6. Tenor 11½ cwt. in G. These are the first 720's on the bells in the present tower, which was built in 1871, two of the old bells being recast and rehung in new frame by Warner's. There formerly existed a band of call change-ringers in the parish, but the bells have now been silent for two years, with the exception of chiming or a stray visit from a neighbouring company, and no signs of any company being formed, which is a great pity, everything being in good order, and the bells a musical ring.

THE WORCESTER DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

BRIERLEY HILL (Staffordshire).—On Sunday, December 16th, six of the above rung at St. Michael's, a 720 of Grandsire Minor, this being the third anniversary of the inauguration of the bells of the above church, in 24 mins. B. Townsend, 1; R. Round, 2; W. Micklewright, 3; R. Bidmead, 4; J. Prestidge, 5; J. Smith (conductor), 6. Also at the same time and place 360 of Plain Bob Minor, in 13½ mins. B. Townsend, 1; J. Guest, 2; W. Micklewright, 3; J. Robinson, 4; J. Prestidge, 5; J. Smith (conductor), 6.

ALDINGTON (Kent).—On Thursday evening, December 13th, at St. Martin's Church, a 720 of Plain Bob Minor in 27½ mins. containing 14 bobs and 22 singles. Charles Slingsby, 1; David Hodgkin, 2; Philip Hodgkin, 3; Thomas Hodgkin, 4; William Hyder (conductor), 5; William Post, sen. 6. Also 360 in the same method: C. Slingsby, 1; D. Hodgkin, 2; F. Wanstall, 3; T. Hodgkin, 4; W. Hyder (conductor), 5; P. Hodgkin, 6. Tenor 14 cwt. in G. All members of the above Kent County Association except F. Wanstall.

BIRSTALL (Yorkshire).—On Sunday last, December 16th, for evening service, five of the local company, assisted by Mr. David Wilson, rang a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob. D. Wilson, 1; W. Banham, 2; S. Crowther, 3; J. W. Yates, 4; W. Stainthorpe, 5; B. A. Dodson, 6. This is Mr. Wilson's first 720 in any method, and considering the very short time that he has been amongst the ringers, great credit is due to him, and also to his most able instructor, Mr. B. A. Dodson, for the very efficient manner in which he has shown the ground work of ringing.

ECKINGTON (Derbyshire).—On Monday, December 17th, at SS. Peter and Paul, the local company rang 240 each of the following, Oxford Treble Bob Minor, London Scholars Pleasure, Arnolds' Victory, Duke of York, New London Pleasure, College Pleasure, and Violet, in 1 hr. 5 mins. G. Smith, 1; W. Price, 2; E. James, 3; G. Norman, 4; G. Marsden (conductor), 5; T. Lunn, 6. Tenor 16 cwt. 14 lbs.

HURWORTH-ON-TEES (Northumberland).—On Saturday evening, December 8th, Mr. J. Holmes of Northallerton paid the Hurworth ringers a visit, and rang a 720 of Bob Minor. J. Simpson, 1; Rev. W. H. Deane, 2; H. Kirby, 3; J. Holmes (first 720 in the method), 4; J. E. Hern, 5; H. Thompson (conductor), 6. A 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor was afterwards rung by the Hurworth company. Tenor 17 cwt.

HAUGHTON (Lancashire).—On Saturday, December 15th, the ringers of St. Matthew's, Hayfield, Derbyshire, paid a visit to St. Ann's church, and rang 2160 changes as follows: 720 of Violet; 720 of New London Pleasure; and 720 of Oxford, in 1 hr. and 20 mins. A. Rangesley, 1; J. Brocklehurst, 2; T. Whitehead (conductor), 3; G. Wheatcroft, 4; A. Hadfield, 5; T. Brocklehurst, Esq., 6. Tenor 14½ cwt.

HAVERSTOCK HILL (Middlesex).—On Sunday evening, December 16th, for Divine Service, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor in 25 mins. J. Nixon, 1; T. Gleed, 2; J. Hannington (conductor), 3; T. Titchener, 4; Wingfield Meadows, 5; T. Monks, 6. Also on Wednesday, December 19th, a 700 of Double Oxford Bob Minor in 24 mins. B. Foskett, 1; Wingfield Meadows, T. Titchener, 3; J. Hannington (conductor), 4; E. Chapman, 5; G. Newson, 6. Tenor 12½ cwt.

HULME (Manchester).—On Friday evening, December 14th, at the church of St. Philip's, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor, in 25 mins. *S. Knight, 1; *H. Wood, 2; W. J. Hargreaves, 3; *T. Collinge, 4; *Joseph Scott, 5; Jno. F. Woods (conductor), 6. *First 720. Jno. F. Woods' first time of conducting. Also on Sunday, December 16th, for Divine Service in the morning, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor, in 25 mins. A. Wood, 1; H. Wood, 2; E. Ettock, 3; T. Collinge, 4; T. Heald, 5; Jno. F. Woods (conductor), 6. Tenor 12½ cwt.

RAUNDS (Northamptonshire).—On Saturday, November 17th, at St. Peters, church, a 720 of Oxford Bob, with thirty-eight bobs and twenty-two singles. G. Kirk, 1; F. Gilbert, 2; R. Pendered, 3; J. Stubbs, 4; H. Stubbs, 5; W. J. Gilbert (conductor), 6. Also on Monday, November 19th, a 720 of London Single, with eighteen bobs and two singles. A. Coles, 1; W. Hall, 2; R. Pendered, 3; W. J. Gilbert, 4; J. Willmott, 5; F. Gilbert (conductor), 6. Also on Monday, December 10th, a 720 of Oxford Bob, with 26 singles. G. Kirk, 1; H. Stubbs, 2; F. Gilbert, 3; W. Hall, 4; J. Willmott, 5; W. J. Gilbert (conductor), 6. Also a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob Minor, with nine bobs. G. Kirk, 1; W. J. Gilbert, 2; R. Pendered, 3; J. Willmott, 4; F. Gilbert, 5; H. Stubbs (conductor), 6. Also on Saturday, December 15th, a 720 of Oxford Bob, with eighteen bobs and two singles. A. Coles, 1; F. Gilbert, 2; R. Pendered, 3; H. Stubbs, 4; W. J. Gilbert, 5; W. Hall (first time of conducting), 6.

READING (Berks).—On Wednesday evening, December 19th, for practice at St. Lawrence's, 1736 of Grandsire Triples, in 1 hr. and 6 mins. H. Bawden, 1; J. E. Willshire, 2; W. Johnson, 3; W. R. Pocock, 4; E. Bishop, 5; W. Newell (conductor), 6; W. J. Williams, 7; W. Goseltine, 8.

SAFFRON WALDEN.—On Sunday, December 16th, for Divine Service in the evening, the local company rang a 756 of Stedman Triples. John Freeman, 1; J. F. Penning, 2; Ernest Pitstow, 3; C. Freeman, 4; George Martin, 5; N. J. Pitstow, 6; F. Pitstow (conductor), 7; James Bacon, 8.

WOKINGHAM (Berks).—On Saturday, December 15th, five members of St. Lawrence's society, Reading, with W. Goseltine, of St. Giles's company, rang at All Saints', the parish church, by the kind permission of the Rev. Purdue, secretary to the local society, a 720 of Grandsire Minor, with thirty-four bobs and two singles, in 27½ mins. W. R. Pocock, 1; E. Bishop, 2; W. Johnson, 3; W. Goseltine, 4; J. E. Willshire, 5; W. J. Williams (conductor), 6. Also several 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles, with the local company, and H. Bawden and G. Talbot of St. Lawrence's. Tenor 21 cwt.

WOMBOURN (Staffordshire).—On Wednesday evening, December 12th, the local company rang 120 of Grandsire Doubles. A. Hodkin, (first 120), 1; H. Carrier, 2; W. Devey, 3; A. Little, 4; J. Aston, 5; R. Cartwright (conductor), 6. Also on Sunday morning, December 16th, for Service, a 360 of Grandsire Minor, in 15 mins. J. Aston, 1; A. Little, 2; H. Carrier, 3; W. Devey, 4; H. Deane, 5; R. Cartwright (conductor), 6. Tenor 11½ cwt.

DEDICATION SERVICE AT TAMWORTH.

On Thursday, December 13th, the re-opening of the bells at Tamworth parish church took place, when the following members of the Association of change-ringers for the Archdeaconry of Stafford made an attempt to ring the late John Holt's six-part peal of Grandsire Triples, but after ringing upward of 4900 changes, a change-course took place, which brought the bells to a stand. Performers: Henry Hipkiss, treble; Thomas Horton, 2; William Rock Small, 3; Thomas Meredith, 4; William Beeson, Frederick J. Cope, 6; Samuel Reeves, 7; William Elsmore, 8; tenor 18 cwt. Touches of Stedman Triples were rung before the service, and a plain course of Grandsire Triples in the middle of the service, and after the service the bells were fired in the evening. The ringing throughout was conducted by Samuel Reeves. Messrs. Taylor and Son, of Loughborough, had the casting of two new trebles and recasting one of the bells, and rehanging the peal, and all the bells are in good ringing order.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION OF SIX-BELL RINGERS.

The usual Quarterly Meeting of the above Association was held at Blackrod, on Saturday, December 15th, but owing to the inclemency of the weather only about twenty members attended. There was very little ringing done, owing to the shortness of the time at their disposal, all wanting to get home early on account of the wet. One 720 of Plain Bob may be mentioned as being very creditably rung by a mixed band from Accrington, Leyland, Eccleston, and Blackrod, in 26 mins., tenor 12½ cwt.

The meeting, taking all in all, was a most enjoyable one for those who could stay the evening being spent in tune and change-ringing on the handbells.

JOHN HIGSON, Sec.
Dootson Terrace, Manchester Road, Blackrod.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

A QUARTERLY MEETING of this Association will be held at Leicester, on Saturday, December 29th; visitors on arrival are requested to proceed to St. George's Schools, Colton Street, where the local committee will be in attendance to assist in forming bands to proceed to the various towers. Committee meeting in St. Margaret's Schoolroom, Canning Place, at 4 o'clock. Tea and subsequent business meeting in the latter place at 5 o'clock. The following towers will be open: St. Margaret's, Church Gate, ten bells; St. Mary's, Castle Street, eight bells; St. Mark's, Belgrave Gate, eight bells; St. Saviour's, St. Saviour's Road, eight bells; St. George's, Rutland Street, six bells.

JOSEPH GRIFFIN, Hon. Sec.

ST. ANDREWS, BATH.

ON Wednesday evening, December 12th, seven members of the Twerton-on-Avon company (being also members of the Bath and Keynsham Deanery Association), with Mr. J. Hinton, of Bristol, paid a visit to the above church, and rang a 1039 of Grandsire Triples. — Simmonds, 1; H. Wooton, 2; J. Blackmore, 3; W. H. Marsh, 4; J. Smith, 5; J. Wooton, 6; J. Hinton (conductor), 7; J. Weeks, 8. Being about their second attempt at Triples, great credit is due to the Twerton men for the manner in which they rung, having only a peal of six at home to practise on, which, it is hoped will soon be augmented to eight, having a striving young company who a short time since were no ringers at all, but through the exertions of Mr. W. H. Marsh, are now able to ring Grandsire and Stedman Doubles and Grandsire and Plain Bob Minor, and there is no doubt if they had a peal of eight they would soon show some creditable performances.

"TWAS CHRISTMAS-EVE, IN LONDON TOWN."

'Twas Christmas-Eve, in London town
And at the midnight hour,
The ringers stood with rope in hand
In many an old church tower.
And when the tale of twelve was told,
The signal loud was cried;
The bells pealed out right merrily,
Announcing Christmas-tide.
The bells thus told 'twas Christmas time,
And almanacks agree;
But 'twas as hot as any
Summer night could ever be.
The touch complete, they wind down
stairs,
The man who got down first, he
Remarked unto the other "Youths,"
"This weather makes one thirsty."
"You're right, my friend," said number
two.
"I'd like a pint of porter,
What say you now to Ludgate Hill?"
"My friend, you did't oughter
Nourish such thoughts within your
breast
You know we're all good Templars,
Or nearly all, and two weak Youths
Should stand as bright exemplars."
Thus spake another, austere man,
Addressing number two
Who'd beer proposed; at which some
looked
Particularly blue.
"No, no," went on the austere one
"We have to make amends
The goings on last Christmas-Eve
Quite shocked our reverend friends."
"The Cumberlands and West End
scrooph
Will meet, and each man there

Will try to drink the fountains dry
That grace Trafalgar Square.
While College Youths and East End'ers
Each man will act the trump
And do the very best he can
To drain old Aldgate Pump."
The rendezvous assigned were kept
And each man did his best
To stow away as many quarts
Of water, neath his vest
As he could hold, with comfort;
And when he'd drank his fill,
He toddled home and went to bed,
The night was sultry still.
Before the dawn, "a change came o'er
The spirit of my dream,"
The icy northern blast came down
With many a howl and scream,
And Fahrenheit's thermometer
At ninety-seven (what weather!)
Went down until the mercury
Had vanished altogether.
The austere man had curious dreams,
"Great Paul" stood mouth up, handy,
While ringers dipped with handbells
bright
Huge draughts of red-hot brandy,
Himself, while preaching abstinence
Had quarrelled with his "strapper"
Who threw him in and made him drink
In one long draught, the clapper.
He woke and found no bell clapper
His inner man enveloped
But cold snow-balls, some eight or ten
From Aldgate pump developed.
And ringers all, both East and West
With frozen vitals squealing
Lay on their backs this Christmas Morn
Instead of joy-bells pealing.

We are compelled to hold over a quantity of correspondence, touches, and other matters, till next week.

PRESENTATION TO THE REV. W. H. DEANE,
HURWORTH-ON-TEES.

An interesting meeting of the parishioners of this village took place in the National School, on Saturday evening, December 15th, the occasion being the presentation to Mr. Deane, of a chaste silver pocket Communion Service, and a purse of £20, on his leaving the Curacy of Hurworth for the parish church of Peterborough. The testimonial, which was promoted by the ringers, choir, football, and cricket clubs, was presented by Mr. M. O. Matthews, churchwarden, who remarked that he was sure they all regretted the cause of their meeting together in losing Mr. Deane, not only would the church suffer, but all the different societies of which Mr. Deane was such an enthusiastic and able member would miss him very much. Mr. Johnson E. Hern, in endorsing Mr. Matthews' remarks, said that in losing Mr. Deane they were losing the only change-ringing clergyman in the Diocese of Durham or Newcastle, and thought other clergy would do well to copy Mr. Deane's example. His constant attendance at ringing practice, and perseverance to master change-ringing were most creditable, and in conclusion remarked that he trusted Mr. Deane would obtain promotion in his noble calling, and not only become some day Dean Deane, but even Bishop Deane. Mr. H. Thompson observed that what Mr. Deane undertook he did well, whether playing at cricket, trundling a football, or ringing a 720 of Bob Minor. Mr. Deane suitably responded, and said that the two years he had spent at Hurworth had been the two most happy years of his life. Mr. Deane rang his farewell 720 on the Hurworth bells, for morning service, on Sunday, 720 Oxford Treble Bob Minor, in 26 mins. Johnson E. Hern (conductor), 1; Rev. W. H. Deane, 2; H. Kirby, 3; J. Temple, 4; G. Garbutt, 5; Henry Thompson, 6. Tenor 17 cwt.

STOKE-UPON-TRENT ARCHIDIACONAL ASSOCIATION.

KEELE (Staffordshire).—At the meeting held here last Saturday, ringers attended from Wolstanton, Lawton, and Keele. The men from Lawton and Keele being under instruction, peal-ringing was abandoned, and it was made a meeting for practice. Tea was served in the schoolroom for 6d. a head, to which twenty sat down. The vicar, the Rev. H. Sutcliffe, and the assistant-curate were present and addressed the meeting. The vicar expressed a hope that when the Association visited Keele again in the summer, he would be able to show the beautiful gardens of Keele Hall.

On Monday, December 13th, the Keele men, with the assistance of their instructor, rang a 720 of Bob Doubles. It may be encouraging to some of the older members of the Association to know that the ringers of the treble and 3rd bells are between 50 and 60 years of age so that it is never too late to learn.

A meeting of the committee will be held on Saturday next, December 22nd, at Stoke, in the Church Room, Bowstead Street, at 4.30 p.m. The chief business will be to arrange the "Order of Meetings" for 1884. As changes as proposed, it is hoped every member of the committee will endeavour to be present.

T. H. B. FEARON, } Hon. Secs.
ENDON GLOVER, }

THE LEIGHTON BUZZARD SCARE.

IN connection with the paragraph we published relating to the above circumstance, the following has appeared in a local paper:—

“ANOTHER BELFRY ACCIDENT.—There seems to be something radically wrong among the bells in the tower of All Saints' Church. It was but last week that we recorded the fall, on Tuesday night the 4th inst., of the clapper from the eighth or tenor bell, to the alarm and danger of the ringers at the ropes below. Fortunately, however, the belfry-floor was sufficiently strong to prevent the clapper from falling into the ringers' loft. On Thursday night as the latter were practising again, the clapper of the next bell—the seventh—weighing between forty and fifty pounds, also fell out, through a nut working loose and letting the connecting pin slip from its place. Since the accident of a fortnight ago the floor had been strengthened, and no injury was caused, except that one or two of the ringers, in their alarm at the sudden crash, and in simultaneously rushing for the only point of exit, collided with each other and with the walls, and sustained some bruises. This is the third accident of the same kind which has occurred in two months in connection with this peal of bells. But these alarming irregularities are not confined to the clappers. Even the bell-ropes have given way to the spirit of insubordination, two of these on Sunday night breaking asunder as the bells were being rung for evening service. Strange to say, these two ropes belonged to two of the three bells which had previously parted with their tongues. Surely the bells must be either bewitched or on strike. Circumstantial evidence would point to conspiracy; at any rate, the experiences of the past few weeks have not tended to inspire the ringers with a sense of unalloyed security.”

THE CHURCH BELLS OF CALCUTTA.

It is probable that some few of the readers of "THE BELL NEWS" may be aware, through the medium of Mears and Stainbank's catalogue, that Calcutta possesses a peal of five bells, and although this is the only peal in the "city of palaces," it contains several churches, each having one or more bells, a few notes of which may perhaps prove of some little interest. The Cathedral claims the first place in point of dignity, although not in age, and also as being the place of abode of the above-mentioned peal of five. A visit paid here one fiercely hot Sunday morning happened to be too late to hear the bells, as the hour of service is unusually early in the hot season, but after service some enquiry among the many individuals, of as many different shades of brown, who are attached to the church, mostly as punkah-wallahs, or wind-raisers, at length succeeded in unearthing the steeple-keeper. This functionary, a very black, but highly respectable-looking individual, dressed in spotless white jacket and muslin dhoties, with legs bare and feet innocent of hose, declined the labour of again ascending the steeple, but accorded his gracious permission for us to do so. We therefore mounted a fine oval staircase for some fifty-two feet and emerged into the open air, then up a wooden step ladder about twelve feet, and through between the roof and ceiling for a distance of some fifteen yards; the temperature here being nothing less than 150 degrees, offered no inducement for a lengthened sojourn, so the journey aloft was continual without delay, the next stage being about fifty-six feet up a corner turret of the steeple of thirty-six inches internal diameter, which, deducting the central column, left the staircase but 15½ inches wide. This would not do for some steeple-keepers you and I are acquainted with, Mr. Editor, although to be sure in this hot country they might dispense with their great coats; but with some rubbing of shoulders and damage to sun-helmet, this exceedingly narrow way was surmounted, and the bells reached. They are hung, or rather bolted up in a cast iron frame of lantern form, and chimed with cords tied to the clappers, and led over a nest of pulleys to the floor; but whether the dark College Youths in charge can or cannot chime a 120 is unknown. The five bells bear the inscription: "Thomas Mears, Founder, London, 1843," and the tenor (25 cwt.) in addition, "Their sound has gone out into all lands." The view from the steeple was quite worth the trouble of ascending, taking in the whole of the immense flat city, and extending on one side to a fine perspective of the beautiful "Garden Reach," the finest reach of the great river Hooghly. In addition to the attraction of the fine view, a breath of fresh air was attainable at that height, a very rare commodity in Calcutta in June, and as valuable as rare.

