



# THE BELL NEWS

## And Ringers' Record.

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VOLUME IV.

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

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London:

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

*(And of all Booksellers).*

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# THE BELL NEWS

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SATURDAY, APRIL 4, 1885.

[ONE PENNY.]

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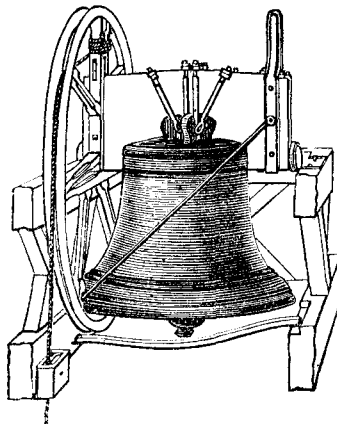
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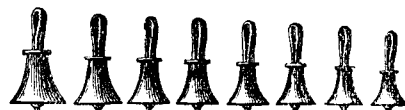
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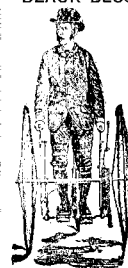
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## THE HISTORY OF STEDMAN'S PRINCIPLE.

BY JASPER W. SNOWDON.

In the *Sporting Magazine*, during the year 1796, the following paragraph occurs relating to Stedman Triples:—

"DEATH OF MR. PATRICK, THE CELEBRATED BELL-RINGER.—Sunday afternoon, June 26th, was interred in the churchyard of St. Leonard's, Shoreditch, the remains of Mr. Patrick, the celebrated composer of church bell music, and Senior of the Society of Cumberland Youths. His productions of real Double and Treble Bob Royal are standing monuments of his unparalleled abilities. The procession was singular and solemn, the corpse being followed by all the ringing societies in the metropolis and its environs, each sounding handbells with muffled clappers, accompanied by those of the church ringing a dead peal, which produced a most solemn effect upon the eyes and ears of an innumerable concourse of spectators. Mr. Patrick was the person who composed the whole peal of Stedman Triples, 5040 changes (till then deemed impracticable), for the discovery of which the citizens of Norwich advertised a premium of fifty pounds, which was paid him about three years since by the Society of St. Peter's, Mancroft, with the highest encomiums on his superlative merit."

Concerning this paragraph, I think that the writer must have drawn on his imagination not only for the impression the ceremony made upon him, but also with regard to the part that relates to the peal of Stedman Triples, as I have never heard, except from this source, that Patrick ever composed such a peal. The late Henry Hubbard, in answer to my enquiry concerning this matter, wrote "the story of Patrick receiving £50 is entirely without foundation, I do not believe that he ever composed a peal in the method." Mr. Osborne, in a note of referring to this paragraph, writes:—"This is false as regards the premium of £50, but the other part may be true."

As the first known performance of a peal of Stedman Triples after the peals rung at Norwich in 1731, is one rung by the junior society of Cumberland Youths in 1799, a glance at the state of Stedman ringing in the metropolis, about this time, may be of interest. More especially as in this way it may be shewn that it was entirely owing to the fact that a good peal, or probably a true peal of any sort, had not been composed that a peal of Stedman Triples had not been rung in London before this time. In 1787 the College Youths rang the first peal of Stedman Caters ever accomplished. In the following year, the Cumberland Youths accomplished their first peal of Caters in this method, and the College Youths the first peal of Stedman Cinques ever rung. It is therefore evident that it was not the want of efficient ringers that retarded the accomplishment of a peal of Stedman Triples, but rather, as I think this shews, the want of a good peal in the method. At the same time, although many peals of Caters and Cinques were subsequently rung, the London section of the Exercise cannot be said to have shewn any great interest in the various peals subsequently produced, as may be gathered from the following facts. In 1799, the junior Cumberlands rang the peal previously alluded to, the only peal of Stedman Triples ever rung by the junior society, which was amalgamated with the senior society in 1824. In the year 1803, the College Youths rang their first peal of Stedman Triples, the second was rung in 1824, the third in 1845, and it was not until after ringing their fourth in 1847, that peals of Stedman were more frequently accomplished. It was not until 1833, that is, thirty-five years after they accomplished their first peal of Caters, and twenty-seven years after their first peal of Cinques in this method, that the Cumberland Youths recorded their first peal of Stedman Triples. The second and third by this Society were accomplished in 1834 and 1835: the fourth was recorded in 1848, after which, as in the case of the College Youths, such peals became more frequent.

To return to the peal rung by the Junior Cumberlands in 1799, this peal is the first peal known to have been rung after the Norwich peals, and is generally supposed to be the first true peal ever rung.

The following copy of the tablet erected to commemorate this performance I take from the Osborne MSS.:—

"Tablet in the belfry of St. Giles-in-the-Fields, London.—" Junior Cumberlands, Wednesday, May 22, 1799. This tablet is dedicated to the above society, in commemoration

of a performance not to be surpassed by any that profess this magnificent art, viz.:—the whole peal of Triples on Stedman's principle, containing 5040 changes, in 2 hours and 58 minutes. Performed by:—Henry Symondson, 1; Charles Robinson, 2; Joseph Ladley, 3; William Beard, 4; John Hints, 5; William Troup, 6; William Tyler, 7; Samuel Garrett, 8. This intricate but truly admirable composition for a series of years being industriously pursued by all the composers of eminence in this noble science, and by all pronounced impracticable, was at length, with 732 bobs and 22 doubles, acquired by the celebrated John Noonan, who conducted the above unparalleled masterpiece of Campanistean Fame."

The calling of this peal is given in Shipway's book, from which source I gather that the above description is not quite accurate, the peal contains 732 calls, not bobs as it says above, that is, there are 710 bobs, 22 singles, and 108 omits in the peal. It was, as Shipway says, "undivided into any parts, which obliged the composer to call the peal by the manuscript;" he also adds, "As it is probable that this peal will never be rung again, I have inserted it merely to commemorate its performance." Noonan, it will therefore be gathered, followed the precedent set by Holt when his one-part peal was first rung, and called the peal from the manuscript, and did not take any part in the ringing.

Unfortunately, although Shipway gives the peal in his book, it is only given by a description of the successive calls and omits, and probably owing to errors on the part of the printer, cannot be deciphered. For the benefit of those who are not in possession of Shipway's book, I give the peal exactly as it appears therein. Shipway adds: "The figures signify the number of bobs following, there being between each number an omit; the singles are denoted by the letter s; and when o occurs after a single there is an omit."

5040.									
1	9	9	0	s	9				
3	5	s	9	1	1				
5	9	0	1	9	3				
9	5	8	1	5	9				
9	3	s	9	9	5				
1	5	9	1	1	5				
5	1	s	7	5	3				
9	5	0	8	3	0				
9	1	s	s	9	9				
1	7	9	9	9	0				
9	8	s	5	9					
5	3	0	0	8	5				
3	8	8	1	s	9				
3	s	s	9	9	3				
9	9	9	9	s	9				
7	s	s	1	0	3				
5	8	1	3	3	5				
9	s	9	9	9					
3	9	7	5	7	7				
3	s	5	1	1	3				
5	0	9	7	9	5				
9	4	1	9	3	0				
9	s	8	8	5	s				
3	s	s	5	0					
	9	9		5					
	s			9					
				7					

NOONAN.

The third nine in the sixth column must be a misprint for an s, as otherwise it would not have been necessary to mention the omits, unless indeed there should be a double omit, that is, two consecutive omits at this place. I do not, however, think that the correct way of calling this peal can be found out from these figures, nor do I think the matter worth spending much time over, although, of course, it would be satisfactory to unravel the mystery.

NOTICE TO MEMBERS OF THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—Members of the above Association who intend to be present at the District Meeting to be held at Romford, on Saturday next, are informed that if they take the yearly volume of this journal with them (the present number commences the fourth volume), they can have the same bound (as soon as the index is ready), at the following prices: cloth, 1s.; half roan, 1s. 6d. These prices, which are only quoted to those members attending as above, do not include return carriage (parcels post, 6d.). B. Keeble, 12, Waterloo Road, Romford.

\* \* We shall feel obliged by all reports of Easter Monday ringing, and the Meetings of the various Associations, being forwarded next week as early as possible.

## TOWER RESTORATION.

This operation is performed for two distinct objects, viz.: necessary repair, and æsthetic considerations. In the first case it may be that the external surface has become quite decayed to the extent of whole corner stones, causing parapets and buttresses to sink, arches to drop, and many other defects to make themselves only too apparent. In situations where stone is abundant, we find the best towers, for any or all purposes. Frequently in clay or flint districts we see an original base begun well, but finished with an oak cot, or other contrivance for the bells. Such an instance is Minster-in-Sheppey, where both buttresses and walls are formed of squared ashlar, brought down the river Medway, with slight admixture of grit flints, also from a distance. This being found an expensive job, even in the 15th century, we behold nothing but a very large base; examples are often found of this elsewhere. As a rule in all localities the thick walls of ancient churches are nothing but two skins and rubble filling. Chester affords an example of this in the ruined tower of St. John's, erected in the 17th century. It will be remembered that this fell on Good Friday, 1881. A careful inspection of the stump now remaining shows the large squared stones to be quite superficial, and many were not even laid on their natural bed; so that the surfaces flaked off, causing hollows for moisture to lodge, and do further mischief in the next course. The same faulty construction is seen in the various spires in the town of Shrewsbury. From these causes nearly the whole of our cathedrals have been literally recased, as well as many of the towers of large churches. In order to obtain what is called "key," not unfrequently windows, most useful for light and air, are obliterated; such is the condition of the tower which holds the bells at Canterbury, the external stone casing entirely new, the internal of brick, likewise so much for external restoration. The interior in its upper chambers is often left alone, especially when there is plenty of height; and therefore as regards ringers matters are often improved, as it may be one of the upper chambers is far better lighted and the draught of rope better, than in a gallery arrangement, blocking up arches, etc. The most cruel thing effected during restoration, is banishing the ropes to a place beneath the frame only a few feet high, which eventually abolishes ringing. In a church lately visited, with a fine ring, this had been done to perfection. Access was gained by a circuitous route all over the roofs, the place had no windows, and the uprights entirely hid four of the company from the remainder. This is an extreme case, but there is little doubt that if the ropes were brought down, a band would soon get used to the length, the clappers being looked to in turn, as access is only available in the way before mentioned. So little judgment is used during alterations, and so few practical suggestions arise on both sides, viz.: ringers and architects, that a sacrifice of the one or common interest probably ensues. Chester cathedral is a peculiar example. Until a few years ago only five bells existed, and they have but one tower, and that in the centre: by the very peculiarity of its construction a ringing floor could not be gained below the actual louvre windows. It was evident that in times past the service bells had been just swung from a narrow stone gallery in the church. The present ring of eight has however been contrived higher up, affording a low belfry with lean-to sides, containing glass to borrow light (and dirt) from the open louvres, as well as to modify the noise. It is some day expected that a spire may crown the tower, and until then the present arrangement must continue. It is obvious, however, to any one that more than one alternative could have been effected here. Of course, no greater height could be obtained in any way. Now as regards the æsthetic side of restoration, affecting the ringing. When an arch or window, intended to enter into the harmony of the entire edifice is blocked up, and no room could be gained above, the ropes should be, without doubt, on the ground; in small buildings it is much healthier, too, eight men even without gas soon exhaust the air. Now, supposing a ringing-chamber floor does not just clear certain windows, in this case a hole should be cut in that floor and balustrades provided. At that singular church, Leeds, in Kent, two interesting windows open beneath, and by the arrangement just described, are well seen below. During restoration, however, a try was made to put up the floor, which fortunately failed. Had this been carried into effect, nearly the best ringing room to be seen, unencumbered by clock or anything, would have been spoiled.

Reverting to Chester, a careful inspection of sundry photographs taken soon after the fall of St. John's, shows the bell frame intact, and seemingly hung so as not to bear upon that wall known to be weak. And certain it is that a timely restoration at no very great cost, perhaps not so great as that of the rebuilding of the great porch that was crushed by the tower in its fall, would have secured the structure, and enabled the silenced bells to sound again, which by the way now stand idle in the church, but quite intact. An examination of the fittings of the small ones showed that at one time unseasoned timber had been used, the stocks being much bent in the centre. This is a matter to be looked into during native talent bell-hanging.

