

31

THE BELL NEWS

And Ringers' Record.

VOLUME III.

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

London :

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

(And of all Book sellers.)

[ENTERED AT STATIONERS' HALL.]

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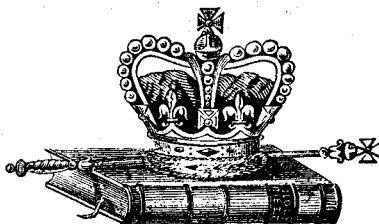
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THE BELL NEWS

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[ONE PENNY.]

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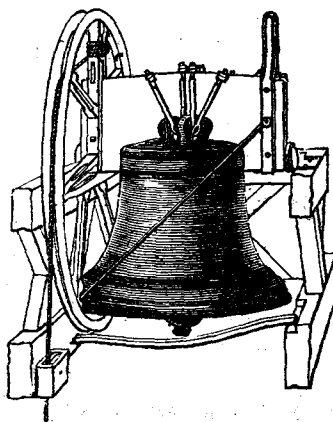
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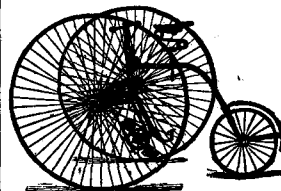
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ESTABLISHED 1872.

TOUCHES OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR.

Collected and arranged by
THE REV. H. EARLE BULWER.

704.

Time 26½ minutes.

23456	M	B	W	H	23456	M	B	W	H
62534	2		I	2	35642	I		2	
23456	I		2		23456	2		I	2

An inversion of courses, given by way of illustration, to show how this kind of variation often affects the musical properties of a touch.

23456 M B W H

65432 I I I
23456 2 - 2 I

Inversion makes no difference to these course-ends, as the calling is alternative. But it would affect the music of the touch considerably by substituting 82's at the W (which are abominable) for 86's.

SERIES II.

TOUCHES OF OVER 1000 CHANGES AND UNDER 1600.

1024.

Time 38 minutes.

In three courses.
With the sixth home throughout.

23456	M	B	W	H	23456	M	B	W	H
24536	I	-	2	2	36452	I			I
25346		I	2		62453	I		2	
23456		I	2		23456	2	-	I	2

23456	M	B	W	H	23456	M	B	W	H
43526	I	-	I		36452	2	-	I	2
25346		2	2		32654	2		I	
23456	I	-	2	2	23456		-	I	2
23456					23456				
45236	I	-	2	I	64352	2	-	I	I
25346	I	-	I		62453		-	I	I
23456	I	-	2	2	23456	2	-	I	2

With the 6th 2 course ends home.

23456	M	B	W	H	23456	M	B	W	H
62534	-	2	2		32654		-	I	2
54326	I		I	2	64523	I		I	2
23456	I	-	2		23456	2	-	I	2
23456					23456				
54632	2	-	2		35264	2		2	
35426	2		2	2	62453	2	-	2	
23456	I				23456	I			2

In four courses.

23456	M	B	W	H	23456	M	B	W	H
35264	-				23564	-		I	
35642	-		I		36245	-			
54326	-				43652	-			2
23456	I	-	2		23456	-		I	

23456	M	B	W	H	23456	M	B	W	H
35264	-				Invert.				
63542	-		2						
Repeated.									

23456	M	B	W	H	23456	M	B	W	H
35264	-				56234	-		2	
64523	2	-		2	63542	-			
42635	-				34625	-			
23456	-				23456	-			2

23456

23564 - I
43265 - I
Repeated.

23456

35264 -
64352 - 2
Repeated.

23456

35264 -
25634 I - I
Repeated.

23456

35264 -
56423 2 -
Repeated.

1056.

Time 39½ minutes.

In three courses.
With the 6th home throughout.

23456	M	B	W	H	23456	M	B	W	H
43526	2	I			26354	2		I	
25346	2	2			62453	2		2	
23456	I	-	2	2	23456	2	-	I	2

With the 6th home full in the last course.

23456	M	B	W	H	23456	M	B	W	H
52364	2	2	2		Some 867's can be gained by inverting the first two courses and this gives the touch in its best form.				
65243	-	2	2						
23456	I		I	2					

23456	M	B	W	H	23456	M	B	W	H
62534	-	2	2		35264	2		2	
34625	-	2			64523	2	-	2	
23456	2	2	2		23456	2	-	2	

In four courses. With the 6th home at two course-ends.

23456	M	B	W	H	23456	M	B	W	H
52364	-	2			26354	-	I	I	
52643	-	I			26543	-		I	
52436	-	I			42635	-		2	
23456	I	-			23456	-			

23456	M	B	W	H	23456	M	B	W	H
35264	-				35264	-			
35642	-	I			42563	2	-	I	I
35426	-	I			42635	-		I	
23456	I	-	2		23456	-			

With the 6th home full in the last course.

23456	M	B	W	H	23456	M	B	W	H
35264	-				35264	-			
56342	-				56342	-			
64523	-				45623	-		2	
23456	I	2	2		23456	2		I	

1088.

Time 40½ minutes.

In three courses.
With the 6th home throughout.

23456	M	B	W	H	23456	M	B	W	H
24536	I	-	2	2	36452	2	-	I	2
25346	I	-	2	2	62453	2	-	I	2
23456	I	2			23456	I			2

With the 6th home at two course-ends.

23456	M	B	W	H	23456	M	B	W	H
62534	2	I	2		32654	2		2	
54326	I	I	2		64523	I		I	2
23456	2	2			23456	I		2	2

With the 6th home full in the last course.

23456	M	B	W	H	23456	M	B	W	H
56234	2	I			56342	I		2	2
34625	2	-	2		45623	2	2	2	2
23456	2	2	2		23456	-			2

In four courses. The 6th home throughout.

23456	M	B	W	H	23456	M	B	W	H
35426	I	-			63254	-	I		
45236	I	-	I		64352	-	I	I	
Repeated.					Repeated.				

SERIES III.

TOUCHES OF 1600 CHANGES AND UPWARDS.

1600.

Time 59 minutes.

In four courses.

23456	M	B	W	H	23456	M	B	W	H
24536	I	-	2	2	52364	2		2	2
32465	2	-	2	2	24365	2	-	I	2
Repeated.					Repeated.				

Or this variation,

23456	M	B	W	H	23456	M	B	W	H
52364	2	2	2		62534	2		I	2
53624	I	-	2	2	54326	2	-	2	2
Repeated.					Repeated.				

In five courses; the sixth the extent home.

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

5th. the extent home in both these reverses.

The 6th two course-ends each way.

23456	M	B	W	H	23456	M	B	W	H
52364	-	2			24536	I	-	2	2
24365	2	-	I	2	32465	-			2
63425	I	-	2		32654	-			2
54326	I		I		32654	I		I	2
23456	I	-	2		23456	-	I	2	

1632.

Time 60 minutes.

The sixth the extent home.

23456	M	B	W	H	23456	M	B	W	H
32654	-	I	2		52364	-			2
53246	-	2			63254	I	-		2
52436		I	2		36452	-		I	2
54326	I	-	2	2	62453	2	-	I	2
23456	I	-	2		23456	I			2

23456	M	B	W	H	23456	M	B	W	H
35642	2	-			35426	I	-		
53246	-	I	2		63254	-	2	2	
52436		I	2		36452	-	I	2	
54326	I	-	2	2	62453	2	-	I	2
23456	I	-	2		23456	I			2

23456	M	B	W	H	23456	M	B	W	H
54632	2	-	2		36452	I			2
35426	-		2		62453	I			2
24536	2	2			25354	2			2
25346	I	2			65243	-			
23456	I	2			23456	2	-	2	2

The 5th the extent home in all these reverses.

THE CENTENARY OF THE LONG PEAL OF TREBLE BOB ROYAL.

THE CUMBERLAND YOUTHS AT SHOREDITCH.

For some time past the members of this society anticipated a grand day on the 27th March last, that being the date of one of the Society's most brilliant performances, and indeed it may be added, one of the most extraordinary feats ever performed in the art of change-ringing. It is well known that more changes have been rung by a society only recently, and also peals have been rung on heavier bells. But when the whole list of great performances has been taken into consideration, and a comparison made between them, the Cumberlands' peal of a hundred years ago stands out in bold relief, requiring no gilding or embellishment of any kind, but simply an effort to remove the obliteration of old Father Time.

In commemoration of this event, on the 27th inst., at about two p.m., the following members attempted a peal of Kent Treble Bob Maximus, and stood in the following order: Messrs. Newson, C. Hopkins, Randall, Hannington, Titchener, Jacob, Gardom, F. Pitstow (special visit from Saffron Walden), Doran, Meadows, Jarman, and Barrett, but after ringing five courses in 2 hours and 50 mins., came to a stand unexpectedly. There was an arrangement made that the same band should not make the two contemplated attempts on that day, so that as many members as possible should take part in the day's proceedings. It was however, with a very slight alteration in the original band that at 7 p.m. a successful attempt was made at a peal of Royal, particulars of which will be found in our records. The members wish to return their warmest thanks to the Churchwardens, and to Mr. H. Wilton, the sexton, who gave them possession of the tower, and every opportunity for carrying out the day's proceedings.

THE SUPPER.

According to the programme announced in our last number, the arrangements for the celebration of this centenary included a supper, which took place on the following evening, at the head quarters of the Royal Cumberlands, "The Green Man," St. Martin's Lane. Nearly forty members and friends sat down to a substantial repast provided by Host Burton, and after ample justice had been done to the good things so well provided and cheerfully served by Hostess Burton, the cloth was removed; the evening's amusement was preceded by handing to each guest a neatly printed and well arranged programme, presented by Henry S. Thomas, Esq., a member of this and the Amateur Society of St. Mary, Battersea. This pleasing feature must have cost Mr. Thomas some considerable trouble and time to arrange, as besides containing the proposed programme for the evening, the first page gave the object of the gathering. Another page gave the names and particulars of the Shoreditch long peal band, the remaining one containing the peal rang but a few hours previous, viz.: the commemoration peal.

The chairman gave the usual loyal toasts which were duly honoured, and after a pianoforte solo by Mr. T. Harrington, came a reminiscence of the long peal and the performers, which was given by Mr. George Marriott and the Secretary. Mr. Marriott, now in his 72nd year, well remembered Malachi Channon, the last survivor of the long peal band, being several times in his company, and rang in his funeral peal at St. Leonard's, Shoreditch. The Secretary read a paper copied from the Society's records by himself, and which enumerated the number of peals rang by each of the long peal men, with a few interesting notes bearing on the same question, particulars of which will be found below.

The toast of "The long peal band" was then drunk in solemn silence. "The Cumberland Society" came next, being well given by the chairman, and heartily responded to by Mr. G. Newson. The toast of "Churchwardens" was responded to in glowing terms by A. G. Thomas, Esq. That of "Steeplekeepers" in amusing terms by Mr. H. Dains, and responded to by Mr. John Mansfield. This last toast was followed by a capital course of Caters on handbells. Mr. Mansfield then gave "Peal conductors and old members," which was responded to by Mr. Nelms and Mr. Hoverd, both expressing their regret, which was shared by the whole company, that the health of Mr. John Cox was not good enough to allow him to be present. Other toasts—"Composers," responded to by Messrs. Dains and Nelms; "The society's officers," "The visitors," etc., followed. Mr. Henry Hopkins, in felicitous terms, proposed "The Health of the Chairman," which was drunk with musical honours.

Several of the company sustained the harmony of the evening by rendering choice and appropriate songs and recitations. Amongst those who so enhanced the pleasantness of the evening were Mr. H. Hopkins, A. G. Thomas, Esq., H. W. Orchard, Esq., Mr. T. Harrington, and Mr. G. Church. The last-named gentleman, who is one of the rising generation, gave a song for the delivery of which we think requires as good a memory as is needed to call Holt's Original.

The evening concluded with "Auld Lang Syne" by the whole company standing, joined hand in hand. They then separated, but

our deponent adds that "many of them did not reach Bedfordshire till the clock had told several little morning tales. But this convivial meeting will remain verdant in their memory."

Letters expressing regret at not being not able to attend this centenary meeting were received from J. W. Snowdon, Esq., and the Churchwarden of St. Sepulchre, Snow Hill, London.

The following brief notices of the long peal men have been culled from the Cumberlands' peal-book by Mr. Henry Dains:—

GEORGE GROSS (Treble).—Was by far the most active man in the band, and although his ringing career was not so long as that of Malachi Channon, yet he rang as many peals as the 5th, 6th, 7th, 8th, 9th, and tenor-man inclusive, or nearly so. His first peal was rung in the year 1763 and his last in 1803. After the long peal Mr. G. only rang two peals till the year 1792; one in 1784, and one in 1788, the latter is the first peal of Stedman Caters of the society: John Reeves, conductor, and Shipway's first peal with the Cumberlands. Mr. Gross was the only long peal man in this latter band. Although he had absented himself for about eight years from the society, and called the first and several successive peals in another, known as Junior Cumberlands, he returned to the old Cumberlands' Society, and was no doubt freely forgiven, as an affectionate note is appended to his last performance in the peal-book of the above mentioned date.

JAMES BARNARD (2nd).—He rang 27 peals during a career of 30 years, his first in 1774, and his last in 1804. He rang one peal in the year following the long peal, and then took a rest of fourteen years, but he again came out and rang in several 10 and 12-bell peals, and assisted in Mr. Gross's unrivalled 10,112 of Bob Major at Edmonton in the year 1801.

FRANCIS WREY (3rd).—Rang 29 peals during a career of 36 years; his first in the year 1777, and his last in 1813. Like Mr. Gross, his first peal was at St. Mary's, Whitechapel, and his last at St. Leonard's Shoreditch.

THOMAS REEVES (4th).—Rang 34 peals during a career of 21 years; his first at St. Leonard's in 1783, and his last in 1804, with Jas. Barnard, a peal of T. B. Maximus at Christ Church, Spitalfields.

ISAIAH BRAY (5th).—Rang 40 peals during a career of 45 years, the longest peal ringing career of any one of the long peal band. His first was rung in the year 1753, his last in the year 1798, and both were rung at St. Leonard's.

JAMES PATRICK (6th).—Rang 11 peals during a career of 14 years; his first in the year 1772 and his last in 1784; one only after the long peal.

WILLIAM COURT (7th).—Rang 10 peals during a career of 21 years; his first in the year 1775 and his last in the year 1796, both on ten bells. The last was a peal of Caters at St. Leonard's, in which all the performers, ten in number, were named William, with the celebrated Shipway as conductor.

ABRAHAM SMITH (8th).—Rang 8 peals during a career of 27 years; his first in the year 1777 and his last in 1784, April 12th, at Walthamstow.

MALACHI CHANNON (9th).—Rang 44 peals during a career of 42 years; his first in the year 1777 and his last in 1819. Mr. Channon, with Thos. Reeves, assisted Mr. Gross in the Court Bob Royal, he also rang with Thos. Reeves and J. Barnard in the 7104 T. B. Maximus at St. Saviour's. He was evidently a man of metal, being generally found at the heavy end. A note is appended to the last performance to the effect that he was then 72 years of age, and the only one of the five survivors of the 12,000 band then able to ring. He had been a member for 52 years. By this, Mr. Channon would be twenty years of age when made a member: he served an apprenticeship prior to peal-ringing, and was 35 when he rang the long peal. He, with Thos. Reeves assisted Mr. Gross in the Court Bob Royal, at St. Leonard's, Shoreditch.

ALLEN GRANT (Tenor).—Rang 3 peals only with the society, and all were accomplished in about 10 months; his first at St. Botolph, Bishopsgate, March 13th, 1784; the second is the 12,000, March 27th, 1784, the third and last at St. Nicholas, Deptford, on Sunday, July 16th, 1785. In his first peal seven long peal men took part.

THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

The Annual Meeting of the above Association will be held at Bedford, on Easter Monday next, Ringing at St. Paul's during the day. Any particulars will be cheerfully given by

Woburn, Beds.

CHARLES HERBERT, Hon. Sec.

We are enabled to state that the bells for the parish church of Beaconsfield, are being cast by Messrs. Mears and Stainbank, of the Whitechapel Foundry.

THUMB-NAIL SKETCHES.—X.

We suppose most ringers were young once, and had to learn the first rudiments of the Art. There certainly are a few shining lights who appear to have never been in the enviable position of the "pupil"; but happily or unhappily they are few and far between. In the generality of instances, learning to ring has been a matter of several years plodding, and persevering against difficulties which seemed sometimes almost insuperable. Looking back now on the palmy days of our own youth, one particular case occurs to us of trying to make bricks without straw.

Our native town possesses some fine peals of bells, and at the time of which we write, several bands of ringers were in existence. To one of these we belonged, but as they only practised Grandsire Triples, we soon began to exhaust their fund of information. With a view to perfecting ourselves in a more advanced and very favourite method, we got an introduction to the leader of a company who could ring what we wanted to learn. He was very kind, delivered himself of excellent advice, and good sound rules, and promised us a hearty reception and a good touch on the next meeting-night. Alas for promises! on the night in question we mustered one short, and, after ringing some touches of Grandsire we came down—to find Number Eight enjoying a quart of ale in a public-house over the way. Four times following were we served that trick, and then we gave it up in disgust. The method in question was not mastered till several years had passed, but we have often regretted the time wasted in endeavouring to acquire it before.

We have given the above as an instance of how things were managed in the "good old times," but how are they not altered now. In the present time we find ringers only too glad to help pupils on. One famous company in particular, especially distinguishes itself in this laudable endeavour. Its best ringers are famed all over the country for the readiness with which they will give up drinking beer for the sake of making a band to give a young hand a turn. Their personal convenience is not considered for a moment, and we believe that some of them, if asked to meet and ring in an attempt at a peal by a young conductor, would actually do so *without being paid for it*. Such noble self-denial is sublime. It was only about nine months ago that we heard them talking about making a practice for the purpose of teaching some pupils Treble Bob, and we are sure they will do it if they live long enough. Conduct of this sort is beyond all praise.

We had not these opportunities in our day. The ringers we used to meet would never have come up in the tower so long as they had a copper to spend in drink (that was why we practised on Fridays); nowadays things are different. They always got paid for ringing in peals if there was anyone available who could afford the expense; but we believe that one or two peals have lately been rung in which this was not the case. We hope the number of such will increase, but at the same time we are thankful, aye, and *proud*, that things should be as well as they are. If this prosperous and beneficial movement continues, the day is not many hundred years distant when practices will not be quite abandoned to pupils; and when the company will occupy the grand position of having taught one, or perhaps as many as two ringers, the mysteries of change-ringing. That will be a glorious day, *if anybody ever sees it*.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

The second Annual Meeting of this Association will be held at Derby, on Easter Monday, April 14th, 1884. The following towers will be opened for ringing from 10 a.m.: All Saints', ten bells; St. Andrew's, eight bells; St. Luke's, eight bells; St. Werburgh's, eight bells; St. Alkmund's, eight bells. Visitors on arrival are requested to proceed to St. Werburgh's Sunday School (opposite Temperance Hall, Curzon Street), where the local Committee will be in attendance to assist in forming bands to proceed to the various towers. Committee meeting in the above School at 3.30 p.m.; Service in St. Werburgh's church at 4 p.m.; Tea in the schoolroom at 5 p.m. General Meeting and election of Officers for the ensuing year, at 6 p.m. All ringers and friends are earnestly invited to attend.

JOSEPH GRIFFIN, Hon. Sec.

41, Shobnall Street, Burton-on-Trent.



In Memoriam.

THE REV. T. H. GRANTHAM ROBINSON.

A very melancholy and painful duty is imposed upon us in recording the demise of this much-respected Christian minister, who entered into his rest early on Friday morning, March 21st. The deceased gentleman was the first Vicar of St. Saviour's, Walthamstow, the congregation of which church are now bereaved of their beloved pastor. The sad event is all the more painful from the rapidity with which death seized him after his last illness came. On the previous Sunday he officiated at church, and as usual, preached the sermon. Of somewhat noble mien, having the appearance of possessing a robust constitution, and in the prime of manhood, the news of his death was by many hardly believed till the tolling of the tenors of St. Saviour's and the parish church (St. Mary's), with other significant observances, made it too plain.

In Mr. Robinson, the Walthamstow ringers deplore the loss of one who never threw the least impediment in the way of practice on the bells of St. Saviour's. And when it is understood that the vicarage is erected in the shadow of the tower, it will be allowed that some forbearance was exercised upon many occasions when the bells were being rung.

The funeral took place on the following Tuesday. The first part of the burial service was performed in the church, in the chancel of which the coffin was placed, literally covered with wreaths of choice flowers, placed there by loving hands. The church and its approaches were crowded with parishioners, anxious to see the last of the late lamented gentleman. A long procession of the resident gentry and principal tradesmen accompanied the remains to their last resting-place in the cemetery, the members of the choir, each holding a small bunch of primroses, singing appropriate hymns on the way, and as the mournful cortege left the church, the bells, wholly muffled, rung out in very slow compass. Numbers of neighbouring clergy and Nonconformist ministers were at the grave-side, where the remainder of the service was performed by the venerable Vicar of Walthamstow (the Rev. Thomas Parry) and the Bishop-Suffragan of Colchester (Dr. Blomfield. In the evening muffled touches of Grandsire and Union Triples were rung at St. Mary's church.

OPENING OF A NEW RING AT MITCHAM, SURREY.

On Saturday, March 29th, six members of the Royal Cumberland Youths, by the kind invitation of Messrs. Warner and Sons, paid a visit to Christ Church, Mitcham, Surrey, for the purpose of opening a new ring of six bells, recently suspended in a new and excellent oak cage. The ringers, Messrs. Nelms, Gardom, Newson, Swain, Mansfield and Dains, ascended the belfry, examined and inspected the bells, frame and fittings, and after testing the ring with a short touch of 3 minutes' duration, arranged in the dedication service by the Rev. T. S. Legg, vicar, expressed their satisfaction at the comfortable arrangements made in this case. The work of hanging, &c., was executed under the superintendence of Mr. Geo. Dunn, of the above firm, who with Mr. H. Haley, sen., met the ringers at the church.

During the visit a 120 each of Grandsire and Stedman Doubles, and a 720 each of Plain Bob and Kent Treble Bob Minor were rung. The honours of conducting were divided between Mr. Nelms and Mr. Newson, the former the odd and the latter the even bell-methods.

The tenor of the ring is 24 diameter in Bb., and weighs 7½ cwt. Many ringers from neighbouring villages were present at the opening of this lively little ring.

THE ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

A DISTRICT MEETING will be held at Bury St. Edmund's, on Easter Monday, April 14th (Bank Holiday). By the kind permission of the Vicar and Churchwardens the towers of St. James's and St. Mary's churches will be open to ringers. Short service at St. James's church, at 12 a.m., when the sermon will be preached by the Rev. K. H. Smith, Hon. Sec. to the Association. The Great Eastern Railway have considerably granted return tickets at a fare and a quarter to Members of the Association. A large gathering is expected. Those intending to be present will much oblige by communicating names, numbers, and the station from which they purpose to travel, to the Hon. Sec. (Rev. K. H. Smith), the Cambridge Road, Ely.

Everything for insertion in this Journal to be addressed "The Editor of THE BELL NEWS, Walthamstow, London." Letters forwarded for publication, and performances under 5000 changes must reach us not later than Wednesday morning; and the insertion of any communication coming later than the first Postal delivery on Thursday morning cannot be guaranteed in that week's number. When it is found impossible from want of space to insert all touches forwarded, the earlier ones will have the preference.

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

Our Reigate correspondent must let us know who he is before we can insert his letter.

B. K.—Certainly. No time should be lost.

Next Friday being GOOD FRIDAY, communications intended for our next number must be received one day earlier than usual.

The Bell News & Ringers' Record.

SATURDAY, APRIL 5, 1884.

WITH this number another volume of "THE BELL NEWS AND RINGERS' RECORD" commences. Some of our friends have no doubt been in expectation of seeing an announcement to the effect that at the commencement of the third volume our journal would become increased in bulk. And we are empowered to say that as soon as the necessary arrangements are complete, this journal will be enlarged to sixteen pages. These arrangements comprise not only the erection of a new printing machine, but the increase of type and other material necessary for the purpose. In the course of a week or two an index and title-page for the second volume will be issued. To the enquiries of a few of our friends relative to cases for binding, it is not considered advisable to provide them. Experience has taught that these prepared covers are not so serviceable as those which are affixed to books in the usual manner.

We should be very glad if our correspondents would take notice of the instructions at the head of this column relative to sending their reports for publication. The reception of matter on the eve of going to press—matter which could easily be forwarded earlier in the week—is a growing evil, and one which causes great inconvenience. In many cases, correspondents defer sending their communications till the last minute, when they are hurriedly written, and perhaps the method, a ringer's name, or the time of performance, is omitted. We entreat our friends therefore, to forward their reports as early as possible.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD IN READING.

FOR some time past the Reading branch of this Guild having been in anything but a flourishing condition, no subscriptions having been received from the majority of the members, and great discontent prevailing among them, a meeting was held in St. Giles's Hall on Monday, March 24th, to inquire into the cause of this regrettable state of affairs. The chair was taken by the Rev. J. Cecil Bourke, Vicar of St. Giles's, and there were present the Revs. Dolben Paul (Rector of Bearwood, and Hon. Sec. of the Guild), — Bonney (St. Mary's), — Coleman (St. Laurence's), — Hill (St. Giles's), &c. There was also a good representative attendance from the societies of St. Mary's, St. Giles's, St. Laurence's, and Caversham. The chairman having duly opened the meeting,

The Rev. DOLBEN PAUL said it was not so very long ago since the Reading branch of the Guild was set afoot, everything then promising to go on smoothly, and more recently, when sundry little difficulties arose, they were promptly surmounted and overcome, and a fair future seemed opening for the Reading branch of the Guild. How was it that the discipline and order, the unity and good feeling then prevalent among the members, had lapsed into the present lamentable state of disorganization?

Mr. W. NEWELL, Hon. Sec. to the Reading Branch, said that the Guild at the outset had to overcome a certain amount of opposition from the old parish ringers, who did not take kindly to change-ringing, and great difficulty and discontent arose among the younger members, owing to the Guild having no recognised practice-nights at the towers.

Mr. H. EGBY said that he had been requested by many of his brother-ringers to lay their views before that meeting. It was true, as Mr. Newell had told them, that when the Guild began its operations in Reading, it encountered obstacles arising from various causes, in which no doubt, the old parish ringers were a factor, but that friction had disappeared long since, and the present great cause of dissatisfaction was the anomalous position in which the St. Laurence's band stood toward their brethren in Reading. It was quite competent, under the present Guild rules for a band, or any part of a band of ringers, to become members of the Guild, and by so doing, utilize all the advantages accruing therefrom, such as practising in the towers of the Guild, &c. (a privilege which the gentlemen of St. Laurence had used to the fullest extent, and in the exercise of which they had always received a fraternal welcome), meanwhile keeping their own especial tower closed and sealed to the Guild. Of course, it was only human nature in those members of the Guild who rang in those other towers, to feel dissatisfied with such a one-sided arrangement, and he appealed to the gentlemen of St. Laurence to say the time was now come for them to do to others as they had been done by. They could not possibly gain eventually by preaching the doctrine of isolation, and, as several among them belonged to the Guild, and confessed by that membership that the Guild was a good thing, he felt very curious and very anxious to hear a few words from them on this matter.

Mr. BAWDON (St. Laurence's Society), in the course of some remarks, said he did not consider change-ringing the primary object of church ringers, who should think less of proficiency in that respect, and more of their role of Church officers. The Society of St. Laurence, to which he had the honour to belong, was very different in many respects from other societies. Their rules were very strict, one of them being that the members of that Society must all be communicants. Their Society was, he thought, a model one in every respect, and the members felt very jealous and apprehensive of any inroad on their tower from outside.

The Rev. Mr. HILL (St. Giles's), said there was a very good set of rules in existence in St. Giles's steeple; they were properly carried out, and the men on practice-nights were most decent and orderly. He merely mentioned this to let the meeting know that other towers had rules besides that of St. Laurence.

The Rev. DOLBEN PAUL, said he scarcely concurred in the wisdom of the rule respecting the Holy Sacrament, as that was a very solemn and serious matter indeed.

A voice: "St. Laurence's Society has had no instruction from the Guild."

The Rev. DOLBEN PAUL: "You owe everything in the way of instruction to the Guild; your instructor, Mr. Newell, is chief Guild instructor for this district."

Dr. WELLS (churchwarden of St. Laurence), said if the proposition made by Mr. Newell, of each tower giving up one night a month to the Guild was carried, did they think that St. Laurence's tower would be swamped with ringers that evening, and if so, how could the ringing be satisfactorily arranged?

Mr. NEWELL said he did not think anything of the sort would occur, as other towers in Reading and Oxford had nothing to complain of in this respect.

The Rev. Dr. COLEMAN (St. Laurence's) in the course of some remarks, said, if all he heard were true, the Guild was doing a good work wherever it went, and although he did not wish his opinion to unduly influence the St. Laurence's ringers, he thought they should not stand aloof from such an organisation. Several others present having spoken,

Mr. JOHNSON (captain of the St. Laurence's society), said that all St. Laurence's ringers had not had time to consider these matters thoroughly, owing to the short notice they had received. He thought, therefore, the best plan would be to adjourn the meeting, and thus give the St. Laurence's ringers time for deliberation.

The Rev. CHAIRMAN thought this would be a wise course to adopt, and Mr. Newell having proposed, and Mr. Newman seconded, the adjournment of the meeting till Thursday, April 3rd, it was put and carried unanimously.

A prayer by the Chairman brought the proceedings to a close.

THE ST. PAUL'S CHURCH GUILD, BRIGHTON.—The members of this Guild will meet and resume their duties on Saturday next, Easter Eve. Ringing for Easter will be as follows: Easter Eve, 7 o'clock. Easter Day: Morning, 6.15 and 10; Afternoon, 3.15; Evening, 6.15. The usual practice will begin on Thursday evening, April 17th. The belfry will be kept strictly private on practice evenings during the quarter.—ALFRED J. J. GIDDINGS, Superintendent.

The Metropolis.**THE SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.
SHOREDITCH.***On Thursday, March 27, 1884, in Three Hours and Fifty Minutes,*

AT ST. LEONARD'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB ROYAL, 5000 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 31 cwt. in D.

GEORGE NEWSON Treble.	HENRY DAINS 6.
JOHN NELMS 2.	WILLIAM DORAN 7.
THOMAS TITCHENER 3.	WINGFIELD MEADOWS 8.
ARTHUR JACOB 4.	SAMUEL JARMAN 9.
JAMES HANNINGTON 5.	JAMES BARRETT Tenor.

Composed by N. J. PITSTOW, of Saffron Walden, and
Conducted by GEORGE NEWSON.

This peal has the 6th the extent in 5-6, and was rung in commemoration of the 100th anniversary of the 12,000 of Oxford Treble Bob Royal, which was rung by members of this Society at St. Leonard's in 1784; and this is the first peal on these bells by the Cumberlands since the year 1830, prior to which date the Society rang peals at short intervals from the very commencement of its history.

**THE ST. JAMES'S SOCIETY, LONDON.
WALWORTH, SURREY.***On Thursday, March 27, 1884, in Two Hours and Forty-one Minutes,*

AT ST. PETER'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S ORIGINAL.

ERNEST ROBINS Treble.	WILLIAM JONES 5.
HENRY LANGDON† 2.	CHALLIS F. WINNY 6.
MARTIN MURPHY* 3.	RICHARD FRENCH 7.
GEORGE T. McLAUGHLIN 4.	DANIEL NEWTON Tenor.

Conducted by RICHARD FRENCH.
†First peal with a bob bell. *First peal.**THE WATERLOO SOCIETY.—LONDON.***On Wednesday, March 26, 1884, in Three Hours,*

AT ST. JOHN'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S TEN-PART.

H. J. DAVIES* Treble.	G. MASH 5.
W. BARON 2.	E. ROBINS 6.
J. MARTIN ROUTH, Esq. 3.	W. COPPAGE 7.
W. JONES 4.	*J. SANDERSON Tenor.

Conducted by W. BARON.
*First peal.**The Provinces.****THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS, AND
THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—WALTHAM ABBEY.****Handbell Ringing.***On Tuesday, April 1, 1884, in Two Hours and Thirty Minutes,*

AT MR. T. POWELL'S, "THE THREE TUNS" INN,

ON HANDBELLS, RETAINED IN HAND,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S ORIGINAL.

DAVID TARLING 1-2.	GEORGE THURGOOD 5-6.
WILLIAM A. ALPS 3-4.	*WALTER C. DYMCK 7-8.

Conducted by WILLIAM A. ALPS.

*First peal on handbells.

Mr. P. Cleverley very kindly acted as referee. Mr. T. Powell also testified to the performance.

This is the first time the members of the Essex Association have rung this peal double-handed. It may be stated that the ringers are all local men.

OPENING OF ST. JOHN'S BELLS, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.

The above peal, which has been increased from six to eight bells, will be opened on Easter Monday. Change-ringing members of the Durham and Newcastle Association are invited. Tea will be provided for those from a distance.

**WORCESTER DIOCESAN AND ADJOINING DISTRICTS
ASSOCIATION.**

A QUARTERLY MEETING of the above Association will be held (by kind permission of the vicar), at Dudley, on Easter Monday, April 14th, 1884. The members will meet at the "Beehive" Inn, Stafford Street, at 12 o'clock (noon) to arrange for ringing, &c. The meeting for business will take place in the Barn Schoolroom, King Street, at 4 p.m., at which the vicar, Rev W. R. Cosens, D.D., will preside. The members of each society in the Association are earnestly invited to attend. The tower of St. Thomas's will be open for ringing.

Date Touches.**THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.**

LOUGHBOROUGH.—*Muffled Peal.*—On Tuesday, April 1st, the following rang Mr. J. Carter's date touch of Grandsire Triples, 1884 changes, with the bells half-muffled as a mark of respect to the late Prince Leopold, in 1 hr. 20 mins. F. Farrow, 1; J. H. Bradley, 2; J. W. Taylor, sen., 3; J. Hardy, 4; S. Smith, 5; R. Lane (conductor), 6; J. W. Taylor, jun., 7; E. Wightman, 8. Tenor 24 cwt.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

CHESTERFIELD (Derbyshire).—*Muffled Peal.*—On Tuesday, April 1st, at the parish church, a date touch of 1884 changes of Grandsire Triples, with the bells muffled as a tribute of respect to the late Duke of Albany. I. Godwin, 1; D. Farthing, 2; G. Toplis, 3; W. Ellis, 4; J. Ellis, 5; H. Nuttall, jun., 6; A. Knights, 7; T. Mee, 8. Tenor 24½ cwt. Composed by John Carter, of Birmingham, and conducted by A. Knights. Time 1 hr. 10 mins.

HOLBECK (Yorkshire).—On Tuesday evening, March 25th, at St. Matthew's church, the local company rang for practice, a date touch of 1884 changes of Bob Major, in 1 hr. 18 mins. Thomas Harrison, 1; Joseph Hutchinson, 2; Stephen Basnett, 3; William Scott, 4; Henry Moss, 5; Francis Woodhead, 6; Matthew Tomlinson (composer and conductor), 7; David York, 8. Tenor 16 cwt.

PUDSEY (Yorkshire).—*Muffled Peal.*—On Sunday, March 30th, for Divine Service at St. Lawrence church, a date touch, (1884 changes) of Kent Treble Bob Major, in 1 hr. 10 mins., with the bells deeply muffled, as a token of respect to the Duke of Albany. John Ross, 1; Herbert Robinson, 2; Edward Webster, 3; William Bolland, 4; Richard Thornton, 5; Henry Oddy, 6; George Bolland, 7; Henry Smith (conductor), 8. Tenor 16 cwt.

BRADFORD (Yorks).—On Sunday last, March 30th, for evening service, a date touch (1884 changes), of Kent Treble Bob Major, with the bells muffled, as a last token of respect to the late Prince Leopold. B. F. Lamb, 1; R. S. Ambler, 2; H. Raistrick, 5; B. Sugden, 4; J. Broadley, 5; B. T. Copley (conductor), 6; S. Palfraam, 7; W. Barraclough, 8. Tenor 15 cwt. Time 1 hr. 5 mins.

KEIGHLEY (Yorkshire).—On Sunday, March 30th, for evening service, the local company rang at the parish church, a muffled date touch (1884 changes) of Kent Treble Bob Major in 1 hr. 10 mins. James Bradley, 1; Thomas Thompson, 2; John Normington, 3; Albert Hardcastle, 4; Midgley Moore, 5; William Smith, 6; James McGoun, 7; James Scott (conductor), 8. Tenor 14½ cwt.

Miscellaneous.**THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.**

BEDFORD.—On Saturday, March 29th, at St. Paul's belfry, on handbells, a 6-score of Grandsire Doubles, and a plain course of Grandsire Minor. Charles Stafferton, 1-2; Charles Wm. Clarke, 3-4; William Biggs (conductor), 5-6.

BIDDENHAM, (Beds).—On Friday evening, March 28th, at St. James's church, a 720 of Plain Bob Minor, (eighteen bobs and two singles), in 27 mins. Joseph Elliss, 1; Charles Stafferton, 2; Charles Wm. Clarke (conductor), 3; Charles West, 4; William King, 5; William Biggs, 6. Tenor 14 cwt. in G.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

BRAINTREE (Essex).—*Muffled Peal.*—On Saturday, March 29th, a 720 of Bob Minor with the bells half-muffled, as a mark of respect to the late Duke of Albany, in 28 mins. F. Bumpstead, 1; F. Calthorpe, 2; W. H. Dyson, 3; S. Hammond (conductor), 4; F. Rudkin, 5; A. Huckson, 6. This 720 was rung very slow to add to its solemnity, and the age of the deceased prince was tolled upon the tenor.

LITTLE HEATH.—Muffled Peal.—On Saturday evening, with the bells deeply muffled, as a tribute to the memory of the late Duke of Albany, 6-scores of Stedman, St. Dunstan's, London, Old, and Grandsire Doubles, and London Singles. J. Porter, 1; A. J. Perkins, 2; A. Pye, 3; J. Pye, 4; B. Keeble, 5.

ROMFORD.—Chiming.—On Sunday, March 30th, at the church of St. Edward the Confessor, a touch of 144, and a touch of 180 Double Court Bob Minor, and a 6-score of Stedman Doubles. A. James Perkins, 1-2-3-4; B. Keeble, 5-6. This belfry will be open this evening (Saturday), when the bells will be muffled. The rite of Confirmation will be administered to-morrow (Sunday) afternoon, when the bells will be rung, and ringing friends will receive a hearty welcome.

WOODFORD (Essex).—Muffled Peal.—On Sunday, March 30th, at St. Mary's church, after Divine Service in the evening, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor, with the bells half-muffled, as a token of respect to the memory of the late Duke of Albany, in 27 mins. J. Porter (first 720 in the method), 1; A. Pye, 2; W. Manning, 3; J. Nunn, 4; T. Scarlett, 5; A. Porter (conductor), 6. Tenor 13 cwt.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

MERSHAM (Kent).—On Friday, March 28th, six members of the above Association rang a 720 of Plain Bob Minor. E. Ruck, sen., 1; Rev. R. Knatchbull-Hugessen, 2; G. Finn, 3; W. Jay, 4; E. Ruck, jun. (first 720 inside), 5; G. Paine (conductor), 6.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

NOTTINGHAM.—Muffled Peal.—On Sunday, March 30th, at St. Peter's church, after Divine Service in the evening, the local company rang a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, with the bells half-muffled as a tribute of respect to the late Duke of Albany, in 50 mins. S. Wilkinson, 1; S. Wilkins, 2; S. Simkin, 3; A. Archer, 4; W. Burkinshaw, 5; A. R. Peet, 6; J. Hickman (conductor), 7; A. W. Sadler, 8. Tenor 21 cwt.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

READING (Berks).—Muffled Peal.—On Friday, March 28th, as soon as the news of Prince Leopold's death reached Reading, six members of the above Association rang at St. Giles's, a 720 of Grandsire Minor, with the bells half-muffled, in 27 mins. H. Smart, 1; Geo. Gibbard, 2; S. Paice, 3; N. Blissett, 4; W. Newell, 5; H. Egby (conductor), 6.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

CHURCH KIRK (Lancashire).—Muffled Peal.—On Sunday, March 29th, on account of the death of the Duke of Albany, the bells of the parish church were rung muffled for morning and evening service. For Divine Service in the evening a 720 of Plain Bob Minor, with eighteen bobs and two singles, in 28 mins. James Horrocks (conductor), 1; Thomas Doran, 2; Henry Hayes, 3; James Pickles, 4; William Pattison, 5; Thomas Horrocks, 6. Tenor 15 cwt.

THE SOUTH LINCOLNSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

SPALDING (Lincolnshire).—On Tuesday, March 18th, being the 44th birthday of Mr. R. Creasey, the company's instructor, at St. Paul's, Fulney, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, with Queen's and Tittums, in 45 mins. Robert Skeef, 1; R. Creasey (conductor), 2; E. Mason (Boston), 3; E. Quinton, 4; A. W. Walker, 5; C. Creasey, 6; J. A. Croxford, 7; A. Creasey, 8. And on Sunday, March 30th, for Divine Service in the evening at SS. Mary and Nicolas, a 360 of Kent Treble Bob. Also after service, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob, with nine bobs. G. Skeef, 1; J. Wilson, 2; G. L. Richardson, 3; J. S. Wright, 4; E. Brown, 5; R. Mackman (conductor), 6. On receiving the sad news of the death of the Duke of Albany, the death bell was tolled and on Sunday evening, Mr. Price, the organist, played the Dead March in *Saul*, the choir and congregation remaining in their seats.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

OSSETT (Yorkshire).—On Tuesday evening, March 25th, at Holy Trinity church, for practice, a 2528 changes of Kent Treble Bob Major, in 1 hr. 40 mins. Frederick Schofield, 1; George Crawshaw, 2; Arthur Spurr, 3; William Schofield, 4; Joseph Chappel, 5; Willoughby Dixon, 6; John Buckley (conductor), 7; David Stephenson, 8. This is the first half-peal with a tenor bell for D. Stephenson. **Muffled Peal.**—Also on Sunday, March 30th, for Divine Service in the evening, 2592 changes, with the bells muffled, as a tribute of respect to the late Duke of Albany, in 1 hr. 43 mins. Frederick Schofield, 1; George Crawshaw, 2; Arthur Spurr, 3; William Schofield, 4; Isaac Idle, 5; Joseph Chappel, 6; John Buckley, 7; David Stephenson, 8. Composed by John Buckley, and conducted by George Crawshaw. Tenor 26½ cwt. Messrs. Idle and Buckley hail from Earlsheaton, the rest are of Ossett.

CAPEL (Surrey).—On Sunday, March 23rd, the local company with a few friends, rang for afternoon service 360 of Oxford Treble Bob Minor, in 12 mins. A. Tidy, 1; R. Jordan, 2; E. Jordan, 3; R.

Worsfold, 4; W. Burkin, 5; D. Jordan, 6. After service, 720 Violet Treble Bob, in 23 mins. A. Tidy, 1; R. Jordan, 2; *W. Burkin, 3; R. Worsfold, 4; E. Jordan, 5; D. Jordan, 6. Afterwards an attempt was made for a 720 of Plain Bob, but came to grief in the fifth course. Then 360 College Single Bob. R. Worsfold, 1; A. Tidy, 2; B. King, 3; R. Jordan, 4; M. Heffer, 5; F. Wickens, 6. Also 720 of Double Oxford Bob. A. Mills, 1; A. Tidy, 2; *W. Burkin, 3; E. Jordan, 4; M. Jenkins, 5; D. Jordan, 6. Also 720 of Warnham Court Bob. A. Mills, 1; E. Jordan, 2; M. Jenkins, 3; F. Wickens, 4; M. Heffer, 5; D. Jordan, 6. The 360 College Single was conducted by F. Wickens; the others by D. Jordan. *First 720 in the method. Wickens, Heffer, and King, hail from Charlwood; and Burkin from Nutfield.

BOLTON (Lancashire).—On Friday, March 28th, at All Souls' church, eight members of the local company rang their first 350. J. Curtis, 1; A. Parkinson, 2; W. Farnworth, 3; W. Smith, 4; A. Cranshaw, 5; T. Honeyford, 6; P. Pilling, 7; W. Hodson, 8. Tenor 23½ cwt. No method mentioned.

EASTBOURNE (Sussex).—On Thursday, March 13th, at St. Mary's church, the first half of Holt's ten-part peal of Grandsire Triples, in one hour and twenty-eight minutes. Tenor 17 cwt. A. Newman, 1; H. P. Bennett, 2; T. Hunnisett, 3; L. Huggett (conductor), 4; F. Harding, 5; J. Patten, 6; T. Hart, 7; J. Andrews, 8. Also on Tuesday, March 25th, at the same church, 2000 of Grandsire Triples, by the same band, with the exception of J. Rollison instead of J. Andrews, tenor. On Tuesday, March 25th, at All Saints', a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in forty-five minutes. All the same ringers as before, with the exception of J. Lewis instead of J. Rollison at the tenor. Tenor 18 cwt.

GARGRAVE (Yorkshire).—Muffled Peal.—On Sunday, March 30th, for morning service, a touch of 1440 Oxford Treble Bob Major, with the bells deeply muffled as a tribute of respect to H.R.H. the Duke of Albany. W. Clarke, 1; Harry Birtwhistle, 2; W. Mallinson, 3; W. Whitaker, 4; Henry Birtwhistle, 5; J. McGoun, 6; C. Langstreth, 7; J. McKell (conductor), 8.

HUNTSAM (Devon).—On Sunday last, March 30th, after Divine Service, the following eight members of the local Society rang a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples, with the bells deeply muffled, as a mark of respect for the memory of the late Prince Leopold, Duke of Albany. J. Chave, 1; H. Payne, 2; W. Heard, 3; Lieut. Col. Troyte, 4; H. Redwood, 5; J. Heard, 6; H. Tucker (conductor), 7; S. Davey, 8.

LIGHTCLIFFE (Yorkshire).—On Tuesday evening, March 18th, at the Congregational Church, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor, by six of the Brighthouse company. H. Wilson, 1; F. Crossley, 2; J. Robnett, 3; G. Lawton, 4; C. Nield, 5; J. W. Walker (conductor), 6. Tenor 12½ cwt.

MELBOURNE (Derby).—On Saturday, March 29th, for practice, at the parish church, the local company rang five 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles, each called differently. H. Hulse, 1; J. Warren, 2; F. Calow, 3; G. C. Tunnicliffe, 4; Thos. Hollingworth (conductor), 5; J. Bartram, 6. Tenor 16 cwt in F#.

NOTTINGHAM.—Muffled Peal.—On Sunday, March 30th, at All Saints' church, by the request of the vicar and churchwardens, the bells were half-muffled and rung for morning and evening service, as a last tribute of respect for the departed Prince Leopold. For morning service a 600 of Stedman Triples by the All Saints' company. J. Wibberley, 1; T. Cook, 2; W. Langley, 3; H. W. Abbott, 4; E. Robinson, 5; J. Hickman, 6; G. Middleton (conductor), 7; J. A. Wibberley, 8. For evening service, 1260 Stedman Triples, in 48 mins. J. Wibberley, 1; Thos. Cooke, 2; G. Middleton, 3; H. W. Abbott, 4; E. Robinson, 5; S. Burton, 6; W. Langley (conductor), 7; J. A. Wibberley, 8.

PENZANCE (Cornwall).—Muffled Peal.—On Sunday evening, March 23rd, 1036 of Grandsire Triples, being two parts of Holt's peal, and the coming round. J. Boase, 1; J. Symons (conductor), 2; J. Richards, 3; C. Boase, 5; J. Hodder, 6; W. Hickens, 7; A. B. Berry, 8. On Monday, March 24th, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples in fifty-one mins., from Banister's Treatise, containing twelve 6-7s, twelve 7-4s, Queens' and Tittums. W. Nicholls, 1; C. Boase, 2; J. Boase, 3; J. Symons (conductor), 4; T. Hicks, 5; G. Sellers, 6; J. Richards, 7; M. Bassett, 8. First quarter-peal by the treble and third ringers. **Muffled Peal.**—On Sunday evening, March 30th, a 559 of Grandsire Triples in the Tittum position, with the bells half-muffled for the late Duke of Albany. J. Boase, 1; C. Boase, 2; J. Hodder, 3; T. Hicks, 4; J. Symons, 5; G. Sellers, 6; J. Richard (conductor), 7; W. Mitchell, 8. Tenor 20 cwt. in E.

WARNHAM (Sussex).—On Monday evening, March 31st, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor, with twenty bobs and five singles, in 25 mins. Harry Cook, 1; William Short, 2; Harry Chantler, 3; Harry Wood, 4; Thomas Andrews, 5; Henry Burstow (conductor), 6. Tenor 14 cwt in F.

REVIEW.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—The work of noticing, in these columns, such interesting pamphlets as the Reports of the various ringing Guilds and Associations always are, has for some time been denied to us, owing to our space being so much taken up by other matters which admit of no delay in publication. As, however, the season of Lent invariably affects the publication of ringing performances, so far as the number of them is concerned, we are now at liberty to make a few comments upon one of these documents which during the last fortnight have reached us. The report of the northern association, mentioned at the commencement of this paragraph, is the sixth issued, and is of equal, if not superior interest and importance to any one of its predecessors. The report of the Secretary—G. J. Clarkson, Esq.—is exhaustive, and touches upon almost every question pertinent to a ringing association, and as Mr. Clarkson is in the habit of calling a spade by its proper appellation, and of bringing any abuses or shortcomings forward into daylight, with a view to their removal or rectification, his reports can always be perused with profit and satisfaction. We, of course, are not able to give his report *in extenso*, but there are one or two phrases in it which may be quoted, and which may with safety be applied to other parts of the country than Durham and Northumberland. In pointing out that belfry reform should always accompany the practice of change-ringing, and *vice versa*, Mr. Clarkson says: "It is well known that scientific ringing has in some instances existed in a high state of perfection, where belfry reform was as little thought of, as it was urgently needed; on the other hand there are instances where belfry reform has been effectively introduced unaccompanied by scientific ringing, and what is each without the other? To promote scientific ringing without belfry reform is indeed to cultivate an art which alone can give to a peal of bells their grandest and richest effect, but it may be accompanied by such degrading associations as have long been felt to be a reproach by many ringers, and are now regarded as offensive to the better Church feeling of the present day. To promote belfry reform without scientific ringing is to promote but a negative state of perfection where there is nothing to censure because there is nothing to admire, and no Association can produce a true and permanent improvement which does not embrace both objects." The state of the bells at the Cathedral of Durham, and in fact, the management, or mismanagement of the belfry, has often been touched upon in this report, but now we are told that "scientific ringing is not the order of the day at either Cathedral—Durham or Newcastle." We believe that, as a rule, most of our Cathedrals are similarly circumstanced. The reason for such a state of things, especially in connection with our Cathedrals, is certainly a puzzle. The capitular bodies are generally men who are not troubled with parochial cares, in the receipt of liberal emoluments, and performing duties of a not very fatiguing nature. Therefore we say, with every feeling of reverence for our deans and canons, that it is not too much to expect that they should see to the due and proper maintenance of the steeple and appurtenances connected with the fabric in their charge. This, however, by the way. The belfry arrangements at the above-mentioned Cathedrals are not the only ones in the two dioceses which afford matter for regret, for we read that "in the county of Northumberland there are the peals of eight at Alnwick, Berwick, Hexham, and Morpeth, which are in the same condition as if no Association had ever existed, and the same may be said of many of the peals of six and five bells in the two counties." If nothing else than continually pointing out the wretched state of many belfries will lead to a change in their condition, the oftener it is persisted in the better. But this report has its pleasant side. Through the efforts of the Association many belfries have been rescued, and brought into harmony with the desires and aspirations of practical change-ringers. That this righteous crusade will go on, we doubt not. One particular we should like to see in the next report is that the Association had made a greater show in peal-ringing. By that of course we mean performances of 5000 and upwards. And ringers who are anxious for the extension of the art should remember that whenever they are successful enough to ring a peal in a district where scientific ringing is unknown, they are fostering a spirit of enquiry which yields good fruit in due time. Upon the whole, the report is gratifying, and we compliment the Committee and officers of the Association, in not only maintaining their position, but also in enlarging their area of operations.

THE SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.

LONDON.—On Monday evening, March 24th, at St. Leonard's, Shoreditch, a quarter-peal of Kent Treble Bob Maximus, 1440 changes, in 1 hr. 23 mins. W. Fussell, 1; Chas. Hopkins, 2; H. Randall, 3; J. Hannington, 4; T. Titchener, 5; A. Jacob, 6; G. Newson (conductor), 7; H. Dains, 8; W. Doran, 9; W. Meadows, 10; A. H. Gardom, 11; J. Barrett, 12.

A KENT TREBLE OUTING.

HAVING to come to a "stand" in another county, last Sunday week, after a slow course on the previous evening, enabled me to have a look round in part of Bucks. High Wycombe has a very plain but grand church, entirely seated with the industry of the district, which is very convenient and picturesque. Sunday morning, saw Hughenden, rang some Triples for morning service; the treble was rung by one having total paralysis of the legs, seated in a chair he was quite at home, and at ease. The greatest difficulty appeared in getting up the belfry stairs, surely under such circumstances ringing might take place on the ground, as the chamber was not over lofty or airy. Everything is well-ordered about the church—the service long to be remembered. Being due to "stand" in the vicinity of the font at Wycombe at three o'clock steps were retraced. Before the ceremony, however, a look was had at the ten bells, which require much attention; the ringing-loft being destitute of everything. The sallies might have been made of Joseph's coat, but—"out of Kent, out of"—won't finish, because some "youths" may get looking into some of our dirty corners, and writing to "THE BELL NEWS." Not sufficient could be found to meet me for evening service at two hours' notice.

MONDAY.—WEST WYCOMBE.—Pagan architecture within, without, above, below, very little more, and the big people in the last century would themselves have become Pagan. Six bells, comfortable loft to ring in, this portion of the tower is old as far as the bells; the upper parts added, and the whole heathenized. From the nature of yesterday's work, bell-hunting coats were omitted; these bells seemed by Eayres and Arnold, and the tenor, Mears.

SAUNDERTON.—A delightful tit-bit to the antiquarian. Three bells, probably ancient; coats or no coats, inaccessible in their strange cot on the roof; perhaps some one will rub them for us, if ancient like the church. Division of nave and choir peculiar and interesting.

PRINCES RISBOROUGH.—Not very tempting, strings depending without sallies in the church. Having got so far a halt was made, and return by rail to Wycombe.

Wycombe possesses the characteristic English three hours' chimes, which for accuracy of striking would make an equal match with St. Clement Danes. The Easter hymn was dragged through three times, and succeeded on Monday by something else. At night one might say the chiming machinery was perfect if any uncertainty existed as to the strength of the local ales; but the morning quite clears up any doubt on that score of personal respectability. The next time I am required in this district an improvement may be found in the Cathedral of Bucks above the floor—splendid bell tower looked at every way, uninjured by restorations.

Speaking of Saunderton, the west end of which was very dirty, and treated as the coal hole, a very high cupboard of uninteresting modern joinery was seen; surely this must contain our thumb-nail skeleton safely entombed in this remote place—if not let loose again by me looking at the robes of the priest of the place hung therein also.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

A QUARTERLY MEETING of this Association will be held at the parish church, Preston, on Easter Monday. Meeting at 6 p.m. in the schoolroom.

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 BELLS OF PISA.

SIR,—In reply to the query relative to Pisa, if any photograph is examined, the bells will be seen in the upper arcade, hanging dead, and in the open. One of these is of large size. This campanile, while in course of erection, sank in the foundation, and about the fifth arcuation was attempted to be built straight: finding this would eventually cause considerable difficulty, the architect finished it with the declination. It stands, and will stand, because a straight line drawn from the balustrade (furthest from the direction of inclination) to the ground vertically, will be found to fall within the base. I believe no further settlement has taken place since the fourteenth or fifteenth century, when it was built. Its detail is simple, and was not copied anywhere else. Other leaning towers exist in the same country. The six stories average twenty feet in height, the entire height being 183 feet. It leans eleven feet two inches.

The reason why towers in Italy stand so generally apart from the church is the frequency of earthquakes. Many will state that the whole tower was begun in the fashion we now see it, but such is clearly not the case, for the reasons stated above. Would anyone now begin a tower out of plumb? certainly not then.

F. G.

THE CHRONOLOGY OF CHANGE-RINGING.—(Continued.)

By F. W. J. REES,

A Member of the Ancient Society of College Youths.

Many ordinary peals have been put down in the following list, but in every instance there is some cause for the entry: it shows in some cases the introduction or revival of change-ringing in a district, and in others the possession of a ring of eight or more bells. Where the contrary is not clearly stated each piece of ringing mentioned consists of 5000 or more changes.

1603.—Society of "Schollers of Chepesyde in London" founded.

1623.—A Society formed at Saffron Walden, Essex.

1631.—Fabian Stedman born at Cambridge.

1637.—The "Ancient Society of College Youths" founded.

1655.—The ring of New College, Oxford, increased to eight.

1657.—The ring of Merton College, Oxford, increased to eight. "Stedman's Principle" invented before this year.

1664.—Stedman joined the College Youths.

1667.—The ring at St. Mary, Cambridge, increased to eight.

1668.—"Tintinologia, or the Art of Ringing; by a lover of the Art." London: Printed by Fabian Stedman. The earliest book on change-ringing, and contains the original peal of Grandsire Bob by R. R.

1671.—Second edition of the above.

1672.—The ring at St. Peter, Norwich, increased to eight.

1674.—The ring at All Saints, Hertford, increased to eight.

1676.—The ring at Exeter Cathedral increased to ten.

1677.—"Campanalogia: or the Art of Ringing Improved." This was by Fabian Stedman, and seems to have been a third edition of his first book.

1578.—The bells of Exeter Cathedral hung "sally-way."

1680.—A new ring of eight cast for Merton College, Oxford.

1681.—The Ring at York Minster increased to twelve.

1691.—About this year Anable was born.

1698.—The ring at Oxford Cathedral increased to ten. The ring at St. Mary Redcliffe, Bristol, increased to eight.

1700.—A new ring of eight at the Abbey, Bath. The ring at Aylsham, Norfolk, increased to eight.

1702.—"Campanalogia Improved," by I. D. and C. M., London Scholars. In this is given a half-peal of Grandsire Triples. A new ring of eight at St. Dunstan-in-the-East, London.

1705.—"Campanalogia." Fourth Edition. The ring of St. Andrew, Norwich, increased to eight.

1709.—A new ring of ten at Peterborough Cathedral.

1710.—A new ring of ten at St. Bride's, Fleet Street. Garthorn's half-peal of Grandsire Triples rung at Norwich.

1711.—The ring at St. Margaret, Leicester, increased to eight.

1712.—The ring at Magdalen College, Oxford, increased to eight. The ring at New College, Oxford, increased to ten. A new ring at Bletchley, Bucks.

1713.—The Society of "Union Scholars" founded in London.

1714.—A new ring of eight at Kettering, Northants. Union Triples invented about this year, by Baldwin.

1715.—The Norwich Scholars rang the first

complete peal of Bob Triples. This was probably the first 5000 ever rung. A new ring of ten at Cirencester, Gloucestershire.

1716.—A new ring of eight at Christ Church, Bristol. A ring of eight at St. Thomas, Salisbury, and probably before.

1717.—The "London Scholars" rang 5040 Grandsire Caters at St. Bride's, Fleet Street, the first peal rung in the method.

1718.—The Norwich Scholars rang the first true and complete peal of Grandsire Triples. A peal by John Garthorn, of Norwich, on the three-lead plan, with 5th place bobs, and two bob singles. The "Union Scholars" rang a peal of "Hick Trebles"; this was probably Garthorn's peal of Grandsire Triples. The "Union Scholars" rang at St. Dunstan-in-the-East the first peal of Treble Bob Major; it was true.

1719.—The ring at St. Bride's, Fleet Street, increased to twelve.

1721.—Anable joined the College Youths. A peal of 5040 "Bob Major Tribbles," rung by the Mortlake (Surrey) company; said to be the third time ever rung.

1722.—The ring at Cirencester, Gloucestershire, increased to twelve. The ringers at Stroud, Gloucestershire, rang a peal of Grandsire Triples.

1723.—A new ring of ten at St. Mary, Cambridge, replacing ring of eight.

1724.—The "Cambridge Youths" established. College Youths rang 5058 Grandsire Caters, at St. Magnus, London. The Hertford ringers rang a peal of Triples at All Saints.

1725.—College Youths rang a peal (5060) Grandsire Cinques, at St. Bride's; the first peal in the method. College Youths rang 5040 Bob Major, at St. Bride's; this is the first recorded peal in the method. Composed and conducted by Ben. Anable. College Youths rang 5040 Bob Royal, at St. Bride's, the first peal in the method; composed and conducted by Ben. Anable. Dr. Mason joined the Cambridge Youths. The Cambridge Youths rang a peal of Grandsire Triples. James Barham, of Leeds, Kent, born.

1726.—A new complete ring of twelve at St. Martin-in-the-Fields. College Youths rang 5280 Bob Maximus, at St. Bride's, the first peal in the method: composed by Anable, and conducted by him from the tenor. College Youths rang 5094 Grandsire Caters at St. Giles, Cripplegate. College Youths rang 5076 Grandsire Caters at St. Martin-in-the-Fields. College Youths rang 6832 Bob Major at St. Mary, Lambeth. The ring at St. Michael, Norwich, increased to eight. The ring at Temple Church, Bristol, increased to eight.

1727.—The Norwich ringers rang at St. Michael's church a peal of 10,080 Oxford Treble Bob Major, in 6 hrs. 28 mins. Dr. Mason joined the College Youths. College Youths rang a peal of College Triples at St. Olave, Southwark; the first peal in the method. The "London Scholars" rang the first peal on the twelve at St. Martin-in-the-Fields; 6006 Grandsire Cinques. College Youths rang 6314 Grandsire Cinques at St. Martin's. College Youths rang a peal of Bob Major at St. Dunstan-in-the-West. College Youths rang a peal of Grandsire Caters at Cambridge. College Youths rang a peal of Union Triples at St. Lawrence Jewry. A new ring of eight at All Saints, Hertford.

1728.—A new complete ring of twelve at St. Michael's, Cornhill. College Youths rang 10,080 Bob Major at St. Mary, Bermondsey.

1729.—College Youths rang the first peal on the twelve at St. Michael's, Cornhill; 5126 Grandsire Cinques. New ring of eight at St. Peter, St. Albans.

This year opened with 5040 Bob Major by the College Youths. The "London Scholars"

rang 6204 Cinques at St. Michael, Cornhill. College Youths rang 5184 Grandsire Caters at St. Dionis. The ringers of Kettering, Northants, rang a peal of Grandsire Triples. The ring at Chichester Cathedral increased to eight.

1730.—Anable's peal of Bob Triples rung at St. Saviour's, Southwark, on the old ring of eight, by the College Youths. The ring at St. Alban's Abbey increased to eight. College Youths rang a peal of Bob Major at Fulham.

1731.—New ring of ten at Painswick, Gloucestershire. A peal of Stedman Triples at St. Peter, Norwich; false. The Painswick ringers rang the whole peal of Triples. A peal of Stedman Triples at St. Michael, Norwich; perhaps true, composer, Edward Crane. College Youths rang a peal of Bob Triples on the old Bow bells. College Youths rang a peal of Grandsire Caters at St. Sepulchre's, Snow Hill. College Youths rang a peal of Bob Triples at St. Stephen, Coleman Street, London. The ring at Keynsham, Somersetshire, increased to eight. College Youths rang a peal of Grandsire Cinques, 7018 changes, at St. Michael's, Cornhill; Anable rang the 11th, tenor double-handed.

1732.—The "City Scholars" rang 6012 Caters at St. Giles, Cripplegate. College Youths rang the first peal of Double Grandsire Caters. College Youths rang a peal of St. Simon's Triples at St. Bride's. College Youths rang a peal of Bob Major at St. Alphege Greenwich. College Youths rang a peal of Bob Major at Canterbury Cathedral. College Youths rang a peal of Bob Major at St. Mary, Dover.

1733.—Hillingdon (Middlesex) ringers rang a peal of Grandsire Triples. The Oxford Society of ringers established. A peal of Grandsire Caters rung on the bells of the Cathedral, Oxford. Fifth edition of "Campanalogia" published. A peal of "Middlesex Triples," by Anable, rung by Twickenham ringers. College Youths rang a peal of Union Bob at St. Clement Danes.

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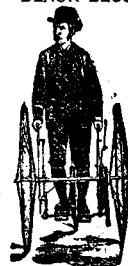
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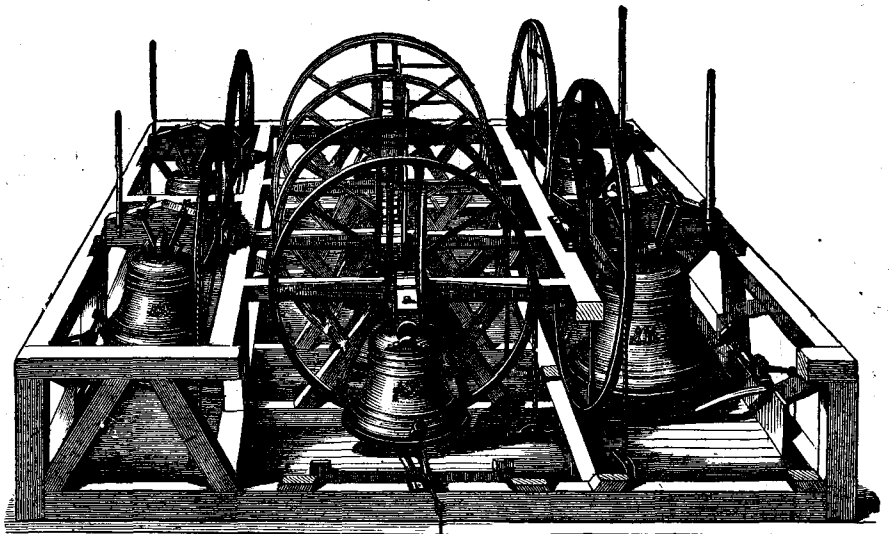
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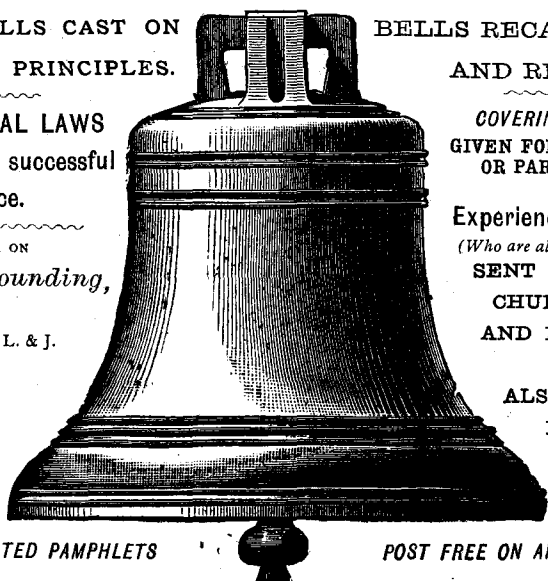
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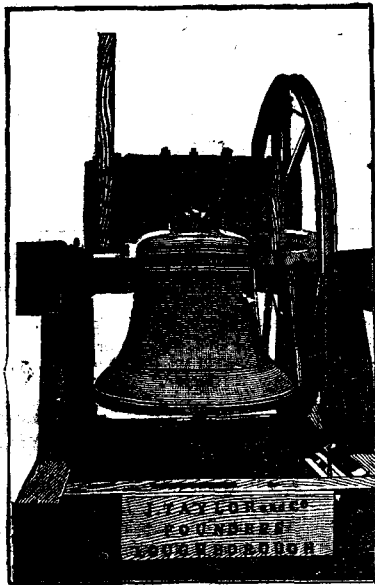
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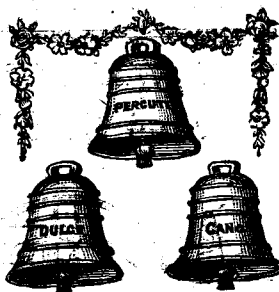
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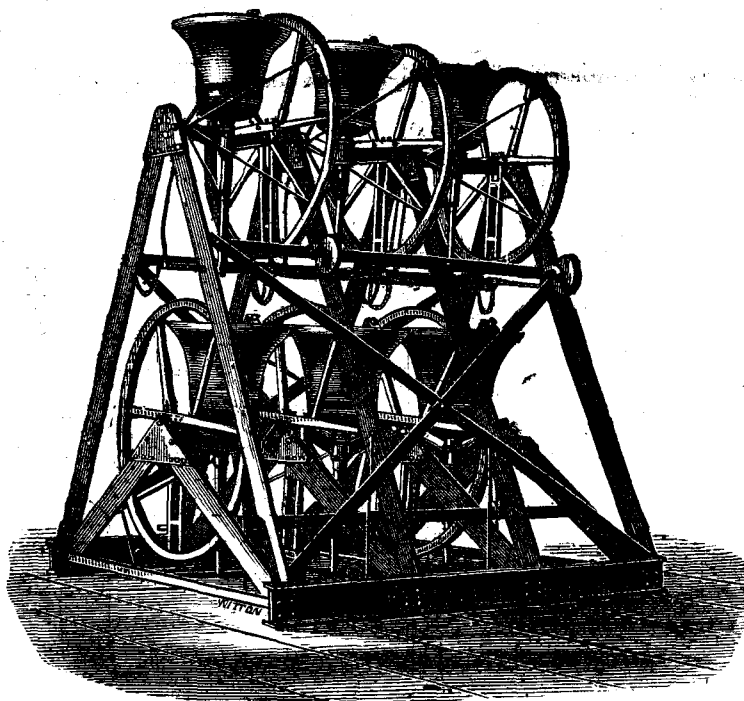
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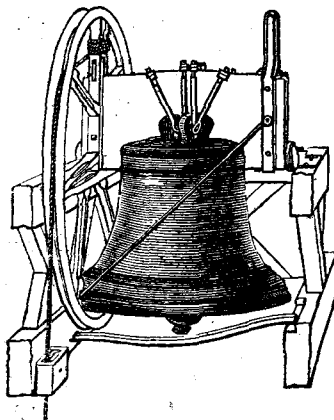
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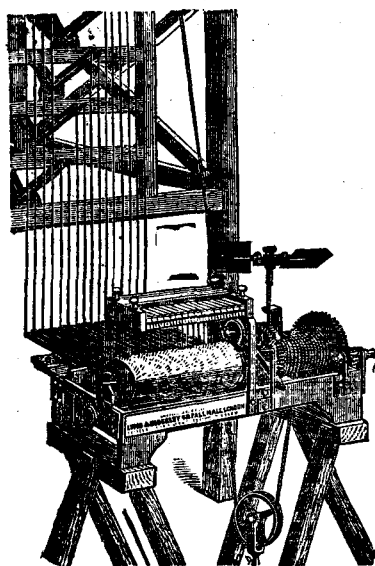
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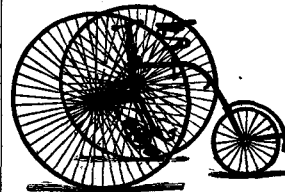
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PEALS OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES.

By JASPER W. SNOWDON.

During the few months which have elapsed since I gave a collection of peals in the above named method in these columns, several other original peals have been forwarded to me, as some of these have been inserted in these pages, I do not intend to reproduce them, but think that a word or two concerning them may be of interest. The first of these peals is one of five parts, with two common or Grandsire Singles in each part by Mr. J. F. Penning. In "THE BELL NEWS" of July 29th, 1882, Mr. Davies published three touches of 4830 changes, these being the longest lengths that he had been able to obtain in five parts. I may, as I shall again allude to this matter, also mention that Mr. Davies at the same time stated that he was "in a position to state with certainty," that "adhering to the conditions necessary *a priori* for the production of such a peal in five parts, the greatest length obtainable is 4830 changes." In December 1883, Mr. Penning forwarded to me the peal above mentioned, this peal he had produced by inserting, by means of two singles in each part, the three missing leads in Mr. Davies's 4830 required to complete each of the five parts. This peal was published in these columns on January 5th ult., and was rung for the first time by the Hull branch of the Yorkshire Association, on January 8th following. At page 490 will be found particulars of a variation upon this peal arranged by Mr. Davies, the composer of the original touches, and at page 502 further remarks upon variations of peals on these touches. In my opinion any of the variations of these peals will be found extremely useful for peal-ringing, as they are the only peals, except one-part peals, and any of the various monotonous three-lead-course peals, which have been produced with common bobs and singles only. For this reason I have mentioned the different pages at which reference to these peals is made and may add that on pages 521 and 581, Mr. Davies shows how ten-part peals may be obtained from the same source.

Referring to the result of Mr. Davies's researches as published on July 29th, 1882, I understand, putting the matter into the plainest words possible, that Mr. Davies then considered he had proved that no longer touch than one of 4830 changes could be produced in five parts. Although certain definite statements were then made, I would draw the attention of my readers to the futility of placing any confidence in such statements unless the mode of reasoning by which they are obtained is also demonstrated. As I practically know nothing about the matter, I do not wish to express my opinion on the possibility or impossibility of obtaining the peal in one or any other number of parts by the use of common bobs. Probably the strongest argument in favour of the impossibility of the process has, with myself as well as others, been the fact that if possible it would have already been obtained. This argument favours rather of the "old school," and I should be sorry to advocate it amongst our modern composers when I consider the great improvements that have lately been shewn in general compositions, and the greater number of men who are devoting their attention to such subjects.

Although I was interested in reading the results of Mr. Davies's researches, I was not ready to accept the same as conclusive, and was not therefore so surprised as I was pleased when I lately received from Mr. John Hollis, of Wakefield, a touch in five parts running to 4970 changes. By the addition of two singles in one of the parts, Mr. Hollis introduces the five missing leads, and thus obtains the following peal, which was rung for the first time by the Hull branch of the Yorkshire Association, on January 29th last, when it was conducted by Mr. Charles Jackson. The singles used are Holt's—the first being a "bob lead single," and the second a "plain lead single." The calling of the first part thrice repeated gives 246375, from which the calling is the same as in the previous parts, until the two singles are reached. A variation of this peal may be had by introducing two extra bobs into each part when the observation bell is "before." These bobs would require to be called at the twenty-first and the twenty-ninth leads, if the peal was arranged as the first of those given below. For my own part, I however prefer an arrangement of this peal in which the singles are called in the first few leads, and the parts identical in their calling are to be found at the end of the peal. I daresay that some ringers—but they cannot be many—will be found who will consider that the precedent of John Holt, who concluded his one-part peal with the two extra calls, should always be followed. This is, I think, an unnecessary tax upon the skill of the band; when two extra calls only are used, let them be got over as soon as possible, and not left to the end when every one is more likely to be nervous, and the least hitch may therefore endanger the accomplishment of the peal. Do not let any one suppose that I am wishful to smooth the path of peal ringers so that a company who may blunder through these singles somehow or other may obtain a peal. I do not think they will be rung, any the worse at the beginning than the end of the peal. If any one wants to shew his skill, I should recommend that some more difficult method than Grandsire should be chosen for this purpose, all I wish

to shew is that, in my opinion, to imperil a peal at the end rather than at the beginning shews bad generalship.

The reason Holt had for calling the two singles at the end of the one-part peal was, doubtless, to shew what a great length he had composed with bobs only. As now-a-days most ringers, and at all events all those whose opinion is worth anything on the matter, know enough about the variation of peals to know that the position of any such extra calls can be varied at pleasure, and that they will shew what has been done equally as well when placed at the beginning of the peal as they will if given at the end of the same. Mr. Hollis's arrangement of the peal with the singles at the end has the advantage of having for the first part-end the first lead of the plain course, and so on. Besides the original peal, I give a variation which begins with the two singles and ends with four parts called alike, the first of which parts (the second part of the peal) is given. These peals each contain only ninety-nine bobs and two singles.

5040.						5040.					
2	3	4	5	6	7	2	3	4	5	6	7
7	5	2	6	3	4	5	3	2	7	4	6
2	3	7	5	4	6	2	4	5	3	6	7
5	3	2	6	7	4	3	4	2	7	5	6
6	3	5	4	2	7	7	4	3	6	2	5
4	3	6	7	5	2	6	4	7	5	3	2
7	3	4	2	6	5	5	4	6	2	7	3
5	2	7	6	3	4	1	3	2	5	7	4
3	4	5	7	6	2	2	4	6	3	5	7
7	4	3	2	5	6	5	5	6	4	2	3
2	4	7	6	3	5	5	2	6	5	7	4
6	4	2	5	7	3	5	7	6	2	3	5
4	2	6	5	7	3	4	6	2	7	3	5
5	2	4	3	6	7	5	3	2	6	4	7
7	3	5	6	2	4	1	5	4	3	7	2
6	3	7	4	5	2	5	7	4	5	6	3
4	3	6	2	7	5	5	6	4	7	2	5
5	2	4	7	3	6	1	3	2	6	5	4
7	2	5	6	4	3	5	5	2	3	7	6
3	6	7	4	2	5	1	4	7	5	6	2
2	5	3	7	4	6	2	B.S. 2	3	5	4	7
							P.S. 2	3	4	5	6
The first part thrice repeated gives 2 4 6 3 7 5.											
J. HOLLIS.											

Previously to receiving the foregoing peal from Mr. Hollis I had received one from him in one part, which contained only ninety-three bobs and two Holt's bob singles, which was very much below the number of calls in which any one-part peal had been previously composed. This excellent composition was rung for the first time by the Hull branch of the Yorkshire Association, on February 26th last, and the calling given on page 574. Both these peals by Mr. Hollis were composed in the year 1877, when he was endeavouring to obtain a peal without singles. Although Mr. Hollis had mentioned something about these peals to me, it was not until after the publication of my collection that my attention was again turned to the matter, and I obtained copies of the compositions.

I have mentioned that Mr. Hollis's peals were first rung at Hull, and to show what a great variety of compositions in Grandsire Triples can be utilized for peal-ringing by any company who have sufficient pluck to leave the beaten track, I annex a list of the different compositions which have, during the last eleven years, been rung at Hull, and have been called by Mr. Charles Jackson. Although Yorkshire can hardly be said to be a Grandsire ringing county, I do not think that such a list of compositions has ever been previously achieved by any society.

Holt's ten-part peal rung at Hull Parish Church on April 14th, 1873.	
Holt's one-part " " " " " " " " " " " "	Dec. 16th, " "
Holt's six-part " " " " " " " " " " " "	Nov. 9th, 1875.
Shipway's five-part " " " " " " " " " " " "	St. James's, Hull, on April 2nd, 1877.
Annable's bob-and-single peal " " " " " " " " " " " "	May 19th, " "
Vicar's " " " " " " " " " " " "	Aug. 13th, " "
Taylor's " " " " " " " " " " " "	rung on handbells, Oct. 30th, " "
Garthorn's " " " " " " " " " " " "	St. James's, Hull, Aug. 30th, 1878.
T. Day's " " " " " " " " " " " "	Hull parish church, Nov. 13th, 1883.
*J. F. Penning's five-part peal " " " " " " " " " " " "	Jan. 8th, 1884.
*Rev. C. D. P. Davies's variation of do. " " " " " " " " " " " "	Jan. 15th, " "
*J. Hollis's five-part plan peal " " " " " " " " " " " "	Jan. 29th, " "
*J. Hollis's one-part peal " " " " " " " " " " " "	Feb. 26th, " "

* First time of performance.

I forwarded a copy of Mr. Hollis's one-part peal (see page 574) to Mr. Penning, who has since produced the following peal on this plan; it

contains only ninety bobs and two Holt's bob singles. Mr. Penning has also composed a peal with only eighty-eight bobs and two singles—these singles are however neither Holt's nor ordinary singles. As a contrast, Mr. Penning at the same time forwarded me a peal with 347 calls, all these calls, with the exception of five, being ordinary bobs and singles. The following is the one-part peal by Mr. Penning, with the two Holt's bob-singles, and I may add that it has not yet been performed.

5040.			
7 5 6 2 4 3 ¹	4 6 7 2 3 5 ⁵	4 6 2 5 3 7 ⁵	4 3 5 6 7 2 ⁵
s 5 6 7 2 4 3 ⁴	5 2 4 3 6 7 ¹	5 6 4 7 2 3 ⁵	6 3 4 2 5 7 ⁵
2 6 5 7 3 4 ⁵	6 7 5 4 3 2 ³	7 6 5 3 4 2 ⁵	2 3 6 7 4 5 ⁵
3 6 2 4 5 7 ⁵	4 7 6 2 5 3 ⁵	3 6 7 2 5 4 ⁵	7 3 2 5 6 4 ⁵
4 6 3 7 2 5 ⁵	2 7 4 3 6 5 ⁵	4 2 3 5 6 7 ¹	4 5 7 6 3 2 ¹
7 6 4 5 3 2 ⁵	5 3 2 6 7 4 ¹	5 2 4 7 3 6 ⁵	6 5 4 2 7 3 ⁵
2 5 3 7 4 6 ¹	6 3 5 4 2 7 ⁵	2 4 5 7 3 6 ⁴	2 5 6 3 4 7 ⁵
s 4 6 2 3 7 5 ²	4 3 6 7 5 2 ⁵	6 7 2 3 4 5 ¹	5 6 2 3 4 7 ⁴
2 7 4 6 5 3 ⁵	3 6 4 7 5 2 ⁴	3 7 6 5 2 4 ⁵	4 7 5 2 3 6 ²
7 4 2 6 5 3 ⁴	7 6 3 2 4 5 ⁵	4 5 3 2 7 6 ¹	3 6 4 5 2 7 ²
6 4 7 3 2 5 ⁵	2 6 7 5 3 4 ⁵	2 5 4 6 3 7 ⁵	5 6 3 7 4 2 ⁵
3 4 6 5 7 2 ⁵	5 6 2 4 7 3 ⁵	6 5 2 7 4 3 ⁵	2 7 5 4 6 3 ¹
7 2 3 6 5 4 ²	4 6 5 3 2 7 ⁵	7 5 6 3 2 4 ⁵	4 7 2 3 5 6 ⁵
4 6 7 5 2 3 ¹	7 3 4 2 6 5 ¹	3 5 7 4 6 2 ⁵	7 2 4 3 5 6 ⁴
5 6 4 3 7 2 ⁵	2 3 7 5 4 6 ⁴	2 4 3 6 5 7 ¹	3 2 7 6 4 5 ⁵
3 6 5 2 4 7 ⁵	3 7 2 5 4 6 ⁴	6 4 2 7 3 5 ⁵	6 2 3 5 7 4 ⁵
2 6 3 7 5 4 ⁵	5 7 3 6 2 4 ⁵	7 4 6 5 2 3 ⁵	5 2 6 4 3 7 ⁵
7 6 2 4 3 5 ⁵	3 2 5 7 4 6 ³	6 2 7 4 3 5 ³	4 2 5 7 6 3 ⁵
5 4 7 3 6 2 ¹	5 4 3 2 6 7 ³	4 2 6 5 7 3 ⁵	3 7 4 6 2 5 ¹
3 4 5 2 7 6 ⁵	7 2 5 6 4 3 ¹	2 6 4 5 7 3 ⁴	6 7 3 5 4 2 ⁵
5 7 3 4 6 2 ³	6 2 7 3 5 4 ⁵	3 5 2 7 6 4 ¹	5 7 6 2 3 4 ⁵
3 6 5 7 2 4 ³	3 2 6 4 7 5 ⁴	7 5 3 4 2 6 ⁵	7 6 5 2 3 4 ⁴
7 6 3 4 5 2 ⁵	2 6 3 4 7 5 ⁴	5 3 7 4 2 6 ⁴	2 6 7 4 5 3 ⁵

JNO. F. PENNING.

ST. MICHAEL'S, SITTINGBOURNE.

The preparations for the addition of two new trebles to this fine old ring of six have now been commenced, and it is anticipated that the eight will be ready for ringing on Whit-Sunday. The work of hanging the two new bells (which will be cast by Messrs. Warner and Sons), and of moving the others, has been entrusted to Mr. S. Snelling, the steeplekeeper; and the necessary alterations to the frame will be executed by a local builder, Mr. Tidy, from plans prepared by a member.

Sunday, April 6th, was the last occasion on which the old six were used, and on that evening six members rang a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor as a farewell peal. This 720 is noteworthy as being the first in that method rung in Sittingbourne. The following are the details: W. G. Gordelier, 1; John Cooper, 2; Francis C. Mattison, 3; E. T. Bottle, 4; S. Snelling, 5; W. H. Judd, 6. Conducted by F. C. Mattison, and called with the usual nine bobs.

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

TESTIMONIAL.—On Wednesday evening, April 2nd, the SS. Mary and Nicholas company, of Spalding, met in the belfry to celebrate the completion of the seven years' captaincy of Mr. J. S. Wright. The company were kindly received by the vicar, the Rev. Canon Moore, who at their request and in their name presented Mr. Wright with his portrait, which the members had subscribed for. Canon Moore, on behalf of the company, expressed his sincere pleasure in marking a period in Mr. Wright's captaincy, during which he had performed its duties with such zeal and goodwill. He was glad to be their spokesman on that happy occasion, and begged to take the opportunity to express his deep satisfaction with the conduct of the company in general, and in particular with the good example set them by their captain in his regular and devout attendance at the public service of the Church. He had also great pleasure in congratulating them on the marked progress they made in their art under the able guidance and instruction of Mr. Wright. He hoped the occasion would serve to cement still closer the excellent good feeling which existed among them, and with the hearty approbation of the members, he wished Mr. Wright a long continuance of his useful career. "Mr. Wright," says our correspondent, "is one of the oldest ringers in Lincolnshire; he commenced his career about the year 1842, and rang his first 720 on Christmas morning, 1855. The names of those who have rung their first 720 under Mr. Wright's captaincy are—G. L. Richardson, R. Mackman, W. H. Branson, F. Ridlington, A. Ridlington, J. Wilson, J. Woodward, G. Harrison, T. Measures, J. R. Jerram, Esq., T. Blackburn, W. Mawby, Rev. —Coates, G. Skeef, J. Brown, C. Brown, J. Johnson, C. Mason, and W. Felts. Mr. Wright is still hearty and well and always one of the first to the front."

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR—22,560 CHANGES.

The above is the title of a composition we received a few days ago which was sent to us for publication. It might appear probable to some of our readers that such a composition would have been forwarded to us with some hesitation on the part of an almost unknown composer, but such was not the case, as to leave no doubt on the matter the same was endorsed: "Sent for publication by — of —."

It is rather hard on ourselves that not only have we to undertake the ordinary editorial labours connected with our weekly issue, but we have also to keep a watchful eye on the contributions with which we are favoured. If, however, we are to be favoured with any great quantity of long peals of Treble Bob Major, we feel that we shall have to publish them, and let the composers whose names are attached to them guarantee their trustworthiness. The task set by the contributor of this 22,000 was not, however, very serious, as false changes turned up in the first two thousand, and we were not therefore called on to investigate the remaining 20,000 changes. A task that we were not unwilling to escape.

The process of proving Treble Bob Major with the tenors apart is rather laborious, unless the peal, like the one in question, abounds with false changes, and until anyone is qualified to prove such peals for himself he should leave the art of composition alone. When anyone has composed a peal and *proved it*, we have always been willing, are still ready to check over such compositions, but we do not hold ourselves ready to prove the peals of anyone who chooses to send to us a string of course-ends, which he can never have attempted to prove in any legitimate way. To all such would-be composers our advice is to spend the sum of one shilling in procuring Mr. Snowdon's *Treatise on Treble Bob*, part I., and learn how to prove their own peals, then when they obtain a 22,000 of Treble Bob, which they cannot find false, we shall be very happy indeed to check the same over.

THE SOUTH LINCOLNSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

The Fifth Annual Meeting of this Association will be held at Swineshead on Saturday, April 26th. The tower, with its ring of eight bells, will be at the disposal of the members during the day. A meeting for the transaction of business will be held at the Wheatsheaf Inn at 11.30 a.m.; Dinner at the same inn at 1.30 p.m.; Tickets 2s. Skilled members intending to be present must send in their names to me not later than Friday, April 18th, or the allowance of 3s. 6d. will not be allowed them.

R. CREASEY, *Secretary*.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

The next Quarterly District Festival of this Association will be held at Bourton-on-the-Water, Gloucestershire, on Tuesday, April 29th.

Ashton Gate Vicarage, Bristol.

PITT EYKYN, *Hon. Sec.*

THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

A QUARTERLY MEETING of this Association will be held (by kind permission of the Vicar, the Rev. F. F. Kelly), at St. Giles's, Camberwell, on Monday, April 21st. The tower will be open for ringing in the afternoon until 4.45, and after the evening service from 5.20.

The tea and business meeting will be held at the Surrey Masonic Hall, Camberwell New Road (near Camberwell Green), at 5.30 p.m. The tea will be free to ringing members; all others 1s. 6d.

ARTHUR B. CARPENTER, *Hon. Sec.*

THE WEST MIDDLESEX ASSOCIATION.

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

DENHAM.—Saturdays, April 19 and June 7th, at 7.0.

ISLEWORTH.—Saturdays, April 26th and June 21, at 7.0.

S. JOHN THE BAPTIST, HILLINGDON.—Thursdays, May 1 and June 12 at 7.45.

RUISLIP.—Saturdays, May 3 and June 14, at 7.30.

ACTON.—Thursdays, May 8 and June 19, at 8.0.

ST. ANDREW'S, HILLINGDON.—Saturdays, May 10 and June 28, at 7.30.

SLOUGH.—Saturdays, May 17 and July 5, at 6.30.

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

C. T. MAYO, *Hon. Sec.*

NESTON, CHESHIRE.

The peal of six at this church is about to be re-hung and augmented to eight by the addition of a new treble and tenor (about 13½ cwt.), the old fourth being recast, and also the present tenor, which is a very poor bell and badly tuned. The other bells are by Rudhall. The work has been entrusted to Messrs. Mears and Stainbank, of the Whitechapel Foundry.

OPENING OF THE PARISH CHURCH BELLS AT PRESTWICH, LANCASHIRE.

These bells were rung for the first time on Sunday, April 6th, having been silent for over two years. Messrs. Taylor, of Loughborough, have rehung them with new frame and fittings, and they have carried out the work in a most satisfactory manner. The local company rang them in a few short touches during the day, when a mixed band met and rang a 720 of Bob Minor in 26½ mins., with the ringers as follows. J. Hardman (conductor), 1; A. Garrett, 2; J. Rothwell, 3; W. Warburton, 4; E. Bradshaw, 5; W. Hilton, 6. Tenor 17 cwt.

DEATH OF THE VICAR OF HEIGHINGTON.

MEMBERS of the Durham and Newcastle Diocesan Association will regret to hear of the sudden and premature death of the Rev. C. C. Chevallier, Vicar of Heighington, from a fit of apoplexy. The rev. gentleman presided at the Association meeting held at Darlington last February, and it was evident, from the remarks addressed by him to the meeting, that he took great interest in the bells of his own church, and was not unacquainted with the contents of "THE BELL NEWS." The rev. gentleman expressed a wish that the Association should visit Heighington some Saturday afternoon in July, and had arranged with the Secretary to bring the matter before the Committee at Sunderland.

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 PERTINENT ENQUIRY.

SIR,—In your last week's issue there appeared a notice from the "St. Paul's Church Guild, Brighton," stating their times of meeting for ringing purposes. At the conclusion of the paragraph is the following sentence—"The belfry will be kept strictly private on practice evenings during the quarter." Now I want to know what this means. Are visitors to Brighton to understand that if they like to attend on the evenings announced, they may have the gratification of listening from outside to the St. Paul's ringers? If so, I can scarcely see the utility of advertising the practice, unless indeed the ringing is of such a nature as to attract hearers in crowds too great to be accommodated within. It is just possible that this is a case of the exclusiveness so often met with in a young band, who consider themselves masters of the art and too good in every respect to mix with the common herd. I sincerely hope not and have no doubt that the "Superintendent" will hasten to give the only other explanation of the words; viz. that they are intended to apply to persons unacquainted with ringing. The paragraph in question happens to come in a most unfortunate position; following as it does close upon the report of the deplorable state of things at Reading, which seems to have arisen from a somewhat similar rule as is here alluded to. I am sure that all ringers will join me in the wish that the similarity between the cases is only apparent, not real; and that a thoroughly satisfactory explanation will be at once afforded.

SIGMA.

ALARMING ACCIDENT AT ST. EDMUND'S, SALISBURY.—On Tuesday evening, April 1st, when the bells were being raised for evening practice, the clappers being lashed, a piece of loose cord which had carelessly been left hanging from the clapper of the tenor caught the bracket of chiming hammer. The result was that the hammer was wrenched off, and fell with a crash on the other side of the chamber. The jerk affected a beam to which the gas standard was fixed, and the gas went suddenly out. All the ringers were much alarmed, thinking that one of the bells had fallen. Some fled down the stairs. Upon a light being procured the damage was however found to be not so great as was anticipated.

Miscellaneous Performances.

(Continued from page 21.)

PIMLICO (London).—*Muffled Peal*.—On Saturday, April 5th, at St. John's, Wilton Road, Pimlico, the following ringers rung a funeral peal (the usual whole pull and stand), with the bells half-muffled, as a last mark of respect to the late Prince Leopold, Duke of Albany. F. E. Dawe (conductor), 1; F. W. Francis, 2; W. Chew, 3; C. F. Winny, 4; Rev. O. P. Yerburch, 5; G. T. McLaughlin, 6; R. Sparkes, 7; F. T. Gover, 8. Tenor 10½ cwt. in G. A touch of Grandsire Triples was afterwards rung.

REIGATE (Surrey).—*Muffled Peal*.—On Saturday evening, April 6th, the Reigate Society rang several touches of Grandsire Triples, with the bells deeply muffled, as a token of respect to the Duke of Albany.

SPALDING (Lincolnshire).—*Muffled peals*.—On Saturday, April 5th, at 11.30., at SS. Mary and Nicholas, it being the time appointed for the interment of the late Duke of Albany, as a mark of respect a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob was rung with the bells muffled. J. S. Wright, 1; J. Wilson, 2; G. L. Richardson, 3; R. Mackman (conductor), 4; E. Brown, 5; J. Brown, 6. And on Sunday, evening, April 6th, at SS. Mary and Nicolas church, after service, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob (with twelve bobs), with the bells muffled as a mark of respect to the late Duke of Albany. G. Skeef, 1; J. Wilson, 2; G. L. Richardson, 3; J. S. Wright, 4; E. Brown, 5; R. Mackman (conductor), 6.

SALISBURY (Wilts).—*Muffled Peals* for H.R.H. Duke of Albany. At St. Thomas's, round ringing only. J. Tapper, 1; W. Lanham, 2; J. Short, 3; W. Highman, 4; T. Blackburn, 5; J. Head, 6; J. R. Jerram, 7; G. Blake, 8. Tenor 32 cwt. Also at St. Paul's, Fisherton, by the same. Tenor 13 cwt. Also at St. Edmund's, by J. Parsons and his company. Also at St. Martin's, attempts at Bob Minor, Stedman Doubles, Treble Bob Minor, but no complete touch accomplished except a 6-score of Grandsire Doubles. H. Dowling, 1; E. A. Foster, 2; C. A. Clements, 3; T. Blackburn, 4; W. Gifford, 5; J. R. Jerram, 6. Tenor 15 cwt. Also at St. Martin's, in the evening, a 120 of Stedman Doubles. E. A. Foster, 1; H. Dowling, 2; C. A. Clements, 3; W. W. Gifford, 4; T. Blackburn, 5; J. Judd, 6. First 6-score of Stedman Doubles rung in Salisbury.

SOUTHWARK.—*Muffled Peal*.—On Saturday, April 5th, at St. George-the-Martyr, eight members of the society of Southwark Youths rang a funeral peal with the bells muffled, in memory of the late Duke of Albany, who died at the early age of thirty years. G. Woodage (conductor), 1; F. Perren, 2; H. Flowers, 3; E. Drury, 4; J. Fisher, 5; H. Welch, 6; J. Green, 7; J. Summers, 8. Also on Sunday morning for service, and in the evening the bells were rung half-muffled for the funeral sermon which was preached by the Rev. Burman Cassin, Rector, to over 1000 people.

STRATFORD-ATTE-BOW (Middlesex).—*Muffled Peal*.—On Saturday April 5th, by request of the Churchwardens, the bells of the parish church were deeply muffled, and rung by the Bow members as a last tribute of respect for the departed Duke of Albany. L. Green, 1; W. Hopkins, 2; J. Green, 3; A. Cutmore, 4; C. Beech, 5; R. Gray, 6; T. Baker, 7; D. J. Sutton, 8.

SWANSCOMBE (Kent).—On Sunday, March 30th, for Divine Service in the morning at the church of SS. Peter and Paul, a 720 of Bob Minor. G. Hayes, 1; T. Ellis, 2; G. Martin, 3; J. Saxby, 4; F. French, 5; W. Harper (conductor), 6. For Divine Service in the evening, 720 of Bob Minor. J. Chapman, 1; B. Rose, 2; W. King, 3; H. Weekes, 4; B. Spinner, 5; W. Harper (conductor), 6. The bells were muffled on account of the death of the Duke of Albany.

TEWKESBURY ABBEY (Gloucestershire).—*Muffled Peal*.—On Saturday, April 5th, the Abbey society met and rang touches of 700 and 420 of Grandsire and Union Triples, as a tribute of respect to the late Duke of Albany. R. H. Witherington, 1; S. Cleal, 2; F. J. Moore, 3; J. Hale, 4; J. Wathen, 5; C. Axford, 6; Jos. Wathen (conductor), 7; W. Haines, 8. Tenor 24 cwt.

TOTTENHAM (Middlesex).—*Muffled Peal*.—On Sunday, March 30th, the bells of the parish church (All Hallows) were rung muffled for morning and evening service, as a tribute of respect to the late Prince Leopold. At the same church, on Sunday, April 6th, for Divine Service in the evening, 559 of Grandsire Triples, in 21 mins. J. Langran, 1; H. A. Barnett, 2; R. J. Bagnall, 3; E. F. Strange, 4; T. H. Scarlett, 5; W. D. Smith (conductor), 6; W. Pye English, 7; G. Bower, 8. And after service a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 45½ mins. W. Richards, 1; H. A. Barnett, 2; R. J. Bagnall, 3; G. Bower, 4; E. F. Strange, 5; T. H. Scarlett (conductor), 6; W. Pye English, 7; H. Edwards, 8. Tenor 20 cwt.

WEST MALLING (Kent).—On Sunday, April 6th, for Divine Service in the evening, a 720 of Bob Minor, in 24 mins. W. Driver, 1; D. Hall, 2; E. Baldock, 3; W. Harding, 4; J. W. Leonard, 5; F. G. Newman (conductor), 6. Tenor 12 cwt.

WHITEFIELD (Lancashire).—*Muffled Peal*.—On Saturday, April 5th, at All Saints' church, with the bells deeply muffled as a mark of respect to the late Duke of Albany, a 720 of Bob Minor, on the back six bells, in 27 mins. J. Hardman (conductor), 1; Tom McWilliams, 2; J. Rothwell, 3; W. Warburton, 4; E. Bradshaw, 5; W. Hilton, 6. Although Mr. Hardman is master of several intricate methods, this is his first 720 as conductor. Tenor 21 cwt.

At a meeting of the parishioners of St. Peter's Mancroft, Norwich, the Rev. Frederick Baggallay, son of Lord Justice Baggallay, was elected vicar of the parish, in the place of the Ven. Archdeacon Neville, who has resigned.

"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.

Everything for insertion in this Journal to be addressed "The Editor of THE BELL NEWS, Walthamstow, London." Letters forwarded for publication, and performances under 5000 changes must reach us not later than Wednesday morning; and the insertion of any communication coming later than the first Postal delivery on Thursday morning cannot be guaranteed in that week's number. When it is found impossible from want of space to insert all touches forwarded, the earlier ones will have the preference.

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.

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

The Bell News & Ringers' Record.

SATURDAY, APRIL 12, 1884.

The Metropolis.

THE SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.
LONDON.

Muffled Peal.

On Saturday, April 5, 1884, in Four Hours and Fifteen Minutes,

AT ST. MARTIN'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAXIMUS, 5088 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 34 cwt. in D.

GEORGE NEWSON Treble.	HENRY SWAIN 7.
CHARLES HOPKINS 2.	*HENRY HOPKINS 8.
JOHN NELMS* 3.	WILLIAM DORAN 9.
JAMES HANNINGTON 4.	*DAVID STACKWOOD 10.
HENRY DAINS* 5.	WILLIAM BARON 11.
THOMAS TITCHENER 6.	JAMES BARRETT Tenor.

Composed by JOHN COX, and conducted by GEORGE NEWSON.

For the figures of this peal, see page 141, part II., of Snowdon's Treatise.

*First peal of Maximus.

This performance was rung, with the bells half-muffled, as a mark of sympathetic and mournful respect to the late prince Leopold, Duke of Albany, whose register of birth appears upon the books of this parish church.

THE ST. JAMES'S SOCIETY.—LONDON.

Muffled Peal.

On Saturday, April 5, 1884, in Three Hours and Forty Minutes,

AT ST. CLEMENT DANES, STRAND,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS, 5130 CHANGES;

Tenor 24 cwt. in E.

HENRY LANGDON* Treble.	*WILLIAM H. FUSSELL .. 6.
WILLIAM WEATHERSTONE .. 2.	FREDERICK MARGETSON .. 7.
JAMES R. HAWORTH 3.	J. MARTIN ROUTH 8.
RICHARD FRENCH 4.	GEORGE BANKS 9.
GEORGE T. McLAUGHLIN* .. 5.	CHALLIS F. WINNY Tenor.

Composed by the late HENRY BOOTH, and conducted by RICHARD FRENCH.

*First peal of Caters.

The above peal was rung as a mark of respect to the late Duke of Albany.

THE SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.

ON Easter-Monday, at All Saints' church, Fulham, a peal of Stedman Caters, containing the 120 course-ends, will be attempted by ten members of this society. Eleven o'clock a.m. is the time appointed for meeting.
H. DAINS, Hon. Sec.

The Provinces.

LEES, NEAR OLDHAM, LANCASHIRE.

THE LEESFIELD SOCIETY.

Muffled Peal.

On Saturday, April 5, 1884, in Two Hours and Fifty-six Minutes,

AT ST. THOMAS'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

J. CARTER'S 12-PART BOB-AND SINGLE. Tenor 14 cwt.

JAS. W. HOLME Treble.	JAMES BAILEY 5.
EDWIN B. SHAW 2.	WM. HOLDEN 6.
SAMUEL STOTT 3.	JOHN HILTON 7.
THOMAS EGERTON 4.	*JOSHUA PLATT Tenor.

Conducted by SAMUEL STOTT.

*First peal.

The above was rung with the bells deeply muffled as a tribute of respect to the late Duke of Albany.

HYDE, CHESHIRE.

Muffled Peal.

On Saturday, April 5, 1884, in Three Hours and Five Minutes,

AT ST. GEORGE'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5120 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 15 cwt. 1 qr. 24 lbs.

JAMES SHAW Treble.	RICHARD AINSWORTH .. 5.
RALPH PRICHARD 2.	SAMUEL BRADLEY 6.
ROBERT WOOLLEY 3.	THOMAS WILDE 7.
WALTER SLATER 4.	SAMUEL WOOD Tenor.

Composed and conducted by SAMUEL WOOD.

The above was rung with the bells deeply muffled as a mark of respect to H.R.H. the Duke of Albany.

R. Ainsworth is instructor to the St. Ann's Society, Haughton; S. Wood hails from Ashton; the rest are of the Hyde company.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—OXFORD.

Muffled Peal.

On Saturday, April 5, 1884, in Three Hours and Twenty-six Minutes,

AT THE CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF CHRIST,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S ORIGINAL. Tenor 42 cwt.

FREDERICK CASTLE Treble.	THOMAS PAYNE 5.
CHARLES HOUNSLOW 2.	WILLIAM FINCH 6.
JOB HOWES 3.	JAMES W. WASHBROOK .. 7.
SAMUEL HOUNSLOW 4.	H. NEWMAN, S. J. BUCKLE Tenor.

Conducted by JAMES WILLIAM WASHBROOK.

The above peal was rung with the bells muffled in token of respect to the late Prince Leopold.

It is the first time the conductor has called the Original, having not yet attained his 20th year.

OLDHAM, LANCASHIRE.

Muffled Peal.

On Saturday, April 5, 1884, in Three Hours and Four Minutes,

AT ST. MARK'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

TAYLOR'S BOB-AND-SINGLE. Tenor 8½ cwt.

C. DRONSFIELD Treble.	J. RILEY 5.
G. H. BEEVER 2.	J. PRIESTLEY 6.
F. CROSLAND 3.	*J. KERSHAW 7.
W. WARD 4.	W. RHODES Tenor.

Conducted by G. H. BEEVER.

This peal was rung as a last mark of respect to the late Duke of Albany.

*First peal.

SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.

The next Meeting of the above Society will be held at Walsall, on Saturday, April 19th, 1884.

Members who intend to be present are requested to meet at the parish church, at 2.30 p.m., and to send in their names as soon as possible to Mr. Wm. A. Wood, Hon. Sec., Tamworth Street, Lichfield.

J. R. KEBLE, } Hon. Secs.
Wm. A. Wood, }

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE, LANCASHIRE.

Birthday Peal.

On Monday, April 7, 1884, in Three Hours and Four Minutes,

AT ST. PETER'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION, Tenor 20 cwt. in E.

JOHN HOPWOOD	Treble.	JOSEPH MELLOR	5.
JAMES WOOD	2.	GEORGE LONGDEN	6.
THOMAS BRADLEY	3.	THOMAS WILDE	7.
WALTER SLATER	4.	SAMUEL WOOD	Tenor.

Composed by the late DANIEL WOODS, and conducted by SAMUEL WOOD.

Messrs. Bradley, Wilde, and Slater hail from Hyde; the rest are of the local company.

This peal was rung in honour of the 27th birthday of the conductor, who, out of a total of eighty-seven peals, has called fifty.

Date Touches.

THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

BEDFORD.—*Muffled Peal*.—On Saturday, April 5th, at St. Paul's Church, a date touch of 1884 changes of Bob Major was rung by the following members, with the bells deeply muffled, as a token of respect to the late Prince Leopold, Duke of Albany, in one hr. 20 mins. C. West, 1; S. Cullip, 2; W. Biggs, 3; W. Hall, 4; C. W. Clarke, 5; J. Adkin, 6; I. Hills, 7; J. Frossell, 8. Tenor 28 cwt. in D. The touch was taken from "THE BELL NEWS" of March 1st, 1884, page 574.

CALVERLEY (Yorkshire).—*Muffled Peal*.—On Sunday, April 6th, for Divine Service in the evening, the local company rang a date touch of 1884 changes of Kent Treble Bob, with the bells muffled, in 1 hr. 8 mins. John Cordingley (composer), 1; Walter Childe, 2; Isaac Hollings, 3; William Hollings, 4; Ezra Keighley, 5; James Ross, 6; Jarvis Davidson, 7; William Davidson (conductor), 8. Tenor 11 cwt.

DORKING.—*Muffled Peal*.—On Saturday evening, April 5th, the St. Martin's society rang a date touch, 1884 chanwes, of Union Triples, in 1 hr. 15 mins., with the bells deeply muffled, as a mark of respect to the late Duke of Albany. H. Dobinson, 1; W. Boxall (composer), 2; T. Rose, 3; H. Henden, 4; H. Boxall, jun., 5; C. Boxall (conductor), 6; H. Boxall, sen., 7; G. Holden, 8. In the morning of the same day a touch of 700 changes was rung by the same band. Tenor 25 cwt. in Eb.

STOCKPORT (Lancashire).—*Muffled Peal*.—On Saturday, April 5th, at the parish church, a date touch of Stedman Triples, with the bells half-muffled, out of respect to the late Duke of Albany, in 69 mins. J. Warburton, 1; Jas. Meaking, 2; Alfred Gordon, 3; Edward Leonard, 4; Joseph Barlow, 5; Thomas Sale, 6; William Gordon (conductor), 7; Tom Marshall, 8. Composed by J. Carter of Birmingham.

SOUTHPORT (Lancashire).—*Muffled Peal*.—On Saturday, March 29th, at Christ Church, a date touch of Kent Treble Bob Major, 1884 changes (with the bells deeply muffled in commemoration of the death of the Duke of Albany), in 1 hr. 7 mins. D. Rimmer, 1; T. J. Fielding, 2; A. Fielding, 3; J. H. Heywood, 4; R. Hill, 5; — Spencer, 6; G. R. Heywood, 7; C. F. Heywood (composer and conductor), 8. Tenor 10 cwt.

Miscellaneous.

THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

BEDFORD.—On Tuesday, April 1st, at St. Paul's church, on Seage's apparatus for practice, a touch of 588 of Grandsire Triples. F. Chasty, 1; J. Adkins, 2; C. West, 3; J. Frossell, 4; I. Hills, 5; W. Biggs, 6; C. W. Clarke (conductor), 7; J. Spencer, 8. Tenor 27 cwt.

BIDDENHAM (Beds).—On Friday evening, April 4th, for practice, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor, in 28 mins. C. W. Clarke, 1; *C. West, 2; *C. Stafferton, 3; I. Hills, 4; W. Biggs (conductor), 5; *J. Frossell, 6. *First 720 in the method, also the first in the method on the bells. And on Sunday, April 6th, for Divine Service in the afternoon, a 720 of Plain Bob Minor, with four bobs and fourteen singles, in 25 mins. W. West, 1; C. West, 2; W. King, 3; J. Adkins, 4; W. Biggs, 5; C. W. Clarke (conductor), 6.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

STAINDROP.—On Sunday, April 6th, for Divine Service at St. Mary's church, a 720 of Bob Minor, with ten bobs and fourteen

singles, in 28 mins. Also for Divine Service in the evening, a 480, with ten bobs and ten singles, in 19 mins. W. McLean, 1; J. W. Shipp, 2; W. E. Johnson, 3; T. Leonard, 4; D. Shipp (conductor), 5; J. Brown, 6. Tenor 13 cwt.

STOCKTON.—*Muffled Peal*.—On Saturday, April 5th, a 720 of Oxford Bob was rung, for the late Duke of Albany, in 36 mins. T. Whitfield, 1; G. J. Clarkson (conductor), 2; J. Clarkson, 3; W. Stephenson, 4; T. Burdon, 5; W. Newton, 6.

ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD ASSOCIATION.

LICHFIELD.—*Muffled Peal*.—On Sunday evening, April 6th, a 720 of Grandsire Minor was rung as a tribute of respect to the late Duke of Albany, by the following members of the Association. E. Gallimore, 2; F. Sedgwick, 2; F. J. Cope (conductor), 3; H. King, 4; H. Meacham, 3; A. Greenwood, 6. Tenor 11 cwt. in A. Time 26½ mins.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

RETTENDON (Essex).—*Muffled Peals*.—On Sunday, March 30th, several six-scores of Grandsire and Bob Doubles were rung after evening service, the bells being half-muffled out of respect to the late Duke of Albany, and the changes being rung in whole pulls. The bells were rung half-muffled on Monday night, the 31st, it being the regular practice-night. On Saturday, April 5th, the tenor was tolled for an hour at the time of the funeral, and a muffled peal of Grandsire Doubles and Minor, and Bob Doubles and Minor was rung in the evening. The following ringers took part in the above: Messrs. W. Pavitt, S. Pavitt, E. Moat, A. Cockey, W. Jay, G. Jones, S. Kendall, J. Turner, and the Rev. H. A. Cockey.

THE HERTFORD COLLEGE YOUTHS.

HERTFORD.—*Muffled Peal*.—On Saturday, April 5th, the Hertford College Youths assembled at All Saints' tower at twelve o'clock (noon), and rang several touches of Grandsire and Stedman Triples, with the bells half-muffled, as a mark of respect to the late Prince Leopold. The following members were present: The Rev. Woolmore Wigram, Messrs. A. Baker, H. Baker, J. G. Crawley, T. Gathard, J. Godfrey, F. George, W. L. Randall, J. Staples, S. Knight, and J. Jauncey. In the evening, the ringers met at St. Andrew's, and rang touches of Grandsire and Stedman Triples and Plain Bob Major, with the bells half-muffled.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

OTLEY (Suffolk).—On Tuesday evening, March 25th, at St. Mary's church, a 720 of Bob Minor. J. Calver (first 720), 1; F. Furnish, 2; W. Wighting, 3; H. Pepper, 4; W. Shipp, 5; A. Hatcher (conductor), 6. Also 360 of Grandsire Minor: J. Cullum (conductor), 1; the others as above. Also on Sunday, March 30th, for afternoon service, 600 of Bob Minor. J. Calver, 1; A. Hatcher, 1; W. Wighting, 3; J. Cullum, 4; W. Shipp (conductor), 5; H. Pepper, 6. And on Tuesday, April 1st, for practice, a 720 of Bob Minor. J. Calver, 1; F. Furnish, 2; W. Wighting, 3; J. Cullum (conductor), 4; A. Hatcher, 5; W. Shipp, 6. They finished practice with a course of Oxford Treble Bob on the handbells.

PULHAM MARKET (Norfolk).—On Tuesday, April 1st, six members of the above Association rang a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob in 28 mins. Thomas Farrow (conductor), 1; Charles Brown, 2; James Cutting, 3; Frederick Surridge, 4; John Smith, 5; William Roope, 6. Also on Friday, April 4th, a 720 of Woodbine Treble Bob, in 27 mins. Thomas Farrow (conductor), 1; Charles Brown, 2; William Culham, 3; Frederick Surridge, 4; John Allen, 5; William Roope, 6. This is the first 720 on the bells. *Muffled Peal*.—Also on Saturday, April 5th, a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob, with the bells muffled, as a token of respect to the late Duke of Albany. Thomas Farrow, 1; Charles Brown, 2; William Culham, 3; Frederick Surridge, 4; John Allen, 5; William Roope, 6.

REDENHALL (Norfolk).—*Muffled Peal*.—On Saturday afternoon, April 5th, at St. Mary's church, the Redenhall branch of the above Association rang touches of Oxford Treble Bob and Grandsire Triples, with the bells deeply muffled, as a token of respect to the Duke of Albany. The following took part in the ringing: Edward Smith (conductor), George Prime, William Sheldrake, William Matthews, James Tann, George Mobbs, Fredk. Smith, John Smith, and Captain Moore.

SOUTH ELMHAM (Norfolk).—*Muffled Peal*.—On Saturday last, April 5th, the St. Margaret's (South Elmham) branch of the above Association rang a muffled peal in token of their sympathy with their sovereign, and as a mark of respect to the memory of the late prince.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

LOUGHBOROUGH (Leicestershire).—*Muffled Peals*.—On Saturday, April 5th, touches of Grandsire Triples, with the bells half-muffled, as

a mark of respect to the memory of the late Prince Leopold. F. Farrow, 1; J. H. Bradley, 2; W. Billingham, 3; R. Lane (conductor), 4; S. Smith, 5; J. W. Taylor, sen., 6; J. W. Taylor, jun., 7; E. Wightman, 8. Tenor 24 cwt. in D.

LONG EATON (Derbyshire).—*Muffled Peal*.—On Sunday evening, April 6th, after evening service, a touch of 1312 changes of Kent Treble Bob Major, with the bells half-muffled, as a token of respect to the late Prince Leopold, in 53 mins. William Grice, 1; Richard Hickton, 2; George Bradley, 3; Samuel Clarke, 4; John Charles Dicken, 5; William Gilson, 6; Arthur Widdowson, 7; Joseph Barrow (conductor), 8. Tenor 11 cwt. in G.

WOODHOUSE (Leicestershire).—*Muffled Peal*.—On Sunday, April 6th, the following members of the Loughborough company visited this place, and rang for Divine Service in the morning a 720 of Bob Minor in 26 mins. W. Lane, 1; J. Hardy, 2; W. Billingham, 3; J. H. Bradley, 4; S. Smith, 5; J. W. Taylor, jun. (conductor), 6; also a course of Treble Bob and a 3-score of Grandsire Doubles. After service a 720 of Grandsire Minor in 25 mins. F. Farrow, 1; R. Lane, 2; W. Billingham, 3; J. H. Bradley, 4; S. Smith, 5; J. W. Taylor (conductor), 6. For Divine Service in the afternoon a 720 of Bob Minor in 26 mins. J. W. Taylor, 1; J. Hardy, 2; W. Billingham, 3; J. H. Bradley, 4; S. Smith, 5; R. Lane (conductor), 6. Tenor 10 cwt. Rung with the bells muffled as a tribute to the memory of the late Prince Leopold.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

LYMINGE (Kent).—On Saturday evening, April 5th, five of the local company, with Mr. T. Hooker from Hastingleigh, rang at the parish church of SS. Mary and Eadburgh, a 720 of Plain Bob Minor, with eighteen bobs and two singles, in 29 mins. Alfred Beer, 1; *Richard Andrews, 2; *Thomas Beer, 3; Albert Tanton, 4; James Andrews, 5; Thomas Hooker (conductor), 6. *Muffled Peal*.—And on Sunday, April 6th, for morning and afternoon services, several 6-scores of Bob and Grandsire Doubles were rung with the bells half-muffled, as a tribute of respect to the late Duke of Albany. *First 720. Tenor 18½ cwt.

WROTHAM (Kent).—*Muffled Peal*.—On Saturday, April 5th, at St. George's church, several members of the above society, rang with the bells half-muffled, some well-struck rounds on the eight, after which six of the company rang a 360 of Bob Minor on the back six, as a tribute of respect to the late Duke of Albany. George Barham, 1; John Taylor, 2; William Taylor, 3; George Osborne, 4; Frederick Shoobridge (conductor), 5; Charles Taylor, 6.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION OF SIX-BELL RINGERS.

CHORLEY (Lancashire).—*Muffled Peal*.—On Saturday afternoon, April 5th, as a mark of respect to the late Duke of Albany, the bells of the parish church were rung muffled, when a 720 of Bob Minor was rung in 28 mins., by the Chorley Branch of this Association. J. H. Gartside (conductor), 1; W. Keaps, 2; J. Marsden, 3; A. Whalley, 4; G. Gartside, 5; J. Worthington, 6. Tenor 11 cwt.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

OXFORD.—*Muffled Peals*.—On Palm Sunday, April 6th, at Holywell church, with the bells deeply muffled at back-stroke, a 720 of Grandsire Minor, in 30 mins. H. Newman, 1; T. Payne, 2; G. Lapworth, 3; S. Hounslow (conductor), 4; C. Hounslow, 5; W. Payne, 6. And in the evening, at the church of St. Mary Magdalen, with the bells muffled, a 720 in the same method, in 27 mins. William Wakelin, 1; Frederick Castle, 2; Job Howes, 3; Charles Hester, 4; William Baston, 5; J. W. Washbrook (conductor), 6. At the church of St. Thomas-ye-Martyr, on Monday, March 7th, two 720's in the same method, each in 27 mins. Job Howes, 1; William Wakelin, 2; Fred. Castle, 3; John Howes, 4; William C. Baston, 5; William Washbrook (conductor), 6. The above were rung as a last mark of respect to the late Prince Leopold.

SLOUGH (Bucks).—*Muffled Peal*.—On Saturday, April 5th, with the bells deeply muffled as a tribute of respect to the late Prince Leopold, a 720 of Grandsire Minor, in 22 mins. W. Leader, 1; R. Flaxman, 2; A. Garraway (conductor), 3; G. Wilkins, 4; J. Pursey, 5; W. Wilder, 6. Tenor 9½ cwt.

THE SOUTH LINCOLNSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

BOURN (Lincolnshire).—On Thursday, March 13th, 720 of London Single (eighteen bobs and two singles), in 26 mins. J. T. Ball, 1; Wm. Pearce, 2; Thos. Taylor, 3; Robert Clark, 4; F. W. Flatters (conductor), 5; Robert Sharpe, 6. This was rung to commemorate the 78th birthday of Mr. Thomas Taylor, who has been a ringer at Bourn Abbey for 53 years, and still takes as much interest in the art of change-ringing as ever, and is a pattern for many a young ringer.

STOKE-UPON-TRENT ARCHIDIACONAL ASSOCIATION.

CHEADLE.—*Muffled Peal*.—On Saturday, April 5th, at St. Giles' parish church, several 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles were rung with the bells muffled, for the late Duke of Albany. G. Waugh, 1; J. Harrison, 2; H. Booth, 3; J. Shenton, 4; J. Burton (conductor), 5; R. Bullock, 6.

NORTON-LE-MOORS.—On Sunday evening, April 6th, 720 of Court Bob, in 28 mins. W. Holdcroft, 1; E. Glover, 2; J. Morton, 3; J. W. Brough, 4; G. Walker, 5; Jas. Baddeley (conductor), 6.

THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

BEDDINGTON (Surrey).—*Muffled Peal*.—On Saturday, April 5th, at St. Mary's church, ten members of the above Society rang a touch of 1439 changes of Grandsire Caters, being twelve courses with the sixth behind the ninth, in 1 hr. Charles Martin, 1; John Branch, 2; Charles Bance, 3; E. F. Cole, Esq., 4; Edgar Bennett, 5; James Harris, 6; John Plowman, 7; James Trappitt, 8; James Cawley, 9; James Holder, 10. Conducted by Edgar Bennett. The above was rung with the bells deeply muffled, as a tribute of respect to the late Prince Leopold.

KINGSTON-ON-THAMES (Surrey).—*Muffled Peals*.—On Saturday, April 5th, at All Saints' church, the local company rang at midday, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, with the bells muffled, in 45 mins. A. Challis, 1; J. Parslow, 2; C. Slade, 3; H. Parslow, 4; G. Gray, 5; Jas. Strutt, 6; J. Wright (conductor), 7; H. Milton, 8. Also in the evening, a 1022 of Grandsire Triples, being the first part of Mr. J. T. Hollis' peal, in 36 mins. Wm. Phillips (aged 71 years), 1; A. Challis, 2; C. Slade, 3; H. Parslow, 4; J. Parslow, 5; J. Strutt (conductor), 6; G. Grey, 7; J. Wright, 8. Also on Sunday, April 6th, a 910 of Grandsire Triples, with the bells open, being the last part of Mr. Hollis' peal, in 32 mins. J. Parslow, 1; A. Challis, 2; C. Slade, 3; Hy. Parslow, 4; G. Gray, 5; J. Strutt (conductor), 6; J. Wright, 7; H. Milton, 8. Tenor 33 cwt.

WIMBLEDON (Surrey).—On Tuesday, April 1st, at St. Mary's church, a 720 of Oxford Single Bob Minor, in 27½ mins. G. Hyde, 1; A. Roots, 2; C. Hyde, 3; J. Parker, 4; A. Garratt, 5; S. Frost (conductor), 6. This is the first 720 rang in the method by any of the above. Also on Wednesday, April 2nd, a 720 of Grandsire Minor. J. Fayers, 1; A. Roots, 2; C. Hyde, 3; J. Parker, 4; A. Garratt, 5; S. Frost (conductor), 6. The latter was rung in honour of the christening of a new steam fire-engine, which was performed by Lady Peek.

WORCESTER AND ADJOINING DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

NETHERTON (Worcestershire).—*Muffled Peal*.—On Sunday morning, March 30th, at St. Andrew's church, the local company rang a 360 of Grandsire Minor, in 13 mins. Also in the same evening, a 720 of Plain Bob, in 30½ mins. Also on Tuesday evening, a 360 of Grandsire Minor, in 12½ mins. And on Saturday evening, a 720 of Plain Bob, in 29½ mins. All the above were rung with the bells muffled as a tribute of respect to the late Prince Leopold, Duke of Albany. The ringers were: J. Prestidge, J. Robinson, J. Smith (conductor), F. Hotchkiss, J. Townsend, R. Round, B. Townsend, and T. Felton. Tenor 12½ cwt.

BEAMINSTER (Dorset).—*Muffled Peal*.—On Saturday morning, seven 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles, as a mark of respect for H.R.H. the late Prince Leopold, Duke of Albany. W. Newman, 1; G. J. Pomeroy, 2; T. P. Coombs, 3; C. G. Parkes, 4; P. H. Jackson, 5; J. Trump, 6. Tenor 28 cwt. in D.

BRIGHTON.—*Muffled Peals*.—On Sunday, March 30th, as a token of respect to the late Duke of Albany, the bells of St. Nicholas' church were rung half-muffled. And on Saturday, April 5th, an attempt was made, with the bells half-muffled, to ring Mr. J. Carter's date touch, but after ringing about 1200 changes, in 45 mins., the tenor-rope broke. W. F. Meads (Linfield), 1; E. Hilder, 2; J. Jay, sen., 3; J. Searle (conductor), 4; H. Boniface, 5; J. Jay, jun., 6; C. Tyler, 7; E. Butler, 8.

CHARLTON (Gloucestershire).—*Muffled Peal*.—On Saturday, March 29th, the local company, with Messrs. F. Musty and T. J. Whiting, rang ten 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles, with the bells deeply muffled, as a last mark of respect to the late Duke of Albany, in 55 mins. T. Hamlet, 1; F. Musty, 2; W. Dyer, 3; W. Heming, 4; W. James (conductor), 5; T. J. Whiting, 6. Tenor 22 cwt.

CRAYFORD (Kent).—*Muffled Peal*.—On Saturday evening, April 5th, at St. Paulinus, the local company attempted to ring a peal of Grandsire Triples (Holt's Original), with the bells muffled, as a token of respect to the late Duke of Albany, but after ringing about 2700 changes were compelled to bring the bells round, through visitors continually knocking at the door trying to gain admission into the belfry. E. Saxby, 1; F. French (conductor), 2; C. Hammant, 3; G. Conyard, 4; J. Sloper, 5; A. Coles, 6; F. M. Jacobs, 7; T. Webb, 8. Also on Sunday, April 6th, for Divine Service in the morning, on the back six, a 720 of Plain Bob Minor, with fourteen bobs and two singles, in 22 mins. E. Saxby, 1; C. Hammant, 2; G. Conyard (conductor), 3; J. Saxby, 4; F. M. Jacobs, 5; F. French, 6. Tenor 12½ cwt.

DEVONPORT.—*Muffled Peal*.—On Saturday, March 5th, the local company rang at the Chapel Royal, H.M. Dockyard, Devonport, a

1008 of Grandsire Triples, with the bells deeply muffled, as a mark of respect to the late Duke of Albany. The striking was very good throughout, and was thoroughly appreciated by the surrounding inhabitants. W. Ellis, 1; G. Broderick (conductor), 2; R. Deadeye, 3; R. Ford, 4; J. Baxter, 5; W. Pine, 6; J. Steed, 7; A. W. Batchelor, 8.

DONCASTER (Yorkshire).—On Sunday evening, April 6th, for service at St. George's church, was rung (as a tribute to the memory of the late Duke of Albany), a quarter peal of Grandsire Triples (in the bob and single variation), in 52 mins. H. Fevre, 1; W. Newsome, 2; W. White, 3; G. Marwood, 4; T. Fevre, jun., 5; J. White, 6; J. Jeff, 7; W. Howard, 8. Tenor 31 cwt. in Eb. The above was arranged and conducted by H. Fevre.

EAST PECKHAM (Kent).—On Thursday, April 2nd, six of the local company rang a 720 of Bob Minor, in 25 mins. J. Rodgers (conductor), 1; G. Bishop, sen., 2; W. Eldridge, 3; G. Bishop, jun., 4; C. Newman, 5; F. G. Newman, 6. Tenor 16½ cwt.

EGG BUCKLAND (Near Plymouth).—*Muffled Peal.*—On Saturday, April 5th, the newly-formed society of ringers for this place, established for the study and practice of scientific change-ringing, accomplished on the bells of that village, a succession of 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles, comprising a total of 840 changes, with the bells deeply muffled in memory of his late Royal Highness the Duke of Albany, which, considering the very short time this Society has been in existence, reflects considerable credit on their instructor, Mr. E. Taylor, of Plymouth. Samuel Folly, 1; James Manley, 2; John Simmons, 3; John Folly, 4; James Simmons (conductor), 5; Henry Windsor, 6.

FOXEARH (Essex).—On Saturday, March 29th, at the church of SS. Peter and Paul, a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob. F. P. Adams, 1; J. Lee (first 720), 2; W. Inch (first 720), 3; O. Garwood, 4; D. Ward, 5; S. Slater, 6. And in the evening another 720 of Oxford Treble Bob. Chas. Lee (first 720), 1; S. Slater, 2; W. Gridley, 3; R. Mingay, 4; F. Wells, 5; F. P. Adams, 6. Both 720's were conducted by F. P. Adams. Tenor 8 cwt. in Bb.

GLEMSFORD (Suffolk).—On Saturday, March, 22nd, at St. Mary's church, a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob. Jas. Slater, 1; S. Slater, 2; Walter Gridley, 3; R. Mingay (Foxearth), 4; O. Garwood, 5; F. P. Adams (conductor), 6. Also on the same bells, on Friday, March 28th a 720 of Bob Minor. G. Maxim (Foxearth), 1; J. Lee (Foxearth), 2; O. Garwood, 3; R. Mingay, 4; S. Slater (conductor), 5; E. W. Downs, 6. Also in the evening, a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob. F. P. Adams, 1; Z. Slater, 2; W. Gridley, 3; F. Wells, 4; David Ward (first 720), 5; S. Slater (conductor), 6. Also on Monday, March 31st, at St. Mary's church, a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob. F. P. Adams, 1; F. Wells, 2; S. Slater, 3; Z. Slater, 4; E. W. Downs, 5; O. Garwood (first 720 as conductor), 6. *Handbell Ringing.*—And on Friday, April 4th, at John Slater's house, upon handbells retained in hand, a 720 of Bob Minor. Z. Slater, 1-2; John Slater, 3; A. Revoltia, 4; S. Slater (conductor), 5-6. Also on Saturday, April 5th, at St. Mary's church, a 720 of Bob Minor, in 29 mins. Z. Slater (conductor), 1; S. Slater, 2; F. Wells, 3; Philip Bixby (first 720), 4; E. W. Downs, 5; Q. Garwood, 6.

HIGHER SUTTON (Cheshire).—On Wednesday evening, March 26th, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor (with nine bobs), in 25 mins. W. Walmsley (conductor), 1; Wm. H. Ingham, 2; W. Ingham, 3; J. M. Davenport, 4; W. H. Hardman, 5; Thomas Mottershead, 6. *Muffled Peals.*—On Sunday evening, with the bells muffled, as a mark of respect to H.R.H. the late Duke of Albany, a 720 of Grandsire Minor (with thirty-four bobs and twenty-six singles), in 26 mins. John David Wheelton, 1; Wm. H. Ingham (conductor), 2; Wm. Walmsley, 3; J. M. Davenport, 4; Wm. Ingham, 5; Thomas Mottershead, 6. Mr. Wheelton hails from Prestbury, Cheshire, and this is his first 720. Also on Monday evening, a 720 of Bob Minor (with eighteen bobs and two singles), in 25 mins. Wm. H. Ingham (conductor), 1; Wm. Walmsley, 2; W. Ingham, 3; J. M. Davenport, 4; Thomas Mottershead, 5; W. H. Hardman, 6.

HAMPSTEAD (Middlesex).—On Sunday, March 16th, for Divine Service in the morning at St. Stephen's, the local company rang a 559 of Grandsire Triples in 23 mins., conducted by W. Pryor. *Muffled Peal.*—Also on Tuesday, April 1st, a 559 of Grandsire Triples, conducted by W. Pryor, and a 504 of Grandsire Triples conducted by J. Hannington. Also for Divine Service in the morning and evening of Sunday, March 30th, and April 6th, the bells were rang deeply muffled as a tribute of respect to the late Duke of Albany.

HIGHER WALTON (Lancashire).—*Muffled Peals.*—The parish ringers of All Saints' church rang the undermentioned 720s with the bells deeply muffled as a tribute of respect to the late Duke of Albany.—On Sunday, March 30th, for service, a 720 of Plain Bob Minor, in 27½ mins. Geo. Thornley, 1; Jas. Horwood, 2; Hy. Hunt, 3; Hy. Brewer, 4; John Eccles, 5; Jas. Mather, 6. Also on Tuesday night, April 1st, a 720 of Plain Bob Minor, in 28 mins., also 180 of College Single, the ringers standing as before. And on Thursday, April 3rd,

a 720 of Plain Bob Minor, in 26½ mins., the ringers as above with the exception of the 4th, which was rung by Mr. Joshua Walker. The bells were rung on Sunday for service half-muffled. Tenor 16 cwt. 3 qrs. 26 lbs.

LANCASTER.—*Muffled Peal.*—On Tuesday, April 1st, at St. Thomas's church, the following rang three and a half 720's of Plain Bob Minor, making in all 2520 changes, with the bells deeply muffled as a tribute of respect to H.R.H. the late Duke of Albany, in 1 hr. 30 mins. B. Edmondson (conductor), 1; W. Parkinson, 2; E. Middleton, 3; H. Coope, 4; E. Edmondson, 5; J. Rawlinson, 6. Tenor 8 cwt.

MANCHESTER.—*Muffled Peals.*—On Saturday, April 5th, at the Cathedral, a 1097 of Grandsire Caters, with the bells deeply muffled, as a last token of respect to the late Prince Leopold. Thomas G. Downs, 1; John E. Lord (St. John's, Deansgate), 2; John E. Pollitt, 3; Samuel West, 4; Joseph Grimshaw, 5; James Thorpe, 6; Albert E. Wreaks (conductor), 7; George Mee, 8; John Eachus, 9; John Withers, 10. Also two shorter lengths of Grandsire Royal. John E. Lord, 1; George E. Turner, 2; Samson Knight, 3; John E. Pollitt, 5; the rest as above. Tenor 25 cwt. They afterwards proceeded to St. John's, Deansgate, with the intention of ringing Reeves's ten-part peal of Grandsire Triples, with the bells muffled, but owing to the excessive heat from the gaslights (ten jets), the bells were run out into rounds at the end of the third part, 1540 changes, in 54 mins. Samson Knight, 1; John E. Lord, 2; John E. Pollitt, 3; George Mee, 4; Albert E. Wreaks (conductor), 5; John Eachus, 6; John Withers, 7; Henry Mee, 8. Tenor 20 cwt.

MEREWORTH (Kent).—*Muffled Peal.*—On Sunday, April 6th, for Divine Service in the afternoon, six 6-scores of Stedman Doubles, with the bells half-muffled, as a last tribute of respect to the late Duke of Albany, in 24 mins. W. Eldridge, 1; A. Brooker, 2; G. Bell, 3; G. Newman, 4; F. G. Newman, 5; W. Bellingham, 6. Also six 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles, in 25 mins. F. G. Newman, 1; W. Eldridge, 2; G. Bell, 3; G. Newman, 4; T. Buss, 5; R. Rich, 6. Tenor 12 cwt.

NUNEATON (Warwickshire).—*Muffled Peals.*—On Saturday, April 5th, at St. Nicholas parish church, by request of the vicar and churchwardens, the local company rang five 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles, each called differently, with the bells deeply muffled, with 768 behind, as a last tribute of respect to the late Duke of Albany. W. Adler, 1; T. Lingard, 2; J. J. Mawby, 3; H. Horwood (conductor), 4; T. Bates, 5; G. E. Swain, 6; H. Bacon, 7; W. Swain, 8. After a few call changes and rounds with the bells rung wide they were lowered at 12.30. And on Sunday, April 6th, for Divine Service in the morning, the same five 6-scores of Grandsire were rung. G. E. Swain, 1; W. Swain, 2; J. J. Mawby, 3; H. Horwood (conductor), 4; T. Bates, 5; C. Draper, 6; H. Bacon, 7; W. Adler, 8. Tenor 14½ cwt. in E.

LONDON.—On Saturday, April 5th, at St. Giles's-in-the-Fields, a funeral peal was rung, with the bells muffled, out of respect to the late Prince Leopold. W. Parlett, 1; S. Bussell, 2; A. Rowe, 3; A. Scott, 4; S. Mayo, 5; F. Bennett (conductor), 6; — Bradshaw, 7; W. Parlett, 8.

LONG MELFORD (Suffolk).—On Tuesday, March 18th, at Holy Trinity church, a 720 of Bob Minor (with eighteen bobs and two singles). Fredk. R. Steed, 1; John Ambrose, 2; Owen Read, 3; John Lee (Foxearth, Essex), 4; Oliver Garwood, 5; S. Slater (conductor), 6. Also on Tuesday, March 25th, a 720 of Bob Minor. F. R. Steed, 1; J. Ambrose, 2; O. Read, 3; Z. Slater, 4; O. Garwood, 5; S. Slater (conductor), 6. And on Saturday, April 5th, touches of Bob Major was rung with the bells deeply muffled as a mark of respect to the late Duke of Albany. Philip Bixby, 1; J. Ambrose, 2; F. R. Steed, 3; John Driver, 4; O. Read, 5; Z. Slater, 6; O. Garwood, 7. S. Slater (conductor), 8.

* * The remainder of touches will be found on page 17.

LINES

ON THE DEATH OF PRINCE LEOPOLD, DUKE OF ALBANY.

I see the flags at half-mast fly—
What do they mean?
I heard the bells in solemn muffle cry—
What do they mean?
That yesterday, in manhood's prime,
There died, in dread premature time,
The son of England's Queen.

And though his body may be laid
Beneath the sod,
His spirit and his soul have gone,
To be with God.
Here may his mourners solace find,
And see God's grace, though hid behind
Affliction's rod.

'Twas but the other day that he
In splendour moved,
Until a sudden dreadful fit
His death-knell proved,
And called him far away from earth,
From friends and home, from kin by birth
And those he loved.

So teach us, Lord, to live in grace,
And so to die;
Our godless passions, tempers, lusts,
May we deny.
And so when judgment Thou dost give,
May we be all called home to live
With Thee on high.

March 29th.

P.

TOUCHES OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR.

Collected and arranged by

THE REV. H. EARLE BULWER.

SERIES I.

TOUCHES OF LESS THAN 1000 CHANGES.

768.

Time 23½ minutes.

23456	M	B	W	H	23456	M	B	W	H
35264	2		2		34625		x	I	
23456	I	x		2	23456	2		2	2
23456					23456				
35264	2		2		23645		x	2	
23456	2	x		I	23456	2		2	I

800.

Time 30 minutes.

In two courses.					Or. this variation.				
<u>2 3 4 5 6</u>	M	B	†	W H	<u>2 3 4 5 6</u>	M	B	†	W H
5 2 3 6 4	-			2	3 4 6 2 5	2	x	2	2
2 3 4 5 6	2	x	2	2	2 3 4 5 6	-			2
In three courses.					Tenors together.				
<u>2 3 4 5 6</u>	M	B	W	H	<u>2 3 4 5 6</u>	M	B	W	H
5 2 4 3 6			I		6 4 3 5 2	I			I
2 3 6 4 5	2	-			4 5 6 2 3	-			
2 3 4 5 6	-		I		2 3 4 5 6	-		2	
A variation :—									
<u>2 3 4 5 6</u>	M	B	W	H					
3 5 6 4 2	2	-							
3 5 4 2 6	-			I					
2 3 4 5 6		I							

SERIES II.

TOUCHES OF OVER 1000 AND UNDER 1600 CHANGES.

1120.

Time 41½ minutes.

23456	M	B	W	H	23456	M	B	W	H
52364	2		2	2	46532	2	-	2	2
34625	2	-	2	2	35642			2	2
23456	-		2		23456	-		2	2
23456					23456				
32654	2		2		56342	I		2	2
64523	2	-	2	2	64523	2		2	2
23456	2	-	2	2	23456	I		2	2
23456					23456				
52364	2		2	2	62534	2	I	2	
64523	2	I			34625	2	I		
23456	I		2	2	23456	2	2	2	
23456					23456				
62534	2		I	2	62534	2	I	2	
34625	2	I			23645	2		2	
23456	2		2	2	23456	2		2	I
23456					23456				
52364	2		2	2	62534	2	I	2	
42635	I		2	I	23645	2		2	
23456	2		2		23456	2		2	I

1152.

Time 42½ minutes.

23456	M	B	W	H	23456	M	B	W	H
63254	-	I			32654	2		2	
43652	-	I			25346				
54326	-		2		54326	I	-		
23456			2	2	23456	I	-	2	
23456					23456				
35264	-				23564			I	
56423	2	-			62534	I	-	2	
34625	2	-	I	I	34625			-	2
23456	-		2		23456	-		2	

SERIES III.

TOUCHES OF 1600 CHANGES AND UPWARDS.

1664.

Time 61½ minutes.

In four courses.

23456	M	B	W	H
52364	2		2	2
34625	2	-	2	2
65243	2	-	2	2
23456	2	-	2	2

In five courses.

The 6th the extent home.					The 5th the extent home.				
23456	M	B	W	H	23456	M	B	W	H
32654	2		2		52364			2	
53246	-		2		62354			2	2
52436		I	2		36452	-	I	2	
54326	I	-	2	2	62453	2	-	I	2
23456	I	-	2		23456	I	-	2	

or this variation.

23456	M	B	W	H
24536		I	2	
25346	I	-	2	2
43526	I	-	2	
34625	2		2	
23456	-		2	

or,

23456	M	B	W	H
32654			I	2
24653	2	-	I	2
43652	I		2	
54326	-		2	
23456			2	2

23456

35642

53246

52436

54326

23456

23456

54632

35426

24536

25346

23456

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52364

45623

24536

25346

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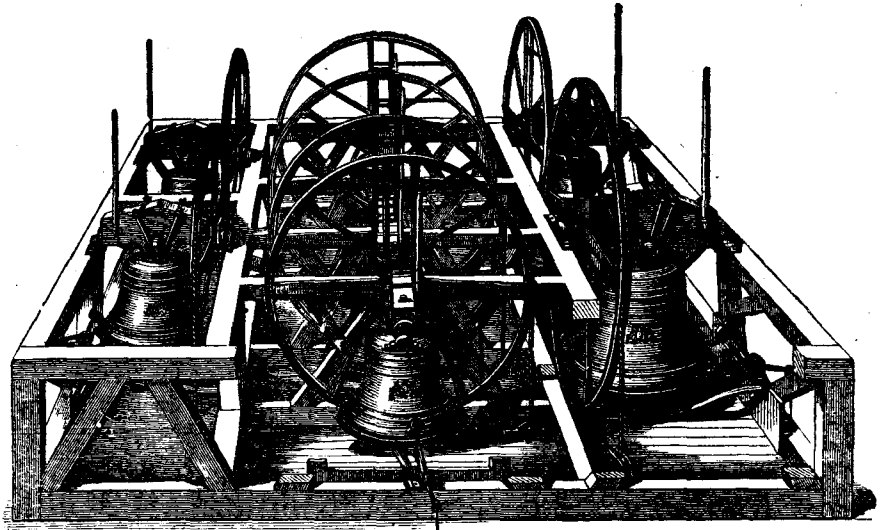
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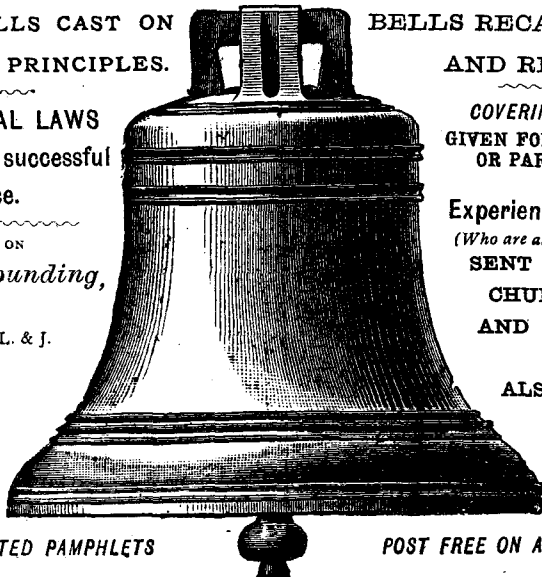
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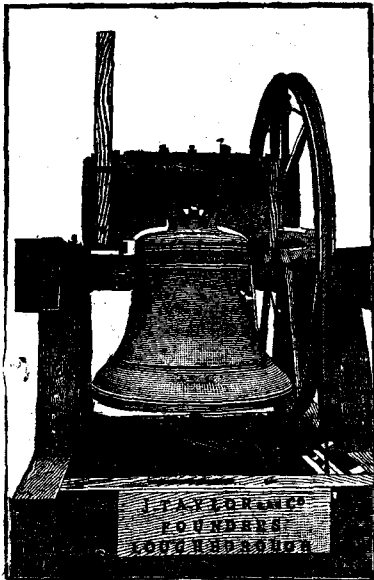
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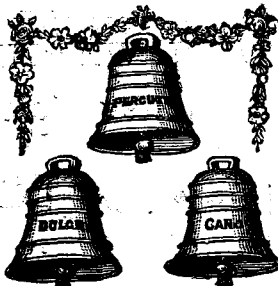
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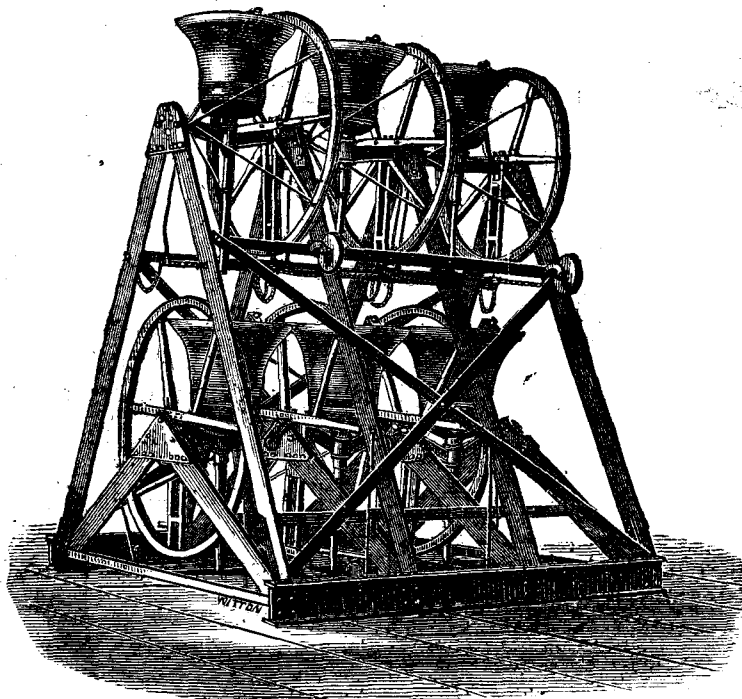
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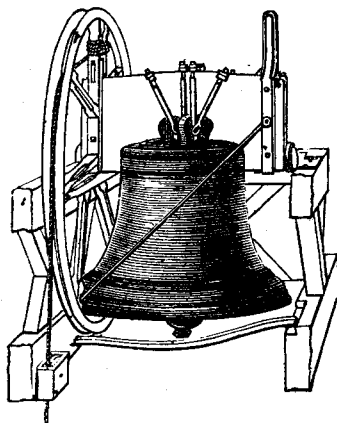
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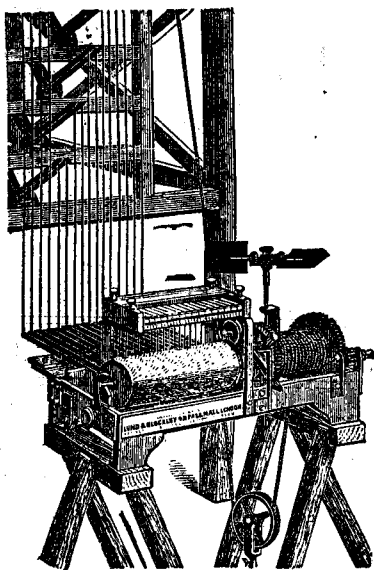
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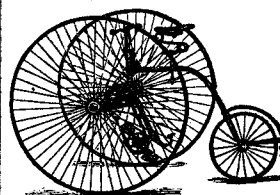
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ESTABLISHED 1872.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

THE Annual Meeting of the above Association was held at Derby, on Easter-Monday, April 14th, 1884, when the bells of the following churches, All Saints, St. Andrew's, St. Luke's, St. Werburgh's, and St. Alkmund's were placed at the disposal of members, by the kindness of their respective vicars and churchwardens. The anniversary of the establishment of the Association was signalized at Burton-on-Trent by an attempt made in the early morning by eight members of the St. Paul's society to ring a peal of 5120 Superlative Surprise Major. It ended, however, in a failure; for after ringing two hrs. seven mins. a shift course occurred, and the conductor called "stand" at the end of the third part of the peal. It is only fair to those who took part in this performance to state that the mishap was in a great measure due to the distraction consequent upon the untwisting of the strands of the 6th rope, which had been hurriedly spliced just before starting. In any case, however, it would have been impossible to have finished the peal, as during the last quarter of an hour the ringing was attended with considerable danger, not only to the ringer of the 6th, but also to the ringers of the 5th and 7th bells. At Nottingham also the ringers attempted a peal of 5040 Grandsire Triples in honour of the day, but with a similar unfortunate result.

On the occasion of this meeting, St. Werburgh's Church and schools had been constituted the headquarters of the Association, and the local Committee, together with Mr. Redgate, were in attendance there to assist in forming bands to proceed to the various towers. At 3.30 a Committee meeting was held for the transaction of the private business of the Society. At 4.30 Divine Service was held in St. Werburgh's church, an eloquent and instructive address being given to the members present, by the Rev. Charles Brittain, Vicar of Darley Abbey. Tea was served in St. Werburgh's Schools at 5.30, and after tea the General Meeting was held, the President, the Rev. James H. Fish, Vicar of St. Paul's, Burton-on-Trent, in the chair. There were also present: Mr. J. Griffin, Burton-on-Trent, Hon. Secretary; Mr. Wm. Wakley, Burton-on-Trent, Hon. Treasurer; the Rev. C. T. Bromwich, St. Werburgh's, Derby; the Rev. R. W. Pitt, St. Paul's, Burton-on-Trent; Dr. Sellon, Long Eaton, together with about fifty other members of the Association.

On the motion of Mr. Wilkins, seconded by Mr. Millis, the Officers' Report, and the Treasurer's accounts for the year 1883-4 was unanimously adopted.

Mr. Hickman proposed a vote of thanks to the retiring Officers for the very able manner in which they had conducted the business of the Association during the past year. This was seconded by Mr. Wilson, and carried unanimously. The following officers were elected for the year 1884-5. President: the Rev. James H. Fish, Vicar of St. Paul's, Burton-on-Trent; Hon. Treasurer: Mr. William Wakley, Burton-on-Trent; Hon. Secretary: the Rev. R. W. Pitt, St. Paul's, Burton-on-Trent. Various additions and alterations, of which due notice had been given, were made in the rules of the Society, and the consideration of a "Draft Scheme for a National Association of Bell-Ringers," was referred back to the Committee. A letter from the Rev. George Edgecombe, Vicar of St. Peter's, Nottingham, in which he spoke in most complimentary terms of the good work being done in St. Peter's belfry by his own ringers, who were members of the Association, was read to the meeting by the President, and received with hearty cheers. A letter was also read from Mr. J. W. Taylor, jun., inviting two members from each district of the Association to Loughborough, on Wednesday, April 30th, 1884, to represent the Association on the occasion of that gentleman's marriage.

The following methods were rung during the day: Kent Treble Bob Royal, Stedman and Grandsire Caters, Kent Treble Bob Major, and Grandsire Triples. A touch also of 384 Superlative Surprise Major was rung on the bells of St. Andrew's, which are a tuneful ring, and kept in excellent going order by the worthy steeplekeeper, Mr. Shardlow, this being the first touch of Superlative rung in Derby.

On the motion of Mr. Ward, seconded by Mr. Picker, it was carried unanimously that the next Quarterly Meeting be held at Leicester on the last Saturday in June, viz.: June 28th, 1884.

One hon. member and ten ringing members were admitted.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD IN READING.

The adjourned meeting in connection with the Reading branch of this Guild, which was held in St. Giles's Hall, on Monday, March 24th, and of which a report appeared in our issue of the 29th ult., was resumed at the same hall on Thursday, April 3rd.

The chair was taken by the Rev. N. T. Garry, Vicar of St. Mary's and Rural Dean, and Chairman of the Reading branch. There were also present the Revs. A. Bonney (St. Mary's), — Hill (St. Giles's), Dolben Paul (Hon. Sec. to the Guild), Cecil J. Bourke (Vicar of St. Giles), etc.

The Chairman having opened with prayer,

The Rev. Dolben Paul wished to know what decision the St. Lawrence's band had arrived at with respect to the Guild.

Mr. W. Newell was very sorry to announce that a majority of the St. Lawrence's men had opposed the union of their tower with the Guild, and it was therefore lost. He felt that this line of action would very much increase the difficulties with which he, as Hon. Sec. to the Reading branch, had to contend, and he respectfully tendered his resignation of that office, at the same time hoping a successor might be found from among the Clergy interested in the Guild. He thought this would be the very best thing which could happen for the Guild in Reading.

The Rev. Dolben Paul said they were all sorry to hear of Mr. Newell's resignation, but thought there was something advantageous in the idea of a clerical secretary; and as they were anticipating the advent of a skilful change-ringing clergyman among them, he thought they could not do better than to try and get him to accept the office; retaining meanwhile the valuable services of Mr. Newell until the arrival of this gentleman. This was carried by acclamation.

Mr. Egby said he believed if that meeting closed without grappling with the real grievance at issue, which had caused the present state of affairs, it would do very little good. Were those members of St. Lawrence's who, being members also of the Guild, had so ungratefully repaid the Guild for the benefits they had received, still to use the other steeples under the protection and sanction of that very association? Or should they try and come to some arrangement by which the other societies in the town might secure the same exclusive privileges in their own steeples as these gentlemen affected in theirs? It was very painful to him to have to speak in this way, but he knew the views of his brother-members well enough to be able to assert that without this question were settled, all beside would be futile.

The Chairman said that while the last proposition was nothing but just and right, he still deprecated any course which might savour of reprisal toward the St. Lawrence band. At the same time he thought they could hardly expect in the future those opportunities in other towers which they had enjoyed in the past. But did the other ringers propose to make no exception in favour of those who voted in favour of the Guild?

Mr. Egby said he believed the idea was that as soon as a settlement was come to, to issue an invitation to those gentlemen, welcoming them to the other steeples.

Mr. Johnson (Captain of the St. Lawrence company) said although the tower was closed to the Guild, other men might ring a peal there by obtaining the usual permission.

A variety of formal business was then settled, a committee-meeting fixed to arrange ringing practices, etc., and the meeting was then appropriately closed by the chairman with a prayer and benediction.

COLN ST. ALDWYN'S, GLOUCESTERSHIRE.

ON Easter-Monday, the ringers of Burford church (Oxon), accompanied by their leader, Mr. T. Brown, paid a visit to the above-named place. Arriving there about 10.30, they found the local company handling the ropes, ringing some touches of Grandsire Triples. The visitors very soon had an opportunity of trying the "go" of the bells, for after a short touch a start was made for a date touch composed by F. E. Ward, the ringers being F. E. Ward, 1; T. Brown, 2; T. E. Glanville (conductor), 3; W. Large, 4; H. Bond, jun., 5; J. Smith, 6; D. Francis, 7; W. Launchbury, 8. Unfortunately after ringing 1500 changes, in 52 mins., the conductor discovered that the 4th and 7th bells had changed course. As there was not time before luncheon to make another attempt, the visitors rang a course of Stedman Caters, after which the local company attempted a 720 of Bob Minor, which however came to grief in about 15 mins. A move was now made for the schoolroom, where a substantial repast was spread through the kind generosity of the Rector, to which about thirty sat down to partake of the good things so liberally provided. Due justice having been done to the various dishes, the Rector rose to say how pleased he was to entertain the Burford ringers, and also to allow them the use of the belfry, for although not a ringer himself, he took a great interest in the art of change-ringing. Mr. Brown, in responding on behalf of the Burford company, said that if the Coln ringers would at some future time pay their promised visit to Burford, he and his brother-ringers would endeavour to give them a cordial reception. After ringing some touches of Grandsire Triples and Grandsire Caters on the handbells, in which both Burford and Coln ringers took part, the visitors had to take their departure, arrangements having been made to visit Fairford parish church. Arriving there, an attempt was made to ring Grandsire Triples, but after raising the bells with difficulty, it was found impossible to ring changes upon them in their present condition. Here is a good ring of eight, tenor about 19 cwt., but unfortunately no one appears to take any interest in them, and the general arrangements of the belfry sadly need attention.

We hear that Mr. G. R. Banks, of Kennington Lane, Surrey, has received instructions to rehang, with new stocks, wheels, and fittings, the peal of eight at St. Mary's parish church, Twickenham.

WORCESTER AND ADJOINING DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

A QUARTERLY MEETING of the above Association was held on Easter-Monday, April 14th, at Dudley. The town of Dudley is a very ancient one, and is finely situated for the requirements of health, on the edge of a ridge. It is situated in Worcestershire, although isolated from the rest of the county. It is supposed that one Dudo, a Saxon chief, who lived in the eighth century, founded the town, and also erected part of the Castle, which by the liberality of the nobleman who takes his title from the town, contains a free park and recreation ground not to be equalled within fifty miles or more. The building has suffered harsh treatment on more than one occasion. From the keep of this Castle, on a clear day, can be seen parts of the counties of Worcester, Stafford, Derby, Leicester, Warwick, Salop, Hereford, and part of Wales. Also the Malvern Hills, the solitary and impressive Wrekin, and the minor upheavals known as the Bromsgrove Lickey, the Abberhill Hills, the Cleve Hills, and, dear to the Dudley heart, the Hills of Clent. The noble families of Somerie, Dutton, and Ward, successively held the Castle and estates. The present owner succeeded to them as Lord Ward, but is now better known as Earl of Dudley. This nobleman has erected in the town the handsomest drinking-fountain in the Midlands. There are several churches, of which St. Thomas, a splendid structure, is the parish church, and at which there are a beautiful ring of ten bells, but which sadly want rehanging, etc. There are no other ring of bells except the peal of six at Netherton.

About 10.30 a.m., some of the Bromsgrove company arrived at Netherton, and after being introduced to the Vicar, a go was made on the bells with a short touch of Plain Bob, 360 of Kent Treble Bob, and what was most pleasing, was to see and ring with a brother-ringer with one arm, who also called 120 of Grandsire Minor. The tower of this church is a model one, and the visitors expressed their great satisfaction and delight at the same. After a little refreshment here, the party proceeded to Dudley. On ascending the tower the ten bells were raised, it being anticipated that some good touches of Treble Ten, etc. would be rung, but owing to the second bell being out of order nothing on the ten could be done, but some short touches of Grandsire Triples were rang. A visit was made by some of the members to Sedgely, where about 300 of Grandsire Triples were rung. A visit being now made to the old Castle grounds, the members were highly pleased with the same. Arriving at the school, for the transaction of business, they were met by the Rev. S. J. Marriott, Vicar of Netherton, and an honorary member of the Association.

In opening the proceedings, the rev. gentleman said it gave him very great pleasure to be amongst such an important body of men belonging to the Church, and having some knowledge of ringing himself, could congratulate the members upon the noble art they were acquiring, and should always feel a pleasure in supporting the objects of the Society. The minutes of the last meeting being read and confirmed, several honorary and performing members were initiated. The draft Scheme for a National Association was taken into consideration, but owing partially to the absence of the Master, Mr. J. Perks, delegate at the Ringers' Conference last year, the matter was postponed till the annual meeting. After a few remarks upon Belfry Reform, the meeting, which was a lively one, was brought to a close by votes of thanks to the Chairman for presiding, and to the Rev. Dr. Cosens (Dudley), for the use of the tower and schoolroom. The Chairman in responding, thanked the Association for their kindness towards him, and pressed upon the local companies in the Society to visit their respective clergy and officers of the church, and not to let them rest until their church towers were put into a state of efficiency. Adjourning to the Bee Hive Inn, and partaking of some refreshment, the evening's entertainment was most enjoyably spent. Tunes were rung upon a beautiful peal of fifty-six handbells, by the Dudley and Netherton companies, and some courses of Grandsire Cinques, Caters, and Triples, by mixed companies, brought the evening's enjoyment to a close, the members remarking that the meeting had been the most sociable since the formation of the Society.

WARE, HERTFORDSHIRE.

On Easter Monday this town was visited by a party of ringers from Hackney and Walthamstow for the purpose of ringing a peal of Grandsire Triples. As however the bells were found to go very heavily, this had to be abandoned, but a most pleasant day was spent in ringing touches of Grandsire and Stedman, with the assistance of some gentlemen from Hertford; the best touch being a 574 Grandsire Triples. Dinner and tea were served at the "Oriental," and a few hours passed in a very enjoyable manner by the help of the handbells and the vocal powers of the company. The visitors were Messrs. P. Coard, W. B. Manning, H. Reeves, W. D. Smith, J. Balaam, J. Davidson, E. F. Strange, and T. H. Scarlett, who take this opportunity of thanking the Vicar and ringers of Ware for the kind reception given by them. The tenor of the peal (which has lately been rehung), is by T. Mears, about 23 cwt.

DEDICATION AND OPENING OF ST. JOHN'S BELLS, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.

The above peal, which has been increased from six to eight bells, was dedicated to its sacred use at 8.30 on Easter Sunday morning, when the Vicar (Rev. W. E. Houldley), held a short service in the belfry, according to the form prescribed in *Tryte's Change-ringers' Guide*. The first service for which the bells were rung was for early communion at 9 o'clock. For morning service, two 168s of Grandsire Triples were rung by the following: G. Campbell, 1; G. J. Clarkson (conductor), 2; W. Egglestone, 3; C. L. Routledge, 4; W. G. Routledge, 5; F. Lees, 6; W. Story, 7; G. Herdman, 8.

On Easter Monday the bells were open to the members of the Durham and Newcastle Diocesan Association, and the following was rung:—504 of Grandsire Triples. C. L. Routledge, 1; R. Smith (conductor), 2; — Rossiter, 3; F. Lees, 4; — West, 5; — Ross, 6; W. Story, 7; S. Nott, 8. 504 Grandsire Triples:—C. L. Routledge, W. Reed (conductor), 2; W. Egglestone, 3; F. Lees, 4; W. G. Routledge, 5; S. Power, 6; W. Story, 7; W. Bowes, 8. Also a touch of Kent Treble Bob Major and a touch of Stedman Triples were attempted, but neither of them were brought round. In the evening a special service was held, and a sermon preached by the Vicar of Newcastle (Rev. Canon Lloyd), who traced the history and use of bells from the earliest times, and urged upon the ringers, while pursuing the practice of scientific change-ringing, yet to do all to the glory of God. After service a course of Stedman Triples was rung by the following:—F. Lees, 1; R. Smith, 2; C. L. Routledge, 3; S. Power, 4; W. G. Routledge, 5; — Ross, 6; W. Story, 7; W. Reed, 8. Tenor 12½ cwt.

The completion of this peal is almost entirely due to the exertions of Mr. Francis Lees, the indefatigable conductor of the Guild (to whom the Guild owes all its proficiency in change-ringing), who has devoted all his spare time to this object for the last two months, and he is to be congratulated upon the successful result of his labours.

THE ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

We have to chronicle a most successful District Meeting of this Association at Bury St. Edmunds, on Easter-Monday. The Bedfordshire Association were unfortunately prevented from attending, by a previous engagement in their own Archdeaconry. Ringers came from Norwich, Cambridge, Saffron Walden, Harleston, Ely, Sudbury, Cavendish, Melford, Lavenham, and other places. Three of the ring of ten in the Norman tower of St. James's have been rehung by Messrs. Day and Son.

A bright and hearty service at St. James's church, with a short sermon by the Hon. Sec. (the Rev. K. H. Smith), was followed by a repast at "The Golden Fleece," presided over by Mr. Churchwarden Hunter. There was some good ringing in the course of the day on the bells of St. James's and St. Mary's. The thanks of the Association are due to the Vicar (Rev. Canon Harrison), the Churchwardens, and Messrs. Osborne and Farrants for their arrangements; and also to the good people of Bury for the hearty welcome given to the visitors. Gervas Holmes, Esq., M.A., and Captain Moore, also attended, and at the business meeting gave the results of their valuable experience as members of the Norwich Diocesan Association.

GEDNEY HILL, LINCOLNSHIRE.

On Easter-Monday, the SS. Mary and Nicolas company, Spalding, received a kind invitation from Mr. J. Dixon, Churchwarden of Holy Trinity, at this place, to ring at that church. Arriving there about 3.0 p.m., they at once repaired to the tower, and rang several 6-scores of Grandsire and Bob Doubles. At 4.30 they adjourned to the house of Mr. Dixon, where they partook of a most sumptuous repast. After several touches on the handbells the steeple was again visited, and ringing was kept up till 8.30. The company were then invited to sup with the local ringers at the house of Mr. J. Allen, that gentleman presiding at the festive board, H. Bates, Esq., being in the vice-chair. After several touches had been rung on the handbells, the visitors left for home, much gratified with the reception they had met with.

It is a great many years since any half-pull ringing was performed here previous to last Monday. The worthy Vicar and inhabitants quite appreciated the ringing of the visitors, and the rev. gentleman gave them a very pressing invitation to pay him another visit at their earliest convenience. The ringers were: J. S. Wright, R. Mackman, G. L. Richardson, E. Brown, J. Brown, G. Skeef.

In connection with the testimonial recently presented to Mr. Wright of Spalding, that gentleman says: "I desire publicly to thank the Vicar and ringers of the parish church for the tribute presented to me on Wednesday, April 2nd, for my services; and to assure them that after forty years' practice I have lost none of my love for bell-ringing, and I shall be happy at all times, health permitting, to do my best, either for the ringers, or to promote the love of bell-ringing."

SAWBRIDGEWORTH, HERTS.

The usual annual Easter meeting of ringers and their friends took place at Sawbridgeworth, on Easter Monday, but the ringers from various parishes did not put in an appearance as on former occasions, Saffron-Walden, Bishops-Stortford, and Stanstead, were among those; that were not represented, which is very unusual; Messrs. Cleverley, Tarling, Thurgood, Dymock, Alps, Barker, Colverd, and Pallet were from Waltham; Rev. Mr. Powell and four ringers from Matching; the latter are probationers under the tuition of Mr. W. Tarling of Sawbridgeworth; several of the local company were also present. A quarter-peal of Stedman Triples (the first in this method) was rung upon the bells of the parish church, in 47 mins. W. Dymock, 1; J. Barker, 2; G. Rochester, 3; G. Thurgood, 4; D. Tarling, 5; P. Cleverley, 6; W. A. Alps, 7; T. Colverd, 8. During the day touches amounting to over 3,000 changes were rung in the following methods: Grandsire, Stedman, and Treble Bob. At 12.30, a special service was held, when an appropriate sermon was preached by the Vicar; the Rev. Mr. Powell also officiating. The party, numbering twenty-four, all told, dined at usual at Mr. G. Rochester's, the Vicar presiding, supported by the Rev. Mr. Powell, and Mr. Camp; Mr. Rochester, the worthy host, acting as vice. After dinner, the chairman called attention to the fact that there were two or three fresh faces among them that day, which he was pleased to see; but he also noticed that several who they were in the habit of seeing annually were absent; among them being H. Rivers, Esq., their Hon. Sec. and Treasurer, who had gone to a meeting of ringers at Hunsdon, there to open a peal of 8; but when he returned he would, no doubt, relate to them the full particulars as to what had been done there in the cause of bell ringers and ringing. Their worthy host expected to see a greater number of his ringing friends than had present arrived, which was accounted for by the very abundant table he had placed before them. He could not account for the absence of several familiar faces, unless it was that those gentlemen had gone to meetings which were being held in other parishes; that was a sign that ringing was becoming more and more popular, and they should be thankful when they hear so many interesting themselves in such a good work. He then paid a high tribute to Mr. Rochester, shewing the great good he had done for ringers and ringing generally; and in conclusion proposed the health of Mr. and Mrs. Rochester, which was appropriately responded to by Mr. Rochester. The chairman then gave as a toast "The Visitors," and the Rev. Mr. Powell, in reply, spoke in very eulogistic terms of the way in which the visitors had been entertained by their worthy host. The ringing throughout the day was conducted by W. A. Alps. A great deal of handbell ringing was also indulged in.

HEPTONSTALL, YORKSHIRE.

The following is the work done by the local company at St. Thomas's church, for the three months ending March. January 1st—360 of Oxford, 360 of New London, 360 of Violet, 360 of College Single, 444 of Bob Minor. January 6th—720 of College, 720 of Oxford. January 13th—a 360 and 360 of Yorkshire Court. January 16th—a 720 of Yorkshire Court, 360 of Bob Minor. January 20—540 of Yorkshire Court, 72, 60 and 720 of Bob Minor. January 23rd, 720 of Bob Minor. January 27th, 720 of College Single, 720 of Oxford. January 30th—360 of Bob Minor, 720 of Violet. February 3rd—720 of New London, 720 of Violet. February 6th—720 of Yorkshire Court, 480 of Bob Minor. February 10th—720 of Yorkshire Court, 720 of Bob Minor. February 13th—720 of Bob Minor. February 17th—720 of College Single, 636 of Bob Minor. February 20—360 of Kent, 180 of College Single. February 24th—720 of Oxford, 120 of Violet. March 2nd—180 of Yorkshire Court, 540 of Bob Minor. March 5th—720 of Kent, 180 of College Single. March 9th—360 of Yorkshire Court, 720 of Oxford. March 12th—360 of College Single. March 16th—180 of College Single, 720 of New London. March 19th—720 of Bob Minor, 720 of College Single. March 23rd—360 of Oxford, 360 of New London, 480 of Violet, 60 of Yorkshire Court. March 30th—720 and 60 of Yorkshire Court, 60 College Single. The ringers were: J. Robertshaw, 1; A. Burn, 2; J. Armstrong, 3; J. Hartley, 4; J. Nowell, 5; W. Robertshaw, 6. Tenor about 12' cwt. J. NOWELL, Hon. Sec.

THE STOCKPORT SOCIETY.

The following are the performances of the above Society for the year 1883. 180 changes of Stedman Minor, 1026 changes of Grandsire Minor, 120 of Grandsire Doubles, 540 changes of Plain Bob Minor, 21,388 changes of Grandsire Triples, 36,982 changes of Stedman Triples, 672 changes of Grandsire Major, making a total of 60,938 changes. The above includes a date touch of Grandsire Triples, and a date touch and two quarter-peals of Stedman Triples.

THUMB-NAIL SKETCHES.—XI.

WHEN entering a belfry on a practice-night, one generally finds a somewhat mixed company; mixed both as to social position and as to ringing accomplishments. The majority perhaps consist of working men, with a sprinkling of somewhat better dressed individuals, and perhaps the curate of the parish. It is a very noticeable fact, that as a general rule, the higher the position of the ringer, the worse are his attainments. Almost every society contains at least one young fellow, better educated than the rest of the company, who has taken up the science with enormous enthusiasm. When he first begins, no work is too hard for him, no difficulty so great that he is not eager to face it. He will attend more practices than can be arranged; and, if he could, would be only too delighted to ring all the bells himself, so strong is his ardour. Soon he learns to pull a bell decently, and begins to devote his attention to change-ringing. He also devotes his attention to change-ringers; being confident that the safest and most politic way of securing his object lies in making as many friends as possible. Being flush of money, he does not hesitate to pay for unlimited drinks, and between them takes in an unlimited quantity of advice, good or bad. So he thinks he is in a fair way of becoming a ringer.

What a difference is seen, however, when he comes into the society of men who really are masters of their art. His ignorance is only equalled by his confidence, and the calm audacity with which he discourses on the most intricate methods. When he takes hold of a rope he looks around with an assurance that ought to carry him through everything—but it does'nt. If he gets to the end of the touch at all, it is only by dint of a fearful amount of coaching on the part of the others. He perhaps goes away disgusted, begins to lose interest, and finally gives the thing up altogether.

Now all this is the result of want of a little common sense. If young fellows would consider, they would see that ringers have a kind of aristocracy of their own; one whose qualification is merit only. It matters nothing to a Stedman ringer whether the pupil who comes to him for information is a professor of Hebrew or a bricklayer. Both are infinitely inferior to himself in ringing ability; that is all that concerns him. Some conductors have a plan, and a very good plan too, of impressing this fact on all young hands before teaching them anything. A young man must understand that in ringing no amount of wealth or education will prevent his being sharply corrected if in the wrong. It is nothing else but the want of this understanding which causes dozens of persons to give up, who if they persevered, would probably become useful members if not ornaments of their Society.

THE SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.

With reference to the notice given of an attempt, by ten members of this society, to ring a peal of Stedman Caters, containing the 120 course-ends, at All Saints, Fulham, on Easter Monday, the Hon. Sec. of the society informs us that after ringing 6 hrs. 33 mins., "Stand" was called in consequence of a change-course. The company were: Messrs. J. Nelms (conductor), C. and H. Hopkins, H. Dains, Swain, Newson, Doran, Gardom, Baron, and Mansfield. The peal is one of Mr. John Cox's masterly productions. Our friend Mr. Dains has sent the figures of this composition, but the great quantity of peals and Easter meetings this number contains compels us to hold it over for a time. The first opportunity it shall be published, as also the productions of other composers sent for that purpose.

LAVERSTOCK, WILTSHIRE.—At the parish church, during Holy Week, at the 11 a.m. service, the Epistle and Gospel for each day, describing the Passion, Betrayal, and Crucifixion of our Lord, according to the four Evangelists, were read in the place of the lessons by a change-ringer whose name often appears in *The Bell News*, and who is a frequent contributor thereto; he being a layman, and not in holy orders.

"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.

Everything for insertion in this Journal to be addressed "The Editor of THE BELL NEWS, Walthamstow, London." Letters forwarded for publication, and performances under 5000 changes must reach us not later than Wednesday morning; and the insertion of any communication coming later than the first Postal delivery on Thursday morning cannot be guaranteed in that week's number. When it is found impossible from want of space to insert all touches forwarded, the earlier ones will have the preference.

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

The Bell News & Ringers' Record.

SATURDAY, APRIL 19, 1884.

The Metropolis.

BATTERSEA, SURREY.—THE ST. MARY'S SOCIETY.

On Easter Tuesday, April 15, 1884, in Two Hours and Fifty-six Minutes,

AT ST. MARY'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S TEN-PART.

W. AMBROSE Treble.	C. E. MALIM 5.
J. R. VINCENT, ESQ.* .. 2.	C. T. HOPKINS 6.
W. BARON 3.	C. W. LUDWIG 7.
A. G. THOMAS 4.	E. E. ROBINS Tenor.

Conducted by W. BARON.

The above was rung in honour of the Election of Wardens. * First peal.

The Provinces.

THE HOLT SOCIETY.—ASTON-JUXTA-BIRMINGHAM.

Muffled Peal.

On Saturday, April 5, 1884, in Three Hours and Twenty-four Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF SS. PETER AND PAUL,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS, 5003 CHANGES;

Tenor 24 cwt.

H. BASTABLE Treble.	W. KENT 6.
W. CARTWRIGHT 2.	J. PLANT 7.
T. G. HEMING 3.	T. REYNOLDS 8.
A. JONES 4.	A. THOMAS 9.
W. ANSELL 5.	J. BUFFERY Tenor.

Composed by HENRY JOHNSON, SEN., and conducted by W. KENT.

The above was rung with the bells deeply muffled as a tribute of respect to the late Duke of Albany.

The above is in the inverted Tittum position, with the 6th twenty-four times wrong and right.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—OSSETT.

On Saturday, April 12, 1884, in Three Hours and Fifteen Minutes,

AT HOLY TRINITY CHURCH,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 26½ cwt.

FRED SCHOFIELD* Treble.	JOSEPH CHAPPEL 5.
GEO. CRAWSHAW 2.	WILLOUGHBY DIXON 6.
ARTHUR SPURR 3.	G. MARSDEN 7.
WM. SCHOFIELD* 4.	DAVID STEPHENSON Tenor.

Composed by WILLIAM SOTTANSTALL, and conducted by GEO. CRAWSHAW.

* First peal. Also Stephenson's first peal on tenor.

OLDHAM, LANCASHIRE.

On Sunday, April 13, 1884, in Three Hours and Five Minutes,

AT ST. MARK'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE MAJOR, 5200 CHANGES;

Tenor 8½ cwt.

C. DRONSFIELD Treble.	J. RILEY 5.
F. CROSLAND 2.	J. PRIESTLEY 6.
G. DUNKERLEY 3.	A. CLEGG 7.
W. WARD 4.	G. H. BEEVER Tenor.

Composed and conducted by G. H. BEEVER.

RICKMANSWORTH, HERTS.

THE ST. JAMES'S SOCIETY, LONDON.

On Monday, April 14, 1884, in Three Hours and Nine Minutes,

AT ST. MARY'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

REEVES'S VARIATION. Tenor 23½ cwt. in Eb.

WILLIAM H. MANNING* .. Treble.	WILLIAM H. FUSSELL .. 5.
RICHARD FRENCH 2.	JOSEPH BARRY 6.
JOSEPH J. PARKER 3.	GEORGE R. BANKS 7.
ALFRED C. FUSSELL 4.	WILLIAM H. GEORGE .. Tenor.

Conducted by RICHARD FRENCH.

This is the first peal on the bells since 1819. Messrs. George and Manning hail from Pinner, Messrs. French, Banks and Barry from London, Fussell Brothers from Slough, Parker from Farnham Royal.

Mr. Jones (who has been forty-six years parish clerk at Rickmansworth), has kindly promised a tablet for the above.

* First peal.

ROCHDALE, LANCASHIRE.

On Easter Sunday, April 13, 1884, in Three Hours,

AT ST. ALBAN'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

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

THOS. ADSHEAD Treble.	W. ADSHEAD 5.
JAS. TEMPTST* 2.	JNO. HARRISON 6.
J. W. HEALEY 3.	W. HOWARTH 7.
JAS. ADSHEAD 4.	W. BUTTERWORTH Tenor.

Conducted by W. HOWARTH.

Jno. Harrison hails from Heywood, and is a member of the Lancashire Association; the rest belong to the Rochdale and District Association. * First peal.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS, AND THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—SHEFFIELD.

On Monday, April 14, 1884, in Three Hours and Twenty-three Minutes,

AT ST. MARIE'S CHURCH, NORFOLK ROW.

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5184 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION.

THOMAS DIXON Treble.	HERBERT MADIN 5.
JOSEPH MULLIGAN 2.	JOHN W. ROWBOTHAM .. 6.
WALTER WORTHINGTON .. 3.	DAVID BRIERLEY 7.
CHAS. HY. HATTERSLEY .. 4.	ARTHUR BRIERLEY Tenor.

Composed by H. W. HALEY, and conducted by THOMAS DIXON.

Messrs. Worthington and Madin hail from Staveley; and Rowbotham from London.

IPSWICH, NORFOLK.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS AND THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, April 14, 1884, in Four Hours and Fifteen Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY-LE-TOWER,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAXIMUS, 5376 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 32 cwt. in C♯.

CHARLES MEE* Treble.	CHARLES SAUL 7.
ROBERT H. BRUNDLE 2.	WILLIAM L. CATCHPOLE .. 8.
EDGAR PEMBERTON 3.	ROBERT HAWES 9.
ISAAC S. ALEXANDER 4.	SAMUEL TILLET 10.
WILLIAM MOTTS 5.	EDWARD REEVE 11.
JAMES MOTTS 6.	EDWIN HORREX Tenor.

Composed by H. W. HALEY, and Conducted by J. MOTTS.

* First peal, aged 19 years.

ASSOCIATION FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.

TAMWORTH, STAFFORDSHIRE.

On Easter Monday, April 14, 1884, in Three Hours and Six Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S TEN-PART.

HENRY HIPKISS Treble.	WILLIAM BEESON 5.
THOMAS MEREDITH 2.	SAMUEL REEVES 6.
WILLIAM R. SMALL 3.	FRANCIS J. COPE 7.
THOMAS HORTON 4.	GEORGE WOODS Tenor.

Conducted by SAMUEL REEVES.

G. Woods is of Tamworth, Messrs. Meredith and Cope hail from Lichfield, the rest from West Bromwich.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—WROTHAM, KENT.

On Monday, April 14, 1884, in Three Hours and Twenty-seven Minutes,

AT ST. GEORGE'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5472 CHANGES;

Tenor 21 cwt. in F.

DAVID HALL Treble.	WILLIAM J. LEONARD 5.
EDWARD BALDOCK* 2.	*ALLCHIN MOORCRAFT 6.
CALEB PAYNE 3.	ALFRED H. WOOLLEY 7.
GEORGE PAWLEY 4.	*FREDERICK G. NEWMAN .. Tenor.

Conducted by F. G. NEWMAN.

* College Youths.

THE ST. PETER'S SOCIETY.—TIVERTON, DEVON.

On Monday, April 14, 1884, in Three Hours and Twenty-five Minutes,

AT ST. PETER'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S TEN-PART. Tenor 28 cwt.

R. GRATER, JUN. Treble.	L. MACKENZIE 5.
E. MUNDAY 2.	J. GRATER, JUN. 6.
J. BABBAGE 3.	J. GRATER, SEN. 7.
T. WOODWARD 4.	W. HARVEY Tenor.

Conducted by E. MUNDAY.

This is the first peal ever rung by Tivertonians, also the first by any of the above.

Reported by Miss E. C. Sharland, Rose Bank, Tiverton, who, whilst listening to the peal at some distance from the church, picked off each lead-end as it occurred, and can vouch for the accuracy of the performance.

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE, LANCASHIRE.

On Monday, April 14, 1884, in Three Hours and Ten Minutes,

AT ST. PETER'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION, Tenor 20 cwt. in E.

WILLIAM SMITH Treble.	JAMES WOOD, JUN. 5.
THOMAS WISE 2.	SAMUEL WOOD 6.
SAMUEL WALKER* 3.	*WILLIAM GORDON 7.
JOHN HOPWOOD 4.	JOHN THORP Tenor.

Composed and conducted by JOHN THORP.

*First peal in the method.

This peal contains the 6th the extent at home, and has never been previously performed. W. Gordon hails from Stockport.

MANCHESTER.

On Monday, April 14, 1884, in Three Hours and Twenty-five Minutes,

AT THE CATHEDRAL,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE ROYAL, 5220 CHANGES;

Tenor 25 cwt. in Eb.

THOMAS G. DOWNS* .. Treble.	JAMES THORPE 6.
JOHN E. POLLITT* 2.	GEORGE MEE 7.
SAMSON KNIGHT 3.	*ALBERT E. WREAKS 8.
SAMUEL WEST* 4.	JOHN EACHUS 9.
JOSEPH GRIMSHAW 5.	JOHN WITHERS Tenor.

Composed and conducted by ALBERT E. WREAKS.

First peal in the method by all excepting S. West and G. Mee, and is also the first peal in the method rung by Manchester men alone.

* Member of the Lancashire and Rochdale and District Associations.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—HULL.

On Monday, April 14, 1884, in Three Hours and Five Minutes,

AT HOLY TRINITY CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

PENNING'S ONE-PART. Tenor 25 cwt.

C. BENNETT Treble.	J. DIXEY 5.
W. SOUTHWICK 2.	C. JACKSON 6.
J. W. STICKNEY 3.	F. DRABBLE 7.
H. JENKINS 4.	F. MERRISON Tenor.

Conducted by C. JACKSON.

THE ALMONDBURY SOCIETY.—SADDLEWORTH.

On Monday, April 14, 1884, in Three Hours and Twenty Minutes,

AT ST. CHAD'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF VIOLET MAJOR, 5376 CHANGES;

Tenor 12 cwt.

ALLEN BOOTHROYD .. Treble.	ABRAHAM HAIGH 5.
JOHN JENKINSON 2.	WM. WOMERSLEY 6.
JOHN G. HARDY 3.	WALTER BOOTHROYD .. 7.
ALLEN WOMERSLEY 4.	WALTER LODGE Tenor.

Composed by JOHN COLLINS, and conducted by
WALTER LODGE.

This is the first peal of Violet Major on the bells, and the first in the method by all of the company.

HONITON CLYST, DEVON.

THE GUILD OF DEVONSHIRE RINGERS, AND THE
ST. SIDWELL'S SOCIETY, EXETER.

On Monday, April 14, 1884, in Two Hours and Fifty-eight Minutes,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S TEN-PART. Tenor 19 cwt. in E.

SYDNEY HERBERT .. Treble.	*GEORGE TOWNSEND 5.
FERRIS SHEPHERD 2.	EDWIN SHEPHERD 6.
FRANK SHEPHERD† 3.	ALFRED SHEPHERD 7.
HERBERT SWIFT 4.	JAMES MOSS Tenor.

Conducted by FERRIS SHEPHERD.

The four Messrs. Shepherds are brothers, Frank being only eighteen years of age.

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

Date Touches.

DINTING VALE (Derbyshire).—On Tuesday evening, April 8th, six members of the local company rang for practice a date touch of 1884 changes, in the following methods: 720 Violet, 720 New London Pleasure, and 444 of Oxford, in 1 hr. 8 mins. J. W. Booth, 1; C. Garlick, 2; J. Brindley (conductor), 3; S. Shaw, 4; J. Mellor, 5; J. E. Brierley, 6. Tenor 12½ cwt. in G.

EASTHAM (Near Birkenhead).—On Easter Sunday, April 14th, six members of the local company rang at the parish church a date touch of 1884 changes, in the following methods: 720 Grandsire Minor, nine 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles, each called differently, 60 Grandsire Minor, and 24 Bob Singles, in 1 hr. 5 mins. J. Haspray (blind, conductor), 1; C. Baxter, 2; W. Smith, 3; J. Hughes, 4; J. Woodward, 5; J. Rowland, 6. Tenor 12 cwt. in G.

Miscellaneous.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

CHESTER-LE-STREET.—On Monday, April 14th, the Stockton company broke their journey to Newcastle at this station, and rang on the bells of the parish church 720 of Double Court Bob. T. Whitfield, 1; T. Burdon, 2; H. E. T. Glover, B.A., 3; W. Stephenson, 4; T. Stephenson (conductor), 5; W. Newton, 6. Also 720 of Woodbine Treble Bob. T. Burdon, 1; G. J. Clarkson (conductor), 2; W. Stephenson, 3; H. E. T. Glover, B.A., 4; T. Stephenson, 5; W. Newton, 6. Tenor 20 cwt. Bells raised and ceased in peal.

NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.—On Monday, April 14th, at St. Stephen's church, 960 of Kent Treble Bob Major. W. Reed, 1; H. E. T. Glover, B.A., 2; E. Wallis, 3; W. Stephenson, 4; T. Burdon, 5; W. Newton, 6; T. Stephenson, 7; G. J. Clarkson (conductor), 8. Tenor 30 cwt.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

OXFORD.—On Easter Monday, April 14th, at the Cathedral church of Christ, a meeting was arranged for Mr. H. Egby, of Reading, to ring his first peal of Stedman Triples, but owing to one of the band arriving late through missing a train the peal could not be rung. Some good touches were rung nevertheless, among which were a 504 and a 756 of Stedman Triples. J. Howes, 1; C. Hounslow, 2; H. Egby, 3; S. Hounslow, 4; W. C. Baston, 5; W. Finch, 6; J. W. Washbrook (conductor), 7; W. Wakelin, 8. Also some Grandsire Triples and Bob Major, in which Mr. T. Newman, of Reading, took part.

SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.

TETTENHALL (Staffordshire).—*Muffled Peals*.—On Saturday, March 29th, six members of the local company rang at the parish church a 720 of Bob Minor, in 28 mins. W. Dyehouse (first 720), 1; B. Dalton, 2; W. Pardoe, 3; E. Nicholls, 4; J. Fowler, 5; J. Jones (conductor), 6. Also in the evening the same party started for a 720 of Bob Minor, but after ringing 540 changes the conductor missed a bob. Mr. Roberts rang the treble in place of Mr. Dyehouse. Also on Saturday, April 5th, the above society rang a 720 of Grandsire Minor in 28 mins. W. Dyehouse, 1; B. Dalton, 2; T. Roberts, 3; W. Pardoe, 4; J. Fowler, 5; J. Jones (conductor), 6. Tenor 12½ cwt. in G. The above were rung as a tribute of respect to the late prince.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

DERBY.—On Sunday, April 13th, at St. Werburgh's church, after evening service, eight members of this Association rang a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, 1260 changes, in 48 mins. F. Whiting, 1; *A. B. Ward, 2; *A. E. Thompson, 3; J. Howe, 4; R. Bosworth, 5; L. Lomas, 6; H. C. Woodward (conductor), 7; W. Tooby, 8. *First quarter peal. Tenor 17 cwt. in E.

THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

MITCHAM.—On Sunday, April 13th, six members of the above society rang at Christ Church, for Divine Service in the evening, a 720 of Grandsire Minor in 25 mins. G. Byde, 1; L. Fayers, 2; C. Byde, 3; F. Parker, 4; A. Garrett, 5; S. Frost (conductor), 6. Also a touch of Bob Minor, and a 6-score of Grandsire Doubles. Tenor 7½ cwt.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

BRADFORD (Yorks).—*Muffled Peal*.—On Sunday, April 6th, for evening service at St. John's, the St. James's (Bolton) company, rang a half-muffled date touch of Kent Treble Bob Major, 1884 changes, in 1 hr. 7 minutes. B. F. Lamb, 1; R. S. Ambler, 2; H. Raistrick, 3; B. Sugden, 4; J. Broadley, 5; B. T. Copley (conductor), 6; S. Palframan, 7; W. Barraclough, 8. Rung as a mark of respect to the memory of the late Prince.

WORCESTER DIOCESAN AND ADJOINING DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

NETHERTON.—On Easter-day, the ringers of St. Andrew's Church rang for Divine Service in the morning, a 720 of Plain Bob Minor, in 27 mins. S. Prestidge, 1; R. Round, 2; J. Townsend, 3; J. Robinson, 4; J. Prestidge, 5; J. Smith (conductor), 6. Also for Divine Service in the evening, by the same company (except Mr. R. Round), whose place was taken by Mr. F. Hotchkiss, a 720 of Grandsire Minor in 26½ mins, tenor 12½ cwt. Mr. S. Prestidge hails from West Haddon, Northamptonshire, and this was his first attempt at Plain Bob, being some years since he handled a rope. He was formerly a member of this society.

CAVENDISH (Suffolk).—On Easter Sunday, April 13th, for Divine Service, 720 of Oxford Treble Bob, in 26 mins. F. J. Thompson, 1; H. Thompson, 2; J. S. Page, 3; A. Ives, 4; G. Maxim, 5; Alex. Hurst (conductor), 6. Our correspondent adds:—"We are sorry to say that this will probably be the last 720 we shall have the pleasure of ringing with Mr. Hurst, as he is about leaving Cavendish. His place will be extremely difficult to fill, indeed, with the present state of ringing in this village, it is impossible. Mr. Hurst, from the very commencement of his ringing career, has been a most enthusiastic lover of the art, and it is solely owing to his energy and perseverance that the Cavendish society was started and reached its present state of efficiency. Mr. Hurst began to ring in January 1882, and since that time has rung something like 150 complete 720s in eleven different methods, most of which he has conducted. He has also rung several peals of Treble Bob Major, and has the honour of conducting the first 5000 rung in the Ely Diocesan Association. Mr. Hurst will be missed in more ways than ringing: he is master of the Cavendish Star Brass Band; best all-round cricketer in Cavendish; and a first-rate football player, so it is easy to see his loss will be keenly felt, and we feel sure his brother-ringers will wish him (as heartily as his own company does) God-speed."

DERBY.—On Easter Monday, April 14th, the Eckington company of ringers paid a visit to this place, and rang at St. Werburgh's church, a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob and 240 of Violet. Tenor 17 cwt. Also at St. Alkmund's, a 360 of Violet. Tenor 17 cwt. Also at St. Andrew's, a 360 of Violet, and 240 of Oxford Treble Bob. Tenor 20 cwt. 2 qrs. 14 lbs. G. Smith, 1; W. Price, 2; E. James, 3; J. Shaw, 4; G. Marsden (conductor), 5; T. Lunn, 6.

GREAT MARLOW (Bucks).—On Easter Sunday, April 13th, for service at the parish church, a 120 of Grandsire Doubles, on the back six, in 6 mins. Dr. J. D. Dickson, 1; R. F. Campbell, 2; A. H. Cocks, 3; H. Collins, 4; H. A. Death, 5; C. H. Yates, 6; V. Awdry (conductor), 7; A. W. Truss, 8. This is the first time that a complete 6-score of Doubles has been accomplished by a band composed entirely of Marlow men. The ringers are all volunteers, and it will be remembered that the new band rang for the first time on Whit-Sunday, May 13th, 1883.

HAVERSTOCK HILL (Middlesex).—On Wednesday, March 31st, a 720 of Plain Bob, with thirty-two bobs and two singles, in 25 mins. J. Hannington (conductor), 1; T. Gleed, 2; T. Titchener, 3; J. Leach, 4; J. Nixon, 5; J. Barrett, 6. *Muffled Peal*.—On Sunday, April 6th, for Divine Service a 720 of Plain Bob, with four bobs and fourteen singles, in 25 mins., with the bells half-muffled as a mark of respect to the late Prince Leopold. G. Thurlow, 1; T. Gleed, 2; T. Titchener, 3; W. H. Fussell, 4; J. Hannington, 5; A. Jacob, 6. And after service, a 720 of Double Oxford Bob Minor, in 25 mins. E. Chapman, 1; Wingfield Meadows, 2; J. Hannington, 3; W. H. Fussell (first 720 in the method), 4; A. Jacob, 5; G. Newson (conductor), 6. Tenor 12½ cwt.

MATHERNE, NEAR CHEPSTOW (Monmouth).—On Easter Sunday the local company from St. Mary's, Tidenham, Gloucestershire, paid a visit to this place, and rang at St. Theudric's church, several 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles. J. Jones, 1; T. Cecil, 2; J. Williams, 3; T. Jones, 4; H. Price, 5; H. Smith, 6. Assisted by James Morley, who hails from Chepstow, and Thomas Clutterbuck, of Tidenham. Tenor 15 cwt. in G. This is the first half-pull ringing on these bells since they were rehung in 1883. The bells were cast at Chepstow in 1765, by Wm. Evans. The church bears the date of 600.

MELBOURNE (Derby).—*Muffled Peals*.—On Saturday, April 5th, by the request of the Vicar, six members of the local company rang six 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles, each called differently, with the bells half muffled, as a tribute of respect to the late Duke of Albany. H. Hulse, 1; J. Warren, 2; F. Calow, 3; Geo. C. Tunnichiff, 4; Thos. Hollingsworth (conductor), 5; J. Bartram, 6. Also on Sunday, April 6th, for Divine Service in the evening, 660 of Grandsire Doubles, with the bells half-muffled. H. Hulse, 1; J. Warren, 2; F. Calow, 3; G. C. Tunnichiff, 4; Thos. Hollingsworth (conductor), 5; J. Bartram, 6. Tenor 16 cwt. in F.

PADDINGTON (Middlesex).—*Muffled Peal*.—On Sunday morning, April 6th, at the church of St. Michael and All Angels, a 700 of Grandsire Triples, with the bells half-muffled. W. Smith, 1; G. Thurlow, 2; W. Collings, 3; J. Hannington (conductor), 4; H. Driver, 5; N. Alderman, 6; J. James, 7; W. Williams, 8. Tenor 19 cwt.

PONTEFRAC (Yorkshire).—On Thursday, March 20th, at All Saints' church, the local company rang their first 720 of Oxford Treble Bob Minor. W. Wilcock, 1; J. Brook, 2; W. Pearson, 3; J. Pollard, 4; R. Brook, 5; J. Carter, 6. Also on Thursday, March 27th, another 720 in the same method. W. Wilcock, 1; J. Brook, 2; J. P. Heckingbottom, 3; J. Pollard, 4; R. Brook, 5; W. Pearson, 6. Also on Thursday, April 3rd, a 504 in the same method. W. Pearson, 4; and J. Pollard, 3; the rest standing as above. Also on Sunday, March 6th, two 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles, each called differently. W. Wilcock, 1; J. Brook, 2; J. P. Heckingbottom, 3; J. Pollard, 4; R. Brook, 5; W. Pearson, 6. And in the evening a 720 of Grandsire Minor, with twenty bobs and forty singles. W. Wilcock, 1; J. Brook, 2; J. P. Heckingbottom, 3; J. Pollard, 4; R. Brooke, 5; W. Pearson, 6. All conducted by W. Pearson. *Muffled Peals*.—On Saturday, March 29th, a 720 of Grandsire Minor, and on Saturday, April 5th, another 720 in the same method was rung, with the bells muffled, as a tribute of respect to the memory of the late Prince Leopold, who was expected shortly to pay a visit to Pontefract, to open the Castle grounds. W. Wilcock, 1; J. Brook, 2; J. P. Heckingbottom, 3; J. Pollard, 4; W. Pearson (conductor), 5; J. Carter, 6.

ROSS (Herefordshire).—*Muffled Peal*.—On Saturday, April 5th a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples was rung with the bells muffled as a token of respect to the late Duke of Albany. H. Bird, 1; E. Nicholls, 2; J. Atkins, 3; G. Price, 4; E. Barnett, 5; A. Bird, 6; C. Young (conductor), 7; R. Clark, 8.

ST. ALBAN'S (Herts).—On Easter Sunday, April 13th, the following members of the St. Alban's Cathedral Society, rang for morning

service, several 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles, with 6-7-8 behind. R. Fowler, 1; R. T. Kent, 2; E. Hulks, 3; F. Freeman, 4; H. L. Waddington, 5; T. Norman, 6; T. Grant, 7; N. N. Hills (conductor), 8. Also for evening service several 6-scores. T. Norman, 1; R. T. Kent, 2; G. W. Cartmel, 3; F. Freeman, 4; N. N. Hills (conductor), 5; E. Hulks, 6. T. Grant, 7; H. L. Waddington, 8.

SUDBURY (Suffolk).—Muffled Peal.—On Saturday, April 5th, the local company rang at St. Peter's church, touches of Bob Major and Grandsire Triples, as a token of respect for the late Duke of Albany, commencing at 11.30, at intervals up till 3 o'clock. In the evening, a touch of Grandsire Triples, consisting of 1008 changes, was rung by the following. F. Tolliday, 1; M. Silvester, 2; A. Scott (conductor), 3; J. Campin, 4; W. Griggs, 5; H. Harper, 6; W. Cross, 7; W. Howell, 8. Tenor 22 cwt. in Eb.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—ECCLES BRANCH.

On Easter-Monday, the Eccles parish church company, accompanied by the St. Mark's (Worsley) and the St. Peter's (Swinton) societies, had their annual pic-nic. In the morning a start was made, and the first place visited was the pretty little town of Hyde, situate about seven miles from Manchester. Here they were joined by the local company, who had kindly made arrangements for their friends to have the pleasure of a pull with them. Proceeding to St. George's church, which has recently undergone restoration, the visitors, after an interesting inspection of the interior, adjourned to the belfry, where they found everything in capital order, the "go" of the bells being perfect. An agreeable touch was here enjoyed, the bells being rang to the music of "Sweet Treble Bob," together with a touch of Grandsire Triples. About twelve o'clock, by means of a wagonette, the picnickers departed for Mottram-in-Longdendale, where, our readers will remember, the longest length in Treble Bob Major was rung "like clockwork." Mottram parish church is an ancient edifice, standing upon a hill, and thus commands extensive views of the surrounding country. By kind permission of the Vicar, touches of Bob Major and Grandsire Triples were rung, and at the invitation of one of the local men, a few touches on handbells were gone through. A move was then made for Stalybridge, which was reached about four of the clock. A ramble round the picturesque neighbourhood preceded a visit to Holy Trinity church, Castle Hill, where was rung a 500 of Grandsire Triples and a 300 of Bob Major. These bells reflect great credit on their founder. The shades of evening now beginning to fall, the visitors turned their steps towards Ashton-under-Lyne, where ringing was again indulged in, touches of Treble Bob Major and Grandsire Triples bringing a good day's ringing to a close. After a cordial leave-taking, the ringers separated, with a hope expressed by their Ashton friends that they would visit them on some future occasion; and they then returned home, having spent a most enjoyable day indeed. They desire to return thanks for the kind and cordial manner in which they were met by the ringers at the several places.

HONITON CLYST, DEVON.—OPENING OF NEW BELLS.

On Easter Sunday morning, at 6 a.m., the bells of the parish church were formally opened by the Honiton Clynst ringers (assisted by Mr. Pratt of St. George's, Clynst. A hand from St. Thomas's (Exeter), under the leadership of Mr. James Moss, rang some creditable touches before and after evening service. On Easter Monday, at the invitation of the churchwardens, Mr. Ferris Shepherd's favourite party, including Mr. Busso Frog, from St. Sidwell's, Exeter, visited the tower to test the working of the bells for change-ringing purposes. Having found everything to the entire satisfaction of every one concerned, a start was made for a peal of Grandsire Triples, but after ringing about 1000 changes, it came to grief owing to a wrong call. The party then decided to adjourn for a few minutes before again starting for the peal. The Alphington band seemed to have a kind of sway here for the time being, but when they were completely tired of ringing, they allowed the St. Sidwell's men to again re-enter the belfry. That band again started for a peal, which was successfully accomplished, the record of which will be found in another column, the bells being brought round in splendid style, much to the dismay of the Alphington round ringers, who at once packed up and left. It should also be stated that these Alphington round ringers have resolved to allow change-ringers to visit their belfry once a year only. The inhabitants and ringers desire to take this opportunity of thanking the energetic churchwarden, Mr. Broughton, for the interest he has taken in these bells, the work being carried out under his supervision. Mrs. Broughton is also taking a great interest in the work, she having subscribed £25 and her husband £25. The new bells have been supplied by Messrs. Taylor and Co., of Loughborough, who have given the greatest satisfaction to change and round ringers alike. All ringing for the day being over, a most enjoyable evening was spent by the St. Sidwell's ringers, who returned home much pleased by their day's outing.

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 TRIPLES.

SIR,—In Mr. Snowdon's contribution to your columns last week concerning Mr. Hollis's peal of Grandsire Triples, there appears the following sentence, in reference to a communication of mine to your issue of July 29th, 1882: "Although certain definite statements were then made, I would draw the attention of my readers to the futility of placing any confidence in such statements unless the mode of reasoning by which they are obtained is also demonstrated." This calls for remark. Surely in writing it Mr. Snowdon for the moment lost sight of his usual wise and charitable spirit. He gives utterance to what amounts to a sweeping condemnation upon somewhat inadequate grounds, and—I have tried hard not to think so, but without success, and if I am wrong I hope he will forgive me—seems to imply that I am in the habit of making statements at random. I am thankful to be able to say that I know Mr. Snowdon personally, far too well to suppose that he really meant this, but I think his words not only admit of such an interpretation, but almost necessarily include it.

Leaving this, however, alone, his statement is illogical. For it presupposes that the seeming falsity of the result involves the breakdown of the whole course of reasoning. And lastly, it seems to hint that the simple fact of my not having given the demonstration, is equivalent to a refusal to give it. The case is quite otherwise. I have always intended to give it, and still so intend. But for reasons which I did not feel called upon to mention, I have withheld it, and must ask the kind forbearance of the Exercise for some little time longer in the matter—and when it does appear, I fear I must ask you, Sir, for more than one page of "THE BELL NEWS."

Of course Mr. Snowdon is right to a certain extent. There is undoubtedly a leakage somewhere, and I beg to tender my hearty apologies to the Exercise for the error. But this last does not lie where I take it Mr. Snowdon supposes. It was not in the mode of reasoning in which the investigations were conducted, nor yet in the premises on which they are founded. The letter of July 29th, 1882, was written in great haste, and the only mistake occurs in the following phrase, quoted by Mr. Snowdon: "the conditions necessary *a priori* for the production of such a peal in five parts." Here I should have been careful to state the particular condition upon which I had worked, viz.: that in the production of the whole peal in five parts, one lead of the course 2 3 5 4 7 6 must be introduced in each part. In what I did say, I left it to be inferred that I had fulfilled all the conditions for the production of the whole peal—which a moment's thought will shew to be a manifest absurdity. As I remarked to Mr. Hollis—in answer to a most pleasant and interesting private correspondence with him on the subject—"if all the conditions are fulfilled, the thing is done." Mr. Hollis's peal does not fulfil the condition on which my investigations were conducted, and I still distinctly and emphatically challenge any member of the Exercise to produce five parts of more than sixty-nine leads each with a lead of the course 2 3 5 4 7 6 in each part.

Though all the labour of the five-part peals with ten ordinary singles was mine, I gladly give the honour of their authorship to the talented composer of Saffron Walden. Mr. Snowdon has most fully pointed out the many great excellences of Mr. Hollis's peal. My six 10-part peals, which are altogether my own, I leave to the appreciation of the Exercise.

CHARLES D. P. DAVIES.

SIR,—Mr. Snowdon's article on Grandsire Triples is very interesting, and especially to me, as I gather from it that I have been fruitlessly going over some of the ground which Mr. Davies had previously traversed. At the end of last year I was tackling five-part peals, and I also came to the conclusion that 4830 changes was the greatest number obtainable in five-part touches with common bobs only. Now the reason I have no doubt was the following:—I have always endeavoured to introduce separately, one in each part, the five part-ends of the second half of Holt's 10-part peal, those five-leads in fact, which are introduced in a lump at the end of Mr. Hollis's peal. It is obvious that in any regular five-part peals these leads must turn up separately at corresponding positions in each part. I have no doubt that Mr. Davies would still maintain, as I think I may also do, that if these leads are introduced one in each part, then 4830 changes is the greatest number obtainable in a regular five-part touch, using only common bobs. I am afraid that Mr. Snowdon's argument, as to the impossibility of obtaining a peal of Grandsire Triples, with common bobs only, is a very strong one indeed, looking at the length of time during which attempts have been continued, and the number of competent men who have been engaged in those attempts.

ARTHUR B. CARPENTER.

TOUCHES OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR.

Collected and arranged by

THE REV. H. EARLE BULWER.

(Continued from p. 22.)

The 4th and 6th each half the extent right at 3 course ends. In the reverse the 6th is half the extent home at 4 course ends.

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

SERIES I.

TOUCHES OF LESS THAN 1000 CHANGES.

832.

Time 31 mins.

The 6th home throughout.

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

or this variation,

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

The 6th two course-ends home:

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

2 3 4 5 6 M B W H

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

The 6th home in the last course only:

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

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

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

2 3 4 5 6 M B W H

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

SERIES II.

TOUCHES OF MORE THAN 1000 CHANGES.

1184.

Time 44 minutes.

Of the touches under this number the first only has the 6th home throughout, the second has the 6's and 5's full, the same in the reverse, which is almost equal in point of quality to the original.

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

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

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

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

1216.

Time 45 mins.

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

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

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

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

Repeated.

Repeated.

SERIES III.

TOUCHES OF OVER 1600 CHANGES.

1760.

Time 64½ minutes.

The 6th three course-ends home.

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

The following touches present a curious instance of the alternative calling producing the same number of true changes. It will be seen that the course-ends are the same in each, the reverse has not been varied in order that this peculiarity may be preserved. Both in the originals and the reverse the 6th is two course-ends right and wrong; and in addition the 5th two course-ends in 6ths in the original, and home in the reverse.

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

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

1792.

Time 65½ minutes.

In Five courses.

The 6th three course-ends home (also the 5th). This reverse brings up the alternative calling of the first and last two courses of the original, the course-ends are therefore the same.

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

The 6th two course-ends home.

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

In six courses.

In the following touch the 6th is the extent home at five course-ends, in the reverse the 5th.

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

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

Repeated.

Repeated.

1824.

Time 66½ minutes.

In Five courses.

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

In six courses.

The 6th the extent home. The 5th the extent home.

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

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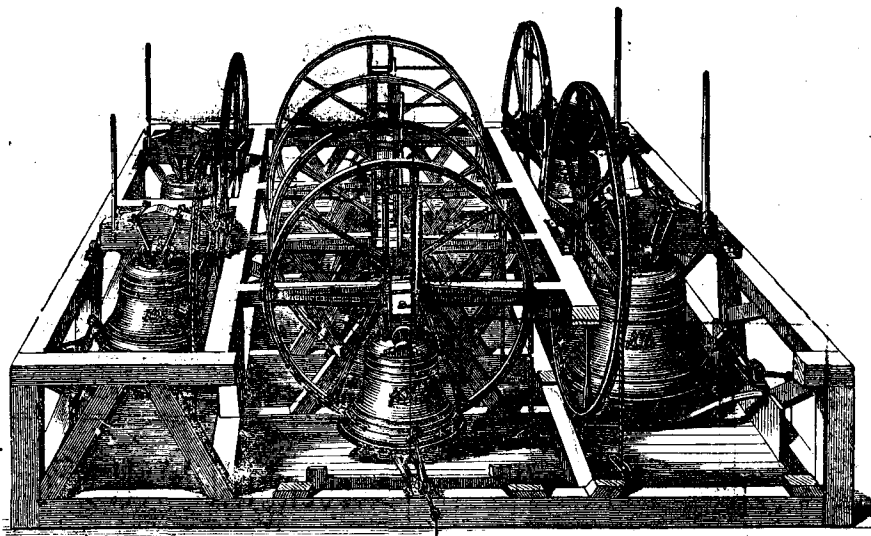
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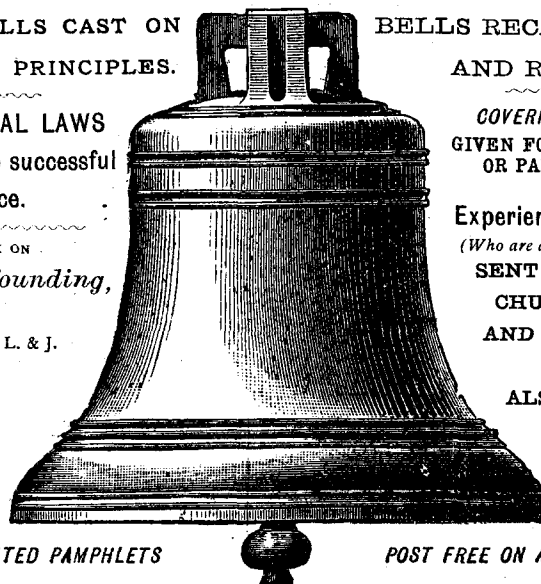
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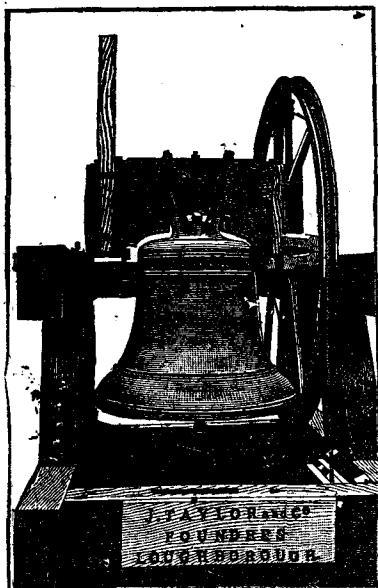
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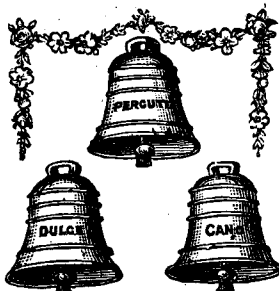
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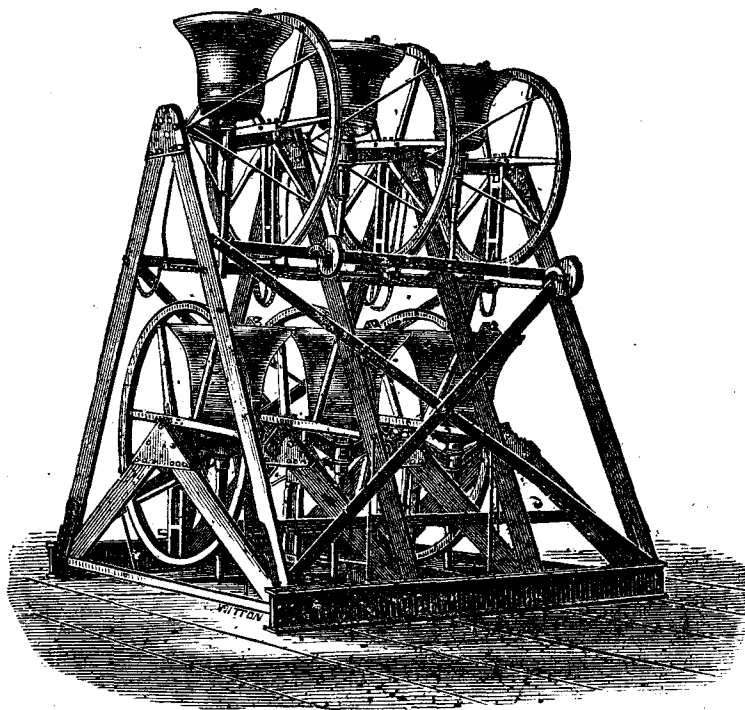
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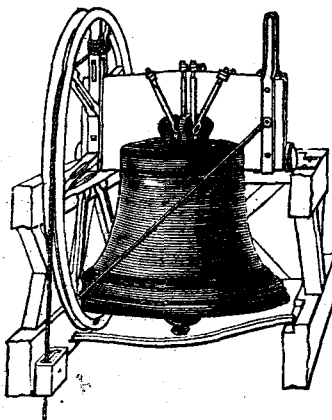
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The last chapter is devoted to a list of the names of Composers of the different peals, with various particulars, and in the cases of deceased Composers with the dates of death, age, etc.

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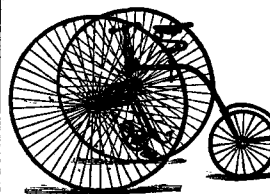
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ANNUAL MEETING OF THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

ON Easter Monday, April 14th, the second Annual Meeting of the above Association was held at Bedford, nearly all the members attending. St. Paul's bells, eight in number, tenor 28 cwt., were beautifully raised in peal at 9.0 a.m., Mr. Frossell taking the tenor single-handed. Touches of Grandsire Triples and Bob Major were rung continuously during the morning. The Committee met at the Swan Hotel at 1 p.m., to settle some business preparatory to the meeting shortly to follow. A substantial luncheon was provided, of which the members partook at 2.0 p.m. Then followed the business meeting, presided over by the Rev. R. E. R. Watts, Vicar of St. Paul's, who was supported by the Rev. C. J. E. Smith (Bromham), the Rev. J. Copner (Elstow), and the Rev. W. S. Baker (Eversholt). T. G. Elger, Esq. filled the vice-chair, and among the company were Mr. W. W. C. Baker (Eversholt), Mr. F. M. Smith and Mr. W. Biggs (Bromham), M. E. Ransom, Mr. J. Bull, Mr. J. M. Cuthbert, and Mr. T. Bull (Churchwardens of St. Paul's), Mr. Isaac Hills, Mr. Frossell, and Mr. Charles Herbert, the Hon. Secretary.

The CHAIRMAN called upon Mr. Herbert to read the Annual Report. This having been done,

The Rev. J. COPNER moved the adoption and the printing of the report, which he said was an extremely satisfactory and favourable one.

Mr. T. BULL, in seconding, said he was sure the report was very gratifying to the company present. The Report was then adopted.

The HON. TREASURER (Mr. Elger) having read over the balance-sheet, the election of officers was then proceeded with, all the retiring ones being re-elected unanimously, and with acclamation.

The Rev. J. C. MALBY (Aspley Guise) was elected an Honorary and performing member, and the following were elected performing members: Mr. W. Tysoe (Bromham), Mr. Wm. Mayes and Mr. Lewis Keep (Cardington), Mr. J. Ellis (Bromham), Mr. W. Warwick and Mr. F. Keech (Bedford). The election of Mr. Walter Chibnall, Mr. Mark Lane, and Mr. J. Carwell Cooke, who were elected at a district meeting at Luton, was confirmed.

Mr. BAKER's motion—"That the Association become affiliated to the Ely Diocesan Society," was discussed, and it was proposed that a small sub-committee of three members should be appointed to arrange as to the terms of affiliation. The Rev. C. J. E. SMITH seconded the motion for the appointment of the small committee, and the following gentlemen were nominated to take the matter into consideration: Mr. Elger, Mr. Baker, and Mr. Herbert.

Mr. BAKER proposed, and Mr. FROSSELL seconded—"That distinguished ringers outside the limits of the Archdeaconry be invited to become honorary members on the payment of a subscription of 2s. 6d." This was adopted. A vote of thanks was passed to the chairman, who suitably acknowledged it. A touch on the handbells (new ones, from Bromham) was given for the delectation of the non-performing members, when the company withdrew to attend the special service at 5.0 p.m. at St. Paul's church, where the Rev. C. J. E. Smith delivered an appropriate address. Ringing on the church bells followed, and continued during the evening, when all dispersed, having having spent a happy and pleasant day.

It is intended that the next meeting of the Association shall take place at Leighton Buzzard, the bells there having recently been put into good order by Messrs. Mears and Stainbank.

The Association is greatly indebted for much of its present success to Mr. Elger, who during the time of his Mayoralty of the borough of Bedford gave much attention to St. Paul's bells, its beautiful chimes, and the practitioners of our well-beloved craft, change-ringing, which has culminated in the very satisfactory Association whose motto is—*Floreat in Ætænum Scientia Campanologia.*

A grand philanthropic entertainment took place at the People's opera house, Stockport, on Tuesday evening, March 25th, for the benefit of John Sutcliffe, who for almost half a century has been a ringer at the Stockport parish church, but who now through paralysis is unable to move without assistance. The domestic drama, "London Pride," was performed by Mr. Osborn's celebrated company, and in the intervals between the acts, selections of handbell music were given by the Stockport and Cheadle companies, and highly appreciated by the immense audience, especially the favourite and well known pieces, "Blue Bells" with variations, "Auld Lang Syne," and the "Crocus Polka." The patronage of the Manchester, Ashton, Hyde and Cheadle ringers had been secured, and a successful issue both musically and financially was the result.

Back numbers wanted of New Series—No. 3, 64, 71, to complete before binding. Stamps will be sent to any one having the above if they will kindly forward them. I have a few good copies of back numbers which I will send to any one for original price and postage. The numbers I have are 1, 6, 10, 11, 18, 39, 45, 48, 51, &c.—W. NEWELL, Reading.

MARTOCK CHURCH, SOMERSET.

A correspondent writes:—The Ecclesiastical Commissioners intend replacing the present roof of the chancel of our grand old church this summer, and the parish, assisted by voluntary subscriptions, will make some improvements in the interior of the church, so we, the ringers, do not wish to be behind with our part of the church, and thought an appeal through your paper might induce some of our brother ringers, who have sufficient bells, to assist us. We have at present five bells, tenor 24 cwt., to the largest church in Somerset, if not in the West of England, and the ringers started a fund about five years ago, and at the present it amounts to £20, towards an extra bell, but if we can get money enough we have room and to spare for the octave. Any donation sent to the Rev. Prebendary Salmon, or myself, for the Bell Fund, will be acknowledged in your paper.—W. S. WORNER, Secretary of the All Saints' ringing society.

EDMONTON, MIDDLESEX.

On Thursday, April 17th, at All Saints', Edmonton, the marriage of Mr. Mobbs, of Northampton, to Miss Baker, of Hyde-Side Terrace, Edmonton, was celebrated. The wedded pair took their departure during an attempt at a peal of Grandsire Triples, which was unsuccessful, as after ringing 2300 changes a mistake occurred, but fortunately not before the couple had long passed out of Edmonton. During the day over 5000 changes were rung by: †J. Davidson, S. G. Bower, R. J. Bagnall, †J. Crouch, †H. A. Barnett, †W. A. Alps, (conductor), †W. Jiggins, B. Tott. The Rev. J. R. Keble, Chaplain to the Bishop of Lichfield, formerly Curate of Edmonton, who was on a visit to the scene of his former labours, took part in some of the ringing. †College Youths.

ECCLES CHURCH BELLS.

* On Sunday evening last, as the ringers belonging to Eccles parish church were raising the bells prior to Divine Service, the clapper of the 7th came out, falling on the floor with a crash, and as may be expected, startling the ringers considerably; fortunately, however, no further harm was done. Strange to say, the Churchwardens and Sidesmen (Messrs. Bailey and Butterworth, and Messrs. Berry and Ainsworth respectively), at the annual Vestry Meeting held last week, had had the rehanging of the bells under consideration, it being finally settled to have the bells re-hung, Messrs. Warner and Sons, of London, having sent in an accepted estimate for the work. Messrs. Warner will commence operations this week, and it is expected that in about a month's time the work will be completed.

MEETING AT GREAT ST. ANDREW'S, CAMBRIDGE.

ON Tuesday evening, April 22nd, a meeting of ringers took place at the above church. A touch of 672 changes of Kent Treble Bob Major was rung. J. Jackson, 1; J. Rockett, 2; G. Taylor, 3; H. E. T. Glover, 4; H. J. Elsee, 5; W. Kempton, 6; S. Hayes, 7; J. Holliday, 8. Also a 336 of Grandsire Triples. J. Jackson, 1; J. Rockett, 2; N. J. Hopkins, 3; H. E. T. Glover, 4; H. J. Elsee, 5; M. C. Potter, 6; S. Hayes, 7; J. Taylor, 8. Both were conducted by J. Jackson. Messrs. Glover, Potter and Elsee are members of the University Guild, S. Hayes is from London, and the others are members of the Cambridge Youths. The bells are a light ring, tenor 14 cwt., and go very fairly well, but are seldom rung.

The following touches arrived too late for insertion in their proper place:—

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

LOUGHBOROUGH (Leicestershire).—On Tuesday evening, April 22nd, the following members rang a 700 of Grandsire Triples in 28 mins. W. Harriman, 1; J. H. Bradley, 2; F. Farrow, 3; T. Cooper, 4; J. Hardy, 5; W. Billingham, 6; J. W. Taylor (conductor), 7; E. Wightman, 8.

CRAWLEY (Sussex).—On Monday evening, April 21st, the local company, assisted by Mr. H. Burstow, their instructor, made an attempt to ring 5040 of Grandsire Triples (Taylor's Variation), but after ringing nearly 5000 changes, in 3 hours, came to grief. G. Holloway, 1; Rev. J. B. Lennard (rector), 2; T. Smith, Esq., 3; J. Newnham, 4; W. Collison, 5; H. Burstow (conductor), 6; F. Hillier, 7; W. Parsons, 8. Tenor 14 cwt.

HORSHAM (Sussex).—On Tuesday evening, April 22nd, the local company rang a quarter-peal of Oxford Bob Triples, 1260 changes, in 27 mins. W. Wood, 1; H. Chantler, 2; W. Short, 3; F. Knight, 4; H. Cook, 5; W. Redford, 6; H. Burstow (conductor), 7; J. Bishop, 8. Tenor 24 cwt.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

ON Thursday, April 17th, by the kind invitation of the Rev. Spencer Fellows, Rector of Pulham St. Mary Magdalene, Norfolk, the following members of the above Association met at that church for a day's ringing: Captain Moore (Weybread), Rev. N. Bolingbroke (Hon. Sec. of the Association), Messrs. W. Roope, J. C. Allen, T. Farrow, C. Brown, F. R. Surridge, W. Culham (of Pulham St. Mary Magdalene); and Messrs. J. Tann, sen., J. Tann, jun., W. Tann, C. Tann, R. Whiting, W. Matthews, J. Smith, J. Cutting (of Pulham St. Mary the Virgin).

Lunch was provided at 11.30, and dinner at 3.0., in the choir and ringers' practice-room. Several 720's were rung during the day in the following methods: Oxford and Kent Treble Bob, Woodbine, and College Exercise; also touches of Bob Royal, Grandsire Caters and Triples, Bob Major, Oxford Treble Bob Major and Minor, and Old Doubles, on the handbells. Ringing was kept up until a late hour, the company separating well pleased with their day's entertainment.

Messrs. Smith and Roope, on behalf of the company, wish publicly to express their sincere thanks to the Rev. S. Fellows for his kind and munificent hospitality, and they hope that his example may be followed by other clergy of neighbouring parishes.

Among the visitors were Mr. J. Coleman (of the Tibenham society), and Mr. J. Boughton (of Pulham), who both expect shortly to become members of the Association; Gervas Holmes, Esq., J.P., was unable to attend owing to previous engagements.

WINTERTON MEETING, MAY 12TH, 1884.

THE bells of Holy Trinity church (a ring of six—tenor 8½ cwt.) having been recast and rehung by Messrs. Moore, Holmes, and Mackenzie, of the Redenhall Bell Foundry, Harleston, the Rector, Churchwardens, and inhabitants of Winterton will be glad to welcome the members of the Norwich Diocesan Association, and their bell-ringing friends, on Monday, May 12th, for the purpose of trying the new bells.

Those intending to accept the above invitation will be good enough to apply to Mr. G. Holmes, Redenhall Bell Foundry, Harleston, on or before Friday, May 3rd, for a "Special Ticket," and at the same time to state from what station they will start.

The Railway company have kindly consented to grant return tickets at a fare and a quarter, to those attending the meeting, on the production of the "Special Ticket," which will also admit the holder, at a reduced rate, to the dinner tent, at 2.0 p.m.

ALDENHAM, HERTS.

ON Wednesday, April 16th, the St. Alban's Cathedral society visited the village of Aldenham. Taking train by London and North Western railway to Bricket Wood, from thence by a pleasant country walk of about three miles, Aldenham was reached—at 5.30. The church of St. John the Baptist, which has recently been restored at the expense of H. H. Gibbs, Esq., of Aldenham House, is an old building in the Early English style, with chancel, nave, and aisles, and a square tower containing six bells (tenor about 18 cwt.), and a Sanctus bell. The bells do not go very well, and the ropes fall in a very bad circle. Several 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles were rung, in which the following took part: Messrs. N. N. Hills (conductor); Waddington, Fowler, Kent, Norman, Freeman, Cartmel, Grant, and Buckingham, and Mr. H. Lewis, an hon. member. The company afterwards made for home *via* Midland Railway from Radlett station (two miles from Aldenham). On the journey home, the company, having no handbells with them, made a substitute for the same of their fists—a primitive resource—coming home in a double sense, as the fists—not the bells—came into rounds just as the train reached St. Alban's. The visitors wish to convey their thanks to the Vicar of Aldenham (Rev. C. L. Royds) for allowing them the use of the bells.

PRESENTATION OF HANDBELLS.—On Easter Tuesday, after the vestry meeting at St. Alban's Abbey, a set of handbells, which have been purchased by subscription, were presented to the Rector and Churchwardens for the use of the ringers. The bells (sixteen in number) were supplied by Messrs. Taylor of Loughborough, and the tenor bears the inscription: "Purchased by subscription, and presented to the Rector and Churchwardens of St. Alban's Abbey for the use of the ringers; March, 1884." The Rector (Ven. Archdeacon Lawrance) suitably acknowledged the gift, and handed them over to the conductor of the ringers for their use.

A SPIRE FOR PENMAENMAWR CHURCH.—A spire is about to be added to the parish church at Penmaenmawr, North Wales, where the Premier used to worship during his holiday resorts on the Welsh coast. When the spire is completed Mr. Gladstone will, it is stated, fulfil his promise by enriching the structure with a peal of bells.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION, BRAINTREE.

The following is the ringing done by the Braintree Company, during the month of March. March 2nd—720 of Cambridge Surprise, 720 of London Surprise, 144 of Kent Treble Bob. March 1st—360 of Bob Minor, 360 of Court Single, 360 of Double Court Bob, 360 of Oxford Treble Bob, 360 of Kent Treble Bob. March 4th—360 of Oxford Delight, 360 of New London Pleasure, 360 Woodbine Treble Bob, 360 of Imperial. March 8th—720 of Imperial, 360 of London Surprise. March 9th—720 of Cambridge Surprise, 720 of Double Court Bob. March 16th—720 of Bob Doubles. March 18th—360 of London Surprise, 360 of Imperial, 360 of Cambridge Surprise, 360 of College Exercise, 360 of London Scholars' Pleasure. March 22nd—720 of London Surprise, 720 of Bob Minor. March 23rd—720 of College Exercise, 720 of Bob Minor, 96 of New London Pleasure, 72 Bob Minor. March 25—5040 changes in fourteen methods (see "THE BELL NEWS," for March 29th). March 29th—720 of Bob Minor.

ST. ANDREW'S CHURCH, JULIAN ROAD, BATH.

A much-needed improvement has just been effected in the ringing-chamber of the tower of this church by the erection of a second or sound deadening-floor. For this valuable addition the ringers are indebted to the generous liberality of the Rev. Canon Bernard, Rector of Walcot, and those gentlemen constituting the church building committee.

THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

A QUARTERLY MEETING of this Association was held (by kind permission of the Vicar), at St. Giles's Camberwell, on Monday, April 21st. The bells were set going soon after 4 o'clock, and a touch of 504 Grandsire Triples was rung. The party then adjourned to the Surrey Masonic Hall for tea, etc., which was thoroughly enjoyed, followed by the business meeting, at which the scheme for the formation of a National Association was read and discussed. After the conclusion of business by a hearty vote of thanks to the Vicar for kindly allowing the use of the bells, the party, which was now somewhat augmented by fresh arrivals, again visited the tower, and the following methods were practised:—Grandsire Caters, Stedman Caters and Triples, and Treble Bob Royal. The party was composed of ringers from Beddington, Croydon, Kingston, Haverstock Hill, Streatham, and Sutton, and one or two well known members of the College Youths. The meeting broke up at 9.30 p.m.

ARTHUR B. CARPENTER, *Hon. Sec.*

DOUBLE NORWICH COURT MAJOR.

IN the hope that it may lead to further practice in this method. I propose, in the course of a few months, to republish, in a separate form, my different articles on the above method which appeared, during 1882, in "THE BELL NEWS."

These papers, I may remark, consisted of a description of the method, a record of the different performances accomplished, and a collection of peals. To these I now propose to add a diagram of the method, a few touches, and any other matters that will be of interest. I shall therefore be glad if any of the readers of this paper, who have any musical touches or peals that have not already been given in my collection, will forward them to me. I shall also be glad of any criticisms, or further information concerning any of the matters which I dealt with in my original papers. JASPER W. SNOWDON.

Old Bank Chambers, Leeds.

MUFFLED PEAL FOR A CHORISTER AT SALISBURY.—On Monday, April 21st, at St. Martin's, a muffled peal was rung in memory of Master Herbert J. Mold, a chorister who died April 16th, aged 14 years. The funeral was a choral one at which the other boys attended and sang. Immediately after the ceremony the ringers rang for half-an-hour with the bells half-muffled, thus:—whole-pull and stand, then the treble one whole pull, after which a 720 of Bob Minor. H. Dowling, 1; C. A. Clements, 2; S. Dowling, 3; T. Blackburn, 4; W. Gifford, 5; J. R. Jerram (conductor), 6.

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

IN connection with the report of the 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles rung at St. Alban's Cathedral on Easter Sunday, we are requested to state that they were the first rang by the society, which was formed last January, and the first by all the members except the conductor. The tenor is about 30 cwt. in Eb.

THE CHRONOLOGY OF CHANGE-RINGING.—(Continued.)

By F. W. J. REES,

A Member of the Ancient Society of College Youths.

- 1734.—The Croydon (Surrey) ringers rang a peal of Bob Triples, the first 5000 on the bells.
Painswick ringers rang 8064 Grandsire Caters.
College Youths rang a peal of Bob Major at St. Dunstan's, Stepney.
A new ring of eight at Chippenham, Wilts.
A new ring of eight at St. Peter's, Northampton.
- 1735.—A new ring of twelve at St. Saviour's, Southwark, replacing old eight. On this new ring College Youths rang 8008 Grandsire Cinques, in 6 hrs. 25 mins. Tenor double-handed.
Fulham Youths rang 10,080 Bob Major in 6 hrs. 40 mins.
A peal of Triples at the Abbey Church, Shrewsbury.
Painswick ringers rang 10,080 Grandsire Caters.
College Youths rang a peal of Court Bob Major at St. Lawrence Jewry.
- 1736.—The ring at Redenhall, Norfolk, increased to eight, and the society of ringers established.
The ringers of Wye, Kent, rang a peal of Grandsire Triples, "ye first set that ever rung it in the county without the assistance of Londoners or others."
The Union Scholars rang a peal of Grandsire Triples.
College Youths rang at St. Bride's a peal of College Bob Major.
College Youths rang at Christ Church, Spitalfields, a peal of Union Bob.
The Union Scholars rang what they called "the first complete peal of Grandsire Trebles;" not a true claim.
The ring at St. Peter, Norwich, increased to ten.
Painswick ringers rang 12,006 Grandsire Caters.
- 1737.—The "Eastern Scholars" rang at West Ham 15,120 Bob Major, in 8 hrs. 40 mins.
Norwich Scholars rang 12,600 Grandsire Caters, in 8 hrs. 15 mins. Tenor double-handed.
College Youths rang at St. Bride's, a peal of Morning Exercise Major.
About this time Anable wrote in his note-book a peal of Grandsire Triples on the three-lead plan, and called it "Gog-Magog Triples;" it is almost certain that this peal was composed by him. No 5th place bobs in this.
College Youths rang a peal of Union Bob at St. Giles-in-the-Fields.
The ring at Alburgh, Norfolk, increased to eight.
The ring at Swaffham, Norfolk, increased to eight.
A new ring of eight at Tiverton, Devon.
- 1738.—A peal of Bob Major rung at St. Andrew, Holborn.
College Youths rang at St. Bride's a peal of Double Cinques.
The ring at St. Margaret, Leicester, increased to ten.
The ring at St. Giles, Norwich, increased to eight.
A new ring of eight at Daventry, Northants.
- 1739.—A ring of ten at St. Leonard's, Shore-ditch, London.
College Youths rang a peal of Bob Major at St. Peter, Northampton.
- 1740.—The ringers of Lynn, Norfolk, rang 5040 "Garthing's Trebles."
The ring at Magdalen College, Oxford, increased to ten.
The ring at St. Mary, Reading, increased to eight.
College Youths rang a peal of Bob Maximus, at St. Saviour's, Southwark.
College Youths rang a peal of Bob Major at Richmond.
- 1741.—Eastern Scholars rang at St. Sepulchre's a peal of 5200 Oxford Treble Bob Royal, first peal in the method.
Richmond ringers rang a peal of "Richmond Triples."
A peal of Double London Court Bob Royal was rung at St. Sepulchre's.
College Youths rang 5000 Oxford Treble Bob Royal there.
- 1742.—College Youths rang a peal of Bob Major at St. Margaret's, Westminster.
T. Ecclestone, Esq. gave a new ring of eight to Coddendam, Suffolk. Also a ring of ten with new frame to Stonham-Aspal, Suffolk; also a new second to Winchester Cathedral, which ring was perhaps augmented to eight at this time.
The ring at Hingham, Norfolk, increased to eight.
A new ring of eight at Holyrood, Southampton.
- 1743.—Maidstone ringers, a peal of "Union Trebles."
College Youths rang a peal of Bob Major at St. John's, Hackney.
The ring at Kenninghall increased to eight.
- 1744.—Jas. Barham, of Leeds, Kent, rang his first peal, Bob Triples.
Ringers of Hadleigh, Suffolk, Bob Major; first peal on the bells.
College Youths rang a peal of Bob Major at St. Mary, Reading.
College Youths rang a peal of Union Bob at St. Giles, Camberwell.
- 1745.—A new ring of eight at Braughing, Herts.
Holt became a member of the Union Scholars.
College Youths rang 5076 Grandsire Caters at Fulham.
College Youths rang a peal of Bob Major at St. Botolph, Aldgate.
- 1746.—The Society of the Royal Cumberlands established.
Ringers of Lenham, Kent, rang 10,080 Bob Major at Harrietsham.
Braughing ringers rang 5040 Grandsire Triples.
Barham's company rang 10,080 Double Bob Major at Harrietsham.
The ring at Fakenham, Norfolk, increased to eight.
College Youths rang a peal of Union Bob at Mortlake.
- 1747.—The ringers of Wingham, Kent, rang a peal of Bob Major.
The ring at St. John, Devizes, Wilts, increased to eight.
- 1748.—The ringers of New Romney, Kent, rang a peal of Bob Major.
A peal of "Union Trebles" in the Curfew Tower, Windsor Castle.
Old ring of eight at St. Lawrence, Reading, replaced by new ten.
- 1749.—Bob Major on new ring at St. Mary's, Rotherhithe, by Eastern Scholars.
Twickenham Scholars rang 6000 Bob Major.
- 1749.—Dartford ringers rang a peal of Grandsire Triples.
The ringers of Alburgh, Norfolk, rang a peal of Bob Major.
First peal at Faversham, Kent, Bob Major.
Eastern Scholars rang 6072 Bob Maximus.
A new ring of eight at St. Andrew's, Plymouth, Devon.
- 1750.—A peal of 10,080 Double Bob Major at Harrietsham, Kent.
Vicars' peal of Grandsire Triples (or a similar one) rung at Dover, on the three-lead plan.
College Youths rang Bob Major at St. George, Southwark.
The first peal rung on the Maidstone (Kent) bells: Bob Major.
The ring at Dorchester, Dorset, increased to eight.
- 1751.—Ringers of Leeds, Kent, rang 6480 Bob Caters. First peal in the method.
First peal at Lenham, Kent, Bob Major.
Union Scholars rang a peal of Grandsire Cinques at St. Bride's.
Union Scholars at St. Margaret's, Westminster, rang Holt's Original peal of Grandsire Triples, Holt called it from a paper. Time 3 hrs. 15 mins.
The ring of Basingstoke, Hants, was (perhaps) increased to eight this year.
- 1752.—At Wingham, Kent, 5040 changes, a bob-and-single peal of Grandsire Triples.
Union Scholars rang a peal of Court Bob Major.
Holt joined the College Youths.
College Youths rang Caters at St. Dionis.
- 1753.—*Campanalogia*; a sixth edition. In this no mention of more Grandsire Triples than half a peal.
Mr John Holt issued a circular, offering to deliver, for a subscription of 5s. 3d., a copy of four peals, viz.: His 10-part and 6-part peals of Grandsire Triples; his peal of Bob Triples without a single; and his peal of Union Triples, in six parts.
College Youths rang 6080 Union Bob at St. George, Middlesex.
Union Scholars rang Grandsire Caters at St. Alphege, Greenwich.
A new ring of eight at East Dereham, Norfolk.
- 1754.—Cumberlands rang Holt's 10-part peal of Grandsire Triples.
A peal of Grandsire Triples on the new ring at Canterbury.
Wrotham (Kent) ringers rang a peal of Bob Major, on new ring.
The Bath Society rang a peal of Union Triples at St. James.
The ring at Bradford, Wilts, increased to eight.
- 1755.—The Society of St. Martin, Birmingham established.
Jas. Barham rang Bob Major for 14 hrs. 44 mins.
Wye (Kent) ringers, Bob Major.
A new ring of eight at St. James, Bristol.
- 1756.—Framlingham (Suffolk) ringers rang a peal of Bob Major.
The Lincoln ringers rang at St. Peter-at-Arches, in that city, 5040 of "Catharan's Tripples." The following changes had been rung on the name "Garthon": Garthorn, Garthorp, Gawthorne, Garthing, and I think, "Catharan" is also intended for Garthon.

"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.

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.

Everything for insertion in this Journal to be addressed "The Editor of THE BELL NEWS, Walthamstow, London." Letters forwarded for publication, and performances under 5000 changes must reach us not later than Wednesday morning; and the insertion of any communication coming later than the first Postal delivery on Thursday morning cannot be guaranteed in that week's number. When it is found impossible from want of space to insert all touches forwarded, the earlier ones will have the preference.

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

N. N. HILLS.—The very first opportunity; probably next week.

The Bell News & Ringers' Record.

SATURDAY, APRIL 26, 1884.

HURSTPIERPOINT, SUSSEX.

On Easter Monday, the belfry of this parish church was visited by a mixed band of ringers from Balcombe, Worth, Charlwood (Surrey), and Haywards Heath, permission having been previously obtained of the worthy rector (the Rev. Canon Borrer), for the use of the bells for the day. Ringing was commenced by the first arrivals with several 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles, with three tenors. B. Payne, 1; F. Rice, 2; Jno. Gasson, 3; T. Leney, 4; E. Streeter (conductor), 5; Geo. Corke, 6; Jno. Hudson, 7; W. Lander, 8. About 12 o'clock, the remainder of the party put in an appearance, some by train, and others on shanks' pony, and tricycles.

A half peal of Oxford Bob Minor, 7-8 behind, was then rung, called with nine bobs, in 28½ mins. B. Payne, 1; F. Rice, 2; M. Heffer, 3; E. Streeter, 4; T. Leney, 5; F. Wickens (conductor), 6; Jno. Gasson, 7; W. Lander, 8. Also 720 College Single: W. F. Meads, 1; G. Wickens, 2; B. King, 3; Jno. Gasson, 4; F. Wickens, 5; M. Heffer (conductor), 6; E. Streeter, 7; W. Lander, 8. An adjournment was then made to the "Queen's Head Inn," where a capital cold collation now spread by the worthy host and hostess, about twenty sitting down. The inner man being appeased, a return was made to the tower, and a 720 Plain Bob Minor rung, with fifteen bobs and six singles, in 29½ mins. W. F. Meads, 1; F. Rice, 2; B. King, 3; M. Heffer, 4; F. Wickens, 5; E. Streeter (conductor), 6; J. Gasson, 7; T. Leney, 8. Afterwards, 720 Oxford Bob, with twenty two singles, in 28 mins. W. F. Meads, 1; B. Payne, 2; J. Gasson, 3; E. Streeter, 4; F. Wickens, 5; M. Heffer (conductor), 6; F. Rice, 7; J. Hudson, 8. Tenor 13½ cwt.

It being now six o'clock, the bells were lowered, and as there was an hour or so to spare, the handbells of the Hurst society were brought into requisition, the time being whiled away with a few songs, etc., and the usual conversation in which ringers indulge, until train time arrived.

Much credit is due to Mr. J. Gasson for the very satisfactory way in which he, in conjunction with Mr. Leney, arranged the meeting; also to Mr. Davey, the steeple-keeper, for the excellent "go" of the bells, and the neatness of the belfry. The visitors desire to express their hearty thanks to the Rector for his kindness in allowing them the use of the bells.

CHRIST CHURCH AND ST. ANDREW'S SOCIETY, BATH.

During the month of May the members will meet for practice as follows: Wednesdays, 7th and 21st, at Christ Church; Wednesdays, 14th and 28th, at St. Andrew's church. Time of ringing 7.30 to 9. p.m.

IRON ACTON, GLOUCESTERSHIRE.

On Easter Monday, April 14th, the company of ringers of St. Mary's church, Thornbury, visited the neighbouring church of Iron Acton at the invitation of the Rector, the Rev. H. L. Thompson.

The purpose of the visit was to try the qualities of the new bells, the munificent gift of H. C. Ray, Esq., which have lately been placed in the fine old tower of Iron Acton church, by the Messrs. Taylor, of Loughborough. On arriving, no time was lost in repairing to the tower, and after examining the bells and fittings, the company descended to the ringing-chamber, and took their places at the ropes as follows: F. K. Howell, 1; F. Symes, 2; W. Davies, 3; H. T. Howell, 4; Rev. T. Waters, 5; H. Harvey, 6. Prayers having been said by the Vicar, the word was given, and the bells set in motion. After a while a stand was called and the general opinion was that the bells were of beautiful tone, and that they worked with admirable ease and precision. After the ropes had been adjusted, several well struck plain courses of Grandsire Doubles were rung as follows: H. T. Howell, 1; F. Symes, 2; W. Davis, 3; T. Alsop, 4; F. K. Howell, 5; H. Harvey, 6. At 5 o'clock an adjournment was made to the Rectory, where the visitors from Thornbury were most hospitably and sumptuously entertained by the Rector and Mrs. Thompson. After dinner, handbell ringing was indulged in, and then the tower was once more manned and the music of the bells kept up till 8 o'clock, when the visitors left for home, after a most pleasant day's outing, and much gratified with the hospitable reception they had met with.

This young company of ringers has made a marked advance in the science of ringing of late, half-pull ringing being unknown in Thornbury til a few months since, and they hope soon to be able to record their first 6-score. A set of eight beautiful handbells has been obtained not long since from Mr. Welch, of Bankside, Southwark, which will be of material assistance.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—ANNIVERSARY AT ST. MICHAEL'S, GARSTON.

The Sixth Anniversary of the opening of these bells took place on Easter Monday, when about twenty ringers met from Garston, Liverpool, Runcorn, and Farnworth, and did some good touches throughout the day of Grandsire and Plain Bob. Dinner and tea was provided by the beloved donor of the bells, Miss Lightbody, after which some good handbell work was accomplished, especially a 500 of Stedman Triples by Messrs. Beacall, Aspinwall, Pritchard and Davidson, which was beautifully struck. The Rev. J. Gashing, B.A., presided, and the arrangements were well carried out by Mr. Gough.

The Provinces.

THE SOCIETY OF TRINITY YOUTHS.—WOOLWICH, KENT.

On Saturday, April 19, 1884, in Two Hours and Fifty-five Minutes,

AT ST. MARY MAGDALENE'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

REV. C. D. P. DAVIES' FIVE-PART. Tenor 14½ cwt.

HARRY WILLIAM GROUT .. Treble.	ABRAHAM G. FREEMAN .. 5.
HENRY BRIGHT 2.	WILLIAM H. FREEMAN .. 6.
THOMAS TAYLOR 3.	HENRY HARVEY 7.
FREDERICK W. THORNTON 4.	JOSEPH LAWS Tenor.

Conducted by ABRAHAM GEORGE FREEMAN.

The above was rung as a farewell peal to the late rector of Woolwich (the Hon. and Rev. Canon Anson, Bishop-Designate of Assiniboia), who shortly leaves England for North-west Canada.

DRAYTON, BERKS.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS, AND THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, April 19, 1884, in Three Hours and Twelve Minutes,

AT ST. PETER'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR,

5088 CHANGES. Tenor 9½ cwt.

S. HOUNSLOW Treble.	W. H. WASHBROOK 5.
E. HOLIFIELD 2.	G. HOLIFIELD 6.
B. BARRETT 3.	C. HOUNSLOW 7.
W. BENNETT 4.	REV. F. E. ROBINSON .. Tenor.

Composed by HENRY JOHNSON, SEN., and conducted by the Rev. F. E. ROBINSON, Master of the Guild.

First peal in the method in the diocese of Oxford.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—ALDINGTON, KENT.

On Saturday, April 19, 1884, in Three Hours and Thirteen Minutes,

AT ST. MARTIN'S CHURCH,

5040 CHANGES: BEING SEVEN DIFFERENT 720's OF PLAIN BOB MINOR.

Tenor 14 cwt. in G.

CHARLES SLINGSBY Treble.	EDWARD HYDER 4.
DAVID HODGKIN* 2.	WILLIAM HYDER 5.
FRED WANSTALL* 3.	PHILIP HODGKIN Tenor.

Conducted by WILLIAM HYDER.

*First peal.

All the above are local men.

THE HOLT SOCIETY.—ASTON-JUXTA-BIRMINGHAM.

On Saturday, April 19, 1884, in Three Hours and Eighteen Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF SS. PETER AND PAUL,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS, 5130 CHANGES;

Tenor 24 cwt.

JOHN BUFFERY Treble.	JO. WM. CARTWRIGHT .. 6.
THOS. JAS. HEMMING 2.	JOHN CARTER 7.
HENRY BASTABLE 3.	JOHN SANDERS 8.
JOHN BENN 4.	CHAS. STANBRIDGE 9.
WM. ANSELL 5.	THOS. REYNOLDS Tenor.

Composed by HENRY JOHNSON, SEN., and conducted by HENRY BASTABLE.

This peal contains the 6th twelve times wrong and right (with bobs only), and has never been previously performed.

GLOSSOP, DERBYSHIRE.

On Saturday, April 19, 1884, in Three Hours.

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5120 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 15 cwt.

JOHN SIDEBOTHAM Treble.	GEORGE BRADDOCK 5.
JOSEPH ROBINSON 2.	JAMES NUTTALL 6.
ROBERT WRIGHT 3.	SAMUEL WOOD 7.
JOSEPH MALONEY 4.	THOMAS BRADDOCK Tenor.

Composed by SAMUEL WOOD, of Ashton-under-Lyne, and Conducted by JOHN SIDEBOTHAM.

Messrs. Braddock Brothers, Sidebotham, Wright and Nuttall hail from Mottram; Wood from Ashton; the rest are of the local company.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—SADDLEWORTH.

SADDLEWORTH BRANCH.

On Tuesday, April 22, 1884, in Three Hours and Thirteen Minutes,

AT ST. CHAD'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5184 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 12 cwt.

JOHN J. BRIERLEY* Treble.	FRANKLIN BRIERLEY .. 5.
JOHN HOLDEN* 2.	EDGAR BUCKLEY 6.
JOHN THOS. HOLDEN† .. 3.	*JOSEPH WOOD 7.
JAMES WRIGLEY* 4.	EDWARD WOOD Tenor.

Composed by the late JAMES PLATT, of Saddleworth, and Conducted by JOHN HOLDEN.

†First peal. *Also members of the United Counties' Association.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

DISS, NORFOLK.

On Tuesday, April 22, 1884, in Three Hours and Nine Minutes,

AT ST. MARY'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S TEN-PART. Tenor 24 cwt.

WILLIAM IRELAND Treble.	EDWARD FRANCIS 5.
WM. SCALES 2.	EDWARD BATRAM 6.
WILLIAM BROWN 3.	JOHN SOUTER 7.
BENJAMIN FRANCIS 4.	ELLIS HAYWARD Tenor.

Conducted by W. IRELAND.

First peal in the method by all except treble and 7th men, and second peal in the method on the bells.

Date Touches.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

DISS (Norfolk).—On Wednesday, April 16th, at St. Mary's church, on the occasion of a wedding, a date touch of Bob Major, 1884 changes, in 1 hr. 12 mins. E. Hayward, 1; J. Rudd, 2; W. Scales, 3; B. Francis, 4; E. Francis (composer and conductor), 5; W. Brown, 6; W. Ireland, 7; J. Souter, 8. Tenor 24 cwt.

THE ROCHDALE AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATION.

TODMORDEN (Lancashire).—On Wednesday evening, April 16th, the local company rang a date touch of Stedman Triples, 1884 changes, in 1 hr. 7 mins. Jno. A. Sutcliffe, 1; Jno. Mitton, 2; Wm. Sutcliffe, 3; H. Kershaw, 4; B. Midgley, 5; Jas. W. Greenwood (conductor), 6; Jno. Sutcliffe, 7; Jos. Sutcliffe, 8. The above is a very musical touch and was composed by Mr. J. Carter, of Birmingham.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

ROTHERHAM.—On Thursday, April 17th, the Rotherham branch of this Association, rang a date touch of Stedman Caters, 1884 changes, in 1 hr. 17 mins. G. Briggs, 1; J. Horner, 2; F. Coates (composer and conductor), 3; J. Athey, 4; T. Whitworth, 5; J. Hale, 6; T. Lee, 7; W. Coates, 8; A. Rodgers, 9; W. Hirst, 10. Tenor 32 cwt.

BLETCHINGLEY (Surrey).—On Easter Sunday morning, April 13th, eight members of the local company rang a date touch of 1884 Grand-sire Triples, in 1 hr. 5 mins. G. Brown, 1; T. Boniface, 2; J. Bashford, 3; F. Smith, 4; G. Potter, 5; J. Burkin, 6; W. Burkin (conductor), 7; W. Mayne, 8. Tenor 19 cwt.

PRESTBURY (Gloucestershire).—On Tuesday, April 22nd, the local company, assisted by two friends, rang at the parish church 1884 of Grandsire Doubles, each 120 called differently, in 1 hr. 7½ mins. T. Steel (conductor), 1; D. Davis, 2; F. Musty, 3; G. Midwinter, 4; T. Davis, 5; W. T. Pates, 6.

Miscellaneous.

THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

BROMHAM (Beds).—On Wednesday evening, April 16th, six members of the above society rang a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor, in 29 mins., with nine bobs. W. Biggs, 1; *H. King, 2; I. Hills, 3; *W. King, 4; C. Stafferton, 5; C. W. Clarke (conductor), 6. *First 720 in the method, also the first in the method as conductor by C. W. Clarke.

TURVEY (Beds).—On Saturday afternoon, April 19th, six members of the above society paid a visit to this place, and by kind permission of the vicar, the Rev. — Mumby, had a pull on the fine ring of six, tenor about 20 cwt. in E. After raising the bells in peal, a 720 of Plain Bob Minor, with eighteen bobs and two singles, in 26 mins. C. West, 1; F. M. Smith, 2; C. W. Clarke, 3; C. Stafferton, 4; I. Hills, 5; W. Biggs (conductor), 6. Also a 720 of Oxford Bob Minor, with eighteen bobs and two singles, in 26 mins. C. Stafferton, 1; F. M. Smith, 2; C. West, 3; I. Hills, 4; W. Biggs, 5; C. W. Clarke (conductor), 6. Also a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob Minor, with nine bobs, in 27 mins. C. W. Clarke, 1; F. M. Smith, 2; *C. West, 3; *C. Stafferton, 4; W. Biggs (conductor), 5; I. Hills, 6. *First 720 in the method, also the first in the method as conductor for W. Biggs. These are the first three 720s in the method on the bells. After lowering the bells in peal a start was made for home, much pleased with their afternoon's outing.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

BRAINTREE (Essex).—On Saturday, April 19th, a 720 of Double Bob Minor, with thirty-four bobs and twenty-six singles. F. Bumpstead, 1; F. Calthorpe, 2; W. H. Dyson, 3; S. Hammond (conductor), 4; F. Rudkin, 5; A. Huckson, 6. Also on Sunday, April 20th, for Divine Service at 11 a.m., a 720 of Grandsire Minor, with thirty-four bobs and twenty-six singles. F. Bumpstead, 1; F. Calthorpe, 2; W. H. Dyson, 3; S. Hammond, 4; F. Rudkin (conductor), 5; A. Huckson, 6. Tenor 14 cwt. These are the first 720s of Double Bob Minor and Grandsire by any of the company. Practice nights, Tuesdays and Saturdays.

ROMFORD.—Chiming.—On Easter Sunday morning for early service, 720 Bob Minor, without a call, in 27 mins. Also for morning and afternoon service, 720 in five methods, viz.: 144 each of Double Court (containing the whole of the 5-6's of a 720), Oxford Treble, Kent Treble, Grandsire and Bob Minor. Also for evening service, 264 Double Court. A. J. Perkins, 1-2-3-4; B. Keeble, 5-6. The following did not reach us last week. On Sunday, April 5th, after a Confirmation service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (with 30 bobs), in 45 mins. G. Garnett, 1; A. Pye, 2; B. Keeble, 3; A. J. Perkins

(conductor), 4; J. Nunn (composer), 5; J. Pye, 6; A. Porter, 7; H. Gillingham, 8. Also a touch of 350 in the same method. W. Keeble, 1; G. Garnett, 2; A. Pye, 7; remainder as in quarter-peal. *Muffled Peal*.—On Friday evening, April 4th, a 720 Bob Minor, with the bells half-muffled, as a last token of respect to the late Duke of Albany, with 18 bobs and 2 singles, in 35 mins. F. Gillingham, 1; B. Keeble, 2; J. Porter, 3; A. J. Perkins (conductor), 4; A. Pye, 5; A. Deards (first 720 inside), 6.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

LYMINGE (Kent).—On Sunday, April 20th, for Divine Service in the afternoon at the church of SS. Mary and Eadburgh, a 720 of Plain Bob Minor, with twenty-six singles, in 28 mins. William Post, jun. (Aldington), 1; David Hodgkin (Aldington), 2; Fred. Wanstall (Aldington), 3; Albert Tanton (Lyminge), 4; James Andrews (Lyminge), 5; Philip Hodgkin (Aldington; conductor), 6. Also after service, another 720 of Bob Minor, with eighteen bobs and two singles, in 28 mins. Frank Wanstall (Aldington), 1; David Hodgkin, 2; Fred Wanstall, 3; Albert Tanton, 4; James Andrews, 5; Philip Hodgkin (conductor), 6. Tenor 18½ cwt. in F.

THE (LONDON) ST. JAMES'S SOCIETY, AND THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

FARNHAM ROYAL (Bucks).—On Easter Sunday morning, April 13th, for Divine Service, a 720 of Grandsire Minor, in 27 mins. C. Chapman, 1; A. Fussell, 2; G. Basden, 3; W. Fussell, 4; J. Parker, 5; C. Clarke, 6. Also in the evening a 720 of Oxford Bob, in 26 mins. C. Chapman, 1; W. Fussell, 2; A. Fussell, 3; A. Batten, 4; J. Parker (conductor), 5; C. Clarke, 6. And a variety of Grandsire Doubles, in which E. T. Batten and C. King took part.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

GARSTON (Lancashire).—*Muffled Peal*.—On Thursday, April 3rd, at St. Michael's church, about 1500 musical changes of Grandsire Triples, with the bells muffled, in memory of Prince Leopold. S. Gough, 1; T. Beacall, 2; W. Turner, 3; J. Alexander, 4; F. Turner, 5; W. Hughes, 6; G. W. Hughes (composer and conductor), 7; T. Morris, 8. Tenor 12½ cwt. Also on Friday, April 11th, for service, 1500 of Grandsire Triples, with the bells half-muffled, in memory of the late beloved Vicar of Garston, the Rev. J. F. Hewson. S. Gough, 1; J. Alexander, 2; C. Newton, 3; W. Turner, 4; F. Turner, 5; W. Hughes, 6; Geo. W. Hughes, 7; T. Morris, 8.

HALEWOOD (Lancashire).—*Muffled Peal*.—On Sunday, March 30th, at St. Nicholas church, the bells were rung deeply muffled in memory of Mr. Steers, who was the oldest parishioner of the parish. Also on Saturday, March 31st, in memory of Robert Bustard, late of Halewood, who died at the early age of twenty-four. He was an enthusiastic admirer of bell music, and was a personal friend of all the ringers. And on Easter Sunday, April 14th, eight members of the Garston company paid a visit to this place, and rung for afternoon service, a 1008 of Grandsire Triples. S. Gough, 1; J. Alexander, 2; W. Turner, 3; C. Newton, 4; F. Turner, 5; W. Hughes, 6; Geo. H. Hughes, 7; Wm. Weaver, 8. Tenor 11 cwt.

WALKDEN (Lancashire).—On Easter Sunday, April 13th, for evening service at St. Paul's church, a 720 of Bob Minor, in 26 mins. W. Baker, 1; E. Cash (Swinton; conductor), 2; J. Worthington, 3; J. Welsby, 4; J. Brookes, 5; W. Denner, 6. Tenor 13½ cwt.

STOKE-UPON-TRENT ARCHIDIACONAL ASSOCIATION.

NORTON-LE-MOORS.—On Easter Sunday, April 13th, a 720 of Grandsire Minor, in 27 mins., with thirty-eight bobs and twenty-two singles. W. Holdcroft, 1; Endon Glover, 2; J. Morton, 3; J. W. Brough, 4; G. Walker (conductor), 5; Jas. Baddeley, 6.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

ILKLEY (Yorkshire).—*Muffled Peal*.—On Sunday, April 20th, at All Saints' Church, a quarter-peal of Bob Triples (1260 changes), was rung with the bells deeply muffled, as a last token of respect to the late Bishop of Ripon, in 52 mins. James Wood, 1; F. Pell, 2; Edward Snowden, Esq., 3; Jno. Wood, 4; J. Kendall, 5; A. Critchley, Esq., 6; Joe Beauland (conductor), 7; W. Beauland, 8. Tenor 18 cwt.

BATLEY CARR (Yorkshire).—*Muffled Peal*.—On Friday, April 18th, for practice, a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob, with nine bobs, with the bells deeply muffled as a tribute of respect to the late Bishop of Ripon. John Scott, 1; Tom Hinchcliffe (first 720), 2; John W. Simon, 3; W. H. Stead, 4; G. H. Simon, 5; Herbert Senior (conductor), 6.

BRISTOL.—On Monday, April 14th, on the occasion of the visit of Mr. J. Hinton (the deaf ringer) of Worcester, the St. Stephen's company rang at several churches touches of Grandsire Triples and

Grandsire Major. Also at Christ Church, 1008 Grandsire Caters. G. Staddon, 1; G. Morgan, 2; E. Duckham, 3; J. Hinton, sen., 4; F. Price, 5; A. York, 6; J. Hinton, jun. (conductor), 7; J. Norton, 8; E. Beake, 9; W. Emory, 10.

BROMBOROUGH (Cheshire).—On Tuesday, April 15th, five members of the local company, with Mr. Robert Williams, of Liverpool, rang on the back six a 720 of Grandsire Minor, in 29 mins. E. Griffiths, 1; T. Hughes, 2; J. Ollerhead, 3; C. Gittins, 4; E. Gittins, 5; R. Williams (conductor), 6. Tenor 24 cwt. Afterwards a touch of Grandsire Triples, about 600 changes.

CAPEL (Surrey).—On Easter Sunday, April 13th, the local company rang early in the morning, a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob Minor, and 720 of College Pleasure. A. Mills, 1; R. Jordan, 2; A. Tidy, 3; R. Worsfold, 4; E. Jordan, 5; D. Jordan (conductor), 6. Also for Divine Service in the morning a 360 of Oxford Treble Bob Minor, with M. Jenkins ringing the 4th. And after service, a 720 of Violet Treble Bob, standing the same as in the latter 720 of Oxford Treble Bob.

DINTON AND WILTON (Wilts).—On Easter Monday, April 14th, a party of ringers from Salisbury visited these places, and rang several touches of Bob Minor. A 720 was nearly accomplished at the former place but was spoilt just at the end by a boy entering the church.

GREAT BROMLEY (Essex).—On Sunday, April 13th, before service in the morning, two 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles. A. Bloice, 1; G. Bowell, 2; J. Taylor, 3; S. Bloice, 4; W. Nevard (conductor), 5. And for afternoon service, a 720 of Bob Minor, in 25 mins. A. Bloice, 1; G. Bowell, 2; J. Starling, 3; S. Bloice, 4; J. Taylor (conductor), 5; W. Nevard, 6. Also after service another 720 of Bob Minor, standing the same as before with the exception of J. Sergeant of Ardleigh ringing the 3rd.

GREAT HALLINGBURY (Essex).—*Muffled Peal*.—On Saturday evening, April 5th, five members of the local company rang at St. Giles's church, with the bells deeply muffled, as a mark of respect to the late Duke of Albany, a touch of Bob Doubles, consisting of four 120's, each called differently. H. R. Saunders, 1; W. Turner, 2; R. S. Sworder, 3; N. Tarling (Sawbridgeworth), 4; F. Sworder (conductor), 5. Also on Sunday, April 14th, for early celebration, a 500 of Bob Doubles, called as above. R. A. Sworder, 1; W. Turner, 2; R. S. Sworder, 3; H. R. Saunders, 4; F. Sworder (conductor), 5.

HAVERSTOCK HILL (Middlesex).—On Wednesday, April 9th, at St. Martin's church, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor, in 25 mins. W. H. Fussell, 1; N. Alderman, 2; T. Gleed, 3; J. Leach, 4; J. Hannington (conductor), 5; A. Jacob, 6. On Sunday, April 13th, a 720 of Plain Bob Minor (eighteen bobs and two singles), in 24 mins. T. Gleed, 1; G. Sheppard, 2; T. Titchener (conductor), 3; J. Nixon, 4; A. Jacob, 5; T. Monk, 6. Also on Monday, April 14th, a 720 Plain Bob Minor (with 14 singles and 4 bobs), in 25 mins. A. Jacob, 1; J. Nixon, 2; W. Meadows, 3; J. Smith, 4; J. Barrett, 5; T. Titchener (conductor), 6. Also 720 Plain Bob Minor (18 bobs and 2 singles), in 24 mins. T. Gleed, 1; T. Titchener, 2; J. Nixon, 3; J. Leach, 4; N. Alderman (conductor), 5; A. Jacob, 6. Also on Sunday evening, April 20th, for Divine Service, a 720 of Plain Bob (four bobs and fourteen singles) in 21 mins. J. Hannington (conductor), 1; T. Gleed, 2; T. Titchener, 3; J. Leach, 4; J. Barrett, 5; T. Monks, 6. Tenor 12½ cwt.

HITCHIN (Herts).—On Easter Monday, April 14th, eight members of the Ancient Society of College Youths attempted Holt's ten-part peal of Grandsire Triples, but after ringing 2100 changes, the second rope caught in the cupboard-door, in which is placed the gas-meter, which at once brought the affair to grief. W. Allen, 1; J. R. Haworth, 2; F. O. Moule, 3; J. Hare, 4; F. Furr, 5; W. A. Tyler, 6; J. M. Hayes (conductor), 7; W. Kitchener, 8. Afterwards a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 52 mins., by the foregoing, standing in the same order; conducted by W. A. Tyler. Tenor 28 cwt. in D.

LYTHAM (Lancashire).—On Sunday evening, April 13th, before service, at St. John's church, a 720 of Bob Minor (with 18 bobs and 2 singles), in 27 mins. Wm. Bamber, 1; Jno. Salthouse, 2; Wm. Gregson, 3; James Miller, 4; Jno. Fell (first 720 as conductor), 5; R. Whiteside, 6. Tenor 10½ cwt.

MITCHAM (Surrey).—*Muffled Peal*.—On Thursday, April 10th, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 45 mins., with the bells muffled as a last tribute of respect to the late Mr. Jones, who was buried on that day, for many years a member of the Mitcham society. G. Foster, 1; T. Drewett, 2; A. Brockwell, 3; G. Foster, 4; J. Fayers, 5; D. Springhall, 6; G. Pell (conductor), 7; T. Webster, 8. Tenor 16 cwt.

MONMOUTH.—On Monday, April 14th, eight members of the local company made their first attempt to ring a peal of Grandsire Triples (Holt's ten-part), but a change-course having took place just before the half-way single, the conductor called "stand." W. Honeyfield, 1; J. Brown, 2; W. Walters, 3; J. Ward, 4; T. H. Jones, 5; T. M. Preece, 6; E. Barnett (conductor), 7; H. Brown, 8. The same band afterwards rang a quarter-peal in the same method.

NEWDIGATE (Surrey).—On Easter Sunday, April 13th, for evening service, a 720 of College Single Bob Minor. M. Jenkins, 1; A. Tidy, 2; R. Jordan, 3; D. Jordan, 4; M. Heffer, 5; F. Wickens (conductor), 6. A 720 of Violet was attempted, but lost in the third course, through the treble rope breaking. A. Mills, 1; A. Tidy, 2; R. Jordan, 3; R. Worsfold, 4; E. Jordan, 5; D. Jordan (conductor), 6. Tenor 8½ cwt.

OCKLEY (Surrey).—On Sunday, April 20th, at St. Margaret's church, for afternoon service, a 720 of Violet, in 26 mins. A. Mills, 1; R. Jordan, 2; A. Tidy, 3; R. Worsfold, 4; E. Jordan, 5; D. Jordan (conductor), 6. Tenor 16 cwt.

RIPON.—*Muffled Peals.*—On Sunday, April 20th, at the Cathedral, the following members of the Cathedral society rang for morning service, 350, 168 and 70 of Grandsire Triples, as their last tribute of respect to the late Lord Bishop of Ripon, whose death occurred at the Palace, Ripon, and was interred on Saturday last, near the S.E. corner of Ripon Cathedral, deeply lamented by all who knew him. A. H. Clark, 1; Jno. Strodder, jun., 2; Jno. Strodder, sen., 3; T. Metcalf, 4; A. Ingleby, 5; T. Clark (conductor), 6; Henry Rumbold, 7; Geo. Ingleby, 8. Also for afternoon service, a 812 of Grandsire Triples, with the bells muffled at back stroke, in 30 mins. T. Metcalf, 1; Jno. Stoodder, jun., 2; Jno. Strodder, sen., 3; T. Langly (Boroughbridge), 4; A. Ingleby, 5; T. Clark (composer and conductor), 6; Geo. Ingleby, 7; Henry Rumbold, 8. Tenor 21 cwt. in E. The number of changes corresponding with the number of calendar months to his late Lordship's age. This is the first 720 by A. H. Clark, who only commenced to learn to ring in the latter end of January last.

SALISBURY (Wilts).—On Easter Sunday, April 13th, at St. Martin's church, at 6.0 a.m., touches of Bob Minor, including a 180 rung by the following: H. Dowling, 1; C. A. Clements, 2; A. Dowling, 3; T. Blackburn, 4; W. W. Gifford, 5; J. R. Jerram (conductor), 6. There was a choral celebration of Holy Communion here at 7.30 a.m. For 10.30 a.m. and 6.30 p.m. services, some 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles by some of the same party and J. Wilton, F. Fryer, J. Short, and J. Judd. Also 216 Bob Minor. And on Easter Tuesday, a 360 of Bob Minor by the same company except the treble which was rung by E. A. Foster. And on Friday, April 18th, a 720 of Bob Minor, in 28 mins. by the same company. And on Saturday, April 19th, a 720 of Bob Minor, in 28 mins. by the same, with the exception of T. Blackburn ringing the 6th and conducting. Tenor 15 cwt. And at St. Edmunds, on Easter Sunday, rounds and set changes were rung by Mr. J. Parson's band. There was choral celebration of Holy Communion here also at 8 a.m. And on Wednesday, April 16th, a 6-score of Grandsire Doubles. Tenor 30 cwt. Also at St. Paul's, on Easter Sunday, rounds and set changes, from 8 to 9 a.m. by Mr. W. Lanham and company. S. Thomas's bells were silent on this, the greatest festival of the Christian year.

SPALDING (Lincolnshire).—*Muffled Peals.*—On Good Friday, April 11th, at SS. Mary and Nicholas, for morning service, the bells being muffled, a 360 of Oxford Treble Bob, also for afternoon service a 720 of Kent Treble Bob, and for evening service a 720 of Yorkshire Court Bob. And on Easter Sunday, April 13th, for early celebration, with the bells not muffled, a 720 of Oxford Bob; for second service a 720 of London Single; for evening service a 720 of College Single; and after service a 720 of Plain Bob and 360 of Oxford Treble Bob, being in all 5040 changes in two days. J. S. Wright, 1; J. Wilson, 2; G. L. Richardson, 3; R. Mackman, 4; E. Brown, 5; J. Brown (conductor), 6. G. Skeef rung the treble in the two last 720's, instead of J. S. Wright.

STAINDROP (Durham).—On Saturday, April 19th, a 720 of Bob Minor, with twenty-two singles, in 29 mins.; a 720 with twenty bobs and ten singles; another with nine bobs and six singles. W. McLean, 1; J. W. Shipp, 2; W. E. Johnson, 3; T. Leonard, 4; D. Shipp (conductor), 5; J. Brown, 6. And a 720 with sixteen bobs and two singles. W. McLean, 1; T. Leonard, 2; W. E. Johnson, 3; D. Shipp (conductor), 4; J. W. Shipp, 5; J. Brown, 6. On Sunday, April 20th, for morning service, 360 in the same method (nine bobs and six singles), and for evening service another 360 (six bobs and six singles); by the same band. Tenor 13 cwt.

STISTEAD (Essex).—On Sunday, April 6th, a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob. F. Calthorpe, 1; W. Moore, 2; H. E. Hammond, 3; S. Hammond, 4; F. Thompson, 5; F. Rudkin (conductor), 6. Tenor 10 cwt.

SUTTON (Lincolnshire).—On Easter Sunday, April 13th, the local company rang several touches of Plain Bob Doubles during the day. J. Russell, 1; G. Watson, 2; Ed. Cunningham, 3; J. T. Stennett, 4; W. Cunningham, 5. This is the first ringing done by Sutton men alone, taught and conducted by J. W. Mawby.

WORCESTER.—On Monday, April 14th, at St. John's church, a 720 of Grandsire Minor, in 28 mins. N. Wale, 1; G. Cleal (conductor), 2; S. Cleal, 3; G. Hobbs, 4; W. Webb, 5; T. Gwyn, 6. Tenor 16 cwt.

Correspondence.

[While allowing the utmost freedom for the expression of opinion, it must never be considered that we are in any way bound to statements made by correspondents.]
To the Editor of "THE BELL NEWS AND RINGERS' RECORD."

GRANDSIRE TRIPLES.

SIR,—Let me assure Mr. Davies that I did not in any way wish to imply that he was in the habit of making random statements. My desire was to prevent any of your readers being discouraged by mere statements, and my observations were intended to apply not only to his statement in particular, but to any others unaccompanied by the proof of the same. The reason why mere statements—even when made by the highest authorities—should not be accepted, are two-fold. Firstly, we are all liable to err, and a mode of reasoning which might at first appear conclusive may contain some error or flaw which renders the result unreliable; and, secondly, the conditions under which a statement is made may be misunderstood, and the statement be accepted as comprising more or less than was intended. Such mistakes cannot well arise when the proof of the statement is also given.

I can quite understand, under the conditions now mentioned, that Mr. Davies's statement is correct, but with many others I understood, as I said in these columns, "putting the matter into the plainest words possible, that Mr. Davies then considered he had proved that no longer touch than one of 4830 changes could be produced in five parts." Had the proof of the same, with the conditions, accompanied Mr. Davies's statement, this misunderstanding could not have arisen, and I feel sure that many of your readers will look forward with interest to the time when the demonstration of this matter is placed before them.

It has always appeared to me that the possibility or impossibility of a peal in five parts with bobs only, might be testing by shewing that every possible arrangement of bobs and plain leads had been tried. Such an exhaustive trial—for a peal in one part say—can never be made by one man, but in the absence of any more scientific means, will any one ever arise who can lay down the necessary conditions under which a number of men may combine to make such an exhaustive trial?

Mr. Carpenter's letter quite bears out Mr. Davies's statement with regard to the 4830, but his concluding sentence, concerning the peal with bobs only, makes me exclaim "Sorry I spoke." Pray do not let any one turn away from the investigation of Grandsire from the fact that the long-sought for peal has not yet been composed. Without thinking me variable, Mr. Carpenter will perhaps allow me to draw this attention to this argument when put in a different way.

The trials that have been made make it very improbable that any one will drop into the peal by composing at hap-hazard, but if the investigations are pursued on some plan, even if the desired result is not obtained, it is probable that some peal or touch of utility may be composed. The question is whether, from the time of Holt until the present day, any such attempts at systematic composition have been made. During this time, with the exception of Shipway's five-part peal—the composition of which I recently explained—nothing worth consideration has been brought out in this method, and yet let all young composers look at what has been done in the last few years!

Holt's one-part peal, with two singles only, contained 150 calls. Mr. Penning has produced peals under the same conditions, with 140 calls only. Not only are these peals distinct improvements, but any one who thinks they are merely variations of Holt's peal is, in my opinion, quite wrong. Mr. Hollis, by means of two Holt's bob singles, has produced a one-part peal with ninety-five calls only, and Mr. Penning has obtained a similar peal with ninety-two calls only.

The Penning-Davies five-part peals with two common singles only in each part are on a perfectly original plan, and are probably the simplest peals to ring and call that have yet been produced. Mr. Hollis's peal on the five-part plan is yet another example of the fertility of composers of the present day. Mr. Davies has also shown how a number of peals on Holt's ten-part-plan may be obtained.

Look at these results obtained in the last few years, and then let us consider whether the efforts of composers from the time of Holt, until a very few years back, have been such as to lead us to conclude that if the peal had been possible they would have obtained it?

I am glad that Mr. Davies alluded in his letter to our personal knowledge of each other, because for the last year or so, I have avoided taking part in any discussion in these columns solely because I found that so many men are apt to attribute one's criticisms to personal feeling. For this reason I have let many matters pass on which I would formerly have wished to express an opinion, and thus I have come to regard the flagrant reproduction of an old peal or any such matter with silent contempt. Under such circumstances, and making allowance for the amount of suppressed vituperation that has thus accumulated, Mr. Davies must not be surprised, when owing to a misunderstanding, I consider that a friend has made a mis-statement, and my criticisms cannot be supposed to arise from personal feeling, that I allow myself an Irishman's holiday, and begin to hit all round.

Old Bank Chambers, Leeds.

JASPER W. SNOWDON.

TOUCHES OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR.

Collected and arranged by
THE REV. H. EARLE BULWER.
(Continued from p. 34.)

The 6th four course-ends home.	The 6th four course-ends wrong.
2 3 4 5 6 M B W H	2 3 4 5 6 M B W H
5 2 3 6 4 - 2	2 3 5 6 4 - I
4 2 6 3 5 2 - 1	3 2 4 6 5 - I 2
5 4 3 2 6 - 2 2	5 2 3 6 4 - I
4 2 3 5 6 I -	2 5 4 6 3 - I 2
5 3 2 4 6 I - 2	3 5 6 4 2 2 - I
2 3 4 5 6 I - 1	2 3 4 5 6 - 2 2

In seven courses.

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

1856.

Time 67½ minutes.

In five courses.

The 6th three course-ends home.	The same in the reverse.
2 3 4 5 6 M B W H	2 3 4 5 6 M B W H
3 2 6 5 4 - I 2	2 4 5 3 6 I - 2 2
2 4 6 5 3 2 - I 2	3 5 4 2 6 I - 2
5 2 4 3 6 2 2 2	5 3 6 2 4 I - 2
5 4 3 2 6 I - 2 2	3 4 6 2 5 2 - I 2
2 3 4 5 6 2 2 2	2 3 4 5 6 2 2 2

The 6th three course-ends wrong.

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

The 5th two course-ends each way.

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

In six courses.

The 6th the extent home	The 5th the extent home
2 3 4 5 6	2 3 4 5 6
3 5 6 4 2 I 2	3 5 2 6 4 -
4 3 5 2 6 - 2	4 3 6 5 2 2 I 2
4 5 2 3 6 I 2	3 2 6 5 4 I 2

Repeated.

Repeated.

In seven courses.

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

1888.

Time 68½ mins.

In six courses.

The 6th the extent home.	The 5th the extent home.
2 3 4 5 6 M B W H	2 3 4 5 6 M B W H
2 3 5 6 4 - I	3 6 4 5 2 I 2
5 4 6 3 2 I I 2	6 2 4 5 3 I 2
3 5 4 2 6 - 2	2 6 3 5 4 2 2
2 4 5 3 6 2 2	5 2 6 4 3 - 2
2 5 3 4 6 I 2	3 4 6 2 5 I I I
2 3 4 5 6 I 2	2 3 4 5 6 - I 2

2 3 4 5 6

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

In the following variation of this touch the 5th is the extent in 6th's place.

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

The 6th three course-ends home, and two wrong.

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

In seven courses.

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

The above can be used as date touches for the present year, by omitting from the first lead the four changes in which the treble dodges in front.

1920.

Time 70 mins

In six courses.

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

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR.

5376.

By A. KNIGHTS, Chesterfield.

2 3 4 5 6 M B W H

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

The 5th and 6th their extent in 5ths, and the 4th, 5th and 6th their extent in 6ths.

First rung on January 12th, 1884, at All Saints', Loughborough, by the St. Paul's Society, Burton on Trent. Conducted by William Wakley.

TWO PEALS OF TREBLE BOB MAXIMUS.

By GEORGE NEWSON, Royal Cumberland Youths.

5280.

5280.

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

Repeated.

The 6th the extent home at four course-ends.

The 6th the extent home at five course-ends.

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR.

5088.

By JOHN THORP, Ashton-under-Lyne.

2 3 4 5 6 M B W H	Continued—
5 6 3 4 2 2 - 2	6 2 5 3 4 2 - I I
3 2 4 6 5 2 - 2 2	6 4 2 3 5 - I I
6 5 3 2 4 2 I	6 4 3 5 2 - I
5 2 6 4 3 -	6 4 5 2 3 - I
2 4 5 3 6 -	4 2 3 5 6 2 -
4 3 5 2 6 I -	2 5 3 4 6 I -
5 3 2 4 6 I - I	3 5 4 2 6 I - I
3 4 2 5 6 I -	5 2 4 3 6 I -
4 5 2 3 6 I -	2 3 4 5 6 I -

First rung at St. Peter's, Ashton, on Monday, April 14, 1884, conducted by its composer.

THE ART IN DEVONSHIRE.—The North Devon Gazette says: "A team of old hand ringers from Swymbridge visited Atherington on Sunday week and rung some first-class peals on the church bells. The Queen's peal of changes was performed in excellent style. It was considered the best ringing since the bells have been rehung."

Mr. H. Stokes, church bell hanger, is about to rehang, with entire new fittings, complete, the ring of eight at Halesowen, Worcestershire. The ring of five at Menheniot, Cornwall, is also to be rehung in a new frame, one of them to be recast, and a new treble added to make a ring of six.

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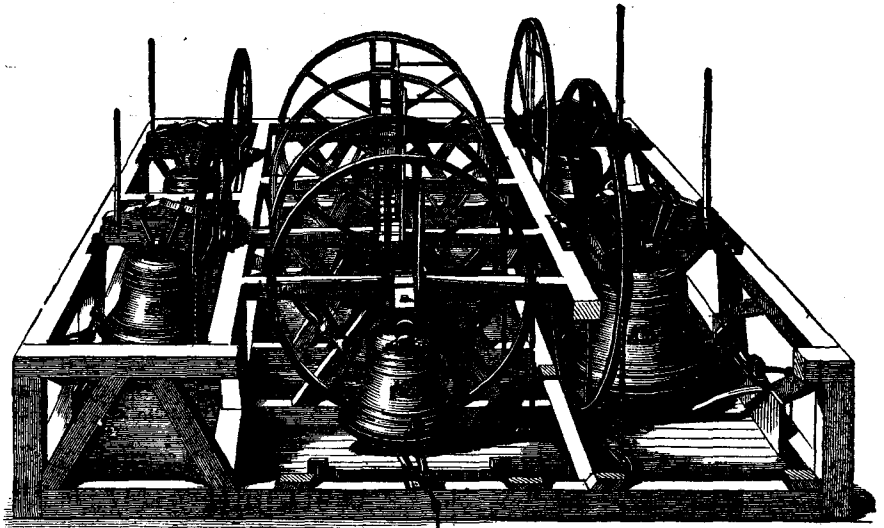
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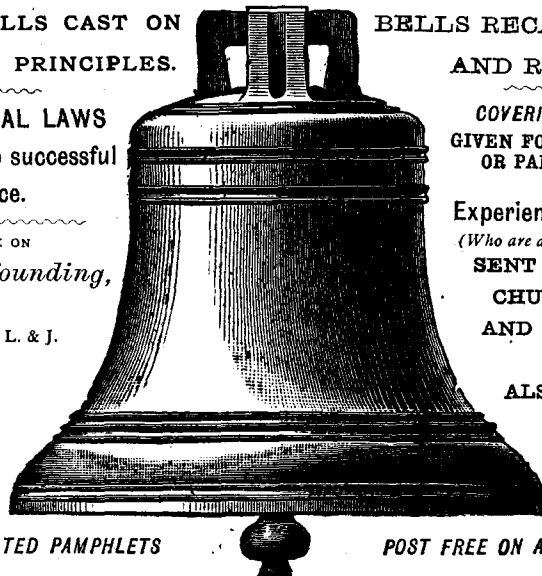
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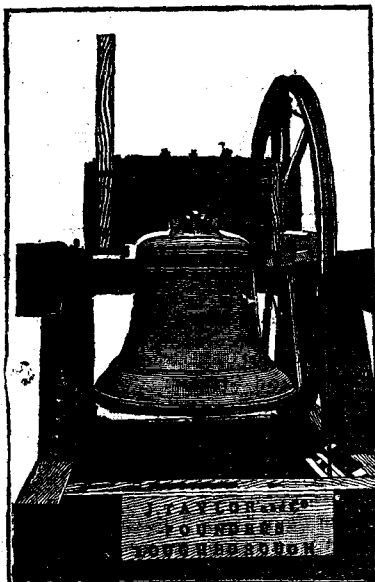
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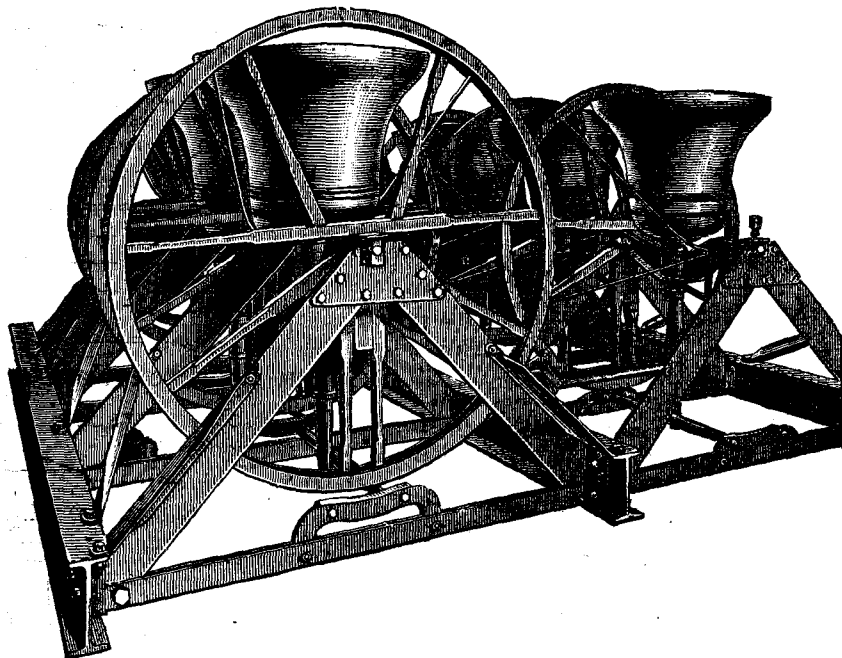
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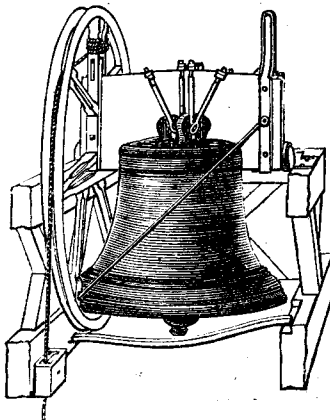
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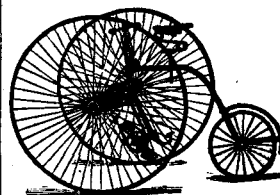
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KESWICK TOWN CLOCK BELL.

Whelan, in his history of Cumberland (p. 345), speaking of Keswick Town Hall, which was "erected in 1813 upon the site of the old Court House," says:—

The clock bell, which was taken from a building that formerly stood on Lord's Island, in Derwent Lake, said to have been the manor house of the Earls of Derwentwater, has the letters and figures "H. D. R. O. 1601" upon it—a decisive proof of its high antiquity.

Very high antiquity indeed, if the proof be really decisive! It would rank as by far the earliest known dated bell in England. Dated ancient bells are rare in this country. Mr. T. North, F.S.A., in his "Church Bells of Bedfordshire" (p. 6), says:

A few early dated English bells have been found: one at St. Chad's, Cloughton, Lancashire, is dated 1296; another at Cold Ashby, Northamptonshire, is dated 1317; two at South Somercotes, Lincolnshire, bear the date 1423; and two others at Sowerby, in the same county, tell us they were cast in the year 1431.

To these examples may be added the treble at Holme Abbey, Cumberland, dated MILL.CCCC.LXV. But, notwithstanding its inscription, and indeed because of it, we must not admit to this select company the Keswick town clock bell. Its letters are Roman capitals, and its figures Arabic, arranged in this way:—

H. D. 1601 R. O.

"Decisive proof," certainly, but not of "high antiquity." Mr. T. Wright, F.S.A., in a paper on Arabic numerals (*British Archaeological Journal*, vol. ii., p. 72), says:—

It was only in the 14th century that these algorismic numerals became generally used in books, and it is not probable that they would be used in inscriptions on buildings till long afterwards. It will be evident that they could not possibly be so used in the 12th century, and I believe it to have been equally impossible in the 13th. Rare examples of inscriptions in these figures may occur in the 15th: but even in the 16th, as is well known, the prejudice was strongly in favour of Roman capitals.

Is then the date on the Keswick bell a chronological fraud? It is unnecessary to suppose anything of the kind. We incline to think that either the date was originally 1601, and the top of the 6 has worn off, or the founder inadvertently put o for 6 as the second figure. This conjecture as to date seems to derive some confirmation from the initials, "R. O.," which point out to Robert Oldfield as the probable founder of the bell. Mr. North, speaking of Robert Oldfield, says:—

He cast the third bell at Stansted Abbots, Hertfordshire, and placed his name upon it, in 1605. . . . He was doubtless connected with the Nottingham founders of the same name. The initial cross he used is similar in form to those constantly used by them. (*Bedfordshire Church Bells*, pp. 69–70).

The Keswick bell has no initial cross or stamp of any kind; but the initials "R. O." upon it are very similar in character to those shewn in one of Mr. North's illustrations (*ibid.* p. 69), found on the treble at Shillington, Beds., which is known to have been cast in 1638 by Robert Oldfield, whose foundry was then at Hertford. From Lord's Island to Hertford may seem a far cry. But Robert Oldfield may have cast the Keswick bell before he migrated from Nottingham. He may even have come to Lord's Island to cast it on the spot. Another member of the family, William Oldfield, cast the Dacre treble in 1606, and is known to have had a foundry at York in 1620 (*Antiquary*, December, 1883). The position of the initials "R. O." on the Keswick bell, and indeed the arrangement of the whole inscription, correspond with what is found on the second bell at Edenhall, viz.:—

Sr. P. M. 1665 W. S.

This bell, cast by William Sellar of York, and not placed in Edenhall Church tower till some time after 1749, was doubtless procured to serve as the chapel or house bell at Edenhall, by Sir Philip Musgrave, whose initials precede the date. In like manner the date on the Keswick bell, which, as at Edenhall, is followed by the initials of the founder, is doubtless preceded by those of the person who gave the order for the bell. Who was he? It has by some been taken for granted that the initial "D." must needs stand for "Derwentwater." But, to say nothing of there having been no such person as a Derwentwater at all at the probable date of the bell, there has never at any date, before or after 1601, so far as can be learned from the known pedigree of the family, been a Derwentwater whom we can recognise in the initials "H. D." The only prominent man in these parts who fits the initials "H. D." and date 1601, seems to be a Denton of Warnell:

Henry Denton, who married Elizabeth Oglethorpe, of the county of York, and died about 12 Chas. I. (*Nicolson and Burn* ii. 326.)

Mr. J. Fisher Crosthwaite, in his interesting paper on "The last of the Derwentwaters," (appendix p. ii.), says:—

The old Town Hall was built about the year 1695, when the materials for it were boated from the Island. The ancient bell still used for the Manor Court, and for the Town clock, was then brought over.

Is it improbable that the bell may have been transferred, at some time in the early part of the 17th century, from Warnell to Lord's Island, and thence at the end of the century to Keswick? May it not even have been brought direct from Warnell, and not from Lord's Island, to Keswick in 1695?

MEETING AT LIVERSEDGE, YORKSHIRE.

On Saturday, April 26th, the half-yearly meeting of the West Riding of Yorkshire Association was held at Christ Church, Liversedge, when the following companies were represented: Liversedge, Haley Hill, Halifax Parish, Low Moor, Lightcliffe, Mirfield, Brighouse, Queensbury, Sowerby and Bradford. The welcome peal was rung by the All Souls' ringers. During the afternoon and evening short touches of Kent Treble Bob Major, Bob Triples, and Oxford were rung by the various companies. At five o'clock a capital knife and fork tea was provided at Mr. Barber's, the Victoria Tavern, to which ample justice was done. After tea, a meeting was held, Mr. John Illingworth presiding in the unavoidable absence of the President and Vice-President, at which it was decided to hold the next half yearly-meeting at Mirfield, in October next. Selections in different methods were given in good style on handbells, some of which were warmly applauded. A statement of accounts was also given by the Secretary, Mr. Mercer, which was very favourably received. Votes of thanks to the host and hostess were given, to which they suitably responded. Votes of thanks to the Secretary and Chairman brought the meeting to a close, after which ringing was resumed till ten o'clock.

BATHAMPTON CHURCH, SOMERSETSHIRE.

BATHAMPTON is a quiet and small village situate on the banks of the Kennett and Avon Canal with station on the Great Western Railway. Distance from Bath 2½ miles, and divided from the adjoining villages of Batheaston and Bathford by the Kennett and Avon Canal, Great Western Railway and river Avon. The church, which is dedicated to St. Michael, is an ancient structure, consisting of nave, chancel, aisles, and embattled tower, containing five bells bearing these inscriptions:—

Treble.—"Cast By Warner And Sons London."

2.—"Thomas Collett Thomas West Churchwardens"

3.—"Sancte + thoma + ora + pro + obis"

4.—"Anno Domini 1622 R P"

Tenor.—"Sanc t luci + ora pro no bis."

The walk to Bathampton by road or canal commands some fine views of the city of Bath in the distance and surrounding country.

Bath.

F. GOODMAN.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

BARNWOOD (Gloucestershire).—On Easter Sunday, April 13th, at St. Lawrence's church, prior to Divine Service, six members of the local company rang a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor, in 27½ mins. J. Yeates, 1; G. Miles, 2; R. A. Barrett, 3; H. G. Gardener, 4; H. Mitchell, 5; A. A. Waite (conductor), 6.

STOKE-UPON-TRENT ARCHIDIACONAL ASSOCIATION.

THE next Ringing Meeting will be held at Cheddleton, on Saturday, May 3rd. Tea will be provided at ninepence a head.

T. H. B. FEARON, } Hon. Secs.
ENDON GLOVER, }

ERECTION OF A PEAL-BOARD.—At St. Laurence's parish church, Reading, on Easter Sunday, a new peal-board, to commemorate the peal of Grandsire Triples rung on New Year's Eve by the St. Laurence's Society, was formally opened by the Rev. Dr. Coleman (curate); but owing to illness close to the church, the bells were not rung, and the customary touch had therefore to be postponed until Friday last, St. Mark's Day, when the following members met at the tower, and rang one part of Taylor's six-part peal of Grandsire Triples, 840 changes, in 30 mins., this being the peal which the board commemorates. H. M. Bawden, 1; J. E. Willshire, 2; W. Johnson, 3; W. J. Pocock, 4; E. Bishop, 5; W. Newell (conductor), 6; W. J. Williams, 7; W. Goseltine, 8. With the exception of Messrs. Pocock and Goseltine, who took the places of Messrs. Talbot and Holloway, respectively, the band is the same that rang the peal above-mentioned, and which was duly recorded in this paper at the time.

A memorial stained-glass window has just been placed in St. Andrew's Episcopal Church, Banff. The subject is a full-length representation of St. Matthias.

A memorial reredos has just been placed in St. Mary's Church, Lawford, Essex. It is constructed of red and white alabaster, elaborately carved with sacred emblems. The wings of the reredos are of alabaster and coloured tiles. The hangings, altar cloth, and kneelers, have been worked at the School of Ecclesiastical Embroidery.

THE ST. MARY'S SOCIETY, BATTERSEA, SURREY.

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

Dinner over, the following interesting, and as it turned out, most harmonious programme was gone through, Mr. Porter acquitting himself at the piano as accompanist with great *eclat*.

Solo Piano. (Selected). Mr. W. H. D. Porter. *Toast.* "The Queen and Royal Family."—The chairman. *Song.* "Nancy Lee."—Mr. C. C. Durrant. *Song.* "The King and I."—Mr. Morant. *Toast.* "St. Mary's Bell-Ringing Society."—Mr. R. T. Richards. *Song.* "The Skipper and His Boy."—Mr. C. W. Ludwig. *Song.* "Trafalgar."—Mr. W. H. D. Porter. *Toast.* "President, Vice-Presidents, Patrons, and Hon. Members."—Mr. A. G. Thomas. *Song.* "Three Jolly Post Boys."—Mr. J. Martin Routh. *Song.* "Timothy Black."—Mr. H. A. Hopkins. *Toast.* "Our Instructor."—Mr. H. S. Thomas. *Song.* "Far, Far Away."—Mr. A. G. Thomas. *Song.* "Dear Aunt Jane."—Mr. W. Griffin. *Toast.* "The Churchwardens and Overseers."—Mr. J. Martin Routh. *Song.* "Butter and Cheese."—Mr. W. Coppage. *Toast.* "The Visitors."—Mr. S. Spice. *Song.* "How Paddy Stole the Rope."—Mr. H. S. Thomas. *Toast.* "The Ladies."—Mr. C. C. Durrant.

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

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

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

Mr. SPICE, the Chairman, replied in a witty speech, in which he complimented the band on the "mettle" shown by them, and observed that it was a curious fact that in proportion to the number of changes he produced, it behoved a ringer to keep the even "tenor" of his way most carefully, and remain unchanged himself, otherwise how could he possibly get through an ordeal which was sufficient, in his opinion, to knock the strongest man off his legs. With regard to the request conveyed to him to take the chair for a second time at one of the Society's gatherings, he looked upon it as a very great honour indeed. He had been connected with the parish for fifty-three years, and delighted in

mixing with persons who had its welfare at heart. By shutting themselves up people did little good, besides, they lost the benefit of enjoyable society like that in which he now found himself.

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

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

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

Mr. Daws having suitably acknowledged the toast, Mr. Coppage, amid applause, and much laughter, gave "Butter and Cheese" with great vigour.

Other toasts followed, including "The Visitors" (Messrs. Routh, Richards, Morant, Mansfield, Rowland, and Coppage), and "The Ladies," about whom Mr. Durrant made some pertinent observations, after which the company broke up, well pleased with their entertainment and themselves.

A YEAR'S SUMMARY.

Thinking it would be of interest to the readers of our paper to know how many peals have been recorded in its columns during the past twelve months, I have taken the trouble to find out the same with the various particulars connected therewith. The total number of peals of 5000 changes and upwards recorded in the past volume of "THE BELL NEWS," is 361 in various methods. There were 162 peals of Triples rung, 135 of Major, 25 of Caters, eight of Royal, four of Cinques, and three of Maximus. There were also fifteen 5040's, composed of 720's of Minor, and four composed of 120's of Doubles. In the Grandsire method there were 151 peals of Triples rung, three of Major, fifteen of Caters, one of Royal, and two of Cinques. Of the peals of Grandsire Triples fifty-six were Holt's ten-part, twenty-three Holt's Original, and sixteen Taylor's Bob-and-Single Variation. There were twenty-five peals of Stedman rung as follows: Triples thirteen, Caters ten, Cinques two. Of Plain Bob Major there were seventeen, and one of Royal. Of Treble Bob there were 116 peals, thus: Major 107, Royal six, Maximus three. There were also seven peals of Double Norwich Court Bob Major, two of Union Triples, and one of Oxford Bob Triples. Of the total number recorded, sixty were rung in the Metropolis, while the Provinces scored 301. Of the 361 peals recorded, Wales contributed six, the remaining number being rung in the following counties:—Lancashire fifty-four, Yorkshire forty-five, Surrey thirty-eight, Cheshire thirty-five, Middlesex thirty-five, Staffordshire fifteen, Essex fourteen, Norfolk and Suffolk each thirteen, Kent twelve, Warwickshire eleven, Berkshire, Derbyshire and Gloucester, each eight, Sussex seven, Buckingham six, Worcestershire five, Devonshire four, Hertfordshire, Lincolnshire, Leicestershire, Northumberland and Oxfordshire each reporting three, Northamptonshire, Hampshire and Nottinghamshire each two, while Cambridgeshire, Somersetshire and Durham conclude the list with one each.

Although I have gone through the whole volume several times, I have found it difficult to arrive at the numbers rung in each county, as in some reports of peals rung, the county has not been given. Also the same name has appeared in two different counties, as for instance, Stalybridge, which has been given in both Lancashire and Cheshire; also Prestbury which is given as in Gloucestershire and Cheshire. Probably there may be two Prestbury's.

During the year there were ten peals rung in hand, Birmingham contributing six, viz.: four of Grandsire Major, one of Bob Major, and Taylor's Bob-and-Single peal of Grandsire Triples. At Oxford two peals of Grandsire Triples were rung. One peal of Kent Treble Bob Major at Norwich, and Holt's Original by four London ringers.

Doubtless I have made some errors, but should the foregoing prove of interest to my brother strings, I shall feel amply repaid for my trouble.

St. Alban's, Herts, April 7th, 1883.

N. N. HILLS.

The Archbishop of York has collated the Rev. Canon Blakeney, vicar of Sheffield, to the new Archdeaconry of Sheffield, and has also assigned to him the Cathedral stall belonging to the Archdeaconry.

ON BELFRY REFORM.

[A SKETCH.]

THE living of Muddleton Magna, in the diocese of Bumbleton, had just been presented to the Rev. John Toyler, having been rendered vacant by the death of the last-named incumbent, an old man of more than four-score years. The parish had been somewhat neglected of late, and the Rev. John Toyler consequently found plenty of work before him as soon as he was instituted.

Among other things, the ringers had been sadly neglected. It was true that the bells had been rehung, and a cracked one recast, some three years back, through the munificence of the squire and one or two more of the gentry of the parish, who liked to hear them rung at Christmas-time, and when there happened to be a grand wedding—which was not often. But the ringers themselves were a roughish lot, and knew nothing of change-ringing.

Now the latter deficiency would not have troubled the new vicar in the least, for he was utterly ignorant of the art, nor, in fact, could he handle a bell at all. What he wished to reform was the character of the ringers. Not that they were worse than the generality of country round ringers. On the other hand, some of them were decentish fellows in their way, but they rarely, if ever, attended the church services, and they drank and smoked in the belfry, and all these things annoyed the new vicar very much.

Now as he was utterly ignorant of bells and ringing, he thought it would be best to ask the advice of some one who knew more about the matter than himself, so he wrote to the editor of a paper called *The Tintinnabulum*, stating his case, and asking correspondents to give him what advice they could, either through the columns of that journal, or by letter privately; and the following are some of the replies he obtained:—

"Howlington Rectory.—May 1st, 18.—Sir,—I am truly sorry to hear of the trouble your ringers give you, but let me assure you that it is no unusual thing. My own ringers are a very disreputable lot. When I first came here they used to profane the Sabbath-day by ringing thereon. I have managed to stop all this, however, and have had a very good chiming apparatus put up, by means of which one person can ring (*sic*) all the bells. This is a great advantage, as it enables me to do without the services of these men. Only a fortnight ago their leader had the audacity to ask me to allow them to ring on Easter Sunday. I stoutly refused to allow the Sabbath to be thus profaned. Let me advise you by all means to have a chiming apparatus. Apply to Messrs. Slipweel and Klapperong, bell hangers, Jangleton, and I have no doubt they will be most happy to fix you one at a moderate cost.—Yours truly, Ebenezer Lowman, M.A., Rector of Howlington."

The next was as follows:—

"Slopsbury.—Festival of S. Alphege.—Revd. Sir,—I am sorry to hear of the trouble you are in with your ringers. We had a similar case here some time ago, but since that we have trained a band of young men to ring on all Church festivals. We call them 'The Guild of S. Eunuchus.' They all wear cassocks to ring in. We have only six bells, but we have a special peal for every festival of the year. Each peal lasts five minutes. For instance, to-day we rang 1 4 2 5 3 6. This is a very pretty peal. I enclose a list of our peals for each festival throughout the year. [The writer had enclosed a sheet of foolscap with a calendar, and a special set change for each saint's day.] I should strongly advise you to try and start a Guild like ours. Any further information I shall be glad to give.—Yours respectfully, Alban Cope, Sacristan to S. Lucian-ye-Martyr, Slopsbury."

The next one ran thus:—

"Boshington, April 29th, 18.—Dear Sir,—Let me advise you under the circumstances to form an entirely new band of ringers. Have very strict rules. Let no person be admitted to the belfry without a written order from yourself, as vicar, except the members of the band you may form. Any member who speaks in the belfry, except the captain, should be fined one shilling, and no member except the captain should be allowed to go up into the bell-chamber without your express permission. It would be well to have a captain, a lieutenant, a treasurer, a secretary, and a steward, in a band which I suppose would consist of eight members altogether. I enclose you a copy of our rules here, where we have five bells and five ringers.—Yours truly, Titus Stuff, B.A., Curate of Boshington."

And the last one ran thus:—

"Slowborough, April 30th, 18.—Rev. Sir,—It seems to me that your men have not got enough to occupy their minds and sharpen their intellects. Get them to go in for a bit of Treble Bob, or Double Norwich Court. That's the thing. Give them something more scientific to study. I hope you will excuse the liberty I am taking in writing this.—Yours respectfully, John Trippels, C.Y., conductor of the Slowborough Abbey company of change-ringers."

Of all the letters the last seemed the best in its way, but was certainly the most impracticable, inasmuch as the Rev. John Toyler had not the materials to work with in the first instance, nor in the second

place had he the faintest idea what "Treble Bob" or "Double Norwich Court" meant. The letter might as well have been written in Chinese, as far as he was concerned.

Fortunately for him, not many days afterwards, a gentleman who was a thoroughly practical change-ringer came to reside at Muddleton Magna quite unexpectedly. With his help and instruction, the Vicar managed in time both to establish a respectable company of change-ringers, and to learn to ring himself, although he never got beyond Bob Doubles. Of course this was the work of some time, and there were many disappointments and hindrances to be overcome before anything like decent change-ringing was attained to. By the advice of his friend he had no printed rules whatever. His own orders as to the times of ringing were found quite sufficient, and common decency prevented unseemly conduct in the belfry among a company of respectable men.

And now before parting allow the writer of this sketch (who has often been applied to by clergy and others about belfry rules) to give a word or two of advice in the matter. First: if there happens to be a respectable society of change-ringers anywhere near, it would be far better to get them to do the ringing on such days as it may be required, than to form any local company. By this means better ringing will be had, and the services of an efficient company may be always depended on; and any parishioner who wishes to become a ringer could join that society and learn the art. Secondly: if no such facility is available, and the formation of a local company is imperative, the assistance of some practical change-ringer should be secured. The ringing days should include Easter Day, Ascension Day, Whit-Sunday, and Christmas Day. For the first three of these there should be a regular payment, varying in scale according to the district. It is hardly necessary to pay for the latter, as ringers usually pick up enough in Christmas-boxes to compensate them for that day. As regards what may be called second class days, these should include the Queen's birthday, the coronation-day, and 9th November; and to these might be added Trinity Sunday, and S. Michael and All Angels and All Saints' days. For these the scale of payment may be somewhat less than for the former days.

It should be borne in mind that pay will never of itself produce good change-ringing; but there's an old saying that "if you pay the piper, you can choose your tune." You cannot expect men, however fond of the art they may be, to meet just when you wish, and lose time from their work without payment. And although it is to be hoped that there are many who would gladly volunteer to ring for nothing on the greater Church festivals, you could not ensure every member of a company in the same mind. As regards ringing for service on ordinary Sundays, if it can be kept up regularly, by all means have it, but do not let it be done by fits and starts.

And now as to belfry rules. First: let them be as few as possible. Secondly: let them be as simple as possible. Thirdly: let them not be too stiff. And lastly: Don't have any at all. J. R. J.

THE BRAINTREE BRANCH OF THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

FROM Easter, 1883, to Easter, 1884, the Braintree company have rung 159 720's in 14 different methods: ten of Oxford Delight, seventeen of College Exercise, sixteen of Kent Treble Bob, fourteen of Woodbine, twenty-one of Bob Minor, nine of New London Pleasure, nineteen of Oxford Treble Bob, seven of Violet, fifteen of Cambridge Surprise, eleven of Double Court Bob, six of London Surprise, six of Imperial, five of London Scholars' Pleasure, and three of Court Single. There has also been 209 touches rung upon six bells, all of which have been brought successfully home. The touches are as follows: one touch of 600, fifty-six of 360, one of 300, one of 288, thirty-one of 240, one of 216, three of 192, seven of 180, nineteen of 144, 58 of 120, two of 108, four of 96, nine of 72, eleven of 60, two of 48, and two of 24. All the above methods are well represented in the above touches. There has also been run eight 6-scores of Grandsire and Bob Doubles, also eight 59's of Grandsire Doubles, making a total of 148,500 changes rung during the year. The following are the names of the company, and the number of 720's they have each rung during the year: S. Hammond, 141; F. Rudkin, 152; A. Huckson, 111; F. Calthorpe, 110; W. H. Dyson, 125; H. E. Hammond, 129; F. Bumpstead, 118. There has also been rung three 5040's, two of them containing seven 720's, and one fourteen 360's, in fourteen methods. Also the dates of the year 1883, in eleven methods, and 1884 in fourteen methods. S. HAMMOND, Secretary.

NEW BELLS AT ST. EDMUND'S, SALISBURY.—Some time ago an anonymous donor promised one new bell towards augmenting the peal of six, tenor 30 cwt., at St. Edmund's, Salisbury, if the parishioners and other friends would furnish another and guarantee to do the hanging. An appeal put forward by the Rector and Churchwardens has been liberally responded to. The work has now been placed into the hands of Messrs. Mears and Stainbank, of the Whitechapel Foundry.

"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.

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.

Everything for insertion in this Journal to be addressed "The Editor of THE BELL NEWS, Walthamstow, London." Letters forwarded for publication, and performances under 5000 changes must reach us not later than Wednesday morning; and the insertion of any communication coming later than the first Postal delivery on Thursday morning cannot be guaranteed in that week's number. When it is found impossible from want of space to insert all touches forwarded, the earlier ones will have the preference.

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

J. H.—You will find what you want among our advertisement pages.

The Bell News & Ringers' Record.

SATURDAY, MAY 3, 1884.

THE season of Easter has always been regarded as most opportune for what is known as a ringers' outing. The pages of this journal, and those of our contemporary, in the respective issues at the close of Easter-week, are sufficient evidence of the popularity of the period for events of this character. Not only do many ringing Associations resolve to hold important gatherings on Easter Monday, but plenty of companies—often of a most miscellaneous description—are improvised for the purpose of innocent enjoyment on that day.

Whether such occasions are turned to good account for the extension of the principles advocated by all good ringers is a matter of doubt. In the case of a meeting of the nature we are alluding to being got up under the auspices of a ringing Guild or Association, we can depend, generally, on the local clergy, and frequently the leading Churchmen of the place, being invited to take part in the proceedings. On the other hand, where a town may be visited by a band promiscuously got together, having for the time being no official connection with any bell-ringing organisation, it often happens that they come and go without the least notice or recognition; the Vicar and Churchwardens, whose bells they have been ringing, being unaware of their presence; and in such a case, for all the good effected for change-ringing, the visit may as well not have been made.

We must not be understood to mean that a company should only visit strange belfries when they are accredited thereto by the Guild or Association of which they are members. Such a proposition would be simply absurd. But independent companies should, when an "outing" is being arranged, endeavour to secure the countenance of

the local clergy (at least) of the place they intend visiting. They should be invited to preside at the festive board on these occasions, and if they have hitherto entertained the once popular but erroneous opinion of ringers, should be made to feel that they have all along been labouring under a delusion.

There is a very old saying to the effect that ringers—whichever they may offend—should always be on good terms with the clergyman. This seems to be an admission that in matters connected with the steeple he is master of the situation. How much better to gain his co-operation as a fellow-worker in the same field. And the manner we suggest of doing this is worthy of consideration.

KELSTON CHURCH, NEAR BATH.

KELSTON is a quiet picturesque little village pleasantly situated some 4½ miles North West from Bath, on the upper Bristol Road, commanding fine and uninterrupted views of the surrounding country for miles around.

The parish church, which is dedicated to St. Nicholas, is a small but handsome structure, consisting of nave, chancel, southern aisle, and porch, with low square tower, situated at the western end of the building.

The tower contains a ring of four bells, bearing these inscriptions:—

- 1.—"Mr. Stephen Toghill CH: Warden 1762 T.B."
- 2.—"Mr. Stephen Toghill CH: Warden 1762 T.B."
- 3.—"Mr. Stephen Toghill CH: Warden T. Bilbie Founder 1762"
- 4.—"Mr. Stephen Toghill CH: Warden 1762 T.B.F."

There is a station here on the Bath and Mangotsfield branch of the Midland Railway.

Bath.

F. GOODMAN.

REDENHALL, NORFOLK.

ON Tuesday, April 29th, the Redenhall branch of the Norwich Diocesan Association met to ring on the occasion of a Confirmation Service, at St. Mary's, Redenhall, by the Lord Bishop of Norwich. During the afternoon, before and after service, they rang touches of Superlative Surprise, Oxford Treble Bob, Double Norwich Court Bob, Grandsire Triples, and Stedman Triples. The following members of the society took part in the ringing: Gervas Holmes, Esq., Edward Smith, William Sheldrake, William Matthews, George Prime, James Tann, Robert Whiting, George Mobbs, Fredk. Smith, John Smith and Capt. Moore.

MEETING AT PAINSWICK, GLOUCESTERSHIRE.

ON Easter Monday last, by the kind invitation of Mr. Albert Estcourt, son of the late celebrated William Estcourt, of Painswick, a party of ringers from Cheltenham, with Mr. S. White, of Appleton, and the Rev. C. D. Davies, of Chacely, paid a visit to Painswick, and started for a peal of Stedman Caters, but after ringing for 2 hrs. 12 mins., the peal unfortunately came to grief. The ringers desire to return their best thanks to Mr. Estcourt for his kind hospitality to them, and also to the Rector and churchwardens of Painswick, for the kind way in which they welcomed them.

CALLING FOX-HUNTERS BY THE CHURCH BELLS.—In a letter to a friend soon after he began with his fine scratch pack, Mr. Russell said, in alluding to the difficulty of preserving foxes:—"During the winter of the first year I was at Iddlesleigh, the snow at the time lying deep on the ground, a native came to me and said, 'Hatherley bell is a ringing, sir.' 'Ringing for what?' I enquired, with a strong misgiving as to the cause of it. 'Well, sir, they've a traced a fox in somewhere, and they've a sot the bell a-going to collect the people to go to shoot'un.' This setting the church-bell going to get the people together to destroy foxes was a common custom in Devonshire in those days, and the whole congregation have been known to leave the church during service for that purpose.—Field.

There is a very fine set of bells in the Clock Tower of the Royal Courts of Justice, but they are so completely boxed in that only a muffled ghost of their fine tones can riggle its way through the nearly closed louvres.—The Engineer.

MEETING AT PRESTBURY, MACCLESFIELD, CHESHIRE.

On Monday evening, April 21st, a goodly number of ringers of the Macclesfield district assembled at Prestbury to celebrate the ninety-fourth birthday of the veteran ringer, Mr. John Wheelton; when a selection of 1,128 changes of Grandsire Triples was rung in 41 mins. A most sociable evening was afterwards spent at the "Black Boy," where the venerable gentleman enjoyed himself equal to the youngest member present, and in reply to the toast of "The Veteran's Birthday," hoped that those present would never fail to keep up what has now become an annual custom—that of having a friendly meeting of ringers on each recurring birthday as long as he lives. Since the last meeting, when a peal was rung to celebrate the 93rd birthday of the old gentleman, a beautiful tablet has been placed in Prestbury belfry to commemorate the event. It is composed of enamelled white earthenware, with the inscription burnt in, and is almost, so far as time is concerned, practically indestructible, the size is 20 by 16 inches, and being placed in a massive oak frame looks really beautiful. The tablet was an old suggestion of Mr. Matthews, the conductor at Macclesfield, who thought of the requirements of future generations of ringers who would want space on their belfry walls, which in towers like Macclesfield, is almost absorbed by the present style of painted boards.

EYE, SUFFOLK.

THE ringers of the above place held their Anniversary on Easter Monday, and representatives were present from Kenninghall, Stradbroke, Diss, Wingfield, Horham, Yaxley, and other places. During the day touches of Oxford and Kent Treble Bob Major, Stedman Grandsire and Bob Major was rung. At 2 o'clock, at the "Eight Bells Inn," a substantial dinner was provided by host and hostess Jessup. The chair was taken by the Rev. W. E. Dalton, and the vice-chair by Mr. B. E. Gibbs. After the usual loyal toasts had been proposed and duly honoured, a mixed band made a start on the tower bells for a date touch of 1884 changes of Kent Treble Bob Major, which was successfully brought round in 1 hr. 12 mins. R. Hutton (conductor), 1; W. Ireland, 2; G. Edwards, 3; F. Day, 4; E. Collings, 5; J. Woods, 6; R. Barnes, 7; J. Mordey, 8. The touch was taken from "THE BELL NEWS," of December 29th. Tenor 24 cwt. Mr. R. Huggins gave some very good tunes on his handbells. At the close of the day the ringers parted with good wishes to each other, hoping to meet again for many more years to come.

The Metropolis.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS,
SOUTHWARK.

On Tuesday, April 29, 1884, in Four Hours and Twelve Minutes,

AT ST. SAVIOUR'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAXIMUS, 5040 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 52 cwt.

HENRY W. HALEY, SEN.	Treble.	GEORGE MASH	7.
JAMES PETTIT	2.	EDWIN GIBBS	8.
FRANCIS E. DAWES	3.	HENRY J. TUCKER	9.
RICHARD FRENCH	4.	GEORGE A. MUSKETT	10.
CHALLIS. F. WINNY	5.	EDWIN HORREX	11.
JAMES R. HAWORTH	6.	JOHN M. HAYES	Tenor.

Composed by H. W. HALEY, SEN., and

Conducted by JOHN M. HAYES.

A period of nearly twenty-two years has elapsed since a peal in this method was rung on the bells.

THE SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS,
SHOREDITCH.

On Saturday, April 26, 1884, in Four Hours and Thirteen Minutes,

AT ST. LEONARD'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAXIMUS, 5280 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 31 cwt.

GEORGE NEWSON	Treble.	ARTHUR H. GARDOM	7.
CHARLES T. HOPKINS	2.	*FREDERICK PITSTOW	8.
HARRY RANDALL	3.	WILLIAM H. DORAN	9.
JAMES HANNINGTON	4.	WINGFIELD MEADOWS	10.
THOMAS TICHENER	5.	SAMUEL JARMAN	11.
ARTHUR JACOB	6.	JAMES BARRETT	Tenor.

Composed and conducted by GEORGE NEWSON.

*First peal of Maximus.

The Provinces.

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE SOCIETY—STALYBRIDGE.

On Saturday, April 26, 1884, in Three Hours and Three Minutes,

AT HOLY TRINITY CHURCH,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;

IN THE OXFORD VARIATION.

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

Composed and conducted by SAMUEL WOOD.

First peal of Oxford by all except Mr. Thorp, and the first peal in the method on the bells.

THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

BIDDENHAM, BEDS.

On Saturday, April 26, 1884, in Two Hours and Fifty-seven Minutes,

AT ST. JAMES'S CHURCH,

5040 CHANGES: BEING SEVEN DIFFERENT 720's
OF PLAIN BOB MINOR.

Tenor 14 cwt. in G.

WILLIAM BIGGS	Treble.	JOHN ADKINS	4.
JAMES FROSSELL	2.	ISAAC HILLS	5.
CHARLES WEST	3.	CHARLES W. CLARKE	Tenor.

Conducted by C. W. CLARKE.

This is the first 5040 by the Association, also the first by any of the band.

THE ST. PAUL'S SOCIETY, BURTON-ON-TRENT.

BURTON-ON-TRENT.

On Monday, April 28, 1884, in Three Hours and Eight Minutes,

AT ST. PAUL'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

BROOK'S VARIATION. Tenor 26 cwt.

CHAS. HY. HATTERSLEY	Treble.	JOHN JAGGAR	5.
JOSEPH GRIFFIN	2.	GEORGE APPLEBY	6.
HARRY WAKLEY	3.	WILLIAM WAKLEY	7.
EDWARD ISAAC STONE	4.	THOMAS HOLMES	Tenor.

Conducted by CHARLES HENRY HATTERSLEY.

Mr. Hattersley hails from Sheffield, the rest are also members of the Midland Counties' Association.

Date Touches.

THE BIRMINGHAM AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATION.

BIRMINGHAM.—On Sunday, April 27th, for Divine Service in the evening, at St. Chad's, eight members of the above Association rang a date touch of 1884 changes of Stedman Triples, in 1 hr. 6 mins. T. Miller, 1; J. Carter (composer and conductor), 2; W. Brook, 3; J. Callaghan, 4; R. Hunt, 5; R. Hackley, 6; B. Stevens, 7; A. Druce, 8. Tenor 14 cwt. This touch contains twenty-four 6-7's.

STOKE-UPON-TRENT ARCHIDIACONAL ASSOCIATION.

CHEDDLTON (Staffordshire).—On Wednesday, April 23rd, at the request of W. Meaking, Esq., of Westwood Manor, it being the day fixed for the marriage of his daughter to E. A. Ridgway, Esq., of Rownall Hall, the following members of the above Association rang amongst other touches, a date touch of 1884 changes in the following methods: 720 of Oxford Bob, 444 of Grandsire, 600 of Plain Bob, and 120 of Oxford Treble Bob Minor, in 65 mins. John James, 1; Edwin Spooner, 2; Henry Rogers, 3; Fred Clowes (conductor), 4; Henry Birch, 5; James Renshaw, 6. They were afterwards very kindly and liberally entertained at the above gentleman's mansion.

DORKING (Surrey).—On Wednesday, April 23rd, eight members of the local company rang 840 changes of Union Triples, in honour of the marriage of the Rev. E. Chichester and Miss Cubitt, and in the afternoon a date touch of Oxford Bob Triples, in 1 hr. 8 mins. *H. Boxall, sen., 1; *W. Boxall (composer), 2; T. Rose, 3; H. Henden, 4; *H. Boxall, jun., 5; *C. Boxall, 6; *S. Brooker (conductor), 7; G. Holden, 8. Tenor 25 cwt. in Eb. *Members of the Winchester Guild.

ECKINGTON (Derbyshire).—On Wednesday, April 23rd, at SS. Peter and Paul church, six members of the local company rang a date touch of 1884 changes, in the following methods, in 1 hr. 10 mins. 720 of Oxford Treble Bob Minor, 720 Violet, and 444 of New London Pleasure. G. Smith, 1; W. Price, 2; E. James, 3; G. Norman, 4; G. Marsden (conductor), 6; T. Lunn, 6.

Miscellaneous.

THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

ASPLEY GUISE (Beds).—On Saturday afternoon, April 26th, at the parish church, a 720 was rung in 27 mins. J. Carwell-Cooke (Aspley Guise), 1; Chas. Herbert (Woburn), 2; Mark Lane (Aspley Guise; first 720 with a bob bell), 3; Rev. J. C. Maltby (Rector; first 720), 4; Walter Chibnall (Aspley Guise; conductor), 5; W. W. C. Baker, Esq. (Eversholt Rectory), 6. No method mentioned. The four residents of Aspley Guise who took part in the touch have only learnt to ring since the opening of the new bells, which is somewhat less than a year ago, therefore it is a very creditable performance.

BOONHAM (Beds).—On Friday evening, April 25th, a 360 of Grandsire Minor. *—Warrick, 1; C. West, 2; F. Smith, 3; W. King, 4; W. Biggs, 5; C. W. Clarke, 6. *First 360.

BROMHAM (Beds).—On Wednesday evening, April 23rd, six members of the above Society rang a 720 of College Little, with eighteen bobs and two singles, in 26½ mins. T. Tysoe, 1; F. Smith, 2; C. W. Clarke, 3; W. King, 4; C. Stafferton, 5; W. Biggs (conductor), 6. First 720 in the method by all.

WOBURN (Beds).—On Thursday evening, April 24th, an entertainment was given at, and on the occasion of the opening of, the Town Hall, Woburn, recently improved and renovated at the sole expense of His Grace the Duke of Bedford. Shortly before the commencement of the entertainment the Woburn company rang some touches upon the church bells, repeatedly firing them in honour of the event.

BIRMINGHAM AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATION.

KING'S NORTON (Worcestershire).—*Muffled Peal*.—On Saturday, April 5th, eight members of the above Association rang several touches of Grandsire Triples, with the bells muffled, as a tribute of respect to the late Duke of Albany. J. Ashmole, 1; W. H. Sumner, 2; Fred Palmer, 3; Fred Scrivens, 4; J. Cooks, 5; J. Wright (conductor), 6; W. Palmer, 7; D. Taylor, 8. Also on Easter Sunday, for Divine Service, a touch of 800 Grandsire Triples, in 30 mins. Frank Palmer, 1; W. H. Sumner, 2; Fred Palmer, 3; J. Cooks, 4; J. Wright, 5; Fred Scrivens, 6; W. Palmer (conductor), 7; Daniel Taylor, 8. And in the afternoon, 720 of Grandsire Minor, on the back seven. J. Cooks, 1; W. H. Sumner, 2; Fred Palmer, 3; Fred Scrivens, 4; J. Wright, 5; W. Palmer (conductor), 6; Frank Palmer, 7. Also on April 20th, a quarter-peal (1260 changes) of Grandsire Triples, containing the twenty-four 6-7's, and now rung for the first time. Frank Palmer, 1; W. H. Sumner, 2; Fred Palmer, 3; J. Cooks, 4; W. Palmer (composer and conductor), 5; Fred Scrivens, 6; J. Wright, 7; D. Taylor, 8. Time 42 mins.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

JARROW-ON-TYNE.—On Thursday evening, April 24th, five members of the Christ Church company, assisted by F. Harrison, of St. Peter's, rang six 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles, each called differently, in 26 mins. R. Oliver, 1; W. Plumpton, 2; F. Harrison (conductor), 3; A. Sharp, 4; W. Holmes, 5; G. R. Heron, 6. Tenor 17 cwt. This is the first 6-score by all but the conductor.

NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.—On Monday, April 28th, at the church of St. John-the-Baptist, for practice, 576 of Kent Treble Bob Major, in 22 mins. G. Campbell, 1; F. Lees, 2; W. Egglestone, 3; C. L. Routledge, 4; R. S. Story, 5; T. J. Des Forges, 6; W. Story, 7; W. G. Routledge (conductor), 8. Tenor 12½ cwt. This is the first touch of Major on the bells.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

WALKDEN (Lancashire).—On Sunday, April 27th, six of the Eccles company paid a visit to St. Paul's church, Walkden, and rang for evening service a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor, in 28 mins. Charles Cash (first 720 in the method), 1; Edward Cash, 2; James Barratt, 3; Richard Ashcroft, 4; Thomas Yates, 5; George Henry Johnson (conductor), 6. Tenor 13 cwt. 3 qrs. Although the bells have been hung for several years, this is the first 720 of Treble Bob on them.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

DISS (Norfolk).—*Muffled Peal*.—On Saturday, April 5th, at St. Mary's church, the local company rang 1440 changes of Kent Treble Bob, in 58 mins., with the bells fully muffled as a tribute of respect to the late Duke of Albany. And on Tuesday, April 15th, a start was made for a peal of Grandsire Triples, but after ringing 2900 changes, a shift occurred and "stand" was called. W. Ireland, W. Scales, W. Brown, B. Francis, E. Francis, E. Batram, J. Souter and E. Hayward.

THE UNITED COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

HAUGHTON (Lancashire).—On Thursday, April 24th, at St. Ann's church, the local society rang a 720 of Plain Bob Minor, with thirteen

bobs and two singles, in 27 mins. James A. Thomas, 1; John Bardsley, 2; Wm. Wilde, 3; John S. Leech, 4; Richard Ainsworth (conductor), 5; Peter Smith, 6. Also on Saturday, April 26th, a 720 of Plain Bob Minor, in 28 mins. James A. Thomas, 1; John Bardsley, 2; Wm. Wilde, 3; John S. Leech, 4; Richard Ainsworth (conductor), 5; Peter Smith, 6. Tenor 14½ cwt. in G. These are the first two 720's with Smith on the tenor.

LOUGHTON (Essex).—On Thursday evening, April 24th, at the parish church, six members of the local company rang six 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles, each called differently, in 30 mins. E. A. Bacon, 1; R. A. Sworder, 2; W. Lebbon, 3; F. Freeman, 4; T. Luffman, 5; W. Clark (conductor), 6. Tenor 19½ cwt.

FAREHAM (Hants).—On Easter Monday, April 14th, at St. Peter's church, the local company rang four 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles, each called differently, with 768 as cover. G. Grafham, 1; C. Privett, 2; F. Hill (conductor), 3; G. Passingham, 4; J. Whiting, 5; W. Mathews, 6; H. Carter, 7; E. Over, 8. Also on the back six, with W. Martin, 120 of Stedman Doubles. G. Grafham, 1; C. Privett, 2; F. Hill, 3; J. Whiting, 4; W. Martin, 5; H. Carter, 6. And a 504 of Grandsire Triples. G. Grafham, 1; F. Linter, 2; F. Hill, 3; W. Martin, 4; G. H. Child, 5; G. Williams (conductor), 6; J. Whiting, 7; G. Passingham, 8. Tenor 14 cwt. Williams and Child hail from Soberton, Linton from Swanmore, and Martin from Southampton. Shorter touches of Triples were rung, Hewett, Privett, Carter, Fox and R. Linter taking part.

HAMPSTEAD (Middlesex).—On Easter Sunday, April 13th, for Divine Service at 8.15 a.m., at St. Stephen's church, the local company rang some set changes, there being one short for Grandsire Triples. Also for Divine Service at 11 a.m., a 559 of Grandsire Triples, conducted by W. Pryor. Also for afternoon (children's) service, a 350 of Grandsire Triples, conducted by W. Pryor. Also for Divine Service in the evening, a 447 of Grandsire Triples, conducted by E. Chapman. Also on Sunday, April 20th, for Divine Service in the evening, a 504 of Grandsire Triples. S. Clarke, 1; B. Payne, 2; H. Tyler, 3; C. Deal, 4; W. Pryor, 5; N. Alderman, 6; B. Foksett (conductor), 7; W. Arscott, 8. Also on Sunday, April 27th, for Divine Service in the morning, a 504 of Grandsire Triples, conducted by W. Pryor. And for Divine Service in the evening, the same touch was rung. S. Clarke, 1; E. Chapman, 2; B. Payne, 3; H. Tyler, 4; C. Deal, 5; N. Alderman (conductor), 6; B. Foksett, 7; W. Arscott, 8.

MAIDSTONE (Kent).—On Sunday, April 27th, at All Saints' church, for Divine Service in the evening, the local company rang a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 45 mins. J. Constable, 1; A. H. Woolley, 2; G. Pawley, 3; R. Simmonds, 4; J. Furgusson, 5; J. Horton, 6; H. Pearce (conductor), 7; J. Johnson, 8. And after service, another quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 42 mins. J. Constable, 1; A. H. Woolley, 2; J. Horton, 3; R. Simmonds, 4; J. Furgusson, 5; H. Pearce, 6; G. Pawley (conductor), 7; J. Johnson, 8. Tenor 19 cwt.

PANGBOURNE (Berks).—On Saturday, April 26th, six members of the St. Laurence's Society, Reading, visited this picturesque village, and by kind permission of the vicar, the Rev. R. Finch, rang a 720 of Grandsire Minor, in 25 mins. W. H. Holloway, 1; E. Bishop, 2; H. M. Bawden (first 720 with a bob bell), 3; W. Goseltine, 4; W. J. Williams (conductor), 5; J. E. Willshire, 6. After which several 120's of Grandsire Doubles were rung by Messrs. Webb, C. Bennett, J. Nicholls, G. Ashley, and other members of the local company, conducted by C. Bennett and W. J. Williams. The Pangbourne ringers are now going thoroughly into the method, and up to the present their efforts have been attended with very fair success. They intend returning the visit by a trip to St. Laurence's, Reading, where they will be heartily welcomed.

RAUNDS (Northamptonshire).—On Saturday, April 26th, at St. Peter's church, a 720 of Plain Bob Minor, with eighteen bobs and two singles. F. Gilbert, 1; W. J. Gilbert, 2; R. Pendered, 3; E. Mayes, 4; W. Hall, 5; H. Stubbs (conductor), 6. E. Mayes hails from Kingstead, this being his first 720 with a bob bell. Also on Monday, April 28th, a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob Minor, with nine bobs. G. Kirk, 1; W. Hall, 2; R. Pendered, 3; H. Stubbs, 4; J. Willmott, 5; F. Gilbert (conductor), 6.

ROMFORD (Essex).—*Chiming*.—On Sunday, April 27th, a 360 of Double Court Bob Minor. A. J. Perkins, 1-2-3-4; B. Keeble, 5-6.

SPALDING (Lincolnshire).—On Wednesday, April 16th, at SS. Mary and Nicholas, the local company rang a 360 of Yorkshire Court Bob, also a 360 of Kent Treble Bob. And on Sunday, April 20th, a 360 of Oxford Treble Bob. J. S. Wright, 1; J. Wilson, 2; G. L. Richardson, 3; R. Mackman, 4; E. Brown, 5; J. Brown, 6. Also after evening service, two 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles, and while the ringing was in progress the clapper of the 5th bell flew out with a

tremendous crash, but no further damage was done. J. Brown, 1; J. Wilson, 2; G. L. Richardson, 3; R. Mackman, 4; J. S. Wright, 5; J. Prudence, 6. And on Sunday, April 27th, for morning service, a 360 of Kent Treble Bob; for evening service, 360 of Oxford Treble Bob; and after service a 720 of Yorkshire Court Bob. G. Skeef, 1; J. Wilson, 2; G. L. Richardson, 3; R. Mackman, 4; J. S. Wright, 5; J. Brown (conductor), 6.

WEST BROMWICH.—On Sunday afternoon April 27th, a mixed band of the St. Martin's Society, Birmingham, and the Association for the Archdeaconry of Stafford, visited this place, and rang at Christ Church the first part of Thurstan's 5-part peal of Stedman Triples. H. Bastable, 1; S. Reeves (conductor), 2; W. R. Small, 3; J. Buffery, 4; W. Beeson, 5; T. Reynolds, 6; A. Thomas, 7; H. Hipkiss, 8. Afterwards, with the addition of Messrs. R. Hall, J. Fullwood, and C. Price, a touch of Grandsire Caters was rung, conducted by J. Buffery. Tenor 23 cwt. 3 qrs. in Eb.

WIMBLEDON (Surrey).—On Sunday, April 27th, for Divine Service in the morning at St. Mary's church, a 720 of Grandsire Minor, with thirty-four bobs and two singles, in 27 mins. G. Hyde, 1; R. Moss (first 720), 2; C. Hyde, 3; J. Parker, 4; A. Garratt, 5; S. Frost (conductor), 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."

ELLACOMBE CHIMING HAMMERS.

SIR,—Can any reader say if he knows positively any case of bells being cracked by the above? In North's *Bells of Lincolnshire* several cases are mentioned of cracked bells by chiming apparatus, but of what description of machine is not stated.

In our tower the (w) ringing-machine is used for the less important services by different boys—who set forth various strength.

One bell during our additions is alone at work, and when present upstairs, we are all certain that too much force is used, as the bell gets up a regular swing. Several remedies suggest themselves. First: a simple chain that shall allow the hammer to be pulled just up to the lip of the bell and no further. Second: a stiff spiral spring fastened either above or below—this I have tried, but requires force to make the hammer touch the bell. Third: Some kind of carriage spring, just at the hinge. The danger is greatest when the hammer is used for tolling in, or the minute-bell—seemingly so to me.

Neither of the above suggestions would be expensive, or cause more trouble to get out of the way for ringing proper.

You can't make boys understand the thing, much as they may be instructed to let go immediately after pulling.

Sittingbourne.

F. G.

REIGATE BELLS.

SIR,—In reply to your correspondent of March 8th, respecting the weight of the Reigate tenor, we find by a book of Reigate that the weights of all the bells are just the same as your correspondent mentioned; but we have measured the bells at Reigate parish church, and we find by a book published by John Taylor and Co., of Loughborough, that the average weights run thus:—

	feet	ins.	cwt.	qrs.	lbs.
Treble.	2	6	6	0	0
2nd.	2	7	6	2	0
3rd.	2	9	7	3	0
4th.	3	0	7	3	0
5th.	3	3	11	3	0
6th.	3	4	13	2	0
7th.	3	8	16	2	0
Tenor.	4	1	22	0	0

As the bells run nearly the same up to the 5th, we feel at a loss why there should be so much difference between the 6th, 7th and tenor.

The weights from the Reigate book:—

	cwt.	qrs.	lbs.
Treble.	6	0	2
2nd.	6	2	17
3rd.	7	1	7
4th.	8	3	13
5th.	10	2	26
6th.	11	3	20
7th.	14	2	2
Tenor.	19	3	2 in E flat.

THE REIGATE SOCIETY.

In the account of the ringing at "Sutton, Lincolnshire," in last week's issue, for "Sutton" read "Lutton."

The ringer of the date touch rung at Bletchingley, Surrey, should have read Luke Killick, 6th, and not J. Burkin, as published in our last issue.

REVIEWS.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—A perusal of this annual is always gratifying. And the one before us is not a scintilla less encouraging than its predecessors. The Guild has certainly enlarged its borders, for during the year five companies of ringers—Binfield, Bladon, Finchampstead, Thatcham and Wooburn, have become affiliated with it. There has not been such a great accession of new members as in the previous year, but we find that the Guild has advanced in intelligence, many of the young colts having become skilled ringers. This may be accounted for, in a great measure, to the admirable system of instruction adopted by the Guild, and also to the efficient organising capabilities of the Hon. Secretary—Rev. Dolben Paul. Nine peals have been scored during 1883 by the members. This number is far below what might have been expected, and such disappointment is not lessened by the fact that these performances are mostly by the same ringers as previous ones. One painful feature of this report is the statement that a large portion of the diocese of Oxford is outside the Guild's influence. And in relation to this the Hon. Sec. puts the following plain and straightforward question—"Are there no energetic members who will carry the much-needed light of belfry reform into the northern parts of Oxfordshire and Buckinghamshire?" The Guild has an influential array of honorary and life members; his grace the Primate is patron; the Lord Bishop of the diocese is president; the Archdeacons of Berks, Oxford, and Bucks are the vice-presidents. Is the hope—nay, belief—that the influence of such as these would be sufficient to overcome any obstacle the Guild may meet with in the pursuit of its objects an unreasonable one? May we ask what efforts the last-mentioned dignitaries have made within their respective Archdeaconries to promote belfry reform, or any of the objects the Guild has at heart? What is wanted is the energy of the clergy themselves, and we beg those of the northern divisions of the two counties named to bestir themselves in the matter. The balance-sheet of the Guild shows the finances to be in a healthy condition, £61 odd being the balance in the hands of the treasurer. Upon the whole the members must be complimented upon the position the Guild has attained among ringing Associations of the period.

THE SACRED MELODIST (Pitman) is a capital pennyworth, edited by a renowned professor of music. The publisher deserves the thanks of the whole musical confraternity for his enterprise. Many of the tunes given in this little monthly are simply beautiful.

THE SOUTH LINCOLNSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

THE Fifth Annual Meeting of the members of this Association was held at Swineshead on Saturday, the 26th instant. Ringing commenced at 9.30, and was continued until 11.30, when the business of the Association was held at the "Wheat Sheaf Inn." The minutes and accounts of the past year as read by the Secretary was passed. The accounts appear to be in a flourishing condition. After electing officers for the ensuing year, some slight alterations were made in the Rules. Dinner was then served at the above Inn, when thirty-six sat down to a substantial repast, provided by host Bland, the Rev. J. Holmes, Vicar, in the chair, Rev. R. G. Ash, Vicar of St. Paul's, Fulney, acting as vice. After dinner ringing was kept up with spirit until 4.30, when an adjournment was made to the vicarage, to tea, by invitation of the vicar, to which ample justice was done. After thanking the rev. gentleman for the hearty reception, also for the use of the bells on that day, the homeward journey was then started for, some of the members calling at Gosberton by invitation, and ringing several 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles, on the fine ring of five bells, tenor 20 cwt. in Eb. Nine honorary and skilled members were elected during the meeting. A draft copy of the rules for a National Association was read, and gave general satisfaction. The next meeting of the Association was left to the Committee to decide, and of which due notice will be given in this paper.

Owing to the bad go of the tenor, no ringing of any account was accomplished, it being impossible to ring it for more than half-an-hour at a time. As two of the other bells have been rehung, we hope to hear shortly of the tenor undergoing the same process.

APPLICATION FOR PATENT.—James Shaw, 50, Lyndhurst Street, Leeds Road, Bradford, Yorkshire. Bellfounder and Church clock maker, for "church bell gravity stop-motion," to prevent bell going over in change-ringing.

NOTICE OF OPENING A NEW PEAL OF HANDBELLS.—Mr. William Middleton, of "The Bull's Head," Inn, Mottram, has just purchased a new peal of handbells, and will have an opening of the same at his house on Saturday afternoon next, May 10th, when all ringers are invited to attend. The bells have been cast by George Welch (successor to George Stockham) of Southwark, London, who has given every satisfaction to Mr. Middleton.

TOUCHES OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR.

Collected and arranged by

THE REV. H. EARLE BULWER.

(Continued from p. 46.)

2 3 4 5 6	M	B	W	H	2 3 4 5 6	M	B	W	H
6 5 4 3 2	I	I	I	I	6 4 3 5 2	I	I	I	I
6 4 3 5 2	I	I	I	I	3 2 5 4 6	I	I	I	I
6 3 5 4 2	I	I	I	I	2 6 5 4 3	I	I	I	I

Repeated.

Repeated.

In seven courses,

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

1952.

Time 71 mins.

In six courses.

The 6th the extent home.	The 5th the extent home.
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 2 3 6 4 - 2
5 4 6 3 2 2	2 5 4 6 3 2
3 5 4 2 6 - 2	2 4 6 5 3 I 2
2 4 5 3 6 2	4 3 6 5 2 I 2
2 5 3 4 6 I 2	3 2 6 5 4 I 2
2 3 4 5 6 I 2	2 3 4 5 6 2

The following touch has all the 8 6's, but not the 6th the extent. The reverse has all the 8 6's.

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

In seven courses.

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

1984.

Time 72½ minutes.

The 6th the extent home.	The 6th the extent wrong.
2 3 4 5 6 M B W H	2 3 4 5 6 M B W H
2 4 5 3 6 I - 2 2	5 2 3 6 4 - 2
2 5 3 4 6 I - 2 2	2 5 4 6 3 - I 2
4 3 5 2 6 I - 2	5 3 4 6 2 2 - I 2
2 4 3 6 5 - 2	3 2 4 6 5 2 - I 2
6 2 4 5 3 - 2	3 4 6 2 5 I 2
2 3 4 5 6 I 2	2 3 4 5 6 - 2

The 5th and 6th three course-ends in 6ths full; in the reverse in 5ths.

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

The 5th and 6th half the extent each way. A curious instance of reversed courses; it reverses to the same.

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

2016.

Time 73½ minutes.

The 6th the extent home.	The 5th the extent home.
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 4 3 6 - I
6 3 4 2 5 2 - 2	4 6 3 2 5 2 - 2 2
3 5 4 2 6 I 2	2 4 6 5 3 - 2
2 4 5 3 6 2	4 3 6 5 2 2 - I 2
2 5 3 4 6 I 2	3 2 6 5 4 I 2
2 3 4 5 6 I - 2 2	2 3 4 5 6 2

(or as the following reverse with alternative calling to 1st, 2nd and last courses.)

The 6th the extent wrong.	The 5th the extent wrong.
2 3 4 5 6 M B W H	2 3 4 5 6 M B W H
4 6 5 3 2 I I 2	5 2 3 6 4 2 2 2
6 3 4 2 5 2	2 4 3 6 5 I 2
3 5 4 2 6 I	4 5 3 6 2 I 2
2 4 5 3 6 2	5 4 2 6 3 2 2
2 5 3 4 6 I 2	6 5 2 4 3 I
2 3 4 5 6 I 2	2 3 4 5 6 I I 2

2048.

Time 74½ mins.

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

2 3 4 5 6 M B W H	2 3 4 5 6 M B W H
2 4 5 3 6 I 2	3 6 4 5 2 I 2
4 2 6 3 5 2	3 4 5 6 2 I 2
3 5 2 6 4 I 2	4 3 2 6 5 2
5 4 2 6 3 I 2	4 2 6 3 5 I 2
6 2 4 5 3 2	5 4 3 2 6 2 I 2
2 3 4 5 6 I 2	2 3 4 5 6 2 2

2080.

Time 75½ minutes.

In six courses.	The 6th the extent home.	The 6th the extent wrong.
2 3 4 5 6 M B W H	2 3 4 5 6 M B W H	2 3 4 5 6 M B W H
5 2 3 6 4 2 2 2	5 2 3 6 4 2 2 2	5 2 3 6 4 2 2 2
6 3 4 2 5 2 - 2	2 4 3 6 5 I 2	2 4 3 6 5 I 2
3 5 4 2 6 I 2	4 5 3 6 2 I 2	4 5 3 6 2 I 2
2 4 5 3 6 2	5 4 2 6 3 2 2	5 4 2 6 3 2 2
2 5 3 4 6 I 2	6 5 2 4 3 I	6 5 2 4 3 I
2 3 4 5 6 I 2	2 3 4 5 6 2 - 2 2	2 3 4 5 6 2 - 2 2

The following has all the 8 6's. The 5th the extent home. All the 8 5 7's.

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

The 5th and 6th three course ends in 6ths, in the reverse in 5ths.

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

The 4th the extent in 6ths.

The 3rd the extent in 5ths.

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

In seven courses.

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

Can be varied, but not reversed.

In eight courses.

The 6th home at six course-ends,	The 6th six course-ends wrong.
2 3 4 5 6	2 3 4 5 6
4 3 5 2 6 I - I	3 5 2 6 4 -
3 2 5 4 6 I -	4 5 3 6 2 - I
2 4 5 3 6 I -	4 2 5 6 3 - I I
2 4 3 6 5 - I	4 3 2 6 5 - I I
2 4 6 5 3 - I	5 3 4 6 2 - I
4 5 2 3 6 -	2 3 5 6 4 - I
5 3 2 4 6 I -	2 3 6 4 5 - I
2 3 4 5 6 I - I	2 3 4 5 6 - I

A memorial window was unveiled last week on the north side of the chancel at Burnham Church, Essex. It is of three lights, and represents the three acts of charity—feeding the hungry, visiting the sick, and clothing the naked. The artists were Messrs. Jones and Willis, of London and Birmingham, and the builder's work was carried out by Mr. Charles Read, of Burnham.

The parish church of Wadsley, about four miles from Sheffield, a building erected fifty years since, was gutted by fire on Sunday week through the ignition of the roof by an over-heated chimney.

The parish church of Charlton Musgrove, near Wincanton, was reopened on Thursday, the 17th ult., after restoration at a cost of £450, carried out from the plans, and under the superintendence of the rector, the Rev. C. E. Leir.