The old church of St. John's was the next visited, on a week day, and here there were no officials to hunt up, for the door was open, and the way clear right up into the steeple, where we found three Hindoos at work repairing the clock, a very fine one, with an old-fashioned substantial look about its wheels and gear that spoke of honest workmanship, and looked like good service for the next century or two. On a brass plate was the makers name "I. Thwaites and Co. Clerkenwell, London, 1812," and another plate bore the name of a local firm as having repaired it in 1868. In the room over the clock were the bells, three in number, the hour bell of the hemispherical form, 72 inches diameter, with a single large cannon or boss by which it is hung with one large shackle bolt. It is a very fine casting, with but one bead or moulding round it, about 1½ in. broad, of a highly ornamental pattern, on one side the inscription in raised letters; "G. Hutchinson, Major Engrs., Foundry Fort William, A.D., 1834."

The hammer is of bell metal also, a square mass of about 50 lbs. weight, which strikes on the inside of the bell. The two quarter-bells are of the respective diameters of 30 inches and 21½ inches; the larger one having the inscription: "T. Mears of London Fecit," and the smaller one simply the date, 1777; they are both of the same pattern with regard to cannons and mouldings, and it may be inferred, of the same date. This church being very near to the residence of the Governor-General these bells were in frequent use as tocsins, or alarm bells, during the dreadful time of the Indian Mutiny in 1857.

St. Andrew's, or the Scotch Church, has two bells of 40 inches and 34 inches in diameter; the larger one has no inscription, the smaller has "Thomas Mears, Founder, London, 1835." Here was found a small boy, tolling the small bell, with a string tied to the clapper, he was lolling back very luxuriously in an arm-chair, while another imp, smaller, blacker, and with less clothing, was perched cross-legged in in another arm chair alongside, fanning the bob-caller with a palm leaf fan. They looked as if they would make good members of the St. James's Society.

To the Old Mission Church, belonging to the London Missionary Society, is but a few steps from St. Andrews, and here although the bell was tolling, some difficulty was experienced, as no stairs were to be discovered leading up into the steeple. But by the kindly assistance of Sergeant Webb, of the Calcutta Police, a way was found at the end of the church farthest from the steeple, and then back over the whole length of the roof. Here also the band (of one) was seated in an arm chair (two of them, one used as a leg rest), with no clothes on

worth mentioning, diligently ringing his peal (of one) single-handed, by the method so much in favour with the Calcutta Exercise, *i.e.* clocked. This band, from its West-end appearance, evidently belonged to the Cumberlands. By dint of some climbing, there being no ladders, the bell was reached and found to be 40 inches in diameter, with the inscription: "C. and G. Mears, Founders, London. Given by T. S. and W. S. Kelsall, 1846."

And hung to a massive wooden beam with several parts of chain passed over the beam and through the cannons, looking very much like the work of a seaman. In the large circular sound hole beside the bell was a carrion crow's nest, built of a few sticks and wisps of straw, with a mass of bottle-neck wires woven and matted together to the number of many hundreds, or perhaps thousands, weighing five to seven pounds, and containing one egg of a dull green colour, speckled and splashed with brown. A large party of crows had gathered at a distance of a few yards, who remonstrated in a very indignant fashion when the nest and egg were lifted for examination, and as soon as the intruder had descended, two of the party flew straight to the nest, and with a few croaks of satisfaction announced to the assembly that no damage had been done.

A quarter of an hour's drive through some of the back slums, where although it is Sunday, business is at full flood with the native shopkeepers, where Jack the sailor, and Pat or Sandy the fireman, is spending his few rupees, many of them in some little *curio* for the folks at home, but by far too many in the filthy and maddening cheap spirits, here manufactured so plentifully and villanously for their especial behoof. A pleasant relief is it, after this short drive, to enter the large compound, or garden, attached to the Moorgheatta Catholic Cathedral, with its many beautiful flowering trees and shrubs, and cool grass plat. Under the shadow of the old building are some scores of little fellows, from six to twelve or fourteen years old, all dressed alike in clean white muslin or cotton, with shoes but no socks on their feet, and with heads quite bare, the fierce blazing sun notwithstanding, all playing, running and jumping, utterly regardless of the thermometer standing at ever so many degrees over one hundred. These boys are of all shades of colour, from palest and most delicate white to the very darkest shades of brown, and are for the most part orphans of Hindoo-Portuguese blood, maintained in the Convent Orphanage attached to the Cathedral of the Portuguese Roman Catholic Church. A few words with the kind looking Father who is walking amongst the children, with an eye to order, obtains the desired permission to see the bells, and two native servants are detailed to act as guides up into the steeple.

Here are three beautiful-shaped bells, highly ornamented with headings and mouldings of fine patterns, figures of saints, crosses, etc. The largest, of 36 inches diameter, is cracked about six inches up from the mouth, and a large hole drilled in it to prevent the crack extending; it has on two sides a cross, surrounded with halo about ten inches high. The next size, 30 inches in diameter, has on one side the cross, with halo, or glory, and on the other the Virgin and Child, nine inches high. The smallest bell, 24½ inches diameter, has a figure on one side only, of a saint, seven inches high, with the legend "S. Joze." The two large bells have also the inscription "Jose Domingues Da Costa O Fez." em Lisbon, no Anno De 1821."

These bells are hung with very heavy and highly-ornamental stocks to serve as counter-balance, and being well tucked up are very easy to swing, in a very lazy fashion; the gudgeons are let into the solid masonry of the niches or window spaces of the belfry, and when rung the bells swing right out into the open air, in a fashion common to both Spain and Portugal. But these are now chimed "clocked," the good Fathers being fearful of cracking the other two if they are swung.

From this church was visible another fine-looking steeple, which proved to be open to the street, the church being closed, but after a hard scramble up, was rewarded by finding a few crows' nests, but no vestige of a bell of any sort.

The next venture was more successful, found a small Catholic Church, closed, but with steeple open to the street, in it one dreadfully plain and ugly-shaped bell of 24 inches diameter; the maker had evidently been ashamed to put his name on it, for it was quite plain, without bead, moulding or name; but there was a redeeming feature about this poor bell, it was hung with a wheel, believed to be the only bell-wheel in Calcutta.

At the Church of Dolours and seminary of Saint Chrysostom, another Portuguese establishment, a short interview with the Principal resulted in a cordial permission to inspect the bells. The same seemingly favourite road was traversed, stairs up behind the altar, and then a walk along the whole length of the church roof brought us to the belfry, where hung three small and well shaped bells of 18 inches, 17 inches, and 15 inches diameter respectively, upon one of them an engraved inscription was found—"A.M.D.G 1861," but further search was objected to by the inhabitants of the belfry, a swarm of huge wasps, who seemed to think that no one had a right there but themselves. I have heard of beadies, Mr. Editor, who held to this

preposterous notion, but never before of wasps but there was no time to stop and argue the point with them, so a descent was made to the school garden, where a cast iron bell of 16 inches in diameter, was hung up under a jack-fruit tree, the fruit of which, nearly as large as the bell, must have been a sore temptation to the ringer, a little yellow chap of nine, who was hauling away at the cast-iron bell with as much seeming enjoyment as a member of the Yorkshire Association at the tenor in a peal of Treble Bob.

And now, Mr. Editor, I will render you an account of the cost of these bell-hunting expeditions, carried out at an immense expenditure of perspiration and broken English, in the interests of our paper:—

	Rupees	Annas
To Gharry (or cab) hire	3	8
To Backsheesh (or "tips") to steeplekeepers	2	4
To Dhobie-wallah, washing three suits of white clothes	0	15
To repairs to white jacket (torn in climbing steeples)	0	12
To Solah-lopee (a sun helmet) smashed climbing steeples	1	4
Lemonades & ——— (refreshments, Thermometer generally 104 degrees)	4	0

which at the present rate of exchange will be £1 os. 4½d. sterling, and you can either remit me a cheque by return of post, or put me on the free list of "THE BELL NEWS," until the amount has run out.

A. SHIPMAN.

HAPPY TERMINATION TO AN ALARMING ACCIDENT.

MR. ROBERT MAJOR, jun., of Kent, was a young gentleman of rather high notions, which had been nourished by a tradition that the family had descended from an old kingly stock; he therefore thought himself entitled to be called *Bob Royal*, but his own band of friends generally hailed him as *Plain Bob Major*, and those old fogies, the friends of his father, saluted him as *Bob Minor*. He had been to the same school as a cousin and namesake of his, from Oxford, a little thin fellow with a piping voice, dubbed by his school fellows in consequence, *Treble Bob*, while our friend, who was of a stalwart built and the biggest Robert in the school, was known among the admiring crowd of school boys as *Bob Maximus*.

But he had now left school some time, and attained to the dignity of a sweetheart, the fascinating Miss *Sallie Bell*, and he was one day conducting the young lady to visit her *Grandsire* who lived in *Union Court*, they, lover-like, having had a slight tiff, and were then going through the pleasing process of making it up; Miss *Sallie*, who was rather hysterical had just informed Robert that "he was her only stay," when, "her only stay" happening to take a *wrong* step on some ice, was suddenly transformed into a *slider*, and precipitated head foremost into the middle of a *pit*, and became for time *Bob Major reverse*. Miss *Sallie*, much alarmed, called loudly for assistance, and a "bus" passing at the moment, the conductor came down from behind, and dodging quickly round the corner, snapped up poor Robert from his unpleasant position, and making a place for him in the middle of the cushions of the "bus," bid him lie still while he had him driven home. Miss *Sallie* went off to hunt up a doctor, who jumping up on the box of his brougham (his coachman, who was called *Bob*, was a single man, and had gone out behind the coachhouse to take an observation of his *belle*) after putting the lady inside, made quick work of driving to Mr. Major's house; arrived there he rung a peal upon the door bell that brought the footman down to the front door in a very short space of time. The doctor went in quick, but found to his surprise that Robert was all right now that he was at home, in fact there was nothing wrong with him except a slight bruise in the middle of his waist, and a slight crack in his crown, which had been done some time before, and was now of no moment.

Miss *Sallie* was of course delighted to find her lover uninjured, but rather agitated, but Robert stealing his arm around her waist, and managing a short touch upon her lips, besought her to be composed, and make him happy by naming the day; the tenor of his remarks so chimed in with her own wishes, that they were shortly afterwards married, and are now spending their honeymoon at one of the *Cinque* ports, near which town the good-natured conductor who extracted Robert from the *pit*, is keeping a small country inn, where he caters for the anglers who fish the neighbouring stream for gudgeon, and is often called upon by Master *Bob* and his *Sallie* for a change from their round of rural walks and drives. The ex-conductor, who is by no means a stoney-hearted individual, has seen a good many ups and downs in his time, and is now glad to cease his wanderings, and take his stand within the sound of Church Bells, and cordially invites all the readers of *Bell News* to give him a call, as he is at all times to be found at home.

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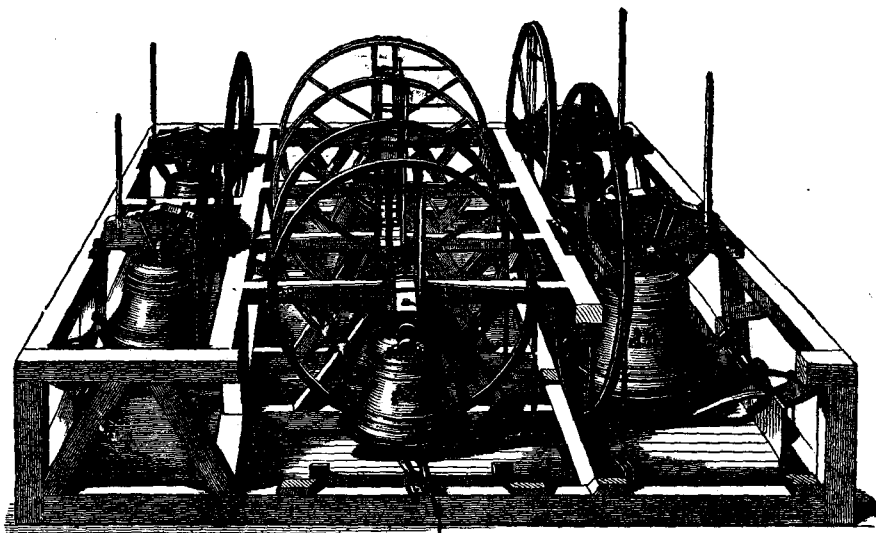
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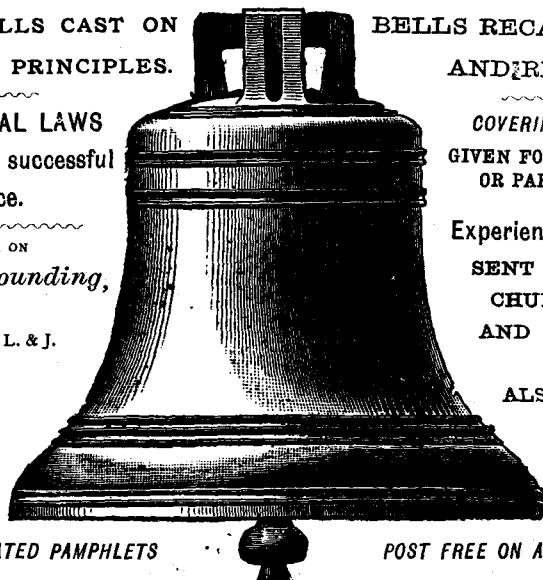
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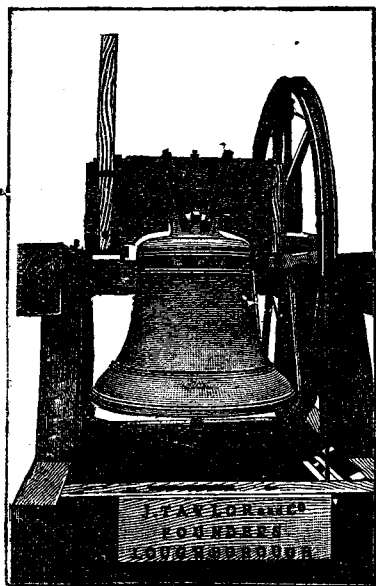
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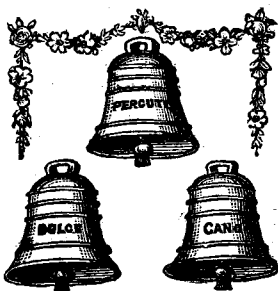
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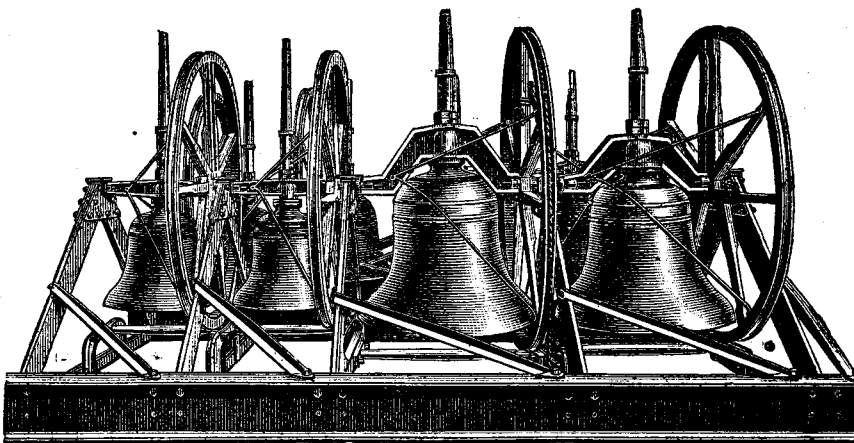
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No. 91. [NEW SERIES.]—VOL. II.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 29, 1883.

[ONE PENNY.]

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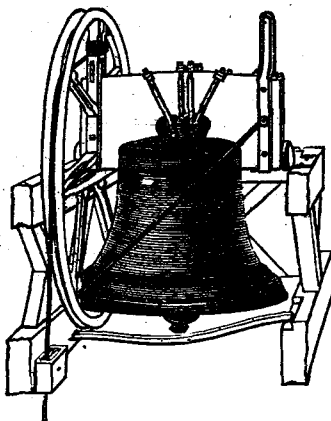
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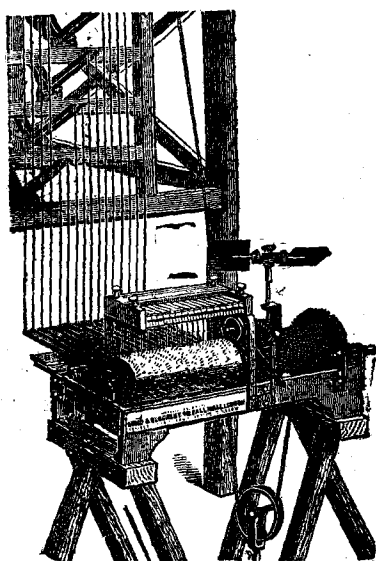
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GRANDSIRE CATERS.

BY JASPER W. SNOWDON.

IN Grandsire, as in most of the methods practised in the earlier days of change-ringing there is such an absence of definite information concerning the first peals accomplished that I am compelled to abandon the attempt to show, with any degree of accuracy, how the different longer lengths have supplanted each other. I purpose, therefore, to point out the first known peal rung on the different numbers of bells, and then to allude to some of the notable peals subsequently rung.

Before entering on the details of the various performances in Grandsire Caters, I should mention that a large proportion of the long peals in this method have been rung double-handed, especially those accomplished in the earlier days of the art, as it does not seem to have been accepted as a recognised principle until the middle of the last century, that to exceed any previous performance each bell should be rung single-handed.

With regard to the first known peal of Grandsire Caters I cannot do better than quote the remarks of Mr. Osborne concerning the Society of "London Scholars," which company is said, at a subsequent period, to have changed its name to the "Cumberland Youths":—

"The first known performance of the London Scholars was a peal of 5040 Grandsire Caters, at St. Bride's, in Fleet St., Friday, Jan. 11th, 1716-17. The frame put up was taken down and destroyed when the church was repaired in 1796. This was supposed to be the only peal of Caters rung whilst St. Bride's contained ten bells, and was said to be the first known peal of Caters ever completed by any company in the kingdom; which was probably the case, as no other peal upon ten bells appears upon record to precede this performance."