G.

## THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

A District Meeting will be held on Saturday, April 11th, at Romford (eight bells). Ringing to commence at 12 o'clock; Meat tea in the schoolroom at 5 p.m.; Business Meeting immediately after the tea. The belfry at Hornchurch (six bells), will be open to members between the hours of 12—4 p.m., and 7—9 p.m. Tickets for the tea may be obtained from the Secretary at 6d. each, up to April 6th, after that date, at 1s. 9d. each.

Return tickets will be issued by the Great Eastern Railway at a single fare and a quarter, to members who shew at the booking office their E. A. C. R. receipts for the present year; provided that they inform the Hon. Sec. before April 7th from what station they start.

H. A. COCKEY, Hon. Sec.

Rayleigh, S.O., Essex, March 26th.

## WORCESTER DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Monday next, April 6th, a Quarterly Meeting of this Association will be held at Kidderminster. The Vicar and Churchwardens have kindly promised the use of the bells. Members are requested to meet at the Sailor's Return Inn, near the Church, and also to note that all subscriptions not paid at last meeting to be cleared up. Business meeting at 3 o'clock in the afternoon *prompt*.

23, Church Road, Netherton, Dudley.

JNO. SMITH, } Hon. Secs.  
F. OWEN, }

## THE WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

A DISTRICT MEETING will be held at Guildford on Thursday, April 16th. The tower of St. Nicholas will be open to members from 4 till 9 p.m.

H. A. SPYERS, Sec.

## THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

A QUARTERLY MEETING of this Association will be held at Bletchingley (by the kind permission of the Vicar), on Easter Monday, April 6th. The towers at Bletchingley and Nutfield will both be open for ringing after 12 noon. The tea and business meeting will be held at 6 o'clock at the house of Mr. Bashford ("Red Lion"). The tea will be free to all ringing members; others 1s. 6d. a head. Those who mean to be present at the tea will please send word of their intention to the Hon. Sec., not later than Thursday, April 2nd, in order that the numbers may be communicated to Bletchingley.

34, Dingwall Road, Croydon.

ARTHUR B. CARPENTER, Hon. Sec.

## THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

THE THIRD ANNUAL MEETING of the above Association will be held at Bedford on Easter Monday next. A Luncheon will be provided at "The Swan" Hotel, at half-past one p.m. Short special service at St. Paul's church, at six p.m. Change-ringers will be heartily welcomed.

CHARLES HERBERT, Hon. Sec.

## SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.

THE next meeting of this Society will be held at Stafford on Easter Monday.

J. R. KEBLE, Hon. Sec.

St. John's, Lichfield, March 24, 1885.

## THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

A QUARTERLY MEETING will be held on Easter Monday, April 6th, at Lytham. The towers of St. Cuthbert's and St. John's churches will be open throughout the day except during a short service in the morning. The business meeting will be held at 5.30 p.m., in St. Cuthbert's schoolroom. A train leaves Manchester (Victoria) at 8.30 a.m., return fare from Manchester 2s. 6d. Tea and refreshments can be obtained at the Lytham Institute.

A. E. HOLME, } Hon. Secs.  
J. REDFORD, }

## A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERS.

5000.

By J. NELMS, *Royal Cumberland Youths.*

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  
 8 9 1 7 4 2 5 3 6  
 7 3 6 5 9 8 2 4 1  
 3 5 7 8 6 2 9 4 1  
 2 1 9 6 5 3 4 7 8  
 1 6 2 3 9 4 5 7 8  
 1 6 3 4 2 5 9 7 8  
 4 5 16  
 3 6 1 5 2 4 - -  
 3 6 4 1 2 5 - -  
 4 6 3 5 2 1 - -  
 4 6 1 3 2 5 - -  
 4 6 5 1 2 3 - -  
 5 6 4 3 2 1 - -  
 5 6 1 4 2 3 - -  
 5 6 3 1 2 4 - -  
 3 6 4 2 5 1 - -

These nine courses four times repeated, extra bobs at thirteen and eighteen in last courses produce rounds.

## A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS.

5003.

By GEORGE HAYWARD, *Bromsgrove.*

2 3 4 5 6

6 2 3 5 4 7th in and out at two.  
 3 6 2 5 4 9th in three.  
 4 5 6 3 2 7th in two.  
 6 4 5 3 2 9th in three.  
 2 3 4 6 5 7th in two.  
 4 2 3 6 5 9th in three.

3 6 2 4 5 7th in and out at two.  
 2 3 6 4 5 9th in three.  
 6 2 3 4 5 9th in three.  
 3 2 5 4 6 8 9.  
 5 3 2 4 6 9th in three.  
 2 5 3 4 6 9th in three.  
 3 5 6 4 2 8 9.  
 6 3 5 4 2 9th in three.  
 5 6 3 4 2 9th in three.

The last nine courses four times repeated, 8th in two, instead of 7th in and out at two, produces, 4 2 5 6 3, round as usual.

Rung at St. John's church, Bromsgrove, Worcester, on Saturday, March 21st. Conducted by its composer.

## A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS.

6029.

By JOHN CARTER, *Birmingham.*

2 3 4 5 6

4 5 3 2 6\*  
 3 5 6 2 4 8 9.  
 5 6 3 2 4 7 8.  
 6 2 3 5 4 8th in three.  
 3 6 2 5 4 9th in three.  
 6 5 2 3 4 8th in three.  
 2 6 5 3 4 9th in three.  
 6 3 5 2 4 8th in three.

4 2 3 6 5 8th in two.  
 2 6 3 4 5 8th in three.  
 6 4 3 2 5 8th in three.  
 3 6 4 2 5 9th in three.  
 4 3 6 2 5 9th in three.  
 3 2 6 4 5 8th in three.  
 2 4 6 3 5 8th in three.

The last seven courses, seven times repeated, except the first course of the 5th part, single at one, bob at four instead of 8th in two, produce 4 2 5 6 3. 9th in out at two. Nine part peal.

\* 7th in with a single and out at two.

## A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR.

5152.

By J. W. WASHBROOK, *Oxford.*

2 3 4 5 6 1 4 6

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

Repeated. The above peal contains the 6th its extent at home.

## A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS.

5039.

By ROBERT WILLIAMS, *Liverpool.*

2 3 6 5 4 7th in & out at 2 & 9 8 7.  
 3 5 6 2 4 7th in three.  
 6 2 5 3 4 7th in and out at two.

5 6 2 3 4 9th in three.  
 2 5 6 3 4 9th in three.  
 6 5 4 3 2 8 9.  
 4 5 2 3 6 8 9.  
 2 4 5 3 6 9th in three.  
 5 2 4 3 6 9th in three.  
 4 2 6 3 5 8 9.  
 6 4 2 3 5 9th in three.  
 2 6 4 3 5 9th in three.  
 4 6 5 3 2 8 9.  
 5 4 6 3 2 9th in three.

2 3 4 5 6 8th in two.  
 4 2 3 5 6 9th in three.  
 3 4 2 5 6 9th in three.  
 2 4 6 5 3 8 9.  
 6 4 3 5 2 8 9.  
 3 6 4 5 2 9th in three.  
 4 3 6 5 2 9th in three.  
 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.

The second part twice repeated brings up 6 2 3 4 5 and 2 3 5 6 4, then call the 9th in and out at two 4 3 5 2 7 6 9 8 8th in three 3 2 5 4

## PEAL OF TREBLE BOB CINQUES.

5016.

By R. WILLIAMS, *Liverpool.*

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

Twice repeated.

## A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS.

5076.

By W. H. HOWARD, *York.*

2 3 4 5 6

4 5 3 2 6 9th in and out at two.  
 3 5 6 2 4 8th wrong or an 8 7.  
 5 2 6 3 4 8th in three.  
 6 5 2 3 4 7th in three.  
 2 6 5 3 4 7th in three.  
 6 3 5 2 4 8th in three.  
 3 2 5 6 4 8th in three.  
 5 3 2 6 4 7th in three.  
 2 5 3 6 4 7th in three.  
 5 6 3 2 4 8th in three.  
 6 2 3 5 4 8th in three.

1 2 3 4 5

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

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

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

3 4 5 2 6 - - - -  
 4 2 5 3 6 - - - -  
 2 3 5 4 6 - - - -  
 5 2 3 4 6 - - - -  
 3 5 2 4 6 - - - -  
 5 4 2 3 6 - - - -  
 4 3 2 5 6 - - - -  
 2 4 3 5 6 - - - -  
 3 2 4 5 6 - - - -  
 2 5 4 3 6 - - - -  
 5 3 4 2 6 - - - -  
 2 3 4 5 6 8th in and out at two

with a double.

## A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR.

5088.

By JOHN R. PRITCHARD, *Liverpool.*

2 3 4 5 6 M B W H

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

Twice repeated.

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

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Everything for insertion in this Journal to be addressed "The Editor of THE BELL NEWS, Walthamstow, London." Letters forwarded for publication, 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 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.

AUDITOR TANTUM.—Received; but did you get our letter?

W. W.—Patience.

CHURCHMAN.—You must send your name and address before your communication can appear.

## The Bell News & Ringers' Record.

SATURDAY, APRIL 4, 1885.

"RINGERS and singers no man can manage." Such—according to the Vicar of Creech St. Michael—was a saying of SYDNEY SMITH. No doubt the regulations—if there were any—affecting "ringers and singers" in the time of the witty cleric were of a nature that would not strike any one in the present day as being absolutely perfect, and therefore there may have been some ground for the stricture of the facetious canon. But it appears rather out of place when brought forward at the present day to serve as an apology for proceedings which if they cannot be called tyrannical, are certainly far from courteous.

The change in the Church ritual during the past twenty years has brought to its service a very different order of "singers" which it formerly possessed. And we think a great many of the "singers" of the present day would be eager to condemn not only the bare assertion in the above quotation, but would feel highly incensed at the classification—though it may be poetical—of "ringers and singers." The very idea of a ringer who is able, perhaps, to conduct Stedman Cinques, and ring a pair of hand-bells, and call a touch in the same method, being placed on the same ratio in the Church as a "singer," would be to very many of these gentlemen quite preposterous. We hear sometimes of the "singers" trying to control the incumbent, and it is to be feared that in some cases he finds himself compelled, for the sake of peace, or to preserve his choir intact, to yield to their demands. But who ever heard of the "ringers" attempting this kind of coercion?

The union of "ringers and singers," as Church workers, is very far from complete. And while a close bond or

alliance between them is perhaps not actually necessary, it is desirous that the latter should be led to regard the former with a different feeling than at present exists in many places. It would be well if the feeling of superiority nourished by the "singers," in many cases, could be checked. And when the incumbent invites the "ringers and singers" to partake of his hospitality, he should see that the former are not made to feel their supposed inferiority in being placed "below the salt." The sage words of the Vicar of St. Paul's, Burton-on-Trent, in his sermon at Lichfield, are remembered by "ringers," and it is not at all surprising that the preference so frequently shown to the "singers" creates, among minds equally as well-balanced as theirs, a certain amount of restlessness.

WITH this number we commence volume IV. of "THE BELL NEWS." To ourselves, and those who have acted with us in its production, the fact of our paper continuing to flourish is a pleasant one, and we know our readers are equally rejoiced at the success attained. It is, however, still a subject for regret that a great many ringers do not see their way clear to support us, and others who are constant readers being only so through the loan of a friend's copy. For all this, we feel that there is a grand future for our paper, if our sincere friends will continue their labours in its behalf. Much can be done at the various meetings next Monday to promote its circulation, and we hope our readers will not let slip an opportunity on that day for "helping the cause." We have just completed another part of our peal, the fourth part-end coming up perfect with some capital "knocking" towards the finish, and now we are launched into the fifth part, the bells going beautifully and the performers all in good trim. We ring "Standard Methods"—"Double Norwich Court Bob" and all the rest of them, but Stedman Triples is at present our peculiar fancy. In the course of our next volume, a trip or two is almost sure now and then to occur, but by the continued aid of our friends we shall recover, and go on in as good a compass as ever.