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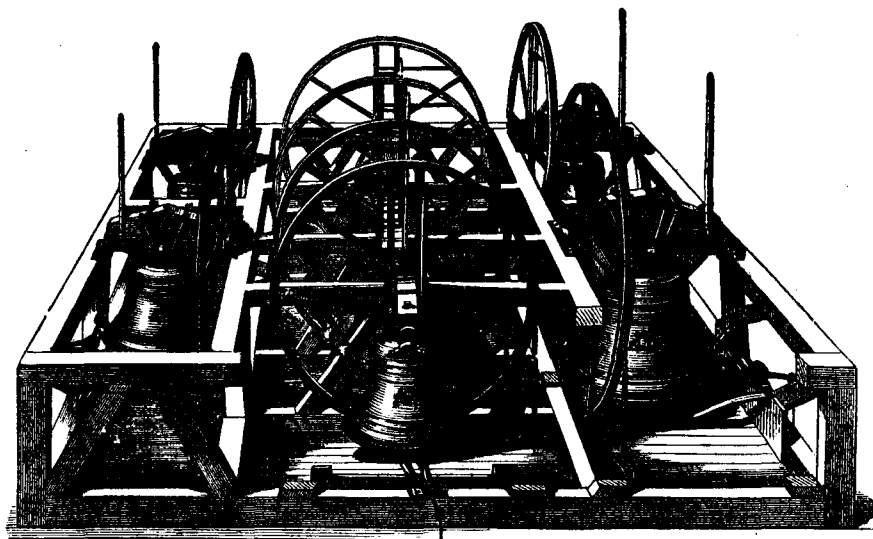
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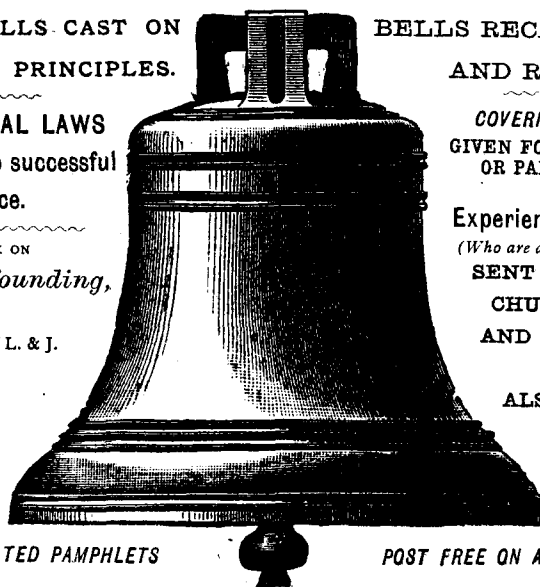
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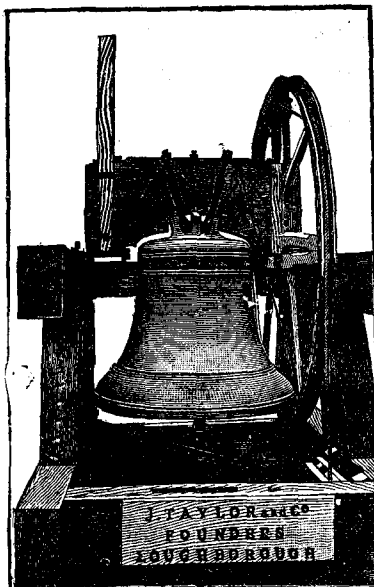
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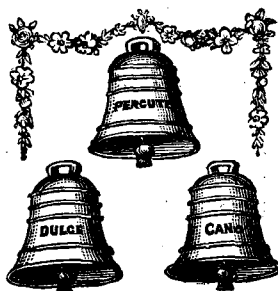
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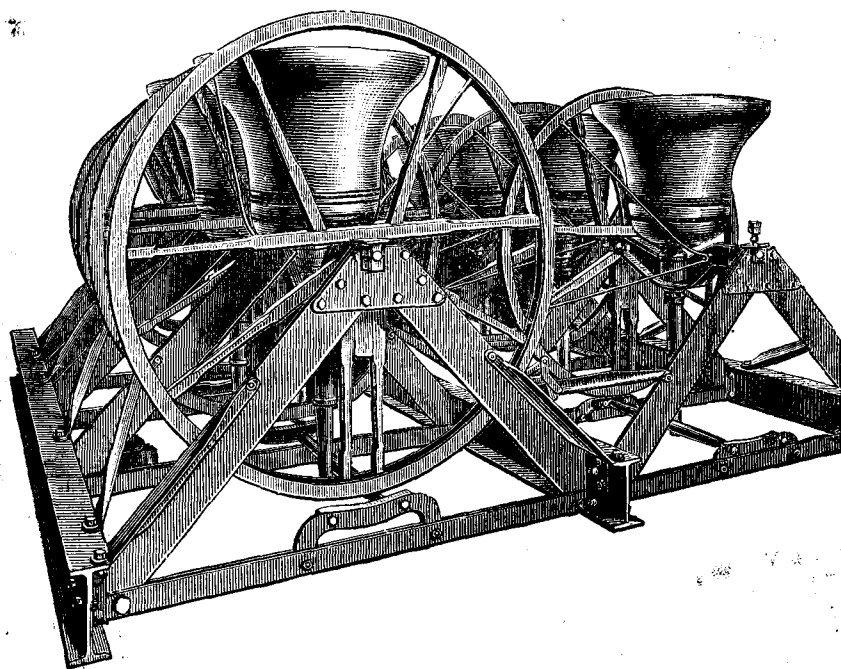
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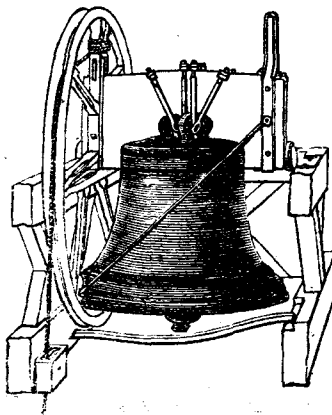
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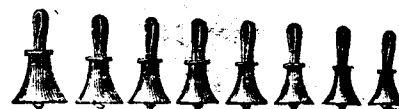
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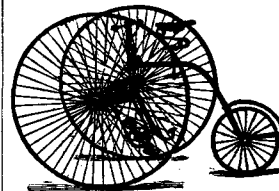
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In connection with the bells of this period we have the names of Dunstan, Canute and Lanfranc.

In early days bellfounders were itinerant, carrying about with them the instruments of their trade, and working within the precincts of religious houses, in the churchyards, and even in the churches themselves, whilst the clergy or monks stood around, reciting prayers and chanting psalms. Those who could not contribute money brought material in various forms, such as pots, platters, basins, lavers, kettles, brass mortars, mill pots, and even vessels of silver. At Louth, John White, priest, gave towards the buying of Trinity bell, 6s. 8d. in gold, and also three silver spoons (tempo 1515). The spoons were, however, sold, and realized 8s. 6d. Gifts such as these last have given rise to the erroneous ideas, so frequently prevalent, respecting the presence of silver in bells. When present, it is in small and almost inappreciable quantities, and rather than adding sweetness to the tone of a bell, it detracts from its grandeur.

The Consecration, Benediction, or Baptism, was an office of great ceremony and solemnity. The Litany was recited; the *Miserere* and six other psalms, with Antiphons, were sung. "The bell was washed with holy water, wiped with a towel, and anointed by the Bishop with holy oil." In the Antwerp Pontifical, 1627, the same ceremonies are enjoined, the bell is to be signed with the sign of the cross, anointed, the holy-oil for the sick being used, and pronounced sanctified and consecrated in the names of the three persons of the Trinity, in honour of some saint. The formula ends with the words "Peace be to thee."

The bell had sponsors, who were made of practical use, as in the case of a Reading bell named Harry, "to bear all costs to the suffrygan," other than 6s. 8d. paid by the churchwardens for the hallowing. This bell, Harry, had two godfathers, one of whom was a knight, and one godmother. The authorities in this case appear to have been guided by the name, which was given in honour of the donor; though at the present time all authorities, no matter whether the name be Big Tom, Big Ben, or Great Paul, are agreed that a bell is of the feminine gender. It is said that Matilda, Queen of Henry I., was godmother to a Dunstable Sanctus bell. An inscription referring, without doubt, to this custom is "John Aslack named me John."

The suffragan of the bishop of Lincoln, in 1501, was empowered, amongst other things, to consecrate bells.

In mediæval times they were looked upon rather as reasonable beings, than as inanimate objects; and as such were supposed to keep away evil spirits, disperse storms and tempests, and to reciprocate affection shown for them.

The Turks, on the contrary, forbade their use, for they said they frightened away good spirits. In our own country we even hear of some bells:—"Men fabuled" that their "sound soured all the ale in the town." Bishop Latimer, in a sermon preached in Lincolnshire, in 1553, says:—

"Ye know, when there was a storm or a fearful weather, then we rang the holy bells, they were they that must make all things well, they must drive away the devil. But I tell you, if the holy bells would serve against the devil, no doubt we should soon banish him out of all England. For I think if all the bells in England should be rung together at a certain hour, I think there would be almost no place but some bells might be heard there, and so the devil should have no abiding place in England, if ringing of bells would serve, but it is not that will serve against the devil."

We find that, at times, instead of dispersing a storm, they drew down upon themselves its full fury. The sound of one of the Croyland bells was reputed to be a cure for headache. There is a tradition that a bell, stolen by a French king, refused to speak until returned to its rightful owners.

At first no inscription was placed upon them; then they were inscribed with the name of the saint after whom they were called at

their baptism; and after a time other additions were made, such as "Pray for us;" "O kind Catherine preserve us from a cruel death;" "Help Mary;" "Hail Mary full of grace;" "O crowned Virgin lead us to the blessed Kingdom;" "O pure, chaste, kind Mary, have mercy on the miserable;" "Mary of Hawardby of us have mercy;" "O God without an equal make us to sound sweetly to Thee;" "Jesus be our Speed;" "At the name of Jesus every knee shall bow;" "Fere and dred God;" "Hope well, have well."

The original idea of inscriptions appears to have been, not that the sound of the bells rising to heaven should intercede with God for us, but that a person, on hearing the sound of a well known bell, should be moved to utter the short prayer or ejaculation upon it. We shall notice this particularly with regard to the Angelus. This idea once lost, the inscriptions became, as a rule, simply memorials of the founders, donors, Vicars and churchwardens, and of the conceit of the bells. This last we cannot blame them for, but only those for and by whom they were cast. "I sweetly sing" is singularly inappropriate for a bell which, in the course of years has become horribly flat, or perhaps cracked. The inscriptions of late years have greatly improved, and show at times a beauty equal to that of olden times.

A few illustrations will suffice:—

"Tyme Tryeth the Truth;" "Live and die in the Faith of Christ;" "Remember Death;" "Thy brother shall rise again;" "Blessing Honour Glory be unto him that sitteth on the Throne, and unto the Lamb for ever and ever;" "Son of the Virgin Redeemer of the world hear us."

(To be continued.)

THE ROCHDALE AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATION.

On Thursday afternoon, May 1st, The Grand Provincial Lodge of Freemasons of East Lancashire, held a service in the Rochdale parish church, at which about 200 masons were present in their regalia, having marched in procession from the Town Hall, headed by the Local Volunteer Band. The Provincial Grand Chaplain preached an excellent sermon, his text being "Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself." Before and after service the ringers rang touches of Grand-sire Triples, amounting to about 1800 changes, in which the following took part: W. Smith, J. T. Lucas, J. Hoggard, B. Meadowcroft, G. Hoyle, W. Siddle, J. Siddle, J. G. Holt, F. Birtwhistle (conductor), and E. J. Stephenson. Tenor 17½ cwt. in Eb. In the evening, eight of the above paid a visit to St. James's church, Milnrow, and rang the first half of Mr. J. Carter's 12-part bob and single peal of Grand-sire Triples, in 1 hr. 31 mins. William Smith, 1; John T. Lucas, 2; John Hoggard, 3; John Siddle, 4; George Hoyle, 5; William Siddle, 6; Frank Birtwhistle (conductor), 7; Edward J. Stephenson, 8. Tenor 20 cwt. in F♯.

ANNIVERSARY AT MELBOURNE, DERBYSHIRE.

THE Second Anniversary of the opening of these bells took place on Saturday, April 26th, when six members of the Midland Counties' Association, from Derby, paid a visit, and rung several touches of Treble Bob, and a 720 of Grand-sire Minor, in 26 mins. F. Whiting, 1; A. Ward, 2; R. Bosworth, 3; H. C. Woodward, 4; J. Newbold, 5; Jno. Howe (conductor), 6. Also two 6-scores of Grand-sire Doubles. H. Hulse, 1; J. Warren, 2; A. Ward (conductor), 3; G. C. Tunnickliff, 4; H. C. Woodward, 5; J. Bartram, 6. And three 6-scores of Grand-sire Doubles, each called differently. H. Hulse, 1; J. Warren, 2; F. Calow, 3; G. C. Tunnickliff, 4; J. Hollingworth (conductor), 5; J. Vickers, 6. The ringers then adjourned to "The Blue Bells Inn," where the hostess had prepared an excellent tea, which one and all thoroughly enjoyed. The handbells were brought in after tea was over, and several courses of Grand-sire Triples and Stedman were gone through, the Derby ringers returning about nine o'clock, after a pleasant afternoon's enjoyment. Their Melbourne friends return their best thanks for their visit, and hope it will not be long before they come again.

THE BIRMINGHAM AMALGAMATED SOCIETY AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATION.

NOTICE OF A LONG PEAL.—On Monday next, May 12th, five members of the above intend starting for a peal of 13,000 Grand-sire Caters, upon handbells (retained in hand), at the Hope and Anchor, Fisher Street, Birmingham. The start will be made at 9.30 a.m. Any friends wishing to be present will receive a hearty welcome.

INTERESTING PROCEEDINGS AT CAVENDISH,
SUFFOLK.

A week or two since, a correspondent sent us a report which appeared in our columns, intimating that Mr. A. Hurst, whose name is well known to our readers, was about leaving Cavendish. On Friday, April 25th, Mr. Hurst gave a farewell concert at the Lecture Hall, Cavendish, when a very attractive programme was successfully carried out before a large and highly-appreciative audience. At the close of the concert, the Rector of the parish (Rev. R. G. Peter), in a few well-chosen words, presented Mr. Hurst with a testimonial in the shape of a purse of money, and the following address, signed by between fifty and sixty of the leading inhabitants:—

"To Mr. Alexander Hurst—Dear Sir—We, the undersigned, desiring to testify our sense of the many and various good services rendered by you to your fellow-parishioners of Cavendish (in particular of your remarkable success in the formation of a new bell-ringing society), and of your willingness at all times to take part in any scheme for the pleasure and advantage of the parish, beg you to accept of the accompanying testimonial, with our best wishes for your future happiness and success." (Here follow the signatures).

In reply Mr. Hurst said—Mr. Peter, Ladies and Gentlemen, my kind and esteemed friends all. I little thought when, at the request of several of my personal friends, I undertook to get up a farewell concert, that, at the close of it, I should receive such a signal mark of your love and affection as this testimonial. In tendering you my sincere thanks for it, I must speak very briefly, on account of the lateness of the hour. I can assure you, that I have always been only too pleased to do all I could for the good of this parish, and in bidding you farewell, it is no small consolation to me to know that in the exercise of those functions, which Mr. Peter has mentioned in so kind a manner, I have gained your love and affection. In conclusion, I can assure you, that I shall never forget the kind manner in which you have always received me here; and believe me the remembrance of this symbol of your love will always be as dear to me as the remembrance of the subscribers individually.

THE ECKINGTON SOCIETY, DERBYSHIRE.

The society of ringers of SS. Peter and Paul, Eckington, have rung during the winter months, ending April 23rd, for Divine Service and practice, the following:—

Twenty-five 720's, one 444, eleven 360's, 105 240's, twenty-eight 120's in nine different methods as follows: fourteen 720's, six 360's, twenty-six 240's, and eighteen 120's of Oxford Treble Bob; nine 720's, four 360's, and twenty-six 240's of Violet; nine 240's and one 120 of Arnold's Victory; two 720's, one 360, seventeen 240's, and one 120 of Duke of York; one 444, ten 240's, and one 120 of New London Pleasure; five 240's, and five 120's of College Pleasure; one 240; and one 120 of City Delight; four 240's and one 120 of College Trebles; and seven 240's of London Scholars' Pleasure. The ringers generally stood as follows: G. Smith, 1; W. Price, 2; E. James, 3; G. Norman, 4; G. Marsden (conductor), 5; T. Lunn, 6. Tenor 16 cwt. 14 lbs.

THE BRAINTREE BRANCH OF THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

The following is the work done by this branch during the month of April, commencing April 15th: April 15th, 360 of Grandsire Minor; April 19th, 720 of Double Bob Minor; April 20th, 720 Grandsire Minor, 720 of New London Pleasure, 48 College Exercise, 120 Cambridge Surprise, 120 London Surprise; April 22nd, 720 Bob Minor; April 26th, 720 Woodbine, 720 Kent Treble Bob; April 27th, 720 Oxford Treble Bob, 720 Bob Minor, and 144 of Bob Minor; April 29th, 720 Oxford Delight, 720 College Exercise.

THE RAUNDS, WELLINGBOROUGH, AND DISTRICT
SOCIETY.

The third meeting of this society, which has now fifty-one ringing members and twenty-three honorary in its name-book, will be held at the parish church, Rushden, on Monday, May 19th next. The tower will be open for ringing by the various companies from 9.0 till 12.45 a.m., and from 4.30 to 8.15 p.m. Punctually at 1.0 p.m., luncheon will be served in the Coffee Tavern; and the business meeting will be held immediately afterwards. There will be evensong at 3.15 p.m., when a sermon will be preached by the Rev. J. P. Goodman, Rector of Keystone; treasurer of the society. At this service there will be an offertory in aid of the society's funds. The clergy who intend to be present are requested to bring surplice, hood, and stole.

HUGH BRYAN, M.A., Hon. Sec.

We hear that a ring of ten are about to be cast for Brentwood, Essex, and that sufficient funds are already in hand for that purpose. We trust such intelligence may be correct.

A VOICE FROM THE ANTIPODES.

We have much pleasure in inserting the following letter sent to us from the Hon. Secretary of the Victorian society of Change-Ringers, Melbourne, Australia:—

"Sir,—Will you kindly permit me, through the medium of your valuable paper, to ask some of the secretaries of the numerous change-ringing societies if they would be kind enough to forward a copy of their rules to me, as our society would very much like to adopt the rules of some old-established society. Thanking you in anticipation for the insertion of this, I remain, yours truly,

J. HEATHER."

We trust some of our friends will reply to this letter as early as possible, and not only forward what is asked for, but any other items of news which may be interesting to our ringing brethren at the other end of the globe. Address: "Mr. J. Heather, co. J. Guest, 8, John Street, Fitzroy, Melbourne, Australia." With Mr. Heather's letter came the following paragraph taken from *The Age*, an Australian newspaper:—

"The members of the Victorian Society of Change-ringers and the ringers of St. James's church rang a muffled peal on the bells of that church on Tuesday, as a tribute to the memory of their deceased brother, William Cristfield, the originator of the art of change-ringing in this colony, and late member of the Ancient Society of College Youths and Cumberland Societies, (sic) London."

MEETING AT ILFORD, ESSEX.

On Saturday evening, May 3rd, by the kind permission of the Rev. H. B. Barnes, vicar, several members of the Essex Association met at St. Mary's, Great Ilford. A 720 of Bob Minor, with four bobs and fourteen singles, was rung in 29 mins. A. Deards, 1; F. Cadman, 2; B. Keeble, 3; J. Nunn, 4; A. Pye, 5; A. J. Perkins (conductor), 6. A start was also made for a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob. J. Pye, 1; R. Sewell, 2; B. Keeble, 3; J. Nunn, 4; A. Pye, 5; A. Porter (conductor), 6. This, however, as the "go" of the bells is not altogether satisfactory, was not successful. Doubtless but very little attention is required to set matters right, and the result would, undoubtedly, be a magnificent light ring of six, tenor 8 cwt. Messrs. F. Gillingham and J. Porter were also present during the evening, and after a touch of Bob Minor the members present separated with many thanks to the vicar for the opportunity afforded them of visiting the tower.

ALDERBURY, WILTS.

Nestling among the trees of Clarendon Forest stands Alderbury church, erected on the site of an older building in 1857. Its shingle spire is visible above the trees of the forest at a considerable distance. On arriving we are struck with the size of the steeple of this church, which is large enough to contain six or eight bells; but on ascending the spiral staircase we find an empty chamber with glazed windows, open right up to the top of the spire. On looking up, we can descry among the timber framing one small bell hung high up in the spire. On ascending the ladder, we find this bell to be of ancient date, from its shape and the pattern of its cannons, though it has neither inscription nor date upon it. It is hung with wheel, stay, and iron catch at the side in place of a slide; but it does not appear to have been rung up for many years, as the catch is set fast with rust. The bell is 24½ inches in diameter, and weighs about 3 cwt.

Near the church is the ancient Maypole still standing, round which, until lately, dancing took place annually on May 29th.

A MIDNIGHT PEAL.—An amusing trick was played with a new school bell at Romford, Essex, last week. It appears that the local educational legislature have in course of erection a new school, in which is affixed the usual small turret bell. This new Romfordian acquaintance, the cord of which can only be reached from the inside of the building, on the evening in question commenced a midnight peal. With the remembrance fresh upon their minds of the recent earthquake, residents in the immediate locality, who are followers of the good old maxim "early to bed, etc.," were aroused from their slumbers, and several hastened to seek for the cause. A gallant sergeant of the invisible blue, who happened to be upon his beat near by, also hastened to the spot, but the building was found secure. There is an old tradition that Romford parish church was once swallowed up in an earthquake, and that at midnight its bells can annually, at a spot called "Old Church," be heard ringing a midnight peal. Considering the remarkable hallucination that was expressed at a vestry meeting in the same town two years ago, with respect to ringing, which we reported at the time, we should not be surprised to learn that believers in such a superstition will be ready to declare that the present freak was due to a visit of one of the ancient spirits.

THE CHRONOLOGY OF CHANGE-RINGING.—(Continued.)

By F. W. J. REES,

A Member of the Ancient Society of College Youths.

- 1756.—Ben. Anable died, and was buried under the tower of St. Bride's.
- 1757.—College Youths rang a peal of Oxford Treble Bob Major; I have found no earlier use of the term "Oxford Treble Bob." This was rung at St. Mary, Ealing, Middlesex.
- College Youths rang the same peal at St. John's, Croydon.
- College Youths rang Bob Major at St. Mary's, Whitechapel.
- A new ring of eight at North Elmham, Norfolk.
- 1758.—A new ring of ten at St. Martin's, Birmingham.
- Birmingham ringers rang a peal of Grandsire Caters.
- College Youths rang 5040 of Oxford Treble Bob Maximus at St. Saviour's, Southwark; the first peal in the method.
- Cumberlands rang 5400 Oxford Treble Bob Royal at West Ham.
- A new ring of eight at Andover, Hants.
- The ring at Hemel Hempstead, Herts, increased to eight.
- 1759.—College Youths rang Double Bob Major at All Saints, Gravesend.
- A new ring of eight at St. Stephen's, Bristol.
- College Youths rang Bob Major at Ware, Herts.
- 1760.—Norwich ringers rang a peal of Imperial at St. Giles, in that city.
- Dover ringers rang a peal of Oxford Treble Bob Major.
- College Youths rang Oxford Treble Bob Major at Christ Church, Surrey.
- College Youths rang 6016 Oxford Treble Bob Major at Wrotham, Kent.
- William Shipway born at Bath.
- 1761.—College Youths rang Bob Major at Bolney, Sussex, and Oxford Treble Bob Major at St. Margaret's, Barking.
- Chiddingstone (Kent) ringers Oxford Treble Bob Major.
- College Youths rang 6050 Grandsire Cinques at St. Bride's.
- A new ring of eight at Debenham, Suffolk.
- 40,320 Bob Major at Leeds, Kent, by fourteen men, in twenty-seven hours.
- 1762.—The famous ring of ten at St. Mary-le-Bow, Cheapside, cast.
- College Youths rang at Fulham, 10,098 Grandsire Caters, in 6 hrs. 53 mins.
- College Youths rang Grandsire Caters at Leeds, Kent. Also Bob Major at St. Nicholas, Guildford, and 10,188 Grandsire Caters at West Ham (tenor 28 cwt.) in 7 hrs. 11 mins. single-handed.
- 1763.—A new ring of eight at Ashford, Kent.
- Ashford ringers rang Oxford Treble Bob Major.
- Mr. G. Gross, sen., of the Cumberlands, rang his first peal.
- A new ring of eight at Colchester, Essex.
- The ring at Church Langton, Leicestershire, increased to eight.
- 1764.—Grantham (Lincolnshire) ringers rang Grandsire Triples.
- A new ring of eight at Gainsborough, Lincolnshire.
- A new ring of eight at St. Helen's, Abingdon.
- 1764.—A new ring of ten at King's Norton, Leicestershire; soon after reduced to eight.
- A new ring of eight at St. Nicholas, Bristol; soon increased to ten.
- 1765.—The ring of twelve at York Minster recast into ten, in imitation of the new Bow bells.
- The ringers of St. Alban's rang 5040 Bob Major at their Abbey.
- College Youths rang a peal of Grandsire Caters on the new Bow bells.
- First 120 half-pull changes on the old heavy ring of six at Kendal.
- A new ring of eight at St. Margaret's, Lynn, Norfolk.
- A new ring of eight at St. Nicholas, Lynn, Norfolk.
- Ringers of Ashford, Kent, Bob Major.
- 1766.—Epsom ringers rang Grandsire Triples, first 5000 on the bells.
- Ringers of Horsham, Sussex, Grandsire Triples, first peal on the bells.
- Campanologia*: 7th edition, by J. Monk.
- Oxford Treble Bob Major at Headcorn, Kent, first peal on the bells.
- College Youths rang 6000 Oxford Treble Bob Royal at St. Leonard's.
- Cumberlands rang 5136 Oxford Treble Bob Maximus at St. Saviour's, double-handed.
- College Youths rang Bob Major at St. Mary's, Lewisham, Kent.
- Ringers of East Dereham, Norfolk, rang Bob Major.
- 1767.—Ringers of Debenham, Suffolk, rang 10,080 Bob Major.
- Ringers of St. Albans rang Grandsire Triples at St. Peter's.
- A new ring of eight at Bodmin, Cornwall.
- London Youths rang 6200 Oxford Treble Bob Royal, at St. Leonard's.
- 1768.—Ringers of Long Melford, Suffolk, rang 5120 Oxford Treble Bob Major.
- Ringers of Long Melford rang 10,080 Bob Major.
- Nottingham ringers rang Grandsire Triples at Gainsborough.
- College Youths rang Bob Major at Isleworth.
- 1769.—A new ring of eight at Barnsley, Yorks.
- Norwich ringers rang a peal of Norwich Court Bob Royal.
- 1770.—Isleworth ringers rang 6400 Oxford Treble Bob Major.
- First peal at Sevenoaks, Kent. Oxford Treble Bob Major by the College Youths.
- Dr. Mason, of Cambridge died, aged 72: a Cambridge Youth, and author of mss. on change-ringing.
- College Youths rang a peal of Bob Major, at Carisbrooke, I. W.
- The ringers of Lynn, Norfolk, rang Bob Major on their new bells.
- 1771.—A new ring of eight at All Saints, Hertford.
- A new ring of eight at Stoke Climsland, Cornwall.
- A peal of Oxford Treble Bob Major at Tenterden, Kent.
- Norwich ringers rang 6720 Court Bob Major at St. Miles.
- A new ring of eight at St. Thomas', Salisbury, in place of old eight.
- The ring at Downham Market, Norfolk, was probably made eight.
- The ring at St. Martin's, Birmingham, increased to twelve.
- First peal at Salehurst, Sussex, Oxford Treble Bob Major.
- 1772.—Norwich ringers rang 6048 Imperial at St. Miles.
- 1773.—The ring at St. Mary's, Cambridge, increased to twelve.
- A new ring of eight at Bromley, Kent.
- Cambridge ringers rang a peal of Bob Royal.
- J. Bothwell, a famous tenor-man, joined the Cambridge Youths. To him had been entrusted the mss. of Dr. Mason.
- Cumberlands rang the first peal on the ring at St. Mary Abbots, Kensington, Bob Major.
- Cumberlands rang the first peal on the bells at Bromley, Kent, Oxford Treble Bob Major.
- The ringers at Stourbridge, Worcestershire, rang 10,080 Bob Major.
- College Youths rang Bob Major at Denham, Bucks.
- Ringers of Leicester rang Grandsire Triples at St. Margaret's.
- The ring at Christ Church, Bath, increased to eight.
- Birmingham ringers rang a peal of Grandsire Cinques.
- 1774.—A peal of Oxford Treble Bob Major at Rye, Sussex.
- The ring at Bath Abbey increased to ten.
- A new ring of ten at St. Michael's, Coventry.
- 1775.—New ring of twelve at St. Peter's, Norwich, replacing old ten.
- A new ring of eight at Walsall, Staffordshire.
- Cumberlands rang Bob Major at St. Mary's, Islington, first peal on the bells.
- Ringers of Whaplode, Lincolnshire, rang 10,080 Doubles.
- The ring at Aylsham, Norfolk, increased to ten.
- Norwich ringers rang a peal of Grandsire Cinques.
- 1776.—A peal of Grandsire Triples at Halesowen, Worcestershire.
- Shrewsbury ringers rang Grandsire Triples at St. Mary's.
- College Youths rang Bob Major at Dunstable, Beds.
- College Youths rang 10,640 Bob Major at Mortlake.
- Leicester ringers rang Grandsire Caters at St. Margaret's.
- A peal of Oxford Treble Bob Major at Goodhurst, Kent.
- A new ring of eight at St. Columb, Cornwall.
- Grandsire Triples at Aston, near Birmingham.
- 1777.—London Youths rang 5200 Oxford Treble Bob Royal, at St. Giles's, Cripplegate.
- Cumberlands rang 6240 Oxford Treble Bob Royal at St. Leonard's.
- College Youths rang 10,000 do. at do., Sam. Muggeridge at tenor.
- Cumberlands 10,200 do. at do., Robert Mann at tenor. Time 7 hrs. 40 mins.
- College Youths rang 11,080 do. at do., Muggeridge at tenor. Time 8 hrs. 2 mins.
- College Youths rang 5232 do. Maximus at St. Bride's.
- College Youths rang 6000 do. at St. Saviour's, double-handed.
- College Youths rang Bob Major at Chelmsford.
- Leicester ringers rang 10,080 Grandsire Caters at St. Margaret's.
- A new ring of ten at St. Michael's Macclesfield, Cheshire.
- The ring at Pinner, Middlesex, increased to eight.

"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.

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.

Everything for insertion in this Journal to be addressed "The Editor of THE BELL NEWS, Walthamstow, London." Letters forwarded for publication, and performances under 5000 changes must reach us not later than Wednesday morning; and the insertion of any communication coming later than the first Postal delivery on Thursday morning cannot be guaranteed in that week's number. When it is found impossible from want of space to insert all touches forwarded, the earlier ones will have the preference.

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

The Bell News & Ringers' Record.

SATURDAY, MAY 10, 1884.

OUR PEAL RECORDS of this week certainly possess more varied features than is usual in one single number. The list comprises a wedding peal, two birthday peals, and five muffled peals, the last being rung as a tribute of respect to a gentleman whose loss is universally deplored. In the metropolis, the Cumberlands have been very busy of late, and they are again to the fore with three good performances. The remarkable feats of the Burton-on-Trent gentlemen will establish them as the most skilful company of eight-bell ringers in existence at the present time. The whole of the week's record is encouraging, the little references following the performers' names being ample proof that the practice of ringing is increasing in favour day by day.

The Metropolis.

THE SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.

On Thursday, May 1, 1884, in Three Hours and Four Minutes,

AT ST. GILES'S IN THE FIELDS,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 18 cwt. in F.

CHARLES T. HOPKINS Treble.	E. CHAPMAN 5.
ALFRED C. FUSSELL 2.	NEWLAND ALDERMAN 6.
WILLIAM H. FUSSELL 3.	WINGFIELD MEADOWS 7.
H. E. T. GLOVER, ESQ. 4.	GEORGE NEWSON Tenor.

Composed by N. J. PITSTOW, and Conducted by GEORGE NEWSON.

THE SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.

WEST HAM, ESSEX.

On Saturday, May 3, 1884, in Three Hours and Twenty-five Minutes,

AT ALL SAINTS' CHURCH,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERS, 5067 CHANGES;

Tenor 28 cwt.

GEORGE NEWSON Treble.	*JOHN GOBBETT 6.
CHAS. T. HOPKINS 2.	*ARTHUR JACOB 7.
JAS. HANNINGTON* 3.	WM. H. DORAN 8.
HARRY RANDALL 4.	SAMUEL JARMAN 9.
W. H. FUSSELL* 5.	FRED SERLE Tenor.

Composed by HARRY RANDALL, and Conducted by GEORGE NEWSON.

* First peal of Stedman Caters.

THE SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.
 FULHAM, MIDDLESEX.

Birthday Peal.

On Monday, May 5, 1884, in Three Hours and Ten Minutes,

AT ALL SAINTS' CHURCH,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 21 cwt.

CHARLES T. HOPKINS .. Treble.	WILLIAM H. FUSSELL .. 5.
WINGFIELD MEADOWS .. 2.	ARTHUR JACOB 6.
JAMES HANNINGTON .. 3.	HARRY RANDALL 7.
THOMAS TITCHENER .. 4.	GEORGE NEWSON Tenor.

Composed by JOHN COX, and Conducted by JAMES HANNINGTON.

This peal has the 6th wrong and home 24 times, the 5th at home 24 times, and the 4th in 6ths place 24 times. It is the first peal of Treble Bob called by the conductor, and was rung to commemorate his 26th birthday. It was intended to have attempted a peal of Royal, but owing to one of the band not turning up in time it had to be abandoned.

The Provinces.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

LOUGHBOROUGH.

Wedding Peal.

On Wednesday, April 30, 1884, in Three Hours and Twenty Minutes,

AT ALL SAINTS' CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

TAKEN FROM THE CLAVIS.

F. FARROW* Treble.	J. WARD 5.
H. C. WOODWARD 2.	S. SMITH 6.
W. T. BILLINGHURST .. 3.	J. HOWE 7.
R. LANE* 4.	*E. WIGHTMAN Tenor.

Conducted by JOHN HOWE.

*First peal.

Messrs. Woodward and Howe hail from Derby; J. Ward from Long Eaton; the rest are of the local company. Rung on the occasion of the marriage of J. W. Taylor, jun., Esq., of Loughborough.

BURTON-ON-TRENT.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION, AND
 THE ST. PAUL'S SOCIETY, BURTON-ON-TRENT.

Muffled Peal.

On Wednesday, April 30, 1884, in Three Hours and Fifteen Minutes,

AT ST. PAUL'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S TEN-PART. Tenor 26 cwt.

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

Conducted by WILLIAM WAKLEY.

Rung with the bells half-muffled on receipt of the news of the death of M. T. Bass, founder of St. Paul's and St. Margaret's churches, Burton-on-Trent.

BURTON-ON-TRENT.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION, AND
 THE ST. PAUL'S SOCIETY, BURTON-ON-TRENT.

Muffled Peal.

On Friday, May 2, 1884, in Three Hours and Twenty-two Minutes,

AT ST. PAUL'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR,

5056 CHANGES. Tenor 26 cwt.

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

Composed by HENRY DAINS, conducted by WILLIAM WAKLEY.

This peal, which is in four parts, has the 6th twenty-four times wrong and right. Rung with the bells muffled as a token of respect to the memory of M. T. Bass, and the first muffled peal of Double Norwich ever rung.

ACTON, MIDDLESEX.

On Wednesday, April 30, 1884, in Two Hours and Fifty-eight Minutes,

AT ST. MARY'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S TEN-PART. Tenor 14 cwt.

W. TAYLOR*	.. .. Treble.	*G. TRINDER	.. .. 5.
G. ILSLEY†	.. .. 2.	W. WILDER	.. .. 6.
W. BARON	.. .. 3.	*F. SLADE, Esq.	.. .. 7.
W. FENWICK*	.. .. 4.	*E. GOULD	.. .. Tenor.

Conducted by WILLIAM BARON.

The above comprise seven members of the local company, with Mr. W. Baron, their instructor. This is the first peal on these bells by a local company.

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

MAIDENHEAD, BERKS.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS, AND THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

Birthday Peal.

On Saturday, May 3, 1884, in Two Hours and Fifty-nine Minutes,

AT ALL SAINTS', BOYNE HILL,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor 17½ cwt.

EDWARD KEELEY	.. .. Treble.	R. SMITH	.. .. 5.
R. FLAXMAN	.. .. 2.	W. A. GARRAWAY	.. .. 6.
J. W. WILKINS	.. .. 3.	E. ROGERS	.. .. 7.
H. ROGERS	.. .. 4.	J. C. TRUSS	.. .. Tenor.

Conducted by W. A. GARRAWAY.

This peal was rung in honour of Mr. R. Smith's 60th birthday.

Change-ringing in Maidenhead owes its origin to Mr. Smith, he having some 12 years ago started a company, which resulted in a society being formed in 1879, presided over by the Rev. A. H. Drummond, vicar of Boyne Hill. Kindred societies were afterwards soon formed, and in 1881 the Diocesan Guild was established, which has now about 550 members. Mr. Smith takes an active part in instructing several young bands in the district, and his brother ringers hope he may long continue to promote the belfry reform so much needed in many of the surrounding parishes, a hope we fervently share.

BURTON-ON-TRENT.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION, AND THE ST. PAUL'S SOCIETY, BURTON-ON-TRENT.

Muffled Peal.

On Saturday, May 3, 1884, in Three Hours and Eighteen Minutes,

AT ST. PAUL'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 26 cwt.

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

Conducted by WILLIAM WAKLEY.

Rung with the bells half-muffled as a token of respect to the memory of M. T. Bass, donor of the bells.

This peal is the reverse of W. Harrison's 3-part peal, and is contained in Snowdon's Treatise, page 16. Now rung for the first time.

THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.—BEDDINGTON.

On Saturday, May 3, 1884, in Three Hours and Thirteen Minutes,

AT ST. MARY'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS, 5039 CHANGES;

Tenor 21 cwt. in Eb.

JOHN BRANCH	.. .. Treble.	JAMES TRAPPITT	.. .. 6.
JAMES HARRIS*	.. .. 2.	JOHN PLOWMAN	.. .. 7.
CHARLES BANCE	.. .. 3.	CHARLES GORDON	.. .. 8.
EDWARD F. COLE, Esq.	.. .. 4.	JAMES CAWLEY	.. .. 9.
EDGAR BENNETT	.. .. 5.	JOSEPH CLARK	.. .. Tenor.

Composed by the late H. HUBBARD, and Conducted by EDGAR BENNETT.

This peal has the whole of the 8 g's and 9 7 8's with the 5th and 6th behind the 9th. Mr. Cole hails from London, the rest belong to Beddington. * First peal of Caters.

EARLSHEATON, YORKSHIRE.

On Sunday, May 4, 1884, in Three Hours and Ten Minutes,

AT ST. PETER'S CHURCH.

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5376 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 14 cwt.

JOSEPH BLAKELEY (age 20) Treble.	CHAS. SENIOR, JUN. (age 21) 5.
TOLSON HALL (age 16) .. 2.	GEORGE H. HARDY (age 24) 6.
ARTHUR GOODALL (age 21) 3.	WALTER BYRAM (age 19) .. 7.
GARFORTH TAYLOR (age 22) 4.	JOS. RUDDLESSEN (age 21) Tenor.

Composed and Conducted by GEORGE HAINSWORTH HARDY.

All are natives of Earlsheaton, and this is the first peal ever rung of Mr. Hardy's composing, and has never been previously performed.

BURTON-ON-TRENT.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION, AND THE ST. PAUL'S SOCIETY, BURTON-ON-TRENT.

Muffled Peal.

On Monday, May 5, 1884, in Three Hours and Twenty Minutes,

AT ST. PAUL'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5120 CHANGES. Tenor 26 cwt.

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

Composed by H. JOHNSON, SEN., conducted by WILLIAM WAKLEY.

Rung with the bells half-muffled on the day of the funeral of M. T. Bass, the munificent benefactor of St. Paul's parish, Burton-on-Trent.

This peal is in five parts, and is the first peal of Superlative recorded in "THE BELL NEWS;" the first peal rung with the bells muffled; and the eighth peal in the method hitherto achieved.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.—DERBY.

Muffled Peal.

On Monday, May 5, 1884, in Three Hours and Twenty-five Minutes,

AT ST. WERBURGH'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S TEN-PART. Tenor 17 cwt. in E.

FREDERICK WHITING	.. .. Treble.	RICHARD REDGATE	.. .. 5.
ARTHUR B. WARD*	.. .. 2.	REUBEN BOSWORTH	.. .. 6.
JOHN HOWE	.. .. 3.	HARRY CHAS. WOODWARD	.. .. 7.
JOHN NEWBOLD	.. .. 4.	LEONARD LOMAS	.. .. Tenor.

Conducted by HARRY CHARLES WOODWARD.

This peal was rung with the bells half-muffled as a token of respect to the late MICHAEL THOMAS BASS, Esq., of Rangemore Hall, Burton-on-Trent, ex-M.P. for Derby, and who was also an Honorary Member of the above Association.

* First peal.

CARSHALTON, SURREY.

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

On Monday, May 5, 1884, in Two Hours and Fifty-five Minutes,

AT ALL SAINTS' CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

REEVES'S VARIATION. Tenor 12½ cwt. in G#.

CHARLES MARTIN	.. .. Treble.	JOHN PLOWMAN	.. .. 5.
EDGAR BENNETT	.. .. 2.	JAMES CAWLEY	.. .. 6.
A. B. CARPENTER, Esq.*	.. .. 3.	CHARLES GORDON	.. .. 7.
JAMES TRAPPITT	.. .. 4.	JAMES HARRIS	.. .. Tenor.

Conducted by EDGAR BENNETT.

* First peal. Hon. Sec. of the Association.

Mr. Carpenter hails from Croydon; the rest belong to Beddington.

The Beddington company take this opportunity of congratulating the Honorary Secretary on the rapid strides which he has made in the science, as it is scarcely twelve months since he first handled a bell-rope, and now takes part in the practice of Triples, Major, and Caters, in the Plain Bob and Grandsire methods.

Date Touch.

THE BIRMINGHAM AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATION.

BIRMINGHAM.—On Sunday, May 4th, eight members of the above rang at St. John's church, Deritend, a date touch of Grandsire Triples, containing 1884 changes, in 1 hr. 6 mins. W. Baldwin, 1; B. Stevens, 2; C. Barnacle, 3; T. Miller (conductor), 4; R. Hackley, 5; C. Carmell, 6; A. Hackley, 7; R. Ellwell, 8. Composed by J. Carter. Tenor 13 cwt. in F.

Miscellaneous.

THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

BROMHAM (Beds).—On Wednesday evening, April 30th, six members of the above association rang a 720 of College Little, eighteen bobs and two singles, in 27 mins. M. Warrick (first 720), 1; C. W. Clarke, 2; W. Biggs, 3; W. King, 4; H. King (first 720 in the method), 5; C. Stafferton (conductor), 6. And on Sunday, May 4th, for evening service, a 360 of Bob Minor. T. Tysoe, 1; C. W. Clarke (conductor), 2; W. Biggs, 3; W. King, 4; C. Stafferton, 5; H. King, 6.

BEDFORD.—At St. Paul's Church, on May 1st, a touch of Grandsire Triples, 518 changes, in 23 mins. C. W. Clarke, 1; S. Cullip, 2; C. West, 3; W. Hall (conductor), 4; C. Stafferton, 5; J. Adkins, 6; I. Hills, 7; J. Ellis, 8. Tenor 28 cwt. in D.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

ROMFORD.—Handbell Ringing.—On Monday evening, May 5th, a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob Minor, in 21 mins. A. Pye, 1-2; A. J. Perkins, 3-4; B. Keeble (conductor), 5-6. First 720 of Treble Bob double-handed by all.

STITEST (Essex).—On Sunday, May 4th, 720 of Oxford Treble Bob. H. E. Hammond, 1; W. Moore, 2; W. Bearman, 3; F. Calthorpe, 4; S. Hammond (conductor), 5; W. Radley, 6. Tenor 10 cwt.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

ALDINGTON (Kent).—On Sunday, May 4th, at St. Martin's church, for Divine Service in the afternoon, a 720 of Bob Minor, with eighteen bobs and two singles in 28 mins. William Post, jun., 1; David Hodgkin, 2; Fred. Wanstall, 3; Albert Tanton, 4; James Andrews, 5; Philip Hodgkin (conductor), 6. Also after service a 720 of Bob Minor, with fourteen singles and six bobs in 27 mins. Alfred Beer, 1; Richard Andrews, 2; Fred. Wanstall, 3; Thomas Hodgkin, 4; William Hyder (conductor), 5; Philip Hodgkin, 6. Tenor 14 cwt. in G. Messrs. Andrews, Beer, and Tanton, hail from Lyminge.

YALDING (Kent).—On Sunday, May 4th, for Divine Service, at SS. Peter and Paul's church, six members of the above Association rang a 720 of Grandsire Minor, in 30 mins. C. Bassett, 1; J. Constable, 2; G. Pawley, 3; J. Furgessen, 4; F. G. Newman, 5; H. Pearce (conductor), 6. Tenor 20 cwt. C. Bassett hails from Yeston, F. G. Newman from Mereworth, the rest from Maidstone. It is fifteen years since a 720 was rung on these bells.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

WALKDEN (Lancashire).—On Sunday afternoon, May 4th, at St. Paul's church, six members of the above Association rang a 720 of Bob Minor, with twenty-six bobs and two singles, in 25 mins. Edward Cash (conductor), 1; James Barratt, 2; John Worthington, 3; John Welsby, 4; Joseph Brooks, 5; William Denner, 6. And in the evening a 720, with sixteen bobs and two singles, in 25½ mins., rung by the same band, and the same conductor. The above was rung in honour of the anniversary services of the above church. Tenor 13½ cwt. Messrs. Cash and Barratt hail from Eccles, the remainder being of the local company.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

LOUGHBOROUGH (Leicestershire).—On Sunday, May 4th, after morning service, at All Saints', a 630 of Grandsire Triples in 27 mins. F. Farrow, 1; H. Bradley, 2; J. W. Taylor, sen., 3; J. Hardy, 4; S. Smith, 5; W. Billinghurst, 6; R. Lane (conductor), 7; E. Wightman, 8. Also for evening service, 504 of Grandsire Triples was rung in 23 mins. F. Farrow, 1; H. Bradley, 2; S. Smith, 3; T. Cooper, 4; J. Hardy, 5; J. W. Taylor, sen., 6; R. Lane (conductor), 7; E. Wightman, 8. Tenor 24 cwt.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

BURFORD (Oxon).—On Sunday evening, April 27th, for Divine Service, a 504 of Grandsire Triples. H. Smith, 1; H. Bond, jun., 2; W. Large, 3; R. Packer, 4; C. Bates, 5; J. Smith, 6; J. Kitchener (conductor), 7; D. Francis, 8. Also another 504 in the same method. H. Smith, 1; J. Smith, 2; J. Kitchener, 3; T. E. Glanville (conductor), 4; H. Bond, jun., 5; W. Large, 6; D. Francis, 7; W. Launchbury, 8. J. Kitchener, C. Bates, and R. Packer, belong to Coln St. Aldwyn's, the rest are of the local company.

READING (Berks).—On Wednesday, April 30th, at St. Giles's church, a 720 of Grandsire Minor, in 26 mins. T. James, 1; H. Bonney, 2; R. Hopgood, 3; Geo. Gibbard, 4; H. Blissett, 5; H. Egby (conductor), 6.

THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

MITCHAM (Surrey).—On Sunday, May 4th, six members of the above Association rang for Divine Service in the evening at Christ Church,

a 720 of Bob Minor, in 25 mins. H. Laffin, 1; E. F. Cole, Esq., 2; D. Springall, 3; S. Greenwood, 4; G. Pell, 5; J. Fayers (conductor), 6. Also two courses of Kent Treble Bob Minor, and a 6-score of Grandsire Doubles. Tenor 7½ cwt.

STOKE-UPON-TRENT ARCHIDIACONAL ASSOCIATION.

BIDDULPH (Staffordshire).—On Sunday, May 4th, at the parish church, the local company rang a 120 of Kent Treble Bob, and a 720 of Grandsire Minor, in 25 mins. A. Cottrell, 1; C. Lawton, 2; D. Bradbury, 3; S. Moore, 4; M. Moss, 5; W. Carter (conductor), 6.

THE UNITED COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

HAUGHTON (Lancashire).—On Saturday, May 3rd, the local company rang a 720 of Bob Minor in 28 mins., with sixteen bobs and two singles, as a mark of respect to the conductor, Mr. Richard Ainsworth, it being thirty-nine years since he rung his first time in rounds, and we must say that he has been a very good and striving conductor to the society for teaching us change-ringing. James A. Thomas, 1; John Bardsley, 2; W. Wilde, 3; John S. Leech, 4; Richard Ainsworth, 5; Peter Smith, 6. Tenor 14½ cwt. in C.

THE WANSTEAD AMALGAMATED SOCIETY.

WANSTEAD (Essex).—On Sunday, April 27th, at Christ Church, for Divine Service in the morning, a 720 of Bob Minor, in 24 mins. Also for Divine Service in the evening a 720 in the same method, in 22½ mins. C. Pilcher, 1; W. Smith, 2; G. Cornell, 3; G. Akers, 4; A. H. Gardom (conductor), 5; J. Marks, 6. Also on Sunday, May 4th, being the Choir Festival, for Divine Service in the evening, a 360 of Bob Minor. J. King, 1; W. Smith, 2; J. Gobbett, 3; J. Nunn, 4; A. H. Gardom (conductor), 5; G. Cornell, 6. And after service, two 720's of Treble Bob Minor, the first with nine bobs, in 27 mins., and the second with fifteen bobs, in 29 mins. G. Cornell, 1; J. Priest, 2; G. Akers (conductor), 3; J. Nunn, 4; A. H. Gardom, 5; H. Scarlett, 6. The second 720 was rung by the same band except J. Gobbett ringing the treble in the place of G. Cornell. Conducted by A. H. Gardom.

COOKLEY (Worcestershire).—On Sunday, May 4th, a 6-score of Grandsire Doubles was rung eight times in the day. A. Maybury, 1; Hayward Adams (aged 15), 2; A. Meredith (aged 18), 3; J. Adams (aged 20), 4; Harry Adams (aged 18), 5; J. H. Piper (aged 17), 6. Great credit is due to this band, as they only began 10 months ago. Tenor 14½ cwt.

EYNSFORD (Kent).—On Monday, April 21st, the local company rang a 6-score of Bob Doubles (their first 6-score). J. Eves, 1; E. N. Howard, 2; F. Wickenden, 3; F. Head, 4; W. Wash, 5; W. West, 6. Also on Sunday, May 4th, before and after Divine Service, two 6-scores of Bob Doubles, all standing as before except that in the touch before service F. Paylis rang the tenor. Time 5 mins. each.

EXETER.—On Sunday, May 4th, previous to Divine Service at St. Sidwell's, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 44 mins. James Lyon, 1; Frank Shepherd, 2; George Townsend, 3; Edwin Shepherd, 4; Sydney Herbert, 5; Alfred Shepherd, 6; Ferris Shepherd (conductor), 7; Wm. Richardson, 8.

HAVERSTOCK HILL (Middlesex).—On Wednesday, April 23rd, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor (fifteen bobs), in 25 mins. T. Titchener, 1; E. Chapman, 2; B. Foskett, 3; J. Hannington (conductor), 4; G. Griffin, 5; W. H. Fussell, 6. Also on Sunday, May 4th, a 720 Plain Bob Minor (fourteen singles and four bobs), in 25 mins. W. B. Manning, 1; T. Glead, 2; W. H. Fussell, 3; J. Nixon, 4; J. Hannington (conductor), 5; A. Jacob, 6. Tenor 12½ cwt.

MONKSESLIEGH (Suffolk).—On Sunday, May 4th, for Divine Service in the afternoon at St. Peter's church, a 720 of Bob Minor, with six bobs and fourteen singles, in 27 mins. Wm. Green, 1; R. Keeble, 2; A. Keeble, 3; J. Biggs, 4; Chas. Parker, 5; A. Symonds (conductor), 6. Also after service, another 720 of Bob Minor, with twenty-six singles, in 27 mins., the band standing as before. A. Symonds hails from Lavenham, the rest are local men. Tenor 17 cwt.

PENZANCE (Cornwall).—On Monday evening, May 5th, for practice at St. Mary's church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 50 mins. John Boase, 1; Charles Boase, 2; John Hodder, 3; Wm. Hickens, 4; Thos. Hicks, 5; George Sellers, 6; John Richards (conductor), 7; John Symons, 8. This is the first quarter-peal on a bob bell by W. Hickens, thus entitling him to full membership; also the first conducted by Mr. J. Richards, the genial captain of the company, who, for his indefatigable zeal in all appertaining to the welfare of the belfry, has been recently unanimously elected into his third year of office, which it is the earnest desire of all his brother ringers he may long be spared to refill.

RINGSTEAD (Northamptonshire).—On Saturday, May 3rd, at St. Mary's church, a 720 of Bob Minor, with eighteen bobs and two singles. W. Hall, 1; F. Gilbert, 2; H. Stubbs, 3; E. Mayes, 4; W.

J. Gilbert (conductor), 5; T. Roberts (first 720), 6. Also a 720 of College Little, with eighteen bobs and two singles. A. Coles, 1; W. J. Gilbert, 2; R. Pendered, 3; H. Stubbs, 4; F. Gilbert, 5; W. Hall (conductor), 6. Also a 360 of London Single, with nine bobs. A. Coles, 1; F. Gilbert, 2; R. Pendered, 3; W. Hall, 4; H. Stubbs, 5; W. J. Gilbert (conductor), 6. Messrs. F. and W. J. Gilbert, H. Stubbs, W. Hall, R. Pendered and A. Coles hail from Raunds.

SOUTHWARK.—Muffled Peal.—On Sunday, May 4th, eight members of the Southwark Youths rang at St. George-the-Martyr a muffled peal as a tribute to the late Mr. G. Cross, for over twenty years parish clerk at the above church, who died at the advanced age of nearly 82 years, and was much respected by all who knew him. G. Woodage (conductor), 1; T. Cocksedge, 2; W. Pritchett, 3; E. Drury, 4; J. Fisher, 5; J. Green, 6; H. Langdon, 7; J. Summers, 8.

WARNHAM (Sussex).—On Sunday, May 4th, the local company rang a 720 of Oxford Bob, with thirty singles. H. Cook, 1; W. Short, 2; T. Andrews, 3; H. Wood, 4; W. Wood, 5; H. Chantler, 6. Also a 720 of Plain Bob, with forty-two singles. F. Garman, 1; W. Short, 2; H. Wood, 3; H. Cook, 4; W. Wood, 5; H. Chantler, 6. Both were conducted by H. Chantler. Also a 720 of Court Bob, with thirty singles. F. Garman, 1; W. Short, 2; G. Tullett, 3; H. Cook, 4; H. Burstow (conductor), 5; H. Wood, 6. Also a 720 of Canterbury Pleasure, with eighteen bobs and two singles. G. Tullett, 1; H. Wood, 2; H. Chantler, 3; H. Cook, 4; W. Wood, 5; H. Burstow (conductor), 6. And a 720 of London New Bob, with eighteen bobs and two singles. W. Wood, 1; W. Short, 2; H. Wood, 3; H. Cook, 4; H. Burstow, 5; H. Chantler (conductor), 6. Tenor 15 cwt. in F.

THE ST. LAWRENCE'S SOCIETY, READING.

ON Saturday, May 3rd, eight members of the above Society paid a friendly visit to Shinfield, a village situated about three miles from Reading, and by kind permission of the vicar, the Rev. H. N. Rynd, were able to have a pull on the beautiful-toned ring of six, tenor about 19 cwt. in F. A start was at once made for a 720 of Grandsire Minor, with thirty-eight bobs and twenty-two singles, which was successfully accomplished in 24½ mins. J. W. Waldron (first 720), 1; W. R. Pocock, 2; E. Bishop, 3; W. Goseltine, 4; W. J. Williams (conductor), 5; J. E. Willshire, 6. Several 120's of Grandsire Doubles were then rung to oblige Messrs. Maybanks and Martin, members of the local company. Afterwards an attempt was made for a 720 of Bob Minor, but unfortunately it came to grief after ringing 600 changes. G. Talbot, 1; W. R. Pocock, 2; E. Bishop, 3; W. Goseltine, 4; J. E. Willshire, 5; W. J. Williams (conductor), 6. Rather disappointed, but still not daunted, a second start was made, with H. M. Bawden at the treble, which terminated more satisfactorily than its predecessor, being accomplished in 26 mins., with eighteen bobs and two singles. This is the first 720 of Bob Minor by H. M. Bawden, W. R. Pocock, and W. J. Williams, also the first rang by the Society. After lowering the bells, the homeward journey was commenced on the marrowbone stage, Reading being reached by 10 o'clock, each one having thoroughly enjoyed the outing. The above Society wish to return their thanks to the Vicar for granting them the use of the bells, and also wish to repay the ringers by inviting them to St. Lawrence's, that they may all have a friendly pull together.

MARRIAGE OF J. W. TAYLOR, JUN., ESQ.

ON Wednesday morning, April 30th, an immense concourse of spectators assembled at the parish church of All Saints, Loughborough, to witness the wedding of J. W. Taylor, jun., Esq. (of the firm of John Taylor and Co., bellfounders), and Miss Annie Mary Bardsley, daughter of Mr. John Bardsley, of Ivy Cottage, Loughborough. The service was performed by the Ven. Archdeacon Fearon, Rector of Loughborough, assisted by the Rev. L. L. Cooper, of Leicester, and the Rev. Pryce Jones, Vicar of Diseworth (cousin of the bridegroom). Service was choral, the hymns—"The voice that breath'd o'er Eden," and "How welcome was the call," and *Deus Misereatur* being sung by the choir and congregation. At the conclusion of the service, the organist, Mr. C. H. Briggs, played Mendelssohn's "Wedding March." As the wedding party left the church, a musical touch of Grandsire Triples was rung, the bells being fired both before and afterwards. The workmen from the bell foundry, the church ringers, handbell ringers, and ringing friends from Derby, Long Eaton, Nottingham, Syston, and Leicester (numbering altogether about 120) were entertained to a substantial dinner at the Odd Fellows' Hall. During the afternoon eight members of the Midland Counties' Association rang a peal of Grandsire Triples, a report of which will be found in the usual place. After dinner the visitors rang touches of Treble Bob Major and Stedman Triples, when the bells were lowered in peal. They then adjourned to the Odd Fellows' Hall, where the evening was spent in a very pleasant manner.

MUFFLED PEALS AT ST. PAUL'S, BURTON-ON-TRENT.

Mr. M. T. Bass, the founder of St. Paul's and St. Margaret's churches in this town, died at Rangemoor, Burton-on-Trent, his country seat, on Tuesday, April 29th, 1884. The deceased gentleman was one of the greatest benefactors to the Church which this present century has seen, having contributed more than £100,000 to St. Paul's parish alone, in building and endowing St. Paul's and St. Margaret's churches, with their respective Sunday schools. He was buried on Monday, May 5th, 1884, at Rangemoor, and his funeral was witnessed by an enormous concourse of spectators, who attended from all parts of the country.

During the past week the ringers of St. Paul's church, Burton-on-Trent, have given expression to the deep feeling of regret felt by every one in this neighbourhood, whether rich or poor, by ringing muffled peals on the bells of St. Paul's. They have accomplished what is believed to be quite unique in the annals of change-ringing, viz.: muffled peals of Double Norwich and Superlative Surprise Major, together with peals of Kent Treble Bob Major and Grandsire Triples. Readers of "THE BELL NEWS" will have noticed that within a week five peals have been rung by them in five distinct methods, a peal of Stedman Triples having appeared in last week's paper as having been rung on Monday, April 28th.

It is much to be wished that the wealthy Churchmen of England would emulate Mr. Bass's magnificent example and devote more of their money than some of them are in the habit of doing at the present time to advancing the glory of God throughout the land.

THE BIRMINGHAM AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATION.

A Quarterly Meeting of the above will be held at King's Norton, on Saturday, May 17th, when all who take any interest "whatsoever" in the art of change-ringing, will be gladly welcomed by the members, who it is hoped will, owing to its central position, muster strong, and also early. The tower of St. Nicholas will be open during the afternoon, business transacted at "The Bull's Head Inn," the club-house of the King's Norton Branch.

King's Norton, Worcestershire.

JOHN WRIGHT, 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."

PROPOSED EXTENSION OF THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION TO HERTFORDSHIRE.

SIR,—At a District Meeting of the above Association, held at West Ham on February 23rd last, the Rev. Canon Scott presiding, I opened a discussion on the advisability of transforming the existing Essex Association into a Diocesan Association, so as to take in Hertfordshire. I called attention to some letters which had appeared in our paper, and to a resolution (a copy of which I possess) passed by the local company at Hertford, signed by twelve members, including the Rev. W. Wigram, their president, as showing a desire in favour of such transformation. The Hon. Sec. of the Essex Association (Rev. H. A. Cockey) also spoke in favour of the project, but thought there would be more work to do than one secretary could manage, also that before taking any decided steps it would be necessary to ascertain how the matter would be taken up in Hertfordshire. The chairman suggested that the opinion of the meeting should be taken, expressing himself in favour of a Diocesan Association. It was agreed to, *nem. con.*—"That in the opinion of this meeting it is desirable to extend the existing Essex Association to Hertfordshire, and transform it into a Diocesan Association." Now, sir, the principal object of my letter is to ask all those who are interested in such a great and good work (viz.: the promotion of change-ringing and belfry reform) to use their best endeavours to draw up petitions and resolutions expressing their opinions upon the subject; not only those who are likely to become ringing members, but also gentlemen who take an interest in this work and who are likely to become honorary or life members, should also sign in favour of the movement. Any petitions or resolutions should of course be sent to the Secretary, Rev. H. A. Cockey, Rettendon, Essex, by the 30th instant. I have already given the required notice that it is my intention at the annual meeting to move—"That the present Association be extended to Hertfordshire, and that it be known as 'The St. Albans Diocesan Association of Change-Ringers.'" I most respectfully request all members who can make it convenient to attend at Chelmsford on Whit-Monday, and support the motion.

Waltham Abbey, Essex.

W. A. ALPS.

P.S.—I think I am right in saying that the Lord Bishop of the Diocese is in favour of a Diocesan Association. At least, so I understood Mr. Seaman, our late Secretary.

TOUCHES OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR.

Collected and arranged by

THE REV. H. EARLE BULWER.

(Continued from p. 58.)

SERIES I.

TOUCHES OF LESS THAN 1000 CHANGES.

864

Time 32½ minutes.

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

896

Time 33½ mins.

The 6th home throughout.

2 3 4 5 6	M	B	W	H	2 3 4 5 6	M	B	W	H
4 3 5 2 6	I	-		I	6 4 3 5 2	I			I
4 5 2 3 6		I	2		6 2 4 5 3	-	I	I	
2 3 4 5 6		I	I		2 3 4 5 6	I			2
2 3 4 5 6					2 3 4 5 6				
3 5 4 2 6	I	-			6 3 2 5 4	-	I		
4 5 2 3 6	I	-		I	6 4 3 5 2	-	I	I	
2 3 4 5 6	I	-	2	I	2 3 4 5 6	2	-	I	I
The 6th two course-ends home.									
2 3 4 5 6					2 3 4 5 6				
2 5 6 3 4	-	2	I		5 4 3 5 2	I			I
2 5 3 4 6	-		I		6 4 5 2 3	-		I	I
2 3 4 5 6		I	2		2 3 4 5 6	2	-		2
2 3 4 5 6					2 3 4 5 6				
3 2 6 5 4	-	I	2		6 4 3 5 2	I			I
3 5 4 2 6	-	2	I		5 2 4 3 6	2	-		2
2 3 4 5 6		I			2 3 4 5 6	I	-		
2 3 4 5 6					2 3 4 5 6				
6 5 4 3 2	I		I	I	2 5 6 3 4	-	2	I	
5 3 2 4 6	2	-			4 3 6 5 2	I		I	I
2 3 4 5 6	I	-		I	2 3 4 5 6	-			I

SERIES II.

TOUCHES OF OVER 1000, AND UNDER 1600 CHANGES.

1248

Time 46½ minutes.

In three courses.

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

In four courses.

The 6th home throughout.

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

The 6th three course-ends home.

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

In five courses.

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

1280

Time 47½ minutes.

The 6th home throughout.

2 3 4 5 6	M	B	W	H	2 3 4 5 6	M	B	W	H
3 5 4 2 6	I	-			3 6 4 5 2	I			2
2 4 5 3 6	I	-		2	2 6 3 5 4	-	I		
2 5 3 4 6		I	2		6 2 4 5 3	-	I	2	
2 3 4 5 6	I	-	2	2	2 3 4 5 6	2	-	I	2
2 3 4 5 6					2 3 4 5 6				
4 3 5 2 6		2	I		2 3 4 5 6				
4 5 2 3 6		I	2		6 4 3 5 2	I			I
Repeated.					4 6 2 5 3	2			2
(or this variation.)					Repeated.				
2 3 4 5 6					2 3 4 5 6				
2 4 5 3 6		I	2						
5 4 3 2 6		2	I						
Repeated.									

The 5th and 6th each two course-ends home.

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

SERIES III.

TOUCHES OF OVER 1600 CHANGES.

2112.

Time 76½ minutes.

The 6th the extent home.

The 6th the extent wrong

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

The 5th and 6th each three course-ends in 6ths; in the reverse, in 5th's.

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

2144.

Time 78 minutes.

The first of these touches has the 4th the extent in 6ths, in the reverse the 5th the extent home.

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

2176.

Time 79 minutes.

In six courses.

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

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5120.

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2 3 4 5 6 B W H

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

Four times repeated.

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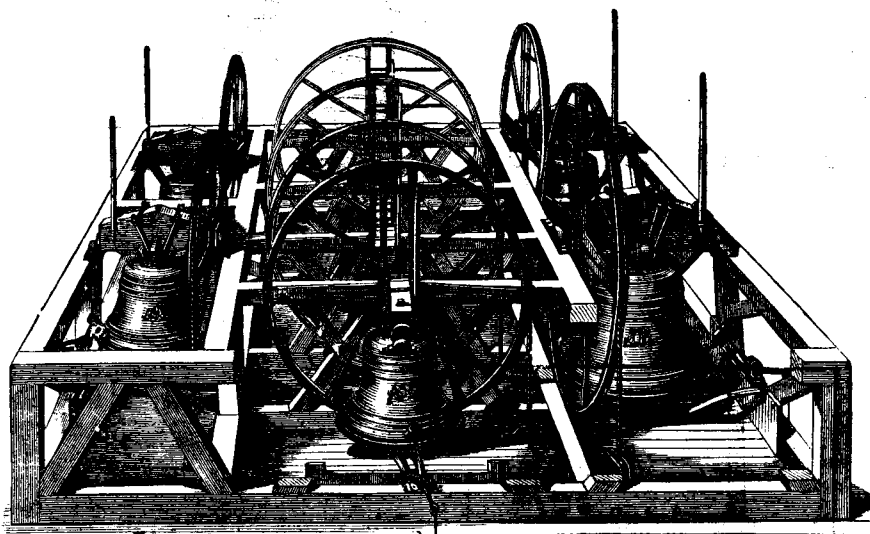
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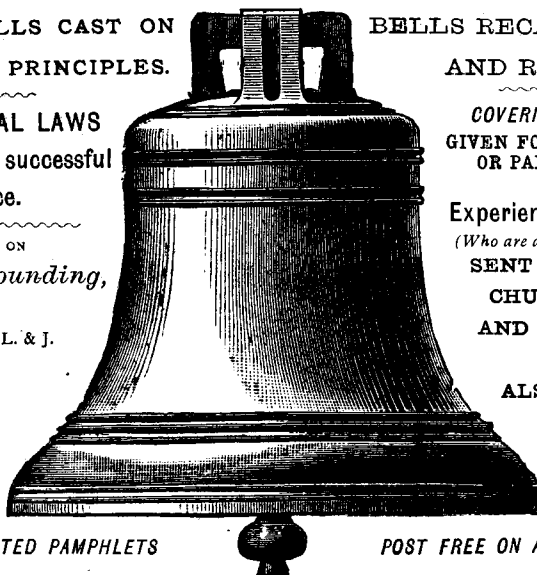
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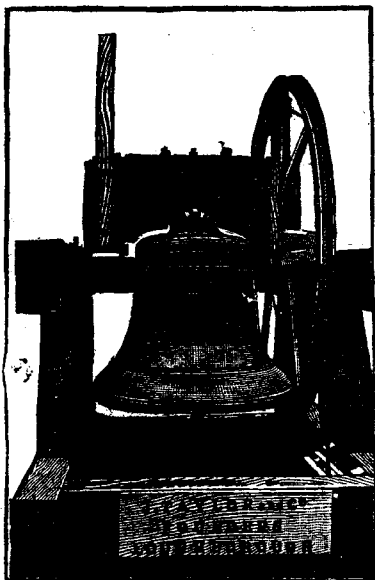
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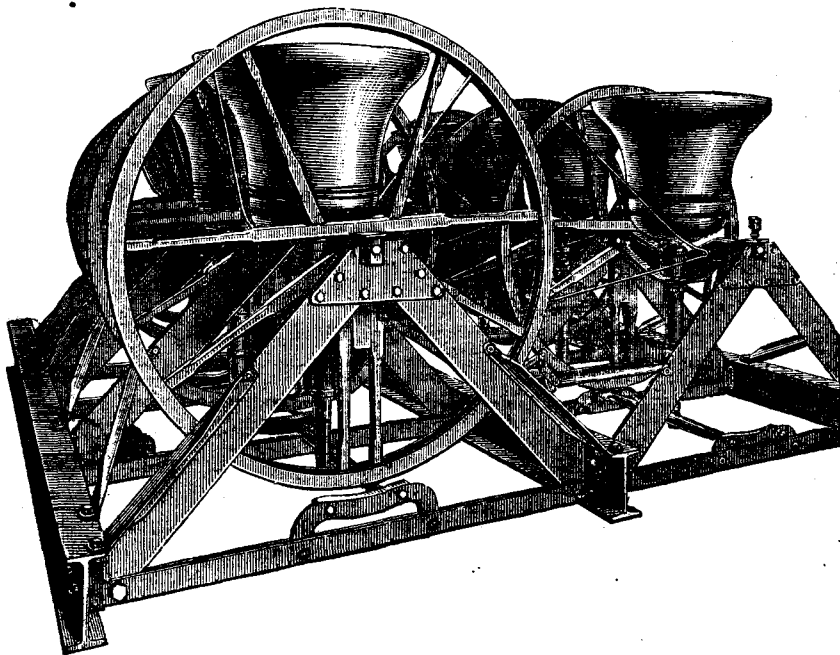
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No. III. [NEW SERIES.]—VOL. III.

SATURDAY, MAY 17, 1884.

[ONE PENNY.]

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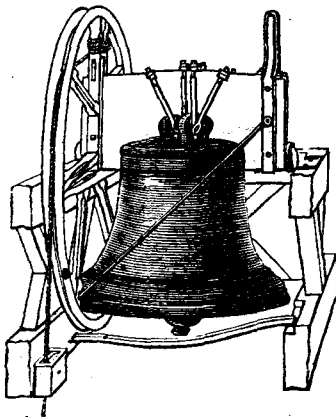
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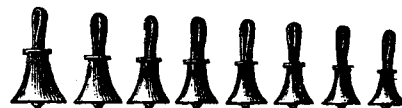
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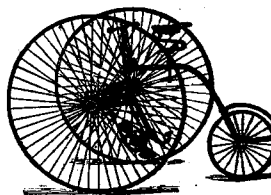
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BELLS IN GENERAL, AND LINCOLNSHIRE BELLS IN PARTICULAR.—(Concluded.)

We now come to the past and present uses made of our bells.

We will first notice an incidental use, of which we have record in eight Lincolnshire parishes, viz.: that of discovering to lost people their whereabouts. Of these, two persons were lost on the Wolds, two on Lincoln Heath, one on Corringham Scroggs, one in the Fens; a benighted fisherman was enabled to recover his reckoning; a captain of a ship was warned by the sound of Burgh bells and so saved from shipwreck. He left money to provide a silken rope for the tenor. The majority of these cases are kept in mind through bequests for the benefit of the bells or parish, and the remainder by traditions of bequests. The most valuable was left to Timberland by an old woman, and now produces £45 per annum, which sum pays all church expenses. The bell, which has thus served so useful a purpose, was, in most cases, the Curfew, a bell which was once looked upon as sounding the knell of the Englishman's liberty.

Another use made of them, and one much to be deplored, was by the proceeds of their sale, to repair the fabric of the church, to build bridges, to repair highways, and to cleanse havens. They have even been sold, and the proceeds appropriated by private individuals. We ought perhaps, in justice, to note that, in 1531, Walter Bowsche willed 3 acres of land to the parishioners of Leverton, with the proceeds of the sale of which a cope was to be bought. Instead of so doing they made, i.e. repaired, their bells, and the Chronicler quaintly remarks "it was against good conscience." As a set off, we must take the case of Thimbleby, where, in 1744, an ancient church was pulled down, and replaced by an unsightly classical structure, the six bells being sold to defray expenses. The churchwarden, who effected this change, had the effrontery to hand down his name to posterity on the one miserable bell they now possess.

First amongst the legitimate uses is that of the call to prayers, which in monastic times was very frequent, the canonical hours being duly notified by the ringing of the bells. The refectory was graced with a special bell, at the sound of which the brethren assembled to minister to their bodily wants, and at the same time to digest a lecture.

The guilds of a town frequently had special bells, as had also the side altars of the church. The ringers of these days ranked with the Ostarii, and had also the care of the church. The keys of the church and the bell-ropes were, at their ordination, placed in their hands. We also hear of deacons ringing the bells. Formerly a bell was rung just before the sermon commenced, which in the Gallilee at Durham lasted from one until three. This practice was discontinued on account of the Puritans, who frequently ignored the prayers and went only to hear the sermon.

The Sanctus bell, so called from its being rung while singing the Tensanctus, so that all within hearing, both inside and outside the church, could join in this glorious hymn, was usually hung in a cot of its own, in the gable of the chancel next to the nave, the rope being brought down within reach of the server. It is spoken of as hanging "in the high chancel," and also "at the choir door." As evidence that it was not always hung in the most accessible of positions, we have several entries in churchwardens' accounts similar to this—"1512 Pay'd Harry Estegate for climbing to the sanctus bell. 1d."

The sacring bell, usually a handbell, was rung to give notice that the elevation was about to take place. Its use was enjoined as early as 1281. In 1566 they were catalogued among the "Monuments of Superstition," and their fate was truly a sad one. They are spoken of as "metal of papistry," "popish peltry," and "trumpery." They were broken up, and sold at fairs, to braziers, tinkers, and pewterers. They were stolen out of the churches by whom the churchwardens knew not. The vicar of Market Rasen said his was gone out of his "church by a madwoman," perhaps a religious fanatic. At Sleaford they were burnt in the Market Place. At Wadingham one hung for a time at the top of a Maypole. A Mr. Edmund Haselwood, of Handbie Grange, used one to call his workpeople to dinner. A very common mode of desecration was to break off the start, or straight handle, and turn them into mortars; we even find a vicar so doing. One man "made a horse bell thereof, to hang

at his horse's ear; and another "had one hung at his horse's ear a long time, but now, i.e. 1565, it is broken." The churchwardens of Barton sold a handbell on a Sunday, and as a further evidence of their carelessness in sacred matters, they said of a sacring bell and two clappers:—"We know not what is become of them, nor what was done with them, nor who had them, or made them away and that we will depose upon a book."

Handbells were also used in processions, not excluding the Rogation processions to beat the parish boundaries, and when carrying the reserved sacrament to the houses of the sick. The priest was ordered, as late as 1549, when about to administer to the sick, to reserve as much as necessary of the bread and wine, consecrated in church; and also when administering to a number of sick people to consecrate sufficient at the house of the first to serve for the remainder.

In cases such as these the Sanctus bell would be of practical use; for when a sick man lying in his chamber heard it, he was enabled to join in the consecration of the elements shortly to be administered to him.

These handbells are sometimes called houselling bells, *houssel* being an old name for the Eucharist. One part of the duty of the bellmaster of Loughboro' was to perambulate the town on Fridays with a handbell, bidding men pray for all Christian souls. A similar practice was in use at Boston, on the Obits of two of the townsmen. Small bells were sometimes called *Tantony* bells, a corruption of St. Anthony's bells. The origin of this term is said to be as follows:—When, in 1131, the streets of Paris were closed, as a recreation ground, to swine generally, those of the monks of St. Anthony, distinguished by a small bell, were privileged to roam unhindered.

The Angelus, so called from its being rung as a intimation that the time to repeat a number of "Hail Marys"—the angel's salutation to the Virgin—had arrived, was variously rung, but chiefly at early morning, midday and sunset.

There are several inscriptions referring to this practice. Their usual form is "Hail Mary full of grace," and occasionally the bell is further identified with its use by the words "My name is Gabriel."

The Shrive bell has now, through the disuse of an ancient custom, degenerated into the pancake bell. In mediæval times the week preceeding Lent was considered a specially appropriate time for making confessions. It was called *Shrovetide* and when Shrove-tuesday, the last day arrived, the priest anxious that none through lack of warning should neglect this duty, caused the shrive bell to be rung, to announce his presence at his post.

The passing bell, as the name implies, was and should now be rung when any person is at the point of death, not as superstition would say to aid the soul, directly, in its passage from the body, but to call forth the prayers of devout Christians for the wellbeing of the soul of the dying. In 1551, Bishop Hooper, speaks of it as warning the hearers of their danger and so soliciting them to pray for the sick person. In 1662, Bishop Cosin speaks of it as warning the neighbours "to recommend the dying person to the grace and favour of God." Fuller tells us that a Puritan advocate, at the Hampton Court conference, when *in extremis*, "expressed by signs that he would have the passing bell toll for him." A most impressive inscription as recent as 1772 tells us "To speak a *parting* soul is given to me, Be trimm'd thy lamp as if I toll'd for thee." Bells not only thus marked the passing away of a Christian's soul and his burial, but also in some cases, his obit or year mind, i.e., the anniversary of his death. Commemorative peals are rung annually at Harlaxton and Holbeach. The bells were, before the Reformation, rung through the night of All Hallows' Eve, for all Christian souls. A sixteenth century bell is inscribed: "Jesu for vi modirs sake, Save all the souls that me gart make."

It will be noticed now by the inscriptions on ancient bells, powers belonging only to God are imputed to the saints. Bells bear upon them the unchangeable impress of those who founded them, and hand down to us the thoughts and feelings of men who died years ago.

We will not conclude in the words of a Silk Willoughby bell:—"Behold se the Parson's wife's act of Silk Willobie," but in those of a Burgh bell.

"Learne of John Holden all good Christian people,
Who gave this bell to grace this tower and steeple.

ANNUAL MEETING OF THE SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD AT TROWBRIDGE.

The Annual Meeting of the above Guild was held at Trowbridge, on Thursday, May 8th. The bells were raised at 8 a.m., and 216 Bob Minor rung, with the seventh and tenor covering. W. Alley, 1; C. A. Clements, 2; W. W. Gifford, 3; T. Blackburn, 4; S. Smith, 5; J. R. Jerram, 6; H. C. Flower, 7; W. Lanham, 8.

At 11 a.m. a meeting took place in the vestry for electing officers and other business connected with the Guild. With one or two exceptions, all the old officers were re-elected. The Rev. A. D. Hill was elected Master of the Guild. The rules of the National Ringers' Association were discussed, but no immediate action decided on. At 12 o'clock, Divine Service was held in the church. At the commencement of which, Messrs. W. Lane, W. McCaffrey, W. Alley, and J. Hayward gave a course of Grandsire Triples on the handbells, retained in hand, standing at the west end of the church. The sermon was preached by the Rev. H. Trotter, Vicar, from Chronicles xxv. 6, in which he made some very appropriate remarks. At 1 p.m. dinner was served at the St. James's Hall. This was given free of charge through the liberality of A. Mackay, Esq., who presided thereat. After dinner the usual toasts were proposed. Mr. Mackay proposed "The Queen," and also "The Bishop and Clergy," coupled with the name of Archdeacon Buchanan. The latter in responding, proposed the Salisbury Diocesan Ringers' Guild, coupled with the name of the Rev. F. W. Anderson, as secretary, and Mr. W. Alley as a practical change-ringer. Mr. Alley, in responding, thanked the members from Salisbury for their assistance that day, and gave the following advice to ringers generally, viz.: "Keep a tight rope, a steady hand, and a clear head." The Rev. F. W. Anderson, in responding, said there were now thirty-one companies in the Guild, and six new honorary members had joined that day. The accounts shewed a balance in hand of £13 18s. 6d. He said this was the only ringing society that he knew of which required no knowledge of change-ringing to become a member. He himself must speak up for the round ringers, as Mr. Alley had done for the change-ringers. He was nevertheless glad to say they had Mr. Hill for their Master, who was one of the best change-ringers in the district. But he (the secretary), must be content to look after the interests of Churchyard Bob.

The Rev. A. D. Hill, in responding, thanked Mr. Mackay for his hospitality in providing for them all that day, and called attention to 1260 Grandsire Triples rung at Trowbridge some time back.

A vote of thanks to the Rector for the use of the bells was then passed.

Mr. T. Wright said he hoped other churchwardens would follow Mr. Mackay's example, and added that he had at present not much knowledge of change-ringing but he hoped to learn more. The various companies of round-ringers then dispersed to Bradford, North Bradley, Westbury, and Steeple Ashton, for ringing, Trowbridge being reserved for change-ringing. During the afternoon 336 Grandsire Triples was rung by W. Alley (conductor), 1; J. R. Jerram, 2; T. Blackburn, 3; A. Hayward, 4; Rev. A. D. Hill, 5; W. Lane, 6; J. Palmer, 7; J. Cooper, 8. Also 180 Bob Minor by the same party as in the morning, except that T. Blackburn rang the sixth and conducted, and T. Wright rung the tenor.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

The Easter Quarterly District Meeting took place on April 29th, at Bourton-on-the-Water, and the Association, as is their custom at small meetings, was represented by a selected band—viz., that of the parish church of Windrush, on this occasion. Several members also came from Cheltenham, and Newnham-on-Severn.

These gentlemen, with the respected Master of the Association, Mr. J. Drinkwater, of Sandhurst, near Gloucester,—the hon. treasurer, the Rev. F. E. Broome Wits, Vicar of Norton-by-Gloucester, and the Rev. Pitt Eykn, Vicar of Ashton Gate, Bristol, the hon. secretary, proceeded to the parish church of St. Laurence on their arrival, the Bourton ringers ringing them in very heartily, whilst the quaint old tower was gaily decked with flags.

At the short service with which this association always commences its proceedings, the Rector, the Rev. S. J. Hulme, gave the Association an hearty welcome in his address. After service, the bells were again set in motion till dinner-time. The Rector presided at this, and was supported by the Revds. A. Shilleto (curate), W. S. Hulme, F. E. Broome Wits, and Pitt Eykn. The usual loyal toasts were given and received.

The Master gave some sound practical advice to the ringers assembled. The Rector was warmly thanked for his kindly welcome. Some handbell ringing then took place, and then the belfry was ascended again, but owing to the condition of the bell-gear, nothing very much could be accomplished.

It is to be hoped that ere long funds may be forthcoming to rehang them.

REOPENING OF THE PARISH CHURCH BELLS AT GREAT BENTLEY, ESSEX.

These bells, which have recently been rehung in the parish church, were formally dedicated on Tuesday evening, May 6th, by the Bishop of Colchester. The service, which was fixed for 7.45 p.m., and commenced with a hymn, and the shortened form of evensong, was read by the Rev. J. Parr, the lessons being read by the Rev. Canon Mayer. A hymn being sung, the Bishop and clergy walked to the belfry, and held a short service, the ringers attending. Returning back while a processional hymn was sung, the Bishop entered the pulpit and gave a short address upon the history of bells, and then solemnly dedicated them to the service of God. He said that bells should never be used for unlawful purposes; church bells are the voice of the Gospel, calling Christians together, how sacred therefore the trust committed to the ringers, and how important that their duties should be well and faithfully performed. On the Bishop leaving the pulpit, a beautiful hymn was sung, during which a collection was made in aid of the bell fund, amounting to £4 11s. 1d. Then the bells were rung for the first time after having been silent for over two years.

Mr. H. Bowell, of Ipswich, has rehung them with new stocks, wheels, and all other fittings, also quarter-turned the 3rd, 4th and 5th. The 2nd bell being cracked was recast by Messrs. Mears and Stainbank, of Whitechapel, London, and the whole work has been carried out in a most satisfactory manner, and Mr. H. Bowell was highly complemented on the character of the work. Five members of the Essex Association rang six 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles, each called differently, in 25 mins. J. Taylor, 1; W. Smith, 2; H. Bowell (conductor), 3; J. Starling, 4; W. Nevard, 5. The ringing was kept up on Wednesday, when ringers from Higham (Suffolk), Gt. Bromley (Essex), paid a visit. Ringing during this day comprised Grandsire Doubles, Plain, and Old Doubles. At 2 p.m. there was a dinner provided at "The Victory Inn" when fourteen ringers partook of a choice repast. After the removal of the cloth, the handbells were brought forward, and a well-struck course of Grandsire Triples were rung. J. Taylor, 1-2; W. Nevard, 3-4; H. Bowell, 5-6; J. Starling, 7-8. Touches of Bob Major, Treble Bob Minor, Plain Bob and Grandsire Doubles were also rung. Also a well known tune or two by W. Smith taking 1-2-3-4; W. Nevard, 5-6-7-8, which brought the day to a close.

The bells bear these inscriptions:—

- Treble.—"John Briant Hertford Fecit 1819."
2.—"Mears and Stainbank London.
Recast 1884.
H. Norton Vicar
Isaac J. Mills } Churchwardens
Thos. C. Jolly }
W. Nevard Leading ringer
LAUS DEO."
3.—"Miles George Made me 1683."
4.—"Henry Pleasant Made me, 1703."
5.—"Thomas Gardiner Sudbury Fecit 1732."

FELPHAM, SUSSEX.

The new peal of bells, recently placed in the tower of St. Mary's Church were, on Sunday last, both for the morning and evening services, rung by the Guild of ringers established in the village, who performed most creditably considering the short time which has elapsed since they first commenced to ring—many of them not more than two or three weeks, which is an evident proof of what may be accomplished by energy, perseverance, attention, and a desire for knowledge. Mr. Charles Blackman, the captain of the Guild of ringers of St. Nicholas Church, Arundel, has been most assiduous and attentive in instructing them in the art, having attended twice and three times a week since he assisted in ringing the bells when dedicated, when he was so favourably impressed with their delightful and musical notes, that he has spared no pains to instruct a set of ringers worthy of this most excellent peal of bells.

A DISAPPOINTMENT.—Some time ago the company who rang the 10,080 of Bob Major agreed to attempt, on Monday, May 5th, a peal of 13,440 in the same method, at Frittenden, Kent. On that day they attended with one exception, and this prevented the attempt being made. Our correspondent, mentioning the name of the defaulter—which we had better not publish, as he may be a desperate character when roused, a sort of lion at bay—says: "If he did not intend to come he ought to have apprised the other members of the party of such intention, so that they could have obtained some one in his place, or have saved them the inconvenience of undergoing the journey for nothing." However, after looking up a tenor-man, the party went to Cranbrook, where an attempt was made for a peal of Bob Triples, but owing to the bells going so badly, they had to be content with a few short touches, the longest being one of 1512 changes, in 55 mins. C. Payne, 1; W. Brattle, 2; E. Baldock, 3; E. Potter, 4; J. Potter, 5; T. Potter, 6; T. Daynes (conductor), 7; W. Rolfe, 8.

THE CHRONOLOGY OF CHANGE-RINGING.—(Continued.)

By F. W. J. REES,

A Member of the Ancient Society of College Youths.

- 1777.—Ormskirk (Lancashire) ringers rang 1260 Grandsire Triples.
- 1778.—Norwich ringers rang 6240 Oxford Treble Bob Maximus, double-handed. Cumberlands rang Bob Major at Epsom; first peal on the bells. Nottingham ringers rang 10,368 Grandsire Caters. College Youths rang Oxford Treble Bob Major at Walthamstow. The ring at Sonning, Berks., increased to eight. The ringers at Braughing, Herts., rang 10,080 Bob Major.
- 1779.—Cumberlands rang at St. Nicholas, Brighton, 11,088 Bob Major, in 6 hrs. 50 mins. The ringers of Braughing, Herts., rang 12,240 Bob Major. Jonathan Pavier born: he was a ringer at Oxford from 1807 to 1841, and rang the 9th in a long peal at New College. A new ring at Hilgay, Norfolk. Birmingham ringers—Bob Maximus.
- 1780.—London Youths rang the first peal on Harrow bells, Bob Major. London Youths rang 5088 Cambridge Surprise Major, at St. Giles-in-the-Fields, the first peal in the method; false. A new ring of eight at Ash, Kent. College Youths rang a peal at Bletchingley, Surrey. College Youths rang a peal at St. Mary's, Battersea. The ring at Oundle, Northants, increased to eight.
- 1781.—The ringers of Clare, Suffolk, rang 5040 Bob Major. The ring of St. Mary's, Ely, increased to eight. A new ring of eight at St. Martin's, Leicester.
- 1782.—Ringers of Long Melford, Suffolk, rang 5040 London Court Bob Major. College Youths rang a peal of Major at St. Andrew's, Hertford. College Youths rang a peal of Grandsire Caters at Kingston, Surrey. College Youths rang Treble Bob Royal, on Bow Bells. A ring of eight at Charles' church, Plymouth, Devon. A new ring of eight at All Saints', Northampton.
- 1783.—College Youths rang at St. Giles-in-the-Fields, 5152 Cambridge Surprise Major, false. Ringers of Oldham, Lancashire, rang 10,080 Bob Major. First peal at Cranbrook, Kent, Treble Bob Major. Shrewsbury ringers rang Treble Bob Major at the Abbey church. College Youths rang a peal at St. Botolph's, Bishopsgate. College Youths rang a peal of Bob Major at St. Luke's, Chelsea. New ring at Reigate, Surrey. A new ring of eight at Giles's, Northampton.
- 1784.—Oldham ringers rang 14,480 Bob Major. College Youths rang Treble Bob Royal at Maidstone. Junior Cumberlands rang a peal at Walthamstow.
- 1784.—Cumberlands rang 12,000 Treble Bob Royal at St. Leonard's, Shoreditch, Allen Grant at tenor (31 cwt.) Time 9 hrs. 5 mins. A most wonderful achievement, longest length in the method. College Youths rang 7008 Treble Bob Maximus at St. Saviour's, Southwark, single-handed. Junior Cumberlands rang a peal at Barking, Essex.
- 1785.—First peal at Biddenden, Kent, Treble Bob Major. The ring at Boston, Lincolnshire, increased to eight. Cumberlands rang the first peal at St. Matthew's, Bethnal Green. Sheffield (Yorkshire) ringers rang Treble Bob Major at St. Peter's. William Shipway came from Bath to London and rang his first peal there.
- 1786.—The Cumberlands rang at Bethnal Green a peal of Double Norwich Court Bob Major, the first peal in the method. Gravesend ringers rang Grandsire Triples. Cumberlands rang the first peal on a new ring of eight at Hackney. Shiffnal (Salop) ringers rang Bob Major at Wolverhampton, the first peal on the bells. College Youths rang a peal at Bishop's Hatfield, Herts. Birmingham ringers rang a peal of Caters at Warwick, first peal on the bells.
- 1787.—The ring at St. Peter's, St. Albans, increased to ten. College Youths rang 5076 Stedman Caters at St. John's, Horsleydown, the first peal in the method. Junior Cumberlands rang 8448 Treble Bob Major, first time with the tenors together. Junior Cumberlands rang a peal at Christ Church, Surrey, first peal on the bells. College Youths rang Caters at York Minster. The ring at Aldbourne, Wilts, increased to eight. Ringers of Highworth, Wilts, rang Grandsire Triples. The ring at St. Martin's, Leicester, increased to ten. Ringers of Kingston, Surrey, rang Triples, called by R. Porter, aged 17 years.
- 1788.—Cumberlands rang a peal at Edmonton, first on the bells. Cambridge Youths rang 6600 Bob Maximus, longest length in method. College Youths rang 6204 Stedman Cinques at St. Martin's, called by T. Blakemore; first peal in the method. First edition of the *Clavis*, by Jones, Reeves, and Blakemore. Walsall ringers rang 6000 Bob Major. College Youths rang a peal at Rickmansworth, Herts. College Youths rang a peal of Treble Bob Royal at St. Peter's, St. Albans. A new ring of eight at Soham, Cambs. 10,080 Bob Major at Aston, near Birmingham. Cumberlands rang 5184 Stedman Caters at St. Leonard's, Shoreditch.
- 1789.—Woodbridge (Suffolk) ringers rang Bob Major. The ring at Eye, Suffolk, increased to eight. The ring at Christ Church, Bristol increased to ten.
- 1790.—Ringers of Soham, Cambs., rang Treble Bob Major. Birmingham ringers rang 5292 Stedman Caters. Ringers of Gateshead, Durham, rang Grandsire Triples. A new ring of eight at Thetford, Norfolk. Stedman Caters in the tower of St. Philip, Birmingham.
- 1791.—A new ring of eight at the Abbey, Romsey, Hants. The ring at All Saints', Hertford, increased to ten. The ringers of Aldbourne, Wilts, rang Grandsire Triples. The ringers of Thetford, Norfolk, rang Bob Major on their new bells.
- 1792.—The ring at St. Giles's, Cripplegate, London, increased to twelve. Cumberlands rang 5112 Grandsire Maximus, at St. Saviour's, Southwark, the longest length in the method, also the first peal. The ringers of Aston rang 7552 Grandsire Major, the first peal in the method. About this time T. Edwards, of Stourbridge, composed a true peal of Stedman Triples, with 618 bobs, 100 common singles, and two singles in 4-5. A peal of Bob Major at St. James's, Clerkenwell, London. A peal of Caters at High Wycombe, Bucks. Bob Major at Leatherhead, Surrey; these three by College Youths. The ring at Hinckley, Leicestershire, increased to eight. The ringers of Aston near Birmingham, 10,192 Bob Major.
- 1793.—The ringers of Aston 15,360 Bob Major, in 9 hrs. 31 mins. Tenor 21 cwt. The longest length, single-handed, in the method. 5040 Bob Major by veterans of Kent; average age 72 years, tenor man aged 86. The ring at King's Sutton, Northants, increased to eight.
- 1794.—Cumberlands rang 6720 Treble Bob Major at St. Giles's Camberwell, with the 120 course-ends. Cumberlands rang Caters at All Saints', Hertford, first peal on the ten bells. A new ring of eight at Godmanchester, Hunts.
- 1795.—The ringers of Leatherhead, Surrey, rang 6400 Treble Bob Major. Holt's Original peal of Grandsire Triples first called by a conductor who took part in the ringing, J. Bartlet. Cumberlands rang 10,080 Bob Major at Edmonton, Middlesex. The ringers of Soham, Cambs., rang a peal of Norwich Court Bob Major.
- 1796.—The *Clavis* reprinted. Ringers of Leeds, Kent, rang 10,080 Treble Bob Major. Jas. Barham rang in this peal, being 70 years of age. College Youths rang a peal of Major at Watford, Herts. Kendal ringers rang the first peal on their bells, Triples. John Patrick, a celebrated composer, died, aged about 85 years.
- 1797.—A new ring of eight at All Saints, Newcastle-on-Tyne. The Junior Cumberlands rang 6003 Stedman Caters at Christ Church, Spitalfields.

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

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

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

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.

Everything for insertion in this Journal to be addressed "The Editor of THE BELL NEWS, Walthamstow, London." Letters forwarded for publication, and performances under 5000 changes must reach us not later than Wednesday morning; and the insertion of any communication coming later than the first Postal delivery on Thursday morning cannot be guaranteed in that week's number. When it is found impossible from want of space to insert all touches forwarded, the earlier ones will have the preference.

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

The Bell News & Ringers' Record.

SATURDAY, MAY 17, 1884.

The Provinces.

THE ST. MARTIN'S SOCIETY, BIRMINGHAM.
 PERRY BARR, STAFFORDSHIRE.

On Saturday, May 3, 1884, in Two Hours and Fifty-six Minutes,
 AT ST. JOHN'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
 BROOK'S VARIATION. Tenor 13 cwt. 2 qrs. 10 lbs. in F#.

CHAS. H. HATTERSLEY .. Treble.	JOHN SANDERS 5.
FRANCIS E. DAWE 2.	SAMUEL REEVES 6.
HENRY BASTABLE 3.	JOHN BUFFERY 7.
WILLIAM R. SMALL 4.	THOMAS REYNOLDS .. Tenor.

Conducted by CHARLES HENRY HATTERSLEY.

C. H. Hattersley hails from Sheffield; F. E. Dawe from London; S. Reeves and W. R. Small from West Bromwich; and the others from Aston.

CHESTER.

On Tuesday, May 6, 1884, in Three Hours and Twenty Minutes,

AT THE CATHEDRAL OF ST. WERBURGH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
 HOLT'S TEN-PART. Tenor 33 cwt. in C.

ALFRED LEA Treble.	EDWARD ROWLAND 5.
JOSEPH WILLIAMS 2.	FRANCIS E. DAWE 6.
JOHN ELLIS 3.	FREEMAN BALL 7.
JOHN GIBSON 4.	JAMES KENDRICK .. Tenor.

Conducted by FRANCIS EDWARD DAWE.

Messrs. Ball and Gibson belong to Chester; Dawe from London; and the others from Wrexham.

WREXHAM, DENBIGHSHIRE, NORTH WALES.

On Thursday, May 8, 1884, in Three Hours and Nineteen Minutes,

AT ST. GILES'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS, 5021 CHANGES;
 Tenor 28 cwt. in D.

ALFRED LEA Treble.	EDWARD ROWLAND 6.
RICHARD W. EVANS, ESQ. 2.	FRANCIS E. DAWE 7.
ROBERT JONES 3.	THOMAS NEWELL 8.
JOSEPH WILLIAMS 4.	EDWARD EVANS 9.
JOHN ELLIS 5.	JAMES KENDRICK .. Tenor.

Composed by JOHN COX, and conducted by
 FRANCIS EDWARD DAWE.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—SHEFFIELD.

On Saturday, May 10, 1884, in Three Hours and Fifteen Minutes,

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

WALTER WORTHINGTON .. Treble.	JAMES HUNT 5.
THOMAS HATTERSLEY 2.	CHAS. HY. HATTERSLEY .. 6.
JOHN MULLIGAN 3.	ARTHUR BRIERLEY 7.
TOM LEE 4.	HERBERT MADIN .. Tenor.

Conducted by HERBERT MADIN.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—SADDLEWORTH. SADDLEWORTH BRANCH.

On Saturday, May 10, 1884, in Three Hours and Three Minutes,

AT ST. CHAD'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;
 Tenor 12 cwt.

JOHN J. BRIERLEY Treble.	FRANK BRIERLEY 5.
JOHN HOLDEN 2.	EDGAR BUCKLEY 6.
JOHN THOS. HOLDEN 3.	JOSEPH WOOD 7.
JAMES WRIGLEY 4.	EDWARD WOOD Tenor.

Composed by JOHN J. BRIERLEY, and conducted by
 FRANK BRIERLEY.

This peal has never been previously performed.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—BARKING.

On Saturday, May 10, 1884, in Three Hours and Six Minutes,

AT ST. MARGARET'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
 REEVES'S VARIATION. Tenor 22½ cwt.

ALBERT DEARDS Treble.	WILLIAM H. FUSSELL .. 5.
JOHN NUNN 2.	ALFRED PYE 6.
ACKLAND J. PERKINS 3.	HARRY RANDALL 7.
ROBERT SEWELL 4.	ALFRED WHIGHT .. Tenor.

Conducted by ACKLAND J. PERKINS.

Mr. Fussell was proposed by H. Randall, and seconded by R. Sewell, and elected a member of the Essex Association before starting for the peal. A. Deards hails from Dagenham; J. Nunn from Walthamstow; A. J. Perkins from Romford; Messrs. Fussell and Randall from West Ham; A. Pye from Little Heath; and Messrs. Sewell and Whight from Barking.

THE HERTFORD SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS. HUNSDON, HERTS.

On Saturday, May 10, 1884, in Three Hours and Five Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
 HOLT'S ORIGINAL. Tenor 14½ cwt. in F.

JOSEPH CULL Treble.	JASPER G. CRAWLEY .. 5.
HENRY J. TUCKER 2.	JOHN GODFREY 6.
ALFRED BAKER 3.	THOMAS GATHARD 7.
HERBERT BAKER 4.	FREDERICK GEORGE .. Tenor.

Conducted by HENRY J. TUCKER.

This is the first peal on the bells, which were opened on Easter Monday by L. Proctor, Esq., and his band of ringers. The bells, originally a peal of five, have now been augmented to a peal of eight, the new bells being cast by Messrs. Mears and Stainbank, and the whole ring entirely rehung and put in thorough going order by Mr. John Gray, of Little Munden, Herts. The entire expense has been most kindly defrayed by Spencer Charington, Esq., of Hunsdon.

BROMBOROUGH, CHESHIRE.

On Saturday, May 10, 1884, in Three Hours and Twenty Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
 Tenor 24 cwt.

RICHARD WILLIAMS Treble.	ROBERT WILLIAMS 5.
THOMAS HUGHES 2.	THOMAS HAMMOND 6.
EDWARD GITTINS 3.	*EDWARD GRIFFITHS 7.
CHARLES GITTINS 4.	WILLIAM BROOKS .. Tenor.

Composed by ROBERT WILLIAMS, and conducted by
 THOMAS HAMMOND.

Messrs. Williams, Hammond, and Brooks, belong to St. Peter's, Liverpool.

This peal was rung by kind invitation of the rector, the Rev. Dyson Green, and Arthur J. Bamford, Esq., donor of the bells—the latter gentleman being unable to take part in the peal owing to the pressure of business. *First peal.

ALMONDBURY, YORKSHIRE.

On Saturday, May 10, 1884, in Three Hours and Twelve Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5184 CHANGES;
IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 18 cwt.

ALLAN BOOTHEROYD Treble.	ABRAHAM HAIGH 5.
TOM NORTH 2.	WM. WOMERSLEY 6.
J. G. HARDY 3.	WALTER BOOTHEROYD .. 7.
GEORGE McDONALD 4.	WALTER LODGE Tenor.

Composed by the late WM. HARRISON, of Mottram, and conducted by WALTER BOOTHEROYD.

MIRFIELD.

Birthday Peal.

On Saturday, May 10, 1884, in Two Hours and Fifty-nine Minutes,

AT ST. PAUL'S CHURCH,

5040 CHANGES: BEING SEVEN DIFFERENT 720's
IN SEVEN DIFFERENT METHODS.

VIOLET; OXFORD; NEW LONDON PLEASURE; DUKE OF YORK;
LONDON SCHOLARS' PLEASURE;
CITY DELIGHT; ARNOLD'S VICTORY.

Tenor 14 cwt. 2 qrs.

JESSE HOLT Treble.	HENRY ROBINSON 4.
RALPH ELLIS 2.	*BENJAMIN ROBINSON .. 5.
HENRY HINCHLIFFE 3.	JOAH PEACOCK Tenor.

Conducted by HENRY HINCHLIFFE.

This peal was rung in commemoration and in honour of Jesse Holt attaining his 78th birthday, he being the oldest ringer living that has assisted in winning eighteen first prizes and eight second prizes upon six and eight bells. The above is the first 5040 on these bells. H. Robinson hails from Dewsbury.

* First peal.

Date Touch.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

KENNINGHALL (Norfolk).—On Tuesday, May 6th, eight members of the above Association rang at St. Mary's church, a date touch of Kent Treble Bob Major, in 1 hr. 10 mins. J. Wade (longest touch after a long and severe illness), 1; H. Eagling, 2; G. Edwards, 3; W. Nudds, 4; R. Hutton, 5; C. Everett, 6; J. Woods, 7; J. Mordey (conductor), 8. Tenor 16½ cwt. The touch (1884 changes) was taken from "THE BELL NEWS" of December 29th, 1883.

Miscellaneous.

THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

BROMHAM (Beds).—On Saturday, May 10th, several members of the above Association met to inaugurate a belfry tablet recording the first two 720's of Treble Bob Minor achieved by this Association, when a 720 of College Single (eighteen bobs and two singles) was rung in 27 mins. T. Tysoe, 1; C. West, 2; C. W. Clarke, 3; J. Hills, 4; C. Stafferton, 5; W. Biggs (conductor), 6. First 720 in the method by all.

THE BIRMINGHAM AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATION.

KING'S NORTON (Worcestershire).—On Tuesday, May 13th, on the occasion of the wedding of Mr. Wm. Palmer, eight members of the above Association attempted Holt's ten-part peal of Grandsire Triples but owing to some parties entering the belfry, the peal came to grief, and as the hour was late it was deemed advisable to start for a touch, when the Editor's quarter-peal (1260 changes) containing the twenty-four 6-7's all at backstroke, was rung in 42 mins. Wm. Baldwin, 1; W. H. Sumner, 2; Chas. Carmell, 3; Frederick Scrivens, 4; Chas. Barnacle, 5; John Wright (conductor), 6; John Cooks, 7; Daniel Taylor, 8. Tenor 18 cwt.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

RETTENDON (Essex).—On Sunday, May 4th, Mr. H. Bowell of Ipswich, and Mr. W. Nevard of Great Bentley, paid a visit to Retten- don, and rang with the local company before and after three o'clock service. A 720 of Bob Minor was rung before service in 26 mins., the ringers standing as follows: G. Jones, 1; E. Moat, 2; H. Bowell, 3; W. Jay, 4; W. Nevard, 5; Rev. H. A. Cockey, 6. After service a 720 of Grandsire Minor was rung by the same band, Mr. E. Moat and W. Jay changing places, in 23 mins. Several 6-scores were also rung in the Plain Bob, Grandsire, and Stedman methods. Mr. Nevard had never rung any Grandsire Minor previously to this 720. The ringing was conducted by the Rev. H. A. Cockey.

THE ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

SUDBURY (Suffolk).—On Saturday evening, May 3rd, at the church of St. Gregory, 1120 of Kent Treble Bob Major. T. Campin, 1; W. Howell, 2; G. S. Brown, 3; M. Silvester, 4; W. Bacon, 5; W. Griggs, 6; A. Scott, 7; H. Harper (conductor), 8. Tenor 16 cwt. in F.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

BLACKBURN (Lancashire).—On Saturday, May 10th, a company from Church-kirk paid a visit to this place, and rang at the parish church, a 720 of Plain Bob Minor, with sixteen bobs and two singles, in 27 mins. Also a 720 of College Single, with eighteen bobs and two singles, in 27½ mins. James Horrocks (conductor), 1; Thomas Doran, 2; Henry Hayes, 3; James Pickles, 4; William Pattinson, 5; Thomas Horrocks, 6. Tenor 16½ cwt.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

BANHAM (Norfolk).—On Sunday, May 4th, at St. Mary's church, after Divine Service in the afternoon, a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob Minor, in 26 mins. R. Hutton (conductor), 1; T. Wicks (first 720 in the method), 2; G. Mansfield (first 720), 3; W. Nudds, 4; J. Woods, 5; E. Websdale, 6. Tenor about 12 cwt.

THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

STREATHAM (Surrey).—On Saturday, April 26th, eight members of the above attempted a peal of Stedman Triples at Emanuel Church, but after ringing one hour and fifty minutes, in which time over three thousand changes were accomplished, it came to grief. G. Russell, 1; D. Springall, 2; E. F. Cole, 3; G. Pell, 4; J. Wright, 5; J. Fayers, 6; S. Greenwood (conductor), 7; H. Pates, 8.

BLACKBURN (Lancashire).—On Thursday, May 8th, at the parish church, a 720 of Grandsire Minor, with thirty-four bobs and two singles, in 27 mins. R. J. N. Parker (conductor), 1; *J. Ainsworth, 2; W. Slater, 3; *W. Clark, 4; *J. Sanderson, 5; *S. Aldrick, 6. *First 720. All the above are members of an amateur company, which has not long been in existence. Tenor 16½ cwt.

BOLTON (Lancashire).—On Tuesday, May 6th, at the parish church, the local company rang the first half of Taylor's peal of Grandsire Triples (Bob-and-Single Variation), 2520 changes, in 1 hr. 25 mins. Peter Ince, 1; William Thornley, 2; John E. Newbon, 3; William Davies (conductor), 4; J. W. Critchley (first half-peal), 5; Arthur Unsworth, 6; John Whitehead, 7; Peter Nuttall (first half-peal), 8. Tenor 15½ cwt.

BROMBOROUGH (Cheshire).—On Tuesday, May 6th, for practice, the local company, with Mr. Robert Williams, of Liverpool, and Mr. John Ashby, of Eastham, Cheshire, rang a touch of 700 Grandsire Triples. John Ashby, 1; John Ollerhead, 2; Thomas Hughes, 3; Edward Gittins, 4; Charles Gittins, 5; Robert Williams, 6; Edward Griffiths, 7; William Gittins, 8. Conducted by Robert Williams. The ringer of the treble is totally blind. Tenor 24 cwt.

CANTERBURY (Kent).—On Monday, May 5th, the Cathedral Honorary Society rang at the Cathedral their first three 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles, with 6-7-8 behind, each called differently. H. Upton, sen., 1; Rev. F. J. O. Helmore, 2; W. Edwards, 3; G. Stancombe, 4; R. Goodbourn (conductor), 5; W. Kay, 6; C. Luery, 7; W. Warman and Rev. P. W. Loosemore, 8. Tenor 32 cwt. Also on Thursday, May 7th, at Holy Cross Church, Westgate, six 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles, each called differently, in 25 mins. W. Edwards, 1; G. Stancombe (conductor), 2; C. Luery, 3; J. H. Small, 4; R. Goodbourne, 5. This is the first six 6-scores by the first and third ringers, and the first on the bells.

DARTFORD (Kent).—On Sunday, May 11th, for Divine Service in the morning at Holy Trinity Church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 45 mins., by the following mixed band. S. Everson, 1; E. Saxby, 2; B. W. Rose, 3; E. W. Snowden, 4; J. Blackman, 5; J. Saxby (conductor), 6; W. Harper, 7; H. Rose, 8. Tenor 20 cwt.

ELTHAM (Kent).—On Thursday, May 8th, at the church of St. John the Baptist, a 720 of Grandsire Minor, with thirty-four bobs and fourteen singles, in 25 mins. R. Johnson, 1; J. King, 2; W. Goslin, 3; C. Musset, 4; F. Fraser, 5; G. Shepherd (conductor), 6. Also on Sunday, May 11th, for Divine Service, a 720 of Grandsire Minor, with forty-four bobs and four singles, in 25 mins. R. Johnson, 1; J. King, 2; W. Goslin, 3; C. Musset, 4; G. Shepherd (conductor), 5; F. Fraser, 6.

FAREHAM (Hants).—On Monday evening, May 12th, at St. Peter's church, 504 Grandsire Triples. G. Grafham, 1; F. Linter, 2; A. Fox, 3; J. Hewett, 4; C. Privett, 5; G. Williams (conductor), 6; F. Hill, 7; J. Whiting, 8. Tenor 14 cwt. Williams hails from Soberton, Fox from Oxford, and Linter from Swanmore. All except Fox are members of the Winchester Diocesan Guild. Time 20 mins.

FOXEARH (Essex).—On Friday, April 18th, at the parish church, a 720 of Bob Minor, in 25 mins. G. Maxim, 1; J. Lee, 2; Chas. Lee, 3; P. Bixby, 4; D. Ward (conductor), 5; W. Gridley, 6.

HIGHAM (Suffolk).—On Saturday evening, May 10th, a mixed company met and rung 720 of Oxford Treble Bob in 26 mins. J. Taylor (conductor), 1; G. Smith, 2; W. Smith, 3; J. Starling, 4; T. Mann, 5; W. Nevard, 6. Messrs. Taylor and Starling hail from Great Bromley; Mann from Hadleigh; Nevard from Great Bentley.

HIGHER SUTTON (Cheshire).—On Sunday, May 4th, for Divine Service in the afternoon, a 720 of Grandsire Minor (thirty-six bobs and 12 singles, in 26 mins., and for evening service another 720 in the same method (thirty-eight bobs and twenty-two singles), in 26 mins. W. Walmsley (conductor), 1; W. H. Ingham, 2; W. McKenny, 3; J. M. Davenport, 4; W. Ingham, 5; Thomas Mottershead, 6. On Monday, May 5th, for practice, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor, in 26 mins., with J. Farrish (first 720 in the method) ringing the 3rd in place of McKenny. And on Tuesday, May 6th, the company had the pleasure of meeting Mr. Thomas Brocklehurst, of Hayfield, and rang with him 360 of Bob Minor in 13 mins. Wm. Walmsley (conductor), 1; Wm. H. Ingham, 2; J. Holt, 3; Thos. Brocklehurst, 4; W. Ingham, 5; Thos. Mottershead, 6. And an 18-score of Kent Treble Bob Minor, with W. Ingham ringing the 3rd, J. M. Davenport the 4th, and Thomas Brocklehurst the 5th. Then a touch conducted by T. Brocklehurst. After seeing their visitor off, the company rang a 720 of Grandsire Minor (forty-four bobs and four singles), in 27 mins. W. Walmsley, 1; W. H. Ingham (conductor), 2; Jas. Holt, 3; W. Ingham, 4; Chas. Bamford, 5; Thos. Mottershead, 6. This 720 was composed by J. J. Parker, of Farnham Royal, and the first one is the production of Wm. Walmsley (both produced on the same plan). Tenor 12 cwt. in G. Messrs. Holt, Bamford, McKenny, and Farrish are ringers of St. Michael's, Macclesfield.

HURWORTH-ON-TEES (Durham).—On Thursday, May 1st, at All Saints' Church, a 720 of Bob Minor in 27 mins., in honour of the visit of the Rev. W. H. Deane, of Peterborough, who was first instructed in the art of change-ringing at the above church. J. Simpson, 1; Rev. W. H. Deane, 2; J. G. Thompson, 3; J. Temple, 4; G. Garbutt, 5; H. Thompson (conductor), 6. Tenor 17 cwt.

LAVERNHAM (Suffolk).—On Monday, evening, May 12th, at the parish church, a 1008 of Bob Major. T. Bruce, 1; C. Fisk, 2; Rev. E. Symonds, 3; A. Symonds, 4; H. Smith, 5; W. Snell, 6; J. Boby (conductor), 7; W. Moore, 8. Tenor 23 cwt. First thousand of Bob Major by all except J. Boby. All the above company belong to Lavenham.

LICHFIELD (Staffordshire).—On Sunday, May 4th, at St. Mary's church, after Divine Service in the morning, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, 1260 changes, in 45 mins. H. King, 1; H. Meacham, 2; T. Meredith, 3; A. Thomas, 4; A. Whitby, 5; F. Cope, 6; F. E. Dawe (conductor), 7; E. Gallimore, 8. Tenor 19 cwt. 2 qrs. 16 lbs. in E. Also at St. Michael's, Green Hill, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor, in 26 mins. F. Sedgwick, 1; H. Meacham, 2; T. Meredith, 3; F. Cope, 4; A. Thomas, 5; F. E. Dawe (conductor), 6. Tenor 11 cwt. 3 qrs. 9 lbs. in A. The above party also chimed the ten bells for service at the cathedral. Tenor 29 cwt. 3 qrs. 14 lbs. in D.

* * In consequence of a pressure of other matter, we are compelled to hold over a few touches till next week.

VISIT TO ST. OYSTH, ESSEX.

On Wednesday, May 7th, a mixed company of the Essex Association paid a visit to St. Oysth. By permission of the Rev. — Chapman, and with the good wishes of the local ringers, a 720 Bob Minor, was rung in 27 mins., as follows: J. Taylor (conductor), 1; G. Smith, 2; W. Smith, 3; J. Starling, 4; H. Howell, 5; W. Nevard, 6. Also an 18-score of Oxford Treble Bob, standing as before, when a signal was given to the company to partake tea with the rev. gentleman above named. After tea the handbells were brought forward, and a touch of Grandsire Triples was rung; also a touch of Oxford Treble Bob; and some well known sacred tunes were played by W. Smith and W. Nevard, which gave delight to all who heard them. The company have great pleasure in thanking the Rev. — Chapman for his kind hospitality, and for allowing the use of the bells; likewise to the local company for the reception they met with. All returned home pleased with such a successful outing.

A large clock has just been fixed in Chesterton Church, Oxfordshire, which is fitted with all the latest improvements. It chimes the quarters, strikes the hours upon a 14 cwt. bell, and shews time on a skeleton dial. It is the gift of Miss Drake, of Bignell House, and Messrs. John Smith and Sons, turret clock makers, of Derby, have carried out the work with their accustomed skill.

BEENHAM, BERKS.

On Saturday, May 10th, several members of St. Lawrence's society, Reading, in conjunction with the Bradfield deanery branch of the Oxford Diocesan Guild, visited the above village, and by the kind permission of the Vicar, the Rev. T. H. Bushnell, were enabled to have a ring on a peal of six, tenor 11 cwt. in A. Beenham is about nine miles from Reading, the church being situated on the top of a hill, from which a splendid view of the surrounding country can be obtained, right across the valley of the Kennet. The ringers were very much struck with the neatness of the interior of the edifice, the stained glass windows being in exquisite taste, and the walls being decorated with paintings representing scenes from the Old and New Testaments. These paintings were executed by a lady formerly residing in the parish. After viewing the church, the campanologists repaired to the tower, the St. Lawrence's men handling the ropes first, started for a 720 of Grandsire Minor, which was accomplished in 25 mins. H. M. Bawden, 1; G. Talbot, 2; W. R. Pocock, 3; E. Bishop, 4; W. J. Williams (conductor), 5; J. E. Willshire, 6. This was the first 720 of Minor ever rung on the bells. The Guild men now had their turn, but owing to the late arrival of some of the members, they were assisted by Messrs. Talbot and Williams, and a 720, consisting of six 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles (each being called differently), was completed in 26½ mins. W. Bradley, 1; W. Allen, 2; G. Talbot, 3; W. Home, 4; W. J. Williams (conductor), 5; J. Ballard, 6. Also two 120's of Cambridge Delight, with W. Sims at the third. St. Lawrence's men now returned to the church (having in the meantime been on a botanical excursion in the neighbouring woods enjoying the ringing of their brother strings), and a 720 of Bob Minor with T. Hayward at the treble was attempted, but came to grief when nearly half way through. The time had now arrived to make for the train, and the visitors, as they journeyed to the station, were favoured with a rise and fall by the Beenham ringers. They wish here to thank the Vicar for his kindness in granting them the use of the bells. The outing was thoroughly enjoyed by all, and hopes were entertained that it would not be the last 720 the Reading party would ring 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."

OUR AUSTRALIAN CORRESPONDENT.

SIR,—With reference to a letter published in your last issue, from the secretary of the change ringers at Melbourne, may I inform your readers that acting on a private letter from Mr. Heather, I sent him about a month ago, the rules of three or four different societies, which I suppose have now reached their destination. I will leave it to your readers to judge how far the old proverb ought to be applied in this case—"In a multitude of counsellors there is safety."

May 12th.

J. E. ACLAND-TROYTE.

OPENING OF A NEW PEAL OF HANDBELLS AT MOTTRAM, CHESHIRE.—On Saturday last, May 10th, a gathering of ringers took place at the house of Mr. William Middleton, the "Black Bull's Head," Mottram, for the purpose of opening a new peal of handbells, thirteen in number, supplied by Mr. George Welch, of London. The proceedings commenced by appointing Mr. Robert Shaw, of Mottram, chairman for the evening. Amongst the most notable features of the evening, were a course of Grandsire Royal. T. Wilde, 1-2; J. Thorp, 3-4; S. Wood, 5-6; J. S. Wilde, 7-8; G. Longden, 9-10. And a course of Grandsire Cinques. G. Longden, 1-2; J. Thorp, 3-4; J. S. Wilde, 5-6; T. Wilde, 7-8; H. Rostron, 9-10; B. Broadbent, 11-12. The Middleton Handbell Ringers were in attendance, and played in a very pleasing manner, "Caller Herrin," "Come to My Bower," &c. The Hyde ringers rang in a very effective style "Soldier's Joy," "Jenny Jones," etc. During the evening singing was indulged in, and some well-chosen songs were given. A vote of thanks to the host and hostess for the kind and generous manner in which they had received the ringers that day, was responded to in suitable terms by Mr. Middleton. After a vote of thanks to the chairman for the very able manner in which he had presided, a very pleasant evening was brought to a close at a late hour, each one expressing himself highly satisfied with the evening's enjoyment.

A NEW GUILD.—We hear that a new Guild has been set on foot for the Eastern Counties. The following gentlemen have kindly accepted office in connection therewith, and will do all in their power to further its interests: Rev. Canon Moore, President; J. T. Seccombe, Esq., M.D., F.R.A.S., King's Lynn, Vice-President; T. A. Lissom, Esq., Stamford and Spalding Bank, Treasurer; Rev. B. Matthews, Secretary. The inauguration meeting will be held at Long Sutton, on Whit Monday, June 2nd. Parties interested in the establishment of the Guild, should send in their names to the secretary, Rev. B. Matthews, The Chantry, Spalding.

GRANDSIRE TRIPLES.

It is rather disappointing at not finding in the current number of "THE BELL NEWS" any expressions of opinion from correspondents on Mr. Snowdon's interesting suggestion of the possibility of a "collective investigation" of Grandsire Triples. It seems to me to be an idea well worth consideration, as some such exhaustive trial is apparently the only means of demonstrating the impossibility (if it exist) of obtaining a peal with bobs only, and also affords the best chance of getting such a peal if it is possible. But at the outset we are confronted with such fabulous numbers of possible combinations that we may well be staggered at the thought of trying for a one-part peal. Starting with the simple assumptions that not more than four plain leads may come together, and not more than two bob leads, I find that one may write down twelve leads in 1335 different ways. This is theoretical only, for our assumptions are not sufficient, and some of these strings of twelve leads will be found to repeat. But on making actual trial I find that there are 1258 different arrangements which do not repeat. This is only twelve leads, and there are no singles employed. Now starting with one of these arrangements taken at haphazard, I began stringing the leads together, generally keeping the bobs as far apart as possible without repeating, and I found that it was not until (in this instance) I had written out seventy-nine leads that I arrived at the point of having no choice where the next bob should be. Then I came to three forced bobs (if I may so call them) and then again there was a choice, and so on with occasional choices as far as the 248th lead, and after that I had no choice, but was obliged to come round at 325 leads. Now this was a first trial, and I only mention it to show what an enormous number of possibilities there are, even when one begins by dividing by 1258. The system upon which I have been working is very simple, and has probably occurred to everyone else who has been amusing himself in this way; it merely depends upon recognizing the necessary consequences of each step taken, whether that step is the addition of a plain or a bob lead. I tabulate all the 360 leads in their natural courses of five leads each, and label them. To make my meaning plain let us consider the following courses:—

A	1.	2 3 4 5 6 7	B	1.	3 2 5 7 4 6	C	1.	4 2 3 7 5 6
	2.	2 5 3 7 4 6		2.	3 7 2 6 5 4		2.	4 7 2 6 3 5
	3.	2 7 5 6 3 4		3.	3 6 7 4 2 5		3.	4 6 7 5 2 3
	4.	2 6 7 4 5 3		4.	3 4 6 5 7 2		4.	4 5 6 3 7 2
	5.	2 4 6 3 7 5		5.	3 5 4 2 6 7		5.	4 3 5 2 6 7

If we start with a bob at the first lead it is evident that the lead labelled A 2 must turn up at a bob, therefore the lead B 4 must be followed by a bob, therefore the lead B 5 must turn up at a bob, therefore C 3 must be followed by a bob, and C 4 must be a bob, and so on. And the opposite consequences follow if we start with a bob at two leads, and the lead 2 5 3 7 4 6 turns up plain. All these necessary consequences of each step must be chronicled and tabulated; and it is this which puts a limit to the apparent infinity of possible arrangements. So that if a number of men could be got to work at it (say 100), I think they might make an inexhaustive trial in a few years.

While on this subject let me explain my method of arriving at the number 1335 as the number of possible arrangements of twelve consecutive leads.

We may begin with either a plain lead or a bob; let us call them *a* and *b*. To either of these we may add *a* or *b*, so that we have four arrangements of two leads. To all of these we may add *a*; but one of them is *bb*, or two bobs, so we can only add *b* to three of them. This makes seven arrangements of three leads. By continuing in this way we arrive at the following series:—

Lead.	Ending with		Ending with		Total.
	<i>a</i>	<i>b</i>	<i>a</i>	<i>b</i>	
1	1	+	1	+	2
2	2	+	2	+	4
3	4	+	4-1	+	7
4	7	+	7-1	+	13
5	13-1	+	13-2	+	23
6	23-1	+	23-4	+	41
7	41-2	+	41-7	+	73
8	73-3	+	73-12	+	131
9	131-6	+	131-22	+	234
10	234-11	+	134-39	+	418
11	418-19	+	418-70	+	747
12	747-34	+	747-125	+	1335

Thus the thirty-four strings of seven leads each which ended with a bob have had four plain leads added to them when we get to eleven leads, and therefore this number must be subtracted from 747 as incapable of the addition of another plain lead, and similarly the 125 strings of nine leads which ended with a plain lead, have each had two bobs tacked on and cannot have another, and this number is subtracted from 747 to find the number of twelve-lead strings ending with a bob.

I am sorry to say that I cannot find the 360th term of this series except by building it up from each term to the following, and this is obviously too laborious; but if we look at the column of totals we see that each number is multiplied (roughly) by ten, by the addition of four leads, and thus we are enabled to arrive at a rough approximation to the 360th term. There are 348 leads to be added to these twelve; dividing 348 by four we get eighty-seven, and if we take the number 1000 as representing the number for twelve leads we arrive at the stupendous number of one followed by ninety noughts or 10^{90} as the number of ways of arranging 360 consecutive leads without singles. I may mention that I read in Dr. Silvanus Thompson's book on Electricity, that "the number of atoms in the universe, as far as the farthest visible star, can be shown to be certainly fewer than 7×10^{81} ," which is not such a very great deal larger than the number we have just been speaking of. Of this terrific number surely there must be some one (or some hundreds) which will give us all the 360 leads without repetition.

ARTHUR B. CARPENTER.

RETTENDON.—RINGERS' OUTING.

On Monday, May 5th, the Rettendon ringers, accompanied by Mr. Bowell of Ipswich, had a very pleasant day's outing; their destination being Laindon Hills, where a new peal of six, tenor $13\frac{1}{2}$ cwt., has been recently hung by Messrs. Mears and Stainbank. Starting from Rettendon at 1.30, a halt was made at Laindon Church, where there is a fine ring of five ancient bells, tenor about 12 cwt.—diameter 39 inches. These bells were said to have been rehung under the direction of the architect who was employed for the restoration of the church about two years ago, but it took four men to rise the tenor, and then she would not set owing to a badly-adjusted slider. As it was impossible to ring here, the party were soon on their way to Laindon Hills, the church being reached at about 4.30. The fine peal was soon in full swing; Grandsire Doubles were first rung, and then after a few touches of Bob Minor, a 720 of that method was rung in 28 mins. by the following: W. S. Pavitt, 1; W. Jay, 2; H. Bowell, 3; G. Jones, 4; E. Moat, 5; Rev. H. A. Cockey (conductor), 6. This is the first 720 which has been rung on the bells. Some six-scores of Stedman and Bob Doubles were then rung, and as time would not allow of a 720 of Grandsire, the ringing was brought to a close with another touch of Bob Minor. The bells were then lowered in peal, and the ringers adjourned to the rectory, where the Rev. E. D. Cleaver had prepared a substantial supper for them. Unfortunately Mrs. Cleaver was too ill to bear any handbell ringing; so after supper an adjournment was made to a private room in the hotel, where a pleasant hour was spent in handbell ringing, some courses of Grandsire Triples being rung by W. Jay, 1-2; H. Bowell, 3-4; Rev. H. A. Cockey, 5-6; E. Moat, 7-8; and several tunes played by Messrs. Pavitt, Moat, and the Rev. H. A. Cockey, much to the delight of some of the villagers who were present. A start for home was made at about 9.30. Besides the names mentioned, above, S. Kendall, J. Turner, and G. Saveall took part in the ringing.

The Laindon Hills bells are a great credit to the founders, being of most beautiful tone, powerful, and beautifully hung. Great thanks are due to Mr. Cleaver for his hospitality.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

THE ANNUAL MEETING will be held at Chelmsford on Whit-Monday, June 2nd, by kind permission of the rector. Service in St. Mary's church, with an address by the Bishop of Colchester, at 12.30. Dinner in the Charity School at 2 p.m. Business meeting immediately after. Members intending to be at the dinner will be supplied with dinner-tickets free, if their names are sent in to the Secretary by Friday, May 30th, otherwise they will be charged 1s. each. It is expected that some important resolutions on the extension of the Association to Hertfordshire will be brought forward at the business meeting. The tower of St. Mary's will be open to members after 9 a.m. Further particulars next week.

Battles Bridge, S.O., Essex.
May 14th, 1884.

H. A. COCKEY,
Hon. Sec.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

The Whit Monday Meeting will be held at Sunderland. Notice of time and place for dinner and other arrangements will be issued to members by circular.

G. J. CLARKSON, Hon. Sec.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

A meeting for ringing purposes only, will be held on Saturday, May 24th, at Church, near Accrington. Ringing from 2 p.m.

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

THE WINTERTON MEETING.—In our next number a full report of this opening will be given.

TOUCHES OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR.

Collected and arranged by
THE REV. H. EARLE BULWER.
(Continued from p. 70.)

In seven courses.

The 6th the extent home.

2 3 4 5 6

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

The 6th the extent home.

2 3 4 5 6

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

SERIES I.

TOUCHES OF LESS THAN 1000 CHANGES.

928.

Time 34½ minutes.

2 3 4 5 6 M B W H

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

2 3 4 5 6

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

2 3 4 5 6

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

2 3 4 5 6

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

2 3 4 5 6

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

2 3 4 5 6

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

2 3 4 5 6

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

2 3 4 5 6

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

2 3 4 5 6

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

2 3 4 5 6

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

Vary by calling the
first course last.

2 3 4 5 6

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

2 3 4 5 6

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

2 3 4 5 6

Vary by calling the
first course last.

2 3 4 5 6

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

2 3 4 5 6

Vary by calling the
last course first.

2 3 4 5 6

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

2 3 4 5 6

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

2 3 4 5 6 M B W H

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

2 3 4 5 6

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

2 3 4 5 6 M B W H

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

2 3 4 5 6

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

SERIES II.

TOUCHES OF OVER 1000, AND UNDER 1600 CHANGES.

1312.

Time 48½ minutes.

2 3 4 5 6 M B W H

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

2 3 4 5 6

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

2 3 4 5 6

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

2 3 4 5 6

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

2 3 4 5 6

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

2 3 4 5 6

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

2 3 4 5 6 M B W H

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

2 3 4 5 6

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

2 3 4 5 6

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

2 3 4 5 6

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

2 3 4 5 6

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

I344.

Time 49½ minutes.

The 6th home throughout.

2 3 4 5 6 M B W H

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

2 3 4 5 6

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

2 3 4 5 6

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

2 3 4 5 6

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

2 3 4 5 6 M B W H

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

2 3 4 5 6

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

2 3 4 5 6

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

2 3 4 5 6

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

2 3 4 5 6 M B W H

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

2 3 4 5 6 M B W H

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

SERIES III.

TOUCHES OF OVER 1600 CHANGES.

2208.

Time 80½ minutes.

In six courses.

This touch contains all the 86's, and the reverse all the 867's.

2 3 4 5 6 M B W H

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

2 3 4 5 6 M B W H

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

In seven courses.

2 3 4 5 6

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

2 3 4 5 6

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

2240.

Time 81½ minutes.

In six courses.

The first of these touches has the 6th the extent home and all the 86's. The reverse has the 5th the extent home, and all the 857's.

2 3 4 5 6 M B W H

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

2 3 4 5 6 M B W H

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

Repeated.

Repeated.

2 3 4 5 6

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

2 3 4 5 6

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

2 3 4 5 6

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

2 3 4 5 6

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

Repeated.

Repeated.

In seven courses.

The 6th the extent home.

2 3 4 5 6

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

The 5th the extent home.

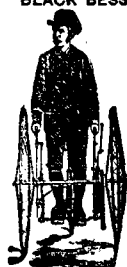
2 3 4 5 6

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

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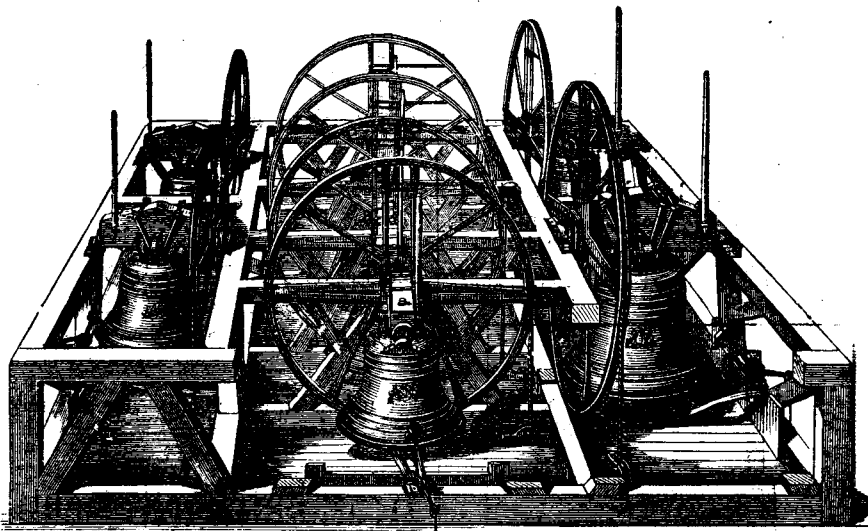
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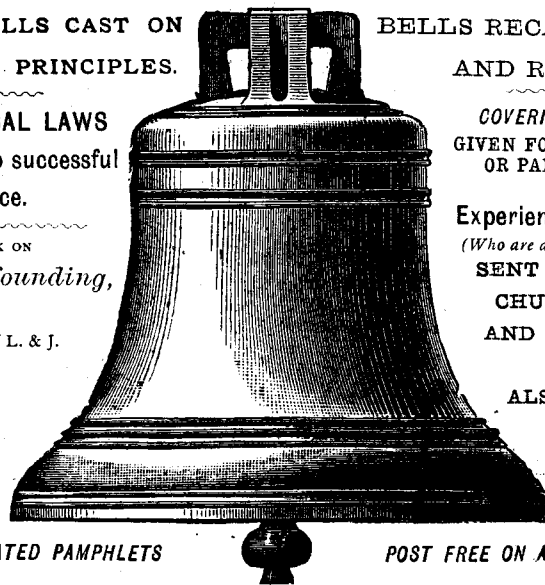
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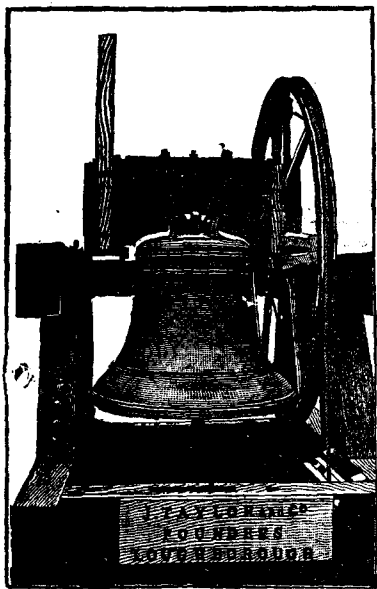
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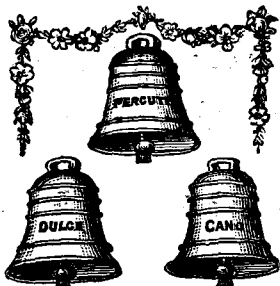
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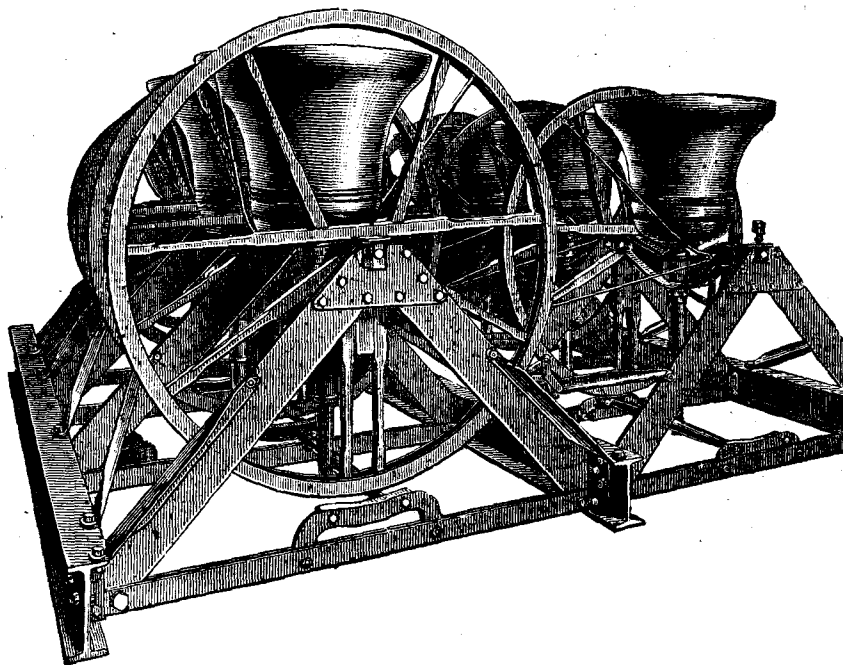
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SATURDAY, MAY 24, 1884.

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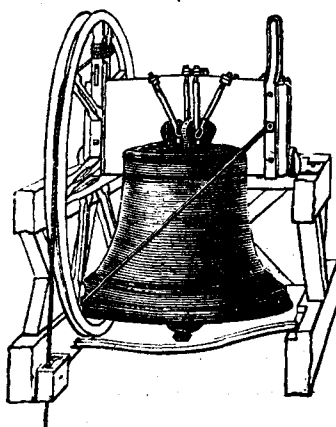
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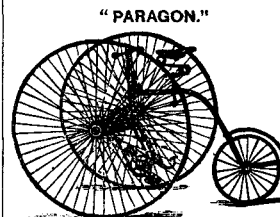
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THE PROPOSED CHANGE IN THE CONSTITUTION OF THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

The question of merging the Essex Association into a Diocesan one—which is to be discussed at the Annual Meeting on Whit-Monday—is one well worthy of careful consideration. The diocese comprises two counties—Essex and Hertford. The former for the last five years has possessed an Association, while the latter has not had the courage to form one. The objects of the Essex Association, as is the case with many others, are belfry reform, and the advancement of its members in the science. The question which presents itself is—Can those objects be accomplished better with a large area than with a small one? It seems reasonable to suppose that the smaller the area of an Association the more successful will it be in carrying out the mission for which it is established to accomplish. This is just the point which appears to have been overlooked by all the speakers at the Reading Conference. To the uninitiated observer it would appear that by the formation of a National Association a great reform is not only anticipated, but is bound to be carried out. Now without in the least wishing to put any deterrent in the way of establishing such, it must be allowed that in order to make such a movement successful, there must first be created among the Exercise some interest in becoming members and attending the annual meetings; in that case the meetings must be held in localities where there are bells with appliances in good order. Now the localities where belfry reform is needed are those where bells and belfry are neglected, and where clerical tact, recognition, and influence, are unknown. If it was possible during a National Association meeting to visit a tower where such a deplorable state of thing existed—and there are many such—it might cause a little local excitement just at the moment, but no sooner over than it would be forgotten; thus there would not be any good results. Upon the other hand, if a County Association found such within its bounds, and made it a point to pay an annual visit, or what would be better still, for a Deanery Association to well haunt the place, and so continually keep the burning question of belfry reform before the eyes of the authorities, the desired result must ultimately be attained.

It may be contended by some that individual bands should be deputed to explore these dark regions, but it must be through the instrumentality of a stronger united body—not necessarily an extensive one—and the continual repetition of its influence, with some official at its head, that we must trust to see such carried out.

Why Hertfordshire should not have its own Association it is difficult to tell. Probably it only requires some one of influence to move in the matter, and an Association would be established with similar objects to the existing Essex Association. After both had accomplished their task—a work unless greater progress than hitherto is made will take years—the time might probably arrive when it would be desirable to unite the two counties. Such a period, however, is as yet somewhat remote.

X.

THE UNITED COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

The Quarterly Committee Meeting of the above Association was held at Saddleworth on Saturday, May 17th, when it was resolved that an appeal be made to the various towers within the limits of the Association, and ringers be requested to enter, and the Dinting ringers be requested to put the same on the notices convening the half-yearly meeting which is to be held at Dinting, on Saturday, July 5th. Dinting is situated in one of the most picturesque valleys in Derbyshire, and is twelve miles from Manchester, two from Mottram, and a similar distance from Glossop on the Manchester, Sheffield and Lincolnshire railway. In addition to the committee there was a very fair attendance of members present. During the afternoon eight members started for a peal of Treble Bob, which was brought to a successful issue, and the style in which the peal was rung speaks well for the future prospects of the Association. The peal will be found reported on another page of this paper.

FARNHAM ROYAL, BUCKS.

On Whit-Monday, the local company will be glad to welcome any ringing friends to celebrate the seventh anniversary of their new tower and its ring of six bells. The nearest railway station is Slough, on the Great Western Railway, and that company issue special cheap day tickets to this station and others on their line. Farnham Royal is close to the famed Burnham Beeches.

WARGRAVE, BERKS.

On Saturday, May 17th, the St. Lawrence's Society of Reading, paid a visit to this picturesque village, situated on the banks of Father Thames, and by kind permission of the Vicar, the Rev. S. Sturges, were able to pursue the art which they so much appreciate, by having a pull on the peal of six, tenor 16½ cwt. in F#. A 720 of Bob Minor (eighteen bobs and two singles) was first attempted, which was rung in 25 mins., by W. Johnson (first 720 in the method), 1; W. R. Pocock, 2; E. Bishop, 3; W. Goseltine, 4; J. E. Willshire, 5; W. J. Williams (conductor), 6. Soon after the "stand" was called the vicar entered the tower, and congratulated the ringers on their success, and being a strong advocate of belfry reform, he spoke in high praise of the changes that were going on amongst ringing and ringers, specially remarking that all they ought to do their best to raise the tone, as what they did was for the Church. He also thought it a splendid idea, to visit other towers, as it opened up a pleasant intercourse and formed a union between brother ringers, as well as being a means of affording healthful recreation. In conclusion he kindly invited the society to partake of tea, in company with the Wargrave ringers, which he had generously provided at the Coffee Tavern close by the ringers thanked him for his hospitality, and adjourned for refreshment. After satisfying the wants of the inner man, they returned to the tower, and started for another 720 of Bob Minor (nine bobs and six singles), which was accomplished in 26 mins. W. Goseltine, 1; W. Johnson (first 720 with a bob bell), 2; J. E. Willshire, 3; W. R. Pocock, 4; E. Bishop, 5; W. J. Williams (conductor), 6. Several 120's of Grandsire Doubles was rung with Mr. Robbins and other members of the local company, after which the bells were lowered in peal, and a start was made for Reading. The St. Lawrence Society wish to take this opportunity of thanking the Rev. S. Sturges for granting them the use of the bells, and also for his kindness. They were very pleased to find the ringers so well cared for here, the belfry being quite a model, and lately a fund has been started for two new bells, to make a peal of eight.

EASTBOURNE, SUSSEX.

On Tuesday evening, May 13th, the ringers of St. Mary's church were honoured with a visit from the Rev. F. E. Robinson of Drayton, Berks, and the Rev. J. C. Maltby, of Aspley Guise Rectory, both gentlemen taking part in touches of Grandsire Triples and Doubles, not the least pleasing feature of the evening being the presence of the Rev. R. S. Woodward, senior curate of St. Mary's, and Honorary President of the society. On Wednesday evening, the Rev. F. E. Robinson again met the ringers in the same tower and conducted an excellent 1008 Grandsire Triples. The St. Mary's ringers also rang on Monday, May 12th, a 504 of Grandsire Triples, at All Saints' church. The ring of eight at St. Mary's church are in excellent going order, and visitors to Eastbourne interested in change-ringing, will always find a sincere welcome to the tower, during practice. The All Saints' bells are also in good going order.

TORRINGTON, DEVON.

THE PARISH CHURCH BELLS.—The Vicar, Curate, and Churchwardens have issued an appeal for funds to defray the expense necessary to put the St. Michael's ring of six bells in a satisfactory condition. At present they are so dangerous, "that every time they are rung the cage acts as a kind of battering ram against the walls of the tower." A contract has been entered into with a London firm to do the necessary work for £350—this including recasting the tenor, a new cage, re-hanging the bells, &c., and two new ones, making a peal of eight, the work to be completed in July next. The kind assistance of the ladies in providing the cost of the two additional bells by the recent bazaar, the efforts of the late curate in originating the sale of work—which resulting in the raising of £100—the liberality of the Hon. Mark Rolle in presenting the necessary timber (valued at £50), and the feeoffee's grant of £52 12s., are all acknowledged. Further donations towards the remaining £160, however small, will be gladly received by the treasurer, Gabriel Fisher, Esq.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

The Whit-Monday Meeting will be held at Sunderland, the bells at the disposal of the Members being the peal of eight at Sunderland Parish Church, tenor 14 cwt.: and the peal of six at Bishopwearmouth Parish Church, tenor 12 cwt.

A Dinner will be provided at 3 p.m., at the Palatine Hotel—3s. 6d. to Non-Members, and 1s. to Members. Dinner Tickets should be applied for not later than Monday, May 29th. The committee will meet at the Hotel at 2 o'clock.

G. J. CLARKSON, Hon. Sec.

Post Office Chambers, Stockton-on-Tees.

A VISIT TO THE EASTERN COUNTIES.—GREAT MEETING AT WINTERTON, NORFOLK.

It will no doubt be in the recollection of many of our readers that an announcement appeared in these columns, a week or two back, relative to the opening of a new ring of six bells at Winterton, Norfolk, cast by the firm of Moore, Holmes, and Mackenzie, of the Redenhall foundry. A general invitation had been issued to the members of the Norwich Diocesan Association, and their friends, and to make the opening a more complete success, a number of special tickets were issued to all who chose to apply for them, enabling the holder to travel by Great Eastern Railway at a reduced fare, giving also admission to the dinner tent, where in addition to the provision of a most sumptuous collation, other creature comforts had been purveyed for the delectation and enjoyment of the visitors. A special invitation had been forwarded to us, but the journey, first to Yarmouth, and then by another line of railway to the place of rendezvous, seemed too great an undertaking to be got through in a day, and as we strongly dislike substituting toil for pleasure, had purposed not to attend on the occasion. However, upon representations being made which could not be lightly disregarded, our determination became reversed, and leaving the portals of our sanctum in the afternoon of Saturday, the 10th instant, we departed by train for the town of Yarmouth. And here let us not be considered "out of course" if we pause for a moment to admire the almost perfect arrangements of the Great Eastern Railway Company. Constant regularity in arrivals and departures; the utmost courtesy and attention on the part of the Company's servants; luxurious vehicles in which to be conveyed; and the delightful prospects of the route. These facts indelibly prove the efficacy of the management of this line of railway, and the high administrative abilities of those gentlemen upon whom devolve the regulation of traffic. There are other reasons why the convenience of the Great Eastern Railway should be more pointedly alluded to in these columns. The superintendent of the line, W. Birt, Esq., has on several recent occasions listened to representations which have been made to him to effect a reduction in the usual fare to ringers who purpose to attend a district or annual meeting of the Association or Guild to which they belong; in fact, such privilege has been uniformly extended to those attending ringers' festivities of almost any kind. The one we are now dealing with may be mentioned as the latest instance. We recollect a similar arrangement for the yearly meeting at Lavenham, and the members of the Norwich Diocesan Association could no doubt point out more frequent occasions where such an indulgence has been granted. It is to be hoped ringers will take all the advantages they can of these liberal arrangements, and satisfy railway companies of the propriety of granting these special tickets.

But to return to the object we have before us. Being *en route* for Yarmouth, we arrived at that favorite resort late in the evening, and the first object in view was to seek a place for repose and refreshment. Our instincts led us to the precincts of the parish church, where we encountered the worthy sexton, Mr. Mann, who cordially gave us the necessary information, coupled with the intelligence that the ringers would meet to ring for service about 9.45 the following morning. We thanked this gentleman for such pleasing particulars, and then departed to enjoy the sleep of the just. Next morning found us in the churchyard, awaiting the assembling of the local party, and were soon gratified at beholding their approach. Following them up into the belfry we were shortly in the maze of a touch of Grandsire Triples upon the back eight of this famed peal of ten. This being over, in company with Mr. W. Lee, the leading ringer, we attended Divine Service in the grand old church. The dimensions of this edifice—the largest parish church in England—need not be described. It is now undergoing restoration, and funds are needed to perfect and complete it, which is to be hoped will shortly be forthcoming. The service was of a hearty congregational character, though the psalms and responses were not chanted. The litany was also omitted. The sermon was preached by the Vicar, the Rev. George Venables, S.C.L., who took for his text, Titus i. 15—"Unto the pure all things are pure." It appears a movement is now on foot in Yarmouth "for the promotion of purity," and the sermon had especial reference to that object. The Vicar—who is highly beloved by his parishioners, is very earnest in the pulpit. He has a most powerful voice, which could be heard in the remotest parts of the sacred building.

In the afternoon, for Divine Service, we rang the 7th in three courses of Grandsire Caters. The bells go very well indeed, and appear to be kept in very good order. The belfry needs a little paint or whitewash, and if the gas were carried up into the ringing-chamber, a great improvement would be effected. Perhaps during the process of restoration of the fabric, the belfry may have a little consideration bestowed upon it. Upon leaving the church we were introduced to the worthy Vicar, who after the usual salutation told us he had never heard of "THE BELL NEWS." This was surprising, certainly, though

we think that if the Yarmouth company had been such steadfast supporters of our journal as many societies we could name, there is no doubt that the Vicar would have become acquainted with it ere this. The St. Nicholas' society ring the bells for morning and afternoon service only, and for this they receive a gratuity, not very liberal 'tis true, but sufficient to recognise them as Church officials, and give them an incentive to punctually perform their duties. We must now take leave of Yarmouth, with the hope that our visit there may not be the last, but that we may again enjoy the pleasure of a ring upon the celebrated bells with the obliging company who are the present ringers.

Next morning found us on our way towards the beach in search of the railway station from whence to proceed to Winterton—where the opening of the new ring of bells was to take place. In vain we sought on the way for a face we might recognise among the few intending passengers who demanded their passports of travel of the clerk in charge. The features of every fresh comer were eagerly scanned, but for some time we failed to discover in their facial lineaments a warrant for supposing any of them to be "brother strings." Little knots of three and four persons continued to arrive, seemingly bent on a holiday of some kind, and at length we contrived to get seated among a party who we soon discovered were on the same errand as ourselves. We put the question: "Are you gentlemen all ringers?" to which we received an affirmative reply; and then our fellow-travellers were anxious to know where we hailed from, and this information was willingly given. On the journey the conversation was of a nature peculiar to ringers, and the "Burton-on-Trent chaps" came in for some pronounced eulogiums. Our destination was soon reached, and a bracing walk of about a mile and a half brought us to Winterton. The tower of the church was plainly visible long before we got near, being a substantial square building, considerably above 100 feet high, situate at the west end of the fabric. A company was ringing Plain Bob as we entered the churchyard, and the bells particularly struck us as being especially sweet in tone, also well in tune. The tenor is about 8½ cwt., but a casual observer would imagine the bells to be heavier somewhat. The reason of this is the employment of the "Patent Redenhall Clapper," as it is called, an invention of the above-named firm. As soon as the blow is struck the clapper at once leaves the bell, and thus the note is not hindered from being brought out full, distinct and clear. Some of our readers may have noticed, when listening to many famed bells, that after they have been struck, the note is one continuous warble—like a sound-wave, rising and falling till the sound dies away. In all the bells we have heard from the Redenhall foundry, this is not so; the full clear note is maintained to the end, accompanied by a hum which is very pleasing to the ear. The bells under consideration are of this description, and they are hung in the A frames, all of iron, which is almost a speciality with Messrs. Moore, Holmes, and Mackenzie.

Previous to ascending to the ringing-chamber, we surveyed the church, both interior and exterior. Winterton is but a Norfolk fishing village—having a coastguard station—but an examination of the church seems to point to the belief that at some time or other it must have been a much more important place than at present. The sacred edifice is very commodious, and though we cannot regard our experience in this direction as being limited, we do not recollect a village church that has come under our own observation having such a spacious nave as the parish church of Winterton. It has recently been restored, the expense of which, together with the cost of the bells, has been defrayed by the Lady of the Manor, Mrs. Hume, a relative of the great financier. And now we ascend the tower—a task, by the way, which tells wonderfully upon any one who ignores the practice of athletics, as we can testify to the letter. The ringing-chamber is just such an apartment we should like to see oftener. Upon our entrance a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob was being rung, the veteran, Benj. Smith, of Redenhall, calling. This being completed, we went up to the bells, and remained in the bell-chamber to watch their movements. They are hung exactly in the centre of the tower, and the floor appeared to be covered with a kind of felt or some similar material for the purpose of subduing the sound heard in the ringing-room. While examining the frame, the bells were pulled of for another 720, and we then walked round and critically took notice of them. The frame seemed perfectly rigid, without the least tremor whatever. The gudgeon-caps, which are smooth oblong pieces of stout iron, easy to handle, have each a hole drilled in the centre, into which is affixed a neat and handy vessel, filled with oil, and by this simple arrangement an effective lubricant is provided. The wheels, stays, and slides are the only woodwork about the bells we noticed. The slider puts one in mind of a rolling pin. It is not fastened at either end, but works to and fro on a curve, and always settles itself to its level, so that there is never any complaint about the bell setting too fine at handstroke or backstroke, and the stay does not in ordinary ringing keep knocking it about from one side to the other, therefore it is not felt at the ringer's end of the rope, except when he wants to set his bell. Having finished

our inspection we mustered up sufficient courage to go to the summit of the tower. Here the trouble of getting up to such a height was well repaid, as the view not only of the sea, stretching far away into space, but of the surrounding country, was very fine, and the breezes from the former most exhilarating.

To give an account of the different 720's rang on the bells would be an impossibility. We rang the 5th in a 720 of Kent Treble Bob, and our bell of course "went like a fiddle," as the sayin' is. In fact, this was the case with the whole ring, and we should not feel surprised to hear that one of the bands who were present on the opening-day would shortly attempt a 5040 in various methods upon them.

But it is time to think of descending, for in a barn belonging to a farmhouse in close proximity to the church, which was gaily decorated with bunting, flowers, etc., for the occasion, are provided the materials for the satisfaction of what is known as the inner man, and we made our way thither. In the pleasant forecourt or paddock adjoining the farmhouse, were plenty of ringers from various parts of the county. Here and there were seated twos and threes of veterans, solacing themselves with the fragrant weed, no doubt enjoying reminiscences of the past; and hard by a band had taken up the handbells and were striking very well a course of Grandsire Caters. Ringers from Norwich, Aylsham, Redenhall, and other places the names of which escape our memory, were present, and a number of clergymen and even ladies were also to be seen. The Rector of Winterton, and the Rev. N. Bolingbroke (Hon. Sec. of the Norwich Diocesan Association), were amongst the former. Dinner having been announced the company became seated at the tables, and the Rector having said grace, an onslaught was made on the very liberal fare which was provided for the guests.

Before dinner was over, the Rev. Dr. Raven—whose researches among bells are known to most of our readers—put in an appearance, and the bells were again rung to give him an opportunity of hearing them. The Rev. Doctor expressed his satisfaction at their quality, but he would have preferred them had they been heavier. The founders, however, had no option left them, as they had to make the present ring of six out of the old five.

Enquiries now began to be made about getting home—the train service on the line between Winterton and Yarmouth not being very frequent, and after the lapse of a short time, a "go" was called in this direction. The railway was reached in good time, but as the train steamed in it became a matter of wonder how all the company were to be seated. However, everyone seemed to find a place—or make one—and the short route to Yarmouth was varied by selections of innocent but amusing badinage, taken up by the occupants of the adjoining compartment, whose humour for the moment seemed to be contagious. We hope that our friend who sat next to us on this journey has ere this received the arrears of wages due to him by a former employer, who, singularly enough, at the time happened to be a fellow-passenger. On reaching Yarmouth the visitors departed for their several destinations, and we had a pleasant run homewards, arriving at our journey's end at about 11 o'clock p.m.

Such was "the Winterton Opening." And we take upon ourselves to say, an opening of the right sort. No invidious distinctions as to who should or who should not come, for the appearance of any ringer—no matter from what part of the globe he came from—was hailed with great delight, provided he had made previous application for the necessary (and gratuitous) credentials. In fact all ringers were welcome. Surely the adoption of such a plan of opening bells must commend itself to all concerned. Let us hope that in the future the "powers that be" may recognise this new order of things, and discountenance the once prevalent idea of selecting, in a hole-and-corner fashion, some coterie or clique, who imagine they have a sort of divine right in the control of such interesting ceremonies.

THE EYE (SUFFOLK) BELLS.

Mr. George Day, of Eye, writes:—The bells at Eye were augmented from six to eight in the year 1721, and not 1790, as stated in your last week's issue. The three trebles were cast by John Stephens, of Norwich, 1720. The treble bears the following inscription:—

Gulielmi Brampton Generosi Ex Dono Anno Domini 1721.

And on the third:—

John Stephens of Norwich made us three 1721.

I can find no peal of eight so old in Suffolk, except Framlingham, which were made into eight in the year 1719. The second was cracked and was recast 1779, by Pack and Chapman of London.

BACK NUMBERS WANTED.—Wanted, all or any of the monthly numbers of "THE BELL NEWS," as published previous to the commencement of the weekly issue on April 8th, 1882. Address, stating price, etc., W. M., Old Coates House, St. Mary's Cathedral Precincts, Edinburgh.

DEDICATION OF NEW BELLS AT ST. THOMAS A'BECKETT, NORTHAW, HERTS.

THE above church is what may be termed a very pretty stone-built gothic structure, and elaborate little tower of the same material, situated in the charming and picturesque locality known as the above village; and was on Thursday morning, May 15th, visited by the ringers from St. John-the-Evangelist, Wilton Road, Pimlico, nearly all members of the Ancient Society of College Youths, and with Messrs. Tucker and Horrex as visitors, for the purpose of opening the new ring of six, tenor 13 cwt. in G., cast and hung in an iron frame by Messrs. Taylor and Sons, of Loughborough. At the dedication service the Lord Bishop of St. Albans preached a most impressive sermon upon bells, in which he pointed out the change that had taken place since the Revolution, when every available bell was sold to be made into cannon, and other implements of war, to belch forth fire and smoke; but now again only used as musical instruments of peace, calling people to worship. His Lordship also touched on the colonist many miles from home, fancying he heard the chimes of motherland, and hoping to see the day when bells would sound on the shores of the land he now lived in; and many other pleasing and interesting remarks followed, making altogether an excellent ringers' sermon. The church was beautifully decorated with choice fruits and flowers, and the special hymn:—

Set between the earth and heaven,
Now our bells are raised on high.

was sung, after which the following ringing, amounting in all to over 3000 changes, took place during the day: three six-scores of Grandsire Doubles, conducted by F. T. Gover; 720 Grandsire Minor, conducted by J. W. Taylor, jun., Esq.; 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor, and 720 Bob Minor, conducted by H. J. Tucker; 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor, conducted by F. E. Dawe, who arrived in the afternoon. Three volleys of firing then followed, the openings being made in rounds and Queens, which brought the ringing to an end. The names of the ringers were the Rev. O. P. Yerburch (who has been instrumental in getting the St. John's company to do the amiable for the day), Messrs. C. F. Winny, F. T. Gover, W. T. Ceaton, G. T. McLaughlin, H. P. Walsh, G. Pullman, C. Gross, C. Teasdale, R. A. Sparkes, J. W. Taylor, jun., Esq., E. Horrex, H. J. Tucker, and F. E. Dawe. All those who handled the ropes, and the visitors, expressed themselves pleased with the tone and "go" of the bells, and the way in which the arrangements were carried out; also as regards the ringing-room, which is a model of what such important places should be, and as the Vicar, the Rev. W. C. Barsey, is enthusiastic on the subject, there is abundant evidence of it always remaining so. The chamber is about ten feet square, easy draught, nicely matted, and the sides matchboarded up to a height of about five feet, above which some rows of hat pegs are to be seen; it is lighted in the evening by a nice little chandelier in the centre, and in the day by three windows, two of which are made to open, so as to let out any foul air that may accumulate there. All the woodwork is stained a deep mahogany colour, and has every appearance of comfort, the circle being all that can be desired.

After cricket had been indulged in, and the evening well occupied, the pleasant party broke up; the return journey being enlivened as usual with the "feast of reason and flow of soul," at which the marvellous vocal talents of Messrs. Ceaton and Gross were admirably displayed, and as Big Ben sounded forth the triple hour, after the Westminster chimes of his smaller brethren, the London contingent arrived in town, well pleased with their outing.

FRANCIS E. DAWE.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

ON Thursday, May 15th, 1884, on the occasion of the marriage of Mr. Edward Lees, of Castle Donington, and Miss Ryle, of Burton-on-Trent, at St. Paul's church, Burton-on-Trent, the following members of the St. Paul's Society rang touches of Grandsire and Stedman Triples, Kent Treble Bob, Double Norwich, and Superlative Surprise Major: G. Appleby, 1; E. I. Stone, 2; A. Wakley, 3; J. Griffin, 4; H. Wakley, 5; J. Jaggar, 6; T. Holmes, 7; W. Wakley, 8. Conducted by J. Jaggar, J. Griffin, and W. Wakley. Tenor 26 cwt.

NEW BELLS AT SALISBURY CATHEDRAL.—Four new bells for the clock chimes have been hung in the cathedral tower during the past week, on which the new clock will shortly chime the Cambridge quarters. The bells were cast by Messrs. Taylor and Co., Loughborough. The largest weighs little over 12 cwt, the old hour bell, cast by Pardue, in 1661, weighing 25 cwt., note D. The new bells hang all in a row in a new frame above the old bell. There is one other small bell in the Cathedral beside the above mentioned, called "The Bishop's bell." This was cast by C. and G. Mears, in 1854, and hangs in the south transept.

Mr. E. Munday, of Bampton Street, Tiverton, Devon, wishes some of our readers to favour him with designs for a peal-board.

"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.

Everything for insertion in this Journal to be addressed "The Editor of THE BELL NEWS, Walthamstow, London." Letters forwarded for publication, and performances under 5000 changes must reach us not later than Wednesday morning; and the insertion of any communication coming later than the first Postal delivery on Thursday morning cannot be guaranteed in that week's number. When it is found impossible from want of space to insert all touches forwarded, the earlier ones will have the preference.

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

"OBSERVER" AND "PROGRESSION."—Next week.

The Bell News & Ringers' Record.

SATURDAY, MAY 24, 1884.

No doubt some of our readers have been surprised at not finding an editorial comment in these columns on the affair at Reading; more especially as a similar state of things appear to exist at Brighton. It is some little time since the matter was brought before the eyes of the ringing world, but we refrained from making any remarks at the time, as we hoped that the dispute might be compromised, and what is undoubtedly a great scandal, averted. This hope has now vanished, and we wish to draw attention to a few peculiarities of the case, not in any hostile spirit of criticism, but simply as a warning to other younger bands who may feel disposed to follow in the steps of the "Society of St. Lawrence."

There is no necessity for us to recapitulate the facts of the case—they will be found reported at length in our issues of the 5th and 19th ult. Two meetings took place, and it is our desire to examine the position taken up at them by the St. Lawrence band. The objections to joining the Diocesan Guild, put forward by this company are of a most extraordinary character. One speaker began by making the remarkable assertion that "he did not consider change-ringing the primary object of church ringers, who should think less of proficiency in that respect, and more of their rôle of Church Officers." In other words, he lays great stress on the important functions of a bell-ringer, but sees no good in learning how to ring a bell. We fail to see what other duty a ringer has, beyond those common to all Churchmen; to our uninspired understanding it appears that the only duty of a ringer is to perfect himself as far as possible in the use of a bell, so as to give, when necessary, an efficient and harmonious welcome to the congregation. We imagine that a choir who put forward the assertion that "they placed the duties of their office before proficiency in singing," would be looked on as a lot of wordy and self-conceited busybodies. But possibly this view of the case did not occur to the representative of this company.

This gentleman next bestows a large amount of praise on his own band, and their rules, laying special stress on requiring every member to be a communicant. Now, as the Rev. DOLBEN PAUL said, this is a most serious and solemn subject, and we do not intend to discuss it. But, without going into its merits or demerits, if any, as a qualification for a ringer, we must observe that we consider it the duty of the clergyman in charge of any church to satisfy himself of the religious character of his ringers. If he is content it is no one else's business. As the other clergy present bore testimony to the good conduct of the other members of the Guild, we believe such a rule in this instance to be altogether unnecessary and unwise.

DR. COLEMAN (the rector of St. Lawrence), appears unfortunately to have left this society of ringers to do much as they pleased. At the meeting, he spoke favourably of the Guild and their work, but expressed his wish not to influence the decision of his ringers in any way. Now if these latter had confined their position to ringing affairs, DR. COLEMAN would certainly have been right in not interfering: but we contend that as they took up their ground on religious points, he would have been justified in exerting his authority to the utmost against a state of things which we are sure he must condemn.

In Brighton there has been no public dissension, and the letter of a correspondent asking for particulars has been left unanswered. It is possible therefore that the other ringers of that town have found out and applied the only remedy for evils such as these. There is only one way of treating these exclusive and self-important persons; ignore them. Ringers pride themselves on their hospitality to one another; their social intercourse is proverbial; then in what light can they regard such exclusive conduct as that to which it is our painful duty to allude. It is of course a pity that the Reading Branch of the Diocesan Guild should not include all the steeples in the town; but we think that, on the whole, they are perhaps to be congratulated on being able to do without a company, which, with all its display of religion and propriety, is, for its want of charity, a drawback to the ringing world and to the Church it professes to serve.

THE SITTINGBOURNE BELLS.

The work of augmenting these bells to the octave, and otherwise improving them is, we hear, now approaching a satisfactory termination and that Wednesday, May 28th, as been fixed as the day of inauguration. A Dedication Service will be held at 5 p.m., preacher, the Rev. R. B. Knatchbull-Hugessen, Hon. Secretary of the Kent County Association. All ringers able to be present will be heartily welcomed.

SHAW'S NEW FRICTIONLESS GRAVITY STOP, FOR CHURCH BELLS.—We have had submitted to our notice a model of an arrangement termed a "Gravity Stop," the use of which is to supersede the present system of stay and slider. This invention is patented by Messrs. Shaw, and Son, of Bradford, and they claim for it the following advantages: entirely doing away with the old slider slugging backwards and forwards among the grease and dirt; no danger of the clapper catching the slide, and throwing the bell out of position; no risk (as with the old stay) of coming in contact with clock, or other hammers, can be fixed at either side of the bell, and easily regulated; it entirely does away with all friction; especially adapted for young ringers, as arrangements are made so that rubber buffers can be fixed in a few moments. The appliance seems to be a very convenient one, and will no doubt find its way into many bell-chambers where space is of great value.

THE BIRMINGHAM AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, May 17th, a Quarterly Meeting of the above Association was held at King's Norton, but owing to the indisposition of the Vicar, the Rev. Digby H. Coates Preedy, the service which otherwise would have been held in the parish church did not take place. A very fair muster of members attended, and during the afternoon rang touches of Grandsire Triples, Grandsire Major, and Bob Major, after which all repaired to "The Bull's Head Inn," the club house of the King's Norton branch, when, in the absence of the President, Mr. J. W. Cattle, Mr. Bennett Stevens was voted to the chair.

The CHAIRMAN having briefly opened the Meeting, the Secretary, Mr. J. Wright, was called upon to read the minutes of the last Quarterly Meeting, and also the minutes of the more recent Committee Meeting. This being done and duly confirmed, the meeting went on with the election of new ringing members. The names of nine gentlemen were submitted, all of which became members, thus bringing the total (ringing members) up to 100.

Mr. WRIGHT, in a lengthy address, urged all to pay over subscriptions on the Annual Meeting to be held at Selly Oak on the 16th of August, so as to facilitate business, thus leaving more time for debates or motions which often did not get the time bestowed on them which was necessary. Mr. Wright also said that he hoped ere long—and for his part he could not see any serious difficulty—to see the Birmingham and District Association and the Worcester Diocesan Guild united, Birmingham being in the Worcester diocese, would be a great help to the Guild. In conclusion he should like to ask the opinion of the members present. Messrs. Rea, Morris, and Haywood of Bromsgrove, spoke of the matter, saying that the Bishop of Worcester, and the Rev. Canon Cattley, of the Worcester Cathedral, would be proud to get such a portion of the Diocese in the Guild, and as for the ringers themselves, they would be delighted to see such an extension as soon as ever possible. Mr. John Carter and others spoke briefly, thinking it better for the time being to drop the matter, as such a thing, though really of so great an importance, was hardly ripe.

After a vote of thanks was accorded to the Vicar and churchwardens for the use of the bells, and a vote of thanks to the chairman, the remainder of the evening was spent in conviviality by touches and tunes on handbells, interspersed with songs, thus a very pleasant day was spent. The meeting terminated at 10 o'clock.

STOKE-UPON-TRENT ARCHIDIACONAL ASSOCIATION.

ST. MARGARET'S, WOLSTANTON.—Previous to the work of adding two new bells to, and rehangings the present six, at the above church being commenced, the following commemorative touches were rung: On Easter-day, a 720 of Plain Bob Minor, as a last Festival touch, in 26 mins. D. Amos, 1; L. Miller, 2; S. Walker, 3; W. Miller, 4; S. Wooton, 5; S. Spencer, 6. On Sunday, May 11th, a 720 of Plain Bob Minor, in 26 mins. G. Hodgkins, 1; A. Walker, 2; S. Walker, 3; W. Miller (conductor), 4; D. Amos (first 720 on a bob bell), 5; S. Spencer, 6. On Monday, May 12th, a 720 of Grandsire Minor, in 25 mins. E. M. Green, 1; L. Miller, 2; W. Priestman, 3; S. Wooton, 4; W. Miller, 5; S. Spencer (conductor), 6. On Tuesday, May 13th, a 720 of Plain Bob Minor, in 27 mins. E. M. Green, 1; L. Miller (conductor), 2; S. Walker, 3; W. Miller, 4; D. Amos, 5; S. Spencer, 6. Also a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor, in 25 mins. S. Walker, 1; L. Miller, 2; W. Miller, 3; S. Wooton, 4; W. Priestman, 5; S. Spencer (conductor), 6. This company rang 5040 changes in February last.

The Provinces.

THE HOLT SOCIETY.—ASTON-JUXTA-BIRMINGHAM.

Handbell Ringing.

On Wednesday, May 14, 1884, in Two Hours and Forty-three Minutes.

AT THE HOUSE OF MR. WM. KENT, ASTON LANE.

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES.

BERNARD WITCHELL* .. 1-2.	WILLIAM KENT .. 5-6.
HENRY BASTABLE .. 3-4.	†WILLIAM ANSELL.. 7-8.

Composed by the late THOMAS DAY, and conducted by WILLIAM KENT.

*First peal. †First peal on handbells.

This is the first peal on handbells ever rung by this society.

Mr. John Buffery was present the whole of the time, and can vouch for the accuracy of the peal.

Messrs. T. J. Hemming and J. W. Cartwright were also present the latter portion of the time, and witnessed the bells come home.

THE UNITED COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

SADDLEWORTH, YORKSHIRE.

On Saturday, May 17, 1884, in Three Hours and Six Minutes.

AT ST. CHAD'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;
IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 12 cwt.

JOHN J. BRIERLEY Treble.	JAMES SELLARS.. .. 5.
JOHN HOLDEN 2.	JAMES NUTTAL 6.
JOHN SIDEBOTHAM 3.	JAMES S. WILDE 7.
THOMAS WILDE 4.	THOMAS BROCKLEHURST .. Tenor.

Composed by JOHN J. BRIERLEY, and conducted by J. S. WILDE.

Messrs. Brierley and Holden belong to Saddleworth; Sidebotham and Nuttal from Mottram; S. and J. S. Wilde from Hyde; Sellars from Glossop; and Brocklehurst from Hayfield.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

LONG EATON, DERBYSHIRE.

On Saturday, May 17, 1884, in Three Hours and Twenty-two Minutes.

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5600 CHANGES;
IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 11 cwt. in G.

GEORGE BRADLEY Treble.	JOHN WARD 5.
RICHARD HICKTON 2.	WILLIAM GILSON 6.
JOHN C. DICKENS 3.	*ARTHUR WIDDOWSON .. 7.
SAMUEL CLARKE.. .. 4.	JOSEPH BARROW Tenor.

Conducted by JOSEPH BARROW.

This is the first peal in the method on the bells, also the first in the method by the whole of the band. *First peal.

The above are all members of the St. Lawrence's Society, Long Eaton.

MANCHESTER.

On Monday, May 19, 1884, in Three Hours and Fifty-Three Minutes.

AT THE CATHEDRAL,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS, 6120 CHANGES;
Tenor 25 cwt. in Eb.

THOMAS GEORGE DOWNS.. Treble.	*CHARLES CASH 6.
JOHN EDWARD POLLITT .. 2.	*EDWARD CASH 7.
SAMSON KNIGHT.. .. 3.	GEORGE HY. JOHNSON .. 8.
SAMUEL WEST 4.	†ALBERT EDWARD WREAKS 9.
JOSEPH GRIMSHAW 5.	HENRY MEE Tenor.

Composed by the late HENRY HUBBARD, and conducted by ALBERT E. WREAKS.

*First peal of Caters. †College Youth.

All members of the Lancashire Association except Messrs. Knight and Mee. Messrs. Johnston and the brothers Cash hail from Eccles; the rest belong to Manchester.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS, AND
THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—SHEFFIELD.

On Tuesday, May 20, 1884, in Four Hours and Two Minutes.

AT ST. PETER'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERS, 5301 CHANGES;
Tenor 41 cwt.

CHARLES BOWER Treble.	*GEORGE HOLMES 6.
JOSEPH MULLIGAN* 2.	*JAMES ALFRED DIXON .. 7.
WILLIAM LOMAS* 3.	THOMAS HATTERSLEY .. 8.
CHARLES HY. HATTERSLEY 4.	*ARTHUR BRIERLEY 9.
JOHN MULLIGAN* 5.	W. SMITH & E. WOODWARD Tenor.

Composed and conducted by CHARLES HENRY HATTERSLEY.

*First peal of Stedman Caters.

This peal has the 5th and 6th their extent behind the 9th, with the treble a second's place bell.

Date Touch.

ELY.—On Thursday, May 15th, the St. Mary's company rang a date touch of Bob Minor, 1884 changes, having twenty-nine bobs and twenty-six singles, in 1 hr. 15 mins., on the grand newly-restored bells. T. E. Ellis, 1; J. Southerel, 2; W. King, 3; F. R. Bacon, 4; A. Pilgrim (conductor), 5; T. Daines, 6; R. Moden, 7. Tenor 20 cwt. The last date touch was rung by the Ely company in the year 1868, when three of the above members took part.

Miscellaneous.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.—On Thursday, May 15th, for Divine Service in the evening at the church of St. John the Baptist, a 336 of Grandsire Triples. G. Campbell, 1; C. L. Routledge (conductor), 2; R. S. Story, 3; F. Lees, 4; W. G. Routledge, 5; T. J. Des Forges, 6; W. Story, 7; W. Bowes, 8. And on Monday, May 19th, for practice, a 336 of Bob Major. *W. Bowes, 1; C. L. Routledge, 2; R. Smith, 3; W. G. Routledge, 4; F. Lees (conductor), 5; T. J. Des Forges, 6; W. Story, 7; R. S. Story, 8. *First touch of Major. Also another 336, W. G. Routledge ringing the tenor and conducting. Tenor 12½ cwt. We regret to have to record the first death in our Guild (which was formed on November 6th, 1879) one of our junior members, George Herdman, aged 17 years, having died on Friday, May 2nd, after an illness of eight days. He was buried on Sunday, May 4th, and on that day, the bells were rung half-muffled, and all his brother-ringers attended his funeral. He gave promise of developing into a skilful ringer, and his loss is much deplored by the Guild.

THE HERTFORD COLLEGE YOUTHS.

HERTFORD.—On Monday evening, May 19th, at All Saints' church, eight members of the above rang a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, 1260 changes, in 47 mins. Henry Phillips, 1; William L. Randall, 2; James Staples, 3; Stephen Knight, 4; Jasper G. Crawley, 5; Herbert Baker (conductor), 6; Thomas Gathard, 7; Edward Cains, 8. Tenor 22 cwt. This is the longest length by the treble, fourth and tenor men.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

LONG EATON (Derbyshire).—On Saturday, May 10th, for practice, a 640 of Kent Treble Bob Major. William Grice, 1; William Billingham, 2; John C. Dickens, 3; Samuel Clarke, 4; Richard Hickton, 5; Richard Lane, 6; John Ward, 7; Joseph Barrow (conductor), 8. This is the first touch in the method by Wm. Billingham and R. Lane, who hail from Loughborough.

STOKE-UPON-TRENT ARCHIDIACONAL ASSOCIATION.

HORTON (Staffordshire).—On Sunday, May 18th, for Divine Service in the afternoon, a 720 of Bob Minor. A. Cottrell, 1; W. Carter, 2; S. Moore, 3; T. Turner, 4; M. Moss, 5; D. Bradbury (first 720 as conductor), 6. Also 240 of Grandsire Minor. A. Cottrell, 1; C. Lawton, 2; S. Moore, 3; D. Bradbury, 4; M. Moss, 5; W. Carter (conductor), 6. D. Bradbury hails from Horton; T. Turner from Leek; the rest from Biddulph.

THE WATERLOO SOCIETY, LONDON.

BATTERSEA (Surrey).—On Thursday, May 15th, at St. Mary's church, this society rang 1694 changes, or up to the titmums, in Holt's original peal of Grandsire Triples. Owing to the delay caused by anxious waiting for an absentee, the original idea of starting for a peal in honour of the election of the churchwardens had to be postponed. Martin Routh (conductor), 1; William Baron, 2; Charles Hopkins, 3; A. G. Thomas, 4; T. Taylor, 5; H. S. Thomas, 6; C. Ludwig, 7; W. Coppage, 8.

BEDMINSTER (Somerset).—*Muffled Peal*.—On Wednesday, May 14th, at St. Luke's church, on the anniversary of the death of the late J. Price, (of Bristol), a 600 of Plain Bob Minor. G. Staddon, 1; W. Marsh, 2; E. Duckham, 3; J. Norton, 4; W. Emory, 5; J. Hinton (conductor), 6.

BLECHINGLEY (Surrey).—On Sunday, May 18th, a quarter-peal of Plain Bob Triples, 1260 changes. G. Brown, 1; T. Boniface, 2; E. F. Cole, Esq., 3; L. Killick, 4; G. Potter, 5; W. Burkin (conductor), 6; J. Burkin, 7; J. Balcome, 8. Also a 504 of Grandsire Triples. A. Wallis, 1; F. Smith, 2; J. Bashford, 3; J. Burkin, 4; L. Killick, 5; E. F. Cole, 6; W. Burkin, 7; W. Mayne, 8. Tenor 19 cwt.

BRISTOL.—*Muffled Peal*.—On Tuesday, May 13th, at St. Nicholas' church, a 608 of Grandsire Major, with the bells deeply muffled, it being the anniversary of the death of the late Wm. Thomas. G. Staddon, 1; G. Morgan, 2; E. Duckham, 3; W. Marsh, 4; F. Price, 5; W. Parsons, 6; W. Emory, 7; J. Hinton (conductor), 8. Tenor 36 cwt.

DAGENHAM (Essex).—On Sunday evening, May 18th, a 720 of Bob Minor, with eighteen bobs and two singles. A. Deards, 1; A. J. Perkins (conductor), 2; J. Porter, 3; A. Pye, 4; B. Keeble, 5; A. Porter, 6.

FINCHLEY (Middlesex).—On Sunday evening, May 18th, at St. Mary's church, for Divine Service, 108 of Plain Bob Minor. J. Hannington (conductor), 1; E. Chapman, 2; J. Leach, 3; T. Gleed, 4; T. Titchener, 5; G. Newson, 6. Also after Divine Service a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor, in 23 mins., standing as before with T. Titchener, 4; Wingfield Meadows, 5. This is supposed to be the

first 720 ever rung on these bells. Also a 6-score of Grandsire Doubles. J. Freemantle, 1; J. Hannington (conductor), 2; T. Titchener, 3; T. Gleed, 4; J. Nixon, 5; H. Flanders, 6. Tenor 8½ cwt.

GLEMSFORD (Suffolk).—On Saturday evening, April 26th, at St. Mary's church, a 720 of Plain Bob Minor. Joseph Slater, 1; C. Honeyball, 2; Samuel Slater, 3; Percy C. S. Scott, 4; C. W. Downs, 5; Zachariah Slater (conductor), 6.

HAVERSTOCK HILL (Middlesex).—On Wednesday evening, May 14th, at St. Martin's church, a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob Minor, in 25 mins. J. Hannington (conductor), 1; T. Gleed, 2; A. Jacob, 3; J. Leach, 4; B. Foskett, 5; G. Griffin, 6. Also a 720 of Double Stedman Slow Course Minor, in 25 mins. J. Nixon, 1; G. Newson, 2; T. Titchener, 3; J. Hannington (conductor), 4; A. Jacob, 5; E. Chapman, 6. Tenor 12½ cwt.

HIGHER SUTTON (Cheshire).—On Wednesday, May 14th, this society were favoured with a visit from Mr. Hargreaves, of Holy Trinity, Hulme, Manchester, and rang with him at St. James's, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor, with 15 bobs, in 26 mins., also a touch of Plain Bob and Grandsire Minor. Wm. Walmsley, 1; Wm. H. Ingham, 2; W. Ingham, 3; J. M. Davenport, 4; W. J. Hargreaves (conductor), 5; T. Mottershead, 6. Tenor 12 cwt. in G.

LONG MELFORD (Suffolk).—*Handbell Ringing*.—On April 15th, upon the handbells, a 720 of Bob Minor. Z. Slater (conductor), 1; C. G. Hammond, 2; P. O. Bixly, 3; P. S. Scott, 4; S. Slater, 5; O. Garwood, 6. Also on Tuesday, April 29th, on the back six of the parish church, a 720 of Bob Minor. C. G. Hammond (first 720) 1; John Ambrose, 2; Owen Read, 3; Philip O. Bixly, 4; Oliver Garwood, 5; Samuel Slater (conductor), 6. Also a 720 in the same method. William Campin, 1; J. Ambrose, 2; Owen Read, 3; Percy Scott (first 720), 4; Oliver Garwood, 5; Samuel Slater (conductor), 6. Also on Friday, May 10th, on the same bells, a 720 of Bob Minor. C. G. Hammond, 1; S. Slater, 2; O. Garwood, 3; P. S. Scott, 4; P. Bixly, 5; Z. Slater (conductor), 6. Also 360 changes of Bob Minor. P. Bixly, 1; S. Slater, 2; Owen Read, 3; O. Garwood, 4; James Bird (first 18-score), 5; Z. Slater (conductor), 6.

LLANGALLOCK (Monmouthshire).—On Thursday, May 8th, the Monmouth society visited this place, and by the kind permission of the Rev. — Maclaverty, rang two 720's of Bob Minor, being the first known 720's in any method upon the bells. W. Honeyfield, 1; J. Ward, 2; W. Walters, 3; J. Brown, 4; T. H. Jones, 5; E. Barnett (conductor), 6.

LONDON.—On Monday, May 19th, at St. Andrew's, Wells Street, St. Giles's, six 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles, on the back six, in 30 mins. W. Harley, 1; F. Foskett (conductor), 2; W. Griggs, 3; C. Heffer, 4; Jas. Illingworth, 5; H. Flanders, 6. Tenor 21 cwt.

LYTHAM (Lancashire).—On Sunday, May 11th, at St. John's church, a 720 of Bob Minor (eighteen bobs and two singles), in 23 mins. William Bamber, 1; Jno. Salthouse, 2; Jno. Fisher, 3; C. H. Kerr (conductor), 4; Jno. Miller, 5; R. Allanson, 6. Also on Sunday May 18th, before Divine Service in the morning, a 720 of Bob Minor, eighteen bobs and two singles, in 25 mins. Jno. Miller, 1; Jno. Salthouse, 2; Jno. Fell (conductor), 3; Chas. Kerr, 4; Henry Gregson, 5; Roger Allanson, 6. Tenor 10½ cwt.

ROMFORD (Essex).—On Sunday afternoon, May 18th, a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob. J. Porter, 1; A. J. Perkins, 2; C. Waskett, 3; B. Keeble, 4; A. Pye, 5; A. Porter (conductor), 6. *Handbell Ringing*.—On Monday evening, May 19th, on handbells, retained in hand, a 377 of Grandsire Triples. A. Pye, 1-2; B. Keeble, 3-4; A. J. Perkins (conductor), 5-6; A. Porter, 7-8.

SAFFRON WALDEN (Essex).—On Sunday, May 18th, for Divine Service in the evening at St. Mary's church, a 1008 of Stedman Triples (taken from Thurstan's peal), in 36 mins. J. Freeman, 1; George Martin, 2; Ernest Pitstow, 3; Charles Freeman, 4; J. F. Penning, 5; N. J. Pitstow, 6; Fredk. Pitstow (conductor), 7; James Bacon, 8. Tenor 24 cwt.

SALISBURY (Wilts).—On Saturday, May 10th, at St. Martin's, a 720 of Bob Minor—Annable's, with twenty-six singles, in 29 mins. E. A. Foster, 1; C. A. Clements, 2; J. R. Jerram, 3; S. Smith (Loughborough), 4; W. W. Gifford, 5; T. Blackburn (conductor), 6. Also a 720 of Bob Minor, with eighteen bobs and two singles, in 25 mins. Rung by the same band except H. Dowling, 1; T. Blackburn, 3; J. R. Jerram (conductor), 6. Also on Wednesday, May 14th, a 720 of Grandsire Minor, with thirty-four bobs and two singles, in 28 mins. C. A. Clements, 1; J. R. Jerram, 2; T. Blackburn, 3; S. Smith, 4; W. W. Gifford, 5; J. W. Taylor (Loughborough; conductor), 6. Also on Saturday, May 17th, a 720 of Bob Minor, with eighteen bobs and two singles, in 28 mins. H. Dowling, 1; C. A. Clements, 2; W. W. Gifford, 3; S. Smith, 4; T. Blackburn, 5; J. R. Jerram, 6. Tenor 15 cwt. And at SS. Mary and Nicholas, Wilton, Sarum, on Thursday, May 15th, a 720 of Bob Minor, with eighteen bobs and two singles, in 26 mins. H. Dowling, 1; J. R. Jerram, 2; S. Smith, 3; C. A. Clements, 4; W. W. Gifford, 5; T. Blackburn (conductor), 6.

SPALDING (Lincolnshire).—At the church of SS. Mary and Nicolas, on Wednesday, April 30th, being the eve of SS. Phillip and James, a 360 of Kent Treble Bob. Also on Sunday, May 4th, for Divine Service in the morning, a 360 of London Single. Also after Divine Service in the evening, 720 of Plain Bob, and a 360 of College Single. J. Brown, 1; J. Wilson, 2; G. L. Richardson, 3; R. Mackman, 4; E. Brown, 5; J. S. Wright (conductor), 6. Also on Wednesday, May 7th, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob. J. S. Wright, 1; J. Wilson, 2; G. L. Richardson, 3; R. Mackman, 4; E. Brown, 5; J. Brown (conductor), 6.

STISTED (Essex).—On Sunday, May 11th, for Divine Service in the afternoon, a 720 of Plain Bob. C. Duncomb (first 720), 1; H. E. Hammond, 2; A. Chaplin, 3; W. Radley, 4; E. Radley, 5; S. Hammond (conductor), 6.

SWANSCOMBE (Kent).—On Saturday, May 3rd, at SS. Peter and Paul, 720 of Bob Minor. E. Hayes, 1; T. Ellis, 2; F. Hayes, 3; W. Martin (first 720 inside), 4; E. Martin, 5; W. Harper (conductor), 6. This is the first 720 by a local company for a number of years.

SVSTON (Leicestershire).—On Saturday, May 10th, at St. Peter's church, three of the junior company, with three of the other ringers, rang a 720 of Bob Minor, with eighteen bobs and two singles, in 27 mins. W. Bail, 1; *G. Freeman, 2; *G. Walton, 3; *J. Hall, 4; J. North, 5; Rev. W. Pearson (conductor), 6. *First 720. Tenor 15½ cwt. in F.

WEST BROMWICH (Staffordshire).—On Saturday, May 10th, an attempt was made for a peal of Grandsire Triples at All Saints' church, but after ringing 3300 changes the 6th rope broke. E. J. Cashmore, 1; E. Cashmore, 2; J. Carter (conductor), 3; T. Horton, 4; J. Tinsley, 5; W. Elesmore, 6; W. Smith, 7; W. Perkins, 8. Tenor 14 cwt.

WHITCHURCH (Oxon).—On Monday evening, May 19th, six members of the Pangbourne (Berks.) company visited this village for the purpose of having a friendly pull. A six-score of Grandsire Doubles was rung. W. Parsons, 1; G. Ashley, 2; J. Nicholls, 3; S. Dodd, 4; C. Bennett (conductor), 5; H. Champ, 6. The ropes in this belfry are so close that there is not sufficient room, which seriously hampered the men, and unfortunately brought several attempts to grief. This was the first six-score known to be rung on these bells by method.

WOOLWICH (Kent).—On Sunday, May 18th (on the occasion of a Church Parade of various Temperance Societies), the following members of St. James's and Waterloo Societies rang at St. Mary Magdalene's church after Divine Service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, containing 1260 changes, in 42 mins. Harry William Grout, 1; Frederick William Thornton, 2; Henry Harvey, 3; James Charles Harvey (conductor), 4; William Watchorn, 5; Edward Richards, 6; William Henry Freeman, 7; Henry Bright, 8.

ABBOTTS LANGLEY, HERTS.

On Wednesday evening, May 14th, the St. Alban's Cathedral ringers visited the village of Abbots Langley, about five miles from St. Alban's. There are six bells (tenor about 12 or 14 cwt.) and in very good order. Several 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles were rung, but much difficulty was experienced by the ringer of the 3rd bell, he being placed on a platform about 10 feet above the other ringers. The following members were present: Messrs. Hills (conductor), Waddington, Fowler, Hulks, Norman, Cartmel, Grant and Buckingham. Also Messrs. H. Lewis and Greenfield, honorary members. After a pull with the parish ringers, an adjournment was made to the school-room, where the Cathedral ringers treated their Abbots Langley friends to a little change-ringing on the handbells, they being particularly delighted with a plain course of Grandsire Triples, rung by Messrs. Hills and Lewis, four in hand. The ringers beg to express their thanks to the vicar (Rev. F. H. Hodgson) for kindly allowing them the use of the bells.

BICYCLES AND TRICYCLES.—For some time past there has appeared in our columns the announcements of two firms of manufacturers of these popular conveyances. The various inventions and improvements which appear to have been added to these useful vehicles since their first introduction to the public, have made them objects of acquisition by all classes. We find that among ringers they are coming to be well patronised, and we have been made acquainted by many of our readers of their usefulness when attending District or other meetings of their Guild or Association. To those who may be contemplating purchasing this kind of article we would give a word of warning, and that is to go direct to the manufacturer. This will prevent much disappointment, and is sure to be the most economical plan to adopt. The firms whose advertisements we publish do an extensive business, and both their bicycles and tricycles are becoming universal favorites.

TIVERTON, DEVON.

THE ANNUAL MEETING of the St. Peter's Society was held on Monday, May 14th. The Hon. Treasurer's accounts shewing a balance in hand of £5 1s. 10d., and £22 17s. 10d., on deposit, were passed. The following officers were re-elected: President, Lieut.-Col. Troyte, Huntsham Court; Vice-Presidents, A. C. Sharland, Esq., J.P., and Lewis Mackenzie, Esq., F.R.C.S., England; Hon. Secretary, Mr. H. Hippisley; Hon. Treasurer, Mr. E. Munday. Messrs. R. Grater, J. T. Ellacott, and T. Woodward were elected to serve on the Committee. The Rev. A. Rawlings, and Messrs. W. E. Allen, James Grater, and W. D. Rattray, were elected members of the Society. The practice attendance register was read, and considered satisfactory. The ringing report showed that thirteen touches of 504 changes, three of 560, one of 720, one of 1000, one half-peal, and one peal of Grandsire Triples had been rung during the past year. This report was considered very satisfactory, as it recorded the first peal ever rung by 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."

THE PROPOSED DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION FOR ST. ALBANS.

SIR,—When I observed what took place at the West Ham District Meeting respecting the above, I at first intended to ask you to allow me through your columns, to bring the matter before my fellow-members who don't happen to reside in that corner of the country which alone would be benefited by carrying out the above remote idea, what I believed to be the right view of the matter. As however, no one else appeared to interest themselves with the question, I allowed it to drop with the hope that it would again die a natural death. Observing, however, that Mr. Alps has taken active steps, and is appealing to the members to support his scheme, I now venture to address you upon the subject, and with your permission will attempt to put before the original members of the Association a few plain facts, trusting thereby that they will be induced not to allow this contemplated scheme to become a reality.

First, let me ask, who formed the Association? second, for whose benefit was it formed? third, what were its objects? fourth, why have those objects not been accomplished? fifth, will they be by an extended area.

Now to deal with the whole of the questions thoroughly would occupy too much of your space, and therefore I shall summarise them, and I hope such will answer my purpose.

When the ringers of Essex were invited to assemble at Writtle, and approve of the steps that had been taken by a few six-bell tower representatives residing in the centre of the county, it was admitted that there was urgent need of belfry reform in many parts of the county, and with a view of bringing such about, and for the benefit of those present, who were desirous of making some advance in the science, it was decided to establish an Association with such for its objects. Strange to say, ringers from the upper portion of the county, especially those in the locality in which Mr. Alps resides, were conspicuous by their absence, leaving those present to surmise that their desire was to see if the Association would obtain a footing, and if so how it would work before they went hand-in-hand to help to carry out its objects. Having extended itself especially upwards, there was a large influx of members at the first anniversary meeting, when the question of a Diocesan or County Association—which was mooted at the inaugural meeting—was renewed by the late Hon. Sec. Every feasible argument in favour of such was advanced, and notwithstanding the strong muster of members referred to above, there was a strong opposition, and the unanimous decision was for a County Association. After such a decision in the presence of Mr. Alps, I fail to see the necessity to re-open the question, in fact I was surprised to find it brought forward at a meeting held on the boundary of the county, and look upon it as a matter of injustice to those who it concerns most that were not present. However, we live in a fast moving century, for I remember that at the second anniversary, Mr. Alps said "he thought the time had come when we as an Association might look round and see what we had done. Upon doing so his feelings were of a mixed nature, we might have made some advancement in change-ringing, but he saw much yet to be done in the way of belfry reform." After five years' existence, I am prepared, Sir, to re-echo his words. Undoubtedly we have made progress in the science, but I fail to see any signs of belfry reform where it was and is still needed. With an extended area, that such will remain the case, is beyond a question of doubt, as it would mean an annual meeting in Essex every alternate year with one or two district meetings. If Mr. Alps is desirous of accomplishing the work which we set ourselves to do, and I do not doubt but what he is, let him suggest that Hertfordshire forms its own Association, that we divide our county into divisions, each holding its own quarterly meetings, and that such meetings, some, if not all, be held where the belfry and the ringers need reform in lieu of where neither require reformation, and I for one, and I know many others would do the same, shall be ready and willing to co-operate with him, and the time will come when the Association, having used its influence with the clergy, and the latter having used with their ringers a little clerical tact, clerical influence, and clerical recognition, the general community will not look upon ringers as coming from the degraded ranks of society, but be ready to recognise them as church workers, which is not by far the universal rule yet in the county of Essex.

Probably it may be argued that as there are other Diocesan Associations, and Essex is part of the Diocese of St. Albans, and Hertfordshire is without an Association, as a reason for merging into a Diocesan Association; if so, why should not our Colchester friends say there is a Midland Counties' Association, let us have an Eastern Counties' Association, and bring in Suffolk, so that we can attend all the meetings, as when there is one held it will only be a question of travelling down instead of up, a position Mr. Alps would be in if successful with his proposal.

I have already taken up too much of your space, and therefore will not further refer to the financial part of the question, except to remark how unfair it would be to those who have contributed to the funds of the Association from the commencement that the funds should be devoted for peal-books, certificates, &c., for the benefit of another county.

In conclusion I have not taken up the matter with the slightest ill-feeling whatever toward Mr. Alps or anyone else, and I trust that we may meet as hitherto—friends. As a word of warning I would advise those that still have the welfare of the Association at heart, and desirous to see its objects accomplished, to attend the annual meeting and assist in retaining it under the title of the "Essex" Association.

Thanking you in anticipation of the insertion of this, I am yours, B. KEEBLE.
Romford, May 12th, 1884.

TOUCHES OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR.

Collected and arranged by
THE REV. H. EARLE BULWER.

SERIES I.

TOUCHES OF LESS THAN 1000 CHANGES.

960.

Time 35½ minutes.

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

SERIES II.

TOUCHES OF OVER 1000, AND UNDER 1600 CHANGES.

1376.

Time 51 minutes.

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

1408.

Time 52 minutes.

In four courses.

The 6th three course-ends home; in the reverse, the 5th.

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

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

The 6th two course-ends home.

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

The 6th two course-ends wrong, home in the reverse.

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

In five courses.

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

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

1440.

Time 53½ minutes.

In four courses.

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

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

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

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

In five courses.

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

SERIES III.

TOUCHES OF OVER 1600 CHANGES.

2272.

Time 82½ mins.

In six courses.

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

In seven courses.

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

In eight courses.

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

2304.

Time 83½ minutes.

In eight courses.

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

In nine courses.

The 6th four course-ends each way.

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

SELLY OAK (Worcestershire).—On Tuesday, May 20th, six members of the Birmingham and District Association rang at St. Mary's a 720 of Grandsire Minor in 27 mins. G. Hale, 1; W. Baldwin (first 720 with a bob bell), 3; H. Smith, 3; E. Boylin, 4; T. Lewis, 5; E. Bryant (conductor), 6.

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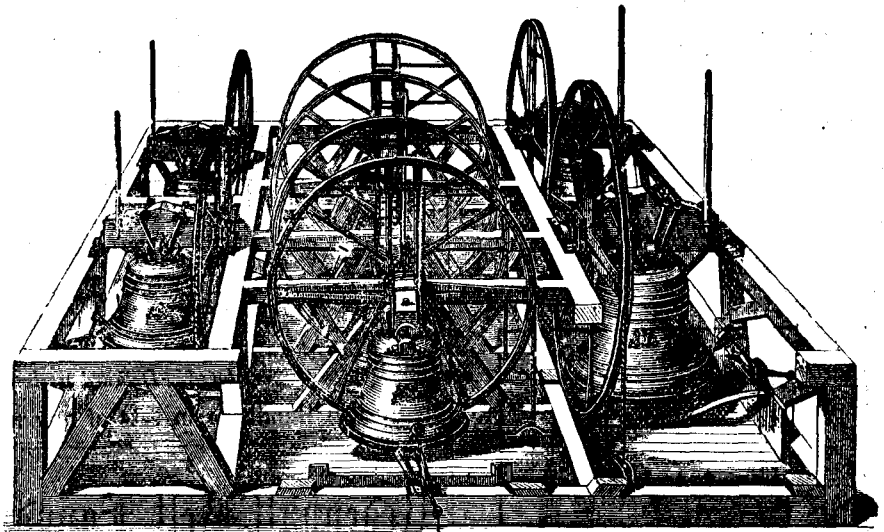
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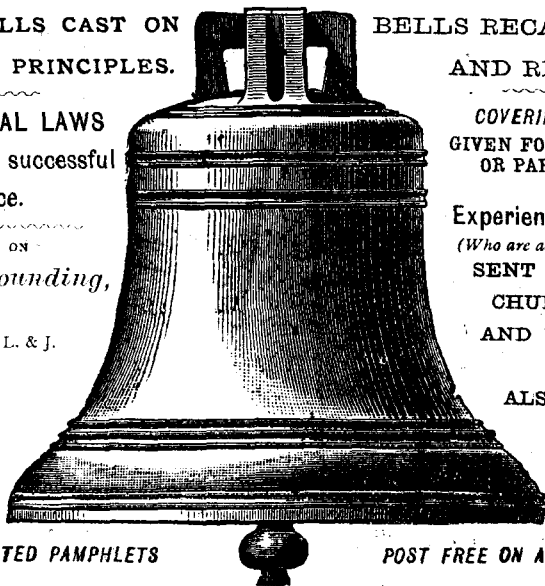
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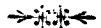
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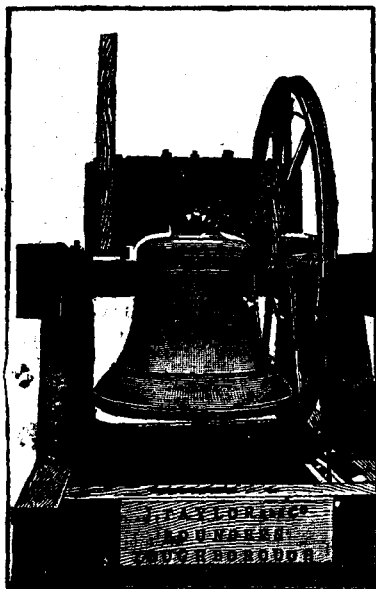
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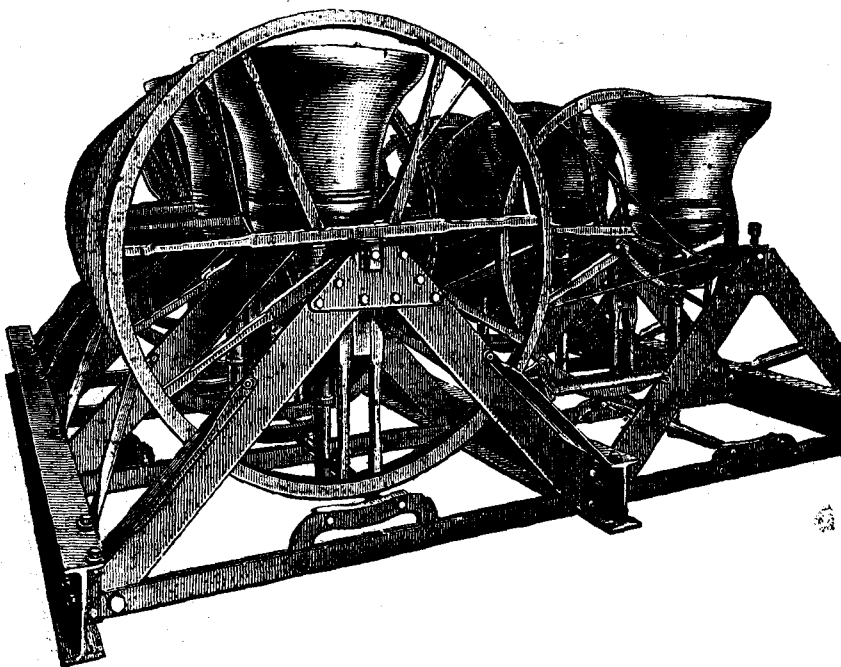
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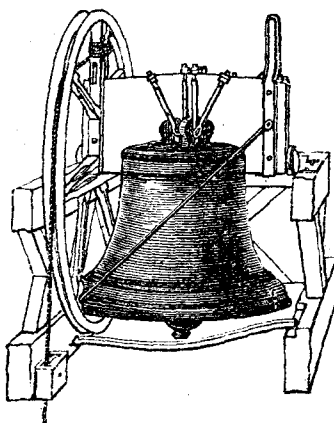
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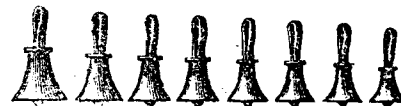
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Switzerland had not a bell till 1020, and the inhabitants of Augsburg were very proud of the two first heard from the belfry of their cathedral about the same date. Nothing is more curious in bell-history than the obscurity of the places which are found to be the richest in these musical treasures. Thus the little town of Erfurt, according to Baedeker, famous chiefly in these days for its watercresses, is said to have the finest toned bell in Europe. Its size is not very great, the weight being only 275 cwt. There have been and there are much heavier bells. Notre Dame, in Paris, and St. Stephen's, in Vienna, have heavier bells. The Great bell of Moscow, cast by order of the Empress Anne, in 1734, was 21 ft. high, and weighed nineteen tons. It was broken in 1737. St. Ivan's bell, hung on the Ivan Tower, on the Kremlin, weighs 127,830 lbs. But the greatest bell of all is at Jeddo. Though only 17ft. 6in. in height, it is said to weigh 1,700,000 lbs., an estimate of which we should be glad to have a verification. That weight is nearly four times that of the Great Moscow bell, and fifty-six times that of Big Ben, at Westminster, rated at 30,324 lbs. At Vienna is a bell 9·8 ft. in diameter. At Sens, one of 8·6. The great bell of Notre Dame, Paris, is of the same diameter as that of Sens. But while the latter weighs 34,000 lbs., the Parisian bell only weighs 28,672 lbs. Great Peter, at York, 8·3 ft. in diameter, weighs 10½ tons. Great Tom, at Oxford, 7·1 ft. in diameter, weighs 18,000 lbs. Great Tom, at Lincoln, 6·8 ft. in diameter, 5½ tons. The great bell at St. Paul's, cast in 1709, weighs 11,470 lbs., and is 6·7 ft. in diameter.

In some monasteries they seem to have prayers in the chapel every two hours; and the summons tells the hearers what they have to do—each peal being different according to the time and office. So with the summons to the Brethren of the Misericordia. We outsiders do not know the difference; but those who belong to the order read a whole history in the bell which tolls, say from the campanile at Florence, when they are summoned to attend a death, an accident, an illness—and where—according to the words clanged out on the swinging iron book aloft. At Siena, the great bell of the Campo Santa rings out at four in the morning to call the workmen to their day's labour.

Odd usages have been associated with bells. In the Roman Church bells were anointed and baptized. The usage dates from about the tenth century. With regard to the blessings of the bells at St. Paul's, the Bishop of London wrote to the *Times* at the time to explain the service, the prayer being that the bells in their use might be blessed to the well-being of mankind. On the other hand Papal history associates cursing as well as benison with the sound of bells. When the famous collection of Strawberry Hill was sold in 1842, one of the lots which fetched most was a silver cursing bell. It had belonged to Pope Clement VII., for whom it had been designed and beautifully chased by Benvenuto Cellini. One of the Popes ordered the bells to be rung as a defence against thunder and lightning. As late as 1816, the great bell of Notre Dame was baptised in the name of the Duke of Angoulême, and in the Priory of Little Dunmow, Essex, the bells were baptised in 1510, and still bear the original names of St. Michael and St. John. On the eve of the feast of Corpus Christi, the choristers of Durham Cathedral mount the old tower in their fluttering robes, and chant from its heights a solemn *Te Deum*. For four centuries this practice has kept green the memory of that night when, as the monks were busy at midnight prayer, the great belfry over their heads was struck with lightning. All night the flames raged, and the fire did not cease to burn till the middle of the next day, when it was found that the tower had escaped serious damage, and that the bells were wholly uninjured. Such safety was but little less than miraculous, and the miracle was attributed to the presence of the body of St. Cuthbert enshrined in the Cathedral.

The following motto may still be seen on some of the bells that have swung in their steeples for centuries. It will be observed to entitle them to a six-fold efficacy.

Men's death I tell by doleful knell,
Lightning and thunder I break asunder;
On Sabbath all to church I call,
The sleepy head I raise from bed,
The winds so fierce I do disperse,
Men's cruel rage I do assuage.

The following inscriptions are on the bells of St. Michael's Coventry, cast in 1774:—

I.

Although I am both light and small,
I will be heard above you all.

II.

If you have a judicious ear,
You'll own my voice to be sweet and clear.

III.

Such wondrous power to music's given,
It elevates the soul to heaven.

IV.

While thus we join in cheerful sound,
May love and loyalty abound.

V.

To honour both of God and King,
Our voices shall in concert sing.

VI.

Music is a medicine to the mind.

VII.

Ye ringers all, that prize your health and happiness,
Be sober, merry, wise, and you'll the same possess.

VIII.

Ye people all that hear me ring,
Be faithful to your God and King.

IX.

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

X.

I am and have been called the common bell,
To ring when fire breaks out, to tell.

Sometimes the legends are loyal, as in the Elizabethan bell at Bury, in Sussex, where the inscription is "God Save the Queen," which is also to be found in one of the bells of Magdalen College, Oxford; in one instance, in the time of James the First the legend runs:

"Fear God and honour the King,
For obedience is a virtuous thing."

The gift of a bell, or of a peal of bells, was a common exercise of munificence, and on many of the old English bells are found the coats of arms of the donors. One of the old windows of York Minister gives the various processes then in use for casting, cleansing, and tuning the bells. After the Reformation, inscriptions were not permitted to be addressed to heaven, but only to man. It had been otherwise before. Thus at St. Michael's, Alnwick, the legend of the bell runs thus: "Archangel Michael, Come to the help of the people of God;" and many others were addressed to the Virgin Mary, to St. Peter, and St. Paul.

STRATTON, DEVON.

THE FOLLOWING EPITAPH, which the contributor does not remember ever having noticed in print, may be seen in the belfry of Launcells Church, near Stratton:—

Life is an inn; think man this truth upon;
Some only breakfast, and are quickly gone;
Others to dinner stay, and are full fed;
The oldest man but sups, and goes to bed.
Large is his debt who lingers out the day;
Who goes the soonest has the least to pay.

THE INTERNATIONAL EXHIBITION AT THE CRYSTAL PALACE.—In visiting this Exhibition we noticed that Messrs. Mears and Stainbank have erected a kind of campanile, which has an excellent peal of eight bells, with fittings complete. Messrs. Warner and Sons are also exhibitors.

Mr. E. J. Dennes, of Wellingborough, writes:—"I should be much obliged if you or one of your Kentish readers could tell me the sizes and weights of the bells of Tenterden parish church, Kent."

THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, May 24th, being the Queen's Birthday, a mixed company of the members of the above Association attended at Woburn, for the purpose of ringing a 5040 of Bob Major. Three unsuccessful attempts were made, and after ringing a variety of touches from 9 a.m. till noon, started for Eversholt, a village three miles distance from Woburn, where other ringing friends awaited them. W. W. C. Baker, Esq., the revered son of the Rector of Eversholt, had given a generous invitation to all members of the Association to luncheon at the Rectory at 1 p.m., and ringers were present from Bedford, Bromham, Biddenham, Elstow, Aspley Guise, and Woburn.

Mr. Baker, whose genial soul inspired him to arrange this happy gathering before leaving home for clerical duties in Nottingham, is a member of the committee of this Association, and has been unceasing in his endeavours to assist the objects of the Association, being himself an accomplished ringer, ever ready and willing to encourage and assist in the teaching of new members. His removal will be much regretted by the Woburn and Bedford companies, as well as by the members of the Association generally. He will carry with him the best wishes of all who have ever had the pleasure of his acquaintance and leave behind him in their hearts many happy and pleasing memories.

On arrival at the Rectory of Eversholt, the ringers were heartily welcomed by the Rector, and for the personal comfort of all an excellent lavatory had been provided for their use, which added much to the enjoyment of the day's proceedings. In fact, the whole of the arrangements and proceedings at Eversholt on Saturday had in it the true ring of Christian fellowship and brotherhood.

The luncheon was a sumptuous one in every respect. The Rector took the head of the table, and the Rev. J. C. Maltby, the Rector of Aspley Guise, faced him, while Mrs. Baker and Mr. W. W. C. Baker, similarly officiated at the second table, the Misses Baker, too, graced the company by their presence, doing all in their power to imprint happiness and enjoyment among the assembled guests.

After the luncheon, the company wended their way to the parish church, where there is an excellent ring of six bells, a new tenor bell having been supplied by Messrs. Taylor, in 1882. Ringing being the order of the day, the bells were spiritedly kept going till seven o'clock, and among the touches were 120 of Grandsire Doubles, two 720's of Bob Minor, and 720 of Oxford Treble Bob Minor, the particulars of which will be found more fully in another column. An adjournment to the Rectory followed, and tea was liberally supplied at the same tables as the previous luncheon. Handbell ringing on the lawn was then indulged in, some Grandsire Caters and Oxford Treble Bob Major being struck by the practitioners.

Mr. C. Herbert, Hon. Sec., on behalf of the Association, briefly returned thanks to the Rector, Mrs. Baker, and family, for the very kind and hospitable reception which had been given to the ringers that day; this was seconded by Mr. I. Hills of Bedford, who wished Mr. W. W. C. Baker God-speed in his new sphere, and heartily and unanimously acquiesced in by all who had taken part in what may be called one of the pleasantest of the most pleasant gatherings of the Bedfordshire Association.

THE ART IN DEVON.

We cull the following extracts from a Devonshire paper:—

ATHERINGTON.—On Thursday evening last, the Highbickington Ringers performed for one hour and twenty minutes on the bells of St. Mary's, ringing 720 changes in most excellent style. It is the opinion of experienced campanologists that the ringing of these young men was of a very high character, and that not many sets could equal, and very few excel them in it. Subjoined are the names:—George Pedler (treble), John Cole (second), Harry Clements (third), James Goodwin (fourth), Samuel Cole (fifth), Charles Goodwin (tenor).

MERTON.—Some very good round ringing, the striking of which was remarked to be very clear and distinct, was heard from the old Parish Church tower on Sunday. 1st, Mr. Samuel Dicker, 2nd, Arthur Trickey, 3rd, Mr. W. Denford, 4th, Mr. W. Trickey, 5th, Mr. W. Heywood, while the tenor was exceedingly well-managed by Mr. Thomas Trickey. R. Dicker and Mr. Jas. Sanders also rendered valuable assistance.

MUFFLED PEAL AT PENZANCE, CORNWALL.

On Sunday, May 25th, at St. Mary's church, touches of 882, 559, and 336 Grandsire Triples were rung with the bells half-muffled, as a tribute of respect to the memory of a former member of the Society, William Henry Dale, who had recently emigrated to South Adelaide, where he succumbed to an attack of typhoid fever, on the 21st of March, at the early age of 24. The deceased rang the 4th bell on the occasion of this Society's ringing the first 5040 in Cornwall, on the 4th of June last year.

THE ST. JAMES'S SOCIETY, LONDON.

On Wednesday, May 21st, a numerous company of members of this society were entertained by the Rev. J. Lindsay, D.D., F.R.H.S., to dinner at their meeting-house, "The Shakespeare," in Wych Street, Strand. The rev. gentleman, who is the respected Rector of St. Clement Danes (the head quarters of the above society), presided, supported by the Rev. J. G. Harrison, M.A. (an intimate friend of the Rector's), J. M. Routh, Esq., and F. Rowney, Esq. Mr. Churchwarden Poole was also present.

It is known to many of our London readers that for some time past practice at St. Clement's has been almost entirely suspended, but through the Rector's energetic support and kindness, it has again been resumed. And we should be glad to hear that numbers of the most renowned of London ringers made it a point to periodically attend, and thus restore this society to the high and honourable position it formerly enjoyed.

After the removal of the cloth, the evening was spent in a very sociable manner. Mr. Rowbotham played an overture on the piano-forte; Mr. Newton indulged the company with a recitation; and several touches on the handbells were rung. Several toasts were proposed, among which were "The Health of the Rector and Mrs. Lindsay, and family." In responding, the Rector expressed his desire to assist the society in any way in which it was possible for him to do so. Mr. Routh proposed a vote of thanks to the Rector for his timely aid in saving the society from an impending collapse, and his generous disposition in bringing about such a pleasant evening together. This was received with enthusiasm, the members expressing a wish that the Rector may be spared many years to minister among them.

BOURTON-ON-THE-WATER, GLOUCESTERSHIRE.

A correspondent writes:—"Having received an invitation to visit, along with my brother-ringers, the parish church of Bourton-on-the-Water, I, like other ringers, enquired of the local party if ever they had seen 'THE BELL NEWS.' The answer was—'What is it like?' so I took a copy from my pocket, and gave them, and I hope they will become permanent subscribers; I have been so from the commencement. In the belfry is a tablet and some lines on a cardboard, copies of which, together with the inscriptions on the bells, I send you for publication."

INSCRIPTIONS ON THE BELLS OF BOURTON-ON-THE-WATER CHURCH:—

- 1.—"Treble.—"Anthony Collett, Gent. My great Benefactor, A.R. 1718."
- 2.—"William Akerman & Richard Fox Churchwardens A.R. 1737."
- 3.—"Thomas Lambert & Joseph Payne, Churchwardens A.R. 1717."
- 4.—"Giles Venfield, Anthony Collett and William Fox, Overseers L. A. V. 1750."
- 5.—"Charles and John Rudhal Fecit 1785."

Tenor.—(No Inscription).

Grandsire Bob was rung in Bourton on the Water Tower February 10th, 1849 by

J. Berry ... 1st.	T. Mosen ... 4th.
D. Day ... 2nd.	D. Hall ... 5th.
J. Palmer ... 3rd.	G. Hall ... 6th.

The peal consist of 16 bobs, 42 dozes and two singles.
The Peal conducted by T. Mosen.

Whosoever will practice to play on these strings,
Must these orders observe amongst other things;
He that rings with his hat, boots, spurs on likewise,
To the sexton shall pay twopence exercise;
For Smoking tobacco, and drinking of drinks;
To the Sexton shall pay a Sixpence in chinks;
He that is heard to curse are to swear,
Shall twelve pence among the company share;
He also that does a bell overthrow,
A Groat to the Sexton shall pay are he go.
And he that will not to these orders attain,
Let him never come again to practice again.
1793

CHRIST CHURCH AND ST. ANDREW'S SOCIETY, BATH.

DURING the month of June there will be meetings for ringing practice as follows: at Christ Church, Wednesdays 4th and 18th insts.; at St. Andrew's church, Wednesdays 11th and 25th insts. Time of meeting 7.30 p.m.

On Whit-Sunday, there will be morning ringing at St. Andrew's from 6 till 7, and at Christ Church from 7.15 till 8.

THE OXFORD UNIVERSITY SOCIETY.

The officers for this term are:—

Master: J. R. VINCENT (St. John's).
Secretary: G. WYNNE (Brasenose).

Any changes of address of Honorary or Life members since the last report should be sent to the Secretary without delay.

THE CHRONOLOGY OF CHANGE-RINGING.—(Continued.)

By F. W. J. REES,

A Member of the Ancient Society of College Youths.

- 1797.—The ring at All Saints', Newcastle-on-Tyne, opened with a peal of Grandsire Triples.
- 1798.—A new ring of twelve at St. Chad's, Shrewsbury, original tenor 34 cwt., afterwards changed for one 41 cwt. A new ring of ten at St. Peter's, Sheffield. Ringers of Great Tey, Essex, rang 5120 Treble Bob Major. Leeds (Yorkshire) ringers rang Caters on the new ring of ten at St. Peter's. Cumberlands rang at Edmonton a peal of Court Treble Bob Eight in.
- 1799.—Cumberlands rang a peal of Stedman Triples at St. Giles-in-the-Fields, composed by J. Noonan, and called from mss., perhaps the first true peal rung in the method. Ringers of Sheffield, Yorkshire, rang a peal of Grandsire Caters. Shrewsbury ringers rang 6006 Grandsire Cinques. Ringers of Bury St. Edmunds, Suffolk, rang a peal of Grandsire Triples on the ring of eight at St. Mary's. Ringers of Bradford, Wilts, rang a peal of Grandsire Triples. Ringers of King's Sutton, Northants, rang Bob Major.
- 1800.—The *Clavis* again reprinted. Ringers of Soham, Cambs., rang a peal of Imperial. Ringers of Chesterfield, Derbyshire, rang Grandsire Triples. Cumberlands rang 10,112 Treble Bob Major at Edmonton; this cut the 10,080 rung at Norwich in 1727. Shrewsbury ringers rang 5000 Treble Bob Royal at St. Chad's. A new ring of eight at Trowbridge, Wilts. Liverpool ringers rang a peal of Grandsire Triples at St. Peter's.
- 1801.—A mixed band at Christ Church, Spitalfields, rang 5040 Double Norwich Court Bob Royal. Cumberlands 5220 do., at St. Leonard's, the longest length in the method. Caters at Kingston, Surrey, by College Youths. Triples at Leighton Buzzard, Beds., by College Youths. Triples at Cranbrook, Kent, by College Youths.
- 1802.—Cumberlands rang 7104 Treble Bob Maximus, at St. Saviour's, Southwark, single-handed; Marlton at tenor, 52 cwt. The ring at Melton Mowbray increased to eight.
- 1803.—Cumberlands rang 5200 Treble Bob Royal, on Bow bells, single-handed; Marlton at tenor, 53 cwt. Ringers of Kingston, Surrey, rang 10,386 Grandsire Caters. Mr. G. Gross, sen., of the Cumberlands, died. A peal of Stedman Triples at Kensington, by College Youths. The ring at St. Ebbe's, Oxford, increased to eight, tenor 5 cwt. This was the lightest ring of eight; since reduced to six. The ring at St. Mary's, Whittlesea, Cambs., increased to eight.
- 1804.—Cumberlands rang 7104 Treble Bob Maximus, at Christ Church, Spitalfields, single-handed, Marlton at tenor. Ringers of Chelmsford, Essex, rang Treble Bob Major.
- 1805.—Cumberlands rang 6129 Stedman Caters at St. Leonard's, Shoreditch. The ring at Mottram, Cheshire, increased to eight. The Westminster Youths rang Grandsire Triples at St. George's, Southwark.
- 1806.—First peal on the bells at Waltham Abbey, Essex, by Cumberlands. 6334 Stedman Cinques, at Christ Church, Spitalfields, by do.
- 1807.—The ring of St. Leonard's, Shoreditch, increased to twelve. Ringers of Saffron Walden, Essex, rang 6832 Bob Major. The Coventry ringers rang Bob Royal. The ringers of Oldham, Lancashire, rang 15,120 Bob Major. A new ring of ten at Great Yarmouth, Norfolk. Another edition of the *Clavis* in this year, or later.
- 1808.—The ring at Soham, Cambs., increased to ten. Shrewsbury ringers rang 10,097 Grandsire Caters, at St. Chad's. The ringers of Newcastle-on-Tyne rang Grandsire Triples. A new ring of eight at St. John's, Peterborough.
- 1809.—First peal on Enfield bells by Junior Cumberlands. Mr. Henry Johnson born at Lichfield. The Isleworth Youths rang a peal of Grandsire Triples.
- 1810.—A new ring of eight at St. Austell, Cornwall. The Crypt Society, Gloucester, rang a peal of Grandsire Triples.
- 1811.—The ringers of Bungay, Suffolk, rang Bob Major. Ipswich ringers rang Bob Major on the old eight at St. Mary's. The ringers of Keighley, Yorkshire, rang 5376 Cambridge Surprise Major. This peal turned out to be false. Shrewsbury ringers rang Caters on St. Mary's bells, increased to ten. The ring at Lavenham, Suffolk, increased to eight. The ringers of Staveley, Derbyshire, rang Treble Bob Major. Sheffield ringers rang a peal of Treble Bob Major on handbells; probably the first ever rung in hand.
- 1812.—Borden Union Youths, Kent, rang 10,080 Bob Major. James Barham, aged 88, rang his last peal—Bob Major.
- 1813.—A new ring of twelve at St. Nicholas, Liverpool. The ringers of Chelmsford, Essex, rang Bob Major. The ringers of Faversham, Kent, rang Bob Major. The ringers of Lavenham, Suffolk, rang Bob Major. The ringers of Keighley, Yorkshire, rang 11,080 Kent Treble Bob Major. The ringers of Ormskirk, Lancashire, rang Grandsire Triples. The ringers of Romford, Essex, rang Bob Major.
- 1814.—The tenor of St. Peter's, Norwich, split and recast. The Birmingham ringers rang 5020 Grandsire Royal; first peal in the method.
- 1814.—The ringers of Boxford, Suffolk, rang Bob Major. A mixed band at Otley, Yorkshire, rang 12,320 Treble Bob Major. Eleven men rang, and another conducted. A peal at East Grinstead, Sussex, by College Youths. A peal at Hammersmith by do. The ring at Wooburn, Bucks, increased to eight. The ring at Framsdon, Suffolk, increased to eight. The ring at Ashby-de-la-Zouch, Leicestershire, increased to eight. The Bristol ringers rang Grandsire Caters at St. Nicholas.
- 1815.—Birmingham ringers rang at Aston 6000 Grandsire Royal, the longest length in the method. A new ring of eight at Helmingham, Suffolk. The ringers of Stowmarket, Suffolk, rang Bob Major. At Oxford, New College, 10,008 Grandsire Caters, by the Junior Cumberlands; Jonathan Pavier rang the 9th. Norwich ringers rang Double Norwich Court Bob Major at St. Miles. A peal at All Hallows, Barking, by College Youths. Do. at Cuckfield, Sussex, by do. Folkestone (Kent) ringers rang Bob Major; first peal on the bells. The ring of ten at St. Michael's, Macclesfield, reduced to eight. Brighton ringers rang Grandsire Triples at St. Nicholas. Wath-upon-Deane, Yorkshire fourteen 720s of Minor. Darton, Yorks., fifteen 720s of Minor. Worcester ringers rang 8081 Grandsire Caters, at All Saints.
- 1816.—Painswick ringers rang 10,278 Grandsire Caters. The *Campanologia, or Universal Instructor in the Art of Ringing*, by William Shipway. The Canterbury ringers rang Grandsire Triples, second peal on the bells. Bristol ringers rang a peal of Grandsire Caters, more than 10,278. Painswick ringers rang 6440 Bob Royal. The ring at Kendal, Westmoreland, increased to ten. The ringers of Newark, Notts., rang Grandsire Triples. Wath, Yorks., 15,120, or twenty-one 720s of Minor; a wonderful work.
- 1817.—Painswick ringers rang 12,312 Grandsire Caters, in 7 hrs. 44 mins., the longest length in the method. Gravesend ringers rang 6000 Double London Court Bob Major, the longest length in the method. Norwich ringers rang 5016 Double Court Bob Maximus, tenor double-handed; first and only peal in the method. Redenhall ringers rang 6000 Bob Major. Saffron Walden (Essex), ringers rang 5040 Double Norwich Court Major. Ringers of Aylsham, Norfolk, rang Bob Major. The Society at Appleton, Berks., established. The ringers of Hythe, Kent, rang Bob Major. A new ring of eight at the parish church, Stockport, Cheshire.
- 1818.—The first peals of Treble Bob Royal ever rung in the west of England, at Stroud and Painswick, by Cumberlands.

"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.

Everything for insertion in this Journal to be addressed "The Editor of THE BELL NEWS, Walthamstow, London." Letters forwarded for publication, and performances under 5000 changes must reach us not later than Wednesday morning; and the insertion of any communication coming later than the first Postal delivery on Thursday morning cannot be guaranteed in that week's number. When it is found impossible from want of space to insert all touches forwarded, the earlier ones will have the preference.

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.

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

J. BARRATT (Eccles).—We are awaiting the completion of your letter.

The Bell News & Ringers' Record.

SATURDAY, MAY 31, 1884.

WE have received from several hands a considerable quantity of correspondence on the position of affairs at Reading, a comment upon which, as our readers may remember, appeared in our last issue. We have now before us more extended information, but after a careful review of the whole of the circumstances, we cannot find grounds from altering to any great extent the opinions expressed in our article of last week.

In justice, however, to the St. Laurence Society, we hasten to state that, instead of closing their tower altogether to the Oxford Diocesan Guild, as was asserted at the meeting, they have now come to an arrangement by which it will be open for practice to the Guild at regular intervals. This conclusion has been arrived at since the meeting; but although this is a step in the right direction, we are sorry to be unable to find little prospect of a full, complete, and satisfactory reconciliation between the Guild and the society.

We are assured of what we already knew, viz.: that the St. Laurence's Society are doing a good work in connection with their own church. Is it not a great pity that they cannot unite their forces with the Diocesan Guild, and thus greatly extend the field of their valuable operations? Would not such a combination be for the mutual interest and credit of both? Personally, we should feel honoured by a connection with a Guild or Association in which the present Master of the Oxford Diocesan Guild occupied a similar position. We cannot suppose that a spirit of rivalry has anything to do with the matter. Ringers and ringing have suffered so much in the past from friendly rivalry—we italicise the adjective—rivalry which has produced very little practical good, and in many cases altogether killed anything like Church work, that we are sure no one could desire a repetition of it, on however small a scale.

Among our correspondence this week is a letter from the Secretary of the St. Lawrence's Society. This letter has unfortunately got mislaid. We recollect some of its contents, however. That gentleman informs us that his society are merely within their rights in refusing to join the Guild. Granted: but when men standing on their mere rights create an offence, however trifling, they must expect to incur criticism.

We should be very sorry indeed to do anything to discourage a young band like the St. Laurence's Society of Reading, who appear to practice the art with assiduity, as our reports this week testify; much less to do anything which may lead to permanent irritation. Their social status being what it is renders them and their actions more liable to notice and criticism. They will not deny the existence of some unhealthy excitement which needs removal; and we ask them, as Churchmen, to attempt its abolition, even if it involves some amount of self-denial. With all respect, we cannot help thinking that if they had more experience; if they were in a position to look upon ringing affairs generally, as we do, from a comprehensive point of view; they would be among the first to see how necessary—especially in country towns, where the number of ringers is small—is complete unity; and they would oppose, in even stronger language than ours, any course of action which had the slightest tendency to engender discord and ill-feeling. We sincerely hope that more recent events, a knowledge of which has come to us while writing, may be an omen of good for the fortunes of ringing in the town of Reading.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

A ringing meeting was held on Saturday, May 24th, at Church Kirk, near Accrington. Members were present from Padiham, Blackburn, and Accrington, in addition to the local ringers. Various touches of Plain Bob Minor and Grandsire Minor were rung during the day by various mixed bands. A 720 of Plain Bob was rung in 26 mins. by Jas. Horrocks (conductor), 1; W. Chatterton, 2; Hy. Hayes, 3; Jas. Pickles, 4; Wm. Pattinson, 5; Thos. Horrocks, 6. Tenor 15½ cwt.

The thanks of the Association are hereby tendered to the Vicar for his kindness in allowing the Association the use of the bells, and to the local ringers for the arrangements made for the comfort of the visitors.

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

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION OF SIX BELL RINGERS.

THE ANNUAL MEETING of the above Association will be held at Preston on Whit-Saturday, June 7th. The bells of St. Mark's Church will be open for ringing from one o'clock. Tea in St. Mark's school at 4 o'clock, members free, after which the general meeting will be held.

JOHN HIGSON, Secretary.
Deotson Terrace, Blackrod.

SPALDING (Lincolnshire).—On Wednesday, May 14th, at SS. Mary and Nicholas, a 720 of Plain Bob. G. Skeef, 1; J. Wilson, 2; G. L. Richardson, 3; R. Mackman (conductor), 4; E. Brown, 5; R. Sharp (Bourn), 6. Also on Thursday, May 22nd, being Ascension Day, at 7 a.m., a 720 of Yorkshire Court Bob. J. S. Wright, 1; J. Wilson, 2; G. L. Richardson, 3; R. Mackman (conductor), 4; G. Brown, 5; J. Brown, 6. Also on Saturday, May 24th, being the Queen's Birthday, at 7 a.m., a 720 of Plain Bob. J. S. Wright, 1; J. Wilson, 2; G. Skeef, 3; R. Mackman, 4; E. Brown, 5; G. L. Richardson (conductor), 6.

BRIGHTLING, SUSSEX.

Among the endless varieties of bell inscriptions found in different parts of England, it is not often that we come across anything so unique as those at Brightling, Sussex. The back six bells were cast in 1815, to commemorate the six victories then achieved by the Duke of Wellington, and the two trebles we added in 1818 to commemorate the battle of Waterloo. The bells are thus inscribed:—

- Treble*.—"WATERLOO.—T. Mears of London Fecit 1818."
 2nd.—"WATERLOO.—This peal of bells was completed Anno Domini 1818 at the expense of John Fuller Esq. T. Mears of London Fecit."
 3rd.—"TALLAVERA.—The Revd I.B. Hayley, Rector; Mr. James Bass and Mr. Henry Hoad Ch: Wardens. T. Mears of London fecit 1815."
 4th.—"SALAMANCA.—T. Mears of London Fecit 1815."
 5th.—"VITTORIA.—T. Mears of London Fecit 1815."
 6th.—"PYRENEES.—T. Mears of London Fecit 1815."
 7th.—"ORTHES.—T. Mears of London Fecit 1815."
Tenor.—"TOULOUSE.—The five bells recast and a new treble added at the expense of John Fuller, Esq., late member for the county, Anno Domini 1815. In honour of the illustrious Duke of Wellington, his last six victories are here recorded. T. Mears of London fecit."

The tenor weighs about 14 cwt.

ACTON (SUFFOLK) BELLS.

Acton is a quiet and small village three miles north-east from Sudbury, one from Long Melford, and near the river Stour. The church of All Saints has a low tower, which contains a peal of five bells, hanging in an unringable condition, bearing the following inscriptions:

- Treble*.—"John Thornton made me 1716."
 2nd.—"Myles Graye made me 1657 Nicholas Kerrington."
 3rd.—"Myles Graye made me 1663."
 4th.—"Thomas Gardiner fecit. 1747."
Tenor.—"Myles Graye made me 1685."
 "God save the King."

The Provinces.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS, AND THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION. IPSWICH, SUFFOLK.

On Saturday, May 24, 1884, in Three Hours and Thirty-nine Minutes,

AT ST. MARY-LE-TOWER CHURCH,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERS, 5079 CHANGES; Tenor 32 cwt.

JAMES MOTTS	<i>Treble</i> .	HENRY BOWELL	6.
WILLIAM L. CATCHPOLE ..	2.	EZRA CARTER	7.
EDGAR PEMBERTON	3.	SAMUEL TILLET	8.
WILLIAM MOTTS	4.	ROBERT HAWES	9.
ISAAC S. ALEXANDER	5.	ROBERT H. BRUNDLE ..	<i>Tenor</i> .

Composed and conducted by WILLIAM L. CATCHPOLE.

This peal was rung in honour of the Queen's Birthday.

This is the first peal in the method ever rung in the county, and the first by the Association or any of the band.

Mr. Carter hails from London, the rest belong to Ipswich.

THE ST. LAURENCE'S SOCIETY. READING.

On Saturday, May 24, 1884, in Three Hours and Ten Minutes,

AT ST. LAURENCE'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES; HOLT'S TEN-PART. Tenor 24 cwt. in Eb.

WILLIAM H. HOLLOWAY† ..	<i>Treble</i> .	WILLIAM JOHNSON	5.
WILLIAM J. WILLIAMS	2.	ERNEST BISHOP	6.
W. R. POCCOCK* (aged 18) ..	3.	WILLIAM NEWELL	7.
JOSEPH E. WILLSHIRE	4.	WILLIAM GOSELTINE ..	<i>Tenor</i> .

Conducted by WILLIAM J. WILLIAMS.

*First peal. †First peal with the treble, having previously rung the tenor.

The above peal was rung in honour of Her Majesty's birthday.

SPALDING, LINCOLNSHIRE.

On Saturday, May 24, 1884, in Three Hours and Seven Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF SS. MARY AND NICHOLAS,

5100 CHANGES: IN EIGHT DIFFERENT METHODS, AS FOLLOWS:—

60 Double Court Bob; 720 Yorkshire Court Bob; 720 Kent Treble Bob; 720 College Single; 720 Oxford Treble Bob; 720 London Single; 720 Oxford Bob; 720 Plain Bob. Tenor 18 cwt.

J. S. WRIGHT	<i>Treble</i> .	R. MACKMAN	4.
J. WILSON	2.	E. BROWN	5.
G. L. RICHARDSON	3.	J. BROWN	<i>Tenor</i> .

Conducted by RICHARD MACKMAN.

The above 5100 was rung in honour of Canon Moore's birthday, and was listened to by Canon and Mrs. Moore, and Rev. B. Matthews with great interest. After the peal the ringers were invited to the vicarage, to drink Canon and Mrs. Moore's health, who made the ringers a present, and congratulated them on their success.

SHEFFIELD.

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

On Monday, May 26, 1884, in Two Hours and Fifty-Nine Minutes,

AT ALL SAINTS' CHURCH,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES; BROOK'S VARIATION. Tenor 15 cwt.

CHAS. HY. HATTERSLEY ..	<i>Treble</i> .	SAMUEL SEED*	5.
JOSEPH ROWLEY*	2.	JOHN MULLIGAN	6.
JOSEPH MULLIGAN	3.	THOMAS HATTERSLEY ..	7.
CHARLES BOWER	4.	WILLIAM SMITHSON* ..	<i>Tenor</i> .

Conducted by THOMAS HATTERSLEY.

*First peal in the method.

Date Touches.

THE HERTFORD COLLEGE YOUTHS.

HERTFORD.—On Saturday, May 24th, at All Saints' church, in honour of Her Majesty's Birthday, a date touch of Grandsire Triples (1884 changes), in 1 hr. 7 mins. Stephen Knight, 1; William L. Randall, 2; James Staples, 3; Herbert Baker (conductor), 4; Jasper G. Crawley, 5; John Godfrey, 6; Thomas Gathard 7; Frederick George, 8. Composed by Mr. J. Carter, of Birmingham. Tenor 22 cwt.

STAFFORD.—On Tuesday evening, May 13th, at St. Mary's Church, eight members of the Stafford society rang 1884 changes of Grandsire Triples containing sixty-six bobs and twenty-four singles in 1 hr. 11 mins. T. Cartwright, 1; W. Micklewright, 2; W. Follows, 3; R. Perry, senr., 4; S. Thompson, 5; T. Perry (composer and conductor), 6; J. Follows, 7; W. C. Hall, 8. Tenor 20 cwt. in F.

Miscellaneous.

THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

EVERSHOLT (Beds).—On Saturday, May 24th, being the Queen's Birthday, a 720 of Bob Minor, in 28 mins. M. Warwick (Bedford), 1; W. Clarke (Bromham; conductor), 2; W. E. Turney (Woburn), 3; W. Chibnal (Aspley Guise), 4; W. W. C. Baker, Esq. (Eversholt), 5; J. N. Frossell (Bedford), 6. Also another 720 of Bob Minor. J. Carwell-Cooke (Aspley Guise), 1; Chas. Herbert (Woburn), 2; W. Hall (Elstow), 3; Mark Lane (Aspley Guise), 4; J. Adkins (Elstow), 5; W. Biggs (Bromham), 6. Also a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob Minor. S. J. Cullip (Bedford), 1; C. Stafferton (Bromham), 2; *W. E. Turney (Woburn), 3; Isaac Hills (Bedford), 4; J. Adkins (Elstow), 5; C. Clarke (Bromham; conductor), 6. *First 720 in the method. This is the first in the method on the bells. Tenor 17½ cwt.

THE BIRMINGHAM AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATION.

HARBORNE (Staffordshire).—On Monday, May 26th, a 720 of Grandsire Minor, at the parish church, in 25 mins. G. Farmer, 1; W. Baldwin, 2; H. Smith, 3; E. Boylin, 4; T. Lewis, 5; E. Bryant (conductor), 6. Tenor 12 cwt.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

STOCKTON-ON-TEES.—On Saturday, May 24th, the bells of the parish church were rung in honour of Her Majesty's Birthday, the requisite funds being subscribed by a number of gentlemen in the town. During the day five 720's of Minor were rung in the methods of Double Court Bob, Oxford Bob, Oxford Treble Bob, Kent Treble Bob, and Evening Exercise Treble Bob. The ringers who took part in the above were: T. Burdon, G. J. Clarkson, H. E. T. Glover, B.A., W. Newton, T. Stephenson, W. Stephenson, T. Whitfield, and T. W. Waller, who rang his first 720 of Oxford Treble Bob.

NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.—On Thursday, May 22nd, being Ascension Day, after Divine Service in the evening at the Church of St. John the Baptist, a 720 of Bob Minor, on the back six, in 28 mins. C. L. Routledge, 1; F. Lees, 2; E. Wallis (St. Stephen's) 3; W. Bowes (first 720), 4; W. Story, 5; R. S. Story (conductor), 6. Also on Monday, May 26th, for practice, a 720 of Bob Major. W. Bowes, 1; C. L. Routledge, 2; W. Egglestone, 3; F. Lees, 4; W. G. Routledge, 5; T. J. Des Forges, 6; W. Story, 7; R. S. Story (conductor), 8. And 960 of Kent Treble Bob Major, in 37 mins. G. Campbell, 1; F. Lees, 2; W. Egglestone, 3; C. L. Routledge, 4; R. S. Story, 5; H. Thompson (Hurworth-on-Tees), 6; W. Story, 7; W. G. Routledge (conductor), 8. Tenor 12½ cwt.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

REDENHALL (Norfolk).—On Saturday, May 24th, it being the Queen's Birthday, the local company celebrated the day in their fashion. They began by ringing twelve courses of Double Norwich Court Bob, and during the rest of the day rang touches in different methods: Grandsire and Stedman Triples, Superlative Surprise, Oxford and Kent Treble Bob, and Bob Major, being seven different methods altogether. The following took part in the ringing: Edward Smith, George Prime, William Sheldrake, William Matthews, James Tann, Robert Whiting, George Mobbs, John Bentley, John Smith, and Captain Moore.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

WOKINGHAM (Berks).—On Tuesday, May 27th, at St. Paul's church, the local company rang a 720 of Grandsire Minor, on the front six with the 7th and 8th covering, in 30 mins. H. Houlton, 1; W. Taylor, 2; T. Harvey, 3; T. Houlton, 4; C. Page, 5; W. Houlton (conductor), 6; J. Heffer, 7; C. Fulker, 8. All are members of the Sonning Deanery branch of the above Guild. It was their first 720 in the method, and the striking was particularly good.

THE ST. JAMES'S SOCIETY.

LONDON.—On Sunday, May 25th, for Divine Service in the evening at the church of St. Clement Danes, Strand, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Caters (1439 changes), in 1 hr. 3 mins. J. Waghorn, jun. (aged 15 years), 1; H. Langdon, 2; F. G. Newman, 3; G. T. McLaughlin, 4; E. F. Strange, 5; J. Waghorn, sen., 6; E. Rogers, 7; M. Routh, Esq., 8; H. J. Tucker (conductor), 9; D. Newton, 10. This touch, which was composed by H. Hubbard, has the 6th the extent behind the 9th. Tenor 24 cwt.

STOKE-UPON-TRENT ARCHIDIACONAL ASSOCIATION.

NORTON-LE-MOORS.—On Monday, May 12th, a 720 of Oxford Bob Minor, in 26½ mins. W. Holdcroft, 1; E. Glover, 2; John Morton, 3; J. W. Brough, 4; Jas. Baddeley, 5; G. Walker (conductor), 6.

WORCESTER AND ADJOINING DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

NETHERTON (Worcestershire).—On Saturday, May 24th, five members of the local company with G. H. Pagett, of Stourbridge, rang at St. Andrew's church, a 720 of Grandsire Minor, in 27 mins, in honour of the Queen's Birthday. F. Hotchkiss, 1; J. Townsend, 2; J. Smith (conductor), 3; J. Robinson, 4; G. H. Pagett, 5; J. Prestidge, 6. Tenor 12½ cwt.

BRISTOL.—On Monday, May 19th, at Christ Church, Broad Street, by the kind permission of the Rector and Churchwardens, a 840 of Grandsire Triples. G. Hunt, 1; J. Davies, 2; C. Thomas, 3; T. Salter (conductor), 4; R. Knill, 5; J. Parish, 6; J. Brain, 7; H. Tuckler, 8. This is the greatest length that Mr. Parish has yet rung.

ALDFORD (Cheshire).—On Sunday, Dec. 29th, 1881, 720 of College Single, in 27 mins. J. Basnett, 1; T. Basnett, 2; W. Manning, 3; J. Manning, 4; C. Thomas, 5; S. Manning, 6. Also on December 30th, 720 Kent Treble Bob, in 26 mins. C. Manning, 1; T. Basnett, 2; S. Manning, 3; J. Manning, 4; C. Thomas, 5; W. Manning, 6. Also on January 3rd, 1882, a 720 of New London Pleasure, in 26 mins. S. Manning, 1; C. Manning, 2; T. Basnett, 3; J. Manning, 4; C. Thomas, 5; W. Manning, 6. Also on January 6th, 1882, 2160 of

Treble Bob, being a 720 of Violet, 720 Woodbine, 720 of Oxford, in 1 hr. 16 mins. S. Manning, 1; C. Manning, 2; T. Basnett, 3; J. Manning, 4; C. Thomas, 5; W. Manning, 6. Also the same evening a 720 of Plain Bob, in 27 mins., and 720 of Grandsire, in 26 mins. J. Basnett, 1; C. Manning, 2; W. Manning, 3; T. Basnett, 4; C. Thomas, 5; S. Manning, 6. Also on January 13th, 1882, a 720 of Duke of York Treble Bob, in 26 mins. S. Manning, 1; C. Manning, 2; T. Basnett, 3; J. Manning, 4; C. Thomas, 5; W. Manning, 6. Also the same evening, a 720 of London Single, in 27 mins., the band standing as above. Conducted by Charles Thomas. Tenor 14½ cwt. in F. The above performances have never yet been published.

EAST PECKHAM (Kent).—On Wednesday, May 21st, a 720 of Bob Minor, with thirty-two bobs and two singles, in 25 mins. G. Newmah, 1; G. Bishop, sen., 2; R. Bishop, 3; G. Bishop, jun., 4; F. G. Newman, 5; W. Eldridge (conductor), 6. Also another 720 in the same method, with nine bobs and six singles. J. Rogers, 1; R. Bishop, 2; W. Eldridge, 3; G. Bishop, 4; G. Newman, 5; F. G. Newman (conductor), 6. Tenor 16½ cwt.

FISHERTON-ANGER (Wilts).—On Monday, May 12th, a 720 of Bob Minor, in 30 mins. E. A. Foster, 1; C. A. Clements, 2; S. Smith, 3; T. Blackburn, 4; W. W. Gifford, 5; J. R. Jerram, 6. Tenor 12½ cwt.

GLEMSFORD (Suffolk).—On Saturday evening, May 17th, at St. Mary's church, a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob Minor, in 29½ mins. *Philip O. Bixby (Melford), 1; Z. Slater, 2; S. Slater, 3; O. Garwood, 4; C. W. Downs, 5; J. Slater (conductor), 6. *First 720 of Treble Bob.

HANDSWORTH (Staffordshire).—On Monday evening, May 26th, at the parish church, five members of the Holt Society, Aston, with Mr. W. Verry of Handsworth, rang a 720 of Grandsire Minor, in 27 mins. J. Sanders, 1; B. Wittchell, 2; A. Hales, 3; J. Benn, 4; W. Verry, 5; J. Plant (conductor), 6.

HIGHER SUTTON (Cheshire).—On Wednesday, May 22nd, for practice, a 360 of Kent Treble Bob Minor, conducted by William Ingham. And on Sunday, May 26th, for Divine Service in the morning, a 720 in the same method, in 26 mins. Wm. Walmsley (conductor), 1; Wm. H. Ingham, 2; W. J. Farrish, 3; J. M. Davenport, 4; Wm. Ingham, 5; Thos. Mottershead, 6. Also for Divine Service in the afternoon, a 360 of Grandsire Minor, with eighteen bobs, in 13 mins. And in the evening, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor, in 26 mins. Wm. Walmsley (conductor), 1; Wm. H. Ingham, 2; J. Holt, 3; Thos. Mottershead, 4; Wm. Ingham, 5; J. M. Davenport, 6. This is the first 720 in the method by James Holt. Also a 360 of Bob Minor, in 13 mins. Wm. H. Ingham (conductor), 1; Wm. Walmsley, 2; J. Holt, 3; J. M. Davenport, 4; Thos. Mottershead, 5; Wm. Ingham, 6. Messrs. Holt and Farrish hail from Macclesfield, two miles distant.

LOWMOOR (Yorkshire).—On Saturday, May 24th, four of the local company with four of their instructors from Liversedge, rang at Holy Trinity church, 2528 changes of Kent Treble Bob Major, in 1 hr. 33 mins. S. Pickard (Lowmoor), 1; A. Briggs (Liversedge), 2; A. Wilkinson (Lowmoor), 3; S. Goodall (Liversedge), 4; H. Brooke (Liversedge), 5; T. Briggs (Lowmoor), 6; L. Illingworth (Liversedge; conductor), 7; C. Dracup (Lowmoor), 8. Composed by William Sottanall, of Sowerby. Tenor 15 cwt. The longest length in the method by the Lowmoor ringers.

ST. ALBANS (Herts).—On Ascension Day, the Cathedral ringers rang for morning service, three 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles each called differently. T. Norman, 1; R. T. Kent, 2; E. Hulks, 3; G. W. Cartmel, 4; N. N. Hills (conductor), 5; H. Lewis, 6; F. B. Chandler, 7; H. L. Waddington, 8. After which, another 120 by the following. T. Grant (first 120), 1; R. A. Fowler (first 120 inside), 2; G. W. Cartmel, 3; H. Lewis, 4; N. N. Hills (conductor), 5; T. Norman, 6; H. L. Waddington, 7; E. Hulks, 8. (6,7,8, behind.) Tenor about 30 cwt. The ringers also rang morning and evening on the Queen's birthday.

RAUNDS (Northamptonshire).—On Sunday, May 25th, at St. Peter's church, for Divine Service in the morning, two 6-scores of Bob Doubles and a 360 of College Little, with nine bobs. A. Coles, 1; W. J. Gilbert, 2; H. Stubbs, 3; T. Stubbs, 4; F. Gilbert, 5; W. Hall (conductor), 6. Also for afternoon service, a 6-score of Grandsire Doubles, and a 6-score of Bob Doubles. Also for Divine Service in the evening, a 360 of Oxford Bob, with nine bobs. A. Coles, 1; J. Willmott, 2; W. Hall, 3; G. Kirk, 4; W. J. Gilbert, 5; H. Stubbs (conductor), 6. Also a 360 of London Single, with nine bobs. H. Stubbs, 1; J. Stubbs, 2; R. Pendered, 3; T. Stubbs, 4; W. J. Gilbert, 5; F. Gilbert (conductor), 6.

SALISBURY.—On Thursday, May 22nd, at St. Martin's church, it being Ascension Day, six 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles was rung by the local company.

THUMBNAIL SKETCHES.—XII.

WE believe that it was a celebrated Irishman who, in addressing a correspondent, first made use of the historical remark, "I write this to you with a sword in one hand and a pistol in the other." Personally we are not Irish, or should without doubt express our feelings in an equally forcible strain; for since the publication of these sketches we have been compelled to think seriously of applying for a bodyguard; and have actually given orders to our staff to at once join the volunteers. (This latter precaution furnishes us with weapons gratis).

It seems hard, very hard, that one cannot write about a certain old stoney ringer without all the ringers of that persuasion in the district making it a personal matter; yet it is so. In a thoughtless moment we indited a sketch of a individual (an imaginary one) who was, unhappily for his fellows, dumb; and now it would do one's heart good to hear the sigh of relief which pervades the atmosphere when we hear a visitor speak, and learn from his own lips that he is not the man alluded to. Formerly we could, conscious of our own probity, look a drunkard in the face with the stern unflinching eye of justice; but now our over-wrought imagination sees the phantom of revenge in every inebriated scarecrow who stumbles around in our neighbourhood. It is too much; human nature can bear such a state of things no longer, and in defence of this paper, in defence of our happy home and fireside, in defence of our pocket, aye, of our life even, we are compelled to bring these sketches to a conclusion.

We are sorry to have to take this step; sorry for more reasons than one. It would have been our pleasure to introduce to our readers many more of the eccentricities of ringing. We had our eye on a certain reverend gentleman, than whom no one could be more precise and particular as to what goes on downstairs, but whose steeple and ringing-chamber is a masterpiece of dirt and neglect. We are proud to know another who, being a ringer himself, has everything, both upstairs and down, in apple-pie order. But if we were to immortalise these in this paper, we should add the whole of the clergy to the ranks of our enemies, and who would live to tell the tale?

No! with tears in our—well, pen, we must say good-bye. Henceforth our friends must weep, our foes rejoice; the former because we can no longer gratify them by smiting the failings of their acquaintances, the latter because they are no longer to be smitten. Still, remember, there is a limit even to editorial silence. If anyone goads us to desperation, let him beware. While we have a drop of ink in our pen we will lash him with the whip of ridicule till he comes for us armed with a gun. Then we will retire, gracefully. Meanwhile we intend to emulate that "dumb, wise man" before spoken of, and keep silence.

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 DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION FOR ST. ALBAN'S.

SIR,—It was not my intention to have written to you again upon this subject, but after what appeared in your last issue I feel I cannot remain silent, as the matter requires a little explanation. In the first place, Mr. Keeble states that the carrying out of the above remote idea would benefit one corner of the county, and that alone. Now I must say that I cannot agree with him, for in my opinion the extension of the Association to Hertford would mean an additional support, which would become a permanent wealth to the Association, if not in the first year, it would eventually. That alone should do away with the notion of supplying another county with peal-books, &c. With regard to that part of Mr. Keeble's letter which refers to our non-attendance at the meeting held in 1879, and that those who did attend were left to surmise that our desire was to see if the Association would obtain a footing—and if so how it would work—before we went hand-in-hand to carry out its objects, these must have been post-prandial

ideas by those who imagined them. In the first place, we previously had arranged to visit Saffron Walden, which our company did. On receiving the circular from Mr. Seaman announcing the meeting for June 2nd, we immediately wrote to him to say who would join, and I was one among the number. My first receipt for payment of subscription is dated June, 1879, that being the time when the Association was founded (as per heading of Annual Report), therefore I claim to have been a member from the commencement. What I wish to convey is, that our names were sent to Mr. Seaman before Whit-Monday, 1879, and not held back until the result of the meeting was known. I well remember the discussion in 1880 upon the question of a Diocesan Association, and was sorry that such a decision was arrived at, but trust it may be reversed on Monday next. In 1881 I did say that my feelings were of a mixed nature, but I also stated that I had not seen any of those objectionable practices carried on in the county of Essex. With regard to belfry reform in Essex, the tone of Mr. Keeble's letter somewhat surprised me, for it is hardly consistent with the Annual Report of 1881-82. Last, but not least, is the want of justification of saying that what was done at West Ham was an injustice to those it concerns most, who were not present. This I cannot define to my satisfaction, for I consider that every member's interest should be considered, and that was and is my intention, for I will remind my friend that the resolution passed at West Ham was not one for taking action, but simply to express the opinion of the meeting, which was accomplished without opposition, and without any violation of the rules. So I fail to see where the injustice lies, as nothing can be done till the motion comes on at Chelmsford. I trust that I may meet my friend there that day in a happy frame of mind, so that we may then clear up what at present appears to be a misunderstanding.

Waltham Abbey, Essex.

W. A. ALPS.

"VARIETY IS CHARMING."

SIR,—On opening my "BELL NEWS" to-day, I was glad to see the report of another peal by the Saddleworth men. I have always had an idea that the men most likely to do justice to a ring of eight are those who have done well on six. Your readers will remember that this company rang a 5040 a short time ago in fourteen different Treble Bob Minor methods, and when we see the report of the third peal they have rung without assistance during the three mouths that has elapsed since their bells were opened as a ring of eight, one cannot help thinking that they are made of "ringing stuff." These three peals, however, are all in the Kent Treble Bob method, and the object of these few words is to warn this and other young companies against allowing themselves to drop into that one groove so prevalent in Yorkshire, viz.—competence in Kent, but Kent alone. What could be easier than for this company—whose skill in method ringing I have already alluded to—to tackle the Double Norwich, or any other method? I think, if the same tact and perseverance was brought to bear on any single eight-bell method, that is required to learn, and successfully accomplish fourteen six-bell methods, they would find themselves in a much higher position than many an older company. Let them look at what has been done at Burton-on-Trent.

May 17th.

OBSERVER.

P.S.—I don't want them to abandon the method I have named; let them get as many Treble Bob peals as they can, but let us have something else now and again.

INFORMATION WANTED.

SIR,—Could you or any readers of "THE BELL NEWS" inform me where a peal has been rung, or if ever, by a company so young as the peal rung at Earlsheaton on May 4th, 1884, which appeared in your issue of May 10th, by eight ringers who average about 20 years, composer included, and all natives of the town. I, as a lover of Campanology, think this performance a clever feat, and would like to know, if ever so young a company has had the same honour.

PROGRESSION.

ALDFORD, CHESHIRE.

The village of Aldford is situate five miles south of the city of Chester. The church is a new structure, built by the late Marquis of Westminster in 1867, with four bells, cast by Mears and Stainbank, of Whitechapel, London. In the year 1875 Messrs. Taylor, of Loughborough, added two trebles, and a very good splice that firm made of it. A company of ringers was formed in 1876, who have rung at various times both Grandsire and Stedman, and in 1881 they rang eight different methods of Treble Bob; in all 13,720 changes, in different methods.

BELFRY ACCIDENT AT ST. THOMAS'S, SALISBURY.—On the Queen's Birthday, May 24th, during the midday ringing, the clapper of the tenor, weighing about $\frac{3}{4}$ cwt., flew out with a tremendous crash, breaking part of the barrel chiming apparatus, so that the accustomed four changes could not be ground through on Sunday as usual.

TOUCHES OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR.

Collected and arranged by

THE REV. H. EARLE BULWER.

SERIES I.

TOUCHES OF LESS THAN 1000 CHANGES.

992.

Time 37 minutes.

In three courses.

The 6th home throughout.

2 3 4 5 6	M	B	W	H	2 3 4 5 6	M	B	W	H
2 4 5 3 6		I	2		3 6 4 5 2	I		2	
5 4 3 2 6		2	I		3 2 6 5 4	2		I	
2 3 4 5 6		2	2		2 3 4 5 6	2			2
2 3 4 5 6					2 3 4 5 6				
4 3 5 2 6		2	I		6 4 3 5 2	2		I	
4 5 2 3 6		I	2		6 2 4 5 3	I		2	
2 3 4 5 6	I		2	I	2 3 4 5 6	I			2

The 6th one course-end each way.

2 3 4 5 6	M	B	W	H	2 3 4 5 6	M	B	W	H
5 2 3 6 4			2		6 2 5 3 4	2		I	2
6 4 5 2 3	2		I		3 4 6 2 5	2		I	
2 3 4 5 6	I		2	2	2 3 4 5 6				2
2 3 4 5 6					2 3 4 5 6				
3 5 2 6 4					6 2 5 3 4	2		I	2
6 4 5 2 3	I		2	2	3 4 6 2 5	2		I	
2 3 4 5 6	I		2	2	2 3 4 5 6				2

In four courses.

2 3 4 5 6	M	B	W	H	2 3 4 5 6	M	B	W	H
6 3 2 5 4			I		3 5 2 6 4				
3 5 6 4 2					5 6 3 4 2				
3 5 4 2 6			I		6 4 3 5 2	I			
2 3 4 5 6	I				2 3 4 5 6	I			I

SERIES II.

TOUCHES OF OVER 1000, AND UNDER 1600 CHANGES.

1472.

Time 54½ minutes.

2 3 4 5 6	M	B	W	H	2 3 4 5 6	M	B	W	H
5 2 3 6 4	2		2	2	3 6 4 5 2	I			2
6 4 2 3 5	I		2	2	4 2 5 6 3	I		I	2
2 5 3 4 6	I		I	2	3 4 6 2 5	2		I	2
2 3 4 5 6			I	2	2 3 4 5 6	2			2
2 3 4 5 6					2 3 4 5 6				
2 4 5 3 6		I	2		2 3 4 5 6				
3 2 4 6 5	2		2	2	2 3 4 5 6				
Repeated.					2 3 4 5 6				
(or this variation.)					2 3 4 5 6				
2 3 4 5 6					2 3 4 5 6				
5 2 3 6 4	2		2	2	2 3 4 5 6				
5 3 6 2 4		I	2		2 3 4 5 6				
Repeated.					2 3 4 5 6				
2 3 4 5 6					2 3 4 5 6				
5 2 3 6 4			2		2 4 5 3 6	I		2	2
2 4 3 6 5	2		I	2	3 2 4 6 5	2		2	2
6 2 4 5 3	2		2	2	3 3 6 2 5	I		2	2
2 3 4 5 6	2		I	2	2 3 4 5 6				2

SERIES III.

TOUCHES OF OVER 1600 CHANGES.

2336.

Time 84½ minutes.

The first of these touches has the 6th the extent home in the reverse, the 5th.

2 3 4 5 6	M	B	W	H	2 3 4 5 6	M	B	W	H
3 2 6 5 4	2			2	3 6 4 5 2	2		I	2
2 4 6 5 3	I			2	6 2 4 5 3	I			2
3 5 6 4 2	I		I	I	4 2 5 6 3	I		I	I
5 3 2 4 6		I	2		5 3 6 2 4	I		I	2
5 2 4 3 6	I		2	2	5 6 2 3 4			I	2
5 4 3 2 6			I	2	3 2 6 5 4	2		2	2
2 3 4 5 6	I			2	2 3 4 5 6			I	2
2 3 4 5 6					2 3 4 5 6				
2 4 5 3 6	I		2	2	2 3 5 6 4			I	
2 5 3 4 6	I		2	2	3 2 4 6 5			I	2
3 5 4 2 6	I		I		2 5 4 6 3	2		I	2
2 3 5 6 4				2	5 3 4 6 2	2		I	2
3 2 4 6 5			I	2	6 5 3 2 4				2
3 4 6 2 5	I		2	2	5 4 3 2 6	2		I	2
2 3 4 5 6				2	2 3 4 5 6			I	2

2368.

Time 85½ minutes.

In eight courses.

The 6th the extent home at six course-ends. In the reverse, the 5th.

2 3 4 5 6	M	B	W	H	2 3 4 5 6	M	B	W	H
6 5 4 3 2	2		2	I	3 2 6 5 4			I	2
6 5 3 2 4			I		4 2 3 5 6			I	
5 4 3 2 6	I		2		2 4 6 5 3			I	2
4 2 3 5 6	I				3 4 2 5 6			I	
5 3 2 4 6	I		2		4 3 6 5 2			I	2
3 4 2 5 6	I				6 5 4 3 2			I	I
5 2 4 3 6	I		2		6 5 3 2 4			I	
2 3 4 5 6	I				2 3 4 5 6	2		2	

In nine courses.

The 6th four course-ends each way.

2 3 4 5 6	M	B	W	H
2 3 5 6 4				I
4 3 2 6 5				I
4 5 3 6 2			I	I
2 5 4 6 3			I	
2 5 6 3 4				I
5 3 2 4 6				
3 4 2 5 6	I			
5 2 4 3 6	I		2	
2 3 4 5 6	I			

2400.

Time 87 minutes.

In seven courses.

The 6th the extent home. The 6th the extent wrong.

2 3 4 5 6	M	B	W	H	2 3 4 5 6	M	B	W	H
5 2 3 6 4	2		2	2	3 5 2 6 4	2		2	
3 4 6 2 5	2		2	2	5 3 4 6 2			I	2
4 3 5 2 6	2		2		5 2 3 6 4	2			I
2 5 3 4 6	I		2		2 4 3 6 5	I			2
3 4 2 5 6		I	I		4 2 5 6 3			I	2
5 2 4 3 6			2	2	6 5 2 4 3			2	2
2 3 4 5 6	I				2 3 4 5 6	2		2	2
2 3 4 5 6					2 3 4 5 6				
5 2 3 6 4	2		2	2	5 2 3 6 4	2		2	2
2 4 3 6 5	2		I	2	2 4 3 6 5	I			2
5 4 6 3 2	2			I	4 5 3 6 2	I			2
3 5 4 2 6				2	5 4 2 6 3	2			2
2 4 5 3 6		2	2		5 4 6 3 2			I	
2 5 3 4 6		I	2		2 5 3 4 6			I	2
2 3 4 5 6			I	2	2 3 4 5 6	I			2

In nine courses.

The 6th home at six course-ends; in the reverse, the 5th.

2 3 4 5 6	M	B	W	H	2 3 4 5 6	M	B	W	H
3 5 4 2 6	I				3 5 2 6 4				
2 4 6 5 3	I		I		6 2 4 5 3	I		I	
2 4 5 3 6				I	6 3 2 5 4			I	I

Twice repeated.

2432.

Time 88 minutes.

In seven courses.

The 6th the extent home. The 4th the extent in 5ths.

2 3 4 5 6	M	B	W	H	2 3 4 5 6	M	B	W	H
5 2 3 6 4	2		2	2	3 2 6 5 4	2			2
2 4 3 6 5	I			2	3 6 5 2 4			I	2
6 3 4 2 5			2	2	2 3 6 4 5	2		2	2
3 5 4 2 6	I			2	3 5 6 4 2	2		I	2
2 4 5 3 6	I		2		5 2 6 4 3	I			2
2 5 3 4 6		I	2		2 5 3 4 6			I	2
2 3 4 5 6	I		2	2	2 3 4 5 6				I

The 5th the extent home.

2 3 4 5 6	M	B	W	H	2 3 4 5 6	M	B	W	H
3 2 6 5 4			I	2	3 6 4 5 2	I			2
2 4 6 5 3	2		I	2	4 6 5 3 2	I			I
3 5 6 4 2	2		2	I	5 2 3 6 4	2		2	2
5 3 2 4 6			I	2	5 3 6 2 4	I		2	2
5 2 4 3 6			I	2	2 6 3 5 4	I			2
5 4 3 2 6	I		2		6 2 4 5 3				2
2 3 4 5 6	I			2	2 3 4 5 6	I			2

In eight courses.

The 6th the extent home.

2 3 4 5 6	M	B	W	H	2 3 4 5 6	M	B	W	H
6 3 2 5 4			I		5 4 3 2 6	I			2
6 4 3 5 2			I	I	4 5 6 2 3			I	2
3 2 5 4 6	I		I	2	3 2 6 5 4	I		I	I
4 5 2 3 6	I			2	2 5 6 3 4	I			

Repeated.

2464.

Time 89½ mins.

The 6th the extent home. The 6th the extent wrong.

2 3 4 5 6	M	B	W	H	2 3 4 5 6	M	B	W	H
5 2 3 6 4	2		2	2	5 2 3 6 4	2		2	2
2 4 3 6 5	2		I	2	2 4 3 6 5	2		I	2
6 3 4 2 5	I			2	4 5 6 2 3	I			2
3 5 4 2 6	I			2	5 4 2 6 3			I	2
2 4 5 3 6	I		2		5 2 6 4 3			I	2
2 5 3 4 6		I	2		2 5 3 4 6			I	2
2 3 4 5 6	I		2	2	2 3 4 5 6	I		2	2
2 3 4 5 6					2 3 4 5 6				
3 2 6 5 4	2			2	5 4 3 2 6			2	2
2 4 6 5 3	2		I	2	4 5 6 2 3			I	2
3 5 6 4 2	2		2	I	5 3 6 2 4	2		I	2
5 3 2 4 6			I	2	3 4 6 2 5	I			2
5 2 4 3 6			I	2	6 4 2 3 5	I			I
5 4 3 2 6	I		2		2 5 3 4 6	2		2	2
2 3 4 5 6	I			2	2 3 4 5 6	I		2	2

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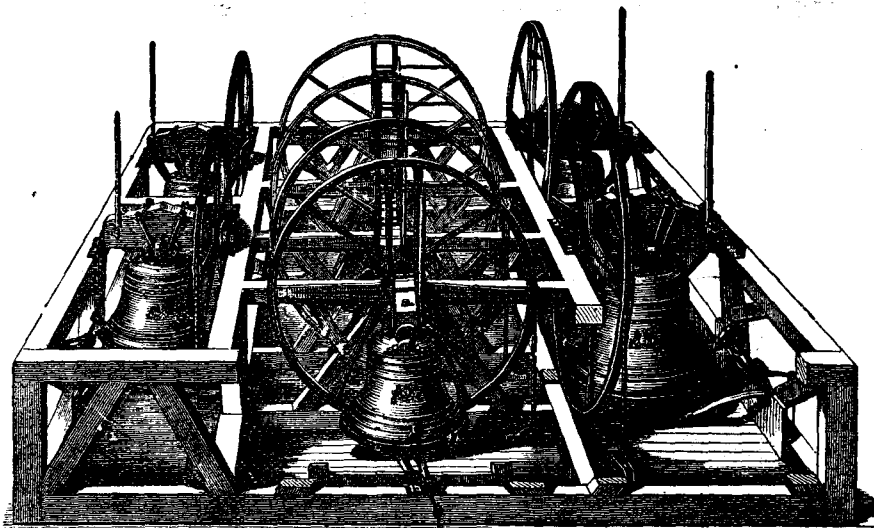
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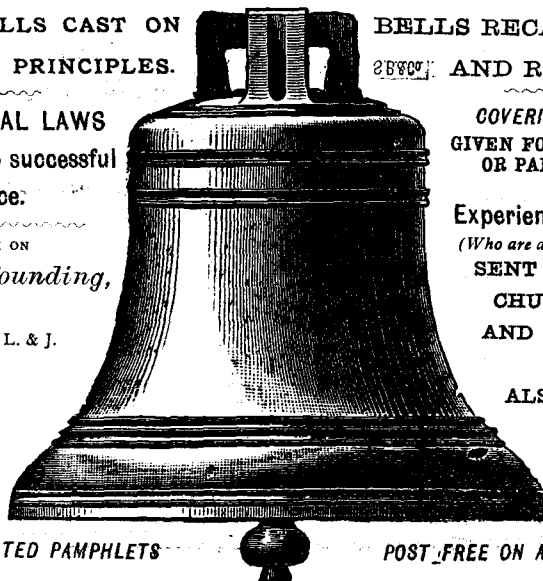
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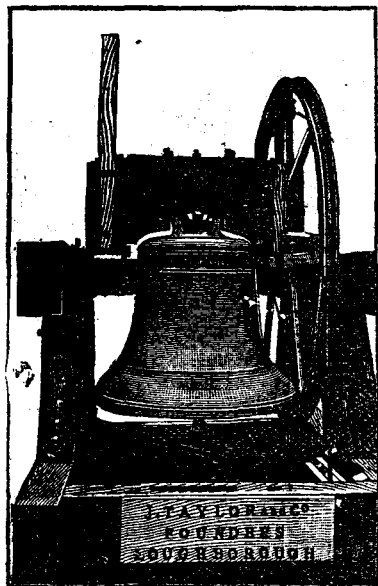
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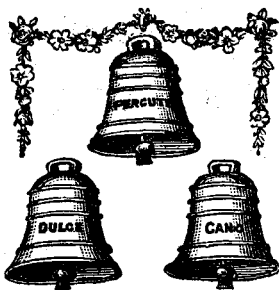
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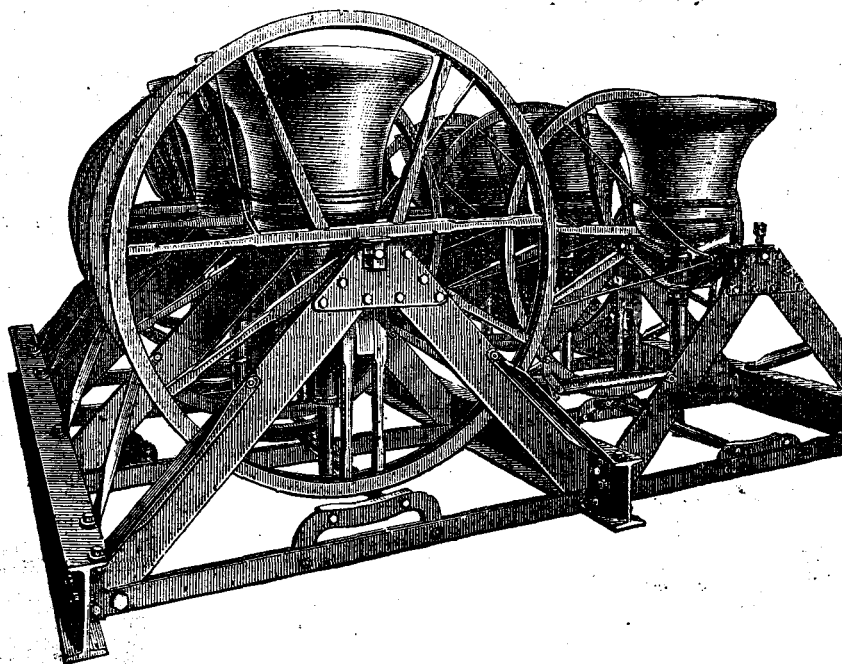
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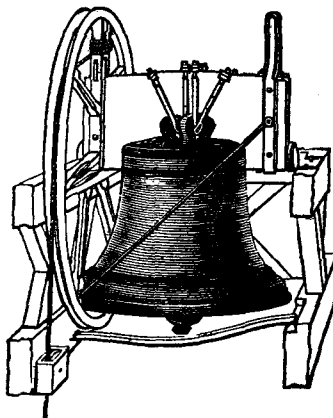
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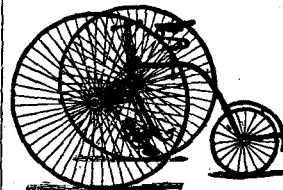
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SITTINGBOURNE BELLS, KENT.

After the long period of nearly two hundred years, the old six Sittingbourne bells have shifted their positions in order to find a resting-place for two little strangers. The extremely short time the work has been in hand is a proof of the zeal which has characterised the whole of the proceedings. A gratifying feature in connection with the project is the fact that many Nonconformists as well as Churchmen were among the subscribers, the bells being regarded not merely as Church bells, but as belonging to the whole parish.

On Wednesday, May 28th—scarcely six weeks having elapsed since the project was set on foot—a dedication service was held in St. Michael's church, and the new bells were formally opened. The service commenced at 4.15, and consisted of evening prayer with special psalms, lessons, and hymns. There was a large congregation present, and the Old Hundredth was sung very heartily. The other hymns were the 166th, the 303rd, and the 379th ("Ancient and Modern"), and a beautiful hymn, specially composed by the Rev. Reginald B. Knatchbull-Hugessen, rector of Mersham, and Hon. Secretary to the Kent County Association. The special psalms were the 122nd and the 150th.

An eloquent and appropriate sermon was preached by the Rev. R. B. Knatchbull-Hugessen, who took for his text the following passage: "Praise him upon the loud cymbals, praise Him upon the high sounding cymbals" (Psalm cl. 5). In the course of his sermon, the rev. gentleman adverted to the fact of the bells being exclusively Christian. They were used throughout Europe in Christian worship, but in Asia and in Turkey, where Mohammedanism is professed, we lose them, and the voice of the Turk is heard from the minaret summoning the faithful to worship. Three principal uses of bells were dwelt upon by the preacher. (1) They were used, as the cymbals were used, for the glory of God, and it was for this reason that bells were dedicated. Not that they should treat a bell as a living being, and parody the holy rite of baptism, but that whatever was used for God's service should be solemnly set apart, and we should pray that they might never fail to administer to God's glory. He referred to their use in summoning the congregation to the service of God, also their use on occasions of rejoicing and mourning. It was because bells were considered such symbols of rejoicing that their use was prohibited at elections or occasions of party triumphs. Their use then would be not to minister to the glory of God, but to stir up the animosities of men. (2) Then there was their use and help to ourselves. They call us to service, and their sound reaches the ears of those who are unable to attend, bidding them to lift up their hearts to God. He alluded to the Sanctus bell, which used to announce to those not present the performance of holy acts in particular portions of service. The passing bell used to be tolled in order that the dying person might have the benefit of the prayers of those who heard it sound. The bells gave us help on the occasions of our baptisms, our marriages, and our deaths. In all of these the bells led the way; we could not do without them. They bid us rejoice with those who did rejoice, and to weep with those who weep. They tell us of the many variations of life—how full of change everything is, how the round of births, marriages, and deaths are succeeded by one another, and when the last solemn knell shall sound for us the bells will still go on. There is no preacher like them. (3) Their use was important in connection with the other two; it was the making of ringers, the gathering together of a set of men who would make thoroughly efficient the other two uses. To accomplish this, there must be something to attract and interest them. If there were no interest in the study of music, it would be impossible to keep our choirs together. And the interest for the ringers was furnished in the music of the bells and the study of the changes. Leaving alone the extraordinary fascination which change-ringing possessed of itself, the endeavours of the ringers should be upheld if we wish the bells to perform their proper functions for us. There had been a great deal done lately to recognise ringers as an important body of men, associating them with the choir as regards their services in the house of God, and this was owing to the fact that change-ringers now recognise these uses to which the bells should be properly put. In conclusion the preacher said that these objects formed a triple union very intimately connected. Bells could be made to sound, and were sounded, by machinery, but of what use is their sound, if our hearts do not ascend with it. Again, when they call to worship we must think seriously of their summons. There was nothing more dangerous than for a man to get into the habit of hearing a church bell, if it led him not to the House of God, and if ringers pursue their art without regard to the consideration he had mentioned, they would again fall into deserved disrespect. It mattered little what money was spent on the restoration of bells if our hearts were but as sounding brass or tinkling cymbal. They must ask for a blessing in their work from Him without whom nothing is strong, nothing is holy.

At the conclusion of the service the bells were rung by mixed bands from Sittingbourne, Faversham, Mersham, Folkestone, Canterbury, &c. Considerable interest was manifested in the proceedings by the

general public; and we should add that several flags were hoisted on the church tower in honour of the occasion. The ringing lasted about three hours. A public supper was held at the Town Hall at half-past eight. Mr. Payne occupied the chair, and was supported at the cross-table by Rev. R. B. Knatchbull-Hugessen, Mr. Proctor, Mr. W. J. Harris, Rev. W. Jones, Mr. F. G. Gibson, Mr. Churchwarden H. T. Tidy, Mr. W. G. Gordelier, and Mr. F. C. Mattison (hon. secretary to the St. Michael's society). The Vice-chairs were filled by Mr. Churchwarden Robert Chapman and Mr. Francis Grayling, the latter an active member of the St. Michael's society. The company numbered altogether between seventy and eighty.

Mr. GIBSON proposed "Success to the St. Michael's Change-Ringing Society." He said he was sure they all wished them every success, and that they felt very much indebted to them for that very pleasant meeting, which must be a source of gratification to every one present. It was, he thought, something to be proud of, that Sittingbourne possessed such a peal of bells as it now had, and it was quite clear that they should not have the new bells but for the formation of this society. They bestowed a great deal of time for the benefit of others; they undertook the conduct of the bells, and saw that they were kept in proper order, and they delighted them with their admirable ringing (hear, hear). He had to couple with the toast the name of Mr. F. C. Mattison, who had taken considerable interest in all matters pertaining to the bells, and had been at considerable trouble in bringing those he saw around him together that evening. Great credit was due to the society and to Mr. Mattison for bringing the bells to such a pitch of perfection as they had done (applause).

Mr. F. C. MATTISON, in responding, said he felt that the terms in which he had been spoken of were far beyond what he deserved. However, it would be affectation to say that he had had no trouble or anxiety, but in this, as in every other good work, the success of the undertaking was a reward in itself (hear, hear). And he would venture to say that the work now completed was a success from every point of view. He ascribed the success of the work itself in a great measure to the co-operation which had existed among themselves; not forgetting the great assistance lent by the builder, Mr. Tidy, in adapting his work to the various requirements pointed out to him. It was very gratifying to find, too, that the efforts to attain those objects for which the local change-ringing society was established, now three years ago, had been so well appreciated by the people of Sittingbourne and its neighbourhood. They were evidently well aware what an excellent peal of bells they possessed. But it would be useless possessing the finest peal of bells in the world if they had not the means of producing music which they could be made to yield; and it was for this purpose in a great measure that the St. Michael's Change Ringing Society existed (hear hear). Other towns and villages had peals of eight, some even of ten bells, but what good was their possession if they were not rung, or, if rung, rung only in rounds or monotonous call-changes (hear hear). The ringing of rounds was practically analogous to the playing of scales by a student of the pianoforte, and no one, he was sure, would venture to assert that the exercise of scales was the *ultima* *thule* of the art of music. The round was only one variation among 40,000 on eight bells, and it is the object of change-ringing to produce by scientific methods any number or all of these variations, taking care that not two are alike and that none are repeated. A variety of qualities were called into exercise to accomplish this. It required great application and perseverance, and also a fair amount of thinking power, for change-ringing was as exact as any of the mathematical sciences. He must say that the local band somewhat deserved the additional bells. Upon six bells they might obtain 720 variations, and they were able to ring the whole of these in three distinct methods. Now they had eight bells they had a practical infinity of work before them, for 40,000 were the extent of the changes and there were all sorts of ways of producing them. He begged to thank them once more on behalf of the Society for the appreciation and support which they had received.

The Rev. W. JONES gave "Success to the Kent County Association of Change-Ringers." He said that in the course of twenty years' experience in the Church, he had had various changes. Some of them were very painful indeed. His first curacy was at a church where there was a peal of three bells. They were chimed by an old man, who persisted in giving them a sort of rollicking chime at funerals. Then he remembered that at his next curacy there were six bells, and these an energetic amateur ringer kept going from morning till night. He hoped that by this time a County Association had put a "stopper" on that young man. Mr. Jones also referred to the doleful chiming of bells with which they were afflicted on Sundays at a village near Torquay, where he was staying a year or two ago, and which, he said, had the effect of inspiring him with melancholy for the rest of the day. There also was no County Association. Mr. Jones then spoke of the good which had been accomplished by the Kent County Association, alluding also to the labours of the Rev. R. B. Knatchbull-Hugessen, its founder, in connection therewith, and saying how much they were indebted to him for the admirable

discourse which he gave them that afternoon. He coupled with the toast the name of the Rev. R. B. Knatchbull-Hugessen.

The Rev. R. B. KNATCHBULL-HUGESSEN, in responding, said the last time he had the pleasure of appearing in Sittingbourne in connection with the St. Michael's Change-Ringing Society, the meeting was held in a smaller room. He now had the pleasure of addressing a larger meeting, and one of a different character. He accepted this as a flattering proof of success both on the part of the St. Michael's society and also of the Kent Association. He had been very much pleased to hear the remarks which had been made with reference to bells. Mr. Jones, it was true, seemed to have had some disagreeable experiences, but he hoped that here he would find that the bells gave more tuneful music, and that they would be more soothing to his feelings than those he had referred to. Of all the places which it was his duty to visit—and they numbered 35 or 36—none gave him so much satisfaction, or were so great a credit to the Association, as Sittingbourne. The work which they had accomplished was undoubtedly due to the energy and perseverance of the members of the St. Michael's society, but he thought he might fairly claim for the county association that, by the aid it had rendered to the general movement, it had done something to help forward the matter in hand. He was extremely glad to find that the bells had been looked upon as a Sittingbourne affair, and that persons differing, it might be widely, in feelings and political sentiments, had united in this matter, for all could hear and enjoy the music of the bells and feel that they were a credit to the town. There was no doubt Sittingbourne ought to have, and deserved, a peal of eight bells, not only because of the efforts which had been put forth, but also because of its position. He thanked them for their kindness, and hoped their support would continue, not only for the sake of Sittingbourne, but also for the sake of the wider field of the whole county, and he should be only too pleased to receive from them small subscriptions as honorary members of the county association.

Mr. C. GIBBON proposed "The Health of the Chairman and the two Vice-Chairmen."

The CHAIRMAN, in responding, said it had given him much pleasure to meet his fellow-townsmen there on that occasion. He was much gratified at the spirit which had prevailed in this matter, and was therefore very glad to observe that they were favoured with the company of many of their Nonconformist friends as well as Churchmen. This was as it should be; and for his part, he considered that the completion of the bells ought to be included in the list of their town improvements.

Mr. GRAYLING (who is an active member of the committee of the St. Michael's Society, and was received with musical honours by the ringers) also returned thanks, and referred to the great improvement which would be effected in the clock chimes, now that the new bells had been added. The clock was put in thirteen years ago, and was one of the greatest improvements ever carried out in the town, but it had not been complete till that morning, when the Cambridge quarters were rung for the first time. That in itself was an improvement.

Other toasts followed, and the proceedings terminated.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—ANNIVERSARY MEETING.

THE largest and most influential gathering of ringers ever known in the county of Essex, took place on Whit-Monday, when the fifth anniversary of the above Association was celebrated in a highly-successful manner at Chelmsford. Probably the success was due to the arrangements made for the meeting, viz.: the liberality of the Great Eastern Railway Company in issuing tickets at a reduced fare a free dinner given to the members, the number of surrounding towers thrown open to members, and the address given by the Bishop Suffragan. Ringing in various methods was carried on in each of the towers, till about 12 o'clock. An attempt was made by a band to ring at Writtle Penning's last-published peal of Grandsire Triples, but unfortunately came to grief after 1 hr. and 20 minutes' good ringing. A service was held at St. Mary's, Chelmsford, at 12.30., when a practical brief address was given by the Bishop of Colchester. Dinner followed in the schoolroom, and the business meeting was immediately afterwards proceeded with. Several clergymen were elected hon. members, and sixteen ringing members were also elected. A resolution was passed authorising the Secretary to purchase a peal of handbells (12) for the use of members at district and annual meetings.

Mr. Alps brought forward his resolution in favour of a Diocesan Association. The resolution having been seconded by the Secretary, Mr. Murray Hayes proposed, and Mr. Randall seconded an amendment that the question should not be entertained. Mr. B. Keeble supported the amendment, which was carried by fifty to three. A fuller report of the proceedings will appear in our next issue.

Mr. G. R. Banks, whose announcement will be found amongst our advertisement columns, has received instructions to re-hang the peal of eight at Harrow-on-the-Hill, Middlesex.

YORK BELL-FOUNDERS.—X.—(Continued.)

GEORGE DALTON.

1787.—SKELTON—YORK.—

"Soli Deo Gloria, pax hominibus
Dalton founder York 1787"

1788.—EASINGWOLD—5 bells.—

"Dalton of York fecit" on each except last.
"With cheerful voice O Lord will I sing to thee 1788."
"Social Love, Peace and good neighbourhood 1788"
"The people will adorn the festivals when we call 1788"
"Have faith in Christ eternally—Hallelujah 1788"
"Glorify the Lord thy God with the voice of Praise and Glorification"
John Raper and Geo. Metcalfe Churchwardens
John Armstead Vicar

SKIRPENBECK—2 bells—on each.—

"Dalton fecit York
1788"

YORK—St. Margaret's.—

"Gloria in altissimis Deo.
Dalton of York fecit.
1788."

1789—YORK—St. Olave—6 bells.—

On each "Dalton maker York"
"With cheerful voice Lord Ill sing to thee 1789."
"Have faith in Christ and live eternally 1789"
"We call come ye watch and pray 1789"
"In praise to God loudly we unite hallelujah 1789"
"In concert ill Jehovahs name resound 1789"
"To Father, Son, and Holy Ghost eternal glory raise 1789"
William Dade, Vicar—
William Bayldon } Church
Christopher Bearpark } Wardens
William Cuthbert }
Richard Wood }

BILLBROUGH—3 bells—on each.—

Dalton of York fecit 1789"

1790—WILBERFOSS.—

"Dalton of York fecit 1790"

1791—BISHOP WILTON.—

"Glory to God in the highest. Hallelujah
Dalton fecit York 1791
W. Metcalfe Vicar Tho: Williamson Tho. Dickson
Church Wardens.
Tho: Sanderson Clerk"

HUGGATE.—

"Be mercifull to me O God
Dalton of York fecit 1791"

BATLEY.—

"To Father Son and Holy Ghost eternal glory raise
Dalton of York fecit, 1791"

This bell was removed with other two, in 1851, and replaced by a new peal.

I have given the inscriptions of fifty bells cast by this founder, who was the last of the York Bell Founders. With him the trade which had for nearly 600 years flourished in our City, became extinct. In my incomplete list, I have given the inscriptions of no less than 300 bells, which were cast at York, nearly all of which now exist, and whilst summoning the people to prayer, testify to the fame of the York Bellfounders.

Any additions to, or any particulars relating thereto, so as to make my list as complete as possible, will be gratefully received.

I should also be glad of a note, as to whether William Oldfield, bellfounder, of York, about 1606, was in any way connected with the Nottingham Founder, Henry Oldfield, seeing that a few of the latter's productions are still remaining in Yorkshire.

In the ancient churches, plain-uninscribed bells are very rare. In York, there is one at St. John's, one at the chapel under the Merchant's Hall, and another at the chapel of the Vicar's Choral in Bedern.

It is my intention to supplement these articles, with particulars of the remaining York bells, and local bell-lore. GEO. BENSON.

PRESTON, SUFFOLK.

PRESTON is a small village nine miles north-east from Sudbury and two from Lavenham. The tower of St. Mary's church fell in 1863, but has since been rebuilt, and contains a peal of six bells, bearing the following inscriptions.

Treble.—"Thomas Gardiner fecit 1744."

2nd.—"Thomas Gardiner fecit 1744."

3rd.—"Thomas Norder Roger C. W. Thos. G. fecit 1744."

4th.—"Miles Graie fecit 1640."

5th.—"Henry Pleasant Made me 1702."

Tenor.—Henry Pleasant Made me 1704.

THE ECCLES PARISH CHURCH BELLS.

DURING the past four weeks Messrs. John Warner and Sons, Bell-founders, Cripplegate, London, have had the repairing and re-hanging of the eight bells contained in the tower of the above church in their hands. The church is a very ancient one, and can be traced as far back as the year 1111, but it is supposed to have been built at a date even anterior to that. With reference to the bells of this church, Baines, the historian of the county Palatine of Lancaster, tells us that "The original church was probably of a date as early as the conquest, and the curfew bell, a relic of that age, continues to be rung nightly." A minute in the churchwardens' accounts, dated 20th November, 1693, orders the great bell to be rung at 8 p.m., from September 29th to March 25th, and this is continued to the present time. On the 9th of April, 1694, in the churchwardens' accounts, there is an item of 20s. "to the clerk, for ringing the curfew on the fourth bell." Prior to the year 1709, the peal consisted of four bells, and on the 21st of November of that year the peal was ordered to be increased to six. In 1737, a new bell was bought, which cost the parish £24, and in 1825 the peal was increased to eight bells. The treble, 2nd, 4th, and tenor were cast in the year 1825, the other four being cast in the year 1509. In 1774 4d. was fixed as the price to be paid to the clerk or sexton for tolling the "passing bell," and "for every hour the bell is tolled, 1s." In 1732, 8s. was paid to the ringers on the occasion of the Bishop of Chester holding a confirmation. In 1812, the eight ringers were paid £1 a year each, and there was also paid for "ringing the eight o'clock bell £1." The steps leading to this tower are still of an ancient type, and are so narrow and intricate as, to those at least who are unacquainted with them, to be difficult of ascent. The steps leading to the belfry are also time-worn, but the difficulty of surmounting them is amply repaid when upon going upon the outside of the tower a view of the neighbourhood for miles around is obtained. On a fine day, the parish church of Bolton—some eight miles away—may be discerned, also other buildings equally distant. For the benefit of the readers of "THE BELL NEWS," the following inscriptions on the old bells are given:

- Treble*.—Abr. Rudhall, fecit, 1825."
 2.—Abr. Rudhall, fecit, 1825."
 3.—Abr. Rudhall cast us all, 1709,"
 4.—John Rudhall, Gloucester, fecit, 1828."
 5.—"Prosperity to this church, 1709."
 6.—"Mr. Richard Valentine, Parish Clerk, 1709."
 7.—"Thomas Hall, M.A. Uig de Eccles, 1729."
Tenor.—"I to the church the living call,
 And to the grave do summon all.
 J. Rudhall, fecit, 1825."

On Tuesday evening, in order to celebrate the re-hanging of the bells, an excellent dinner took place at the Oddfellows' Arms, Church Street, at which there were present; the Rev. R. Fowler, late senior curate of Eccles parish church Mr. C. W. Bayley, Vicar's warden; Mr. J. H. Butterworth, people's warden; Messrs. J. Berry and C. Ainsworth, sidesmen; Messrs. J. Royle and E. Holmes, apparitors; Mr. Burgess, the whole of the local ringers, together with the representatives of Messrs. Warner and Sons. Upon the conclusion of dinner the ringers adjourned to the tower, and rang 1000 changes most successfully. Edward Cash, 1; Charles Cash, 2; William Walton, 3; Thomas Yates, 4; James Barratt, 5; Richard Ashcroft, 6; G. H. Johnson (conductor), 7; William Ashcroft, 8. The whole of the party then returned to the Oddfellows' Arms, when the chair was taken by Mr. C. W. Bayley, supported by Rev. R. Fowler and Mr. Burgess, the vice-chairman being Mr. J. H. Butterworth. A tune on the hand-bells having been given, the Chairman said he was pleased beyond measure to be with them that evening. For several weeks Eccles had felt like a deserted village owing to the loss of the sweet melody of the bells. That was now remedied; and the melodious sounds they had just been listening to, proved that Messrs. Warner and Sons had done their work successfully and well. The ringers of the Eccles Parish Church were a most competent set, and when he saw the two such veteran ringers before him as Mr. Richard Ashcroft, who, he said, had passed the allotted span of life, being over threescore and ten, fifty of which he had been a ringer at the above church; and Mr. John Barratt, who, out of sixty-four years had spent forty years as a ringer there also, he was sure they would all agree with him in saying that the Eccles ringers were devoted to their belfry. He thought the calling of a ringer was a most honourable one, their duty being that of calling the faithful to the worship of God. It was intended to provide a pew for the ringers in order to make them as comfortable as possible. He was doubly pleased that the ringers had banded themselves together in an Association, by which he meant the Lancashire Association of Ringers, as by that means the ringers of Lancashire would be able to raise themselves from a comparatively neglected body to a most integral part of the Church's service.

Mr. JAMES BARRATT thanked the Chairman for his kind references to the ringers and their calling. He (the Chairman) had always been a friend to them, and it was to his kindness and consideration they owed so many benefits.

The Rev. R. FOWLER said that before joining the Lancashire Association he had been inclined to look upon ringing as of very little consequence, but he had since found out his mistake, and had now come to see that ringing was a most beautiful way of reminding the faithful of their duty to the Almighty.

The VICE-CHAIRMAN (Mr. J. H. Butterworth), in proposing "Success to the Eccles Ringers," remarked that he could not let the present opportunity pass without testifying to the loyal services rendered by the ringers at all times, to assist in the various duties connected with their department of parish work. The ringers were a very essential body of men in connection with any church, and he hoped, ere long, in conjunction with his brother wardens, to obtain for the ringers a separate pew during Divine Service.

Mr. HOLMES (apparitor), having proposed "The Health of the Churchwardens," the remainder of the evening was spent in handbell ringing, etc. At seven o'clock on Sunday morning the Eccles church ringers rang a date touch.

THE HERTFORD COLLEGE YOUTHS.

On Sunday, June 1st, for afternoon service at Holy Trinity Church, Bengeo, a 720 of Grandsire Minor, being the first in the method on the bells, in 25 mins. Stephen Knight, 1; Thomas Gathard, 2; Henry Phillips, 3; Arthur Jones, 4; Charles Stanbridge, 5; Herbert Baker (conductor), 6. Messrs. Stanbridge and Jones were on a visit from Birmingham, having ridden the greater part of their way on bicycles, and on Whit-Monday an attempt was made at St. Andrew's, Hertford, for Holt's ten-part peal of Grandsire Triples, which, however, came to grief twice through the 6th rope "slipping wheel," so was at last abandoned. S. Knight, 1; H. Baker (conductor), 2; J. Staples, 3; M. Ellsmore, 4; A. Jones, 5; J. Crawley, 6; G. Stanbridge, 7; F. George, 8. The band assembled at All Saints' Church in the afternoon, and were joined by the Rev. W. Wigram, and Messrs. Randall and Gathard, where touches of Stedman and Grandsire Triples, and a course of Grandsire Caters brought the day's ringing to a close.

THE WANSTEAD AMALGAMATED SOCIETY.

On Whit-Monday, the members of this Society went for their annual outing; the place chosen being Enfield. A start was made at the parish church of that town for a peal of Treble Bob Major; but the back bells were found to go so badly, that after ringing fifty minutes, the peal had to be abandoned. After dinner, the party adjourned to the church of St. Mary Magdalene, where they were pleased to meet the Vicar. Some good touches of Stedman were rung, and as it was getting late, a move was made at once for Southgate. Here touches of Grandsire and Stedman Triples, and Kent Treble Bob Major, concluded a most enjoyable days outing. The band (consisting of Messrs. Gardom, Manning, Strange, Scarlett, Nunn, Priest, Akers, Wincey, Trust, Jarman and Gobbett), wish to thank the Vicars and steeple-keepers of the respective churches for the kind welcome given them.

LONG SUTTON, LINCOLNSHIRE.

ON Whit-Monday, June 2nd, a meeting was held in the parish of Sutton St. Mary, under the presidency of the Rev. Canon Moore, Vicar of Spalding, when it was resolved to form an Association to consist of honorary members, skilled members, and probationers, to be called the "Eastern Counties' Guild of Change-Ringers." The Officers and Committee were elected, and rules were agreed upon.

During the afternoon several touches of Plain Bob were rung, and a 720 in the same method was rung, conducted by J. S. Wright. This will be booked as the inaugurating peal of the new Society, which is destined, we hope, to enjoy a long and prosperous career.

The peal of five bells in the parish church of Littleton, near Exmouth, were opened after restoration on May 29th, by the ringers of East Budleigh. The work of re-hanging has been successfully carried out by Mr. Harry Stokes, of Woodbury, Exeter, who has put up new oak beams and floor, and new oak cage, and the bells have also been rehung with all new fittings and Ellacombe chiming hammers fixed. The church was also re-opened the same day by the Lord Bishop of Exeter, after undergoing restoration for the past twelve months under the supervision of R. M. Fulford, Esq., Architect, of the Close, Exeter.

We are unfortunately compelled to hold over the touches of Treble Bob Major now being compiled by the Rev. H. Earle Bulwer, till next week.

"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, and performances under 5000 changes must reach us not later than Wednesday morning; and the insertion of any communication coming later than the first Postal delivery on Thursday morning cannot be guaranteed in that week's number. When it is found impossible from want of space to insert all touches forwarded, the earlier ones will have the preference.

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

The Bell News & Ringers' Record.

SATURDAY, JUNE 7, 1884.

The Metropolis.

THE SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.
 SHOREDITCH, LONDON.

On Thursday, May 29, 1884, in Three Hours and Thirty-eight Minutes,
 AT ST. LEONARD'S CHURCH.

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERS, 5079 CHANGES;
 Tenor 31 cwt. in D.

GEORGE NEWSON Treble.	ARTHUR JACOB 6.
JOHN GOBBETT 2.	WILLIAM H. DORAN .. 7.
ACLAND J. PERKINS* .. 3.	WINGFIELD MEADOWS .. 8.
WILLIAM H. FUSSELL .. 4.	ARTHUR H. GARDOM .. 9.
THOMAS TITCHENER* .. 5.	*HARRY BENHAM .. Tenor.

Composed by JOHN COX, and conducted by G. NEWSON.

*First peal of Caters.

The Provinces.

CHELTENHAM.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION,
 AND THE CHELTENHAM SOCIETY.

On Saturday, May 24, 1884, in Two Hours and Forty-eight Minutes,
 AT ST. MARY'S CHURCH,

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

GEO. H. PHILLOTT, ESQ. .. Treble.	FREDERICK MUSTY 5.
REV. CHAS. D. P. DAVIES .. 2.	HENRY KARN 6.
HENRY HODGES* 3.	WILLIAM T. PATES .. 7.
F. E. WARD, ESQ. 4.	WILLIAM HUMPHRIS .. Tenor.

Conducted by WILLIAM T. PATES.

*First peal of Grandsire with a bob bell.

The peal was rung on the middle eight of the ten, the tenor being under repair. The weight of the latter is 23 cwt.

GLDOWICK, OLDHAM, LANCASHIRE.

On Tuesday, May 27, 1884, in Two Hours and Fifty-five Minutes,
 AT ST. MARK'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
 Tenor 8½ cwt.

A. CLEGG Treble.	G. DUNKERLEY 5.
G. H. BEEVER 2.	J. RILEY 6.
C. DRONSFIELD 3.	J. KERSHAW 7.
J. PRIESTLEY 4.	W. RHODES Tenor.

Conducted by G. H. BEEVER.

THE HOLT SOCIETY, ASTON-JUXTA-BIRMINGHAM.

On Friday, May 30, 1884, in Three Hours and Sixteen Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF SS. PETER AND PAUL.

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;
 Tenor 24 cwt.

THOMAS J. HEMMING .. Treble.	JNO. W. CARTWRIGHT .. 5.
ARTHUR JONES 2.	WILLIAM KENT 6.
HENRY BASTABLE 3.	CHARLES STANBRIDGE .. 7.
JOHN BENN 4.	ALFRED THOMAS .. Tenor.

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

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS, AND
 THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

IPSWICH, SUFFOLK.

On Saturday, May 31, 1884, in Three Hours and Fifty-four Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY-LE-TOWER,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAXIMUS, 5088 CHANGES;
 IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 32 cwt. in C#.

EDGAR PEMBERTON .. Treble.	JAMES MOTTS 7.
WILLIAM L. CATCHPOLE .. 2.	HENRY BOWELL 8.
CHARLES MEE 3.	EDWARD REEVE 9.
ISAAC S. ALEXANDER .. 4.	ROBERT HAWES 10.
WILLIAM MOTTS 5.	SAMUEL TILLET 11.
ROBERT BRUNDLE 6.	FRANCIS E. DAWE .. Tenor.

Composed by CHARLES HENRY HATTERSLEY, and conducted by FRANCIS EDWARD DAWE.

The tenor-man hails from London; the rest belong to Ipswich.

SHEFFIELD.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS AND
 THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, June 2, 1884, in Three Hours and Eight Minutes,

AT ST. MARIE'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
 BROOK'S VARIATION. Tenor 25 cwt.

ARTHUR KNIGHTS* .. Treble.	THOMAS HATTERSLEY .. 5.
JOSEPH MULLIGAN 2.	JAMES ALFRED DIXON .. 6.
JOHN MULLIGAN 3.	ARTHUR BRIERLEY .. 7.
CHAS. HY. HATTERSLEY .. 4.	WILLIAM SMITH .. Tenor.

Conducted by CHARLES HENRY HATTERSLEY.

*First peal in the method.

Arthur Knights hails from Chesterfield.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—WRITTLE, ESSEX,

On Monday, June 2, 1884, in Three Hours and Thirteen Minutes,

AT ALL SAINTS' CHURCH,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;
 IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 18 cwt. in F.

JOHN DAINS* Treble.	*ARTHUR PORTER 5.
WILLIAM ROWLAND* 2.	*ALFRED PYE 6.
ACKLAND J. PERKINS .. 3.	WILLIAM H. DORAN .. 7.
WILLIAM HAWKES* 4.	GEORGE NEWSON .. Tenor.

Composed by J. COX, and conducted by GEO. NEWSON.

*First peal in the method.

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

On Monday, June 2, 1884, in Two Hours and Fifty-four Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF SS. PETER AND PAUL,

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

HARRY WILLIAM GROUT .. Treble.	WILLIAM WEATHERSTONE .. 5.
HENRY LANGDON 2.	JOSEPH BARRY 6.
RICHARD FRENCH 3.	F. W. THORNTON 7.
JOSEPH WAGHORN 4.	TOM COXHEAD Tenor.

Conducted by RICHARD FRENCH.

STONHAM ASPALL, SUFFOLK.
THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS AND
THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, June 2, 1884, in Three Hours and Twenty-five Minutes,

AT ST. LAMBERT'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB ROYAL, 5000 CHANGES;
IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 24 cwt. in Eb.

FRANCIS E. DAWE Treble.	CHARLES SAUL 6.
CHARLES MEE 2.	JAMES MOTTS 7.
ISAAC S. ALEXANDER 3.	SAMUEL TILLET 8.
EDGAR PEMBERTON 4.	WILLIAM L. CATCHPOLE .. 9.
WILLIAM MOTTS 5.	EDWARD REEVE Tenor.

Composed by the late BENJAMIN ANNABLE, and conducted
by WILLIAM L. CATCHPOLE.

This is the first peal on the ten.

SIBSEY, NEAR BOSTON, LINCOLNSHIRE.
THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, June 2, 1884, in Three Hours and Eighteen Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5248 CHANGES;
IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor about 15 cwt.

ARTHUR SPUR Treble.	ISAAC IDLE 5.
GEORGE CRAWSHAW 2.	JOHN T. HOLLIS 6.
WILLIAM BIRCHAM 3.	JOHN BUCKLEY 7.
GODFREY MARSDEN 4.	DAVID STEPHENSON Tenor.

Composed by the late W. HARRISON, of Mottram, and
Conducted by JOHN BUCKLEY.

Messrs. Spur, Crawshaw, Bircham, Marsden, and Stephenson, hail from Ossett; Idle and Buckley from Earlsheaton; and Hollis from Wakefield.

After the peal, which is the first 5000 on eight bells at Sibsey, the party, ten in number, were entertained to an excellent dinner provided by the Rev. F. Besant, vicar of the parish, who accompanied the party to the railway station on their return journey, all seeming well pleased with their outing. The ringers here beg to tender their sincere thanks to the rev. gentleman for his great kindness and liberality.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.
NORTH SHIELDS.

On Tuesday, June 3, 1884, in Three Hours and Sixteen Minutes,

AT CHRIST CHURCH,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5440 CHANGES;
IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 20 cwt.

FRANCIS LEES Treble.	WILLIAM REED, ESQ. .. 5.
GEO. J. CLARKSON, ESQ. .. 2.	WILLIAM STORY* 6.
CHARLES L. ROUTLEDGE† .. 3.	ROBERT SMITH 7.
ROBERT S. STORY 4.	JOEL HERN Tenor.

Composed by HENRY HUBBARD, and conducted by
GEORGE J. CLARKSON, ESQ.

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

This is the first peal of Major by the Association, and the longest length on the bells.

Messrs. Lees, Routledge, and Brothers Story hail from Newcastle; Mr. Clarkson from Stockton-on-Tees; the rest are local men.

Miscellaneous.

THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

ASPLEY GUISE.—On Thursday, May 29th, it being the first anniversary of the opening of the new ring of six bells, a 720 of Bob Minor was rung in 27 mins. George Usher (Aspley Guise; first 720), 1; Charles Herbert (Woburn), 2; W. E. Turney (Woburn), 3; W. W. C. Baker (Eversholt), 4; I. Hills (Bedford), 5; C. Clarke (Bromham; conductor), 6. Also on Whit-Tuesday afternoon, June 3rd, a 720 of Bob Minor, with eight bobs and six singles, in 25 mins. C. W. Clarke, 1; J. Adkins, 2; Walter Chibnall, 3; Rev. J. C. Maltby (Rector of Aspley; first 720), 4; W. Allen, 5; W. Biggs (conductor), 6. Also a 720 of Bob Minor, with sixteen bobs and twenty-two singles, in 23 mins. G. Usher, 1; W. Allen, 2; J. Adkins, 3; W. Chibnall, 4; W. Biggs, 5; C. Clarke (conductor), 6. Also another 720 of Bob Minor, with sixteen bobs and two singles, in 25 mins. G. Usher, 1; J. Carwell-Cooke, 2; W. Biggs, 3; Mark Lane, 4; W. Chibnall (conductor), 5; C. Clarke, 6.

WOBURN.—On Whit-Tuesday morning, June 3rd, a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob Minor, in 27 mins. Alfred Morrison (Woburn; first 720 in the method), 1; C. W. Clarke (Bromham), 2; W. E. Turney (Woburn), 3; J. Adkins (Elstow), 4; W. Allen (Bedford), 5; W. Biggs (Bromham; conductor), 6.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.—On Thursday, May 29th, at the church of St. John-the-Baptist, for evening service, 560 of Bob Major. W. Bowes, 1; C. L. Routledge, 2; W. Egglestone, 3; F. Lees, 4; W. G. Routledge, 5; T. J. Des Forges, 6; W. Story, 7; R. S. Story (conductor), 8. After service 576 Kent Treble Bob Major. C. L. Routledge, 1; F. Lees, 2; E. Wallis (St. Stephen's), 3; R. S. Story, 4; S. Power (old society), 5; T. J. des Forges, 6; W. Story, 7; W. G. Routledge (conductor), 8; Tenor 12½ cwt.

SUNDERLAND.—On Whit Monday, at the parish church (the occasion of the meeting of the Association), 1056 of Kent Treble Bob Major. S. Nott, 1; Jas. Moffitt, 2; John Moffitt, 3; W. Reed, 4; J. Hern, 5; C. L. Routledge, 6; W. Story, 7; G. J. Clarkson (conductor), 8. Tenor 14 cwt.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION, AND THE ROYAL
CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.

ROMFORD (Essex).—On Saturday evening, May 31st, eight members of the above attempted a peal of Stedman Triples at St. Edward's church, but unfortunately the gas was accidentally extinguished, consequently the bells were brought home at the half-way, in 1 hr. 33 mins. G. Newson (conductor), 1; A. J. Perkins, 2; W. Fussell, 3; J. Hannington, 4; W. Meadows, 5; W. Doran, 6; A. H. Gardom, 7; H. Randall, 8.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

GREAT WALTHAM.—On Saturday evening, May 31st, 504 Grand-sire Triples. W. Chalk, 1; W. Rowland, 2; B. Keeble, 3; H. De Lisle, Esq., 4; W. Hawkes, 5; E. Scotcher, 6; A. Pye (conductor), 7; W. Battle, 8. Tenor 28 cwt.

KELVEDON.—On Sunday morning, several 120's of Grandsire Doubles. C. Elliott, 1; B. Keeble, 2; W. Elliott, 3; J. Elliott, 4; H. Elliott, 5.

ROMFORD.—Chiming.—On Sunday evening, June 1st., 720 Double Court. A. J. Perkins, 1, 2, 3, 4; G. Newson, 5, 6.

WITHAM.—On Sunday afternoon, June 1st., 720 Oxford Treble Bob. W. Richards, 1; B. Keeble, 2; A. Fryatt, 3; E. Garnett, 4; W. Chalk, 5; A. Pye (conductor), 6.

WRITTLE.—On Monday morning, June 2nd, the following started for Penning's one-part peal of Grandsire Triples. W. Chalk, 1; C. Elliott, 2; B. Keeble, 3; C. Waskett, 4; J. Pye, 5; A. Porter, 6; A. Pye (conductor), 7; A. J. Perkins, 8. The attempt proved unsuccessful after 1 hour 20 mins.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

BARNWOOD (Gloucestershire).—On Sunday morning, June 1st, prior to Divine Service, at the parish church, six members of the above Association rang a 720 of Plain Bob Minor, in 28 mins. W. Sevier, 1; J. Yeates, 2; G. Miles, 3; A. A. Waite, 4; H. Mitchell (conductor), 5; R. A. Barrett, 6. Tenor 14 cwt. in G.

UPTON ST. LEONARDS (Gloucestershire).—On Monday evening, May 5th, at the parish church, eight members of the above Association rang for practice, a 1008 of Plain Bob Major, in 42 mins. J. Middlecote, 1; J. Yeates, 2; W. Hunt, 3; G. Miles, 4; W. Sevier, 5; A. A. Waite, 6; H. Mitchell, 7; H. G. Gardener (conductor), 8. This is the longest touch in the method on the bells. Tenor 17½ cwt. in F.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

CASTLE DONNINGTON (Leicestershire).—On Tuesday, June 3rd, six members of the St. Lawrence's society, Long Eaton, paid a visit to the above place and rang a 720 of Plain Bob Minor, in 27 mins. John Pritchard, 1; Dr. Sellon (first 720 with a bob bell), 2; William Grice, 3; Richard Hickton, 4; Arthur Widdowson, 5; John Ward (conductor), 6. Also 300 in the same method. John Pritchard, 1; Richard Hickton, 2; John Ward, 3; William Grice, 4; Arthur Widdowson, 5; Dr. Sellon (first time as conductor), 6. Also two 6-scores of Stedman Doubles, William Grice, 1; Richard Hickton, 2; John Ward, 3; Dr. Sellon, 4; Arthur Widdowson (conductor), 5; John Pritchard, 6.

DERBY.—On Sunday, May 25th, for Divine Service in the evening, at St. Luke's Church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, 1260 changes in 52 mins., being the longest touch rung on the bells for three years. F. Whiting, 1; T. Bancroft, 2; A. E. Thompson, 3; J. Newbold, 4; A. B. Ward, 5; F. Septon (conductor), 6; J. Howe, 7; H. Longden, 8. Tenor 34 cwt. in D. Ringers of the first, third, fourth

fifth and seventh, are Association members; ringers of third, sixth, and tenor are St. Luke's Society; and the ringer of the fourth belongs to both Societies. Also on Friday, May 30th, at St. Werburgh's Church, six members of the above Association rang a 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor in 30 mins., being the first in the method rung by the local band. R. Bosworth, 1; A. B. Ward, 2; A. E. Thompson, 3; J. Howe, 4; J. Newbold, 5; H. C. Woodward (conductor), 6. Tenor 17 cwt. in E. The above 720 was rung on the occasion of Dr. Ridding's first visit to Derby since his installation as Lord Bishop of Southwell, and who notified much pleasure in becoming a Patron of the above Association.

THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

BLETCHINGLEY (Surrey).—On Sunday morning, June 1st, the local company rang a half-peal of Plain Bob Triples, 2520 changes, in 1 hr. 30 mins. *A. Wallis, 1; *F. Smith, 2; *J. Bashford, 3; T. Boniface, 4; *G. Potter, 5; *L. Killick, 6; W. Burkin (conductor), 7; *W. Mayne, 8. *First-half peal in the method.

STREATHAM (Surrey).—On Monday evening, May 26th, eight members of the above Association arranged to meet for a peal of Stedman Triples at Emmanuel church, Streatham Common, but meeting one short, six of those present rang a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob Minor, in 28 mins. H. Daniels, 1; E. F. Cole, Esq., 2; E. Bennett, 3; D. Springall, 4; G. Pell, 5; S. Greenwood (conductor), 6. After this was rung, the absentee arrived, and a start was made for a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples, taken from Thurstans' peal, which was rung in 45 mins. G. Russell, 1; E. Bennett, 2; D. Springall, 3; E. F. Cole, Esq., 4; H. Daniels, 5; G. Pell, 6; S. Greenwood (conductor), 7; H. Pates, 8.

THE WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

SOBERTON (Hants).—On Monday, June 2nd, at St. Peter's Church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, 1260 changes, in 45 mins. Wm. Linter, 1; Frank Linter, 2; Herbert Payne, 3; *Jas. Hewett (conductor), 4; Chas. Privett, 5; Thos. Newnham, 6; Geo. Williams, 7; Hy. Upton, 8. Messrs. Hewett and Privett hail from Fareham, Newnham from Winchester, the rest are of the local band. *Cumberland Youths. This quarter-peal contains the twenty-four 6-7's.

THE WANSTEAD AMALGAMATED SOCIETY.

LEYTONSTONE (Essex).—On Sunday, May 18th, at St. John's church, six members of the above Society rang 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor (with 15 bobs), in 27 mins. J. Priest, 1; J. Nunn, 2; G. Akers, 3; W. Manning, 4; S. Jarman, 5; A. H. Gardom (conductor), 6. This 720 has the tenors dodging the wrong way; composed by Mr. J. Gobbett, who is denominated the "Grand Old Man" by our correspondent.

WANSTEAD (Essex).—On Sunday, June 1st, at Christ Church, after evening service, the following members of the above Society rang a 720 of Bob Minor, with eight bobs and six singles, in 27 mins. C. Pilcher, 1; J. King (first 720), 2; W. Smith, 3; G. Cornell, 4; A. H. Gardom (conductor), 5; G. Akers, 6.

BOURNEMOUTH (Wilts).—On Whit Monday, at St. Peter's church, several touches of Grandsire Triples were rung by ringers from Trowbridge, Bournemouth and Salisbury.

BROMLEY (Kent).—On Monday, June 2nd, at SS. Peter and Paul, a mixed company rang the first half of Taylor's Bob-and-Single peal of Grandsire Triples, 840 changes. W. Weatherstone, 1; J. Barry, 2; E. Dunn, 3; A. G. Freeman (conductor), 4; W. H. Freeman, 5; W. R. Smith, 6; W. H. George, 7; J. Laws, 8.

CAERLEON (Monmouthshire).—On Wednesday, May 28th, at St. Cadoc's, a mixed company rang a 720 of Grandsire Minor, with thirty-eight bobs and twenty-two singles, in 25 mins. W. Powell, jun., 1; J. James, 2; F. Green, 3; E. Davies, 4; L. Jones, 5; W. Powell, sen., 6. The first, second and sixth men hail from Llanfrechfa, the third, fourth and fifth belong to the local company. First 720 by all. The above is the first 720 on the bells which were recast in 1881 by Messrs. Warner. Tenor 7½ cwt. in Bb.

CHEPSTOW (Monmouthshire).—On Whit-Monday, June 2nd, the local company of St. Mary's, Tidenham, Gloucestershire, paid a friendly visit to this place, and rang at St. Mary's church, three 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles, with 6-7-8 covering. J. Jones, (conductor), 1; T. Cecil, 2; J. Williams, 3; T. Jones, 4; J. Morley, 5; J. Evans, 6; H. Smith, 7; G. Watkins, 8. J. Morley, J. Evans, and G. Watkins belong to Chepstow. Tenor 21 cwt. in E. We are pleased to note that this is the first half-pull ringing by any local company of Chepstow for upwards of fifty years.

DUFFIELD (Derbyshire).—On Friday, May 30th, for practice at the parish church, the local company rang a quarter-peal of Bob Triples, 1260 changes, in 51 mins. G. Dawson, 1; E. Moreton, 2; G. Hingley,

3; W. Hickling, 4; O. Bembridge, 5; R. Johnson, 6; A. P. Heywood (conductor), 7; J. Johnson, 8. First quarter-peal by all. Also a 168 of Grandsire Triples by the same band. Also on Whit-Sunday, June 1st, two 504's of Bob Triples, called differently. S. Johnson, 1; G. Dawson, 2; G. Hingley, 3; A. P. Heywood, 4; E. Morton, 5; R. Johnson, 6; W. Hickling (conductor), 7; J. Johnson, 8. First touch by the treble man, and the first inside by the second. The Duffield bells were recast from a peal of six into a peal of eight, by Messrs. Taylor and Sons, three months ago. Since then the members of the society have worked hard, accomplishing their first 720 of Bob Minor, on the back six, in 32 mins., on Saturday, May 10th. G. Dawson, 1; O. Bembridge, 2; G. Hingley, 3; R. Johnson, 4; A. P. Heywood (conductor), 5; W. Hickling, 6. First 720 by all. Tenor 16½ cwt.

FOXEARH (Essex).—On Sunday, June 1st, a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob. Philip O. Bixby, 1; S. Slater, 2; Z. Slater, 3; N. Hawkins, 4; W. Gridley, 5; O. Garwood (conductor), 6. Also a 360 of Bob Minor. G. Maxim, 1; S. Slater, 2; O. Garwood, 3; Percy C. S. Scott, Esq., 4; Z. Slater (conductor), 5; W. Gridley, 6. Those who rang the 720 of Oxford Treble Bob are Royal Cumberland Youths.

HIGHER WALTON (Cheshire).—On Thursday, May 29th, at All Saints' church, the local company rang a 720 of College Single, in 27½ mins. Geo. Thornly (conductor), 1; *Jas. Hornwood, 2; Hy. Hunt, 3; Hy. Brewer, 4; †John Eccles, 5; †J. Mather, 6. Tenor 16 cwt. 3 qrs. 26 lbs. *First 720. †Members of the Lancashire Association.

LANCASTER.—On Whit-Monday, June 2nd, the Liverpool Cathedral society visited Lancaster, and rung at St. Peter's church a 420 of Stedman Triples. Rich. Williams, sen., 1; Henry Meadows, 2; Thomas Hammond, 3; Edwin Booth, 4; William Booth, 5; Robert Williams (conductor), 6; Edward Foster, 7; William Brooks, 8. The above is the first touch of Stedman on the bells. Also a course of Kent Treble Bob Major. Henry Beck, 5; Robert Williams, 3; T. Hammond, 4; William Booth, 6; Edwin Booth, 7; Edward Foster, 8. An attempt for a peal of Grandsire Triples was lost after ringing 30 mins.

LEE (Kent).—On Wednesday, the 4th inst., at St. Margaret's church, a 720 of Grandsire Minor in 25 mins. E. F. Cole (formerly of Lee), 1; R. Scutt (Lee), 2; C. Mussett (Eltham), 3; J. Crowder (Lee), 4; Deal (Lee), 5; F. Fraser (Eltham), 6. This was rung as a farewell touch in honour of Mr. Scutt, an esteemed member of the Lee parish society, who is leaving the neighbourhood, and was his first 720 in the method, and Mr. Crowder's first 720 in any Minor method. Conducted by T. Deal.

LYTHAM (Lancashire).—On Sunday, June 1st, at St. John's church, for Divine Service in the evening, a 720 of Bob Minor, with nine bobs and six singles (*Rope-Sight*), in 26 mins. W. Bamber, 1; J. Salthouse, 2; W. Atkinson, 3; C. H. Kerr, 4; Jno. Fell (conductor), 5; Jno. Fisher, 6. Tenor 10½ cwt. in G.

SALISBURY.—On Thursday, May 29th, Royal Oak Day, at St. Thomas's Church, three 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles, with 6,7,8, and 4,6,8, covering alternately, by A. Grist, 1; C. A. Clements, 2; T. Blackburn, 3; W. W. Gifford, 4; J. R. Jerram, 5; J. Head, 6; W. Lanham, 7; G. Davenport and C. Jasper, 8. Tenor 32 cwt. The above was merely done as a feat of strength more than anything else, the bells being in very bad order. Their condition has several times been called attention to in "THE BELL NEWS." Also on Whit-Sunday, June 1st, at St. Martin's church, several 6-scores of Grandsire and Bob Doubles were rung by the local company. At St. Edmund's and St. Paul's, rounds and set changes were rung, St. Thomas's bells were silent.

READING (Berks).—On Whit Sunday, June 1st, at St. Lawrence's church, a 504 of Grandsire Triples (taken from *Troyte*), containing Queen's and Tittums, in 20 mins. W. Goseltine, 1; H. M. Bawden, 2; E. Bishop, 3; G. Talbot, 4; A. Thomas (Birmingham), 5; W. J. Williams (conductor), 6; W. Newell, 7; — Dart (London), 8. Also after evening service, the first part of Holt's 6-part peal of Grandsire Triples, 826 changes, in 30 mins. W. H. Holloway, 1; W. R. Pocock, 2; W. Johnson, 3; G. Talbot, 4; E. Bishop, 5; W. Newell, 6; W. J. Williams (conductor), 7; A. Grist (Bournemouth), 8. Also during the day several courses of Caters were rung with A. Thomas (Birmingham), — Dart, (London), and a gentleman out of Yorkshire.

SPALDING (Lincolnshire).—On Monday, May 28th, at the church of SS. Mary and Nicolas, the local company rang a 720 of College Single. J. S. Wright, 1; J. Wilson, 2; G. L. Richardson, 3; R. Mackman, 4; E. Brown, 5; R. Sharp (Bourne), 6. Also on Whit-Sunday, June 1st, for early celebration, a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob. J. S. Wright, 1; J. Wilson, 2; G. L. Richardson, 3; R. Mackman, 4; E. Brown, 5; J. Brown (conductor), 6.

THORNHILL (Yorkshire).—On Sunday morning, June 1st, five members of the Thornhill society, and A. Goodall from Earlsheaton, rang

at St. Michael's Church, 2880 changes, being four 720's in the following methods; Duke of York, New London Pleasure, Oxford Treble Bob, Violet, in 1 hour and 40 mins. J. Knowles, 1; A. Goodall, 2; J. Hardcastle (conductor), 3; G. Hepworth, 4; J. Flowers, 5; Tom Kaye, 6. Tenor 18 cwt.

TICKHILL (Yorkshire).—On Sunday, June 1st, a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob Minor was rung at the parish church in 26½ mins. Chas. Ainley, 1; Chas. F. Fowler, 2; John S. Jenkinson, 3; Thos. Silvester, 4; Geo. Gleadle, 5; Francis Jenkinson (conductor), 6. Tenor 20 cwt. C. F. Fowler and T. Silvester hail from Anston, and are members of the Yorkshire Association.

A SHORT AND PLEASANT TRIP.

On Saturday last—writes our frequent contributor, Mr. B. Keeble, of Romford—in company with my friend, Mr. A. Pye, of Little Heath, I proceeded to Chelmsford, where arrangements were made with other members of the Essex Association for a visit to Great Waltham. The bells at this place are a magnificent ring, the heaviest in Essex, with a melodious tenor of 28 cwt. Unfortunately the ringing-chamber is within a few feet of the bells, and as there is but one floor, and that partially open, the noise is too great for any length of ringing. A 504 of Grandsire Triples was rung, an account of which will be found in another portion of this paper. Enjoying a night of sweet repose at Kelvedon, we were up soon after six o'clock, and proceeding to the tower, had some 6-scores upon the fine musical ring of five, tenor 21 cwt. Chartering a conveyance, we started for Coggeshall, but here we were disappointed to find that the recent earthquake had so damaged the top of the tower that no ringing could be done. Here are eight sweetly-toned bells—tenor 20 cwt., and if the "go" of the other bells is equal to that of the tenor, ringing here must be a very pleasant pastime. A start was next made for Braintree, which was reached after a pleasant drive of six miles. The cultivation of the land in this neighbourhood is chiefly confined to seed-growing, consequently the scene is a charming one, as at the present time field after field is to be seen in full bloom in various shades, interspersed here and there with patches of bright trifolium, with its scarlet heads, now at their height of bloom, while that portion devoted to the growing of corn has crops which considering the unusual dryness of the season, are looking remarkably well. Arriving at Braintree we first met Mr. Hammond. Owing to an extra service in the church no ringing could take place till the evening, and as we were due elsewhere, the question was—"What's to be done?" Our friend proved himself equal to the occasion, with remarkable dexterity a band was made up, and notwithstanding it was near dinner time, some even started upon the road for Stisted before we had time to refresh ourselves. After a pleasant drive of three miles, during which we encountered hordes of partridges, pheasants, and other kinds of game, we arrived at the church. Here we met other friends from Braintree, and the hearty reception we met with has made such an impression on our minds that it will be many a long day before it is forgotten. To our delight we rattled through, at the first attempt of handling a rope in the method, a 720 of Double Court. The bells are a sweet-toned ring of six, tenor 10 cwt., and they all "go like fiddles." Hastening on to Witham, we arrived in time for a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob. Here there is also a capital ring of six, tenor 18 cwt., with the whole of the appliances in apple-pie order, while the belfry itself is a model. Returning to Kelvedon, we were again enabled to listen to some fine striking, and the following morning we started for Chelmsford, and at an early hour were on our way to Writtle. Here we joined a band and started for Grandsire Triples. Probably the term "common" might be added, but the start was for Penning's last published one-part peal, my five-bell companion conducting without a hitch. The attempt was, however, unsuccessful, consequently there was an opportunity for something short and sweet in other methods, but a prophecy had been made that it was no use attempting anything beyond Grandsire. Notwithstanding this, touches of Bob Major and courses of Stedman Triples were rung. After attending the Annual Meeting at Chelmsford, it was arranged that a band should attempt a peal of Treble Bob at Writtle, in which I was invited, objected to, excluded, re-invited, and re-excluded. So while my friend was enjoying his peal of Kent Major, I proceeded to Galleywood, where I took part in more "common" Grandsire Triples, Bob Major, and Double Court Minor. Like all happy meetings, the hour of parting arrived, and I had to return home. During the day I visited seven towers (ringing in six of them), and I had met old friends, made new ones, added to my stock of knowledge in the art, and all in "a happy frame of mind." B. K.

ST. MARY'S PARISH CHURCH, GREAT ILFORD, ESSEX.

The new company of ringers rang for the first time, on Whit-Sunday, in the morning and evening, for Divine Service.

Mr. William Baron, of the Waterloo Society, is the instructor to the new company.

SIR EDMUND BECKETT AND THE ARCHITECTS.

A correspondence has passed between Sir Edmund Beckett and the secretary of the Royal Institute of British Architects. In his letter Sir Edmund says: I have for some time observed that your meetings are more and more occupied with discussions about the constitution and supposed professional interests of the R.I.B.A., and less and less with anything tending to advance architecture. According to your own calendar for this year, 50 per cent. more meetings are devoted to what are simply trades union discussions of your own than to reading and discussing architectural subjects; and those that have been read have been more uninteresting than I remember in any former year. One of your meetings yearly is occupied with utterly unprofitable speechmaking on presenting the medal you obtained from the Queen for the advancement of architecture to some architect whose reputation is already made: the most foolish of all applications of prizes, and quite contrary to the object for which they were intended or adopted in all seats of learning, and even in scientific societies. In some of them indeed they have declined into mere personal compliments or conflicts, but in none have they so little of their original and proper use as in yours. . . . You seem unable to furnish the public with criticism, either in the way of praise or blame, in which it will concur the least. In short, the primary object of the Institute is becoming, more and more distinctly, to advance, not architecture, but architects; at least, if they put your letters after their names, which only a very small proportion of them do. You have a right to do so if you choose, as any other trade or professional society has. But the more you do, the more ought other people to stand aloof, and not to help you by pretending to be members of your body and concurring in your objects, while, in fact, we have nothing at all to do with them. The hon. associates are a mere sham for every purpose except contributing about £220 a year to your finances and giving some appearance of weight to your proceedings by their names. Therefore I, at any rate, shall do so no more; but retire from what has always seemed to me a false position, since I was obliged by well-known circumstances to pay some attention to your proceedings. . . . With all personal respect for you and some other members of your body with whom I am acquainted, I remain, yours truly, EDMUND BECKETT."

The learned baronet has received the following reply:—

"Royal Institute British Architects, May 13th, 1884.—Dear Sir Edmund,—Your letter was yesterday laid before the Council, and we are to inform you that, in accepting your resignation, they have added an expression of regret that you should so inadequately appreciate the aims and actions of the Royal Institute of British Architects as the terms of your letter convey.—We are, yours faithfully,

J. MACVICAR ANDERSON, Hon. Sec.
W. H. WHITE, Sec."

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

The Annual General Meeting of the above Association will be held at Canterbury, on Monday, June 16th. Service in the Cathedral at 10 a.m.; Committee meeting at 11.15 in the Chapter House; dinner at 1, at which the Dean of Canterbury will preside. Application for dinner tickets to be made at once to the Secretary, the Rev. R. Knatchbull-Hugessen, Mersham. The bells of the Cathedral (8), St. Stephen's (8), St. Dunstan's (6), and Holy Cross (5), will be at the disposal of members.

THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

A District Meeting of this Association (for ringing only) will be held at Battersea, by the kind permission of the Vicar, the Rev. Canon Erskine Clarke, on Saturday, June 14th. It is hoped that all who can do so will attend. ARTHUR B. CARPENTER, Hon. Sec.

YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION MEETING AT SADDLEWORTH.

IMPORTANT NOTICE.—The train from Bradford for this meeting on June 14th, leaves the Exchange Station at 12.20, and not 12.43 as stated on the circulars.

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 ACCIDENT AT ST. THOMAS', SALISBURY.

SIR,—With reference to the above accident, it would be interesting to know who is the steepleman of St. Thomas, Salisbury, and what was the actual cause of the tenor-clapper coming out as it did. Clappers as a rule do not fly out without good reason. Most of these so-called accidents are due to carelessness and want of attention on the part of the steepleman or ringers. SIDESMAN.

THE CHRONOLOGY OF CHANGE-RINGING.—(Continued.)

By F. W. J. REES,

A Member of the Ancient Society of College Youths.

- 1818.—The ringers of Dedham, Essex, rang Bob Major.
Gravesend ringers rang 6000 Double Norwich Court Bob Major.
James Barham died, aged 93.
The ringers of Hythe, Kent, rang 10,080 Bob Major.
The ringers of Leeds rang Stedman Caters.
- 1819.—A new ring of twelve at Quex Park, Kent, the seat of J. Powell, Esq.
The ring at Painswick increased to twelve.
A peal of Stedman Triples by H. Cooper, rung at Shiffnal, Shropshire, by the Birmingham ringers, 582 calls: from ms.
A peal of Caters at Kendal, Westmoreland, first on the bells.
The ringers of Waltham Abbey Bob Major and Grandsire Triples.
- 1820.—A new ring of eight at Bungay, Suffolk. The ringers of Soham, Cambs., Treble Bob Royal.
Birmingham ringers 7200 Kent Treble Bob Maximus.
Birmingham ringers 6600 Stedman Cinques.
A peal of Caters at Bishops Stortford, Herts, by Junior Cumberlands.
John Reeves died, aged about 80.
The ring at Banbury, Oxon, increased to eight.
The ringers of Rolvenden, Kent, Bob Triples; first peal on the bells.
The ringers of Gloucester Grandsire Triples at the Cathedral; first peal on the bells.
The ringers of Liverpool, Grandsire Cinques.
The ringers of Wakefield, Yorks, Grandsire Caters.
- 1821.—The ringers of Huddersfield, Yorks, 5600 Superlative Surprise Major; the first peal in the method. False.
The Eastern Scholars Grandsire Triples at Woolwich, the first peal on the bells.
The ringers of Oldham, Lancs., 14,016 Kent Treble Bob Major.
First peal on the bells at Mitcham, both by Cumberlands, Treble Bob Major.
Farewell peal on old eight at Rotherham, Yorks, replaced by new ten.
A new ring of eight at Poole, Dorset.
The ringers of Benenden, Kent, a peal at Rye, Sussex.
The ringers at Wakefield, Yorks, Grandsire Triples.
- 1822.—The ringers of Wakefield 5400 Cambridge Surprise Royal, the first peal and the longest length in the method.
First peal on the bells at St. George, Middlesex, rung by four fathers and four sons.
- 1823.—Grandsire Triples at St. George, Camberwell, first peal on the bells.
Grandsire Triples at Sandwich, Kent, first peal on the bells, conducted by Shipway.
The ringers of North Elmham, Norfolk, Bob Major.
A new ring of ten at Wisbeach, Cambs.
First peal on the twelve at S. Leonard's, Shoreditch, by Cumberlands.
First peal on the ten at All Saints', Poplar, by Cumberlands.
- 1823.—The ringers of Ashton, Lancs., Bob Royal.
Worcester ringers Grandsire Triples at St. Helen's.
Caters rung at St. Nicholas, Brighton.
- 1824.—First peal on the ten at St. Luke's, Chelsea.
The ringers of Mitcham, Surrey, rang their first peal: Grandsire Triples.
Stedman Triples at Richmond, and St. Mary, Whitechapel.
The peal of Stedman Triples rung at Richmond, was composed by J. Cooper of Birmingham, 480 calls.
Canterbury, Grandsire Caters at the Cathedral.
- 1825.—The ringers of Wakefield, Yorks, 5400 Superlative Surprise Royal, the first peal rung in the method.
A peal at St. John's, Waterloo, by College Youths.
Ringers of Diss, Norfolk, Treble Bob Major on their old bells.
The bells of Manchester Cathedral opened as a ring of ten.
The ring at St. Andrew, Norwich, increased to ten.
The ring at Kenwyn, Cornwall, increased to eight.
- 1826.—Ringers of Wakefield 5400 Superlative Surprise Royal. A true peal, and the longest length in the method.
Ash, Kent, Grandsire Triples, first peal on the bells.
Ringers of Trowbridge, Wilts, Grandsire Triples.
Grandsire Triples at Chaddesley-Corbett, Worcestershire, by a new company.
The ringers of Watford, Herts, Grandsire Triples at Hillingdon.
Ringers of Bingley, Yorks, 8640 in various Minor methods.
- 1827.—Ringers of Uckfield, Sussex, Bob Triples, their first peal.
Ipswich ringers Bob Royal.
T. Day composed a peal of Stedman Triples, with only 420 bobs and twenty-two Holt's singles.
Norwich ringers at St. Giles's 5376 Double Norwich Court Bob Major.
Ringers of Bishops Stortford, Herts, Bob Triples.
Ringers of Redenhall, Norfolk, 8000 Treble Bob Major.
Ringers of Masham, Yorks, 5040 in various Minor methods.
Ringers of Otley, Yorks, 9600 Treble Bob Major.
- 1828.—Walworth Youths Grandsire Triples at St. Peter's, Walworth.
A work on Stedman, published by J. P. Powell, Esq., of Quex Park.
Rotherhithe society, Grandsire Triples.
- 1829.—Cumberlands Treble Bob Royal at St. James's, Bermondsey. First peal on the bells. Tom Hurry of Norwich rang 9th.
Ringers of Helmingham, Suffolk, Bob Major.
- 1830.—Ringers of Oldham, Lancashire, Grandsire Cinques on their new twelve.
Ringers of Burton-on-Trent, Grandsire Triples, their first peal.
A new ring of ten at St. Peter, Liverpool.
A new ring of eight at St. Saviour's, Bath.
The ring at Peterborough Cathedral reduced from ten to five.
Seven new bells added to old tenor at St. Mary's, Leicester.
Ringers of Ashford, Kent, 10,304 Bob Major.
- 1830.—Mr. H. Johnson rang his first peal.
Ringers of Sowerby, Yorks, 8,448 Kent Treble Bob Major.
A peal rung by ringers of Deptford, Kent.
- 1831.—Norwich ringers 6160 Double Norwich Court Bob Major. This was not exceeded till 1882.
A mixed band of ten men 15,168 Kent Treble Bob Major at Elland, Yorks, in 8 hrs. 43 mins.
A new ring of eight at St. Peter's, Marlborough, Wilts.
Leicester ringers Grandsire Triples at St. Mary's.
- 1832.—Norwich ringers 6000 Double Oxford Bob Major, at St. Giles's, the longest length rung in the method.
First peal at Penkridge, Staffordshire.
Ringers of Oldham, Lancs., 7392 Kent Treble Bob Maximus.
The Sussex Society a peal of Stedman Triples, with only 362 calls, at St. George's, Camberwell.
Ringers of North Elmham, Norfolk, Double Norwich Court Bob Major.
Ringers of Kelsale, Suffolk, Treble Bob Major.
A new ring of eight at Diss, Norfolk, replacing old ring of eight.
- 1833.—Painswick ringers 10,224 Oxford Treble Bob Maximus, in 6 hrs. 50 mins.
The longest length rung in the method.
The ringers of Longney, Gloucestershire, Grandsire Triples.
- 1834.—The ringers of Bath, Grandsire Triples at the Abbey.
Manchester ringers Stedman Triples with 382 calls.
- 1835.—Norwich ringers 5280 London Surprise Major at St. Andrew's. The first peal ever rung in the method. It was true.
Norwich ringers 5376 Superlative Surprise Major at St. Giles.
- 1836.—Ringers of Keighley, Yorks, a peal of Stedman Triples by Chas. Mason, of Otley.
The ring of twelve at Christ Church, Spitalfields, destroyed by fire.
- 1837.—The St. James's company 12,096 Caters at Fulham.
St. James's Company, 7325 Grandsire Cinques at St. Martin's-in-the-Fields in 5 hrs. 35 mins. Longest length in the method.
Ringers of Beccles, Suffolk, 5220 Bob Royal.
A new ring of eight at Rothwell, Yorks.
Bristol ringers Triples at St. Matthew's.
Birmingham ringers Triples at St. Mary's, Lichfield. First peal on the bells.
Ringers of Cheltenham, Gloucestershire Kent Treble Bob Major on the restored ring of eight at Tewkesbury.
Cumberlands 5200 Oxford Treble Bob Royal on Bow bells, time 3 hrs. 53 mins. G. Frost at tenor.
- 1838.—The last peal rung on the old ten at St. Peter's, Leeds, Yorks.
The ring at Bennington, Herts, increased to eight.
- 1839.—Ringers of Leeds, Kent, 10,080 Bob Major.
- 1840.—The ring of ten at York Minster destroyed by fire.
The Junior College Youths merged into the Ancient Society.
Ringers of Great Yarmouth, Norfolk, Bob Major.
A new ring of eight at Loughborough, Leicestershire.

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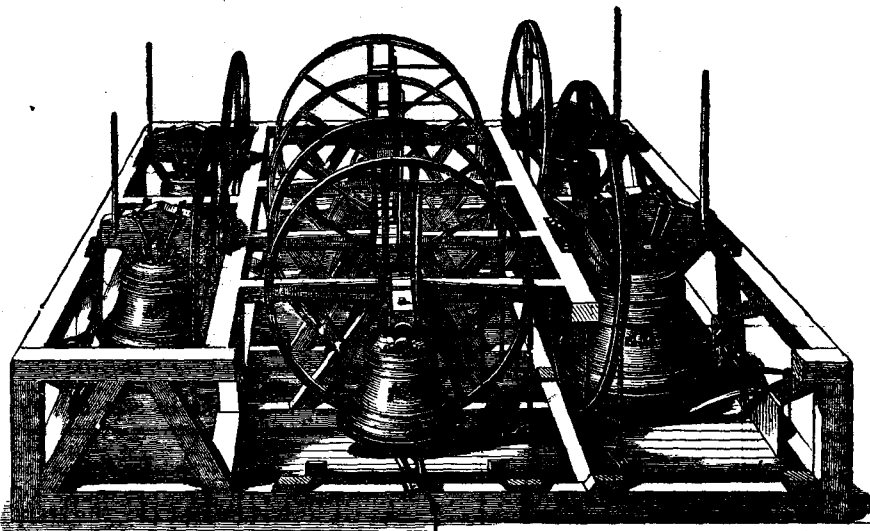
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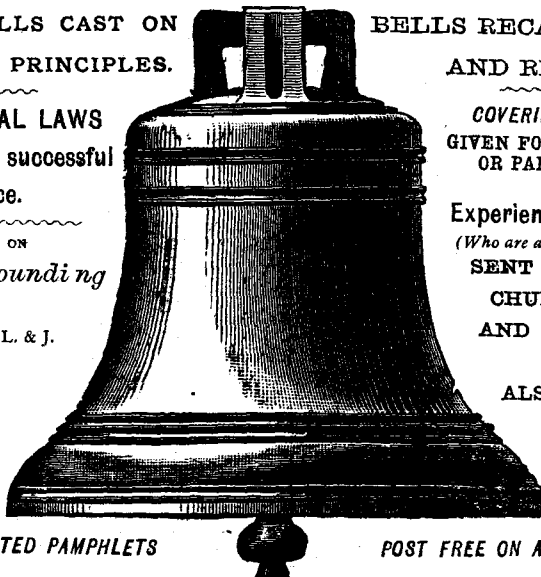
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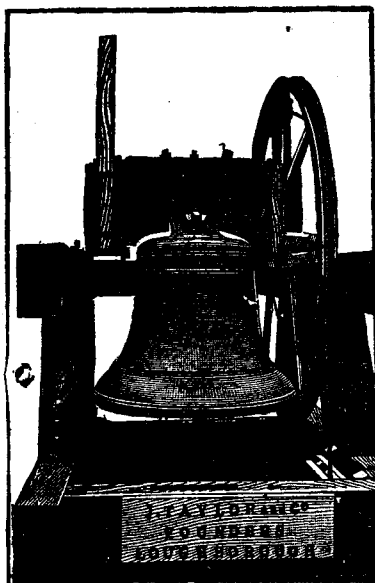
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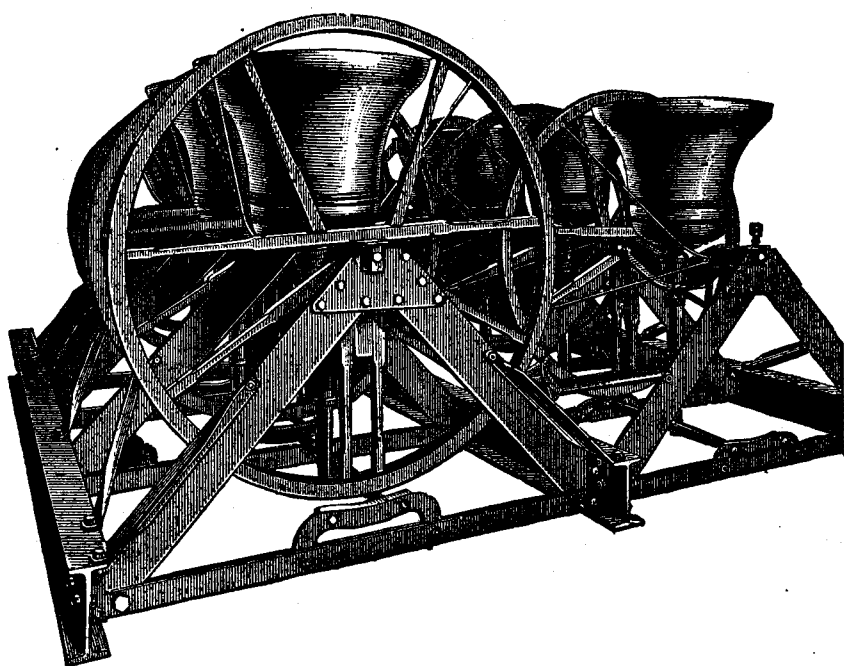
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No. 115. [NEW SERIES.]—VOL. III.

SATURDAY, JUNE 14, 1884.

[ONE PENNY.]

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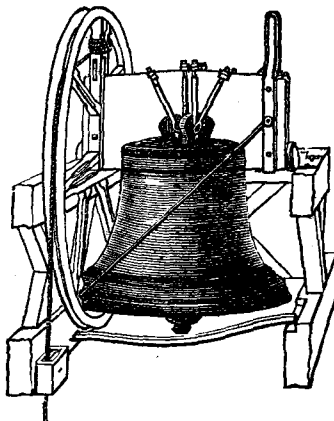
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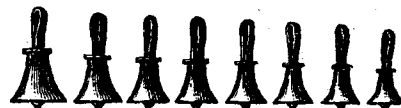
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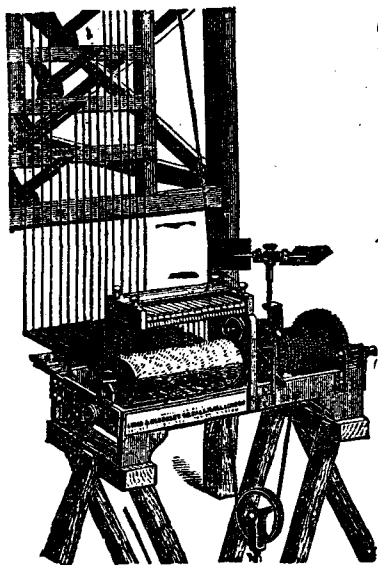
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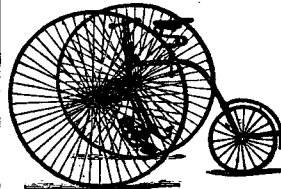
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TWO DAYS AND A BIT.