Unfortunately, the information to be gathered from this account and two tablets recording the skill of the "London Scholars," is nearly all that is now known of this distinguished Society.

The next reliable performance I take from the annals of the College Youths, who rang the following peals in London, viz.:—5058 at St. Magnus, in 1724; 5059 at St. Giles's, Cripplegate, in 1726; and 5684 at St. Dionis, in 1729. In 1732 the Society of "City Scholars" rang 6012 at St. Giles, Cripplegate; in this peal there were three men to the tenor. The following copy of the tablet is taken from the Osborne MSS:—

Tablet in St. Giles, Cripplegate.—(Surmounted by the City arms.) "Thursday, November 23rd, 1732. The Society of City Scholars rang in this steeple a compleat Peal of six thousand and twelve Caters.

Jno. Arnold, 1;	G. Elton Hill, 5;	Jno. Box, 9;
Jona. Keate, 2;	Jos. Griffiths, 6;	Ed. Nodes,
Robt. Mobbs, 3;	Sal. Thompson, 7;	Hy. Macfarland, } 10
Thos. Nash, 4;	Wm. Hilliar, 8;	Darn. Newbolt,

Mr. John Mabatt, Mr. Robert Wyrill, Mr. John Robson, Mr. Thomas Sayers, Churchwardens."

Following these performances come three long lengths rung at Painswick, namely, 8064 in 1734; 10,080 in 1735; and 12,006 in 1736. As at that time it was customary, in going for great lengths, not to be particular as to the number of times the ropes changed hands, I think—although there is no direct evidence—that it may fairly be assumed that these were not single-handed performances. The following details appear on a tablet in Painswick Church.

" March 1st, 1734	} a peal of	{ 8,064	in ye	{ 4 : 45			
March 1st, 1735					{ 10,080	space	{ 6 : 27
April 18th, 1737								{ 12,006	of	{ 7 : 55."

In 1736 two trebles were added to the old ring of eight at St. Peter's, Mancroft, Norwich, and the Norwich men went in for ten-bell ringing with a will, as in the following year they rung 12,600 of Grandsire Caters, the longest length that has ever been rung in this method. In this peal—as the tablet records—the

tenor was rung singly by a young ringer, 8000, then a second rung her to the end of the peal. The record, however, is very particular in stating that the changes were 'rung by nine men of the company then belonging to the steeple,' and the emphasis on this point certainly raises the question whether, in peals with the tenor behind, this bell should of necessity be rung single-handed; because in this manner the test thus becomes one of mere physical endurance, and does not, as in even-bell methods, require a combination of bodily and mental energy. Certainly the Norwich performance was a very creditable one in every way. The following is a copy of the tablet alluded to:—

Tablet in the belfry at St. Peter's, Mancroft, Norwich.—"On March the 8th, 1737, was rung a peal of Grandsire Caters, which for excellency of its ringing, Harmonious changes, and ye number of them, was certainly superior to anything of its kind ever done in the World: and to Remove all doubt of the truth of the performance several ingenious Ringers were abroad the whole time with proper rules to prove the certainty of ye same. Thus was this great peal perfectly compleated to the entire satisfaction surprise and amazement, of thousand of hearers in the space of 8 hrs. 15 mins. The number of changes were 12,603, rung by 9 men of the company then belonging to the company. The tenor singly, by a young ringer 8000, then a second ringer rung her to the end of the peal. The persons names and the bells they rung as follows:—

Tho. Melchior, 1;	Tho. Barrett, 4;	Tho. Blofield, 7;
Wm. Pettingall, 2;	Robert Crane, 5;	Edwd. Crane, 8;
John Gardiner, 3;	Wm. Porter, 6;	Chrsr. Booty, 9;

James Jerom, Robt. Liddamon tenor.

In 1762 the College Youths rang at West Ham, 10,188, which is probably the first authenticated single-handed peal of 10,000 changes rung in Grandsire Caters. In 1778 a peal of 10,260 was accomplished at St. Mary's, Nottingham; and in 1803, at Kingston-on-Thames, 10,386 was rung single-handed, and in 1808, a peal of 10,327 was rung at St. Chad's, Shrewsbury. In 1816 the Painswick men rang 10,278, which I have heard was soon after beaten a few changes by their rival neighbours the Bristol men: this started the former company to practise for a still further length. Whether there is any truth in this story of the rivalry between the Painswick and Bristol men I have not been able to ascertain; although I have inquired, I have not been able to find any record or hear of any peal of 10,000 rung at Bristol. Whatever was the cause that prompted the Painswick men to practise for this further length, it had a successful result as on May 5th, 1817, they placed 12,312 changes to their credit in 7 hrs. 44 mins. This still remains the greatest number of changes ever rung in Grandsire Caters by ten men, and, indeed, is also the highest number accomplished, under these conditions, upon ten bells. This peal, the calling of which is to be found in the *Clavis*, and the composition of which, with nearly all the other peals in that work, is ascribed to John Reeves, is recorded on a tablet a copy of which is appended:—

Tablet in the belfry of Painswick Church, Gloucester.—"This tablet records the greatest Achievement of Change-Ringing in England, by ten men only, in the Musical Composition of Tittum Grandsire Caters, comprising 12,312 changes, rung in this steeple by the Painswick Youths, being on the 5th day of May, 1817. It was performed in 7 hrs. 44 mins., and the Artists were stationed as follows, viz.:—

Danl. Glyde, 1;	Wm. Estcourt, 4;	Robt. Selwyn, 7;
Giles Mansfield, 2;	Jno. Tunley, 5;	Thos. Bethell, 8;
Geo. Harding, 3;	Jas. Savory, 6;	Thos. Handy, 9;
	Jno. Wood, 10;	

Weight of the tenor, 26 cwt. 2 qrs. 22 lbs., neat Bell Metal."

Mr. Giles Mansfield, who rang the second bell in this peal and who was born on October 15th, 1792, and is therefore in his ninety-second year is still living—the only survivor of the band. Probably no better proof of the healthfulness of the art of change-ringing can be brought forward than the ages to which the men who rang in this peal one of the most notable peals ever rung, lived. The ages run thus; 89, 91 (still living), 87, 78, 80, 84, 50, 71, 70 and 85. These numbers give an average age of *seventy-eight and a half years* to each of the band; and if the age of the ringer who died at 50 be excepted, the average of the remaining nine will be *nearly eighty-two years*. As a warning to bachelors, it may be mentioned that the ringer who died at fifty was the only unmarried man amongst the band.

YORK BELL FOUNDERS.—IX.

(Continued.)

EDWARD SELLER, II. (continued.)

I am obliged for the additions and remarks of "H. W. (Cumberland)." Upon referring he will find that I quoted the date 1260 on the Bolton Percy bell correctly, and that the "&c." is given in Gent's History, published in 1733. In 1760, a bell, probably the one in question, was recast at York, by Dalton. Green's churches of Yorkshire, published about 1843, however, merely repeat the inscriptions given by Gent, omitting the "&c." That this bell, and tenor at Dacre, were cast by the same founder, seems very probable. The letters "W. O." are evidently the initials of William Oldfield, bellfounder of York, who in 1639 cast a bell for Easingwold Church, the agreement for which, copied from the Registers, appears in the "Antiquary" for this month, in an article by Dr. Collins, on "Yorkshire Parish Registers."

1742—CAVE, SOUTH.—

Cum sono busta moriscum pulpita vivere disce 1742
Mat. Burley, Church
Joh. Butterfield, Wardens
Peter Hickington Vicar."

1744.

"Populum voco Deum laudare 1744
E. Seller
Ebor."

1745—HOYLAND HIGH 5 bells.—

"Gloria in altissimis Deo 1745."
"Te Deum Laudamus 1745."
"Cum sono busta mori cum pulpita vivere disce, 1745
Tho. Dawson, and — Malbon, Rectors;
John Burton, Curate,
John Swaine and Mat. White Churchwardens."
"Canamus Domino 1745."
"Incipe musa Prior 1745."

1747—STILLINGFLEET.—

"Gloria in altissimis Deo, 1747 Rob. Potter, Vicar E. Seller
Ebor

1752—YORK MINSTER.—

In 1752 the old clock over the south entrance, rendered useless by age, was removed, and a new one erected, by which alteration the chimes, (which before the alteration at set hours used to play various tunes) were taken away. Below the clock stood two figures in armour, that struck the quarters on two small bells, similar to those of St. Dunstan's, London. The clock bell had upon it:—
"Ave, Gratia plena. Dominus tecum."

1753—WEAVERTHORPE.—

"W. Ford, Rector Math. Wharton Thos. Clarkson church 1753 E. Seller
John Ness Math. Robson wardens Ebor"

1755—BEDALE.—

"Gloria in excelsis Deo, 1755
Edwd. Place, Rector. Ino. Pullien, ch. warden E. Seller
Ebor."

1756—HESSLE.—

"God save the church 1756 Rob. Lambert, Vicar
Chri. Kiplingham, Church S E. Seller
Rob. Wetwang, Warden Ebor."

LAXTON.—

"Deo optimo maximo 1756, Chr. Bayles E. Seller
Ebor"

1759—WILBERFOSS.—

"Gloria in altissimis Deo, 1759."

1759—CRAYKE.—

Alex. Jephson Rector James Mortimer church
"Deo Gloria 1759 Tho. Denison Curate John Bellwood wardens
E. Seller
Ebor."

1762—THWING.—

Joh. Vickerman church Seller
"Deo Gloria 1762 Ch. Roper wardens Ebor."

1732—ROUTH.—(omitted from last article.)

"Gloria in altissimis Deo 1732
E. Seller
Ebor."

GEORGE DALTON.

He had his bell-house in Stonegate, and used Roman capitals for his inscriptions. He was the last of the York Bell Founders.

1751—HESLERTON, East.—

"Gloria in altissimis Deo 1751
E. Seller
Ebor."

1753—COTTINGHAM.—

"Joseph Rvssell Joseph Meedly, churchwardens 1753
G.
Dalton"
Ebor

1654—POCKLINGTON.—

"Te Devm Lavdamvs Tho. Lovett Vicar G.
R. Walker J. Gartham ch: wardens 1754 Dalton
York."

1760—BOLTON PERCY.—

"Dalton York 1760."

1763—SETTRINGTON.—

"C. Newlove T. Botterill J. Piercy ch: wardens 1763 G.
Gloria in altissimis Deo Dalton
York."

1765—YORK, St. Michael's, Spurrigate.—

"Lewis Etty, Rector,
R. Davies, T. Hessey, ch: wardens 1765."

Rev. Lewis Etty was also Rector of St Mary's, Castlegate, having succeeded the Rev. John Bourne in 1741 (see last article). He died July 7, 1773, at his house at Castlegate, aged 65—long afflicted with palsy—buried in the chancel of St Mary's, of which church he had been Rector for 32 years.

Richard Davis was a marriner (or coal merchant), and was grandfather to the late Robert Davis, the well-known York antiquary and historian. He at one time occupied the old house in Lendal, near the Post Office, and served the office of Chamberlain in 1759. The old house will shortly be demolished, to make way for the new Post Office.

YORK MINSTER.—

In this year the twelve bells were taken down, not being quite tuneable, by order of Dean Fountayne, the four trebles being removed to St. Michael's, Spurrigate, as previously stated. They were replaced by a new peal of ten, from the Whitechapel Foundry.

1772—CAVE, NORTH, five bells.—

1, 2, 3, 4, 5.—"Geo. Dalton York Fecit 1772."

1775—THIRSK.—

"Christopher Arnim—Ralph Smithson church wardens
Geo. Dalton York fecit 1775."

1778—HAREWOOD.—

"Dalton—York—Founder—1778."

1779—HUNTINGTON.—

"Dalton 1779."

1781—AUGHTON.—

"Soli Deo Gloria, Pax hominibus
James Cookson Vicar Dalton
George Young church Founder
Joseph Hatfield wardens York
1081."

1783—MARKET WRIGHTON.—Six bells. Upon each except the last is—

Dalton, fecit, York 1783.
"Te Deum Laudamus."
"Bonum est celebrare Jehovah."
"Vocamus venite vigilate orate."
"In Iucunditate soni sonabo tibi Domine."
"Lans honor Deo et gloria in excelsis Halleluiah."
"Soli Deo gloria, pax hominibus
Geo Skelding Vicar W. Breighton. W. Vawser
c.H. Wardens 1783."

1784—ALDBOROUGH.—

"I call the people. I adorn the festivals 1784.
Dalton fecit York"

TADCASTER.—six bells.—upon each.

G. & R. Dalton of York Founders 1784.
"Cry aloud, lift up thy voice like a trumpet"
"Praise God in the firmament of his power"
"My sound is sweet attend my solemn call"
"God save this Church and our King and Realm"
"Glory to God in the highest. Hallelujah"

It is remarkable that these bells were moulded in the severe frost of 1783-4.

"Here God presides, His presence fills the place
John Crossley Vicar A.M.
John Potter
Richard Ives Churchwardens."

1785—WHIXLEY.—

"Soli Deo Gloria
Dalton fecit York 1785."
(To be continued.)

G.B. (York.)

ST. SIDWELL'S, EXETER.

Tuesday, December 18th, 1883, was the opening night of the belfry of St. Sidwell's, Exeter, as it has been termed for some time past by the members, the belfry having undergone a thorough renovation (which was much needed). The walls have been put in good order, nicely coloured, new wood-work added, good substantial curtains have been placed around the belfry, and the place painted, which makes things very comfortable, and keep out all draughts. The whole of the work, which has been done regardless of expense, has been defrayed out of the society's funds, which, we are pleased to say, are in a very flourishing condition. Our correspondent adds:—"The people in this neighbourhood are very fond of their money, for we are quite sure that if we had not done this work ourselves it would never have been touched. Besides the opening of the belfry, [was the pleasing ceremony of the erection of two new peal-boards, one recording a peal of Grandsire Triples, conducted by W. C. Marsh, this being the first peal ever rung by Exeter men; the other recording a peal of Stedman Triples, rang by members of the Guild of Devonshire ringers, conducted by the Rev. F. E. Robinson, this being the first peal of Stedman ever rung in Exeter. To celebrate the opening, a date touch, 1883 changes, was attempted, but after ringing about 1870 changes, the conductor called "stand" owing to some unaccountable cause. After which about eighteen members and a few friends sat down to supper, provided by host Medland, to which ample justice was done. The chair was occupied by Mr. Sydney Hebert, and the vice by Mr. Ferris Shepherd. After the usual loyal toasts, Mr. Herbert Swift, who is always to the fore on these occasions, submitted the toast of "Success to the St. Sidwell's Ringers," and in so doing, spoke of the success of the company in change-ringing of late, and dwelt upon the fact that the members were well cemented together in unity, and in conclusion urged upon them the necessity of working together. Mr. Sydney Herbert responded. Mr. Ferris Shepherd then gave the health of the rector and churchwardens, and said the absence of the rector that evening was unavoidable, and expressed a hope that they would have the pleasure of the clergy's company on some future occasion. Mr. W. E. G. Goss proposed the health of Mr. Ferris Shepheid (the conductor), whose health was drunk amid much enthusiasm, as well as that of his wife, who is also a ringer. Harmony and handbell ringing was then the order of the evening, which was ably sustained by Messrs. Richardson, Goss, Swift, Harris, etc. The peal boards, which were much admired, was the work of Mr. Ferris Shepherd, the present conductor; the masonry, etc., being the work of Mr. Thomas Halse, builder and contractor, St. Sidwell's.

STOKE-UPON-TRENT ARCHIDIACONAL ASSOCIATION.

A Committee Meeting was held at Stoke on Saturday last, at which the following parishes were represented:—Norton-le-Moors, Leek, Lawton, Horton, Tunstall, Keele, and Checkley. The chair was taken by the Rev. B. Blakeway, Vicar of Horton. A general opinion having been expressed that weekly meetings for ringing were too frequent, especially in the country districts where belfries are far apart and difficult of access, the following resolution was carried unanimously:—"That the Archidiaconry be divided for the purposes of the Association, into two districts instead of four:—viz., Stoke and Wolstanton, and that meetings for ringing in each district be held fortnightly instead of weekly."

The following "Order of Meetings for 1884" was then drawn up and ordered to be circulated: On the 1st and 3rd Saturdays of each month the meetings will be:—January—Stoke, Wolstanton; February—Utttoxeter, Tunstall; March—Leek, Hanley; April—Checkley, Burslem; May—Cheddleton, Lawton; June—Cheadle, Keele; July—Burlaston, Norton; August—Leigh, Biddulph; September—Ellastone, Horton; October—Stoke, Wolstanton; November—Utttoxeter, Tunstall; December—Leek, Hanley.

T. H. B. FEARON,)
ENDON GLOVER,) Hon. Secs.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

A QUARTERLY MEETING of this Association will be held at Leicester, on Saturday, December 29th; visitors on arrival are requested to proceed to St. George's Schools, Colton Street, where the local committee will be in attendance to assist in forming bands to proceed to the various towers. Committee meeting in St. Margaret's School-room, Canning Place, at 4 o'clock. Tea and subsequent business meeting in the latter place at 5 o'clock. The following towers will be open: St. Margaret's, Church Gate, ten bells; St. Mary's, Castle Street, eight bells; St. Mark's, Belgrave Gate, eight bells; St. Saviour's, St. Saviour's Road, eight bells; St. George's, Rutland Street, six bells.

JOSEPH GRIFFIN, Hon. Sec.

THE PARISH CHURCH SOCIETY, ROCHDALE.

On Thursday evening, December 20th, six members of the parish church society, assisted by two former members, the third and tenor ringers, rang a peal of Grandsire Triples, in which great interest was taken by ringers in the district, owing to the great age of the ringer of the third bell Mr. Thomas Bamford, and many were the wishes expressed that it might have a safe termination. The bells struck into changes about 7.15 p.m., and came round at 10.16 p.m. and was pronounced by old ringers to be a very good peal. At the close, the bells were fired eighty times, during which the old veteran remarked that he thought he had another hour to ring yet, and was as fresh as any of them at the close. The ringers shook hands with him very cordially, wishing him many happy returns of the day, and he said he should like to ring many more peals yet. The company descended the tower, and about three minutes' walk brought them to Mr. Burton's coffee house in the lower market, where their respected Vicar, the Rev. Canon Maclure, had provided a first class dinner, consisting of soups, roast beef, boiled mutton, plum pudding, tarts, etc., to which seventeen sat down. The tables cleared, the Vicar took the chair, and he said the first toast would be, "The Health of Mr. Thomas Bamford," for whom he had the greatest respect; and he had hearkened to the peal all through, and was only frightened of the young men breaking the old man down, and he had great pleasure in proposing the health of Mr. Bamford, which was drunk by all the company. Mr. Bamford, in responding, thanked them all for the kind manner in which they had drunk his health, and he thanked God for having spared him so long in good health, as he never had the headache in his life, and he should not cease to thank him, as he always had done, and he hoped he would spare him to ring many more peals yet, and hoped to be able to commemorate his ninetieth birthday in the same way. The Vicar next proposed "The Health of Mr. F. Birtwistle," their leader, which was acknowledged in suitable terms. "The Health of the Vicar," by Mr. Birtwistle and responded to by the Vicar with a long speech on ringers' duties. Afterwards "The Wardens and Sidesmen," responded to by Mr. Clegg and Mr. Booth. The rest of the time was spent in conversation on the desirability of having their bells made into a peal of ten, the company breaking up at half-past twelve, all well satisfied with their entertainment.