### TORTWORTH, GLOUCESTERSHIRE.

On Sunday, March 29th, seven members of the Thornbury parish church society paid a visit to Tortworth, in time for afternoon service. Afterwards by kind permission of the Vicar, the Rev. — Arthur, a move was made to the tower. The bells, six in number, being raised in peal, a start was made for Grandsire Doubles, but after one or two failures, owing to the heavy ropes (all of one size), some average striking was accomplished, the keeping of really true compass being out of the question. The bell-chamber being next invaded, revealed a very satisfactory state of things, a good and compact cage, and capital fittings, the only thing wanting to make this tuneful little peal (tenor 12½ cwt.), go thoroughly well for half-pull ringing, is proper ropes, the present ones being of sufficient weight and strength for a bell at least two tons; the circle is all that can be desired. After indulging in several 6-scores, standing as follows: G. Iles, 1; F. Symes, 2; H. Howell, 3; T. Alsopp, 4; F. Howell (conductor), 5; H. Harvey and Jno. Philips, 6, alternately; the other being conducted by G. Iles, a start was made for home, each one and all feeling sorry that such a nice little ring go so indifferently for want of suitable ropes.

BELL-HANGING OPERATIONS.—The peal of six bells, tenor 12 cwt., of Burrington, North Devon, have just been rehung by Mr. Harry Stokes, of Woodbury, Exeter, with all new fittings, wheels, stocks, gudgeons, bearings, etc. And the frame repaired and bolted together, and the Ellacombe chiming apparatus fixed. They were rung again on March 20th, after having been silent for some time, and the ringers are highly pleased with the way in which the bells go.



## THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

The THIRD ANNUAL MEETING of this Association will be held at Derby, on Easter Monday, April 6th, 1885. The following towers will be open for ringing from 10.30 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. Committee meeting in All Saints' schools at 2.0 p.m. Service at All Saints' church at 4.0 p.m. Tea in the Schoolroom at 5.0 p.m., tickets 1s. 3d. each. General meeting and election of officers for 1885-6, at 6.0 p.m. All ringers and friends are earnestly invited to attend. Members will be required to shew their cards of membership before ascending the tower of All Saints.

JOSEPH GRIFFIN, Acting Hon. Sec.

## The Metropolis.

BATTERSEA, SURREY.

## THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

On Saturday, March 28, 1885, in Two Hours and Forty-six Minutes,

AT ST. MARY'S CHURCH,

## A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S ORIGINAL. Tenor 15 cwt.

J. MARTIN ROUTH, Esq. .. Treble.	JOHN W. ROWBOTHAM .. 5.
EDWARD F. STRANGE .. 2.	FRANCIS E. DAWE .. 6.
GEORGE MASH .. 3.	CHALLIS F. WINNY .. 7.
GEORGE T. McLAUGHLIN .. 4.	WALTER PRIME .. Tenor.

Conducted by MARTIN ROUTH.

This is the conductor's first attempt at calling a peal.

BETHNAL GREEN, LONDON.

## THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

On Saturday, March 28, 1885, in Three Hours and Four Minutes,

AT ST. MATTHEW'S CHURCH,

## A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 14 cwt.

ISAAC G. SHADE .. Treble.	JOHN BONNEY .. 5.
WILLIAM CECIL .. 2.	RICHARD FRENCH .. 6.
EDWARD WALLAGE .. 3.	THOMAS JAMES .. 7.
MATTHEW A. WOOD .. 4.	HENRY J. SHADE .. Tenor.

Composed by SAMUEL WOOD, of Ashton-under-Lyne, and  
Conducted by ISAAC G. SHADE

The peal, a one-part composition, has the 5th and 6th their extent wrong and right. Thomas James hails from Glossop, Derbyshire; Messrs. Shade from Greenwich; the rest are London men.

## The Provinces.

## PRESCOT, LANCASHIRE.—THE ST. MARY'S SOCIETY.

On Tuesday, March 24, 1885, in Three Hours and Ten Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

## A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S TEN-PART. Tenor 15 cwt.

JAMES CHESWORTH .. Treble.	JOHN COOK .. 5.
JOHN RENSALL .. 2.	JOHN CASE .. 6.
JONATHAN FINNEY .. 3.	THOMAS BYRON .. 7.
JOSEPH EATON .. 4.	JOHN MOSTON .. Tenor.

Conducted by THOMAS BYRON.

This is the first peal rung by this society, who have been under the tuition of Mr. Robert Williams, of Liverpool. A tablet is to be placed in the tower by the Churchwardens to record the peal. Average age 21 years. First peal by all.

HELMINGHAM, SUFFOLK.

## THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, March 28, 1885, in Three Hours and Fifteen Minutes,

AT ST. MARY'S CHURCH,

## A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5152 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 19½ cwt. in E.

GEORGE PERRY .. Treble.	WALTER WHITING .. 5.
ALFRED ACFIELD, JUN. .. 2.	STEPHEN WIGHTMAN .. 6.
DAVID G. WIGHTMAN .. 3.	ALFRED S. WIGHTMAN .. 7.
GEORGE THURLLOW .. 4.	PETO MEADOWS .. Tenor.

Composed by J. J. BRIERLEY and Conducted by  
PETO MEADOWS.

A. Acfield hails from Ufford; Meadows from Metton; the rest are members of the Helmingham Society.

## LIVERSEDGE.—THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

## Girdling Peal.

On Saturday, March 28, 1885, in Three Hours and Two Minutes,

AT CHRIST CHURCH,

## A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 15 cwt.

GEORGE THORNTON .. Treble.	BENJAMIN A. DODSON .. 5.
ERZRA KEIGHLEY .. 2.	JOSEPH H. HARDCASTLE .. 6.
WILLIAM HOLLINGS .. 3.	GEORGE BOLLAND .. 7.
WILLIAM BOLLAND .. 4.	JOHN HALEY .. Tenor.

Composed by WILLIAM SOTTANSTALL, of Sowerby, and Conducted by  
J. H. HARDCASTLE.

The above peal was rung to celebrate the 43rd birthday of the conductor, the company wish him many happy returns, in which we join. Brothers Bolland and Haley hail from Tong; Thornton and Dodson from Birstall; Keighley and Hollings from Calverley; and Hardeastle from Bradford.

## Date Touch.

HIGHER WALTON (Lancashire).—On Tuesday evening, March 24th, being the fifteenth anniversary of the opening of the bells of All Saints' church, the local company rang a date touch of 1885 changes in the following methods: 445 of Plain Bob, 720 of College Single, and 720 of Oxford Bob, in 1 hr. 11 mins. Geo. Thornley (conductor), 1; Jas. Harwood, 2; Henry Hunt, 3; Hy. Brewer, 4; John Eccles, 5; Jas. Mather, 6. Tenor 16 cwt. 3qrs. 26lbs.

## Miscellaneous.

## THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

BEDFORD.—Handbell Ringing.—On Thursday, March 5th, on handbells, a 720 of Bob Minor (sixteen bobs and two singles), in 18 mins. J. Spencer (first 720), 1; I. Hills, 1; T. Foote, 3; M. Warwick, 4; C. W. Clarke (conductor), 5-6. Also on Saturday, March 14th, six 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles, each called differently. C. Pass (first 720), 1; T. Foote, 2; C. W. Clarke (conductor), 3-4; I. Hills, 5-6.

CARDINGTON (Beds).—On Wednesday, March 25th, a 720 of Bob Minor (sixteen bobs and two singles), in 28 mins. T. Keep (first 720), 1; W. Mayes, 2; M. Warwick, 3; T. Foote, 4; I. Hills, 5; C. W. Clarke (conductor), 6. Tenor 21 cwt. in E.

## THE BIRMINGHAM AMALGAMATED SOCIETY.

BIRMINGHAM.—On Sunday, March 28th, at Bishop Ryder's church, for Divine Service in the evening, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, 1260 changes, in 46 mins. Charles Barnicle, 1; John Callaghan, 2; Thomas Miller, 3; John T. Perry, 4; Richard Hackley, 5; Charles Carmell (conductor), 6; Albert Hackley, 7; Ebenezer Hickman, 8. This is the longest touch by E. Hickman. Tenor 12 cwt. in G. Great credit is due to the tower-keeper, Mr. John Hodson, for the manner in which the bells go and the general order of the belfry.

## DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

JARROW.—On Tuesday, March 24th, for practice, a 720 of Oxford Bob Minor, in 26 mins. J. Caverhill, 1; W. Pawson, 2; W. Holmes, 3; J. Chapman, 4; J. Campbell, 5; F. Harrison (conductor), 6. Also a 360 in the same method, A. English taking the place of W. Pawson. And on Sunday Morning, for Divine Service, a 480 of College Single. W. Plumpton, W. Pawson, 2; W. Holmes, 3; J. Chapman, 4; A. Sharpe, 5; F. Harrison (conductor), 6. Tenor 17 cwt. And on Wednesday, March 25th, for practice at St. Peter's Church, a 720 of Oxford Bob Minor, and a 720 of College Single in 48 mins. W. Henderson, 1; W. Holmes, 2; R. Oliver, 3; J. Chapman, 4; J. Campbell, 5; F. Harrison (conductor), 6. Also on Sunday morning, for Divine Service, a 360 of Bob Minor. W. Henderson, 1; A. English, 2; W. Holmes, 3; J. Chapman, 4; J. Campbell, 5; F. Harrison (conductor), 6. Tenor 8½ cwt.

## THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

HULME (Manchester).—On Saturday, March 28th, at Holy Trinity church, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor, in 27 mins. \*James A. Thomas, 1; T. Heald, 2; \*Wm. Wilde, sen., 3; F. J. Wood, 4; \*John Howard, 5; Wm. Hargreaves, (conductor), 6. Also a 720 of Plain Bob Minor, in 28 mins. Wm. Wilde, jun., 1; \*Wm. Wilde, sen., 2; \*John Howard, 3; \*James A. Thomas, 4; C. Woodward (conductor), 5; Wm. Savage, 6. T. Heald and F. J. Wood belong to St. Phillip's society, Hulme; Wilde, Howard and Thomas, hail from St. Anne's, Haughton. \*Members of the United Counties' Association. Tenor 15½ cwt.

## THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

WIMBLEDON (Surrey).—On Tuesday night, March 34th, at St. Mary's Church, a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob Minor, in 26 mins. G. Hyde, 1; R. Moss, 2; C. Hyde, 3; J. Parker, 4; A. Garratt, 5; S. Frost (conductor), 6. Also a 120 of Kent Treble Bob Minor, standing as before.

## THE WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

SOBERTON (Hants).—On Sunday, March 29th, for Divine Service in the morning, 336 of Grandsire Triples, with Queens and Tittums. A. Scammell, 1; G. H. Child, 2; H. H. Emslie, 3; F. Linter, 4; R. Linter, 5; H. Mason, 6; Geo. Williams (conductor), 7; H. Matthews, 8. Also a 504 of Grandsire Triples, in 18 mins. A. Payne, 1; G. H. Child, 2; F. Linter, 3; H. Mason, 4; R. Linter, 5; J. Putman, 6; G. Williams (conductor), 7; H. Matthews, 8. Tenor 14½ cwt. in G.

TWYFORD (Hants).—On Monday evening, March 30th, at the parish church, 360 of Grandsire Minor, and a 720 of Grandsire Minor (thirty-four bobs and two singles), in 24 mins. H. Mason, 1; F. Linter, 2; T. Newnham, 3; G. H. Child, 4; J. Whiting, 5; G. Williams (conductor), 6. Tenor 12½ cwt. in F. Several courses of Grandsire Triples, Oxford Bob and Grandsire Minor were afterwards rang on the handbells and a pleasant evening spent with the Twyford men.

BASINGSTOKE (Hants).—*Handbell Ringing*.—On Friday, March 27th, the local company rang their first 6-score of Grandsire Doubles on handbells, retained in hand. Geo. Capron, 1; H. Southgate, 2; F. Bicknell, 3; W. Tiller, 4; H. White (conductor), 5; G. Holdaway, 6. This has been learnt within the past six weeks without the aid of an instructor.

BATLEY CARR (Yorkshire).—On Sunday, March 28th, for Divine Service in the evening, a 720 of Craven Delight, in 24 mins. Squire Mitchell (conductor), 1; J. W. Simon, 2; W. H. Stead, 3; J. Blackburn, 4; Geo. H. Simon, 5; H. Senior, 6. Tenor 12 cwt. This is the first 720 in the method by all.