A party of members of St. Mary's Bell-ringing Society, of Old Battersea, Surrey (fifteen in number), started on their annual visit to East Kent, on Saturday, the last day of May, the day before Whit-Sunday. Their holiday was brief, but very pleasant. They enjoyed the sea air, several very agreeable rides, were liberally entertained, and gave their friends a taste of their quality as bell-ringers. As on previous occasions, Birchington, in the Isle of Thanet, was the first place they visited, and there they were received by many old friends. That pleasant village—where so much that is quaint and old-fashioned is united with so much that is new and artistic, where some of the houses and the little market-place have probably altered little with the lapse of time; and where handsome villas in the "bungalow" style have been built, and mansions, terraces, and promenades by the sea are springing into existence—was reached about half-past seven on Saturday evening; and the party having recruited their strength by needed refreshments, made their way to the Waterloo Bell Tower, in Quex Park, near the village. This tower contains a fine peal of twelve bells; as, on a previous occasion, the proprietor of the Park, H. H. P. Cotton, Esq., gave permission to the ringers to exercise their skill, they speedily got to work, and very soon the air resounded with several touches of Grandsire Triples and Caters.

The party then returned to Birchington, and took up their quarters for the night at Host Fright's, finding them, as they had at other times, very comfortable quarters indeed. After a moderate enjoyment of the good things provided, and a chat about the proceedings of the day they retired early, intending to rise betimes on the following morning, and do honour, in their own musical fashion, to Whit-Sunday. Breakfast was disposed of at six o'clock, and then the party paid another visit to the park, and the Battersea branch of the Royal Cumberland Society took the ropes in hand, and setting to work with will, accomplished a peal of Grandsire Triples. It was the first time for more than thirty years that such a peal had been rung on these bells. A report of the peal appears in its proper place.

Return to Birchington, and dinner, well earned and well enjoyed, followed, and then the party were taken for a drive in the host's brake. The weather was delightful, the breezes from the sea exhilarating, and the trip of eleven miles to Wingham was thoroughly enjoyed. From that place a start was made for Ash, where the Vicar kindly permitted several touches of Grandsire Triples to be rung. Tea having been partaken of, the party started homewards, by way of Sandwich and Minster. Birchington was the resting place for the night; and after breakfast on Monday morning, another visit was paid to the bell-tower at the request of Mr. T. B. Reed, under whose charge it is placed, and whose attention to the visitors now, as many times before, was heartily appreciated. The first half of Holt's ten-part peal, 2520 changes, was rung in 1 hr. and 32 mins. W. Baron, treble; T. B. Reed (first half-peal), 2; W. Coppage, 3; C. E. Malim, 4; H. A. Hopkins, 5; H. S. Thomas, 6; H. Swain, 7; E. E. Robins, tenor.

Refreshments were supplied by the proprietor of the park; and this agreeable rest was followed by a game of cricket, in which considerable skill was shown. After dinner, in accordance with an established custom, there was a game of "rounders" on the sands, followed by tea.

The party returned to the Metropolis by the last train, after two days and a bit of most agreeable relaxation and the enjoyment of a real holiday. Friends at Birchington look forward with pleasure to the annual visit of the ringers from Battersea, who, on their part preserve most agreeable recollections of the kind reception given them, and give their warmest thanks to Mr. Cotton, who so readily granted permission to use the bell-tower in Quex Park.

THE ST. ALBAN'S CATHEDRAL SOCIETY.

On Wednesday evening, June 4th, the St. Alban's Cathedral ringers visited the village of North Mymms, by the kind invitation of the Vicar, the Rev. G. S. Batty. Before commencing to ring, a short but appropriate service was conducted by the Vicar, who also delivered a short address on the bell-ringers' office. After ringing several 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles, the ringers were invited to the vicarage, where the Vicar and Mrs. Batty very kindly administered to the wants of the inner man. Some handbell ringing was indulged in, after which the company again ascended the tower and rang another 6-score, the village ringers ringing them out of the village on their departure. The members who went were: Messrs. Hills (conductor), Fowler, Hucks, Cartmel, Grant, and Buckingham, also Mr. Lewi, an honorary member. The ringers beg to express their thanks to the vicar for the pleasant evening they enjoyed. There are six bells at North Mymms, tenor 14 cwt. in F., cast by Briant of Hertford in 1805.

The Ancient Society of College Youths will hold their Anniversary Dinner at "The Bell," Walthamstow, on 5th July next. Dinner on the table at 3 o'clock; tickets 4s. Gentlemen intending to be present will please send their names to the Secretary, "King's Head," Winchester Street, S.E., not later than Tuesday, July 1st.

FARNHAM ROYAL, BUCKS.

On Whit-Monday, June 2nd, a friendly meeting took place to celebrate the seventh anniversary of the opening of St. Mary's tower and its six bells. Ringing commenced at 12 o'clock, with a 720 of Grandsire Minor (in three parts), in 27 mins. J. Parker, 1; W. Fussell, 2; J. Basden, 3; G. Lucas, 4; G. Griffin, 5; C. Clarke, 6. Followed by a 720 of Bob Minor (with twenty-five bobs and ten singles, in five parts), in 26 mins. G. Basden, 1; J. Parker, 2; G. Griffin, 3; G. Lucas, 4; J. Basden, 5; W. Fussell, 6. And a 720 of Kent Treble Bob, in 26 mins. G. Lucas, 1; J. Basden, 2; J. Parker, 3; G. Sheppard, 4; W. Fussell, 5; G. Griffin, 6. The ringers then adjourned to the schoolroom, where the customary tea was provided through the kindness of the rector (the Rev. S. F. Marshall). Tea over, the ringers "after shaking hands with the worthy rector," returned to the tower and rang a 720 of Grandsire Minor, with forty bobs and sixteen singles, in four parts, in 24½ mins. C. Clarke, 1; W. Fussell, 2; W. Wilder, 3; G. Lucas, 4; J. Basden, 5; J. Parker, 6. Also a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob, in 25 mins. G. Lucas, 1; J. Basden, 2; G. Griffin, 3; W. Fussell, 4; J. Parker, 5; G. Sheppard, 6. And a 720 of Bob Minor, in 26 mins. J. Parker, 1; G. Sheppard, 2; W. Fussell, 3; J. Basden, 4; G. Griffin, 5; C. Clarke, 6. Conducted by J. Parker. Messrs. Griffin and Lucas hail from Hornsey, Middlesex, Mr. Sheppard from Chislehurst, Kent. Mr. J. Mansfield, of London, also looked in on his way to the celebrated Burnham Beeches (where the ringing could be heard, we are told, which added greatly to its charm). The company separated about 8 o'clock, having rung six complete 720's, and several touches, which were called by W. Fussell. About 6300 changes were rung during the day.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION, AND THE ST. LUKE'S SOCIETY, DERBY.

On Whit-Monday, June 2nd, by the kind invitation of the Vicar of St. Luke's Derby, six members of the above, and two of St. Luke's Society, attempted a peal of Grandsire Triples, but after ringing nearly one hour and three quarters (half of the peal), it was thought advisable not to proceed further, as the bells were going very badly, and the ultimate success of the peal on that account was very doubtful, so that the conductor brought the bells round at the half way, an account of which will be found in the ringing columns. On descending the tower, the ringers were met by the Vicar, who invited them to a most sumptuous repast which he had provided for them in the schools adjoining the church, and of which about a dozen sat down and partook of the worthy Vicar's hospitality. During the day, touches of Triples, Major, and Grandsire Caters were rung upon the handbells. Another attempt for a peal on the bells will be made by members of the Association on June 24th, the Vicar having expressed a wish for that day, it being the Anniversary of the church. The members of the Association take this opportunity of thanking the Rev. F. J. Lyall for his kindness in inviting them to attempt the peal, and also for the kind and hospitable reception which he gave them and his own ringers on that day.

RE-OPENING OF BELLS AT ST. MICHAEL'S, BRAY, BERKS.

On Sunday, June 1st, the following members of the College Youths visited Bray parish church, the bells of which have just been rehung by Warner and Son, and rang for morning and evening service several 120s of Grandsire Doubles. R. Flaxman (Farnham Royal), 1; H. Rogers (Maidenhead), 2; G. McLaughlin (London), 3; A. W. Garraway (Maidenhead), 4; R. Smith (Maidenhead; conductor), 5; E. Kelley (Cookham), 6. Also on Monday, June 2nd, by kind invitation of the acting vicar, the Rev. H. E. Trotter, who had provided a sumptuous dinner at the vicarage for them, they repaired again to the tower and rang several more 120s of Doubles, but owing to the heavy weight of metal they could not attempt any Minor. H. Rogers, 1; G. McLaughlin, 2; Edn. Rogers, 3; Ed. Rogers, 4; R. Smith, 5; R. Flaxman, 6. Tenor 30 cwt. These bells go rather bad, having new ropes, very springy, and rather bound in bearings.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

The next Quarterly Meeting of the above Association will take place at Leicester, on Saturday, June 28th, when the following belfries will be at their disposal: St. Margaret's, 10 bells; St. Mary's, 8 bells; St. Mark's, 8 bells; St. Saviour's, 8 bells; St. George's, 6 bells; All Saints', 5 bells; and probably St. Martin's, 10 bells. The tea and meeting will be in the Pavilion, Abbey Park, at 5 o'clock, at the usual charge, 1s. 6d. each. Visitors on arriving will proceed to St. George's schools, where the committee will meet them for forming bands. The Committee Meeting will also be held there at 4 p.m.

ANNUAL MEETING OF THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

[BY OUR OWN REPORTER.]

As briefly stated in our last issue, the 5th anniversary of the above Association took place at Chelmsford, on Whit-Monday, when the gathering proved the largest that ever assembled in the county, a result undoubtedly due to the almost perfect arrangements made by the respected energetic Hon. Secretary, the Rev. H. A. Cockey. The request for the issue of cheap railway tickets—a step which it is hoped no railway company will ever regret taking in connection with ringing anniversaries—the decision to give a free dinner to the members, the commendable, yet almost necessary steps when a large gathering is anticipated, of securing permission for bands to visit the surrounding towers, and last, but not least, securing so high a dignity of the church as the Bishop-Suffragan of the Diocese to deliver an address to the members at the usual service, with other various minor details, required not only considerable tact, but entailed no small amount of labour on the worthy Sec. The successful manner in which such were carried out, combined with the fact that Whit-Monday is gradually becoming a universal holiday, and the anticipated discussion upon the Diocesan question, all tended to increase the attendance, and make the fifth anniversary more successful than its predecessors, a result that was achieved.

Members from Colchester, Dedham, Bromley, Kelvedon, Maldon, etc., arrived in the county town before eight, while others hailing from Romford, Little Heath, West Ham, Waltham Abbey, etc., arrived shortly afterwards, and with several ringers from the Metropolis, who are members of the Association, it was not long before the bells of Chelmsford (8), Galleywood (8), Writtle (8), and Widford (6), were all in full swing. At Writtle, as recorded in our last, an attempt was made for Penning's last published peal of Grandsire Triples. As this unfortunately came to grief there was sufficient time for touches in other methods before it was necessary to leave for Chelmsford. During the day various attempts were made to get a band together for the purpose of re-visiting the same tower in the evening for a peal of Treble Bob Major, and at the close of the business proceedings, after considerable "hunting," both "in and out of course," after various selections, a finally "approved" band was made up, and shortly after nine o'clock a majority found that notwithstanding the bells were "all home," and the conductor had called "stand," there were no "iron horses" that would travel in "coursing order" for "sweet home," before the early hours of the following morning. At Galleywood, touches of Grandsire Triples, and a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor, was rung in the morning. In the evening the tower was again visited by several members of the Association. Short touches of Bob Major, Grandsire Triples, and Double Court Bob Minor was rung, thus allowing all comers to enjoy a pull. At Widford, Oxford Treble Bob was chiefly the method rung. Ringing commenced at Chelmsford by a well-struck touch (504) of Stedman Triples, by the following band: W. Alps, 1; C. F. Winny, 2; P. Cleverley, 3; W. Collins, 4; W. Doran, 5; J. M. Hayes (conductor), 6; G. Newson, 7; H. Randall, 8. Though the striking of this touch was good, the "go" of the tenor proved such that before it was brought home, an extraordinary constitutional exercise was accomplished, and we would rather not repeat the expression used afterwards, but congratulate our brother string that he is still in the land of the living. Other touches in the same method, a similar length of Grandsire Triples, and short touches of Bob Major were also rung at intervals during the day by various mixed bands hailing from all parts of the county. The Braintree and Witham local companies selected travelling up to the meeting by road, rather than trust their valuable lives behind a locomotive, and both companies intended paying a visit to Bloomfield, but were deterred from handling the sallies there, owing to the illness of a lady residing near the church. Mr. Huckson, belonging to the former company, had with him his musical set of handbells, and after the meeting at Chelmsford, these were brought into requisition, Messrs. Hammond, Rudkin, and Huckson, playing a choice selection of National airs, four in hand. The same gentlemen, with Mr. F. Calthorpe, rang double-handed a course of Bob Major. A course of Grandsire Caters was also rung by C. Winny, 1-2; S. Hammond, 3-4; H. Randall, 5-6; J. M. Hayes, 7-8; A. Huckson, 9-10.

The usual service took place in the parish church at 12.30, at which nearly seventy members attended. A short form of Morning Prayer was used with two hymns. Strange to say, not a single member of the choir was present; consequently the canticles and responses were read. The whole of the service having been very plainly conducted, his Lordship, the Bishop of Colchester, ascended the pulpit and without selecting any portion of the sacred word as a text, said:—

He had been asked to say a few words to them. As ringers, they took an important part in connection with the services of the Church, for it was a distinction of England—not only that we had a number of fine peals of bells, but that we alone of European countries, as far as he was aware, knew how to ring them. They did their part in summoning worshippers to church to the service of God, and he thought we might thank God that ringers as a rule were worshippers. The time had gone by, and he hoped it would not return, when it frequently happened that ringers when they had finished their task descended the bellry stairs, not to attend the service, but to go

home, or else to the nearest public house. They ought to be worshippers and communicants, because as they took their part in summoning others to the worship of Almighty God, they ought to be proving their ready membership in the Church of Christ. Let them remember that Church bells were dedicated and consecrated to God in the same way as the church itself, were to be used for sacred purposes, therefore to ring them because the squire's horse had won in a race or because some one had won a political election was not the right use of church bells. The most important use of church bells was to summon people to worship, and if we felt we loved the habitation of God's house and the place where his honour dwelleth we should listen with pleasure to the invitation these bells gave and we should be glad to accept it. But that was not the only purpose for which the ringers' office was brought into requisition. We heard sometimes a sadder tone from the bells than that with which they summoned the worshippers to church. The bell was used as a passing bell. He did not know in how many parishes the custom of ringing a knell every day still prevailed, but he believed it was a common custom to ring a passing knell, and again when the body was laid in the grave. Some so frequently heard these passing and funeral knells that it made no impression upon them, but such should remind them that the time would come, and might come soon, when it would toll for them. And then there was a change, for sometimes we heard a merry peal come from the village steeple, and when we asked the reason we were told that some man and some maiden were about to enter or had entered into matrimony, and the bells rung out a merry peal as a kind of symbol of the good wishes and goodwill of the friends of those who were married. And yet again we might hear the same bells on some day of public rejoicing that was common to the whole nation—something which was connected perhaps with the success of our arms in war, if we were called upon to engage in war, or something which had to do with the Sovereign who reigned over us, or some of her family. When we heard the bells ringing for such, we were reminded of blessings which we enjoyed not only as individuals, and not only as a Church, but as a nation. We were reminded that whatever cause we had for complaint, whatever cause there might be wrong, or which we looked upon as grievances, and which we desired to alter, and, as we supposed, to remedy, still we did enjoy blessings which was not the case with all nations. He hoped that the members of the Association would look upon the Association as bringing the principle of unity into this particular work, as bringing together as members of the same order those who were engaged in the same work in different parts of the county, or the diocese, or whatever the division might be. He hoped this would not only be a pleasing outing to them, but that they would go back to their different parishes and feel that they were called to assist in this particular work, and that it would draw them still closer to the Church to which they belonged, and to the God whom they worshipped and to whom they called others to worship.

Shortly after the conclusion of the service, the dinner took place in the schoolroom adjoining the churchyard. There were seventy-five members present, his Lordship, who was supported by the Rev. F. Johnson, rector of Chelmsford, presided. At the close of the repast,

Mr. JOHNSON, in a few well-chosen words, proposed "The Health of his Lordship." In acknowledging the same,

The BISHOP expressed a hope that the Association would continue to prosper, and that one day they would meet to celebrate its 50th anniversary. In company with Mr. Johnson, the Bishop then left the meeting, and the chair was occupied by Mr. W. P. Gepp, one of the churchwardens of St. Mary's, who immediately called upon the Secretary for the Annual Report, from which we take the following:—

"During the past year the Association had increased in membership, although several members had withdrawn. At the present time there were seven life members, fifty-five honorary members, and 175 ringing members. The members at the last annual meeting were seven life members, fifty-three honorary, and 166 ringing members. In the course of the year sixteen ringing members had withdrawn or left the county, and three, Mr. Thomas Britten of Waltham Abbey, Mr. C. Ottley, of Navestock, and Mr. F. Fitch, of Maldon, had been removed by death. They were members almost from the commencement of the Association. Mr. Britten was elected at the second district meeting, in 1879. His fame as a ringer was not only known in Essex, but also in the metropolis, where he rang his first peal as far back as 1835. All who knew him must feel that they had lost one who stood high in their estimation. On the other hand twenty-seven new ringing members had been elected, so that the increase in the number of the ringing members was ten, and the increase in honorary members three. The funds again showed a balance on the right side, though it was not a very large one, owing to the greater costs of the new reports, and to the increase in the number of peals which had been entered in the peal-book. There were still subscriptions due from thirteen honorary members, and from thirty ringing members, the amount due being £4 5s. The receipts during the year had amounted to £20 5s., and the expenditure to £19 1s. 6d., leaving a balance of £1 3s. 6d. The total amount in the Savings Bank to the credit of the Association was £48 15s. 2d. The ringing by members of the Association reported in 'THE BELL NEWS' was very creditable. There had been five peals of Grandsire Triples rung at Romford, Walthamstow, Galleywood, Waltham Abbey, Barking, and one on handbells (double-handed) at Waltham Abbey. From Braintree they had three peals, two in seven different methods and one in fourteen different methods, making a total of eight peals since their last annual meeting. The Braintree company deserved the highest praise for their energy and perseverance, for besides these three peals they had rung two date touches, one in eleven the other in fourteen different methods, and more than 100 other 720's in fourteen different methods. The Widford band had rung 720's in nine different methods. A 504 in fifteen five-bell methods was rung at Little Heath; a half peal of Grandsire Triples was rung at Walthamstow; date touches were rung at the annual meeting by a mixed band; Bob Major at Great Bromley; twelve different five-bell methods at Kelvedon; quarter-peals of Grandsire Triples at Waltham Abbey, two at Romford, one at Galleywood, one at Writtle, and a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples at Waltham Abbey, also a 1008 Bob Major at Coggeshall. Change-ringing by members of the association had been reported at about twenty-three places in the county. Besides the handbell peal at Waltham Abbey above mentioned, they had a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples, and a touch of 592 Grandsire Major at the same place, two touches of Grandsire Triples at Romford, each over 308, and some touches in the same method at Brentwood. Turning to the subject of belfry improvements, they found two new rings of six bells at Laindon Hills and Rettendon. The peal at Woodford had been rehung and the bells at Dagenham had been repaired. At Great Beaulay a ring of five bells had been rehung, and a new ring of six was being put up at Stanford-le-Hope by Messrs. Moore, Holmes and Mackenzie, of the Redenhall Foundry."

The report concluded by urging upon every member of the Association to do his best to spread the knowledge of change-ringing as much as it lay in his power, and to induce qualified ringers to join the Association, which undoubtedly is doing a great work in the county, but is not so well-known as it should be, neither its funds so large as they ought to be. Mr. J. M. Hayes, proposed and Mr. A. J. Perkins

seconded, that the report should be printed and circulated, which was agreed to. The President, Vice-Presidents, Committee, and Secretary, were all re-elected. The following members were elected: *Life Member*—The Lord Bishop of St. Albans; *Honorary Members*—the Rev. W. S. Hemming, rector of Rayne; The Rev. J. E. Sedgwick, rector of Stanford-le-Hope; the Rev. W. J. Bettison, vicar of Leytonstone; and Messrs. Jolly and Delf, of Great Bentley. *Ringling Members*—Messrs. Edward Chaplin, Witham; James Richill, Boreham; A. Sewell, Galleywood; Harry Rolfe, Rayne; William Radley, Elisha Radley, and Alfred Chaplin, Stisted; Joseph Elliott, Kelvedon; A. Blois, Great Bromley; G. Smith, and W. Watson, Dedham; W. Last, Maldon. *Distinguished Members*—George McLaughlin and W. Collins, London. *Probationers*—Messrs. J. Turner and D. Saveall, Rettendon. The election of Mr. James Hannington, who was elected in the belfry at Romford, the previous Saturday evening, was confirmed.

Mr. RUDKIN proposed, and Mr. HAMMOND seconded, "That a set of handbells (12) should be purchased from the funds of the Association, for the purpose of enabling members to practice at district and annual meetings." The resolution was carried unanimously.

The HON. SECRETARY read the Draft Scheme of the proposed National Association, and without any discussion upon the same, it was resolved not to entertain the proposal to join such.

The HON. SECRETARY called attention to the publication of the pamphlet entitled *The Management of Bells*, which was a reprint of an article from these columns, and pointed out that it was advisable that such should be circulated among clergy and churchwardens in the county, that were not connected with the Association. The Secretary was empowered to purchase and circulate the same in the county.

THE DIOCESAN QUESTION.

Mr. W. ALPS, of Waltham Abbey, moved "That the Association be extended to Hertfordshire, and that in future it be known as the St. Alban's Diocesan Association." Before proceeding with the resolution, Mr. Alps said he thought he should be justified in expressing his regret at the death of the late Mr. Thomas Britten. The deceased was not only a prominent ringer in the Metropolis, but he was a gentleman, the guide of man, the guide of youth, full of exalted feelings, and full of that sensibility and gentility which constitute an English gentleman. In the words of the poet he might say:—

Know thou, O stranger to the fame,
Of that much loved, much honoured name,
For none that knew him need be told,
A warmer heart death ne'er made cold

With regard to the resolution, he had always held a very strong opinion in favour of a Diocesan Association. As far back as Easter-Monday, 1881, at Sawbridgeworth, he expressed a hope that a Diocesan Association would be established for St. Albans. In 1883, he wrote in favour of a Diocesan Association for Ely, which had since been formed. He was a strong believer in such, because he looked upon Diocesan Associations as securing that recognition and support which made them successful. Readers of "THE BELL NEWS" were aware that an appeal had been made by two ringers in the county of Herts, for the formation of an Association, but such was not done, and why? simply because a Diocesan Association was the thing that was desired. Having referred to the district meeting of the Essex Association at West Ham, contending he was justified in the steps he took, and to the correspondence which has recently appeared in our columns, the speaker proceeded to quote from the Church year-book, showing that while the seven Diocesan Associations had 1471 ringing members, and 610 hon. members, the thirteen county Associations with 1837 members, had but 441 hon. members. This he contended showed that Diocesan Associations obtained the greatest recognition, and carried the greatest influence, besides which they secured the greatest support, a matter worthy of careful consideration, seeing that an hon. member paid five, and in some cases ten times as much, without any returns, as a ringing member. The same authority showed that the Oxford Diocesan Association was the most successful, with its various branches; he contended the same system would work equally as well in this Diocese, for he believed that the more elaborate and gigantic an Association became, the more successful would its progress be.

The SECRETARY having seconded the resolution, read a letter from Mr. H. Waddington, Hon. Secretary of St. Alban's Cathedral Society, stating that that Society were willing to join a Diocesan Association, if formed so as to have one branch for Essex, and one for Hertfordshire. The Rev. Woolmore Wigram also wrote, suggesting that a vote of the meeting should be taken, and if carried, a Committee appointed to draw up a scheme for working the Association, the scheme to be laid before the annual meeting next year for approval. In the meantime ringers from Hertfordshire to be admitted as probationers.

Mr. J. M. HAYES proposed, and Mr. H. RANDALL seconded that the question be not entertained.

Mr. B. KEEBLE, in supporting the amendment, was pleased to say that he was enabled to meet his antagonist in a "happy frame of

mind." He was told that morning in the train that the "chap" at Romford, who wrote about the question in "THE BELL NEWS" did not understand the matter, and he would confess that he did not understand why they should extend themselves into another county when there remained so much for them to do in their own. It appeared Mr. Alps's idea was to add strength to the Association; let them see what strength they had in the county. In Essex there were 142 towers with bells from five and upwards: turning to their last year's report he found they had twenty-eight in connection with the Association, and assuming that during the year fourteen others had joined, there would still be 100 left, why should not these be looked after? Among them was one ten-bell tower, and he hoped before many days Chelmsford tower would also contain ten, and that they should continue a County Association, and at no distant date induce the Chelmsfordians to add an additional two so that the county had at least one twelve-bell tower. Going to the eight-bell towers they had ten connected with the Association, but there were twenty-one in the county, and why not get the strength from these? Take for instance Saffron Walden, look at the strength that would be added by paying a visit there, and making that talented band members. Take for instance the six-bell towers; there were forty-two in Essex, they had not half in connection with the Association. He believed it important to look after even five-bell towers, of which there were seventy-eight in the county, for several reasons. He knew men in the Metropolis who as ringers, and even conductors of twelve-bell peals, who had commenced their ringing career in a five-bell tower. What were they told at the Conference? One of the authors of those excellent papers said he had known men who could learn Latin and Greek, but could never master ringing. On the other hand he had known men that daily followed the plough, that could neither read or write, but became first-class ringers. His own experience was that town bands were made up by ringers from villages, in fact it was shown when the last census was taken that the population was gradually drifting into towns, therefore it was important that they should look after these village towers, for by doing so they would bring scientific knowledge to the front, they would induce qualified ringers to join and thus add strength to their Association. Time was when the musical portion of the service was rendered by half a dozen school children perched up in some lofty gallery; now every church had a choir that was known and recognised as a band of church workers, why should there not be a band of ringers recognised as such, if they desired that, let them remain a County Association?

Mr. S. HAMMOND supported the views of the last speaker, and contended there was ample work for the Association in the county.

Mr. W. DORAN, who, in making certain allegations, was carried away by "the exuberance of his own verbosity," said there were numerous gentlemen in Hertfordshire that would become hon. members if the Association extended itself there. He should therefore support the resolution, not that it would make any difference to him either way, or even if the Association was dissolved, for belonging to the Cumberlands he could at any time meet that Society.

MESSRS. A. PYE, S. HAMMOND, and A. FRYATT criticised and denied the allegations made by the last speaker.

Mr. S. HAYES, while congratulating Mr. Doran upon belonging to the Cumberland Society, said he came there himself as a member of the Essex Association. He believed there was still work for the Association in the county, especially as there were places they had never visited. He himself had rung in small towers, and believed it was in the interest of ringing generally that such should be looked after, therefore he was prepared to support the amendment. Even if belfry reform was not needed he should strongly advocate extending over the whole of the county, especially to Saffron Walden, and so add strength to the Association in the county.

The amendment was put to the meeting and carried by over fifty, while but three hands were shown in favour of the resolution. The result was long and continued applause. Various votes of thanks were passed, and the meeting broke up.

THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, June 2nd, seven members of the above Association paid a visit to Hitchin, and by kind permission of the Vicar attempted a peal of Bob Major, 5040 changes, with the assistance of Mr. Tyler, of Hitchin, but after ringing just over 3000 changes in 2 hrs. 3 mins. came to grief. C. West, 1; W. Allen, 2; W. Hall, 3; W. Tyler, 4; W. Biggs, 5; J. Adkin, 6; C. W. Clarke, 7; J. Frossell, 8. Tenor 28 cwt. Conducted by C. W. Clarke. This is the first attempt by any of the above with the exception of Mr. Tyler. Several touches of Grandsire Triples was afterwards rung, one of which was rather a pretty touch of 392, composed and conducted by Mr. J. Hare, of Hitchin, who rang the fourth, and Mr. Allen of Hitchin, the seventh. The Bedford ringers then returned home very well pleased with their outing, but would have been more so had they been successful in ringing the peal.

"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.

Everything for insertion in this Journal to be addressed "The Editor of THE BELL NEWS, Walthamstow, London." Letters forwarded for publication, and performances under 5000 changes must reach us not later than Wednesday morning; and the insertion of any communication coming later than the first Postal delivery on Thursday morning cannot be guaranteed in that week's number. When it is found impossible from want of space to insert all touches forwarded, the earlier ones will have the preference.

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.

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

E. S. O. C.—You have not disclosed your name. Send a stamped addressed envelope, and we will enlighten you.

The correspondent at Bamford (Suffolk) must send his name before his communication can appear.

Several touches, reports, correspondence, and other matters, are unavoidably left over till next week. We entreat the kind forbearance of many of our oldest friends in this matter.

The Bell News & Ringers' Record.

SATURDAY, JUNE 14, 1884.

THIS number of our paper will be found to contain a full report of the proceedings at the Annual Meeting of the Essex Association, held at Chelmsford on Whit-Monday. The principal topic for consideration was the question of taking in the neighbouring county of Hertford, and connecting it with Essex so as to form a Diocesan Association, thus embracing the diocese of St. Alban's. This idea seems at first sight most unobjectionable. We confess to having a preference for Diocesan over mere County guilds, because we are of opinion that they have a greater tendency to bring the ringing community into closer relationship with Church organization, a connection which will in time lead to their being recognised as indispensable Church officials. But so long as the constitution of the English sees remain as they are, we fear that Diocesan Associations will only become established when the geographical features of the Diocese offers an easy solution to the question of their formation. In the case under consideration, the Diocese covers an immense area, and it may be doubted whether, if the proposer and seconder had carried the meeting with them, the new Association would have worked easily. One great object of our ringing Associations is the periodical assembling of their members; but there are not many ringers in either Hertford or Essex who would, unless for some extraordinary reason, travel from the extreme end of one county to the confines of the other, for the single object of meeting with their fellow-members.

But the question of a Diocesan Association having once been raised, should have received greater consideration by the meeting than it did. We should have expected the mover and seconder of the amendment to have reciprocated, in feeling terms, the desires of their Hertfordshire brethren for union, even if they saw the impracticability of the proposal. A desire of this sort should not have been met by a curt negative. We cannot help thinking that the minds of many of those who voted against the proposal were made up without due consideration, and it may be a difficult matter for some of them to accurately

state many tangible grounds for their opposition. Some of the reasons advanced against the proposal, both before and at the meeting, were certainly puerile. At a future period the question may again be brought forward, if so, we hope it may receive due consideration, and not be settled in such an apparently off-hand manner. The National Association scheme, a draft of which was read to the meeting, met with the same fate, not the slightest discussion being had upon it.

STOKE-UPON-TRENT ARCHIDIACONAL ASSOCIATION.

At a Committee Meeting held at Stoke, on Monday evening, June 9th, Herbert Minton, Esq., Vice-President, in the chair, members from Stoke, Norton, Horton, Barlaston, and Wolstanton, being present, it was decided that the Annual Meeting should be held at Stoke, on Saturday, July 26th, special circumstances preventing its taking place in June, according to rule 6. The order of proceedings will be: 3 p.m., General Meeting of all members of the Association for the purpose of electing officers for the year, receiving Treasurer's account, and the Hon. Secretary's report, and for other business. Service at 4 in the parish church; Tea at 5 in the Church Room, to be followed by handbell ringing, etc. The belfry of the church will be open to members.

There should be a good muster on this occasion, and any well-considered suggestions for improving the work of the Association should be freely offered.

Keele having withdrawn, the next ringing meetings will be held at Barlaston, on July 6th, and at Norton on July 19th.

T. H. B. FEARON, } Hon. Secs.
 ENDON GLOVER, }

The Metropolis.

THE SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.

On Monday, June 9, 1884, in Three Hours and One Minute,

AT ST. GILES-IN-THE-FIELDS,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES; HOLT'S 6-PART. Tenor 18 cwt.

GEORGE NEWSON Treble.	ARTHUR JACOB 5.
JAMES HANNINGTON 2.	THOMAS TITCHENER 6.
GEORGE GRIFFIN* 3.	WINGFIELD MEADOWS 7.
THOMAS GLEED 4.	*GEORGE B. LUCAS Tenor.

Conducted by JAMES HANNINGTON.

* First peal in the method.

THE ST. JAMES'S SOCIETY.—CAMBERWELL, SURREY.

On Saturday, June 7, 1884, in Two Hours and Fifty-two Minutes,

AT ST. GEORGE'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES; THE ORIGINAL BOB-AND-SINGLE. Tenor 14 cwt.

JOSEPH WAGHORN, JUN.* .. Treble.	WILLIAM WEATHERSTONE 5.
HENRY LANGDON 2.	JOSEPH WAGHORN, SEN. .. 6.
WILLIAM PEAD 3.	WILLIAM JONES 7.
FREDERICK W. THORNTON 4.	WALTER PRIME Tenor.

Conducted by WILLIAM WEATHERSTONE.

* First peal; age 15.

This peal was rung to commemorate the 27th anniversary of the election of Mr. T. Windley as steeple-keeper and vergier of the above church

The Provinces.

THE ST. PAUL'S SOCIETY, BURTON-ON-TRENT. BURTON-ON-TRENT, STAFFORDSHIRE.

On Saturday, June 7, 1884, in Three Hours and Twenty Minutes,

AT ST. PAUL'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES; IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 26 cwt.

ARTHUR WAKLEY Treble.	JOHN JAGGAR 5.
CHARLES HY. HATTERSLEY 2.	WILLIAM WAKLEY 6.
HARRY WAKLEY 3.	THOMAS HOLMES 7.
EDWARD ISAAC STONE .. 4.	ARTHUR BRIERLEY Tenor.

Composed and conducted by CHARLES HENRY HATTERSLEY.

Messrs. Hattersley and Brierley hail from Sheffield; the rest are also members of the Midland Counties' Association.

QUEX PARK, BIRCHINGTON, KENT.
THE SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.
(BATTERSEA BRANCH.)

On Whit-Sunday, June 1, 1884, in Three Hours and One Minute,

AT THE WATERLOO TOWER,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S TEN-PART. Tenor 15½ cwt.

W. AMBROSE	Treble.	H. SWAIN	5.
W. BARON	2.	H. A. HOPKINS	6.
W. COPPAGE	3.	C. W. LUDWIG	7.
A. G. THOMAS	4.	E. E. ROBINS	Tenor.

Conducted by W. BARON.

This is the first peal on the bells for over thirty years.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.
DARTFORD, KENT.

On Saturday, June 7, 1884, in Three Hours and One Minute,

AT HOLY TRINITY CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S ORIGINAL. Tenor 20 cwt.

GEORGE MAY	Treble.	WILLIAM FRIGHT	5.
JOHN BLACKMAN	2.	ALFRED COLES	6.
BURTIE W. ROSE	3.	FREDERICK FRENCH	7.
GEORGE CONYARD	4.	HENRY ROSE	Tenor.

Conducted by ALFRED COLES.

G. May, J. Blackman, B. W. Rose, and W. Fright were elected members of the above society in the belfry previous to the start of the peal, which is the first of 5000 changes ever rung by them.

Messrs. Conyard, Fright, Coles and French belong to the Crayford band, the rest are of the local company.

EXETER.

THE GUILD OF DEVONSHIRE RINGERS, AND
THE ST. SIDWELL'S SOCIETY.

On Saturday, June 7, 1884, in Two Hours and Fifty-eight Minutes,

AT ST. SIDWELL'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

J. HOLLIS'S 5-PART. Tenor 23 cwt. 3 qrs. 14 lbs. in D.

F. R. SHEPHERD	Treble.	GEORGE TOWNSEND	5.
FERRIS SHEPHERD	2.	ALFRED SHEPHERD	6.
W. G. GOSS	3.	JOHN ROWBOTHAM	7.
EDWIN SHEPHERD	4.	JAMES MOSS	Tenor.

Conducted by FERRIS SHEPHERD.

J. Rowbotham hails from London.

The figures of this peal are given on page 15 of "The Bell News" of April 12th, 1884.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.
SPOUGHTON, NEAR IPSWICH, SUFFOLK.

On Saturday, June 7, 1884 (No time mentioned),

AT ALL SAINTS' CHURCH,

5040 CHANGES: COMPRISED OF 6-SCORES IN FIVE
DIFFERENT METHODS UPON FIVE BELLS:—

10 of Stedman Doubles; 8 of New Doubles; 8 of St. Simon's; 8 of Plain; and 8 of Grandsire Doubles.

Tenor 10 cwt.

THOMAS STEWARD*	Treble.	CHARLES MEE	3.
FREDERICK MEE*	2.	WILLIAM MOTTS	4.
JAMES MOTTS .. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	Tenor.

Conducted by CHARLES MEE.

*First peal.

Messrs. W. and J. Motts, and F. and C. Mee are members of St. Mary-le-Tower, Ipswich; and J. Steward belongs to Sproughton.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

THE ANNUAL FESTIVAL of the Oxford Diocesan Guild will take place on Tuesday, July 22nd, at Great Marlow. There will be Service in the parish church, at 11 a.m., with a sermon by the Rev. F. E. Robinson, vicar of Drayton, and Master of the Guild. Dinner at 2 p.m., for which free tickets will be issued for all change-ringing and probationary members. Return tickets will be given at all stations on the South Western Railway at one fare and a quarter to members shewing their dinner tickets.

DOLBEN PAUL, Secretary.

BOLTON, LANCASHIRE.

On Tuesday, June 3, 1884, in Two Hours and Forty-nine Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

TAYLOR'S BOB-AND-SINGLE VARIATION. Tenor 15½ cwt.

PETER INCE	Treble.	JOHN W. CRITCHLEY*	5.
WILLIAM THORNLEY*	2.	ARTHUR UNSWORTH*	6.
WILLIAM L. HOLDEN	3.	JOHN WHITEHEAD	7.
WILLIAM DAVIES†	4.	PETER ISHERWOOD*	Tenor.

Conducted by WILLIAM DAVIES.

This peal was rung as a farewell peal to Mr. Peter Isherwood, who sets sail for New Mexico, U.S.A., on Saturday, June 14th.

†First peal as conductor. *First peal.

Miscellaneous.

THE SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.

STANSTEAD (Suffolk).—On Monday, June 2nd, at St. James's Church, a 720 of Bob Minor. Z. Slater (conductor), 1; Philip O. Bixby, 2; F. Wells, 3; Percy C. S. Scott, 4; S. Slater, 5; O. Garwood, 6. Also a 720 of Cambridge Surprise Minor. Philip O. Bixby, 1; Z. Slater, 2; F. Wells, 3; O. Garwood, 4; S. Slater, 5; F. P. Adams (conductor), 6. Messrs. Scott and Bixby hail from Long Melford, the rest are from Glemsford.

THE ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

SUDBURY (Suffolk).—On Whit-Monday, June 2nd, the following members of the above Association met at St. Peter's church to attempt a peal of Bob Major, but after ringing 2 hrs. 6 mins., stand had to be called owing to the tenor going so bad, although rung double handed. G. L. Andrewes, Esq., 1; M. Silvester, 2; G. S. Brown, 3; J. Tolladay, 4; W. Griggs, 5; W. Howell, 6; H. Harper, 7; A. Scott (conductor), and W. Cross, 8. Tenor 22 cwt in Eb.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

BRAINTREE (Essex).—On Saturday, June 7th, 720 of Double Bob Minor. J. Savil, 1; F. Calthorpe, 2; H. E. Hammond (first 720) 3; S. Hammond (conductor), 4; W. H. Dyson, 5; A. Hucksion, 6. Also a 720 of Superlative Surprise Minor. F. Bumpstead, 1; F. Calthorpe, 2; H. E. Hammond, 3; S. Hammond (conductor), 4; F. Rudkin, 5; A. Hucksion, 6. Tenor 14 cwt. This is the first 720 of Superlative by any of the company. All are College Youths.

STISTED (Essex).—On Sunday afternoon, June 1st, a 720 of Double Court. *W. Radley, 1; *B. Keeble, 2; F. Calthorpe, 3; S. Hammond, 4; F. Rudkin (conductor), 5; *A. Pye, 6. *First 720 in the method. Tenor 10 cwt.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

GRASSENDALE NEAR LIVERPOOL.—On Sunday, May 17th, being the first Sunday of the Rev. J. T. Pearse, M.A., assuming the duties as Vicar of St. Mary's Church, for Divine Service in the evening, the following members rung a 720 of Grandsire Minor in 25 mins. T. Morris, 1; J. Alexander, 2; C. Newton, 3; W. Weaver, 4; P. Barton, 5; F. Turner (conductor), 6. And after service, a 720 in 26½ mins. by S. Gough, 1; J. Alexander, 2; C. Newton, 3; W. Weaver, 4; S. Atkin, 5; F. Turner (conductor), 6. Tenor 11½ cwt.

STOKE-UPON-TRENT ARCHIDIACONAL ASSOCIATION.

NORTON-LE-MOORS.—On Sunday, June 1st, for Divine Service in the morning, a 720 of Grandsire Minor, in 26 mins. W. Holdcroft, 1; E. Glover, 2; J. Morton, 3; J. W. Brough, 4; Jas. Baddeley (conductor), 5; G. Walker, 6. Muffled Touch.—Also for evening service, a 720 of Oxford Bob Minor, in 27 mins., with the bells half-muffled as a token of respect to the late Mr. John Glover, of Ford Green. W. Holdcroft, 1; S. Moores, 2; Jas. Baddeley, 3; J. W. Brough, 4; W. Carter, 5; G. Walker (conductor), 6. Messrs. Moores and Carter hail from Biddulph.

CHEDDLETON (Staffordshire).—On Ascension Day, May 22nd, at 4 o'clock a.m., a 720 of Bob Minor, with sixteen bobs and two singles, in 27 mins. John James, 1; Henry Rogers, 2; Joseph Gilbert, 3; Fred Clowes (conductor), 4; Henry Birch, 5; Jas. Renshaw, 6. Also on Whit-Sunday, June 1st, for Divine Service, a 720 of Bob Minor, with ten bobs and four singles, in 26 mins. John Parker, 1; John James, 2; Joseph Gilbert, 3; Edwin Spooner, 4; Fred Clowes (conductor), 5; Jas. Renshaw, 6. The first 720 by this band was rung on Ascension Day in last year, and since that time they have accomplished nearly thirty thousand changes, being variations of the Plain Bob, Grandsire, and Oxford Bob methods, with a few short touches of Oxford Treble Bob Minor. The majority of the band were unacquainted with the art of change-ringing until the formation of the above society by the Rev. W. W. Bolton, in January, 1883.

THE ST. JAMES'S SOCIETY, LONDON.

SOUTHGATE (Middlesex).—On Saturday, June 7th, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples, 1260 changes. A. H. Gardom (conductor), 1; J. B. Bonney, 2; D. T. McLaughlin, 3; E. F. Strange, 4; A. Jacobs, 5; W. Doran, 6; S. Jarman, 7; —. Hitch, 8. It was intended to ring a peal of Treble Bob Major, but on account of one not putting in an appearance the peal was postponed.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

LYMINGE (Kent).—On Wednesday evening, June 4th, at the parish church of SS. Mary and Eadborough, a 720 of Plain Bob Minor, with eighteen bobs and two singles, in 29 mins. A. Beer, 1; R. Andrews, 2; T. Beer, 3; E. Potter (Dover), 4; J. Andrews, 5; A. Tanton (conductor), 6. Also several 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles. A. Beer, 1; R. Andrews, 2; A. Tanton, 3; E. Potter (conductor), 4; J. Andrews, 5; J. Prebble, 6. Tenor 18½ cwt. in F.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

DERBY.—On Monday, June 2nd, at St. Luke's church, a half-peal of Grandsire Triples, 2520 changes, in 1 hr. 41 mins. F. Whiting, 1; R. Bosworth, 2; A. E. Thompson, 3; J. Newbold, 4; H. C. Woodward, 5; F. Sephton, 6; J. Howe (conductor), 7; H. Longden, 8. Tenor 34 cwt. in D. Ringers of the 6th and tenor are of the St. Luke's society. Also on Tuesday, June 3rd, at All Saints' church, a touch of Grandsire Triples. J. Ridgway, 1; A. B. Ward, 2; W. Billinghamurst, 3; R. Redgate, 4; J. Jaggar, 5; Harvey Reeves, Esq. (conductor), 6; H. C. Woodward, 7; J. Howe, 8. Also a 324 of Grandsire Caters. A. Riley, 1; A. B. Ward, 2; A. E. Thompson, 3; W. Billinghamurst, 4; S. Price, 5; J. Jaggar, 6; F. Sephton, 7; H. C. Woodward (conductor), 8; J. Howe, 9; F. Whiting, 10. Tenor 28 cwt in D.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

ABINGDON (Berks).—On Sunday, May 18th, at the church of St. Nicholas, Abingdon, a 720 of Grandsire Minor, in 27 mins. W. Stroud, 1; W. Sandell, 2; J. Higgs, 3; J. Brown, 4; H. Holifield, 5; R. Giddens (conductor), 6. Also on Sunday, May 25th, a 720 of Bob Minor, in 25 mins. W. Sandell, 1; H. Holifield, 2; J. W. Washbrook (conductor), 3; J. Brown, 4; A. Castle, 5; R. Giddens, 6.

OXFORD.—On Sunday, May 18th, at the church of St. Peter in the East, a 720 of Bob Minor, in 27 mins. W. Jeffery, 1; F. Castle, 2; W. Baston, 3; J. W. Washbrook (conductor), 4; C. Hounslow, 5; W. Finch, 6.

SUTTON COURTNEY (Berks).—On Sunday, May 18th, at the parish church, a 720 of Grandsire Minor, in 30 mins. F. Poulter, 1; H. Holifield, 2; F. Castle, 3; J. Smith, 4; J. Brown, 5; J. W. Washbrook (conductor), 6.

THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

BEDDINGTON (Surrey).—On Saturday, June 7th, at St. Mary's church, being the above company's special monthly practice, ten members met and rang the following touches: 557 of Grandsire Caters with the 6th behind the 8th, 216 of Stedman Triples, 305 of Grandsire Caters, 360 of Kent Treble Bob Royal, and 224 of Kent Treble Bob Major. The ringers were: J. Plowman, C. Bance, J. Harris, J. Cawley, J. Trappitt, C. Gordon, J. Branch, A. B. Carpenter, Esq., E. Bennett, and J. Fayers. Mr. Carpenter rang the 3rd in the Major and the 4th in the Royal, it being his first attempt at either, which he rang without a hitch. Also on Trinity Sunday, June 8th, for Divine Service in the morning, afternoon, and evening, 557 of Grandsire Caters, with the 6th behind the 8th and 9th, 576 of Kent Treble Bob Major, 557 of Grandsire Caters, with the 6th behind the 9th, and 223 of Grandsire Triples, after evening service. The whole of the ringing was conducted by Edgar Bennett.

CHARLWOOD (Surrey).—On Sunday, June 1st, the Capel ringers visited Charlwood, and with some of the local company rang a 720 of Warnham Court Bob Minor, in 25 mins. A. Mills, 1; E. Jordan, 2; G. Hollaway, 3; F. Wickens, 4; D. Jordan, 5; M. Heffer (conductor), 6. Also a 720 of College Bob Minor. G. Moore, 1; G. Wickens, 2; B. King, 3; R. Jordan, 4; E. Jordan, 5; F. Wickens (conductor), 6. Also a 720 of Violet Treble Bob Minor. F. Wickens, 1; A. Tidy, 2; A. Mills, 3; R. Jordan, 4; E. Jordan, 5; D. Jordan (conductor), 6. This is supposed to be the first 720 in the method on the bells. Also 360 of Plain Bob Minor. A. Mills, 1; R. Jordan, 2; B. King, 3; E. Jordan, 4; M. Heffer, 5; F. Wickens (conductor), 6. Also after Divine Service a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob was attempted, but was lost through the breaking of the 4th rope after ringing about 360 changes. F. Wickens, 1; R. Jordan, 2; A. Mills, 3; G. Hollaway, 4; D. Jordan, 5; E. Jordan (conductor), 6. Tenor 14 cwt.

HOLBECK (Yorkshire).—On Sunday, June 8th, for Divine Service in the morning at St. Matthew's Church, a 1008 of Bob Major in 39 mins. T. Harrington, 1; Th. Tomlinson (aged 17), 2; J. J. Jackson, 3; S. Bassett, 4; T. Moss, 5; F. Woodhead, 6; M. Tomlinson (conductor), 7; D. York, 8. Tenor 16 cwt.

LEATHERHEAD (Surrey).—On Whit-Sunday, for Divine Service in the evening, a touch of Grandsire Caters, 1133 changes, in 46 mins. W. Messam, 1; C. Want, 2; H. Wood, 3; T. Miles, 4; H. Newnham, 5; J. Hewett, 6; W. Marks, 7; E. Hull, 8; S. Brooker, 9; J. Lisney, 10. Also on Trinity Sunday, for Divine Service in the evening, a quarter-peal of Union Triples in 45 mins. W. Messam, 1; H. Newnham, 2; H. Wood, 3; J. Hewett, 4; W. Marks, 5; E. Hull, 6; S. Brooker (conductor), 7; J. Lisney, 8.

SLAUGHAM (Sussex).—On Saturday, June 7th, five ringers from Balcombe paid a visit to this place and rang six 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles. J. Cheeseman, 1; C. Gasson, 2; E. Streeter, 3; H. Meads, 4; J. Gasson (conductor), 5. Also eight 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles, with the 3rd and 5th alternately the observation. J. Cheeseman, 1; H. Meads, 2; J. Gasson, 3; C. Gasson, 4; E. Streeter (conductor), 5.

STOKE-UPON-TRENT (Staffordshire).—On Sunday, June 8th, at the parish church of St. Peter, for Divine Service in the evening, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 49 mins. A. Walker, 1; E. W. J. Montford, 2; W. Greenleaf, 3; J. H. P. Montford, 4; H. Page (conductor), 5; W. Miller, 6; S. Spencer, 7; T. Rose, 8. Tenor 20 cwt. in E. Messrs. A. Walker, W. Miller and S. Spencer, hail from Wolstanton, and W. Greenleaf from London. Our correspondent adds:—The pleasure of ringing here is much marred from the fact that the bells go badly, and are very much out of tune. Some idea of the effect may be imagined by the second and tenor being as near as possible an octave, but the ringers have some hope that ere long the desired improvement may be effected.

SWANMORE (Hants).—On Wednesday evening, June 4th, at St. Barnabas' church, a 720 of Grandsire Minor, with thirty-four bobs and two singles, in 26 mins. Also a 360 in the same method, with eighteen bobs. A. Horner, 1; F. K. Linter, 2; Wm. Linter, 3; J. Threlfel, 4; R. Linter, 5; Geo. Williams (conductor), 6.

WOODFORD (Essex).—On Sunday, May 11th, after Divine Service in the evening, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor, in 26 mins. E. F. Strange (first 720 in the method), 1; W. D. Smith, 2; G. Akers, 3; J. Nunn, 4; W. H. Fussell, 5; A. H. Gardom, 6.

WINTERBORNE EARLS (Wilts).—On Friday, May 30th, six 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles. A. Grist, 1; C. A. Clements, 2; T. Blackburn, 3; W. W. Gifford, 4; J. R. Jerram, 5. Tenor 10½ cwt.

YORK.—On Sunday evening, June 8th, at St. Mary's, Bishophill, sen., the local company with Mr. Comb, of Hampstead, London, who was on a visit to this city, rang two 120's of Grandsire Minor. J. Hemmingway, 1; —. Comb, 2; E. Dawson, 3; R. Long, 4; A. Fearnley, 4; W. H. Howard (conductor), 6. The second 120, W. H. Howard, 2; —. Comb, 3; J. Daniel, 5; G. Breed (conductor), 6. Tenor 12 cwt.

Obituary.

The death is announced of Mr. Richard Greenhalgh, sexton of the parish church, Burnley, Lancashire, at the age of 59. Deceased had been a ringer for about twenty years prior to his appointment as sexton in 1867, and though he then resigned his position as one of the regular ringers, yet he was always ready to take the place of an absentee or inexperienced man on any special occasion. He rang in several complete peals of 5040 changes, two of which—the one of Easter-Day, 1865, and the other on Jan 26th, 1875—are recorded on boards in the ringing-chamber. In both of them—Holt's ten-part—he rang the 3rd. In 1877 Mr. Greenhalgh was elected a member of the Society of College Youths. The Rev. Thomas Archer Trower, senior curate, and president of the Lancashire Association, committed the body to the grave in the parish churchyard on Tuesday, May 17th, both the other curates taking part in the burial service, which was choral, and attended by the surpliced choir. The bells were rung muffled both before and after the funeral.

The decease of another sexton and ringer is also announced—that of Mr. William Holdsworth, of Skipton, Yorkshire, at the age of 66. He was buried at the old cemetery on the same day as the Burnley sexton above referred to, when both the Rector (Rev. P. C. Kidd) and the curate (Rev. J. E. Howe) officiated. The deceased had been a choir boy and bell ringer from his earliest years, and formerly was choirmaster at the district church (Christ Church). In 1855, he was appointed sexton of the parish church, and continued in that office till his death. At his funeral, the bell ringers showed their respect to this old servant of the church, who had taught so many of them the art and mystery of ringing.

IN THE MIDLANDS.

Not "on the moors," or "at the seaside" or "the lakes," but "in the midlands," was where, after mature deliberation, we determined to spend a day or two at the season of Whitsuntide. "After mature deliberation" it should be understood, for we had received so many pressing invitations from ringing friends in all parts of the country to come and visit them that when an opportunity arrived the difficulty lay in the matter of selection. The determination at length arrived at was that we should repair to Loughborough, in Leicestershire, and making that town our head-quarters for the time being, visit one or two towns in the neighbourhood as convenience or inclination suggested. A communication to Messrs. Taylor and Co., of the Loughborough Bell Foundry, informing them of our intention, coupled with a desire to look over their establishment, brought back a reply from Mr. John Taylor, jun., assuring us of a hearty welcome.

A little after the hour of noon on Saturday, the 31st ult., in company with the gentleman just named, found us proceeding from the railway station at Loughborough to the foundry, where upon arriving, after exchanging the usual salutations, we sat down to dinner with Mr. and Mrs. Taylor and family. It may as well be mentioned that we were the guest of Mr. and Mrs. Taylor during our stay. After dinner, in company with Mr. Taylor, sen., we entered the foundry. As we have in preparation a short series of articles on "English Bell Foundries," which we hope will soon appear in these pages, we shall defer our remarks upon the establishment in question till we deal with it in such chapters. We may however mention that bells for the fulfilment of several orders entrusted to Messrs. Taylor were arranged ready for tuning, others having undergone that operation being close at hand. The large bells for the ring of twenty for —, Jones, Esq. of Abberley, Worcestershire, were notably conspicuous, the tenor, a bell of splendid tone, being close on to four tons weight. The foundry being closed for the holidays we were unable to see the various machinery at work, but of which, nevertheless, we hope to give a full description in a future number.

The inspection of the foundry being over, we were invited to ride —by road—with Mr. John Taylor to Leicester—about twelve miles distant—to ring at St. Margaret's, a ring of ten. Of all the bells in Leicester, those of the church of St. Margaret seemed to possess the greatest interest for us. The account of them given in this paper about twelve months ago by a valued contributor who wrote under the *nom de plume* of "Auditor Tantum," created this interest. But we are sorry to add that the charm which the very mention of these bells had for us has been rudely dispelled. The "wonderful tenor" of young Watts' is nothing out of the ordinary, at any rate so far as we were able to judge. The tower is a grand structure. The ringing-chamber requires the application of paint or whitewash, and it would be advisable to have the floor swept at stated intervals. We rang in a touch of Grandsire Caters, but felt greatly relieved when the course-end 4 2 5 6 3 came up, and hearing our friend Mr. Buttery call the 9th in and out at two. Stedman Caters was also attempted, but we rung only a course. Though these bells appear to go very well when rung singly—a fact which decoyed us into ringing a heavier one than usual—they go far from well when rung altogether, a defect which, in our opinion, is wholly attributable to the frame. Messrs. Taylor have them in hand, but we are afraid it will be impossible to get them to go well unless the old frame is taken away, and a new one erected. On leaving the tower we repaired to the residence of Mr. S. Cooper, where, with a few of the ringing company, we were entertained, and after spending a very pleasant half-hour, took our leave, Mr. Taylor driving us back to Loughborough.

Before taking leave of Leicester, there is one painful matter in connection with ringing affairs there which we cannot refrain from mentioning, and that is, a split or division among the town ringers. It is quite unnecessary to point out the folly of indulging in these petty feuds; the majority of ringers are pretty cognisant of their effects. We ask—who among the Leicester ringers will the first to bring about a reconciliation, and harmony combined with a firm and lasting unity? The Midland Counties' Association hold their next meeting at Leicester; how necessary for the men of Leicester to combine together before then. Had they been a compact, united body at the time of our visit, perhaps we should not have waited so long after the hour appointed for meeting before a complete band arrived.

The next day (Sunday) we took part in the ringing for Divine Service at the parish church of All Saints, Loughborough. The bells are a ring of eight, tenor 24 cwt., in D. They are not a fine peal, but when struck well in changes sound fairly. The church is situated in a rather open spot, and the bells can be heard to advantage, without positive annoyance to the population. Notwithstanding this, ringing is not taken to kindly by "the powers that be" in Loughborough, and but for the praiseworthy action of Mr. Taylor, not only would there be no ringers in Loughborough worthy of the name, but the bells would have been, ere this, past ringing at all. These bells are not allowed to fall into bad order, as the Loughborough firm—with a generosity which we hope is appreciated by the parish—keep them

in order at their own expense. Before breakfast on Sunday morning we called a short touch of Grandsire Triples, and for the eleven o'clock service the first two parts of Reeves's peal. Arrangements had been made for the attempting of a peal on Monday morning, but though two attempts were made, neither were successful. These attempts wound up the day so far as practical ringing was concerned, but the afternoon and evening was spent in handbell ringing with Mr. J. Taylor (sen. and jun.), Mr. Jos. Barrow, of Long Eaton, and one of the foundry operatives.

The next morning we were on the road for Long Eaton, a small town not far from Derby. Here is a quaint little church (about which we shall have something to say in a future number) with its light ring of eight, with a good company of ringers, with whom we rang a short touch of Grandsire Triples. We should like to give a detailed account of our brief stay at Long Eaton, but we cannot. We left for Derby by an early train, and soon arrived at this important town. As we emerged from the railway-station the bells of St. Andrew's could be heard trolling along in that delightful method which is called by various names—Tombstone Surprise, Gravediggers' Delight, &c. The practice of such important "methods" as these, in the town of Derby, somewhat surprised us, as we were certainly under the impression that the local men were only up to the simple practice of Grandsire, Treble Bob, and Stedman. However, we live and learn. And being of an inquiring turn of mind we discovered it was the old story—that that terrible functionary, the beadle, had it all his own way. In company with Mr. H. C. Woodward and Mr. Ward, both of Derby, we perambulated the town, though we could hardly get along by reason of the great crowds who flocked to see the processions of school children. These gentlemen kindly got a company together, and we rung in a touch of Triples at All Saints' church. A short walk round this noble edifice, listening to the bells being "turned," brought near the hour for returning, and after many affectionate farewells, we departed for Loughborough, which town we left on the following morning for home, arriving at our office at four o'clock in the afternoon, where was an immense pile of correspondence awaiting us, replies to some of which are still in arrear.

Throughout our brief holiday we found that every brother string we met appeared pleased to see us, and we beg to tender our thanks to them all, as they assisted by every means in their power towards making our visit pleasant and enjoyable. We regret that time did not permit us to pay a visit to the neighbouring town of Burton-on-Trent.

A DAY AT MANCHESTER.

ONE of the most pleasant days ever spent by Saffron Walden ringers was that of Wednesday, June 4th. An excursion train to Manchester being announced, the company decided upon a visit to that far-famed place. At 2.25 on that morning, "might have been seen" ten pedestrians wending their way to Audley End Station, and a stranger within hearing would have had no difficulty in discovering their intentions. The train reached, handbell ringing became the order of the day (or rather morning), but churches and other grand objects became too attractive to be unnoticed, and many were the praises bestowed on some of them; certainly the greatest feature of the journey being the scenery from Sheffield to Manchester, the ground panorama exceeding all anticipation, and will not soon be forgotten.

At Manchester, writes our friend Mr. Penning, who was of the party, we made the acquaintance of Messrs. Wood Brothers, and Mr. Longden (three of the heroes of "Sweet Treble Bob." We noticed on our route the tower of Mottram, which has been rendered famous by the 16,000 rung there); Mr. W. Gordon, of Stockport, the noted composer and publisher of handbell music; Mr. F. Small of Birmingham, and many of the local ringers; special mention must be made of Messrs. Lord and Hargreaves, who had kindly arranged for ringing at St. John's church.

After very pleasant greetings, refreshment, and a few touches on handbells, we adjourned to the Cathedral, and a course of Treble Bob Royal and a touch of Stedman were rung.

In the afternoon a band was arranged for a peal of Treble Bob Royal, viz.: Samuel Wood (conductor), 1; F. Small, 2; E. A. Pitstow, 3; N. J. Pitstow, 4; James Wood, 5; J. F. Penning, 6; A. E. Wreaks, 7; John Eachus, 8; Samuel Slater, 9; F. Pitstow, 10. The Bros. Wood hail from Ashton-under-Lyne, F. Small, Birmingham, A. E. Wreaks and J. Eachus, Manchester, S. Slater, Glemsford Suffolk, and J. F. Penning and Bros. Pitstow, Saffron Walden.

All went well, in good time, for 3 hrs. 20 mins., but "time wreaks disappointment" in some cases; as unfortunately in this instance: the time appointed for evening service had arrived, and so impressed were one or two of the band with the flight of time as to call "stand," and our "hearts did ache us" as a stop was put to this almost completed peal.

In the evening a short time was enjoyed at the Belle Vue Gardens, admiring the magnificent "Siege of Constantinople," the fireworks, &c.

TOUCHES OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR.

Collected and arranged by

THE REV. H. EARLE BULWER.

SERIES II.

TOUCHES OF OVER 1000, AND UNDER
1600 CHANGES.

1472. (Continued).

2 3 4 5 6	M	B	W	H	2 3 4 5 6	M	B	W	H
2 4 5 3 6		I	2		5 2 3 6 4	2		2	2
3 2 4 6 5	2		2	2	2 4 3 6 5	I			2
3 2 6 5 4	2		2	I	3 4 6 2 5			2	I
2 3 4 5 6	2			2	2 3 4 5 6	2			2
2 3 4 5 6					2 2 4 5 6				
5 2 3 6 4	2		2	2	5 4 3 2 6			2	2
5 3 6 2 4	I		2	2	4 6 3 2 5	2		I	2
5 4 3 2 6	2		I		2 4 6 5 3	2		2	2
2 3 4 5 6	2		2	2	2 3 4 5 6	2			I

1504.

Time 55½ minutes.

In four courses.

2 3 4 5 6	M	B	W	H	2 3 4 5 6	M	B	W	H
2 4 5 3 6	I		2	2	2 4 5 3 6	I		2	2
2 5 3 4 6	I		2	2	3 6 4 5 2	2			2
6 2 4 5 3			2	2	6 2 4 5 3	2		I	2
2 3 4 5 6	2		I	2	2 3 4 5 6	2		I	2
2 3 4 5 6					2 3 4 5 6				
5 4 3 2 6			2	2	5 2 3 6 4	2		2	2
2 5 4 6 3	2		2	2	2 5 4 6 3	2		2	2
3 2 6 5 4	2		I	2	6 4 5 2 3			2	2
2 3 4 5 6	2			2	2 3 4 5 6	I		2	2

2 3 4 5 6

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

In five courses.

The 6th home throughout. The 5th home throughout.

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

The 6th 4 course-ends home. The 5th 4 course-ends home.

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

1536.

Time 56½ minutes.

In four courses.

2 3 4 5 6	M	B	W	H	2 3 4 5 6	M	B	W	H
2 4 5 3 6	I		2	2	2 4 5 3 6	I		2	2
2 5 3 4 6	I		2	2	3 6 4 5 2	I		2	2
6 2 4 5 3	2		I	2	6 2 4 5 3	2		I	2
2 3 4 5 6	2		I	2	2 3 4 5 6	2		I	2
2 3 4 5 6					2 3 4 5 6				
5 2 3 6 4	2		2	2	5 2 3 6 4	2		2	2
5 3 6 2 4			I	2	2 4 3 6 5	2		I	2
2 5 3 4 6	2		2	2	6 2 4 5 3	2		2	2
2 3 4 5 6	I		2	2	2 3 4 5 6	I			2
2 3 4 5 6					2 3 4 5 6				
2 4 5 3 6	I		2	2	5 2 3 6 4	2		2	2
3 2 4 6 5	2		2	2	2 4 3 6 5	2		I	2
3 2 6 5 4	2		2	I	3 4 6 2 5			2	I
2 3 4 5 6	2			2	2 3 4 5 6	2		2	2

In five courses.

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

1568.

Time 57½ minutes.

In four courses.

2 3 4 5 6	M	B	W	H	2 3 4 5 6	M	B	W	H
5 2 3 6 4	2		2	2	3 6 4 5 2	2		I	2
6 4 2 3 5	2		2	2	4 2 5 6 3	2		2	2
2 5 3 4 6	2		2	2	3 4 6 2 5			2	2
2 3 4 5 6	I		2	2	2 3 4 5 6	2		2	2

In five courses.

The 6th the extent home.	The 5th the extent home.
2 3 4 5 6	
5 4 3 2 6	2 2
5 3 2 4 6	I 2
5 2 4 3 6	I 2
3 4 6 2 5	I I
2 3 4 5 6	- 2
(or this variation).	
2 3 4 5 6	
5 4 6 3 2	I I
3 5 4 2 6	- 2
2 4 5 3 6	2 2
2 5 3 4 6	I 2
2 3 4 5 6	I 2

The 6th four course-ends home.

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

The 5th and 6th each two course-ends home.

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

SERIES III.

TOUCHES OF OVER 1600 CHANGES.

2496.

Time 90½ mins.

In seven courses.

The 6th the extent home. The 6th the extent wrong.

2 3 4 5 6	M	B	W	H	2 3 4 5 6	M	B	W	H
5 2 3 6 4	2		2	2	2 4 5 3 6	I		2	2
2 4 3 6 5	2		I	2	3 2 4 6 5	2		2	2
6 3 4 2 5			2	2	2 5 4 6 3	2		I	2
3 5 4 2 6	I			2	5 3 4 6 2	I			2
2 4 5 3 6	I			2	3 5 2 6 4			I	2
2 5 3 4 6			I	2	3 2 6 5 4			I	2
2 3 4 5 6	I		2	2	2 3 4 5 6	2			2

The 5th the extent home.

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

In nine courses.

The 6th home at 6 course-ends, all the 8 6's. The 5th home at 6 course-ends, all the 8 5 7's.

2 3 4 5 6	2 3 4 5 6
3 5 4 2 6	2
2 4 6 5 3	I I
2 4 5 3 6	- I
Twice repeated.	Twice repeated.
4 2 3 5 6	I I

2528.

Time 91½ minutes.

In seven courses.

The 6th the extent home. The 6th the extent wrong.

2 3 4 5 6	M	B	W	H	2 3 4 5 6	M	B	W	H
5 2 3 6 4	2		2	2	2 4 5 3 6	I		2	2
2 4 3 6 5	2		I	2	3 2 4 6 5	2		2	2
6 3 4 2 5			2	2	2 5 4 6 3	2		I	2
3 5 4 2 6	I			2	5 3 4 6 2	I			2
2 4 5 3 6			2	2	3 5 2 6 4	2			2
2 5 3 4 6			I	2	3 2 6 5 4			I	2
2 3 4 5 6	I		2	2	2 3 4 5 6	2			2

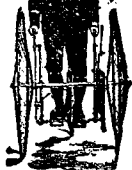
ERRATUM.—The alternative calling should have been given to the last course of second reverse under 2432; viz.: 2M, B, IW, 2H.

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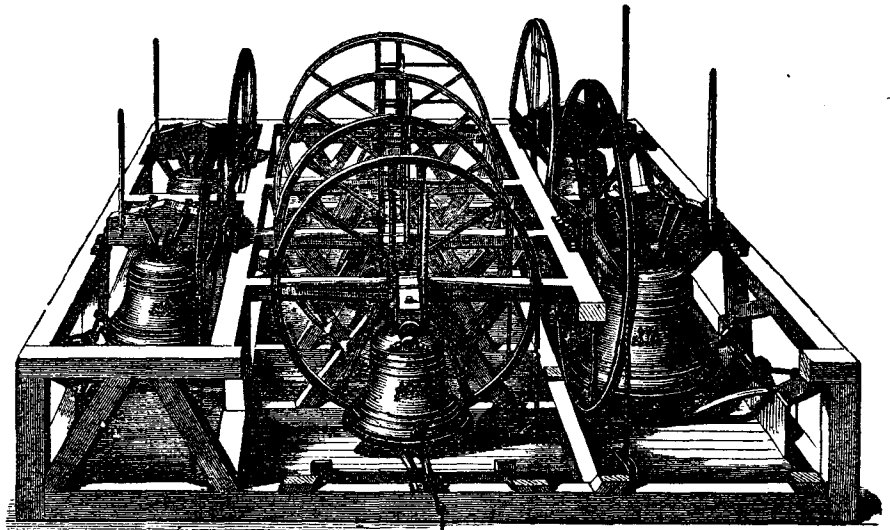
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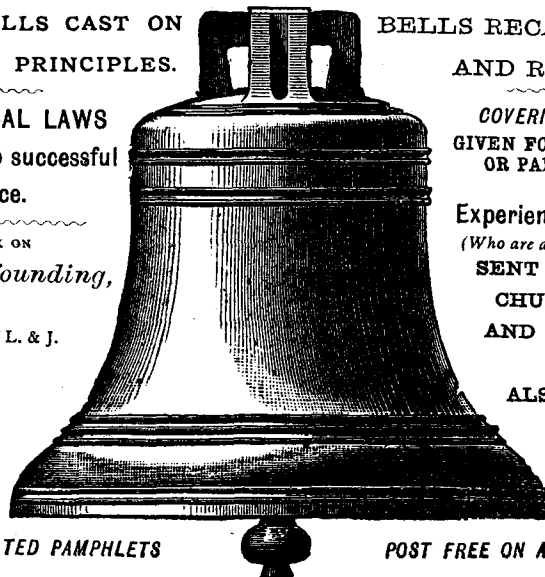
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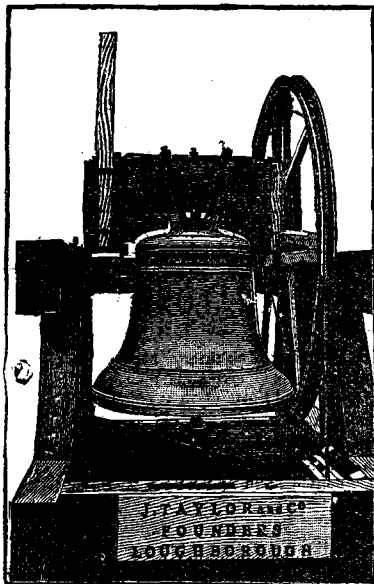
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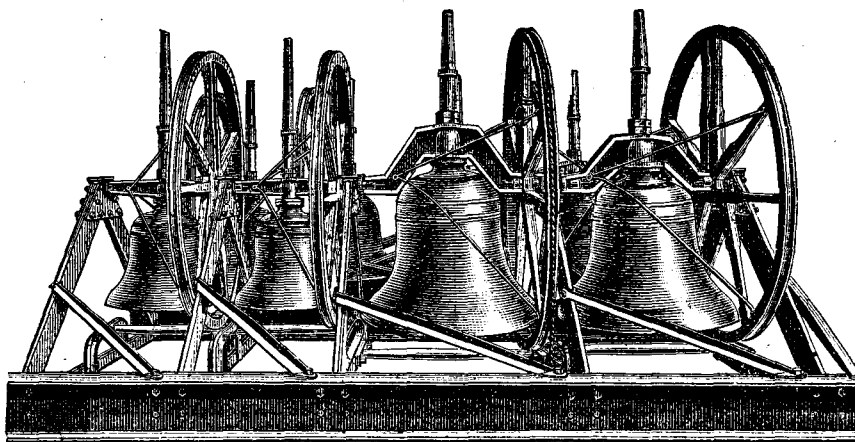
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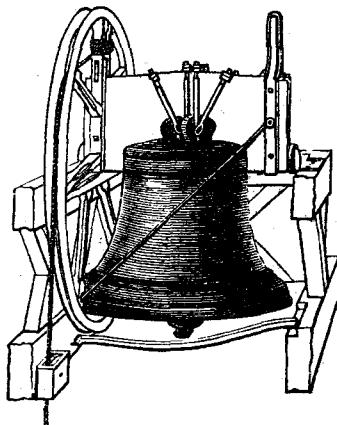
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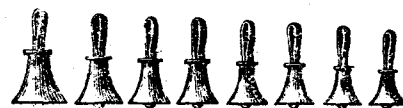
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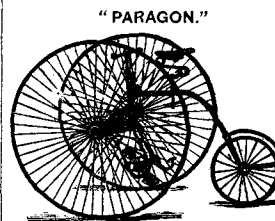
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On Thursday, June 5th, a party of the above society paid a visit to Worksop, Nottinghamshire, the birthplace of Mr. J. Withers, steeple-keeper of Manchester Cathedral. Arriving there at 8.20 a.m., they at once proceeded to and had breakfast at the house of Mr. J. Marshall, one of the local ringers. After the inner man had been satisfied, a move was then made for the Abbey Church, where there is a splendid little ring of eight bells (tenor 12 cwt), a short account of which appeared in "THE BELL NEWS" about six months ago. Permission was at once got from the Vicar to have a pull, and a start was made for Reeves's ten-part peal of Grandsire Triples, but "stand" was called owing to a "shift" being discovered, after ringing 3528 changes in 1 hr. 55 mins. T. G. Downs, treble; S. Knight 2; J. Grimshaw, 3; J. Thorpe, 4; Albert E. Wreaks (conductor), 5; G. Mee, 6; J. Withers, 7; J. Parkinson, tenor. After ringing two or three short touches of Bob Minor with the local ringers, the party then descended the tower, and adjourned to Mr. Marshall's, where the handbells were brought into use, several tunes and courses of Grandsire Triples, Major, and Caters being rung on them, much to the delight of the local company. Tea was provided by the Vicar, which the ringers did ample justice to, after which the visitors were taken round the town and shewn its main features, etc. It was now time to return to the station, but the train being about half-an-hour late, three or four tunes were rung upon the handbells on the platform, to the delight of the rest of the passengers. The visitors arrived in Manchester about 11.45 p.m., after having a very good day's enjoyment. The Cathedral ringers take this opportunity of thanking most heartily, the Vicar and local ringers for the kind manner in which they were received.

THE ST. STEPHEN'S SOCIETY, BRISTOL.—RUSH SUNDAY AT REDCLIFF CHURCH.

Whitsuntide was observed at Redcliff church in accordance with the ancient custom. The church was prettily decorated, and was strewn with rushes, the members of the corporation attending the morning service. The sermon was preached by the vicar, the Rev. C. E. Cornish, from the words "He sendeth out His word and melteth them; He causeth His wind to blow, and the waters flow."—Psalm cxlvii. 18. At 6 a.m. the members of the above society ascended the splendid tower, and indulged in various touches on the grand-toned peal of twelve bells, and before finishing they accomplished a well-struck course of Grandsire Caters. George Staddon, 1; E. Duckham, 2; Alfred Yorke, 3; Geo. Morgan, 4; Walter Henry Marsh, 5; J. Norton, 6; James Hinton, 7; E. Blake, 8; Wm. Emery, 9; Chas. Millard, 10. On leaving this grand church, the members took the opportunity of visiting the parish church of St. Luke, where they were joined by Messrs. Herbert Smith and Sydney Herbert, of Exeter, and several touches of Grandsire Minor and Doubles were indulged in. The party afterwards met at Christ Church, and rang a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 45 mins. George Staddon, 1; Sydney Herbert (Exeter), 2; Walter Henry Marsh (late of Exeter), 3; Herbert Swift (Exeter), 4; John Norton, 5; James Hinton (conductor), 6; Frank Price, 7; Wm. Emery, 8. The composition was from Taylor's Bob-and-Single Variation. Other towers were also visited, and ringing continued on Whit-Monday, a most enjoyable day being spent by all.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

THE June Meeting of the above Association was held at Saddleworth, on Saturday last, June 14th. Ringers attended from Bradford, Huddersfield, Leeds, Birstall, Dewsbury, Lindley, Almondbury, Kirkeaton, Meltham, Ashton, Southport, Anston near Rotherham, Leesfield, and several other places. Messrs. Silvester and Fowler travelled all the way from Anston to Saddleworth church on bicycles, a distance of forty-three miles. Amongst the ringers from Ashton, we noticed Mr. James Wood, sen., and his two sons, Samuel and James; also Messrs. Moss, Broadbent, and Longden, the heroes of the long peal. During the afternoon and evening touches of Union Triples, Kent Treble Bob Major, Minor, and Oxford Minor, etc., were rung by the companies from Bradford, Huddersfield, Anston, and others, the bells being on full swing until 10 p.m. At 4.30 about sixty sat down to a knife and fork tea, at the "Church Inn," host Walker providing in his accustomed excellent manner. After tea, the business meeting was held, the President, Jasper W. Snowdon, Esq., in the chair. The minutes of the last meeting were confirmed; a resolution was passed empowering the committee to arrange for and fix the place for the Annual Meeting in October. Mr. T. Haigh, Huddersfield, moved, and Mr. R. Tuke, Bradford, seconded, "That the best thanks of the meeting be given to the Rev. Hugh Doig, Vicar of Saddleworth, Canon Green, Christ Church, Friezeland, and the churchwardens, for the use of the bells, also to the Saddleworth company for the excellent arrangements they had made for the comfort of the visitors," which was carried unanimously.

The Rev. HUGH DOIG rose to respond on behalf of himself and Canon Green. He said he was pleased to have an opportunity of welcoming the members of the Association to Saddleworth. He hoped they would all enjoy their visit. He was also pleased to hear that out of fourteen of his own ringers, twelve were members of the Association. He hoped they would prove good members, and be a credit to the Society. He would not occupy their time long, as he had a churchwarden at his elbow, who was also a most enthusiastic ringer, to respond for the churchwardens and ringers. He thanked them for their kind expressions, and wished the Association every success.

MR. JOHN HOLDEN, one of the Wardens, on rising, said he was pleased to meet the members of the Yorkshire Association at Saddleworth; but he was also sorry to inform them that a combination of circumstances had prevented his colleague, Mr. Meanock, and other gentlemen from attending. Mr. Meanock had been suffering from a severe cold, and Mr. Bradbury, the Treasurer of the Bell Fund, had been away in London, but he could assure them those gentlemen wished them to enjoy themselves, and the Society to prosper. On behalf of the ringers he could assure them that they were highly pleased the arrangements for the meeting had given them satisfaction, and he could assure them they would be welcome at Saddleworth, and that the bells would be at their service at all reasonable times. He also thought they would not be doing their duty if they allowed the meeting to disperse without moving a vote of thanks to their esteemed President, Jasper W. Snowdon, Esq., who had travelled all the way from Leeds to be present, and they all knew what he had done for change-ringing, and the services he had rendered the Association. The resolution was carried with acclamation.

MR. SNOWDON, in responding, said they could best show that they appreciated his services by paying their contributions promptly, and putting him and the Secretary to as little trouble as possible. He was sorry that there were not more members present, the reason no doubt was, that Saddleworth was a very great distance from the centre of Yorkshire, and the meeting being so soon after the Whitsun holidays. He was sure the Saddleworth Society had done everything in their power to make their visit to Saddleworth pleasant and agreeable.

SOCIAL GATHERING OF RINGERS AT ECCLES.

On Friday in Whitsun week, upwards of thirty ringers in connection with the Lancashire Association, and, apart from the local ringers, representing Manchester, St. Mark's Worsley, St. Paul's Walkden, Holy Trinity Hulme, Holy Trinity Bolton, All Souls Bolton, Leesfield, Oldham, St. Peter's Ashton-under-Lyne, Rusholme parish church, etc., visited the tower of the Eccles parish church, for the purpose of celebrating the public re-opening of the bells, which, as recorded in a recent number, were rehung on Tuesday, May 30th. Ascending the tower at 10 a.m., ringing was indulged in for a considerable time, touches of Kent Treble Bob, Bob Major, Grandsire Triples, and Bob Minor being rung. At 5 p.m. the ringers adjourned to the "Odd Fellows' Arms," where an excellent tea was provided by mine host and hostess, Mr. and Mrs. Foulkes. After tea a capital entertainment in the shape of tunes and changes on handbells were given by mixed companies, and Mr. Green and others sang several lively songs. Mr. Samuel Wood, Ashton-under-Lyne, then gave in a most pleasing manner a course of Grandsire Caters on the piano, in a style worthy of every commendation, and which highly delighted his appreciative audience. Before the close of the evening's proceedings Mr. James Barratt, on behalf of the Eccles ringers, expressed the pleasure he and his brother ringers felt at the welcome visit of the ringers to the ancient village of Eccles. They (the ringers), would always be made welcome, and nothing would give him and his comrades greater pleasure than to hear their outside friends ring a peal on the bells. Mr. Green brought a most enjoyable evening to a close by playing the National Anthem on handbells.

BELL FOUNDING.—The first Englishman known to have been a bell founder by trade, lived in 1284, when he made four bells for the Cathedral Church of Exeter, none of which remain; and one which is dated 1296, is the most ancient identified in England. The oldest bell mentioned by Mr. North as still hanging in a Northamptonshire steeple is that of Cold Ashby, which bears the date of 1317; but there are many undated examples, which from the style of the subscriptions must be considerably older. One hundred and thirty seven in all may be said with certainty to have been cast before the commencement of the 17th century, and of these twenty-three are dated. In Leicestershire Mr. North found 140 of the earlier period; so that there is only a difference of three old bells between the two counties—a curious coincidence. But Northamptonshire does not seem to have wanted a bell founder till the end of the 16th century, being then about 100 years later than Leicester. Moreover, many Northamptonshire bells were cast by Newcombe of Leicester, the two which being beside Mavion at Cold Ashby by being by him with the inscription "Newcombe of Leicester made mee 1606."—*Saturday Review*.

COLLEGE YOUTHS (MEMBERS OF THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION), AT IPSWICH.

In this paper three weeks ago appeared the record of a peal of Stedman Caters rung at Ipswich that will need a little correction; the time occupied was 3 hrs. 29 mins., not 3 hrs. 39 mins., and it was known as the composition of Mr. Haley, and not of Mr. Catchpole. On Saturday, 31st May, a company met by appointment at St. Mary-le-tower, to accommodate Mr. F. E. Dawe, of London, who had expressed a wish to call a peal of Treble-twelve there; the start was made, and 5088 changes (the composition of Mr. C. H. Hattersley, of Sheffield) brought to a successful issue in 3 hrs. 54 minutes. Several competent judges outside were unanimous in saying a good peal had been accomplished—in fact little else can be expected at a tower like that, where every bell turns about so true and easy, excellent circle, good sight and ropes, and in a word, almost every necessary to meet the requirements of a band. The tower is built of flint and stone, and the bells, etc., are in charge of Mr. W. L. Catchpole, who performs his steeple-keeper's duty in a manner that is rarely ever met with, thus showing the benefit of having an ingenious ringer to perform this important work. The ringing-room is lighted by two stained glass windows at either end, and a gas chandelier in the centre, it is only 16ft. 6ins. square, and the bell-chamber measures exactly the same. Another very important thing is that Ipswich can boast of having at least four of the best, unassuming, and most promising young lads that it is possible to meet with, being able to ring on twelve bells with the ease of an experience extending to half-a-century; their ages vary from 15 to 19 years, thereby showing a better return of "young blood" than any other ringing town in England.

On Whit-Sunday, morning and evening, Grandsire and Stedman Cinques were performed, and a visit made to St. Lawrence's, which has one of the prettiest little ornamental Gothic towers that is possible to imagine, having all sorts of artistic designs in bricks, black, white, and red; it is rather tall, and contains a ring of five "black letter bells," in a state of fine preservation. A walk by the banks of the river Orwell, a few 6-scores of Grandsire and Stedman Doubles on the five bells at St. Matthew's, and a visit to some friends in the evening brought the day to a close. Seven o'clock the next morning saw a party of fourteen or so, bowling along in a brake, evidently bent on ringing of some sort or other, and when a short distance out of the town an accident occurred to one of the party who was riding a bicycle, but beyond being thrown to the ground, shaken, a few cuts and torn clothes, he escaped practically unhurt. Soon after, a slight derivation in the route was made to enable a fine set of handbells, the property of Mr. Charles Mee (one of the aforesaid young hands), to enjoy the benefit of the outing, as well as for the use of the company, and very soon the pretty music of Grandsire Cinques sounded (as well as it could be heard), as the party rode along the bright green lanes of Eastern Suffolk. After several miles of this sort of thing, they arrived at Stonham Aspall, and at St. Lambert's church, an even 5000 Treble Bob Royal was rung in 3 hrs. 25 mins. This was the first on the ten, the last and only previous peal being 5040 Bob Major, in January, 1768. The tower is stone to a little above the ringing-room, but where the bells are and upwards it is built entirely of wood. The ringing-room has a sort of "skeleton floor" on which the ringers stand, it being open interlaced woodwork, with apertures almost large enough to put one's foot through, and so renders it possible, for those ringing to see and converse with anyone down in the porch below. All the bells from the treble to the tenor, require a considerable amount of labour, that renders 5000 changes a performance, but by no means a treat—especially on a warm day. When the peal was done, several of the ringers paid a visit to a "Ten-pin ground" (being another word for "skittle alley,") and had very soon nearly broken one another's legs, under the instruction of one of the most rare and remarkable specimens of mankind, who it is stated was once a ringer there, but he continues to assert that he shall never ring again, so long as his father lies buried in the churchyard!

The return journey was made a great deal down-hill, and in another direction, to enable to party to visit Coddensham, a pretty village, where the tower of St. Mary's church contains a nice little ring of eight, and one of the cosiest little ringing-rooms that can anywhere be found, being nicely matted, and the woodwork and fittings being painted bright blue and white, and as the bells go so well, it is just the sort of place a stranger "would like to ring a peal in." A touch of Stedman Triples and some rounds and fire brought the ringing to an end. The next thing was to get back to Ipswich, where a large and excellent photo of the ringers standing at the foot of their tower was obtained, and several of them went to the station to see the visitor (who thanked them all for their great kindness to him) safely ensconced in a railway carriage en route for London.

THE DEVONSHIRE GUILD.

The Annual Meeting of the members of the Devonshire Guild will be held at Babbacombe and St. Mary Church, Torquay, to-day (Saturday), June 21st.

J. S. NORTHCOTE, Hon. Sec.

THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday afternoon, June 14th, a party of the above Association visited Houghton Conquest, a nice little village five miles south of Bedford, with a pretty church, and a tower containing a sweet-toned ring of six bells, by Mears, tenor 12 cwt., in F#. The visitors arrived at Houghton about four o'clock, from Bedford, Bromham, and Elstow, some on bicycles, some on tricycles, and some on that ancient locomotive called Shanks' pony. They were met by the venerable sexton of Houghton, Mr. T. Smart, and after a little refreshment, entered the tower. Searching for some lubricant for the bells, says our correspondent, we found all the oil bottles empty, which reminded us of the foolish virgins. We therefore dispatched one of our number to the nearest shop for some grease, and some of us began to ascend the old steps leading to the bells. After leaving the ground floor, where the ropes hang, we found everything in a wretched state; the steps and the belfry covered with straw and other rubbish, and the whole place alive with members of the feathered tribe. Our friend now returned with the grease, which we at once applied without stint to the corroded bearings, and then descended to the ringing-floor, which is open to the church. We started to raise the bells in peal, but when nearly up, the tenor became speechless, and owing to the accumulation of rubbish beneath the bells, the fall of the clapper was scarcely audible, thus a "belfry scare" was prevented. Up the old stairs again, and into the bell-chamber, where we found the clapper lying in the tenor-pit. Fortunately our company included a "jolly smith," and off we went to the local blacksmith's shop, which however we found closed, and all business suspended. We found the smith at home, a short distance from his shop, and in a few minutes a fire was kindled, and we were soon busy enough, and the work being done to the satisfaction of the experts, the clapper was again adjusted, and a 6-score of Grandsire Doubles was rung by W. Hall, 1; J. Atkins, 2; C. W. Clarke, 3; C. Stafferton, W. Biggs, 5; J. Hills, 6. A 720 of Bob Minor was then attempted by the same band, Nos. 2, 3, and 4 being in inverted order. But the tenor-man requested the conductor to bring the bells round at half-way, the go of the 5th and tenor being wretched. Another trial was subsequently made, with Mr. Clarke at the tenor, but it failed. Grandsire and Bob Doubles were then rung, in which a gentleman from Bedford, and Mr. Ellis, of Bromham, rang the treble, and Mr. J. Odell, of Houghton Conquest, rang the tenor; an interval was however caused by the breaking of a rope. This being mended, a little more ringing was done, and the bells were handed over to the local men, who rang call changes.

Here at this village is certainly a capital opening for belfry reform. But the local ringers say they are not allowed to have anything repaired until there is a complete breakdown somewhere. Be this as it may, we hope we shall hear of the bells of Houghton Conquest being dealt with by some skilled bell-hanger, and of the village ringers becoming active members of the Bedfordshire Association.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—ANNUAL MEETING.

THIS Association held its Annual General Meeting at Canterbury on the 16th instant. The 10 bells of the Cathedral, those of St. Stephen's (8), St. Dunstan's (6), and Holy Cross (5) were placed at the disposal of the members, and were kept well employed during the greater part of the day. Some of the ringers even found their way to the eight-bell tower of Chilham, six miles from Canterbury, where the bells, lately rehung, go remarkably well. Most of the men, accompanied by several of the clergy and others interested in ringing, attended the 10.0 a.m. service in the Cathedral, where the Rev. Canon Fremantle addressed them. About 130 sat down to a capital dinner, the Dean of Canterbury presiding. The report, which was read by the Secretary, showed that the number of practising members is now 360, and of honorary members 135. A good number of fresh members joined the Association.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION OF SIX-BELL RINGERS.

THE ANNUAL MEETING of the above Association was held at St. Mark's, Preston, on Saturday, July 7th, when upwards of fifty members attended, and partook of a substantial repast in St. Mark's school after which the general meeting was held, with the usual election of officers for the ensuing year. Six new members were elected. During the day several peals were very creditably rung by mixed bands, the meeting altogether being a great success.

SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.

THE ANNUAL MEETING of the above Society will be held at Lichfield, on Saturday (to-day). Members are requested to assemble in the Cathedral belfry at 2 p.m. The business meeting will be held at 3.30 p.m. An address will be given to the Society in the Lady Chapel after Evensong, by the Rev. J. H. Fish, Vicar of St. Paul's, Burton-on-Trent.

J. R. KEEBLE, Hon. Sec.

VISIT TO CHELTENHAM AND PAINSWICK,
GLOUCESTERSHIRE.

ON Whit-Monday, June 2nd, Messrs. H. Bastable, J. Buffery, J. Sanders, A. Cresser, and S. Reeves, of the St. Martin's society, Birmingham, paid a visit to the grand town of Cheltenham with the idea of ringing a peal of Grandsire Caters at St. Mary's church with their Cheltenham friends, but on arrival they were informed that the tenor was under repair, and not in a fit state for peal-ringing. In consequence of this untoward state of affairs, conveyances were engaged to take the party on to Painswick, and taking with them a bag of handbells, and a good supply of refreshments, started on the journey. The weather being all that could be desired, and the road chosen being a very pleasant one, the visitors thoroughly enjoyed the drive, freely commenting on the beautiful scenery as they passed along. Arriving at a spot known as "Paradise," a halt was made, when each one partook of the good things provided. Reaching Painswick, a band was arranged for a peal of Stedman Caters, but after ringing about half-an-hour, it was thought better to abandon the idea of ringing a peal, as the go of the bells was not at all satisfactory, and so a touch of Stedman Cinques was started for, the party being made up by the Rev. C. D. P. Davies, G. H. Phillott, Esq., and Messrs. F. Musty, H. Karn, W. T. Pates, H. Hodges, and W. Humphris. This being rung, the horses were again put in harness, and the party started on the homeward journey, ringing plain courses and touches of Grandsire Triples on the handbells as they went along. Cheltenham being reached, they there refreshed themselves with tea, and again repairing to St. Mary's tower, made an attempt to ring a touch of Stedman Caters, which however came to grief in the last course. This brought the day's proceedings to a close, and the visitors departed for home very soon afterwards. They wish, through the medium of this paper, to most heartily thank their Cheltenham friends for the kind way in which they entertained them, assuring them that it will be a long time before the trip to Cheltenham will be forgotten, and hoping at some future time to complete the original idea of ringing a peal of Grandsire Caters with them.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

The Whit-Monday meeting of this Association was held at Sunderland, the attendance of members from Darlington, Durham, Bishop Wearmouth, Chester-le-Street, Jarrow, North and South Shields, Newcastle, Hurworth, Stockton, Winlaton and Sunderland being very large. The ringing during the day consisted of a 1056 Kent Treble Bob Major, 352 Bob Major, and some Grandsire Triples at Sunderland; 720 of Oxford Bob and 720 of Plain Bob Minor at Bishop Wearmouth; various touches of Minor and six-scores of Doubles were also rung by members of the younger branches, thus indicating that the art of change-ringing is rapidly spreading amongst the new branches of this Association. At the committee meeting, the draft scheme of the National Association was discussed, and its objects generally approved. A dinner, at which seventy-one sat down, was provided at the Palatine Hotel, Canon Scott Moncrieff, Vicar of Christ Church, Monkwearmouth, presiding, in the absence of the rectors of Bishop Wearmouth and Sunderland, Ven. Archdeacon Long, and the Rev. R. Waters. There was also present, Revs. Boddington and Simmins, and Mr. J. P. Chapman, churchwarden of Sunderland, who takes great interest in his bells, and was present in the belfry during the whole of the ringing. After the loyal toasts, that of "The Bishops and Clergy of the dioceses of Durham and Newcastle" was proposed by W. Reed, Esq., and responded to by Canon Moncrieff, who expressed great interest in this Association, and although himself and many others regretted the necessity of separating Northumberland from the ancient see of Durham, he was glad to know that they were still tied together with bell-ropes. Other toasts followed, after which twenty-three new members were elected; including the Rev. E. Boddington and Mr. H. Reeves. The annual meeting will be held at Newcastle-on Tyne on the last Monday in October.

THE TEWKESBURY ABBEY SOCIETY.

ON Sunday, June 15th, the above Society visited Eastnor and Ledbury. On arriving at the former place at about 10 a.m., permission was soon obtained to ring for morning service. Some 120's of Grandsire and Stedman Doubles were rung. Later in the day they visited Ledbury, and with the Rector's permission rang two touches of Grandsire Triples. It was also intended to go for a touch of Union Triples, but owing to the go of the bells, and new ropes, the attempt was not made. On returning to Eastnor, they rang for evening service. Some Kent Treble and Plain Bob Minor, Grandsire and Stedman Doubles were rung, the following taking part in the ringing: Wm. Hampton, F. H. Witherington, F. J. Moore, S. Cleal, J. Wathen, J. Hale, Jos. Wathen, and W. Haines. The Ledbury bells are a very fair peal of eight, by Rudhall, of Gloucester, tenor 24 cwt. in Eb, and run the wrong way round.

REVIEWS.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.—This is an extensive document, of a neat, uniform appearance, and is the second one issued by this Association. The performances number thirty-one, but the list embraces those of the year 1882-83, with the omissions of a previous report made good, and errors rectified. Of these peals, fourteen have been rung at the church of St. Paul, Burton-on-Trent, principally by members of the local society, and they include performances which speak of great skill on the part of those who rang them. Of the four district towns, viz.: Burton, Derby, Nottingham, and Leicester, the two latter are lowest on the list. Nottingham contributes two peals of Grandsire Triples rung by the local party with one exception; two peals—Treble Bob and Grandsire Triples—being booked to Leicester, only the latter one being rung by local men. We fail to see the briefest allusion to St. Mary's, Nottingham, where we hear an unfortunate state of affairs exist. It is to be hoped that the appearance in Nottingham of a change-ringing clergyman may soon lead to a favorable change being made in the administration of St. Mary's belfry. And we hope to see, when the next Annual Report of this Association appears, our Nottingham friends will be found to have been a little more energetic than hitherto. With regard to Leicester, the case is still less cheering. In a town having two rings of ten, and two or three rings of eight, we naturally expect to hear of more than one solitary peal of Grandsire Triples being rung in a twelvemonth by local men. The Derby society are in advance of both Leicester and Nottingham, but that is the only grain of commendation that we are able to bestow. It would have been more gratifying had they scored a peal or two of Caters. As the tower of All Saints' church, having a ring of ten in fair condition, and of moderate weight, is open to them, they certainly appear not to have made the most of the advantages they possess. There may be, and no doubt are, local obstacles to the progress which we should like to hear was being made in these towns. But if drawbacks exist over which these societies have no control, then while patiently watching the course of events, the members of the respective companies should be constantly on the alert to seize any opportunity which may present itself for advancing the principles of the art within their midst. The Report of the Committee is brief, but to the point, and deals with every topic requiring to be touched upon in such a document.

The roll of Honorary Members comprises the names of many influential gentlemen within the respective districts, and a very great number of clergymen, among whom may be mentioned the Lord Bishop of Lichfield. Since the report appeared the Bishop of Southwell (Dr. Ridding) has intimated his intention of joining the Association.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.—Though a more unpretending statement than the one just alluded to, the appearance of this report must be gladly welcomed as coming from a part of the country where, until the North Wilts Guild (now merged into the Salisbury Diocesan Guild) commenced its operations, change-ringing was comparatively unknown. During the year twenty-seven companies have joined the Guild, which now numbers forty-six Life and Honorary Members, and 220 Ringing Members. The progress made in change-ringing by the members of this Guild has not been so great as, from various causes, we were led to expect. There does not appear to be that untiring energy manifested in several of the districts concerned, to acquire that proficiency in the art which we hear of in many places; and we hear of very little desire on the part of the members of this Guild to become *au fait* with ringing matters outside their own immediate sphere. The other day we came across a farm labourer who had lived all his life far away from any bells beyond the ring of five at his village, yet his acquaintance with ringing matters was very considerable, and in supplementing his knowledge by the information at our disposal, we were struck by the nature of his questions, and his eagerness for our replies. Such a spirit of enquiry we should like to hear was being exhibited among the members of the Salisbury Guild, and when they read from week to week of the various performances being rung by members of other Guilds, we hope they will strive by every means within their power to emulate them. If such advice is taken in the spirit in which it is offered, and acted upon, we shall live in hopes of seeing the record of a peal or two in the second Annual Report.

MESSRS. JOHN WARNER AND SONS' CATALOGUE.—For a book of this description, the one before us is rather voluminous. It is exceedingly well got up, and profusely illustrated, this latter feature being an interesting characteristic of all the publications which—if he will allow us to say so—disclose the work of Mr. S. B. Goslin in their production. Every specialty of this well-known firm is set forth in a legible form, and in a manner easy of comprehension.

WE hear that it is proposed to add two trebles to the ring of six at the church of SS. Mary and Nicolas, Spalding, Lincolnshire, and that several subscriptions are promised towards this object. Before any definite steps are taken, the Vicar (Canon Moore) is desirous of having an architect's opinion on the strength of the tower.

"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.

Everything for insertion in this Journal to be addressed "The Editor of THE BELL NEWS, Walthamstow, London." Letters forwarded for publication, and performances under 5000 changes must reach us not later than Wednesday morning; and the insertion of any communication coming later than the first Postal delivery on Thursday morning cannot be guaranteed in that week's number. When it is found impossible from want of space to insert all touches forwarded, the earlier ones will have the preference.

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.

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

A CORRECTION.—Mr. G. Conyard, of Crayford, Kent, writes:—"Dear Sir, the peal of Grandsire Triples rung at Dartford on the 7th inst. should have read conducted by Frederick French, and not Alfred Coles, as published in your last issue." From the position in which the word "conductor" was placed in the report sent, it was impossible to satisfactorily determine which of these two ringers called the peal. We advise more care by our correspondents, as we frequently have to guess at many items they neglect to forward. The recent peal at Ipswich was sent without the name of the composer or conductor; but our surmise in this instance was partly wrong.

ONE OF THE RINGERS OF ST. ANDREW'S, DERBY.—Next week.

F. HOUNSELL (Cuckfield).—Your communication has been accidentally destroyed. Be good enough to send again.

C. SMITH (Bramford).—Next week.

The Bell News & Ringers' Record.

SATURDAY, JUNE 21, 1884.

So long a time has elapsed since the Ringers' Conference was held at Reading, that we must be excused directing the attention of our readers to the apparent reticence of the representative Committee elected at that Conference. We hear now and then of a draft Scheme issued by this Committee being brought before a Guild Meeting, and we also read that a resolution has been moved, seconded, and carried, with reference to it. But not a shred of intelligence has been published relative to such a Scheme in either of the journals which the Exercise expect to find such information. There may be satisfactory reasons for this silence which we know nothing about. But we cannot help thinking that the idea of publishing the proposals of the Committee, as embodied in this Scheme, in the manner we mention, has been lost sight of by them. And in consequence, there are a great many who from various causes are unable to attend an Association or Guild Meeting—whose only sources of information are the columns of this journal and those of our respected contemporary—who know little or nothing of the affair. We confess to being ignorant of the contents of the document which has been issued by the Committee. Personally, we could not expect to know any more of the matter than many others. But we are inclined to believe that many ringers, whose opinions and suggestions

on the question of a National Ringers' Association would have been worthy of consideration, are unaware of the proposals in connection therewith.

If the practice of change-ringing is for the moment put at its lowest status—that of mere amusement, it cannot, as such, ever meet with that common popularity which is the lot of many recreative pursuits. It will certainly be a long time before a deputation of ringers wait upon a cabinet minister, and urge him to redress their grievances, as did the bicyclists this week. Ringing is carried on, however, under conditions which gives it a higher qualification than a mere pastime. Its inseparable connection with the Church, and the Church's ordinances, establish this fact. Perhaps when the proposed National Association is called into existence, exertions will be strenuously made to induce Churchmen to estimate ringing at its true worth. We hope the Committee have in view and look forward to the holding of periodical festivals, on a scale equal to those held by various bodies at the metropolitan cathedral, and thus ensure the countenance of Churchmen as a body. The popularity which ringing would then enjoy would be of a high tone, and certainly not of a transient character.

THE BRAINTREE BRANCH OF THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

The following is the ringing done by the Baintree company during the month of May:—May 3rd, 720 of Oxford Treble Bob, 720 of Kent Treble Bob. May 4th, 720 of Kent Treble Bob, 720 of London Scholars' Pleasure, three 120's of Bob Doubles, 72 of Bob Minor, 120 Imperial. May 10th, 720 Imperial, 120 of Superlative Surprise. May 11th, 720 of Violet, 120 of Cambridge Surprise, 120 of College Exercise. May 18th, 720 of Cambridge Surprise, 120 of London Surprise. May 24th, 720 of Woodbine, 60 of Bob Minor. May 25th, 720 of London Surprise, 120 Superlative Surprise. May 31st, 120 of Bob Doubles, 360 of Double Court, 120 of Imperial.

THE SAFFRON WALDEN (ESSEX) SOCIETY. ESTABLISHED 1623.

ON Friday, June 27th, the Two hundred and sixty-first Anniversary will take place, in accordance with the will of the late Thomas Turner, of this town. The bells are in excellent order, and the home ringers will be pleased to see any visitors who may make it convenient to attend.
JNO. F. PENNING, Hon. Sec.

STOKE-UPON-TRENT ARCHIDIACONAL ASSOCIATION.

Erratum.—The Secretaries desire to correct the dates of the July ringing meetings, as given in last week's "BELL NEWS." They should stand thus: Barlaston on July 5th, and Norton on July 12th. On July 19th will take place the Dedication of the new ring of eight bells at Wolstanton, of which further notice will be given.

T. H. B. FEARON, } Hon. Secs.
ENDON GLOVER, }

The Metropolis.

CAMBERWELL, SURREY.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

On Saturday, June 14, 1884, 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.

WILLIAM CECIL Treble.	EDWARD ROGERS 5.
YORKE GREEN 2.	EDWARD F. STRANGE .. 6.
HENRY LANGDON 3.	HENRY J. TUCKER 7.
MARTIN MURPHY 4.	DANIEL NEWTON Tenor.

Conducted by HENRY J. TUCKER.

The Provinces.**THE SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.
LAVENHAM, SUFFOLK.***On Saturday, June 14, 1884, in Four Hours,**AT THE CHURCH OF SS. PETER AND PAUL,***A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 6016 CHANGES;
IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 24 cwt. in D.**

SAMUEL SLATER .. .. .Treble.	OLIVER GARWOOD 5.
GEORGE MARTIN 2.	JOHN F. PENNING 6.
ERNEST A. PITSTOW 3.	GEORGE TAYLOR 7.
FREDERICK WELLS 4.	FREDERICK PITSTOW ..Tenor.

Composed by TOM LOCKWOOD, and conducted by
FREDERICK PITSTOW.*The peal is given on p. 42 of Snowdon's Treatise, and contains the 6th its extent in all positions. This is the first time of its performance, and the longest length on the bells.**S. Slater, F. Wells, and O. Garwood hail from Glemsford; G. Taylor, Cambridge; G. Martin, J. F. Penning, and Bros. Pitstow, Saffron Walden.**The Rev. Edward Symonds, curate of Lavenham, and Mr. Philip O. Bixby, were elected members of the Royal Cumberland Society on this occasion.***COPDOCK, NEAR IPSWICH, SUFFOLK.
THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.***On Saturday, June 14, 1884, in Three Hours,**AT ST. PETER'S CHURCH.***5160 CHANGES: COMPRISED OF 6-SCORES IN SEVEN
DIFFERENT METHODS UPON FIVE BELLS:—**10 of Stedman Doubles; 8 of New Doubles; 8 of St. Simon's; 4 of
Plain; 4 of Old Doubles;
3 of The Nightingale; and 6 of Grandsire Doubles.

Tenor 11 cwt.

THOMAS STEWARD .. ..Treble.	CHARLES MEE 3.
FREDERICK MEE 2.	WILLIAM MOTTS 4.
JAMES MOTTS .. .. .Tenor.	

Conducted by CHARLES MEE.

THE HYDE SOCIETY.—HYDE, CHESHIRE.*On Saturday, June 14, 1884, in Three Hours and Seven Minutes,**AT ST. GEORGE'S CHURCH,***A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;**

IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 15 cwt. 1 qr. 24 lbs.

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

Composed by JOHN THORP, and conducted by THOMAS WILDE.

The above peal has the 5th and 6th their extent right, and has never been previously performed.

John Thorp hails from Ashton-under-Lyne.

SANDBACH, CHESHIRE.*On Monday, June 16, 1884, in Three Hours and Six Minutes,**AT THE PARISH CHURCH,***A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;**

REEVES'S VARIATION. Tenor 16 cwt.

JOHN THOMAS ELBSY* ..Treble.	WALTER INGHAM 5.
SAMUEL DICKINSON 2.	EDWARD MATTHEWS 6.
WILLIAM HULME 3.	THOMAS JOHNSON 7.
JAMES HOLT 4.	*DAVID THORNHILL .. ..Tenor.

Conducted by E. MATTHEWS.

*First peal.

*W. Ingham hails from Higher Sutton; and J. Holt, W. Hulme, and E. Matthews from Macclesfield; the rest are local men.***THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.**A Meeting for ringing only, will be held on Saturday, June 28th, at
Radcliffe. Ringing from 2 p.m.W. J. CHATTERTON, } Hon. Secs.
JOEL REDFORD, }**BIRMINGHAM.****THE BIRMINGHAM AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATION.****Birthday Peal.***On Monday, June 16, 1884, in Three Hours,**AT ST. JOHN'S, DERITEND,***A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;**

TAYLOR'S BOB-AND-SINGLE VARIATION. Tenor 13 cwt. in F#.

WILLIAM BALDWIN* ..Treble.	FRANCIS H. JAMES 5.
BENNETT STEVENS 2.	*CHARLES CARMELL 6.
JOHN T. PERRY 3.	THOMAS MILLER 7.
CHARLES BARNICLE* 4.	*RICHARD ELWELL .. ..Tenor.

Conducted by CHARLES CARMELL.

*First peal.

*This peal was rung to celebrate Mr. B. Stevens' 31st birthday, also Mr. T. Miller's 40th peal.***Date Touches.****THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.**

BURFORD (Oxon).—On Tuesday evening, June 17th, at the parish church, eight of the local company, also members of the above Guild, rang a date touch of 1884 changes, in 1 hr. 12 mins. H. Smith, 1; T. Brown, 2; T. E. Glanville (conductor), 3; W. Large, 4; H. Bond, jun., 5; J. Smith, 6; D. Francis, 7; W. Launchbury, 8. Tenor about 23 cwt. The above touch was rung at the inauguration of a new peal board which records a peal of Grandsire Triples, rung in January last, by members of the Burford company with Mr. J. Field of Oxford, who acted as conductor. The above date touch is the original composition of Mr. F. E. Ward, of Cheltenham, who was formerly one of the local company.

STOKE-UPON-TRENT ARCHIDIACONAL ASSOCIATION.

NORTON-LE-MOORS.—On Thursday, June 12th, a date touch of 1884 changes in the following methods: 720 of Court Bob, 360 of Oxford Bob, 360 of Plain Bob, and 444 of Grandsire, in 1 hr. 10 mins. W. Holdcroft, 1; E. Glover, 2; J. Morton, 3; J. W. Brough, 4; Jas. Baddeley, 5; G. Walker (conductor), 6.

EAST WITTON (Yorkshire).—On Sunday, June 8th, in commemoration of the Earl of Savernake coming of age, a date touch of 1884 changes was rung at the parish church, consisting of 84 of Grandsire Bob Minor; 720 of Oxford Treble Bob Minor; 720 of College Single; and 360 of Plain Bob, in 1 hr. 8 mins. J. Croft, 1; J. Jacques, 2; J. Shields, 3; W. Craggs, 4; W. Peacock, 5; C. Bucklin (conductor), 6. Also on Sunday, June 15th, a touch of Oxford Treble Bob, in 25 mins., standing as before. Tenor 7 cwt.

Miscellaneous.**THE ST. JAMES'S SOCIETY, LONDON.**

CAMBERWELL (Surrey).—On Sunday, June 8th, at St. George's church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1260 changes), in 44 mins. J. Waghorn, jun., 1; J. Waghorn, sen., 2; H. Langdon, 3; M. Murphy, 4; E. Rogers, 5; G. T. McLaughlin, 6; W. Prime, 7; H. J. Tucker (conductor), 8. This quarter-peal was rung as a compliment to Mr. S. Smith on his 42nd birthday. Also on Sunday evening, June 15th, after Divine Service, a 546 of Oxford Bob Triples. H. Langdon, 1; R. French, 2; G. T. McLaughlin, 3; M. Murphy, 4; E. Rogers, 5; E. F. Strange, 6; H. J. Tucker (conductor), 7; W. Prime, 8.

THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION,

BIDDENHAM (Beds).—On Friday, May 23rd, at St. James's church, a 360 of Bob Minor. F. Keech (first 360), 1; C. W. Clarke, 2; C. West, 3; J. Hills, 4; C. Stafferton, 5; W. Biggs (conductor), 6.

THE OLDHAM SOCIETY, LANCASHIRE.

HULL.—On Saturday, June 7th, a company of ringers from Oldham, Lancashire, paid a visit to Hull, and attempted a peal of Grandsire Triples, but owing to one of the company being unwell, the conductor brought the bells round after ringing 1 hr. 8 mins. John Hilton, 1; Geo. Hy. Beever, 2; Fred Crossland, 3; J. W. Stickney, 4; Jas. Bailey, 5; Chas. Jackson (conductor), 6; Chas. Bennett, 7; F. Merrison, 8. Messrs. Hilton, Crossland and Bailey, hail from St. Thomas's, Oldham, G. H. Beever, from St. Mark's, Glodwick, near Oldham, and the rest belong to Hull.

THE BIRMINGHAM AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATION.

SEELLY OAK (Worcestershire).—On Sunday, June 15th, for Divine Service in the evening, a 720 of Treble Bob Minor, in 28 mins. Amos Cresser, 1; Thomas Miller (first 720 in the method), 2; William Brook, 3; Edward Boylin, 4; Thomas Lewis, 5; Bennett Stevens (conductor), 6. Also after service, a 720 of Grandsire Minor, in 25 mins. Edward Bryant, 1; Henry Smith, 2; Thomas Lewis, 3; Bennett Stevens, 4; Albert Hackley, 5; Thomas Miller (conductor), 6.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

MIDDLESBOROUGH.—On Monday, June 16th, 1760 of Kent Treble Bob Major, by eight members of the Stockton society. J. Clarkson, 1; R. Alcock, 2; H. E. T. Glover, B.A., 3; W. Stephenson, 4; G. J. Clarkson, 5; T. Burdon, 6; T. Stephenson, 7; W. Newton, 8. This touch comprises the first part of a 5088 composed by Mr. H. Dains and kindly sent by him to Mr. G. J. Clarkson, who conducted it, and is by far the greatest length accomplished on these bells. Tenor 12 cwt.

NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.—On Monday, June 16th, for practice, at the church of St. John the Baptist, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor, on the back six, in 26 mins. George Campbell, 1; Francis Lees, 2; Charles L. Routledge, 3; William Bowes, 4; T. Denton (old society; conductor), 5; William Story, 6. Tenor 12½ cwt. 1st 720 of Treble Bob Minor for the ringer of the 4th.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

ILFORD (Essex).—On Saturday evening, June 14th, by the kind permission of the vicar, a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob. A. Pye, 1; J. Cadman, 2; B. Keeble, 3; J. Nunn, 4; A. Pye, 5; A. J. Perkins (conductor), 6. Tenor 8½ cwt. The above is understood to be the first 720 in the method upon the bells. Time 28 mins.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

CANTERBURY (Kent).—On Monday, June 16th, being the Annual Meeting of the above Association, eight members rung at the Cathedral a touch of Grandsire Triples, 720 changes, taken from Holt's Original, in 26 mins. Rev. J. J. O. Helmore, 1; A. Foreman, 2; G. Stancombe (conductor), 3; E. Baldock (West Malling), 4; H. Fairbrass, 5; S. Barber (Folkestone), 6; S. Snelling (Sittingbourne), 7; D. Paine (Mershams), 8. Tenor 32 cwt. Also at St. Dunstan's church a 720 of Grandsire Minor, in 25½ mins. Rev. J. J. O. Helmore (first 720 in the method), 1; H. Barefield, 2; G. Stancombe (conductor), 3; J. Baker, 4; W. Keble, 5; R. Goodbourn, 6. Messrs. Baker and Keble hail from Gillingham, and Mr. Barefield from Tunbridge Wells. And another 720 of Grandsire Minor (thirty-four bobs and two singles). C. Relf, 1; G. Stancombe (conductor), 2; J. Horton, 3; R. Simmonds, 4; F. Furgessen, 5; A. H. Woolley, 6. All hail from Maidstone, with the exception of G. Stancombe.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

ECCLES (Lancashire).—On Monday evening, June 9th, five of the local company, with one of the Manchester Cathedral ringers, Mr. A. E. Wreaks, rang at the parish church a 720 of Kent Treble Bob, in 26 mins., in commemoration of the birthday of Mr. John Barratt, one of the veteran ringers of Eccles church, who on Monday attained his 64th birthday, 40 of which he has been a ringer at the above church. John Barratt, 1; Thomas Yates, 2; James Barratt, 3; A. E. Wreaks, 4; Edward Cash, 5; G. H. Johnson (conductor), 6. Tenor 13½ cwt.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

MELBORNE (Derbyshire).—On Saturday afternoon, June 14th, several members of the Long Eaton society, with Mr. W. Billingham, of Loughborough, visited the above place and by kind permission of the vicar rang 720 of Bob Minor, with eighteen bobs and two singles, in 28 mins. W. Billingham, 1; Dr. Sellon, 2; G. Bradley, 3; R. Hickton, 4; A. Widdowson, 5; J. Barrow (conductor), 6. Also 360 of Kent Treble Bob Minor. Dr. Sellon, 1; W. Billingham, 2; G. Bradley, 3; R. Hickton, 4; A. Widdowson, 5; J. Barrow (conductor), 6. Tenor 16 cwt. in F.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

BASINGSTOKE (Hants).—On Whit-Tuesday, June 3rd, eight members of the Reading branch of the above Association visited this place, where, by kind permission, they rang various touches of Grandsire and Bob Major, one feature of the ringing was the way in which Mr. J. M. Routh rang the 7th bell without a stay. R. Hopgood, 1; Geo. Gibbard, 2; E. Bishop, 3; T. Newman, 4; J. Potter, 5; H. Egby, 6; J. M. Routh, Esq., 7; J. Redgrove, 8.

CAVERSHAM (Berks).—On Whit-Sunday, June 1st, a 720 of Grandsire Minor, as a birthday-peal for E. Pottinger, it being his first 720 with a bob bell. R. Hopgood, 1; Geo. Gibbard, 2; E. Pottinger, 3; R. Swain, 4; T. Newman, 5; H. Egby (conductor), 6. Also on Saturday, June 7th, a 360 of Oxford Bob Minor. S. Paice, 1; Geo. Gibbard, 2; E. Pottinger, 3; T. Newman, 4; H. Blissett, 5; H. Egby (conductor), 6.

HAGBORNE (Berks).—On Wednesday, May 21st, eight members of this branch of the above Guild visited the ancient village of Hagborne, near Didcot, and started for Holt's ten-part peal of Grandsire Triples, but after ringing well into the peal, the third rope slipped the wheel, thus occasioning a "stand." R. Hopgood, 1; Geo. Gibbard, 2; R. Swain, 3; S. Paice, 4; J. Potter, 5; H. Egby (conductor), 6; W. Newell, 7; J. Sadler, 8. After setting things right overhead, the band then rung in first-rate style, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 40 mins. There is an old bell here, the 3rd, dated 1602, and inscribed with the Royal initials, E.R.

READING.—On Whit-Sunday, June 1st, the St. Giles's society rang their first 720 of Doubles. H. Smart, 1; H. Bonney, 2; Geo. Gibbard, 3; T. James, 4; H. Egby, 5; C. Hine, 6. On Whit-Thursdays, June 5th, at St. Giles's church, a 720 of Grandsire Minor, in 26 mins. H. Smart, 1; H. Bonney, 2; Geo. Gibbard, 3; W. Goseltime, 4; T. James, 5; H. Egby (conductor), 6.

BENGELO (Herts).—On Sunday evening, June 15th, for Divine Service at Holy Trinity Church, a 720 of Grandsire Minor, with thirty-four bobs and two singles, in 26 mins. Arthur Wrangles, 1; Thomas Gathard, 2; James Staples, 3; Matthew Ellsmore, 4; Henry Phillips, 5; Herbert Baker (conductor), 6. Tenor 7½ cwt. M. Ellsmore hails from Ware, and is a member of the Royal Cumberland Society.

BENTLEY (South Weald).—On Sunday, June 8th, before Divine Service in the morning at St. Paul's church, three 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles, in 18½ mins. F. Surridge, 1; A. Pain, 2; R. Woollands (conductor), 3; C. Sheldon, 4; C. Harris, 5. Tenor 6 cwt.

BILLINGSHURST (Sussex).—On Whit-Sunday, June 1st, after afternoon service at St. Mary's church, a 720 of Oxford Bob Minor, with eighteen bobs and two singles, in 25 mins. P. Woods, 1; J. Voice, 2; John Whiting (first 720), 3; W. Chantler, jun., 4; T. Chantler, 5; W. Chantler, sen. (conductor), 6. Also another 720 in the same method, with eighteen bobs and two singles, in 25 mins. P. Woods, 1; J. Voice, 2; W. Chantler, sen., 3; W. Chantler, jun., 4; T. Chantler, 5; F. Hill (conductor), 6. Messrs. Hill and Whiting hail from Fareham, the rest belong to the local company.

BOURNEMOUTH (Hampshire).—On Sunday evening, June 7th, for Divine Service at St. Peter's church, a 336 of Grandsire Triples. A. Guist, 1; H. Vivash, 2; G. Staden, 3; T. Bennett, 4; T. Green (conductor), 5; S. Merrit, 6; H. Garrett, 7; T. Belbin, 8. Tenor 20 cwt.

EAST HAGBORNE (Berks).—On Saturday, June 14th, eight members of the St. Lawrence's society, Reading, visited the above village, and by the kind permission of the vicar, the Rev. W. R. Baker, rang a 1414 of Grandsire Triples (taken from Holt's original), in 50 mins. W. J. Williams (conductor), 1; H. M. Bawden, 2; W. Johnson, 3; W. R. Pocock, 4; G. Talbot, 5; E. Bishop, 6; J. E. Willshire, 7; W. Goseltime, 8. We wish here to express our thanks to the vicar for so readily granting us the use of the bells.

EASTHAM (Cheshire).—On Sunday, June 15th, for Divine Service at St. Mary's church, a 720 of Grandsire Minor, in 23 mins. J. Haspray, 1; C. Baxter, 2; W. Smith, 3; J. Hughes, 4; W. Woods (conductor), 4; J. Rowland, 6. Tenor 12 cwt.

HAUGHTON (Lancashire).—On Thursday, May 29th, at St. Anne's church, the local company rang a 720 of Plain Bob Minor, with sixteen bobs and two singles, in 28 mins. *James A. Thomas, 1; *Richard Ainsworth (conductor), 2; *William Wilde, 3; *John S. Leech, 4; John Howard, 5; *Peter Smith, 6. Also on Tuesday, June 3rd, another 720 of Plain Bob Minor, in 27 mins. Richard Ainsworth (conductor), *John Bardsley, 2; William Wilde, 3; John S. Leech, 4; John Howard, 5; Peter Smith, 6. Tenor 14½ cwt. in G. *Members of the United Counties' Association. These are the first two 720s by John Howard.

HAVERSTOCK HILL.—On Wednesday, June 4th, at St. Martin's church, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor, in 25 mins. W. H. Fussell, 1; T. Gleed, 2; J. Hannington (conductor), 3; B. Foskett, 4; T. Titchener, 5; G. Griffin, 6. This 720 is an original composition by Mr. John Gobbett, of Stratford, Essex. It contains fifteen bobs with the tenors the right way throughout.

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

HIGHER SUTTON (Cheshire).—On Saturday, June 7th, this company had the pleasure of meeting Messrs. W. J. Hargreaves and W. Roberts, of Holy Trinity church, Hulme, Manchester, when they rang a 720 of Grandsire Minor, with thirty-six bobs and twelve singles, in 27 mins; conducted by William Walmsley. There was also some good ringing done in the way of Kent Treble Bob.

LEYLAND (Lancashire).—On Thursday evening, June 12th, Mr. W. Greenleaf, from the firm of Messrs. Mears and Stainbank, bell-founders, London, who is adding another bell at St. James's, Leyland, to complete a ring of six, rang at the parish church, a 720 of Plain Bob Minor. Jas. Bretherton (conductor), 1; Thos. Bowling, 2; W. Greenleaf, 3; H. Gregson, 4; Thos. Baron, 5; Jas. Banister, 6. Also on Sunday, June 15th, for Divine Service in the evening, another 720 was rung by the same band with the exception of O. Worden (conductor), 1. Tenor 18½ cwt.

LOWMOOR, NEAR BRADFORD (Yorkshire).—On Saturday, June 7th, seven members of the local company with T. Goodall of Liversedge, rang at Holy Trinity Church, a 2528 of Kent Treble Bob Major, in 1 hr. 34 mins. T. Pickard, 1; J. Worsnop, 2; A. Wilkinson, 3; H. Jones, 4; W. Tordaff, 5; T. Goodall (Liversedge), 6; J. W. Emmett, 7; C. Drackup (conductor), 8. The above is the longest length rung by the 2nd, 4th, 5th, and 7th ringers.

MAIDSTONE (Kent).—On Monday, June 2nd, at All Saints' parish church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1260 changes), in 51 mins. J. Constable, 1; R. Simmonds, 2; J. Fergusson, 3; Col. Troyte, 4; E. Elliott, 5; A. H. Woolley, 6; G. Pawley (conductor), 7; H. Pearce, 8. Tenor 31 cwt. Also a short touch of Bob Major, conducted by H. Pearce, and taken part in by Mr. W. W. Scales. Also on Thursday, June 5th, a 518 of Grandsire Triples. J. Constable, 1; R. Simmonds, 2; A. H. Woolley, 3; Col. Troyte, 4; E. Elliott, 5; G. Pawley, 6; F. G. Newman, 7; H. Pearce, 8. Conducted by Colonel Troyte. Colonel Troyte hails from Huntsham Court, Devon. Mr. Scales from Diss, and F. G. Newman, from Mereworth. This was the Bath and West of England show week, and several other ringers in the town visited the belfry.

MANCHESTER.—On Friday, May 16th, at St. Philip's church, Hulme, a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob Minor, in 27 mins. J. O'Brien (first 720 in the method), 1; A. Wood, 2; H. Wood, 3; T. Collinge, 4; W. J. Hargreaves, 5; J. F. Woods (conductor), 6. Also on Monday, May 19th, a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob Minor, in 26 mins. F. Lord (first 720 in the method), 1; H. Wood, 2; T. Collinge, 3; W. J. Hargreaves, 4; T. Heald, 5; J. F. Woods (conductor), 6. And on Monday, June 9th, a 720 of Plain Bob Minor, in 26 mins. J. O'Brien, 1; F. Lord (first 720 in the method), 2; H. Wood, 3; T. Heald (conductor), 4; A. Wood, 5; W. J. Hargreaves, 6. This is T. Heald's first time of conducting.

NORTH WINGFIELD (Derbyshire).—On Sunday, June 8th, at St. Lawrence's parish church, for afternoon service, two 6-scores of Bob Doubles were rung by four members of the local company, assisted by Messrs. Brown and Cook of Clay Cross. First 6-score: T. Allibone (conductor), 1; *G. Beresford, 2; *G. Tarlton, 3; J. H. Cook, 4; *T. P. Day, 5; *W. Hopkinson, 6. The second 6-score was rung by the same band, with the exception of G. Brown, who rung the 3rd. *First 6-score. The local company are all amateurs except the conductor, only having begun to learn about six months ago. Tenor 18½ cwt. in F.

LEEK (Staffordshire).—On Tuesday, June 10th, three members of the Higher Sutton society paid a visit to this place, and rung a 720 of Bob Minor, with twenty-six bobs and two singles, in 28 mins. Wm. Walsley (conductor), 1; *Rt. Gibson, 2; J. Nott, 3; Wm. Ingham, 4; *E. Sherratt, 5; *W. H. Armitt, 6. *Members of the local company. Tenor 20 cwt.

PRESTON (Suffolk).—On Wednesday evening, June 11th, was rung at St. Mary's parish church, a 720 of Bob Minor, with four bobs and fourteen singles, in 25 mins. H. Symonds, 1; W. Hollocks, 2; A. Hollocks, 3; Jas. Levitt, 4; A. Symonds (conductor), 5; Jno. Levitt, 6. Also a 384 in the same method, with fourteen bobs and two singles, in 13 mins., conducted by H. Symonds, the band standing as before. A. Symonds hails from Lavenham, the others are local men. Tenor 11 cwt.

READING (Berks).—On Trinity Sunday, June 8th, at St. Laurence's in the afternoon, for the annual flower service, the sermon being preached by the late curate, Dr. Leighton Coleman, a 700 of Grandsire Triples from the *Clavis*, containing the tittums and nine 7-4s, in 25 mins. F. Round, 1; W. Johnson, 2; W. R. Pocock, 3; J. E. Willshire, 4; E. Bishop, 5; W. Newell, 6; W. J. Williams (conductor), 7; W. Goseltine, 8. Also on Tuesday, June 10th, for practice, a 684 of Grandsire Caters, from the *Clavis*, containing Tittums and Queens, in 29 mins. F. Round, 1; W. R. Pocock, 2; W. Johnson, 3; J. E. Willshire, 4; W. H. Holloway, 5; G. Talbot, 6; E. Bishop, 7; W. J. Williams (conductor), 8; W. Newell, 9; W. Goseltine, 10. *Muffled Peal*.—Also on Wednesday, June 11th, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, 1260 changes, containing Queens, Tittums, twelve 7-4s, and twelve 6-7s, in 49 mins., with the bells half-muffled, as a mark of respect to the late Miss S. M. Havell, for many years organist at St. Laurence's. W. H. Holloway, 1; W. Johnson, 2; W. R. Pocock, 3; J. E. Willshire, 4; E. Bishop, 5; W. Newell, 6; W. J. Williams (conductor), 7; J. T. Waldron, 8.

RINGSTEAD (Northamptonshire).—On Wednesday, June 11th, at St. Mary's church, five of the local company, with the assistance of W. J. Gilbert, of Raunds, rung a 720 of Bob Minor, with eighteen bobs and two singles. *J. Lawford, 1; *J. Braybrook, 2; W. J. Gilbert (conductor), 3; E. Mayes, 4; *A. Groom, 5; T. Roberts, 6. *First 720.

SADDLEWORTH (Cheshire).—On Saturday, June 14th, a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob Minor, in 26 mins. John J. Brierley, 1; John Holden, 2; Thos. Silvester (Anston), 3; C. F. Fowler (Anston), 4; Joseph Wood, 5; Wm. Hall (formerly of Anston, now residing at Manchester). Messrs. Brierley, Holden, and Wood belong to the local company.

SLINFOLD (Sussex).—On Sunday, June 15th, for Divine Service in the evening, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor, in 24 mins. H. Chantler, 1; W. Short, 2; W. Wadey, 3; H. Wood, 4; T. Andrews, 5; H. Burstow (conductor), 6. Also after service, another 720 in the same method. E. Knight, 1; W. Short, 2; W. Wadey, 3; H. Wood, 4; T. Andrews, 5; H. Chantler (conductor), 6. Tenor 12½ cwt. in G. The first 720s in the method on the bells.

SPALDING (Lincolnshire).—On Saturday evening, June 14th, at St. Paul's, Fulney, the following members of the South Lincolnshire Association and members of the local company rang the first half of Holt's 10-part peal of Grandsire Triples, in 1 hr. 32 mins. R. Skeef, 1; R. Creasey (conductor), 2; E. Mason, 3; E. Quinton, 4; A. W. Walker, 5; J. A. Croxford, 6; J. W. Creasey, 7; A. Creasey, 8. This is the longest length ever rung on the bells. And at the church of SS. Mary and Nicholas (no date mentioned) 2520 was rung in four methods viz.: 720 of Yorkshire Court Bob; 720 of Kent Treble Bob; 720 of Oxford Single Bob; and 360 Oxford Treble Bob. Jas. Wright, 1; Jas. Wilson, 2; G. Richardson, 3; R. Mackman, 4; E. Brown, 5; J. Brown (conductor), 6. Time 1 hr. 33 mins. Tenor 18 cwt. Witnessed by a College Youth, and an old ringer 64 years of age.

SYSTON (Leicestershire).—On Tuesday, June 10th, at the parish church, the local company rang a 720 of Bob Minor, containing eighteen bobs and two singles (being a variation of the last 720 rung by them), in 27 mins. J. Freeman, 1; J. North, 2; W. Bail, 3; J. Hale, 4; J. Pickard, 5; Rev. W. Pearson (conductor), 6. Tenor 15½ cwt. in F.

TIBENHAM (Norfolk).—On Saturday, June 14th, a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob, in 28 mins. G. Manser (conductor), 1; T. Wick, 2; G. Manser, jun., 3; J. Jackson, 4; J. Hinchley (Bunwell), 5; E. Websdale, 6. Tenor 20 cwt.

TODMORDEN (Lancashire).—*Muffled Peal*.—On Sunday, June 15th, at the Unitarian church, with the bells deeply muffled as a tribute of respect to the memory of the late Rev. William Gaskell, of Manchester, for Divine Service in the morning, a 1008 of Grandsire Triples, in 36 mins., being the last part of Thurstans' bob-and-single peal, in five parts, and in the evening a 504 of Stedman Triples, in 17 mins. B. Midgley, 1; Jno. Mitton, 2; Y. Greenwood, 3; H. Kershaw, 4; J. W. Greenwood (conductor), 5; Wm. Midgley, 6; Jno. Sutcliffe, 7; Jos. Sutcliffe, 8.

TROWBRIDGE (Wilts).—On Saturday, June 14th, a 504 of Grandsire Triples. W. Alley (conductor), 1; W. W. Gifford, 2; T. Blackburn, 3; A. Hayward, 4; W. McCaffery, 5; W. Lane, 6; J. R. Jerram, 7; J. Cooper, 8. Tenor 21 cwt. [In the account of the ringing at St. Thomas's, Salisbury, on May 29th, for C. Jasper read C. Gaisford.]

WALTON (Lancashire).—On Saturday, June 7th, at St. Mary's parish church, the ringers of St. Mary's, Eastham, Cheshire, rang a 720 of Grandsire Minor, in 25 mins. J. Haspray, 1; C. Baxter, 2; W. Smith, 3; J. Hughes, 4; J. Woodward, 5; J. Rowland, 6. The above was conducted by J. Haspray, who is blind. Tenor 10 cwt.

Obituary.

On the 29th ultimo, after a short but painful illness, Mr. John Wells, the youngest member of the Waltham Abbey society, at the age of 23. His funeral took place in the Waltham Holy Cross cemetery, on Wednesday, the 4th instant, the Vicar and the Rev. J. Stamp officiating. In the evening, the customary muffled peal was rung upon the bells of the Abbey Church, as a last mark of respect to the departed. The ringers who attended were Messrs. Powell, Cleverley, Tarling, Alps, Thurgood, Colverd, Dymock, Barker, and Mitchell. A 504 of Stedman Triples was also rung with the bells still muffled. The whole was conducted by T. Powell. The Waltham Abbey society has lost the oldest and youngest of its members within the last six months.

We are requested by the Secretary of the College Youths to state that members of that society ringing peals, and wishing such performances entered in the company's peal-book, must send particulars of them to the head quarters of the Society "The King's Head," Winchester Street, Southwark, as he cannot undertake to copy them from the records of this journal for that purpose.

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 APPEAL.

SIR,—May I be permitted, through the medium of your valuable journal, to make an appeal on behalf of the ringers of a very small Northamptonshire village? The parish church is an old and interesting one, and possesses six bells; one of these is unfortunately unhung owing to want of funds, and the bell-ropes of the remainder have been spliced and re-spliced so often that new ones must be obtained immediately. The village is a very poor one, there being no squire or resident gentry, and unless outside assistance can be obtained, the ringers must shortly give up what to them is very great pleasure. I feel sure that all bell-ringers will heartily sympathise with them, and venture to hope that some may see their way to assist by a small subscription towards the new ropes, and the repairs which the belfry needs. Subscriptions may be sent to me, or to E. M. Farrar, Esq., 17, Dean's Yard, Westminster.
SAML. SMITH,
3, Trevor Square, Knightsbridge, Steeplekeeper of St. Margaret's,
S.W. Westminster.

THE ACCIDENT AT ST. THOMAS'S, SALISBURY.

SIR,—I see in a recent number of our paper, with reference to this accident, a question signed by "Sidesman," who wants to know who is the steepleman of the above church. I may inform him that such an officer was never appointed during the forty years that I have been there. Certainly the keys have been held by two different members for the purpose of ringing the Curfew, and ringing the bells for service. The bells are in a very bad state of repair, they have had nothing done to them but once during that period, except being screwed up about five or six years back by the ringers themselves. I do not think there was any carelessness due to any one, for nothing will wear for ever, and the ringers are not men who understand the repair of bells generally, but I must inform him the bells go so badly that it is as much as they can do to keep them moving for ten minutes or a quarter of an hour at the outside.

W. LANHAM.

P.S.—I think it a pity correspondents do not sign their proper names.

MR. DORAN AND OUR REPORTER.

SIR,—While carefully reading through the speeches that were made at the Annual Meeting of the Essex Association at Chelmsford, I observed that your own reporter states that I made certain allegations, and was carried away by the "exuberance of my own verbosity." I think it would have been as well for him to have stated what those allegations were, and then our ringing brethren in other parts of the county could have judged for themselves whether I was right or not. Now, sir, one word about extending the Association to Hertfordshire. I think if me and my friend Mr. Alps had gone for a pleasant trip among the pheasants and partridges, as did the chief speaker against the resolution, we might have secured more votes for it. Should the question be brought forward at any future time, I will do my best to support it, as I think the larger the Association the better.

West Ham, Essex.

W. H. DORAN.

THE ST. PAUL'S GUILD, BRIGHTON.

SIR,—Of late the above Guild, coupled with the Reading Society has been the subject of editorial comment. I believe this arose from a few words I appended to a notice published in your valuable paper to the effect that our belfry was to be kept private for a limited time, viz.: on Thursday practice-evenings, but which has not been strictly adhered to. Privacy was deemed necessary to prevent obstruction, which might have occurred from an unlimited number of visitors tendering us their different opinions. Now Sir, trusting the above explanation will be satisfactory, and will not bring our Guild into any more complications with the "deplorable affairs" which may come under your notice, as existing in other belfries, I conclude with a cordial invitation, on behalf of the members of the Guild, and myself, to any change-ringer to visit our tower whenever he may feel so disposed.

ALFRED J. J. GIDDINGS,

Superintendent of St. Paul's Church Guild, Brighton.

"THE ART IN DEVON."

SIR,—Allow me to pass a few remarks on a paragraph or two that I have noticed in your paper, headed "The Art in Devonshire." Why is any local news about round-ringing so eagerly gleaned and published when other counties are exempt? Is it because there is more round-ringing or "Churchyard Bob" in this county than any other? I sincerely hope such is not the case, indeed I do not think so, for I can name about a score of towers where the "Art" is practised. At Exeter, for instance, I can safely say that there is less "stoney"

rung than in London. The County Guild report for 1883 has five peals for that year; three of Grandsire and two Stedman Triples. It is not much, it is true, for a County Guild, but it must be took into consideration that before the Guild was formed, Devon was a regular hot-bed for round and stoney ringing. The half-pull ringers have had a lot to contend with, but they have stuck at the root, and have devoted themselves more to colts, and the conversion of round-ringers, than to peal-ringing, which I believe is the right thing to do in a county that has to work its own way upwards. Change-ringing has got a firm footing in the county, and stoney is dying a natural death. I hope it will end peaceably, and, in conclusion, I must say that I should like to make one of the party for a muffled peal for him.

HALF-PULL.

BELL FOUNDING OPERATIONS.

PAINSWICK, GLOUCESTERSHIRE.

It will be remembered that the spire of this church was some months ago struck by lightning, and that in its fall it damaged the celebrated ring of twelve bells, the finest, it is said, in the county. The bells have been taken down and put in thorough ringing order, and rehung by Llewellyns and James, of Bristol, who also re-arranged the chiming apparatus, which had been greatly damaged when the bells fell.

THURLOXTON, NEAR TAUNTON.

The bells of this church have been unringable for some time; the 3rd is now to be recast, a new treble added, and a new frame and fittings for the whole to be supplied by Llewellyns and James, Bristol.

WESTWOOD, NEAR BRADFORD-ON-AVON.

The whole of this ring of bells has been cracked for many years. As a beginning, one has been recast by Llewellyns and James, and as soon as funds are forthcoming, the remainder will be recast by the same firm.

KNILL, NEAR PRESTEIGNE.

The 2nd bell of this ring has been recast, and the bells rehung by Llewellyns and James, of Bristol. Inscription—"Catherine de Knill 1608. Recast 1884."

CHEDDAR.

A new treble, weighing 7 cwt., has been added to the fine ring of this church, by Llewellyns and James, of Bristol. Inscription—"Praise God. By Public Subscription. Jas. Coleman Vicar A.D. 1884."

HASELBURY, NEAR CREWKERNE.

The 3rd bell of this ring has been recast, and the whole of the bells (five) refitted and rehung by Llewellyns and James, Bristol. Inscription—"J. A. Caley, M.A. Vicar. T. A. Rawlins, H. Hole, Churchwardens. Recast A.D. 1884."

MEARE, NEAR GLASTONBURY.

The whole of these bells have been refitted and rehung by Llewellyns and James, Bristol.

ST. MICHAELCHURCH, ESKLEY, NEAR HEREFORD.

These bells are now being thoroughly overhauled and rehung by Llewellyns and James, Bristol.

TINTINHALL, NEAR MARTOCK, SOMERSET.

The 3rd bell of this ring is now being recast by Llewellyns and James, of Bristol (weight 7 cwt.), and the whole ring will be rehung by the same firm.

CREECH ST. MICHAEL, NEAR TAUNTON.

The 3rd bell of this ring of five is cracked, the recasting and re-hanging are now being done by Llewellyns and James, Bristol.

EBBESBORNE WAKE, NEAR SALISBURY.

AUGMENTATION OF RING.—A new treble and new tenor are to be added to the existing ring of three, making a ring of five, and a new frame and fittings for the whole. The work has been entrusted to Llewellyns and James, Bristol.

THE Ancient Society of College Youths will hold their Anniversary Dinner at "The Bell," Walthamstow, on 5th July next. Dinner on the table at 3 o'clock; Tickets 4s. Gentlemen intending to be present will please send their names to the Secretary, "King's Head," Winchester Street, S.E., not later than Tuesday, July 1st.

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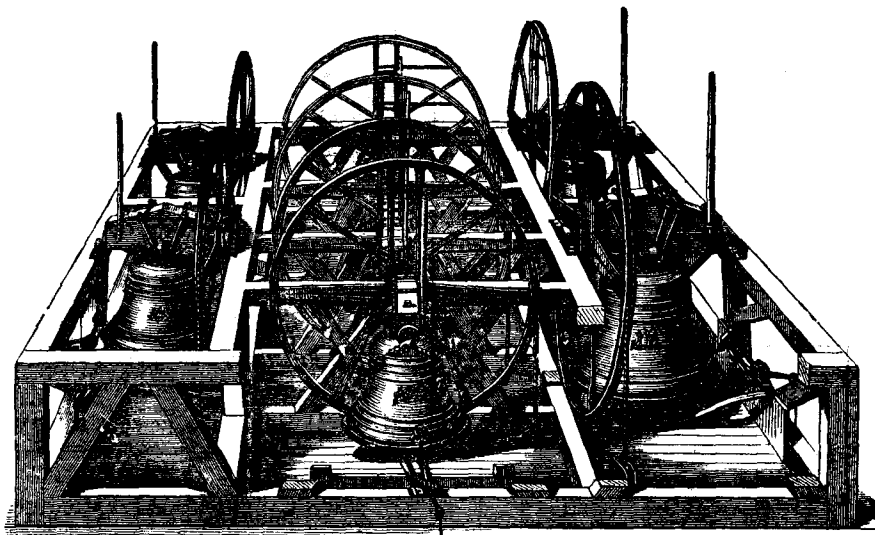
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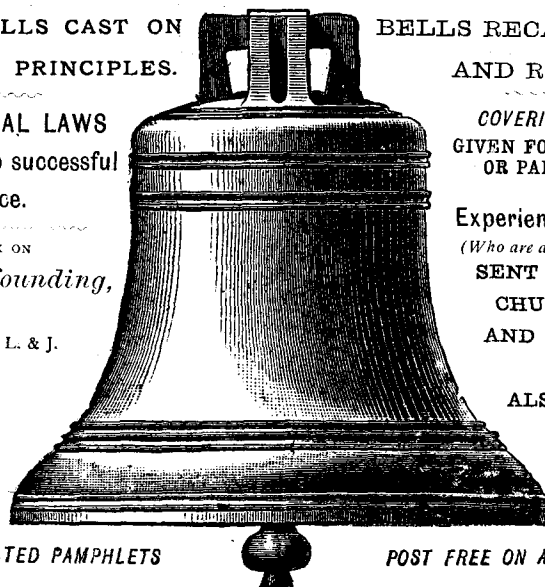
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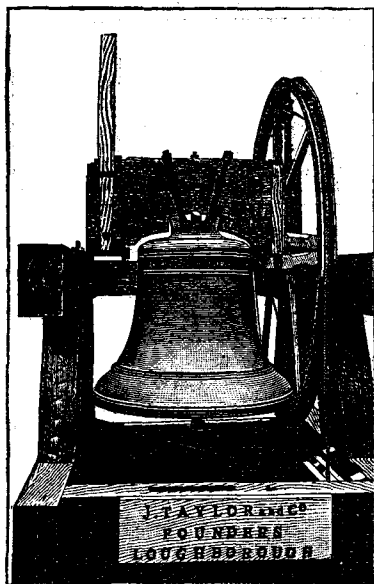
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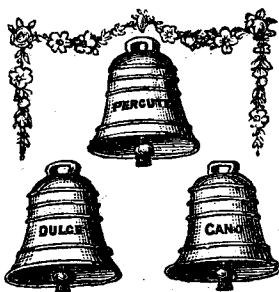
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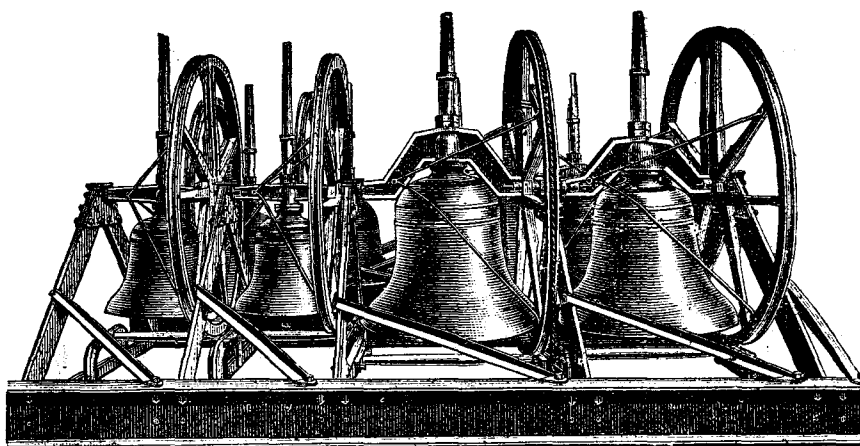
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No. 117. [NEW SERIES.]—VOL. III.

SATURDAY, JUNE 28, 1884.

[ONE PENNY.]

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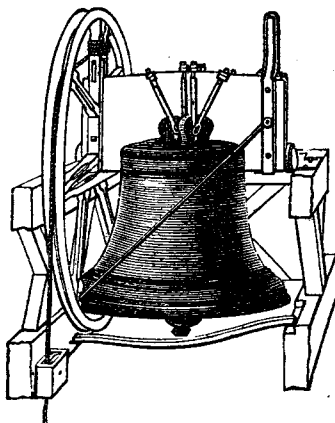
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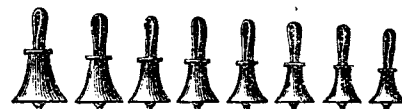
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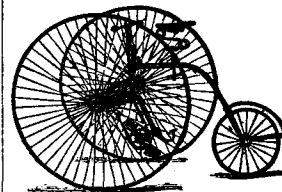
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SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.

THE Second Annual Meeting of this society was held at Lichfield on Saturday last, June 21st; the business being conducted in the belfry of the Cathedral. The Report of the Committee for the past year was submitted to the society, and the officers elected for the ensuing year. The Rev. J. J. Serjeantson, Rector of St. Michael's, Lichfield, was re-elected Hon. Treasurer; and the Rev. J. R. Keble and Mr. W. A. Wood, of Lichfield, were re-elected Hon. Secretaries. At Five o'clock p.m., arrangements had been kindly made by the Canon in residence, Archdeacon Iles, the President of the Society, for a short special service in the Lady Chapel, which all the members present, numbering about fifty, attended. After singing the "Old Hundredth," a few prayers were said, and an excellent address was given by the Rev. J. H. Fish, Vicar of St. Paul's, Burton-on-Trent, himself an accomplished ringer. The text was taken from St. Paul's epistle to the Colossians, chap. iii., verse 23: "And whatsoever ye do, do it heartily, as to the Lord and not unto men." The rev. gentleman said:—

I have accepted the kind invitation of your Archdeacon to give you an address to-day, my friends, because I am anxious to do whatever lies in my power to do in the way of advancing the interests of your Association. And your Archdeacon seems to think that by giving you an address on the occasion of your Annual Meeting, I may be, under God, of some use to it, and also to you. Of some use to yourselves I hope I may be, if by anything I say, God using me as His minister, I may help each and all of you, to ring his bell more and more to God's glory, as indeed it ought to be rung. And I hope I may be of some use also to the Association which you represent, if for no other reason than this, that knowing something of the great work which lies before it, I shall try to encourage your Association to the utmost of my power in doing that thoroughly and well, and for God's glory also.

Now, first of all, let me read over the text to you—"And whatsoever ye do, do it heartily, as to the Lord, and not unto men," and I will read it over again to you, in the hope that the words of it may be fixed in your memories: "Whatsoever ye do, do it heartily, as to the Lord and not unto men." This is the Bible remedy, and, therefore, the sure and sovereign remedy for every mischief that assails us, and, therefore, I once more repeat the inspired words of it—"Whatsoever ye do, do it heartily, as to the Lord and not unto men."

You may some of you once in your lifetime, if not oftener, have been haunted, as it were, with a verse of music which you have heard, it may have been in church, or it may have been elsewhere out of it. Or it may be that some of you have rung your bell in a well-struck peal, and the beautiful music of the 8-6-7s and the 7-8-6s has echoed in your ears for days afterwards, so that you have gone to bed at night with it, and woke up in the morning with it still ringing in your ears. Now I want you to-day to let this verse of Holy Scripture take possession of you in the same way, brethren, and I pray to the Holy Spirit of God, that he will reveal to you new meanings of this verse of Holy Scripture, which you are going to take away with you, and show you how it applies to bell-ringers and bell-ringing as well as to other things and other persons.

Now the first requisite, as you all well know, for good ringing, is that people who attempt it should have their heart in it. I well remember in October, 1877, a band of bell-ringers coming to my church, and starting for a peal. They all of them had their hearts in it, or they would not have travelled forty miles at their own expense after a hard day's work, to ring on a peal of eight with a tenor of 26 cwt. What struck me, however, at that time most, was this fact, that one of them carried with him into the belfry a workman's bag, which he deposited carefully under the seat before proceeding to take off his coat and strip to his bell. The bag contained his tools, brethren, and that man had come straight away from his bench at the end of his day's work, just as he was, black and hungry, and tired, to take part in a peal rather than disappoint his companions. Now that is what is meant by the words, "Whatsoever ye do, do it heartily," and such conduct is not at all uncommon amongst bell-ringers, as you all very well know.

But the text goes on to say—"Whatsoever ye do, do it heartily, as to the Lord and not unto men." The ringer must not only have his heart in his ringing, he must not only have a great love for it, he must not only be ready to spend much time, and money, and labour in the pursuit of it, but he must also learn to ring his bell as to the Lord. And that means that he must dedicate his ringing to God's service, and ring always as in God's presence.

Now I ask you, as brother-ringers, to look well to this part of the text, and consider it. The ringer who is ringing as to the Lord, will always be doing his very best, and striking his very best. He may be but a learner, he may be ringing rounds only, he may be ringing Plain Bob, or call-changes, or what not, but whatever he is engaged in he will have not only his heart but also his soul in what he is doing, and therefore he will be doing his very best in God's sight, and not as in men's sight only. Believe me, it is not heart that we lack so much as soul in our bell-ringing brethren; soul that will make a man humble and forbearing, and the company that he belongs to humble and forbearing one with another, because they are all engaged on—not man's work, but God's work; and are all occupied in seeking—not every man his own glory, but every man God's glory. Now let me tell you that the success of your Association will depend upon how much soul there is in it, for if it is to be a trades' union kind of thing, only to protect this or that bell-ringing interest, it will surely come to naught. The success of your individual companies, upon which so much depends, even the success of your Association itself, will be measured by the amount of soul you and they put into this business. It is no amount of pay, it is no amount of patronage; it is no amount of intricate methods, or long peals, or difficult achievements, that will keep a band together, but it is—and you may mark my words—the spirit of religion only in each one of you, and in each one of your company, that will bring forth satisfactory fruit. Before I end, however, there are one or two things more which I should like to say about this subject. Hitherto I have spoken to you ringers only, and have told you nothing which you have not heard before sufficiently often. It has been the fashion of late to preach to ringers, and I am afraid that as a body we ringers have deserved many of the hard things which preachers have said of us. But you know, and I know, that there are bodies besides ringers that wait preaching to. Bodies connected with the Church, and the bells, and the belfries, and without whose co-operation heart and soul and whatever we do is vain and fruitless. We are only on the threshold of our undertaking yet, brethren, and I for my own part believe that the ringers of the bells are in many instances in advance of their surroundings at the present time. My own experience is that what with bad frames, badly managed belfries, badly constructed towers, badly hung and badly weighted bells, in the majority of churches, nothing better is deserved than is already done in the way of bell-ringing at the present time. For myself, I shall be thankful to any one who will tell me of a dozen towers in this diocese where I and my men can go and ring a peal with anything like reasonable comfort.

There is one thing, however, I should like to advocate to-day in particular, as likely to advance the ringing to God's glory throughout your Archdeaconry, and that

is, the more frequent adoption by the clergy of Sunday ringing instead of Sunday chiming. They are very few of the clergy as yet who know, and still fewer of their congregations who know, what you and I know very well, that a properly-struck touch on the bells before service by a competent band of change-ringers, so far from being a poor performance, is probably the most skilled thing in the whole service. You and I know, and the people of England will one day know, that it may have taken more time, more thought, more study, more application to compose and to ring that one touch properly than anything else in the church below has done. Then may I not reasonably plead for the opportunity of ringing more bells, and doing our best in God's service in the belfry on a Sunday, as well as the weekday practice? The clergy should know by this time that the ringers are no more content to chime their bells only on a Sunday than the choir on a Sunday would be content to read the Psalms or the service, and further that it is as unreasonable to expect ringers to chime, as it is unreasonable to ask the choir to practice on the week-day and never let them sing on the Sunday what they had practised. Chiming and change-ringing are, as you and I know, as different as reading is from singing, and my experience of change-ringers is this, that if the bells are to be chimed and nothing more, then people may chime them who can do nothing better. I doubt not but that in some churches where Sunday chiming is made the rule the bell-ringers proper never attend on that day at all. I would therefore urge upon the clergy at large that they should see whether they cannot help us somewhat in this matter, and give us an opportunity which so few of us have at present of praising our God upon the loud cymbals with the best members that we have, both at morning and evening service.

After the service a party of ringers was conducted round the Cathedral, as many of them had not visited it before. Tea was provided for all at The Coffee House, at which Archdeacon Iles presided. The ringers then returned to the various steeples, and rang touches of Grandsire and Stedman Caters, Treble Bob Major and Minor, and Grandsire Triples. The Report of the Committee shows that out of forty steeples in the Archdeaconry containing six bells or more, the society has gained a footing in twelve only. We hope that ere long most of the others will be induced to join. There is also, we hear, a prospect of a committee being formed, of persons willing and capable of giving advice to clergy or architects on bell-hanging.

The next Quarterly Meeting of the Society will be held at Burton-on-Trent, on Saturday, September 27th.

A LANCASHIRE COUNTRY PARISH.

THE village of St. James Leyland, near Preston, was all astir on Saturday last, the 21st being the day fixed for the opening of a new bell, which has lately been erected by subscription in the parish and neighbourhood. When the church was built, about thirty years ago, a fine ring of five bells was put up by the munificence of the ladies of the Manor, the Misses Ffarington, of Worden-in-Leyland, who are the patronesses of this benefice. The tenor weighs 10 cwt. 1 qr., and the new bell 4 cwt. 3 qrs., all cast by Messrs. Mears and Stainbank, of the Whitechapel Foundry, London. There was a Dedication Service in the afternoon at 4.30, which was largely attended by the members of the Lancashire Association of Six-bell Change-Ringers, from Leyland parish church, Accrington, Eccleston, Blackrod and Goosnargh, Chorley parish church, Croston, Preston (St. Mark's), Standish, and Church Kirk. The opening peal after the service, a 720 of Bob Minor, was rung by the Leyland parish church company in 26½ mins.: O. Worden (conductor), 1; J. Bowling, 2; W. Bowling 3; J. Bretherton, 4; J. Baron, 5; J. Banister, 6. Throughout the evening, until dark, 720's and touches were rung respectively by the various companies; about 4000 changes in all, from first to last. A substantial tea in the schoolroom was amply done justice to, after which an entertainment of handbell ringing was kindly given by the Blackrod and Chorley companies, who were good enough to bring their instruments with them. Altogether a most enjoyable time was spent, largely favored by the beautiful weather, and the brotherhood bid farewell, highly pleased with the new peal, and with the hearty welcome which had been accorded them.

EDMONTON AND SOUTHGATE, MIDDLESEX.

THE 20th of June being the anniversary of Her Majesty's Accession to the throne, the bells of All Saints' church were rung at intervals during the day. A quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples was rung by J. Davidson, 1; W. Dymock, 2; J. Barker, 3; T. Powell, 4; R. C. Goodchild, 5; W. A. Alps, 6; W. Jiggins, 7; B. Tott, 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 4000 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 Messrs. Powell and Alps alternately.

EASTERN COUNTIES' GUILD.

On Wednesday, June 18th, a committee meeting was held at Long Sutton, for the purpose of enrolling members and confirming the rules drafted at the recent inaugural meeting. The committee also considered the most suitable place for holding the next ringing meeting. Ultimately Lynn was selected, and September chosen as a suitable month. The Rev. G. S. L. Bennett, Vicar of Sutton St. James, occupied the chair, and the various branches were well represented.

ANNUAL OUTING OF THE ST. LAURENCE SOCIETY, READING.

ON Wednesday, June 18th, the members of the above society began to assemble as early as 7 a.m. at "The Mitre," West Street. Soon after the waggonette arrived, and by 7.30 the instructor, Mr. W. Newell, put in an appearance, and sounded the advance, at which the horses pricked up their ears, and trotted off to the trumpet's martial sound. Reading was soon left behind, but while travelling through the village of Caversham, the fine old tower of St. Laurence's could be distinctly seen towering above the municipal buildings. Passing on, the village of Shiplake hove in sight, but as time would not permit the visitors to have a pull on the peal of six, they went on to the neighbouring township, Henley-on-Thames, which was reached by 8.35. Here they were met by several of the ringers, and everything being in readiness, the beautiful-toned peal of eight were raised, and the day's ringing commenced with a musical 504 of Grandsire Triples, which was struck with great precision, and accomplished in 19 mins. W. H. Holloway, 1; H. M. Bawden, 2; G. Talbot, 3; W. Johnson, 4; E. Bishop, 5; W. J. Williams (conductor), 6; W. Newell, 7; W. Goseltine, 8. The "go" of the bells are good, with the exception of the tenor, which certainly runs very heavy. A few short touches were then rang to oblige the other members, after which the whole party made for their vehicle, and as the clock struck ten the bugle said "go," and off went the animals "dodging" round the corner, and straight away through most magnificent country to the village of Hambledon, Bucks, which lies about a mile off the main road, and is one of those picturesque and compact hamlets which once seen can never be forgotten. The church is dedicated to St. Mary, and is very large for so small a place, the tower has lately been restored, four pinnacles now rise from the summit, each of which is surmounted by a gilded vane; the bells have also been rehung and put in thorough going order, and the ringers to satisfy themselves of the "go" started for a 720 of Grandsire Minor, which was rung in 25 mins. W. Johnson, 1; H. M. Bawden, 2; G. Talbot, 3; E. Bishop, 4; W. Newell, 5; W. J. Williams (conductor), 6. The bells could not be in better condition, although they are very noisy in the belfry. The time for departure had now arrived, so the company being seated in their "stage" coach, the villagers were once more aroused by the sound of the horn, and the tramping of horses, and so the journey was continued through the beautiful and thickly wooded country on to Great Marlow. Here they were met by the foreman of the ringers, V. Audry, Esq., who at once invited them to the belfry of All Saints', where everything was found in apple-pie order, even to a lavatory for the convenience of the ringers. This is one of those model belfries which are not to be met with every day, although "Belfry Reform" has made rapid strides these last few years. The belfry of All Saints', Great Marlow, certainly reflects great credit on the gentleman just spoken of, and his young band of ringers, who not only attend to the cleanliness of the ringing-chamber, but also pursue the art of change-ringing with that energy and perseverance which must one day make them masters of the most intricate methods. Having raised the bells, the St. Lawrence's men adjourned to the house of an old brother string, Mr. J. C. Truss, and as their appetites were sharpened by their morning's ride, did justice to an excellent dinner, which was served up in first-rate style. Having satisfied the cravings of the inner man, a move was made for the belfry. Here the deputy instructor, Mr. W. J. Williams, picked a band and started for a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, 1260 changes, which was successfully accomplished in 49 mins. W. H. Holloway, 1; H. M. Bawden, 2; E. Bishop, 3; G. Talbot, 4; W. Johnson, 5; W. Newell, 6; W. J. Williams (conductor), 7; J. T. Waldron, 8. At the conclusion of this touch another band was formed and a short touch was conducted by Mr. W. Newell. At 4.20 the campanologists reassembled, the instructor being to the fore with his brass instrument, and as soon as the horses were put too, the tour was recommenced, the worthy host, Mr. J. C. Truss, accompanying the party. One hour's ride brought them to the village of Wooburn, Bucks, which (to the surprise of some of the ringers) can boast of a splendid toned peal of eight, tenor 20 cwt. According to information received it was in this tower that Mr. Thomas Tolladay called his last peal of Grandsire Triples, just forty-one years ago, having rung one at Great Marlow the day previous, therefore it was very interesting to this young band to know that they were handling bells that had been rung by such talent. These bells are fitted with Ellacombe's chiming apparatus, so after the gear had been taken off, and the bells raised, a 420 of Grandsire Triples was rung, in 15½ mins. H. M. Bawden, 1; W. Johnson, 2; G. Talbot, 3; E. Bishop, 4; W. H. Holloway, 5; W. Newell (conductor), 6; W. J. Williams, 7; T. Hayward, 8. As the evening was drawing on (and the time seemed to fly so rapidly), the programme had to be curtailed considerably, therefore they had to be contented with that touch, and journey on to Cookham. Before half-an-hour had elapsed the ivy-clad castellated tower of Cookham could be seen in the distance, with a clock bell on the top, however, they had not proceeded much farther when an

obstruction in the form of a gate was seen across the road. To remove this the bugle was brought into requisition, when an individual made his appearance and informed them that not all bridges over the silvery Thames were free, they therefore not feeling inclined to perform the feats of Dick Turpin, paid the toll and passed over to the church, which is dedicated to the Holy Trinity. Here a 720 of Grandsire Minor was down on the list, but owing to the flight of time it had to be reduced to a 360. W. H. Holloway, 1; W. Johnson, 2; E. Bishop, 3; W. Goseltine, 4; W. Newell, 5; W. J. Williams (conductor), 6. Seven o'clock having now arrived, and still another three miles had to be got over before they refreshed themselves with tea, this difficulty was soon overcome, for by half-past seven they were all sitting down to a sumptuous repast at the house of Mr. E. Rogers (another brother string), High Street, Maidenhead. Having partook of the good things from the festive board, a walk was indulged in across the fields to All Saints', Boyne Hill, and here to conclude the day's ringing was rung a 826 of Grandsire Triples, in 31½ mins., which all thoroughly enjoyed, the bells being in good going order. W. H. Holloway, 1; W. Johnson, 2; H. M. Bawden, 3; G. Talbot, 4; E. Bishop, 5; W. Newell, 6; W. J. Williams (conductor), 7; J. T. Waldron, 8. After the bells had been lowered, the ringers repaired to their conveyance, but it was ten o'clock ere the bugle sounded the return. By that time all was ready and the homeward journey was commenced. On the way Mr. E. Bishop favoured the party with Tom Tolladay's twelve thousand, that was the signal for a general sing-song, consequently songs, comic and ridiculous, moral and sentimental, choruses, rounds, &c., were freely indulged in, and was kept up with great spirit till Reading was reached at 11.45 p.m. Thus ended the campanological tour of the St. Lawrence's Society of change-ringers for 1884. Our correspondent adds: We feel we should not be doing our duty if we were to conclude without thanking our friends for their kindness in assisting us to arrange this outing, which was carried through without a single hitch. We wish therefore to express our sense of gratitude to the Revs. J. F. Maul (Henley), C. M. Weatherall (Hambledon), A. Fearon (Great Marlow), F. B. Ashley (Wooburn), R. W. Rogers (Cookham), and A. H. Drummond (Maidenhead), for the use of the bells. We also return our thanks to the steeplekeepers and foremen of the belfries we visited, for their hearty co-operation and kindly assistance in getting the bells and belfries ready for us by being at their respective churches with the keys to admit us as soon as we arrived. We can only wish them success in the art of change-ringing, and promise them a hearty welcome whenever they feel disposed to visit St. Laurence's, Reading.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

In our last number we gave a brief account of the Annual Meeting of this Association, held at Canterbury on the 16th instant. The following additional notice in connection therewith has been sent for insertion by a frequent correspondent:—

"The Annual General Meeting was held at Canterbury on February 16th, where four years ago the Association was founded in the Chapter House. Canterbury bells have been described in this journal, and nothing fresh remains to be said under this head. The suggestion made of ringing a stage lower in the Cathedral tower would involve greater length of rope; the ringing-room is, however, a miserable dark hole, this is owing to the external casing the tower has undergone. No touches on the higher numbers of nine and ten were rung, notwithstanding so many veterans were present; about 150 sat down to dinner. The Association is making real progress—"Mr. Trippels" and his party were absent; in fact Slowborough cannot be called in Kent at all. We were able on this occasion to inspect the Cathedral bells, the machinery of which is in good working order. The tenor (32 cwt.) worked very well, and another rope in ordinary ringing is no longer required. The remaining belfries were unattractive—at St. Stephen's (a ring of eight, tenor 15 cwt.) only about three of the bells could be heard externally. Of the great bell "Dunstan of Canterbury," see the last Christmas number of this paper. There it is still upon the top of the bell-tower, the clock alone making use of it feebly at each hour.

"During the day ringers had to be clearly distinguished from dynamitards by the Cathedral authorities; the Kentish Horse and Three Bells being the pass."

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

Members of this Association and correspondents are requested to note that in future the address of the Hon. Secretary, the Rev. H. A. Cockey, will be, "Rayleigh, S.O., Essex."

June 26th, 1884.

A RINGER'S WEDDING.—On Tuesday morning, at the parish church, Brighouse, Yorkshire, Mr. Wilson Wood, of Commercial street, one of the bell ringers, was married to Miss Sarah Speak, of Church street. In honour of the event, the ringers gave several merry peals.

THE CHRONOLOGY OF CHANGE-RINGING.—(Continued.)

By F. W. J. REES,

A Member of the Ancient Society of College Youths.

- 1840.—Ringers of Kettering, Northants, rang Grandsire Triples.
- 1841.—A new ring of twelve at the parish church, Leeds, Yorks. On this a peal of Grandsire Cinques, first Cinques in Yorkshire.
Eight bells at Appleton, Berks.
Saml. Thurston, of Norwich died, aged 52 years.
Ringers of Rothwell, Yorks., rang Kent Treble Bob Major.
- 1842.—Painswick ringers rang 8105 Stedman Caters, false.
Stroud ringers rang 8081 Grandsire Caters, false.
Ringers of Loughborough rang Grandsire Triples, their first peal.
Birmingham ringers rang a peal of Stedman Triples, by Lates, with only 240 bobs and two Holt's singles.
First peal on the eight at West Bromwich, Staffordshire.
The bells of Marsham, Norfolk, increased to eight.
William Shipway died, aged 82.
The ringers of Hull, Yorkshire, rang Grandsire Triples.
- 1843.—Triples at Great Marlow, Bucks., by College Youths.
Ringers of Great Yarmouth, Norfolk, rang Grandsire Caters.
Ringers of Dedham, Essex, rang Bob Bob Major at Harwich, first on the bells.
- 1844.—A new ring of twelve at York Minster.
Norwich ringers rang 7126 Stedman Cinques, tenor double-handed.
Ringers of Christleton, Cheshire, rang 5376 Double Norwich Court Bob Major.
Ringers of West Bromwich, rang Kent Treble Bob Major.
A peal at Rolvenden, Kent, by College Youths.
Ringers of Aylsham and Marsham Norfolk, rang 10,080 Oxford Treble Bob Major, at Marsham.
- 1845.—Surrey Youths rang a peal of Caters at St. Giles, Camberwell, first on the bells.
A peal of Triples at Berkhamstead, Herts., by College Youths.
6701 Stedman Caters at Bermondsey, by College Youths.
First edition of H. Hubbard's *Campanalogia*.
A new ring of eight at Sowton, Devon.
- 1846.—Birmingham ringers rang Thurstans' peal of Stedman Triples, 240 bobs and two common singles.
Triples at Carshalton, Surrey, by College Youths.
A new ring of eight at Christ Church, Spitalfields.
Osborne found the old peal-book of the Union Scholars at Bath.
Ringers of Kingston, Surrey, rang Stedman Caters.
Ringers of Sudbury, Suffolk, rang Treble Bob Major at St. Gregory's.
- 1847.—A ring of ten at West Bromwich, Staffordshire.
A mixed local band rang Bob Major at Hadleigh, Suffolk.
- 1848.—Birmingham Ringers rang 7392 Stedman Cinques.
Double Norwich Court Bob Major, by College Youths.

- 1848.—Ringers of Coseley, Staffordshire, rang Treble Bob Major on their new ring of bells.
First peal on the ten at Christ Church, West Bromwich.
- 1849.—Woolwich ringers rang 5376 Superlative Surprise Major.
Woolwich ringers rang 5600 London Surprise Major.
Ringers of West Bromwich, Staffordshire, rang Stedman Caters, said to be the first peal in the method ever rung in the county.
Ringers of Bennington, Herts., rang Double Norwich Court Bob Major.
- 1850.—The ten at West Bromwich, increased to twelve.
The Rev. H. T. Ellacombe published his *Practical Remarks on Belfries and Ringers*; this work started Belfry Reform.
St. James's Company rang 5600 Superlative Surprise Major, at St. Matthew, Bethnal Green.
Triples at St. John's, Windsor, by College Youths.
Ipswich ringers rang Treble Bob Major at Framdsen, Suffolk.
- 1851.—College Youths rang 7524 Stedman Cinques at St. Giles, Cripplegate.
Ringers of Marsham, Norfolk, rung Double Norwich Court Bob Major.
Ringers of Ross, Herefordshire, rang Grandsire Triples, first peal rung in the county.
Ringers of Macclesfield, Cheshire, rang Stedman Caters.
Ring of eight for Pilton, Devon, cast.
First peal at Frittenden, Kent, Bob Major.
Stedman Triples at St. Andrew's, Enfield, by College Youths.
Grandsire Triples at St. Martin's, Dorking, by College Youths.
Treble Bob Major at Barnsley, Yorks., by College Youths.
- 1852.—*The Art of Change-Ringing*, by B. Thackrah, published.
At Birmingham, a peal of Stedman Triples, by Thurstans, in which the two singles are put off till the last course.
Ringers of West Bromwich, rang Grandsire Cinques.
Ringers of Aylsham, Norfolk, rang Bob Royal.
8448 Oxford Treble Bob Major, at Alburgh, Norfolk.
- 1853.—Ringers of West Bromwich, rang Kent Treble Bob Maximus.
Stedman Caters at All Saints, Poplar, by College Youths.
Triples at Holyrood, Southampton, by College Youths.
Ring at Loddon, Norfolk, increased to eight.
- 1854.—Second edition of Hubbard's *Elements of Campanalogia*.
Caters at St. Peter's, Liverpool, by College Youths.
- 1855.—Ringers of Bennington, Herts., rang 5376 Superlative Surprise Major.
Do. 6048 do., the longest length rung in the method.
Caters by ringers of Wednesbury, Staffordshire, first peal on the bells.
Triples on new ring at Arundel, Sussex, by College Youths.
- 1856.—The ring at St. Andrew's, Cambridge, increased to eight.
Stedman Triples at St. Nicholas Deptford, by College Youths.
The ring at West Tofts, Norfolk, increased to eight.

- 1857.—The ring at St. John's, Halifax, Yorks., increased to twelve.
- 1858.—Painswick ringers rang 8448 Stedman Cinques.
Triples at Seaford, Sussex, by College Youths.
Ringers of Ashton, Lancashire, rang 10,277 Grandsire Caters.
John Lates, of Birmingham, died, aged 59 years.
Thos. Thurstans, of Birmingham died, aged 56 years.
Redenhall ringers rang Treble Bob Major, at Southwold, Suffolk, the first peal on the bells.
- 1859.—The Birmingham ringers rang 10,047 Stedman Caters, in 6 hrs. 16 mins., at Aston, tenor 21 cwt. The longest in the method at that time.
Grandsire Triples by the Hackney Society.
- 1860.—Redenhall ringers rang 10,080 Oxford Treble Bob Major.
Grandsire Major, at St. Barnabas, Dorking, Surrey, by College Youths.
Triples at Hampton, Surrey, by College Youths.
- 1861.—Ringers of Walsall, Staffordshire, rang 10,032 Grandsire Major, in 6 hrs. 15 mins., tenor 24 cwt. Longest length ever rung in the method.
College Youths rang 8580 Stedman Cinques, at St. Michael's, Cornhill, in 6 hrs. 41 mins., tenor 41 cwt.
Ringers of Sedgely, Staffordshire, rang Grandsire Major.
- 1862.—Stedman Triples rung at Cliffe, Kent, by College Youths.
- 1863.—The ring at Walsall, Staffordshire, increased to ten.
- 1864.—Walsall ringers rang 10,079 Grandsire Caters.
The first peal in the Potteries rung at Longton, by the ringers of Macclesfield, Grandsire Triples.
- 1865.—A new ring of eight at Penzance, Cornwall.
Grandsire Triples at Carlisle, by College Youths.
Ringers of Burnley, Lancashire, rang Grandsire Triples.
- 1866.—Nottingham ringers rang Grandsire Triples, first peal on the bells of St. Peter's.
Triples at Streatham, Surrey, by College Youths.
The ring at St. James's, Bristol, increased to ten.
Ringers of Masham, Yorks., rang Bob Major.
- 1867.—The ring of ten at Ipswich increased to twelve.
College Youths rang Grandsire Caters at St. Peter's, Sheffield.
Local band rang Grandsire Triples at Devonport, perhaps the first in the county of Devon.
The ringers of East Dereham, Norfolk, rang Stedman Triples.
- 1868.—The ring at Sheffield increased to twelve.
The ring at St. Peter's, St. Albans, increased to twelve.
College Youths rang 15,840 Kent Treble Bob Major, at St. Matthew's, Bethnal Green, in 9 hrs. 12 mins. Tenor 14 cwt.
The Waterloo Society Established.
Cambridge ringers rang Triples at West Tofts, Norfolk.
Rev. H. T. Ellacombe discovered Anable's MSS. note-book in a bookseller's shop in London.
A new ring of eight at St. Nicholas, Lynn, replacing old ring of eight.

"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.

Everything for insertion in this Journal to be addressed "The Editor of THE BELL NEWS, Walthamstow, London." Letters forwarded for publication, and performances under 5000 changes must reach us not later than Wednesday morning; and the insertion of any communication coming later than the first Postal delivery on Thursday morning cannot be guaranteed in that week's number. When it is found impossible from want of space to insert all touches forwarded, the earlier ones will have the preference.

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.

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

To prevent disappointment, the Editor requests that stamps for extra copies of this paper may be sent direct to the Publisher. Several reports have reached our office considerably behind time through their not being sent direct: one from Lincoln, rung on the 10th inst., and one from Glodwick (without signature), coming to hand as we are going to press.

The Bell News & Ringers' Record.

SATURDAY, JUNE 28, 1884.

THE congregation attending the service in the Lady Chapel of Lichfield Cathedral on Saturday last, must have left the building greatly edified by the address delivered by the Rev. J. H. FISH, Vicar of St. Paul's, Burton-on-Trent. The rev. gentleman, whose address will be found at length in another column, struck a chord which found complete unison in the minds of his hearers. A happy and appropriate feature of this discourse was that those who heard it were being addressed by one of themselves, a brother-string, in short. Mr. FISH, as president of the Midland Counties' Association, and a practical ringer, knows fully well not only the requirements for the effective carrying on of real ringing, but also the obstacles which are often at work to hinder its progress. It is to be hoped that those ringers who take but little interest in their calling will profit by the injunctions laid down in this sermon, and that they may be induced, not only upon particular occasions, but at all times, to enter into the work of ringing heartily, with all their soul, and with all their strength, fulfilling the literal command of the Apostle, "Whatsoever ye do, do it heartily, as to the Lord and not unto men."

One part of this address will specially commend itself, we are sure, to every one of our readers. "There are bodies beside ringers that want preaching to," said the preacher. "Bodies connected with the church, and the bells, and the belfries, without whose co-operation heart and soul, and whatever we do, is vain and fruitless." This is the language of a Christian minister, a logician, and a practical ringer. In reviewing a sermon in these columns some time ago, addressed to the members of the

Lancashire Association, we ventured to hint that it would be well for the various Church authorities to have a homily preached to them on the neglect of their duties with regard to the belfry. We say, with all due deference and humility, that to be continually pressing upon ringers the proper and devout discharge of their duties at the same time the bells and their surroundings are wholly neglected, appears glaringly inconsistent. And where the condition of bells is everything to be desired, if there is apathy or neglect on the part of those who should encourage the ringers in their work, or who while apparently taking an interest in bells and ringing, fail to remove obstacles in the way of progress, the text becomes equally applicable. Have we not drawbacks in the appointment of persons who, having no sympathy with scientific ringing, control our proceedings in the belfry, and thwart all efforts towards progress? Persons with a sleek exterior, who alone possess the ear of "the powers that be," who imagine that the steeple of the Church is their own freehold; and who in many cases loudly proclaim their defiance to those who point out to them that they are exceeding their duties. In such cases as these, surely "the ringers are in advance of their surroundings," and therefore nothing better is deserved than what is already done in the way of bell-ringing at such places.

We hope that this address will be read with care and taken to heart by many, and there are good ringers who may profit by its perusal. A company may have a well-defined code of regulations, but its success will depend upon the amount of soul, of vitality, they put into the working of it. "It is not heart that we lack," said Mr. FISH, "so much as soul, soul that will make a man humble and forbearing, and the company that he belongs to humble and forbearing with one another." Is there one who reads this sentence that thinks there is an appropriateness as regards himself? To indulge in a common interrogatory, "Does the cap fit?" If it does, we trust that all whom it may concern will act with the courage of true heroes in removing anything which may give offence to their weaker brethren. Where offences exist, ringing must be carried on without heart or soul, a chronic jangle, irregular practices with scanty attendances, and dependance upon neighbouring companies for help. To such cases, the homily delivered at Lichfield applies with all its force.

BRAMFORD, SUFFOLK.

ON Thursday, May 29th, being Oak-apple-day, the local company met at the parish church, and although nothing more could be done than 4-bell methods, a date touch was rung by the following persons in 1 hr. 15 mins. R. Bumstead, 1; A. Pryke, 2; W. Read, 3; H. Giles, 4; C. Smith, 5; J. Hardwick, 6. The ringers then adjourned to the "Cock Inn," where a substantial dinner was provided, and to which ample justice was done. After the repast, the company returned to the tower, and rang till five o'clock, and although nothing but 4-bell methods and call-changes were rung, the bells were struck in good time. Our correspondent adds: "We think that before long, by the aid of the Sproughton company, the members of which are very often with us, we shall get on to change-ringing." We hope our Bramford friends will strive to emulate the doings of their predecessors of two generations back, when Cambridge Surprise and other important methods were rung.

The Metropolis.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.
TOTTENHAM, MIDDLESEX.

On Saturday, June 21, 1884, in Two Hours and Fifty-three Minutes,

AT ALL HALLOWS' CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S ORIGINAL. Tenor 20 cwt.

HENRY J. TUCKER Treble.	EDWARD F. STRANGE .. 5.
JOHN BONNY 2.	EDWARD ROGERS 6.
HENRY LANGDON 3.	J. MARTIN ROUTH, Esq. 7.
GEORGE BOWER* 4.	DANIEL NEWTON Tenor.

Conducted by HENRY J. TUCKER.

*First peal with a bob bell.

H. J. Tucker has now called the above peal from each bell except the tenor.

The Provinces.

WALTHAM ABBEY, ESSEX.

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

On Saturday, June 21, 1884, in Two Hours and Fifty-seven Minutes,

AT THE ABBEY OF ST. LAURENCE, HOLY CROSS,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

BROOK'S VARIATION. Tenor 19½ cwt. in F.

FRANCIS E. DAWE Treble.	DAVID TARLING 5.
THOMAS C. POWELL 2.	HERBERT BAKER 6.
GEORGE T. McLAUGHLIN .. 3.	WILLIAM A. ALPS 7.
GEORGE THURGOOD 4.	THOMAS COLVERD Tenor.

Conducted by FRANCIS EDWARD DAWE.

Messrs. McLaughlin and Baker's first peal of Stedman; also the first in the method by the Essex Association.

F. E. Dawe and G. T. McLaughlin hail from London; H. Baker from Hertford; the rest belong to Waltham Abbey.

MOTTRAM-IN-LONGDENDALE, CHESHIRE.

On Saturday, June 21, 1884, in Two Hours and Fifty-four Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5184 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 12½ cwt.

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

Composed by the late WILLIAM HARRISON, of Mottram, and
Conducted by ROBERT WRIGHT.

Messrs. Wilde Brothers hail from Hyde, the rest are of the local company.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.—DERBY.

On Saturday, June 21, 1884, in Three Hours and Eighteen Minutes,

AT ST. ALKMUND'S CHURCH.

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S 10-PART. Tenor 18 cwt. in F.

JOHN RIDGWAY Treble.	JOHN NEWBOLD 5.
WILLIAM DAVID SMITH .. 2.	ARTHUR BERTRAM WARD 6.
ALBERT E. THOMPSON* .. 3.	JOHN HOWE 7.
HARRY CHAS. WOODWARD 4.	*JOHN SEAL Tenor.

Conducted by HARRY CHARLES WOODWARD.

*First peal.

Mr. William D. Smith hails from London, the rest are of the Derby society.

THE Ancient Society of College Youths will hold their Anniversary Dinner at "The Bell," Walthamstow, on Saturday next, July 5th. Dinner on the table at 3 o'clock; Tickets 4s. Gentlemen intending to be present will please send their names to the Secretary, "King's Head," Winchester Street, S.E., not later than Tuesday, July 1st.

STAVELEY, DERBYSHIRE.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, June 21, 1884, in Three Hours and Twenty-one Minutes,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5312 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 18 cwt.

WILLIAM HARRIS Treble.	CHAS. H. HATTERSLEY .. 5.
HENRY MOTTERSHALL .. 2.	ARTHUR KNIGHTS 6.
WALTER WORTHINGTON .. 3.	JAMES HUNT 7.
JOHN HARRIS 4.	HERBERT MADIN Tenor.

Composed and conducted by CHARLES HENRY HATTERSLEY.

This peal has the 6th its extent in 5-6, and six course-ends wrong.

C. H. Hattersley hails from Sheffield; and A. Knights from Chesterfield.

SPROUGHTON, NEAR IPSWICH, SUFFOLK.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, June 21, 1884, in Three Hours and Eleven Minutes,

AT ALL SAINTS' CHURCH,

5400 CHANGES: COMPRISED OF 6-SCORES IN FIVE
DIFFERENT METHODS UPON FIVE BELLS:—

9 of New Doubles; 9 of Stedman Doubles; 9 of St. Simon's; 9 of Plain; and 9 of Grandsire Doubles.

Tenor 10 cwt.

ARTHUR ALDHAM* Treble.	FREDERICK MEE 3.
CHARLES MEE 2.	THOMAS STEWARD 4.
WILLIAM L. CATCHPOLE ..	.. .. Tenor.

Conducted by CHARLES MEE.

*First peal.

Messrs. Aldham, Catchpole, and F. and C. Mee are members of St. Mary-le-Tower Society, Ipswich; and T. Steward belongs to Sproughton.

Date Touch.

ASSOCIATION FOR THE ARCDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.

LICHFIELD.—On Monday evening, June 23rd, at St. Mary's church, eight members of the Lichfield branch of the above association rang a date touch of 1884 changes of Grandsire Triples, in 1 hr. 10 mins. Edwin Gallimore, 1; Joseph Key, 2; Arthur Whitby, 3; Henry E. Meacham, 4; Frederick J. Cope, 5; Thomas Meredith (conductor), 6; Arthur E. Greenwood, 7; Charles North, 8. Composed by John Carter, of Birmingham. Tenor 19½ cwt.

Miscellaneous.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

NORTH SHIELDS.—On Tuesday evening, June 17th, at Christ Church, for practice, 720 Double Stedman Slow Conrse Minor, in 26 mins. *Stephen Nott, 1; *John Moffitt (South Shields), 2; *R. S. Story, 3; R. Wignall, 4; *H. Ross, 5; R. Smith (conductor), 6; Joel Hern (as cover), 7. *First 720 in the method. Tenor 19 cwt.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

ROMFORD (Essex).—On Sunday afternoon, June 22nd, 720 Bob Minor. W. Keeble, 1; B. Keeble, 2; J. Porter, 3; C. Waskett, 4; A. J. Perkins, 5; A. Pye (conductor), 6.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

UPTON ST. LEONARD'S (Gloucestershire).—On Saturday, June 21st, eight members of the Cheltenham Society, also members of the above Association, paid a visit to this village for the purpose of putting up a peal board to commemorate Holt's 10-part peal of Grandsire Triples, which they rung there last August. A start was made for another peal of Triples, but a mistake occurring, a long touch was rung instead, there not being time to start again. T. Hooper, 1; F. Musty, 2; H. Hodges, 3; H. Karn, 4; F. E. Ward, Esq., 5; G. H. Phillott, Esq. (conductor), 6; W. T. Pates, 7; T. Whiting, 8. The ringers desire to return their thanks to the rector and churchwardens for kindly allowing them to put up a tablet in their belfry, and for the free permission always given to use the bells.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

LONG EATON (Derbyshire).—On Tuesday, June 17th, for practice, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor, with fifteen bobs, in 26 mins. William Grice, 1; Dr. Sellon (first 720 in the method), 2; Richard Hickton, 3; William Gilson, 4; John C. Dickens, 5; John Ward

(conductor), 6. Also 120 of Stedman Doubles. William Grice, 1; Dr. Sellon, 2; Richard Hickton, 3; William Gilson, 4; John Ward (conductor), 5; William Hexter, 6.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

CAVERSHAM (Bucks).—On Sunday evening, June 15th, the Reading company attempted a date touch in three methods, as a welcome to the Rev. G. F. Coleridge, late of Oxford, who has just entered on his curacy there, but the conductor, seeing a shift-course when about 700 changes had been rung, brought the bells home.

READING (Bucks).—On Sunday, June 15th, at St. Giles's church, for Divine Service in the evening, a 720 of Oxford Bob Minor, in 23 mins. T. James, 1; E. Pottinger, 2; Geo. Gibbard, 3; T. Newman, 4; H. Blissitt, 5; H. Egby (conductor), 6. This is the first 720 in the method by the Reading company, and the quickest 720 on the bells.

BRIGHOUSE (Yorkshire).—On Thursday evening, June 19th, at St. Martin's church, eight members of the local company rang 2656 changes of Kent Treble Bob Major, in 1 hr. 33 mins. H. Wilson, 1; F. Crossles, 2; F. Pearson, 3; C. Nield, 4; W. Wood, 5; J. Cockroft, 6; J. Robnett, 7; F. Prince, 8. Composed by C. Nield, and conducted by F. Prince. Tenor 14½ cwt.

HAVERSTOCK HILL (Middlesex).—On Wednesday, June 11th, at St. Martin's church, Mr. J. Gobbett's 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor (with 15 bobs), in 25 mins. J. Rumsey (first 720), 1; J. Hannington (conductor), 2; T. Titchener, 3; B. Foskett, 4; G. Griffin, 5; E. Chapman, 6. Tenor 12½ cwt.

HENDON (Middlesex).—On Sunday, June 22nd, at St. Mary's church, for Divine Service in the evening, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor, with fifteen bobs, in 30 mins. J. Hannington (conductor), 1; J. Page, 2; T. Gleed, 3; J. Leach, 4; T. Titchener, 5; G. Newson, 6. Also after service, a 720 of Plain Bob, with four bobs and fourteen singles, in 27 mins. J. Freemantle, 1; J. Page, 2; T. Gleed, 3; G. Griffin, 4; G. Newson, 5; J. Hannington (conductor), 6. Also another 720 of Plain Bob, with twenty bobs and ten singles, in 26 mins. G. Thurlow, 1; J. Hannington (conductor), 2; J. Leach, 3; G. Griffin, 4; T. Titchener, 5; G. Newson, 6. Tenor 16½ cwt.

HIGHER WALTON (Cheshire).—On Friday, June 20th, at All Saints' church, the local company rang a 720 of Oxford Bob, in 28 mins. Geo. Thornley (conductor), 1; Jas. Harwood (first 720 in the method), 2; Hy. Hunt, 3; Hy. Brewer, 4; *John Eccles, 5; *Jas. Mather, 6. *Members of the Lancashire Association. Tenor 16 cwt, 3 qrs. 26 lbs.

HORNSEY (Middlesex).—On Sunday evening, June 8th, at the parish church, a 720 of Plain Bob, in 26 mins. T. Titchener, 1; T. Gleed, 2; J. Leach, 3; G. B. Lucas, 4; E. Chapman, 5; W. H. Fussell, 6. Also a 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor, in 27 mins. G. B. Lucas, 1; T. Titchener, 2; E. Chapman, 3; T. Gleed, 4; G. Griffin, 5; W. H. Fussell, 6. Both 720's were conducted by T. Titchener. Tenor 17½ cwt.

LYTHAM (Lancs.).—On Sunday, June 15th, at St. John's church, for Divine Service in the morning, a 720 of Bob Minor, with eight bobs and sixteen singles, in 25 mins. W. Bamber, 1; Jno. Salthouse, 2; Jno. Fell, 3; C. H. Kerr, 4; H. Gregson (conductor), 5; R. Allanson, 6. Tenor 10½ cwt.

PONTEFRAC (Yorkshire).—On Sunday Morning, June 15th, for Divine Service, the local company rang a 504 of Oxford Treble Bob Minor, in 19 mins. W. Wilcock, 1; J. Brook, 2; J. Pollard, 3; W. Pearson (conductor), 4; R. Brook, 5; J. Carter, 6. And a 6-score of Grandsire Doubles, in 5 mins. F. Moody, 1; W. Wilcock, 2; J. Brook, 3; J. Pollard, 4; R. Brook, 5; J. Carter, 6. Tenor 11 cwt. in F. Also on Sunday evening for Divine Service at St. Giles's church, six of the St. Giles's band, with Messrs. J. Pollard and W. Pearson of All Saints', rang a 504 of Grandsire Triples, in 18½ mins. J. Smithies, 1; J. Pollard, 2; H. Spurr, 3; S. Brook, 4; R. Savile, 5; W. Booth, 6; W. Pearson (conductor), 7; E. Waterton, 8. Tenor 16 cwt. in E. The above is J. Pollard's first attempt at eight-bell ringing, with the exception of one hour's practice on handbells during the previous week.

READING (Berks).—On Friday, June, 20th, it being the Queen's Accession, a 742 of Grandsire Triples, taken from Holt's Original, was rung at St. Laurence's church, in 27 mins. W. J. Williams (conductor), 1; H. M. Bawden, 2; W. R. Pocock, 3; W. Johnson, 4; W. H. Holloway, 5; E. Bishop, 6; W. Newell, 7; J. T. Waldron, 8.

ROCHESTER (Kent).—On Sunday, June 22nd, at St. Margaret's church, two 720's of Grandsire Minor, first in 25 mins., second in 24 mins. being the first 720 on the bells since the rehanging by Mr. J. Warner and Son, which we are proud to say gives great satisfaction. H. Greaves, 1; J. Tulett, 2; R. Simmonds, 3; E. Andrew, 4; W. Baker, 5; H. Pearce (conductor), 6. Messrs. Simmonds and Pearce hail from Maidstone. Tenor about 18 cwt.

SALISBURY (Wilts).—On Waterloo Day, June 18th, at St. Martin's church, 360 Grandsire Minor, in commemoration of the battle of Waterloo. H. Dowling, 1; C. A. Clements, 2; Rev. A. D. Hill, 3; J. R. Jerram, 4; W. W. Gifford, 5; T. Blackburn (conductor), 6. Also several touches of Bob Minor. The Wilts Rifle Volunteer Band played in the Market Place after the ringing in the evening. At St. Thomas the bells were rung on June 20th, being the Queen's Accession.

STISTED (Essex).—On Thursday, June 19th, at the parish church, a 720 of Bob Minor (sixteen bobs and two singles), in 23 mins. C. Duncombe, 1; W. Bearman, 2; A. Chaplin, 3; F. Saunders, 4; E. Radley, 5; W. Radley (conductor), 6. Tenor 10 cwt. Mr. Bearman is a College Youth, and the Messrs. Radleys and Chaplin are members of the Essex Association.

WEST HAM (Essex).—On Tuesday, June 17th, for practice, a 1008 of Grandsire Triples on the back eight. J. Springall, 1; H. Randall, (conductor), 2; R. Lord, 3; J. Gobbett, 4; W. Doran, 5; J. Cunningham, 6; S. Jarman, 7; F. Searle, 8. Tenor 28 cwt. On coming from the tower the ringers were invited to the new rooms of the West Ham Liberal Club, where, after refreshing themselves, several touches were rung upon the handbells, and the following tunes: "Blue Bells;" "Nellie Gray;" "Ring the bell, watchman;" "Caller Herrin;" "Money Musk;" and "There is nae luck about a house," which were played by S. Jarman and H. Randall.

HOW I SPENT MY WHITSUNTIDE HOLIDAYS.

On Saturday, May 31st, I left Newcastle-on-Tyne for Birmingham arriving there at about 7.0 p.m. Being entirely a stranger here, I took the usual course of looking about for the most likely towers to contain bells. After spending some time at this I was brought to a stand by, the musical chimes of St. Martin's going for 9 o'clock, which afforded me great satisfaction, and also reminded me that it was thirteen hours since I had had my legs under a table, so I called a bob home and finished the course. On Sunday morning, out betimes, thinking one would be going for an early peal, but it was 9 o'clock ere I found any signs of ringers or ringing. I then found one man at St. Martin's, and I was not very long in scraping an acquaintance with him, but found to my disappointment there was not likely to be a good muster here, but my companion reminded me that there might be a good company at St. Chad's (R.C.) Cathedral, so I got him to put me in the right course, and I dodged my way there. On reaching the belfry I found no less than a baker's dozen, for eight bells, and a tremendous debate going on as to what I was like, and where was the most likely place to find me, some of them having heard of my arrival the night before. So I informed them that I thought there had been quite enough hunting and dodging for the present, and it would take a good few bobs to fetch me home (*i.e.* to Newcastle) so we settled down to a short touch of Grandsire Triples, this was followed by about 900 of Stedman after service, and for evening service Stedman again. I was then requested to visit Bishop Ryder's church after evening service, where we had a well-struck touch of Grandsire Triples, this with some touches on the handbells brought Sunday to a close.

On Monday morning, a party was made up to visit the little village of Sedgley, but the bells not going well enough for a peal, we filled the day in with touches in various methods, 1600 of Grandsire Triples being the longest, the handbells filling in the spare time. On Tuesday morning, nothing being settled upon the night before, a company was hastily got together to go to Harborne for a peal at night, in the meantime Mr. Carter carried me off to King's Norton, thinking to get a touch here, but it being the club feast the ringers were enjoying themselves other ways, so we made ourselves comfortable with them for an hour or two, and then set off for a walk to Harborne, five miles, I think they call them very long ones, but they are very pleasant. At six o'clock, the time arranged to start for our peal, we found to our dismay we were one short, and the nearest one available two miles away. After spending some time in discussing what was to be done, two men set off to fetch that one, but this made it too late to think of a peal, so we made the start for a touch of 1200 changes, which was rung in grand style, and a 'ous carried us back to Birmingham as happy as kings. Here we fell in with some of the St. Martin's company, including Messrs. H. Johnson, Rees, Thomas, and others, also Mr. H. Haley, jun., of London, in whose company we spent another pleasant hour. A band was then made for a peal at St. Chad's on Wednesday, but my train for home started too soon for me to take part in it, so I had to content myself with listening to the first few hundred changes, and I am sorry to hear since that it came to grief soon after. In conclusion, I beg to take this opportunity of thanking my Birmingham and other friends for their kindness to me during my short stay with them, and any time if they should visit Newcastle-on-Tyne, I shall be glad to thank them in a more substantial way.

E. WALLIS,

Member of the Durham and Newcastle Diocesan Association.

TOUCHES OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR.

Collected and arranged by

THE REV. H. EARLE BULWER.

2528 (continued).

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

The 5th the extent in 6ths place.

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

The 4th the extent in 5ths place.

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

The 6th 3 course-ends each way full.

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

The 5th 3 course-ends each way full.

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

In eight courses.

The 6th the extent home (a) at six course-ends.

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

The 5th the extent home.

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

(b) at five course-ends.

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

In nine courses.

The 6th the extent home at 7 course-ends.

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

The 6th the extent wrong at 7 course-ends.

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

The 5th the extent home at 7 course-ends.

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

The 5th the extent home at 7 course-ends.

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

2560.

Time 92½ minutes.

In seven courses.

The 6th the extent home.

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

The 5th the extent home.

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

In eight courses.

The 6th the extent home.

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

Repeated.

The 5th the extent home.

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

Repeated.

In nine courses.

The 6th the extent home at 7 course-ends.

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

The 5th the extent home at 7 course-ends.

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

2592.

Time 94 minutes.

In eight courses.

The 6th the extent home. The 4th do. in 5ths.

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

The 5th the extent home. The 3rd do. in 6ths.

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

In nine courses.

The 5th and 6th the extent home at 6 course-ends.

2 3 4 5 6 M B W H

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

The following selection of touches with the tenors parted will bring this collection to a close. The 736 reached me too late to appear in its proper place in the collection. Until I received it this number was quite

unrepresented in the collections to which I had access; and I do not think it is obtainable except by some such calling as is here given. I append also a long length (3648), sent me by Mr. H. Dains, with the tenors together, which although exceeding the limits originally proposed, possesses the admirable property known as the "6th the extent in all positions," and is, I imagine, about the shortest length in which that quality could be obtained.

Single courses:—

448.

1M, in, 4ths, out, 5ths, 1W, 1H.

480.

2M, in and out, 2 fifths, 2W, 2H.

736.

2 3 4 5 6 M in 4ths out 5ths W H

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

1024.

2 3 4 5 6 M in B 5ths

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

Repeated.

1824.

The 6th the extent home.

2 3 4 5 6 M † W H

5 2 3 6 4	2	-	2	2
3 5 4 2 6	I	x	-	2
2 4 5 3 6	-	-	2	2
2 5 3 4 6	-	-	I	2
2 3 4 5 6	-	-	I	2

Alternative calling, last course, gives 1883.

2528.

5th and 6th each the extent home.

2 3 4 5 6 M B † W H

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

2688.

The 6th the extent in 5-6.

2 3 4 5 6 M B † W H

5 2 3 6 4	-	-	-	2
2 5 4 6 3	-	-	I	2
5 3 4 6 2	2	-	-	I
3 2 4 6 5	I	-	-	2
3 5 4 2 6	-	-	x	2
2 4 5 3 6	-	-	2	2
2 5 3 4 6	-	-	I	2
2 3 4 5 6	-	-	I	2

2752.

The 5th and 6th each the extent right.

2 3 4 5 6 M † W H

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

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."

MADE UP 5000'S.

SIR,—I notice in your paper from time to time records of 5000's made up of a number of five or six bell peals repeated sometimes in the same methods. This may be all very well where the number of bells is limited, but sometime ago I saw an account of a 5040 somewhere in Gloucestershire, made up of forty-two six-scores, and that at a place where they had six bells. Again we often see lengths of 5000 and over at Spalding, in Lincolnshire, at a six-bell church, made up of 720's in different methods. This may be very well, and no doubt great credit is due to the performers, but as I am informed there is a peal of eight bells in the town which go well, and are not very heavy, it seems a pity that this band should spend so much of their time over six-bell work. Surely they might muster a company to go in for Triples or Major. I see sometimes lengths of over 1000, rung at the eight-bell church, but I do not see any of the gentlemen's names appear of those who take part in the Minor performances. Not long ago I saw an account of some party at a six-bell place (in Suffolk I believe, ringing a 5040 made up of 360's in fourteen different methods) Variety is charming, as a correspondent observed last week, but I think we are getting rather too much of this sort of thing lately.

Fisherton, Salisbury.

W. LANHAM.

ST. ANDREW'S, LITCHURCH, DERBY.

SIR,—Will you kindly permit the following reply to an article which appeared in your issue of the 14th instant, under subject "In the Midlands." I am extremely surprised to notice quite an unwarranted assertion in respect to the ringing of St. Andrew's church bells on Whit-Tuesday, on which occasion several of our change-ringers were absent from Derby. It is to be regretted that the visitors from the Office of "THE BELL NEWS" could not find better means of expressing their disapproval at the ringing on that day than by giving way to such a spirit of bitter sarcasm and apathy. Had that so-called terrible functionary, the beadle, who is said to have it all his own way, but been acquainted with such visitors' arrival, they would have met with a hearty reception from him, and would have been welcome to the bells and belfry, which might have given them satisfaction instead of such an apparent disappointment. The model belfry of St. Andrew's, Derby, is not, nor has it ever been closed to visitors; quite the reverse exists, which they would have found, had the proper course been pursued by the gentlemen who so kindly perambulated them through the town. And it is difficult to understand why one of the gentleman named, who is at present a member of the St. Andrew's Ringers' Society, should take strangers in such an opposite direction; it can only convey the impression of a want of interest on his part towards a brother string.

ONE OF THE RINGERS.

[In the account of our visit to Derby we alluded to the fact of hearing non-scientific ringing going on at St. Andrew's. This seemed surprising, and led us to make enquiries. The information obtained is in no wise contradicted or upset by our correspondent's letter. The fact of the belfry of St. Andrew's being a "model" one, so well appointed in every respect, increased rather than abated our amazement on hearing the class of ringing referred to. We shall be glad indeed to hear that the beadle or officer in charge of the bells is a warm supporter of half-pull ringing, and promotes the practice of the art in his belfry with all his might.—Ed.]

MR. DORAN AND OUR REPORTER.

SIR,—The allegations made by Mr. Doran at Chelmsford so roused the risible faculties of those present, that I am not certain if everybody has yet recovered himself. Having no desire to hold so exalted a personage in the ringing world up to ridicule among his brother strings, it is not my intention to say what such allegations were, knowing as I do that they only existed in imagination, and that the quotation from Beaconsfield's Guildhall speech fully described the real feelings of the speaker. In fact, if the writer had not indulged in a little tautology upon the "partridges and pheasants," I should have yielded to the expressed desire of several friends, and declined to notice his communication. With respect to the Diocesan question, I must congratulate Mr. Doran upon having become converted to my views, for I fully believe the larger the Association becomes the greater its influence will be. This is shown by our various Church Choral Associations that are at work in the Diocese (not Diocesan Associations) the larger they become, the greater is the reformation they produce in the musical portion of the services of the church. As to a renewal of the question, it will be ample time for such when we have induced the church authorities in Essex to set our belfries in order, removed the abominable practices which still prevail in our midst, and made the 500 odd ringers in the county a united body. For us, if Herts is still sleeping, to go forward with the cry of belfry reform, we may be told that we ought first to have removed the mote from our own eyes. Until this is accomplished I intend to remain a faithful worker in the hive with a "sting" replenished at all times with ample "poison," not necessarily to be used to "buy" the votes of those who reside where there are "partridges and pheasants," believing that

they are already "sold," and that like myself they detest the cry of Belfry Reform, used as a fad by the drones.

As it is a rule among the reporting craft not to indulge in a paper warfare, I must bid Mr. Doran *au revoir*, but should he again seek the services of his amanuensis, if his memory fails him, and he has a doubt of having made certain allegations, he might explain why the three next speakers denied his statements. He might also inform your readers why he remains a member of an Association in which his interest is so great that it would not make any difference if it was decided to dissolve it. Miles's boy says the peal-book will show when a peal of Stedman Triples is entered up.

YOUR REPORTER.

THE RINGING AT ST. PAUL'S, BRIGHTON.

SIR,—Perhaps it would be interesting—it may be the reverse, however—to learn from Alfred J. Giddings, who we read is the "Superintendent of St. Paul's Church Guild, Brighton," what method was rung on the Thursday practice evenings when "privacy was considered necessary." I have been in many towers, where often difficult ringing was being performed, but I never yet entered one where "privacy was considered necessary" on a practice night. No doubt the ringing at St. Paul's, Brighton, was and is of a very high character. Will the "Superintendent" enlighten your readers on these points?

LOOKER-ON.

WELLINGBOROUGH, NORTHAMPTONSHIRE.

THE heavy old ring of six at the parish church, Wellingborough, has recently been made into a grand peal of eight by the addition of two trebles and the recasting of the former "third" bell, which was much out of tune. Messrs. Taylor and Son, of Loughborough, have carried out the work. The new bells are well in tune with the others, and give every satisfaction to the ringers and townsfolk generally. Formerly the treble and 2nd hung in the upper bell chamber, and the 3rd, 4th, 5th and tenor, in the lower chamber. Now treble, 2nd, 4th, and 6th hang above, and 3rd, 5th, 7th and tenor below. All beams, &c., in connection with upper chamber are new, the bells being hung in A-shaped iron frames. The old treble and 2nd were taken to Loughborough to be tuned, and whilst there weighed. The old treble (the gift of Sir Paul Pinder in 1640), was much heavier than the old 2nd bell. The lower bell frame (of oak) was put in by Taylor and Son, in 1868, when the bells were all quarter-turned and the canons removed.

Inscriptions on new bells:—

On new treble bell:—
"SEX DIU VOCABANT, DIUTIUS EVOCEMUS OCTO.
AD MAJOREM DEI GLORIAM.
THE GIFT OF WILLIAM FENDERED, 1884."

On new 2nd bell:—
"SEX DIU VOCABANT, DIUTIUS EVOCEMUS OCTO.
AD MAJOREM DEI GLORIAM.
D. D.
G. H. BURNHAM, 1884."

On recast bell:—
"1884 HINC VOX CONSONA, LONGIUS DISSONA 1729.
GLORIA DEO SOLI.
THE GIFT OF W. J. & HARRIET E. HENRY."

THE BRADFORD AMALGAMATED SOCIETY.

ON Saturday, June 21st, this Society paid a visit to Masham. On arriving, after a pleasant ride, the visitors repaired to the tower of the venerable old church, where they were joined by Mr. Clark, of Sharow, Mr. Mallaby and his brother churchwarden, and other ringers of Ripon and Masham. By kind permission of the vicar (the Rev. G. M. Gorham), several touches of Kent Treble Bob Major and Grandsire Triples were rung, and while the ringing was proceeding, the curate of Masham (the Rev. S. Crawley), and other members of the congregation visited the belfry. After ringing, the members had the pleasure of walking through and inspecting Mr. Mallaby's business premises, where bell-frames—finished and in progress—seemed to be lying about promiscuously, whilst the stock of antiquated and marvellously-shaped clappers, which reposed in the various nooks and corners, made the visit both interesting and amusing. Several touches on the handbells (both in orthodox and unorthodox methods) were rung at Masham, as well as during the return journey home, which was "completed" in 2 hrs. 30 mins., the train "coming round" to Bradford about 11.30.

THE UNITED COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

THE usual half-yearly meeting of the above Association will be held at Dinting, Derbyshire, on Saturday, July 12th, 1884. The bells of the parish church, a peal of six, and the bells of All Saints' church, Glossop, a peal of eight (all in splendid ringing order), will be at the disposal of the ringers from 1 o'clock p.m. Dinner will be provided at the "Plough Inn" at 5 o'clock, tickets 1s. 6d. each. The President, Vice-President, Hon. Treasurer and Hon. Secretary, and the committee will be in attendance to enroll members at 2s. 6d., and honorary members at 1s. each.

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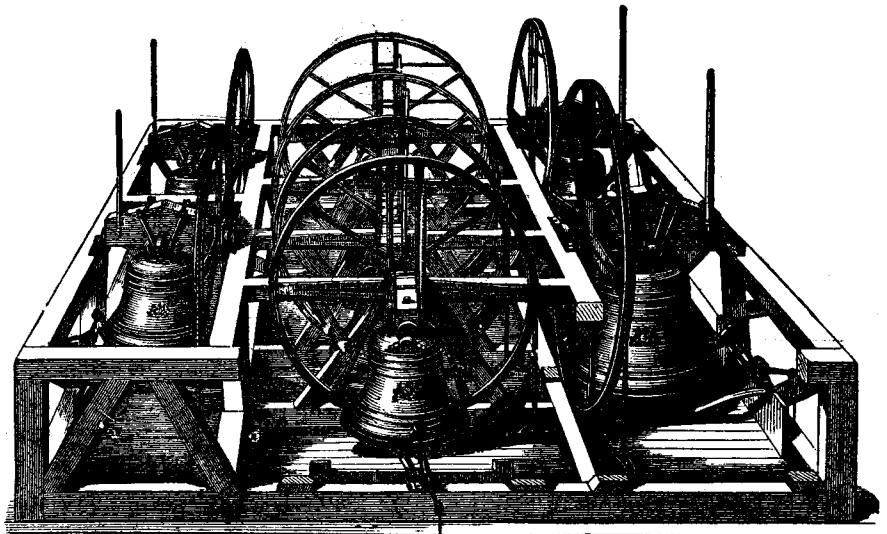
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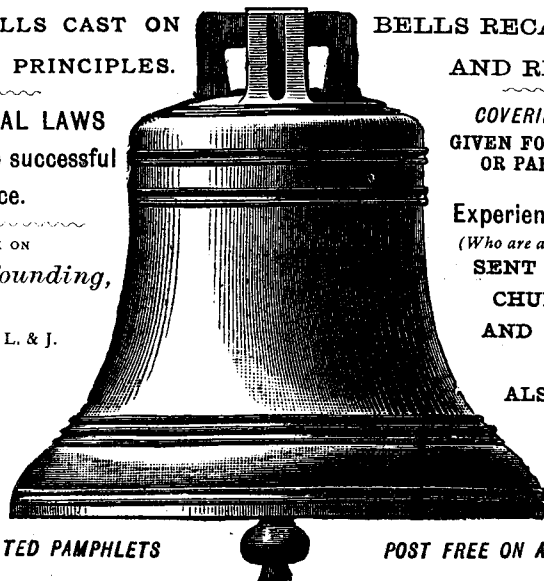
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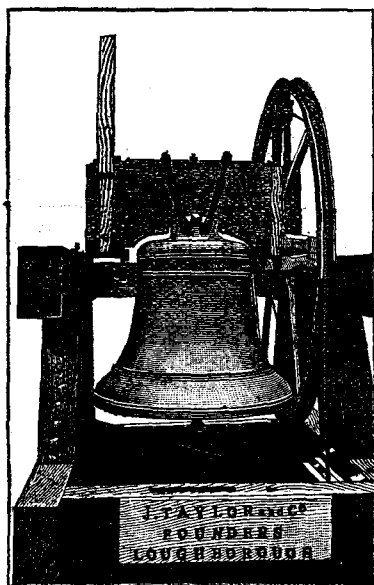
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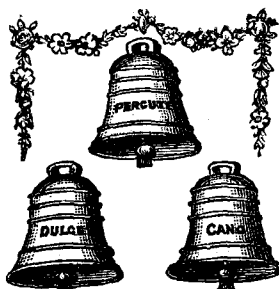
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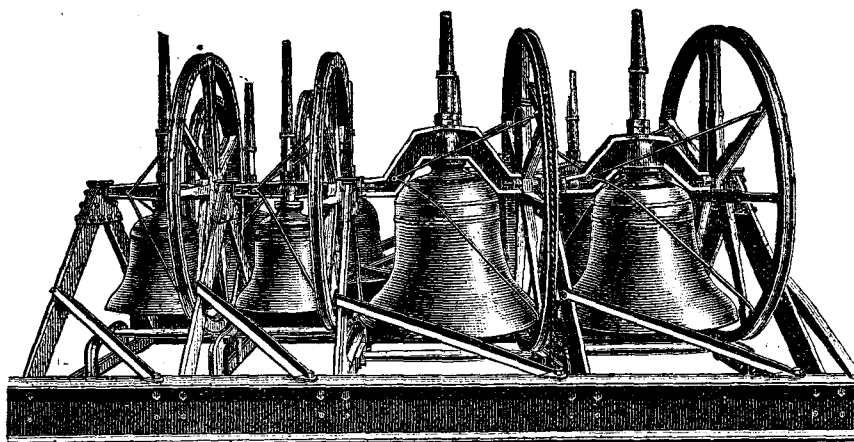
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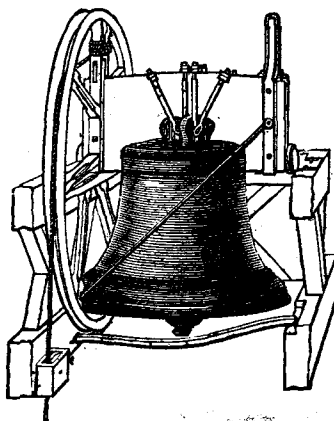
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G. J. CLARKSON.

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This musical and intricate method is given amongst the Surprise variations in the *Clavis*; as it has never been published in any modern work on ringing it would be very interesting to know if it has before been rung, and if so, when and where, and whether any of the Surprise variations called after the cathedral cities ever came into general practice, excepting those known as Cambridge, London and Superlative Surprise.

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

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3rd—"Peace and good neighbourhood. A.R. 1720."
4th—"Abr. Rudhall of Gloucester, Bell founder, 1720."
5th—"Prosperity to all our benefactors. A.R. 1720."
Tenor—"The Rev. Ben. Loveling, Rector, Wm. Leader and Rich. Wilder, Churchwardens, 1720."

Some years ago, one of the canons of the tower was broken by some means, and after lying in disuse for a long time, was repaired by Warner of London, who drilled a hole in the crown of the bell, and thus connected her to the stock. The whole peal was rehung by White of Appleton in 1876, and are now in thorough repair. A climb to the top of the tower on a clear day is amply repaid by the magnificent view, which extends some miles along the beautiful valley of the Thames, on the banks of which the village stands.

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PRESENTATION TO MR. F. T. GOVER.

Friday evening, the 27th of June, was an important one in the events of the above Society, on account of a presentation to the first of its members on the occasion of his marriage. At 8.30, a short touch was rung in the tower, and then all adjourned to the new parochial buildings, where an excellent tea was provided, to which eighteen sat down. Immediately after tea, Mr. F. W. Francis rose and read a nicely-executed address to Mr. Gover, to which was affixed the signatures of the subscribers to the testimonial, at the same time presenting him with a handsome walnut side table as a mark of their appreciation of his services, and begged his acceptance of it, not on account of its intrinsic value, but as a pledge of their esteem, and a bond of friendship which they hoped would exist. Mr. F. E. Dawe, then addressing Mr. Gover, said that this convivial gathering was called to invite him as their guest for the purpose of doing a little honour that all were pleased to assist in, as it was in a great measure owing to his exertions that so many young ringers had been encouraged there. He had always shown the greatest kindness in doing his best to instruct them and many services has been rendered by him in the tower. By his ever obliging manner, he had become not only popular, but a general favourite. He then proposed "The health and happiness of, and long life and prosperity to Mr. and Mrs. Gover." This was seconded by the Rev. W. S. Kelly, who made some very kind and encouraging remarks; the toast was then drank amidst cheers.

Mr. R. A. Sparkes then proposed "the St. John's ringers," coupling with it the name of the Rev. O. P. Yerburgh, who in responding proposed the health of the steeple-keeper, Mr. C. Teesdale, mentioning the very obliging manner in which he always did his work in the tower. Mr. Sparkes also pointed out the good feeling of "pulling together" that existed in the company, and that they should feel proud of two or three of their oldest members that had learned to handle a bell there, and who could now stand amongst the finest ringers in the ringing world.

Mr. F. T. Gover suitably responded to what had been said, expressing his most sincere thanks for their kindness. Mr. Dawe next proposed "the absent friends." Other speakers then followed, including speeches well to the point from Messrs. C. F. Winny, E. Wright, and J. Pullman. The others present in addition to the above named were Messrs. H. Comber, W. T. Ceaton, H. Garrett, F. Garrett, C. Gross, H. P. Walsh, and W. Chew; and after a vote of thanks to the Chairman, a very pleasant evening was brought to a close by all standing up and singing "Auld Lang Syne" with joined hands.

WORCESTER DIOCESAN AND ADJOINING DISTRICTS
ASSOCIATION.

The Annual Meeting of this Association will be held at Worcester on Monday, July 14th. Members will meet at the house of host Baker (an Honorary Member of this Association), the "Old Greyhound," at Eleven o'clock, for ringing. The tower of St. Mary's Cathedral, having a ring of twelve, and the other towers, will be open for ringing during the day. The business meeting will be held as usual at All Saints' schools, at Two o'clock, at which the Very Rev. the Dean of Worcester, Lord Alwyne Compton, D.D., will preside.

In addition to those of the Cathedral, the "faithful city" has the following bells: All Saints, ten bells; St. Helen's, eight; St. Martin's, six; St. Swithin's, six; St. Nicholas', six; and St. John's, six.

A CURIOUS OLD RECORD.

The following paragraph, taken from *The Morning Chronicle and London Advertiser* of March 19th, 1778, has been kindly sent to us for publication:—

"On Monday last, the society of Cumberland Youths rang at All Hallows, Barking, a true and compleat peal of double bob six in, containing 720 changes, in twenty-five minutes, with one alteration behind, and one before, throughout the peal. The above masterly performance is allowed, by the greatest proficients in the art, to be the only peal of double ever compleated since the first invention of ringing."

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

ESTABLISHED 1637.

The Ancient Society of College Youths hold their Anniversary Dinner to day (Saturday), at "The Bell," Walthamstow. Dinner on the table at 3 o'clock. There are two rings of eight in the parish, but is doubtful whether those of St. Saviour's church can be rung until the new Vicar is practically in residence.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

A Quarterly Meeting of members of the above Association was held at Leicester on Saturday, June 28th, the following towers being open during the day: St. Margaret's, St. Mary's, St. Mark's, St. Saviour's, St. George's, and All Saints'. The meeting of Committee was held at four o'clock, in St. George's schools, Colton Street, and tea was subsequently served in the Pavilion, Abbey Park. At the General Meeting held afterwards for the transaction of the business of the Association, the Rev. James H. Fish, Vicar of St. Paul's, Burton-on-Trent, presided, being supported by the Rev. R. W. Pitt (Hon. Secretary) and Mr. William Wakley (Hon. Treasurer). The Chairman reported that nine peals of 5000 changes and upwards had been rung by members of the Association since the last meeting, viz.: five of Grandsire Triples, two of Kent Treble Bob Major, one of Double Norwich Court Bob Major, and one of Superlative Surprise Major. One of these had been rung as a wedding peal at Loughborough, on the occasion of the marriage of Mr. J. W. Taylor, jun., a prominent member of the Association; and five had been rung with the bells half-muffled, to the memory of the late Mr. M. T. Bass, ex-M.P. for Derby, and an Honorary Member of the Association from its commencement.

The President complimented the Derby members upon having completed three peals during the quarter, the peal upon the bells of St. Luke's, Derby, being a particularly noteworthy performance. He also added that several 720s of Kent Treble Bob Minor and 6-scores of Stedman Doubles had appeared in "THE BELL NEWS" under the title of the Association, which augured well for its future.

The Right Rev. the Bishop of Southwell; the Rev. W. W. C. Baker, Sneinton, Nottingham; the Rev. F. J. Lyall, St. Luke's, Derby; and A. P. Heywood, Esq., Duffield, were admitted as Honorary Members. Five ringing members were also elected.

On the motion of Mr. Wakley, seconded by Mr. Taylor, jun., and carried unanimously, a vote of thanks was passed to the Vicars and Churchwardens of the Leicester churches for so kindly placing their bells at the disposal of members.

Mr. Hickman proposed, Mr. Tabberer seconded, and it was carried, "That the next meeting be held at Nottingham, on Saturday, October 4th."

Owing to the intensely hot day there was very little ringing done, touches of Grandsire and Stedman Caters and Triples being chiefly conspicuous. There was a fair attendance of members from Burton-on-Trent, Derby, Loughborough, Long Eaton, Leicester, and Nottingham, about forty of whom sat down to an excellent tea. A vote of thanks to the chairman terminated the proceedings.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

On Friday evening, June 27th, this society met to do honour to the memory of a deceased member—the late Sir Bartle Frere. St. Michael's, Cornhill, was the tower selected for the occasion, and soon this noble ring, unsurpassed for melody, was chanting forth a solemn requiem to the illustrious departed, in music which seemed to lose none of its wonted beauty by reason of its more subdued tone. Few persons indeed could listen to the "whole pull and stand" of the deeply muffled bells, and the boom of the glorious tenor in the interval, unmoved by solemn thoughts and apprehension.

Although not a practical ringer, the late Sir Bartle Frere took a deep interest in the Society and its doings. He first met the company at Exeter, in 1869, in which year he was made a member. His portrait, presented by himself, has long occupied the place of honour at the head-quarters of the company, and as recently as the year 1881 he testified to the continuing interest felt by him by another gift. The ringers were stationed as follows: H. Haley, sen. (conductor), 1; H. Haley, junr., 2; W. Cecil, 3; J. W. Rowbotham, 4; J. M. Routh, Esq., 5; J. R. Haworth, 6; G. Dorrington, 7; J. Trappitt, 8; R. French, 9; E. Gibbs, 10; E. Horrex, 11; J. M. Hayes, 12.

LIFE AND DEATH.—A singular circumstance has occurred at the cemetery, Stamford. The ground keeper finding he was unable on a recent occasion to toll the bell for an approaching funeral, found on examination, that a swallow had just built its nest on the clapper of the bell, thus silently remonstrating against death being tolled, where it had resolved instinctively that life should be told.

HER MAJESTY'S ACCESSION.—Yesterday being the forty-seventh anniversary of her Majesty's Accession to the throne, the bells of the Cathedral and of St. Michael's church rang out merry peals. Each of the ringers were presented, by Mr. J. J. Meaton, the local "Prince of Campanologists," with a handsome photographic group of ringers, taken in front of his house in Blenheim Road, on the third inst., on the occasion of ringing the date of the year, 1884 changes, in 1 hr. 12 mins. at the Cathedral, when the "boys" were engaged on behalf of the recent Choral Festival. The oldest of them has no recollection of so many changes having been rung in so short a time.—*Gloucester Times.*

A THREE DAYS' TRIP TO LONDON.

Amongst the pleasantest days of our remembrance, writes Mr. Fildes of Hyde, Cheshire, is that of our brief sojourn in London, the capital city of England. A excursion train all the way to London from Manchester, calling at Godley, being advertised, three of the company of St. George's ringers, Hyde, thought it a opportunity not to be lost. We left Godley at 12.30, arriving in London about 6.30, then making our way to the head-quarters of the College Youths, Winchester Street. Here we made the acquaintance of Mr. Mash and his son, and Mr. Dawe. Having a little time on our hands, we went to inspect St. Paul's Cathedral, and was well pleased with the visit. We returned to the King's Head, and partook of a good dinner, which the host knows how to serve. Mr. Mash then arranged that we should go down to Walthamstow, and here we had the pleasure of ringing with our esteemed Editor, and several other friends, in a touch of Treble Bob Major. Leaving the tower, we adjourned to the meeting house, and after a little harmony, we made our way back to London, and spent the night at the King's Head. On Sunday, our friend, Mr. Mash, conducted us through St. Saviour's, Southwark, and mounting the tower we had a grand view. Lofty, handsome buildings are the rule, not the exception, in London, on every hand there are grand churches rearing their lofty towers, and it makes the city present the appearance of a city of palaces. We went again to St. Paul's to hear the grand peal of twelve, and listen to a good touch of Stedman Cinques. Here we had the pleasure of being introduced to a few more brother strings. Mr. Mash had arranged for a touch of Treble Bob Major at Lambeth, on Sunday night, and a peal of Treble Bob Royal at Stepney, on Monday night. After dinner we went round the city, and took a peep at the famed Bow church (but we had not the pleasure of hearing the bells), and St. Clement's, and several other noted bell towers. After tea, we made our way to Lambeth, where we rang a good touch of Treble Bob, and made the acquaintance of Messrs. Horrex, Hayes, Winny, and other well-known ringers. On Monday we paid a visit to Messrs. Mears and Stainbank's bell foundry, and had the pleasure of looking over this famous establishment. The courteous manager, Mr. W. Warskitt, showed us the Beaconsfield bells, and had we called a little earlier we should have been able to have heard their tone, but we had to be satisfied with a cursory examination of them. We should like here to return our thanks to Mr. Warskitt for his kindness in pointing out to us the various features of this well-known establishment. Now the inner man called for some attention, and after satisfying all requirements, we strolled round the city again until the time of meeting for the coming peal approached. Accordingly we proceeded to the place of rendezvous—Stepney, where we found all in order, and a good muster of ringers from all parts of London. After a little conversation in the churchyard, we got up into the ringing-chamber, and after the usually preliminary flourish, off we started for the peal. I am sorry to say, however, that after ringing about 1 hr. 37 mins., and all going on well, "stand" was called, on account of the 8th going so badly. An adjournment was then made to the meeting-house, and we spent a very pleasant evening, notwithstanding, with the handbells, about thirty or forty ringers being present. The time soon came to think of returning homewards, and we reached London about eleven o'clock. Mr. Mash and several other ringing friends accompanying us. At about 11.50 p.m. we started on our return journey, and arrived safe home at 6.15 the next morning, after a most enjoyable trip. We return our thanks to Mr. Mash and his son, and all other brother-strings that we had the pleasure of meeting, and home to meet them all again on a future occasion. J. F.

THE BELLS OF HALESOWEN PARISH CHURCH.

The ring of eight bells at this church, which have been rehung by Mr. Harry Stokes, of Woodbury, Devon, was opened on the 13th ult. by the local company. There was a short service in the church, with an address by the Rector (Rev. C. Nation), who entertained the bell-hanger and his men, and the ringers, to a substantial supper of roast beef and plum pudding, which was heartily enjoyed. The bells have been rehung with all new fittings, and six of them have been quarter-turned, and the frame repaired and strengthened. We hear that the local company of ringers have joined the Worcestershire Association.

THE UNITED COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

THE usual half-yearly meeting of the above Association will be held at Dinting, Derbyshire, on Saturday, July 12th, 1884. The bells of the parish church, a peal of six, and the bells of All Saints' church, Glossop, a peal of eight (all in splendid ringing order), will be at the disposal of the ringers from 1 o'clock p.m. Dinner will be provided at the "Plough Inn" at 5 o'clock, tickets 1s. 6d. each. The President, Vice-President, Hon. Treasurer and Hon. Secretary, and the committee will be in attendance to enroll members at 2s. 6d., and honorary members at 1s. each. JAMES S. WILDE, Hon. Sec.

THE CHRONOLOGY OF CHANGE-RINGING.—(Continued.)

By F. W. J. REES,

A Member of the Ancient Society of College Youths.

- 1869.—*Change-Ringing*, by C. A. W. Troyte, Esq., published. Previous works on the subject had been written for the use of expert ringers; this was the first book which could be used by beginners without the aid of oral instruction.
Triples at St. Paul's, Shadwell.
Ringers of Kenninghall, Norfolk, rang Treble Bob Major.
Ringers of Leesfield, Lancashire, rang Grandsire Triples.
- 1870.—The ringers of Bennington, Herts., rang 6048 London Surprise Major, in 3 hrs. 37 mins., the longest length rung in the method.
The ring at Fowey, Cornwall, increased to eight.
A new ring of eight at Riponden, Yorks.
Triples at St. Matthew's, Upper Clapton, London.
Grandsire Caters at St. Nicholas, Bristol, by College Youths.
The ring at Aynhoe, Northants, increased to eight.
- 1871.—The publication of *Church Bells* commenced. Before this ringers had no paper in which a column was regularly kept open for reports of their doings. Peals were reported in local papers only, or in *Bell's Life*.
A new ring of eight at St. Peter's, Ashton, Lancashire.
The ringers of Hunslet, Yorks., rang Treble Bob Major.
Change-Ringing Disentangled, by the Rev. Woolmore Wigram, published. The second book on the art written for the use of beginners.
Appleton Ringers rang 10,080 Caters; J. Newman, aged 75, rang in this long peal.
The ringers of Sheffield, Yorks., rang Grandsire Cinques.
- 1872.—A new ring of twelve at the Cathedral, Worcester.
A new ring of eight at Buersill, Lancs.
The ring at St. Mary Redcliffe, Bristol, increased to twelve.
The ring at Northwold, Norfolk, increased to eight.
The ringers of Lynn, Norfolk, rang Bob Major.
A quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples at Penzance, Cornwall.
The Oxford University Society established.
A new ring of eight at St. Mark's, Leicester.
New ring of eight at Windermere, Westmoreland.
The ring at Sharow, Yorks., increased to eight.
- 1873.—A new ring of ten at St. Stephen's, Hampstead.
The ringers of Bennington, Herts., rang 5600 Cambridge Surprise Major the only true peal ever rung in the method.
The ringers of Redenhall, Norfolk rang Stedman Triples.
The ring at Ilkley, Yorks., increased to eight.
New ring of eight at Moorside, Oldham, Lancashire.
Do. at St. Paul's, Brighton.
Do. at Denbigh.

- 1873.—New ring of eight at Ashtead, Surrey.
Do. at Babbacombe, Devon.
Do. at Galleywood, Essex.
Ringers of Frittenden, Kent, rang Bob Triples.
Ringers of Otley, Yorkshire, rang Treble Bob Major.
Liversedge (Yorks.) ringers rang 8544 Kent Treble Bob Major, with the tenors together.
Ringers of Chester Cathedral rang Grandsire Triples.
Ringers of Bristol rang Treble Bob Major.
The ring at Stow-Bardolph, Norfolk, increased to eight.
The Sheffield ringers rang Stedman Caters.
The ring at Nuneaton, Warwickshire, increased to eight.
York ringers rang Treble Bob Major, at St. Martin's.
Ringers of Pendlebury, Lancs., rang Grandsire Triples.
Ringers of Almondbury, Yorks., rang Treble Bob Major.
Ringers of Leatherhead, Surrey, rang Grandsire Triples.
Change-ringing revived at Birstall, Yorkshire.
- 1874.—A new ring of eight at Brighouse, Yorks.
Do. at Loughton, Essex.
Do. at St. John's, Bradford, Yorks.
Do. at St. Saviour's, Walthamstow.
Do. at St. Stephen's, Hull.
Do. at St. John's, Deptford.
The ring at Huntsham, Devon, increased to eight.
Do. at St. Peter's, Sudbury, Suffolk.
Do. at Tynemouth, Northumberland.
Do. at Hatfield Yorks.
The ring at St. Andrew's, Plymouth, increased to ten.
Ringers of Ashton rang 8864 Kent Treble Bob Major, with tenors together.
Ringers of Appleton, Berks., rang College Single Triples.
The Art and Science of Change-Ringing, by W. Banister.
The Devonshire Guild established.
The West Middlesex Association of Bell-ringers formed.
Ringers of Huntsham, Devon, rang their first peal, Grandsire Triples.
Revival of change-ringing at Ormskirk, Lancashire, first peal for sixty-one years.
Ringers of Hyde, Cheshire, rang Grandsire Triples.
Manchester ringers rang Kent Treble Bob Major.
Ringers of Appleton, Berks., rang Kent Treble Bob Major.
Mixed band rang at Thirsk, Yorkshire, Kent Treble Bob Major, first peal since the ring was increased to eight.
Oxford ringers rang Triples at Burford, perhaps first peal on the bells.
Mixed band from Hull and Beverley, Yorkshire, rang Triples at Beverley, believed to be first peal on the bells.
Ringers of Earlsheaton, Yorks., rang Kent Treble Bob Major.
Worcester ringers rang Grandsire Triples.
A new company at Milnrow, Lancs., rang Grandsire Triples.
Worcester ringers rang Grandsire Caters.
Huddersfield ringers rang Treble Bob Major.
Ringers of Epsom, Surrey, rang Grandsire Triples.

- 1875.—A new ring of eight at Dewsbury, Yorkshire.
Do. at Newchurch, Lancashire.
Do. at Weybridge, Surrey.
Do. at St. Luke's, Derby.
Do. at Cradley, Worcestershire.
Do. at Llanstephan, Carmarthen.
The ring at Uttoxeter, Staffordshire, increased to eight.
The ring at Alnwick, Northumberland, increased to eight.
Four bells of the Appleton ring of ten recast; this ring is remarkable in several ways; it is the lightest ring of ten, tenor only 14½ cwt. The bells are well hung in two tiers, and go to perfection; the tone of the bells is like what is heard with a tenor of one ton.
Wm. Carr, of Waltham, died.
The Yorkshire Association formed.
Ringers of Leigh, Lancashire, rang Grandsire Triples.
Waterloo Society rang first peal on a ring at High Barnet, Herts.
Ringers of Ilkley, Yorkshire, rang Treble Bob Major on their augmented ring.
The Mason MSS. examined by J. W. Snowdon, Esq.
Devonshire Guild rang Triples at Babbacombe, first peal on the bells.
Ringers of Chislehurst, Kent, rang a quarter-peal of Triples; they rang a complete peal some years before.
Ringers of Chester Cathedral rang Grandsire Triples.
Ringers of Holbeck, Yorkshire, rang Treble Bob Major.
Ringers of Birstall, Yorkshire, rang Treble Bob Major at Bradford.
Liverpool ringers rang Kent Treble Bob Maximus.
- 1876.—A new ring of eight at Thame, Oxon.
Do. at Kingsbridge, Devon.
Do. at Denholme, York.
The ring at All Saints, Sudbury, Suffolk, increased to eight.
Do. at Coggeshall, Essex.
Do. at Bideford, Devon.
Ringers of Kendal, Westmoreland, rang Grandsire Triples.
Discussion on "Composing made Easy."
Ringers of Cheltenham, Gloucestershire, rang Grandsire Triples.
Ringers of Frittenden, Kent, rang Bob Triples.
Framland Society of ringers established.
Cumberlands rang 8864 Kent Treble Bob Major, with the tenors together.
Do. rang 8896 Kent Treble Bob Major, in 5 hrs. 22 mins. This peal, the longest yet obtained with tenors together, was composed by Mr. W. Harrison, of Mottram, Cheshire.
Mr. Wm. Estcourt, of Painswick, died.
Revival of change-ringing at Burton-on-Trent.
Change-ringing discussed at the Church Congress.
Ringers of Redenhall, Norfolk, rang Double Norwich Court Bob Major.
A Society formed at Woburn, Beds.
Appleton ringers rang Stedman Caters.
Ringers of North Shields, Northumberland, rang Grandsire Triples.
Nottingham ringers rang Grandsire Triples.
Ringers of Lytham, Lancashire, rang Grandsire Triples.
Cheltenham ringers rang Stedman Caters.

"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, and performances under 5000 changes must reach us not later than Wednesday morning; and the insertion of any communication coming later than the first Postal delivery on Thursday morning cannot be guaranteed in that week's number. When it is found impossible from want of space to insert all touches forwarded, the earlier ones will have the preference.

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.

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

To prevent disappointment, the Editor requests that stamps for extra copies of this paper may be sent direct to the Publisher.

The Bell News & Ringers' Record.

SATURDAY, JULY 5, 1884.

IN visiting a belfry for the first time, a stranger is often struck with one remarkable, not to say unpleasant fact. He enters the large commodious ringing room and looks round for a seat; the chances are that he does not find one, or if he should be so fortunate as to secure for a resting place some worm-eaten broken-down old bench, he hesitates to sit down because some other reason than his superstitious veneration for antiquity forbids him to disturb the hoary accumulation of dirt he finds thereon. Not being able to sit with comfort, he must needs stand; but where? If he lean against a wall his coat becomes the receptacle for a conglomeration of dust, whitewash, and chalk that will cleave unto it, even unto its end. Indeed the unhappy visitor is in evil case. He came up out of curiosity to see something of the art which produces the melodious sounds he so often hears, but he did not expect to have to stand in an ecclesiastical dust-hole. In such neglected places, the walls are adorned with learned disquisitions on sundry members of the society whose portraits are sometimes displayed in bold chalk-marks on a background of dust. Sundry fragments of plain courses of Doubles, etc., also appear in the corners, while the floors are carpeted with hymn tunes arranged for the chimers. These things are doubtless all most excellent, but we would suggest that every one has not a taste for high art of this description.

There are indeed some places where a plainer and less ambitious style of decoration prevails. At St. Martin's-in-the-Fields for instance, the Society are content to rub along without the "belfry dirt," and even venture to adorn their walls otherwise than with chalk sketches and personal anecdotes.

The ringing-room of St. Margaret's, Westminster, has also been victimised in a somewhat similar manner.

These are not the only instances, we are sorry to say. Of course other clubs or societies would take a pride in looking after the place in which they met; but when we look back on the glorious past of campanology, when we consider the grand peals that have been rung, we feel from our very hearts that ringers are rather slow to effect an improvement when the work of so doing devolves on themselves.

Why indeed should not a company invest the mighty sum of sixpence per head on a little paint or something of that sort, if the ringing-chamber where they frequently meet requires it. No! some imagine that such a state of things having gone on so well for two hundred years, it would be a pity to introduce a little change now. But whatever these indolent and backward people may think, the days of dirt and neglect are numbered, as well as the reign of those who refuse to exert themselves to get rid of such evils.

EASTBOURNE, SUSSEX.

ANY visitor fond of the Exercise can here gratify his desire to his heart's content, but as there are only hands that have been established a very short time, the only method as yet rung is Grandsire. Considering what a little while change-ringing has been practised here, the performances are very creditable, and shew that the art is duly appreciated, and studied with a will. Staying here for a few days, we thought that a little of our favorite recreation would be acceptable, so we started to find some brother-string who could put us in the way of obtaining it.

Having been successful, and finding that there would be a practice at Christ Church, we wended our way thither on the following evening. The local band is a very young one, but progressing well, and ring Grandsire Doubles fairly. With the assistance of some of the St. Mary's society we succeeded in ringing three 6-scores in that method. The ring is a handy one of six, tenor $8\frac{1}{2}$ cwt., well hung, and in capital going order.

The following evening found us at St. Mary's, where is a fine ring of eight, tenor $17\frac{1}{2}$ cwt.; these go excellently. The tower is a massive structure, with ample room for ringing; the ropes form a good circle, and the ringing-chamber is well-kept. The church is well worth a visit: it is of a mixed style of architecture, chiefly Gothic, but having a magnificent chancel arch of a Norman character.

We rang here touches of Grandsire Triples, particulars of which, also the ringing at Christ Church, will appear next week in their proper place. There is a very good band at St. Mary's, and we hope, before leaving, to be able to record a performance of some length with them.

THE BRIGHTON SOCIETY.

This society will have their annual outing at Chichester on Tuesday, July 8th. The railway company has kindly consented to grant return tickets for the party by the 8.50 train from Brighton, at a trifle over the single fare. The dinner will take place at "The Eagle Hotel," West Street. Tickets, 3s. 6d. each. Permission has very kindly been given by the Archdeacon of Chichester to ring on the Cathedral bells. Should any of our ringing friends feel inclined to join us on that occasion, they may depend upon receiving a hearty welcome. I may also add that the tower of St. Nicholas' church, Brighton, is open for ringing every Sunday morning at 10.30; the first Sunday evening in the month, and on Tuesdays, at 8 p.m., for practice. We shall be very glad to see any brother-ringer who may be visiting Brighton, or if a band should at any time think of honoring us with a visit, there will be no difficulty whatever in getting permission for the use of our bells.

H. BONIFACE, Secretary.

1, Hampton Street, Brighton.

THE FIRST PEAL AT QUEX PARK.

In a recent number appeared a report of a visit paid to Quex Park by the St. Mary's Society, Battersea. The following extract from the records of the Royal Cumberland Society, as announcing the first peal rang on the bells, will no doubt interest many of our readers:—

QUEX HOUSE, ISLE OF THANET, KENT, THE SEAT
OF JOHN P. POWELL, ESQ.

On Wednesday, August 4th, 1819, the Society rang on that gentleman's new peal of 12 bells, in a steeple erected for the purpose in his park, a true peal of grandsire cinques, consisting of 5213 changes, composed in the tittum position, having the 8th behind the 11th throughout; performed in 3 hours and 39 minutes.

George Gross	Treble.	Thomas Freath	7.
Jas. Nash	2.	Thomas Ovendon	8.
William Shipway	3.	Jas. Stickbury, Jun.	9.
John Hunt	4.	Josh. Riley	10.
Peter Jones	5.	Thos. Grainger	11.
Jas. Blacklock	6.	Frans. Mathew	Tenor.

Mr. Geo. Gross, Conductor.

This is the first peal on the 12 bells. The like is not to be found in the three kingdoms, of a private gentleman erecting a steeple and having a peal of 12 bells for his own amusement, nor likewise a peal of twelve of that light weight hung for ringing—viz., 15½ cwt. Key of F.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—BRAINTREE.

The following is the report of ringing done by the Baintree branch of the above Association during the month of June:—

June 1st—720 Woodbine, 720 Double Court, 720 College Exercise, 360 Cambridge Surprise. June 7th—720 Double Bob Minor, 720 Superlative Surprise, 60 Double Bob. June 8th—720 New London Pleasure, 720 London Scholars' Pleasure, 120 London Scholars' Pleasure, 120 Cambridge Surprise, 72 Plain Bob. June 14th—720 Grandsire Minor. June 15th—720 Imperial, 120 Oxford Delight. June 21st—720 Oxford Delight, 720 Violet. June 22nd—720 Cambridge Surprise, 720 Plain Bob, 48 London Scholars' Pleasure, 48 College Exercise, 24 Double Court Bob, 144 Plain Bob. June 28th—720 College Exercise. June 29th—720 London Scholars' Pleasure, 360 Imperial, 240 New London Pleasure.

The Provinces.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

READING AND SONNING DEANERY BRANCHES.

SONNING, BERKS.

On Tuesday, July 1, 1884, in Three Hours and Five Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S TEN-PART.

JOHN FORD*	Treble.	JAMES POTTER	5.
JAMES JOHNSON	2.	HENRY EGBY	6.
WILLIAM GOSELTINE†	3.	WILLIAM NEWELL	7.
ERNEST BISHOP	4.	*WILLIAM WEBB	Tenor.

Conducted by HENRY EGBY.

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

The 2nd, 3rd, 4th, and 7th men are also members of the St. Lawrence's Society.

The company heartily congratulate Mr. J. Ford on his first peal. All ringers who have visited Sonning will testify to his being in urbanity and courtesy, a model steeple-keeper.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.—DERBY.

On Thursday, June 26, 1884, in Three Hours and Twenty-three Minutes,

AT ST. LUKE'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

THE ORIGINAL BOB-AND-SINGLE. Tenor 34 cwt. in D.

FREDERICK WHITING	Treble.	GEORGE LEE	5.
THOMAS BANCROFT	2.	WILLIAM DAVID SMITH	6.
HARRY CHAS. WOODWARD	3.	JOHN HOWE	7.
JOHN NEWBOLD	4.	WILLIAM TOOBY AND	} Tenor.
		ALBERT E. THOMPSON	

Conducted by JOHN HOWE.

Mr. Wm. D. Smith hails from London, the rest belong to Derby.

This peal was rung to commemorate the thirtieth anniversary of the dedication of St. Luke's as Bishop Lansdale's Memorial Church.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.—DERBY.

On Monday, June 30, 1884, in Three Hours and Nine Minutes,

AT ST. WERBURGH'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

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

LEONARD LOMAS	Treble.	WILLIAM D. SMITH	5.
REUBEN BOSWORTH	2.	HARRY CHAS. WOODWARD	6.
ALBERT E. THOMPSON	3.	JOHN HOWE	7.
JOHN NEWBOLD	4.	*JOHN THOMPSON	Tenor.

Conducted by REUBEN BOSWORTH.

*First peal.

Mr. William D. Smith hails from London, the rest belong to Derby.

Date Touch.

HIGHER WALTON (Lancashire).—On Saturday, June 28th (it being the second anniversary of the parish ringers ringing 5040 changes in different methods) they rang at All Saints' church a date touch of 1884 changes, being a 444 of Oxford Bob, a 720 of College Single, and a 720 of Plain Bob Minor. Geo. Thornley (conductor), 1; James Harwood, 2; Henry Hurst, 3; Henry Brewer, 4; *John Eccles, 5; *James Mather, 6. Tenor 16 cwt. 3 qrs. 26 lbs. *Members of the Lancashire Association. Time 1 hr. 11 mins.

Miscellaneous.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

FULHAM (Middlesex).—On Saturday, June 28th, ten members of the above society attempted a peal of Grandsire Caters, but after ringing about 1 hr. the hammer connected with the chiming apparatus fell into the 6th wheel, which caused a stop. York Green, 1; H. Langdon, 2; G. T. McLaughlin, 3; M. Murphy, 4; E. F. Strange, 5; E. Rogers, 6; F. G. Newman, 7; J. M. Routh, Esq., 8; H. J. Tucker (conductor), 9; J. Lawrence, 10. Tenor 20 cwt.

ASSOCIATION FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.

LICHFIELD.—On Saturday, June 21st, at the Annual Meeting of the above Association, the Tettenthall society rang at Greenhill church, a 720 of Grandsire Minor, with thirty-eight bobs and twenty-two singles, in 29 mins. W. Dyehouse, 1; B. Dalton, 2; T. Roberts, 3; E. Nicholls, 4; J. Fowler, 5; J. Jones (conductor), 6.

TETTENTHALL (Staffordshire).—On Saturday, June 28th, six members of the above Association rang a 720 of Grandsire Minor, in 27 mins. E. Nicholls, 1; T. Small, 2; B. Dalton, 3; W. Smith, 4; J. Fowler, 5; J. Jones (conductor), 6. Tenor 12½ cwt. in G.

THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

BEDFORD.—On Tuesday evening, June 24th, three members of the above Association rang at St. Paul's church, on handbells, retained in hand, six 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles, each called differently, in 17 mins. C. W. Clarke (conductor), 1-2; W. Biggs, 3-4; I. Hills, 5-6. First 720 double-handed by all.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

MIDDLESBOROUGH.—On Monday, June 30th, the following members of this Association attempted a 5448 of Kent Treble Bob at St. Hilda's church, and succeeded in ringing 1920 changes, in 1 hr. 8 mins., when the bells were brought to a stand. J. Clarkson, 1; R. Alcock, 2; H. E. T. Glover, B.A., 3; W. Stephenson, 4; G. J. Clarkson (conductor), 5; T. Burdon, 6; T. Stephenson, 7; W. Newton, 8.

MORPETH.—On Wednesday, June 25th, a band of ringers from North Shields paid a visit to this country town, and accomplished a touch of 896 Grandsire Triples, upon the bells in the old Watch tower, the treble and tenor being rung by two of the local band. Great credit is due to these latter gentlemen for the manner in which they rung, as they appear to get no practice in change-ringing, the art being a dead letter in Morpeth, no doubt through the bad state of the bell fittings and surroundings, the ropes being of local manufacture, with sallies of of about six inches in length, and a very long flight. With a new set of ropes from a good maker, a little screwing up, etc., there is no doubt the preliminary difficulties might be overcome, and with the talent already on the spot, it would not be surprising to shortly hear better news from Morpeth. The 7th goes rather badly, and takes some keeping up, the tenor is stated to be between 16 and 17 cwt., but a glance convinces one that 14 cwt. is a big figure at which to set it down. The ringers of the touch were as follows: John Flint (Morpeth), 1; Joel Hern, 2; J. Rossiter, 3; R. S. Story, 4; H. Ross, 5; W. Reed (conductor), 6; R. Smith, 7; J. W. Atkinson, 8.

NORTH SHIELDS.—On Tuesday, June 24th, for practice, 720 Bob Minor. W. Franklin (first 720), 1; R. S. Story, 2; J. Moffitt (South Shields), 3; R. Wignall, 4; R. Smith (conductor), 5; H. Ross, 6. Tenor 19 cwt.

SOUTH SHIELDS.—On Sunday, June 29th, for Divine Service in the morning at St. Hilda's church, a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob Minor, in 25 mins. Also a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor, for evening service in 25 mins. R. Hopper, 1; A. Moffitt, 2; R. Scrafton, 3; Jas. Moffitt, 4; J. Hopper, 5; Jno. Moffitt (conductor), 6. Tenor 10 cwt.

STOCKTON-ON-TEES.—On Wednesday, June 25th, the following members of this Association rang at the parish church their first 720 of Surprise in the Durham variation. G. J. Clarkson (conductor), 1; T. Burdon, 2; H. E. T. Glover, B.A., 3; W. Stephenson, 4; T. Stephenson, 5; W. Newton, 6. This is the first 720 of Surprise by the Association. See communication in another column.

SUNDERLAND.—On Thursday evening, June 26th, the ringers of Bishop Wearmouth and Sunderland met at this parish church for a friendly practice. It is intended to form an Association in Sunderland, in order to cultivate a taste for scientific ringing.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

ROMFORD.—*Chiming.*—On Saturday, June 28th (Coronation-day), at 5.30 a.m., 720 Double Court Bob Minor in 27 mins., and in the evening of the same day, 720 of Grandsire Minor (without a call), in 28 mins. A. James Perkyms, 1-2-3-4; Benjamin Keeble, 5-6.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

ALDINGTON (Kent).—On Sunday morning, June 22nd, for Divine Service at St. Martin's church, a 720 of Bob Minor, with fourteen bobs and two singles, in 27 mins. William Post, jun., 1; David Hodgkin, 2; F. Wanstall, 3; Philip Hodgkin, 4; William Hyder (conductor), 5; W. Post, sen., 6. Also after afternoon service (a Confirmation by the Bishop of Dover), another 720 of Bob Minor, with fourteen bobs and two singles. Frank Wanstall, 1; Thomas Hodgkin, 2; Fred Wanstall, 3; P. Hodgkin, 4; W. Hyder (conductor), 5; W. Post, sen., 6. Also on Tuesday, June 24th, a 720 of Bob Minor, with ten bobs and twenty singles, in 27 mins. Charles Slingsby, 1; Rev. R. Knatchbull-Hugessen (Mersham), 2; Edward Ruck (Mersham), 3; Frederick Finn (Mersham), 4; William Hyder (conductor), 5; Philip Hodgkin, 6. Also a 720 in the same method. C. Slingsby, 1; Rev. R. Knatchbull-Hugessen, 2; E. Ruck, 3; Edward Hyder, 4; W. Hyder (conductor), 5; F. Finn, 6. The above was rung in honour of Mr. E. Hyder's birthday, he having completed his 72nd year on the 24th ult. Tenor 14 cwt. in G.

CANTERBURY (Kent).—On Monday morning, June 16th, at St. Dunstan's church, six members of the Aldington branch of above Association rang a 720 of Bob Minor, with nine bobs and six singles. Charles Slingsby, 1; David Hodgkin, 2; Fred Wanstall, 3; Thomas Hooker (Hastingleigh), 4; Edward Hyder (conductor), 5; Philip Hodgkin, 6. Tenor 14 cwt.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

CHURCH KIRK (Lancashire).—On Friday, June 27th, the ringers of the parish church rang a 720 of Oxford Bob Minor, with eighteen bobs and two singles, in 28½ mins. James Horrocks (conductor), 1; Thomas Doran, 2; Henry Hayes, 3; James Pickles, 4; William Patkinson, 5; Thomas Horrocks, 6. Tenor 15 cwt. First 720 in the method by all.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

DERBY.—On Friday, June 27th, at St. Werburgh's church, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor, in 29 mins. R. Bosworth, 1; A. B. Ward, 2; William D. Smith, 3; J. Howe, 4; J. Newbold, 5; H. C. Woodward (conductor), 6. Also a 120 of Stedman Doubles. R. Bosworth, 1; A. B. Ward, 2; Wm. D. Smith, 3; H. C. Woodward (conductor), 4; J. Howe, 5; J. Newbold, 6. Tenor 17 cwt. in E.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

PETTISTREE (Suffolk).—On Wednesday, June 25th, six members of the local company rang a 720 of Cambridge Surprise, in 23 mins. H. Mattin, 1; E. R. Todd, 2; W. P. Garrett, 3; G. Bailey, 4; J. Howard, 5; E. Sherwood (conductor), 6. This is their first 720 in the method. The members afterwards finished their practice by ringing on the handbells a course of Bob Royal and a course of Grandsire Caters. H. Mattin, 1-2; J. Howard, 3-4; E. Sherwood, 5-6; W. P. Garrett, 7-8; E. R. Todd, 9-10.

BALCOMBE (Sussex).—On Thursday, June 19th, for practice, a 720 of Oxford Bob Minor, with eighteen bobs and two singles, in 26 mins. *J. Cheeseman, 1; J. Kenward, 2; *H. Meads, 3; E. Streeter, 4; G. Illman, 5; J. Gasson (conductor), 6. Also on Sunday, June 29th, for

Divine Service in the evening, another 720 in the same method, with twenty-two singles. J. Cheesemonger, 1; J. Gasson, 2; F. Streeter, 3; Thos. Leney, 4; G. Ilman, 5; E. Streeter (conductor), 6. Also three 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles. R. Bourne, 1; C. Gasson, 2; E. Streeter, 3; Thos. Leney, 4; H. Meads (conductor), 5; J. Gasson, 6. Also after service a 720 of Oxford Bob Minor, in 26 mins. J. Cheeseman, 1; C. Gasson (first 720 of Minor), 2; H. Meads, 3; E. Streeter, 4; G. Ilman, 5; J. Gasson (conductor), 6. G. Ilman, and the Brothers Streeter hail from Worth. Thos. Leney is the late captain of the Balcombe ringers.

ELTHAM (Kent).—On Tuesday, June 24th, at the church of St. John the Baptist, for Divine Service in the evening, a 720 of Grandsire Minor in 25 mins. R. Johnson, 1; J. King, 2; W. Gosling, 3; C. Musset, 4; G. Sheppard, 5; F. Fraser (conductor), 6.

GLODWINCK, NEAR OLDHAM (Lancashire).—On Sunday, June 22nd, for Divine Service at St. Mark's church, a 720 of Grandsire Minor, in 26 mins. A. Clegg, 1; G. Dunkerley, 2; J. Riley, 3; C. Dronsfield, 4; *J. Kershaw, 5; G. H. Beever (conductor), 6. *First 720. Tenor 8½ cwt.

LINCOLN.—On Tuesday, June 10th, at St. Peter-at-Gowts' parish church, a 720 of Bob Minor was rung by the local company in 22 mins. F. Cotton, 1; *J. Cox, 2; P. Herrick, 3; J. W. Watson, 4; C. Wells, 5; W. Knowles (conductor), 6. Tenor 9 cwt. F. Cotton knew nothing of change-ringing three months previous, when he joined the above company. *First peal with an inside bell.

LANCASTER.—On Saturday, June 28th, at St. Peter's church, 640 of Kent Treble Bob Major. W. Wilks, 1; G. Nettleton, 2; W. Wilks, 3; J. Wilks, 4; S. J. Clarke, 5; W. E. London, 6; J. Haley, 7; Thomas Palliasen, 8. All the above hail from Shipley, Yorks.

RAUNDS (Northamptonshire).—On Saturday, June 28th, at St. Peter's church for practice, a 720 of Oxford Bob Minor, with eighteen bobs and two singles. A. Coles, 1; H. Stubbs, 2; W. J. Gilbert, 3; E. Mayes, 4; F. Gilbert, 5; W. Hall (conductor), 6. E. Mayes hails from Ringstead, and this is his first 720 in the method. Also on Sunday morning, June 29th, for early service, it being the dedication of this church, a 360 of College Little, with nine bobs. A. Coles, 1; H. Stubbs, 2; W. J. Gilbert, 3; G. Kirk, 4; F. Gilbert, 5; W. Hall (conductor), 6. Also for morning service, a 360 of London Single, with nine bobs. G. Kirk, 1; W. Hall, 2; W. J. Gilbert, 3; T. Stubbs, 4; J. Willmott, 5; H. Stubbs (conductor), 6. And for evening service, a 360 of College Little, with nine bobs. A. Coles, 1; T. Stubbs, 2; F. Gilbert, 3; G. Kirk, 4; W. Hall, 5; H. Stubbs (conductor), 6.

READING.—On Wednesday, June 25th, at St. Laurence's, for practice, 1052 of Grandsire Triples, being the first part of Hollis's 5-part peal. in 40 mins. F. W. Round, 1; W. J. Williams (conductor), 2; H. M. Bawden, 3; W. Goseltine, 4; W. R. Pocock, 5; W. Newell, 6; W. Johnson, 7; T. Hayward, 8. On Saturday, June 28th, being Coronation-day, 503 of Grandsire Caters, in 20 mins. F. W. Round, 1; H. M. Bawden, 2; W. Johnson, 3; J. E. Willshire, 4; W. H. Holloway, 5; G. Talbot, 6; E. Bishop, 7; W. J. Williams (conductor), 8; W. Newell, 9; J. T. Waldron, 10.

SOUTH WEALD (Essex).—On Sunday evening, June 29th, for Divine Service, a 720 of Bob Minor, with four bobs and fourteen singles, in 30 mins. Also 120 of Stedman Doubles. G. Galley, 1; A. J. Perkins, 2; C. Waskett, 3; J. Nunn, 4; J. W. Aldridge, 5; A. Pye (conductor), 6. Tenor 18 cwt.

STISTED (Essex).—On Thursday, June 26th, for practice at All Saints' church, a 720 of Plain Bob, in 23 mins. C. Duncombe, 1; W. Bearman, 2; A. Chaplin, 3; F. Saunders, 4; E. Radley, 5; W. Radley (conductor), 6. Tenor 10 cwt.

WROTHAM (Kent).—On Friday, June 20th, at St. George's church, for practice, a 360 of Bob Minor, on the back six. Frank Taylor (aged 15; first 360), 1; G. Barham, 2; W. Taylor, 3; J. Rogers (Ash), 4; E. Baldock (West Malling), 5; C. Taylor (conductor), 6. Also another 360 in the same method. G. Barham, 1; J. Taylor, 2; W. Taylor, 3; J. Rogers, 4; E. Baldock, 5; C. Taylor (conductor), 6. And a 720 in the same method with eighteen bobs and two singles, in 27 mins. G. Barham, 1; J. Taylor, 2; W. Taylor, 3; J. Rogers, 4; F. Shoobridge (conductor), 5; C. Taylor, 6. Tenor 21 cwt.

The following is from the *Warminster Herald*, June 21st, 1884.—
"IMPROVEMENT IN BELLRINGING.—Bellringing has now become very popular, and we are pleased to find the ringers of the village of Imber, viz.:—Messrs. Carter, Daniell, Kale, Marsh and Meaden take such great interest in it. On Sunday evening last, after service, they rang a peal consisting of twenty-five changes, which occupied about an hour, and from what we heard four months ago they have improved considerably, particularly numbers 15, 20, and 24." Where are the Mottram men now and the members of the College Youths and Cumberlands who have lately achieved long lengths? Their glory has departed.

A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH
COURT BOB MAJOR.

5056.

By HENRY DAINS, *Royal Cumberland Youths.*

2 3 4 5 6 I 4 5 6

6 5 3 2 4 - -

2 3 5 6 4 - -

5 3 4 6 2 - -

4 3 2 6 5 - -

3 5 2 6 4 - -

2 5 4 6 3 - -

4 5 3 6 2 - -

3 4 2 5 6 - -

4 5 2 3 6 - -

5 3 2 4 6 - -

4 2 3 5 6 - -

2 5 3 4 6 - -

5 4 3 2 6 - -

Three times repeated; a single being added in place of bob at sixth course of second and fourth parts.

First rung on Friday, May 2nd, 1884, at St. Paul's, Burton-on-Trent, by the St. Paul's Society, with the bells half-muffled as a token of respect to the memory of M. T. Bass, Esq., founder of the church. Conducted by William Wakley. Time 3 hrs. 22 mins. Weight of tenor 26 cwt.

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR.

5056.

By CHARLES HENRY HATTERSLEY, *Sheffield.*

2 3 4 5 6 M B W H

2 6 3 5 4 2 I

4 2 5 6 3 - 2 2

6 4 2 3 5 - 2

4 5 2 3 6 I 2

3 4 2 5 6 I - 2

3 6 4 5 2 2 I

2 3 5 6 4 - 2 2

6 2 3 4 5 2 2

2 5 3 4 6 I 2

4 2 3 5 6 I - 2

These last five courses repeated complete the peal.

First rung on Saturday, June 7th, 1884, at St. Paul's, Burton-on-Trent, by the St. Paul's Society. Conducted by its composer.

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAXIMUS.

5088.

By CHARLES HENRY HATTERSLEY, *Sheffield.*

2 3 4 5 6 M W H

6 4 3 5 2 I I

4 5 3 6 2 2

5 2 3 6 4 I 2

2 4 3 6 5 I 2

6 2 3 4 5 I

5 3 2 4 6 I I

5 2 4 3 6 I 2

2 3 4 5 6 2

Rung for the first time at St. Mary-le-Tower, Ipswich, by the College Youths, on Saturday, May 31st, 1884. Conducted by F. E. Dawe.

A 720 OF OXFORD BOB MINOR.

By THOMAS YEATES, *Barnwood, Gloucestershire.*

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

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

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

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

S 2 4 3 5 6 S 2 5 4 3 6 B 4 2 5 3 6

Three times repeated.

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAXIMUS.

5280.

By GEORGE NEWSON, *Royal Cumberland Youths.*

2 3 4 5 6 M W H

5 6 2 3 4 2 I

3 2 4 6 5 I I

6 4 5 2 3 I I

4 3 5 2 6 I 2

2 5 3 4 6 2 2

3 4 2 5 6 I I

5 2 4 3 6 2 2

2 3 4 5 6 2

Rung at St. Leonard's, Shoreditch, April 26th. Conducted by its composer.

THREE PEALS OF NEW GRANDSIRE
TRIPLES.By SOLOMON BIDDLESTONE, *West Bromwich.*

5040.

2 3 4 5 6 7 7 3 5 4 6 2 5 3 6 4 2 7

7 5 2 6 3 4 6 2 4 5 3 7 7 4 5 2 3 6

S 5 6 7 4 2 3 7 5 6 3 2 4 3 6 2 5 4 7

S 4 3 5 2 6 7 S 5 3 7 4 6 2 7 5 3 4 6 2

7 2 4 6 3 5 2 4 5 6 3 7 4 5 7 2 3 6

6 2 7 5 4 3 7 6 2 3 4 5 6 2 4 3 5 7

3 5 6 4 2 7 3 6 7 5 2 4 7 3 6 5 2 4

7 4 3 2 5 6 4 5 3 2 6 7 S 3 5 7 4 6 2

2 4 7 6 3 5 7 2 4 6 5 3 S 4 2 3 6 5 7

5 6 2 3 4 7 6 2 7 3 4 5

This part eleven times repeated with a bob at half-way, but not at coming round, for the bob in the first change answers for the end of the peal. 7th observation.

5040.

2 3 4 5 6 7 3 7 2 5 6 4 7 2 4 3 6 5

7 5 2 6 3 4 4 5 3 6 7 2 5 3 7 6 2 4

4 6 7 3 5 2 6 5 4 2 3 7 4 6 5 2 3 7

3 6 4 2 7 5 7 2 6 3 5 4 S 6 2 4 7 5 3

S 2 5 3 7 6 4 4 3 7 5 2 6 3 7 6 5 2 4

4 7 2 6 5 3 5 3 4 6 7 2 4 5 3 2 7 6

S 7 6 4 3 2 5 2 6 5 7 3 4 2 5 4 6 3 7

5 3 7 2 6 4 4 7 2 3 6 5 7 6 2 3 5 4

4 2 5 6 3 7 3 7 4 5 2 6 4 3 7 5 6 2

S 2 6 4 7 5 3 4 2 6 7 5 3 S 3 5 4 2 7 6

This part eleven times repeated with a bob at half-way, the bob in the first change answers for the end of these peals, thus:—

1 2 3 4 5 6 7

2 1 3 5 4 7 6

5040.

2 3 4 5 6 7 7 6 2 4 3 5 2 5 6 7 3 4

S 4 5 7 3 6 2 4 5 7 3 6 2 7 5 2 4 6 3

S 3 5 2 7 4 6 2 3 4 6 5 7 3 4 7 6 5 2

S 7 6 3 4 5 2 6 3 2 7 4 5 2 6 3 5 4 7

2 4 7 5 6 3 S 7 5 6 4 3 2 5 6 2 7 3 4

5 4 2 3 7 6 2 4 7 3 5 6 4 7 5 3 6 2

6 3 5 7 4 2 3 4 2 6 7 5 2 3 4 6 7 5

2 7 6 4 3 5 5 6 3 7 4 2 6 3 2 5 4 7

4 7 2 5 6 3 2 7 5 4 6 3 S 5 7 6 4 3 2

3 5 4 6 7 2 4 7 2 3 5 6 2 4 5 3 7 6

2 6 3 7 5 4 6 3 4 5 7 2

2nd bell the observation. The 3rd single in the 6th part and also in the 12th part to be omitted and a bob instead. That as the part-ends of this peal be plain leads you must start in plain course, thus:—

1 2 3 4 5 6 7

2 1 4 3 6 5 7

2 4 1 6 3 7 5

TWO PEALS OF BOB MAJOR.

By BENJAMIN FRANCIS, *Diss.*

5040.

2 3 4 5 6 W M H

4 5 2 3 6 - -

6 2 4 5 3 - -

4 6 3 2 5 - -

2 4 3 6 5 - -

5 3 2 4 6 - -

2 4 5 3 6 - -

6 5 2 4 3 - -

2 4 6 5 3 - -

6 2 3 4 5 - -

3 6 5 2 4 - -

5 6 4 2 3 - -

3 4 5 6 2 - -

5 3 4 6 2 - -

4 5 3 6 2 - -

3 4 2 5 6 - -

5040.

2 3 4 5 6 W M H

4 5 2 3 6 - -

6 2 4 5 3 - -

4 6 3 2 5 - -

3 2 4 6 5 - -

5 4 3 2 6 - -

3 2 5 4 6 - -

6 5 3 2 4 - -

3 2 6 5 4 - -

6 3 4 2 5 - -

4 6 5 3 2 - -

5 6 2 3 4 - -

2 3 5 6 4 - -

5 2 3 6 4 - -

3 5 2 6 4 - -

4 2 3 5 6 - -

Each peal twice repeated.

These peals have the 6th twelve times each way in 5-6 and the 5th nine.

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR.

5056.

By JOHN J. BRIERLEY, *Saddleworth, Yorkshire.*

2 3 4 5 6 B W H

3 2 6 5 4 - I 2

2 5 3 4 6 -

5 4 2 6 3 -

4 6 5 3 2 -

3 4 6 2 5 - 2

4 2 3 5 6 -

Repeated produces:—

3 4 2 5 6

4 3 6 5 2 - I 2

3 5 4 2 6 -

5 2 3 6 4 -

6 5 2 4 3 - 2

5 6 3 4 2 - I 2

6 4 5 2 3 -

4 2 6 3 5 -

2 3 4 5 6 -

Rung at Saddleworth, Yorkshire, May 17th. Conducted by J. S. Wilde.

A DATE TOUCH OF STEDMAN
CATERS.

1884.

By FRED COATES, *Rotherham.*

2 3 1 4 5 6

3 1 5 4 6 2* 5 16

3 1 2 5 6 4 -

3 1 4 2 6 5 -

4 1 3 5 6 2 -

4 1 2 3 6 5 -

4 1 5 2 6 3 -

5 1 4 3 6 2 -

5 1 2 4 6 3 -

5 1 2 3 6 4 S -

5 1 4 2 6 3 -

5 1 3 4 6 2 -

3 1 5 2 6 4 -

3 1 4 5 6 2 -

3 1 2 4 6 5 -

2 1 3 4 6 5 - S

2 1 5 3 6 4 -

Round with bobs at 1, 6, 8, 9, 14, 17, 18, 19, 25.

*This course produced by bobs at 1, 4, 6, 7, 9, 10, 17 and 18.

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."

PIRACY.

SIR,—Having heard when in London last that my friend Mr. Gobbett had composed an original peal of Treble Bob Minor, with fifteen bobs, I became very anxious to see same published (which was done in your last issue), as I had spent a lot of time in trying to produce one with that number of calls. I now find that the peal referred to is the same as the one published in *Snowdon*, part 2, beginning at a different course, with 3rd and 2nd observation. F. PITSTOW.

MR. DORAN AND OUR REPORTER.

SIR,—It is with regret that I have to trouble you again, but seeing my friend has occupied a much larger space of your paper than I did, I feel bound to point out the real facts of our controversy. Now, sir, previous to the meeting at Chelmsford, your reporter had a great object in view, in his own estimation; first, to go down and ring two peals of Grandsire Triples, and to get as many votes as possible against the resolution. But somehow or another the peal collapsed, and then seeing his three friends taking part in a peal of Treble Bob at Writtle in the evening, he would feel slightly sorry, when he states he was invited, objected to, excluded, re-invited, and re-excluded, so he then determined to put the saddle on my back, and so I must wear it. Now, Sir, had your reporter been in the peal at Writtle, no doubt my speech would have been represented in the proper form, and I have no amanuensis in the matter, but as regards Stedman Triples, I advise your reporter and his country friends to ring a few peals, so that the peal-book may take a position among other peal-books. I am sorry for troubling you so much, and so now I will bid him *au revoir*, wishing him every success in the science. West Ham.

W. H. DORAN.

ST. ANDREW'S, LITCHURCH, DERBY.

SIR,—With your kind permission, I would like to make a few remarks in answer to a letter which appeared in the last issue of "THE BELL NEWS," under the above heading, and signed by "One of the ringers." I would first of all express my doubts whether it was really composed, or written by "one of the ringers," as I do not think there is one of them who would unblushingly deny the fact, that Tombstone Surprise, Gravediggers' Delight, etc., was being rung on Whit-Tuesday, unless, as I suspect, it was written by a disinterested party, at the instigation of that "important functionary, the beadle," in which case I am not surprised at the misstatements.

It is stated that several of the change ringers were absent at the time. Now it is quite news to me that there are more than two change-ringers at St. Andrew's, and those two certainly do not owe their knowledge of the art to that Society or to the beadle, and I would ask your correspondent to give the names of the others, with a list of their performances. There is a peal of eight at the church in question, which I believe has been erected nearly three years, and if "that terrible functionary, the beadle," is so strongly in favour of change-ringing as one would be led to suppose from his letter, I shall be glad to know how it is the St. Andrew's Society have made so little or no progress in the science, especially when we can read of Bob Minor and Triples, and Grandsire Minor and Triples, etc., being rung by the local companies at Duffield, and Melbourne, places in the district where they have not possessed bells half the time. It either does not speak well for the intelligence of members of that Society, or tends to prove that the "functionary" referred to stands in the way, and therefore I consider no better means could have been taken of shewing him up than your article entitled "In the Midlands." As regards the remark that if the beadle had known of the visitor's arrival, he would have given him a "hearty reception." I wonder if he means the same kind of "hearty reception" which a short time ago was accorded to a certain gentleman from Nottingham, who, in an unguarded moment, placed his hat (which by the way was a silk one) on the seat whilst he, with several other visitors from Leicester and Burton, and with the consent of the Vicar, was going to ring a few short touches. When our friend, the "beadle," heard the bells going, he rushed into the belfry, jumped on the ropes with the object of stopping the ringing, and then, in his excitement, gently deposited his twelve or fourteen stone on the crown of the unlucky hat, with the remark, "I wanna aye yer ere," so that when the owner began to look for it, he found it had been transformed into the shape of a concertina. If so, I think the visitors from the office of "THE BELL NEWS" would rather be excused. I must inform your correspondent that I am very well acquainted with the gentleman alluded to in the last paragraph of his letter, and will say I have never known him to lack interest in a "brother string," but am quite aware that he considers bell-haulers and those who are content to remain such, beneath notice.

In conclusion, I should like to give a little advice to the "beadle" at St. Andrew's, and that is, to confine his sole attention to the "model belfry" and picture gallery, see that the bells are in good going order, and leave the ringing to be done by more competent persons; as he must be convinced, as other people are, that he will never make a change ringer, and also the next time he ventures to address, or gets others to address a communication to the public press to confine himself to the strict TRUTH.

REPLY TO MR. LANHAM.

SIR,—I beg to say a word or two in answer to your correspondent, W. Lanham. He thinks it a great pity we do not go in for Triples or Major. There are various reasons. Firstly, because we have not got the right number of bells, but we hope we soon shall have. Secondly, because we have been refused the use of the other tower of St. Paul's for some weak reason. A good company living not a hundred miles from Spalding made all arrangements for a ringing tour on Easter Monday, and St. Paul's was fixed upon to ring a 5000. The week before, however, the captain of the St. Paul's company wrote to say that the bells were not in good going order, and the Vicar was not at home, and he would not have liked it during his absence. The company wanting to come was able to ring a peal in any tower in England. I hope these facts will satisfy the readers of "THE BELL NEWS" as to the reasons why we do not go in for Triples or Major. The Cemetery, Spalding.

E. BROWN.

A CHRONOLOGICAL ERROR.

I am not writing to tell you of the great interest I take in all sorts of bell news, for that would indeed be no news to you, but I am taking the liberty of penning a few lines, just to correct an error of dating which occurs in Saturday's (June 28th) number of your journal. In the "Chronology of Change-Ringing," by Mr. F. W. J. Rees, the following event is chronicled:

"1846.—A new ring of eight at Christ Church, Spitalfields."

These bells were cast and partly hung in the year 1837, and finished hanging, and opened, in 1838, your humble servant being at the casting, and a listener at the opening, having commenced working at the Whitechapel foundry the year previously (July 1836), the same year that the grand peal of twelve bells at Christ Church was destroyed by fire, and which took place on Ash-Wednesday, some time in the month of March.

W. WARSKITT.

267, Whitechapel Road.

Muffled Peals.

LEATHERHEAD, SURREY.

On Wednesday, June 25th, the bells were rung deeply muffled as a tribute of respect to Mr. D. Elms, a member of the company, who died at the early age of 26 years, after a short but painful illness. The deceased was rung to the grave by his fellow ringers, and in the evening a touch of Grandsire Caters, 1151 changes, with the bells still muffled. H. Brown, 1; W. Messam, 2; H. Wood, 3; C. Want, 4; H. Newnham, 5; J. Hewett, 6; W. Marks, 7; E. Hull, 8; S. Brooker (conductor), 9; J. Lisney, 10.

BARKING, ESSEX.

On Tuesday evening, July 1st, a mixed band of College Youths and the St. James's Societies rang at the tower of St. Margaret's, with the bells half-muffled, in memory of the late Theodore Carter, an old and much respected inhabitant of the town. The age of the deceased gentleman was eighty-one years which was first rung in rounds, then tolled on the tenor, and again rung in rounds, whole pull and stand, after which 952 changes of Grandsire Triples were rang by the following. E. Albone, 1; H. Langdon, 2; R. Sewell, 3; J. R. Haworth (conductor), 4; J. Waghorn, 5; E. Rogers, 6; R. French, 7; E. A. Davies, 8.

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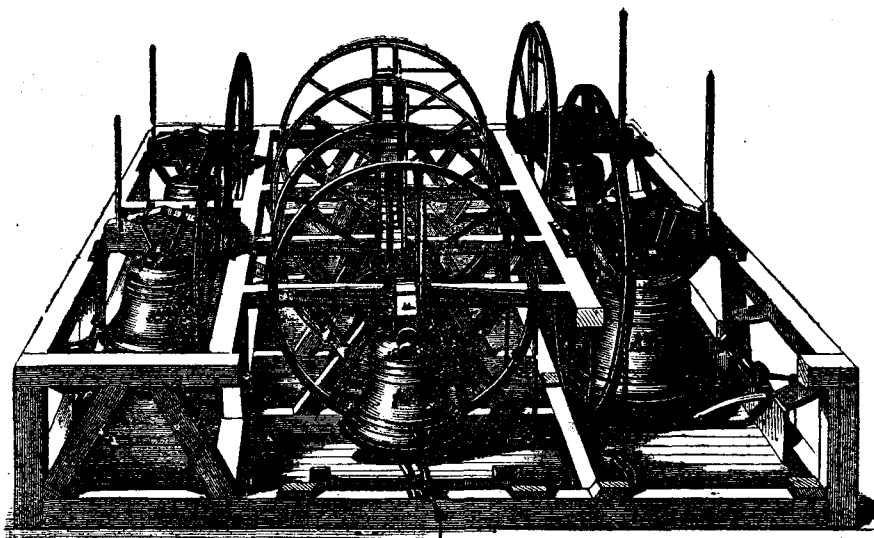
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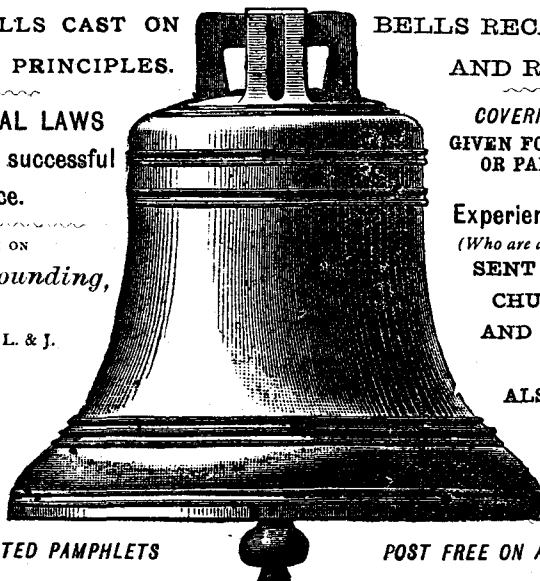
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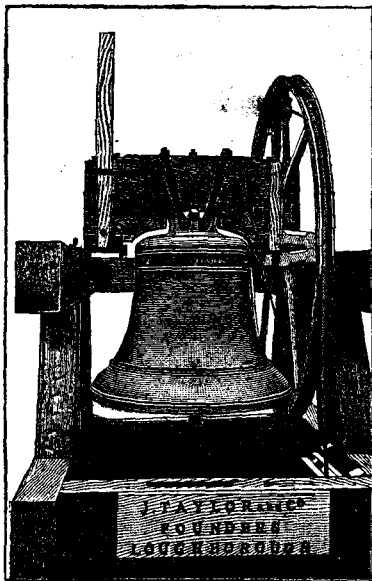
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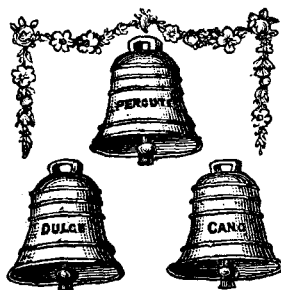
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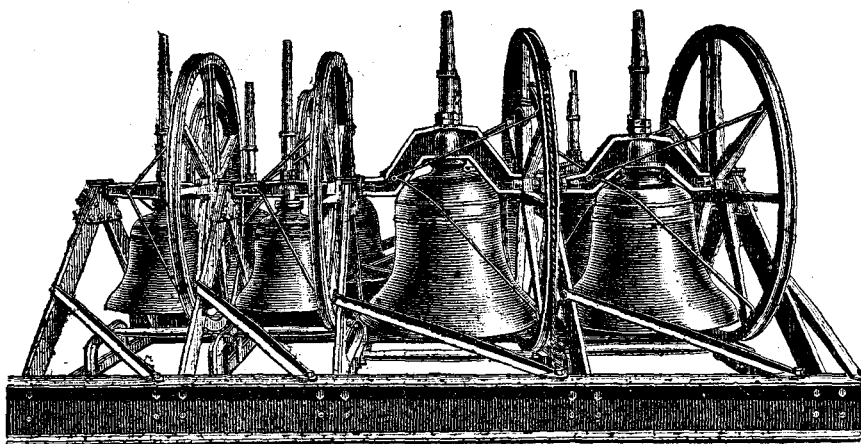
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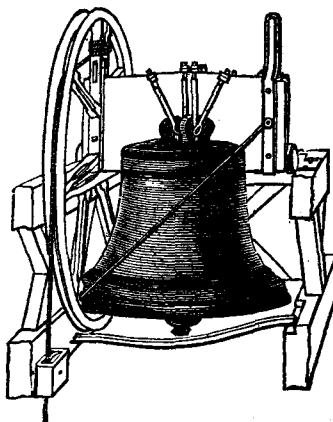
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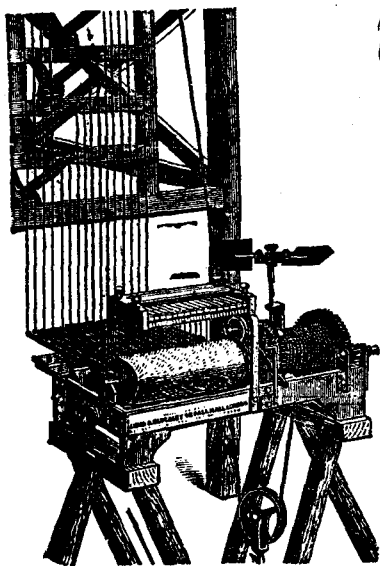
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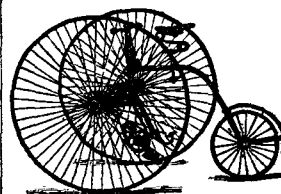
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ESTABLISHED 1872.

TWELVE DAYS' CHANGE OF AIR, WITH "CHANGES."

By F. E. DAWE.

DEAR MR. EDITOR,—Probably a few of the following particulars concerning my peregrinations under the above heading (as some people lately have imitated my old copyright), will no doubt be of some interest to many of the courteous and obliging readers of the valuable "BELL NEWS." I have not troubled you by sending so long an account to your sanctum as soon as it was written, knowing how many important items there are sent for insertion about the late festive season of the year (Whitsuntide); but "better late than never." By delaying it, the warm weather is now on, and consequently much less ringing news for publication, and much more room for an affair of this kind; but as some of the places visited during this trip were described by me a few months ago, I have endeavoured to carefully note them again, so as not to publish the same particulars twice if possible. I must of course begin by hoping you are quite well, as it is now some time since I last visited your office, and had the honour of sitting on the "Editor's lofty stool," but hope ere long to do so again. Having been ill ever since Christmas, with an attack of blood-poisoning, and obliged to lay up off and on for a considerable time, would not accept the offer for a change of air until I was deemed well enough to undertake it, as it had previously been my intention of visiting America in the summer, but this idea had to be abandoned from the fact that this complaint will not permit anyone to visit the sea-side, or inhale the salt air in any way, much less to take a long voyage anywhere; so having had a fortnight's quiet rest and retirement, the descendants of Æsculapius in attendance pronounced me "pealable" and well enough to get about the country, which resulted in the following.

Early in the going-off course of Thursday, May 1st, I started from the Paddington terminus of the G.W.R., and being a beautiful morning put one in mind of the grand doings and sports of a pastime festival that used to be indulged in on this day—and still is in some of the more remote villages at the present time to my personal knowledge, having seen the may-pole used as it was originally intended in days of yore.

In passing Oxford, the city of steeples and spires, it looked very beautiful, but of course no use in staying there then, for as our friend Mr. Field justly observed, the dons of the Colleges will not allow their bells to be rung during term time, but only during the occasional vocations when the students are absent from study; after the rise of the session; accordingly we pushed on and arrived about mid-day in the city of

WORCESTER,

where we were kindly received at the house of the Rev. Canon Cattley, in answer to a pressing invitation received from that gentleman some time ago; and early in the evening I was agreeably surprised to find that the company at dinner that night included Mr. J. W. Taylor, jun., of Loughborough, and his newly wedded bride (a *belle* from the same town), the marriage having taken place only the day before, at which we were unfortunately prevented from being present. Later on the bridegroom and myself walked to the Cathedral, dedicated to St. Mary, with Oswald, St. Peter, and Wulstan; here the ever obliging band of ringers had been kindly summoned by Canon Cattley to meet us both, and after ascending to the spacious ringing room, and taken part in a very good touch of Grandsire Caters, followed by some rounds on the twelve, and three volleys of firing (the first on these bells) we both again descended to *terra firma* and enjoyed a moonlight walk in the Dean's Garden, situated on the banks of the Severn, listening to the touch then being rung from the beautiful Cathedral Tower that towered up above us, and after the bells had been lowered, the chimes were set in motion, and the peculiar plaintiveness of a pentatonic Scotch melody, "The Braes of Ballochmyle," were produced with sweet and very pleasing effect. Perhaps it would not be out of place here if I were to give a short explanation of the pentatonic scale, with the Scotch snap, as a guide to some of the readers of this paper who may not be acquainted with the rudiments of music. To simplify matters and save a deal of space and time, it will be therefore necessary for the reader to imagine himself looking at a piano: the black keys are the sharps and flats, and a melody

that can be produced on these alone (an octave with the third and seventh omitted, or counting as ringers do the second and the sixth), such as "Auld Lang Syne," "Coming through the Rye," "Ye Banks and Braes," are said to be pentatonic, it being noteworthy that most of the melodies composed upon this scale are Scotch. Hearing the tune in question reminded us all of last Christmas-Eve, when Mr. J. S. B. Archer, of London, and myself stood outside listening to the chimes at midnight, for "Christians awake,"; and "Hark the herald angels sing,"; and during our stay then obtained a written order to explore the tower and Cathedral to our hearts' content. It was originally intended that this young gentleman should accompany me on the present excursion, as a better couple could never possibly be found so well suited together for collecting particulars, inscriptions, etc., of bells, that are of priceless value and so eagerly sought after by "Belfry Rangers"; but "man is doomed to disappointment as the sparks fly upward"—he could not possibly get away from college for such an excuse, as the session was then in full swing.

The next day found us at

MALVERN,

a noted place for good cider and perry, and a special resort for invalids of all classes. Mr. J. Perks met us at the station, he having turned over work for the day on purpose to show us the beauties of the place, as it was some time since our last visit; the first thing was to ascend to the top of the highest hill in the range, called the "Worcestershire Beacon," and from which could be seen three Cathedrals, viz: Worcester, Gloucester, and Hereford, and Tewkesbury Abbey, besides many miles of interesting scenery for which Malvern is noted, laid out like a magnificent imaginary flower garden in numberless bright colours. On descending again for dinner, we found it to be a general holiday here, on account of a travelling menagerie passing through the town, which seemed quite a success until a stiff shower came down and converted the sides and back of the "White Elephant" into its natural dusky colour, leaving the lower parts a wet running mass of some cream coloured preparation. We next paid a visit to the fine old Priory Church of St. Mary, with a chapel dedicated to St. Anne. The whole building contains some very good architecture of the Norman, and a little of the Perpendicular style; the central tower contains a ring of six bells, tenor about a ton weight in F., bearing dates from 1620 to 1710: also a small Sanctus bell, that could be lifted about easily. They are all handled from one of the most gloomy and awkward beam-crossed places called a ringing-room that is possible to conceive. Mr. Perks then escorted me to Ledbury in Herefordshire, containing a curious old Town Hall built entirely of wood, and supported by about a dozen pillars of the same material, thus allowing a sort of open market place on the ground floor of the building. The next we visited was the old Parish Church, now called St. Michael, but formerly St. Peter; it has a quaint "lepers' window," and a tomb on which a death is recorded, as having taken place on the "31st of April, 1734,"—perhaps that month was a little longer 150 years ago according to that. It was all built at various times between the eleventh and fourteenth centuries, and is chiefly Norman. But the principal object of interest is the tower, which is very strong, and massive, and supported with eight buttresses, surmounted with battlements and a lofty spire; all built of a sort of red coloured stone. It is purely a Campanile, being several feet away from the church, and standing alone by itself. It is interesting to note that there are a few more like it about this part of the country—one in fact quite a hundred yards from the church. We obtained access to it, but had considerable difficulty in getting upstairs, as the jackdaws and other members of the feathered tribe had carried up several cart loads of rubbish to build with, and were now full of business and loud mirth, with their numberless nests and countless eggs all over the place. We managed to reach the ringing room and try the bells all round, the circle is good, excepting that the ropes come down the reverse, instead of the general direction. The clock and old chime barrel was the next thing inspected. We were allowed to chime, and also to set the concern in motion; the next was to get with some difficulty to the bells; which are a fine ring of eight by Rudhall, tenor 25 cwt. in E flat. They are all very shaky on the stock, with rickety wheels and stays, and

do not go in first rate style. After visiting one or two more objects of interest, we took leave of our friend Mr. Perks, and again returned to Worcester, where Mr. Cattley kindly saw us off to

BIRMINGHAM,

which was reached late in the afternoon, and here the fine weather set in which lasted all the rest of the time. After necessary duties had been attended to at the "Old Red Loin Hotel," which by the way was something more than "old," in the interior arrangements, we were agreeably astonished to find that one of our companions at the tea table was no less than Mr. C. H. Hattersley, of Sheffield. This gentleman had previously written to say "that if I was flying about the country he should be glad to run up against me;" and very soon the subject of campanologia was so keenly gone into, that all conversation from the others had to be abandoned, and changed to dismay not altogether mingled with wonderment. One thing here is very evident, that is, everyone dressed in light coloured tourists' clothes is instantly designated a "turnip getter,"—the north countryman's expression for a farmer. In the evening, both sallied forth, accompanied by Mr. Bland, who pointed out all places of interest, amongst which we were shown all over one of largest and finest fire engine stations ever built, everything was in excellent order, and shortly afterwards an engine had to "turn out," fully equipped, horses attached, and away from the place in forty-five seconds after the alarm had been given—sharp work as compared with some places we could mention. The next day, a visit to the gun and rifle manufactory of Messrs. Bland, occupied the whole morning, and in the afternoon, several started for Aston, the journey being made in a very large tram-car going by steam, at a speed that almost insured something happening in front; however all went well, and the band were soon in the beautiful, light, and airy ringing room of SS. Peter and Paul; here there is a very nice ring of ten, tenor 23 cwt. in E flat. It is a capital place for peal ringing, the circle and sight being all that can be desired. All the ringers, I am pleased to say, were quite well. It was intended to go for Mr. Johnson's 5079 Stedman Caters, but unfortunately some men were tuning the organ, and after a short pull round, we very soon had the alternative of ringing an hour or not at all. As no time was to be lost in expostulations, a band was instantly selected to proceed about three miles to Perry Bar, where St. John's Church has a ringing room like a little passage with the treble and sixth at either end, and the bells did not seem to go quite the thing. Here Brook's peal of Stedman Triples was brought round in 2 hrs. 56 mins., and the services of a good bob-caller equal to any sudden emergency well brought to the front, as Mr. C. H. Hattersley took the lead and conducted the peal in his usual never failing system and precise manner; soon after, Birmingham was again reached, and the next morning early, visited Mr. H. Johnson, sen., who I am very pleased to say is now recovering from his late illness, though he is not quite well yet. A pleasant hour or so was spent, and at nine o'clock, Mr. A. Thomas (who generally accompanies me about fifty miles of the way), started off for the next landing-place.

(To be continued.)

HANDBELL CONTEST AT KEW GARDENS, SOUTHPORT, LANCASHIRE.

The Second Annual Handbell Contest came off at Kew Gardens, on Saturday, July 5th. Twelve bands entered for competition, for which all put in an appearance. The prizes were as follows:—

First prize awarded to the Liversedge band	10	0	0
2nd. " " " Almondbury "	6	0	0
3rd. " " " Dalton "	4	0	0

Also a special prize of £5 was awarded to the Almondbury band for a piece sent out one month before the contest. This piece was called "In my Cottage near a Wood," with five variations, arranged expressly for this contest. Judge, Mr. Saville Swallow, Manchester.

MEMORIAL WINDOW AT THE CHURCH OF SS. MARY AND NICOLAS, SPALDING.—During the past week the well-known firm of Clayton and Bell have just added another window of equal merit with those already inserted. This last window is in the east aisle of the north transept, the subject being "Christ blessing little children. The cost of the work has been defrayed by H. S. Maples, Esq., who contributes this window as a memorial of his wife, the late Mrs. Maples, and infant daughter.

THE WORCESTER CATHEDRAL SOCIETY AT BRISTOL.

On Monday, June 30th, the above Society paid a visit to Bristol. On arriving there they were met at the Station by several members of the St. Stephen's Society, Bristol. After refreshing the inner man they proceeded to St. Mary Redcliffe church, which contains a grand peal of twelve bells, tenor 50 cwt., where they started for a touch of Grandsire Caters, which came to grief after ringing about 600, through one of the bells casting rope. They then rang a course of Grandsire Cinques, after which a well-struck touch of Grandsire Cinques, by the following mixed band: F. Owen, 1; E. Duckham, 2; H. Pheasant, 3; J. Hinton, sen., 4; G. Hobbs, 5; J. Norton, 6; G. Cleal, 7; H. Portch, 8; H. Wilks, 9; F. Price, 10; J. Hinton, jun. (conductor), 11; W. Emery and J. Palser, 12. Messrs. Clements, Beake, and Reynolds, also took part in the ringing. After again refreshing they rang a touch of Grandsire Major at All Saints' church, a pretty peal of eight in splendid going order, tenor 16 cwt. in F. Some of the party then made a move in the direction of Clifton, to view the beautiful scenery of the river Avon, Clifton suspension bridge, and the splendid Durdham and Clifton Downs, whilst those that remained gratified their own wishes by ringing at Christ Church a well-struck touch of Grandsire Caters (828), in which the following took part: F. Owen, 1; H. Portch, 2; H. Pheasant, 3; J. Hinton, sen., 4; G. Hobbs, 5; E. Duckham, 6; H. Wilks (conductor), 7; F. Price, 8; J. Hinton, jun., 9; G. Staddon, 10. After a few tunes and a course of Caters on the handbells, the visitors started for home, well pleased with their day's outing, and the reception they met with. They also wish to return thanks through the medium of this paper, to the clergy and churchwardens, for their kindness in allowing them the use of their various towers.

THE DEVONSHIRE GUILD.

The Annual General Meeting of the above Guild was held at Torquay, on Saturday week. The President, Colonel Charles A. W. Troyte, and ninety members of the Guild were present, and all the bands in union were represented. The weather was fine, and the members of the Guild spent a very pleasant day. There was some good ringing at the towers of St. Mary Church and Babbacombe, which had been kindly lent to the Guild for the day. In the morning, the St. Sidwell's men rang a touch of 700 changes, with very good striking, and in the afternoon Colonel Troyte, with a selected band, rang 1036 changes in excellent style. The members partook of a good cold luncheon at Mr. Brealy's hotel, St. Mary Church, where they were joined by Mr. Sampson Hanbury, of Bishopstowe; the Rev. R. Porter, of Kenn; and the Rev. R. H. Boles, of St. Mary Church, honorary members of the Guild. At the business meeting a few slight alterations in the rules were made, and the names of the following members of the Guild were added to the list of its Vice-Presidents: The Very Rev. the Dean of Exeter, the Rev. C. T. Wilkinson, D.D., the Rev. A. Spencer, the Rev. J. A. Kempe, W. Banister, Esq., of Devonport, and J. Symons, Esq., M.R.C.S., of Penzance. A pleasant feature of the meeting was the presentation of a handsome clock and pair of candlesticks to Mr. Mundy, of Tiverton, given by the Tiverton ringers in recognition of his valuable services to their band. The following are the bands now in union with the Guild: Broadclyst, Egg Buckland, Huntsham, Ilfracombe, Kenn, Monkleigh, Penzance, Plymouth, St. Sidwell's, Tiverton, Uplowman, and Upton Pyne. The Rev. J. S. Northcote, of Upton Pyne, Exeter, Hon. Secretary to the Guild, is empowered to make arrangements for the instruction of any band of ringers who desire to learn change-ringing.

WORCESTER DIOCESAN AND ADJOINING DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

The Annual Meeting of this Association will be held at Worcester on Monday, July 14th. Members will meet at the house of host Baker (an Honorary Member of this Association), the "Old Greyhound," at Eleven o'clock, for ringing. The tower of St. Mary's Cathedral, having a ring of twelve, and the other towers, will be open for ringing during the day. The business meeting will be held as usual at All Saints' schools, at Two o'clock, at which the Very Rev. the Dean of Worcester, Lord Alwyne Compton, D.D., will preside.

In addition to those of the Cathedral, the "faithful city" has the following bells: All Saints, ten bells; St. Helen's, eight; St. Martin's, six; St. Swithin's, six; St. Nicholas', six; and St. John's, six.

The Midland Railway company have kindly consented to grant tickets to Worcester, on the above day, at a fare-and-a-quarter for the double journey, from Wolverhampton, Birmingham, Gloucester, and intermediate stations where the ordinary fare to Worcester is not less than 6d.

The Great Western Railway Company will issue return tickets from Birmingham, Wolverhampton, Hereford, Oxford, and Salop, to Worcester, at a fare and a quarter for the double journey, on the above date, to members of the Association attending the meeting.

Members should be provided with certificates (showing they belong to the Association) from their local secretaries, to be produced when applying for tickets at the various railway stations.

THE CHRONOLOGY OF CHANGE-RINGING.—(Continued.)

By F. W. J. REES,

A Member of the Ancient Society of College Youths.

- 1876.—Ringers of Otley, Yorkshire, rang 8000 Kent Treble Bob Major.
First peal on the bells of St. Chad's, Headingley, Yorks.
A new company at Gresford, Denbighshire.
- 1877.—A new ring of eight at Crayford, Kent.
Do. at Newmarket, Suffolk.
Do. at Barrow-in-Furness, Lancashire.
Do. at Newhey, Lancashire.
A new ring of twelve at the Town Hall, Manchester.
The ring at Woburn, Beds., increased to eight.
Do. at Chagford, Devon.
Do. at St. Mary Church, Torquay.
Do. at Acton, Middlesex.
Do. at Beeston, Notts.
Stedman Caters at Appleton, boys 14 and 15 years of age rang in this peal.
The Norwich Diocesan Association formed.
Ringers of Birmingham and Coventry rang Caters at Coventry.
Ringers of Mirfield, Yorks., rang Treble Bob Royal.
Bells of Magdalen College, Oxford, rehung.
Devonshire Guild rang the first peal rung at Plymouth.
College Youths rang Stedman Caters at Beddington, Surrey, first peal on the ten bells.
Mr. Jeremiah Miller died.
Cumberlands rang 8099 Grandsire Caters at St. Margaret's, Westminster.
Ringers of Redenhall, Norfolk, rang 5152 Superlative Surprise Major; then a junior band rang Treble Bob Major.
Grandsire Triples at Waltham, Essex, first peal for fifty-eight years.
Yorkshire Association rang 8000 Treble Bob Major, at Otley.
A company formed at Wrexham, Denbighshire.
The Gloucester and Bristol Diocesan Association formed.
Tewkesbury ringers rang Grandsire Triples, first peal by local band.
The Durham Diocesan Association formed.
Ringers of Macclesfield, Cheshire, rang Grandsire Caters.
Revival of change-ringing at Ipswich.
Ringers of Lewisham, Kent, rang Grandsire Triples.
- 1878.—A new ring of eight at Privett, Hants.
Do. at Ruislip, Middlesex.
The ring at Tunstead, Norfolk, increased to eight.
The ring at Christ Church, North Shields, increased to ten; the first ring of ten in England north of the Tees.
The ring of ten at St. Dionis removed to All Hallows, Lombard Street.
A grand new ring of twelve, tenor 62 cwt., at St. Paul's Cathedral, London.
Ringers of Long Crendon, Bucks., rang Grandsire Triples.
Ipswich ringers rang Grandsire Caters.
James Truman, of Norwich, died.
Ringers of Barrow-in-Furness, rang Grandsire Triples.
Ringers of Beddington, Surrey, rang Grandsire Triples.
- 1878.—Ringers of Bungay, Suffolk, rang Grandsire Triples.
Yorkshire Association rang 10,176 Treble Bob Major, at Bolton.
- 1879.—A new ring of eight at Folkestone, Kent.
Do. at Chapel-of-Ease, Islington.
A heavy ring of six at Southgate, Middlesex, increased to eight.
The ring at Campsall, Yorks., increased to eight.
The ring at St. Mary Abbots increased to ten.
Revival of ringing at Hertford; All Saints bells re-hung.
Mottram ringers rang 8896 Treble Bob Major, with the tenors together.
Ringers of Wrexham, Denbighshire, rang Grandsire Triples.
Ringers of Waltham, Essex, rang Stedman Triples.
Ringers of Dorking, Surrey, rang Union Triples.
The East Berks. and South Bucks. Society formed.
Jonathan Pavier died, aged 94 years.
Mr. T. Day, of Birmingham, died.
The Essex Association formed.
Mr. Snowdon's History of Treble Bob.
The Winchester Diocesan Association formed.
Ringers of Leatherhead, Surrey, rang Grandsire Caters.
The bells of Wells, Norfolk, destroyed by lightning.
Ringers of Rotherham, Yorks., rang Stedman Caters.
Ringers of Burton-on-Trent, rang Treble Bob Major.
Mr. Snowdon's *Rope-Sight* published.
Ringers of Bury St. Edmunds rang Grandsire Triples, at St. James's.
First peal on the bells though hung some eighty years.
Wigan ringers rang Triples, first peal by local band.
Norwich ringers rang Bob Major, first peal for twenty years.
Stedman Triples and Caters, at Oxford Cathedral.
Leicester ringers rang Caters at St. Margaret's.
Fulham ringers rang Grandsire Caters, composed and conducted by the Rector, the Rev. F. H. Fisher.
- 1880.—A new ring of eight at Lancaster.
Do. at St. Andrew's, Bath.
Do. at Kingston, Dorset.
Do. at Drighlington, Yorks.
Do. at Bollington, Cheshire.
Do. at Crawley, Sussex.
Do. at St. Paul's, Spalding, Lincolnshire.
Do. at St. Andrew's, Well Street, London.
Do. at St. Stephen's, Newcastle-on-Tyne.
The ring of eight at Hitchin, Herts., restored.
The ring at Drayton, Berks., increased to eight.
Do. at Ashburton, Devon.
Do. at Mersham, Kent.
Do. at Teignmouth, Devon.
Mr. W. Harrison, of Mottram, died.
The Surrey Association formed.
The Kent County Association formed.
Ringers of Debenham, Suffolk, rang 10,272 Treble Bob Major.
The Oxford Diocesan Guild formed.
The first peal of Stedman Triples rung in Leicester.
The North Wilts Guild formed.
- 1881.—A new ring of eight at Ranmoor, Yorks.
Do. at Bromborough, Cheshire.
Do. at Ramsbottom, Lancashire.
- 1881.—The ring at Hughenden, Bucks., increased to eight.
Do. at Bishop Auckland, Durham.
Do. at Tottenham, Middlesex.
Do. at Warminster, Wilts.
The Bow bells increased to twelve.
Ringers of Isleworth, rang Grandsire Triples.
Ringers of Burton-on-Trent rang Stedman Triples.
Mr. Snowdon's *Standard Methods* published.
Maidstone ringers rang Grandsire Triples.
Ipswich ringers rang Treble Bob Royal.
The Surrey Association rang their first peal of Triples.
The Birmingham ringers rang 9238 Stedman Cinques, in 6 hrs. 48 mins., the longest length in the method.
The Cambridge University Society rang their first peal, Bob Doubles.
Ipswich ringers rang Treble Bob Maximus.
Ringers of Grantham, Lincolnshire, rang Grandsire Triples.
Ringers of Beddington, Surrey, rang Grandsire Caters.
Henry Hubbard died.
Ringers of Great Yarmouth, Norfolk, rang Grandsire Triples.
College Youths rang a peal of Stedman Cinques, on the heavy ring of twelve at St. Paul's Cathedral.
"THE BELL NEWS" appeared as a monthly paper.
- 1882.—"THE BELL NEWS" became a weekly paper.
A new ring of eight at St. Andrew's, Derby.
Do. at St. Peter's, Brighton.
Do. at Cattistock, Dorset, from Belgium.
The ring at Tring, Herts., increased to eight.
Do. at Camborne, Cornwall.
Do. at Crosthwaite, Cumberland.
Grandsire Triples at the Cathedral, Lichfield, thought to be the first peal on the bells.
The Hertford ringers rang Grandsire Triples.
First peal of Stedman Cinques in the north of England, rung at Sheffield, by a mixed company of College Youths, Birmingham, and Yorkshire Association.
Burton ringers rang Double Norwich Court Bob Major.
Ringers of Long Crendon, Bucks., rang Grandsire Triples.
Ringers of Tottenham, Middlesex, rang Grandsire Triples.
The Bath and Keynsham Association formed.
Middlesex Association rang their first peal at Ealing.
Ringers of Crayford, Kent, rang Grandsire Triples.
Ringers of Mottram, Cheshire, rang 10,080 Treble Bob Major.
College Youths rang 6384 Double Norwich Court Bob Major.
Brighton ringers rang Grandsire Triples; first peal for 49 years.
Association formed for the Arch-deaconry of Stoke-upon-Trent.
Ringers of Ross, Herefordshire, rang Grandsire Triples.
The Burton ringers, with Mr. Snowdon, rang 7200 Double Norwich Court Bob Major, at Beeston, Notts., in 4 hrs. 32 mins., the longest length ever rung in the method.

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

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

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

Everything for insertion in this Journal to be addressed "The Editor of THE BELL NEWS, Walthamstow, London." Letters forwarded for publication, and performances under 5000 changes must reach us not later than Wednesday morning; and the insertion of any communication coming later than the first Postal delivery on Thursday morning cannot be guaranteed in that week's number. When it is found impossible from want of space to insert all touches forwarded, the earlier ones will have the preference.

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.

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

The Bell News & Ringers' Record.

SATURDAY, JULY 12, 1884.

THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

THE Annual Meeting of this Association will be held at Leatherhead (by the kind permission of the Vicar) on Monday, July 21st. The tower will be open for ringing from four o'clock; but if any members can get to Leatherhead before that hour, they are requested to communicate with the Hon. Sec., who will make the necessary arrangements. The business meeting will be held in the schoolroom at six o'clock p.m.

All ringing members who attend this meeting will be allowed the sum of 1s. 6d. towards travelling expenses, &c., as it has been found impossible to arrange for the usual tea.

At 6.30, ringing for service; at 7 a short special service, which the Vicar has kindly undertaken to hold for the ringers. He will also preside at the meeting unless he is obliged to be away from Leatherhead on that day.
 ARTHUR B. CARPENTER, Hon. Sec.

THE WEST MIDDLESEX ASSOCIATION.

THE Annual Meeting of the above Association will be held at Twickenham, on Saturday, July 19th. The belfry will be open for ringing from 1 o'clock; the dinner at 4.30. Members intending to be present at the dinner are requested to communicate with the Secretary, or with Mr. Fenwick, Chaucer Road, Acton, before the 17th.
 C. T. MAYO, Hon. Sec.

A VISIT TO MONK'S ELEIGH, KERSEY, HITCHAM, AND PRESTON, SUFFOLK.

ON Sunday, July 6th., a small party of ringers paid a visit to the above churches, and rang at each of them a 720—particulars of which will be found in the ringing column.

Leaving the residence of Mr. A. Hurst, at Long Melford, about 8.30 p.m., with every chance of a glorious summer day before them, the party enjoyed a splendid drive, reaching Monk's Eleigh about 9.30 a.m. There the bells had been made ready, and soon a start was made for Oxford Treble Bob, which was accomplished. The bells here are a truly melodious peal, and none too great was the praise bestowed upon them by the visitors. After slight refreshment, a start was made for Kersey, Messrs. R. and A. Keeble, W. Green, C. Parker, and Abraham Long of the Monk's Eleigh company, kindly accompanying us. Kersey possesses an ancient tower in the Norman style, which is very lofty, and looks very imposing in the distance, standing as it does on very high ground. Here we rattled off a 720 of Oxford in very quick time, considering the weight of the tenor. A touch of Double Court was also here indulged in, after which no time was lost in crossing country for Hitcham, on the way for which we went through Bildestone, and regretted very much that the bad state of the bells prevented our ringing there. The parish Church of Hitcham is a large and handsome structure in the Later English style, and possesses a moderately high but massive tower, with a powerful and pleasing peal of six, which were rehung a short time since, and go very well. In the belfry, too, restoration has been accomplished, and the

order in which it is kept reflects the greatest credit upon the worthy parish clerk, Mr. John Sewell, to whom we felt greatly indebted for preparing and making everything ready for instant work. A 720 of Oxford was also rung here, which gave the tenor ringers a good sweating, and well it might, considering the pace the bells were rattled along. We may mention that this is the first 720 of Treble Bob since the re-hanging of the bells. Having had a good and substantial tea, we departed for the last church on our programme—the exceedingly pretty little church of Preston. Here, too, preparation had been made for us by the parish clerk, Mr. Symonds, and soon sweet music was pealing forth from this very light ring. We believe a 720 in the method we here rung (New London Pleasure), has not been rung upon the bells since the re-opening—twelve or fourteen years ago. This well struck peal terminated our day's ringing, a day which we shall not easily forget, owing to the uniform courtesy shown us by all the ringers we met, and their great kindness in facilitating our work at each church. It is one thing to spend a day in ringing at various churches, it is another to meet with such an enthusiastic set of ringers as was our experience last Sunday; who strove to their utmost to make our visit as enjoyable as we could wish for, and thus earned our grateful thanks.
 A. H.

BRADFORD AMALGAMATED SOCIETY.

ON Saturday, July 5th, the members and their wives had a very pleasant excursion to Ilkley. It was arranged to ring a date touch of Grandsire Triples, but owing to the chairman and another member failing to put in an appearance at the last moment, it was not attempted. On arriving at Ilkley, the party assembled on the lawn of the "Lister Arms" Hotel, where touches of Triples and Royal were rung on the handbells, which drew quite a concourse of people, who evidently highly enjoyed the music of the bells. After tea, eight members rang on the bells of the parish church, a well struck date touch of Kent Treble Bob Major, in 1 hr. 9 mins. The ringers were; A. Moulson, 1; R. Tuke, Esq. (president), 2; J. Broadley, 3; T. Pollitt, 4; James Angus (treasurer), 5; J. H. Hardcastle (ringing master), 6; John Wilson, 7; J. B. Jennings, 8. Tenor 18 cwt. The touch was conducted by Mr. Hardcastle. After ringing, a visit was paid to the celebrated wells, and the visitors returned home well pleased with their outing.

The Provinces.

THE BIRMINGHAM AMALGAMATED SOCIETY, AND THE BIRMINGHAM AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATION. BIRMINGHAM.

Handbell Ringing.—Birthday Peal.

On Sunday, July 6, 1884, in Two Hours and Forty-six Minutes,

ON HANDBELLS, RETAINED IN HAND,

AT THE RESIDENCE OF MR. T. MILLER, 37, WEARMAN STREET,
 A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS, 5021 CHANGES;
 Tenor 15 size in C.

THOMAS RUSSAM 1-2.	THOMAS MILLER 5-6.
JOHN CARTER 3-4.	JOSEPH W. CATTLE 7-8.
R. HACKLEY 9-10.	

Composed and conducted by JOHN CARTER.

This peal was rung to celebrate Mr. T. Miller's birthday, and was also rung as a practice for the last time previous for another attempt for the 13,000.

The above peal has the 6th twenty-four times right and twenty-four times behind the 9th, and without a call on 8-9 or 9-7-8 throughout.

Referee, Mr. W. Baldwin, who marked off every call and course-end as it was rung. Witnesses, Messrs. J. Perry, B. Stevens and others.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—HULL.

Birthday Peal.

On Monday, July 7, 1884, in Three Hours and Two Minutes,

AT HOLY TRINITY CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
 Tenor 25 cwt.

ROBT. CHAFFER Treble.	WM. SOUTHWICK 5.
CHAS. BENNETT 2.	CHAS. JACKSON 6.
TOM STOCKDALE 3.	FRANK DRABBLE 7.
HENRY JENKINS 4.	FREDK. MERRISON Tenor.

Conducted by CHAS. JACKSON.

The above, which is Mr. J. F. Penning's last one-part, containing ninety bobs and two Holt's singles, will be found on page 16 of "The Bell News."

The above peal was rung to commemorate Mr. C. Bennett's 30th birthday.

Miscellaneous.**ASSOCIATION FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.**

LICHFIELD.—On Sunday evening, June 29th, after service, at St. Michael's church, a 720 of Bob Minor, in 27 mins. A. Whitby, 1; F. Sedgwick, 2; H. Meacham, 3; T. Meredith (conductor), 4; F. Cope, 5; A. Greenwood, 6. Tenor 11 cwt. in A.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.—On Monday, July 7th, at the church of St. John the Baptist, for practice, a 720 of Bob Minor in 28 mins. R. Robson (first 720), 1; R. S. Story, 3; F. Lees, 4; W. Egglestone, 5; T. J. des Forges, 6; W. Story (conductor), 7; W. Bowes, 8. 2nd omitted. Tenor 12½ cwt.

NORTH SHIELDS.—On Thursday, June 26th, the following band attempted a 5040 of Plain Bob Major, but after ringing 2600 changes the attempt had to be abandoned through the interruption of a drunken man, who persisted in entering the belfry. Stephen Nott, 1; John Moffitt (South Shields), 2; J. Rossiter, 3; W. Reed, Esq., 4; Joel Hern, 5; C. L. Routledge (St. John's, Newcastle), 6; R. S. Story (conductor), 7; R. Smith, 8. Also on Sunday, July 6th, for evening service, 720 Double Stedman Slow Course Minor. W. Reed, Esq., 1; R. Wignall, 2; R. S. Story, 3; Joel Hern, 4; H. Ross, 5; R. Smith (conductor), 6; Stephen Nott (as cover), 7. Tenor 19 cwt.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD AND THE CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY SOCIETY.

READING.—On Friday, July 4th, H. J. Elsee, Esq., of Cambridge, being on a visit to this place, was met at St. Giles's by members of the above Guild, and a 720 of Grandsire Minor was rung in 27 mins. T. James, 1; H. Bonney, 2; T. Newman, 3; H. J. Elsee, Esq., 4; Rev. G. F. Coleridge, 5; H. Egby (conductor), 6. Also a 360 of Plain Bob Minor with Geo. Gibbard at the 2nd.

THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

MITCHAM (Surrey).—On Saturday, July 5th, six members of the above Association met at Christ Church, and rang a 720 of Oxford Single Bob Minor, in 26 mins. C. Byde, 1; J. Fayers, 2; G. Byde, 3; J. Parker, 4; A. Garret, 4; S. Frost (conductor), 6. Also a 360 of Plain Bob Minor, standing as before with R. Moss, 2; J. Fayers (conductor), 6. Tenor 7½ cwt.

THE WANSTEAD AMALGATED SOCIETY.

WANSTEAD.—On Sunday, July 6th, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor, with fifteen bobs, in 26 mins. H. Nunn, sen., 1; H. Scarlett, 2; J. Nunn, 3; J. Priest, 4; J. Gobbett, 5; G. Akers (conductor), 6. Also after evening service, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor, in 27 mins. H. Nunn, sen., 1; J. Gobbett, 2; J. Driver, 3; J. Nunn, 4; H. Scarlett, 5; A. H. Gardom (conductor), 6. J. Driver hails from Fulham, and was formerly a member of the Redgate branch of the Norwich Diocesan Association.

WOODFORD (Essex).—On Tuesday, June 3rd, for practice, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor, with fifteen bobs, in 26 mins. H. Nunn, sen., 1; J. Nunn, 2; G. Akers, 3; A. H. Gardom, Esq., 4; J. Priest, 5; H. Scarlett (conductor), 6. Also on Trinity Sunday, June 8th, for morning service, a 360 of Bob Minor, and a 360 of Kent Treble Bob Minor, in 27 mins. H. Scarlett (conductor), 1; J. Gobbett, 2; J. Driver, 3; J. Nunn, 4; J. Priest, 5; J. Marks, 6. Also on Thursday, June 12th, for practice, a 720 of Bob Minor, in 27 mins. S. J. Wincey, (first 720), 1; G. Akers, 2; H. Nunn, sen., 3; A. H. Gardom (conductor), 4; J. Nunn, 5; J. Gobbett, 6.

ANSTON (Yorkshire).—On Sunday morning, July 6th, for Divine Service, 720 Oxford Treble Bob Minor, with fifteen bobs, in 26 mins. Geo. Lidster (first 720), 1; Robt. S. Fox (first 720 with a bob bell), 2; Joseph Bland, 3; Chas. F. Fowler, 4; Samuel Smith (first 720), 5; Thos. Silvester (first 720 as conductor), 6. Also in the afternoon, a 360 (with nine bobs), by the same band, conducted by Thos. Silvester. Tenor 12 cwt.

BELCHAMP WALTER (Essex).—On Wednesday, July 2nd, the local company rang a 720 of Bob Minor, with eighteen bobs and two singles. William Stammers, 1; James Chaters, 2; Harry Twitchett, 3; Frederick Hawkins, 4; William Finch, 5; Nelson Hawkins (conductor), 6. This is the first 720 rung by the local company since last September. Tenor 11 cwt.

HITCHAM (Suffolk).—On Sunday, July 6th, at All Saints' church, a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob, in 26 mins. F. J. Thompson (Cavendish), 1; Wm. Green, 2; H. Thompson, 3; Charles Parker, 4; F. P. Adams, 5; Alexander Hurst (conductor), 6. Tenor 18 cwt.

BELGRAVE (Leicestershire).—On Monday evening, July 7th, for practice, the St. Peter's Society rang six 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles, each called differently (being a variation on the last 120). J. Pole (conductor), 1; W. A. Clayton, 2; H. Clayton, 3; S. Pole, 4; W. Bennett, 5. Tenor 14½ cwt. in F.

BLACKBURN (Lancashire).—On Thursday, July 3rd, a 720 of Plain Bob Minor, with sixteen bobs and two singles, was rung in 27 mins. by the following members of the Blackburn Amateur Association, J. Horsfield, 1; J. Ainsworth, 2; W. Slater, 3; Jas. Sanderson, 4; J. Smith, 5; R. J. N. Parker (conductor), 6. Also on Saturday, July 5th, a 720 of Grandsire Minor, with thirty-four bobs and two singles, in 28 mins. W. Slater, 1; J. Ainsworth, 2; R. Lund, 3; J. Sanderson, 4; R. J. N. Parker (conductor), 5; W. Aldrich, 6. Tenor 16½ cwt.

CHICHESTER.—On Tuesday, July 8th, at the Cathedral, the Brighton society rang the first half of Holt's 10-part peal in 1 hr. 40 mins. J. Searle, 1; J. Jay, jun., 2; *G. F. Attree, 3; C. Tyler, 4; H. Boniface, 5; *H. Weston, 6; J. Jay, sen. (conductor), 7; James Neve, 8. *Members of St. Peter's, Brighton. Tenor 27 cwt. in Eb.

EASTBOURNE (Sussex).—On Thursday, June 26th, at Christ Church, 360 Grandsire Doubles, each called differently. F. Harding, 1; L. Huggett, 2; T. Hunisett, 3; J. Potter, 4; Dr. Sellon (conductor), 5; J. Lewis, 6. Also on Friday, June 27th, at St. Mary's church, 560 Grandsire Triples. Dr. Sellon, 1; H. Bennett, 2; T. Hunisett, 3; L. Huggett, 4; F. Harding, 5; J. Potter, 6; T. Hart, 7; J. Lewis, 8. And on Tuesday, July 1st, 350 and 504 in the same method. A. Norman, 1; H. Bennett, 2; Dr. Sellon, 3; T. Hunisett, 4; F. Harding, 5; J. Potter, 6; T. Hart, 7; J. Rollinson, 8. Also on Friday, July 4th, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples. A. Norman, 1; H. Bennett, 2; Dr. Sellon, 3; L. Huggett, 4; F. Harding, 5; J. Potter, 6; T. Hart, 7; J. Rollinson, 8. And on Tuesday, July 8th, the following band proposed attempting Reeves's variation of Holt's 10-part peal. Unfortunately the company assembled so late that this had to be abandoned, but at 7.40 a start was made for a touch, and four parts of the above accomplished, when, owing to the lateness of the hour, the conductor called the bells round at 2030. A. Norman, 1; H. Bennett (conductor), 2; Dr. Sellon, 3; L. Huggett, 4; T. Hunisett, 5; J. Potter, 6; T. Hart, 7; J. Rollinson, 8. Tenor 17½ cwt. Our correspondent adds: "It was proposed that a quarter-peal should be rung at All Saints', where there is a nice ring of eight, but this did not come off, as the local band objected. This was possibly because they did not desire that such a simple method as Grandsire should be practised in their tower, where they have already mastered the intricacies of that scientific and difficult method known as "Churchyard Bob."

HIGHER SUTTON (Cheshire).—On Sunday, July 6th, for Divine Service in the morning, at St. James's church, a 720 of Grandsire Minor, with 44 bobs and 4 singles, in 28 mins. Wm. Walmsley (conductor), 1; Ed. Matthews, 2; Wm. Kenny, 3; J. M. Davenport, 4; Wm. Ingham, 5; Thos. Mottershead, 6. Also for Divine Service in the evening, four six-scores of Grandsire Doubles, each called differently, in 20 mins. Wm. Ingham, 1; Ed. Matthews, 2; Wm. Walmsley (conductor), 3; J. M. Davenport, 4; Thos. Mottershead, 5; Alfred Lawton, 6.

KERSEY (Suffolk).—On Sunday, July 6th, at St. Mary's church, a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob Minor, in 25½ mins. F. J. Thompson, 1; R. Keeble, 2; W. Green, 3; H. Thompson, 4; F. P. Adams, 5; A. Hurst (conductor), 6. Also a 360 of Double Court Bob. R. Keeble, 1; A. Keeble, 2; W. Green, 3; A. Long, 4; C. Parker, 5; F. P. Adams (conductor), 6. Tenor 18 cwt. Messrs. R. and A. Keeble, Green, and Parker, hail from Monk's Eleigh; the brothers Thompson from Cavendish, F. P. Adams from Glemsford, A. Long from Bildestone, and A. Hurst from Long Melford.

LEYLAND (Lancashire).—On Sunday, July 6th, for afternoon service at St. James's church, a 360 of Plain Bob Minor. O. Worden (conductor), 1; John Heyes, 2; W. Bowling, 3; Jas. Bretherton, 4; Thos. Baron, 5; Jas. Banister, 6. John Heyes hails from Eccleston, and is in his 82nd year, and walked a distance of four miles to take part in the ringing.

MONKS' ELEIGH (Suffolk).—On Sunday, July 6th, at St. Peter's, a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob, in 28 mins. Robert Keeble, 1; Harry Thompson (Cavendish), 2; Arthur Keeble (first 720 in the method), 3; Abraham Long (Bildestone), 4; Fred. Paul Adams (Glemsford), 5; Alexander Hurst (Long Melford; conductor), 6. Tenor 18 cwt.

ORMSKIRK (Lancashire).—On Sunday, July 6th, eight members of the district society rang for afternoon service at the parish church, a 504 of Grandsire Triples, in 19 mins. J. Prescott, 1; C. Sharples (conductor), 2; W. Bentham, 3; J. Sholicar, 4; W. Ellis, 5; J. Walker, 6; G. Prescott, 7; W. Taylor, 8. Tenor 25 cwt. 3 qrs.

PRESTON (Suffolk).—On Sunday, July 6th, at St. Mary's church, a 720 of New London Pleasure, in 24 mins. F. J. Thompson, 1; R. Keeble, 2; W. Green, 3; F. P. Adams, 4; H. Thompson, 5; A. Hurst (conductor), 6. Tenor 11 cwt.

READING (Berks).—On Tuesday, July 8th, at the parish church, ten members of the St. Laurence's society started for the late Thos. Day's peal of Grandsire Caters, containing 5058 changes, but after ringing 4320 changes in 2 hrs. 57 mins., it unfortunately came to grief owing to a "shift." F. W. Round, 1; H. M. Bawden, 2; W. Johnson, 3; W. R. Pocock, 4; W. H. Holloway, 5; G. Talbot, 6; E. Bishop, 7; W. J. Williams (conductor), 8; W. Newell, 9; W. Goseltine, 10. The above was arranged to commemorate the 150th anniversary of a peal of Grandsire Triples which was rung at St. Lawrence's on July 8th, 1734, being the first recorded peal ever rung in Reading.

SALISBURY.—On Saturday, June 28th, it being Coronation Day, St. Thomas's and St. Paul's bells were rung by Messrs. Lanham, Blake, Tapper, Jerram, Blackburn, Head, Clements, and Davenport, and St. Edmund's by Mr. J. Parson's company. On Thursday, July 3rd, at St. Martin's church, a 720 of Grandsire Minor, with thirty-six bobs and twenty-four singles. E. A. Foster, 1; C. A. Clements, 2; J. R. Jerram, 3; C. Staden (Bournemouth), 4; W. W. Gifford, 5; T. Blackburn (conductor), 6. Time 28½ mins.

SPALDING (Lincolnshire).—At the church of SS. Mary and Nicolas, 720 Double Court Bob, with eighteen bobs and two singles. R. Skeef (first 720 in the method), 1; J. S. Wright, 2; G. S. Richardson, 3; R. Mackman, 4; J. Wilson (first 720 in the method), 5; J. Brown (conductor), 6. No date given.

STANSTEAD (Essex).—On Sunday, June 22nd, for Divine Service, at St. Mary the Virgin, six of the local company rang 360 Kent Treble Bob Minor. J. Cavill, 1; J. Luckey, 2; H. Prior, jun., 3; G. Gray, 4; Isaac Cavill, 5; C. Prior (conductor), 6. Also on Saturday, June 28th, being Coronation Day, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor, in 27 mins. J. Cavill, 1; J. Luckey, 2; H. Prior, jun., 3; G. Gray, 4; Isaac Cavill, 5; H. Prior (conductor), 6. Also 360 Plain Bob Minor. J. Cavill, 1; J. Mumford, 2; H. Prior, jun., 3; J. Luckey, 4; C. Prior, jun., 5; C. Prior (conductor), 6. Tenor 13 cwt.

STREATHAM (Surrey).—On Sunday evening, July 6th, for Divine Service at Emmanuel church, a 630 of Grandsire Triples, with eighteen bobs, in 27 mins. H. Laffin, 1; D. Springall, 2; S. Greenwood (conductor), 3; W. Pell, 4; H. Daniells, 5; Wm. Sheppard, 6; G. Pell, 7; H. Pate, 8. Tenor 27½ cwt.

WALTON (Lancashire).—On Saturday, July 5th, ten different 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles in 50 mins. J. Hurst, 1; A. S. Barrell, 2; T. R. Somerville, 3; T. Rushton, 4; C. E. Wilson (conductor), 5; R. Stockley, 6. Tenor 10 cwt.

WIMBLEDON (Surrey).—On Sunday morning, June 22nd, for Divine Service at St. Mary's church, a 720 of Oxford Bob Minor, with eighteen bobs and two singles, in 27 mins. G. Hyde, 1; R. Moss, 2; C. Hyde, 3; T. Parker, 4; A. Garrett, 5; S. Frost (conductor), 6. Also on Sunday morning, July 6th, for Divine Service, a 720 of Grandsire Minor, in 26½ mins., in the same order.

WORTH (Sussex).—On Sunday, July 6th, for morning service, the local company rang a 360 of College Single, with nine bobs. W. Owden, 1; B. Payne, 2; W. Denman, 3; F. Rice, 4; G. Illman, 5; E. Streeter (conductor), 6. After morning service, a 720 of Plain Bob Minor, with fifteen bobs and six singles, in 23½ mins. B. Payne, 1; W. Denman, 2; T. Tullett, 3; G. Illman, 4; F. Rice, 5; E. Streeter (conductor), 6. Also for afternoon service, a 360 of Oxford Bob, with fifteen bobs. W. Owden, 1; B. Payne, 2; F. Streeter, 3; G. Illman, 4; F. Rice, 5; E. Streeter, 6. Conducted by F. Rice and E. Streeter. After service a 720 of Oxford Bob, with three bobs and eighteen singles, in 24 mins. W. Denman, 1; B. Payne, 2; H. Meads, 3; F. Streeter, 4; E. Streeter, 5; F. Rice (conductor), 6. And a 720 of College Single, eighteen bobs and two singles, was attempted, but after ringing about 600 changes it came to grief. W. Owden, 1; B. Payne, 2; F. Rice, 3; G. Illman, 4; F. Streeter, 5; E. Streeter (conductor), 6. Also a six-score of Grandsire Doubles. F. Rice, 1; F. Streeter, 2; G. Illman, 3; E. Streeter, 4; H. Meads (conductor), 5; W. Denman, 6.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

On Saturday last, the members of this society had their Two Hundred and Forty-seventh Anniversary Dinner at "The Bell" inn, Walthamstow. As early as eleven o'clock, the squire of Bennington and his band, accompanied by their usual attendant, Mr. J. R. Haworth, appeared on the scene, and after a slight refectory proceeded to St. Mary's church, where they rung a touch of Stedman Triples. An attempt was then made for a touch of Double Norwich, but the go of the tenor not being up to the mark, it had to be abandoned, but a course of Kent Treble Bob was rung. It was not antici-

pated that Mr. Procter would bring a full band with him, and application had therefore been made for one or two of the local party to meet him, at the above-mentioned hour, so that he and his friends could enjoy a touch of Stedman. At some personal inconvenience, we attended punctually for that purpose, but received not the faintest recognition, or invitation to have a pull all the time we remained with them in the tower, neither was the least opportunity afforded for the exchanging of those little courtesies which ringers, especially at such times as the one we are dealing with, almost universally practise.

The dinner was served at three o'clock, and the manner of catering by mine host and hostess of "The Bell," Mr. and Mrs. McDaniel, deserved and received the warmest commendation. Salmon (with lobster sauce), roast veal and ham, lamb, and roast beef, formed the staple commodities of this bountiful repast, while the array of pies, puddings, tarts, custards, and such ephemeral vanities, figured as an efficient reserve. In the absence of the Master of the company (Mr. William Greenleaf) his *locum tenens*, Mr. Edwin Gibbs, presided, and the vice-chair was filled by Mr. George A. Muskett, the courteous Hon. Secretary of the society. Between twenty and thirty sat down, and among the company were Mr. W. Cooter, Mr. J. Dwight, Mr. G. Dorrington, Mr. G. Mash, Mr. W. Tanner, Mr. W. Jones, Mr. W. Prime, Mr. E. Horrex, Mr. C. F. Winny, Mr. J. M. Hayes, Mr. H. W. Haley, Mr. H. C. Haley, Squire Procter and party, Mr. J. R. Haworth, &c. Mr. Matthew A. Wood was conspicuous by his absence, as was also Mr. Pettit, the latter gentleman, we are very sorry to say, being an inmate of a London hospital, owing to a very painful illness, requiring surgical treatment. We are sure that all our readers who enjoy the acquaintance of Mr. Pettit will extend their fervent sympathy to him in his suffering.

Dinner being over, and the usual post-prandial arrangements adjusted, the Master announced that the company would now separate, and meet again later in the evening. The company then broke up, some betaking themselves to enjoy the rural features of the neighbourhood; some preferring a lounge on the pleasant lawn at the back of the house, while others repaired to the church to ring, though the weather was too hot for any lengthy work in that direction. Six of the Bennington party, with Messrs. Horrex and Hayes, rang a touch of Double Norwich, and a course of Superlative Surprise, and a touch of Stedman Triples was afterwards rung by T. Maynard, 1; E. Gibbs, 2; W. D. Smith, 3; H. Reeves, 4; C. F. Winny, 5; W. Cooter (conductor), 6; T. Scarlett, 7; W. Prime, 8. This concluded the ringing for the day. At seven o'clock, the company again assembled, and in opening the evening's proceedings,

The DEPUTY-MASTER said he felt great pleasure in having the honour of presiding at the 247th Anniversary of the Company, but at the same time he regretted that their worthy and respected Master was unable to be present, he having been away from home on business for several weeks past. On looking over "THE BELL NEWS" for the past twelve months, he found that no less than forty-eight peals had been achieved by the company. These performances comprised a peal of Treble Bob Maximus at St. Saviour's, Southwark (it being twenty-two years since a peal in this method was rung on the bells), the tenor being rung by Mr. J. M. Hayes, who also called the peal. From Ipswich was announced two peals also of Treble-twelve, in the first the tenor being rung by Mr. E. Horrex; in the second by Mr. F. E. Dawe, the last-named gentleman also conducting the peal. By the Ipswich Company, at Stonham Aspal, a peal of Treble Bob Royal, the first peal on the ten bells; a peal of Stedman Caters at Ipswich, the first peal in the method rang in the county, and in which a London member of the company, Mr. E. Carter, took part; a peal of Stedman Cinques at St. Michael's, Cornhill, conducted by Mr. H. W. Haley; a peal of Stedman Caters at All Saints', Fulham, 11,111 changes, the longest peal in the method ever yet rung, conducted by their worthy and respected member, Mr. J. Pettit. There had ten peals of Stedman Triples rung, five of them at Sheffield; three peals of Double Norwich, two in London and one at Drayton, Berks., the latter one conducted by the Rev. F. E. Robinson. There had also been two peals rang on handbells, retained in hand, one in London, conducted by Mr. C. F. Winny, the other at Waltham, conducted by Mr. W. A. Alps, both peals being Holt's Original. During the year a very interesting ceremony had taken place at the head quarters of the company—the presentation of a handsome silver cup, the generous gift of a member, Mr. J. R. Haworth, to commemorate the winning of a silver cup by the society one hundred years ago. The funds of the company were in a flourishing condition, upwards of £30 being in the bank to the credit of the society, and a good sum was also in the hands of the Treasurer. The society was also receiving fresh accessions of strength in the shape of new members.

The chairman on resuming his seat, was loudly applauded.

The remainder of the evening was devoted to harmony, Mr. Haley, sen., giving "The Merry Bells of England," and Mr. Dwight was obliged to give his own ballad, "The famous peal of Stedman Cinques the College Youths did ring." Several toasts were proposed, and the company separated at an early hour.

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS.

5021.

By JOHN CARTER, *Birmingham*.

2 3 4 5 6

6 5 3 2 4*
 3 2 5 6 4 7th in and out at two.
 5 3 2 6 4 9th in three.
 4 5 3 6 2 9th in three with s.
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 5 3 4 6 2 9th in three with s.
 2 5 3 6 4 9th in three with s.

4 6 5 2 3 8th in two.
 3 4 6 2 5 9th in three with s.

5 2 4 3 6 8th in two.
 3 2 4 5 6 1 with s.
 4 3 2 5 6 9th in three.
 2 4 3 5 6 9th in three.
 5 4 3 2 6 1 with s.
 3 5 4 2 6 9th in three.
 4 3 5 2 6 9th in three.
 2 3 5 4 6 1 with s.
 5 2 3 4 6 9th in three.
 3 5 2 4 6 9th in three.
 4 5 2 3 6 1 with s.
 5 3 4 2 6 9th in three.
 2 3 4 5 6 1 with s.
 4 2 3 5 6 9th in three.
 3 4 2 5 6 9th in three.
 5 4 2 3 6 1 with s.
 2 5 4 3 6 9th in three.
 4 2 5 3 6 9th in three.
 3 2 5 4 6 1 with s.
 5 3 2 4 6 9th in three.
 2 5 3 4 6 9th in three.
 4 5 3 2 6 1 with s.

6 2 5 4 3 8th in two.
 3 2 5 4 7 6 9 8†

*7th in with a single and a bob next lead.
 †9th in with a single and a bob next lead.

Contains the 6th twenty-four times right,
 twenty-four times behind the 9th, and without
 a call on 8-9 or a 9-7-8 throughout.

The above peal was rung on July 6th, 1884, by the
 Birmingham Amalgamated Society upon handbells
 retained in hand, conducted by its composer. The
 record of the same will be found on another page.

A 720 OF OXFORD BOB MINOR.

By THOMAS YEATES, *Barnwood, Gloucestershire*.

2 3 4 5 6 6 5 3 2 4 B4 5 2 3 6 4 2 3 5 6
 2 4 5 3 6 2 4 6 5 3 4 B2 5 6 3 4
 5 6 3 4 2 B4 3 6 5 2 2 4 6 5 3 3 4 5 6 2
 4 2 6 3 5 5 2 3 6 4 B4 5 3 6 2 6 2 4 5 3
 2 3 5 6 4 6 4 2 3 5 B5 6 2 3 4 5 3 2 4 6
 3 6 4 5 2 3 5 4 2 6 3 4 6 2 5 4 6 3 2 5
 3 2 6 4 3 2 6 5 4 3 2 5 4 6 3 B6 2 5 3 4
 4 3 2 6 5 B6 4 3 5 2 6 3 5 4 2 S3 2 4 5 6

Repeated.

TWO PEALS OF GRANDSIRE MAJOR.

By G. H. BEEVER, *Oldham, Lancashire*.

8800.

2 3 4 5 6

2 3 6 5 4 7th in 2 H.
 3 6 2 5 4 H.
 6 3 2 5 4 7th in 3.
 3 2 6 5 4 H.
 2 6 3 5 4 H.
 6 2 3 5 4 7th in 3.

5 2 3 6 4 8th in 3.
 2 3 5 6 4 H.
 3 5 2 6 4 H.
 5 3 2 6 4 7th in 3.
 3 2 5 6 4 H.
 2 5 3 6 4 H.

6 5 3 2 4 8th in 3.
 5 6 3 2 4 7th in 3.
 6 3 5 2 4 H.
 3 5 6 2 4 H.
 5 3 6 2 4 7th in 3.
 3 6 5 2 4 H.

2 6 5 3 4 8th in 3.
 6 5 2 3 4 H.
 5 2 6 3 4 H.
 2 5 6 3 4 7th in 3.
 5 6 2 3 4 H.
 6 2 5 3 4 H.

Four times repeated.

8960.

2 3 4 5 6

4 3 6 5 2 M.
 3 6 4 5 2 H.
 6 4 3 5 2 H.
 4 6 3 5 2 7th in 3.
 6 3 4 5 2 H.
 3 4 6 5 2 H.

5 4 6 3 2 8th in 3.
 4 6 5 3 2 H.
 6 5 4 3 2 H.
 5 6 4 3 2 7th in 3.
 6 4 5 3 2 H.
 4 5 6 3 2 H.

3 5 6 4 2 8th in 3.
 5 6 3 4 2 H.
 6 5 3 4 2 7th in 3.
 5 3 6 4 2 H.
 3 6 5 4 2 H.
 6 3 5 4 2 7th in 3.

4 3 5 6 2 8th in 3.
 3 5 4 6 2 H.
 5 4 3 6 2 H.
 4 5 3 6 2 7th in 3.
 5 3 4 6 2 H.
 3 4 5 6 2 H.

Four times repeated.

The above peals contain the 120 course-ends.

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERS.

By HARRY RANDALL, *West Ham*.

5067.

3 4 2 6 1 7 5 8 9 4 5 16
 7 9 4 5 8 6 3 1 2 5 1 2 3 6 4 - - -
 7 9 5 6 4 3 8 1 2 5 1 4 2 6 3 -
 9 6 7 3 5 8 4 1 2 5 1 3 4 6 2 -
 6 8 9 1 3 5 7 2 4 3 1 5 2 6 4 -
 6 8 1 5 9 7 3 2 4 3 1 4 5 6 2 -
 8 5 7 2 6 9 1 4 3 3 1 2 4 6 5 -
 5 2 8 9 7 1 6 4 3 2 1 3 5 6 4 -
 5 2 9 1 8 6 7 4 3 2 1 4 3 6 5 -
 2 1 6 4 5 3 9 7 8 4 1 2 5 6 3 -
 5 16 4 1 3 2 6 5 -
 2 1 3 6 5 4 - 4 1 5 3 6 2 -
 2 1 4 3 5 6 - 4 1 5 2 6 3 S -
 4 1 2 6 5 3 - 4 1 3 5 6 2 -
 4 1 3 2 5 6 - 4 1 2 3 6 5 -
 4 1 6 3 5 2 - 2 1 4 5 6 3 -
 6 1 4 2 5 3 - 2 1 3 4 6 5 -
 6 1 3 4 5 2 - 3 1 2 5 6 4 -
 3 1 6 2 5 4 - 3 1 4 2 6 5 -
 3 1 4 6 5 2 - 3 1 5 4 6 2 -
 3 1 2 4 5 6 - 5 1 3 2 6 4 -
 3 1 2 6 5 4 S - 5 1 4 3 6 2 -
 3 1 4 2 5 6 - 5 1 2 4 6 3 -
 3 1 6 4 5 2 - 2 1 5 3 6 4 -

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

Round at two sixes and one change.

Rung by the Society of Cumberlanders at All Saints',
 West Ham, conducted by George Newson.

We have a 5024 Treble Bob Major ready for
 insertion without the composer's name. Will
 the author of it write again?

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR.

By SAMUEL WOOD, *Ashton-under-Lyne*.

5024.

2 3 4 5 6 M B W H

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

Rung at St. Peter's, Ashton-under-Lyne, March 20th,
 1884; conducted by its composer.

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR.

5088.

By CHARLES H. HATTERSLEY, *Sheffield*.

2 3 4 5 6 M B W H

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

Twice repeated.

By using the alternative calling in the fourth
 course in any one part reduces the peal to
 5024 changes.

Rung at St. Peter's, Ashton-under-Lyne, March 24th,
 1884; conducted by its composer.

TWO PEALS OF BOB MAJOR.

By ARTHUR KNIGHTS, *Chesterfield*.

5056.

2 3 4 5 6 W B M H

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

5056.

2 3 4 5 6 W B M H

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

The above parts of these two peals to be
 three times repeated, singles to be substituted
 for the bobs at the second and fourth part-
 ends.

The 6th twenty times wrong, and twenty-
 four times right.

SS. PETER AND PAUL, LYNSTÉAD, KENT.

THIS place will not be found to interest ringers sufficiently to pay a visit. But anything in bell repairs is to be noted in this district, an account of which was given in an early number.

Bell-rope hauling has been practised ever since Queen Elizabeth's time, at least, in the parish. The present ring consists of three by Mot, and two by Wilner. Number 4 (Mot) has been cracked about forty years, and no wonder. The bell should never have been accepted. The inscriptions had entirely missed, odd letters being found below the wires, and sponginess here and there. The clapper was a masterpiece of village smithy, having no flight, shaped like a hammer-end, of course uneven to the extent of two inches or more. The crack appears to have been bored fifty or more times.

This interesting specimen was removed chiefly at the expense of Captain Vallance, a great land owner, and recast at Cripplegate a week or two back. Messrs. Snelling and Co., of Sittingbourne, are employed in hanging the new bell; and as far as practicable setting the rest in order. During the past winter the inner face of the south tower wall fell in while ringing was going on. Upon inspection externally, this appears to have happened before. As usual, if this whole fabric, particularly including the tower, was really understood by some one resident, the repairs that during many years past have taken place, would not be a series of enormities. The church has not as yet been marred, as is nearly always the case, by some eminent architect, who personally never saw a quarter of the edifices his clerks specify for; there is, however, a great deal of diluted thunder in most of the large windows. What is really wanted is a simple clearance of the joinery, the careful re-opening of the tower arches, one of which has been stopped up more than 400 years, as appears by an inserted doorway, and a general cleanse down.

With regard to the tower, this may at one time have belonged to an earlier church, and been adapted to the present north aisle. It has two large buttresses on the north side, the church itself being supposed to do duty for that on the south. With what effect, is before told.

All seems however well tied in now, and rebuilt, and before long it is expected some local change-ringers will show the real thing in action. The bells are in a wooden cot, under a spire, the frame being a very ordinary piece of joinery. Bell restoration in this district has not gone along with church restoration, which in most instances has been ill-studied and mis-directed.

THE BRIGHTON SOCIETY.

THIS society had their annual outing on Tuesday, July 8th, to the city of Chichester. The party, twenty in number, left Brighton by the 8.50 a.m. train, a special carriage being reserved for them by the railway company at the very low rate of three-halfpence over the single fare for the return journey. Mr. Andrews, of Eastbourne, joined the party, and later on the Rev. — Tomkins and Mr. Blackman (Arundel), and Mr. Meads (Lindfield), put in an appearance. On arriving at their destination, and first partaking of luncheon, the company betook themselves to the campanile, with the intention of starting for a peal. The bells are in good ringing order, but after ringing 36 mins., the clock struck twelve on a large bell unconnected with the peal, which seemed to electrify the whole band, the tenorman declaring that he must set his bell or drop, and time not allowing for a second attempt, a start was at once made for a half-peal, which was accomplished in 1 hr. 40 mins., and will be found recorded on another page. Adjourning to the "Eagle Hotel," a very excellent dinner was provided by host Morey, to which full justice was done, Mr. Awcock presided, Mr. Jay, sen., taking the vice-chair. The cloth being drawn, and the loyal toasts given, "The Healths of Messrs. Lambert and Falconer," of the Chichester Guild, were drunk. Mr. Lambert, in responding, said it gave him great pleasure to see so goodly a company, and he believed there had not been so long a touch rang on the Cathedral bells within the last fifty years.

During the ringing of the half-peal, H.R.H. the Princess Beatrice passed through the city, thus imparting an unexpected pleasure to those who were ringing.

After dinner, the company dispersed, some for a quiet walk, others for a boating excursion, and a few more enjoyed a delightful ride through Goodwood park, re-assembling at six o'clock for tea, which was quickly got over in order to give those an opportunity for a pull who had not had one. Several short touches were then rung, finishing with a 504 of Grandsire Triples, conducted by J. Jay, jun. A start was then made for home, the journey being whiled away with the handbells, a humorous speech by Mr. Robinson, and expressions of good feeling one towards another. The Brighton society beg to thank Messrs. Lambert and Falconer, and other gentlemen of the Chichester Guild whose names are unknown to them, for their untiring efforts in assisting to make this visit happy and enjoyable.

ANNUAL EXCURSION OF THE BEDDINGTON (SURREY) COMPANY.