THE BEACONSFIELD BELLS.

The work of restoration to the tower of All Saints' parish church, Beaconsfield, is making satisfactory progress, the addition to the top being almost constructed, excepting the spire, which will be carried up 30ft. from the tower battlements, on an octagonal base, at the S.E. corner. All defective masonry is removed from the foundations, which will be renewed with new stone, and the exterior of the structure generally repaired.

The old peal of six bells, tenor about 16cwt. in F., have not been removed, having been left on purpose to ring during the week for the coming of age of Harry Webster Lawson, Esq., of Hall Barn Park, who attained his majority on the 18th inst. On that day ringing was kept up by the local band, Messrs. Tapping, Chasey, Bolt, Ball, Manley, Bagley, Jones, and Coleman, several ringers dropping in from Slough, Farnham, and Amersham, who were entertained at "The Saracen's Head" by Mr. Tapping with a comely repast.

In our report of the intended restoration of Beaconsfield bells, in the number for Dec 8th, please read 12cwt. 3qr. 14lb. as the weight of the 5th, and not the 4th, as stated. And it is expected several subscribers may be added to this journal in this town. W. H. F.

RE-OPENING OF FISHTOFT BELLS, LINCOLNSHIRE.

THE bells of the parish church, Fishtoft, were re-opened on Thursday last, by five members of the South Lincolnshire Association, after having been silent for eighteen years. The bells were in a very dilapidated condition, and Mr. Rodgers, of Boston, was engaged in re-hanging them, and has executed the work in a very satisfactory manner. Seventeen 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles and three of Lincolnshire Singles were rung. T. Rodgers (Boston), 1; J. King (Wyberton), 2; E. Mason (Boston), (conductor), 3; J. M. Rylett (Boston), 4; W. Pepper (Wyberton), 5. Tenor, 10 cwt. Supper was provided at the "Red Cow" Inn, Fishtoft, when about forty ringers and friends sat down.

In the report of the ringing at Chester Cathedral, given in our issue of the 15th, the ringer's name of the 4th should have been John Gibson, not John Gibbon.

"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.

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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.

REV. P. H. JACKSON.—We should be pleased to see what you refer to.

The Bell News & Ringers' Record.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 29, 1883.

BEFORE the next number of this journal is in the hands of our readers, the year 1883 will have given place to its successor. The commencement of a new year, like the great Christian festival which immediately precedes it, has characteristics peculiar to itself. The period is considered an appropriate one for "turning over a new leaf," as it is called—improving, where improvement is practicable, each shining hour of the coming year. Had we the necessary space at our command, a retrospect of the year from a ringer's standpoint would not be out of place. But we must be content with a brief allusion to one or two of its most important events.

The long peal of Treble Bob Major rung at Mottram-in-Longdendale has, without doubt, been the premier achievement of the year. Rumours of a length having been composed of a greater number of changes than were comprised in that peal, have however, been current since its performance, but such a composition has not yet made its appearance, though such a thing need not be held to be impossible of attainment. The supremacy in Stedman Caters has been transferred from Birmingham to the metropolis. On the bells of the church of All Saints, Fulham, as the records of this journal showed at the time, the College Youths rung a peal in this method, comprising the peculiar number of 11,111 changes, conducted by Mr. JAMES PETTIT. This peal was composed by Mr. HENRY JOHNSON, of Birmingham. It is not unworthy of note that the composers of these two long peals both hailed from the same town; they each had produced long peals which when rung occupied the proudest place in the particular method; and they both afterwards composed

still greater lengths in the same methods superseding the previous ones, and these later productions have also been rung.

With the exception of one or two peals of Double Norwich Court, and a 10,000 of Grandsire Major rung in hand at Birmingham, and the long peals at Fulham and at Mottram, above-mentioned, the year's performances afford no food for any lengthy comment. What may be done in the coming year is purely a matter of conjecture. We should like to see a much greater variety of methods, not merely practised occasionally, but rung in peals of 5000 and upwards. And hoping that greater success than ever will fall to the endeavours made to promote and advance the science, it is in all sincerity that we wish, to all our kind readers and friends—

A HAPPY NEW YEAR.

THE WORCESTERSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

THIS Association have, we are aware, met with great difficulties in getting to work. There seems to be a want of unity among the different bands; and certainly very little support is given to the art by the ringers of Worcester itself. This city contains one peal of twelve, one of ten, one of eight, and several of six bells in ringing order, yet nothing better than a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples has now been rung there for some time; and at the last practice of the Association not a single man from this place was present.

To the Bromsgrove Society every praise is due, for it is the mainstay of the Association; but we earnestly beg the ringers of Worcester and some other places to show a little more spirit and do a little more work for ringing in the district. There is no reason why their county should not rank with the best, but this result can only be brought about by good work, and hearty co-operation. We hope that in the new year we shall be called on to record at least three times the number of peals accomplished by this Association in the year which is now leaving us; and that some of them will be rung at other places than Bromsgrove. We notice with great pleasure that another peal has been rung by the local society of Bromsgrove. There is nothing very remarkable about this fact at first sight; but on consideration of a few other circumstances, our readers will agree that we are right in drawing particular attention to it.

Bromsgrove, as some of our readers may be aware, possesses an exceptionally beautiful church, with a light peal of ten bells of no great merit. To ringers, however, its chief interest will lie in the fact that it has now, as for some years past, the most active and accomplished band of ringers in the large district between Birmingham and Oxford.

In some parts of Worcestershire and South Staffordshire, the fashion exists of ringing changes in "goes," that is, repeating the changes several times each. At some few churches a 720 of Grandsire or Bob Minor is occasionally rung; though this is an exceptional performance. Consequently one is surprised and delighted to find in Bromsgrove a band who can ring, creditably, Grandsire, Plain Bob, and Treble Bob on ten bells.

We hope that our remarks may be taken in the spirit in which they are made, and that they may act as a fillip, inducing healthy and vigorous action. The city above-named, we are peculiarly anxious should be, as of yore, a well-known ringing centre for the neighbourhood, but this can only be when the local company become worthy successors of a previous generation.

TWELVE-BELL STEEPLES OF LONDON.

PASSING down the Strand, we now come to the last of the twelve-bell steeples of the metropolis, viz.: St. Martin's-in-the-Fields. Here we have a peal of twelve, by Abraham Rudhall, of Gloucester, tenor 34 cwt. in D. This peal seems a sort of improvement on that of St. Bride's, which Rudhall completed only eight years before. Evidently the St. Bride's tenor, which was only made for ten bells, and weighed 28 cwt., was not heavy enough for twelve (the number to which the St. Bride's peal was afterwards augmented). So when he cast the twelve for St. Martin's, in 1726, he increased the weight to 34 cwt., without lowering the key, which is a pity, as no twelve-bell peal should have a tenor above C. Besides the peal, there is an ancient "sanctus bell." This hangs in the upper part of the steeple.

The ringing-chamber is clean and well kept, and the walls are hung with photographs of various churches.

These bells are the first to proclaim any occasion of rejoicing in connection with the Royal Family. Buckingham Palace stands in the parish, and George I., during his reign, was elected churchwarden, and during his year of office he presented an organ to the church.

The following records are in the belfry:—

March 14th, 1727	by London Scholars	6000	
Jan. 6th, 1785	by College Youths	5136	Ox. T. B. Max.
Oct. 6th, 1788	by College Youths	6204	Stedman Cinques.
Jan. 18th, 1702	by College Youths	5088	Stedman Cinques.
Oct. 26th, 1837	by St. James' Youths	7325	Grandsire Cinques
Jan. 3rd, 1854	by Cumberlands	5151	Stedman Cinques.
Nov. 10th, 1862	by Cumberlands	5050	Stedman Caters.
March 10th, 1865	by Cumberlands	5019	Stedman Cinques.
Jan. " 1867	by Cumberlands	5013	Grandsire Cinques.
Oct. 30th, 1868	by Cumberlands	5040	Grandsire Triples.
March 17th, 1871	by St. James' Youths	5040	K.T.B. Maxs.

This ends my account of the twelve bell steeples of the metropolis, which I am afraid is somewhat imperfect. My information has been collected, partly from personal visits and partly from various other sources, and at various other times during the past ten years. I hope your readers will pardon any omissions or faults on my part.

J. R. JERRAM.

THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

A DISTRICT MEETING of the ringing members of the above Association was held at Luton, Bedfordshire, on Saturday, December 15th. There was a good attendance at the tower, and by the kind permission of the Rev. J. O'Neill, the church bells were continuously rung from 2 p.m. until 7. The bells, however, go badly—the tower and frame rocking considerably. Touches of Grandsire Triples and Bob Major of between three and four hundred were rung, but the striking was not so good as it should have been owing to the condition of the bells. Messrs. Tyler, Allen, Hare, Farr, and Silsby, from Hitchin, Herts, joined the company for the day, which was most agreeably spent. A short smart business meeting for a few minutes in the belfry was held, and a discussion as to how best to become associated with the Ely Diocesan Society followed with the result that members be invited to join individually in the present year, and that the subject would be dealt with at the Annual Meeting to be held at Bedford on Easter Monday next.

Messrs. Walter Alfred Chibnall, James Carwell Cook, and Mark Lane, all of Aspley Guise, Beds., were nominated members of the Association by Mr. Charles Herbert, the Hon. Sec.

Among those present were W. W. C. Baker, Esq. (Eversholt Rectory), Messrs. Hills and Frossell, Bedford, Mr. Biggs, Bromham, Messrs. Herbert Morrison, Herbert W. E. Turney, and H. Turney, Woburn. A downpour of rain between seven and eight o'clock caused some inconvenience to the members, who rushed to the railway station to catch their respective trains, and while awaiting a change of trains at Leighton Buzzard, the pleasing accents of the Linsdale bells broke upon the willing ear.

THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

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

A. B. CARPENTER, Hon. Sec.

The Provinces.

SPALDING, LINCOLNSHIRE.

On Wednesday, December 19, 1883, in Three Hours and Five Minutes,

At SS. MARY AND NICHOLAS,

5040 CHANGES: IN FIVE DIFFERENT METHODS UPON 6 BELLS;

720 COLLEGE SINGLE; 720 OXFORD TREBLE BOB; 720 LONDON SINGLE TWO 720s OF PLAIN BOB; and TWO 720s OF OXFORD BOB.

J. S. WRIGHT	Treble.	R. MACKMAN	4.
J. WILSON	2.	C. BROWN	5.
G. L. RICHARDSON	3.	J. BROWN	Tenor.

Conducted by RICHARD MACKMAN.

After this achievement the Rev. Canon Moore invited the company to the vicarage for refreshment, and after a few congratulatory remarks in which he expressed himself highly pleased with the creditable manner of the ringing, the rev. gentleman made the ringers a very nice present. The above 5040 is the first rung by the members of the South Lincolnshire Association, since its formation.

This is the first on a bob bell, and the 2nd 5040 by J. S. Wright.

HUNTSHAM, DEVON.

On Tuesday, December 25, 1883, in Two Hours and Fifty-seven Minutes,

At THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

TAYLOR'S BOB-AND-SINGLE VARIATION. Tenor 13 cwt.

JAMES CHASE, JUN.*	Treble.	†JOHN HEARD†	5.
HENRY PAYNE†	2.	*JOHN DAVEY	6.
WALTER HEARD†	3.	†HENRY TUCKER.. .. .	7.
JAMES CHAVE, SEN.†	4.	*BENJ. VICKERY	Tenor.

Conducted by HENRY TUCKER.

(First peal as conductor.)

*First peal. †First peal with a bob bell. ‡College Youths.

THE ROCHDALE AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATION.

On Thursday, December 20, 1883, in Three Hours and One Minute,

At THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

MR. THOS. DAY'S 4-PART BOB-AND-SINGLE PEAL.

WM. H. SMITH	Treble.	GEORGE HOYLE	5.
JOHN SIDDLE	2.	ALBERT HURST.. .. .	6.
THOMAS BAMFORD	3.	FRANK BIRTWISTLE	7.
WILLIAM SIDDLE	4.	EDWARD COLLINGE	Tenor.

Conducted by FRANK BIRTWISTLE.

The above was rung in commemoration of the 80th birthday of Mr. Thomas Bamford, and contains 194 singles and 66 bobs.

BIRSTALL.—THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Wednesday, December 26, 1883, in Three Hours,

At St. PETER'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 20 cwt.

MATTHEW TOMLINSON	Treble.	WILLIAM STAINTHORPE	5.
WILLIAM SMITH	2.	BENJAMIN A. DODSON	6.
BENJAMIN PARKINSON	3.	JOHN MCKELL	7.
GARFORTH TAYLOR	4.	JASPER W. SNOWDON, Esq. Tenor.	

Composed by N. J. PITSTOW, and conducted by J. W. SNOWDON.

The peal, which the sixth the extent home, and ten course-ends in that position, and also contains all the 86's, was composed on December 10th, 1883, and has never been previously performed.

Miscellaneous.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.—On Sunday, December 16th, for evening service at the church of St. John the Baptist, in 28 mins., 720 of Bob Minor. Fred. Sneeth, 1; George Campbell, 2; Wm. Story, 3; T. J. des Forges, 4; C. L. Routledge, 5; Francis Lees (conductor), 6. On

Monday, Dec. 24th, for practice, in 27 mins., 720 of Bob Minor. R. Simm, jun. (Cathedral), 1; W. G. Routledge, 2; F. Lees, 3; T. J. des Forges, 4; C. L. Routledge, 5; W. Story (conductor), 6. On Christmas Day, 8.0 a.m., in 27 mins., 720 of Kent Treble Bob. G. Campbell, 1; C. L. Routledge, 2; F. Lees, 3; T. J. des Forges, 4; W. Story, 5; W. G. Routledge (conductor), 6. Also for morning service 720 of Oxford Treble Bob, G. Herdman ringing the treble. Tenor, 12½ cwt.

THE BIRMINGHAM AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATION.

KING'S NORTON (WORCESTERSHIRE).—On Sunday, December 23rd, eight of the above rang at the parish church 720 of Grandsire Minor, with the 6th and 8th covering, in 24 mins. Frank Palmer, treble; W. H. Sumner, 2; Fred. Palmer, 3; Fred. Scrivens, 4; J. Cooks, 5; D. Taylor, 6; W. Palmer (conductor), 7; J. Betterton, 8. Also on Christmas Day for Divine Service in the morning, 1008 of Grandsire Triples, containing the twenty-four 6-7s, being the least number of changes in which they can be produced, in 35 mins. Frank Palmer, treble; W. H. Sumner, 2; Fred. Palmer, 3; J. Cooks, 4; J. Wright, 5; Fred. Scrivens, 6; W. Palmer (conductor), 7; Daniel Taylor, 8. Tenor 18 cwt.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

BEARSTEAD (Kent).—On Saturday, December 15th, several members of the above Association visited this place and rang a 720 of Grandsire Minor, in 26 mins. W. Mercer, 1; A. H. Woolley, 2; R. Simmonds, 3; J. Horton, 4; J. Fergusson, 5; H. Pearce (conductor), 6. Tenor 13 cwt.

WEST MALLING (Kent).—On Sunday, December 16th, the following members of the above Association rang a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor in 26 mins. D. Hall, 1; C. Payne, 2; E. Baldock, 3; G. Pawley, 4; W. Leonard, 5; F. G. Newman (conductor), 6. Also a 720 of Bob Minor, in 27 mins. R. Simmonds, 1; G. Pawley, 2; C. Payne, 3; J. Horton, 4; W. Leonard (conductor), 5; D. Hall, 6.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

GRASSENDALE (Lancashire).—On Saturday, December 2nd, six members of the above Association rang at St. Mary's Church, a 720 of Grandsire Minor, in 26 mins. Samuel Hoxworth (Runcorn), 1; James Alexander, 2; Walter Turner, 3; Walter Hughes, 4; F. Turner, 5; Geo. W. Hughes (conductor), 6. Tenor 12 cwt.

HULME (Manchester).—On Thursday, December 13th, six members of the above association rang at Holy Trinity church, a 720 of Grandsire Minor, in 28 mins. *J. J. Mason, 1; Wm. Diggle, 2; *W. J. Chatterton, 3; *W. H. Lockett, 4; W. Savage, 5; W. Roberts (conductor), 6. Tenor 15½ cwt. *Their first 720.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

FARNHAM ROYAL (Bucks).—On Saturday, December 22nd, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor, in 26 mins. C. Clarke, 1; F. Fells, 2; A. Fussell, 3; A. Batten, 4; J. Parker (conductor), 5; W. Fussell, 6. Also a 720 of Canterbury Pleasure, in 28 mins. G. Basden, 1; F. Fells, 2; A. Fussell, 3; A. Batten, 4; W. Fussell, 5; J. Parker (conductor), 6. And on Christmas Day, December 25th, a 720 Bob Minor, in 25 mins. C. Chapman, 1; F. Fells, 2; J. Parker (conductor), 3; A. Batten, 4; W. Fussell, 5; C. Clarke, 6.

STOKE-UPON-TRENT ARCHDIOCONAL ASSOCIATION.

CHEDDLETON (Staffordshire).—On Sunday, December 24th, for Divine Service in the afternoon, 1440 changes, comprising a 720 of Grandsire Minor, with thirty-four singles and twenty-six bobs, and a 720 of Bob Minor, with eighteen bobs and two singles, in 52 mins. J. James, 1; E. Spooner, 2; J. Gilbert, 3; H. Rogers, 4; F. Clowes (conductor), 5; J. Renshaw, 6.

NORTON-LE-MOORS.—On Sunday, December 16th, for evening service, a 720 of Grandsire Minor, in 28 mins. W. Holdcroft, 1; E. Glover, 2; J. Morton, 3; W. Brough, 4; G. Walker, 5; Jas. Baddeley (conductor), 6. Also on Christmas morning, for Divine Service, a 720 of Grandsire Minor in 26½ mins. H. Holdcroft, 1; E. Glover, 2; J. Morton, 3; W. Brough, 4; G. Walker, 5; Jas. Baddeley (conductor), 6.

KEELE (Staffordshire).—On Monday, December 10th, at practice, 720 of Bob Doubles, in 27 mins. John Stanier, 1; Joseph Stanier, 2; Peter Taylor, 3; Harry Bayley, 4; W. Miller (conductor), 5; Peter Lawton, 6. All Keele men, except W. Miller, of Wolstanton, their instructor.

BEAMINSTER (Dorset).—On Thursday evening, December 20th, on the back six, four 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles, with the bells muffled. W. B. Newman, 1; G. J. Pomery, 2; T. P. Combs, 3; C.

G. Purkis, 4; Rev. P. H. Jackson, 5; J. Trump, 6. Tenor 28 cwt. in D. This was rung as a tribute of respect to the memory of James Rawlings, Esq., for twenty-three years Vicar's churchwarden, and who was that day buried at Holy Trinity Church.

BATTERSEA (Surrey).—On Christmas morning, for Divine Service, at St. Mary's a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples in 43 mins. W. Ambrose, 1; J. R. Vincent, Esq. (first quarter-peal), 2; H. Swain, 3; A. G. Thomas, 4; W. Baron (conductor), 5; H. S. Thomas, 6; C. W. Ludwig, 7; W. Coppage, 8.