BILLINGSHURST (Sussex).—On Sunday, March 22nd, the Slinfold local company visited this place, and with Mr. Walter Wadey of that neighbourhood, rang a 720 of Oxford Bob Minor (eighteen bobs and two singles). J. Garton, 1; W. Muggeridge, 2; W. Lanaway, 3; G. Jenkins, 4; J. Cooper, 5; Walter Wadey (conductor), 6. Also a 720 of Warnham Court Bob (twenty-six singles). J. Garton, 1; G. Jenkins, 2; W. Lanaway, 3; W. Wadey, 4; W. Grinstead, 5; J. Cooper (conductor), 6. And a 720 of Plain Bob Minor, with twenty-two singles. J. Garton, 1; W. Muggeridge, 2; W. Lanaway, 3; W. Wadey, 4; W. Grinstead, 5; J. Cooper (conductor), 6.

CHESTER.—On Saturday, March 28th, at St. Mary's Church, four members of the St. Mary's company, assisted by two members of the Chester Cathedral Society, rang a 720 of Grandsire Minor. Edwin Davies, 1; John Johnson, 2; George Caldwell, 3; John Gibson, 4; Alfred Cross, 5; Thomas Bethell (conductor), 6. (No time mentioned). Also on Sunday, March 29th, for Divine Service in the morning, six of the same company rang 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles in 28 mins. E. Davies, 1; R. Mills, 2; George Caldwell, 3; John Johnson, 3; Thomas Bethell (conductor), 5; William Johnson, 6. Tenor 23 cwt. in D.

DERBY.—On Sunday, March 29th, for Divine service in the evening at St. Andrew's church, a 724 of Bob Minor, in 30 mins., with 78 covering. W. Shardlow, 1; W. H. Found, 2; G. Mottashaw, 3; W. Midgley, 4; J. W. Thompson, 5; A. E. Thompson (conductor), 6; J. Gilbert, 7; T. Alton, 8. Tenor 20½ cwt. in Eb.

GLEMSFORD (Suffolk).—*Muffled Peal*.—On Sunday, March 22nd, was rung with the bells half-muffled a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob, in 30 mins. Frederick Paul Adams (conductor), 1; Thomas Oliver Garwood, 2; Frederick Wells, 3; Albert Ives, 4; Harry Thompson, 5; George Maxim, 6. Other ringers were present from Melford, Stanstead, Cavendish, &c., who assembled to show their last mark of respect for Mary Ann Slater, the wife of John Slater, who died on March 18th, aged 65 years, and was interred on the above date.

## STAPLEHURST, KENT.

A new ring of eight is being hung in Staplehurst Church, Kent, which it is intended to open on April 25th. The service will be about three in the afternoon, and the preacher will be the Bishop of Hereford. The Kent County Association will take the opportunity to hold a Committee Meeting for the admission of new members.

## Death.

ON the 14th ult., at West Bromwich, after protracted suffering, borne with exemplary fortitude, Sarah, the dearly-beloved wife of John Carter, of Ford Street, Hockley, Birmingham, Deeply regretted by her husband and friends.

## In Memoriam.

## ARCHDEACON CAREY.

It is with great regret that we record the death of the Venerable James Gaspard Le Marchant Carey, Archdeacon of Essex, which took place on Tuesday, the 17th ult., after a short but severe illness, at Folkestone. The Archdeacon took his degree at Trinity College, Cambridge, in 1853, when he was placed in the first-class in the classical tripos, and was ordained in the same year by the Bishop of Oxford. After holding more than one curacy, he was appointed in 1866 by the Bishop of Rochester to the rectory of Snodland, near the Cathedral City. Here he remained till he was removed eleven years ago, by the present Bishop of St. Albans, to Boreham, near Chelmsford. On the Archdeaconry of Essex becoming vacant, when Archdeacon Blomfield was appointed Bishop-Suffragan, Mr. Carey was selected by the Bishop to fill the vacant office. His uniform courtesy, his constant forwardness to help in every good work in the Diocese, his readiness to occupy the pulpit for any of his clergy, the sound common sense which always rendered his advice of value, much more than justified the Bishop's choice. His premature and unexpected death, at the early age of 53, will be the cause of great and widely felt sorrow.

It may not be out of place in these columns to record the fact that the Essex Association has lost of its staunch and earliest supporters. When the Association was inaugurated, the deceased was elected one of its vice-presidents, and occupied the pulpit at the first anniversary meeting, held at Writtle, in 1880, and again at Chelmsford, in 1883. Upon both occasions he impressed his hearers upon the important office a ringer held in the service of the church, and how essential it was that they, as Church workers, should strive to fulfill the office to the Glory of God. The deceased, who continued at his duties up to the commencement of the present year when, under the advice of his medical adviser he sought a change of air at Folkestone, "was gifted in mind and heart, endowed with a cultivating mind, with unwearying energy, with a warm and loving nature, and a most winning charm of manner that is too uncommon in our midst."

The funeral, which was attended by a large number of laity and nearly seventy clergymen, took place in Boreham Churchyard, on Saturday, April 21st, amid tokens of sorrow. The blinds at nearly every house and cottage in the village were drawn, and almost all employment was suspended in order that the villagers might attend the mournful ceremony. Similar marks of respect were observed in Chelmsford and other parishes, and a muffled peal was rung from the tower of St. Mary's, Chelmsford; where also the white ensign floated half-mast high. The body was placed in the chancel of the church, upon its arrival at Boreham on Thursday, where it remained till Saturday. For hours before the funeral service a constant stream of villagers and friends attended the church to take the last quiet look at the coffin which contained the body of him who for eleven years had made their welfare his greatest study. Many brought wreaths and crosses, and placed them upon the coffin, the rich bringing most lovely floral offerings, and the poor, with equal affection, contributing bunches and wreaths of violets and other spring flowers. Shortly before 12 o'clock the coffin, made of polished oak, with plain brass fittings, was brought out of the church, and taken into the vicarage ground adjoining the west end of the churchyard, to await the funeral procession. A large concourse of people had by this time assembled in and around the church, and the expressions of sorrow at the death of the Archdeacon were universal and sincere.

The funeral procession to the church was headed by the principal laity, followed by about half the clergy, without their robes. Next came the remainder of the clergy, vested in surplice, cassock, hood, and stole. The body was carried after these, and immediately behind this came the chief mourners. Upon reaching the lych-gate, the first portion of the procession divided off right and left of the foot-path leading to the church, and the remainder passed through, carrying the coffin into the church. The beautiful opening sentences to the service were impressively read by the Rev. Arthur Pearson. The first portion of the service in church was read by the Bishop of Colchester, and the lesson by the Archdeacon of St. Albans; and at its close the hymn "Christ will gather in His own," was sung. At the grave the service was resumed by the Bishop of Colchester, and the concluding portion was read by the Bishop of St. Albans. The scene throughout was most impressive, and tears could be seen in the eyes of many of the poor amongst whom the Archdeacon had recently laboured. After the service nearly all those present in turn pressed up to the grave and took a last look at the coffin, and many additional floral offerings were dropped into the grave by those who had learned to love the Pastor they had just lost. The sad ceremony having been gone through, the local band, who are members of the Essex Association, rang muffled peals upon the ring of six in the tower.

\* \* Several touches, Correspondence, and other matters, are unavoidably postponed until our next issue.

CHANGE-RINGING AS IT WAS IN THE YEAR 1701.

(Continued from page 629, vol. iii.)

PEALS OF EIGHT BELLS.

Without amusing ourselves with what notes are most musical to lye behind we will come to the matter of fact for those methods of peals that are prick'd on six, may be the same upon eight, observing only that triples and doubles upon six must be quadruples and triples upon eight.

THE IMPERIAL BOB.

Quadruples and triples; the treble hath a dodging course. The two first and two last bells always dodge till hindred by the treble, the two next to these lying still one change dodge the next till the treble hinders them too, those in the 5th and 6th places dodge (the treble being behind) and those in the 3rd and 4th places likewise dodge (the treble being before), and so till hindred by the treble.

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8	2 4 6 1 8 3 5 7	1 2 3 4 7 8 5 6
2 1 4 3 6 5 8 7	4 2 1 6 3 8 7 5	
1 2 3 4 6 5 7 8	4 1 2 6 8 3 5 7	1 4 8 2 6 3 5 7
2 1 4 3 6 5 8 7	1 4 6 2 3 8 7 5	1 4 2 8 3 6 7 5
2 4 1 3 6 5 7 8	4 1 2 6 3 8 5 7	
4 2 3 1 5 6 8 7	1 4 6 2 8 3 7 5	1 8 6 4 5 2 7 3
2 4 1 3 5 6 7 8	1 4 2 6 3 8 5 7	1 8 4 6 2 5 3 7
4 2 3 1 6 5 8 7	1 6 8 4 7 2 5 3	
2 4 3 6 1 5 7 8	1 6 4 8 2 7 3 5	1 6 5 8 7 4 3 2
4 2 6 3 5 1 8 7		Bob.
2 4 6 3 1 5 7 8	1 8 7 6 5 4 3 2	1 5 6 8 4 7 2 3
4 2 3 6 5 1 8 7	Bob.	
2 4 6 3 5 8 1 7	1 7 8 6 4 5 2 3	1 8 7 5 3 6 2 4
4 2 3 6 8 5 7 1		Bob.
2 4 3 6 5 8 1 7	1 6 5 7 3 8 2 4	1 7 8 5 6 3 4 2
4 2 6 3 8 5 7 1	Bob.	
2 4 3 6 5 8 7 1	1 5 6 7 8 3 4 2	
4 2 6 3 8 5 1 7		1 5 3 7 2 8 4 6
2 4 6 3 5 8 7 1	1 7 3 5 2 6 4 8	1 5 7 3 8 2 6 4
4 2 3 6 8 5 1 7	1 7 5 3 6 2 8 4	
2 4 6 3 8 1 5 7		1 3 2 5 4 7 6 8
4 2 3 6 1 8 7 5	1 3 2 7 4 5 8 6	1 3 5 2 7 4 8 6
2 4 6 3 8 1 5 7	1 3 7 2 5 4 6 8	
4 2 6 3 1 8 7 5		1 2 4 3 6 5 8 7
2 4 6 1 3 8 5 7	1 2 4 3 8 7 6 5	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8
4 2 1 6 8 3 7 5		

By this method the peal will go 224 changes, and by making of bobs it will go 448, 672, 1344. The bob is a triple change at the leading of the treble, wherein the bell in the fourth place lies still.

The next that comes to our observation and answers to what we first hinted at in the beginning of this discourse of peals upon eight bells, I mean precedency in title, is the

BOB MAJOR.

Plain Quadruples and Triples; In this all the bells have a direct hunting course, until the treble leads, and then the six hindmost bells dodge. Here follows a lead of Bob Major. By this method this will go 112, and by making bobs 224, 336, or 672, the bob is a triple change, as in the foregoing. Imperial is specified by making two extremes, it will go 1344, and with four extremes, 2688; all peals upon six bells, wherein half the changes are Triples, will go on eight. According to the method, before going thus, if it be a peal upon six, consisting of 360 or 720 changes, then there must be five hunts in the ringing of it, upon eight, the treble being the first, two the second, etc.

COLLEGE BOB MAJOR.