ON Saturday, July 5th, the members of the above company, with their wives and lady-loves, had their annual excursion, Crayford, in Kent, being the place selected. A start was made from "The Duke's Head," Wallington, at eight o'clock, a pleasant drive of 2½ hours bringing the party to Chislehurst. Here refreshments were had, and after seeing some of the young ladies of the party safely mounted on the backs of good-humoured quadrupeds, for a ride across the common, the ringers made their way to the parish church, and rang short touches of Grandsire and Stedman Triples, and Treble Bob Major. After thanks had been awarded to the steeplekeeper for having everything in readiness for the visitors, the road was again resumed, and another pleasant drive brought them to their destination — Crayford, arriving there about one o'clock. That being the hour appointed for re-invigorating the inner man, the company at once repaired to the Temperance Hotel, where they partook of the fare provided for them, which by the way, was not so plentiful as it might have been. This being over, all haste was made to the church, where the party was cordially welcomed by Mr. Conyard, and as he had been at pains to get everything ready for ringing, a start was soon made, and touches of Bob, Grandsire, and Stedman Triples, were rung. In consequence of a funeral taking place, ringing had to be suspended for a time, and in the interim, the visitors repaired to a field in the neighbourhood where a Foresters' fête was being held, and here they performed various feats of strength and agility that can only be recorded in these columns, such as driving a weight as far as possible into the regions of space with a ponderous instrument called a beetle, shooting at eggs in mid-air, throwing at cocoanuts, and other patrician recreation; the ladies whiling away the time with swings, merry-go-rounds, etc. A stand being at length called to this kind of thing, a move was again made to the church, where touches of Stedman and Union Triples, and Treble Bob Major were added to the performances of the day, after which the company departed for home, reaching the desired haven about the midnight hour.

The Beddington Company, through the medium of this paper, wish to thank the Rector of Crayford for his kindness in allowing them to ring, and also to Mr. Conyard for his courtesy.

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 RINGING CHRONOLOGY AND NOTTINGHAM.

SIR,—In your chronological account it is given that in the year 1866 Nottingham ringers rang Grandsire Triples, first peal on the bells of St. Peter's. If it had stated All Saints, you would have been nearer the mark, at any rate there is no doubt of many peals being rung at St. Peter's prior to that date. An abridged account from two of the peal-boards will perhaps suffice. On April 1st, 1850, Mr. Holt's six-course peal of 5040 Grandsire Triples, was rung in 3 hrs. 15 mins. Messrs. Lennard, Beeston, and Willmott, who rang the third, fifth, and tenor respectively, are the only three that remain who took part in it; and on December 12th, 1836, a peal of 5280 Kent Treble Bob Major, in 3 hrs. 22 mins., Mr. R. Metheringham (treble), and Mr. W. Langley, being the only two survivors.

ALFRED ARCHER.

ST. ANDREW'S, LITCHURCH, DERBY.

SIR,—Kindly allow me to state that the very impertinent and untruthful letter of your anonymous correspondent "Truth," is simply the outcome of the personal spite of one or two disaffected ringers. I am sorry your excellent paper should have been used for such a purpose.

ROBERT HEY,
Vicar of St. Andrew's.

A FALSE 720.

SIR,—If Mr. Thomas Yeates would take the trouble to examine the 720 of Oxford Bob Minor that appeared in your last issue, under his name, he will find the eighth hand-stroke lead turns up at the fifteenth back-stroke lead.

R. MACKMAN.

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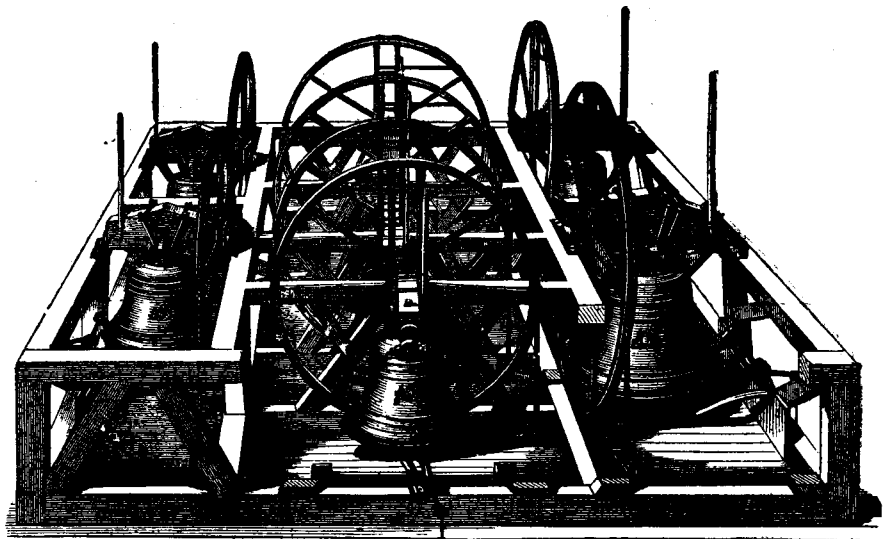
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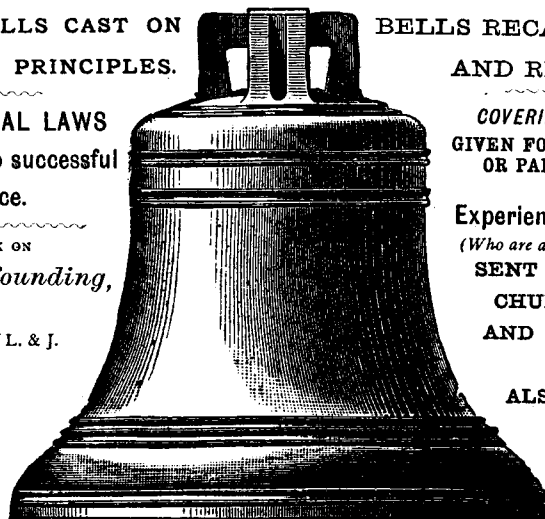
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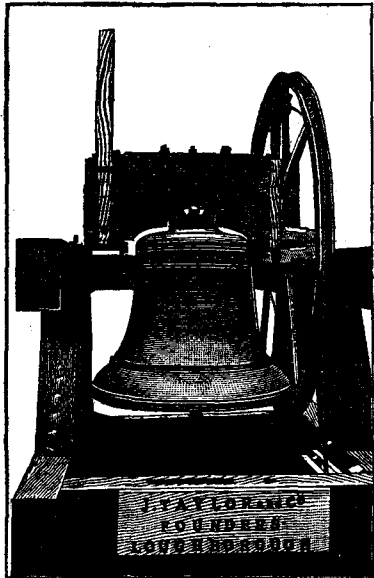
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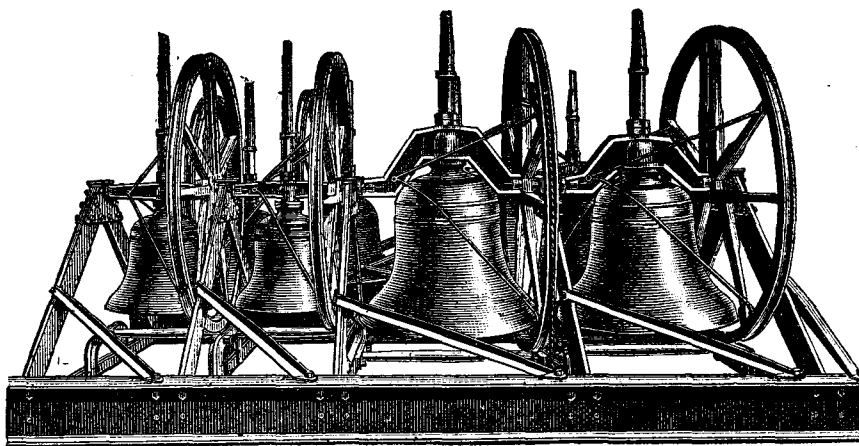
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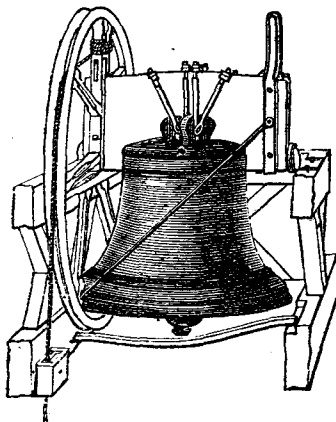
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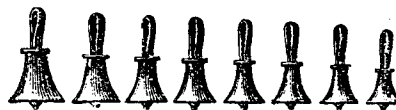
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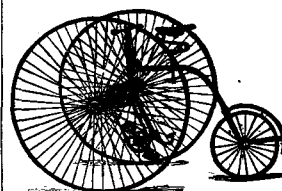
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ENGLISH BELL FOUNDRIES.

THE FOUNDRY OF MESSRS. JOHN TAYLOR AND CO.,
LOUGHBOROUGH.

AMONG the various items of information pertinent to bells and bell-ringing, which from week to week occupy the columns of this paper, we have for some time been of opinion that sketches of the most important English bellfoundries should be allowed a place. And we have therefore determined to give, at such intervals which may be most convenient, a chapter dealing with one of those particular establishments which are known to many of our readers only by name. One thing in connection with these articles we would have clearly understood. The order in which they will appear is not intended to indicate either superiority or inferiority. They will be published just as our own convenience dictates; or, we may say, that as a rule their order of appearance in these columns will be governed by the materials for the moment at hand. And another thing we had better premise. It is well known that an odd bell or two can sometimes be obtained without applying to a regular bellfounder. The two trebles of St. Clement Danes, for instance, were cast in a very hole-and-corner fashion somewhere about Bethnal Green, we believe, and several others can be mentioned which had not their birth at a real foundry. There are also firms who supply bells to order, which are not made by them. It is without the bounds of these sketches to treat with such establishments, and therefore a line has had to be drawn to govern our selection. That having been done, our observations will be limited to those firms whose announcements are seen, week by week, in our pages. And this list will certainly include the principal bell foundries of England.

The foundry of Messrs. John Taylor and Co. is situate at Loughborough, a neat little town in Leicestershire, within easy distance of Derby, Leicester, and Nottingham, and the important junction of Trent, on the Midland Railway. The firm are the successors of Watts, Eayre, and Arnold, formerly of Leicester and St. Neots, the present Mr. Taylor's (sen.) grandfather having been apprenticed to Arnold at St. Neot's. What we understand of the more recent history of the present establishment, is that the place of business was once at Oxford, and was conducted by the father of the present head of the firm. We know very well that the profession of bellfounding was at one time of a very itinerant character; and that founders have travelled, here, there, and everywhere, to execute the work entrusted to their hands. We are told that a corner of the churchyard was frequently the place where the bells required for the adjacent tower were run. The celebrated Miles Gray (of Colchester) who cast the Lavenham peal, erected his laboratory hard by the church, and various portions of his cores and copes have since been discovered and excavated. We may suppose, then, that the Mr. Taylor last mentioned, while having his headquarters at Oxford, went from place to place casting and recasting, till in the year 1840 he received instructions to provide a peal for the parish church of All Saints, Loughborough. To Loughborough he then migrated, carrying his family with him, and at Loughborough he remained, consolidating with his son, the present Mr. Taylor, the business of bellfounding, with all its concomitants, and the outcome is the now very extensive establishment known as the Loughborough Bell Foundry, carried on by Mr. John Taylor and two of his sons, under the style and title of "John Taylor and Co."

The buildings embracing what we may for convenience' sake call the foundry, extend over an immense area, being built specially for the purpose for which they are used; and the firm are the freeholders of not only this but also of a great deal of land and other kind of property in the vicinity. The entrances to the establishment are rather circumscribed by streets of a

somewhat narrow description, which is certainly noticeable for the moment, but is quite forgotten directly the foundry is entered, for immediately we find ourselves in a spacious yard, where bells of every size and of every age are lying about in indescribable confusion. The first thing that attracts the attention is the steam engine which gives motion to the various machinery which will presently be alluded to, and this piece of mechanism is driven by a huge boiler of 30 horse-power. Close to this is a capacious shed with forges, steam hammers, and the like, for the requisite smiths' work in connection with bell fittings, clappers, etc. Passing through this shed we come to what is known as the fitting shop, which contains some very elaborate machinery. These are planing machines, lathes (4), drills (3), and an emery grinding mill. In this apartment the gudgeons are turned, and the various nuts and screws required are manufactured with a marvellous rapidity. It is well-known that Messrs. Taylor favour the idea of steel gudgeons so far as large bells are concerned. In a conversation with Mr. Taylor, sen., relating to steel v. iron for this purpose, we gathered the information that the steel used for this purpose is specially prepared—some of the well-known brands of this metal, admirable for such purposes as railways, being altogether unfit for gudgeons. Even the celebrated Bessemer steel, as it is commonly used, has been tried for this purpose here, and found wanting.

We now pass over to the joiners' shop, a capacious lofty apartment 100 feet by 35 feet. On one side are the benches of the operatives engaged in making the necessary woodwork which is so familiar to many of our readers. Here are the tables for two circular saws, band saw, trying-up plane, tenoning, morticing, and boring machines, hand planer, and circular moulding and turning lathe. By the aid of shafting, all these costly machines are worked by steam power, and when all are in motion this department certainly has a very busy appearance. Wheels and stocks, ready fitted with gudgeons, are stacked here and there in neat order awaiting despatch.

Annexed to the joiners' shop is the tuning-room, about equal in size to it, and which we next enter. At one end, piled up in close array, we see huge lengths of iron and steel bars, amounting to many tons in weight. Singularly enough we read on the wall against which this heavy material is placed, the inscription "Success to Great Paul." Here are to be found numbers of bells, some tuned, others fixed in readiness for that operation. The tuning apparatus is of the usual description, the bell is firmly fixed, mouth upwards, and the sharp instrument descends from above, and works round the interior of the sound-bow. The plan adopted of fixing the clapper at the Loughborough foundry necessitates holes being bored through the crown of the bell, the bell being cast alone without the crown staple. We are not pointing out, and do not intend to discuss, the wisdom or otherwise of either plan. Suffice it to say, that the system we mention is the one adopted by the Messrs. Taylor, and knowing this we are anxious to see the manner in which these holes were made. This is done by a huge piece of machinery called a radial drill, which though apparently so intricate an engine, is one easily to be understood by the meanest capacity, in fact, upon a close inspection its simplicity seems marvellous. In this tuning-room the frames to hold bells are put together, and the movements of the bells and hangings are adjusted before sending them to their destination.

Now we leave this part of the establishment, and crossing a road, enter the foundry proper. Here, as immediately inside the other entrance, are to be found new and modern bells of all sorts, and sizes, and by all makers. A cursory examination of them discloses the *imprimatur* of "Mears and Stainbank," "John Warner and Sons," and other well-known names whose possessors in a past age held almost undisputed sway; some

with an attempt at ornamentation, some with a legend, and so on. And here we could venture to traverse some of the statements of Mr. Haweis, did not the fear of being brought into contact with such a great man control us. In recent numbers of this journal our readers had an opportunity of seeing the almost contemptible manner in which the rev. gentleman speaks of the inscriptions upon bells cast at English foundries. We must agree with him however, to a certain extent. The decorative part of English bells, when there is any, is certainly not to be compared with that on many of the bells of the continent. But very few persons indeed in this country desire artistic work of this description on bells, and still less, we apprehend, would desire to pay for it. In running a tilt against our bell inscriptions Mr. Haweis should have learnt for himself all the circumstances. When a founder is urged to proceed with all speed in the execution of an order for bells, there is hardly time left for the preparation of such elaborate designs in the shape of ornament. We should like to hear what some of these continental founders would say to the demand for a peal of bells to be supplied in the time allowed some of our own people. The foreigners make the ornamentation of their bells a specialty, and take their time in doing so; but when required, and time being given, modellers of equal or even superior capability could be found in England to produce designs quite as elaborate. The pet founders of Mr. Haweis would, we imagine, be somewhat amazed to hear that in an English bell-foundry, such as the one we are dealing with, an order for a peal of eight bells, say with a tenor a ton weight, could be executed in as many weeks. But the statement is nevertheless true.

But this is a digression. We were about to allude to the foundry proper, *i.e.* the place where the moulds are prepared and the bells run. This building is of the same spacious dimensions as other parts of the establishment. The first objects that meet the view are two immense swing cranes, the largest capable of lifting 40 tons. Here are to be seen the iron jackets in which the moulds are made—for this plan of casting is adopted by the Messrs. Taylor. The one used for Great Paul—made of course for the purpose—cost £100, and we suppose that now it is practically valueless. In the foundry is another engine to work a mill for mixing up the loam for the manufacture of the moulds for the bells. At the far end of the foundry is the handbell department, and here are to be found all the appliances necessary for satisfying the requirements of those who are anxious to engage in this interesting portion of the art.

Throughout our perambulation over the various buildings which comprise this large establishment, we were accompanied by the two principals of the firm, who shewed us everything there was to be seen, and readily and courteously responded to all our enquiries. Both these gentlemen are practical ringers; Mr. Taylor, sen., has had a considerable experience among ringers, and his fund of anecdote, with a relation of many of his experiences, we found very entertaining. One thing we discovered he had a horror of, and that was bad striking, a defect we hope to hear that the ringers in the neighbourhood have, ere this, surmounted.

OUTING OF THE WALTHAMSTOW RINGERS.

On Friday afternoon last, July 11th, nearly twenty ringers and friends went by road from Walthamstow to High Barnet. An excellent knife and fork tea was partaken of at the "King of Prussia," after which several touches of Grandsire Triples was rung on the parish church bells, and a very enjoyable evening was spent with the brother strings of Barnet, who, strange to say, had never heard of "THE BELL NEWS." The ringers wish to take this opportunity of thanking the worthy Rector for his kindness in allowing them the use of the bells, especially as it was at considerable inconvenience to the choir, who removed to another locality for their practice.

OUT OF TOWN.

The hour of 11.55 a.m. on Saturday June 21st, found us seated in one of the third class compartments of the Liverpool and Manchester express, leaving at 12.0 noon from St. Pancras station, hearts light, and bent on thirteen days' healthful recreation amongst the lovely hills of the midland county of Derby. The time of departure having arrived, out we start, leaving smoke and care behind us, thinking only of our destination. A halt is made at Kentish Town, and on we go again direct to Bedford, passing and noticing in our flight thither, with expressions of gratification, the different towers and spires that flit by us, wondering whether they contain a good, bad, indifferent, or no peal at all, and what kind of ringers and methods are practised. Bedford is passed, on we go to Leicester, the scenery being superb, till at last we descry the majestic towers of this busy manufacturing town, that of St. Margaret's claiming our admiration, especially as we anticipate a pull on that noble ring of ten the following week. Again we are off, and again our time is fully occupied *en route* by the grandeur of the surrounding country in its best appearance. Loughborough is passed, not without a thought of the ninth at St. Paul's Cathedral: Mount Sorrel granites are approaching and gone, and the magnificent tower of All Saints, Derby, now claims our attention. Nearer we draw, and at last stop, at the principal station on the Midland system—Derby, after a most enjoyable mid-day ride of 3 hrs. 6 mins. Alighting from the carriage we are met by that veteran of Derby, Mr. John Howe, whose smiling countenance denotes he has something in store for one of us four travellers from London; but I must now let my readers into the secret who my fellow-travellers were. They consisted of my wife, son, and sister. The usual salutations having been brought to a stand, the meaning of the facial contortion of our Derby friend was made manifest by being asked to stand in a peal at once, at the church of St. Alkmund, a ring of eight, tenor 17 cwt. It was very kind of course for my country friends to arrange so nicely for a peal of Grandsire Triples immediately upon my arrival, and also very gratifying, especially as I had been out of bed since 2.45 that morning, and had had very little refreshment since breakfast; still we put up with it, and having seen my aforesaid companions in the right road to their very comfortable apartments, we (John Howe and myself), wended our way to the trying place, there we found all present. We at once ascended the tower, run the bells (not all in tune) round, adjusted our ropes to the proper length—except the fourth man, whose sallie was too high. Up goes our friend to lower the rope, but he found it impracticable owing to the presence of a knot just inside the eye of the wheel, so invention being necessity's mother, our conductor, Mr. H. C. Woodward, like a "terrible functionary," was perched upon a box, from which he called the peal in three hours eighteen minutes: and very glad I was when "that's all" was sounded, considering that I had next to nothing for a sallie, and immediately in my rear the presence of the pest of many steeples, a foul urinal, which ever and anon wafted its not very spicy breezes into contact with my olfactory nerves. Some kind friend was thoughtful enough to bring a small tin of disinfectant, but this had little effect upon the old sore, and I should advise the authorities there to rid themselves of this no very great embellishment to a ringing-chamber. We descended into fresher air, and after exchanging greetings and such like in a neighbouring hostelry, parted for the night, having made up a party of four to walk to Duffield the following morning.

(To be continued.)

O. P. Q.

THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

THE Annual Meeting of this Association will be held at Leatherhead (by the kind permission of the Vicar) on Monday, July 21st. The tower will be open for ringing from four o'clock; but if any members can get to Leatherhead before that hour, they are requested to communicate with the Hon. Sec., who will make the necessary arrangements. The business meeting will be held in the schoolroom at six o'clock p.m.

All ringing members who attend this meeting will be allowed the sum of 1s. 6d. towards travelling expenses, &c., as it has been found impossible to arrange for the usual tea.

At 6.30, ringing for service; at 7 a short special service, which the Vicar has kindly undertaken to hold for the ringers. He will also preside at the meeting unless he is obliged to be away from Leatherhead on that day.

ARTHUR B. CARPENTER, Hon. Sec.

THE CHRONOLOGY OF CHANGE-RINGING.—(Concluded.)

By F. W. J. REES,

A Member of the Ancient Society of College Youths.

- 1882.—The ring at Baldock, Herts., increased to eight.
Association formed for the Diocese of Worcester.
- 1883.—A new ring of eight at Harlow, Essex.
The twelve at Norwich rehung.
The ring at Colerne, Wilts, increased to eight.
The ring at Caldicot, Monmouthshire, increased to eight.
Ringers of Frittenden, Kent, rang 10,080 Bob Major.
The ringers of Reading rang their first peal, Grandsire Triples.
The ringers of Penzance rang a peal of Grandsire Triples, the first peal in Cornwall.
The ringers of Ashton-under-Lyne, Lancashire, rang 16,608 Kent Treble Bob Major, in 9 hrs. 48 mins., at Mottram, Cheshire, tenor 11 cwt. This is the longest length in this or any other method ever rung by one set of men.

FINIS CORONAT OPUS.

This interesting chronological record is thus brought to a close, and we have great pleasure in stating that during its publication assurances from various readers have been received of the value of Mr. Rees' labours. No doubt it is incomplete, but for all that, we are sure our friends will award to our valued contributor all praise for the publication of the result of his researches into the history of the art. Below is a letter received from him this week, and there is no doubt he will in time reply to other correspondents.

THE EYE (SUFFOLK) BELLS.

DEAR SIR,—I am very much obliged to Mr. Day for setting me right as to the time of the augmentation of the Eye bells from six to eight. I hope you will allow me to explain to your readers how the mistake arose. My authority was the Rev. W. C. Lukis, who, in his "Account of Church Bells," page 97, gives the inscriptions on the Eye bells as follows:—

- 1 and 2.—"Miles Gray made me. 1640."
- 3.—"Dona repende pia rogo Magdalena Maria."
- 4.—"Ex dono Gulielmi Brampton generosi. 1721."
- 5.—"J. Stephens made us 3. 1721."
- 6.—"Pack and Chapman of London fecerunt. 1779."
- 7.—"O God continue thy mercies to the King. 1789. Osborne fecit."
- 8.—"Let us rejoice our King restored. Osborne fecit 1789."

Now as the tenor at Eye is a well-known master-piece of Miles Gray, I jumped (far too hastily) to the conclusion that Mr. Lukis's informant had simply turned the bells the wrong way, making "1" "8," and "8" "1," and I was confirmed in this view by finding that 7 and 8, which I took for 1 and 2, were the newest bells in the ring, and added in the same year.

I trust Mr. Day will tell us in "THE BELL NEWS" to which bells the above inscriptions respectively fall, and really belong.

This letter will be quite "out of time," but I received "THE BELL NEWS" of the 24th May only yesterday, being in the jungles.

Tipperah, Bengal, F. W. J. REES.
14th June, 1884.

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE MAJOR.

5200.

By G. H. BEEVER, *Oldham.*

2 3 4 5 6

4 3 6 5 2	M.
5 3 6 4 2	8th in three.
3 6 5 4 2	H.
6 3 5 4 2	7th in three.
3 5 6 4 2	H.
5 6 3 4 2	H.
6 5 3 4 2	7th in two.
4 5 3 6 2	8th in three.
5 3 4 6 2	H.
3 4 5 6 2	H.
5 6 4 3 2	8th in two.
6 5 4 3 2	7th in three.
5 4 6 3 2	H.
4 6 5 3 2	H.

Rung on Easter Sunday, April 13th, at St. Mark's, Oldham, Lancashire, in 3 hours 5 mins.; conducted by its composer.

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR.

5168.

By A. KNIGHTS, *Chesterfield.*

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

These fourteen courses repeated produce:—

4 3 5 2 6

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

A DATE TOUCH OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR.

1884.

By W. SOTTANSTALL, *Sowerby, Yorkshire.*

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8

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

These four changes
braced must be rung
to make a start for the
first treble lead.

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

1888.

By ringing the four
changes braced to make
a start reduces the
touch to 1884 changes.

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERS.

6058.

By FRED COATES, *Rotherham.*

2 3 1 4 5 6 5 16

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

The last eleven courses three times repeated
produces 2 1 5 3 6 4.

Round by bobs at 2, 5, 7, 9, 11, 12, 15.

Calling bobs at 2, 6, 8, 9, 15 from the 46th
course-end, 5 1 2 4 6 3, the peal will be reduced
to 5093 changes.

*This course produced by bobs at 2, 6, 9, 11,
13, 15, and 20.

TWO PEALS OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR.

By JOHN J. BRIERLEY, *Saddleworth.*

5280.

2 3 4 5 6 M B W H

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

Twice repeated.

5184.

2 3 4 5 6 M B W H

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

TWO PEALS OF TREBLE BOB MAXIMUS.

By J. R. PRITCHARD, *Liverpool.*

5232.

5088.

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

We are informed that the two peals of
Grandsire Major, the composition of Mr. G.
H. Beever, which appeared in our last number,
are false.

"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.

Everything for insertion in this Journal to be addressed "The Editor of THE BELL NEWS, Walthamstow, London." Letters forwarded for publication, and performances under 5000 changes must reach us not later than Wednesday morning; and the insertion of any communication coming later than the first Postal delivery on Thursday morning cannot be guaranteed in that week's number. When it is found impossible from want of space to insert all touches forwarded, the earlier ones will have the preference.

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.

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

AUDITOR TANTUM.—Yes; the earlier the better. Letter forwarded as desired.

To prevent disappointment, the Editor requests that stamps for extra copies of this paper may be sent direct to the Publisher.

The Bell News & Ringers' Record.

SATURDAY, JULY 19, 1884.

THE good people of Bournemouth are fortunate. They are certainly to be envied in having among them a person who, in a letter to one of the local newspapers signs himself as "WM. CLAYTON." A cutting from this journal, containing a copy of the letter, has been sent to us by a correspondent, who thinks it may "interest our editorial mind." The letter of "WM. CLAYTON" however, does not interest us, in the common acceptance of the word; neither does it amuse, much less instruct. We shall not fall into the error of inserting this letter. That would pander too much to the writer's vanity. In fact, we should have ignored it altogether had it not been pointed out that it was our duty to bring such effusions as this—the one by WM. CLAYTON—into ridicule.

Sir WILLIAM CLAYTON—for it is he, and no other—says that bells are a nuisance, and "so far from driving away devils in a general sense, they generally bring them to him—and very blue ones they are." This is the kind of balderdash in which the writer appears to revel. Let us quote another sentence. "It is, I believe, partly owing to that silly creature NELL GWYNN, who founded a society of ringers, and left moneys to feast chimers at St. Martin's in the Fields." And again—"Why when there is so much clamour about the holiness of the Sabbath, should men be employed in pulling ropes to the detriment of their own salvation?" With what kind of relish the Bournemouth people read such attempts at waggery, we know not.

Doubtless Sir WILLIAM would make short work of bells and ringers had he his own way. We cannot attempt to gauge his feelings whenever he walks across Trafalgar Square, and hears the "chimers" at St. Martin's. Does he harbour revengeful feelings within his breast? We

suggest, then, in order to appease his retributive spirit, he should enter the ringing-chamber of that church when the principal "chimer" was occupied, and loudly interrogate him as to the moneys left by the above-mentioned historical character to feast him and his colleagues. If the reply was vague and unsatisfactory, or given in a manner which indicated a doubt of the sanity of the questioner, he may attempt to punish the offender in true feudal style, the implements for the purpose being so convenient. After this our Bournemouth contemporary would hear very little about bells from their former correspondent on the subject.

THE BELLS OF STANFORD-LE-HOPE, ESSEX.

This ring of bells, six in number, which have been recast and rehung by Messrs. Moore, Holmes, and Mackenzie, of the Redenhall Foundry, Harleston, Norfolk, will be opened to-morrow (Sunday) being St. Margaret's day. There will also be ringing on Monday, Tuesday and Saturday, by bands of the Essex Association. These bells have been hung in an immense iron frame, full particulars of which will appear in our next issue.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

THE Fourth Annual Festival of this Guild will be held at Great Marlow, on Tuesday next, July 22nd. At 11 a.m., there will be service at the parish church, with sermon by the Master. After service the General Meeting will be held at "The Greyhound" hotel club-room, for the election of officers for the year, and for other business. Dinner at the Music Room at 2 o'clock. The tower of the parish church will be open for ringing in the afternoon. Members shewing their Dinner Tickets at the several stations on the G. W. R. will be conveyed to Marlow and back for a fare and a quarter.

The Metropolis.

ST MARYS SOCIETY.—OLD BATTERSEA.

Half-Muffled Peal.

On Tuesday, July 8, 1884, in Two Hours and Fifty-two Minutes,

AT ST. MARY'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S TEN-PART.

H. W. ORCHARD* Treble.	O. BLISS 5.
W. BARON 2.	H. S. THOMAS 6.
A. G. THOMAS 3.	H. A. HOPKINS 7.
C. T. HOPKINS 4.	H. SWAIN Tenor.

Conducted by W. BARON.

*First peal.

Particulars of the above will be found on another page.

The Provinces.

BURTON-ON-TRENT, STAFFORDSHIRE.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION, AND THE ST. PAUL'S SOCIETY, BURTON-ON-TRENT.

On Wednesday, July 9, 1884, in Three Hours and Twenty Minutes,

AT ST. PAUL'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 26 cwt.

JOSEPH GRIFFIN Treble.	HARRY WAKLEY 5.
EDWARD ISAAC STONE .. 2.	JOHN HOWE 6.
HARRY CHAS. WOODWARD .. 3.	THOMAS HOLMES 7.
THOMAS MEREDITH 4.	WILLIAM WAKLEY Tenor.

Composed by H. JOHNSON, SEN., and conducted by WILLIAM WAKLEY.

The above is a two-part peal, and has the 6th the extent in 5-6. It is published in Snowdon's *Treatise*, part ii., page 35, and is now rung for the first time.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—ECCLES.

On Monday, July 14, 1884, in Two Hours and Fifty-four-and- $\frac{1}{2}$ Minutes,

At ST. MARY'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor 13 cwt. 3 qrs.

WM. CROSSLEY	Treble.	JAMES BARRATT.. .. .	5.
EDWARD CASH	2.	RICHARD ASHCROFT.. .. .	6.
RICHARD PEARCE.. .. .	3.	G. H. JOHNSON.. .. .	7.
CHARLES CASH	4.	WILLIAM ASHCROFT.. .. .	Tenor.

Composed by the late THOMAS DAY, conducted by
G. H. JOHNSON.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—SADDLEWORTH.
SADDLEWORTH BRANCH.

On Tuesday, July 15, 1884, in Three Hours and Six Minutes,

At ST. CHAD'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5184 CHANGES;

Tenor 12 cwt.

JOHN J. BRIERLEY	Treble.	JOHN HOLDEN	5.
WM. BILLINGHURST	2.	EDGAR BUCKLEY	6.
JOHN T. HOLDEN	3.	JOHN T. DICKEN*	7.
JAMES WRIGLEY.. .. .	4.	JOSEPH WOOD	Tenor.

Composed by J. J. BRIERLEY, of Saddleworth.

Mr. W. Billingham hails from Loughborough, and is also a member of the above Association.

*First peal in the method.

Date Touches.

THE BRADFORD AMALGAMATED SOCIETY.

BRADFORD (Yorkshire).—On Tuesday evening, July 15th, at St. Peter's church, eight members of the above Society rang a date touch of 1884 changes of Grandsire Triples, which had been intended to have been rung at Ilkley, in 1 hr. 12 mins. A. Moulson, 1; R. Tuke, Esq., 2; John Fisher, 3; Thomas Pollitt, 4; J. Cheetham, 5; J. H. Hardcastle (conductor), 6; J. Angus, 7; J. B. Jennings, 8. Composed by Mr. J. Hollis, of Wakefield. Tenor 27 cwt.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

NOTTINGHAM.—On Sunday afternoon, July 13th, for Divine Service, on the occasion of the Church Parade of the Nottingham Imperial Order of Odd Fellows, the St. Peter's society, who are also all members of the above Association, rang a very musical date touch of Grandsire Triples, 1884 changes, in 1 hr. 9 mins. S. Wilkinson, 1; S. Wilkins, 2; S. Simkin, 3; A. Archer, 4; A. R. Peet, 5; J. Hickman (conductor), 6; S. Burton, 7; A. W. Sadler, 8. Composed by J. Carter, Birmingham. Tenor 21 cwt.

Miscellaneous.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

SOUTH SHIELDS.—On Sunday, July 6th, at St. Hilda's church for Divine Service in the evening, 720 of Plain Bob Minor, in 26 mins. R. Hopper, 1; A. Moffit, 2; R. Scrafton, 3; Jas. Moffit, 4; J. Hopper, 5; Jno. Moffit (conductor), 6. Also on Sunday, July 13th, for Divine Service in the morning, 720 College Single, with the band stationed as above, in 25 mins., conducted by Jno. Moffit. Also for evening service 720 Grandsire Minor, in 25 mins., conducted by R. Hopper. Tenor 10 cwt.

ST. OSWALD'S, DURHAM.—On Saturday, July 12th, Messrs. G. J. Clarkson and T. Burdon, of the Stockton branch, visited Durham to have a practice with the St. Oswald's ringers, who are struggling through the early stages of change-ringing. The result was that several six-scores of Bob Doubles were accomplished, the calling being changed from peal to peal. T. Wheatley, 1; J. Wardle (first 120), 2; L. Newton (first 120), 3; T. Burdon, 4; G. J. Clarkson, 5; C. Bradford, 6. A six-score was afterwards rung with Mr. Clark at the treble. Tenor 16 cwt.

THE SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.

Muffled Peal.

LONDON.—On Thursday, July 10th, 1884, ten members of the above Society rang at St. Sepulchre's church, a funeral peal with the bells deeply muffled as a last token of respect to Mr. Ernest E. Robins,

who was buried that day. J. Nelms, 1; C. Hopkins, 2; G. Church, 3; H. Dains, 4; J. Mansfield, 5; E. F. Cole, Esq., 6; W. Matthews, 7; D. Lovett, 8; J. Rumsey, 9; J. Barry, 10. Concluding with a touch of 500 Grandsire Caters, conducted by John Nelms. Tenor 32 cwt. The deceased was a young, promising, and much respected member of this Society, and died very suddenly on Wednesday, the second instant, having only just commenced his 25th year. He was amongst his brother ringers at St. Mary's, Battersea, on the evening previous to the day of his death, and was to have attempted to call Holt's Original peal of Grandsire Triples, at St. Mary's, Lambeth, the Saturday following, for which several met, but only to receive the sad news of their conductor's death.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

LYMINGE (Kent).—On Sunday, July 13th, at the parish church of SS. Mary and Eadburgh for Divine Service in the afternoon, a 360 of Plain Bob Minor, with nine bobs, in 15 mins. A. Beer, 1; R. Andrews, 2; T. Beer, 3; J. Andrews, 4; W. Fordred, jun., 5; A. Tanton (conductor), 6. Tenor 18 $\frac{1}{2}$ cwt.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

CASTLE DONNINGTON (Leicestershire).—On Tuesday, July 15th, the following rang, in honour of the marriage of Mrs. Eaton, of Cavendish Bridge, with the Rev. Roney Dougal, a 720 of Plain Bob Minor, in 28 mins. *V. Hickin, 1; Dr. Sellon, 2; *J. Hutchby, 3; C. Dickens, 4; S. Gilson, 5; J. Ward (conductor), 6. *First 720. Tenor 17 $\frac{1}{2}$ cwt.

THE WATERLOO SOCIETY, LONDON.

Muffled Peal.

LONDON.—On Wednesday, July 9th, at St. John's, Waterloo Road, eight members of the above Society rang a muffled peal (the usual whole pull and stand), as a last mark of respect to the late Mr. E. Robins, a much-respected and esteemed member of the Society, who died at the early age of 24 years. W. Baron (conductor), 1; H. Langdon, 2; C. Harvey, 3; W. Coppage, 4; W. D. Matthews, 5; W. Jones, 6; D. Stackwood, 7; J. Mansfield, 8.

THE WORCESTER DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

NETHERTON (Worcestershire).—On Sunday morning, being the anniversary School Sermons, six members of the local company rang a 360 of Plain Bob, in 13 mins. B. Townsend, 1; F. Hotchkiss, 2; J. Townsend, 3; R. Round, 4; J. Prestidge, 5; J. Smith, 6. Also for evening service, a 720 of Grandsire Minor, in 23 mins. G. Hughes (Hanbury), 1; J. Goodman (Dudley), 2; J. Townsend, 3; R. Round, 4; W. Micklewright (Dudley), 5; J. Smith, 6. Also after service, a 720 of Plain Bob, in 25 mins. G. Hughes, 1; J. Townsend, 2; W. Micklewright, 3; R. Round, 4; J. Prestidge, 5; J. Smith (conductor), 6. Tenor 12 $\frac{1}{2}$ cwt. G. Hughes of Hanbury, has only one arm, having lost his right one.

CHILDWALL (Lancashire).—On Wednesday, July 9th, a 720 of Grandsire Minor, in 27 mins. George Meadows, 1; Henry Meadows, 2; William Meadows, 3; John R. Pritchard, 4; William Booth (first 720 as conductor), 5; Edward Foster, 6. Afterwards a touch of Treble Bob Minor was rung, Edwin Booth and John Aspinwall taking the place of G. and W. Meadows. Several courses of Grandsire Caters were afterwards rung on the handbells. H. Meadows, 1-2; E. Booth, 3-4 (for the first course, and W. Booth for the others); J. Aspinwall, 5-6; J. R. Pritchard, 7-8; E. Fester, 9-10.

ILKLEY AND ADDINGHAM (Yorkshire).—On Sunday, July 13th, the ringers of Low Moor paid a visit to Ilkley and Addingham, and rang for Divine Service in the morning at Ilkley, a 640 of Kent Treble Bob Major. T. Pickard, 1; J. Warsnop, 2; A. Wilkinson, 3; H. Jones, 4; W. Widoff, 5; J. Briggs, 6; J. W. Emmett, 7; C. Dracup (conductor), 8. Tenor 18 cwt. And in the afternoon six members rang for service at Addingham, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor, in 27 $\frac{1}{2}$ mins. T. Pickard, 1; A. Wilkinson, 2; W. Widoff, 3; J. Briggs, 4; J. W. Emmett, 5; C. Dracup (conductor), 6. Tenor 12 cwt.

WIMBLEDON (Surrey).—On Tuesday, July 15th, at St. Mary's, for practice, a 720 of Bob Minor, with eighteen bobs and two singles, in 28 mins. G. Hyde, 1; J. Carter (Birmingham), 2; C. Hyde, 3; J. Parker, 4; J. Fergusson (Sevenoaks; conductor), 5; S. Frost, 6.

MELBOURNE (Derbyshire).—On Wednesday, July 9th, on the occasion of the Melbourne Horticultural Society holding their first Flower Show, with the assistance of Mr. John Howe, of Derby, the local company rang 840 of Grandsire Doubles. *Harry Hulse, 1; *Joseph Warren, 2; *John Howe (conductor), 3; *Geo. C. Tunncliffe, 4; Thomas Hollingworth, 5; John Vicars, 6. Also on Saturday,

July 12th, to accommodate Mr. H. C. Woodward, of Derby, three 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles. H. Hulse, 1; J. Warren, 2; H. C. Woodward (conductor), 3; G. C. Tunncliffe, 4; T. Hollingworth (first 6-score with a bob bell), 5; J. Vicars, 6. Also another 6-score with the 3rd the observation. Those marked thus * are members of the Midland Counties' Association. Tenor 16 cwt. in F#.

NUNEATON (Warwickshire).—On Thursday, July 10th, at the parish church, for practice, six 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles, each called differently, 3rd and 5th the observation, in 27 mins. H. Bacon, 1; W. Swain, 2; J. Mawby, 3; *H. Horwood (conductor), 4; T. Lingard, 5; W. Adler, 6. Also on Sunday morning, for service, three 6-scores in the same method, called differently. G. E. Swain, 1; W. Swain, 2; †H. Bacon, 3; H. Horwood (conductor), 4; C. Draper, 5. Tenor 14½ cwt. in E. †First 360 with a bob bell. *Member of the Midland Counties' Association.

STANSTEAD (Suffolk).—On Tuesday, July 15th, a 720 of Bob Minor. Zachariah Slater, 1; Percy C. S. Scott, 2; Samuel Slater (conductor), 3; James Bird (first 720 with a bob bell), 4; O. Garwood, 5; Philip O. Bixby, 6.

WILLESDEN (Middlesex).—On Thursday, July 10th, 720 Bob Minor, in 22 mins. A. Kirby, 1; J. Driver, 2; M. Murphy, 3; A. Pitman, 4; R. Kilby, 5; T. Scarlett (conductor), 6. Tenor 9 cwt. J. Driver hails from Fulham; T. Scarlett from Woodford.

VISIT OF THE ST. PETER'S AMALGAMATED SOCIETY, SHEFFIELD, TO DERBY.

On Monday, July 7th, upwards of thirty members of the above Society left Sheffield by train, arriving at Derby about 9.30. They were met by Messrs. Howe and Woodward, of the Derby Society, who acted as pioneers during the day, and conducted the party to the Bath Hotel, which was made the headquarters. Previous arrangements had been made with the Vicars and Churchwardens of the following churches for ringing: All Saints, ten bells, tenor 28 cwt.; St. Werburgh's, eight bells, tenor 17 cwt.; St. Alkmund's, eight bells, tenor about 19 cwt.; St. Luke's, eight bells, tenor 34 cwt.; St. Andrew's, eight bells, tenor 20 cwt.; the latter church being the first to be visited. Here a peal of Kent Treble Bob Major was attempted, but after ringing 40 mins., the third rope broke, and the peal was abandoned. The rope being spliced, touches of Stedman and Grandsire and Stedman Triples were rung. At the same time a peal of Grandsire Triples (Holt's Original), was started for at St. Werburgh's, but after ringing over two hours a change-course occurred, and the conductor called the bells round. A band was next formed for a peal of Stedman Caters at All Saints, but it was found impossible to attempt a peal here on account of so many visitors ascending the tower, and was subsequently abandoned for a peal of Stedman Triples at St. Werburgh's, which unfortunately came to grief in an hour and half. St. Luke's was next visited, and the party were met by the Rev. J. Lyall, who conducted them round the church, which is a very pretty one. Touches of Grandsire, Stedman, and Treble Bob Major were rung, and at the request of the Vicar, a course of Grandsire Caters, on the handbells. All Saints' and St. Alkmund's were visited during the day, Grandsire Triples and Treble Bob Major were rung. Stedman and Grandsire Caters were also rung on handbells at the meeting house.

The members of the above Society wish to return thanks, through the medium of this paper, to the clergy and churchwardens for their kindness in allowing them the use of their various towers; also to express their admiration of the model belfry at St. Andrew's. The ringers returned home well pleased with their first annual outing.

ST. MARY'S SOCIETY, OLD BATTERSEA.

VERY recently we recorded the excursion, by several members of this society, to Birchington, in the Isle of Thanet, and the successful display of bell-ringing by them on that occasion. We have now the painful task of recording the death of one of the most active members, Mr. Ernest Ellis Robins, who on that occasion, his 25th birthday, rung the tenor in a 5040. On the 1st of July, he was apparently in good health, in company with other members of the society, and on the following day he died suddenly. His remains were removed to Chedworth, Gloucestershire, and interred in the churchyard of St. Andrew's. Had the funeral taken place at Battersea, there would have been a numerous gathering of his brother members and friends, anxious to show the last mark of respect to an associate so highly esteemed for his personal qualities and the punctuality of his attendances in the belfry. The society was represented at Chedworth, and a box of flowers, the joint contribution of the members, was forwarded. On Tuesday, the 8th instant, eight members rang Holt's ten-part peal, half-muffled, the particulars of which will be found on another page. The coffin bore the inscription: "Ernest Ellis Robins, born June 1st, 1859; died July 2nd, 1884."

PRIZE-RINGING.

THE following letter has appeared in the *South Durham and Cleveland Mercury*. "Jack-in-the-box" is the *nom de plume* of a writer in that journal, who has recently made some pointed allusions to bells and ringing.

BELL-RINGING.—Dear Mr. Editor,—I see in "Local Gossip" of your weekly issue of 28th June, your Mr. "Jack-in-the-box" seems to have a liking for change-ringing, or church bell ringing. There is not a man living that likes to hear bell-ringing better than I do, and there are very few persons living now, I venture to say, who have heard more than I in the early part of my life—say from 1835 to 1850—in the West Riding of Yorkshire, in the shape of Sunday ringing for the service, morning and night, and prize-ringing. In a circle of twenty miles, as far north as Otley and south as Sheffield, many a time have I walked all night to get to the commencement of the practice, and hundreds besides myself from all parts. Ringing is not now, even in the West Riding, practised to the extent it was at the time I mention; and this is accounted for by so many instrumental bands of music coming into vogue, and so many band contests taking place through the country, which has brought instrumental music to the perfection it has attained. Prize-ringing was the means of bringing change-ringing to perfection. I hope my friend "Jack-in-the-box" will not cease his writing on the subject until he gets the various companies the Association district to promote a ringing contest, either on six or eight bells—say at Stockton on six bells, a peal that is easily reached. I can mention a few places they might send circulars to invite competitors. This is the only way of bringing change-ringing to the fore in a practical form in the district, and that is what is really wanted. It is perfectly childish to publish such performances as you mention at Sunderland. I think there are eight bells at Sunderland, and six at Bishopwearmouth. Yes, it was a wonderful feat of ringing, that Sunderland performance. I am afraid the quality of ringing would be something like it was at Stockton last year at their meeting. There was a company trying to ring 720; and they did ring it, after breaking down three times. Why such ringing would not have the slightest chance at a ringing-contest. I am very much disappointed with the companies of ringers in this North York and Durham district for not promoting prize-ringing. Until they do that they will never attain even to a third-rate position in the practical part of ringing. I want "Jack-in-the-box" to use his pen and influence in trying to induce some of the places to get up prize-ringing on six bells. Stockton is the likeliest place, as having railway communication with the Leeds district, the district in all England where change-ringing is carried to as near perfection as human ability can carry it. I have a prize ringing circular by me now that was sent out through the country, scores of them being posted to all known ringing places. The contest took place on Easter Monday and Tuesday, 1866, on six bells. I have also by me a newspaper account of a prize-ringing that took place at Dewsbury on the same Easter Monday and Tuesday, but on eight bells, and I know there have been two contests since 1866 at the former place, Kirkheaton, and one at the latter place; but I have no account of them as to particulars. Never a year passes but there is prize-ringing in some part of the West Riding of Yorkshire—in fact it is prize-ringing that makes good ringers, just the same as band contests have made good bands. I have known Kirkheaton ringers win four first prizes in one year, 1843. I enclose you the circular and the newspaper account, and also the death of a veteran ringer, in order to show you that I am not writing in a fictitious sort of way, but what I say is genuine.

We have very little sympathy indeed with the writer of this letter. Ringing for prizes would no doubt promote good striking, but that is all we can say for it. We never heard that even six-bell prize-ringing tended to such proficiency in a variety of methods as we now frequently read of. Among ringers prize-ringing has never become universally popular, and it never will be. The writer of the above letter makes some very remarkable statements, some of which appear, to those who know better, very foolish indeed. According to his theory, no one will ever attain to even a third-rate position as a ringer unless he promotes prize-ringing! We will undertake to name, not one, but one hundred of the most clever and skilful ringers of England, who during their lives have never been present at a prize-ringing meeting. The comparison between prize-ringing and band contests is not a happy one; the former takes place in a building where the least show of irreverence is improper. Where an incumbent takes a pride in his bells, and an interest in the progress of his ringers, a great deal is gained to the cause of true ringing. But where prize-ringing was allowed, we should expect to find him indifferent and careless about belfry matters, and apt to take a very low (but incorrect) estimate both of ringers and ringing.

THE UNITED COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

THE Half-yearly Meeting of the above Association was held on Saturday last, at the picturesque village of Dinting, Derbyshire. The various branches of the Association were fairly represented, ringers attending from the following places: Glossop, Hyde, Macclesfield, Sutton, Chapel-en-le-Frith, Dinting, Saddleworth, Royal George, Haughton, and Mottram; members from Stalybridge and Ashton-under-Lyne being conspicuous by their absence. The proceedings opened by a well-struck touch of Kent Treble Bob Major at All Saints' church, Glossop, followed by some excellent six-bell ringing at Dinting in the shape of Oxford, Violet, and New London Treble Bob. At 5 o'clock, dinner was held at "The Plough" inn, and between fifty and sixty sat down, and did justice to the good things provided. Dinner being over, Mr. John Holden, President of the Association, was called upon to take the chair for the evening. Previous to a few appropriate remarks, the President read to the meeting an appeal which had been sent round by the Hon. Sec. to the various towers comprising this Association, inducing the ringers who were not members to become so. Ten new members were elected. During the evening some very good courses of Grandsire Triples, Major, Caters, Royal, and Cinques, and Bob and Treble Bob Major were rung, and some tunes were also played on the handbells. The Association have decided on holding their next annual meeting at Hyde, Cheshire, on Saturday, January 10th, 1885.

TWELVE DAYS' CHANGE OF AIR, WITH "CHANGES."

By. F. E. DAWE.

After leaving Birmingham, we shortly arrived at Walsall, but unfortunately could not stop long enough to visit our friend Mr. Hallsworth, therefore the next landing place was the cheerful looking old city of

LICHFIELD.

Here a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples was soon started for, and brought round in 45 mins., at St. Mary's, tenor 19 cwt. 2 qrs. 16 lbs. in E. In the afternoon a visit was made to the beautiful cathedral, dedicated to St. Chad with St. Mary. The two elaborate western towers are indescribable, also the larger central tower, all three being surmounted with most beautiful skeleton spires, which can be seen through at certain angles. The south west tower contains the bells, and the ringing-room, which is reached by a very good staircase, is a nice clean comfortable apartment, being large and airy, and every appearance of being well looked after. It is well provided with chairs, and large enough to be occasionally used as a meeting room for one or two of the district associations. We assisted in chiming the ten on the swing for afternoon service, and a mount made to the battlements to have a look round, and a walk outside to listen to the bells: they are certainly a splendid ring, the first ones being especially good, the tenor is 29 cwt. 3 qrs. 14 lbs. in D. A somewhat amusing incident occurred whilst Mr. Thomas and myself were at dinner at the "George" Hotel. An elderly gentleman entered the dining-room, and after listening intently to our conversation, by way of something to do, suddenly interrupted us by asking "Do you ring bells?" in a manner that might lead anyone to suppose that ringers were a drunken set and merely went up and kicked the bells all round. As we both happened to be in a very explanatory humour just then planning something, and being able to produce one or two ringing books with drawn diagrams in a kindergarten style, very soon surprised him beyond measure—he having "never heard of such a thing"—by sparing an hour or so in his company. Indeed so much did he learn that some hours afterwards he was discovered earnestly engaged in enlightening several of his friends at supper, by explaining his great knowledge and ringing abilities of the wonderful science of change-ringing, and all seemed to believe that the old gentleman had rung at St. Paul's, and many other places of renown, in fact generally going over the ground travelled by us a short time before! But such is the state of man. After attending afternoon service at the Cathedral, and seeing the internal beauties of the building, a visit was made after vespers to St. Michael's, Green Hill, which stands on a high eminence commanding a fine view of the town, and as the sun was setting, the three graceful cathedral spires, with that of St. Mary's and St. Michael's, were seen to the fullest advantage in the twilight. We were then introduced to the Rev. J. J. Serjeantson, a change-ringer at his own church (as the belfry tablets can show). The ringing-room is on the ground-floor, and over the door is carved on wood, in old English characters, the words "Audi, Vide, Tace" (eyes and ears open and mouth closed). We scored a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor, in 26 mins., tenor 11 cwt. 3 qrs. 9 lbs. in A. Afterwards, a walk to the station, listening to the bells, filled up the time until Mr. Thomas took his departure, and I hope he arrived safe in Birmingham. A pleasant evening was then agreeably spent with the Lichfield ringers, who kindly showed and told us everything of interest.

The next day

SHREWSBURY

was visited, and an inspection of the twelve bells at St. Chad's, which has a circular tower and church, the walls of the ringing-room, and the circle of ropes being as perfect as if compassed. It stands at the summit of one of the most beautiful sloping parks that can anywhere be found, being completely encompassed and interlaced with perfect avenues of very tall gigantic trees, spreading into each other; one avenue is very appropriately called the "Lover's Walk." The river Severn also winds its course along the lower extremity, and thus not only adds the finishing touch of beauty to the scene, and a pleasant resort, but affords one of the most enchanting spots to listen to the fine ring of twelve, tenor 41 cwt. in C., that England can boast of having. Before departing at the railway station we made friends with what was stated to be the largest dog in the British Isles, and as far as the canine species are concerned, he certainly was a splendid fellow. After passing Preesgweene and Chirk Valley, we arrived at

WREXHAM,

and at once proceeded to the house of R. W. Evans, Esq., whose guest we were for the week; that gentleman was at the time not very well, but happily soon got better again. The afternoon was suitably spent at the rifle butts, and the evening found us all assembled in the ringing-room of St. Giles's parish church; this chamber, which is about 22 feet square, has lately been done up in first-rate style by Mr. Evans and the ringers *alone*. New ropes from the best maker, everything painted, both woodwork and walls, two or three colors

being used; there is also a new ceiling nicely painted, with a large open ironwork centre-flower, from which the gas chandelier is suspended; each mousehole has a new boss, and all generally perforated in such a manner that every bell sounds very distinctly, and as they are a good ring of ten, tenor 24 cwt. in D, it is like ringing in a musical box. There are eight windows, two in each wall, with complete recesses down to the floor, which is adorned with new cocoa nut matting to fit all over, with mats and curious old-fashioned 15th century chairs (of which I made a sketch) capable of affording much comfort, occupying each recess under the eight windows. An elaborate tablet records three peals lately rung, thus making in all one of the most cosy ringing-rooms I have ever been in, the cleanlines and fittings of which is almost as brain-refreshing to a ringer who is fond of comfort as the famous "Zoedone," for which the town is noted. We soon started for a peal of Grandsire Caters, but through a mishap only rang 1800 changes in 1 hr. 10 mins. A. Lea, 1; R. W. Evans, Esq., 2; R. Jones, 3; J. Williams, 4; J. Ellis, 5; E. Rowland, 6; F. E. Dawe (conductor), 7; T. Newell, 8; E. Evans, 9; J. Kendrick, 10. After which an adjournment was made to Mr. Evans', where the handbells were brought forward, and change-ringing and tunes indulged in, though they could not play the "Bells of Aberdovey" that evening at my request, because "one of the Joneses was 'nt there."

The next day a large waggonette and pair started from Wrexham, with a party of ten, and enjoyed about sixteen miles of the choicest scenery that Cheshire, Denbigh, and Flint can command. The view sometimes as far as the eye could reach among the hills, and being in the first week of the leafy month of May, everything connected with nature, seemed rich in health, the various green tints for many miles round looked like countless fields of emeralds of various hues, being fresher and more beautiful than any that can be produced from the artist's palette. Several halts were made to allow the pleasure seekers to contemplate the beauty of the scene. At last, after passing along one of the gorgeous private drives of the park, we arrived at Eaton Hall, a few minutes before the hour, and having pulled up about a hundred yards to the windward of the campanile, waited patiently for the clock to strike, and the expectation of hearing a melody produced with suitable accompaniment from the twenty-eight Belgium bells in the accurate and beautiful continental style of playing. In due course of time the Westminster chimes went, then the 38 cwt. tenor in C, and then followed the tune; but alas! instead of the sweet music it was expected to bring, proved the reverse, grating on our ears like a failure, everyone expressing disappointment, and agreed that it was "almost as big a failure as the white elephant." Another start was immediately made, and after a sharp trot reached the river Dee, but saw nothing of the famous Müller, and shortly afterwards arrived in

CHESTER,

where the racecourse, which is capitally situated was first visited, and being the time of the Grand Cup, the place was as usual alive with several extra thousands of people. We partook of tea with Mr. Freeman Ball, and then adjourned to the new beautiful Cathedral, dedicated to St. Werburgh, with Oswald and Christ. Since its restoration it is a model of exquisite workmanship, and was again shown with the others all over it, the old cloisters and Cathedral close with grass plot coming in for several special exclamations of praise, as did also the lately excavated Norman crypt, in a splendid state of preservation. We ascended to the triforium, and then to the fine old tower, the ringing-room being a considerable height from the tessellated floor. Having raised the grand ring of eight in peal, a start was made, ending in the completion of Holt's ten-part peal of Grandsire Triples, in 3 hrs. 20 mins., tenor 33 cwt. in C sharp, as already published in this paper. As the ringing-room measures 30 ft. square, several judges and critics in the art were therefore seated round on some benches and chairs during the performance, and these as well as many more outside, pronounced it to be one of the best that could possibly be rung, which was very gratifying to a band of strangers, it being my first peal on Cathedral bells, and at the same time having the honour to call it. I may say here in passing that in this town the Dean and Chapter leave all the ringing and belfry business in the hands of their head ringer, Mr. Ball (who took part in the peal), and are amply repaid for doing so, as everything is in the most apple-pie order upstairs, and the bells, although a heavy ring, all go exceedingly well. We started off into changes at twenty-five minutes to eight in the evening, and came into rounds at five minutes to eleven o'clock! That sort of indulgence in a cathedral belfry is very rare—in fact there is not a single place of the kind where such liberties can be taken. The authorities do not like them rung during the day, but fully consent and love to hear them going in the evening, even at such a late hour as on the present occasion; not a single complaint has since been heard, which shows that the ringing is not overdone, or the liberty taken advantage of in any way, as the ringers and authorities seem fully to understand each other, and work on the "give and take" system.

(To be continued.)

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."

ST. ANDREW'S, LITCHURCH, DERBY.

SIR,—It appears to me that the "Beadle" had not the courage to reply to my letter himself, but must needs go to the Vicar with a one-sided tale, consequent upon which the latter gentleman, not waiting to hear both sides of the question (which in my humble opinion he ought to have done), writes stigmatising my communication as "impertinent and untruthful." The rev. gentleman seems to overlook the fact, or perhaps is not aware that it was his own officer, the sexton, as he prefers to be called, who first opened the ball by addressing a complaint to "THE BELL NEWS," in which he pointedly referred to me; and in exercising the right which I presume everyone has of replying, I fail to see in what way I am guilty of "impertinence."

It is also alleged that my letter is "untruthful," but no proof is given in support of the allegation, and I would ask the worthy Vicar if he will kindly take the trouble to substantiate it. It is further stated that the reply is "simply the outcome of the personal spite of one or two disaffected ringers." I am not afraid to repeat the words, and all I have to say about them is that when a *voluntary* ringer protests against the tyranny of a *paid* official, to call it "spite" is too absurd, and but a poor reward for services which have been given freely for the past two years and a half. Notwithstanding what the rev. gentleman says, and with all due respect to him, I must maintain, and am prepared to prove if necessary, that my previous letter is the truth.

A. B. WARD.

SIR,—In spite of the Vicar's letter, few will believe that the allegations of your correspondent "Truth" are without foundation, and I think it would be well for the Vicar to attempt to remove the disaffection that is said to exist. But to do this, he must listen, not to the *ex parte* statements of the "terrible functionary" in question, but to those who suffer by the vagaries of this person. As long as a non-ringer is allowed to carry the sway in the belfry there will always be disaffection. His duties should only consist in locking and unlocking the door at the bottom of the belfry steps. Scientific ringers are not to be controlled by a beadle who knows nothing of their art. Would he attempt to control the organist, or even the organ-blower? And yet scientific ringers, whose work in the belfry has "cost more pains than any other part of the service," are to be at the dictation of one who knows nothing about it, and they must tamely submit!

VERACITY.

A FALSE 720.

SIR,—I wish to thank Mr. R. Mackman for pointing out the error in my 720 in your valuable paper of July 5th, 1884.

T. YEATES.

AN OMISSION.

SIR,—Allow me to point out an omission on the part of Mr. Rees, in his Chronology of Change-ringing. In 1879 Messrs. Taylor and Sons, of Loughborough, cast for St. Mary's Cathedral, Edinburgh, a new peal of ten, tenor 43 cwt. in C.

J. S. ARCHER.

THE WEST MIDDLESEX ASSOCIATION.

SIR,—In the Chronology of Change-ringing, in your current number, it is mentioned that in 1882 this Association rang their first peal at Ealing. On that occasion two of the band, unknown to the conductor, were not members, and in consequence the Society refused at the time to recognise the peal or to put up a board in the belfry to record it.

C. T. MAYO, *Hon. Sec.*

ALL SAINTS, EASTBOURNE.

SIR,—In looking over your last impression, I was surprised to find that your correspondent at Eastbourne was so well informed. I wish Sir, he had given you facts instead of hints. In sarcastic language, he charges the All Saints' ringers with selfishness, and meanness of intellectual skill. The first part of the charge I will attempt to refute. The second part, I will leave to those who are fortunate enough to possess the intellectual calibre of your informant to determine. On two occasions let me tell your correspondent, and likewise the St. Mary's band, we have given up our practice nights to them, and they have not had the courtesy to return the compliment. Let me also inform them that our practice is limited to one hour and a quarter per week, and the St. Mary's band should know that those who are anxious to learn, must utilize this small amount of time as much as possible. Again, I would wish to inform your reporter, that when half a dozen of the St. Mary's band were invited, no less than eleven came; that I presume was owing to their lacking arithmetical knowledge. So much for selfishness. Let me now Sir, in fairness to all parties, mention a little incident. On one occasion, the St. Mary's band directed

their President to apply to the Vicar of All Saints for permission to use the bells, without giving the least intimation of their intentions to the All Saints' ringers. This, to say the least of it, was underhanded work. I will not trespass on your space any farther except to add that the All Saints' Society has not been formed above eight months, and as they are young ringers, and only learning, I trust your correspondent will suffer them, as plain untutored ringers, to pursue the "even tenour of their way" until they shall arrive at that happy perfection, to be able to leave the scientific and difficult "Churchyard Bob," the mediocrity of ringing, to attempt the simple Grandsire.

A TENOR BELL.

HEPTONSTALL, YORKSHIRE.

THE following is the work done by the local company at St. Thomas's church for the three months ending June: April 2nd, 720 of College Single, 360 Kent. April 6th, 540 Bob Minor, 180 of College Single, 720 of New London, 720 of Violet. April 11th, 720 of Bob Minor. April 13th, 60 of College Single, 540 of Yorkshire Court, 720 Bob Minor. April 16th, 360 of College Single, 720 of Kent. April 20th, 720 of New London, 720 of Violet. April 27th, 720 of Yorkshire Court, 720 of Oxford. April 30th, 720 of College Single. May 4th, 240 Kent, 240 Oxford, 720 of New London. May 11th, 360 of Violet, 240 and 540 of Yorkshire Court, 120 of Oxford. May 18th, 420 and 300 of Bob Minor. May 25th, 360 of New London, 720 of Bob Minor. May 30th, 360 of Bob Minor, 720 of Kent. June 1st, 720 of Oxford, 360 of Violet, 240 of Kent. June 4th, 440 of Bob Minor. June 8th, 720 of Yorkshire Court, 720 of College. June 13th, 720 of Kent, 720 of Bob Minor. June 14th, 720 of Oxford, 720 of New London. June 18th, 240 of College Single, 720 of Kent, 360 of Bob Minor. June 22nd, 720 of Violet, 720 of Violet. June 27th, 360 of Bob Minor. June 29th, 720 of Violet, 720 and 220 of Oxford. Total number of changes for the three months 26,160. Tenor 12 cwt.

A DATE TOUCH AT CHRIST CHURCH, LIVERSEDGE.

THE company of change-ringers of Christ Church, Liversedge, met on Wednesday, July 9th, to ring a touch in honour of the 84th birthday of William Sottanstell, the veteran campanologist of Sowerby, but owing to repairs then going on in the tower it was found they were unable to proceed, and the touch was deferred till the following Sunday morning, when it was rung in 1 hr. 5 mins. James Whitworth, 1; William Goodall (conductor), 2; William Firth, 3; Thomas North, 4; George Illingworth, 5; Sydney Goodall, 6; Luke Illingworth, 7; Mosley Ramsden, 8. The above was composed by Mr. William Sottanstell, of Sowerby, and conducted by Mr. Wm. Goodall, of Liversedge. The figures will be found on another page.

CHRIST CHURCH, FRIEZELAND, SADDLEWORTH, YORKSHIRE.

The bells of the above church (a peal of six, tenor 15 cwt.) are being rehung by Messrs. Taylor, of Loughborough, and the work is nearly completed. The local company wish to announce through this paper that the bells will be reopened on Saturday, July 26th, when they would be pleased to see as many brother-strings as could conveniently attend. A sandwich tea will be provided, tickets for tea one shilling each. Those intending being present, will please inform Mr. J. T. Dicken, Boarshurst, Upper Mill, near Oldham, on or before Wednesday, July 23rd. The church is within ten minutes' walk of the Greenfield Station of the London and North Western Railway.

ST. MARGARET'S, WOLSTANTON, STAFFORDSHIRE.

THE opening of the bells of the above church as a ring of eight will be held on Wednesday, July 23rd, choral evensong will be held at 7.30 p.m., with sermon by the Rev. J. T. Jeffcock, rector of St. Peter's, Wolverhampton, and formerly Vicar of Wolstanton. Ringing after two o'clock. Tea will be provided in the schools at a moderate charge. Ringers intending to be present are requested to send word by the Monday previous, to E. Morgan Green, Silverdale Road, Wolstanton.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

The next Committee Meeting will (p.v.) be held at St. Mary de Crypt Schoolroom, Gloucester, on Monday, July 21st, at 3 o'clock.

PITT EYKYN, *Hon. Sec.*

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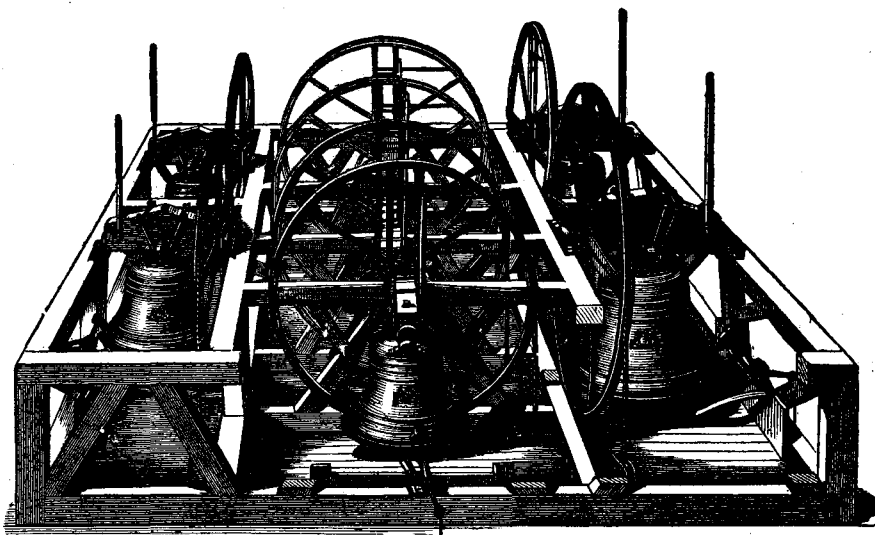
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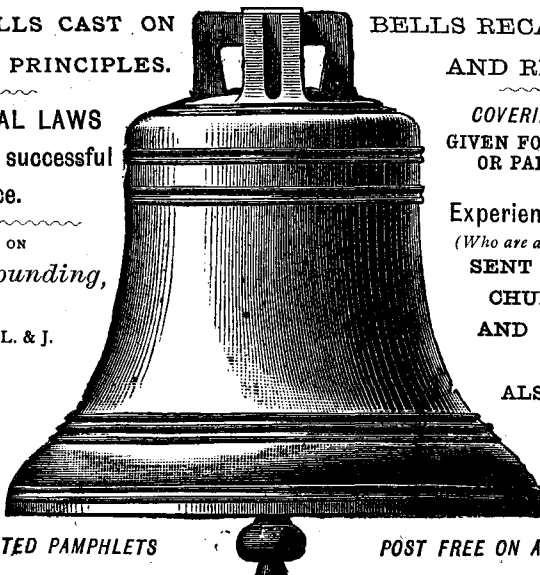
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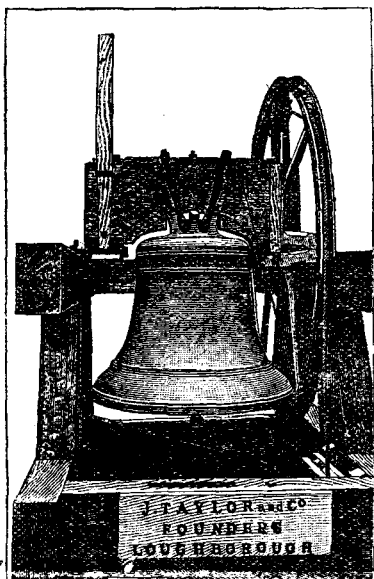
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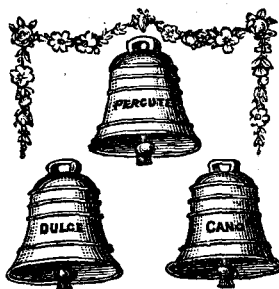
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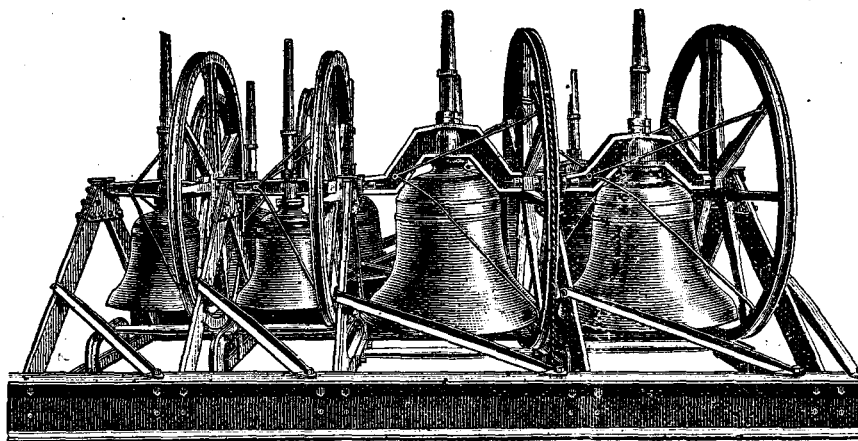
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No. 121. [NEW SERIES.]—VOL. III.

SATURDAY, JULY 26, 1884.

[ONE PENNY.]

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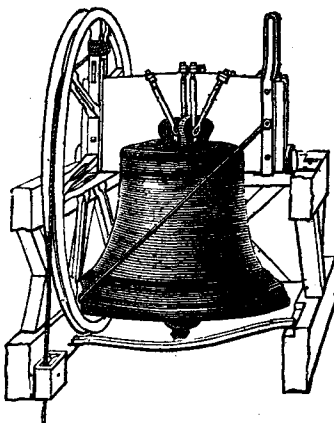
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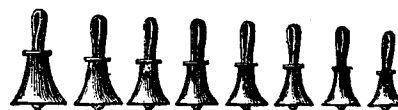
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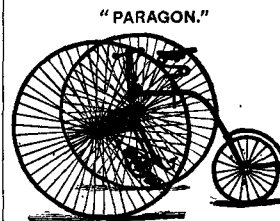
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ANNUAL MEETING OF THE WORCESTER DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

THE Annual Meeting of this Association was held in All Saints' School-rooms on Monday afternoon, the 14th inst. The Rev. Canon Melville, in the absence of the Dean, took the chair, and amongst those present were the Revs. W. R. Carr, George Munn, J. P. Driver, J. P. Hastings, B. Arthure, C. D. P. Davies; the Master of the Association (Mr. John Perks, of Malvern), Messrs. F. Owen (Worcester) and John Smith (Netherton), the secretaries; W. Duffill (Bromsgrove), Treasurer; T. Brown (Worcester), J. Crump, (Bromsgrove), W. Beddel (Brierley Hill), W. Moore (Hanbury), H. Crane (Kidderminster), and J. Sewell (Stourbridge). After hearing the minutes of the last meeting read the election of officers was proceeded with. The Revs. Canon Melville, Eustace Robinson (Grimley), G. Munn (Madresfield), and C. W. N. Ogilvie (Hanbury) were elected honorary members, and the Rev. C. D. P. Davies (Chaceley, near Tewkesbury) and Mr. J. T. Horton (Colwall), were elected as performing members. The Dean of Worcester (Lord Alwyne Compton) was reappointed president, the Revs. Canon Cattley and W. R. Carr, clerical vice-presidents; and Messrs. W. Brown (Worcester) and W. Frost (Netherton), lay vice-presidents of the association. Mr. John Perks was re-appointed master, and the secretaries, Messrs. Owen and Smith, and the treasurer, Mr. Duffill, were also re-elected to their respective offices. The committee was re-elected, and it consists of the Revs. Dr. Cosens (Dudley), S. J. Marriott (Netherton), J. P. Hastings (Martley), E. W. Isaac (Hanley Castle), and T. Rooke (Feckenham), with one member from each company in the Union.

A few alterations in the detail of the rules having been agreed to, Mr. SMITH laid before the meeting a draft scheme, mooted at the Bellingers' Conference at Reading last year.

Mr. PERKS, who was present at the Conference, gave a short explanation of the scheme, which he said was intended to be a National Association. He hoped they would see their way to join the association. They would not lose their local individuality, but each district association would be affiliated to the general one, who would send instructors in change-ringing to teach local ringers that art. He moved "That the Worcester Association agrees to join the National Association."

The Rev. J. P. HASTINGS seconded, and the resolution was carried.

The SECRETARY presented the balance-sheet, which had not been done in past years. The half-year ending June 30th had produced an income of £15 15s. 4d., and the expenditure was £4 8s. 11d., leaving £11 6s. 5d. in the Treasurer's hands.

The Rev. J. P. HASTINGS moved a vote of thanks to Canon Melville for presiding.

Mr. F. OWEN seconded, and the resolution being carried,

Canon MELVILLE responded. He said that he came there with a very great deal of interest, having never known of the association until he received the invitation to be present. He noticed that one of their objects was the promotion of belfry reform. That was a very wide term, but he imagined that whilst once it was very necessary, it was not now much needed. That subject carried him back about 40 years, to the time when he first took an incumbency in this diocese. Some people there considered that the only important part of the church was the belfry. The ringers were a funny set of men, who thought that being in the belfry gave them absolution from coming into church. Their devotions consisted of unlimited cider and a very considerable quantity of tobacco. When he suggested that when they had done ringing they should come into church and take part in the service, they struck, and would not ring again. As representing the largest peal of bells in the city, and one to which a great deal of attention was paid, he would say that the Dean and Chapter had no wish to alienate themselves from the bells or ringers. The ringers should feel that their office in the sacred building was sanctified in a very great extent by the fact that they, performing such part as they did, were one with the clergy, though in a humbler degree. The Dean and Chapter would always feel the greatest interest in promoting the aims of their association, and he could answer for himself that he would.

A vote of thanks was accorded to the Rev. B. ARTHURE for the use of the school-room, and the recipient, in returning thanks, welcomed the ringers, and made reference to the excellence of the All Saints' bells.

During the day the belfries of many of the city churches were visited, and the city was enlivened with the music. The Cathedral bells were raised by kind permission of the Dean, and several attempts made to ring some Grandsire Caters but without success, each time coming to grief, and some of the members feeling disappointed that nothing could be obtained. Several touches were rang during the day at the different churches in the city, among them being some Grandsire Caters, a course of Treble Ten; a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples was rung at St. Helen's. F. Jelf, 1; N. Wale, 2; S. Cleal, 3; J. Hill, 4; G. Hobbs, 5; J. Reynolds, 6; J. Wathen (conductor), 7; T. Malin, 8. Messrs. Cleal, Wathen, and Hill hail from Tewkesbury, and Jelf from Malvern. The Bromsgrove company

arrived at the city at an early hour, and there met Mr. J. Perks, of Malvern, having made arrangements with their Worcester friends to start for a peal of Grandsire Caters at All Saints, but on going to the church they found the ropes in a very bad condition, and the clapper out of the tenor-bell. This disheartened the Bromsgrove contingent very much; about midday, however, some ropes were fetched from another church, and the clapper replaced in the tenor again, and several short touches were rang on the bells. Several touches were performed on the handbells, which brought the meeting to a close.

THE SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.—MEETING AT WIMBORNE.

This meeting took place on Wednesday, the 16th inst., at Wimborne Minster. The bells were raised about 11 a.m. and as there was not a party for Triples, three 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles were rung with 7-6-8 covering. The dinner took place at the "Crown Inn," at 1 p.m. Rev. A. D. Hill occupied the chair, and Mr. H. Moore (churchwarden) the vice-chair. Rev. H. J. Huyshe (vicar), was also present. Ringers were present from Wimborne, Cranborne, Cattistock, Salisbury and other places. Some of the visitors were much amused to see a model of the minster in a shop window, in the interior of the tower of which eight small tin ringers were placed who apparently appeared to be chiming with the clappers. On dropping a penny in a slit they rung or rather chimed, "rounds" and "queens," alternately, on eight dish bells placed in the tower, for about a minute.

After dinner, the company received a valuable addition to their number in the shape of Mr. C. A. Clements, from Salisbury, who had been unable to be present earlier. Mr. A. Grist from Bournemouth having also previously arrived, the party were now right for a touch of Grandsire Triples, but as the few change-ringers who were present had monopolised the bells during the morning, it was deemed better that they should proceed to Poole to ring, and hand the Wimborne bells over to the round ringers, some of whom had been waiting for a turn for a considerable time. Accordingly, eight of the company proceeded to Poole by rail. In the train a plain course and several short touches of Grandsire Triples were rung on the handbells, retained in hand. Rev. A. D. Hill, 1-2; T. Blackburn, 3-4; W. W. Gifford, 5-6; C. A. Clements, 7-8.

On arriving at Poole the company proceeded immediately to the parish church and rang first a course and then a 108 of Grandsire Triples. A 504 was then started for which unfortunately came to grief near the end. Another unsuccessful attempt was made and the party had to leave to catch the train. A. Grist, 1; E. Parker, 2; C. A. Clements, 3; W. W. Gifford, 4; T. Blackburn, 5; Rev. A. D. Hill (conductor), 6; J. R. Jerram, 7; H. C. Flower, 8.

THE ST. ALBAN'S CATHEDRAL COMPANY.

On Wednesday evening, July 9th, this company visited the village of Elstree, Herts., and rang on the bells of the parish church of St. Nicholas, a 720 of Grandsire Doubles, consisting of six 6-scores, each called differently, in 34 minutes. T. Grant, 1; R. A. Fowler, 2; E. A. Hulks, 3; G. W. Cartmel, 4; N. N. Hills (conductor), 5; H. L. Waddington, 6. This is the longest touch yet accomplished by the Society. After a few more 120's, called by Mr. Fowler, the ringers were invited by the Curate, the Rev. F. Bellman, to partake of refreshment, which they accepted.

The ring, the tenor of which is about 7½ cwt., was put up by Messrs. Warner about four years ago, and the go of the bells, and the fittings of the same, are all that can be desired. They are also fitted with Ellacombe chiming hammers. The company left Elstree Station, on the Midland Railway, at 10.55 p.m., arriving home shortly after eleven, and feeling much obliged to the Rector, the Rev. T. Bedford, for granting permission to ring, and to the Rev. A. F. Bellman, for kindly entertaining them.

STOKE-UPON-TRENT ARCHIDACONAL ASSOCIATION.

NORTON-LE-MOORS.—The fortnightly meeting of the Association was held here on Saturday last, Burslem, Leek, and Norton towers being represented. The weather was beautiful, and a pleasant afternoon was spent. At 5.30, sixteen, including the two secretaries, sat down to a good tea in the schoolroom, at a cost of 6d. per head. The next ringing meeting is at Leigh, on Saturday, August 2nd.

N.B.—The Annual Meeting is again postponed, as the bells of Stoke church are being tuned. Notice of the date fixed for it will be sent to each tower.

T. H. B. FEARON, } Hon. Secs.
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ERECTION OF A NEW PEAL-BOARD AT SS. MARY AND NICOLAS, SPALDING, LINCOLNSHIRE.—During last week, a board has been erected in this belfry recording the 5040 rung on February 12th, also the 5100 rung on 24th May by the SS. Mary and Nicolas company.

THE RE-OPENING OF THE CHURCH BELLS, DRAYTON, OXFORDSHIRE.

ON Tuesday afternoon, the new peal of bells which have provided for this church, were formally opened. Drayton lies in a very sequestered spot on the banks of the Thame stream about five and a half miles north of Wallingford, and it is very seldom that anything occurs here to vary the ordinary routine of its quiet life. It is nevertheless an exceedingly picturesque and interesting village, especially at this season of the year, but so secluded is its situation, that there is no place in the neighbourhood perhaps so little known. It possesses, however, a fine old church, and parishioners who are proud of it, and these, headed by Mr. Abraham Deane, seconded by the widow and family of the late H. Betteridge, Esq., and supported by the excellent Rector (Rev. A. J. Williams), and a number of his old pupils, and the parishioners generally, have provided the funds for new bells, a new clock, and a new tower, and on their completion a dedication service was held. There were formerly but three bells, and these were very old. One was dated 1603, another 1625, and the other was of still greater age. The inscriptions on these were as follows:—"Henry Knight made me 1603," and "Our hope is in the Lord, 1625," while on the older one, the tenor, "Sancta katerina ora pro nobis," and around a medallion "ihu mercie ladi help." The new peal consists of six bells. They were cast by Messrs. Mears and Stainbank, of Whitechapel, and a very beautiful set of bells they are. The clock is Benson, of Ludgate Hill, and it cost £100. The tower, which had formerly a very blank, dove-cot appearance, has been encased in oak shingle, the work having satisfactory executed by Mr. D. Walter, of Drayton, and it harmonizes very nicely with the architecture of the church, which is now as complete in all its arrangements as it can possibly be, a handsome cover for the font, sedilia in the chancel, and a pair of very beautiful candlesticks, all made of the old oak of the former bell-frame, appearing also on this occasion for the first time. The chief contributors to the cost were Mr. Deane, Mr. Betteridge, Christ Church, Oxford, the Duke of Portland, Sir John Willoughby, Sir J. B. Lawes, Lord Curzon, etc. It may be interesting to campanologists to know that three of the bells are quite new. The first bell bears the inscription, "Domine labia nostra aperias," with the name of Sir John Willoughby, Bart., as donor. The second bell has engraved on it, "Os nostrum annuntiabit laudem tuam," with the name of Mr. Deane as donor. The third bell bears the inscription "Domine saluum fac populum tuum," with the commemorative motto "In memoriam Henrici Betteridge, vidua et liberi mœrentes." The fourth bell, the old treble, bears this inscription in addition to the former legend "Benedic hereditati tuæ." The old medallions on the tenor, the founders have unfortunately not retained on the new bell. The left hand one has the cross keys, a chalice, a bell, and a wheat-sheaf. There is also an inscription on the middle one. The bells were inaugurated by a company of well-known ringers from Oxford, Messrs. Hounslow (2), Field, Hester, Francombe and Collier, and the ringing of these gentlemen, led by the Rev. F. E. Robinson, Vicar of Drayton, Berks, was very fine.

The dedication service commenced at 4 o'clock. There was a full congregation, notwithstanding the progress of the hay harvest, great interest being felt in the event by employers and employed alike. The Dorchester choir kindly gave their services for the occasion, conducted by Mr. Mackett, who presided at the harmonium. They walked in procession from the Rectory, singing "Hark the sound of holy voices," the accompanying clergy being the rector (Rev. A. J. Williams), Rev. J. M. Collins, Rector of Daventry; Rev. F. Cave, Deddington; Rev. F. E. Robinson, Drayton, Berks; Rev. D. Thomas, Garsington; Rev. W. H. Young, North Moreton; Rev. F. Chalker, Warborough; Rev. E. C. Paget, Missionary College, Dorchester; Rev. J. W. Betteridge, Deddington; Rev. E. Walters, Marsh Baldon; Rev. C. W. Williams, D.D., Vicar of Brondesbury; Rev. G. Pennel, of Stadhampton and Rev. F. W. Smith, of Warborough, were also present in the Church.

The prayers were intoned by the Rev. E. C. Paget, and the lessons read by the Rev. J. W. Betteridge. The dedication service was performed most impressively by the Rector and the Rev. F. E. Robinson, immediately after which a peal was rung upon the bells. This was followed by a special hymn, and after the third collect and the hymn "Hark, hark, my soul," the Rev. J. M. Collins preached a most eloquent and appropriate sermon from Ezra, viii. chapter, 28th and 29th verses—"And I said unto them, ye are holy unto the Lord; the vessels are holy also; and the silver and the gold are a freewill offering unto the God of your fathers. Watch ye, and keep them until ye weigh them before the chief of the priests and Levites, and the chief of the fathers of Israel, at Jerusalem, in the chambers of the house of the Lord."

After the sermon, the choir left the church singing as a recessional the well-known hymn "There is a blessed home."

Lead by Mr. H. D. Betteridge, who has been most assiduous in learning to ring himself and in teaching others, the Drayton ringers in the course of the afternoon showed how much proficiency can in a

short time be made by those who interest themselves in the art. Although for many years the idea of having the bells recast has been conceived, nothing practical came of it until the spring of the present year, when it was revived by Mr. A. Deane. We must not omit to mention that the church was very tastefully decorated by Miss M. Betteridge and her lady friends.

The ringers were entertained at supper in the evening, when the Rev. A. J. Williams thanked them and those who waited on them for their services, in appropriate terms, and a pleasant evening was spent.

THE ST. SIDWELL'S SOCIETY, EXETER.

ON Monday, June 30th, a party of ringers from St. Sidwell's, Exeter, paid a visit to the nice little village of Upton Pyne, situated about four miles from Exeter, it being the practice-night of the local party. Arriving there, they soon set to work, and rang about a dozen 6-scores of Grandsire, and with the assistance of the Rector, the Rev. J. S. Northcote, a 6-score of Stedman was also rung. The meeting was a most enjoyable one, the bells (tenor about 10 cwt.), going so nicely. The following took part in the ringing: Rev. J. S. Northcote, Messrs. England, Webber, Greenslade, Stoneman, etc., of Upton Pyne; Messrs. G. Townsend, J. Moss, A. Shepherd, F. R. Shepherd, and Ferris Shepherd, of Exeter. The Rev. J. S. Northcote and Ferris Shepherd conducted alternately.

Tuesday evening was devoted to Stedman Triples at St. Sidwell's, Exeter.

On Wednesday evening, the same party had a very pleasant drive to Kenn, five miles from Exeter. Here there is a very musical peal of six, recently rehung through the munificence of the Rector (the Rev. R. Porter) by Stokes, of Woodbury. The tenor is 14 cwt. in F., and the go of them is all that be desired. The visitors were welcomed by the Kenn ringers with some Grandsire Triples, which they have learnt to strike very well, owing to the instruction they have received from Mr. Ferris Shepherd, of Exeter. During the evening Grandsire and Stedman Doubles, and a course of Minor were rung. The idea has been mooted of having two new trebles added to this ring, and if it was carried out, the ring, as one of eight bells, would be second to none in the county. The ringers on this occasion were: Messrs. A. Trueman, E. Trueman, G. Trueman, H. Skinner, T. Cleale, G. Waldron, W. Woollacott, and W. Thorne, of Kenn; Messrs. H. Swift, G. Townsend, J. Moss, W. Warren, A. Shepherd, F. R. Shepherd, Ferris Shepherd, of Exeter; H. Skinner and Ferris Shepherd conducting alternately.

On Thursday, touches of Grandsire Triples were arranged to be rung at St. Sidwell's by the junior hands of the company. A start was made at 8 p.m., but while struggling through a short touch, the clapper of the tenor bell came out, accompanied with a terrific noise, causing a belfry scare, one ringer rushing from his box across the belfry, and another was observed crouching (for safety, it is supposed) behind some one else. Ringing had now to be abandoned for the night.

Saturday afternoon saw a goodly party on the road to Sowton—a pleasant five miles' drive—where there is a pretty peal of eight, tenor 9½ cwt., in good going order. The visitors were received by Messrs. Shute and Carnall, the bells were rose in peal, and the first four parts of a peal of Grandsire Triples (Reeves's variation of Holt's ten-part) were rung without a hitch of any sort. J. Moss, 1; Ferris Shepherd (conductor), 2; H. Swift, 3; F. R. Shepherd, 4; A. Shepherd, 5; G. Townsend, 6; E. Shepherd, 7; W. Richardson, 8. The bells were then lowered, and a move made to the farmyard (there is no public house in the village) where the horse was stabled, and here the visitors found plenty of good Devonshire cider awaiting them, which, with the accompaniments of pork pies and sandwiches, formed an agreeable repast. After replenishing the inner man, the handbells were brought into requisition, but no sooner had they been struck, than the fowls, who had gone to roost, commenced such a clatter, that it became difficult to distinguish, even by the ringers themselves, whether Triples or Major was being rung; to the fowls it was evidently Superlative Surprise. A course of Caters was, however rung, double-handed, after which, a move was made towards Topsham, where there are six bells, but no ringers to ring them. They are chimed for service by the aid of hammers, the bells themselves have not been moved for years. The drive home was enlivened by singing, and conversation upon the doings of the week.

THE ROCHDALE AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATION.

ON Saturday next, August 2nd, the members of this Association will hold their Quarterly Meeting at St. Peter's church, Walsden. All ringers (especially the members) are earnestly invited. Refreshments will be provided for all who send in their names. The bells will be opened by a mixed company. Meeting to commence about Five o'clock p.m. All communications to be addressed to Edwin Crowther, Beech Street, Walsden. This Association has a radius of ten miles, Rochdale being the centre.

TWO PEALS OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR.

5024.

By JOHN J. BRIERLEY, *Saddleworth.*

2 3 4 5 6 M B W H

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

The above eight courses repeated produce:

4 2 3 5 6

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

5024.

2 3 4 5 6 M B W H

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

The above six courses repeated produce:

3 4 2 5 6

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

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS.

5147.

By ROBERT WILLIAMS, *Liverpool.*

3 5 4 2 6 9th in three.
 5 2 4 3 6 9th in three.
 4 5 2 3 6 7th in three.
 2 4 5 3 6 7th in three.
 5 2 4 3 6 7th in and out at three.

4 5 2 3 6 9th in three.
 2 4 5 3 6 9th in three.
 5 4 6 3 2 8 9.
 6 4 2 3 5 8 9.
 2 6 4 3 5 9th in three.
 4 2 6 3 5 9th in three.
 6 2 5 3 4 8 9.
 5 6 2 3 4 9th in three.
 2 5 6 3 4 9th in three.
 6 5 4 3 2 8 9.
 4 6 5 3 2 9th in three.

6 3 5 4 2 8th in three.
 5 6 3 4 2 9th in three.
 3 5 6 4 2 9th in three.
 6 5 2 4 3 8 9.
 2 5 3 4 6 8 9.
 3 2 5 4 6 9th in three.
 5 3 2 4 6 9th in three.
 2 3 6 4 5 8 9.
 6 2 3 4 5 9th in three.
 3 6 2 4 5 9th in three.
 2 6 5 4 3 8 9.
 5 2 6 4 3 9th in three.

The last twelve courses twice repeated produces 2 4 3 6 5, when, by calling the 9th in and out at two with a double, and 8th in with three, brings the bells round.

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS.

6137.

By JOHN CARTER, *Birmingham.*

I 2 3 4

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

3 4 6 5 2 S - 2 4 6 5 3 -
 6 3 4 5 2 - 6 2 4 5 3 -
 2 6 3 5 4 - S 3 6 2 5 4 - S
 4 2 6 5 3 - S 4 3 6 5 2 - S
 6 4 2 5 3 - 6 4 3 5 2 -
 3 6 4 5 2 - S 2 6 4 5 3 - S
 2 3 6 5 4 - S 3 2 6 5 4 - S
 6 2 3 5 4 - 6 3 2 5 4 -
 4 6 2 5 3 - S 4 6 3 5 2 - S
 6 5 2 4 3*

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

Round as usual.

*This course produced by 8th in two, and a 9 7 8 with a single. The above peal contains the 6th twenty-four times wrong and right, and the 5th twenty-four times right.

Rung on handbells December 10th, 1883, by the Birmingham Amalgamated Society, conducted by its composer.

TWO PEALS OF BOB MAJOR.

By JAMES WILDE, *Hyde, Cheshire.*

5184.

2 3 4 5 6

W 5ths 4ths M H

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

Five times repeated, with a single at home half way and end. This peal has the 6th twenty-four times right.

5088.

2 3 4 5 6

W 5ths 4ths B M H

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

Five times repeated, with a single at home half-way and end. This peal has the 6th twenty-four times wrong and right.

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR.

5088.

By JOHN R. PRITCHARD, *Liverpool.*

2 3 4 5 6 W B M H

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

Five times repeated, with a single instead of a bob at home in last course of 3rd and 6th part-ends.

6th 18 course-ends in 5-6.

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERS.

5079.

By FRED COATES, *Rotherham.*

2 3 4 5 6

4 5 16

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

The last eleven courses three times repeated produce,

4 1 2 6 5 3

Round with calls at 2, 5, 7, 9, 15.

*This course produced by bobs at 1, 3, 4, 10, 14, 16 and 17.

A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR.

5088.

By JOHN R. PRITCHARD, *Liverpool.*

2 3 4 5 6 I 4 5 6

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

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

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

Repeated.

"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.

Everything for insertion in this Journal to be addressed "The Editor of THE BELL NEWS, Walthamstow, London." Letters forwarded for publication, and performances under 5000 changes must reach us not later than Wednesday morning; and the insertion of any communication coming later than the first Postal delivery on Thursday morning cannot be guaranteed in that week's number. When it is found impossible from want of space to insert all touches forwarded, the earlier ones will have the preference.

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.

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

R. COOK.—Next week. A great quantity of other matter is also crowded out.

To prevent disappointment, the Editor requests that stamps for extra copies of this paper may be sent direct to the Publisher.

The Bell News & Ringers' Record.

SATURDAY, JULY 26, 1884.

THE present season of the year is evidently the one *par excellence* for the enjoyment of an holiday. That fact is established clearly enough to the readers of this journal by the frequent accounts—sometimes of inordinate length—which holiday-makers love to make public of their doings while enjoying a respite from the cares of business. The meetings of the various Guilds and Associations seem just now to follow one another very closely. During the past week we received three separate invitations to accept the hospitality of as many Guilds, one of which, however, we were only able to accept. Here we may be allowed, in passing, to express our thanks to those gentlemen who sent us these invitations.

Great as the success of these meetings are, in most cases, there is one thing about them which has not met with sufficient attention, and that is, the facilities for cheap travelling which the principal of our railway companies are willing to afford, upon proper representations being made to them, to members of ringing Guilds or Associations attending their periodical meetings. We hear now and then of advantage being taken of such facilities, but we should like to hear oftener that communications had been entered into with the railway company concerned, for this purpose.

Recently, in the case of the Annual Meeting of an Association, in the successful progress of which we had a peculiar interest, we personally made application to the Midland Railway Company to grant cheap tickets for the members of the Association intending to be present. And a favourable and prompt reply was the result. In fact, we were very much gratified by the courteous letters we

received from the gentleman whose duty it was to reply to such communications. We mention this to show that there need be no hesitation in making such applications. We will cheerfully undertake the duty for any ringing Guild who may make the request. Let it, however, be understood that we have no interest to serve in such a matter but the convenience of our brother-strings.

OPENING OF A RING OF BELLS AT STANFORD-LE-HOPE, ESSEX.

During the past week, this little village has been *en fete*, in consequence of the ring of six bells, just recast and rehung by the firm of Moore, Holmes, and Mackenzie, being rung in the new and handsome tower of the parish church of St. Margaret. Sunday last being St. Margaret's day, the bells were formally opened, and on each succeeding day of the week, services have been held in the church, when appropriate hymns were sung, and after which the bells have been heard.

On Tuesday last, we visited the place, and immediately on arriving at the railway station, the now very pretty ring of six could be heard in a 720 of Oxford from the church tower. This edifice is one of the neatest of its kind we have ever seen in a village of the extent of Stanford. A flag was hoisted on the summit, which indicated that something unusual was happening, and indeed we found that the new bells was a popular topic of conversation with the villagers. The rector, the Rev. Dr. Sedgwick, had arranged special services, duly notified by placards which met the eye at every corner; and in the windows of the two or three inns and the half-dozen shops which trade in the village, the same intelligence was conveyed to the passer-by.

The road to the belfry having been discovered, we ascended the tower. A very neat little ringing-chamber with plenty of light, and means of ventilation. A band being assembled, we rang the fifth in a 720 of Kent Treble Bob. The tenor is about eight or nine cwt., and of course, go as well as bells can go. Going higher up the steeple, and entering the bell-chamber, a sight there astonished us. Every one of our readers is by this time aware that one of the specialties of the firm above-named is the hanging of bells in iron frames. But this simple fact does not convey the least idea of the manifest improvements in bell-hanging which this firm have brought to absolute perfection. The frame at Stanford-le-Hope church is of a character which we should say has not its like anywhere. It is 14 feet in height, and so accurately is it bolted together, that standing on the frame while a 720 of Bob Minor was being rung, we failed to discern the slightest tremor imaginable. We should like to hear the opinion of experts in engineering science regarding this frame.

The bells have been recast from the old five formerly in the tower, and are in good tone and tune throughout.

On Tuesday, the following ringing took place: 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor, 480 of Oxford Treble Bob Minor, and two 120's of Stedman Doubles by a band of the Essex Association selected by the Hon. Sec., also a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob Minor by the Redenhall ringers, and three 720's of Oxford Treble Bob, by mixed bands of the two societies. The ringers were also entertained to a most sumptuous dinner by the worthy rector, who expressed a wish to see the same faces there every St. Margaret's day, so that he could entertain them just the same every year. After dinner a band was made up to pay a visit to the Laindon Hills, where there is an excellent ring of six by Mears and Stainbank, but on arriving there the steeple-keeper had gone out and taken the keys of the church with him, so the company had to return. On arriving again at Stanford, they were invited into the rectory garden, where the Redenhall ringers rang a course of Bob Major on the handbells, after which the following rang a course of Grandsire Caters: R. Sewell (Barking), 1-2; W. Manning (Walthamstow), 3-4; H. Randall (West Ham), 5-6; J. Smith (Redenhall), 7-8; Gervas Holmes, Esq. (Redenhall), 9-10. The 720 of Kent Treble Bob, and the 480 of Treble Bob rung by the Essex Association were conducted by H. Randall, and the Stedman Doubles by the Rev. H. A. Cockey. The other 720s were conducted by J. Smith, of Redenhall.

DIFFERENCE OF ANCIENT AND MODERN PITCH.

Nowadays it becomes an important practical question for all interested in music to determine what is the exact pitch corresponding to any given note, or to put the question in a simpler form, what the true vibration number attached to any standard we choose to take, let us say treble C; for if this is known, the true pitch of any other note can be calculated from it by well known rules.

This opens the vexed question of what is called "Standard of Pitch." According to reason and common sense, there ought to be some agreement made as to what musical note should be denoted by a certain musical sign—unfortunately however there is no such agreement, and the question is there still undetermined.

We have no positive data as to the pitch used in the earliest music of our present form; we may however arrive at some idea of it by inference. The two octaves of Pythagoras' Greek scale must have corresponded with the compass of male voices, and when Guido added the Proslambanomenos of the Greeks, we may fairly assume that it expressed the lowest note that could be comfortably taken by ordinary voices of the bass kind. This is a matter of physiology, and is known to be somewhere about ninety or hundred vibrations per second according to which the treble C, two octaves and a fourth higher would lie between 480 and 532.

In the 17th century, it has been reckoned that A (the second space in the treble), varied from 415 to 429 vibrations, or if we still keep to C, as our unit, from 428 to 515. This is an extreme range of only about half a semi-tone, which considering the imperfect nature of the means then practicable of obtaining identity and uniformity is remarkably satisfactory.

But unhappily, this remarkably satisfactory state of things was not to last. The orchestra began to assume greater importance as regards its wind element, the use of these instruments being much extended. This led to a constant desire for louder and more exciting effects, and both makers and users of wind instruments soon perceived that such effects might be enhanced by slightly raising the pitch of the sounds. Things went on from bad to worse, till at length in 1878 the opera band at Covent Garden were playing about A—450, or C—540.

Such a change was attended with many evils. It altered the character of the best compositions, it tended to spoil the voice and ruin the performance of the best singers, and all for no object whatever, as no one could affirm that the new pitch was on any ground better than the old one. Accordingly, strong remonstrances were expressed from time to time, and efforts were made, either to restore the original pitch or at least to stop its further rise, and to obtain some general agreement for uniformity. In 1834, a "Congress of Physicists," held at Stuttgart, adopted a proposal by Schiebler, to fix the A at 440 true C—528, but it does not appear that it had any practical result. In 1858, the French Government resolved to recommend a fixed standard A—435 (C true—522, C by equal temperament—517). This was confirmed by legal decree, and it has been adopted in France generally to the great advantage of all musical interests in that country. It is an interesting consideration whether as a matter of theory a philosophical standard of pitch can be devised based on natural facts, like the standards of measure, weight, and time. Such a standard is easily deducible. We may assume the existence of a note corresponding to the simplest possible rate of vibration, viz., one per second, and the various octaves of this note will be represented by 2, 4, 8 etc., vibrations being a series of the powers of the number 2. This theoretical note is found to agree so nearly with the musician's idea of the note C, the simplest, or fundamental note in our modern musical system that they may be assumed to correspond, and we thus get treble C—512 double vibrations per second, which may be called the "Philosophical Standard of Pitch," and which is adopted for theoretical purposes in many books on music. Considering that this differs very little from the authorized French pitch and the vocal pitch now followed in England, it would form a reasonably good standard from a practical as well as a theoretical point of view.

This want of a standard of pitch explains the fact that formerly peals that would now be said to be in B, were put down

as C; a notable example occurs in the peal at St. Michael's, Cornhill; also St. Mary-le-Bow: and had the ears of the citizens of this vast Metropolis been gladdened with the sound of St. Paul's bells fifty years ago, they would have been informed that they were in B, not in B flat, as they are now said to be; simply shewing that Messrs. Mears and Stainbank kept to the ancient or low standard of pitch; while Messrs. Taylor and Sons have adapted the modern one.

J. S. B. ARCHER.

THE ST. MARY'S SOCIETY, BEDDINGTON, SURREY.

The members of the above Society will celebrate the 15th anniversary of the opening of the bells, on Bank Holiday, Monday, August 4th. The tower will be opened at two o'clock. All change-ringers will be cordially welcomed, and every endeavour made to arrange the ringing to suit all comers. Mr. Trappitt has again kindly consented to provide tea for those requiring it. There are ten bells, all in first-class going order.

Miscellaneous.

THE SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.

Muffled Peal.

LONDON.—On Friday, July 18th, at the head-quarters (St. Martin's-in-the-Fields), twelve members of this society rang a muffled peal as a last token of respect to Mr. Ernest E. Robins, a late member of this company, who died suddenly, aged 24 years. G. Newson, 1; C. Hopkins, 2; T. Titchener, 3; H. Dains, 4; S. Smith, 5; W. Baron, 6; H. Randall, 7; H. Hopkins, 8; A. H. Gardom, 9; J. Barry, 10; S. Jarman, 11; J. Mansfield, 12. Conducted by G. Newson. Tenor 34 cwt.

THE ST. JAMES'S SOCIETY.

Muffled Peal.

LAMBETH.—On Saturday, July 19th, eight members of the above society attempted Hollis's peal of Grandsire Triples, but after ringing two thousand changes, an accident occurred which brought the performance to a close. G. Church, 1; H. Langdon, 2; W. Lally, 3; J. Rumsey, 4; W. Jones, 5; J. Barry, 6; A. H. Gardom (conductor); 7; H. Gardiner, 8. Tenor 18 cwt. The above was rung with the bells half-muffled as a token of respect to the late Mr. Ernest E. Robins, who was a member of the above society, and greatly respected by all who knew him.

ASSOCIATION FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.

TETTENHALL (Staffordshire).—On Saturday, July 12th, 1884, several members of the above Association rang at the parish church, a 720 of Bob Minor, with fourteen bobs and two singles, in 26 mins. T. Roberts, 1; B. Dalton, 2; J. Jones, 3; E. Nickolds, 4; J. Fowler (conductor), 5; J. Rodgers, 6. Muffled Peal.—Also on Thursday, July 17th, a 720 of Bob Minor, with eighteen bobs and two singles, in 27 mins., as a token of respect to the late William Jones, one of the old ringers. W. Pardoe, 1; B. Dalton, 2; J. Jones, 3; E. Nickolds, 4; J. Fowler, 5; J. Rodgers (conductor), 6. Tenor 12½ cwt. in G.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

JARROW.—On Thursday, July 17th, at Christ Church, four 6-scores of Bob Doubles, in 18 mins. *A. English, 1; *W. Pawson, 2; R. Oliver, 3; *J. Chapman, 4; F. Harrison (conductor), 5; G. R. Heron, 6. Tenor 17 cwt. English, Chapman and Harrison belong to St. Peter's, the others to Christ Church. *First 6-score.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

BURTON-ON-TRENT.—On Thursday, July 17th, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor, in 27 mins. Rev. J. H. Fish, 1; *F. Dumbleby, 2; J. Jagger (conductor), 3; Thos. Holmes, 4; H. Wakley, 5; W. Wakley, 6. *First 720 in the method.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

WANTAGE.—On Sunday, July 20th, at the church of SS. Peter and Paul, for Divine Service in the evening, a 360 of Grandsire Minor, in 14½ mins. G. Gregory, 1; C. Page, 2; H. Smith, 3; F. Money, 4; A. Bunce, 5; F. May (conductor), 6. Tenor 25 cwt.

STOKE-UPON-TRENT ARCHIDIACONAL ASSOCIATION.

NORTON.—On Tuesday, July 15th, a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob Minor, in 28 mins. A. Holdcroft, 1; E. Glover, 2; J. Morton, 3; J.

W. Brought, 4; J. Baddeley (conductor), 5; G. Walker, 6. Also a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor, in 27½ mins., by the same band, with W. Holdcroft, 1.

BLACKBURN (Lancashire).—On Saturday, July 19th, a touch of Grandsire Triples, 1050 changes, taken from Reeves's ten-part peal. F. Grimshaw, 1; A. E. Wreaks (conductor), 2; G. E. Turner, 3; J. Ainsworth, 4; R. Lund, 5; J. Sanderson, 6; W. Clark, 7; R. J. N. Parker, 8. F. Grimshaw, A. E. Wreaks, and G. E. Turner hail from Manchester.

BRIGHTON.—On Wednesday, July 16th, for practice, a 720 of Bob Minor, in 27 mins., at St. Peter's church, by the following members of the Brighton Societies. *H. Weston, 1; J. Jay, jun., 2; *H. Boniface, 3; G. F. Attree, 4; J. Jay, sen., 5; J. Searle (conductor), 6. *First 720 in the method. Also for evening service on Sunday, July 20th, a 360 in the above method by the same band. Tenor 10½ cwt.

BRISTOL.—On Sunday, July 20th, at St. Peter's Church, after morning service, by the St. Stephen's company, 672 Bob Major by F. Price, 1; E. Duckham, 2; H. Portch, 3; J. Norton, 4; G. Morgan, 5; A. York, 6; W. Emery, 7; J. Hinton (conductor), 8. Tenor 20 cwt. in E.

CLAY CROSS (Derbyshire).—On Sunday evening, July 20th, for Divine Service at St. Bartholomew's church, two 6-scores of Bob Doubles were rung, each called differently. W. Brown, 1; G. Brown, 2; T. Allibone, 3; J. Cook, 4; T. Clough, 5; J. Green, 6. T. Clough conducted the first 6-score and J. Cook the 2nd. Tenor 10 cwt. in A.

DARTFORD (Kent).—*Muffled Peal.*—On Monday evening, July 14th, a deeply-muffled quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, was rung at Holy Trinity church as last token of respect to Mr. G. Sarel, the late secretary of the Dartford society. B. Rose, 1; J. Upton, 2; E. Snowden, 3; F. French (conductor), 4; G. May, 5; J. Blackman, 6; J. Garrard, 7; R. Davis, 8.

HAVERSTOCK HILL (Middlesex).—On Wednesday, June 18th, a 720 Plain Bob in 25 mins. J. Freemantle (first 720), 1; T. Gleed, 2; T. Titchener (conductor), 3; J. Leach, 4; G. Griffin, 5; W. Meadows, 6. On Wednesday, July 2nd, a 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor (Gobbett's) with fifteen bobs, in 25 mins. J. Hannington (conductor), 1; J. Leach, 2; B. Foskett, 3; T. Gleed, 4; W. Meadows, 5; G. Griffin, 6. On Sunday evening, for Divine Service, a 720 Plain Bob (twenty bobs and ten singles), in 22 mins. G. Thurlow, 1; T. Gleed, 2; J. Hannington (conductor), 3; J. Leach, 4; T. Titchener, 5; G. Griffin, 6. After Divine Service a 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor, with nine bobs, in 25 mins. G. Griffin, 1; T. Gleed, 2; J. Hannington, 3; J. Nixon, 4; T. Titchener, 5; Wingfield Meadows (conductor), 6. On Wednesday, July 16th, a 720 Plain Bob Minor, with forty-two singles, in 25 mins. Wingfield Meadows, 1; T. Gleed, 2; G. Griffin, 3; J. Hannington (conductor), 4; T. Titchener, 5; B. Foskett, 6. Also on Sunday evening, for Divine Service, a 720 Plain Bob Minor, in 25 mins. B. Foskett, 1; G. Thurlow (first 720 inside), 2; J. Hannington (conductor), 3; J. Nixon, 4; G. Griffin, 5; T. Titchener, 6. Tenor 12½ cwt.

LIVERPOOL.—On Saturday, July 19th, at St. Nicholas church, the St. Nicholas and St. Peter's company, with Mr. Joseph Mulligan, of Sheffield rang, about a 1000 of Grandsire Cinques. G. Helsby, 1; T. Hammond, 2; J. Mulligan, 3; R. Williams, sen., 4; J. Brown, 5; J. Egerton (conductor), 6; E. Foster, 7; H. Coley, 8; R. Williams, jun., 9; G. Fisher, 10; J. Walsh, 11; T. Metcalfe, 12. Also seven courses of Stedman Triples. J. Egerton, 1; T. Hammond, 2; J. Mulligan, 3; R. Williams, sen., 4; J. Brown, 5; E. Foster, 6; R. Williams, jun. (conductor), 7; W. Brooks, 8. Also a course of Kent Treble Bob Major. G. Helsby, 1; T. Hammond, 2; J. Mulligan, 3; R. Williams, sen., 4; J. Brown, 5; R. Williams, jun., 6; E. Foster, 7; J. Egerton, 8.

LYTHAM (Lancashire).—On Sunday, July 20th, at St. John's church for Divine Service in the evening, a 720 of Bob Minor, with thirty-two bobs and two singles, in 24 mins. W. Bamber, 1; Jno. Salthouse, 2; James Miller (conductor), 3; C. H. Kerr, 4; Jno. Fell, 5; Jno. Fisher, 6. Tenor 10½ cwt.

READING (Berks).—On Tuesday, July 15th, for practice, at St. Laurence's church, a 560 of Grandsire Triples, being the first part of Reeves's variation, in 20½ mins. W. Goseltine, 1; E. Bishop, 2; W. J. Williams (conductor), 3; J. E. Willshire, 4; W. H. Holloway, 5; G. Phillott, Esq. (Cheltenham), 6; W. Newell, 7; W. R. Pocock, 8. Also on Sunday, July 20th, for Divine Service in the evening, a 560 of Grandsire Triples, being the first part of the Rev. C. D. P. Davies' ten-part peal (No. 2; taken from his collection in "THE BELL NEWS," in 21 mins. W. R. Pocock, 1; H. M. Bawden, 2; W. Johnson, 3; W. J. Williams (conductor), 4; W. H. Holloway, 5; G. Talbot, 6; J. E. Willshire, 7; E. Bishop, 8.

SOUTH ANSTON (Yorkshire).—On Sunday, July 20th, the society of ringers of SS. Peter and Paul, Eckington, Derbyshire, paid a friendly visit to this place, and rang for Divine Service a 720 each of New

London Pleasure, Oxford Treble Bob, and Violet, in 1 hr. 14½ mins. G. Smith, 1; W. Price, 2; E. James, 3; J. Shaw, 4; G. Marsden (conductor), 5; T. Lunn, 6. Tenor 12 cwt. The members of the above society wish to return thanks through the medium of this paper to the South Anston ringers, as they assisted by every means in their power towards making the visit pleasant and enjoyable. Several touches were rung by mixed companies after service, and the ringers returned home well pleased with their outing.

SPALDING (Lincolnshire).—On Tuesday, July 15th, at the church of SS. Mary and Nicholas, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob. J. S. Wright, 1; J. Wilson, 2; G. L. Richardson, 3; R. Mackman, 4; E. Brown, 5; J. Brown (conductor), 6. And on July 16th, a 720 of Double Court Bob. R. Skeef, 1; J. Wilson, 2; G. L. Richardson, 3; J. S. Wright, 4; E. Brown (first 720 in the method), 5; R. Mackman (conductor), 6. And on Thursday, July 17th, being the Archdeacon's visitation, for Divine Service, three 120s of Grandsire Doubles, and after service four 120s in the same method. And on Sunday, July 20th, for morning service, a 360 of Oxford Treble Bob. And on Tuesday, July 22nd, a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob. R. Skeef (first 720 in the method), 1; J. Wilson, J. S. Wright, 3; R. Mackman, 4; E. Brown, 5; G. L. Richardson (conductor), 6.

TWELVE DAYS' CHANGE OF AIR, WITH "CHANGES."

By F. E. DAWE.

ON the completion of the peal at the cathedral a pleasant hour was spent near at hand, ending in saying "adieu" to our Chester friends, after which we departed, having first obtained a little of the needful with some mountain dew and cigars of the fragrant weed. It was exactly midnight when the party left the old city, and enjoyed the most delightful drive possible to imagine, of sixteen miles back again; it being cloudless moonlight scenery of the clearest kind, and at the places of rest on the way the ringers soon showed that their vocal powers were of no mean order, and songs, glees, etc., filled up the time in excellent manner, and it was amongst these that we were told the uses of the red, white, and green lights seen on the railways; also about sailing on the sea, that effectually disturbed the nightly repose of the birds upon the tree, as it was given out. At length Wrexham was reached, amid the well-known strains of "Auld Lang Syne," and we retired about 3 o'clock, only to get up again at five, and prepare for the same faces to meet again at the station, to be off for "fresh fields and pastures green." Consequently an early train took us about sixty miles through the heart of North Wales, passing the beautiful Vale of Clwyd, Pen-y-fford, Gwersyllt, Mantelwyd, Caergwle, and many other notable places with names far too long and awkward for insertion in "THE BELL NEWS," in fact quite sufficient to puzzle a Philadelphia lawyer. A great deal of merriment was caused by the interpretations of such names by one of the party who could "speak the language," and thoroughly understood it. At Denbigh, the services of an interpreter began to be very useful, for here the passengers had to wait an hour, and it was on the platform that considerable mirth was elicited from the fact that the old bell-man and town crier was there (a man by the way very like the late Marwood, only a little more to say); this individual was just off to the Chester races in full rig, with coat-tails gaily decorated with coloured handkerchiefs. The next place of interest was the Cathedral Church of St. Asaph, about which we heard a very curious pun; not a very edifying building for such a grand name by any means. After passing the beautiful marble church of Bodelwyddan, at last the sea-side town of Rhyl was reached; a visit made to the beach, and skill tested at a shooting saloon, which passed off very well until some of the party found that black paint and light clothes did not suit each other very well. Here we partook of an excellent dinner, with some of the townsmen and ringing friends, at a very good house, the "Mostyn Arms," where a curiosity was kept behind the bar, and the conversation punned to death, at which great talent was displayed. The band adjourned in the afternoon to the church of St. Thomas, whose tower contains a very nice ring of eight, tenor about 18 cwt. in F., but rather noisy in the ringing room. An attempt was made for a peal of Grandsire Triples, which resulted in some very good ringing for about 3500 changes in 2 hrs., when a mishap occurred that could not be rectified, owing to the din from the bells. A. Lea, 1; R. Jones, 2; F. E. Dawe (conductor), 3; J. Williams, 4; J. Ellis, 5; T. Newell, 6; E. Evans, 7; E. Rowland, 8. The next thing was to ring some rounds and fire the bells down in peal, that sounded volumes when the quick successions commenced, we were allowed to chime some tunes, followed by more firing and "golden changes" with the Ellacombe hammers. A photographer's was the next place to go to, and have the necessary business gone through, as nine of us were taken in ringing costume, some standing and some sitting; this occupied fully half an hour on account of the amusement caused through a gentleman in a Welsh hat, a yard in height, and the same in breadth, besides many laughable interruptions that crowded in one after the other. The photo when completed, and forwarded some days afterwards, looked as comical

as though I had just been created Lord Mayor of Rhyl, with so many of the native Aldermen, stripped to the shirt, round me. The return journey was made by way of the sea coast to Chester, to visit some friends and steam-engines, and thence to Wrexham, which was reached rather late, when fatigue was beginning to take the place of excitement. The next morning was spent in getting particulars of the bells such as thickness, diameter, inscriptions, etc., a job by the way, as I have mentioned before, that is very interesting when accurately taken, at any ten or twelve bell steeple, or an important ring of six or eight.

In the afternoon we were allowed to put the Ellacombe hammers in order, and chime upwards of thirty different airs that were best adapted for ten bells on the diatonic scale, including all the beautiful English, Scotch, Welsh, Irish, and negro national melodies, and several suitable hymns followed. The national or ancient lyric and ballad music of almost any kind seem very suitable for chiming on heavy bells, it being also worthy of notice that the old melodies of the British Isles bears internal evidence of great antiquity—the music of each country having its own marked and distinguishing characteristics, yet they all have a strong family resemblance to each other. At this town the ringing and tunefulness of the bells can be heard to the fullest advantage, as the grand old tower, built entirely of stone, stands on an eminence, and enjoys the fame of being the highest in Cambria. The elaborate external workmanship is commonly known as one of the “wonders of Wales”; the sides are all entirely different, one called the “panel side” being especially beautiful, and is surmounted by four grand skeleton pinnacles, in all reaching to a height of 170 ft., thereby commanding a fine view of the country, besides being a conspicuous landmark for many miles round. There is a talk of this church being made the Cathedral of the Diocese instead of that of St. Asaph.

In the evening the band were again assembled in the belfry, and all being ready a start was made for a peal of Grandsire Caters, which resulted in 5021 changes being rung in 3 hrs. 19 mins. without a trip or close blow; the tenor weighs 28 cwt. in D, not 24 cwt. as published in the last issue. Here as at Chester, the ringing did not commence until time to leave-off at some places, viz., 25 mins. to eight, consequently it was very near 11 o'clock before the bells came round, after which some very good rounds and firing took place, by way of variation, to make it last a little longer. When it was all over, a sick jackdaw was found to have gained access to the ringing-room in a very mysterious manner, making a death-chamber of one of the coat pockets hanging by a window, and had actually expired. This was my first peal in Wales, and having called it, all adjourned to the house of Mr. E. Rowland, conductor of the Wrexham band, where a very pleasant convivial gathering was held, and toasts, musical honours, healths, etc.; with speeches of thanks, and welcome now and always went down with enthusiasm. Mr. Weever next kept the merits of the company and every one else, well to the front for the next half hour; other speakers followed, and it was not until the morning was breaking that the company finally dispersed.

The next morning was spent in walking to Llanypwll, with another ringer, and here, though defeated in the object in view, the time was nevertheless pleasantly whiled away in juvenile rural pastime. However, the time soon came to again leave one of our “happy hunting grounds” behind us, and after luncheon several went to the station, where we had to take leave of our kind hearted friends, whose guest we had been so long, and I must say here in passing, there is not a hand anywhere who could have received us with so much warmth and kindness; turning over work for a whole week on purpose to go about and oblige us, generally in every way trying to make one's visit pleasant and beneficial, and certainly they succeeded in doing so; and that week is one which will never be forgotten, for they all deserve the highest thanks I can give them, and I now take this opportunity of doing so.

As far as ringing goes they can rattle away at the Grandsire method in a style that is rarely ever met with out of London, and are also making rapid progress with Treble Bob and Stedman. The peal of Caters here was the first and only one I had ever accomplished in which the dodges have been called, and to me it was very perplexing at first; however we are pleased to notice that this ancient custom is fast dying a natural death here, being almost a thing of the past—in fact the peal at Chester Cathedral was rung at my request without anything of the sort, and on that occasion never could a band (especially strangers) have rung better. In calling again at Chester, Mr. Ball kindly assisted me in getting my favourite particulars of the cathedral bells, and rubbings of the beautiful ornamental fifteenth century letters, which can be clearly perceived on some of them, others having been of late years recast with ordinary lettering. On examination the tenor was found to be 33 cwt. in C, sharp side. At last

MANCHESTER

was reached, and having three or four hours to wait, went to the Town Hall, and at 9 o'clock heard the grand carrillon, the chime being from “Hymns Ancient and Modern.” One or two very important municipal arrangements were seen, and although the “wheel of the

bus came off” another start was made, riding through one of the longest tunnels in England, followed by the beautiful stretch of railroad scenery along the Manchester, Sheffield, and Lincolnshire Railway; and the scene of the late terrible disaster, to Penistone junction, ultimately resulted in our reaching

SHEFFIELD

later on, but having been delayed so much through having to continually change trains and wait, it was finally midnight before finding myself safe in the house of Mr. C. H. Hattersley, whose guest we were for the visit, and who had been expecting me some hours. The next day, after visiting several old friends, a band of the Ancient Society of College Youths and Yorkshire Association assembled in St. Peter's tower and when all things were ready, a start for a peal of Treble-Twelve was made, but came to grief after ringing half an hour. W. Worthington, 1; Joe Mulligan, 2; G. Holmes, 3; W. Bower, 4; H. Madin, 5; C. H. Hattersley, 6; John Mulligan, 7; T. Lee, 8; J. Hunt, 9; A. Brierley, 10; T. Hattersley, 11; F. E. Dawe (conductor), 12. Tenor 41 cwt. in C. I may mention that this was the first of the very hot days, and as the ringing-room here gets like an oven in warm weather, it was deemed advisable to stop, as things were getting beyond a joke; in fact real “melting moments,” even to “one of Pharaoh's lean kine.” Some of the strongest pulled off the tenor and other big bells, only to set them again and shake their heads. A band started for and rung a peal of Treble Bob Major on the first eight, conducted by Mr. H. Madin, during which time I went outside to hear them, and from thence to tea with Mr. John Taylor, jun. Here the piano was indulged in, and as the last course of the peal was commenced, walked back to the church, and a very pleasant evening spent at the “Queen,” with handbells, etc. The next morning nine courses of Stedman Triples were rung at St. Marie's, Norfolk Row, and four courses of Stedman Caters at St. Peter's, in the afternoon, and after tea with Mr. T. Hattersley, that gentleman kindly accompanied me to the station, settling what should be done or rather attempted on the next visit; and me soon seated in a third class carriage, for I invariably travel third when there's no fourth, and afterwards lost sight of Sheffield, passing the lofty church tower of Grantham, Peterborough Cathedral, and in the evening, it being a case of “soon shall be in London Town,” arrived at the King's Cross terminus of the Great Northern Railway.

Now, Mr. Editor, as I see you have been taking a trip yourself in the Midlands, I should like to have met you, being fully able to endorse all you say, but as ringing is now a “business quite commercial,” the readers of this sort of thing can have but a faint idea of the real pleasure attached to it unless they visit the places named “in propria persona”; for when in the ringing room of some noted tower, and looking with wonder and admiration at tablets recording performances of renown in years gone by, it is apt to induce a visitor to heave a sigh and exclaim “men were men in those days.”

If anyone wishes to write an article for your paper and are not able to find a suitable heading for it, they are at perfect liberty to use any of mine, as some people always trust to the ingenuity of others in such cases; or if they like to apply to me I shall be most happy to invent one for them, “free gratis for nothing,” or accommodate them in any way I can.

At the time of my trip everyone was talking about the “Burton-on-Trent chaps;” their wonderful weeks' ringing of five peals in different methods, exciting the wonder and admiration of all in so great a degree that many of the miserable call change-ringers that I met who were diametrically opposed to the science, and many of the useless treble and tenor men, who make all the mischief by loafing about in the towers, baggling as to which society is the best, or who are the cleverest ringers, actually asserted their belief that it was never done, I suppose merely because they were not competent to have a finger in the pie; however, facts prove to the contrary, and I trust the time is not far distant when I shall have the honour of ringing another peal with them. Again returning to the subject of holidays, I am a firm believer that a change of air after an illness is much better than all the medicine.

The month of May is certainly a lovely time to go away in, as the fine weather generally prevails, the air and country more refreshing and exhilarating, and the heat not so intense or oppressive as it is later on in August for getting about and ringing; though of course out of the ringing science, or any other heavy exercise, the latter month is considered to be the cream of the season for going away to enjoy a quiet rest at the seaside or other holiday resorts, and is therefore generally reserved for that purpose. July and August in my opinion are far too sweltering for swinging big bells, or little ones either, which causes the outing to become a time of fatigue and labour, and the pleasure therefore loses its charm. During this invigorating trip, we attempted five peals and “done 'em all but two,” but now I must bring this little affair to a close by using the famous and well-known expression from the comic opera “Falka,” and say with emphasis and words full of meaning,

“I WANTED THAT BADLY.”

ANNUAL OUTING OF THE BURFORD COMPANY, OXON.

ON Tuesday, July 15th, the Burford company, who are also members of the Oxford Diocesan Guild, had their annual outing. It had been customary in previous years to attend the annual meeting of the above-named Guild, but Burford being situated in such an outlandish corner of Oxfordshire, and as it was found that great difficulties would have to be surmounted in order to get to Great Marlow in anything like reasonable time, the members decided to have an outing on their own account. The locality fixed upon for the excursion was Woodstock, which is a small town situated close to Blenheim Park. A start was made from Burford at 7.30 a.m., the first halting place being Witney, a distance of seven miles from home. The vicar (Rev. Foxley Norris), and the senior curate (Rev. — Miller), conducted the ringers to the belfry, when after raising the bells, a start was made for a short touch of Grandsire Triples, which was brought round in about 20 mins. The "go" of the bells with the exception of the 7th was everything that could be desired. Witney possesses a good ring of eight (tenor about 18 cwt.), but the peal might be much improved by having the 2nd recast, that bell being cracked so much that the striking is hardly discernible. At 11, the horses being put to, and the bugler in form, the journey was resumed. Woodstock was reached shortly after 12. Light refreshments were indulged in for about half-an-hour, when the leader informed the company that the next rendezvous must be the belfry. After waiting for the chimes to go, a start was made for a peal of Grandsire Triples (Holt's ten-part), the men handling the ropes as follows: H. Smith, 1; T. E. Glanville (conductor), 2; T. Brown, 3; J. Smith, 4; H. Bond, 5; W. Large, 6; D. Francis, 7; W. Launchbury, 8, but after ringing for some time, an interruption was caused by an individual who forced his way into the chamber, although the door had fastened to prevent any molestation. As there was not time to start again for the peal before dinner (a cold collation being ordered for at about 3 p.m.), a short touch was rung and the bells lowered. After doing justice to the repast, walks through the spacious park were indulged in, six of the ringers going on to Bladon for a 720 of Grandsire Minor. At Bladon, there is a light ring of six (tenor only 6 cwt.) A 720 was rung in 23 mins. by the following: T. Brown, 1; J. Smith, 2; T. E. Glanville (conductor), 3; W. Large, 4; D. Francis, 5; H. Bond, 6. One feature of this performance was the way in which the tenor man (H. Bond) rang his bell without a stay. The party collected together at Bladon, and the homeward journey was commenced. After a short stay at Witney to rest the horses, Burford was reached shortly after 10. The whole of the party seemed to enjoy themselves; the weather was rather threatening yet the rain kept off. Touches of Grandsire Caters were rung during the day at several places on the journey. One incident perhaps is worth mentioning: while ringing at Witney in the morning, one of our friends had a conversation in the churchyard with the oldest ringer in Witney. This old stager did not appear to enjoy the method of change-ringing, for in the course of the conversation he made the following remark, "That ain't no ringing." It is presumed that this octogenarian belonged to the society who study the intricate and difficult method known as Churchyard Bob.

ANNIVERSARY OF CHESTER-LE-STREET CHURCH MILLENNARY.

ON the 14th of July last year, the people of Chester-le-Street celebrated the 1000th Anniversary of the erection of a church, on the site where the present church stands, by restoring it, and providing a handsome peal of bells, the tenor weighing 20 cwt. On the 14th instant the anniversary of this Millenary was kept, the Rev. W. O. Blunt and his ringers inviting a band of the Durham and Newcastle Diocesan Association from St. John's, Newcastle, to ring during the afternoon, and for the special service, which was held in the evening, at which Canon Body preached.

The band, nine all told, included the president of the Association, Wm. Reed, Esq., and Mr. R. Smith, of North Shields, reached Chester-le-Street shortly before 2 o'clock. After raising the bells, a 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor was accomplished in 28 mins. by the following band:—Geo. Campbell, 1; R. S. Story, 2; F. Lees, 3; C. L. Routledge, 4; E. W. Scott, 5; R. Smith (conductor), 6. An attempt was made to ring a 720 of Woodbine, but it came to grief after ringing two-thirds of it. After ringing some Bob Minor with two of the local band, who, it may be stated, are making satisfactory progress in the science, ringing was stopped for the afternoon. At the request of the Rector, the following band rang a course of Grandsire Triples upon handbells from the narrow parapet outside the tower, which was listened to with much interest from below—C. L. Routledge, 1, 2; F. Lees, 3, 4; R. S. Story, 5, 6; E. W. Scott, 7, 8.

At 6 o'clock the visitors were entertained to tea by the ringers of the church, the Rector taking the chair; and after ample justice had been done to the good things so kindly provided, a course of Grandsire Caters was rung upon the handbells by W. Bowes, 1, 2; C. L. Rout-

ledge, 3, 4; R. S. Story, 5, 6; E. W. Scott, 7, 8; F. Lees, 9, 10. The following band then rang for service, 720 Oxford Treble Bob Minor in 29 mins.:—W. Bowes, 1; C. L. Routledge, 2; F. Lees, 3; R. S. Story, 4; R. Smith, 5; W. Reed, Esq. (conductor), 6.

The train arrangements not allowing the band to stay to the service, they left Chester-le-Street, reaching Newcastle in time to ring a 504 Grandsire Triples at St. John's, conducted by W. Reed, Esq.

The St. John's men take this opportunity to thank the Rector and ringers of Chester-le-Street for the kindness and liberality with which they were entertained, and to assure them that any assistance of which they are capable in advancing them in change-ringing is always at their service.

THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

THE ANNUAL MEETING of this Association was held at Leatherhead, by the kind permission of the Rev. F. E. Utterton, on Monday, July 21st. Ringing began about 4.30 p.m. with touches of Grandsire Caters and Triples. At 6 o'clock the business meeting was held in the school-room, the Vicar presiding.

The Secretary announced that during the past year, the members of the Association had rung nine peals, five of Grandsire Triples, two of Grandsire Caters, two of Treble Bob Major, and one of Union Triples.

Although seven members had retired from the Association, there were ten more ringing members on the books than at the corresponding meeting last year. The treasurer had sent in his balance-sheet for the year, shewing a balance in hand of £11. 2s. 6d. Three new members were elected.

After a vote of thanks to the Chairman, the members retired to the church and attended Divine Service, followed by an earnest address to the ringers by the Vicar.

After service, the bells were again set going, touches being rung in the following methods: Grandsire and Stedman Triples and Caters, and Treble Bob Major. About 30 members and some visitors were present, ringers attending from Ashted, Beddington, Benhilton, Bletchingley, Croydon, Epsom, Reigate, Streatham, and Wimbledon. The meeting terminated at about 9.30 p.m. ARTHUR B. CARPENTER, Hon. Sec.

ST. MARGARET'S, DITCHLING, SUSSEX.

ON Saturday, July 19th, at 7 p.m., a special service was held in St. Margaret's, the ancient parish church of Ditchling, Sussex, at which the bells, a very musical ring of six, were re-opened, and a new treble was dedicated to the glory of God and to the memory of the Rev. Thomas Hutchinson, for many years the much respected Vicar of the parish. The service consisted of a special form of prayer (during the reading of which the bells were chimed), followed by a sermon by the Rev. Canon Campion, M.A. At 8.30 the members of the newly-formed society of ringers, sixteen in number, were entertained at supper by the Vicar, the Rev. F. C. Norton. On Monday, July 21st, by invitation, six members of the Brighton societies (St. Nicholas and St. Peter) visited the town, and rang a 720 of Bob Minor, containing eighteen bobs and two singles, in 25 mins. H. Weston, 1; J. Jay, jun., 2; H. Boniface, 3; G. F. Attree, 4; J. Jay, sen., 5; J. Searle (conductor), 6. Also several touches in the same method, and a 6-score of Grandsire Doubles. After three hours ringing, the Brighton band was kindly invited to the old Vicarage to partake of supper with the Vicar, and returned to Brighton having spent a very pleasant evening.

VISIT TO WOMBURN, NEAR WOLVERHAMPTON.

ON Saturday, July 19th, several members of the St. Paul's Society, Burton-on-Trent, visited the above picturesque village, at the kind invitation of Mr. Rowland Cartwright. After inspecting the ancient church, and being heartily welcomed by the Vicar, to whom thanks are due for the use of the bells, the visitors adjourned to partake of Mr. Cartwright's hospitality.

In the evening several touches were rung upon the six bells, and a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor, in 26 mins. A. Wakley, 1; J. Jaggard, 2; R. Cartwright (conductor), 3; G. Appleby, 4; H. Wakley, 5; W. Wakley, 6. Tenor about 11 cwt. Much praise is due to Mr. Cartwright for his energy in promoting change-ringing in Womburn, and he appears to have some promising ringers to work with him.

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WANTED.—"The Art of Change-ringing," by B. Thackrah, 1852. Also "Beafof's Ringers' True Guide." Address—"Joseph Scott, 100, Streteford Road, Manchester."

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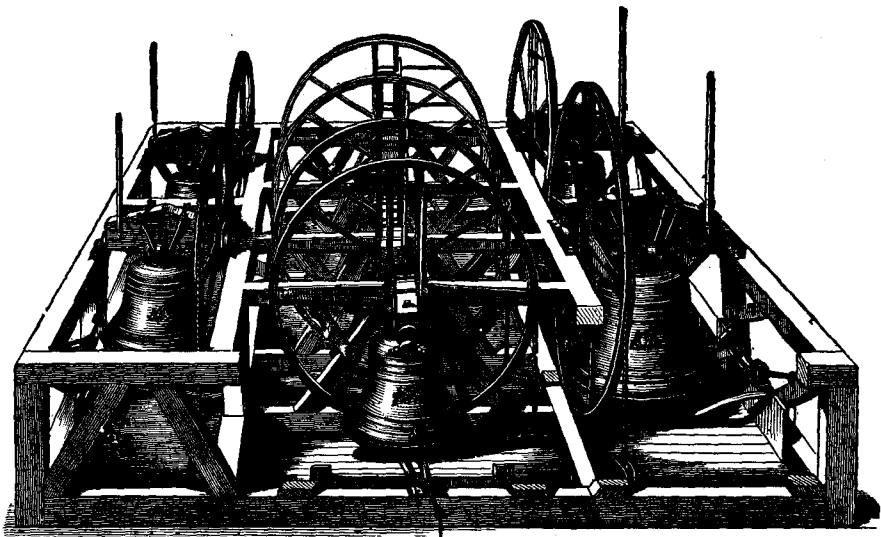
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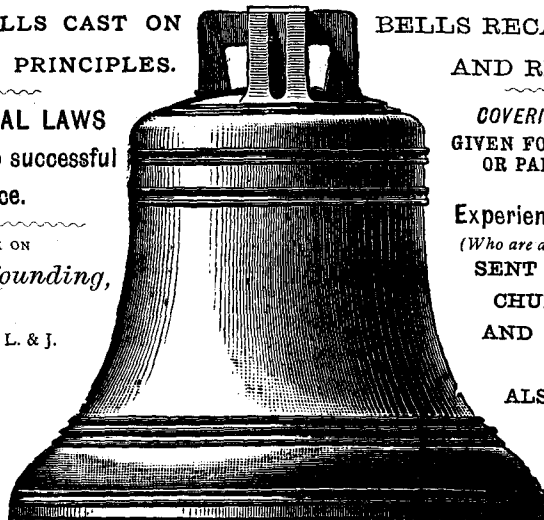
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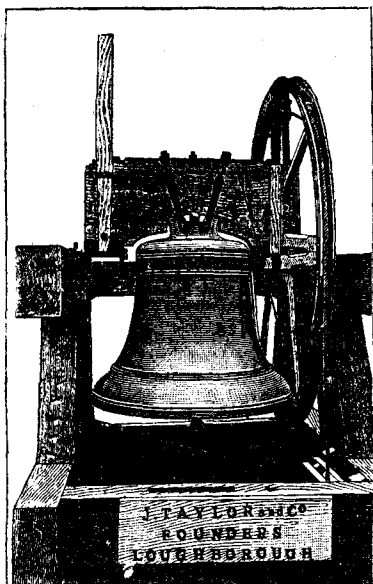
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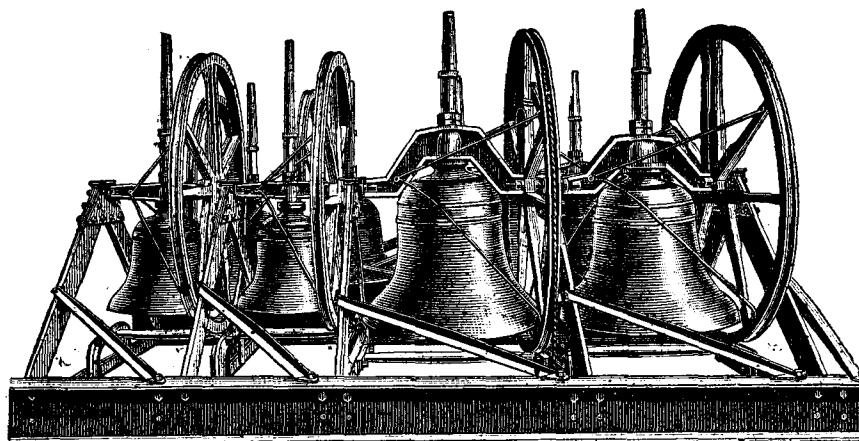
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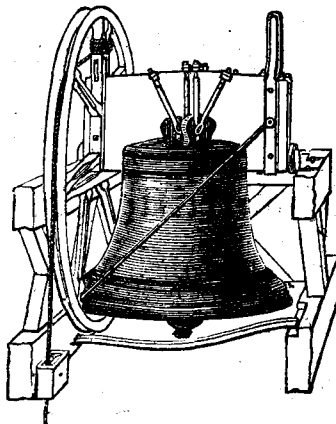
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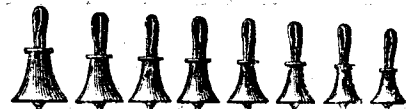
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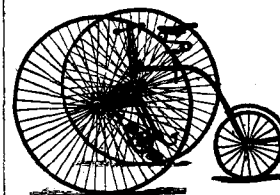
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OUT OF TOWN.

Sunday morning, 8.30., found Messrs. John Howe, H. C. Woodward, A. B. Ward, and myself ready for a most pleasant and enjoyable walk to Duffield, five miles from Derby, at which place we arrived at about 9.50 a.m. We had a good survey of both the inside and outside of the church, which stands within a very small churchyard, the Midland Railway passing in close proximity to the front porch, and the river Derwent in its rear. At first sight one is at once struck with its charming situation: all around rises quarry banks and hills, and the tower, which is a square stone one, with embattled top, and surmounted with a spire, is lost among the hills which surmount it. Standing near the front porch, and, looking to the left, you observe the residence of A. P. Heywood, Esq.—a great benefactor here, by the way, and a gentleman who has taken an extraordinary amount of trouble with regard to the bells of Duffield, and was instrumental in replacing the old ring of six with one of the prettiest peals of eight that I have heard. He is a practical ringer, and moreover a conductor. Whilst we strolled around the church, the local band started raising the bells in peal. When the bells were brought to a stand, we all ascended the staircase leading to the ringing-room, the appearance of which spoke of the pains and trouble that is here thought nothing of to make everything comfortable for the ringers. Simultaneous with my arrival we were informed that the esteemed gentleman before quoted would not be in attendance that morning, being away from home. As is usual when we are about to have a pull, we doffed our coats, hats, sticks, etc., and started for a touch of Bob Major, and managed to get out. As Bob Triples is here the order of the day, we then started for a touch, and happened to complete it, bringing 10.30 in with it, service time, and our services being thus dispensed with, we turned again towards Derby by another route—Bunkers Hill, Quorndon, and Kedleston, and so on to Derby, Bunkers Hill putting the use of our marrow-bone-stages to their utmost capabilities. This is a steep and rugged hill to climb, though when reaching its top, the scenery fully repaid the struggle of surmounting it. Here we rested awhile, and beheld down in the valley, like a child nestling to its mother's bosom, Duffield Church, and this with the surrounding scenery presenting a grand and noble picture. I must mention that before leaving, we made arrangements to meet again the same evening, which in due course we did, and thinking (as some men do oftentimes) we would give the ladies a treat, three of our number brought their wives. After service time we made for the station, the train leaving at 9 p.m., the ladies who had started some time previous were expected to have arrived there awaiting us, but as all flesh is doomed to disappointment, so were we four ringers from Derby, for the ladies were *non est*,—it wanted but a minute to the time of the train departure, and what was to be done? We had already tramped to and from Duffield; we rode by train there in the evening with the intention of returning by the same agency, but fate was against us. John Howe, with his usual agility, circumnavigated Duffield, and roaming about for some time, found our ladies strolling as leisurely as you please, just as if the next day would do. On espying them, he proceeded to make all kinds of gesticulations, combined with the most extraordinary manual exercises, to hurry them on to the station, but with no avail. While all this was going on, we, the remainder, had the pleasure of seeing our train gaily leave the platform, and worse than that, the knowledge that it was the last that evening. On coming up with the ladies they were interrogated as to their seeming misconduct, their explanation being they had taken the wrong turn, which has since been fully substantiated. The next thing was how were we to get back? Nothing remained but to walk, but Mrs. Howe at first intimated it was next to impossible for her to do so, and while arrangements were being made for her to stay, she plucked up, and off we started, bidding our Duffield friends adieu. We reached Derby at 11.20., all very tired, though we thoroughly enjoyed the outing, but strange to say, Mrs. Howe appeared the least exhausted of the feminine portion of our party.

On Monday the wife and I perambulated the town, the description of which is the same as any other ordinary shire capital; has a covered market and an uncovered one, and we found that the only advantage attached to buying anything within the precincts of the former was the satisfaction of

knowing that we had given twopence and in some cases more per pound for articles than we did in the latter. To the right stands the Town Hall, and Police Court, surmounted with a tower and clock, everything else in the place being as ordinary as possible: that is, shops of almost every conceivable description, but on turning to the left you observe the grand tower of All Saints, very much resembling that of St. Michael's, Cornhill, and one is struck by the tone of the bells as they roll out the quarters for the hour, which are as follows: 12345678, 13572468, 15263748, this being done on the back eight, the last is 865794312, but why the tenor is left out in the last one I cannot account for, as it has the effect of spoiling a very pretty change. I had not the pleasure of ringing there this time, but hope to do so on my next visit. O. P. Q.

(To be continued.)

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE ST. MARTIN'S COMPANY, BIRMINGHAM.

At a meeting of this Company for the transaction of general business, and the election of officers for the ensuing year, it was arranged to hold the annual outing at Coventry, and, in accordance with this resolution members to the number of between thirty and forty met on Saturday, the 19th inst., and proceeded thither, where they were met by Mr. Vincent, who gave them a very hearty welcome. After refreshing the inner man, the company proceeded to the tower of St. Michael's, and rang a few short touches of Stedman and Grandsire Caters as follows:—H. Bastable (conductor), 1; W. Haywood, 2; S. Reeves, 3; T. Meredith (Lichfield), 4; H. Johnson, jun., 5; J. Dunn, 6; A. Thomas, 7; T. Reynolds, 8; C. Stanbridge, 9; J. Johnson, 10; rung 634 Stedman Caters. H. Bastable (conductor), 1; T. Meredith (Lichfield), 2; H. Johnson, jun., 3; A. Thomas, 4; J. Sanders, 5; C. Lenton (Coventry), 6; C. Stanbridge, 7; W. Kent, 8; T. Holmes (Burton-on-Trent), 9; W. Gilbert (Coventry), 10; 270 Grandsire Caters. Tenor 32 cwt. After these touches the bells were "turned in peal."

Adjourning to the "Salutation Inn," the members and friends partook of an excellent dinner provided by Host Vincent (himself a brother string). After returning from a short constitutional, indulged in by some few of the members, in the beautiful suburbs of this ancient city, the chair was again taken by the President, Mr. S. Reeves, who, in opening his address, informed all present that they were met to celebrate the 129th Anniversary of the Company, and in a few suitable remarks proposed the toast of the evening, "Success to St. Martin's Company." The Treasurer, Mr. H. Johnson, jun., here gave a statement of the financial position of the Company, which was very encouraging. The rest of the evening was spent in an agreeable manner with songs, recitations, and ringing on handbells in different methods (Bob Major, Grandsire Caters, and Stedman Triples). During the evening the Company were honoured with the presence of T. Maycock, Esq., Churchwarden of St. Michael's, who, owing to previous engagements, was reluctantly compelled to leave early, but who, in a few well-chosen remarks, gave the St. Martin's Company a hearty welcome, and thanked them for selecting Coventry for this year's Annual Outing. He also informed them that a movement was being made to restore the majestic tower and spire of St. Michael's to its original beauty at an estimated cost of £35,000, towards which about £19,000 has already been promised. We sincerely hope that this great undertaking may be successfully carried through, and also that the machinery in connection with the bells, of which the city ought to be proud, will get a just share of this vast amount expended on it, so that it may be, not only a pleasure to hear these beautiful bells, but also an agreeable and pleasing operation to perform some of the feats expected from ringers.

The members of the St. Martin's Company beg to thank the authorities of St. Michael's for so readily granting them an opportunity of again hearing and ringing upon their beautiful bells. Before leaving for home a band was selected for Sunday at St. Martin's, where a touch of Stedman Cinques was rung for evening service. W. Haywood, 1; J. Joyner, 2; H. Bastable (conductor), 3; W. Kent, 4; S. Reeves, 5; W. Small, 6; J. Buffery, 6; J. Dunn, 8; J. James, 9; T. Reynolds, 10; A. Thomas, 11; H. Withers, 12.

THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

A District Meeting for practice was held at Woburn, on Saturday, July 18th, when an attempt was made to ring a 5040 Grandsire Triples, but after ringing somewhat over 3000 changes a shift occurred, which brought the peal to grief. Some touches of Oxford Treble Bob Major were afterwards indulged in. Among the company were two of Messrs. Taylor's bell-hangers, who are engaged at Husborne Crawley, a village two miles distant from Woburn, repairing the fine ring of six there.

ST. MARGARET'S, STANFORD-LE-HOPE, ESSEX.

We gave a brief account in our last of the opening of the ring of bells at this church. The following account, which is taken from a county paper, will be read with interest:—

Sunday last was a day of note in the annals of Stanford-le-Hope, the work of church restoration which, under the energetic and indefatigable management of the Rector, the Rev. Dr. Sedgwick, has been going on here for some years past, being on that day advanced another stage. The five bells, which had been silent for nigh 40 years, have been recast into a ring of six, and rehung by Messrs. Moore, Holmes, and Mackenzie, of the Redenhall Bell Foundry, Harleston, Norfolk, and it is the completion of this portion of the work of restoration which we chronicle to-day. The old tower which, with the bells had fallen into a sad state of ruin and decay, was taken down some seven years ago, but for want of funds was left unfinished at the former restoration in 1877, by Mr. Linklater. Last year, however, with increased effort, the funds were forthcoming, and the tower was carried up to its full height, and completed in ample time for the bells to be rung on St. Margaret's Day (Sunday last). The work in connection with the tower has been very thoroughly and efficiently carried out by Mr. James H. Wray, of Chelmsford, under the direction of the Rev. E. Geldart, Rector of Little Braxted, who has acted as architect. The style of tower is Late English, decorated, and although the tall tower with corner pinnacles is not very common in the county it certainly adds considerable dignity to the church. The entire height to the top of the pinnacles is 85 feet; the inside measure of the tower is 12 feet square, and the thickness of the walls varies from three feet at the bottom to two feet at the top. The ringing chamber is lighted with two windows on the north and the same number on the east side. Above this is the sound floor well packed with sawdust to deaden the noise of the bells. Here is to be a fixed chiming clock, the contract for which is in the hands of Mr. A. W. Boatman, of Grays. Above this are the bells themselves, a description of which we give below. The bell chamber is pierced with four large triplet windows giving ample egress to the sound. On climbing to the top of the turret staircase one emerges upon a lead flat, capable of holding forty people, and from whence a fine view may be obtained of the surrounding country. The exterior of the tower is faced with Kentish rag, the windows and other dressings being of Bath stone. Free use has been made of flint in the decorations of the buttresses and parapet, and also here and there on the face of the walls. Between the windows of the ringing chamber on the north side is a niche holding a beautiful statue of St. Margaret, executed by Messrs. Cox and Co., of Southampton Street; on the east side is the cross of St. Margaret, with her flower, the daisy, in flint work. Beneath the window runs an inscription, carved in stone, which may possibly have puzzled the villagers and some of the visitors to whom it has not been explained. It is what is known as a chronogram—that is, a phrase which tells by the addition of all the letters which count as numerals. It runs thus:—

"eCCe tVrrIs oLIM strata
Deo rVrsVs eXornata
resonantI VoCe grata."

These letters added together produce 1883. For the benefit of the unlearned, this inscription is translated on the east wall thus:—

"This tower once down,
To God again,
Rebuilt, rings
With pleasant strain."

This pleasant strain was first heard on Saturday evening last, when, after the benediction of the bells by the Rector they were chimed for the first evening of the festival.

On examining the bells we found them to have suitable Latin inscriptions executed in bold Old English letters. The treble bell is the children's bell; second, Sanctus bell; third, passing bell; fourth, vesper bell; fifth, Angelus bell; tenor, funeral bell. Every bell has not only its name, but its proper use. The treble bell has been subscribed to by the children attending the schools to the amount of £5, and they intend making it their own; it will be rung for children's service always. Each bell has also upon its waist a neat and unpretending mark of the founders' in a small heraldic shield in the old style. These bells and their fittings possess some peculiarities mostly introduced by Messrs. Moore, Holmes, and Mackenzie. They have no cannons, as we usually understand that term, but a mushroom top, with a continuation above it which enters the iron stock, and through which a single bolt passes which holds the bell firmly in its place, giving a rigid and lasting method of fixing which remains tight in all weathers, and thereby avoiding all the numerous straps, bolts and keys we usually see attached to bells with the old-fashioned, clumsy, wooden stocks. The rolling sliders, which require no lubrication, and always roll gently to the centre the instant the stay leaves them, will be appreciated by all practical ringers. The new pattern iron rope pulleys which run so quietly and easily have given great satisfaction, also the new rope thimbles of the wheels, which are so simple and effective that it seems a matter for surprise that no one has ever thought of them before. Messrs. Moore, Holmes, and Mackenzie

certainly seem to make a special study of comforts of ringers. The bells, as castings, are smooth and good, and the result musically is of a very high order. This we are given to understand is the outcome of the discovery of a certain formula which enables these foundries to produce at pleasure bells of a brilliant character; certainly the result of their calculations has in this instance been most successful. The weight of the tenor bell is 8 cwt., and the note 459.81 vibrations per second. At the request of the Rev. E. Geldart, the bell frame has been built in an unusual form, the foundation being 14 feet below the gudgeons of the bells. This throws their weight far nearer the ground than would otherwise be the case. No intermediate girder crosses the tower; yet the bells hang in two rows and all at the same level. The whole frame, which is built on the "A" frame principle, is of wrought iron, and its parts are so arranged that with a minimum of material no strain is felt unopposed in a proper direction. The skill with which this frame, which is extremely light in appearance, has been designed, and the accuracy with which the work has been carried out, is perceived in a moment when standing in the gangway, as not the least vibration or tremor is perceptible in the frame when the bells are swinging. The bells are fitted with the Redenhall patent clappers. As soon as the blow is struck the clapper leaves the bell, and the note is thus brought out full and distinct. A carillon is fixed in the ringing chamber, and peals can be chimed, or tunes played, by one person with perfect ease. The whole of the work has been executed under the personal superintendence of Mr. Holmes (of the above named firm), himself a practical ringer of no mean order, and it has been carried out in such a manner as to give universal praise. The opinion of all who have heard these bells is that they are a very pretty little ring; the quality of the tone is peculiarly sweet, and at the same time there is plenty of power and brilliancy. The founders say that the quality of tone will be even finer than it is now, when the bells have been rung for two or three years, and they consider that they could have produced a better tone still, had they used their own composition of metal instead of the old bells. The opinion we heard expressed by the company of ringers, including the members of the Essex Diocesan Association, was that the tone and "go" of the bells leave nothing to be desired.

The total cost has been about £800 for the tower and £250 for the bells, and of this amount about £800 had been subscribed at the beginning of the present week, leaving a debt of £50 on the tower, and £200 on the bells. The Rector and his wife have been indefatigable in their exertions to obtain the necessary funds to accomplish these vast improvements, and both they and the subscribers are to be congratulated on the thoroughly satisfactory manner in which their wishes have been carried out. Funds are still urgently needed to wipe off the existing debt, and any small contribution would be thankfully acknowledged by the Rector.

The proceedings in connection with the dedication festival commenced on Saturday evening with a short set service on the top of the tower, which was first dedicated. The flat was crowded, forty-two persons being present. The congregation afterwards descended to the bell chamber, where the old form of pouring water on and afterwards praying over each bell was gone through by the Rector. The bells were baptised and blessed in the following order:—1. Campana S. Margaretae (funeral bell). 2. Campana S. Pauli (passing bell). 3. Campana S. Nicolae (children's bell). 4. Campana S. Johannis (sanctus bell). 5. Campana S. Petri (vesper bell). 6. Campana S. Mariae (angelus bell). The hymn, "Lift them gently to the steeple," having been sung, the Rector and those assembled descended into the church, and the bells chimed the well-known hymn, "Sun of my soul." There was evensong afterwards, a good congregation being present.

Ringings commenced at six o'clock on St. Margaret's Day by members of the Norwich Diocesan Association, assisted by Mr. C. H. Jessop, of Orsett. The bells were kept going pretty frequently throughout the day, the band of ringers being assisted by Messrs. S. Hayes (Upton), B. Keeble, W. Keeble, and A. J. Perkins (Romford), members of the Essex Association. Peals of Plain Bob and Oxford Treble Bob were rung in the morning, and in the evening a fairly well struck 720 of Kent Treble Bob was manipulated by M. Lambert, 1; C. H. Jessop, 2; B. Keeble, 3; J. Allen, 4; J. Smith, 5; A. J. Perkins (conductor), 6. There was a celebration of Holy Communion as early as 6.30, another at 7.30, and a third at 12 o'clock, and there was a goodly number of communicants present at each celebration. The services during the day were bright and cheerful. In the morning the preacher was the Rev. E. Geldart; in the evening, when there was a grand choral service and a large congregation present, the Rector occupied the pulpit, and gave a most appropriate discourse. Referring to the grand work of restoration which they saw in a great measure completed that day, the reverend gentleman compared the present condition of the sacred edifice to what it was when he first entered it. The building was then in such a dilapidated state that the rain came through the roof to such an extent that books left near the walls became so damp as to be of no further use.

while the bells and other portions of the church having been neglected for many years, were gradually going into a state of decay. Since he had been there they had restored the nave and chancel at a cost of £3000, erected the organ at a cost of £300, rebuilt the tower at a cost of £800, and recast the bells at a cost of £250. The latter work had been carried out in an artistic manner, and that day the bells had been rung in an artistic style. In addition their schools had been enlarged at a cost of from £700 to £800, thus making a total of £5220 spent during the nine years he had ministered in the parish.

The church was very prettily decorated for the occasion by the Misses Eve, Misses Josland, and other ladies in the village.

On Monday there were Matins at 8, Evensong at 7.30, and ringing by members of the Norwich Diocesan Association.

On Tuesday a celebration of Holy Communion took place at 8 a.m., and during the day merry peals were rung by the members of the Essex Diocesan Association. At half-past two a ringers' dinner took place at the Railway Tavern, an excellent spread being placed on the table by Host Polley. The Rector presided, and about twenty partook of the good things provided.—After dinner the Rev. A. H. Cockey (Secretary of the Essex and Norwich Diocesan Association) proposed a vote of thanks to the Chairman, and in doing so observed that to all lovers of ringing it was a most pleasant thing to be invited to ring on six such beautiful bells as they had in their church steeple, and to meet other ringers. The Rector, in response, expressed a hope that year after year they would have such a pleasant gathering as they had had that day, and that they would go on meeting and bell-ringing till the end of their days. Members of Associations like the Essex and Norwich Diocesan Associations must feel that when they came to a place like Stanford they came among much raw material; but they did not intend to be raw long, as already they had a number of willing hands who were longing to have a pull at the bells. He was glad to see the members of the Associations present that day, and it would be a greater pleasure to see them again next year, and a still greater pleasure again the next year, and so on. The speaker then proceeded to say that great credit was due to the firm of which Mr. Holmes was the head for the excellent manner in which they had carried out the work of recasting and rehanging the bells. They had displayed considerable cleverness both as engineers and manipulators. Mr. Holmes, having briefly replied, and stated that the secret of success was the attention given to detail, Mr. R. Sewell (Barking), a ringer of fifty years, said he was agreeably surprised with the tone of the bells, and expected, from the resonance of their tone, to find them much heavier than they were. The fittings and the style of hanging the bells were the best he had ever seen anywhere in his life. The bells were everything one could wish for a small peal of six. The company shortly afterwards separated.

During the afternoon a sale of fancy and useful articles took place in a marquee in the Rectory Grounds, in aid of the bell fund. The bazaar was under the superintendence of Mrs. Sedgwick. A large number of persons climbed the steeple, and inspected the new bells, the fee of 2d. each person being charged, and by this means a good amount was got together towards paying off the debt on the bells.

A BUCKINGHAMSHIRE OUTING.

On Saturday, July 19th, ringers of the parish church of St. Mary's, Farnham Royal, with their friends had their usual day's outing, as last year. The route was confined to the county, and almost in the same direction, though happening somewhat earlier in the season. As regards the weather nothing was more favourable for the day's enjoyment, only a passing shower in the morning, which did not however, act as a damper to the spirits of the party. The conveyance was a roomy waggonette, drawn by a pair of excellent thoroughbreds, who worked remarkably well during the day, considering the stiff and hilly nature of the country. At 9.30 a.m. the party left Farnham Post office, and at once made for Amersham, calling at Beaconsfield on the way, the tower of the parish church boldly standing out in grander proportion now the addition thereto is completed. The peal of eight bells which are to be hung here, are being cast by the celebrated firm of Mears and Stainbank, who are most satisfactorily bringing their work to a close. At Amersham, the steeplekeeper of St. Mary's, Mr. Elburn, met the visitors at the church, and after an interesting survey of the interior, a 720 of Oxford Bob was rung on this heavy peal of six. Some refreshments were obtained in this town, and a ride to Chesham followed, where the parish church of St. Mary appeared to view a little before 2 o'clock. Chesham is an interesting inland country market town six miles from Boxmoor, and fourteen from Uxbridge, and derives its name from the River Chess, which flows into the Colne. The church is extremely ancient, and has chancel, nave, aisles, and transepts, with central tower. The chancel was restored by His Grace the Duke of Bedford, who gave £500 towards the cost of the remainder of the building, which was subscribed to by the local inhabitants, and carried out from designs by the late Sir Gilbert Scott. A 720 of Grandsire Minor was rung here, not without a wet shirt. The ringing-room was only ventilated

by a door, there being no windows, which was the means of entrance also. Originally the ringers were obliged to get to the tower from the chancel; now a very small staircase from the south porch leads up to the aisle roof, and a few yards of lead flat leads to the belfry door, window, ventilator, and opening-in-general. The ringers of the 4th, 5th, and 6th bells are separated from 1 2 3 by a beam across the room about fifteen inches square, and thus, if the band want to ring here to see each other, they must be all "guards," or 4 ft. 6 ins. high in stature to look over or under. The party ringing the 720 on this occasion were indiscriminately sorted, but the conductor will remember for some time the eye of pleasure that beamed over the top when the last bob was called. These bells were hung by Mears and Stainbank, of Whitechapel, but are sadly out of order from neglect. With many thanks to the Rector for his gracious permission, a move was made to Chenies, a very pretty village chiefly owned by the Duke of Bedford. The church, a handsome Gothic structure, is a little model as regards requirements, cleanliness, and order. The tower contains six bells, hung in a good frame by Mears and Stainbank. Several attempts were made for a 720 of Plain Bob, but the treble became unmanageable through the rope slipping wheel. The neighbouring inn, a commodious house, afforded good accommodation for the visitors, and a hearty repast was enjoyed here previous to entering the tower.

Resuming the journey, Chalfont St. Giles was reached about 7 p.m. Here the visitors were welcomed by the Rector, and after trying the bells, desisted from ringing a 720, the bells not being in better going order than when last rang in a most dilapidated condition by the same band. Tea was provided at the "Mermaid's Cave," and the party lingered here till 9 p.m., Messrs. Parker, Fells, and Batten singing several glees. These gentlemen also enlivened the journey with music on three violins, one concertina, and one piccolo, aided by Mr. Batten, sen., and Mr. C. Chapman.

The horses becoming restless, being of opinion, no doubt, that "there's no place like home," it was thought advisable to face that direction, not without some anxiety, as the long narrow lanes were carefully driven through, the night being rather dark. However, Farnham was reached in good time, and here the company dispersed, after according a hearty vote of thanks to the clergymen of the respective churches for their kindness in giving them permission to ring. It was desired to thank Mr. Elburn, of Amersham for his hearty exertions for the success of the outing, he having done as much as possible to improve the going of the first three 720's rung, by overlooking the fittings generally. An account of the ringing will be found in another column. This account may be closed by the following brief notes.

J. R. Fussell, Esq., of Slough, accompanied the party, as on the last occasion, and we are happy to state in good health, though past his 77th year. Mr. Fells, sen., and Mr. Brown, sexton of St. Mary's, Farnham, were also present. We are pleased to report the name of Mr. F. Fells amongst the Farnham performances, he being home for a holiday from Worthing. Mr. J. Parker, jun., sadly wished to be of the party. Mr. G. Basden saw something in white which upset him.

THE SOCIETIES OF ST. BOTOLPH, BISHOPSGATE, AND ST. GEORGE IN THE EAST, LONDON.

The Annual Excursion of the above societies took place on Saturday, July 5th, to Hatfield, where the steward, Mr. H. Brand, had previously obtained permission to ring upon the fine peal of eight. On arriving at Hatfield about ten o'clock, the whole party made for the "Two Brewers," where a luncheon was done justice to, after which a band was made up, and an excellent touch of Primrose was rung, conducted by W. J. Williamson. Ten of the party, being of a roving disposition, then sauntered into one of the finest parks in the world—that of the Marquis of Salisbury—and having enjoyed the delightful scenery the estate affords for about two hours, they returned to the above-named inn, where a capital dinner was awaiting them, and to which about twenty sat down, Messrs. Clow and Spencer occupying the chair and vice-chair respectively. The cloth having been removed, the Chairman proposed "The Health of the Rectors and Churchwardens of St. Botolph and of St. George-in-the-East, and the subscribers to the above-named societies," also "The Rector and Churchwardens of Hatfield," for their kind reception and attention during the day. These toasts having been heartily drunk, and the party being in good trim, another band was made up, and a touch of Grandsire Triples, conducted by E. Wallage, was rung; and after a short walk through the town, two other short touches were rung. The party then adjourned to the dining-room, and the remainder of the evening was spent in innocent mirth, a very pleasant time being passed. Leaving for home, the company arriving at Moorgate Street Station at about 11.15, all having enjoyed the day's outing.

The officers of these companies for the present year are—*St. Botolph, Bishopsgate*: Master, Mr. R. Cook; Treasurer, Mr. W. Scholes; Secretary, Mr. W. J. Williams. *St. George-in-the-East*: Master, Mr. E. Wallage; Treasurer, Mr. W. Mole; Secretary, Mr. W. Scholes.

"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, and performances under 5000 changes must reach us not later than Wednesday morning; and the insertion of any communication coming later than the first Postal delivery on Thursday morning cannot be guaranteed in that week's number. When it is found impossible from want of space to insert all touches forwarded, the earlier ones will have the preference.

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.

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

A. P. HEYWOOD (Duffield).—We thank you for your kind letter, and congratulate you on your first success.

We are again obliged to hold over several matters—correspondence, touches, etc., till next week.

The Bell News & Ringers' Record.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 2, 1884.

No one we think will venture to call into question the liberty which correspondents of this paper enjoy in ventilating their opinions—or prejudices—in its columns. The utmost freedom is certainly allowed for these interchanges of ideas, which so many people delight in. This liberty, however, is now and then the cause of offence to some of our readers, who are affected by the statements made by correspondents, and they express surprise at us allowing such letters to appear. There is an old fable pointing out the impracticability of attempting to please every one, and though it must be candidly admitted that statements are made which may—and do—give rise to angry feelings, yet we prefer taking the risk of losing the countenance of those who would do away with the facilities now allowed to our correspondents, rather than curtail that liberty in the slightest degree—of course under proper safeguards.

We recently had the pleasure of a journey into the Midland counties, visiting the town of Derby *en route*. Most of our readers are aware of this fact, and of the sentence we ventured to make in connection with the state of affairs at St. Andrew's, Derby, so that it is unnecessary again to recapitulate it. This led to an amount of correspondence between the steeple-keeper and the Vicar on the one hand, and a Derby half-pull ringer on the other. We are of opinion that any one who reads between the lines of this correspondence will not be long in coming to the conclusion that the steeple-keeper, beadle, or whatever name this gentleman is known by, is not an ardent admirer of any one who chooses to hold an opinion different to his. Perhaps it is hardly necessary to add that he is not a ringer in the sense in which the word is usually understood by our readers. We cannot help thinking that the worthy Vicar, whose championship

of the beadle's cause we certainly admire, was not acquainted with the grievances which the supervision of a belfry, by one who has very little sympathy with the objects all good ringers have at heart, give rise to. These kind of officers generally, we regret to say, have the ear of the Vicar, and thus rule the roast entirely. This is most offensive to those who are practical in their art, and it is frequently the result of unseemly discord. We maintain that in all cases, where there is a ringing company duly constituted, the steeple-keeper should possess not the least vestige of authority or control in ringing matters beyond other members of the company, and if he should not be a practical ringer, he ought to be taught to keep his place when scientific ringers are near.

In the metropolis, there are several companies of ringers at various churches, not half-pull ringers. They have their societies properly constituted, their meetings arranged with all the regularity of a first-class company. When application is made to them by a half-pull band to ring a peal at one of their churches, what is their answer to such request? they gladly welcome such visitors, think themselves honored, and spare no pains to get everything in apple-pie order, to promote the success of the attempt. In other places also similar bodies of such well-behaved men are to be found.

We should be glad indeed if the publication of such correspondence as that to which we are alluding would become the means of inducing incumbents to listen to the representations of their ringers as well as the sexton or beadle, and not always accept the statements of the latter as gospel. But of course this means that the clergyman should take a little interest now and then in what is going on in the belfry.

MEETING OF THE WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD AT WEYBRIDGE, SURREY.

On Wednesday, July 23rd, a meeting of the above Guild was held at Weybridge. The bells of St. James's church were heard from an early hour. At 10 a.m. 459 Grandsire Triples was rung. J. Hewett, 1; J. H. Barnett, 2; G. H. Childs, 3; F. Hill, 4; Rev. F. E. Robinson (conductor), 5; J. R. Jerram, 6; G. Williams, 7; a Farnham ringer, 8. Divine service was held in the church at noon, at which the Rev. R. Linklater, of Winchester, preached. Dinner took place in the "Village Hall," at 1 p.m., the vicar of Weybridge presiding. After dinner the usual business of the Guild was discussed.

The Rev. F. E. ROBINSON said that the Guild had made considerable progress during the past year, but that still his Society at Oxford was ahead of them, inasmuch as they were practising Superlative Surprise and Double Norwich Court. He hoped, nevertheless, that the Winchester Guild would strive to surpass them if they could, but he said that he should try and keep ahead and continue to beat them if he could.

The Rev. T. SPYERS in returning thanks (his "health" being proposed), said he regretted the unavoidable absence of the Rev. A. D. Hill that day. Mr. Hill had been their former Secretary, but was now removed to the Salisbury Diocese. He said that he was afraid he should make but a poor substitute as far as change-ringing was concerned. When a bob was called Mr. Hill seemed delighted, but the calling of a bob had a different effect on him, it made him feel very nervous.

After dinner the various companies dispersed to the neighbouring churches, whilst the Bournemouth and Leatherhead companies went to Weybridge tower. A 336 Grandsire Triples was rung by A. Grist, 1; H. Vivash, 2; C. Staden, 3; Rev. F. E. Robinson, 4; T. Green (conductor), 5; T. Newnham, 6; J. R. Jerram, 7; G. Coulbourn, 8. The Leatherhead company then rang 840 Union Triples. H. Newnham, 1; E. Hull, 2; W. Marks, 3; Rev. F. E. Robinson, 4; J. Hewitt, 5; J. Newnham, 6; S. Brooker (conductor), 7; J. Lisney, 8. About fifteen companies were present.

ST. CLEMENT'S, IPSWICH, SUFFOLK.

On Friday, July 25th, the bells of this church were re-opened, after having been rehung by Mr. H. Bowell, of Ipswich, by the following members of the Ipswich branch of the Norwich Diocesan Association. J. Motts, W. Motts, I. S. Alexander, H. Bowell, W. L. Catchpole, R. H. Bruadale, who during the day rang touches of Plain Bob, and 720's of Oxford Treble Bob, Plain Bob, Kent Treble Bob, and 600 Double Court. The "go" of the bells now is excellent, and all that is required is two more bells, so as to complete the octave, and Ipswich would then possess one of the finest peals of eight in the county. The new chiming apparatus and clock were inspected by Mr. Felix T. Cobbold (who presented the same), on Thursday, July 24th, and handed over to the churchwardens, Messrs. Christie and Beart, as representatives of the parish, who were present.

OBITUARY.—We regret to announce the death of William Bagnall, of Birmingham, who died on Monday, July 14th, aged 26 years. Deceased, who was the late secretary of the Birmingham Amalgamated Society, was respected by all who knew him. He was interred at Witton Cemetery on Monday, July 21st, and was borne to the grave by his brother ringers. After the coffin was lowered in its resting-place, a course of Grandsire Caters was rung by Messrs. Wood, Perry, Stevens, Miller, and Kenny. The same evening a peal of Grandsire Major was attempted at St. John's, Deritend, with the bells half-muffled; but after ringing 2 hrs. and 48 mins., a buff came off, which caused a slip and brought it to grief. C. Barnicle, 1; T. Russam (conductor), 2; B. Stevens, 3; J. T. Perry, 4; R. Hackley, 5; C. Carmell, 6; A. Hackley, 7; T. Miller, 8.

The Provinces.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—HULL.

On Friday, July 25, 1884, in Three Hours,

AT ST. JAMES'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

Tenor 16 cwt.

GEO. BROWNRIGG Treble.	FRANK DRABBLE 5.
JAMES DIXEY 2.	CHAS. BENNETT 6.
TOM STOCKDALE 3.	CHAS. JACKSON 7.
ROBT. CHAFFER 4.	J. W. STICKNEY Tenor.

Composed by CHAS. JACKSON and conducted by J. W. STICKNEY.

This peal, the figures of which will be found on another page, was rung in commemoration of the consecration of the Rev. Canon Carpenter to the Bishopric of Ripon, whose brother is vicar of the above church, and is now rung for the first time.

THE DUFFIELD SOCIETY, DERBYSHIRE.

DUFFIELD.

On Saturday, July 26, 1884, in Three Hours and Twenty Minutes,

AT ALL SAINTS' CHURCH,

A PEAL OF BOB TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor 16½ cwt.

GEORGE DAWSON Treble.	OWEN BEMBRIDGE 5.
ERAN MORETON 2.	ROBERT JOHNSON 6.
GEORGE HINGLEY 3.	A. PERCIVAL HEYWOOD, Esq. 7.
WM. HICKLING 4.	JOHN JOHNSON Tenor.

Composed by H. HUBBARD, and conducted by A. PERCIVAL HEYWOOD, Esq.

First peal by all; and the first on the bells, which were increased to eight five months ago, previous to which none of the above, who are all members of the local band, had rang Triples.

BIRMINGHAM.

THE BIRMINGHAM AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATION.

Muffled Peal.

On Monday, July 28, 1884, in Three Hours and Seven Minutes,

AT BISHOP RYDER'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S TEN-PART. Tenor 13 cwt. in G.

CHARLES BARNICLE Treble.	RICHARD HACKLEY 5.
JOHN T. PERRY 2.	CHARLES CARMELL 6.
THOMAS MILLER 3.	ALBERT HACKLEY 7.
BENNETT STEVENS 4.	RICHARD ELWELL Tenor.

Conducted by THOMAS MILLER.

The above peal was rung with the bells muffled, as last a token of respect to the memory of the late Mr. William Bagnall, who died on the 14th inst., and who was a Birmingham ringer a number of years.

GLODWICK, OLDHAM, LANCASHIRE.

On Tuesday, July 29, 1884, in Two Hours and Fifty-six Minutes,

AT ST. MARK'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

BIDDLESTON'S 12-PART BOB-AND-SINGLE. Tenor 8½ cwt.

JAS. HY. GARTSIDE Treble.	FRED CROSLAND 5.
GEO. HY. BEEVER 2.	WM. HOLDEN 6.
JAMES PRIESTLEY 3.	JOHN HILTON 7.
JAMES BAILEY 4.	ALBERT CLEGY Tenor.

Conducted by GEO. HY. BEEVER.

Messrs. Gartside, Bailey, Crosland, Holden and Hilton hail from Leesfield; the rest are of the local company.

Miscellaneous.

THE BIRMINGHAM AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATION.

On Sunday, July 27th, prior to evening service at St. John's church, Deritend, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (the composition of the Editor), in 46 mins. F. H. James, 1; W. Baldwin, 2; J. T. Perry, 3; C. Barnacle, 4; R. Hackley, 5; C. Carmell (conductor), 6; A. Hackley, 7; R. Howell, 8.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.—On Monday, July 28th, at the church of St. John-the-Baptist, for practice, 504 of Grandsire Triples. W. Bowes, 1; C. L. Routledge (conductor), 2; F. Lees, 3; R. S. Story, 4; W. G. Routledge, 5; E. W. Scott, 6; W. Story, 7; R. J. Robson, 8. Also 576 of Kent Treble Bob Major. W. Bowes, 1; C. L. Routledge, 2; E. W. Scott, 3; R. S. Story, 4; W. G. Routledge, 5; T. W. Appleby, 6; W. Story, 7; F. Lees (conductor), 8. Tenor 12½ cwt. T. W. Appleby hails from Burton-on-Trent.

THE ST. JAMES'S SOCIETY, LONDON.

AMERSHAM (Bucks).—On Saturday, July 19th, at St. Mary's church, a 720 of Oxford Bob, in 30 mins., being the first in the method on the bells. J. Parker, 1; A. Fussell, 2; A. Batten, 3; J. Basden, 4; W. H. Fussell, 5; C. Clarke, 6. Tenor 24 cwt. Also some Grandsire Doubles, in which Mr. Elburn and Mr. Brown took part.

CHESHAM (Bucks).—On Saturday, July 19th, a 720 of Grandsire Minor, in 27 mins., it being the first 720 on the bells. C. Chapman, 1; F. Fells, 2; J. Parker, 3; A. Batten, 4; A. Fussell, 5; W. H. Fussell, 6. Tenor 17 cwt. Also some other touches with Mr. Geo. and J. Basden, and C. Clarke.

FARNHAM ROYAL (Bucks).—On Sunday, July 20th, at St. Mary's church, a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob, in 26 mins. F. Fells, 1; J. Basden, 2; A. Fussell, 3; A. Batten, 4; J. Parker (conductor), 5; W. H. Fussell, 6. *First 720 in the method.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

ALDINGTON (Kent).—On Thursday evening, July 24th, for practice at St. Martin's church, a 720 of Bob Minor (thirty-four bobs and eight singles), in 27½ mins. William Post, jun., 1; David Hodgkin, 2; Edward Hyder, 3; Thomas Hodgkin, 4; William Hyder (conductor), 5; Philip Hodgkin, 6. Tenor 14 cwt. in G.

MAIDSTONE.—On Sunday, July 27th, at All Saints' church, for Divine Service in the evening, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples. J. Constable, 1; A. H. Woolley, 2; J. Horton, 3; R. Simmonds, 4; J. Fergusson, 5; G. Pawley, 6; H. Pearce (conductor), 7; J. A. Johnson, 8. And on Monday, July 28th, a half-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 1 hr. 33 mins. C. Relf, 1; A. H. Woolley, 2; J. Horton, 3; R. Simmonds, 4; J. Fergusson, 5; H. Pearce, 6; G. Pawley (conductor), 7; J. A. Johnson, 8.

STOKE-UPON-TRENT ARCHIDIACONAL ASSOCIATION.

NORTON-LE-MOORS.—On Saturday, July 19th, at an Association meeting, 720 of Bob Minor in 26 mins. T. Ryder, 1; E. Glover, 2; Jas. Baddeley, 3; J. W. Brough, 4; T. Turner, 5; G. Walker (conductor), 6. Messrs. Ryder and Turner hail from Leek; the rest from Norton.

BRISTOL.—On Monday, July 28th, at St. John's church, 720 of Plain Bob Minor. G. Morgan, 1; E. Beake, 2; E. Duckham, 3; W. Emery, 5; J. Hinton (conductor), 6. The first 720 in the method by all the band. [We ask our correspondent—was this 720 rung without the fourth bell? This is another instance of the careless manner in which reports are frequently sent.—ED.]

BOLLINGTON (Cheshire).—On Sunday evening, July 27th, a mixed band rang a touch of 2310 Grandsire Triples, in 1 hr. 18 mins. Wm. Walmsley, 1; J. Holt, 2; Wm. H. Hardman, 3; Wm. Kenny, 4; J. M. Davenport, 5; Ed. Matthews (conductor), 6; Wm. Ingham, 7; Thos. Furness, 8. Tenor 18 cwt.

CAMBERWELL (Surrey).—*Muffled Peal*.—On Thursday, July 24th, the ringers of St. Giles's church rang a muffled peal as a mark of respect to the late Mr. W. Roberts, for nearly twenty-six years vergers and steeple-keeper of this church, and was also a member of the Ancient Society of College Youths. E. Drury (conductor), 1; H. C. Lancaster, 2; J. Waghorn, 3; T. Windley, 4; H. E. Gummer, 5; H. Flower, 6; W. Jones, 7; R. French, 8; J. Summers, 9; W. Prime, 10. Tenor 25 cwt. in D.

CANTERBURY (Kent).—*Handbell Ringing*.—On Thursday, July 24th, at the residence of Mr. Fairbrass, six 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles, on handbells, retained in hand, each called differently, in 20 mins. H. G. Fairbaass, 1-2-6; G. Stancombe, 3-4-5; each conducting three alternately.

DARTFORD (Kent).—On Tuesday evening, July 29th, for practice, at Holy Trinity Church, a 720 of Bob Minor. S. Everson, 1; J. Upton, 2; E. Snowden, 3; J. Blackman, 4; B. Rose (conductor), 5; F. French, 7; H. Rose (cover), 6; R. Davis, 8. Also on Sunday July 27th, for morning service, a 720 of Plain Bob Minor. S. Everson, 1; J. Upton, 2; — Cole, 3; E. Snowden, 4; B. Rose (conductor), 5; J. Blackman, 7; H. Rose (cover), 6; R. Davis, 8.

HARWICH (Essex).—On Monday, July 28th, at St. Nicholas church, a 720 of Bob Minor, on the back six, in 29 mins. Philip O. Bixby, 1; Percy C. S. Scott, 2; Owen Read, 3; Zach. Slater, 4; O. Garwood, 5; S. Slater (conductor), 6. Also a course of Plain Bob Major. G. Hammond, 1; Philip O. Bixby, 2; Owen Read, 3; John Driver, 4; John Slater, 5; Samuel Slater, 6; Z. Slater, 7; O. Garwood, 8. Also a 360 of Bob Minor. G. Hammond, 1; Zach. Slater, 2; Percy C. S. Scott, 3; S. Slater, 4; John Slater, 5; O. Garwood (conductor), 6.

HIGHER SUTTON (Cheshire).—On Sunday last, July 27th, for Divine Service in the morning, a 720 of Grandsire Minor, with thirty-six bobs and twelve singles. Also for afternoon service a 720 of the same method, with forty-four bobs and four singles. Wm. Walmsley (conductor), 1; Wm. Ingham, 2; Wm. Kenny, 3; J. M. Davenport, 4; Wm. H. Hardman, 5; Thos. Mottershead, 6. Tenor 12 cwt. in G.

HORSHAM (Sussex).—On Sunday evening, July 27th, the local company rang at St. Mary's church, for Divine Service, the first part of Shipway's peal of Oxford Bob Triples (840 changes), in 32 mins. Elias Knight, 1; Harry Chandler, 2; William Short, 3; George Rapley, 4; Thomas Andrews, 5; Felix Knight, 6; Henry Burstow (conductor), 7; Harry Wood, 8. Also the first part of Johnson's 12-part peal in the same method (420 changes), in 17 mins. Elias Knight, 1; Jacob Brown, 2; William Short, 3; George Rapley, 4; Thomas Andrews, 5; Felix Knight, 6; Harry Wood, 7; James Geal, 8. Tenor 24 cwt. in E.

LIVERPOOL.—*Handbell Ringing*.—On Saturday, July 19th, at the house of Mr. Beacall, Lark Lane, 720 of Grandsire Minor in 15 mins., 720 of Bob Minor in 13 mins., and 240 of Treble Bob Minor, on handbells, retained in hand. T. Beacall, 1-2; J. Aspinwall (conductor), 3-4; J. R. Pritchard, 5-6.

LIVERPOOL.—On Monday evening, July 28th, six members of the local company rang a 720 of Treble Bob Minor, at St. Nicholas church, in 27 mins. James Egerton, 1; John Brown, 2; Robert Williams (composer), 3; Edward Foster, 4; Thomas Hammond (conductor), 5; George Fisher, 6. The above was rung on the middle six, tenor about 15 cwt. Afterwards several courses of Stedman and Grandsire Triples was rung on the front eight, with Messrs. Richard Williams, sen., William Booth, Henry Coley, J. Chapman, and others.

LIVERSEDGE (Yorkshire).—On Sunday, July 27th, for morning service, the local company rung 640 changes of Kent Treble Bob Major, to accommodate the oldest ringer in Liversedge, who took part in the ringing, Mr. Joshua Midgley, who attained his 81st birthday a few weeks since, and who is still working at his occupation as pit carpenter for Mr. Dymond, at Liversedge Colliery, and retains all his mental faculties in a remarkable degree, having rung the 7th without making a mistake. J. Whitworth, 1; Wm. Goodall, 2; Wm. Firth, 3; Thos. North, 4; S. Goodall, 5; T. Goodall, 6; J. Midgley, 7; M. Ramsden, 8. Conducted by William Goodall. Tenor 15 cwt.

LONG MELFORD (Suffolk).—On Tuesday, July 22nd, a 720 of Bob Minor. Z. Slater, 1; S. Slater (conductor), 2; O. Reed, 3; P. C. S. Scott, 4; P. O. Bixby, 5; O. Garwood, 6. Also a 360 Bob Minor. C. G. Hammond, S. Slater, 2; J. Bird, 3; W. Campin, 4; J. Slater, 5; Z. Slater (conductor), 6.

LYTHAM (Lancashire).—On Saturday, July 26th, at St. John's church, a mixed company rang a 720 of Plain Bob Minor (eighteen bobs and two singles), in 26 mins. W. Bamber, 1; A. S. Barrell, 2; J. Fell (conductor), 3; C. E. Wilson (first 720 in the method), 4; J.

Miller, 5; R. Allanson, 6. Also two 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles. C. H. Kerr, 1; A. S. Barrell, 2; J. Fisher, 3; C. E. Wilson (conductor), 4; J. Miller, 5; R. Allanson, 6. Tenor 10½ cwt. C. E. Wilson hails from Walton, near Liverpool, and A. S. Barrell from Ufford, Suffolk, the rest are local men. We (Messrs. Wilson and Barrell), take this opportunity of thanking the ringers for the kindness and attention shown us on our visit.

MIRFIELD (Yorkshire).—On Monday, July 21st, at St. Paul's church, a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob Minor, in 27 mins. S. Peacock, 1; George Thornton, 2; William Holt (conductor), 3; Jesse Mallinson, 4; Henry Barker, 5; Walter Peacock, 6. Tenor 14½ cwt. The first 720 by the whole of the company.

NORTON (Derbyshire).—On Sunday, July 27th, at St. James's, for Divine Service in the morning, six of the local company rang a 240 of Oxford Treble Bob Minor, 240 of Bob Minor, and a plain course each of Grandsire Minor and College Single. W. Lee, 1; H. Ward, 2; W. Biggin, 3; J. Atkin, 4; J. Biggin, 5; J. Allen (conductor), 6. Also in the evening, three 120's of Bob Doubles, and a 120 of Grandsire Doubles. W. Lee, 1; J. Atkin, 2; W. Biggin, 3; J. Allen (conductor), 4; J. Biggin, 5; G. Butcher, 6. Tenor 11½ cwt.

REIGATE (Surrey).—On Tuesday, July 22nd, for a special service, eight members of the Reigate Society rang a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1260 changes), in 46 mins. E. Dewey, 1; F. T. Hoad (conductor), 2; W. Bone, 3; T. Fuller, 4; W. Argent, 5; E. Kenward, 6; W. Webb, 7; J. Howard, 8.

READING (Berks).—On Wednesday, July 23rd, at St. Laurence's, for practice, a 518 of Grandsire Triples, being the first part of Holt's 10-part peal, in 21 mins. W. Goseltine, 1; E. Bishop (conductor), 2; H. M. Bawden, 3; W. J. Williams, 4; W. R. Pocock, 5; G. Talbot, 6; J. E. Willshire, 7; W. H. Holloway, 8. This is Mr. E. Bishop's first attempt at calling.

SALISBURY (Wilts).—On St. James's Day, July 25th, at St. Martin's church, a 720 of Bob Minor, with nine bobs and six singles, in 28 mins. H. Dowling, 1; C. A. Clements, 2; A. Dowling, 3; W. W. Gifford, 4; J. R. Jerram, 5; T. Blackburn (conductor), 6. Also a 720 of Bob Minor, with eighteen bobs and two singles, in 28 mins. E. A. Foster, 1; C. A. Clements, 2; A. Dowling, 3; W. W. Gifford, 4; T. Blackburn, 5; J. R. Jerram (conductor), 6.

WALTON (Lancashire). On Tuesday, July 22nd, a mixed company rang a 720 of Grandsire Minor, in 25 mins. E. Yates, 1; T. Elson (conductor), 2; J. Turton, 3; W. Rushton, 4; A. S. Barrell, 5; J. Bradshaw, 6. Tenor 10 cwt.

SUMMER HOLIDAYS.—Now that the holiday season is in full swing, thousands are discussing the important question—"Where shall we go to?" To those of us who are only enabled to secure one outing during the year, the above question is of the greatest importance; and we purpose to draw attention to a few of the most convenient and inexpensive trips which are offered to the public by the leading railway and steamboat companies. Leaving the railways for a future notice, we commence with the London Steamboat Company, whose magnificent fleet of 53 vessels are now in full work. This large number of steamers are divided into two sections—28 being known as the "up-river boats," plying between London and Richmond, Kew, and Hampton Court; whilst the remaining 25 are called "down-river boats," conveying passengers to Rosherville, Gravesend, Southend, Sheerness, Clacton-on-Sea, Ipswich, Ramsgate, Margate, &c. We recently had the pleasure of taking a trip to Clacton-on-Sea on board the saloon steamer *Glen Rosa*; and we have no hesitation in saying that if all the steamers of this popular company are as well appointed as the vessel under notice, the greatest credit is due to the indefatigable manager, Mr. Edward Shand, as well as to all parties concerned. Leaving London Bridge at 9.30 a.m. we were soon threading our way through the innumerable ships of all nations which throng the busier parts of the Thames, and very quickly reached the more open parts of the river. Want of space will not permit of a detailed notice of the various points of interest with which the river abounds; so we must hurry past Woolwich, Erith, and the various training ships to Gravesend. Here we take up a few passengers, and, getting a clear course, a most splendid panorama lay before us. Passing Tilbury Fort, the view of both the Essex and Kentish coasts are of the most beautiful description; and as the river widens, and we get a glimpse of Southend Pier, we know that we shall soon lose sight of land. The various light-ships are now the only objects of interest which meet the eye; and, finally, we arrive at Clacton at about 3 o'clock. Only an hour on shore is allowed to passengers returning the same day, as at 4 o'clock the steamer commences her return journey, reaching London at about 9. Should it happen to be a moonlight evening, it would be difficult to say which of the two journeys is the most enjoyable—the down on the up journey. The refreshments provided are both good and cheap; and the enjoyment of the trip is considerably enhanced by the strains of a very good band, conducted by Mr. William Westbrook.

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CINQUES.

5415.

By F. E. DAWE, *College Youths.*

2 3 1 4 5 6 Bob on 9, 10, 11.

5 6 7 19

3 1 5 6 2 4 - - -

5 1 3 4 2 6 - - -

5 1 6 3 2 4 - - -

5 1 4 6 2 3 - - -

4 1 5 3 2 6 - - -

4 1 6 5 2 3 - - -

4 1 3 6 2 5 - - -

3 1 4 5 2 6 - - -

4 1 6 2 3 5 - - -

6 1 4 5 3 2 - - -

6 1 2 4 3 5 - - -

6 1 5 2 3 4 - - -

5 1 6 4 3 2 - - -

5 1 2 6 3 4 - - -

5 1 4 2 3 6 - - -

4 1 5 6 3 2 - - -

Repeated three times produce:—

2 1 3 4 6 5

when bobs at 9, 10, 18, and a bob-single at 23 bring the bells round.

By calling the last part as follows, the length will be reduced to 5019,

5 1 2 4 6 3 - - -

5 1 3 2 6 4 - - -

5 1 4 3 6 2 - - -

4 1 2 3 6 5 - - -

2 1 5 3 6 4 - - -

Bobs at 2, 5, 6, 13, 14, and a single at 15, completes the peal.

The 5019 was rung at St. Martin's-in-the-Fields, by the St. James's Society, on Saturday, October 20th, 1883, conducted by its composer.

A 1-PEAL OF STEDMAN CINQUES.

1306.

By F. E. DAWE, *College Youths.*

2 3 1 4 5 6 Bob on 9, 10, 11.

5 6 7 19

3 1 6 4 2 5 - - -

6 1 3 5 2 4 - - -

6 1 4 3 2 5 - - -

4 1 5 2 6 3 - - -

5 1 4 3 6 2 - - -

4 1 2 6 5 3 - - -

4 1 3 2 5 6 - - -

3 1 4 6 5 2 - - -

3 1 2 4 5 6 - - -

Bobs at the 12th, 14th, 15th, 16th, 17th, 18th and 19th sixes bring the bells round.

Rung at St. Paul's Cathedral, London, by College Youths, on Tuesday, May 22nd, 1883, conducted by its composer.

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR.

5088.

By CHARLES JACKSON, *Hull.*

2 3 4 5 6

W B M H

3 5 4 2 6 3 - - -

4 3 5 2 6 - - -

4 5 3 2 6 - - -

3 2 5 6 4 - - -

5 3 2 6 4 - - -

5 2 3 6 4 - - -

3 4 2 6 5 - - -

Five times repeated.

This peal has the 5th and 6th twelve times wrong and right.

By calling 5ths, 4ths, middle and home in the first course of any part, the peal may be reduced to 5008, still retaining the same qualities.

Rung on Friday, July 25th, at St. James's church, Hull, by the Yorkshire Association, conducted by J. W. Stickney.

TWO PEALS OF GRANDSIRE CATERS.

By H. C. HALEY, *College Youths.*

5003.

2 6 3 5 4* 3 6 2 5 4 7 8.

3 6 4 5 2 8 9. 2 6 4 5 3 8 9.

4 6 2 5 3 8 9. 4 6 3 5 2 8 9.

6 2 4 5 3 7 8. 6 3 4 5 2 7 8.

2 4 6 5 3 7 8. 3 4 6 5 2 7 8.

6 4 3 5 2 8 9. 6 4 2 5 3 8 9.

3 4 2 5 6 8 9. 2 4 3 5 6 8 9.

4 2 3 5 6 7 8. 4 3 2 5 6 7 8.

2 3 4 5 6 7 8. 3 2 4 5 6 7 8.

4 3 6 5 2 8 9. 4 2 6 5 3 8 9.

S 2 3 6 5 4 8 9. 6 2 3 5 4 8 9.

5 2 4 6 3 8th in two and 7 8.

2 4 5 6 3 7 8. 5 4 2 6 3 7 8.

5 4 3 6 2 8 9. 2 4 3 6 5 8 9.

3 4 2 6 5 8 9. 3 4 5 6 2 8 9.

4 2 3 6 5 7 8. 4 5 3 6 2 7 8.

2 3 4 6 5 7 8. 5 3 4 6 2 7 8.

4 3 5 6 2 8 9. 4 3 2 6 5 8 9.

5 3 2 6 4 8 9. 2 3 5 6 4 8 9.

3 2 5 6 4 7 8. 3 5 2 6 4 7 8.

2 5 3 6 4 7 8. 5 2 3 6 4 7 8.

3 5 4 6 2 8 9. 3 2 4 6 5 8 9.

S 2 5 4 6 3 8 9. 4 2 5 6 3 8 9.

Round as usual.

*Call the 5th, 8th, 2nd, 9th, and 4th before, and a 7 8.

Rung at All Saints', Poplar, March 26th, 1870, conducted by its composer.

5021.

4 3 6 5 2* 4 6 3 5 2 7 8.

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

4 6 2 5 3 8 9. 2 6 4 5 3 8 9.

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

6 3 2 5 4 7 8. 4 2 6 5 3 7 8.

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

6 2 4 5 3 8 9. 3 2 4 5 6 8 9.

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

2 3 4 5 6 7 8. 4 3 2 5 6 7 8.

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

2 4 6 5 3 8 9. 6 3 4 5 2 8 9.

S 3 4 6 5 2 8 9.

5 3 2 6 4 8th in two and 7 8.

3 2 5 6 4 7 8. 5 2 3 6 4 7 8.

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

4 2 3 6 5 8 9. 5 3 4 6 2 8 9.

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

3 4 2 6 5 7 8. 3 2 4 6 5 7 8.

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

5 4 3 6 2 8 9. 3 4 5 6 2 8 9.

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

3 5 4 6 2 7 8. 4 2 5 6 3 7 8.

4 5 2 6 3 8 9.

S 3 5 2 6 4 8 9.

*Call the 6th, 5th and 2nd before, and a 7 8.

A 1-PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES.

1260.

By WILLIAM T. PATES, *Cheltenham.*

7 5 2 6 3 4 1

2 3 7 5 4 6 2

6 5 2 4 3 7 1

4 5 6 7 2 3 5

3 7 4 2 5 6 1

7 4 3 2 5 6 1

3 5 7 4 6 2 3

7 6 3 5 2 4 3

6 3 7 5 2 4 4

5 3 6 4 7 2 5

6 7 5 3 2 4 3

4 5 6 2 7 5 1

3 6 4 2 7 5 4

2 6 3 5 4 7 5

5 6 7 3 4

7 5 4 6 3 P.E.

Repeated.

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR.

5056.

By J. S. WILDE, *Hyde, Cheshire.*

2 3 4 5 6 M B W H

5 4 3 2 6 2 2

5 3 2 4 6 1 2

5 2 4 3 6 1 2

3 5 2 6 4 - 2

5 3 4 6 2 - 1 2

3 2 4 6 5 2 - 1 2

2 5 4 6 3 1 2

2 4 6 5 3 1 2

4 3 6 5 2 1 2

3 2 6 5 4 1 2

5 6 2 3 4 1 - 2

5 6 3 4 2 - 1

6 4 5 2 3 -

2 6 4 3 5 - 2

3 4 6 2 5 - 2 2

2 3 4 5 6 - 2

6th its extent each way.

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR.

By JAMES S. WILDE, *Cheshire.*

10,000.

2 3 4 5 6 7 8 W 5ths 4ths B M H

2 3 4 6 7 5 8 - - -

3 4 2 6 7 - - -

7 2 4 6 3 - - -

4 2 3 6 7 - - -

3 2 7 6 4 - - -

4 7 2 6 3 - - -

2 7 3 6 4 - - -

4 3 5 2 6 - - -

5 3 6 2 4 - - -

6 3 4 2 5 - - -

5 4 3 2 6 - - -

3 4 6 2 5 - - -

6 4 5 2 3 - - -

3 5 4 2 6 - - -

4 5 6 2 3 - - -

3 6 5 2 4 - - -

5 6 4 2 3 - - -

4 6 3 2 5 - - -

Four times repeated.

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERS.

6000.

By FRED. COATES, *Rotherham.*

2 3 1 4 5 6

4 5 16

3 1 5 6 2 4

5 1 3 4 2 6

5 1 6 3 2 4

5 1 4 6 2 3

4 1 5 3 2 6

4 1 6 5 2 3

6 1 4 3 2 5

6 1 5 4 2 3

6 1 3 5 2 4

3 1 6 4 2 5

2 1 6 5 3 4

2 1 4 6 3 5

2 1 5 4 3 6

5 1 2 6 3 4

5 1 4 2 3 6

5 1 6 4 3 2

6 1 5 2 3 4

6 1 4 5 3 2

4 1 6 2 3 5

4 1 5 6 3 2

4 1 2 5 3 6

The last eleven courses three times repeated, produce:—2 1 5 3 6 4 9 7 8, when bobs at 1, 6, 8, 9, 14, 17, 18, 19 and 25, bring the bells round. *This course is produced by bobs at 6, 7, 9, 12, 13, 16, 18 and 20.

THE BISHOP'S WALTHAM AND WESTMEON RINGERS AT ST. MARY'S, WORPLESDON.

On Wednesday, July 23rd, the fine ring of six bells at the above church were merrily rung by the ringers of Bishop's Waltham and Westmeon, and several touches of Grandsire Doubles were well rendered. The General Meeting of the Winchester Diocesan Guild had taken place at Weybridge, and a bright but impressive service held in the church of St. James. After the dinner in the Village Hall, and its post prandial speeches had been inwardly digested, the Guild sent its various branches in sets of eight-bell and six-bell bands, by train or trap to the neighbouring steeples. Let us follow the five of the Bishop's Waltham band, to whom are added four ringers from Westmeon (and their four tunes also) and mount with them the tower of St. Mary's church, Worplesdon. Here there are six bells, the tenor, cast by Mears some fifty years ago, weighing 19 cwt. 3 qrs., and fetched (together it is thought, with the treble, from the well-known foundry at 267, Whitechapel Road, the birth-place of "Big Ben," etc.) by one "Farmer Collins," in his waggon.

After duly admiring the six, the ringers descended, and with certain shortening of rope-ends, and in the case of the third bell taking up of the rope at the wheel, the bells ascend with mounting flight, until every stay finds its rest against its slide, and "stand" being thus attained. The subjoined band pulled off and rang a trial Grandsire, of 120 changes: Cameron Brock (Bishop's Waltham), 1; J. H. Garnett (Bishop's Waltham), 2; J. Simmons (Westmeon), 3; — Gregory (Westmeon), 4; E. N. Garnett, jun. (conductor, Bishop's Waltham), 5; William Cook (Bishop's Waltham), 6. At the conclusion, congratulations became general, and Mr. Gregory, somewhat dissatisfied with the alleged jumping of his bell (due to want of rehanging, etc.), threw down his rope and took the treble, when Mr. C. Brock stripped off his waistcoat, and gave Cook (without spoiling the broth) a rest by taking the tenor, a noble bell, and worthy in tone and weight of an eight-bell peal—19 cwt. 3 qrs. With this slight alteration, the same band rang two 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles before "stand" was called. Mr. E. N. Garnett, jun., again "calling the singles and bobs" as conductor. Much credit is due to this energetic and patient instructor, for his painstaking in "breaking in" the Bishop's Waltham "colts," and Mr. Brock owes much of his progress to Mr. Garnett's care. These two 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles were heard to advantage by the Vicar, and also by Mr. James Gunner, who were not far from the church. Mr. Gunner usefully employed, like the ringers, in "making hay while the sun shone" at Worplesdon. In the course of conversation with one of the visitors afterwards, Mr. J. Gunner gave much useful information, being an old ringer, and said "I very soon noticed something different in the ringing," method changes not being known to the Worplesdon folk. Later, Mr. George Gunner, brother to the listener, took a turn at the treble in "call-changes." This worthy old man is in his 79th year, and rings like a veteran, but has not had opportunity to profit by "Guild teaching," as to the method. Mr. Francis, the Curate of St. Mary's church, entered the belfry just as the second Grandsire ended, and spoke kindly to the visitors, and afterwards entertained one of them (Mr. C. Brock), at his house, and Mr. Brock testified to great hospitality being shown him by Mr. Francis, and he was sent on his way rejoicing, warmed and filled, e'er he took his ticket and his seat for London, by a late train from Worplesdon Station.

Mr. Brock has composed a special hymn and tune for the use of the Guild, and we are indebted to him for a copy of the same; it was sung at Weybridge at the special service previously referred to in this account, and is tuneful, and the words well-suited to the subject. It is thought that next year's General Meeting will be held at Bournemouth, where there are excellent bells, eight in number, and excellent men to ring Triples on them. We trust that this may not be the last that we hear of the Winchester Diocesan Guild.

OMBERSLEY, WORCESTERSHIRE.

THE church at this village—one of the most picturesque in this charming county—has just been enriched by having a very large chiming clock erected in the tower by Messrs. John Smith and Sons, Midland Clock Works, Derby. It has four dials, each six feet across, chimes the Cambridge quarters upon four bells, and strikes the hours upon a 20 cwt. bell. It has been constructed by the makers generally to the plans as recommended by Sir Edmund Beckett, having a gravity escapement and a two cwt. pendulum, compensated for the variations in the temperature. A chiming machine has also been fixed to chime on the whole of the bells. We congratulate the good people of Ombersley upon the possession of such a valuable piece of mechanism, provided for their accommodation. Their gratification is surely enhanced by having their parish horologe made by such eminent manufacturers. We hope that the individual whose duty it will be to look after it, will understand his work in the same ratio as the ringers of this pretty village do theirs.

HURST, BERKSHIRE.

ON Saturday, July 26th, six members of St. Laurence's Society, Reading, visited the above village, and by kind permission of the Vicar the Rev. E. Broome, rang a 720 of Grandsire Minor in 26 mins. J. T. Waldron, 1; W. H. Holloway (first 720 with a bob bell), 2; E. Bishop, 3; W. Gosaltine, 4; W. J. Williams (conductor), 5; J. E. Willshire, 6; and by the assistance of St. Laurence's men, two of the local ringers were enabled to ring their first 120 of Doubles. The Vicar kindly entertained the ringers at tea, and expressed a wish that the two companies should meet oftener. The visitors wish to thank the Vicar for his kindness and hospitality.

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."

ALL SAINTS, EASTBOURNE.

SIR,—In justice to the members of St. Mary's Society, I beg space for their version of the facts. Firstly, the cause of the grievance given by your correspondent of the previous week. A gentleman visitor in the town having on several occasions rung touches of changes with the St. Mary's band, received an invitation to visit the tower of All Saints; but, having no desire to do so—unless for change ringing—permission was asked for same of St. Mary's members to accompany him, which, if I am rightly informed, was refused, with the remark that the gentleman was welcome, but All Saints' band could not give up their practice in favour of St. Mary's ringers. So far, no lack of courtesy on either side, but the full facts will leave the matter open to opinion as to which side the lack of courtesy is due, or whether the refusal was not intended as an insult to the gentleman, or a slight to St. Mary's band. Probably, the gentleman himself will submit a justification for using the obnoxious term, "Churchyard Bob," which, however, much to be regretted, as the means of adding to a feeling against the advance of change-ringing can scarcely be so by the St. Mary's ringers, seeing that a previously existing ill-feeling against them has now shown itself. On the two occasions of courtesy shown by St. Mary's band, the first, was a return visit to the one made by All Saints' to St. Mary's, on which occasion the use of St. Mary's bells were given up to the All Saints' band for the evening, and only at the desire of their own members did the St. Mary's band ring a touch of changes; myself giving them—All Saints—distinctly to understand the arrangement was in their own hands. On the other occasion, the visit to All Saints was made under an invitation from their own members to meet the Rev. J. C. Maltby, of Aspley Guise Rectory, who, it was stated, had expressed a desire to ring a few changes, probably the number six may have been mentioned, but we could scarcely be expected to forbid other members presenting themselves at the tower. If my memory serves me, only eight took part in the ringing; probably eleven were there, but our arithmetical knowledge is so limited we cannot reach double figures. The tower of St. Mary's has been open to the whole of All Saints' ringers on every practice night. And the fact that two of their numbers have by this means so far advanced as to take part in Grandsire Triples, and, but a few evenings previous to the refusal, another rang tenor to 120 Grandsire Doubles, will speak for itself as to our courtesy. Now to the accusation of underhandedness. On the occasion of meeting the Rev. J. C. Maltby at All Saints, arrangements were made to meet the same gentleman on the following evening at St. Mary's. On this occasion the Rev. F. E. Robinson, of Drayton, Berks, made his appearance in the tower, our president, the Rev. — Woodward, being also present. The Rev. F. E. Robinson expressed a desire to ring a touch of change ringing the following evening at All Saints; but on its being explained to him that ringing at All Saints was limited to one hour and a quarter per week, it was decided that our president should, if possible, obtain permission from the Vicar to ring on this occasion: the refusal was courteously given and received, as permission would be inconsistent with existing arrangements. Probably some of the All Saints' members were in St. Mary's tower at the time the suggestion was made, if so, and they speak candidly, they will testify that no underhanded proceedings were adopted. A few more remarks. I challenge the members of All Saints to submit any instance of lack of courtesy to them on my part as a leader in the St. Mary's band. And although All Saints' Society has not been formed but so short a time, at least four of their number claim to having been ringers a number of years, and one of them, although not a member of the Society, was conducted through more than one touch of Grandsire Triples, several years ago, by St. Mary's ringers. I question if "Tenor Bell" is a member of All Saints' band, as one or two of the words used in his correspondence is almost beyond our benighted arithmetical knowledge; but admitting him to be so, no other than a novice would be unaware that the crash of the tenor on a small bell destroys harmony, and lays him open to be called to his place by either of the other bells.

H. P. BENNETT.

CHRONOLOGY ERROR AND OMISSIONS.

SIR,—Having read Mr. Rees' chronology with much interest, I find the following error:—The Quex band rung a peal of 5040 Bob Triples at Ash, Kent, in 1820; conducted by W. Shipway; this was most probably the first peal on the bells; the peal mentioned in the chronology (a peal of Grandsire Triples) was rung in 1826, being six years later than this peal of Bob Triples. Also the following omissions:—A 5040 Grandsire Triples at St. John the Baptist, Margate, Kent, in 1826, conducted by Shipway, with the Quex band. A peal of Bob Major at Eltham, Kent, in 1820, called by a man who was blind from his birth; also 13,440 Bob Major at Hythe, Kent, in 7 hrs. and 55 min., the longest length rung in the county by one set of men; and the Hythe bells were increased to ten in 1861.

PHILIP HODGKIN.

THE STANFORD-LE-HOPE OPENING.

SIR,—According to the newspaper reports of the above, it appears four members of the Essex Association were present, and assisted the members of the Norwich Diocesan Association that were entrusted with the opening. It also appears that ringing was carried on upon the 3rd day by a band of the Association. If not asking too much can any of those present explain why so important an event in the county was left in the hands of so select a few, and how it is that out of nearly 200 members in the Association, a competent band could not be found to undertake the duty.

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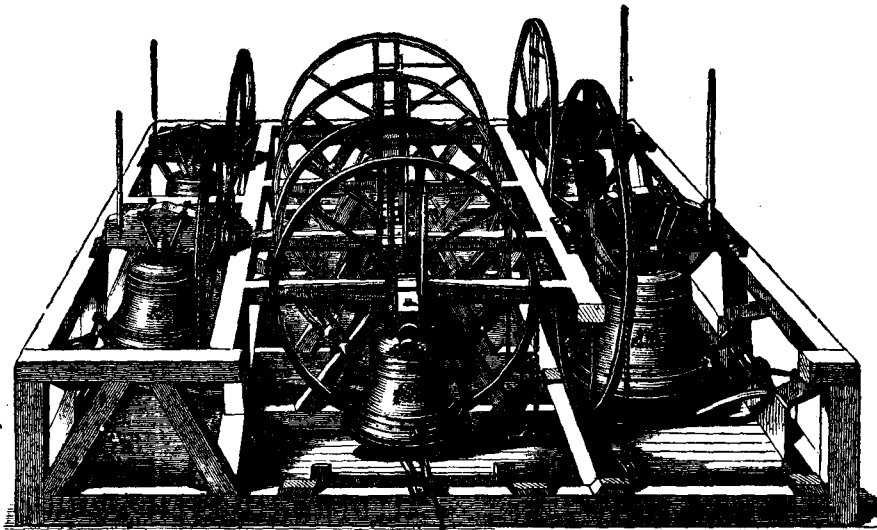
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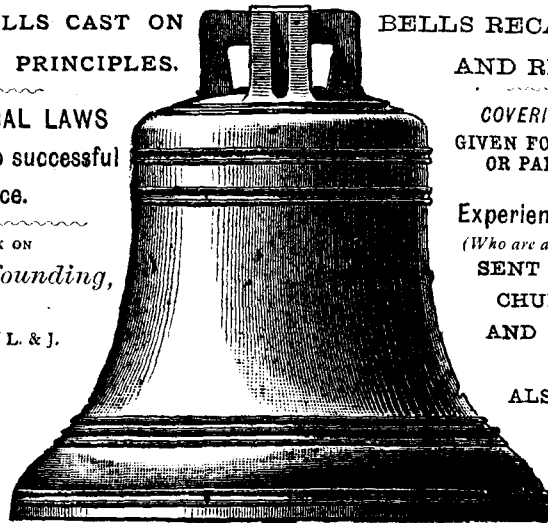
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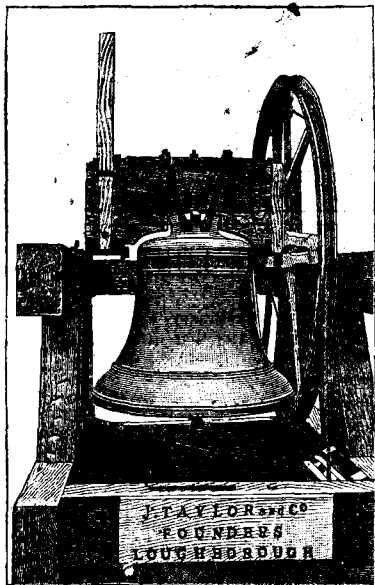
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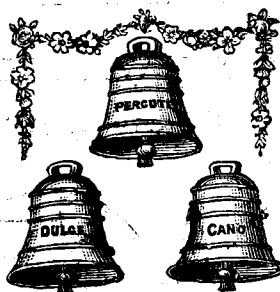
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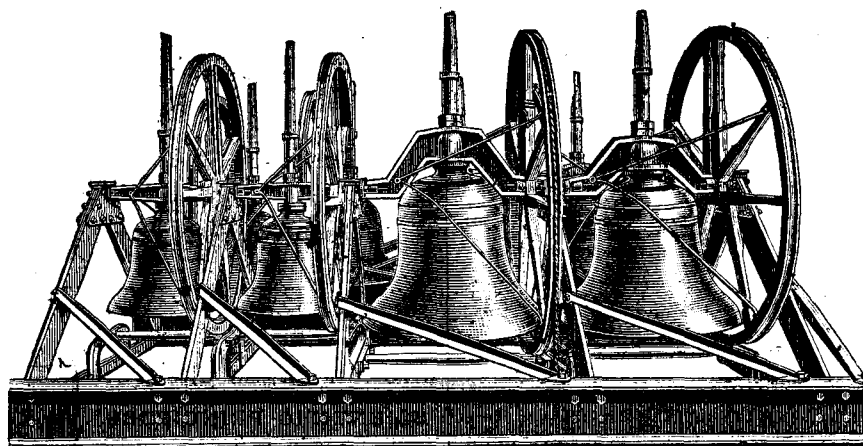
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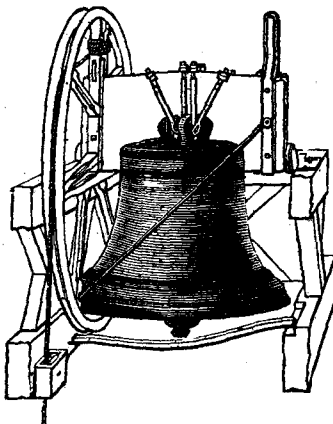
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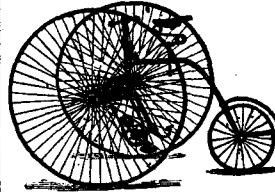
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ESTABLISHED 1872

REOPENING OF BELLS AT WOLSTANTON, STAFFORDSHIRE.

THE reopening of the bells of this Church took place on Wednesday, July 23rd. The former ring of six bells has received the addition of a new tenor and treble, completing the octave. The tenor weighs 14 cwt., and the treble nearly 5 cwt. Messrs. Mears and Stainbank, of Whitechapel Foundry, successors to the founders of the old ring of six bells, have carried out the work in a very satisfactory manner. On removing the old framework, it was found necessary to put in new beams, floor, and fittings. The inscriptions on the treble shows it to be the gift of Mr. Charles Challinor, of Basford Hall. The names of the Vicar (the Rev. O. W. Steele), and the churchwardens (Messrs. Charles Challinor and Thomas Hyatt), appear on the fifth; and the inscription on the tenor records the fact that it has been presented by the Wolstanton Society. It also bears the motto "Perseverance will Ensure Success;" and the names of the members as follows; S. Spencer (conductor), William Miller, Levi Miller, S. J. Wooton, G. Hodgkins, W. Priestman, A. Walker, S. Walker, D. Amos, E. M. Green. Ringing commenced at 3 o'clock in the afternoon, previous to which the Vicar offered a dedicatory prayer in the belfry. Tea was provided in the schools at half-past five, there being a large number of ringers present: Uttoxeter, Sandbach, Stoke-on-Trent, Hanley, Burslem, Norton, Tunstall, Lawton, and Biddulph, being amongst the towers represented. After tea, the Rev. O. W. Steele, who presided, expressed his pleasure in seeing the long-proposed addition to the bells carried out, and his satisfaction, and that of the ringers, with the way Messrs. Mears and Stainbank had performed the work. Speaking on behalf of this firm, Mr. Greenleaf acknowledged the compliment paid to them by Mr. Steele, and congratulated the Wolstanton ringers on the success of their efforts, which he believed to be unequalled in the annals of ringing. Mr. S. Spencer expressed the regret felt by the Wolstanton ringers at the absence of Mr. Challinor, the donor of the new treble, who had for years past assisted them in every way towards the furtherance of their object. He also said that they hoped before long to ring 5040 changes on their now complete peal.

At half-past seven, evensong (full choral) commenced, and was attended by a large congregation, the efficient choir acquitting themselves with much credit. The Rev. T. H. B. Fearon, Rector of Norton, and Secretary to the Stoke-on-Trent Archidiaconal Association, intoned the prayers; the Rev. J. Pauli (Audley), and the Rev. E. Thompstone (Knutton), read the lessons; and the Rev. J. T. Jeffcock, rector of Wolverhampton, and formerly Vicar of Wolstanton, preached an excellent sermon from Psalm lxiv. 10. He referred to the establishment of a change-ringing association in the Archdeaconry, and warmly commended the movement for the marked improvement it had effected in church belfries. He also spoke in praise of the action of the Wolstanton ringers, who, he said, wishing to have a complete peal of eight bells, decided more than seven years ago to place their annual salaries and Christmas gifts in the bank towards raising funds for this purpose. The cost of improvement had been between £330 and £350; and the ringers having voluntarily raised half the cost in order that the village might enjoy the beautiful peal of bells it now possessed, he considered it incumbent on the parishioners to remove the remaining liability. At the close of the service, a collection was made for the bell fund, which amounted to £5 6s. 0d.

The bells are sweet in quality, while of powerful tone, and the parishioners may be congratulated on having a peal of bells second to few in a wide area. Touches of Grandsire Triples were rung during the evening, the merry sound of the bells re-echoing through the village and neighbourhood, and eliciting warm admiration.

DUFFIELD, DERBYSHIRE.

The Duffield Church ringers' society, with the honorary members, had their annual trip on Saturday, July 19th, when they proceeded to Bakewell by special train, arriving there about 4.0 p.m. They were also accompanied by several members of the Derbyshire Association, and rang at intervals on the fine peal of bells at Bakewell Church several touches of Bob Triples, Grandsire Triples, and Bob Major. As their conductor (A. P. Heywood, Esq.) had to leave by an early train, an adjournment was then made to the Peacock Inn, where a substantial tea had been provided, to which ample justice was done. An hour remained before train time, and several of the band entertained the company with songs, which were much enjoyed. The party then returned to Duffield, having spent a most enjoyable afternoon, the success of which is mainly due to the untiring labours of their respected leader, A. P. Heywood, Esq., Duffield Bank, and, as a result of his efforts, although the society has only been formed a few months, 3,108 changes were rung in two hours and six minutes, on Saturday, the 12th inst., when an attempt was made to ring the first full peal of 5040 changes on the bells, but after ringing the time named, they unfortunately broke down. The peal was, however successfully accomplished on Saturday, July 26th, being the first rung on the new bells, the vicar having refused all outsiders till the home band should get their peal.

THE CANTERBURY CATHEDRAL SOCIETY.

ON Tuesday, July 22nd, the members of this company had their annual outing, Gillingham in Kent being the place selected. They left Canterbury by the London, Chatham, and Dover railway, arriving at their destination about 10.15, where they were met by the steeplekeeper, Mr. King, who at once conducted them to the tower. After several touches of Grandsire Triples had been rung, they adjourned to the Clarendon Hotel, where a most sumptuous repast was served in excellent style by Host Rowlett. The cloth being removed, the company, under the guidance of Messrs. Baker and King, were shown over the whole of Chatham dockyard, where they were greatly interested.

In the evening they again repaired to the tower and rang several more touches, finishing the ringing with a 720 of Grandsire Minor, in 24 mins. T. King (first 720), 1; G. Stancombe (conductor), 2; H. G. Fairbrass, 3; J. Baker, 4; J. Haigh, 5; R. Goodbourn, 6. Tenor 18 cwt. The time of departure having arrived, the left by the 8 p.m. train, arriving home about 9.15, after having spent a very enjoyable day. The company take this opportunity, through the medium of "THE BELL NEWS," of thanking Messrs. Baker and King for their great kindness to them during the day.

THE BLETCHINGLEY (SURREY) SOCIETY.

ON Friday, July 25th, the ringers of the parish church, Bletchingley, with their friends, numbering altogether about forty, took a trip to Brighton. Arriving there at 9.30 a.m., they at once proceeded to St. Peter's, where they were met by the steeplekeeper, Mr. Jay, sen. Some very good ringing was done here, in the following methods: Grandsire, Union, and Oxford Bob Triples. The time at this church being limited to one hour, the company were soon on the way for the church of St. Nicholas, where a quarter-peal of Union Triples was rung in 46 mins. G. Brown, 1; T. Boniface, 2; J. Bashford, jun., 3; F. Smith, 4; G. Potter, 5; L. Killick, 6; W. Burkin (conductor), 7; H. Peters, 8. Tenor 19 cwt. After dining at the "Morning Star," the company dispersed, some to the beach, others to view the cricket match between Sussex and the Australians. The time to return home having come, the party assembled at the railway station, and after a most enjoyable day, arrived at Bletchingley about 11 p.m. This is the first outing of the above promising young company, but it is hoped it may not be the last, and that when they go out again they may be able to master more intricate methods. They desire to return their thanks to Mr. Boniface, of Brighton, for his kind efforts on their behalf.

BIRMINGHAM AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATION.

The Annual Meeting of the above Association will be held on Saturday, August 16th, at Selly Oak, Worcestershire. The towers of St. Mary's, Selly Oak, and the parish church of Harborne will be open during the afternoon. Business transacted at the Oak Inn, at 7 o'clock, when all members and friends will alike be welcomed by the Selly Oak company. Members are requested to note that all dues should be paid on this occasion.

King's Norton.

JOHN WRIGHT, Hon. Sec.

ANNUAL MEETING OF THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

THE fourth Annual Meeting of the above Guild was held at Marlow, on Tuesday, July 22nd, and was attended with great success. Representatives from nearly all the branches in the Diocese were present, the party numbering altogether about 200. The day's proceedings commenced with a service at the parish church at 11 o'clock, which the majority of the ringers attended, a touch on the fine bells being rung before Divine Service. An appropriate sermon was preached by the Rev. F. E. Robinson, vicar of Drayton, Berks., Master of the Guild, his text being the 5th verse of the 150th Psalm—"Praise Him upon the loud cymbals; praise Him upon the high sounding cymbals." The rev. gentleman's discourse was very instructive, especially to bell-ringers; he spoke of the duty of praise generally, and how it should be carried out by ringers, and he impressed on his hearers the fact that just as the bell must be sound, so the Christian must be sound at heart.

The service being over, the members assembled in the large room of the "Greyhound" Hotel to transact the business, the Master of the Guild presiding.

The whole of the officers were re-elected, with the exception of the Rev. H. A. Harvey, Vicar of St. Magdalen, Oxford, whose place on the committee was taken by the Rev. E. Barber, vicar of Chalfont St. Giles, Bucks.

The Rev. DOLBEN PAUL, rector of Bearwood, Hon. Sec. of the Guild, said that during the half year they had admitted more members to the Society than in any previous six months since the formation of the Guild, the total of new ringers and probationary members being 104. The number of towers in the Guild was forty-three. There were about 650 members altogether, and this in the course of three years and a half, which he thought was a very good sign. He trusted they would continue in the same prosperous way, and he urged those present to make the Guild and its objects more widely known, and to induce others to join. It was suggested that the day of the Annual Festival should be altered, but the matter was left in the hands of the Committee.

The Rev. DOLBEN PAUL read two questions which had been sent to him as to the principles of the Guild. One was whether ringers belonging to a tower which declines to be in union with the Guild be allowed to become or continue members of the Guild; the second question being whether, if they were not members of the Guild, they would be allowed the privilege of ringing in Guild towers. The meeting having considered the communication, was of opinion that the answers should be in the affirmative.

The Hon. SECRETARY remarked that the system of having local branches was a good feature, because the members in the neighbourhood could practice at each other's towers, and so render themselves more efficient. A question of great importance would have to be settled at that meeting. There was a ringers' conference at the Church Congress last year, when it was proposed that a National Association of Bell-ringers should be formed, bringing into union all the Guilds and Associations in the country. A committee was appointed at that meeting to draw up a draft scheme, to be brought before all the Associations in the country, and the opinion of each asked as to the advisability of it, and if so, whether the draft rules would be approved. Most of the Associations had replied, some of them being in favour and some thinking that the time had not yet arrived for such a National Association. He should like the meeting to determine whether they considered there should be such an Association. He then read the rules.

The CHAIRMAN said it was most important that a committee should be formed who could offer advice to architects who had the charge of the building or rebuilding of towers, as there was a great amount of money wasted owing to towers being unsuited for the reception of bells. He did not think the question of a National Association was quite ripe, but it certainly should be talked about.

After discussion, it was proposed and carried that it was desirable such a central Association should be formed.

Other matters having been disposed of, the meeting terminated.

THE ANNUAL DINNER

took place in a marquee in the grounds belonging to the "Greyhound" Hotel, about 200 sitting down to an excellent repast served by Mr. Sheppard, the landlord. Mr. T. O. Wethered, formerly the member for Marlow, presided, and the company included the Rev. F. E. Robinson, Master of the Guild, the Rev. Dolben Paul, Secretary, the

Revs. J. T. Brown, Wokingham, A. H. Drummond, Boyne Hill, S. Bowles, Beaconsfield, E. Broome, Hurst, A. T. Williams, Drayton, E. Barber, Chalfont St. Giles, G. F. Coleridge, Caversham, R. E. Spencer, Boyne Hill, J. Williams, Newbury, R. Finch, Pangbourne, E. F. Norris, F. J. Llewellyn, Wokingham, Mr. Vere Awdry, Mr. A. H. Cocks, Dr. Dickson, the Revs. S. R. Wilkinson, and G. Wellington, Marlow, etc. Grace was said both before and after meat by the Rev. F. E. Robinson.

The CHAIRMAN, in giving the toast of "Church and Queen," remarked that love of the Church and loyalty to the Throne were amongst the predominant instincts of church bell-ringers.

"Prosperity to the Oxford Diocesan Guild of Church Bell-ringers" was next proposed by the CHAIRMAN, who said it deserved better treatment than it unfortunately would receive at his hands, because although he yielded to none in his admiration of the institution and the advantages which it conferred on the church generally, he confessed he was utterly ignorant of its procedure, and of the science which its members cultivated. When he took up last year's Annual Report of the Society, and read of Grandsire Triples, to his uneducated mind it only suggested a tender recollection of his respected grandparents, and the expression of "Treble Bob Major," reminded one of some recent military achievement. The other extraordinary and mysterious phrases had put him into a sort of utter mental difficulty and bewilderment, from which he had not been able to recover. He could only hope that those phrases were really most excellent and desirable things in themselves, which all good church bell-ringers should accomplish, and which was the desire of all good church goers to listen to. Anything of this kind which tended to bring out their powers and faculties in support of the Church must be of incalculable advantage to the Church itself. In their Master they had a most able President, and their Secretary was equally able and indefatigable.

The Rev. F. E. ROBINSON, who was received with cheers, returned thanks. He said he was sure they would all go home with very cheerful and thankful hearts, because they knew of the vast progress the Guild had been making, and what struck him also was that, besides their own enjoyment, they were being useful to others. He had been requested to visit towers and report upon bells, and he would only add that he would be most happy to go anywhere to give advice. They had been most cordially received at Marlow, and it had been their singular good fortune to have been received wherever they had gone with the greatest cordiality and good feeling. He wished to thank them for their kind reception, and he concluded by proposing the health of the Chairman.

The CHAIRMAN, in acknowledging the toast, said it was a great pleasure to him to preside, and the pleasure was enhanced owing to the fact that he was supported on his right and left by two old school-fellows, Mr. Robinson and Mr. Paul.

The Rev. F. E. ROBINSON then gave the health of the Hon. Sec., who, he said, had worked most perseveringly and energetically for the Guild ever since its formation.

The Rev. DOLBEN PAUL thanked the company for drinking his health, and remarked that his labours were continually increasing. Every week brought him a great deal of work to do in connection with the Guild, but he was bound to say that though it took up a great deal of time, it was the pleasantest work he did. He had one satisfaction in knowing that their Master, who was one of the best amateur bell-ringers in the kingdom, had his first idea of bell-ringing at his (Mr. Paul's) father's church in Northamptonshire. With regard to the finances, it was very difficult to say in the middle of the year how they stood. They had a balance in hand last year of 617., and as far as he could form an opinion, he did not think the amount would be less this year. There was one thing which drew upon his purse as treasurer, which he hoped would be increased, and that was payments for instructors. They had an excellent band of instructors, and the Guild always offered to pay half of the expenses incurred in giving instruction to towers. As long as he lived he should devote his best energies to the welfare of the Society.

The company then separated, a number of the party proceeding to the church tower, where a touch of 459 Grandsire Triples was rung by a mixed band of the Guild. The river was an attraction to many, while others made excursions in the charming neighbourhood.

The arrangements of the day were admirably carried out under the direction of the Rev. Dolben Paul.

THORNBURY (GLOUCESTERSHIRE) FLOWER SHOW.

THIS Show will be held in the grounds of Thornbury Castle, by the kind permission of E. S. Howard, Esq., M.P., on Tuesday next, August 12th. The grounds and gardens of Thornbury Castle will on this occasion be shown to the public.

The Midland Railway Company will run excursion trains from Gloucester, Bristol, Bath, and intermediate stations.

The Vicar and local company will be pleased to welcome any brother-ringers or band, as the tower will be open for ringing all day.

GUILD OF ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.

[FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.]

THE Guild of ringers of the above church had their annual excursion on Monday last (Bank holiday). Our party, consisting of five of our ordinary ringing members, three honorary ringing members, two ringing friends, our conductor's wife and little daughter, our secretary's wife, and our respected curate, the Rev. A. M. MacPhee, M.A., fourteen in all, journeyed to Carlisle by excursion train leaving Newcastle at 8.10 a.m., and arrived in Carlisle at 11.0, where we were met by four of our ordinary ringing members, who had been spending Sunday near Carlisle. Our Guildmaster, Mr. W. G. Routledge, whose calling frequently causes him to reside over Sunday in Carlisle, had arranged for us to ring at St. Stephen's, which church has the only peal of eight in the city. Accordingly, we proceeded to this church, which was entirely built by the munificence of the Baroness Burdett-Coutts, and is in close proximity to the railway station. The steeple stands at the north side of the chancel, and the bells are rung from the ground-floor. Tenor 14 cwt. As there is no scientific ringing here, we found that the ropes were very harsh and hard (local manufacture), and the bells wanted screwing up; the 6th pulley caught the rope, which prevented us from bringing any touch round during the whole day. The ringing-chamber is very small and inconvenient.

We were very kindly welcomed by Mr. Churchwarden Parker and the St. Stephen's society, who took us round the Cathedral and its belfry (which contains six fine bells, but unringable, owing to the state of the tower), and also showed us a very ancient bell (about 500 years old) in the town hall clock turret. It is styled in old ballads "The Muckle Big Bell o' Carlisle." We returned home at 7.30., arriving in "canny" Newcastle about 10 o'clock.

We take this opportunity of thanking the Vicar and Churchwardens of St. Stephen's for the use of the bells, also the St. Stephen's society for their kindness to us. We also beg to thank our Vicar and Churchwardens, and the other kind friends in our parish who subscribe towards the expenses of our excursion.

STANSTEAD, ESSEX.

On Saturday evening, July 25th, a visit was paid to this pretty little village by Messrs. George Taylor of Cambridge, and Samuel Hayes, of Forest Gate, Essex. On their arrival they received a hearty welcome from Mr. H. Prior, the principal of the local band, who is ever ready to extend the right hand of fellowship to a brother-string. After the usual salutations, and refreshments having been partaken of, a move was made towards the parish church—dedicated to St. Mary—and where a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor (fifteen bobs) was rung in 29 mins., by Charles Prior, 1; Henry Prior, sen., 2; Henry Prior, jun., 3; George Taylor, 4; Isaac Cavill, 5; Samuel Hayes (conductor), 6. And 360 of Norwich Court Bob, in 13 mins. John Cavill, 1; H. Prior, sen., 2; C. Prior, 3; G. Taylor, 4; I. Cavill, 5; Saml. Hayes (conductor), 6. A pleasant evening was brought to a close at the "Rose Inn," with the handbells, when touches were rung by the juvenile band of the Prior family, consisting of Stedman Caters, Treble Bob Royal, Cambridge Surprise, and Superlative Surprise Major. Our correspondent adds:—A word of praise is due to the lads that perform these methods upon a fine musical peal of bells; their striking is most accurate, and we very much doubt if there are five other lads of their age for many miles around to equal them, especially in the methods they ring (upwards of twenty). On Sunday morning, we mustered to ring for Divine Service, and attempted a 720 of Norwich Court, which, however, came to grief soon after the half-way single. Touches of Double Oxford and Plain Bob brought the morning's ringing to a close. About 1 o'clock, Mr. F. Pitstow, of Saffron Walden, arrived, when a move was made to the house of Mr. and Mrs. Henry Prior, and full justice was done to the good things provided. The afternoon being spent in a sociable manner, after tea a move was made to the church, where for Divine Service in the evening a 720 of Double Norwich Court Bob Minor was rung in 26 mins., by John Cavill, 1; Henry Prior, sen., 2; Charles Prior, 3; Frederick Pitstow, 4; George Taylor, 5; Samuel Hayes (conductor), 6. After service, a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob Minor (nine bobs) in 25½ mins. John Cavill, 1; Henry Prior, sen., 2; George Taylor, 3; Frederick Pitstow, 4; Isaac Carvill, 5; Samuel Hayes (conductor), 6. Tenor 13 cwt. This brought the ringing to a close, and as time and tide wait for no man, a parting was inevitable, which took place with good wishes to our Stanstead friends, and expressions of pleasure at the enjoyment afforded by our outing.

NEW CLOCK CHIMES AT SALISBURY CATHEDRAL.—The new quarter chimes at this Cathedral were formerly opened on Tuesday, July 15th, when a short dedication service was held below the tower. The Dean then pulled a string, which let off the chimes. Hymn No. 303, "Ancient and Modern," was then sung, and the proceedings ended.

WALTON, LANCASHIRE.

On Thursday, July 31st, the ringers and choir of St. Mary's parish church, accompanied by the curates (Revs. J. Pulliblack and T. H. Bee) and Churchwardens (Messrs. J. E. Bennet and J. Wright), held their annual pic-nic at Chester. The weather was all that could be desired, and all the company thoroughly enjoyed themselves.

In the morning, before leaving Walton, the ringers rang two 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles. Everything being in order, the party proceeded by train to the Pier Head, then crossed the river to Birkenhead, and on by the 10.10 train to Chester, arriving there at 10.50. The Cathedral was first visited, and an examination of the ancient pile was very interesting. A perambulation being made round the famous and historic walls of this ancient city, brought the dinner-hour near, and an adjournment was made to the "Nag's Head" hotel, where all sat down to a substantial repast, to which ample justice was done. After dinner a move was made to the river, and the party went by boat to Eccleston. On the journey, the ringers enlivened the proceedings by performing some well-known and popular airs on the handbells, accompanied by the vocal strains of the choir. On arriving at Eccleston, the visitors walked to Eaton Hall, and were shown through the conservatories, and then into the Music Chamber, where the handbells were again brought into requisition, the tunes selected being "Adeste Fideles" and the "Old Hundredth." Other apartments of this mansion were also visited, all being highly delighted with what they had seen.

Subsequently the party returned to Eccleston, and after tea the ringers chimed on the parish church bells several tunes taken from "Hymns Ancient and Modern," and Sankey's hymn-book. After this, a 6-score of Grandsire Doubles was rung, the ringers standing in the following order: J. Hurst, 1; E. E. Wilson (conductor), 2; T. Somerville, 3; T. Rushton, 4; R. Simpson, 5; R. Stockley, 6. Tenor 14 cwt. It was now time for returning, so a move was made to the ferry, and then homewards. The handbells were in constant use on the way home, the return journey being enlivened by the performance of several popular airs upon them. Arriving in Liverpool at 10.55, and catching the 11.0 'bus, the party were all safely landed at the terminus at 11.30, after having spent a most enjoyable day.

REOPENING AT DIDSbury, MANCHESTER.

On Friday, August 1st, the bells of this church were reopened after having undergone repairs at the hands of Messrs. James Shaw, Son, and Co., of Bradford. The whole of the bells have been quarter-turned and rehung, with entirely new fittings and new woodwork throughout. On the above date ringing was carried on for about two hours, several 720's of Bob Minor being rung, the go of the bells being pronounced by the ringers as first-rate. They are a fine ring of six in perfect harmony, cast by Rudhall in 1727, but it appears that bells have been in this church tower long before this date, as several tombstones bear witness that ringing had been going on for centuries, and one stone gives particulars of a family named Woods, who have been ringers and parish clerks for 250 years in succession, one member of the same family was a ringer for over 65 years, and at the present time one of the company has been a ringer at this church for over 45 years. Last week was celebrated the 659th Anniversary of the church.

THE EASTERN COUNTIES GUILD.

On Wednesday, July 30th, five members of this Guild, with one of the South Lincolnshire Association, paid a visit to All Saints' church, Moulton, and by kind permission of the Vicar (Rev. J. R. Jackson) rang several 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles, but owing to the bad condition of the bells, the general result of the visit was not satisfactory. It is hoped that this fine ring of five will soon be put in order, and a new treble added, there being a pit vacant for one. The visitors were: J. S. Wright, J. Wilson, R. Mackman, A. Brown, J. Brown, and R. Skeef, who take this opportunity of thanking the Vicar for granting them permission to ring.

CHURCH FESTIVAL AT KIRKLEVINGTON.—On Friday, July 25th, a festival was held in this place, service being held in the morning, sports in the afternoon, followed by a public tea, and service in the church at night. The Rev. Canon Camidge, Vicar of Thirsk, was the preacher, and in the course of his sermon said he had to appeal on behalf of the church bells, and no one, he thought, would question their many advantages. Church bells invited worshippers to come to the house of God. They appealed to various sympathies. "Blessed be the memory of that man who first hung a ring of bells within a church tower," says a modern writer. "He must have been one who had fathomed the depths of the human heart, and knew how to draw out the best and holiest feelings that still linger in our fallen nature." They speak to every person who hears their tones how we should all live together in harmony and love.

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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, and performances under 5000 changes must reach us not later than Wednesday morning; and the insertion of any communication coming later than the first Postal delivery on Thursday morning cannot be guaranteed in that week's number. When it is found impossible from want of space to insert all touches forwarded, the earlier ones will have the preference.

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.

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

C. W. CLARKE (Beds. Association).—The variation of the peal you mention will run perfectly true.

We are again obliged to hold over several matters—correspondence, touches, etc. till next week.

The Bell News & Ringers' Record.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 9, 1884.

A week or two ago there appeared among our columns a report of the Annual Meeting of the Worcestershire Association, held in the city of Worcester. In connection with this report one or two circumstances appeared rather odd, and out of the common in connection with the meetings of most of our ringing Associations. Had we been of the members of the Association in question, and had found it convenient to attend this Annual Meeting at Worcester, we should have certainly expected to find that the bells at the various churches open for the occasion would be in something like order for ringing. We do not mean to say that everything should be in splendid condition, such as we are accustomed to find in some well-regulated belfries, but it would not be unreasonable to hope that there would be ropes of some kind or other to ring with, and clappers to strike the bells when the ropes are pulled. In the case we are dealing with, we read that at All Saints' Church—a ring of ten—a clapper was missing, which after a time was brought to light, and affixed in its place; while the only good ropes were to be found at the Cathedral, and these had to be borrowed for the use of the eight and ten-bell towers. This is certainly a wretched plight to be in. Perhaps the local party are used to this kind of thing, and we are told that "use is second nature." At one time, at least in the parish of All Saints, there could be found a worthy citizen who did not hesitate to supply the needful for the supply of ropes so that the whole ten bells of his parish church could be periodically rung. But surely the parish authorities should bestow a little consideration upon belfry matters, and spare from the funds at their disposal, however meagre, a sum necessary for the supply of ropes. But failing this, we think the ringers—if there be any—might exert themselves in the matter a little, if they only canvassed the parish for sub-

scriptions for this purpose. But there appears to be very little energy among the ringing community in the "faithful city."

The mysterious disappearance of a clapper or two from a church tower seems at first sight rather ludicrous. But Worcester is the place more than any other, perhaps, where such a curious incident may happen, for it is not very many years ago since the treble (we think) of a peal of eight went off in an equally obscure manner, and never again was found. The theft of a church bell, though a hazardous operation in most cases, can however be understood. The metal would prove a good harvest to the appropriator who succeeded in getting clear of such booty, but the object of carrying a mere clapper or two is not so clear. The only reason that we can imagine for such is that some individual, who must certainly be afflicted with a evil disposition, had removed this clapper for a time only out of spite for some fancied grievance. The ingenuity of this person could from one point of view be commended perhaps, were it not for the fact that by such a transaction he lays himself open to a charge of felony. Taking a clapper from a church bell—whether from spite—or anything else, without the requisite permission being obtained is a punishable offence. There is evidently some laxity on the part of the authorities of the church of All Saints, Worcester, which has allowed an irresponsible person to remove a clapper from one of their bells without their cognizance. We hope they will make enquiries into the matter, and punish the offender by prohibiting him entering the tower until he has purged his offence.

A comparison of the position the science now holds in Worcester, with what it did between thirty and forty years ago, is saddening. At that time the city possessed men who could hold their own with those of any provincial town, both with handbells and at the rope's end. They took a delight in keeping everything in order in the various steeples, in spite of indifference and neglect. The peal tablets, some of them now hid by means of a "restoration," testify to this. And their favourite tenor, the bell which, when rolling in Treble Ten was the best music to their ears, has in these days suffered the disgrace of being denuded for a time of its clapper by some ignoramus who evidently cannot claim to be called a ringer in the true sense of the word.

The Provinces.

THE SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS. ISLE OF THANET, KENT.

On Sunday, August 3, 1884, in Three Hours and Twenty-four Minutes,

AT THE WATERLOO TOWER, QUEX PARK,

THE SEAT OF SQUIRE COTTON,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERS, 5073 CHANGES;

Tenor 15½ cwt. in F.

JOHN NELMS Treble.	HENRY DAINS 6.
CHARLES HOPKINS 2.	ARTHUR H. GARDOM 7.
GEORGE NEWSON 3.	HENRY SWAIN 8.
WILLIAM COPPAGE* 4.	WILLIAM BARON 9.
HENRY HOPKINS 5.	JOHN MANSFIELD Tenor.

Composed and conducted by JOHN NELMS.

*First peal of Stedman Caters.

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

THE SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS. ISLE OF THANET, KENT.

On Monday, August 4, 1884, in Three Hours and Fourteen Minutes,

AT THE WATERLOO TOWER, QUEX PARK,

THE SEAT OF SQUIRE COTTON,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS, 5003 CHANGES;

Tenor 15½ cwt. in F.

WILLIAM BARON Treble.	HENRY HOPKINS 6.
A. H. GARDOM, ESQ. 2.	HENRY SWAIN 7.
JOHN NELMS 3.	*HENRY S. THOMAS, ESQ. .. 8.
ARTHUR G. THOMAS* 4.	GEORGE NEWSON 9.
HENRY DAINS 5.	WILLIAM COPPAGE Tenor.

Composed by JOHN COX, and conducted by WILLIAM BARON.

*First peal of Caters.

The above two peals were rung to commemorate the 65th anniversary of the opening and ringing of the first peal on these bells by this Society.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS, AND THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—READING.

On Monday, August 4, 1884, in Three Hours and Twenty-eight Minutes,

AT ST. LAURENCE'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERS, 5079 CHANGES;

Tenor 22 cwt.

S. HOUNSLOW Treble.	J. M. ROUTH, ESQ. 6.
F. E. DAWE 2.	REV. F. E. ROBINSON 7.
C. HOUNSLOW 3.	REV. G. F. COLERIDGE 8.
J. FIELD 4.	W. H. WASHBROOK 9.
G. HOLIFIELD 5.	W. NEWELL Tenor.

Composed by H. W. HALEY, and conducted by the Rev. F. E. ROBINSON, Master of the Guild.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—HULL.

Birthday Peal.

On Monday, August 4, 1884, in Two Hours and Fifty-one Minutes,

AT ST. JAMES'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5008 CHANGES;

Tenor 16 cwt.

FREDK. MERRISON Treble.	HY. JENKINS 5.
JAMES DIXEY 2.	FRANK DRABBLE 6.
SAML. SLINGSBY 3.	CHAS. BENNETT 7.
TOM STOCKDALE 4.	CHAS. JACKSON Tenor.

Composed and conducted by CHARLES JACKSON.

This peal will be found on page 213, of "THE BELL NEWS," and was rung to celebrate the 25th birthday of Mr. Jas. Dixey.

Date Touch.

ASSOCIATION FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.

TIPTON (Staffordshire).—On Sunday, August 3rd, before Divine Service in the evening, eight members of the above Association rang at the parish church of St. Martin, a date touch of Grandsire Triples, in 1 hr. 3 mins. Thomas Bennett, 1; Samuel Gesson, 2; George Hughes, 3; Thomas Horton, 4; William Mallin, 5; Joseph Fullwood, 6; William Rock Small, 7; Joseph Jones, 8. Composed and conducted by Mr. Joseph Fullwood. Tenor 12 cwt. in G♯. The 3rd and tenor men were proposed and made members of the above Association previous to the bells being raised in peal. The ringer of the 3rd bell has only one arm, and rang his bell in a first-rate style. The ringers also of the treble, 2nd, and tenor bells are new members of the Association, and this is the longest length yet rung by them.

Miscellaneous.

THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

BEDFORD.—On Tuesday evening, July 1st, for practice, a 504 of Grandsire Triples, in 20 mins. M. Warrick, 1; S. Cullip, 2; W. Hall, 3; C. West, 4; J. Frossell, 5; C. W. Clarke (conductor), 6; I.

Hills, 7; W. Biggs, 8. Tenor 27 cwt. in D. This is the first touch of Triples by M. Warrick. Also on Saturday, July 26, for practice on the handbells, 360 College Single, 720 Oxford Bob, 216 Bob Minor, and 216 Grandsire Minor. F. Keech (first 720), 1; J. Atkins, 2; C. West, 3; C. W. Clarke, 4; I. Hills, 5; W. Biggs (conductor), 6.

BROMHAM (Beds).—On Wednesday, July 23rd, at St. Owen's church, a 720 of Bob Minor, with eight bobs and six singles. J. Ellis, 1; T. Tysoe, 2; F. M. Smith, 3; W. King, 4; H. King, 5; W. Biggs (conductor), 6.

BIRMINGHAM AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATION.

SEELY OAK (Birmingham).—On Tuesday, July 29th, six members of the above Association rang a 720 of Grandsire Minor, in 26 mins. Edward Bryant, 1; John Nix, 2; Henry Smith, 3; Edward Boylin, 4; John Findon, 5; Alfred Cole (conductor), 6. John Findon hails from Hampton-in-Arden, and it is his first 720.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.—On Thursday, July 24th, for practice, a 348 of Stedman Triples. C. L. Routledge, 1; F. Lees, 2; E. W. Scott, 3; R. S. Story, 4; W. Story, 5; E. Wallis, 6; S. Power (conductor), 7; W. Bowes, 8. This is the first touch of Stedman Triples, beyond a course on the bells by the band. Tenor 12½ cwt.

SOUTH SHIELDS.—On Monday evening, July 28th, at St. Hilda's church, for practice, a 720 of Plain Bob Minor, in 28 mins. Jas. Moffitt, 1; R. Oliver (first 720, Jarrow), 2; A. Sharp (first 720, Jarrow), 3; J. McGoun (North Shields), 4; J. Hopper, 5; Jno. Moffitt (conductor), 6.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

ECCLES (Lancashire).—On Tuesday evening, July 29th, six members of the local company rang a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor, in 27½ mins. Charles Cash, 1; Thomas Yates, 2; James Barratt, 3; Richard Ashcroft, 4; Edward Cash, 5; George Henry Johnson (conductor), 6. Tenor 13 cwt. 3 qrs.

STOKE-UPON-TRENT ARCHIDIACONAL ASSOCIATION.

NORTON-LE-MOORS (Staffordshire).—Recently, a 720 Bob Minor, in 28 mins. W. Holdcroft, 1; A. Holdcroft (first 720 with a bob bell), 2; J. Morton, 3; J. Baddeley, 4; J. W. Brought, 5; G. Walker (conductor), 6.

SHEEN (Staffordshire).—On Sunday, July 20th, the following members of the above Association visited Sheen: T. Rider, W. H. Armitt, T. Turner, of Leek, D. Bradbury of Horton, and C. Lawton, S. Thornhill, M. Moss, and W. Carter, of Biddulph. The following 720's were rung: 720 Bob Minor, in 24½ mins.; 720 Grandsire Minor, in 25 mins.; 360 Kent Treble Bob. W. H. Armitt and W. Carter, conductors. Tenor 7 cwt.

THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

MITCHAM (Surrey).—On Friday, July 25th, at Christ Church, six members of the above Association rang a 720 of Bob Minor, with eighteen bobs and two singles, in 25 mins. G. Welling, 1; D. Springall, 2; S. Greenwood, 3; J. Parker, 4; G. Pell, 5; J. Fayers (conductor), 6. Also a 720 of Grandsire Minor, in 26 mins. D. Springall, 1; R. Moss, 2; J. Fayers, 3; J. Parker, 4; G. Welling, 5; S. Frost (conductor), 6. Also Stedman and Grandsire Doubles were rung, conducted by S. Greenwood. Tenor 7½ cwt. The above was rung on the occasion of the annual outing of the school, it also being the birthday of Mr. Harris, sen., who kindly gave this pretty ring of six.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

STAVELEY (Derbyshire).—On Sunday, August 3rd, a band of the above Association met at St. John's church, Staveley, to attempt a 508 Kent Treble Bob Major, in honour of the 50th birthday of Mr. James Hunt, but after ringing 1 hr. 25 mins. the wheel of the second bell broke, which brought the peal to grief. W. Harris, 1; H. Motter-shall, 2; W. Worthington, 3; J. Harris, 4; A. Knights, 5; C. H. Hattersley, 6; J. Hunt (conductor), 7; A. Brearley, 8. Tenor 19 cwt.

ASPLEY GUISE (Bedfordshire).—On Sunday, July 20th, for evening service, a 720 of Bob Minor, with sixteen bobs and two singles, in 26 mins. G. Usher (Aspley), 1; C. Herbert (Woburn), 2; *S. Smith (Loughborough), 3; W. Lane (Aspley), 4; W. Chibnall (Aspley, conductor), 5; *C. Smith (Loughborough), 6. *Members of the Midland Counties' Association.

BALDOCK (Herts).—On Sunday, August 3rd, for morning service, 392 of Grandsire Triples. T. Webb, 1; J. Phillips, 2; J. Cordell, 3; J. Hare (conductor), 4; R. Jackson, 5; W. A. Tyler, 6; J. W. Roslyn, 7; G. Gentle, 8. Also the same evening a 336 in the same method, by the same band. Tenor 28 cwt. in D.

BATLEY CARR (Yorkshire).—On Sunday, August 3rd, for Divine Service in the morning, a 720 of Violet. *John Garforth, 1; Squire Mitchell, 2; *Geo. H. Simon, 3; John Blackburn, 4; N. Hepworth (conductor), 5; *H. Senior, 6. Also in the evening, a 720 of Duke of York. Squire Mitchell, 1; Geo. H. Simon, 2; Walter Duffy, 3; J. Blackburn, 4; N. Hepworth (conductor), 5; *John Garforth, 6. *Yorkshire Association.

CASTLE DONINGTON (Leicestershire).—On Tuesday, July 29th, six members of the local company rang for practice, four 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles, each called differently. W. Fawkes, 1; J. Hutchley (conductor), 2; E. Lees, 3; J. Fawkes, 4; V. Hicken, 5; W. Frakes, 6. Tenor 17½ cwt.

CLAY CROSS (Derbyshire).—On Sunday evening, August 3rd, for Divine Service, at St. Bartholomew's church, two 6-scores of Bob Doubles; one with bobs, and the other one with bobs and singles. T. Walters, 1; T. Millington, 2; G. Brown, 3; J. Cook, 4; T. Allibone, 5; J. Green, 6. Tenor 10 cwt. in A.

GAWSWORTH (Cheshire).—On Monday evening, August 4th, for practice, a 720 of Grandsire Minor, with thirty-two bobs and two singles, was rung by the local society in 28 mins. John Henshall (conductor), 1; Edward Matthews, 2; William H. Ingham, 3; William Henshall, 4; Charles Postles, 5; Walter Henshall, 6. Tenor about 18 cwt. in G.

GLEMSFORD (Suffolk).—On Saturday, July 19th, at St. Mary's church, a 720 of Bob Minor. John Slater, 1; Z. Slater, 2; S. Slater, 3; Arthur Symonds (Lavenham), 4; William Snell (Lavenham), 5; F. P. Adams (conductor), 6. *Handbell Ringing.*—Also on Friday, July 25th, at the house of Mr. John Slater, on handbells retained in hand, a 720 of New London Pleasure, in 19 mins. Z. Slater, 1-2; F. P. Adams, 3-4; S. Slater (conductor), 5-6. On Saturday, July 26th, at St. Mary's church, a 720 of Double Court Bob, in 30 mins. John Slater, 1; Joseph Slater, 2; F. P. Adams, 3; E. W. Downs, 4; Z. Slater, 5; S. Slater (conductor), 6. And on Tuesday, July 29th, it being the occasion of an horticultural show in the rectory grounds, the company rang upon the St. Mary's church bells the following:—First—A 720 of Kent Treble Bob. S. Slater, 1; Joseph Slater, 2; Z. Slater, 3; F. Wells, 4; O. Garwood, 5; F. P. Adams (conductor), 6. Second—A 720 of Oxford Treble Bob. Z. Slater (conductor), 1; C. Honeybell, 2; O. Garwood, 3; F. Wells, 4; S. Slater, 5; W. Nevard (Great Bentley, Essex), 6. Third—A 720 of Double Court Bob. John Slater, 1; Joseph Slater, 2; Z. Slater, 3; F. Wells, 4; F. P. Adams (conductor), 5; W. Nevard (Great Bentley, Essex), 6. This is Mr. Nevard's first 720 in this method. A great number of touches were rung on this occasion in various other methods, such as New London Pleasure, in all amounting to about 5000 changes. Tenor 16 cwt. in F.

HITCHIN (Herts).—On Monday, August 4th, at St. Mary's church, it being the Annual Festival of the Church of England Society, for Divine Service, three 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles, each called differently. H. Buckingham, 1; W. A. Tyler (conductor), 2; P. French, 3; J. Hare, 4; A. Squires, 5; J. Randall, 6; S. Hare, 7; W. Kitchner, 8; 6-7-8 behind. Tenor 28 cwt. in D.

HORNINGSHAM (Wilts).—On Monday, July 28th, the St. Edmund's company, Salisbury, paid a visit to Horningsham, and rang several six-scores of Grandsire Doubles. E. H. Harris, 1; E. A. Foster, 2; J. Parsons, 3; F. Rigden, 4; Rev. C. L. Bode, 5; J. Arnold, 6. After the ringing they were kindly entertained at the vicarage by the Rev. Canon Jacob.

KINGSWINFORD (Staffordshire).—On Sunday, July 27th, at St. Mary's church, a 720 of Grandsire Minor, was rung by the Wordsley ringers in 28 mins. T. Darby, 1; W. Hughes, 2; G. Husselbee, 3; G. Jones, 4; W. Lawrence, 5; E. T. Chapman (conductor), 6.

LAMBETH (Surrey).—On Saturday, July 26th, at St. Mary's church, the first half of Holt's ten-part peal of Grandsire Triples, 2520 changes, was rung in 1 hr. 30 mins. W. Cecil, 1; G. Mash, 2; T. Blackburn, 3; R. French, 4; T. McLaughlin, 5; F. T. Gover, 6; J. M. Hayes (conductor), 7; T. Coxhead, 8. Tenor 20 cwt.

NORTH WINGFIELD (Derbyshire).—On Sunday afternoon, August 3rd, for Divine Service, at St. Laurence's church, two 6-scores of Bob Doubles; one with bobs only, and one with bobs and singles. T. Millington (first six-score), 1; G. Beresford, 2; G. Tarlton, 3; G. Brown, 4; T. Day, 5; J. Green, 6. The second 6-score was rung by the following: J. Cook, 1; T. Millington, 2; T. Allibone, 3; G. Brown, 4; T. Clough, 5; J. Green, 6. Tenor 18½ cwt. in F.

READING (Berks).—On Monday, August 4th, a mixed band rang a 720 of Grandsire Minor in 29 mins. on the back six at St. Mary's. F. Castle (Oxford), 1; J. J. Parker (Farnham Royal), 2; W. Billingham (Loughborough), 3; A. C. Fussell (Slough), 4; R. Swain (Reading), 5; J. W. Washbrook (Oxford), 6. Conducted by J. W. Washbrook. Tenor 28 cwt. in D. First 720 known to be rung on the bells.

ROMFORD.—*Chiming.*—On Sunday morning, August 3rd, 360 Oxford Treble Bob, and 120 Stedman Doubles; in the afternoon, 240 Kent Treble Bob, and 48 Grandsire Minor, and 60 Double Court; in the evening, 720 Plain Bob. A. J. Perkins, 1-2-3-4; B. Keeble, 5-6.

RUSPER (Sussex).—On Friday, August 1st, 720 of Warnham Court Bob Minor, with twenty-four singles. D. Tugwell, 1; G. Tullett, 2; G. Holloway, 3; J. Worsfold, 4; J. Gasson, 5; F. Wickens (conductor), 6. Also a 720 of College Single, with eighteen bobs and two singles, C. Gasson ringing the treble, the others standing as before.

SPALDING (Lincolnshire).—On Sunday, August 3rd, for Divine Service in the morning at SS. Mary and Nicholas, a 480 of Bob Minor. Also after evening service, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob. J. S. Wright, 1; J. Wilson, 2; G. L. Richardson, 3; R. Mackman (conductor), 4; A. Brown, 5; J. Brown, 6. And for afternoon service, rounds and set changes were rung by a young band. Also on Monday, August 4th, a 720 of Plain Bob. J. S. Wright, 1; J. Wilson, 2; G. L. Richardson, 3; Dr. Seccombe (of Lynn; Vice-president of the Guild), 4; A. Pilgrim (Ely), 5; J. Brown (conductor), 6. Also a 360 in the same method was rung by E. Quinton, 1; J. S. Wright (conductor), 6, the others standing as before. And on Tuesday, August 5th, a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob, in 28 mins. R. Skeef, 1; J. Wilson, 2; G. L. Richardson, 3; T. Blackburn (Salisbury), 4; R. Mackman, 5; J. Brown (conductor), 6.

STANSTEAD (Suffolk).—On Sunday, July 20th, at the parish church, a 720 of Bob Minor, in 28 mins. Z. Slater (conductor), 1; F. Wells, 2; S. Slater, 3; Arthur Symonds (Lavenham), 4; Wm. Snell (Lavenham), 5; Oliver Garwood, 6. Tenor 11 cwt.

WESTON (Herts).—On Sunday afternoon, August 3rd, three 120s of Grandsire Doubles, and two touches of sixty changes each. T. Webb, 1; J. Phillips, 2; J. W. Roslyn, 3; J. Hare, 4; W. A. Tyler (conductor), 5. Tenor about 12 cwt. in F#.

WILLESDEN (Middlesex).—On Thursday, July 31st, for practice, a 720 Bob Minor, with eight bobs and six singles, in 23 mins. M. Murphy, 1; F. Weare, 2; T. Scarlett (conductor), 3; A. Pittam, 4; R. Kirby, 5; J. Jackman, 6. Also two 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles, each called differently. A. Tennant (conductor), 1; F. Weare, 2; T. Scarlett, 3; A. Pittam, 4; M. Murphy, 5; A. Kirby, 6. This is the first attempt at calling by A. Tennant, who has handled a rope but a very short time.

WOUBURN (Beds).—On Saturday, July 25th, a 720 of Bob Minor, in 28 mins. *C. Smith, 1; C. Herbert, 2; *S. Smith, 3; W. Lane, 4; J. W. Chibnall, 5; W. E. Turney (conductor), 6. *Members of the Midland Counties' Association.

MEETING AT SOUTHAMPTON.

A meeting of ringers took place here on Monday, August 4th. The company first rang 168 Grandsire Triples at St. Michael's. S. Russell, 1; J. Newnham, 2; E. Parker, 3; C. A. Clements, 4; W. W. Gifford, 5; T. Newnham (conductor), 6; J. R. Jerram, 7; J. Curtis, 8. They then proceeded to Holyrood church, and after one or two unsuccessful attempts, rang 504 Grandsire Triples. E. W. Parker, 1; J. Newnham, 2; C. A. Clements, 3; E. Parker, 4; W. W. Gifford, 5; T. Newnham (conductor), 6; J. R. Jerram, 7; J. Curtis, 8. Another 504 was also rung, which unfortunately got into a muddle just as it was finishing. Several plain courses of Triples were also rung at both churches, by some of the above band, with E. A. Foster, 2, and W. Lanham, 8. Before leaving, the visitors were shewn a portion of an immense stone ball, which fell many years ago from Holyrood steeple, into a crowded street. On that occasion some large public building was being formally opened, and the street below was crowded. Strange to say the surging of the crowd had just left a small space open at the moment the ball fell, and it was only as if by a miracle that no one was killed, the ball just falling in that spot, which is now marked by a brass cross, let into the pavement.

WOODFORD (Northamptonshire).—A large turret clock has been erected in the school at this place which strikes the hours and shews time on large copper dial. The work has been carried out by Messrs. John Smith and Sons, Midland Clock Works, Derby.

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERS.

5073.

By JOHN NELMS, *Royal Cumberland Youths.*2 3 1 4 5 6 Bob on 7, 8, 9.
4 5 16

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

The last fifteen courses twice repeated, produce—

2 1 3 4 6 5

Rounds produced by calling bobs at 4, 5, 8, 10, 16.

*This course produced by bobs at 4, 5, and single at 19.

Rung on August 3rd, 1884, by the Society of Royal Cumberland Youths, at Quex Park, Isle of Thanet, Kent, the seat of the late John P. Powell, Esq.

TWO PEALS OF BOB MAJOR.

By BENJAMIN FRANCIS, *Diss.*

5040.

2 3 4 5 6 W M H

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

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

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

Twice repeated.

This peal has the 5th twelve times at home.

5040.

2 3 4 5 6 W M H

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

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

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

Twice repeated.

This peal has the 6th twelve times each way in 5-6, and the 5th nine times each way.

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS.

5039.

By JOHN ASPINWALL, *Liverpool.*

2 3 4 5 6

4 2 3 5 6	7th in and out at 3.
3 2 6 5 4	9th 8 9.
2 6 3 5 4	" 6 7.
5 2 3 6 4	" 4 5.
3 5 2 6 4	9th in three.
2 5 4 6 3	" 8 9.
5 4 2 6 3	" 6 7.
2 5 3 4 6	" 4 5. 8 9.
5 3 2 4 6	" 6 7.
4 5 2 3 6	" 4 5.
2 4 5 3 6	9th in three.
5 4 6 3 2	" 8 9.
4 6 5 3 2	" 6 7.
3 4 5 6 2	" 4 5.
5 3 4 6 2	9th in three.
4 3 2 6 5	" 8 9.
3 2 4 6 5	" 6 7.
4 3 5 2 6	" 4 5. 8 9.
3 5 4 2 6	" 6 7.
2 3 4 5 6	" 4 5.

5 3 4 2 6 9th before with s.

3 2 4 5 6 8th in three.

2 4 3 5 6 9th 6 7.

5 2 3 4 6 " 4 5.

3 5 2 4 6 9th in three.

2 5 6 4 3 " 8 9.

5 6 2 4 3 " 6 7.

4 5 2 6 3 " 4 5.

2 4 5 6 3 9th in three.

5 4 3 6 2 " 8 9.

4 3 5 6 2 " 6 7.

5 4 2 3 6 " 4 5. 8 9.

4 2 5 3 6 " 6 7.

3 4 5 2 6 " 4 5.

6 3 4 2 5 8 7 9 9th in & out at 2.

4 5 3 2 7 6 9 8 9th in three. s

3 2 5 4 8th in three.

A 1/2 PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES.

1260.

By ALFRED SQUIRES, *Hitchin, Herts.*

7 5 2 6 3 4 1

5 6 4 7 3 5 2 1

7 5 6 4 2 3 8

4 5 7 3 6 2 5

2 3 4 6 5 7 1

4 5 2 3 7 6 8

3 5 4 6 2 7 5

7 6 3 2 5 4 1

3 5 7 6 4 2 8

6 5 3 2 7 4 5

4 2 6 7 5 3 1

6 5 4 2 3 7 8

2 5 6 7 4 3 5

3 7 2 4 5 6 1

2 5 3 7 6 4 8

3 6 5 4 7 P.E.

Repeated.

A 1/2 PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES.

1260.

By W. A. TYLER, *Hitchin.*

2 3 4 5 6 7

S 5 7 2 6 3 4

3 4 5 2 6 7

4 5 3 2 6 7

5 3 4 2 6 7

6 7 5 4 2 3

S 4 3 6 2 7 5

4 2 3 Part-end.

Five times repeated; a bob being substituted for a single at the end of the third and sixth parts. Contains the twenty-four 6-7's.

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS.

5130.

By THOS. BEACALL, *Liverpool.*

2 3 4 5 6

2 3 4 5 6*	-
3 4 2 5 6	7 8.
4 2 3 5 6	7 8.
3 2 6 5 4	8 9.
6 2 4 5 3	8 9.
2 4 6 5 3	7 8.
4 6 2 5 3	7 8.
6 4 2 5 3†	-
5 2 3 6 4	9th in two. 8 9.

Four times repeated.

*7th in and out at three with a double.

†7th in and out at 5 and 8 9.

This peal may be varied at pleasure by calling a single instead of a bob at 8 9 in the eighth course of second part, and single in place of a bob at 8 9 in eighth course of third part. This will give the 5th eighteen times right, and the 6th eighteen times wrong.

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS.

5021.

By JOHN R. PRITCHARD, *Liverpool.*

2 3 4 5 6

*4 2 3 5 6	7th in & out at 3.
3 4 2 5 6	9th in three.
2 4 6 5 3	8 9.
6 2 4 5 3	9th in three.
4 6 2 5 3	9th in three.
2 6 3 5 4	8 9.
3 2 6 5 4	9th in three.
6 3 2 5 4	9th in three.
2 3 4 5 6	8 9.
4 3 6 5 2	8 9.
6 4 3 5 2	9th in three.
3 6 4 5 2	9th in three.

2 3 6 5 4 9th in three. s

6 2 3 5 4 9th in three.

3 2 4 5 6 8 9.

4 3 2 5 6 9th in three.

2 4 3 5 6 9th in three.

3 4 6 5 2 8 9.

6 3 4 5 2 9th in three.

4 6 3 5 2 9th in three.

3 6 2 5 4 8 9.

2 6 4 5 3 8 9.

4 2 6 5 3 9th in three.

6 4 2 5 3 9th in three.

The above twenty-four courses twice repeated (except * instead of which call 8th in 2), produce— 2 3 5 6 4

4 6 3 2 5 8th in two.

6 2 3 4 5 8th in three.

9 8 6 7 4 5 2 3 2 s

5 7 9 3 8 2 6 4 1

3 2 5 4 7 6 9 8 1 s

5th and 6th each twenty-four times behind the 9th.

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR.

5088.

By ARTHUR KNIGHTS, *Chesterfield.*

2 3 4 5 6 M B W H

6 2 5 3 4 - 2 2

6 5 3 2 4 - 1 2

6 2 4 5 3 - 2 1

2 6 3 5 4 - 1 2

2 3 5 6 4 1 - 2 2

Twice repeated.

Has the 4th, 5th, and 6th the extent in 6th's place.

OUT OF TOWN.

TUESDAY favored us—the London contingent—with glorious weather, and away we hastened to procure some kind of conveyance to carry our not very huge forms to that Switzerland of England, Matlock Bath. Having obtained a most suitable pony, and one of those nondescript conveyances, yclept, a trap, we took the Duffield road to Matlock. The scenery is simply grand—hill above hill until you reach the High Tor and the Heights of Abraham, beneath which are caverns innumerable, and a glimpse inside is well repaid. Here are found concretions of carbonate of lime, hanging pendant like icicles from the roofs and arches in this calcareous region, samples of which we procured in the shape of jugs, miniature wash-hand basins, etc. Here are also petrifying wells, the water of which would turn to stone the "Great Roger," if he sat there long enough. We roamed about this lovely spot for a few hours, and as time had reached—so far as we were concerned—its limits, we had to make tracks back to Derby, and so on we sped, and reached our destination in safety, well satisfied with ourselves and all we had seen.

On Wednesday, the wife and I visited the town of Burton-on-Trent, not for the sake of ringing, nor to taste the glorious bitter beer for which the place is famous, but something out of the common was happening this day, their greatest fête of the year—the flower show. The shops were all closed, business being suspended, and the lord of amusement and all kinds of tomfoolery reigned. Being of aquatic tastes, we chartered a vessel which the owner certainly went out of his way to call a boat, one of those symmetrical conveyances one need not fear crossing the Atlantic in. We made fair use of it, however, the wife at the rudder-lines, who would ever and anon guide our otherwise than frail barque among such a collection of weeds, that it became a question whether we should get out and carry it to where there was clear water. However, after a severe struggle, circumstances decided in our favour, and we gained the mastery over the weeds, and glided along grandly, enlivened by the tones of the showman's gong, and an organ at the roundabout, the latter evidently being in a state of incipient decay. After this fresh water trip, we enjoyed a stroll round the town, a description of which my readers must find out for themselves from the local guide-books. I saw two square towers, one of which belonged to St. Paul's, of which I shall have something to say before bringing this touch to a stand. Leaving Burton shortly after 9.0 p.m., we reached Derby in about an hour.

Thursday, June 26th, will ever be a memorable day with me, and also with others of my friends who took part in the peal at St. Luke's, Derby. I have heard of men of mettle, and of wood, in a famous ringer's song, but it would require men of granite, with hearts of oak and nerves of iron, to ring another peal there with the bells in their present condition. Our peal took 3 hrs. 33 mins. in accomplishing, and in the course of it an amusing incident occurred, certainly unique in its way. The tenor-man had rang like a Briton for two hours, when sundry snorts and groans were heard proceeding from his quarter of the room, and at last an ejaculation burst forth to the effect that he could go no further. What was to be done? The other seven were determined to go on! So the tenor-man was told to "shut up," and set his bell, which he did, and after having a drink of water, started again, only to stop in another five minutes. He then went down stairs, and sent up another ringer, who finished the peal. Some may perhaps argue that this was no peal at all. The only harm I wish these incredulous persons is that they shall go and ring one there, their scepticism would be soon done away with. Considering the weight and go of the bells, the striking was invariably good, and was admired by all, especially by the Vicar, who heard the whole of it. I may mention that he has given orders for a peal-board to be erected in the steeple to commemorate the event. After the peal we were invited to accept of the Vicar's hospitality—a bountiful repast of cold meats, salads, etc. My hands, however, refused their customary functions, and would not hold a knife and fork with their usual wont. Nor was I alone in this predicament, the ringer of the 7th suffering equally with me in this respect. Here I must leave all next week the continuation of my adventures. O. P. Q.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

THE ANNUAL (GREAT) MEETING will take place this year at Bristol on Monday, August 18th.

SHORT SERVICE at St. Mary Redcliffe, at 11 a.m. Preacher, Rev. F. E. Robinson, Vicar of Drayton, Abingdon.

BUSINESS MEETING at Colston Room (corner of churchyard), immediately after service.

DINNER at the "Ship" Inn, Redcliffe Hill, at 1 p.m. at 1s. per head to performing members who have sent notice by the 12th inst.

All members and friends are earnestly requested to attend Divine Service.
PITT EYKYN, Hon. Sec.

THE ST. JAMES'S SOCIETY, LONDON.

At a meeting of this Society, held at the "Shakspeare Head," Wych Street, Strand, W.C., on Monday, July 28th, the undermentioned gentlemen were elected officers for the ensuing year. Master: Mr. G. T. McLaughlin; Steward: Mr. H. Langdon; Treasurer: Mr. E. Albone; Secretary: Mr. E. F. Strange. E. F. STRANGE, Hon. Sec.
34, Park Walk, Fulham Road, S.W.

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 STANFORD-LE-HOPE OPENING.

SIR,—If your correspondent, "Oxford Treble Bob" is a member of the Essex Association, I shall be pleased to give him any information he may require as to the arrangements for the opening of the Stanford bells, either privately, or through your columns. But the work of a Secretary of such an Association as ours, is heavy enough as it is, without having to answer every ANONYMOUS writer, who may think fit to criticise the arrangements made by me.

Rayleigh, S.O., Essex,
August 6th.

H. A. COCKEY,
Hon. Sec. of the Essex Association.

SIR,—As I sent the report of the third day's ringing to you, I think it is only just that I should have a few words to say on the subject. First of all I must inform your correspondent who signs himself "Oxford Treble Bob," that he could not have read the report right. I must also explain to him that there was seven members of the Essex Association present that took part in the ringing on that day. I must also say in this way, that I quite forgot to put the other three names down, and I think after all that was not necessary. If I had sent you the list of all the peals and touches with the names of the ringers as they stood, I should have taken up too much space of your most valuable paper. I must also say, answering for myself, that I like to be sociable with everybody. Why should we monopolize the tower the whole of the day, when there is another band ready and willing to have a pull? That is the reason we rang in mixed bands. I also think if "Oxford Treble Bob" was to write to the secretary of the Essex Association, he would explain to him the reason why he was not asked to assist in the ringing on that day, and if he wishes very particularly to know who the other three ringers were, he can write to me at my address, and I will gladly forward the names on without taking up such a lot of space in your paper for such rubbish. H. RANDALL,
12, St. Mary's Road, Plaistow, Essex.

A DISCLAIMER.

SIR,—Finding that there is an impression in Essex that I am the author of certain letters, which have appeared in one of the county journals condemning the ringing of "stoney" at Chelmsford at a recent choral festival, I would thank you to allow me to state through your columns that I have not in any way taken part in the correspondence, neither have I any knowledge of who the parties are.

Romford, July 28th.

B. KEEBLE.

MR. J. R. JERRAM, instructor to the Salisbury Diocesan Guild, will be taking his holiday next week, and requests that all letters connected with ringing, up to August 16th, may be addressed to him—"Care of Mr. C. Staden, Newsagent, Commercial Road, Bournemouth."

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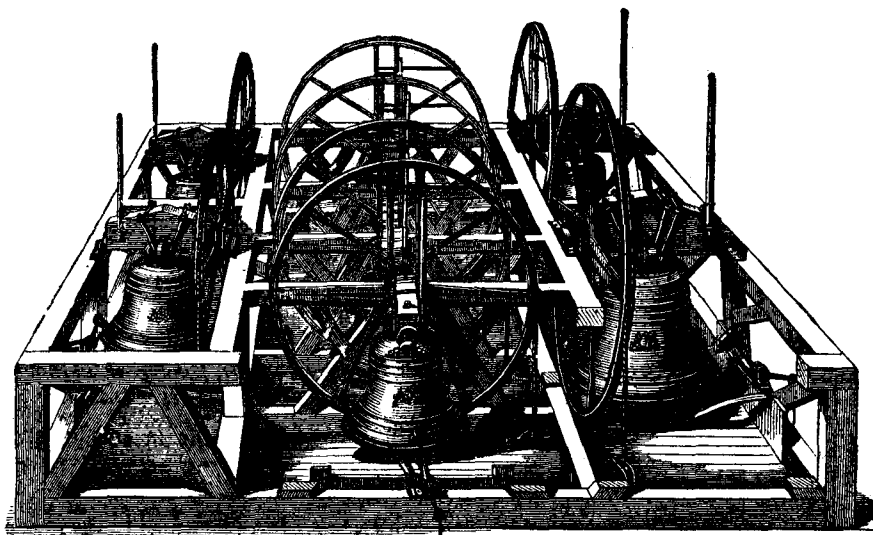
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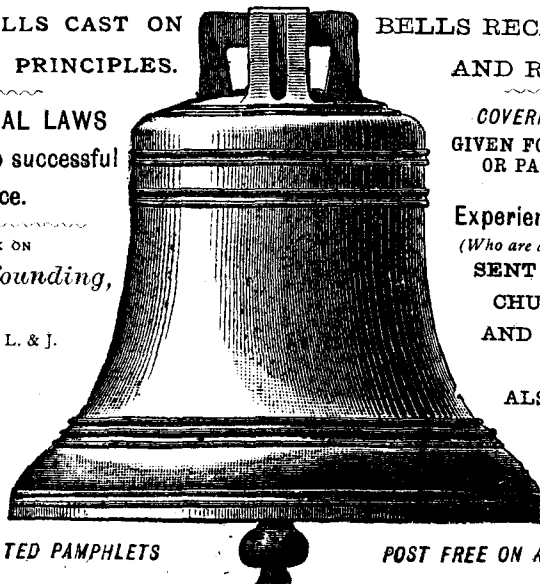
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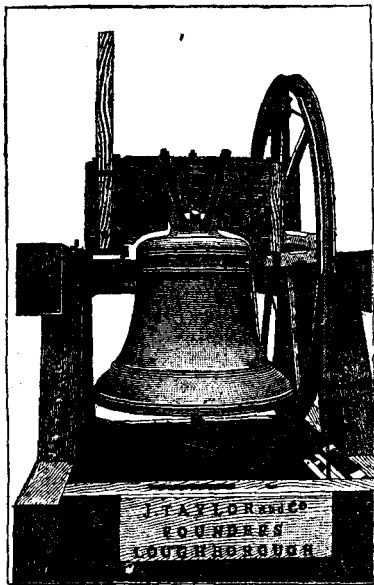
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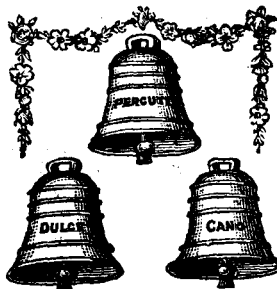
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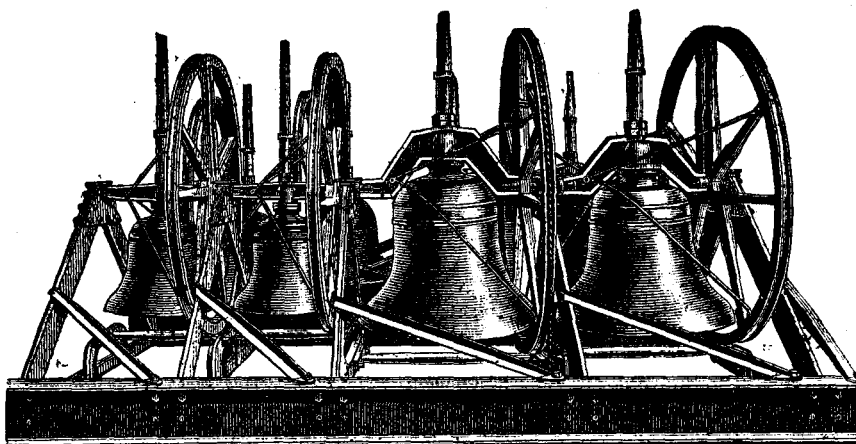
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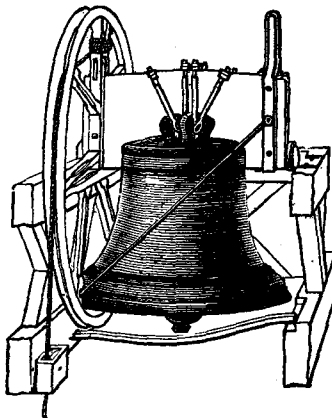
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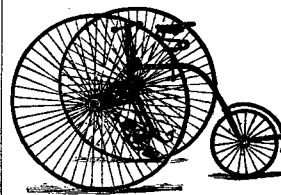
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DUFFIELD, NEAR DERBY.

On the 26th ult., the band of ringers at All Saints, Duffield, accomplished their first peal, a 5040 of Bob Triples, the first peal on the bells and the first 5000 by any of the performers. This peal was conducted by A. Percival Heywood, Esq., and to further celebrate the occasion of this first performance, Mr. Heywood invited a number of members of the Midland Counties' Association to Duffield, on Saturday last. Proceedings commenced shortly after two o'clock, when the following band attempted a peal of Treble Bob Major: J. Jaggar (Burton-on-Trent), 1; H. C. Woodward (Derby), 2; E. I. Stone (Burton), 3; J. W. Taylor, jun. (Loughborough), 4; J. Griffin (Burton), 5; J. Howe (Derby), 6; T. Holmes (Burton), 7; Jasper W. Snowdon (Leeds), 8. After two trials, in which about 4000 changes were rung, the attempt was abandoned, and other bands occupied the tower and rung touches during the afternoon.

Mr. Heywood, who resides near the church, has peculiar facilities for entertaining his guests, especially those of a mechanical turn of mind, as a miniature railway track is laid through his grounds. The track starts from the private workshops at the back of the house, Duffield Bank, and rises by a gradient of one in ten, to a wooded eminence which overlooks the rest of the valley. The portion of the line on this higher elevation is laid in the form of a figure 8, and has all the variety of scenery to be met with in an ordinary railway journey. Thus, starting northwards from the Tennis Ground Station, the road first passes through a thick plantation, and then comes out at a point where a fine view of the valley and the distant hills are presented to the traveller. After rounding a curve, the train crosses a miniature ravine by a trestle bridge, ninety-one feet long, varying in height from twelve to twenty-one feet. After completing the first half of the figure 8, the track again passes the tennis ground, and completes the other half of the figure by passing through a deep cutting, a tunnel, another deep cutting, and another tunnel. The gauge of the line is fifteen inches, and the rolling stock comprises trucks, open and covered carriages; in these, two persons can sit side by side, the bogie carriages will contain sixteen persons. A time bill was posted in the principal station—"Tennis Ground" and various trains, ordinary, special, parliamentary, and express, ran during the afternoon. The length of line over the figure 8 track, which does not include the sidings, nor the length down to the house, is about a thousand yards, and the five o'clock express which went four times round without stopping, was well patronised.

During the afternoon, tea was provided on the tennis ground by Mrs. Heywood for all the visitors. After the band who had attempted the peal had also been provided with refreshments, and a few more excursions had been made on the railway, an adjournment was made to the workshops, which were open for inspection. These comprise the erecting shop, smiths' shop, foundry, engine room, which contains an eight horse-power Otto gas engine, machine tool shop, which contains turning lathes, drilling, slotting and planing machines, and the joiners' shop. After looking round these workshops, the visitors assembled in the joiners' shop, where several touches were rung on the handbells. After which, the three Miss Heywoods, to the delight of every one, rang on the handbells, a plain course of Grandsire Doubles, and then with the assistance of Mr. J. W. Taylor, jun., of Loughborough, a plain course of Grandsire Triples. Although the age of the young lady who rang the trebles could be counted on the eight bells without using the tenor, the easy style in which the bells were handled by her, could not be improved upon by the oldest of ringers. During the course of the evening, Mr. Snowdon proposed a vote of thanks to Mr. Heywood for his hospitality, and the kind way in which he had received, amused, and interested his visitors. This vote of thanks was seconded by Mr. Taylor, carried most heartily, and responded to by Mr. Heywood. Before leaving, supper was provided by Mr. Heywood for those ringers who had come from a distance.

In concluding this notice, we may add that the "Duffield Bank Railway" was not merely laid down for the amusement of an amateur engineer, but that it was undertaken by Mr. Heywood with a view to making reliable experiments on the capabilities of light railways, especially those suitable for military railways, to be used for transport and such purposes in times of war.

ADMINISTRATION OF AN IRISH BELLFOUNDER'S ESTATE.

[FROM OUR DUBLIN CORRESPONDENT.]

In the Chancery Division of the High Court of Justice, Dublin, on Monday, August 4th, the Vice-Chancellor presiding, the case, *Mahalm v. Murphy* was heard. This was a suit to carry out the trust of the will of the late John Murphy, bellfounder, of this city, who died in 1879, leaving assets amounting to about £40,000, including £18,000 government stock. The deceased had been three times married, and left ten children, to whom he bequeathed various legacies amounting to £32,600, which the chief clerk, by his certificate, had allocated for payment to the parties entitled. The present application was for payment of these legacies, as well as certain specified sums for costs. The testator directed, by his will, that the residue of his property should be distributed among the legatees in proportion to the amount of their respective legacies. The business had been carried on after testator's death, and had realised a considerable sum, which had been brought in to the credit of the cause, but as the trading accounts had not been finally made up and settled, the final distribution of the fund could not be carried out, or the rights of the parties properly ascertained.

The Vice-Chancellor made an order for the allocation of the fund, for the payment of legacies, and for costs due to the solicitor of one of the parties.

VISIT TO BLACKBURN, LANCASHIRE.

On Bank-Holiday, August 4th, the Manchester Cathedral Society paid a visit to this town, which is situated about twenty-four miles north of Manchester. Proceeding by the 8.55 a.m. express, they arrived at their journey's end at 9.45 a.m. Alighting from the train, the party made their way to the parish church, where Mr. Parker, the steeplekeeper, was waiting to receive them. The ringers then went up into the tower, and having raised the bells in peal, rang a touch of 828 of Grandsire Caters, after which, leaving the belfry, they had a good substantial breakfast at a coffee tavern about three minutes' walk from the church. This being over, the company again entered the belfry, and started for a peal of 10,080 Grandsire Caters, but after ringing over three hours, it was deemed advisable to bring the bells round, which was done at the end of 5363 changes, in 3 hrs. 25 mins. In the afternoon, a touch of 1159 Grandsire Royal was attempted, but it came to grief. A visit was then paid to the Corporation Park, where (owing to a paragraph in a local paper stating that the ringers would play several tunes on handbells in the park) between 5000 and 6000 Blackburnians had assembled round the band-stand. The company, after a little delay, mounted the steps of the stand, and rang what tunes they knew, with ten bells, and a few courses of Grandsire Triples, Major, and Caters, and judging by the applause given after each piece was played, the audience were very well satisfied with the music.

It was now time to think of returning home, but before doing so, three courses of Grandsire Caters were rung on the tower bells with Mr. Parker, and then they were lowered. The party then made their way to the railway station, and arrived home very well satisfied with their day's out.

MERSHAM, KENT.

On Thursday, evening, August 7th, five members of the Folkestone company visited Mersham, to commemorate the anniversary of the addition made to the bells. They were met by the resident company together with others from the neighbouring parish of Aldington—resulting in a very pleasant meeting—which came to a close too soon, for time and trains wait for no man.

The ringing consisted of touches of Bob Major, Kent Treble Bob Major and Grandsire Triples. We are in hopes the inhabitants may be successful in their application to the railway company for a station—the one now nearest is Sneeth, upwards of two miles distant—it may lead to more frequent visits, for the bells are a cheerful handy peal (tenor about 14 cwt.), and in excellent going order.

THE PRINCE OF WALES' VISIT TO NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.—Any members of the ringing fraternity visiting Newcastle during the visit of his Royal Highness, will be gladly welcomed at the church of St. John the Baptist (eight bells), which is situate within sight of the central railway station. Intending visitors are requested to communicate with William Story, 2, Winchester Terrace, Newcastle.

The new parish church of Glendinnes, Banffshire, was on Monday afternoon struck by lightning and set on fire. The belfry was completely consumed, and the room was much damaged before the flames could be extinguished. When its fastenings gave way the bell fell into the edifice, smashing many seats and some woodwork in the interior.

BANK HOLIDAY WITH SOME OF THE ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.

In response to an invitation from Mr. Henry S. Thomas, a member of the Cumberlands, and also of the amateur society of St. Mary, Old Battersea, the following members, Messrs. Baron, Coppage, Dains, Gardom, Hopkins Brothers, Mansfield, Nelms, Newson, and Swain, Mr. Slater, of Acton, Mr. Wilder, of Slough, and Messrs. Davis and Ambrose, met that gentleman upon the departure platform at the Victoria Station of the L. C. and D. Railway, at 5 p.m. on Saturday, August 2nd, the ostensible purpose being a three days' ringing visit to the Isle of Thanet, Kent, in which is situate—as most of our readers are aware—Quex Park (formerly the seat of J. J. Powell, Esq.) with its tower named after the most decisive conflict of modern times, containing a ring of twelve bells, tenor 15½ cwt. Mr. Thomas was accompanied by two friends—F. Avers and J. Arundel, Esqs., and his brother, A. G. Thomas, Esq., the latter gentleman promising to become a first-class ringer. At 5.15 the train was shunted up to the platform, and the compartments set apart for the party having been quickly filled, away it steamed with a right good will to get clear of London smoke. The time occupied in travelling was nearly three hours, but was well spent in friendly chats, touches on the handbells, and in admiring the corn and hop fields, and not a few did we pass on our journey to Birchington.

On arriving at our terminus, we were met by the very obliging steeplekeeper of the Waterloo tower, Mr. Reed, who escorted us to the village. This is a clean, quaint, and essentially rural spot, containing perhaps 500 souls. We are at once directed to the "New Inn," where the courteous host and hostess—Mr. and Mrs. Fright—had provided and laid out, in excellent order, a substantial knife-and-fork tea for nineteen guests, but there was one short! Mr. William Hovord was unable to keep his appointment at the last moment, and regrets were expressed at his absence. However, the party was on business bent, and although in a strange locality, there was ample and good business being done at each end of the table, presided over respectively by Mr. Thomas and his brother. Mr. John Mansfield, officiating for the nonce as Cumberlands' jester, kept the risible faculties of the guests in constant exercise, and the coy young damsel who ministered to their wants, after vain attempts to keep her countenance intact, was obliged to join in the general hilarity which prevailed. The company now divided itself into groups, some enjoying old English games, others the charms of a refined conversation, while the handbells were also brought into active use, and touches of Treble Bob Major and Stedman Caters were very well rung. One important arrangement devolved on Captain Thomas, and this was to properly billet his men. This being got through, and the roll being called, each man cheerfully obeyed orders, and did his duty by going straight off to Bedfordshire.

Sunday, 6 a.m.—As had been arranged the previous evening, breakfast was ready at this early hour, and fifteen of the party responded to the call by their presence at table, and both the chairman and vice did a brisk business among ham, eggs, coffee, etc. Some of the party had, before breakfast, been giving piquancy to their appetites by a bathe, while others only went as far as the shore, and were fain to be content with a mere sniff of the briny ocean. A start was soon made for Waterloo tower, and after about twenty minutes' walk through corn and hop fields, shady avenues, and the like, in the course of which we disturbed many of the usual biped and quadruped creatures found in such beautifully-wooded demesnes as that belonging to Squire Cotton—the owner of Quex Park—we came to a full view of the tower, a square brick building, having octangular pillars as buttresses at each angle, built in the Gothic style. On these pillars rests a massive four-pronged spire, made of iron, and just below the point where these legs intersect, and become the spire proper, there is an ornamental stage or platform, which is reached by an iron ladder. From here the visitor has a most elaborate view, both of land and water, rarely to be equalled, and it need hardly be added that the aid of a powerful marine glass would give enchantment to the view, and still further reveal the beauties of this vast and unlimited panorama. Internally, the tower is something like that of St. Peter Mancroft, and the circle of ropes is excellent. There are four floors, the one at the bottom being the ringing-room. Suspended in the centre of the first floor is a splendid specimen of a Burmese bell, and in a similar position on the next floor is a bell from Hindostan—each of them in good preservation. Above are the twelve bells, the four small ones by themselves, and the eight larger ones hanging on a level just below them. A curious feature may here be noticed. Immediately above the wheels and stays of the eight bells, and in front of the small ones, is a perforated, or trellis-work floor, and one may not only see, but may walk about over the bells while in full swing with perfect freedom from danger. The base of the tower is surrounded by buildings of the same style and character as the rest of the edifice. These are used as a museum, in which are stored implements of ancient and modern warfare, and various trophies, collected by the various heads of the Powell family from time to time in ages past.

The bells left rounds at 7.5 a.m., for Stedman Caters, and came round at 10.29 a.m., being 3 hrs. 24 mins. in the work of changes, as reported in our paper last week. In a few minutes after "stand" was called by the conductor, a visitor to the belfry was announced, and in walked the squire. He complimented the company upon the excellent ringing, and expressed his pleasure at seeing so many visitors to his tower, and desired to be supplied with a copy of "THE BELL NEWS," containing a full report of the proceedings. Mr. H. Thomas cheerfully promised to comply with this request. The squire explained that the two octagonal boxes lying on the floor were formerly used by his uncle—the late J. P. Powell, Esq.—when ringing the tenor. His visit concluded, he invited the ringers to take refreshment. But 'twas on the completion of this peal that our ideal of fancy and dream of years, was realized.

After the peal, a quiet stroll back to head quarters, and a stroll to the beach, brought dinner hour near, with the brothers Thomas at their respective positions at each end of the dinner table. Grace being devoutly said, the company fell to with great zest, and made a terrible onslaught on the good things provided, especially those of the party who failed to show up at the breakfast table—but we will not mention names this time. Dinner being over, a pair of wagonettes were in readiness for a trip to St. John's church, Margate, and the semi-marine drive thereto was indeed lovely. We were met at St. John's, Margate, by our guide, Mr. Reed, of Birchington, and Mr. Humboldt, of the amateur society of Margate. The very fair ring of bells here go very badly; scarcely ringable, certainly not pealable. However, touches of Treble Bob, Grandsire, and Stedman, were accomplished, particulars of which will be found in another column. Of course we could not leave this popular sea-side resort without visiting the pier, and here could be found all the fashionables and exquisites of the place, enjoying the breezes of the North Sea. If we were in the habit of telling tales, which we are not, we should say that it was the attractiveness of one or two specimens of the human form, so artistically decorated, that caused two of the juvenile members of the party to fail meeting at the hall by the sea at the appointed time, and to pay the penalty of walking home to Birchington in the dark. In the ringing-chamber, affixed to the walls, are two tablets: the one recording a peal of Triples, rung by the Quex Park society, in which the celebrated Shipway took part. We have no doubt about the authenticity of such a record, but the following sounds rather problematical: "Matthias Mummery, sexton, raised the tenor in twelve peals; 1787. Aged 67 years." If this where ever done, the tenor must have been a much lighter bell than the present one, which is given as 24 cwt. On leaving Margate we heard the following impromptu couplet:—

Adieu to Margate, also to the people,
Its bad-going bells, and slender-built steeple.

Early to bed was the order of the evening, and as soon as 5.0 a.m. on Monday morning found the Royal Cumberlands again enjoying a bathe, tumbling about in the water like so many young porpoises. When we arrived upon the scene, Messrs. Baron, Gardom, and the Hopkins Brothers were ringing a touch of Triples in hand, upon the beach. This sounded very prettily in such a situation. Before breakfast—arranged for a more seasonable hour, 8.0 a.m.—we, with a party paid a visit to the parish church of Birchington. Here we discovered a chapel attached to and forming part of the church, devoted solely to the Powell family. Beneath are the family stone-covered vaults, and memorial brasses, setting forth the names, etc., of those who sleep in the consecrated ground beneath, are here to be found. In one corner are two life-size recumbent figures, and the walls are nearly filled with marble and other mural slabs. Upon one we noticed that the late J. P. Powell, Esq., the founder of Waterloo tower and ring of bells, departed this life A.D. 1840, at the ripe age of 79 years. The inspection of a Bible 240 years old, recently recovered from under the seat of an old pew during some works of restoration, concluded our visit to this church.

Emerging from the churchyard, we espied a house of entertainment dedicated in honour of the Powell family, and known by the style and title of "The Powell Arms."

After breakfast, we had again to wend our way to the Waterloo tower, as the second part of the programme was to attempt a peal of Grandsire Caters, and this attempt was also successful, and will be found among the records of performances in last week's number of this paper. Here we may congratulate the brothers Thomas on having accomplished their first peal of Caters in such a romantic spot, and it should also be stated that Mr. William Coppage fell in for similar honours on the day previous. This peal completed the original programme, but it was not enough for some of the party, as after dinner they started for a peal of Treble Bob Major, which it was evident that sore hands had to do a deal with its coming to grief. While this was going on, the wiser portion of the party were enjoying a turn at the time-honoured game of "rounders." Waterloo tower is surrounded by lovely woods, which afford a natural cover for game of all kinds. Seated among the trees, we rang a good course of caters on

the handbells, which being performed in such a romantic spot, had the charm of novelty in a high degree. We then all repaired to host and hostess Fright, at the "New Inn," where at the tea table, the Cumberlands' jester was again to the fore, and kept us all alive by his irresistible fun. The time for departure had now arrived, and we bade adieu to Birchington, and the people, leaving several kind friends who we had made during our stay, the remembrance of whom, however, will be of long duration.

Shortly after arriving at the railway station, up came the London train, and as arrangements had again been made previously, we had little trouble in getting comfortably seated. We stepped out on to the platform at Victoria Station much pleased with the result of our visit, our old friend Coppage exclaiming, in the height of his exuberance, "Once more in old England!"

The greatest of the difficulties now devolve upon us, and that is to find suitable words to give expression to our feelings of thanks to H. S. Thomas, Esq. for his liberality on this occasion. In default we hope he will, with his usual kindness, accept the will for the deed in this instance, he has indeed the warmest thanks of the whole party, and in conclusion, we wish him and Mrs. Thomas a happy sojourn in Bournemouth during the next four weeks. ONE OF THE PARTY.

OUT OF TOWN.

I broke off last week while relating our entertainment by the Vicar of St. Andrew's, Derby, after the peal had been rung. We of course drank the worthy Vicar's (Rev. T. J. Lyall) health, which was duly honoured with musical accompaniment (vocal of course), and some very kind and pointed remarks were made regarding his appreciation of, as he himself observed, pluck. "Auld Lang Syne" ended another day. After arrangements were made to meet at St. Werburgh's for a peal the next evening, but owing to a misunderstanding, two of the band arrived just thirty minutes behind time, just in time to hear the bells being lowered. After some cavilling, about six of us ascended the tower and rang two peals, one a 720 of Treble Bob Minor, and the other a whole peal of Stedman Doubles, which ended that evening's adventures. Saturday, 1.10 p.m., we left Derby for the Midland Counties' Association meeting at Leicester, in company with the Revs. J. H. Fish, R. W. Pitt, and Messrs. W. Wakley and T. Holmes, all of Burton-on-Trent. In the course of time Leicester was reached, and so was the tower of St. Margaret's, a peal of ten, tenor about 30 cwt. in D. Here we took part in the first touch of the day, a 503 of Grandsire Caters, conducted by Mr. Buffery. From thence we proceeded to St. Mark's, Belgrave Gate, and here your humble servant succeeded in conducting a 546 of Grandsire Triples, composed by the illustrious George Marriott, who as everybody knows is determined to ring as long as the world stands, and who is now in his 73rd year. Other eager aspirants to bell-ringing fame from Nottingham having arrived, room was made for their accommodation by leaving the ropes in their hands, and the tower in their possession, but as we strolled listlessly on our way towards the prettily arranged Abbey Park, opened some three years ago by the Prince and Princess of Wales, we had the misfortune to hear two good attempts of Grandsire come to grief, which ended the ringing there for the day. After the meeting, which was fully described in these columns, and during which we met with some old Nottingham and Leicester friends, we repaired to the house of all houses in Leicester, the "Defiance" Inn, kept by that inimitable enthusiast and courteous gentleman, Mr. Stephen Cooper, a ringer of fair fame. Some pleasant humour and talk was here indulged in, intermixed with some good ale for the sons of Bacchus, and lemonade and other commodities for those who patronise not John Barleycorn. After a while another start was made for St. Margaret's, when some Stedman Caters being in requisition, was soon attempted, and as rapidly brought to grief. Mr. J. Wibberley, of Nottingham, then called a 503 of Grandsire Caters, and at its completion left with the Nottingham squadron for home, sweet home. Some little ringing was done up till past 9 p.m., when we again adjourned to the aforementioned inn. There the handbells were brought into requisition, and Mr. Cooper amused the company by reading some very curious extracts concerning different ringing feats, etc., which had been accomplished in the time of our forefathers.

Our departure for Derby now quickly approached, so we left our friend's house, but he did not leave us until we arrived at the station in Campbell Street, just in time. Bidding *au revoir*, long life and happiness, and all sorts of nice things to our Leicester friends, we rapidly left by train the platform behind us, in company with our Burton friends. Derby was reached about half past midnight, thus ending the octave of my visit.

Sunday, June 26th, 8.30., John Howe and I were again on our travels to Duffield, to ring for morning service, enjoying immensely the lovely scenery *en route*, and the fresh morning air. Having accomplished a distance of three miles from Derby it suddenly occurred to my colleague that a near cut was obtainable by crossing fields, and stiles in galore, as an Irishman would have it. So we started on the

job, as a native was not to be disputed regarding his knowledge of the topography of the vicinity. I implicitly trusted in his guidance, and leaving the beaten track he turned us down a sloping lane with a gradient of about one in thirty, which for the better maintenance of its level had been freshly strewn with furnace clinkers and pieces of broken bricks, my chagrin can be better imagined than described, at such a rocky road—though not to Dublin. Well, having overcome this first encounter, we took a bit of a hill for further progress, descending and coming close alongside that placid stream, the Derwent. On we went through a field of high grass, and now commenced the winter of our discontent, for the elements opened fire upon us in the shape of huge drops of rain, which continued until we reached the church. The last field we came through was one where the grass had recently been cut, and consequently we had a very good share of wet hay clinging to the legs of our trousers—so much for our near cut. We reached the belfry in rather doleful dumps, but were cheered with the presence of the chief, A. P. Heywood, Esq., to whom I was introduced. Ringing over we adjourned—as we had to catch an early train back to Derby, and as it still rained very hard—to the house of Mr. W. Hickling, one of the ringers. Soon after our arrival here the weather became fine, and the sun shining brilliantly, we left with a promise to meet again the following Tuesday. On Sunday evening a muffled peal was rung at St. Luke's, Derby, in which I took part, in memoriam of the founder of this church, this being an annual observance, the bells going as well as ever.

On Monday we met and rung Holt's ten-part, at St. Werburgh's, in three hours seventeen mins. These bells go like fiddles, and the appearance of the belfry reflects great credit on the powers that be, quite a contrast to the last time I visited it, looking then, like a good many others, like a dusthole badly kept.

Tuesday, the wife and I left Derby, on a visit to the workshops and railway, on Duffield Bank, the residence of A. P. Heywood, Esq., who had kindly given permission for us so doing, and who personally conducted us through the various sheds and workshops, explaining in detail everything which he thought would interest us. Here we found a narrow gauge railway, intact with engines, and carriages, including a Pullman car, on a small scale, capable of holding about twenty persons, signals and boxes, junctions, etc., on the block system, and stations, one amongst which is named refreshments. There is also a viaduct and a tunnel bored through solid rock. After leaving the workshops we were left in charge of Mr. Hickling, who conducted us over the Railway. It should be understood that everything connected with this railway emanates from the foundry and workshops on the premises, and is indulged in simply for pastime and amusement. We observed on each carriage an iron plate, inscribed "Heywood, Builder, Duffield." A number of designs and improvements in engineering, originating from this novel railway works, are being utilised by Her Majesty's Government in different parts of the globe, testifying at once their appreciation of the abilities of this clever gentleman engineer. Our never tiring examination of the above named curiosities being over, we slowly wended our way through the tastefully arranged garden adjacent to the house, and by way of the lodge exit, reached the road to the church, where practice was to be held at 7.30 p.m. Here Bob Triples and Major were indulged in until it was time for leaving, which we were obliged to do by voluntary compulsion, feeling very grateful for our day's enjoyment, and I must not omit the excellent tea provided at Mr. Hickling's, by his faithful spouse. We bid our Duffield friends a last fond adieu, and left by the 9.26 p.m. train.

On Wednesday, in company with Messrs. Howe and Woodward, I again visited Burton-on-Trent, for a peal of Kent Treble Bob, at St. Paul's church, but after ringing one hour forty-five mins. it came to grief. All went well, in fact it was splendid striking, until suddenly the tenor-man was missed from his box, and was seen hiding for safety behind the 7th. Conjecture upon conjecture arose in our minds regarding the suddenness of this surprise, and why he was performing such evolutions behind the 7th. I directed my eyes towards the door, expecting to see the shadow perhaps of one of his deceased relatives, but no such thing. Could he hear the slow beat of an infernal machine under the tenor-box? if so, why not inform us? Had his brace-buttons broke, and was he afraid of suddenly being divested of his habiliments? No; only a little piece of leather had put itself in the way of the hole in the floor under the bell, and had managed to act as a kind of break on the rope, this was the cause of the rupture to a good peal, and our expected realisations. The ringing room here is a spacious, well-lighted and well-kept compartment, and the tablets on the walls demonstrate that the ringers are of no mean order. Records of peals shine forth in black and gold, of Double Norwich, Superlative, Stedman, etc. After our misadventure we retired to the Railway Inn, and partook of a partly *hot* supper, consisting of onions, cheese, salad, and bread, which I believed was thoroughly enjoyed. Leaving by the 11.20 p.m. train, we were in Derby by midnight. Here I must again leave off, but I hope to conclude this veracious history of my adventures next week. O. P. Q.

"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, and performances under 5000 changes must reach us not later than Wednesday morning; and the insertion of any communication coming later than the first Postal delivery on Thursday morning cannot be guaranteed in that week's number. When it is found impossible from want of space to insert all touches forwarded, the earlier ones will have the preference.

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.

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

W. COOTER and G. DORRINGTON.—Everything received.

The Bell News & Ringers' Record.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 16, 1884.

WHEN the results of a famous week's work done by the society of St. Paul's, Burton-on-Trent, became known, we were told by many that it was effected chiefly by unity. The doctrine was at the same time propounded that any society, of average capabilities, could accomplish in the same time equal satisfactory results if they would adopt as their grand motto—unity, and carry into effect in their own neighbourhood the principles embodied in the word, in a thoroughly practical manner.

We do not lightly esteem the unity of the Burton-on-Trent ringers, or in fact any other company who strive to excel—when we say that the unity of the ringers of Wolstanton, Staffordshire, appears to us to surpass all we have ever heard of. Our last number contained an account of the re-opening of these bells after having had new trebles added, making now a ring of eight. There is nothing extraordinary in this, perhaps. But when we find that the society of ringers have raised about £150 towards the cost, we are certainly amazed, and read again the account of this re-opening to make certain we have not been mistaken. We have heard of influential members of the London societies giving trebles to two of the churches at which they rang, and chaining them up so that "the friendly opposition" should not use them. But men who did this were men of metal—as the poet DWIGHT would say—though the metal meant by us is precious from its frequent scarcity. Here, however, are a few ringers in an unimportant town in what is known as "the black country," practising with ardour on their peal of six, and yearning for more bells on which to show their prowess and skill. What is to be done? No doubt various contrivances presented themselves to their minds, but they actually appear to have hit upon the most practical one, to have "struck ile" as the Americans say. They

determined to place all their ringing fees to form a fund for the purpose, and this fund has been aided by proceeds from handbell entertainments and other legitimate sources. "The cost of improvement had been between £330 and £350," said a former vicar of Wolstanton, "and the ringers having voluntarily raised half the cost in order that the village might enjoy the beautiful peal of bells it now possessed, he considered it incumbent on the parishioners to remove the remaining liability." And we think the parishioners will echo that opinion.

No one will question the unity that exists among the company of ringers of Wolstanton. May it continue to be so. And would that such an example of unity be more extensively followed. Not that such an effect of unity as shown in the Wolstanton case can always be expected, but it may be held out as a good example of what the co-operation of each individual member of a society can do. It puts to shame the petty jealousies of place and paltry power which some ill-regulated and deformed minds hang to so tenaciously. Those who to have their own miserable way do not hesitate to destroy a society so that they may have sole control, should reflect upon the admirable organisation of the company we are alluding to. If one of them had displayed any overbearing conduct, or had attempted to pose as a being of an order superior to the rest of his ringing brethren, the augmentation of this peal would have been indefinitely postponed. But they have all well held together. And the inscription on the new tenor, recording the fact that it has been presented by the Wolstanton society, with the motto, "Perseverance will Ensure Success," and the names of the members of the company, is one which future generations of Wolstanton ringers may point out to the casual visitor with pride and satisfaction.

THE PARISH CHURCH OF ST. PETER, STOKE-UPON-TRENT.

THE ringers of the above church are glad to announce that through the benevolence of a few of the inhabitants of Stoke-upon-Trent, a sufficient sum has been raised to enable them to have the bells tuned. The peal was most unmusical, and as Mr. Greenleaf, from the firm of Messrs. Mears and Stainbank, was in the neighbourhood re-hanging and augmenting the Wolstanton bells, the opportunity was embraced to have the Stoke bells tuned by him, and he has done the work in a very satisfactory manner, and we hope ere long the rector and churchwardens will see their way clear to have the bells rehung, as the "go" of them at the present time is as bad as it is possible for them to be.

ST. MARY'S, BEDDINGTON, SURREY.

ON Monday, August 4th, the above company celebrated the Fifteenth Anniversary of the opening of the bells of the above church, when about forty visitors put in an appearance in the course of the day, noticeable among them being the old heavy-bell veteran, Mr. James Dwight, and Messrs. French, Hayes, and Langdon, of London; Alps and Thurgood (Waltham Abbey), Davidson (Tottenham), Burkin and Boniface (Bletchingley), Greenwood and Pell (Streatham) Randall and Doran (West Ham), Brookes (Leatherhead), Dr. Arthur Carpenter (Croydon), and several other well-known faces. Ringing commenced about 2.15, and was kept up till 9.0, touches being rung in the following methods: Grandsire, Stedman, Bob, and Union Triples, Grandsire and Stedman Caters, Bob and Treble Bob Major, and Treble Bob Royal. The members of the Beddington company kindly thank all those gentlemen who assisted to bring this Anniversary to a successful issue.

The Provinces.

THE MANCHESTER CATHEDRAL SOCIETY.
BLACKBURN, LANCASHIRE.

On Monday, August 4, 1884, in Three Hours and Twenty-five Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS, 5363 CHANGES;

Tenor 16½ cwt. in F.

THOMAS G. DOWNS Treble.	JOHN EACHUS 6.
GEORGE E. TURNER 2.	ALBERT E. WREAKS 7.
JOHN E. POLLITT 3.	GEORGE MEE 8.
SAMUEL WEST 4.	JOHN WITHERS 9.
JOSEPH GRIMSHAW 5.	JAMES PARKINSON Tenor.

Composed and conducted by ALBERT E. WREAKS.

This is supposed to be the first peal of Grandsire Caters ever rung in Blackburn, the last peal being one of Grandsire Triples, which was rung on May 24th, 1858, a tablet in the belfry recording the same.

MOTTRAM-IN-LONGDENDALE, CHESHIRE.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS, AND
THE ST. GEORGE'S SOCIETY, HYDE.

On Wednesday, August 6, 1884, in Two Hours and Fifty-two Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 12½ cwt.

ISAAC G. SHADE Treble.	JOHN FILDES 5.
BENJAMIN BROADBENT 2.	SAMUEL BRADLEY 6.
THOMAS BRADLEY 3.	THOMAS WILDE 7.
HENRY J. SHADE 4.	JAMES S. WILDE Tenor.

Composed by the late W. HARRISON of Mottram, and
Conducted by ISAAC G. SHADE.

Isaac G. Shade hails from Greenwich, and G. Broadbent from Ashton-under-Lyne, and is one of the band that rung in the long peal of 10,608 on the same bells.

BROMSGROVE, WORCESTERSHIRE.

On Tuesday, August 12, 1884, in Three Hours and Twenty-three Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH OF ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS, 5111 CHANGES;

Tenor 20 cwt.

GEORGE MORRIS Treble.	WILLIAM DUFFILL 6.
GEORGE BOURNE 2.	GEORGE HAYWARD 7.
THOMAS ALBUTT 3.	WALTER REA 8.
JAMES HINTON, SEN. 4.	REUBEN BROOMFIELD 9.
JAMES HINTON, JUN. 5.	JAMES PARRY Tenor.

Composed and conducted by GEORGE HAYWARD.

J. Hinton, sen. hails from Worcester, and J. Hinton jun., from Bristol.

Mr. E. Crump sat in the belfry and tapped J. Hinton, sen., who is totally deaf, and also marked off the peal as it was rung.

Date Touches.

THE MANCHESTER CATHEDRAL SOCIETY.

MANCHESTER.—On Thursday, July 31st, 1884, ten members of the above society rang at the Cathedral, a date touch of Grandsire Caters, containing 1884 changes, in 1 hr. 13 mins. T. G. Downs, 1; G. E. Turner, 2; S. Knights, 3; S. West, 4; J. E. Pollitt, 5; J. Thorpe, 6; J. Grimshaw, 7; G. Mee, 8; J. Eachus, 9; J. Parkinson, 10. Tenor 25 cwt. in Eb. This touch was composed by A. E. Wreaks, and conducted by J. Eachus.

HUNTSHAM (Devon).—On Monday, August 11th, at their usual weekly practice, the local company rang a date touch of 1884 Grandsire Triples, the composition of Miss E. Cruwys Sharland, of Tiverton, a lady associate member of the Devonshire Guild. W. Stocker, 1; H. Payne, 2; H. Tucker (conductor), 3; J. Norrish, 4; H. Redwood, 5; W. Heard, 6; J. Heard, 7; S. Davey, 8. Time 1 hr. 6 mins.

UFFORD (Suffolk).—On Saturday evening, August 2nd, six members of the local company rang a date touch of 1884 changes, in 1 hr. 7 mins., in the following methods: 720 Oxford Treble Bob, 720 Kent Treble Bob, and 444 Plain Bob. G. Bruch, 1; A. Achfield, jun., 2; E. Sherwood, 3; A. Ward, 4; W. P. Garrett, 5; W. A. Ward (conductor), 6.

Miscellaneous.

THE SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.

MARGATE (Kent).—On Sunday, August 30th, for Divine Service at St. John's church, a 224 of Kent Treble Bob Major was rung by Messrs. Nelms, Baron, Newson, Dains, Swain, Gardom, and Hopkins Brothers. Also a touch of Grandsire Triples, by Messrs. Baron, Gardom, Newson, Nelms, Swain, C. Hopkins, Ilsley and Wilder. This was followed by a touch of Stedman Triples by the first-mentioned party. These bells are not at all fit for ringing.

QUEX PARK, ISLE OF THANET (Kent).—On Monday, August 4th, at the Waterloo Tower, 3392 changes of Kent Treble Bob Major, in 2 hrs. and 4 mins. J. Mansfield, 1; J. Nelms, 2; C. Hopkins, 3; H. Swain, 4; H. Hopkins, 5; H. Dains, 6; A. H. Gardom, 7; G. Newson (conductor), 8. The changes performed were from Dains's 3-part peal, first rung at the Chapel of Ease, Islington, London.

THE ST. JAMES'S SOCIETY.

LEWISHAM (Kent).—On Monday, August 4th, eight members of the above Society attempted a peal of Grandsire Triples at St. Mary's church, but after ringing 2 hrs. and 40 mins. it came to grief, owing to a shift course. William H. George, 1; Frederick W. Thornton, 2; Harry Flanders, 3; William Weatherstone, 4; George R. Banks, 5; Abraham G. Freeman, 6; William H. Freeman, 7; George Thatcher, 8. Conducted by A. G. Freeman. Tenor 22½ cwt. in E.

On Thursday, August 7th, eight members of this society attempted a peal of Grandsire Triples at St. George's, Camberwell, but owing to a mishap, the bells were brought home at the half-peal end, in 1 hr. 26 mins. J. Hannington, 1; R. Mackman (Spalding), 2; G. Griffin, 3; A. Jacob, 4; J. Barry, 5; T. Titchener, 6; G. Newson (conductor), 7; W. Matthews, 8. Tenor 14 cwt.

ASHFORD (Kent).—On Monday, August 4th, eight members of the above Society visited this place, and by kind permission of the Rev. Canon Alcock, started for a peal of Grandsire Triples, but after ringing 1 hr. 25 mins., a shift course occurred, and "stand" was immediately called. However, another start was made for Holt's 6-part peal, which also met the same fate. Owing to some one being ill, and the bells going so long, the vicar sent word for them to stop, which they accordingly did after 1 hr. 15 mins. good ringing. The following were the ringers. J. Waghorn, jun., 1; J. Waghorn, sen., 2; N. N. Hills, 3; H. G. Fairbrass, 4; A. Moorcraft, 5; F. G. Newman (conductor), 6; Sam. Snelling, 7; G. Moorcraft, 8. Tenor 24 cwt. in D. After descending the tower, a move was made to the Whitfield Hall, where, through the kindness of G. Furleigh, Esq., a substantial meat tea had been provided. Here they were joined by Mr. John Laker, Mr. Day of Ashford, and Mr. Frederick Finn, of Mersham, and after doing justice to the good things provided, and the usual toasts, etc., a start was made for Mersham, four miles across a beautiful country, which was reached in about an hour, and by kind permission of the Rev. R. B. Knatchbull-Hugessen, a start was made for Reeves's 10-part peal of Grandsire Triples, but it unfortunately came to grief on reaching the half-way single. J. Waghorn, jun., 1; N. N. Hills, 2; A. Moorcraft, 3; J. Waghorn, sen., 4; H. G. Fairbrass, 5; F. G. Newman (conductor), 6; Sam. Snelling, 7; G. Moorcraft, 8. Tenor 13 cwt. in F#.

THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

BEDFORD.—On Tuesday, July 29th, for practice at St. Paul's church, a 672 of Bob Major. S. Cullip, 1; C. W. Clarke (conductor), 2; W. Hall, 3; C. West, 4; W. Biggs, 5; J. Atkins, 6; J. Frossell, 7; I. Hills, 8. And on Thursday, July 31st, on the occasion of a wedding, the first part of Reeves's Variation, 560 changes, in 22 mins. W. Allan, 1; C. W. Clarke (conductor), 2; W. Hall, 3; C. West, 4; S. Cullip, 5; J. Atkins, 6; J. Frossell, 7; F. Keech, 8. Also a 504 in the same method. M. Warrick, 1; S. Cullip, 2; W. Hall, 3; C. West, 4; W. Biggs, 5; J. Atkins, 6; C. W. Clarke (conductor), 7; J. Frossell, 8.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

CHESTER-LE-STREET.—On Sunday, August 9th, six members from St. Peter's, Jarrow, rang at this place eight 6-scores of Grandsire, and four of Bob Doubles, each called differently, in 58 mins. A. English, 1; F. Harrison (conductor), 2; W. Henderson, 3; J. Chapman, 4; J. Campbell, 5; Rev. F. N. Thicknesse, 6. Tenor 20 cwt. The ringers wish, through this paper, to give their thanks to the vicar and ringers for their kindness and use of the bells.

ASSOCIATION FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.

LICHFIELD.—On Sunday evening, August 10th, at St. Michael's church, five members of the above Association, with Mr. Thos. Silvester, of Anston, Yorkshire, who is also a member of the Yorkshire Association, rang a 720 of Bob Minor in 27 mins. Thos. Silvester, 1; F. Sedgwick, 2; T. Meredith, 3; H. Meacham, 4; F. Cope, 5; A. Greenwood, 6. Tenor 11 cwt. in A.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

DEDHAM (Essex).—*Muffled Peals*.—On Friday, August 8th, six members of the above Association met and rang with the bells deeply muffled, a 15-score of Bob Minor, and then with the bells half-muffled, a 720 of Bob Minor. J. Taylor (conductor), 1; G. Smith, 2; W. Smith, 3; W. Watson, 4; J. Starling, 5; W. Nevard, 6. This was rung as a last token of respect to Mr. Thomas Saunders, who was in 80th year, and was one of the oldest ringers in Dedham, also the one that rang the 5th bell to the four long peals: First peal on January 25th, 1843, was 5264 changes of Bob Major; Second, December 6th, 1843, was 5280 of Oxford Treble Bob; Third, March 27th, 1844, was 5120 of Oxford Treble Bob; Fourth, March 19th, 1845, was 5088 of Kent Treble Bob. There was also a 720 of Treble Bob Minor, rung by a band who were all named Saunders, in 1844.

ROMFORD (Essex).—*Chiming*.—On Sunday evening, August 10th, 720 Kent Treble Bob. A. J. Perkins, 1-2-3-4; B. Keeble, 5-6.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

ALDINGTON (Kent).—On Sunday, August 3rd, 1884, after Divine Service in the afternoon at St. Martin's church, a 720 of Bob Minor, with twenty-two singles and eight bobs, in 28 mins. Frank Wanstall, 1; David Hodgkin, 2; Fred Wanstall, 3; Edward Hyder, 4; William Hyder (conductor), 5; Philip Hodgkin, 6. The above was rung in honour of the christening of the infant son of Captain Charles James Blomfield (the rector's second son), being the first known to have been named after this parish, Miles Aldington Blomfield being the name given him.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

CAVERSHAM (Oxon).—On Sunday, August 10th, a 720 of Plain Bob Minor, in 27 mins. *G. Essex, 1; Rev. G. F. Coleridge, 2; *S. Paice, 3; J. Potter, 4; H. Egby, 5; †T. Newman (conductor), 6. *First 720 in this method. †First 720 as conductor. Also two 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles, to try some new hands in the art. J. Buttler, 1; G. Essex, 2; E. Menday, 3; T. Newman, 4; E. Pottinger (conductor), 5; J. Hands, 6. Tenor about 16 cwt.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

GRASSENDALE, NEAR LIVERPOOL (Lancashire).—On Tuesday evening, August 5th, at St. Mary's church, the local company, assisted by Mr. S. Gough, of Garston, met for the purpose of ringing a peal to celebrate the marriage of a brother ringer, viz., Mr. T. Morris, to Miss Jane Edwards, of Garston. After a few minutes at rounds and firing, some good striking was done for the period of 27 mins., viz.: 720 changes in the Grandsire method. After a little more firing, touches, etc., "stand" was called, and the whole of the team adjourned to "Our Friends," and the hearty good wishes of all was drunk to the newly-married couple. The ringers were as follows: S. Gough, 1; J. Alexander, 2; C. Newton, 3; W. Weaver, 4; S. Atkins, 5; F. Turner (conductor), 6. Tenor 18 cwt.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

GUISELEY (Yorks.).—On Sunday, August 10th, for Divine Service in the evening at St. Oswald's church, the local company rang a 720 of Violet Treble Bob in 26 mins. O. Frankland, 1; S. Brown, 2; H. Demaine (first 720 in the method), 3; J. Yeadon, 4; J. Baldwin (conductor), 5; D. E. Rhodes, 6. Tenor 10½ cwt.

AUGHTON (Lancashire).—On Friday evening, August 1st, five members of the local company, and three of the late ringers of Ormskirk parish church rang a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, at Christ Church, in 45 mins. John Taylor, 1; James Eastham, 2; Robert Foster, 3; William Fairclough (conductor), 4; George Larkey, 5; James Leatherbarrow, 6; Nathan Spencer, 7; Henry Cave (age 72), 8. Tenor 16 cwt.

BOLTON (Lancashire).—On Wednesday, August 6th, eight members of the All Souls' society rang at that church their first 500 of Grandsire Triples, in 17 mins. John Curtis (conductor), 1; W. Smith, 2; W. Farnworth, 3; Wm. Hodson, 4; A. Crankshaw, 5; T. Honeyford, 6; P. Pilling, 7; R. Devenport, 8. Tenor 23½ cwt. in E.

BOURNEMOUTH (Hants).—On Thursday, July 31st, at St. Peter's church, for practice, a 336 of Grandsire Triples. A. Grist, 1; H. Vivash, 2; C. Staden, 3; W. W. Gifford (Salisbury), 4; T. Green (conductor), 5; H. Merritt, 6; J. Rumsey, Esq. (Cumberland Youth), 7; T. Belbin, 8. Also another 336 by the same band, called differently.

CASTLE DONINGTON (Leicestershire).—On Thursday, August 7th, six members of the local company rang six 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles, each called differently. W. Fowkes, 1; J. Hutchby, 2; E. Lees, 3; J. Fowkes, 4; V. Hickenbottom, 5; W. Frakes, 6. Tenor 17½ cwt.

CAVERSHAM (Oxon).—On Sunday evening, August 3rd, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor, in 25½ mins. *E. Pottinger, 1; W. Billingham, 2; J. Parker (conductor, Farnham Royal), 3; *T. Newman, 4; A. Fussell (Farnham Royal), 5; H. Egby, 6. Also another 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor, in 25½ mins. *G. Gibbard, 1; A. Fussell, 2; J. Parker (conductor), 3; T. Newman, 4; H. Egby, 5; Rev. G. F. Coleridge, 6. *First 720 in the method.

EASTBOURNE (Sussex).—On Friday evening, August 8th, for practice, the first part of a variation of a bob-and-single peal of Grandsire Triples (3rd the observation), taken from Troyte's work. *Thos. Willoughby, 1; H. P. Bennett, 2; Frederick Harding (conductor), 3; Leonard Huggett, 4; Thos. Hunnisett, 5; James Potter, 6; Thos. Hart, 7; Jos. Lewis, 8. *A member of the Christ Church (Eastbourne), band, first touch in the method. Also on Sunday evening, August 10th, for Divine Service, a well struck 560 of Grandsire Triples. A. Newman, 1; H. P. Bennett, 2; Thos. Hunnisett, 3; Leon Huggett, 4; Fred. Harding, 5; James Potter, 6; Thos. Hart, 7; Jas. Lewis, 8. Conducted by Leon Huggett.

GLOSSOP (Derbyshire).—On Sunday evening, August 3rd, for Divine Service at the parish church, a mixed band rang a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples, 1260 changes, in 44 mins. J. S. Wilde, 1; R. Prichard, 2; G. Longden, 3; H. J. Shade, 4; J. Thorpe, 5; I. G. Shade (conductor), 6; S. Bennett, 7; T. Wilde, 8. This is the longest length in the method on these bells. Tenor 15 cwt.

HADLEIGH (Suffolk).—On Tuesday, August 5th, on the occasion of a wedding taking place, a start was made to ring a 720 of Bob Minor on the back six, but owing to the 5th going so bad, they were called home at the eighteenth score. G. Scowen, 1; G. Bateman, 2; J. Scowen, 3; W. Bateman, 4; W. Nevard, 6; W. Smith (conductor), 6. W. Nevard hails from Great Bentley, Essex; W. Smith, Higham, Suffolk, the rest are local men.

HAVERSTOCK HILL (Middlesex).—On Sunday, August 3rd, after Divine Service, a 720 of Plain Bob in 25 mins. J. Freemantle, 1; G. Griffin, 2; T. Titchener (conductor), 3; E. Moses, 4; A. Jacob, 5; G. Greys, 6. Also on Wednesday, August 6th, a 720 of Plain Bob (Penning's), with twenty bobs and two singles, in 25 mins. J. Freemantle, 1; A. Jacob, 2; J. Hannington (conductor), 3; J. Barrett, 4; G. Griffin, 5; T. Titchener, 6. Tenor 12½ cwt.

HIGHGATE (Middlesex).—On Tuesday, August 5th, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor was rung at St. Anne's church. Newland Alderman, 1; Thos. Gleed, 2; G. Griffin, 3; Wingfield Meadows, 4; Thos. Titchener, 5; George Newson (conductor), 6. Also on Saturday, August 2nd, an attempt was made to ring a peal of Double Norwich Court Bob Major, but when only four more courses remained to be rang the 4th cast her rope, and remained immovable. Benjamin Foskett, 1; James Hannington, 2; Arthur Jacob, 3; John Gobbett, 4; Thos. Titchener, 5; Wingfield Meadows, 6; Edward Chapman, 7; George Newson (conductor), 8.

HORNSEY (Middlesex).—On Sunday, August 10th, for Divine Service, two 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles, and a 360 of Plain Bob. J. Ward, 1; W. H. Fussell, 2; E. Strange, 3; G. B. Lucas, 4; T. Titchener (conductor), 5; G. Griffin, 6. After service a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor, with fifteen bobs, in 23 mins. G. B. Lucas, 1; E. Strange, 2; J. Hannington (conductor), 3; W. H. Fussell, 4; T. Titchener, 5; G. Griffin, 6. Also a 720 Plain Bob (twenty bobs and ten singles), in 24½ mins. J. Freemantle, 1; J. Hannington (conductor), 2; E. Strange, 3; G. B. Lucas, 4; W. H. Fussell, 5; T. Titchener, 6. Also two 6-scores of Stedman Doubles. W. H. Fussell, 1; E. Strange, 2; G. Griffin, 3; J. Hannington, 4; T. Titchener, 5; —, 6. Tenor 17½ cwt.

LIVERPOOL.—*Handbell Ringing*.—On Tuesday, July 22nd, at the house of Mr. T. Beacall, Lark Lane 936 of Grandsire Caters. T. Beacall, 1-2; R. S. Mann, 3-4; W. James, 5-6; J. R. Pritchard (conductor), 7-8; W. Davies, 9-10. Also 540 of Bob Royal. T. Beacall, 1-2; R. S. Mann, 3-4; W. James, 5-6; J. Aspinwall, 7-8; J. R. Pritchard (conductor), 9-10. And a course of Grandsire Cinques. W. Davies ringing the tenors. And on Tuesday, August 12th, 1026 of Grandsire Caters. T. Beacall, 1-2; R. S. Mann, 3-4; W. James, 5-6; J. Aspinwall, 7-8; J. R. Pritchard (conductor), 9-10. Also a 558 of the same method. J. Aspinwall (conductor), 1-2; R. S. Mann, 3-4; W. James, 5-6; J. R. Pritchard, 7-8; J. Davidson, 9-10.

HUSBORNE CRAWLEY (Beds).—This fine ring of bells having recently been put into ringing order by Messrs. John Taylor and Co., Loughborough, a party of change-ringers, members of the Bedfordshire Association, with others, attended at the above place and rang a 720 of Bob Minor, in 25 mins., prior to the departure of the bell-hangers. J. C. Cook (Aspley Guise), 1; E. Smith (Loughborough), 2; M. Lane (Aspley Guise), 3; W. Chibnall (Aspley Guise), 4; W. Biggs (Bromham), 5; I. Hills (Bedford), 6. Among the practising members were the Rev. J. C. Maltby, Aspley Guise, Mr. C. Herbert, Woburn, and Mr. G. Usher, of Aspley Guise.

HYDE (Cheshire).—On Sunday morning, August 3rd, for Divine Service, the local company, with Messrs. Shade, of Greenwich, rang a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, 1260 changes, at St. George's church, in 38 mins. J. Shaw, 1; J. S. Wilde, 2; I. G. Shade, 3; R. Woolley, 4. H. J. Shade (conductor), 5; S. Bennett, 6; T. Wilde, 7; D. Legh, 8. And on Tuesday evening, August 5th, for practice, a quarter-peal of Kent Treble Bob Major, 1280 changes, in 46 mins. I. G. Shade (conductor), 1; R. Prichard, 2; H. Rostron, 3; H. J. Shade, 4; J. Fildes, 5; S. Bradley, 6; T. Wilde, 7; S. Bennett, 8. Tenor 15 cwt.

LONDON.—Muffled Peal.—On Thursday evening, July 31st, eight members of the St. George's-in-the-East society rang upon the bells of that church, a muffled peal, as a mark of respect to the memory of the late Mr. J. May, a member of the above society, who died on the 25th ult., after a lingering illness, aged 38 years, greatly regretted by all who knew him. W. Moles, 1; R. Cook, 2; W. Scholes, sen., 3; E. Wallage, 4; H. Brand, 5; W. Clow, 6; J. Scholes, jun., 7; R. Lewis, 8. Conducted by W. Moles.

LONDON.—Muffled Peal.—On Friday evening, August 2nd, eight members of the St. Botolph (Aldgate) Society, rang at that church, with the bells deeply muffled as a token of respect to the memory of the late Mr. John May, a late member of this society, who died on the 24th ult., comprising rounds and changes corresponding with the age of the deceased. The ringers stood as follows: Walter Williamson, 1; James Marshall, 2; William Scholes, 3; Henry Brand, 4; Samuel Strutt, 5; William Gray, 6; William Clow, 7; James Scholes, 8.

LONG MELFORD (Suffolk).—On Thursday, July 31st, at Holy Trinity church, a 720 of Bob Minor. C. G. Hammond, 1; S. Slater, 2; O. Read, 3; Z. Slater, 4; P. O. Bixby, 5; O. Garwood (conductor), 6. Also a 720 of Bob Minor. C. G. Hammond, 1; S. Slater, 2; P. O. Bixby, 3; P. C. Scott, 4; Z. Slater, 5; O. Garwood (conductor), 6.

PONTEFRAC (Yorkshire).—On Sunday evening, July 27th, eight members of the local company rang a touch of 882 Grandsire Triples, at St. Giles' church, in 33 mins. J. Smithies, 1; J. Pollard, 2; H. Spurr, 3; S. Brook, 4; R. Savile, 5; W. Pearson (conductor), 6; J. Carter, 7; J. Walker, 8. Also on Monday, July 28th, it being the 400th anniversary of the incorporation of Pontefract, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples was attempted, which unfortunately came to grief, through a miscall, after ringing 1078 changes. J. Smithies, 1; J. Pollard, 2; H. Spurr, 3; S. Brook, 4; J. Walker, 5; Geo. Booth, 6; W. Pearson (conductor), 7; E. Waterton, 8. Tenor 16 cwt. in E. Messrs. J. Carter, J. Pollard, and W. Pearson belong to the All Saints' company.

STANDISH (Lancashire).—On Saturday evening, August 9th, a 720 of Bob Minor, in 26 mins. Dennis Booth (conductor), 1; Thomas Walker, 2; John Grounds, 3; William Croston, 4; Alfred Simm, 5; James Higson, 6. Tenor 11½ cwt. Messrs. Higson and Croston hail from Blackrod; the others from Standish.

TERRINGTON (Norfolk).—Recently, a 720 of Bob Minor, with nine bobs and six singles, in 30 mins. H. Easton, 1; R. Howling, 2; J. Green, 3; J. T. Seccombe, Esq., 4; J. Herring, 5; T. Blackburn (conductor), 6. Tenor 14 cwt.

TOTTENHAM (Middlesex).—On Tuesday, July 29th, for practice, a 360 of Grandsire Minor. W. Richards, 1; E. F. Cole, Esq., 2; E. F. Strange (conductor), 3; J. Trappitt, 4; H. A. Barnett, 5; W. P. English, 6. Tenor 20 cwt.

WELLINGBOROUGH (Northants).—On Monday, August 4th, by kind permission of the Ven. Archdeacon Lightfoot, the company of ringers from St. Paul's, Bedford, rang a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples at the parish church. C. West, 1; W. Biggs, 2; W. Hall, 3; S. Cullip, 4; C. W. Clarke (conductor), 5; J. Atkins, 6; J. Frossell, 7; J. Hill, 8. Tenor 30 cwt. in Ep. This is the first change-ringing on these bells, since the peal was increased to eight. The townsfolk were much pleased with the music, and the Bedford men were equally pleased with the reception accorded to them. G. H. Burnham Esq., vicar's churchwarden, very kindly contributed 10s. towards the visitors' expenses.

OPENING OF A NEW PEAL OF BELLS AT THE ROYAL TOWN OF SUTTON, WARWICKSHIRE.

On Saturday, August 2nd, 1884, a mixed band of ringers from Birmingham and Erdington visited the royal town of Sutton, with the intention of ringing the opening peal on the new peal of bells erected in the parish church by Messrs. Taylor and Co., of Loughborough.

Arriving there about three o'clock, and having obtained admission to the church, an ascent was at once made to the belfry and bell-chamber. Perhaps it would not be uninteresting to note that in 1795 the Corporation of Sutton presented to the parish church a peal of six, cast and erected by the equally well-known firm of Mears and Stainbank. From that year until the present time these bells were never rehung or overhauled, and consequently they were quite unpealable. A short time ago Messrs. Taylor and Co. were consulted as to what was best to be done, and finally arrangements were made whereby four of the old bells were recast and two new trebles added, thus completing the octave. So far as the general tone of the new bells, and the unison of tone with the two old bells which were not recast is concerned, everything is perfectly satisfactory, but the general arrangement of the hanging cannot be said to be so. The ropes are entirely out of circle. No doubt this has been occasioned by making use of the old frame, without alteration, in hanging six of the new bells, but it would have been much better to have altered the old frame, or erected an entirely new one, so that a good circle might have been obtained, as there is a superabundant space in which this very essential, and almost imperative arrangement might have been carried out to its fullest extent. The two trebles are hoisted, and the ropes are brought so close to the wall that a strictly perpendicular attitude must be maintained if these bells are to be rung, which, to say the least, is exceedingly uncomfortable. No doubt these and other wants of reparation will be attended to, so we will pass on to an account of the ringing.

After raising the bells, adjusting ropes and other preliminaries, a start was made for Holt's ten-part, with two for the tenor, taking it in turns, so as to make quite sure if possible of getting the peal, but in this we were disappointed, for too much labour was entailed in ringing the back bells, and the conductor seeing this, asked just before the half-way single, "Will you have the other half?" but receiving a reply in the negative, the bells were brought round at half-way (2520 changes), after ringing exactly one hour and thirty-six minutes. *J. Carter (conductor), 1; *W. Baldwin, 2; †J. Binns, 3; *J. Callaghan, 4; †J. Plant, 5; *J. T. Perry, 6; *T. Miller, 7; †J. Murphy, and †B. Dunleary, 8. After lowering the bells in peal, an adjournment was made to a place of refreshment, where the remainder of the evening was spent in a very pleasant manner, amid touches and tunes on the handbells, songs, etc. The ringers desire to express their thanks, through the medium of this paper, to the Vicar, churchwardens, and to the steeple-keeper, for their kind and courteous attention on the occasion of their visit.

*Members of the Birmingham Amalgamated Society; †Members of the Holt Society, Aston, Erdington branch.

ST. BOTOLPH, ALDGATE, AND PORTSOKEN WARD SOCIETY, LONDON.

The annual dinner and excursion of this society took place on Bank Holiday to Southend-on-Sea. The members went by an early train, and having breakfasted together, repaired to Prittlewell by conveyances which were in waiting. Various touches were rung, each time by different members, also by request one more with two prominent local ringers, viz.: Mr. Stephen Saunders, and Mr. William Bedwell (conductor). The Aldgate society's performances were conducted by Mr. Walter Williamson, a prominent member of St. Botolph's (Bishopsgate) Society. Returning to Mr. Coote's well-known establishment, all members and visiting members and their friends sat down to a most substantial dinner, and justice having been done and all being satisfied, the toasts of "The Vicar," "The Churchwardens," "The Society of Prittlewell," and "The Society of St. Botolph, Aldgate," were heartily drank. The bonus of the Society was then distributed, and all members dispersed with their friends for pleasure, returning to Fenchurch Street after a good day's enjoyment.

SKELTON-IN-CLEVELAND, YORKSHIRE.

A handsome new church has lately been built in this village. The massive square tower contains a peal of six bells (tenor 22 cwt.), cast by Taylor of Loughborough. It will be by far the heaviest peal in the district. W. H. Wharton, Esq., of Skelton Castle, bears the cost of the tower and bells. The church (the largest and finest in the district) is to be opened on the 14th of October.

VISIT OF RINGERS TO READING.

On Saturday, August 2nd, three of the Farnham Royal company paid a visit to the town of Reading, viz:—Messrs. J. J. Parker, J. Basden, and A. C. Fussell. They were met at the Mitre Inn—which is kept by Mr. W. Newell, a brother string—by Messrs. Egby, Newman, Hopgood, Pottinger, etc., where some Treble Bob Minor, Stedman Doubles, and a course or two of Grandsire Triples, double-handed, were rung on the handbells, to a crowded audience. On Sunday, an early meeting at Caversham was arranged; and for a short time before morning service, Treble Bob and Stedman were indulged in. Meeting again at St. Mary's, Reading, in the afternoon, some first-rate touches of Triples were brought round. The ringers here were R. Hopgood, R. Swain, Geo. Gibbard, A. Fussell, J. J. Parker, J. Basden, J. Dart, T. Harvey, H. Egby, etc., etc. Caversham was again the rendezvous in the evening, where the ringers were agreeably surprised by the sudden appearance of an old Reading friend, Mr. W. Billingham, of Loughborough, who is a member of the Yorkshire Association. A 720 of Treble Bob Minor was rung in 26½ mins. E. Pottinger, 1; W. Billingham, 2; J. J. Parker (conductor), 3; T. Newman, 4; A. C. Fussell, 5; H. Egby, 6. This is the first 720 of Treble Bob on the bells. And another 720 in the same method, in 25½ mins. Geo. Gibbard, 1; A. C. Fussell, 2; J. J. Parker (conductor), 3; T. Newman, 4; H. Egby, 5; Rev. G. F. Coleridge, 6.

The Reading members of the Oxford Diocesan Guild would be pleased to be able to welcome their Farnham brethren a little oftener.

HOLY TRINITY SOCIETY, BOLTON, LANCASHIRE.

The company of ringers of the above church, accompanied by their wives and friends, journeyed by the National Independent Order of Odd Fellows' trip to York, by the Lancashire and Yorkshire Railway, on Saturday, August 2nd. On their arrival a good breakfast was in readiness, through the kindness of the ringers of York Minster. After the repast, a wagonette being in readiness, a drive was made to Bishophill, where there is a ring of six bells. Here was rung a 720 of Grandsire Minor, by H. W. Jackson, 1; H. Bentley, 2; J. H. Jackson, 3; T. E. Turner, 4; W. Marsden, 5; W. Hamer, 6. A drive round the city followed, observing the various places of interest, thence on to the village church of Clifton, where, by the kind permission of the Vicar, they were enabled to have a few short touches, J. Lister ringing the 2nd, and R. Lindley the tenor. The party then drove into the city, and after having dinner proceeded to the grand old Minster, where they attended afternoon service, and by the kindness of the Dean, rang several touches on the splendid ring of twelve, cast by the grand old firm of Mears and Stainbank, of London. The whole company were highly pleased with the tone and go of the bells. The company then wended their way to the railway station, and arrived in Bolton soon after ten of the clock, highly pleased with their excursion.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION AND THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.—BRAINTREE.

The following is the ringing done by the Braintree company during the month of July:—

July 1st: 720 of New London Pleasure; July 4th: 720 of Kent Treble Bob, 720 of Oxford Treble Bob, 240 of College Exercise, 240 of Oxford Treble Bob; July 5th: 720 of Superlative; July 6th: 108 of Bob Minor, 240 of Oxford Treble Bob; July 12th: 720 of London Surprise; July 13th: 720 of Woodbine, 720 of College Exercise, 144 of College Exercise; July 17th: 720 of Woodbine, 720 of Cambridge Surprise, 720 of New London, 120 of Cambridge Surprise, 504 of Kent, 120 of Bob Minor; July 19th: 720 of Imperial; July 20th: 720 of Oxford Delight, 720 of Violet, 180 of Bob Minor, 120 of New London; July 22nd: 720 of Double Bob Minor, 720 of Grandsire Minor, 120 of London Surprise; July 27th: 720 of Cambridge Surprise, 240 of London Surprise; July 29th: 720 of Oxford Delight, 720 of College Exercise.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—The Rev. R. W. Pitt, Hon. Sec. of this Association, requests that all communications may be addressed to The Grove, Scarning, East Dereham, until August 29th; after that to 36, St. Paul's Street West, Burton-on-Trent.

CASTLE CAMPS, CAMBRIDGESHIRE.

At the invitation of the Rector, the Rev. Ed. L. Pearson, the Saffron Walden ringers visited this place on Friday evening, August 1st. On their arrival, they were met by the local band, and were cordially received by the Rector. After an hasty inspection of the interior of the church, a move was made to the tower, which contains a musical peal of five bells, tenor about 16 cwt. Sir Edmund Beckett has frequently rung here, and has said of the bells that they are one of the best peals of five in the country. Several 120s of Grandsire, Plain Bob, and Stedman, were rung by the visitors, and touches of Grandsire were also rung by the local band, who, we are pleased to say, are going heartily to work in the science. On this occasion, "THE BELL NEWS" was first brought to the notice of this young band, who we hope may become regular subscribers. When the bells were ceased, the ringers adjourned to the school-room, where by the kindness of the Rector, a capital supper awaited them. After justice had been done to the good things provided, the handbells were brought out, and a course of Grandsire and Stedman Triples, and a course of Grandsire Caters were rung.

This closed a very pleasant meeting, for which the visitors tender their best thanks to the worthy Rector, who is a lover of bells, and judging from his remarks and questions, would soon become an expert in change-ringing, and the local band is to be congratulated on having a Rector who takes such an interest in its welfare. We hope soon to hear that the ring will be augmented to six bells, thus giving more scope in the science and additional pleasure to the ringers and parishioners.

ST. PETER'S (R.C.) CHURCH, CARDIFF.

The ceremony of a solemn benediction of a peal of bells for a Roman Catholic church took place at St. Peter's church, Cardiff, on Wednesday, July 30th. The bells, a ring of eight, were cast by Messrs. Llewellyns and James, Bristol. They are an excellent peal, weighing on the whole five tons. Of the eight, five are maiden bells. These were suspended in the eastern end of the church for consecration, a ceremony which was performed by the Bishop. The choir attended, and they, with the clergy, recited several special psalms, all expressing the strongest confidence in Divine goodness. Then followed the blessing of the bells, by washing them with water with which salt is mingled. The washing was done by the Bishop and his assistants, while the priests in turn wiped them dry with clean linen cloths, during which time the Psalms from 96 to 100 were recited by the clergy and the choir. The bishop made the sign of the cross outside each bell with the holy oil used for the sick seven times, and also on the inside. Burning incense was then placed under each bell, which were struck with the hammers used for chiming, and the Deacon, during this time, sang the gospel, which was taken from the 10th chapter of St. Luke. Each bell bears a name, which is cast with it and these names represent some of the chief Roman Catholic saints—SS. Peter, Paul, Jacob, Johanne, George, David, Patrick, and Brigida. In the evening, service was held in the church, and the sermon, dwelling on the origin and use of bells in connection with Divine worship, was delivered by the Rev. Father Driffield. The congregation was rather limited. The tower in which the bells are to be hung is not yet completed, and will be, as soon as possible, surmounted with a broached parapet and turrets, for which plans have been prepared by Mr. Hurley, the architect of the works.

THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.—The Kingston members of this Association will pay a visit to Woolwich on Monday, August 18th, about eleven o'clock, and will be glad to meet any brother-ringers. A peal will be attempted.

St. George's chapel, Windsor, will be closed from Monday, August 25th, to Saturday, September 6th, in order that the screen and scaffolding used during the restoration may be removed, and the nave prepared for re-opening. Several cracks have appeared in the richly-groined ceiling of the nave.

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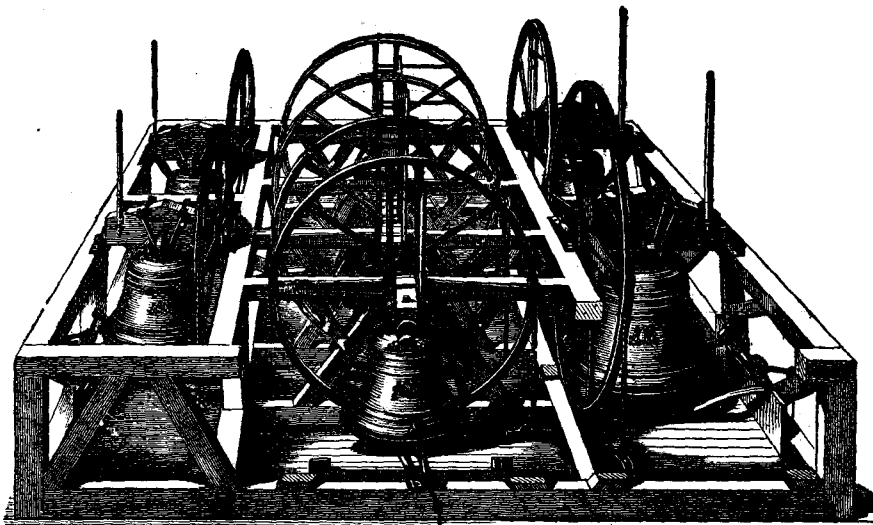
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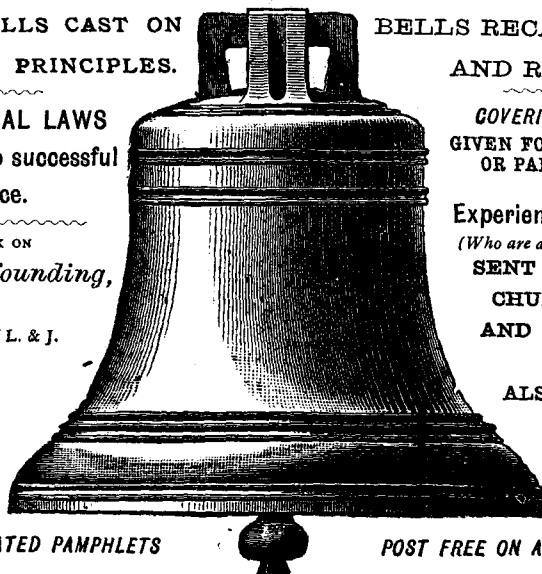
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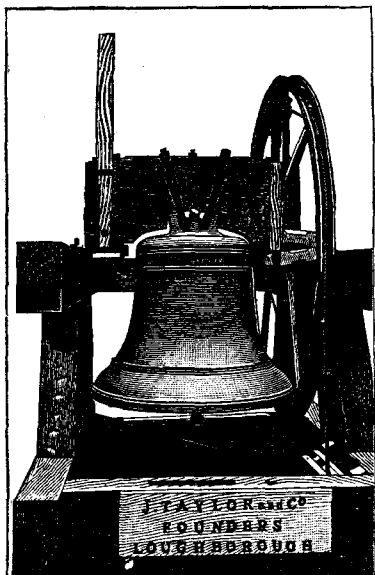
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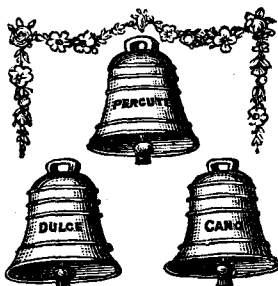
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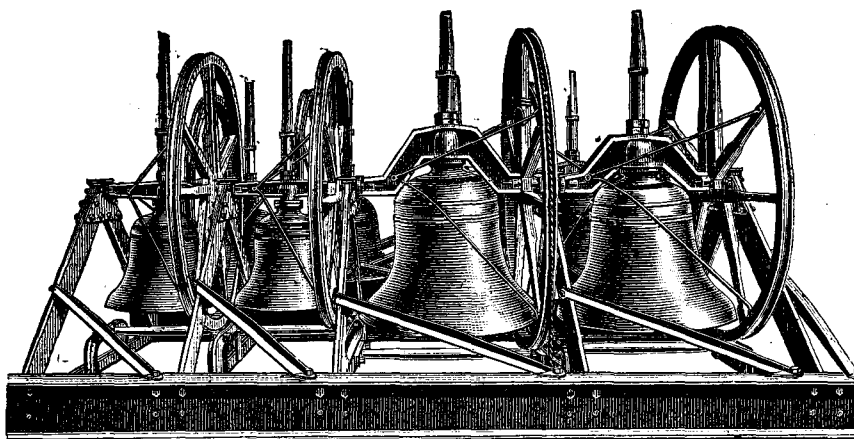
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No. 125. [NEW SERIES.]—VOL. III.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 23, 1884.

[ONE PENNY.]

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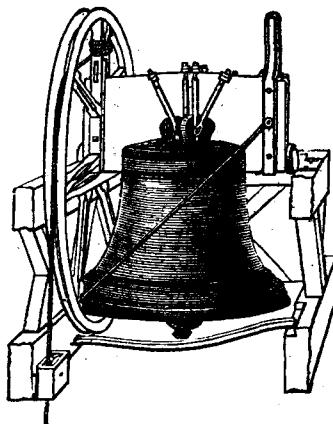
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EXTRACT FROM THE DIRECTORS' REPORT

FOR THE YEAR ENDING APRIL 30th, 1884.

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FINANCE.

The total income of the Company for the year was £119,742 13s. 4d., which is an INCREASE of £22,693 6s. 5d.

The total payments were £112,295 7s. 0d., leaving a balance upon the year's accounts of £7,447 6s. 4d., making the total funds at the close of the year, £46,022 9s. 8d.

CLAIMS.

The total amount paid in claims during the year was £48,779 18s. 3d., including £3,305 17s. 3d. Surrender Claims, making the total sum paid up to April 30th, £205,347 14s. 2d.

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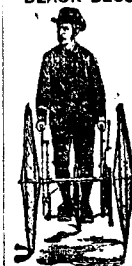
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GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

THE ANNUAL MEETING of the Gloucester and Bristol Diocesan Association was held on Monday, August 18th, at Bristol. In the morning the members of the Association attended Divine Service at Redcliffe Church, when the sermon was preached by the Rev. F. E. Robinson, of Drayton, Berks. Subsequently the annual meeting for the dispatch of business was held at the Colston Rooms, Redcliff Parade, the Rev. C. E. Cornish, Rector of St. Mary Redcliffe, presiding. The Hon. Secretary having read the minutes of the previous meeting, Mr. J. Davis moved, and Mr. T. Salter seconded a resolution that the following officers be elected:—President, the Right Rev. C. J. Ellicott, D.D., Lord Bishop of the Diocese; vice-presidents, the Venerable the Archdeacon of Gloucester, the Venerable the Archdeacon of Bristol, the Venerable the Archdeacon of Cirencester, the Right Hon. Sir Michael Hicks-Beach, Bart., M.P., Col. Robert Nigel Fitzhardinge Kingscote, C.B., M.P.; master, Mr. John Drinkwater, Sandhurst, Gloucestershire; hon. sec., the Rev. Pitt Eykyn, Ashton Gate, Bristol; hon. treasurer, the Rev. F. E. Broom Wits, Norton, Gloucester. The resolution was adopted, and it was also resolved to make the following addition to rule 3 of the Association:—“An election may also (when actually needed to complete a set) take place at a belfry meeting of the Association, should five members be unanimous, but the election of such new member must be ratified afterwards by the committee, and if in their opinion such person be unfit for membership, such election will be nullified.” The value of the adoption of this resolution was manifested the very next day, a peal being scored to the Association, rung at All Saints' church, previous to the starting of which two ringers were elected members in the belfry. A number of new members having been elected, it was resolved that the plate of membership, recently designed by Dr. Smyth, be engraved at a cost not exceeding £15. The Rev. C. D. P. Davies, Chaceley, Tewkesbury, moved: “That this Association, while rejoicing in the forthcoming division of the diocese of Gloucester and Bristol, hopes that it will not effect the present constitution of the society.” They were doubtless all aware that the bill had passed both Houses of Parliament, and had recently received the Royal assent, which declared that henceforth—when a certain sum of money should be got together—the diocese of Gloucester and Bristol, which has been one since 1835, should be two dioceses. Their Association was of that of the united diocese, and it was essentially constituted upon the principle of the diocese then existing, as being under one bishop, but of course that would be to a certain extent altered when the division of the diocese took place. What he wished to propose was that it should be understood that this division of the diocese should make no difference to them, and that they should have a meeting at Gloucester and Bristol alternately, as had been the habit. They had always been good friends and did not wish to disunite themselves; and they rejoiced that the city of Bristol had gained for itself a bishop, and that the ancient bishopric was restored. Mr. J. Davis seconded the resolution, which was adopted. On the motion of the Rev. C. D. P. Davies, seconded by Mr. Drinkwater, it was resolved that when the dioceses were separated the Association should be known as “The Association of Change Ringers of the Dioceses of Gloucester and Bristol.” A vote of thanks to the chairman terminated the proceedings.

Business being over the members dined together at the Ship Inn, Redcliff Hill, the Rector of Redcliff in the chair. This was essentially a ringers' gathering, though some dissatisfaction was expressed that the company, which numbered about forty, was not larger. Among those present we noticed the Rev. F. E. Robinson, Rev. R. H. D. Acland-Troyte, Rev. C. D. P. Davies, Rev. —. Keeble, Rev. Dr. Smyth, Rev. Pitt Eykyn, G. H. Phillott, Esq., Mr. J. Drinkwater (Master), Mr. D. Morgan, etc.

At the conclusion of the repast the rev. chairman proposed the first toast, “Her Majesty the Queen, and Royal Family.” This was drunk with enthusiasm. Mr. Johnson Hern (formerly of Durham), proposed the health of the Bishop and Clergy of the Diocese, coupling with it the toast of the Rev. Dr. Smyth, who responded. Other toasts, “The preacher of sermon at Redcliffe church,” “The Vicar and Churchwardens,” etc., followed, and the company broke up, some of them repairing to the various towers to ring. At Redcliffe church, Grandsire Cinques was essayed, but though these bells go fairly well, being kept in order by Mr. York, it was evident that a good band would be necessary to ring Cinques in a creditable manner at Redcliffe. Stedman Caters were also attempted, but it appeared that some of those present had had a very short acquaintance with this method, and though a touch of Stedman Triples had a better chance, being “almost” got home, it cannot be said that the ringing at this church on the day in question was of a very high order. The church of St. Mary de Redcliffe is, as most of our readers know, a splendid building, in fact one of our most famous churches. The tower, belfry, and bells are all on a par with the rest of the edifice. The ringing-chamber is a spacious apartment, the ropes are a fair circle, and there is very little wanted to have good ringing here, if the ringers will all

combine together to do it. Unfortunately, in Bristol, ringing matters are not so pleasant as could be wished. There are two distinct companies here, and the usual result of friendly (?) rivalry, is seen. Bristol has, we believe, more rings of bells than any other city, if we except London, and about one half of them are unpealable. Leaving Redcliffe church, a move was made to Christ Church, a ring of ten, and here the Rev. F. E. Robinson called a touch of Bob Major and a touch of Stedman Triples, and some Grandsire Caters were afterwards rung. At St. Peter's a short touch of Grandsire Triples, and the day's ringing was finished by a touch in the same method at St. Nicholas.

On the following day a peal of Grandsire Triples was rung at All Saints'. These bells go exceedingly well, and the ringing of this peal would have been greatly enjoyed only for the terribly hard ropes, of local manufacture, we believe. As the bells of All Saints' are the favourite peal of the Bristol ringers, it is hoped the authorities may be induced to provide good ropes made by a maker who understands their manufacture. Mr. Alfred York has also the charge of these bells. On a future occasion we may have something more to say about Bristol bells and ringers.

BRISTOL RINGERS AT WORCESTER.

ON Monday, August 11th, the St. Philip's society of Bristol paid a return visit to the “faithful city.” Arriving at the Shrub Hill railway station they were met by their Worcester friends and brother-strings, and by them were escorted to their meeting-house, the “Old Greyhound,” New Street. After partaking of refreshment, a visit was paid to the Royal Porcelain Works, and an inspection made of the progress of manufacture of these works of art for which this city is so famous. The visitors were very much pleased with what they saw, especially admiring the extraordinary beautiful specimens of Worcester china exhibited in the show-room. A move was then made to the Cathedral, where, by the kind permission of the Dean—Lord Alwyne Compton, D.D.—the company were conducted over the entire fabric. Ascending the noble square tower, they had an opportunity of viewing the charming landscape so fondly dwelt upon by that talented writer, Mrs. Henry Wood, in her novels—“The Channings,” “Mrs. Halliburton's Troubles,” etc.—the valley in which flows the Queen of English rivers; beyond that the beautiful expanse of greensward and fields of agricultural produce of every kind, the hills of Malvern forming a choice background to the picture. Returning into the ringing-chamber, where everything was in apple-pie order, a touch of Grandsire Cinques and Caters were rung. The company then repaired to “The Shades,” where they sat down to a substantial dinner. This being over, the mother church of St. Helen was visited, and several touches of Triples were rung on this musical ring of eight. Then a move was made to the church of All Saints, a ring of ten, where the ropes had been spliced and made the best of, and the tenor furnished with a new clapper, and everything made as snug and comfortable as possible. A good touch of Grandsire Caters was here rung, also a touch of Treble Ten. The Bristol ringers, says our correspondent, “were greatly pleased with the All Saints' bells, Mr. Alfred York, bellhanger, of Bristol, remarking that there was not such a splendid peal for miles around, and he considered it a great pity they were not taken greater care of.” We hope the Worcester men will lay this latter remark of Mr. York's to heart.

The ringing at All Saints being concluded, the visitors, with their brother-strings, repaired to the meeting-house, and spent a very pleasant hour or two together, the handbells being brought into requisition. Votes of thanks were accorded to the Very Rev. the Dean, the Rev. B. Arthure (Rector of All Saints), and the Rev. —. Chaytor (Rector of St. Helen's), for the use of the bells, and to the various steeple-keepers for getting everything in readiness for the visitors. The company separated with mutual hopes that their next meeting would be as successful as this one.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

A DISTRICT MEETING will be held at Witham (six bells), on Saturday, September 6th. The tower will be open at 11 o'clock; Tea at the Albert Hotel at 5 o'clock; Business meeting immediately after. Members sending their names to the Hon. Sec. before September 2nd, will be admitted free to the tea.

The Great Eastern Railway will convey members to and from Witham at a single fare and a quarter. Each member must show the Essex Association receipt for this year's subscription, when asking for his railway ticket. The Schoolroom will be open for handbell ringing.

Rayleigh, S.O., Essex.

H. A. COCKEY, Hon. Sec.

* * Many of our friends still appear to be unaware of the conditions regulating all correspondence. We entreat them to digest the notices on the page just before our leading article.

IN AND OUT AND ROUND ABOUT.

By JOHN CARTER, BIRMINGHAM.

THE idea of publishing the results of a holiday is becoming the fashion, and therefore I hope our Editor will allow me to give the results of a little holiday I lately had. I shall not want the words "To be continued" placed at the end of this, because I shall "do my bit" in one number, and I think all others should try and draw the line at one page or so, because too much even of a good thing soon becomes tiresome.

Well to begin. According to previous arrangements I left Birmingham on Saturday, July 12th, on a visit to the world-renowned City of London. On arriving at Paddington, I made my way to Praed Street Station, via the underground railway, and from there to Farringdon Street, where I was met by Mr. Haley, jun. Leaving the station we proceeded to St. Paul's, Shadwell, with the intention of starting for a peal of Stedman Triples, but on arriving there we were much disappointed to find we could not ring, owing to illness in the vicinity. Here I met an old friend of mine, Mr. Murphy, late of Warwickshire, who now resides in the metropolis, and had a very pleasant chat with him on change-ringing and ringing in general. Hearing that the Walthamstow ringers were going for a peal at the parish church, we made our minds up to go and hear the finish. On arriving there, we were surprised to find everything still, and on enquiring at the residence of one of the ringers, we were informed that they were at St. Saviour's, about a mile away, so away we went, but still we met with disappointment, for not a bell was to be heard. After a few minutes' deliberation, we decided on taking a walk; we had not, however, proceeded very far before we came across the Editor of "THE BELL NEWS" and some of the Walthamstow ringers. After exchanging friendly greetings, and a very short conversation, an adjournment was made to the tower of St. Saviour's, where I called 637 Grandsire Triples in the Tittums, and also 504 Stedman Triples. Assembling at St. Saviour's, on Sunday, for Divine Service, I called Mr. Johnson's 1008 of Grandsire Triples, which was rung in excellent style. Descending the tower, a stroll was then indulged into Epping Forest, in company with one or two of the ringers. In the evening I journeyed to Wimbledon, to secure apartments, so as to be in readiness for the coming week's shooting. I do not think that shooting for the "Queen's" and other prizes would interest my brother ringers, therefore I leave that alone, after expressing a hope that I may be more successful another year than I have been this.

On Tuesday evening I paid a visit to the parish church of Wimbledon. This is an exceedingly pretty church, and is built almost entirely of flint. The tower contains a nice ring of six bells, which were in full swing when I arrived, so I made my way direct to the belfry, and after exchanging friendly greetings with the ringers, we rang a 720 of Oxford Bob Minor, in 28 minutes. According to arrangements with the Wimbledon ringers I met them the following Friday evening, and went with them to Mitcham. Here is a very nice light peal of six, tenor 7½ cwt., and after a few preliminaries a start was made for a 720 of Oxford Bob Minor, which however came to grief about half-way. Wishing my ringing friends good night, a pleasant walk of about half an hour landed me at Wimbledon again. On Saturday, in pursuance of an invitation from the Editor of our valuable paper, I again visited Walthamstow, making my way straight to the office of "THE BELL NEWS," and I was soon engaged with our worthy Editor, discussing shooting and ringing matters. By the two sons of our Editor I was conducted over the establishment, and had much more explained to me than I can possibly describe. I saw a few extra copies of "THE BELL NEWS" struck off, and various specimens of printing, and I need hardly add I was very much interested in everything that I saw. The obliging young gentlemen above named, manage every detail in the printing and getting out of our paper. According to arrangements previously made, we started, accompanied by several friends, in a waggonette, for Waltham Abbey. We had not proceeded far before we came to Chingford old church. I alighted to take a view of the interior. The building is practically a ruin. There were only a few chairs in the chancel end, scarcely a pane of glass in any window, and the only redeeming feature was its picturesque appearance, the walls being covered with ivy from one end to the other. Regaining my seat, we proceeded on our way through most delightful scenery, until we arrived at our destination, where we put up at the "Three Tuns," kept by Mr. T. Powell, who is a brother ringer of the old school, and first showed me how to ring Stedman upon handbells. After refreshing the inner man, we proceeded in company with the local ringers to the Abbey church, where there is a nice peal of eight, the go of which is everything that can be desired. We rang a touch of Stedman Triples, followed by two courses of Treble Bob Major. An adjournment was then made to the "Three Tuns," where the remainder of the evening was spent with songs, and a touch of Stedman Triples on the handbells. Again putting the horses to their work, we made our way back through Enfield Highway, Ponders End, and Edmonton, to Walthamstow, where I stayed the night.

On Sunday morning I proceeded to St. Paul's Cathedral, where I rang in three courses of Stedman Cinques, the first touch on twelve bells during the last twelve months. Again returning to Walthamstow I met three brother ringers from Waltham Abbey, but finding we could not ring I stayed a short time with them, and then made my way to Wimbledon again, for the last time this season. As a finish to my short holiday a silent peal of Grandsire Triples had been arranged for Tuesday evening at Walthamstow, but owing to broken promises we started for Holt's ten-part, but it unfortunately came to grief after ringing a little over an hour. On Wednesday I safely accomplished my return journey home, and in conclusion, I desire to express my sincere thanks to all whom I had the pleasure of meeting, for their kindness and courtesy to me, and if any of them can make it convenient to pay me a visit, I will use my very best endeavours to make their visit—be it long or short—an enjoyable one.

FAREWELL RINGING AT ST. MARY'S-THE-GREAT, CAMBRIDGE.

ON Friday, August 15th, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1260 changes), was rung at the University church, Cambridge, in 52½ mins. by the following: J. Taylor, 1; N. J. Hopkins, 2; H. J. Elsee, 3; G. Taylor, 4; W. Kempton, 5; I. Rockett, 6; S. Hayes (conductor), 7; M. C. Potter, M.A., 8. This quarter-peal was composed by the late Henry Booth, of London, and is in five equal parts. Of the above ringers, Messrs. Potter and Elsee are members of the University Society; S. Hayes is from London; and the rest are members of the Cambridge Youths. The ringing took place as a farewell peal to N. J. Hopkins, Esq., who has since started on his way to New Zealand. The same company met on three different evenings previously, to ring the same quarter-peal, but each time after ringing for half an hour they came to grief, through the breaking of one of the ropes. Curiously enough, the rope, a different one in each case, broke within a few changes of the same place on each occasion. Such a coincidence had not occurred within the knowledge of any of those present. At the fourth trial, however, there was no mishap, and the ringing was done as stated above, the striking in some parts being exceedingly good. Mr. Hopkins goes to New Zealand with the best wishes of all Cambridge ringers, and we hope that this will not be the last occasion on which his name will appear in connection with ringing matters.

HAILSHAM, SUSSEX.

HAILSHAM is a clean little Market Town, about nine miles from Eastbourne. The church is a fine old structure in the perpendicular style. Its handsome tower (a landmark for miles around) contains a musical ring of five bells. The belfry is roomy and well-lighted by the large west window. Unlike most ropes of local manufacture, those at Hailsham are very good. They fall to the pavement, and there are no indications of there ever having been a "ringing loft." It is many years since there has been any change-ringing there. If some competent band would only pay the church a visit and treat the townsfolk to a little Grandsire, it would remind the older inhabitants of the time when, with the Hatter on the treble, the Blacksmith at the tenor, and other good strikers in the middle, beautiful music was rattled out from the old tower. It was formerly the custom to chime the bells for service on Sundays, but they are now rung. Each evening at eight o'clock the Curfew is rung on the tenor. Some years ago it was suggested to increase the peal to six, by the addition of a new treble. It is to be hoped this may yet be done. The bells were cast outside the town at a spot still called "Bell Banks." William Hull is said to have been foreman to John Hodgson. Below are the inscriptions, etc.:

Treble—"John Hodgson made mee 1663. W. H. I. R. T. A. C. W. T. V."
2nd—"John Hodgson made mee 1663. I. R. I. R. T. A. C. W. S. H. S. I. B. W. H. L."
3rd—"John Pattenden & Abram Langham Ch. Wardens. Lester & Pack of London fecit 1708."
4th—"John Hodgson made mee 1663. I. R. I. R. T. A. C. W. William Hull."
Tenor—"John Hodgson made mee 1663. Jeremiah Reed John Rycke Thomas Ackehurst Church Wardens. W. H. W. S."

THE BRITISH WORKMAN'S ASSURANCE COMPANY.—The Directors' Report for the year ending April 30th, 1884, has just appeared, and certainly shews some very important and satisfactory results of the last year's operations. The most important features of the company's work will be found on another page, but we cannot help again reverting to the astonishing increase of business since the last report was issued. When we read that the number of assurants upon the company's books at the commencement of the present year was 206,069, and their annual premium will be £139,554 3s. 6d., a nett increase of 46,664 assurants, and £20,512 5s. 7d. in annual premium, we think we are not far wrong in stating that such a success is almost unprecedented, and certainly makes plain the entire soundness of this company. Not only those for whom the company appears to have been brought into existence, but every grade of society will certainly not be slow to take advantage of so healthy an institution.

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERS.

5000.

By FRED COATES, *Rotherham*.

1 2 3 4 5 6 4 5 16

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

*Bobs at 3, 5, 9, 10, 15, 16, 18, 19, 20, 21.
 The last eleven courses three times repeated,
 produce—

2 1 5 3 6 4

Round with calls at 2, 5, 7, 9, 11, 12, 15.

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE MAJOR.

10,176.

By JOHN CARTER, *Birmingham*.

2 3 4 5 6 1 2 3 4 5 6 7

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

5 times repeated. Bob instead of a single
 at the end of the 3rd and 6th parts.

This peal contains the 120 course-ends, with
 the tenors together throughout.

Rung upon handbells by the Birmingham Amalgamated
 Society, October 15th, 1884, conducted by its composer.

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE MAJOR.

5280.

By C. JACKSON, *Hull*.

2 3 4 5 6

5 3 4 2 6 8th in three. H.
 3 4 5 2 6 H.
 4 5 3 2 6 H.
 5 4 3 2 6 7th in three. H.
 4 3 5 2 6 H.
 3 5 4 2 6 H.
 6 3 5 2 4 7th in two. H.
 2 3 5 6 4 8th in three. H.
 3 5 2 6 4 H.
 4 3 5 6 2 7th in two. H.
 4 3 2 6 5 7th in two. H.
 3 4 2 6 5 7th in three. H.

Five times repeated. The 5th and 6th 24
 times right and 15 times wrong.

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE MAJOR.

5600.

By JOHN PRITCHARD, *Liverpool*.

2 3 4 5 6 M H

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

Four times repeated.

*This course is produced by calling the 7th
 in and out at 6, and 8th in and out at 6.

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS.

5075.

By ROBERT WILLIAMS, *Liverpool*.

3 5 4 2 6 9th with three.
 4 3 5 2 6 7th with three.
 5 4 3 2 6 7th with three.
 6 5 4 2 3 7th in and out at two.
 5 2 4 6 3 7th with three.

4 5 2 6 3 9th with three.
 2 4 5 6 3 9th with three.
 5 4 3 6 2 7 9.
 3 4 2 6 5 7 9.
 2 3 4 6 5 9th with three.
 4 2 3 6 5 9th in three.
 3 2 5 6 4 7 9.
 5 3 2 6 4 9th with three.
 2 5 3 6 4 9th with three.
 3 5 4 6 2 7 9.
 4 3 5 6 2 9th with three.

2 4 3 6 5 9th with three. s.
 3 2 4 6 5 9th with three.
 4 3 2 6 5 9th with three.
 2 3 5 6 4 7 9.
 5 3 4 6 2 7 9.
 4 5 3 6 2 9th with three.
 3 4 5 6 2 9th with three.
 5 4 2 6 3 7 9.
 2 5 4 6 3 9th with three.
 4 2 5 6 3 9th with three.
 5 2 3 6 4 7 9.
 3 2 4 5 8 6 7 9 9th with three.

2 5 3 6 4 6th with 2 and 2nd in.
 3 2 5 6 4 9th with three.
 5 3 2 6 4 9th with three.
 2 3 4 6 5 8 9.
 4 3 5 6 2 8 9.
 5 4 3 6 2 9th with three.
 3 5 4 6 2 9th with three.
 4 5 2 6 3 8 9.
 2 4 5 6 3 9th with three.
 5 2 4 6 3 9th with three.
 4 2 3 6 5 8 9.
 3 4 2 6 5 9th with three.

5 3 4 6 2 9th with three. s.
 4 5 3 6 2 9th with three.
 3 4 5 6 2 9th in three.
 5 4 2 6 3 8 9.
 2 4 3 6 5 8 9.
 3 2 4 6 5 9th with three.
 4 3 2 6 5 9th with three.
 2 3 5 6 4 8 9.
 5 2 3 6 4 9th with three.
 3 5 2 6 4 9th with three.
 2 5 4 6 3 8 9.
 4 2 5 6 3 9th with three.

9th in and out at two as usual.
 6th forty-eight courses behind the 9th.

A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT
BOB MAJOR.

5088.

By JOHN CARTER, *Birmingham*.

2 3 4 5 6 1 4 5 6

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

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

Repeated.

The 6th twenty-four times wrong and right.

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CINQUES.

5016.

By THOS. BEACALL, *Liverpool*.

2 3 4 5 6 7 1 6 7 8

3 4 7 2 6 5 - - -
 4 7 3 2 6 5 - - -
 7 3 4 2 6 5 - - -
 5 3 4 7 6 2 - - -
 4 3 6 5 2 7 - - -
 3 6 7 4 2 5 - - -
 6 7 3 4 2 5 - - -
 7 3 6 4 2 5 - - -
 5 3 6 7 2 4 - - -
 3 6 4 5 2 7 - - -

6 4 7 3 2 5 - - -
 4 7 6 3 2 5 - - -
 7 6 4 3 2 5 - - -
 5 6 4 7 2 3 - - -
 6 4 3 5 2 7 - - -

Repeated.

In this peal the 8th and 9th lie still going off
 and coming round.

A 1/4-PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES.

By W. BALDWIN, *Aston*.

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

Repeated.

"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.

Everything for insertion in this Journal to be addressed "The Editor of THE BELL NEWS, Walthamstow, London." Letters forwarded for publication, and performances under 5000 changes must reach us not later than Wednesday morning; and the insertion of any communication coming later than the first Postal delivery on Thursday morning cannot be guaranteed in that week's number. When it is found impossible from want of space to insert all touches forwarded, the earlier ones will have the preference.

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.

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

To prevent disappointment, the Editor requests that stamps for extra copies of this paper may be sent direct to the Publisher.

W. H. FUSSELL.—Can you oblige us by a call? But let us know when.
PHILANDER.—Not next Monday.

The Bell News & Ringers' Record.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 23, 1884.

THE interesting account which appeared in our last number of a visit to Duffield Bank, Derbyshire, the seat of A. P. HEYWOOD, Esq.—the son of Sir PERCIVAL HEYWOOD—must certainly be fresh in the minds of every one of our readers. We could write a deal about the marvellous works carried out on the estate of this gentleman under his own superintendence, but such would be fit for the columns of those of our contemporaries whose peculiar province is in dealing with such subjects. But after merely admiring the engineering skill of Mr. HEYWOOD, and the novelty of the work he has wrought on his own estate, we are brought face to face with the fact that not only is he a practical ringer himself, and a bob-caller to boot, but that the young lady members of his family are acquainted with the Grandsire method. When the age of the young lady who rang the trebles so well in a course of Grandsire Triples is taken into consideration, it cannot be deemed otherwise than wonderful in one so young. It certainly goes a long way to establish the opinion that Mr. HEYWOOD himself is an enthusiast in the art and that the young ladies are not averse to its practice.

In the same number we read of a date touch being rung at Huntsham, the seat of Colonel TROYE. This touch was the composition of a lady—Miss E. CRUWYS SHARLAND, who is a lady associate of the Devonshire Guild. It certainly would be interesting to know what led this lady to enter the lists as a composer. Perhaps such an inquiry may be deemed an impertinent one. In

our first essays at composing, we were bewildered by the phrases employed—"in and out of course," "part-end," "petty course," "main course," and so on. This lady has evidently mastered all this routine, and we can only hope that she will not allow her pen to remain idle, but give us again the result of her abilities in this interesting portion of the science.

The fact of members of the fair sex coming to the front as ringers, is certainly one worth more than ordinary notice. The time may come when we can hear of them in the steeple, taking a light bell and ringing or calling a touch. This may appear irregular, perhaps, from several points of view. But the presence of a lady in the steeple does not appear to us at all out of place. We know the healthful effect of refined female influence under many conditions of our social life, and such influence would not be out of place in a church belfry. And ringing a light bell in a touch now and then with the village company, would be far preferable to many of those enervating occupations which the female portion of the human family are at the present time, in obedience to the vagaries of fashion, called upon to take part.

THE BELLS OF ST. MICHAEL, TORRINGTON, DEVON.

"Merrily, merrily, rang the Bells,
The Bells of St. Michael's Tower."

So sings our genial friend Mr. Russell. And it was literally a fact on Tuesday, August 12th, at Torrington, the occasion being the opening of the ring of eight, which have been rendered complete by the recent addition of two new treble bells, and the re-casting of the old tenor, which has been for a considerable time cracked. The idea was mooted some long time ago amongst the congregation, of rendering the peal a full one; some other Church matters were also concurrently projected, and the ladies of Torrington, assisted by the vicar (the Rev. S. Buckland), the curate (the Rev. W. Mantle), now of St. Michael's, Devonport, Mr. Gabriel Fisher, National and Provincial Bank, Mr. T. W. Haverfield, and others, originated a bazaar and fancy fair, which proved so very successful, especially from a pecuniary point of view, that in addition to the necessary requirement for Church improvements, a very large surplus fund remained. This it was determined should be devoted to completing the peal of bells, re-casting the tenor, and making the necessary improvements to the tower and belfry itself.

A subscription list was subsequently started, and funds came in from all directions. The matter appeared to be taken up *con amore*. The Hon. Mark Rolle, with his usual generosity, offered to supply the oak for the frame work, this being in itself quite worth £50; the feoffees of the town lands also generously granted a large sum, and the Committee found to their satisfaction that the work could at once begin. Negotiations were entered into with Messrs. Warner and Sons, of Cripplegate, London, for carrying out the work which has now been completed. Under the direction of Mr. H. Grant, of Torrington, the tenor was removed from its place and consigned to the founders, under the able direction and supervision of Mr. Dunn (foreman of the foundry), the new bells were cast, and the tenor re-cast; and with a number of efficient workmen, the re-hanging has been successfully carried out. In addition, the old bells have been turned, and everything old has given way to new. An arrangement has also been fixed, which enables one man to chime the whole eight bells. The peal is tuned in F., about $\frac{1}{2}$ sharp, and are very sweet in tone.

The proceedings of the day began with a short service in the Church, which was largely attended, the Mayor and Corporation being present. The hymn commencing—"Now at length our bells are mounted, to their holy place on high," followed, the sermon being preached by the Rev. H. J. Wilmot Buxton, of St. Giles. He took for his text, the tenth chapter of the Epistle to the Romans, 18th verse—"Their sound went into all the earth." The words, he said, were first used of the Gospel of Jesus Christ, but might well be applied to the church bells. He dealt with the influence of bells and the message they brought to all, mentioning that in olden times names were given to bells. For all he knew their bells were named, but whether they were or not they might well associate the following with each: With the

first, faith; the second, hope; the third, charity; the fourth, prayer; the fifth, praise; the sixth, thanksgiving; the seventh, warning; the eighth, peace. Having enlarged on the subject of each, he concluded by a reference to the Cornish legend of the bells of Tintagel and the silent tower of Boscastle. A collection in aid of the bell fund was then made.

A luncheon was held in the Globe Hotel at one o'clock, when the chair was taken by the vicar, who was supported by the Mayor. After luncheon the Rev. S. Buckland briefly gave the "Health of Her Majesty the Queen."—Mr. T. W. Haverfield submitted "The Mayor of Torrington and Corporation," and said it gave him extreme pleasure to see the Mayor present both at the service and at the luncheon.—The Mayor suitably responded, and expressed his extreme pleasure in being present, and especially at the excellent lesson put before them by the preacher for the day in his reference to the bells.—Mr. Fisher (Secretary and Treasurer), proposed the health of "Messrs. Warner and Sons," speaking of the excellent behaviour of the men representing the firm, and the satisfaction the firm and all connected with them have given. It was to be regretted that one of the men had met with an accident which might result with the loss of two fingers, and it was thought that the Committee, knowing the liberality of Torrington, should pay the doctor's bill. They would have to go a great many miles to hear such an excellent peal of bells as they now had, but they must not forget what remained to be done, the old clock had done its work, and they must substitute a new one, and an apparatus which would play several tunes. At Holsworthy, he believed, the clock was the means of playing about fourteen tunes, and he hoped they would not be behind Holsworthy. Mr. Dunn (foreman of the works), and Mr. Quick both responded.—The Rev. J. Morrell, Curate of Great Torrington, gave "The health of the Donors and Contributors to the Bell Fund." "The health of the Ladies," proposed by Mr. G. Fisher, and responded to by Mr. Rowland Buckland, was followed by "The health of the preacher of the day, the Rev. Wilmot Buxton," and "The health of the vicar Rev. S. Buckland." At the close of the luncheon, peals were rung by the ringers of Torrington, Exeter, St. Giles, and Langtree.

A collection on behalf of Mr. Quick, who had his hand injured whilst hanging the bells, was liberally responded to. Between four and five o'clock an entertainment of handbells was given in the Town Hall, and well patronized. An interesting programme was gone through. The weather being delightful a large number of visitors from neighbouring parishes visited the town during the day. The ceremony passed off in a most satisfactory manner.

The Metropolis.

THE ST. JAMES'S SOCIETY.—CAMBERWELL, SURREY.
On Monday, August 18, 1884, in Two Hours and Forty-eight Minutes,
AT ST. GEORGE'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
HOLT'S 10-PART (REVERSED). Tenor 14 cwt.

JOHN W. ROWBOTHAM .. Treble.	HENRY J. TUCKER .. 5.
HENRY LANGDON .. 2.	RICHARD FRENCH .. 6.
EDWARD ROGERS .. 3.	FREDERICK G. NEWMAN .. 7.
WILLIAM JONES .. 4.	DANIEL NEWTON .. Tenor.

Conducted by HENRY J. TUCKER.

The Provinces.

THE BIRMINGHAM AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATION.
BIRMINGHAM.

On Wednesday, August 13, 1884, in Three Hours and Five Minutes,
AT ST. CHAD'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE MAJOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Tenor 14 cwt.

WILLIAM BALDWIN .. Treble.	JOHN CARTER .. 5.
JOHN CALLAGHAN .. 2.	JAMES HINTON, JUN. .. 6.
GEORGE HAYWARD .. 3.	ALBERT HACKLEY .. 7.
WILLIAM BROOK .. 4.	THOMAS MILLER .. Tenor.

Composed and conducted by JOHN CARTER.

This peal is in six parts, and has the 6th twenty-four times wrong and right, and the 5th twenty-four times right. And it has the twenty-four 8-6s.

Mr. J. Hinton, jun. hails from Bristol, and G. Hayward from Bromsgrove. This is also the first peal of Major ever rung on the bells.

DUFFIELD, DERBYSHIRE.
THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.
DERBY BRANCH.

On Saturday, August 16, 1884, in Three Hours and Eight Minutes,

AT ALL SAINTS' CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
HOLT'S TEN-PART. Tenor 16½ cwt. in F.

FREDERICK WHITING .. Treble.	RICHARD REDGATE .. 5.
HARRY CHAS. WOODWARD .. 2.	JOHN NEWBOLD .. 6.
ARTHUR BERTRAM WARD .. 3.	J. W. TAYLOR, JUN. .. 7.
JOHN HOWE .. 4.	JOHN SEAL .. Tenor.

Conducted by JOHN HOWE.

Mr. Taylor hails from Loughborough, the rest belong to Derby.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.
BRISTOL.

On Tuesday, August 19, 1884, in Two Hours and Fifty-five Minutes,

AT ALL SAINTS' CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
HOLT'S TEN-PART. Tenor 18 cwt.

ALFRED YORK .. Treble.	HARVEY REEVES .. 5.
HENRY PORCH .. 2.	JOHNSON HERN .. 6.
E. F. COLE, ESQ. .. 3.	JAMES HINTON, JUN. .. 7.
FREDERICK BINES .. 4.	WILLIAM EMERY .. Tenor.

Conducted by HARVEY REEVES.

Messrs. Reeves and Bines hail from Walthamstow, Essex; E. F. Cole from Streatham, Surrey; Hern from Newnham, Gloucestershire; the others are local men.

Date Touch.

SOUTHPORT (Lancashire).—On Tuesday, August 12th, seven of the local company, assisted by Mr. T. Wilde, of Hyde, Cheshire, rang at Christ Church, and rang a date touch of Kent Treble Bob Major, 1884 changes, in 1 hr. 2 mins., taken from the reverse variation of Mr. Wm. Harrison's peal of 5568, on page 30 of Mr. Snowdon's *Treatise on Treble Bob*, part ii. Fred Blundell, 1; T. J. Fielding, 2; D. Rimmer, 3; T. Wilde, 4; R. Hill, 5; H. Spencer, 6; G. R. Heywood, 7; C. H. Heywood (conductor), 8.

Miscellaneous.

THE SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.

LONDON.—On Saturday, August 16th, at St. Martin's-in-the-fields, the following members attempted a peal of Stedman Cinques, but after ringing nine courses in fifty-two minutes, the conductor was obliged to call stand, owing to one of the bells going bad on account of the hot weather. G. Newson, 1; C. Hopkins, 2; J. Hannington, 3; H. Hopkins, 4; H. Dains, 5; H. Randall, 6; H. Swain, 7; W. Baron, 8; W. Doran, 9; A. H. Gardom (conductor), 10; S. Jarman, 11; J. Mansfield, 12. Tenor 36 cwt. *Muffled Peal*.—Also on Monday, August 18th, at St. Sepulchre's church, Snow Hill, the following members rang a touch with the bells half-muffled, as a last mark of respect to the late Mr. Fowler, Vestry Clerk of the above parish, who was interred in the City of London Cemetery, Ilford, Essex, on that day. After the usual whole-pull and stand, a short touch of Grandsire Caters was rung. The late gentleman held office for eighteen years, and was much respected by all who knew him. J. Nelms (conductor), 1; G. Church, 2; H. Dains, 3; C. Hopkins, 4; J. Mansfield, 5; J. Hannington (conductor), 6; W. Mathews, 7; W. Doran, 8; J. Rumsay, 9; D. Lovatt, 10. Tenor 32 cwt.

THE BIRMINGHAM AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATION.

SELLY OAK (Worcestershire).—On Sunday, August 17th, six members of the above Association rang a 720 of Grandsire Minor, in 25 mins. Edward Bryant, 1; Henry Smith, 2; John T. Perry (first 720 as conductor), 3; Edward Boylin, 4; Thomas Lewis, 5; Richard Hackley, 6.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

NORTH SHIELDS.—On Tuesday, August 12th, for practice at Christ Church, a touch of 880 Kent Treble Bob Royal. S. Nott, 1; W. Reed (conductor), 2; J. Gibson, 3; R. Smith, 4; W. Story, 5; R. S. Story, 6; R. Wignall, 7; J. McGoun, 8; H. Ross, 9; Joel Hern, 10. Tenor 19 cwt. First touch of Royal by all.

SOUTH SHIELDS.—On Thursday, August 7th, at St. Hilda's church, on the occasion of the marriage of J. Church, Esq., of Buenos Ayres, four members of the South Shields branch, assisted by R. Smith and R. Willans of North Shields, rang four 720s in the methods of Kent and Oxford Treble Bob, Grandsire and Plain Bob Minor. R. Hopper, 1; A. Moffitt, 2; Jno. Moffitt, 3; R. Willans, 4; Jas. Moffitt, 5; R. Smith, 6. The Kent and Oxford Treble Bob, and Bob Minor was conducted by R. Smith, and the Grandsire Minor by Hopper. Time of each 720 26 mins. Also on Sunday, August 10th, for Divine Service in the evening, a 720 of Double Court Bob Minor, in 27 mins. R. Hopper, 1; A. Moffitt (first 720 in the method), 2; R. Scrafton, 3; Jas. Moffitt, 4; J. Hopper, 5; Jno. Moffitt (conductor), 6. Tenor 10 cwt.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

PETTISTREE (Suffolk).—On Wednesday, July 30th, the local company rang a 360 of Court Single Bob; 120 of Kent Treble Bob; 60 of Bob Minor; 60 of Double Court Bob; 120 of Cambridge Surprise; 120 of Oxford Treble Bob; and 60 of College Single Bob. H. Mattin, 1; E. R. Todd, 2; W. P. Garrett, 3; G. Bailey, 4; J. Howard, 5; E. R. Sherwood (conductor), 6. *Handbell Ringing.*—On the handbells, a 336 of Bob Major. H. Mattin, 1-2; J. Howard (conductor), 3-4; W. P. Garrett, 5-6; E. R. Todd, 7-8.

UFFORD (Suffolk).—On Monday, August 4th, the Pettistree company rang a 720 of Double Court Bob, 720 of Court Single, and 720 of College Single. Also on Saturday, August 9th, a 720 of Double Court Bob and a 720 of Cambridge Surprise. G. Burch, 1; E. R. Todd, 2; W. P. Garrett, 3; G. Bailey, 4; J. Howard, 5; E. R. Sherwood (conductor), 6. *Handbell Ringing.*—And with the Ufford company, a course of Grandsire Caters, and a course of Grandsire Cinques on the handbells. G. Burch, 1-2; A. Ackfield, jun., 3-4; W. A. Ward, 5-6; E. R. Sherwood, 7-8; W. P. Garrett, 9-10; A. Ward, 11-12.

WICKHAM MARKET (Suffolk).—On Tuesday, July 29th, six members of the Pettistree company rang a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob, 720 of Bob Minor, and a 360 of Kent Treble Bob. W. P. Garrett, 1; E. R. Todd, 2; H. Mattin, 3; G. Bailey, 4; C. Potter, 5; J. Howard (conductor), 6.

THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

BLETCHINGLEY (Surrey).—On Wednesday, August 6th, eight members of the above Association rang a quarter-peal of Plain Bob Triples, in 46 mins. G. Brown, 1; F. Smith, 2; J. Bashford, 3; T. Boniface, 4; G. Potter, 5; L. Killick, 6; W. Burkin (conductor), 7; W. Mayne, 8. Tenor 19 cwt.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

BRIGHOUSE (Yorkshire).—On Thursday evening, August 14th, at St. Martin's church, eight members of the West Riding of the Yorkshire Association rang a 1024 of Kent Treble Bob Major, as a farewell touch to Mr. Robnett, who has since left Brighouse for Harrogate, in 38 mins. H. Wilson, 1; F. Crossley, 2; J. F. Pearson, 3; G. Lawton, 4; J. W. Walker, 5; J. Cocoroff, 6; J. Robnett (conductor), 7; W. F. Prince, 8. Tenor 14½ cwt.

BRIGHTON (Sussex).—On Tuesday, August 19th, at St. Nicholas', a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 46 mins. James Neve, 1; I. G. Shade, 2; J. Searle (conductor), 3; J. Gasson, 4; H. Boniface, 5; H. Weston, 6; J. Jay, jun., 7; E. Butler, 8. Tenor 19 cwt. in F. The above quarter-peal was taken from "THE BELL NEWS," of August 9th, composed by Alfred Squires, of Hitchin, Herts, and rang as a compliment to I. G. Shade (Greenwich), and J. Gasson (Balcombe), who were on a visit to Brighton.

BURSLEM (Staffordshire).—On Sunday, August 17th, for Divine Service in the evening, the Cheddleton company rang a 720 of Bob Minor, in 25 mins. J. James, 1; H. Rogers, 2; J. Gilbert, 3; F. Clowes (conductor), 4; Hy. Birch, 5; J. Renshaw, 6.

DARESBURY (Cheshire).—*Muffled Peals.*—On Friday evening, August 8th, the ringers of the parish church rang as a last mark of respect to the late W. C. Jones, Esq., of the Elms, Daresbury, near Warrington (who was interred on the same day at Brighton, Sussex), with the bells deeply muffled, a 360 of Bob Minor, in 15 mins. E. de Prez, 1; T. Houghton, sen., 2; P. Johnson, 3; T. Ellison, 4; P. Hamblett, 5; T. Houghton, jun. (conductor), 6. Also a 720 in the same method, in 30 mins. T. Houghton, sen. (conductor), 1; P. Johnson, 2; T. Ellison, 3; P. Hamblett, 4; J. Ellison, 5; T. Houghton, jun., 6. Tenor 12 cwt. in G.

DARTFORD (Kent).—On Sunday, August 17th, at Holy Trinity Church, for Divine Service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 46 mins. S. Everson, 1; F. Hayes, 2; M. Jacobs, 3; C. Hamant, 5; J. Upton, 5; J. Saxby (conductor), 6; W. Harper, 7; R. Davies, 8. Tenor 20 cwt.

DEWSBURY (Yorkshire).—On Thursday, August 14th, at the parish of All Saints', a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob, in 26 mins. J. Idle (conductor), 1; *W. Idle, 2; *W. Ainley, 3; *J. A. Idle, 4; *O. Wilson, 5; *A. Mitchell, 6. *First 720. Tenor 14½ cwt.

EXETER (Devon).—On Saturday, August 16th, at St. Sidwell's, a company attempted to ring a peal with Mr. T. Gover, of London, but after ringing about 4000 changes, it suddenly came to grief. J. Moss, 1; Ferris Shepherd (conductor), 2; H. Swift, 3; F. R. Shepherd, 4; A. Shepherd, 5; T. Gover, 6; E. Shepherd, 7; W. Richardson, 8.

HAVERSTOCK HILL (Middlesex).—On Wednesday, August 13th, a 720 of Bob Minor, with forty-two singles, in 24 mins. J. Freemantle, 1; T. Gleed, 2; J. Hannington (conductor), 3; J. Leach, 4; T. Titchener, 5; G. Newson, 6. Also on Sunday, August 17th, for Divine Service in the evening, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob (fifteen bobs), in 24 mins. T. Titchener, 1; T. Gleed, 2; J. Hannington (conductor), 3; J. Leach, 4; G. Griffin, 5; G. Newson, 6. Tenor 12½ cwt.

HITCHIN (Herts).—On Monday, August 18th, at St. Mary's church, two 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles. H. Buckingham, 1; W. A. Tyler, 2; J. Hare, 3; J. Randall, 4; A. Squires, 5; W. French, 6; W. Allen (conductor), 7; S. Hare, 8. 4, 6, 8, behind. Tenor 28 cwt. in D. *Handbell Ringing.*—Also on handbells, a 720 of Bob Minor. H. Buckingham, 1; A. Squires, 2; J. Hare, 3; S. Hare, 4; W. A. Tyler (conductor), 5; W. Allen, 6. First 720 on handbells by the company.

LYTHAM (Lancashire).—On Wednesday, August 13th, the ringers met to ring in honour of the marriage, at St. John's church, of F. W. Bickley, Esq., Broomfield, Shropshire, to Miss Adelaide Eatock, of Lytham. The ceremony over, and after the usual firing, etc., a 720 of Bob Minor, with sixteen bobs and two singles, in 24 mins. James Miller, 1; Jno. Salthouse, 2; Wm. Gregson, 3; C. H. Kerr (conductor), 4; Jno. Fell, 5; R. Whiteside, 6. And in the afternoon, as the wedding party were leaving Lytham to spend their honeymoon, a 720 in the same method, with eighteen bobs and two singles, in 26 mins., the ringers standing as before, Jno. Fell conducting. Tenor 10½ cwt.

MITCHAM (Surrey).—*Chiming.*—On Sunday, August 10th, for afternoon service at Christ Church, various 120s of Grandsire and Plain Doubles and touches of Plain Bob Minor, and several hymns, were rung on the Ellacombe chiming apparatus. Wingfield Meadows, Esq., 1-2-3-4-5; Joseph Fayers, 6. And on Tuesday, August 12th, a 720 of Bob Minor. A. Brockwell, 1; Wingfield Meadows, 2; S. Greenwood, 3; Daniel Springall, 4; G. Pell, 5; Joseph Fayers (conductor), 6. Also several 120s of Stedman Doubles and Grandsire with extremes. Tenor 7 cwt.

MOLTON (Lincolnshire).—*Muffled Peal.*—On Sunday morning, August 10th, the following band rang a muffled peal as a token of respect to the memory of the late Mr. H. Sketcher, who had been a ringer sixty years and was 77 years of age. William Roberts (aged 81), 1; Robert Bailey, 2; William Waltam, 3; James Wilson, 4; Isaac Brooks (conductor), 5.

PRESTWICH (Lancashire).—On Sunday, August 10th, at the parish church, a mixed band of Whitfield and local ringers rang a 720 of Bob Minor, in 26½ mins. S. Barlow (conductor), 1; W. Warburton, 2; J. Rothwell, 3; James Partington, 4; E. Bradshaw, 5; W. Hilton, 6. Tenor 15 cwt. The ringer of the 4th is a very old veteran, he having been a ringer at the above church about half-a-century.

SPALDING (Lincolnshire).—On Wednesday, August 6th, at the church of SS. Mary and Nicholas, a 360 of College Single. J. S. Wright, 1; J. Wilson, 2; G. L. Richardson, 3; T. Blackburn (Salisbury), 4; R. Mackman, 5; J. Brown, 6. Also on Sunday, August 10th, for morning service, a 360 of Kent Treble Bob, also a 360 of Oxford Treble Bob. Also on Tuesday, August 12th, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob. J. S. Wright, 1; J. Wilson, 2; G. L. Richardson, 3; R. Mackman, 4; E. Brown, 5; J. Brown, 6. And on Tuesday evening, August 19th, a 720 of Oxford Single Bob, with eighteen bobs and two singles. R. Skeef, 1; G. Skeef, 2; J. Wilson, 3; J. S. Wright, 4; E. Brown, 5; R. Mackman (conductor), 6.

WEST HAM (Essex).—On Sunday, August 17th, 1884, seven members of the local company with Mr. J. Basden, of Farnham Royal, Bucks, rang a touch of Grandsire Triples, for Divine Service in the evening. G. Pearl, 1; H. Randall (conductor), 2; J. Basden, 3; J. Gobbett, 4; W. Doran, 5; S. Hayes, 6; S. Jarman, 7; F. Searle, 8. Tenor 28 cwt. in D.

WILLESDEN (Middlesex).—On Sunday, August 10th, for morning service, 720 Bob Minor, in 22 mins. A. Kirby, 1; M. Murphy, 2; F. Weare, 3; A. Pittam, 4; R. Kilby (conductor), 5; J. Jackman, 6. Tenor 9 cwt.

ERECTION OF A PEAL BOARD.

WITH the kind permission of the Rev. Percy Brent, M.A., last February a peal of Treble Bob Major was rung at St. Mary Magdalene, Enfield, this being the first performance of 5000 on the bells. Although several previous attempts were made, one lasting two hours and eighteen minutes, the band, so far as could be arranged on each occasion, were similar; certainly there was no lack of the old motto "If at first you don't succeed, try, try again." On Saturday, August 9th, the Rector met the successful company at his church. The tablet being in readiness, it was speedily fixed under his directions, and with good wishes from the Rector, the company then rang a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples, and a touch of Treble eight, when they left the tower to see the town, with many thanks to the rev. gentleman for his handsome present. It was intended to go for a peal, but the weather was too warm for the bells to go well, or the ringers to strike well, and anything like exertion, during such heat, was far from enjoyable.

It may be some of our readers are not acquainted with the town of Enfield; should those ever have an opportunity of going there by the Great Northern Railway, on getting out of the station, by turning to left the new church is about ten minutes' walk (the old church being to the right) up an incline known as Windmill Hill. At the top will be seen an old Windmill, still in working condition, from which the thoroughfare takes its name. The church is almost opposite, a Gothic stone structure, with a tower surmounted by a spire at the south end of the chancel. The lower portion of the tower serves as an entrance porch, there being a marble slab built in the wall, bearing the following inscription:—

TO THE HONOR AND GLORY OF GOD,
AND IN DEAR AND LOVING MEMORY OF
PHILLIP TWELLS,
OF CHASE SIDE HOUSE, ENFIELD,
SOME TIME MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT FOR
THE CITY OF LONDON
WHO DEPARTED THIS LIFE, MAY 8TH, 1880.
AGED 71 YEARS.
THIS CH: AND VICARAGE ARE BUILT AND ENDOWED BY
GEORGIANA H. TWELLS, HIS WIFE, A.D. 1882.

BLESSED ARE THE DEAD WHICH DIE IN THE LORD,
EVEN SO SAITH THE SPIRIT,
FOR THEY REST FROM THEIR LABOURS, AND THEIR
WORKS DO FOLLOW THEM.

A stone staircase leads to the ringing-room, and step-ladder to the bells, a peal by Messrs. J. Warner and Sons, London, provided with Seage's patent silent apparatus for dumb practice. While looking about the neighbourhood a call was made on Mr. C. Boswell, Sexton of the old church, dedicated to St. Andrew's. That gentleman soon produced the keys of this tower. A touch of Treble Bob was then rung, Mr. H. Hopkins here making one of the party. The touch was taken from the Treble Bob collections in "THE BELL NEWS."

When the evening drew on, one of the old comely inns of the town was invaded, overlooking the new river canal, the name of which we quite overlooked. Mine host we found in the rear of the premises, quietly enjoying a game of "bowls," on a spacious well-kept lawn. As was arranged previously by Mr. Gardom, a thorough repast was provided for the visitors. Due appreciation of its quality being observed, and the cloth removed, Mr. Gardom explained the reason of their being together that evening. As conductor of the peal for which a tablet had just been erected, he felt sorry Mr. Barrett could not attend, he being one of the performers. He was glad to see Mr. H. Hopkins present, and Mr. A. C. Fussell, the writer of the tablet.

Mr. G. NEWSON proposed a vote of thanks to Mr. Gardom for his hospitality. The handbells were then introduced, and several touches rung, in which Messrs. C. Hopkins, W. H. Doran, and the gentlemen previously mentioned took part. In concluding the half day's enjoyment, while returning home by train, considerable amusement was afforded by a comical company, who were slightly boisterous in their mirth.

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 STANFORD-LE-HOPE OPENING.

SIR,—As it happens that I was one of the members of the Essex Association present at the opening of the above, I may be able to give Oxford Treble Bob a more satisfactory reply than has as yet appeared. To use a term which the "invisible blue" are familiar with, as far back as last October, "from information I received" I was aware that the event was fixed for St. Margaret's day. Having had something to do in connection with previous dedications at Stanford, I was aware that it fell upon the 20th July, which this year happened to be Sunday. Without commenting upon the rumours that were afloat I may state, knowing some friends willing, I offered our services, but

was not successful in obtaining a reply. After hearing one of the "invited" few to the friendly meeting on the Tuesday say he was engaged for the opening which he maintained was to take place on that day, I accidentally met with "one from behind the scenes" who informed me that the opening was to be carried out by a band of the Norwich Diocesan Association, and as originally fixed to take place on the Sunday, consequently I came to the conclusion that my visit would so far as ringing be a matter of speculation. I intimated such to my friends, and accordingly only two ventured with me. Arriving at the church, we met another member of the Association on a visit to some friends in the village. With him we sought Mr. Holmes, and had the pleasure of meeting with a gentleman in every sense of the word, who at once removed our fears of a speculative journey. Before leaving we took part (two of us) in a 720 of Kent, which "rubbish?" got into print. This explanation, I trust will prove to Oxford Treble Bob that we were not "selected" to take part in the opening, neither were we invited to participate in the friendly meeting afterwards, which took place on the following Tuesday. Now, Sir, one word upon this opening. After the mass of correspondence upon an affair in the North last year, your excellent leading article upon the same, and your more recent admirable advice, at the close of your report of the Winterton opening, I should not have thought it possible for a thing of this kind to have taken place. I have not one single word to utter against any of the band that we had the pleasure of meeting (some of whom expressed regret that we did not go earlier, and take a full band), but if we as an Association had our services called into requisition to open six bells in another county, which had an Association 175 strong, I should look upon such as nothing but a farce. In conclusion, I believe surprise is expressed in some quarters that one having such enthusiastic ideas of Belfry Reform as myself should have taken part in an opening on the Sunday. Such might be worthy of discussion if those raising the point had a leg to stand upon. Desirous as I am of promoting Belfry Reform, I am not not so ancient a fossil that I could conscientiously debar myself the pleasure of taking part in such, especially when it afforded me also an opportunity of attending such a service as took place in the grand old parish church, on the evening of the opening of its ring of bells.

B. KEEBLE.

SIR,—I should have thought that the questions I asked, viz., why only four members of the Essex Association were selected to assist at the opening in lieu of an entire band were so simple that no one able would have hesitated, especially as it would have thrown a little light upon that which is regarded as an insult to a portion of the Association, as in the absence of an explanation, it must be assumed that such members are not considered capable of having such a duty entrusted to it.

OXFORD TREBLE BOB.

OPENING OF A NEW PEAL OF BELLS AT THE ROYAL TOWN OF SUTTON, WARWICKSHIRE.

SIR,—Under this heading we read in your paper of August 16th last past—"On Saturday, August 2nd, 1884, a mixed band of ringers from Birmingham and Erdington visited the royal town of Sutton, with the intention of ringing the opening peal on the new peal of bells erected in the parish church by Messrs. Taylor and Co., of Loughborough," but they could not manage it." What is the weight of the tenor?

BOB.

DOUBTFUL AUTHORSHIP.

SIR,—In your issue of the 9th instant is a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, containing the twenty-four 6-7's, by W. A. Tyler, Hitchin, which is exactly the same one as given in your paper of November 25th, 1882, by me, the calling of which, if compared, will be found to be at exactly the same leads; the only difference is that the single which alters 3-4 in the one by me, is called earlier in the part, that being only a matter of taste with the person who calls it. It has been rung at Monmouth three or four times over, both ways. I may also say that it may be made to contain the twenty-four 4-6's in the same manner, by beginning with a plain lead, and using the same calling.

E. A. BARNETT.

SIR,—Seeing in your last issue a quarter-peal by W. A. Tyler, of Hitchin, I beg leave to state that I have had the said touch for more than two years, having shewn it to Mr. John Carter of Birmingham, also to Mr. H. Johnson, but neither could say that they had seen it before. I then sent it to your paper but it did not appear, so I thought it must have been published before, and thought no more about it. It is the same touch referred to which was rung at King's Norton, on May 10th, 1883, and published on May 19th in this paper. I take this opportunity to send a few quarter-peals for insertion, if they have not been inserted before.

WILLIAM PALMER, JUN.

OUT OF TOWN.

Thursday, the wife and I visited Nottingham. Leaving Derby at 10.20 a.m., we were met on our arrival by our old friend Mr. John Hickman, who conducted us to his abode, where we partook of a substantial lunch he had kindly provided for us. After spoiling our appetites with the delicacies laid before us, he and myself took a ramble to somewhere in some street to a Mr. W. Abbott, who was to take part in a peal which we were going to attempt that evening at All-Saints. Having concluded our parlance with this gentleman, we retraced our steps as far as the tram, and from thence to dinner; this being done, we, that is Mr. and Mrs. Hickman, my wife and I, went for a stroll round the town. On our way, we passed the Duke of Newcastle's late residence here, which was partially destroyed by fire some years ago by rioters, but lately has been renovated and opened as a public museum, the grounds of which are tastefully laid out, and as it stands on a very high hill, commands a magnificent view of the town and surrounding country for miles. It happened on this particular day, that a monument was being unveiled in the grounds to the memory of the officers and men who fell in (I think) the Afghan campaign, the strains of a military band denoting something unusual was occurring. Passing from thence we proceeded through the stylish or west end part of the town; the residences here compare with our Kensington and Belgravia; at length we found ourselves walking under festoons, and Chinese lanterns swung from blue coloured poles, reminding one of our Lord Mayor's show on a smaller scale; what did this mean? Upon putting the question, I learnt the Lady Mayoress had inaugurated in their own grounds, a *conversazione* and bazaar in support of the Young Men's Christian Association. Still pursuing the even tenour of our way, we reached the residence of old Mr. Bob Metheringham, 84 years of age, a most enthusiastic ringer, but found him out. Time was gradually creeping on, so the ladies were left, and we made for the steeple of All-Saints, which we ultimately reached; 6.30 p.m. arrived, and we still waited for one, Mr. J. W. Taylor, jun., who did not come, so having one who had come by chance, we started, the following composing the band. J. Wibberley, 1; S. Wilkins, 2; W. D. Smith, 2; H. C. Woodward (conductor), 4; H. W. Abbott, 5; J. Hickman, 6; J. Howe, 7; S. Wilkinson, 8. We had rung about 55 mins., when we heard a sauntering footstep ascending the stone stairs with keys clanking. This inspired individual, a flunkey of some description, but evidently enjoying the privilege of disturbing a peal and roaming where he pleased *ad lib.*, entered the belfry with an air of nonchalance, and with a peculiar sound something between a whistle and a sneeze, and with uplifted hand, motioned to the treble man, that stopping the bells were his imperative instructions, in consequence of of some poor old lady suffering from tooth-ache or some other ache, our progress being thus abruptly arrested in the midst of good ringing was not at all amusing, and if looks would kill, that aforementioned "Garcon" would have been in Davy Jones's locker ere this. I was informed on good authority, that the outcome of this was, that practice at this steeple is so seldom indulged in, that any long length of ringing is sure to be disturbed. All I hope is that my Nottingham friends will benefit by this lesson, so that next time should I ever be one of a party there to attempt Holt's ten-part again, we may get it without a similar disturbance.

Having "donned our togs," we descended, and agreed to go for a pull at St. Peter's—Stedman Triples. The bells were raised in peal, and we started for a 504, but the bells refused to do it: so we started again and rang two courses, the first we rang over 400 changes, both being conducted by "yours truly." We found that as far as ringing was concerned, we had had *quantum sufficit*, as the bells do not all go to perfection, and made the ringing of them a laborious task, so having landed on *terra firma*, we proceeded to a hostelry kept by Mrs. Hickman's brother. Here a very pleasant evening was enjoyed, handbells of course being to the fore, upon which some good courses of Caters and Triples in Grandsire were given, likewise some very well struck tunes, especially one, "My own composing," being its title, a production claimed by the venerable Mr. Robert Metheringham before mentioned, which elicited loud applause, and exclamations of "Look about you, bogey," the meaning of which I have yet to elicit. Like everything mortal, this scene of our mirth and jollity ended, Mr. and Mrs. Hickman accompanying us to the station, where we bid them our last adieu as we steamed

from their gaze. How dramatic this last sentence sounds, it almost draws tears! Now at length I have reached the last day of our stay in Derby.

Friday, July 4th, was partly devoted to the work of repacking our travelling trunks, etc. The evening we spent at the house of Mr. Woodward, who in the end, saw us part of the way to our apartments. During our progress thither, the welkin was made to ring by the sepulchral notes from that intense instrument, the trombone, our treble man of St. Werburgh's notoriety, who had been engaged during the evening in the Arboretum—a rather bad apology for a recreation ground or park—and a friend of his were vieing with each other in their endeavours to please our *unmusical* ears with. I am afraid, no success. After this disturbance of the public peace had ceased, we took the opportunity of bidding our friends good bye till another year. We arose the next morning at 3.0 and left Derby by train at 5.0, arriving in London shortly after 9.0, having thoroughly enjoyed our roving commission.

Now Mr. Editor and gentle readers, I hope you will extend your kind forbearance to me for utilising so much valuable space in this estimable ringers' journal, knowing that I am not gifted in the art of condensing a report to so concise a form as could be desired, and this being my first attempt at paraphrasing should be excusable. And before closing, I wish to express my sincere thanks to all those gentlemen who so kindly contributed to make my outing a successful one, at in some cases, great personal inconvenience, and to you, Mr. Editor, for allowing the publication of the adventures of—I now drop the *nom de plume*—

W. D. SMITH.

THE BIRMINGHAM AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, August 16th, the above Association held their second annual meeting at Selly Oak, when a fair muster of members were present. After several touches on St. Mary's bells, the members repaired to the "Oak Inn," where the hon. sec. read the report and balance-sheet for the year, showing an increase both in number of members and finance, and urged all present to attend the quarterly meetings, and thus assist in the transaction of business, which he said was essentially necessary for the development and future prosperity of the Association. The Rev. Digby H. Cotes Preedy, of Kings' Norton, was elected president; Mr. Wm. Ellesmore of West Bromwich, Vice-president; Mr. John Wright was again elected Hon. Sec.; and Mr. John Carter of Birmingham, Hon. Treasurer. The following gentlemen constitute the committee: Mr. B. Stevens, Birmingham; Mr. W. Duffill, Bromsgrove; Mr. Farmer, Harborne; Mr. W. Perkins, West-Bromwich; Mr. John Finden, Hampton-in-Arden; Mr. C. Barnacle, Mosely; Mr. Thos. Lewis, Selly Oak; and Mr. Jas. Bond, Northfield. Thirteen new members were elected, making a total of 110. The next meeting will be held at Hampton-in-Arden, November 15th. Several touches and tunes were rung on the handbells. Votes of thanks were rendered to the late officers of the Association for their services, the meeting terminating with a hearty vote of thanks to the Rev. Mr. Price, vicar of Selly Oak, for the use of the bells of St. Mary's.

THE EASTERN COUNTIES' GUILD.

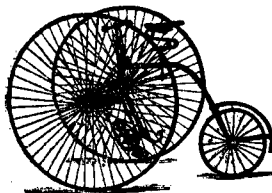
On Thursday, August 14th, seven members of this Guild visited Fleet, by an invitation of the rector, the Rev. J. H. James. On arriving there about 3.30 several touches of Minor were rung on the six bells until 5.30, when tea was provided at the rectory, presided over by the rector and Mrs. James. After a visit to the garden, and a touch on the handbells on the lawn, time arrived for starting on the return journey. The Rector, on bidding his visitors farewell, said he hoped the next time they came they would have a longer stay. The following are the names of those present:—Dr. J. T. Secombe, T. Blackburn, Salisbury; H. Eason, Terrington; J. S. Wright, R. Mackmau, G. Skeef, and J. Brown, Spalding.

NEW HANDBELL MUSIC.—Mr. William Gordon, of Stockport, the celebrated composer and publisher of handbell music, has now ready a stock of new music specially arranged for handbell companies. Mr. Gordon, who is a practical ringer both with the handbells and at the rope's end, and an eminent musician, is just the man to apply to for music of this description, in fact, the patronage he has earned for his pieces is sufficient to warrant this statement.

FOR SALE.—A splendid peal of Fifty-seven handbells. Mears, of London, makers. Pads, tablecloth, bags, and box complete. A bargain. Company broke up. Price £11. Apply—"Wm. Mallin, 17, Ault Street, Spon Lane, West Bromwich."

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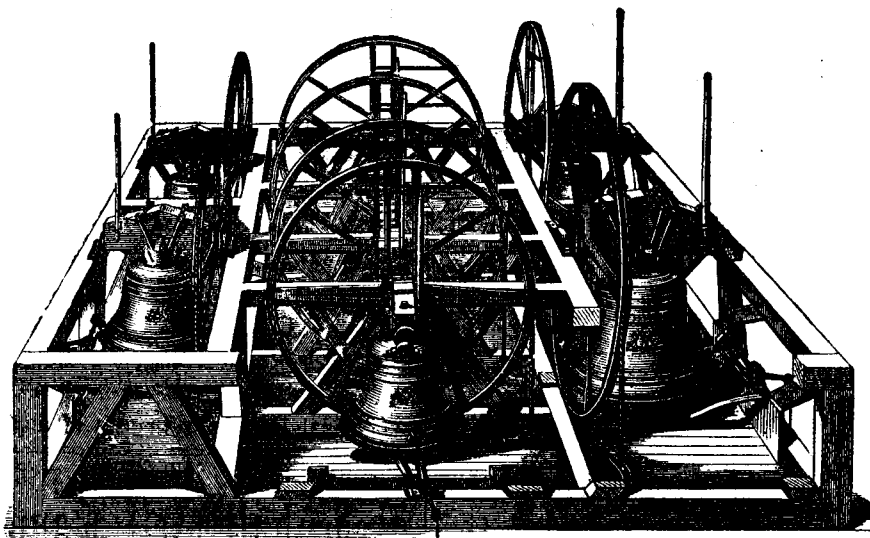
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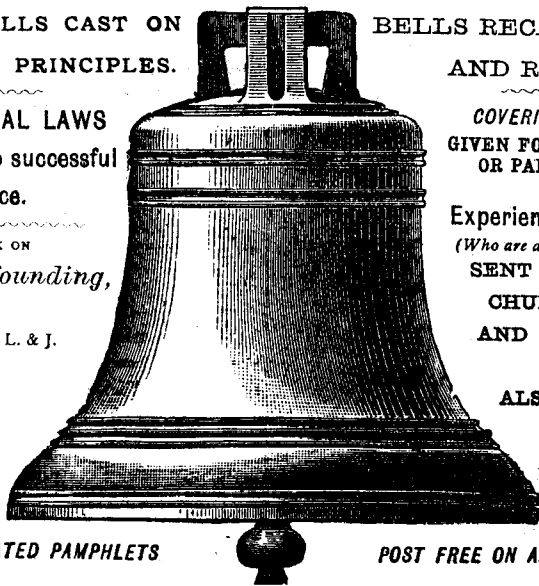
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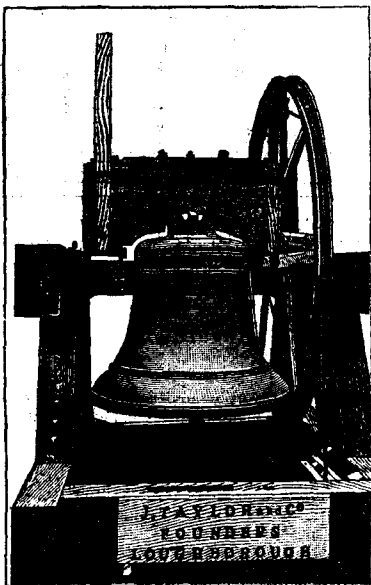
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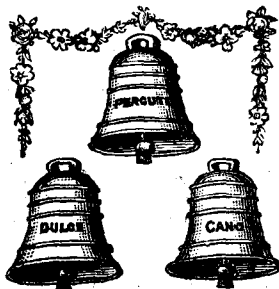
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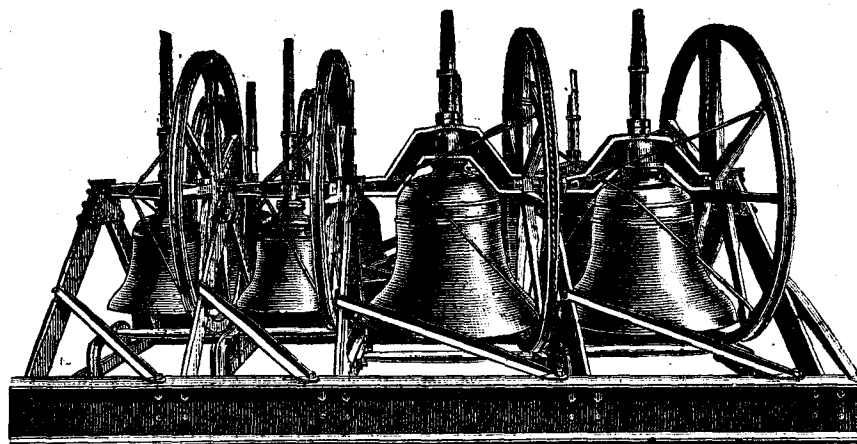
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NO. 126. [NEW SERIES.]—VOL. III.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 30, 1884.

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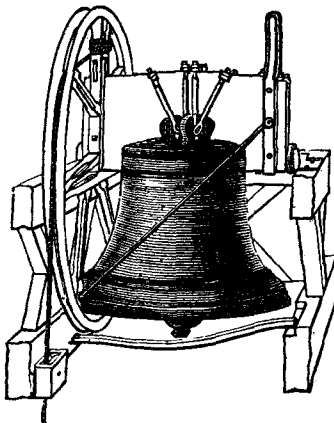
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The total amount paid in claims during the year was £48,779 18s. 3d., including £3,305 17s. 3d. Surrender Claims, making the total sum paid up to April 30th, £205,347 14s. 2d.

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OLD FRIENDS.

We suppose there are several young ringers of the present day who occasionally go to practice at the church of St. Clement Danes, in the Strand, and whom, we may venture to guess, have never yet seen the happy and obliging elderly gentleman who, for half-a-century, perhaps, as steeple-keeper at this church, used to so well cater to the wants of town and country friends—and not a few where they in the days of which we speak—who would pay a visit to this celebrated church, with its handy and well-going ring of ten. The old school of performers will not require to be told the name of the worthy to whom we allude. We should like it, however, to be known that he still survives, and is to be found not one hundred miles away from the church of St. Sepulchre, Snow Hill. The other evening we looked in at the meeting-house—there, as we entered, our gaze was met by that of this once celebrated ringer! This occasion is, perhaps, the first that he has been seen from home, among ringers, for some five or six years, having been confined to his house partly through the growing infirmities of old age, and partly from a desire to repose on his well-earned laurels. Yet this old veteran, retaining nearly every faculty, conversed freely with the company present, and fondly enquired for old friends among the Exercise, unseen for years, and all in that quiet, unobtrusive manner which years ago was characteristic of the man, yet with evident signs that although the corporeal frame was impaired, the mind had never become forgetful of the favorite art and its followers. The ringing career of our friend would prove a good subject for the author of *Thumbnail Sketches*, and we commend this to the serious consideration of that esteemed writer.

The short interview we had with such a celebrity of bygone days is equally worthy of mention in our paper as such sketches "Twelve days and over," ringers' outings on bicycles, or even trips to Birchington—though in the latter case two peals were rung in as many days. We may look well around at the present time and fail to find a more agreeable, sociable, and obliging steeple-keeper than was our old friend GEORGE STOCKHAM, the subject of these lines.

"Should auld acquaintance be forgot,
And never brought to mind?"

We think not. Though removed by age or infirmity from the ringing arena, our old veterans should be made to feel that they are not shelved or forgotten. We shall be old some day, if we live long enough. Then let us respect those who having maintained, through good and evil report, the prestige of our science, are advancing far into the evening of their days, and where we find it possible to throw a cheerful light upon the approaching shadow, to do so with a will.

HENRY DAINS.

THE ROYAL VISIT TO TYNESIDE.

Last week Tyneside was favoured by a visit from their Royal Highnesses the Prince and Princess of Wales, accompanied by Princes Albert Victor and George. On Wednesday ringing was the order of the day at the Cathedral and St. John's, Newcastle-on-Tyne. The latter church is situated in the line of route taken by the Royal party, and as the only mode of access to the roof of the church is by the belfry, several touches in different methods were brought to untimely ends by interruptions from persons ascending and descending. Owing to this cause, the only touch which was concluded was a 532 of Grandsire Triples. G. Campbell, 1; W. Reed, 2; W. Egglestone, 3; R. S. Story, 4; E. W. Scott, 5; S. Power (conductor), 6; W. Story, 7; F. Lees, 8. Tenor 12½ cwt. At the Cathedral the only touch accomplished was 252 of Grandsire Triples, in the evening, call-changes being rung all day. R. S. Story, 1; E. Wallis, 2; W. Story, 3; F. Lees, 4; F. W. Appleby (Burton-on-Trent), 5; R. Simm, 6; S. Power (conductor), 7; J. Gillings and R. Weddell, 8. Tenor 36 cwt. On Thursday, the Royal visitors journeyed by steamer to North Shields, to open the Albert Edward Dock. Accordingly it was arranged to attempt a 6000 of Kent Treble Bob Major, at Christ Church, North Shields, but after ringing 5500 changes in 3 hrs. 15 mins., the peal unfortunately came to grief. F. Lees, 1; W. Reed, 2; W. Story, 3; R. S. Story, 4; R. Wignall, 5; J. McGoun, 6; R. Smith (conductor), 7; Joel Hern, 8. Tenor 19 cwt. Previous to commencing the above attempt, the ringer of the sixth was elected a member of the Durham and Newcastle Diocesan Association, subject to confirmation at the next General Meeting.

THE DURHAM DIOCESAN CLERGY LIST, 1884.

As it is most probable that many of the performing members of the Durham and Newcastle Association very seldom peruse Clergy Lists, it would be desirable, says a valued contributor, to let them know of the following extract from the above list through their own organ, "THE BELL NEWS." We should be glad to see similar information published in every Diocesan calendar.

"DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION OF RINGERS. —This Association was formed August 25th, 1877, at a meeting of ringers held in the choristers' room of Durham Cathedral, for promoting change-ringing and belfry reform, in what was then the diocese of Durham. Rules were drawn up to admit all ringers desirous of promoting these objects on the payment of an annual subscription of one shilling. The clergy and others interested in the matter are admitted as honorary members on payment of five shillings per annum. The Association now includes the two dioceses of Durham and Newcastle, and has for its patrons the Bishops of the dioceses, the Dean of Durham, and the four Archdeacons. Its affairs are managed by a President, two Vice-Presidents, an Hon. Secretary, and Hon. Treasurer, and a committee, partly representative and partly composed of hon. members. The President is Mr. Reed, of the North Shields company of ringers; the vice-presidents are Mr. Leeds, of the St. John's Guild, Newcastle, and Mr. Overton, of the St. John's company, Darlington; the hon. secretary and treasurer is Mr. Clarkson, of the Stockton company. The annual meeting is held alternately at Durham and Newcastle, on the last Monday in October, at which a special service is held, the secretary's annual report is read to the meeting, and the officers elected for the ensuing year. Two district meetings are held at various places, one on the last Monday in February preceding Lent, and one on Whit Monday. The committee send instructions to those branches requiring them, and issue certificates of membership to members who can ring an inside bell into two methods of doubles (five bells), or the treble through a peal of Minor (six bells), and to hon. members. They have also drawn up a list of rules suitable for the regulation of a belfry, and will give information and advice upon all matters relating to bells, belfries, and ringing. Distinguished ringers not living in the dioceses of Durham and Newcastle, are admitted as life members on payment of five shillings. The Associations now numbers forty-seven hon. members, ten hon. and performing members, eight life members, 145 performing members, and has branches at Barnard Castle, Bishopwearmouth, Brancepeth, Chester-le-Street; St. John's, Darlington; St. Oswald's, Durham; Heighington; Christ Church, Jarrow; St. Peter's, Jarrow; the Cathedral and All Saints', Newcastle; St. John's, Newcastle; St. Stephen's, Newcastle; Newton Hall, North Shields, Sedgefield, South Shields, Staindrop, Stockton, Sunderland, Willington, and Winton."

VISIT TO TREDUNNOCK.

On Saturday, August 23rd, a band of ringers representing the Caerleon and Llanfrechfa bands, met at St. Andrew's, Tredunnoch, by the kind permission of the Rector, the Rev. C. T. Salusbury, who is himself a ringer. The tower contains a ring of six, in G², five of which were recast two years ago by Messrs. Llewellyns and James. The tenor is a very ancient bell, of probably 12 cwt., and bears an inscription of such indistinct characters that we could make nothing of it, it bore no date nor founders' name. The bells were set going, and soon afterwards the party adjourned to the Rectory lawn, where the Rector had kindly provided a good tea for the ringers. After tea the bells were again started, and the following touches were rung. Plain Bob Singles, Grandsire Doubles, with 5th the observation, a 720 of Grandsire Minor, in 28 mins., being the first 720 on the bells, Plain Bob Doubles, with 4th the observation, Plain Bob Doubles, with the 2nd the observation. The ringers stood in the Minor as follows: W. Powell, jun., 1; J. James, 2; F. Green, 3; E. Davies, 4; L. Jones, 5; W. Powell, sen., 6. After thanking the Rector for his hospitality, and partaking of further refreshment the party started homewards, having spent a very enjoyable afternoon.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

A DISTRICT MEETING will be held at Witham (six bells) on Saturday, September 6th. The tower will be open at 11 o'clock; Tea at the Albert Hotel at 5 o'clock; Business meeting immediately after. Members sending their names to the Hon. Sec. before September 2nd, will be admitted free to the tea.

The Great Eastern Railway will convey members to and from Witham at a single fare and quarter. Each member must show the Essex Association receipt for this year's subscription, when asking for his railway ticket. The Schoolroom will be open for handbell ringing.

H. A. COCKEY, Hon. Sec.

Rayleigh, S. O., Essex.

TWO MORE OUT OF TOWN.

By I. G. SHADE, *Greenwich.*

ON Saturday morning, August 2nd, my brother and I took our departure from King's Cross station for Manchester, from which city we were to embark for the scene of our rendezvous—Hyde, in Cheshire. I will not go into detail with respect to the journey, which by the way, was a very tedious one, as the weather was so extremely hot. We will consider ourselves safely arrived at Hyde railway station, where we were received and heartily welcomed by Messrs. Thomas and James Wilde, together with several other members of the St. George's Society. We had made the acquaintance of the Brothers Wilde when on a visit to London.

Having been introduced to the other members of the company present, we at once received the offer to attempt a peal at St. George's church, but the fatigue of the journey (eight hours and a quarter) and the lateness of the hour induced us to abandon it for that day at least. However, after partaking of refreshment, we repaired to the church, and rang a splendid touch of 1024 changes of Kent Treble Bob Major, conducted by myself, as also two courses of Stedman Triples, conducted by Mr. James Wilde. After this, we adjourned to the meeting-house of the Hyde company, where we spent a very enjoyable time, the handbells being brought into requisition, and the greatest harmony prevailing until eleven o'clock, when we retired for the night.

As early as 5.30 on Sunday morning we were up and out, the weather being beautifully fine. Piloted by Mr. Thomas Wilde, we indulged in a long walk up the hills which surround the town, and overlook the county of Derby. The view from the top is superb, reminding one of the scenery to be obtained from the Devil's Dyke at Brighton. But the principal object which attracted our attention was the church of St. Michael, Mottram-in-Longdendale, a quaint, old-fashioned structure, but of which I shall speak later on. Returning for breakfast, which was hastily despatched, we repaired to the church, and for Divine Service rang a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 39 mins., the particulars of which have already appeared in this paper. A walk round the town brought us near to the dinner-hour, and in the afternoon we paid a visit to Mottram, where we were received by Mr. R. Wright, and other members of the local company. There was no time to lose, so we went at once to the church, and rang a beautiful touch of Treble Bob, conducted by Mr. Wright. On leaving the church, Mr. T. Wilde drew our attention to the monument of the late William Harrison, which is a splendid piece of workmanship, and worthy a visit by any ringer who happens to be in the neighbourhood. After arranging for a peal of Treble Bob for the next day, we again made a move on the road to the town of Glossop, in Derbyshire, arriving there just in time to hear the finish of a well-struck touch of Treble Bob Major, in which Messrs. Mellor, Longden, and Thorp (three of "Ashton's bold heroes of metal and pluck.") took part. The touch being completed, and the inner man requiring some attention, we adjourned to the house of host Sellars, where about twenty of us sat down to an excellent tea, during which a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples was arranged, and shortly afterwards successfully rung. Then on again repairing to the house, the handbells were brought into use, about forty ringers having by this time mustered, it being the Glossop "wake." Some courses of Grandsire Caters and Cinques, in which we took part with the Ashton men, were rung.

The next morning (Monday) we were up so early as 6 o'clock, as we had arranged to walk over to Mottram to breakfast before starting for the peal. Before starting on the road my attention was called to a College Youths' certificate of the late Mr. James Wilde, by the side of which was recorded a peal of Treble Bob Major, 5184 changes, composed and called by the late William Harrison, and in which Mr. W. Banister, formerly of Woolwich, Kent, rang the 3rd. After a pleasant walk through country fields, we at length arrived at Mottram, where breakfast was ready at the house of host Middleton, another brother-string. This being over, we repaired to the tower, where, everything being in readiness, a start was made for the peal—a 5024 of Treble Bob Major, composed by the late W. Harrison—but which, owing to one of the band being suddenly taken ill, came to grief after about 3400 changes had been rung. After this, we started on the road to Stalybridge, where we were informed the Glossop band were ringing. We arrived, however, too late, and being one short of an efficient company went on to Ashton-under-Lyne, where we met the Glossop men. Here we also met Mr. G. Longden, and in the evening we were offered the chance of a peal with six of the long peal men, but as seven o'clock arrived before they could be got together, it was considered too late to attempt it that evening, so we rang some touches of Treble Bob and Stedman Triples, conducted by Samuel Wood, after which we adjourned to the Society House, where a very pleasant evening was spent. We were invited to go to the house of Mr. James Wood, where Mr. S. Wood (or as his mother thought well to call him "Our Sam") performed a touch of Treble Bob Maximus, a course of Sted-

man Triples, a course of Bob Major, and 336 of Grandsire Triples in a masterly manner on the piano. We then refreshed ourselves, and again adjourned to the house, where courses of Caters and Cinques were rang double-handed, and harmony was indulged in until 11 p.m. We were then informed that the last train for Hyde had gone, (and as there was not one after the last), we were obliged to resort to shanks' pony to convey us back home, so we were soon on the road, accompanied part of the way by Mr. John Thorp, who left us about 12.30, after which we trudged on with our pilots, Messrs. J. and T. Wilde, arriving home about 1.30, being thoroughly tired out.

Tuesday morning, we only took a stroll as far as Gee Cross, where we stayed till dinner-time, and then were conducted by Mr. T. Wilde to the Bellevue Gardens, a splendid place of amusement, being about eight times the size of Rosherville Gardens, Gravesend, Kent, and far more attractive. Here we staid until it was time to take train to Ashton, where we were to meet at 6.0 sharp; by 5.45 we were standing outside St. Peter's church, and by 6.15 we were all there except Mr. J. Mellor, and despite the efforts of Mr. Broadbent he could not be found. After waiting till 7.15, we very reluctantly had to abandon our peal, the disappointment on the part of the Ashton company being as great as our own. After spending about another half-hour in their company, we made a move to the railway station, they accompanying us. Here our farewell was taken of these gentlemen, mutually agreeing to ring a peal together at some future date. Arriving at Hyde, and Tuesday being practice-night here, we rung in a quarter-peal of Treble Bob (1280 changes), after which we adjourned to the meeting-house. Here our friend Mr. Fildes (better known as "The Boss,") informed his men that as "it was the last time round," something must be done to secure us a peal on the morrow, to which we all agreed. The remainder of the evening was spent in ringing and singing until 11 o'clock, when it was time to retire.

On Wednesday morning after breakfast, Mr. Samuel Bennett (who by the way is instructor of the Paisley society) took us for a long walk, after which, all three of us were conducted through a very large cotton mill, known as the "Slack Mill Company," permission having been obtained through the instrumentality of Mr. Walter Slater, another brother-string, who is a foreman on the works. This proved very interesting, as we had never seen anything of the kind before. From here, we were taken to Messrs. Wareham and Co's., wholesale hat manufacturers, permission having been granted here by the efforts of Mr. J. Shaw, another brother-string. By this time, 5.0 p.m. had arrived, and it was very near time to see about meeting for Mottram, and all having mustered, a start was made for St. Michael's Church, a beautiful ride of three miles. Repairing to the church, it was not long before "go" was called, and in 2 hrs. 52 mins., we had the indescribable pleasure of saying "that's all," having rung 5088 changes of Kent Treble Bob Major, which was duly recorded in our paper. On emerging from the tower, we could not help remarking on the coldness of the night. The explanation given us was that in Mottram they have nine months' winter, and three months' cold weather, so I leave the Exercise to guess when they have any summer. However, we were not long before we safely landed at Host Middleton's, who evidently knew what to prepare after a 5000, and to which we did ample justice, amidst the applause of the company present, over thirty-nine having mustered to hear the finish of our peal. Having rung two courses of Grandsire Caters in hand, and selected some views of Mottram Church, together with the photos of the 16,608 band, as also the late Mr. Harrison's memorial, it was quite time to see about getting home again, so the trap being got ready, and wishing each and all a last farewell, we were soon on the road back to Hyde, the journey being much enlivened by songs and anecdotal accounts of previous outings by the St. George's society, Hyde being reached about 11.45 p.m. Here again a last farewell took place, as we were bound for London the following morning.

Thursday morning, we found we had sufficient time left to visit our much-respected conductor, Mr. Thomas Wilde, after which we were accompanied to the railway station by Mr. S. Bennett. Thus terminated our six days' visit to Hyde, during which we had taken part in ringing 15,500 changes. The visit is one which will not easily be forgotten by us, owing to the uniform courtesy we received from all the ringers we met, and their great kindness in facilitating our work at each church. It is one thing to spend a few days in ringing at various churches, it is another to meet with such an enthusiastic class of ringers as was our experience to meet with during our stay, who strove to their utmost to make our visit as enjoyable as we could wish for, and thus earned our grateful thanks.

THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

THE next District Meeting of this Association will be held at Mitcham (by the kind permission of the Vicar), on Saturday, September 6th. Tower open for ringing during the afternoon and evening.

ARTHUR B. CARPENTER,

August 22, 1884.

Hon. Sec.

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS.

5003.

By ROBERT WILLIAMS, *Liverpool*.6 2 3 5 4 7th in and out at two.
4 5 2 6 3 7th with two.2 4 5 6 3 9th with three.
5 2 4 6 3 9th with three.
4 2 3 6 5 7 9.
3 2 5 6 4 7 9.
5 3 2 6 4 9th with three.
2 5 3 6 4 9th with three.
3 5 4 6 2 7 9.
4 3 5 6 2 9th with three.
5 4 3 6 2 9th with three.
3 4 2 6 5 7 9.
2 3 4 6 5 9th with three.5 2 3 6 4 9th with three. s.
3 5 2 6 4 9th with three.
2 3 5 6 4 9th with three.
5 3 4 6 2 7 9.
4 3 2 6 5 7 9.
2 4 3 6 5 9th with three.
3 2 4 6 5 9th with three.
4 2 5 6 3 7 9.
5 4 2 6 3 9th with three.
2 5 4 6 3 9th with three.
4 5 3 6 2 7 9.
3 5 2 4 8 6 7 9 9th with three.5 4 3 6 2 6th with two and 5th in.
3 5 4 6 2 9th with three.
4 3 5 6 2 9th with three.
5 3 2 6 4 8 9.
2 3 4 6 5 8 9.
4 2 3 6 5 9th with three.
3 4 2 6 5 9th with three.
2 4 5 6 3 8 9.
5 2 4 6 3 9th with three.
4 5 2 6 3 9th with three.
2 5 3 6 4 8 9.
3 2 5 6 4 9th with three.4 3 2 6 5 9th with three. s.
2 4 3 6 5 9th with three.
3 2 4 6 5 9th with three.
4 2 5 6 3 8 9.
5 2 3 6 4 8 9.
3 5 2 6 4 9th with three.
2 3 5 6 4 9th with three.
5 3 4 6 2 8 9.
4 5 3 6 2 9th with three.
3 4 5 6 2 9th with three.
5 4 2 6 3 8 9.
2 5 4 6 3 9th with three.3 5 4 2 7 6 9 8 9th in an out at two.
4 3 5 2 6th with three.
3 2 5 4 8th with three.

This peal has the 6th forty-eight courses behind the 9th.

A PEAL OF BOB ROYAL.

5100.

By JOHN R. PRITCHARD, *Liverpool*.

2 3 4 5 6 W M H

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

These last eight courses twice repeated, produce:— 3 5 2 6 4, when by calling bobs at 1, 3, 2, 1, 1, 1, 1, 2, 1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 5, bring the bells round. *This course is produced by bobs at 1, 3, 2, 1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 5.

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS.

5057.

By ROBERT WILLIAMS, *Liverpool*.5 2 4 3 6*
2 4 5 3 6 7 8.
4 5 2 3 6 7 8.
2 5 6 3 4 8 9.
6 5 4 3 2 8 9.
5 4 6 3 2 7 8.
4 6 5 3 2 7 8.
5 6 2 3 4 8 9.
2 6 4 3 5 8 9.
6 4 2 3 5 7 8.
4 2 6 3 5 7 8.2 3 6 4 5 8th with three.
3 6 2 4 5 7 8.
6 2 3 4 5 7 8.
3 2 5 4 6 8 9.
5 2 6 4 3 8 9.
2 6 5 4 3 7 8.
6 5 2 4 3 7 8.
2 5 3 4 6 8 9.
3 5 6 4 2 8 9.
5 6 3 4 2 7 8.
6 3 5 4 2 7 8.
5 3 2 4 6 8 9.

The last twelve courses repeated, and ten courses, produce:—

2 3 5 6 4

4 3 5 2 7 9th in & out at two.
3 2 5 4 7 8th with three.

*7th in and out at two with a double, twice.

TWO PEALS OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR.

By J. J. BRIERLEY, *Saddleworth*.

6144.

2 3 4 5 6 M B W H

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

Twice repeated.

5184.

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

Repeated.

Rung at Saddleworth, July 15th, 1884, conducted by its composer.

A $\frac{1}{2}$ PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES.

1260.

By ALFRED SQUIRES, *Hitchin, Herts.*

2 3 4 5 6 7

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

Five times repeated; a bob being substituted for a single at the end of the second and fifth parts.

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE MAJOR.

5040.

By JOHN CARTER, *Birmingham*.

2 3 4 5 6 I 2 3 4 5

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

Five times repeated; 8th in three instead of 8th in two at the end of the second, fourth, and sixth parts.

This peal contains the 6th twenty-four times wrong and right, the 5th twenty-four times right, and the twenty-four 8-6's.

Rung at St. Chad's, Birmingham, August 13th, by the Birmingham and District Association, conducted by its composer.

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB ROYAL.

5080.

J. H. HARDCASTLE, *Bradford*.

1st M B 2nd M W H

5 2 3 7 4 8 6 I I 2
2 4 3 7 5 8 6 I 2
4 2 5 7 3 8 6 2 2
2 3 4 7 6 8 5 I 2
3 6 4 7 2 8 5 I 2
3 2 4 6 5 7 8 4ths & in. 2
2 5 4 6 3 I 2
5 2 3 6 4 2 2
3 4 6 2 5 I I 2
2 3 4 5 6 2 2 2

Rung at the parish church, Bradford, February 2nd, 1884, conducted by its composer.

A 720 OF BOB MINOR.

By G. CONYARD, *Crayford, Kent*.S 3 2 5 6 4 4 6 2 5 3
S 2 3 6 4 5 6 5 4 3 2
3 4 2 5 6 5 3 6 2 4
S 4 3 5 6 2 S 3 5 2 4 6
S 3 4 6 2 5 S 5 3 4 6 2
4 2 3 5 6 S 3 5 6 2 4
S 2 4 5 6 3 S 5 3 2 4 6
4 6 2 3 5 S 3 5 4 6 2
S 6 4 3 5 2 5 6 3 2 4
S 4 6 5 2 3 6 2 5 4 3
S 6 4 2 3 5 S 2 6 4 3 5
S 4 6 3 5 2 S 6 2 3 5 4
6 5 4 2 3 S 6 2 5 4 3
5 2 6 3 4 S 6 2 4 3 5
S 2 5 3 4 6 S 2 6 3 5 4
S 5 2 4 6 3 6 5 2 4 3
S 2 5 6 3 4 5 4 6 3 2
S 5 2 3 4 6 S 4 5 3 2 6
S 2 5 4 6 3 S 5 4 2 6 3
5 6 2 3 4 S 4 5 6 3 2
6 3 5 4 2 S 5 4 3 2 6
S 3 6 4 2 5 4 2 5 6 3
S 6 3 2 5 4 S 2 4 6 3 5
S 3 6 5 4 2 4 3 2 5 6
S 6 3 4 2 5 S 3 4 5 6 2
S 3 6 2 5 4 S 4 3 6 2 5
6 5 3 4 2 3 2 4 5 6
5 4 6 2 3 S 2 3 5 6 4
4 2 5 3 6 S 3 2 6 4 5
S 2 4 3 6 5 S 2 3 4 5 6

Mr. Squires, of Hitchin, writes to say that the quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples sent by him, and published in our issue of the 9th instant, is false.

"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.

Everything for insertion in this Journal to be addressed "The Editor of THE BELL NEWS, Walthamstow, London." Letters forwarded for publication, and performances under 5000 changes must reach us not later than Wednesday morning; and the insertion of any communication coming later than the first Postal delivery on Thursday morning cannot be guaranteed in that week's number. When it is found impossible from want of space to insert all touches forwarded, the earlier ones will have the preference.

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.

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

To prevent disappointment, the Editor requests that stamps for extra copies of this paper may be sent direct to the Publisher.

J. R. JERRAM.—The first opportunity. We have not lost sight of it.

W. A. TYLER.—The publication of your letter now appears to be unnecessary.

R. CARTWRIGHT AND OTHERS.—Next week.

The Bell News & Ringers' Record.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 30, 1884.

To efficiently maintain a periodical system of ringing practices, it is necessary that the members of companies should, especially where their number is just sufficient to man each bell in the tower, make it a great point to be regular in their attendance at the time appointed. A laxity in this direction has been the cause of many a company coming to grief, though every other part of their administration was as near perfection as possible. And it is of course equally requisite that when a ringing company meets for the regular and appointed practice, the official whose duty it is to carry the keys should be on the spot at the time which is arranged for meeting. Many a company is accustomed to assemble on a meeting night at a street corner, at the base of the steeple, or in the most convenient spot near the church at which they are about to ring. To hang about in such places waiting for the above-mentioned official is not a very inviting occupation, and having waited for admission into the belfry for a length of time, and then "catching a fox" after all, is certainly very provoking, and calculated to give rise to remarks of a not very complimentary character, having a bearing upon the conduct of the delinquent. Whether the person whose office is to admit the ringers into the steeple is paid or not, or if paid is not remunerated sufficiently for his trouble, is unnecessary to enquire. We are pointing out the inconvenience which the unpunctuality of a steeplekeeper inflicts upon ringers. Where these officers find that the performance of other duties foreign to that of attending to the bells and belfry compels them to be behind time on a practice-night, or occasionally absent altogether, we unhesitatingly say that

they should yield up their post to those who could be more punctual. They should bear in mind that the safeguards with which they suppose the retention of office to be hedged, is no excuse for a breach of duty, or absence of courtesy.

We have of late had our attention drawn to several irregularities of the kind we are alluding to. It has been forcibly suggested that if we made an allusion to them in this place of our paper, such laches on the part of many otherwise good officials would be removed, or at any rate, minimised. An instance is reported to have occurred during the past week at a twelve-bell steeple in the metropolis, where a band anxious to ring were kept waiting for the steeple-keeper to appear, who never turned up at all. We hope the manner in which we have drawn attention to such an unfortunate occurrence may be the means of preventing similar cases in future. Though the postponement of a practice is an evil which cannot always be dispensed with, we think that where its maintenance is dependant upon the presence of the steeple-keeper, and he cannot attend, he should appoint a deputy, or else give previous notice that the meeting is off. These disappointments go a great way to create disgust of the general administration of a society, especially in the minds of those who are apt to magnify every petty hitch into a gigantic failure. In the interests of ringing we hope the parties concerned in these irregularities will try and remove them, and accept our remarks in the same kindly spirit in which they are offered.

The Metropolis.

THE SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.
 HIGHGATE, MIDDLESEX.

On Thursday, August 21, 1884, in Two Hours and Fifty-four Minutes,
 AT ST. ANNE'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
 BROOK'S VARIATION. Tenor 15 cwt.

GEORGE NEWSON Treble.	THOMAS TITCHENER.. .. 5.
CHARLES T. HOPKINS 2.	EDWARD CHAPMAN 6.
ARTHUR JACOB 3.	JAMES BARRETT.. .. 7.
JAMES HANNINGTON 4.	THOMAS GLEED.. .. Tenor.

Conducted by GEORGE NEWSON.

This is the first peal in the method upon the bells, and the first peal of Triples by Mr. Chapman. It was also rung to commemorate the 40th birthday of Mr. Geo. Newson. [We wish our friend Mr. Newson "many happy returns."—Ed.]

The Provinces.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—HULL.

On Tuesday, August 26, 1884, in Three Hours,

AT HOLY TRINITY CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
 Tenor 25 cwt.

TOM STOCKDALE.. .. Treble.	ROBERT CHAFFER 5.
CHAS. JACKSON 2.	JAS. DIXEY.. .. 6.
WM. SOUTHWICK.. .. 3.	FRANK DRABBLE 7.
HY. JENKINS.. .. 4.	CHAS. BENNETT Tenor.

Composed by the REV. CHAS. D. P. DAVIES, and conducted by CHAS. JACKSON.

This peal, which is now rung for the first time, has 490 changes in the first five parts, and 4550 in the last five parts, and will be found on page 531 of "THE BELL NEWS."

SIDMOUTH, DEVON.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS, AND
THE DEVONSHIRE GUILD.*On Wednesday, August 27th, in Two Hours and Fifty-five Minutes,*

AT ST. NICHOLAS CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S ORIGINAL. Tenor 15 cwt. in F.

SIDNEY HERBERT Treble.	GEORGE TOWNSEND.. .. 5.
H. LANGDON 2.	RICHARD FRENCH 6.
FREDERICK T. GOVER .. 3.	EDWIN SHEPHERD 7.
GEORGE T. McLAUGHLIN 4.	FERRIS SHEPHERD Tenor.

Conducted by RICHARD FRENCH.

Messrs. Herbert, Townsend, and E. and F. Shepherd hail from Exeter, the rest from London.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—HULL.

*Birthday Peal.**On Wednesday, August 20, 1884, in Two Hours and Forty-eight Minutes.*

AT ST. JAMES'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S TEN-PART. Tenor 15 cwt.

CHAS. JACKSON Treble.	ROBT. CHAFFER.. .. 5.
TOM STOCKDALE.. .. 2.	CHAS. BENNETT 6.
FRANK DRABBLE.. .. 3.	J. W. STICKNEY 7.
SAMUEL SLINGSBY 4.	JAMES DIXEY Tenor.

Conducted by TOM STOCKDALE.

The above peal was rung to record the 29th birthday of the conductor.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.
COLEORTON, LEICESTERSHIRE.*On Saturday, August 23, 1884, in Three Hours and Six Minutes,*

AT ST. MARY'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S 10-PART. Tenor 14 cwt.

JOSEPH WIBBERLEY Treble.	JOSEPH HARDY 5.
CHARLES A. FOX 2.	JOHN HOWE 6.
WILLIAM T. BILLINGHURST 3.	JOHN WM. TAYLOR 7.
HARRY CHAS. WOODWARD 4.	EDWARD WIGHTMAN.. .. Tenor.

Conducted by JOHN WM. TAYLOR.

Messrs. Howe and Woodward hail from Derby; J. Wibberley from Nottingham; and the rest from Loughborough.

HYDE, CHESHIRE.

On Saturday, August 23, 1884, in Three Hours and Thirty-nine Minutes,

AT ST. GEORGE'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 6048 CHANGES;

Tenor 15 cwt. 1 qr. 24 lbs.

JAMES S. WILDE Treble.	THOMAS WILDE.. .. 5.
RALPH PRICHARD 2.	SAMUEL BRADLEY 6.
THOMAS BRADLEY 3.	GEORGE LONGDEN 7.
THOMAS DIXON 4.	JOHN THORP Tenor.

The above peal has the 5th and 6th their extent each way in 5-6, and is now rung for the first time.

Messrs. Longden and Thorp hail from Ashton-under-Lyne; Dixon from Sheffield; the rest belong to the local society.

Miscellaneous.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

SALISBURY.—On Saturday, August 23rd, at St. Martin's church, a 720 of Bob Minor, with eighteen bobs and two singles, in 28 mins. E. A. Foster, 1; C. A. Clements, 2; W. Greenleaf (London), 3; T. Blackbourn, 4; W. W. Gifford, 5; J. R. Jerram (conductor), 6. Also a 120 of Oxford Treble Bob Minor by the same party. Tenor 15 cwt.

WILTON (Salisbury).—On Friday, August 22nd, at the church of SS. Mary and Nicholas, a 720 of Bob Minor, with nine bobs and six singles, in 27 mins. E. A. Foster, 1; J. R. Jerram, 2; W. Greenleaf, 3; C. A. Clements, 4; W. W. Gifford, 5; T. Blackbourn (conductor), 6. Also a 120 of Grandsire Doubles was rung by some of the above, with A. Musselwhite, 6.

THE ST. JAMES'S SOCIETY.

CAMBERWELL (Surrey).—On Saturday, August 16th, eight members of the above society attempted Holt's Original peal of Grandsire Triples, at St. George's church, but after ringing 1 hr. and 20 mins. it unfortunately came to grief, owing to a shift course. W. H. George, 1; F. G. Newman, 2; H. Langdon, 3; J. Barry, 4; Wm. Jones, 5; R. French (conductor), 6; H. J. Tucker, 7; D. Newton, 8.

THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

BROMHAM (Beds).—On Wednesday, August 13th, a 720 of Plain Bob Minor, with eighteen bobs and two singles, in 28 mins. F. Keech (first 720), 1; M. Warrick, 2; T. M. Smith, 3; I. Hills, 4; C. W. Clarke (conductor), 5; W. Biggs, 6. And on Saturday, August 16th, a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob Minor, with nine bobs, in 28 mins. C. W. Clarke, 1; F. M. Smith, 2; C. West, 3; I. Hills, 4; W. Biggs, 5; *J. Frossell (conductor), 6. *First 720 in the method.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

SOUTH SHIELDS.—On Thursday, August 21st, in honour of the visit of the Prince and Princess of Wales to Tyneside, six of the local company rang five 720s in each of the following different methods:—Oxford and Kent Treble Bob, Plain Bob, Grandsire Minor, and College Single, in 26 mins. each. R. Hopper, 1; A. Moffitt, 2; R. Scrafton, 3; Jas. Moffitt, 4; J. Hopper, 5; Jno. Moffitt, 6. Grandsire Minor and College Single was conducted by R. Hopper; Oxford, Kent and Plain Bob by Jno. Moffitt.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION AND ANCIENT SOCIETY OF
COLLEGE YOUTHS.

BRAINTREE (Essex).—On Tuesday evening, August 26th, a course of Durham Surprise was rung, also a 720 of Durham Surprise. F. Bumpstead, 1; F. Calthorpe, 2; H. E. Hammond, 3; W. H. Dyson, 4; F. Rudkin (conductor), 5; S. Hammond, 6. Tenor 14 cwt. Also 360 of Cambridge Surprise. This is the first 720 of Durham by any of the company, and is supposed to be the first that has been rung in the county, and was rung at the first attempt, the striking being good throughout.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

CAVERSHAM (Oxon).—On Saturday, August 23rd, six members of the St. Peter's society, Caversham, being also members of the above Guild, rang for practice on the handbells, a 720 of Plain Bob Minor, in 19 mins. J. Buttler, 1; E. Menday, 2; G. Essex, 3; T. Newman, 4; Rev. G. F. Coleridge (conductor), 5; E. Pottinger, 6. Also on Sunday, August 24th, four of the St. Peter's society, with the assistance of two brother-strings, also members of the above Guild, rang a 720 of Plain Bob Minor, in 27 mins. G. Essex, 1; E. Pottinger, 2; G. Gibbard, 3; H. Egby, 4; T. Newman, 5; Rev. G. F. Coleridge, 6. This society has only been started a month, before which J. Butter and E. Menday knew nothing about change-ringing. Tenor about 16 cwt.

OXFORD.—Handbell Ringing.—On Thursday, August 13th, on handbells, retained in hand, a 504 of Stedman Triples. O. Thomas, 1-2; W. C. Baston, 3-4; J. W. Washbrook (conductor), 5-6; S. Hounslow, 7-8. Also on Monday, August 17th, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, 1260 changes, in 35 mins. O. Thomas, 1-2; W. C. Baston, 3-4; J. W. Washbrook (composer and conductor), 5-6; W. Wakelin, 7-8. Also on Wednesday, August 20th, a 701 of Grandsire Caters, in 21 mins. O. Thomas, 1-2; C. Hounslow, 3-4; J. W. Washbrook (conductor), 5-6; S. Hounslow, 7-8; W. Wakelin, 9-10. The above touches were rung at St. Thomas's Club Room.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

ECCLES (Lancashire).—On Tuesday evening, August 19th, six of the local company rang at the parish church, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor, in 28 mins. Charles Cash, 1; Edward Cash, 2; James Barratt, 3; Richard Ashcroft, 4; Thomas Yeates, 5; George Henry Johnson (conductor), 6. Tenor 13 cwt. 3 qrs.

THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

BEDDINGTON (Surrey).—On Thursday, August 21st, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor, in 29 mins. *C. Martin, 1; *A. B. Carpenter, 2; E. Bennett (conductor), 3; J. Plowman, 4; J. Harris, 5; J. Cawley, 6. *First 720. Tenor 21 cwt. in Eb.

STOKE-UPON-TRENT ARCHIDIACONAL ASSOCIATION.

WOLSTANTON (Staffordshire).—On Monday, August 18th, several touches of Grandsire Triples were rung in honour of the marriage of Mr. Priestman, a member of the society. These were followed by Tittums, Whittingtons, Queens, and other set changes suitable to the occasion, after which the bells were fired down.

ASHOVER (Derbyshire).—On Saturday, August 23rd, a company of ringers from Crick visited this place, and rang several 120's of Grandsire Doubles. After adjournment for refreshment, several more 120's were rung with different calls, by a mixed company of Ashover and Crick ringers. The ringers of Ashover would take this opportunity of inviting any five-bell ringers to come and have a turn on the fine old peal of bells which are in very good ringing order. Tenor 18 cwt in F#.

BOURNEMOUTH (Hampshire).—On Sunday, August 17th, a 336 of Grandsire Triples. J. Bennett, 1; C. A. Clements, 2; C. Staden, 3; W. W. Gifford, 4; T. Green (conductor), 5; H. S. Thomas, 6; J. R. Jerram, 7; C. Scovell, 8. Tenor 20 cwt.

BENGEO (Herts).—On Friday evening, August 22nd, for practice, at Holy Trinity Church, a 720 of Grandsire Minor, with thirty-four bobs and two singles, in 27 mins. Edward Cairns, 1; Henry Phillips, 2; Matthew Ellsmore, 3; Stephen Knight (first 720 with a bob bell), 4; Thomas Gathard, 5; Herbert Baker (conductor), 6. Tenor 7½ cwt.

CHORLEY (Lancashire).—On Saturday evening, August 23rd, at St. Lawrence's church, a 720 of Bob Minor, in 27 mins. John H. Gartside (conductor), 1; William Heaps, 2; George Higson, 3; John Marsden, 4; George Gartside, 5; James Higson, 6. Messrs. G. and J. Higson hail from Blackrod, the others belong to Chorley. Tenor 12 cwt.

DARLEY DALE (Derbyshire).—On Monday, August 25th, the Ashover ringers paid a visit to this place, where they were met by some ringing friends from Crick, when a very enjoyable afternoon was spent in ringing 120's of Grandsire and Bob Doubles to different calls. An attempt was made to ring with cover, but owing to the Treble being out of order it was abandoned. The following are the names of the performers: Ashover: J. H. Beardow, T. Beardow, T. J. Beardow, G. Beardow, T. Hopkinson, and W. Hopkinson. Crick: J. Harrison, and G. Brown.

DITCHLING (Sussex).—On Sunday, August 17th, by kind permission of the rector, a mixed band rang the following touches for morning and afternoon service.—For morning service, a 720 of Oxford Single Bob, with eighteen bobs and two singles, in 23 mins. Jas. Worsfold, 1; F. Rice, 2; E. Streeter, 3; F. Streeter, 4; F. Wickens, 5; J. Gasson (conductor), 6. And after morning service, a 720 of Warnham Court Bob, with twenty-four singles, in 26 mins. E. Streeter, 1; G. Wickens, 2; G. Tullett, 3; J. Gasson, 4; J. Worsfold, 5; F. Wickens (conductor), 6. Also before afternoon service, a 720 of Plain Bob Minor, with four bobs and fourteen singles, in 26 mins. G. Tullett, 1; J. Gasson, 2; F. Streeter, 3; F. Wickens, 4; F. Rice, 5; E. Streeter (conductor), 6. Also a 360 of Oxford Treble Bob, with four bobs and four singles, standing the same as in the second 720, but with F. Rice at the 4th. And several touches of Oxford Bob and College Single, J. Jay, jun., of Brighton, and G. Leney, of Hurst taking part in the first. The company thank the vicar very much in giving them the use of the bells on that day, also to Mr. Baker steeple-keeper, for his kindness in making them so welcome. Thanks are also due to John Gasson for his kindness in getting such a nice party together.

FORDINGBRIDGE (Hants).—On Wednesday, August 6th, several 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles were rung. E. A. Foster, 1; J. R. Jerram, 2; J. Parsons, 3; W. W. Gifford, 4; C. A. Clements, 5; W. Lanham, 6. Tenor 16 cwt. The company were afterwards kindly entertained to tea at the vicarage, by the Rev. W. J. Boys, vicar.

GAWSWORTH NEAR MACCLESFIELD (Cheshire).—On Monday evening, August 11th, for practice, a 720 of Grandsire Minor was rung by the local company in 25 mins. John R. Henshall (conductor), 1; *James Simpson, 2; William H. Ingham, 3; William Henshall, 4; Charles Postles, 5; Walter Henshall, 6. *First 720 in the method. The above is H. Johnson's 720, with thirty-four bobs and twenty-six singles.

GREAT BENTLEY (Essex).—On Sunday, August 17th, after Divine service in the afternoon, three 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles, each called differently, and one 6-score of Plain Doubles. A. Bloice, 1; J. Starling, 2; J. Taylor, 3; S. Bloice, 4; W. Nevard (conductor), 5.

GT. BROMLEY (Essex).—On Sunday, August 24th, for morning service, three 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles, each called differently. A. Bloice, 1; J. Taylor, 2; J. Starling, 3; S. Bloice, 4; W. J. Nevard (conductor), 5. Also a 6-score of Bob Minor. A. Bloice, 1; G. Howell, 2; J. Starling, 3; S. Bloice, 4; J. Taylor (conductor), 5; W. J. Nevard, 6. Tenor 18 cwt.

GREAT WALDINGFIELD (Suffolk).—On Sunday, August 17th, for evening service at the parish church, a 720 of Bob Minor, with twenty-two singles, in 25 mins. Geo. Death, 1; H. Bowers, 2; Jno. Newman, 3; Alf. Hollocks, 4; A. Symonds (conductor), 5; Thos. Death, 6. Also a 360 in the same method, with three bobs and six singles,

in 13 mins. R. Theobald, 1; W. Hollocks, 2; J. Stiff, 3; A. Hollocks, 4; A. Symonds (conductor), 5; H. Bowers, 6. Tenor 14½ cwt. G. Death, J. Newman, and T. Death hail from Edwinstowe; A. Hollocks and W. Hollocks from Preston; A. Symonds from Lavenham; the others are local men.

HIGHER SUTTON (Cheshire).—On Wednesday evening, August 20th, this company were favoured with a visit from Mr. Colin E. Bell, of the rectory, Alderly, in this county, and Mr. Dan. Postles, of the same parish, and Mr. Chas. Postles, of Gawsorth, also in the same county, when three 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles were rung in 14 mins. Colin E. Bell, 1; Dan Postles, 2; Ed. Matthews (conductor), 3; Chas. Postles, 4; Wm. Ingham, 5; Wm. Walmsley, 6. And a 360 of Grandsire Minor, in 13 mins. Wm. Walmsley (conductor), 1; Dan Postles, 2; Wm. Hulme, 3; J. M. Davenport, 4; Wm. Ingham, 5; T. Mottershead, 6. Also a 720 of Grandsire Minor, in 27 mins. Colin E. Bell, 1; Wm. Ingham, 2; Ed. Matthews, 3; J. M. Davenport, 4; Wm. Walmsley (conductor), 5; T. Mottershead, 6. This is the first 720 by Colin E. Bell, and the first with a bob bell by the conductor. These touches were rung early in the evening, after which all repaired to the village inn, where a few courses of Grandsire Triples were rung by the following: Wm. Ingham, 1-2; Wm. Walmsley, 3-4; J. M. Davenport, 5-6; T. Mottershead, 7-8. The visitors then left for Gawsorth, three miles distant, promising to again visit Higher Sutton before long, after which a few more courses were rung upon the handbells, in which Wm. Hulme and Ed. Matthews took part. Also on Sunday morning, August 24th, a 720 of Grandsire Minor, with thirty-six bobs and twelve singles, in 26 mins. W. Walmsley (conductor), 1; Wm. Kenny, 2; Ed. Matthews, 3; J. M. Davenport, 4; Wm. Ingham, 5; Thomas Mottershead, 6. Tenor 12 cwt. in G.

HITCHIN (Herts).—*Handbell Ringing.*—On Monday, August 25th, at St. Mary's church, a touch of Grandsire Triples, being the first part of Holt's ten-part peal. H. Buckingham, 1; J. Randall, 2; W. French, 3; W. A. Tyler (conductor), 4; A. Squires, 5; S. Hare, 6; J. Hare, 7-8. Also a 6-score of Grandsire Doubles. W. Kitchenor, 1; W. A. Tyler (conductor), 2; A. Squires, 3; S. Hare, 4; J. Hare, 5; H. Buckingham, 6.

INGRAVE (Essex).—On Sunday evening, for Divine Service, a 120 of Grandsire Doubles and London Doubles were rung. W. Boosey, 1; A. J. Perkins, 2; W. J. Aldridge, 3; W. Tyler, 4; G. Galley, 5. Tenor 14 cwt.

LIVERPOOL.—*Handbell Ringing.*—On Tuesday, August 19th, at the house of Mr. T. Beacall, Lark Lane, 2052 of Grandsire Caters. T. Beacall, 1-2; R. S. Mann, 3-4; W. James, 5-6; J. Aspinwall (conductor), 7-8; J. R. Pritchard, 9-10. Also on Friday, August 22nd, 2012 of Grandsire Triples. W. James, 1-2; J. Aspinwall (conductor), 3-4; J. R. Pritchard, 5-6; W. Davies, 7-8. Also a course of Stedman Triples by the same, this being the first attempt of W. Davies in the method.

READING (Berks).—On Tuesday, August 26th, at St. Laurence's, a 742 of Grandsire Triples, from Holt's Original, by members of the Oxford Diocesan Guild and the St. Laurence's society, being the usual quarterly practice of the Guild in that tower. W. H. Holloway, 1; G. Gibbard, 2; W. Johnson, 3; S. Paice, 4; H. Blissett, 5; W. Newell, 6; H. Egby (conductor), 7; W. J. Williams, 8.

WIGAN.—On Sunday, August 25th, on the occasion of the annual sermons for the Sunday Schools of the parish church, there was rung for morning service, a 336 of Grandsire Triples, in 14 mins. T. Halliwell, 1; S. Turner, 2; J. Gummerson, 3; G. Walker, 4; W. Bentham, 5; J. Hall, 6; G. C. Hall and A. Shaw, 6; J. Hall and J. Mason, 8. Also for evening service a 504 of Grandsire Triples, in 19 mins. G. Turner, 1; S. Turner, 2; J. Gummerson, 3; W. Bentham, 4; G. Walker, 5; S. Hall, 6; G. C. Hall and T. Hodson, 7; R. Fisher and J. Hall, 8. Tenor 28 cwt. in C. Both of these touches were conducted by W. Bentham, of the Ormskirk Society.

WIMBLEDON (Surrey).—On Tuesday, August 12th, for practice at St. Mary's church, the local company rang a 720 of Bob Minor, with nine bobs and six singles, in 26 mins. G. Hyde, 1; 1; R. Moss (first 720 in the method), 2; C. Hyde, 3; J. Purkiss, 4; A. Garrott, 5; A. Frost (conductor), 6. Also on Wednesday, August 13th, in honour of the marriage of Mary Louise, third daughter of Richard Hunter, Esq., of The Copse, Wimbledon, to Edmund Whitelock, eldest son of Edmund Reeves, Esq., of Wimbledon, a 720 of Grandsire Minor in 26 mins., also a 360 of Oxford Bob Minor, and several 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles, the ringers standing in the same order as above.

WORSLEY (Lancashire).—On Tuesday evening, August 19th, being the usual practice-night, seven of the local company, with Mr. John Welsby, of Walkden, rang a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, 1260 changes, in 45 mins. Frederic Derbyshire, 1; James Henry Ridyard (conductor), 2; Joseph Derbyshire, 3; John Welsby, 4; Richard Ridyard, 5; Thomas Derbyshire, 6; John Thos. Baguley, 7; Samuel Pennington, 8. Tenor 21 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."

ALL SAINTS, EASTBOURNE.

SIR,—Allow me to thank Mr. Bennett for calling me—in metaphorical language—to my place. I must plead ignorance for my excuse, and trust that Mr. Bennett will not waste his time in trying to penetrate my stupidity. I am pleased to find that Mr. Bennett admits some of my facts. The epithet "Churchyard Bob," as applied to All Saints' ringing, he terms "obnoxious," and hopes a justification will be submitted. He also admits that when six of his party received an invitation eleven came. As an excuse for this, he says that he, as a leader, has no control over the members of his band, nor can he "forbid them to be uncourteous." The term "Churchyard Bob" Mr. Bennett says has developed a "previously ill feeling," who to? St. Mary's to All Saints, or *vice versa*? The only misunderstanding that has occurred before, as far as I can gather, was some fifteen or sixteen years ago. Surely Mr. Bennett does not want this old sore to bleed afresh? And who, pray, is it that shows this previously existing ill feeling? But I will say no more on this, it is extraneous matter. I have but little more to add in answer to Mr. Bennett. The gentleman who received an invitation, according to Mr. Bennett, received it unbeknown to the majority of All Saints' band. If he rejected it because the company he wanted with him was not allowed, is that to be construed as an insult? If Mr. Bennett asks me to tea, and I impertinently take four or five with me, and he tells me I am welcome but he cannot take the chairs from the table to suit the new comers, is that an insult to me? or does the arrow blow the other way? Mr. Bennett says that their belfry is open to us every practice night. I have been a member since the formation of our Society, and can but remember one visit to St. Mary's, and that was when all four societies in the town met together. One of our members has been in St. Mary's on four occasions, and has not even been asked to participate in the change-ringing. And as for the one who rang the tenor a few evenings ago, he would most probably not have been asked to do so, if there had been anyone else present who could have done so. I am sorry to trespass on your space so much as I have done, and take this opportunity of thanking you for your kind indulgence. All we want is amiableness and equity; we do not wish for discord, or perverted facts, and as Mr. Bennett admits the facts I put forward, I trust the matter may now end, and the only wish I have for Mr. Bennett is that his "benighted arithmetical knowledge" is steadily advancing. Mr. Editor, my salutation! farewell.

JAMES WEST (TENOR-BELL.)

QUARTER-PEALS OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES.—DOUBTFUL AUTHORSHIP.

SIR,—The quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples published by Mr. Tyler, is the same as published by Mr. Barnett in No. 34 (new series), with a transposition of a bob and single, as he states, but the honour of producing this quarter-peal in six parts does not belong to either of them, but to the Editor of "THE BELL NEWS," who published it more than two years ago, and, I believe, it was first rung at St. Edward's, Romford, where it has been rung two or three times. In No. 9 (new series), it is given thus: A single first lead; call two 6-7's; 7th before with a double; 7th before; and single the following lead, etc. Now I contend, and our most celebrated composers will bear me out, that a colourable imitation of this quarter-peal of our Editor's, is only a variation of it. Mr. Palmer, King's Norton, also states that he has had the same for more than two years; that may be, but he ought to know that it is a rule among brother-strings that whoever publishes a composition first, can claim the precedence for such; the same applies to anything rung, I think. Mr. Palmer should also bear in mind that we have a ringers' paper now, whose columns are not limited to one page only, but twelve pages, wherein he might have published his composition.

A. J. PERKINS,

Romford.

Royal Cumberlands.

[It is only just to Mr. Palmer to say that he sent us the quarter-peal he alluded to last week, but the reason for its non-appearance was that it had previously been inserted.—Ed.]

THE STANFORD-LE-HOPE OPENING.

SIR,—Having read Mr. Keeble's letter in last Saturday's "BELL NEWS," I feel bound to let your readers know the real facts of the case. I was requested by the Rector to bring a select band of the Essex Association to open the bells on July 20th. As that day fell on a Sunday, I asked him if possible to alter the date of the opening. In reply I received a letter from him stating that the formal opening of the bells should take place on Tuesday, July 22nd, and that the tower should be open to any members of the Association who might wish to ring there, on Saturday, July 26th. I sent a notice to this effect for publication in your paper; but, as you know, Sir, owing to

an unfortunate mistake, which occurred through no fault of mine, that notice did not appear in the form in which I sent it, and our members may not have understood from it that they were to have an open day on the Saturday. My reason for asking for the alteration of date was this. I do not consider that I should have been acting in accordance with the principles of our Association had I invited members to leave their own belfries on a Sunday, in order to be present at the opening of a new peal. For does not the improvement of ringing in our various churches imply amongst other things, regular attendance and good ringing for the Sunday services? I was surprised, too, that Mr. Keeble, having been present on St. Margaret's day, and having rung with the "Norwich Association" band, of which he makes such capital, should have neglected to mention in his letter a fact which he *must* have known, that this band consisted of the men who had been hanging the bells, assisted by one friend who happened to be in the neighbourhood. From his letter one would naturally conclude that, instead of Mr. Holmes and the men from his foundry, who had been in Stanford for weeks, a party of the Norwich Association had been sent for from Norfolk or Suffolk to come and ring the Stanford bells. One more remark and I have done. When a new peal is opened, those in authority naturally wish to have the very best ringing that can be got; and therefore they are wise when they ask the Secretary of their Association to select a band for the opening day, instead of having a large gathering of ringers, amongst whom there are sure to be some very indifferent strikers, who none the less would expect to have a pull during the day. When, as was the case at Stanford, an open day is fixed in the same week, who can complain? Certainly no thorough ringer who has any feeling of pride in his Association. Such a man would be satisfied if the ringing done is a credit to the Association: and if he did, by chance, think that a better selection might have been made, he would offer his advice privately to the Secretary, instead of trying to shew to the ringing world that he has failed in the management of the Association's business.

H. A. COCKEY,

Hon. Sec. to the Essex Association.

SIR,—If it had not have been for that sarcastic remark made by Mr. Keeble in his letter, I should not have replied any more. When I used the word "rubbish," I did not in any way mean it to allude to the ringing of any 120 or 720, but for putting the same names down for every touch or peal. If I recollect right some time ago the same sarcastic remarks came up about the word "common," in a speech made at Barking, referring to Grandsire Triples, but that was not properly understood by a great many. I cannot make out why "Oxford Treble Bob" should be so jealous, for the Secretary must choose a band from somewhere. I might say that the band he chose came from all different churches. I suppose he thinks that they should all come from one place, but I can tell him this much, that the Association did not pay anything out of its funds towards the expenses of those that did attend, so he will not have that to complain about when he sees the Annual Report and balance-sheet. He says that there was only four members invited; perhaps he can also inform you how there came to be seven there. Whoever "Oxford Treble Bob" is, I think he is labouring under a great misunderstanding, and it would be as well if he was to divulge his name, then anyone would know what to say or do.

H. RANDALL.

[Correspondence on this subject must now cease.—Ed.]

OPENING OF A NEW PEAL OF BELLS AT THE ROYAL TOWN OF SUTTON, WARWICKSHIRE.

SIR,—In your issue of the 23rd I noticed a question asked by your correspondent "Bob," as to what was the weight of the tenor. I must say it was not on account of the weight of the bells that we could not manage to ring the peal, but the bad circle of the ropes, coupled with the bad go of the back bells renders a peal very uncertain at present. The tenor weighs 26 cwt., and is in Eb.

ROBERT.

SIR,—In answer to the communication from "Bob," in your last issue, the weight of the tenor is 26 cwt.

SINGLE.

CHRISTCHURCH, HANTS.

ON Saturday evening, August 23rd, a party of ringers from Bourne-mouth visited this grand old priory church, and attempted to ring the heavy peal of eight bells, but everything was in such bad order that it was found almost impossible to keep them up in rounds. One six-score was rung through very indifferently on the front five, with 6-7-8 covering, there being two men to the seventh, and two to the tenor. The ringers present were Messrs. Grist, Staden, Romsey, Jerram, Clements, Belbin, Vivash, Garrett, Coulbourn, Merritt, Green, and several others.

THE KINGSTON-ON-THAMES SOCIETY.

On Monday, August 18th, twelve members of the above Society, accompanied by the worthy host of their ringing-house, Mr. Harvey, left Kingston by train for Cannon Street, and took the boat from London Bridge en route for Woolwich. On their way down they played selections on the handbells, much to the delight of the passengers on board. Their destination being reached about 10.30, they at once made their way to the parish church of St. Mary's, where they found everything in readiness, and the veteran steeple-keeper, Mr. H. Bright, anxiously awaiting their arrival. After refreshing the inner man they ascended the tower for the purpose of ringing a 5040 Grandsire Triples—Holt's one part—which came to grief when about 2000 changes had been rung in one hour and a quarter. Short touches were however, afterwards rung.

During the afternoon, the visitors made their way across the common to the residence of Mr. Churchwarden Woodford, where they had been invited, and sat down in the open to an excellent meat tea, which had been provided for them, Mr. Woodford undertaking the duties at the head of the table. After doing justice to all the good things provided, and the cloth being cleared, a selection of tunes was played on the handbells. Mr. Harvey gave a recitation, and Mr. and the Misses Woodfords a selection on the violin, which brought a very pleasant evening to a close. Before leaving the visitors thanked Mr. Woodford for his kind hospitality, and drank his health with musical honours. In reply, Mr. Woodford said that the visit of the company gave him great pleasure, and he hoped they would pay him a visit another year. The company now made their way back to the meeting house, where a host of friends were waiting for the handbells, which were again brought out to please the company this time and not the performers, as their hands began to feel the effects of the day's work, but they set to as though they were just commencing, and played up till the time of starting for home, to the delight of all present. They made their way to the station, accompanied by several friends, and safely reached home about 12 o'clock, well pleased with their day's outing. They wish to thank the Vicar and churchwardens for the use of the bells, also to Mr. H. Bright, for his kind attention during the day, and the ringers for their attendance.

VISIT TO LINCOLN.

On Saturday afternoon last, the members of the St. James's society, Hull, accompanied by several friends, paid a visit to Lincoln. On arriving at the Midland Railway Station in that city, the visitors were met by Mr. Mat. Otter and several other brother-strings, who gave them a most hearty greeting. An adjournment was at once made to a haven of rest, where nature's wants were attended to, and a plan of operations was resolved upon.

After a brief delay, the church of St. Peter-at-Arches was first visited, and permission being granted, several touches of Bob Major, Grandsire Triples, etc., were rung. It was intended to ring a date touch, but the weather being excessively hot, the idea was abandoned. The bells are of good tone, and the first six go fairly well, but the tenors want re-hanging badly, and it would be a very difficult job to ring a peal in their present condition. Leaving St. Peter's the party ascended Steep Hill, on which stands that glorious old fabric—Lincoln Cathedral. The bells here are being rehung by the Messrs. Taylor, who are also connecting the independent frame on which the bells are fixed, to the tower itself. This operation will undoubtedly add to the go of the bells, and we hope to hear of a few peals being rung on them when they are finished. Under the guidance of the ever energetic Mat Otter, some of the party ascended the bell tower, from which a charming view of the surrounding country is obtained.

On leaving the cathedral the visitors adjourned to the "Black Boy," where they had the pleasure of renewing their acquaintance with "Jack." For the information of those who don't know, the said "Jack" is a leather jug, which was presented to the city ringers in 1782, by Alderman Bullen, and whose capacious maw (the jug's, not the alderman's) holds 11 quarts, 1 pint. There was a goodly company present who appreciated the contents, and a couple of hours was passed merrily away with change and tune ringing on the handbells which the visitors took with them. The next move was through the town, and on to the Conservative Club, where more tunes were played, and as the Liberal Club next expected a visit they repaired there, where the handbells were again brought into use, and the efforts of the company to amuse were thoroughly appreciated. Time being nearly up, the next move was to the Station, where the visitors bid adieu to their Lincoln friends. They take this opportunity of thanking them for their kindness, especially Mr. Mat. Otter, who is one of the right sort, and spared no pains to make the visit enjoyable, and if at any time they should visit Hull, the St. James's company will only be too happy to make their visit a pleasant one.

* * We shall be happy to send handbells for distribution to any of our friends who may be anxious to promote the circulation of "THE BELL NEWS."

THE ST. MARY'S SOCIETY, EASTBOURNE.

THE Annual Meeting of members of the above Society took place on Monday, August 18th, Cuckfield and Bolney being selected for the occasion, a fine peal of eight at each place being with the kind permission of the respective Vicars available, the peal at Bolney being particularly noted for its musical tone. Leaving Eastbourne by the 6.0 a.m. train, accompanied by the Rev. R. S. Woodward and Mr. J. Welsh, and three from All Souls' church, the party arrived at Haywards Heath Station at 8.3. After a pleasant walk through fields we found ourselves in the Cuckfield churchyard at 8.50. After a few minutes' survey of the South Downs a "dodge" was made towards the Talbot Hotel, where a substantial breakfast was awaiting. This, our first touch being satisfactorily performed without bobs or singles, a move was made to the tower. The bells were raised in peal, and a touch of 938 Grandsire Triples, conducted by Frederic Harding, was rung. Several of the party having meanwhile started through fields and woods to Bolney, the remainder proceeded in conveyances to the same place, all arriving about the same time, the pedestrians being full of the beauties and enjoyments of the walk, but judging by the manner in which they wiped the sweat from their brows, and placed themselves on the churchyard turf, those that enjoyed the ride could scarcely envy them. After partaking of luncheon, kindly provided by the Vicar, the Rev. H. H. Wyatt, the bells were set in motion, and Grandsire Triples, including a 1000 of Reeves's Variation were rung. Heartily thanking the Vicar for his kindness, the return to Cuckfield was made (extra conveyances being engaged) the ride back being considered an agreeable change by those that had so much enjoyed the walk out. Host Dumsday had by this time provided a most excellent dinner, to which ample justice was done, the Rev. Woodward presiding, faced by Mr. J. Rollison, supported by Mr. Welch and Mr. A. Dumsday, sen., the oldest local ringer, and leader. The usual toasts given and responded to, the belfry was again visited, and 1100 Grandsire Triples (intended for a quarter-peal, but came to grief through a false call), was excellently rung, two of the local ringers taking part, Mr. A. Bennett and Mr. Mead. A most pleasing feature in the ringing to those listening outside, is a remarkable echo, heard about 300 yards south of the tower, the repeated sound being considered more pleasing than the actual striking of the bells. Another move to the Talbot, and tea partaken of, after which a few short touches with the local ringers, and then started for home arriving at Eastbourne about 9.30, everyone apparently well satisfied with the outing.

The above company take this opportunity of thanking the Rev. Woodward for the great interest taken by him in promoting and conducting the affair; also to those that so liberally subscribed to the expenses. Also to the Rev. Mount, of Cuckfield, and the Rev. Wyatt, of Bolney, for their permissions to use the bells; and the local ringers of both places for their courtesy and kindness in having the bells in good ringing order for the occasion.

THE EAST LINCOLNSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday last, August 23rd, five members of the above Association visited one of the most picturesque churches in Lincolnshire, that of SS. Peter and Paul, Algarkirk, and rung six 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles, after which the ringers were entertained at the Rectory to a knife and fork tea, after which an inspection of the Rectory gardens was made. They then proceeded back to the church, and rung four 6-scores of Grandsire and two of Plain Bob Doubles. *T. Rogers, 1; G. Clarke, 2; *W. F. Harwood, 3; *E. Mason (conductor), 4; *J. M. Rylatt, 5. *Also members of the South Lincolnshire Association.

RESPONSE TO APPEAL.

Mr. Samuel Smith, of Knightsbridge, writes:—I beg to forward a list of subscriptions received in answer to the appeal for bell ropes, &c., which you kindly inserted on behalf of the ringers of Walgrave, Northampton. I am happy to inform you that the amount received enabled me to purchase six ropes, which have given satisfaction to the ringers. The balance has been devoted to the rehanging of the 6th bell. On behalf of W. W. Badcock, Esq., and E. M. Farrar, Esq., I have to thank all those who so kindly subscribed. The following are the subscribers:—St. Margaret's society, 8s. 6d.; St. Margaret's scroof ringers, 5s. od.; Waterloo Society, 2s. 6d.; E. F. Cole, Esq., 1s.; T. Taylor, Esq., 1s.; — Daniels, Esq., 1s.; W. Bingham, Esq., 1s.; Cumberland Society, 6s.; Private Friends, 5s. Total, £1 11s. od.

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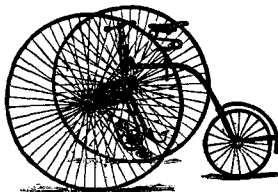
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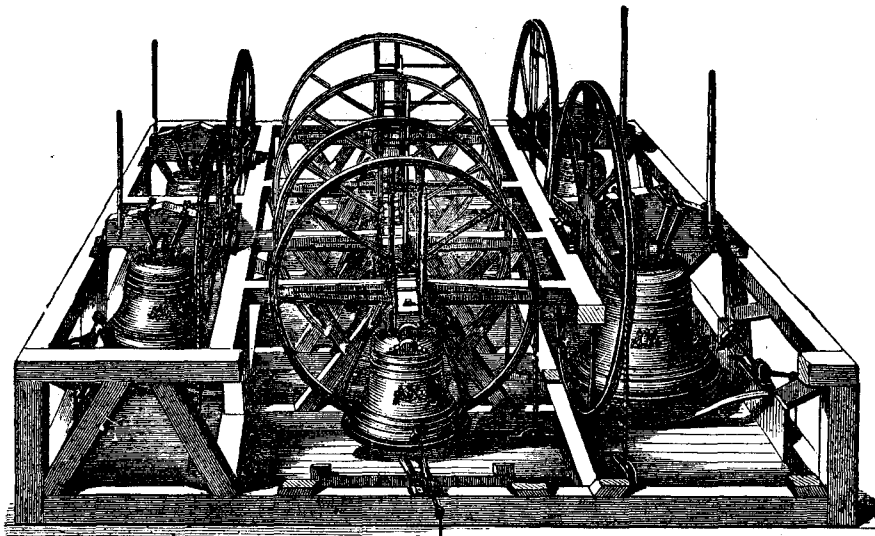
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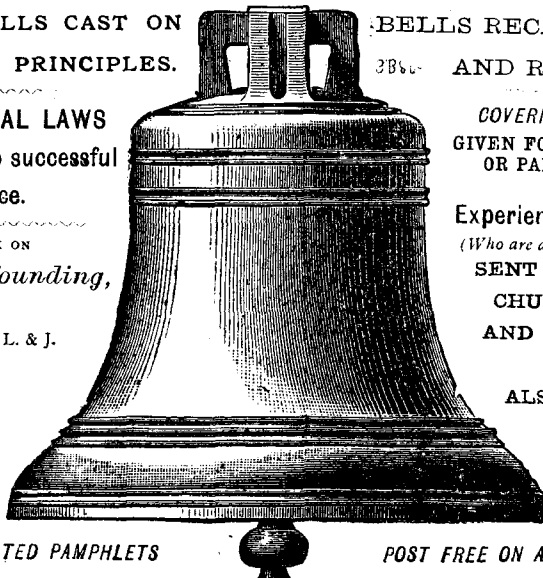
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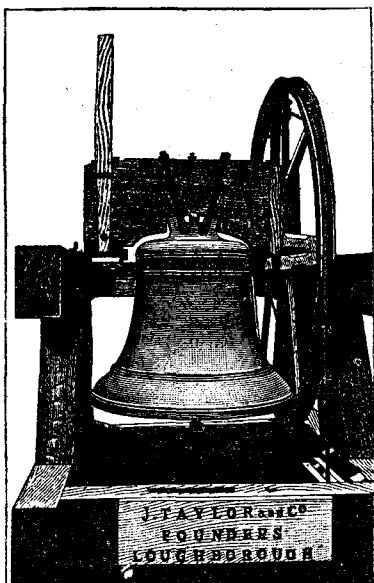
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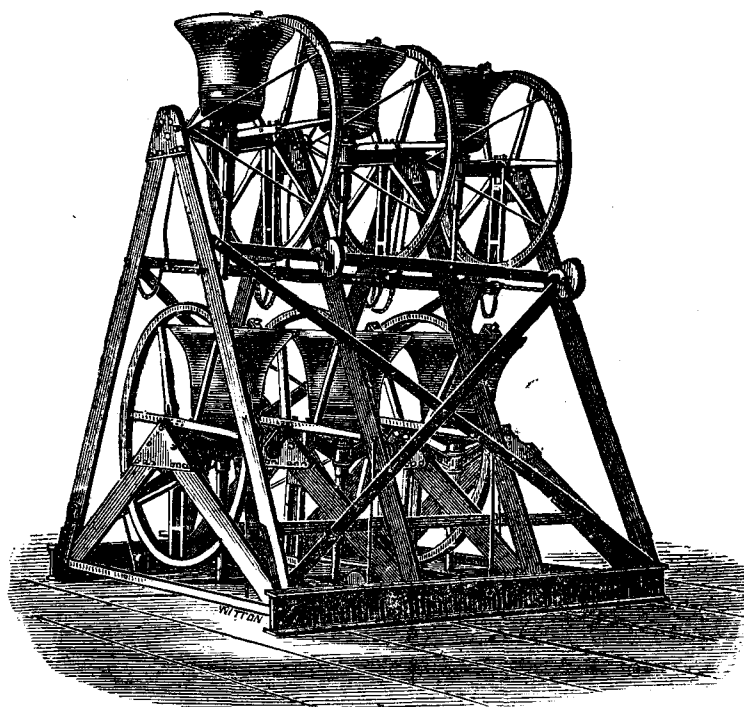
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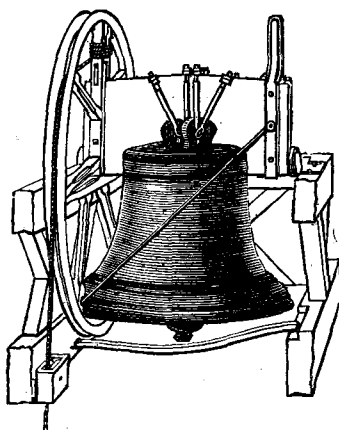
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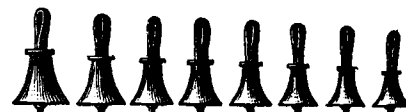
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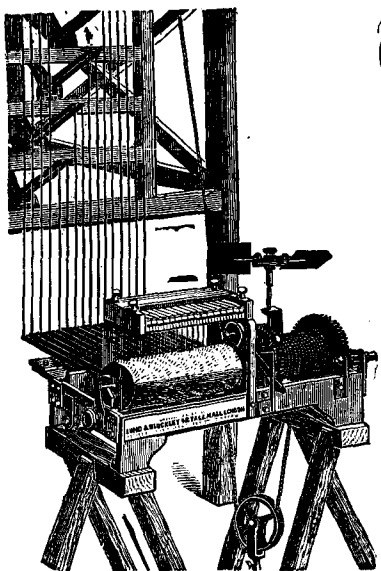
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The famous peal of Stedman Cinques,
The College Youths did ring;

who delivered himself of his production; a celebrity from that workshop of the world, the metropolis of the Midlands, who was mixed up in the shooting tournament at Wimbledon, the author of "In and out and round about;" the renowned O.P.Q., the "comic" of the party, whose ventriloquial powers must earn for him an undying fame; the writer of "Twelve days and a bit," who after being so shamefully robbed of his copyright to the title, sought to recover his dignity and recuperate his frame with twelve days' change of air. The author of everything—"Old Friends" included—was also present; and the Editor, —not upon his lofty stool—was not absent at the time of which we speak. It was on this day that a party of Royal Cumberlands paid a visit to the village of Bray, in Berkshire, for the purpose of opening the celebrated ring of six bells. Mr. John Nelms was the conductor of the band, which comprised Messrs. C. Hopkins, Mansfield, Randall, Doran, and Jarman. But it is the romantically-situated Abbey of Waltham which must now be our theme. Leaving the "Three Tuns," we were escorted through the beautiful shady avenue to the entrance of the old Abbey. We ascended into the ringing-chamber, and inspected the immortalisation of peals. Going up higher, we got among the celebrated Waltham bells, nor did we stop till the summit of the tower was reached, where we surveyed the beauties of a country landscape, and breathed its fresh air in mute silence. Descending, we had the pleasure of taking part in an excellent touch of Stedman Triples with the affable Mr. Alps, followed by a touch of Treble Bob with that picture of good humour, Mr. T. C. Powell, the worthy Editor conducting the former and taking part in the latter.

The peal reported in another place as having been rung at Waltham Abbey by the Royal Cumberlands, was arranged in response to an invitation given by Mr. Powell on the above day, and all concerned in it wish to give him their best thanks for the invitation. The ringers, all working men, had to make a rush to get to Liverpool Street Station to be in time for the 4.12 train out. They were accompanied by H. S. Thomas, Esq. and a gentleman friend. Prior to starting for the peal the commissariat of the "Three Tuns" was exercised to good account, the result being that we became fortified for our task by a hearty ration of bread and butter, eggs, tea, etc. Such comestibles as these are better to peal on than any stimulant. So we thought, and lo, we got the peal! and after that the congratulations of Mr. Alps and Mr. Powell. Then there was no time to be lost, so after the usual expressions of the pleasure in again meeting old faces and friends, caught the train, and in due time arrived amongst the smoke of London.

HENRY DAINS.

THE ALL SAINTS' COMPANY, MAIDSTONE, KENT.

The above company held their annual outing on Monday, August 25th, Mersham being the place selected, where the Rev. R. B. Hugessen is Rector, and also Honorary Secretary to the Kent County Association. The distance from Maidstone is about twenty-three miles. The ringers, thirteen in number, with their wives and families, numbering upwards of fifty, met as early as 7 a.m. in the High Street, Mr. Walland having supplied four conveyances, three pairs and a single. All being seated, the captain, Mr. A. H. Woolley, called the "go" to a lively tune on the cornet. They had not proceeded far when a shift-course was made, the single-horse conveyance, not being content with laying behind, without a call slipped into 3rds place, and would have gone down and taken the lead from the treble if the 2nd had not been too sharp for him. About five miles on the road we pass Leeds Castle, which is surrounded by water and shows up well from the main road. We next arrive at the village of Harrietsham, which has a peal of 8 bells, sadly neglected. In this tower a great many peals have been rung in years gone by. Passing through Lenham we came to Charing, at which place we stayed an hour. Obtaining the keys of the church, and raising the six bells, a 720 of Grandsire Minor was attempted, but owing to visitors talking and shouting, and the bells being very noisy, it came to grief when near the finish. Falling

the bells, and leaving the church, the bugle sounded, horses ready, seats were taken, but on looking round we were minus one conveyance, the friend with the single, who had been determined to take the lead in the next course, had done a double, and had started about twenty minutes. Driving five miles through a splendid country we came to Ashford, and after a very short stay, proceeded on the road to Mersham, the friend with the single being kept behind. Arriving at Mersham at about 12 o'clock, we were met by Mr. Finn, and conducted to the church, and rung a few short touches of Grandsire Triples. Dinner being ordered at 1, the bugle sounded. Thirty-three adults and seventeen children having taken their seats, the chair was taken by Mr. A. H. Woolley, and grace having been said, dodging up and down was all that could be seen for some time. The children singing grace after meat, and the cloth being removed, the usual preliminary toasts were given, time not permitting for long speeches. Some of the visitors, with the local company, went again to the church, and rang a touch or two. Horses being ordered at 5 o'clock, and all being seated, we left Mersham in a downpour of rain, which was not much appreciated. The route home being the same as we went, we soon arrived at Ashford, it still raining. Here Mr. John Laker, an old ringer, was waiting for us. After raising the bells, and being limited to time, we could only ring a short touch with Mr. Laker. Time arrived for starting, and we were soon on the road again, passing through Charing, and coming again to the village of Lenham, which has eight bells, not being ringable in consequence of the length of draught. Leaving Lenham and passing through Harrietsham on the road home, although bitterly cold, every one seemed to enjoy themselves. We take this opportunity of thanking the clergy and steeple-keeper for the manner they treated us during the day. We arrived home about 10.30.

J. H.

VISIT TO COOKLEY, WORCESTERSHIRE.

ON Saturday, August 23rd, several members of the Dudley and Netherton Companies, accompanied by some of their wives, paid a visit to the above place, a picturesque little village some three or four miles from Kidderminster. Starting by brake from Dudley about 3.30 p.m. the party proceeded through Kingswinford, and after a beautiful drive arrived at that noted place of resort the "Stewpony Arms." After a little refreshment had been partaken of, another start was made, the drive being much enjoyed by each individual, the great number of pheasants adding much to their pleasure. Arriving at the "Eagle and Spur" inn, Cookley, the place of our visit, a short stay was made here, after which a visit was made to the church, which is dedicated to St. Peter, the interior of which is very beautiful. Here, by the kind permission of the Vicar, the Rev. M. J. Bickerstaff, an ascent was made to the tower, which is a very inconvenient and badly-constructed place, and far from being what it ought to be. The bells, six in number, being raised, a six-score was rung to feel the go of them. Having by this time found that the bells were in a bad condition, and not fit for peal-ringing, it was decided not to go for a 720, but being informed by some of the local ringers that there was no record of a 720 being rung on the bells, a start was made for a 720 of Grandsire Minor, and in 23 minutes the bells were brought round. J. Townsend, 1; S. Spittle, 2; W. Micklewright, 3; J. Robinson, 4; J. Prestidge, 5; J. Smith (conductor). Tenor 13½ cwt. Each performer had by this time received a good sweating, and were quite satisfied with what had been accomplished. Returning to the above Inn, we were here met by our Cookley and Wolverley friends. The handbells belonging to the Dudley company were now brought into requisition, and some courses of Triples and Caters were gone through by mixed companies. Several tunes having been played by the Dudley and Netherton friends, some singing and reciting was given by several of the company assembled. We may here state that the visit has resulted in the local company promising to become members of the Worcester Diocesan Association. About 8.45 p.m. a start was made for home (amidst the singing of "Auld Lang Syne," which was reached quite safe, each member expressing themselves thoroughly satisfied, and highly pleased with the half day's outing.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION AND ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

THE following is an account of the ringing done by the Braintree company during the month of August:—August 7th, three 120's of Grandsire Doubles and a 120 of Bob Doubles. August 10th, 720 of Oxford Treble Bob, 600 of Bob Minor, 72 of Bob Minor, Court Bob Doubles. August 12th, 720 of London Scholars Pleasure, 720 of Oxford Treble Bob. August 16th, 720 of Bob Minor. August 17th, 720 of London Surprise, 720 of Bob Minor. August 19th, 720 of London Scholars' Pleasure, 720 of Double Court Bob. August 24th, 720 of Woodbine, 720 of College Exercise, 72 of Double Court Bob. August 26th, 720 of Durham Surprise, 120 of Durham Surprise, 360 Cambridge Surprise. August 31st, 720 of Bob Minor, 360 of Oxford Treble Bob, 72 of Bob Minor.

A DAY TRIP.

On Monday, August 25th, six of the Saddleworth ringers took advantage of a trip to Liverpool, to visit Wallasey. Starting from Saddleworth Station at 5.5 a.m. they arrived at Lime Street Station, Liverpool, at 8.30 a.m., and making at once for the landing stage, went by the steam boat to Egremont. A walk of two miles brought them to the church, which is dedicated to St. Hilary. Two of the company very soon found the worthy sexton, Mr. J. H. Povall, and also say the Vicar, who received them very kindly, and gave the desired permission to ring. The bells are a very nice light peal, by Taylor, of Loughborough, tenor about 9½ cwt., and are in good ringing order. The bells were raised in peal, and two plain courses, just by way of trying the ropes, and finding all right, a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob Minor was then rung in 24½ mins., the striking of which was pronounced by all who heard it to be very good. John J. Brierley (conductor), 1; John Holden, 2; Joseph Buckley, 3; James Wrigley, 4; James H. Shaw, 5; Joseph Wood, 6. After ringing, the company climbed to the top of the tower, from whence they had a splendid view of the sea, which with vessels floated about here and there looked beautiful, the Welsh Mountains could be seen, and almost at the same time a bird's eye view of the city of Liverpool, amply repaying them for their trouble in climbing the numerous steps, the variety of the scenery being charming. Descending, they adjourned to an old established country inn, the "Cheshire Cheese," and after refreshing themselves, the visitors took leave of the worthy sexton, and they will always remember with gratitude the kind reception met with at St. Hilary's, Wallasey. A journey of about one and a half miles then brought them to New Brighton, where with bathing, pony rides, and other innocent amusements, including a visit to the Winter Gardens, where concerts, and other performances are provided to amuse pleasure seekers. A very pleasant afternoon was spent, returning by boat to the City, and a ride on a tram car enabled them to see something of Liverpool. By 10.30 they arrived safe at their journey's end, having thoroughly enjoyed themselves.

A BELL RINGING NUISANCE.

A correspondent writes:—Being at Coseley, near Wolverhampton, last Saturday, August 23rd, I was surprised to hear the bells of Christ Church pulled about in a most ruthless manner. I do not wish to mislead your readers, so it will be best for them to know I did not go into the ringing-chamber, so I relate what I heard from outside. First, the tenor tolled for about half an hour. During this period one or other of the bells would strike two or three times, next time the same bell was pulled up, and evidently back way, for the constant bumping of the stay made her sound like a cart load of tin pans being upset; after a while, two, three, and four, started. I began to think we were going to hear a good peal, but no such luck; after they were up, they were going all sorts of ways, together and such like. I was batting, it being our return match with Coseley. I asked one of their men what all the noise was for, who were they, and why they did not ring properly. This gentleman said, oh? they are not ringers, they are the probationers. I suppose the name of ringers is not classical enough for these sacred individuals. What are they doing it for. Oh? to learn to ring. We have had a peal every Saturday since we began to play at cricket; the people complain to the Vicar, but it is of no use, for they only make more noise than ever. We suggested to write to the local papers, but people seem afraid they would be found out, and offend the Vicar. So I said no more, but went on with the business of the afternoon, and when my score reached ten, was despatched. I went and sat on the grass, and listened to the end of this grand peal, only to hear the said three bells tumbled down all ways it is possible for them to do, and thankful I was to hear silence reign.

In comment thereon, I should say that whoever has charge of these sacred instruments of music, neglects his duty, or he must be a great enthusiast, impervious to every sense of sound or feeling for people living in the vicinity of the church. I have rung Tombstone Major, Kent Treble Bob Major, Gravediggers' Surprise, and have heard Superlative Surprise, but am more surprised to hear that bells should be made use of to annoy the Major portion of a large village.

In conclusion, I would advise these young men to tie the clappers and then learn to pull, and get Mr. Snowdon's books on Plain Bob, learn to ring at home, and not annoy people by going at it in this manner. I give them credit for doing their best. A. K.

MEMORIAL TO CANON LYTLETON.—A meeting of the parishioners of Hagley was held on Monday, when it was resolved to erect a peal of bells in Hagley Church tower as a memorial to the late Canon Lytleton, who was for thirty-seven years Rector of Hagley. A committee, consisting of the clergy and churchwardens and principal parishioners, was formed to carry this purpose into effect, and Major Williams, J.P., the Rector's churchwarden, was appointed treasurer.

THE BELLS AND RINGERS OF PRESTON.

The following account of the opening and some of the earlier performances on the bells of Preston parish church is extracted verbatim from "An Account of the Borough of Preston, &c." by Marmaduke Tulket, 1821. It will doubtless interest the ringers of the neighbourhood to know what progress had been made in the art of ringing at that time:—

"Preston bells, eight in number, were cast by Thomas Mears of London, and were rung for the first time by the Croston ringers on Christmas day, 1815. The inscriptions and weights are as follows:—

- Treble.—'Venite exultemus Domino.' 7 cwt. 4 lbs.
 2.—'June 4. 1814. Foundation stone laid by Sir H. P. Hoghton, Bart., lay rector and Patron.' 7 cwt. 14 lbs.
 3.—'June 4. 54th year of George III.; the Kings Birthday. Vivat Rex.' 8 cwt. 14 lbs.
 4.—'June 4. 1814. Account received of the treaty of peace.' 9 cwt. 2 qrs. 9 lbs.
 9.—'The Revd. James Penny Vicar; the Revd. Wm. Towne Curate.' 12 cwt. 7 lbs.
 6.—'Richd. Newsham, Esq. Mayor: 1814.' 13 cwt. 1 qr. 23 lbs.
 7.—'Jno. Green: Jno. Fallowfield: Jno. Grimbaldston: Hen; Heaton: Jas. Middlehurst: Jno. Harrison churchwardens. 1814.' 18 cwt 7 lbs.
 Tenor.—'Blessed are the dead which die in the Lord. Resurgente.' 25 cwt. 1 qr. 14 lbs.

1816.—June 4th.—The anniversary of the birthday of His Majesty, George III., the following prizes were rung for on the bells of St. John's church. The bells were cast by Thos. Mears of London, and are allowed to be as complete a peal of eight bells as any in the kingdom; weight of tenor 25 cwt. 1 qr. 14 lbs. The first prize for the best peal of Grandsire Tripples, 5040 changes, 12 guineas; 2nd best prize, 8 guineas. The following sets entered: Bolton, Oldham, Mottram, St. John's Manchester, Christ Church Manchester, Ormskirk. It was agreed before starting that they should ring 2520 changes. The first prize was won by the Bolton set ringing the whole, as will be seen from the following statement, in 1 hr. 31 mins.; the second prize was won by the St. John's Manchester.

	hr.	mins.	sec.	faults
1—Bolton.	1	31	—	310.
2—Oldham.		4	30	167
3—Mottram.		23	—	370.
4—St. John's, Manchester.		39	20	454.
5—Barnsley.		3	4	173.
6—Christ Church, Manchester.		1	20	44.
7—Ormskirk.		3	7	202

On the 2nd day, Wednesday, nine gentlemen came forward in order if possible, to ring a peal of Grandsire Triples, it being the opinion of nearly all the ringers that rung on the preceding day that it was impossible a peal could be rung on the bells at that time on account of the tenor bell being out of order; it was proved to the contrary, for they completed the whole peal of Grandsire of 5040 changes, and brought them round in 3 hours and 1 minute in superior style. Same day a prize of 6 guineas was given for the best round peal, when the following entered: Oldham, Manchester, Leyland, and Croston. The prize was won again by the set from St. John's, Manchester.

Statement:—	Faults.
1—Oldham.	103½
2—Manchester.	102
3—Leyland.	223½
4—Croston.	322

1818.—April 11th.—The College Youths of St. John's performed a complete peal of 1260 changes of Mr. Holt's peal of grandsire trebles in a short time, conducted by Mr. J. Tomlinson who rung the treble.

1818.—October 20th.—The College Youths of Preston rung and completed Mr. Holt's favourite peal of grandsire Triples, in 1 hour and 32 mins. in a superior style. Mr. James Tomlinson conducted the peal, and the 7th and 8th bells were rung by one man to each bell with the greatest ease. Weight of tenor 25 cwt.

1818.—Christmas Day.—The College Youths of Preston rung 2520 changes of Mr. Holts grandsire tripples with ease in 1 hr. and 30 mins.

1819.—September 12.—The College Youths of Preston rung 5040 of Mr. Holts grandsire tripples in honour of the Earl of Derby's birthday, in 2 hrs. 54 mins.

1819.—October 20.—The College Youths of Preston rung at the parish church 5040 changes of Mr. Holts grandsire Triples, which were beautifully brought round in 2 hrs. and 48 mins.

1820.—On Christmas Day, the College Youths of Preston rung at the Parish Church a complete peal of Mr. Holt's grandsire tripples in 1 hour and 25 mins."

* * It is our desire to gratify our friends as much as possible in inserting their compositions on this page, but we cannot refrain from saying that we receive many productions that possess not the slightest merit. Some of these, when not too bad, we allow to appear, others are consigned to the waste-paper basket.

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERS.

5400.

By JOHN R. PRITCHARD, *Liverpool*.

2 3 4 5 6	Bob on 7 8 9.	4	5	6	15	16
3 4 5 1 2 6	-	-	-	-	-	-
3 4 6 5 2 1	-	-	-	-	-	-
3 4 1 6 2 5	-	-	-	-	-	-
1 4 3 5 2 6	-	-	-	-	-	-
1 4 6 3 2 5	-	-	-	-	-	-
6 4 1 5 2 3	-	-	-	-	-	-
6 4 3 1 2 5	-	-	-	-	-	-
6 4 5 3 2 1	-	-	-	-	-	-
5 4 6 1 2 3	-	-	-	-	-	-
5 4 3 6 2 1	-	-	-	-	-	-
5 4 1 3 2 6	-	-	-	-	-	-
1 4 5 6 2 3	-	-	-	-	-	-
4 6 2 5 1 3	-	-	-	-	-	-
4 6 3 2 1 5	-	-	-	-	-	-
4 6 5 3 1 2	-	-	-	-	-	-
5 6 4 2 1 3	-	-	-	-	-	-
5 6 3 4 1 2	-	-	-	-	-	-
3 6 5 2 1 4	-	-	-	-	-	-
3 6 4 5 1 2	-	-	-	-	-	-
3 6 2 4 1 5	-	-	-	-	-	-
2 6 3 5 1 4	-	-	-	-	-	-
2 6 4 3 1 5	-	-	-	-	-	-
2 6 5 4 1 3	-	-	-	-	-	-
5 4 2 6 1 3	-	-	-	-	-	-
4 6 1 2 5 3	-	-	-	-	-	-
4 6 3 1 5 2	-	-	-	-	-	-
4 6 2 3 5 1	-	-	-	-	-	-
2 6 4 1 5 3	-	-	-	-	-	-
2 6 3 4 5 1	-	-	-	-	-	-
3 6 2 1 5 4	-	-	-	-	-	-
3 6 4 2 5 1	-	-	-	-	-	-
3 6 1 4 5 2	-	-	-	-	-	-
1 6 3 2 5 4	-	-	-	-	-	-
1 6 4 3 5 2	-	-	-	-	-	-
1 6 2 4 5 3	-	-	-	-	-	-
6 1 2 3 5 4	-	-	-	-	-	-
1 3 5 2 6 4	-	-	-	-	-	-
1 3 4 5 6 2	-	-	-	-	-	-
1 3 2 4 6 5	-	-	-	-	-	-
2 3 1 5 6 4	-	-	-	-	-	-
2 3 4 1 6 5	-	-	-	-	-	-
4 3 2 5 6 1	-	-	-	-	-	-
4 3 1 2 6 5	-	-	-	-	-	-
4 3 5 1 6 2	-	-	-	-	-	-
5 3 4 2 6 1	-	-	-	-	-	-
5 3 1 4 6 2	-	-	-	-	-	-
5 3 2 1 6 4	-	-	-	-	-	-
2 3 5 4 6 1	-	-	-	-	-	-
2 3 1 5 6 4	-	-	-	-	-	-
2 3 1 4 5 6	-	-	-	-	-	-

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR.

5184.

By JOHN J. BRIERLEY, *Saddleworth*.

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

Twice repeated.

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR.

5088.

By JOHN J. BRIERLEY, *Saddleworth*.

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

Twice repeated.

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS.

5741.

By JOHN R. PRITCHARD, *Liverpool*.

2 3 4 5 6

* 4 2 3 5 6	7th in and out at three.
3 4 2 5	9th in three.
2 3 4 5	9th in three.
3 5 4 2	8th in three.
5 2 4 3	8th in three.
4 5 2 3	9th in three.
2 4 5 3	9th in three.
4 3 5 2	8th in three.
3 2 5 4	8th in three.
5 3 2 4	9th in three.
2 5 3 4	9th in three.
5 4 3 2	8th in three.

The above twelve courses four times repeated except the course marked*, instead of which call an 8 9, produce:—
6 2 4 5 3 9 7 8

2 4 3 6 7 5 9 8	9th in & out at 2 with a double.
4 3 5 2 7 6 9 8	5th in and out at four.
3 2 5 4 7 6 9 8	8th in three.

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS.

13,121.

By J. CARTER, *Birmingham*.

2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9	1	2	3	4	5
3 5 6 2 4 9 8 7		S			S
6 3 5 2 4 9 8 7	-	-	-	-	-
5 2 3 6 4 9 7 8	-	-	-	-	-
4 6 2 5 3	8 2.				
3 5 6 4 2	8 2.				
2 4 5 3 6	8 2.				
6 3 4 2 5	8 2.				
2 3 4 6 5	1 S.				
5 6 3 2 4	8 2.				
4 2 6 5 3	8 2.				
3 5 2 4 6	8 2.				
6 4 5 3 2	8 2.				
3 4 5 6 2	1 S.				
2 6 4 3 5	8 2.				
5 3 6 2 4	8 2.				
4 2 3 5 6	8 2.				
6 5 2 4 3	8 2.				
4 5 2 6 3	1 S.				
3 6 5 4 2	8 2.				
2 4 6 3 5	8 2.				
5 3 4 2 6	8 2.				
6 2 3 5 4	8 2.				

The last twenty courses five times repeated, only a single on 1, bob on 4 in each part; and single on 4 instead of a bob at the 3rd and 6th parts, produce:—6 2 5 4 3, when a single at 2, and bob at 3 bring the bells round. The above contains the 120 course-ends in the tittums, without a call on 9 7 8, only five on 8 9.

A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR.

5024.

By J. CARTER, *Birmingham*.

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

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

Repeated.

6th twenty-four times wrong and right.

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS.

6012.

By R. WILLIAMS, *Liverpool*.

3 5 4 2 6 7 8 9	} 9th with three. 7th in and out at two with a double.
5 2 4 3 6 7 8 9	
2 5 4 3 6 9 8 7	
3 5 4 2 6 9 7 8	
4 5 6 2 3	8 9.
6 5 3 2 4	8 9.
3 6 5 2 4	9 3.
5 3 6 2 4	9 3.
6 3 4 2 5	8 9.
4 3 5 2 6	8 9.
5 4 3 2 6	9 3.
3 4 6 2 5	8 9.
6 4 5 2 3	8 9.
5 6 4 2 3	9 3.
4 6 3 2 5	8 9.

5 2 6 4 3	8 2.
6 5 2 4 3	9 3.
2 6 5 4 3	9 3.
5 6 3 4 2	8 9.
3 6 2 4 5	8 9.
2 3 6 4 5	9 3.
6 2 3 4 5	9 3.
3 2 5 4 6	8 9.
5 3 2 4 6	9 3.
2 5 3 4 6	9 3.
3 5 6 2 4	8 9.

The second part three times repeated brings up 6 2 5 3 4 5 4 2 6 3 and 2 3 4 5 6. The 7th in and out at five bring the bells round.

A 1/2-PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES.

By ALFRED SQUIRES, *Hitchin, Herts.*

S 5 7 2 6 3 4	1	S 4 3 7 5 6 2	5
S 7 6 5 4 2 3	5	S 5 2 4 6 3 7	1
S 4 3 7 2 6 5	1	S 2 6 5 7 4 3	5
S 3 2 4 5 7 6	5	S 6 7 2 3 5 4	5
S 2 5 3 6 4 7	5	S 3 4 6 5 7 2	1
S 6 7 2 4 5 3	1	5 4 3 2 6 7	5
S 7 4 6 3 2 5	5	Repeated.	

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

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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.

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

To prevent disappointment, the Editor requests that stamps for extra copies of this paper may be sent direct to the Publisher.

A CORRECTION.—The peal rung at Hyde, Cheshire, reported in our last week's number, should have read "Bob Major," not "Treble Bob Major," composed by John Thorp, and conducted by J. S. Wilde.

E. BARNETT.—There is no use in prolonging the discussion. What you say you first discovered was no doubt known to many fifty years ago at least, though saying this is no deduction of your abilities.

The Bell News & Ringers' Record.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 6, 1884.

THERE seems to be, at the present time, an increasing fondness on the part of many of our friends who, by the accident of good fortune, are enabled to enjoy a few days' holiday in fresh fields and pastures new, to publish at length in this paper the occurrences of their tour. In some cases, we are afraid that these accounts are only interesting to the writers themselves, and to those friends among whom their holidays have been spent. As is well known to most of our readers, we endeavour to secure, as far as we think consistent with the conduct of our journal, the utmost liberty to all our brother-ringers to express their sentiments, and to publish the results of their experiences. And we are thus naturally loth even to hint that a check must be placed on any kind of matter which reaches us for insertion.

We must be allowed to point out, with all due deference to those to whom these remarks will chiefly affect, that accounts of visits and such-like, should be kept within reasonable bounds, and should be chiefly confined to bells and ringing. Such topics as architectural features of churches, and the natural attractions of the neighbourhood visited, may also be briefly dwelt upon, together with the reception accorded by local ringers—agreeable features always. But as a correspondent says in a letter upon this subject—"space should not be taken up with mentioning the menu of the dinner table, what particular trains were taken advantage of for travelling, or the particular manufacture of the couch whereon nightly repose was sought. Of course there is some little hyperbole indulged in here, but the meaning is not less apparent.

In connection with these holiday-keepings, there is one matter to which we feel called upon to make a brief allusion. We are daily in the receipt of correspondence from many gentlemen whom we know feel surprised at the relation of incidents which would have been read with different feelings had they not occurred on the Sabbath. We do not wish to make ourselves appear better than our fellows in pointing this out, though we are entitled to say we always hail with no uncommon satisfaction the hours of rest and quietness which the first day of the week gives. We say advisedly, to put it on the low ground of mere policy, it is commendable to abstain from ringing on this day for pleasure, and certainly advisable is it not to parade in print such instances. We are taking not merely the religious aspect of the question, but the practical one. Do we not seek in many instances for the co-operation of the clergyman to interest himself in our work, to listen to our complaints and desires? and is not his interest in the bells a warrant that no mere sexton, jack-in-office, or any other outsider will be able to interrupt the proceedings up the belfry? We need not pursue this any further. To thinking people, our observations will have weight. "Always keep in with the parson," is a very old maxim among ringers, but to do so, it is certainly necessary to fall in with his teaching, at any rate, not to proclaim publicly that one of its essentials is with contumely set at naught.

The Metropolis.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.
EDMONTON, MIDDLESEX.

On Tuesday, September 2, 1884, in Two Hours and Fifty-five Minutes,
AT ALL SAINTS' CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
HOLT'S TEN-PART. Tenor 19 cwt.

JOSEPH DAVIDSON Treble.	ALFRED ESTALL 5.
HENRY BARNETT 2.	EDWARD F. STRANGE 6.
ARTHUR BERTRAM WARD .. 3.	WILLIAM D. SMITH 7.
HARVEY REEVES 4.	WILLIAM CROCKFORD .. Tenor.

Conducted by HARVEY REEVES.

Mr. Ward hails from Derby, and is a member of the Midland Counties' Association. He was nominated a member of the College Youths previous to starting for the peal.

The Provinces.

THE SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.
WALTHAM ABBEY, ESSEX.

On Saturday, August 30, 1884, in Three Hours and Twelve Minutes,
AT THE ABBEY CHURCH OF ST. LAWRENCE,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;
IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 20 cwt.

HENRY DAINS Treble.	ARTHUR H. GARDOM 5.
CHARLES HOPKINS 2.	JAMES HANNINGTON 6.
HENRY HOPKINS 3.	GEORGE NEWSON 7.
HARRY RANDALL 4.	WILLIAM BARON Tenor.

Composed and conducted by HENRY DAINS.

Nearly twenty years have elapsed since a peal of Treble Bob was rung on these bells, the tenor on that occasion being rung by the once celebrated HENRY BOOTH. The composition and the performance on the occasion alluded to, were both in the able hands of the renowned HENRY HALEY.

SOWTON, DEVON.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS, AND
THE DEVONSHIRE GUILD.

On Saturday, August 30, in Two Hours and Forty-five Minutes,

AT ST. MICHAEL'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S ORIGINAL. Tenor 9½ cwt. in G.

HERBERT SWIFT Treble.	GEORGE T. McLAUGHLIN .. 5.
RICHARD FRENCH 2.	GEORGE TOWNSEND 6.
HENRY LANGDON 3.	FERRIS SHEPHERD 7.
FRANK SHEPHERD 4.	JAMES MOSS Tenor.

Conducted by RICHARD FRENCH.

This is the first peal in the method on the bells.

Messrs. H. Swift, Frank and Ferris Shepherd, G. Townsend, and J. Moss belong to Exeter, the rest hail from London.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—ECCLES.

On Saturday, August 30, 1884, in Two Hours and Fifty-eight Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

CARTER'S BOB-AND-SINGLE. Tenor 13½ cwt.

WILLIAM CROSSLEY Treble.	JAMES BARRETT 5.
CHARLES E. WILSON* 2.	RICHARD ASHCROFT 6.
CHARLES CASH 3.	†ALBERT E. WREAKS 7.
ARTHUR S. BARRELL* 4.	WILLIAM ASHCROFT Tenor.

Conducted by ALBERT E. WREAKS.

*First peal. †College Youth.

W. Crossley hails from Swinton; C. E. Wilson from Walton near Liverpool; A. S. Barrell, formerly of Ufford, near Ipswich, but now residing at Walton; Wreaks from Manchester; the rest belong to Eccles.

HYDE, CHESHIRE.

On Saturday, August 30, 1884, in Three Hours and Seven Minutes,

AT ST. GEORGE'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5152 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 15 cwt. 1 qr. 24 lbs.

WILLIAM WALMSLEY* .. Treble.	JOHN FILDES 5.
JAMES SHAW 2.	THOMAS WILDE 6.
GEORGE LONGDEN 3.	*WALTER INGHAM 7.
WALTER SLATER 4.	JAS. S. WILDE Tenor.

Composed by J. J. BRIERLEY, and conducted by
J. S. WILDE.

*First peal. †First peal of Major.

Messrs. Walmsley and Ingham hail from Higher Sutton.

STOKE-UPON-TRENT ARCHIDIACONAL ASSOCIATION.

WOLSTANTON, STAFFORDSHIRE.

On Tuesday, September 2, 1884, in Two Hours and Fifty-four Minutes,

AT ST. MARGARET'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

TAYLOR'S BOB-AND-SINGLE VARIATION. Tenor 14 cwt.

ALFRED WALKER* Treble.	SAMUEL WOOTON 5.
LEVI MILLER 2.	SAMUEL SPENCER 6.
SAMUEL WALKER 3.	WILLIAM MILLER 7.
WILLIAM PRIESTMAN 4.	*GEORGE HODGKINS Tenor.

Conducted by SAMUEL SPENCER.

*First peal.

This is the first peal of Triples rung on these bells.

Date Touch.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

ECCLES.—On Sunday, August 31st, eight members of the above Association, rang at the parish church, for early celebration of Holy Communion, a date touch of Bob Major, containing 1884 changes, in 1 hr. 8 mins. Charles Cash, 1; Charles E. Wilson, 2; Edward Cash, 3; Arthur S. Barrell, 4; James Barrett, 5; Richard Ashcroft, 6; Albert E. Wreaks, 7; George H. Johnson, 8. Tenor 13½ cwt. Composed by the late H. Hubbard, and conducted by G. H. Johnson.

Miscellaneous.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

COOKHAM (Berks).—On Monday, August 4th, at Holy Trinity church, a 720 of Grandsire Minor, in 28 mins. R. Flaxman, 1; W. A. Garraway, 2; Edwd. Rogers, 3; Edn. Rogers, 4; G. T. MacLaughlin, 5; H. J. Tucker (conductor), 6. Also on Wednesday, August 27th, another 720 in the same method, in 29 mins. Ed. Keeley, 1; H. Rogers, 2; W. A. Garraway (conductor), 3; R. Smith, 4; Edn. Rogers, 5; C. Gordon, 6. The above are believed to be the first 720s of Minor ever rung on the bells of Cookham, which were augmented to six by adding a treble by Pack and Chapman in 1777, and they go remarkably well considering no repairs have been done for about a quarter of a century. Tenor 16 cwt.

ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

SUDBURY (Suffolk).—On Tuesday evening, September 2nd, at All Saints' Church, the following members of the above Association met and rang for practice, 704 of Kent Treble Bob Major. J. Tolladay, 1; M. Silvester, 2; G. S. Brown, 3; J. Campin, 4; W. Griggs, 5; W. Howell, 6; A. Scott (conductor), 7; H. Harper, 8. Tenor 28 cwt. in D.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

ROMFORD (Essex).—Handbell Ringing.—On Saturday evening, August 30th, a course of Grandsire Caters was rung by members of the above. C. Waskett, 1-2; B. Keeble, 3-4; A. J. Perkins, 5-6; A. Pye, 7-8; A. Porter, 9-10. Also 336 Grandsire Triples, double-handed, and touches of Double Court Bob, and Bob Minor. On Sunday afternoon, August 31st, at St. Edward's church, 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor, with fifteen bobs. J. Porter, 1; A. J. Perkins (conductor), 2; C. Waskett (first 720 in the method), 3; B. Keeble, 4; A. Pye, 5; A. Porter, 6.

ASSOCIATION FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.

LICHFIELD.—Muffled Peal.—On Sunday evening, August 24th, six members of the above Association rang a 720 of Bob Minor, with the bells half-muffled as a mark of respect to the late Miss Gilbert, a parishioner, in 27 mins. A. Whitby, 1; H. Meacham, 2; T. Meredith, 3; H. King, 4; F. J. Cope (conductor), 5; A. E. Greenwood, 6. Tenor 11 cwt. in A.

TIPTON (Staffordshire).—On Sunday, August 31st, before Divine Service in the evening, eight members of this Association rang at the parish church of St. Martin, a 720 of Grandsire Minor on the first six, with 7-8 behind, in 28 mins., having thirty-eight bobs and twenty-two singles. *J. Jones, 1; *T. Bennett, 2; †G. Hughes, 3; *S. Jesson, 4; *J. Martin, 5; J. Fullwood (conductor), 6; H. Winfield, 7; B. Starkey, 8. Tenor 12 cwt. *First 720. †First 720 with a bob bell.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

CAVERSHAM (Oxon).—On Sunday, August 31st, a 720 of Bob Minor, in 27 mins. G. Essex, 1; Rev. G. F. Coleridge, 2; E. Pottinger, 3; H. Egby, 4; W. Newell, 5; T. Newman (conductor), 6. Tenor 16½ cwt. in F.

STOKE-UPON-TRENT ARCHIDIACONAL ASSOCIATION.

CHEDDLETON (Staffordshire).—On Sunday, August 31st, 720 of Bob Minor, with nine bobs and six singles, in 26 mins. J. Parker, 1; E. Spooner, 2; J. James, 3; J. Gilbert, 4; F. Clowes (conductor), 5; J. Renshaw, 6.

WOLSTANTON.—On Saturday, August 30th, in an attempt to ring Taylor's six-part peal of Grandsire Triples, eight members of this company rang 4270 changes in that method, in 2 hrs. 40 mins. David Amos, 1; Levi Miller, 2; Samuel Walker, 3; Alfred Walker, 4; William Priestman, 5; Samuel Spencer (conductor), 6; William Miller, 7; G. Hodgkins, 8.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

BARNWOOD (Gloucestershire).—On Tuesday evening, August 26th, five members of the above association assisted by Mr. G. Hern, rung for practice, a 720 of College Singles, with eighteen bobs and two singles in 28 mins. G. Hern, 1; J. Yeates, 2; A. Waite (conductor), 3; W. Sevier, 4; H. Mitchell, 5; G. Miles, 6. Also the same evening, a 720 of Grandsire Minor was rung with thirty-eight bobs and twenty-two singles in 28 mins. G. Hern, 1; J. Yeates, 2; W. Sevier, 3; G. Miles, 4; H. Mitchell (conductor), 5; A. Waite, 6. This is the first 720 of either the above methods ever rung on these bells.

UPTON ST. LEONARDS (Gloucestershire).—On Sunday morning, August 24th, prior to Divine Service, six members of the above association rung at intervals, six 120's of Minor in six different variations; viz., 120 of College Single, 120 of Oxford Bob, 120 of Kent Treble Bob, 120 of Plain Bob, 120 of Grandsire Minor, and 120 of Canterbury Pleasure. W. Sevier, 1; J. Yeates, 2; A. Waite (conductor), 3; H. Gardener, 4; H. Mitchell, 5; G. Miles, 6.

BATTERSEA (Surrey).—On Sunday morning, August 31st, for Divine Service, a 658 of Grandsire Triples. A. J. Bennett, 1; J. R. Vincent, 2; W. Baron (conductor), 3; O. Bliss, 4; H. Boniface, 5; H. A. Hopkins, 6; C. W. Ludwig, 7; H. Swain, 8. The above was rung to oblige Mr. H. Boniface, who is on a visit from Brighton.

BAILEY CARR (Yorkshire).—On Sunday, August 31st, for Divine Service in the evening, a 720 of London Scholars' Pleasure. Squire Mitchell, 1; *Geo. H. Simon (first 720), 2; Walter Duffy, 3; John Blackburn, 4; N. Hepworth (conductor), 5; *John Garforth, 6. Tenor 12 cwt. *Members of the Yorkshire Association.

BRIGHTON (Sussex).—On Sunday, August 31st, at St. Peter's church, a mixed band rang a 120 of Stedman Doubles. H. Weston, 1; J. Jay, jun., 2; J. Searle, 3; J. Jay, sen., 4; A. B. Ward (Derby), 5; E. Butler, Esq., 6. Tenor 10½ cwt. in G.

CANTERBURY (Kent).—On Saturday, August 2nd, at St. Stephen's church, a 720 Grandsire Minor, with thirty-eight bobs and twenty-two singles, in 25 mins. W. H. Andrews, 1; G. Stancombe (conductor), 2; N. N. Hills, 3; H. G. Fairbrass, 4; J. H. Small, 5; R. Goodbourn, 6. N. N. Hills hails from St. Albans, Herts. *Handbell Ringing*.—On Monday, September 1st, at the residence of Mr. Fairbrass, on handbells, retained in hand, 720 Grandsire Minor, with thirty-four bobs and two singles, in 22 mins. H. G. Fairbrass, 1-2-6; G. Stancombe (conductor), 3-4-5.

CHARNWOOD FOREST (Leicestershire).—On Saturday, August 30th, six of the Loughborough ringers, with Dr. Sellon, of Long Eaton, paid a visit to the above place, and rang a 720 of Bob Minor, at the Oaks Church, in 26 mins. W. T. Billingham, 1; C. A. Fox, 2; J. Hardy, 3; J. W. Taylor, 4; Dr. Sellon, 5; J. W. Taylor, jun. (conductor), 6. Also a 720 of Grandsire Minor, in 28 mins. F. Farrow, 1; C. A. Fox, 2; J. Hardy, 3; J. W. Taylor, 4; Dr. Sellon, 5; J. W. Taylor, jun. (conductor), 6. Tenor 10½ cwt. in G.

CLAY CROSS (Derbyshire).—On Sunday, August 31st, at St. Bartholomew's church, two 6-scores of Bob Doubles, each called differently. T. Walters, 1; G. Brown, 2; G. Tarlton, 3; T. Allibone, 4; J. Cook, 5; T. Clough, 6. Also a 6-score of Grandsire Doubles. T. Walters, 1; G. Brown, 2; J. Cook, 3; J. Green, 4; T. Clough, 5; T. Allibone, 6. Tenor 10 cwt. in A. Messrs. Allibone and Tarlton hail from North Wingfield, the others belong to Clay Cross.

DENFORD (Northants).—On Tuesday, August 26th, at Holy Trinity church, a 720 of London Single, with eighteen bobs and two singles. W. J. Gilbert (conductor), 1; A. Arnold (first 720 in the method), 2; J. Braybrook (first 720 in the method), 3; E. Mayes (first 720 in the method), 4; A. Groom (first 720 in the method), 5; T. Roberts (first 720 in the method), 6. W. J. Gilbert hails from Raunds; E. Mayes J. Braybrook, and T. Roberts from Ringstead. Tenor about 10 cwt.

FRITTENDEN (Kent).—On Sunday, August 24th, after evening service, four members of the above society, with the assistance of Mr. W. Newell and Mr. J. Potter, who hails from Reading, Berks., rang a 720 of Bob Minor in 25 mins. Edgar Taylor, 1; William Brattle, 2; James Potter, 3; Thomas Potter, 4; William Newell, 5; Thomas Daynes (conductor), 6.

HIGHER SUTTON (Cheshire).—On Wednesday, August 27th, a 720 of Grandsire Minor with thirty-eight bobs and twenty-two singles in 26 mins. Chas. Bamford, 1; Wm. Kenny, 2; Wm. Ingham, 3; J. M. Davenport, 4; Wm. Walmsley (conductor), 5; Thos. Mottershead, 6. Messrs. Kenny and Bamford are Macclesfield ringers. Tenor 12 cwt. in G.

HITCHIN (Herts).—*Handbell Ringing*.—On Thursday, August 28th, at St. Mary's church, for practice, a 720 Bob Minor, in 27 mins. H. Buckingham, 1; J. Hare, 2; A. Squires, 3; S. Hare, 4; W. A. Tyler (first 720 as conductor double-handed), 5-6.

LEICESTER.—*Muffled Peal*.—On Sunday, August 24th, at St. Margaret's church, a 881 of Grandsire Caters, in memory of the late Arthur Brown was rung with the bells muffled. Charles Quincey, 1; James Jarvis, 2; Stephen Cooper, 3; George Burrows, 4; William P. Cooper, 5; Thomas Wilson, 6; John Cooper, 7; John Marlow, 8; John Buttery (composer and conductor), 9; William Harding, 10. The deceased had been a ringer at St. Margaret's for upwards of thirty years, and was greatly respected as a ringer. The funeral took place on Saturday last at the Leicester cemetery, when four of his oldest ringing friends carried him to the grave.

LIVERPOOL.—*Handbell Ringing*.—On Tuesday evening, August 26th, the following members of the St. Luke's society met at the house of Mr. Beacall, Lark Lane, for the purpose of ringing Holt's ten-part peal of Grandsire Triples, but unfortunately after ringing 2436 changes, in 57 mins., it came to grief. W. James, 1-2; R. S. Mann, 3-4; J. Aspinwall (conductor), 5-6; J. R. Pritchard, 7-8.

MEREWORTH (Kent).—On Sunday, August 31st, the West Malling company paid a visit to this place, and rang for Divine Service, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor, in 25 mins. D. Hall, 1; C. Payne, 2; E. Baldock, 3; A. Moorcraft, 4; J. W. Leonard, 5; F. G. Newman (conductor), 6. Also a 720 of Plain Bob Minor. E. Baldock, 1; D. Hall, 2; A. Moorcraft, 3; W. Harding, 4; F. G. Newman, 5; J. W. Leonard (conductor), 6. After service, a 720 of Grandsire Minor, in 25 mins. W. Harding, 1; C. Payne, 2; D. Hall, 3; E. Baldock, 4; F. G. Newman, 5; A. Moorcraft (conductor), 6. Also a 720 of Plain Bob Minor. E. Baldock, 1; T. Pett, 2; C. Payne, 3; W. Harding, 4; A. Moorcraft, 5; F. G. Newman (conductor), 6. All are members of the Kent County Association except T. Pett.

NUNEATON (Warwickshire).—On Sunday morning, August 31st, for practice, a 720 of Grandsire Doubles, called differently, 3rd and 5th the observation, in 30 mins. W. Adler, 1; W. Swain, 2; J. J. Mawley, 3; H. Horwood (conductor), 4; T. Lingard, 5; G. E. Swain, 6. Tenor 14½ cwt. in E.

RADCLIFFE (Lancashire).—On Friday, August 29th, at the parish church, the local society rang two 720's of Bob Minor in 51 mins.; the first with eighteen bobs and two singles, and the second with sixteen bobs and two singles. F. Rudman (conductor), 1; J. Morris, 2; J. Hardman, 3; A. Barrett, 4; F. Morris, 5; J. Hardman, jun., 6.

RAUNDS (Northants).—On Saturday, August 23rd, at St. Peter's church, for practice, a 360 of Oxford Bob Minor, with nine bobs. A. Coles, 1; W. Hall, 2; R. Pendered, 3; G. Kirk, 4; J. Willmott, 5; H. Stubbs (conductor), 6. Also a 360 of Plain Bob Minor, with nine bobs. G. Kirk, 1; W. Hall, 2; A. Groom, 3; E. Mayes, 4; F. Gilbert, 5; W. J. Gilbert (conductor), 6. A. Groom hails from Denford, and E. Mayes from Ringstead.

RINGSTEAD (Northants).—On Sunday, August 24th, for afternoon service, a 360 of London Single, with nine bobs. W. J. Gilbert, 1; F. Gilbert (conductor), 2; A. Arnold, 3; E. Mayes, 4; A. Groom, 5; T. Roberts, 6. W. J. and F. Gilbert hails from Raunds; A. Groom and A. Arnold from Denford.

SALISBURY (Wilts).—On Monday, September 1st, at St. Edmund's church, 680-Grandsire Doubles, called differently. E. H. Harris, 1; E. A. Foster, 2; Jas. Parsons, 3; W. W. Gifford, 4; Rev. C. L. Bode, 5; J. Hallett and E. Prince, 6. Also 720 in the same method, each called differently, by the same as above, except W. W. Gifford, 3; F. Rigden, 4; and J. Hallett and C. Nash, 6. Time 30 mins. Tenor 28 cwt. in C#.

STANSTEAD (Essex).—On Saturday, August 30th, at St. Mary-the-Virgin, five of the local company, with Mr. H. J. Tucker, of Bishop Stortford, rang a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor, with nine bobs, the 4th the observation, in 28 mins. J. Cavill, 1; J. Luckey, 2; H. Prior, jun., 3; G. Gray, 4; Isaac Cavill, 5; H. J. Tucker (conductor), 6. Tenor 13 cwt.

STEBBING (Essex).—On Tuesday, August 26th, at the opening of St. Mary's Church, during the day was rung twenty 6-scores of Doubles in the following methods: Stedman's Slow Course, Grandsire, Antelope, and Plain Bob. A. Barker, 1; E. Claydon, 2; W. Stock, 3; E. Hynds, 4; J. T. Barker (conductor), 5. In part of the above, J. T. Barker rang the third, and W. Stock rang the tenor. Tenor 16 cwt. Also on Sunday, for afternoon service five 6-scores in the above methods. A. Barker, 1; H. Gowers, 2; J. T. Barker (conductor), 3; E. Hynds, 4; W. Stock, 5.

WEST MALLING (Kent).—On Sunday, August 17th, six members of the local company rang a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor, in 26 mins. W. Harding, 1; D. Hall, 2; E. Baldock, 3; A. Moorcraft, 4; C. Payne, 5; J. W. Leonard (conductor), 6. Tenor 12 cwt.

WOOLWICH (Kent).—On Sunday morning, August 31st, for Divine Service at St. Mary Magdalene's church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, containing 1260 changes, in 41 mins. Henry Bright, 1; Henry Harmen, 2; Henry Harvey, 3; Frederick W. Thornton, 4; William Watchorn, 5; Edward Richards, 6; Edward Wells, 7; John Meaden, 8. Conducted by Frederick W. Thornton, of St. Alphege, Greenwich, this being his first quarter-peal as conductor.

WORSLEY (Lancashire).—On Sunday, August 24th, being the day on which the church was reopened for Divine Service, after having had a new organ chamber added, the local company rang for evening service Mr. W. T. Pates' quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 45 mins. Heber Derbyshire, 1; James Henry Ridyard (conductor), 2; Joseph Derbyshire, 3; Frederic Derbyshire, 4; Richard Ridyard, 5; Thomas Derbyshire, 6; John Baguley, 7; Samuel Pennington, 8.

THE COX JUBILEE FUND.

SIR,—It is now some fifteen or sixteen months since your readers were invited by an announcement, followed by an article by yourself, and an advertisement in our valuable paper, to subscribe to this fund, and I may say the response to the call has been a most hearty and unanimous one. This business was in embryo some considerable time prior to being published, and your readers may be ready to add that it has been equally slow in being brought to a close. However this may be, it has not prevented Mr. Cox in participating in the fund raised for his benefit, and he may be complimented in finding so many friends to assist in augmenting the fund.

I have to thank the several members of the committee and those gentlemen who so kindly acted as collectors in various parts of the country, and the promoters of the Clerkenwell concert—although the latter was not so profitable as was anticipated—and to the subscribers to the Holt tablet restoration, who were pleased to devote the balance to this fund. My very best thanks are also due to "THE BELL NEWS," and lastly to Mr. Henry S. Thomas, of Old Battersea and the committee of gentlemen who assisted him in the good work, are due my best thanks and commendation, for the way they instituted and successfully managed a musical and handbell entertainment at Battersea, that brought the magnificent sum of £18 to this fund, and which brings up the grand total to upwards of seventy pounds sterling, most of which has come to hand. Treasurer Baron is still in his usual good humour, and would not refuse additional contributions, while at the same time all concerned are ready to call "stand."

	£	s.	d.
Previously announced.. .. .	43	4	0
Mr. Smith, of Hampstead		6	0
St. Martin's Society, Birmingham		10	6
Balance of Holt Tablet Restoration Fund	1	9	1
Profit on concert held at Clerkenwell	2	7	0
Profit on concert held at Old Battersea.. .. .	18	0	0

The following is the result of a subscription by the ringers of Ashton-under-Lyne:—

Messrs. Braddock, 2s.; S. Wood, sen., 3s. 6d.; Messrs. S. Wood, jun., Firth, Mellor, Broadhurst, Bowick, Thorp, Walker, Smith, Collins, Longden, Adams, Hopwood, Adams, Wamesley, Heywood, Moss, and Cheetham, each 1s.; J. Gillott, 6d. 1 3 0

The last I have to announce is the result of a subscription among members of the Royal Cumberlands:—

Mr. Baalham, 10s.; Mr. Henry Prior, N. J. Pitstow, of Saffron Walden, and Mr. H. Hopkins, each 5s.; Messrs. Moses, Dains, Nelms, Doran, Randall, Baron, Mansfield, C. Hopkins, Hannington, Barrett, R. A. Daniell, Esq., R. K. Knight, G. Flavel, H. Swain, W. Hoverd, G. Newson, J. Barry, and the Brothers Fussell, of Farnham Royal, each 2s. 6d.; Mr. G. Church, 2s.; A. J. Perkins, 1s. 6d.; Mr. C. Donno, 1s. 6d.; Mr. W. Spicer, 1s.; John Lewis, 1s.; J. H. Smith, and E. Smith, both of Redenhall, Norfolk, 1s. each; J. Woods and R. Hutton, of Kenninghall, 1s. 6d. 4 2 6

Total—71 1 7

H. DAINS, Hon. Sec.

147, Barnsbury Road, London, N.

P.S.—If requested, I will explain any inaccuracies that may have crept into these lists.

THE BRADFORD AMALGAMATED SOCIETY.

THIS Society held its Annual Meeting on Tuesday evening, August 26th, R. Tuke, Esq., President, in the chair. The Secretary's report and balance sheet (which shewed a satisfactory balance in hand) were read and adopted. A vote of thanks was given to the retiring officers, and the following were elected for the coming year: President, R. Tuke, Esq.; Chairman and Ringing Master, Mr. J. H. Hardcastle; Vice-Chairman and Treasurer, Mr. J. Angus; Secretary, Mr. B. T. Copley.

NOTICE OF REMOVAL.—Our readers will observe that Mr. W. Gordon, of Stockport, the celebrated publisher of handbell music, has removed to more capacious premises in the same town. Mr. Gordon's address now is 64, Lower Hillgate, Stockport.

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."

OPENING OF A NEW PEAL OF BELLS AT THE ROYAL TOWN OF SUTTON, WARWICKSHIRE.

SIR,—I hope you will allow me to thank my name-sake "Robert" for the information he has given me, as to the weight of Sutton tenor. And now I want to ask another question: why do we ringers put up with this kind of thing, without letting our voices be heard and felt by the bell-hangers? Here are a ring of bells, by no means an extremely heavy one, rehung in such a way that the eight bells are practically unringable by nine men; and my experience tells me this is by no means an exceptional case. Depend upon it if we publish in your valuable paper our experiences in these matters, we shall soon have the bell-hangers paying more attention to their work: and we shall have less work and more pleasure when attending opening meetings.

BOB.

STANDARD PITCH.

SIR,—I quite agree with Mr. J. S. B. Archer as to the advisability of having a standard pitch. I think he will find that most books on acoustics give 256 vibrations per second as the standard for middle C. But the modern concert pitch is something like 273 vibrations per second. This may be accounted for in organs, from the fact that the latter note can be produced by a pipe an exact number of feet in length without fractions, which of course is more easy to calculate. May I ask Mr. Archer what he means by the "Proslambanomenos," added by Guido to the Greek scale. I am no Greek scholar, but I looked out the word "Proslambano" in the lexicon, and I find it means "to receive in addition to." Does he mean that Guido at that time introduced a lower note than had ever been heard before, and that previously the scale had been limited to a certain depth of pitch?

C. A. CLEMENTS.

CHRONOLOGICAL OMISSIONS.

SIR,—Allow me to point out a great many omissions on the part of Mr. Rees in his chronology of change-ringing in Bromsgrove in giving no account of ringing whatever. In the first place, I will give you the peals; the first is, 10,192 of Bob Major in 1787, the next is 12,000 of Bob Major in 1788, a peal of Grandsire Royal (5160) in 1816, a peal of Oxford Treble Bob Royal in 1817, a peal of Grandsire Caters (6011) in 1827, a peal of Kent Treble Bob Major in 1828, a peal of Grandsire Triples in 1856, a peal of Grandsire Caters in 1866 and another in 1869, a peal of Grandsire Triples in 1879, a peal of Grandsire Major in 1879, a peal of Kent Treble Bob Major (5665) in 1881, a peal of Bob Royal in 1883, and a peal of Grandsire Caters (6048) in 1883; and most of the bells were cast in 1771, and made a peal of ten about the year 1816.

W. R.

MR. CONYARD'S 720 OF BOB MINOR.

SIR,—One would have thought that the correspondence and criticisms that have appeared from time to time on the Bob Minor subject, would have induced Mr. Conyard to think twice ere he essayed to publish a composition such as appeared in last week's "BELL NEWS." He may be inclined to think that this is the first 720 containing forty singles that has yet been published, but if he will look over his numbers of our paper he will see in pages 31 and 95, two 720's by Mr. Parker, with the same number of calls as he gives, but with this exception, that the tenors are "right" throughout, whilst his (Mr. Conyard's) comes up "wrong." What then can be his idea of sending such a composition? My opinion is this; small as is the performance of a 720 of Bob Minor, that if it is worth doing at all, it is worth doing properly; and I consider that no bob-caller who has an ear musically inclined, would think of calling such where the tenors do come up wrong. We know that John Holt composed one where the tenors come "wrong," but he had one reason at least for so doing, viz., to get a 720 in this method with bobs only, by transposing the treble with another bell. There is also a 720 of Treble Bob, with twelve bobs, with the tenors wrong,—but of course not often rung, but simply given to show in my opinion that this number of bobs can be introduced into it.

I have heard—referring to the theory of music—of harmony-discord, but the above has the latter quality, certainly not the former.

What would our friend think if he were to hear a choir singing a hymn, for instance, one of four lines in a verse, and to transpose the third and fourth lines, with, of course the music? the answer is obvious.

MULTUM IN PARVO.

AN ACCIDENTAL INCIDENT.

DURING a person's journey through life many accidents and mishaps may enter into his experience, which, though they may be exceedingly noisy and demonstrative in their natures, are comparatively harmless in their effects.

The other Sunday evening the ringers of Radcliffe-on-Trent, a beautiful little village some six miles from N——, ventured to call the people to their devotions by a touch on their beautiful ring (?) of four. The bells were running splendidly, and sending forth the volume of their sweet music to the outside world. This had gone on for about a quarter of an hour, when suddenly a tremendous noise was heard overhead; not indeed like "a deep sound striking like a rising knell," nor "as the troubled sound of many waters," but a lumber as if the whole seismic power contained in the bowels of the earth were concentrated up aloft, and were now determined to vent its superabundant force in an effort to bring the tower, bells, and all, about the ears of the unfortunate ringers. The scene that followed would be difficult to accurately describe. Perhaps the words of Lord Byron (slightly perverted) may do so fairly well:—

"Ah! then and there were rushings to and fro,
And wondering looks and trembling signs of fear;
And cheeks all pale, which but a crack ago,
Were red with tugging at the bell-rope dear."

Some of the men rushed down the stairs: one jumped into the window recess; one only retained his hold of his rope. The ropes, thus liberated, commenced a fantastic jig round the bell-chamber, and the bells themselves commenced a discordant jangle—for they were not all fallen as was at first supposed. Of course all the above happened in a much shorter space of time than it has taken me to write this, or you, my readers, to peruse it. In fact all occurred in the twinkling of an eye; and then there was peace again, except "the clanging and the clashing of the bells."

Notwithstanding the terrific noise I have attempted to describe, nothing very dreadful appeared to follow. Now to discover the nature of the occurrence, and, if possible, its cause. One ringer seems to have possessed a similar spirit to that with which Shakespere invests his Henry V., when he makes him to exclaim:—

"Once more unto the breach, dear friends, once more;
Or close the wall up with our English dead,"—

for he immediately began to ascend the tower, at the risk of, as the others thought, perhaps his—well I won't say life; make t—neck. Others soon followed, and it was discovered that the tower had not fallen, not even a bell was misplaced, but what was almost as surprising—that one of the clappers had left its bell, flown across the chamber, and striking the wall, had fallen on to the floor, with the noise and effect above feebly described.

This, then, was the case of all our consternation and alarm. How the nut managed to work of the bolt which suspends the clapper, may perhaps be more clear to some of our brother strings than it was to Us.

AN OUTING IN LANCASHIRE.

ON Tuesday afternoon, August 26th, myself and Mr. A. S. Barrell took our departure from Lime Street Station, Liverpool, for Eccles, near Manchester, and after having arrived there, we partook of some slight refreshment, and then proceeded to the belfry of St. Mary's church, the Eccles company meeting us there. Here a start was made for a peal of Grandsire Triples, but after ringing 1680 changes, a shift course occurred, which unfortunately put a stop to the proceedings. W. Crossley, 1; C. E. Wilson, 2; C. Cash, 3; A. S. Barrell, 4; J. Barratt, 5; R. Ashcroft, 6; G. H. Johnson (conductor), 7; W. Ashcroft, 8. Tenor 13½ cwt. A very enjoyable evening was then spent at the "Odd Fellows Arms," tune-playing, change-ringing, singing and piano-forte playing being freely indulged in, until it was time to separate, arrangements having been made to try for the peal again on Saturday. On Wednesday we journeyed on to Manchester, and then to Birch, where we tried hard to get a pull, but owing to evening service it had to be abandoned. On Thursday we went to Belle Vue Gardens, Manchester, and were very much delighted, it being a very attractive place of amusement. In the evening we went to the Cathedral, and had the pleasure of meeting Mr. Wrecks and the Manchester company. Here we scored a touch of Grandsire Caters, and a touch of Grandsire Royal, and were very much pleased with the reception we met with.

On Friday evening we rang on the bells of St. Phillip's church,

Hulme, and were cordially welcomed by that society, a 504 of Grandsire Triples was rung, and 180 of Bob Minor, a touch of Kent Treble Bob Major unfortunately coming to grief.

Saturday found us on our way again to Eccles, and upon our arrival we were met at the church by the ringers, and in 2 hrs. and 58 mins. we had the indescribable pleasure of ringing our first 5040, particulars of which will be found in another column. On Sunday morning a date touch of Bob Major, 1884 changes, was rung at the same church, in 1 hr. 8 mins., conducted by Mr. G. H. Johnson. In the afternoon we proceeded to Swinton, along with three of the Eccles company, and with three of the Swinton ringers, rang for afternoon service a 504 of Grandsire Triples, conducted by Mr. E. Cash. Accepting an invitation from Mr. C. Cash, we proceeded to his residence, and a splendid tea being provided, we did ample justice to it. We then walked back to Eccles, and had the pleasure of meeting Mr. S. Wood, of Ashton, and Mr. T. Dixon of Sheffield, and rung for evening service a touch of Kent Treble Bob Major, 672 changes, conducted by Mr. G. H. Johnson. The time for our departure homewards was now drawing near, and bidding adieu to our friends (which we were very reluctant to leave), we took train to Liverpool, thus terminating a very pleasant and enjoyable holiday, one, which we will always think of in time to come. We take this opportunity of thanking the Eccles company, the Manchester Cathedral company, and the Hulme company, for the extreme kindness and attention shown us on our visit.

C. E. WILSON.

A CURIOUS EXTRACT.

"A Musical Grammar and Dictionary, or General Introduction to the Whole Art of Music," is the title of a work, by one William Tansur, sen., of Stokesley, in this neighbourhood, who styles himself Professor, Corrector, and Teacher of Church Music, above fifty years, and who died in 1770, aged 70 years. I think the following extract from the chapter upon bells of sufficient interest to merit an insertion in "THE BELL NEWS," not only as affording an explanation of the now obsolete term "Extreme," but also as an illustration of the stages through which the science has passed in reaching its present high state of development.

"Five bells give four times as many more changes as four bells, by multiplying twenty-four by five, the product is 120, in which is the whole hunt, and the half hunt; the half hunt making a change one bell higher, and the treble hunting down again makes another change. The half hunt having finished its course by hunting over all, an extreme is made by the two farthest extreme bells from the half hunt, which is the third and the fourth, so proceeding in the same course till the next extreme, which happens every time the treble leads. An extreme is a distinct change from the rest, and made by the two farthest extreme bells from the half hunt."

A PLAIN SIX-SCORE ON FIVE BELLS.
Hunt 1.2.

1 2 3 4 5

2 1 3 4 5

2 3 1 4 5

2 3 4 1 5

2 3 4 5 1

3 2 4 5 1

3 2 4 1 5

3 2 1 4 5

3 1 2 4 5

1 3 2 4 5

1 3 4 2 5

3 1 4 2 5

3 4 1 2 5

3 4 2 1 5

3 4 2 5 1

3 4 5 2 1

3 4 5 1 2

3 4 1 5 2

3 1 4 5 2

Extr.

1 3 4 5 2

1 4 3 5 2

Stockton-on-Tees.

4 1 3 5 2

4 3 1 5 2

4 3 5 1 2

4 3 5 2 1

4 3 2 5 1

4 3 2 1 5

4 3 1 2 5

4 1 3 2 5

1 4 3 2 5

1 4 2 3 5

4 1 2 3 5

4 2 1 3 5

4 2 3 1 5

4 2 3 5 1

2 4 3 5 1

2 4 3 1 5

2 4 1 3 5

2 1 4 3 5

Extr.

1 2 4 3 5

1 2 4 5 3 &c.

G. J. CLARKSON.

OPENING OF THE NEW BELLS AT THE PARISH
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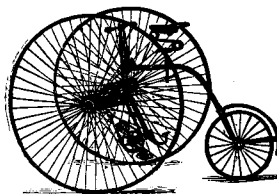
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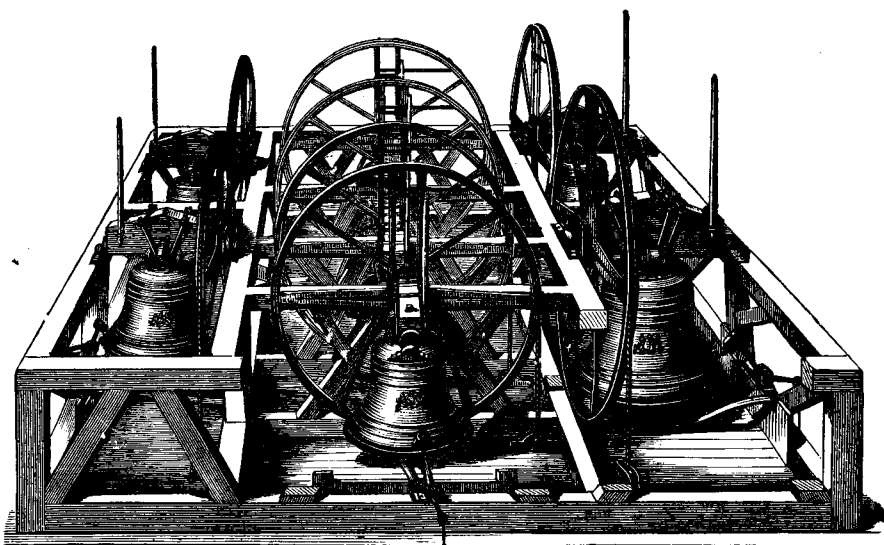
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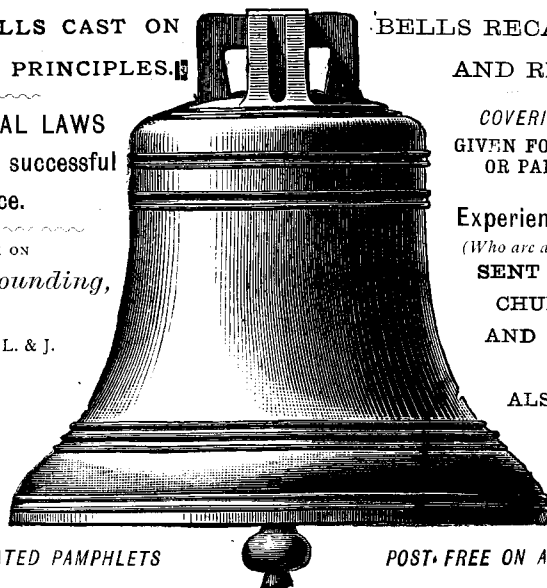
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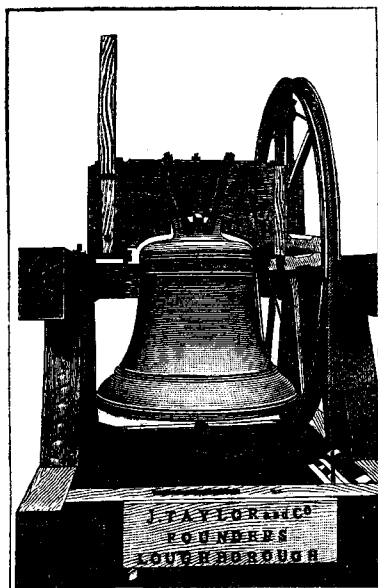
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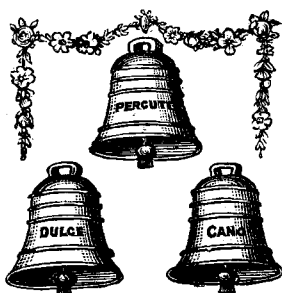
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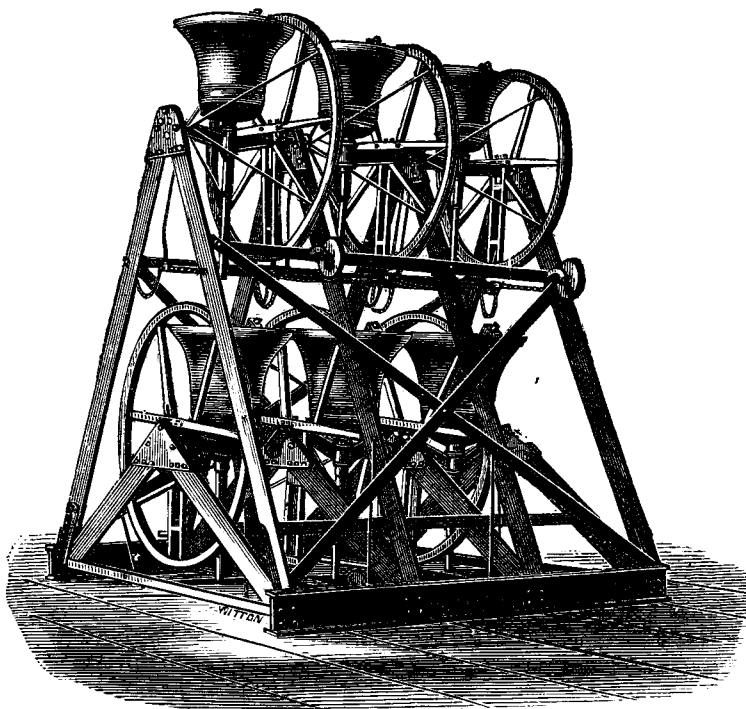
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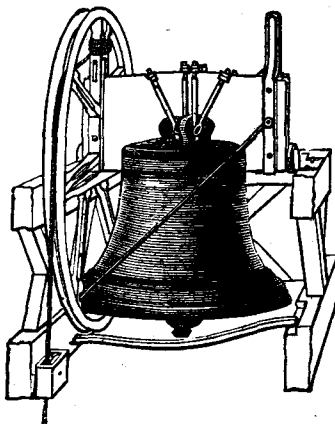
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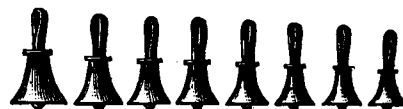
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CHANGE-RINGING IN KENT IN 1820.

[From the *Kentish Gazette*.]

THE following records are forwarded, accompanied by a pressing request that we would insert them, by one of our very oldest subscribers. We take the first opportunity of complying with our friend's wishes. Our readers will find among these reports one or two interesting particulars.

By the Aldington Minor Society, May 22nd, 1820, was rang, in the parish church of New Romney, a complete peal of 5488 Bob Major changes, in 3 hrs. 24 mins., conducted by Mr. John Howland. Edwd. Marshall, treble; Wm. Stoakes, 2; John Howland, 3; John Crothall, 4; John Seelly, 5; Charles Welch, 6; Samuel Mills, tenor—19½ cwt.

On Thursday, Oct. 12th, 1820, was rung at St. Leonard's church, Hythe, by the Aldington Minor Society, a complete peal of 5008 Bob Major changes, in 3 hrs. 4 mins., with the 6th fourteen times wrong and twenty-four times right; composed and conducted by Mr. C. Welch. Wm. Fry, treble; Wm. Stoakes, 2; Richard Butcher, 3; John Crothall, 4; John Howland, 5; John Seely, 6; Richard Hills, 7; Charles Welch, tenor. Tenor 19 cwt.

On Saturday, November 25th, 1820, was rung at Aldington church, by the Aldington Minor society, two true and complete peals of Treble Bob: 720 of Kentish Treble Bob in 25 mins., and 720 of Oxford Treble Bob in 24½ mins. Wm. Fry, treble; Chas. Welch, 2; Richd. Butcher, 3; John Crothall, 4; John Seelly, 5; Richd. Hills, tenor. Tenor 14 cwt.

On Saturday, the 29th of April, 1820, was rung in the steeple of St. Mary's Church, Elham, a true and complete peal of 5040 Bob Major changes, in 3 hrs. 9 mins., which was conducted by Mr. John Austin (a native of Wye, Kent), a blind man from his birth, who sat in the steeple and called the peal completely true, a performance never before heard of. The peal was rung by the following band: W. Keeler (Elham), treble; Wm. Stoakes (Lympne), 2; E. Marshall (Aldington), 3; J. Seelly (Aldington), 4; J. Crothall (Aldington), 5; C. Welch (Lympne), 6; R. Hills (Aldington), 7; T. Cook (Elmsted), tenor. Tenor about 20 cwt.

On Sunday, January 15th, at St. Leonard's church, Hythe, a true and complete peal of Bob Major, with the 6th eight times wrong and seventeen times right. Composed and conducted by Mr. Chas. Welch, and brought round in 3 hrs. 12 mins., and was rung by the undermentioned persons. H. Down, treble; W. Grisbrooke, 2; T. Castle, 3; J. Philpot, 4; W. Greenstreet, 5; C. Welch, 6; R. Lucas, 7; A. Newman, tenor. Tenor 19 cwt. [No number of changes is given with this peal.]

May 22nd, 1820, was rung in the Waterloo Tower, Quex Park, Birchington, Kent, a complete peal of 6720 Bob Major changes in 4 hrs. 10 mins., conducted by Mr. Greenstreet, and performed by the following persons, viz: Henry Down (Hythe), treble; D. Bensted (Eastling), 2; Thos. White (Wingham), 3; Thos. Fritton (Wingham), 4; Wm. Greenstreet (Hythe), 5; G. Francis (Canterbury), 6; Jas. Drewry (Eastling), 7; J. Ralph (Wingham), tenor.

The Quex Society.—On Monday, July 24th, 1820, at St. Nicholas' church, Ash, Kent, a true and complete peal of 5040 Bob Triples, by the Quex band, in 3 hrs., being the first peal of 5000 changes ever performed on those bells. The performers were as follows: Edw. Eustage, treble; Wm. Shipway, 2; John Beer, 3; Thos. Clark, 4; John Austin, 5; Wm. Clark, 6; Geo. Miller, 7; Stephen Holman, tenor—22½ cwt. in E. Occasionally the 7th and 8th were relieved in in the latter part of the peal by G. Francis, of Canterbury. Conducted by Wm. Shipway. On Friday, September 29th, 1820, was rung at the Waterloo Tower, Quex Park, by J. P. Powell's band of ringers, a complete peal of 5040 Grandsire Triples, having 194 bobs and 46 singles, which was completed in 3 hrs. 3 mins., conducted by Mr. Shipway, and rung in the following order: James Carter, treble; John Beer, 2; Wm. Clark, 3; Thos. Clark, 4; George Miller, 5; Wm. Shipway, 6; John Austin, 7; Stephen Thomas, tenor.

Quex Society.—In consequence of an invitation to the Canterbury Cathedral company of change-ringers from J. P. Powell, Esq., of Quex House, Birchington, to ring alternately with the Quex ringers the old year out and the new year in, the gentlemen of Canterbury commenced ringing on New Year's Eve, and the Quex Company rang the midnight peal. Having introduced the New Year with harmonious change-ringing in both the musical methods of Grandsire Triples and Caters, the joint bands agreed to conclude the day by ringing a peal of Grandsire Caters together, in which they succeeded to their utmost satisfaction, completing a peal in that admirable method, of 5130 changes in 3 hrs. 18 mins., being the first peal on the ten bells, a peal on the twelve having been rung the preceding year by a band from London. The ringers' stations in the peal were as follows: Wm. Shipway (Quex), treble; G. Francis (Canterbury), 2; Jas. Allen (Canterbury), 3; Jas. Burgess (Canterbury), 4; Thos. Pettman (Canterbury), 5; John

Austin (Quex), 6; Chas. Spice (Canterbury), 7; John Goodwin (Canterbury), 8; Hy. Ovenden (Canterbury), 9; Geo. Finn (Canterbury), tenor. Conducted by Wm. Shipway. Tenor 16 cwt. The above peal was rung January 1st, 1821.

The Biddenden Society.—On Tuesday, March 7th, 1820, was rung in Benenden steeple by the Biddenden society of ringers, a true and complete peal of 5040 changes of Bob Major, brought round in a masterly style in 3 hrs. 10 mins. by the undermentioned: Thos. Dean, jun., treble; Thos. Dean, sen., 2; Robert Honis, 3; Thos. Dean, jun., 4; Robert Pulling, 5; John Dean, sen., 6; James Honis, 7; Wm. Bournier, tenor. Conducted by James Honis.

On Tuesday, August 8th, 1820, was rung in the parish church of St. George, Benenden, a true and complete peal of 5040 Grandsire Triples, in 3 hrs. 10 mins. by the resident band of ringers. Mr. G. Southon, treble; Mr. J. Hatcher, 2; Mr. J. Eldridge, 3; Mr. W. Lansdell, 4; Mr. G. Manwaring, 5; Mr. E. Wenman, 6; Mr. R. Chasmer, 7; Mr. J. Wenman, 6; Mr. R. Chasmer, 7; Mr. J. Wenman, tenor. Conducted by Mr. John Hatcher.

On January 1st, 1821, the following society of ringers at Biddenden, rang in their own parish church (All Saints'), a true and complete peal of Union Triple changes, in 3 hrs. 18 mins. Mr. G. Southon, treble; Mr. Edw. Wenman, 2; Mr. Wm. Lansdell, 3; Mr. Robt. Chasman, 4; Mr. G. Manwaring, 5; Mr. John Hatcher, 6; Mr. George Gibbs, 7; Mr. John Wenman, tenor. Weight of tenor 24 cwt. in Eb.

On Friday, November 17th, 1820, a complete peal of 5040 Bob Triples, without a single, was rung in 2 hrs. and 58 mins., at St. Mary's, Rolvenden, Kent, by Henry Lansdell (aged 13 years), treble; George Lansdell (aged 17), 2; Frederick Lansdell (aged 15), 3; John Hinds (aged 20), 4; George Goble (aged 23), 5; John Goble (aged 22), 6; Edward Lansdell (aged 19), 7; Edward Lansdell, sen., father of the four Lansdell Brothers, tenor, all of whom are residents of the parish, and have acquired their information of change-ringing within twelve months, solely from reading Shipway's Campanalogia, or the Art of Ringing. The peal was conducted by Henry Lansdell, jun. This was an average age of little more than 18 years for the first seven of the band.

Lenham (Kent).—On Monday evening, December 18th, 1820, as some young men were ringing for practice in Lenham steeple, the rope of the treble bell getting out of its place, two of the ringers went up to the loft with a candle to adjust it, when one of the men, James Bigg, bricklayer, aged 26, by some means pulled the bell out of its position, by which he lost his footing, and falling on the sixth bell, that also came off, and in its course caught and jammed him between the bell and the frame, and instantaneously crushed him to death. The candle being in his hand went out, so that the other man saw no more of him till the rest of the ringers came up, and getting him out conveyed him down to the belfry. He was a native of Lenham, much respected, and greatly lamented. He left a wife and five small children to deplore their loss, the youngest but little more than a month old. The above is a solemn warning to all ringers who are in the habit of going up amongst the bells when they are up, as any one is liable to miss their footing. When one of the ropes happen to get out of place, some of the bells ought to be lowered so to get at it without any danger in putting it all right.

COMPTON MARTIN, SOMERSET.

On Saturday, August 30th, several members of the St. Stephen's society of Bristol paid a visit to the above-named place, which is a small village about thirteen miles from Bristol, and eight from Wells. The parish church (St. Michael's), which stands just under the north side of the Mendip Hills, contains a ring of six bells, tenor 21 cwt., in very good ringing order, the only defect being that the ropes of the three smallest bells come down within a foot of each other, making it very awkward for ringing, the ringers having to stand almost back to back, to prevent the ropes becoming "mixed." Six 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles were rung by J. Palser, 1; H. Price, 2; C. Millard, 3; F. Price, 4; W. Emery, 5; G. Stallard, 6; which greatly pleased the villagers, who have not had the pleasure of hearing any changes rang upon the bells for many years.

Leaving the tower, the visitors adjourned to the "Ring of Bells" inn, close to which house the villagers were assembled to hold a kind of harvest festival on a "drap o' good zider." Here the handbells were brought out, upon which the visitors played several tunes, giving immense satisfaction to those who heard them, if the manner in which they were applauded is any criterion. The company now started for home, and on the way made a call at Winford, where their old friend, Mr. Lovell, who is a Churchwarden of the right sort, always receives them with open house, and he was not behindhand on the present occasion with a good spread, which was accompanied by some of his own home-made "zider." They then played a few more tunes, and then departed for home, arriving at Bristol about 11 o'clock, well pleased with their afternoon's outing.

MOSCOW'S NEW CATHEDRAL.

A correspondent of the *Times* writes:—

The new cathedral at Moscow is one of the most remarkable churches in Europe. Not many cathedrals can boast of having been built in one lifetime, but there are Russians still living who saw the French army depart from Moscow, to commemorate which event the church of St. Saviour has been erected. The site has cost, with embankment, terrace, etc., upwards of £180,000, and at the outset a nunnery had to be removed, and 70,000 cubic feet of earth to be displaced, before, on the 27th of July, 1838, the laying of the foundations was commenced. The building continued slowly to rise for twenty years, and in 1858 the scaffolding was removed, this latter item alone having cost 277,000 roubles, or upwards of £40,000 (reckoning the rouble, that is, at 35s. as throughout this letter). A quarter of a century more has been expended on fittings and decoration. The style is ancient Russian, or rather Græco-Byzantine, the most striking feature of which, to a Western eye, on the exterior is the five copper cupolas, for the gilding of which were required 900lb. of gold, their total cost being upwards of £170,000. The domes are surmounted by crosses, the centre one, nearly thirty feet high, standing 340 feet from the ground. The building covers an area of 73,000 square feet. The bells, as usual in Russia, are of ponderous weight. The largest, or "Holy Day" bell, weighs twenty-six tons, or half as much again as Great Paul. Even the second, or "Sunday" bell, is within a ton's weight of our bantling; while the smallest of the "every-day" bells descends to about 30lb. The cost of the peal was upwards of £13,000.

The foundations of the church are of Finnish granite, and the whole edifice is faced with marble, the doors being of bronze, ornamented with Biblical subjects, and lined with oak. The principal entrance measures 30 feet high by 18 feet broad, and the two doors weigh thirteen tons, the total cost of all the doors being £62,000. Thus, it will be allowed that many of the features of St. Saviour's are produced on a magnificent scale, though one familiar with the spire of St. Stephen's, Vienna, or that of Salisbury, the west front of York Minster, or that of Amiens, might hesitate to pronounce the effect of the exterior of St. Saviour's beautiful. As to the interior, there can be, I think, little difference of opinion. I have seen most of the celebrated cathedrals in Europe (with the exception of those of Spain), but in its way I know of nothing so exquisite as the interior of St. Saviour's, at Moscow. The building is erected in the form of Greek cross, three of the broad ends of which form corridors, lower and upper, surrounding three sides of, and open to, the central square or temple proper, while the fourth end is occupied by the altar and its appurtenances. The upper corridor reminded me of the galleries in Santa Sophia, at Constantinople. The walls are adorned with frescoes illustrating principal events in the history of the Russian Church. The walls of the lower corridor or "procession gallery" are adorned with paintings commemorative of the battles of 1812.

But it is when one stands in the temple proper and looks above and around that the gorgeousness of the building is so striking. The floor of this part is 220 feet square, the length of the cross either way 270 feet, and the height from the ground to the cupola measures 230 feet. The floor is of marble, and the walls are lined with exquisite varieties of the same material. The total cost of all the marble in the building exceeded £3,000,000. Lifting one's eyes, the galleries are seen to contain thirty-six windows, and the cupola sixteen, all of which are double, with frames of bronze. Round the cupola is one row of 640 candelabra, placed there at a cost of £27,000, with a second row of 600, costing an additional £12,000. There are four lustres weighing four tons each, and the total number of candles to be lighted throughout the building is upwards of 3000. At the top of the cupola is a painting by Professor Markoff, that will freely shock the principles of Westerners who object to the use of pictures in worship. It represents in colossal proportions the first person of the Blessed Trinity as an old man with the infant Jesus. The height of the figure is 49 feet, the length of the face 7 feet, and the height of the infant 21 feet. Also, below the cupola are a number of figures of Apostles and Fathers, each 21 feet high. Great expense has of course been lavished on the eastern end of the church. The cost of materials and workmanship for the altar-space, apart from the icons or sacred pictures, amounted to £36,000. In this

part of the church are some of its most remarkable paintings, most, if not all, by Russian artists. The structure of the altar screen is a departure from the traditional Russian Type, for instead of a tall, ugly blank partition, half or two-thirds of the height of the church, hiding the eastern end, the screen of St. Saviour's is low and elegant, and throws open, except for a few feet above the floor, the whole of the sanctuary. But a more marked and as some would think unorthodox departure from the customs of the Russian Church is the construction of the altars. I am under the impression, gathered, I think, from the work of the learned Dr. Neale on the Eastern Church, that the "Holy Table" in the Russian Church should be always of wood, whereas in St. Saviour's I saw two at least constructed of blocks of polished marble, the semblance of a table being given to each by a moveable inch board of cypress wood laid on the top. Much of the ornamentation of the sanctuary and its furniture was exceedingly beautiful, notably some enamelled candelabra by Klebnikoff, but perhaps I have sufficiently described this princely cathedral, erected at a cost of two and a quarter millions of pounds sterling, said to be capable of accommodating 10,000 worshippers, and which from its first conception has been built, as I have said, in a single lifetime.

THE HUNTSHAM SOCIETY AT CHARD, SOMERSET.

On Thursday, September 4th, this Society had the pleasure of assisting in the day of Thanksgiving for work done in the parish church of St. Mary, Chard, by the invitation of the Rev. W. E. Buller, Vicar, who specially desired the attendance of the Huntsham ringers for the occasion, and to give his people an opportunity of hearing what scientific change-ringing is. The striking throughout was excellent, and met with most hearty and kindly appreciation from a large assemblage of clergy (including the Lord Bishop of the Diocese), laity, and ringers from all parts of the neighbourhood. The ringing took place after morning service, and by special announcement at 4 p.m., touches of Grandsire and Stedman Triples were rung, amounting in all to about 2500 changes. At 5.30 p.m., after an inspection of the bells and cage (which were found to be in apple-pie order), the party, with the ringers of the parish, sat down to an excellent dinner at the "Crown" Hotel, presided over by the Vicar. At the conclusion of the repast a short explanation was given by Colonel Troyte, of the method by which changes are rung, and illustrated by lapping; and this was followed by courses in hand of Grandsire Triples and Caters. The party were then escorted to the railway station by their ringing friends, and thus ended one of the most agreeable outings the Society has ever had. It is much to be hoped that ere long a Society of change-ringers will be started in Chard, and that we may hear of a peal being rung on these beautiful bells, which are equal to any in the county of Somerset.

The party consisted of Colonel Troyte, J. Norrish, H. Payne, H. Tucker, W. Heard, J. Heard, H. Redwood, and J. Chave, with Messrs. Banister, Field, and Easterbrook, honorary members. The weight of the tenor is 28 cwt.

NEWCASTLE AND GATESHEAD SOCIETIES.

On Saturday, August 30th, the members of the above Societies had their annual excursion to Blackhill and Shotley Bridge. The party booked to Blackhill, where they were met by Mr. Sloane, verger of St. Mary's Catholic church, who at once conducted them to the belfry, where a fine new ring of six bells (tenor 22 cwt.) has just recently been hung. After several touches of Grandsire had been rung, amounting to about 1000 changes, the party were invited by the Rev. Father Smith to partake of a little refreshment, where the rev. gentleman himself joined them, and welcomed the company in the most courteous and affable manner. The party next went for a walk to Shotley Bridge, accompanied by Mr. Winney, of Benfieldside church, where there is a ring of five bells. While some of the members remained here and rang a few 6-scores, the remainder took the opportunity of strolling through Shotley Spa. Night was now fast approaching, and a start was made back to Blackhill, where they were joined by the young men who are learning to ring there, and the remainder of the night was spent pleasantly together. Train time having arrived, greetings were exchanged, and the party returned home, having spent a most happy and enjoyable outing.

THE ST. PAUL'S SOCIETY, BURTON-ON-TRENT.

On Saturday, September 13th (to-day) eight members of this society intend attempting, at St. Paul's church, Shipway's peal of 6720 Superlative Surprise Major. Ringing to commence at three o'clock in the afternoon. St. Paul's church is five minutes' walk from the Railway Station.

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR.

6048.

By JOHN THORP, *Ashton-under-Lyne*.

2 3 4 5 6 W M H

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

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

Twice repeated.

Rung at St. George's, Hyde, Cheshire, August 23rd, 1884, conducted by James S. Wilde.

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR.

5040.

By BENJAMIN FRANCIS, *Diss*.

2 3 4 5 6 W M H

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

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

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

Twice repeated.

The above peal has the 2nd twelve times each way in 2-3, and kept away from the tenor as much as possible at the wrong, and has the 6th twelve times each way in 5-6.

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR.

6160.

By MATTHEW TOMLINSON, *Holbeck, Leeds*.

W M H

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

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

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

Four times repeated.

THREE 720's OF DOUBLE COURT BOB MINOR.

By F. PITSTOW, *Saffron Walden*.

With eighteen bobs and fourteen singles.

2 3 4 5 6 3 2 4 5 6

5 6 3 4 2 5 6 2 4 3
 4 2 6 3 5 4 3 6 2 5
 S 5 3 2 6 4 2 5 3 6 4
 B 6 4 2 5 3 B 6 4 3 2 5
 S 3 5 4 2 6 S 5 2 4 3 6

B 2 6 4 3 5 B 3 6 4 5 2
 3 5 6 4 2 2 5 6 4 3
 4 2 5 6 3 4 3 5 6 2
 B 6 3 5 4 2 B 6 2 5 4 3
 4 2 3 5 6 4 3 2 5 6

With eighteen bobs and twenty-two singles.

2 3 4 5 6 3 2 4 5 6

5 6 3 4 2 5 6 2 4 3
 S 2 4 6 3 5 S 3 4 6 2 5
 S 5 3 4 6 2 2 5 4 6 3
 B 6 2 4 5 3 B 6 3 4 2 5
 S 3 5 2 4 6 S 5 2 3 4 6

B 4 6 2 3 5 B 4 6 3 5 2
 3 5 6 2 4 S 2 5 6 3 4
 2 4 5 6 3 3 4 5 6 2
 B 6 3 5 2 4 B 6 2 5 3 4
 S 4 2 3 5 6 S 4 3 2 5 6

Each of the above parts has to be twice repeated, in the first 720 a single has to be called at half-way and end, while in the second 720 the singles at these places have to be omitted.

These two 720's were first rung by the Glemsford company at St. Mary's church, Glemsford, on Saturday, March 27th, 1880, conducted by Samuel Slater.

With eighteen bobs and twenty-six singles.

5 6 3 4 2 5 6 2 4 3
 S 2 4 6 3 5 S 3 4 6 2 5
 S 5 3 4 6 2 2 5 4 6 3
 B 6 2 4 5 3 B 6 3 4 2 5
 S 3 5 2 4 6 S 5 2 3 4 6

B 4 6 2 3 5 B 4 6 3 5 2
 3 5 6 2 4 S 2 5 6 3 4
 S 4 2 5 6 3 S 4 3 5 6 2
 B 6 3 5 4 2 B 6 2 5 4 3
 4 2 3 5 6 4 2 3 5 6

Each part twice repeated, with a single at the end of the 6th and 12th courses.

This 720 was first rung on January 3rd, 1866, at Stanstead, Essex, conducted by its composer.

A $\frac{1}{2}$ -PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES.

1260.

By HENRY J. TUCKER, *Bishops Stortford*.

2 3 4 5 6 7

7 5 2 6 3 4 ¹
 4 6 7 3 5 2 ¹
 6 7 4 3 5 2 ⁴
 * 2 3 6 5 7 4 ¹
 7 4 2 6 5 3 ²
 3 6 7 5 4 2 ¹
 7 4 3 6 2 5 ³
 5 6 7 2 4 3 ¹
 5 2 6 3 7 4 ¹ P.L.

Five times repeated; a single being substituted for the bob marked * in the third and sixth parts.

The above contains twelve 7-4's, twelve 4-6's, and twelve 6-7's, with Queens and Tittums.

A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR.

5024.

By J. CARTER, *Birmingham*.

2 3 4 5 6 1 4 5 6

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

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

Repeated; 6th twenty-four times wrong and right.

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR.

5152.

By J. J. BRIERLEY, *Saddleworth*.

2 3 4 5 6 M B W H

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

This part repeated produces:—

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

Rung at St. George's, Hyde, Cheshire, August 30th, 1884, conducted by James S. Wilde.

A $\frac{1}{2}$ -PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES.By J. W. GATTLE, *Aston, near Birmingham*.

2 3 4 5 1 2 3 4

3 4 2 5 - -
 4 2 3 5 - -
 2 5 3 4 - - S
 5 2 3 4 - - S
 2 4 3 5 - -
 4 5 3 2 - -
 5 3 4 2 - -
 3 5 4 2 - - S

Twice repeated; contains the twenty-four 6-7's.

We regret to say that the peal of Treble Ten, by Mr. J. Hardcastle, of Bradford, published in our last issue, is false.

"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.

Everything for insertion in this Journal to be addressed "The Editor of THE BELL NEWS, Walthamstow, London." Letters forwarded for publication, and performances under 5000 changes must reach us not later than Wednesday morning; and the insertion of any communication coming later than the first Postal delivery on Thursday morning cannot be guaranteed in that week's number. When it is found impossible from want of space to insert all touches forwarded, the earlier ones will have the preference.

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.

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

☞ To prevent disappointment, the Editor requests that stamps for extra copies of this paper may be sent direct to the Publisher.

J. R. JERRAM.—Too late.

R. SIMMONDS.—You neglected to comply with our usual requirement, and therefore the responsibility must rest with yourself.

J. GRIFFIN.—The matter shall be attended to at once. We should like it to be well known that we are always glad to assist in representations being made.

The Bell News & Ringers' Record.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 13, 1884.

ONE great incentive to ringers to apply themselves, with no puny effort, it must be said, to ring a peal, is the certainty that in some form or other its successful accomplishment will be recorded, and in some instances, the record handed down for the wonder and commendation of an admiring posterity. When we mention the word "peal," it should be understood that we mean a performance comprising 5000 or more changes; and on this point our readers will, ere this, have noticed that we only dignify performances of that length by the word. Records of peals partake of some variety. There is what may be termed the public one, such as the columns of our paper which are devoted to the purpose; affixing a tablet recording the feat to the walls of the ringing-chamber of the tower in which it has been performed, a plan which, by the way, from many causes, cannot become universal; and there is the peal-book of the Association, Guild, or Society, to which the persons ringing the peal belong.

Next in importance to the newspaper publications of such records is without doubt, the peal-book. And here we would say that the value of a peal-book seems not to be estimated by several of our most prominent ringing Associations as it ought. Many of our readers will be surprised to hear that one of two of these bodies yet have no book in which to record, in a suitable manner, the performances of their members; no bulky volume in which probationers may aspire to see their names appear

side by side with their seniors, in a performance which may have required some skill to achieve. How is this? Do the managing committees of these Associations think that such a record is superfluous? If so, we must be allowed to differ from them. A peal-book is a valuable accessory, creating not only an impulse to advancement in the art, but a healthy competition for pre-eminence among the members of any Association or Guild. We hope the members of any ringing Guild which is deficient in the respect of a peal-book, will endeavour to get one provided. Let the question be brought up at the earliest possible meeting of the Association, and dealt with in a practical shape. Perhaps there may be a dearth of subjects for the next agenda paper; here is one which we venture to submit will be of more value than any commonplace topics or prosy conversation, and the pleasures of the holiday which sometimes a district meeting affords will not be curtailed by the consideration of such a question.

OPENING OF BELLS AT BEACONSFIELD, BUCKS.

The village of Beaconsfield on Tuesday last, September 9th, was the scene of an interesting ceremony, upon the occasion of the opening of the restored tower, and dedication of the bells of its church. The sacred edifice stands in a burial ground adorned with some stately walnut trees. The service, at three o'clock, was attended by a large congregation, and was conducted by the Rev. S. J. Bowles, the rector, the Ven. Archdeacon of Buckingham preaching the sermon. Later on the clergy and choir went in procession to the tower, opened the belfry, and dedicated the bells, touches upon which were immediately rung by a band of the Oxford Diocesan Guild. The touches were limited to 20 minutes each, and consisted of a 459, 336, 168, 504, and 168 of Grandsire Triples. The members who took part in them were: Revs. F. E. Robinson and G. F. Coleridge; Messrs. R. Smith, E. Rogers, W. A. Garraway, E. Keeley, J. Truss, R. Flaxman, G. Wilkins, sen., G. Wilkins, jun., J. W. Wilkins, T. Woolford, and C. Chapman. The ringing was conducted alternately by the Rev. F. E. Robinson and W. A. Garraway. The new peal, which consists of eight bells of rich tone, in E flat, cost £520, the amount being subscribed by the residents. The company were subsequently entertained by the rector in the gardens of Hall Place.

The Metropolis.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

FULHAM, MIDDLESEX.

On Monday, September 8, 1884, in Three Hours and Fifteen Minutes.

AT ALL SAINTS' CHURCH,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERS, 5000 CHANGES;

Tenor 20 cwt.

JAMES PETTIT	Treble.	EDWIN GIBBS	6.
WILLIAM GREENLEAF	2.	*FREDERICK KNIGHTS	7.
GEORGE MASH	3.	WILLIAM D. SMITH	8.
FRANCIS E. DAWE	4.	EDWIN HORREX	9.
JOHN W. ROWBOTHAM	5.	*WILLIAM GEORGE	Tenor.

Composed by HENRY W. HALEY, SEN., and conducted by JAMES PETTIT.

*First peal in the method. Mr. F. Knights hails from Norwich.

The Provinces.**SWINDON, WILTSHIRE.****THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS, AND
THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.***On Thursday, September 4, 1884, in Three Hours and Twelve Minutes,*

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

TAYLOR'S BOB-AND-SINGLE VARIATION. Tenor 15 cwt.

F. S. WHITE Treble.	F. WHITE 5.
J. AVERY 2.	G. HOLIFIELD 6.
REV. F. E. ROBINSON .. 3.	G. H. PHILLOTT, Esq. .. 7.
W. BENNETT 4.	T. BENNETT Tenor.

Conducted by G. HOLIFIELD.

GLOSSOP, DERBYSHIRE.**THE ST. GEORGE'S SOCIETY, HYDE, AND THE
UNITED COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.***On Saturday, September 6, 1884, in Two Hours and Fifty-five Minutes,*

AT ALL SAINTS' CHURCH,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5184 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 15 cwt.

JAMES S. WILDE.. .. Treble.	JOHN FILDES 5.
RALPH PRICHARD 2.	SAMUEL BRADLEY 6.
THOMAS BRADLEY 3.	THOMAS WILDE 7.
GEORGE LONGDEN 4.	SAMUEL BENNETT Tenor.

Composed by the late WILLIAM HARRISON, and Conducted by
THOMAS WILDE.**THE CHESTER CATHEDRAL SOCIETY.****BROMBOROUGH, CHESHIRE.***On Saturday, September 6, 1884, in Three Hours and Twenty-Seven Minutes,*

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5280 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 24 cwt. in F.

JOSEPH GRIFFITHS Treble.	JAMES MOULTON 5.
ARTHUR JONES 2.	ALFRED CROSS 6.
JOHN GIBSON 3.	WILLIAM WALTON 7.
THOMAS BETHELL 4.	FREEMAN BALL.. .. Tenor.

Composed by the late J. REEVES, and Conducted by
FREEMAN BALL.

First peal in this method by all except the conductor.

NOTTINGHAM.**THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION, AND THE
ALL SAINTS' SOCIETY, NOTTINGHAM.***On Saturday, September 6, 1884, in Three Hours and Eight Minutes,*

AT ALL SAINTS' CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S TEN-PART. Tenor 17 cwt. in E.

JOSEPH WIBBERLEY Treble.	JOHN C. DICKENS 5.
JOHN W. WILSON 2.	JOHN WARD 6.
WILLIAM GRICE 3.	HORACE W. ABBOTT 7.
WILLIAM GILSON 4.	HENRY PICKER Tenor.

Conducted by JOSEPH WIBBERLEY.

Messrs. Grice, Gilson, Dickens, and Ward, hail from Long Eaton; the rest are
members of the All Saints' company.**THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—ECCLES.***On Monday, September 8, 1884, in Three Hours and Twenty-nine Minutes,*

AT ST. MARY'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 6048 CHANGES;

HUBBARD'S THREE-PART PEAL. Tenor 13½ cwt.

EDWARD CASH Treble.	JAMES BARRATT 5.
CHARLES CASH 2.	RICHARD ASHCROFT.. .. 6.
SAMUEL WEST 3.	GEORGE H. JOHNSON. .. 7.
ALBERT E. WREAKS 4.	JOHN EACHUS Tenor.

Conducted by GEORGE HENRY JOHNSON.

This is the longest length on the bells, also the longest peal by the Association.

Miscellaneous.**DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.**

NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.—On Monday, September 8th, an attempt was made to ring a 5040 of Bob Major at St. John's church, but after ringing between 2900 and 3000 changes, in 1 hr. and 40 mins., it unfortunately came to an untimely end. F. Lees, 1; C. L. Routledge, 2; H. Thompson (Hurworth-on-Tees), 3; W. Bowes, 4; E. W. Scott, 5; J. McGoun (North Shields), 6; W. Story, 7; R. S. Story (conductor), 8. Tenor 12½ cwt.

NORTH SHIELDS.—On Tuesday, August 26th, for practice, at Christ Church, a 720 of Bob Major. W. Reed (conductor), 1; J. Hern 2; R. Wignall, 3; R. S. Story, 4; W. Story, 5; J. McGoun, 6; R. Smith, 7; S. Nott, 8. Tenor 19 cwt.

JARROW-ON-TYNE.—On Thursday, August 27th, at Christ Church, a 720 of Bob Minor, in 27 mins. *W. Henderson, 1; *W. Pawson, 2; *W. Holmes, 3; A. Sharpe, 4; T. Nanton, 5; *F. Harrison (conductor), 6. *First 720; †first 720 as conductor. On Sunday morning, September 7th, for Divine Service, a 720 of Bob Minor in 26 mins. W. Henderson, 1; W. Pawson, 2; W. Holmes, 3; A. Sharpe, 4; R. Oliver, 5; F. Harrison (conductor), 6. First 720 of Minor by all Jarrow men. Tenor 17 cwt.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

KELVEDON.—On Sunday, September 7th, for the harvest thanksgiving services, twenty-four 6-scores were rung during the day in various methods. The following took part in the ringing: David Elliott, Daniel Elliott, Joseph Elliott, Charles Elliott, Henry Elliott, William Elliott, Henry Evers, and B. Keeble. Tenor 21 cwt.

THE HERTFORD COLLEGE YOUTHS.

HERTFORD.—On Thursday, September 4th, at St. Andrew's church a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, containing 1260 changes, in 45 mins. Henry Phillips, 1; William L. Randall, 2; Herbert Baker (conductor), 3; Stephen Knight, 4; Jasper G. Crawley, 5; John Godfrey, 6; Thomas Gathard, 7; Frederick George, 8. Tenor 16 cwt. in F. This was rung in honour of the marriage of Mr. Charsley's only son, to Miss Eden, youngest daughter of General Gascoigne, C.B., of Brighton, which event took place on the same day at that town. The happy couple will shortly take up their residence at Brickendonbury, near Hertford, when no doubt the bells will again be rung to welcome their arrival.

BENGELO (Herts).—On Thursday, September 4th, at Holy Trinity church, for evening service, a 720 of Bob Minor, in 25 mins. Edward Cains, 1; Thomas Gathard, 2; Matthew Ellsmore, 3; Jasper G. Crawley, 4; Henry Phillip (first 720 in the method), 5; Herbert Baker (conductor), 6. Also a 360 of Grandsire Minor by the same band.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

LYMINGE (Kent).—On Sunday, August 31st, for Divine Service in the afternoon at SS. Mary and Eadburgh's Church, a 720 of Bob Minor, with sixteen bobs and two singles in 27½ mins. Alfred Beer (Lyminge), 1; David Hodgkin (Aldington), 2; Albert Tanton (Lyminge), 3; Thomas Hooker (Hastingleigh), conductor, 4; James Andrews (Lyminge), 5; Philip Hodgkin (Aldington), 6. Also after service, another 720 in the same method with fourteen singles and four bobs in 27½ mins. A. Beer, 1; D. Hodgkin, 2; J. Andrews, 3; T. Hooker, 4; A. Tanton, 5; Philip Hodgkin (conductor), 6. Tenor 18½ cwt. in F.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

ECCLES (Lancashire).—On Tuesday, September 9th, six members of the above Association rang for practice, a 720 of Bob Minor, with sixteen bobs and two singles, in 23½ mins. William Wharton, 1; Edward Cash, 2; James Barratt, 3; Albert E. Wreaks (conductor), 4; Thomas Yeates, 5; William Ashcroft, 6. Tenor 13½ cwt.

THE UNITED COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

HAUGHTON (Lancashire).—On Tuesday, September 9th, at St. Ann's church, the local company rang a 720 of Plain Bob Minor, with sixteen bobs and two singles, in 28 mins. James A. Thomas, 1; John Bardsley, 2; Wm. Wilde, 3; John S. Leach, 4; John Howard, 5; Peter Smith, 6. Tenor 15 cwt. in G. Conducted by John Leach, being the first 720 conducted by him, and also the first 720 rung by the band since their conductor, Richard Ainsworth, left them.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

BURTON-ON-TRENT (Staffordshire).—On Thursday, September 4th, the following members of the St. Paul's society rang a touch of 1344 changes of Superlative Surprise Major, in 55 mins., at their weekly practice; and on Sunday, September 7th, two touches of 448 changes in the same method, for morning and evening service. 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.

STOKE-UPON-TRENT ARCHIDIACONAL ASSOCIATION.

CHEDDLETON (Staffordshire).—On Sunday, September 7th, for Divine Service in the morning, a 720 of Bob Minor, in 26 mins. F. Clowes (conductor), 1; E. Spooner (conductor), 2; J. James, 3; J. Gilbert, 4; H. Birch, 5; J. Renshaw, 6. Also in the afternoon, a 720 of Oxford Bob Minor, in 26½ mins. J. Parker, 1; E. Spooner, 2; J. Gilbert, 3; F. Clowes (conductor), 4; H. Birch, 5; J. Renshaw, 6.

NORTON-LE-MOORS (Staffordshire).—On Sunday, September 7th, for evening service, a 720 of Grandsire Minor, in 27½ mins. W. Holdcroft, 1; A. Holdcroft, 2; J. Morton, 3; E. Glover, 4; J. W. Brough, 5; J. Baddeley (conductor), 6.

THE SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD, AND THE SOUTH LINCOLNSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

TROWBRIDGE (Wilts).—On Saturday, September 6th, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, 1260 changes, was rung in 48 mins. W. Alley, 1; *†C. A. Clements, 2; *W. W. Gifford, 3; A. Hayward, 4; W. McCaffery (conductor), 5; W. Lane, 6; *†J. R. Jerram, 7; J. J. Cooper, 8. Tenor 23 cwt. Composed by Mr. Uriah Woodman, of Trowbridge. *College Youths. †South Lincolnshire Association.

THE WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

LEATHERHEAD (Surrey).—On Tuesday, August 19th, eight members of the above Guild rang 1050 of Grandsire Triples. H. Newnham, 1; H. Wood, 2; J. Hewett, 3; Rev. H. A. Spyers, 4; W. Marks, 5; E. Hull, 6; S. Brooker (conductor), 7; J. Lisney, 8.

BALDOCK (Herts).—On Sunday evening, September 7th, for Divine Service, a 336 of Grandsire Triples. T. Webb, 1; J. Phillips, 2; J. Cordell, 3; J. Hare, 4; A. Squires, 5; W. A. Tyler (conductor), 6; J. W. Roslyn, 7; G. Gentle, 8. Also a 252 in the same method, with R. Jackson, 5; W. Kitchener, 8, the others standing as before. Tenor 28 cwt. in D. *Handbell Ringing*.—Also on the same day, a 720 of Bob Minor, with eighteen bobs and two singles, in 26 mins., on handbells retained in hand. T. Webb, 1; J. Phillips, 2; W. A. Tyler (conductor), 3; A. Squires, 4; J. Hare, 5; J. W. Roslyn, 6. Afterwards, a 336 of Grandsire Triples. T. Webb, 1; J. Phillips, 2; A. Squires, 3; J. Hare, 4; W. A. Tyler (conductor), 5-6; J. W. Roslyn, 7-8. W. A. Tyler, A. Squires, J. Hare, and W. Kitchener hail from Hitchin.

BENTLEY, SOUTH WEALD (Essex).—On Thursday evening, September 4th, before Divine Service, it being the Harvest Thanksgiving, three 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles. And after service four 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles, by J. Surridge, 1; A. Pain, 2; R. Woodlands (conductor), 3; C. Sheldon, 4; C. Harriss, 5. Tenor 6 cwt. Messrs. Surridge and Harriss hail from Navestock. These are the first 720's rung by this band together. Practice-nights at Bentley are Tuesdays and Fridays.

BOLTON, BRADFORD (Yorkshire).—On Tuesday evening, September 2nd, the local company met to have a parting ring with J. Broadley, who left the following day for Sevenoaks, Kent. The first touch was 704 of Kent Treble Bob Major in 26 mins. B. F. Lamb, 1; R. S. Ambler, 2; H. Raistrick, 3; J. Broadley, 4; B. Sugden, 5; B. T. Copley (conductor), 6; S. Palframan, 7; J. Angus, 8. Also a 576 of Bob Major, in 21 mins. B. F. Lamb, 1; R. S. Ambler, 2; J. Broadley, 3; G. Titterton, 4; B. Sugden, 5; B. T. Copley (conductor), 6; S. Palframan, 7; W. Barraclough, 8. Tenor 15 cwt.

BLACKBURN (Lancashire).—On Monday, August 25th, the following members of the Blackburn Amateur Association rang a 720 of Grandsire Minor, with thirty-four bobs and two singles, in 28 mins. E. Horsefield, 1; Jas. Smith, jun., 2; *Jas. Ainsworth, 3; Jas. Sanderson, 4; R. J. N. Parker (conductor), 5; W. Aldrich, 6. And on Monday, September 1st, a 720 of Plain Bob, with sixteen bobs and two singles, in 27½ mins. R. J. N. Parker (conductor), 1; E. Horsefield, 2; J. Sanderson, 3; Jas. Ainsworth, 4; †Jas. Walker (late of Aughton), 5; Jas. Smith, sen., 6. Tenor 16½ cwt. *First 720. †First 720 in the method.

BRIGHTON (Sussex).—On Thursday, September 4th, at St. Peter's church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1260 changes), in 47 mins. James Neve, 1; H. Boniface, 2; J. Searle (conductor), 3; Rev. H. A. Spyers, 4; H. Weston, 5; J. Jay, sen., 6; J. Jay, jun., 7; E. Butler, 8.

DEERHURST (Gloucestershire).—On Sunday, September 7th, four members of the Gloucester and Bristol Diocesan Association, assisted by S. Cleal and T. Devereux of Tewkesbury, rang for evening service at the parish church, a 720 of Bob Minor, in 24 mins. C. Roles, 1; C. Willis, 2; T. Devereux, 3; S. Cleal, 4; G. Willis, 5; J. Bartlett (conductor), 6. Tenor 11 cwt.

EDINGTON (near Birmingham).—On Saturday, September 6th, at SS. Thomas and Edmund's church, six members of the Edington Youths rang a 720 of Grandsire Minor, in 27 mins. Peter Condon (first 720), 1; Frank Hales (first 720), 2; Austin Hales, 3; William Dunleavy, 4; John Benn, 5; James Plant (conductor), 6. Tenor 15 cwt.

HAMPSTEAD (Middlesex).—On Sunday, August 10th, for Divine Service in the morning at St. Stephen's church, the local company rang a 504 of Grandsire Triples, and for Divine Service in the evening, a 448 of Grandsire Triples. Also on Sunday, August 17th, for Divine Service in the evening, a 448 of Grandsire Triples. And on Sunday, August 24th, for Divine Service in the evening, a 504 of Grandsire Triples. Each of these were conducted by Mr. N. Alderman.

HITCHIN (Herts).—*Handbell Ringing*.—On Thursday evening, September 4th, at the house of Mr. W. A. Tyler, Bedford Street, three 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles, each called differently. J. Hare, 1-2; W. A. Tyler (conductor), 3-4; A. Squires, 5-6. Also two plain courses of Grandsire Triples. G. W. Tyler, 1-2; J. Hare 3-4; W. A. Tyler, 5-6; A. Squires, 7-8. Also two more in the same method. A. Squires, 1-2; J. Hare, 3-4; W. A. Tyler, 5-6; G. W. Tyler, 7-8.

HOLBECK (Leeds).—On Sunday, September 7th, at St. Matthew's church, for morning service, it being Harvest Thanksgiving, the local company rang a 1056 of Bob Major, in 37 mins. Thomas Harrison, 1; Harry Tomlinson, 2; Henry Moss, 3; Stephen Basnett, 4; Joshua Woodhead, 5; Francis Woodhead, 6; Matthew Tomlinson (conductor), 7; David York, 8. Tenor 16 cwt.

LONG MELFORD (Suffolk).—On Tuesday, September 2nd, at Holy Trinity church, a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob, in 30 mins. James Bird, 1; Z. Slater, 2; O. Garwood, 3; Percy Scott, 4; J. Slater, 5; S. Slater (conductor), 6.

LIVERPOOL.—On Sunday, September 7th, at St. Peter's church, for Divine Service in the morning, a 503 of Grandsire Triples. Richard Williams, 1; Henry Meadows, 2; Thomas Hammond, 3; Robert Williams, 4; Thomas Byron, 5; John Brown, 6; Edwin Booth, 7; William Brooks, 8. Also for afternoon service, a 504 of Stedman Triples. Henry Meadows, 1; Richard Williams, 2; John Moore, 3; John Brown, 4; Thomas Hammond, 5; Edward Foster, 6; Robert Williams, 7; William Brooks and Edwin Booth, 8. Also for Divine Service in the evening, upwards of 700 of Stedman Triples from Thurstans' peal. Henry Meadows, 1; Richard Williams, 2; John Brown, 3; John Moore, 4; William Booth, 5; Edward Foster, 6; Robert Williams, 7; William Booth and Edwin Booth, 8. All the above were conducted by Robert Williams. Mr. Byron hails from Prescott, Lancashire. [Can the reason be assigned for this tenor requiring two men?—Ed.]

RAUNDS (Northants).—On Monday, September 8th, for practice at St. Peter's church, a 720 of Woodbine Treble Bob Minor, with nine bobs, in 27 mins. G. Kirk, 1; W. J. Gilbert, 2; R. Pendered, 3; H. Stubbs, 4; F. Gilbert, 5; W. Hall (conductor), 6. Also a 720 of Double Court Bob Minor, with eighteen bobs and two singles. A. Coles, 1; W. Hall, 2; R. Pendered, 3; F. Gilbert, 4; W. J. Gilbert, 5; H. Stubbs (conductor), 6.

SPALDING (Lincolnshire).—On Tuesday evening, September 2nd, at the church of SS. Mary and Nicholas, a 720 of Double Court Bob. R. Skeef, 1; J. Wilson, 2; G. L. Richardson, 3; J. S. Wright, 4; E. Brown, 5; R. Mackman (conductor), 6. Also on Sunday evening, September 7th, after Divine Service, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob. J. S. Wright, 1; J. Wilson, 2; G. L. Richardson, 3; R. Mackman, 4; E. Brown, 5; J. Brown (conductor), 6. Also on Tuesday evening, September 9th, a 720 of Yorkshire Court Bob. R. Skeef, 1; J. Wilson, 2; J. S. Wright, 3; R. Mackman, 4; E. Brown, 5; G. L. Richardson (conductor), 6.

TOTTENHAM (Middlesex).—On Sunday, September 7th, for Harvest Thanksgiving, at All Hallows church, a 504 of Grandsire Triples. J. Davidson, 1; W. Waghorn, jun., 2; G. B. Lucas, 3; R. Bagnall, 4; W. Waghorn, sen., 5; H. A. Barnett (conductor), 6; W. Pye English, 7; A. Richards, 8.

A RAMBLE BY TWO RINGERS.

ON Saturday, August 30th, two members of the local company of Higher Sutton, Messrs. Walmsley and Walter Ingham, set out with intentions to do a little and see a little, before returning. Leaving Macclesfield by the 1.40 train, half past 2 o'clock saw them walking out of Hyde railway station, with their faces towards St. George's Church. They wended their way to the St. George's meeting house, where they met some members of the Society. In due course a walk to the church was effected, where a peal of Treble Eight had been arranged. After a little preparation, a start was made, the bells going off into changes at 5.5, and at 8.12 "this is all" was cried, with immense satisfaction to all, especially the Higher Sutton men, it being the first peal rung by one of them, an account of which was published in our last number. Returning to the meeting house, a very pleasant evening was spent, enlivened with tunes on the handbells, intermixed with a few courses of Stedman Triples, a 167 of Grandsire Triples, and a course of Treble Twelve, all double-handed. By 7 o'clock the next morning the visitors were escorted to Gee Cross, which is on a hill side, from which a fine view would have been obtained had there not been a thick mist prevailing. Returning to breakfast with Messrs. Wilde Brothers and Mr. Bradley (who had been so kind as to come with them), the visitors were very much pleased with a large bell heard in Gee Cross, cast by Murphy of Dublin, weighing over a ton, and which has a sweet powerful tone. Meeting again, they assisted in ringing a touch of 1008 Grandsire Triples, for service. Thomas Bradley, 1; Walter Ingham, 2; Jas. Shaw, 3; J. S. Wilde, 4; Wm. Walmsley, 5; Samuel Bennett (conductor), 6; Thos. Wilde, 7; D. Leigh, 8. A party of six was then made up, and Mottram was reached after fifty minutes' stiff walking. There was not much time to be lost, so repairing to the belfry, three of the company assisted in ringing for service a short touch of "Sweet Treble Bob." Robt. Wright (conductor), 1; J. S. Wilde, 2; Wm. Ingham, 3; Wm. Walmsley, 4; Jas. Shaw, 5; Wm. Middleton, 6; Thos. Braddock, 7; George Braddock, 8. After looking at the beautiful monument erected in memory of the late William Harrison, of Mottram, a sight which is not to be forgotten in a hurry, the visitors had the pleasure of meeting one of the old ringers of Mottram, Mr. J. Hambleton, who is nearly 92 years of age. A return was then made to Hyde, and meeting at St. George's, a course of Kent Treble Bob Major was rung by Jas. Shaw, 1; Ralph Prichard, 2; Wm. Ingham, 3; Wm. Slater, 4; Wm. Walmsley, 5; J. S. Wilde, 6; Sam. Bennett, 7; Thomas Wilde, 8. Dropping the bells in peal, our correspondent adds: "The worst part of the visit had to be faced, viz.: that of taking leave of such obliging and nice fellows as the Hyde company. All the band, however, accompanied us to the station, and we parted greater friends than ever. We here wish to take the opportunity of thanking the members of the St. George's Society for the pains they have taken in making our short visit such a pleasant and enjoyable one." WM. WALMSLEY.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

A QUARTERLY MEETING of this Association will be held at Nottingham, on Saturday, October 4th, 1884. The following towers will be open for ringing from 1.30 p.m., viz.: St. Peter's, eight bells; All Saints', eight bells; Beeston, eight bells; Lenton, six bells. Friends on arrival are requested to proceed to St. Peter's schoolroom, Broad Marsh, off Carrington Street (on the way from the station), where the local committee will be in attendance, to assist in forming bands for ringing. Committee Meeting in All Saints' schoolroom at 4.0 p.m. Tea in the Aboretum Refreshment Room, at 5.0 p.m. Tickets 1s. 6d. each. General Meeting immediately afterwards.

JOSEPH GRIFFIN, Acting Hon. Sec.,
to whom all communications respecting the Association should, until further notice, be addressed..

THE NORTH LINCOLNSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

SOME time ago an Association, for the furtherance of Belfry Reform, was established in North Lincolnshire. The first Quarterly Meeting will be held at Gainsborough, on Saturday, October 4th, when the ring of eight at the parish church will be at the disposal of the members. If desirable, two other rings of five and six bells, within a short distance, will no doubt be available. F. B. COUSANS,
Caistor. Secretary.

WORCESTER DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

A Committee Meeting of the above Association will be held on Saturday, September 20th, at 4 p.m., in the National School, Hale-owen. The Rev. C. C. Nation will (if possible) preside. All members of the Committee are respectfully requested to be present. The tower at the above church, the bells which have recently been re-hung, will be open for ringing. JNO. SMITH, Hon. Sec.
23, Church Road, Netherton, Dudley.

KINVER, STAFFORDSHIRE.

The following few particulars of these bells will perhaps not be uninteresting. The inscriptions upon them are:—

Treble.—"A. R. 1746 IN CHRISTO SOLO SPERM MEAM REPONO."
29 ins. diameter.

2.—"A. R. 1746 CUI DEUS PATER ECCLESIA EST MATER."
29½ ins. diameter.

3.—"A. R. IN SUO TEMPLO NUMEN ADORO."
32½ ins. diameter.

4.—"WE WERE CAST AT GLOCESTER BY ABEL RUDHALL 1746.
FAC MANUS PURAS COELO ATTOLLAS."
34½ ins. diameter.

5.—"JOSEPH LYE AND JOHN LOWE CH: WARDENS, A. R. 1746.
OPEM PENTENTIBUS SUBVENIT DEAS."
37½ ins. diameter.

Tenor.—"JOHN RUDHALL FECIT 1790. WM. GOLNELL AND SAML.
BROWN, CHURCHWARDENS."

(This inscription is engraved upon the waist of the bell).
41 inches diameter.

There is scarcely any ringing done here, but with a little work the bells could soon be put in good trim. It may be mentioned as a curious fact that the wheel of the tenor is eight feet in diameter, and that of the treble nearly 6 ft. The tower is unfortunately in a very bad condition; the belfry steps being quite dangerous, while the louvres and even the stone-work itself are in a disgraceful condition. The church is a very fine one, and contains some good brasses and monuments.

INSCRIPTIONS ON THE CHURCH BELLS OF
EYE, SUFFOLK.

In compliance with Mr. Rees' request I herewith enclose a correct statement of the inscriptions on each bell in the tower of Eye church:—

Treble.—"Ex dono Gulielmi Brampton Generosi Anno Domini 1721."

2.—"Simon Cook Churchwarden 1779 Pack & Chapman
of London Fecerunt"

3.—"Thomas Rust: Oppidi: Praefecto S. Stephens Made us 3: 1721."

4.—"Danl. Sewell. Saml. Gowing Ch Wardens {T. Osborn} O
{Fecit 1789} God continue thy mercies to the King."

5.—"Saml. Gowing. Danl. Sewell. Ch Wardens {Thos. Osborn} let
{Fecit 1789} us Rejoice our Kings Restored."

6.—"Miles Graye Made Me 1640."

7.—"Dona Repende Pia, Rogo Magdalena Maria."

Tenor.—"Miles Graye Made me 1640."

Eye.

GEORGE DAY,

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday afternoon, September 6th, the Walkden branch of the above Association took a drive to the well known village of Whitefield. The weather was rather bad, but anyone who thinks or cares anything about the noble art of change-ringing will not be daunted with neither ice or snow, rain or blow, if he means to get on.

Arriving at the journey's end, the company met with a kind reception from Mr. Warburton, one of the Whitefield ringers, who had obtained for them permission to the use of the melodious bells, of what is best known as "Stand" Church. Here a 720 of Bob Minor was rung with the assistance of Mr. Warburton, in 29 mins., the ringers standing as follows; J. Welsby, 1; W. Warburton (conductor) 2; J. Worthington, 3; J. Williamson (first 720), 4; J. Brookes, 5; W. Denner, 6. Tenor 21 cwt. After having refreshed themselves with a good substantial tea at the house of Mr. Wardle, the company proceeded with their friend Mr. Warburton to Prestwich Church. Here a 720 of Bob Minor was rung in 28 mins., the ringers standing as before. Other ringing was afterwards indulged in, and the visitors took leave of their brother ringers at 9.30, arriving back again to the old house at home by 11 o'clock, feeling none the worse for their outing.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION OF SIX-BELL RINGERS.

The usual Quarterly Meeting of the above Association will be held at St. James's, Leyland, on Saturday, September 20th. Bells will be open for ringing from two o'clock. Business Meeting in the school-room at 5 o'clock. JAMES HIGSON,
Blackrod Brow, Blackrod, near Chorley. Secretary.

WORCESTER DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

ON Sunday last, September 7th, for the opening service at the Worcester Musical Festival, at the Cathedral, several touches of Grandsire Caters were rung by the following local men: Messrs. F. Owen, N. Wale, J. Hinton, H. Phesant, J. Perks, W. Blandford, H. Wilks, J. Reynolds, T. Gwynn, J. Malin. In the afternoon, the company visited Grimley, a neat little village romantically situated on the banks of the Severn. In this parish is a mansion known by the name of "Thorngrove," with its park and grounds, and here at one time lived, on his parole, Lucien Buonaparte, brother of the first Napoleon. Here is a very small church, with a ring of six, very old, tenor 16 cwt. in G., on which the visitors rung a 720 of Grandsire Minor in 27 mins. F. Owen, 1; J. Hinton, 2; H. Phesant, 3; J. Perks, 4; T. Gwynn, 5; H. Wilks (conductor), 6. The vicar of Grimley *cum* Hallow—the Rev. Herbert Pepys, son of the late Bishop of the diocese—is an honorary member of the above Association, and there are also six performing members in the village. We wonder how many of the latter are aware of the existence of this paper.

During the afternoon the company from Ombersley arrived, and after ringing several touches of Grandsire Doubles, gave in their names for joining the Association, and after a few more courses had been rung, the company separated, well satisfied with the manner in which the afternoon had been spent.

ANNIVERSARY AT LINDLEY.

ON Saturday, September 6th, being the tenth anniversary of the eight bells at St. Stephen's Church, Lindley, near Huddersfield, the ringers met in the tower in the afternoon, and rung a few short touches of Kent Treble Bob with rounds and firing, which they kept up at short intervals during the afternoon till 6 o'clock, when along with a number of friends they sat down to an excellent dinner at the house of Mr. J. Brook, of the "Albion Hotel," where full justice was done to the good things provided. Afterwards the ringers again ascended the tower and rang a well struck touch of 704 changes of Kent Treble Bob, which helped the dinner to digest in a wonderful manner, and they then spent the evening in ringing the handbells, giving recitations, songs, etc. They had the pleasure of the company of some of the church choir, who sang a few glees and quartets in a very creditable manner, which added greatly to the evening's entertainment. A few short speeches from various friends, and the health of the host and hostess, brought near the hour of departure for "Home, sweet Home," to which all departed, well pleased with their evening's entertainment.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION OF SIX-BELL RINGERS.

ON Saturday, September 6th, several members of the Blackrod branch of the above Association paid a visit to their ringing friends at Standish. On arriving there they immediately entered the tower, and with a mixed band rang a 720 of Bob Minor, in 25 mins., in creditable style. Richard Watmough (conductor), 2; John Rawlinson, 2; Thomas Walker, 3; William Croston, 4; Alfred Simm, 5; James Higson, 6. Tenor 11½ cwt. After this they adjourned to the house of Mr. James Hunt, the "Oddfellows' Arms," a member of the above Association, where a splendid repast was provided, and to which ample justice was done. After this the whole of the evening was spent in singing and handbell ringing, with tunes and a few touches of Bob Minor, and altogether a very enjoyable evening was spent, closing with a vote of thanks to the host and hostess.

EASTERN COUNTIES' GUILD.

A QUARTERLY MEETING of this Guild will be held at Terrington St. Clement's, on Saturday, September 27th, at 11 o'clock in the forenoon. All members intending to be present, must send in their names to the Secretary, the Rev. B. Matthews, The Chantry, Church Street, Spalding, not later than Wednesday, September 17th, so as arrangements may be made with the railway company. ELVAN BROWN.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

THE ANNUAL MEETING will be held at Eccles on Saturday, September 27th. Full particulars next week.

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

SINGULAR FATAL ACCIDENT AT BLANDFORD, DORSET.—A man named Edward Hart, a sawyer, of Sturminster Marshal, died on Sunday last from injuries received while ringing at Winterborne Kingston last week, on the occasion of a wedding. In some way or other, deceased got entangled in the rope, and being pulled up, his head came in contact with the ceiling, and down again to the floor of the belfry. A physician was called in, but the poor fellow never regained consciousness.

STOKE-UPON-TRENT ARCHIDIACONAL ASSOCIATION.

ELLASTONE.—Notwithstanding unfavourable weather, a pleasant meeting was held at Ellastone, on Saturday, September 6th. Ringers from Leek, Uttoxeter, Norton and Ellastone were present, and though no full peals were accomplished, yet friendship was cemented by bringing together ringers who otherwise seldom meet. Tea was kindly provided at the Vicarage, at which the Rev. J. F. Trevitt, in the absence of the Vicar, presided.

The Annual Meeting of the Association for the election of officers, etc., will be held at Stoke on Saturday, September 20th. Members should endeavour to be present and be prepared to make suggestions for the improvement of the work of the Society.

T. H. B. FEARON, } Hon. Secs.
ENDON GLOVER, }

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."

ANSWER TO MULTUM IN PARVO.

SIR,—I shall feel much obliged if you will allow me a small space in your columns to say a few words to "Multum in Parvo." He wishes to know why I sent such a composition to be published. My answer is that it is the first 720 of Bob Minor in two parts that has as yet appeared, to my knowledge, with forty singles. It is very kind of this gentleman to refer me to Mr. Parker's 720's, for which I have to thank him, but I am already aware of their existence, and I have also rang them, and against which I have nothing to say. I can also tell him that I was quite aware of the tenors coming up the wrong way, but surely I do not wish this gentleman to ring this 720, or anyone else, without they think proper, as it is a matter of no importance to me whether it is rung or not. I do not profess to be a great musician, as my friend appears to be. As for his remarks about bell-ringing and choir singing, I consider that it is all rubbish. I hope if this gentleman should think proper to write again on this subject he will sign his name and address, as I consider a man ought to do, and then we shall know who this great doctor of bell-music is. G. CONYARD.

Crayford, Kent.

OPENING OF A NEW PEAL OF BELLS AT THE ROYAL TOWN OF SUTTON, WARWICKSHIRE.

SIR,—The remarks of "Bob" in your last number will be appreciated by all ringers who are in the habit of visiting places to ring, and then finding the bells in an unsatisfactory condition. I think with your correspondent that ringers should speak out when they find that bells have been left by the bellfounders in an unringable state. They should be shown up strongly to the church authorities, who should withhold payment of the bill till the bells were stated by competent persons—not mere lawyers or parsons who are not ringers—that the bells are in good order. But with regard to the bells at Sutton, I can't help thinking, by the report of their opening, that the founders were not to blame. Perhaps its my obtuseness, but I read it that the founders had to make the best use of the old frame. If founders are bound down by stupid conditions, of course it is to be regretted, but they can hardly be blamed when they are bound by them.

EXTREME.

SIR,—In answer to your correspondent "Bob," respecting the re-hanging of the bells in question, I wish to give him a little information. Four of the bells which were cracked were recast, the other two remaining as they were, and two new ones added, making the peal eight. Of course they were re-hung, but the old frame was used, which the hangers now attribute to be the cause of the bells going so badly. If such is the case, the frame must have been the cause of the bad go of the bells previous to re-hanging, as there is very little improvement in that respect, though so much has been spent with a desire to make them go as easy as possible. When a man is sent for from a bell-hanging firm to examine bells and fittings that are out of order, he is expected to understand every detail concerning bell-hanging, or they who send for him would not place much confidence in his report, which is expected to be correct. In this case, however, there has been little satisfaction so far, but I hope the alteration about to be made now by the hangers will be more satisfactory. I quite agree with "Bob" that in many cases the hangers are to blame. My opinion is that a thorough good bell-hanger should also be an efficient ringer, and able to ring any bell he hangs, of a moderate weight, for several hours, then I do not think there would be much fear of complaint against his work. CHANGE-RINGER.

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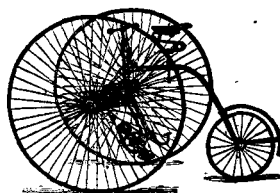
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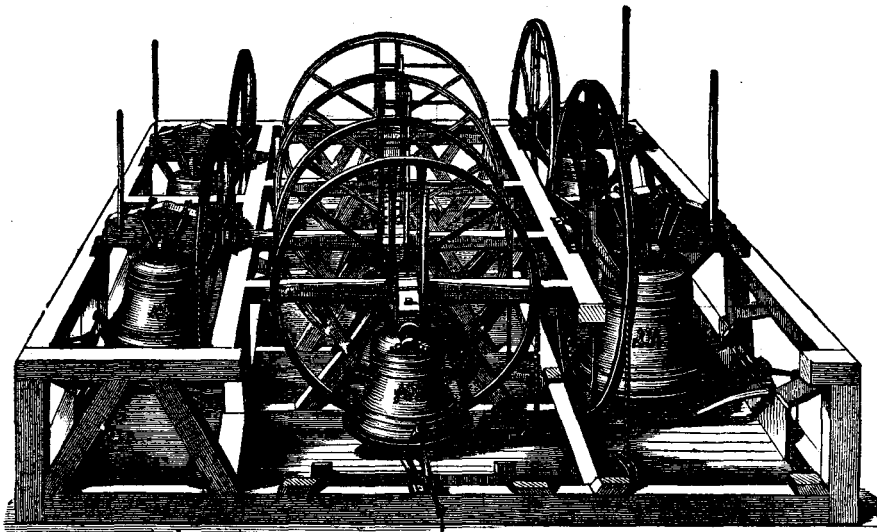
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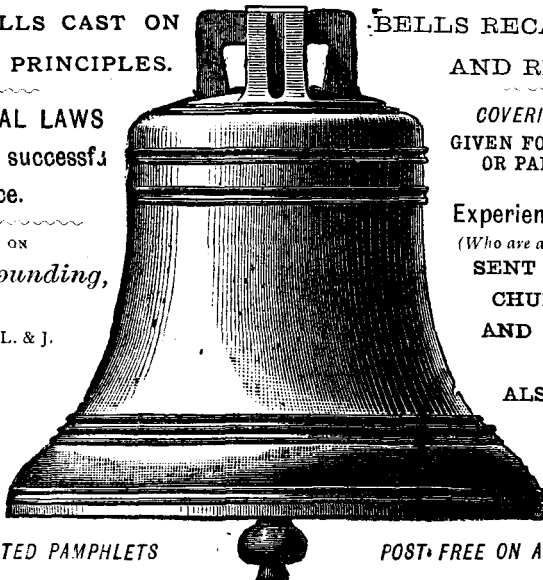
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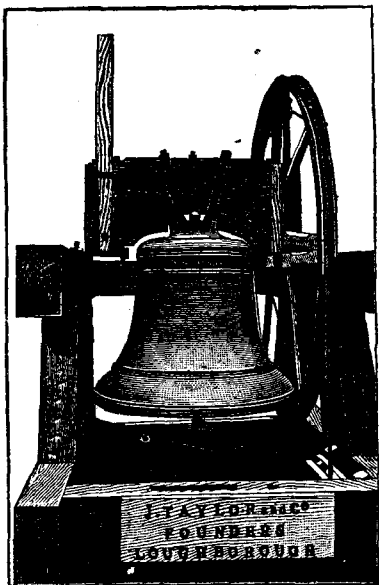
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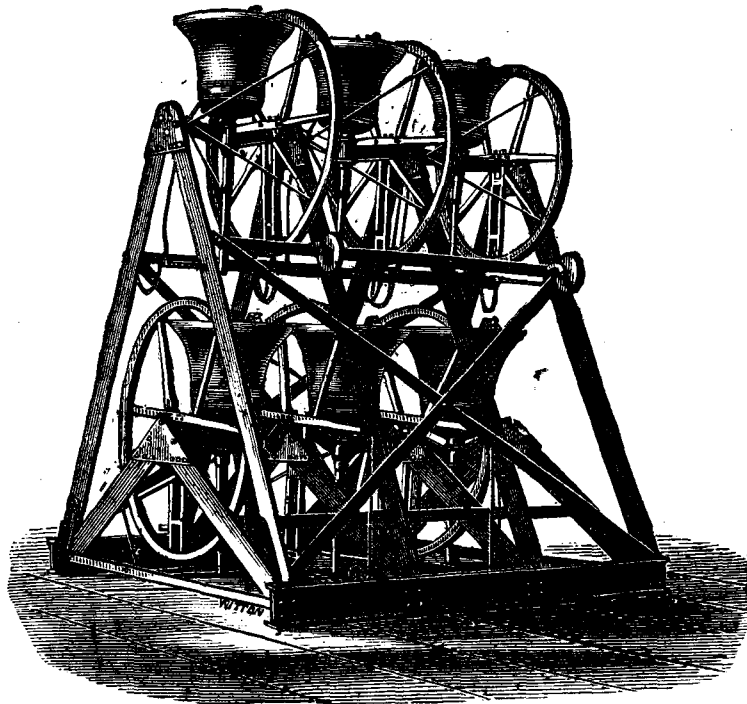
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No. 129. [NEW SERIES.]—VOL. III. SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 20, 1884.

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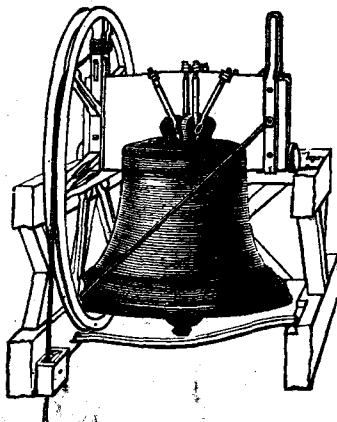
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THE FOUNDRY OF MESSRS. LLEWELLYNS AND JAMES, BRISTOL.

MANY of our readers will no doubt be curious to hear a little more of this establishment than is given by the bare weekly advertising announcement which, with its picture of a good-shaped bell, appears invariably on the last page but one of "THE BELL NEWS." This curiosity may be heightened by the fact that as a bell-foundry this Bristol establishment is only of comparatively recent date, and that the firm are publishers of a work entitled "Bells and Bellfounding," by a writer who desires to be anonymous. We see also by the same means that this firm have "experienced bell hangers, who are also practical ringers," and on reading such a statement surmises would no doubt be at work among the *cognoscenti* to discover who among the small number of individuals that are practical ringers as well as practical bell-hangers, Messrs. Llewellyns and James have secured for conducting this part of their business. This we shall refer to further on, and relative to the work mentioned we have inserted a *critique* from *The Engineer*, which will no doubt give a better idea of its nature than any testimony of our own.

Bristol, being so very well situated, both by railway and water communication with all parts of the United Kingdom, and being so rich in fine rings of bells, it would be a matter for surprise if some bell foundry had not found a home here. For many generations the celebrated Rudhall family, of Gloucester, deservedly bore away the palm, as well as cast most of the many good bells to be found in this district, and during the earlier part of last century supplied very fine rings of eight to the following Bristol churches: All Saints, St. Peter's, St. Stephen's, Christ Church, St. James's, and St. Nicholas. Of these the three former rings remain intact, but the three latter have since been increased to ten, and some of the original bells recast. The Rudhalls had, however, rivals of no mean order in the Bilbies of Chewstoke (a village near Bristol), who cast many very fine bells, among others, in 1736, the 7th, 8th, 9th, and 10th of that grand ring of twelve, at the church at St. Mary Redcliffe.

It does not appear that bell-founding was carried on in Bristol proper, excepting in a desultory fashion, until within the past ten or twelve years, when the firm of Llewellyns and James, of Castle Green, whose business has been established since the year 1740, and who have a world wide reputation as brass founders and general engineers, determined to devote a portion of their extensive works especially to bell founding. Previously to this they had cast many odd bells in a kind of rule of thumb method, but they now set their minds to work on strictly scientific principles. This, as is natural, necessitated their making many experiments, extending over a series of years, before they arrived at anything like a standard of excellence, but they may now be considered as bellfounders, to take rank among the other well-known foundries, to which we shall deal with in these papers.

Their works being on the site of the ancient Castle of Bristol, of which every vestige is now built over, the ground space is very valuable, so that their bell foundry proper is comparatively small, but very compact, and furnished with the usual conveniences for casting bells of all sizes. Their machine shops are, however, very spacious, and fitted up with about ninety lathes, besides radial drills, planing machines, etc., and though these shops formerly belonged exclusively to the engineering business carried on by this firm, it is quite accurate to state that some of this machinery is devoted entirely to bell tuning and fitting. Their method of casting is essentially similar to that of many other bell founders, and their success in producing bells of good quality is now established. They claim to cast bells on true

scientific principles, also to have applied to a successful issue certain theoretical laws, which to scientists are well-known.

We could here string together a voluminous treatise upon vibrations, pitch, dominants, fundamentals, and harmonics, as pertinent to the theories which Llewellyns and James have adopted in the work of bellfounding, but such would not be at all new to many of our readers, and would be quite out of place here. Whoever is the writer of the work on Bells and Bellfounding, published by them, we may reasonably imagine that it embodies their ideas upon the subject. And here we may introduce the remarks of the critic before alluded to on this pamphlet, and in a notice of this foundry they will not be absolutely out of place, as showing, without any favoritism or partisanship, the direction in which the investigations of this firm have led them. We should have found a place, some time or other, for this lengthy review, as it has probably never come under the observation of many who read this journal, and as it appears sufficiently interesting to all who take an interest in bells, we have introduced it in this chapter of The Bristol Foundry.

"BELLS AND BELLFOUNDING; A PRACTICAL TREATISE UPON CHURCH BELLS. (By X. Y. Z.)

"The author of this thin octavo of fifty-seven pages, which might be more properly be called a pamphlet; appears from internal evidence to be Mr. John Llewellyn, jun., of the firm of Llewellyns and James, eminent as bellfounders in Bristol, who dedicates his work to 'George W. Edwards, Esq., thrice Mayor of Bristol, in consideration of his constant endeavours to promote scientific culture and musical taste amongst his fellow-citizens.' The practice of trade advertising and puffing—the 'puff oblique' has been known since the days of the critic—under the disguise of scientific brochures, has grown to such dimensions in the United States, that at the first glance we were disposed to think this was an example of the same degrading device, which had reached our own country, and to pass it by as unworthy of serious notice. A second and more careful glance, however showed us that the work, though, perhaps, not quite free from ultimate trading views, was really of a genuine and able character, coming from a mind well acquainted, both theoretically and practically with the subject of bellfounding in its highest department, namely, that of casting 'bells in peal,' an art which, ancient as it is, has long been, and still continues in Great Britain, a sort of craft or mystery in the hands of a few master founders or firms, and which to the present hour is without an adequate literature; for such popular treatises as Mr. Denison's and some encyclopædia articles on bellfounding are far from adequately representing in theory and practice an art which, perhaps more fully than any other branch of technical metallurgy, is based on purely scientific foundations. The mere casting of one or more bells, sometimes of immense dimensions, came into Europe from the East, where, as in China, Thibet, and other parts of Central Asia, its origin transcends tradition. Thence it migrated into Christendom, and taking example from the observances of the early Eastern Christian churches, which, as respects bell-clanging as forming part of worship, continue as barbarous in Russia at the present day as they did 1500 years ago or more. As an instrument of superstition and priestcraft, church bells before the eighth century had become almost universal throughout Europe; and their ecclesiastical uses had gradually engrafted upon them many of the strangest idolatrous notions. They were treated as if living and sentient folks; were baptised when first admitted as part of the paraphernalia of a church; special liturgies were instituted for their baptismal service, and having once received the formal sanctifying benediction of mitred abbot or bishop, they were supposed to be endowed with many undefined miraculous powers.

Vivos voco, mortuos plango, fulgura frango.

"'I call the living, I mourn the dead, I dissipate the thunder,' was, as we may learn *inter alia* from Schiller's noble poem, the 'Song of the bell,' a frequent motto of mediæval bells. We may notice in passing that some of the most ancient bells used in the early Western churches were not cast, but rudely formed of beaten out plates of metal rivetted together. Thus the mass bell of St. Patrick, which some have placed as early as the fourth century, and which still exists in the archaeological collection of the Royal Irish Academy, was thus formed. Most of our readers have no doubt read in popular works some account of the enormous bells of Nankin, of Moscow, Novgorod, etc., which number amongst them probably some of the most enormous castings ever made in any metal except cast iron; far exceeding in weight the most enormous of the brass or bronze castings made at a far earlier period by Hiram for Solomon's temple, two of which, namely, the pillars for the gate of the temple, must, if the two dimensions handed down be

correct, have weighed nearly forty tons each, and were 'loam castings' made in the 'clay land of Succoth.' But the production of these tremendous instruments of barbaric noise was not bellfounding in its highest sense, namely, the casting of large bells in peal, that is, so that an entire ring of bells from three to ten, or even more in number, should give forth sounds having regular musical intervals between them. We have said ten or more, for while a few church peals to be rung by hand—or, as in the East, by pulling the clapper against the bell—have comprised twelve bells, the ancient carillons, of which a noble example exists at Bruges, comprised as many as sixty bells, chimed at intervals by clockwork. The most ancient bells had their form derived from a simple cylinder, or short wide tube open at one end and suspended by the other. This form was gradually improved upon, the mouth opened, the lip thickened, and a certain proportion between the diameters of the mouth and the crown arrived at by tentation, until, passing through the long and nearly cylindrical-shaped, most ancient bells to be found still in many parts of the South and East of Europe, the modern form of church bell was gradually arrived at; but there still remained an immense gap between this and the establishment upon fixed physical or acoustic principals of the relative sizes of bells, like in form, but differing mainly in dimensions which should yield sounds differing by regular musical intervals. No doubt the monks, who gradually perfected the far more complex instrument of sound, namely, the church organ, may have made considerable tentative progress towards determining the proportionate sizes of similar bells to sound in peal before acoustics had reached the grade of a branch of physics, and such dimensions could be fixed on a sure scientific basis; but it was not until the seventeenth century that the laws of elastic solids transmitting their vibrations to the air as the medium of sound were sufficiently established to enable the bellfounder's art to take as one of those resting or scientific principles.

"Our author's firm is happily situated at Bristol, in the midst of those south-western counties of England which in pre-reformation times formed the wealthy paradise of Churchmen, and of all the arts and artisans that hung upon their skirts; and within the compass of his few pages he gives some interesting notices of the early bell-founder of the West, and of some other parts of England:—The Purdues, of Salisbury, the Rudhalls, of Gloucester; Miles Gray, the great founders of the eastern counties; and Phelps, of London, afterwards succeeded by Lester, Pack and Chapman, the founders of the celebrated 'Bow Bells.' For this and much more of historical information we have no space, but to refer to the little work before us. In one respect its history is defective; it takes no notice of the class of itinerant bell-founders, who wandered through the southern counties of England during the latter half of the seventeenth and the earlier portion of the eighteenth centuries. These men, some of whom tradition says were gipsies, picked up their old copper and tin how and where they could; set up their simple melting furnace at the back of any suitable clay dyke, near the tower of the church that was to be supplied with bells, carried their 'mould boards' and other tools along with them on pack donkeys, and cast the bells close to where they were to be hung. Such was the way in which the bells of the old church of Northtawton, and of some others on the borders of Dartmoor, in Devon, were produced at a period not more remote than two generations from the beginning of the present century. It is seldom, we think, that abstract acoustics physics and practical bell-founders' knowledge are found combined in the same person. Mr. Llewellyn's theoretical knowledge enables him to correct a mathematical formula enunciated by the redoubtable Mr. Denison, in his book on 'Clocks and Bells,' and another on the part of a gentleman much less likely to fall into error as a physicist, namely, Professor S. Haughton, F.T.C.D. On the other hand, or practically, the authors experience and observant powers are shown in several suggestions or hints which would never occur except to one to whom the foundry pit and melting furnace had been long familiar, nor even to such a one without a more than average power of observation. Almost all that is to be found in the English language on the subject of bell-founding, is comprised in a few articles or notices in encyclopaedias or works of like character, and there we find but little more than the empirical rules and illustrative diagrams arrived at centuries ago. Every section of a bell in a plane parallel to the lip or mouth is a circle, that at the crown being half the diameter of the lip or mouth. Every section orthogonal to these and passing through the axis of the bell, consists of segments of seven or more circles, falling into the former series of mouth sections, and having a common tangent at each of their own junctions. For the fixing of the radii of these curves, sufficient instructions are given, but for passing in dimensions from one bell to another of a peal, the book information available in a collective form is very defective. There would be ample room and it would be very desirable that a man of Mr. Llewellyn's theoretical and practical knowledge should undertake a comprehensive and exhaustive work on all that relates historically, acoustically, and practically, to bell founding, mounting and ringing. Were it necessary to enforce the importance of such a work, we might point to a rather

humiliating fact that the biggest bell in England—that of the bell tower at Westminster—when at last hung, after abortive attempts at casting, was cracked at almost the first blow of the clock hammer, and can give out but a shivering and feeble tone, compared with what had been justly expected of it. We find some masterly hints on the mounting and hanging of large bells, and on the proper construction of the towers to contain them—far from needless when we reflect that the celebrated peal of Bow Church, Cheapside, has not been rung for many years, for fear of the tower, designed by Sir Christopher Wren, should be brought to ruin by the oscillation they produced. On this part of the subject some excellent remarks, with designs, illustrative of the construction of some of the best belfry towers on the Continent, may be found in Rondelet's great work, 'L'Art de Bâtir'; but we cannot dwell longer on a subject that has so many fascinating relations—so much to interest the man of science, the historian and poet, and lastly the metallurgist and founder."

This review, though coming in such a place as we have put it, will be read with interest, and in the absence of a perusal of the book it deals with, is sufficient to show that this Bristol firm bring scientific theories to their aid in bell-founding. Written no doubt by one who is not a ringer, we must be prepared to find errors, and we notice one in particular, the remark about Bow Bells, which though increased to twelve since the above was written, are rung periodically without fear. We ought also to add that in a letter to *The Engineer*, Mr. Llewellyn, jun. writes to disclaim the authorship of "what has been the result of long co-operative effort."

It has been abundantly proved that the very best bell metal yet known is composed of pure copper and tin only. The proper mixing of these metals together, and the making of good homogenous castings, has been for years a favourite subject with several people, the conflicting opinions of whom, however, have been the cause of much amusement, not unmingled with contempt on the part of those who scoffed at such inquiries. And when we see great men—philosophers—men who lay claim to be the only possessors of wisdom, debating, contradicting each other, and so forth, such opinions are naturally brought into derision. Theoretical scientific laws are of great importance in determining the best shape and proportions for bells. But it has always appeared to us that when scientific theories are broached with reference to bell-founding, that it would be the correct thing for the bell-founders to enter into such speculations, and thus prevent themselves from being over-ruled by mere theorists. Llewellyn and James appear to have been of this opinion. The form of bell they have adopted as their standard, they claim is "unsurpassed for mellowness of tone." It is said to be no servile copy, although it is very much nearer like the best old bells of, say 150 years ago, than modern bells usually are. The good old founders evidently were masters of their art, however they may have learnt it, and a considerable difference from their shape and proportions has not been shown to be an improvement. They also claim that their practice has been strictly in conformity "with the best scientific theories." We are not in a condition to speak personally of the relative merits of the productions of Messrs. Llewellyn and James, because we have not had the pleasure of hearing any of their bells. A ring of eight at Ramsbottom, near Manchester, was cast by them some time ago, and hung in an iron frame. This frame was designed by our friend Mr. Snowdon, but since their opening we do not remember to have heard much about them. Llewellyn and James hang bells like other founders, in either wood or iron, according to the requirements of their patrons, and Mr. Alfred York, a well known change-ringer of Bristol, is the gentleman who superintends the work of bell-hanging in the first-named material. Located as they are in the metropolis of the West, and having ample means for successfully carrying on the business of bell-founding, the firm of Llewellyn and James are likely to obtain a good share of patronage.

A PEAL OF SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE
MAJOR.

5088.

By N. J. PITSTOW, *Saffron Walden.*

2 3 4 5 6 M W B H

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

Twice repeated.

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR.

5088.

By J. J. BRIERLEY, *Saddleworth.*

2 3 4 5 6 M B W H

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

Twice repeated.

TWO PEALS OF BOB MAJOR.

By JOHN THORP, *Ashton-under-Lyne.*

6048.

2 3 4 5 6 W M H

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

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

Twice repeated.

6048.

2 3 4 5 6 W M H

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

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

Twice repeated.

A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH
COURT BOB MAJOR.

5088.

By J. CARTER, *Birmingham.*

2 3 4 5 6 I 4 5 6

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

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

Repeated.

The 6th twenty-four times wrong and right.

TWO PEALS OF BOB MAJOR.

By EDWARD FRANCIS, *Diss.*

5040.

2 3 4 5 6 W M H

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

Twice repeated.

5040.

2 3 4 5 6 W M H

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

Twice repeated.

Each peal has the 6th twelve times wrong.

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERS.

5028.

By J. R. PRITCHARD, *Liverpool.*

2 3 1 4 5 6 I 4 5 16

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

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

The last eleven courses twice repeated, produce:—4 3 1 6 5 2

5 3 1 2 4 6 4 5 16

Round by bobs at 2, 3, 4, 6, 9, 15.

*This course is produced by bobs at 2, 3, 4, 5, 7, 12.

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CINQUES.

5038.

By ROBERT WILLIAMS, *Liverpool.*

4 5 3 2 6*

6 2 5 4 3 11th in with three.
3 4 2 6 5 11th in and out at three.
4 6 2 3 5 9th in three.

4 6 2 3 5 9th in four.
6 3 2 4 5 9th in four.
2 6 3 4 5 7th in four.
6 4 3 2 5 9th in four.
3 6 4 2 5 7th in four.
6 2 4 3 5 9th in four.
2 3 4 6 5 9th in four.
4 2 3 6 5 7th in four.

5 6 2 4 3 9th in three.
2 5 6 4 3 7th in four.
5 4 6 2 3 9th in four.
4 2 6 5 3 9th in four.
6 4 2 5 3 7th in four.
2 6 4 5 3 7th in four.
6 5 4 2 3 9th in four.
5 2 4 6 3 9th in four.

3 6 2 5 4 9th in three.
6 5 2 3 4 9th in four.
2 6 5 3 4 7th in four.
5 2 6 3 4 7th in four.
2 3 6 5 4 9th in four.
6 2 3 5 4 7th in four.
2 5 3 6 4 9th in four.
5 6 3 2 4 9th in four.
3 5 6 2 4 7th in four.

4 2 5 3 6 9th in three.
2 3 5 4 6 9th in four.
5 2 3 4 6 7th in four.
3 5 2 4 6 7th in four.
5 4 2 3 6 9th in four.
2 5 4 3 6 7th in four.
5 3 4 2 6 9th in four.
3 2 4 5 6 9th in four.

Bobs at 1, 1, 2, 1, bring the bells round. *9th in and out at two with a double.

"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, and performances under 5000 changes must reach us not later than Wednesday morning; and the insertion of any communication coming later than the first Postal delivery on Thursday morning cannot be guaranteed in that week's number. When it is found impossible from want of space to insert all touches forwarded, the earlier ones will have the preference.

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.

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

To prevent disappointment, the Editor requests that stamps for extra copies of this paper may be sent direct to the Publisher.

The Bell News & Ringers' Record.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 20, 1884.

IN another column will be found a report of a District Meeting of the Essex Association, which gathering, it is said, is the most successful of its class that has been held since the formation of the Association. This meeting took place at Witham, a town of very little importance in the county, having only a ring of six bells, so that there were no extraordinary features held out to those who attended. The Great Eastern Railway, as usual, issued tickets at a cheap rate to all ringers, and one of the churchwardens of Witham, with his characteristic hospitality, entertained the members. The report adds that the numbers attending were far in excess of any previous meeting.

This intelligence evidently shows that great interest is being manifested in the extension of ringing in the county of Essex. And of course such news is extremely gratifying to all who watch the working of our Ringing Associations and Guilds. At this particular meeting the Annual Reports of the Association made their appearance, printed in book form, and were distributed to the members. We should like to draw the attention of not only the members present on the day in question, but the whole of them, to an unnecessary trouble brought upon the Honorary Secretary of the Association. Perhaps the "application" may be useful to others besides those of the Essex Association. We think we have alluded to the matter before.

The yearly contribution to the Essex Association by its members is the magnificent sum of one shilling. Members joining the Association become affiliated to their brother-strings in the county, and possess advantages which would lead any speculative mind to declare that the expenditure of the sum just named was a very good investment. No matter how many peals a member may ring, his subscription

covers all the expenses of booking, distributing it in the yearly Report, and it may chance include the privilege of a peal-board in the tower, with his name inscribed thereon in letters of gold. Yet with all these privileges—and others we could mention—the Secretary has the trouble of making frequent demands for this trifling subscription. We cannot entrust ourselves to comment upon such neglect. Such a small matter as this yearly subscription should not be delayed for a day, if only to prevent the opprobrium of discourtesy towards those who labour without stint to promote the well-being of the Association.

This kind of neglect is a serious evil, as it sets a bad example to those individuals, unfortunately to be found in every county, who shirk their responsibilities of every kind. We hope to hear that such a drawback to what is becoming an important Association, will become mitigated, if not altogether abolished.

DISTRICT MEETING OF THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

The most successful district meeting of the above Association held since its formation in 1879, took place at Witham, on Saturday, September 6th. The Great Eastern Railway Company kindly offered special facilities by issuing tickets at a reduced rate, and W. B. Blood, Esq., one of the churchwardens, having again with his well known hospitality, kindly offered to entertain those who were present; the numbers attending were far in excess of any previous district meeting, in fact, the gathering proved equal to most of the Annual Meetings.

Ringling commenced on Saturday at 11 o'clock at St. Nicholas's Church, and was continued throughout the day and evening. The following 720's were rung:—720 of Cambridge Surprise, by the Braintree band; 720 of Kent Treble Bob, by the Widford band; 720 of Bob Minor, by the Witham band; 720 of Oxford Treble Bob, by the Boreham band; 720 of Bob Minor, by the Stisted and Coggeshall bands; and 720 of Double Court, by the Braintree band, including Mr. H. Howell, of Ipswich. Also a 720 of Plain Bob by mixed bands from Romford, Galleywood, Chelmsford and Maldon. A novel event took place during the afternoon, in the shape of a unique handbell entertainment, which was given in the schoolroom by the Braintree band. The programme performed before a limited audience included, Grand-sire Caters, Grand-sire Triples, Bob Major and Bob Minor, and a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob, and the following airs:—"Ring the bell, watchman," "Ash Grove," "Yankee Doodle," "Buy a broom," "Haste to the wedding," and "Napoleon's march."

At five o'clock, the ringers, numbering seventy-five, at the invitation of Mr. Blood, sat down to a capital knife and fork tea. The chair was, in the unavoidable absence of the Vicar and Mr. Blood, taken by the Rev. J. T. Halland, who was supported by the Rev. H. A. Cockey, hon. secretary; Gervas Holmes, Esq., of the Redenhall Bell Foundry; Mr. H. Sayer, conductor of the Witham ringers, and members from the following places:—Romford, Coggeshall, Stebbing, Braintree, Bocking, Great Bromley, Dedham, Great Bentley, Kelvedon, Rayleigh, Rettendon, Galleywood, Stisted, Boreham, Ipswich, Widford, Maldon, Chelmsford, Dagenham.

The following members were enrolled:—Honorary,—Mr. C. A. Onley Marsham, Galleywood; the Rev. J. Swayne, Willingale Doe; the Rev. J. D. MacVicar, Rayleigh; Ringing;—W. H. Fussell, West Ham; G. Howell and S. Bloise, Great Bromley; W. Wallace, J. Deal, F. Haslam, J. Johnson, and H. Smith, Rayleigh.

On the motion of Mr. Cockey, cordial votes of thanks were passed to Mr. Blood for providing the tea, and to the Vicar, the Rev. Canon Snell, and the churchwardens for the use of the bellry and bells. Mr. Halland returned thanks, and in so doing drew an analogy between clergymen and ringers, calling the former the pillars of the church, and the latter the buttresses. He trusted they would show sympathy in each other's work, which was being done for the glory of God. On the proposition of Mr. Hucksion, of Braintree, seconded by Mr. J. Young, of Boreham, a hearty vote of thanks and three cheers were given to Mr. Cockey for his services as secretary, and that gentleman having responded, the meeting came to an end.

APPLICATION FOR A PATENT.—No. 11,988. Thomas Frederick Lane, The Rectory, Beaconsfield, Buckinghamshire, for "Learning change-ringing on peals of bells (the bells themselves being silent), by means of electricity. Dated 4th September, 1884.

KINGSTHORPE, NORTHANTS.

A Society exists at the above place for the practice of change-ringing and tune-ringing. Though not numerically large, considerable skill is shown by some of them in double-handed ringing. Four members, viz., Messrs. H. E. T. Glover, 1-2; W. H. C. Lewis, 3-4; J. G. Flavell, 5-6; G. W. Weston, 7-8; on Friday, September 12th, rang a touch of 168 Grandsire Triples, called with six singles.

On Saturday, September 13th, some of the members visited Harlestone, and with the assistance of Mr. Dent, of Harlestone, rang three 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles, each called differently. G. W. Weston, 1; L. L. Lewis, 2; H. E. T. Glover, 3; W. H. C. Lewis, 4; J. G. Flavell, 5; —Dent, 6. Tenor 21 cwt.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION

THE ANNUAL MEETING will be held on Saturday, September 27th, at the parish church and schools, Eccles, near Manchester. Service in church at 4 p.m. Tea in schoolroom, at 5 p.m. Meeting for election of officers, etc., at 6 p.m. Ringing at 7.30 p.m. Tickets for tea, 1s. each, may be had from any member of the committee or from the Secs. Trains leave Victoria Station for Eccles about every fifteen minutes. Trams leave Deansgate every fifteen minutes also. Members are requested to meet in the schoolroom some time before service in order to pay subscriptions and receive report. Non-members are cordially invited.

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

The Provinces.

THE ASHTON AND ECCLES SOCIETIES.

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE.

On Saturday, September 13, 1884, in Three Hours and Twelve Minutes,

AT ST. PETER'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 20 cwt.

WILLIAM SMITH.. ..Treble.	JAMES BARRATT 5.
JOSEPH BOOCOCK 2.	EDWARD CASH 6.
JAMES WOOD, JUN. 3.	BENJAMIN BROADBENT .. 7.
JOHN HOPWOOD 4.	JOHN THORP .. ..Tenor.

Composed and Conducted by JOHN THORP.

This is the first peal of Treble Bob by James Barratt. Messrs. Barratt and Cash belong to the Lancashire Association.

SHEFFIELD, YORKSHIRE.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS AND
THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, September 15, 1884, in Three Hours and Thirty-six Minutes,

AT ST. PETER'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS, 5021 CHANGES;

Tenor 41 cwt.

CHARLES BOWER.. ..Treble.	*EDWARD WOODWARD .. 6.
JOSEPH MULLIGAN 2.	*SAMUEL SEED 7.
JOHN MULLIGAN* 3.	GEORGE HOLMES 8.
JOHN W. ROWBOTHAM .. 4.	THOMAS HATTERSLEY .. 9.
JAMES A. DIXON 5.	ARTHUR BREARLEY .. ..Tenor.

Composed by CHARLES HENRY HATTERSLEY, and Conducted by THOMAS HATTERSLEY.

*First peal of Grandsire Caters. Mr. J. W. Rowbotham hails from London.

THE SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.

SAFFRON WALDEN, ESSEX.

On Monday, September 15, 1884, in Three Hours and Sixteen Minutes,

AT ST. MARY'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 24 cwt.

G. NEWSON .. ..Treble.	A. JACOB 5.
G. MARTIN 2.	J. F. PENNING 6.
C. HOPKINS 3.	E. CHAPMAN 7.
H. HOPKINS 4.	F. PITSTOW .. ..Tenor.

Composed by NATHAN J. PITSTOW, and Conducted by GEORGE NEWSON.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

HUNTSAM, DEVON.

On Monday, September 15, 1884, in Two Hours and Fifty Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S TEN-PART. Tenor 13 cwt.

JAMES CHAVE .. ..Treble.	*HUGH REDWOOD 5.
HENRY PAYNE 2.	JOHN HEARD 6.
WALTER HEARD 3.	ERNEST BISHOP 7.
HENRY TUCKER 4.	SAMUEL DAVEY .. ..Tenor.

Conducted by HENRY TUCKER.

*First peal. Mr. Ernest Bishop hails from Reading, he being nominated a member of the Devonshire Guild in the bellry, and both he and Hugh Redford were also proposed as members of the Ancient Society of College Yonths.

THE SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.

LONG MELFORD, SUFFOLK.

On Wednesday, September 17, 1884, in Three Hours and Sixteen Minutes,

AT HOLY TRINITY CHURCH,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 16 cwt.

H. HOPKINS.. ..Treble.	A. JACOB 5.
C. HOPKINS 2.	F. WELLS 6.
E. PITSTOW 3.	E. CHAPMAN 7.
S. SLATER 4.	G. NEWSON .. ..Tenor.

Composed and Conducted by GEORGE NEWSON.

Miscellaneous.

THE SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.

CAMBRIDGE.—On Monday, September 15th, at Great St. Mary's, 2000 of Kent Treble Bob Major, in 1 hr. 25 mins. C. Hopkins, 1; H. Hopkins, 2; E. Chapman, 3; E. Pitstow, 4; A. Jacob, 5; F. Pitstow, 6; G. Newson (conductor), 7; G. Taylor, 8. Tenor 30 cwt.

SAFFRON WALDEN (Essex).—On Monday, September 15th, at St. Mary's church, a half-peal of Stedman Triples, in 1 hr. 35 mins. G. Newson (conductor), 1; G. Martin, 2; C. Hopkins, 3; H. Hopkins, 4; A. Jacob, 5; J. F. Penning, 6; F. Pitstow, 7; E. Chapman, 8.

THE BIRMINGHAM AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATION.

SELLY OAK (Worcestershire).—On Tuesday, September 9th, for practice, six members of the local company rang a 720 of Grandsire Minor, in 25 mins. J. Nix, 1; E. Bush, 2; H. Smith, 3; T. Lewis, 4; E. Byrant, 5; J. T. Perry (conductor), 6. After which a 720 of Kent Treble Bob, in 26 mins. J. T. Perry, 1; John Nix, 2; Henry Smith, 3; Edward Boylin, 4; Thomas Lewis, 5; Alfred Cole (conductor), 6. This is the first 720 in the method by J. T. Perry.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.—On Monday, September 15th, for practice at the church of St. John-the-Baptist, a 720 of Bob Minor, in 25 mins. W. Eggleston, 1; W. Bowes, 2; T. J. des Forges, 3; W. S. Gray (Chester-le-Street; 1st 720), 4; C. L. Routledge, 5; W. Story (conductor), 6. Tenor 12½ cwt.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

DERBY.—On Thursday, September 11th, at All Saints' church, for practice, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor, on the back six, in 28 mins. A. B. Ward, 1; J. Howe, 2; A. P. Heywood, Esq. (Duffield, first 720 in the method), 3; F. Sephton, 4; J. Newbold, 5; H. C. Woodward (conductor), 6. Also a touch of 350 Grandsire Triples. F. Sephton, 1; H. C. Woodward, 2; A. P. Heywood, Esq., 3; J. Howe, 4; R. Redgate, 5; A. B. Ward (conductor), 6; J. Newbold, 7; J. Seal, 8. Also a touch of Grandsire Caters. L. Maskerry, 1; L. Lomas, 2; F. Sephton, 3; A. B. Ward, 4; A. P. Heywood, Esq., 5; J. Newbold, 6; R. Redgate, 7; H. C. Woodward (conductor), 8; J. Howe, 9; J. Thompson, 10. Tenor 28 cwt. in D.

THE UNITED COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

HAUGHTON (Lancashire).—On Tuesday, September 16th, at St. Anne's church, a 720 of Plain Bob Minor, with sixteen bobs and two singles, in 28½ mins. James A. Thomas, 1; John Bardsley, 2; William Wilde, 3; John S. Leech, 4; John Howard, 5; Peter Smith (conductor), 6. This is the first 720 conducted by Peter Smith. Tenor 15 cwt.

STOKE-UPON-TRENT ARCHIDIACONAL ASSOCIATION.

NORTON-LE-MOORS.—On Tuesday, September 9th, 720 of Oxford Bob Minor, in 26½ mins. W. Holdcroft, 1; A. Holdcroft, 2; J. Morton, 3; E. Glover, 4; Jas. Baddeley, 5; G. Walker (conductor), 6.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

GREAT BENTLEY (Essex).—On Thursday, September 4th, for the Harvest Thanksgiving Service, six 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles, in 25 mins. Arthur Bloice, 1; George Howell, 2; Joseph Taylor 3; Samuel Bloice, 4; William J. Nevards (conductor), 5.

ROMFORD.—Chiming.—On Sunday evening, September 14th, at St. Edward's church, Penning's 720 Bob Minor (46 calls). A. J. Perkins, 1-2-3-4; B. Keeble, 5-6.

DEWSBURY (Yorkshire).—On Tuesday, September 4th, at All Saints' parish church, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor, in 26½ mins. J. Idle (conductor), 1; *W. Idle, 2; *W. Ainley, 3; *J. A. Idle, 4; *O. Wilson, 5; *A. Mitchell, 6. Tenor 14½ cwt. *First 720 in the method.

HAVERSTOCK HILL (Middlesex).—On Sunday, September 14th, for Divine Service in the evening, a 720 of Plain Bob Minor, with sixteen bobs and two singles, in 25 mins. J. Freemantle, 1; G. Thurlow, 2; J. Hannington (conductor), 3; G. Griffin, 4; A. Jacob, 5; J. Nixon, 6. After service, a 720 of Double Oxford, in 24 mins. J. Barrett, 1; Wingfield Meadows, 2; E. Chapman, 3; T. Titchener, 4; A. Jacob, 5; G. Newson (conductor), 6.

LIVERPOOL.—On Saturday, September 13th, at St. Nicholas' church, an attempt to ring a peal of Grandsire Caters was made by the members of St. Peter's and St. Nicholas', with Mr. R. Binns, of Leeds, but the 8th and 9th could not be rung through, owing to the bells loosing their greese, and the excessive heat, the peal in twelve parts was being brought round from the third part-end when the 8th rope broke. Thomas Hammond, 1; John Brown, 2; William Booth, 3; Richard Williams, 4; Edward Foster, 5; George Fisher, 6; James Welch, 7; Robert Williams (composer and conductor), 8; Robert Binns, 9; William Brooks, 10. After the 8th rope was spliced a short touch of Cinques was rung, in which Messrs. James Egerton, Henry Brooks and Henry Coley took part. On Sunday, September 14th, for Divine Service in the morning at St. Peter's, a short touch of Stedman Caters was rung. Richard Williams, 1; Henry Meadows, 2; Edwin Booth, 3; Robert Williams, 4; John Moore, 5; John Brown, 6; Thomas Hammond (conductor), 7; Edward Foster, 8; Robert Binns (Leeds), 9; William Brooks and Edward Fletcher, 10. Also for afternoon service, a 503 of Grandsire Caters, in which Messrs. Frederick Blundell, Henry Heywood and Edward Fletcher, of Southport, took part. The reason of the tenor requiring two men is owing to her not being ringable for one man, but in the course of a week or two she will be entirely rehung. [We hope to hear that this re-hanging will be done properly.—Ed.]

ORMSKIRK (Lancashire).—On Tuesday, September 2nd, for practice at the parish church, a 720 of Grandsire Minor, in 25 mins., on the back six, with the tenor covering. J. Prescott, 1; *William Ellis, 2; *James Sholicar, 3; William Bentham, 4; *George Prescott, 5; Charles Sharples (conductor), 6; *William Taylor, tenor. *First 720. Tenor 25 cwt. 3 qrs.

PONTEFRAC (Yorkshire).—On Sunday, August 31st, for morning service at All Saints' Church, the local company rang a 720 of Grandsire Minor. F. Moody (first 720), 1; J. Brook, 2; R. Brook, 3; J. Pollard, 4; J. Carter, 5; W. Pearson, 6. Also for evening service, a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob Minor, W. Wilcock taking the treble, the rest standing as before. Also on Thursday evening, September 4th, a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob Minor. W. Pearson, 1; J. Brook, 2; C. Watts (first 720), 3; J. Pollard, 4; R. Brook, 5; J. Carter, 6. Also on Sunday morning, September 7th, a 360 of Grandsire Minor. F. Moody, 1; J. Brook, 2; R. Brook, 3; J. Pollard, 4; J. Carter, 5; W. Pearson, 6. And in the evening, a few plain courses of Grandsire Minor were rung for the first time by the above company, W. Wilcock again taking the treble. All were conducted by W. Pearson.

TOTTENHAM (Middlesex).—On Tuesday, September 16th, for practice, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, composed by the Editor, was rung by the following in 48 mins. J. Waghorn, jun., 1; G. B. Lucas, 2; R. Bagnall, 3; G. Bower, 4; G. Griffin, 5; J. Waghorn, sen. 6; H. Barnett (conductor), 7; W. Pye-English, 8. Tenor 20 cwt.

WYMESWOLD (Leicester).—On Thursday, September 11th, a 720 of Plain Bob Minor, in 28 mins. E. D. Taylor (first 720), 1; J. Brookes, 2; M. Brown, 3; J. W. Taylor, sen., 4; C. A. Fox, 5; J. W. Taylor, jun. (conductor), 6. Also another 720 in the same method, called differently, in 26 mins. J. Brookes (conductor), 1; S. Brookes, 2; the rest standing as before. Tenor 13 cwt. in F#.

TWELVE-BELL STEEPLES OF LONDON.

In my account of the London twelve-bell towers some time ago, I omitted to give the inscriptions at St. Saviour's, Southwark. I have since obtained a copy of them from a new work on the Bells of Surrey. As they are somewhat interesting, I herewith give them:—

Treble.—"S + K 1735."

2.—"S + K 1735."

3.—"Samuel Knight fecit 1735."

4.—"S + K 1735."

5.—"May love & Unity be without limitation. S. Knight fecit 1735."

6.—"This Peal of Twelf Bells began to be cast in Anno Dom: 1734 and completed in A.D. 1735."

7.—"Samuel Knight fecit 1734."

8.—"James & Elizabeth Gardner. Samuel Knight perform'd right well: When he Recast me Dowsabell. 1735."

9.—"Iohn Kent, Thos. Gardner, Iohn Pillon, Henry Farmer, Frances Hall, Charles Wharton, Churchwardens, 1735."

10.—"C. and G. Mears, Founders, London. Recast by subscription, A.D. 1844. Reverend W. Curling and Reverend S. Benson, Chaplains. W. Waters, J. Drewitt, R. Downs, J. Glover, J. Sutton, J. Monnery, Wardens."

11.—"John Smith Bell Warden; William Denbigh, Great Account; James Parsley, General Poor; John Jepson, College Warden; James Beadman, Newcomers; Edward Sandell, Young, Spratt, and Jackson. T. Mears of London, fecit, 1820."

Tenor.—"Samuel Knight fecit 1734."

Diameter of the treble 29 inches, and that of the tenor 66 inches.

Samuel Knight was successor to Ellis and Henry Knight, of Reading, and carried on business in the parish of St. Andrew's, Holborn, when he cast this magnificent peal of twelve.

The inscription on the 8th bell is somewhat peculiar, and the meaning not very apparent. Perhaps Mr. Mash, who no doubt is well up in the local history of the church, could enlighten us as to the meaning thereof. J. R. JERRAM.

RYE, SUSSEX.

The parish church is in the Norman style of architecture, and is one of the largest and most interesting in Sussex. The massive central tower contains a peal of eight bells, and two quarter bells which the clock strikes on. The bells bear the following inscriptions:—

Treble & 2.—"If you have a judicious ear,
You'll own by voice is clear and sweet.
Pack & Chapman of London fecit 1775."

3.—"While thus we join in joyful sound,
May love and loyalty abound.
Pack & Chapman of London fecit 1775."

4.—"Such wondrous pow'r to musick's given
It elevates the soul to heaven.
Pack & Chapman of London fecit 1775."

5.—"Ye people all who hear us ring
Be faithful to your God & King.
Pack & Chapman of London fecit 1775."

6.—"Peace & good neighbourhood.
Pack & Chapman of London fecit 1775."

7.—"Ye ringers all who prize
Your health & happiness
Be sober merry wise
And you'll the same possess."

Tenor.—"In wedlock bands all ye who join
With hands your hearts unite,
So shall our tuneful tongues combine
To laud the nuptial rite.
Thos. Lamb Esq Mayor
Pack & Chapman of London fecit 1775."

The weights of the bells are recorded on a tablet in the belfry. Tenor 19 cwt. 0 qrs. 17 lbs. The transposition of words on the trebles are curious, and the orthography strange.

OPENING OF A NEW PEAL OF HANDBELLS.—At Chepstow, Monmouth, at the house of Mr. J. Morley, a plain course of Bob Triples, on handbells retained in hand; rang as an opening to a new peal cast by Mears and Stainbank. William Green, 1-2; George Watkins, 3-4; John Evans, 5-6; James Morley, 7-8. All the above are a young band.

SUMMER HOLIDAYS.

Though we have reached the month of September, at which period of the year the harbingers of "Jack Frost" may be expected, yet we seem to be favoured with a second summer, or at any rate, the first one greatly prolonged. The beautiful fine weather of the last few days will no doubt tempt many of our numerous readers—those who had settled down to their autumn and winter occupations giving up all idea of an holiday—to see the country by means of a tour on some celebrated English *chemin de fer*. And therefore a brief glance at one the most important of these iron roads, with the great advantages of scenery along its route, etc., may not be out of place.

The Midland Railway, if not having the greatest amount of mileage under its control, is the favorite line *par excellence*, of the travelling public. The directors appear to make the convenience of passengers their first consideration, their own benefits by way of dividend not thought about, at any rate, to the detriment of the public convenience. The staff, from the highest grade to the lowest, seem to vie with each other in courtesy and affability. Whoever has taken his ticket at the city terminus of this line of railway, may for the moment have been bewildered by the activity which is prevalent at all railway termini. But here only for the moment. His difficulties seem to be anticipated by the various intelligent officials in the employment of this company; he is relieved of the trouble of making the least enquiry; his ticket is procured for him; his luggage is carefully placed in the vehicle provided for the same; he is shown to a comfortable, and in many instances, a luxurious carriage, and while waiting for the signal to depart, he will find that the porter who has waited upon him all this time is by no means ill-informed. This is in fact, the case all over this system, and such must certainly be reckoned among the facilities afforded by the Midland Railway Company.

For the tourist who delights in scenery of the most varied description the line in question affords one of the most favored opportunities. Whatever branch is preferred, or for convenience sake used, its picturesque features are proverbial. The trains of the Midland fly through the far-famed scenery of the Westmoreland Lakes, and extend to the soft and tempting beauty of Somerset and Dorset. One of its feeders stands at Liverpool; another finds an opening through Carlisle; a third branches to the east; a fourth sweeps away to the west, and embraces the commercial necessities of Bristol, and the fashionable centre of Bath. Passing onward it holds out its hand to Gloucester, Worcester, and Cheltenham—famous alike for their cathedrals and public schools. Stretching yet farther away, it glides at length into the densely populated neighbourhood of Birmingham. Nearer its own original home the lines flit to and fro with ceaseless activity. A branch descends to Buxton, the great fashionable inland resort and world-famed spa. A second shoots direct to Trent, and finds its way through Nottingham and Newark to Lincoln. A third descends and branches right and left to Rugby and Peterboro'. Far and wide, through every description of scenery, and through every variety of English life, this great railway pushes its way. No nobler scenery is to be found in England than that which belongs to the Derbyshire district: Matlock Bath, Miller's Dale, and Monsal Dale, are each specific in their character, and all-embracing in their beauty.

The acquisition of a tourist ticket on the Midland secures to its holder a delightful journey, which eclipses the vaunted "grand tour." It is not questioned now that the loveliness of our own country is equal, if not superior to any other. We do not expect to find snow-capped mountains, with treacherous passes; mighty rivers, flowing their angry torrent to the ocean with awful impetuosity; glades of forest occupying untold areas, whose only recommendation is adventure; or Niagaras overwhelming everything in their way. Our island is of a more domestic character, so to speak. The High Tor, the Peak, the ramblings of the neighbouring purling streams, are objects—though neither "awful" or "grand" yet more really enjoyable to the inhabitants of the "sea-girt isle" than all the roaring Amazons or the terrible steeples of other continents.

Then for a good rational few days' repose from business, we point out the Midland railway as being one of the best in many ways, for the tourist. By its route may be seen the fairest spots to be found in Britain. From Land's End to John o'Groats, we may travel upon it with ease and comfort, with all our requirements ministered to in a manner which rivets our admiration, and at the same time seems to call for some show of our gratitude.

ASSOCIATION FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.

THE next meeting will be held at Burton-on-Trent on Saturday, September 27th, 1884. Ringing at parish church, St. Paul's, and Horninglow, at 2.30 p.m. Service at the parish church, with short address at 5.0 p.m. Committee Meeting in vestry of parish church, at 5.30 p.m. Tea at 1s. per head, at 6.30 p.m. Ringing at 6.30. The names of any person wishing to become members should be sent, before the meeting, to

WM. A. WOOD,
Tamworth Street, Lichfield.

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."

MR. CONYARD'S 720 OF BOB MINOR.

SIR,—Although Mr. Conyard is evidently annoyed at the criticisms of "Multum in Parvo," I think no ringer need be a great musician or a great doctor of bell music, to fully endorse all that can be said against any composition which turns the tenors up the wrong way. The analogy between such passages of changes and the transposition of the two last lines of a hymn, is perfectly correct. It is the intention of the company which I have the honour to conduct to ring a 5040 of Minor in seven Treble Bob methods, amongst which were to have been included, Duke of York and Violet. An attempt to ring one of these methods soon brought the tenors up wrong, and a further investigation revealed the fact that this is an inherent defect in both these methods; they have been cast aside as being what Mr. Conyard's 720 really is, namely, absolute rubbish.

G. J. CLARKSON.

Stockton-on-Tees.

SIR,—I consider the answer given by Mr. Conyard, last week, is incomplete, and not at all to the mark. He says that his reason for sending his "composition" to be published, is because it is a two-part 720, with forty singles. I am sure the composers of Bob Minor will say he is quite welcome. I say it is a very poor attempt at a two-part 720. Others, no doubt, could have produced a *fac simile* of this "composition" years ago, had they not been aware that it was against all reason to do so. If Mr. Conyard will look at the Major peals in "THE BELL NEWS," he will find that the course-ends are always 7-8, not 8-7. Would not these composers expect to hear of it again, if the they were to send peals for publication with the tenors wrong? If I remember right, I believe this is not the first time 720 that a of Bob Minor has been published by the same person, and called in question. The latter part of my letter is soon summed up as "rubbish," but I think, Mr. Editor, we are getting used to this term now. If I was capable, I should not feel at all inclined to preach a discourse on the theories of music and bell-ringing, for it is evident that it would be a fruitless task, as far as Mr. Conyard is concerned.

MULTUM IN PARVO.

ALL SAINTS', EASTBOURNE.

SIR,—Notwithstanding Mr. West's expressed desire in his letter of August 30th, that the matter should there end, I trust to your acknowledged fairness in inserting the correspondence to allow me space for a few remarks. Failing to see the facts represented in my letter of August 2nd, have suffered by the insignificant remarks of Mr. West, I leave it to its merits, maintaining that perverted facts can not be found in it, simply conferring myself to a few remarks in reference to Mr. West's letter. Assuming that Tenor Bell had noticed the paragraph in your issue of July 5th, as well as the contribution of the 12th from the same correspondent, it is difficult to account for the uncalled for attack by All Saints' on St. Mary's band of the 19th, Tenor Bell must have been aware that the responsibility of giving offence did not rest with us, or why the distinction made by him between your correspondent and St. Mary's band. My admission that the term used was obnoxious refers to those to whom it applies only, the change is too often rung in its proper place to be so to others. My remark that probably the gentleman would submit a justification does not amount to a hope that such would be the case, that being a matter resting entirely with himself. The admission that six only were invited when eleven came, I stated as probable. I doubt if any member of our band would accept an invitation with such exclusive restrictions unless reason was given. The word control in the sense put by Mr. West, is never used by me, or I question if "Churchyard Bob" would not be the limit of our change-ringing. The remark referring to sixteen years ago is very far-fetched, as Mr. West could have no personal knowledge of that, and myself very little, not having had anything to do with it, or any occasion to tax my memory longer than nine months ago, when the All Saints' Society was formed. If any member of All Saints' has been treated with discourtesy in St. Mary's tower it has been unintentional, and on more than one occasion when All Saints' ringers have taken part in change-ringing, I have asked if any others would like to try. I doubt if the man that rang the tenor to 120 of Grandsire Doubles would endorse Mr. West's opinion as regards himself. That St. Mary's tower has been open to All Saints' ringers requires no further remark, except that the same courtesy is still shewn. If greater courtesy is required, I should not attempt to exercise control, if St. Mary's ringers should think it necessary to place a limit on the same.

H. P. BENNETT.

MY SUNDAY OFF DUTY—WHAT I SAW—WORK FOR AN ASSOCIATION.

EVER since I was a little nipper of four summers, and could just manage to toddle up the belfry stairs behind my poor old dad, in fact from time immemorial it has been the custom at our church to chime for each of the three Sunday services. This good old rule is still observed, and as it happens that there are but a limited number in our company, it is seldom that I get a Sunday off. However, "it's a long lane that has no turning," and recently I found that soon my turn would come, and that I should have an opportunity of having a "change of air." Now having perused the many pompous descriptions of holidays by numerous brother-strings, with a certain amount of envy I naturally begun to consider what should be my plan. Alas! obstacle after obstacle turned up. I found I was minus of any knowledge of veteran members of the Exercise, either in the east, west, south, or northern parts of our ringing isle; I was unacquainted with either the Treble Bob heroes, or the seven-day champions of the great brewing town, so the thought came to my mind that even if too late to covet the taking home of the Queen's prize from Wimbledon, I might take a shooting tour, when suddenly I remembered that my shooting abilities were such that I had neither made a bull's eye or picked off a brace in my life. At last the financial part of the question popped up, and I came to the conclusion that a family which can be called both large and small, would be an expensive luxury upon a travelling expedition, so had finally to decide upon the use of "shanks' pony," and accordingly I strolled into a small village just outside the smoke of London. As it is only what I saw here that I am about to describe, my readers may rest assured that I am not about to inform them how I started from one of the great Metropolitan stations, and after passing through 2000 miles of magnificent scenery, found myself clasped in the arms of some hitherto unknown (to me) notable personage, but that I shall be able to keep within the limit suggested by one of England's noble sons who dons a uniform for the protection of his country.

Hearing the village bells commence, I found my way to the belfry door, which I reached just as an attempt to ring a 120 came to grief, owing, as I understood, from the squabble that followed, through the bob-caller having failed to call out "dodge" at a plain lead. As soon as my figure was seen upon the top of the stairs, the cry was "Come in, come in, master, if yer be a ringer, yer welcome." With some little hesitation I accepted the invitation. The ringing-chamber proved a dirty, filthy place, in fact no village beer-shop tap-room would at closing time on a Saturday evening, after a party of agricultural labourers had indulged themselves in spending their "largess," present such a wretched appearance; notwithstanding that upon the village green there were caravans with a good stock of brooms and brushes. Such articles had not for a considerable number of years found their way into this little antiquated ringing palace, if so, it must have been one that was used by the present sexton's great great grandfather. In lieu of peal tablets, ancient cobwebs adorned the upper portion of the walls from one side to the other, beneath which, the dust was so thick, that with the end of a "gingham" one could easily sign the visitors' book. Heaps of dirt driven together by the wind, which finds its way between what would otherwise be the naked floor, laid here and there and served as spittoons. One of the company, who had reached nearly four-score, was evidently a man belonging to the old school. He was attired in a smart waggoners' smock, with such broidery as is seldom now seen, while his head-gear was one of the old fashioned "chimney pots," this, when I entered, was in use for a practical purpose. Doubtless after a month's heavy harvesting, this prominent member needed rest. As it happened, he was not a weighty individual, so the hat answered, although the worse for wear, as a seat, the only one visible. I accepted an invitation to have a pull, and as no hat peg was to be found, I doubled up my soft felt, put it in my pocket, and tucked my coat in the steps of the ladder which leads to the bells. The weight of tenor is moderate, but one 120 proved ample for me. Clumsy ropes with six feet sallies, and the bells pulled as if each man was a successor of Samson, and wanted to see who could pull the tower down first, were sufficient proofs to account for the bad go of the bells. Before leaving, I was interrogated as to who I was,

and accidentally hinted that I was a member of a certain Association. This information was just what was desired. As soon as I had uttered the words, one of the band drew from his pocket an instrument which, when ten times its present length, and not quite so black, was no doubt called a "churchwarden." Having filled it and secured the indispensable light, he commenced filling the place with clouds of smoke. I at once uttered my feeble protest, when suddenly another of the band, who wanted to look a bigger man than his companion, with alacrity commenced pouring forth volumes of foul and indecent language, that I came to the conclusion, that they were those who detested the existence of the Association for fear it might one day, as a body, step in, and by its influence convince the powers that the time in this benighted village had arrived for belfry reform. The venerable member resumed his seat, and with his red silken handkerchief wiped the sweat from his brow; as I clasped his hand to say farewell, I observed that he was grieved. I beat a hasty retreat on to the village green, and while pondering over what I had seen, saw my aged friend making towards me. In his humble way, he tendered an apology, and having unfolded a sad tale of how he had struggled in vain for over half a century, expressed a hope that the day might yet arrive that the cry of belfry reform would not be used as a fad, but that Associations or Guilds would make such their primary object. In the shades of evening, I returned home reflecting upon the state of affairs I had witnessed during my three hours "change of air." I came to the conclusion that if ringers are to be raised in the estimation of the general public, and if Associations and Guilds are sleeping, there is work for a National Association. REFORM.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

A QUARTERLY MEETING of this Association will be held at Nottingham, on Saturday, October 4th, 1884. The following towers will be open for ringing from 1.30 p.m., viz.: St. Peter's, eight bells; All Saints', eight bells; Beeston, eight bells; Lenton, six bells. Friends on arrival are requested to proceed to St. Peter's schoolroom, Broad Marsh, off Carrington Street (on the way from the station), where the local committee will be in attendance, to assist in forming bands for ringing. Committee Meeting in All Saints' schoolroom at 4.0 p.m. Tea in the Aboretum Refreshment Room, at 5.0 p.m. Tickets 1s. 6d. each. General Meeting immediately afterwards.

THE CANTERBURY CATHEDRAL COMPANY.

ON Tuesday evening, September 9th, the members of this company paid a visit to Ash, situate at a distance of nine miles from Canterbury, permission having previously been obtained for the use of the bells. On arriving they at once repaired to the tower, and rang several touches of Grandsire Triples. The bells are a melodious ring of eight, tenor 22 cwt., but require some exertion to ring them properly. The local band displayed their skill by lowering the bells in peal. The whole company then adjourned to the "Red Lion" inn, and spent the remainder of the evening in handbell ringing, interspersed with songs and toasts, and left at the hour of closing, well pleased with their evening's outing.

FARNHAM ROYAL, BUCKS.

Sunday next, September 28th, the Harvest Festival at St. Mary's, Farnham Royal, Bucks., will take place. The ringing company will be glad to welcome any strangers. Good accommodation is afforded at that well-known respectable hostel, "The Duke's Head," not far from the church. Parties intending arriving the previous evening, should communicate with the courteous host, Mr. Chapman.

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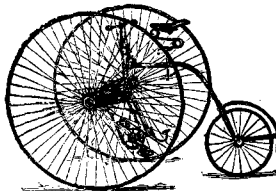
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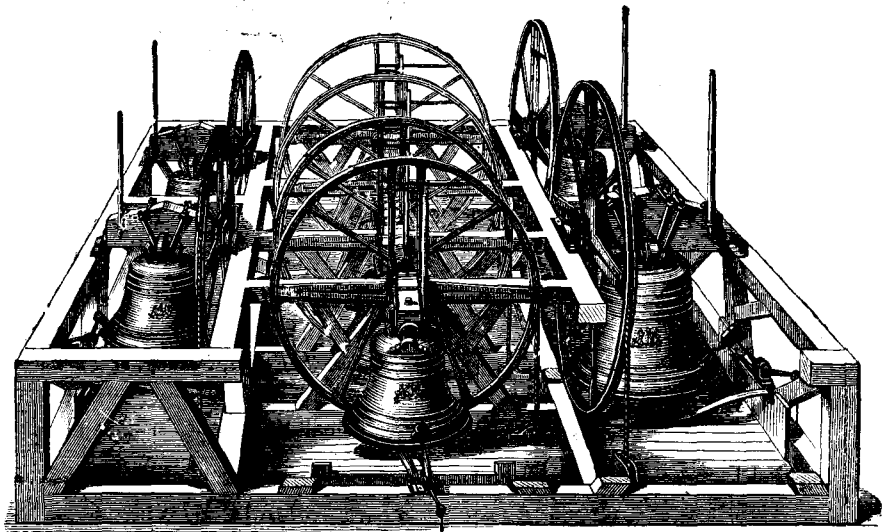
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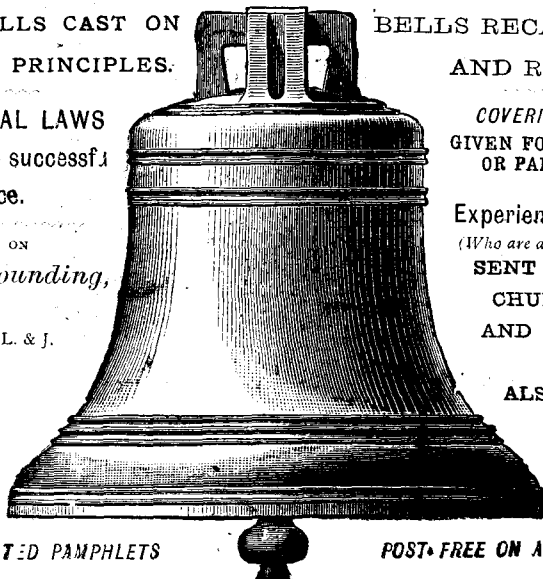
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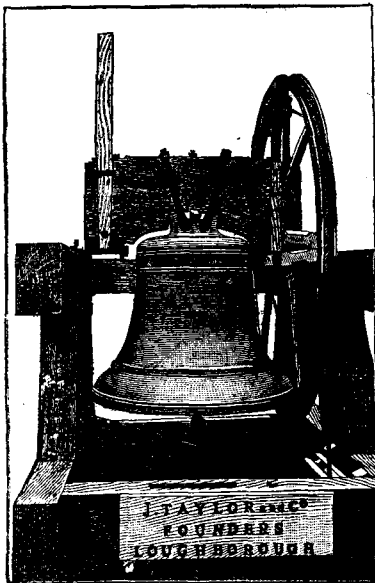
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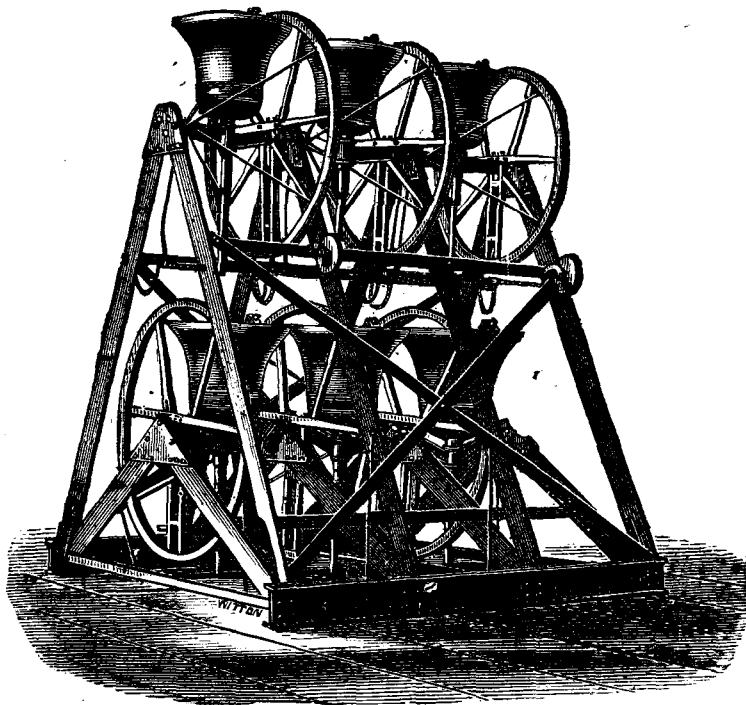
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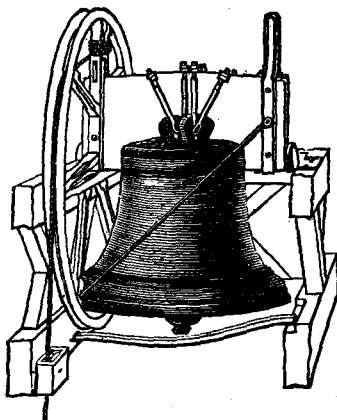
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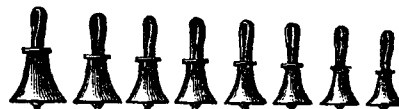
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CHARLES DICKENS AMONG THE COLLEGE YOUTHS.

THE following sketch of a visit paid by the late CHARLES DICKENS to the head-quarters of the College Youths, appeared in *All the Year Round* for February 27th, 1869. We have searched for this number a long while, but without success. We have however, been favoured with a copy of it by our valued friend, Mr. Cooter, and we think the sketch will be read with great interest by many of our readers.

"ANCIENT COLLEGE YOUTHS.—What is an Ancient College Youth? Before answering this question, it may be as well to say what a College Youth (in our present acceptation of the term) is not.

A College Youth is not, as might be supposed, of necessity a member of any university; he need belong to no boat club, practise for no eleven, grind for no tripos. He wears no gown, though caps are not unknown to him: but they are the caps of every-day life, and not the academical mortar-board, albeit he may not be unfamiliar with the mortar-board of commerce. He has not to trouble himself about classics; mathematics, save in the rough and ready ways of business, need not vex his soul. He rarely disturbs himself about law, natural science, metaphysics, or theology. He may be out at what hour he pleases, and yet fear no gating; proctors are only vaguely associated in his mind with Doctors' Commons, though haply he may keep bulldogs of his own; and he looks forward to an occasional rustication with pleasure. His vacations are usually few and brief. He lives in no "quad," though not unfrequently in a court; and though his attendance at church on week days is regular, it is not compulsory. He frequently hears the chimes at midnight, but not in Justice Shallow's sense, for he is of a staid and steady turn.

When the Lord Mayor, in his gingerbread coach, and all the other accompanying guys, who seem annually to mistake their date and come out a few days behind time, deign to exhibit themselves to the irreverent gaze of derisive London; when the braying of the brass bands, the thunderings of the big drums, and the shouts of the assembled multitude are drowned by the merry peals from the clashing bells, high up in the steeples of St. Mary-le-Bow, Cheapside, or St. Michael's, Cornhill, then the Ancient Youths are hard at work; when you are delivered, cold and damp, ex-steamer, in the port of London, you may, as your cab-horse stumbles up the slippery hill past the queer old church of St. Magnus the Martyr, become distinctly aware of the fact that the Ancient Youths are in the immediate neighbourhood; and when the night continental express whisks you over the Borough Market, and you look down on the fine pile of St. Mary Overy, you will—especially on certain Tuesdays—have reason to know that the Ancient Youths are diligently engaged in the pursuit of their studies. For the Ancient Society of College Youths are the ringers of the bells. The churches just mentioned are their chief places of resort, and it is from the wide throats of the massive playthings in their belfries that the harmonious peals of the Ancient Society of Collegians most frequently ring out over the housetops.

For some years a strong desire to make personal acquaintance with the Ancient Youths possessed our mind. We were not satisfied with the occasional intelligence respecting them to be gleaned from the sporting paper which usually recorded their doings, and which was invariably to the effect, that the following members of the Society ascended the tower of St. Somebody's; that a true and complete peal of Grandsire Triples was rung in such and such a surprisingly short time; that the peal was composed and conducted by Mr. So-and-So, and that the tenor weighed so much. We became anxious to see with our own eyes what manner of men those might be who were in the habit of devoting long hours to this voluntary hard labour, and even if we felt a sad presentiment that a Grandsire Triple might prove too much for our feeble comprehension, a lingering hope remained that we might find the key to at least some part of the mystery if we could only, with our own eyes, see the thing done. It appeared, however, as if it were not to be. The opportunity persistently refused to offer itself, and we had almost given up hope when chance favoured us. A friend going to live in a town which contains one of the most enthusiastic devotees of the order, and where the bells are continually ringing, became an Ancient Youth—in self-defence, we opine—and the time had come. A very dark and cold evening in January found us crossing London Bridge, bellward bound.