CHESTER.—Handbell Ringing.—On Saturday evening, December 22nd (in the vestibule of the Cathedral), on handbells, retained in hand, a 720 of Grandsire Minor (thirty-four bobs and twenty-six singles), in 16 mins. John Gibson, 1-2; Joseph Errington, 3-4; Freeman Ball (conductor), 5-6. Also 420 of Grandsire Triples, the ringers in the same order, William Walton ringing 7-8. This is the first 720 rung on handbells in Chester.

DUNMOW (Essex).—On Wednesday evening, December 12th, the Stebbing company rang at St. Mary's church, several 6-scores of Antelope and Grandsire Doubles. A. Barker, 1; W. Stock, 2; J. T. *Barker, 3; *E. Hynds, 4; *E. Claydon (conductor), 5; †T. Newman (Bishop Stortford), 6. It is many years since any change-ringing was done on these bells, the striking was fair, as the bells are not in good ringing order. Tenor 22½ cwt. in Ep. *Members of the Essex Association; †College Youth.

EXETER.—On Sunday morning, for Divine Service, a date touch of Grandsire Triples, 1883 changes, in 1 hr. and 5 mins. Frank Shepherd, 1; H. Swift, 2; W. G. Goss, 3; A. Shepherd, 4; S. Herbert, 5; E. Shepherd, 6; Ferris Shepherd (conductor), 7; George and Thomas Townsend, 8.

HERTINGFORDSBURY (Hertford).—On Christmas eve, five members of the parochial bell-ringers' society, rang at St. Mary's, six 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles, in 24 mins. Henry Smith, 1; John Shepherd, 2; Joseph Cull, 3; George Smith, 4; Jasper G. Crawley (conductor), 5. Tenor 11 cwt.

HOLME PIERREPOINT (Notts).—On Tuesday, December 18th, four youths of the Radcliffe-on-Tent band, assisted by a member of the College Youths and the Yorkshire Association, under whose tuition they have been for about one month, rang a 6-score of Grandsire Doubles, in a creditable manner, being the first attempt after handbell practice. Wm. H. Pumfrey, 1; T. Rose, 2; H. G. Wilson (College Youths and Yorkshire Association; conductor), 3; R. H. Rushton, 4; E. Carnell, 5. The use of the bells for the practice was kindly allowed by the Rev. H. Seymour, rector. Tenor 12 cwt.

HIGHER SUTTON (Cheshire).—On Sunday, December 16th, a 720 of Grandsire Minor, with 34 bobs and two singles, in 25 mins. Wm. Walmsley (conductor), 1; Wm. H. Ingham, 2; W. Ingham, 3; J. M. Davenport, 4; Wm. H. Hardman, 5; Thomas Mottershead, 6. (5th and 6th the observation.) On Christmas morning, a 720 of Grandsire Minor (twenty-four bobs and two singles, 2nd and 3rd the observation), in 26 mins. Wm. Walmsley (conductor), 1; W. Kenny (Macclesfield), 2; W. H. Ingham, 3; J. M. Davenport, 4; Walter Ingham, 5; Thomas Mottershead, 6. Tenor 12 cwt. in G.

LITCHURCH (Derbyshire).—The first touch of changes, on Dec. 13th, by the Voluntary Ringers of the St. Andrew's, Litchurch, model belfry, was a touch of 360 Grandsire Doubles, with 6-7-8 covering, and which was rung as a token of respect to the sexton, Mr. William Shardlow, on the occasion of his 53rd birthday, in 15 minutes. Wm. Shardlow, 1; Wm. Midgley, 2; W. Shardlow, jun., 3; A. B. Ward, 4; Jno. Howe (of Derby, conductor), 5; J. Jaycock, 6; Jno. Gilbert, 7; Geo. Mottershaw, 8. After this a plain course of Grandsire Minor was rung, this being the first attempt. C. Hart, 1; Wm. Shardlow, 2; Wm. Midgley, 3; A. E. Thompson, 4; A. B. Ward, 5; Jno. Howe, 6. Tenor, 20½ cwt.

RIPON.—On Tuesday, Dec. 11th, the cathedral company rung three courses of Stedman Triples (252 changes), being their first touch on that method. Henry Rumbold, treble; Jno. Stodder, jun., 2; Jno. Stodder, sen., 3; T. Clark (conductor), 4; Any. Ingleby, 5; Walter Pick, 6; Geo. Ingleby, 7; Thomas Metcalf, 8. Tenor, 21 cwt. in E.

RUGBY.—At St. Andrew's Parish Church, on Monday evening, Dec. 24th, six 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles, each called differently. H. J. Elsee, 1; T. Green (conductor), 2; J. Cook, 3; H. Tarver, 4; J. Coales, 5. Tenor, 11 cwt.

SPALDING (Lincolnshire).—On Friday, December 14th, at SS. Mary and Nicholas church, a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob. J. Brown, 1; J. Wilson, 2; G. L. Richardson, 3; J. S. Wright, 4; A. Brown, 5; R. Mackman (conductor), 6. And on Saturday, December 15th, a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob, nine bobs, also a 720 of London Single,

eighteen bobs and two singles, in 56 mins. J. S. Wright, 1; J. Wilson, 2; G. L. Richardson, 3; R. Mackman (conductor), 4; A. Brown, 5; J. Brown, 6. And on Sunday, December 19th, a 720 of London Single, R. Mackman, 1; J. Wilson, 2; G. L. Richardson, 3; J. Brown, 4; A. Brown, 5; J. S. Wright (conductor), 6.

STOKE DOYLE (Northamptonshire).—On Christmas-Day, two members of the Bedfordshire Association visited this parish, and meeting the local company in the evening, rang some touches of Grandsire Doubles. J. Ripon, 1; C. Hankins, 2; C. W. Clarke (conductor), 3; J. Moiser, 4; C. West, 5. Our correspondent adds: "We are pleased to see our Stoke friends starting change-ringing, and the Vicar taking such an interest in them, and we hope, when next we meet them, they will be able to ring several 6-scores in different methods."

WANTAGE (Berks).—At the parish church of SS. Peter and Paul, on Dec. 22nd, 720 of Stedman Doubles, consisting of six 6-scores, each called differently, in 28 mins. F. Money, 1; J. Gardner, 2; H. Smith, 3; F. May (conductor), 4; A. Bunce, 5; C. Page, 6. Also on Christmas Day, after evening service, 720 of Grandsire Doubles, consisting of six 6-scores, called differently, in 28 mins. G. Gregory, 1; C. Page, 2; F. May (conductor), 3; F. Money, 4; A. Gregory, 5; A. Bunce, 6. Also a plain course of Grandsire Minor.

WIMBLEDON (Surrey).—On December 11th, for practice at St. Mary's church, a 720 of Bob Minor (nine bobs and six singles), in 26½ mins. G. Hyde, 1; A. Roots, 2; C. Hyde, 3; J. Parker, 4; A. Garrott, 5; S. Frost (conductor), 6. This the first 720 rung upon these bells in this method; and the first 720 by the whole of the company in the same.

WOOLWICH (Kent).—On Christmas morning, for Divine Service at St. Mary's Church, the Waterloo Society rang a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1260 changes), in 40 mins. G. Hogg, 1; H. Harman, 2; C. J. Barham, 3; J. C. Harvey (composer and conductor), 4; W. Watchorn, 5; E. Richards, 6; H. Harvey, 7; H. Bright, 8.

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 LEIGHTON BUZZARD CLAPPER.

SIR,—In your issue of to-day there is mention of a belfry scare at Leighton Buzzard. Now, sir, clappers do not fall out without reason. The reason in this case was wear. But how was it that the sexton or steeple-man did not notice that the bolt was so worn? Did the said steepleman never examine the bells? or did he, like too many such men are apt to do, draw his salary and trust to Providence to look after the bells? Half the mishaps that occur in belfries are due to carelessness. Ropes would not break in the middle of peals, neither would clappers fly about the steeple if they and the bell fittings generally were examined periodically. CURFEW.

December 15, 1883.

THE SPALDING SQUABBLE.

SIR,—I am very sorry that the correspondence about a certain peal rung at Spalding should so quickly have degenerated into a personal squabble, and I quite agree that it was high time to put a stop to it. Some of it indeed ought never to have been admitted.

Surely, Mr. Editor, you must for once have been caught napping when you allowed the Spalding ringers to make use of your correspondence columns to bombastically announce their intention to "Boycott" R. Creasey. If such childish displays of spite were to become common, it seems to me that your paper would soon forfeit the high position which it deservedly occupies with the bell-ringing fraternity. I will endeavour to show what I mean, and in order that this protest may find a place in your columns I will strictly avoid being personal. The criticism of a "Lover of Good Ringing" may not have been deserved, but it was presumably a fair expression of opinion, and unless a team of ringers are to be allowed without comment to certify their own performance as the best on record, I do not see how such a letter could be excluded. The opinion of a man like J. S. Wright might well be left to weigh against the opinion of a writer who preferred to be anonymous. Change-ringers in this neighbourhood could easily form their own opinion. One of the Spalding team, however, jumped to the conclusion that the letter was prompted by R. Creasey, and proceeded in a very tart manner to call into question not only his capability as a change-ringer, but also the capability of the St. Paul's company. This *tu quoque* argument would not have been to the point even if R. Creasey had prompted the letter, which he did not. Then follows a reply to this uncalled-for attack, and if there were personal matters in it, at least it was provoked.

Again, the Spalding ringer, ingeniously if not ingenuously, replies with some remarks about "the cap fitting," when everybody knows that R. Creasey, being the captain of the only other company in the town, was unmistakably pointed out. And this time the Spalding company use your columns to pronounce a solemn sentence of excommunication against R. Creasey—ridiculous and silly in the extreme it may be, but not the less offensive. It becomes a mere personal squabble—the original subject forgotten.

Now, Sir, will you allow this sort of thing? I think that as R. Creasey had been attacked without cause, an apology was due to him upon his denying that he knew anything about the matter, but instead of that there is more abuse, and this contemptible "Boycotting" notice. I have known R. Creasey for three years, and during that time he has sometimes walked 30 miles a week to teach the St. Paul's company change-ringing. He is a member of the choir. Scores of hours has he given in looking after bells, belfry, and ropes, and all this gratis. His band attend service regularly. If I did not defend such a man, I should deserve to have every bell in my belfry cracked, and if there were more like him there would be more harmony between parson and ringers than is the case very often.

I hope, Sir, you will find room for this letter, both as a protest against the abuse of your correspondence column, and as a vindication of a man who was causelessly accused, much abused, and then denied the opportunity to reply.

R. G. ASH.
Vicar of St. Paul's, Spalding.

[Of course we cannot expect to please all; but in this instance we thought we had stopped the correspondence at the proper time.—ED.]

TOUCHES OF TREBLE BOB.

SIR,—I have often thought that a published collection of touches of Treble Bob Major would be not only interesting, but useful; I mean, of course, composed touches, and not merely course repetitions. If composed specially with a view to getting as much good bell music as possible into a small space, they would be agreeable to outside listeners, good practice for beginners training for a peal, and good practice also for bob-callers learning to be conductors. If any composers will send me any such touches they may have by them, or any they may compose for the purpose, I shall be very happy to classify and arrange them according to quality and length, and bring them out in due course in "THE BELL NEWS." These touches should not be composed of less number of changes, I think, than 704, or more than 1888.

I never heard that it was impossible to obtain an exact 800 in Treble Bob Major true. The statement, if ever advanced, probably means that it is impossible to get this number by mere course repetition, which is right enough. Eight hundred is the number of changes contained in twenty-five leads. All that has to be done, therefore, is to produce three true course ends containing four lengthening calls. The one I send will be found to satisfy these conditions.

Hunstanton St. Edmunds,
December 18th, 1883.

H. EARLE BULWER.

SIR,—In your issue of Saturday last, your correspondent writes asking for a few touches of Treble Bob Major. I herewith forward some, one being of the number 800, which he has been told was not to be got. I do not expect much credit for originality, as most of them have no doubt been got years since. But a want being expressed I was desirous of doing what I could to supply it.

Respecting "Quick Peals," I am rather surprised your correspondents have forgot my letter which appeared on the 17th Nov., though on referring I find I made two errors, viz., it was rung in the year preceding date given, and in 2 hrs. 23 mins. SAMUEL MARSH.

December 17, 1883.

[The touches sent by our two correspondents will be found on another page. We should be glad if our friends will adopt the Rev. H. E. Bulwer's suggestion.—ED.]

DOUBTFUL AUTHORSHIP.

SIR,—The 5038 of Grandsire Cinques, published last week in this paper, with the name of H. C. Haley attached to it, has been published in this paper before, and is the same unfortunate peal that was rung by the Ipswich Company; on July 26th, 1882, the figures of which are given at p. 143, as a 5082, and in a letter to the Editor, Jan. 27th, 1883, at p. 346, after rectifying the mistake in the last course, it goes on to state that the peal can be shortened to 5038, by calling 10th and 11th before from the course end 23456. I shall soon be induced to think that this peal possesses some extraordinary merit, as two gentlemen have done me the honour of republishing it in their own names, the first by beginning with the last course, the other by cutting it out. This sort of thing on Treble Bob Peals would be called peal-snatching, but I suppose it is something else in odd bell work. W. L. CATCHPOLE.

December 17, 1883.

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR.

5088.

By N. J. PITSTOW, *Saffron Walden.*

23456	M	B	W	H	23456	M	B	W	H
36452	I			2	24536				I 2
34562		I		2	56342	I			I 2
42563	2		I	2	53462				I 2
23564	I			2	32465	2		I	2
32465	2			2	25463	I			2
64235		2		2	52364	2			2
62345		I		2	63254				2 2
63425	I		2	2	62534				I 2
35426	I			2	65324	I			2 2
46253	I		I	2	54326	I			2
63254	I			2	53246				I 2
62534		I		2	36245	2		I	2
24536	I			2	65243	I			2
25346		I		2	62453				I 2
23456	I		2	2	23456	I			2

5th and 6th the extent. 4th and 6th the extent.

First rung at St. Paul's, Burton-on-Trent, on Saturday, December 15th, 1883, by the St. Paul's society. Conducted by Wm. Wakley.

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS.

6066.

By A. KNIGHTS, *Chesterfield.*

23456		54263	89
43652	79	42563	78
64352*		25463	78
45362	8th in 3.	56423	8th in 3.
53462	78	62453	8th in 3.
36452	8th in 3.	24653	78
65432	8th in 3.	46253	78
54632	78	65243	8th in 3.
46532	78	52643	78
63542	8th in 3.	26543	78
34562	8th in 3.	64523	8th in 3.
		45623	78

The last twelve courses thrice repeated:
23456978

Rounds are produced by calling the 9th and 8th in and out at 3 with a double.

The 2nd, 3rd, 4th, 5th, and 6th successively before the 9th.

*7th in and out at three.

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR.

5072.

By A. KNIGHTS, *Chesterfield.*

23456	W	B	H	43526	W	B	H
23564	-	-		43265	-	-	
52364	-	-		24365	-	-	
35264	-	-		32465	-	-	
26354	-	-		46325	-	-	
32654	-	-		46253	-	-	
65324	-	-		25463	-	-	
36524	-	-		42563	-	-	
53624	-	-		54263	-	-	
62534	-	-		26543	-	-	
56234	-	-		26435	-	-	
25634	-	-		42635	-	-	
32546	-	-		64235	-	-	
53246	-	-		23645	-	-	
				62345	-	-	
				62453	-	-	
				45623	-	-	
				45236	-	-	
				23459	-	-	

These thirteen courses repeated produce:

TOUCHES OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR.

572.

800.

23456	M	O	W	H	23456	M	O	W	H
35264	-				35264	-			
23456	4ths and in				64352	-			2
					23456	I			I

1024.

832.

23456	M	O	W	H	23456	M	O	W	H
42635	4ths and in				43526	I			I
54326	2	I		2	42635	-			2 I
23456	2	2			23456	-			

928.

960.

23456	M	O	W	H	23456	M	O	W	H
42635	4ths and in				36452	I			2
25634	I			2	35264	2	I		I
23456	-	2	I		23456	4ths and in			

1088.

1216.

23456	M	O	W	H	23456	M	O	W	H
35426	I	-			43526	I	-		I
45236	I	-		I	45236	I	-		2
53246	I	-			25326	I	-		I
23456	I	-		I	23456				I 2

1728.

23456 M O W H

54326 I - 2

42356 I -

Twice repeated.

S. MARSH, *West Bromwich.*

800.

800.

23456	M	B	W	H	23456	M	B	W	H
35642	2	-			64352	I			I
35426	-			I	45623	-			
23456	I				23456	-			2

The late W. HARRISON, *Mottram.*

800.

23456 M B W H

52436 - I

23645 2 -

23456 - I

Rev. H. EARLE BULWER.

A date touch.—1884.

23456 M O W H

64352 I - I

52436 2 - 2

43526 I - 2 I

25346 I - 2

54326 I -

23456 I - 2

6th the extent right.