There is four ways of pricking these, the first hath single dodging behind, and is thus peal'd:—

THE FIRST.	THE SECOND.
1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8	This hath single dodging before
2 1 4 3 6 5 8 7	and behind, this prick't:
2 4 1 6 3 5 7 8	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8
4 2 6 1 5 3 8 7	2 1 4 3 6 5 8 7
4 6 2 5 1 3 7 8	2 4 1 6 3 5 7 8
6 4 5 2 3 1 8 7	4 2 6 1 5 3 8 7
6 5 4 3 2 8 1 7	2 4 6 5 1 3 7 8
5 6 3 4 8 2 7 1	4 2 5 6 3 1 8 7
5 3 6 8 4 7 2 1	2 4 5 3 6 8 1 7
3 5 8 6 7 4 1 2	4 2 3 5 8 6 7 1
3 8 5 7 6 1 4 2	2 4 3 8 5 7 6 1
8 3 7 5 1 6 2 4	4 2 8 3 7 5 1 6
8 7 3 1 5 6 4 2	2 4 8 7 3 1 5 6
7 8 1 3 6 5 2 4	4 2 7 8 1 3 6 5
7 1 8 6 3 5 4 2	2 4 7 1 8 3 5 6
1 7 6 8 5 3 2 4	4 2 1 7 3 8 6 5
1 6 7 5 8 3 4 2	4 1 2 3 7 8 5 6
	1 4 3 2 8 7 6 5
	1 3 4 8 2 7 5 6

THE THIRD.	THE FOURTH.
This hath double dodging	This hath double dodging
behind, thus prick't:	before and behind, both, thus:
1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8
2 1 4 3 6 5 8 7	2 1 4 3 6 5 8 7
2 4 1 3 5 6 7 8	2 4 1 3 5 6 7 8
4 2 3 1 6 5 8 7	4 2 3 1 6 5 8 7
4 3 2 6 1 5 7 8	4 3 2 6 1 5 7 8
3 4 6 2 5 1 8 7	4 2 6 3 5 1 8 7
3 6 4 5 2 8 1 7	2 4 3 6 5 8 1 7
6 3 5 4 8 2 7 1	4 2 6 3 8 5 7 1
6 5 3 8 4 7 2 1	2 4 3 6 8 7 5 1
5 6 8 3 7 4 1 2	4 2 6 3 7 8 1 5
5 8 6 7 3 1 4 2	2 4 3 6 7 1 8 5
8 5 7 6 1 3 2 4	4 2 6 3 1 7 5 8
8 7 5 1 6 3 4 2	2 4 6 1 3 7 8 5
7 8 1 5 3 6 2 4	4 2 1 6 7 3 5 8
7 1 8 5 6 3 4 2	4 1 2 6 3 7 8 5
1 7 5 8 3 6 2 4	1 4 6 2 7 3 5 8
1 5 7 8 6 3 4 2	1 6 4 2 3 7 8 5

These may be prick't several other ways but that I omit here for brevities sake, the dodging is without intermission, except an hinderance comes by the treble, as likewise between two bells untill treble parts the fray; the bobs are triples changes, as the treble leads in the 1st, 2nd, and 6th, the bell in the 4th place lies still at the bob, and in 3rd, 4th, and 5th, that in the 2nd place lies still; each of these will go 112 changes and by making bobs 224, 336, or 672.

COLLEGE TRIPLES DODGING BOTH BEFORE AND BEHIND.

This peal is the same for bobs as the Bob Major, and will go as many changes by making bobs or otherwise, as any of the foregoing four, and is thus peal'd:—

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

THE WILD GOOSE CHASE TRIPLES.

The explanation shall follow the peal, intending here to put an end to my epitome of the art of ringing, and therefore shall first present you with this prick'd, thus:—

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

In this change the 4th bell must first hunt up into sevenths place, and then the 4th and 8th always dodge behind throughout the peal, unless when obstructed by the treble, the bell that moves up into the 6th place, when the treble moves thence down, lies still there till displaced by the treble, during which time the two hind bells dodge, and the five first go a perfect hunting course, and when likewise the treble moveth out the fifth place the first five bells go a hunting course till it comes down there again. By this method it will go 80 changes, and by bobs 160, 240, or 480, the bob is made as in the foregoing changes.

And here I thought to make an end of the art of ringing, but *cynthia aurem vellit*, he young practitioner whose only information is hereby aimed at, plucks me by the sleeve and tells me in the ear that peals upon six, as Triples and Doubles, etc., make excellent musick, upon eight bells, 4 8, 6 8, 4 1, or 1 8, lying behind, or Triples and Doubles on the six middle bells, the tenor lying behind, yet for him who is not arrived to such a perfection of skill as to ring these complete peals the most proper and easy for him are set changes, which are founded on these grounds: first, placing the bells fifths, thus the 4th must hunt up behind the 7th, the 3rd behind the 6th, and the 2nd behind the 5th, or the one may hunt down under the other as the 5th under the 2nd, the 6th under 3, and 7 under 4, or if you will, first let a single, next a double, and then a Triple change be made on the middle bells, all coming to the same effect, for then the changes will lie fifths thus—1 5 2 6 3 7 4 8. In the peal four concords are to be regarded the first 1 5, the second 2 6, the third 3 7, and the fourth 4 8, these four concords may go the methods of any changes upon four bells, 1 5 being taken for the treble, 2 6 for the second, 3 6 for the third, and 4 8 for the fourth, and the concords may change places with one another as you like, in which this observation is highly necessary—that the two notes of every concord must constantly attend each other in their motion, that is whenever one of the two notes moves, the other must follow it, or secondly place the bells thirds, thus the 6 4 and 2 must hunt up, or else the 3 5 7 down or otherwise on the middlemost bells, let a triple double or single change be made, are to one effect and then the bells will lie thirds, thus 1 3 5 7 2 4 6 8, herein are four concords observable as in the former peal viz., 1 3, 5 7, 2 4, 6 8. These concords may go the methods of any changes upon four bells, 1 3 being taken for the treble 5 7 for the second, 2 4 for the third, and 6 8 for the fourth, moving in the same manner as before. By these grand variety of excellent and musical changes are to be rung, any concord may be made a hunt, and to move up and down at the beginning in ringing these set changes the notes will lie sometimes fifths, sometimes thirds, and both, and then to obtain them is admirably musick. Clamming is when each concords strike together, which being done true, the 8th will strike as but four bells and make a melodious harmony, you may clam two or three bouts and then strike as many times open alternatively: one clam one pull, and open the next, etc.

#### NORTON (ST. PHILIP) SOMERSET.

THE six bells in the tower of the above parish church, dedicated to SS. Philip and James, have just been rehung, put in thorough repair, tuned, and a new tenor cast, weighing 10 cwt., by Messrs. Llewellyns and James of Bristol. The work has been most satisfactorily carried out, and the ringers only await the close of Lent to once more announce Eastertide with a joyous peal.

The bells bear the following inscriptions:—

Treble—"I + L. Anno Domini, 1649."

2nd—"1823."

3rd—"1824."

4th—"Sancta Anna ora pro nobis."

5th—"Nathaniel Bolter made me, 1654, for Tho. Flower, 1654."

Tenor (new bell).—"Gather my saints together unto me, 1885."

Tenor (old bell).—"Peace and good neighbourhood to this parish, 1731. ERW.+CFT. [The latter was badly cracked and the new bell above substituted.]

As soon as it was determined to rehang the peal the ringers set to work to learn change-ringing scientifically, and have since that time confined their practice entirely to the handbells, the old body of ringers having been in the habit of ringing in whole pulls from boards, and also some set changes. Regular practice and perseverance enabled them to ring a 720 of Grandsire Minor, on Saturday, March 28th. W. Akery, 1; Mrs. H. H. Palairt, 2; James Coombs, 3; C. Garret, 4; L. Bell, 5; H. H. Palairt, Esq. (conductor), 6. J. G. Roberts being unavoidably absent, Mrs. Palairt took a bell. The above we think a very creditable performance, since the old body of ringers had never done any ringing except as mentioned above, and did not even know how to use the handbells for practising, and the conductor 18 months ago had never done more than ring in rounds. The work has been learnt with the assistance of the books of Mr. Troyte, Mr. Snowdon and Mr. Wigram, no instructor having been employed, and they hope ere very long to be able to report a successful peal in the tower. On Saturday next, Easter-eve, a short service will be held and the bells opened.

#### THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION AND THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.—BRAINTREE, ESSEX.

THE following is an account of the ringing done by the Braintree company during the month of March:—March 1st: 720 Violet Treble Bob, 72 Bob Minor; March 8th: 720 Kent Treble Bob, 720 Bob Minor; 114 Oxford Treble Bob, 240 Bob Minor; March 10th: 720 Cambridge Surprise; March 15th: 720 London Surprise; March 17th: 720 London Scholars' Pleasure, 720 New London Pleasure; March 21st: 720 Morning Exercise; March 22nd: 720 Woodbine Treble Bob; March 28th: 720 Durham Surprise; March 29th: 720 College Exercise, 720 Oxford Delight, 120 London Surprise, 72 Oxford Treble Bob.

#### Correspondence.

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

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

BELFRY REFORM.

SIR,—Your correspondent, Geo. F. Attree, accuses me of making three or four remarkable statements such as would not be understood in his part of the country. With regard to ringers not being attached to any particular church, everyone knows that it is the exception and not the rule to find a company to each church in towns where there are several peals of bells. I know that in many places lately, efforts have been made to secure a separate band to each church, and in many instances this has been done; but I question whether it is desirable to have it thus. Looking upon it in a change-ringing point of view, it is a well-known fact that a company who practice in several different towers and on various numbers, from six to ten or twelve, and on bells of various weights, are more efficient than a company who always stick to one tower. Then in a money point of view it would seldom pay "scruffe" men to lose time from their work just to serve one church on a ringing day, and on ringing days, generally, there is not much done of any importance to make a man care to lose time simply for love of the art. While on the subject of pay, I may as well answer another of your correspondent's statements. He says that "one true volunteer is worth two paid men." I quite agree with him as far as progress in change-ringing is concerned. I will even go further and say that in some cases pay has rather hindered than advanced the art, for the simple reason that pay often proves to be a bait to men who do not really care about ringing, and they will just attain enough proficiency to come up to a required standard, and then not trouble to go further. But I said distinctly that payment must be given, not to advance the art, but to secure regularity. If a man does a thing voluntarily, it is but fair to suppose that, however fond he may be of it, he will do it when and how he pleases. But if you pay for a thing being done, it becomes a legal contract, and you can have it done when and how you please. Your correspondent further states that a voluntary company at Brighton have made such and such satisfactory attendances. May I ask how long this voluntary band has been established? and if it has been on for several years, whether the members are for the most part the same as when it was started? (*vide* my letter in to-day's issue on striking). I have known several voluntary companies, who when they first began, could muster enough to form two or even three district sets, and for some time after the commencement of their career there would be considerably more men turn up than were required to ring for the Sunday services. But in a few years they gradually dwindled down. The thing got stale, and other amusements were sought. And though others came to supply their places, the ringing gradually went down in quality and quantity too. I quite agree that ringing for morning and evening service on Sundays ought to be the rule everywhere, but unless regularity can be positively enforced, it is better to confine it only to festivals. As to being "left to the mercy" of a society to provide men, this is absurd. Of course any society who undertakes to do ringing at certain fixed times for a certain fixed payment, would take care to supply men, and if they did not do so they would be turned off. Before concluding, I must add, that in a few places under exceptional circumstances, I have known a voluntary band keep the ringing going with fair regularity, and I could mention several who have made great progress in the art, but these cases are few and far between. J. R. JERRAM.

#### ELECTION OF MEMBERS IN THE TOWER.

SIR,—Rule 7 of the St. James' Society (published in 1875), reads as follows:—"Any person wishing to attempt a peal with the society, more particularly a country visitor, he must be proposed and seconded previous to the attempt being made." Will Mr. Strange explain how he construes such as only a nomination? OUTSIDER.

#### THANKS FROM THE ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.

SIR,—I see that the gentlemen and ringers of the tower of Lavenham have very kindly placed a belfry tablet (a very nice one) in the tower of the parish church to commemorate the long peal rang upon these beautiful bells on the 14th of last June by a party of Cumberland Youths. I beg through the columns of your valuable paper, "THE BELL NEWS," to thank those gentlemen, on behalf of my brother ringers who took part in that performance, for their kindness and generosity. SAM'L. SLATER.

THE NELMS TESTIMONIAL.—Mr. D. Lovett writes to say that the concert given in aid of this fund was a thorough success. He will give a full account, before long, of the proceeds; the fund is still open. The committee wish, through the medium of this paper, to thank all those who have contributed to this object in any way. To those who are not acquainted with John Nelms, we may say that he is a worthy member of the Exercise; a clever ringer, a composer of no mean order, and a courteous and obliging brother-string to boot.