The headquarters of change-ringing are in a long, rather low room on the first floor of the King's Head in Winchester Street, in the borough of Southwark. Records of distinguished peals, in frames of all sizes and various ages, adorn the walls, and an iron safe is fixed in a corner. Here the business of the venerable Society is transacted, here its records and property are kept, and here is presently to be held a meeting at which it will be our high privilege to assist. A large, thickly bound book with strong brazen clasps, and a general appearance of having been made to stand constant reference for many years,

lies on the table. This is the second volume of the peal-book, and was presented to the Society by an enthusiastic amateur. Here are entered all the peals rung by the members, in records written by professional hands, in a most ornate style, and in various bright colours. There are comparatively few entries in the book as yet, for it has been but recently commenced. By the time we have turned over its pages, a sufficient muster of College Youths has come together, and an adjournment is made to the church.

The portion of the church we have to pass through, is dim enough by what little light comes from the organ loft, where the organist is practising. The lantern we have with us, is rather more useful, however, when we reach the narrow winding staircase leading to the belfry, which is dark indeed, and very long and very steep. When we reach the first halting-place, we feel but weak about the knees and giddy about the head, and are glad to cross along the level flooring of the loft.

"We nearly had an accident here the other day. Some of the boys were on in front, and were going to cross in the dark. Fortunately I called to them to wait until I brought the lantern, thinking it just possible some of the traps were open. Sure enough they were, and somebody must have gone right down to the floor of the church if I hadn't sung out in time." Thus our conductor, to the derangement of our nervous system, for the floor appears to be all trap, and the fastenings may or may not, be all secure.

Another spell of steep winding staircase, and we emerge breathless in the ringers' room.

Large and lofty is the ringers' room, lighted by a gas apparatus rather like the hoop that serves for a chandelier in a travelling circus. The walls are adorned by large black and gold frames, looking at first sight like monumental tablets to the memory of departed ringers, but proving on further examination to refer, like the records in the club-room, but on a larger scale, to the performances of the society. Peals of all kinds appear to have been rung on these bells; but on one occasion it seems that "the company achieved a true peal of Kent Treble Bob Maximus." Bob Major we have heard of, but Bob Maximus! Will they introduce us to Bob Maximus to-night.

The ropes of the twelve bells pass through holes in the ceiling and reach the floor. Under each is a little raised platform for the ringer to stand on, with a strap for his foot to help him in getting good purchase, and each rope half way up is covered for some four feet by a fluffy, woolly-looking covering, technically called a "sally," and intended to afford a good hold to the ringer as he checks his bell in the pull down. The case of the church clock fills up one side of the room, and from it unearthly clickings and wheezings presently come as the clock strives in vain to strike. To strike a vibrating bell suddenly from a fresh quarter is to crack it, so when the bells are rung their connexion with the clock has to be temporarily severed.

Coats are taken off, sleeves are turned up, and business is evidently about to begin. But nothing connected, however remotely, with music can be done without a quantity of tuning or other preliminary performances, and change-ringing is no exception to this rule. Before the ringing can begin it is necessary to "set" the bells: to set a bell is to get it on the right balance, mouth upward. Some of the bells are set already, some consent to be set with little trouble; but the tenor, a small plaything of fifty-two hundredweight, or thereabouts, is obstinate to night. Three youths take him in hand, and presently his deep note booms out sonorously, but he absolutely declines to assume the required position. We take the opportunity and go up, preceded by our friend with the lantern, into the belfry, and among the bells.

As we go, the tenor's voice becomes louder and louder, and the ladder and walls shake more and more, until at last, as we are going to step on to the platform of the bells, we shrink back as from a blow, from the stunning clash of sound with which he greets us. He is rather an alarming object to behold, swinging violently to and fro close to us, and we decline the invitation to step past him on to the staging beyond, for which feat there seems to us but scant space. Our conductor does not disturb himself in the least, but is presently busy among the bells, with his lantern, tightening a rope here, looking after a wheel there, sublimely indifferent to the clanging monster so close to him. And now, as we watch the bell swinging, we become painfully sensible that two of our favourite bell stories must be abandoned, if this be the customary method of ringing church bells; which on inquiry, we find it is. There was a melodrama of thrilling interest once played—at the Victoria was it?—in the last act of which the hero was to be shot, or executed in some way, and the signal was to be given by the tolling of a bell. The heroine, bethinking herself that, if the execution were delayed for some time, her lover would be saved, ascended into the belfry, and, when the bell began to ring, herself swung by the clapper; by which ingenious gymnastic manœuvre she rendered the bell dumb. This might be all very well—although we had secret doubts about it—with a bell hanging mouth downwards and swinging only from side to side, but how about a bell the other way up, describing a circle, and sounding only when it again assumes an upright position, and the clapper falls? The story, albeit said to be

founded on fact, must be given up, we fear. Quasimodo, again, however abnormal his activity, and however remarkable his familiarity with his bells, would find it difficult to ride this uncomfortable-looking tenor—Quasimodo would be dashed to pieces against the platform presently. All at once, alarming tenor comes up slowly, hovers, poises for a moment as though hesitating, and sets; his great mouth, five feet or so in diameter, turned at last the right way. All his companions have been in this position for some time, and now the ringing can begin. So, after feeling the thickness of tenor's sides and sounding him with our knuckles, we descend to the floor below, where we find ten ringers ready. A glance round from the conductor, who, with two assistants, rings the tenor, "go," and they start. The tower rocks, the bells clash, tenor booms at appointed intervals. After some little time, one gets used to the noise, which is not so great as might be expected, and begins to pick out the rhythm of the chime. The ringers all have an earnest, fixed expression; attention is written on every face. Occasionally a slight wandering look betokens that the ringer is a little vague as to his place in the change, but he soon seems to pick it up and come right again. The work is severe, especially on the arms and muscles of the back, but is done with an ease derived from long practice. The rope is pulled down at the sally, and falls in a loop to the floor; as it begins to fly up again, the ringer checks it, the bell is balanced against a wooden stay that prevents its falling over, and the clapper falls; then he lets it run up, round goes the wheel above, and with it the bell, and presently the bell's mouth comes up on the other side, and the clapper sounds again. It is a delicate operation, checking the bell on the poise; if done too late, the bell breaks away the restraining stay, the rope flies up, and probably disappears through the hole in the ceiling, drawn up round the revolving wheel, and disgrace is the portion of that youth. Disgrace and pecuniary penalty, for a fine is inflicted for a broken stay.

We are informed that a touch is being rung, and find on enquiry that anything short of a peal is called a touch. In a touch the changes are simply rung according to the recognised forms, and when the order of bells comes back to that of the first round, the touch stops. Comparatively few changes can be rung in this way, but there are many ways of introducing a fresh change, by which the ringers, instead of pursuing and completing the system in which they began, take up some other combination of bells. The signal for such a change is given by the conductor, who calls "bob," or "single," upon which the desired change is made, and the touch lengthened. The conductor must necessarily have the whole science of change-ringing at his fingers' ends, and must know exactly how to work his bells. Bobs or singles in the wrong place would upset the whole arrangement, and the bells would get so clubbed that they would probably never get round to their proper order again; and as no good ringer ever thinks of leaving off until that state of things occurs, it is difficult to imagine what would happen. A peal consists of not less than five thousand changes, though many more can be rung, and the arranger of a given combination is said to have composed or invented it. He may, or may not, conduct and call the changes; if he do not, the conductor has to learn the peal, of course.

Until the time of one Fabian Stedman, who flourished as printer and bellringer at Cambridge about sixteen hundred and eighty, change-ringing was in its infancy. Stedman greatly extended, and indeed revolutionised, the art, and his system, though far more complicated and intricate than the old method, is generally adopted by practised ringers. The old style is called the Grand sire method, whether from its antiquity or no does not appear, and is tolerably simple. On eight bells, under either system, the ordinary changes are five thousand and forty, but Stedman arrives at this result by much the more tortuous path. Although it is easy enough to perceive that the peal is made by altering at stated and understood intervals the order in which the bells follow each other, and that these alterations are ruled by fixed laws, it is impossible to understand the scientific principles of change-ringing without practical teaching and illustration—as impossible as it would be to attempt to explain in the same way the science of music. Enormous handbooks on the subject exist, it is true, but the endless rows of figures with which they are filled are, to the novice, bewildering in the extreme. Patient application and constant practice are the only means by which safe and steady change-ringers are made. Besides the difficult task of learning to follow the windings of a peal, the technical terms are many and curious. We are told, in explanation of some of them, that Doubles are rung on six bells Triples on eight, Caters (or Catons; there seems some doubt about the spelling) on ten, and Cinques on twelve.

The touch comes to an end. Two of the ringers leave their ropes, and two novices take their places. Two older ringers stand behind them to prompt and keep them straight; but the conductor, who this time has left the weighty tenor and taken a bell easier to handle, has his work cut out for him, and may be heard occasionally admonishing the neophytes in gruff tones.

Half a dozen boys have found their way up into the tower, and

gaze at the performers with eager eyes; probably looking forward to the happy days when they, too, will be ringers. The audience has also gradually increased by the advent of stray collegians, until the room is now pretty full.

We find that change-ringing is not without its dangers. We are told of a man who, the other day, in a country church, caught his foot in the loop made by the falling rope, and was presently taken up by it, and pitched across the room; we hear awful whispers of another victim who was caught by the neck, and hung by his bell; but the date and place of this latter tragedy are not forthcoming. It is, however, a legend much in favour among frequenters of steeples, partly, perhaps, because of a wild statement with which it concludes, that government claimed, but without success, the manslaughtering bell. Excoriated hands are very common, and violent jerks and strains not unknown; but on the whole, it seems safe enough.

The second touch being brought to a harmonious conclusion, the two smallest bells, hitherto idle, are brought into play, the treble sounding after the tenor, like a good-sized dinner bell, and a third and last touch is rung with great spirit. Then, after we have received and modestly declined a polite invitation to try our hand at a bell, we file down the corkscrew stairs, not without an uncomfortable feeling that, if we were to slip or stumble, an avalanche of College Youths is behind certain to be precipitated on to our prostrate body. Reaching the chapel again without damage, though with a good deal of dust and damp on our coats from the walls of the staircase, we find the organist still at work (we wonder how he likes the bells ringing overhead while he is practising), and passing over the stone that marks Massinger's last resting-place, emerge into the churchyard. Thence, pursued by a triumphant burst of sound from the organ as if the organist were glad to get rid of us, we troop off to the meeting place of the Society at the King's Head.

The first thing that strikes the visitor on opening the door, is that the Ancient College Youths are good and steady smokers. The smoke is so dense that for some time it is difficult to make out surrounding objects; the only way of avoiding inconvenience is to light up oneself, which, accordingly, every new comer does without loss of time.

On looking round the table and down the room, which is now quite full, it becomes evident that the bulk of the College Youths present are of the working class. Our introducer is a Cambridge graduate and destined for the church, so it will be seen that the composition of the Society is very catholic. It becomes soon pleasantly apparent that change-ringing is by no means merely an excuse for beer. There is an excellent rule, strictly enforced, that no refreshments are allowed in the belfry; and moderation is clearly the custom in the club-room.

The iron safe is opened, and the property and archives of the company are displayed on the table before the master, who fills the chair. We are shown a curious old silver bell, fixed on a silver mounted staff, which in old days were carried before the members of the society when they went on the 5th of November, as was their annual custom, to St. Mary-le-Bow, to attend Divine Service. This is looked upon as the palladium of the society. The company also boast an old-fashioned two-handled silver cup, won in fair fight, as its inscription records: 'This cup, the gift of Mr. Peter Bluck, of Sonning, in the county of Berks, was adjudged to the Society of College Youths, for the superior stile'—the engraver's orthography at fault here—in which they rang ten hundred and eight Bob Major in a contest with Oxford and Farnham Societies, at the above parish church, on Monday, August 4, 1783.'

Among the archives are the name-book, which contains the names of the members from the remotest time: the peal-book, to which allusion has already been made, records their performances. The first entry in this book contains the names of the ringers and the description of a peal rung at St. Bride's, in January, 1724. Prior to that date these records were not kept with so much care as is now the case. The calligraphic achievements and decorations in the old book are not so brilliant as those in the new, but are always neat and in good taste.

Our obliging informant points out the most celebrated recorded peals for our admiration, and although we are by this time a little bewildered with Caters, and Bobs, and Trebles, we are gratified to find that on the 27th April, 1861, the society rang a peal of Cinques on Stedman's principle, at St. Michael's, Cornhill, which contained eight thousand five hundred and eighty changes, lasted six hours and forty-one minutes, and was the greatest number of changes ever rung in that intricate manner on twelve bells. It also pleases us to know that our friends accomplished in three hours and forty-two minutes, at St. Mary-le-Bow, Cheapside, a peal of Stedman's Caters (or Catons), containing five thousand and eighty-one changes, and considered (although this looks a little egotistical on the part of the society) the finest performance on record.

If, however, this phrase seems to savour a little of patting oneself on the back, the ancient youths are justly entitled to be proud of their greatest achievement—an achievement so great that it has impelled them to have it recorded on an ornate glazed card, a distinction

conferred on no other peal. By this decorative document it appears that on the 27th of April, 1868, a true peal of Kent Treble Bob Major containing fifteen thousand eight hundred and forty changes, was rung at St. Matthew's, Bethnal Green, in nine hours and twelve minutes. This was the longest peal ever rung by one set of men, and certainly seems a considerable feat.

The bells of St. Saviour's, Southwark, which we have just been ringing, are the heaviest peal in London, although the Bow church tenor is heavier than our refractory friend. These appear to be the favourite bells in London; the heaviest peal of eight bells in England is in Exeter.

The flow of information is here interrupted by a suggestion that the society may like to hear a touch on the handbells, and this proposition being received with great favour, the handbells are produced, and half a dozen College Youths taking each two bells, and drawing their chairs into a circle away from the table, play up manfully. If it is difficult to remember and execute the part one bell has to take in a peal, it must be maddening to have charge of two bells. Of course the absence of the mechanical labour is in favour of the handbell ringer.

The precision of these ringers was marvellous. We could not have supposed it possible that such sweet sounds and such musical combinations could have been produced by a dozen handbells, and the members of the society present, experts be it remarked, appeared as pleased as the ignorant visitors. The ringers were all College Youths of long experience and vast learning, but were nevertheless not insensible to the admiration and applause which greeted the termination of the touch.

The Society of College Youths was founded in 1637, by Lord Brereton and Sir Cliff Clifton, for the purpose of promoting the art of change-ringing. It is said that the name is derived from the fact that the young gentlemen of the city were in the habit of chiming rounds on the bells of the college of St. Spirit and Mary, near College Hill, Thames Street, a foundation of Sir Richard Whittington's, and afterwards destroyed in the great fire. The society made good progress, and bears many noble and distinguished names on its early rolls; but its performances must have been of a tame and monotonous nature at first. The members began with simple rounds and changes, and it was not until about 1642 that any complicated changes were rung. Even then very little progress was made, until Stedman, the father of change-ringing, appeared. The College Youths visited Cambridge, where this Caxton of bells lived, and performed the first peal on his principle, at St. Benet's in that town, and he, in return presumably, dedicated to the society his Campanologia, an elaborate treatise on bell ringing, published about this time. From this period the art made rapid progress, and intricate peals soon began to be recorded.

The society having outlived its first youth, now dubbed itself the Ancient Society of College Youths, and we find that in 1718 they, in conjunction with the London Scholars, presented St. Bride's with two bells to complete the set of twelve. For about sixty years the headquarters of the society were at St. Martin's-in-the-Fields; since 1849 they have been at St. Saviour's, Southwark.

The list of members is curious. Several Lord Mayors are to be found in it, including a Slingsby Bethell in 1756, and in 1782 Sir Watkin Lewis, who was also member for the city. Admiral Geary in 1725; John Hardham, the well-known tobacconist, of 'Hardham's '37' snuff celebrity, and a famous ringer; Sir Watkin Wynne, Lord Dacre, and the Marquis of Salisbury, also figure in the list. The last two were joint founders with Lord Brereton and Sir Cliff Clifton. It is said that Sir Matthew Hale, Lord Chief Justice of the Common Pleas, and the great Lord Burleigh—Elizabeth's Lord High Treasurer—as well as other grave and learned men, were fond of change-ringing and patrons of the art; but their names do not appear in the list of members.

The society, flourishing enough now, has had more than one interval of something very like extinction, although it is stoutly denied that it ever really came to an end. It must have been in a bad way, however, at one time; and the fact of the peal-book having disappeared, and not being found until some time afterwards, in a butcher's shop in Bristol, undoubtedly looks awkward.

There is another society of change-ringers in London called the Cumberland, and practising at St. Martin's-in-the-Fields, which possibly sprang from the internal dissensions that at one time agitated the older society. The London Scholars, who are frequently mentioned in the earlier records of the College Youths, appear to have become extinct as a change-ringing society; and although there is an Association of change-ringers in almost every town, where there is a good peal of bells, the Ancient Society of College Youths is the most important, as it is the most venerable in the kingdom. Its rules are few and simple, and its subscriptions and expenses low, and for this reason, no doubt, it has gradually attracted more and more members from the working class.

As the evening was pretty far advanced by the time we had possessed ourselves of these particulars, we bade farewell to the Ancient Society of College Youths without waiting for another touch on the handbells, and went our way, grateful for a courteous reception and a pleasant evening."

LEYLAND BELLS, LANCASHIRE.

THE following poem was written by a native of Leyland, and published in a small volume of early productions, by the Messrs. Moxon's, London.

Sweet Leyland bells! dear tuneful bells,

What cadence from you flows;
Making my desolate heart abound
With pleasure no one knows.
My father, when a blithesome boy,
Of playing in yon field,
Heard with a full and rapturous joy,
The lovely tone you yield.

Without you all the village would
Seem tinctur'd with dismay,
For Oh! no better signal could
Announce the time of day.
The winds wait over hill and dale,
Far, far away they roam;
The echoes of your song shall sail,
And reach each distant home.

Around the tower from whence I hear
Those melodies so grand,
My worthy ancestors and friends
Are laid in many a band.
Where I recline, long, long ago,
Some sage, perchance, has done,
Some sage perchance again will do,
Ere time his course hath run.

O Leyland bells! I love to hear
Your sweet and plaintive strain,
So plaintive that they chime in with
My pleasure or my pain.
The birds sing in response to you,
Perch'd on those friendly trees,
Whose sturdy aspect is indeed
An aspect made to please.

All o'er the waving cornfields fair,
Where mellow autumn reigns,
Where gentle breezes play, your sound
A pleasant hearing gains.
The rural swains who labour hard,
They love their village bells,
For on their minds the influence falls,
Which many a grief dispels.

The man of ag'd and wrinkled brow,
Rejoices when he hears
Your blessed notes, as deep in thought,
By some high tomb he rears.
Does he not in his soul revolve,
How oft yon lofty chimes
Have comforted his weary heart
In dark and cloudy times?

On Sabbaths, weddings, festivals,
Your charms, dear bells, have given
A thrilling bliss to many a mind,
Yea, bliss akin to heaven.
May nought your glorious tones impair,
O ancient bells of yore!
May your sweet sounds still fill the air,
Till time shall be no more.

The writer says:—"It first struck me to write 'Leyland Bells' as I sat one summer Sunday afternoon on a highly-raised tomb-stone, with my pocket-book in hand; the call 'to penitence and prayer' was being beautifully rung out, and the sight of each rural worshipper wending his way beneath the archway of God's temple of grace, inspired me with feelings of enthusiasm seldom surpassed."

THE COLLEGE YOUTHS AT ST. MICHAEL'S, SITTINGBOURNE, KENT.

On Saturday, September 20th, by invitation, four members of the "Ancient Society" visited Sittingbourne, also Mr. Simmonds, of Maidstone. All being prepared, the five visitors and three of the local company started at once for a 5040; all went even and well for 2 hrs. and 5 mins., when a mistake occurred. This is the longest length ever rung in the district since the days of "Border Union Youths," early in the century.

During the whole of Sunday good touches of Treble Bob Major and Triples were rung in good style, and with great advantage to local practitioners, all of whom rang in a touch with the visitors at one or other time. It will be remembered this ring has recently been made into eight. The time and hot weather have not greatly retarded the progress made here in ringing, the only difficulty found is that the members are seldom able to all meet at the same time.

Like life and all things here below,
Your joyous notes must change,
When sorrows' customs shade you all,
And gloomy funerals range.
Deeply your music floats along,
And you become as sad,
As but, perchance, a day ago
You were with joy all glad.

Ye seem to say to all around,
"Prepare for death—prepare;"
For life is short, and joy is short,
O, sons of men, beware;
The world is empty, you will learn,
If here your musing come;
You will the deeper story read
Of worlds beyond the tomb.

Of have I roam'd in years gone by
Within death's still retreat,
How oft the table-tomb I've made
My muse's favourite seat;
And wrapt in fancy's purer realm,
How often in my mind
I've seen the forms of those I knew,
With character combined.

They've heard the same sweet tuneful bells,

Which I so love to hear,
And oft attended to their call
And join'd in praise and prayer.
But O, they'll do it never more;
Fresh generations may;
And soon of them nought shall remain,
For they must pass away.

No music can those deaf ears wake,
That fill each lonely bed;
No bells, however sweet they sound,
Can wake the silent dead.
Ring on, ring on, ye bonny bells,
Ye cheer man's passage through
To realms of light! ill on him fall
Who dares to injure you.

Though I may travel far away
From this my native place,
Still in my memory I shall turn,
And these fair scenes retrace.
I still shall have a feeling strong
For thee, my birth-place dear,
And hope at last to lie at rest
In haunts at least as fair.

And Leyland bells shall ring as now,
But I shall hear no more
That melody which in my life
I almost did adore.
O, may far nobler minstrels yet
Here their delightful theme,
And, weaving better strains than mine,
The muse from scorn redeem.

"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.

Everything for insertion in this Journal to be addressed "The Editor of THE BELL NEWS, Walthamstow, London." Letters forwarded for publication, and performances under 5000 changes must reach us not later than Wednesday morning; and the insertion of any communication coming later than the first Postal delivery on Thursday morning cannot be guaranteed in that week's number. When it is found impossible from want of space to insert all touches forwarded, the earlier ones will have the preference.

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.

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

To prevent disappointment, the Editor requests that stamps for extra copies of this paper may be sent direct to the Publisher.

The Bell News & Ringers' Record.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 27, 1884.

In this part of our paper some weeks ago, in referring to the advisability of inducing the several railway companies to give extra facilities, by way of reduced fares, to members attending the various meetings of their respective Associations, we offered to make such application to the railway people if any of our friends desired it. Our communications with more than one company have been successful in procuring cheap rates on such occasions as we are referring to, but there appears to be one particular feature in connection with the granting of reduced fares which requires adjustment. The railway companies, on the whole, it should be known, are not averse to granting the privilege of reduced fares to ringers on any special occasion, providing a warranty is given that only ringers or those interested in the particular meeting, take advantage of such privilege. This seems only reasonable, and it therefore remains for some intelligent member of the Exercise to point out how this little difficulty—for difficulty it is—can be overcome.

Now we wish it to be clearly understood that what we have to say in the matter must only be taken as suggestions. No doubt the ingenuity of many of our friends will find out a better solution of the question than we can. One plan of obtaining a ringer's ticket is to show to the booking clerk the receipt sent by the Secretary of the Association for payment of the subscription; and this seems in fact the only way possible, unless members were to carry their certificates with them, which in some cases would necessitate the employment of a light porter. But suppose a member, say of the Oxford Guild wishes to attend a meeting of the Essex Association. If he does not belong to the latter body, he has no document to show from the Secretary. It is to meet cases of this kind that we think arrangements should be made. As the periodical meetings of the various ringing Associations become more

attended, the boon for cheap travelling facilities will be more in demand, and the railways become more awake to the desirability of protecting themselves against attempts at what they are apt to think imposition.

Whether it would be a good plan to have a card printed for this purpose, to be sold at a trifling cost to every ringer who applied for the same, is a point we have been led to consider. Such a voucher as this could be issued by the respective Secretaries to any who are known to be interested in bells and ringing, whether ringers or not, and whether belonging to an Association or not. This voucher should be uniform throughout the country, and in force for one year. We only mention these ideas in the hope they may be improved upon. That something ought soon to be done in the matter is becoming every day more apparent. Perhaps it is hardly necessary to add, that all the assistance we can give will be readily afforded.

STOKE-UPON-TRENT ARCHIDIACONAL ASSOCIATION.

The second Annual Meeting of this Association was held at Stoke, on Saturday, September 20th, and was attended by about forty members, representing the belfries of Norton-le-Moors, Stoke, Leek, Wolstanton, Uttoxeter, Tunstall, Burslem and Lawton. The Revs. H. Abud, R.D., vicar of Uttoxeter, O. W. Steele, vicar of Wolstanton, H. Walsham How, curate of Stoke, and Charles Challinor, Esq., of Basford Hall, honorary members, were also present. The chair was taken at 3 p.m., in the church room, by the Ven. Sir L. T. Stamer, Bart., Archdeacon, and Rector of Stoke, and President of the Association. The Secretaries' report was read by the Rev. T. H. Fearon. It stated that out of forty-three towers in the Archdeaconry seventeen were now enrolled in the Association, Keele and Kingsley having withdrawn in course of the year. The number of the ringing members is 127, and of Honorary members 31. Greater attention to real change-ringing was urged, and a removal of the childish jealousy which sometimes retards progress in a belfry. The ringers of Norton, Leek, Cheddleton, Wolstanton, and Biddulph had specially distinguished themselves, as the columns of "THE BELL NEWS" had witnessed. The use of qualified instructions was much to be desired. The report concluded by congratulating the Association on the fact that good work was being done especially in the way of Belfry Reform, and appealed to clergy and churchwardens to take a more lively interest in the ringers and their Association. The Treasurer reported that there was over £10 in hand. The Rev. T. H. B. Fearon resigned his post of Clerical Secretary, and the Rev. H. Walsham How was appointed as his successor. All the other officers were re-elected. At 4 o'clock a service was held in the parish church, at which a most admirable address on "Belfry parables" was given by the Rev. J. J. Serjeantson, Rector of St. Michael's, Lichfield. Being a skilled ringer, his remarks were most telling. The address is to be printed and circulated among the members. After service, tea was served at 6d. a head in the schoolroom, at the close of which, votes of thanks were passed to Mr. Serjeantson for his address, and to Mr. Fearon for his past services as Hon. Clerical Secretary. The rest of the evening was spent in ringing. N.B.—A Ringing Meeting will be held at Horton, on Saturday next, and at Stoke on Saturday, October 4th. The address of the new Clerical Secretary is, Woodhouse Terrace, Stoke-upon-Trent.

H. WALSHAM HOW, } Hon. Secs.
ENDON GLOVER, }

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

A QUARTERLY MEETING of this Association will be held at Nottingham, on Saturday, October 4th, 1884. The following towers will be open for ringing from 1.30 p.m., viz.: St. Peter's, eight bells; All Saints', eight bells; Beeston, eight bells; Lenton, six bells. Friends on arrival are requested to proceed to St. Peter's schoolroom, Broad Marsh, off Carrington Street (on the way from the station), where the local committee will be in attendance, to assist in forming bands for ringing. Committee Meeting in All Saints' schoolroom at 4.0 p.m. Tea in the Aboretum Refreshment Room, at 5.0 p.m. Tickets 1s. 6d. each. General Meeting immediately afterwards.

The Midland Railway Company will run cheap excursions to Nottingham on the above day, from Derby, Burton, Long Eaton, Loughborough, and other places. For particulars see the Company's handbills.

The Provinces.

BURTON-ON-TRENT, STAFFORDSHIRE.
THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION, AND THE
ST. PAUL'S SOCIETY.

On Thursday, September 18, 1884, in Three Hours and Four Minutes,
AT ST. PAUL'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
BROOK'S VARIATION. Tenor 26 cwt.

THOMAS MEREDITH Treble.	JOHN JAGGAR 5.
EDWARD ISAAC STONE 2.	THOMAS HOLMES 6.
ARTHUR WAKLEY 3.	WILLIAM WAKLEY 7.
JOSEPH GRIFFIN 4.	REV. JAMES H. FISH .. Tenor.

Conducted by JOSEPH GRIFFIN.

COLWALL, HEREFORDSHIRE.

On Thursday, September 18, 1884, in Two Hours and Forty-eight Minutes,
AT THE PARISH CHURCH OF ST. JAMES THE GREAT,

5040 CHANGES: ON FIVE BELLS;
Being 10 6-scores of Grandsire; and 32 of Extreme Doubles.
Tenor 15 cwt. in G.

W. KNOTT Treble.	J. T. HORTON 4.
A. F. M. CUSTANCE 2.	E. J. BEATLEY 5.
REV. G. M. CUSTANCE .. 3.	C. PEDLINGHAM Tenor.

Conducted by W. KNOTT.

KENNINGHALL, NORFOLK.

THE SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS, AND
THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Friday, September 19, 1884, in Three Hours and Three Minutes,
AT ST. MARY'S CHURCH,

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

CHARLES HOPKINS Treble.	ROBERT HUTTON 5.
HENRY HOPKINS 2.	JOHN WOODS 6.
EDWARD CHAPMAN 3.	ERNEST PITSTOW 7.
ARTHUR JACOB 4.	GEORGE NEWSON Tenor.

Composed by HENRY DAINS, and conducted by GEORGE NEWSON.

MANCHESTER.

On Saturday, September 20, 1884, in Three Hours and Forty-four Minutes,
AT THE CATHEDRAL,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS, 6012 CHANGES;
Tenor 25 cwt. in Eb.

JOHN EDWARD POLLITT .. Treble.	JAMES THORPE 6.
GEORGE E. TURNER 2.	†ALBERT EDWARD WREAKS 7.
THOMAS HEALD* 3.	GEORGE MEE 8.
SAMUEL WEST 4.	JOHN EACHUS 9.
JOSEPH GRIMSHAW 5.	HENRY MEE Tenor.

Composed by ROBERT WILLIAMS, of Liverpool, and conducted
by ALBERT EDWARD WREAKS.

*First peal in the method. †College Youth.

The above peal was taken from "THE BELL NEWS" of September 6th, 1884, and
this is the first time of its being rung. T. Heald is a member of the St. Philip's
Society Hulme, Manchester, the rest belong to the Cathedral Society.

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE, LANCASHIRE.

On Saturday, September 20, 1884, in Three Hours and Twelve Minutes,
AT ST. PETER'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
THURSTANS' COMPOSITION. Tenor 20 cwt.

WM. SMITH Treble.	BENJAMIN BROADBENT .. 5.
JOHN HOPWOOD 2.	JOHN THORP 6.
JAMES WOOD, JUN. 3.	SAMUEL WOOD 7.
JOSEPH MELLOR 4.	ALBERT ADAMS Tenor.

Conducted by SAMUEL WOOD.

The above is the first peal in the method by all the band, and is the first peal of
Stedman ever rung in Ashton-under-Lyne.

HINGHAM, NORFOLK.

THE SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS, AND
THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, September 20, 1884, in Three Hours and Fourteen Minutes,
AT ST. ANDREW'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;
IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 18 cwt. in F.

HENRY HOPKINS Treble.	EDWARD CHAPMAN 5.
CHARLES HOPKINS 2.	ARTHUR JACOB 6.
ROBERT HUTTON 3.	JOHN WOODS 7.
ERNEST PITSTOW 4.	GEORGE NEWSON Tenor.

Composed by NATHAN J. PITSTOW, and Conducted by
GEORGE NEWSON.

This is the first peal of Kent Treble Bob on the bells, also the first peal for upwards
of forty years.

NORWICH.

THE SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS,
THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION, AND
NORWICH SCHOLARS.

On Monday, September 22, 1884, in Three Hours and Thirty-three Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER MANCROFT,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB ROYAL, 5040 CHANGES;
IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 41 cwt. in C.

GEO. NEWSON Treble.	EDWARD CHAPMAN 6.
CHARLES HOPKINS 2.	FREDK. KNIGHTS 7.
HENRY HOPKINS 3.	JAMES SKINNER 8.
PHILIP SADLER 4.	CAPTAIN A. P. MOORE .. 9.
ARTHUR JACOB 5.	GEORGE SMITH Tenor.

Composed by HENRY DAINS, and conducted by
GEORGE NEWSON.

The figures of this peal will be found in "THE BELL NEWS," vol. 1, page 387. It
is Captain Moore's first peal on ten bells.

THE (LONDON) ST. JAMES'S SOCIETY.

FAVERSHAM, KENT.

On Monday, September 22, 1884, in Three Hours and Three Minutes,
AT ST. MARY'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
HOLT'S ORIGINAL. Tenor 20 cwt. in E.

CAPTAIN W. WOOD Treble.	RICHARD FRENCH 5.
JAMES R. HAWORTH 2.	HENRY G. FAIRBRASS .. 6.
GEORGE STANCOMBE 3.	*SAMUEL SNELLING 7.
FREDERICK G. NEWMAN .. 4.	*EDWARD CROSOER Tenor.

Conducted by RICHARD FRENCH.

*First peal.

Fifty-eight years have elapsed since a peal was rung on these bells, the last being
a peal of Grandsire Triples by the Canterbury Cathedral society, on Whit-Monday,
1826.

Date Touch.

BOLTON (Bradford, Yorks).—On Sunday, September 21st, at St.
James's church, for Divine Service in the morning, a date touch of
1884 changes of Bob Triples, in 1 hr. 10 mins. B. F. Lamb, 1; R. S.
Ambler, 2; R. Tuke, Esq., 3; G. Titterington, 4; B. Sugden, 5; B.
T. Copley, (conductor), 6; S. Palframan, 7; W. Barraclough, 8.
Composed by T. Lockwood, of Leeds.

Miscellaneous.

THE SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.

FULMER (Berks).—On Saturday, September 20th, at the parish
church, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor, in 23 mins. J. Mansfield,
1; J. Nelms, 2; J. Rogers, 3; H. Randall, 4; W. Doran, 5; H.
Dains (conductor), 6. This was rung in commemoration of the
dedication of the bells, being the opening day. Also a 720 of Plain
Bob Minor, in 24 mins., by the same band, conducted by W. Doran.
Tenor 7½ cwt in A.

ASSOCIATION FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.

SHENSTONE (Staffordshire).—On Saturday, September 20th, eight members of the above Association visited this place, with the intention of ringing Mr. Thomas Day's six-part peal of Grandsire Triples, but after ringing five parts, 4200 changes, in 2 hrs. 28 mins., a shift course brought the peal to grief. J. Hickling (Burton), 2; H. Meacham (Lichfield), 2; J. Key (Lichfield), 3; A. Greenwood (Lichfield), 4; G. Robinson (Burton), 5; T. Meredith (Lichfield; conductor), 6; J. Walker (Burton), 7; W. Orme (Burton), 8. Tenor 13½ cwt. in F.

THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

TURVEY (Beds).—On Saturday, September 20th, several members of the above Association visited Turvey, and by the kind permission of the Rector, the Rev. G. F. W. Munby, rang a 720 of Woodbine Treble Bob Minor in 29 mins. M. Warrick, 1; F. M. Smith (son of the Vicar of Bromham), 2; J. Atkins, 3; J. Frossell, 4; C. W. Clark (conductor), 5; I. Hills, 6. First in the method by all. Also a 720 of Grandsire Minor in 27 mins. F. Keech, 1; *F. M. Smith (conductor), 2; C. West, 3; J. Atkins, 4; I. Hills, 5; J. Frossell, 6. The Rector very kindly invited the ringers to the rectory to partake of refreshment, which was very much appreciated, and they take this opportunity of heartily thanking him for his kind hospitality, and also for the use of the bells. *First time as conductor.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

JARROW.—On Thursday, September 18th, for practice at Christ Church, a 720 of Bob Minor, in 26 mins. W. Pawson, 1; R. Willins, 2; J. McGoun, 3; A. Sharpe, 4; H. Ross, 5; F. Harrison (conductor), 6. Williams, McGoun and Ross hail from North Shields, F. Harrison from St. Peter's, Jarrow.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

BOXLEY (Kent).—On Saturday, September 13th, seven members of the above Association paid a visit to this place, and rang a 720 of Grandsire Minor. J. Constable, 1; W. Elliott, 2; J. Horton, 3; R. Simmonds, 4; A. H. Woolley, 5; H. Pearce (conductor), 6. Also another 720. H. Pearce (conductor), 1; J. Constable, 2; J. Horton, 3; R. Simmonds, 4; J. Fergusson, 5; A. H. Woolley, 6.

BOOTLE (Lancashire).—On Thursday, September 18th, at Christ Church, the following company rang a 720 of Grandsire Minor, with forty bobs and eight singles, in 27 mins. R. Barton, 1; C. E. Wilson (conductor), 2; E. Yates, 3; W. Rushton, 4; T. Woodward, 5; J. Bradshaw, 6. Composed by Mr. J. J. Parker, of Farnham Royal. Also 144 of Kent Treble Bob Minor. E. Yates, 1; A. S. Barrell, 2; C. E. Wilson, 3; W. Rushton (conductor), 4; R. Barton, 5; J. Bradshaw, 6.

BROMLEY (Kent).—On Saturday, September 20th, a company of ringers from Greenwich, Lewisham, Chislehurst and Bromley, attempted a peal of Grandsire Triples, Taylor's bob and single variation, at the church of SS. Peter and Paul, but after ringing 3120 changes in 1 hr. 50 mins., but unfortunately came to grief through a shift course. James Golds, 1; Thomas Dwiling, 2; George French, 3; Charles English, 4; Frederick William Thornton, 5; George Shepherd, 6; Abraham George Freeman (conductor), 7; William Henry Freeman, 8.

CRAYFORD (Kent).—On Sunday, September 14th, being the Harvest Festival at St. Paulinus, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor was rung on the back six, in 25 mins. E. Saxby, 1; G. Conyard, 2; C. Hammant, 3; J. Saxby, 4; F. M. Jacobs, 5; F. French (conductor), 6.

HIGHER SUTTON (Cheshire).—On Wednesday, September 3rd, for practice at St. James's Church, a 720 of Grandsire Minor, in 27 mins. W. Ingham, 1; Wm. Kenny, 2; Chas. Bamford, 3; J. M. Davenport, 4; Wm. Walmsley (conductor), 5; Thos. Mottershead, 6. Also on Sunday, September 21st, at the same church, a 720 of Grandsire Minor in 26 mins. Alfred Lawton, 1; Thos. Mottershead, 2; Wm. Kenny, 3; J. M. Davenport, 4; Wm. Walmsley (conductor), 5; W. Ingham, 6. This is the first 720 for the treble man, who rang it at the first attempt, having never rung any changes before. Both these 720s were called with forty-four bobs and four singles, and were two compositions of Mr. J. J. Parker, of Farnham Royal. Tenor 12 cwt. in G.

LONDON.—On Sunday, September 14th, at St. Clement Danes, Strand, for Divine Service in the morning, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 48 mins. Geo. McLaughlin (conductor), 1; W. Chew, 2; H. Langdon, 3; W. Jones, 4; J. Smith, 5; M. Murphy, 6; Edward Rogers, 7; E. Albone, 8. The above was rung as a compliment to the Rector, who returned to town during the week. Also for Divine Service in the evening, a 649 of Grandsire Caters. G. Cleale, 1; W. Chew, 2; H. Langdon, 3; W. Fussell, 4; G. McLaughlin, 5; R. French (conductor), 9; J. Smith, 7; M. Murphy, 8; Alfred Thomas, 9; T. Coxhead 10. Mr. J. Smith hails from Bath, Mr. A. Thomas from Birmingham.

NUTFIELD (Surrey).—On Monday, September 8th, the local company rang a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor. C. Sendall, 1; *T. Boniface, 2; J. Burkin, 3; *W. Hawkins, 4; *J. Tidey, 5; W. Burkin (conductor), 6. Tenor 13 cwt. *First 720 in the method. [This report has been accidentally overlooked.—ED.]

PRESTON (Suffolk).—On Sunday, September 21st, a 720 of Bob Minor. Arthur Symonds (conductor), 1; William Hollocks, 2; Alfred Hollocks, 3; Percy Scott, 4; Philip Bixby, 5; Abraham Long, 6.

SPALDING (Lincolnshire).—On Sunday, September 21st, being the Harvest Thanksgiving at SS. Mary and Nicholas, for early celebration, a 720 of Plain Bob, with thirty bobs and two singles. Also for second service, a 360 of London Single. Also for evening service a 504 of Oxford Treble Bob, with five bobs. And after Service, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob, with nine bobs. J. Wilson, 1; J. S. Wright, 2; G. L. Richardson, 3; R. Mackman, 4; E. Brown, 5; J. Brown, 6. Conducted by R. Mackman.

THE ROYAL CUMBERLANDS AT FULMER, BERKS.

On Saturday afternoon last, September 20th, this picturesque village was visited by a party of the above society for the purpose of opening a ring of bells which have just been augmented from four to six by Messrs. Warner and Sons, of the Crescent Foundry, Cripplegate, the whole cost of the work being defrayed by Major Gaskell, formerly a resident of this village.

The Vicar (Rev. C. Joyce) arranged the dedication service, which commenced at three o'clock, a great number of the clergy from neighbouring villages assisting. The sermon was preached by the Rev. — Mayo, of Uxbridge, and taking as his text the 4th verse of the sixth Psalm, founded thereon a short but practical discourse. During the service the bells were rung for a short time, and the special hymn, commencing as below, was sung by the congregation:—

Lifted safe within the steeple,
Now our bells are set on high,
To fulfil their sacred mission,
Midway 'twixt the earth and sky.

The service being concluded, some Grandsire and Stedman Doubles, and a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor, conducted by Mr. John Nelms were rung. Messrs. Dains and Mansfield then paid a visit to the vicarage, where they were introduced to the Vicar by Mr. George Dunn, foreman of the works. The rev. gentleman then asked for the names of the ringers, the bells they rung, and other particulars, for the purpose of affixing a tablet to the walls of the church, to commemorate the day's proceedings. He was pleased with a course of Caters upon the handbells, rung with good effect beneath a tree in the romantically-situated little churchyard, by Messrs. Dains, Randall, Nelms, Rogers, and Mansfield. The Vicar subsequently took his place at the head of the supper-table, and prefaced the saying of grace by some apposite remarks, mentioning that the cost of the bountiful repast there provided was defrayed by Major Gaskell. Unfortunately, the Vicar could not stay to sup with the ringers, in consequence of a prior engagement.

After the successful onslaught upon the good things provided, "The Health of the Donor of the Bells" was given, and duly honoured. The company then returned to the tower, and rang upon the bells, particulars of which will be found among the records of performances. Her Majesty's weather prevailed in this lovely neighbourhood, and the charming hills and dales of Berkshire, upon a September afternoon, were enjoyed to the full, especially as the Vicar had thoughtfully provided carriages for the ringers to be conveyed to and fro between Slough railway station and Fulmer village, thus enhancing the enjoyment of the visit. Copies of this paper are to be sent to Fulmer vicarage.

ST. MICHAEL'S CHURCH, GARSTON.

This Church has suffered a great loss in the person of Miss Lightbody, who died September 14th, 1884, aged seventy-eight years, and was interred at St. James's, Liverpool, September 17th. She was the donor of the fine peal of eight bells erected in this tower, and a munificent giver to this church and the various charities. A true and tried friend to ringers generally and the local ringers in particular, who deeply deplore her loss. Part of the service was conducted at this church, and the bells were rung deeply muffled by Messrs. Turner, Newton, Alexander, Weaver, Wright, W. Hughes, and G. W. Hughes. Also a 720 of Grandsire Minor. T. Morris, 1; J. Alexander, 2; C. Newton, 3; W. Weaver, 4; W. Hughes, 5; F. Turner, 6.

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CINQUES.

5004.

By W. L. CATCHPOLE, *Ipswich*.

2 3 1 4 5 6

1 4 2 5 6 3*
 3 6 5 2 4 5 18 19
 4 6 3 2 5 - -
 5 6 4 2 3 - -
 3 6 2 4 5 - -
 5 6 3 4 2 - -
 2 6 5 4 3 - -
 3 6 4 5 2 - -

Thrice repeated produce :-

5 3 6 2 4 5 18 19
 4 2 6 3 5 - -
 5 2 4 3 6 - -
 6 2 5 3 4 - -
 4 2 3 5 6 - -
 6 2 4 5 3 - -
 3 2 6 5 4 - -

3 1 2 5 6 4 17 18

Round by bobs at the 4th, 7th, 8th, 16th, 17th, 19th, 21st, 22nd, 23rd, 25th and 27th sixes.

*Produced by bobs at the 2nd, 5th, 6th, 7th, 16th, 17th, 18th and 19th sixes.

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERS.

5187.

By J. W. WASHBROOK, *Oxford*.

2 3 1 4 5 6 Bob on 7, 8, 9.

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

4 5 16

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

The first ten courses of the second part twice repeated produce 2 3 4 1 6 5, when the following courses complete the peal :-

4 5 16

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

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

A 1/4 PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS.

1296.

By WINGFIELD MEADOWS, *London*.

2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9

3 4 2 5 6 7 8 9⁶
 2 6 3 4 8 5 9 7⁵
 6 3 2 4 8 5 9 7⁶
 4 3 6 5 2 7 8 9⁷

Twice repeated.

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CINQUES.

5060.

By W. L. CATCHPOLE, *Ipswich*.

2 3 4 5 6

5 3 4 2 6 9th in & out at 4 with 2.
 3 5 4 2 6 7th in & out at 2 with 3.
 5 2 4 3 6 7th in four.
 4 5 2 3 6 11th in four.
 2 4 5 3 6 11th in four.
 4 3 5 2 6 7th in four.
 3 2 5 4 6 7th in four.
 5 3 2 4 6 11th in four.
 2 5 3 4 6 11th in four.
 5 4 3 2 6 7th in four.
 4 2 3 5 6 7th in four.
 3 4 2 5 6 11th in four.
 5 4 2 3 6 7th in & out, 5th out at 2 with 2.
 4 3 2 5 6 7th in four.
 2 4 3 5 6 11th in four.
 3 2 4 5 6 11th in four.
 2 5 4 3 6 7th in four.
 5 3 4 2 6 7th in four.
 4 5 3 2 6 11th in four.
 3 4 5 2 6 11th in four.
 4 2 5 3 6 7th in four.
 2 3 5 4 6 7th in four.
 5 2 3 4 6 11th in four.
 3 5 2 4 6 11th in four.

5 3 2 4 6 11th in & out at 2 with 3.

3 4 2 5 6 11th in four.

2 3 4 5 6 7th in four.

4 2 3 5 6 7th in four.

2 5 3 4 6 11th in four.

5 4 3 2 6 11th in four.

3 5 4 2 6 7th in four.

4 3 5 2 6 7th in four.

3 2 5 4 6 11th in four.

2 4 5 3 6 11th in four.

5 2 4 3 6 7th in four.

4 5 2 3 6 7th in four.

Round by bobs at 1, 1, 2, 1, 3, 2, 1.
The above contains the Whittingtons, with the 6th at home thoroughout.

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE MAJOR.

13,440.

By JOHN CARTER, *Birmingham*.

2 3 4 5 6 1 3 4 5 6 7

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

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

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

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

Five times repeated; bob instead of a single at the end of the third and sixth parts. The above contains the 120 course-ends, and is the longest peal with the tenors together without a call at every lead.

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR.

7104.

By A. KNIGHTS, *Chesterfield*.

2 3 4 5 6

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

Twice repeated.

This peal has the 4th, 5th and 6th their extent in 5ths place, and contains the twenty-four 8 4 7's, 8 5 7's, and 8 6 7's.

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS.

5058.

By WINGFIELD MEADOWS, *London*.

2 3 4 5 6

2 3 4 5 6 7th in & out at 3 with a double.
 3 5 4 2 6 8th in three.
 4 3 5 2 6 9th in three.
 5 4 3 2 6 9th in three.
 4 2 3 5 6 8th in three.
 2 5 3 4 6 8th in three.
 3 2 5 4 6 9th in three.
 5 3 2 4 6 9th in three.
 3 4 2 5 6 8th in three.
 4 5 2 3 6 8th in three.
 2 4 5 3 6 9th in three.
 5 2 4 3 6 9th in three.

Three times repeated, but preceded in each instance by a bob at five, produces :-

4 5 3 6 2 9 7 8

from which the following bobs will bring the bells round.

3 2 4 5 7 6 8 9⁵
 5 2 3 6 4 9 7 8⁷
 2 3 5 6 4 9 7 8⁶
 8 9 2 7 6 4 3 5²
 4 7 8 5 9 3 2 6¹
 3 5 4 6 7 2 8 9¹
 9 2 3 8 6 7 5 4²
 7 8 9 4 2 5 3 6¹
 5 4 7 6 8 3 9 2¹
 8 9 5 7 2 4 3 6⁴
 6 4 8 3 7 2 9 5²
 2 3 6 5 4 9 8 7¹
 9 5 2 7 3 8 6 4¹
 4 8 9 6 7 3 5 2²
 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9²

The peals we are requested to prove, if true, will appear on this page. Composers of those productions which do not appear may therefore come to the conclusion that their compositions are false.

A MUFFLED PEAL AT LEWES.

On Thursday evening, September 18th, the Lewes ringers rang a funeral peal on Southover church bells, in memory of their late treasurer, (and for many years previous to his illness their instructor), Mr. John Goldsmith, who was buried that day. The deceased was well known among the ringers of Sussex and Kent, and had the reputation of being a competent half-pull ringer. The funeral peal consisted of a whole pull, rounds, and the tenor tolled a whole pull—the bells being half-muffled. This was done fifty-two times, the number of years of his age, by—B. Burfield (in his 84th year), 1; H. Shoosmith, 2; G. Wren, 3; G. Smith, 4; E. Shoosmith, 5; J. Shoosmith, 6; R. Ince, 7; C. A. Miller, 8. A band who had come down from Brighton then took the ropes and rang an "In Memoriam" touch to one whom they had known and respected. Being short handed they enlisted the services of two friends, and started for a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples. After ringing 33 mins., between 800 and 900 changes, the conductor had to call rounds, owing to a service about to commence in the church. This was a great disappointment to all as the tapping was perfect. W. Bone (Reigate), 1; J. Gasson (Balcombe), 2; H. Boniface, 3; J. Searle (conductor), 4; H. Weston, 5; G. F. Attree, Esq., 6; J. Jay, jun., 7; E. Butler, 8. Tenor 19 cwt. The Brighton ringers really performed a double duty; for on arriving in Lewes they were informed that another ringer, named Samuel Mason, died, and was also buried in Lewes the same day as Mr. Goldsmith. This Mr. Mason some years ago was a member of their own Society.

THE CUMBERLANDS' TOUR.

As our readers will no doubt have gathered from our last number, a party of the Royal Cumberlands are upon a tour in the Eastern Counties, and in addition to the peals they have rang during the past week, the following attempts have been made. At Lavenham, on Thursday, September 18th, after ringing upwards of 3500 changes of Holt's Original, in 2 hrs. 3 mins., the attempt came to grief by the breaking of the 3rd rope. Arthur Symonds (Lavenham), 1; George Newson (conductor), 2; Charles Hopkins, 3; Henry Hopkins, 4; Arthur Jacob, 5; Ernest Pitstow, 6; Edward Chapman, 7; William J. Moore (Lavenham), 8. And at St. Nicholas, Great Yarmouth, on Tuesday, September 23rd, the Royal Cumberlands, the Norwich Diocesan Association, and the Norwich Scholars (united) attempted a peal of Treble Bob Royal, but after ringing 3800 changes, in 2 hrs. 35 mins., it came to grief through one of the ropes slipping wheel. George Newson (conductor), 1; Charles Hopkins, 2; John Fiddament, 3; Henry Hopkins, 4; Philip Sadler, 5; Arthur Jacob, 6; Fredk. Knights, 7; James Skinner, 8; John Smith (Redenhall), 9; George Smith, 10. The party, on coming down from the tower, were congratulated upon their fine striking, the oldest ringer in Yarmouth stating that it was the best heard there for more than forty years.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

LYMINGE (Kent).—On Saturday evening, September 13th, at the parish church of SS. Mary and Eadburgh, a 720 of Plain Bob Minor, with eighteen bobs and two singles, in 30 mins. Alfred Beer, 1; Richard Andrews, 2; Thomas Beer, 3; James Andrews, 4; William Fordred, jun., 5; Albert Tanton (conductor), 6. This is the first 720 of Minor ever rung on these bells by all local ringers. This tower contains a splendid ring of six, tenor 18½ cwt in F. It was in 1809 when a new treble bell was added, and the old peal of five rehung, which was completed in 1810, by T. Mears and Son, Bellfounders of London. Since that time Lyminge has been able to boast of her bells, but not of her ringers, as there has never been known any thing but call changes to have been rung here till the last eighteen months, when a young band was formed who has made great progress in the art.

INAUGURATION OF A NEW PEAL-BOARD.

On Thursday evening, September 18th, at St. Luke's Church, Derby, a mixed band of members of the Midland Counties' Association and St. Luke's Society, rang a ¼-peal of Grandsire Triples, 1260 changes, in 51 mins. J. Howe, 1; T. Bancroft, 2; S. Price, 3; J. Newbold, 4; A. B. Ward, 5; F. Sefton, 6; G. Lee (conductor), 7; H. Longdon, 8. Tenor 33½ cwt. This was performed on the occasion of the erection in the belfry of a tablet recording a full peal comprising 5040 changes in the same method recently rung on the bells.

LEYLAND, LANCASHIRE.

On Saturday, September 20th, the Quarterly Meeting was held at St. James's, when touches were rang by mixed bands from Leyland, Preston, Chorley, Standish, Blackrod, Eccleston and Accrington. The members of St. James's are to be congratulated on ringing their first peal, as the bells were only reopened three months ago, a peal was rung for the first time by John Bowling, John Miller, Richard Bowling and William Nelson, all of St. James's.

HANDBELL RINGING CONTEST.

The 30th annual contest for handbell ringing took place at the Zoological Gardens, Bell Vue, Manchester, on Monday last, the 22nd inst. The weather was very unfavourable, but notwithstanding there was a large attendance of spectators, excursions having been run from all parts for the occasion. There were twenty-four entries, but only twelve bands competed. Mr. C. J. Havart, conductor of the Silver Chimes Carilloneurs, London, and Mr. William Gordon, Professor of Music, Stockport, officiated as judges, and after an interesting contest, in which several of the competing bands were of almost equal merit, gave their award as follows:—

1st prize	... £15, and gold medal	... The Liversedge band.
2nd "	... £10	... The Dewsbury band.
3rd "	... £8	... The Almondbury United band.
4th "	... £5	... The Dalton Victoria band.
5th "	... £4	... Howard Bros. band, Glossop.

Two of the successful bands this year gained prizes at last year's contest—the Dewsbury band being then placed first, and the Dalton Victoria fourth. Rossini's Overture to Cenerentola, and Phillip Fahrbachs' "La Verre en Main" polka, were the pieces selected for each band to play.

Correspondence.

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

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

THE BELLS OF ROYAL SUTTON.

SIR,—It is to be hoped that the correspondence now appearing in our paper on this subject will be the means of warning bell hangers that they will not be allowed to place bells just as they please in towers. I know nothing of the bells at Sutton, only what I have read in the last few numbers of "THE BELL NEWS," but I know that our bells here, which is the chief town in not the largest county of England—were supposed to have been rehung some years ago—but the work was scamped, and bells left, if possible worse than before. The pamphlet entitled "The Management of Bells" speaks against employing local tradesmen, but we should have got on better had our church authorities employed one. On such questions as these ringers should not be afraid to make their voice heard; never mind giving offence to the bellhanger. If he scamps his work show him up, and never mind his bribe to keep quiet. TREBLE BOB.

SUTTON AGAIN.

SIR,—Your correspondent "Change Ringer," in answer to my letter, hits the nail on the head, when he suggests that the bell-hanger should be called upon to ring any bell of moderate weight, which he has recently hung, for several hours, before the work is paid for. This I think is a fine suggestion; and I would strogly recommend all ringers, whenever they know of bells to be rehung, to do their utmost to get a clause put into the agreement with the bell-hanger that he will be required to ring any bell of those he is about to rehang, to a thousand of "Treble Bob," before he is paid for his work. The "several hours" before suggested, would I think be too much to expect—bells when fresh hung often want a little ringing before they go at their best—but if heavy bells can be rung comfortably "for an hour in changes" on the opening day, they will in all possibility, be fit for peal ringing in a very short time. Brother strings, read the above, and act accordingly; depend upon it, if you do, we shall have some rare fun, and occasionally a hot hanger or two at our opening meetings in future, if certain firms don't alter their system considerably. BOB.

FALSE COMPOSITIONS.—Mr. A. J. Perkins, of Romford, writes to say that the quarter-peal, with the twenty-four 6-7's, in a recent number, by Mr. Cattle, is false. There are three successive bobs, which of course, cause a repetition, being the last three bobs which are called. The 6160 of Bob Major, by Mr. Tomlinson, of Leeds, and the last published quarter-peal of Mr. Squires, of Hitchin, are also false.

Correspondence and several other items are unavoidably left over till next issue.

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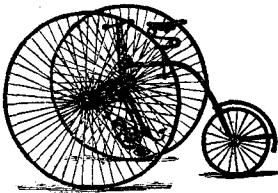
THE MANAGEMENT OF BELLS:

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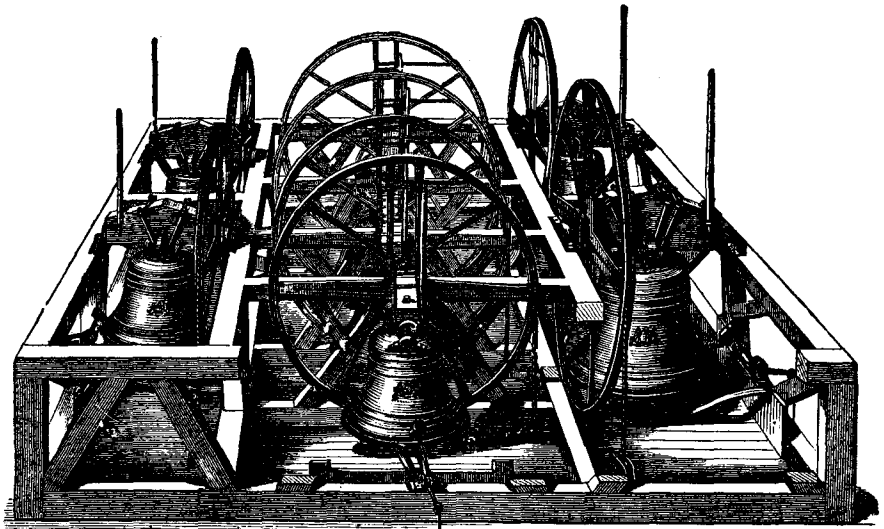
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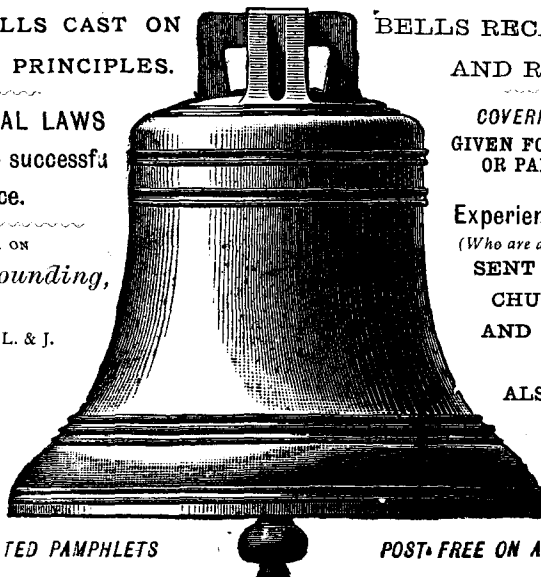
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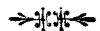
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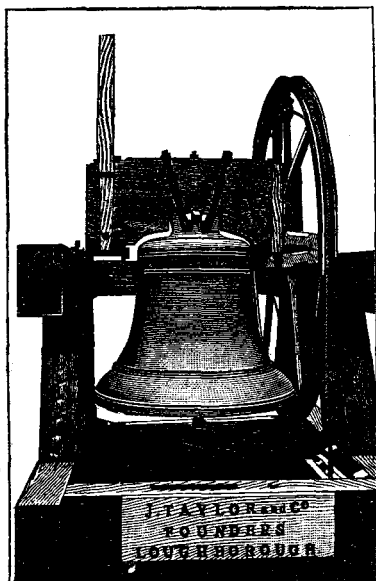
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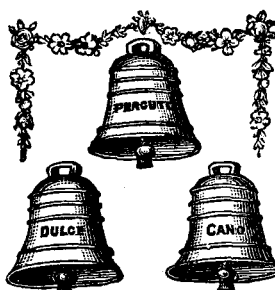
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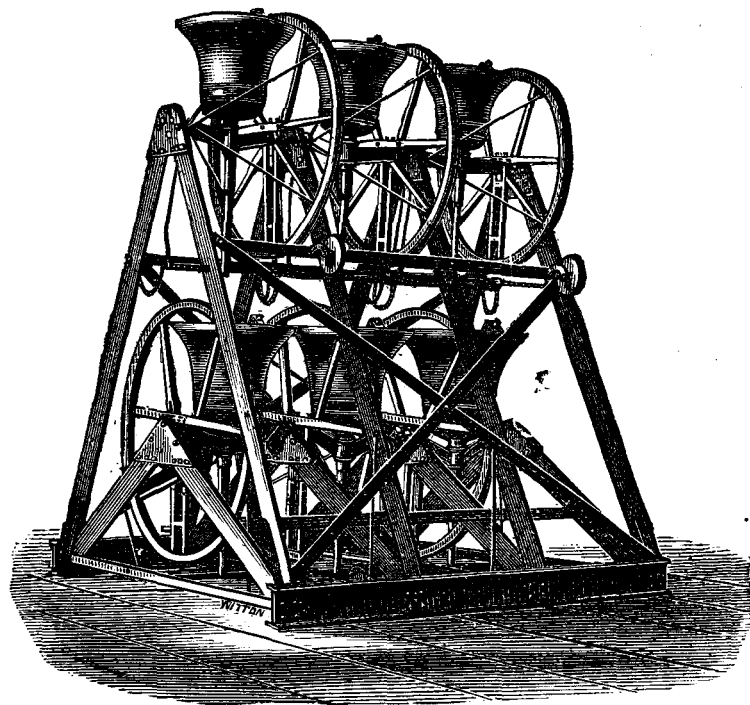
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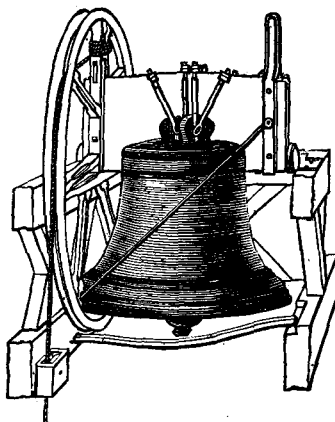
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THE HOLT SOCIETY, ASTON-JUXTA-BIRMINGHAM.

THE QUARTERLY MEETING of the above Society was held last Thursday evening in the vestry of the parish Church, where they were kindly met by the Rev. W. Eliot, Vicar, and Mr. Evans, churchwarden. Previous to the ordinary business, the Rev. W. Eliot, Vicar, was proposed a member by the Secretary, Mr. Thomas J. Hemming, which was seconded and carried unanimously and was also voted to be President of the Society, which was moved by Mr. W. Kent and carried unanimously, and the Rev. President thanked the members and expressed his willingness to do all he could to further the interests of the Society, and at the close of his remarks to shew his desire to be useful, he at once proposed a member, Mr. Evans, churchwarden, which was carried unanimously. Mr. Evans thanked the ringers present, and expressed himself highly satisfied. He then proposed Mr. J. W. Yates, churchwarden, which was seconded by the Vicar, and was unanimously agreed to. After the various explanations of the rules and management of the Society to the newly-elected members, and other business, the question of Sunday ringing was brought forward, and it was ultimately arranged for the bells to be rang for service the first Sunday in every month. The President then closed a most enjoyable meeting.

On Sunday, September 28th, being Harvest Thanksgiving, ringing was continued for each service during the day, previous to which the Vicar met the ringers at 9.45, and gave a short appropriate service before ringing commenced. For Divine Service in the morning, a touch of Grandsire Caters. W. Jones, 1; H. Bastable, 2; T. J. Hemming, 3; B. Mitchell, 4; W. Cartwright, 5; J. Saunders, 6; J. Buffery (conductor), 7; T. Reynolds, 8; C. Stanbridge, 9; W. Kent, 10. Also for afternoon service a touch of Grandsire Triples. W. Cartwright, 1; F. Banks, 2; A. Jones, 3; B. Mitchell (conductor), 4; T. J. Hemming, 5; W. Kent, 6; C. Stanbridge, 7; J. Quarterman, 8. Also for evening service, a touch of Stedman Caters. H. Bastable, 1; A. Jones, 2; T. J. Hemming, 3; W. Cartwright, 4; J. Saunders, 5; W. Kent, 6; J. Buffery, 7; T. Reynolds, 8; C. Stanbridge, 9; A. Thomas, 10. Conducted by H. Bastable. Also a short touch of Grandsire Caters, conducted by J. Buffery.

FESTIVAL AT MENHENIOT, CORNWALL.

A festival was held at Menheniot, on the 2nd ultimo, on the occasion of the opening of the restored bells. The proceedings commenced with a dedication service at 4 o'clock, held in the belfry. A large congregation assembled, and the service (which was identical with that used at St. Paul's Cathedral on the dedication of the renowned big bell lately fixed there), was impressively read by the Dean of Exeter, and the Vicar. The opening touch on the bells was rung immediately on the conclusion of this service by the Menheniot Society, and was continued by bands from the parishes of Lanreath, St. Germans, and Liskeard. At the same time a public tea was held in the schoolroom, and in the evening a full choral service was held, the clergy present being the Very Rev. B. M. Cowie, D.D., Dean of Exeter Cathedral, the Rev. Archdeacon Hobhouse, the Revs. L. Woolcombe (Vicar), D. G. Whitley (Liskeard), J. A. Kempe (St. Breward), E. L. Salisbury (St. Agnes), and J. Pile (curate), the Dean preaching to a crowded congregation from Psalm 122, vi. The offertories amounted to £7. 1s. 11d. The old bells, five in number, were cast by Isaac Pennington in 1739, but they had fallen into a dangerous condition, one being badly cracked. A subscription was opened and responded to by nearly all the residents and landowners of the parish, and the result is that the parish may be congratulated on now having a splendid set of bells, cast by Messrs. Warner and Sons. The work has been most satisfactorily carried out by Mr. Stokes, of Woodbury, Exeter. One bell has been recast, one new bell added, making the peal six, and entirely new framework and fittings supplied throughout. The new bell was procured as a memorial to the late vicar, the Rev. Canon Martin (vicar for upwards of fifty years), and bears his inscription thereon. The cracked bell now recast bears the name of the present vicar, the Rev. W. L. Woolcombe, the churchwardens, R. B. Trant and S. Raby, and the sidesmen, G. Rowe and J. S. Hawker. The weight of the peal as restored is now about two and a half tons.

SHEFFIELD, YORKSHIRE.

On Saturday, September 13th, the ringers of St. John's, Ranmoor, and St. Marie's, Norfolk Row, Sheffield, met on the above date for a game of cricket, which resulted in a victory for the Ranmoor company. After the game was over both parties adjourned to the "Brown Bear," Norfolk Street, where a very substantial dinner was provided. Justice having been done to it, and the cloth removed, Mr. Thomas Hattersley was voted to the chair. Several touches on the handbells were rung by the Sheffield Society. Songs, glees, and recitations were given, and a very enjoyable evening was spent.

THE ST. MARY'S SOCIETY, BATTERSEA.

On Saturday, September 27th, the members of the above Society, in company with a party of friends, enjoyed a very pleasant half-holiday. A trip to Twickenham was arranged, and Eel-Pie Island was visited for the purpose of enjoying a game of quoits. Bell-ringing muscles, strengthened by exercise at the ropes, are well adapted for athletic exercises; but quoits demand something more than mere strength, though that is an essential—dexterity, a good eye for judging distances, and accuracy of aim. The most stalwart man is not necessarily the best quoit player. The old Greek sculptor, whose famous statue of the disc, or quoit thrower, almost lives in the marble at the British Museum, did not give to his graceful figure the thews and sinews of Hercules, but no doubt the club-bearing, large muscle demigod would have been beaten, had he challenged the spare, sinewy disc-thrower to a game. There was an eager spirit of emulation among the players on Saturday; each did his best, and very good that best was in several instances. Hard work, even the hard work of play, as we all know, induces a demand for refreshment; and at half-past six the party sat down to a capital dinner at the "George Hotel." Mr. C. W. Ludwig occupied the chair, faced by Mr. Wells as vice-chairman. The musical efforts, without which no holiday dinner seems to be complete, were well sustained by Messrs. Malim and Porter, and Mr. W. Coppage, who was in excellent voice, sang with his customary success his amusing song; "Butter, Cheese and All." At a reasonable hour, the party returned to town, refreshed by their very enjoyable holiday.

BISHOP CANNINGS, WILTS.

On September 29th, St. Michael and all Angels' day, the church of Bishop Cannings was reopened after being restored at the cost of about £3000. On this occasion, a select band of ringers were engaged for the day, consisting of Messrs. W. Alley, J. Hayward, W. McCaffrey and J. Cooper of Trowbridge, and T. Blackbourn, J. R. Jerram, W. W. Gifford and C. A. Clements of Salisbury. A 1960 of Grandsire Triples was attempted as soon as the party arrived, but after ringing for an hour, the seventh bell, which had been going gradually going worse as the touch proceeded, could not be kept up any longer, and the conductor was obliged to call 'stand.' Several short touches of 336 and 168 were afterwards rung, and the company returned about 7.30 p.m.

WORCESTER DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—HARVEST FESTIVAL AT ALL SAINTS', WORCESTER.

On Sunday morning last, for Divine Service, ten members of this Association, rang at All Saints' Church, a touch of 1151 Grandsire Caters, being the first touch rang with the new ropes, presented by a native of the parish, who is an ardent admirer of the bells. The ropes were manufactured by Mr. Astley, of Coventry, and give very great satisfaction. F. Owen, 1; N. Wale, 2; H. Pheasant, 3; J. Hinton, 4; G. Hobbs, 5; W. Blandford, 6; H. Wilks, 7; J. Reynolds, 8; T. Gwynn, 9; T. Malim, 10. Conducted by H. Wilks. Time 27 mins. Also after evening service, the following rang a touch of Grandsire Triples. J. Clements, 1; F. Owen, 2; N. Wale, 3; G. Hobbs, 4; W. Blandford, 5; J. Reynolds, 6; T. Gwynn, 7; W. Hale, 8. Conducted by W. Blandford.

ST. ALBANS CATHEDRAL SOCIETY.

A Meeting of the above society was held at the Rectory, St. Albans, under the presidency of the Ven. Archdeacon Lawrance, Rector, on Friday, September 26th, when Messrs. W. H. L. Buckingham and H. Stephens were elected members. The desirability of forming a County Association was discussed, and the secretary was instructed to write to each change-ringing company in the county, asking them to send representatives to a meeting to be held at St. Albans on Wednesday, October 29th, for the purpose of forming such an Association for Hertfordshire. On Tuesday, September 30th, for practice, the members rang a 720 of Grandsire Doubles, consisting of six 6-scores, each called differently, in 27 mins. R. A. Fowler, 1; R. T. Kent, 2; E. Hulks, 3; G. W. Cartmel, 4; N. N. Hills (conductor), 5; T. Grant, 6; W. Brown, 7; F. B. Chandler, 8. Tenor about 30 cwt.

A correspondent wishes for any information with respect to the weight of the bells now in the tower of St. Matthew, Hayfield, which were recast by John Rudhall. They were either brought from Marple, Cheshire, or from Stockport. Another correspondent wishes to know the best method of cleaning handbells.

WORCESTER DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, September 13th, eight members of the above Association met at Evesham, and attempted a peal of Grandsire Triples, but after ringing about half an hour, the attempt was abandoned, the back bells going too heavily for peal ringing. E. Crump, 1; J. Perks, 2; —Hayward, 3; W. Duffill, 4; H. Wilks, 5; F. A. P. Knipe, 6; F. E. Dawe (conductor), 7; W. Malim, 8. Touches of Treble Bob and Stedman were afterwards rung, in which Messrs. Phillott and Kearn (Cheltenham), and Messrs. Wathen and Hale (Tewkesbury), took part. Every one was pleased to see Mr. Knipe in the ringing chamber again after an absence of four years. Tenor 32 cwt. in Eb.

A Committee Meeting of the above Society was held on Saturday, September 20th, in the Mission Schoolroom, Halesowen, when the Rector, the Rev. C. C. Nation, presided. A good number of delegates and members were present from Worcester, Bromsgrove, Stourbridge, Brierley Hill, Halesowen, Kidderminster, Dudley, and Netherton. The minutes of the last meeting being read and confirmed, the chairman (who became an Hon. Member) asked what the aims and objects of the Association were, and what benefit local companies would derive from the same. These being explained by the Secretary to the satisfaction of the Chairman, he urged the members of his own church to be re-elected members of the Association. Upwards of twenty members were proposed for initiation from Evesham, Cookley, etc., and other business of the Association transacted. Votes of thanks passed to the Rev. C. C. Nation for presiding, and for the use of the schoolroom and towers, brought the meeting to a close. The members afterwards adjourned to the church, and ascended the tower. The bells, which have recently been rehung, being raised, several touches of Grandsire Triples were rung by mixed companies. A great change has been made in the go of the bells by the rehanging, and the belfry has gone through repair, since the Association paid their last visit to the above place. Still there is ample room for belfry reform here, as in a great many other churches in the Diocese of Worcester belonging to the Association, of which we should be pleased if the clergy would take the same amount of interest in it as they do in the chancel.

ASSOCIATION FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.

A Meeting of the members of this Society was held on Saturday, September 27th, at Burton-on-Trent, the towers of the various churches having been kindly placed at the disposal of the visitors. Representatives of the Society from Tipton, Tamworth, Lichfield cathedral, St. Michael's, Tettenhall, and the parish church, Burton, were present, and some creditable touches were rung, amongst which may be mentioned: some Grandsire Major and Triples, at St. Paul's church, a 720 Grandsire Minor at Winshall, and a short touch of Grandsire Triples at the parish church.

The Rev. J. H. Fish, Vicar, and the Rev. R. W. Pitt, senior curate, and several members of St. Paul's band, made the visitors welcome at their belfry. A short service took place in St. Paul's, when the Rev. J. J. Serjeantson, Rector of St. Michael's, Lichfield, gave an excellent address.

The members had tea together at the Midland Coffee House. The meeting, although a small one, was particularly hearty and pleasant, the remark being made by an old gentleman present that in all his experience as a ringer, for over sixty years, he had never seen such interest taken in ringers and ringing as seemed to be shown in connection with the Society.

Mr. Thomas Stead, of Crosland Moor, Huddersfield, writes: "I had the misfortune not to get my 'BELL NEWS' for nine weeks back till today, and I see in your paper for July 19th, there is a letter on Bell Ringing, taken from the *Cleveland Mercury*, on which you make some comments. Having been a ringer for more than twenty years, and also rung at a great many contests, I can endorse nearly all that the letter says. I have also been a member of the Yorkshire Association seven years, but at the Association Meetings I have never heard any ringing fit for Sunday Service, but at a prize contest I have often heard four or five sets ring so true that it made my hair stand up. You said it did not tend to proficiency in a variety of methods: well let us see, I started in the year 1860, and in one year I could ring almost any method, of course I could not do it alone, so my mates could do it as well, and I have seen three of us pick up six bells, two each, and ring seven different courses. Now for the steeple: in the year 1867, six men entered the tower of Batley parish church, and rung seven different peals without any man calling a bob, every man conducted for himself and every peal conducted by a different bell, and I have known eight men ring a 5000 at Liversedge church tower without a word being spoken from the start to the finish, and I could pick a hundred men in the West Riding who could ring any method, all of them contest men."

EXCURSION TO LONDON.

On Saturday, September 13th, Messrs. S. Reeves, W. Beeson, W. R. Small, T. Horton, H. Hipkiss and C. Price, members of the Christ Church Society, West Bromwich, with Mr. A. Thomas, of Birmingham, took the advantage of an excursion to London, to hear some of the peals of bells in the great city. Leaving Snow Hill Station, Birmingham, at 3 o'clock, and arriving at London at 8 p.m., they made their way to the grand old tower of St. Mary-le Bow, Cheapside, where a party of the Society of College Youths had already assembled to meet them in accordance with previous arrangements by letter. After the usual reception of shaking hands, etc., two courses of Stedman and one of Grandsire Cinques were rung, when the company adjourned to the "Goose and Gridiron," and there refreshed themselves after their journey for the remainder of the evening. On Sunday morning, the party went to St. Matthew's, Bethnal Green, and rang a touch of Stedman Triples. Returning by way of Club Row, Brick Lane, past Spitafields Church, and through that noted thoroughfare known as Petticoat Lane, which caused those of the party that had never visited it before to pause and wonder with astonishment. After partaking of a good substantial dinner, provided for the party by the host of the King's Head, a start was made for St. Paul's Cathedral to hear the grand ring of twelve, a touch of Stedman Cinques being the order. Messrs. S. Reeves, W. R. Small, and A. Thomas were very kindly invited to pull off and take part in it. The bells coming round they were invited to the other tower to see "Great Paul," which they were very much pleased with. In the evening, before service, a party was made up for St. Saviour's, Southwark, and a touch of Grandsire Caters rung, after which the company met at the King's Head, the College Youths' meeting house, and there very pleasantly spent a few hours in looking over the peal records, and other books of the Society. On Monday, a start was made for the Health Exhibition, by way of steam boat from London Bridge to Westminster; taking a glance at the interior of the House of Commons, and Westminster Abbey, as they went along. On leaving the Exhibition, the party took the omnibus to Fulham, and through the very great kindness of the Vicar, the Rev. H. Fisher, were enabled to make an attempt for Holt's ten-part peal of Grandsire Triples, the band being made up by Mr. M. Murphy, late of Birmingham; but after ringing upwards of 3000 changes, the bells were found to be wrong, and so were brought to a stand. The return journey was commenced, and leaving Paddington Station at 12.15 a.m., arrived at West Bromwich at 4.50. The party wish to thank Mr. George Mash for his kindness in making the arrangements for several of the meetings, and likewise all brother members for meeting them and so giving them an opportunity of hearing the different peals of bells.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION OF SIX-BELL RINGERS.

THE usual Quarterly Meeting of the above Association was held in the parish of St. James's, Leyland, on Saturday, September 20th, when upwards of forty members attended. During the afternoon several 720's and touches of Bob Minor were rung by mixed bands from Leyland, Accrington, Blackrod, Chorley, Eccleston, Preston, and Standish, on the bells of St. James's church, to which a new treble has been added, cast by Mears and Stainbank, of London, and opened on the 21st of June last, making them into a splendid peal of six. Since then a local band being formed, they have made great progress, and on Saturday four of them completed their first 720 of Bob Minor in a very creditable manner. Great credit is due to the Leyland parish church ringers for the way they have conducted them. A member from Standish also completed his first 720. The business meeting was held in the schoolroom, when the usual business was transacted, the local band being elected members of the Association. After the meeting the party proceeded to the house of Mr. William Critchley, the "Black Bull" inn, where refreshments were provided, to which ample justice was done. The party broke up shortly before 9 o'clock, having spent a pleasant afternoon.

A RINGER'S EPITAPH IN NUNEATON CHURCHYARD.

"IN memory of David Wheway, who died October 13th, 1828, in his 77th year of his age.

Here lieth an old ringer beneath this cold clay,
Who hath rang many peals both serious and gay,
Through Grandsire and Trebles so well he could range,
Till death called the bob and brought round the last change."

DEATH OF A RINGER.—We regret to hear of the death of Mr. William Smith, member of the Norwich Scholars, who died on Monday, September 29th. We are asked to say that the funeral will take place on Monday, October 6th, in the afternoon. The same evening a funeral peal will be rang at St. Peter Mancroft.

A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH
COURT BOB MAJOR.

5024.

By HENRY DAINS, *Royal Cumberland Youths.*

2 3 4 5 6 I 4 5 6

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

Repeated.

The 6th the extent wrong and right.

TWO PEALS OF BOB MAJOR.

By BENJAMIN FRANCIS, *Diss.*

5376.

2 3 4 5 6 W M H

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

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

6 5 2 4 3 - - -
 2 6 5 4 3 - - -
 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, and the 5th twelve times wrong.

5040.

2 3 4 5 6 W M H

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

Four times repeated.

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS.

5003.

By JOHN CARTER, *Birmingham.*

2 3 4 5 6

6 5 3 2 4*
 4 6 5 2 3 9th in three, s.
 3 4 6 2 5 9th in three, s.
 6 4 5 2 3 M.

4 2 5 6 3 8th in three.
 5 4 2 6 3 9th in three.
 3 5 4 6 2 9th in three, s.
 2 3 5 6 4 9th in three, s.
 5 2 3 6 4 9th in three.
 3 5 2 6 4 9th in three.
 4 3 5 6 2 9th in three, s.
 2 4 3 6 5 9th in three, s.
 3 2 4 6 5 9th in three.
 4 3 2 6 5 9th in three.
 5 4 3 6 2 9th in three, s.
 2 5 4 6 3 9th in three, s.

4 5 3 2 6 1 s and 8 g.
 5 2 3 4 6 8th in three.
 3 4 2 5 6 8th in three, s.
 2 5 4 3 6 8th in three, s.
 5 3 4 2 6 8th in three.
 3 2 4 5 6 8th in three.
 4 5 2 3 6 8th in three, s.
 2 3 5 4 6 8th in three, s.
 3 4 5 2 6 8th in three.
 4 2 5 3 6 8th in three.
 5 3 2 4 6 8th in three, s.
 2 4 3 5 6 8th in three, s.

6 2 4 5 3 9th in three, s.
 5 2 4 6 3 1 s.
 4 5 2 6 3 9th in three.
 3 4 5 6 2 9th in three, s.
 2 3 4 6 5 9th in three, s.
 4 2 3 6 5 9th in three.
 3 4 2 6 5 9th in three.
 5 3 4 6 2 9th in three, s.
 2 5 3 6 4 9th in three, s.
 3 2 5 6 4 9th in three.
 5 3 2 6 4 9th in three.
 4 5 3 6 2 9th in three, s.
 2 4 5 6 3 9th in three, s.

5 4 3 2 6 1 s and 8 g.
 4 2 3 5 6 8th in three.
 3 5 2 4 6 8th in three, s.
 2 4 5 3 6 8th in three, s.
 4 3 5 2 6 8th in three.
 3 2 5 4 6 8th in three.
 5 4 2 3 6 8th in three, s.
 2 3 4 5 6 8th in three, s.
 3 5 4 2 6 8th in three.
 5 2 4 3 6 8th in three.
 4 3 2 5 6 8th in three, s.
 2 5 3 4 6 8th in three, s.
 6 2 5 4 3 9th in three, s.

9th in with a single, and out next lead.

The above contains the 6th twelve times alternately wrong and right, being their extent in that position. *7th in with a single and out at two with a single.

TWO 1/4-PEALS OF GRANDSIRE
TRIPLES.By C. W. CLARKE, *Bedford.*

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

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERS.

6049.

By J. W. WASHBROOK, *Oxford.*

1 2 3 4 5 6*

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

The above eleven courses four times repeated produce:—1 2 3 4 5 6 9 7 8, from which bobs at 1, 5, 11, 12, 13, 14 and 18 bring the bells home. *Bob at starting, start with quick six.

TWO PEALS OF TREBLE BOB
MAJOR.By J. J. BRIERLEY, *Saddleworth.*

5056.

2 3 4 5 6 M B W H

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

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

The last five courses repeated, completes the peal.

5120.

2 3 4 5 6 M B W H

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

These five courses repeated, produces:—

2 5 3 4 6

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

A 1/4-PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES.

1260.

By JOHN HARE, *Hitchin, Herts.*

2 3 4 5 6 7

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

Holt's Single 2 5 3 4 6 7 Part-ends.

2 3 5 4 7 6
 2 5 4 3 7 6
 2 4 3 5 7 6

Holt's Single 2 3 4 5 6 7

Five times repeated.

Call the 3rd and 6th part-ends up with Holt's Single.

"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.

Everything for insertion in this Journal to be addressed "The Editor of THE BELL NEWS, Walthamstow, London." Letters forwarded for publication, and performances under 5000 changes must reach us not later than Wednesday morning; and the insertion of any communication coming later than the first Postal delivery on Thursday morning cannot be guaranteed in that week's number. When it is found impossible from want of space to insert all touches forwarded, the earlier ones will have the preference.

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.

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

Several matters are again unavoidably left over till our next number. This is chiefly owing to the late arrival of correspondence. Great inconvenience was caused last week by the arrival of three peals just as we were going to press, which could well have been sent three days earlier. We dislike having to postpone anything on account of late arrival, because some of our friends, who ought to know us better, judge us sometimes of partiality.

J. BROADLEY.—We are sorry your communication had been overlooked, but we cannot undertake to reply at once to any one; letters are replied to in turn. Write to the secretary of the Surrey Association, whose address will be found on another page.

To prevent disappointment, the Editor requests that stamps for extra copies of this paper may be sent direct to the Publisher.

The Bell News & Ringers' Record.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 4, 1884.

We now and then are favored by a gentleman whose special knowledge entitles him to be known as an antiquarian and an archæologist, with interesting articles about churches, some fast going to decay, some having disappeared altogether, and others possessing peculiar features. This writer has told us what may be seen while other people are handling the ropes, pointing out explorations and discoveries which, especially to churchmen are very interesting. From the nature of the communications of many of our correspondents we think that the lesson intended to be conveyed by the writer in question has not been without fruit.

Some of our friends have recently found a delight in deciphering bell-inscriptions, and have forwarded them to us for publication at the first opportunity. Others describe the prominent architectural features of the churches they have visited, the church-lore of the place, etc. To us such accounts are most interesting, and we think our paper an apt medium for their publication. They should however be concise as well as complete, and perhaps several of our friends who are now dealing with such subjects will take the hint.

We find that our friend Mr. DAWE has been visiting a relic—yet a noble one—of the once-famed Abbey of Evesham. We think his discoveries—for he is of an

antiquarian turn of mind—in connection with this ancient building, would have been quite as interesting to many of our readers as the long account of his journeys with the irrepressible "bit." Perhaps at no distant period we may give an account, with an illustration, of this bell-tower standing in a churchyard on either side of which is a parish church.

That there are many items of interest to be found by ringers in their visits to other places not wholly connected with bells or ringing cannot be denied, and we hope by the assistance of many of our readers, to give chapters on such subjects, and accompanied, when convenient, by an illustration. We number very many of the clergy among our supporters, who could give us much valuable assistance in this as well as in other matters if they would.

THE PROPOSED NATIONAL ASSOCIATION.

It will be within the recollection of our readers, that at the Ringer's Conference at Reading, during the week of the Church Congress last year, a Committee was appointed to frame a scheme for the formation of a National Association of Bellringers, and to send such scheme for the opinion of the various ringing societies hitherto formed. The Committee consisted of the following gentlemen: Rev. F. E. Robinson Rev. R. B. Knatchbull-Hugessen, Captain J. E. Acland-Troyte, C. C. Child, Esq., Rev. Dolben Paul, and Messrs. H. Johnson, Pettit, and Nelms. A meeting of this Committee was held early this year, at which a draft scheme was drawn up, which has since been laid before most of the existing Guilds and Associations throughout the country. Of twelve answers which have been received, eight were favourable to the formation of such a National Association, but suggest slight alterations in the proposed rules; while four think it unnecessary or premature. We give publicity to the draft scheme, in order that the subject may be thoroughly discussed before any further step is taken by the Committee in the matter.

DRAFT SCHEME.

I.—NAME.

The National Association of Bell-ringers.

II.—OBJECT.

- (1) To connect existing Bell-ringing Associations.
- (2) To hold an Annual Meeting.
- (3) To collect and publish information of interest to the Exercise.
- (4) To offer advice in all matters connected with Belfries and Belfry Reform.

III.—MANAGEMENT.

The Management of the Association to be vested in a President, Master, Secretary (who shall also act as a Treasurer), and Council.

IV.—MEMBERSHIP.

Existing Associations to join by payment of an Annual Subscription, and appointment of a representative member on the Council. Individuals to join on payment of an entrance fee only, having been proposed and seconded by two members. The Annual payment for Guilds and Associations to be in proportion to their number—say (10 per cent.). The entrance fee for individuals to be 5s.

V.—ANNUAL MEETING.

To consist of:—(1) Church Service; (2) Lecture; (3) Dinner; (4) Ringing, one steeple being set apart for a previously selected band. (5) Arrangements to be made for peal ringing in the neighbourhood on days immediately preceding and following the Annual Meeting.

VI.—LOCAL COMMITTEE.

The Council will select the place of Annual Meeting, and will be prepared to receive invitations from places where a Local Committee can be formed to arrange details.

Signed, F. E. ROBINSON, C. C. CHILD, J. E. ACLAND-TROYTE, R. KNATCHBULL-HUGESSEN, DOLBEN PAUL.

THE ST. MARY'S SOCIETY, EASTBOURNE.

On Monday, September 22nd, at St. Mary's church, 518 Grandsire Triples was rung with the bells half-muffled, as a token of respect to the late Mr. Geo. Vine, a much respected and useful member. On Thursday evening, September 25th, at Christ Church, two of St. Mary's ringers, and three of Christ Church, with Mr. Comb, of Hampstead, rang six 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles, each called differently. Also a 6-score by all Christ Church ringers, very fairly struck, being their first 6-score without assistance, the band having only been formed a short time. Also a course of Grandsire Minor, by two of St. Mary's and four of Christ Church. On Friday, September 26th, at St. Mary's, several touches of Grandsire Triples, Mr. Comb taking part. And on September 27th, several of the St. Mary's company, with Mr. Comb, and one from Christ Church, went to Hailsham, where there is a nice ring of five. A slight disadvantage was experienced at first, through the bells hanging the opposite way, but after a short touch all went well, and six 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles were rung. The local ringers showed great courtesy, many years having elapsed since change-ringing has been performed on the bells.

The Provinces.

GLOSSOP, DERBYSHIRE.

THE GLOSSOP JUNIOR SOCIETY.

On Saturday, September 20, 1884, in Three Hours and Seven Minutes,

AT ALL SAINTS' CHURCH,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 15 cwt.

SAMUEL HARROP Treble.	CHARLES BROOKE 5.
FRANCIS LEES 2.	ROBERT WINTERBOTTOM .. 6.
WILLIAM HARROP 3.	SAMUEL KNOTT 7.
HENRY COOPER 4.	JOHN PYE, JUN. Tenor.

Composed by the late EDWARD HOYLE, of Hyde, Cheshire, and Conducted by SAMUEL KNOTT.

First peal by all but F. Lees, who hails from Newcastle-on-Tyne, but formerly of Glossop, and it is upwards of 23 years since he rung a peal here.

It is also worthy of note to mention that all the above but the second man only commenced to learn to ring in December last, but under the able guidance of Mr. Jas. Woodhouse, they have made wonderful progress.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—BEVERLEY.

On Monday, September 22, 1884, in Three Hours,

AT ST. JOHN'S MINSTER,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S TEN-PART. Tenor 29 cwt. in D.

JOHN W. STICKNEY Treble.	FRANK DRABBLE 5.
WILLIAM SOUTHWICK 2.	JAMES DIXEY 6.
ROBERT CHAFFER 3.	FRANCIS E. DAWE 7.
HENRY JENKINS 4.	CHARLES BENNETT Tenor.

Conducted by FRANCIS EDWARD DAWE.

The conductor hails from London, the rest from Hull.

THE SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS AND THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

REDENHALL, NORFOLK.

On Wednesday, September 24, 1884, in Three Hours and Seventeen Minutes,

AT ST. MARY'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 24 cwt. in F.

GEORGE NEWSON Treble.	WILLIAM MATHEWS 5.
ARTHUR JACOB 2.	THOMAS TAYLOR 6.
CHARLES HOPKINS 3.	PHILIP SADLER 7.
HENRY HOPKINS 4.	JOHN SMITH Tenor.

Composed and conducted by GEORGE NEWSON.

Mr. Sadler hails from Norwich, Mathews and Smith from Redenhall, the rest from London.

EYE, SUFFOLK.

THE SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS AND THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Thursday, September 25, 1884, in Three Hours and Fourteen Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF SS. PETER AND PAUL,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 22 cwt.

HENRY HOPKINS Treble.	THOMAS TAYLOR 5.
GEORGE DAY 2.	CHARLES HOPKINS 6.
PHILIP SADLER 3.	ARTHUR JACOB 7.
JOHN SMITH 4.	GEORGE NEWSON Tenor.

Composed by NATHAN J. PITSSOW, and Conducted by GEORGE NEWSON.

Mr. Smith hails from Redenhall, Sadler from Norwich, Day from Eye, the rest from London.

CODDENHAM, SUFFOLK.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Friday, September 26, 1884, in Two Hours and Fifty-nine Minutes,

AT ST. MARY'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 16 cwt.

GEORGE NEWSON Treble.	HENRY HOPKINS 5.
EDGAR PEMBERTON 2.	WILLIAM MOTTS 6.
CHARLES HOPKINS 3.	ARTHUR JACOB 7.
CHARLES MEE 4.	JOHN SMITH Tenor.

Composed by HENRY DAINS, and conducted by GEORGE NEWSON.

The above is a two-part peal and is without a call at the middle. Messrs. Pemberton, Motts and Mee hail from Ipswich, Smith from Redenhall, and the rest from London.

LONG EATON, DERBYSHIRE.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION AND THE LONG EATON SOCIETY.

On Friday, September 26, 1884, in Three Hours and One Minute,

AT ST. LAWRENCE'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5120 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 11 cwt in G.

WILLIAM GRICE Treble.	JOHN CHARLES DICKEN .. 5.
RICHARD HICKTON 2.	WILLIAM GILSON 6.
GEORGE BRADLEY 3.	JOSEPH BARROW 7.
SAMUEL CLARKE 4.	ARTHUR WIDDOWSON .. Tenor.

Conducted by ARTHUR WIDDOWSON.

The above peal (composer unknown), is in five parts, and was the first ever rung in England by the Union Scholars, in the year 1718.

THE ST. GEORGE'S SOCIETY, HYDE.

LEEK, STAFFORDSHIRE.

On Saturday, September 27, 1884, in Three Hours and Seventeen Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5120 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 18½ cwt.

JAMES SHAW Treble.	JOHN A. FILDES 5.
JAMES S. WILDE 2.	SAMUEL BRADLEY 6.
THOMAS BRADLEY 3.	WILLIAM GREENLEAF .. 7.
THOMAS WILDE 4.	JOHN THORP Tenor.

Composed and Conducted by JOHN THORP.

Mr. Greenleaf, who hails from Stoke-upon-Trent, has just returned the bells at the above church. Mr. Thorp hails from Ashton-under-Lyne. This is the first peal of Treble Bob on the bells.

Date Touch.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

ILKLEY.—On Sunday, September 28th, at All Saints' church, a date touch of 1884 changes of Bob Triples, in 1 hr. 13 mins. S. Critchley, 1; F. Pell, 2; James Wood, 3; John Wood, 4; Ed. Snowdon, 5; A. Critchley, 6; Joe Beauland (conductor), 7; W. Beauland, 8. Composed by Tom Lockwood.

Miscellaneous.

THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

BIDDENHAM (Beds).—On Friday, September 26th, six members of the above Association rang a 720 of Bob Minor, with four bobs and fourteen singles, in 27 mins. W. West, 1; C. West, 2; C. W. Clarke (conductor), 3; M. Warrick, 4; F. M. Smith, 5; I. Hills, 6.

BROMHAM (Beds).—On Sunday, September 28th, being the Harvest Thanksgiving at St. Owen's church, six members of the above Association rang for service, a 720 of Grandsire Minor, with thirty-eight bobs and twenty-two singles, in 28 mins. T. Tysoe, 1; F. M. Smith, 2; C. West, 3; W. King, 4; C. Stafferton, 5; C. W. Clarke (conductor), 6. Also after service, a 720 of Oxford Bob Minor, in 28 mins. The ringers standing as before, conducted by C. W. Clarke.

WOBURN (Beds).—On Saturday, September 27th, a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob Minor, in 28 mins. F. M. Smith, 1; C. W. Clarke (conductor), 2; C. West, 3; J. Atkins, 4; W. Chibnall (first 720 in the method), 5; I. Hills, 6. Also a 720 of Plain Bob, with eighteen bobs and two singles, in 24 mins. F. M. Smith, 1; C. West, 2; W. Chibnall, 3; C. W. Clarke (conductor), 4; J. Atkins, 5; I. Hills, 6.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

JARROW-ON-TYNE.—On Saturday, September 27th, at Christ Church, a 720 of College Single in 25 mins. A. English, 1; *R. Willins, 2; R. Oliver, 3; A. Sharpe, 4; *J. McGoun, 5; F. Harrison (conductor), 6. Messrs. Willins and McGoun hail from North Shields. *First 720. Tenor 17 cwt.

STOCKTON-ON-TEES.—On Wednesday, September 24th, this branch rang its first 720 of York Surprise. G. J. Clarkson (conductor), 1; J. T. Burdon, 2; H. E. T. Glover, B.A., 3; W. Stephenson, 4; T. Stephenson, 5; W. Newton, 6.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, September 20th, a special service was held in St. Paul's church, Walkden, at 4 p.m., for the dedication of a new east window. A 720 of Bob Minor was rung before service, in 26 mins. W. Baker, 1; E. Cash (conductor), 2; J. Worthington, 3; J. Welsby, 4; J. Brookes, 5; A. Potter (first 720), 6. Also 720 of Bob Minor, after service, in 26½ mins. E. Cash, 1; C. Cash, 2; J. Worthington, 3; J. Welsby (conductor), 4; J. Brookes, 5; W. Denner, 6. Tenor 10½ cwt. First 720 in the method by C. Cash with a bob bell. E. and C. Cash are Eccles ringers.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

IPSWICH (Suffolk).—On Saturday, September 27th, twelve members of the above attempted a peal of Kent Treble Bob Maximus, but after ringing 1 hr. 14 mins. it suddenly came to grief through the 6th rope breaking. Charles Hopkins, 1; Isaac Alexander, 2; Charles Mee, 3; William Motts, 4; Edgar Pemberton, 5; Arthur Jacob, 6; William L. Catchpole, 7; Robert Brundile, 8; James Motts, 9; Samuel Tillet, 10; Henry Hopkins, 11; George Newson (conductor), 12. Tenor 32 cwt.

STOKE-UPON-TRENT ARCHIDIACONAL ASSOCIATION.

NORTON (Staffordshire).—On Thursday, September 25th, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor, in 28 minutes. W. Holdcroft, 1; W. H. Armitt (Leek), 2; J. Moreton, 3; J. W. Brought, 4; G. Walker, 5; J. Baddeley (conductor), 6. Also a 720 of Bob Minor, in 27½ mins. J. Baddeley, 1; W. H. Armitt (Leek), 2; J. Morton, 3; J. W. Brought, 4; W. Greenleaf (Stoke), 5; G. Walker (conductor), 6.

ASPLEY GUISE (Beds).—On Tuesday evening, September 23rd, for practice, a 720 of Bob Minor, eighteen bobs and two singles in 26 mins. Geo. Usher, 1; Charles Herbert (Woburn), 2; W. Chibnall, 3; J. Carwell-Cooke, 4; *Mark Lane (conductor), 5; Walter Costin, 6. Five of the above are members of the newly formed Aspley Guise society. *First time of calling.

BALCOMBE (Sussex).—On Sunday, September 21st, being Harvest Thanksgiving, the following ringing was done by the local company: For morning service, three 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles. R. Bourne, 1; C. Gasson, 2; J. Cheeseman, 3; J. Kenward, 4; H. Meads (conductor), 5; J. Richardson, 6. Also three more 6-scores. H. Meads, 1; C. Gasson, 2; J. Cheeseman, 3; J. Kenward, 4; J. Gasson (conductor), 5; J. Richardson, 6. Also for evening service, a 360 of Oxford Single Bob Minor, with nine bobs. J. Cheeseman, 1; C. Gasson, 2; H. Meads, 3; H. Chapman, 4; E. Streeter, 5; J. Gasson (conductor), 6. Also three 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles. R. Bourne, 1; E. Streeter, 2; J. Cheeseman, 3; H. Meads, 4; J. Gasson (conductor), 5; J. Richardson, 6. Also after evening service, a 720 of Oxford Single Bob Minor, in 26 mins. J. Cheeseman, 1;

C. Gasson, 2; H. Meads, 3; J. Kenward, 4; E. Streeter, 5; J. Gasson (conductor), 6. Called with eighteen singles and three bobs. And a 360 in the same method, standing as before, with R. Bourn at the treble, this being his first touch in the method.

BATLEY CARR (Yorkshire).—On Friday, September 26th, for practice, a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob Minor, with fifteen bobs, in 29 mins. John H. Scott, 1; J. W. Simon, 2; Geo. H. Simon (conductor), 3; W. H. Stead, 4; Herbert Senior, 5; Alfred Mitchell, 6. Tenor 12 cwt.

BIRCHINGTON (Isle of Thanet, Kent).—On Wednesday evening, September 24th, at the Waterloo tower, Quex Park, the seat of Squire Cotton, two 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles, each called different. *G. Cain (Margate), 1; W. G. Biggs (conductor, Bedford), 2; T. Reed (Birchington), 3; *F. Carroway (Margate), 4; *J. Rumbold (Margate), 5; S. Fulcher (Westgate), 6. *First 720.

BLACKBURN (Yorkshire).—On Saturday, September 20th, a 720 of Grandsire Minor, with thirty eight bobs and twenty two singles, in 27½ mins. R. J. N. Parker (conductor), 1; Edward Horsefield, 2; Jno. Sanderson, 3; Jos. Ainsworth, 4; Jno. Walker, 5; Jas. Smith, sen. (first 720 in the method), 6. Also a 720 of Plain Bob, with fourteen bobs and two singles, in 26½ mins. R. J. N. Parker (conductor), 1; W. Slater, 2; Jno. Sanderson, 3; W. Clarke (first 720 in the method), 4; Jno. Walker, 5; Jas. Smith, sen., 6. A 720 of Kent Treble Bob was attempted, but at the last bob, however, two of the bells changed places, and after ringing the next three leads when rounds should have come a stand was called. J. Slater, 1; Edward Horsfield, 2; Jno. Sanderson, 3; Jos. Ainsworth, 4; R. J. N. Parker (conductor), 5; Jas. Smith, 6. Also on Saturday, September 27th, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 45 mins. R. J. N. Parker (conductor), 1; E. Horsefield, 2; J. Sanderson, 3; J. Ainsworth, 4; R. Lund, 5; W. Clark, 6; J. Walker, 7; Jas. Smith, sen. 8. And on Monday, September 29th, a touch of 1848 Grandsire Triples, from Taylor's six-part. R. J. N. Parker (conductor), 1; W. Slater, 2; E. Horsefield, 3; J. Ainsworth, 4; J. Sanderson, 5; W. Clark, 6; J. Walker, 7; S. Aldritch, 8. Tenor 16½ cwt. Time 1 hr. 10 mins.

FARNHAM ROYAL (Bucks).—On Sunday morning, September 28th, being the Harvest Festival, for Divine Service, a 720 of Oxford Bob Minor, in 27 mins. J. Basden, 1; J. Parker, 2; A. Fussell, 3; A. Batten, 4; W. Fussell, 5; C. Clarke, 6. And several 120's of Doubles. For afternoon service, three 120's of Grandsire Doubles, Mr. H. Laffin, of Lower Norwood, taking part. And in the evening, a 420 of Bob Minor. G. Basden, 1; H. Laffin, 2; J. Parker, 3; J. Basden, 4; A. Fussell, 5; W. Fussell, 6. Mr. Laffin could not stop for the 720, as he had to catch the train. Also a 720 Grandsire Minor, with 42 bobs and 10 singles, in 26 mins. C. Chapman, 1; J. Parker, 2; J. Basden, 3; C. Clarke, 4; A. Fussell, 5; W. Fussell, 6. And a 720 of Bob Minor, with 34 bobs and 6 singles, in 26½ mins. G. Basden, 1; W. Fussell, 2; A. Fussell, 3; J. Parker, 4; J. Basden, 5; C. Clarke, 6. Tenor 12 cwt. 1 qr. 16 lbs. The whole of the ringing was conducted, and the last two 720's, which are in two parts, were composed by J. Parker. E. Batten and T. Brown also took part in the ringing.

GARGRAVE (Yorkshire).—On Sunday, September 28th, for Divine Service in the morning at St. Andrew's church, a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob Minor, with twelve bobs. W. Wray, 1; W. Clark, 2; W. Whitaker, 3; H. Middlebrook, 4; C. Langstroth (conductor), 5; J. McKell, 6. Also for Divine Service in the evening, Mr. J. J. Parker's three-part composition of Bob Minor, with twenty-four bobs and eighteen singles. W. Wray, 1; H. Middlebrook, 2; Harry Birtwhistle, 3; Henry Birtwhistle, 4; C. Langstroth, 5; J. McKell (conductor), 6. Also on Monday, September 29th, for practice, 120 of Bob Doubles. J. Wane, 1; W. Clark, 2; W. Whitaker, 3; W. Walker, 4; J. McKell, 5. Also 120 of Bob Doubles. J. McKell, 1; J. Wane (first 720 with a bob bell), 2; H. Middlebrook, 3; W. Whitaker, 4; C. Langstroth, 5. Tenor 16 cwt.

GLOSSOP (Derbyshire).—On Thursday evening, September 18th, at All Saints' church, the senior society, with Mr. F. Lees, formerly of Glossop, but now of Newcastle-on-Tyne, rang a 1600 of Kent Treble Bob Major. J. Lawton, 1; Jos. Robinson, 2; John Harrop, 3; F. Lees (conductor), 4; James Sellers, 5; Samuel Knott, sen., 6; Wm. Sandam, 7; John Payne, sen., 8. And on Saturday, September 20th, the above band attempted a peal, but after ringing little more than an hour, came to grief. After which, the 4th man determined to have a peal, went in with the junior society and gained his desire, particulars of which will be found on another page.

ICKLEFORD (Herts).—On Monday, September 14th, at the parish church, the Hitchin company rang a 6-score of Grandsire Doubles. J. Randall, 1; A. Squires, 2; W. A. Tyler, 3; J. Hare, 4; W. Allen (conductor), 5. Tenor 11 cwt.

RAUNDS (Northamptonshire).—On Saturday, September 27th, at St. Peter's church, a 720 of Yorkshire Court Bob Minor, with eighteen bobs and two singles. G. Kirk, 1; W. J. Gilbert, 2; W. Hall, 3; H. Stubbs, 4; J. Willmott, 5; F. Gilbert (conductor), 6. Also a 120 of Kent Treble Bob Minor. A. Coles, 1; W. J. Gilbert, 2; R. Pendered, 3; W. Hall, 4; J. Willmott, 5; H. Stubbs, 6.

RINGSTEAD (Northants).—On Monday, September 29th, a 360 of Plain Bob Minor, with nine bobs. W. J. Gilbert (conductor), 1; J. Groom, 2; A. Arnold, 3; H. Groom, 4; A. Groom, 5; T. Roberts, 6. Also a 360 of London Single, with nine bobs. W. J. Gilbert (conductor), 1; J. Braybrook, 2; A. Arnold, 3; E. Mayes, 4; A. Groom, 5; T. Roberts, 6. Messrs. Groom and A. Arnold hail from Denford.

ROMFORD (Essex).—*Handbell Ringing.*—On Saturday evening, September 20th, 720 of Bob Minor, eighteen singles and three bobs, 5th the observation. J. Keeble (aged 12), 1; W. Nash, 2; A. J. Perkins, 3-4; B. Keeble, 5-6.

STRADBROKE (Suffolk).—On Saturday evening, September 27th, at the parish church, a mixed band rang a 1056 of Plain Bob Major, in 44 mins. C. Bullen (Stradbroke), 1; T. Taylor (London), 2; R. Taylor (Wilby), 3; J. Kable (Stradbroke), 4; E. Collins (Worlingworth), 5; D. Collins (Worlingworth), 6; W. Richers (Fressingfield; conductor), 7; R. Routh, jun. (Horham), 8. This touch was rung to oblige Mr. Taylor, it being the first time he rung on the bells since the two trebles were put up, which have made them a very grand peal. Tenor about 23 cwt. in Eb.

SPALDING (Lincolnshire).—On Sunday, September 28th, at the church of SS. Mary and Nicolas, a 720 of Oxford Bob, with eighteen bobs and two singles. T. Measures, 1; E. Brown, 2; J. Wilson, 3; R. Mackman (conductor), 4; J. S. Wright, 5; J. Brown, 6.

WORLINGWORTH (Suffolk).—On Sunday, September 28th, for Divine Service in the morning, a 360 of Oxford Treble Bob Minor. E. Collins (conductor), 1; T. Taylor (London), 2; R. Collins, 3; R. Routh, sen., 4; R. Routh, jun., 5; D. Collins, 6. Tenor 14 cwt. in G.

WILBY (Suffolk).—On Sunday, September 28th, at St. Mary's church, for Divine Service in the evening, a 360 of Oxford Treble Bob Minor. D. Collins (conductor), 1; George Day (Eye), 2; R. Taylor, 3; T. Taylor, 4; R. Routh, jun., 5; E. Collins, 6. Also after evening service, a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob Minor, in 26 mins. D. Collins (conductor), 1; R. Routh, sen., 2; R. Taylor, 3; T. Taylor, 4; R. Routh, jun., 5; E. Collins, 6. Tenor 18 cwt. in F.

TROWBRIDGE (Wilts).—On Saturday, September 27th, at St. James's church, 854 Grandsire Triples. W. Alley (conductor), 1; *C. A. Clements, 2; *W. W. Gifford, 3; J. Hayward, 4; W. McCaffrey, 5; *T. Blackburn, 6; *J. R. Jerram, 7; J. Cooper, 8. Also 111 and 112 in the same method, conducted by W. McCaffrey. Tenor 23 cwt. *College Youths.

EASTERN COUNTIES' GUILD.

The above Association held their first regular meeting on Saturday September 27th, at Terrington St. Clement. There was a good muster of members present, and a very pleasant and profitable day was spent. Ringing by permission of the Vicar, the Rev. M. Crosse, and under the direction of Dr. Seccombe one of the vice-presidents of the Guild, was commenced at 12.30, and between that and 2.30, several touches in the methods named below were rung on the six bells of that church. At 2.30, a meeting of the members was held, at which four new companies, viz: Terrington St. Clement, Walpole St. Peter, Tydd St. Mary, and Holbeach were enrolled, and two skilled members and six probationers, and several honorary members were elected. It was resolved to hold the next regular meeting at Lynn, on or about the first Saturday in December. On the conclusion of the business, the members sat down to an excellent tea, after which they proceeded by coach to Walpole St. Peter, where they received a hearty welcome from the Rector, the Rev. P. S. Bagge, and found the bells in excellent order. The ringing during the day was comprised of the following methods: Kent Treble Bob, Plain Bob, and Bob Doubles.

THE SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.

The audit of this Society took place at 54, St. Martin's Lane, on Friday, September 19th. The accounts were audited by Messrs. Fussell and Gardom, and proved to be very satisfactory, showing this Society to be flourishing both financially and numerically. Mr. A. H. Gardom was elected to the chair; Mr. H. Randall as Steward; Treasurer Baron and Secretary Dains being re-elected. Members who intend being present at the Annual Feast will do well to announce such intentions to the officers at once and oblige.

147, Barnsbury Road, N.

Hon. Sec.

THE COX JUBILEE FUND.

Already acknowledged	£71	1	7
From a Friend in the country	1	1	0
Total	£72	2	7

NEW EIGHT-BELL METHODS.

Mr. D. SCHOLEFIELD, Huddersfield, sends the following new methods for insertion. We have also some for six bells sent by the same correspondent, which shall appear in another number.

SOMERSETSHIRE	WARWICKSHIRE	DEVONSHIRE	DERBYSHIRE
Treble Bob.	Treble Bob.	Treble Bob.	Treble Bob.
1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8
2 1 3 4 5 6 7 8	2 1 3 4 5 6 7 8	2 1 3 4 5 6 7 8	2 1 3 4 5 6 7 8
1 2 4 3 5 6 7 8	1 2 4 3 5 6 7 8	1 2 4 3 5 6 7 8	1 2 4 3 5 6 7 8
2 1 4 3 5 6 7 8	2 1 4 3 5 6 7 8	2 1 4 3 5 6 7 8	2 1 4 3 5 6 7 8
1 2 3 4 5 6 8 7	1 2 3 4 5 6 8 7	1 2 3 4 5 6 8 7	1 2 3 4 5 6 8 7
2 1 3 4 5 6 8 7	2 1 3 4 5 6 8 7	2 1 3 4 5 6 8 7	2 1 3 4 5 6 8 7
1 2 3 4 5 7 6 8	1 2 3 4 5 7 6 8	1 2 3 4 5 7 6 8	1 2 3 4 5 7 6 8
2 1 3 4 5 7 6 8	2 1 3 4 5 7 6 8	2 1 3 4 5 7 6 8	2 1 3 4 5 7 6 8
1 2 3 4 5 8 6 7	1 2 3 4 5 8 6 7	1 2 3 4 5 8 6 7	1 2 3 4 5 8 6 7
2 1 3 4 5 8 6 7	2 1 3 4 5 8 6 7	2 1 3 4 5 8 6 7	2 1 3 4 5 8 6 7
1 2 3 4 6 5 7 8	1 2 3 4 6 5 7 8	1 2 3 4 6 5 7 8	1 2 3 4 6 5 7 8
2 1 3 4 6 5 7 8	2 1 3 4 6 5 7 8	2 1 3 4 6 5 7 8	2 1 3 4 6 5 7 8
1 2 3 4 6 5 8 7	1 2 3 4 6 5 8 7	1 2 3 4 6 5 8 7	1 2 3 4 6 5 8 7
2 1 3 4 6 5 8 7	2 1 3 4 6 5 8 7	2 1 3 4 6 5 8 7	2 1 3 4 6 5 8 7
1 2 3 4 6 7 5 8	1 2 3 4 6 7 5 8	1 2 3 4 6 7 5 8	1 2 3 4 6 7 5 8
2 1 3 4 6 7 5 8	2 1 3 4 6 7 5 8	2 1 3 4 6 7 5 8	2 1 3 4 6 7 5 8
1 2 3 4 6 7 8 5	1 2 3 4 6 7 8 5	1 2 3 4 6 7 8 5	1 2 3 4 6 7 8 5
2 1 3 4 6 7 8 5	2 1 3 4 6 7 8 5	2 1 3 4 6 7 8 5	2 1 3 4 6 7 8 5
1 2 3 4 7 5 6 8	1 2 3 4 7 5 6 8	1 2 3 4 7 5 6 8	1 2 3 4 7 5 6 8
2 1 3 4 7 5 6 8	2 1 3 4 7 5 6 8	2 1 3 4 7 5 6 8	2 1 3 4 7 5 6 8
1 2 3 4 7 5 8 6	1 2 3 4 7 5 8 6	1 2 3 4 7 5 8 6	1 2 3 4 7 5 8 6
2 1 3 4 7 5 8 6	2 1 3 4 7 5 8 6	2 1 3 4 7 5 8 6	2 1 3 4 7 5 8 6
1 2 3 4 7 6 5 8	1 2 3 4 7 6 5 8	1 2 3 4 7 6 5 8	1 2 3 4 7 6 5 8
2 1 3 4 7 6 5 8	2 1 3 4 7 6 5 8	2 1 3 4 7 6 5 8	2 1 3 4 7 6 5 8
1 2 3 4 7 6 8 5	1 2 3 4 7 6 8 5	1 2 3 4 7 6 8 5	1 2 3 4 7 6 8 5
2 1 3 4 7 6 8 5	2 1 3 4 7 6 8 5	2 1 3 4 7 6 8 5	2 1 3 4 7 6 8 5
1 2 3 4 7 8 5 6	1 2 3 4 7 8 5 6	1 2 3 4 7 8 5 6	1 2 3 4 7 8 5 6
2 1 3 4 7 8 5 6	2 1 3 4 7 8 5 6	2 1 3 4 7 8 5 6	2 1 3 4 7 8 5 6
1 2 3 4 8 5 6 7	1 2 3 4 8 5 6 7	1 2 3 4 8 5 6 7	1 2 3 4 8 5 6 7
2 1 3 4 8 5 6 7	2 1 3 4 8 5 6 7	2 1 3 4 8 5 6 7	2 1 3 4 8 5 6 7
1 2 3 4 8 5 7 6	1 2 3 4 8 5 7 6	1 2 3 4 8 5 7 6	1 2 3 4 8 5 7 6
2 1 3 4 8 5 7 6	2 1 3 4 8 5 7 6	2 1 3 4 8 5 7 6	2 1 3 4 8 5 7 6
1 2 3 4 8 6 5 7	1 2 3 4 8 6 5 7	1 2 3 4 8 6 5 7	1 2 3 4 8 6 5 7
2 1 3 4 8 6 5 7	2 1 3 4 8 6 5 7	2 1 3 4 8 6 5 7	2 1 3 4 8 6 5 7
1 2 3 4 8 6 7 5	1 2 3 4 8 6 7 5	1 2 3 4 8 6 7 5	1 2 3 4 8 6 7 5
2 1 3 4 8 6 7 5	2 1 3 4 8 6 7 5	2 1 3 4 8 6 7 5	2 1 3 4 8 6 7 5
1 2 3 4 8 7 5 6	1 2 3 4 8 7 5 6	1 2 3 4 8 7 5 6	1 2 3 4 8 7 5 6
2 1 3 4 8 7 5 6	2 1 3 4 8 7 5 6	2 1 3 4 8 7 5 6	2 1 3 4 8 7 5 6
1 2 3 4 8 7 6 5	1 2 3 4 8 7 6 5	1 2 3 4 8 7 6 5	1 2 3 4 8 7 6 5
2 1 3 4 8 7 6 5	2 1 3 4 8 7 6 5	2 1 3 4 8 7 6 5	2 1 3 4 8 7 6 5
1 2 3 4 8 7 8 5	1 2 3 4 8 7 8 5	1 2 3 4 8 7 8 5	1 2 3 4 8 7 8 5
2 1 3 4 8 7 8 5	2 1 3 4 8 7 8 5	2 1 3 4 8 7 8 5	2 1 3 4 8 7 8 5
1 2 3 4 8 8 5 6	1 2 3 4 8 8 5 6	1 2 3 4 8 8 5 6	1 2 3 4 8 8 5 6
2 1 3 4 8 8 5 6	2 1 3 4 8 8 5 6	2 1 3 4 8 8 5 6	2 1 3 4 8 8 5 6
1 2 3 4 8 8 6 5	1 2 3 4 8 8 6 5	1 2 3 4 8 8 6 5	1 2 3 4 8 8 6 5
2 1 3 4 8 8 6 5	2 1 3 4 8 8 6 5	2 1 3 4 8 8 6 5	2 1 3 4 8 8 6 5
1 2 3 4 8 8 7 5	1 2 3 4 8 8 7 5	1 2 3 4 8 8 7 5	1 2 3 4 8 8 7 5
2 1 3 4 8 8 7 5	2 1 3 4 8 8 7 5	2 1 3 4 8 8 7 5	2 1 3 4 8 8 7 5
1 2 3 4 8 8 8 5	1 2 3 4 8 8 8 5	1 2 3 4 8 8 8 5	1 2 3 4 8 8 8 5
2 1 3 4 8 8 8 5	2 1 3 4 8 8 8 5	2 1 3 4 8 8 8 5	2 1 3 4 8 8 8 5

An exact 5040 can be got on any of the above four methods, without curtailing a lead.

D. SCHOLEFIELD.

ROCHDALE, LANCASHIRE.

On Monday, September 22nd, the ringers of the Rochdale parish church rang several touches of Grandsire Triples, on the occasion of the marriage of Mr. Henry Brierley to Miss Elizabeth Alice Wrigley, both of Rochdale. The ceremony was performed by the Rev. Canon Maclure, M.A., Vicar of the above church, and was witnessed by some four or five thousand people. Amongst the touches that were rung in the morning was a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples. F. Birtwistle, 1; J. T. Lucas, 2; John Hoggard, 3; Jno. Geo. Holt, 4; W. Siddell, 5; Albert Hurst (President of the Rochdale and District Association, conductor), 6; Geo. Hoyle, 7; E. J. Stephenson, 8. In the afternoon another quarter-peal in the same method (the composition of Mr. A. Squires, of Hitchin, Herts.), was rung. Jno. Siddell, 1; J. T. Lucas, 2; Jno. Hoggard, 3; B. Meadowcroft, 4; W. Siddell, 5; Albert Hurst, 6; F. Birtwistle (conductor), 7; E. J. Stephenson, 8. In the evening another quarter-peal (the composition of H. J. Tucker, of Bishops Stortford), was attempted, but came to grief towards the close. The ringers were stationed as in the morning, the conductor being Geo. Hoyle.

THURLOXTON, SOMERSET.—A treble has recently been added to the four bells here, the old treble recast, after remaining crazed many years. Tenor about 10 cwt. The peal of five was opened on Sunday, September 14th, being the Harvest Festival, by some local ringers. The new bells bear on them, besides the names of the rector, churchwardens, etc., the motto "Ad gloriam Dei."

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

A QUARTERLY MEETING of this Association will be held at Nottingham (to-day), Saturday, October 4th. The following towers will be open for ringing from 1.30 p.m., viz.: St. Peter's, eight bells; All Saints', eight bells; Beeston, eight bells; Lenton, six bells. Friends on arrival are requested to proceed to St. Peter's schoolroom, Broad Marsh, off Carrington Street (on the way from the station), where the local committee will be in attendance to assist in forming bands for ringing. Committee Meeting in All Saints' schoolroom, at 4.0 p.m. Tea in the Aboretum Refreshment Room, at 5.0 p.m. Tickets 1s. 6d. each. General Meeting immediately afterwards.

The Midland Railway Company will run cheap excursions to Nottingham, from Derby, Burton, Long Eaton, Loughborough, and other places. For particulars, see the Company's handbills.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

The next Quarterly District Meeting of the above Association will be held at Tetbury, on Monday, October 20th. Divine Service will be held at the parish church at 11 a.m.; Dinner at the "White Hart" at 1 p.m. A conveyance will meet the 9.58 train at Nailsworth, which will convey members to and from Tetbury at 1s. per head. The Upton St. Leonard's-cum-Barnwood band will represent the Association on this occasion. PITT EYKYN, Hon. Sec.

THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

THE next Quarterly meeting of this Association will be held at Dorking (by the kind permission of the Vicar), on Monday, October 13th. The tower will be open for ringing in the afternoon and evening. There will be a tea in the Church Room close to the Church, at 5.30, and business meeting immediately afterwards. It is requested that all who intend to be present at the tea, will send in their names to the hon. secretary by Thursday evening, October 9th, at the latest, as it is necessary to know how many to provide for. The tea will be free to all ringing members who send in their names; all others 1s. 6d. Any ringers will be welcome. ARTHUR B. CARPENTER, Hon. Sec.

34, Dingwall Road, Croydon, September 30th, 1884.

Correspondence.

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

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

MR. CONYARD'S 720.

SIR,—I do not write this letter for the purpose of pulling Mr. Clarkson or Mr. Conyard to pieces, but to try and correct if possible, the one, and encourage the other. Now if Mr. Clarkson will call Violet on, off, and off, the slow in front twice repeated, he will be able to produce a 720 without the tenors coming up the wrong way behind, when the treble is on the full lead, and the "Duke of York" can be called the same way with the same result. In regard to Mr. Conyard, I commend him for trying to produce a 720 different from the usual way of calling, but it is always preferable to produce the tenors the right way behind, and I hope this may encourage him to try again. The words "common," and "rubbish," have been used very much lately, but if old practitioners were only to think that they were learners themselves at one time, they would show a little sympathy to those who are trying to learn the art of change-ringing, and not call methods "common" and "rubbish," because they are simple and easy to learn, but to look upon them as stepping-stones to the more difficult methods.

S. HAMMOND.

SIR,—I have read with pleasure the recent correspondence regarding Mr. Conyard's 720 of Bob Minor, and agree with "Mulum in Parvo" and Mr. Clarkson, in condemning any composition bringing up the tenors the wrong way, in such a simple method, where there is such an extensive choice of peals, but I certainly cannot agree with the latter in condemning such sound methods as Violet and Duke of York as "absolute rubbish." The music of a peal is certainly to be considered, but I think that is not the only recommendation of a method, as were it so, only one or two simple methods would be practised, and the science would become stationary. To those who are interested in six-bell ringing, there can be nothing more pleasing, in my opinion, than in ringing one of the above peals, the intricacy and ingenuity of the method being the great attraction to the ringers, especially when compared to the everlasting Kent or Plain Bob, the slight blemish in the music in the case of Duke of York being comparatively trifling. I am under the impression, however, that Violet, when called on the tenor, in, out, out, will be found to run perfectly

true throughout, never bringing up the tenors wrong at back-stroke. Duke of York does not bring the tenors wrong at the treble lead ends, but three times in the 720 they come wrong at the treble dodging lead, this 720 being called the same as Violet. I do not think this should condemn a method, which for other reasons is most acceptable, especially to the ringer who is making progress beyond the rudiments of the art. It is worthy of note that two at least of our best known authors class such methods as standards immediately following the originals, Kent and Oxford. Hubbard places College Exercise first of his variations, and this method is even worse than Duke of York, as in his statement of the peal, page 50, the part-end comes up 6-5. Snowdon also gives the two peals in question, as his first "Standard Methods" of Treble Bob, in his work under that title. It is difficult to understand how two methods so pleasant to ring, and given such prominent places by such authorities, can be set down as "absolute rubbish," and I trust some of my south country brothers, who set us such a good example by frequently ringing them, will, with their experience, speak out in defence of their favourites. R. S. STORY.

P.S.—Since writing the foregoing, I have had more time to look into the matter, and I find Duke of York does not run so true as I at first thought, there being 6-5 in the middle of some of the leads. I have not had time, however, to examine all the different ways of calling, some of which may probably obviate this fault, but at any rate the treble lead ends run true, and the part-ends come up 5-6.

MR. COYNARD'S REPLY.

SIR,—I was not at all surprised to find myself again attacked by "Mulum in Parvo," neither was I surprised to find an attack from another person on the Minor question. On reading the remarks of your correspondents, one would be led to suppose that they had mixed up the matter between them. Now, Sir, in spite of all their kind remarks, it is still what I first said, a 720 of Bob Minor, let them pick it to pieces any how they like, they cannot make more, but certainly they can make less. Now I will not occupy much of your valuable space in this foolish nonsense, as it is not worth the space it occupies in your columns; what I have to say is this, I hope and trust that these gentlemen who can see so many faults and failings in me, that they will endeavour to improve the same in themselves, and I think by doing so they will see their folly in stirring up such correspondence. G. CONYARD.

THE TENORS IN VIOLET.

SIR,—I find I am in error in stating that the tenors come up wrong in this method. On further investigation it appears to be one of the few exceptions amongst the Treble Bob methods published some time ago in "THE BELL NEWS," and compiled by Mr. W. Walker, of Leeds, in which the tenors do not come foul of each other.

Stockton-on-Tees.

G. J. CLARKSON.

REPORT OF THE BATH AND KEYNSHAM UNITED DEANERIES ASSOCIATION.—We have heard very little of late of this Association, but the secretary's report now before us, and which we apprehend is the first one published, engenders a hope that if the work yet been done is small, another year may show more important results. The system of management of this Association seems to be on a par with most others: there is a committee of management which combines both clergy and laymen; the President is the Lord Bishop of the Diocese, and the indefatigable Honorary Secretary is the Rev. W. Stokes Shaw, vicar of Twerton-on-Avon. The list of members appear to be tolerably good, so far as number is concerned; and there is also a fair sprinkling of influential honorary members. The report says that the members of the Association are not loth to visit belfries outside their own immediate district, and offer suggestions for improvement to those whom they visit, and this is a very commendable feature, and it is to be hoped they will persevere in such a step. The balance-sheet is a favourable one indeed for so young a body. Of course it is disappointing to see no ringing records. The achievement of ringing performances worthy of the peal-book is what every company should strive for, with all their might and strength. Without such a record no ringing association can hope to have a *locus standi*, as ringers, among the ringing community. We commend this hard fact to the consideration of the members of this Association.

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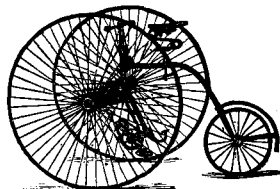
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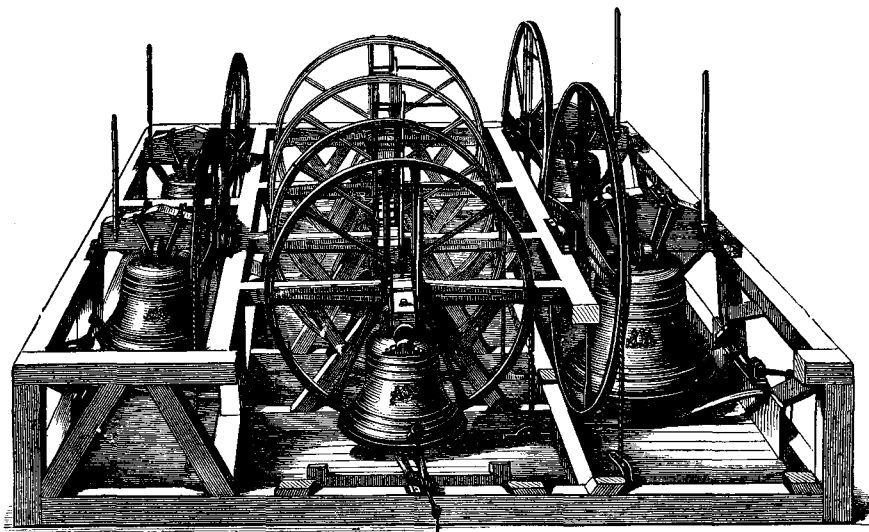
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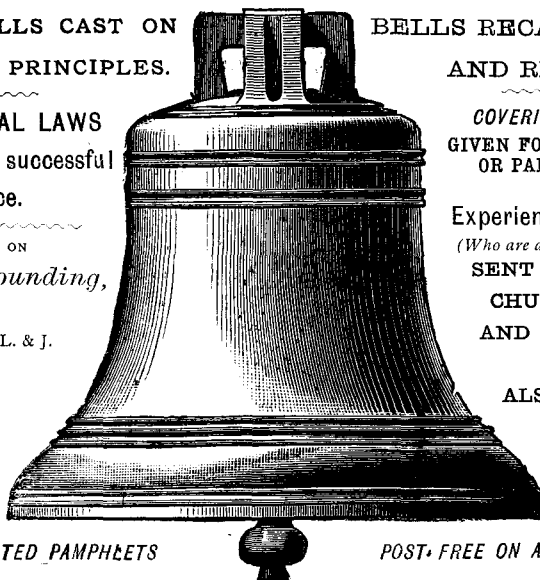
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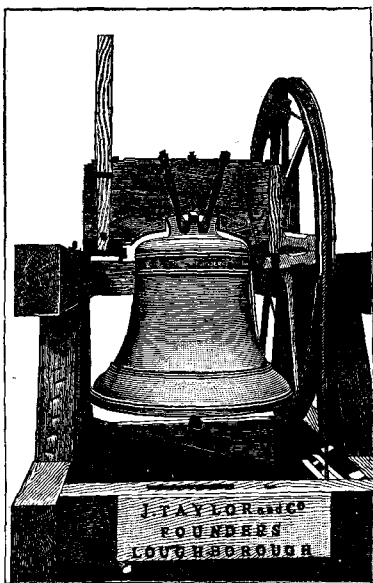
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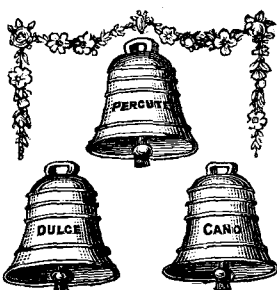
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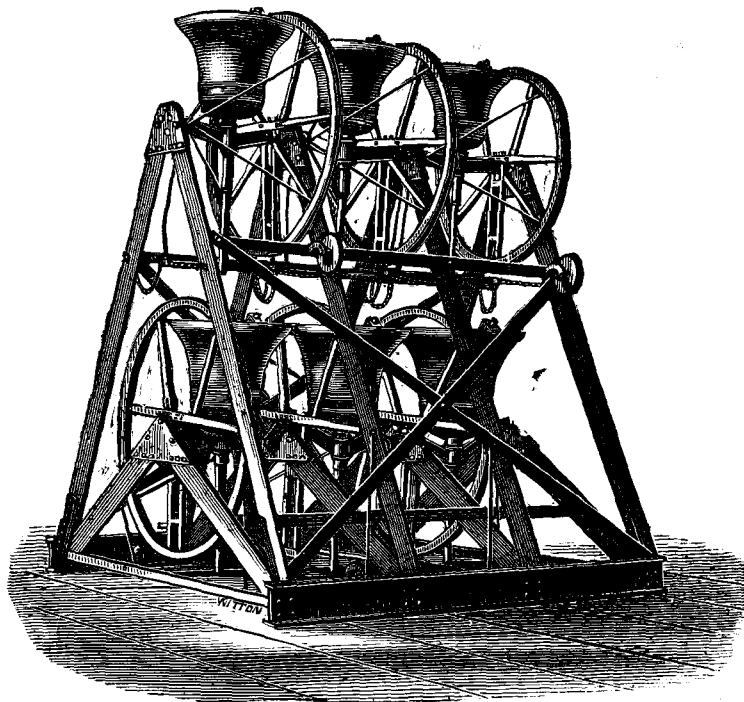
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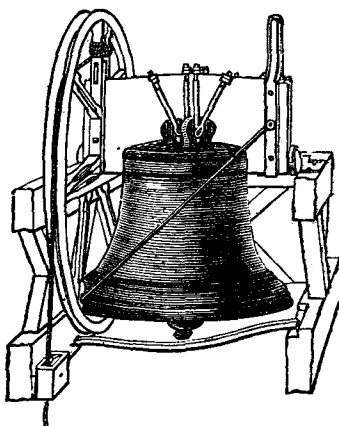
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THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

THE above Association held their second Quarterly Meeting for the year on Saturday last, October 4th, at Nottingham, and may be congratulated upon having had on this occasion a really capital gathering. Much praise is due to the local committee for their admirable arrangements, and also thanks for a hearty welcome to their visiting brethren.

The towers of St. Peter's, eight bells; All Saints', eight bells; Beeston, eight bells, and Lenton, six bells, were open for ringing during the day. The proceedings began with an attempt to ring a peal of Stedman Triples at All Saints, by the Nottingham contingent, but after some excellent striking it unfortunately came to an untimely end. About noon, members of the Association began to arrive from Leicester, Derby, Long Eaton, Loughborough, Lichfield, Burton-on-Trent, and other places in the four counties, together with visitors from Sheffield, Rotherham, and elsewhere, and they at once proceeded to the committee-room, where they were welcomed by the local committee, and bands were formed for ringing.

Some first-rate touches of Grandsire Triples, Stedman Triples, and Treble Bob Major were rung. Owing to the large number of members present, the touches were necessarily short, but the striking generally was far above the average at bye meetings, and from this we augur that the Association is doing good work for the advancement of change-ringing in the Midlands.

At 5 o'clock, members to the number of about sixty assembled for tea in the Arboretum Refreshment Rooms. The President, the Rev. J. H. Fish, Vicar of St. Paul's, Burton-on-Trent, took the chair, and was supported by the Rev. R. W. Pitt, Hon. Sec.; the Rev. W. W. C. Baker, Curate of St. Mary's, Nottingham; Messrs. J. W. Taylor, and E. D. Taylor, of Loughborough; Dr. Sellon, Castle Donington; Mr. W. Wakley, Hon. Treasurer, Burton-on-Trent. The vice-chair was occupied by the Rev. G. Edgecombe, Vicar of St. Peter's, Nottingham.

The Committee held their usual meeting at 4 o'clock in All Saints' Schools, and the General Meeting of members took place immediately after the tea.

The President, in his report, congratulated the Association upon having rang seven peals during the quarter, viz.: four of Grandsire Triples, one of Stedman Triples, and one of Kent Treble Bob, making a total of seventeen for the half-year. After a few remarks from the Rev. G. Edgecombe, bearing testimony from personal observation to the good which the Association had effected, and wishing it success in the future, the general meeting concluded with votes of thanks to the Clergy and Churchwardens of the various churches above mentioned, and also to the President for his report.

During the remainder of the evening ringing was kept up with spirit, and it was generally admitted that the meeting had been one of the most successful and instructive held since the commencement of the Association.

THE NORTH LINCOLNSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

THE first Quarterly Meeting of the above Association was held, as announced, at Gainsboro', on Saturday last, October the 4th. Ringers from the Cathedral, St. Peter-at-Gowts, and St. Botolph's churches, Lincoln, Market Rasen, Horncastle, and Lea, were present. Two 720's were rung at Lea, in the morning, by the Lincoln and Market Rasen men. At two p.m. the parish church bells were raised. Touches of Grandsire Triples and Bob Minor were rung. Grandsire Triples was rung double-handed by the Market Rasen men. At 3.45 the members sat down to an excellent meat tea at the Coffee Tavern, and after doing justice to which, the business meeting was held at the same place. Mr. F. A. Dorrington, of Nettleton Lodge, Caistor, presided; Mr. Gadd, of Market Rasen, acted as Hon. Sec. *pro tem.*, Mr. F. B. Cousans being detained by business engagements. The rules were read and amended; honorary and ringing members were elected, and Market Rasen chosen for the next meeting in January. The Annual General Meeting will be held at Lincoln in April. The Vicar of Gainsboro' was unavoidably absent, but was well represented by the Revs. A. W. M. Drew and W. O. Parish. A vote of thanks was passed to the Gainsboro' authorities for the welcome accorded, and the parish church was again visited, and Grandsire Triples and Bob Minor again rung. The meeting closed about eight, and may be, as a first meeting, called a decided success. We hope, as soon as the Association emerges from its childhood, to be able to chronicle peals of several methods rung by its members.

DEATH OF AN OLD RINGER.—On Saturday last, George Kent, who for many years was the chief ringer at Leigh, near Stoke-upon-Trent, died very unexpectedly. His well-mannered tact and geniality will be greatly missed, and much more widely than in the bell-ringing brotherhood; but it is worthy of record in this paper that for more than fifty-five years he had taken part in the solemnity—the summons to worship, or gladness or sorrow,—of the church bells.

THE BELLS OF STAPLEHURST, KENT.

A meeting has lately been held at the board schools, for the purpose of considering the propriety of recasting some of the church bells, and improving the appearance of the churchyard. The Rev. Dr. Reyner presided. The chairman, in opening the meeting, read a report of the condition of the bells, which stated that they were five in number. No. 5, the largest bell, weighing 19 cwt., had been cracked for a number of years; it was the tenor bell. No. 4, weighed 15 cwt., and was in good condition, as were also No. 3, G, and No. 2. A. No. 1, the treble bell, was cracked. The five bells weighed about 60 cwt. The whole peal had never been in tune, as No. 5 had always been half a note out. Nos. 4, 3, and 2 were in tune. The heads were all off the bells. It was considered that the most desirable course would be to recast the cracked treble bell, and add two smaller bells in the place of the present No. 5 bell. The cost, including carriage and repairs to the frame, would be £135. A discussion took place as to the means whereby the money could be raised. Several present were of opinion that very persons would pay a voluntary rate. The chairman stated that he was willing to give the £60 that was collected towards refunding him the expenses of the lighting and heating apparatus. The announcement was received with approbation. The Chairman read the names of several gentlemen who had promised subscriptions towards the bells, and he expressed the wish that the villagers should show their interest by giving according to their ability. Mr. Mannerling proposed, and it was carried, "That it was desirable that the bells should be put in order in accordance with Messrs. Mears and Stainbank's specification." It was also decided that Mr. Nunn and Mr. W. Hoare be requested to collect subscriptions, and that they invite Mr. Brooks to help them in their labours.

THE WORCESTER DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

ON Saturday last, October 4th, eight members of the above Association paid a visit to Trinity Church, Old Hill, for the purpose of having a touch upon the bells, and they are pleased to say that they are in a far better condition for ringing than they were at their last visit. The bells, which are by Messrs. Taylor and Sons, Loughborough, is one of the finest peals of eight in the Midlands. Several attempts have been made by different companies for a peal of 5040, but owing to the bad condition of the bells this (each time) has been a failure, and it is thought if the wheels were not so small this splendid ring of bells would be pealable. There is a good number of young hands here, who are anxious to learn to ring, but the hard work disheartens them, and so very little progress is made. A start was made for a 720 of Grandsire Minor, but after ringing over 400 changes the third rope broke. The rope being spliced, another start was made, this time successful one. B. Townsend, 1; W. Micklewright, 2; J. Townsend, 3; J. Robinson, 4; J. Prestidge, 5; F. Hotchkiss, 6; J. Smith (conductor), 7; R. Round, 8. The changes were rung on the first five bells, the 7th covering with 6-8. Time 31½ minutes. Tenor 23½ cwt.

INAUGURATION OF A PEAL-BOARD.

IN December last, a company of the Waterloo Society rang Mr. Cox's peal of Grandsire Caters, 5003 changes, on the bells of St. Margaret's church, Westminster, in three hours and twenty-four minutes. As this was the first peal of Caters by five of the band, and two of them (Mr. Malim and Mr. Scowen) having never previously rung a bob bell in any peal, a wish was expressed by the members that a board should be erected to record the performance. Through the generosity of Mr. Malim and Mr. Smith, a neatly-written board has been provided, which was placed in the porch of the church on Friday last, October 3rd, by the side of the Holt Tablet, and to commemorate the event, ten members of the Waterloo Society attempted to ring twenty courses of Grandsire Caters, but after ringing about thirteen, the touch unfortunately came to an untimely end through the breaking of a rope. S. Smith, 1; W. Baron (conductor), 2; C. E. Malim, 3; W. Coppage, 4; J. Mansfield, 5; W. Jones, 6; H. Hopkins, 6; G. Pell, 8; T. Taylor, 9; J. Scowen, 10. This band was, with two exceptions, the same as that which rung the peal, Mr. H. Hopkins taking the place of his brother Charles, and the presence of Mr. Mansfield in the place of Mr. E. E. Robins, forcibly reminded the members of the early and sudden death of the latter gentleman, who was a promising young member of the Society.

SAD DEATH.—Whilst one of the ringers of Bray Church was engaged with others in ringing a wedding peal, on the occasion of the marriage of Mr. P. Alleyne with, one of the late Mr John Haig's daughters, on Thursday, he suddenly fell down in apparently an unconscious condition. Assistance was promptly at hand and restoratives applied, but all to no purpose, as the unfortunate man had breathed his last before the arrival of a medical practitioner. The sad affair caused much gloom throughout the village and district.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

The annual meeting of the members of the above association, held at Eccles on Saturday afternoon, September 27th, was largely attended by members, almost exclusively ringers, from Manchester, Ashton, Bolton, Burnley, Bury, Eccles, Farnworth, Horwich, Hulme, Heywood, Swinton, Walkden, Worsley, etc. Divine service was held in the Parish Church at four o'clock, on which occasion an excellent and appropriate sermon was preached by the Rev. T. M. Nugent Owen, M.A., vicar of Rhodes, Middleton. Having succinctly reviewed the history, uses, and influences of church bells, he said he was glad to notice that of late years a great improvement had taken place in the conduct and behaviour of the ringers. It was the custom in many belfries to open and close their meeting with prayer, and he strongly urged its general adoption. Their association had been organised to promote a reform not only in the belfry, but also in the science of their calling. He was glad to notice that much good had been accomplished, and ringers had now come to look upon the belfry as an integral part of the church. It was well that they should recollect that their calling was an important one—one that formerly devolved upon the parson himself and his assistants. And in pursuance of that calling they should strive to realise the fact that they were performing a strictly religious act, calling men to the worship of God. It was therefore their bounden duty, in their everyday life, to set a good example for sobriety and probity of conduct to their fellowmen. This could be carried out in many ways in word and deed. In their conversation and in attending punctually and regularly the service of the church. What an objectionable sight it was to see ringers, on the completion of their labours in the church tower, walk off instead of attending Divine Service. Not only did they do wrong but sometimes they led others away from the precincts of God's house. Let them remember that the bells were part of the church fabric, and were used for holy purposes, and that the ringer himself was an important worker in connection with the Church. He urged them not to join the association merely to become proficient in the art of bellringing, but through God's grace to become instruments to the glory of God and the salvation of their fellow-men.

The business meeting (at which there were nearly 100 present), took place after tea in the Eccles Parish School, Albert Street, the chair being taken by the Rev. Canon Pitcairn, rural dean, who was supported by the president of the society, the Rev. T. A. Turner, B.A., Bury, Rev. J. Attridge, B.A., curate of Eccles Church, Mr. J. H. Butterworth (churchwarden), and the hon. secs. (Messrs. W. J. Chatterton and Joel Redford). The Association now numbers 39 honorary and 216 performing members.

The CHAIRMAN, in offering the ringers a cordial welcome to the parish of Eccles, said he was pleased to preside over their annual meeting, and hoped they would by means of their association, which was purely mutual, endeavour to realise the importance of their calling. (Applause.) Their duties were important, and by their attendance in such large numbers they showed that they appreciated the very great reform that was taking place in the Church of England. (Hear, hear.) Their calling was one in which he personally took much interest, and was proud to testify to the fact that during the period—23 years—he had been vicar of Eccles, the Eccles ringers had always proved loyal to their vicar and parish. (Applause.) In looking over the rules issued by the association, he was very much struck by their superiority of tone (hear, hear), they had a true ring (laughter), and those members who carefully acted up to their spirit and object need not be ashamed of their dignified calling. (Applause.) The rules contained two very important paragraphs, and in the sentiments of which he fully concurred. He alluded more particularly to paragraphs four and five. The former set forth "that the ringer's office was essentially a branch of the Church's work, and that such services should be placed on a true basis." This was only as it should be and he trusted that in their various parishes ringers would always receive that support, which they were justly entitled to at the hands of the clergy and wardens. (Applause.) The fifth rule was, if anything, perhaps the most important of the code, which set forth "that the association was formed to assist in elevating the moral and religious tone and status of the ringers." By this means they were enabled, as a part of the working organisation in a parish, to do much good, and hope that those present would go forth to their respective parishes actuated with one desire, namely, to assist, by their conduct and good example, to elevate the moral and religious tone of their fellow working-men. (Applause.) They were an important and powerful organisation, and if their motives and actions were actuated with a desire to assist their fellow church workers in purifying the hearts and enlightening the understandings of those with whom they came in daily contact in their every-day life, their mission and work would do much to strengthen the church of which they were loyal members, but they would also realise some satisfaction that they had, in their humble and probably unobtrusive way, done something towards the edification of their brethren.

Mr. W. Jos. Chatterton having sent in his resignation, which he now

supported, Mr. A. E. Holme, B.A. (Manchester Grammar School) was elected to the position of corresponding secretary; Mr. Joel Redford (Bolton), was re-elected ringing secretary; Mr. H. W. Jackson (Bolton), treasurer; Messrs. J. Robinson (Walton-le-DAle) and J. Millett (Heywood) re-elected auditors; and Messrs James Barratt (Eccles), J. Harrison (Heywood), S. Wood (Ashton-under-Lyne), A. Wreaks (Manchester), and R. Pearce (Swinton) were elected a committee for the ensuing year.

The following were elected honorary members of the association:—The Very Rev. the Dean of Manchester, the Rev. Canon Pitcairn, M.A., Rural Dean, Eccles; Rev. T. M. N. Owen, Rhodes; Rev. W. Thursby, M.A., Burnley; W. Dugdale, Esq., Burnley; 24 additional performing members were also elected from the districts of Bury, Radcliffe, Aughton, Manchester, and Walkden.

The Rev. J. ATTRIDGE, B.A., in proposing a vote of thanks to the Chairman, called attention to the very excellent sermon they had heard in church, and hoped that the advice given would be cherished in their memories and acted upon.

Mr. J. H. BUTTERWORTH (warden), in seconding the motion, spoke to the interest manifested in the bells and the wants of the ringers by his co-warden, Mr. C. W. Bayley, who he regretted was not able to attend that meeting, but who, no doubt, would become a life member of the association. He was pleased to see such a large gathering, but he was afraid that the ringers in their various parishes had not in the past received that encouragement they deserved. They had, however, banded themselves together and he was proud to think that they were personally endeavouring to infuse in their various parishes fresh life and vigour into everything connected with the Church. As had been justly remarked, they were, if rightly used, a useful body for doing good in their respective districts, and deserved all the encouragement possible from the clergy, wardens, and the sidesmen. He was much pleased with the remarks that had been made, and the general tone of the meeting, and hoped it would conduce to still happier results in connection with the Association.

The CHAIRMAN, in acknowledging the compliment, said he was pleased to be present, because he found that the Association, although founded in 1876, had already grown into a society of no little importance in connection with the Established Church. As had been stated by the previous speaker, the society deserved every support from all who were anxious to promote the welfare of the Church, and the officials could not do much to increase the usefulness of the society, unless their efforts were supported by individual members of the association. Unity was strength, and he would urge all not to relax their efforts to make the society one of the best in the kingdom. Before he sat down, he desired to propose a cordial vote of thanks to Mr. Chatterton, who had resigned the office of secretary. The meeting would not be doing its duty without recording their appreciation of that gentleman's services. Mr. Chatterton had, in the past, done much to raise the status of the society, and he was confident they were losing a most indefatigable worker, and one whose counsel would be missed in the future deliberations of the executive.

Mr. W. ALBINSON (Bredbury), briefly proposed, and Mr. H. W. JACKSON (Bolton), seconded a vote of thanks to Mr. Chatterton, which was passed with much cordiality.

Mr. CHATTERTON, in acknowledging the vote, said it was only fair to Mr. Redford, his colleague, to say that without his help, he could not have done so much for the society. And he had great pleasure in proposing a vote of thanks to those (Mr. Barratt and others), who had kindly provided the tea. During the day, touches of Kent and Oxford Treble Bob, Grandsire Triples, and Plain Bob Minor were rung.

THE BIRMINGHAM AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday last, October 4th, a visit was paid to Redditch by the St. Mary's, Selly Oak branch of the above Association. Arriving there in good time, a move was made towards the church, but owing to a funeral taking place at the time, ringing was suspended for a short period. Coming back to the church, and raising the bells, several touches of Grandsire Minor, and some 120s of Grandsire Doubles were rung. A start was then made for a 720 of Kent Treble Bob, which was accomplished in a very efficient manner by E. Bryant, 1; J. Nix, 2; H. Smith, 3; E. Boylin, 4; T. Lewis, 5; A. Cole (conductor), 6. The bells were then ceased, and an adjournment made to the "Brewers' Arms," where an excellent repast was partaken of, after which music was indulged in (vocal and instrumental), tunes on the handbells, etc., until the time arrived for the return journey, which was made in excellent spirits, each one expressing himself fully satisfied with his half-holiday.

Reading in last week's number of an attempt to ring a peal of 5040, at Sittingbourne, on Saturday the 20th ultimo, by four members of the College Youths with Mr. Simmonds, of Maidstone and three of the local company. I beg to state that I did not ring in the attempt, neither was I at Sittingbourne on that day.

R. SIMMONDS.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

THE Annual Meeting of this Association was held at Shipley on Saturday last, October 4th. Members attended from York, Birstall, Tong, Bolton, Bradford, Leeds, Pudsey, Bingley, Denholme, Saddleworth, Ossett, Ripon, Drighlington, Guiseley, Huddersfield, Lindley, Calverley, Hunslet, Holbeck, Sharow, Keighley, Wakefield, Cleckheaton, and Earlsheaton. The ring of eight at St. Paul's church, and the ring of six at Saltaire Congregational church, were rung during the day by the visitors. At four o'clock, the business meeting was held in St. Paul's schoolroom, Jasper W. Snowdon, Esq., President of the Association, in the chair. The report and balance-sheet having been passed, the President gave notice of a proposal to alter the close of the Association's year from August 31st to July 31st, in order to give more time for getting out the report and balance-sheet. This proposal will, according to Rule 8, be decided at the next General Meeting. The returning officers—Messrs. Copley and Angus—having completed their examination of the voting papers, the result of the election was as follows: For head quarters—Bradford, 119 votes; Leeds, 25. For the three vacancies on the Committee, J. H. Hardcastle (Bradford) received 114 votes; C. H. Hattersley (Sheffield) 99; A. Spurr (Ossett), 84; R. Binns (Leeds), 52; W. Walker (Leeds), 33. Bradford was therefore appointed head quarters for the ensuing three years, and Messrs. Hardcastle, Hattersley, and Spurr, re-elected on the Committee. On the motion of Mr. Hollis, it was unanimously agreed to hold the next general meeting at Wakefield on the 7th of February next. Mr. Howard proposed, and Mr. T. Birch seconded, a vote of thanks to the Vicar and Churchwardens of Shipley, and the authorities of Saltaire, for the use of the bells, which was carried with applause. Mr. J. Cheetham moved, and Mr. Hollis seconded, a cordial vote of thanks to the Shipley company for the generous preparations which they had made for the convenience of the members, which was carried in a very hearty manner; and a vote of thanks to the President concluded the proceedings.

The members afterwards sat down to a very substantial meat tea at the Oddfellows' Hall, there being also present the Rev. W. Pearson (the new Vicar of Shipley), Mr. J. Wilkinson (Churchwarden), Mr. J. Holden (Churchwarden of Saddleworth), and others. At the conclusion of the tea,

JASPER W. SNOWDON, Esq. (President) proposed, and Mr. Howard (Vice-President) seconded, a vote of thanks to the Vicar of Shipley for his presence that evening, which was carried amid rounds of applause.

The Rev. W. PEARSON, who on rising to respond met with a hearty reception, expressed the pleasure he felt at being present among such a large and important body of Church workers, but he confessed that although his experience of ringers was very limited, he did not feel any inclination to extend his knowledge of bell-ringing, and in a very humorous [speech he gave the reason why. There had, he said, been three occasions in his lifetime when, as the saying is, "his heart was in his mouth." The first was when at college he was before his examiners; the second was when he put a very important question to a certain young lady in whom he was more than ordinarily interested, when he was in fear whether the answer would be "yes" or "no;" and the third was one wet evening not long ago, when he came to Shipley, and was locked up in church by himself, leaving outside Dr. Bardsley and a great number of people, while he ascended the tower steps to ring the bell. He then, amid great laughter, related his attempts to make the bell ring: how he tugged away at the bell-rope, but in vain, to bring forth a sound from the bell, till at last, making a desperate struggle, he succeeded, and, chilled with a sort of fear, he descended to admit the people outside who were chilled with the cold rain which was falling. He then spoke of the duty of ringers to obey the call which they gave to others—to attend the service of the Church, and expressed the pleasure he felt that his congregation numbered some of the ringers.

Mr. ODDY, of Cleckheaton, in a brief but well-put speech, contrasted the ringers of to-day with those of days gone by, showing how ringers had improved both in their social position and in the exercise of their duties.

Mr. HOWARD, of York, spoke of the great advantage it would be if belfries were provided with conveniences for washing, etc.

The table having been cleared, the handbells were brought into requisition, and the tower bells kept going until nine o'clock.

THE EAST LINCOLNSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

THE first Quarterly Meeting of the above Association was held at St. Nicholas, Skirbeck, on Saturday, October 4th. Five members of the above rang at 6.30 a.m., a 5040 of Grandsire Doubles, Plain Bob, Hudibras and Lincolnshire Singles, in 2 hrs. 52 mins. A special service was held at 12.30, at which about thirty members attended. A short form of morning prayer was used, with two hymns. The Rev. H. J. Cheales, vicar of Friskney and President of the Association, read the lessons, the Rev. W. H. Jones, of the Hamlet of Skirbeck,

one of the Vice Presidents, delivered an impressive address, taken from Psalm xix, 3rd verse, being the Psalm for the morning service. There is, said the preacher, a language which thrills our tenderest chords, which seems to articulate sounds when we stand to gaze at the picture of some beloved object, though there be no sounds yet it speaks and moves our inner soul. In no case is this more felt than when we hear the echoes of Heaven we call music, which speaks, and speaks irresistibly, to the spirit of man. See the hardened heart melt and break as it listens to some well known hymn of childhood, telling of innocence long since gone. We too have felt it as we have stood and listened to the glorious music of the bells as they ring out and fill the whole air with their glorious music; felt them speak to us as they cried from out of the old belfry like voices from the past, speaking in tones of entreaty and praise. I remember one day being among the busy throng of those that bought and sold, and lo! far above our heads they broke out into a sweet hymn of praise, sounding like a choir of angels once more singing to the busy world of Peace and goodwill to men. This is the grand use of the noble peal that sweet hands have placed into the houses of our God; calling men to raise their souls above the toil and worry of every-day life, beseeching us to come and listen to the glad news that is proclaimed within the sacred temple at their feet, that he whom we call Saviour is God of Gods and Lord of Lords; there they hang, weird and vast, amid the mighty beams that make their homes pregnant with power, and only waiting the touch of the loving hand to make their voices fill the land. Now in voices of festal joy, and now in muffled sadness to move our souls to mourn with those who mourn, the power is there; they do but wait to be used aright, and who shall do it? Trained men, those whose souls are in the work; patient men, who will not flinch nor give way, but who will stick to their post and bring the peal to a triumphant finish as it has been done this day in our belfry; prompt men, whose souls are supposed to be the object at issue, and also give all their mind to the work; steady, prompt, patient; but, brother-ringers, let us take heed—as it is too oft the case by too often seeing a thing we forget is value—never forget that bell-ringing is not a mere pulling of ropes, or a set of musical sounds. 'Tis an act of worship to the Maker of all, calling men to that place where as Pascal beautifully tells us the whole of man is the Church. Ringers, never forget God has placed bells in your own lives, glorious bells, full of power and sweetness, and only waiting the using that the air may be filled with sweetness. Bells of sympathy, love, purity, solemnity, bells that fill the home with the psalm of praise, and tell forth to others that true manhood is might. Bells of true manliness, that thunder forth far above the war of sin and bitterness, the glorious tidings of what man can do in Christ Jesus. Brothers, let not that the belfry be neglected, the bells ill hung, covered by the filth brought in by the birds of sin, that ever roost where idleness and negligence reign. Pray to Jesus for patience, promptness, and steadiness, and ring glad peals on the bells of your own soul, and so shall you ring the grand old bells up yonder in our tower as they ought to be rung. Lord help us each one to—

Ring in the valiant man and free,
The larger heart, the kinder hand,
Ring out the darkness of the land,
Ring in the Christ that is to be.

At two o'clock, dinner was provided in the national schoolroom, presided over by the president, Rev. H. J. Cheales. After dinner the minutes of the last meeting was read and confirmed, twelve honorary members, nine skilled members, and twelve probationers were elected members of the Association. Through the kindness of the Rev. R. E. Roy, rector, the Rectory grounds were thrown open, and a tea provided in the Rectory to all members. After tea the tower of St. Botolph's was again visited and several touches of Grandsire Triples was rung by the Boston company.

THE WANSTEAD AMALGAMATED SOCIETY.

THE following are the performances of the above Society during the month of September:—

WANSTEAD.—On Tuesday, September 2nd, a 720 of Bob Minor, at Christ Church, with sixteen bobs and two singles. A. Tennant (Willesden; first 720), 1; W. Smith, 2; J. Nunn, 3; W. Manning, 4; J. Marks, 5; H. Scarlett (conductor), 6. Also on Tuesday, September 7th, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob, with fifteen bobs. H. Nunn, 1; J. Priest, 2; G. Akers, 3; J. Nunn, 4; A. H. Gardom (conductor), 5; J. Marks, 6. Also after evening service, a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob. J. Priest, 1; J. Nunn, 2; G. Akers, 3; W. Manning, 4; A. H. Gardom, 5; H. Scarlett (conductor), 6. This is the first 720 in this method by the Society. And Wednesday, September 24th, a 720 of Bob Minor. J. King, 1; A. H. Gardom (conductor), 2; G. Akers, 3; W. Smith, 4; S. Jarman, 5; G. Cornell, 6.

WOODFORD.—On Sunday, September 7th, at St. Mary's church, a 720 of Bob Minor. H. Nunn, 1; G. Akers, 2; J. Nunn, 3; G. Cornell, 4; J. Marks, 5; H. Scarlett (conductor), 6.

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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, and performances under 5000 changes must reach us not later than Wednesday morning; and the insertion of any communication coming later than the first Postal delivery on Thursday morning cannot be guaranteed in that week's number. When it is found impossible from want of space to insert all touches forwarded, the earlier ones will have the preference.

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.

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

Mr. HERBERT BAKER, of Hertford, writes:—"I have discovered four bells by Anthony Chandler, in 1673, can you inform me of his history? If not, will you kindly ask the question in 'THE BELL NEWS' next week."

The Bell News & Ringers' Record.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 11, 1884.

WE have been favoured with a copy of the Report of the Yorkshire Association, the Annual Meeting of which was held at Shipley, on Saturday last, and which we report on another page. This Report is in every respect a very satisfactory one, and we can only hope that the progress of the Association will continue to be as marked in future years as it has been in the past. It commenced the year with 425 members, and its number at the end of the year is 474, an increase of forty-nine. During the year the Association has rung fifty-two peals, the largest number rung in any year, with one exception (1882-3, when fifty-five peals were recorded), the methods rung being as follows: One peal of Kent Treble Bob Royal; one of Stedman Caters; two of Grandsire Caters; twenty-five of Kent Treble Bob Major; one of Grandsire Major; seven of Bob Major; two of Stedman Triples; eleven of Grandsire Triples; and two peals in seven methods each on six bells.

During the year the Committee has invested £100 in the Leeds Corporation Stock, and in future the Association is expected to be so far self-supporting that members will have concluded payment after ten years' membership. The general finances of the Association are in a very sound condition, and there is no lack of enthusiasm on the part of the members to ensure the Association a brilliant future.

It is very pleasant to have to record these facts. It shows in such an unmistakable manner that the intelligence of the ringing fraternity in Yorkshire is to the front; and the example of the premier county should be an incentive to kindred Associations who, may be, are not so fortunate, to persevere and show results equal, at least in a proportionate manner, to our friends in Yorkshire.

We notice, too, with pleasure, the several additions which have been made to its list of honorary members.

It should be the aim of every County Association to enlist the sympathies and the influence of those in authority, for their work, and when the Yorkshire Association can shew such names as those of the Dean of York, the Rev. DR. BLAKENEY, Vicar of Sheffield, and Canon McCORMICK, of Hull, in their Report, the members should feel that their Association has established itself on firm ground, and they should not in the least relax their endeavours until they have still further increased their list of honorary members by the addition of the names of many influential gentlemen in their county, whose sympathies are with them and their work, and who need but the asking to place themselves on the Society's list of members.

The Report is, as we observed at the outset, altogether a very satisfactory one, and there is no reason why, as years roll by, that each succeeding Report should be at least, as good as the one before it, and that "good men and true" will always be found to the front, guiding and helping it, as well as kindred Associations, to maintain the path of progress, and making them not only useful institutions, but a honour to the Church of our country.

THE FIRST CLERICAL PEAL.

THE recent Trinity Ordinations having brought a clerical peal within the limits of the possible, an attempt was made to ring one at Drayton, Berks., on July 31st last. It was, however, soon pretty clear that the study of other ologies had very much interfered with that of Campanology, and that some of the band had forgotten their Stedman Triples. Two or three starts were made for Thurstans' peal, and at length the middle single was reached. At that point, the striking having been bad, and the men not being in good form, hardly any one was sorry that a general collapse took place. It was resolved to try again, and to select the band entirely from *alumni* of the Isis, members of the Oxford University Society. Accordingly the evening of Wednesday, October 1st, found seven of the selected men in their places in the belfry at Drayton. A member of the Oxford City Society having kindly come over to make up a band, the first quarter of Thurstans' peal was tapped off without a hitch or mishap, the striking being fairly good. This augured well for the morrow's performance which began at 11.4 a.m., when the word "go" was spoken. Very little beside the necessary calls had then to be said by any one until 1.55 p.m., when the welcome words "that's all," from the conductor, announced the completion of a peal of Stedman Triples, perfectly true, and generally well-struck; particulars will be found on another page. After luncheon a start was made for Holt's Original, the Rev. C. D. P. Davies conducting. All went well for about half-an-hour, and another peal seemed to be a moral certainty, when the treble rope broke. Trains having to be met by several of the band, another start was impossible, so that a clerical Original is yet in the future.

The Metropolis.

FULHAM, MIDDLESEX.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS,

On Monday, October 6, 1884, in Three Hours and Thirty Minutes,

AT ALL SAINTS' CHURCH.

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB ROYAL, 5160 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 21 cwt in F.

JAMES PETTIT Treble.	EDWIN HORREX 6.
GEORGE MASH 2.	†REV. C. D. P. DAVIES .. 7.
EDWARD F. STRANGE* .. 3.	*WILLIAM D. SMITH .. 8.
EDWIN GIBBS 4.	JOHN W. ROWBOTHAM .. 9.
CHALLIS F. WINNY 5.	*FREDERICK G. NEWMAN .. Tenor.

Composed by the late WILLIAM HARRISON, of Mottram, and Conducted by the REV. C. D. P. DAVIES.

The day on which this peal was rung was the birthday of the vicar of Fulham, the Rev. F. H. Fisher, himself a ringer, and the company venture to take this opportunity of wishing him "many happy returns of the day." *First peal in the the method, †First peal of Royal.

THE ST. JAMES'S SOCIETY.—LONDON.

On Tuesday, October 7, 1884, in Three Hours and Thirty-six Minutes,

AT ST. CLEMENT DANES, STRAND,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS, 5130 CHANGES;

Tenor 24 cwt.

JAMES PETTIT	Treble.	FREDK. G. NEWMAN.. ..	6.
EDWIN HORREX	2.	JAMES R. HAWORTH.. ..	7.
JOHN W. ROWBOTHAM ..	3.	FREDK. MARGETSON.. ..	8.
RICHARD FRENCH.. .. .	4.	GEORGE BANKS	9.
WILLIAM WEATHERSTONE..	5.	EDWARD ALBONE	Tenor.

Composed by the late HENRY BOOTH, and Conducted by RICHARD FRENCH.

The peal was rung in honour of the birthday of the vicar, the Rev. J. Lindsay.

The Provinces.

DRAYTON, BERKS.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS AND THE OXFORD UNIVERSITY SOCIETY.

On Thursday, October 2, 1884, in Two Hours and Fifty-one Minutes,

AT ST. PETER'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

THURSTANS' COMPOSITION. Tenor 9½ cwt.

REV. G. F. COLERIDGE ..	Treble.	REV. C. C. CHILD	5.
REV. F. A. H. DU BOULAY	2.	REV. C. D. P. DAVIES ..	6.
REV. A. D. HILL.. .. .	3.	REV. F. E. ROBINSON ..	7.
REV. W. S. WILLETT.. ..	4.	REV. J. H. FISH.. .. .	Tenor.

Conducted by the Rev. F. E. ROBINSON, Master of the Oxford Diocesan Guild.

This is the first 5040 rang by a company wholly composed of clergymen.

WOKINGHAM, BERKS.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, October 4, 1884, in Three Hours and Nine Minutes,

AT ST. PAUL'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S ORIGINAL. Tenor 18 cwt.

REUBEN HOPGOOD*	Treble.	ERNEST BISHOP.. .. .	5.
GEORGE GIBBARD*	2.	HENRY EGBY	6.
WILLIAM HOULTON*	3.	REV. G. F. COLERIDGE ..	7.
WILLIAM POCOCK.. .. .	4.	*THOMAS HOULTEN	Tenor.

Conducted by Henry EGBY.

*First peal. Messrs. Houlton hail from Wokingham; Rev. G. F. Coleridge from Caversham, the rest from Reading.

LANCASTER.—THE ST. PETER'S SOCIETY.

On Saturday, October 4, 1884, in Three Hours,

AT ST. PETER'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S TEN-PART. Tenor 25 cwt.

PATRICK MULLIGAN†	Treble.	JAMES HARTLEY	5.
CHARLES CARNEY*	2.	JOHN LENNON	6.
WILLIAM CROOK.. .. .	3.	WILLIAM WEARING.. ..	7.
HENRY SMITH*	4.	*PATRICK FINN	Tenor.

Conducted by PATRICK MULLIGAN.

*First peal. †First peal as conductor.

BROMLEY, KENT.

On Saturday, October 4, 1884, in Two Hours and Fifty-six Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH OF SS. PETER AND PAUL,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

REV. CHAS. D. P. DAVIES' 5-PART. Tenor 19¾ cwt.

JAMES GOLDS	Treble.	FREDK. W. THORNTON ..	5.
CHARLES ENGLISH	2.	GEORGE SHEPHERD	6.
GEORGE FRENCH*	3.	ABRAHAM G. FREEMAN ..	7.
THOMAS DURLING	4.	WILLIAM H. FREEMAN ..	Tenor.

Conducted by ABRAHAM GEORGE FREEMAN.

*First peal with a bob bell. Messrs. English, French, Durling and Shepherd, hail from Chislehurst, the brothers Freeman from Lewisham, F. W. Thornton from Greenwich, and J. Golds from Bromley. The peal will be found on page 490 of "THE BELL NEWS."

THE EAST LINCOLNSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

SKIRBECK, LINCOLNSHIRE.

On Saturday, October 4, 1884, in Two Hours and Fifty-two Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH OF ST. NICHOLAS,

5040 CHANGES: UPON FIVE BELLS;

Being 20 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles; 10 of Plain Bob; 10 of Hudibras, and 2 of Lincolnshire Singles.

Tenor 18 cwt.

TIMOTHY ROGERS	Treble.	*EDWARD MASON†	3.
(aged 64 years.)		*WILLIAM F. HARWOOD ..	4.
GEORGE CLARK	2.	*JAMES M. RYLATT	5.

Conducted by EDWARD MASON.

*Members of the South Lincolnshire Association. †College Youth and Yorkshire Association.

GLOSSOP, DERBYSHIRE.

THE GLOSSOP JUNIOR SOCIETY.

On Saturday, October 4, 1884, in Three Hours and Nine Minutes,

AT ALL SAINTS' CHURCH,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5184 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 15 cwt.

SAMUEL HARROP.. .. .	Treble.	JOSEPH MALONEY	5.
DANIEL JAMES	2.	ROBERT WINTERBOTTOM..	6.
JOHN BOOTH.. .. .	3.	SAMUEL KNOTT.. .. .	7.
HENRY COOPER	4.	JOHN PYE, JUN.	Tenor.

Composed by JOHN J. BRIERLEY, of Saddleworth, and Conducted by SAMUEL KNOTT.

J. Booth hails from Dinting, and this is the first peal by him and D. James.

LOWMOOR, NEAR BRADFORD, YORKSHIRE.

On Saturday, October 4, 1884, in Two Hours and Fifty-nine Minutes,

AT HOLY TRINITY CHURCH,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 15 cwt.

THOMAS PICKARD	Treble.	WADDINGTON TORDOFF ..	5.
JOE WARSNOP	2.	JOE BRIGGS.. .. .	6.
ABSOLAM WILKINSON.. ..	3.	JAMES W. EMMETT	7.
HARRY JONES	4.	CHARLIE DRACUP	Tenor.

Composed by WILLIAM SOTTANSTALL, and Conducted by CHARLES DRACUP.

October 4th, was the 44th anniversary of these bells being hung, and this is the first attempt made by a Low Moor company to ring a peal.

After ringing, the members adjourned to the Chapel House Inn, and partook of a substantial supper provided by the landlord, the rest of the evening being spent in harmony, also change and tune-ringing, by friends of the Liversedge prize handbell company.

MOTTRAM-IN-LONGDENDALE, CHESHIRE.

THE MOTTRAM SOCIETY.

On Monday, October 6, 1884, in Two Hours and Forty-nine and ½ 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.	GEORGE D. HADFIELD ..	6.
ROBERT WRIGHT	3.	THOMAS WILDE	7.
WILLIAM MIDDLETON ..	4.	THOMAS BRADDOCK	Tenor.

Composed by JOHN THORP, of Ashton-under-Lyne, and Conducted by JOHN SIDEBOTHAM.

Thomas Wilde hails from Hyde.

Date Touches.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

TEWKESBURY ABBEY (Gloucestershire).—On Wednesday, October 1st, the Abbey society rang for practice, a date touch of Grandsire Triples, in 1 hr. 9 mins. W. Hampton, 1; R. H. Witherington, 2; F. J. Moore, 3; T. Devereux, 4; J. Wathen, 5; J. Hale, 6; Jos. Wathen (composer and conductor), 7; W. Haines, 8. Tenor 24 cwt.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

OXFORD.—On Friday, September 25th, at Christ Church Cathedral, a date touch of 1884 changes of Grandsire Triples, in 1 hr. 12 mins.

J. Howse, 1; W. Castle, 2; T. Oliver, 3; J. Field (conductor), 4; W. Baston, 5; J. Eeley, 6; W. Finch, 7; C. Hounslow, 8. Composed by Miss Sharland, of Tiverton, Devon. Tenor 42 cwt in C.

Miscellaneous.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

SALISBURY.—On Thursday, October 2nd, at St. Martin's church, a 720 of Bob Minor, in 27 mins. E. A. Foster, 1; W. W. Gifford, 2; A. S. Dowling (Basingstoke), 3; C. A. Clements, 4; T. Blackburn, 5; J. R. Jerram (conductor), 6. Tenor 15 cwt.

ASSOCIATION FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.

WINSALL.—On Saturday, September 27th, on the occasion of the Quarterly Meeting of the above Association, held at Burton-on-Trent, the Tottenhall branch paid a visit to this place, and by kind permission of the vicar and ringers rang 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. Rogers (conductor), 6. Tenor 16 cwt.

THE BIRMINGHAM AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATION.

BIRMINGHAM.—On Sunday, October 5th, for evening service at St. Chad's church, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples, 1260 changes, in 44 mins. T. Miller, 1; B. Stevens, 2; J. Carter (conductor), 3; J. Callaghan, 4; J. Benn, 5; R. Hackley, 6; J. Plant, 7; A. Hackley, 8. Tenor 15 cwt. in F. Messrs. Benn and Plant hail from Erdington.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.—On Thursday, September 11th, at the church of St. John-the-Baptist, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor, in 26 mins. W. Bowes, 1; W. Story, 2; C. L. Routledge (conductor), 3; F. Lees, 4; S. Power, 5; J. Simm, 6. Also on Thursday, October 2nd, a 644 of Grandsire Triples, taken from Holt's original. C. L. Routledge (conductor), 1; W. Eggleston, 2; R. S. Story, 3; W. Bowes, 4; W. G. Routledge, 5; F. Lees, 6; W. Story, 7; R. J. Robson, 8. Also on Monday, October 6th, a 720 of Bob Minor. H. Fergusson (first 720), 1; W. Bowes, 2; C. L. Routledge (conductor), 3; R. S. Story, 4; F. Lees, 5; W. Story, 6. Tenor 12½ cwt.

STOCKTON.—On Wednesday, October 1st, the members of this branch rang at the first attempt a 720 of Violet Treble Bob. G. J. Clarkson (conductor), 1; T. Burdon, 2; H. E. T. Glover, B.A., 3; W. Stephenson, 4; T. Stephenson, 5; W. Newton, 6.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

GREAT BADDOW (Essex).—On Saturday, October 4th, a visit was paid to this little country village by six members of the above Association from Widford and Galleywood, and Messrs. Gardom and Scarlett from Wanstead. Hollis's 5-part peal was attempted, and after ringing over 2000 changes, a youth named Lieutenant Green made an appearance in the belfry and soon upset the peal, his excuse being that he wanted to see how the ropes went through the holes. The enraged band left him to find out. This ring has lately been re-hung by Messrs. Warner and Sons, London, and the "go" of the bells is perfect. W. Harvey, 1; T. Dains, 2; W. Rowland, 3; A. H. Gardom (conductor), 4; W. Hawkes, 5; E. Scotcher, 6; H. Scarlett, 7; W. Battle, 8. Tenor 13 cwt.

RETTENDON (Essex).—On Monday evening, September 29th, after service, four of the Rettendon, with two of the Rayleigh members of the above Association, rang a 720 of Bob Minor, in 22½ mins. S. Pavitt, 1; G. Jones, 2; W. Jay, 3; H. Deal, 4; E. Moat, 5; Rev. H. A. Cockey, 6. Tenor 8 cwt. 1 qr. 7 lbs.

WIDFORD (Essex).—On Sunday morning, October 5th, a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob, with fifteen bobs, in 24 mins. W. Harvey, 1; J. Dains, 2; W. Rowland, 3; H. Scarlett, 4; T. Drake, 5; A. H. Gardom (conductor), 6. Our correspondent says this is the best going peal of six ever rung upon.

THE ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

BURY ST. EDMUNDS (Norfolk).—On Thursday evening, October 2nd, being the Harvest Festival at St. James's, eight members of the local company attempted the first half of Holt's ten-part peal of Grandsire Triples, but after ringing 2200 changes in 1 hr. 35 mins. the electric bell rang to cease ringing, and stand was called by the conductor, which brought to a conclusion an attempt which would very probably have been successful. A. Osborne (conductor), 1; E. Buckle, 2; R. Wilding, 3; A. Alderton, 4; G. Farrants, 5; G. Debenham, 6; R. Moore, 7; S. Speck, 8. The same band again met to ring for Divine Service in the evening the following Sunday, but shortly after starting, amidst some excellent striking, the tongue of the tenor bell broke and fell upon the floor, causing the ringers

to look round to see what was the matter, finding the tenor dumb they were obliged to give up ringing. Her tongue is now made whole and she is quite ready for another turn.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

CHURCH KIRK (Lancashire).—On Sunday, October 5th, 1884, the local company rang for morning service, a 720 of Oxford Bob Minor, with eighteen bobs and two singles, in 28½ mins. Also for evening service, a 720 of College Single, with eighteen bobs and two singles, in 27½ mins. James Horrocks (conductor), 1; Thomas Doran, 2; Henry Hayes, 3; James Pickles, 4; William Pattinson, 5; Thomas Horrocks, 6. Tenor 15 cwt.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

CASTLE DONINGTON (Leicestershire).—On Saturday, September 27th, some members of the above Association visited this place, and rang a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor. J. Wibberley, 1; Dr. Sellon, 2; C. A. Fox, 3; Rev. W. W. T. Baker, 4; —. Hickman, 5; H. C. Woodward (conductor), 6. Also a 720 of Plain Bob Minor. E. D. Taylor, 1; J. Wibberley, 2; H. C. Woodward, 3; Rev. W. W. T. Baker, 4; —. Hickman, 5; J. W. Taylor, jun. (conductor), 6. After which another 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor. J. Wibberley, 1; Dr. Sellon, 2; J. W. Taylor, jun., 3; Rev. W. W. T. Baker, 4; —. Hickman, 5; C. A. Fox (conductor), 6. Tenor 17½ cwt. The thanks of the visitors are due to the Rev. A. S. Mammatt, for the use of the bells. The vicar is a member of the Association, and also a ringer in his own tower. Several courses of Grandsire Triples and Caters were rung on the handbells during the afternoon.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

BANHAM (Norfolk).—On Thursday, September 25th, for the Harvest Thanksgiving Service, a 420 of Bob Minor. W. Nudds, jun., 1; J. Saunders, 2; R. Patrick, 3; R. Hutton, sen., 4; R. Nudds, 5; W. Nudds, sen., 6. After service a 720 of Bob Minor. W. Nudds, jun., 1; J. Saunders, 2; R. Patrick, 3; W. Nudds, sen., 4; R. Nudds, 5; R. Hutton (conductor), 6. And in the evening, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor. R. Hutton (conductor), 1; J. Saunders, 2; R. Patrick, 3; E. Everett, 4; R. Nudds, 5; J. Cunningham, 6. J. Cunningham was on a visit from West Ham, Essex.

THE WANSTEAD AMALGAMATED SOCIETY.

WOODFORD (Essex).—On Sunday, October 5th, for Harvest Festival, a 720 of Bob Minor, in 26 mins. H. Nunn, sen., 1; G. Akers, 2; J. Nunn, 2; G. Cornell, 4; J. Marks, 5; H. Scarlett (conductor), 6.

THE WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

SOBERTON (Hants).—On Sunday, September 28th, at St. Peter's church, for Divine Service in the morning, a 336 of Grandsire Triples, with Queens and Tittums. R. Linter, 1; F. Linter, 2; G. H. Child, 3; G. H. Barnett, 4; J. Hewett, 5; Hy. Mason, 6; Geo. Williams (conductor), 7; H. Matthews, 8. Also 518 of Grandsire Triples, first part of Holt's ten-part peal, in 22 mins. R. Linter, 1; F. Linter, 2; F. Hill, 3; J. Hewett (conductor), 4; Geo. Williams, 5; G. H. Child, 6; G. H. Barnett, 7; J. Whiting, 8. And in the afternoon, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, 1260 changes, in 47 mins. G. H. Barnett, 1; J. Hewett, 2; F. Hill, 3; G. H. Child, 4; C. Privett, 5; Hy. Mason, 6; Geo. Williams (conductor), 7; Jno. Whiting, 8. Tenor 14½ cwt. in G. This quarter-peal contains the twenty-four 6-7s. Some Stedman Doubles and a course of Grandsire Caters were rung on the handbells. C. Privett, 1-2; Geo. Williams, 3-4; J. Hewett, 5-6; F. Hill, 7; G. H. Barnett, 8; J. Whiting, 9-10.

BALDOCK (Herts).—On Tuesday morning, September 30th, three 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles. T. Webb (conductor), 1; J. Phillips, 2; J. Cawdell, 3; J. Smith, 4; R. Jackson, 5; W. Bidnell, 6; J. W. Roslyn, 7; G. Gentle, 8. Also in the evening, six 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles, each called differently, standing as before, conducted by J. Phillips. These were all rung with 4-6-8 covering.

BENGEO (Herts).—On Thursday, October 2nd, at Holy Trinity church, six of the Hertford College Youths rang a 720 of Oxford Bob, in 26 mins. Stephen Knight, 1; Thomas Gathard, 2; James Staples, 3; Henry Phillips, 4; Jasper G. Crawley, 5; Herbert Baker (conductor), 6. Tenor 7 cwt. This is the first 720 of Oxford Bob by all the band, and was rung at the first attempt. First in the method on the bells, and is believed to be the first rung in the county. Also on Sunday, October 5th, for evening service, 720 Bob Minor, in 25 mins. Edward Cains, 1; Thomas Gathard, 2; Henry Phillips, 3; Matthew Ellsmore, 4; Stephen Knight, 5; Herbert Baker (conductor), 6.

BOLLINGTON (Cheshire).—On Sunday evening, October 5th, at St. John's church, a 840 of Grandsire Triples, in 32 mins. J. Parker, 1; Wm. Walmsley (conductor), 2; Wm. Ingham, 3; Wm. Carter, 4; J. M. Davenport, 5; Thos. Mottershead, 6; W. H. Hardman, 7; Thos.

Furness, 8. Wm. Carter hails from Biddulph; W. H. Hardman from Widnes; Thos. Furness belongs to Bollington; the rest hail from Higher Sutton. Tenor 18 cwt.

DEERHURST (Gloucestershire).—*Muffled Peal*.—On Saturday, October 4th, the local company rang with the bells muffled, ten 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles, as a last mark of respect to the late Mr. Henry Margrett, who was for some years a ringer at this place. G. Willis, 1; C. Willis, 2; H. Roberts, 3; C. Roles, 4; J. Bartlett (conductor), 5; W. Matty, 6.

DERBY.—On Sunday, October 5th, being the Harvest Festival at St. Werburgh's church, a mixed band rang after Divine Service in the evening, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, 1260 changes, in 46 mins. G. Neal, 1; T. Bancroft, 2; A. E. Thompson, 3; J. Newbold, 4; R. Redgate, 5; R. Bosworth (conductor), 6; L. Lomas, 7; G. Slack, 8. Tenor 17 cwt. in E.

GRAVESEND.—On Sunday, September 21st, for evening service at St. George's church, it being the Harvest Festival, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples was rung by the Gravesend company, assisted by Mr. S. Hayes, who was a member of this company for many years, but now lives at Forest Gate, Essex. G. Hayes (first quarter-peal), 1; J. Aitkens, 2; M. Lambert, 3; W. King, 4; B. Spunner, 5; W. Harper, 6; S. Hayes (conductor), 7; J. Chapman, 8.

HALIFAX (Yorkshire).—*Muffled Peal*.—On Friday morning, October 6th, a funeral peal, consisting of 2520 changes of Bob Triples, in 1 hr. 40 mins., was rung by the All Souls ringers in memory of the late Mrs. Akroyd, the wife of Col. Akroyd, founder of the above church. She was well known and highly respected in the district. H. Reynolds, 1; T. Parker, 2; G. D. E. Mercer, 3; J. S. Ambler, 4; A. Parker, 5; A. F. Nicholl, 6; S. W. Stewart (conductor), 7; G. Standeven, 8. Tenor 26 cwt.

HARLOW (Essex).—On Saturday, October 4th, a visit was paid by Messrs. W. H. Tucker, H. Champness, H. J. Tucker, J. Sampford, G. Martin, T. Newman and H. Doughty, of Bishops Stortford, where they were met by N. W. Tarling, J. Tarling, jun., and A. Brown, of Sawbridgeworth, Herts, and the home party, when the following rang a 1399 of Grandsire Triples, taken from Holt's Original, in 55 mins. T. Newman, 1; A. Brown, 2; J. Tarling, jun. 3; G. Martin, 4; N. W. Tarling, 5; H. Champness, 6; H. J. Tucker (conductor), 7; J. Sampford, 8. Tenor 22 cwt. Also some other short touches of Grandsire and Plain Bob with some of the local company. The visitors take this opportunity of thanking their Harlow friends for the kind manner in which they made them welcome.

HAMPSTEAD (Middlesex).—On Sunday, September 7th, for Divine Service in the morning at St. Stephen's church, eight members of the local company rang 447 Grandsire Triples. S. Clarke, 1; B. Payne, 2; H. Tyler, 3; C. Deal, 4; W. Pryor, 5; N. Alderman, 6; B. Foskett (conductor), 7; W. Arscott, 8. And for Divine Service in the evening, 216 Grandsire Caters. S. Clarke, 1; C. Deal, 2; B. Foskett (conductor), 3; J. Comb, 4; H. Tyler, 5; E. F. Cole, Esq., 6; W. Pryor, 7; N. Alderman, 8; E. Chapman, 9; W. Arscott, 10. Also on Sunday, September 14th, for Divine Service in the evening, 559 Grandsire Triples, conducted by Wm. Pryor. And on Tuesday, September 16th, for practice, the same touch was again rung, the local company being assisted by Mr. Thomas Stewart, of Ipswich, who rang the 3rd, and W. Hutt, who rang the 6th. Also 434 Grandsire Triples, conducted by B. Foskett. T. Stewart in this touch rang the 2nd, W. Hutt the 3rd, and James Nixon, 4.

HIGHER SUTTON (Cheshire).—On Wednesday, October 24th, for practice, a 720 of Grandsire Minor, with thirty-four bobs and twenty-six singles, in 26 mins. J. Parker, 1; Wm. Kenny, 2; W. Ingham, 3; J. M. Davenport, 4; Wm. Walmsley (conductor), 5; Thos. Mottershead, 6. Also on Wednesday, October 1st, a 720 of the same with forty-four bobs and four singles, in 26 mins., standing as before, with the 3rd and 6th reversed. Also on Sunday, October 5th, for Divine Service in the morning, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor, in 26 mins. Wm. Walmsley (conductor), 1; Wm. Carter, 2; W. Ingham, 3; J. M. Davenport, 4; Wm. H. Hardman, 5; Thos. Mottershead, 6. And for afternoon service, a 720 of the same, in 27 mins., with Wm. Hulme on the 2nd. Tenor 12 cwt. in G. Wm. Hulme hails from Macclesfield; Wm. Carter from Biddulph; J. Parker, late of Cheddleton but now residing in Sutton; and W. H. Hardman, of Widnes, Lancashire, formerly of Higher Sutton.

HYDE (Cheshire).—On Saturday, October 4th, seven members of the St. George's society, with Mr. Thomas Dixon of Sheffield, attempted a peal of Stedman Triples, Brooke's variation, but after ringing for 3 hrs. and 1 min., the peal suddenly came to grief, having only twenty changes to ring. James Shaw, 1; Ralph Prichard, 2; Thomas Dixon (conductor), 3; Robert Woolley, 4; James S. Wilde, 5; George Longden, 5; Thomas Wilde, 7; David Leigh, 8.

LYMINGE (Kent).—On Wednesday evening, October 1st, at the parish church, a 720 of Plain Bob Minor, in 30 mins. A. Beer, 1; R.

Andrews, 2; T. Beer, 3; J. Andrews, 4; W. Fordred, jun., 5; A. Tanton (conductor), 6. And on Saturday evening, October 4th, six 6-scores of Bob Doubles, each called differently, in 29 mins. A. Beer, 1; R. Andrews, 2; T. Beer, 3; A. Tanton, 4; J. Andrews (conductor), 4; J. Prebble, 6. Tenor 18½ cwt.

NORTHFIELD (Worcestershire).—*Muffled Peal*.—On Sunday, September 28th, at the parish church, a 720 of Grandsire Minor, in 28 mins., with the bells muffled, as a tribute of respect to the late Joseph Dutton, steeple-keeper of the above church, who was respected by all who knew him. Amos Cresser, 1; C. Barnacle, 2; Thomas Lewis, 3; Edward Boylin, 4; Edward Bryant, 5; John T. Perry (conductor), 6.

RAUNDS (Northamptonshire).—On Wednesday, October 1st, at St. Peter's church, for service, 240 of Oxford Treble Bob Minor, and 120 of Oxford Bob Minor. A. Coles, 1; H. Stubbs, 2; R. Pendered, 3; F. Gilbert, 4; J. Wilmott, 5; W. Hall (conductor), 6. Also on Sunday, October 5th, for Divine Service in the evening, a 360 of Oxford Bob Minor, with nine bobs. H. Stubbs (conductor), 1; W. Hall, 2; R. Pendered, 3; G. Kirk, 4; F. Gilbert, 5; T. Roberts, 6. And 120 of Plain Bob Minor, J. Wilmott taking T. Roberts' place. T. Roberts hails from Ringstead.

READING (Berks).—On September 28th, at St. Lawrence's church, being the Harvest Festival, for early service, a 504 of Grandsire Triples, (from Troyte), in 20 mins. F. W. Round, 1; H. M. Bawden, 2; W. Holloway, 3; G. Talbot, 4; W. J. Williams (conductor), 5; W. Goselint, 6; W. Newell, 7; T. Hayward, 8. Also several touches were rung during the day, and a 701 of Grandsire Caters (from the *Clavis*), after evening service, in 30 mins. F. W. Round, 1; H. M. Bawden, 2; J. E. Willshire, 3; W. R. Pocock, 4; W. Holloway, 5; W. Goselint, 6; J. Potter, 7; W. J. Williams (conductor), 8; W. Newell, 9; T. Hayward, 12. Also on Tuesday, September 30th, for practice, another 701 of Grandsire Caters, in 30 mins. F. W. Round, 1; W. R. Pocock, 2; W. Johnson, 3; J. E. Willshire, 4; W. Holloway, 5; G. Talbot, 6; E. Bishop, 7; W. J. Williams (conductor), 8; W. Newell, 9; T. Hayward, 10. On the occasion of the Harvest Festival, the belfry was tastefully decorated with corn, flowers, and fruit by Mr. T. Hayward.

STANDISH (Lancashire).—On Saturday, October 4th, a 720 of Bob Minor, in 28 mins. Denis Booth (conductor), 1; Ralph Rainford, 2; John Grounds, 3; Walter Hayes (first 720), 4; Thomas Walker, 5; James Higson, 6. Tenor 11 cwt. Higson hails from Blackrod, the rest belong to Standish.

WALTON (Lancashire).—On Sunday evening, September 28th, at St. Mary's parish church, for Divine Service, a 216 of Grandsire Minor. J. Hurst, 1; C. J. Rodgers, 2; T. Somerville, 3; T. Rushton, 4; C. E. Wilson (conductor), 5; A. S. Barrell, 6. Also on Thursday evening, October 2nd, a 720 of Grandsire Minor, with thirty-four bobs and two singles, in 27 mins. E. Yates, 1; C. E. Wilson, 2; W. Short, 3; W. Rushton (conductor), 4; T. Woodward, 5; R. Barton, 6. Tenor 10 cwt.

WORTH (Sussex).—On Sunday, October 5th, the local company, with two of the Warnham ringers rang for Divine Service in the morning, a 360 of Oxford Bob Minor. B. Payne, 1; — Cole, 2; W. Short, 3; G. Illman, 4; F. Price, 5; H. Chantler (conductor), 6. Also a 720 of Plain Bob Minor, with fifteen bobs and six singles. B. Payne, 1; E. Streeter, 2; W. Short, 3; G. Illman, 4; H. Chantler, 5; F. Rice (conductor), 6. Also after morning service, a 720 of Plain Bob, with forty-two singles. B. Payne, 1; E. Streeter, 2; W. Short, 3; G. Illman, 4; F. Rice, 5; H. Chantler (conductor), 6. Also after service in the afternoon, a 720 of Warnham Court Bob, with twenty-four singles. B. Payne, 1; F. Streeter, 2; W. Short, 3; E. Streeter, 4; F. Rice, 5; H. Chantler (conductor), 6. Also a 720 of College Single, with eighteen bobs and two singles. E. Streeter, 1; F. Streeter, 2; W. Short, 3; B. Payne, 4; G. Illman, 5; F. Rice (conductor), 6. Also a 360 of Oxford Bob, with twelve singles. T. Illman, 1; F. Rice, 2; B. Payne, 3; H. Chantler, 4; G. Illman, 5; E. Streeter (conductor), 6. Tenor 8½ cwt.

FATAL ACCIDENT TO A RINGER.—We regret to announce the death of Richard Elwell, who died on the 13th ult., aged thirty-eight years, and which happened under very painful circumstances, deceased having fell from a scaffold, a distance of 40 ft. on the 4th of the same month. Although a young practitioner in the art of ringing, he was well respected by all who knew him, and very attentive at ringing meetings, and therefore his loss is much felt. On Monday, September 29th, a 593 of Grandsire Caters was rung at St. Philip's church, Birmingham, with the bells muffled as a token of respect to the above. Amos Cresser, 1; J. Callaghan, 2; Rev. W. S. Willett (Windsor parish church), 3; William Brook, 4; Bennett Stevens, 5; Charles Carmell, 6; Charles Barnicle, 7; Richard Hackley, 8; Thomas Miller (conductor), 9; Albert Hackley, 10. Tenor 29 cwt. in D.

A PEAL OF BELLS FOR BROUGHTON CHURCH, LANCASHIRE.

For many years past, there has been a strong desire among the parishioners of Broughton, that there should be placed in the venerable tower of the parish church, a peal of bells, whose chorus should echo along the picturesque slopes of the parish, calling the worshippers to Divine Service, and the ambition of the parishioners has at last been realised. A movement, led by the worthy Vicar, the Rev. Wm. Bretherton, was started a short time ago, and subscriptions flowed in. The remainder of the sum required was readily contributed by D. Arkwright, Esq., J.P., who is a native of the parish, and many of whose relatives lie in the burial ground of the old church. The Vicar put himself in communication with Messrs. Mears and Stainbank, of Whitechapel Road, London, E.C., and it was arranged that they should take out the three old bells and recast them. One of these bells was probably the most ancient in the north of England; one of the others was put in by the wardens well nigh 200 years ago, and the other was subsequently added. The tower in which these old bells were hung, is the only portion of the old church which was retained in the rebuilding operations of 1826. There is on the top of the southern side of the rugged, weather-beaten tower, the figures 1533, and it is believed that this refers to the date of its erection. The three old bells were taken out a few months ago, and after being sketched for the Vicar, were recast, and sent along with three lighter bells. These have been fixed in the tower, and form a very good peal. The cost of the additions, over £300, has been completely defrayed before the opening day, September 25th, and it was decided that at the special service on Thursday, there should be no collection. The service was held in the afternoon, and there was a very large congregation, the weather being exceedingly fine. Many persons came from Preston, and there was a fair sprinkling from other parishes. A large Union Jack floated from the flag-staff on the tower, which was given by the late Alderman Rawcliffe in 1856, and for some time before the commencement of the service, peals of various changes were rung by the ringers from Goosnargh Church, who had come to assist on the occasion. The choir had been strengthened by friends from the parish and from the district, and the musical portion of the service was exceedingly well given. The hymns were selected from the book *Ancient and Modern*, and ended with a well-known processional hymn, which was sung by the whole congregation with great heartiness. The opening portion of the service and the first lesson were read by the Vicar, and the second lesson and the concluding part of the service were read by the Rev. J. D. Harrison, Vicar of St. Lawrence's, Barton. Among those in the congregation were the Vicar of Goosnargh, the curate of Churchtown, Garstang, and other clergymen.

The Ven. Archdeacon HORNBY, preaching from Ezra iii, 4, said this was a day of rejoicing. A work in which they had all been interested, had been successfully completed, and the bells had sent forth their merry sounds, announcing that fact to the whole parish. Again and again those bells of theirs would speak to them in like manner. There might be days of public rejoicing when the bells would be heard far and wide in token of their joy; and there certainly would be days of private rejoicing amongst themselves when those whom they delighted to honour were plighting their troth each to the other in the holy state of matrimony, and then the merry peals would ring out to signalise the event and their joy. But the sun did not always shine in this world. While travelling along, we must look for days of darkness—times of sorrow and affliction—and when such times came, their bells would speak again, but not with those joyful sounds. There might be the muffled bell, or there might be the minute bell, or the passing bell, which told them that one of their fellow-travellers had finished his course here on earth, and had been removed into the everlasting world; and would not this remind them, if they needed reminding, that the bell might next toll for them? But there was one day which was separated from other days—a day which God had seen fit especially to mark out for Himself. That day was called in the book of Revelation the Lord's Day, because it was the day on which they commemorated the resurrection of their blessed Lord from the dead, and because it was the day which God claimed especially for himself. The duty of that day required them to cease from all worldly labours, to set their hearts more and more on heavenly things, to consider how their case stood with God, and resolve to serve him better. It was a day on which they were called to meet in this his house, there to give praises to God, to humble themselves before him, and to ask him to give them grace that they might be enabled to love and to serve him better every day. But it was not all in this Christian country of ours, notwithstanding its great privileges, who observed this day rightly. There were those who would devote the Sabbath certainly not to any works connected with religion. St. Paul in his epistle to the Hebrews, said, "Not forsaking the assembling of yourselves together after the manner of some." In those early days there were those who neglected to assemble in God's house, but could it not with truth be said in these days "after the manner of many," and if there were any such in

this parish those bells which they had opened that day would send forth a word of warning. One of their poets had spoken of the bell as a church-going bell, because the bells on the Sunday reminded them that God had called upon them to keep that day holy. Men might neglect their religious duties, but if they did there was, at all events, the sounding bell reminding them of their neglect. There might be those who, instead of coming to this house of God on a Sunday, and hearing the sermon which their Vicar preached, stayed in their own homes or turned their thoughts to places that they loved better than God's house; but if it be so, the bells would every Sunday preach a sermon which men could not fail to hear, whether they choose to heed it or not. He had spoken of different days having different duties connected with them, but there was one duty which belonged to every day alike, and that duty was to work out their own salvation. They must go out into the vineyard, and try to the utmost of their power to spread Christ's kingdom. Let each one try to make this world happier and better, remembering that life was as a vapour, and that it behoved them to make the best use of their time. They had put in that tower a clock. A great poet had said—

We take no note of time
But from its loss. To give it then a tongue
Is wise in man.

Whenever that fine clock in the tower struck, it would tell them that time was passing; that the hours were flying away. Let them work the work of him who sent them while it was day.

After the service, a few friends, the choir, and the ringers were entertained at a capital tea, gracefully dispensed in the schoolroom by Mrs. Waddington, Mrs. Hoole, and several assistant young ladies.

THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

The next Quarterly meeting of this Association will be held at Dorking (by the kind permission of the Vicar), on Monday, October 13th. The tower will be open for ringing in the afternoon and evening. There will be a tea in the Church Room close to the Church, at 5.30, and business meeting immediately afterwards. It is requested that all who intend to be present at the tea, will send in their names to the hon. secretary by Thursday evening, October 9th, at the latest, as it is necessary to know how many to provide for. The tea will be free to all ringing members who send in their names; all others 1s. 6d. Any ringers will be welcome.

ARTHUR B. CARPENTER, Hon. Sec.

34, Dingwall Road, Croydon, September 30th, 1884.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

The next Quarterly District Meeting of the above Association will be held at Tetbury, on Monday, October 20th. Divine Service will be held at the parish church at 11 a.m.: Dinner at the "White Hart" at 1 p.m. A conveyance will meet the 9.12 train at Nailsworth, which will convey members to and from Tetbury at 1s. per head each way. The Upton St Leonard's-cum-Barnwood band will represent the Association on this occasion.

PITT EYKYN, Hon. Sec.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

A DISTRICT MEETING will be held on Monday, the 27th inst., at Folkestone. Leave has been obtained to ring at Folkestone (eight bells), Cheriton (six bells), St. James, Dover (six bells), Saltwood (five bells), Newington (five bells). A committee meeting will be held in the Town Hall, Folkestone, at 1 p.m., for admission of members, and to fix the date of the next district meeting.

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

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

THE ANNUAL MEETING of this Association will be held on Monday, October 27th, at Newcastle. Dinner at the "Crown and Mitre" at 3 o'clock. Service in the Cathedral at 2 o'clock. Particulars of the arrangements will be forwarded by circular to the various branches.

G. J. CLARKSON, Hon. Sec.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

THE Annual Meeting of this Association will be held at Ipswich on Monday, October 27th. Full particulars next week.

A shocking accident occurred on Monday at the Chapel of Logboy, near Ballyhaunis, Ireland. While a bell suspended from a tree was ringing for mass, it fell on the head of a young man named Owens, 16 years of age, inflicting shocking injury. The last sacraments were administered, and Owens died in a few minutes afterwards.

* * Correspondence, touches received late, and other items, will appear in our next number.

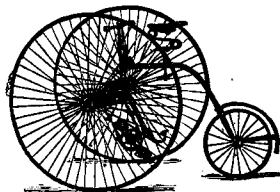
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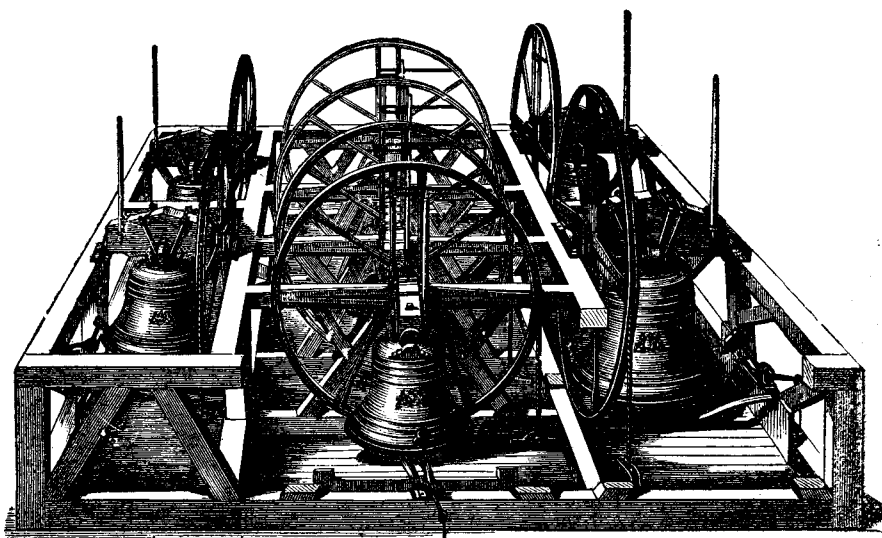
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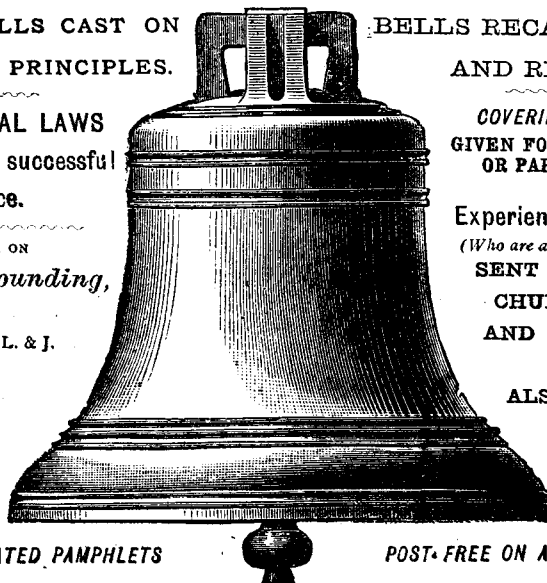
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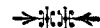
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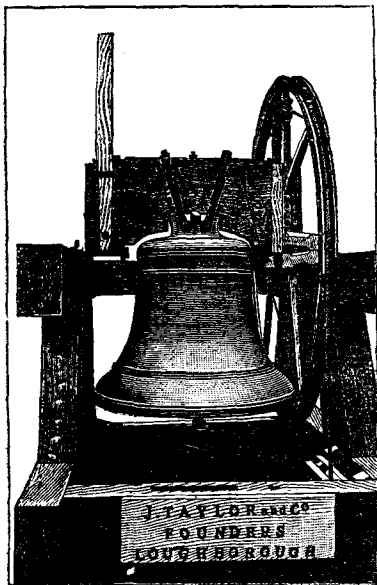
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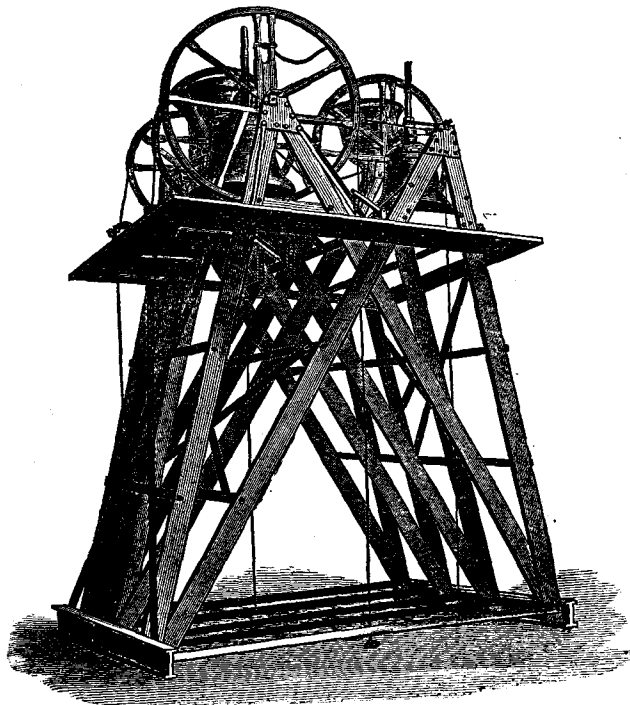
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No. 133. [NEW SERIES.]—VOL. III. SATURDAY, OCTOBER 18, 1884.

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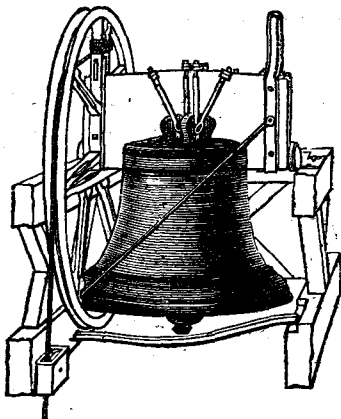
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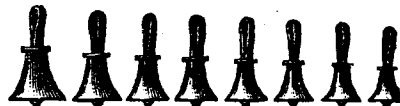
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MUSICAL HAND BELLS

CHURCH BELLS TO ANY WEIGHT.

IS A VICAR AT ALL RESPONSIBLE FOR WHAT TAKES PLACE IN THE BELFRY OF HIS CHURCH?

I should at once say "yes." The law says that the incumbent has sole control of the bells of his church, the churchwardens being able only to insist upon their being rung for service.

Do the clergy recognise their responsibility? Many of them, I am afraid, ignore it, as entirely as they ignore the ringers themselves. Some only partially recognise it, and depute their authority to some person, who may be by chance, competent, but who is, as a rule, quite unfit for the part he should play; whilst others, and their number increases every year, take a personal interest in the well-being and comfort of their ringers, and encourage them in the practice of an art which needs both a willing hand and heart. The results in the three cases, are, as might be expected, as different as the causes, and are, to make a general rule, the simple and natural growths of the roots from which they spring. As the parson deals, so he must expect to be dealt by.

No one expects to get a good crop out of bad ground, unless he has taken great pains to cultivate it, and has, he hopes, imparted to it a power to produce it did not before possess: nor does any one, with an eye to profits, rely, for any length of time on the natural fertility of the soil. When, however, a man has good land, and gives it proper attention, he expects and gets corresponding returns. I believe that at least nine-tenths of the complaints, we hear, and have heard, of the trouble caused by ringers, are owing solely to the lack of interest shown by those who should be rulers in their belfries. Where you find a vicar who takes a proper interest in his church—and the belfry is of course part of the church—there you will find a reverent and orderly band of ringers. I have not mentioned the subject of pay; for no genuine ringer is adequately paid for the time and trouble expended in the pursuit of his art. Guilds and Associations may, to some extent, supply the void; but how much better the results, if the vicar puts his influence into the scales as well. L.

ST. JAMES'S SOCIETY AT HARROW-ON-THE-HILL.

It is almost needless to describe to our readers the situation of the old parish church of St. Mary's, Harrow-on-the-Hill. Its elevated and commanding position enables the visitor to view a fair and extensive scene that one of our most popular poets loved to gaze upon—Byron. His favourite seat, on an old antiquated tomb at the west end of the church yard, is now being securely protected from the sight-seeing public, who have an aptitude to destroy such relics. Here last Saturday a peal was rung, duly recorded in another column.

The church is very interesting, especially the interior, and an old disused door of huge proportions and rare antiquity, attracts the attention of the visitors. The bells are an old ring from the White-chapel Foundry, and have recently been renovated by Mr. George Banks, of Kennington Lane, his work giving every satisfaction.

At the conclusion of the peal, Mr. Dell (churchwarden), came into the tower, and congratulated the company upon the excellent peal they had rung. Knowing this to be the first peal rang at Harrow since 1837, it is hoped that a suitable peal-board will be placed in the tower to record the performance. The attempt for the peal was duly noticed in one of the local papers for last Saturday; so the townspeople were awaiting the result with interest.

After spending a short time with the local ringers and some friends from Pinner, the visitors returned home by the 10.32 train, expressing their thanks to the Vicar and churchwardens for their hearty welcome and good wishes.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Sunday, September 28th, several members of the above Association visited Hartpur, near Gloucester, and rang ten 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles, in 50 mins. A. Humphris, 1; Wm. Dyer, 2; H. Karn, 3; G. H. Phillott, Esq., 4; R. Brunson (conductor), 5. Tenor about 19 cwt. in D. This is the longest length of Doubles ever rung on these bells. On the return journey a halt was made at Maisemore church, where the ring of six have been recently re-hung by Warner and Sons. The 2nd and 3rd bells have also been re-cast. The new bells are a good splice, and if the present tenor (which is hideously out of tune) were recast, Maisemore would possess a very pretty ring of six. Here a 720 of Grandsire Minor was rung in 26 mins. J. Clarke, 1; T. Hooper, 2; G. H. Phillott, Esq., 3; R. Brunson, 4; Wm. Brunson, 5; H. Karn (conductor), 6. Also a 6-score of Stedman Doubles. B. Etheridge, 1; R. Brunson, 2; G. H. Phillott, Esq., 3; W. Brunson, 4; H. Karn, 5; A. Humphris, 6. Tenor about 12 cwt. in F#.

HALLING, KENT.

The bells of St. John the Baptist's parish church, Halling, which have recently been rehung, were re-opened on Thursday week, and was commemorated by a supper at the "Five Bells Inn."

THE PARSONS' PEAL.

In connection with this performance, the *Church Times* has the following:—

Evidence has not been wanting for some time past that the clergy are beginning to realise the fact that the church tower is part of the church; that the bells are ornaments of the church to be used to God's glory, and that the ringers are really, or should be, church officers. This has been shown by the active part many of them have taken in the formation and working of the various Guilds of ringers, which are to be found in many of our dioceses and counties. Many of them, too, have shown signs that they believe in the saying that example is better than precept, and for this reason, as well as for its own sake, have undertaken the study of the art of ringing. But though several individual priests have for some time been numbered among the best ringers of the day, these have been but isolated cases. Thursday, October 2nd, however, will henceforth be a red-letter day in the annals of the belfry reform movement, for on that day was rung the first true and complete peal ever rung by a band composed entirely of clergymen. The village of Drayton, near Abingdon, in Berkshire, was chosen for the performance, and there, on the ring of eight bells in the parish church, the following clergymen, all members of the Ancient Society of College Youths of London, and of the Oxford University Society of change ringers, rang Thurstan's peal of 5040 Stedman Triples, true and complete, in 2 hrs. 51 mins. Rev. G. F. Coleridge, curate of Caversham, Reading, 1; Rev. F. A. H. Du Boulay, curate of Headington, Oxon, 2; Rev. A. Du B. Hill, vicar of Downton, Wilts, 3; Rev. W. S. Willett, curate of St. John's, Windsor, 4; Rev. C. C. Child, curate of St. Mary's, Chatham, 5; Rev. C. D. P. Davies, curate of Chaceley, near Tewkesbury, 6; Rev. F. E. Robinson, vicar of Drayton, Berks, 7; Rev. J. H. Fish, vicar of St. Paul's, Burton-on-Trent, 8; conducted by the Rev. F. E. Robinson. Tenor 9½ cwt. The ringing was commenced with a short office said by the conductor, and concluded with the grace.

HEPTONSTALL, YORKSHIRE.

The following is the work done by the local company at St. Thomas's church, for the three months ending September. July 4th, 360 of College Single, 360 of Bob Minor. July 6th, 720 of Yorkshire Court, 720 of Oxford. July 9th, 360 of College Single, 720 of Kent, 360 of Bob Minor. July 13th, 720 of Kent, 720 of New London Pleasure. July 16th, 540 of College Single, 180 of Oxford Single. July 20th, 360 of College Single, 360 of Violet, 180 of Oxford Single, 720 of Oxford Treble. July 23rd, 540 College Single. July 27th, 720 of College Single, 720 of Oxford Treble, 720 of Bob Minor. July 30th, 720 of Oxford Single, 360 of Bob Minor. August 3rd, 720 of Oxford Single, 720 of College Single. August 6th, 720 of Oxford Single. August 10th, 720 of Bob Minor, 720 of New London Pleasure. August 13th, 480 Kent, 240 of Bob Minor. August 17th, 360 of Bob Minor, 360 of Yorkshire Court, 360 of Oxford Treble, 240 of Kent. August 20th, 720 of Kent, 144 of Bob Minor. August 24th, 720 of Violet, 720 of Oxford. August 27th, 240 of Kent, 240 of Yorkshire Court, 240 of Oxford Single. August 29th, 240 of New London, 240 of Violet, 240 of Yorkshire Court, 240 of College Single. August 31st, 240 of Oxford Single, 240 of College Single, 240 of New London, 240 of Yorkshire Court, 240 of Violet, and 240 of Kent. September 3rd, 720 of Bob Minor, 360 of College Single. September 7th, 240 of Violet, 240 of Oxford, 240 of Bob Minor, 240 of Yorkshire Court, 240 of Kent, 240 of New London. September 10th, 360 of Oxford Single. September 12th, 240 of Yorkshire Court, 240 of Oxford Single, 240 of New London, 240 of Kent, 240 of Violet, 240 of Bob Minor. September 14th, 240 of Oxford, 240 of College Single, 240 of Bob Minor, 240 of Yorkshire Court, 240 of Violet, 240 of Kent. September 17th, 720 of Oxford Single, 360 of College Single. September 21st, 720 of Violet, 240 of College Single, 360 of Oxford, 720 of Bob Minor. September 24th, 360 of Kent, 360 of College Single. September 28th, 240 of Yorkshire Court, 240 of Violet, 120 of Oxford, 240 of New London, 240 of Kent, 180 of Oxford Single. Total number of changes for the three months, 33,084. J. Robertshaw, 1; A. Burn, 2; J. Armstrong, 3; J. Hartley, 4; J. Nowell, 5; W. Robertshaw, 6. Tenor about 12 cwt. [It would be preferable to have this account monthly, with the various methods more accurately defined.—ED.]

THE SOUTH LINCOLNSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

The Quarterly Meeting of this Association will be held at Stamford, on Saturday, October 25th. All skilled members wishing to be present must send in their names to me, on or before Saturday, the 18th inst., or the usual allowance will not be granted them. The following churches will be open for ringing during the day: St. Mary's, 8 bells; All Saints', 6 bells; St. Martin's, 6 bells; St. Michael's, 6 bells. Dinner will be provided at "The Crown" Inn, at two o'clock, tickets 2s. each. R. CREASEY, Hon. Sec.

A NEW PEAL OF BELLS AT ST. JAMES'S, WHITEFIELD, DERBYSHIRE.

ON Thursday, October 9th, a peal of eight bells was opened at the above church by the ringers of All Saints' church, Glossop. There had formerly only been one small bell in the tower, but owing to a general wish on the part of the parishioners, a subscription was opened with the most gratifying results, the order for the bells being entrusted to Warner and Sons, of the Crescent Foundry, Cripplegate. No time has been lost in the matter, for in less than three weeks the bells have been cast and hung in the tower. They are a remarkably sweet and powerful ring, the trebles being especially good, the back four being maiden bells. The weights and inscriptions are as follows:—

- Treble*.—"The Vicar and his wife gave me in loving memory of their only daughter Isabel Amy Ward, who died March 29th, 1871, aged 6 years." 6 cwt.
 2.—"Ann Kershaw Wood gave me in memory of the deceased scholars of the Sunday School class, 1884." 6½ cwt.
 3.—"I first hung here when Charles Bruce was vicar, and Edward Thomas Taylor was curate." 5½ cwt.
 4.—"When I came here James Rhodes and Joseph Winterbottom were churchwardens." 6½ cwt.
 5.—"My seven companions and I were made September, 1884." 7½ cwt.
 6.—"We were placed here by public subscription. A clock was given by Alice Agnes Wood." 8½ cwt.
 7.—"The male teachers and senior scholars gave me to tell the praise and glory of God." 9 cwt.
Tenor.—"The female teachers and senior scholars gave me to adorn the place of God." 12½ cwt. in G.

The bells are hung in two separate frames of English oak, four above four, the size of the tower being under 10 ft. square. They were erected under the personal supervision of Mr. G. Dunn, foreman of the bell department, and proved very satisfactory, the go of the bells leaving nothing to be desired. The utmost enthusiasm prevails as regards bell-ringing, no less than two bands of change-ringers practising at Glossop church. The new bells, which arrived on the Saturday previous, being drawn in three trolleys from the station, was attended by hundreds of people. Crowds also assembled on the opening day, when several 576's, 224's, and a 1152 of Treble Bob Major were rung, the bells also being raised and lowered in peal in first-class style. On Thursday evening, the workmen and ringers, together with the vicar and churchwardens, dined together at the "Surrey Arms," Victoria Street. A most excellent repast was placed on the table by Mr. J. Ford, to which ample justice was done, the Vicar occupying the chair. The customary loyal toasts were duly honoured, and also the subscribers to the bell fund; the curate's and churchwarden's healths. The chairman proposed "The Health of Mr. G. Dunn and his workmen," in eulogistic terms. Mr. Dunn responded in felicitous terms on behalf of himself and workmen, and also expressed a wish that Mr. J. Pye, one of the Glossop ringers, would give his opinion regarding the new bells. In response, Mr. Pye said that he had rung on many peals of bells, both new and old, but he had never rung on one that harmonised so nicely, or went as well as this peal, and he considered it a great credit to all concerned in the making and hanging of the bells. Various other toasts and handbell ringing, together with some excellent singing, concluded a most enjoyable evening, the proceedings of which were characterised by the utmost enthusiasm and good order, the room being crowded all the latter part of the time.

THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

A QUARTERLY MEETING of this Association was held at Dorking, by the kind permission of the Ven. Archdeacon Atkinson, on Monday, October 13th. The use of the Church Room was very kindly allowed by the Clergy for this occasion, and here about eighteen members sat down to tea. After the meal, the necessary business was got through, the Rev. L. H. Burrows being in the chair. The party then adjourned to the tower and spent the rest of the evening in ringing. Touches in various methods were rung, but in each case Triples was the order of the day. The methods practised were Grandsire, Stedman, Plain Bob, Union Triples, and Oxford Bob Triples. The towers represented were: Bletchingley, Ashted, Benhilton, Epsom, and Leatherhead; and good help was afforded by some of the Dorking ringers with friends from Farnham and Walthamstow. The ringers take this opportunity of thanking all those who so kindly got everything ready for them at Dorking.

KESSINGLAND CHURCH BELLS, LOWESTOFT.

The peal of five bells, which for some time has been out of repair, was rung for the first time on Saturday, after being rehung, by ringers from Carlton, Lowestoft, Kessingland, Eye, etc. After several 6-scores in different methods had been rung, the ringers were entertained through the liberality of —. Smith, Esq., at the Manor House, to a substantial dinner and refreshments, where a most enjoyable evening was spent, all expressing their satisfaction of the work, and in the manner it has been executed. The work was entrusted to Messrs. George Day and Son, Church Bell Hangers, Eye, Suffolk.

VESTRY MEETING AT TENTERDEN, KENT.

ON Thursday afternoon a vestry meeting was held at St. Mildred's church, to further consider the repairing and putting into order the bells of the parish church and other parochial business. The Rev. S. Lepard (vicar) presided, and there were present the Rev. A. R. Simpson, the Rev. Tress-Beale, Mr. R. Webb (Mayor), Messrs. Mace, Bazeley, Lansdell, Saunders, E. Howard, Masters, Stanbridge, M. Rogers, H. Boorman, Apps, Kenward, D. Southon, O. Edwards, J. H. Newington, Stringer Weston, A. H. Pratt, H. Lansdell, H. Gower, J. Saunders, G. F. Varty, Edward Winsor, J. Gilbert, E. Bishop, Bennett, and others. The minutes of the last meeting, held August 21st., were read, after which the chairman stated that since the last meeting circulars had been sent round the parish, and he was thankful to the gentleman who undertook to send them out. Although they were only sent out six weeks ago the appeal contained in the circular had been most warmly responded to, and promises and subscriptions had amounted to £321 10s. He considered it a most gratifying thing that the parish had come so liberally forward. He supposed the next thing was to see how the work was to be accomplished, and by whom it should be done. They had received two tenders for the work, including re-casting three of the bells, which were cracked, viz., the second, seventh, and eighth, carriage, hanging, etc. Messrs. Warner and Co's estimate was £280 11s.; Messrs Gillett, Bland, and Co.'s estimate, £237. Mr. Stanbridge said he had written to Messrs. Warner asking for a subscription, and had received a telegram in reply, which he was about to read, when Mr. Mace said he thought it was a wrong thing for Mr. Stanbridge to write for a subscription from a person tendering, according to his view of things, and he considered the telegram should not be read. The Chairman coincided with Mr. Mace, and said he certainly thought the telegram should remain unread. The Mayor (Mr. R. Webb), seconded by Mr. Masters, and supported by Mr. Mace, proposed that Messrs. Gillett, Bland and Co.'s tender be received, as it was the lower of the two. Mr. Saunders, seconded by Mr. Lansdell, proposed as an amendment that the higher estimate be received. Mr. Mace presumed that it was the desire of the meeting not to spend money as foolishly as they had done on a former occasion. They had tenders from two highly-respectable firms, and he saw no reason why they should spend £43 more than was necessary, in order to have the work well done. The balance left after paying for the bells might be appropriated to doing the chimes. Mr. Weller remarked that, having obtained more money than the amount of the highest tender, and knowing that Messrs. Warner and Sons were a very old established firm, he considered it their bounden duty to accept Messrs. Warner's tender. After a discussion as to the merits of the two rival firms, Mr. Masters expressing his willingness to double his subscriptions if the chimes were done the same time as the bells were, the Chairman put the amendment to the meeting, when twenty-three voted in favour of it, and only ten in support of the resolution. As the choice had fallen on Messrs. Warner and Sons, Mr. Stanbridge was allowed to read the telegram, which stated that Messrs. Warner were prepared to allow five per cent. discount for cash, and also that they would hang the large bells on Goslin's patent, the cost was therefore reduced to £266 11s. 10d. On the declaration of the result of the voting, Mr. Masters said: I wish to demand a poll of the parish. The Chairman: Oh, I hope not. Mr. Weller: Oh! ridiculous. The Chairman: I hope no gentleman will second such a thing. Mr. Weller: It is not a meeting requiring a poll, it is not a public meeting, it is a meeting of subscribers; you cannot demand a poll. Mr. Masters: I think I have demanded a poll before. Mr. Weller: I beg your pardon, sir, you could not. Mr. Mace: I think a poll can be demanded. The Rev. Tress Beale: They are private subscriptions, and anyone who objected might withdraw their subscriptions. The matter then dropped. Mr. Varty considered some one should go up and see that the metal of their bells was really used for the new bells. Mr. H. Gower reminded the meeting that some thirty years ago, the Cranbrook people lost their bells; the chimes were taken away and new ones were to be put in their place, but, as no time was specified in which the work was to be done, the contractor was always "too busy," and in the long run they never received any bells at all from him. Mr. Pratt seconded, and Mr. Edgar Howard supported the recommendation, whereupon the Chairman, Mr. Saunders and Mr. Pratt, volunteered to go and see the bells broken up and smelted and run into the moulds. The Chairman expressed the wish that all who had promised subscriptions would pay them into the London and County or Rye Banks.—*Kentish Express*.

GREAT HOUGHTON CHURCH, NORTHAMPTON.

The church at this place has just been enriched by having a large new clock fixed in the tower, which strikes the hours on a large bell, and shows time on two dials each four feet in diameter. It is fitted with all the latest improvements, and will prove a great benefit to the village. Messrs. John Smith and Sons, Midland Clock Works, Derby, have carried out the work.

THE WANSTEAD AMALGAMATED SOCIETY.

ON Saturday last, October 11th, the above Society had its first annual outing, which was in every respect a success. Chelmsford was the place selected, and as the programme was a lengthy one, an early start was made for that town. A substantial luncheon, which the host at the "Golden Fleece" had provided having been disposed of, the party divided, some going to Widford, where several touches of Oxford and Kent Treble Bob, Plain Bob, and Grandsire were rung, and the others to Writtle, for a peal of Grandsire Triples (Hollis's five-part), which was accomplished in very good style, an account of which will be found in another column. This part of the programme having been got through so successfully, it was time to repair again to the "Golden Fleece," where host Mead had provided an excellent dinner, to which ample justice was done by all present. After the cloth was removed, and several statements and complimentary speeches were made respecting the satisfactory state of the Society, all adjourned to Chelmsford church, where a few touches of Treble Bob Major and Grandsire Triples were rung. The rest of the evening was passed in a very pleasant manner in the parlour of the "Golden Fleece," the proceedings being enlivened by tunes upon the handbells, double-handed touches of Treble Bob Major, etc., and vocal harmony, the latter being contributed to in no small degree by the local ringers and friends.

As arrangements had been made at Galleywood for a peal of Treble Bob Major the next day, before morning service, all bestirred themselves early, and after a hasty breakfast departed for that place, where everything being ready and in good order, a start was made, but after ringing some time a change-course occurred, and "stand" was called. There not being sufficient time left before the service for the peal, a long touch of Grandsire Triples was rung instead. Early dinner having been ordered, all returned to the "Golden Fleece," which being in readiness was forthwith dispatched in double-quick time. The return journey was soon after talked of, but as the local ringers did not wish to lose their visitors so soon, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples was arranged for the evening before service, and this being agreed upon, some settled down for an afternoon nap, some for a pipe, and others for a walk in the pleasant surrounding country. After tea all met at the church, and those that were to ring ascended the tower, and the bells being up, a start was made for a quarter-peal composed by the Editor of "THE BELL NEWS," and was brought round in 46 mins., as recorded on another page.

The Wanstead Amalgamated Society here wish to convey their thanks to the clergy, churchwardens, and steeplekeepers of the various churches they visited, for the cordial manner in which they were received and made welcome; and to the local ringers, who met them and rang with them, for their very hearty reception and good wishes. Also to the worthy landlord of the "Golden Fleece," who spared no pains, and left nothing in his power undone that would tend to make his visitors comfortable and welcome.

CRADLEY BY MALVERN.

ON Tuesday, October 7th, this village was full of unusual interest and excitement, on the occasion of a bazaar held in the girls' school-room, in aid of the restoration of the church bells. An abundant supply of valuable articles were offered for sale, and the efficient way it was laid out, and the way the sale was conducted reflected no small credit on the ladies in the parish, and their friends, who had used every exertion in having the whole in perfect order. Although there was a stand selling in aid of missionary work in the room, which realised about £20., we are gratified to know that upwards of £50 was obtained for the principal cause the sale was held, namely, the church bells. It will be interesting to know, in addition to the fancy and useful work, such as needlework, etc., a pair of pea fowls, fancy pigeons, fowls, and canaries, also a fox terrier, were on sale. A pig was drawn for by agricultural labourers only, and was given by a gentleman in the parish, the proceeds to be given to the bell fund. An excellent quadrille band was in attendance from Worcester, and played a good selection of music during the day, and the Cradley Drum and Fife also played for dancing in a field opposite the school, and in a tent on the lawn. The Cradley ringers also kept up a merry peal on the bells, which were re-opened for the occasion. With regard to the bells, we are glad to state they are now in excellent order, and can be rung with the greatest of ease, and the tone is much improved, being clappered on a different principle, and every part is quite new except the framework, and work now on the latest improvements. It will be remembered that the tenor bell was cracked, consequently it has been recast, and is now a splendid bell. The work was carried out by Messrs. Taylor and Sons, Loughborough, Leicestershire, and gives the greatest satisfaction. We are also glad to state that the churchwardens are now in a position to pay all claims due for the work, and will have a good surplus in hand. About £90 was raised by subscriptions.—*Local Paper.*

BRAINTREE.—THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

THE following is the ringing done by the Braintree branch of the above Association during the month of September:—

September 2nd: 720 Oxford Treble Bob, 720 Kent Treble Bob; September 6th: 720 Cambridge Surprise, 720 Double Court; September 7th: 720 Double Court; September 13th: 720 Imperial, 720 Oxford Delight; September 14th: 720 Bob Minor, 96 New London, 72 Bob Minor; September 16th: 720 Superlative; September 21st: 720 Oxford Treble Bob, 720 Kent Treble Bob, 144 Kent, 240 Oxford Treble Bob; September 28th: 720 New London, 720 College Exercise, 96 New London, 120 College Exercise; September 29th: 720 London Scholars' Pleasure, 72 Bob Minor.

WOOTTON CHURCH, BEDFORD.

A large new clock has just been erected in Wootton Church, near Bedford. It strikes the hours on a large bell, chimes the ding-dong quarters, and shows time on a copper dial five feet in diameter. It is fitted with all the latest improvements. Messrs. John Smith and Sons, Midland Clock Works, Derby, carried out the work.

Correspondence.

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

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

SUTTON BELL OPENING.

SIR,—Why do bell-hangers escape sharp criticism at the hands of ringers on an opening day? This is a question which may be answered by any ringer who takes the trouble to think over his passed experiences for a few moments—how stands the case? A number of ringers are assembled, members most likely of many different companies; a band is selected, and strips to its work—the ropes fall in a bad circle, as at Royal Sutton—the ringers of some of the bells are heavily handicapped by the unnecessary difficulties of their position—two men are told off to a tenor of 18 cwt., and determine not to be beaten if possible, the other back bells are manned by men equally determined, and all know at starting, that if they fail, there are others in waiting, ready to take their places—the consequence is that an opening day is often a trial of strength and good handling amongst the ringers, and the faulty hanging of the bells is passed over in silence, because those who manage to keep the bells going, don't like to "crow" about it, and those who fail, don't like to own that others could ring them, but that they could not. The fact is, bellhangers trade upon the pluck of Englishmen, and profit by it. Treble Bob says, "Shew the hangers up, and blow the consequences." Very good; but I like my notion best; make the hanger ring his thousand, and judge of the merits of his work by his condition at the end of it. BOB.

SOUND METHODS IN MINOR.

SIR,—Mr. Story contends that Duke of York is a sound method, although there are six rotten places in it, and seems to think with Mr. Hammond that the position of the tenors is only to be regarded at lead and part-ends. This reminds me of the profound advice bequeathed by a parish clerk to his successor in office, with respect to reading the responses in church, when he told him if he only began well and finished well, never to mind the middle. Out of the twenty-four changes in a 720 with 6-5 behind, only six can occur with the treble at lead, but the effect is just as much an outrage upon the melody of the peal if the other eighteen changes come up at back-stroke. In Duke of York eighteen out of the twenty-four do so occur. A very slight reflection on Mr. Story's part should have detected the misprint in the part-end of College Exercise, in Hubbard's third edition, as it is impossible for the tenors to be 6-5 at any part-end of a three-part peal. I think that the single given in College Singles in *Standard Methods* is alone sufficient to put that work out of court as an authority for what is good or bad in Minor, not to mention several methods in the same work, all on a par with Duke of York; besides, the author learnt his six-bell ringing in Yorkshire, where leads are not marked on six bells, by some strange perversion of taste. The same author, in his interesting *Treatise on Treble Bob*, shows himself by no means indifferent to the musical qualities of peals on the higher numbers. Mr. Hubbard, too, probably gave little consideration to what methods were suitable to five and six bells, for on five he gives Double Grandsire and Double Stedman's Slow Course, neither of which will produce the 120 of Doubles at all, and on six he gives some very ugly methods, probably because these methods are very musical on eight, as for instance, Superlative Surprise and Imperial. There are methods for six bells both easy and difficult, in sufficient quantity to keep any company going a lifetime, the music of which is unimpeachable, and this, without including such a mongrel affair as I hold Grandsire Minor to be, not to mention Duke of York, etc. G. J. CLARKSON.

"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.

Everything for insertion in this Journal to be addressed "The Editor of THE BELL NEWS, Walthamstow, London." Letters forwarded for publication, and performances under 5000 changes must reach us not later than Wednesday morning; and the insertion of any communication coming later than the first Postal delivery on Thursday morning cannot be guaranteed in that week's number. When it is found impossible from want of space to insert all touches forwarded, the earlier ones will have the preference.

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.

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

To prevent disappointment, the Editor requests that stamps for extra copies of this paper may be sent direct to the Publisher.

The Bell News & Ringers' Record.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 18, 1884.

THE long-looked for event has at length transpired. A peal of 5040 changes has at last been achieved by a band consisting wholly of clergymen. The idea now realised has been suggested at various times within the recollection of many. We could point out cases where, during the past twenty-five years, new rings of bells have been placed, that were to be rung in the first instance by a clerical company, and the statement, oft repeated, came to be regarded as an absurdity. In fact, the notion of a band of parsons ringing a peal on their bells was received by the respective local ringers with contemptuous scorn, though why parsons should not be able to ring, and "strike" as well as ploughmen, we never could for one moment divine.

We will not undertake to say that the performance of a peal in such a method as STEDMAN, by a company of clergymen, will be the means of promoting the interests of ringing to any appreciable extent, though had the record of such a feat found a place in the columns of the daily journals, we should have expected to have seen some good from its publication. But let us imagine—though a supposition of the kind appears ridiculous—the same men in company together taking a "side" in a Hurlingham tournament, or successfully competing at some fashionable game, though requiring considerably less skill than change ringing, with what amount of "gush" the several morning papers would favor their readers on the morrow. We do not expect for ringing the great popularity which cricket, boating, and the like, enjoys. It is carried on under totally different conditions, hidden from public observation, and its pleasures can be seen only by those who have mastered its elements at least. The publication, far and wide, of the recent peal at Drayton, would, however,

have encouraged many people, who often define those who follow ringing as a not very harmless class of lunatics, to have looked into the matter a little more deeply, and, may be, led some of them to enter a belfry. We really cannot help regretting that more publicity was not given to such an occurrence.

The Metropolis.

THE ST. JAMES'S SOCIETY, LONDON.
 CAMBERWELL, SURREY.

On Saturday, October 11, 1884, in Two Hours and Fifty-five Minutes,

AT ST. GEORGE'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S ORIGINAL.

ALBERT E. CHURCH* Treble.	JOSEPH BARRY 5.
HENRY LANGDON 2.	GEORGE T. McLAUGHLIN .. 6.
JOHN M. HAYES 3.	EDWARD ROGERS 7.
MARTIN MURPHY 4.	TOM COXHEAD Tenor.

Conducted by GEORGE T. McLAUGHLIN.

*First peal.

HARROW-ON-THE-HILL, MIDDLESEX.

THE ST. JAMES'S SOCIETY, LONDON.

On Saturday, October 11, 1884, in Three Hours and Twenty-two Minutes,

AT ST. MARY'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

REEVES'S VARIATION. Tenor 24 cwt. in Eb.

JAMES R. HAWORTH Treble.	WILLIAM H. FUSSELL .. 5.
WILLIAM COPPAGE 2.	GEORGE BANKS 6.
JOHN MANSFIELD 3.	ARTHUR HAYWARD 7.
RICHARD FRENCH 4.	EDWARD ALBONE Tenor.

Conducted by RICHARD FRENCH.

This is the first peal on the bells for forty-seven years; further particulars will be found on another page.

The Provinces.

THE SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.
 THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION; AND THE WANSTEAD
 AMALGAMATED SOCIETY.—WRITTLE, ESSEX.

On Saturday, October 11, 1884, in Three Hours and Ten Minutes,

AT ALL SAINTS' CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLLIS'S FIVE-PART. Tenor 18 cwt.

H. NUNN, SEN. Treble.	A. H. GARDOM 5.
G. AKERS 2.	T. SCARLETT 6.
J. PRIEST 3.	S. JARMAN 7.
J. NUNN 4.	W. TRUSS Tenor.

Conducted by A. H. GARDOM.

THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.—BEDDINGTON, SURREY.

On Saturday, October 11, 1884, in Three Hours and Twenty-five Minutes,

AT ST. MARY'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS, 5003 CHANGES;

Tenor 20½ cwt. in Eb.

JAMES HARRIS Treble.	JAMES TRAPPITT 6.
JOHN BRANCH 2.	JOHN PLOWMAN 7.
DR. ARTHUR B. CARPENTER* 3.	JAMES CAWLEY 8.
EDWARD F. COLE 4.	*ALFRED BRUCE 9.
EDGAR BENNETT 5.	†HENRY HOLDER Tenor.

Composed and conducted by EDGAR BENNETT.

*First peal of Caters. †First peal. Messrs. Carpenter and Bruce hail from Croydon, Mr. Cole from London, the rest belong to the local company. The above was rung in accordance with an expressed wish of the Rector, to celebrate the Harvest Festival.

The peal has the 5th and 6th each twenty-four courses behind the 9th, and the 6th six courses behind the 8th, it also contains only four 6-lead courses.

THE ST. JAMES'S SOCIETY.—ST. ALBANS, HERTS.

On Saturday, October 11, 1884, in Three Hours and Ten Minutes,

AT THE CATHEDRAL,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S ORIGINAL.

HENRY LEWIS* Treble.	*NEWMAN N. HILLS 5.
JAMES PETTIT* 2.	*JASPER G. CRAWLEY 6.
HERBERT BAKER* 3.	HENRY G. FAIRBRASS 7.
WILLIAM D. SMITH* 4.	THOMAS GATHARD Tenor.

Conducted by JAMES PETTIT.

*College Youths.

H. G. Fairbrass hails from Canterbury; H. Baker, G. Crawley, and T. Gathard from Hertford; W. D. Smith, and J. Pettit from London; the rest belong to St. Albans.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—GARSTON.

Muffled Peal.

On Monday, October 13, 1884, in Three Hours and Five Minutes,

AT ST. MICHAEL'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLLIS'S 5-PART.

S. GOUGH Treble.	F. TURNER 5.
JAS. ALEXANDER 2.	W. HUGHES 6.
W. TURNER 3.	GEO. W. HUGHES 7.
C. NEWTON 4.	T. MORRIS Tenor.

Conducted by GEO. W. HUGHES.

This peal was rung with the bells half-muffled, in memory of the late Miss Lightbody.

MANCHESTER.

On Tuesday, October 14, 1884, in Three Hours and Twenty-seven Minutes,

AT THE CATHEDRAL CHURCH,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB ROYAL, 5000 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 25 cwt.

JOHN EACHUS Treble.	JOSEPH GILLOTT 6.
THOMAS WROE 2.	GEORGE H. JOHNSON 7.
JAMES WOOD 3.	BENJAMIN BROADBENT 8.
EDWARD CASH 4.	SAMUEL WOOD 9.
ALBERT E. WREAKS 5.	JOHN THORP Tenor.

Composed and Conducted by SAMUEL WOOD.

Messrs. Wroe, J. and S. Wood, Gillott, Broadbent, and Therpe hail from Ashton; Cash and Johnson from Eccles; the rest belong to Manchester.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS,
HITCHIN, HERTS.

On Tuesday, October 14, 1884, in Three Hours and Sixteen Minutes,

AT ST. MARY'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S ORIGINAL.

WILLIAM ALLEN† Treble.	WILLIAM A. TYLER 5.
JAMES PETTIT 2.	HERBERT BAKER 6.
NEWMAN N. HILLS 3.	HENRY GORDON FAIRBRASS 7.
JOHN HARE* 4.	*WILLIAM KITCHENER Tenor.

Conducted by JAMES PETTIT.

N. N. Hills hails from St. Alban's; H. Baker from Hertford; H. G. Fairbrass from Canterbury; J. Pettit from London; the rest of the company belong to Hitchin. * First peal. † First peal with the treble.

Date Touches.

BISHOPS STORTFORD (Essex).—On Saturday, October 11th, at St. Michael's church, the local company rang a date touch of 1884 changes of Grandsire Triples, in 1 hr. 12 mins. Thos. Newman, 1; Chas. Martin, 2; Alf. Tucker, 3; Geo. Martin, 4; Henry Champness, 5; Henry J. Tucker (conductor), 6; Henry Doughty, 7; Joseph Sampford, 8. Composed by John Carter, of Birmingham. Henry J. Tucker was elected the same evening to represent the above company at a meeting to be held at St. Albans, on Wednesday, October 29th, for the purpose of forming an Association for Hertfordshire.

HULL (Yorkshire).—On Wednesday, October 1st, on the occasion of the visit of their Royal Highnesses the Duke and Duchess of Edinburgh to this place, at Holy Trinity Church, a date touch of

1884 changes of Grandsire Triples, in 1 hr. 2 mins. A. Taylor, 1; C. Bennett, 2; Chas. Jackson, 3; H. Jenkins, 4; W. Southwick, 5; J. Dixey, 6; F. Drabble (conductor), 7; Fredk. Merrison, 8. This date touch, which contains the twenty-four 6-7's and twelve 5-7's, was composed by Chas. Jackson. Tenor 25 cwt.

LECKHAMPTON (near Cheltenham).—On Sunday morning, October 5th, on the occasion of the Harvest Thanksgiving service a date touch of Grandsire Doubles. A. Humphries (Cheltenham), 1; F. Musty, 2; T. Hooper, 3; G. H. Phillott, Esq., 4; H. Karn (conductor), 5; T. Whiting, 6.

Miscellaneous.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS AND
THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

BRAINTREE (Essex).—On Saturday, October 11th, a 720 of Morning Exercise was rung. F. Bumpstead, 1; F. Calthorpe, 2; H. E. Hammond, 3; W. H. Dysen, 4; F. Rudkin, 5; S. Hammond (conductor), 6. Tenor 14 cwt. This is the first 720 on the bells in this method.

THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

BROMHAM (Beds).—On Friday, October 3rd, the six following rang a 360 of Woodbine Treble Bob Minor. C. W. Clarke, 1; F. M. Smith, 2; W. Hall, 3; I. Hills, 4; C. West, 5; W. Biggs (conductor), 6. First touch in the method by the 3rd, 5th, and 6th men. Also a 720 of Plain Bob Minor, with eighteen bobs and two singles, in 28 mins. F. Keech, 1; M. Warwick, 2; C. West, 3; C. W. Clarke (conductor), 4; W. Biggs, 5; I. Hills, 6. Also on Sunday, October 12th, the following rang after Divine Service, a 720 of Plain Bob Minor, in 28 mins. F. Keech, 1; C. W. Clarke, 2; C. West, 3; H. King, 4; W. Biggs (conductor), 5; W. Allan Ramsey, 6.

THE CRAWLEY AND IFIELD ASSOCIATION.

BRIGHTON (Sussex).—On Monday, October 6th, some members of the above Association visited Brighton, and at St. Peter's church, rang three 504s of Grandsire Triples. W. Parsons, 1; Rev. J. B. Lennard, 2; Mr. T. Smith, 3; J. Newnham, 4; W. Wickens (Charlwood), 5; A. F. Hillier, 6; H. Burstow (Horsham; conductor), 7; W. Collinson, 8. After dinner the ringers visited St. Nicholas's church, but owing to the bad condition of the bells, after several attempts, rang a 504 of Grandsire Triples. P. Tullett, 1; Rev. J. B. Lennard, 2; T. Smith, 3; W. Collinson, 4; A. F. Hillier, 5; W. Wickens, 6; H. Burstow (conductor), 7; W. Parsons, 8.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

SOUTH SHIELDS.—On Sunday, October 5th, for Divine Service at St. Hilda's Church, a 720 of Canterbury Pleasure in 26 mins. R. Hopper, A. Moffit, 2; R. Scafton, 3; Jas. Moffit, 4; J. Hopper, 5; Jno. Moffit (conductor), 6. Also on Sunday, October 12th, 720 of Oxford Bob Minor in 27 mins., by the same company; these are the first 720's in each of these methods by this company. Also on Monday October 13th, for practice, 720 of Plain Bob Minor in 27 mins. R. Hopper (conductor), 1; J. Hopper, 2; R. Scafton, 3; *C. Wawn, 4; *J. R. Wheldon, 5; J. Moffit, 6. *First 720. And 720 of Oxford Bob Minor in 25 mins. R. Hopper, 1; A. Moffit, 2; R. Scafton, 3; J. McGoun, 4; J. Hopper, 5; Jno. Moffit (conductor), 6. Tenor 10 cwt. First 720 in this method by J. McGoun, who hails from North Shields.

THE ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

SUDBURY (Suffolk).—On Saturday evening, October 11th, at St. Gregory's church, the following members of the above Association rang for practice, 1152 of Kent Treble Bob Major. J. Tolladay, 1; W. Griggs, 2; G. S. Brown, 3; M. Silvester, 4; W. Cross, 5; W. Howell, 6; A. Scott (conductor), 7; H. Harper, 8. Tenor 16 cwt. in F.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

MAIDSTONE (Kent).—On Sunday, October 5th, for Divine Service in the evening at All Saints' church, four of the local company with four from Rochester, rang a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, on the back eight bells, in 49 mins. R. Simmonds, 1; H. Greaves, 2; G. Pawley, 3; A. H. Woolley, 4; W. Baker, 5; E. Andrews, 6; H. Pearce (conductor), 7; J. Tullett, 8. After service the same rang 826 in the same method, conducted by G. Pawley. Tenor 31 cwt.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

WALKDEN (Lancashire).—On Saturday evening, October 11th, at St. Paul's church, being the Harvest Festival, three of the local company, with three from Worsley, rang a 720 Bob Minor, in 28 mins. J. Welsby, 1; F. Derbyshire (Worsley), 2; J. Worthington, 3; J. Ridyard (Worsley, conductor), 4; J. Brookes, 5; R. Ridyard (Worsley), 6. Tenor 13½ cwt. This is the first 720 in the method by

F. Derbyshire and R. Ridyard. Also on Sunday evening, October 12th, for Divine Service, a 720 of Bob Minor, in 26½ mins. W. Baker, 1; J. Welsby, 2; J. Worthington, 3; J. Williamson, 4; J. Brookes, 5; W. Denner (conductor), 6. This is the first 720 ever rung at Walkden by a local band, although the bells have been in motion for over eight years. Our correspondent adds: No doubt we shall have the pleasure ere long of announcing the erection of a glaring peal-board. Thanks are due to Mr. Edward Cash, of Swinton, for his untiring energy amongst the Walkden ringers.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

BURFORD (Oxon).—On Sunday evening, September 28th, being the Harvest Thanksgiving, the following members of the Burford Society, who are also members of the above Guild, rang for Divine Service a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples in 47 mins., H. Smith, 1; D. Francis, 2; T. Brown, 3; J. Smith, 4; W. Large, 5; H. Bond, jun., 6; T. E. Glanville (conductor), 7; W. Launchbury, 8.

WANTAGE (Berks).—On Sunday, October 12th, at the church of SS. Peter and Paul, for afternoon Service, a 360 of Grandsire Minor, in 14 mins. And for Divine Service in the evening, a 720 of Grandsire Minor, in 27 mins. George Gregory, 1; Charles Page, 2; John Gardner, 3; Frederick Money, 4; Albert Bunce, 5; Frederick May (conductor), 6. Tenor 25 cwt. The above is the first 720 ever known to have been rung in this tower, and the first by any of the above members.

THE SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.

SALISBURY (Wilts).—Recently, at St. Martin's church, six 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles, each called differently, on the occasion of a wedding. J. Short, 1; W. W. Gifford, 2; J. R. Jerram, 3; J. Wilton, 4; T. Blackburn (conductor), 5; J. Judd, 6.

THE ST. JAMES'S SOCIETY, LONDON.

HORNSEY (Middlesex).—On Sunday, October 12th, at St. Mary's church, before and after Divine Service in the evening, a 720 of Grandsire Minor, in 25 mins. J. Ward, 1; S. B. Lucas, 2; Jas. Hannington, 3; G. Gray (first 720 with a bob bell), 4; G. Griffin, 5; W. H. Fussell, 6. Also a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob, in 26 mins. J. Nixon, 1; W. Meadows, 2; E. F. Strange, 3; J. Hannington, 4; G. Griffin, 5; W. H. Fussell, 6. Also a 720 of Plain Bob Minor, in 25½ mins. J. Hannington, 1; S. B. Lucas, 2; W. Meadows, 3; J. Nixon, 4; E. F. Strange, 5; W. H. Fussell, 6. Also a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor, in 27 mins. G. B. Lucas, 1; W. H. Fussell, 2; J. Nivon, 3; E. F. Strange, 4; J. Hannington, 5; G. Griffin, 6. Tenor 17½ cwt. Conducted by James Hannington. Mr. G. Gray hails from Kingston. We are asked to remind our readers that every 2nd Sunday in the month is the proper meeting at Hornsey.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION, AND THE WANSTEAD AMALGAMATED SOCIETY.

CHELMSFORD (Essex).—On Sunday, October 12th, at St. Mary's church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 46 mins. A. H. Gardom, 1; G. Akers, 2; W. Rowland, 3; J. Nunn, 4; W. Hawkes, 5; W. B. Manning, 6; T. Scarlett (conductor), 7; G. Cornell, 8. Tenor 22 cwt.

GALLEYWOOD (Essex).—On Sunday, October 12th, at the church of St. Michael and All Angels, a touch of about 2000 of Grandsire Triples, in 1 hr. 10 mins. T. Scarlett (conductor), 1; J. Nunn, 2; G. Akers, 3; G. Cornell, 4; W. B. Manning, 5; J. Priest, 6; A. H. Gardom, 7; A. Tennant, 8.

BENHILTON (Surrey).—On Thursday, October 9th, at All Saints' Church, for the Harvest Festival, a 720 of Bob Minor, six bobs and thirty singles, in 28 mins. W. Walker, 1; T. Gaiger, 2; G. F. Scott, Esq., 3; Jas. Trendell, 4; Chas. Trendell, 5; John Trendell (conductor), 6. Tenor 19½ cwt. in E.

CANTERBURY (Kent).—On Friday, October 10th, at the Cathedral, the local company met to celebrate the erection of a marble tablet, the gift of H. G. Austin, Esq., by ringing a 720 of Grandsire Triples, taken from Holt's Original. Rev. F. J. O. Helmore, 1; A. Foreman, 2; G. Stancombe (conductor), 3; G. T. Ovenden, 4; A. A. Andrews, 5; H. G. Fairbrass, 6; J. H. Small, 7; R. Goodbourne, 8. The band was, with the exception of the Rev. F. J. O. Helmore, the same that rung the peal, the reverend gentleman taking the place of W. Andrews. Afterwards an adjournment was made to "The Butcher's Arms," where a substantial supper was partaken of, and the remainder of the evening was spent with several touches and tunes upon the handbells enlivened by various songs and toasts. The tablet records the performances of a peal of Grandsire Triples rung in February last, and previous to this peal it was 58 years since the last was rung in the tower.

BLACKBURN (Lancashire).—On Saturday, October 4th, at the parish church, an attempt was made to ring Holt's ten-part peal of Grandsire Triples, which proved unsuccessful after ringing 3528 changes, in 2 hrs. 6 mins., owing to a change-course. William Slater, 1; Edward Horsefield, 2; John Sanderson, 3; Joseph Ainsworth, 4; John Aspinwall (conductor), 5; R. J. N. Parker, 6; John Walker, 7; James Smith, 8. All the above except John Aspinwall (who hails from Liverpool), belong to the local company, and it is the first attempt for all except Messrs. Aspinwall and Walker.

CHARLWOOD (Surrey).—On Sunday, October 5th, for Divine Service in the morning, two 120's of Oxford Bob Minor. S. Jordan, 1; G. Wickens, 2; B. King, 3; T. Leney, 4; J. Gasson, 5; M. Heffer (conductor), 6. After service, 720 in the same method. S. Jordan, 2; G. Wickens, 2; B. King, 3; T. Leney, 4; M. Heffer, 5; J. Gasson (conductor), 6. Also 360 of College Single Bob. S. Jordan, 1; G. Wickens, 2; W. Broadbridge, 3; J. Gasson, 4; B. King, 5; F. Wickens (conductor), 6. Also a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob. F. Wickens, 1; A. Tidy, 2; A. Mills, 3; G. Holloway, 4; E. Jordan, 5; D. Jordan (conductor), 6. A 720 of Warnham Court Bob was attempted, but after ringing about ringing about 600, it came to grief. D. Jordan, 1; E. Jordan, 2; G. Holloway, 3; M. Heffer, 4; J. Gasson, 5; F. Wickens (conductor), 6. And for evening service, a 360 of Oxford Bob. G. Holloway, 1; E. Jordan, 2; A. Mills, 3; T. Leney, 4; J. Gasson, 5; M. Heffer (conductor), 6. T. Leney hails from Hurstpierpoint, J. Gasson from Balcombe; the Messrs. D. and E. Jordan, A. Tidy, and A. Mills from Capel; the rest are local ringers.

DISS (Norfolk).—On Tuesday, October 7th, at St. Mary's church, a 720 Bob Minor, on the back six, in 29 mins. J. Stannard (Oakley, first 720), 1; Edward Francis, 2; E. Hayward (first 720 with a bob bell), 3; W. Ireland, 4; B. Francis (conductor), 5; J. Souter, 6. Tenor 24 cwt. in D.

ECKINGTON (Derbyshire).—On Thursday, October 9th, at the church of SS. Peter and Paul, the local company rang to celebrate the marriage of Frederick Arthur Wells, Esq., fourth son of the late Mr. George Wells, of Eckington, with Miss Caroline Jane, the youngest daughter of the late Dr. Jabez Harwood, of Eckington, a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob, in 27½ mins. G. Smith, 1; J. Shaw, 2; E. James, 3; G. Norman (conductor), 4; W. Price, 5; T. Lunn, 6. Also a 720 each of New London Pleasure, Duke of York, and Violet, in 1 hr. 22 mins. G. Smith, 1; J. Shaw, 2; E. James, 3; G. Norman, 4; G. Marsden (conductor), 5; T. Lunn, 6. Tenor 16 cwt. 14 lbs.

HACKNEY (Middlesex).—On Sunday, October 12th, at St. John's church, being the Harvest Festival, the following touches of Grandsire Triples was rung during the day: 336, 546, 630, 742 and about 600 changes, which last touch was not completed. L. Green, 1; J. Gobbet, 2; A. Cutmore, 3; H. Randall, 4; G. Marriott, 5; R. Turner, 6; W. D. Smith, 7; J. Balaam, 8. The whole was conducted by W. D. Smith. Tenor 25 cwt. in C#.

HAVERSTOCK HILL (Middlesex).—On Wednesday, October 1st, at St. Martin's church, a 720 of Plain Bob Minor, in 25 mins. J. Hannington (conductor), 1; Geo. Griffin, 2; Thos. Titchener, 3; Thos. Steward, 4; W. H. Fussell, 5; A. Jacob, 6. And on Sunday, October 5th, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor. B. Foskett, 1; Geo. Griffin, 2; A. Jacob, 3; J. Leach, 4; E. Chapman, 5; Geo. Newson (conductor), 6. Tenor 12½ cwt.

HIGHER SUTTON (Cheshire).—On Sunday, October 12th, being the Harvest Festival at St. James's church, for Divine Service in the morning, a 720 of Grandsire Minor, with thirty-eight bobs and twenty-two singles, in 26 mins. Also for Divine Service in the afternoon, another 720 in the same method, with forty-four bobs and four singles, in 27 mins. Also for Divine Service in the evening, a 360 in the same method, in 13 mins. After service another 720 in the same method, with twenty-two bobs and and thirty-eight singles, in 25 mins. J. D. Whelton, of Prestbury, Cheshire, rang the treble in the 360. Alfred Lawton, 1; Wm. Kenny, 2; Wm. Ingham, 3; J. M. Davenport, 4; Wm. Walmsley (conductor), 5; Thos. Mottershead, 6. The church was tastefully decorated as usual for the occasion.

HURWORTH-ON-TREES (Durham).—On Tuesday evening, October 7th, for practice at All Saints' church, a 720 of Bob Minor, in 28 mins. T. Simpson, 1; T. Gaines (conductor), 2; H. Kirby, 3; T. Temple, 4; G. Garbutt, 5; R. Newton, 6. Tenor 17 cwt. R. Newton has not rung for six years.

LYTHAM (Lancashire).—On Friday evening, October 10th, at St. John's church, it being the Harvest Festival extended over from Sunday, a 720 of Bob Minor, with eighteen bobs and two singles. Jno. Fisher, 1; Wm. Gregson, 2; R. Allanson, 3; C. H. Kerr, 4; Jno. Fell (conductor), 5; R. Whiteside, 6. Also on Sunday, after Divine Service in the evening, a 720 in the same method, with nine bobs and six singles, in 22 mins. Jno. Fisher, 1; Jno. Salthouse, 2; Wm. Gregson, 3; C. H. Kerr, 4; Jno. Fell (conductor), 5; R. Whiteside, 6. Tenor 10½ cwt.

NOTTINGHAM.—On Thursday evening, October 9th, at St. Peter's church, for practice, seven members of the Midland Counties' Association with Mr. W. Tomlinson, of Leeds, rang a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, 1260 changes, in 50 mins. S. Wilkinson, 1; J. Wibberley, 2; H. W. Abbott, 3; S. Burton, 4; M. Tomlinson, 5; A. Archer, 6; J. Hickman (conductor), 7; J. A. Wibberley, 8.

NUNEATON (Warwickshire).—On Thursday, October 9th, at St. Nicholas church, the local company rang for Divine Service five 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles, each called differently, with 7-6-8 behind. W. Adler, 1; T. Lingard, 2; H. Bacon, 3; H. Horwood (conductor), 4; T. Bates, 5; G. E. Swain, 6; J. J. Mawby, 7; W. Swain, 8. Also several 6-scores in the same method, after service, on the back six. W. Adler, 1; T. Lingard, 2; H. Bacon, 3; J. J. Mawby, 4; T. Bates (conductor), 5; W. Swain, 6. Tenor 14½ cwt. in E.

PADIHAM (Lancashire).—On Wednesday, October 8th, a 720 of Plain Bob Minor, with forty-two singles, and eighteen plain leads, was rung in 28½ mins. by the local company, with the bells muffled as a token of the respect in which the late Rev. J. H. Fox, formerly vicar of Padiham, was held. He was interred at Chislehurst on Wednesday, October 8th. *Thos. Duxbury (conductor), *Fredk. Pollard, 2; *Edw. Baker, 3; Jas. Riley, 4; *Robt. Hargreaves (captain), 5; Thos. Green, 6. Tenor 9 cwt. *Members of the Lancashire Association.

PONTEFRAC (Yorkshire).—On Sunday, October 12th, a plain course of Kent Treble Bob Major was rung upon handbells. W. Wilcock, 1; J. Brook, 2; J. Pollard, 3; F. Moody, 4; R. Brook, 5; J. Carter, 6; W. Pearson, 7-8. And for Divine Service in the evening, at All Saints', a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor, with twelve bobs, in about 26½ mins. W. Wilcock, 1; J. Brook, 2; R. Brook, 3; J. Pollard, 4; J. Carter, 5; W. Pearson (conductor), 6. First 720 in the method by all the band.

RAUNDS (Northamptonshire).—On Saturday, October 11th, for practice, a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob Minor, with nine bobs. G. Kirk, 1; H. Stubbs, 2; R. Pendered, 3; W. J. Gilbert, 4; W. Hall, 5; F. Gilbert (conductor), 6. Also a 720 of Plain Bob Minor, with forty singles. G. Kirk, 1; W. Hall, 2; J. Willmott, 3; R. Pendered, 4; H. Stubbs, 5; W. J. Gilbert (conductor), 6.

RINGSTEAD (Northamptonshire).—On Thursday, October 9th, at St. Mary's church, being the Harvest Festival, a 360 of College Little, with nine bobs. J. Lawford, 1; W. J. Gilbert, 2; R. Shipley, 3; E. Mayes, 4; A. Arnold, 5; F. Gilbert (conductor), 6. Also on Sunday, October 12th, for Divine Service in the evening, a 360 of College Little, with nine bobs. A. Groom, 1; W. J. Gilbert (conductor), 2; R. Shipley, 3; H. Groom, 4; A. Arnold, 5; T. Roberts, 6.

READING (Berks).—Muffled Peal.—On Thursday, October 9th, a 720 of Grandsire Minor, with the bells half-muffled, in 28 mins., as a last mark of respect to the late Henry Costiff, of whose death a notice appears on another page. H. Smart, 1; R. Hopgood, 2; G. Gibbard, 3; W. Goseltine, 4; H. Blissett, 5; H. Egby (conductor), 6.

RUSPER (Sussex).—On Sunday evening, October 12th, three of the local company, with two from Warnham, and one from Worth, rang a 720 of Oxford Bob Minor, with thirty singles, in 26 mins. H. Worsfold, 1; T. Worsfold, 2; G. Tullett, 3; W. Short, 4; F. Rice, 5; H. Cook (conductor), 6.

SOUTHPORT (Lancashire).—On Saturday, October 11th, at Christ Church, the following attempted Mr. Pritchard's peal of 5120 Kent Treble Bob Major, but after ringing 2848 changes, in 1 hr. 25 mins., it came to grief owing to a change-course. Thos. J. Fielding, 1; J. R. Pritchard, 2; Abel Fielding, 3; W. James, 4; Richard Hill, 5; D. E. Rimmer, 6; Chas. F. Heywood, 7; J. Aspinwall (conductor), 8. Messrs. Pritchard, James and Aspinwall hail from Liverpool, the rest belong to the local company.

SPALDING (Lincolnshire).—On Sunday, October 5th, at the church of SS. Mary and Nicholas, after Divine Service in the evening, the local company rang a 720 of Double Court Bob. R. Skeef, 1; J. Wilson, 2; G. L. Richardson, 3; J. S. Wright, 4; R. Mackman, 5; J. Brown, 6. Also on Tuesday, October 7th, a 720 of Double Court Bob, with eighteen bobs and fourteen singles. R. Skeef, 1; J. Wilson, 2; G. L. Richardson, 3; J. S. Wright, 4; R. Mackman, 5; J. Brown, 6. Also on Thursday, October 9th, a 720 of Plain Bob. J. Wilson, 1; R. Skeef (first 720 with a bob bell), 2; G. L. Richardson, 3; R. Mackman, 4; J. S. Wright, 5; J. Brown, 6. Also on Sunday, October 12th, for Divine Service in the morning, a 360 of London Single. And for Divine Service in the evening, a 360 of Oxford Bob. A. Ridlington, 1; Conducted by Richard Mackman.

SWANSCOMBE (Kent).—On Thursday, September 25th, at the church of SS. Peter and Paul, a 720 of Bob Minor. G. Hayes, 1; F. Hayes, 2; E. Snowden, 3; W. Martin, 4; G. Martin, 5; W. Harper (conductor), 6.

THORNBURY (Gloucestershire).—On Sunday, October 5th, the Winterbourne company visited this place, and rang several 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles. Henry Skidmore (conductor), 1; Absalom Williams, 2; Emanuel Bliss, 3; Sidney Bliss, 4; George Bliss, 5; John Skidmore, 6. Also for Divine Service in the evening, three 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles, with F. K. Howell (local company), 5; William Wheeler, 6.

WALSDEN (Yorkshire).—On Saturday, October 4th, the Heptonstall company visited this place, and were met by a company from Bacup and Todmorden, when the Heptonstall men rang 12-score of Bob Minor, 12-score of College Single, and 720 of Oxford. A mixed company from Heptonstall, Bacup and Liversedge rang 12-score of Oxford. The company then adjourned to "The Hollins Inn," where a substantial tea and other refreshments were provided, after which a mixed company rang a 12-score of College Singles, and the Heptonstall men rang a course of Bob Major on the handbells. The company then returned home, well pleased with their day's outing.

WEST HAM (Essex).—Muffled Peal.—On Wednesday, October 8th the local company rang a muffled peal as a last mark of respect to the late Mr. John Pitchford, who has been one of the church wardens for several years. He was also a member of the Local Board, Burial Board and Board of Guardians up to the time of his death, and was followed to the grave by a great many of the leading inhabitants of the place. J. Gobbett, 1; G. Pearl, 2; G. Waites, 3; W. H. Doran, 4; R. Searle, 5; G. Potter, 6; F. Searle, 7; W. Hudson, 8; S. Jarman, 9; H. Randall (conductor), 10. Tenor 28 cwt.

WHITFIELD (Derbyshire).—On Sunday, October 12th, the St. Matthew's company, Hayfield, paid a visit to this place, and rang the first 720 on the back six bells, which have been hung during the week. W. Booth, 1; J. Brocklehurst, 2; T. Whitehead (conductor), 3; A. Rangeley, 4; A. Hadfield, 5; T. Brocklehurst, 6. Tenor 12½ cwt.

WIMBLEDON (Surrey).—Muffled Peal.—On Friday, October 3rd, at St. Mary's church, the local company rang a 720 of Grandsire Minor and 360 of Oxford Single Bob Minor, with the bells deeply muffled as a tribute of respect to the late Mr. Thurstan Holland, of Wimbledon, who died suddenly. G. Byde, 1; R. Moss, 2; C. Byde, 3; J. Parker, 4; A. Garatt, 5; S. Frost (conductor), 6.

WRAYSBU (Bucks).—On Tuesday, October 7th, at St. Andrew's church, the local company rang their first 720 of Grandsire Doubles in 29½ mins. G. Whatmore, 1; R. Shanks, 2; H. Clark, 3; J. Mills, 4; R. Parker, 5; H. Shanks, 6. They also rang two 360's of Grandsire Doubles. Tenor about 12 cwt.

WOOLWICH (Kent).—On Thursday evening, September 25th, at the church of St. Mary Magdalene, on the occasion of the Harvest Thanksgiving services, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, 1260 changes, in 42 mins. George Hogg, 1; Henry Bright, 2; Henry Harman, 3; James Charles Harvey (conductor), 4; Frederick William Thornton, 5; Edward Richards, 6; Henry Harvey, 7; William John Harris, 8. And on Monday, October 13th, an attempt was made to ring the Rev. Charles D. P. Davies' five-part peal of Grandsire Triples, to commemorate the 20th birthday of Mr. Edward Richards, but it unfortunately came to grief after ringing 2366 changes, in 1 hr. 14 mins. George Hogg, 1; Henry Bright, 2; Frederick William Thornton, 3; Abraham George Freeman (conductor), 4; William Watchorn, 5; Edward Richards, 6; William Henry Freeman, 7; William John Harris, 8.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

THE Annual gathering of the members and friends of the Association will take place at Ipswich, on Monday, October 27th. There will be service at the church of St. Mary-le-Tower at 12.45; preacher, the Rev. A. G. Blyth, curate of St. Philip's, Heigham, Norwich. Dinner will be provided at the "Great White Horse Hotel" at 1.30. The usual business meeting will take place after dinner. The "White Horse" will be head-quarters for the day.

4, Bracondale Terrace, Norwich. N. BOLINGBROKE, Hon. Sec.
The Great Eastern Railway will convey ringers attending this meeting at a fare and a quarter for the double journey. Application for these cheap tickets must be made to the Hon. Sec.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

WE are requested to publish the following addenda to our report in last week's paper, of the meeting of this Association held at Nottingham:—

"The President, in his report, congratulated the Association upon having rung seven peals during the quarter, viz.: four of Grandsire Triples, one of Stedman Triples, and two of Kent Treble Bob, making a total of sixteen for the half year."

BILTON, WARWICKSHIRE.

Two miles south-west of Rugby lies the village of Bilton. Its church is one of the best examples in the neighbourhood of the Decorated style of architecture, having a western tower and spire, and with its surroundings, is kept in perfect order. To the antiquarian lover of bells, it is more than usually interesting, three out of the five bells being pre-Reformation. These three, the 2nd, 3rd, and 4th, of the present ring, all come from a foundry, whose stamps are well known in many parts of the country, but which until lately has not been identified with any name or date. Through the researches, however, of the late Mr. Thomas North, it now seems clear that one founder who used this set of stamps was Henry Jordan, of London, who in 1466 cast the great bell for King's College Chapel, Cambridge. In the absence of all other evidence, this gives some clue to the date of the Bilton bells. Of the other two bells, the treble is interesting locally, from having been given by the wife of Addison, who lived at Bilton Hall, a fine old Elizabethan house close to the church. The inscriptions on the bells are as follows:

Treble.—"The gift of the honourable Countess of Warwick, 1722."

2.—"Sancta Katerina Ora pro Nobis."

3.—"Vox Augustini sonet in Aure Dei."

4.—"Ora Pro Nobis Beata Katerina."

Tenor.—"Henry Bagley made mee 1662. (about 9 cwt)."

Some months ago, a crack appeared in the western face of the tower, and immediate steps had to be taken to repair it. Since the bells were out of tune, and their fittings needed repairs, it was thought a good opportunity for doing all that was required in the interior of the tower. The work was given to Messrs. Taylor, of Loughborough, who took all the bells to the foundry to be tuned and quartered, and have since rehung them with new wheels, stocks, etc., the old frame alone being used again. The re-opening of the bells took place on Sunday, October 5th, when special reference was made to them in the services. On the evening of Tuesday, October 7th, a party of ringers from Rugby visited Bilton, and with the kind permission of the rector, the Rev. R. O. Assheton, rang the first complete 120 of Grandsire Doubles on the rehung bells, standing as follows: B. Voss, 1; J. Hardy, 2; J. Cooke (conductor), 3; J. Coales, 4; H. J. Elsee, 5. Several more 120's were rung in the course of the evening, in which J. Coleman of Rugby, and — Tarver, of Bilton and St. Philip's, Birmingham, took part, the ringers standing in various orders, and the touches called by J. Cooke and H. J. Elsee. The visitors expressed themselves very much pleased with the go of the bells, and all about them; it would indeed be hard to find a peal of five which swing more easily, and the bells are decidedly the better in tune than they were before. The ringers have been brought down from the tower to the floor of the church, and are now separated from the church by a screen, while the inconvenience arising from the length of loose rope, has been remedied by suitable sally stays.

BISHOPS CANNINGS, WILTS.

The following particulars of this place, which was alluded to in "THE BELL NEWS" of October 4th, may be found of interest. They are taken from "Church Bells of Wilts," etc., by the Rev. W. C. Lukis.

The 1st, 3rd, 5th and 6th bells are dated 1602; the 2nd, 1607; the tenor, 1626. All these are by John Wallis, of Salisbury, and bear pious aphorisms after his usual style. The 4th and 7th are dated 1840, and were cast by Thomas Mears. On the 5th is the name of the Vicar of that time, George Ferebe, of whom Aubrey in his "Natural History of Wilts.," writes:—

"Mr. Ferraby, the minister of Bishops Cannings, was an ingenious man, and an excellent musician, and made several of his parishioners good musicians, both for vocal and instrumentall musick. They sung the Psalms in consort to the organ which Mr. Ferraby procured to be erected. When King James I. was in these parts, he lay at Sir Edward Baynton's at Bromham. Mr. Ferraby then entertained His Majesty at the Bush, in Colefield, with bucoliques of his own making and composing, of four parts, which were sung by his parishioners, who wore frocks and whippes like carters. Whilst His Majesty was thus diverted, the eight bells (of which he was the cause), did ring, and the organ was played on for state; and after this musickall entertainment, he entertained His Majesty with a football match of his own parishioners. This parish in those dayes would have challenged all England for musique, football, and ringing. For this entertainment, His Majesty made him one of his chaplains-in-ordinary."

A century later a venerable shepherd of Marlborough Downs is said to have addressed Queen Anne when she passed Shepherd's Shore on her way to Bath, in these words:—

"Stand here, great Queen, amongst your loving people,
And listen to the bells of Bishops Cannings steeple."

NOTICE OF REMOVAL.—The Birmingham Amalgamated Society beg to give notice that they have removed from the "Hope and Anchor," Fisher Street, to the "White Swan" Hotel, Edmund Street; one minute's walk from Snow Hill Station, and three minutes' from New Street Station. All brother-strings will receive a hearty welcome.

In Memoriam.

WILLIAM SMITH, OF THE NORWICH SCHOLARS.

As previously announced, Mr. Smith died on Monday, September 29th. The funeral took place on Monday, October 6th, in the presence of the Rev. N. Bolingbroke (who read over the grave), Captain Moore, Redenhall, G. Day, Eye, Mr. Hayward, Yarmouth, and a great gathering of other ringers and friends. The body was conveyed to the grave by six of his fellow-workmen, superintended by four ringers. The coffin, which was of fine polished oak, was made by his fellow-workmen, under the directions of Mr. Joe Mann, and Mr. F. Knights, Master of the company. Upon it was placed a handsome cross, presented by Mr. J. W. Spratt, and wreaths by other friends. Between the flowers were placed three handbells, two of which Mr. Smith rang to 5000 changes of Oxford Treble Bob Major, the other was the large bell belonging to a tune playing set, of which he was a member. Upon this bell his age was tolled over the grave. During the funeral six members of the local Society rang a muffled-peal, at St. Lawrence, stationed as follows: Benjamin Nurgate, 1; Wm. Bales, 2; Wm. Blyth, 3; Ed. Freeman, 4; Jn. Fiddament, 5; Wm. Freeman, 6. In the evening a funeral peal was rung at St. Peter Mancroft, consisting of three courses of Grandsire Cinques. Wm. Blyth, 1; Wm. Bales, 2; P. Sadler, 3; J. Youngs, 4; E. Freeman, 5; W. Freeman, 6; J. W. Spratt, 7; J. Fiddament, 8; F. Knights, 9; J. Skinner, 10; Captain Moore, 11; R. Palgrave, 12. Mr. Smith commenced his ringing career in the year 1861, and rang methods in 1871, namely: one course of Treble Twelve-in, one of Grandsire Cinques, and one of Stedman Cinques. He was elected a member of the company in 1873; he rang his first peal in 1879, a 5040 Bob Major at St. Michael's Coslany, Norwich; 5120 of Oxford Treble Bob at St. Giles'; 5088 Royal at St. Peter's; and two 5000's of Oxford Treble Bob Major upon the handbells. Although Mr. Smith has not rung many peals, since he has been elected a member of the company, his attendance has been very regular, and he was one of the working ringers of the Society. Our correspondent adds: It is a great blow to the company to part with such a good ringer, his face has been so familiar at the meetings. The loss of him almost seems a dream. He took to his bed and died in three weeks at the age of 31. It has, however, pleased God to take him from us, who greatly respected him, but they rejoice in the hope that he is now at rest.

HENRY COSTIFF.

On Tuesday, September 30th, there died at Brompton Hospital, Henry Costiff, a former member of the Oxford Diocesan Guild and of St. Lawrence's Society, Reading. Although he never accomplished a peal on more than six bells, he was a good ringer, and one of the little band who, under the persevering guidance of Mr. W. Newell, struggled for many years against obstacles and prejudices of a most disheartening kind, to introduce change-ringing in the town of Reading and its neighbourhood. Like many pioneers in a good cause, he was not suffered to reap the fruits of his efforts, but is nevertheless, entitled to the gratitude of all lovers of ringing in Reading. He was a victim to that dire malady, consumption, and had only attained his 29th year. May he rest in peace.

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ST. MARY'S, ISLEWORTH—On Saturday, October 25th, at 7.30 p.m.
RUISLIP—On Saturday, November 1st, at 7 p.m.
ST. JOHN-THE-BAPTIST, HILLINGDON—On Thursday, November 13th, at 7.45 p.m.
SLOUGH—On Saturday, November 15th, at 6.30 p.m.
ST. MARY'S, ACTON—On Thursday, November 20th, at 8 p.m.
ST. ANDREW'S, HILLINGDON—On Saturday, November 29th, at 7 p.m.
ST. MARY'S, ISLEWORTH—On Saturday, December 6th, at 7.30 p.m.
ST. JOHN-THE-BAPTIST, HILLINGDON—On Thursday, December 11th, at 7.45 p.m.
SLOUGH—On Saturday, December 20th, at 6.30 p.m.

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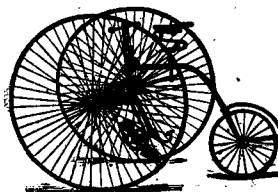
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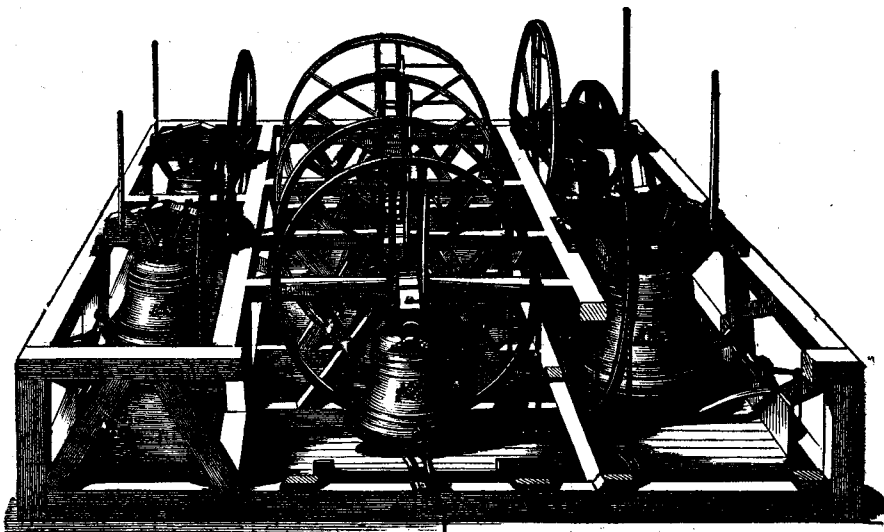
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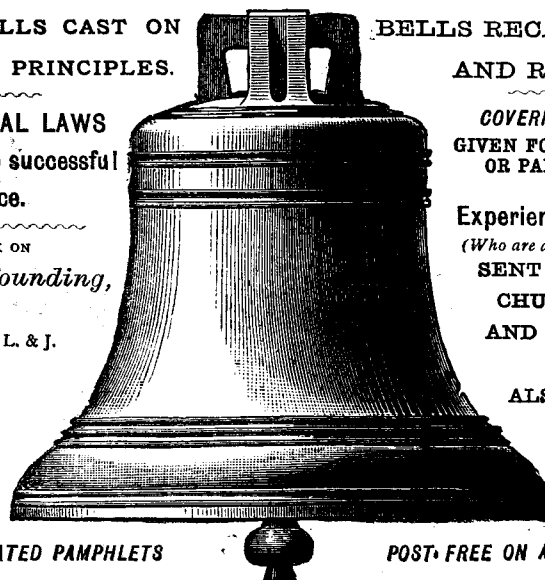
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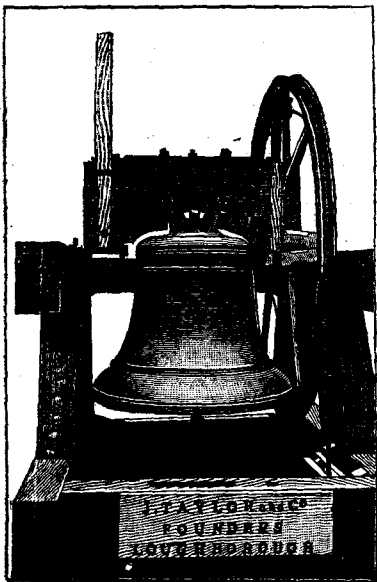
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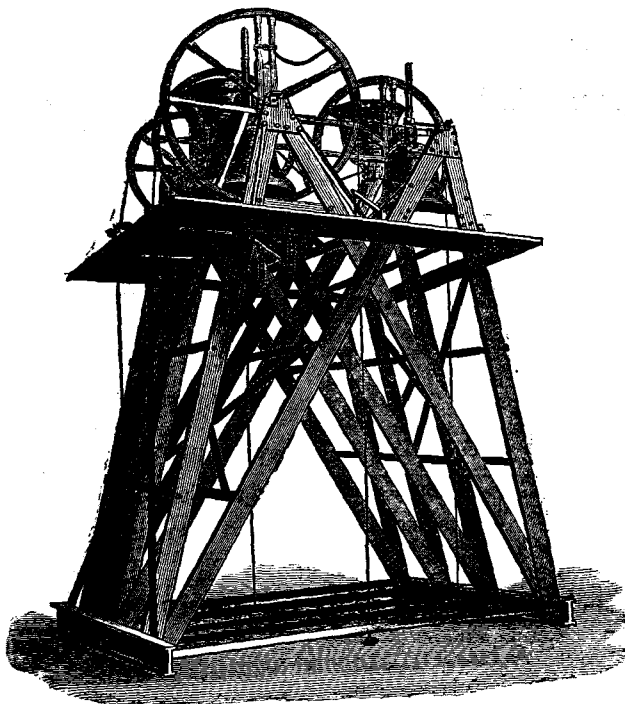
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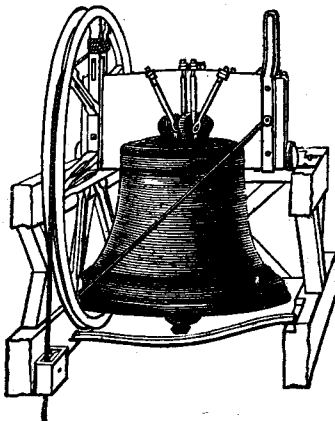
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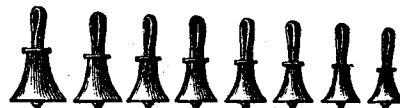
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Man may come, and man may go,
But I roll on for ever.

and so with our old churches, kingdoms and people may pass away, yet stands our old churches, withstanding the storms of ages most nobly. In former times, when a victorious army entered a town, the governor's first care was to redeem their bells, which were often of considerable value. Those of St Stephen at Vienna, of Notre Dame at Paris, of St. John at Compostella, in Spain, are instances of bells which were renowned both for their colossal dimensions and great value. It is said that at Pegu there is a bell thirty metres in diameter, another at Rouen weighing 40,000 lbs., and a traveller states that when in Japan he saw bells of massive gold. The largest bell in the world we are told is in Kyoto, Japan. Perfect in tone, it exceeds in measurement the bells of Pekin and Moscow. Singular to relate, although its surface is covered with characters, no scholar has as yet been able to translate them. It is twenty-four feet high, and sixteen inches thick at the rim. It is sounded by a suspended piece of wood, like a battering ram, which strikes it on the outside, and its booming can be heard for miles. Russia is noted for its large bells. In Moscow, alone, before the great fire, there were upwards of 1706 bells, no less than 37 being in one tower alone. One known as "Boisnoi," the "Great," cast in the 16th century, broken by falling from its support, being recast in 1654, was so large that it required twenty-four men to ring it, and this was done by pulling the clapper. Its weight was estimated at 288,000 lbs. It was suspended from an enormous beam at the foot of the bell tower, but it fell again on June 19th, 1706, during a fire, and was broken into a thousand pieces. In 1733 the materials, with additional material, in casting the Tsar Kolokoi (king of bells), were still to be seen at Moscow. In 1797, during a fire, a piece broke from its side, which we believe has never been replaced. The weight of the bell is 43,772 lbs., and is 19 ft. 9 inches high, the value of the metal alone which it contains being upwards of £60,000. During the whole of Easter week, Moscow may be said to be alive with the sound of bells. The large bell near the Cathedral yielding a more solemn sound than the mind can conceive, is, however, only used upon the more important occasions, vibrating all over Moscow, like the fullest tones of a vast organ or the rolling of distant thunder. This bell is suspended in a tower called the belfry

of St. Ivan, beneath others which, though of less size, are enormous. It is 40 feet 9 inches in circumference, 16½ inches thick and weighs more than 57 tons. The great bell at Moscow was in a deep pit in the midst of the Kremlin for years. This bell is truly a mountain of metal; it is supposed to contain a large portion of gold and silver; and while it was in fusion it is said the nobles and people cast in as votive offerings their plate and money. The Russians are very superstitious respecting their bells. In the year preceding the Russian war of 1854 we are told that a great bell in the tower of St. Ivan Veliki, at Moscow, fell with a terrific crash through four floors in succession, and killing all the inmates. This was regarded as an evil omen to Russia by the Muscovites, as, on the day after, news reached the "Holy City" of the death of the Emperor Nicholas. The bells of China rank next in size to those of Russia. In Pekin there are seven bells each weighing 120,000 lbs. In the suburbs of the city is one of the largest suspended bells in the world. It is hung near the ground, and to sound it a large beam is swung against its side. Nankin was anciently famous for the largeness and number of its bells. A bell taken from the Dagon pagoda at Rangoon was valued at 80,000 dols. The great bell of Notre Dame, at Paris, was cast three times in about six years before a satisfactory result was obtained. Among the bells recently cast for the Houses of Parliament the largest weighs 14,000 lbs.

A FEW DAYS' RINGING IN HERTFORDSHIRE.

BY H. G. FAIRBRASS.

ON Saturday, October 11th, about mid-day, I left Canterbury on a visit to St. Albans, where it had previously been arranged that a peal of Grandsire Triples should be attempted. Arriving at St. Albans about 5 p.m., and after a hasty attendance to the wants of the inner man, I at once proceeded to mount the innumerable steps leading to the ringing chamber of the Cathedral and Abbey Church of St. Alban. I found everything in readiness for the peal, and a start was made at 5.53 p.m. for Holt's Original, which was successfully brought round in 3 hrs. 10 mins., an account of which duly appeared in the columns of our valuable paper, "THE BELL NEWS."

I was pleased at the result, as change-ringing at the Abbey is rather difficult, owing to the fact that several thick beams which support the bells almost hide from view some of the ringers. On Sunday I had an opportunity of ringing some Grandsire Doubles with the Cathedral ringers for service. This is a young company who, under the conductorship of my friend, Mr. Hills, are making fair progress with the noble art. On Monday, at 4.15 p.m., we proceeded to the quiet old town of Hertford, where the Hertford College Youths had kindly arranged to meet us at All Saints' church. Here we rang several good touches of Grandsire Caters, Grandsire and Stedman Triples, and returned to St. Alban's, highly pleased with our evening's ringing.

Tuesday, at 1.30 p.m., found us on our way to Hitchin, where Holt's Original was again to be attempted, and we had the satisfaction of bringing the bells round in 3 hrs. 16 mins. Hitchin possesses a good ring of eight bells, tenor 28 cwt. in D., also a young company of ringers, two of whom rang their first peal on this occasion. On our way home to St. Albans, having to stop a short time at Hatfield, we made our way to the church, and rung a 120 of Grandsire Doubles on the back six, it being the practice-night of the local company. On Wednesday, we were to have visited the village of Elstree, which has a nice little ring of six, tenor 7 cwt., but being unable to obtain permission to ring, the evening was spent in tune-ringing upon handbells instead. On Thursday, we visited Hertford again, where at St. Andrew's church we had the pleasure of ringing Holt's ten-part, in 2 hrs. 57 mins. This was conducted by Mr. H. Baker, of the local company, and is the first peal conducted by a Hertford ringer for very many years. Soon after the conclusion of the peal I had to leave for Canterbury, where I arrived at 3.30 on Friday morning, highly pleased with my visit to Hertfordshire, and feeling extremely obliged to the friends who had arranged the ringing for me.

ASSOCIATION FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD

LICHFIELD.—*Muffled Peal.*—On Tuesday, October 21st, at St. Mary's church, eight members of the above Association rang several touches of Grandsire Triples, with the bells muffled, as a last token of respect to the late Colonel Bagnell, of Shenstone Moss, near Lichfield, who was buried the same day at the parish church, West Bromwich. This gentleman was an honorary member of the Association, and always took great interest in bells and bellringing, and by his death the Association has lost one of its best supporters. E. Gallimore, 1; J. Astbury, sen., 2; J. Key, 3; H. Meacham, 4; A. Whitby, 5; T. Meredith (conductor), 6; A. Greenwood, 7; C. North, 8. Tenor 19½ cwt. in E.

OPENING OF A NEW CHURCH AT SKELTON, YORKS.

ON Tuesday, October 14th, the Archbishop of York consecrated the new church of All Saints, at Skelton, which is a magnificent fabric of Cathedral-like proportions and adornment, and has cost £13,000. The edifice is in all respects a striking contrast to the last century parish church which it has replaced. The Rev. J. C. Atkinson, the venerable Vicar of Danby, and Cleveland historian, was present on Tuesday at the consecration services, and he must have been pleasantly reminded of his own blunt description of the old church at Skelton, of which he says: "Of all the unfortunate plain—not to say ugly—structures which do duty for churches in Cleveland, this is about the plainest and most tasteless. One ancient buttress of early English character remains on the north side of the chancel, and that is all which is left to testify to the former existence on this site of a real ecclesiastical building."

The new church, the site of which is in the village, while that of the old church is some distance away, is capable of comfortably seating 700 adults, but on the occasion of the opening there were some 1200 persons in the building, the aisles being crowded with people unable to obtain seats. Seen from the outside, a striking feature of the church is its freestone tower, a massive structure 24 ft. square, and containing large buttresses at each angle, rising to a height of more than 80 ft. This tower, together with a peal of bells and a clock, has been built at the entire cost of Mr. J. T. Wharton, Skelton Castle, lord of the manor. The bells have been provided by Messrs Taylor, of Loughborough, they number six, and weigh 79½ cwt., with a tenor bell of 23 cwt. They will be far the finest and heaviest ring in the district. The tenor bell of the neighbouring town of Guisborough weighs only 9 cwt. This beautiful new peal at Skelton will add a new charm to this picturesque and romantic part of Cleveland. Above the entrance archway there are five shields, showing the bearings of the holders of the Manor of Skelton since the Conquest. These are De Brus (Bruce the Scottish hero, was one of them), Fauconberg, Conyers, Trotter, and Wharton (the present owner). The cost of the fabric has been provided from the proceeds of a sale of glebe land, which was effected by Dr. Gardner, the Rector, with the sanction of the Charity Commissioners.

A NEW PEAL OF BELLS FOR CLIFTON.

ON Tuesday morning, October 7th, an interesting ceremony was performed in the belfry of Emmanuel church, College Road, Clifton, in the presence of several well-known members of the congregation, the occasion being the solemn consecration and dedication of the peal of bells which recently have been made and placed in the tower. The vicar, the Rev. T. G. Luckcock, conducted the service, which, although short, was impressive, and joined in by all present. At the conclusion, the vicar expressed his thanks to those who had assisted in the purchase of the bells, and mentioned his special gratification that Mr. Webb and Mr. Dod, were present at the dedication service, adding that with the former lay the honour of taking the initiative in the matter. He trusted that those present and all who took an interest in the welfare of the church, would live long to enjoy the beautiful music which from time to time would peal forth from the tower. There are eight bells altogether, and each one bears the name of the founders, Messrs. J. Taylor and Co., Loughborough. On the tenor, which weighs 18 cwt., appears: "J. G. Luckcock, M.A., Vicar; William Spark, Samuel Jones, churchwardens." 7th.—"John Woodwell Dod." 6th.—"Eliza Dod." 5th.—"The gift of J. W. Dod, in memory of Jane Dod, who died June 29th, 1883." 4th.—"William Webb." 4th.—"In memoriam, T. G. Mortimer Luckcock, M.A., Ob. November 12th, 1880." The 2nd bears no inscription, but on the treble appears. "Gloria in excelsis." The tenor bell was sounded before the large party left the belfry, and its clear, crisp, tuneful sound gave great satisfaction. The first service the new bells were put to were to ring out a happy bridal party, who were married a short time after the dedication proceedings, when some touches of Grandsire Triples and Major were rung upon them by Messrs. Staddon, Duckham, Norton, York, Price, Hinton, Parsons, Emery and Stallard, who expressed satisfaction at the "go" of the bells.

BATH AND KEYNSHAM UNITED DEANERIES ASSOCIATION.

THE Annual Meeting of this Association is fixed for Monday, the 27th of October, on which occasion the following towers will be open: Bath Abbey, ten bells; St. Andrew's, Julian Road, eight bells; St. Mary's, Bathwick, six bells.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

ANNUAL MEETING.—The special service will be held in St. John's church instead of the Cathedral, at 2 o'clock.

G. J. CLARKSON, Hon. Sec.

HUNTINGTON (YORKS), HARVEST FESTIVAL.

THE Harvest Festival in connection with the Huntington Parish Church, was celebrated on Wednesday, October 8th. The weather was very inclement, but as the services were entirely of an in-door nature, the inauspicious state of the elements did not materially affect the celebration of this popular festival in the quiet little parish. The church stands on a slight eminence close to the village, and surrounded with trees, intermingled with antiquated tombstones, its appearance is charmingly romantic. In appearance externally pleasing, internally the sacred edifice was bright and cheering. The decorations were tasteful, without superabundance, and choice without being too elaborate. On the altar superb bouquets of flowers and ferns were placed, and along the centre of the choir stove plants were neatly arranged. In conjunction with the Harvest thanksgiving, a dedicatory service took place in connection with the introduction of a new treble bell (in note A), weighing 3 cwt. 3 qrs. 8 lbs., which replaces one hung by a York maker several years ago. The new bell has been fixed by Mr. T. Mallaby, of Masham. The service was fully choral, and the choir was augmented from York Minster. Before the sermon was delivered, the Dean of York dedicated the new bell to the service of God, after which the six bells were chimed in turn.

The DEAN OF YORK was the preacher, and he took for his text the 95th Psalm, the 8th verse—"To-day if ye will hear His voice, harden not your hearts." Reference was made by the Dean to the ceremony of dedicating the new bell, and in the course of a *resumé* of the history of church bells from their introduction, he said that bells were first used in a great measure to represent the voice of God to God's people, and not simply as a sound which would draw people to God's house. Like every thing human, however, the use of bells had degenerated very much in days gone by. After alluding to the various kinds of bells used, the Dean concluded by making special reference to marriage and funeral bells. When they heard the former they would be reminded of the blessings of home and married life; and when the latter sounded they would be reminded of those in trouble. He hoped that in future the beautiful custom of ringing the chimes after a funeral would take the place of the melancholy toll.

At the conclusion of the service the York Minster Company rang on the six bells 720 changes of Bob Minor. The collection was for the Bell Fund and the York County Hospital.

The inscription on the shoulder of the new bell is "In Honorum Omnium Sanctorum," having the spaces between the words filled up with a running border of the "Herba Benedicta." This bell takes the place of an old bell founded in 1779 by Dalton of York. The note of the new bell is "A," the same as that of the old one, which weighed 2½ cwt. and was sold, being too light to form part of the ring, and the amount, £10, funded for the purchase of the new one. The new one has been cast by Messrs. Warner and Sons, London.

WALPOLE ST. PETER, NORFOLK.

FOR many years the ringers at this splendid church have been accustomed to ring "Grindstone," repeating the plain course of Bob Minor over and over again. Six months ago they began to study the method, at the suggestion of Dr. Secombe, of Terrington, and with his assistance, and that of Mr. W. Day, of Walpole, they have now mastered it. On Thursday, October 16th, the first 720 was rung in 25 mins., with sixteen bobs and two singles. Jno. Hendry, 1; R. Grimes, 2; H. T. Hill, 3; H. T. Allen, 4; Dr. Secombe (conductor), 5; Wm. Wright, 6. All of Walpole, with the exception of Dr. Secombe. On Sunday evening, the 19th inst., a 720 was rung by a Walpole company entirely, with eighteen bobs and two singles, conducted by R. Grimes, and Hy. Merrishaw ringing the fifth. And on Monday the 20th inst., 360 of Bob Minor was rung with the bells muffled, by Jno. Hendry, 1; Wm. Day, 2; Hy. Hill, 3; Hy. Allen, 3; Hy. Merrishaw, 5; R. Grimes, 6. This was in memory of Mr. W. Sale, who was buried that day; he had been an old ringer in past times, and had taken great interest in the progress of the company, having promised them a supper as soon as they should be able to ring a 720. Unfortunately he died the very day on which they succeeded in doing so. Weight of Walpole tenor, 14 cwt.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION. NOTTINGHAM DISTRICT.

NOTICE TO MEMBERS AND FRIENDS.—Ringing practice for the ensuing season has been arranged as follows: All Saints', Nottingham, Monday evening, St. Peter's, Nottingham, Thursday evening; meet at 7.30. On the last Saturday in the month at All Saints' church at 3.30, but no practice on the Monday following. Any friends visiting Nottingham on those evenings will receive a hearty welcome. "The Rose" Inn, Mount Street, Market Place, kept by Mr. G. Middleton (a member of the Association), will in future be the meeting house of the Nottingham ringers. Any communications may be addressed to John Hickman, 4, Carrington Terrace, Salford Street, Nottingham.

THE SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.

On Friday evening, October 10th, about thirty members of this society sat down to a feast of meat and poultry provided by that obliging host, Mr. H. Burton, of the "Green Man," St. Martin's Lane. After doing ample justice to the good things, the Master, Mr. Gardom, was invested with the Society's grand medal, and resumed the chair amidst great cheering. Mr. Newson occupied the vice-chair.

The toast of "The Health of the Society," coupled with the name of Mr. J. Cox, was well received, and also Mr. Cox's feeble response. The "Society's Conductor," was likewise duly honoured, as was that of "Society's Officers." "Success to 'THE BELL NEWS' and its Editor" was also received with good feeling.

Mr. Thos. Harrington presided at the piano, and songs were sung by Messrs. Thomas, Hopkins, Church, Clarkson, etc. The two daughters of "mine host" also gave the company some choice music, which received much applause. The pianist gave two choice ballads with much humour. "Auld Lang Syne" brought the proceedings to a close.

We regret we were not able to respond to the kind invitation to be present forwarded to us by the worthy Hon. Secretary of the Cumberlands.

IWERNE MINSTER, AND FONTMELL, DORSET.

On Saturday, October 11th, a party of ringers belonging to the Salisbury Diocesan Guild, consisting of Messrs. Jerram, Blackburn, Clements, and Foster, of Salisbury, and Messrs. Grist and Staden, of Bournemouth, visited these charming villages, their object being to re-open, after re-hanging, the peal of five bells, tenor 20 cwt., at the former place. On their arrival they were kindly entertained at lunch by the Vicar, the Rev. J. Acton. It was found just possible to ring rounds—change-ringing was out of the question. The local Builder, who had been employed to do the re-hanging, had apparently done his best, but as bell-hanging was not his trade, he had utterly failed to secure a satisfactory result. The work was done at the cost of Lord Wolverton, who resides near. Balking of their intended pleasure, the party walked to Fontmell Magna, where they found a good peal of six in first-class order, and rang a few 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles, said to be the first half-pull changes ever rung on the bells. They were re-hung by Messrs. Warner rather less than twenty years ago. The same firm have recently tuned the Iwerne bells, the third being an ancient one, it was thought well to tune the others to it. They are rather harsh now individually, but as we had not heard them previously, we cannot say whether they have been injured by the process or not.

THE CHELTENHAM SOCIETY.

On Monday, October 6th, the members of this society had their annual outing, Monmouth and Ross being the places visited. Leaving Cheltenham at 7 o'clock in the morning, the company arrived at Ross about 9 o'clock, where they were met by the local ringers. After refreshing themselves with tea and coffee, they repaired to the old parish church, where they succeeded in ringing a peal of Kent Treble Bob Major, a proper account of which will be found in its place. This being over, the visitors, with their friends, numbering nearly twenty, sat down to an excellent dinner. After the usual loyal toasts had been given and responded to, and a course of Grandsire Caters having been rung on the handbells, time was just sufficient to admit of the visitors bidding goodbye to their Ross friends, and catch the train for Monmouth, at which place they arrived about 4 o'clock. Here as at Ross, the visitors were met by the local contingent, who led the way to the old parish church, where everything being found in good order, a 1008 of Stedman Triples, a course of Treble Bob Major, and a short touch of Grandsire Triples were rung, conducted by John Belcher. Tea was then enjoyed, and the remainder of the evening was spent in change-ringing and tune-playing on the handbells. The Cheltenham company wish to return their thanks to all their kind friends whom they met with, and who helped to make the visit a success; and to the respective Vicars and Churchwardens for the use of their bells.

A small bell, fourteen inches in diameter, which adorned the roof of a former Council House in Salisbury, and was used, it is said, as a fire-bell, has recently been brought to light in a workshop belonging to the municipal authorities. It bears the following inscription: "H. V. S. A. R. 1663 W. P." It has been suggested that it should be rehung and put to its former duty. A Volunteer Fire Brigade has just been formed in the city, and there is as yet no means for calling the members together in case of need.

Mr. Albert Wreaks, of Manchester, wishes to inform all brother ringers that he has removed to 11, Dover Street, Higher Crumpsall, Manchester.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

THE twenty-fifth Quarterly District Meeting of this Association was held on Monday, October 20th, at Tetbury. The Vicar, the Rev. J. G. Horwood, welcomed the members to a shortened service in the parish church, and delivered to them an address in every way suitable to the occasion, after which the ringers ascended to the belfry, where they found the usual state of things which is always to be met with where there is nothing but pulley-hauley ringers. Although the Vicar and Churchwardens had employed Mr. Miles, of Tetbury Newton, to do what he could to put them in something like going order, still they were in a very bad state, but with the usual good old English pluck of the band selected to represent the Association, some very passable ringing was obtained, viz.: 500 Grandsire Triples, and 336 Bob Major. Dinner was shortly afterwards announced at the "White Hart" Hotel, the chair being occupied by the Vicar, supported by the Master of the Association, Mr. J. Drinkwater, and the Rev. Pitt Eykyn, Hon. Sec., the vice-chair being occupied by one of the churchwardens of Tetbury. After dinner, and the usual loyal toasts being disposed of, Mr. Drinkwater, in responding to his health and "Success to the Gloucester and Bristol Diocesan Association," said that somehow or other many ringers in the Diocese and several of their own members had got it into their heads that the Association was trying to deprive the ringers of every enjoyment they ought to possess. Now the very opposite was the fact. The Association was doing all in its power to induce Clergy, Churchwardens, and the well-to-do portions of congregations to assist in making every band of ringers in the diocese as well cared for as the choir. He did not ask for high pay for the ringers, but something by way of recognition and encouragement was necessary. To the ringers he would say that if they meant that the Association was trying to prevent the belfries being made into something worse than a pothouse, the information was quite correct, and he hoped the day was not far distant when all those who desecrated the House of God by drinking, smoking, or using profane or indecent language, would find admission to the belfry a difficult affair.

The Rev. J. G. Horwood, vicar of Tetbury, and one of the churchwardens, were elected hon. members of the Association, and Painswick was chosen as the place for holding the next anniversary meeting on Monday, 5th January next. The ringers again ascended the tower and rung a 360 of Grandsire Triples, conducted by D. J. Aston; 336 of Bob Major, and 168 of Grandsire Triples, conducted by H. G. Gardner. The ringing before dinner was conducted by Mr. Gardner. The ringers who took part in the day's proceedings were the Upton St. Leonard's and Barnwood bands, viz.: Robert Barratt, D. J. Aston, Wm. Sevier, J. Middlecote, A. A. Waite, H. Mitchel, H. Barnes, J. Yeates, H. G. Gardner, Elijah King, and George Miles.

CLOSWORTH, SOMERSETSHIRE.

A subscription is being raised for repairs necessary in connection with the peal of five bells at this village, tenor 4½ inches in diameter. The place is chiefly interesting as that in which many members of the Purdue family were buried. On a tomb in the churchyard is:

"Here lieth the body of Thomas Purdue, who died the 1st day of September, since the year of our Lord, 1711, aged 90 years."

Hutchings, in his "History of Dorset," gives the following as the inscription over one of the family:—

"Here lies
The Bell Founder,
Honest & True,
Till ye Resurrection,
Nam'd Purdue."

The 1st and 3rd bells at Closworth bear the initials T. P. The foundry or at any rate one of the foundries belonging to the family was at Salisbury.

The following lines, which recently appeared in the *Northampton Herald*, will interest the readers of "THE BELL NEWS":—

"We often hear the sweet church bells;
They ring for weddings and they toll sad knells;
Each Sabbath sounding through the still morn air,
They bid us to the House of Praise repair.
The village peals oft through the changing year
With varied notes fall sweetly on our ear.
So merrily when at the village feast
The yokels sport from greatest unto least;
Still cheerily when through the frosty night,
They ring for Christmas—season of delight,
And sadly as the fun'ral cortège crawls
Slowly toward the church's ivied walls."

"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.

Everything for insertion in this Journal to be addressed "The Editor of THE BELL NEWS, Walthamstow, London." Letters forwarded for publication, and performances under 5000 changes must reach us not later than Wednesday morning; and the insertion of any communication coming later than the first Postal delivery on Thursday morning cannot be guaranteed in that week's number. When it is found impossible from want of space to insert all touches forwarded, the earlier ones will have the preference.

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.

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

MR. T. WHITEHEAD, of Hayfield, would be glad if any one could inform him the weight of the bells at Hayfield church.

W. S. (Newcastle).—Yes; and will shortly appear.

W. ALBINSON.—Don't you think the least said the better? If you do not, we will publish it; but we are afraid it will lead to a mass of correspondence which will be of no practical utility.

ENQUIRER.—We are afraid your letter was not written with very strong charitable intentions towards the person you mention. A secretary who performs the duties of his office gratuitously is certainly an "honorary" secretary, though he has his railway fare allowed him when travelling on Society business.

The Bell News & Ringers' Record.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 25, 1884.

WEEK after week we read in our columns accounts of visits paid by various companies of ringers to neighbouring steeples. The majority of these visits appear to pass off very satisfactory, judging from the closing sentences many of our correspondents use when forwarding their accounts of such matters; phrases which must have become stereotyped in the minds of our readers. That the visiting company reached home again "well satisfied with their day's enjoyment" we now fully expect to read in accounts of this character. And it is certainly gratifying to be able to give publicity to events which end in so pleasing a manner to all concerned.

Yet we are afraid it must be admitted that some of these affairs do not give that amount of satisfaction which they might. At times, journeys to secure a peal are in all probability made, the unsuccessful results of which are not considered worthy of publication. How many failures of this kind there have been, it is impossible to tell. We confess to have been the victim of many defective arrangements. Two in particular of late, which certainly ought to have been avoided, had proper care been taken in soliciting the attendance of those whose word in such matters was to be depended upon. To journey a dozen miles on a wet inclement evening—the humidity of the atmosphere chilling one's marrow—and then to find that one or two of the band who were in juxta-position to the church failed to show themselves, is not a very inviting employment. We are afraid such disappointments are not so infrequent as may be imagined.

Whether the publication of such failures would tend to minimise or do away with them, perhaps it is impossible to say. They are certainly a great and growing evil. Perhaps if defaulters in this direction were to suffer the punishment of being ostracised—sent to Coventry for a time—it may be that such an interdict on habitual defaulters would prove a salutary lesson to them.

The Metropolis.

THE ST. JAMES'S SOCIETY, LONDON.
 TWICKENHAM, MIDDLESEX.

On Saturday, October 18, 1884, in Two Hours and Fifty-Six Minutes,

AT ST. MARY'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
 HOLT'S ORIGINAL. Tenor 19 cwt. in E.

J. R. HAWORTH Treble.	J. BARRY 5.
J. MANSFIELD 2.	G. R. BANKS 6.
W. COPPAGE 3.	A. HAYWARD 7.
R. FRENCH 4.	E. ALBONE Tenor.

Conducted by R. FRENCH.

The above was accomplished to fulfil a promise made by the above-mentioned members of the St. James's Society to the churchwardens, on June 7th, 1884, when the bells were re-opened after being rehung by Mr. Banks, of Kennington, London.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.
 STRATFORD-ATTE-BOW, MIDDLESEX.

On Tuesday, October 21, 1884, in Two Hours and Fifty Minutes,

AT ST. MARY'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
 HOLT'S ORIGINAL. Tenor 14 cwt.

L. GREEN Treble.	H. J. SHADE 5.
W. D. SMITH 2.	C. BEECH 6.
H. SPRINGHALL 3.	R. TURNER 7.
I. G. SHADE 4.	T. I. BAKER Tenor.

Conducted by H. J. SHADE.

The Provinces.

THE CHELTENHAM SOCIETY.—ROSS, HEREFORDSHIRE.

On Monday, October 6, 1884, in Three Hours and Sixteen-½ Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5120 CHANGES;
 IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor about 24½ cwt.

JOHN BELCHER Treble.	H. KARN 5.
W. MORRIS 2.	W. T. PATES 6.
H. HODGES 3.	G. H. PHILLOTT, Esq. .. 7.
F. E. WARD, Esq. 4.	G. ACOCKS Tenor.

Conducted by JOHN BELCHER.

*First peal in the method.

This is the first peal of Treble Bob ever rung on the bells.

HERTFORD.

On Thursday, October 16, 1884, in Two Hours and Fifty-Seven Minutes,

AT ST. ANDREW'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
 HOLT'S TEN-PART. Tenor 16 cwt.

HENRY LEWIS* Treble.	*JASPER G. CRAWLEY .. 5.
HERBERT BAKER* 2.	JOHN GODFREY 6.
HENRY G. FAIRBRASS* .. 3.	*WILLIAM A. ALPS 7.
NEWMAN N. HILLS* 4.	FREDERICK GEORGE .. Tenor.

Conducted by HERBERT BAKER.

H. G. Fairbrass hails from Canterbury; H. Lewis and N. N. Hills from St. Albans; W. A. Alps from Waltham Abbey; the rest from Hertford.

*College Youths.

THE SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS AND THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

ALBURGH, NORFOLK.

On Saturday, October 18, 1884, in Two Hours and Forty-Three Minutes.*

AT ALL SAINTS' CHURCH,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR 5088 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 12 cwt.

EDWARD SMITH	Treble.	JAMES TANN	5.
WILLIAM SHELDRICK	2.	GEORGE MOBBS	6.
GEORGE PRIME	3.	ROBERT WHITING	7.
WILLIAM MATTHEWS	4.	FREDERICK SMITH	Tenor.

Composed by N. J. PITSTOW, and conducted by EDWARD SMITH.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—DRIGHLINGTON.

On Saturday, October 18, 1884, in Three Hours and Seven Minutes,

AT ST. PAUL'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5120 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 16 cwt.

ABRAHAM MOULSON	Treble.	JOHN T. HOLLIS	5.
GEORGE BOLLAND	2.	JOSEPH H. HARDCASTLE	6.
WILLIAM BOLLAND	3.	JAMES ANGUS	7.
THOMAS POLLIT	4.	JOHN HALEY	Tenor.

Composed by JOS. H. HARDCASTLE, and conducted by JOHN T. HOLLIS.

Messrs. G. and W. Bolland hail from Tong; Hollis from Wakefield; the rest from Bradford.

BRIGHOUSE, YORKSHIRE.

On Saturday, October 18, 1884, in Two Hours and Fifty-Six Minutes,

AT ST. MARTIN'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 14½ cwt.

JOHN WALKER	Treble.	W. WOOD	5.
C. LEE	2.	HENRY HINCHLIFFE	6.
RALPH ELLIS	3.	BENJAMIN ROBINSON	7.
W. F. PRINCE	4.	JOAH PEACOCK	Tenor.

Composed by WILLIAM GOODALL, of Liversedge, and conducted by BENJAMIN ROBINSON.

Messrs. Ellis, Hinchliffe, Robinson, and Peacock hail from Mirfield, the rest belong to Brighouse.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

CRAYFORD, KENT.

On Tuesday, October 21, 1884, in Two Hours and Fifty-Three Minutes,

AT ST. PAULINUS' CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S ORIGINAL. Tenor 12½ cwt.

MARK JACOBS	Treble.	JAMES UPTON	5.
GEORGE CONYARD	2.	FREDERICK FRENCH	6.
CHARLES HAMMANT	3.	JAMES SAXBY	7.
JOSEPH SLOPER	4.	JOHN GARARD	Tenor.

Conducted by FREDERICK FRENCH.

*First peal.

Miscellaneous.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS AND THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

BRAINTREE (Essex).—On Saturday, October 18th, a 720 of Durham Surprise. F. Calthorpe, 1; W. H. Dyson, 2; H. E. Hammond, 3; S. Hammond, 4; F. Rudkin (conductor), 5; A. Huckson (first 720 in the method), 6. Tenor 14 cwt.

THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

BROMHAM (Beds).—On Sunday, October 19th, for Divine Service, a 720 of College Little, with eighteen bobs and two singles, in 28 mins. T. Tysoe, 1; H. King, 2; C. Stafferton, 3; W. King, 4; C. W. Clarke (conductor), 5; W. Biggs, 6. And a 720 of Plain Bob, with twenty-six singles, in 28 mins. T. Tysoe, 1; W. King, 2; W. Biggs,

3; C. West, 4; E. Stafferton, 5; C. W. Clarke (conductor), 6. Also a 360 of Grandsire Minor. J. Elliss, 1; W. King, 2; C. W. Clarke, 3; C. West, 4; W. Biggs (conductor), 5; C. Stafferton, 6.

BEDFORD.—Handbell Ringing.—On Monday, October 20th, at St. Paul's, the following rang on handbells, a 480 of Oxford Treble Bob Major. M. Warwick, 1; J. Atkins, 2; C. W. Clarke (conductor), 3; C. West, 4; W. Hall, 5; W. Biggs, 6; J. Frossell, 7; I. Hills, 8. First in the method by all.

BIDDENHAM (Beds).—On Friday evening, October 17th, at St. James's church, for practice, a 720 of Grandsire Minor, with thirty-four bobs and two singles, in 28 mins. J. Elliss, 1; C. West, 2; C. W. Clarke, 3; M. Warwick (first in the method), 4; W. Biggs, 5; I. Hills (conductor), 6. Also a 720 of Plain Bob Minor, with sixteen bobs and two singles, in 26 mins. F. Keech, 1; C. West, 2; I. Hills, 3; M. Warwick, 4; C. W. Clarke, 5; W. Biggs (conductor), 6. And on Sunday, October 19th, for Divine Service, a 720 of Oxford Bob Minor, with eighteen bobs and two singles, in 24 mins. W. West, 1; C. West, 2; C. W. Clarke, 3; J. Atkins (first 720 in the method), 4; W. King, 5; W. Biggs (conductor), 6.

CARDINGTON (Beds).—On Thursday, October 16th, at St. Mary's church, on the back six, a 720 of Grandsire Minor, with thirty-eight bobs and twenty-two singles. W. Mayes (first 720), 1; S. Cullip, 2; W. Hall, 3; W. Allan, 4; C. W. Clarke (conductor), 5; I. Hills, 6. Tenor 20½ cwt. in E.

THE CRAWLEY AND IFIELD ASSOCIATION.

CRAWLEY (Kent).—Recently, the members of the above Association rang a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, 1260 changes, composed by John Hare. G. Holloway, 1; Rev. J. B. Lennard, 2; T. Smith, 3; J. Newham, 3; F. Wickens (Charlwood), 5; A. F. Hillier, 6; H. Burstow (Horsham; conductor), 7; W. Collison, 8. Also a 504 of Grandsire Triples. F. Rice (Worth), 1; T. Smith, 2; J. Newham, 3; W. Collison, 4; F. Wickings, 5; G. Holloway, 6; H. Burstow (conductor), 7; A. F. Hillier, 8. Also a few touches of Plain Bob. T. Smith, 1; J. Newham, 2; G. Holloway, 3; G. Illman (Worth), 4; F. Rice, 5; H. Burstow (conductor), 6.

THE ST. JAMES'S SOCIETY, LONDON.

SOUTHGATE (Middlesex).—On Wednesday evening, October 15th, at Christ Church, a 720 of Kent Treble Minor, in 30 mins. N. Alderman, 1; B. Foskett, 2; J. Woods, 3; W. H. Fussell, 4; A. H. Gardom, 5; Geo. Newson (conductor), 6. Also a 720 of Plain Bob, in 31 mins. B. Foskett, 1; N. Alderman, 2; W. H. Fussell, 3; J. Woods, 4; Geo. Newson, 5; A. H. Gardom, 6. It was intended to attempt a peal of Treble Eight, but owing to a short muster, only six bells were pulled up to enable Mr. Woods, who is on a visit to London, to hear this excellent peal of bells.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

JARROW-ON-TYNE.—On Sunday, October 17th, for Divine Service in the morning at St Peter's church, a 720 of Bob Minor, in 26 mins. A. English, 1; W. Holmes, 2; R. Oliver, 3; *J. Chapman, 4; *J. Campbell, 5; F. Harrison (conductor), 6. *First 720. Tenor 8½ cwt.

NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.—On Thursday, October 9th, at the church of St. John-the-Baptist, a 720 of Oxford Bob Minor. H. Ferguson, 1; W. Bowes (first 720 in the method), 2; C. L. Routledge, 3; R. S. Story, 4; W. Story, 5; Francis Lees (conductor), 6. Tenor 12½ cwt.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

ALDINGTON (Kent).—On Thursday, October 16th, at St. Martin's church, a 720 of Bob Minor, with thirty singles, in 28½ mins. Frank Wanstall, 1; David Hodgkin, 2; Fred Wanstall, 3; Philip Hodgkin, 4; Edward Hyder (conductor), 5; William Post, sen., 6. And another 720 in the same method, with six bobs and fourteen singles, in 27½ mins. William Post, jun., 1; David Hodgkin, 2; Fred Wanstall, 3; Thomas Hodgkin, 4; William Hyder (conductor), 5; William Post, sen., 6. Also on Monday, October 20th, a 720 of Bob Minor, with six bobs and fourteen singles, in 28 mins. W. Post, jun., 1; D. Hodgkin, 2; P. Hodgkin, 3; T. Hodgkin, 4; W. Hyder (conductor), 5; W. Post, sen., 6. Tenor 14 cwt. in G.

CANTERBURY (Kent).—On Tuesday, October 21st, at the Cathedral, a ½-peal of Grandsire Triples, 1260 changes, in 47 mins. Rev. F. J. O. Helmore, 1; G. Stancombe (conductor), 2; A. Foreman, 3; J. H. Small, 4; A. A. Andrews, 5; R. Goodburn, 6; H. G. Fairbrass, 7; C. Luery and H. Upton, 8. Tenor 34 cwt. in C. Composed by the Editor of "THE BELL NEWS," and contains the twenty-four 6-7's the right way.

FRITTENDEN (Kent).—On Sunday, October 19th, after evening service at St. Mary's church, a 720 of Bob Minor in 26 mins. Edgar Taylor, treble; George Rootes, 2; Edmund Potter, 3; William Brattle, 4; Thomas Potter, 5; Thomas Daynes (conductor), 6; Walter Rofe, tenor. Tenor 14 cwt. E. Potter hails from Dover.

LYMINGE (Kent).—On Sunday, October 19th, at the fine old Saxon Abbey church of SS. Mary and Eadburgh, for Divine Service in the afternoon, a 720 of Bob Minor, with eighteen bobs and two singles, in 28 mins. Alfred Beer (Lyminge), 1; Jabez Horton (All Saints', Maidstone), 2; Philip Hodgkin (Aldington), 3; James Andrews (Lyminge), 4; Thomas Hooker (Hastingleigh; conductor), 5; William Post, sen. (Aldington), 6. Tenor 18½ cwt. in F.

MINSTER-IN-SHEPPEY (Kent).—On Saturday, October 18th, at SS. Mary and Sexburgha's, the following five members of the Sittingbourne branch rang four 6-scores of Bob Doubles. This is probably the first change-ringing done in the oldest abbey church in England. F. Grayling, S. Snelling, F. C. Mattison, E. J. Bottle, and W. H. Judd. Tenor 12 cwt.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

ECCLES (Lancashire).—On Saturday, October 18th, at the parish church, a 720 of Bob Minor, in 26 mins. W. Crossley, 1; R. Pearce (first 720), 2; J. Worthington, 3; J. Welsby, 4; J. Brookes, 5; E. Cash (conductor), 6. Tenor 13½ cwt. W. Crossley and R. Pearce hail from Swinton, J. Worthington, Brookes and Welsby from Walkden, E. Cash belongs to the local company.

GARSTON (Lancashire).—On Monday, October 6th, at St. Michael's church, a 720 of Plain Bob Minor, in 27 mins. S. Gough, 1; *W. Turner, 2; F. Turner, 3; *W. Weaver, 4; *W. Hughes, 5; Geo. Hughes (conductor), 6. *First 720.

GORTON (Lancashire).—On Saturday, October 18th, the St. Ann's Society, Haughton, paid a visit to Brookfield church, Gorton, and rang a 720 Plain Bob Minor, on the back six, with sixteen bobs and two singles, in 28 mins. James A. Thomas, 1; John Bardsley, 2; William Wild, 3; John S. Leech, 4; John Howard, 5; Peter Small, 6. Tenor 14½ cwt. This is the first 720 that has been rung in Gorton for over six years. A few courses of Grandsire Triples were rung on the handbells, and after a few touches of Bob Major on the tower bells, the party returned home greatly pleased with their outing.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

DERBY.—On Thursday, October 16th, at All Saints' church, six members of the above Association rang a 720 of Grandsire Minor, on the back six, in 28 mins. G. Beeson, 1; S. Maskery, 2; R. Redgate, 3; H. C. Woodward, 4; J. Newbold, 5; J. Howe (conductor), 6. First 720 by Messrs. Beeson and Maskery. Tenor 28 cwt in D.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

HEADINGTON (Oxon).—On Sunday, October 5th, for Divine Service in the evening, a 720 of Grandsire Minor, in 26 mins. J. W. Washbrook, 1; S. Hounslow, 2; J. Howse, 3; W. Baston, 4; Rev. F. A. H. Du Boulay, 5; W. Payne, 6. And after service, a 720 of Plain Bob Minor, F. Castle taking the 5th. Also on Sunday, October 19th, for evening service, a 720 of Grandsire Minor. *J. R. Vincent, Esq., 1; C. W. H. Griffith, Esq., 2; *G. F. Scott, Esq., 3; *Rev. F. A. H. Du Boulay, 4; F. Castle, 5; J. W. Washbrook, 6. Those marked * are also members of the Oxford University Society. All the above 720s was conducted by J. W. Washbrook. Two trebles are sorely needed for this church, in order to make a handy ring of eight for Oxford and the neighbourhood.

THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

STREATHAM (Surrey).—On Monday, October 20th, at Immanuel church, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples. W. Shepherd, 1; W. Pell, 2; E. F. Cole, 3; G. Pell, 4; D. Springall, 5; G. Russell, 6; S. Greenwood (conductor), 7; W. Ely, 8. This was the first quarter-peal in the method by the ringers of the treble and second.

ACKWORTH (Yorkshire).—On Friday evening, October 17th, Messrs. W. Pearson and J. Pollard, of All Saints', Pontefract, paid a visit to Ackworth, and with four of the local company rang a 720 of Bob Minor in 27 mins. C. Wilson, 1; H. Lindsay, 2; J. Pollard, 3; T. Harrop, 4; T. Denton, 5; W. Pearson (conductor), 6. The above is the first 720 by the Ackworth men.

BLACKBURN (Lancashire).—On Saturday evening, October 18th, at the parish church, 720 Plain Bob Minor, with sixteen bobs and two singles, in 26 mins. R. J. N. Parker (conductor), 1; J. Sanderson, 2; R. Lund (first 720 in the method), 3; Jas. Smith, 4; W. Clark, 5; S. Aldrich, 6. Tenor 16½ cwt.

BRIGHTON (Sussex).—On Wednesday, October 8th, at St. Peter's church, a 720 of Oxford Bob Minor, in 25½ mins. J. Jay, sen., 1; H. Weston, 2; G. F. Attree, 3; J. Searle, 4; J. Jay, jun., 5; J. Gasson (conductor), 6. This is the first 720 in the method on these bells, and the first by the ringers of 1, 2, 3, and 5. Tenor 10½ cwt.

BRISTOL.—On Sunday, October 12th, at St. Mary-le-Port, for morning service, a 630 of Grandsire Triples. E. D. Taylor (Loughborough), 1; S. Cleal, 2; E. Duckham, 3; S. Smith (Loughborough), 4; F. Price, 5; J. Norton, 6; J. Hinton (conductor), 7; G. Stallard, 8.

BROMBOROUGH (Cheshire).—On Tuesday, October 14th, the local company, with Mr. Robert Williams of Liverpool, rang a 720 of Bob Minor on the back six, in 34 mins. Arthur J. J. Bamford, Esq. (first 720), 1; John Ollerhead, 2; Thomas Hughes, 3; Charles Gittings, 4; Edward Griffiths, 5; Robert Williams, 6. Tenor 24 cwt.

CAVENDISH (Suffolk).—On Thursday, October 2nd, at St. Mary's Church, a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob. S. Slater, 1; O. Garwood, 2; A. Ives, 3; Percy Chas. S. Scott, 4; G. Maxim, 5; A. Hurst (conductor), 6.

CASTLE DONNINGTON (Leicestershire).—On Saturday, October 18th, five members of the local company, with Dr. Sellon, of Long Eaton, rang for practice eight 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles, each called differently. E. Lees, 1; W. Fowkes, 2; V. Hickinbottom, 3; J. Fowkes, 4; Dr. Sellon, 5; J. Clarke, 6. Tenor 17½ cwt.

CLIFTON, NEAR BRISTOL.—On Monday, October 13th, at Emanuel church, a half-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 1 hr. 28 mins. G. Stadon, 1; E. Duckham, 2; H. Porch, 3; J. Norton, 4; S. Smith (Loughborough), 5; J. Hinton (conductor), 6; F. Price, 7; W. Emery, 8. This is the first half peal on the bells, which were opened the previous Tuesday.

COLN ST. ALDWYNS (Gloucestershire).—On Monday, October 13th, at the church of St. John the Baptist, the local company rang a 720 of Plain Bob. W. Fowles, 1; E. Webb, 2; C. Bate, 3; R. Packer, 4; J. Williams, 5; J. Kitchener (conductor), 6. Also on Tuesday, October 14th, the same 720 was rung again. Charles Compton, 1; E. Webb, 2; C. Bate, 3; J. Williams, 4; R. Jefferies, 5; J. Kitchener (conductor), 6.

CRAYFORD (Kent).—On Monday, October 13th, at St. Paulinus' church, for practice, a 720 in 25 mins. *H. Gillman, (Penge), 1; J. Saxby, 2; G. Conyard, 3; J. Upton, 4; F. French (conductor), 5; J. Garard, 6. No method given. *First 720. And on Sunday, October 19th, for Divine Service in the evening, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, 1260 changes, in 44 mins. M. Jacobs, 1; J. Upton (conductor), 2; G. Conyard, 3; E. Saxby, 4; F. French, 5; J. Saxby, 6; J. Garard, 7; R. Davis, 8. Tenor 12½ cwt. First quarter-peal conducted by J. Upton.

DARESBUURY (Cheshire).—On Sunday, October 5th, at the parish church, being the Harvest Festival, five members of the local company assisted by Mr. G. Bebbington, jun., of St. Paul's, Warrington, rang for afternoon service a 720 of Bob Minor in 25 mins. T. Houghton, sen. (conductor) 1; P. Johnson, 2; T. Ellison, 3; G. Bebbington, 4; P. Hamblett, 5; T. Houghton, jun. 6. And on Sunday, October 19th, on the occasion of the Rev. T. Whitley, M.A., commencing his duties as vicar of the parish, the above five local members with Mr. J. Ellison, a former ringer of this church, rang after morning service a 720 of Bob Minor in 26 mins. T. Houghton, sen. 1; P. Johnson, 2; T. Ellison, 3; P. Hamblett, 4; J. Ellison, 5; T. Houghton, 6. And for afternoon service, a 360 in the same method, in about 13½ mins., in which E. de Prez rang the 5th, the others standing as above. Tenor 12 cwt. in G.

DARTFORD (Kent).—On Sunday, October 12th, at Holy Trinity Church, for Divine Service in the morning, a 720 of Plain Bob Minor, in 26 mins., with the tenors covering. S. Everson, 1; J. Upton, 2; G. May, 3; E. Snowden, 4; F. French (conductor), 5; H. Rose, 6; J. Blackman, 7; R. Davis, 8. Tenor 20 cwt.

DEERHURST (Gloucestershire).—On Wednesday, October 15th, the local company rang for practice, a 720 of Plain Bob Minor, in 25 mins. *T. Everness, 1; C. Willis, 2; †H. Roberts (aged 15), 3; C. Roles, 4; G. Willis, 5; J. Bartlett (conductor), 6. *First 720. †First 720 with a bob bell.

EASTBOURNE (Sussex).—On Thursday, October 16th, on the occasion of the marriage of Mr. Bean, nephew of J. Jackson, Esq., of Wilbury Rocks, to Miss Aird, niece of J. Aird, Esq., of the Glen, Eastbourne, the St. Mary's society rang at St. Mary's church, a 1008, 504, 1554, and a second 1008 of Grandsire Triples, also several short touches in the same method. The ringing commenced at 3.30 p.m. and finished at 8 o'clock.

ERDINGTON (Warwickshire).—On Sunday, October 12th, for Divine Service in the evening at the church of SS. Thomas and Edmund, a mixed band rang 1105 of Grandsire Triples, in 40 mins. Peter Conlon, 1; John Benn, 2; Austin Hales, 3; William Dunleavy, 4; Bernard Witchell, 5; James Plant (conductor), 6; Thomas Miller, 7; John Murphy, 8. Tenor 15 cwt. in F.

GLEMSFORD (Suffolk).—On Sunday, September 28th, at St. Mary's church, a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob. John Slater, 1; S. Slater (con-

ductor), 2; O. Garwood, 3; F. Wells, 4; H. Thompson, 5; G. Maxim, 6. Also on Saturday, October 4th, a 720 of New London Pleasure. Percy Chas. S. Scott, 1; Joseph Slater, 2; S. Slater, 3; Z. Slater, 4; O. Garwood, 5; F. P. Adams (conductor), 6. And on Saturday, October 18th, a 720 of Cambridge Surprise. C. Honeybell, 1; S. Slater, 2; F. Wells, 3; Z. Slater, 4; F. P. Adams (conductor), 5; O. Garwood, 6. Also a 720 of Kent Treble Bob. F. Wells, 1; C. Honeybell, 2; S. Slater, 3; Z. Slater, 4; F. P. Adams, O. Garwood, 6. There was no conductor in this 720, as it was rung without bobs being called, or the slightest intimation of signs made. This is the second 720 rang at Glemsford without bobs being called, the other (taken from the peal-book), being as follows: "Glemsford, Saturday, November 17th, 1877, was rung a silent peal of Kent Treble Bob, 720, by Joseph Slater, 1; S. Slater, 2; C. Honeybell, 3; Z. Slater, 4; F. P. Adams, 5; John Slater, 6. The bobs was not called in this peal." And on the same day, a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob. G. Maxim (Foxearth), 1; S. Slater, 2; W. P. Gridley (Foxearth), 3; F. Wells, 4; J. Lee (Foxearth), 5; F. P. Adams (conductor), 6.

GREAT YARMOUTH.—On Friday, October 17th, at St. Nicholas church, the following rang two touches of Grandsire Caters, to welcome home Mr. F. J. W. Bray, builder and ringer, and also a member of the College Youths, who had been spending his honeymoon in London, and arrived by the 6.55 p.m. train. W. H. George, 1; W. Blyth, 2; M. Long, 3; W. Lee (conductor), 4; T. Tooley, 5; W. Chaplin, 6; W. Secrett, 7; W. Fletcher, 8; D. Hayward, 9; G. Crow, 10. And on Sunday, October 19th, for morning service, a 504 of Grandsire Triples, on the back eight. W. H. George, 1; W. Lee, 2; T. Tooley, 3; W. Chaplin, 4; W. Secrett, 5; W. Fletcher, 6; D. Hayward, 7; M. Long, 8. Also for afternoon service, three courses of Grandsire Caters. *W. H. George, 1; W. Blyth, 2; M. Long, 3; W. Lee (conductor), 4; T. Tooley, 5; W. Chaplin, 6; W. Secrett, 7; W. Fletcher, 8; *D. Hayward, 9; G. Crow, 10. *College Youths.

HINDLEY (Lancashire).—On Sunday morning, October 19th, being the 18th anniversary of the consecration of St. Peter's church, the following rang the first half of Holt's ten-part peal of Grandsire Triples, 2520 changes, in 1 hr. 25 mins. Richard Calland, 1; Samuel C. C. Turner, 2; Edmund Brown, 3; William Chisnall, 4; Edward Bentham, 5; Thomas Tickle, 6; Joseph Prescott (conductor), 7; George Lang (first half-peal), 8. Messrs. Turner and Bentham hail from Wigan, the rest belong to Hindley. Tenor 14½ cwt.

LIVERPOOL.—On Saturday, October 18th, at St. Nicholas's church, the Liverpool Youths started for a peal of Grandsire Triples, but after ringing 4016 changes, in 2 hrs. 20 mins. the 7th ringer was suddenly taken ill and fainted. Robert Williams, 1; William Booth, 2; Edward Foster, 3; Richard Williams, 4; George Fisher, 5; Thomas Hammond (conductor), 6; Henry Coley, 7; William Brooks, 8. Tenor 15 cwt.

NAVESTOCK (Essex).—On Sunday morning, October 19th, before Divine Service, one 6-score each of Grandsire Doubles, St. Dunstan's Doubles and Dream was rung. J. Surridge, 1; A. Payne, 2; R. Woollands (conductor), 3; C. Sheldon, 4; C. Harris, 5. Tenor 18 cwt. The bells are in very bad going order.

NORTHWICK (Cheshire).—Recently, the Witton company rang a 720 of Grandsire Minor, with thirty-eight bobs and twenty-two singles, in 27 mins. Samuel Foster, 1; William Forster, 2; Richard Chantler, 3; Joseph Bell, 4; Thomas Forster, 5; Thomas Moore, 6. This is the first 720 of Minor by all the above. Conducted by Samuel Forster. Tenor 14 cwt.

NORWICH.—On Monday, October 20th, at St. Peter Mancroft, three courses of Grandsire Cinques. W. Bales, 1; W. Freeman, 2; J. Smith, 3; J. Youngs, 4; E. Freeman, 5; *D. Hayward, 6; P. Sadler, 7; J. Fiddament, 8; F. Knights, 9; *J. Skinner, 10; G. Smith (conductor), 11; *W. H. George, 12. Tenor 41 cwt. *College Youths. Handbell Ringing.—On Monday, October 20th, at the "White Horse," two courses of Grandsire Caters. D. Hayward, 1-2; J. Fiddament, 3-4; G. Smith (conductor), 5-6; F. Knights, 7-8; W. H. George, 9-10.

STANSTEAD (Essex).—Handbell Ringing.—On Tuesday, October 14th, at the "King Arms," four of the junior handbell ringers rang 216 of Stedman Triples. W. Prior, 1-2; H. Prior (conductor), 3-4; Wm. Prior, 5-6; G. Prior, 7-8. And a course of Kent Treble Bob Maximus with the senior and junior band, and a course of Somersetshire Treble Bob Major. W. Prior, 1-2; H. Prior, 3-4; C. Prior, 5-6; Wm. Prior, 7-8. And a course of Stedman Cinques. The above were rung as a farewell to Mr. C. Prior, who leaves this place for Stratford, Essex.

TOTTENHAM (Middlesex).—On Tuesday, October 21st, for practice, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 44 mins. J. Langram, 1; J. Waghorn, jun., 2; J. Waghorn, sen., 3; J. W. Barrs, 4; E. F. Strange, 5; R. Bagnall, 6; H. Barnett (conductor) 7; Wm. Pye-English. Tenor 20 cwt.

WALTON (Lancashire).—On Thursday, October 16th, at St. Mary's church, a 360 of Grandsire Minor, with eighteen bobs. J. Hurst, 1; W. Short, 2; T. R. Somerville, 3; T. Rushton, 4; R. A. Simpson, 5; C. E. Wilson (conductor), 6. And on Sunday, October 19th, for Divine Service in the evening, three 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles. J. Hurst, 1; C. J. Rogers, 2; T. R. Somerville, 3; T. Rushton, 4; C. E. Wilson (conductor), 5; R. Stockley, 6. Tenor 10 cwt.

WEST MALLING (Kent).—On Sunday, October 12th, for Divine Service, a 720 of Plain Bob. E. Newman, 1; J. Taylor, 2; W. Taylor, 3; E. Baldock, 4; E. Bonner, 5; J. W. Leonard (conductor), 6. Also after service, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob. W. Harding, 1; D. Hall, 2; E. Baldock, 3; A. Moorcraft, 4; C. Payne, 5; J. W. Leonard (conductor), 6.

WHITWELL NEAR YORK.—On Thursday, October 9th, the Harvest Thanksgiving Service was held in the parish church, which was decorated with great neatness with cereals, fruit, roots, flowers, etc. Previous to Divine Service, a company of ringers from York Minster rang two 720s of Plain Bob, one of which was rung before tea (which was kindly provided by the Rev. B. R. Airy, rector), and one after, by the following: T. Hodgson, 1; J. Cundall, 2; J. Underwood, 3; J. Daniel, 4; W. H. Howard, 5; W. Morrell, 6. Also a 6-score of Grandsire Doubles, the rector ringing the tenor. Tenor 14 cwt.

REHANGING OF THE CHURCH BELLS, AT LOWICK, NORTHAMPTONSHIRE.

For some years past, the timber in the bell frame, which dated from 1682, and the floor under the bells, in connection with this church, have been in a very bad state, and in addition to this the third bell was cracked. In the early part of the year it was impossible to ring the bells with safety, and Mr. George Eaton, bell-hanger, of Tichmarsh, Thrapston, was desired to prepare an estimate for placing them in a thorough repair. At a meeting of parishioners, held subsequently, a committee was formed to collect funds for carrying out the work. Subscriptions were promised by Mrs. Stopford Sackville, Mr. S. G. Stopford Sackville, Rev. Canon Collins, Mrs. Collins, Rev. C. Bartlett, Mr. Tilley, and Mr. Perkins. Mr. Worthington, schoolmaster, and Messrs. W. Surman and C. Swan, on behalf of the ringers undertook to make a house-to-house collection, which was liberally responded to. Mrs. Stopford Sackville, in addition to a handsome subscription, kindly provided the whole of the oak timber (about 250 cubic feet), for the massive beams, the bell cage, and the floor under the bells, and delivered it at the church, sawn ready for use. The churchwardens therefore determined to have the bells re-hung, and Mr. Eaton was desired to proceed with the work. The third bell has been re-cast by Messrs. Taylor and Co., Loughborough. It is an excellent "splice," being a maiden bell, and cast perfectly in tune. The inscription on it now runs, "Tho. Goodfellow, John Lee, Ch., W. 1713. Recast 1884. Venite exultemus Domino." The bells have been re-hung with entirely new fittings, viz., wheels, stocks, stays, and slides; counter wheels of teak and mahogany, having divided brass bushes, with reservoir for oil, improved continuous gudgeons to the first four bells, and boxed cast steel gudgeons to the tenor. The whole are on bearings of the best gun metal, fitted into cast iron pedestals, dove-tailed into the frame, and screwed down with king-bolts. The old bells have been quarter turned and the clappers re-fitted. The improvement in the tone of the bells, and especially that of the tenor, is very remarkable. The cost of the whole work, not including the timber, has amounted to £107. The subscriptions have extended to about £78, and the churchwardens hope to provide a further sum of £15, leaving a deficiency to be made up of £14.

THE ST. JAMES'S SOCIETY AT TWICKENHAM.

On Saturday, October 18th, by kind invitation of the Rev. S. Butler, and Churchwardens Steadwell and Davis, eight members of the above society paid a visit to Twickenham, and rang an excellent peal of Grandsire Triples, Holt's Original, this being the first peal on the bells since the re-hanging with all new stocks, wheels, and fittings complete, by Mr. G. R. Banks, of Kennington Lane, London, and the "go" of them are very satisfactory. Ringing over, Mr. W. Walker, who is also a ringer, kindly invited the party to have some refreshment. After a stay of about 45 minutes, a start was made for the 9.47 train, which brought the company to London, well pleased with their evening's enjoyment.

THE PARISH CHURCH BELLS, STOKE-UPON-TRENT.—We hear that Mr. W. Greenleaf, Bell-hanger, of Stoke-upon-Trent, has received instructions to rehang these bells, with entirely new wheels and fittings, and to strengthen the frame. The bells have recently been tuned by Mr. Greenleaf.

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,—Could any reader kindly inform me how to remedy a bell going up cross clapper, and whether any serious result to the bell will ensue. The bell which is the largest in our peal weighs 25 cwt., and ever since it has been rehung, has been a source of trouble and labour while ringing. Any information will oblige a young ringer.

Walton-on-Thames.

GEORGE POWER.

REPLY TO MR. CLARKSON.

SIR,—It appears a very difficult matter for Mr. Clarkson to find a Minor method that he can ring with any degree of comfort; if he will only peruse *Standard Methods* I am quite sure he will be able to find quite a host of them, and also the correct way to conduct them. I believe it is the best work that any ringer can obtain, as it contains some of the best methods of the day, and it is so arranged that any ordinary educated person can understand it. Perhaps the reason of the tenors coming up wrong is because it is not called the proper way. I am quite sure if College Exercise is to be set down as an unmusical method, it must be because the bells are out of tune, or else the ringers don't know how to ring it, or don't know how to conduct it. I hope that aspiring ringers will not take notice what any person may say about the quality of any method, but try and learn them themselves, they will then find out if they are worth ringing, or are absolute rubbish.

S. HAMMOND.

SOUND METHODS IN MINOR.

SIR,—There seems to me a great deal of confusion between the soundness of a method and its musical qualities—two very different affairs. Does not the soundness of a method consist in the fact that it will produce the 720 changes without repetition combined with a certain amount of symmetry of movement in the working throughout? This I hold that Duke of York, the method under consideration, complies with, being apparently a combination of the principles of Violet and Woodbine, or Merchants' Return. While I never contended for its musical qualities, I grant all that is said with regard to its musical defects. This I previously admitted, and I should not think of ringing it as a pleasure peal or for any special occasion, but as an exercise I think it is very suitable and interesting to ring. The merits of a method may be considered quite apart from its musical qualities, the method, during ringing, exercising the reasoning powers, the music appealing to the ear. I am sorry Hubbard and Snowdon are condemned, as I think many ringers consider them as good authorities. The misprint in Hubbard's book struck me very shortly after posting my last letter, but Mr. Clarkson substantiates my remarks as to that writer, by referring to other methods in his book.

R. S. STORY.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION AND PRIZE CONTESTS.

SIR,—In your paper of October 4th appeared a paragraph from Mr. Thomas Stead, of Huddersfield, in which he contrasts the ringing at the meetings of the Yorkshire Association with that at a prize-ringing contest. I quite agree with him that all the ringing at the Association meetings is not up to the mark, but there is much difference between a few companies meeting to ring at a contest and the Association meetings. For instance, companies who ring at contests are generally select, who meet for practice for many weeks previous to the time. This I think ought to account for the quality of ringing being better at a contest. Mr. Stead also states that he has been a member of the Association seven years, but that at the meetings he has never heard any ringing fit for Sunday service. I think in some of his remarks he is a little mistaken. The Association was not intended only for a few old ambitious ringers, but for the old and young to meet together to enlighten each other in the art, and to have a friendly course or two together at the place where the meeting is held. Suppose two or three members came from York, Hull, and other places to a meeting, say at Bradford, would it not be hard lines if they could not have a pull together? and could it be expected that they would ring as well as a full company in good practice? He also says that at a prize-contest he has often heard four or five sets ring so true that it has made his hair stand up! I do not doubt this for a moment, but perhaps at the same time and place he will have heard four or five companies ring miserably bad. I am not, perhaps, as old a ringer at contests as some are, but I have known much dissatisfaction expressed when the judges have given their decision, and very often not without cause, and companies have many a time charged each other with having bought the prize, and thus have been known to get from words to

blows. These are the greatest evils in ringing contests. I should advocate them very much if they were carried out properly and honestly. I think also Mr. Stead is getting a little over the mark when he says he could ring almost any method in one year from starting to learn. I do not doubt but he has assisted in doing some good work—and the performances at Batley and Liversedge were very good—but I cannot endorse his statement that he could pick a hundred men in the West Riding who could ring any method—all of them contest men. Surely out of the 430 members the Association has, a few moderately-good ringers can be found; the reports will show that some good feats have been done by them. I should like to know the company who have rung a hundred methods, such as London Surprise, Wells Surprise, &c.

GEORGE BOLLAND.

Tong, Yorkshire.

THE BELLS OF ST. MARY'S CHURCH, HARROW-ON-THE-HILL, MIDDLESEX.

SIR,—On Saturday, the 11th inst., I was interested in listening to a portion of a peal of 5040 Grandsire Triples rung (and well struck) by a company of the St. James's Society on the above bells, and in this week's "BELL NEWS" I have been pleased in reading the little account of the old church, etc., in connection with the notice of the peal, but the statement that the bells are an old ring from the White-chapel Foundry is incorrect. The peal is a made-up one, as you will readily perceive by the following correct list of the date of casting, copied by myself from each bell:—

Treble.—Pack and Chapman, Whitechapel, 1779.

2.—

3.—W. W., "probably Wm. Wightman, 1654.

4.—Pack and Chapman, Whitechapel, 1779.