First four changes in first lead:—

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8

2 1 4 3 6 5 8 7

2 4 1 6 3 8 5 7

4 2 6 1 8 3 7 5

4 2 1 6 3 8 5 7

Last four changes in first lead:—

2 3 1 5 4 7 6 8

2 1 3 4 5 6 7 8

1 2 4 3 6 5 8 7

1 4 2 6 3 8 5 7

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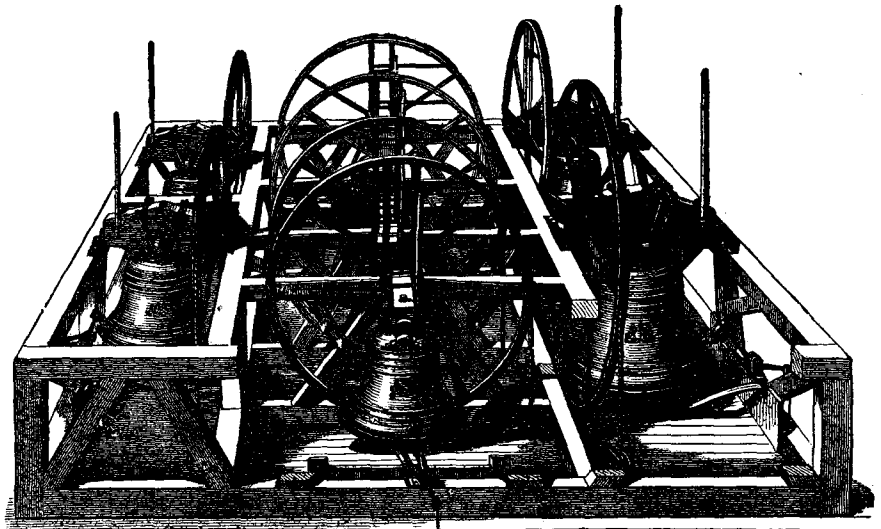
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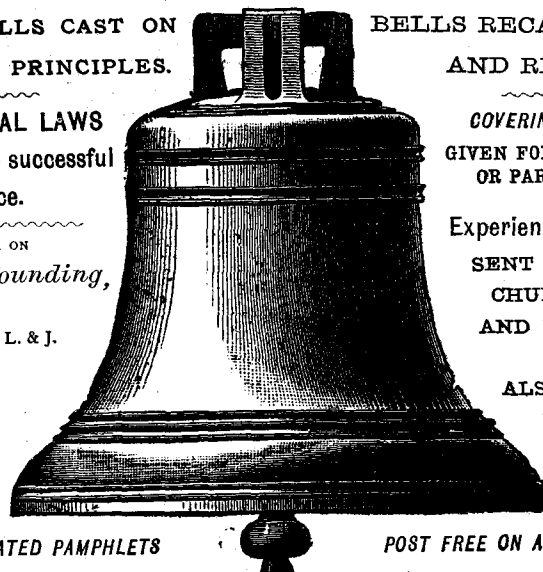
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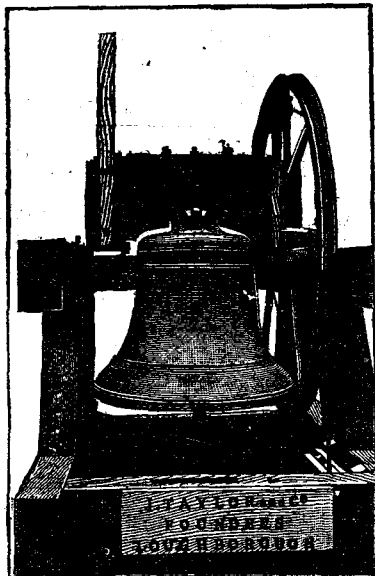
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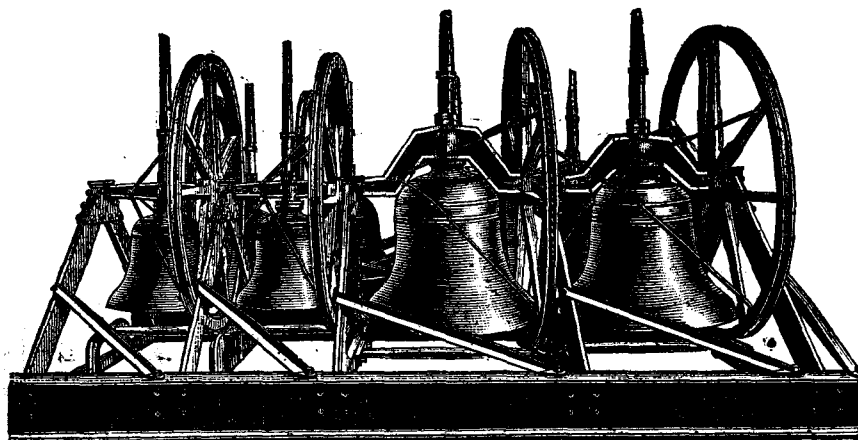
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Address—Office of "The Bell News and Ringers' Record," Walthamstow, London.

Christmas, 1883.

CHRISTMAS SUPPLEMENT TO *The Bell News and Ringers' Record.*



MR. MATTHEW ALFRED WOOD,

Member of the Ancient Society of College Youths; the St. James's Society; the Yorkshire Association, etc.

THE distinguished member of the Ringing Exercise who has been selected for pourtrayal in the second Christmas number of "THE BELL NEWS," cannot by any stretch of the imagination be regarded as an obscure character in the ringing world. Indeed, the assertion may safely be hazarded that nine-tenths of the ringing community who have visited the metropolis during the past thirty-five years, have formed his acquaintance in one or other of the London steeples. And when it is known that he has taken part in more peals than any other ringer of the present or of a past age, no amazement need be felt on hearing that he enjoys a popularity among country ringers second to no one among the London portion of the ringing Exercise.

It would be out of place here to relate any of the incidents or circumstances connected with Mr. Wood's birth, youth, or parentage. Concerning the latter, Mr. Snowden has recently given us some very interesting information in his chapters on Grandsire Triples. It may just be mentioned that MATTHEW WOOD was born in the parish of St. Matthew, Bethnal Green, in the year 1826, so that he will now be in his 58th year. When quite young, in company with his brother Henry, he became a

constant attendant at the steeple of his parish church (since destroyed by fire), where, as now, the bells were rung for Divine Service; and if we mistake not, it was here, and at this period, that Mr. H. W. Haley was budding forth as a bob-caller. About the year 1837, the subject of this notice joined the society of Cumberlands, but he rang his first peal with the St. James's Society, at St. Giles's-in-the-Fields, on the 18th of February, 1846. This was a peal of Grandsire Triples, conducted by George Stockham. On April 2nd in the same year a peal of Kent Treble Bob Major (the first in the method on the bells) was rung on the heavy ring of eight at Christ Church, Spitalfields. This was a Cumberlands' peal, conducted by Mr. Haley, and in which Mr. Wood rang the treble; and another peal of Grandsire Triples, at St. Matthew's, Bethnal Green, called by Mr. Cooter, completed his performances for that year. But it is impossible in the space allotted even to allude to each of the peals in which this celebrated ringer has taken part. At the time we write, his record of performances has reached to the astonishing number of 276, and they may be summarised thus:—Grandsire: 79 of Triples, 5 of Major, 9 of Caters, 1 of Royal, 1 of Cinques; Stedman: 41 of Triples, 43 of Caters, 22 of Cinques; Treble Bob:

37 of Major, 19 of Royal, 9 of Maximus. To these may be added one of Superlative Surprise, and two of Double Norwich Court Bob Major. Out of these peals between fifty and sixty have been called by him.

To estimate at its proper value this record of performances, it would be necessary to analyse the list, and thus see the intricate characteristics some of them possess. The reader of these lines need only refer to the 1854 edition of Hubbard to find that as a ringer pure and simple, he possesses attainments considerably above the ordinary average. In the pages of that book will be found an announcement that on the 10th of February, 1854, he rang (upon handbells, retained in hand) the 7th and 8th bells in a peal of Stedman Cinques—5104 changes. Three weeks before this, in a peal of Triples in the same method, he rang the 5th and 6th; and in the following month he rang the tenors to a peal of Stedman Triples, which was rang without a bob or single being called or any signal whatever of the calls being given. Nor do these exhaust the list of handbell peals in which he has taken part.

But it is, however, in the capacity of a church bell-ringer that Matthew Wood possesses a claim to notice in this paper. And it is without the least hesitation that we say that as a performer in the steeple he is second to none. Whatever the weight of the bell may be; whatever the method, from Treble-twelve down to the much-maligned "stone," his best endeavours are actively employed in the production of what is known as "fine" striking. His abilities as a conductor—apart from his qualifications as a bob-caller—are known not only to London ringers, but to those country members of the Exercise who, on their periodical visits to the metropolis, invariably repair to his residence, which for many years has been regarded as a species of trysting-place. While possessing no small knowledge of the art and theory of composition, and having produced one or two peals, it must be conceded that his fame will rest principally upon his attainments as a change-ringer. In the peals upon twelve bells in which he has taken part, it may be mentioned that he rang St. Michael's (Cornhill) tenor in two peals of Treble-twelve (calling one of them), and also the same bell in a peal of Stedman Cinques. At St. Saviour's, Southwark, he rung the tenor to two peals of Stedman Cinques; Bow tenor to a peal of Stedman Caters; and also the tenor of St. Giles, Cripplegate, to a peal of Treble-twelve; and has rung every bell in the tower, from the treble to the tenor, in a peal upon twelve. It should also be added that another celebrated ringer—Mr. W. Cooter—and Mr. Wood rang their first peals together—the peal of Grandsire Triples before mentioned.

In the various contests that took place years ago for the supremacy in Stedman Cinques, the name of Matthew Alfred Wood will be found among the records of his company's peals which were the outcome of that honourable rivalry which culminated in the 8580 of that method at St. Michael's, Cornhill, and in which peal he rung the 9th; and in the peal of 15,840 of Treble Bob Major at St. Matthew's, Bethnal Green, rung on April 27th, 1868, we find his name in the College Youths' peal-book as having rung the 7th.

As steeplekeeper at St. Matthew's, Bethnal Green, a post which by the way he has held for forty years, he has made for himself a name which will not easily be forgotten. In this capacity he is always willing to render the greatest facilities for any company wishing to ring upon those bells.

Our engraving, executed by Messrs. Griffiths and Son, the eminent artists of Fleet Street, is taken from a photograph by Messrs. Pitt and Son, of Bethnal Green Road, London.

TURNING THE CLAPPER.

A CHRISTMAS TOUCH OF GRANDSIRE.

[BY AUDITOR TANTUM.]

I AM a firm believer in the possibility of obtaining a true and complete peal of Grandsire Triples by using common bobs only, and have spent countless hours in the attempt to find the peal, not to mention having spoilt as much paper over it as would have sufficed for printing an edition of the *Times*. This simile occurs to my mind the more readily because it is my nightly duty to assist in pulling the thousands of copies of that paper which finds their way next morning to a fair share of the breakfast-tables to be found within fifty miles of Printing-house Square.

I pursued my object the more hopefully in that there was a tradition in our family that an ancestor of my own had actually composed such a peal, although no trace of it had ever been found.

One afternoon just before Christmas, 1882, I was engaged, somewhat lazily I admit, in my favourite diversion, and trying to eliminate the inevitable singles by pricking on the margin of of an old newspaper, when my eye was caught by the following advertisement:—

"To the male lineal descendants of Malachi Scollough, sometime steeple-keeper at the church of St. Fabian-in-the-Fields, in the county of Middlesex. If any one of the above will apply to Messrs. Newman and Spink, at No. 100, Walker Street, he will hear of something to his advantage."

As the address given was less than a quarter-of-a-mile from where I was sitting, I put on my hat, and in less than ten minutes was closeted with the junior partner, Mr. Spink.

That gentleman, after learning my business, said, "I hope, Mr. Scollough, that our advertisement has not raised in your mind any very extravagant expectations: the fact is a client of ours was lately engaged in repairing an old bureau, and by accident discovered in it a secret drawer in which was concealed a packet, here it is, read what is written on it."

With a hand trembling from excitement I took the parcel and read:—

The person who finds this packet is earnestly requested to take steps to have it made over unopened to some male descendant of the depositor, Malachi Scollough, steeple-keeper at St. Fabian's.—Christmas, 1872.

I will not waste time in explaining how I satisfied Mr. Spink that I was entitled to the packet, perhaps the fact that my name (which is the same as that of my ancestor) is a very uncommon one, made matters more easy; suffice it to say that on paying the amount expended on the advertisement I was permitted to depart with the precious packet in my hand.

Arrived at home, I drew up my arm-chair in front of the fire, placed my feet on the fender, and proceeded to break open the seals which my ancestor had placed on the parcel just one hundred years before. Inside I found a number of sheets of paper covered with writing, in ink faded from age, wrapped round another packet very carefully sealed up; the latter was endorsed with these words:—

"I lay it as a solemn charge on my great-great-grandson, when he receives this, that he open it only after fulfilling the conditions enjoined by me."

To learn these conditions I turned to the MSS. Among them was a diary kept in rather irregular fashion, in which were notes of various sorts about ringing matters; but the paper which being more carefully written than the rest seemed to be the most probable depository of the wishes of my great-great-grandfather, was superscribed as follows:—

"MEMOIRS OF A RINGER.

"I was born in the year 1704, in the village of Quedgeley, in Gloucestershire. My family was of the middle state, or what might be called the upper station of low life, which has been found to be the best state in the world for happiness. In the early part of the year 1718, when I was nigh fourteen years of age, my father came to live in London, and we settled down in an alley off Fleet Street, almost at the foot of the new steeple of the church of St. Bride. Of all the wonders of the town, none affected me in an equal degree with the music of the grand ring of ten bells in 'our steeple,' as we called it. At that time the bells in London were very few compared with the numbers to be found there a score of years later, so the ringing at St. Bride's was very frequent. Hundreds of folks used to meet in Fleet Street to admire the tone of the bells and the skill of the ringers.

"Being deeply impressed with all this, I was tempted to go up and see how this marvellous music was produced, and having persuaded another boy, a year or two older than myself, and a Londoner born, to come with me, I slipped up the winding stairs one night and peeped into the belfry. Here I was truly amazed at the rapid motion of the ropes, and could not refrain from admiration of the calm manner in which the ringers did their work. One ringer, in the early prime of manhood, of powerful yet graceful form, drew my particular attention. Besides ringing his own bell with perfect ease, he was instructing now one, now another of the rest; and indeed I afterwards found that he could tell beforehand when a man was about to lose his place, and put him right before a mistake had been made. I turned to my companion and whispered: 'Tom, who is the big man on the high box?' 'Why,' says Tom, 'that is Mr. Anable, he is.'

"Hold your peace!" thundered the person thus defined, 'or I will give you a taste of my strap as soon as we come round.'

"So we stood silent, and watched the work, and a deep desire entered my mind to become a ringer.

"It was not long ere the touch ended, and Mr. Anable, who seemed to have the power of reading my thoughts, beckoned me to him and said, 'So, boy, you want to be a ringer; shall I learn you?'

"Oh! yes, Sir, if you please," said I; and my new friend measuring my height with his keen eye, took down from a nail in the wall a loop of rope, and hitched it on to the rope which he had been pulling; he placed me on the high box, and gave the end of the rope into my hand, and said, 'Now, boy, I am going to pull her off, but you need not look up after the sally' (touching it) 'for it will come down by itself.' He pulled at the rope, and the bright sally seemed to make me a courtesy, and then rose swiftly; for one-half moment I conquered a strong inclination to follow it with my eyes, then finding myself lifted upon the tips of my toes I could no longer refrain myself, but stared up to see what it all meant, and at the same time resisted the tension with all my strength.

"On this, the heavy rope came down on my up-turned face, the sally knocked stars from my eyes, I dropped the rope and fled. When I reached the shelter of the arched doorway, I turned and saw that the rope was flying round the room like the lash of a gigantic cart-whip. This carried my horror to its extent, and I again fled, and that time rested not till I had found the shelter of my home.

"Still I was attracted by the sound of the bells, that on the very next ringing night I again crept up the stairs, in no little dread lest I should be sent home with a taste of the strap. But it seemed as if Mr. Anable had taken a fancy to me, for he called me to him kindly and said, 'Boy, if you want to learn to ring, you must keep your eyes and ears open, and your mouth shut. What did I tell you when I was going to pull the bell off that night?'

"Please sir, I forget," said I.

"That's it," said he, 'you kept your ears shut instead of your mouth; I told you that you need not look up.' Again I was put on the high box, and this time all went well, and I learned how to handle a bell.

"The fact that my lesson had been on the big bell at St. Bride's filled me with so much pride that I felt above ringing any smaller bell, so I used to go about on Sundays and beg for a pull when the sermon-bell was rung, and so by degrees I came to think myself a great ringer.

"One night (it must have been about September, for the plums were so cheap, that one half-pennyworth made me feel full), I found my friend pacing the ringing-room in a state of great excitement. I was quite unable to understand what it was all about, but I kept my ears open, as I had been taught, and heard him reviling the 'Norfolk Dumplings,' and asking how they dared to ring a low sort of Gog-Magog, and then call it Grandsire Triples.

"From time to time Mr. Anable used to advise me to learn half-pull ringing, but I, like a young fool as I was, did say that I thought a deal more of knolling the tenor for a sermon, than of ringing a little bell in peal. To which Anable dryly replied, 'Well youngster, we do not want a tenor-man at present, but when we do I will let you know.' Howbeit, when I was a score or more years of age, I got more sense, and we had two more bells at St. Bride's, making twelve in all, and some wonderful peals were rung upon the ten and twelve bells; so at last I was bitten, and went to Mr. Anable and said to him, 'I mean to be a half-pull ringer,' 'Ah!' said he, 'I suppose you will find that easy.' 'I should think so,' said I, 'why, I can ring the new tenor at St. Martin's with one hand.' So presently he asked the gentlemen to oblige him by ringing a few rounds to give me some notion of compass. Then eight of us stood up, and I was told to take the 3rd bell. Anable made me pull her off, and get the rope the right length, and said, 'You will not want me to call stand under a quarter of an hour?' I said, 'I will not let go if you go for three hours.' So we started, and I began to pull my bell as if she weighed a ton and a half. I knew better than to let her bump her stay, but the task of keeping her somewhere between the second and fourth was far harder than I had expected, and in a few minutes my hands were burning. Howbeit, I would not give in, and although I was in great pain for the last three or four minutes, still I stuck to it till Mr. Anable cried 'stand.'

"Then 'What is amiss, youngster?' said he. I showed him my my hands which were covered with broken blisters. 'Three hours!' cried he; 'why in three hours your hands would have been nothing but bones.' I was much humbled by this mishap, and drew nigh the subject in a more modest manner for the future. But being in the hands of a first-rate band, and under the schooling of the best ringer in the world, I, in time, became myself a fair half-pull ringer.

"A year or two after this, our company had a letter from Cambridge, asking us to go and ring a peal on their new bells. Accordingly ten of us fixed to go and ring a peal of Grandsire Caters at Cambridge. Most of the ten took their places in the stage-waggon, but I, and Will Gill, and Dick Quick, agreed to start in good time and walk over. We set out one fine morning, and soon were clear of the town and among the

pleasant fields of merry Islington; and so through Edmonton and Waltham, and Hoddesdon, to the town of Ware. Here we lay that night, and next morning made a shift to walk once up and down the town to view the place. Then, turning our faces again to the north, we made for Braughing, where we broke our fast, and dined at Buntingford. We lay one night at Royston, and being afoot betimes we arrived very easy and safe at Cambridge by noon. At even the stage came in with our comrades, and we supped merrily with the worthy ringers of Cambridge, at the sign of "The Lion" in Petty Cury, so they call it. We had the honour of the company of the Rev. Dr. Mason, a fellow of Trinity College, and of Mr. Robert Hesketh, a scholar of Christ's College. Next day we started for our peal in the morning, and got it all safe before noon; and after dinner Dr. Mason shewed us the buildings of Trinity College, and the Chapel of King's College, which is fine enough inside, but when seen from afar is like a table with legs uppermost. Nothing in Cambridge amazed me more than the butter, which is sold by the inch.

"In the next year they hung a new ring of twelve in the steeple of S. Michael's church, on Cornhill, and most of us said the founder had made them the best set of bells in all England, and indeed, I have never heard their match. At one time it looked as if there were more bells than ringers, for besides our own bells and the twelve at S. Martin's, we had S. Magnus, hard by London Bridge, and S. Giles's by the City Wall, and St. Dionis, Backchurch Street, for Caters and Royal; not to speak of S. Pulchre's on Snow Hill, where I could never ring the tenor without a shudder, for I knew every blow would chill the souls of the wretches in the condemned cell hard by. As for Triples and Major, we could ring them in more steeples than I could count on the fingers of both hands.

"As years rolled on, the bands of friendship which knit me to Rare Ben Anable grew closer and stronger; my hero, for so I esteemed him, spent much of his time in pricking peals of divers sorts, but most he sought after a peal of Grandsire Triples with no call but bobs in the third place. No other call would he allow, and nought so raised his ire as to hear men give the name of Grandsire Triples to Gog-Magog. When Anable was near three-score, John Holt brought him a peal pricked out at great length. My master and friend glanced at the top sheet, at first with little interest, but soon grew eager and closely scanned page after page, till nearly half had been mastered, then with a sigh, he turned to the last page and cried, 'Ah! I thought so. What do you call this, John?' 'Grandsire Triples,' said Holt. 'Aroint thee, rapsallion,' shouted Ben, and gathering the sheets together, he thrust them into Holt's hand, and drove him from the house.