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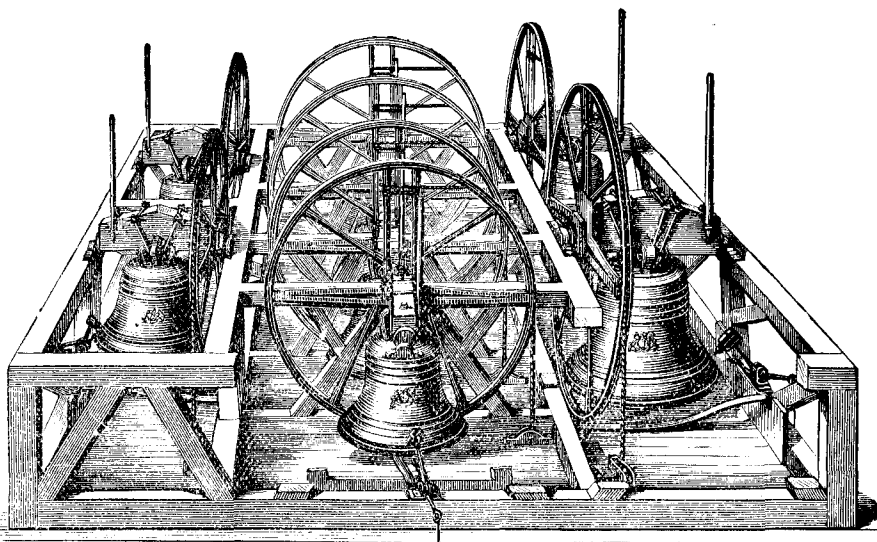
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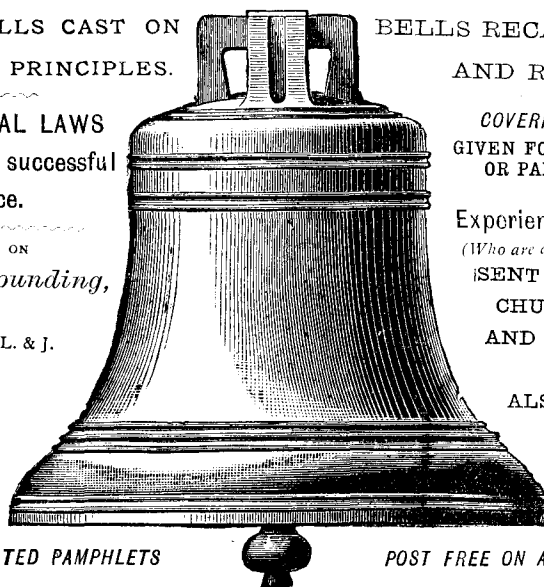
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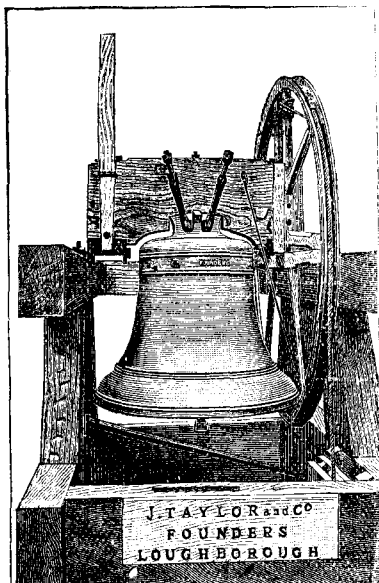
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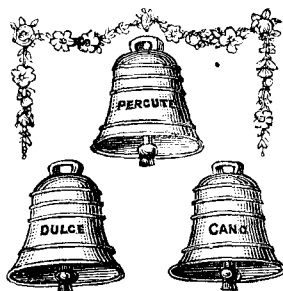
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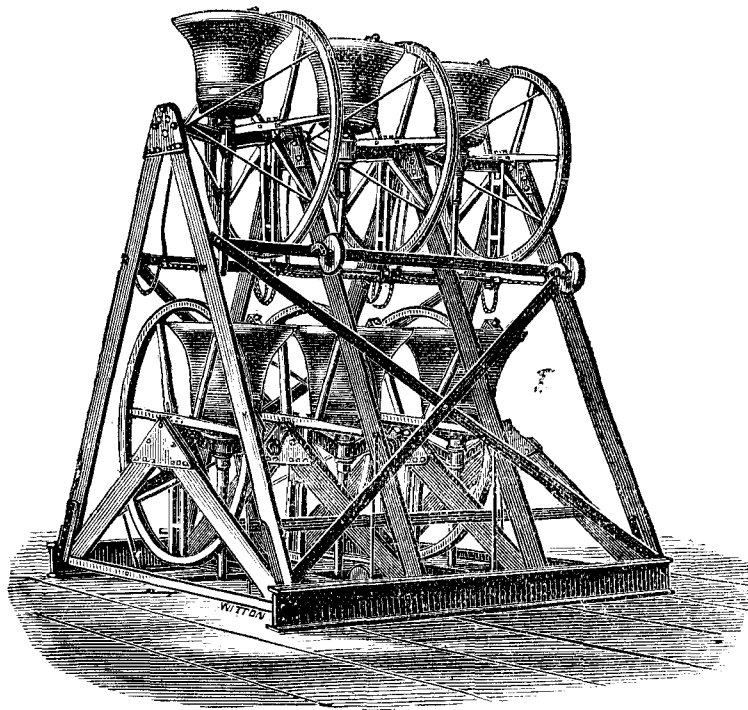
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*A Weekly Journal of the Ringing Exercise; and Compendium of Information for the Clergy and Churchwardens.*

No. 158. [NEW SERIES.]—VOL. IV.

SATURDAY, APRIL 11, 1885.

[ONE PENNY.]

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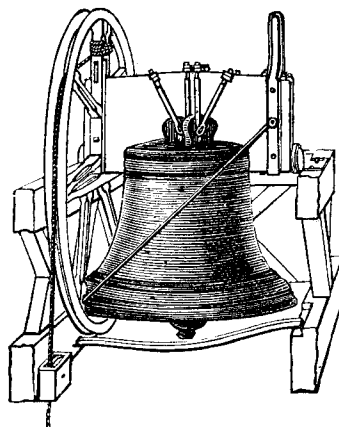
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## THE HISTORY OF STEDMAN'S PRINCIPLE.

BY JASPER W. SNOWDON.

NOONAN, the composer of the peal given in last week's issue, was originally a Birmingham man, and a shoemaker by trade. I have heard that it was on an occasion when he had been paid for a pair of boots he had made for J. Short, of Witton, the man who rang the Aston tenor to the 15,360 of Bob Major, that he went to London. He was a great friend of Wm. Eversfield, the composer. Noonan, I have also heard, was caught drinking with a gang of smugglers by the revenue officers, and being in such company would have had a heavy sentence passed upon him, but Eversfield, who, I believe was a revenue officer, got his sentence commuted to twelve months' imprisonment. Noonan was however so broken down, I understand, that he was never again good for anything. He died, I believe, in 1814, at Bromley in Kent.

In the year 1875, when I first turned my attention to the different compositions in Stedman Triples, I wrote to my friend Mr. Henry Johnson, of Birmingham, and asked him what he knew about the earliest peals. In reply to my enquiry Mr. Johnson informed me that he recollected Mr. Thomas Day telling him many years ago that a man named Edwards, of Stourbridge, composed a peal of Stedman Triples, but he could not just then inform me of the exact date, or was he quite sure that Mr. Day had ever seen the peal. In his next communication Mr. Johnson sent me a copy of the peal in question, which he had obtained from Mr. Day, who also informed him that it was composed in the year 1792 by Edwards, and he (Mr. Day) had had it many years ago from Benjamin Pugh, an old Birmingham ringer. Mr. Johnson added, "I recollect Mr. Pugh very well, he must have been dead more than thirty years, and have been, at least, seventy years old when he died." This peal, by Edwards, I gave in my collection, it contains 620 bobs, 100 common singles, and two "turning" singles made in 4-5; a total of 722 calls.

I will now call the attention of my readers to the first peal known to have been rung after Noonan's peal was rung by the Junior Cumberlands in 1799: this peal is one which was rung by the College Youths on December 4th, 1803, the particulars of which are entered in the peal-book of the Society, as follows:—

From the peal-book of the Ancient Society of College Youths:—"St. Mary Abbots Kensington. Sunday, Dec. 4th, 1803, the Society rang a true and complete peal of Stedman's Triples, containing 5040 changes, in 2 hours 58 minutes by:

William Paris,	treble,	William Jones,	fourth,	Charles Barber,	sixth.
William Brooke,	second,	John Stratford,	fifth,	Edward Bartell,	seventh.
Jonathan Langley,	third,			Richard Eddis,	tenor.

Called by Chas. Barber."

When first I considered this matter I concluded, in the absence of any information concerning the composer in this record, that it was not likely to have been Edwards' peal, but since my remarks on this point first appeared in 1876, I am glad to say that I have obtained further information which now leaves no doubt that the peal recorded above was the composition of Edwards. In 1877, my friend, Mr. Robert Tuke, who was at that time living at Ilkley, obtained from a ringer of the name of Blacktop, then living at Blackpool, some MSS. books containing notes concerning peals, &c., which had been collected by a certain Henry John Blease. This Mr. Blease was a ringer who joined the Cumberlands in 1821, and was an indefatigable collector of ringing memoranda. I have, on several occasions, come across scraps of his MS. In one of the books obtained by Mr. Tuke, I found, amongst many records of peals rung by the London societies, a record of the above performance, in which—besides the names of the performers, &c.—the following information is given: "December 4th, 1803, 5040 Stedman Trebles, Kensington, as composed by Mr. Thomas Edwards." Here, therefore, we have, from an entirely inde-

pendent source, the information that the peal rung by the College Youths, in 1803, was Edwards' peal. I may here mention that when Shipway wrote in 1816, that no other peals beyond the Norwich ones, which Shipway did not believe in, and the peals in 1799 and 1803 had been rung, and as he alludes to peals having been rung I conclude that Edwards' peal was known to him. Shipway's remarks concerning such peals are as follows:

"A true and complete peal of Triples on this principle has for many years been the constant research of the most eminent professors of the Art. The author has paid great attention to the subject, but hitherto without effect; he has therefore chosen to relinquish it for the present, rather than delay the publication of the work. The authors of the *Clavis* have published no more than 1260, deeming that nearly the extent, except by using a multiplicity of bobs, which would keep two bells dodging together behind, at various times, during fifty-four changes: a practice justly reprobated, as being both tedious and unmusical, although peals on that plan have been obtained and rung for want of better."

It will be noticed that Shipway uses the plural number and says that peals have been rung on this plan, and he must therefore have alluded to the peals rung in 1799 and 1803, as these are the only peals known to have been rung since the Norwich ones, at the time, namely, in 1816, when Shipway wrote the above remarks.

Indeed it was not until three years later, viz.: in 1819 that another peal is known to have been rung; this was rung at Shiffnal, Shropshire, on June 15th in that year, by the Birmingham St. Martin's Society. The Shiffnal peal was the composition of Henry Cooper, a well-known Birmingham composer, who conducted it from a written copy while seated in the steeple. This manuscript consisted of ten sheets, and it may be interesting to know that when I first wrote these remarks (in 1876), these sheets were still in existence, having been carefully preserved by Mr. Thomas Day, of Birmingham, since whose death they have passed into the hands of Mr. Johnson. The care that has been taken in preserving these time-worn relics, with the now faded figures, 'pricked' well-nigh seventy years ago, shows, I think, that were all such existing records sought up a good deal of information, which may pass away for ever with their destruction, might be preserved. Mr. Osborne states that Noonan frequently said that he used as much paper in pricking out Stedman Triples as would have papered the inside of St. Giles's Church, before he could compose his peal, and yet we cannot, even with Shipway's book, find out what that peal was. Where are the manuscripts of most of the earliest composers, who in those days, in accordance with the use of the times, must have made many more entries in their note-books than is customary in these days of cheap printing, as now few meritorious compositions can exist for many years without finding their way into type?

To return, however, to Cooper's peal. This composition I may mention, is very much on the same principle as Edwards', though improved by the number of calls being reduced to 582, and the seventh coming home at each course-end, still the same calls at the half-peal ends are used. If this peal is compared with Edwards', it will be seen that to Edwards is due all the credit which must be allotted to the composer of the first peal on this plan. It has been a real pleasure to me to be able to place Edwards' peal before the Exercise, as several persons afterwards claimed the credit of having supplied the foundation on which the earliest peals in this method were subsequently built up, and I think that when these improved peals are examined and contrasted with Edwards' peal it will be allowed that they were all improvements on Cooper's peal, which peal was itself only an improvement on Edwards' plan. The following are the particulars of the performance of Cooper's peal, the composition of which I have already placed before my readers.