5.—Thos. Mears and Sons, Whitechapel, 1805.

6.—Gulielmus Eldridge, 1683.

7.—John Warner and Sons, 1859.

Tenor.—Lester and Pack, Whitechapel, 1759.

The two old bells do away with the idea of a Whitechapel peal. The parish ringers informed me the old 7th was a good bell, and correct in tune, date and founder not recollected. W. WARSKITT.

Milton Road, Harrow.

THE BELLS OF TEWKESBURY ABBEY.

The following particulars of the bells of Tewkesbury Abbey may be of interest. In a footnote in "Bennett's History of Tewkesbury," published in 1830, appears the following:—

"In the reign of Henry VIII. there were eight bells in the tower; for many years prior to 1612 there had been only four, but they were increased in that year to five. In 1632 these five bells were recast, and another added, at an expense to the parish of about £100; and in 1696, the six old bells were recast, and two additional ones procured, the expense being defrayed by voluntary contributions. Several of the bells have been renewed within the last century, and some of them require re-casting at the present time." It will be seen by the following inscriptions on the bells that the fifth and tenor have been re-cast since the above was published.

Treble.—"Jos. Peace and Wm. Hathaway Ch. Wardens A.R. 1743."

2.—"Prosperity to this town, 1725."

3.—"John Cale, 1696, Abra Rudhall."

4.—"A Rudhall cast us all."

5.—"Cast at Gloucester by T. Mears, 1837."

6.—"Peace and good neighbourhood. Amen 1696."

7.—"Prosperity to this town and church Abr. Rudhall Gloucester Bellfounder 1717."

Tenor.—"Rev'd. Chas. White vicar. Henry Bridges and Hugh Martin, Churchwardens, 1837. T. Mears Fecit."

THE ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

SUDBURY (Suffolk).—On Tuesday evening, October 14th, at All Saints' church, for practice, a 720 of Bob Minor. J. Tolladay, 1; M. Silvester, 2; H. Brackett, 3; W. Howell, 4; H. Harper, 5; A. Scott (conductor), 6. And on Tuesday, October 21st, 1036 of Grandsire Triples. J. Tolladay, 1; A. Scott (conductor), 2; G. S. Brown, 3; M. Silvester, 4; W. Bacon, 5; W. Howell, 6; H. Harper, 7; H. Brackett, 8. Tenor 28 cwt. in D. Through the exertions of Dr. Mason, and several other lovers of bells in Sudbury, the ringers have recently been enabled to augment their peal of handbells from twelve to nineteen, and at the same time refit the old twelve with new clappers, &c. On Friday evening, October 17th, Messrs. Sillitoe, Bacon, Scott, Silvester, Campin, Brown, Howell and Tolladay, having been invited to the residence of H. C. Pratt, Esq., a pleasant hour or two was spent in tune playing, and ringing in several different methods on the handbells, which were listened to with great attention and gained much applause from the ladies and gentlemen present. A visit was afterwards paid to "The Angel" hotel, where a capital supper had, by the kindness of Mr. Pratt, been provided, to which ample justice was done, thus was a most enjoyable evening concluded.

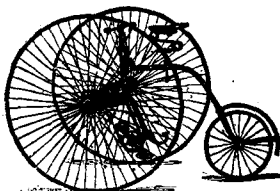
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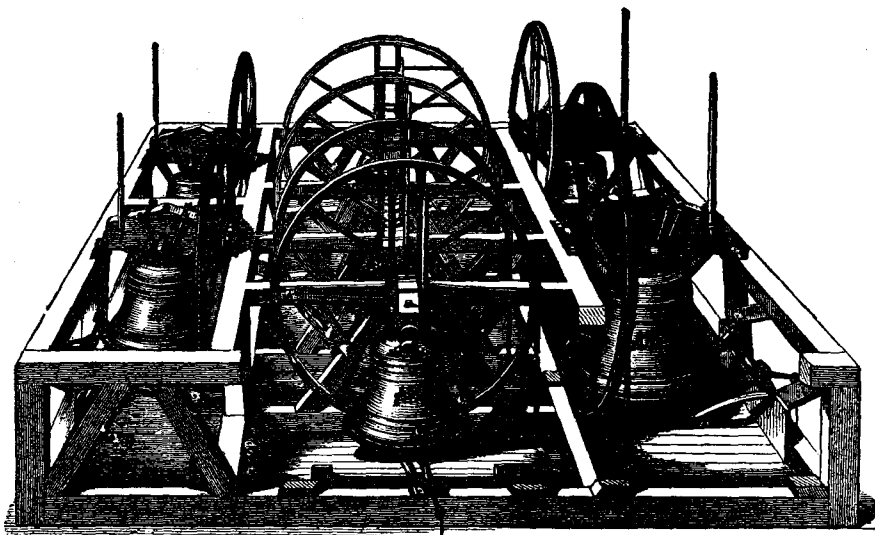
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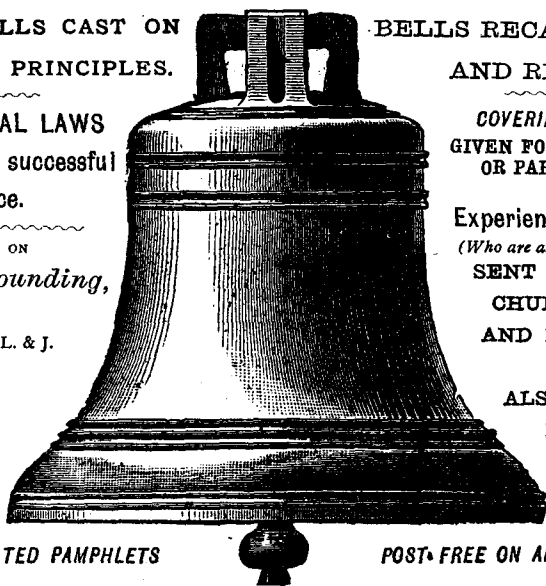
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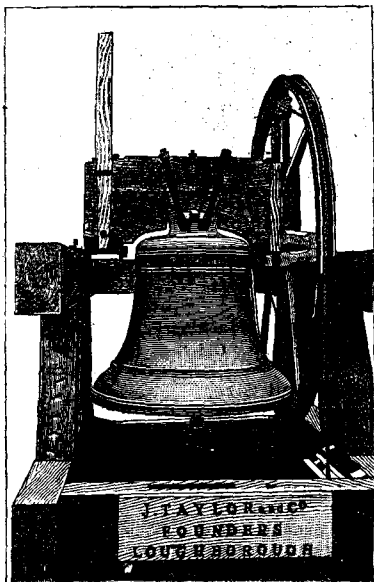
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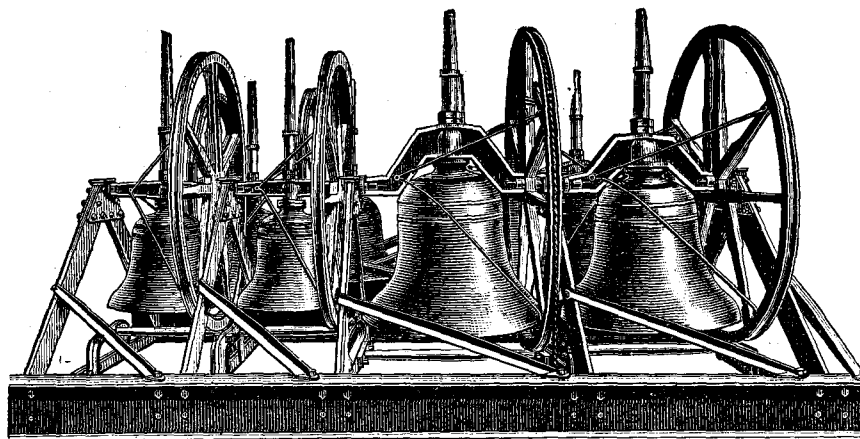
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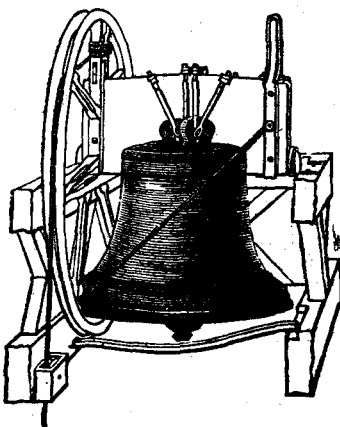
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MUSICAL HAND BELLS

CHURCH BELLSTOANYWEIGHT

THE TEWKESBURY SOCIETY AT SALFORD PRIORS.

On Monday, October 27th, the Tewkesbury Society, accompanied by the Rev. C. D. P. Davies, and by a member of the band in the neighbouring village of Tredington, left home by the first train in the morning, en route for Salford Priors, a village in a picturesque part of Warwickshire, lying not far from the banks of Shakespeare's Avon, and between the towns of Evesham and Stratford. Arriving at the end of their journey, during which they had rung courses of Triples, Major, and Caters on the handbells, they set out directly for the church, which, together with the vicarage, is but two or three hundred yards from the station. On their way, they were met by the vicar, the Rev. S. Garrard, whose previous permission for their visit had been very kindly granted, and from whom they now received a most cordial welcome. After shewing them the church, which has been carefully restored, and the fine Norman doorway in the north porch, he conducted them behind the curtain across the western arch to the belfry, which is on the ground floor. Though scientific change-ringing is not practised at Salford, a glance was sufficient to shew that the bells and belfry are under the best of care. An excellent circle, bells in good going order, a clean, tidy, and comfortable belfry, with good bell rope mats, was the visitors' good fortune to find. There were indeed two points, and only two, upon which criticism could possibly vent itself. The ropes were much worn, and not of the best type; and when the bells were raised, the sound of the two trebles was found to be indistinct. But both of these are capable of easy and speedy remedy; the latter can be very simply done by a spouting from the bell room to the ceiling of the belfry. The tower contains a good clock with Westminster quarters, and strike. The bells are a most musical ring in F., tenor 18 cwt. The two trebles added by Mears are a good splice, and were, as we were given to understand, the munificent gift of one of the inhabitants. Previous to lunch at "The Bell," a short touch of Grandsire Triples was rung. Afterwards an attempt was made to ring a peal of the same; but just before 1008 changes had been reached, a strand was seen to have broken loose from the rope of the sixth. It soon came undone to the length of a yard or more, thus rendering the ringing uncomfortable, not to say dangerous, and so the conductor was forced to bring the bells to a stand. After the rope had been patched up, an excellent quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples was rung in 45 mins., as follows. W. Hampton, treble: H. Witherington, 2; F. Moore, 3; T. Devereux, 4; J. Hale, 5; E. Wallis, 6; J. Wathen (conductor), 7; Rev. C. D. P. Davies, tenor. The bells were then left up, while some of the visitors and the sexton of Salford walked to Bidford, a distance of one and a half miles, where they rang two 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles. Here, neither the belfry nor the go of the bells could compare favourably with Salford. Thence they returned to tea at "The Bell," after which, another short touch was rung at Salford, followed by the falling of the bells in peal; and then the whole party returned to the station, having spent a enjoyable day. The kindness with which they were met on this occasion, for which they desire to return their best thanks, encourages them to hope that at no very distant date an opportunity may be given them of revisiting Salford Priors.

ASSOCIATION FOR THE WEST RIDING OF YORKSHIRE.

On Saturday, October 25th, the Annual Meeting of this Association was held at St. Mary's and St. Paul's, churches, Mirfield, when the following companies were represented: St. Mary's and St. Paul's, Mirfield, Brighouse, Lowmoor, Tong, Halifax (late parish), Liversedge, Haley Hill, Birstall, Dewsbury and Kirkheaton. The welcome peal was rung by the All Souls' ringers. During the afternoon and evening short touches in various methods were given upon the peals of six and ten bells. Selections upon the handbells were given in good style. At five o'clock the whole of the ringers were most hospitably entertained to a good knife and fork tea, by the vicar, the Rev. M. Greenside, who, in a few well chosen words pointed out to them the honourable part they took in the Church Service, by calling people to church, and hoped it was not the only part they took in public worship. An adjournment was then made to "The Dusty Miller" Inn, where a meeting was held (the church house not being large enough to hold the whole of the members at one time), at which it was decided to hold the next meeting at Low Moor, in April next. The following were elected officers for the ensuing twelve months: Mr. Joah Pocock, President; Mr. Sidney Goodall, of Liversedge, Vice-President; Mr. Sam. Wright Steward, of Halifax, Treasurer; Mr. G. D. E. Mercer, of Halifax, Secretary, along with a committee of five, consisting of Mr. Luke Illingworth, of Liversedge; Mr. James Lockwood and Mr. Greenwood Clayton, of Halifax; Mr. Joseph Briggs, of Lowmoor, and Mr. Cyrus Leves, of Kirkheaton. Votes of thanks to the host and to the retiring officers and a special vote of thanks to the vicar for his kindness in entertaining them (the same to be forwarded to him signed by the officers), brought to an end a most successful meeting, after which ringing was resumed till a late hour.

OPENING OF A NEW PEAL OF BELLS AT NESTON, CHESHIRE.

THE new peal of bells which have recently been placed in the belfry of the parish church at Neston, were opened with a solemn dedication service on Thursday, October 23rd. The service commenced at 3.30 p.m., opening with the hymn, "O God our help in ages past," and proper Psalms (122 and 150) were chanted. The lessons were 1 Kings, viii., and Revelations v. After the second collect, special prayers were offered. The ringers then rung a short touch upon the bells, after which the choir and congregation sang the hymn, "Now at length our bells are mounted." The hymn before the sermon was "When morning gilds the skies" (Ancient and Modern). A very eloquent and appropriate sermon was delivered by the Rev. C. H. Hylton Stewart, precentor of Chester Cathedral. The chancel and communion were tastefully decorated with flowers, and there was a very large congregation. The ringers of Bromborough church were selected to open the bells. The peal at Neston formerly consisted of six bells in Ab, bearing the following inscriptions:—

Treble.—	F	"Peace and good neighbourhood, A.R. 1731."
2nd.—	E flat	"Prosperity to this Parish, A.R. 1731."
3rd.—	D flat	"Prosperity to the church of England, A.R. 1731."
4th.—	C	(No motto). "A.R. 1731."
5th.—	B flat	"Abr. Rudhall cast us all, 1731."
Tenor.—	A flat	(nearer G, a very bad bell). "William Hutchinson and Andrew Gibbons, Churchwardens, 1804."

Early in 1883 one of the bells broke down, and an examination of the bell-frame revealed so dangerous a state of things that further ringing of the bells was forbidden. In December of the same vestry meeting was called by the vicar, and a committee year a was appointed to consider the whole question. The first scheme under consideration was one recommended by Messrs. Taylor, of Loughborough, which would have swept away all the old bells, replacing them with six new ones of larger size. But the plan ultimately adopted was one suggested by the Rev. Herbert A. Cockey, an experienced amateur ringer, who kindly came to Neston to confer with the committee. By this plan four of the old bells have been retained and four new ones have been added, the founder making the usual allowance for the metal of the old tenor and of the cracked 4th. Of course for this peal of eight bells, a new bell-frame and fittings were required, and an appeal was made for the necessary funds (some £370). An immediate and generous response was made both by the parishioners and by some friends not resident in the parish who are always ready to promote its interests. In April this year, a contract for the whole work was made with Messrs. Mears and Stainbank, the well-known bell founders of Whitechapel Road, London. The remodelled peal, in F sharp, now stands thus:—

		Note.	Approx. weight. cwt.
Treble.—	New	F sharp	5
2nd.—	Old Treble	E sharp	5½
3rd.—	Old 2nd	D sharp	6
4th.—	Old 3rd tuned	C sharp	6½
5th.—	New	B	7½
6th.—	Old 5th	A sharp	8½
7th.—	New	G sharp	10½
Tenor.—	New	F sharp	14½

Total approximate weight...64½

The inscriptions on the four old bells of course remain as before, Of the four new bells they are as follows:—

Treble.—"Venite et ascendamus ad domum Dei Jacob." *
5.—"Venite exultemus Domino." †
7.—"Venite adoremus." ‡

Tenor.—"Adorate Dominum in atrio sancto ejus." §
*Is. II., 3. †Ps. XCV., 1. ‡Ps. XCV., 6. §Ps. XXIX., 2.

Each of the new bells bears also the founders' names, and the date 1884, and a few inches below the shoulder is an embellishment, copied from a scroll which surrounds an arch in San Zeno, of Verona. The clock will strike upon the new tenor. The bell frame, and the massive beams which carry it, are of well-seasoned English oak. The bell-gudgeons are of steel, and the whole work has been done in a thoroughly workmanlike manner. After service, about 200 of the principal parishioners adjourned to the schoolrooms, where they partook of a sumptuous tea, provided by Mr. J. Acton, of the Union Hotel, Parkgate. The Rev. Canon Gleadowe, vicar of Neston, in proposing a vote of thanks to the subscribers, complimented his parishioners upon the many improvements which had been made in the parish during his thirty years' ministry. He looked upon the new peal of bells as a crowning act. In addition to the beautiful parish church they had now a beautiful set of eight bells, which he believed would be as sweet-toned a peal as any in the county of Chester. Mr. U. Corbett replied on behalf of the subscribers. Mr. R. Bushell (vicar's warden) responded to a vote of thanks to the committee, and commented upon the workmanlike manner in which the work had been performed by Mr. Oliver. The Rev. K. Kempston responded on behalf of the local clergy, and Mr. Hunter for the choir. The proceedings were enlivened by selections upon the handbells by the Bromborough men.

A RINGING TOUR BY MEMBERS OF THE ROYAL CUMBERLAND SOCIETY.

BY ONE OF THEM.

ONE of the most delightful and successful tours through the Eastern Counties was experienced recently by a few members of the above society. Steaming out of Liverpool Street on Saturday, the 13th ult., the first place on our programme, viz., Bishops Stortford, was reached by 3.30, where we met some brother strings from Saffron Walden. Having been previously informed the bells went fairly well, we made an attempt for a peal of Kent Treble Bob Royal, but soon found out the tenor was not pealable. "Stand" was therefore called. Afterwards, with the assistance of Mr. H. J. Tucker, seven courses of Stedman Caters were rung, conducted by Mr. George Newson. Returning to the meeting-house of the local company, the evening was spent in ringing touches on the handbells, which included a course of Double Norwich Court Bob Royal, and a course of London Surprise Major, by the Priors of Stanstead. Arriving at Saffron Walden about 10 p.m. the same evening, we were met by members of that company, and time being rather short, we finished the evening with a touch on the handbells. The following day being Sunday, a delightful walk through Lord Braybrooke's park was enjoyed before breakfast, under the conductorship of Mr. John F. Penning. The day being the occasion of the annual Harvest Thanksgiving, the following touches were rung: for Divine Service in the morning a 504 Stedman Triples and a course of Double Norwich Court Bob Major; afternoon service, 420 of Stedman Triples and 640 Kent Treble Bob Major; and in the evening 700 of Stedman Triples. On Monday, we were astir early, arrangements having been made to attempt a peal of Stedman Triples, which however came to grief after ringing about 2250 changes; nothing daunted, an attempt was made for 5024 Kent Treble Bob Major, which was successfully brought round in 3 hrs. 16 mins., then after a light refreshment we repaired to the station, *en route* for Cambridge, which was reached about 5.30. Here we were met by Mr. George Taylor, steeplekeeper, who conducted us to the tower of Great St. Mary, where was to have been attempted a peal of Kent Treble Bob Royal, but being one short of our number, had to content ourselves with Treble Bob Major. After ringing 2000 changes in 1 hr. 25 mins., we were disturbed by a knocking at the belfry door, compelling us to stop, as there was illness close to the church. This finished the tower ringing for the day, the number of changes rung being upwards of 9200. Having to wait for the mail which left Cambridge at 1.5 a.m. the evening was spent ringing touches on the handbells. Arriving at Audley End Station, a walk of about two miles and a half in the early hours of the morning brought us to our destination, when by throwing sundry stones at the window of our host, we managed to arouse him from his slumbers, and after gaining admittance, we partook of a little refreshment, and retired to rest about 3 o'clock, feeling very fatigued.

Rising on Tuesday morning, and breakfast over, we repaired to the railway station. Having decided to take a walk across country, luggage was booked forward, and we started on foot for Bartlow, accompanied by Mr. Ernest Pitstow, a distance of five miles. On our way we visited the tower of Ashdon, inspected the bells, a ring of six, tenor about 16 cwt., but not allowed to be rung on account of the dilapidated condition of the tower, we therefore chimed them round, and found them a very good peal. On consulting our chronometers, we found to our dismay, that only fifteen minutes were left to reach the station, and over a mile to walk in a broiling sun; however, between running and walking, we managed to get there in time (as we thought), only to meet with a greater disappointment, for by some means a mistake had been made in looking at the time table, and the train had left half an hour previous, the next one being due in about five hours, and we seventeen miles from our next stopping place. However a goods train having arrived, we were allowed to proceed in the guard's break, being the most uncomfortable ride any of our party had ever experienced. Arriving at Glensford three hours late, the local that were to meet us had dispersed to their homes, but after sending messages to them we proceeded on our way to Long Melford, where we were soon joined by that genial and most enthusiastic of ringers, Mr. S. Slater. Being too late to start for a peal that evening, we contented ourselves with touches of Double Norwich Court, amounting to 700 changes, after which the natives rang a touch of Bob Major, conducted by Mr. S. Slater. After spending a sociable hour at the meeting house, we dispersed. Our next stopping place for the night being Glensford, we arrived there about 11 o'clock. The following morning found us at the parish church, before breakfast, ringing touches of Oxford and Kent Treble Bob Minor. The early meal being over, we proceeded on our way to Long Melford again, being joined by the rector, the Rev. Charles J. Martyn, who very kindly conducted us round the church, explaining all points of interest. After leaving him, we ascended the tower, and all being ready, a start was made for a peal of Kent Treble Bob Major, which was accomplished in 3 hrs. 16 mins. This peal, with the one rang at Saffron Walden, appeared in

"THE BELL NEWS" of the 20th. Coming down from the tower, we were congratulated by the ringers on our success. A comfortable hour was spent at the meeting house, resulting in the following gentlemen being proposed members of the "Royals": the Rev. Charles J. Martyn, rector, Messrs. George Hammond, James Bird, John Ambrose, and Fred. R. Steed. Bidding adieu to Melford, we journeyed on to Sudbury, accompanied by S. Slater, F. Wells, and O. Garwood, arriving there about 3 o'clock, and made for the tower of All Saints', a fine ring of eight, tenor 28 cwt. Here we rang some Double Norwich Court, Stedman and Grandsire Triples. From All Saints', we visited the church of St. Gregory, but not having sufficient time for a pull, we had a look round the church, the chancel of which is exceptionally fine. One feature attracted our particular attention, and that was the skull of Simon Theobald, of Sudbury. This skull is to be seen in an aperture in the vestry, with the following inscription underneath:—

"The head of Simon Theobald, who was born at Sudbury, and thence called Simon of Sudbury. He was sent when but a youth, to foreign parts to study the civil law in whereof he was made doctor. He visited most of the universities of France, was made chaplain to Pope Innocent, and Auditor Rota, or Judge of the Roman Court. By the interest of this Pope he was made chancellor of Salisbury. In the year 1361, he was consecrated Bishop of London, and in the year 1375, was translated to the see of Canterbury, and made Chancellor of England. While he was Bishop of London, he built the upper part of St. Gregory's in Sudbury, and where his father's house stood, he erected a college of secular priests, and endowed it with the yearly revenue of £122 18s. od., and was at length barbarously beheaded on Tower Hill, in London, by the rabble in Wat Tyler's rebellion in the reign of Richard the Second, 1382."

We are indebted to Mr. George Brown for this inscription, he having kindly forwarded it to London. Our Sudbury friends felt rather grieved at our short stay, but as the programme was limited, we were compelled to make for Lavenham, not however without receiving their hearty good wishes for our success. Arriving at Lavenham at 7 o'clock, we were cordially greeted by our host of the "Cock Inn," who informed us all was ready for a pull on the Lavenham bells. Having ascended the tower and rang two courses of Treble Bob, we thought we should like to hear them outside, accordingly we went down and listened to a good touch of Plain Bob Major. We then finished the evening by touches on the handbells. The best of friends must part, and so it happened we were to lose Mr. S. Slater, F. Wells and O. Garwood, so after receiving their good wishes, we left them to finish their homeward journey, retiring to rest about 11 o'clock, having made the necessary arrangements for a peal the following morning. We were sorry to hear that some prominent ringers of the exercise almost doubted the peal of 6016 Treble Bob rung there last June. We can only say in answer, that the job was not an easy one, but without a doubt was done, and the party deserved great praise, especially our friend Mr. F. Pitstow, who is not a dunce at tenor ringing, and if our opinion is worth anything, we are quite satisfied from the two hours and three minutes we rung, that the bells can be rung a peal. After dinner, we started for Bury St. Edmunds by train, and arrived there about 3 o'clock, meeting our friend Mr. Osborne. We were conducted to the Norman tower of St. James, where is a fine peal of ten, tenor 30 cwt. Not having sufficient for Caters, we had to content ourselves with Stedman and Grandsire Triples. From here we went to St. Mary's, an excellent peal of eight, tenor 28 cwt., but not in good ringing order. Here with difficulty we rang a touch of Stedman and Grandsire Triples. Bidding our friend Mr. Osborne good bye, (who we trust by this time is much better than when we left him), we started from Bury at seven o'clock for Harling Road Station, *en route* for Kenninghall. Arriving here, we were informed that our destination was three and a half miles from the station, I feel sure it was more near six. I shall ever remember that walk, for six miles in a pair of seaside shoes, on a rough country road at night, is not very pleasant to think over. However we reached Kenninghall about 10 o'clock, found our friend Mr. J. Mordey, who had kindly provided lodgings for us, had a little refreshment, and retired to rest at 11.15. The following morning (Friday), we were up at 7 o'clock, feeling much better for our night's rest. A short ramble before breakfast which sharpened the appetite, soon found us enjoying the good things provided. This meal being over, we made our way to the church of St. Mary, where all was in readiness for a peal of Kent Treble Bob Major, which was attempted and successfully brought round in 3 hrs. 3 mins. After the peal, the Vicar, the Rev. F. J. James, appeared in the tower, and after complimenting us on the regular striking, gave us an invitation to lunch at the Vicarage, which was kindly accepted. We take this opportunity of thanking that gentleman for his hospitality. After leaving the vicarage, we made for the meeting room, where the handbells were brought into requisition, touches of Treble Bob and Grandsire Triples, and a course of Plain Bob Maximus being rung by Messrs. Newson, Mordey, Hutton, Brothers Hopkins, and Edwards, the last named gentleman then favoured us with his composition on the long peal rung at Kenninghall, singing it in excellent style. Arrangements were then made for a peal at Hingham the next day, in which our friends Hutton and Woods were to take part.

(To be continued.)

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS.

5003.

By J. CARTER, *Birmingham.*

2 3 4 5 6

6 5 3 2 4*
 4 6 5 2 3 7th in three. s.
 5 4 6 2 3 7th in three.
 6 4 3 2 5 M.

4 2 3 6 5 8th in three.
 3 4 2 6 5 7th in three.
 5 3 4 6 2 7th in three, s.
 2 5 3 6 4 7th in three, s.
 3 2 5 6 4 7th in three.
 5 3 2 6 4 7th in three.
 4 5 3 6 2 7th in three, s.
 2 4 5 6 3 7th in three, s.
 5 2 4 6 3 7th in three.
 4 5 2 6 3 7th in three.
 3 4 5 6 2 7th in three, s.
 2 3 4 6 5 7th in three, s.

4 3 5 2 6 1 s and 8 7.
 3 2 5 4 6 8th in three.
 5 4 2 3 6 8th in three, s.
 2 3 4 5 6 8th in three, s.
 3 5 4 2 6 8th in three.
 5 2 4 3 6 8th in three.
 4 3 2 5 6 8th in three, s.
 2 5 3 4 6 8th in three, s.
 5 4 3 2 6 8th in three.
 4 2 3 5 6 8th in three.
 3 5 2 4 6 8th in three, s.
 2 4 5 3 6 8th in three, s.
 6 2 4 3 5 7th in three, s.

3 2 4 6 5 1 s.
 4 3 2 6 5 7th in three.
 5 4 3 6 2 7th in three, s.
 2 5 4 6 3 7th in three, s.
 4 2 5 6 3 7th in three.
 5 4 2 6 3 7th in three.
 3 5 4 6 2 7th in three, s.
 2 3 5 6 4 7th in three, s.
 5 2 3 6 4 7th in three.
 3 5 2 6 4 7th in three.
 4 3 5 6 2 7th in three, s.
 2 4 3 6 5 7th in three, s.

3 4 5 2 6 1 s and 8 7.
 4 2 5 3 6 8th in three.
 5 3 2 4 6 8th in three, s.
 2 4 3 5 6 8th in three, s.
 4 5 3 2 6 8th in three.
 5 2 3 4 6 8th in three.
 3 4 2 5 6 8th in three, s.
 2 5 4 3 6 8th in three, s.
 5 3 4 2 6 8th in three.
 3 2 4 5 6 8th in three.
 4 5 2 3 6 8th in three, s.
 2 3 5 4 6 8th in three, s.
 6 2 3 4 5 7th in three, s.
 3 2 5 4 7 6 9 8 7th in with a single and
 out at two.

*9th in and out at two with a single. The above contains the 6th twelve times wrong and right alternately, being its extent in that position. The tittums inverted.

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR.

5184.

By J. J. BRIERLEY, *Saddleworth.*

2 3 4 5 6 M B W H

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

Twice repeated.

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERS.

6666.

By H. JOHNSON, SEN., *Birmingham.*

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9

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

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

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

The last six courses eight times repeated, with a single at the last 16 in the 5th and 10th parts, produce:—

5 1 4 6 2 3 9 7 8

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

Round at five sixes.

Rung at All Saints', Fulham, on Saturday, October 25th, by the Ancient Society of College Youths, conducted by F. E. Dawe.

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS.

5003.

By EDGAR BENNETT, *Beddington, Surrey.*

2 3 4 5 6

4 2 3 5 6

3 4 2 5 6 9th in three.
 6 3 4 5 2 9th in two, s.
 2 6 3 5 4 9th in two, s.
 3 2 6 5 4 9th in three.
 6 3 2 5 4 9th in three.
 4 6 3 5 2 9th in two, s.
 2 4 6 5 3 9th in two, s.
 6 2 4 5 3 9th in three.
 3 6 2 5 4 9th in two, s.
 4 3 6 5 2 9th in two, s.
 2 4 3 5 6 9th in two, s.

This, with the exception of the first course in each part, three times repeated, produces:—

2 5 4 6 3
 3 2 5 6 4 9th in & out at two.
 4 3 2 6 5 8th in two, s.
 5 4 3 6 2 8th in two, s.
 2 5 4 6 3 8th in two, s.
 4 2 5 6 3 8th in three.
 3 4 2 6 5 8th in two, s.

1st course, 7th in and out at three; 2nd and 4th courses, 9th in three; 3rd course, 8th in two, twice.

A 1/2-PEAL OF UNION TRIPLES.

1260.

By FREDERICK BINES, *Walthamstow, London.*

4 7 2 3 5 6 2
 5 2 4 3 6 7 3
 3 2 5 4 6 7 5
 4 2 3 5 6 7 5

Five times repeated; substituting a single for the bob midway and end.

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE MAJOR.

7040.

By ROBERT WILLIAMS, *Liverpool.*

2 3 4 5 6 1 2 3 4

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

Four times repeated.

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR.

5088.

By JOHN THORP, *Ashton-under-Lyne.*

2 3 4 5 6 M B W H

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

Twice repeated; by calling the last course in any one part I w, it will be 5024.

The 5024 was first rung at the parish church, Mottram-in-Longendale, Cheshire, on October 6th, 1884, conducted by John Sidebottom.

A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR.

5040.

By JOHN R. PRITCHARD, *Liverpool.*

2 3 4 5 6 1 4 6

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

Four times repeated.

A 1/2-PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES.

By JOHN HARE, *Hitchin, Herts.*

2 3 4 5 1 2 3 4

4 3 5 2 S S
 3 5 4 2 - -
 5 2 4 3 - -
 3 2 4 5 S S
 4 2 5 3 S S
 2 5 4 3 - -
 5 3 4 2 - -
 4 2 3 5 - S

Twice repeated: has the twenty-four 6-7's.

* * We again warn our correspondents that peals for this page must be sent separate from everything else. A neglect of this rule will be likely to lead to disappointment.

"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, and performances under 5000 changes must reach us not later than Wednesday morning; and the insertion of any communication coming later than the first Postal delivery on Thursday morning cannot be guaranteed in that week's number. When it is found impossible from want of space to insert all touches forwarded, the earlier ones will have the preference.

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

Touches, correspondence, and other matters which arrived late, are unavoidably left over till next week.

The Bell News & Ringers' Record.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 1, 1884.

FOLLOWING this comment will be found an account of a peal which, being of a somewhat unusual nature, seems to call for particular notice; we refer to HOLT'S Original peal of Grandsire Triples, which on the 23rd ultimo was rung by a band of the Ancient Society of College Youths, the peculiarity of the performance consisting in the fact that no word was spoken throughout its whole length.

Although the first time this peal has been rung under such circumstances, it is not by any means the first silent peal on record. The ten-part composition of the same distinguished author has been thus performed in the tower, several of the band being still alive; and a peal of Stedman Triples—on the handbells—has also been accomplished in recent years. Still the peal under notice, from the great, and to some insurmountable difficulty of calling it must, we think, take a high rank among performance of this nature.

In these days, peals of 5000 and upwards are of common occurrence; and when looking at the number performed every week, one is rather apt to under-estimate the difficulty of obtaining so great a number of changes without fault or accident. It is forgotten that for each peal rung and reported, perhaps at least five unsuccessful attempts have been made, of which nothing is heard. Many ringers, and ringers too, whose experience is not a very lengthy one, can speak of failure after failure till they well-nigh despaired of ever attaining success, and then the feat was got as it seemed almost by accident. And how much greater does this especial performance seem by contrast to these experiences of every-day life? Rung as it was at the second attempt—by a band who have had no practice together for the purpose—and in a tower where ringing is certainly not carried on under the most favourable conditions, this peal takes its place among noteworthy performances of any kind since ringing has been a science.

Too great stress cannot be laid on the value of attempts

of this kind. We seem just now to have almost lost that energy which prompted our predecessors to make themselves masters of as many methods as possible, to ring them all as well as possible, and to maintain interest and enthusiasm by a divergence from the beaten track, wherever by so doing some new test of skill or patience could be devised for their companions. Ringing nowadays is practically confined to three, or at most four methods; only one of which, Stedman, is remarkable for any particular difficulty. If this had always been the case, our peal-books would be less bulky than they are, and our tower walls have fewer tablets to rot in dirt and neglect.

The Metropolis.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.
LONDON.

On Thursday, October 23, 1884, in Two Hours and Fifty-six Minutes,

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

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S ORIGINAL.

HENRY W. HALEY	Treble.	CHALLIS F. WINNY.. ..	5.
REV. C. D. P. DAVIES	2.	RICHARD FRENCH	6.
JAMES PETTIT	3.	THOMAS HATTERSLEY ..	7.
ISAAC G. SHADE	4.	HENRY G. GARDNER.. ..	Tenor.

The above was strictly a non-conducted peal, rung without the bobs being called or the slightest intimation of them given, in the presence of Mr. George Marriott, of the Royal Cumberland Society, and Mr. F. E. Dawe, of the Ancient Society of College Youths, who, seated in the tower with a copy of the peal, marked off each lead as it was rung.

It is interesting to note that Mr. Marriott was one of the umpires when Holt's 10-part peal was rung under the same conditions at Christ Church, Spitalfields, January 31st, 1851, by the same Society.

The above is the date of the 93rd anniversary of the Original being rung at this church, which was called by James Bartlett, he being the first that ever rung and called this composition.

FULHAM, MIDDLESEX.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

On Saturday, October 25, 1884, in Four Hours and Twenty-five Minutes,

AT ALL SAINTS' CHURCH,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERS, 6666 CHANGES;

Tenor 21 cwt. in Eb.

JAMES PETTIT	Treble.	FRANCIS E. DAWE	6.
CHARLES H. HATTERSLEY ..	2.	EDWIN GIBBS	7.
GEORGE MASH	3.	WILLIAM D. SMITH.. ..	8.
JOHN W. ROWBOTHAM	4.	EDWIN HORREX.. .. .	9.
CHALLIS F. WINNY	5.	WALTER PRIME	Tenor.

Composed by HENRY JOHNSON, SEN., of Birmingham, and
Conducted by FRANCIS EDWARD DAWE.

The peal, which has never been previously performed, probably enjoys the fame of being the first of this exact length ever achieved, and was rung on the occasion of fixing a tablet in the tower to commemorate the 11,111 Stedman Caters performed by this Society, December 8th, 1883, in which eight of the above gentlemen had the honour of taking part.

C. H. Hattersley hails from Sheffield.

LAMBETH, SURREY.

THE SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.

On Saturday, October 25, 1884, in Three Hours and Eight Minutes,

AT ST. MARY'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLLIS'S 5-PART. Tenor 18 cwt.

ARTHUR H. GARDOM	Treble.	JOSEPH BARRY	5.
JAMES SEARLE	2.	WILLIAM H. DORAN ..	6.
HENRY H. HOPKINS	3.	SAMUEL JARMAN	7.
JOHN GOBBETT	4.	*JAMES ANDREWS	Tenor.

Conducted by ARTHUR H. GARDOM.

The above was rung to commemorate the 30th anniversary of the charge of Balaklava. This is the first time this peal has been performed in London. James Searle hails from Brighton, James Andrews from Eastbourne. * First peal.

THE ST. JAMES'S SOCIETY.—LONDON.

On Monday, October 27, 1884, in Three Hours and Twelve Minutes,

At St. Botolph's Church, Bishopsgate,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S TEN-PART. Tenor 22 cwt.

HARRY W. GROUT Treble.	FREDERICK W. THORNTON 5.
JOSEPH WAGHORN, JUN.* .. 2.	WILLIAM WEATHERSTONE 6.
EDWARD F. COLE, ESQ. .. 3.	THOMAS TAYLOR 7.
EDWARD F. STRANGE .. 4.	JOSEPH WAGHORN, SEN. .. Tenor.

Conducted by WILLIAM WEATHERSTONE.

*Aged 16; his first peal with a bob bell.

The Provinces.

BIRMINGHAM AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATION.

DARLASTON, STAFFORDSHIRE.

Muffled Peal.

On Monday, October 20, 1884, in Three Hours and Eight Minutes,

At THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor 20 cwt.

JOSEPH LLOYD Treble.	WILLIAM SMITH 5.
JOHN CARTER 2.	EPHRAIM LIGHTWOOD .. 6.
JOHN TINSLEY 3.	FREDERICK G. NEWMAN .. 7.
ABEL MALBORN 4.	THOMAS SMALL Tenor.

Composed and conducted by JOHN CARTER.

This peal was rung with the bells muffled in memory of the late Richard Mills, Esq. J.P., who was churchwarden of the above church for eleven years.

Mr. F. G. Newman hails from Mereworth, Kent; J. Carter from Birmingham; A. Malborn and J. Lloyd from Wednesbury; E. Lightwood from Walsall; J. Tinsley, W. Smith and T. Small belong to Darlaston.

BURTON-ON-TRENT, STAFFORDSHIRE.

THE ST. MODWEN'S AND THE ST. PAUL'S SOCIETIES, BURTON-ON-TRENT.

On Tuesday, October 21, 1884, in Two Hours and Fifty-nine Minutes,

At St. MODWEN'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S TEN-PART. Tenor 22 cwt.

JAMES HICKLIN* Treble.	HARRY WAKLEY 5.
WILLIAM WAKLEY 2.	ROWLAND CARTWRIGHT .. 6.
JOHN JAGGAR 3.	GEORGE ROBINSON 7.
JOHN WALKER 4.	WILLIAM A. ORME* Tenor.

Conducted by WILLIAM WAKLEY.

*First peal. †First peal of Triples.

THE ST. JAMES'S SOCIETY, LONDON.

WINDSOR, BERKS.

On Tuesday, October 21, 1884, in Three Hours and Eight Minutes,

At St. JOHN'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLLIS'S 5-PART. Tenor 22 cwt.

A. H. GARDOM Treble.	WM. H. FUSSELL 5.
REV. G. F. COLERIDGE .. 2.	JOSEPH BARRY 6.
REV. W. S. WILLETT .. 3.	ARTHUR HAYWARD 7.
ALFRED C. FUSSELL .. 4.	*JAMES PERRYMAN Tenor.

Conducted by A. H. GARDOM.

This is the first peal rung at Windsor since 1850.

The Rev. G. F. Coleridge is curate of St. Mary's, Caversham, Oxon, and the Rev. W. S. Willett of St. John's, Windsor. The remainder of the band are of London, excepting the Fussell Brothers, who hail from Slough.

*First peal.

BACK NUMBER 92 of this journal WANTED to complete vol. ii. issued on January 5th, 1884, and now out of print; have Nos. 38 and 41 to 52 of vol. inclusive to spare to those who may desire them.—JOHN SYMONS, Penzance.

THE SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS, ELY, CAMBRIDGESHIRE.

On Saturday, October 25, 1884, in Three Hours and Fifteen Minutes,

At St. MARY'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5040 CHANGES;

ANNABLE'S PEAL. Tenor 28 cwt.

JAMES DAINS* Treble.	GEORGE MARTIN 5.
ARTHUR H. PILGRIM* .. 2.	ERNEST PITSTOW 6.
MICHAEL C. POTTER, ESQ.* 3.	GEORGE TAYLOR 7.
GEORGE NEAL* 4.	FREDERICK PITSTOW .. Tenor.

Conducted by FREDERICK PITSTOW.

*First peal (and were elected members of the above society before starting for the peal), also first peal in the method by any of the band.

Messrs Dains and Pilgrim belong to Ely; Neal hails from Downham; Potter belongs to the Cambridge University Society; Taylor from Cambridge; Martin and Brothers Pitstow from Saffron Walden. The Rev. K. H. Smith, Hon. Sec. of the Ely Diocesan Association, was also elected a member on this occasion.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—MANCHESTER.

On Monday, October 27, 1884, in Three Hours and Twenty-three Minutes,

At THE CATHEDRAL CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE ROYAL, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor 25 cwt. in Eb.

THOMAS G. DOWNS .. Treble.	JOSEPH GRIMSHAW 6.
GEORGE E. TURNER .. 2.	*ALBERT E. WREAKS .. 7.
SAMSON KNIGHT 3.	JOHN EACHUS 8.
JOHN E. POLLITT 4.	JOHN WITHERS 9.
SAMUEL WEST 5.	*FREDERICK G. NEWMAN .. Tenor.

Composed by JOHN CARTER, of Birmingham, and

Conducted by FREDERICK G. NEWMAN.

Previous to starting for the peal John Withers and F. G. Newman were elected members of the above Association. * College Youths.

BURTON-ON-TRENT, STAFFORDSHIRE.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION AND THE ST. PAUL'S SOCIETY, BURTON-ON-TRENT.

On Monday, October 27, 1884, in Three Hours and Two Minutes,

At St. PAUL'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

BROOK'S VARIATION. Tenor 26 cwt.

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

Conducted by WILLIAM WAKLEY.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

WALTHAM, ESSEX.

On Tuesday, October 28, 1884, in Three Hours,

At THE ABBEY CHURCH OF ST. LAWRENCE,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;;

BROOK'S VARIATION.

WALTER C. DYMOCK* .. Treble.	DAVID TARLING 5.
WILLIAM A. ALPS 2.	HENRY J. TUCKER 6.
EDWARD WALLAGE 3.	HERBERT BAKER 7.
PETER CLEVERLEY 4.	THOMAS COLVERD Tenor.

Conducted by WILLIAM A. ALPS.

*First peal in the method.

H. Baker hails from Hertford; H. J. Tucker from Bishops Stortford; E. Wallage from London; the rest belong to Waltham.

THE ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE SOCIETY.—ASHTON.

On Tuesday, October 28, 1884, in Three Hours and Three Minutes,

At St. PETER'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5120 CHANGES;;

IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 20 cwt.

JOHN HOPWOOD Treble.	BENJAMIN BROADBENT .. 5.
JOSEPH BOWCOCK 2.	*GEORGE LONGDEN 6.
JOSEPH MELLOR* 3.	JOHN THORP 7.
JAMES ADAMS 4.	*FREDERICK G. NEWMAN .. Tenor.

Composed by JOHN THORP, and conducted by F. G. NEWMAN.

*College Youths.

Date Touches.

ROTHWELL (Yorkshire).—On Sunday, October 25th, after a few years of machine ringing the bells of the old parish church were re-started by hand, when for Divine Service in the evening, a date touch of 1884 changes in the following methods was rung: 720 of Violet, 444 of Oxford, and a 720 of New London Pleasure was rung, in 1 hr. 4 mins. J. Verity, 1; J. Haigh, 2; J. Harrison, 3; W. Abbyshaw, 4; J. Chapman, 5; J. W. Chadwick, 6. Composed and conducted by J. Haigh, under whose instruction the above company has been for the last twelve months. Tenor 13½ cwt.

SEdgeLEY (Staffordshire).—On Sunday, October 19th, at the parish church, the Dudley and Sedgely company, with William Johnson, of Darlaston, rang a date touch of 1884 changes of Grandsire Triples, containing the 6th and 7th twenty-four times wrong and right, in 1 hr. 4 mins. Joseph Yellows, 1; Samuel Bunn, 2; Benjamin Johnson, 3; Robert Schofield, 4; William Micklewright, 5; William Johnson (composer and conductor), 6; John Goodman, jun., 7; John Goodman, sen., 8. Tenor 19½ cwt. in F. Messrs. Yellows and Micklewright hail from Dudley, the rest, with the exception of W. Johnson, belong to Sedgely.

Miscellaneous.

THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

BROMHAM (Beds).—On Wednesday evening, October 22nd, for practice, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor, in 28 mins. W. King, 1; C. W. Clarke, 2; I. Hills, 3; H. King, 4; C. Stafferton, 5; W. Biggs (conductor), 6. And a 360 of College Little. T. Tysoe, 1; C. W. Clarke (conductor), 2; W. Biggs, 3; W. King, 4; I. Hills, 5; H. King, 6.

BEDFORD.—On Monday evening, October 27th, at St. Paul's, on handbells, a 720 of Bob Minor. *C. W. Clarke, 1-2; J. Atkins, 3; M. Warwick, 4; W. Biggs (conductor) 5; W. Hall, 6. *First 720 double-handed.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

WROTHAM (Kent).—On Friday, October 24th, at St. George's church, for practice, a 720 of Bob Minor, on the back six, in 27 mins., with eighteen bobs and two singles. Frank Taylor (aged 15; his first 720), 1; John Taylor, 2; Wm. Taylor, 3; A. Moorcraft, 4; T. Shoobridge (conductor), 5; C. Taylor, 6. And another 720 in the same method. G. Barham, 1; J. Taylor, 2; W. Taylor, 3; J. Rogers, 4; F. Shoobridge (conductor), 5; C. Taylor, 6. Also 224 of Bob Major. G. Barham, 1; W. Taylor, 2; G. Osborn, 3; J. Taylor, 4; J. Roots, 5; A. Moorcraft, 6; T. Shoobridge, 7; C. Taylor, 8. Tenor 21 cwt.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

HAUGHTON (Lancashire).—On Wednesday, October 22nd, at St. Anne's church, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob, with nine bobs, in 28 mins. *James A. Thomas, 1; Samuel Wood (conductor), 2; James Wood, 3; *John S. Leech, 4; Joseph Echells, 5; *Peter Smith, 6. And another 720 in the same method, in 27½ mins. Samuel Wood (conductor), 1; *John Bardsley, 2; *William Wilde, 3; James Wood, 4; *John Howard, 5; Benjamin Broadbent, 6. *First 720 in the method. Brothers Wood, Echells and Broadbent hail from Ashton. Also on Thursday, October 23rd, a 720 of Plain Bob Minor, in 28½ mins. James A. Thomas, 2; John Blakely, 2; Wm. Wilde, 3; John S. Leech, 4; Thomas Dixon, 5; Peter Smith (conductor), 6. Blakely and Dixon hail from Gorton.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

WINSHILL (Burton-on-Trent).—*Muffled Peal.*—On Saturday, October 18th, at St. Mark's church, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor, with the bells muffled as a token of respect to the late Daniel Matkin, in 28½ mins. F. Dimpleby, 1; J. Jaggar, 2; A. Wakley, 3; E. I. Stone, 4; T. Holmes, 5; R. Cartwright (conductor), 6. Tenor 18 cwt.

HORNINGLOW (Burton-on-Trent).—On Saturday, October 25th, at St. John's church, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor, in 28 mins. R. Cartwright (conductor), 1; J. Jaggar, 2; A. Wakley, 3; E. I. Stone, 4; H. Wakley, 5; W. Wakley, 6. Tenor 17 cwt.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

MAIDENHEAD (Berks).—On Monday, October 20th, for practice at All Saints', Boyne Hill, in 26 mins., the last 700 of Holt's Original peal of Grandsire Triples. R. Smith, 1; W. A. Garraway (conductor), 2; R. Flaxman, 3; H. Rogers, 4; W. C. Porter, 5; J. W. Wilkins, 6; E. Rogers, 7; E. Keeley, 8. Tenor 17½ cwt.

SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.

WEST BROMWICH (Staffordshire).—*Muffled Peal.*—On Saturday, October 25th, at Christ Church, the following members of the above Association made an attempt to ring Mr. Day's peal of Grandsire Triples, with the bells half-muffled, as a token of respect to the late Col. John Nock Bagnall, of Shenstone Mass, who was a much respected honorary member of the Association, but after ringing upwards of 2 hrs., a change course took place, and so the bells were called home. T. Horton, 1; E. Cashmore, 2; W. R. Small, 3; R. Hall, 4; W. Beeson, 5; S. Reeves (conductor), 6; J. Fullwood, 7; C. Price, 8. Tenor 23 cwt. 3 qrs.

BEAMINSTER (Dorset).—*Muffled Peal.*—On Saturday, October 25th, six 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles. W. B. Newman, 1; G. J. Pomery, 2; Rev. P. H. Jackson, 3; C. G. Purkis, 4; J. Trump (first 6-score), 5; C. Poole, 6. Tenor 28 cwt in D. The above was rung as a tribute of respect to the memory of the late Lieut.-Col. Cox, who was on that day buried in Holy Trinity Churchyard.

CHESTER.—On Monday, October 27th, at St. Peter's church, a 720 of Grandsire Minor, in 26½ mins. Edwin Davis, 1; John Johnson, 2; George Caldwell, 3; Alex. White, 4; Ralph Curry, 5; Thomas Bithell (conductor), 6. This is the first 720 by all except the conductor. Tenor 15 cwt.

CRAWLEY (Sussex).—On Tuesday evening, October 21st, for practice, several touches of Grandsire Triples. P. Tullett, 1; J. Newnham, 2; T. Smith, 3; W. Collison, 4; F. Rice, 5; A. F. Hillier (conductor), 6; F. Wickens, 7; G. Illman, 8. Also a 720 of Plain Bob Minor, with the 6th and 8th covering. T. Smith, 1; J. Newnham, 2; F. Rice, 3; W. Collison, 4; A. F. Hillier, 5; G. Illman, 6; F. Wickens (conductor), 7; P. Tullett, 8.

DENFORD (Northamptonshire).—On Saturday, October 25th, at Holy Trinity church, a 720 of Oxford Bob Minor, with eighteen bobs and two singles. W. J. Gilbert (conductor), 1; A. Arnold, 2; J. Groom, (first 720 in the method), 3; E. Mayes, 4; A. Groom, 5; T. Roberts, 6. And a 360 of Plain Bob Minor, with nine bobs. F. Starmore, 1; A. Groom, 2; J. Groom, 3; A. Arnold, 4; T. Arnold, 5; W. J. Gilbert (conductor), 6. Tenor 10 cwt.

EASTBOURNE (Sussex).—On Wednesday, October 22nd, at St. Mary's church, 1890 of Grandsire Triples, in 1 hr. 6 mins. S. Hart, 1; H. P. Bennett, 2; F. Harding, 3; L. Huggett, 4; Thos. Hunnisett, 5; T. Potter, 6; Thos. Hart, 7; J. Rollison, 8. This was intended for a bob and single peal taken from *Troyte's Work*, but owing to a bob being called instead of a single the bells came round as above. Tenor about 17 cwt.

HALEWOOD (Lancashire).—On Saturday, October 25th, an attempt to ring 5088 Kent Treble Bob Major unfortunately came to grief after ringing 3360 changes in 2 hrs. W. Davies (Liverpool, first attempt in the method), 1; Thos. Fielding (Southport), 2; J. Aspinwall (Liverpool), 3; W. James (Liverpool), 4; R. Hill (Southport), 5; David Rimmer (Southport), 6; G. W. Hughes (Halewood), 7; C. T. Heywood (Southport, conductor), 8.

HITCHIN (Herts).—On Monday, October 27th, at St. Mary's church, for practice, 392 of Grandsire Triples. T. Webb, 1; J. Phillips, 2; J. Hare, 3; W. A. Tyler (conductor), 4; A. Squires, 5; S. Hare, 6; W. Allen, 7; G. Gentle, 8. And 280 in the same same method. T. Webb, 1; J. Randall, 2; J. Phillips, 4; J. Foster, 8, the rest standing as above, conducted by W. Allen. Tenor 28 cwt. in D. And on the handbells, a 350 of Grandsire Triples. J. Smith, 1; J. Hare, 2; J. Phillips, 3; A. Squires, 4; W. A. Tyler, 5; S. Hare, 6; W. Allen (conductor), 7; G. Gentle, 8. J. Phillips, T. Webb, G. Gentle and J. Smith hail from Baldock, Herts.

KEMERTON (Gloucestershire).—On Sunday, October 19th, ten 6-scores of Stedman Doubles was rung during the day. A. Devereux, J. Hillman, F. Potter, C. Smith, E. Devereux (conductor), E. Wallace, T. Devereux, H. Franklin. Also on Sunday, October 26th, four 6-scores in the same method. A. Devereux, 1; J. Hillman, 2; F. Potter, 3; C. Smith, 4; E. Devereux (conductor), 5; H. Attwood, 6. Tenor 12 cwt.

LIVERPOOL.—Handbell Ringing.—On Tuesday evening, October 21st, in the tower of St. Luke's church, 1476 Grandsire Caters, on handbells, retained in hand, in 42 mins. T. Beacall, 1-2; R. S. Mann, 3-4; W. James, 5-6; J. Aspinwall, 7-8; J. R. Pritchard (conductor), 9-10. On Friday evening, October 24th, at the house of Mr. T. Beacall, 2340 Grandsire Caters, in 1 hr. 7 mins. T. Beacall, 1-2; R. S. Mann, 3-4; W. James, 5-6; J. Aspinwall (conductor), 7-8; W. Davies, 9-10.

LONG MELFORD (Suffolk).—On Saturday, October 25th, at Holy Trinity Church, a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob Minor. O. Garwood, 1; S. Slater (conductor), 2; F. Wells, 3; P. C. S. Scott, 4; Phillip O. Bixby (first 720 in the method with a bob bell), 5; Z. Slater, 6. And

a 720 of Bob Minor. Z. Slater, 1; S. Slater, 2; O. Reed, 3; P. C. S. Scott, 4; Phillip O. Bixby (first 720 as conductor), 5; O. Garwood, 6. All the above, with the exception of O. Reed, are members of the Society of Royal Cumberland Youths. Tenor 16½ cwt.

MITCHAM (Surrey).—On Saturday, October 25th, six members of the Wimbledon Society paid a visit to Christ Church, and assisted by Mr. J. Fayers, rang a 720 of Plain Bob. C. Hyde, 1; R. Moss, 2; G. Hyde, 3; J. Parker, 4; J. Fayers, 5; S. Frost (conductor), 6. And a 720 Oxford Single Bob. J. Fayers, 1; R. Moss, 2; C. Hyde, 3; J. Parker, 4; A. Garrett, 5; S. Frost (conductor), 6. And a 360 of Grandsire Minor. G. Hyde, 1; R. Moss, 2; C. Hyde, 3; J. Parker, 4; A. Garrett, 5; J. Fayers (conductor), 6. Also a few tunes on the handbells which were kindly given to the society by W. H. Harris, Esq., of Grange Park, Mitcham, and were cast by Warner and Sons.

PENZANCE (Cornwall).—On Monday, October 20th, at St. Mary's, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, 1260 changes, in 45 mins. Martin Hicks, 1; John Hodder, 2; John Boase, 3; John W. Hichens, 4; Charles Boase, 5; George Sellers, 6; John Richards (conductor), 7; Martin Bassell, 8.

RINGSTEAD (Northamptonshire).—On Saturday, October 18th, at St. Mary's church, a 720 of Oxford Bob Minor, with thirty-eight bobs and twenty-two singles. J. Sawford, 1; W. J. Gilbert (conductor), 2; A. Arnold, 3; H. Groom (first 720 in the method), 4; A. Groom, 5; T. Roberts, 6. Tenor 15 cwt.

RUSHDEN (Northamptonshire).—On Monday, October 27th, for practice, a 120 of Old Doubles, six times repeated, in 26 mins. H. Clayton, 1; J. Baker (conductor), 2; W. Hall, 3; C. Baker, 4; A. Martin, 5; J. Bailey, 6. Tenor 20 cwt.

SALISBURY (Wilts).—On Saturday, October 25th, at St. Martin's church, a 720 of Bob Minor, in 30 mins. J. Short (first 720), 1; E. A. Foster (first 720 with a bob bell), 2; C. A. Clements, 3; T. Blackburn, 4; W. W. Gifford, 5; J. R. Jerram (conductor), 6. The striking was not good, but considering that the trebleman is fifty-eight years of age and never tried any half-pull ringing till about a year ago, it is excusable.

SPALDING (Lincolnshire).—On Sunday morning, October 19th, a SS. Mary and Nicholas, a 360 of Plain Bob, with fifteen bobs. And in the evening, a 360 of College Single, with six bobs and two singles. Conducted by R. Mackman. And on Tuesday, October 21st, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob. And a 360 of Double Court Bob. R. Skeef, 1; J. Wilson, 2; R. Mackman, 3; J. S. Wright, 4; G. L. Richardson, 5; J. Brown (conductor), 6. And on Sunday morning, October 26th, a 240 of Oxford Bob, with six bobs and two singles. Also for evening service, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob, with nine bobs. J. S. Wright, 1; J. Wilson, 2; G. L. Richardson, 3; R. Mackman (conductor), 4; E. Brown, 5; J. Brown, 6.

TERRINGTON (Norfolk).—On Monday, October 27th, at St. Clement's church, a 720 of Bob Minor, with sixteen bobs and two singles, in 28 mins. F. Easton, 1; Robt. Howling, sen., 2; Robert Howling, jun., 3; Geo. Barratt, 4; Jno. Herring, 5; Dr. Seccombe (conductor), 6. Tenor 14 cwt.

TIPTON (Staffordshire).—On Sunday, October 26th, for Divine Service in the evening at St. Martin's church, seven members of the Association for the Archdeaconry of Stafford with Robert Schofield of Sedgely, rang a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, 1260 changes. J. Jones, 1; T. Bennet, 2; T. Horton, 3; R. Schofield, 4; W. Mallin, 5; J. Fullwood (composer and conductor), 6; W. Elesmore, 7; T. Brindley and J. Martin, 8. Tenor 12 cwt. Messrs. Horton, Mallin, Fullwood, and Elesmore hail from West Bromwich; Schofield from Sedgely; and Messrs. Jones and Bennet belong to Tipton.

WALPOLE (Norfolk).—On Sunday, October 26th, at St. Peter's, a 720 of Bob Minor, with eighteen bobs and two singles, in 26 mins. Jno. Hendry, 1; Wm. Day, 2; H. Hill, 3; H. Allen, 4; R. Grimes (conductor), 5; Wm. Wright, 6. Tenor 14 cwt.

WEST BROMWICH (Staffordshire).—*Muffled Peal.*—On Tuesday, October 21st, at All Saints', with the bells half-muffled, after the usual whole pull and stand, a 504 of Grandsire Triples, as a token of respect to the late Col. John Nock Bagnall, who had been buried that day at the above church, and who had been churchwarden for a number of years. W. Woodhall, 1; T. Horton, 2; W. Perkins, 3; E. Cashmore, 4; W. Beeson, 5; S. Reeves (conductor), 6; C. Price, 7; S. Smith, 8.

WOMBOURNE (Beds).—On Sunday, October 26th, at the parish church of St. Benedict, a mixed band rang a 720 of Grandsire Minor, in 26 mins. W. Biddall, 1; J. Guest (conductor), 2; A. Little, 3; E. Claridge, 4; W. Lawrence, 5; W. Devey, 6. This is the first 720 by W. Biddall, who hails from Brierley Hill, W. Lawrence from Wordesley, the rest belong to Wombourne. Tenor 14 cwt.

RINGERS' TRIP TO WHITEFIELD.

The following lines are taken from the *Walkden Parish Magazine* for October, which also contains an account of ringing done by the local company, who are members of the Lancashire Association:—

On September 6th we bell ringers went
For our annual drive in the rain,
As arrangements were made with our brother strings
To meet us at Whitefield again.

It is three years last week since we gave them a call,
(Ay! what changes we've rung in that time!)
So, if you don't mind, I will give a short sketch
Of our outing, in plain, simple rhyme.

The morning in question was glorious and bright,
But, alas! I am sorry to say,
Before we proceeded the sunshine had fled,
And rain began pouring away.

But as we are neither ice, sugar, nor salt,
We weren't to be daunted, "Oh, no!"
Come then what would the day's pleasure to mar,
To our journey's end we would go.

The trap was well filled with only male sex,
We set off from Walkden at two;
En Route then for Whitefield, through Swinton we drove,
Right on to the steep "Rainscough Brow."

We crossed the old river, with fast flowing stream,
That has run on for ages, I think;
Where many have met with a watery grave
Through venturing too near its brink.

The women that shouted, the children that screamed,
The geese that we saw once before,
All seemed to have taken their leave of the land,
Perhaps to be seen never more.

No doubt, but the geese many dinners have made,
Many feasts to the poor working man;
So friends, let us all this one "fowl" lesson take,
"Do good service to all while you can."

Arriving at length, "Captain Lee" led his men,
As once he had led them before,
To the house of his cousin, Tom Wardle, and then
We did justice to all his good store.

On having done eating, the bill was soon paid;
We then, as they say, took our jerk;
So saying, we bade Mr. Wardle "Good bye,"
And made for our old Parish Kirk.

Admission was gained, up the steeple we went,
Quite eager to ring them a peal;
And ere over seven hundred changes were made,
It was said we had done "gradely weel."

The bells being lowered, a start was then made
For Prestwich, where you may suppose
We wanted a ring on the fine peal of six,
So there we repeated the dose.

By this time the night owl was screeching aloft,
The wild beasts beginning to roam;
Which told it was now time for all decent folk
To be off towards their own hearth and home.

The Vicar was thanked for the use of the bells;
Our way then to Walkden we bent;
Thus ending (I say it, and right well I may),
The pleasantest day ever spent.

J. WORTHINGTON.

THE ST. JAMES'S SOCIETY (LONDON) AT WINDSOR.

On Saturday evening, October 21st, a few members of the above society met at St. John's parish church, Windsor, to attempt a peal of Grandsire Triples, and we are pleased to be able to report the achievement of the peal in another column. There was considerable anxiety to accomplish a peal at this church owing to the difficulty of obtaining permission—which on this occasion was readily granted by the Rev. Canon Gee, D.D., through the endeavours of Mr. F. King, the steeplekeeper, he having assisted the company in their visit as much as he possibly could. The last peal rung here by members of the Ancient Society of College Youths, in 1850, conducted by Mr. Geo. Stockham, the previous peal to this being by the St. James's Society in 1830, conducted by Mr. T. Tolladay. The peal recorded in another column was rung on the birthday of Mr. A. C. Fussell, who has been a member of the St. John's society, Windsor, for many years.

A YEAR'S RINGING AT ST. PAUL'S, BURTON-ON-TRENT.

DURING the twelve months ending October 20th, 1884, this society has rung and brought round 128,288 changes, in the following methods:—19,182 Grandsire Triples, including three peals of 5040 changes each; 32,598 Stedman Triples, including three peals of 5040 changes each; 39,236 Treble Bob Major, including seven peals, viz.: one of 5376, four of 5088 changes each, and two of 5056; 6960 Double Norwich Court Bob Major, including one peal of 5056 changes; 30,312 Superlative Surprise Major, including one peal of 5120 changes. This total falls considerably short of last year's, owing doubtless in a great measure to the exceptionally hot summer, which rendered practice upon a heavy peal more laborious than pleasant.

CUCKFIELD, SUSSEX.

Mr. F. Hounsell, of Church Bank, Cuckfield, writes:—Some few weeks ago I wrote you an account of our ringing society in Cuckfield, but by some mis-chance my letter was lost. I now beg again to trespass on your space a little by running over the ground again. In the year 1815 the bells of this church were re-cast and two new ones added, making the present ring of eight. During the next three or four years following, several peals of 5040 were rung—both Grandsire and Stedman Triples. But not until the year 1842 was another peal rung, and never since up to the present time by a local company, although I believe there has been ringers of some sort or other ever since. A few years ago there was a company of change-ringers under the conductorship of Mr. A. Dumsday, but this company become less and less, and finally could not continue change ringing. About three years ago our present society was formed, consisting of sixteen members, of which number some have left, and new ones added, making progress difficult. The Grandsire Plain Course did for some time, until at last bob ringing was started and several 168's were got through, the time of my previous letter was the occasion of our first 350, which has been done several times since. On Sunday evening, October 26th, for divine service, as is our custom now, our first 504 was rung in a very creditable manner, the striking being good throughout, in 19 mins. W. Bennett, 1; W. Gibson, 2; F. Hounsell, 3; T. Fox, 4; H. Mitchell, 5; H. Howell, 6; A. Bennett, 7; C. Cheeseman, 8. We hope soon to be able to report further progress. Some confusion having arisen with regard to the weight of these bells and reliable information having been obtained, I may say that the weight of the tenor is 14 cwt. 3 qrs. 16 lbs.

A NEW RING OF BELLS AT ST. NICHOLAS CHURCH, CUDDINGTON, BUCKS.

During the past week, a new ring of six bells has been placed in the tower of the above church. They are from the foundry of Messrs. Warner and Sons, Cripplegate, London, and are a sweet peal in the key of G \sharp , tenor 9 cwt. They take the place of five old bells, two of which were very badly cracked; two bore the date of 1610, and one 1612; the other two being undated. New beams and flooring with massive English oak frame has been placed to carry the new bells, and on Friday evening, October 24th, they were rung for the first time by the bellhangers, with one of the local ringers, to the great delight of the villagers, who thronged the church, and all of whom expressed themselves highly pleased with their tone. It is to be hoped that a half-pull band will soon be started, the condition of the old bells making change ringing impossible. A very decent set of Grandsire Triples ringers exists at the neighbouring village of Long Crendon, who we trust may use their influence to promote the spread of scientific ringing. The dedication of the bells took place on Thursday last, being the Harvest Festival.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION. NOTTINGHAM DISTRICT.

NOTICE TO MEMBERS AND FRIENDS.—Ringing practice for the ensuing season has been arranged as follows: All Saints', Nottingham, Monday evening, St. Peter's, Nottingham, Thursday evening; meet at 7.30. On the last Saturday in the month at All Saints' church at 3.30, but no practice on the Monday following. Any friends visiting Nottingham on those evenings will receive a hearty welcome. "The Rose" Inn, Mount Street, Market Place, kept by Mr. G. Middleton (a member of the Association), will in future be the meeting house of the Nottingham ringers. Any communications may be addressed to John Hickman, 4, Carrington Terrace, Salford Street, Nottingham.

* * We shall be glad to supply handbills to any of our friends who will be good enough to take the trouble to distribute them.

THE SOUTH LINCOLNSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

ON Saturday, October 25th, a Quarterly Meeting of this Association took place at Stamford, when about thirty members from various places attended. The eight bells of St. Mary's were the first to be raised in peal, but they were in such a bad condition that it was found impossible to ring any changes on them, they were therefore ceased and other bell churches visited, where some excellent touches were rung during the day. At 1.30, dinner was served at "The Crown" Inn, in first class style, presided over by the Rev. A. C. Abdy; vice—Rev. A. R. Webster. After dinner the business of the Association was transacted, several honorary and skilled members were admitted, and Sleaford was the place chosen for the next Meeting, providing the tower is in a safe state to ring, if not then Heckington will be the place with its eight bells. After passing a vote of thanks to the various vicars for the use of their bells, the members then had some more ringing on the various bells until the time of departure. It is very probable from this visit that an experienced bellhanger will shortly be engaged to put the bells in proper order, so that change-ringing may be cultivated here as in other places. We were glad to see that Grantham was represented at this meeting, also Mr. Woodward, of the Midland Counties' Association, being present.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

This Society held a district meeting in the Folkestone neighbourhood on Monday, October 27th inst., when ringers attended from the parishes of Aldington, Ashford, Leeds, Maidstone, Sittingbourne, Speldhurst, Lyminge, Canterbury, Hunton, Mersham, Faversham, Frittenden, Brabourne, Shipbourne, &c. The churches on the list for the day were those of St. James's (Dover), Saltwood, Newington, Cheriton and Folkestone. As many as eighty-four practising members were present, and an enjoyable day was spent. At the Committee Meeting, which was held at the Town Hall, Folkestone, it was decided to hold the next meeting at Ash, near Sandwich, and the Annual General Meeting at Sittingbourne.

THE WORCESTER DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

A QUARTERLY MEETING of this Association will be held on Saturday next, November 8th, at Chaddesley Corbett. The Vicar has kindly granted the use of the tower and bells to the members of the Association. The meeting will take place at the Talbot Inn, close to the church, at which all members and friends are respectfully requested to attend. The Meeting will take place at five o'clock. The tower will be opened for ringing in the afternoon for members who wish to meet.

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."

TOASTS.

SIR,—I frequently read in our valuable paper—valuable certainly in more senses than one—of festivities of various kinds in which many of my fellow-ringers take a prominent part. I read of toasts being given at these festivities, some general, some applicable only to the circumstances of the festivity. But till last week I never read at a ringers' meeting of the toast of "THE BELL NEWS" being given, or the faintest allusion made to our own organ. I conclude this has been simply an oversight, and only wants mentioning so that the compliment may be paid now and then to our worthy Editor and officials of the paper which is devoted to our craft. And I should like to mention another thing. When, through the medium of "THE BELL NEWS," thanks are given to the Vicar and Churchwardens of a church for the use of the bells, it is only right that they should know of it. By sending a paper containing such expression of thanks to the Vicar would be doing good. He would see the ringers were grateful, and it would be extending the circulation of our paper.

A CONSTANT READER.

THE BELLS OF ST. NICHOLAS, BRIGHTON.

SIR,—I beg to contradict the assertion of the Crawley and Ifield Association that the bells of St. Nicholas, Brighton are in a bad condition, as stated in "THE BELL NEWS" of October 18th. During the past few months several bands of ringers have visited our tower, also many individuals from various places have joined us in ringing, and expressed their satisfaction with the go of the bells. I cannot think therefore that it was the bad condition of our bells that was the cause of the Crawley and Ifield Association having to make several attempts to get a 504 of Grandsire Triples.

H. BONIFACE,
Secretary of the Brighton Society.

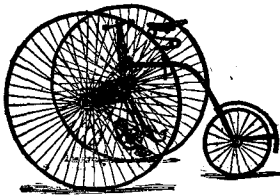
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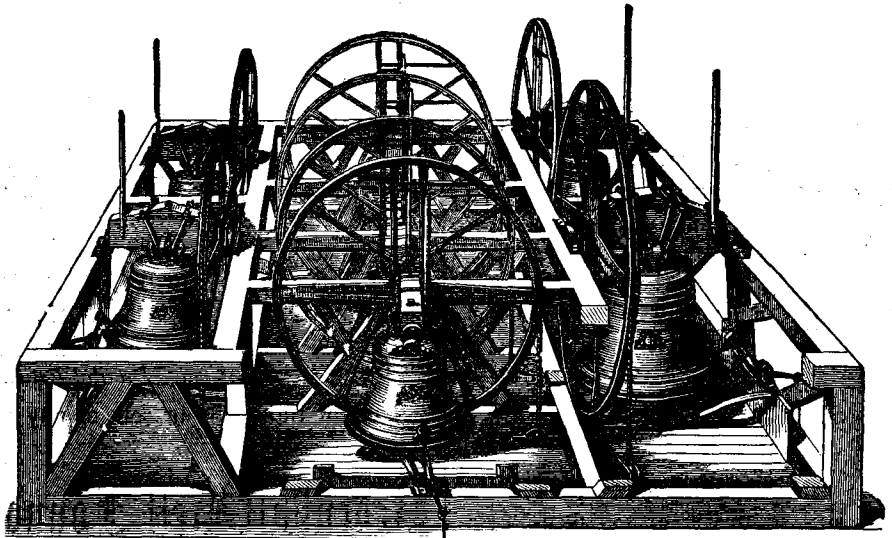
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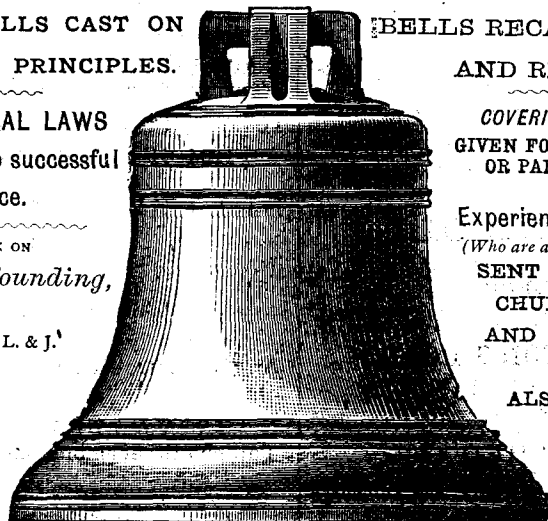
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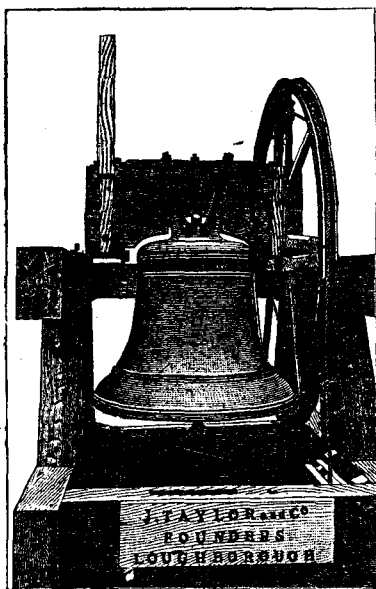
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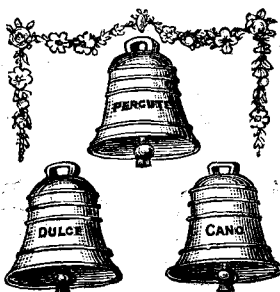
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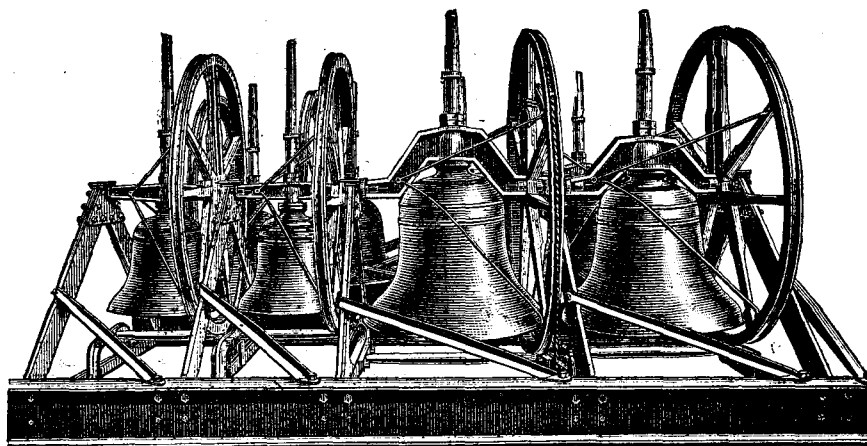
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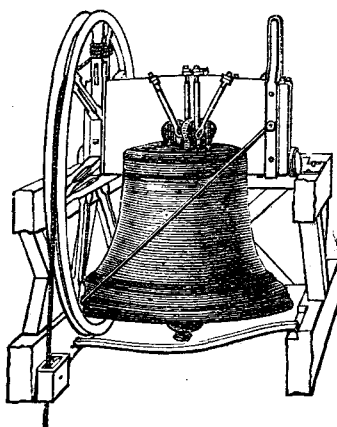
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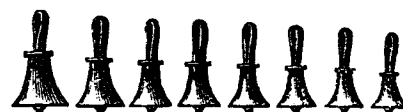
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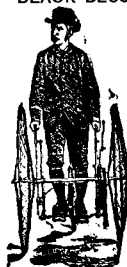
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ANNUAL MEETING OF THE DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE
DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

THIS Annual Meeting was held on Monday, October 27th, at Newcastle-on-Tyne, and was well attended by members from Bishop Wearmouth, Carlisle, Chester-le-Street, Durham (St. Oswald's), Heighington, Hexham, Jarrow (Christ Church and St. Peter's), Newcastle (the old Society, St. John's, and Stephen's), North Shields, Ripon, South Shields, Staindrop, Stockton, and Winlaton. The meeting of the Committee was held in the morning at the "Crown and Mitre," the Rev. R. Steavenson, rector of Newton Hall, presiding. Amongst other things it was decided that all peals of 5000 changes be entered in a peal-book, when rung entirely by members of the Association; it was also decided that an alteration in the rules was necessary, so that three years' arrears in subscriptions should terminate membership in cases where no formal resignation had been made; this important alteration was by inadvertence not submitted to the vote of the General Meeting. At the Special Service in St. John's church at 2 o'clock there was a good attendance, and an appropriate sermon was delivered by the Vicar, the Rev. W. C. Houldey, who was too unwell to attend the dinner immediately afterwards at the "Crown and Mitre," where 82 sat down. The chair was occupied by the Rev. Canon Blunt, supported by the Revs. F. N. Thicknesse and W. M. Wadsworth: the vice-chairs being occupied by Messrs. R. S. Story and Lees. At the conclusion of the dinner, the proceedings commenced with the toast of "The Queen," followed by that of "The Bishops and Clergy of the dioceses of Durham and Newcastle," coupled with the name of Canon Blunt. In proposing this toast,

Mr. STORY regretted the absence, through ill health, of the Vicar of St. John's, and stated how gratifying it was to find how closely the clergy allied themselves to bell-ringers. They had received great encouragement and assistance from the clergy, who were always ready to do all in their power for their Association.

Canon BLUNT responded. After regretting the enforced absence of the Rev. W. C. Houldey, who was well known to take a great interest in bell-ringing, he read a letter from the Bishop of Newcastle regretting his inability to attend the Annual Meeting this year. He said the clergy sympathised with the Association, and those who were connected with peals in the two counties were rapidly coming over to them, offering sympathy and encouragement. This Association seemed the only remaining link connecting the new diocese of Newcastle with the ancient diocese of Durham. Although his own skill in the art was at present confined to ringing a bell in rounds, he wished to consider himself a performing member who desired to make satisfactory progress in time; and referred to the peal of 5040 recently rung by eight clergymen. At this stage of the proceedings, the Rev. Canon had to leave the meeting, which was then presided over by the Rev. E. N. Thicknesse.

In proposing "The Honorary Members," the SECRETARY said that letters had been received from Canon Chester and Mr. Cruddas regretting their inability to be present, and the Vicar of All Saints had also been prevented by having to attend a funeral. The toast was suitably responded to by the Rev. E. N. Thicknesse and Mr. Dain.

The Secretary's seventh Annual Report was then read, and unanimously adopted on the motion of the chairman, seconded by the Rev. W. M. Wadsworth. The election of officers for the ensuing year was as follows: President, Mr. R. S. Story; Vice-presidents, Messrs. Lees and Whitfield; Secretary and Treasurer, Mr. Clarkson. Eighteen new members were elected, and some members who have hitherto subscribed as performing members expressed their intention to subscribe in future as honorary members. A vote of thanks was passed to the Secretary, to the retiring President (Mr. Reed, who was prevented by ill health from attending the meeting), to the chairmen for presiding, and to the Vicars of the churches for the use of the bells. During the day a party visited St. Stephen's tower, and rang some excellent Kent Treble Bob Major in attempting a touch of 1344, and during the day there was some excellent ringing at St. John's. Nothing of note was accomplished at All Saints or the Cathedral. From a physical point of view, the greatest feat of the day was accomplished at the Cathedral, where the unwieldy tenor is considered a good handful for two ringers of ordinary strength to manage as a cover, but which was, on this occasion, turned into Bob Minor by a modern Hercules hailing from Jarrow. After an animated discussion, during which Winlaton, Chester-le-Street, Heighington, and Staindrop were proposed, it was decided to hold the February meeting at Winlaton.

ERECTION OF A PEAL TABLET.—The members of the St. Mary's society, Old Battersea, Surrey, have just placed a handsome mahogany tablet, written in gold, in the tower of St. Mary's, recording the half-muffled peal rung on the 8th of July last, which duly appeared in our peal column. The following inscription appears at the foot of same: "This tablet was presented by the members as a memorial of the late Mr. E. E. Robins, an active member of this society."

THE ST. MARY'S SOCIETY, BATTERSEA, SURREY.

A full meeting of members and friends took place at the above Society's Meeting Room, on Tuesday evening, November 4th, to witness the presentation of a testimonial, consisting of a very handsome marble clock, with side ornaments, and silver plate with inscription affixed, to their honorary secretary, Mr. Henry S. Thomas, by the Vicar of Battersea, the Rev. Canon Erskine Clarke, M.A., who, in the opening remarks of a rather lengthy speech, expressed his great admiration of the determined and energetic manner in which Mr. Thomas had persevered to bring the art of change-ringing in this society to the perfection it had now reached, and he could further say that such had been his strenuous efforts in the direction of belfry reform in general, that various Clergymen, not only in London, but in the provinces, were fast following his worthy example. Continuing, the rev. gentleman then said that he had met the ringers on many occasions, but never under such favourable circumstances as on the present, and in viewing the whole of Mr. Thomas' connexion with the belfry, which he believed extended over the period of some ten years, he said that the members had rightly shown their just appreciation of his long, valuable and faithful services by the presentation this evening, and it gave him, as their President, very great pleasure to be among them, and to present, on their behalf, such a magnificent token of their respect to such a meritorious person as Mr. Henry Thomas.

Mr. Thomas, who on rising to reply was received with loud cheers, said he could hardly find words to express his gratitude to the members for the very handsome acknowledgement of his efforts in the direction of change-ringing and belfry reform in this and other societies, the latter of which he considered so necessary in the present day. He had worked with his whole energy for a period extending over ten years, and during that time had not been absent from Sunday or practice-night ringing more than five or six times except under circumstances beyond his control, and he was only speaking the truth when he said it would be impossible for him to centre more interest or throw more energy into the ringing than he was doing at the present time. He said he owed a debt of gratitude to Mr. Baron, and to the rest of the members who have so actively backed him up in his best endeavours, which have been fully realized by the fact that the members of the society have accomplished four peals of Grandsire Triples during the present year, and he had succeeded through the kindness of his supporters in placing boards in the tower to record the same. Again thanking the members for the handsome present which he said he should prize beyond anything else, coming as it did so unexpectedly upon him, and assuring them that efforts would never tire when working for their interests, Mr. Thomas, who was greatly overcome during the whole of the speech, resumed his seat amidst a round of well-earned applause.

At the vicar's request, the Rev. J. Toone, vicar of St. John's, Battersea, under whose auspices the society was first formed, then addressed the members, and said he was very pleased to see the society had made such rapid strides during the past few years under the able direction of his friend Mr. Thomas, of whom it would be impossible of him to speak too highly, and of Mr. Baron, under whose guidance the youthful scions of the art were taught to handle their ropes, and of whose ability in the ringing world it be unnecessary for him to dwell on; suffice it to say he considered the testimonial more than deserved, and he was glad to see the members so heartily appreciate the good qualities of their Secretary.

After a few very good touches of Grandsire Caters on the handbells by Messrs. Hopkins, Baron, Mansfield and other friends, some excellent tune playing by a brother ringer from Richmond was listened to with great attention, and on finishing the gentleman was loudly applauded. Votes of thanks to the executive committee for the energy they displayed in getting together the testimonial, and to Mr. Baron, the much-respected instructor to the society, for his perseverance in overcoming the difficulties with which he was beset in starting the method in St. Mary's steeple, were relied to in suitable terms, and three cheers for Mr. J. Mansfield, the Royal Cumberlands' jester, who provided plenty of fun, brought to a close one of the most agreeable and social evenings the St. Mary's ringers have ever spent together.

THE BIRMINGHAM AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATION.

A QUARTERLY MEETING of this Association will be held at Hampton-in-Arden, on Saturday, November 15th. The Secretary would be glad if all members who attend will have a copy of rules with them, as it is his intention to draw their attention to some of the rules, especially No. 11. rule. The tower of the parish church will be open from two o'clock in the afternoon. The business of the Association will be transacted at "The Ring of Bells," at seven sharp. Trains leave Birmingham (New Street), at 1.35, 2.10, 3.30 and 5.40; last return train, 10.4.

Kings' Norton, Worcestershire.

JOHN WRIGHT,

Hon. Sec.

A RINGING TOUR BY MEMBERS OF THE ROYAL CUMBERLAND SOCIETY.

BY ONE OF THEM.

(Continued from page 364).

A pleasant walk found us at Eccles Road Station; here we booked for Watton, being the nearest station for Carbrooke, the native place of our conductor. Arriving here, we were met by that gentleman's father, who escorted us to his house, a distance of two miles. We are greatly indebted to Mr. Newson, sen., for the kind manner in which we were treated, and through the medium of "THE BELL NEWS" beg to thank him very much. After refreshing ourselves, we made for the church, which has a ring of five, tenor 12 cwt., and rang several 6-scores of Stedman and Grandsire Doubles, in which Mr. Matthew Murrell took part, that gentleman being a great enthusiast of ringing. We then adjourned to the meeting house, rang several touches on the handbells, and a few tunes by Messrs. Newson and Hopkins Brothers; this brought the evening to a close. Returning to Mr. Newson's house for the night, a very pleasant hour was spent before retiring. The next day (Saturday), found us after a pleasant drive of about seven miles, at Hingham; here we attempted a peal of Kent Treble Bob Major, which was successfully brought round in 3 hrs. 14 mins. After refreshing the inner man, we were driven by Mr. Matthew Jarvis, (steeple keeper at the last named place), to Kimberley Station, en route for Norwich, which was reached about eight o'clock; lodgings having been secured by our friend Mr. Kedddington, of the "White Horse." Our next interview was with Mr. Fredk. Knights, who made the necessary arrangements for a pull on the following day at St. Peter Mancroft, Stedman Cinqes being rung for Divine Service in the morning. In the afternoon, some Oxford Treble Bob Major was rung at St. Giles's, and for evening service at St. Peter's, Stedman Cinqes and Stedman Triples. Being Harvest Thanksgiving at St. Laurence, a peal of six, touches of Oxford and Kent Treble Bob Minor were rung before and after the evening service. Arrangements having been made for a peal the next day at St. Peter's, we were soon at the tower preparing for a peal of Kent Treble Bob Royal, which was accomplished in excellent style in 3 hrs. 33 mins. Previous to starting, Messrs. Fredk. Knights, George Smith, Philip Sadler, and James Skinner, were proposed members of the Cumberlands. This last named performance, with the two previous ones at Hingham and Kenninghall, appeared in "THE BELL NEWS" of the 27th ult. After the peal, we were congratulated by the Rev. N. Bolingbroke and Gervas Holmes, Esq., on our success. It being now time for dinner, an adjournment was made, and at three o'clock we met again at St. Peter's, and rang four courses of Stedman Caters, in which the Rev. N. Bolingbroke took part. From St. Peter's we were conducted by the rev. gentleman to St. Michael at Coslany, where two courses of Oxford Treble Bob Major was rung. Returning by way of St. Gregory, a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob was attempted, which unfortunately came to grief after ringing 500. It being the meeting night at St. Peter's, we made our way back to the tower. Treble twelve and Stedman Cinqes being the order of the evening, conducted by Mr. George Newson. Descending the tower, we were soon in the meeting room of the Norwich Scholars, examining the peal book, etc., finishing the evening by touches on the handbells. Tuesday morning, eight o'clock, found us at Yarmouth, arrangements having been made the previous evening for a peal of Kent Treble Bob Royal, which came to grief after ringing about 4000 changes in 2 hrs. 35 mins., through the rope slipping the wheel of the fifth. A pleasant time was spent at the house of Mr. Fox, a veteran ringer, who told us it was the finest ringing he had heard in Yarmouth for over forty years. The time having arrived for the departure of some of our Norwich friends, who we accompanied to the railway station, we were reluctantly compelled to say good-bye, so expressing a hope that we should meet again shortly, we left them, and returned to host Fox's, where we lodged the night. The following morning at 6.15 a.m. found us at South Town Station, booking for Beccles, which we reached soon after seven o'clock, and after a good breakfast repaired to the tower, and rang a 504 of Grandsire Triples. After thanking the gentlemen who were kind enough to meet us, we pushed on to Alburgh, arriving there about eleven o'clock. This church contains a peal of eight, tenor 11 cwt., but go very badly. An attempt was made for a peal of Kent Treble Bob, in which Mr. George Prime took part, but after rigging three courses, the ringer of the third bell "set up," remarking that he had had quite enough of it. After leaving the tower, we accompanied Mr. Prime to his house, and after a little refreshment, bade him good-bye. A pleasant walk of about two miles across the fields brought us to Redenhall, where we met Captain Moore, who had just completed the preparations for a peal. Ascending the tower, we pulled off for a peal of Kent Treble Bob Major, which was successfully brought round in 3 hrs. 17 mins. A comfortable evening having been spent at the meeting house, we, under the leadership of Mr. John Smith, of the Redenhall Foundry, found ourselves after a walk of a mile, safely lodged at the "Cardinal Cap Inn," Harleston, this being our desti-

nation for the night. The following morning (Thursday), we left Harleston by the 6.45 train for Eye, reaching that place about eight o'clock, where we met Mr. Gibbs, sen., and Mr. George Day. Having satisfied the cravings of the inner man, we made our way to the church of SS. Peter and Paul, and accomplished in 3 hrs. 14 mins., a well struck peal of Kent Treble Bob Major. Coming out of the tower, we were complimented by Mr. Gibbs, who said we had rung a very good peal. The time for our departure being close at hand, thanking our two friends for their kindness towards us during our short stay, bid them adieu. A few minutes' later found us at the station, booking for Ipswich, where we arrived about 6 o'clock. Here Mr. Edgar Pemberton was waiting for us, and very kindly escorted us to the meeting house of the Ipswich ringers. A little disappointment was felt on discovering that we could not attempt a peal at St. Mary-le-Tower until Saturday. As this was our first appearance here, and having a great desire to ring on the twelve (which by the way are in capital good going order), we agreed to remain until Saturday. This being the meeting night at St. Margaret's (a very good peal of six, tenor 19 cwt., we were soon in the tower, ringing Oxford and Kent Treble Minor. After the ringing, an adjournment was made to the meeting house, and arrangements were made the next day for a peal at Coddendam. We finished up the evening by touches on the handbells. The following day (Friday), according to arrangement, Mr. E. Pemberton appeared at the club house with a very nice trap, which was to convey us to Coddendam, and after seating ourselves comfortably within it, a pleasant drive of about seven miles found us at the church, where is a nice musical ring of eight, tenor 16 cwt., recently rehung by George Day and Son, of Eye. Here our efforts were crowned with success, for after ringing 2 hrs. 59 mins., we had the pleasure of hearing the bells come into rounds, having accomplished a 5056 Kent Treble Bob Major. Coming from the tower, we spent a short time with one of the churchwardens, who said he was very pleased we had been successful, and hoped we should pay Coddendam another visit on some future occasion. Thanking that gentleman for his kindness in allowing us the use of the bells, we assured him that if we came that way again, we should be only too pleased to have another ring. Departing time having arrived we were soon sitting behind our coachman, (having wished our Coddendam friends good bye), making for Ipswich, where we arrived just before ten o'clock. We take this opportunity of thanking Mr. Pemberton personally, for his kindness on this occasion, as I believe some little difficulty was experienced in carrying out this arrangement. Wishing him good night, with the hope that we should be successful the next day, we retired to rest at 11.30. The next day (Saturday), being our last previous to our return to London, we enjoyed a very nice trip to Harwich by the boat, and after a stroll about the town for a few hours, we returned to Ipswich in time for tea. Having got this meal over, we were soon at St. Mary-le-Tower, preparing for a peal of Kent Treble Bob Maximus. "Go" being called, we struck off into changes at a quarter to six, and at seven o'clock, much to our dismay, down came the sixth rope. Mr. Catchpole said he was truly sorry for more than one reason that this had happened, but hoped we would come on some future occasion and attempt it again. This finished a tour which will long be remembered by those who took part in it. On leaving the tower, we adjourned for the last time to the meeting house, and after a pleasant hour had been passed, we found ourselves at the railway station, nearly all the ringers having accompanied us. After a hearty shake hands with all, we steamed out of Ipswich station at 8.40, reaching London at ten minutes past eleven.

We wish through "THE BELL NEWS," to thank our friend Mr. Catchpole, and the Ipswich ringers, for their kindness in meeting us, and endeavouring to make everything comfortable. To the clergy and churchwardens of the different churches, throughout this tour, we are also indebted, and beg to thank them very kindly. In conclusion, I hope if I have accidentally omitted to thank any gentleman who has tried to make this tour a success, that he will take the will for the deed.

ST. MARGARET'S, LEICESTER.

THE fine peal of ten bells at this church having been recently restored by Messrs. Taylor of Loughborough, the following members of the Leicester Branch of the Midland Counties' Association started for a peal of Grandsire Caters on Saturday afternoon, October 25th, when after ringing 1 hr. 27 mins., the person who cleans the church, very thoughtlessly turned the gas off at the meter, it was then found too late to make a fresh start owing to Divine Service in the evening. James Jarvis, 1; John Wilson, 2; Stephen Cooper, 3; George Burrows, 4; W. P. Cooper, 5; John Buttery, (conductor), 6; John Cooper, 7; Thomas Wilson, 8; John Marlow, 9; Charles Biddles, 10. Tenor 30 cwt. The ringers afterwards went to the house of host Stephen Cooper, of the "Defiance Inn," where an excellent supper was being prepared in anticipation of the peal being successfully rung, and although great annoyance was felt at the circumstance already stated, it did not prevent them enjoying the good things provided.

LEWES, SUSSEX.

ON Wednesday, the 29th ult., the Southover Society celebrated their forty-fifth anniversary. Messrs. H. P. Bennett, L. Huggett, Harding, S. Deadman, and Rollinson from Eastbourne, W. Bone (Reigate), J. Baker (Uckfield), met the Southover men, and it had been hoped that some of the Brighton company would have been present, but from various causes they were unable to do so. Three 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles were rung by B. Burfield, Bennett, Harding, Huggett and Baker, the 7th (Rollinson) covering, 6 8, behind, and two 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles, by Bone, Bennett, Harding, Huggett and Deadman, with 7 6 8 behind. At the dinner held afterwards at the "King's Head," the subject of the formation of an Association for Sussex was broached by Mr. C. A. Miller (Lewes), who said his opinion in the good done by these Associations was strengthened by the success that invariably attended them. When a week or so ago he read in "THE BELL NEWS" the reports of the various quarterly meetings all over the country, he was sorry to think that Sussex could find no place amongst them. Of late years, ringing had had a revival, the outcome of which was the banding together of the various societies for their mutual benefit. That ringers had become an organized body was proved by their having a journal and record of their own, the contents of which was wholly devoted to their craft. The sister counties of Surrey and Kent were well to the fore, and he was certain that Sussex by an effort could hold its own. These associations were the means of promulgating campanology, and conducive to belfry reform, and from his experience in other places such reform was necessary. It was too often forgotten that the tower was as much a part of God's House as the chancel, but he was afraid that many ministers often ignored the ringing-chamber. Where the minister exercised his influence over the ringers, there one saw clean belfries, and heard as a rule good ringing. But nothing could be done without unity; differences of opinions as to one town's claims over another, and one company's superiority over another, must be sunk, and the advancement of ringing be the main object. He was sorry that no one from Brighton was present, as he knew that a County Association had been mooted there. On behalf of the Lewes ringers, he thanked those gentlemen who had so kindly attended their anniversary, and was truly sorry that they had been unable to secure a peal of Triples or something more tangible than Grandsire Doubles. He had ventured those remarks so that the subject of an Association might at least be ventilated. Mr. H. P. Bennett (Eastbourne), said he had not gone so deeply into the subject as Mr. Miller had evidently done, but he thought the matter would bear their thinking over. He was sure Eastbourne would be pleased to do its share towards advancing campanology in the county. He should like to propose the toast of "Success to the Lewes Society." Many years ago, before Eastbourne was so well up in ringing as at present, he had come to Lewes, and received some very useful information, for which he had been thankful. He hoped the old town would soon have a band of half-pull ringers. He was disappointed at not having met some of the Brighton band, and concluded his remarks, which were enthusiastically received, by giving some good advice to the members. The evening's proceedings were enlivened by several applicable toasts, songs, and tunes on the handbells, and the company dispersed well pleased with their forty-fifth anniversary. On Saturday last, a band from Reigate successfully accomplished Holt's ten-part peal of Grandsire Triples, which was listened to with much attention, and at the finish, the party were congratulated by friends from Eastbourne and others who had come over to hear them. The peal will be found in another column.

SAINT MARY MAGDALENE, TAUNTON.

AT a meeting of the Bells Committee, held recently, a sub-committee was appointed to meet Mr. Taylor, of Loughborough, bell founder, at the tower, and confer with him respecting the new bell cage and the re-casting or re-tuning of the bells. The committee presented their report to the General Committee on Thursday evening, recommending that Mr. Taylor's estimate of £299 6s. for supplying a combined iron and wood cage to take ten bells, and for re-tuning and re-hanging the present peal of eight bells and putting them in perfect working order, be accepted. The committee adopted that recommendation, and Mr. Taylor was called in, and the resolution was read to him. He thanked the meeting for giving him the order, and promised that the work should be carried out in the best possible manner, and it is proposed to commence the work on Monday next. With regard to the new clock and chimes, it was explained that the carillon was a most expensive apparatus, and it seemed to be a pity to have such a valuable machine to play only eight notes. Mr. Taylor suggested that two smaller bells for ringing—one of 7 cwt. in F., and one of 7½ cwt. in E., should be added to the present peal of ringing bells, and that a ten cwt. bell in C., without clapper or wheels, should be suspended above for the use of the carillon chimes, as this would enable a greater variety of tunes to be played than at present.

OPENING OF THE NEW BELLS AT ST. EDMUND'S, SALISBURY.

THE heavy peal of six at the above church has been recently augmented to eight, the second having been given by one of the company of ringers, and the treble having been purchased by public subscription. The new bells were cast and hung by Messrs. Mears and Stainbank, and are very satisfactory in tone.

The opening took place on Thursday, October 30th. About noon some Doubles were rung by the local company upon the old six bells. Then followed a short dedication service, after which the local company rang rounds on all the eight bells for a short time. A luncheon was afterwards held at the St. Edmund's Home, at which the rector (the Rev. W. J. Tait) presided. The Rev. A. D. Hill, Rev. F. E. Robinson, Rev. C. L. Bode, the Mayor of Salisbury, the churchwardens, the Rev. Dr. Bourne, and several other gentlemen were also present. The St. Edmund's company of ringers, and a select band, under the direction of the Rev. A. D. Hill were also present. The rector and several other gentlemen made a few appropriate remarks after dinner, thanking the donor of the second bell for his generosity. At 3 p.m., the select band engaged for the occasion ascended the tower alone, and rang a 1008 of Grandsire Triples, stationed thus—W. Alley, 1; W. W. Gifford, 2; C. A. Clements, 3; Rev. A. D. Hill, 4; T. Blackburn, 5; J. R. Jerram, 6; Rev. F. E. Robinson (conductor), 7; Rev. C. L. Bode and J. Cooper, 8. Tenor 30 cwt. Time not taken. 336 and 489 of Grandsire Triples were also rung by the same band, stationed somewhat differently. The doors were then unlocked, and the company proceeded to the St. Edmund's Home, and partook of tea. This concluded the day's proceedings. It is a pity that while the work of hanging the new bells was about, the striking of some of the old bells was not rectified, as several are very false, and caused some difficulty to the company who handled them.

THE ST. SIDWELL'S SOCIETY, EXETER.

A meeting of the above society was held at the Poltimore Inn, on Friday, October 31st, for the purpose of presenting one of the members (Mr. G. T. Townsend, who is leaving this town for Bristol), with a handsome set of gold studs. Mr. H. Swift, who made the present on behalf of the members, spoke very feelingly of the loss to the society that his departure would occasion, and as an evidence of it he would call to mind that only two days previously he had conducted his first quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples at the first attempt. He also spoke of his gentlemanly conduct, both in and out of the belfry, which gained for him the respect and goodwill of every member of the society.

Mr. Townsend, in thanking his brother members for the handsome present, impressed upon them that he was very sorry to leave, but as his present situation involved a great deal of night work, and his future one all day work, he felt in duty bound for the sake of his health to accept it, and he would try and visit them at Christmas, and have some ringing with them.

After some good songs, toasts, &c., the chairman, Mr. W. Goss, in a speech on the conviviality of the gathering, referred to the excellent manner in which their conductor (Mr. Ferris Shepherd) had arranged peal meetings and ringing generally during the past eighteen months, and asked him to accept of a little present that had been purchased by the members as a token of their respect and esteem for him. Mr. S. Herbert endorsed all the chairman had said, and hoped to have the pleasure of ringing in a good many more peals with him yet.

Mr. F. Shepherd, in returning thanks, said that he had been enjoying Mr. Townsend's surprise so much that this had perfectly astounded him, and so must excuse him for not having suitable words at hand.

Courses of Caters, Major, and Triples were afterwards rung, and the members (about two score) concluded a very pleasant and agreeable evening by singing "The Queen."

AUSTRALIA.

For practice on Wednesday evening, September 3rd, 1884, the local handbell ringers rang six 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles. J. A. Cross, 1; H. Boyle, 2; W. J. Newman, 3; M. Devereux, 4-5. This is the longest touch performed by the 1st, 2nd, and 3rd ringers, and the longest performed by the conductor with 4-5 retained in hand. The 6-scores are in two and three parts, with the 5th bell the observation. M. Devereux is a member of the Gloucester and Bristol Diocesan Association, England.

Mr. C. L. Rcutledge, 8, Westmorland Road, Newcastle-on-Tyne, asks if any of the readers of "THE BELL NEWS" would kindly forward him two or three touches of Grandsire Triples, of from 800 to 2000 changes, taken from Holt's Original.

"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.

Everything for insertion in this Journal to be addressed "The Editor of THE BELL NEWS, Wallhamstow, London." Letters forwarded for publication, and performances under 5000 changes must reach us not later than Wednesday morning; and the insertion of any communication coming later than the first Postal delivery on Thursday morning cannot be guaranteed in that week's number. When it is found impossible from want of space to insert all touches forwarded, the earlier ones will have the preference.

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

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.

AUDITOR TANTUM.—Received.

Touches, correspondence, and other matters which arrived late, are unavoidably left over till next week.

The Bell News & Ringers' Record.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 8, 1884.

THE concluding sentences of our last editorial comment pointed out the fact that among the many methods now at the disposal of the Exercise only a moiety of them are practised. This is a subject which we have written upon before, and it can very well bear further consideration. The question has often been asked—Where is the spirit that encouraged REEVES and SHIPWAY to spend their time in devising and collecting the new methods and peals with which their books abound? the spirit that supplied the names of Cumberland Treble Bob and College Exercise; variations unknown at the head quarters of the Royal Cumberlands, and unpractised where the College Youths assemble.

To many ringers, the idea of leaving the well-trodden path savours of madness. Do we not often see an enterprising member of a company endeavouring to induce his brethren to try some other method than the one they have always rung? We know of one ringer who will not look at Stedman "till there is a band to ring it," as he in his wisdom observes. Sometimes the persuasion to enter upon a new field appears to be successful; the method is explained in the tower, and it may be a copy of a lead, with the requisite observations, is given to each ringer. This is studied for a few seconds, and a touch is essayed. But no good may be done the first evening. The member who is anxious to excel in the new venture, remarks—"We'll try next meeting-night." The rest agree to do so, and promise to become well read-up in the method by the time appointed. The evening arrives; the energetic member looks forward to the pleasure of a long touch in another method, and upon his suggesting entering upon it, first one member of the company, then another, ask "What do you do after dodging in four-five?" "Suppose the treble takes you off?" Or "How do you make a bob?"

Then some of them have lost the scrap of paper which they had given them with the method written upon it at full length, others make some lame defence, with the ultimate result that they all fall back into the old groove, disgusting by their apathy the most skilful of their band, who eventually leaves them for some other company where his energy and talents have free scope afforded him. To be logical, scientific ringers should yearn after the practice of new methods, striving to excel, not only in one or two of them, but in all. We should be glad to have to record a few handbell peals in various methods, (for we look upon handbell ringing as an accomplishment in no wise inferior, so far as skill is concerned, to the more prominent part of the science). Lastly, ringers all, we beg you, we entreat you, to give our composers an opportunity to set up some other line than that worn out sentence, "A peal of Grandsire Triples," or the equally stale phrase, "Treble Bob Major in the Kent Variation."

The Metropolis.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION, AND THE ST. JAMES'S SOCIETY.—LONDON.

On Friday, October 31, 1884, in Three Hours and Fifty Minutes,

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

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CINQUES, 5014 CHANGES;

Tenor 32 cwt. in C#.

HENRY W. HALEY Treble.	HENRY DAINS 7.
CHARLES H. HATTERSLEY .. 2.	WILLIAM BARON 8.
JOHN W. ROWBOTHAM .. 3.	HENRY A. HOPKINS.. .. 9.
RICHARD FRENCH 4.	GEORGE NEWSON 10.
CHALLIS F. WINNY 5.	EDWIN HORREX.. .. 11.
FRANCIS E. DAWE 6.	JOHN MANSFIELD Tenor.

Composed and Conducted by H. W. HALEY.

THE SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.
SOUTHGATE, MIDDLESEX.

On Saturday, November 1, 1884, in Three Hours and Thirty Minutes,

AT CHRIST CHURCH,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 24 cwt.

ARTHUR H. GARDOM Treble.	GEORGE GRICE 5.
HARRY RANDALL 2.	GEORGE HARVEY 6.
WILLIAM H. FUSSELL .. 3.	WILLIAM H. DORAN.. .. 7.
THOMAS TITCHENER 4.	GEORGE NEWSON Tenor.

Composed by N. J. PITSTOW and Conducted by
ARTHUR H. GARDOM.

The peal has the 6th the extent home at nine out of the last-course-ends, and is now rung for the first time.

The Provinces.

ROCHDALE, LANCASHIRE.

THE ROCHDALE AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATION.

On Tuesday, October 21, 1884, in Three Hours and One Minute,

AT ST. ALBAN'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

CARTER'S BOB AND SINGLE. Tenor 18½ cwt. in F.

JOHN MILLETT Treble.	ALBERT E. WREAKS 5.
JOHN E. POLLITT 2.	JOHN HARRISON.. .. 6.
JOHN W. HEALEY 3.	JOSEPH STREET 7.
SAMUEL WEST 4.	WILLIAM BUTTERWORTH.. Tenor.

Conducted by JOHN HARRISON.

Messrs. Millett, Harrison and Street hail from Heywood, Pollitt, West, and Wreaks from Manchester, Healey and Butterworth are members of local company. All are members of the Lancashire Association except Healey and Butterworth.

THE MOTTRAM AND ASHTON SOCIETY.
MOTTRAM-IN-LONGDENDALE, CHESHIRE.

On Wednesday, October 29, 1884, in Two Hours and Fifty-two Minutes,

At St. Michael's Church,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;
IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 12½ cwt.

ROBERT WRIGHT Treble.	GEORGE BRADDOCK 5.
GEORGE D. HATFIELD 2.	WILLIAM FRITH 6.
JOHN SIDEBOTHAM 3.	JOHN THORP 7.
WILLIAM MIDDLETON 4.	FREDERICK G. NEWMAN .. Tenor.

Composed by J. THORP and conducted by
FREDERICK G. NEWMAN.

The peal contains the 6th its extent at home, and is now rung for the first time.

HYDE, CHESHIRE.

THE UNITED COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

Birthday Peal.

On Friday, October 31, 1884, in Three Hours and Four Minutes,

At St. George's Church,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5184 CHANGES;
IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 15½ cwt.

JAMES S. WILDE Treble.	GEORGE LONGDEN 5.
RALPH PRICHARD 2.	THOMAS WILDE 6.
ROBERT WOOLLEY 3.	JOHN THORPE 7.
WALTER SLATER 4.	FREDERICK G. NEWMAN .. Tenor.

Composed by JOHN THORP, and Conducted by F. G. NEWMAN.

This peal was rung to commemorate the 25th birthday of the conductor, his brother-strings wishing him many happy returns of the day,

HERTFORD.—HERTFORD COLLEGE YOUTHS.

[ESTABLISHED 1767.]

On Friday, October 31, 1884, in Two Hours and Fifty-one Minutes,

At St. Andrew's Church,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
HOLT'S ORIGINAL. Tenor 16 cwt. in F.

STEPHEN KNIGHT* Treble.	WILLIAM A. ALPS 5.
HERBERT BAKER 2.	JOHN GODFREY 6.
HENRY J. TUCKER 3.	THOMAS GATHARD 7.
JASPER G. CRAWLEY 4.	FREDERICK GEORGE Tenor.

Conducted by HERBERT BAKER.

* First peal.

LEWES SUSSEX.

On Saturday, November 1, 1884, in Three Hours and Thirteen Minutes,

At the Parish Church,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
HOLT'S TEN-PART. Tenor 19 cwt.

JAMES HOWARD Treble.	*JOHN BURKIN 5.
FRANCIS T. HOAD 2.	EDGAR KENWARD 6.
WILLIAM BONE 3.	*WILLIAM WEBB 7.
THOMAS FULLER 4.	WILLIAM ARGENT Tenor.

Conducted by FRANCIS T. HOAD.

J. Burkin hails from Nutfield; the rest from Reigate, Surrey. * Members of the Surrey Association and the Ancient Society of College Youths.

HEPTONSTALL, YORKSHIRE.

On Saturday, November 1, 1884, in Three Hours and Twenty Minutes,

At the Parish Church,

5040 CHANGES: IN SEVEN DIFFERENT METHODS
UPON SIX BELLS;

Being a 720 of each of the following:—

Oxford Treble Bob; New London Treble Bob; Kent Treble Bob;
Violet Treble Bob;

Oxford Single Bob; College Single; Plain Bob Minor.

J. ROBERTSHAW Treble.	J. HARTLEY 4.
A. BURN 2.	J. NOWELL 5.
J. ARMSTRONG 3.	W. ROBERTSHAW Tenor.

Conducted by W. ROBERTSHAW.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—SADDLEWORTH.

On Saturday, November 1, 1884, in Three Hours and Six Minutes,

At St. Chad's Church.

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;
IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 12 cwt.

J. J. BRIERLEY Treble.	EDGAR BUCKLEY 5.
JOSEPH RADCLIFFE 2.	JAMES RADCLIFFE 6.
JOHN T. HOLDEN 3.	JOSEPH WOOD 7.
JOHN HOLDEN 4.	JOHN T. DICKEN Tenor.

Composed by the late WM. HARRISON, and conducted by
JOHN HOLDEN.

THE MOTTRAM AND ASHTON SOCIETY.

MOTTRAM-IN-LONGDENDALE, CHESHIRE.

On Saturday, November 1, 1884, in Three Hours and Fourteen Minutes,

At St. Michael's Church,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 6048 CHANGES;
IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 12½ cwt.

ROBERT WRIGHT Treble.	GEORGE LONGDEN 5.
JOHN HARROP 2.	THOMAS BRADDOCK 6.
WILLIAM MIDDLETON 3.	JOHN THORP 7.
JAMES WOOD 4.	FREDERICK G. NEWMAN .. Tenor.

Composed by SAMUEL WOOD and conducted by
FREDERICK G. NEWMAN.

HALEWOOD, LANCASHIRE.

On Saturday, November 1, 1884, in Two Hours and Forty-eight Minutes,

At the Parish Church,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5120 CHANGES;
IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 11½ cwt.

WILLIAM DAVIES* Treble.	RICHARD HILL 5.
THOMAS FIELDING 2.	HARRY SPENCER 6.
JOHN ASPINWALL 3.	*GEORGE W. HUGHES 7.
WILLIAM JAMES* 4.	CHARLES F. HEYWOOD .. Tenor.

Composed by JOHN THORP, and conducted by
CHARLES T. HEYWOOD.

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

Messrs. Aspinwall, James, and Davies belong to the St. Luke's society, Liverpool Geo. W. Hughes of the local company. The rest of the band hail from Southport.

*First peal in the method.

THE UNITED COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

HYDE, CHESHIRE.

On Monday, November 3, 1884, in Three Hours and Five Minutes,

At St. George's Church,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5184 CHANGES;
IN THE OXFORD VARIATION. Tenor 15½ cwt.

THOMAS BRADLEY Treble.	BENJAMIN BROADBENT .. 5.
JAMES S. WILDE 2.	GEORGE LONGDEN 6.
JAMES WOOD 3.	JOHN THORP 7.
ROBERT WOOLLEY 4.	FREDERICK G. NEWMAN .. Tenor.

Composed by J. THORP and conducted by F. G. NEWMAN.

First peal in the method on these bells.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—HULL.

Birthday Peal.

On Wednesday, October 29, 1884, in Three Hours and Two Minutes,

At St. James's Church,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5008 CHANGES;
Tenor 15 cwt.

FREDK. MERRISON Treble.	SAML. SLINGSBY 5.
FRANK DRABBLE 2.	CHAS. BENNETT 6.
JAMES DIXEY 3.	J. W. STICKNEY 7.
ROBT. CHAFFER 4.	CHAS. JACKSON Tenor.

Composed and Conducted by CHAS. JACKSON.

This peal, which has the 5th and 6th twelve times each way, is the reverse of the peal rung on August 4th, p. 223, and was rung to celebrate the 29th birthday of R. Bruce Reed, Sec. of the Holy Trinity Society.

Date Touches.

BROUGHTON, NEAR PRESTON (Lancashire).—On Saturday, November 1st, five of the local company of All Saints, Higher Walton, and Mr. John Robinson, of St. Leonard's, Walton-le-dale, journeyed to this place, and rung on the new peal at St. John's church, lately hung by Mears and Stainbank, of London, a date touch of 1884 changes in the following methods: 444 of Oxford Bob, 720 of College Single, and 720 of Plain Bob Minor, in 1 hr. 9 mins. Geo. Thornley (conductor), 1; Jas. Harwood, 2; John Robinson, 3; Henry Brewer, 4; John Eccles, 5; Jas. Mather, 6. Tenor about 10½ cwt.

WALSALL (Staffordshire).—On Wednesday, October 22nd, at St. Matthew's church, a date touch of Stedman Caters, 1884 changes, in 1 hr. 15 mins. D. Chapman, 1; W. Walker, 2; J. Astbury, sen., 3; F. G. Newman, 4; E. Lightwood, 5; D. Westley, 6; J. Lees, 7; E. Hallsworth, 8; W. Hallsworth (conductor), 9; J. Carter (Birmingham), 10. Tenor 24 cwt.

Miscellaneous.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

LONDON.—*Muffled Peal.*—On Tuesday evening, November 4th, at St. Saviour's, Southwark, the following members of the above Society rang a muffled peal as a last mark of respect to the late Mr. T. Bugby, of Rotherhithe, Kent, aged 38 years, a member of this Society. Jas. Pettit (conductor), 1; G. Muskett, 2; C. Winny, 3; R. French, 4; H. J. Shade, 5; W. Tanner, 6; G. Mash, 7; G. Dorrington, 8; E. Gibbs, 9; I. G. Shade, 10; F. E. Dawe, 11; E. Horrex and W. Jones, 12. After which two courses of Stedman Cinques was rung, the band standing as before, conducted by Jas. Pettit. Tenor 52 cwt.

THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

WOBURN (Beds).—On Saturday, October 25th, on the occasion of a friendly gathering, a 620 of Bob Minor, with sixteen bobs and two singles, in 25 mins. George Harbert, 1; Charles Herbert, 2; Jas. Carwell-Cook, 3; Rev. W. W. C. Baker, 4; Walter Chibnall (conductor), 5; W. E. Turney, 6. Jas. Carwell-Cook and Walter Chibnall hail from Aspley Guise, Rev. W. W. C. Baker from Eversholt, the rest belong to Woburn.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.—On Monday, October 27th, at the church of St. John-the-Baptist, being the occasion of the annual meeting of the above association, 1024 of Kent Treble Bob Major. F. Lees, 1; —, Newton, 2; R. S. Story, 3; —, Clarke, 4; W. G. Routledge, 5; E. Wallis, 6; —, Stephenson, 7; G. J. Clarkson (conductor), 8. And a 1120 of Kent Treble Bob Major. W. Bowers, 1; Jno. Moffitt, 2; R. Smith, 3; E. Wallis, 4; C. L. Routledge, 5; F. W. Appleby, 6; W. Story, 7; F. Lees (conductor), 8. Also a 720 of College Single. —, 1; C. L. Routledge, 2; R. Wignall, 3; R. MacGoun, 4; —, Ross, 5; F. Harrison (conductor), 6. Tenor 12½ cwt.

THE ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

SUDBURY (Suffolk).—On Saturday, November 1st, the local company rang at St. Gregory's, and rang for practice 1024 changes of Kent Treble Bob Major. F. Tolliday, 1; W. Griggs, 2; J. Campin, 3; M. Silvester, 4; W. Bacon, 5; W. Howell, 6; A. Scott (conductor), 7; H. Harper, 8. Tenor 16 cwt.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

HORNCHURCH (Essex).—On Sunday, November 2nd, after Divine Service in the evening, a 720 of Double Court Bob Minor, with eighteen bobs and two singles, in 31 mins. I. Dear, 1; B. Keeble, 2; J. Nunn, 3; A. J. Perkins, 4; A. Pye, 5; A. Porter (conductor), 6. Tenor 21 cwt. This is the first in the method upon this magnificent ring for upwards of forty years.

ROMFORD.—On Sunday evening, November 2nd, at St. Edward's, 720 of Double Court Bob Minor, with eighteen bobs and two singles, in 29 mins. *W. J. Aldridge, 1; *A. J. Perkins (conductor), 2; *J. Nunn, 3; B. Keeble, 4; A. Pye, 5; *A. Porter, 6. *First in the method. It is supposed to be the first upon these bells for upwards of half a century. It is the first by any band in the Southern Division of the county of the above Association, and was rung under the following circumstances. Recently a desire was expressed by one of the band for a 720 in the method. Mr. B. Keeble, who undertook to secure a band, after looking round for a *bona fide* member of the Association, selected Mr. Nunn, and accordingly sent off a rule to that gentleman with a request that he would "look it up." This was done upon the 23rd ult., a couple of days afterwards a reply came to hand from Mr. Nunn—who, it might be mentioned, only commenced change-ringing after he had seen upwards of forty summers—that he should be down the following Saturday, and ready, but owing to the death of a member the attempt was postponed till the following evening.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

DOVER (Kent).—On Monday, October 27th, the Aldington branch of the above Association visited this place, and rung at St. James's, a 720 of Bob Minor, with six bobs and fourteen singles, in 26½ mins. Charles Slingsby, 1; Thomas Hooker, 2; Albert Tanton (Lyminge), 3; Thomas Hodgkin, 4; William Hyder (conductor), 5; Philip Hodgkin, 6. These are cast steel bells, tenor about 12 cwt.

CHERITON (Kent).—On Monday, October 27th, at St. Martin's church, a 720 of Bob Minor, with twenty-six singles, in 25 mins. W. Post, jun., 1; D. Hodgkin, 2; F. Wanstall, 3; T. Hodgkin, 4; T. Hooker, 5; P. Hodgkin (conductor), 6. Also another 720 in the same method, with four bobs and twenty-six singles, in 26 mins. Frank Wanstall, 1; T. Hodgkin, 2; Edward Hyder, 3; C. Slingsby, 4; W. Hyder (conductor), 5; W. Post, sen., 6. Tenor 7½ cwt. in A. All the above hail from Aldington.

MAIDSTONE (Kent).—On Tuesday, October 28th, at St. Michael and All Angels, a 720 of Grandsire Minor, in 25 mins. D. Betts, 1; W. Elliott, 2; R. Simmonds, 3; A. H. Woolley, 4; J. Horton, 5; G. Pawley, 6. And another 720 in 24 mins., standing as before, with the exception of the 5th and 6th men, who changed places. Both were conducted by G. Pawley. Tenor about 9 cwt.

FOLKESTONE (Kent).—On Sunday, October 26th, for Divine Service in the afternoon, at the parish church, 672 of Grandsire Triples. C. Relf, 1; F. Finn, 2; A. H. Woolley, 2; R. Simmonds, 3; H. Croucher, 5; S. Barker, 6; S. Snelling, 7; W. Marsh, 8. And for Divine Service in the evening, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, 1260 changes, in 46 mins. F. Finn, 1; J. Harrison, 2; J. Fisher, 3; R. Simmonds, 4; H. Croucher, 5; S. Barker, 6; S. Snelling, 7; A. H. Woolley, 8. Tenor 25½ cwt. Messrs. Relf, Woolley and Simmonds hail from Maidstone, Snelling from Sittingbourne, the rest belong to the local company. The visitors wish to thank the Rev. M. Woodward for his kindness in giving permission to ring. Our correspondent adds:—We cannot understand why the inhabitants subscribed £1000. about nine years ago for this splendid ring of bells, and will only allow one hour a week for the bells to be rung. On Monday, October 27th, on the back six bells, a 720 of Bob Minor, with six bobs and fourteen singles, in 29 mins. William Post, jun., 1; David Hodgkin, 2; Fred Wanstall, 3; T. Hooker, 4; W. Hyder (conductor), 5; P. Hodgkin, 6. The above is supposed to be the first 720 of Bob Minor rang on these bells. Also another 720 of Bob Minor, with six bobs and fourteen singles, in 30 mins. Frank Wanstall, 1; Thomas Post, 2; James Andrews, 3; T. Hodgkin, 4; W. Hyder (conductor), 5; William Post, sen., 6. J. Andrews hails from Lyminge, the rest from Aldington.

SITTINGBOURNE (Kent).—On Monday, November 3rd, for practice at St. Michael's church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (Tittums, Queens and Rounds), in 45 mins. Joseph Greensted, 1; F. C. Mattison (conductor), 2; Jas. Harrison (Folkestone), 3; Jno. Cooper, 4; W. G. Gordelier, 5; Capt. Wood (Faversham), 6; S. Snelling, 7; W. H. Judd, 8. Tenor 21 cwt.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

BURFORD (Oxon).—On Sunday, October 19th, at the parish church, for Divine Service in the evening, a 720 of Grandsire Minor, with the tenor behind. J. Smith, 1; T. Brown, 2; F. E. Ward, 3; T. E. Glanville, 4; H. Bond, 5; D. Francis, 6; W. Launchbury, 7. And on Sunday evening, October 26th, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 44 mins. H. Smith, 1; W. Large, 2; F. E. Ward, 3; J. Smith, 4; T. E. Glanville, 5; H. Bond, 6; D. Francis, 7; W. Launchbury, 8. Both the above were conducted by Mr. F. E. Ward, of Cheltenham, who was formerly one of the Burford company.

THE WORCESTER DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

NETHERTON (Worcestershire).—On Thursday evening, October 23rd, for Harvest Thanksgiving service, six of the local company rang a 360 of Grandsire Minor. Also after service, four of the local company with two from Dudley, rang a 720 in the same method, in 24½ mins. And on Sunday morning, October 26th, at 8 o'clock, a 360 of Grandsire Minor, in 15 mins., and for Divine Service at 11 o'clock, a 720 of Plain Bob, in 26 mins., by six of the local company. And for Divine Service in the evening, a 720 of Plain Bob, in 26 mins., and a 360 of Grandsire Minor, in 14 mins. B. Townsend, 1; R. Round, 2; J. Townsend, 3; J. Robinson, 4; W. Micklewright, 5; J. Smith, 6. The rest of the ringers were J. Fellows, J. Prestidge, F. Hotchkiss, and T. Felton, who are all members of the above Association. The ringing for evening service was conducted by W. Micklewright, being his first attempt to conduct any Grandsire Minor, the other part being conducted by J. Smith. Tenor 12½ cwt.

CLIFTON, NEAR BRISTOL.—On Monday, October 27th, at the Parish Church, a half-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 1 hr. 25 mins. G. Hunt, 1; C. Walters, 2; C. Thomas, 3; T. Salter (conductor), 4; R. Knill, 5; T. Parish, 6; J. Davies, 7; H. Bray, 8.

ASTON-JUXTA-BIRMINGHAM.—On Thursday evening, October 30th, at the parish church, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples, 1260 changes, in 48 mins. H. Bastable, 1; A. Jones, 2; T. Miller, 3; T. Reynolds, 3; B. Wittchell, 5; J. Carter (conductor), 6; C. Standbridge, 7; A. Thomas, 8.

DERBY.—On Monday, October 27th, at St. Andrew's, Litchurch, five of the local company, with Mr. R. Bosworth, rang a 720 of Grandsire Minor, in 30 mins. W. Shardlow, 1; A. E. Thompson, 2; C. Hart, 3; W. Midgley, 4; H. Found, 5; R. Bosworth (conductor), 6. Tenor 20½ cwt. The above is the first 720 of Grandsire Minor performed by the St. Andrew's ringers, and since the opening peal is the first time of its performance. Tenor 20 cwt. 2 qrs. 14 lbs. in Eb.

ELTHAM (Kent).—On Thursday, October 23rd, at the church of St. John-the-Baptist, a 720 of Bob Minor, with eighteen bobs and two singles. R. Johnson, 1; J. Upton, 2; G. Conyard, 3; T. G. Deal, 4; G. Sheppard (conductor), 5; F. Fraser, 6. The above was rung in honour of the marriage of C. Mussett, who is a member of the Eltham Society. On Sunday, November 2nd, for Divine Service, a 720 of Grandsire Minor, with twenty-two bobs and twenty-six singles. R. Johnson, 1; J. King, 2; W. Gosling, 3; C. Mussett, 4; G. Sheppard (conductor), 5; F. Fraser, 6.

GREAT YARMOUTH.—On Thursday, October 23rd, at St. Nicholas church, on the occasion of the visit of the Bishop of Norwich for Confirmation, a 504 of Grandsire Triples was rung on the back eight. W. H. George, 1; W. Lee (conductor), 2; W. Blyth, 3; W. Secrett, 4; D. Hayward, 5; T. Tooley, 6; W. Fletcher, 7; M. Long, 8. And on Sunday, October 26th, for morning and afternoon services, a touch of Grandsire Caters. W. H. George, 1; W. Blyth, 2; M. Long, 3; W. Lee (conductor), 4; T. Tooley, 5; W. Chaplin, 6; W. Secrett, 7; W. Fletcher, 8; D. Hayward, 9; G. Crow, 10. And on Thursday, October 30th, on the occasion of a wedding, two touches of Grandsire Triples, about 1000 changes, on the back eight. W. Lee (conductor), 1; W. Blyth, 2; T. Tooley, 3; W. Secrett, 4; J. F. W. Bray, 5; W. Fletcher, 6; *W. H. George, 7; *D. Hayward, 8. *Members of the Ancient Society of College Youths.

HAMPSTEAD (Middlesex).—On Sunday, October 5th, at St. Stephen's church, for Divine Service in the evening, six members of the local company with Messrs. Thomas Steward and James Nixon, rang 448 of Grandsire Triples on the back eight. S. Clarke, 1; B. Payne, 2; Thos. Steward, 3; James Nixon, 4; C. Deal, 5; N. Alderman (conductor), 6; B. Foskett, 7; W. Arscott, 8. On Sunday, October 12th, for Divine Service in the morning, six of the local company, with Messrs. Wood and Titchener, rang 588 of Grandsire Triples. S. Clarke, 1; B. Foskett, 2; H. Tylor, 3; C. Deal, 4; N. Alderman, 5; J. Wood, 6; T. Titchener (conductor), 7; W. Arscott, 8. And on Tuesday, October 14th, five of the local company, with Messrs. James Nixon, J. Leach and W. H. Fussell, rang a 504 of Grandsire Triples, conducted by N. Alderman. Touches of Treble Bob Major, Grandsire Caters and Stedman Triples were also rung, conducted by George Newson. And on Tuesday, October 28th, seven of the local company with Messrs. W. Hutt, J. Nixon, and T. Stewart, rang a 324 of Grandsire Caters. S. Clarke, 1; C. Deal, 2; J. Nixon (first touch of Caters), 3; B. Foskett (conductor), 4; T. Stewart, 5; E. F. Cole, 6; E. Chapman, 7; W. Hutt, 8; H. Tylor, 9; W. Arscott, 10. Also a 504 of Grandsire Triples, conducted by E. Chapman.

LEICESTER.—On Monday, October 27th, at St. Saviour's church, an attempt was made to ring a muffled peal of Grandsire Triples, as a token of respect to the late vicar, the Rev. F. P. B. N. Hutton, but after ringing 2 hrs. 20 mins., it unfortunately came to grief. E. D. Taylor, 1; A. Millis (conductor), 2; J. Metcalf, 3; J. W. Taylor, sen., 4; J. Needham, 5; H. W. Needham, 6; J. W. Taylor, jun., 7; E. Wightman, 8. Tenor 27 cwt. in E. The Messrs. Taylor and Wightman hail from Loughborough; the rest are Leicester men.

NORWICH.—*Handbell Ringing.*—On Tuesday, October 28th, in consequence of the ringing at St. Giles' being interfered with by the breaking of ropes, etc., an adjournment was made to the "Red Cow" Inn, where some Grandsire Caters were rung upon the handbells. D. Hayward, 1-2; J. Smith, 3-4; J. Fiddament, 5-6; F. Knights (conductor), 7-8; W. H. George, 9-10.

PRESTBURY (Gloucestershire).—On Wednesday, October 29th, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor, in 27 mins. F. Musty, 1; F. E. Ward, Esq., 2; G. Holmes, Esq., 3; W. T. Pates (conductor), 4; G. H. Phillott, Esq., 5; H. Karn, 6. Mr. Holmes hails from Harleston, Norfolk, and is one of the well known firm of Messrs. Moore, Holmes and Mackenzie, Bell Founders.

PRESTON (Suffolk).—On Thursday, October 30th, at St. Mary's church, a 720 of Bob Minor, with fourteen bobs and two singles, in 25 mins. H. Symonds (conductor), 1; W. Hollocks, 2; A. Hollocks, 3; Jas. Levitt, 4; W. Snell, 5; A. Symonds, 6. And another 720 in the same method, with three bobs and eighteen singles, in 25 mins. H. Symonds (conductor), 1; W. Hollocks, 2; A. Hollocks, 3; W. Snell,

4; A. Symonds, 5; Jno. Levitt, 6. And on handbells, 96 of Kent Treble Bob Major. Jas. Levitt, 1-2-3-4; A. Symonds, 5-6-7-8. Messrs. Snell and Symonds hail from Lavenham.

SALISBURY (Wilts).—On Saturday, November 1st, at St. Martin's, a 720 of Grandsire Minor, in 29 mins. J. Short, 1; E. A. Foster (first 720 in the method), 2; C. A. Clements, 3; J. R. Jerram, 4; W. W. Gifford, 5; T. Blackburn, 6. Tenor 15 cwt.

SKIRBECK (Lincolnshire).—On Thursday, October 22nd, at St. Nicholas Church, being the Harvest Festival, three 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles, three of Plain Bob, and two of Hudibras. T. Rogers, 1; C. Clarke, 2; E. Mason, 3; W. F. Harwood, 4; J. M. Rylatt, 5. And on Saturday, November 1st, two 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles, two of Plain Bob, by F. Dovoto, 1; the others as before. And on Sunday, November 2nd, for Divine Service in the evening, two 6-scores of Plain Bob, two of Grandsire Doubles, and two of Hudibras. After service, two of Dream, two of Grandsire Doubles, T. Rogers ringing the treble, the others as before.

SPALDING (Lancashire).—On Sunday evening, November 2nd, for Divine Service at the church of SS. Mary and Nicolas, 360 of Double Court Bob. And after Divine Service a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob. J. S. Wright, 1; J. Wilson, 2; G. L. Richardson, 3; R. Mackman, 4; E. Brown, 5; J. Brown, 6.

SUTTON (Lincolnshire).—On Saturday, (All Saints' day), November 1st, six 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles, in 25 mins. J. Russell, 1; G. Watson, 2; J. W. Manby, 3; J. Stennett, 4; W. Cunningham, 5. Third and fifth the observation alternately. Also six 6-scores of Plain Bob Doubles, in 25 mins. J. Russell, 1; G. Watson, 2; J. W. Manby, 3; Stennett, 4; W. Cunningham, 5. Called on four different bells. Tenor 5 cwt.

STANDISH (Lancashire).—On Saturday, October 25th, a 720 of Bob Minor, with sixteen bobs and two singles, in 27 mins. John Grounds (conductor), 1; Ralph Rainford, 2; Richard Farrimond (first 720), 3; Walter Heyes, 4; Thomas Walker, 5; James Higson, 6. Also a 360 of Bob Minor, with three bobs and six singles, in 14 mins. Dennis Booth (conductor), 1; Ralph Rainford, 2; John Grounds, 3; William Croston, 4; Thomas Walker, 5; James Higson, 6. Tenor 11 cwt. Messrs. Higson and Croston hail from Blackrod, the rest belong to Standish.

WALTON (Lancashire).—On Tuesday evening, October 28th, at St. Mary's parish church, a 720 of Grandsire Minor, with thirty-four bobs and two singles, in 26 mins. J. Hurst (aged 17), 1; C. J. Rogers (aged 18), 2; T. R. Somerville (aged 16), 3; T. Rushton (aged 17), 4; R. A. Simpson (aged 17), 5; C. E. Wilson (aged 23; conductor), 6. Tenor 10 cwt. This is the first 720 by all except the conductor. It is interesting to note that the above company have only been together twelve months, and during that time rapid progress has been made in the way of change-ringing and tune-playing.

WOOLWICH (Kent).—On Saturday, November 1st, an attempt was made by the following members of the St. James's and Waterloo Societies to ring Holt's Original one-part peal of Grandsire Triples, at St. Mary Magdalene's church, but a mishap with one of the ropes brought the peal to grief, after ringing 2730 changes in 1 hr. 31 mins. William Pead, 1; Abraham George Freeman, 2; Henry Harvey, 3; James Charles Harvey (conductor), 4; Frederick William Thornton, 5; Edward Richards, 6; William Henry Freeman, 7; Henry Bright, 8.

THE PEAL AT HERTFORD.

WITH the report of this peal—which will be found among our records—our representative for the district sends the following:—

This peal was rung to commemorate the coming of age of our respected friend Mr. Baker, he having attained his majority on that day. His friends and brother ringers consider that this performance has placed him among the very few conductors who have at the age of 21 succeeded in calling the Original. On October 16th, he called his first peal (Holt's ten-part) at Hertford (as reported in our paper), which is believed to be the first peal ever conducted by an Hertford man, if not, it is the first during this century. Within three weeks he has attempted seven peals and has rung five, which proves him to be a dear lover of ringing. At the finish of the peal on the 31st, an adjournment was made to the "Maidenhead" Inn, where other members of the society met, who also congratulated their conductor upon his success, and in proposing his health, Mr. W. A. Alps said that if they, as ringers, continued to listen to his (Mr. Baker's) counsel their society would still continue to prosper, for anyone who knew what is meant by calling the Original must know that those who do so must take a great interest in change-ringing. Mr. Alps continued—And now gentlemen, I have great pleasure in proposing "Long life and happiness to our friend, Mr. Baker." This was applauded by all present, and Mr. Baker having expressed himself as highly pleased with the result of the peal, and having thanked his friends for their attendance, the eventful day was brought to a close.

PROPOSED ASSOCIATION FOR HERTFORDSHIRE.

ON Wednesday, October 29th, a meeting was held at the Rectory, St. Albans, for the purpose of forming a county Association of change-ringers for Hertfordshire. The following ringers were present: Messrs. N. N. Hills, H. L. Waddington, C. Hulks, T. Grant, H. Lewis, A. Godman, sen., and A. Godman, jun., St. Albans; Rev. W. Wigram, and H. Baker, Hertford; G. Rochester, and N. Tarling, Sawbridgeworth; R. Sworder, Great Hallingbury; H. J. Tucker, Bishops Stortford; M. Ellsmore, Ware; J. Phillips, Baldock. The Ven. Archdeacon Lawrance, Rector of St. Albans Abbey, presided, supported by the Rev. T. G. Gibbons, curate. In opening the proceedings the chairman said that letters had been received from several gentlemen who were unable to attend, but who were quite in favour of forming an Association. He felt himself that a Diocesan Association would be best, but as the proposal to make the Essex Association a Diocesan one had failed, it would be best to form a county Association. He called upon the Rev. W. Wigram, who was also in favour of a Diocesan Society, but if they could not get it at the present time, they must wait for it. He proposed that an Association be formed to be called "The Hertfordshire County Association of Change-Ringers." This was seconded by N. N. Hills, and carried unanimously.

The Rev. T. G. Gibbons suggested that the Bishop of St. Albans be asked to become the President. The Ven. Archdeacon Lawrance was elected a Vice-President, and it was decided to ask several other gentlemen whose names were mentioned, to also become Vice-Presidents. The 21st of January was fixed for the first Quarterly Meeting to be held at Hertford. Mr. H. L. Waddington and Rev. W. Wigram were unanimously elected Treasurer and Secretary respectively, Mr. H. Baker offering his services as assistant Secretary.

Several matters of detail were left to the Committee, which is to be composed of the conductor and one elected member from each Society in union. Previous to the meeting some Grandsire Caters and Treble Bob Major, conducted by Mr. Tucker, were rung at St. Peter's church. After the meeting several touches of Grandsire Triples were rung at the Cathedral.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION AND THE ST. LAWRENCE'S SOCIETY, LONG EATON.

ON Saturday evening, October 25th, members and friends to the number of twenty-two sat down to an excellent supper, provided by host William Smith, of the "Locomotive Inn," Union Street, Long Eaton. Before supper some touches of Plain Bob Minor, Stedman Triples, and Kent Treble Bob Major were rung, assisted by Messrs. Wibberley, Hickman, and Archer, from Nottingham, and Messrs. E. D. Taylor, Fox, and Smith, from Loughborough, on the bells of the parish church. After justice had been done to the good things provided, and the cloth being removed, Mr. Gutteridge was voted to the chair. The rest of the evening was spent in ringing courses of Triples and Caters upon handbells, interspersed with some very good singing.

There will in future be a regular meeting for change-ringing on the second Saturday in the month at 4 o'clock, when the local company will be very pleased to see any members or friends that can make it convenient to attend. The "Locomotive," Union Street, is the meeting house of the Long Eaton ringers. Any communications may be addressed to John Ward, Trafalgar Terrace, Long Eaton, Derbyshire.

RINGERS' TRIP TO LINCOLN.

On Thursday, October 30th, the SS. Mary and Nicolas company, of Spalding, through the generosity of H. S. Maples, Esq., of that place, paid a visit to the city of Lincoln. The church of St Peter at Gowts was chosen for the ringing, permission having been previously given by the Vicar. This church has a very nice peal of six bells, cast by Mears and Stainbank in 1872, which are in very good going order, and give the firm great credit for the manner in which they are hung. The visitors arrived at the Church about 11 o'clock, and after oiling the bells and adjusting one or two of the ropes, they were raised in peal, and 1500 changes was rung in the following Methods: Double Court Bob, Oxford Single Bob, and Plain Bob. After attending to the wants of the inner man, the Cathedral and other places of interest were visited, and at 4.45. the ringers returned to the belfry, when 1120 changes were rung, Mr. C. Wells, one of the St Peter's company, ringing the treble, the methods being Kent and Oxford Treble Bob, and London Single. The hour for return having come, after bidding farewell to the local ringers, the visitors left Lincoln well pleased with their treat, and wish to take this opportunity to thank the Vicar and Churchwardens for the use of the bells.

HANDBELL MUSIC.—Just out, Christmas Number, four tunes, viz.: "Christmas Hymn," "Pilgrim," with one variation, air "Always Cheerful," "Waltz Carol," for any number of men or bells, price 3s. 6d.—F. Shaw, Shelley, Huddersfield.

PROPOSED NEW TREBLES FOR SS. MARY AND NICOLAS, SPALDING, LINCOLNSHIRE.

At a meeting convened to provide two bells to complete the octave in the tower of the above church, held on Monday, October 20th, present—The Rev. Canon E. Moore (chairman), the Rev. J. L. Gardner, Capt. Hilliam, and Messrs. H. T. Maples, T. H. Nicholls, Reginald Cartwright, Fredk. Pennington, Giles Ham, John Willmott, and Rd. Mackman, the following resolutions were agreed to:—

"That two new bells be added to the present ring in the tower of the church of SS. Mary and Nicolas, and that according to the estimates rendered, the probable cost would be £160 to £200."

"That the following gentlemen be invited to act on the committee: The Rev. Canon E. Moore, the Rev. B. Mathews, the Rev. J. L. Gardner, Capt. Hilliam, Messrs. C. F. Bonner, Fitzalan Howard, H. T. Maples, Augustus Maples, Dr. Perry, Dr. Stiles, Dr. Morris, Sharp, Nicholls, Johnston, Reginald Cartwright, Ham, Pennington, John Willmott, Wright, Mackman, W. J. E. Hobson, with power to add to their number."

"That Mr. J. H. Nicholls be appointed treasurer, and W. J. E. Hobson be appointed Secretary. The secretary be requested to write to several whose names were then mentioned."

The meeting was adjourned to Monday, October 27th, on which day there were present—the Rev. Canon E. Moore (chairman), Capt. Hilliam, Dr. Perry, Dr. Morris, Mr. W. H. Sharp, Mr. Reginald Cartwright, Mr. F. Pennington, Mr. John Willmott, and W. J. E. Hobson (Hon. Sec). The minutes of the former meeting were read and confirmed, and the secretary stated he had written to several, and has received replies from the Lord Bishop of Nottingham, who had promised £5; the Rev. Canon E. Moore, £5; J. M. S. Johnson, Esq., £20. It was then resolved:—

"That the following gentlemen be invited to act on the committee: N. Manby, Esq., H. Clark, Esq., Capt. Bury, E. Cammell, Esq., Mr. Fisher, and Mr. Newton. The secretary be requested to write to several whose names were mentioned. The Rev. Canon E. Moore to see John Wright, and with him ascertain an approximate estimate for the bells, hanging, etc., and the requisite securing the safety of the tower."

Obituary.

THE members of the Romford and Little Heath branches of the Essex Association record with great regret the death of Mr. H. Skinsgley, a fellow-member of this Association, who expired on Monday, the 27th ult., at the early age of thirty, after a long and painful illness. The deceased, whose death was owing to that fatal malady—consumption—was a genial and manly companion, willing at all times to do his utmost to assist if necessary, or to stand out if not required, and thus he won respect from all who knew him, and his premature death will be generally regretted. The funeral took place on Sunday at mid-day, and was attended by Messrs. A. J. Perkins, and B. Keeble, accompanied by Mr. J. Nunn of Walthamstow. The bells of St. Edward's were muffled the previous evening, and a 720 of Bob Minor rang by W. Nash, 1; B. Keeble, 2; J. Nunn, 3; W. J. Aldridge, 4; A. J. Perkins, 5; A. Pye, 6. On Sunday afternoon, touches of Double Court were rung, and in the evening, the muffles having been removed, a 720 in the same method was rang, particulars of which will be found in another column.

ON Saturday, November 1st., at the parish church, Padiham, the funeral of the late Mr. James Hacking, took place, who died after a very short illness, on Tuesday, October 28th, aged 38 years, leaving a widow and five children, for whom the greatest sympathy are felt. The deceased was organist at the above church for the last twenty years, and was very highly esteemed. On the day of the interment, the shopkeepers and others in the neighbourhood of the church had their shutters up and blinds drawn. The mournful procession arrived at the church about a quarter-past two p.m., where the service was conducted by the Vicar, the Rev. J. A. M. Johnstone; the church being thronged with relatives and sympathising friends. A suitable hymn having been sung, the "Dead March" in *Saul* was rendered very effectually by Mr. Watson, organist of Trinity Church, Burnley. The procession then left the church in the following order: the young choristers, who were followed by members of the Freemasons, of which body deceased was a member; following came members of the Free Gardeners, showing the esteem and respect that was felt for the deceased by that society; then the coffin, borne on the shoulders of the choir, (on whose faces the loss they had sustained was plainly seen), followed by the relatives and sympathising friends, with numerous wreaths and other tokens of affection. The bells were muffled and slowly rung, their doleful tones adding greatly to the solemnity of the occasion. As the procession slowly wended its way towards the cemetery, where the last sad rites were performed, the following local ringers rung a muffled 720 of Plain Bob. *Th. Duxbury (conductor), 1; *Fredk. Pollard, 2; *Edw. Baker, 3; *Robt. Hargreaves, 4; *Fredk. Wagner, 5; Thos. Green, 6. Thus ended the career of one who in life always took the greatest pleasure in doing his duty as organist, and taking a hearty interest in everything connected with the welfare of the Church. *Members of the Lancashire Association.

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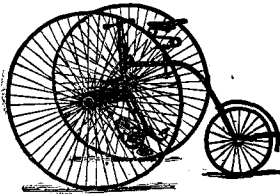
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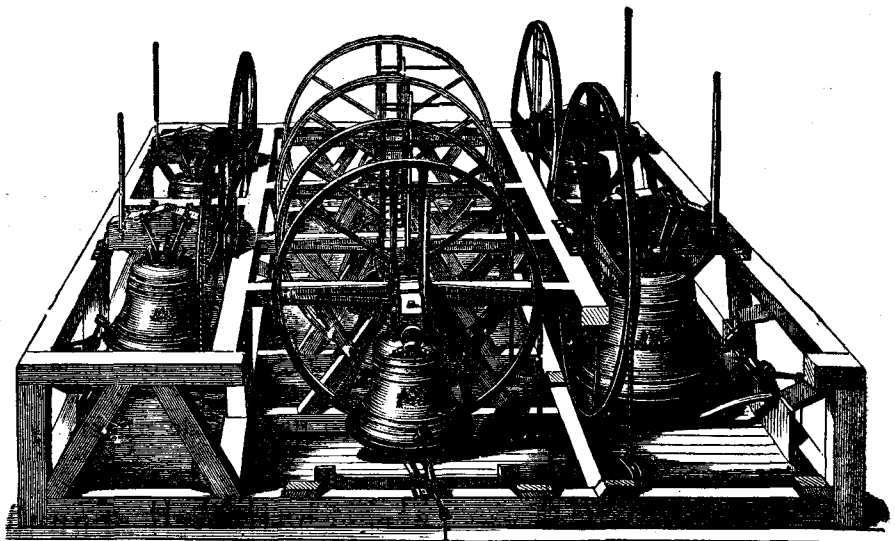
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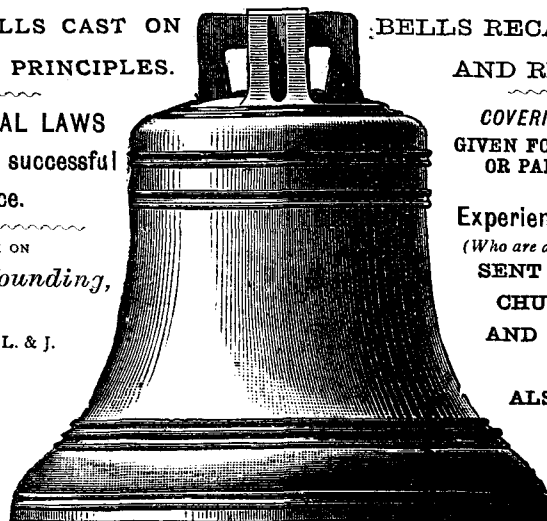
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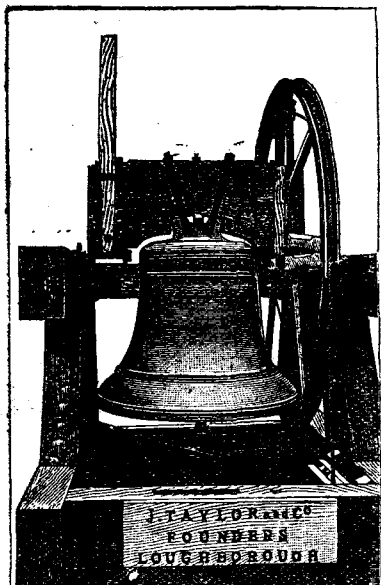
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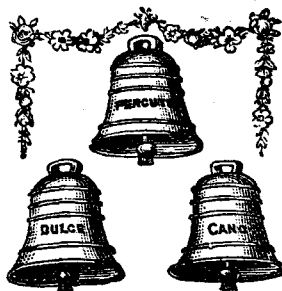
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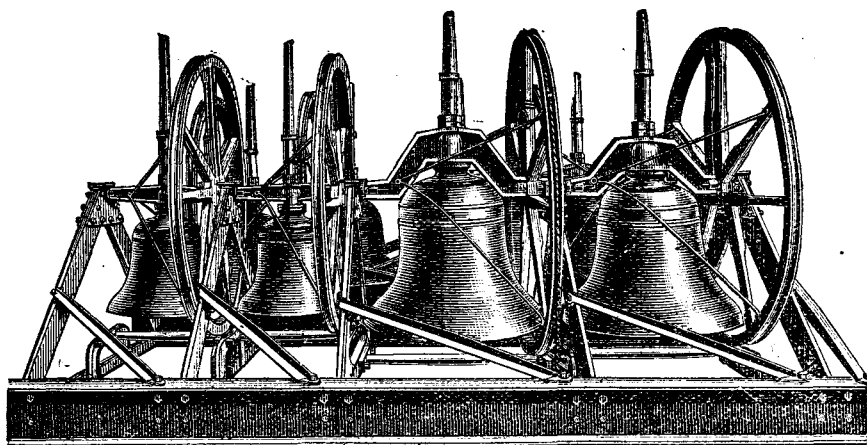
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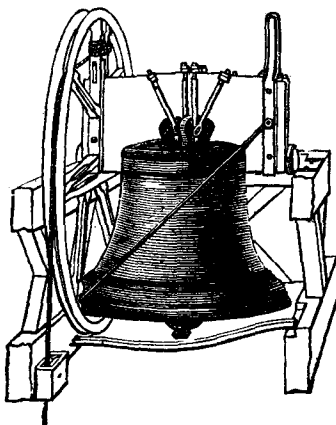
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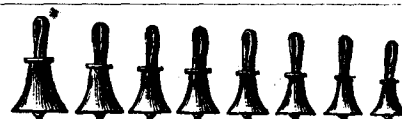
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THE members of this society held their Annual Meeting in the parish room (which stands in the rectory grounds) on Wednesday evening, October 5th. The Rev. Arthur Brook, M.A., Rector, presided, supported by Mr. W. J. Woods (junior churchwarden) and Mr. P. A. Coard, jun. (Hon. Sec. of the society); the vice-chair being occupied by Mr. E. Barnes (senior churchwarden). A most substantial repast having been enjoyed, the table was cleared, and

The CHAIRMAN proposed "The Queen and Royal Family," saying he was not aware that any of the male line of the royal house were bellringers, but one thing he knew—that they enjoyed a very musical reputation, especially the late Prince Consort, and the Duke of Edinburgh, the latter of whom was a proficient on the violin, therefore their sympathies would be with bellringing. The toast met with a spontaneous and hearty reception.

Mr. COARD proposed "The Health of the Chairman." He pointed out the many acts of kindness which the rev. gentleman had shown to the Society, and his ever readiness in materially promoting anything conducive to the comfort and well-being of the members.

The CHAIRMAN, in responding, thanked the company for the kind manner in which the toast of his health had been proposed and received, and was glad to see the Society in its present amicableness, and hoped it would long continue so. What he had done in providing the room for that occasion he should always feel a pleasure in doing. It was not the first time that he had presided at a similar gathering, —Waltham Abbey and Hertford, for instance—and he hoped it would not be the last. He called special attention to the sacred office of a bellringer, observing that such a position should be held only by those feeling the responsibility, and acting accordingly.

Mr. W. D. SMITH proposed "The Health of the senior Churchwarden," which was duly honoured, and that gentleman, in responding, thanked the company in very felicitous terms, and expressed a wish to accompany the society on their proposed visit to an Essex town of ringing fame next summer.

Mr. F. E. DAWE gave "The Health of the Steeplekeeper, Mr. W. D. Smith." This was seconded by Mr. E. F. STRANGE. Both of these gentlemen held firmly to the opinion that though the go of the Hackney bells was not all that could be desired, there was one great redeeming feature attendant upon a visit to the tower, and that was the steeplekeeper did all in his power to make ringing therein as comfortable as possible, by giving a great deal of attention to the necessary parts of the bell-gear which always needed special care. Mr. Smith not only knew how to keep the appointments of the belfry up to their proper standard, but he exactly comprehended the duties of his office, which he filled to the satisfaction of every one.

Mr. SMITH thanked the company very much for the honour they had done him. He would still continue to do all in his power to promote the comfort and convenience of his fellow-members, and those friends who occasionally visited the steeple.

Some excellent songs by the company, and touches on the handbells enlivened the remainder of the evening. The duty of promoting in every possible way the circulation of "THE BELL NEWS" was expressed from all parts of the room, and its merits discussed and applauded from the Rector downwards. A most successful gathering was brought to a close by the singing of the National Anthem.

THE BRIGHTON PARISH CHURCH SOCIETY.

ON Monday, November 3rd, the second Annual Meeting of this Society was held in the belfry of St. Peter's, the parish church of Brighton, the Ven. Archdeacon Hannah, President, in the chair. Besides fifteen active members there were present the Revs. Anderson, Kelly and Deighton, and Messrs. Churchwardens Attree and Baker, Vice-presidents. In addition to the ordinary business, five new members were elected, and on the proposition of the Hon. Sec. it was resolved that a committee be formed, consisting of the President, three Vice-presidents, and three active members to invite delegates from all the kindred societies in the diocese of Chichester (which comprises the whole of the county of Sussex), to meet at Brighton to consider the best method of forming a Sussex County Association for the promotion of the art of ringing and belfry reform. It was also decided to hold the annual outing in London, on Saturday, November 15th. The attendance book shows that the total attendance for the past twelve months for ringing at Sunday services was 1322, or average of 8½ per service; it was also reported that members of the society had taken part in peals in the following methods: Grandsire Triples, Kent Treble Bob Minor, Oxford Single Bob Minor, Plain Bob Minor and Stedman and Grandsire Doubles.

STOKESLEY PARISH CHURCH, NEAR STOCKTON-ON-TEES.—The amount of money required for placing a new peal of six bells in the tower of the Stokesley Parish Church has already been subscr. bed. The work has been entrusted to Mr. Mallaby, of Masham.

GREAT HANDBELL RINGING CONTEST.

A first-class contest took place on Saturday, November 8th, 1884, at the Drill Hall, Glossop, when the following bands competed in the same order as shewn:—

No. 1 band—Almondbury United—Haydn's No. 1 Symphony; Overture, "Caliph of Bagdad." 12 performers; Conductor, F. Littlewood.

No. 2 band—Howard Brothers—Overture, Cenerentola; Kyrie and Gloria, Mozart's 12th Mass. 10 performers.

No. 3 band—St. Thomas's, Hyde—Overture, "Caliph of Bagdad"; Overture, "La Traviata." 11 performers; Conductor, T. Ashworth.

No. 4 band—Dalton Victoria—Overture, "Zannetta"; Symphony No. 1, Beethoven. 12 performers; Conductor, S. Stead.

No. 5 band—Hayfield—Hallelujah Chorus, Handel; "Harmonious Blacksmith," Handel. 11 performers; Conductor, W. H. Greenwood.

No. 6 band—Brookfield—Kyrie and Gloria, Mozart's 12th Mass; "Sultan of Mocha" Quadrille. 12 performers; Conductor, J. Dunkerley.

No. 7 band—Accrington—"Teach me, O Lord" anthem; "The Birds' Nest" Polka. 8 performers; Conductor, W. Bailey.

No. 8 band—Liversedge—Overture, "Cenerentola"; Overture, "Italian in Algeria." 11 performers; Conductor, B. Cook.

The selections given were, as a rule, of a very high order and well performed, some of the bands being so nearly alike as to require much deliberation before deciding, the result being as follows:—

1st prize	.. ..	£8	.. ..	No. 8 band.
2nd "	.. ..	£5	.. ..	No. 4 band.
3rd "	.. ..	£3	.. ..	No. 3 band.
4th "	.. ..	£2	.. ..	No. 1 band.

The judge was Mr. William Gordon, Publisher of Handbell Music, Stockport, whose award was received by the large audience with great acclamation, and evidently gave general satisfaction.

VISIT TO UTTOXETER, STAFFORDSHIRE.

ON Monday, November 10th, a band of ringers from Wolstanton, with Mr. W. Greenleaf, bellhanger, of Stoke-on-Trent, paid a visit to the tower of Uttoxeter church, to attempt a peal of 5040 Grandsire Triples. They were met at the station by members of the Uttoxeter society, who had everything in readiness for a start. The band were soon uncoated, and go called, but ill-luck attended them, for after three attempts it was decided to retire for refreshments, and to make another effort for the peal, so in the afternoon another start was made, but unfortunately without success. The last train for the Potteries returns early in the evening, so by mutual agreement it was decided to stay in Uttoxeter the night, which enabled them to make another start for the peal, which they had the satisfaction of completing in 2 hrs. 55 mins., particulars of which appear in the peal column of this paper. Messrs. Coulson and Bunting (churchwardens) kindly provided a capital dinner for the ringers, which was well put upon the table by host Kent, of "The Spread Eagle" Inn, and the ringers take this opportunity to thank those gentlemen for their liberality, and the vicar also, for his good wishes and permission for the use of the bells. Ringers from Leek, Ellastone, Norton and Stoke were present, as was also Rev. H. W. How, Secretary of the Stoke-upon-Trent Archidiaconal Association, who takes a great interest in change-ringing. This is the first 5040 ever rung in Uttoxeter. On Tuesday, a visit was made to the village church of Doveridge; the tower contains a pleasing peal of five bells, the use of which was kindly granted by the Vicar, who met the ringers. Some 120's of Doubles were rung, and before leaving, the Vicar had thoughtfully provided refreshments at the Vicarage, for which and other kindnesses shewn them, the ringers return him their sincere thanks. On the return to Uttoxeter, the party spent a pleasant hour with host Kent and other ringers, returning to the Potteries delighted with their outing, which had been made so pleasant by their many friends.

THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

A DISTRICT MEETING of this Association will be held, subject to the approval of the Vicar, at Epsom, on Saturday, November 22nd. This meeting will be for ringing only. Further information will be supplied next week. ARTHUR B. CARPENTER, Hon. Sec.

BELL FOUNDING OPERATIONS.

ST. ELWAN'S, ABERDARE, GLAMORGANSHIRE.—The ring of eight bells in this tower having been sadly out of repair for some time, the work of taking them down and rehanging them has now been completed by Llewellyns and James, Bell Founders, Bristol.

ST. PETER'S, CLIFTON WOOD, BRISTOL.—A new tenor bell, to form one of a proposed ring of six, has just been cast and hung in the tower of this church by Llewellyns and James, Bristol.

LEISTON CHURCH, SUFFOLK.—DEDICATION OF A
RING OF EIGHT BELLS.

LESS than four months have passed away since a meeting was convened for the purpose of deciding as to the most advisable course of procedure to restore the Leiston church bells, at which time the Vicar announced the welcome intelligence that Messrs. Richard and Frank Garrett, on behalf of themselves and other members of their family, had expressed a great desire to be allowed to undertake the complete restoration at their own expense, in memory of their beloved and honoured mother, the late Mrs. Garrett, of Carleton Hall. This munificent offer was immediately accepted, and it was decided to add a new tenor bell to the old peal of five, which were to be thoroughly rehung with all the latest improvements on a new pitch pine frame, constructed so as to be capable of receiving two more new bells if it should be subsequently desirable to add them.

Scarcely had this generous decision been arrived at, however, when, their came, in the very prime of life, the lamentable death of Mr. Richard Garrett. Of course, arrangements were at once suspended, only to be re-opened in due time, however, when Mr. Frank Garrett expressed his intention of completing a peal of eight bells forthwith by adding two new bells in remembrance of his dearly-loved partner-brother. Truly no more lasting record of the love which existed between them could have been conceived. The work was entrusted to Messrs. John Taylor and Co., of Loughborough. The opening took place on Sunday, October 12th, and the event caused a great deal of excitement in the town and neighbourhood. In the early morning the weather promised to be anything but favourable for the occasion, rain descending in torrents about eight o'clock, when the celebration of the Holy Sacrament took place, but as the hour approached for morning service the sky cleared and the sun made its appearance. No special decorations had been made in the church, if we except the communion table, on which flowers were beautifully arranged, and whereat it was observed that the old cross which had been there for some years had been replaced by one made out of the oak which came from the belfry, and which is supposed to be about 300 years old. There was a large congregation, probably the largest that has ever been seen in the building, and it included visitors from Aldeburgh and other adjoining places. The usual morning service was held, the opening voluntary on the organ being played by Mr. E. D. Wallis. The Vicar, the Rev. B. W. Raven, read the prayers, while his father, the Rev. Wodehouse Raven, vicar of Christ Church, Streatham, read the lessons. Special hymns were sung by the choir (which had the assistance of Sergeant Peskett's string band) very creditably. After the third collect hymn No. 484 "Praise, my soul, the King of heavens," etc., was sung—that before the sermon being No. 483, "Pleasant are thy courts above."

The Rev. George Irving Davies, rector of Kelsale, and rural dean, preached the sermon, taking for his text 2 Samuel xxiv., 24, "Neither will I offer unto the Lord my God of that which doth cost me nothing." In the course of his sermon the rev. gentleman said: To how many good and solemn thoughts has this building ministered within and without. And, to turn our thoughts more especially to that which cannot but occupy them to-day, and which is the reason of my being here amongst you this morning, the very bells in your old church tower, as their sound has been borne upon the breeze, have long uttered a voice by which they that are dead yet speak, and call to us who are yet alive, reminding us every day we live of God and Heaven. And now, once again, God has put it into the hearts of His servants to show their love to Him, and their desire to promote His honour and glory by dedicating to His service to-day this restored and greatly improved peal of bells. To you, my brethren, whose privilege it is to worship in this fine old church, such an addition to its tower cannot but be most interesting.

"They fling their melancholy music wide,
Bidding me many a tender thought recall
Of Summer days, and those delightful years,
When by native streams, in life's fair prime,
The mournful Magic of their mingling chime
First waked my wondering childhood into tears;
But seeming now, when all those days are o'er,
The sounds of joy once heard and heard no more."

Ah! to the mind there is no music that speaks to us so eloquently as that of the church bells. How the old memories of half-forgotten home scenes come back to us when we listen to their merry Christmas ringing. Nothing like them to fill the armchairs that have so long been vacant, to tenant once more the old places with the old familiar forms which have long gone from us! Nothing like them to bring back the dear old faces and the dear old voices! Nothing like them to revive old memories of the bright and happy hours that are past! And, then, somehow the bells always seem to adapt their voices to each particular season as it comes. What joyful hope and gladness is there in their music at Easter and Christmas; and on Sundays and holy days, and fast and festival, how they seem to have their own peculiar utterance. Let me remind you that an inheritance so valuable as a church tower with a ring of eight bells deserves your utmost care.

You will receive it to-day in perfect order, no expense having been spared; but remember nothing can go on properly without regular attention, and I would, therefore, urge upon you the necessity of seeing that the whole belfry and all its contents, especially those working parts which are out of sight, be examined thoroughly once a year. Repair immediately any accident, however slight. "A stitch in time saves nine," and "Penny wise is pound foolish," are very applicable to the belfry and its contents. And then let it be your earnest endeavour to have a band of bell-ringers who really feel a proper interest in their work and regard it as a religious office—men of well-known, steady habits and good moral character—men who will look on the belfry as part of God's house. It is in the power of the ringer to render their office a really religious work. If the bells "call God's folk to prayer and praise," if the ringers take their place among the worshippers, and after service (if they will), speed the congregation homewards with a well rung touch, then an office is discharged to the parish at large similar to that of the organ and choir within the sacred walls. In conclusion the rev. gentleman made a powerful exhortation, in which he urged his hearers to glorify God, not only in outward things, but in their souls and lives. So might they ever live here as "men looking for that city which hath foundations, whose builder and maker is God."

A hymn "Brighter joys and tenderer fears," &c., was then sung, and the offertory, which was in aid of expenses incurred in renewing the music, fitting of the choir and vestry, &c., having been made, the special service of the dedication of the bells was proceeded with. In procession, and singing that beautiful hymn "Angels' voices ever singing," the choir and clergy marched to the ringing gallery. Then, one by one, commencing with the treble, the bells were raised, the congregation meanwhile standing. Prayers were offered by the vicar, and Psalms 150 and 122 chanted, immediately after which the bells broke forth into their first joyous peal of a few minutes' duration. As a recessional to the chancel, the choir sang:—

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

The blessing concluded the service, and as the congregation dispersed, the bells were again rung, the ringers being—W. Button (Leiston), 1; E. Paul (Leiston), 2; T. Shearing (Leiston), 3; E. Cooper (Aldeburgh), 4; C. Smith (Aldeburgh), 5; J. Button (Leiston), 6; F. Cooper (Aldeburgh), 7; H. Stakley (Leiston), 8, by whom the operation of raising the bells was also performed. During the afternoon the Kelsale ringers, assisted by Mr. Taylor, the contractor, rang Plain Bob Major and Oxford Treble Bob. The company was thus composed—G. Cooper, 1; J. Coleman, 2; W. Fisher, 3; Mr. Taylor (Loughborough), 4; E. Page, 5; F. Thompson, 6; J. Ains, 7; J. Edmunds, 8. A full choral service was held in the evening, a very appropriate sermon being preached by the vicar, and at the close Oxford Treble Bob Major was once more rung by the Kelsale ringers. One of the most interesting days ever known in Leiston thus came to an end. Of a verity it was a day of rejoicing with the parish generally, but mid all the joy one's thoughts could not but wander back to the loved ones in whose memory and for God's glory these bells had been so thoroughly restored, and yet if our inmost feeling was touched, how much more anguish must have rung the hearts of those of the good family left behind and to whom those gone before were so unspeakably dear.

MUFFLED PEALS AT SALISBURY FOR THE LATE
POSTMASTER-GENERAL.

The late Right Honourable H. T. Fawcett being a native of Salisbury, muffled peals were rung on Monday, November 10th, as follows: At St. Thomas, rounds and queens. C. A. Clements, 1; W. Lanham, 2; W. Highman, 3; J. Head, 4; J. R. Jerram, 5; G. Blake, 6; C. Gaisford, 7; G. Davenport, 8. Tenor 32 cwt. Also at St. Paul's, by some of the same company. And six 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles, at St. Martin's. J. Short, 1; E. A. Foster, 2; C. A. Clements, 3; W. W. Gifford, 4; J. R. Jerram, 5; C. Gaisford, 6. Tenor fifteen cwt. The usual ringing for the Mayor's day was postponed.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Tuesday, November 4th, the Holbeck St. Matthew's branch of this Association met at that church, and rang, to celebrate the 21st birthday of Mr. Francis Woodhead, a touch of 1808 Bob Major. Thomas Harrison, 1; Harry Tomlinson, 2; Stephen Basnett, 3; William Scott, 4; Henry Moss, 5; Francis Woodhead, 6; Matthew Tomlinson (conductor), 7; David York, 8. On the following Friday, a party of ringers met, to further celebrate the natal day of Mr. Woodhead, at "The Spotted Cow" inn, where a very substantial supper was done justice to. "The Health of Mr. Woodhead" was drunk with musical honours, and a very pleasant evening was spent, concluding with the National Anthem by the whole company.

THE CHURCH'S YEAR-BOOK FOR 1885.—CHAPTER
ON RINGERS' GUILDS.

We have much pleasure in publishing the following letter from the Rev. Woolmore Wigram:—

Allow me to request that the secretaries of any Diocesan or County Associations omitted as yet, will be so kind as to write to me. My list at present includes the following:—

DIOCESAN ASSOCIATIONS.—Ely; Gloucester and Bristol; Norwich; Oxford; Salisbury; Winchester; Durham; and Lichfield.

COUNTY ASSOCIATIONS.—Essex; Herts; Surrey; Kent; Devonshire; West Middlesex; Lincoln (North and South); the Midland shires; the Framland ringers; Higham Ferrars; the Raunds; North Gosport; Lancashire; Rochdale and District; Worcester and adjoining districts; the Yorkshire change-ringers. W. WIGRAM.

St. Andrew's Rectory, Hertford.

HEPTONSTALL, YORKSHIRE.

The following is the work done by the local company at St. Thomas's church, during the month of October:—

October 1st: 720 of Plain Bob Minor, 720 of Oxford Treble Bob; October 5th: 360 of College Single, 720 of Plain Bob Minor; October 8th: 260 of Oxford Single, 360 of College Single, 360 of Plain Bob Minor; October 12th: 360 of Oxford Single, 360 of Violet Treble Bob, 360 of College Single, 360 of Plain Bob Minor; October 15th: 240 of Oxford Single, 240 of College Single, 240 of Plain Bob Minor, 240 of Yorkshire Court, 240 of Kent Treble Bob, 240 of New London Treble Bob, 240 of Oxford Treble Bob; October 19th: 360 of New London Treble Bob, 360 of Plain Bob Minor, 720 of Kent Treble Bob; October 22nd: 720 of Oxford Single, 240 of College Single, 240 of Plain Bob Minor; October 24th: 720 of Plain Bob Minor; October 26th: 240 of New London Treble Bob, 240 of Kent Treble Bob, 240 of Violet Treble Bob, 240 of Oxford Treble Bob, 240 of College Single, 240 of Yorkshire Court; October 28th: 720 of Oxford Single, 720 of Oxford Single, 720 of Plain Bob Minor; October 29th: 720 of Kent Treble Bob, 360 of Violet Treble Bob.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION AND THE ANCIENT SOCIETY
OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

The following is an account of the ringing done by the Braintree company during the month of October:—

October 5th: 720 Kent, 720 Cambridge Surprise; October 11th: 720 Morning Exercise, 720 Bob Minor; October 12th: 504 Woodbine Treble Bob, 60 Double Court; October 14th: 720 College Exercise; October 18th: 720 Durham Surprise; October 19th: 720 Bob Minor, 72 Kent Treble Bob, 108 Bob Minor; October 21st: 720 London Surprise, 720 London Scholars; October 25th: 720 New London, 720 Bob Minor; October 26th: 720 Bob Minor, 720 Bob Minor, 120 Cambridge Surprise, 120 Bob Minor.

ANCIENT CHURCH BELLS.—Parsimony, poverty, and ignorance of campanology (says the *Athenæum*, reviewing two recent works on church bells), have been the chief causes of the destruction of ancient bells. An unsympathetic parish is condemned in the old Bedfordshire rhyme, which has a wicked tang of a bell in it:—

Arlesey, Arlesey, naughty people,
Sold their bells to mend their steeple!

Wilshampstead are meaner still; they persuaded the bishop, who ought to have known better, to let them sell their three bells that they too might "mend their steeple," which they never did, but pocketed the money. This was in that dark time 1742. As foreigners have called this the "ringing island," it is right to remember that not to the Puritans, nor to Henry VIII. alone, is due the terrible waste of ancient bells. The churchwarden, the lay impropiator, and the change-ringers have done far more evil than than revolution and bigotry combined. In Bedfordshire there is only one complete ring of ancient bells, that of three at Hockliffe. The oldest bell is the fifth at Houghton Regis, a venerable instrument indeed, bearing the inscription, "John Dier made me, 1580." This is nothing to the age of the Bradenham (Bucks) bells by Michael of Wymbish, who was dead in 1310. At Goring (Oxon) is a bell marked "Orate pro Petro Exoniense Episcopo. Richard de Wymbish me fecit." Peter de Quivil, the prelate in question, died in 1291. The precious relic is probably even older. Ralph de Wymbish, a potter of London, is mentioned in Mr. Riley's "Memorials" under date 1308. Other bells by Richard are at Chalk (Kent) and probably Berechurch. The "Wymbishes," whose works are common, were, of course, of Essex. Mr. Stahlschmidt has been fortunate in tracing four owners of the name, Michael, Richard, Ralph, and Walter, all potters, three of whom being undoubtedly bell founders. The bell at Goring is worthy of special notice in respect to its unchallengeable antiquity. If it can be accepted as a work older than 1291—and there is good reason for doing this—it is the earliest dated bell in England.

CHANGE-RINGING MATCH AT HIGH BICKINGTON,
NORTH DEVON.

ON Monday, November 3rd, a match of the above character came off in the church tower of this parish, the object being to celebrate the re-hanging of the bells, which had been carried out by Messrs. Luxton and Son, of Winkleigh. No match of the kind has taken place in the parish for forty years, and the event of Monday last was therefore looked forward to with considerable interest. The peal is a nice one, and, though rather light, is of good tone. The match was organised by a committee, comprising General Gardiner, Messrs. A. Squire, E. Harris, R. Pedler, J. Peake, and G. Pedler, jun. (secretary). The committee was fortunate enough to get twelve sets of ringers to enter for the competition, the parishes and names of the sets being as follows: Ide (near Exeter)—Messrs. F. Hales, Counter, Ruddle, G. Westcott, F. Tucker, and G. Lowden; Alphington (near Exeter)—J. Brewer, A. Ash, G. Davey, F. Nott, W. Pike, and C. Coles; Winkleigh—Messrs. Luxton, S. Inch, J. Davey, H. Clements, M. Luxton, jun., and G. Robins; Dolton—J. Friend, J. Bailey, W. Bailey, R. Friend, R. Heard and W. Bailey; Burrington—E. Boatfield, J. Hayden, J. Miller, J. Thorne, J. Buckingham, and J. Tucker; Ashreigney—J. Simmons, J. Heale, T. and J. Harris, S. Cole, and W. Harris; Chittlehampton—J. Chapple, F. Congram, G. Ware, W. Greenslade, J. Webber, and W. Chapple; Landkey—G. Kelly, W. Taylor, P. Taylor, R. Dart, W. Gould, and W. Jones; Branton—W. Skinner, J. Vowles, T. Parkin, W. Thorne, A. S. Richards, and R. Thorne; West Worlington—T. Warren, W. Woolway, W. Boundy, C. Parish, F. Holmes, and C. Edworthy.; Swimbridge—T. Gubb, A. Rice, C. Crocker, F. Snell, W. Jones, and W. Courtney; Westdown—C. Collings, J. Phillips, G. Mitchell, J. M. Gooding, H. Joslin, and F. Phillips. There were four prizes offered, and the rules were that each set should ring fifteen minutes up to mark, including the forty-eight changes, rise and fall as they please. Each set had a practice peal in the morning. The match commenced at about one o'clock. The judges were Mr. J. Harris, Lee Barton, High Bickington; Mr. Boon, Bishopsteignton; and Mr. T. Featherstone, Petersmarland. They were located in a house about twenty land yards distant from the Church, and locked up in a room; and four sets of ringers remained in the Church at a time, so that it should not be possible for the judges to know which set was ringing the peal. The judges' decisions were final. The ringing on the whole was fair, some was rather bad and some very good. Westdown was very unfortunate, it having 324 marks against it, the cause of this being that the treble man called out the wrong change. The first prize, £3 3s., went to Winkleigh, who only had 71 marks; second, £2 2s., went to West Worlington, who had 100 marks; third, £1 10s., to Ide, 128 marks; and fourth, £1 1s., to Branton, 142 marks. Alphington was only one point inferior to Branton, but there were only four prizes. At the conclusion of the ringing, a dinner was held in the schoolroom, and presided over by the Rev. R. Yerburgh. There was a large company, the High Bickington men present being:—Yerburgh, Esq., J. Peake, Esq., and Messrs. R. Gill, J. Tucker, N. Tucker, J. M. Tucker, G. Tucker, J. Harris, E. Harris, A. Squire, R. Pedler and Son, G. Pidler, B. Cole, J. Coates, J. Miller, S. Case, T. Clements and Son, R. Bending and Son, J. Gooding and Son, S. Potter, R. Morrish, J. Down, jun., S. Cole, J. Cole, C. Wonacott, J. Clarke, G. Legg, W. Parker and R. Wonacott. The awards were announced by the Secretary. The usual loyal toasts were given from the chair. Mr. Harris proposed "The Bishop and Clergy and other Ministers," and the toasts of "The Judges" and "The successful and unsuccessful competitors" were also drank. The proceedings were of a pleasant character.—*North Devon Herald*.

VISIT OF RINGERS TO FARNHAM ROYAL, BUCKS.

ON Saturday, November 8th, the Wraysbury (Bucks) company, with their vicar, the Rev. J. H. Hindson, visited Farnham Royal. The party arrived in the afternoon and were met by the Rev. S. F. Marshall and Mrs. Marshall, who welcomed them to Farnham Royal. The bells were soon set going and after an hour's ringing the company sat down to tea in the school-room with the Rev. S. F. Marshall, Rev. B. W. Wortley and several of the local company. After tea some interesting touches were given upon the handbells, then the tower was again visited, when about eighteen 120's of Grandsire Doubles were rung, three of the visitors also took part in some Grandsire Minor. The following are the names of the company: Rev. J. H. Hindson, A. Bradley, H. Clark, J. Mills, R. Parker, T. Pendry, R. Shanks, H. Shanks, G. Whatmore, E. Whatmore, most of them taking part in 360's. Before leaving the belfry Mr. Marshall read a short office of prayer. It might be mentioned that the object of this meeting was for the Wraysbury company to have a good practice with the Farnham company, the former having only lately gone in for change-ringing, their worthy vicar having engaged Mr. J. Parker to help them. Mr. Hindson has also formed a class of gentlemen whom he is anxious to interest in the art of change-ringing, and whom might be then induced to take an interest in the belfries and ringers of their own parish. Mr. J. Parker is also engaged to instruct this class.

"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.

Everything for insertion in this Journal to be addressed "The Editor of THE BELL NEWS, Walthamstow, London." Letters forwarded for publication, and performances under 5000 changes must reach us not later than Wednesday morning; and the insertion of any communication coming later than the first Postal delivery on Thursday morning cannot be guaranteed in that week's number. When it is found impossible from want of space to insert all touches forwarded, the earlier ones will have the preference.

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

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. H. FUSSELL would be glad to have correspondence with the following gentlemen at their earliest convenience, if they would kindly oblige, per Editor of "BELL NEWS:" Mr. W. H. Dyson, Braintree, Essex; and Mr. W. H. Freeman, of Woolwich, Kent.

The Bell News & Ringers' Record.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 15, 1884.

THE just reprobation in which the well-known Devonshire prize-ringing meetings are held does not seem to have the effect of putting an end to them. In another page will be found a report—taken from a local contemporary—of one of these miserable jousts. This one appears to be got up on the old lines, and our readers will no doubt read with amusement, tempered by a feeling of disgust, of the grandiloquent description of the procedure considered necessary to carry out such a worthless exhibition. What the forty-eight changes were that each company were expected to ring, is one of the grand secrets of this contest. Each set were to have a "practice-peal" in the morning; and we are told that the judges' decisions were, as of course they ought to be, final. The names of these gentlemen are given at full, and we confess to a feeling of anxiety to know more of them. The extraordinary position of a judge at contests of this character certainly proves the holders of it to be individuals of more than ordinary merit—in Devon, or we should say in those parts of the county where these meetings seem to flourish. We sympathise of course with the band who came from Westdown, the cause of their having so many marks placed to their discredit "being that the treble man called the wrong change," and we should be sorry to be the "treble-man" under such painful circumstances. The remorse he must suffer must be difficult to imagine, much less describe, and it is to be feared that his dreadful lapse of memory will debar him in future from calling the changes on a future occasion. Our old friends of Alphington and Landkey were present, but though they can ring "Tantums," and a great many other wonderful things the readers of this paper have never heard of, they each failed to secure a prize.

We should like to hear what induced the "fortunate"

committee to arrange this contemptible display. Who suggested to them the propriety of engaging in it? There are plenty of scientific ringers in the county now, we are glad to say, who know how to ring bells in a proper manner, and who are willing to do so unattended with such ridiculous accompaniments as are inseparable from these pitiful money scrambles.

Enquiries are repeatedly being made for cards with copies of peals on them as they appear in this paper, and in order to meet the wishes of many of our friends we inform them that a dozen cards with the printed account of the peal will be sent to any one who desires them, post free, on the receipt of 26 halfpenny stamps. This arrangement only applies to records of peals directly they are published, therefore the order for them should accompany the report of the peal.

The Metropolis.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.
LONDON.

Birthday Peal.

On Monday, November 10, 1884, in Three Hours and Twenty-eight Minutes,
At St. CLEMENT DANES, STRAND,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERS, 5079 CHANGES;

Tenor 24 cwt. in D#.

JOHN W. ROWBOTHAM .. Treble.	*HERBERT BAKER 6.
REV. G. F. COLERIDGE .. 2.	REV. F. E. ROBINSON .. 7.
FRANCIS E. DAWE 3.	RICHARD FRENCH 8.
CHALLIS F. WINNY 4.	WILLIAM D. SMITH 9.
WILLIAM WEATHERSTONE* 5.	†WILLIAM H. JUDD Tenor.

Composed by H. W. HALEY, and Conducted by the
Rev. F. E. ROBINSON.

*First peal of Stedman Caters. †First peal.

The Rev. F. E. Robinson hails from Drayton, Berks; H. Baker from Hertford; W. H. Judd from Sittingbourne, Kent; and Rev. G. F. Coleridge from Caversham, Oxon, whose birthday the above peal celebrates.

THE SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.
LONDON.

On Monday, November 10, 1884, in Two Hours and Fifty-eight Minutes,
At St. GILES'S-IN-THE-FIELDS,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S ORIGINAL. Tenor 18 cwt. in F.

GEORGE NEWSON Treble.	THOMAS T. TITCHENER .. 5.
JOHN MANSFIELD 2.	JOSEPH BARRY 6.
JOHN JAY, JUN. 3.	WM. H. FUSSELL 7.
JAMES RUMSAY 4.	*JAMES WHEELER Tenor.

Conducted by GEORGE NEWSON.

This peal was rung on "Lord Mayors' Day," and was arranged for Mr. John Jay, jun., who was on a visit from Brighton. *First peal.

WALTHAMSTOW, ESSEX.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS AND
THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

Birthday Peal.

On Monday, November 10, 1884, in Two Hours and Fifty-three Minutes,

At St. MARY'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

THE ORIGINAL BOB-AND-SINGLE. Tenor 19½ cwt.

WILLIAM COAKHAM Treble.	THOMAS MAYNARD 5.
JOHN H. WILKINS 2.	ROBERT MAYNARD 6.
GEORGE GRIMWADE 3.	ALFRED ESTALL 7.
HARVEY REEVES 4.	WILLIAM CROCKFORD Tenor.

Conducted by HARVEY REEVES.

This peal was rung upon the 43rd birthday of the conductor. He called his first peal, which was the same composition as the above, twenty-two years ago. After the bells came home, and a few rounds had been rung, the rope of the treble broke.

The Provinces.**GLOSSOP, DERBYSHIRE.***On Thursday, October 30, 1884, in Three Hours and Six Minutes,*

AT ALL SAINTS' PARISH CHURCH, OLD GLOSSOP,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 15 cwt.

SAMUEL HARROP Treble.	CHARLES BROOKE 5.
DANIEL JAMES 2.	ROBERT WINTERBOTTOM .. 6.
WILLIAM HARROP 3.	SAMUEL KNOTT 7.
HENRY COOPER 4.	JOHN PYE Tenor.

Composed by J. J. BRIERLEY, and Conducted by SAMUEL KNOTT.

This is the first peal rung wholly by the junior society.

THE UNITED COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.**GLOSSOP, DERBYSHIRE.***On Wednesday, November 5, 1884, in Two Hours and Fifty-Two Minutes,*

AT ALL SAINTS' CHURCH,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 15 cwt.

ROBERT WRIGHT Treble.	THOMAS JAMES 5.
JOHN HARROP 2.	THOMAS WILDE 6.
JOHN SIDEBOTHAM 3.	GEORGE LONGDEN 7.
GEORGE D. HATFIELD .. 4.	FREDERICK G. NEWMAN .. Tenor.

Conducted by FREDERICK G. NEWMAN.

LEESFIELD, LANCASHIRE.**Bluffed Peal.***On Thursday, November 6, 1884, in Three Hours and Six Minutes,*

AT ST. THOMAS'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE MAJOR, 5280 CHANGES;

Tenor 14 cwt.

JOHN HILTON Treble.	JAMES BAILEY 5.
FREDERICK CROSLAND .. 2.	GEORGE LONGDEN 6.
SAMUEL STOTT 3.	JOHN THORP 7.
JAMES WOOD 4.	FREDERICK G. NEWMAN .. Tenor.

Composed by J. CARTER and conducted by FREDERICK G. NEWMAN.

The above was rung in memory of the late William Hulme, who for many years performed the duty of surveyor to the above parish, and was interred at Lees Cemetery on the above date; aged 62 years.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—PUDSEY.*On Saturday, November 8, 1884, in Three Hours,*

AT ST. LAWRENCE'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 16 cwt.

JAMES ANGUS* Treble.	*JOS. CHEETHAM 5.
JESSE NAYLOR* 2.	*J. H. HARDCASTLE 6.
ROBERT TUKE* 3.	B. A. DODSON 7.
TOM POLLITT* 4.	*JASPER W. SNOWDON .. Tenor.

Composed by N. J. PITSTOW, and Conducted by J. H. HARDCASTLE.

The peal has the 6th the extent home at nine out of the last ten course-ends, and is now rung for the first time.

Mr. B. A. Dodson hails from Birstall; Mr. Jasper W. Snowdon from Leeds; the rest belong to the Bradford Amalgamated Society. * College Youths.

LEICESTER.*On Saturday, November 8, 1884, in Three Hours and Thirty-one Minutes,*

AT ST. MARGARET'S CHURCH.

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS, 5003 CHANGES;

Tenor 30 cwt. in D.

JAMES JARVIS Treble.	JOHN BUTTERY 6.
JNO. WILSON 2.	JOHN COOPER 7.
STEPHEN COOPER 3.	THOMAS WILSON 8.
GEORGE BURROWS 4.	JOHN MARLOW 9.
WILLIAM COOPER 5.	CHARLES BIDDLES Tenor.

Composed by HENRY JOHNSON, and Conducted by JOHN BUTTERY.

We have received reports of three other peals in which important particulars are omitted, and in consequence have not inserted them. Perhaps our friends who sent them will furnish these particulars next week.

OLDHAM, LANCASHIRE.*On Saturday, November 8, 1884, in Three Hours and Four Minutes,*

AT ST. THOMAS'S CHURCH, MOORSIDE,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

Tenor 19 cwt. in E.

JOHN HILTON Treble.	JAMES BAILEY 5.
FREDERICK CROSLAND .. 2.	BENJAMIN BROADBENT .. 6.
SAMUEL STOTT 3.	JOHN THORP 7.
JAMES WOOD 4.	FREDERICK G. NEWMAN .. Tenor.

Composed by JOHN CARTER, of Birmingham, and Conducted by FREDERICK G. NEWMAN.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—FAVERSHAM, KENT.*On Monday, November 10, 1884, in Three Hours and Eleven Minutes,*

AT ST. MARY'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S ORIGINAL. Tenor 20 cwt. in E.

REV. F. J. O. HELMORE* .. Treble.	*CHARLES L. GRAHAM .. 5.
ALBERT BIGGS* 2.	CAPTAIN W. WOOD 6.
ALFRED FOREMAN 3.	†SAMUEL SNELLING 7.
GEORGE STANCOMBE 4.	EDWARD CROSOER Tenor.

Conducted by GEORGE STANCOMBE,

*First peal. †College Youth. Rev. Helmore, Foreman and Stancombe hail from Canterbury; Snelling from Sittingbourne; the rest belong to the local band.

STOKE-UPON-TRENT ARCHIDIACONAL ASSOCIATION.**UTTOXETER, STAFFORDSHIRE.***On Monday, November 10, 1884, in Two Hours and Fifty-five Minutes,*

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

TAYLOR'S BOB-AND-SINGLE VARIATION.

J. BADDELEY* Treble.	W. GREENLEAF 5.
LEVI MILLAR 2.	S. SPENCER 6.
S. WALKER 3.	W. MILLAR 7.
F. MARTIN* 4.	G. HODGKINS Tenor.

Conducted by S. SPENCER.

J. Baddeley hails from Norton; W. Greenleaf from Stoke; and the rest from Wolstanton.

*First peal. This is the first peal ever rung in Uttoxeter.

SOUTHPORT, LANCASHIRE.*On Monday, November 10, 1884, in Two Hours and Forty-six Minutes,*

AT CHRIST CHURCH,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5120 CHANGES;

Tenor 10 cwt.

FRED BLUNDELL* 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, and Conducted by C. F. HEYWOOD.

*First peal. †Cumberland Youths.

This is the first peal in the method on the bells, and the first in the method by any of the band.

This peal was rung in honour of Dr. Pilkington being elected Lord Mayor on the above date.

THE ANCIENT AND HERTFORD SOCIETIES OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.—HERTFORD.*On Tuesday, November 11, 1884, in Two Hours and Fifty-eight Minutes,*

AT ST. ANDREW'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

THURSTANS' COMPOSITION. Tenor 16 cwt. in F.

JASPER G. CRAWLEY* .. Treble.	HERBERT BAKER 5.
REV. G. F. COLERIDGE .. 2.	HENRY J. TUCKER 6.
WILLIAM A. ALPS 3.	REV. F. E. ROBINSON .. 7.
REV. WOOLMORE WIGRAM† 4.	FREDERICK GEORGE Tenor.

Conducted by the Rev. F. E. ROBINSON.

This is the first peal of Stedman Triples ever rung in Hertford, and believed to be the second in the county. *First peal in the method. †First peal.

The Rev. F. E. Robinson hails from Drayton; Rev. G. F. Coleridge from Caversham; Tucker from Bishops Stortford; and Alps from Waltham Abbey.

Date Touches.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

WOODLESFORD (Yorkshire).—On Monday, November 3rd, being the fourteenth anniversary of the consecration of All Saints' church, Divine Service was held, when a date touch of 1884 changes in the following methods; 444 of Violet, 720 of New London Pleasure, 720 of Oxford, in 1 hr. 5 mins. J. Harrison (Rothwell), 1; J. Haigh, sen. (composer), 2; J. Robinson, 3; T. Wrigglesworth, 4; W. Haigh, 5; J. Haigh, jun. (conductor), 6.

HULL.—On Monday, November 10th, at Holy Trinity church, on the occasion of the second election of A. K. Rollit, Esq. as Mayor of Hull, and Dr. K. King as Sheriff, the following members of the Holy Trinity Society rang a date touch of Grandsire Triples, 1884 changes, in 1 hr. 6 mins. C. Jackson (composer and conductor), 1; A. Taylor, 2; C. Bennett, 3; H. Jenkins, 4; W. Southwick, 5; J. Dixey, 6; F. Drabble, 7; R. Barker, 8. Mr. Barker is 65 years of age, and this is his longest touch; which contains the twenty-four 4-6's. Tenor 25 cwt.

WIMBLEDON (Surrey).—On Tuesday, November 4th, at St. Mary's church, the local company rang a date touch in 1 hr. 20 mins., in the following methods: 444 of Bob Minor, 720 of Grandsire Minor, and 720 of Oxford Single Bob. G. Byde, 1; R. Moss, 2; C. Byde, 3; J. Parker, 4; A. Garratt, 5; S. Frost (conductor), 6.

Miscellaneous.

THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

BROMHAM (Beds).—On Wednesday evening, October 29th, six members of the above Association rang for practice a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob Minor, in 28 mins. T. Tysoe (first 720 in the method), 1; C. Stafferton, 2; C. W. Clarke, 3; H. King (first 720 in the method), 4; J. Hills, 5; W. Biggs (conductor), 6. And on Wednesday evening, November 5th, 720 of Grandsire Minor, in 28 mins. F. Carroway (first 720), 1; C. Stafferton, 2; I. Hills, 3; H. King, 4; W. Biggs, 5; C. W. Clarke (conductor), 6. Also 120 Grandsire Doubles. H. Smith, 1; F. Keech (first 120 on an inside bell), 2; W. King, 3; I. Hills, 4; W. Biggs, 5; T. Tysoe, 6.

CARDINGTON (Beds).—On Saturday, November 1st, several members of the above Association, with Mr. W. A. Tyler, of the Hitchin society, attempted to ring Mr. John Holt's ten-part peal of Grandsire Triples, but after ringing nearly half the peal in 1 hr. 35 mins., owing to a mishap the affair came to an abrupt termination, much to the regret of the ringers, as the striking up to that time had been very good. C. West, 1; W. Biggs (conductor), 2; S. Cullip, 3; W. Hall, 4; W. A. Tyler, 5; J. Atkins, 6; C. W. Clarke, 7; I. Hills, 8. Touches of Major and Triples were then rung, and after falling the bells in peal, the ringers were very kindly invited to the vicarage by the Rev. E. J. Hillier, where a most refreshing tea awaited them. The ringers take this opportunity of thanking this gentleman not only for his hospitality, but also for the use of his beautiful ring of bells, which are the only ring of eight in this locality available for peal ringing.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

JARROW.—On Sunday morning, November 2nd, at Christ Church, for Divine Service, a 720 of College Single, in 26 mins. *R. Heron, 1; *W. Pawson, 2; *W. Holmes, 3; A. Sharp, 4; R. Oliver, 5; F. Harrison (conductor), 6. *First 720 in this method. F. Harrison hails from St. Peter's, Jarrow. And on Sunday evening, November 9th, for Divine Service, a 720 of Bob Minor, in 26½ mins. J. W. Carverhill (first 720), 1; W. Pawson, 2; W. Holmes, 3; A. Sharp, 4; R. Heron, 5; †R. Oliver (conductor), 6. †First peal as conductor.

NORTH SHIELDS.—On Tuesday evening, November 4th, for practice at Christ Church, 1040 Kent Treble Bob Royal. W. Reed, Esq. (conductor), 1; R. Smith, 2; J. Rossiter, 3; R. S. Story, 4; R. Wignall, 5; J. Gibson, 6; F. W. Appleby (Burton-on-Trent), 7; J. McGoun, 8; H. Ross, 9; Joel Hern, 10. Tenor 19 cwt.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

BOCKING (Essex).—On Sunday, October 26th, at St. Mary's church, a 720 of Bob Minor, with eight bobs and six singles. H. E. Hammond, 1; W. Moore, 2; W. Bearman, 3; S. Sargeant, 4; S. Hammond, 5; E. Carter (conductor), 6. And a 720 of Bob Minor, in three parts, after afternoon service, with twenty-one bobs and six singles. H. E. Hammond, 1; F. Calthorpe, 2; E. Carter, 3; W. Radley, 4; S. Hammond (conductor), 5; E. Radley, 6. And on Saturday, November 1st, a 720 of Cambridge Surprise. F. Bumpstead, 1; F. Calthorpe,

2; H. E. Hammond, 3; W. H. Dyson, 4; F. Rudkin (conductor), 5; S. Hammond, 6. And a 720 of Bob Minor. F. Bumpstead, 1; W. Moore, 2; A. Chaplin, 3; T. Calthorpe, 4; J. Hayes, 5; S. Hammond (conductor), 6. And a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob. F. Calthorpe, 1; F. Bumpstead, 2; W. Bearman, 3; C. Bearman, 4; S. Hammond, 5; F. Rudkin (conductor), 6. Tenor 19½ cwt. St. Mary's church, Bocking, has been under restoration for some months past, and in consequence the ringers have not been able to ring the bells owing to the floor of the belfry having been taken up, and now that the church is near completion the practices will be carried on as usual. Practice nights are Tuesday and Friday in each week, at 7.0 p.m.

THE HERTFORD COLLEGE YOUTHS.

HERTFORD.—On Monday, November 10th, at All Saints' church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, 1260 changes, in 44½ mins. Henry Philipps, 1; William L. Randall, 2; Matthew Ellesmore, 3; Stephen Knight, 4; Joseph Cull, 5; John Godfrey, 6; Jasper G. Crawley (conductor), 7; Frederick George, 8. Tenor 22 cwt in Eb.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

MAIDSTONE.—On Tuesday, October 28th, at St. Michael's church, six members of this Association rang two 720's of Grandsire Minor. M. Betts, 1; W. Elliot, 2; R. Simmonds, 3; A. H. Woolley, 4; J. Horton, 5; G. Pawley (conductor), 6.

SITTINGBOURNE (Kent).—On Thursday, November 6th, at the Parish Church, eight members of the above association attempted to ring Holt's Original one-part peal of Grandsire Triples, but after ringing 2 hrs. and 1 min., it unfortunately came to grief. Captain W. Wood, 1; G. Stancombe (conductor), 2; A. Foreman, 3; F. C. Mattison, 4; H. Pearce, 5; H. G. Fairbrass, 6; S. Snelling, 7; W. H. Judd, 8. Tenor 22 cwt. Messrs. G. Stancombe, A. Foreman and H. G. Fairbrass hail from Canterbury; Captain W. Wood from Faversham; H. Pearce from Maidstone; the rest belong to the local company.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

RADCLIFFE (Lancashire).—On Monday evening, November 10th, six members of the local company rang for practice a 720 of Bob Minor with eighteen bobs and two singles, on the back six, in 26 mins. F. Rudman (conductor), 1; J. Morris, 2; *A. Hardman, 3; A. Barrett, 4; F. Morris, 5; *W. Fielding, 6. Tenor 13½ cwt. *First 720.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

IPSWICH.—On Monday, November 10th, at the church of St. Mary-le-Tower, as a last touch after the day's ringing, 1392 of Oxford Treble Bob Maximus (in and out of the Tittums), in 1 hr. 6 mins. W. Motts, 1; E. Pemberton, 2; F. Mee, 3; J. Motts, 4; C. Mee, 5; C. Saul, 6; W. L. Catchpole (conductor), 7; F. Tillett, 8; A. Aldham, 9; S. Tillett, 10; C. Ward (Woodbridge), 11; R. H. Brundle, 12. The ringers of the 3rd, 5th and 9th are under the age of 19, and it was the first course by C. Ward.

OTLEY (Suffolk).—On Sunday, October 26th, the following members of the above Association rang for afternoon service, a 720 of Bob Minor. H. Pepper, 1; D. G. Wightman, 2; W. Whiting, 3; A. S. Wightman, 4; N. Shipp, 5; S. Wightman (conductor), 6. After Service a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob. D. G. Wightman (conductor), 1; A. S. Wightman, 2; W. Whiting, 3; G. Thurlow, 4; S. Wightman, 5; H. Pepper, 6. And a 720 of Grandsire Minor. G. T. W. Meadows, Esq., M.D., 1; F. Furnish, 2; W. Whiting, 3; G. Thurlow, 4; D. G. Wightman, 5; S. Wightman (conductor), 6. Also a 720 of Kent Treble Bob. H. Pepper, 1; A. S. Wightman, 2; W. Whiting, 3; G. Thurlow, 4; D. G. Wightman, 5; S. Wightman (conductor), 6.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

CAVERSHAM (Oxon).—On Sunday, November 9th, for Divine Service in the morning at St. Peter's church, the local company rang a 720 of Bob Minor, in 27 mins. J. Butler, 1; G. Essex, 2; E. Menday, 3; E. Pottinger, 4; T. Newman, 5; Rev. G. F. Coleridge (conductor), 6. Tenor 16½ cwt. This is the first complete 720 ever accomplished by a Caversham band.

STOKE-UPON-TRENT ARCHIDIACONAL ASSOCIATION.

NORTON (Staffordshire).—On Monday, November 3rd, for evening service, a 720 of Oxford Bob Minor, in 27 mins. W. Holdcroft, 1; E. Glover, 2; J. Morton, 3; J. W. Brough, 4; J. Baddeley, 5; G. Walker (conductor), 6. Also 120 of Stedman Doubles. G. Walker, 1; E. Glover, 2; J. Morton, 3; J. W. Brough, 4; J. Baddeley, 5; W. Holdcroft, 6.

THE WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

HAVANT (Hants).—On Monday evening, November 3rd, at St. Faith's church, a 504 of Grandsire Triples. G. Grafham, 1; J.

Hewett, 2; J. Staples, 3; F. Hill, 4; C. Privett, 5; G. Williams (conductor), 6; J. Whiting, 7; G. Passingham, 8. Some Stedman Doubles, Oxford Bob Minor and Grandsire Triples were rung on handbells. Staples is of the local company, Williams hails from Soberton, the rest from Fareham.

ASHOVER (Derbyshire).—On Tuesday evening, November 4th, the Ashover Society rang for practice sixteen 6-scores of Grandsire, Gog, Manchester, and Antelope Doubles, repeated four times in the above named order, amounting to 1920 changes, in 1 hr. 12 mins. J. H. Beardow, (conductor), 1; J. Beardow, 2; T. J. Beardow, 3; W. Buxton, 4; J. Holmes, 5. Tenor 18 cwt.

BATLEY CARR (Yorkshire).—On Monday, November 10th, for practice, 720 of Violet Treble Bob, in 27 mins. John W. Simon, 1; *Tom Hinchcliffe, 2; *Harry Mitchell, 3; W. H. Stead, 4; Geo. H. Simon (conductor), 5; H. Senior, 6. *First 720. Tenor 12 cwt.

BENTLEY (Essex).—On Monday evening, November 10th, a 6-score each of Grandsire Doubles, St. Dunstan's Doubles, Dream, Dream Singles, and Fortune was rung, in 20 mins. J. Surridge, 1; A. Payne, 2; R. Woolands (conductor), 3; E. Sheldon, 4; C. Harriss, 5.

CAVERSHAM (Oxon).—On Sunday morning, November 2nd, six members of the St. Peter's Society rang for Divine Service 360 Bob Minor, in 15 mins. J. Hands, 1; J. Butler, 2; E. Menday, 3; G. Essex, 4; T. Newman, 5; Rev. G. F. Coleridge (conductor), 6. This is the first 360 on the tower bells by the first four men.

BRANDESTON (Suffolk).—On Sunday, November 9th, the following rang a 720 of Bob Minor, in 25 mins. Walter Bedingfield, 1; S. W. Martin (Monewden), 2; Horace Bedingfield, 3; S. Meadows, 4; D. G. Wightman (conductor), 5; S. Wightman, 6.

DEERHURST (Gloucestershire).—On Sunday, November 9th, the local company rang for Divine Service in the morning 720 of Bob Minor, with twenty-one bobs and twelve singles, in 25 mins. T. Everness, 1; C. Willis, 2; H. Roberts, 3; C. Roles, 4; G. Willis, 5; J. Bartlett (conductor), 6.

DENFORD (Northamptonshire).—On Saturday, November 1st, at Holy Trinity church, a 720 of Oxford Bob Minor, with twenty-six singles. W. J. Gilbert (conductor), 1; A. Arnold, 2; J. Groom, 3; H. Groom, 4; A. Groom, 5; T. Roberts, 6. And 120 of Yorkshire Court Bob Minor. F. Starmore, 1; F. Gilbert, 2; A. Arnold, 3; E. Mayes, 4; A. Groom, 5; W. J. Gilbert (conductor), 6. First in the method by all except the 2nd and 6th men. Tenor 10 cwt.

DEWSBURY (Yorkshire).—On Thursday, November 6th, at All Saints' parish church, a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob, with 15 bobs, in 28 mins. G. H. Simon (conductor), 1; W. Idle, 2; W. Ainley, 3; O. Wilson, 4; J. A. Idle, 5; A. Mitchell, 6. Tenor 14½ cwt.

DUDLEY (Worcestershire).—On Sunday, November 9th, at St. Thomas's church, for Divine Service in the morning, 840 of Grandsire Triples. J. Fellows, jun., 1; J. Mills, 2; J. Guest, 3; E. Fellows, 4; J. Fellows, sen., 5; W. Micklewright (conductor), 6; J. Goodman, 7; F. Fellows, 8. J. Guest hails from Brierley Hill.

EASTBOURNE (Sussex).—On Friday, October 31st, at St. Mary's, a 1554 of Grandsire Triples, in which Mr. Smith, of the Christ Church band, taking part. On Sunday, November 2nd, for Divine Service, 556 in the same method. On Thursday, November 6th, at Christ Church, the local company, with Mr. Harding of St. Mary's, rang three 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles, each called differently, and 72 of Grandsire Minor. This band has only been formed eight months, neither of the members having had any previous knowledge of change-ringing, and will doubtless, with a little assistance from St. Mary's band, soon be able to contribute something better than Doubles.

FAREHAM (Hants).—On Monday evening, November 10th, at St. Peter's church, two 6-scores of Stedman Doubles, on the back six. F. Hill (conductor), 1; C. Privett, 2; W. Martin (Southampton), 3; J. Whiting, 4; G. Passingham, 5; H. Carter, 6. And a 336 of Grandsire Triples. W. Banting, 1; W. Martin (conductor), 2; G. Grafham, 3; F. Hill, 4; C. Privett, 5; G. Passingham, 6; J. Whiting, 7; H. Carter, 8. Tenor 14 cwt in F.

FOXEARH (Essex).—On Monday, October 27th, at the parish church, a 720 of Bob Minor. W. Maxim, 1; Chas. Lee, 2; J. Lee, 3; T. Mungay, 4; *Philip O. Bixby (conductor), 5; *W. Gridley, 6. *Members of the Society of Royal Cumberland Youths.

GLADWICK (Lancashire).—On Tuesday, November 4th, at St. Mark's church, a 720 of Grandsire Minor, in 26 mins. C. Dronsfield, 1; James Priestly, 2; G. Dunkerley, 3; A. Clegg (conductor), 4; J. Riley, 5; G. H. Beever, 6. Tenor 8½ cwt. First 720 conducted by A. Clegg.

HIGHER SUTTON (Cheshire).—On Wednesday, October 29th, for practice at St. James's church, a 720 of Grandsire Minor, with thirty

bobs and thirty singles, in 26 mins. And on Wednesday, November 5th, a 360 of the same, in 13 mins. And on Sunday afternoon, November 9th, for Divine Service, a 720 of Grandsire Minor, with thirty-four bobs and two singles, in 26 mins. Alfred Lawton, 1; Wm. Kenny, 2; Wm. Ingham, 3; J. M. Davenport, 4; Wm. Walmsley (conductor), 5; Thos. Mottershead, 6. Tenor 12 cwt. in G.

HITCHIN (Herts).—On Monday, November 3rd, at St. Mary's church, for practice, a 335 of Grandsire Triples. H. Buckingham, 1; J. Randall, 2; J. Hare, 3; W. A. Tyler (conductor), 4; A. Squires, 5; S. Hare, 6; W. Allen, 7; J. Foster, 8. Also 84 in the same method. W. Kitchener, 8; the rest standing as before. Also a 6-score of Grandsire Doubles. C. Buckingham, 1; J. Randall, 3; W. A. Tyler (conductor), 4; A. Squires, 5; J. Hare, 6; S. Hare, 7; J. Foster, 8. And another 6-score in the same method, called differently, with J. Hare, 3; S. Hare, 6; J. Randall, 7; the rest as before. The above were rung with the tenors covering. And on Monday, November 10th, for practice, five 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles, each called differently, with 6 8 covering. H. Buckingham, 1; J. Randall, 3; W. A. Tyler (conductor), 4; A. Squires, 5; W. French, 6; J. Hare, 7; S. Hare, 8. The last two with the 3rd and 6th changing places. Also two more 6-scores with 7 8 covering. H. Buckingham, 1; W. A. Tyler, 3; J. Hare (conductor), 4; A. Squires, 5; S. Hare, 6; W. French, 7; J. Randall, 8. Tenor 28 cwt. in D.

HORNSEY (Middlesex).—On Sunday evening, November 10th, on the occasion of the birthday of H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, a 720 of Grandsire Minor (Troyte's), was rung at St. Mary's church, in 27 mins. H. Ward, 1; *J. Waghorn, jun., 2; *J. Waghorn, sen., 3; G. Lucas, 4; H. Barnett (conductor), 5; W. H. Fussell, 6. *1st 720 with a bob bell. *1st 720 as conductor. Also a 720 of Plain Bob, in 26 mins. H. Ward, 1; *J. Waghorn, jun., 2; G. Lucas, 3; W. H. Fussell (conductor), 4; *H. Barnett, 5; George Griffin, 6. *First 720 in the method. Tenor 17½ cwt. Messrs. Waghorns and Barnett hail from Tottenham.

PRESTWICH (Lancashire).—On Sunday evening, November 9th, at the parish church, by a mixed band of Whitefield, Radcliffe and local ringers, a 720 of Bob Minor, in 27 mins. E. Bradshaw (conductor), 1; A. Barrett, 2; Jas. Rothwell, 3; W. Warburton, 4; E. Fitton (first 720), 5; W. Hilton, 6. This is the best touch that has been rung on these bells since the rehanging by Messrs. Taylor and Co., Loughborough, now some time ago. Tenor 19½ cwt.

RAUNDS (Northamptonshire).—On Monday, November 3rd, at St. Peter's church, two 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles. A. Coles, 1; H. Stubbs, 2; R. Pendered, 3; W. J. Gilbert, 4; F. Gilbert (conductor), 5; B. W. Allen, 6. Also a 720 of Yorkshire Court Bob Minor, with twenty-six singles, in 29 mins. A. Coles, 1; F. Gilbert, 2; R. Pendered, 3; W. J. Gilbert, 4; J. Willmott, 5; H. Stubbs (conductor), 6. Also a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob Minor, with nine bobs, in 28½ mins. G. Kirk, 1; H. Stubbs, 2; R. Pendered, 3; F. Gilbert, 4; W. Hall, 5; W. J. Gilbert (conductor), 6. Tenor 20 cwt.

SELLY OAK (Worcestershire).—On Saturday, November 8th, at St. Mary's church, a 720 of Treble Bob Minor, in 28 mins. Edward Bryant, 1; Henry Smith, 2; John Day, 3; Edward Boylin, 4; Thomas Lewis, 5; Alfred Cole (conductor), 6. John Day (who was for many years a member of the St. Martin's Society, Birmingham, hails from Edgbaston, the rest belong to Selly Oak.

SOBERTON (Hants).—On Sunday, November 2nd, at St. Peter's, for Divine Service in the morning, a 504 of Grandsire Triples. A. Payne, 1; F. Linter, 2; G. H. Child, 3; H. Mason, 4; C. Privett, 5; G. Williams (conductor), 6; J. Whiting, 7; H. Matthews, 8. Tenor 14½ cwt. in G. Whiting and Privett hail from Fareham, Linter from Swanmore, the rest are of the local company.

ST. ALBANS (Herts).—On Tuesday, November 4th, the Cathedral ringers rang a 120 of Grandsire Doubles. W. H. L. Buckingham, 1; T. Grant (first 120 inside), 2; R. A. Fowler, 3; N. N. Hills, 4; G. W. Cartmell (conductor), 5; E. Hulks, 6; F. B. Chandler, 7; H. L. Waddington, 8. And another 120. T. Grant, 1; W. H. L. Buckingham (first 720 inside), 2; R. A. Fowler, 3; T. Kent, 4; N. N. Hills (conductor), 5; F. B. Chandler, 6; G. W. Cartmell, 7; E. Hulks, 8. 6 7 8 behind. And a 108 of Grandsire Minor. T. Grant, 1; T. Kent, 2; R. A. Fowler, 3; E. Hulks, 4; G. W. Cartmell, 5; N. N. Hills (conductor), 6; W. H. L. Buckingham, 7; F. B. Chandler, 8. 7 8 covering. This is the first touch of Minor accomplished by the society. Another touch of Minor was also rung with W. H. L. Buckingham, 1; and T. Grant, 7.

SOUTHWARK (Surrey).—*Muffled Peal.*—On Sunday, October 26th, after Divine Service in the evening, eight members of the society of Southwark Youths rang at the church of St. George-the-Martyr, a funeral peal with the bells half-muffled, as a last mark of respect to the late George Ready Cassin, aged 9 years, son of the Rev. Burman Cassin, Rector, who was killed by being run over by a van on the 20th

inst., while following a drum and fife band, who was much beloved. W. Pritchett, 1; F. Perrin, 2; W. Blackeraby, 3; G. Woodage, 4; J. Fisher, 5; H. Welch, 6; F. W. Lennard, 7; T. Coxhead, 8. And by the same ringers, for the beloved wife of Mr. G. Moorcroft, of Long Lane, Borough, and a respected member of the above church, conducted by G. Woodage. Also on Tuesday, October 28th, with the bells whole muffled, for the late John Green, who was for over twenty years a ringer of the above church, and thirty years a ringer of St. John's, Horselydown, who was much respected. W. Pritchett, 1; E. Drury, 2; W. Blackeraby, 3; G. Woodage (conductor), 4; J. Sumers, 5; J. Fisher, 6; H. Langdon, 7; T. Coxhead, 8.

TOTTENHAM (Middlesex).—On Sunday, November 2nd, for Divine Service, two parts of Holt's ten-part peal of Grandsire Triples, by the members of the Tottenham Society. Also on Tuesday, November 4th, their practice night, 504 Grandsire Triples, 304 Grandsire Major, and some Plain Bob. Messrs. Barrett, English, Barr, Strange, Griffin, Lucas, G. Bower, J. Waghorn, sen., J. Waghorn, jun., and several other friends took part in the ringing.

WALPOLE (Norfolk).—On Tuesday, October 28th, at St. Peter's church, a 720 of Bob Minor, with eight bobs and six singles, in 27 mins. Jno. Hendry, 1; R. Grimes (conductor), 2; H. Hill, 3; H. Allen, 4; Dr. Seccombe, 5; William Wright, 6. And on Thursday, November 6th, a 720 of Bob Minor, with nine bobs and six singles, in 30 mins., by the same company, conducted by Dr. Seccombe. Tenor 14 cwt.

WANSTEAD (Essex).—On Sunday evening, November 2nd, for Divine Service, 720 Bob Minor with eight bobs and six singles, in 24 mins. J. King, 1; A. H. Gardom (conductor), 2; M. Ellsmore, 3; G. Cornell, 4; J. Marks, 5; G. Akers, 6. Tenor 9 cwt.

WEST MALLING (Kent).—On Sunday, November 9th, for Divine Service, a 720 of Plain Bob, in 25 mins. Jesse Capon (first 720), 1; D. Hall, 2; E. Baldock, 3; E. Bonner, 4; C. Bassett, 5; J. W. Leonard (conductor), 6. And after service a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor, in 27 mins. W. Harding, 1; D. Hall, 2; E. Baldock, 3; A. Moorcraft, 4; C. Payne, 5; J. W. Leonard (conductor), 6. Also 720 of Grandsire Minor, in 25 mins. W. Harding, 1; D. Hall, 2; E. Baldock, 3; A. Moorcraft, 4; C. Payne, 5; J. W. Leonard (conductor), 6.

WOODFORD (Essex).—On Saturday, November 1st, at St. Mary's church, 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor, with nine bobs, in 27 mins. H. Nunn, sen., 1; G. Akers, 2; M. Ellsmore (conductor), 3; W. B. Manning, 4; H. Scarlett, 5; J. Marks, 6. Tenor 13 cwt. M. Ellsmore hails from Ware.

WOOLWICH (Kent).—On Thursday evening, November 6th, at St. Mary Magdalene's church, the second part of the Rev. Charles D. P. Davies's five-part peal of Grandsire Triples, 1050 changes, in 35 mins. Benjamin Fakenham, 1; Henry Harman, 2; Frederick William Thornton (conductor), 3; James Charles Harvey, 4; William Watchorn, 5; Edward Richards, 6; Henry Harvey, 7; William Henry Freeman, 8.

WORTH (Sussex).—On Sunday, November 2nd, the local company rang for morning service a 720 of Plain Bob Minor, with thirty singles. W. Owden, 1; B. Pavne, 2; J. Tullett, 3; F. Streeter, 4; G. Illman, 5; F. Rice (conductor), 6. After morning service, a 720 of Oxford Bob, with 30 bobs and 2 singles. B. Payne, 1; W. Denman, 2; J. Tullett, 3; F. Streeter, 4; G. Illman, 5; F. Rice, 6. Conducted by G. Illman and F. Rice. For afternoon service a 360 of College Single, and 120 of Oxford Bob. W. Owden, 1; E. Streeter, 2; F. Streeter, 3; B. Payne, 4; G. Illman, 5; F. Rice (conductor), 6. Also after service, a 720 of Warnham Court Bob, with twenty-four singles. W. Denman, 1; F. Streeter, 2; J. Gasson (Balcombe), 3; W. Short (Warnham), 4; G. Illman, 5; F. Streeter (conductor), 6. And a 480 of Plain Bob. W. Owden, 1; W. Denman, 2; J. Gasson, 3; F. Streeter, 4; G. Illman, 5; E. Streeter (conductor), 6.

YOLDING (Kent).—On Saturday evening, November 8th, six members of the Mereworth company paid a visit to Yolding, and rang six 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles, being 720 changes, in 25 mins. W. Eldridge (conductor), 1; A. Brooker, 2; G. Bell, 3; G. Newman, 4; T. Buss, 5; W. Bellingham, 6.

THE LATE MARQUIS OF LONDONDERRY.

AMONGST the many marks of sorrow in Stockton-on-Tees at the sudden death of this highly-respected nobleman, were the muffled tones of the parish church bells during Sunday last, when 6-scores of Doubles were rung in whole pull changes, each change being struck at hand-stroke, and echoed at the muffled back-stroke. The bells were muffled at the request of the Vicar.

* * Some touches which arrived too late for insertion are left over till next week. Correspondents should become better acquainted with our regulations.

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."

"ON BELLS."

SIR,—The above subject, by Mr. James Barratt, of Eccles, in your issue of a week or two ago, appears to me to be another stereotyped dissertation of an old, old, story, the which must be similar in number with the tales of the "Arabian Nights," and in many respects about as truthful in detail. It is a pity a good ringer does not keep to that he knows somewhat of, instead of assuming to enlighten the public on matters he really is not acquainted with. Mr. Barratt's account of ancient bells, and foreign bells, large and small, is just or nearly the same as any schoolboy may read in an encyclopædia, but whether the weights given are really right or not no one can tell. But when treating of the bells of the British Houses of Parliament, he surely, as well as others, should make enquiries, so as to be in some way correct, before giving, in an authoritative manner, the weight of the largest bell there as 14,000 lbs. I did not see the bell weighed myself, but I believe Sir Edmund Beckett did, and I have always understood the actual weight to be 13 tons, 10 cwt. 3 qrs. 15 lbs., or 29,219 lbs. more, as you will perceive, than the weight given by Mr. Barratt. Poor Big Ben, like many a claimant for notoriety, has been shorn of very much of his fame for goodness, but I think it is *infra dig.* to make his weight less than it is.

W. WARSKITT.

Harrow, Middlesex.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION AND PRIZE-RINGING.

SIR,—I see in your issue of October 25th, there is a letter in answer to a former letter of mine. Now let me state at the outset that I have no desire to detract in any sense whatever the good which the Yorkshire Association has done, and is doing, but I am desirous of it still doing more good, which could be done by offering prizes, say a cup, or a silver bell, or anything that the Association thought fit for the best ringing, the length to be according to the number of companies, and the time at their disposal. I agree with Mr. Bolland that the greatest dissatisfaction has been expressed at contests, and also plenty of what we in Yorkshire call "fratching," but I never saw any blows, and which is the only drawback that can be said about prize-ringing, and I can, and so can others, testify that good ringing in this part of Yorkshire is the exception rather than the rule, as it used to be, owing to the want of prize contests to stir them up. With respect to my saying I could ring any method in one year, I meant to say that if any method had been given us we could have learnt it in a few practices, and why? because the whole of our surroundings were men who practised from year to year for contests, first good striking, second, variety in method; as witness seven peals on six, all broken leads, and three new ones, and seven peals without bobs, on eight; peals of Violet Major and other methods; also peals, one with tenors together, and one with them parted, without bobs; and also I may mention the performance at Tong, not long ago, of twenty-six 12-scores, which I consider one of the best performances of the last twenty years, and which I dare say the men were contest men. Of the 430 members of the society take out the men who have been brought up in contesting, and therefore in good striking and method, and the others would cut a sorry figure at good ringing; and the reason that the Yorkshire Association has reached its gigantic proportions, and is kept there, is owing to the great energy and perseverance of Mr. Snowdon and his great tact in organisation, and what is deservedly appreciated by the Yorkshire ringers.

THOMAS STEAD.

Huddersfield.

In Memoriam.

With great regret we record the death of Mr. W. Bangs, in his 57th year, senior Churchwarden of the Parish of St. Mary, Stratford, Bow, who expired on the 6th inst., and who had for four years fulfilled that office. He was a lover of bells and a good friend to the ringers, and was highly respected by all with whom he came in contact, not only in connection with the churchwardenship, but with the outside circle also. No doubt his name is well known, being connected with so many other good works and Societies in the metropolis. A muffled peal was rung on Tuesday, the 11th inst., the day of the funeral, by the following: R. J. Turner (conductor), 1; W. Hopkins, 2; J. Green, 3; L. Green, 4; A. Cutmore, 5; R. Gray, 6; T. Baker, 7; D. J. Sutton, 8.

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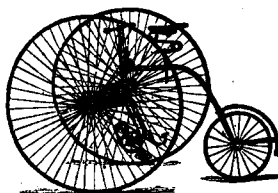
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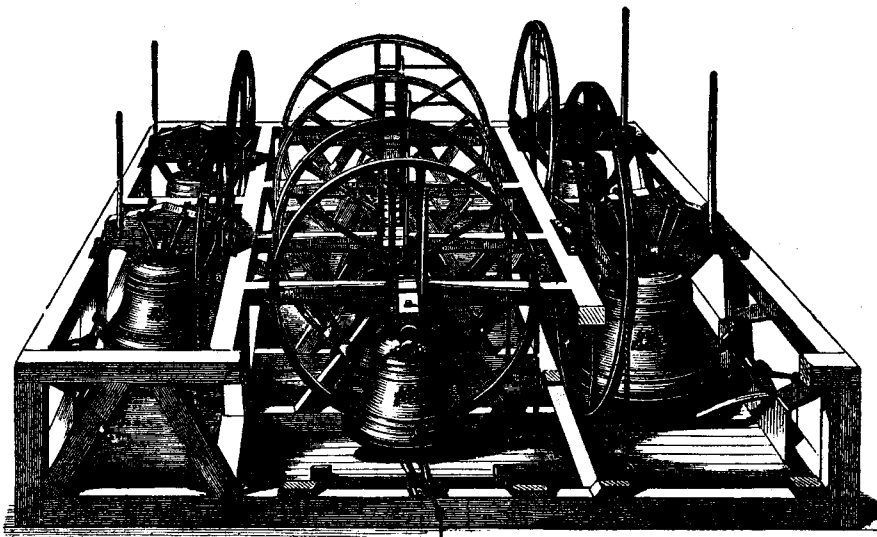
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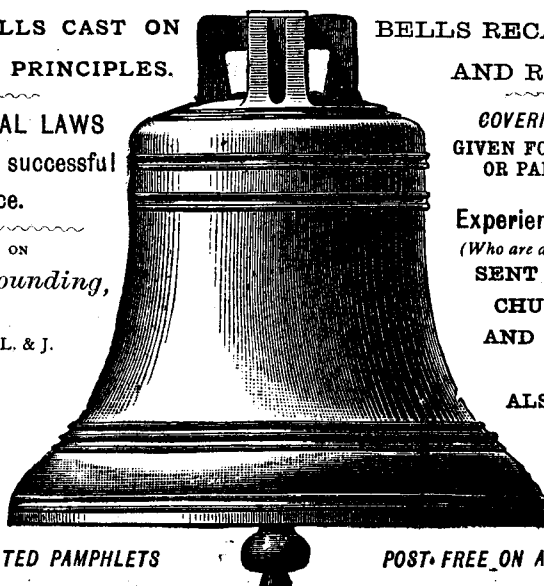
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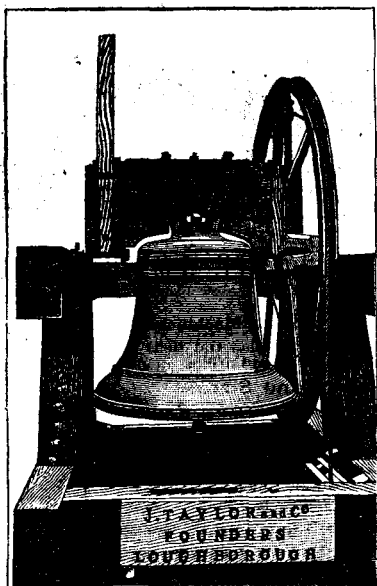
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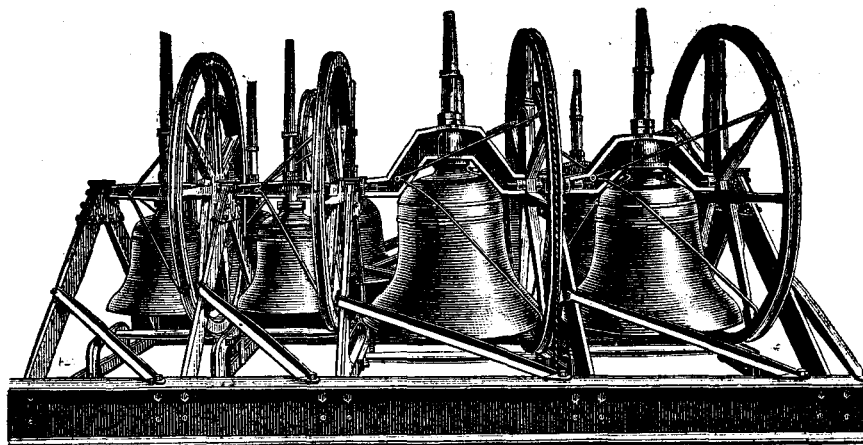
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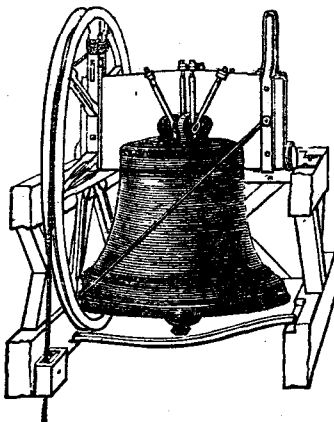
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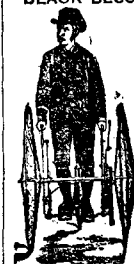
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LONDON BELLS AND RINGERS.

(By the Author of THUMB-NAIL SKETCHES).

On more than one occasion has attention been called to the manner in which London ringers allow their bells to lie idle, as far as practice is concerned. It is a subject on which one would think there could scarcely be two opinions, and yet it seems as if no step would ever be taken to improve the condition of things.

Take the twelve bell steeples. At St. Martin's-in-the-Fields, there is a pretty regular meeting once a fortnight; at Bow Church, St. Bride's, and St. Giles, Cripplegate, there is no change-ringing at all, except a very infrequent peal, although at two of these towers, the Ancient Society of College Youths profess to meet monthly. At St. Michael's there is an occasional practice—at St. Paul's the meeting is much interfered with by the Cathedral services. Last and worst, at St. Saviour's, a visitor may see every fortnight an attendance of thirty or forty ringers in the meeting room, including some of the most accomplished in the art; but if he go to the tower, he will only find five or six of the youngest members, who wait about for a quarter of an hour or so, on the bare chance of some extraordinary circumstance procuring them a touch on twelve.

During the summer months, the plea is generally that the weather is too hot to ring heavy bells; well, as to that, our London readers don't want to be told that those of St. Paul's are rung every Sunday all the year round, while at such practices as can be held at that place, there is an overflowing attendance; and we have no doubt, that if the other towers were open, ringers would be found only too glad of the chance to learn to pull a big bell. In the winter, someone usually stays away, or comes late, or forgets to tell someone else—anything rather than ring. Were it not for the peals rung at intervals in our twelve-bell steeples, we should be almost justified in concluding that men were afraid of the bells. Sure enough, there will be few in coming years who will have the requisite skill and knowledge to deal with these harmonious monsters. Mighty as they are, it is not by sheer force alone that these giants can be made to pour forth their melody; tact and experience are absolutely essential, and the ringer who attempts to coerce them succeeds only in half killing himself and the unhappy beings who have to ring with him.

The cold weather has now set in, and there is no excuse for not ringing; from our own personal knowledge we could name a score at least of men, young in the exercise, but strong and eager to learn, only too anxious to get a chance at a touch of something nobler than Triples or Major. True enough, the older members of both companies have nothing to learn—they perhaps have no need to practice, but they should remember that there are others besides themselves; the time has, we hope, gone by for ever when the "scruffe" of any particular tower looked with such jealous eyes at a young ringer who was making any progress, that they would throw every obstacle possible in his way. And, moreover, let us warn London ringers that when a young County Association can accomplish over fifty peals in a twelve-month, they will have to pay very much greater attention than hitherto to practice and the education of beginners, if they are to retain their present position at the head of the ringing community.

DARLASTON, STAFFORDSHIRE.

On Monday evening, November 10th, by the kind invitation of the Churchwarden (G. Partridge, Esq.), between twenty and thirty ringers sat down to an excellent repast at the house of Mr. M. Harper, the "Horse and Jockey," Burcroft, Darlaston. Among the company were Messrs. J. Carter, S. Carter, and J. Perry, from Birmingham; and A. Malborn and J. Lloyd from Wednesbury. After ample justice had been done to the good fare provided, Mr. Partridge (who presided) proposed the toast of "Church and Queen," which met with a spontaneous and hearty reception.

The CHAIRMAN next proposed "The Health of the Vicar, and his co-Warden." He was sure they would do all in their power for the welfare of the society. They would get the bells rehung at the earliest opportunity, so as to reduce to a minimum the amount of manual labour connected with ringing. Bellingring ought to be a great pleasure, not hard work. If any band of ringers were desirous of ringing on their bells at any time, he should be pleased to grant them

permission, for he should like to hear more peals rung in Darlaston than there had been of late years.

Mr. CARTER proposed "Success to the St. Lawrence Society." He said he was very proud to see that the younger members had got on so well in such a short time. The society had been re-formed a short time only, but the present instructors had been doing their utmost to improve the younger ones. They were acting very differently from the late tower keeper, who, when seeing a young ringer getting on, was wont to tell him to his face that he was "getting on too fast," and ultimately refused him admission to the tower. The aspirants of that day were not to be disheartened by such conduct, though compelled to walk to Walsall, a distance of three miles, to learn to ring. After a time, the tower keeper being removed, one of these who was so discouraged, was allowed to call a peal on the bells on October 20th, and very proud he was in doing so, Darlaston being his native place. The speaker then proposed "The Health of the Chairman," and hoped he would live long and always enjoy his present office, and often be able to come amongst his brother ringers.

The CHAIRMAN, in responding, thanked the company for the kind manner in which the toast of his health had been proposed and received. He said that he hoped it would not be the last time that he should preside at a similar gathering. He then proposed "The Health of Mr. J. Carter" who had first learned to ring at that place, and had succeeded in performing some extraordinary feats at different places both upon handbells and tower, in defiance of all obstacles. Anytime Mr. Carter wanted the use of the bells, he had only to write to him, and the request would gladly be given.

Mr. CARTER thanked the chairman and his brother-strings for the kind manner in which they had drunk his health, and hoped to be with them again on many a future occasion. He then proposed "The Health of the Editor of 'THE BELL NEWS,' and Success to that paper," and hoped the members would see their way to subscribe for a greater number weekly than they did at present, having in view the great good done through its agency.

The proceedings of the evening were interspersed with songs, a good touch of Grandsire Triples, and courses of Grandsire Triples, Major, and Caters; also tunes by the St. Lawrence society on the handbells. Thanks were accorded to the host and hostess for the manner in which they had added to the enjoyment of the company.

THE MERSHAM (KENT) SOCIETY.

The annual outing of this society took place on Saturday last, November 15th, the bells of the churches in and around Tunbridge being selected by the members as fresh ground on which to try their skill, and leave to ring being obtained through the Rector of Mersham, the Rev. R. B. Knatchbull-Hugessen. The members started by an early train to Tunbridge, thence going to Hadlow by road. A substantial breakfast was here partaken of, which had been kindly provided by the Rector (Rev. —. Moneypenny). A move was then made to the belfry, where everything being in readiness, a touch of Bob Major was rung by E. Ruck, jun., 1; J. Harrison, 2; E. Ruck, sen. (conductor), 3; Rev. R. B. Knatchbull-Hugessen, 4; D. Paine, 5; G. Paine, 6; F. Finn, 7; G. Finn, jun., 8. A touch of Grandsire Triples was then rung (W. Jay ringing the 4th), and the bells being in good order (tenor 15 cwt.) other short touches followed. East Peckham was then visited, where are six bells in good order (tenor 16½ cwt.) and a 720 each of Plain Bob and Treble Bob Minor were rung. At the kind invitation of C. Poyle, Esq., the company made their way to Speldhurst, and the weather being delightful the walk was much enjoyed. On arriving at the village, which has a good band of ringers, the bells were heard to perfection. C. Poyle, Esq. gave the visitors a hearty welcome, and conducted them to an inn, where he had caused to be provided an excellent dinner, at which he presided, and to which the Speldhurst company were also invited. The repast being over, a few kindly remarks were addressed to the company by the Chairman, who expressed his confidence in the great good now being done by the Association. The Rev. R. B. Knatchbull-Hugessen responded. A visit was then made to the church, which is a beautiful structure, and so orderly kept. The local company now rang a 6-score of Doubles—that being the qualification to entitle them to full membership of the Association—and they then rang another 6-score, both of which were extremely well struck. Ringing was kept up with spirit till the time drew near for the return journey, and on the way home Tunbridge was visited, where the party rang touches of Bob Major and Grandsire Triples, conducted by E. Ruck, sen., but the bells going so badly, good enjoyable ringing was out of the question. Home was reached about 9.30, with uncommon satisfaction at the day's proceedings. The Mersham company wish, through the medium of this paper, to return their thanks to Rev. —. Moneypenny, C. Poyle, Esq. and Rev. R. B. Knatchbull-Hugessen, who so largely contributed to the pleasure of the day; and they also thank the clergy for the use of the towers, and the steeple-keepers for their kind attention.

FRIENDLY MEETING OF RINGERS AT BARKING, ESSEX.

ON Saturday, November 15th, ringers from Woolwich paid a visit to this tower, with their venerable friend Mr. Bright, who looks up well in his old age. They arrived early, and rang several touches of Grandsire Triples, including a quarter-peal. The ringers were H. Bright, H. Harman, J. C. Harvey, W. H. Harvey, F. W. Thornton, Messrs. Freeman, and E. Richards. Conducted by Messrs. Harvey and Freeman. There was also another band that appeared upon the scene to ring an Essex Association peal, which was arranged, but through a misunderstanding in arrangements, it was not attempted in order to make things pleasant all round. The following touches were rung: 447 Grandsire Triples, 504, and three courses of Stedman Triples, and a touch of Kent Treble Bob Major (tenors apart). R. Sewell, A. J. Perkins, A. Pye, H. Randall, G. Pearl, S. Hayes, W. J. Aldridge, A. Whight, and A. Deards. The Grandsire Triples and Treble Bob Major were conducted by A. J. Perkins, and the Stedman Triples by H. Randall. The ringers afterwards adjourned to the meeting house, where some tunes were rung by five of the Barking handbell band, in good style. Touches of Bob Triples, Grandsire Triples, and a course of Grandsire Caters were also rung.

THE ST. PETER'S SOCIETY, LIVERPOOL.

ON Saturday, November 15th, eight members of this Society paid a visit to Prescott, Lancashire. On arriving at the church the ringing-room was entered, and a peal of 5024 Kent Treble Bob Major started for, but unfortunately came to grief after ringing 3104 changes, in 1 hr. 55 mins., owing to the 7th slipping rope. Richard Williams, 1; Thomas Hammond, 2; William Woodhead, 3; Henry Meadows, 4; William Booth, 5; Edwin Booth, 6; Edward Foster, 7; Robert Williams (conductor), 8. Tenor 15 cwt. Afterwards a touch of Stedman Triples was rung. The company then, by the kind invitation of the Prescott captain, Thomas Byron, adjourned to his father's house, and partook of a good substantial knife and fork tea. The inner man having been satisfied, several courses of Triples, Major, and Caters were rung on the handbells, intermixed with songs and speeches by the Prescott Premier, J. Walker. The company returned by the 10.40 p.m. train, highly pleased with their outing.

WORCESTER DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

ON Saturday, November 8th, a Quarterly Meeting of this Association was held at Chaddesley Corbett, near Kidderminster, when a very good number from the following places attended: Malvern, Bromsgrove, Dudley, Netherton, Kidderminster, Bellbroughton, Brierley Hill, Chaddesley Corbett, Wolverley, Cookley, etc. The meeting was presided over by the Master, Mr. Jno. Perks, Malvern. The business of this association was transacted in the usual way, and a sum for repairs done to the Evesham bells was borne by the Association. The bells of the above church where the meeting was held were kindly lent to the members of the association by the vicar, the Rev. F. A. Marriott. During the afternoon and evening touches of Grandsire Triples were rung by mixed companies, also several touches of Plain Bob and Grandsire Minor, on the back six. Votes of thanks were passed at the meeting to the Vicar for the use of the tower and bells, also to Mr. E. Corbett in obtaining the use of the schoolroom, and the meeting then terminated.

THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

A DISTRICT MEETING of the above Association will be held at Epsom (by the kind permission of the vicar), this day, Saturday, November 22nd. The tower will be opened for ringing from 4 till 9 p.m.

A. B. CARPENTER, Hon. Sec.

HOLY TRINITY, HULL.

The following are the inscriptions upon the bells of Holy Trinity church, Hull.

Treble.—"Thomas Lester of London made me 1747."
2nd.—"J. H. Bromby, Vicar. H. W. Hentig, and T. Marshall, Church. Wardens, 1827."
3rd.—"Let distant hills return their lays 1727."
4th.—"Thou air with measured tremour shake, 1727."
5th.—"Earth at the solemn sound awake, 1727."
6th.—"Lester and Pack of London Fecit. Richd. Bell and Robt. Ramse: Ch. Wardens: 1759."
7th.—"Rev. John Healy Bromby, Vicar. James Harrison, Founder. William Horncastle, and John Yeoman, Church Wardens, 1802."
Tenor.—"William Mason, Vicar. Joseph Dell. Daniel Bridges, Church. Wardens. Thomas Lester of London made me, 1747."

Inscription on the frame:—

"Mr. William Thompson } John and Richard Williams of Kingston, in North-
Mr. Richard Thompson } ampton Shier in the year of our Lord made this
Church Wardens." } frame, 1727."

R. B. R.

THE SAINT JAMES'S SOCIETY, LONDON.

At the meeting held on the 17th inst., notice was given that the following proposition would be submitted to the Company at their next meeting, Monday, December 1st, viz.: "That it is advisable that the headquarters of the Company shall be removed from the 'Shakespeare Head,' Wych Street, to some other house."

As this is a proposition which affects most London ringers more or less, it is hoped that as many members will attend as possible, so that the matter may be settled in the manner most agreeable to the majority of the company.

THE SCIENCE IN BRISTOL.

ON Monday, November 17th, the company of St. Andrew's ringers were met at the Clifton parish church by the Ancient Society of St. James's change ringers, and several touches of Grandsire Triples were rung on these beautiful bells; after which an adjournment was made to the Clifton Coffee Tavern, where a combined meeting of the members of both companies was held; present: W. Bessell (in the chair), Messrs. W. Hill, W. H. Thomas, H. J. Nicholls, A. H. Rogers, W. H. Bartram, C. H. Arnold, F. Clark and A. Bendall, all of the society of St. Andrew's; and Messrs. R. Knill, C. Thomas, C. Waters, L. G. Hill, H. Schusler, H. S. Bray, T. Salter and J. Brain, of the society of St. James's. After some very telling remarks from Mr. W. H. Thomas, who introduced the business of the meeting, it was proposed by him and seconded by Mr. W. H. Bartram—That the company of St. Andrew's (Clifton) ringers, become honorary members of the Ancient Society of St. James's change-ringers. It was further proposed by Mr. W. H. Thomas, and seconded by Mr. R. Knill, that the society be called "The United Society of St. James and St. Andrew's Change-ringers." Both these resolutions were carried unanimously, and we may hope that the science of change-ringing will be placed on a much more satisfactory footing than it has occupied in the ancient city of Bristol for some years past. We may mention that the Ancient Society of St. James's change-ringers, and the Society of Union Youths, were amalgamated some thirty or forty years ago, so that we have reason to congratulate the St. Andrew's ringers on having united themselves with so ancient a society.

In Memoriam.

GEORGE STOCKHAM.

As we are about to go to press, intelligence reaches us of the demise of one of the most conspicuous ringers of a past generation, one whom was regarded with feelings of respect almost amounting to veneration, by the whole ringing community of twenty or thirty years ago. There are very few ringers who read these lines who will forget, upon their visit to one of the most popular meeting places in London—St. Clement Danes—the appearance of the unostentatious individual who so ably for many years filled the office of Steeplekeeper at that church. His urbanity and self-denial were certainly worthy of imitation by all who filled such a post. No matter what was asked for, a touch, a peal, or anything out of the regular order, George Stockham never denied a request when put to him properly. In his day St. Clement's was the trysting-place for the most celebrated among the London Exercise. The men who had made their mark were generally to be found there on a practice-night, and several prominent London ringers of the present day can trace their earliest connection with ringing in company with George Stockham at St. Clement's.

We have not been able to ascertain the particulars of the veteran's death, or to obtain the usual information which should accompany a notice of this description. We can only point to one or two features of the deceased's career that is actually known to us. Mr. Stockham was for many years before the community as a handbell founder, but age and infirmity had compelled him to relinquish this business. He had taken part in nearly all the principal performances of the College Youths and the St. James's Society which were done in his day: the long peal of Grandsire Caters at Fulham, and the long peal of Stedman Cinques at St. Michael's, Cornhill, among the number. For many years he was Treasurer to the St. James's Society, from among the members of which his retirement was as deeply regretted as his death will be deplored. "A man of wide renown," always ready and willing to call a peal "for any young and rising band" is the character sketched of him by one of his contemporaries.

One by one these veterans leave us. Gradually we lose sight of those whose names but a few years ago were as familiar in our mouths as household words, at any rate so far as the ringing Exercise is concerned. Their deeds, however, live in the estimation of their successors; their fame is inscribed upon records well nigh imperishable. The kindly and genial bearing of the subject of this brief memoir is a pattern which it would be well if many of our rising young men of the present day would copy.

PEALS OF TEN THOUSAND CHANGES.

By JASPER W. SNOWDON.

IN the list of peals of not less than 10,000 changes, which appeared in these columns in July, 1883, the five following peals were omitted. These five bring the number of such peals, of which I have now given particulars, up to 102. A friend informs me that a 10,080 of Bob Major was rung at Long Crendon, Bucks, some years ago, but I regret to say that I have not been able to ascertain anything about this peal. To show the difficulty that there is, in some cases only I am glad to say, in obtaining such information, I may mention that I first wrote to the present conductor, who is also clerk to the parish, asking for particulars of the peal. Receiving no answer, I then wrote to the Vicar, but, although I believe that in both cases I enclosed

a stamped envelope for a reply, I have not heard a word from either of those gentlemen. With the hope of receiving particulars of this peal, I have for several months delayed the insertion of this list of omissions. Can any one supply me with any information concerning this Long Crendon peal?

In the original list of peals in these columns the following mistakes occur: No 44.—This peal was rung in 1807; No. 81.—This peal was rung at Christ Church, Bristol, on March 14th, 1837, in 5 hrs. 54 mins., tenor 21 cwt; No. 82 was conducted by James Wood, and the weight of the tenor in this and the following peal (No. 83), should be 28 cwt.; Nos. 95 and 96.—These peals were rung at St. Leonard's, Shoreditch.

Besides these peals of 10,000 changes, one has since been rung in hand, but as this list is only intended to record peals rung on the tower bells, it is not entered below.

No.	Date.	Where rung.	Changes.	Method.	Time.	Tenor in cwt.	Conductor.	Society.	No.
22A.	Feb. 24, 1784.	Lewisham, Kent.	10,080.	Plain Bob Major.	6 : 33.	23	Saml. Manley.	Trinity Yths.	22A.
23A.	Dec. 31, 1787.	Bromsgrove, Worcestershire.	10,192.	" " "	6 : 33.	20	Chas. Ravenscroft.	Local.	23A.
38A.	Dec. 29, 1788.	" " "	12,000.	" " "	7 : 38.	20	" " "	" " "	38A.
38B.	Feb. 15, 1783.	Bromley, Kent.	12,672.	" " "	7 : 48.	20	Wm. Chapman.	Bromley Yths.	38B.
66A.	Mch. 3, 1883.	St. Peter's, Ashton-under-Lyne.	10,464.	Kent T. B. Major.	6 : 14.	20	Samuel Wood.	Ashton.	66A.

THE BIRMINGHAM AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATION.

A QUARTERLY MEETING of the above Association was held on Saturday last, November 15th, at Hampton-in-Arden, Warwickshire, when (though the meeting was not so numerously attended as usual) the facilitation of the business transacted was creditable to all who attended the meeting, which was held for the transaction of business at the "Ring of Bells," the club-house of the Hampton contingent; previous to which ten 6-scores were rung, and also a touch of Minor (a rule of the Association which, it is hoped, will be rescinded at the next general meeting, debarring a 720 being rung at quarterly meetings. In the absence of the President, the Rev. D. H. C. Preedy, Vicar of King's Norton, Mr. C. Barnacle (Mosely), occupied the chair. The Hon. Sec., Mr. John Wright, King's Norton, having read the minutes of the last quarterly meeting, which were duly confirmed, Mr. John Carter, Birmingham, called on the secretary for the address, and allusion to the rules of the Association as announced in "THE BELL NEWS" of the previous week. Mr. Wright, in a lengthy speech, called the attention of the members present to several defects in the rules, notably No. 11, which the speaker said in his visits to the several vicars on whom he had called, caused, he was sorry to say, dissension, but that when he had spoken with the rev. gentlemen the disapprobation had disappeared. Mr. Wright having explained the difficulty under which the Association was formed, to the satisfaction of all he had visited, they felt that if all the districts in the Association would strive to do their duty, the Birmingham and District Association, though one of the youngest, would yet prove one of the strongest of Associations. The president of the Association (said the secretary) was convinced that if the clergy of the district but knew the wishes of the association, namely, promotion of change-ringing and belfry-reform, they would certainly assist us in our holy enterprise. The secretary next exhorted all members, and those present who wished to become members, to remember that when in the belfry they were in the House of God, and also that any music rendered on the bells through them (the ringers), was a tribute to the Giver of all good gifts, and thus in a practical manner shew that they were really in earnest, they then most certainly would prosper; and that unpleasant words of Jack, Tom, or Bill changing course and spoiling the peal would cease. On the motion of Mr. J. Carter, No 11 rule was referred to a committee meeting to be held shortly. Votes of thanks to the vicar and churchwardens for the use of the bells, and to the secretary for his able address brought the business to a close, after which Mr. Wright being voted to the chair, several songs and recitations, interspersed with tunes and touches on the handbells, brought a most enjoyable half day's gathering to a close.

HEXHAM ABBEY, NORTHUMBERLAND.

THE 3rd, 5th, and 7th bells of this peal (eight, tenor 21 cwt.), having been re-cast, and the whole peal rehung by Messrs. Mears and Stainbank, the rector and churchwardens have decided to celebrate the re-opening by inviting the attendance of six and eight-bell change-ringers from Northumberland and Durham. The opening is expected to take place on Thursday, December 4th. Particulars of arrangements will be issued by Mr. Clarkson, of Stockton-on-Tees.

ALDEBURGH-ON-SEA.

GREAT alterations and improvements have been made at the church of SS. Peter and Paul, during the past few years. The steeple has been repaired and restored at a great expense, a new roof placed on the north aisle, the organ removed, and last, but not least, the repairing and rehanging of the peal of bells. Last year the Vicar's wife, Mrs. G. Thompson, started an appeal to carry out the desired work, and after a year's labour sufficient funds have been raised for the payment of the contract, £111. The work has been carried out by Messrs. Day and Son, of Eye, Suffolk. The whole of the defective timber work has been removed and restored, the bells turned and re-tuned. The peal consists of only five bells, but arrangements have been made for a sixth bell, which it is proposed to add in 1885, and which will cost the sum of £50. Many centuries ago, the care of the church and its bells were evidently in the hands of the Corporation, for the old records we have before us sheweth in 1569 that the sum of six shillings and three-pence was paid for bell-ropes; at the same date the sum of fourpence was paid for keeping the dog white, whilst five-pence was paid for whipping the dogs out of the church. In 1627 John Dourie was paid five shillings for ringing for joy for good news from the Parliament, and in 1573 the bellfounder was sent for from Framlingham, and expenses incurred, amounting to fourteen shillings and eightpence, whilst about the same date twelpence was paid to one, Benedicks, for two chains for the books, evidently to secure the bibles to the desk.

The dates of the bells are as follows:—

Treble.—"A.D. 1622."

2.—"A.D. 1764."

The 3rd bell has been recast by Messrs. Warner and Sons, of London, and bears the following inscription:—

"1884

Henry Thompson, Vicar.

John Harvey, } Churchwardens,"

John Ing, }

4th.—"A.D. 1764."

Tenor.—"A.D. 1810."

The opening services were held on the 4th inst., the ringers from the neighbouring churches being present. The sermon in the afternoon was preached by the Rev. C. M. Rouse, of Woodbridge, the prayers being read by the Vicar, the Rev. Henry Thompson. The evening sermon was preached by the Rev. B. W. Raven, of Leiston, and the prayers read by the Rev. Aphorpe, Vicar of Farnham. Both services were well attended, and the sum of ten pounds was collected towards the cost of the new bell. Miss Ada Beart very ably presided at the organ, a full choir being present. The ringers dined together at the parish rooms. A very fine peal was rung upon these bells by the Aldeburgh ringers, on the anniversary of the birthday of the Prince of Wales.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

ON Tuesday, November 11th, the election of officers took place at "The King's Head," Winchester Street, Southwark, when the following were elected for the ensuing year: *Master*, Mr. J. W. Rowbotham; *Treasurer*, Mr. J. Pettit; *Secretary*, Mr. G. Muskett; *Senior Steward*, Mr. W. H. George; *Junior Steward*, Mr. G. T. McLaughlin; *Auditors*, Mr. E. Horrex and Mr. J. Bird.

"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.

Everything for insertion in this Journal to be addressed "The Editor of THE BELL NEWS, Walthamstow, London." Letters forwarded for publication, and performances under 5000 changes must reach us not later than Wednesday morning; and the insertion of any communication coming later than the first Postal delivery on Thursday morning cannot be guaranteed in that week's number. When it is found impossible from want of space to insert all touches forwarded, the earlier ones will have the preference.

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

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, NOVEMBER 22, 1884.

THE number of peals this week has prevented our usual comment from appearing. We are asked to state that the arrangement for the supply of cards, mentioned in our last number, apply to peals only, but as application has been made this week for one or two touches on cards, the writers are informed that they can only be printed as they appear in our columns, not displayed as the peals are done. We hope these arrangements may meet the requirements of those friends who urged us to make them. The payment for a dozen cards is as low as possible.

The Metropolis.

THE ST. JAMES'S SOCIETY, LONDON.
 SOUTHWARK, LONDON.

On Thursday, November 11, 1884, in Three Hours and Three Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. GEORGE-THE-MARTYR,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
 HOLT'S ORIGINAL. Tenor 18 cwt.

ALBERT E. CHURCH Treble.	WM. H. FUSSELL 5.
WM. JONES 2.	MARTIN MURPHY 6.
EDW. F. STRANGE 3.	RICHARD FRENCH 7.
H. LANGDON 4.	DANIEL NEWTON Tenor.

Conducted by R. FRENCH.

The peal was rung as a mark of respect to the Rev. Burman Cassin, M.A., who became rector of this church seven years ago.

The Provinces.

BISHOPS STORTFORD, HERTS.

THE BISHOPS STORTFORD SOCIETY.

On Saturday, November 8, 1884, in Three Hours and Nine Minutes,

AT ST. MICHAEL'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
 HOLT'S ORIGINAL. Tenor 20 cwt.

WILLIAM RICKETT* Treble.	†ALFRED TUCKER 5.
CHARLES MARTIN 2.	HENRY J. TUCKER 6.
WILLIAM H. TUCKER 3.	*HENRY DOUGHTY 7.
GEORGE MARTIN 4.	*JOSEPH SAMPFORD Tenor.

Conducted by HENRY J. TUCKER.

* First Peal. † First peal for nearly 25 years.

THE ST. MARY'S SOCIETY.—EASTBOURNE, SUSSEX.

On Saturday, November 8, 1884, in Two Hours and Forty-five Minutes,

AT ST. MARY'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
 TAYLOR'S 6-PART. Tenor 16½ cwt.

THOS. WILLOUGHBY* .. Treble.	*THOS. HUNNISETT 5.
H. P. BENNETT 2.	JAMES POTTER 6.
FREDERICK HARDING* .. 3.	THOS. HART 7.
LEONARD HUGGETT 4.	*JOSH. LEWIS Tenor.

Conducted by FREDERICK WM. HARDING.

*First peal.

The last peal previous to the above was rung in January, 1873, by an Eastbourne company, which soon afterwards broke up, and it has only been re-formed a few months (under many difficulties), due to the perseverance of Messrs. Bennett, Huggett, Potter, and Hart.

SAWBRIDGEWORTH, HERTS.

On Thursday, November 13, 1884, in Three Hours and Twenty-three Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;
 IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 25 cwt.

H. PRIOR† Treble.	JOSEPH TARLING 5.
REV. G. F. COLERIDGE* .. 2.	*REV. F. E. ROBINSON .. 6.
H. BAKER* 3.	N. W. TARLING 7.
F. SWORDER 4.	*H. J. TUCKER Tenor.

Composed by H. JOHNSON, SEN., and Conducted by H. J. TUCKER.

* College Youths. † Cumberland Youth.

BROMSGROVE, WORCESTERSHIRE.

Birthday Peal.

On Thursday, November 13, 1884, in Three Hours and Fifteen Minutes,

AT ST. JOHN'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS, 5039 CHANGES;
 Tenor 20 cwt.

JOHN PERRY Treble.	ELIJAH CRUMP 6.
GEORGE BOURNE 2.	GEORGE MORRIS 7.
WILLIAM BROOKE 3.	WILLIAM DUFFILL 8.
REUBEN BROOMFIELD .. 4.	WALTER REA 9.
GEORGE HAYWARD 5.	JAMES PARRY Tenor.

Composed by GEORGE HAYWARD, and Conducted by ELIJAH CRUMP.

The above peal was rung to commemorate the 50th birthday of Mr. Wm. Duffill, the oldest member of the local company, he being a member for upwards of thirty years. The above belong to the Worcestershire and Adjoining Districts Association, and the Birmingham and District Association.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—ECCLES.

On Saturday, November 15, 1884, in Two Hours and Fifty-five Minutes,

AT ST. MARY'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
 HOLT'S 10-PART. Tenor 13½ cwt.

WILLIAM CROSSLEY .. Treble.	CHARLES CASH 5.
JAMES RIDYARD 2.	RICHARD ASHCROFT .. 6.
EDWARD CASH 3.	FREDERICK DERBYSHIRE .. 7.
JOHN WELSBY 4.	WILLIAM ASHCROFT .. Tenor.

Conducted by EDWARD CASH.

First peal by J. Welsby, of Walkden.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—WORSLEY.

Birthday Peal.

On Friday, November 14, 1884, in Three Hours and Two Minutes,

AT ST. MARK'S CHURCH,

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

HEBER DERBYSHIRE* .. Treble.	*RICHARD RIDYARD 5.
JAMES H. RIDYARD 2.	*THOMAS DERBYSHIRE .. 6.
JOSEPH DERBYSHIRE .. 3.	*JOHN BAGULEY 7.
FREDERICK DERBYSHIRE .. 4.	*SAMUEL FRYER Tenor.

Conducted by JAMES H. RIDYARD.

This peal was rung on the 12th birthday of Lord Brackley. This is the first peal by a local company and the first peal conducted by J. H. Ridyard. * First peal.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.
CODDENHAM, SUFFOLK.

On Saturday, November 15, 1884, in Three Hours and Eighteen Minutes,
AT ST. MARY'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5376 CHANGES;
IN THE OXFORD VARIATION. Tenor 16½ cwt.

CHAS. MEE .. .. .Treble.	EDGAR PEMBERTON 5.
ARTHUR ALDHAM 2.	WM. MOTTS 6.
WM. L. CATCHPOLE 3.	JAS. MOTTS 7.
ISAAC S. ALEXANDER 4.	ROBT. H. BRUNDLE .. ..Tenor.

Composed by H. HUBBARD, and conducted by JAS. MOTTS.
The above is a variation of J. Reeves' peal of 6720. See Snowdon, part ii., page 7.

WHITFIELD, GLOSSOP, DERBYSHIRE.—THE ALL SAINTS'
SENIOR SOCIETY.

On Saturday, November 15, 1884, in Three Hours,
AT ST. JAMES'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;
IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 12½ cwt.

JOHN LAWTON .. .. .Treble.	JAMES SELLARS 5.
JOSEPH ROBINSON 2.	SAMUEL KNOTT 6.
JOHN HARROP 3.	WILLIAM SANDHAM 7.
JOSEPH MALONEY 4.	JOHN PYE .. .. .Tenor.

Composed by the late JAMES PLATT, of Saddleworth, and
Conducted by JOHN LAWTON.
This is the first peal that has been rung on the bells since they were hung.

GLOSSOP, DERBYSHIRE.—THE ALL SAINTS' JUNIOR
SOCIETY.

On Saturday, November 15, 1884, in Three Hours and Two Minutes,
AT ALL SAINTS' PARISH CHURCH, OLD GLOSSOP,

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

SAMUEL HARROP .. .. .Treble.	CHARLES BROOKE 5.
DANIEL JAMES 2.	ROBERT WINTERBOTTOM .. 6.
WILLIAM HARROP 3.	SAMUEL KNOTT 7.
HENRY COOPER 4.	THOMAS JAMES .. .. .Tenor.

Composed by JOHN THORP of Ashton-under-Lyne, and
Conducted by SAMUEL KNOTT.

THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.—BEDDINGTON, SURREY.

On Saturday, November 15, 1884, in Three Hours and Twelve Minutes,
AT ST. MARY'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS, 5003 CHANGES;
Tenor 20½ cwt. in Eb.

WILLIAM SHEPHERD* .. ..Treble.	DANIEL SPRINGHALL 6.
SAMUEL GREENWOOD 2.	EDWARD F. COLE 7.
CHARLES E. MALIM 3.	JOHN PLOWMAN 8.
GEORGE RUSSELL* 4.	GEORGE PELL 9.
EDGAR BENNETT 5.	THOMAS VERRALL* .. ..Tenor.

Composed by H. JOHNSON, and conducted by
EDGAR BENNETT.

Messrs. Greenwood, Pell, Springhall, and Shepherd, hail from Streatham; Cole and Malim from London; Russell and Verrall from Croydon; the rest are local men.
*First peal of Caters. Mr. Russell is 75 years of age.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—MANCHESTER.

On Saturday, November 15, 1884, in Three Hours and Twenty-two Minutes,
AT THE CATHEDRAL,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS, 5201 CHANGES;
Tenor 25 cwt. in Eb.

SAMSON KNIGHT .. .. .Treble.	JOSEPH GRIMSHAW 6.
GEORGE E. TURNER 2.	ALBERT E. WREAKS 7.
JOHN E. POLLITT 3.	GEORGE MEE 8.
SAMUEL WEST 4.	JOHN EACHUS 9.
SAMUEL STOTT* 5.	*THOMAS OGDEN .. .. .Tenor.

Composed and conducted by ALBERT E. WREAKS.

This is the first peal of Grandsire Caters rung by the Association. Previous to starting for the peal Messrs. Stott, Mee and Ogden were elected members of the Association. S. Stott hails from Leesfield, near Oldham, the rest belong to Manchester. *First peal of Caters.

THE SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.
LONG MELFORD, SUFFOLK.

On Saturday, November 15, 1884, in Three Hours and Fourteen Minutes,
AT HOLY TRINITY CHURCH,

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

PHILIP BIXBY .. .. .Treble.	OLIVER GARWOOD 5.
CHARLES HONEYBELL 2.	FREDERICK WELLS 6.
ZACHARIAH SLATER 3.	JOHN SLATER, AGED 70 YEARS 7.
SAMUEL SLATER 4.	FREDK. PAUL ADAMS .. ..Tenor.

Composed by NATHAN J. PITSTOW, and conducted by
FREDERICK PAUL ADAMS.

The above peal contains the sixth nine course-ends at home and is now rung for the first time.

P. Bixby belongs to Long Melford, and all the rest hail from Glemsford.

REDENHALL, NORFOLK.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, November 15, 1884, in Three Hours and Eight Minutes,
AT ST. MARY'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;
IN THE OXFORD VARIATION. Tenor 24 cwt.

EDWARD SMITH .. .. .Treble.	J. C. ALLEN 5.
JOHN SMITH 2.	ROBERT WHITING 6.
WILLIAM MATTHEWS 3.	WILLIAM ROOPE 7.
FREDERICK ROB. SURRIDGE* 4.	CAPTAIN MOORE .. .. .Tenor.

Composed by JOHN THORP and Conducted by EDWARD SMITH.

Messrs J. Smith, R. Whiting and Matthews hail from Pulham St. Mary; Messrs. Roope, Allen and Surridge from Pulham Market; Edward Smith from Alburgh, and Captain Moore from Redenhall. *First peal.

ASSOCIATION FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD,
TIPTON, STAFFORDSHIRE.

On Sunday, November 16, 1884, in Two Hours and Fifty-eight Minutes,
AT THE PARISH CHURCH.

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
T. DAY'S SIX-PART. Tenor 12½ cwt. in G♯.

JOSEPH JONES* .. .. .Treble.	WILLIAM MALLIN 5.
THOMAS BENNETT* 2.	JOSEPH FULLWOOD 6.
WILLIAM ROCK SMALL† .. 3.	WILLIAM ELLESMORE 7.
THOMAS HORTON† 4.	*HENRY WINFIELD .. .. .Tenor.

Conducted by JOSEPH FULLWOOD.

The above deal was rung at the first attempt, and is supposed to be the only peal rung on these bells for nearly thirty years.

Messrs Jones, Bennett, and Winfield belong to Tipton; Small, Mallin, Horton, Ellsmore and Fullwood hail from Westbromwich.
*First peal. †College Youths.

THE UNITED COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.
GORTON, LANCASHIRE.

On Monday, November 17, 1884, in Three Hours and Two Minutes,
AT BROOKFIELD UNITARIAN CHURCH,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Tenor 14 cwt.

JAMES SHAW .. .. .Treble.	JAMES S. WILDE 5.
RALPH PRICHARD 2.	THOMAS WILDE 6.
JOHN BLAKELEY* 3.	GEORGE LONGDEN 7.
WALTER SLATER 4.	THOMAS DIXON .. .. .Tenor.

Composed by JOHN THORP of Ashton-under-Lyne, and
Conducted by THOMAS DIXON.

*First peal in the method; and the first in the method on these bells.

WOLSTANTON, STAFFORDSHIRE.

STOKE-UPON-TRENT ARCHIDIACONAL ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, November 17, 1884, in Two Hours and Fifty Minutes,
AT ST. MARGARET'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES
Tenor 14 cwt.

DAVID AMOS* .. .. .Treble.	WILLIAM PRIESTMAN 5.
LEVI MILLER 2.	SAMUEL SPENCER 6.
SAMUEL WALKER 3.	WILLIAM MILLER 7.
FREDERICK MARTIN 4.	*JOHN KAMESTER .. .. .Tenor.

Conducted by WILLIAM MILLER.

*First peal.

Date Touches.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

CHURCH KIRK (Lancashire).—On Tuesday evening, November 11th, a date touch of 1884 changes in the following methods: 444 of Plain Bob Minor, 720 of Oxford Bob Minor, and 720 of College Single, in 1 hr. 13 mins. James Horrocks (conductor), 1; Thomas Doran, 2; Henry Hayes, 3; James Pickles, 4; William Pattison, 5; Thomas Horrocks, 6. This is the first date touch rung on these bells and the first by this company. Tenor 15 cwt.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

LEEDS.—On Sunday evening, November 16th, for Divine Service at the parish church of St. Peter's, a date touch of Stedman Caters, 1884 changes, was rung by the Leeds branch of the above Association, in 1 hr. 20 mins. Thomas West, 1; William Pawson, 2; Harry Lockwood, 3; Peter Snowden, 4; William Walker, 5; Harry Hubbard, 6; Joseph Hutchinson, 7; Tom Lockwood (composer and conductor), 8; Robert Binns, 9; George Fothergill, 10. Tenor 36 cwt. in C.

PONTEFRACT (Yorkshire).—On Sunday evening, November 16th, six members of the All Saints' company rang a date touch of 1884 changes, in the following methods: 444 of Oxford Treble Bob; 720 of Kent Treble Bob; and a 720 of Grandsire Minor, in 1 hr. 7 mins. W. Wilcock, 1; J. Brook, 2; R. Brook, 3; J. Pollard, 4; J. Carter, 5; W. Pearson (conductor), 6. Tenor 11 cwt. in F. The 444 of Oxford Treble Bob is the composition of Mr. J. Haigh, sen., of the Woodlesford company.

Miscellaneous.

THE SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.

BATTERSEA (Surrey).—On Saturday, November 8th, at St. Mary's, eight members of the above society attempted a peal of Stedman Triples, but after ringing fifty-five courses in 2 hrs. 36 mins., it unfortunately came to grief. George Newson (conductor), 1; William H. Fussell, 2; E. F. Cole, 3; Henry Hopkins, 4; Thomas Taylor, 5; Charles Hopkins, 6; William Baron, 7; John Jay, 8. The above was rung to oblige Mr. John Jay, jun., who is on a visit from Brighton.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

CAMBERWELL (Surrey).—On Saturday evening, November 15th, at St. George's, eight members of the above Society rang a half-peal of Stedman Triples, 2520 changes, in 1 hr. 28 mins. J. Bonney, 1; E. F. Strange, 2; W. Cecil, 3; J. Martin Routh, Esq., 4; H. J. Shade, 5; I. G. Shade (conductor), 6; A. Hayward, 7; J. Monday, 8. This was intended for a 5040, but in consequence of two bells going badly the conductor let them run round instead of calling the single at the half way.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.—On Tuesday, November 11th, at the church of St. John-the-Baptist, an attempt was made for a peal of Bob Major, but it unfortunately came to grief after ringing about 3100 changes, in 1 hr. 45 mins. W. Egglestone, 1; C. L. Routledge, 2; W. G. Routledge, 3; W. Bowes, 4; F. Lees, 5; H. Thompson, 6; W. Story, 7; R. S. Story (conductor), 8. And on Monday, November 17th, 336 of Grandsire Triples. H. Ferguson, first touch in the method 1; C. L. Routledge, 2; W. G. Routledge, 3; W. Bowes, 4; F. Lees, 5; W. Story, 6; T. Denton (conductor), 7; R. J. Robson, 8. Also 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor. W. Story, 1; W. Bowes, 2; F. Lees, 3; C. L. Routledge, 4; T. Denton, 5; W. G. Routledge (conductor), 6. Tenor 12½ cwt.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

CAVERSHAM (Oxon).—On Sunday, November 16th, the St. Peter's society (also members of the above Guild), rang for morning service, a 720 of Plain Bob Minor, in 27 mins. *J. Hands, 1; †J. Butler, 2; E. Menday, 3; G. Essex, 4; E. Pottinger, 5; T. Newman (conductor), 6. And after service in the evening, another 720 of Plain Bob Minor, in 26 mins. E. Menday, 1; J. Butler, 2; G. Essex, 3; E. Pottinger, 4; T. Newman, 5; Rev. G. F. Coleridge (conductor), 6. Tenor 16½ cwt. *First 720. †First 720 with a bob bell.

MAIDENHEAD (Berks).—On Tuesday evening, November 11th, at All Saints', Boyne Hill, a 504 of Grandsire Triples, in 18 mins. T. C. Truss, 1; H. Rogers, 2; W. A. Garraway (conductor), 3; R. Smith, 4; W. C. Porter, 5; R. Flaxman, 6; E. Rogers, 7; T. Woolford, 8. And a 910 in the same method, in 33 mins. O. Facey, 1; H. Rogers, 2; W. C. Porter, 3; R. Flaxman, 4; R. Smith, 5; G. Wilkins, jun., 6; W. A. Garraway (conductor), 7; T. C. Truss, 8. Tenor 17½ cwt.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

CHURCH KIRK (Lancashire).—On Sunday, November 9th, for Divine Service in the evening, a 720 of Oxford Bob Minor, in 28 mins. James Horrocks (conductor), 1; Thomas Doran, 2; Henry Hayes, 3; James Pickles, 4; William Pattison, 5; Thomas Horrocks, 6. Tenor 15 cwt.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

DERBY.—On Friday, November 14th, at St. Werburgh's church, for practice, a 546 of Grandsire Triples. S. Maskery, 1; *J. Callaghan, 2; A. Taberer, 3; J. Howe, 4; J. Newbold, 3; A. B. Ward (conductor), 6; H. C. Woodward, 7; G. Beeson, 8. Also a 630 of Union Triples. S. Maskery, 1; *J. Callaghan, 2; A. Taberer, 3; J. Howe, 4; J. Newbold, 5; H. C. Woodward (conductor), 6; A. B. Ward, 7; G. Beeson, 8. Composed by F. Bines, of Walthamstow. The above is the first in the method by any of the band. *Member of the Birmingham and District Association. Tenor 17 cwt in E.

ANSTON (Yorkshire).—On Tuesday evening, November 11th, the local company-rang for practice, a 720 each of Duke of York, Kent and Oxford Treble Bob Minor, in 1 hr. 18 mins. G. Lidster, 1; R. S. Fox, 2; J. Bland, 3; C. F. Fowler, 4; S. Smith, 5; Thos. Silvester (conductor), 6. This is the longest touch ever rung by any of the company. Tenor 12 cwt. in G.

BANSTEAD (Surrey).—On Tuesday, November 11th, at All Saints' church, six of the Benhilton company rang a 720 of Grandsire Minor, with thirty-eight bobs and twenty-two singles, in 28 mins. W. Walker, 1; G. Petrie, 2; C. Trendell, 3; James Trendell, 4; H. Bryant, 5; John Trendell (conductor), 6.

BARKING (Essex).—On Saturday, November 15th, a company from Woolwich, Lewisham, and Greenwich, paid a visit to St. Margaret's Church, and rang a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, 1260 changes, in 45 mins. Edward Freeman, 1; Abraham George Freeman, 2; Henry Harvey, 3; James Charles Harvey (conductor), 4; William Henry Freeman, 5; Edward Richards, 6; Frederick William Thornton, 7; Henry Bright, 8. Tenor 22 cwt. in Eb. Some very good touches of Treble Bob, Stedman and Grandsire Triples were also rung during the evening, with the assistance of several members of the Essex Association who were also on a visit to Barking.

BENNINGTON (Herts).—On Wednesday, November 12th, three courses, being 672 changes, of Superlative Surprise Major. Rev. G. F. Coleridge, 1; T. Page, 2; S. Page, 3; L. Chapman, 4; H. Baker, 5; J. Kitchener, 6; C. Shambrook, 7; Rev. F. E. Robinson (conductor), 8. A start was afterwards made for a peal of Double Norwich. Some good ringing followed, but at the ninth course end, the conductor called "stand," a shift course having occurred.

BOOTLE (Lancashire).—On Thursday evening, November 13th, at Christ Church, a 360 of Grandsire Minor. E. Yates, 1; R. Barton, 2; W. Short, 3; W. Rushton, 4; T. Woodward, 5; J. Bradshaw (conductor), 6. Also 144 of Kent Treble Bob Minor, by the same band, R. Barton (conductor). Tenor 12½ cwt.

BRIGHTON (Sussex).—On Friday, October 31st, at St. Peter's parish church, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor, in 27 mins. J. Jay, sen., 1; H. Weston, 2; J. Gasson, 3; J. Searle, 4; J. Jay, jun., 5; G. F. Attree (conductor), 6. This is the first 720 in this method by any of the band, and it is believed to be the first time that any Treble Bob method has been rung in Brighton by a local band. And on Monday, November 10th, on the occasion of the election of Mr. Alderman Reeves to the Mayoralty of the Borough, eight members of the Brighton Society rang a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, 1260 changes, in 48 mins. A. Marshall, 1; —, Reeves, 2; J. Searle, 3; J. Jay, sen., 4; C. Golds, 5; G. F. Attree (conductor), 6; H. Weston, 7; W. Vernon, 8. Tenor 10½ cwt.

BRISTOL.—Handbell Ringing.—On Tuesday, November 11th, at the residence of J. Hinton, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, 1260 changes. S. Cleal, 1-2; H. Porch, 3-4; J. Hinton (conductor), 5-6; G. Townsend, 7-8. Also several courses of Stedman Triples, Kent Treble and Plain Bob Major.

BURNSALL (Yorkshire).—On Monday evening, November 17th, at St. Wilfrid's church, for practice, the local company rang 1680 changes in the following Minor methods; 240 each of Craven Delight, Violet, Oxford Delight, Duke of York, Plain Bob, Kent and Oxford Treble Bob, in 1 hr. 2 mins. J. T. Binns, 1; *J. P. Birch, 2; W. Thompson, 3; S. Whiteley, 4; *J. S. Wilkinson, 5; †C. Inman (conductor), 6. Tenor 13 cwt. *Members of the Yorkshire Association. †Member of the Ancient Society of College Youths.

DEWSBURY (Yorkshire).—Muffled Peal.—On Thursday, November 13th, at All Saints' church, a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob Minor, with the bells deeply muffled as a mark of respect to Mr. James Idle, late

sexton, in 26 mins. Herbert Senior, 1; J. W. Simon, 2; Willie Ainley, 3; Oates Wilson, 4; Geo. H. Simon (conductor), 5; Alfred Mitchell, 6. Tenor 14½ cwt.

DENFORD (Northamptonshire).—On Saturday, November 15th, at Holy Trinity Church, a 360 of Plain Bob, with 12 singles, W. J. Gilbert (conductor), 1; E. Mayes, 2; J. Groom, 3; T. Arnold, 4; A. Groom, 5; T. Roberts, 6. And a 720 of College Single, with eighteen bobs and two singles, T. Arnold, 1; W. J. Gilbert (conductor), 2; A. Arnold, 3; E. Mayes, 4; A. Groom, 5; T. Roberts, 6. First 720 in the method by all except the conductor. Tenor 10 cwt.

EASTBOURNE (Sussex).—On Friday, November 14th, at St. Mary's church, the first half of Taylor's 6-part peal of Grandsire Triples, 2520 changes, 1 hr. 29 mins. Simeon Hart, 1; Harry P. Bennett, 2; Thos. Hunnisett, 3; Leonard Huggett (conductor), 4; Fredk. Harding, 5; James Potter, 6; W. H. Fussell, 7; Thos. Lewis, 8. It was intended to attempt a peal, but the band not being able to muster early enough for a 5040, were compelled to stop half-way. Mr. Lewis is a member of the All Saints' company. Our correspondent adds: "We are pleased to be able to state that the Christ Church ringers are making good progress in the art on six bells."

GARBOLDISHAM (Norfolk).—On Sunday afternoon, after Divine Service, at the Church of St. John-the-Baptist, a 720 of Bob Minor, with eighteen bobs and two singles, in 26 minutes. W. Lebbon (Loughton), 1; Rev. C. L. Kennaway, 2; J. Chinery (Netteswell), 3; J. Bennett (Hopton), 4; E. Bennett (Riddlesworth), (conductor) 5; J. Bennett sen. (Riddlesworth), 6. Tenor 12 cwt.

GREAT BROMLEY (Essex).—On Wednesday evening, November 12th, for practice, a 6-score of Grandsire Doubles. G. Taylor (first 6-score), 1; J. Starling, 2; J. Taylor, 3; S. Bloice, 4; W. Nevard (conductor), 5. And a 6-score of Old Doubles. G. Taylor (first 6-score in the method), 1; G. Howell, 2; J. Starling, 3; S. Bloice, 4; J. Taylor (conductor), 5; W. Nevard, 6. G. Taylor and W. Nevard hail from Great Bentley, the rest belong to the local company.

HAVERSTOCK HILL (Middlesex).—On Sunday morning, October 10th, at St. Martin's church, for Divine Service, a 720 of Plain Bob Minor, eighteen bobs and two singles, in 25 mins. T. Gleed, 1; G. Thurlow, 2; J. Leach, 3; John Woods (Kenninghall), 4; T. Titchener, 5; G. Newson (conductor), 6. And on Sunday, November 2nd, for Divine Service in the evening, a 720 of Plain Bob Minor, in 25 mins. J. Hannington (conductor), 1; T. Gleed, 2; W. H. Fussell, 3; J. Leach, 4; J. Nixon, 5; G. Griffin, 6. After Service a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor (Gobbett's), with fifteen bobs. J. Hannington (conductor), 1; T. Gleed, 2; J. W. Driver (Fulham), 3; G. Griffin, 4; W. H. Fussell, 5; E. Chapman, 6. And a 720 of Plain Bob, with twenty bobs and ten singles. G. Griffin, 1; G. Thurlow, 2; J. Hannington (conductor), 3; J. Leach, 4; T. Titchener, 5; J. Nixon, 6. Tenor 12½ cwt.

HIGHAM FERRERS (Northamptonshire).—On Monday, November 17th, for practice, a 360 of Oxford Single, in 15 mins. S. Parker, 1; J. Nut, 2; W. Groome, 3; G. Thompson, 4; W. Hall, 5; W. Parker (conductor), 6. Also a 360 of College Little, in 15 mins. S. Parker, 1; W. Groome, 2; T. Parker, 3; G. Thompson, 4; A. Martin, 5; W. Hall (conductor), 6.

HITCHIN (Herts).—On Monday, November 17th, at St. Mary's church, for practice, a 1008 of Grandsire Triples. J. Randall, 1; W. Allen, 2; J. Hare, 3; W. A. Tyler (conductor), 4; A. Squires, 5; S. Hare, 6; C. Creasey, 7; J. Foster, 8. Also a 168 in the same method, with H. Buckingham, 1; J. Hare, 2; W. French, 3; W. Kitchener, 8, the rest standing as before. C. Creasey hails from Spalding, Lincolnshire.

HULME (Manchester).—On Monday, November 10th, at St. Philip's church, Hulme, two 6-scores of Stedman Doubles. H. Wood, 1; T. Heald, 2; E. Ettock, 3; J. F. Woods (conductor), 4; W. J. Hargreaves, 5; J. O'Brien, 6. This is the first 720 in the method by all except W. J. Hargreaves. And on Thursday, November 12th, at Holy Trinity church, six members of the St. Philip's society, rang a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob Minor, in 26½ mins., also a 720 of Kent in 28 mins. J. O'Brien, 1; H. Wood, 2; E. Ettock, 3; T. Heald, 4; J. F. Woods, 5; W. J. Hargreaves (conductor), 6.

LIVERPOOL.—On Sunday, November 16th, eight members of the local company rang at St. Peter's pro-Cathedral for Divine Service in the morning, 503 of Grandsire Caters, and after service a 504, the service being attended by the newly elected Mayor, D. Radcliffe, Esq., and corporation, and also the Assize Judges. And for afternoon service a 640 of Kent Treble Bob Major. *Muffled Peal*.—Also for Divine Service in the evening a 593 of Grandsire Caters, with the bells deeply muffled, in memory of the late Joseph Price, late churchwarden, and after service upwards of 700 of Stedman. The following ringers took part during the day: Richard Williams, Robert Williams (conductor), Henry Meadows, Edwin Booth, William Booth, John Moore, John Brown, William Brooks, Edward Foster, William Woodhead, George Helsby, Samuel Gough and William Beddon.

LONG MELFORD (Suffolk).—*Muffled Peal*.—On Monday, November 10th, the local company rang two 336's of Bob Major with the bells deeply muffled as a last tribute of respect to the late James Perry, who died on the 6th inst., and was buried at Long Melford churchyard on that day. James Bird, 1; Philip Bixby, 2; George Hammond, 3; Saml. Slater (conductor), 4; Owen Read, 5; Percy C. S. Scott, 6; John Slater, 7; Oliver Garwood, 8. Deceased was one of the brethren of Melford Hospital, established in 1573, by Sir William Cardell, Knight. He was also an old Melford ringer, but rang only one peal with the company, which was a 5040 of Bob Major, in the year 1851, when he rang the 5th.

MAIDENHEAD (Berks).—On Saturday, November 8th, eight members of the St. Lawrence's society, Reading, attempted Holt's 6-part peal of Grandsire Triples, at All Saints', Boyne Hill, but after ringing 2842 changes in 1 hr. 46 mins., it terminated somewhat abruptly. W. H. Holloway, 1; W. Johnson, 2; E. Bishop, 3; W. R. Pocock, 4; W. Newell, 5; J. E. Willshire, 6; W. J. Williams (conductor), 7; W. Goseltine, 8.

MITCHAM (Surrey).—On Sunday, November 9th, eight members of the SS. Peter and Paul society rung for Divine Service in the evening 714 of Grandsire Triples. Charles Brockwell, 1; L. Drewett, 2; G. Forster, 3; G. Forster, 4; J. Fayers, 5; G. Welling, 6; A. Brockwell (conductor), 7; L. Currell, 8. Also on Wednesday, November 12th, with the bells half muffled, a 1512 of Grandsire Triples, as a last mark of respect to the late Mr. Summerfield. C. Brockwell, jun., 1; L. Drewett, sen., 2; G. Forster, sen., 3; G. Forster, jun., 4; L. Drewett, jun., 5; A. Brockwell (conductor), 6; J. Fayers, 7; L. Currell, 8. Tenor 16 cwt.

NUNEATON (Warwickshire).—On Thursday, November 13th, for practice, ten 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles, with 7 6 8 behind, in 45 mins., 3rd and 5th the observation. G. E. Swain, 1; W. Swain, 2; H. Bacon, 3; *H. Horwood (conductor), 4; T. Lingard, 5; W. Adler, 6; J. J. Mawby, 7; J. Ballard, 8. Tenor 14½ cwt. in E. *Member of the Midland Counties' Association.

ORMSKIRK (Lancashire).—On Tuesday evening, November 11th, at the parish church, for practice, a 720 of Grandsire Minor, in 27 mins., with the tenors covering. J. Prescott, 1; W. Taylor (first 720), 2; J. Sholicar, 3; C. Sharples (conductor), 4; G. Prescott, 5; W. Benthams, 6; H. Ellis, 7; W. Lloyd, 8. Tenor 25½ cwt.

PETERBOROUGH.—On Tuesday, November 18th, at the church of St. John-the-Baptist, the local company rang a 720 of Bob Minor, with eighteen bobs and two singles, in 30 mins., with the tenors behind. W. Johnson, jun., 1; R. Beeston, 2; H. Plowman, 3; W. Johnson, sen., 4; G. Baker, 5; E. F. Read (conductor), 6; J. Binks, 7; J. Ellington, 8. This is the first 720 by the St. John's company. Tenor 28 cwt.

RAUNDS (Northamptonshire).—On Saturday, November 8th, at St. Peter's church, a 720 of Plain Bob, with sixteen bobs and twenty-six singles. H. Clayton (first 720), 1; E. Mayes, 2; A. Arnold, 3; A. Groom, 4; T. Roberts, 5; W. J. Gilbert (conductor), 6. And a 360 of Plain Bob, with nine bobs. H. Clayton, 1; J. Baker (first 360), 2; F. Gilbert, 3; J. Willmott, 4; H. Stubbs, 5; W. Hall (conductor), 6. Also a 360 of London Single, with nine bobs. H. Clayton, 1; W. J. Gilbert (conductor), 2; A. Arnold, 3; E. Mayes, 4; A. Groom, 5; T. Roberts, 6. And on Monday, November 10th, a 360 of College Single, with nine bobs. G. Kirk, 1; A. Coles (first 360 on a bob bell), 2; R. Pendered, 3; W. J. Gilbert, 4; J. Willmott, 5; W. Hall (conductor), 6. And 120 of New London Pleasure. G. Kirk, 1; W. J. Gilbert, 2; R. Pendered, 3; W. Hall, 4; F. Gilbert, 5; H. Stubbs, 6. This is the first 120 in this method by all. And on Monday, November 17th, a 720 of Yorkshire Court, with eighteen bobs and two singles. G. Kirk, 1; W. J. Gilbert, 2; R. Pendered, 3; *A. Arnold, 4; *A. Groom, 5; H. Stubbs (conductor), 6. *First 720 in the method. E. Mayes and T. Roberts hail from Ringstead; A. Arnold and A. Groom from Denford; and H. Clayton and J. Baker from Rushden.

READING (Berks).—On Tuesday, October 22nd, at St. Lawrence's church, on the occasion of the marriage of Miss Hill, the daughter of the Mayor, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, 1260 changes, in 49 mins. W. H. Holloway, 1; W. Johnson, 2; H. M. Bawden, 3; J. E. Wiltshire, 4; E. Bishop, 5; W. Newell, 6; W. J. Williams (conductor), 7; W. R. Pocock, 8. Also a 559 and 518 in the same method, conducted respectively by Mr. Newell and Mr. E. Bishop. And on Sunday, October 26th, for Divine service in the morning, a 503 of Grandsire Caters, in 23 mins. F. W. Round, 1; W. R. Pocock, 2; W. Johnson, 3; J. E. Willshire, 4; W. H. Holloway, 5; G. Talbot, 6; E. Bishop, 7; W. J. Williams (conductor), 8; W. Newell, 9; W. Goseltine, 10. Also on Sunday, November 9th, for Divine Service in the morning, being the Prince of Wales' birthday, a 827 of Grandsire Caters, in 35 mins. F. W. Round, 1; W. R. Pocock, 2; W. Johnson, 3; E. Bishop, 4; W. H. Holloway, 5; G. Talbot, 6; J. Potter (Oxford Diocesan Guild), 7; W. J. Williams (conductor), 8; W. Newell, 9; J. T. Waldron, 10. And for Divine Service in the evening a 1061 of

Grandsire Caters, in 45 mins. F. W. Round, 1; H. M. Bawden, 2; W. Johnson, 3; W. R. Pocock, 4; W. H. Holloway, 5; G. Talbot, 6; W. J. Williams (conductor), 7; W. Goseltine, 8; W. Newell, 9; J. T. Waldron, 10. And after service a 701 of Grandsire Caters, in 28 mins. F. W. Round, 1; H. M. Bawden, 2; W. Johnson, 3; J. E. Willshire, 4; W. R. Pocock, 5; G. Talbot, 6; E. Bishop, 7; W. J. Williams (conductor), 8; W. Newell, 9; W. Goseltine, 10. And on Monday, November 10th, being the election of Mayor, a 504 of Grandsire Triples, in 20 mins. W. Johnson, 1; H. M. Bawden, 2; J. E. Willshire, 3; G. Talbot, 4; W. H. Holloway, 5; E. Bishop, 6; W. J. Williams (conductor), 7; J. T. Waldron, 8. And in the evening a 1565 of Grandsire Caters, in 1 hr. 7 mins. F. W. Round, 1; H. M. Bawden, 2; W. Johnson, 3; J. E. Willshire, 4; W. H. Holloway, 5; W. R. Pocock, 6; E. Bishop, 7; W. J. Williams (conductor), 8; W. Newell, 9; W. Goseltine, 10.

SPALDING (Lincolnshire).—On Sunday, November 9th, being the birthday of the Prince of Wales, for early service at the church of SS. Mary and Nicolas, four 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles, with the tenor covering. J. Brown, 1; J. S. Wright, 2; J. Wilson, 3; R. Mackman, 4; G. L. Richardson, 5; J. W. Jarvis, 6. Also for second service, a 720 of Oxford Single Bob. And for Divine Service in the evening a 360 of London Single. G. Harrison, 1; J. Wilson, 2; G. L. Richardson, 3; R. Mackman, 4; J. S. Wright, 5; J. Brown (conductor), 6. And on Tuesday, November 11th, a 720 of Double Court Bob, and 360 of Kent Treble Bob, the band standing as before. And on Tuesday, November 13th, a 720 of Yorkshire Court Bob, and 360 of Oxford Treble Bob. J. Brown, 1; J. Wilson, 2; J. S. Wright, 3; R. Mackman, 4; E. Brown, 5; G. L. Richardson (conductor), 6. And on Sunday, November 16th, for Divine Service in the evening, a 720 of London Single, conducted by J. S. Wright. Also after service, Holt's 720 of Bob Minor, with twenty-one bobs. J. S. Wright, 1; J. Wilson, 2; G. L. Richardson, 3; R. Mackman (conductor), 4; E. Brown, 5; J. Brown, 6.

WALTON (Lancashire).—On Thursday evening, November 13th, at St. Mary's parish church, a 720 of Grandsire Minor, with thirty-four bobs and two singles, in 28 mins. J. Hurst, 1; C. J. Rodgers, 2; T. R. Somerville, 3; T. Rushton, 4; R. A. Simpson, 5; C. E. Wilson (conductor), 6. And on Sunday morning, November 16th, for Divine Service, two 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles. J. Hurst, 1; C. E. Wilson (conductor), 2; T. R. Somerville, 3; T. Rushton, 4; R. A. Simpson, 5; R. Stockley, 6. And in the evening, 720 of Grandsire Minor, with 38 bobs and 22 singles, in 25½ mins. J. Hurst, 1; C. J. Rodgers, 2; T. R. Somerville, 3; T. Rushton, 4; R. A. Simpson, 5; C. E. Wilson (conductor), 6. Tenor 10 cwt.

WOOLWICH (Kent).—On Thursday November 13th (to commemorate the 63rd anniversary of the first peal on the bells, and the 21st birthday of Mr. Frederick W. Thornton), the following members of the Waterloo and St. James's Societies attempted the Rev. C. D. P. Davies's five part peal of Grandsire Triples, at St. Mary Magdalene's church, but the peal unfortunately collapsed after ringing 3420 changes, in 2 hrs. Henry Bright, 1; Thomas Taylor, 2; William Weatherstone, 3; Henry Harvey, 4; Frederick W. Thornton, 5; William Henry Freeman, 6; Abraham George Freeman, 7; William John Harris, 8. Conducted by Frederick W. Thornton, of St. Alphege, Greenwich, this being his first attempt at calling a peal.

WORCESTER.—On Monday, November 17th, the Youths of All Saints rang a quarter-peal of Grandsire Caters, in 53 mins. T. Clements, 1; Nathan Wale, 2; Henry Phesant, 3; Thomas Gwynne, 4; George Hobbs, 5; William Blandford, 6; Henry Wilks, 7; William Webb, 8; Fredk. Owen, 9; Thomas Malim, 10. Composed by Wingfield Meadows and conducted by Henry Phesant. Tenor 21 cwt.

WORTH (Sussex).—On Wednesday evening, November 13th, for practice, a 720 of Plain Bob, with 22 singles. B. Payne, 1; W. Denman, 2; T. Tullett, 3; F. Rice, 4; G. Illman, 5; E. Streeter (conductor) 6; and a 720 of Oxford Bob, with 30 bobs and 2 singles. W. Owden, 1; J. Cheesman (Balcombe) 2; F. Streeter, 3; B. Payne, 4; G. Illman, 5; F. Rice (conductor), 6; and a 720 of Warnham Court Bob, with 22 singles. T. Illman, 1; F. Streeter, 2; W. Denman, 3; G. Illman, 4; F. Rice, 5; E. Streeter (conductor) 6.

WROTHAM (Kent).—On Friday, November 14th, five members of the West Malling company visited this place and with three of the local company attempted a peal of Bob Major, 5040 changes, but after ringing 4360 changes in 2 hrs. 45 mins., the 4th rope broke, which put an end to ringing. D. Hall, 1; E. Baldock, 2; W. Harding, 3; J. Taylor, 4; A. Moorcraft, 5; C. Taylor, 6; F. Shoobridge, 7; J. W. Leonard (conductor), 8. E. Baldock and A. Moorcraft are members of the Ancient Society of College Youths.

* * Several Touches which arrived late are unavoidably left over until our next issue.

SS. MARY AND NICOLAS, SPALDING, LINCOLNSHIRE.

THE third meeting of the committee for the provision of two bells to complete the octave in the tower of this church has been held, present: Rev. Canon Moore (chairman), Rev. B. Matthews, Rev. J. L. Gardner, Dr. Morris, Captain Hilliam; Messrs. H. S. Maples, Augustus Maples, W. J. E. Hobson (secretary), F. Pennington, J. Wilmot and R. Mackman. Mr. John Wright attended the meeting and submitted a plan shewing the position of the new bells and the means he proposed to adopt to secure the safety of the tower, he also stated if the work was put into his hands the maximum cost would be £180. Several suggestions were discussed for raising money, amongst which a ball, a dramatic performance, and a conversazione were thought desirable. The following names were then mentioned as having promised subscriptions:—

	£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
The Right Hon. and Ven. the Lord Saye and Sele	5	0	0	J. R. Jerram, Esq.	1	1	0
J. W. E. Hobson, Esq.	5	0	0	The Rev. Goe. Carter	1	1	0
Hon. M. E. G. Finch Hatton	2	2	0	Charles Sharpe, Esq.	1	1	0
The Ven. Archdeacon Kaye	2	0	0	C. K. Morris, Esq.	1	1	0
Dr. Morris	3	3	0	Francis Millas, Esq.	1	1	0
H. S. Maples, Esq.	2	2	0	Mrs. Thomas Smith	1	1	0
Augustus Maples, Esq.	2	2	0	Mr. John Wright	1	1	0
W. Lane Claydon, Esq.	1	1	0	SS. Mary and Nicolas' company	1	1	0

The above subscriptions, with those previously, announced together with small sums, bring the total amount promised to the present time to £71 6s. 6d.

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."

ANCIENT CHURCH BELLS.

SIR,—Your last week's number gives Goring credit for having the earliest dated bell in England, but Kelly's Directory, 1877, states that one of the five at East Ilsley, Berks, is dated 1012, but as an imperfect 6 may easily be taken for an o probably it is a mistake. If therefore "THE BELL NEWS" has not yet reached Ilsley perhaps some of our Wantage or Newbury friends can give you the correct date.

Maidenhead, Berks.

E. ROGERS.

A Muffled Peal.

[From the "Wellingborough News."]

Sad, solemn music, booming o'er the town,
Making the night seem darker, and the graves
More full of sleep; where tall stones sentinel
The dead; and cold stars watch their peaceful rest—
Those sounds! that fall upon the gathering night
Like distant echoes from another world—
O God! the very steeple seems to groan,
And the dank air clings closer to the graves.
And yet the night is falling—and the dead
Are resting in the land that is unknown,
And we are mourning here—but day shall break,
And other sounds o'erfill our fitful hearts;
And, ere the turf is green upon the mound,
The same bells pealing forth rich tones of joy,
Remind us of the soon-forgotten past.

W. T. SAWARD.

A writer in the *Newcastle Weekly Chronicle* says:—

"If the meetings which the Diocesan Bell-ringers hold occasionally in Newcastle are attended with no other good result, they have at least the merit of drawing attention to the condition of the city bells. Our visitors are enthusiastic in their work. They climb the belfrys of the various churches, sound the iron-tongued monsters hanging aloft, and are not slow to point out any serious defects they may find. The ringers have discovered in the course of their annual visit this week that St. Nicholas' bells are shockingly defective, that the bells of All Saints' are ditto, and that two of the bells swung in St. Andrew's have cracked and become useless. It is not creditable to Newcastle that the melody of its chimes should be marred by so many defects, and I agree with Mr. G. J. Clarkson, the secretary of the association, that 'the matter should receive the attention of the Churchmen of this wealthy city.' It is pleasant to learn, however, on the authority of Mr. Clarkson, that there has been an improvement at St. John's, where two new bells have been put up and one of the old ones re-cast. At St. Stephen's, again, a very fine peal has been placed in position. Moreover, the change-ringing societies which have been established throughout the district are developing the taste for campanological performances to a remarkable extent."

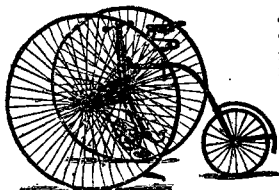
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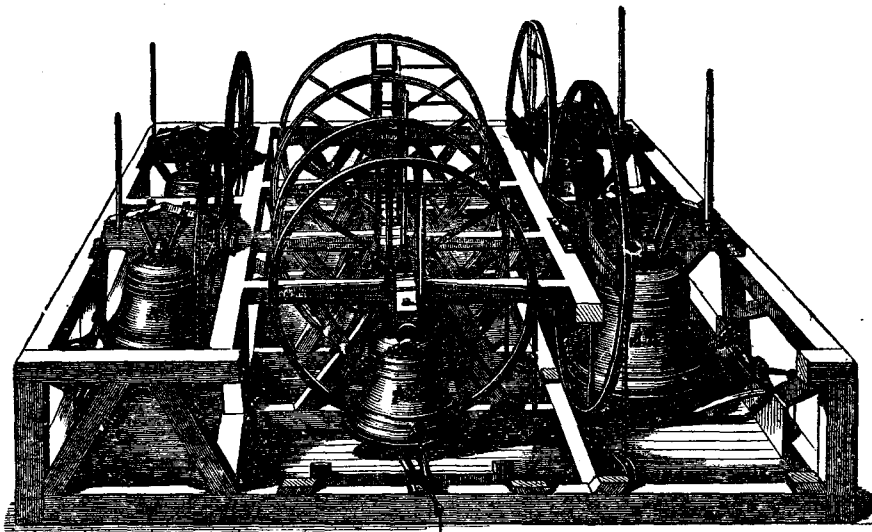
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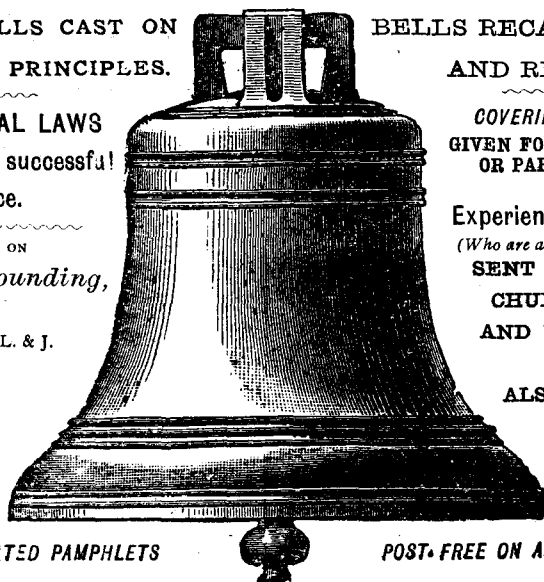
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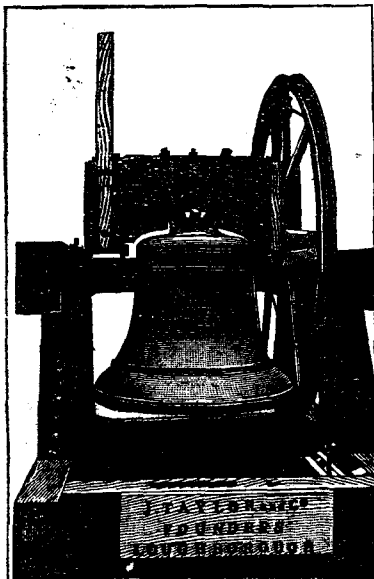
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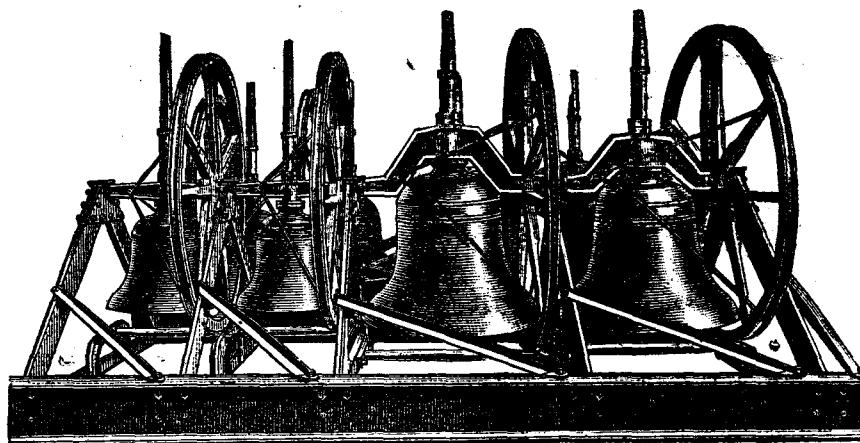
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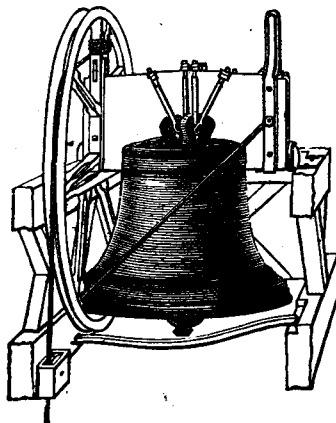
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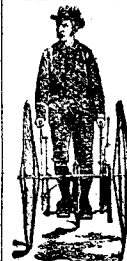
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THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—ANNUAL MEETING AT IPSWICH.

THE annual meeting of the Norwich Diocesan Association took place at Ipswich on Monday, October 27th. There was a good gathering of members, though not so large as on the last occasion the annual meeting was held at Ipswich, in 1882. An important circumstance connected with the meeting was the enforced absence, through illness, of the Secretary and Treasurer, the Rev. N. Bolingbroke, of Norwich, who was taken ill the previous day, after preaching in his church both morning and afternoon. The duties of the office during the annual meeting devolved upon Mr. Gervas Holmes, of Syleham, one of the vice-presidents, by whom the arrangements were most satisfactorily carried out. Various companies of bellringers from the diocese, mostly from Suffolk, performed during the day in various towers, those of St. Mary-le-Tower, St. Margaret, St. Mary Key, and St. Mary Elms being kindly thrown open to the visitors. Unfortunately there is only one church in Ipswich possessing more than six bells—St. Mary-le-Tower, which has a peal of twelve. Visitors from the country are perforce to be content with ringing on a peal of but six—no more than a good number of country parishes possess—or they try their powers on the somewhat difficult peal of twelve. This fact will account for some of the ringing on the tower bells being a trifle discordant now and again. Persons living and trading in the vicinity of the Tower Church must often, not only on Monday, but at other times when peals are being rung, wish that some means could be devised for diminishing the sound. Were they aware of a remedy given by an apparatus on the principle of the organ swell, a movement for fixing such a one in the church belfry would receive both their sympathy and pecuniary aid. Such swells are in use in several towers in the country, and the "sweet-toned voice of bells" is rendered to those in the neighbourhood quite as melodious and pleasant, even if considerably less voluminous. The swell would be closed at times of practice, but when the tower needed to proclaim the hour of Divine Service, or toll its message of marriage or death, the apparatus would be opened. The cost of fixing a "belfry swell" is comparatively slight when the comfort to be derived is taken into consideration.

A number of the bell-ringers attended Divine service in St. Mary-le-Tower church in the middle of the day, when the sermon was preached by the Rev. A. G. Blyth, St. Philip's, Heigham. The Vicar, the Rev. J. R. Turnock, conducted the service, and the Rev. T. H. Simpkin, Hasketon, read the lesson, Ephesians v. The Rev. A. G. Blyth preached from Deuteronomy xxxiii., 18 and 19. He said that every man had opportunities in his calling to serve God, and he exhorted the congregation to take heed, whatever their business or calling, not to lose sight of the opportunities they had of serving Him. There were no bells in ancient days, but he thought the words of the text applied to those whose office it was to call others Sunday after Sunday to God's house. One great service performed by bells and belfries was the bringing together of different classes. The master and his servant, the clergyman and some of his parishoners, met together in the belfry on the same footing, as it were, and so a kindly and friendly feeling was established between them. He (the preacher) should always value the days when he learned to ring, for that, if for no other reason. Bells were associated with seasons of prosperity and joy, and also with those of sorrow—times when that tenor bell seemed to ring "To day I must ring alone"—times when all the bells say in subdued and mournful tones that one who was deeply loved has gone from us. The primary object, however, was to call to worship. Let them see, then, that they were hearty and thorough in all they did for God on Sundays; go and do it as men who had something before them that was attractive. They would not get through their peal unless they put their mind to it. It was a sad thing to go to Church on Sundays, and hear perhaps only the two tenors chiming, while they knew there were four or perhaps six other bells in the steeple waiting to be used, and people would say, "I wonder where the ringers are?" The rev. preacher also impressed upon his hearers that their duty was not only in calling worshippers to the house of God, but also in going there themselves, and to carry their message of invitation not only to the village but to the individual.

Subsequently the members of the Association—to the number of about 80—dined at the "Great White Horse" hotel. The Rev. J. R. Turnock presided, and was supported by the Rev. T. H. Simpkin, Rev. A. G. Blyth, Mr. Gervas Holmes, Dr. G. T. W. Meadows (Otley), Mr. W. M. Meadows (Woodbridge), Mr. A. Goody (London), Mr. A. Achfield (Ufford), Mr. J. Forsdike (Woodbridge), Mr. P. Sadler (Norwich), Mr. F. Thompson (Kelsale), Mr. W. Mathews (Pulham St. Mary), and companies of ringers from Ipswich, Woodbridge, Lowestoft, Kelsale, Norwich, Hasketon, Winesham, Rendham, Grundisburgh, Pettistree, Diss, &c.

The toast of "The Queen" having been drunk with musical honours, The CHAIRMAN, in proposing "Prosperity to this Association," coupled with the name of one of the Vice-Presidents, Mr. Gervas Holmes, said he wished very much that he was able to address the

company as brother-ringers, but he was too old for that. He was, however, very proud to have in his church one of the finest peals of bells in these counties—and he thought he might go further, and say the ringers were not unworthy of the bells. He believed theirs was a very useful Association, and he had great pleasure in taking part in the proceedings.

Mr. GERVAS HOLMES was sorry he had to answer to the toast. The previous night, their worthy secretary, Mr. Bolingbroke, was taken so unwell that he was prevented from attending the meeting. All would agree with him that the prosperity of the Association was very greatly owing to the way in which rectors and vicars of parishes spoke of their ringers, as their chairman had just spoken of his ringers. The prosperity of the Association was greatly in their hands, and when they treated and spoke of bell-ringers in the way the Rev. J. R. Turnock had done, the prosperity of the Association was assured. In the absence of the secretary, he was sorry to say the report for the last year was not forthcoming. There were several matters to be brought before the notice of the meeting, but he forgot what they were. They had had a committee meeting, at which they were discussed, and one proposition was made by the secretary, who felt that as he is now the vicar of a large parish in Norwich, that he could not get about the country as well as their late lamented secretary, Mr. Harris, was able to do, and he was anxious, if possible, that he should have a certain amount of assistance. A proposition to that effect would have been made at that meeting. There were also several other matters which were to be proposed, including the appointment and arrangement for the forthcoming district meetings. There was also the matter of the meeting at Stonham. There was to have been a meeting there, but it was postponed, and Mr. Bolingbroke had been looking forward to mentioning the circumstances to-day, and explaining them, as well as making arrangements for the meeting, which unfortunately had been postponed two years. Mr. Holmes proposed Mr. Edwin Gibbs, of London, four members of Mr. Duncan S. Miller's company of Royal Poland Street Handbell Ringers, as honorary life members, two others as honorary members, and one as a ringing member. The proposition was carried.

Mr. HOLMES then proposed the health of the Rev. A. G. Blyth, who, he said, could not only get into the pulpit and deliver such a sermon as they had heard that morning, but could also go up into the belfry and show bell-ringers what to do there.

The Rev. A. G. Blyth briefly replied, and proposed a vote of thanks to the Rev. J. R. Turnock for presiding.

The CHAIRMAN having acknowledged the compliment, the company separated.

A company of Ipswich ringers went at once to the Tower Church, and rang three courses of Grandsire Cinques, and were succeeded later in the afternoon by a Norwich band, who rang a peal of Grandsire Triples. The following shows the companies which rang in the town during the day:—St. Mary-le-Tower (12 bells): Kelsale, Woodbridge, Ipswich, Norwich. St. Margaret (six bells): Hasketon, Lowestoft, Rendham, Winesham. St. Clement's (six bells): Pettistree, Grundisburgh, Hasketon. St. Mary Elms (six bells): Rendham. St. Mary Quay (six bells): Hasketon, Pettistree.

THE SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.

ON Saturday, November 15th, a peal of Stedman Caters was attempted at St. Stephen's church, Hampstead, Middlesex, but came to grief after ringing upwards of 4000 changes, in 2 hrs. 52 mins. G. Newson (conductor), 1; J. Hannington, 2; T. Titchener, 3; B. Foskett, 4; A. Jacob, 5; A. H. Gardom, 6; W. Doran, 7; D. Stackwood, 8; E. Chapman, 9; H. Tyler, 10. Tenor 27 cwt. The above was attempted to commemorate the 38th birthday of Mr. B. Foskett, and although unsuccessful this gentleman invited the band to a substantial repast at his residence. Ample justice having been done to the good things provided, the evening was concluded by touches and tunes on the handbells. The members take this opportunity of thanking Mr. Foskett for his hospitality.

THE A. M. SULLIVAN FUND.—A circular informs us that a number of influential gentlemen, of every shade of political belief, have formed themselves into a Committee in England, in sympathy with the efforts that are being made in Ireland, to collect funds for the widow and nine children of the late Mr. A. M. Sullivan. An account has been opened at the Union Bank, Chancery Lane, E.C., in the names of Charles Russell, Esq., Q.C., M.P., and W. S. Caine, Esq., M.P., entitled—"The A. M. Sullivan Fund," into which subscriptions may be paid. To this fund the above-named learned gentleman and Her Majesty's Attorney-General have each subscribed 100 guineas.

* * Touches, correspondence, and other matters are unavoidably left over till our next issue.

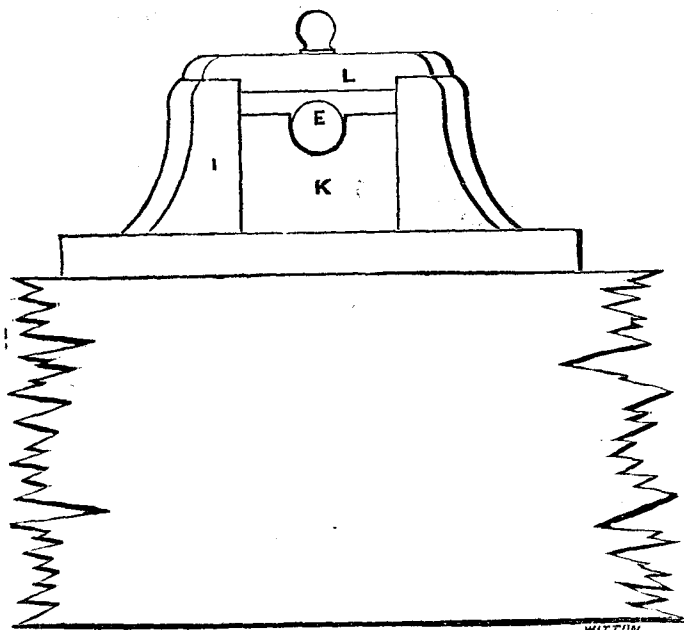
HANGING BELLS OF LARGE DIMENSIONS FOR RINGING.

UNDER this heading there has appeared within the last few months Letters Patent for certain improvements which, although by the blue-book or specification may not be very clearly understood by bellringers, and the public who may not be versed in sectional and outline drawings, and such terms as sole or plumber block, yet the objects and ends which are set forth would appear to be desirable, and very simple to understand. Everybody knows that wood will shrink in dry, and swell in wet weather, and very many ringers know in some cases, by painful experience, that large bells are liable to go badly for a time and then go well for a time, to wit, the tenor of St. Saviour's, Southwark. A great number of people know as well as those who are change-ringers, that the tenor bells are troublesome to get right and to keep in order.

The inventor, whose name is known in connection with bells, bell ringing and bell founding, all the world over by his pen and publications, has given this subject his attention, and better still has been able to experiment (before patenting) in a practical way so as to present improvements to the considerations of the clergy and bell ringing world, with the assurance that novelty does not mean loss, but something to be desired and of practical utility.

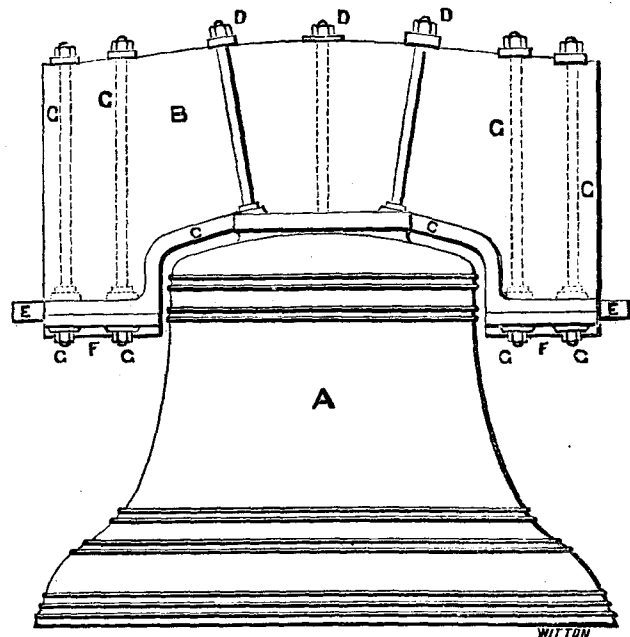
Mr. S. B. Goslin has arrived at three or four points which it is well to mention. In the first place he alters the old and existing method of hanging the bells upon metal bearings which have to be let into the wood beams forming the top rails of the frame, and hangs the bell upon gun-metal bearings, which are placed in strong cast iron frames or cases, and bolts them down on to the top rail, so that the wood is not cut away and weakened where the greatest strength is needed, and where it is often split by exposure to the air in drying, and by the old fashioned wedge bearings pulling the fibres of the beam inwards towards the bell as she swings.

We wonder that this has not been dealt with before, seeing that it is of such common occurrence to find the bearings sway and the timber split, but as so little attention until within the last few years has been given to that part of the fabric and appurtenances of the Church by those in position and authority, the old fashioned custom of hanging adopted when cast iron was not used at all, and wrought iron but sparingly was held to be good enough. The form of this improvement is illustrated thus:—

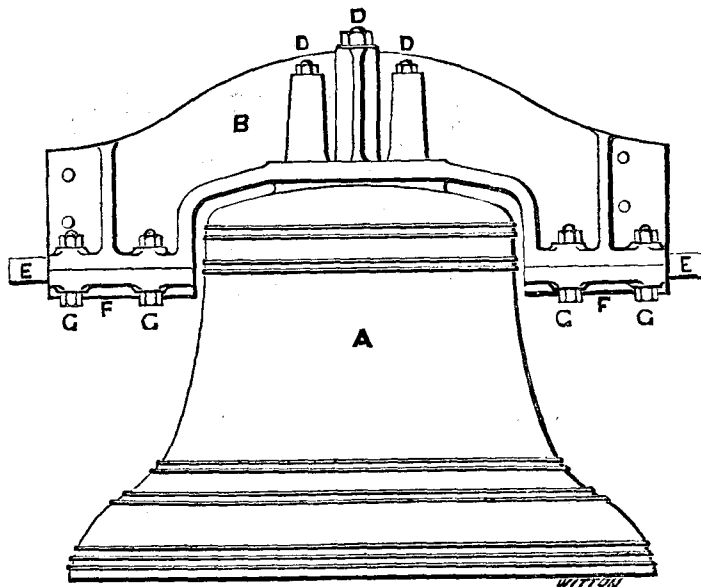


The next alteration, and which appears to hit the nail on the head, is the adoption of a metal bridge or sole which is placed between the bell and the wood stock of sufficient strength to carry the bell of itself, and to get over the difficulties which occur in the springing of the

wood stock, which is generally the case with large bells hung in wood stocks and stocked down for change ringing—to this arrangement as



well as to bell-stocks which may be formed entirely of metal; there is a provision to have the axles or gudgeons, which are turned perfectly



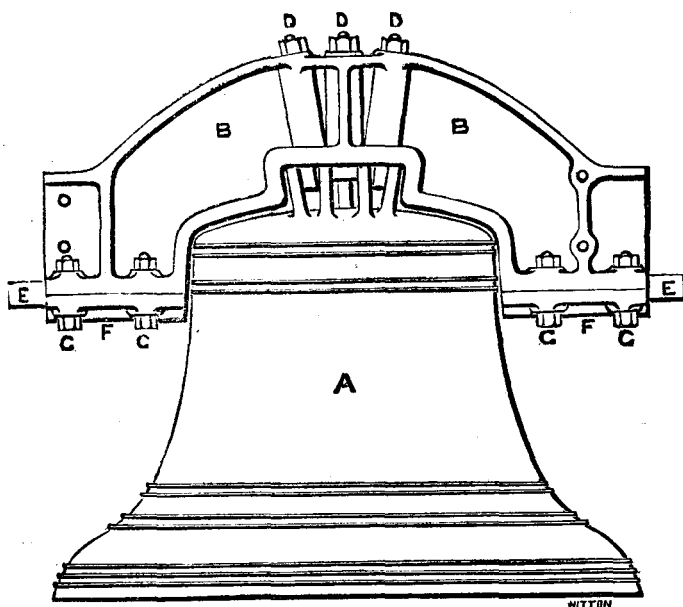
true, being placed in long bearings, which are bored perfectly accurate level and opposite to each other, so that there cannot be a twist or cant in the centres of the axles, and the bell must swing on its axles truly without the likelihood of a warp or shrinkage in the wood affecting the go in any way.

The method of retaining the gudgeons in their places so as to prevent endway play is mechanical and simple, which is another point dealt with.

Proper caps to the bearing blocks are arranged neatly, whilst the varied applications may be made to large bells with heads, or without heads, indeed either to new or existing bells, and excepting that the bearings standing upon the top of the frames which may make it a little awkward for the ringers or steeple keepers to traverse the bell

frame, there can be no doubt that the adoption of these improvements will be beneficial and appreciated.

As we have reported already, the three large bells of Tenterden are to be rehung by Messrs. Warner and Sons upon this principle.



MARSHAM, NORFOLK.—A RINGER'S GOLDEN WEDDING.

ON Wednesday, November 5th, the Aylsham and Marsham companies assembled to celebrate the golden wedding of Thomas Greenwood, an old ringer residing in Marsham. The fiftieth anniversary of his wedding day was celebrated by ringing touches of Bob Major on the tower bells and Treble Bob Major and Grandsire Caters on the handbells. It was also the 66th birthday of an old ringing neighbour, John Edridge, one of the ringers who assisted in the seven different peals on six at Marsham. Among the many peals joined in and conducted by T. Greenwood, the following are worthy of note:—

December 14th, 1837, at Marsham, a 5040 as follows: 720 London Surprise; 720 Oxford Treble Bob; 720 Cambridge Surprise; 720 Kent Treble Bob; 720 Oxford Double Bob; 720 Court Bob; 720 Stedman Slow Course. February 9th, 1838, at Aylsham, 5440 Oxford Treble Bob Major. 5088 Oxford Treble Bob Major, also rung at Aylsham. 5200 of Bob Royal rung at Aylsham. October 25th, 1845, at Marsham, 6400 Oxford Treble Bob. 5376 Bob Major rung at Marsham. 5120 Oxford Treble Bob Major rung at Elmham, Norfolk. 5088 Kent Treble Bob Major, at West Tofts, Norfolk. 5088 Oxford Treble Bob Major, at Marsham; 5024 Oxford Treble Bob Major at Marsham. 5280 Oxford Treble Bob Major at Marsham. 10,080 Oxford Treble Bob Major at Marsham, on July 13th, 1844, by the following: *T. Greenwood, T. Gooch, *C. Clements, *S. Maidstone, *T. Fox, *W. Crane, *J. Delph, T. Edridge. The fortieth anniversary of this peal was celebrated on the 14th of July last (the 13th being Sunday), by the six above named marked thus * who attended the quarterly meeting of the Norwich Diocesan Association at Reepham, and rang touches of Treble Bob Minor. February 18th, 1851, at Marsham, 5152 Double Norwich Court Bob Major. June 11th, 1851, at St. Giles's, London, 5040 Grandsire Triples. September 18th, 1860, at St. Dunstan's, London, 5040 Stedman Triples. April 1st, 1875, at St. Mary's, Lambeth, 5056 Kent Treble Bob Major.

THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

A DISTRICT MEETING of this Association was held at Epsom (by the kind permission of the vicar) on Saturday, November 22nd. About 5 o'clock there was a sufficient muster to ring Triples, and the ringing began with some Grandsire. Afterwards touches were rung in Stedman, Plain Bob, Union Triples and Bob Major. The party was made up chiefly by members from Beddington and Croydon, with the local representatives and one or two from London and Sutton. The members who were present desire to express their thanks to the vicar of Epsom for his kindness in allowing them to ring there. The meeting dissolved shortly before 9 a.m., for the purpose of catching the train.

EASTBOURNE, SUSSEX.

A very pleasing recognition of the services of a company of ringers was made on Saturday evening, the 15th inst., by John Jackson, Esq., of Wilbury Rocks, Upperton, Eastbourne, in the shape of an excellent dinner at the "Star Hotel," Old Eastbourne, to the St. Mary's company at the old town. The worthy founder of the feast presided, and said he had invited the ringers and their friends as an acknowledgement of their kindness in ringing such an excellent peal on the occasion of the marriage of his nephew, a few days previously. The peal consisted of 5040 changes of Grandsire Triples, the particulars of which were reported in our columns last week. The guests included the past and present members of the St. Mary's Society, and it is not too much to say that a more pleasant and harmonious gathering could scarcely be conceived. Some handbell ringing by two young brothers, several glees by five of the old members, and numerous songs by the guests, made up a programme which delighted all. The Rev. R. S. Woodward, curate of St. Mary's, and several leading gentlemen of the town were present, also Messrs. H. Wood and T. Rollinson, Vice-Presidents of the St. Mary's company, the last named gentleman occupying the vice-chair. Among the guests was also Mr. W. H. Fussell, of the Society of Royal Cumberland Youths, London, that gentleman being in Eastbourne on business. After a hearty vote of thanks to the chairman, the company separated a little before eleven. With such generous support and encouragement as that received at the hands of Mr. Jackson, we are sure that the art of change-ringing proper will take long strides of progress in Eastbourne.

TWELVE-BELL STEEPLES OF LONDON. ST. MARY-LE-BOW.

THROUGH the kindness of Mr. Watts and Mr. Greenleaf, I am enabled to add the inscriptions on Bow bells to the particulars I have already given concerning them. They are as follows:—

Treble and 2nd.—"Cast and hung by Mears and Stainback, Oct. 1881, Marshall H. Vine, Rector; James Hughes, William Tegg, C. H. Bowden, F. T. Tyars, Jonathan Crocker, Churchwardens."

3rd.—"Lester and Pack of London, fecit, Wm. Gibson and Jas. Pierrepont, Ch: Wardens, 1762."

4th, 5th, 6th, 7th, 8th, and 9th.—The same as on the 3rd, with different variations in the way of ornaments and impressions of coins.

10th.—"Rt. Revd. Dr. Thos. Newton, Rector; Wm. Gibson and Jas. Pierrepont, Churchwardens of Bow; Thos. and Jno. Stevenson, Ch: Wardens of St. Pancras, *Lester and Pack of London, Fecit, 1762. o."

11th.—"Lester and Pack of London, fecit, 1762. William Gibson and Jas. Pierrepont Ch: Wardens of Bow o o o o o o o o (a crown) Samuel Blackwell, Esq. gave £50 0 0 (arms of S. Blackwell)."

Tenor.—"Samuel Lisle, D.D. rector, Robert Green, Wm. Cannell, Thos. Paris, Jno. Waldron, Jno. Rainford, Churchwardens, BOW BELL, 1669. Recast 1738, Richard Phelps and Thos. Lester, Londini, fecit, (seven fleur de lis and ten coins)." Cut in the bell is the weight—"53 cwt. 0 qrs. 22 lbs."

Other particulars of these bells I gave before.

J. R. JERRAM.

REOPENING OF THE BELLS OF ST. BARTHOLOMEW, BOBBING, KENT.

Messrs. Warner and Sons have now completed the rehanging and general restoration of this sweet peal of six, and at the invitation of the vicar, the Rev. E. W. Carpenter, some members of the Sittingbourne St. Michael's society attended on Friday, November 21st, and opened the bells with a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor, in 24 mins. F. C. Mattison (conductor), 1; W. G. Gordelier, 2; E. J. Bottle, 3; J. Cooper, 4; S. Snelling, 5; W. H. Judd, 6. Tenor 9 cwt. Several touches of Plain Bob and Grandsire Minor were also rung, Messrs. F. Grayling and Jos. Greenstead participating. The Vicar and local ringers also rung some rounds. The work of Messrs. Warner here appears to be very satisfactory. A great improvement has been effected by the institution of iron sally beams.

THE REV. N. BOLINGBROKE—We regret to hear that this gentleman, who is the esteemed Secretary of the Norwich Diocesan Association, is ill, and by the advice of his physician has left Norwich for a time for the benefit of his health. The members of the Association greatly deplore his enforced absence, and they earnestly hope to hear of his speedy recovery, a hope in which we heartily participate.

We are requested by Mr. F. E. Dawe to state that the peal of 5079 Stedman Caters, rung by the College Youths, at St. Clement Danes, Strand, on the 10th inst., is the composition of Mr. H. Johnson, sen., of Birmingham, and not that of Mr. H. W. Haley.

"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.

Everything for insertion in this Journal to be addressed "The Editor of THE BELL NEWS, Walthamstow, London." Letters forwarded for publication, and performances under 5000 changes must reach us not later than Wednesday morning; and the insertion of any communication coming later than the first Postal delivery on Thursday morning cannot be guaranteed in that week's number. When it is found impossible from want of space to insert all touches forwarded, the earlier ones will have the preference.

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

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 dozen of cards, with a copy of the record of a peal, as it appears in our pages, sent post free on receipt of twenty-six halfpenny stamps.

The Bell News & Ringers' Record.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 29, 1884.

IN our issue of the 22nd of July, 1882, we remarked that it was one of the "primary objects of this journal to publish, not only records of peals and accounts of ringers' meetings, but any improvements—or alleged improvements—in bellfounding and bellhanging" which may be brought under our notice. Of the value of such changes it is of course for the Exercise to speak. We are only acting as the medium for announcing such improvements when they are brought into prominent notice. Every invention which is said to render the easy working of bells—especially large ones—is certainly worthy of notice in our columns, and when one of the principal firms undertake to patent an invention which is specially designed for this purpose, surely it is our bounden duty to give to our readers an idea of what such an invention may be.

A description of the invention of Mr. S. B. GOSLIN, intended for the better hanging of large bells, will be found upon another page. We have been relieved of the duty of personally examining the models of this patent by a gentleman who understands such matters better than ourselves, and who has written the brief description of it. But as we were of opinion that some kind of illustration should attend this explanation, we communicated with the patentee, with the result that he has kindly caused the accompanying engravings to be prepared specially for publication in "THE BELL NEWS."

Whoever attempts any radical change in the arts of bellfounding or bellhanging should possess the spirit and perseverance to overcome well-established prejudices. Unfortunately, in the case of inventions of any kind, there are to be found those who ridicule the least departure from plans and customs which have nothing but age to recommend them. This, however, should never be the case with the ringing community or those who are interested in bells. Every alleged improvement should not be pooh-poohed and set aside as valueless, but its merits should be sought for, and if the least shadow of good is obtained by its adoption, commendation should follow.

As long as wood maintains its position as the material on which to hang bells, we are afraid that atmospheric

influences must at times affect the "go" of them. If by such an invention as Mr. GOSLIN's the evil can be removed, we shall hail its appearance with uncommon satisfaction. The letters of reference on the illustrations seem to require some explanation, which the description does not appear to give. Perhaps we shall be favoured—for the special behoof of our readers—with an interpretation of them by the patentee himself.

The Metropolis.

SOUTHGATE, MIDDLESEX.

THE SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.

On Thursday, November 20, 1884, in Three Hours and Fifteen Minutes,

AT CHRIST CHURCH,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

BROOK'S VARIATION. Tenor 24 cwt.

GEORGE NEWSON Treble.	GEORGE GRICE 5.
BENJAMIN FOSKETT* 2.	† ERNEST PITSTOW 6.
THOMAS TITCHENER 3.	FREDERICK PITSTOW 7.
JAMES HANNINGTON 4.	EDWARD CHAPMAN Tenor.

Conducted by GEORGE NEWSON.

The Brothers Pitstow hail from Saffron Walden. *First peal with a bob bell in any method. †First peal in the method.

THE ST. MARY'S SOCIETY, OLD BATTERSEA, SURREY.

On Tuesday, November 25, 1884, in Two Hours and Fifty-six Minutes,

AT ST. MARY'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLTS' TEN-PART.

A. J. BENNETT* Treble.	J. W. MANSFIELD 5.
A. G. THOMAS 2.	H. S. THOMAS 6.
W. COPPAGE 3.	W. BARON 7.
C. E. MALIM 4.	W. AMBROSE Tenor.

Conducted by W. BARON.

*First Peal.

The Provinces.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

STOCKTON-ON-TEES.

On Wednesday, November 19, 1884, in Three Hours and Twelve Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

5040 CHANGES: IN SEVEN DIFFERENT METHODS ON SIX BELLS;

Being a 720 of each of the following:—

York Surprise; Durham Surprise; Evening Exercise; Violet; Woodbine; Kent and Oxford Treble Bob.

Tenor 12 cwt.

G. J. CLARKSON Treble.	† W. STEPHENSON 4.
T. BURDON 2.	T. STEPHENSON 5.
H. E. T. GLOVER* 3.	W. NEWTON Tenor.

Conducted by G. J. CLARKSON.

*First 5040 of Minor. †First peal.

The above contained sixty-three bobs; the tenor being the observation bell throughout.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—GREAT MARLOW, BUCKS.

On Thursday, November 20, 1884, in Three Hours and Two Minutes,

AT ALL SAINTS' CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor 15 cwt.

JOHN C. TRUSS* Treble.	ROBT. SMITH 5.
JAS. W. WILKINS 2.	WM. A. GARRAWAY 6.
GEO. WILKINS, JUN. 3.	EDWIN ROGERS 7.
REUBEN FLAXMAN 4.	EDWARD KEELEY Tenor.

Conducted by W. A. GARRAWAY.

All the above are members of the Ancient Society of College Youths except Geo. Wilkins. *First peal away from the tenor.

THE ST. MARTIN'S COMPANY.—BIRMINGHAM.

On Friday, November 21, 1884, in Three Hours and Twenty-five Minutes,

At St. John's, DERITEND,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5280 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION.

AMOS CRESSOR	Treble.	WILLIAM ROCK SMALL .. .	5.
JOB JOYNES	2.	SAMUEL REEVES	6.
CHAS. HENRY HATTERSLEY ..	3.	FRANK JAMES	7.
WILLIAM KENT	4.	ALFRED THOMAS	Tenor.

Composed and conducted by CHARLES HENRY HATTERSLEY.

C. H. Hattersley hails from Sheffield.

LEESFIELD, LEES, LANCASHIRE.

Muffled Peal.

On Saturday, November 22, 1884, in Two Hours and Fifty-nine Minutes,

At THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

CARTER'S 10-PART BOB-AND-SINGLE.

FRED CROSLAND	Treble.	JAMES BAILEY	5.
JAMES PRIESTLEY	2.	SAMUEL STOTT	6.
ED. B. SHAW	3.	JOHN HILTON	7.
THOS. EGERTON	4.	JOSHUA PLATT	Tenor.

Conducted by SAMUEL STOTT.

The above was rung with the bells deeply muffled in memoriam of the late Mrs. Evans, wife of the Rev. Alfred Evans, vicar of Bidford, Warwickshire, the only daughter of the Rev. Canon Whittaker, vicar of Leesfield.

THE BIRMINGHAM AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATION.

HARBORNE, STAFFORDSHIRE.

On Saturday, November 22, 1884, in Two Hours and Fifty-four Minutes,

At THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor 12 cwt.

EDWARD J. CASHMORE	Treble.	JOHN BENN	5.
THOMAS RUSSAM	2.	JOHN CARTER	6.
THOMAS HORTON	3.	ALFRED HACKLEY	7.
WILLIAM ELESMORE	4.	WILLIAM PERKINS	Tenor.

Composed by SOLOMON BIDDLESTONE, and conducted by

JOHN CARTER.

Messrs. Cashmore, Horton, Elesmore and Perkins hail from West Bromwich; Benn from Erdington; the rest from Birmingham.

THE REIGATE SOCIETY.—REIGATE, SURREY.

On Saturday, November 22, 1884, in Three Hours and Six Minutes,

At THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S 6-PART. Tenor 20 cwt.

EDWARD DEWEY*	Treble.	WILLIAM WEBB	5.
FRANCIS T. HOAD	2.	WILLIAM ARGENT	6.
WILLIAM BONE	3.	EDGAR KENWARD	7.
THOMAS FULLER	4.	J. HOWARD & J. STEDMAN ..	Tenor.

Conducted by FRANCIS T. HOAD.

*First peal.

This peal was rung to celebrate the 100th anniversary of the opening of the bells.

IPSWICH, SUFFOLK.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS AND THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Tuesday, November 25, 1884, in Three Hours and Forty-six Minutes,

At THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY-LE-TOWER,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAXIMUS, 5088 CHANGES;

IN THE OXFORD VARIATION. Tenor 32 cwt.

JAMES MOTTS	Treble.	WILLIAM L. CATCHPOLE ..	7.
WILLIAM MOTTS	2.	HENRY BOWELL	8.
CHARLES SAUL	3.	ARTHUR ALDHAM	9.
CHARLES MEE	4.	SAMUEL TILLET	10.
ISAAC S. ALEXANDER	5.	EDWARD REEVE	11.
EDGAR PEMBERTON	6.	ROBERT H. BRUNDELL ..	Tenor.

Composed by C. MIDDLETON and conducted by J. MOTTS.

This peal is now rung for the first time, and is the first of Oxford Tittum twelve-in-every rung.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—HULL.

Birthday Peal.

On Tuesday, November 25, 1884, in Two Hours and Fifty-six Minutes,

At HOLY TRINITY CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor 25 cwt.

SAML. SLINGSBY	Treble.	ROBT. CHAFFER	5.
CHAS. JACKSON	2.	TOM STOCKDALE	6.
J. W. STICKNEY	3.	CHAS. BENNETT	7.
HENRY JENKINS	4.	FREDK. MERRISON	Tenor.

Composed by the Rev. CHAS. D. P. DAVIES, and conducted by CHARLES JACKSON (steeplekeeper).

This peal which will be found (No. 2) on p. 521 of "THE BELL NEWS," was rung to celebrate the 35th birthday of the conductor, and is now rung for the first time.

EASTBOURNE, SUSSEX.

On Tuesday, November 25, 1884, in Two Hours and Fifty-six Minutes,

At ST. MARY'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

REEVES'S VARIATION. Tenor 16½ cwt.

S. HART*	Treble.	F. HARDING	5.
H. P. BENNETT	2.	JAMES POTTER	6.
THOS. HUNNISETT	3.	THOS. HART	7.
LEONARD HUGGETT	4.	*JOHN ROLLISON	Tenor.

Conducted by LEONARD HUGGETT.

*First peal.

Date Touch.

PRESTON (Suffolk).—On Wednesday evening, November 19th, was rung on the bells of St. Mary's Church, the date of the present year 1884 changes, of Bob Minor, in 1 hr. 15 mins. H. Symonds (conductor), 1; Wm. Hollocks, 2; A. Hollocks, 3; Jas. Levitt, 4; Wm. Snell, 5; A. Symonds, 6. And on the same evening was rung on the handbells two courses of Bob Major. Wm. Green, 1-2; *A. Hollocks, 3; Jas. Levitt, 4; H. Symonds, 5; Wm. Snell, 6; A. Symonds, 7-8. *First in the method.

Miscellaneous.

THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

ASPLEY GUISE.—On Saturday afternoon, November 15th, by the kind invitation of the Rev. J. C. Maltby, rector of Aspley Guise, a 720 of Grandsire Triples, with thirty-eight bobs and twenty-two singles, in 25 mins. F. Keech, 1; C. W. Clarke, 2; S. Cullip, 3; J. Atkins, 4; I. Hills, 5; W. Biggs (conductor), 6. And a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob Minor, with nine bobs. J. C. Cook (Aspley Guise; first 720 in the method), 1; W. Chibnall (Aspley Guise), 2; J. Atkins (Bedford), 3; W. Biggs (Bedford), 4; I. Hills (Bedford), 5; C. W. Clarke (Bedford; conductor), 6. The above is the first 720 in the method on the bells. And a 720 of Plain Bob Minor with eighteen bobs and two singles. S. Cullip (Bedford), 1; Chas. Herbert (Woburn), 2; C. W. Clarke, 3; Rev. J. C. Maltby (Rector of Aspley Guise), 4; W. Biggs (conductor), 5; I. Hills, 6. And a 720 of Oxford Bob Minor, with eighteen bobs and two singles. J. C. Cooke, 1; S. Cullip (first 720 in the method), 2; J. Atkins, 3; C. W. Clarke, 4; I. Hills, 5; W. Biggs (conductor), 6. The rector very kindly entertained the strangers afterwards to a tea at the rectory, an exceedingly pleasant afternoon's practice being had. Arrangements had been made for a meeting of practising members at Husbome Crawley, but in consequence of a funeral having taken place the rector desired the ringers to forego the ringing.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

FRITTENDEN (Kent).—On Sunday, November 16th, for evening service, a 720 of Bob Minor, with nine bobs and six singles, in 26 mins. and after service another 720 with sixteen bobs and two singles. Edgar Taylor, 1; George Rootes, 2; Edmund Potter (Dover), 3; James Potter (Reading), 4; Thomas Potter, 5; Thomas Daynes (conductor), 6; Walter Rofe, 7.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

SOUTHPORT.—On Monday, November 17th, at Christ Church, an attempt was made to ring Shipway's variation of Holt's ten-part peal of

Grandsire Triples, which unfortunately came to grief when only within three leads of the finish, by two bells changing course; time 2 hrs. 35 mins. F. Blundell, 1; C. F. Heywood, 2; A. Fielding, 3; J. H. Heywood, 4; H. Spencer, 5; D. Rimmer, 6; G. R. Heywood, 7; J. Harrison, 8. Conducted by C. F. Heywood.

CHURCH KIRK (Lancashire).—On Sunday, November 23rd, the local branch of the above association rang for evening service a 720 of College Single, with eighteen bobs and two singles, in 27 mins. James Horrocks, (conductor), 1; Thomas Doran, 2; Henry Hayes, 3; James Pickles, 4; William Pattinson, 5; Thomas Horrocks, 6. Tenor 15 cwt.

THE OXFORD UNIVERSITY SOCIETY AND THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

DRAYTON (Berks).—On Saturday, November 22nd, four members of the Oxford Diocesan Guild, and four of the Oxford University Society, attempted at the parish church Holt's Original 5040 of Grandsire Triples, but after ringing about two hours owing to some reason the third and fourth bells shifted and the bells came round at hand. John Brown, 1; J. R. Vincent, Esq. (St. John's), 2; A. F. M. Custance, Esq., B.N.C., 3; H. Holifield, 4; R. F. Scott, Esq. (St. Mary Hall), 5; C. W. H. Griffith, Esq. (C.C.C.), 6; W. Washbrook (conductor), 7; P. C. James Smith, 8. Later in the evening at St. Nicholas' church, Abingdon, a 720 of Grandsire Minor. A. F. M. Custance, Esq. (B.N.C.), 1; H. Holifield, 2; W. Washbrook (conductor), 3; J. R. Vincent, Esq. (St. John's), 4; C. W. H. Griffith, Esq. (C.C.C.), 5; R. F. Scott, Esq. (St. Mary Hall), 8. *Members of the Ancient Society of College Youths.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

BURFORD (Oxon).—On Sunday evening, November 23rd, the following members of the Burford company, who are also members of the above guild, rang for Divine Service a 720 of Grandsire Minor, with the tenor behind, in 26 mins. H. Smith, 1; J. Smith, 2; T. E. Glanville (conductor), 3; H. Bond, 4; W. Large, 5; D. Francis, 6; W. Launchbury, 7.

CAVERSHAM (Oxon).—On Sunday, November 23rd, six members of the St. Peter's society, being also members of the above Guild, rang a 720 of Oxford Bob Minor in 27 mins. J. Butler, 1; E. Pottinger, 2; E. Menday, 3; G. Essex, 4; Rev. G. F. Coleridge, 5; T. Newman (conductor), 6. *First 720 of Oxford Bob.

THE SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.

BATTERSEA (Surrey).—On Saturday, November 22nd, eight members of the above attempted a peal of Stedman Triples at St. Mary's Church, but after ringing 2 hrs. 50 mins. a shift-course occurred within a few sixes of coming round. G. Newton (conductor), 1; W. H. Fussell, 2; E. F. Cole, 3; C. T. Hopkins, 4; T. Taylor, 5; W. Baron, 6; E. Pitow, 7; J. Mansfield, 8.

LONG MELFORD (Suffolk).—On Saturday evening, November 22nd, at Holy Trinity church, 1008 Bob Major, in 43 mins. James Bird, 1; P. Bixby, 2; Geo. Hammond, 3; Zachariah Slater, 4; Oliver Garwood, 5; Percy Scott, 6; John Slater, 7; Samuel Slater (conductor), 8. Tenor 16½ cwt.

STOKE-UPON-TRENT ARCHIDIACONAL ASSOCIATION.

NORTON (Staffordshire).—*Muffled Peal.*—On Saturday, November 15th, a 720 of Grandsire Minor, in 31 mins. W. Holdcroft, 1; E. Glover, 2; J. Morton, 3; J. Wood, 4; G. Walker, 5; J. Baddeley (conductor), 6. And on Sunday, November 16th, for evening service, a 720 of Bob Minor, in 28 mins., standing as above, with J. W. Brough on the 4th.

THE SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.

TROWBRIDGE (Wilts).—On Sunday, November 16th, at St. James's, a 504 of Grandsire Triples. W. Alley, 1; C. A. Clements, 2; W. W. Gifford, 3; J. Hayward, 4; W. McCaffery, 5; T. Blackbourne, 6; J. R. Jerram, 7; J. Cooper, 8. Previously 1960 changes were started for by the same band, but the touch unfortunately came to grief after ringing about 1600 changes.

THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

KINGSTON (Surrey).—On Sunday, November 9th, being the Prince of Wales' birthday, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, 1260 changes, containing the twelve 7's and the twelve 6's, in 45 mins. G. Naish, 1; A. Challis, 2; Jas. Parslow, 3; Hy. Parslow, 4; Chas. Slade, 5; Geo. Gray, 6; Jno. Wright (composer and conductor), 7; E. Milton, 8. And on Monday, November 10th, on the election of C. Nuthall, Esq., as Mayor of the Borough, 821 changes of Grandsire Triples, taken from Holt's Original, in 30 mins. W. Phillips, 1; A. Challis, 2; J. Parslow, 3; Hy. Parslow, 4; C. Slade, 5; Jas. Strutt (conductor), 6;

G. Gray, 7; Jno. Wright, 8. And in the evening the same touch was rung. G. Naish, 1; A. Challis, 2; C. Slade, 3; H. Parslow, 4; J. Parslow, 5; J. Strutt (conductor), 6; G. Gray, 7; E. Milton, 8. And on Sunday, November 16th, 952 changes of Grandsire Triples, taken from Holt's Original, in 34 mins. G. Naish, 2; A. Challis, 2; J. Parslow, 3; Hy. Parslow, 4; C. Slade, 5; J. Strutt (conductor), 6; G. Gray, 7; J. Wright, 8. Tenor 33 cwt.

THE WEST MIDDLESEX ASSOCIATION.

SLOUGH (Bucks).—On Saturday, November 15th, at St. Mary's, a 720 of Grandsire Minor, in 23 mins. W. Baron, 1; A. Garraway, 2; A. Andrews, 3; W. Wilder, 4; E. Rogers, 5; R. Flaxman (conductor), 6. Tenor 9½ cwt.

THE WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

WALTON-ON-THAMES.—On Wednesday, November 19th, on the occasion of the marriage of J. S. Sassoon, Esq., of Ashley Park, eight members of this Guild started for a peal of Grandsire Triples, but when 3584 changes had been rung the 2nd rope unfortunately slipped wheel, and the attempt had to be abandoned. The striking up to this point was all that could be wished, the half-way single coming up at exactly a hour and a half from the start, the go of the tenor, which had on two previous occasions ruined a peal, was excellent. G. H. Barnett, 1; W. High, 2; J. Hewett, 3; F. Hill, 4; W. Marks, 5; G. Williams, 6; S. Brooker (conductor), 7; G. Riddle, 8. Tenor 25 cwt. in E. G. Barnett hails from Farnham, W. High and G. Riddle from Godalming, F. Hill and G. Williams from Fareham, J. Hewett from Gosport, and S. Brooker and W. Marks from Leatherhead.

BRISTOL.—*Muffled Peal.*—On Monday, the 24th inst., the Ancient St. James's Society rang a muffled peal of Grandsire Triples on the bells of St. Thomas church, in token of respect to the memory of the late Mr. George Stockham, of London.

BIRMINGHAM.—On Monday, November 24th, at St. Phillip's church, a 720 of Grandsire Minor, on the back six, with thirty-four bobs and two singles, in 30 mins. J. Payne, 1; A. Cresser, 2; C. Carmell, 3; R. Hackley, 4; C. Barnicle, 5; T. Miller (conductor), 6. Tenor 29 cwt. in D.