"When I told him a few days later how Holt had called the peal at Westminster, sitting on a chair with the sheets of paper in his hand, and how the Union Scholars would not enter the peal in their book, He said, 'Good lads! good lads!' then turning to me, 'Malachi, tell John Holt that he come not hither again: Ben Anable will never, if he knows it, speak with a man who has called a peal of Gog-Magog from a paper.'

"After this, Anable gave more and more of his time to find the real peal, and his health suffered from the toil. He knew no rest by night or day, and in vain I tried to wean him from his task. About two years after Holt's first peal was rung, a broadsheet was printed with other peals by Holt, which they called Grandsire Triples. I believe the sight of that broadsheet and of the names of the subscribers thereto, broke the heart of the old man, for whereas he lived over two years more, yet he never again joined in our mirth.

"The bitter winter of the year 1755 seemed to make him shrivel up; he could not resist the cold, and soon after Christmastide he took to his bed. One day near the end of January, he called me to his bedside, and said, 'Malachi, I have lived an honest life, and to my knowledge have never wronged man, woman, or child. I do not fear to die, for I trust in my Saviour; my chief pain in leaving this world is that I am called before I have found my peal of Grandsire Triples. I know there is a true peal, would that I had been permitted to find it. Howbeit, it is late to talk of that now; so Malachi, I leave it to you, my dear scholar and friend, to follow up the clue. I give you all my papers, and I am happy in the strong belief that what has been hidden from me will be revealed to you. One charge I give, never to your dying day agree to give the name of Grandsire Triples to any peal till the real peal has been found.'

"So saying he gave me a large bundle of papers, and I in return gave him my promise true that I would obey him. Three days later Ben Anable died, and we buried him under the steeple of S. Bride's, to the muffled sound of the bells he loved so well. After this I pushed on my researches, and gave myself up more and more to hunting after the true peal.

"I call to mind that soon after the death of Anable our company was called to go to Oxford to ring a peal at the college of S. Mary Magdalene, in that city. I bethought me how, many years ago, I had trudged to Cambridge, and was fain to go with my comrades to far-famed Oxford. Some of the boys started to walk as I had walked

when I was a boy; but we elders paid down our money, and took our places in the stage waggon that started every Monday morning at daylight, from the 'White Horse' in Piccadilly. We broke our fast at Brentford, and dined at Colnebrooke, and supped and lay that night at Reading. For a shoulder of mutton and gherkins they charged us six shillings, and I asked my landlord what countryman he was. 'Full north,' says he. 'Aye,' quoth I, 'and you verily have put the Yorkshire most handsomely upon us.'

"Next day we crossed the Thames, and broke our fast at old Mother Cleanly's at Nettlebed, and tasted her bottled ale and plum-cake.

"We dined at Dorchester, and the day and our journey ended together at Oxford. The worthy ringers of Oxford gave us a hearty welcome, and next day we passed with much delight in walking through the colleges of that noble city. In the evening we ascended the tower at Magdalene College (called Maudlin), and in honour of the place did ring 5000 changes of Oxford Treble Bob Royal. Methinks Oxford is a finer place than Cambridge, but I saw there no butter sold by the inch.

"Among the number of my friends, was young Will Chapman, nephew of Mr. Lester, of Whitechapel, bell-founder; this young man had been bound apprentice to his uncle, and in time became so expert in the casting of bells, that in the year 1762 he was sent down to the city of Canterbury to recast the big bell of the Cathedral church.

"Will made me his companion to go down with him to see the bell run, and as his business was pressing, we set off one afternoon on the Dover coach. As we hardly crept up Shooter's Hill in the twilight, we were all scared on hearing the thundering of a horse's hoofs coming up the hill behind us. One called out, 'Tis Jim Bissick the highwayman.' On this, the travellers seemed to me to lose their wits, and took to putting their purses and watches down their boots, while our guard cocked his blunderbuss and horse-pistols. I, having little to lose, did turn my eyes towards the horseman who was holding out a letter, and in truth seemed more afeard than any one of all of us. Our guard walked back pointing his blunderbuss at the horseman till the latter had given up the letter and turned his horse town-ward. It was said that he had come after us with a weighty despatch for a worthy banker who had a place inside the coach.

"Next day we came to Canterbury, and so ended my first and last journey on a coach; for I care not to fall a prey to Jim Bissick or to any of his crew.

"Will had before this built his furnace and his core and fixed the cope and the crown: nought remained but to fuse the metal and run the bell. While this work was adoing, we saw in the crowd a young man very intent on all, and Will said to him, 'And pray, young man, what would you be?' He said, 'Sir, I would be a founder of bells.' 'What is your name, young man?' said Will, 'My name,' replied the stranger, 'is William Mears.' 'Well then, namesake,' said Will, 'if you will come to London with me, I will make a bellfounder of you.' And forsooth so he did.

"Meantime the metal was ready, and at last they let it run. When the mould was full, Will heaved a sigh of relief and said, 'I trust all's well, but so big a bell will be long a-cooling.'

"When the bell was dug out, she was found a good casting, 70 inches across the mouth, and 70 cwt. in the scales, and a good tone.

"Now I did purpose to walk back to town for the following cause: I had met in London a worthy ringer from Leeds in Kent, by name James Barham. This James Barham had said to me when we parted, 'Friend, if ever you be near Leeds, I shall take it as kind of you if you will give me your company.' So on my way back, I lay one night in Charing, and about noon I knocked at Barham's door. He made much of me, and when we had dined, he called his comrades, and with him and them I did ring till supper. Next day James Barham commended me to the care of a friend of his, who was to drive a waggon to London, and so my way home was made easy. James Barham did vaunt himself much about the long peals his company had rung. But I called to mind how my old master would sooner bring the bells home than let a rope change hands: and I could not think so highly of these long peals as did honest James Barham.

"About this time they made me steeple-keeper at the church of St. Fabian-in-the-Fields, and for many years I kept order there: but as old age came on and would not be denied, I had to leave the heavy end and go to the treble, and a new race arose that had not known Ben Anable. When I try to tell them what Grandsire Triples really are, they smile and turn away, and I have heard them whispering about 'Gog-Magog' and 'hobby-horse.' Meanwhile my labours have brought me nearer and nearer to the goal which my master pointed out to me, but I cannot quite reach it.

"I am an old man now, and begin to fear that death will lay his hand on me before I succeed in what has been for some years past the chief aim of my life. All my old friends who stood out with me have gone before, and I am left alone. The new race of ringers look at me as a troublesome old ass, and some of them, I believe, think me fit for Bedlam. I am barely able now to turn the heavy clapper of

our tenor, and to-night I shall perform that duty for the last time: for I have given up my office of steeple-keeper, and to-morrow they will elect my successor.

* * * * *

"Yes! it is true!! my peal without a single!!!

"And now let me jot down the doings of this eventful night.

"After our own company met, we set to work to raise the bells, and then I groped my way up to turn the tenor's clapper for the last time. I crept past the fifth and seventh bells and leaned over the wheel of the tenor, and with difficulty raised up the heavy clapper till it was perpendicular: then I threw it over, and as the bell gave her noble note, as if by inspiration I saw how to be rid of the last single. This was the most joyful moment of my life, and no doubt my feelings were reflected in my face when I came down into the ringing-room; for young Sims, a saucy youngster who had just joined the band, looked at me and said, 'Hallo! old common-bob, have you found your peal, eh?' I might have been able to treat his impertinence with the contempt which it merited; but one or two of the men laughed out and the others grinned, and I left the tower in a rage. I am determined that no man living at the present time shall ring a peal of Grandsire Triples, and for that purpose I will hide the peal in my oaken bureau; it will not be found till the bureau falls to pieces and that will not be for the next hundred years.

* * * * *

"An old man may have his fancies, and I have mine. I desire that the person into whose hands my peal may fall, will make it over, if it may so be, to one of my male descendants, and that before the fortunate inheritor breaks the seals he shall go (as I did this night), and in the darkness turn the clapper of St. Fabian's tenor, then, and not till then, let him examine the peal.

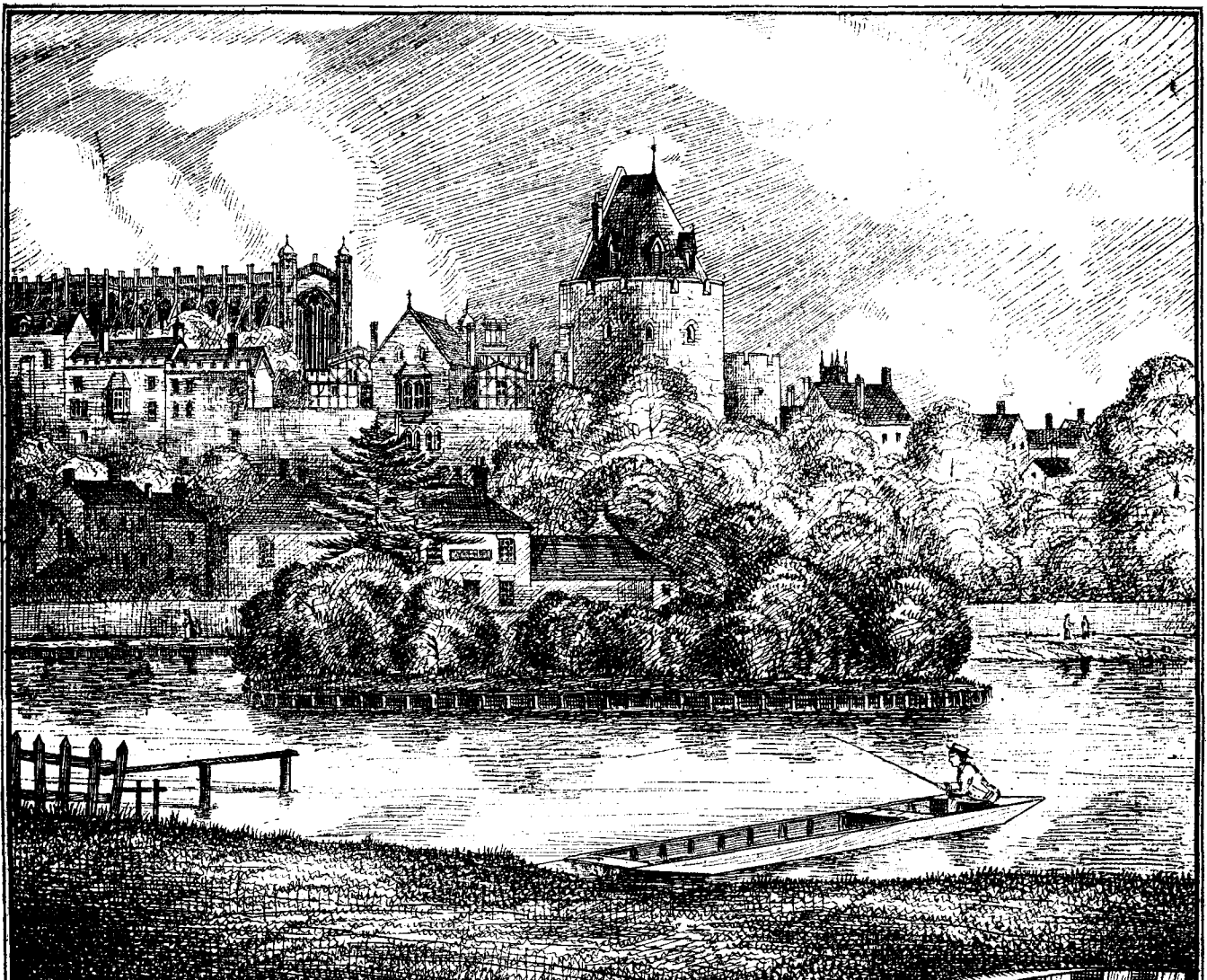
"Signed by MALACHI SCOLLOUGH."

Here the manuscript ended, and for a moment I was tempted to disregard the wishes of the old man, and at once to open the sealed packet, but I suddenly remembered that a perfect stranger had granted the request made, and that it would be shameful indeed if I, who was so nearly related to him, should prove disobedient. As luck would have it, there was no serious difficulty in my carrying out almost immediately the wishes of my ancestor. Although I was not myself a member of the St. Fabian's company, still I was well known to several men in the society, and felt sure of that hearty welcome which change-ringers always give to their visitors. Indeed, there would be ringing at St. Fabian's that very night, and so great was my anxiety to open the seals and get at the peal, that without bit or sup I set out and found myself outside the church a full hour before the time of meeting. As the minutes crept slowly away, my excitement increased, and as each quarter rang out from the old tower, my heart beat with greater violence and rapidity. During the last quarter I made sure that the clock had stopped, that the meeting had been put off, and so on.

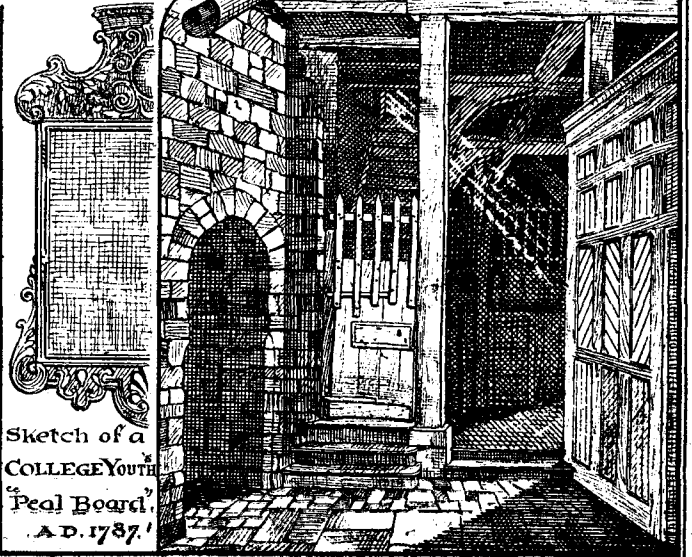
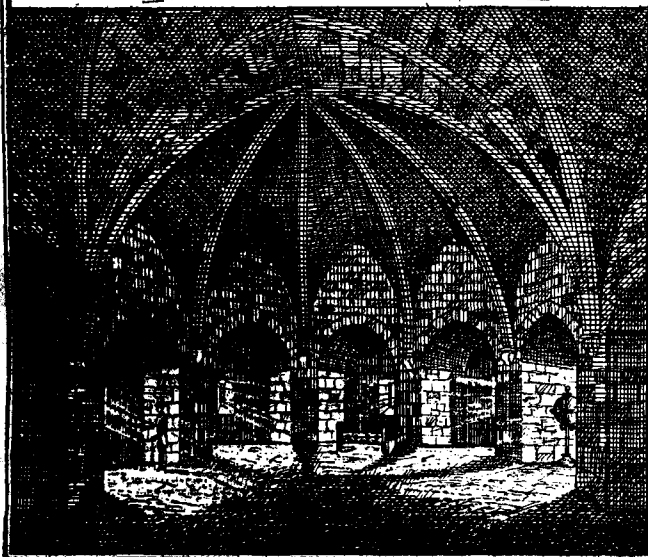
At last the respected tenant of my ancestor's old post came slowly along, with a straw in the corner of his mouth, as cool as a cucumber. I ran to meet him, and said, "Oh! Mr. Goffe, will there be ringing here to-night?" Mr. Goffe replied, "Well, I have come to open the door, but it is doubtful whether there will be enough to ring." At this answer my heart sunk low, but I ascended the tower with the steeple-keeper, and as soon as he had lighted the gas in the ringing-room I caught hold of the tenor-rope.

"You won't get her up by yourself," said Goffe; "and I don't mean to help you till I see some more men in the room."

By this time I was almost in a fever; two or three came in, then another; after a while we were seven, and I thought we should not get beyond that number; at last I heard a step on the stairs and an eighth man appeared. Then we got to work. Just as had happened one hundred years before, the bells were raised one by one; then I volunteered to go up and turn the tenor's clapper. I too, groped my way up, squeezed past the 5th and 7th, and then (like the old man) I leaned over the wheel of the tenor to grasp the clapper. I thought of my poor old great-great-grandsire standing as I was standing, and my brain was hot as if my head were close to a fire—I pulled the clapper upright, and sent it over, and it fell with the most awful crash! harsh and unmusical, and quite unlike any sound ever given out by a bell—I jumped upright! and found that instead of turning the clapper of St. Fabian's tenor, I had turned a very heavy pair of tongs that lay in the fender in my sitting-room, and—alas!—that the peal of Grandsire Triples, true and complete without a single or fifths-place bob, was but A DREAM!



1. VIEW OF THE CURFEW TOWER, 2 THE INTERIOR OF THE DUNGEON, 3 ENTRANCE TO THE RINGING ROOM, FROM THE RIVER THAMES.



Sketch of a COLLEGE YOUTH "Peal Board" A.D. 1787.

WINDSOR CASTLE.

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THORNWOOD.

THORNWOOD is a prosperous village, aspiring to the dignity of a small town, in one of the West Midland Counties, about the proverbial one hundred miles from London, and within twenty of one or two manufacturing towns and a Cathedral City, each of which boasts the possession of those inestimable treasures, in the eyes of all true lovers of the string, one or more peals of eight, ten or twelve bells.

* Now as the church of St. Barbara, Thornwood, was famous in the land for its splendid peal of ten, maintained by the ringers of the bell-ringingest (!?) county in England to be the finest peal of ten existing, not even excepting St. Dunstan's, Stepney, which most of them had heard when visiting the metropolis, it will not surprise the reader, who, it may be assumed, knows somewhat of the manners and customs of that peculiar individual, the change-ringer, to learn that frequent visits were interchanged between the various companies of Brassingham, Lilkester (the Cathedral City) and Thornwood, for the purpose of "having a pull" on the bells of their respective towers, and that the usual amount of friendly rivalry should exist among them as to which company or band should ring the longest and most intricate peals.

The leading spirit among the Thornwood ringers was Mr. William Somers, or as he was spoken of by his friends and cronies, old Will Somers, who filled the ancient and honourable offices of Parish-clerk and Sexton. He was a composer of considerable merit, and had called nearly every peal that had been rung by the band for many years past.

Old Will, whose forefathers had resided in the parish for many generations, was pretty well to do in the world, owning some few acres of garden and orchard ground which returned him a modest income in the form of rent, while he lived in his own pretty cottage, with a good-sized garden, separated only from the orchard by a low hedge of sweet-briar. The tenant of the orchard and garden was a young man named Robert Warden, who did a thriving business with Brassingham, Thursbury, and one or two other grimy towns in the district, the said grimy towns being at all times ready to swallow up as much garden-stuff and fruit, and feast their smoke-bedimmed eyes upon as many flowers as ever their country neighbours could conveniently supply them with.