From the Birmingham St. Martin's Peal Book:—"On June 5th, 1819, A complete peal of 5040 of Stedman's tripples was rung at Shiffnal church by the Society of St. Martin's Youths in 3 hours and 2 minutes.

James Jarvis,	1.	Thomas Thrustance,	4.	Alexander Sanders,	6.
Thomas Chapman,	2.	William Hassell,	5.	Samuel Lawrence,	7.
Thomas Worral,	3.			Joseph Paget,	tenor.

Composed and conducted by Mr. Henry Cooper, sitting in the steeple. The second peal of Stedman tripples ever rung."

## EASTER MONDAY AT SAWBRIDGEWORTH, HERTS.

THE usual meeting of ringers and their friends took place at Sawbridgeworth on Easter Monday, the only difference in the proceedings was the fact of its being inconvenient for Mr. Rochester to entertain the visitors to dinner at his house this year; but all those who arrived early met with the same hospitality in the shape of a substantial breakfast at Mr. Rochester's house. The dinner was provided at the old quarters, "King William the Fourth," at which 30 sat down to a good repast—one that did credit to the hostess (Mrs. S. Rochester). At the service held at the church, the Curate, Rev. — Newman, preached an appropriate sermon; and, after dinner, a short address was delivered by the Vicar, in which he said the belfry was now looked upon as part of the church, and that the degrading practices which were formerly carried on in our belfries were now things of the past: thanks to the fellowship of ringers and their Associations. In conclusion, the rev. gentleman gave great praise to G. Rivers, Esq., Churchwarden; and Mr. Rochester, Bellwarden, for the interest they took in the ringing. The Visitors also thanked Mr. Rochester for his kindness, and congratulated him upon his improved appearance. During the day some Grandsire, Stedman, and Treble Bob were rung, the calling being shared by Messrs. Pitstow and Alps. Among those present were Messrs. Tarling, Thurgood, Dymock, Cleverley, Colverd, Barker, Holgate, and Alps, of Waltham; Messrs. Pitstow and Penning, of Saffron Walden; Mr. Prior, of Bishop Stortford; most of the local men, and other friends whose names did not transpire.

## ARUNDEL, SUSSEX.

ON Monday, April 5th, a mixed company of ringers visited this place, and rang a quarter-peal of Oxford Bob Triples, 1260 changes, in 45 mins. G. Wickins, 1; J. Newnham, 2; M. Heffer, 3; W. Wadey, 4; W. Collisson, 5; F. Wickins, 6; H. Burstow (conductor), 7; G. Holloway, 8. Also a 336 of Grandsire Triples. G. Holloway, 1; J. Newnham, 2; W. Collisson, 3; F. Wickins, 4; C. Blackman (conductor), 5; H. Burstow, 6; Rev. R. F. Tompkins, 7; G. Balchin, 8. And a 720 of Oxford Bob Minor on the back six. G. Holloway, 1; G. Wickins, 2; W. Wadey, 3; F. Wickins, 4; H. Burstow, 5; M. Heffer (conductor), 6. And the first part of Shipway's 6-part peal of Oxford Bob Triples, 840 changes, in 32 mins. G. Balchin, 1; J. Newnham, 2; M. Heffer, 3; W. Wadey, 4; G. Holloway, 5; F. Wickins, 6; H. Burstow (conductor), 7; W. Collisson, 8. And several short touches in the same method, standing as before. The ringers take this opportunity of kindly thanking the vicar for the use of the bells. Messrs. Wickins, Heffer, and Holloway, hail from Charlwood; Newnham and Collison from Crawley, Wadey from Billingshurst; Burstow from Horsham; the others are local ringers.

## THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—POSTPONEMENT OF MEETING.

THE District Meeting announced to be held on Saturday, April 11th, at Romford, owing to the death of the Churchwarden, is postponed to April 18th. The arrangements will be the same as already published, viz.:—Ringing to commence at 12 o'clock; Meat tea in the school-room at 5 p.m.; Business Meeting immediately after the tea. The belfry at Hornchurch (six bells), will be open to members between the hours of 12—4 p.m., and 7—9 p.m. Tickets for the tea may be obtained from the Secretary.

Return tickets will be issued by the Great Eastern Railway at a single fare and a quarter, to members who shew at the booking office their E. A. C. R. receipts for the present year.

Rayleigh, S.O., Essex, March 26th.

H. A. COCKEY, Hon. Sec.

## THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

A QUARTERLY MEETING of this Association was held on Easter Monday at Bletchingley, by the kind permission of the Rector. The meeting was well attended both by members of the Association and visitors. Ringing began soon after noon, on the peal of eight at Bletchingley, and also on the six at Nutfield. The following methods were practised during the day: Treble Bob and Bob Major; Grandsire, Stedman, Plain Bob, Union, and Oxford Bob Triples; Treble Bob, Grandsire, and Bob Minor, and Grandsire Doubles. Soon after 6 o'clock, some thirty members sat down to a substantial tea at the "Red Lion." The Rector in a few kind words gave the members a hearty welcome to Bletchingley, and then said grace for the meal. The members who attended the meeting were from the following places: Beddington, Benhilton, Bletchingley, Croydon, Epsom, Leatherhead, Nutfield, Streatham, Reigate and Wimbledon.

A. B. CARPENTER, Hon. Sec.

34, Dingwall Road, Croydon.

## THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

A committee meeting of this Association was held in the schoolroom connected with St. Mary's, the old parish church of Eastbourne, and was attended by delegates from the under-mentioned societies:—Mr. H. Boniface, St. Nicholas', Brighton; Mr. H. Weston, St. Peter's, Brighton; Mr. Wratten, Buxted; Mr. Pelling, Chailey; Rev. J. B. Lennard, Crawley; Mr. A. Bennett, Cuckfield; Mr. Bennet, St. Mary's, Eastbourne; Mr. J. Turner, All Saints', Eastbourne; Mr. T. Smith, Christ Church, Eastbourne; Mr. Chatfield, Fletching; and Mr. A. Dawes, Waldron; Rev. R. F. Tompkins, Treasurer; Mr. G. F. Attree, Hon. Sec.; and about twenty ringers from various parts of the county. The Rev. J. B. Lennard was elected to the chair. The notice convening the meeting and the minutes of the last meeting having been read and confirmed, the peal-book, as selected by the Hon. Sec., was purchased. It was proposed by the delegate for St. Nicholas', Brighton, and seconded by the delegate for Buxted, that a design be obtained for the certificates to be issued to members. It was then proposed by the delegate for St. Nicholas', Brighton, and seconded by the delegate for All Saints', Eastbourne, that the Revs. Lennard and Tompkins, and Messrs. Attree, Boniface, and Bennett should form a sub-committee to decide by whom, and on what terms, instruction in change ringing should be given to bands in union, and to settle all matters requiring attention before the general meeting. It was then proposed by the delegate for Waldron, seconded by the delegate for All Saints', Eastbourne, that the general meeting be held at Brighton, on Saturday, May 21st. Votes of thanks were passed to the committee for the use of the room, to the Vicars of St. Mary's and Christ Church for the use of the bells, and to the chairman for presiding.

## TREDINGTON, NEAR TEWKESBURY

ON Saturday evening, April 4th, this being the birthday of John Surman, Esq., some ringers from Tewkesbury and Deerhurst visited this place, and by the kind permission of the Vicar, the Rev. — Webster, rang several six-scores of Grandsire and Bob Doubles, also some 24's, Mr. C. W. Dyson and other members of the Tredington Society taking part in the ringing. This ring of five bells is a very fair one, but the go of them is not all that could be desired. The ringers wish Mr. Surman many happy returns of the day, for it is to him and his wife that the parishioners owe their thanks at having their bells restored, and we hope the day is not far distant when a new treble will be added, which would make them a very pretty peal of six, there being a space left in the framing to receive a treble, which would curtail the expenditure considerably.

## ST. MARY'S, ELY.

THE company of ringers in this parish held their anniversary on Easter Monday—Lynn Regis, Bury St. Edmunds, Newmarket, Soham and Doddington were represented, and several friends put in an appearance whose names we did not hear. The dinner was held at the "Crown and Anchor," the Rev. J. Franey, vicar of the parish, presiding. After justice had been done to the repast, the usual loyal toasts were drunk, and in proposing the success of the Exercise, the Rev. K. H. Smith (vice-chairman), took occasion to express a hope that all ringers would join the Diocesan Association forthwith. The ringing was good, and much praised by several known and tried veterans.

## ST. MARY'S, BURY ST. EDMUNDS.

THE fine peal of eight bells in this tower were rung on Saturday last, after undergoing repair. The three large bells have been entirely rehung with new stocks, wheels, and fittings, the bells being turned for the clappers to strike in a fresh place. The other five bells have also been overhauled, and new sally guides and blocks have been fixed in the steeple to form a correct circle for the ropes. The entire work has been carried out by Messrs. George Day and Son, Church Bellhangers, Eye, Suffolk. Through the liberality of the Churchwarden, W. Salmon, Esq., the ringers were supplied with dinner and refreshments at the "Golden Fleece" inn, on the above occasion. The fine-toned tenor of this ring weighing 28 cwt., was cast by Richard Phelps of London, in the year 1734.

## THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—ROTHWELL BRANCH.

THE following is the work done by this branch at Holy Trinity church during the month of March:—March 1st: 720 Oxford Treble Bob, 60 Bob Minor; March 8th: 240 New London Pleasure, 240 Violet; March 9th: 360 Violet; March 15th: 240 Violet, 360 Oxford Treble Bob, 720 Violet; March 16th: 120 Arnold's Victory, 60 Bob Minor, 360 Arnold's Victory; March 22nd: 720 Duke of York, 120 New London Pleasure, 360 Violet, 240 Oxford Treble Bob; March 29th: 360 Duke of York, 360 Violet, 240 New London Pleasure.

## THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

REPORT FOR THE WEEK ENDING APRIL 1ST, 1885.—On Friday, March 27th, at St. Mary's church, Eastbourne, by a mixed band consisting of three members of the St. Mary's, Eastbourne, band, three of the Christ Church, Eastbourne, one of the All Saints', Eastbourne, and one of the Cuckfield branch rang the second half of Holt's 10-part peal, in 1 hr. 30 mins. \*Thos. Smith (Christ Church), 1; F. Harding (St. Mary's), 2; \*G. Hawes (Church Church), 3; E. Huggett (St. Mary's, conductor), 4; T. Willoughby (Christ Church), 5; J. Potter (St. Mary's), 6; \*Alfred Bennett (Cuckfield), 7; T. Lewis (All Saints), 8. Tenor 16½ cwt. \*First half-peal in the method. On Saturday, March 28th, on the occasion of the first Committee Meeting of this Association being held at Eastbourne, eight members of the Brighton branch visited St. Mary's church, Eastbourne, and attempted Holt's 10-part peal of Grandsire Triples, but failed after ringing 1600 changes, in 59½ mins. H. Weston, 1; J. Searle, 2; H. Boniface, 3; G. King, 4; C. E. Golds, 5; G. F. Attree, 6; J. Jay, sen. (conductor), 7; H. Butler, 8. A touch in the same method containing 1028 changes was then rung by four members each of the Brighton and Eastbourne branches, in 38 mins. C. E. Golds, 1; J. Jay, sen., 2; G. Howse, 3; L. Huggett (conductor), 4; F. Harding, 5; H. Weston, 6; A. Bennett, 7; T. Lewis, 8. Later in the day another start was made for a peal by four members of the Eastbourne and four of the Brighton branches which came to grief after about a quarter had been accomplished. Several 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles and touches of Plain Bob Minor was rung during the evening on the Christ Church bells. On Sunday, March 29th, by the Brighton Branch, at St. Peter's church, Brighton, for afternoon service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, 1260 changes, in 46½ mins. A. Marshall, 1; J. Jay, sen., 2; J. Searle, 3; H. Weston, 4; G. King, 5; G. F. Attree, 6; J. Jay, jun., 7; D. Ross, 8. Also by seven members of the Eastbourne branch and one of the Cuckfield branch, at All Saints' church, Eastbourne, for afternoon service, a touch of Grandsire Triples, 504 changes. C. Harfey, 1; F. Harding, 2; T. Honeysett, 3; L. Huggett, 4; T. Willoughby, 5; G. Potter, 6; A. Bennett, 7; T. Lewis, 8. Tenor 18½ cwt. By the Christ Church, Eastbourne, branch, for service, a 720 of Grandsire Minor. C. Harfey, 1; T. Smith, 2; T. Hunnisett, 3; F. Harding, 4; G. Smith, 5; G. Howse (conductor), 6. On Monday, March 30th, by the All Saints', Eastbourne, branch, at All Saints' church, three peals of Grandsire Doubles. A. Lewes, 1; W. Siggs, 2; J. West, 3; E. Willoughby, 4; T. Lewes (conductor), 5; S. Lewes, 6. These are the first 6-scores of Doubles by this Society.