BRAMFORD (Suffolk).—On Saturday evening, November 22nd, at St. Mary's church, a 720 of Plain Bob Minor, in 28 mins. A. Pryke (first 720), 1; C. Mee (conductor), 2; W. Mee (first 720), 3; F. Tillett, 4; F. Mee, 5; A. Aldham, 6. Also a 720 in 27 mins. C. Smith (first 720), 1; C. Mee (conductor), 2; W. Mee, 3; A. Aldham, 4; F. Mee, 5; F. Tillett, 6.

CASTLE DONNINGTON (Leicestershire).—On Saturday, November 22nd, the local company rang for practice six 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles, each called differently. W. Fowkes, 1; E. Lees, 2; J. Hutchby, 3; J. Fowkes, 4; V. Hickenbottom, 5; J. Clarke, 6. Tenor 17½ cwt.

CAPEL (Surrey).—On Friday, November 21st, the local company rang a 720 of College Pleasure, in 24½ mins. M. Jenkins, 1; A. Tidy, 2; A. Mills, 3; R. Worsfold, 4; E. Jordan, 5; D. Jordan, 6. And 120 of Oxford Treble Bob, with *G. More, 1. Also 120 of Oxford Bob with *T. Stedman, 1. Conducted by D. Jordan. *First in the method. Also on Sunday, November 23rd, for afternoon service, a 360 of Oxford Bob. G. Moore, 1; A. Tidy, 2; A. Mills, 4; R. Worsfold, 4; E. Jordan, 5; D. Jordan (conductor), 6. After service two 720's of Oxford Bob. F. Garman, 1; A. Mills, 2; G. Moore, 3; W. Short, 4; — Cook, 5; D. Jordan (conductor), 6. Also 720 of Kent Treble Bob. — Cook, 1; A. Tidy, 2; R. Worsfold, 3; W. Short, 4; M. Jenkins, 5; E. Jordan (conductor), 6. Also 720 of College Pleasure. R. Worsfold, 1; A. Tidy, 2; A. Mills, 3; M. Jenkins, 4; E. Jordan, 5; D. Jordan (conductor), 6. Messrs. Garman, Short, and Cook hail from Warnham.

DEERHURST (Gloucestershire).—On Sunday, November 23rd, this society rang for Divine Service in the morning a 720 of Bob Minor, eighteen bobs and eighteen singles, in 26 mins. T. Everness, 1; C. Willis, 2; H. Roberts, 3; C. Roles, 4; G. Willis, J. Bartlett (conductor), 6.

LYTHAM (Lancashire).—On Sunday, November 23rd, for Divine Service in the evening at St. John's church, a 720 of Bob Minor, with fourteen bobs and two singles, in 24 mins. James Miller, 1; Jno. Salthouse, 2; Jno. Fell (conductor), 3; C. H. Kerr, 4; Wm. Gregson, 5; Robert Whiteside, 6. Tenor 10½ cwt. The above was rung to commemorate the 24th birthday of the conductor.

NETHERTON (Worcestershire).—On Sunday morning, November 23rd, at 8 o'clock, at St. Andrew's church, four of the local company, with two from Ocker Hill, rang a 720 of Grandsire Minor, in 26 mins. J. Townsend, 1; G. Hughes, 2; S. Jesson, 3; J. Robinson, 4; J. Prestidge, 5; J. Smith, 6. Also for Divine Service at 11 o'clock a

720 of Plain Bob Minor, in 27 mins. T. Felton (first 720), 1; R. Round, 2; J. Townsend, 3; J. Robinson, 4; J. Prestidge, 5; J. Smith, 6. And for Divine Service in the evening, a 720 of Plain Bob Minor, in 26 mins. B. Townsend, 1; R. Round, 2; J. Townsend, 3; J. Robinson, 4; J. Prestidge, 5; J. Smith, 6. Also a 360 of Grandsire Minor, in 13½ mins. T. Felton, 1; B. Townsend, 2; R. Round, 3; J. Robinson, 4; J. Smith, 5; J. Prestidge, 6. The whole was conducted by J. Smith. The above are all members of the Worcester Diocesan Association except G. Hughes (who has only one arm), and J. Jesson, who are members of the Staffordshire Association.

READING (Berks).—On Tuesday, November 25th, at St. Laurence's, for practice, a 560 of Bob Major in 24 mins. W. H. Holloway, 1; E. Bishop, 2; W. R. Pocock, 3; W. Johnson, 4; W. Newell, 5; W. Goseltine, 6; W. J. Williams (conductor), 7; J. E. Willshire, 8.

SWANSCOMBE (Kent).—On Saturday, November 22nd, at SS. Peter and Paul, a 720 of Bob Minor. G. Hayes, 1; H. Weekes, 2; F. Hayes, 3; R. Jordan, 4; B. Spinner, 5; W. Harper (conductor), 6. Composed by J. Francis, of Diss. Tenor about 16 cwt.

TIBENHAM (Norfolk).—On Saturday, November 8th, a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob, with fifteen bobs, in 27 mins. G. Manser (conductor) 1; T. Wick, 2; J. Coleman, 3; J. Jackson, 4; E. Coleman, 5; E. Websdale, 6. And on Friday, November 21st, a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob, and a 240 of Kent Treble Bob. G. Manser (conductor), 1; T. Wick, 2; G. Manser, jun., 3; R. Nudds (Banham), 4; W. Nudds (Banham), 5; E. Websdale, 6. Also on Saturday, November 22nd, a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob with nine bobs. G. Manser (conductor), 1; T. Wick, 2; G. Manser, jun., 3; J. Jackson, 4; E. Coleman, 5; E. Websdale, 6. Tenor 20 cwt.

WALPOLE (Norfolk).—On Thursday, November 20th, at St. Peter's church, a 720 of Bob Minor, with twenty-one bobs and twelve singles, in 28 mins. John Hendry, 1; W. Day, 2; Hy. Hill, 3; Hy. Allen, 4; Dr. Seccombe, 5; Rd. Grimes (conductor), 6. Tenor 14 cwt.

WILLESDEN (Middlesex).—On Thursday evening, November 20th, at St. Mary's church, for practice, a 720 of Bob Minor, with sixteen bobs and two singles, in 24 mins. T. Scarlett, 1; A. Tennant, 2; J. Jackman, 3; A. Pittam, 4; M. Murphy, 5; F. Weare (conductor), 6.

WORTH (Sussex).—On Saturday evening, November 22nd, the local company rung on the occasion of the birthday of the two youngest daughters of the Rev. G. W. Banks (rector), a 720 of Oxford Bob Minor, called with forty bobs and two singles. W. Owden, 1; W. Denman, 2; F. Streeter, 3; B. Payne, 4; G. Illman, 5; E. Streeter (conductor), 6. Also a 720 of Plain Bob called with forty-two singles. W. Owden, 1; W. Denman, 2; J. Tullett, 3; E. Streeter, 4; G. Illman, 5; F. Rice (conductor), 6. And a 360 of College Single. T. Illman, 1; B. Payne, 2; F. Streeter, 3; F. Rice, 4; G. Illman, 5; E. Streeter (conductor), 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."

ANCIENT BELLS.

SIR,—In your present issue a correspondent mentions a bell at East Ilsley, Berks, said to be dated 1012, and suggests that the 0 is probably a badly made 6. If this bell really bears the figures 1012, it is perfectly certain that it is a mistake, as Arabic numerals did not come into use till centuries later. So far as I know there is no pre-Reformation bell dated in Arabic numerals of the present type. I shall be very glad if any of your correspondents can tell me of any. The only pre-Reformation founders (within my knowledge) who used Arabic numerals of any kind were John and Stephen Tonni, and their figures were of the mediæval foreign type, for instance, 1508 was expressed by the four letters of the black letter alphabet *ihos* (i.h.o.s.) Perhaps Mr. Rogers or some other gentleman can send the exact inscription on the East Ilsley bell.

EDWARD J. WELLS.

Wandsworth Common, St. Cecilia's Day.

LONDON BELLS AND RINGERS.

SIR,—The short article under the above heading which appeared in the last issue of your valuable paper, will no doubt be read with great interest and perhaps surprise by many of the Exercise. The twelve-bell churches were mentioned, and the writer is no doubt quite right in complaining of the apathy that prevails there. Now there are three ten-bell churches that I should like to say a few words about. The first is St. Barnabas, Pimlico, a nice light ring with a good ringing-chamber; just the place where one would think a lot of change-ringing would be done. But the very opposite is the case; not only has no peal been rung for many years, but no change-ringing whatever. The next steeple is St. Luke's, Chelsea, but that is a little

better off, one peal was rung there a little while ago, though not by the ringers connected with the church, as it was only a simple peal of Treble ten in, while they in 1878 were masters of Grindstone Court Bob, and no doubt have by this time learnt Tombstone Surprise. Still they were an affable set of men, and readily promised a pull the next meeting night, and carefully mentioned the "house" that they "used." The last steeple is Kensington parish church. This is a recent addition to the steeples of the Metropolis, as the bells were opened December 31st, 1879. One peal has been rung since then, and this is all the change-ringing that has been reported from there. Everything about the place was of the very best, the ringing-chamber is one of the finest in London, and the bells are a splendid ring, the only drawback being that the 9th and tenor go rather heavily. Soon after the opening a well known ringer said in my hearing, "that there would be a lot of peals rung there when they got used a little more." His words have not come true yet. Now Sir, I dare say there are several churches in other parts of London similar to the above, but I have mentioned them in particular, because comparatively speaking, they are in the same district and not far from each other. Lastly I hope that this winter will see a few peals rung at the churches mentioned, or else know what it is that prevents their being accomplished.

MAN OF KENT.

INFORMATION WANTED.

SIR,—Will any of your readers kindly give their opinion as to the weight of a bell of following dimensions:—Diameter 54½ inches; height (lip to crown), 44 inches; six heavy thick cannons (about 3 inches square, considerably ornamented), about 1 foot high; thickness at sound-bow, 4½ inches; note Eb; date 1624; cast by Watts of Leicester; and oblige,

ENQUIRER.

In Memoriam.

WILLIAM HERBERT MOORE.

ON Monday, November 17th, muffled touches were rung upon the bells at the old tower, Woburn, Beds., as a mark of deep respect to the memory of the late William Herbert, the youngest son of Mr. John Dyball Moore, of Oulton, who died on his passage from Durban to Australia, in the 27th year of his age. The deceased came to Woburn a few years ago, when he joined the company of ringers there, who had determined upon the introduction of half-pull ringing and other belfry reform. There were at the time many difficulties in the way, which have been generally surmounted. During Mr. Herbert Moore's residence at Woburn, he won the personal friendship and respect of the whole of the inhabitants of the town, and many will remember with satisfaction how faithfully and zealously he laboured with others in bringing about a better state of things in the belfry. His early death has been much lamented by those who personally knew him, and on the above date the local band of ringers descended the tower, after ringing the sad unearthly peals, sorrowing that they would see his once familiar face again no more. The Rev. J. C. Maltby, the Rector of Aspley Guise, and several of the Aspley Guise company took part in the ringing.

JOSEPH BICKERTON.

It is again our painful duty to record the death, on the 11th instant, at the age of 72, of another old and respected ringer, whose popularity extended far beyond the sphere in which he was located. Joseph Bickerton belonged to the city of Coventry, and was one of the best ringers of the St. Michael's Society there 25 years ago, generally being found at the heavy end of peals achieved by the company, on one occasion ringing the tenor to a 5000 of Grandsire Royal. Though occupied we believe in one of the staple trades for which Coventry is noted, he possessed a mechanical turn of mind, and was able to hang a church bell. His successful "doctoring" of St. Michael's tenor when others had failed is within the recollection of many of the local ringers. About the year 1860 he received the appointment of principal vergor at the collegiate church of St. Mary, Warwick. At this church is a peal of ten, hung the reverse way. His attempts to organise a band here were not successful, the persons whom he endeavoured to train being very lukewarm in the matter, and perhaps too obtuse to comprehend even the elementary principles of the science. To the formation and starting of a band at the neighbouring town of Leamington he rendered great assistance, attending the weekly meeting regularly at that town, no matter at what inconvenience. Mr. Bickerton was very popular in Warwick, and visitors to St. Mary's recognise his urbanity and gentlemanly conduct when being conducted by him over the stately edifice. He was a most cheerful companion, and of a very agreeable, and sometimes jocund disposition, and had the happy knack of reconciling differences between ringers. We who knew him cannot help recalling the many pleasant hours enjoyed together. His decease causes the county town of Warwick to be totally without a representative of the Exercise.

THREE CINQUE PORTS.

DOVER.—This is the only one of the five that maintains a modern existence in anything like nineteenth century notions of quays and railway arrangements. Few places have such an assemblage of antiquities in a comparatively small area, although, like all sea side places, steps present themselves at every turning. Of the ancient churches some have passed entirely away, while in the case of the church in the castle, after remaining a century and a half roofless, has been again re-used; an account of this structure has appeared in "THE BELL NEWS." St. James's parish has both an old and new church, and until a few years ago possessed a ring of six bells, which in some way were exchanged for six of steel. In the new church, on a late occasion, I was unable to get up and see what condition these were in, and how much rust could be picked up. In passing the edifice, however, it was observed that all the belfry windows were boarded in, sound alone escaping by the spire lights; when we reflect what driving mists are by the sea, the wonder is any bells are left at all. St. Mary's in the town, is an ancient church, much altered; its low Norman tower is however untouched, the external stone much decayed; its internal arch opening into the church greatly dislocated: in the upper part is a fine ring of eight, entirely disused, except clapping rounds for the services. An internal staircase seemed to have fallen in. One version of no ringing here is, that the tower is unsafe; another says, that being so situated in the street, the bells would create a nuisance. However this may be, surely an occasional quarter-peal by picked men would be a treat to a great many. Not feeling disposed to look like a chimney sweep, investigations made a year ago as to weight, etc., were cut short, and on the Sunday of our visit we were not admitted above. The church is everywhere else a model of cleanliness, the services being also carefully studied.

HASTINGS.—Travelling from one part to another by land involves any number of "stands," and in a narrow "compass" of time at each we endeavoured to look about. The Romney Marsh district—called also "The Fifth Continent of Europe"—has to be traversed. We could give a long account of the creation, and maintenance from the sea, of this huge level, but such would be out of place here; suffice it to say that every mile or two presents to the view something unique in towers and churches. The vastness, generally, of the latter, is surprising. Brooklands is a place we have longed looked forward to visiting for the sake of its wooden detached campanile and ring of bells. On arriving we found nearly all the men of the place well employed in pitching the external weather-boards of this singular triple spire on the ground—for such it really is. On entering, we pass under the main timbers, of huge size, and step upon a sort of threshing or flailing-floor, such as is found in the centre of old barns; here fall the five ropes. A regular ringing club exists. The bells all belong to the 17th century; many more could be put in the tower. Where the timber came from to make this unique affair is unknown (we had not time to examine) it did not, however, appear an old ship—as some have said—or a submerged forest. The church itself is very large, the pillars and arches are of a leaning attitude, but quite capable of being righted by an experienced hand. The font is a sort of tub, made of lead, with figures round the top in relief. In a portion subdivided as a vestry a painted window of the 15th century, or a little earlier, is almost entire, but in a sad state of neglect. Would that some one without occupation would take a little interest in this fabric—a wire guard here, new lead there—and keep things neat both before and after restorations. The window in question is a marvel of original art, the floral designs elegant; the crockets budding out of the canopy. People are paying large sums for

tame copies of such work, yet, in out-of-the-way places like this, original examples stand rotting which a few shillings would rescue from dropping out. Arriving at Hastings—a scene of former labours in a professional way—we found things as they were seven years ago. The two old churches are remarkable in many ways—bold architectural design, especially of the towers, St. Clement's in particular; the points being shortness of the belfry stage—the rest being entirely open to the church, and a huge window without. The eight steel bells here are well known, and are as bad as they ought to be. The curfew is rung upon the tenor every night at eight o'clock. All Saints has five bells, which we used to hear rung. Perhaps when St. Clement's have rusted out, and the iron given to some of the consumptive visitors, real bells may be thought about, as the arrangements are admirable, iron sally-beams and all.

RYE.—This concludes, or rather, "makes thirds place." A few weeks ago a notice of the bells was given, and matters seemed in good condition for a ring, excepting that we heard complaints of want of ventilation, a question upon which a great deal may be written, but without much effect, probably, in similar instances. The church itself probably "makes fourths' place" (in point of size) as a parochial establishment in this country. The tower stands in the centre, and rises very little, so that a ringing-chamber is only just obtained. We saw the way, however, to rectify the nuisance to ringers of exhausted air at little cost. Grass literally grows in the streets, and in our opinion in the minds of the people. The restoration is very satisfactory as regards the church's interior. The sea has long since receded, the harbour is the most difficult one to enter on the coast which is situated beyond "this city set on a hill."

One end in view this paper has been written for, is that the writer believes steel bells are still manufactured, and therefore the ignorant people (in this sort of business), who are wardens of church bells, constantly refer to the offer made them of eight for four, and so on, by business-like manufacturers. It would be interesting to know what loss of weight the great puncheon at the Roman Catholic Church, Hatton Garden, has undergone of late years. G.

ALL SAINTS', EDMONTON, MIDDLESEX.

WE hear that the tower of this church is undergoing some sort of restoration. The present ringing-chamber, which is at the back of the west gallery, is to be abolished, and the bells are in future to be rung from the ground floor. This will not be so convenient as at present, but of course ringers' convenience is a matter of very little moment. What changes are to be effected in the present ringing-chamber we know not. On its walls there are numerous peal-boards bearing the most honoured names of a past generation. Whether these will be allowed to remain, or be pulled down and relegated to the dust-hole, remains to be seen. We shall certainly enter our protest against the latter mode of treatment. Rumour says the vicar of Edmonton looks upon bells, etc. with indifference, if this is so, we fear for the fate in store for these peal-tablets. If they are to be removed from the place where they have been for so many years, surely they should be handed over to the successors of the men who placed them there.

The Bishop of Peterborough has intimated to the Cathedral Restoration Committee that he so strongly objects to the recently-proposed alterations in the original contract for the restoration of the central tower, that if they are carried out he will be compelled to withdraw his promised subscriptions.

We are pleased to find that the cards which are sent out with the copy of the peals, as they appear in our columns, meet with such approval. Records of peals should be sent with both Christian and surname in full.

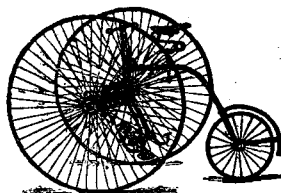
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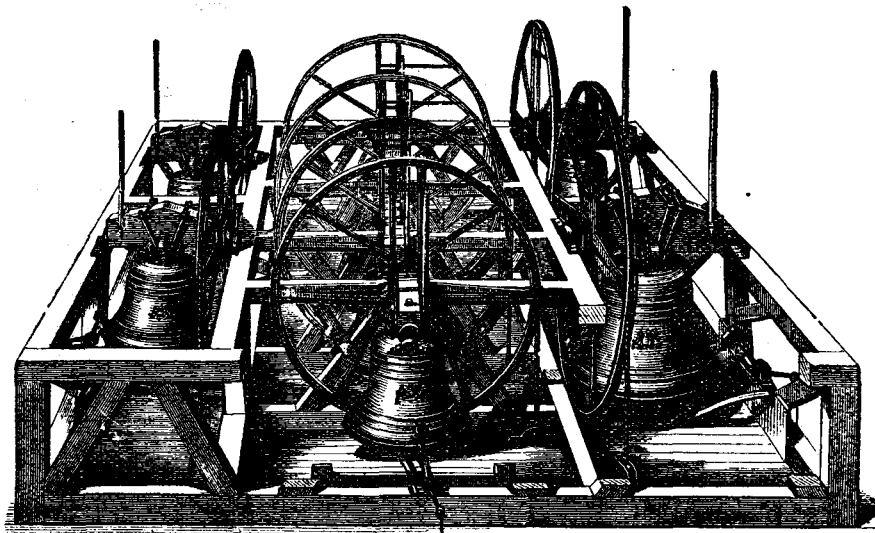
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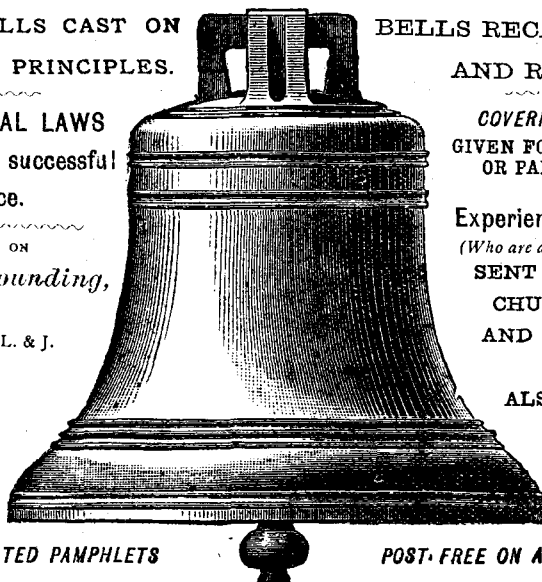
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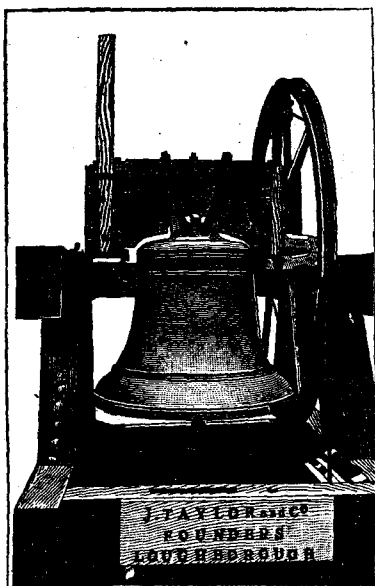
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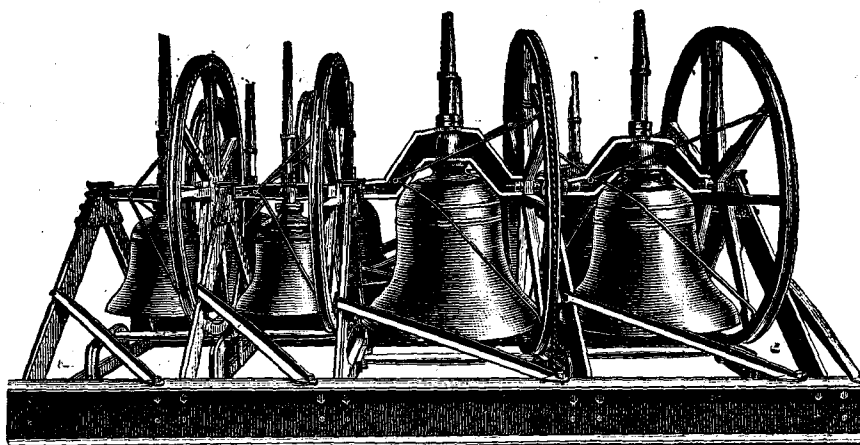
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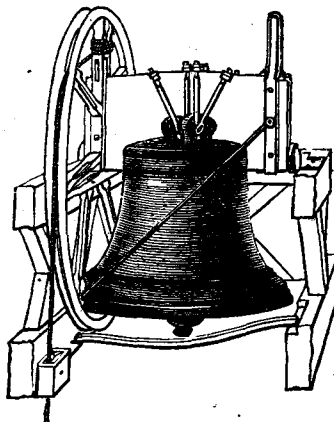
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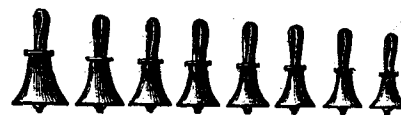
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Some architects and engineers who have paid a little attention to bells swinging in towers, have advised building up the bell-frame itself from the ground within the tower: this is absurd, as of course the lower timbers of the frame proper must be made fast somewhere. Most of the London towers were designed in comparatively recent times, by persons familiar with bells and frames, that is those following the lines of Sir Christopher Wren, and therefore to them these remarks do not apply. Anything too, being thought wrong, application to a person in the bell trade, is at once easy in town. Decay of timber, particularly on the south side, and loose mortices, are the chief causes of movement in old frames; the louvres are nearly always too shallow in the windows; sometimes the frame will be found to have been originally placed upon a floor of boards, every atom of which has long since gone to utter decay, leaving a space between the rafters and the under timbers. Movement in this way can be often remedied by driving and nailing proper wedges beneath the frame upon the rafters.

Some old frames are so rough, and morticed in such a fashion, that nothing remains but to make a good bonfire of the whole on the 5th of November next, and make use of iron for the new frame, and afterwards keeping that well-painted once a year. To revert to corbels. In almost all new towers these are observed, provided with a view to the expected ring of bells, come when it may. Not unfrequently, however, the bellfounders people ignore them, or else have to alter their position, which is equivalent to what is sometimes done in old towers, where, as stated above, they nearly always get loose. The best provision to make, would be in a substantial tower, to provide two or more great brestsummers, with sandwich irons, built well in the walls, each also being trussed with iron rods, and if the large bells are obliged to be in the middle, and also the ringing-floor not just beneath, vertical struts, provided after the manner

of raking shores, to a "set-off" below. This being attended to and properly looked after, we should hear very little of the local carpenter and his props and wedges, who, unless a ringer, and a man of observation, is but a bull in the china-shop when let loose among the bells. G.

PRESENTATION OF HANDBELLS.

ON Tuesday evening, December 2nd, the St. Mary's Society, Radcliffe-on-Trent, assembled in the school room for the purpose, among other things, of presenting a set of handbells to the tower. The bells are by J. Taylor and Co., of Loughborough, and are twenty-one in number, ranging from F.19, to A.3, with F sharps, and B naturals, and are a fine musical peal. They are partly the gift of A. R. Calvert, Esq., captain of the band, and the rest have been purchased by subscriptions from the parishioners. The bells are fitted in a neat wooden box, (the gift of the Vicar), and are thus easily carried from place to place when necessary. The Vicar, on receiving the bells, complimented the ringers on their success in getting together the needful funds, and thanking Mr. Calvert for his kindness, he gave them into the charge of the ringers for their use.

After enrolling one new member, and talking over various other ringing matters, the pleasant meeting terminated.

VISIT TO ORMSKIRK, LANCASHIRE.

ON Saturday, November 29th, a company of ringers from Liverpool and Southport agreed to meet and start for a peal of Bob Major at Ormskirk Parish Church, but as three of the members did not put in an appearance, some of the local ringers were called upon to make up, and a start was made for Aspinwall's six-part peal of Grandsire Triples, which however had to be brought round after ringing two parts, 1890 changes, in 1 hr. 5 mins. H. Spencer, 1; C. F. Heywood, 2; W. Davies, 3; W. Bentham, 4; D. Rimmer, 5; Jas. Prescott, 6; J. Aspinwall (conductor), 7; Geo. Prescott, 8. After the above a 360 of Plain Bob Minor, on the back six, in 15 mins. John Prescott, 1; H. Spencer, 2; C. F. Heywood, 3; D. Rimmer, 4; W. Davies, 5; J. Aspinwall (conductor), 6. Tenor 25½ cwt.

KIRKOSWALD, CUMBERLAND.

THE campanile of this church is placed on a hill, which rises immediately at the east end of the church. It is of no architectural beauty, but contains three old bells, the inscriptions on which are as follows:—

1st.—"G. Parker. J. Lowrang. J. Brown C. Wardings, 1729."

2nd.—"William Land made me 1619 W.B."

3rd.—"Aaron Peever, Kirkoswald, Fa(c) 1729 John Rumney vick."
(The diameters are 21, 23, and 24 inches respectively.)

The 3rd has been badly used, having been cracked and a large piece broken out, also the canons broken off, and now hung by four iron bolts through the crown. Our correspondent adds: "Can any of your readers give any information regarding Aaron Peever, the founder of the 1st and 3rd bells."

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

THE Third Quarterly Meeting of this Association will be held at Burton-on-Trent, on Saturday, December 27th. R. W. PITT,
Hon. Sec.

THE RECENT PRIZE RINGING MATCH AT HIGH BICKINGTON, DEVON.—The *North Devon Herald*, from whose columns we took the report of this prize-ringing meeting, reproduces the editorial comment which appeared in our columns in relation thereto. It appears that the attention of our contemporary has been called by various correspondents to the remarks we made, and which a writer from Exeter states "gives a just estimation of the opinion of ringers generally regarding this ringing match." We hope that when we again expose or attempt to bring into ridicule anything of this kind, or any practices which may be more honored in the breach than in the observance, our friends will, if our observations meet with their approval, take similar steps to ventilate them, when some good effect may be produced.

BALLIOL COLLEGE, OXFORD.—The Brakenbury Mathematical Scholarship has been awarded to Mr. W. W. Poole-Hughes, Exhibitioner of Balliol College, formerly of Llandovery School. A Minor Exhibition has been awarded to Mr. F. H. Chambers, of Wolverhampton Grammar School. The other Minor Exhibition has not been awarded.

BEACONSFIELD, BUCKS.

THE name of this town will be familiar to all our readers, as it was from here that one of the most prominent statesmen of the present century took his title on ascending to the Upper House of Parliament. As will be seen below, the church—dedicated to All Saints and S. Mary—originally had six bells only, but a few of the most enterprising of the inhabitants having mooted the idea of augmenting the ring to eight, it appears to have been taken up with great spirit, and from the foundry of Mears and Stainbank, of Whitechapel, has emanated a capital peal, all rehung in a new frame.

The ring was opened in the early part of the present year by a band of the Oxford Diocesan Guild, from the neighbouring town of Maidenhead, but no peal was rung on that day. It was reserved for a band of the London St. James's Society—got together by the inventive genius of the Fussell Brothers (of Slough), and Mr J. Parker (of Farnham Royal)—to attempt a peal some weeks ago. Accordingly, in pursuance of arrangements made by these industrious gentlemen, the band met for this purpose on a Saturday afternoon, and we had the pleasure of being among the company who strove to reap those honors which are supposed by some young members of the ringing Exercise to be attached to "the first peal on the bells." However, to use a favourite catchword of the present day, "it didn't come off," a change-course, or what is known among London ringers by the euphonious term—"a shift"—occurring in the 7th part of the peal. Another meeting was arranged soon after, but as one of the original band could not attend on the day fixed, another was pressed into the service in the person of Mr. Wingfield Meadows, a well-known London celebrity, who, however, was invisible at the hour appointed, and when we arrived at the railway station it was evident that the arrangements for meeting were rather incomplete; thus this second visit also resulted in failure. Nothing daunted, the original company were again communicated with, permission from the rector sought and obtained, and all seemed to be in good trim for another attempt, but at the eleventh hour came the exasperating information that one of the company, who happened to live nearest to the church, could not come, in consequence of a pressing engagement, which could not possibly be postponed. Here we thought the affair at an end, but a communication apprised us to the contrary, and we yielded to the solicitation to make another attempt last Saturday, which, however, resulted in failure after ringing about 2 hrs. 40 mins. The journey from Slough Station to Beaconsfield on such a piercing cold day as last Saturday, was anything but enjoyable, and the disappointment in not succeeding was acutely felt by some of the party. However, when an interchange of ideas had taken place, a determination to make another attempt to get this "first peal" on the 26th of this month was made, if the rector will kindly give his permission, and no one in the meantime snatches it away from us in a surreptitious manner.

The tower of Beaconsfield church is a structure lately restored, and with the rest of the sacred edifice presents a romantic appearance to the visitor on entering this small old-fashioned town. The bells are rung from the ground-floor, in what in some places would be called the porch, and though the length of draught is a fairly long one, they all "go" excellently well. The peal, as restored and augmented, is very good, the casting and hanging being everything to be desired, and reflects great credit on the Old Foundry. Between the ringers and the lofty ceiling above them there are neat iron guides for the ropes. What we would like to suggest is that strong benches should be provided for the greater convenience of the ringers, which if properly made would not be unsightly, and would add to the general convenience of those attending Divine worship. We cannot end this account without recognising the courtesy of Mr. Tapping, the parish clerk of Beaconsfield, who saw that everything was done to ensure the success of the peal. Below will be found the weights of and inscriptions on the bells:—

THE NEW PEAL OF EIGHT.

	Diameter.		Weight.		
	ft.	ins.	cwt.	qrs.	lbs.
Treble.—	2	6	6	0	12
2nd. (old treble).—	2	7	6	1	16
3rd.—	2	9	7	1	3
4th.—	2	11	8	1	25
5th.—	3	2½	10	1	18
6th. (old 5th).—	3	5	12	1	3
7th.—	3	8½	15	3	24
Tenor.—	4	1½	21	1	7

Note E flat.

Treble.—"Vox ego sum vitæ. MDCCCLXXXIV. To the Glory of God and in Memory of Edmund Burke. Ung Roy. Ung Foy. Ung Loy."

2nd.—"Thos. Mears of London fecit 1792."

3rd, 4th, and 5th.—"Cast by H. Bagley MDCCXXII. Recast by Mears and Stainbank MDCCCLXXXIV."

6th.—"Lester and Pack of London fecit—Joseph Milward and Wm. Hore, Ch: Wardens, 1760."

[Engraved on the bell, in one line between shoulder-wires.]

7th.—"Cast by H. Bagley MDCCXXII. Recast by Mears and Stainbank, MDCCCLXXXIV."

Tenor.—"Voco vos orate venite. MDCCCLXXXIV. To the Glory of God and in Memory of Benjamin Disraeli—Earl of Beaconsfield, K.G. Forti nihil difficile."

THE OLD PEAL OF SIX.

	Diameter.		Weight.			
	ft.	ins.	cwt.	qrs.	lbs.	
Treble.—	2	7	6	2	4	Retained as 2nd in new peal.
2nd.—	2	9	6	3	16	Recast.
3rd.—	2	10½	7	3	16	Recast.
4th.—	3	0	9	0	14	Recast.
5th.—	3	5½	12	2	5	Retained as 6th in new peal.
Tenor.—	3	8½	15	2	15	Recast. Note F.

Treble.—"Thos. Mears of London fecit 1792."

2nd.—"The Lord's name be praised. H.B. ma. m. 1722."

3rd.—"W. Hobday, H. Tomson—C: Wardens. H. Bagley made me 1722."

4th.—"William Hobday, Henery Tomson—C.W. H. Bagley m.m. 1722."

5th.—"Lester and Pack of London, fecit—Joseph Milward, and William Hore, Ch: Wardens 1760."

[Engraved on the bell in one line between the shoulder wires.]

Tenor.—"Let Aarons bells be continually amongst us rung, the word still preached and Alleluia sung. Christopher Newell—Rector."

William Hobday, Henery Tomson, C. Wardens. Henery Bagley ma. m. 1722."

BROMSGROVE, WORCESTERSHIRE.

ON Saturday evening, November 29th, the Bromsgrove company and a few friends met at the "Golden Lion Inn," Bromsgrove, and partook of a well-prepared supper, provided in honour of the 50th birthday of Mr. William Duffill, the head and oldest member of the company. The Rev. F. Paget, vicar, presided, and after supper proposed "The Health of the Queen and the Royal Family," which was drank in a loyal manner. He next proposed "The Health of Mr. Duffill," who occupied the vice-chair; and expressed his great interest in, and obligation to the ringers, for extracting such sweet music from the beautiful bells of the fine old parish church. The toast was drunk very heartily, and was duly responded to. Campanology was the subject of a deal of interesting conversation during the evening, which was enlivened by performances on the handbells by the ringers; the singing of some good songs, and the drinking of toasts, etc., and all who were present acknowledged that the gathering had been a very pleasant one.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION AND THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

BRAINTREE (Essex).—The following is an account of the ringing done by the Braintree members of the above Societies during the month of November. November 1st, 720 of Cambridge Surprise, 720 of Bob Minor, 720 of Oxford Treble Bob. November 2nd, 720 of Double Court, 720 of Bob Minor, 144 of Oxford Treble Bob. November 8th, 720 of Violet Treble Bob, 720 of Woodbine. November 9th, 720 of Oxford Delight, 720 of College Exercise, 180 of Double Court. November 15th, 360 of Bob Minor. November 16th, 720 of Court Single, 720 of London Scholars' Pleasure. November 18th, 720 of London Surprise. November 22nd, 720 of College Exercise. November 23rd, 720 of New London Pleasure, 120 of Durham Surprise, 360 of Cambridge Surprise. November 25th, 720 of Durham Surprise, 720 of Bob Minor. November 29th, 720 of Morning Exercise, 720 of Bob Minor. November 30th, 720 of Oxford Treble Bob.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION OF SIX-BELL RINGERS.

The usual Quarterly Meeting will be held at St. Lawrence's Chorley, on Saturday, December 13th. The bells will be open for ringing from 2 o'clock; Business Meeting at 4 o'clock, in the schoolroom.

JAMES HIGSON, Secretary.

The death is announced of the Rev. E. J. Palmer, Vicar of Christ Church, West Hartlepool, which happened on the 24th ult., at the age of 62. The sad event became almost a looked-for occurrence, his illness having of late been of a severe and dangerous nature. The funeral took place on the 27th ult., and the bells, six in number, were muffled on this occasion, and chimed during the day. "The bells here," adds our correspondent, "are all fixtures, and the effect of chiming them muffled was very monotonous, and not at all like bells on the swing. It is hoped the matter will be taken up shortly, and that the bells, which are a splendid ring of six (by Taylor and Co., of Loughborough) will be hung in a proper manner for ringing."

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERS.

5006.

By GEORGE NEWSON, *Royal Cumberland Youths.*

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9

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

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

The last nine courses three times repeated,
 produce:— 5 6 1 4 2 3 9 7 8

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

Round at two changes.

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR.

5056.

By HENRY DAINS, *London.*

2 3 4 5 6 M B W H

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

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

Repeated.

This peal was rung for the first time at St. Mary Mag-
 dalen, Enfield, on Saturday, February 16th, and it was
 the first 5000 on the bells.

THREE 1/2-PEALS OF GRANDSIRE
TRIPLES.By ALFRED SQUIRES, *Hitchin, Herts.*

2 3 4 5 6 7 2 3 4 5 6 7 2 3 4 5 6 7

7 5 2 6 3 4 1 7 5 2 6 3 4 1 7 5 2 6 3 4 1
 5 2 7 6 3 4 1 3 4 7 2 6 5 2 2 2 3 7 5 4 6 3
 4 6 5 3 2 7 1 2 4 3 5 7 6 2 4 6 2 7 5 3 2
 6 5 4 3 2 7 4 6 5 2 7 4 3 1 3 7 4 5 6 2 1
 5 4 6 3 2 7 4 7 5 6 3 2 4 5 6 2 3 4 5 7 2
 7 3 5 2 4 6 1 6 2 7 5 4 3 8 3 5 6 2 7 4 3
 3 5 7 2 4 6 4 5 2 6 3 7 4 6 4 2 3 7 5 6 1
 5 7 3 2 4 6 4 2 6 5 3 7 4 4 2 3 4 7 5 6 4
 6 2 5 4 7 3 1 4 3 2 7 6 5 1 7 3 6 4 5 PE.
 2 5 6 4 7 3 4 2 6 4 3 5 7 4 Four times
 5 6 2 4 7 3 4 Twice repeated. repeated.
 3 4 5 7 6 2 1
 4 5 3 7 6 2 4
 8 3 5 4 7 6 2 4
 2 7 3 6 5 4 1
 5 4 3 6 7 PE.
 Repeated.

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERS.

5040.

By JOHN K. PRITCHARD, *Liverpool.*

2 3 1 4 5 6

bob on 9 7 8.

6 5 1 4 3 2 2 11
 6 3 1 5 4 2 15
 6 4 1 3 5 2 15
 6 3 5 4 1 2 4 15
 6 1 5 3 4 2 15
 6 3 4 1 5 2 4 15
 6 5 4 3 1 2 15
 6 1 4 5 3 2 15
 6 5 3 1 4 2 4 15
 3 5 2 1 4 6 3 5 8 12

Four times repeated.

The above contains 150 6-8's and 150 8-6's.

TWO PEALS OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR.

5088.

JOHN J. BRIERLEY, *Saddleworth.*

2 3 4 5 6 M B W H

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

Twice repeated.

5088.

2 3 4 5 6 M B W H

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

Twice repeated.

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS.

5075.

By ROBERT WILLIAMS, *Liverpool.*

5 2 4 3 6*

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

2 3 6 4 5 8th in three.

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

The last twelve courses being twice repeated,
 omitting the last course in last part, produce—
 4 2 5 6 3. Round as usual.

*7th in and out at two with a double, twice.

WANTED.—Copy of "THE BELL NEWS"
 for March 1st, 1884, No. 100; and June
 21st, 1884, No. 116.—W. H. FUSSELL, Osborne
 Villas, Slough.

TWO PEALS OF BOB MAJOR.

By EDWARD FRANCIS, *Diss.*

5040.

2 3 4 5 6 W M H

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

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

Twice repeated.

5 6 twelve times in 3-5 place.

6048.

2 3 4 5 6 W M H

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

Five times repeated.

Single at third and last part end. This peal
 has the 5th and 6th each eighteen times right.

TWO 720's OF BOB MINOR.

By P. HAMBLETT, *Daresbury, Cheshire.*

3 5 2 6 4 3 5 2 6 4
 5 6 3 4 2 5 6 3 4 2
 S 6 5 4 2 3 S 6 5 4 2 3
 S 5 6 2 3 4 S 5 6 2 3 4
 6 3 5 4 2 - 5 2 3 4 6
 S 3 6 4 2 5 - 5 2 4 6 3
 S 6 3 2 5 4 S 2 5 6 3 4
 3 5 6 4 2 5 3 2 4 6
 5 4 3 2 6 3 4 5 6 2
 4 2 5 6 3 4 6 3 2 5
 2 6 4 3 5 - 4 6 2 5 3
 S 6 2 3 5 4 - 4 6 5 3 2
 S 2 6 5 4 3 S 6 4 3 2 5
 6 4 2 3 5 - 6 4 2 5 3
 S 4 6 3 5 2 - 6 4 5 3 2
 S 6 4 5 2 3 4 3 6 2 5
 4 2 6 3 5 - 4 3 2 5 6
 S 2 4 3 5 6 - 4 3 5 6 2
 4 5 2 6 3 S 3 4 6 2 5
 S 5 4 6 3 2 - 3 4 2 5 6
 S 4 5 3 2 6 Twice repeated.

IMPORTANT NOTICE.

WITH THE

CHRISTMAS SUPPLEMENT

OF THIS PAPER WILL APPEAR,

A PORTRAIT,

With a short biographical sketch, of that distinguished ringer and composer,

MR. JOHN COX,

Of the Society of Royal Cumberland Youths, London;

ALSO TWO STORIES—

"The Autobiography of an Ancient Tenor,"

AND

"The Lost Peal-Book;"

And other interesting and amusing matter.

Orders should be given at once to local booksellers and news-agents to secure copies, as a reprint of this Supplement is impossible.

Price of number and Supplement,

ONE PENNY.

E. W. ALLEN, AVE MARIA LANE, LONDON.

"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.

Everything for insertion in this Journal to be addressed "The Editor of THE BELL NEWS, Walthamstow, London." Letters forwarded for publication, and performances under 5000 changes must reach us not later than Wednesday morning; and the insertion of any communication coming later than the first Postal delivery on Thursday morning cannot be guaranteed in that week's number. When it is found impossible from want of space to insert all touches forwarded, the earlier ones will have the preference.

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

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 dozen of cards, with a copy of the record of a peal, as it appears in our pages, sent post free on receipt of twenty-six halfpenny stamps.

The Bell News & Ringers' Record.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 6, 1884.

WE have great pleasure in being able to announce part of the contents which our number for Christmas will contain. The ringer selected for portrayal in this instance will no doubt give as much satisfaction to our readers as previous ones have done. Each year there has been a extra demand for copies of our Christmas numbers, and when our publisher has disposed of the whole of the editions printed, numerous applications for copies have been made which were of course too late. We should like to hear less of these late applications, because we think every ringer, even those who are not regular subscribers, should become possessed of a publication which, like our Christmas annual, contains a large amount of matter wholly written for them, and which is not to be found in any other publication. The bringing out of these extra numbers involves additional work, anxiety, and expense, to those concerned in their production, while the extra remuneration is, to put it mildly, infinitesimal. A second edition of the number in question will not be published, so whoever does not procure a copy when the first edition is sold, will be unable to obtain one afterwards. We do not think it too much to expect that the efforts made to give at the approaching season a little extra matter should meet with a tantamount acknowledgment, and we hope to hear that the sale of the forthcoming Christmas number has exceeded that of any previous one.

The Metropolis.

TOTTENHAM, MIDDLESEX.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

On Saturday, November 29, 1884, in Three Hours,

AT ALL HALLOWS' CHURCH,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

— BROOKS' VARIATION.

EDWARD F. STRANGE* .. Treble.	WILLIAM TANNER 5.
GEORGE CLEAL* 2.	HERBERT BAKER 6.
WILLIAM CECIL 3.	JAMES PETTIT 7.
EDWARD E. CLARKE 4.	HENRY A. BARNETT .. Tenor.

Conducted by JAMES PETTIT.

This peal is the first in the method on the bells. * First peal in the method.

THE ST. JAMES'S SOCIETY.—LONDON.

Muffled Peal.

On Monday, December 1, 1884, in Three Hours and Forty-Six Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. CLEMENT DANES, STRAND.

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS, 5129 CHANGES.

Tenor 24 cwt.

J. R. HAWORTH Treble.	RICHARD FRENCH 6.
J. W. MANSFIELD 2.	J. MARTIN ROUTH 7.
CHALLIS F. WINNY 3.	J. MURRAY HAYES 8.
W. WEATHERSTONE 4.	GEORGE BANKS 9.
EDWIN HORREX 5.	EDWARD ALBONE Tenor.

Composed by H. HUBBARD and conducted by J. MURRAY HAYES.

This peal was rung in memory of the late George Stockham, who for many years was steeplekeeper at the above church, and a member of the St. James's Society for upwards of half a century.

The Provinces.**MAIDSTONE.—THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.****Birthday Peal.**

On Thursday, November 27, 1884, in Three Hours and Eight Minutes,

AT ALL SAINTS' CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S SIX-PART. Tenor 19 cwt.

ALFRED H. WOOLLEY .. .. .Treble.	JAMES FERGUSON .. .. .5.
WILLIAM ELLIOTT* .. .. .2.	HARRY PEARCE .. .. .6.
JABEZ HORTON* .. .. .3.	GEORGE PAWLEY .. .. .7.
REUBEN SIMMONDS .. .. .4.	*DAVID BETTS .. .. .Tenor.

Conducted by GEORGE PAWLEY.

*First peal. †College Youths.

The above peal was rung to commemorate the 25th birthday of James Fergusson.

WOOLWICH, KENT.—THE TRINITY YOUTHS.

On Thursday, November 27, 1884, in Two Hours and Fifty-two Minutes,

AT ST. MARY MAGDALENE'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

THE ORIGINAL BOB-AND-SINGLE. Tenor 14½ cwt.

WILLIAM GROUT .. .. .Treble.	*WILLIAM WATCHORN .. .. .5.
WILLIAM PEAD .. .. .2.	WILLIAM BOWLES .. .. .6.
WILLIAM WEATHERSTONE .. .. .3.	WILLIAM FREEMAN .. .. .7.
WILLIAM THORNTON .. .. .4.	WILLIAM HARRIS .. .. .Tenor.

Conducted by WILLIAM WEATHERSTONE.

*First peal.

Messrs. Weatherstone and Pead hail from Rotherhithe; Thornton and Grout from Greenwich; Freeman and Bowles from Lewisham; the rest belong to the local company.

PUDSEY.—THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, November 29, 1884, in Three Hours and Four Minutes,

AT ST. LAWRENCE'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 16 cwt.

JAMES ANGUS .. .. .Treble.	JOSEPH CHEETHAM .. .. .5.
EZRA KEIGHLEY .. .. .2.	JOSEPH HARDCASTLE .. .. .6.
WILLIAM HOLLINS .. .. .3.	GEORGE BOLLAND .. .. .7.
WILLIAM BOLLAND .. .. .4.	JOHN HALEY .. .. .Tenor.

Composed by WILLIAM SOTTANSTALL, of Sowerby, and Conducted by JOSEPH HARDCASTLE.

[We have received another report of this peal, and also what we suppose is intended for the composition, but which to us is unintelligible. This is not accompanied by the signature of the writer.—Ed.]

MITCHAM, SURREY.—THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, November 29, 1884, in Three Hours,

AT THE CHURCH OF SS. PETER AND PAUL,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S ORIGINAL.

HENRY C. HALEY .. .. .Treble.	CHARLES E. MALIM .. .. .5.
HENRY DUDLEY .. .. .2.	THOMAS VERRALL .. .. .6.
ARTHUR B. CARPENTER .. .. .3.	ALFRED BRUCE .. .. .7.
JOSEPH FAYERS .. .. .4.	*URBAN HOLMAN .. .. .Tenor.

Conducted by HENRY C. HALEY.

Messrs. Haley and Malim hail from London; Fayers belongs to Mitcham; the rest belong to Croydon. Messrs. Haley and Holman were elected members of the Surrey Association in the tower before starting. *First peal.

WOLSTANTON, STAFFORDSHIRE.

On Saturday, November 29, 1884, in Two Hours and Fifty-five Minutes,

AT ST. MARGARET'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S 10-PART. Tenor 14 cwt.

L. MILLAR .. .. .Treble.	S. REEVES .. .. .5.
E. CASHMORE .. .. .2.	S. SPENCER .. .. .6.
W. MILLAR .. .. .3.	HY. PAGE .. .. .7.
W. R. SMALL .. .. .4.	W. GREENLEAF .. .. .Tenor.

Conducted by S. REEVES.

Messrs. Cashmore, Small, and Reeves hail from West Bromwich; Page and Greenleaf from Stoke-on-Trent.

WOODBIDGE, SUFFOLK.**THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS, AND THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.**

On Saturday, November 29, 1884, in Three Hours and Twenty-three Minutes,

AT ST. MARY'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S TEN-PART. Tenor 28 cwt.

JAMES MOTTS .. .. .Treble.	CHAS. WARD .. .. .5.
WILLIAM MOTTS .. .. .2.	WILLIAM A. WARD .. .. .6.
ISAAC S. ALEXANDER .. .. .3.	ROBT. H. BRUNDLE .. .. .7.
EDGAR PEMBERTON .. .. .4.	PETO MEADOWS .. .. .Tenor.

Conducted by JAMES MOTTS.

Messrs. C. Ward and P. Meadows hail from Melton; W. A. Ward from Ufford; the rest from Ipswich.

SUTTON COLDFIELD, WARWICKSHIRE.**THE BIRMINGHAM AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATION.**

On Saturday, November 29, 1884, in Three Hours and Five Minutes,

AT HOLY TRINITY CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

TAYLOR'S BOB-AND-SINGLE VARIATION. Tenor 24 cwt in Eb.

JOHN BENN .. .. .Treble.	JAMES PLANT .. .. .5.
JOHN CARTER .. .. .2.	RICHARD HACKLEY .. .. .6.
AUSTIN HALES .. .. .3.	THOMAS MILLER .. .. .7.
BENNETT STEVENS .. .. .4.	JOHN MURPHY .. .. .Tenor.

Conducted by JOHN CARTER.

Messrs. J. Carter, B. Stevens, R. Hackley, and T. Miller hail from Birmingham, the rest belong to Erdington. This is the first peal ever rung upon the bells.

WORSLEY.—THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, November 29, 1884, in Three Hours and One Minute,

AT ST. MARK'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

TAYLOR'S BOB-AND-SINGLE VARIATION. Tenor 21 cwt.

WILLIAM CROSSLEY .. .. .Treble.	RICHARD RIDYARD .. .. .5.
EDWARD CASH .. .. .2.	CHARLES CASH .. .. .6.
JAMES H. RIDYARD .. .. .3.	FREDERIC DERBYSHIRE .. .. .7.
JOHN WELSBY .. .. .4.	THOMAS JONES .. .. .Tenor.

Conducted by EDWARD CASH.

Messrs. Crossley and Jones hail from Swinton; E. and C. Cash from Eccles; John Welsby from Walkden; the rest are of the local company.

HATFIELD, HERTS.—ST. JAMES'S SOCIETY, LONDON.

On Tuesday, December 2, 1884, in Three Hours and Twenty-two Minutes,

AT ST. ETHELRED'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S ORIGINAL. Tenor 27 cwt.

HENRY LEWIS .. .. .Treble.	JASPER G. CRAWLEY .. .. .5.
NEWMAN N. HILLS .. .. .2.	WILLIAM A. TYLER .. .. .6.
JAMES PETTIT .. .. .3.	THOMAS GATHARD .. .. .7.
HERBERT BAKER .. .. .4.	FREDERICK GEORGE .. .. .Tenor.

Conducted by JAMES PETTIT.

Messrs. H. Lewis and N. N. Hills hail from St. Albans; W. A. Tyler from Hitchin; J. Pettit from London; the rest belong to Hertford. A period of over twenty years had elapsed since the last peal was rung on these bells.

ECCLES.—THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, December 2, 1884, in Three Hours and Seven-and-a-half Minutes,

AT ST. MARY'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5280 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 13 cwt. 3 qrs.

EDWARD CASH .. .. .Treble.	JAMES BARRATT .. .. .5.
THOMAS HEALD .. .. .2.	JOHN EACHUS .. .. .6.
ALBERT E. WREAKS .. .. .3.	*ALFRED EGGINGTON .. .. .7.
CHAS. CASH* .. .. .4.	GEORGE H. JOHNSON .. .. .Tenor.

Composed by the late WILLIAM DOUBLEDAY CROFTS, of Nottingham, and Conducted by G. H. JOHNSON.

*First peal in the method.

Date Touches.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

CHELTENHAM (Gloucestershire).—On Tuesday, December 2nd, at St. Mary's church, it being the occasion of Mr. W. Morris, a most respected and the most aged member of the society of ringers of this town, attaining his 75th birthday, eight members of the above society rang a date touch of Kent Treble Bob Major, containing 1884 changes, in 1 hr. 19 mins. J. Belcher (conductor), 1; W. Morris, 2; H. Hodges, 3; F. E. Ward, Esq., 4; F. Musty, 5; G. H. Phillott, Esq., 6; H. Karn, 7; G. Acocks, 8.

WORTH (Sussex).—On Wednesday evening, November 26th, the company rang a date touch of 1884 changes, in 1 hr. 5 mins., in the following methods: 444 of Plain Bob, 720 of College Single, 720 of Oxford Bob. B. Payne, 1; W. Denman, 2; F. Streeter, 3; F. Rice, 4; G. Illman, 5; E. Streeter (conductor), 6. This is the first date touch on these bells.

Miscellaneous.

THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

BEDFORD.—On Monday, November 10th, at St. Paul's church, it being Lord Mayor's day, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, 1260 changes, containing the twenty-four 6-7's, was rung in 52 mins. F. Chasty, 1; S. Cullip, 2; W. Hall, 3; J. Atkins, 4; W. Biggs, 5; C. W. Clarke (conductor), 6; I. Hills, 7; F. Carraway, 8. Tenor 28 cwt. in D.

WOBURN (Beds).—On Monday evening, November 24th, a 720 of Bob Minor with eighteen bobs and two singles, was rung on the occasion of a visit to Woburn by Mr. T. Foote, formerly of Bedford, and now of Boxford, Berks. T. Foote, 1; C. Herbert, 2; J. Carwell-Cooke, 3; Mark Lane, 4; W. Chibnall (conductor), 5; W. E. Turney, 6.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

JARROW.—On Sunday, for Divine Service in the morning at Christ Church, a 720 of Oxford Bob Minor in 26 mins. J. Caverhill, 1; R. Oliver, 2; W. Holmes, 3; A. Sharp, 4; G. R. Heron, 5; F. Harrison (conductor), 6. First 720 in the method by the above company. Also at St. Peter's Church the same morning, a 720 of Bob Minor in 26 mins. A. English, 1; W. Holmes, 2; R. Oliver, 3; J. Chapman, 4; J. J. Campbell, 5; F. Harrison (conductor), 6. Tenor 8½ cwt.

ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

SUDBURY (Suffolk).—On Sunday evening, November 23rd, for Divine Service at All Saints' Church, a 504 of Grandsire Triples. J. Tolladay, 1; A. Scott (conductor), 2; G. S. Brown, 3; M. Silvester, 4; W. Cross, 5; W. Howell, 6; H. Harper, 7; H. Brackett, 8. Tenor 28 cwt. in D. And after the service, 514 in the same method, Mr. Taylor ringing the treble, and the rest standing as before.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

BARNWOOD (Gloucestershire).—On Tuesday, November 25th, six members of the Barnwood society rang for practice 744 changes as follows: two courses of Oxford Treble Bob Minor; 144 of Kent Treble Bob Minor; 120 of Bob Doubles; 120 of Grandsire Doubles; and 120 of Stedman Doubles. Wm. Sevier, 1; J. Yates, 2; A. Waite, 3; G. Miles, 4; H. Mitchell, 5; R. A. Barrett (conductor), 6.

QUEDGLEY (Gloucestershire).—On Wednesday, November 26th, six members of this Association rang for practice, a 720 of Grandsire Minor, with thirty-eight and twenty-two singles, in 25 mins. A. Harris, 1; W. Brown, 2; T. Mansfield, 3; C. Lise, 4; T. Brown, 5; Wm. Sevier (conductor), 6. And a 360 in the same method.

UPTON ST. LEONARDS (Gloucestershire).—On Sunday, November 30th, before Divine Service, eight members of this Association rang a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, 1260 changes, in 45 mins. J. Middlecote, 1; J. Yates, 2; H. Mitchell, 3; G. Miles, 4; Wm. Sevier, 5; H. A. Waite, 6; R. A. Barrett (conductor), 7; H. Barnes, 8.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

LYMINGE (Kent).—On Saturday evening, November 29th, at the church of SS. Mary and Eadbough, a 720 of Plain Bob Minor, in 29 mins. Alfred Beer, 1; Richard Andrews, 2; Thomas Beer, 3; James Andrews, 4; William Fordred, jun., 5; Albert Tanton (conductor), 6. And several 6-scores of Bob and Grandsire Doubles. A. Beer, 1; R. Andrews, 2; T. Beer, 3; A. Tanton, 4; J. Andrews (conductor), 5; James Prebble, 6. Tenor 18½ cwt.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

PULHAM MARKET (Norfolk).—On Friday evening, November 28th, for practice, six members of the above Association rang a 720 of College Exercise, in 27 mins. John Smith (conductor), 1; Charles Brown (first 720 in the method), 2; William Culham, 3; Frederick R. Surridge, 4; John C. Allen, 5; William Roope, 6.

PULHAM ST. MARY (Norfolk).—On Wednesday evening, November 26th, 720 of College Exercise in 28 mins. A. J. Tann (conductor), 1; J. C. Allen, 2; R. Whiting, 3; F. R. Surridge, 4; J. Smith, 5; W. Roope, 6. Tenor 15 cwt. in F. All members of the Royal Cumberland Society, London.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

CAVERSHAM (Oxon).—On Sunday, November 30th, the St. Peter's Society rang a 720 of Oxford Bob, in 27 mins. J. Hands, 1; J. Butler, 2; E. Menday, 3; G. Essex, 4; T. Newman, 5; Rev. G. F. Coleridge (conductor), 6. Tenor 16½ cwt.

OXFORD.—On Wednesday, November 26th, at St. Mary Magdalen, a 720 of Plain Bob Minor. H. Castle, 1; W. Wakelin, 2; *C. W. H. Griffith, Esq. (C.C.C.), 3; W. Washbrook (conductor), 4; F. A. Castle, 5; *A. F. M. Custance, Esq., (B.N.C.), 6. *Also members of the Oxford University Society. Great credit is due to A. F. M. Custance, Esq., as this was the first time on which he had ever attempted Plain Bob.

DRAYTON (Berks).—On Saturday, November 29th, three courses (672 changes) of Superlative Surprise Major. J. Avery, 1; W. H. Washbrook, 2; B. Barrett, 3; S. Hounslow, 4; W. Bennett, 5; G. Holifield, 6; C. Hounslow, 7; Rev. F. E. Robinson (conductor), 8.

WANTAGE (Berks).—On Saturday evening, November 22nd, at SS. Peter and Paul, a 720 of Grandsire Minor, with twenty-eight bobs and twenty-two singles, in 28 mins. J. Gardner, 1; C. Page, 2; H. Smith, 3; A. Bunce, 4; A. Gregory, 5; F. May (conductor), 6.

THE OXFORD UNIVERSITY SOCIETY, AND THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

OXFORD.—On Thursday, November 27th, at New College, on Seage's apparatus, 504 of Stedman Triples, by the following. *A. F. M. Custance, Esq. (B.N.C.), 1; F. A. Castle, 2; W. Washbrook (conductor), 3; C. Hounslow, 4; *J. R. Vincent, Esq. (St. John's), 5; C. W. H. Griffiths, Esq. (C.C.C.), 6; W. Finch, 7; W. Franklin, 8. *First time of attempting Stedman Triples.

THE WATERLOO SOCIETY.

LONDON.—Muffled Peal.—On Wednesday evening, November 26th, at St. John's Church, Waterloo Road, the following members rang a muffled peal, as a last mark of respect to the late Mr. G. Stockham, an old and esteemed member of this society. W. Baron (conductor), 1; H. J. Davies, 2; W. Jones, 3; O. Bliss, 4; W. D. Matthews, 5; A. Jacob, 6; G. T. McLaughlin, 7; W. Coppage, 8. Afterwards some touches of Grandsire and Stedman Triples were rung and conducted by Messrs. Baron and McLaughlin respectively.

THE WORCESTERSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

BRIERLEY HILL (Staffordshire).—On Monday, December 1st, a 720 of Plain Bob Minor, in 26 mins. W. H. Beddall, 1; J. Guest (conductor), 2; D. Garbett, 3; R. Perkins, 4; W. Lawrence, 5; A. Whatmore, 6. W. Lawrence hails from Wordsley.

THE WANSTEAD AMALGAMATED SOCIETY.

WOODFORD (Essex).—On Thursday, November 13th, a 720 of Bob Minor, with eight bobs and six singles, in 27 mins. S. J. Wincey, 1; G. Akers, 2; *A. Tentant (Willesden), 3; J. Nunn, 4; S. Jarman, 5; T. Scarlett, 6. *First 720 with a bob bell. And a 720 of Bob Minor, with forty-two singles, in 27 mins. H. Nunn, senr., 1; J. Nunn, 2; G. Akers, 3; J. Cornell, 4; S. Jarman, 5; T. Scarlett (conductor), 6. Composed by J. Nunn, of Walthamstow.

BATLEY CARR (Yorkshire).—On Friday, November 28th, for practice a 720 of Duke of York, in 27 mins. John W. Simon, 1; *Tom Hinchcliffe, 2; *Harry Mitchel, 3; W. H. Stead, 4; H. Senior, 5; George H. Simon (conductor), 6. *First 720.

BRAINTREE (Essex).—On Sunday, November 30th, for morning service, at St. Michael's, a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob. F. L. Bumpstead, 1; H. E. Hammond, 2; S. Hammond (conductor), 3; D. Elliot (Kelvedon), 4; W. H. Dyson, 5; A. Huxson, 6.

BRANDESTON (Suffolk).—On Wednesday, November 26th, a 720 of Bob Minor, with twenty two-singles. S. W. Martin, 1; A. S. Wightman, 2; H. Bedingfield, 3; S. Meadows, 4; D. G. Wightman (conductor), 5; S. Wightman, 6. And a 720 of Cambridge Surprise. S. Meadows, 1; R. H. Hayward, 2; H. Bedingfield, 3; H. Baldry, 4; D. G. Wightman, 5; S. Wightman (conductor), 6. Also on Saturday, November 29th, a 720 of Bob Minor, composed by Mr. J. F. Penning, containing forty-six calls. W. Bedingfield, 1; D. G. Wightman (conductor), 2; H. Bedingfield, 3; S. Meadows, 4; A. S. Wightman, 5; S. Wightman, 6. And a 720 of Cambridge Surprise. H. Baldry, 1; R. H. Hayward, 2; H. Bedingfield, 3; A. S. Wightman, 4; D. G. Wightman, 5; S. Wightman (conductor), 6. And on Sunday, November 30th, after Divine Service, a 720 of Morning Exercise. R. H. Hayward, 1; H. Baldry, 2; H. Bedingfield, 3; A. S. Wightman, 4; D. G. Wightman, 5; S. Wightman (conductor), 6. And a 720 of Double Court Bob. W. Bedingfield, 1; R. H. Hayward, 2; H. Bedingfield, 3; A. S. Wightman, 4; D. G. Wightman, 5; S. Wightman (conductor), 6.

BRISTOL.—*Muffled Peal.*—On Tuesday, November 25th, at All Saints' church, 504 of Stedman Triples, with the bells muffled as a tribute of respect to the late G. Stockham, by the members of the St. Stephen's company. A. York, 1; H. Porch, 2; W. Marsh, 3; S. Cleal, 4; J. Norton, 5; J. Hinton (conductor), 6; G. Townsend, 7; W. Emery, 8.

BOCKING (Essex).—On Friday, November 21st, a 720 of Bob Minor. *Wm. Bearman, 1; *Wm. Moore, 2; *A. Chaplin, 3; F. Saunders, 4; *E. Radley, 5; *C. Bearman, 6. And on Tuesday, November 25th, a 720 of Bob Minor, with eighteen bobs and two singles in 30 mins. A. Spurge (first 720), 1; Wm. Moore, 2; Wm. Bearman, 3; S. Sargent, 4; J. Hayes, 5; C. Bearman, 6. Tenor 19 cwt. 3 qrs. Both 720's were conducted by Mr. C. Bearman. *Members of the Essex Association.

CHESTER.—On Sunday, November 30th, for Divine Service at St. Mary's church, the St. Mary's society rang a 720 of Grandsire Minor (thirty-eight bobs and twenty-two singles), in 24 mins. Edwin Davis, 1; John Johnson, 2; George Caldwell, 3; Alex. White, 4; Ralph Curry, 5; Thomas Bithell (conductor), 6. Tenor 23 cwt. in D. Our correspondent adds: "This is the third 720 rung by this company, who have only been together nine months, and now going on well."

EDWARDSTONE (Suffolk).—On Sunday, November 30th, the following met and rang a 720 of Bob Minor in 30 mins. G. Scowen, 1; J. Scowen, 2; J. Newman, 3; G. Death, 4; H. Everett (conductor), 5; T. Mann, 6. Tenor 13 cwt. G. Scowen, J. Scowen, H. Everett, and T. Mann hail from Hadleigh; the rest are local men.

HANDSWORTH (Staffordshire).—On Sunday evening, November 30th, for Divine Service at St. Mary's parish church, a 720 of Stedman Minor, in 26 mins., by six members of the St. Martin's Society, Birmingham. Henry Bastable (conductor), 1; Arthur Jones, 2; John Sanders, 3; Thomas Reynolds, 4; Charles Stanbridge, 5; John Buffery, 6. Tenor 14 cwt in F#. Composed by H. Johnson, sen., of Birmingham. It is supposed this is the 3rd 720 rung in this method, the first being rung at St. Martin's, Birmingham, September 16th, 1819, composed and conducted by T. Thurstans, on the back six, tenor 36 cwt.; the second being rung at St. Mary's, Handsworth, September 3rd, 1837, composed and conducted by Hy. Johnson, sen.

HAMPSTEAD (Middlesex).—On Sunday, November 2nd, at St. Stephen's church, eight members of the local company rang for Divine Service in the morning, a 448 of Grandsire Triples. S. Clarke, 1; J. Comb, 2; E. Chapman, 3; B. Foskett, 4; C. Deal, 5; N. Alderman (conductor), 6; H. Tyler, 7; W. Arscott, 8. On Wednesday, November 5th, for evening service, six of the local company with E. Heard and J. Steward, rang a 504 of Grandsire Triples. E. Chapman (conductor), 1; E. Heard (first 504 for more than twenty-five years), 2; B. Payne, 3; B. Foskett, 4; J. Steward (Ipswich), 5; C. Deal, 6; H. Tyler, 7; W. Arscott, 8. And on Sunday, November 9th, for Divine Service in the evening, a 434 of Grandsire Triples. E. Chapman, 1; J. Comb, 2; J. Steward (Ipswich), 3; J. Nixon, 4; H. Tyler, 5; C. Deal, 6; B. Foskett (conductor), 7; W. Arscott, 8. And on Sunday, November 23rd, for Divine service in the morning, six of the local company with Messrs. E. Heard and W. Burkin, rang a 504 of Grandsire Triples. S. Clark, 1; J. Comb, 2; E. Heard, 3; W. Burkin (Nutfield), 4; B. Foskett, 5; N. Alderman, 6; H. Tyler, 7; W. Arscott, 8. On Tuesday evening, November 25th, for practice, five of the local company, with Messrs. W. Burkin, J. Nixon, and D. W. Griggs, rang a 518 of Grandsire Triples, conducted by W. Burkin. And on Sunday, November 30th, seven of the local company with Mr. W. Burkin, rang for Divine Service in the evening, a 588 of Grandsire Triples, in 23 mins. B. Payne, 1; J. Comb, 3; H. Tyler, 3; B. Foskett, 4; W. Burkin (conductor; Nutfield), 5; N. Alderman, 6; E. Chapman, 7; W. Arscott, 8. Tenor 27 cwt.

HAVERSTOCK HILL (Middlesex).—On Wednesday, November 19th, at St. Martin's church, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor, in 25 mins. E. Chapman, 1; N. Alderman, 2; J. Leach, 3; J. Burkin, 4; G. Griffin, 5; G. Newson (conductor), 6. And on Wednesday, November 26th, a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob, in 25 mins. B. Foskett, 1; E. Chapman, 2; J. Burkin, 3; J. Leach, 4; G. Griffin, 5; J. Titchener (conductor), 6. And on Sunday, November 30th, a 720 of Plain Bob Minor, in 23 mins. J. Hannington (conductor), 1; T. Glead, 2; J. Nixon, 3; J. Leach, 4; T. Titchener, 5; J. Barrett, 6. J. Burkin hails from Nutfield, Surrey.

HIGHER SUTTON (Cheshire).—On Sunday November 23rd, for Divine Service in the afternoon, a 720 of Grandsire Minor, in 25 mins., with forty-four bobs and four singles. Also on Sunday, November 30th, for Divine Service in the morning, a 720 of the same with thirty-six bobs and twelve singles, in 26 mins. Alfred Lawton, 1; Wm. Kenny, 2; Wm. Ingham, 3; J. M. Davenport, 4; Wm. Walmsley (conductor), 5; Thos. Mottershead, 6. Tenor 12 cwt. in G.

LINCOLN.—On Tuesday evening, November 25th, at St. Peter-at-Gowts, for practice, a 720 of Grandsire Minor, in 25 mins. †J. Cotton, 1; *J. Cox, 2; P. Herrick, 3; J. Watson, 4; *C. Wells, 5; W. Knowles (conductor), 6. Messrs. J. Cotton, J. Watson, and C. Wells, are members of the North Lincolnshire Association. *First 720 in the method. First 720 with a bob bell.

LIVERPOOL.—*Muffled Peal.*—On Tuesday, November 25th, at St. Nicholas' church, the following members of the St. Nicholas' and St. Peter's societies rang 880 of Grandsire Cinques, in 36 mins. George Helsby (conductor), 1; Isaac Meadows, 2; Henry Brooks, 3; Richard Williams, 4; Albert Heron, 5; Willm. Woodhead, 6; Thos. Hammond, 7; Henry Coley, 8; James Egerton, 9; George Fisher, 10; James Walsh, 11; Robt. Thistlewood and Willm. Doure, 12. The above was rung with the bells muffled as a tribute of respect to the memory of William Heron, a change-ringer of this city upwards of 42 years, and also a member of the Ancient Society of College Youths, who died on Saturday, November 22nd, aged 62 years. Tenor 42 cwt.

LIVERPOOL.—*Handbell Ringing.*—On Friday evening, November 28th, at the house of Mr. Beacall, on handbells, retained in hand, a 720 of Grandsire Minor, in 16 mins. T. Beacall, 1-2; J. Aspinwall (conductor), 3-4; W. Davies, 5-6.

LONDON.—On Tuesday evening, November 25th, at St. Giles's-in-the-Fields, a muffled peal was rung in memory of the late George Stockham. D. Parlett, 1; W. Williams (conductor), 2; F. Bennett, 3; H. May, 4; F. Thomas, 5; W. Evans, 6; D. Living, 7; J. Tingey, 8. Tenor 18 cwt.

LONDON.—*Muffled Peal.*—On Thursday evening, November 27th, at the fortnightly practice at St. Sepulchre's church, the bells were rung half-muffled as a last token of respect to the memory of the late George Stockham, who was for many years a ringer at that church. This was done through the kindness of steeplekeeper Lovatt, who was a pupil of the deceased prominent ringer.

MITCHAM (Surrey).—On Saturday evening, November 22nd, the Benhilton society, consisting of twelve members, visited Christ Church, and a 720 of Plain Bob Minor was rung with eighteen bobs and two singles in 24 mins. W. Walker, 1; John Trendell, 2; G. Petrie, 3; James Trendell, 4; C. Trendell, 5; G. J. Fayers (conductor), 6. Also about 400 of Kent Treble Bob by T. Guiger, 1; G. J. Fayers, 2; G. Petrie, 3; James Trendell, 4; C. Trendell, 5; John Trendell (conductor), 6. And a few 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles by the other members, with the aid of some of the above; and a few courses of Grandsire Triples were rung on the handbells. Tenor 7½ cwt. in Eb.

NORTON (Staffordshire).—On Tuesday, November 25th, a 720 of Bob Minor in 28 mins. *W. Rigby, 1; E. Glover, 2; *C. Ollier, 3; J. W. Brough, 4; *S. Booth, 5; G. Walker (conductor), 6. Messrs. Rigby, Ollier, and Booth hail from Lawton. *First 720. [Will our correspondent kindly sent direct to us, not to the publisher?—Ed.]

NOTTINGHAM.—On Saturday, November 29th, being the monthly practice, at All Saints' church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, 1260 changes, in 50 mins. S. Wilkson, 1; F. G. Henson, 2; S. Wilkins, 3; J. Hardy, 4; W. Billingham, 5; A. R. Peet (conductor), 6; W. Goslin, 7; A. W. Sadler, 8. The above is the composition of Mr. J. Carter, Birmingham, and has the twenty-four 6-7's. Messrs. Hardy and Billingham hail from Loughborough, the rest are of the local company. The above are all members of the Midland Counties' Association with the exception of W. Gosling, who hails from Mansfield.

ROMFORD (Essex).—On Sunday afternoon, November 23rd, a 720 of Bob Minor, with eight bobs and ten singles, in 25 mins. W. Nash, 1; A. Pye, 2; J. Porter, 3; B. Keeble, 4; A. Porter, 5; A. J. Perkins (conductor), 6.

READING (Berks).—*Handbell Ringing*.—On Saturday, November 22nd, at "The Crown" Inn, on handbells, six 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles, called differently, was rung by a young band. H. Coffee, 1; A. Evans, 2; T. Sweetzer, 3; E. Reeves, 4; J. Gibbard (conductor), 5-6.

RUSHDEN (Northamptonshire).—On Monday evening, December 1st, at St. Mary-the-Virgin, a 720 of Plain Bob. H. Clayton, 1; *J. Baker, 2; W. Hall, 3; A. Martin, 4; H. Stubbs (conductor), 5; C. Baker, 6. And another 720 of Plain Bob, H. Clayton, 1; J. Baker, 2; W. Hall, 3; A. Martin, 4; A. Wright, 5; H. Stubbs (conductor), 6. W. Hall and A. Stubbs hail from Raunds; A. Martin and A. Wright from Higham Ferrers; the rest belong to Rushden. *First 720 in the method. Tenor 20 cwt.

STANSTEAD (Essex).—On Sunday, November 2nd, at the church of St. Mary the Virgin, six of the local company rang a 360 of Plain Bob Minor. J. Cavill, 1; J. Mamford, 2; H. Prior, jun., 3; G. Gray, 4; Isaac Cavill, 5; H. Prior (conductor), 6. Also on Wednesday, November 5th, a 720 of Plain Bob Minor, in 27 mins. J. Cavill, 1; H. Trigg, 2; H. Prior, jun., 3; G. Gray, 4; Isaac Cavill, 5; C. Prior (conductor), 6. And 360 of Oxford Treble Bob Minor. J. Cavill, 1; J. Luckey, 2; H. Prior, jun., 3; G. Gray, 4; Isaac Cavill, 5; C. Prior (conductor), 6. Also on Sunday, November 9th, a 360 of Kent Treble Bob Minor. J. Cavill, 1; J. Luckey, 2; H. Prior, jun., 3; G. Gray, 4; J. Cavill, 5; H. Prior (conductor), 6. And on Thursday, November 20th, a 360 of Double Court Bob Minor. J. Cavill, 1; J. Luckey, 2; H. Prior, jun., 3; G. Gray, 4; Isaac Cavill, 5; H. Prior (conductor), 6. Tenor 13 cwt. *Handbell Ringing*.—Also on Saturday, November 29th, the handbell ringers rang a course of London Surprise Major, a course of Double Norwich Court Bob Royal, and a course of Double Norwich Court Bob Maximus. W. Prior, H. Prior, C. Prior, G. Prior, Wm. Prior, H. Prior.

STANDISH (Lancashire).—On Saturday, November 22nd, a 720 of Bob Minor, with sixteen bobs and two singles, in 27 mins. John Grounds (conductor), 1; Ralph Rainford, 2; Richard Farrinond, 3; Walter Heyes, 4; Thomas Walker, 5; Alfred Simm, 6. Also on Saturday, November 29, a 720 of Bob Minor, with sixteen bobs and two singles, in 26 mins. John Grounds (conductor), 1; Ralph Rainford, 2; William Croston, 3; Walter Heyes, 4; Alfred Simm, 5; James Higson, 6. Tenor 11 cwt.

STISTED (Essex).—On Thursday, November 27th, for practice, a 720 of Bob Minor, with sixteen bobs and two singles, in 24 mins. C. Duncomb, 1; W. Bearman, 2; A. Chaplin, 3; S. Sargeant, 4; E. Radley, 5; W. Radley (conductor), 6. All except C. Duncombe are members of the Essex Association. Messrs. Bearman and Sargeant hail from Bocking, the rest are local ringers.

SPALDING (Lincolnshire).—On Thursday, November 20th, at the church of SS. Mary and Nicolas, a 720 of Double Court Bob, with eighteen bobs and two singles, and a 720 of Plain Bob, with eighteen bobs and two singles. And on Sunday, November 23rd, for morning service, a 480 of College Single, with nine bobs and two singles. Also for evening service, a 720 of Yorkshire Court Bob, with twenty-six singles. And after service, a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob. And on Saturday, November 25th, 2520 changes in four different methods, viz.: 720 of Yorkshire Court Bob, 720 of Kent Treble Bob, 720 of Double Court Bob, and 360 of Oxford Treble Bob. This was an attempt for a 5040, but on going into the fourth peal, the man at the 5th bell said he should not be able to go through the 5040, so it was deemed advisable to come round half way. And on Thursday, November 27th, an attempt was made for the remaining three-and-a-half 720s. After raising the bells and starting into rounds, the shaft of the clapper of the 5th bell accidentally broke completely in half, so consequently the attempt was abandoned. J. S. Wright, 1; J. Wilson, 2; G. L. Richardson, 3; R. Mackman, 4; E. Brown, 5; J. Brown (conductor), 6. And on Wednesday, November 26th, Confirmation Day, for service, a 360 of Oxford Bob, and after service, a 720 of Plain Bob. G. Harrison, 1; J. Wilson, 2; J. S. Wright, 3; R. Mackman, 4; E. Brown, 5; J. Brown, 6. And on Advent Sunday, November 30th, for early celebration, a 720 of Plain Bob, with twenty-six singles, and for morning service a 720 of Kent Treble Bob, with nine bobs, and for evening service, a 720 of Oxford Single Bob, with nine bobs and six singles. And after service, a 720 of Double Court Bob. J. S. Wright, 1; J. Wilson, 2; G. L. Richardson, 3; R. Mackman (conductor), 4; E. Brown, 5; J. Brown, 6.

TAMWORTH (Staffordshire).—On Wednesday, November 26th, at the parish church, six 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles, each called differently, with 6 4 8 behind the 3rd, and 5th the observation, in 29 mins. J. Windridge, 1; T. Wright, 2; H. Slaney, 3; H. Chatterton, 4; F. Chapman, 5; H. Keen, 6; G. Woods, 7; W. Gennings, 8. Tenor 22½ cwt. This is the first 720 rung by any of the above.

WORCESTER.—On Sunday, November 23rd, on the occasion of the Mayor and Corporation attending Divine Service at the Cathedral, the Cathedral society attempted a quarter-peal of Grandsire Caters, but after ringing nearly 1000 changes the rope of the 11th bell cast wheel, which caused a stand. After service at St. Helen's, during the procession from the Cathedral, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 47 mins. T. Clements, 1; H. Pheasant, 2; J. Hinton, 3; W. Blandford, 4; G. Hobbs, 5; H. Wilkes (conductor), 6; T. Gwynne, 7; T. Malim, 8.

BELLRINGERS' RULES.

The following is a copy of ringers' rules, written nearly a hundred years ago, the original of which is to be seen in the belfry of Stow Church, near Gainsboro'.

Articles and Orders to be Observed by the Ringers.

All you who hath a mind to learn to ring,	
Must to the sexton admission money bring,	2 6
Those articles observed quite strict must be,	
Or you're expelled this Society.	
Two nights a week, Sirs, you must meet, or pay	
This forfeiture to us without delay	0 2
Or when the Sexton tolls for you a bell,	
You must appear, or else this forfeit tell	0 2
And when you come upon this Belfry,	
If that you noise and talk, this forfeit pay	0 1
When you round peals can ring, you must pay down;	
To be a changeman, Sirs, just half-a-crown	2 6
On the first change that you have learnt to ring,	
One shilling more must pay, Sirs, that's the thing	1 0
And every ringer must spend more or less,	
As he thinks meet, to wish you good success	0 2
If you would learn to prick a peal in score,	
Unto these college-youths you must pay more	1 0
When you know Bob, Hunt, Single, Dodge, compleat,	
You'll not deny our college-youths a treat	2 6
On our feast day, the twenty-ninth of May	
Each Member must, Sirs, just one shilling pay	1 0
When our accmpts are past, Sirs, for truth,	
And you are stiled then a college-youth,	
New Stewards then are chose—and by-the-bye,	
If that you do the Stewardship deny,	
Your fine must pay as in the margin see	1 6
Then from the Stewardship one year you're free.	
These Rules peruse well before you enter—	
It's a hard task on which you venture.	
When once a Member you are freely made	
Those articles must justly be obeyed.	
So now, my lads, admission money bring	2 6
And we will learn you presently to ring.	

JOHN MARSHALL, Master.
WILLIAM SWIFT, Notary.

March the 1st, 1770.

In a column by the side of the fines some peals are written down in very minute figures. The subjoined rules are also hung up in the same belfry:

We ring the quick to church, the dead to grave.
Good is our use, such usage let us have.
Who swares, or curses, or in chol'ric mood
Quarrels, or strikes, although he draws no blood;
Who wears his hat, or overturns a bell,
Or by unskilful handling mars a peal—
Let him pay sixpence for each single crime,
'Twill make him cautious 'gainst another time.
So when the bells are ceased, then let us sing,
God bless our holy Church! God save our King!

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."

ANCIENT BELLS.

SIR,—To test the accuracy of the entry in Kelly's Directory respecting East Ilsley bells, I and a friend made the ascent of the church tower some twelve months ago. After a hard struggle in the midst of dirt, grease and guano, we succeeded in reaching the object of our journey, and as we anticipated, found the date upon it to be 1612. The 6 however was almost inverted, and to a casual observer might be taken for a o.

T. HAYWARD.

St. Lawrence's Society, Reading.

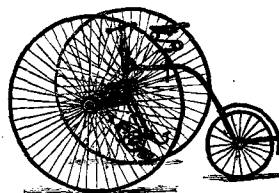
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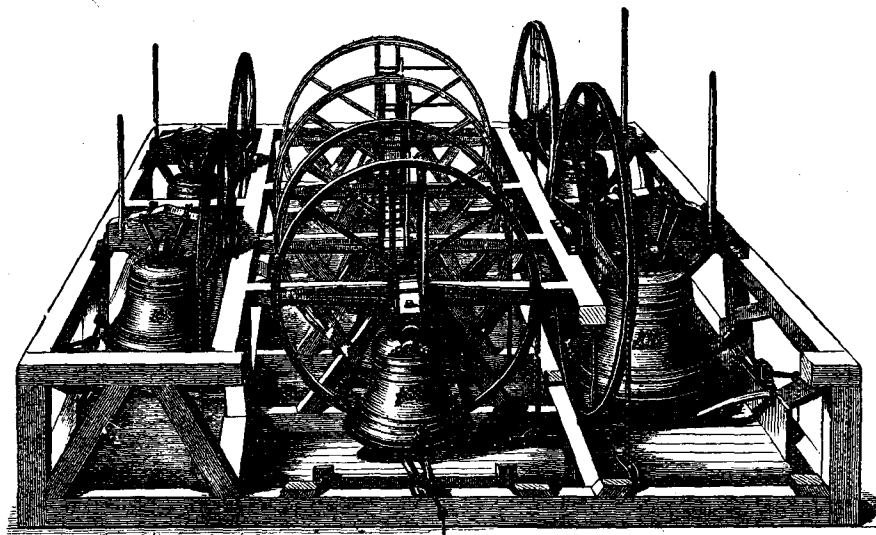
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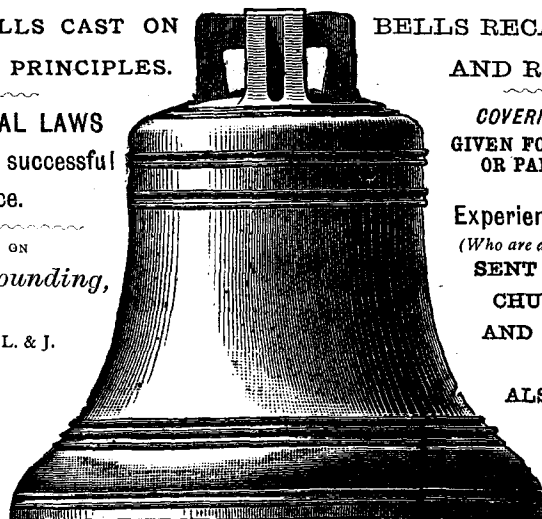
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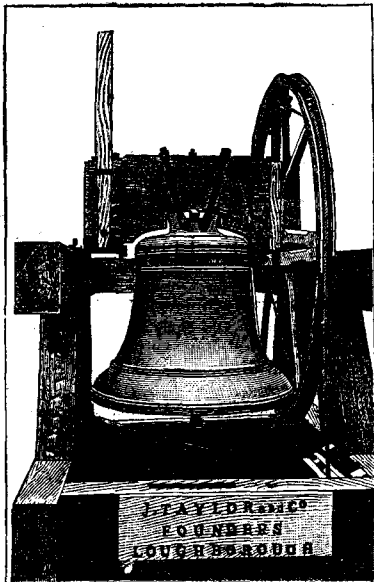
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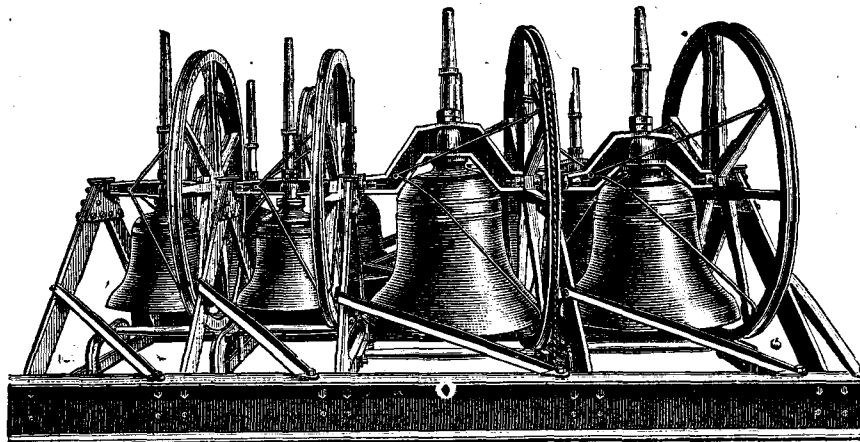
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No. 141. [NEW SERIES.]—VOL. III. SATURDAY, DECEMBER 13, 1884.

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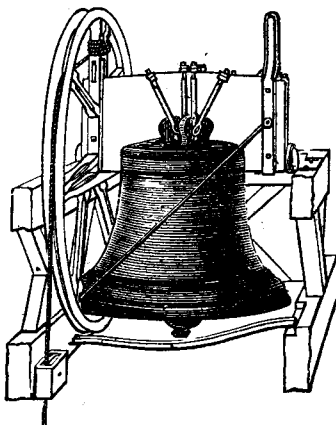
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IN SETS TO ANY NUMBER.

J. SHAW, SON & Co.,
BELL FOUNDERS
AND
CHURCH BELL HANGERS.
BRADFORD.
ESTABLISHED 1848.
LISTS AND ESTIMATES FREE

MUSICAL HAND BELLS

CHURCH BELLS TO ANY WEIGHT.

BELL TINKERING.—THE BLACKSMITH.

THIS species of work must be sought for in the country, as in London anything out of order can be easily placed in proper hands, and another circumstance, namely, that most of the steeples there were from the beginning supplied with proper fittings for bells in full swing. Supposing the tradesman above-named is not even a round-ringer; but nevertheless, under the circumstances so common in the country, is considered by the authorities more than qualified for such a simple thing as repairing and renewing bell fittings. Let us briefly consider what will be his handy work. A loose gudgeon is found; our artist screwjacks and crowbars up the bell, not without considerable damage to the lip, and finds out what he did not know before, that the bearings work in a brass box, and not in the wood, as he has previously strongly insisted on. He now sets to work, finding the iron is oval, may suppose this is right (the writer has seen a pair of oval gudgeons made, because it was "as I found it," the operative would remark), and give the opposite bearing a file up, or both may be taken to his forge, and get a heat up, knock up, and file round. By this time someone might suggest taking the stock off, in order to get things true, but that would be a "great undertaking." And so our bell is eventually re-mounted, which will in due time, and plenty of round-ringing greatly improve, no doubt. Occasionally, however, "quarter turning" is demanded. This is nearly always accomplished by a sort of saucepan lid arrangement, placed in the crown of the bell, and is a very good plan for large bells, but fails in small ones, as the clapper is not long enough to lay on the bell; which causes it to strike twice. Our blacksmith, if entrusted to bore holes, or knock off crown staples, has done terrible deeds in many places, which have eventually necessitated a recast. When a bell is thought too low, an extraordinary piece of machinery, in the shape of cranking the gudgeons has occasionally been met with, the effect of which has been to make the wheel an eccentric. On the subject of clappers, a whole volume of illustrations might be published of different examples, with and without flights—old sledge hammers "shot" on, clappers that strike all round the circumference of the lip, clappers straight, and T shaped; a museum of such would be interesting far enough off a steeple.

Lastly, if the person in question be of the "harmonious" stamp, woe be to that bell that is a little sharp or flat. A certain heavy bell not long since, was greatly reduced in consequence of too much zeal in this direction by one of these professors; (we are all artists and professors now). Of course under the direction of a ringer, or if the man is a ringer himself, things will be done in a better way; speaking generally, the smith is the most intelligent tradesman in the village. G.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

THE Third Quarterly Meeting of this Association will be held at Burton-on-Trent, on Saturday, December 27th, 1884. The following towers will be opened for ringing from 1.30, viz.: Winhill, six bells; Horninglow, six bells; the parish church, Burton-on-Trent, eight bells; and St. Paul's, Burton-on-Trent, eight bells. Friends on arrival are requested to proceed to St. Paul's Institute, where the local committee will be in attendance to assist in forming bands for ringing. Committee Meeting in St. Paul's Institute, at 4.0 p.m. Tea in St. Paul's Institute at 5.0 p.m. Tickets 1s. 6d. each. General Meeting immediately afterwards. R. W. PITT, Hon. Sec.
36, St. Paul's Street West, Burton-on-Trent.

ST. MICHAEL'S, FOLKESTONE.—The apex of the spire to this church having now been added, together with its tower, and also an aisle, has been set in its place with some ceremony.

A new church is about to be erected at Netley, on a site overlooking the ruins of the ancient Abbey. The sites of many of these decayed edifices would appear appropriate for Church extension.

DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR.

THE above is the title of a book of some eighty pages, a copy of which we have received from the author, Mr. Jasper W. Snowdon. The object of this book is to place the Exercise in possession of a detailed description of the method and such further information as has at different times been published on this subject.

In the first place, the mode of pricking Double Norwich Court Bob Major is explained, this is followed by a lengthy description of the way in which the duty of a bell in the method is to be learnt and remembered. A lineal diagram of the duty is given by which the working of a bell in a plain course can be seen at a glance. This diagram is a simple representation of the method by lines only, no figures being used. To facilitate the explanation of some "practical observations in ringing" a plain course, in figures, is also given. As Mr. Snowdon, who is himself a Double Norwich ringer, and the Burton-on-Trent Society of change-ringers, who have rung no less than six peals in this method, have all used these rules for learning Double Norwich which are here given, there is no doubt that these instructions may be relied on as being eminently practical.

The second chapter is devoted to an explanation of pricking by lead-ends and course-ends, and the manner in which any composition may be proved. Scales are given for pricking the lead-ends which require to be proved in a peal with the tenors together. An example of this mode of proof, as applied to a short touch, is also given.

Chapter III. consists of a few touches and a goodly collection of peals, many of which are for the first time published. These peals are classified as five, three, two and one-part peals, and show that several of our younger composers have not been idle during the last year or two. The fourth and concluding chapter contains a historical account of all peals known to have been rung in the method; full particulars of these performances are given. The whole concludes with a tabulated list of the different peals, this comprises thirty-five peals of Major, three of Royal, and one of Maximus. Of the Major peals, the first was rung in 1771, and the twentieth in 1877, since which time fifteen peals have been rung, namely, five in 1882, five in 1883, and the same number in 1884.

The book is got up in a paper cover, on the front of which the lineal diagram is reproduced. The published price is One Shilling, for which it may be obtained, post free, from Mr. Jasper W. Snowdon, Ivy Terrace, Wortley, near Leeds.

ST. BRIDE'S, FLEET STREET, LONDON.

ON Tuesday evening, December 9th, the steeplekeeper of this church, Mr. John Cox, attained his 71st birthday, and the Cumberland Society, in wishing him many happy returns, arranged for a band to attempt a complimentary peal of Grandsire Caters, Mr. Cox being an old member of the company and steeplekeeper of this church for many years. At the request of one of their number, the following gentlemen were compelled to stand, after ringing about 2400 changes, in 1 hr. 27 mins. Albert Church, Geo. Newson (conductor), W. H. Fussell, J. Mansfield, A. Jacobs, J. Barry, G. Russell, W. H. Doran, Samuel Jarman, and J. Balaam. We are pleased to mention that Mr. Cox is fairly well, although the recent wet and unseasonable weather is much against his health. We sincerely trust he may have a comfortable winter.

DEBENHAM.—The large parish church of this Suffolk village has been reopened after partial restoration at the cost of £700. The great section of the work has been chiefly confined to the south aisle. The aisle has been secured from damp and ventilated, the walls repaired, recased with flints and brick buttresses; the windows have been repaired, the tracery renewed where defective, in accordance with the similar ones in the north aisles, and two which were bricked up have been reopened. At the same time the pulpit, built in 1602, has been restored, and the font is undergoing restoration, and will be removed from the south to the north side. A new altar table, given by Lord Henniker, has been placed in the chancel.

THE Danish Consul at Boston, U.S.A., thinks that the Vikings must have discovered the New World centuries before Columbus and Vespuccio were born. From time immemorial, a large brass bell has lain in Castle Island, in Boston harbour, and this gentleman has deciphered an inscription on it which is in ancient Danish. More important hypotheses have been based on slighter data; and the old sea-kings were mighty rovers, so perhaps he may be right in his conclusion.—*Illustrated London News*.

REOPENING OF HEXHAM ABBEY BELLS.

ON Thursday, the 4th inst., at the kind invitation of the rector and churchwardens, several members of the Durham and Newcastle Association repaired to the above little Northumbrian town to open this far-famed peal of eight, after a silence of six months, caused by a thorough restoration in the tower. The work was placed in hands of the Whitechapel firm—Mears and Stainbank—who have carried out their work in a thoroughly satisfactory manner to all parties. There is one matter which could be easily remedied with little trouble, but which ought to be looked to at once, and that is the 7th bell, which strikes rather falsely, being slow at hand, and consequently quick at the back stroke. A deadening floor would also be an excellent addition, but this can be done by a local firm, and is a matter of future consideration. The former fault, however, would be a great drawback to the advancement of young hands in the art. The tenor weighs between 18 and 20 cwt.

During the day the musical qualities of this ring were displayed to considerable advantage in Treble and Plain Bob, Grandsire and Stedman, the striking being very good, but owing to the defects already pointed out, nothing of any length could be accomplished.

At 1.30 p.m. a substantial dinner was provided at the "North Eastern" hotel, the choir being taken by the rector (Canon Barker), supported by Messrs. Lockhart (Hexham), and Clarkson (Stockton). When the table was cleared, the chairman addressed a few words of encouragement to those present and hoped they would soon have an efficient branch of the Association at the Abbey. After one or two toasts the handbells were produced, and a course of Caters executed on them. An adjournment was then made to the tower to ring for the service at 4 o'clock. The Rev. S. E. Pennefather, of Newcastle, preached to a large congregation, the people of Hexham thus shewing the great interest they take in their beautiful bells. The bells were lowered in peal at 7 o'clock, and the ringers were then invited to take tea at the "North Eastern" hotel before leaving. The 8.10 train for Newcastle saw the last of the visitors depart, and thus ended a day long to be remembered by ringers and parishioners alike. The warmest thanks of the Durham and Newcastle Association are due to the rector and churchwardens of the Abbey church, for the extreme kindness and hospitality they displayed to its members.

As stated before, short touches were the order of the day, consisting of a 576 of Treble Bob, 560 and 336 of Plain Bob, and one or two short touches of Grandsire. The following ringers took part in the above—Messrs. Stephenson and Clarkson, of Stockton; Reed, Wignell, and Smith of North Shields; Harrison of Jarrow; and Lees, Story Brothers, Routledge, and Wallis, of Newcastle. The Newton Hall members displayed their skill in the art by ringing a touch of "stoney," this being the extent of their learning on eight bells.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION AND THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS AT GREAT BADDOW, ESSEX.

ON Saturday, December 6th, a band of the Essex Association, being also members of the Ancient Society of College Youths, met at the parish church to attempt a peal of Grandsire Triples. The bells have recently been rehung by Messrs. Warner and Son, in the old frame, with new stocks, wheels, &c., but unfortunately the peal is sadly marred by the 3rd bell, which is only a semitone, instead of a full tone lower than the second. The tenor is about 12 cwt in G. The peal came to grief after about 2400 changes had been rung owing to a shift, and as time would not allow of another start an adjournment was made to the "White Horse," where, by the kindness of Mr. Velej, Churchwarden, a substantial repast had been prepared for the ringers, to which about fourteen sat down, the Rev. H. A. Cockey, Hon. Sec. of the Association, presiding. There were also present Messrs. W. S. Pavitt, of Rettendon, H. F. de Lisle, of Galleywood, and J. M. Hayes, of London. Mr. Velej, who joined the company after supper, after responding to a vote of thanks for his hospitality and kindness, proposed as a toast "Success to the Essex Association," and expressed great pleasure at having had the opportunity of meeting so many members of a Society to which he hoped shortly to belong. "Prosperity to the College Youths" was proposed by Mr. Pinnock, and responded to by Mr. Hayes. A pleasant hour was afterwards spent in change-ringing and tune-playing on the handbells.

An exchange of the advowson of Chorley, Lancashire, and Eaglescliff, Durham, has been effected. Each benefice is a rectory of the annual value of £1000. In consequence of the exchange the Bishop of Manchester becomes Patron of Chorley, and the Rev. G. C. Master, vicar of Thurnham, Kent, patron of Eaglescliff.

New clocks of a pattern in uniformity with the oak fittings of the courts will shortly be supplied to the various Law Courts, in place of those now in use, many of which were brought from the old courts at Westminster.

CHURCH BELLS OF LEICESTERSHIRE.

The following notes are extracted from *Church Bells of Leicestershire*, by the late Mr. North, F.S.A.:—"There are in Leicestershire 998 Church Bells. Of these only 147 can be said with any certainty to have been cast before the year 1600.

Exclusive of churches with only one bell, Caldwell (3 bells), Sproxtton (3 bells), Wanlip (3 bells), Brentingby (2 bells), Crange (2 bells), Walton Isley (2 bells), and Wyfordby (2 bells), are the only places in the county where complete rings of ancient bells still exist.

The Dedications and Legends of these 146 ancient bells may be thus summarised:—

Two are dedicated to the Ever Blessed Trinity (Cottesbach 2nd and Long Clawson 4th).

One bears simply the Holy Name +JHESUS (Wistow 3rd).

Ten have "the superscription of His accusation":—

+JHESUS NAZARENUS REX JUDEORUM

in various forms (Ashby-de-la-Zouch 6th; Birstall 3rd; Caldwell 1st; Kegworth 3rd and 4th; the single bell at Newton Harcourt; Ratby 4th; Sproxtton 2nd; Thorpe Arnold 2nd; and Witherley 5th).

Six carry the short invocation or prayer,

+JESUS BE OUR SPEED

(Church Langton 6th; Croxton Kerrial 2nd; Knipton 1st; Stoke Golding 3rd; Swinford 1st; and (slightly altered) Thurstaston 3rd).

Thirty-two are dedicated to, or bear inscriptions relating to, the B.V. Mary in these forms:—

1. +Maria.

1. J.H.S. Maria.

1. +Beata Maria.

2. Sancta Maria.

1. Hvjvs Sancte Maria.

6. +Ave Maria.

3. +Ave Maria gracia plena.

11. +Ave Maria gracia plena Dominus tecum.

3. +In Honore Beata Marie.

1. +Stella Maria Maris Succurre Piissima Nobis.

1. Clemens Atque Pia Miseris Succurre.

1. +Sum Rosa Pulsata Mundi Maria Vocata.

One bell is dedicated to the Archangel Gabriel, and three to the Archangel Michael; three are dedicated to S. Anne, the mother of the B.V. Mary; one to S. Botolph; four to S. Catherine; one to S. Cornelius (Pope A.D. 252—a rare dedication); one to S. Cuthbert; one to S. Helen; one to S. James; two to S. John; one to S. John Baptist; one to S. Lawrence; two to S. Leonard; one to S. Mark; two to S. Mary Magdalene; one to S. Nicholas; one to S. Paul; eight to S. Peter; one to S. Richard (Bishop of Chichester A.D. 1253—an unusual dedication); one to S. Stephen the Proto-martyr; and one to All Saints.

There are two bells from the same foundry (Cossington 3rd and Welham 2nd) inscribed:—

Celorum xpe placeat tibi Rex sonus iste.

One bell (Little Peatling 1st) bears a series of crosses; and two (East Norton 3rd and Cossington 1st) the letter S repeated. Ten have a number, more or less, of the letters of the alphabet (Bruntingthorpe 1st; Edmondthorpe 1st; Hoby 1st; Illston 2nd; Peatling Magna 4th; Shearsby 2nd; Shepey 3rd; Swinford 4th; Thurlaston 3rd; and the single bell at Welby).

Four are inscribed:—

Vox. dni. ihu. xpi. vox. exultacionis.

Eleven have imperfect or unintelligible inscriptions, viz.:—Barkeston 2nd; Beeby 1st; Croft 3rd; Houghton 2nd; Hungarton 3rd; Kegworth 2nd; Leicester, All Saints, 2nd; Long Whatton 1st; Narborough 4th; Newton Linford 4th; Queniborough 1st.

Eighteen are dated; and the remainder of the 147 ancient bells are, Aylestone 2nd; Calthorpe 1st; Hoby 3rd; Illston 3rd; Pickwell 2nd; Scraftoft 1st; Sproxtton 1st; Stoughton 1st; Thorpe Langton 1st; and Wanlip 3rd.

The earliest dated bell in Leicestershire is the 3rd of Old Dalby ring, dated 1584.

On the 3rd bell at Thurstaston are figures of the Virgin and Child; upon the 2nd at Welham appears the patron saint of the church, S. Andrew, and upon the 2nd bell at Wanlip is the figure of an angel on either side of the initial cross."

CHANGE OF RESIDENCE.—Mr. H. W. Haley asks us to state that he has removed to the following address: 73, Cyprus Street, Globe Road, Bethnal Green, London.

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS.

5003.

By ROBERT WILLIAMS, *Liverpool*.

5 3 6 2 4 9th in two and 7 8 9.
 4 2 3 5 6 9th in two.
 3 4 2 5 6 7th in three.
 2 3 4 5 6 7th in and out at three.

4 2 3 5 6 9th in three.
 3 2 6 5 4 8 9.
 6 3 2 5 4 9th in three.
 2 6 3 5 4 9th in three.
 3 6 4 5 2 8 9.
 4 3 6 5 2 9th in three.
 6 4 3 5 2 9th in three.
 3 4 2 5 6 8 9.
 2 4 6 5 3 8 9.
 6 2 4 5 3 9th in three.
 4 6 2 5 3 9th in three.

3 4 6 5 2 9th in three s.
 6 3 4 5 2 9th in three.
 4 3 2 5 6 8 9.
 2 4 3 5 6 9th in three.
 3 2 4 5 6 9th in three.
 4 2 6 5 3 8 9.
 6 4 2 5 3 9th in three.
 2 6 4 5 3 9th in three.
 4 6 3 5 2 8 9.
 3 6 2 5 4 8 9.
 2 3 6 5 4 9th in three.
 6 2 3 5 4 9th in three.

2 5 3 6 4 8th in three.
 3 2 5 6 4 9th in three.
 5 2 4 6 3 8 9.
 4 5 2 6 3 9th in three.
 2 4 5 6 3 9th in three.
 5 4 3 6 2 8 9.
 3 5 4 6 2 9th in three.
 4 3 5 6 2 9th in three.
 5 3 2 6 4 8 9.
 2 3 4 6 5 8 9.
 4 2 3 6 5 9th in three.
 3 4 2 6 5 9th in three.

5 3 4 6 2 9th in three s.
 4 5 3 6 2 9th in three.
 3 5 2 6 4 8 9.
 2 3 5 6 4 9th in three.
 5 2 3 6 4 9th in three.
 3 2 4 6 5 8 9.
 4 3 2 6 5 9th in three.
 2 4 3 6 5 9th in three.
 3 4 5 6 2 8 9.
 5 4 2 6 3 8 9.
 2 5 4 6 3 9th in three.
 4 2 5 6 3 9th in three.

9th in and out as usual, 3 2 5 4 7 6 9 8, 5ths
 and 6th twenty-four courses behind the 9th.

A 1/2-PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES.

By J. WRIGHT, *King's Norton*.

2 3 4 5 6 7

7 5 2 6 3 4 1
 2 3 7 5 4 6 3
 4 6 2 7 5 3 2
 3 7 4 5 6 2 1
 4 6 3 7 2 5 8
 5 7 4 2 6 3 1
 2 7 5 3 4 6 5
 6 3 2 4 7 5 1
 3 2 6 4 7 5 4
 6 7 3 2 5 4 8
 4 2 6 5 7 3 1
 6 7 4 2 3 5 8
 5 2 6 3 7 4 1
 5 3 2 4 6 7 P.L.

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE ROYAL.

5040.

By JOHN CARTER, *Birmingham*.

2 3 4 5 6

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

2 3 6 5 4 7th in three and 8 9.
 6 3 4 5 2 7 8.
 6 3 2 5 4 7th in three and 8 9.
 2 5 3 6 4 8th in three.
 3 5 4 6 2 7 8.

The first twelve courses twice repeated, 7 8
 instead of the 9th and 10th being called in and
 out in the first course of each part, produce:

5 3 4 2 6 7 10 8 9

when 8th in and out at three with a double
 bring the bells round. This peal contains the
 6th 24 times right. * 9th in and 10th in and
 out.

Rung at Manchester Cathedral, on October 28th, 1884;
 conducted by F. G. Newman.

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB ROYAL.

5000.

By SAMUEL WOOD, *Ashton-under-Lyne*.

2 3 4 5 6 M W H

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

Rung at Manchester Cathedral on Tuesday, October
 14th, 1884; conducted by its composer.

TWO PEALS OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR.

By JOHN J. BRIERLEY, *Saddleworth*.

6560.

2 3 4 5 6 B W H

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

Four times repeated.

5184.

2 3 4 5 6 M B W H

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

Twice repeated.

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CINQUES.

5037.

By JOHN R. PRITCHARD, *Liverpool*.

2 3 4 5 6

6 5 3 2 4 9th in and out at three.
 5 2 3 6 4 11th in four.
 2 6 3 5 4 11th in four.
 4 5 6 2 3 11th in three.
 5 2 6 4 3 11th in four.
 2 4 6 5 3 11th in four.

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

4 3 6 5 2 10 11.
 3 5 6 4 2 11th in four.
 5 6 3 4 2 9 10.
 6 3 5 4 2 9 10.

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

Brought round by the following:

6 2 3 4 5 7 8 11 9 10

11 7 6 10 4 9 2 8 3 5 2
 8 9 11 5 10 3 7 2 6 4 2
 5 7 10 8 11 6 9 4 5 2 3 6
 3 5 7 2 9 4 11 6 10 8 3

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE MAJOR.

5680.

By MATTHEW PAILTHORPE, *Staleybridge*.

4 3 6 5 2 M
 6 5 3 4 2 8th in two.
 3 4 5 6 2 8th in two.
 6 4 5 3 2 8th in three.
 4 5 6 3 2 H
 5 6 4 3 2 H
 3 6 4 5 2 8th in three.
 6 4 3 5 2 H
 3 5 4 6 2 8th in two.
 4 6 5 3 2 8th in two.
 3 6 5 4 2 8th in three.
 5 4 6 3 2 8th in two.
 3 4 6 5 2 8th in three.
 4 6 3 5 2 H
 3 5 6 4 2 8th in two.
 Four times repeated.

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR.

5088.

By JOHN THORP, *Ashton-under-Lyne*.

2 3 4 5 6 M B W H

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

Twice repeated.

WITH THE
CHRISTMAS SUPPLEMENT

OF THIS PAPER WILL APPEAR,

A PORTRAIT,

With a short biographical sketch, of that distinguished ringer and composer,

MR. JOHN COX,

Of the Society of Royal Cumberland Youths, London;

ALSO TWO STORIES—

"The Autobiography of an Ancient Tenor,"

AND

"The Lost Peal-Book;"

And other interesting and amusing matter.

Orders should be given at once to local booksellers and news-agents to secure copies, as a reprint of this Supplement is impossible.

"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.

Everything for insertion in this Journal to be addressed "The Editor of THE BELL NEWS, Walthamstow, London." Letters forwarded for publication, and performances under 5000 changes must reach us not later than Wednesday morning; and the insertion of any communication coming later than the first Postal delivery on Thursday morning cannot be guaranteed in that week's number. When it is found impossible from want of space to insert all touches forwarded, the earlier ones will have the preference.

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

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 dozen of cards, with a copy of the record of a peal, as it appears in our pages, sent post free on receipt of twenty-six halfpenny stamps.

The Bell News & Ringers' Record.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 13, 1884.

We suppose that there are few ringers who have not witnessed the astonishment of an outsider at being informed that in many places the bells were not habitually rung for Divine Service on Sundays. To the uninitiated it seems, with the exception perhaps of a few wedding peals, the only use there is for the expensive machinery found in so many church towers; and their wonder is mightily increased on receiving the information that the sound of the "church going bell" is in most cases produced by some labour-saving chiming apparatus.

Some clergymen, indeed, have a strong objection to Sunday ringing, looking on it perhaps as by no means an

act of service on the part of the ringers; whether they hold the same views with respect to the work of the organ-blower, the pew-opener, and other labourers, if we may so call them, of the Sabbath, is a question which perhaps had better not be too closely investigated.

Others again, are only too glad to have their bells rung in a proper manner on what is undoubtedly the proper occasion, but, too often, the ringers are found wanting. There are a few societies, but only a very few, whose members are so numerous or so enthusiastic, or so appreciative of their duties, or so well paid that they manage to perform those duties regularly every week. A more generally prevailing rule is for the company practising once a week to condescend to ring for service once a month, *without payment*; but there are unfortunately a great number of churches, having societies of accomplished ringers, and beautiful peals of bells, where the said ringers can only be induced to touch the bells, except for their own purposes, when they are paid for their own work.

We cannot help thinking that this is a great pity; it is unfortunate for the Exercise that it should not be as closely allied to the clergy as possible, and this object would be obtained in no better way than by a just appreciation of the proper use of church bells. We are afraid the clergy themselves have somewhat neglected their share of the matter, but thanks to the good work done by the County Associations, we may fairly hope to see the remedy more and more widely applied to what is an unmistakeable evil. In London, we have several instances of bells being rung, willingly, for service by ringers who have no local connection with the churches in question: but there is room for improvement in this direction. We would, without appearing to dictate, ask the leading men of the Exercise to consider the question we have laid before them, and to see if they cannot arrive at our conclusion, that the sooner bell-ringing is recognized as Church work, the better will be its position, and the more extended its influence. If they can only realize this, there will soon be a change, and we are sure it will be a well-struck one, for ringers know that work must be done without hesitation and without slur, when a good peal is to be rung.

The Metropolis.

SOUTHWARK, SURREY.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

Muffled Peal.

On Friday, December 5, 1884, in Three Hours and Eight Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. GEORGE THE MARTYR,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S ORIGINAL. Tenor 18 cwt.

HENRY ALFORD	Treble.	RICHARD FRENCH	5.
JAMES R. HAWORTH	2.	MARTIN MURPHY	6.
HENRY LANGDON	3.	GEORGE CLEAL	7.
FREDERIC T. GOVER	4.	DANIEL NEWTON	Tenor.

Conducted by RICHARD FRENCH.

This peal was rung with the bells half-muffled, as a mark of respect to the memory of the late George Stockham, for over forty years steeplekeeper at the church of St. Clement Danes, Strand, and also an old and respected member of the above society.

MORTLAKE, SURREY.—THE ST. JAMES'S SOCIETY.

On Saturday, December 6, 1884, in Three Hours and One Minutes,

AT ST. MARY'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

BROOKS' VARIATION. Tenor 16 cwt.

GEORGE NEWSON Treble.	EDWARD F. STRANGE .. 5.
ALFRED C. FUSSELL† .. 2.	I. G. SHADE 6.
EDWARD FRENCH 3.	ARTHUR HAYWARD 7.
WILLIAM H. FUSSELL .. 4.	*EPHRAIM WOODLEY Tenor.

Conducted by GEORGE NEWSON.

This peal was arranged by Mr. Hayward. Mr. Woodley hails from Eton; the others Fussell from Slough; and the rest of the band from London.

* First peal. † First peal in the method.

The Provinces.

BIRMINGHAM.—ST. MARTIN'S SOCIETY.

On Monday, December 8, 1884, in Two Hours and Fifty-nine Minutes,

AT ST. JOHN'S CHURCH, DERITEND,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

THURSTANS' 5-PART. Tenor 13 cwt. in F#.

BOB JOYNES† Treble.	†ALFRED THOMAS* .. 5.
SAMUEL REEVES† .. 2.	*THOMAS REYNOLDS .. 6.
AMOS CRESSER† 3.	FRANK JAMES 7.
WILLIAM R. SMALL† .. 4.	JOSEPH JOHNSON Tenor.

Conducted by SAMUEL REEVES.

* First peal of Stedman Triples. † Members of the Ancient Society of College Youths. This is the second time this peal has been rung, the first being at the above church by the same Society, on July 9th, 1866.

DRAYTON, BERKS.—THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, December 6, 1884, in Three Hours and Three Minutes,

AT ST. PETER'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S ORIGINAL. Tenor 9½ cwt.

HARRY HOLIFIELD* Treble.	†REV. F. E. ROBINSON .. 5.
†RANULPH VINCENT† .. 2.	*C. W. HASLEWOOD GRIFFITH 6.
ARTHUR F. M. CUSTANCE† .. 3.	†JAMES W. WASHBROOK .. 7.
REV. F. H. DU BOULAY† .. 4.	*GEORGE H. SMITH Tenor.

Conducted by JAMES W. WASHBROOK.

* First peal. † College Youth. ‡ Oxford University Society. † College Youths and Oxford University Society.

HULL.—THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, December 6, 1884, in Three Hours and Thirty-seven Minutes,

AT ST. JAMES'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 6272 CHANGES;

Tenor 15 cwt.

FREDERICK MERRISON .. Treble.	HENRY JENKINS 5.
WM STOCKDALE 2.	CHARLEY BENNETT 6.
ROBERT CHAFFER 3.	JOHN WM. STICKNEY .. 7.
SAMUEL SLINGSBY 4.	CHARLES JACKSON Tenor.

Composed by CHARLES JACKSON, and conducted by JOHN WM. STICKNEY.

This is the longest peal ever rung in the East Riding. Messrs. Jenkins, Bennett, and Jackson belong to Holy Trinity, the rest to St. James's.

GLOSSOP, DERBYSHIRE.

THE 'ALL SAINTS' JUNIOR SOCIETY.

On Saturday, December 6, 1884, in Three Hours,

AT ALL SAINTS' CHURCH,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 15 cwt.

SAMUEL HARROP Treble.	CHARLES BROOKS 5.
SAMUEL JAMES 2.	SAMUEL SHAW 6.
JOHN BOOTH 3.	SAMUEL KNOTT 7.
JOSEPH MALONEY 4.	*JAMES BRIERLEY Tenor.

Composed by JOHN THORP, of Ashton-under-Lyne, and conducted by SAMUEL KNOTT.

Messrs. Booth, Shaw, and Brierley, hail from Dinting. * First peal.

PETTISTREE, SUFFOLK.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, December 6, 1884, in Two Hours and Fifty-seven Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF SS. PETER AND PAUL,

5040 CHANGES: IN SEVEN DIFFERENT METHODS UPON SIX BELLS;

Being a 720 of each of the following:—

Cambridge Surprise; Double Court Bob; College Single Bob;

Court Single Bob;

Kent Treble Bob; Oxford Treble Bob; and Bob Minor.

Tenor 11 cwt.

J. HOWARD Treble.	G. BAILEY 4.
E. R. TODD 2.	H. MATTIN 5.
W. P. GARRETT 3.	E. SHERWOOD Tenor.

Conducted by E. SHERWOOD.

This is the first peal ever rung on these bells, and also by the company. W. P. Garrett hails from Ufford; the rest from Wickham Market.

CANTERBURY, KENT.

THE CANTERBURY CATHEDRAL SOCIETY.

On Saturday, December 6, 1884, in Three Hours and Thirteen Minutes,

AT THE CATHEDRAL,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S ORIGINAL. Tenor 34 cwt. in C.

REV. F. J. O. HELMORE .. Treble.	ALFRED A. ANDREWS .. 5.
GEORGE STANCOMBE† .. 2.	RICHARD GOODBOURN .. 6.
HENRY G. FAIRBRASS* .. 3.	*SAMUEL SNELLING .. 7.
FREDERICK G. NEWMAN* .. 4.	*WILLIAM H. JUDD Tenor.

Conducted by GEORGE STANCOMBE.

* College Youths. † Cumberland.

The above is the first peal rung on the bells single-handed for 63 years, the last being a peal of Bob Major in 1816, when Thomas Cook rang the tenor. The above are also members of the Kent County Association.

SITTINGBOURNE, KENT.

THE CANTERBURY CATHEDRAL SOCIETY.

On Monday, December 8, 1884, in Three Hours and Nine Minutes,

AT ST. MICHAEL'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

REEVES'S VARIATION. Tenor 21 cwt. in E.

WILLIAM H. JUDD Treble.	JOHN H. SMALL 5.
ALFRED FOREMAN 2.	FREDERICK G. NEWMAN .. 6.
HENRY G. FAIRBRASS .. 3.	SAMUEL SNELLING 7.
GEORGE STANCOMBE 4.	†JOSEPH GREYSTED Tenor.

Conducted by FREDERICK G. NEWMAN.

The above is the first peal on the bells, for which Dr. F. Grayling has kindly promised a tablet. All the above are members of the Kent County Association.

† First peal.

HUGHENDEN, BUCKS.—THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Monday, December 8, 1884, in Three Hours and Eight Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

THURSTANS' PEAL. Tenor 12 cwt.

A. F. M. CUSTANCE a c .. Treble.	b SAMUEL HOUNSLOW .. 5.
REV. F. A. H. DU BOULAY d .. 2.	a C. W. H. GRIFFITH d .. 6.
J. RANULPH VINCENT a d .. 3.	e GEORGE WARNER 7.
JAMES W. WASHBROOK b .. 4.	b CHARLES HOUNSLOW .. Tenor.

Conducted by J. W. WASHBROOK.

a First peal in the method. b College Youths. c Oxford University Society. d College Youths and Oxford University Society. e Cumberland Youth.

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

Date Touch.

GAWSWORTH (Cheshire).—On Monday, December 8th, three of Higher Sutton company with three of the local company rang a date touch of 1884 changes of Grandsire Minor, consisting of a 720 with thirty-four bobs and two singles, a 720 with 36 bobs and twelve singles, and a 444 with twenty-seven bobs and three singles, in 1 hr. 10 mins. J. M. Davenport, 1; Jas. Simpson (Gawsworth), 2; Thos. Mottershead, 3; Wm. Henshall (Gawsworth), 4; Wm. Walmsley (conductor), 5; Walter Henshall (Gawsworth), 6. Tenor 15 cwt. in G.

Miscellaneous.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

SOUTH SHIELDS.—On Monday, December 8th, at St. Hilda's, for practice, a 720 of College Single, in 28 mins. Jas. Moffit, 1; J. T. Gibson, 2; R. Scrafton, 3; C. Wawn (first 720 in the method), 4; J. Hopper, 5; Jno. Moffitt (conductor), 6. Tenor 10 cwt.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

ALDINGTON (Kent).—On Tuesday evening, November 25th, at St. Martin's Church, a 720 of Bob Minor, with twenty-one bobs and six singles, in 27½ mins. Frank Wanstall, 1; David Hodgkin, 2; Fred. Wanstall, 3; Phillip Hodgkin, 4; Edward Hyder (conductor), 5; William Post, sen., 6. And on November 29th, a 360 of Oxford Treble Bob, in 14 mins. Charles Slingsby, 2; Thomas Hooker, 2; F. Wanstall, 3; P. Hodgkin, 4; E. Hyder (conductor), 5; William Post sen., 6. And another 360 of Oxford Treble Bob. C. Slingsby, 1; D. Hodgkin, 3; T. Hooker, 3; P. Hodgkin, 4; E. Hyder (conductor), 5; W. Post, sen., 6. And on November 30th, Advent Sunday, for Divine Service in the morning, a 720 of Bob Minor, with eighteen bobs and two singles. William Post, jun., 1; P. Hodgkin, 2; C. Slingsby, 3; F. Wanstall, 4; Thomas Hooker (conductor), 5; W. Post, sen., 6. Tenor 14 cwt. in G.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

ECCLES.—On Tuesday evening, December 2nd, six members of the above association, rang at the parish church, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor, in 27 mins. William Walton, 1; Charles Cash, 2; James Barrett, 3; Richard Ashcroft, 4; Alfred Eggington, 5; George Henry Johnson (conductor), 6. Tenor 13 cwt. 3qrs.

HULME (Manchester).—*Muffled Peal.*—On Sunday evening, November 30th, at Holy Trinity Church, six members of the Holy Trinity society rang for Divine Service, (as a mark of respect for their late rector), a 720 of Plain Bob Minor, with twenty-four bobs and eighteen singles, in 28 mins. Hy. Wagstaffe, 1; W. Roberts, 2; W. Diggle, 3; W. H. Lockett, 4; W. Hargreaves, 5; W. Savage (conductor), 6. Tenor 15½ cwt.

MANCHESTER.—On Saturday, December 6th, eleven members of the above Association, rang at the New Town Hall, Manchester, 1565 Grandsire Caters, in 1 hr. and 5 mins. Samson Knight, 1; William Roberts, 2; George E. Turner, 3; James Thorpe, 4; Joseph Grimshaw, 5; Albert E. Wreaks (conductor), 6; John Eachus, 7; George Mee, 8; John Withers, 9; Henry Mee and James Parkinson, 10. Tenor 52 cwt. in C. This is the longest length that has ever been rung on the bells.

WALKDEN (Lancashire).—On Saturday, December 6th, at St. Paul's church, a 720 of Bob Minor (eighteen bobs and two singles), in 26 mins. F. Rudman (conductor), 1; W. Denner, 2; J. Worthington, 3; J. Brookes, 4; F. Morris, W. Fielding, 6. Tenor 13½ cwt. Messrs. Rudman, Fielding, and Morris hail from Radcliffe, all the others are of the local company.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD AND THE OXFORD UNIVERSITY SOCIETY.

OXFORD.—On Thursday, December 4th, at New College, on Seage's apparatus, 1031 Stedman Triples. A. F. M. Custance, Esq. (B.N.C.), 1; W. Wakelin, 2; C. Hounslow, 3; J. R. Vincent, Esq. (St. John's), 4; J. W. Washbrook (conductor), 5; C. W. H. Griffiths, Esq. (C.C.C.), 6; W. Finch, 7; C. S. Rowland, Esq. (St. John's), 8. Also on Sunday, December 7th, at St. Michael's and All Angels, a 720 of Grandsire Minor. H. Castle, 1; A. F. M. Custance (B.N.C.), 2; F. Castle, 3; W. Baston, 4; C. Hounslow, 5; J. W. Washbrook (conductor), 6.

HIGH WYCOMBE (Bucks).—On Monday, December 8th, at All Saints' church, a 588 of Grandsire Triples, in 22 mins. Rev. F. A. H. Du Boulay, 1; C. Hounslow, 2; J. R. Vincent, Esq. (St. John's), 3; C. W. H. Griffiths, Esq. (C.C.C.), 4; A. F. M. Custance, Esq. (B.N.C.), 5; S. Hounslow, 6; J. W. Washbrook (conductor), 7; G. Warner, 8. Tenor 22 cwt.

STOKE-UPON-TRENT ARCHIDIACONAL ASSOCIATION.

WOLSTANTON (Staffordshire).—On Saturday, December 6th, a 720 of Grandsire Minor, in 26 mins, with the tenor behind. *W. Rigby, 1; L. Miller, 2; *C. Ollier, 3; *S. Booth, 4; F. Martin, 5; W. Miller (conductor), 6; *H. Lear, 7. *First 720 in the method. Messrs. Rigby, Ollier, and Booth hail from Lawton.

BALDOCK (Herts).—On Sunday, December 7th, at the church of St. Mary the Virgin, for Divine Service in the morning, 350 of Grandsire Triples. T. Webb, 1; J. Phillips, 2; J. Cawdell, 3; W. A. Tyler, 4; Robt. Jackson, 5; J. Hare, 6; J. Roslyn, 7; G. Gentle, 8. Also for

Divine service in the evening, a 728 of Grandsire Triples, standing as before with the exception of the 4th and 6th men changing places; both were conducted by W. A. Tyler. Tenor 28 cwt in D. *Handbell Ringing.*—In the afternoon, a 518 of Grandsire Triples, being the first part of Holt's 10-part peal. T. Webb, 1; J. Phillips, 2; W. A. Tyler, 3; J. Hare (conductor), 4; J. Smith, 5; Richard Jackson, 6; J. Roslyn, 7; G. Gentle, 8. W. A. Tyler and J. Hare hail from Hitchin.

BALCOMBE (Sussex).—On Sunday, November 30th, for evening service at St. Mary's Church, a 720 of Oxford Bob in 26 mins. J. Cheeseman, 1; Chas. Gasson, 2; H. Meads, 3; Thos. Lene, 4; E. Streeter, 5; J. Gasson (conductor), 6. Also after service a 360 in the same method. H. Meads, 1; Chas. Gasson, 2; J. Cheeseman, 3; Thos. Lene, 4; J. Gasson, 5; E. Streeter (conductor), 6. And three 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles. W. Lander, 1; J. Gasson, 2; E. Streeter, 3; H. Reeves, 4; T. Lene (conductor), 5; H. Meads, 6. Thos. Lene, Lander and Reeves hail from Hurstpierpoint; E. Streeter from Worth; the rest are local men.

BIDDULPH (Staffordshire).—On Sunday morning, November 30th, a 720 of Grandsire Minor, with forty-four bobs and four singles, in 25 mins. A. Cottrell, 1; C. Lawton, 2; M. Moss, 3; S. Mitchell, 4; S. Moore, 5; W. Carter (conductor), 6. Also for evening service, 360 of Plain Bob. *Muffled Peal.*—On Sunday, December 7th, a 720 of Grandsire Minor, with thirty-four bobs and two singles, with the bells deeply muffled, as a last tribute of respect to the late R. Myott, Esq. J. Moss, 1; E. Lawton, 2; M. Moss, 3; S. Mitchell, 4; S. Moore, 5; W. Carter (conductor), 6.

BOURNE (Lincoln).—On Monday evening, December 1st, at the Abbey Church, a 720 of London Single, with eighteen bobs and two singles, in 26 mins. J. T. Ball, 1; W. Pearce, 2; T. Taylor (aged 78 years), 3; J. T. Wolley (first 720 in the method), 4; R. Creasey (conductor; Spalding), 5; R. Sharpe, 6.

CRAWLEY (Sussex).—Recently, the Crawley Association rang two 504 changes of Grandsire Triples. P. Tullett, 1; Rev. J. B. Lennard, 2; Jacob Brown (Horsham), 3; J. Newnham, 4; W. Collison, 5; A. F. Hillier, 6; H. Burstow (Horsham), 7; W. Parsons (conductor), 8. Also four peals of Oxford Single Bob, 1st: forty bobs and two singles; 2nd: thirty-four bobs and twenty-six singles; 3rd: eight bobs and six singles; 4th: twenty-six singles. W. Parsons, 1; J. Newnham, 2; Jacob Brown (Horsham), 3; W. Collison, 4; A. F. Hillier, 5; H. Burstow (conductor), 7; J. Collison and P. Tullett (covers), 6 and 8.

DENFORD (Northamptonshire).—On Saturday, November 29th, at Holy Trinity church, a 720 of Plain Bob Minor, with eighteen bobs and two singles. A. Groom, 1; A. Arnold, 2; W. J. Gilbert (conductor), 3; H. Groom, 4; T. Arnold, 5; T. Roberts, 6.

DERBY.—On Monday, December 8th, at St. Andrew's church, a 720 of Grandsire Minor, in 30½ mins. W. Shardlow, 1; G. Mottershaw, 2; C. Hart, 3; W. Midgley, 4; H. Found, 5; A. E. Thompson (conductor), 6. This is the first 720 ever rung in which all the performers were St. Andrew's ringers.

EYE (Suffolk).—*Muffled Peal.*—On Saturday evening, December 6th, the members of the Eye company rang a muffled peal as a mark of respect to the memory of Mr. James Gayfer, who for many years was a member of this company, and who died in London after a painful affliction, leaving a wife and seven children to mourn their irreparable loss. The following took part in the ringing: F. Day, 1; Geo. Day, 2; W. Hayward, 3; F. Wright, 4; R. E. Gibbs, 5; G. Ford, 6; G. Murton, 7; J. Bumpstead (conductor), 8.

FAREHAM (Hants).—On Monday, December 1st, at St. Peter's church, a 518 of Grandsire Triples, the first part of Holt's ten-part, in 21 mins. W. Banting, 1; G. Williams (conductor), 2; G. Grafham, 3; F. Hill, 4; C. Privett, 5; G. Passingham, 6; J. Whiting, 7; G. Hackett, 8. Tenor 14 cwt.

FULNEY (Lincolnshire).—On Thursday, December 4th, at St. Paul's, on the back six, a 720 of Bob Minor. G. Keal, 3; E. Quinton, 4; R. Skeef, 5; A. Walker, 6; J. W. Creasey, 7; J. A. Croxford (conductor), 8. Time 26 mins. And on Sunday, after evening service 1008 changes of Grandsire Triples, in 36 mins. G. Keal, 1; 2nd left out; R. Skeef, 3; E. Quinton, 4; A. F. Walker, 5; R. Creasey, 6; J. W. Creasey, 7; J. A. Croxford (conductor), 8.

GARGRAVE (Yorkshire).—On Sunday, November 30th, for Divine Service in the morning at St. Andrew's church, a 720 of Bob Minor. Harry Birtwhistle, 1; James Wane (first 720), 2; W. Clarke, 3; W. Whitaker, 4; J. McGoun, 5; J. McKell (conductor), 6. Also for Divine Service in the evening another 720 in the same method. Harry Birtwhistle, 1; W. Clarke, 2; Wm. Walker (first 720), 3; Henry Birtwhistle, 4; J. McGoun, 5; J. McKell (conductor), 6. Tenor 16 cwt.

GREAT BENTLEY (Essex).—*Muffled Peal.*—On Thursday evening, December 4th, four 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles, each called

differently, was rung with bells deeply muffled, as a last token of respect, to the late Mr. Joseph Porter, who died on November 29th, in his 92nd year. He was formerly a ringer at Great Bentley, but has been residing at Colchester this last few years. Also a 6-score of Old Doubles, G. Taylor, 1; G. Howell, 2; J. Starling, 3; J. Taylor, 4; W. Nevard (conductor), 5.

GREAT BROMLEY (Essex).—On Wednesday evening, November 26th, for practice, a 720 of Plain Bob, in 28 mins. G. Taylor (first 720), 1; G. Howell, 2; J. Starling, 3; S. Bloice, 4; J. Taylor, 5; W. Nevard (conductor), 6. And on Monday, December 1st, being a ringing day, on the occasion of T. Nunn, Esq., coming to Bromley Lodge, seven 720's of Bob Minor was rung during the day. A. Bloice, 1; G. Howell, 2; J. Starling, 3; S. Bloice, 4; J. Taylor, 5; W. Nevard, 6. And on Sunday, December 7th, for morning service, a 720 of Bob Minor, in 25 mins. A. Bloice, 1; G. Howell, 2; J. Starling, 3; S. Bloice, 4; J. Taylor, 5; W. Nevard, 6. Tenor 18 cwt.

HANDSWORTH (Staffordshire).—On Sunday evening, December 7th, for Divine Service at St. Mary's Church, a 720 of Grandsire Minor, in 27 mins. F. Workman, 1; H. Bastable, 2; J. Buffery, 3; T. Reynolds, 4; W. Very, 5; J. Sanders (conductor), 6.

HAVERSTOCK HILL (Middlesex).—On Sunday evening, December 7th, for Divine Service, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob, with fifteen bobs in 26 mins. T. Titchener, 1; T. Gleed, 2; Geo. Griffin, 3; J. Hannington (conductor), 4; W. H. Fussell, 5; A. Jacobs, 6. And after service a 720 of Double Oxford Bob Minor, in 24 mins. W. H. Fussell, 1; J. Hannington, 2; E. Chapman, 3; T. Titchener, 4; A. Jacobs, 5; Geo. Newson (conductor), 6.

HITCHIN (Herts).—On Monday, December 7th, for practice at St. Mary's church, 350 of Grandsire Triples. H. Buckingham, 1; J. Randall, 2; W. French, 3; W. A. Tyler (conductor), 4; A. Squires, 5; S. Hare, 6; J. Hare, 7; J. Foster, 8. Also a 6-score of Grandsire Doubles on the back six, with J. Randall ringing the 3rd, the rest standing as before. Tenor 28 cwt. in D.

KIRKBURTON (Yorkshire).—On Saturday, December 6th, at St. John's church, a half-peal of Kent Treble Bob Major, in one course, consisting of 2720 changes, in 1 hr. 27 mins. D. Copley, 1; H. Kaye, 2; A. Armitage, 2; R. Hill, 4; J. Copley, 5; W. Whomarsley, 6; A. Whomarsley (conductor), 7; J. Pickering, 8. Composed by A. Sykes, of Huddersfield, and tested and found correct by J. W. Snowden, Esq., of Leeds. Messrs. Whomarsleys hail from Aldmonbury, the rest belong to Kirkburton. These bells were augmented from three to six and opened on the 6th of December, 1849; and cast by Mears and Stainbank and augmented to eight nine years since. Tenor 13½ cwt.

LEWISHAM (Kent).—*Muffled Peal.*—On Tuesday evening, December 2nd, a touch of Grandsire Triples, 1512 changes, in 59 mins., (taken from the Rev. C. D. P. Davies's five-part peal); also 1008 of Grandsire Triples, in 35 mins., taken from Taylor's bob-and-single peal). Thomas Sharman, 1; William Pead, 2; Frederic William Thornton, 3; William Weatherstone, 4; William Watchorn, 5; Thomas Taylor, 6; Abraham George Freeman (conductor), 7; Francis Palmer, 8. The above was rung with the bells half muffled, as a tribute of respect to the memory of the late Vicar of St. John's, Deptford (the Rev. J. A. Aston, M.A.), who died on Wednesday, the 26th ult., and was interred at Brockley Cemetery on the 1st inst.

LEYLAND (Lancashire).—On Wednesday, December 3rd, at the parish church of St. Andrew, a 720 of Plain Bob Minor (sixteen bobs and two singles), in 29 mins. W. Bowling (conductor), 1; J. Miller, 2; T. Bowling, 3; R. Bowling, 4; J. Banister, 5; W. Nelson, 6. The same was repeated by O. Worden (conductor), 1; J. Miller, 2; J. Banister, 3; H. Gregson, 4; T. Baron, 5; W. Nelson, 6. Also on Sunday morning, December 7th, for Divine Service, a 720 in the same method. O. Worden (conductor), 1; T. Bowling, 2; Wm. Bowling, 3; H. Gregson, 4; T. Baron, 5; W. Nelson, 6. Tenor 18½ cwt. Messrs. J. Miller, R. Bowling, and W. Nelson belong to St. James's parish church society.

LONG MELFORD (Suffolk).—On Saturday evening, December 6th, at Holy Trinity Church, 1008 of Bob Major, in 41 mins. James Bird, 1; P. Bixby, 2; George Hammond, 3; Zach. Slater, 4; John Slater, 5; Percy Scott, 6; Oliver Garwood, 7; Samuel Slater (conductor), 8.

LOUGHTON (Essex).—On Tuesday, December 2nd, for practice, a 209 of Grandsire Triples. J. Wincey, 1; E. Bacon, 2; R. A. Sworder, 3; J. Nunn, 4; W. Lebbon, 5; G. Akers, 6; T. Scarlett (conductor), 7; W. Clark, 8. Also a 300 of Bob Minor. E. Bacon, 1; R. A. Sworder, 2; J. Nunn, 3; G. Akers, 4; W. Lebbon, 5; T. Scarlett (conductor), 6. And another touch of 246 Grandsire Triples, with F. Freeman at the 4th, the others standing as before. This is the first touch of Triples by all except the ringers of the treble, 6th and 7th. Messrs. Wincey, Nunn, Akers and Scarlett hail from Walthamstow, the rest are local men.

MONMOUTH.—On Tuesday evening, December 2nd, for practice at St. Mary's church, eight members of the St. Mary's society rang the first half of Holt's ten-part peal of Grandsire Triples, 2520 changes, in 1 hr. 36 mins. W. Preece, 1; W. Honeyfield, 2; W. Walters, 3; J. Ward, 4; J. Brown, 5; T. H. Jones, 6; E. Barnett (conductor), 7; H. Brown, 8. Tenor 20 cwt. *Handbell Ringing.*—And on Monday, December 1st, on handbells, retained in hand, a 720 each of Kent Treble Bob, Plain Bob, and Grandsire Minor. J. Priest, 1-2; E. Barnett, 3-4; T. H. Jones, 5-6. The Plain Bob was conducted by T. H. Jones, and the Kent Treble Bob and Grandsire Minor by E. Barnett.

NUTFIELD (Surrey).—On Monday, December 8th, the above society with J. Bashford (Bletchingley), rang a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor. C. Sendall, 1; J. Bashford, 2; E. Fuller, 3; J. Burkin, 4; J. Tidey, 5; W. Hawkins (conductor), 6. *First 720 in the method. †First time as conductor. And a 360 of Plain Bob Minor. C. Sendall, 1; J. Bashford, 2; E. Fuller, 3; J. Burkin, 4; F. Boniface, 5; W. Hawkins (conductor), 6. Also a course of Stedman Doubles. J. Burkin, 1; J. Bashford, 2; F. Boniface, 3; W. Hawkins, 4; J. Tidey, 5; T. Leason, 6.

ORMSKIRK (Lancashire).—On Tuesday evening, December 2nd, at the parish church, for practice, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, 1260 changes, in 42 mins. C. Sharples (composer), 1; W. J. Taylor, 2; J. Sholicar, 3; J. Prescott, 4; W. Ellis, 5; W. Bentham (conductor), 6; G. Prescott, 7; H. Ellis, 8. Tenor 25½ cwt.

PRESTON (Suffolk).—*Muffled Peal.*—On Friday, December 5th, at St. Mary's church, a 720 of Bob Minor, with the bells muffled as a mark of respect to the late Mrs. Hewitt, of Brighton, who expired November 30th, mother of the Rev. Thos. Hewitt, B.D., Rector of Preston. H. Symonds (conductor), 1; Wm. Hollocks, 2; A. Hollocks, 3; Jas. Levitt, 4; Wm. Snell, 5; A. Symonds, 6. Tenor F#.

RAUNDS (Northamptonshire).—On Saturday, November 29th, at St. Peter's church, a 720 of Plain Bob Minor, with eighteen bobs and two singles. H. Clayton, 1; W. Hall, 2; F. Gilbert, 3; J. Willmott, 4; H. Stubbs (conductor), 5; C. Baker (first 720 in the method), 6. H. Clayton and C. Baker hail from Rushden. And on Saturday, December 6th, a 720 of Plain Bob Minor, with fourteen bobs and two singles. A. Coles, 1; W. Hall, 2; H. Stubbs (conductor), 3; G. Kirk, 4; F. Gilbert, 5; J. Willmott, 6. And on Monday, December 8th, for practice, a 720 of Plain Bob Minor, with thirty-two bobs and two singles. A. Coles, 1; J. Willmott, 2; G. Kirk, 3; H. Stubbs, 4; W. J. Gilbert, 5; F. Gilbert (conductor), 6. Also a 360 of Oxford Bob, with nine bobs. G. Kirk, 1; W. Hall, 2; R. Pendered, 3; N. Martin (first 360 in the method), 4; A. Martin (first 360 in the method), 5; W. J. Gilbert (conductor), 6. A. Martin hails from Higham Ferrers.

RINGSTEAD (Northamptonshire).—*Muffled Peal.*—On Wednesday, November 26th, at St. Mary's church, five of the local company, with the assistance of their instructor, W. J. Gilbert, of Raunds, rang 180 of Oxford Bob Minor, and 144 of London Single, with the bells deeply muffled as a mark of respect to the memory of the late Mr. J. Agutter, churchwarden of the parish. G. Roberts, 1; W. J. Gilbert (conductor), 2; R. Shipley, 3; E. Mayes, 4; J. Lawford, 5; T. Roberts, 6. And on Sunday, November 30th, with the bells muffled, a 360 of London Single, with nine bobs. J. Lawford, 1; J. Braybrook, 2; F. Gilbert, 3; E. Mayes, 4; W. J. Gilbert (conductor), 5; T. Roberts, 6. Also on Saturday, December 6th, for practice, a 720 of Plain Bob, with eighteen bobs and two singles. J. Lawford, 1; J. Braybrook, 2; R. Shipley (first 720 in the method), 3; E. Mayes, 4; W. J. Gilbert, 5; T. Roberts (first 720 as conductor), 6.

SOUTHWARK (Surrey).—*Muffled Peal.*—On Sunday, December 7th, before evening service, ten members of the local society rang at the church of St. John the Evangelist, a funeral peal, as a mark of respect to the sister of the rector, the Rev. W. J. Batcheler, who died on the 2nd inst. J. Tripp, 1; Ernest E. Vinen (conductor), J. Wright, 3; A. J. Endersby, 4; T. Tripp, 5; W. Glendinning, 6; M. J. Anson, 7; C. J. Gibbons, 8; William Ham, 9; T. Woodcraft, 10. Tenor 20 cwt.

SALISBURY (Wilts).—*Handbell Ringing.*—On Monday, November 28th, at St. Mary's parish room, a 720 of Bob Minor, with twenty-six singles, in 24 mins. J. R. Jerram, 1; W. W. Gifford, 2; J. Wilton, 3; E. A. Foster, 4; C. A. Clements, 5; T. Blackburn (conductor), 6. This is the first 720 on handbells ever rung by any of the above. Also on Saturday, November 29th, at St. Martin's, a 720 of Bob Minor, with twenty-six singles. H. Dowling, 1; C. A. Clements, 2; J. Wilton, 3; J. R. Jerram, 4; W. W. Gifford, 5; T. Blackburn (conductor), 6. Tenor 15 cwt.

STAUNTON (Gloucestershire).—On Thursday, November 27th, six members of the St. Mary's Society, Monmouth, visited this place and rang a 720 each of Plain Bob and Grandsire Minor. *W. Preece, 1; J. Ward, 2; J. Priest, 3; J. Brown, 4; T. H. Jones, 4; E. Barnett, 6. *First 720. The Plain Bob was conducted by T. H. Jones, and the Grandsire by E. Barnett.

TERRINGTON (Norfolk).—On Sunday, December 7th, for Divine Service in the evening at St. Clement's church, a 720 of Bob Minor, in 26 mins. F. Easton, 1; R. Howling, jun., 2; Jno. Green, 3; G. Barrett, 4; Jno. Herring, 5; Dr. Seccombe (conductor), 6. And after service another 720 in the same method (eighteen bobs and two singles) in 26 mins., by the same company, conducted by Jno. Green at the tenor, and Dr. Seccombe at the 3rd. Tenor 14 cwt.

THEALE (Oxon).—On Saturday, November 29th, at Holy Trinity Church, a 720 of Grandsire Doubles. A. Harris, 1; W. Allan, 2; W. Sims, 3; W. Horne, 4; G. Gibbard (conductor), 5; T. Stevens, 6. Also the same was rung on handbells by the following: T. Sweetzer, 1; W. Sims, 2; Arthur Wright, 3; T. Reeves, 4; G. Gibbard (conductor), 5-6. G. Gibbard, Arthur Wright, T. Reeves and T. Sweetzer, hail from Reading, the rest are local men.

TROWBRIDGE (Wilts).—On Saturday, December 6th, 1960 of Grandsire Triples, in 1 hr. 15 mins. W. Alley, 1; *C. A. Clements, 2; *W. W. Gifford, 3; J. Hayward, 4; W. McCaffery (conductor), 5; *T. Blackburn, 6; *J. R. Jerram, 7; J. Cooper, 8. Tenor 23 cwt. *College Youths. This touch was composed by Mr. Uriah Woodman.

TUNBRIDGE WELLS (Kent).—On Saturday, December 6th, the Speldhurst (Kent) society paid a visit to this place and rang at St. Peter's church a 720 of Plain Bob Minor, with eighteen bobs and two singles, in 25 mins. H. Anscombe, 1; J. Baker, 2; C. Chapman, 3; Frank Still, 4; F. Still, sen., 5; F. Still (conductor), 6. And two 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles. H. Anscombe, 1; J. Baker, 2; F. Still, sen., 3; E. Hopkins, 4; C. Chapman, 5; Frank Still, 6. Tenor 14½ cwt.

WALPOLE (Norfolk).—On Sunday, November 30th, at St. Peter's church, a 720 of Bob Minor (eighteen bobs and two singles), in 28 mins. J. Hendry, 1; R. Grimes, 2; H. Hill (conductor), 3; H. Allen, 4; H. Merrishaw, 5; Jno. Wright, 6. And on Thursday, December 4th, a 720 of Bob Minor, with nine bobs and six singles, in 28 mins. Jno. Hendry, 1; R. Grimes, 2; H. Hill, 3; H. Allen, 4; Dr. Seccombe (conductor), 5; W. Wright, 6. Also a 720, with eighteen bobs and two singles. Jno. Hendry, 1; H. Hill, 2; Dr. Seccombe, 3; H. Allen, 4; H. Merrishaw, 5; R. Grimes (conductor), 6. Tenor 14 cwt.

WANSTEAD (Essex).—On Tuesday, December 9th, at Christ Church, a 720 of Plain Bob Minor, with forty-two singles, in 26 mins. J. King (conductor), 1; W. Smith, 2; T. Scarlett, 3; J. Nunn, 4; J. Marks, 5; A. H. Gardom, 6. This was rung in honour of Mr. J. Cox's 71st birthday. And a 360 of Bob Minor. A. Miles (first 360), 1; A. Tennant, 2; T. Scarlett, 3; J. Nunn, 4; A. H. Gardom, 5; G. Cornell, 6.

WORDSWORTH (Staffordshire).—On Sunday, December 7th, at Holy Trinity church, five members of the local company, with Mr. W. Johnson, of Darlaston, rang a 720 of Grandsire Minor, for evening service, in 26 mins. T. Darby, 1; W. H. Hughes, 2; E. G. W. Husselbee, 3; W. Johnson, 4; W. Lawrence, 5; E. S. Chapman (conductor), 6.

HANDBELL RINGING CONTEST.

ON Saturday, December 6th, a change-ringing contest on handbells took place at the house of Mr. Jas. Jones, "Lord Nelson" Inn, Hyde Road, Gorton, when the landlord added £1 to an entrance fee of 2s. 6d. each company, and brought together eight sets of ringers for competition, the prizes being £1 5s. for the first, 10s. for the second, 5s. for the third, the conditions being that each set should ring a course of Grandsire Triples and Grandsire Major, Mr. W. Fawcett, and Daniel Whitby, of Staleybridge acting as judges, and who gave general satisfaction. Below are the names of the bands who competed, along with the awards:—

No. 8 band.	Hyde.	First prize.	57 faults.
" 1 "	Oldham.	Second prize.	73 "
" 4 "	Ashton.	Third prize.	96 "
" 2 "	Lees.		133 "
" 5 "	Whitefield.		128 "
" 7 "	Hyde, jun.		172 "
" 3 "	Staleybridge.		233 "
" 6 "	Ashton, jun.		251 "

A memorial to the late Dean Wellesley, in the north aisle of the choir of St. George's chapel, Windsor, has recently been unveiled in the presence of the Queen. It is a recumbent figure of the late Dean, clothed in the robes of the order of the Garter, and is executed in Carrara marble.

A memorial to the late Duke of Albany, subscribed for by the inhabitants of Esher, has been unveiled in the parish church, Esher, by the Duchess of Albany. The memorial consists of a bust of the late Duke worked in Carrara marble.

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 PEAL AT WOOLWICH.

SIR,—In your columns for last Saturday's paper I was surprised to read that several gentlemen, who had succeeded in ringing a peal of Grandsire at Woolwich, had allowed their surnames to appear with the Christian appellation of "William" also, when it is a well known fact to many of the London ringers, the band is not, correctly speaking, a "legitimate company of Williams." I shall be pleased to see an explanation of the subject in "THE BELL NEWS," and also to know what any brother ringer has to say about the affair, for it seems to me that a ringer with twenty names may select any one he chooses and with several others go and record a peal, leading those who are ignorant of their Christian names, to believe it genuine. Surely there should be some distinction, at present it is only an imposition on our editor by asking him to publish such matter, when the records of our valuable paper should be as truthful as possible. WILLIAMITE.

SIR,—In your issue of the 6th inst. I noticed a peal was rung by the Trinity Youths at Woolwich. The Christian name (according to the report) of the band appears to be William and nothing else. I should therefore like to ask them through the medium of your valuable paper, whether the whole of the gentlemen's names commence with the name of William or not. Also, are they trying to mislead any ringers or other persons, or not? I hope they will reply to these questions.

H. J. DAVIES,
Secretary of the Waterloo Society.

"ON BELLS."

SIR,—I read the rather billious letter which appeared in your impression a few weeks ago above the name of W. Warskitt, having reference to an article of mine on bells, which you were so good as to insert in your valuable paper some short time ago. Judging from Mr. Warskitt's reference to the *Arabian Nights*, etc., I can well understand that he has got his sapient mind so deeply imbued with fiction that he, no doubt, finds it a difficult matter to believe in the good faith of anyone. Mr. Warskitt in assuming to himself the office of a Sir Oracle somewhat impertinently remarks that I ought to stick to matters I know somewhat of, instead of "assuming to enlighten the public," etc. Beyond the desire to pass away my leisure hours in congenial occupation in compiling "facts" relative to bells and weights of bells—I had no intention of "assuming to enlighten the public," etc. It is not everyone who is the fortunate possessor of encyclopædias—even granting your correspondent his assertion that the information I gave in my article may be found in them—but I do "assume" that every ringer reads "THE BELL NEWS," and therefore I thought that in placing before your readers a distinct account of bells, I should provide them with a little useful information. No doubt if Mr. Warskitt had written the article he so much cavils at instead of my unworthy and humble self, he would have looked at the matter in quite a different light. With respect to the largest bell in the British Houses of Parliament, if I am wrong in my weight, I am greatly obliged to your correspondent for his correction, even, though he is himself so very doubtful of the correctness of his own assertion as to say he has always understood its weight to be as he has given in his letter. Several other statements are adduced by your correspondent which (*vide* J. W.'s skilled language), it would be quite *infra dig.* on my part to notice. JAMES BARRATT.

PEAL CARDS.

SIR,—I should just like to make a suggestion with reference to the peal-cards that are now to be had from the office of our paper. Every one I suppose who rings a peal keeps a record of some sort or other of it. Now I have had a book made with plain sheets of paper, each leaf large enough to take four peal-cards. First of all I rule four lines similar to what is known as an Oxford border, just a little larger than the card, then I gum the card on to the paper inside this border made. When a leaf is filled the effect is surprising. This is a very cheap and quick way of forming a peal-book of one's own, much better than writing. I commend my plan to the advice of all my brother-strings.

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Total Annual Income 343,271

Amount of Profits divided at the last Quinquennial Bonus ... 437,347

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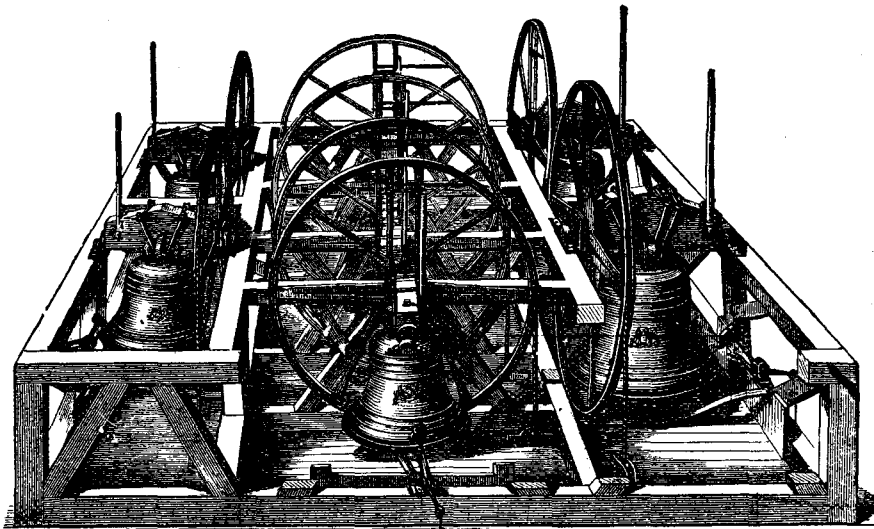
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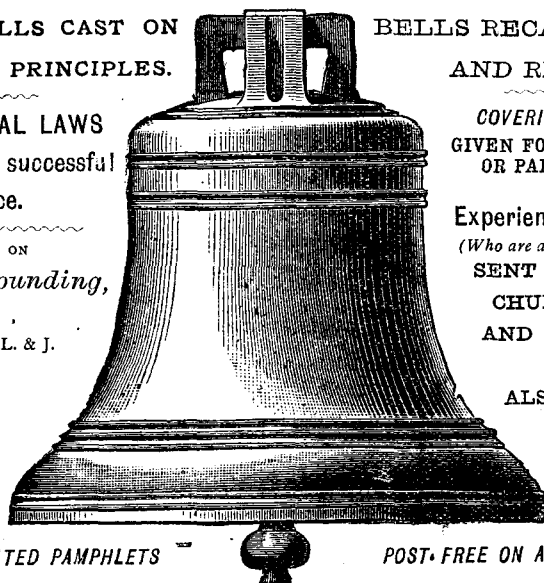
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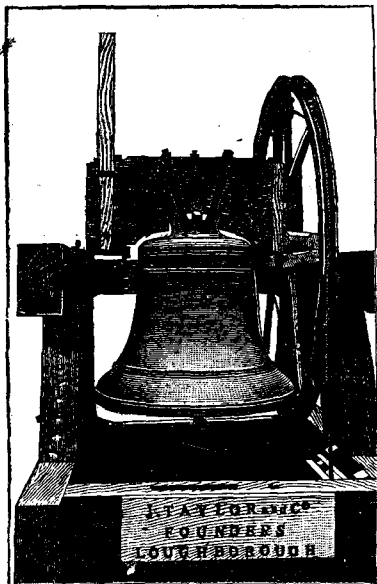
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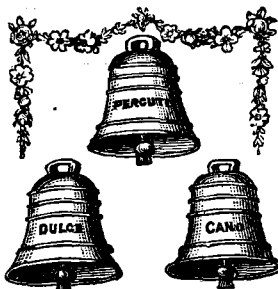
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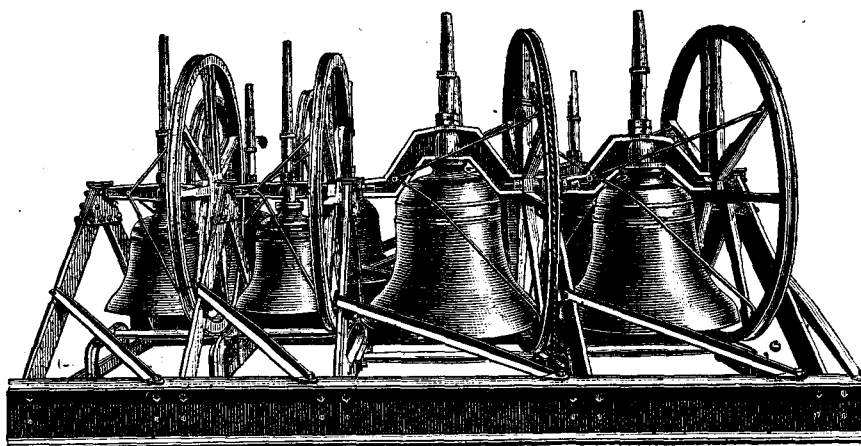
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No. 142. [NEW SERIES.]—VOL. III. SATURDAY, DECEMBER 20, 1884.

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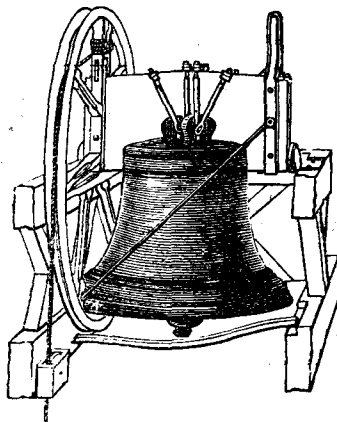
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BELL TINKERING.—THE BUILDER AND UNDERTAKER.

THIS professor may be a far more dangerous artist than the smith, being called in for a greater variety of purposes. He may either confine himself to oak struts from the top of the frame to the roof, or may undertake everything, including new stocks and wheels. Our descriptions in these papers always imply that the operator is not a ringer of any kind. However, we must get to work; the ringers say whole segments are out of the wheels, the frame rocks, "stuff" keeps falling on our heads, etc. After an inspection has been made, plenty of planks and posts are one morning seen entering the west door of the church, in company with Mr. Grooves and his apprentice; the mortices are indeed rotten in some places, and loose in others; any number of wedges are driven between the frame and walls, a few new rims nailed up to the wheels, a new patch under the frame in the floor, etc. If it is the stocks that are to be renewed, the old ones having probably utterly decayed from drifting snow and rain, or holes in the lead above, the most remarkable workmanship is introduced, the treble being generally most tucked up, the rest hung lower as the scale descends, all some inches out of plumb. This is no exaggerated case. Many a fine ring of eight, after some years of neglect, gets treated in the same fashion, and then called in perfect repair. It is curious to observe in some places how odd bells get into wrong pits, this has the effect of causing the ropes to fall not in a circle, but a sort of snail shell is described from the treble, some ropes being in front of others.

Such are some of the effects of native talent bell restoration as concerns ringers. Now as regards the fabric: no building, however strong, will be quite free from some stones getting loose where there is a heavy peal of bells, and from other causes, such as the decay of soft stones, in far greater degree. It is therefore obvious that when in a bell-frame the mortices have decayed, and caused it to shake, wedging to walls is utterly wrong, as when they are driven, the cause of movement is still going on, in fact one may often pick them up on the floor beneath, having worked down. If therefore the tower be lofty, and surrounded with vaults, and perhaps not over-well built originally, or been struck by lightning, wedging is certain to assist in causing small stones to fall in the fractures, and thus widen the breach. During last winter the inner case of a wall forming the south side of a tower, fell in during round-ringing; luckily into an intermediate floor; the quantity of debris would more than have filled a cart; flints, mortar, and block chalk. It must be remembered that many of our thick old towers are mere case and filling in, under these circumstances any battering must be productive of the greatest evil. This wedging is such a universal practice, in one shape or another, and always executed by our tradesman, who begins the evil, perhaps, by digging family vaults near the principal buttress, in his capacity as undertaker. It is generally noticed that far more satisfaction is given to parochial authorities by one who leaves something fresh behind him in the shape of baulks of timber, than one who merely takes stocks away and turns up bearings properly. "Oh," say they, "so and so came, what he did would puzzle a conjurer." "What has he charged so much for doing?" This is how Mr. Grooves, too, represents matters to the authorities.

THE WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

THERE will be a District Meeting of the Guild held at Southampton, on Saturday, January 3rd, 1885. The belfry of St. Michael's (8 bells), and Eling (6 bells), will be open to members of the Guild between the hours of four and nine in the afternoon of that day.

In our last issue Mr. G. Russell is reported to have rung the 9th bell at St. Bride's, in John Cox's birthday peal, the name of Mr. George Marriott should be substituted.

THE FORMATION OF A COUNTY ASSOCIATION FOR SUSSEX.

FOR some time past the advisability of forming an Association for this county has engaged the attention of ringers in the towns and villages, and has often been mooted at local meetings and dinners. At Brighton, early in the year, Mr. Boniface advocated the formation of an Association, but nothing further was heard of it, saving a letter or two in the local press, until October, when at the Lewes anniversary Mr. Miller urged that steps be taken to secure for Sussex the advantages that so many other counties enjoyed. At the same meeting Mr. H. P. Bennett (Eastbourne) also spoke as to the advisableness of the Society should there be any benefits to be derived therefrom. Soon after a committee was formed in Brighton, with the result that circulars were issued to the different ministers and bands of ringers, inviting them to a meeting at Brighton, which was held with great success on Saturday last. The meeting was attended by several delegates from all parts of the county, there being present, amongst others, the Very Rev. E. R. Currie (Dean of Battle), the Rev. Divie Robertson (Rural Dean), the Rev. R. F. Tomkins, the Rev. J. B. Orme, and the Rev. W. Kelly. The delegates representing societies of ringers in various parts of the county were: Mr. Orme, jun., Angmering; Mr. C. Blackman, Arundel; Mr. Hutchison, Battle; Mr. A. H. Wratten, Buxted; Messrs. G. F. Attree, H. Boniface, and A. Giddens, St. Peter's, St. Nicholas', and St. Paul's, Brighton; Mr. F. Hounsell, Cuckfield; Mr. O. Gatland, Chailey; Mr. Newman, Crawley; Mr. D. Baker, Ditchling; Messrs. H. P. Bennett and T. Smith, St. Mary's and Christ Church, Eastbourne; Mr. A. F. Rich, Easthoathly; Mr. C. A. Miller, Lewes; Mr. G. Martin, Rotherfield; Mr. G. Gatling, Stenning; Mr. Otto Gatland, Uckfield, etc. In consequence of indisposition the Ven. Archdeacon Hannah was unable to be present. The notice convening the meeting having been read, the Chairman called upon Mr. G. F. Attree to explain the objects and advantages to be gained by the formation of an Association, among which were mentioned: spreading the art of change-ringing throughout the county, by means of instruction, whereas, at present, in very many parishes the bells are seldom rung; calling public attention to the fact that several fine peals of bells are in such a bad state of repair that their music cannot be heard, and showing the necessity of cleansing and restoring the belfries in many parishes, which for a long time have been disregarded as a consecrated part of the church. He was exceedingly pleased at the number present, and also with the numerous replies he had received from the rectors and vicars expressing their approval of the Association and promising it their support. The Rev. D. T. Robertson then proposed that an Association should be formed, and enlarged upon the advantages that would accrue to all Societies joining the Union. The motion was seconded by the Dean of Battle, and after a discussion, in which the Revs. Orme and Tomkins, and the delegates of Cuckfield, Crawley, Eastbourne, Brighton, Lewes, and Buxted, took part, was carried *nem con.* It was then resolved that the Association should be called the Sussex County Association, and have for its objects (1) the recognition of the true position of ringers as church officials; (2) the due care and use of church bells and belfries; (3) the cultivation of the art of change-ringing; and (4) belfry reform. At this point the rev. chairman was obliged to leave, and the Dean of Battle took the chair, when a code of rules was drawn up to be distributed amongst the various parish societies for their approval or otherwise. Twenty-one Vicars and Rectors in the county were elected as hon. members, and a hope was expressed that all not included in the above number would join in the movement before the commencement of the new year. The chairman next proposed "That Mr. G. F. Attree be elected as Hon. Secretary," and this being seconded by Mr. Bennett (Eastbourne), was carried unanimously. The meeting, after a sitting of three hours, then adjourned to Saturday, 24th of January next; and after a most cordial vote of thanks to the chairman, the meeting dispersed, and several of the delegates rang touches of Grandsire Triples on the bells of St. Peter's and St. Nicholas. We congratulate the ringers of Sussex on having made this beginning. No doubt we shall soon hear of good progress being made in bell and belfry restoration within that county, as the energies of the Hon. Sec. appointed at this meeting will be surely directed to those objects.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION AT EAST ARDSLEY.

ON Saturday afternoon, December 13th, being the anniversary of the new ring of bells, nine of the above Association from Wakefield visited East Ardsley, by an invitation from the vicar, and attempted a date touch of Kent Treble Bob Major, but the go of the two heavy bells (especially the tenor) being so bad, the tenor man was completely exhausted and compelled to give up when only in the middle of the third course. J. Moorhouse, 1; J. Firth, 2; R. Wrigley (conductor), 3; T. Price, 4; W. Firth, 5; T. Ormond, 6; J. T. Hollis, 7; T. Moorhouse, 8. Tenor 20 cwt. Afterwards a few short touches of Grandsire Triples and a refresh at the vicarage brought the afternoon's proceedings to a close, regret being felt that the touch was not rung.

DESTRUCTIVE CHURCH FIRE NEAR STRATFORD-ON-AVON.

A destructive fire broke out early on Saturday morning last at Welford-on-Avon parish church, distant five miles from Stratford-on-Avon. The church, on the authority of Sir Gilbert Scott, is one of the finest specimens of Roman work in England. The nave and tower are about 700 years old, and the beautiful Norman arches and columns are most interesting to archaeologists. The church possesses a fine peal of six bells, and the night previous a party of ringers were ringing. The supposition is that a lighted match or candle was dropped amongst the rush matting which lay about the floor in the tower, and that the fire was smouldering all night. About half-past six o'clock on the morning in question, fanned by a strong wind, the fire broke out with terrific force, the flames shooting through the latticed windows at the top of the tower. The villagers were soon astir, and the rector (the Rev. J. W. Davenport) instantly despatched a mounted messenger to Stratford-on-Avon for the fire-engine and brigade. It was close upon 8 o'clock before the brigade reached Welford, and by that time the flames had obtained a mastery of the tower. The floors, with their massive oak beams and supports, were burnt through, and lay a confused heap in the church. The bells, the tenor weighing about 10 cwt., had fallen with a tremendous crash, and were split into hundreds of pieces, and the roof of the tower, which contained a thick coating of lead, had also been completely destroyed, and had come down into the body of the church, the lead running about the floor in streams. Prior to the arrival of the brigade, the villagers had not been idle. The whole of the pews were torn from the floors and carried into the churchyard, as also were the clergy and choristers' stalls, the communion table and pulpit, and various articles of church furniture. It was found that the only assistance the fire brigade could render was in preventing the fire from spreading to the body of the church, and in this they were fortunately successful. Portions of burning timber and molten lead fell upon the transept roofs and burnt large holes through the lead work, setting fire to the rafters and beams below, but the fire in this direction was extinguished by a number of men stationing themselves upon the flat roofs and pouring continuous streams of water upon the burning part. By nine o'clock the whole of the inside of the tower was burnt, nothing remaining but four bare walls, open to the sky. The fine old turret clock, presented to the parish in 1660 by a former vicar at the time of his restoration to the living after the Commonwealth, is irretrievably lost with the bells. The stonework of the tower is to some extent damaged by the fire, and has cracked in places, but the walls being most substantially built, and from four to six feet in thickness, were enabled to resist the flames. A later examination of the building shows that five of the six bells are smashed by falling from their bearings on to the floor below. Several tons of oak, forming the supports of the roof and the two floors in the tower, have been consumed, and the body of the church is filled with water and debris. The flames were seen a distance of several miles, and hundreds of persons flocked to the spot. The church is fully insured.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, December 13th, the Monthly Meeting of the Nottingham district of this Association was held at Long Eaton. There were present Messrs. Wibberley, Abbott, Archer and Henson from Nottingham, and Messrs. Billingham and Hardy from Loughborough. A start was made with a touch of Kent Treble Bob Minor, followed by touches of Grandsire Triples, Stedman Triples, and Kent Treble Bob Major, finishing up with a well-struck 640 of Kent Treble Bob Major. Arthur Widdowson, 1; William Billingham, 2; William Grice, 3; John C. Dickens, 4; John Ward, 5; William Gilson, 6; William Abbott, 7; Joseph Barrow (conductor), 8. Tenor 11 cwt.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION OF SIX-BELL RINGERS.

The usual Quarterly Meeting of this Association was held at Chorley, on Saturday, December 13th, when a goodly number of members attended, and some very creditable ringing was done during the afternoon. The business of the Meeting was held in the school-room under the Presidency of the Rector of Chorley, who was elected an Honorary Member of the Association.

"THE SACRED MELODIST."—January next will see the advent of an entirely new series of the "Sacred Melodist." This paper, published by F. Pitman, Paternoster Row, now in its sixteenth year of existence, has up to the present devoted its pages to music printed in the old notation only. The publisher being fully aware that the number of Solfaists are on the increase, has decided in the future to issue the work, giving both notations on the same page. Several new features, in addition to the above, will be introduced, which will greatly add to the attractiveness of this popular journal. The size will be enlarged but the price will remain the same, viz., one penny per month.

ALL SAINTS' CHURCH, GRESFORD, DENBIGHSHIRE.

THE bells of this noble church (the tower of which is supposed to have been built about the same time as the neighbouring one of Wrexham, viz., 1472), were augmented from six to eight by the addition of two trebles, and three others recast, including the tenor, by Warner and Sons, of the Cripplegate Foundry, in 1875, and were hung in the old frame which was in a very insecure state. A peal of Grandsire Triples was rung by the Wrexham Society on October 29th, 1883, it being the only 5040 rung on the bells. Since that time the frame and beams have gradually given way, rendering it impossible to ring the bells. At a meeting held in the parish, it was decided to replace the defective woodwork, and the order was entrusted to Messrs. Warner and Sons, who lately cleared out the whole of the frame and beams, (which had literally rotted at the ends), and put five large beams and massive frame, all of well-seasoned oak. The bells were rung for the first time for several months, on Tuesday, December 2nd, by the local band, with touches of Grandsire Triples, much to the delight of the inhabitants. In the olden times Gresford bells were counted one of the wonders of Wales, and the present bells are certainly a magnificent peal, the tenor being 25 cwt., and being placed in a fine tower, they are heard to a great advantage for miles around. In the churchyard are some remarkably fine yew trees, one at a distance of six feet from the ground measures thirty feet in circumference, which, with the embattled walls and lofty tower, surmounted by pinnacles and statues, give the church a most imposing appearance.

ANNUAL MEETING OF THE CAERLEON RINGERS.

MONDAY, December 15th, being the third anniversary of the dedication of the bells of Caerleon Church, the annual meeting was held in the belfry. As a preliminary, a 720 of Grandsire Doubles (3rd and 5th observation), was rung and the report of the year's work was read by Mr. Weston, which showed that the ringers had met 224 times for ringing, and had rung a total of 24,822 changes in Grandsire, Plain Bob and Stedman during the year. It was proposed that an effort should at once be made to increase the present ring by the addition of two trebles. The Rev. Canon Edwards, who presided at the meeting, congratulated the ringers on their progress during the year, and sanctioned the proposed addition to the ring by a donation of £5. Votes of thanks were passed to Mr. Green (secretary), Mr. Williams (steeple-keeper), and also to Mr. E. Davis, by whose efforts the ringers have been taught the various methods which they have rung during the year. The band had rung in the first complete peals on Llanfrechfa, Llantarnam, and Tredunnock.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

GUISELEY.—On Saturday afternoon, December 13th, five of the Guiseley ringers, with Messrs. Tuke and Hardcastle, of Bradford, and Mr. J. W. Snowdon, of Leeds, unsuccessfully attempted a peal of Kent Treble Bob Major, at St. Oswald's church. In the evening the company and several friends sat down to tea together, and subsequently Mr. George Swift, one of the churchwardens, who was present at the tea, was made an honorary member of the Association. The Guiseley handbell ringers enlivened the proceedings with several tunes on the handbells.

CHRISTMAS CARDS.—Messrs Charles Lee and Co., the celebrated Fine Art Printers and Publishers, of 78, Milton Street, London, have this year introduced some handsome specimens of perforated Christmas and New Year's cards, which are a real novelty. In these cards the sender can introduce personal work, thus adding to the card (as a gift) far greater value. No expense has been spared in the Fine Art production, the original designs being the work of eminent English Artists. The perforation when worked in silk or gold thread forms a border, and produces a most beautiful and striking effect, considerably enhancing the value of the card. Mr. Harding, of 157, Piccadilly, has issued a large variety of Christmas and New Year's cards, many of which have the merit of novelty as well as of delicacy and humour in the workmanship. Half-a-dozen "Phantasms of the Chase," by "Audax," are very amusing, and so are Mr. George Lambert's not unkind caricatures of "Our Advanced Girls." Messrs. Birn Brothers, of 12, Milton Street, Fore Street, are the publishers of a number of Christmas cards, which are neat and pretty.

HANGING UP HIS HAT.—The expression "He has hung up his hat," which is sometimes used in reference to persons recently deceased, is supposed to have its origin in a custom which prevailed many years since at Great Bromley in Essex. In the steeple of the superior parish church in this place is a peal of sweet-toned bells, upon which a first-rate company of ringers formerly practised. When one of these votaries of the science of campanology died, it was the practice of his companions to nail up the last hat worn by the deceased in the belfry, several of which were to be seen there a few years ago.—*Tit-Bits*.

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERS.

5007.

By ROBERT WILLIAMS, *Liverpool*.

2 3 1 4 5 6 4 5 1 6

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

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

These nine courses three times repeated,
 produce:— 6 1 3 4 5 2

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

when bobs at 2 9 bring them round. *Bobs
 at the 1st, 2nd, 6th, 11th, 14th, 18th, and
 23rd sixes.

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR.

5040.

By BENJAMIN FRANCIS, *Diss*.

2 3 4 5 6 W M H

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

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

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

Twice repeated.

This peal has the 5th and 6th each twelve
 times at home.

A 1/4-PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES.

By J. WRIGHT, *King's Norton*.

2 3 4 5 6 7

6 7 2 4 5 3 2
 3 4 6 5 7 2 1
 6 7 3 4 2 5 3
 3 2 6 7 5 4 3
 6 5 3 2 4 7 3
 7 2 6 4 5 3 1
 6 5 7 2 3 4 3
 4 2 6 3 5 7 1
 2 6 4 3 5 7 4
 7 3 2 5 6 4 1
 2 6 7 3 4 5 3
 5 3 2 4 6 7 1
 6 7 5 2 4 3 2
 3 2 6 4 7 5 1
 3 4 2 5 6 7 P.L.

Twice repeated.

A PEAL OF BOB MAXIMUS.

5544.

By JOHN R. PRITCHARD, *Liverpool*.

2 3 4 5 6 W M H

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

Twice repeated.

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS.

5003.

By JOHN CARTER, *Birmingham*.

2 3 4 5 6 I 2 3 4

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

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

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

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

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

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

Round as usual. This peal has the 6th its
 extent wrong and right, and the 5th twelve
 times at home.

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES.

5003.

By ROBERT WILLIAMS, *Liverpool*.

5 3 6 2 4 9th in two and 8 9.
 5 3 6 2 4 7th in & out at 3 double.
 4 2 3 5 6 8th in two.
 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.
 2 3 6 5 4 9th in three s.
 6 2 3 5 4 9th in three.
 3 6 2 5 4 9th in three.
 2 6 4 5 3 8 9.
 4 6 3 5 2 8 9.
 3 4 6 5 2 9th in three.
 6 3 4 5 2 9th in three.
 4 3 2 5 6 8 9.
 2 4 3 5 6 9th in three.
 3 2 4 5 6 9th in three.
 4 2 6 5 3 8 9.
 6 4 2 5 3 9th in three.
 3 5 4 6 2 8th in two.
 4 3 5 6 2 9th in three.
 5 4 3 6 2 9th in three.
 3 4 2 6 5 8 9.
 2 4 5 6 3 8 9.
 5 2 4 6 3 9th in three.
 4 5 2 6 3 9th in three.
 2 5 3 6 4 8 9.
 3 2 5 6 4 9th in three.
 5 3 2 6 4 8 9.
 4 2 3 6 5 9th in three s.
 5 4 2 6 3 9th in three.
 2 5 4 6 3 9th in three.
 4 2 5 6 3 9th in three.
 5 2 3 6 4 8 9.
 3 2 4 6 5 8 9.
 4 3 2 6 5 9th in three.
 2 4 3 6 5 9th in three.
 3 4 5 6 2 8 9.
 5 3 4 6 2 9th in three.
 4 5 3 6 2 9th in three.
 3 5 2 6 4 8 9.
 2 3 5 6 4 9th in three.

The 9th in and out at two and 8th in three,
 bring the bells round.

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR.

6048.

By JOHN THORP, *Ashton-under-Lyne*.

2 3 4 5 6 M W H

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

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

Twice repeated.

WITH THE
CHRISTMAS SUPPLEMENT

OF THIS PAPER NEXT WEEK WILL APPEAR,

A PORTRAIT,

With a short biographical sketch, of that distinguished ringer
and composer,

MR. JOHN COX,

Of the Society of Royal Cumberland Youths, London;

ALSO TWO STORIES—

"The Autobiography of an Ancient Tenor,"

AND

"The Lost Peal-Book."

The number will also contain "A Christmas Carol;" "A Touch
on Croydon Bells;" "Things Generally Known," etc.

Orders should be given at once to local booksellers and news-agents
to secure copies, as a reprint of this number is impossible.

"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.

Everything for insertion in this Journal to be addressed "The Editor
of THE BELL NEWS, Walthamstow, London." Letters forwarded for pub-
lication, and performances under 5000 changes must reach us not later than
Wednesday morning; and the insertion of any communication coming later
than the first Postal delivery on Thursday morning cannot be guaranteed in
that week's number. When it is found impossible from want of space to insert
all touches forwarded, the earlier ones will have the preference.

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

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 corre-
spondent. We shall feel obliged by Association and other Secretaries sending
intelligence of events occurring within their jurisdiction.

A dozen of cards, with a copy of the record of a peal, as it appears in our
pages, sent post free on receipt of twenty-six halfpenny stamps.

All communications intended for insertion in our next number must reach
the office not later than the first post on Tuesday morning, December 23rd.

The Bell News & Ringers' Record.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 20, 1884.

A few weeks ago we again called the attention of our
readers to the desirability of leaving the beaten track of
peal-ringing in the ordinary methods, in favour of the
pursuit of more intricate methods. We would now further
these remarks by impressing on them the necessity of
directing their efforts into such paths that they may, in
any such departure, secure for their perseverance the
greatest amount of recognition.

Our meaning may, perhaps, be best illustrated by an
example. On February 13th, 1817, a peal of London

Treble Bob, a method to be found in SHIPWAY, was rung at
Otley, in Yorkshire. This was, and is, the longest length
of Treble Bob rung in any other method than Oxford or
Kent. In SOTTANSTALL's work, we read that on April 15th,
1859, the Liversedge ringers, another Yorkshire society,
rang 5120 of Prince Albert Treble Bob, being the thirteenth
different method the band had rung. What all these
different methods were we do not know, but at Liversedge
peals of London Treble Bob, Albion Surprise, Cumber-
land Exercise, Liversedge Surprise, and Violet Major
have been rung. How is it then that little or nothing is
known of the performances of such an excellent band?
Our reply is that the methods selected were, and probably
are, quite unknown to the majority of the Exercise, and
thus these performances have not taken the position in
the annals of ringing that they would have done had the
energies of the band been directed into other channels.
It therefore behoves all ringers, when they are about to
select a new method for practice, that they adopt one in
which any performance they achieve may take a
recognised position amongst ringing records. In in-
vestigating this matter it is not so much for us to
consider which is the best of such methods, but rather,
which has by adoption the best claim to consideration.

Let us therefore enquire what has been done by the
best known bands who have made method ringing a
special study? In naming such societies the three following
companies, when in their prime, occur to us: the
Norwich Scholars, the Bennington band, and the
Woolwich branch of the College Youths. Setting aside
what may be called the primary methods, these companies
rang peals in the following Major variations. At Norwich—
Double Norwich Court, Double Oxford Bob, Superlative
Surprise and London Surprise, and also practised
Cambridge Surprise with the intention of ringing a peal.
At Bennington—Double Norwich Court, Superlative
Surprise, London Surprise and Cambridge Surprise. At
Woolwich—Double Norwich Court, Superlative Surprise
and London Surprise.

It will therefore be seen that each of these bands
selected Double Norwich Court as their first departure
from ordinary method ringing, and that this was followed
by Superlative Surprise. In connection with this matter
we could also mention several well known bands of the
past and the present day who have selected the two
methods above mentioned for practice.

Any peals rung in either of these methods will at once
take a recognised position in contemporary records, and
for this reason therefore would we recommend all lovers
of the art not to waste their time in the practice of
obsolete methods, but to endeavour to accomplish peals
in those mentioned. Should they succeed in emulating
the deeds of the Norwich, Bennington or Woolwich bands,
any other method they may then select for practice
will, in all probability, be chosen by any band who,
in the future, may endeavour to outrival their perform-
ances. The advice we now give has a peculiar
appropriateness from the fact that in our last issue we
directed the attention of our readers to a small brochure on

the Double Norwich Court method by Mr. SNOWDON. Not only therefore is this method the one we should recommend for practice during the winter months, but it is also the one which, on account of this publication, may be learnt in the easiest manner.

CORRESPONDENTS will not fail to regard the notice which appears on the opposite page relative to the day on which their communications must be received in time for our next number. The copies will have to be at the publisher's early on Wednesday morning, and if the local booksellers are active, they should be in the hands of our readers by the evening of the same day. It is pleasing to find that an unprecedentedly large number of extra copies of our Christmas number have been ordered, and if our new friends would only continue to support our paper every week, we should not only be able to illustrate it at shorter intervals, but its enlargement would soon become permanent.

AN OLD PROMISE FULFILLED.—Speaking at a luncheon sixteen years ago, in connection with the opening of St. Seriol's Church, Penmaenmawr, Mr. Gladstone promised to contribute a bell providing the parishioners would erect the tower. Through the exertions of the vicar the tower is nearly completed, and the rev. gentleman recently reminded Mr. Gladstone of his promise. A reply from the Premier has been received to the effect that Messrs. Taylor, and Co., of Loughborough, had received orders to cast a bell, which will weigh 21 cwt.

The Provinces.

LYTHAM, LANCASHIRE.

On Tuesday, December 9, 1884, in Two Hours and Fifty-one Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES; S. BIDDLESTONE'S 6-PART. Tenor 14½ cwt. in F#.

W. MILLER Treble.	W. ATKINSON 5.
JOHN MILLER 2.	W. GREGSON 6.
JAMES MILLER 3.	H. GREGSON 7.
JOHN FELL (St. John's) .. 4.	R. ALLANSON Tenor.

Conducted by W. ATKINSON.

*First peal.

HYDE, CHESHIRE.

THE UNITED COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

On Thursday, December 11, 1884, in Three Hours and Five Minutes,

AT ST. GEORGE'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES; IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 15 cwt. 1 qr. 24 lbs.

JAMES SHAW Treble.	JAMES SELLARS 5.
WALTER SLATER 2.	SAMUEL BRADLEY 6.
JAMES S. WILDE 3.	SAMUEL KNOTT 7.
JOSEPH MALONEY 4.	JOHN PYE Tenor.

Composed by J. J. BRIERLEY, and Conducted by
SAMUEL KNOTT.

ALBURGH, NORFOLK.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION AND THE SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.

On Saturday, December 13, 1884, in Three Hours and Fifteen Minutes,

AT ALL SAINTS' CHURCH,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 6016 CHANGES; IN THE OXFORD VARIATION. Tenor 11 cwt.

EDWARD SMITH Treble.	JAMES TANN 5.
ROBERT WHITING 2.	FREDERICK SMITH 6.
GEORGE PRIME 3.	WILLIAM ROOPE 7.
WILLIAM MATTHEWS 4.	CAPTAIN MOORE Tenor.

Composed by TOM LOCKWOOD, and Conducted by
EDWARD SMITH.

WALTHAMSTOW, ESSEX.

THE WANSTEAD AMALGAMATED SOCIETY.

On Saturday, December 13, 1884, in Three Hours,

AT ST. SAVIOUR'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES; HOLT'S TEN-PART. Tenor 16½ cwt.

ARTHUR TENNANT* Treble.	*WILLIAM MANNING 5.
JOHN NUNN† 2.	†HUGH T. SCARLETT 6.
ARTHUR H. GARDOM 3.	†SAMUEL JARMAN 7.
GEORGE AKERS† 4.	†GEORGE CORNELL Tenor.

Conducted by HUGH T. SCARLETT.

*College Youths. †Cumberlands. First peal of Tennant,

FRITTENDEN, KENT.

On Monday, December 15, 1884, in Two Hours and Fifty Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5040 CHANGES; Tenor 14 cwt.

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

Conducted by CALEB PAYNE.

*College Youths.

A start was made for a 13,440, but owing to an accident happening to one of the ringers, the peal was called home at a 5040.

SPALDING, LINCOLNSHIRE.

On Tuesday, December 16, 1884, in Three Hours and Eight Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF SS. MARY AND NICHOLAS,

5040 CHANGES: IN SEVEN DIFFERENT METHODS UPON SIX BELLS;

Being a 720 of each of the following:—

Yorkshire Court Bob; Double Court Bob; Oxford Treble Bob; London Single; Kent Treble Bob; Oxford Single Bob; Plain Bob.

J. S. WRIGHT Treble.	R. MACKMAN 4.
J. WILSON 2.	E. BROWN 5.
G. L. RICHARDSON 3.	J. BROWN Tenor.

Conducted by R. MACKMAN.

HULL.—THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Wednesday, December 17, 1884, in Two Hours and Fifty-three Minutes,

AT ST. JAMES'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES; REV. C. D. P. DAVIES' 5-PART. Tenor 15 cwt.

JNO. WM. STICKNEY Treble.	HY. JENKINS 5.
CHAS. JACKSON 2.	CHAS. BENNETT 6.
GEO. M. BROWN RIGG 3.	ROBT. CHAFFER 7.
SAML. SLINGSBY 4.	FREDK. MERRISON Tenor.

Conducted by CHARLES JACKSON.

This peal will be found (No. 6) on page 531 of "THE BELL NEWS," vol. ii., and is now rung for the first time.

Date Touches.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS AND THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

BRADFORD (Yorks).—On Sunday evening, December 14th, at St. Peter's church, a date touch of 1637 changes of Grandsire Triples, being the date of the founding of the Ancient Society of College Youths, in 1 hr. 4 mins. Abm. Moulson, 1; Jesse Naylor, 2; Robt. Tuke, 3; Tom Pollitt, 4; J. Cheetham, 5; J. H. Hardcastle, 6; Jas. Angus, 7; J. B. Jennings, 8. Composed by the Editor of "THE BELL NEWS," and conducted by J. H. Hardcastle. All the above are members of the Bradford Amalgamated Society. Tenor 27 cwt. in E.

LYTHAM (Lancashire).—On Sunday, December 7th, at the parish church, seven of the local company, with one from St. John's, rang for Divine Service in the evening, a date touch of 1884 changes of Grandsire Triples, in 1 hr. 5 mins. W. Miller, 1; John Miller, 2;

James Miller, 3; John Fell (St. John's), 4; W. Atkinson (conductor), 5; John Fisher, 6; H. Gregson, 7; R. Allanson, 8. Tenor 14½ cwt. in F.

SUTTON (Lincolnshire).—On Wednesday, December 3rd, five of the local company rang a date touch of 1884 changes, consisting of twenty-four singles, six 6-scores and a three-score of Grandsire Doubles called on the third and fifth alternately; three 6-scores of Hudibras, and six 6-scores of Plain Bob Doubles, called on four different bells, in 1 hr. 15 mins. J. Russell, 1; Geo. Watson, 2; J. W. Mawby (conductor), 3; J. Stennett, 4; W. Cunnington, 5.

Miscellaneous.

THE CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY GUILD AND THE SOCIETY OF CAMBRIDGE YOUTHS.

CAMBRIDGE.—On Monday, December 15th, at the University Church, a 720 of Bob Minor, on the front six. *R. H. Sowell (St. John's; first 720), 1; G. Taylor, 2; T. Rockett, 3; J. Jackson (conductor), 4; *H. J. Elsee (St. John's), 5; J. Holliday, 6. *Members of University Guild.

THE SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.

WEST HAM (Essex).—*Handbell Ringing*.—On Monday, December 8, at the residence of Mr. William Doran, a 720 of Bob Minor, (eighteen bobs and two singles), in 17 mins. W. H. Doran, 1-2; H. Randall, 3-4; J. Gobbett (conductor), 5-6. Also on Friday, December 12th, at the same house, a course of Grandsire Cinques, two touches of Kent Treble Bob Major, three touches of Grandsire Triples, one course of Treble Bob Minor, with bells retained in hand, in which the following members took part; Messrs. Newson, Fussell, Gobbett, Randhall, Jarman, Searle, and Doran. On Saturday, December 13th, the following members met at the house of Mr. John Gobbett, for the purpose of a handbell practice. A start was made for Holt's Original peal which had every possibility of being successful, but as there was no referees or witnesses present the conductor thought it advisable to call the bells home after 1 hr. 42 mins. ringing. W. H. Doran, 1-2; J. Gobbett, 3-4; George Newson (conductor), 5-6; W. H. Fussell, 7-8. Tenor 19 F.

ST. JAMES'S SOCIETY, LONDON.

LONDON.—On Sunday, December 14th, at the church of St. Clement Danes, Strand, for Divine Service in the morning, a quarter peal, 1260 changes, of Grandsire Triples in 48 mins. E. Albone, 1; G. T. McLaughlin, 2; E. F. Strange (conductor), 3; H. Langdon, 4; J. W. Driver, 5; M. Murphy, 6; E. Rogers, 7; D. Newton, 8. Tenor 24 cwt. This was rung on the occasion of the Johnson Centenary Celebration.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION AND THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

BRAINTREE (Essex).—On Tuesday, December 16th, for practice, 720 York Surprise. F. Calthorpe, 1; W. H. Dyson, 2; H. E. Hammond, 3; S. Hammond (conductor), 4; F. Rudkin, 5; A. Huckson, 6. The tenor the observation. This is the first 720 in the method by any of the company.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

LONG EATON (Derbyshire).—On Sunday, December 14th, for Divine Service in the morning, the St. Lawrence Society, rang a 252 of Stedman Triples. William Grice, 1; George Bradby, 2; Samuel Clarke, 3; John Ward, 4; John C. Dickens, 5; Arthur Widdowson, 6; Joseph Barrow (conductor), 7; William Gilson, 8. And for Divine Service in the evening, a 420 of Stedman Triples. John C. Dickens, 1; Arthur Widdowson, 2; George Bradby, 3; Samuel Clarke, 4; John Ward, 5; William Gilson, 6; Joseph Barrow (conductor), 7; William Grice, 8. Also a course of Treble Bob Major, with the same men.

STOKE-UPON-TRENT ARCHIDIACONAL ASSOCIATION.

CHEDDLETON (Staffordshire).—On Sunday, September 14th, for Divine Service in the afternoon, a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob Minor, with nine bobs, in 25 mins. John James, 1; Edwin Spooner, 2; Joseph Gilbert, 3; Fred. Clowes (conductor), 4; Henry Birch, 5; James Renshaw, 6. This is the first 720 of Treble Bob ever rung on the bells, and the first by any of the above ringers.

THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

BLETCHINGLEY (Surrey).—On Tuesday, December 9th, eight members of the above society attempted to ring a peal of Bob Triples, but after ringing 4788 changes in 2 hrs. 45 mins. it came to grief. A. Wallis, 1; J. Bashford, jun., 2; T. Boniface, 3; F. Smith, 4; G. Potter, 5; J. Burkin, 6; W. Webb (conductor), 7; W. Mayne, 8.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

ALDINGTON (Kent).—On Tuesday evening, December 9th, at St. Martin's Church, a 720 of Plain Bob Minor, with six bobs and ten singles. Frank Wanstall, 1; David Hodgkin, 2; William Post, jun., 3; Fred. Wanstall, 4; Edward Hyder (conductor), 5; Philip Hodgkin, 6. Tenor 14 cwt. in G.

MAIDSTONE (Kent).—On Sunday, December 14th, for evening service at All Saints' Church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples in 52 mins. J. Constable, 1; W. Elliott, 2; H. Pearce, 3; J. Horton, 4; A. H. Woodley, 5; J. Fergusson, 6; G. Pawley (conductor), 7; J. A. Johnson, 8. Tenor 31 cwt.

MERSHAM (Kent).—On Sunday, December 7th, for Divine Service in the afternoon, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor. D. Paine, 1; G. Finn, sen. 2; E. Ruck, sen. (conductor), 3; G. Paine, 4; G. Finn, jun., 5; E. Finn, 6. Also on the 8th, a 1316 of Grandsire Triples. D. Paine, 1; G. Finn, sen. 2; E. Ruck (conductor), 3; Rev. R. B. Knatchbull-Hugessen, 4; G. Finn, jun., 5; G. Paine, 6; F. Finn, 7; E. Finn, 8. This was the last touch rung by the Rev. Knatchbull-Hugessen previous to leaving the parish, but although he has relinquished his duties here as Rector, he still continues to be Secretary of the Association. And on Tuesday, December 16th, 864 Bob Major. E. Ruck (conductor), 1; G. Finn, jun., 2; W. Jay, 3; D. Paine, 4; W. Hyder, 5; G. Paine, 6; G. Finn, jun., 7; E. Finn, 8.

GILLINGHAM (Kent).—On Tuesday evening, December 16th, at the Parish Church for practice, a 720 of Grandsire Minor (thirty-four bobs and two singles), in 27 mins. B. King, 1; C. Jarett, 2; *W. Keeble, 3; J. Baker, 4; W. King, 5; *A. Haigh (conductor), 6. Tenor 18 cwt. *College Youths.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

BURFORD (Oxon).—On Sunday evening, December 14th, for Divine Service, the following members of the Burford church ringers, who are also members of the above Guild, rang two parts of Holt's ten-part peal of Grandsire Triples in 37 mins. H. Smith, 1; T. E. Glanville (conductor), 2; J. Smith, 3; W. Smith, 4; W. Large, 5; H. Bond, 6; D. Francis, 7; W. Launchbury, 8. Tenor 21 cwt.

READING.—On Thursday, December 11th, at St. Giles, a 720 of Oxford Bob, in 27 mins. J. Butler, 1; E. Pottinger, 2; G. Gibbard, 3; G. Essex, 4; H. Blissett, 5; Rev. G. F. Coleridge (conductor), 6. Tenor 16½ cwt.

THE SOUTH LINCOLNSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

SPALDING (Lincolnshire).—On Saturday, December 13th, the members of this Association attempted to ring Holt's 10-part peal of Grandsire Triples at St. Paul's, Fulney, but after ringing 4032 changes, in 2 hrs. 20 mins., it unfortunately came to grief. G. Keel, 1; R. Skeef, 2; J. W. Creasey, 3; E. Quinton, 4; E. Mason, 5; R. Creasey (conductor), 6; J. A. Croxford, 7; A. T. Walker, 8. And on Sunday, December 14th, a 360 of Oxford Treble Bob. R. Skeef, 1; E. Quinton, 2; A. F. Walker, 3; R. Creasey (conductor), 4; J. W. Creasey, 5; J. A. Croxford, 6.

THE UNITED COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

HYDE (Cheshire).—On Sunday, December 14th, at St. George's, for Divine Service in the evening, eight of the local company, also members of this Association rang a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples, 1260 changes. James Shaw, 1; Robert Woolley, 2; Thomas Bradley, 3; Walter Slater, 4; John A. Fildes, 5; Samuel Bradley, 6; James S. Wilde (conductor), 7; Thomas Wilde, 8.

BALDOCK (Herts).—On Thursday, December 11th, at the church of St. Mary the Virgin, for practice, a 336 of Grandsire Triples. T. Webb, 1; A. Squires, 2; J. Roslyn, 3; J. Phillips, 4; Robert Jackson, 5; Richard Jackson, 6; W. A. Tyler (conductor), 7; G. Gentle, 8. Tenor 28 cwt. in D. *Handbell Ringing*.—And on the handbells a 360 of Grandsire Triples. W. Bidnell, 1; W. A. Tyler, 2; A. Squires, 3; Robert Jackson, 4; J. Roslyn, 5; Richard Jackson, 6; J. Phillips (conductor), 7; G. Gentle, 8. W. A. Tyler and A. Squires hail from Hitchin, Herts.

BISHOPHILL SENIOR (Yorks).—On Sunday, December 14th, at St. Mary's church, for Divine Service in the evening, a 720 of Bob Minor. A. Fearnley, 1; R. Long, 2; E. Dawson, 3; J. Daniel, 4; J. Underwood (conductor), 5; C. Underwood, 6. Tenor 13 cwt.

BROMBOROUGH (Cheshire).—On Tuesday, December 8th, the local company rang for practice, 168 of Grandsire Triples. Charles Gittins, 1; John Ollerhead, 2; Thomas Hughes, 3; Robert Williams, 4; John Langan, 5; John Ellis, 6; Edward Griffiths, 7; Owen Lewis, 8.

COLN ST. ALDWYNS (Gloucestershire).—On Tuesday evening, December 9th, six of the Coln men, with two of the Burford company, rang on the bells of the parish church a 504 of Grandsire Triples.

R. Packer, 1; E. Webb, 2; J. Williams, 3; R. Jefferies, 4; C. Bate, 5; H. Bond (Burford), 6; J. Kitchener (conductor), 7; W. Large (Burford), 8. Also the same evening, by invitation of the Rev. R. P. Davis, rang on the parish church bells of Hatherop, a 720 of Plain Bob Minor, with sixteen bobs and two singles. J. Williams, 1; E. Webb, 2; C. Bale, 3; R. Packer, 4; R. Jefferies, 5; J. Kitchener (conductor), 6.

CHEPSTOW (Monmouth).—On Sunday, December 14th, at St. Mary's, for Divine Service in the morning, the local company rang three plain courses of Bob Doubles, on the back six bells, being the first half-pull ringing ever done here by a local company. James Morley, 1; John Evans, 2; William Greene, 3; George Watkins, 4; Thomas Rosser, 5; Richard Morley, 6. Tenor 21 cwt. in E.

CROYDON (Surrey).—On Sunday, December 14th, for Divine Service at the parish church, a 504 of Grandsire Triples in 23 mins. F. Turner, 1; H. Dudley, 2; A. B. Carpenter (conductor), 3; T. Verrall, 4; W. States, 5; A. Bruce, 6; V. Holman, 7; G. Rosier and S. Fisk, 8.

ELTHAM (Kent).—On Thursday, December 4th, at the church of St. John the Baptist, a 720 of Plain Bob Minor, with sixteen bobs and two singles, in 25 mins. J. King, 1; C. English, 2; W. Gosling (first 720 in the method), 3; C. Mussett (first 720 in the method), 4; G. Sheppard (conductor), 5; F. Fraser, 6.

FAREHAM (Hants).—On Saturday, December 13th, being the 13th anniversary of the bells of St. Peter's church being augmented from six to eight, was rung on the back six, a 720 of Oxford Single Bob Minor, with eighteen bobs and two singles, in 28 mins. W. Martin, 1; T. Newnham, 2; J. Whiting, 3; C. Privett, 4; G. Williams, 5; F. Hill (conductor), 6. And a 518 of Grandsire Triples, being the first part of Holt's 10-part peal. J. Hewett, 1; W. Martin, 2; G. Grafham, 3; F. Hill (conductor), 4; C. Privett, 5; H. Mason, 6; J. Whiting, 7; G. Passingham, 8. Also 630 of Grandsire Triples. G. Grafham, 1; J. Hewett, 2; F. Hill, 3; G. H. Child, 4; C. Privett, 5; T. Newnham, 6; G. Williams (conductor), 7; J. Whiting, 8. And a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, 1260 changes, in 46 mins. J. Hewett, 1; F. Hill, 2; G. H. Child, 3; T. Newnham, 4; C. Privett, 5; G. Williams (conductor), 6; J. Whiting, 7; G. Grafham, 8. This quarter-peal contains twenty-four 6-7s. Tenor 14 cwt. in F. All except W. Martin are members of the Winchester Diocesan Guild.

FRITTENDEN (Kent).—On Monday, December 15th, at the parish church, 1008 and 160 of Bob Major. Caleb Payne (conductor), 1; James Potter, 2; Edward Baldock, 3; Edmund Potter, 4; Alchin Moorcraft, 5; Thomas Potter, 6; William Brattle, 7; Thomas Daynes, 8. Tenor 14 cwt.

GLEMSFORD (Suffolk).—On Sunday, November 23rd, at St. Mary's, a 720 of Bob Minor. F. P. Adams (conductor), 1; O. Garwood, 2; S. Slater, 3; A. Ives, 4; H. Thompson, 5; G. Maxim, 6. And on Wednesday, December 3rd, a 720 of Cambridge Surprise. C. Honeybell, 1; Z. Slater, 2; F. Wells, 3; O. Garwood, 4; S. Slater, 5; F. P. Adams (conductor), 6. And in the evening a 720 of New London Pleasure. S. Slater, 1; C. Honeybell, 2; F. Wells, 3; O. Garwood, 4; Z. Slater, 5; F. P. Adams (conductor), 6. *Handbell Ringing.*—And on handbells, at the house of John Slater, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob, with fifteen bobs. John Slater, 1; S. Slater, 2-3; O. Garwood, 4; F. Wells, 5; F. P. Adams (conductor), 6.

HIGHER SUTTON (Cheshire).—On Wednesday, December 3rd, for practice, a 720 of Grandsire Minor, with forty bobs and eight singles, in 27 mins. And on Sunday, December 7th, for Divine Service in the morning, a 720 of Grandsire Minor, with thirty-eight bobs and twenty-two singles, in 26 mins. Also for Divine Service in the afternoon, a 720 of Grandsire Minor, with thirty-four bobs and two singles, in 25 mins. Alfred Lawton, 1; Wm. Kenny, 2; Walter Ingham, 3; John M. Davenport, 4; Wm. Walmsley (conductor), 5; Thomas Mottershead, 6. And the same evening, a 720 of Grandsire Minor, in 26 mins. John R. Hensall (Gawsworth), 2; the rest as above. Conducted by Wm. Walmsley. Tenor 12 cwt. in G.

HITCHIN (Herts).—On Monday, December 15th, for practice at St. Mary's parish church, a 360 of Plain Bob Minor, with the tenor behind. H. Buckingham, 1; (2nd left out) W. A. Tyler (conductor), 3; J. Hare, 4; A. Squires, 5; S. Hare, 6; W. Allen, 7; J. Foster, 8. And four 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles. H. Buckingham, 1; W. A. Tyler, 2; J. Hare, 3; S. Hare, 4; A. Squires, 5; G. Halsey, 6; W. Allen (conductor), 7; J. Foster, 8. These were rung with 4 6 8 covering. Tenor 28 cwt. in D. *Handbell Ringing.*—Also on handbells. 168 of Grandsire Triples. H. Buckingham, 1; A. Squires, 2; J. Hare, 3; S. Hare, 4; W. A. Tyler, 5-6; W. Allen (conductor), 7; G. Halsey, 8.

HURWORTH-ON-TEES (Durham).—On Thursday, December 11th, at All Saints' church, for practice, a 720 of Bob Minor, in 28 mins. G. Eden, 1; J. Simpson, 2; H. Kirby, 3; J. Temple, 4; G. Garbutt (conductor), 5; R. Newton, 6. Tenor 17 cwt. This is the first 720 rung by G. Eden, and the first conducted by G. Garbutt.

KEMERTON (Gloucestershire).—On Saturday evening, December 13th, for practice, six 6-scores of Stedman Doubles, in 25 mins. A. Devereux, 1; J. Hillman, 2; F. Potter, 3; B. Baldwin, jun., 4; E. Devereux (conductor), 5; C. Smith, 6. A. Devereux, J. Hillman, F. Potter, and B. Baldwin, jun., only commenced ringing last Easter. Great credit is due to Edward Devereux, who is a member of the Gloucester and Bristol Diocesan Association, for the pains he has taken in teaching the Stedman method, which has never been rung on these bells before. Tenor 12 cwt.

LONG MELFORD (Suffolk).—On Saturday, December 6th, at the parish church, a 1008 of Bob Major. James Bird, 1; Philip Bixby, 2; George Hammond, 3; Zach. Slater, 4; John Slater, 5; Percy C. Scott, 6; Oliver Garwood, 7; S. Slater (conductor), 8. And on Saturday, December 13th, the following band attempted to ring a peal of Bob Major, 5040 changes, when, after ringing 4944 changes in exactly 3 hrs. the 3rd rope broke, to the great disappointment of the band. F. R. Steed (Parish Clerk), 1; H. Thompson, 2; F. P. Adams, 3; Z. Slater, 4; O. Garwood, 5; F. Wells, 6; G. Maxim, 7; S. Slater (conductor), 8.

LOUGHBOROUGH (Leicestershire).—On Tuesday evening, December 9th, at All Saints' church, for practice, 210 of Grandsire Triples. C. Smith, 1; C. Fox, 2; F. Cooper, 3; J. W. Taylor, sen., 4; S. Smith (first time as conductor), 5; E. D. Taylor, 6; J. W. Taylor, jun., 7; W. Billingham, 8. And a 630 of Grandsire Triples. T. Cooper, 1; R. Bayles, 2; C. Smith, 3; C. Fox, 4; S. Smith, 5; W. Billingham (first time as conductor), 6; J. W. Taylor, jun., 7; T. Grundy, 8. Tenor 24½ cwt.

PALGRAVE (Norfolk).—On Thursday, December 11th, six members of the Diss local company visited this place and rang 720 of Bob Minor, with fourteen singles and four bobs, in 24 mins. E. Hayward, 1; C. Webster, 2; E. Francis, 3; W. Ireland, 4; B. Francis composer and conductor), 5; J. Souter, 6.

PERRY BAR.—The Holt Society rang for Divine Service last Sunday, December 14th, a 720 of Grandsire Minor in 26 mins. H. Bastable, 1; J. Buffery, 2; *B. Wittchell (conductor), 3; A. Jones, 4; C. Stanbridge, 5; T. Reynolds, 6. Also 504 of Stedman Triples. J. Buffery, 1; W. Kent (conductor), 2; H. Bastable, 3; A. Jones, 4; B. Wittchell, 5; T. Reynolds, 6; C. Stanbridge, 7; R. Fluck, 8. *First 720 of Grandsire Minor.

PRESTON (Suffolk).—On Saturday evening, December 13th, at St. Mary's Church, a 720 of Bob Minor (thirty-four singles) in 24½ mins. H. Symonds, 1; Wm. Hollocks, 2; A. Hollocks, 3; Jas. Levitt, 4; Wm. Snell, 5; A. Symonds (conductor), 6. Tenor 11½ cwt. Composed by Mr. P. Hamblett, of Daresbury, Cheshire.

ROCHESTER (Kent).—On Sunday, December 14th, for Divine Service in the evening at St. Margaret's church, a 720 of Bob Minor, in 25 mins. *J. Freemantle, 1; J. Kidd, 2; J. Tullett, 3; H. Greaves, 4; E. Andrews (R. E. Band), 5; W. Baker (conductor), 6. This is the first in the method by all the above, also the first in the method on the bel s. Tenor 16 cwt. *Cumberland Youths.

ROMFORD (Essex).—On Saturday evening, December 6th, a 720 of Bob Minor, with eighteen bobs and two singles. W. Nash, 1; W. J. Aldridge, 2; J. Porter, 3; A. Pye, 4; A. J. Perkins (conductor), 5; A. Deards (first 720 with a bob bell), 6.

SOUTH CHURCH, BISHOP AUCKLAND.—On Saturday, December 13th, at St. Andrew's church, seven members of the Durham and Newcastle Diocesan Association, with J. Aitchcock, of the Yorkshire Association rang a 720 of Plain Bob Minor. J. G. Clarkson (Stockton; conductor), 1; *J. Cleminson (aged 15), 2; *J. Waldron, 3; *F. Castree (aged 17), 4; *F. Charlton, 5; J. Aitchcock, 6; T. Charlton, (aged 16), 7; Ed. Tibb, 8. The company wish to thank the vicar and churchwardens for the use of the bells. *First 720 in the method.

SPALDING (Lincolnshire).—On Tuesday, December 2nd, at the church of SS. Mary and Nicholas, the local company rang a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob and a 720 of College Single. And on Saturday, December 6th, a 720 of Yorkshire Court Bob, with nine bobs and six singles, and a 360 of Kent Treble Bob. And on Sunday, December 7th, for Divine Service in the morning, a 480 of Plain Bob, and for Divine Service in the evening, a 360 of Oxford Bob; conducted by R. Mackman. And after evening service a 720 of London Single; conducted by J. S. Wright. And on Tuesday, December 9th, a 720 of Double Court Bob, J. S. Wright, 1; J. Wilson, 2; G. L. Richardson, 3; R. Mackman (conductor), 4; E. Brown, 5; J. Brown, 6. And on Thursday, December 11th, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob. R. Skeef, 1; J. S. Wright, 2; the others standing as before. And on Saturday, December 13th, six 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles. J. S. Wright (four 120's) and John Prudence (two 120's; first 120 on the treble), 1; J. Wilson, 2; G. L. Richardson, 3; R. Mackman, 4; E. Brown, 5; C. Neaverson and W. J. Jarvis (alternately), 6. And on Sunday, December 14th, for Divine service in the morning, four 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles, and for Divine Service in the evening,

a 720 of London Single. G. Harrison, 1; J. Wilson, 2; J. S. Wright, 3; R. Mackman (conductor), 4; E. Brown, 5; J. Brown, 6. And after service, a 720 of Oxford Bob, with 22 singles. G. L. Richardson, 3; J. S. Wright, 5; others as before.

TERRINGTON (Norfolk).—On Saturday, December 13th, at St. Clement's church, a 720 of Bob Minor, with sixteen bobs and two singles in 28 mins. F. Easton, 1; Jas. White, 2; R. Howling, jun., 3; J. Green, 4; Jno. Herring, 5; Dr. Seccombe (conductor), 6. And on Sunday, December 14th, for morning service, a 660 of Bob Minor, and after evening service, a 720 of Bob Minor, with nine bobs and six singles, in 27 mins. F. Easton, 1; Jas. White, 2; R. Howling, jun., 3; G. Barrett, 4; Jno. Herring, 5; Jno. Green (conductor), 6. And on Monday evening, December 16th, a course of Oxford Treble Bob, the first time in Terrington by a local company. F. Easton, 1; R. Howling, 2; R. Howling, jun., 3; G. Barrett, 4; Jno. Herring, 5; Dr. Seccombe, 6. Tenor 14 cwt.

TIBENHAM (Norfolk).—On Wednesday, December 10th, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob, in 30 mins. G. Manser (conductor), 1; T. Wick, 2; G. Manser, jun, 3; J. Jackson, 4; John Coleman, 5; E. Websdale, 6. First 720 in the method by all.

WALPOLE (Norfolk).—On Thursday, December 11th, at St. Peter's church, a 720 with eighteen bobs and two singles, in 26 mins. J. Hendry, 1; R. Grimes (conductor), 2; H. Hill, 3; H. Allen, 4; Dr. Seccombe, 5; W. Wright, 6. Tenor 14 cwt.

WOMBOURN (Staffordshire).—On Wednesday evening, December 3rd, a 720 of Grandsire Minor, in 25 mins. J. Edwards (first 720), 1; J. Aston, 2; A. Little, 3; W. Devey, 4; J. E. Claridge, 5; R. Cartwright (conductor), 6. And on Sunday morning, December 7th, at eight o'clock, three 6-scores of Plain Bob Doubles. G. Deans, 1; J. Aston, 2; H. Deans, 3; W. Devey, 4; R. Cartwright (conductor), 5; A. Little, 6. And on Wednesday, December 10th, a 360 of Plain Bob Minor. J. E. Claridge, 1; J. Aston, 2; A. Little, 3; W. Devey, 4; H. Deans, 5; R. Cartwright (conductor), 6. This is the first 360 by all the above and the first practice in the method with the exception of the Doubles rung on Sunday. Tenor 11½ cwt.

CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS.

THE railway companies have announced their special arrangements for the coming season. The Midland inform the public that the Booking Offices at St. Pancras and Moorgate Street will be open for the issue of tickets all day on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday, December 22, 23, and 24, and tickets to all the principal stations on the Midland Railway can also be obtained before-hand at the company's offices, 445, West Strand, 10A, New Bond Street, and 5, Trafalgar Buildings, Northumberland Avenue; Cook's Tourist Office, Ludgate Circus; and the L. B. and S. C. Co's offices, 28, Regent Street, and 8, Grand Hotel Buildings, Trafalgar Square. Tickets obtained at these offices will be available from St. Pancras Station; will be issued at the same fares as charged at that station, and dated to suit the convenience of passengers. Corresponding trains run in the opposite direction. For particulars, see time-tables issued. The company will collect free of charge Parcels for conveyance by passenger train from warehouses, co-operative stores, and other places in London, Liverpool, Manchester, Birmingham, Leeds, Bradford, Sheffield, Nottingham, and other towns on their system in which parcels are now delivered by their own carts, or by their agents, within the usual limits. Arrangements have been made for the quick transit and prompt delivery of parcels and Christmas presents, and through vans will run between London and all principal places by express trains for the accommodation of this traffic. Parcels should be addressed "Per Midland Railway."

The Great Eastern Company also announces that on December 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, and 29, relieving trains will precede some of the principal trains shown in the time tables. On Wednesday (Christmas-Eve), December 24th, in addition to the relieving trains, the 8.0 p.m. train from Liverpool Street will be extended to Bury, Yarmouth, and Lowestoft, calling at Colchester, Ardleigh, Manningtree, Ipswich, Woodbridge, Wickham Market, Saxmundham, and Beccles, and at Stations between Ipswich and Bury. Special midnight trains will leave Liverpool Street at 11.55 p.m. for Norwich, calling at Waltham Cross, Broxbourne, Harlow, Sawbridgeworth, Bishops Stortford, Audley End, Cambridge, Ely, Brandon, Thetford, Attleborough, and Wymondham; and at 12.15 a.m. for Ipswich, calling at Brentwood and Warley, Ingatestone, Chelmsford, Witham, Kelvedon, Colchester, and Manningtree. On Christmas-Day, December 25th, additional trains will run from Liverpool Street.

THE SITTINGBOURNE PEAL.—We are asked to say that the peal rang at St. Michael's, Sittingbourne, on Monday, December 8th, should read "A Variation of Holt's Ten-part," not "Reeves's Variation."

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 PEAL AT WOOLWICH.

SIR,—Replying to your correspondents "Williamite" and Mr. H. J. Davies, I beg to state that two of the individuals referred to, certainly have a name preceding that of William, and another is more generally known by his second Christian name. Personally, I have several ringing friends with two Christian names, but they are known to us by the second only. This is a free country, and I never yet heard of a law which compelled a man, with two or more baptismal names, to always use the first. Why, let me ask, should it be so in the present case?

With regard to the concluding remarks of "Williamite," I fail to see the justice of same. The report was sent to "THE BELL NEWS" in a truthful spirit, and certainly was not calculated to mislead ringers or any other persons; and I question very much whether our esteemed Editor would have permitted its insertion had he any doubt as to its being genuine.

In conclusion, I venture to submit that whatever opinion your correspondents may have formed on the subject, my own impression is (and I shall adhere to it), that the peal in question was a *legitimate one*, since every person connected with it bore (either as a first or second Christian name), the well-known appellation of

WILLIAM.

"ON BELLS."

SIR,—I am very sorry for poor Mr. Barratt that in endeavouring to vent his angry feelings on what he terms my "billious" (*sic*) letter, he should have trusted himself (or perhaps an amanuensis), to pen the epistle of this week's "Bell News" without (not an encyclopædia), but a "Johnson's Dictionary" to teach him orthography. I cannot style him a "Sir Oracle" until he becomes more of a "Syntax." But perhaps owing to having his bell wisdom called into question, it made him feel somewhat bilious in his mind, hence the sapient effusion as an emetic to relieve the dyspeptic fit.

W. WARSKITT.

P.S.—I shall not trouble you with anything further on this subject.

"ANCIENT BELLS."

SIR,—Allow me to offer the following suggestions concerning the weight of the bell referred to by "Enquirer" in your issue of the 29th ult. The bell being 4½ inches thick, and 54½ inches in diameter, is on a thirteen scale and weighs (not including its somewhat remarkable cannons), 31 cwt. The weight of the latter can be roughly computed thus:—

Volume of one cannon = $\frac{1}{2} \times \frac{1}{2} \times \frac{1}{2} \times 1$ = one sixteenth cubic foot.

Therefore volume of the six = $\frac{3}{8}$ cubic foot. Multiplying 1000 and by 8 (assuming 8 to be the specific gravity of bell metal), we get 3000 ozs. exactly, or 1 cwt. 2 qrs. 7 lbs., which, being added to the original weight, gives 32 cwt. 2 qrs. 37 lbs. as the weight of the whole.

J. S. ARCHER.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

THE Third Quarterly Meeting of this Association will be held at Burton-on-Trent, on Saturday, December 27th, 1884. The following towers will be opened for ringing from 1.30, viz.: Winhill, six bells; Horninglow, six bells; the parish church, Burton-on-Trent, eight bells; and St. Paul's, Burton-on-Trent, eight bells. Friends on arrival are requested to proceed to St. Paul's Institute, where the local committee will be in attendance to assist in forming bands for ringing. Committee Meeting in St. Paul's Institute, at 4.0 p.m. Tea in St. Paul's Institute at 5.0 p.m. Tickets 1s. 6d. each. General Meeting immediately afterwards.

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LYTHAM, LANCASHIRE.

AT the conclusion of the peal which was very creditably performed (a report of which appears in its proper place), the whole of the ringers connected with the parish and St. John's churches were generously entertained at supper by John S. Slater, B.A., L.L.B., principal of Seafield school. The vicar of Lytham, the Rev. H. B. Hawkins, M.A., was also present for a time. When the sumptuous repast was over a number of selections upon the handbells were performed by the parish ringers, and various members of the company contributed songs at intervals. Throughout, the evening was of the pleasantest character, and the ringers one and all feel highly grateful to Mr. Slater for his unstinted hospitality.

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Total Annual Income	343,271
Amount of Profits divided at the last Quinquennial Bonus	437,347

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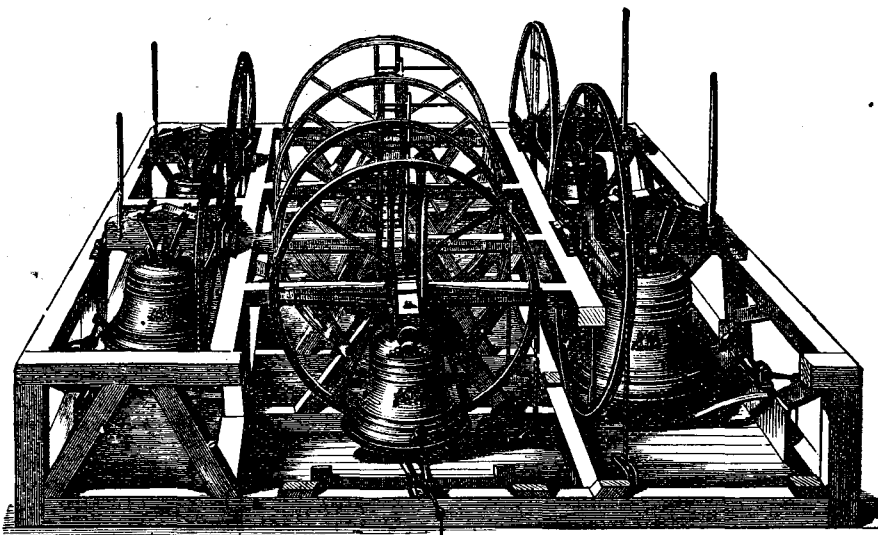
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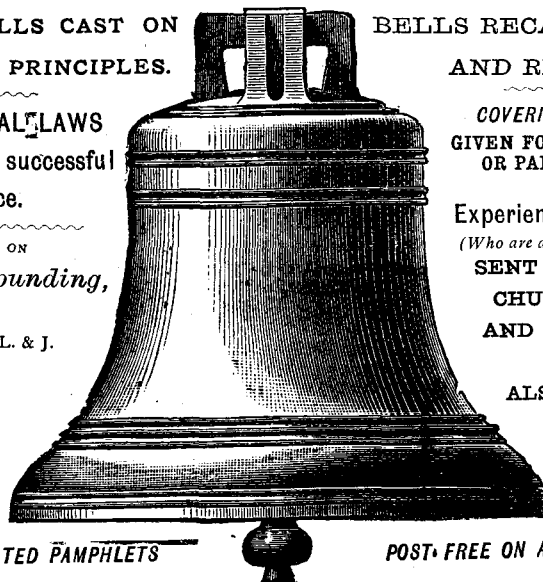
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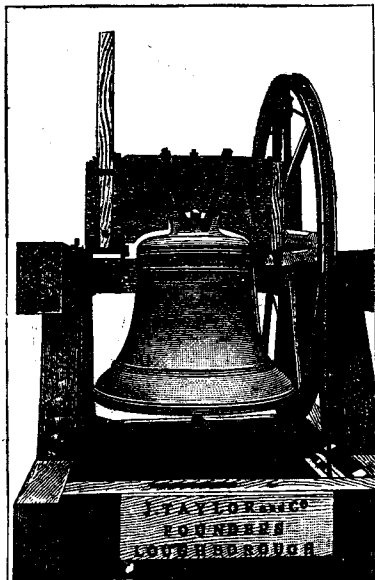
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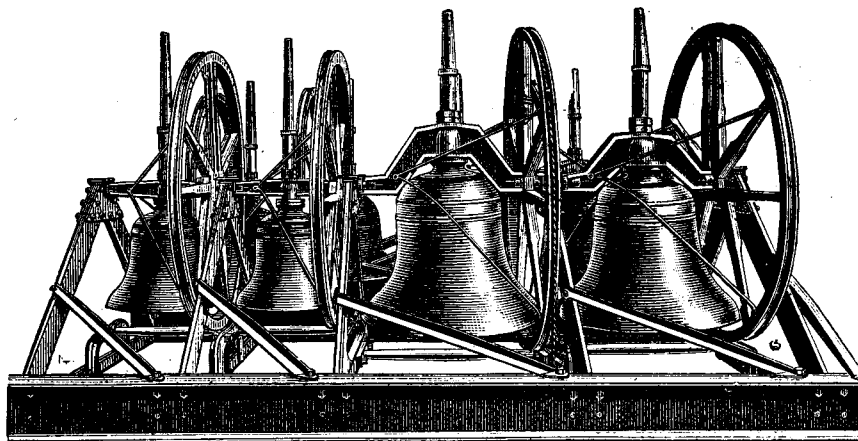
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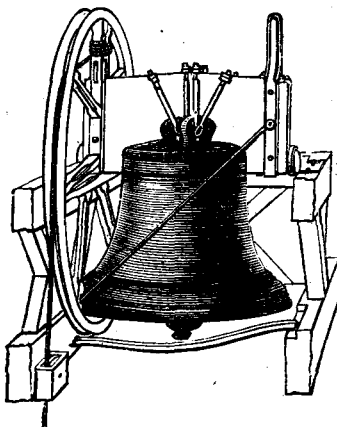
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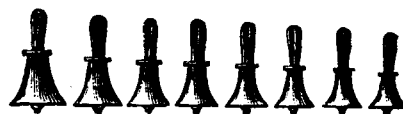
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MUSICAL HAND BELLS

CHURCH BELLS TO ANY WEIGHT.

PEALS OF TRIPLES ON STEDMAN'S PRINCIPLE.

BY JASPER W. SNOWDON.

SOME years ago I wrote a short sketch of the different peals that had been rung in the above method, and endeavoured to shew the progress that had been made in the art of composition in this intricate method. Since the above time, I have collected further information concerning these matters, which I now hope to place before the readers of "THE BELL NEWS." On this occasion, however, I intend to treat the subject in a different and more comprehensive manner, and so that the two subjects, compositions and performances, may be more easily brought forward, I propose to consider them separately. I shall, therefore, in the first instance place before my readers the different compositions, and when this has been done, shall then draw their attention to the performance of the said peals, when all particulars that have come to my knowledge in connection with this matter will be introduced.

Before proceeding with the peals it will be as well to have a scale of course-ends before us, and I therefore give the following one. In a course of Stedman Triples bobs can be called at the following sixes: 3-4-5-6-7-8-12-13, without disturbing the seventh. The various course-ends that can be brought up by calling bobs at these sixes, are all the course-ends I have thought it necessary to give. There are others which are used in certain of the peals that I shall give, but in these courses the seventh is disturbed, and as in some of the peals these courses are given by the sixes. I do not think it worth while to go further into the matter. Before leaving this subject I would however remind my readers that the numbers used to designate the various sixes apply to the six at the beginning of which the call is made. Thus, when a call is marked at 3, the vocal call is made by the conductor just before the end of the second six, the alteration in the duty of bells takes place at the *beginning* of the third six, but the result, when pricking by the sixes, does not shew itself until the *end* of the third six. In connection with the table of course-ends, I have noted the number of courses and changes that may be had by repeating the same calling, until rounds come up. Although in all the peals, as they commence with the last two changes of a quick six, the going off change is taken as 231456, it will be seen that the course-ends in the table are produced from 123456. This makes the transpositions in any peal or touch, all require to be made as if the previous course-end was 123456.

TABLE OF COURSE-ENDS.												
Calling.												
Course-end.	Will repeat. Changes.											
1 2 3 4 5 6	3	4	5	6	7	8	12	13				
5 2 6 4 1 3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	168		
2 5 6 4 3 1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5	420		
1 4 6 2 5 3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	168		
5 4 3 2 1 6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	168		
3 4 6 5 2 1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	252		
2 4 1 5 3 6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5	420		
3 5 1 4 2 6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	168		
2 1 3 4 6 5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	168		
6 4 3 1 2 5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5	420		
2 4 5 1 6 3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	252		
6 1 5 4 2 3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5	420		
5 4 3 2 1 6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	168		
5 2 6 4 1 3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	168		

If bobs at 3-4-7-8-12-13 are called, rounds will be produced. Although, as I have stated, the foregoing are the only courses that can be had without disturbing the seventh, there are certain calls that can be made which disturb the seventh, and it may yet, by other calls, be brought home at the course-end. Although such courses are used in some of the following peals, I have not thought it necessary to give them in this table.

The earliest known peal, which is given below, was composed by Thomas Edwards, of Stourbridge, in the year 1792. This peal contains 620 bobs and 100 common singles, besides two singles

introduced at the fourth change of the last six in each part. These singles, which are at the half-peal ends, run thus:—

First single.
1 3 2 5 4 7 6
1 2 3 5 4 6 7

Last single.
1 3 2 4 5 7 6
1 2 3 4 5 6 7

The following part has to be four times repeated, with the addition of the single in 4-5 at the half-peal end, to produce the first half-peal, and the whole has to be then repeated. If the singles at the half-peal ends are treated as extra calls, the total number of calls in the peal will be 722, made up thus: 620 bobs, 100 common singles, and two singles in 4-5.

5040 with 722 calls.

2 3 1 4 5 6 7	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	12	13	14
4 1 2 7 3 6 5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	S
7 2 4 3 1 6 5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	S	-	S	-
3 4 7 1 2 6 5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	S	-	S	-
1 7 3 2 4 6 5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	S	-	S	-
2 3 1 4 7 6 5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	S	-	S	-
4 1 2 5 3 6 7	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	S	-

THOMAS EDWARDS, Stourbridge.

From ms. copy formerly in the possession of the late Thomas Day, Birmingham.

First rung by the Ancient Society of College Youths, on September 4th, 1803, at St. Mary's, Kensington. Conducted by Charles Barker.

The following peal contains 582 calls made up thus: 350 bobs, 230 common singles, and two singles (generally called "turning singles,") made at the half-peal ends, as in Edwards's peal. The singles are placed in this peal in such a variety of ways that I have found it necessary to place the calling of each course before my readers. The calling is given, with the exception of the two turning singles, which have to be made at the half-peal ends.

5040.

First half-peal.											Last half-peal.										
231456											231567										
I	3	4	5	6	7	8	10	I2	I3		I	3	4	5	6	7	8	10	I2	I3	
412635	-	-	S	-	-	-	S	-	S		512634	S	-	-	-	-	-	S	-	S	
624315	S	-	-	S	-	-	-	S	-	S	625314	S	S	-	-	-	-	S	-	S	
346125	S	-	-	-	-	-	S	S	S	-	356124	S	-	-	-	-	-	S	S	-	
163245	S	-	-	-	-	-	S	S	S	-	163254	S	-	-	-	-	-	S	S	-	
231465	S	-	-	-	S	-	-	S	-	S	231564	S	S	-	-	S	-	S	S	-	
412536	-	-	-	-	-	-	S	S	-	S	512436	-	-	-	-	-	-	S	S	-	
<hr/>											<hr/>										
524613	-	-	-	-	-	-	S	S	-	S	425613	S	-	-	-	-	-	S	-	S	
645123	S	-	-	-	S	-	-	S	-	S	654123	S	-	-	-	S	-	-	S	-	
156243	S	-	-	-	-	-	S	S	-	S	146253	S	-	-	-	-	-	S	S	-	
261453	S	-	-	-	-	-	S	S	S	-	261543	S	-	-	-	-	-	S	S	-	
412563	S	-	-	-	-	-	S	S	-	S	512463	S	S	-	-	-	-	-	S	-	
524316	-	-	-	-	-	-	S	S	-	S	425316	-	-	-	-	-	-	S	S	-	
<hr/>											<hr/>										
345621	-	-	S	-	-	-	-	S	-	S	354621	S	-	-	-	-	-	S	-	S	
653241	S	-	-	-	-	-	S	S	-	S	643251	S	-	-	-	-	-	S	S	-	
236451	S	-	-	S	-	-	-	S	-	S	236541	S	S	-	S	-	-	S	S	-	
462531	S	-	-	-	-	-	S	S	-	S	562431	S	-	-	-	-	-	S	S	-	
524361	S	-	-	-	S	-	-	S	S	-	425361	S	-	-	-	-	-	S	S	-	
345126	-	-	-	-	-	-	S	S	-	S	354126	-	-	-	-	-	-	S	S	-	
<hr/>											<hr/>										
153642	-	-	-	S	-	-	-	S	-	S	143652	S	-	-	-	-	-	S	S	-	
631452	S	-	-	-	-	-	S	S	-	S	631542	S	S	-	-	-	-	-	S	-	
416532	S	-	-	-	S	-	-	S	S	-	516432	S	-	-	-	-	-	S	S	-	
564312	S	-	-	-	-	-	S	S	-	S	465312	S	-	-	-	-	-	S	S	-	
345162	S	-	-	-	S	-	-	S	-	S	354162	S	-	-	-	-	-	S	S	-	
153246	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	S	-	S	143256	-	-	-	-	-	-	S	S	-	
<hr/>											<hr/>										
231654	S	-	-	S	-	-	S	S	-	S	231645	S	-	-	-	-	-	S	-	S	
612534	S	-	-	-	S	-	-	S	-	S	612435	S	-	-	-	S	-	-	S	-	
526314	S	-	-	S	-	-	-	S	S	-	426315	S	S	-	-	-	-	S	S	-	
365124	S	-	-	-	-	-	-	S	S	-	364125	S	-	-	-	-	-	S	S	-	
153264	S	-	-	-	-	-	S	S	-	S	143265	S	-	-	-	S	-	-	S	-	
231546	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	S	-	S	231456	-	-	-	-	-	-	S	S	-	

HENRY COOPER.

From the original ms. now in the possession of Mr. Henry Johnson.

First rung on June 5th, 1819, at Shiffnal, by the Birmingham St. Martin's Youths' conducted by its composer from a manuscript copy.

WEDGING THE UPPER TIMBERS OF BELL-FRAMES TO THE WALLS OF THE TOWER.

HAVING rung in fifty-six towers with a different band of ringers in each, and also examined almost all the parish churches in one county alone; as well as the cathedrals of England and Ireland, the writer of these few lines is in a position to offer suggestions relative to the above.

First of all it would be most natural to ask in each case what is the cause of the observed movement? Is it looseness in the morticed timbers, or are the ends of some of the great beams rotten where they are built in the walls, from wet constantly driving in during storms, or is the whole frame rotten beneath, or of some unscientific or feeble structure, or been cut into by persons ignorant of the principles of joinery for fresh bells? In any or all the above cases, mischief is at work, which cannot be remedied by any number of wedges driven as above.

With regard to the effect on the tower produced by wedging the frame to the walls, this will depend entirely on the thickness of the walls, good building construction, absence of vault digging near the foundations, also weight of the bells. If a bell frame could be constructed during the erection of a tower, and the most intimate good feeling exist between architect and bell-founders' carpenter, the whole frame would be well, if fitting tight everywhere; always provided that the tower is a substantial affair.

In the case of old towers things are different. They were constructed in early instances as places of resort in flood or battle, and only were adapted later for the "battering science." Let us take one example: the inside measurement is nearly thirty feet square, the walls, which are buttressed, about 5 feet thick. We ascend at once to the bells, which are five in number, and one family, cast in the 17th century, the parish then being a wealthy one. Curiously, when the bells were new made, the frame, *per se*, was left untouched, that held four, no doubt ancient bells originally; merely adapted.

The sight presented in this enormous tower, large and strong enough for twenty bells with room to spare, is as follows: all the bells hang in a straight row from east to west, enormous timbers from time to time having been strutted from the two top rails of the frame to the walls. During ringing, the long rent in the tower distinctly opens and closes from the battlement downwards, from the presence of the long top struts to the walls; this was especially noticed in pulling up the cracked tenor a few weeks ago in order to photograph the bells. Next, and in our own day, Messrs. Fussey and Alban, the eminent architects, are called in, neither of whom ever saw bells at work in the whole course of their professional lives. The tower is observed to be rent right up, and part, including the staircase, leans out. "Ah!" say our surveyors, "the bells are the cause of all this." Well the parishioners like to hear them rung properly, and ask for remedial agency. Our friends, the architects, prepare reports, and huge corbels, either low down, or high up, get inserted, and the lower timbers cut free of the walls; consequently the whole affair rocks about like a ship, floor and all, but in this case the tenor only weighs 12 cwt., and the walls are nearly five ft. thick, and nine in the buttresses, it matters not, except to the unfortunate ringers. Of course the original rent in the tower was caused by lightning. The inference to be drawn from all this is that in a strong tower and light bells, no mischief will be caused by clumsy wedges, although it would be much better to remedy the cause of the movement, particularly by iron dogs, or long rods and bolts right through the frame.

Another favourite trick with country carpenters is nailing up shores, eight in number, from the top of the frame to the plate of the timbers of the lead platform above; the effect of which

is to lift the whole platform slightly up and down during ringing. To conclude, any battering is utterly wrong and dangerous: prevent it at the root of the evil in the frame itself. Allow no wedges where mortices are rotten or loose, but insert angle iron, and well bolt top timbers to bottom the reverse way of the timber connection.

G.

THE HEADLONG CAREER AND PROBABLE FATE OF A CHANGE-RINGER.

He was quite a beau amongst the ladies, there is no doubt about it; and, if the opinions of the belles themselves is worth anything, he was a very fine fellow too, there is no question as to that fact; and . . . *He was a change-ringer!* But he had developed eccentricities in this latter capacity, for ever since he had mastered the difficulties of the *Grandsire Method*, he had insisted on two points, which were: First—That he should choose his own company; Second—That he should be allowed to ring the 2nd bell. I need hardly tell you that this company contained a large majority of the fair sex, for I have already hinted at this fine fellow's lady-killing propensities. Well then, the company being assembled, our hero would, in the coolest manner imaginable, tell off each one of them to the rope he intended him or her to handle, taking very good care, as he was going to ring the 2nd bell himself, to give over the treble bellrope to the most fascinating lady in his eyes, for the time being present. Everybody did as he desired them to do—they always did—though they didn't like it a bit sometimes. But stop, did I say everybody? Then that was a fib, for there was one steady-going lady, not so young as she used to be, who had always persisted in ringing the tenor bell, and what is more, she was just as good at getting her own way as he was. So her ladyship would take her stand on the tenor bell platform, whilst his lordship had his own sweet will with the other seven ropes; and very much the tenor lady enjoyed her exalted position, from which she often realised that "lookers on see most of the fun." The ringers being duly arranged, there was always a preliminary spell at the *Plain Course*, the length of the spell being determined by the power of attraction the treble hand could exercise over No. 2. But mind you, when once No. 2 had determined on a *Touch*, and had called himself out of the hunt, although he varied the calling and allowed every other bell to share equally the honour of going into the hunt, he took care not to call himself in again that evening until he wished to end the performance, when he would quickly bring the bells round and cry "*Stand.*" Lately, however, the ringers have been practising a new method named "*Stedman*," and oh! how deep our hero has become in his tactics by this time! Truly he has been an apt scholar in learning the mysteries of *dodging and double-dodging!* In this method he appropriates the 4th bell, so that he may be the first to go into the *slow hunt*, and by that means the enjoys the society of two at a time, with pleasant variations. If he likes his company, it is easy enough for him to prolong the pleasure of being with them: for then, as sure as ever he comes to the end of his *slow work*, and ought to go out and dodge in 4-5 up, he loses his place, breaks down, and they have all to begin again! This butterfly change-ringer will never mend his ways, until he has had a little taste of *Treble Bob Major*, in which the work of the bell in the *slow hunt* does not allow of such frips and freaks, and where, alas! he will find his fair friends all ready to snap with him during some part of the evening's performance. A judicious course of this method will make him take to round-ringing, with the same fair partner by his side for the rest of his life.

MORAL.—When you want a little course of flirtation, be very sure that you are the first in the field. AN OBSERVER.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

THE next change-ringing festival will be held at Painswick, on Monday, January 5th, 1885. Short service at St. Mary's church at 12 o'clock. Dinner at the "Falcon" at 1 o'clock, towards which each performing member will be allowed 1s. 6d. by the Association. The Hon. Sec. particularly requests members to signify their intention of being present before the 30th inst. Performing members will kindly send word through their committee man. The above sum will be disallowed to those who fail to comply with this request. An omnibus will meet the 10.46 train at Dudbridge, calling at Stroud about 11

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS.

5003.

By ROBERT WILLIAMS, *Liverpool*.

4 2 3 5 6 7th in and out at three.

3 2 6 5 4 8 9.
 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 4 2 5 6 8 9.
 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 6 4 5 2 8 9.

2 3 6 5 4 9th in three s.
 6 2 3 5 4 9th in three.
 3 6 2 5 4 9th in three.
 2 6 4 5 3 8 9.
 4 6 3 5 2 8 9.
 3 4 6 5 2 9th in three.
 6 3 4 5 2 9th in three.
 4 3 2 5 6 8 9.
 2 4 3 5 6 9th in three.
 3 2 4 5 6 9th in three.
 4 2 6 5 3 8 9.
 6 4 2 5 3 9th in three.

5 4 3 6 2 8th in two and 7 8.
 3 4 2 6 5 8 9.
 2 4 5 6 3 8 9.
 5 2 4 6 3 9th in three.
 4 5 2 6 3 9th in three.
 2 5 3 6 4 8 9.
 3 5 4 6 2 8 9.
 4 3 5 6 2 9th in three.
 5 3 2 6 4 8 9.
 2 3 4 6 5 8 9.
 4 2 3 6 5 9th in three.
 3 2 5 6 4 8 9.

9th in and out at two with a double, 9 8, and
 8th in three bring the bells round. 5th and
 6th twenty four courses behind the 9th.

A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH
COURT BOB MAJOR.

5088.

By JOHN CARTER, *Birmingham*.

2 3 4 5 6 1 4 5 6

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

Five times repeated. A single instead of a
 bob on the 5th lead of the 8th course of the
 third and fifth part.

The above contains the 6th twenty-four
 times in 5th place, and the 5th twelve times
 in 6th place.

TWO PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERS.

By JOHN R. PRITCHARD, *Liverpool*.

6048.

2 3 1 4 5 6 2 3 5 1 6

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

*This course is produced by bobs at 4, 8,
 9, 10, 11, 13, 14. Five times repeated.

6696.

2 3 1 4 5 6 Bob on 7 8 9.

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

Four times repeated produces:—

2 3 1 4 5 6

2 3 1 4 5 6 8 7 9 bob on 9 7 8.

2 3 1 4 5 6 7 8 9 bob on 8 9 7.

A ½-PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES.

By JOHN WRIGHT, *King's Norton*.

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

Twice repeated.

A ½-PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES.

By ALFRED SQUIRES, *Hitchin, Herts.*

2 3 4 5 6 7

7 5 2 6 3 4 1
 5 2 7 6 3 4 4
 4 6 5 3 2 7 1
 6 5 4 3 2 7 4
 5 4 6 3 2 7 4
 7 3 5 2 4 6 1
 * 3 5 7 2 4 6 4
 5 7 3 2 4 6 4
 6 2 5 4 7 3 1
 2 5 6 4 7 3 4
 5 6 2 4 7 3 4
 3 4 5 7 6 2 1
 4 5 3 7 6 2 4
 * 5 3 4 7 6 2 4
 7 2 5 6 3 4 1
 6 2 4 5 3
 4 6 3 2 5
 3 4 5 6 2 P.E.

Repeated. *A single to be substituted for
 the two bobs marked * in the second part.

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR.

6048.

By JOHN THORP, *Ashton-under-Lyne*.

2 3 4 5 6 W M H

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

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

Twice repeated.

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR.

5040.

By EDWARD FRANCIS, *Diss*.

2 3 4 5 6 W M H

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

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

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

Twice repeated.

A TOUCH OF BOB MINOR.

444.

By J. J. PARKER, *Farnham Royal, Bucks.*

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

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

2 5 6 3 4
 6 2 5 3 4
 s 3 2 4 5 6

3 2 5 6 4
 4 5 3 2 6
 4 5 2 6 3
 s 2 3 4 5 6

SACRILEGE.—A young man named Brown
 was, at Birmingham, on Monday, committed
 for trial for sacrilege at St. John's and St.
 Mary's churches, by breaking open the charity
 boxes and stealing the contents. A detective
 stated that the same offence had recently been
 committed at several other churches.

"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.

Everything for insertion in this Journal to be addressed "The Editor of THE BELL NEWS, Walthamstow, London." Letters forwarded for publication, and performances under 5000 changes must reach us not later than Wednesday morning; and the insertion of any communication coming later than the first Postal delivery on Thursday morning cannot be guaranteed in that week's number. When it is found impossible from want of space to insert all touches forwarded, the earlier ones will have the preference.

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

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 dozen of cards, with a copy of the record of a peal, as it appears in our pages, sent post free on receipt of twenty-six halfpenny stamps.

The execution of several orders for peal-cards is delayed for a day or two. They will be forwarded before the expiration of the current week.

The Bell News & Ringers' Record.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 27, 1884.

WITH the arrival of Christmastide once more we are offering to our readers a Christmas number of "THE BELL NEWS." We take the opportunity which its publication gives us of expressing our sincere wish, that this season may prove a time of much happiness to all, and we earnestly trust that the new year upon which we shall soon be entering will be a prosperous one, not only to the ringing world in general, but to all its members and their friends in every way. But as the new year is still in the future, and as our more particular business just at present is with Christmas and Christmastide, we must confine our observations to the channel thus marked out for us.

At Christmas time the ringer has an important part to play. As on other great festivals, he is called, upon in most parishes at least, to sound the earliest morning note of the Church's praises to God, and to herald in the feast. He is thus in a very true sense a minister of the Church, for he and his fellows are then the representatives of the whole congregation, making for them an offering which he has specially trained and fitted himself to make. This is the chief and primary aspect of Christmas ringing. But is another, which though of secondary importance is still there an integral part of the whole. Christmas bells are spoken of, and written of, and sung of, far and wide, as affording pleasure to mankind: the ringer then is a minister not only of the sanctuary, but he ministers also to the feelings of his brethren. He is thus intimately mixed up with the very idea of Christmas. And here to the less worthy sort of ringer is a temptation, and to them, if they will forgive us for so doing, we will endeavour to address a word of exhortation. A

ringer sometimes thinks, and neither unnaturally nor wrongly, that if he is the cause of pleasure to others, it is only fair that they should do the same by him. This is all very well. But it is the manner that he not uncommonly adopts to secure his end, that we venture to deprecate. He goes round canvassing for money either directly or through the medium of handbell ringing. Now, is not this somewhat derogatory to his office? We would strongly urge the discontinuance of this plan, not merely as being beneath his dignity, but as productive occasionally of much that is bad. Do not let any of our readers for a moment suppose that we wish to defraud a ringer of what we cordially hold to be indeed his due. No; on the contrary, we would make a suggestion, which if acted upon would in all probability make him a gainer in every way. Instead of tramping the round of the parish, let him ask the incumbent for the loan of the school and for his patronage, and then after due notice, let him and his brethren give an entertainment, which if carefully prepared would, we feel sure, be productive of a well-earned Christmas-box, to cheer him for the duties of the forthcoming year.

OUR CHRISTMAS NUMBER.—Of the quality of the contents of our Christmas Number it is not for us to speak; we have tried our best to provide something out of the ordinary, to please our readers, in which we hope we have succeeded. Our old friend "Auditor Tantum" is again to the fore, and no doubt many who read his story will recognise the bells of Eländer, especially those who like ourselves, have rung upon this famous peal. The tale of the "Lost Peal-Book" is the production of a gentleman who is well known in our columns. The lines sent by our old friend—Mr. Egby—will no doubt be read with some degree of amusement. Mr. Egby is quite a genius at this sort of thing, as our readers will understand. He has had to write "lines" for other publications this Christmas, but, he says "the getting together something for our paper has given him more pleasure than all the rest put together." The "Touch on Croydon Bells" is sent by our venerable friend, Mr. G. Russell, who knows so well how to sing "The Bells of St. Michael's Tower." And we have been honoured also by a contribution from a lady, who prefers being anonymous, but whose little sketch will not be less valued on that account. The poem "The Tenor Bell," sent us by an old brother-string who thought it would be appropriate for our columns, and we have acceded to his desires. One particular contributor—an old favourite and valued friend indeed—we miss; the author of "Thornwood," "Christmas-eve at St. Gundulph's," etc. Unfortunately for us his professional engagements have called him away to South America, where he is likely to remain for some time. He tells us how he enjoys reading "THE BELL NEWS" as it arrives there each mail; how he reads every line of it through and through, and how sorry he is that his duties have prevented him from adding a little to the entertainment of our readers this Christmas. We hope our friends will think of him while enjoying their Christmas fare, and toast the health of "Our Absent Contributor," in a bumper.

London Society possesses two ladies who both bear the name of Isabelle, and who, standing to each other as they do in the relation of mother and daughter, are presumably of different ages, though, indeed, the difference might easily pass unperceived. A friend was heard lately to give the following account of them: "The one is named Isabelle—the other is a belle."

The Metropolis.**THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.**

On Monday, December 22, 1884, in Three Hours and Twenty-five Minutes,
At St. CLEMENT DANES, STRAND,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS, 5129 CHANGES;
Tenor 24 cwt. in D.

HENRY LEWIS* Treble,	*NEWMAN N. HILLS 6.
WILLIAM GREENLEAF 2.	J. MARTIN ROUTH 7.
JAMES PETTIT 3.	HERBERT BAKER 8.
JOHN M. HAYES 4.	WILLIAM D. SMITH 9.
WALTER B. JONES 5.	WILLIAM H. GEORGE .. Tenor.

Composed by HENRY HUBBARD, SEN., and Conducted by
JAMES PETTIT,

*First peal of Caters. Mr. Greenleaf hails from Stoke-upon-Trent; Mr. Baker from Hertford; Messrs. Lewis and Hills from St. Alban's; and Mr. George from Pinner, the rest belong to London.

The Provinces.**THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.****MAIDSTONE, KENT.—THE ALL SAINTS' SOCIETY.**

On Saturday, December 20, 1884, in Three Hours and Twenty Minutes,
At ALL SAINTS' CHURCH,

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

DAVID BETTS Treble.	GEORGE PAWLEY 5.
REUBEN SIMMONDS 2.	ALFRED H. WOOLLEY .. 6.
JAMES FURGESSON 3.	*FREDERICK G. NEWMAN.. 7.
JABEZ HORTON [.. .. 4.	*HARRY PEARCE Tenor.

Conducted by FREDERICK G. NEWMAN.

*College Youths,

The above was rung to commemorate the 38th birthday of Mr. A. H. Woolley; his brother ringers wishing him many happy returns of the day.

THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.—BEDDINGTON, SURREY.

On Saturday, December 20, 1884, in Three Hours and Twenty-five Minutes,
At St. MARY'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS, 5075 CHANGES;
Tenor 20½ cwt. in Eb.

JOHN PLOWMAN Treble.	JAMES HARRIS 6.
JOHN BRANCH 2.	*JOSEPH BARRY 7.
JAMES TRAPPITT 3.	JOSEPH FAYERS 8.
CHARLES E. MALIM 4.	GEORGE PELL 9.
EDGAR BENNETT 5.	HENRY HOLDER Tenor.

Composed by HENRY JOHNSON, and conducted by
EDGAR BENNETT.

Messrs. Barry and Malim hail from London; Pell from Streatham; Fayers from Mitcham; the rest are local men.

*First peal of Caters.

HULME, MANCHESTER.**THE ST. PHILIP'S (HULME) SOCIETY.**

On Saturday, December 20, 1884, in Three Hours and Three Minutes,
[At St. PHILIP'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5120 CHANGES;
IN THE OXFORD VARIATION. Tenor 12½ cwt.

JAMES O'BRIEN Treble.	EDWIN ETTOCK 5.
THOMAS HEALD 2.	W. J. HARGREAVES .. 6.
HENRY WOOD 3.	ARTHUR WOOD 7.
THOMAS COLLINGE 4.	*JOHN F. WOODS Tenor.

Composed by the late WILLIAM HARRISON, and Conducted by
JOHN F. WOODS.

First peal in the method by all. *First peal as conductor.

PRELIMINARY NOTICE.—A contest on handbells will take place on Saturday, January 31st, 1885, at the house of Mr. David Shaw, Grosvenor Street, Staleybridge, when prizes will be given for the best peal of Grandsire Triples and Grandsire Major, and an extra prize for the best course of Grandsire Caters.

LIVERSEDGE, YORKSHIRE.

On Saturday, December 20, 1884, in Two Hours and Fifty-nine Minutes,
At CHRIST CHURCH,

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

J. WHITWORTH Treble.	S. GOODALL 5.
W. GOODALL 2.	T. GOODALL 6.
J. W. LANG 3.	LUKE ILLINGWORTH .. 7.
T. NORTH 4.	M. RAMSDEN Tenor.

Composed by WILLIAM SOTTANSTALL, of Sowerby, and
Conducted by LUKE ILLINGWORTH.

This peal was composed by Mr. W. Sottanstell, on July 9th, 1884, that day being his 84th birthday.

NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.**DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.**

On Monday, December 22, 1884, in Two Hours and Fifty-five Minutes,
At St. JOHN'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5008 CHANGES;
Tenor 12½ cwt. in G.

WILLIAM EGGLESTON* .. Treble.	FRANCIS LEES 5.
CHARLES L. ROUTLEDGE .. 2.	*HENRY THOMPSON .. 6.
RICHARD WIGNELL 3.	WILLIAM STORY 7.
WILLIAM BOWES* 4.	ROBERT S. STORY .. Tenor.

Composed by A. KNIGHTS, of Chesterfield, and Conducted by
ROBERT SPENCER STORY.

*First peal.

This is the first in the method by all the above except F. Lees, and the first in the method by the Association. A peal of Major has never been rung in Newcastle before. R. Wignell hails from North Shields; H. Thompson from Hurworth; the rest are local men.

BIRMINGHAM.—THE ST. MARTIN'S SOCIETY.

On Monday, December 22, 1884, in Two Hours and Fifty-two Minutes,
At St. JOHN'S CHURCH, PERRY BARR,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
BROOK'S VARIATION. Tenor 13 cwt. in F#.

HENRY BASTABLE Treble.	THOMAS REYNOLDS .. 5.
WILLIAM R. SMALL 2.	SAMUEL REEVES 6.
ARTHUR JONES* 3.	*CHARLES STANBRIDGE .. 7.
ALFRED THOMAS 4.	JOHN BUFFERY Tenor.

Conducted by SAMUEL REEVES.

*First peal. This peal was rung to celebrate the 16th anniversary of the opening of the bells.

Date Touch.

HULL.—On Saturday, December 13th, at St. James's church, a date touch of 1884 changes of Bob Major, in 1 hr. and 5 mins. F. Merrison, 1; T. Stockdale, 2; J. W. Stickney, 3; R. Chaffer, 4; C. Bennett, 5; W. Southwick, 6; C. Jackson, 7; H. Jenkins (composer and conductor), 8, Tenor 15 cwt.

Miscellaneous.**THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.**

BEDFORD.—On Saturday, December 20th, at St. Mary's church, a 720 of Bob Minor, in 26 mins. S. Cullip, 1; J. Frossell, 2; J. Atkins, 3; W. Biggs, 4; C. W. Clarke (conductor), 5; J. Hills, 6. And a 720 of Grandsire Minor, in 25 mins. C. W. Clarke (conductor), 1; J. Atkins, 2; J. Hills, 3; C. West, 4; S. Cullip, 5; J. Frossell, 6. And several 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles were also rang, in which Messrs. Warwick and Toll took part. Tenor about 8 cwt. in B.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

DERBY.—On Sunday, December 21st, at St. Alkmund's church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, (1260 changes), in 48 mins. J. Ridgway, 1; S. Maskery, 2; J. A. Frost, 3; J. Howe, 4; A. B. Ward (conductor), 5; H. C. Woodward, 6; J. Newbold, 7; J. Seal, 8. Tenor 17 cwt. in F. Composed by John Cox, of London. This was rung to celebrate the erection of a peal-tablet the same evening, commemorating a peal of Grandsire Triples rung on the same bells on the 21st of June last. It is curious to note that the peal was rung on the longest day, and the quarter-peal on the shortest day of the year.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

PULHAM MARKET (Norfolk).—On Tuesday, December 16th, for practice, six members of the above association rang a 720 of Kent Treble Bob, in 37 mins. Arthur James Tann (conductor), 1; Charles Brown, 2; William Culham, 3; William Roope, 4; Frederick R. Surridge, 5; John C. Allen, 6. Also on Sunday, December 21st, for evening service, a 720 in the same method. James Broughton, 1; Charles Brown, 2; William Culham, 3; Frederick R. Surridge, 4; John C. Allen, 5; William Roope (conductor), 6.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION AND THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

BRAINTREE (Essex).—On Sunday, December 21st, for Divine Service in the morning, a 720 of York Surprise. F. Bumpstead, 1; *F. Calthorpe, 2; H. E. Hammond, 3; W. H. Dyson, 4; F. Rudkin, 5; S. Hammond (conductor), 6. Tenor 14 cwt. *First 720 on a bob bell. Practice nights Tuesday and Saturday.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

OXFORD.—On Thursday, December 11th, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor, in 24 mins. *F. A. Castle (first 720 in the method), 1; T. Payne, 2; O. Thomas, 3; C. Hounslow, 4; W. Baston, 5; J. W. Washbrook (conductor), 6. And on Wednesday, December 17th, at St. Mary Magdalen, a 720 of Grandsire Minor, in 27 mins. F. A. Castle, 1; H. J. Castle (first 720 with a bob bell), 2; Job Howse, 3; John Howse, 4; T. Payne, 5; W. Baston (conductor), 6.

STOKE-UPON-TRENT ARCHIDIACONAL ASSOCIATION.

NORTON (Staffordshire).—On Sunday, December 7th, a 720 Grandsire Minor, 27 mins. J. Wood, 1; E. Glover, 2; J. Morton, 3; J. W. Brough, 4; J. Pointon, 5; G. Walker (conductor), 6. And on Sunday evening for Divine Service a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob Minor, in 26 mins. E. Glover, 1; E. Spooner, 2; J. Morton, 3; F. Clowes, 4; G. Walker, 5; J. Baddeley (conductor), 6. Spooner and Clowes are from Cheddleton.

THE WANSTEAD AMALGAMATED SOCIETY.

LEYTONSTONE (Essex).—On Wednesday, December 17th, a 720 of Bob Minor, with eighteen bobs and two singles, in 26 mins. *A. Miles, 1; W. Smith, 2; *R. A. Sworder, 3; W. Manning, 4; S. Jarman, 5; T. Scarlett (conductor), 6. *First 720. Tenor 12½ cwt.

CAVENDISH (Suffolk).—On Sunday, December 14th, at St. Mary's Church, a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob Minor. Fredk. Thompson, 1; Joseph Page, 2; Philip O. Bixby, 3; F. P. Adams, 4; Geo. Maxim, 5; A. Hurst (conductor), 6. Also a 12-score of Kent Treble Bob Minor. Fredk. Thompson, 1; H. Thompson, 2; P. O. Bixby, 3; Alf. Ives, 4; F. P. Adams (conductor), 5; Geo. Maxim, 6.

EASTBOURNE (Sussex).—On Thursday, December 18th, at Christ Church, five of the local company with Frederick Harding, of St. Mary's, rang a 720 of Grandsire Minor, in 24 mins. *Horace Colbran, 1; *Charles Harvey, 2; *George Howes, 3; *Thomas Smith, 4; †Thomas Willoughby, 5; †Frederick Harding (conductor), 6. Tenor 8½ cwt. †First 720 in the method. *First 720.

FOXEARH (Essex).—On Wednesday, December 17th, at the parish church, a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob Minor. G. Maxim, 1; P. O. Bixby, 2; W. Gridley, 3; P. C. S. Scott, 4; F. P. Adams (conductor), 5; Geo. Maxim, 6.

HULL.—On Sunday, December 21st, at Holy Trinity Church, being St. Thomas's day, after Divine Service, a 672 of Grandsire Triples. C. Jackson (conductor), 1; Jas. Dixey, 2; C. Bennett, 3; Henry Jenkins, 4; H. Cutter, 5; Wm. Southwick, 6; F. Drabble, 7; W. H. Harrison, 8. Tenor 25 cwt.

KIRK ELLA, NEAR HULL (Yorkshire).—On Thursday, December 18th, five members of the Hull branch of the Yorkshire Association, assisted by Mr. H. Eastwood, also of Hull, rang at St. Andrew's church, a 720 of Bob Minor, with eighteen bobs and two singles, in 27 mins. J. Dixey, 1; H. Cutter, 2; F. Drabble, 3; W. Southwick, 4; H. Eastwood, 5; C. Bennett (conductor), 6. Tenor 19 cwt. The local ringers here have been under the tutorship of Mr. W. Southwick for the past three months, and are now able to ring courses of Minor in a very creditable manner with him at the tenor, and hope to make rapid strides so as to accomplish a 720 in the above method. The bells were then ceased in peal and the handbells were indulged in when some excellent tunes were performed in first-rate style. And a course of Grandsire Caters by H. Cutter, 1-2; H. Eastwood, 3-4; W. Southwick, 5-6; C. Bennett, 7-8; F. Drabble, 9-10. This brought a pleasant evening to a close, and the homeward journey to Hull was commenced (a distance of five miles) arriving there well pleased with their visit.

PENZANCE (Cornwall).—On Monday, December 1st, at St. Mary's church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (taken from Banister's Treatise), in 50 mins. F. M. Hicks, 1; J. Hodder, 2; J. Boase, 3; W. Hickens, 4; J. Symons, 5; G. Sellers, 6; J. Richards (conductor), 7; Rev. A. Berry, 8. On Monday, December 8th, 720 Grandsire Minor, on the back six, with thirty-four bobs and twenty-six singles, in 29 mins. M. Hicks, 1; J. Symons (conductor), 2; J. Boase, 3; W. Hickens, 4; C. Boase, 5; J. Richards, 6. On Monday, December 15th, 1050 Grandsire Triples, two parts of Reeves's Variation of Holt's ten-part, in 45 mins. M. Hicks, 1; J. Hodder, 2; J. Boase, 3; W. Hickens, 4; C. Boase, 5; J. Richards, 6; J. Symons (conductor), 7; M. Bassett, 8. On Thursday, December 18th, some courses of Stedman Doubles, in which method all are beginners. On Sunday, December 21st, for evening service, 672 Grandsire Triples. M. Hicks, 1; J. Hodder, 2; C. Boase, 3; W. Hickens, 4; J. Richards, 5; T. Hicks, 6; J. Symons (conductor), 7; Rev. A. Berry, 8.

RAUNDS (Northamptonshire).—On Monday, December 15th, at St. Peter's church, a 300 of Plain Bob Minor, with six bobs. A. Coles, 1; H. Stubbs, 2; R. Pendered, 3; G. Kirk, 4; J. Willmott, 5; W. J. Gilbert (conductor), 6. Also two 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles. A. Coles, 1; F. Gilbert, 2; H. Stubbs, 3; Rev. S. M. Edmonds (Rector of Stoke Doyle), 4; W. J. Gilbert (conductor), 5; G. Kirk, 6.

RINGSTEAD (Northamptonshire).—On Sunday, December 21st, at St. Mary's church, for Divine Service in the evening, a 720 of Oxford Bob Minor, with thirty-eight bobs and twenty-two singles, in 26 mins. W. J. Gilbert (conductor), 1; E. Mays, 2; A. Arnold, 3; H. Groome, 4; A. Groome, 5; T. Roberts, 6.

SWANSCOMBE (Kent).—On Thursday, December 18th, at SS. Peter and Paul, a 720 of Bob Minor. G. Hayes, 1; F. Ring (first 720), 2; F. Hayes, 3; W. Martin, 4; G. Martin, 5; W. Harper (conductor), 6.

WOMBOURN (Staffordshire).—On Wednesday evening, December 17th, a 720 of Plain Bob Minor, with eighteen bobs and two singles, in 25 mins. H. Deane, 1; J. Aston, 2; A. Little, 3; W. Devey, 4; J. E. Claridge, 5; R. Cartwright, 6. First 720 in the method by all the above and the first on the bells.

RE-OPENING OF ST. MARY'S BELLS, BEDFORD.

THE tower of the above church contains a very handy and tuneful ring of six bells, which for some years past have been in a deplorable condition. Recently, however, some of the more active and persevering members of the Bedfordshire Association made a thorough examination of the bells and frame, and came to the conclusion that the might be made to go at no very great cost. The Rector, architect, and churchwardens were accordingly consulted on the subject, the ringers undertaking to do the work without any remuneration, save the pleasure of ringing the bells when the work should be completed, the authorities to provide the necessary materials. The authorities consented to do so, and the result is very gratifying to all concerned in the matter. Some of the timbers of the frame which were rotten, have been replaced by well seasoned oak of the best quality, and other parts have been strengthened with the same, and secured with iron bolts; the tenor bell has been also quarter-turned, and the place well swept down; in short, a bold and vigorous stroke of real Belfry Reform has been accomplished in a very quiet way and a workmanlike manner.

The architect, Mr. Jackson, was more than pleased with the amount of work done, and highly complimented the workmen, Messrs. Frossell, Hills and Cullip upon their successful undertaking. Owing to the tower being out of plumb, and a crack being visible in the walls, some doubts were felt by some about the safety of ringing the bells, even though very light, but now that the bells have been rung and the frame as well as the tower have shown no signs of moving, these doubts will no doubt soon die away. We hope soon to hear of a 500q being rung upon these bells in seven different methods, the bells being well adapted for such a performance.

SS. MARY AND NICOLAS, SPALDING.

On Thursday, December 18th, the fifth meeting of the Committee for the augmentation of this peal to eight, by the addition of two new trebles, was held, there being present the Rev. Canon Moore, Rev. B. Matthews, Messrs. R. Cartwright, W. H. Sharpe, J. H. Nicholls, F. Pennington, W. Wright, Cobb, Willmott, John Wright, Mackman, Capt. Hilliam, and W. J. E. Hobson. The minutes of the former meeting were read. Several names were then handed in as having promised subscriptions amounting to 25l., making with that previously announced, 105l. 3s. 6d. The Secretary was asked to write to several gentlemen whose names were mentioned. The meeting was adjourned to Wednesday, January 14th next.

FAREHAM (Hants).—In the report of the ringing at Fareham, in our last number, it should read the "1st" anniversary of the bells of St. Peter's church being augmented from six to eight, not the "13th."

HEXHAM ABBEY BELLS.

A week or two back we briefly noticed the opening of this peal of eight bells after restoration, and the event, says the *Hexham Herald*, is not unlikely to awaken some curiosity as to their origin and history. Of their origin little or nothing is really known, and the materials referring to their early history are very scanty and incomplete. Tradition says that one or two of them came from Blanchland priory and the abbey at Jedburgh, and we have ourselves heard the tradition repeated both here and in the quiet old border town on the beautiful and romantic Jed. There may be some germs of truth in these floating legends of a remote past, and they might well supply a theme for the pen of the poet or romancist, but it would be manifestly absurd to accept as the facts of history what may very easily be nothing more than an interesting fiction. In the valuable "Essay towards a history of Hexham," published by Mr. A. B. Wright in 1823 it is stated that "the present ring of eight bells is cast out of the metal of six ancient bells." "Seven of these were recast in 1742, and one about twenty years ago"—that is, about the year 1803. The ancient bells bore inscriptions or mottos, and Mr. Wright makes this admission concerning the copy of them which he had been fortunate enough to secure: "The only copy," he says, "we have been able to procure—perhaps the only one in existence—is, we fear, inaccurate; but what remains is sufficiently curious to merit preservation." He says that "three of the bells are dated 1404" and gives it as his opinion "that the other three were probably more ancient." Here are the inscriptions, with the translations:—

- 1.—AD PRIMOS CANTUS P(RO)VISAT NOS
REX GLORIOSUS.
- 2.—ET CANTARE.....FACIET.
NOS VOX.....
- 3.—EST NOBIS DIGNA,
KATERINAE VOX BENIGNA.
- 4.—OMNIBUS IN ANNIS
EST VOX DEO ORATA IOHANNIS.
A.D. MCCCIII.
- 5.—ANDREA MI CARE,
IOHANNI CONSOCIARE.
A.D. MCCCIII.
- 6.—EST MEA VOX ORATA
DUN SIM MARIA VOCATA.
A.D. MCCCIII.

TRANSLATIONS.

- 1.—Even at our earliest sound,
The light of God is spread around.
- 2.—At the echo of my voice,
Ocean, earth, and air rejoice.
- 3.—Blend thy mellow tones with mine,
Silver voice of Catherine.
- 4.—Till time on ruin's lap shall nod,
John shall sound the praise of God.
- 5.—With John in heavenly harmony,
Andrew, pour thy melody.
- 6.—Be mine to chant Jehovah's fame,
While Maria is my name.

The treble and tenor are the only two of the peal of 1742 now remaining. The reason why there have been so many re-castings is that the more tin there is put into a bell the finer the tone is, but if more than a given proportion is added the metal becomes very brittle. Judging from the tone of the old bells, they contained an excess of tin, and if one may hazard an opinion as to what caused these bells to crack so soon, that probably was the cause. The cost of the restoration will exceed considerably the original estimate. We may add here that in re-producing the inscriptions on this peal we have extended the contracted words, such as "Rev." for reverend, "Wm." for William, and so on.

The opening of the peal attracted considerable attention in the neighbourhood, and amongst the large number who visited the church during the day there seemed to be a feeling of intense satisfaction, not unmingled with a becoming and laudable pride, that the peal was then complete and in working order. Many peals were rung in the course of the forenoon, afternoon, and evening by relays of change ringers belonging to the Durham and Newcastle Diocesan Association of ringers, amongst the ringers, eighteen in number, being Mr. Story, of Newcastle, the president of the Association. Softened by distance, the tone of the bells was mellow and sweet, rising and falling in gentle cadence with the passing breeze. The sound in the church itself was powerful without being harsh or unmusical, and while in the bell loft the din of their metal tongues was such as to prevent any other sound being heard, yet

Through vaulted roof and aisles aloof
The gladsome accents rung

With pleasing and melodious effect. Technically speaking, in the morning touches of Kent Treble Bob and Grandsire Triples were accomplished in a very creditable manner. At two o'clock the visiting ringers, the rector (Rev. Canon Barker), the churchwardens (Messrs. W. Cooke, I. Baty, sen., L. C. Lockhart, W. Taylor, and W. J. Capper), Mr. H. F. Lockhart, and others sat down to a very liberal repast, served up by the host of the North Eastern Hotel. Canon Barker presided, and in the vice-chairs were Mr. Baty and Mr. Capper. After ample justice had been done to the good things, the Chairman very kindly thanked the ringers for their attendance, and trusted that they might succeed in raising a band in connection with their ancient Abbey that would join the Association, and become prominent members of the same. These remarks were ably supported by Mr. Churchwarden Baty, after which the President replied, thanking the Rector and churchwardens for their hospitality, and stating the pleasure it had given the ringers to open the bells. Mr. W. Reed then proposed "The Health of Canon Barker," which was drunk with applause, and after a few words from Mr. Churchwarden

Capper, the ringers, after ringing a course of Grandsire Caters on the handbells (double-handed), returned to the Abbey, where a touch of Kent Treble Bob Major was rung for a special choral service, which commenced at four o'clock and was attended by a large and interested congregation. The officiating clergymen were the Rev. Canon Barker, rector; Rev. S. E. Pennefather, M.A., Vicar of Jesmond, Newcastle-on-Tyne; Rev. Dr. Mason, Allendale; Rev. T. Faulkner, St. John, Lee; Rev. J. M. Russell, and Rev. G. B. Fenwick, curates of the Abbey church. The prayers were read by the Revs. J. M. Russell and G. B. Fenwick, the lessons by Canon Barker and Dr. Mason, and the sermon was preached by the Rev. S. E. Pennefather. The anthem sung was "O how amiable." A special hymn, composed by the Rev. W. E. Houldey, for a festival of a guild of bell ringers, was sung before the sermon.

The sermon was preached by the Rev. S. E. Pennefather, who took his text from Numbers x., v. 2, 3—"Make thee two trumpets of silver; of a whole piece shall thou make them: that thou mayest use them for the calling of the assembly, and for the journeying of the camps. And when they shall blow with them, all the assembly shall assemble themselves to thee at the door of the tabernacle of the congregation."

During the offertory, a course of Grandsire Triples was rung on the bells instead of reading the ordinary sentences. The singing throughout the service was exceedingly good and effective, Mr. T. S. Camidge presiding at the organ. The collection amounted to £12. 7s. Touches of Plain Bob Major and Grandsire Triples occupied the rest of the time until seven o'clock, when the ringers were entertained to tea previous to their return to Newcastle.

In the opinion of the ringers, the tone of the bells and the tuning seemed very satisfactory, and the only fault that was apparent was with regard to the hanging of the 7th bell, which, it was found, required some adjustment. This, however, is a matter which the hangers can rectify with very little trouble, and when it is put right Messrs. Mears and Stainbank are to be congratulated upon carrying out the whole operation, both as regards the hanging and the recasting, in a first-class style, and the Hexham people may be proud of this sweet and well-hung peal of bells.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

THE Third Quarterly Meeting of this Association will be held at Burton-on-Trent, on Saturday, December 27th, 1884. The following towers will be opened for ringing from 1.30, viz.: Winhill, six bells; Horninglow, six bells; the parish church, Burton-on-Trent, eight bells; and St. Paul's, Burton-on-Trent, eight bells. Friends on arrival are requested to proceed to St. Paul's Institute, where the local committee will be in attendance to assist in forming bands for ringing. Committee Meeting in St. Paul's Institute, at 4.0 p.m. Tea in St. Paul's Institute at 5.0 p.m. Tickets 1s. 6d. each. General Meeting immediately afterwards. R. W. PITT, Hon. Sec.
36, St. Paul's Street West, Burton-on-Trent.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

A DISTRICT MEETING of the above Association will be held at Saffron Walden (eight bells), on Wednesday, January 7th. Ringing to commence at 12 o'clock. Tea at the "King's Arms," at 5 p.m. Business Meeting immediately after the tea. Members will be conveyed to and from Saffron Walden by the Great Eastern Railway at a single fare and a quarter, provided that they inform the Secretary before January 2nd, from what station they start, and shew their Essex Association receipts for this year at the Booking Office. Ringers intending to join the Association will be enabled to travel at the same rate on communicating with the Secretary. It is hoped that as many members as possible will endeavour to be present, as this is the first meeting held in this part of the county. H. A. COCKEY,
Rayleigh, S.O., Essex, December 15th, 1884. 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."

THE PEAL TABLETS AT ALL SAINTS', EDMONTON.

SIR,—I believe that according to Ecclesiastical Law, the tablets in the tower cannot be taken away from the church without a faculty from the Bishop. New tablets can be placed at any time with the consent of the Vicar, or Rector, as the case may be, for the time being.
JACKDAW.

THE VILLAGE OF BROOKLAND, IN ROMNEY MARSH.

IN a back number mention of this place was made in connection with a visit to the Cinque ports. A more complete description of the church will not be uninteresting to brother-ringers; as the steeple is very suggestive of an inexpensive manner of hanging a ring of bells. A single line of railway now runs off at Appledore, a station on that very informal branch of the South Eastern system, which always seems in its main line to commence in a cabbage garden somewhere in Surrey, and end indeed in the ocean proper, connections to important centres being all by branch lines. Having then, after waiting about three parts of a day, arrived at the station named after the place, a walk up a straight lane leads to the church. During this last quarter-mile the peculiarity of the situation becomes apparent. The ocean is visible, ships, trees, steeples, all seems alike, and, on a level; the fact is we are on a dead level entirely regained from the sea, and maintained by sea walls. This level is more than twenty miles in extent, and dotted about by large churches, far greater than the population is in need of. Having refreshed at the Inn and sought the keys, we enter the church, which is a large building divided by two long arcades into three parallel aisles. From the nature of the ground everything is much out of plumb line, but not more than is perfectly remedial by hands and heads that understand. The arcades are unsymmetrical, the arches being spaced differently, yet the whole belongs to about the year 1300, perhaps a little earlier. The place is thick in whitewash, this has however tended to preserve the sharpness of the outline of the stone mouldings. The roofs have the well-known king-post character, the wall plates being well-moulded. We had no time in a half-hour to make any measurements on the occasion of our visit to this spacious edifice. The font is a tub made of lead, standing on its original dais, presenting on its outer surface two tiers of round-headed arches in relief, twenty in each tier, containing the signs of the Zodiac. In order to complete the twenty compartments, the eight months from March to October inclusive are repeated, and so are the Zodiacal signs from Capricornis to Scorpio inclusive. In the midst of cable mouldings between two bands of shark's teeth, are small representations of the resurrection. December is illustrated by a butcher with raised hatchet, about to fell an ox, to be salted down for winter food. This font is probably Flemish, of 12th century date, two ft. one inch in diameter, sixteen inches deep. The church has no cross arches forming internal divisions, this having been effected by wooden screens, the bases of which exist. The ancient low benches remain beneath those detestable relics of church-rate days, viz., high pews, or rather pens. The magnificent windows have been before referred to, they belong to the 14th and 15th centuries. Having, let us say, spent a Sunday morning here, and attended church as ringers always do except when they ring, and sought out five good men and true, who can ring at least rounds; now examine the detached steeple, what a curiosity! Entering we notice that the four oak principals are each 19 inches square. The framework shows to best advantage from north to south; four huge wooden arches are formed above; and there is a saltire or cross of timber also north and south. The bells are on the next stage; four were cast in 1685. The 3rd is ancient, tenor 12 cwt., and are rung properly. A structure of this kind might in an out of the way place be erected cheaply, this one at Brookland would hold a ring of eight; iron might also take the place of timber. This locality is full of five and six-bell steeples, none have yet enlisted in the Kent County Association, though situated on the Ashford, Aldington, and Mersham margins respectively. When the average round-ringer will even allow that change-ringing is at least more beautiful than ups and downs, then and not till then will the presence of an instructor in such places be attended with good results. As it is, a band may arrive in an out of the way place, and do some good striking in Minor. During the time the ringing is going on, instead of listening and enjoying, the authorities are being told by the oldest round-ringer that "these chaps aint no ringers, they can't put 'em up and let 'em down," and this coming from such a source is fully appreciated.

CONSECRATION OF BELLS AT BELMONT
PRO-CATHEDRAL, (R.C.) HEREFORD.

ON Monday evening, December 8th, the Right Rev. Dr. Hedley, Catholic Bishop of Newport and Menevia, consecrated six bells which were needed to complete a peal for the tower of the pro-Cathedral, Belmont, three of the heaviest bells of the peal having been previously consecrated and hung. The rite of the blessing of bells is one of the most ornate, as it is one of the oldest, in the Roman Catholic Church, the bells used in religious worship having been solemnly baptised from the time of their earliest introduction. The peal which has been

obtained for the Belmont pro-Cathedral, was supplied by the Loughborough firm, Messrs. Taylor and Co. The weight of the treble (which sounds the note of F), is 5 cwt., and it is dedicated to the Angels, the inscription on it being "Laudant Angeli" (The Angels praise thee); the second (which sounds the note of E), weighs 5½ cwt., is dedicated to the Archangels, and bears the inscription, "Lætantur Archangeli" (The Archangels rejoice); the third (Eb), weighs cwt., is dedicated to the Virtues, and is inscribed, "Concelebrant Virtutes" (The Virtues set forth thy glory); the fourth (D) is half a cwt. heavier, is dedicated to the Powers, and bears the inscription, "Tremunt Potestates" (The Powers are filled with holy fear); the fifth (C) weighs 8 cwt., is dedicated to Principalities, and bears the inscription, "Canunt Principatus" the Princes chant Thy hymns of praise; the sixth (Bb), weighs half-a-ton, is dedicated to Dominations, and bears the inscription "Adorant Dominationes" (the Dominations adore Thee; the seventh (A) a cwt. heavier, is dedicated to Thrones, and bears the inscription "Exultant Throni" (The Thrones exult in triumph); the eighth (G) weighs 14 cwt., is dedicated to the Cherubim, and bears the inscription "Cherubim Hymnum Gloriæ Concinnant" (The Cherubim sing forth the hymn of Glory); whilst the ninth and last (F) weighs a ton, is dedicated to the Seraphim and bears the inscription, "Tibi Seraphim proclamant Sanctus! Sanctus! Sanctus!" (to Thee, O Lord, the Seraphim cry aloud unceasingly Holy! Holy! Holy!). The bell last described is the Sanctus and Angelus bell, ringing at the elevation of the principal Mass each day. It was consecrated in November 1883. The seventh and eighth were consecrated in March last.

The ceremony of blessing the six first-named bells was performed in the Pro-Cathedral at a special service which commenced at six o'clock in the evening, and a good many people gathered together to take part in the unwonted ordinance. The six bells designed for consecration were hung in the Pro-Cathedral immediately under the tower on a framework clothed with flowers and evergreens, and surmounted with a large floral cross with banners on either side. As a preparation for the solemn act, seven Psalms were recited by the Bishop and the monks in choir, and his reverence, attended by his deacons and ministers, then repaired to the spot where the bells were suspended for the ceremony. The Bishop having blessed the holy water, commenced the washing of the bells to prepare them for the anointings. This purification was continued by his ministers, who cleansed each bell within and without, whilst the choir recited three Psalms, and afterwards chanted the three "Alleuia" Psalms, viz., the 148th, 49th, and 50th. His Lordship again left the faldstool to proceed with tracing the sign of the Cross on each bell with holy oil. He then chanted a prayer begging Almighty God to sanctify the bells, now prepared for the use of the Church, that faith and devotion might ever be increased in the hearts of men when their sweet melody sounded in their ears; that Christ's Cross, imprinted on each of them, might prove a glorious standard, leading men into one confession of faith unto one everlasting life. Then took place the act of consecration. As the sound of the bells is to be heard from the four quarters of the heavens, and to summon the faithful in the name of the Blessed Trinity, the Bishop, taking holy chrism, wherewith Pontiffs are consecrated and kings anointed, made four crosses on the outside and three others on the inside of each of the bells, saying each time that he signed, "May this bell, O Lord, be made holy and be consecrated to Thy service, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost, unto the honour of the holy angels. Peace be to thee." After these anointings there followed a beautiful prayer, in which the Bishop prayed that those who obeyed the call of the bells, now anointed with chrism (even as are the sacred vessels of the altar), might ever prove faithful to the teachings of the Catholic faith. Seven acolytes bearing censors in their hands now approached the Bishop to receive the incense, which was to be placed under the bells, and to signify, as is set forth in Rev. viii, verse 4, the efficacy and far-reaching power of humble prayer. As the sweet-scented columns of smoke ascended and perfumed the newly consecrated bells, the Bishop prayed for all those who were hereafter to dwell within the sound of their peal, beseeching God to have them in his special keeping, under the guardianship of the choirs of the holy angels. The Deacon, Canon Doyle, bearing the book of the Gospels before him, received the episcopal blessing, and then proceeded to the space under the central tower to chant the portion of the sacred text selected by the Roman Pontifical for such occasions, viz., Luke x, verse 38. This portion of the Gospel is designed to remind the congregation that the sound of the bells bids them lay aside at times the household duties of Martha to attend to the one thing necessary, and to sit at Christ's feet with Mary and to hear His words. At the termination of the chant of the Gospel the Bishop kissed the sacred text, and then was honoured with incense by the Deacon. The Benediction of the blessed Sacrament brought the ceremony to a close.

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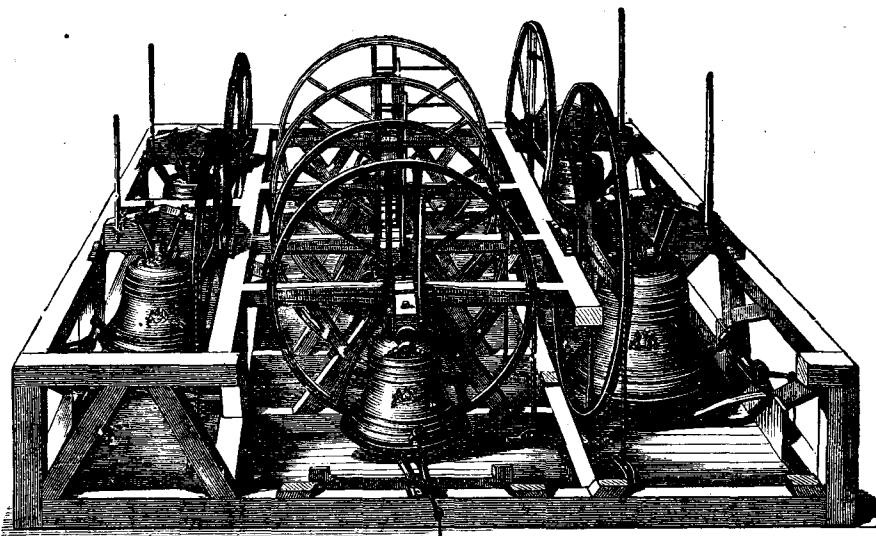
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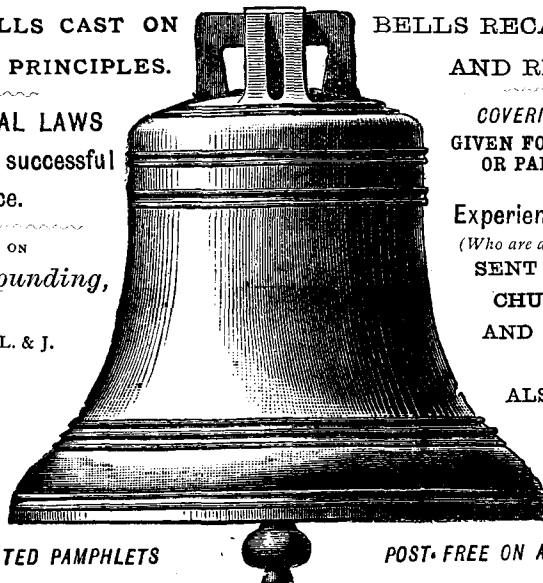
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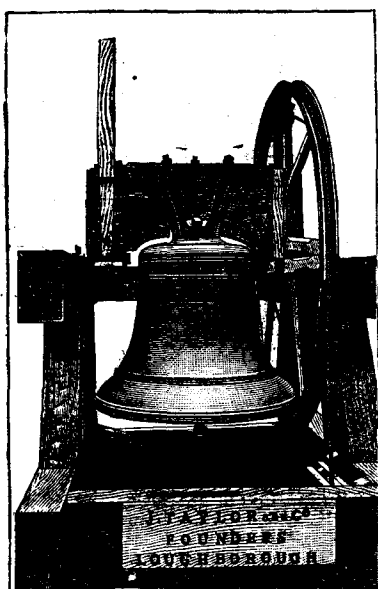
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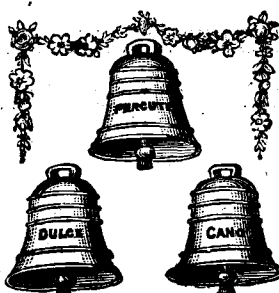
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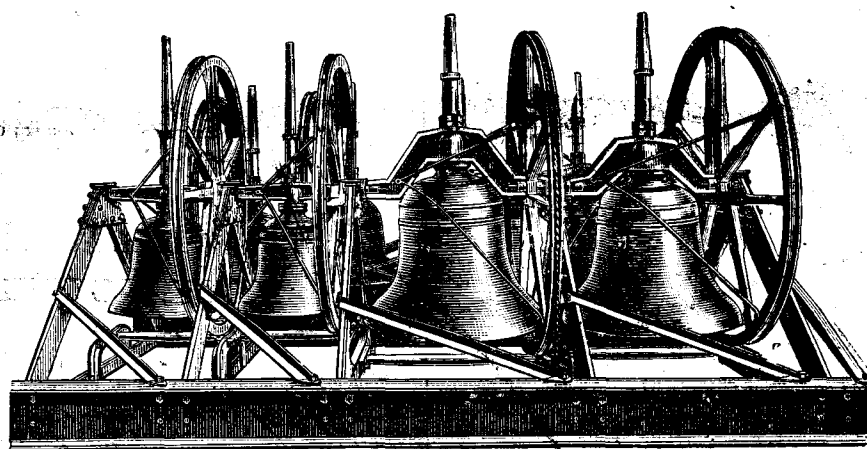
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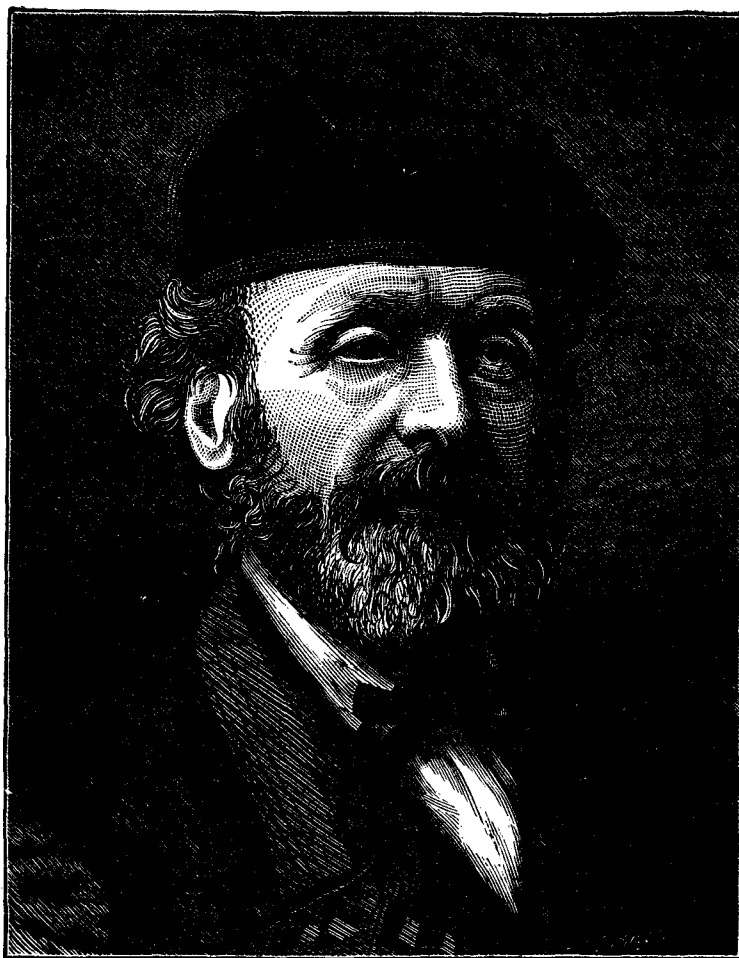
Address—Office of "The Bell News and Ringers' Record," Walthamstow, London.

Christmas, 1884.

CHRISTMAS SUPPLEMENT

TO

The Bell News and Ringers' Record.



MR. JOHN COX,

Member of the Society of Royal Cumberland Youths ; the St. James's Society ; the Waterloo Society ; etc.

THE celebrated ringer and composer whose portrait is here given, was born in London on the 9th of December, 1813, so that he has just completed his 71st year. At a comparatively early age Mr. Cox became associated with bells, about the same period that Mr. JAMES HEWETT, the son of Mr. Cox's then employer, began also to identify himself with ringing matters. Not only ringing, but the theory of composition attracted the notice of the subject of this memoir very soon after he had become a practical ringer, for while he was considered only a "colt" by his seniors, he had produced a peal of Stedman Caters, a task at that time not so lightly esteemed as now. On the 7th of October, 1833, he joined the Cumberlands, and rang his first peal—one of Grandsire Triples, at St. Mary, Islington, the same evening, and from this time it may with accuracy be stated, that his progress in the Exercise has been one long-continued success.

Those ringers who are resident in London, and who frequently mix with the elders of the metropolitan companies, are now

and then treated to a relation of incidents, many of them humorous, which have from time to time occurred, in which such veterans as Mr. Cox and his contemporaries have taken part: Many of these anecdotes occur to our mind as we write this sketch, and we would fain tell them, were we not prevented by the space at our disposal. In the practice of the art, Mr. Cox became an acute observer, and became one of the most capable at "picking up" a peal, when through the temporary aberration of the conductor its performance had become doubtful. This qualification, viz.: that of conducting as separated from mere bob-calling, Mr. Cox possessed in an eminent degree, and we know no member of the London Exercise, with the exception of Mr. MATTHEW WOOD, whose abilities in this direction have stood so high as those of Mr. Cox. Another great example of his skill lay in taking a peal off as it is being rung, while outside the tower, though in this instance the honours must be divided with Mr. H. W. HALEY; the idea that either of these celebrated ringers may possibly be within earshot during the progress

of a peal would certainly act as a wholesome deterrent to a bob-caller who was determined to "make a peal somehow."

In the year 1835, Mr. Cox joined the Ancient Society of College Youths, and in the December of the following year rang a peal of Stedman Caters with that company at St. Saviour's, Southwark. His next peal was one of Stedman Cinques at the same church, the first peal of Cinques in that method on the bells; and he continued ringing peals with this company till 1851, in which year a peal of Stedman Caters was accomplished in hand. On the 22nd of February, 1853, he again joined the Royal Cumberland Youths, and with them rung many peals in hand, which performances have duly been recorded in the various ringing books. The last peal he took part in was a 5001 of Stedman Caters at St. Margaret's, Westminster, which brings the number of peals rung by him to 222, ranking next to Mr. M. A. Wood in point of number of peals.

A worthy feature of Mr. Cox's nature, and one that ought not to be omitted even in so brief a sketch of him as this, is his willingness on all occasions to give instruction and counsel in the most intricate questions connected with the science; to prove a peal for a young composer, and in doing so to point out the proper basis upon which the structure of a peal should be reared. An admirer of Mr. Cox says:—"No person wanting to ring a peal need long be kept waiting if he properly consults Mr. Cox's convenience. We remember our first attempt at ringing Stedman Triples; we took the 6th bell, had a mighty dread of the slow work, although eager to dip into the fray. While anxiously looking and expecting, the touch was brought round and we found no slow work! such was the Master's skill and ingenuity." The eminence of Mr. Cox as a composer is well-known, we apprehend, to all, and we need not dwell upon his abilities in that respect. When the production of the sixty courses of Stedman Caters, with the treble a fixed bell, engaged the attention of all the celebrated composers of the day, Mr. Cox entered the field, and in our humble opinion the peal of 6701 in that method produced by him is the one entitled to the greatest merit among those possessing the above-mentioned properties.

As a handbell ringer Mr. Cox is second to no man living. He rang 3-4 in the first peal of Stedman Cinques ever rung in hand; in the same way he has called a peal of Stedman Triples and Holt's Original; and he rang 1-2 in the peal of Stedman Triples performed without any signal of the calls being given. About eight years ago we were called upon as umpires to witness Mr. Cox attempt to chime a 720 of Norwich Court Bob Minor, and this he did without the least mistake. While in his prime as steeplekeeper at St. Bride's, he would amuse himself by chiming Cambridge, Superlative, and Imperial Surprise Minor, besides several of the easier Treble Bob and Plain methods. An excellent double-handed ringer, able to ring almost any two bells to Stedman Cinques, any two to Caters, he has rang four bells while calling Stedman Triples. It is not only in London that his abilities are known, for he has rung peals in other towns, and has travelled a great part of the continent. In Paris he called Holt's Ten-part peal of Grandsire Triples with his friends on their return home from a long tour.

In the year 1876 his friends presented him with a significant testimonial of the value of about £45, and if anything more be wanted to shew the high appreciation in which this prominent ringer is held amongst his friends, it will be found in the fact that at the close of his Ringing Jubilee they subscribed the very handsome amount of upwards of £70 sterling for the purpose of procuring him creature comforts in the evening of his life. Mr. Cox, we regret to add, is not likely again to commence peal-ringing, but he still holds on to his post as steeplekeeper of St. Bride's, Fleet Street, and we sincerely trust the authorities may not only keep him there, but render the duties of the office as light as possible, and refrain, on the ground of economy, from adding any thing to them.

FOUND.—The key to the trunk of an elephant. A hair from the head of a river. A dozen feathers plucked from the "wings of the wind." A drop of blood from the heart of a stone. The nail from the finger of scorn. The diary of the "man in the moon." A boot from the foot of a mountain. The owners are requested to call, prove properly, pay expenses, and take them away.

THE LOST PEAL-BOOK.

THE Abbey society of change-ringers was established at Slowborough early in the last century, and had once comprised a large number of members, some of whom were first class ringers in their day. It had however gradually dwindled down until, at the time we are speaking of, it numbered only about a dozen members and a few honorary ones. An old wooden box in the room at the "Crown and Mitre," where the society met, contained all that was left to them of bygone days, consisting of a few musty papers, some old minute and account books, a copy of the *Campanologia*, published in 1706, a members' name-book, and a crumpled and torn certificate. The block from which the latter had been struck had been lost at the printers some fifty years back, and the society had long since ceased to grant certificates to its members on joining. There had once been a peal-book, but this had long since disappeared no one knew where, although Colt, the oldest member of the society living, said he remembered it when he was a lad of eighteen, and that he believed it contained about a dozen peals. One thing he said he was certain of, and that was that the last peal entered was a 5088 Kent Treble Bob Major rung in June, 1815, on the arrival of the news of victory at the battle of Waterloo. He remembered this well, he said, for in those days he used to cover with the tenor when they rang Grandsire Triples, and he was very indignant at the time because they managed to make up a Treble Bob party and he had to stand out. But Colt was now eighty-six, and rather hazy in his memory sometimes, and some of the present company considered his reminiscences about the peal-book as pure romance. Although the society had long ceased to exist as anything more than a local company, the members still held their annual meeting for the purpose of electing a Master and passing accounts. The Master's election was however only a matter of form. The whole management of the society was in the hands of the Secretary, who, by the way, was also Treasurer. This double office had for many years been held by Mr. John Trippels, who was a man who dabbled in public offices. Not only was he Treasurer and Secretary to the society, but he was also conductor of the ringing, (i.e. he called the touches, which rarely much exceeded 1000, but he never knew much about anybody else's work except his own). He was also head verger at the Abbey, and he held the steeple-keeper's office as well (i.e. he took the salary for it, and had a deputy to do the chiming and other work when he was engaged elsewhere). Mr. Trippels was also collector of the vicarial tithes, deputy-clerk to the local board, and mathematical master to the choristers' school.

Now the date of the commencement of our story is the 21st of December, 18—, and on the evening of December 26th the society had held its annual meeting for the last forty years. The society had rung for the festivals of Easter, Ascension Day, Whitsuntide, and Trinity; they had commemorated the birthday of Her Most Gracious Majesty on May 24th, and her Accession on June 20th; they had rung for the Mayor on November 9th; and now they were about to celebrate the Festival of St. Thomas, to whom the Abbey was dedicated and which was always observed as a ringing day at all the churches in the town; and then the Christmas ringing would finish the list.

On the morning of the 21st Mr. Trippels was up betimes, and shortly after 7 o'clock he hoisted the flag from the Abbey tower. About 8 o'clock the company began to assemble. There had been a meeting on the previous evening, so the bells had been left up ready. By five minutes past 8 there were seven men assembled.

"Where's Snapper?" said Trippels, "late, as usual, I suppose."

Just then Snapper entered. "Co-om, co-om!—This is a nice time to get here," said Trippels.

"Well, I got here as quick as I could," said Snapper. "I had a large cylinder in a cast last night, and I was compelled to go and dig it out, and knock the runners off this morning. I war'nt sure as it was all right neither."

Snapper was a moulder by trade, and worked at Messrs. Bott and Skimmer's foundry.

"Do you ever make 'wasters'?" enquired Trippels.

"Sometimes,—not very often, I'm happy to say."

"Talking of 'wasters,'" said Pinram, another ringer, "I know a good story about that. Some time ago when I worked at Manchester I was—"

"Here, I say, none of that, let's get to work, we've no time for stories now," said Trippels, stamping his foot on the boards with his heavy nailed boots, which he was famous for always wearing, and taking the 7th rope in his hand.

The ringers then got into their places, and after ringing a few rounds they went for a 700 of Grandsire Triples, which they accomplished in about half-an-hour.

"Bit of good striking that, I wish we could always tap 'em in like that," said Colt. "By-the-bye, where do we meet next?"

"St. Swithin's next, at ten; I shall want five of you with me there. I've got a class of young cubs to take down at the school till nine, and then I must get my breakfast and meet you up there," said Trippels.

"It's our annual meeting on Thursday night, and you'll have to find that lost peal-book, old man," said Moldsworth, a young ringer, addressing Colt.

"Gar-on wi-er, boy!—you're always at me about that, I know now't about it," said Colt. The rest of the company then went to breakfast, and Trippels made his way to the choristers' school. But we will anticipate him a little.

The choristers were already assembled before Trippels arrived. "I say, Montie," said Hugh (a younger boy), to Montague Raye (the senior boy), "shan't we get over our Euclid nicely to-day? It's St. Thomas's day, and old 'Trip' will want to be off ringing again directly."

"I don't know," said Montague (a conceited-looking boy with his hair parted in the middle, and wearing dandy kid boots). "The old humbug gets into a fearful 'wax' sometimes when he's in a hurry."

"I can't think however they came to have such an old cad to teach us mathematics," said Aleck (another boy). "I know Dr. Swishem doesn't like him, and he'd get rid of him if he could—only old 'Trip' is all 'hand and glove' with the trustees."

Further conversation was prevented by the arrival of Mr. Trippels himself, who had donned a cap and gown, which he had no real right to, not being a member of any university. He was soon standing in his place with a row of boys before him, all dressed in Eton jackets and wearing broad collars. The usual lesson on week days generally proceeded with a good deal of blundering on the part of the boys, Mr. Trippels passing the time in making sundry facetious remarks, and in clouting boys' heads and pulling their ears, and other such agreeable pursuits. The proposition in Euclid generally proved a failure before it was said half through, and Trippels settled the matter by making the whole class stay in and write it out six times, especially on a Wednesday, which was a half-holiday. This was his usual practice in case of failure in a lesson, as it involved no further trouble on his part. Had he simply made the boys stay in and learn it, he would have had to come again to the school later on to hear it; but in the other case he would not attend there again till the following Saturday, and then he would just glance at what the boys had written, and tear it up. Mr. Trippels soon took his departure, and left the choristers to go to church with Rev. Dr. Swishem, the resident head-master, who fortunately understood boys better than he did.

Trippels now made his way to St. Swithin's. Here he found five more waiting, and they ascended the tower without delay, and were soon standing in a small dark chamber about ten feet square, nearly all one side of which was occupied by a huge clock-case. Having hitched off the clock hammers, they proceeded to raise the bells. This being done, after altering the tucking of one or two of the ropes, they went for a 720 of Bob Minor, which was nearly accomplished when two countrymen, apparently farm labourers, entered the ringing chamber, talking loudly.

"Now then! never mind them," roared Trippels to one of the younger ringers. "Here! you and me in the middle; make seconds and lead—fourth!"

The touch proceeded, but the compass was spoiled. In a few more rounds it came out with a single. "Stand," said Trippels. "Now then, you old duffer! don't you know better than to come blundering in here in a peal?" added he, addressing one of the new comers.

"I ax yer' pardon, gents," said the man, "but me an' my mate here is ringers at Muckton, an' bein' in town, we thought as how we'd like to have a pull with yer, hif so be as you've no objections."

"But I have the very strongest objection," said Trippels.

"Well, mister, you might jest let us have a few rounds and a change or two wi' yer, up at the Abbey. Jest to say we've had a pull there."

"Look here," said Trippels, "when I want Churchyard Bob men here, I'll send for them. We are now going for a bit of Treble Bob at the Abbey, and at noon we shall be at St. Clement's; meanwhile, if you want a pull, you can go down to St. Michael's, the new church on the Didlington Road. There you'll find a peal of three nice little ting-tangs, and I have no doubt if you go to Binks, the sexton there, and talk pretty to him, he'll let you have a pull at them, and make one with you himself for a peal."

This speech was received with laughter on the part of the Slowborough company, and the round-ringers looked somewhat disconcerted. At length one of them said—

"All right, mister, never you come to Muckton to ring then, that's all."

"When I've nowhere else but Muckton to ring at I'll give over," said Trippels dryly. "Now then, gentlemen," added he, speaking to his own company, "let's be off back to the Abbey, Sluggerridge said he'd be there at half-past ten and if he is, we can go for a bit of Treble Bob."

The whole of the company then left St. Swithin's belfry and proceeded to the Abbey, and the round ringers left them. On the way there was some further discussion about the lost-peal-book. What

had become of it will appear hereafter. As soon as the Slowborough men arrived at the Abbey they met Sluggerridge, a ringer from Didlington, who had been expected to make one for a touch of Treble Bob.

"Kent, I suppose?" said that gentleman, mounting the seventh box. "Nonsense! Oxford," said Trippels, taking the tenor rope in his hand.

"Oh, it makes no difference to me. Shall you go for a fourteen-forty?"

"Aye, let's have a fourteen-forty, we never do have any lengths of anything here," said several voices.

"Look here," said Triples, "we'll have something short and sweet, that's my motto, I don't care for long lengths, I once rang a five thousand and forty of Grandsire, when I was in Yorkshire, you know, but I'll never do it again." Beside, you know we shall not have time to get a long length done before service.

The truth of the matter was that Mr. Trippels could only call one or two bits of Treble Bob, and the longest of these was 704, and this he knew the work of almost by heart, and he always rang the observation bell when he called. He was never tired of reminding the rest of the company that he had once rang a 5040 in Yorkshire.

"Well, what are we going for?" said Snapper. "Why, a seven hundred and four, of course," said Trippels, stamping his foot as a signal for all to get into their places.

Thereupon they got to their bells and the touch started, the striking was very fair. Somehow or other Treble Bob is generally well struck if it were not it could never be done at all, Trippels certainly did attempt to conduct as well as call, he was always very particular to remind the man in thirds to make thirds and go behind; that is, if he himself happened to be making fourths over him; otherwise he said nothing at all. He also repeatedly called to the trebleman to dodge him in when he was going into the slow, although the latter was always fully prepared to do so. The touch went on and came out "fair and square" (or rather "fair and round").

"What's the next performance?" said Moldsworth, as soon as the bells stopped.

"Clement's next, after service, five of you, for Doubles, while we, who were there this morning, go to St. Swithin's," said Trippels.

They all left the belfry and below they met a tall middle-aged gentleman, just entering the Abbey for service, who was none other than the Mayor of Slowborough.

"Hallo, Trippels!" said he, "what's that you've been ringing, a Grandsire-treble-bob-major-royal, eh?"

"I fear your worship is joking, and that you have taken a few campanological terms at random wherewith to perplex us," said Trippels, rubbing his hands and smiling.

"Well, never mind about that," said the Mayor, "I was going into service, and hearing you ringing, was coming up if I had'n't seen you. I just remembered that I had'n't paid you my annual subscription yet, and I know it will be your annual meeting on Boxing day, so here it is (handing Trippels a guinea), and here's a couple of shillings to spend, to have a glass of ale all round when your day's ringing is over."

The company thanked the Mayor; and Mr. Trippels promised to send him a proper receipt for the subscription next day. After attending Divine Service the company divided, five going to St. Clement's and the rest to St. Swithin's. But as it will not interest our readers to follow them, we will leave them and just take a look in at the choir school again. Morning service was over, and about half an hour intervened before the school dinner would be ready, so Dr. Swishem said.

"Montague! you and Aleck can just take a walk down to the stables at the 'Crown and Mitre,' and tell Dobbs that I shall want a fly to-morrow evening at 6 o'clock to drive to Slopsbury."

"Yes, Sir," said the boys, and off they started. Now it so happened that Potts, the barman of the above mentioned inn had had orders to clean out the room used by the Abbey change-ringers, so as to be ready for the evening meeting on December 26th. He had taken time by the fore-lock, and had got all the furniture turned out into the yard, amongst it being the society's box before alluded to. The box was not locked, simply because there was nothing inside it which was considered of any value. The two boys having arrived, and seeing the barman moving about the furniture,

"Hallo, Potts! what are you up to? what's in that queer old box there?" said Aleck. "Here Montie! I vote you and I open it and see," added he to his companion.

"Now you let that box alone, young gentlemen, or you'll get into a row," said Potts, but before he could interfere the boys had got the box open and the first thing they saw was the old torn certificate.

"What a rum picture!" said Montague, "I say, Aleck, I've seen one down at my uncle's at Cribbingford; he said it used to belong to my great grandfather, and had something to do with some ringers he belonged to when he was alive; and he has got a queer old book, as

big as a church Bible, with a lot of writing in it all about Grandsires; and Treble Bob Majors, and things I don't understand. I saw it when I was there last holidays."

"What rum fellows bell-ringers are, Montie," said Aleck, "nobody but themselves can understand what they talk about, but I say, couldn't you borrow that book next holidays and bring it back to school? it might amuse old 'Trip' and keep him in good humour all next term if we lend it to him."

We must now go back and see what the ringers were doing while these two boys were thus occupied. The two parties having finished ringing for the time at St. Swithin's and St. Clements, went home to dinner, Mr. Trippels inviting Mr. Sluggeridge to come home and dine with him, and on their way they just dropped in at the "Crown and Mitre" for a glass before dinner, and happened to be passing down the yard just at the moment the two choristers were examining the box. The boys did not see them till they were close upon them. Trippels had heard their conversation about the book, and his first impulse was to sharply reprimand them for meddling with the box, and then to ask for further particulars about the book, which he felt sure must be the missing peal-book. He, however, decided afterwards to appear indifferent about the matter, so having scolded the two choristers for meddling with the box he demanded their business there. On being told, he bade them deliver their message and return to the school, which they did; and he and Sluggeridge went to dinner. On arriving at Mr. Trippels' house his house-keeper informed him that a woman had just been and wanted a death-bell passing for some man who had just died at the other end of the town.

"Did she leave the fee?" inquired Trippels.

"No," said the housekeeper, "she said she'd call again in half-an-hour."

"Bother it! why didn't you tell her to come to-morrow morning? you know I never pass death-bells on ringing days or festivals," said Trippels. "The old hag gets worse and worse," added he to Sluggeridge, alluding to the housekeeper.

During dinner the subject of the lost peal-book was freely discussed, and it was agreed that Mr. Trippels had better lay before the society on Dec. 26th what he had overheard that day from the boys. As they were leaving the house after dinner the woman who had called in the morning came again to request Trippels to pass the death-bell.

"Seven-and-sixpence is the fee," growled the latter; "I always take the money before I swing the 'tailer,' that's my plan."

The woman slowly produced a half-crown, a florin, 2 shillings and two sixpences, and placed them in Trippels' hand, and requested him to pass the bell at once, and said that the friends of the deceased wished the funeral to take place on the following day but one at 3 p.m.

"I'll see about passing the bell. You should see Diggs, the cemetery sexton, about the funeral. But never mind, I'll see him and tell him if you like," said Trippels.

On their way to the Abbey, where they were to meet first that afternoon, they met Diggs, the cemetery man, just coming out of the "Toad and Pickaxe," a low public-house.

"Now then, you old sinner!" said Trippels, "You were drunk last night, I know by the look of you."

"No I war'nt, master," said Diggs.

"Well, I don't know about that for certain, but you look about three-parts 'on' now. But just attend to me, there's a funeral the day after to-morrow at three, a man from Queen Street, so have the grave ready. You can 'rattle the pan' a quarter, it's all right, it'll be paid for. I've got my fee for 'swinging the tailer.'" ("Swinging the tailer," a slang term—passing a death knell. "Rattling the pan," ditto—tolling the cemetery bell.)

When they arrived at the Abbey, Trippels managed to strike out thrice three blows on the sixth bell without falling her. He then pulled her off a few times, setting her each time, and then gave nine strokes together. He arranged this in starting, so that the last blow should come on the hand-stroke, and so he managed to "swing the tuler" without falling the bell; the whole performance occupying about five minutes. The ringers waited a short time, and then got into their places and went for a 336 of Grandsire. They then visited the other two churches, and after a short pull at each, they ceased the bells. Returning to the Abbey they rang a short touch there also, and ceased the bells and went home to tea. Thus ended the ringing for St. Thomas' day, and many who read this veracious history will consider no doubt there was enough of it.

At half past seven p.m. Dec. 26th, the members of the society met in the room of the "Crown and Mitre." Mr. Trippels, as secretary, read over the balance-sheet of accounts. The funds appeared to be in a flourishing condition, there being a balance of £5 17s. 8d. to the good. Mr. Snapper was elected Master for the ensuing year, and several new members were elected, among were Mr. Sluggeridge and several other change-ringers living in the outlying district, which had been rather an unusual thing of late years. A vote of thanks was

proposed to Mr. Trippels for the very excellent manner in which he had managed the business of the society during the past year, and he was unanimously re-elected.

Mr. Trippels rose to respond, and after thanking the members for their kindness, he said: "And now, gentlemen, a matter has transpired to-day which I think will interest us all. You have doubtless often heard our worthy and venerable friend, Mr. Colt, speak of the existence of a peal-book in this society in his younger days—well, I think I heard something yesterday which may possibly enable us to find that book. Mr. Colt, do you remember Thomas Raye being secretary of this society?"

"Remember him?—remember Tom Raye, I should think I do. He ain't been dead above fifty years.—Ah! he died while he was secretary, I helped to ring a muffled peal for him. Our party was very weak then, we could ring nowt but Doubles with six-seven-eight covering. Now I come to mind, I never saw that peal-book no more after Tom Raye died."

"Thank you," said Trippels, "that clears up another point. Do you remember whether Thomas Raye had any sons?"

"Yes, he had two," said Colt, "one went to America and we never heard no more of him; the second son settled at Cribbingford and died some years ago. Lawyer Raye, who lives there now, is his son, and Tom Raye's grandson."

"Ah! I have it now," said Trippels; "Lawyer Raye's brother died in London only a year or two ago, and left a widow and one boy without a penny to live on. Since then lawyer Raye has been keeping the widow, and the boy, Montague, was sent to our choir-school here, out of charity. From what I heard to-day I imagine that Lawyer Raye has got our peal-book in his possession." Trippels then related what he had heard from the boys that day.

"Well, gentlemen," said Pinram, rising, "I propose that Mr. Trippels takes the earliest opportunity of paying a visit to Mr. Raye, of Cribbingford, and that Mr. Colt accompany him, and that they take the old minute-book and the copy of the old certificate with them and find out all they can. Perhaps we might find our old certificate plate there as well."

"Hear, hear!" on all sides, "and I propose the society guarantees travelling expenses, and that they take the boy with them," said Snapper.

"Nonsense! I shant take that cockey young cub with me, what use would he be?" said Trippels.

"Suppose we get the peal-book back again," said Moulsworth, "do you think we shall ever have anything to enter in it any more?"

"Well, gentleman," said Sluggeridge, "if you should ever care to make up a party for a five thousand, I'm sure any of our company at Didlington would be glad to assist you if you should not have enough of your own."

"Humph," said Triples, "I dont care for long lengths: but I should not mind making one for a 5040 if Haulethro would come over and call it, for I can't." Mr. Trippels had never been known to make such an admission before, and he was lustily cheered, which he didn't seem to relish. It was ultimately decided that Trippels and Colt should go over to Cribbingford the very next day and do the best they could in the matter of the peal-book. The meeting then terminated and all went home.

On the following morning Trippels and Colt started on their journey by the first train and arrived at Cribbingford about 10 a.m. They had no difficulty in finding the residence of Mr. Raye, solicitor, and finding that gentleman at home, they soon explained their errand. Mr. Raye looked somewhat suspiciously at them at first, but Colt was able to tell him enough about the book to convince them as to who were the rightful owners thereof. As it was of no value whatever to him he gladly gave it up.

"And how is Montague, my nephew?" said Mr. Raye, as they were about to take their departure.

"He's getting on capitally, he's the best boy we have in the school. I always was fond of that boy, I could do anything for Master Montague," said Trippels.

"Then you seem to have rather a peculiar way of shewing your fondness for him, according to his account," said the lawyer, dryly. "But just look after him a bit, will you?" added he, placing half-a-sovereign in Trippels' hand.

Trippels smiled and thanked Mr. Raye, and he then mentioned the lost block of the certificate, and asked if he could give any clue as to its whereabouts.

"Well, I hardly know," said he, "but I should advise you to apply to Mr. Chase, the printer, in West Street. He always did my father's work, and probably my grandfather employed his father before him. He might know something about it."

Trippels and Colt then took their leave, and arriving in West Street they saw over a corner shop the name of "Chase, Bookseller and Stationer," and on the wall between two upper windows the words

"Printing Office." They entered the shop and seeing Mr. Chase behind the counter, Trippels began to explain their errand. Mr. Chase was inclined to be crusty about it, what did he know? what *could* he know about a plate which might or might not have been sent there fifty years ago in his father's time, when he was but a baby. "It was ridiculous to trouble him about such a thing," he said. Trippels however, managed at last so far to get over him as to induce him to send for Mr. Pye, his compositor, from the printing office.

Mr. Pye said he certainly never remembered seeing such a block about the place as the one in question, but added that if Mr. Trippels would accompany him he would not mind looking round in a few likely places. Thereupon they both adjourned to the office, leaving Colt in the shop.

After searching diligently for some time in all likely and unlikely places, they found the missing plate (a fine steel one), at the bottom of a cupboard with a couple of old ink-balls, which had long been discarded for more modern appliances in the shape of composition rollers, on the top. It was so completely clogged up with ink as to be hardly recognizable, but a good scrubbing with pearl-ash water soon worked wonders, and restored it to something of its former appearance. Mr. Trippels was so pleased that he left the plate with Mr. Chase, with orders to print off 100 certificates from it for the society, so that all the present members should have one, and that he also should have some in hand. He and Colt then returned home with the peal-book, and were heartily congratulated on the success of their journey.

Little more remains to be told. The society grew and prospered, and with the help of Sluggidge and a few outsiders the company were soon able to record another five thousand in their long lost peal-book.

A FEW THINGS GENERALLY KNOWN.

Mr. Dawe, the new town-clerk of Hull, is not Mr. Francis E. Dawe, the hero of "seventeen days and a bit."

Mr. Haley, of the College Youths, does not claim any relationship with the person of the same name who figures so conspicuously in that once popular novel, "Uncle Tom's Cabin."

The name of Mr. Henry Dains has nothing whatever to do with the church of St. Clement Danes, though the first touch he rang without any assistance was at that church.

Mr. B. T. Copley, of Bradford, is no relation to the family of the late Lord Lyndhurst; neither is Mr. Palmer of King's Norton anything to do with the present Lord Chancellor.

The various celebrated ringers who have borne the name of Booth would not, we understand, care to be spoken of as being any connection of General Booth.

Mr. Powell, of Waltham Abbey, is not the Member of Parliament who lost his life while ballooning.

Leonard Proctor, Esq., is never to be found at Doctors' Commons.

We believe the poet Dwight has, after the lapse of many years, nearly traced his connection with the celebrated theologian of the same name.

The ringers of Eccles are tired of being congratulated upon having so much Cash among them.

Mr. H. Johnson, of Birmingham, does not, we believe, claim any kinship with Dr. Johnson, though both these great men were born in the same city; and we have not been able to discover whether John Holt was any relative of the Lord Chief Justice of that name.

At Little Heath, Essex, Pye and Porter will be in great demand this Christmas.

Though learning to ring, the ringers of Beaconsfield are very partial to good Tapping.

One or two of the company of Hyde, Cheshire, are Wilde, but at Slough there is one Wilder.

The patronymic of the Master of the Gloucester and Bristol Association must not be taken to indicate that he belongs to the Blue Ribbon Army.

The late Mr. William Hudson of Sheffield had nothing whatever to do with Hudson's Soap.

Mr. Parker, of Farnham Royal, is not a descendant, so far as we have been able to ascertain, of the ringleader of the Mutiny at the Nore.

The occupations of the Brothers Shepherd, of Exeter, are not pastoral.

Mr. Gordon, the celebrated musician of Stockport, should not be confounded with General Gordon.

At the "faithful city" of Worcester, which in years gone by boasted of a Trout and a Griffin, and more recently of its Rice, will be found a W(h)ale and a Pheasant. At one time there was a Weaver, a Mason, a Smith, a Turner, a Taylor, a Barber, and a Brush.

The Buttery at Leicester is amply supplied with its utensils by a pair of Coopers.

The statement that the steeple-keeper of St. Martin in the Fields goes every day to Westminster Abbey to admire the monument of Lord Mansfield, is not in strict accordance with fact.

THE AUTOBIOGRAPHY OF AN ANCIENT TENOR.

BY AUDITOR TANTUM.

"Phew! what a genial, fair, and pleasant change from that stifling pit!"

So are fitly expressed the first feelings of which I have any distinct recollection. I found myself landed safe in the yard of Master Thomas Church, "Belleyoter," of the famed old town of S. Edmund's Bury; the Founder and his men stood around me, and with them good Master Thomas Bayly of Rahselton, who had come to fetch me home to the tower of Elander Church.

The Foundry stood at the corner of Brentgovell street, and through the gates I could see, beyond the open space called "Angel Hill," the noble Abbey Church, where for more than five hundred years the corpse of the martyred Edmund had received the homage of the faithful. At the western end of the building was the great campanile, whence from time to time came the boom of mighty bells.

Being young and foolish, and hearing that I was destined for the mother church of a mere market-town, I almost split with envy of the proud position of the Abbey bells, yet I am still safe and sound after 370 years; while within twenty-five years came the great political storm which laid low so many superb ecclesiastical fabrics. The King's Commissioners soon defaced the great shrine, scattered the bells, and reduced the grand Abbey to a mere collection of shapeless ruins. For it was in the lull before the storm, in the summer of 1514, that I was standing all new and bright, waiting for Master Bayly's wain, with his four strong horses, to take me home.

We crossed the river Lark by the Abbot's bridge, and passing through the east gate proceeded along the great Norwich road: thanks to the long summer day we made our way as far as Scole Inn before night, and on the next day I was placed safe at the foot of the tower of Elander Church. I was fain to admit that since leaving S. Edmund's Bury I had seen no finer steeple.

It is now time to give the gentle reader some idea of my personal appearance: I stood as a maiden fifty-six inches high, my diameter was fifty-one inches, my weight little short of 24 cwt., and my voice was allowed by all to be perfect. On my crown, three times repeated, was my founder's shield, a crowned bell with crossed keys. Above were crossed arrows in token of my birthplace; and below, a cannon belching forth a ball, to show that Master Thomas Church could cast guns, if any lacked them.

As Elander Church was dedicated to the Blessed Virgin, so (as befitted the tenor bell of that church) I bore the legend,

"Mary, Star of the sea, of thy great affection help us!"

My complexion was smooth and without flaw: the comparative dulness of the copper, of which I was mainly composed, was brightened by a due admixture of the purest tin, and I may without vanity say that I was in every sense a belle.

The joy of our congregation at the happy issue of their great undertaking was shown by the attendance of crowds at the ceremony of my benediction. My Lord Bishop of Norwich presided, and with his own hands anointed me with holy oil; then stalwart arms were applied to the tackle, and I was gently lifted to my place of honour in the middle of the steeple.

So much of our happiness depends upon the nature and disposition of those with whom we have to dwell, that from the first, I had looked forward with anxiety to the time when I should make the acquaintance of my new companions. From what I had heard below, I knew that they were four in number, but I knew no more. By the treble, 2nd, and 3rd, I was received with a hum of admiration which was at once most musical and most gratifying to my feelings: I felt that these at any rate were congenial spirits, and claimed them as sisters from the first: but this agreeable sensation was soon interrupted by a groan from No. 4, who rudely proceeded to ask me a number of questions, and to treat me like a "new girl" at school. As the other three, however, took my part, No. 4 soon subsided into sulky silence. Meantime I had discovered that No. 4 was hopelessly out of tune, not only with myself, but also with the others, she was a great sprawling thing nearly one ton in weight, and whereas No. 3 was a pretty F, and I a fine E flat, No. 4

was a very flat E; indeed she seemed to be a mixture of several discordant notes, and for that reason was seldom sounded; this neglect had soured a disposition which from the first had been anything but sweet, and I looked forward with pleasure to the day when she would be removed from our company.

As for the rest of us, our duties were divided as follows: at early dawn the treble was made to sound, this was the "Angelus," to remind all to repeat the Paternoster and Ave Maria; again at night-fall the treble reminded all to repeat the "Ave." Then before breakfast the 2nd bell called the folk to Matins, and Matins ended, the 3rd bell called them to Tierce and Mass. At the Ter-sanctus in the Mass I was sounded thrice, that those who were outside and hindered from coming to church might then bow the knee and partake in the worship. I was also tolled for the dying, and again for the dead. Each of us was hung from a massive head-stock, on the top of which a lever was fixed; and so we were all chimed on the swing, for wheels were not yet.

When I was forty years old they no longer chimed me in the Mass, but before the sermon: for now the Reformation had come, and many things were changed. Doubtless many superstitious uses were well swept away, but methinks we threw overboard too much of the old faith: now-a-days folk say "seeing is believing," but this is not the lesson taught to S. Thomas.

"Twas in the reign of Great Queen Bess that we were rid of number 4. It had become the custom to chime all the bells together for service on Sundays and Holydays, and number 4 did so spoil our concert, that our churchwardens were moved to change her for a better bell. Then as bad luck would have it the 2nd bell was slatted, and money was wanted to have her new run. It chanced at that time that the good folk of Scole would have a big bell for their church, so we sent them our number 4, and had from them in exchange a fair bell of eight hundredweight and £6 in gold, whereby the charges of new running the split bell were defrayed. For an obligation was forthwith made with Master Thomas Draper, of Thetford, to run our old 2nd bell with some new metal that she might be a tunable major third above me, the tenor of the ring. The night before our sister was lowered, I bade her note well what befell her in the way, that on her return she might delight us with the tale of what she had seen: for although we bells soon hear from some neighbouring tower the tidings of any great event, yet being fixtures, and as it were bed-ridden, we love to discourse with one who has seen more of the world than is visible from our chamber windows.

I call to mind that it was mid-winter when she started, and on S. Valentine's Day she returned. One pang of envy I felt when I saw her in all her bright beauty, and glanced at my own sides stained by the storms of seventy-five winters: but when I heard her voice, and felt my whole mass vibrating in sympathy with her, I loved her more than ever; and when our Captain says that I am a fine bell, but that *she* is the finest of the ring, I do not feel the least prick of jealousy.

To hang our new sister, they called in honest Gorbald of Fressingfield, and bought half a horse skin, out of which the knacker made five baldricks that all our clappers should work fairly and well; and as my weight required more support, Tom Warde the blacksmith strengthened my hold on the stock with new straps. And now by the aid of our treble from Scole, we were a pretty tunable ring of five, and lived together in harmony.

As soon as we were all safely disposed, I called on the new beauty and said, "Dear Sister, I see you now bear a new legend, 'May God grant us Heaven's solace.' Tell us then how it fared with you in your journey."

She sweetly replied, "Sisters, I pray that if ever you must go to Thetford, it be not in the winter. The first day, it is true, we fared well, and reached Scole: our old companion looked down on me from the steeple where she hung all alone, and deplored her fate, but confessed that her solitary life was a fit reward for her former moroseness. But after passing Diss, we found that the road came to an end, and for four days we struggled through mud and mire, till at length the towers of Thetford were seen before us, and our troubles seemed at an end. But alas! the river Thet was swollen by heavy rain and melted snow, and the stream was so deep and strong, that the cart was overthrown, and I found a watery grave. By good luck the horses lost their footing, and struggled up the further bank; thus far I saw before I lost consciousness.

"How long I remained in this state, and what happened in the interval I cannot say; I recovered sensation with a sudden gasp; I was the same yet changed; I was full three stone heavier than before, and bright as a new pin; in fact, my dears I was as you see me." And here she made us a graceful obeisance.

"Thetford is a famed borough and market town, and has three fair churches. Master Thomas Draper, a venerable burgher, had his foundry in a messuage lying next to the churchyard of S. Cuthbert's, and was assisted in his work by his sons Thomas and John: the master delighted in his art, and lived in great happiness with Dame Margaret his wife and his son John; but Thomas had the ill luck to wed a shrew, as I was witness; for even while my cope was being broken off, and I was yet in the pit (it being then more than one hour past noon), I heard a young woman in vain urging Thomas Draper the younger to come home to dinner; but he would stay to see me drawn up out of the pit; thus my ascent was accompanied by a shower of abuse. As soon as I was safe on level ground, she dealt poor Thomas a stinging box 'o the ear, and said, 'Now come home, you scurvy knave;' Thomas exclaimed, 'A scold; A scold;' and the woman was seized and carried before the old master, who was an Alderman of Thetford. He ordered that the woman should be placed in the cucking stool, and be dipped five times. Off started six stout apprentices and brought two long beams and a solidly made chair; they fixed the chair tight between the beams, yet so that it did swing freely, and always remained horizontal, so that one might sit conveniently in the chair whether you raised it or let it down. Next they bound the scolding quean in the chair, and raising her aloft on their shoulders, set off for the river Thet hard by: here they fixed the beams on two posts on the very brink of the river, and five times did they plunge the woman into the cold water, and thus cooled her immoderate heat.

"Master Draper, with much foresight, took pains that in my return journey I should not again fall into the Thet; a week of fair weather had lowered the water in the river and bettered the track; yet still it was three days after leaving Thetford ere we drew up at Scole Inn. Next morning, as we passed near the tower of Scole Church, our poor old number 4 greeted me with a kind 'God be with ye, pretty sister.' Surely misfortune is a rare school-master, and sweet are the uses of adversity."

Soon after this we were all made to sound merrily for the dispersion of the Great Armada; and indeed our old second bell (now the sixth), to this day bears on her shoulder the date of that famous year, 1588. Fifteen years after this, we were muffled in memory of the death of Great Queen Bess; and two years later burst out into peals of joy that the vile Gunpowder Plot had been frustrated. I well remember that a brief while before this, our levers had been removed and wheels affixed to our headstocks; our ropes were tied to the tops of the wheels, and there were no ground-trucks, yet the ringers used to swing us above the level of the frame, and one would cry to another "Hu'll her up, James Barley!" This new and increased motion quickened our pulses and filled us with exhilaration and joy; but our number four with the pretty F was much worn at the sound bow, and one day when being "hu'll'd up" with more than wonted vigour, she was split. It would take too long to tell all her adventures, suffice it to say that she went to Thetford and came back weighing near 18 cwt.: she was by no means tunable with the rest of us, and was sent back to Thetford to be run again; and at last came back to us just over 16 cwt. neat bell metal, and a good bell, though somewhat too short and small in the barrel.

Next there was a humming in the air, and sad tidings of strife and civil war were wafted on the wind: ere long it was ordained that bells were Romish and Papish, and ornaments of the scarlet lady, and many were broken up and run into guns, big and little. Those which escaped this fate ran the risk of being disfigured by the file of the Iconoclast. Not far from us, at Bressingham, they in 1644 paid John Nunn four shillings to destroy the letters about the bells, and in many places all the ornamental crosses, and the beautiful letters used for the names of the Saints were cut off. When we heard of these doings, we felt, gentle reader, as you would feel on hearing that the fair face of a pretty cousin or neighbour had been out of malice marred by vitriol.

These spoilers indeed came very nigh us, and our friends in Pulham steeple still bear the scars they made. But *Benedicto Benedicatur!* we were spared, and in 1660 rang out heartily and joyfully for the restoration of Church and State.

I have told how our pleasures were increased by the use of wheels: presently, in 1677, I was much honoured by being hung on the sally. Mr. Sam Gilpin, foreman to Mr. Edward Tooke of Norwich, came over and did the work; never shall I forget how my heart fluttered when I first was swung through the whole circle and came to the balance, mouth uppermost. Howbeit my feelings were not all joy, for I knew (though I could not make Mr. Gilpin take note thereof), that my gudgeons were now near two hundred years old; and although they were made of good stuff, yet they had not been designed for such dances as those in which I was soon to take part.

The ringers were so pleased with my voice when I was rung out that they rested not till my four companions were also hung on the sally. Then sang James Barley:

"I saw five birds all in a cage,
Each bird had but one single wing,
They were an hundred years of age,
And yet did fly and sweetly sing."

The wonder did my soul possess
When I beheld their age and strength,
Besides as near as I can guess
Their tails were forty feet in length."

Soon after this I experienced another new pleasure: one bright day in 1716 instead of being struck always in the same place after my comrades, I found myself being deftly guided by a skilled hand down to the lead; my companions were being handled in the same clever fashion, and before we again stood still we had struck out all the 6-score changes of which we five were capable, not a bell out of place, and no change repeated. Reader! it is difficult for me to explain to you our sensations on this occasion: imagine the feelings of a pack of lively girls dancing a waltz with good partners at their first ball, and you will have some notion of what I mean. We learnt presently that a band of able change-ringers from Norwich had come over, having heard the fame of our ring. They were the great composer John Garthorn, Thos. Melchoir, Thos. Barret, Robert Crane, and a youth named Cris. Booty; several of these heroes a year or two later, helped to ring the first peal of Grandsire Triples on the old ring of eight at St. Peter's, Norwich. They all mightily praised me and my comrades, but said nothing much could be done with us till another treble was added to make us six. Now our ringers were desirous of learning to ring half-pull changes, and the parishioners did not consent to be surpassed by their neighbours at Pulham, who were talking of making their ring six by buying a treble from Thornton, of Sudbury. So a subscription was made and nigh £50 was soon collected. Mr. John Stephens of Norwich cast the new treble; Mr. Reader made the new frame for her; William Collings hung her, and Mr. Harp supplied her rope.

But this addition cost me dear, for the new bell was sharper than I, and to make me sharper they chipped me on the edge till I lost half an inch of my diameter, and much of that justness and perfection of figure and proportion of which I had been so proud. Our ringers set to work with might and main, and soon became a first-rate six-bell company, but the 3rd bell (she that was treble when I first came home) being a very ancient bell and much worn, soon cracked, and Mr. John Stephens recast her in 1718, and again I was chipped to make me agree with the new bell.

But worse was yet to come. Out ringers practised constantly, and my old gudgeons could stand it no longer, so one night near the end of 1722 when I was ringing for a dead man I fell down. I was caught and held between the bottom timbers of the cage and a huge balk. It is a marvel how I escaped being split, but for all that my situation was sufficiently bad. Having hung more than two hundred years on my gudgeons I had lost the power of standing or lying without pain, and those parts of me which rested on the timbers and bore my weight were not only bruised by the impact, but also suffered agonies of cramp, and for want of labour skilled enough to deal with a bell of my dimensions I had to lie thus till well-nigh into the new year. At last I was firmly replaced in my old bed, but it was years before I fully recovered from this fall, and to this day I can recall to mind those awful cramps.

The adding two trebles to make us a complete ring of eight having met with the approbation of the minister and chief inhabitants of the parish, a subscription was set on foot in 1736, and Mr. John Sawyer, the churchwarden, appointed sole manager thereof: who soon brought it to effect and raised £99. Now a year before this Mr. Richard Phelps, of London, had recast the big bell of Bow, and the fame of this work spread and reached us in East Anglia, so nothing less would satisfy Mr. Sawyer than that our new trebles should be cast by the founder of the Bow Bell. Moreover all and sundry said that the new third bell lately come from Norwich was of poor quality, so she was sent up to London town to be recast. In due season the new trebles and the newly run 5th bell (now lusty and strong), came home. Meantime John Regriffe had enlarged the frame and made two new pits, and Thomas Lemman provided two new wheels and stocks, and so the eight of us were accommodated.

About the same time our society of ringers was formally and firmly established, and from that day we have never lacked a good half-pull band. It is true that for about one hundred years the Norwich ringers were unapproached in the Eastern Counties, and at that time we could not rival them; yet we could hold our own with our good neighbours at Kenninghall, and Diss, and Dereham, and Framlingham, and Debenham. And when the great Norwich company fell to pieces, our men were ready to take the lead. Time would fail me to tell all the feats which we have achieved, suffice it to say that we have done wonders in Stedman, Double Norwich, and Superlative, not to mention Bob and Treble Bob, in which we reached five figures.

And here I must stop, and while for self and sisters I wish you all a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year, I in return pray that you will wish

PROSPERITY TO THE BELLS OF ELANDER!

A RINGER'S CHRISTMAS CAROL.

When Music, sweet maid, first came down from the spheres,
With eight sister muses—such coy little dears—
They dubb'd poor old Jubal in art a "great swell,"
But what were *his* notes to a good tenor bell?

Then ring, lads! till your sweethearts and sisters,
Vouch the truth of your peal by the size of your blisters.

Say, what that is earthly of bliss can compare
With theirs, who triumphant wind down the dark stair,
While the ghosts, whose brave doings adorn the old wall,
Re-echo the magical sentence, "that's all."

Long life to our sexton! a trump-card is he,
Who always *turns up*, just in time, *with the key*;
Tho' the thirsty old dog (just a word in your ear)
Seldom handles a rope-end without 'tis for *bier*.

A health to our captain, he's sure to shout "*Go!*"
When he means us to *stay* a few hours or so.
Most visitors think him a bit of a clown,
When they here him bawl "*stand!*" just before we sit down.

Our honest old hostess, good Mrs. Hob-Nob,
Says "she'd like to catch hold of that fellow called '*Bob*,'"
She'd warn him, she would, to beware of our spite,
For we're never together but him we backbite.

My wife—bless her heart—oft attempts me to rally,
Because in my dreams I have whispered of "*Sallie*,"
I soothe her by owning I know the minx well,
But never, by any means, thought her a bell(e).

Some ape-loving sages propound us a plan
Which bids the poor brute "*rub his shoulders*" with man.
Well, "*muttons*" in ringing have practised for ages,
When they score a peal, I'll agree with the sages.

Hurrah for our science! a *Minor* in skill,
Toasts the vast *Major* part of her sons with good-will;
But may *Triple* labour those haulers requite,
Who *Cater* for Christmas with "*Churchyard Delight*."

Then ring, lads! till your sweethearts and sisters,
Vouch the truth of your peal by the size of your blisters.

Reading.

HENRY EGBY.

"THE TENOR BELL."

A VOICE FROM THE TOWER OF THE ABBEY CHURCH, PERSHORE.

"I to the church the living call,
And to the grave do summon all."

Motto on tenor bell in Pershore tower.

Good people all, both great and small,
Who in poor Pershore dwell,
Sinner and saint, hear the complaint
Of your old tenor bell.

Full many a year have I hung here,
And this I know right well,
Few other chimes e'er saw such times
As I, your tenor bell.

From this old tower (built by John
Gower,
So some old people tell),
I've seen strange sights, both days and
nights,
As I'm a tenor bell.

What thousands lie around, whom I
Have summon'd to their cell:
Who once were young and hale and
strong,
And heard the tenor bell.

I recollect with due respect,
And many tales could tell
'Bout abbot's jolly, and monkish folly;
For I'm the tenor bell.

How shaven priests, here held their
feasts;
How superstition's spell,
Was call'd to aid the priestly trade
With candle, book, and bell.

How monk and friar, and knight and
squire,
Came here their fears to quell;
And how to mass they did all pass,
Whilst toll'd the tenor bell.

How priest and knave, and lord and
slave,
Before the altar fell,
And as they bow'd then peal'd aloud,
The solemn tenor bell.

How music's din, and chant and hymn,
Rose high with solemn swell;
How priests devout join'd in the shout
Which reach'd the tenor bell.

About old times, in my queer rhymes,
I very much could tell,
To make you stare; but I forbear,
Remembering I'm a bell.

When first plac'd here, they bade me
fear
A lie aloud to tell;

But speak the truth to every youth
Who heard the passing bell.

Thea bound around my body sound,
A motto known full well;
Which most have seen when'er they've
been
To view the tenor bell.

"To church I all the living call"—
(And this it says as well)

"All young or old, to grave so cold,
Are summon'd by the bell."

But let this pass; alas! alas!
That I should have to tell
Of my sad fall—good people all—
A lie is on the bell.

Oh! I shall crack! pray take me back—
My clapper take as well,
And melt me down—for in this town
I'm done as I'm a bell.

For when, sometimes, with brother
chimes

We ring together well
A merry peal—oh! how I feel!
A lie is on the bell.

Unhappy me! why should it be?
Till lately all was well;
Why then the change? 'tis very strange,
This lie upon the bell.

How time does fly? time was when I
Rung out my funeral knell,
For all indeed, whate'er the creed,
Of those who asked the bell.

And paid the charge, which was not
large,
All sextons this can tell,
None ever used to be refused,
Who paid to hear the bell.

There's my big brother, who hangs in
't'other
Old church, says he'll rebel;
Whoever plann'd it, he'll never stand it,
He won't, as he's a bell.

He sees no fun in Master B—nn,
Whose pull he knows so well,
Losing many a shilling, altho' he's
willing,
To ring the funeral bell.

I must confess we're in a mess;
Oh! if I dare but tell,
All that I know—but then 'twould show
Bad temper in a bell.

There's Master Bl—ke who makes me
shake
'And rises me so well,
He comes sometimes and reads the
rhymes
Upon the tenor bell.

And looks so sad—'twill drive me mad!
I'll roar and burst my cell!
I can't, I'm sure, I won't endure
That lie upon the bell.

It is a shame, but who's to blame
I know but dare not tell,
And yet I think it should, in ink
Appear to clear the bell.

'Twixt you and me, I think 'twould be
But just in me to tell
The truth to you—and I will too,
As I'm a tenor bell.

Early one morn a tall thin 'form,
Accompanied as well
By brother sprite, a Puseyite,
Stood gazing at the bell.

I held my breath, kept still as death,
Then on their knees they fell,
And did proceed, each one, to read
The motto on the bell.

"Aha!" said one, "'tis here and done,
So plain, a child may tell,
But, never fear, we're masters here!
Hear this! old tenor bell."

And understand, 'tis our command,
Your solemn funeral knell
Must be denied to all, beside
True churchmen, tenor bell."

"Amen!" said t'other, "and now, my
brother
I think we may as well
Forbid the praise, on marriage days
From every other bell."

In this old tower, and then, our power
I think we may as well
Extend to t'other church my brother,
And silence every bell.

Except for those, who, we suppose
In our own pastures dwell;
Nor let a chime at any time
Ring out from any bell.

For catholics (they're heretics),
Dissenters too as well,
Must be denied, so we decide
They shall not use the bell.

I know the knaves, so o'er their graves,
Henceforth, no funeral knell
For them shall toll—nor Mormon soul;
Rejoice at marriage bell."

"Right, brother, right!" said t'other
sprite,
"My conscience doth full well
Approve the plan; whate'er I can
I'll do to stop the bell."

Just then, ting-tang, with noisy clang,
Set up a hideous yell,
For sexton Bl—ke had come to shake
A solo on that bell.

Up rose each sprite in wild affright,
And scampered off pell-mell,
I felt relieved, but oh how grieved
Was your old tenor bell.

I thought of times when we poor chimes,
Were under no such spell;
But when we rung for old or young,
And all creeds used the bell.

When old Lot Cope, and Henry Hope
Were here, I know right well,
No Puseyites, or priestly sprites
Dictated to the bell.

Churchwardens then, good meaning men,
Ruled church and tower as well;
But now they cower 'neath priestly
power,
And won't defend the bell,

Who rais'd the church? you only search
Its history, that will tell—
Catholics, term'd vile, built up this pile,
And purchased every bell.

And then, 'tis true, dissenters too
Are forced church rates to swell
To help to pay repairs, yet they
Are all refused the bell.

Somehow or other, since all this pother,
The time I cannot tell,
I'm never right, by day or night,
Oh! I'm an ill-used bell!

Some cry out "shame!" Why I'm to
blame,
I really cannot tell,
The hammer strikes me when it likes,
Yet people blame the bell.

From this north corner, my old friend
W—nn—er,
Who did his duty well,
Has long been sent, because dissent
Must not touch clock or bell.

'Tis most unjust! I'd rather rust
Than ring another knell,
I won't be cowed, I'll publish loud,
A lie is on the bell.

Good churchmen all, you ought to call,
Upon your priests to tell,
Why they desire to make a liar
Of your old tenor bell.

'Tis bigotry most certainly—
Arise! and burst the spell
Of priestly power, this very hour,
Rise! and set free the bell.

Do this, I pray, without delay,
Or I, perhaps, may tell
Tales that would make some people
shake,
Known to the tenor bell.

Aye, aye, I know, and I could show
How charities, that fell

Into some hands: how cash and lands,
Are gone, as I'm a bell.

And I know where, aye, you may stare,
Poor people know, right well,
There's something wrong, and perhaps,
ere long,
They'll hear it from the bell.

Before I close, one word to those,
I've known so long and well,
Who meet so oft in belfry loft,
Beneath the tenor bell.

Ye jovial set of ringers, wet,
What tales I heard you tell
In this old tower, but now, your power
Is curbed o'er every bell.

Pray list to me—you all agree
(And mind you do it well),
To church some day all haste away,
And first buff every bell.

When this you've done, let every one,
Perform his duty well,
And ring, with zeal, a good buff'd peal
For those who stopped the bell.

Fear not their rules, be not their tools,
Do all you can to swell
The ranks of those who will oppose
This treatment of the bell.

Do this, and then you'll act like men
Who scorn the priestly spell,
Each friend of right you will delight,
And also please the bell.

Rate-payers too! a word to you,
Who in each parish dwell:
When next you meet, I trust you'll speak
Out plain about the bell.

And now, good friends, my tale here
ends
In bidding you farewell,
I will subscribe myself with pride,
Yours truly,—TENOR BELL.

A TOUCH ON CROYDON BELLS.

Those Croydon bells, those Croydon bells,
How many a tale their music tells!
Of peals attempted, left undone;
A sweeter tale to tell, my lines shall run.

Eight years they'd hung up in the grand old tower,
Inglorious but not mute, for several times,
Ringers of local fame had tried their power
And skill to bring forth music from their chimes.

The magnates of the church and town were vex'd,
And cast reflections 'pon the local bands,
Consider'd 'mongst themselves, but still perplex'd,
Whether to trust their bells to stranger hands.

At length decided requisitions sent,
To Campanologists of great renown,
Eight Youths of Cumberland, whose prowess lent
Some hope to rescue from disgrace the town.

For forty minutes these good Youths hard toiled,
And bravely strove a victory to gain;
Misfortune, sullen dame, their efforts foiled,
Fortune gave golden salve to ease their pain.

Still holding the idea "'twas to be done,"
The College Youths were called to make essay—
A company, whose world-wide fame had run
Centuries, for ringing peals, both grave and gay.

They came, these Youths (some old ones) tried their best,
For one hour rung some Stedman true and sound,
Got out, again they tried with added zest,
Defeat again then made them change their ground.

The third time, "magic number," victory crown'd
Their effort, for three hours the music sweet
Peal'd forth its grandest tones, making, when round,
A peal of Grandsire Triples, true, complete.

All honour to these Youths, who, spite defeat,
Sustained twice, by triumph gained renown,
Upholding England's maxim, "Ne'er be beat,"
Got gold themselves, gave joy to Croydon town.

PARISH CLERK (at a vestry meeting on the question of organ-blower's salary, the rector in the chair): "You see, sir, it isn't as if it was only the hymns, but there's the comin' and goin' out, and the sponges and the prayers, and the Psalms take a wonderful deal o' wind."