Now as old Will was Robert's landlord, and the father of Mabel Somers, the prettiest girl in Thornwood, and being an only child, likely to be by no means the poorest one, what more likely than that Robert, who lived just at the end of the lane with his widowed mother, and Mabel, should be very good friends, as indeed they were, for they had quarrelled and made it up again from six to ten times a day regularly for a considerable number of years. When Robert was a sturdy urchin of some eight or nine years, and Mabel just old enough to toddle to school, which was situated at the other end of the village, Robert had quite naturally taken his place as her guide and protector to and from the seat of learning, and this arrangement obtained until Miss had grown quite too big and independent to be beholden to any boy whatever, except at odd times when any stray cattle or big dogs happened to be roaming at large, then the damsel would be seen keeping very close indeed to her big boy friend, or enemy, whichever he happened for the moment to be. But this was many years ago, for Mabel was now nearly out of her teens, and had been, since her mother's death some two or three years since, sole mistress of the pretty cottage and garden, and Empress-Queen over the Parish-clerk and Sexton, and his subordinate official, Dick Delver, the grave-digger and steeple-keeper—a queer old fellow who had been grave-digger and general factotum to the parish for about one hundred and fifty years, if all Dick's reminiscences of parish matters that had occurred within his own recollection were to be accepted as the unvarnished truth.

Dick had rung the tenor behind so many years, not only at practice and for service, but to a considerable number of five thousands, together with a fair sprinkling of longer lengths, that he had got to look upon the bell in a manner as his own; he had also made several attempts in former years to ring inside, but as each succeeding attempt had been a more dismal failure than its predecessor, Dick had given up all hopes of ever attaining to the proud position of an inside man, and settled down into the less brilliant, but still useful position of big-drummer.

But he had got the notion so firmly jammed into his head that he, and he alone, had a sort of presumptive right to the tenor, that he would get very grumpy when, as sometimes happened on practice nights, a few visitors would be present from the neighbouring steeples, and a touch of Treble or Plain Bob indulged in; at such times he would walk off to the "Ten Bells," and have an extra mug of beer to drown his disgust, and would criticise the striking in a disparaging manner to the assembled company; and as to the ear of the uninitiated any even-bell method at all times seems to be more or less of a jumble, his cronies would mete him out such a full measure of sympathy, combined with a large measure of praise, as to how the bells sounded when he, Dick, was ringing the tenor, that he would become mollified, and forgive his enemy, the man that rung the tenor "in," so far as to hob-nob with him, and discuss the "go" of his favorite. But there was one offence that Dick could never be brought to look upon with a lenient eye, and that was, for another tenor-man to ring his bell behind in a peal. His themes for frustrating this, to him, outrage, were many and various. His favourite dodge was to screw up some of the bolts, and slacken others, in the old oak bell-frame in such a manner, that about half an hour's ringing would knock up the strongest of men; he would then volunteer to "try her himself" sooner than the visitors should go back without their peal, which kind offer being accepted, he would go up to "give her a bit of grease," when a few rapid touches with the nut wrench would make things so different with the tenor that a child could ring her, and Master Dick would triumphantly score another peal.

This trick had failed, however, the last time the Lilkester company had come over to St. Barbara's for a peal, for their tenor-man, equally as artful an old dodger as Dick, had had his suspicions aroused upon a former occasion, and laid his plans accordingly; after ringing for about ten minutes he had, without warning, set his bell, declaring his inability to ring the peal owing to a sudden weakness that had seized upon him; the usual discussion as to whether they should try again or not ended by accepting Dick's offer to "try what he could do." That worthy having gone up to give her a bit of grease, was rather taken aback when he returned to the ringing-room, to find the Lilkester man again in possession of the tenor-box, having, as he assured Dick with a very deliberate and most impressive wink that spoke volumes, as suddenly recovered from his fit of weakness, and the peal, a six thousand too, was rung in good style, the tenor being especially well-struck.

Another time, at one of the summer holidays, a band had come over from Laventry for a peal of Stedman Caters, and being a very hot day they had felt rather fatigued with their journey. While discussing a substantial luncheon of cold round of beef at the "Ten Bells," Dick, as was of course but natural, had taken the Laventry tenor man under his own particular wing, and during the temporary absence from the room of that gentleman, Mr. Delver, with unexampled treachery, poured into his, the Laventry man's modest mug of ale, about half-a-pint of the strongest whiskey; the consequence of this mingling of potent liquids was that the visitor fell into a remarkably sound slumber from which it was impossible to arouse him, so putting it down to the strange effects of too much fresh air—he was a silk weaver who spent the greater part of his existence in an apartment with a very low ceiling, and of the area of about twelve feet by eight—his comrades were glad to accept of Dick's disinterested offer to ring the tenor for them, and the poor silk weaver was not only cheated out of his peal, but he didn't even hear a blow of it, and returned to Laventry with a splitting head-ache into the bargain.

It will have been noticed that Mr. Will Somers had called nearly all the peals that had been rung at Thornwood for several years; the only exceptions had been two—one of Grandsire Triples, and one of Major in the same method, rung on the back eight, called and claimed to have been composed by one of the band, a Mr. Stephen Beckton, or as he preferred to call himself, Stephen Beckton, Esq., for being clerk to the village lawyer, he was under a sort of foggy impression that as his employer was entitled to sign himself "gentleman" by law, he also had a right or title to tack esq. on to the name of Stephen Beckton at every possible opportunity. This youth then was the coming man; not only had he composed and called the two peals before mentioned, but was pretty far advanced

into ten-bell composition, in which he had received all the assistance it was in the power of Mr. Will Somers to give him. Owing to the young man's proficiency in Will's much-loved pastime, he was quite a favourite of the older man, who was never tired of sounding his praises at all times and seasons; it could not be said, however, that the man of parchment was much liked by the other members of the band, for he was one of those youths who have a most exalted opinion of themselves, and was in the habit of assuming a very patronising manner when he chanced to encounter any of the other of the ringers in his private capacity, and moreover, upon the strength of his two peals was beginning to put in rather authoritative airs in the belfry. And although he was at all times exceedingly civil to Old Will to his face, as if for a purpose, yet in his absence he had been heard to speak of him, as indeed he did of most people behind their backs, in a very disparaging manner.

Now Stephen Beckton, Esq., like most limbs of the law, had a very keen eye to the main chance, and was also as quick as most youths to find out a pretty face, and as he had often heard Old Will declare that "none but a ringer should marry his girl," he had arrived at the conclusion that he had but to hint to Mabel Somers that he was ready to marry her, and that damsel would be only too ready to jump at the honour, as he conceived it to be, of becoming Mrs. Stephen Beckton. During the many evenings spent under their roof, while struggling with the mysteries of composition with her father, he had flattered himself, with characteristic conceit, that he had made a deep impression on the young girl, putting on his best airs with his best clothes, both airs and clothes being of a rather gaudy fashion, by-the-bye; and so he had, but by no means the kind of impression that he anticipated, it being quite the reverse in fact, for Mabel had conceived a thorough contempt for him, and had made up her mind to give Stephen Beckton, Esq. a very severe snubbing should the opportunity arise.

Robert Warden and Mabel had come to a complete understanding some time ago, across that sweet-briar hedge, which has been remarked in the early part of this veracious history was a low edge; in fact no higher than a tall, active young fellow could easily leap over, and the only reason that kept Robert from going at once to old Will and demanding Mabel of him in marriage, was his inability to ring, for Mabel knowing so well her father's determination that she should wed with none but a ringer, had dissuaded Robert from speaking to her father upon the subject, until he was master of, in this case, that necessary art. So taking Dick Delver into their confidence, who would have hung himself with his own bell-rope to please Mabel, Robert set himself at once to work to acquire the art of change-ringing, and as it was Mabel's ardent wish that her lover should attain to efficiency without putting himself to the humiliation of receiving any assistance from his rival, this became a rather difficult matter.

But ways and means can be found out of most difficulties, and this one proved no more obdurate than many another when fairly faced. Dick being steeple-keeper held the key of the belfry, and as when not engaged in his parochial duties he followed his trade of a gardener and worked for Robert, nothing was easier than to slip over the churchyard wall which abutted on the orchard on one side, and into the belfry unperceived; then with the clapper tied of one of the bells, a few afternoon lessons from Dick soon made Robert expert in the mere handling of a bell. So far so good, but the learning to ring inside was a very much larger affair. Robert's business as a market gardener led him to attend three markets a week, at as many different towns, Brassingham, Lilkester, and Thursbury, and it happened that at each of these places there was a meeting for ringing practice at one or the other of the several churches in each town, on the evening immediately preceding the market morning. Taking advantage of this, for him, fortunate circumstance, Robert, whose uncle, Mr. Judson, was the oldest ringer in Brassingham, soon made the acquaintance of the ringers at the two other towns, and being a hearty, genial sort of young fellow, and as every body could see, very anxious to learn, with such plentiful opportunities of practice, and by diligently studying some of the best works on the subject, he, in the course of a few months was able to ring an inside bell in Grandsire Triples, and was making rapid advances into the ringing of Caters, of which indeed he had rung in two or three long touches with considerable credit, at the time of our story.

Meantime, Stephen Beckton, Esq. had convinced himself that he was deeper than ever in the good graces of old Will Somers, by the production of his two peals of Grandsire, and in a very lawyer-like, but exceedingly un-lover-like manner had taken advantage of this feeling to propose to the father for his daughter's hand, without first ascertaining the sentiments of the young lady upon the subject; but old Will had of late began to have some misgiving that all was not fair and above-board with Mr. Beckton, the two peals that he claimed to be his own composition seemed to Will Somers to be like old friends, but he could not for the life of him call to mind when or where he had met with them before. However, Beckton had been talking loudly of late of a wonderful peal he had then in hand, full of the most admirable qualities, and old Will had been led in a weak moment to promise him that if he succeeded in composing and calling this peal upon the ensuing Christmas-Eve, upon which anniversary the Thornwood ringers had now for some years rung a peal, he should have full permission to press his suit with Mabel.

But it is time to show how, or from whence, Stephen Beckton had fetched these peals, for stolen they undoubtedly were. It had chanced some time before that a client of his employers, who had resided at Brassingham, had died intestate, and it had fallen to Beckton's lot as attorney's clerk to take an inventory of the household effects of the deceased; while employed in this matter, he had found in the library, a thin manuscript book, marked on its leather covers in old English characters, "Peal Book," which he found upon examination to contain a number of original peals by one Edward Nokes, a well-known ringer and composer who had been dead some thirty years. This he had kept possession of (omitting at the same time to enter it in the inventory) without the least compunction, and this was the rich mine he was working in secret, publishing to the ringing world with unblushing effrontery the peals as his own, under the firm conviction that all trace of their real author had been lost by the lapse of time.

In this, however, he had reckoned without his host, for Mr. Judson, of Brassingham, the uncle of Robert Warden, a hale and hearty veteran ringer in his seventieth year, had an intimate knowledge of the production of every composer for the last half century, had been a personal friend of Edward Nokes, the author of the stolen book, and indeed knew the book as well almost as its author; he had shortly after that person's death applied to his widow for the book for the purpose of depositing it among the archives of the St. Justin's Society, but it had mysteriously disappeared, and was no more seen until picked up for a few pence at a second-hand book stall by the gentleman in whose library it had been found by the lawyer's clerk.

Now when Mr. Judson saw the peal of Triples that Beckton claimed, he at once recognised it, but said nothing about it, thinking it likely to be one of the instances in which two composers have both hit upon the same peal; but when the peal of Major appeared over the same name he was forced to the conclusion that a fraud was being perpetrated, and mentioned the subject to his nephew Robert Warden. They two considered the matter, and taking Dick Delver into their confidence, came to the determination to expose the cheat in the presence of the Thornwood ringers.

Mr. Judson was Mabel's godfather, and he had for some time held the opinion that Robert would make a decidedly better husband for his pretty god-daughter than the conceited and arrogant lawyer's clerk, and now that he had discovered the latter individual in a bare faced-imposture, he was anxious that his ancient crony, Will Somers, should have his eyes opened to that youth's real merits as speedily as possible.

* * * * *

The Christmas-Eve peal at Thornwood had been an established institution for many years; two or three young fellows, after leaving their various businesses in the old village, and who had been members of the church and ringing company, had wandered away from the rest and were now doing well in London. These were now members of either the Cumberlands or College Youths, and in regular communication with their old ringing friends at home. It was for them that the peal was got up, as they liked to "take a peal back with them" from their Christmas visit to the old folks at home. They had of course heard of Stephen Beckton's sudden blossoming forth as a composer, and had felt not a little proud among the London ringers, of their

townsman's fame; they had in fact rather enlarged on one or two occasions upon that gentleman's attainments. Having received due notice to prepare themselves for the new peal of Grandsire Royal that was to be attempted on Christmas-Eve, they had met with some difficulty in getting a little practice in so uncommon a method, but by perseverance they had managed two or three touches at various of the London ten-bell towers, and felt quite confident of getting triumphantly through their share of the peal.

Going down in the train together they had wondered among themselves who would be at the tenor, and how Dick Delver would like it, for that worthy's notion as to his *rights* to ring the tenor was a standing joke among his friends.

* * * * *

It is just getting dusk, and the young girls who have been busy putting the finishing touches to the holly and evergreen decorations in the old church are muffling themselves in warm wraps and shawls, as the ringers pass the porch, making for the belfry door; Christmas greetings and good wishes are exchanged, and some very warm hand-shakings ensue between the three young gentlemen from London and a similar number of the prettiest of the girls, who happen curiously enough to be three of the rosiest too, although it is possible that their special rosiness may be accounted for by the hand-shaking having brought on palpitation of the heart, to which dire malady it is well-known that young ladies are peculiarly liable on small provocation. Mabel is one of the bevy, and while speaking to her father studiously avoids looking towards where Stephen Beckton, Esq. is vainly trying to bestow a languishing glance upon her.

All the Thornwood ringers are assembled in the ringing-room, some twelve or fourteen, eight of whom are in the peal and are preparing for the start; Mr. Judson has written from Brassingham some days ago expressing a wish to be in it, and that a friend of his would, if they pleased, ring the tenor. The veteran was so well liked and respected, that his wish had been readily acceded to, even Dick Delver (who it will be remembered was in the secret) being quite alert at making things comfortable for the expected visitors. Some of the party were rallying Dick upon this notable change in his manners when steps were heard ascending the old winding stairs, and Mr. Judson, followed by Robert Warden, stepped into the ringing-room. After the usual seasonable greetings had been passed and enquiries as to the welfare of absent friends made and answered, Robert was introduced by his uncle as the new tenor-man, much to the surprise of the party, for although he was well-known to them all, not one except Dick Delver had the least notion that he was a ringer, for he had never been known to enter the belfry of St. Barbara's, although a regular attendant of the church, to which he regularly escorted his widowed mother.

"Well, we are all here now," said Stephen Beckton rather petulantly; for he was by no means pleased to discover his rival in his new character of a ringer, "and had better make a start."

The rest of the band began to take off their coats, but Mr. Judson, advancing to the centre of the room, said, "I understand, Mr. Beckton, that you claim the peal we are to try for to-night as being of your own composition?" "Yes," replied the lawyer's clerk boldly, although there was something in Mr. Judson's manner of asking the question that made him feel rather uncomfortable; "I have shown it to Mr. Somers, who is satisfied as to its truth, and considers it a very good peal;" turning towards Old Will as though appealing to him to endorse the statement.

Will Somers was about to offer some reply, but Mr. Judson again spoke. Addressing Beckton, "If you have it on paper I should like to glance over it before we start," said he; and the men all closed up round the speaker under the light, with a feeling, as they afterwards said, that "there was something in the wind;" while Stephen Beckton walked slowly towards his coat, and very reluctantly drew forth from an inner pocket of that garment a pocket-book, from which he extracted a paper, which he handed to Mr. Judson with a mingled air of bravado and confusion. Very deliberately arranging his spectacles upon his nose, the veteran ringer proceeded to scan the sheet amid a profound silence; a glance satisfied him that his suspicions were correct, and not deigning to further notice the detected cheat, he addressed himself to the expectant company generally. He said, "Gentlemen, this peal of Grandsire Royal, that this young man claims for his own, as well as the other two peals that

have been published by him within the last year, were composed upwards of thirty years ago by the late Edward Nokes, as I can prove to you by documentary evidence," and with this he drew from his pocket a thick note-book of large size, fastened with a brass clasp. "This book," continued he, "I have had in my possession upwards of forty years, and it contains not only the particulars of peals in which I have rung, many of them of my own composition, but a large number of peals composed by friends some of whom are now dead, from whose books I, with their permission, copied them into this, and have in each case the signature of the composer to his own peals; this you can see for yourselves, and compare notes," handing as he spoke the book and sheet of paper to the man who stood next him, "and it will of course be necessary before we go any further to have an explanation of the matter;" and he looked in an inquiring manner towards Stephen Beckton as he finished speaking.

But that gentleman finding that his knavery was brought to light, resolved to carry off matters with a high hand; assuming his most insolent airs he very deliberately donned his coat, and remarking coolly that he "should not stop there to be insulted by an old dotard," walked out of the room and was down the stairs before any of the company had time to recover from their astonishment at his effrontery.

Then of course the torrent broke loose, and all were talking at once; many were the wise shakes of the head, and opinions expressed that "they had their suspicions for a long time past," by all and sundry of the assemblage; for what is easier than prophesying after the event, or showing to the multitude your superior wisdom in having so long ago foreseen an event that is now an accomplished fact; and it says much for the general loving-kindness of human nature that no one even dreams of breathing these suspicions to his neighbour until after the catastrophe.

After some little time had been expended in this ever popular recreation, one of the young gentlemen from London suggested they should start for the same peal if Mr. Judson was prepared to call it, and that gentleman having come prepared for such a contingency, another man was pressed, nothing loth, into the service to make up for Beckton's defection, and the bells being raised and a few rounds rung, the supernumeraries, with Dick Delver bringing up the rear, left the room, and before the last man had reached the bottom of the stairs, the bells were off and into changes.

The peal was rung in splendid style, the striking throughout being simply perfect! Directly the bells were set, old Will Somers walked across to the tenor box to shake hands heartily with Robert, and compliment him upon the manner in which he had rung his bell; thereupon it was seen that Robert, with a very red face, seemed to be begging some favour from his old friend, and the conference ended by old Will giving him a very hearty slap on the back, with a most emphatic "certainly my boy," in his cheeriest voice.

Before the New Year was one month old, a wedding took place at St. Barbara's, and the bells were rung the same day not only at Thornwood, but at Brassingham, Lillkester, Thursbury, and Laventry, although sad to relate, after the touch upon the conclusion of the ceremony at St. Barbara's, another tenor-man had to take Dick Delver's place, poor Dick being so overcome with *emotion* (warm, with sugar, the day being very cold) that he could not ring no more that day.

And about a week before the next Christmas, a new treble was heard in Robert Warden's house, which in Dick Delver's opinion was quite as fine as his beloved tenor, and he and Grandfather Will Somers, with Grandmother Widow Warden as well as Robert and Mabel, were all strongly of opinion that it was the sweetest treble that any of them had ever heard.

Stephen Beckton, Esq. did not stop long in Thornwood after the exposure of his knavery; the village was not large enough to permit him to avoid those who were aware of his disgrace, neither was there scope sufficient for the exercise of his peculiar talent for chicanery. He made his way to London and obtained service with a firm of attorneys who have a large *clientele* among the oppressed victims of the metropolitan police.

He is sometimes seen at night, between the hours of eight and ten, loitering in the vicinity of a steeple where ringing is going on, but carefully avoids contact with the ringers, most of whom have heard of his misdoings.