REPORT FOR THE WEEK ENDING APRIL 7TH.—On Easter Sunday morning, at six a.m., by the Brighton branch, at St. Peter's Church, a touch of 840 Grandsire Triples. Prior to the 7 o'clock service Col. T. B. Shaw Hillier, of the 4th (Royal Irish) Dragoon Guards, attended and took part in the ringing, after which the Rev. W. W. Kelly read a short dedication service prior to the new chimes of the clock being started by the Colonel. It might here be mentioned that the town of Brighton is indebted to the Colonel and officers of the 4th Dragoon Guards for this improvement of the Parish Church, the whole cost of which has been provided out of a fund raised at a military tournament held by the regiment last summer. On Sunday, April 5th, by the Crawley branch, for morning service, half-a-peal of Grandsire Minor, in 13 mins., and for evening service a 720 in the same method, with two covers, in 27 mins. W. Parsons, 1; Rev. J. B. Lennard, 2; T. Smith, Esq., 3; J. Newnham, 4; W. Collison, 5; A. F. Hillier (conductor), 7; J. Collison, 6; and J. Pierce, 8.

GEO. F. ATTREE, *Hon. Sec.*

## THE HERTFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

A QUARTERLY MEETING of this Association will be held at Hitchin, on Monday, April 20th. Members are requested to go to the church on their arrival. A business meeting will be held during the afternoon.

WOOLMORE WIGRAM, *Hon. Sec.*

St. Andrew's, Hertford, April 6th, 1885.

## 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 PAGE OF COMPOSITIONS.

SIR,—As during the last three years you have always been publishing some article of mine in your columns, or else one has been waiting for you to find room for it, I have refrained from sending you anything in the way of correspondence, and thus trespassing still further on your space. For this reason I have not taken part in the discussions on several subjects on which I would have liked to have said a word or two; nor is it now my intention to enter on such

matters, as with my papers on the Grandsire method and Stedman's Principle I have lately occupied more space than, I daresay, many of your readers may have thought the subjects deserved.

My object is, however, to make a special appeal to those who forward contributions to the part of your paper devoted to compositions to keep up some sort of standard of excellence, or otherwise this page will become such a laughing-stock to the Exercise, that any really good composition may in time come to be withheld by its composer for fear that its merits may be discredited by the company it may be found in.

I can well understand that with your duties you cannot thoroughly investigate everything that is sent to you, and that you naturally incline to the dangerous wish—dangerous as it must be to the welfare of your paper—to insert everything that your correspondents may forward, and for that reason I would ask them seriously to consider before sending such contributions, whether the compositions are of genuine interest, and in cases where they do decide that they are of such interest not to take up more space than is necessary, by giving, for instance, the last four parts of a five-part peal, when the second part and a line of explanation would have sufficed. Take also for instance your three issues—in one there is a 5544 of Bob Maximus: now it is a long time since a peal of this description has been rung, and I should say it will be a long time before another is rung, and I cannot think that as a 6600 has already been rung, any company will ever attempt such a number. In the following issue, we have a 5600 of Treble Bob Major, a five-part peal given in full, which is to be found in my book on this subject, and is, at least, twenty years old.

In the last issue we have a 5088 of Cambridge Surprise Major, which is so false, that I cannot imagine that the composer has ever thought about proving it. It seems to me that many men are too anxious to compose something, and do not previously spend the time they ought to do in making themselves acquainted, either with the proof of the method or the properties of the peals that have been already composed, and thus when they get a peal hasten to forward it to you, without much regard as to its properties, its originality, or its truth.

JASPER W. SNOWDON.

[The peal of Cambridge Surprise alluded to by our correspondent was inserted by mistake. It is due to the composer to mention this.—Ed.]

## RINGERS' REFORM.

SIR,—Referring to the letter in last week's number on "Belfry Reform," kindly allow me a short space to say it is not altogether belfry reform that is needed, but *personal reform* in the ringers themselves. After the ringing comes to a close, certain ringers make a practice of congregating outside the church, lounging, smoking, and otherwise setting not only an offensive example to worshippers entering church, but totally disregarding "The Lord's Day," thinking that the work they are paid to do is over. On the other hand how much more encouraging to the pastor and congregation it would be, if the ringers after the merry chimes are over, to take their seats and finish God's day enjoyably to their Maker and to themselves, remembering the command of Christ Himself, "If ye love Me, keep My commandments."

CHURCHMAN.

## ELECTION OF MEMBERS IN THE TOWER.

SIR,—I think the letter from "Outsider" has arisen from a little misapprehension on his part. Rule 7 of our society certainly provides for the proposing and seconding (or in fact the nomination) of a person in the tower before starting for a peal, but it is absolutely silent as regards his election, no mention being made of any vote, show of hands, or anything of the kind; and the only further obligation being that the conductor shall report the proceedings to the Secretary at the company's next meeting, obviously for the purpose of laying the question before the members present at that time, and obtaining the majority which alone (under rule 5), can enable a person to become a member of the society. Had "Outsider" signed his name to his letter, I would have given him this explanation privately, as I certainly think, Sir, that the limited space at your command can be utilised to much better purpose than in petty discussions of this nature.

EDWARD F. STRANGE.

## FIRST 720 OF TREBLE BOB AT GREAT WALDINGFIELD, SUFFOLK.

SIR,—I have seen in "THE BELL NEWS" a report of a 720 of Kent Treble Bob. It states there that it is supposed to be the first on the bells. I beg to state that it was not the first, as I took part in one on Saturday, September 9th, 1876, which was rung by the following band: John Slater, 1; Chas. Honeybell, 2; Chas. Adams, 3; F. P. Adams, 4; Samuel Slater (conductor), 5; George Maxim, 6. This was duly recorded in *Church Bells*, vol. 6, page 511.

Glensford, Suffolk.

FREDERICK PAUL ADAMS.

"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 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.

F. SWORDER.—The lines are hardly suitable for our columns.

## The Bell News & Ringers' Record.

SATURDAY, APRIL 11, 1885.

THERE is much practical sense to be found in the letter from Mr. SNOWDON which appears this week in the column devoted to correspondence, and we cannot help saying—though it is written in that gentleman's incisive manner—that with nearly every word of it we agree. The subject has more than once been the topic dealt with in our usual comment, and we have been compelled at times broadly to allude to the worthlessness of various compositions sent for insertion. In several cases, productions wholly devoid of merit have been returned to their authors, and their defects pointed out, but in some of these instances our suggestions have been pooh-poohed, and we fear that in many cases it was felt that our interference was an unwarrantable liberty. As composition is a branch of the science that we have ventured to fathom, and therefore claim to possess a slight intimacy with, these somewhat uncourteous rebuffs led us to preserve a silence for the future, unless our opinion was asked for. The result is that the control of the page in question has passed from our hands, and compositions have of late, we believe, generally appeared in the order in which they were sent, without any previous technical examination.

It should be borne in mind by all those who aspire to compose peals, that the compositions they produce have in all probability appeared before, and may be, in a much better shape. A great object nowadays with some appears to be to produce a peal utterly regardless of its symmetry or musical properties. The worthless travesties of composition which we have seen since the conduct of this paper has fallen to us, are certainly remarkable, and we have been led to regard many of them as practical jokes. A taste for the burlesque would seem to be the property of many of these aspirants who, in order to

appear original, parody the well-known properties of the compositions of the best authors. "The fifth and sixth their extent wrong and right," "the twenty-four 6-7's," and such-like, really mean something. But such phrases as "the 7th never in the hunt," "the 2nd and 3rd together" so many times, are simply ludicrous. Whoever habitually travesties these well-known legitimate properties in this manner is sure, sooner or later, to appear very little short of contemptible in the estimation of experienced composers. The well-known approved positions of bells should be carefully noticed, and some attempt made at symmetry in composition. But after his touch or peal is produced, an author, if he fails to find in his composition any of such qualities, should refrain from the childish dodge of indulging in a parody on them. Attempts at originality are of course to be commended, provided the results are worth anything, but where such attempts habitually lead into a most erratic path, we would recommend the novice to lay down his pen, and seek for immortalization in another field.

Certain it is that many of the compositions which have appeared in this paper will never be rung. Their faulty construction is not balanced by any special characteristics worthy of their being taken in hand by a bob-caller, at any rate while those of a superior order can be had. Simplicity of arrangement—an important feature—appears to be totally ignored, and we have compositions presented the calling of which would put that of Holt's Original, or even a complex peal of Stedman Triples into the shade, without any redeeming feature to outweigh such defects. Whatever may be said relative to the old masters of the Exercise, we think if many composers of the present day would "take a leaf from their book," they would, unless blinded by egotism, receive a salutary lesson.

### The Metropolis.

NEWINGTON, SURREY.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

On Saturday, April 4, 1885, in Three Hours and One Minute,

AT HOLY TRINITY CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S ORIGINAL. Tenor 20½ cwt.

THOMAS NEWMAN .. .. Treble.	J. MURRAY HAYES .. .. 5.
EDWARD F. STRANGE .. .. 2.	MARTIN MURPHY .. .. 6.
GEORGE T. McLAUGHLIN .. 3.	EDWARD ROGERS .. .. 7.
HENRY LANGDON .. .. 4.	HENRY J. TUCKER .. .. Tenor.

Conducted by HENRY J. TUCKER.

T. Newman and H. Tucker hail from Bishops Stortford.

CAMBERWELL, SURREY.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

On Easter Monday, April 6, 1885, in Two Hours and Fifty-two Minutes,

AT ST. GEORGE'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S ORIGINAL. Tenor 14 cwt.

JOHN BONNEY .. .. Treble.	ISAAC G. SHADE .. .. 5.
WILLIAM CECIL .. .. 2.	ARTHUR HAYWARD .. .. 6.
MATTHEW A. WOOD .. .. 3.	JOSEPH WEST .. .. 7.
HENRY J. SHADE .. .. 4.	JAMES MONDAY .. .. Tenor.

Conducted by ISAAC G. SHADE.

## FULHAM, MIDDLESEX.

## THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

On Easter Monday, April 6, 1885, in Three Hours and Nineteen Minutes,

AT ALL SAINTS' CHURCH,

## A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS, 5093 CHANGES;

Tenor 21 cwt. in Eb.

FRANCIS E. DAWE .. .. Treble.	*EDWARD ROGERS .. .. 6.
HENRY LANGDON† .. .. 2.	EDWIN HORREX .. .. 7.
JOHN M. HAYES .. .. 3.	CHALLIS F. WINNY .. .. 8.
MARTIN MURPHY* .. .. 4.	*HENRY J. TUCKER .. .. 9.
GEORGE T. McLAUGHLIN .. 5.	TOM COXHEAD .. .. Tenor.

Composed by HENRY JOHNSON, SEN., of Birmingham, and  
Conducted by HENRY J. TUCKER.

\* First peal of Caters. † First peal inside. This peal has the 5th and 6th each twenty-four times behind the 9th. The above company take this opportunity of tendering their most sincere thanks to the Rev. F. H. Fisher for the use of the bells on this occasion.

## EALING, MIDDLESEX.

## THE SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.

On Easter Monday, April 6, 1884, in Three Hours and Seven Minutes,

AT CHRIST CHURCH,

## A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 13 cwt. 3 qrs. 21 lbs. in F.

W. H. FUSSELL .. .. Treble.	ARTHUR JACOB .. .. 5.
N. J. PITSTOW .. .. 2.	ERNEST PITSTOW .. .. 6.
A. C. FUSSELL .. .. 3.	W. H. DORAN .. .. 7.
BEN. FOSKITT .. .. 4.	GEORGE NEWSON .. .. Tenor.

Composed by N. J. PITSTOW, and Conducted by  
GEO. NEWSON.

This is the first peal of Major on these bells.

At the conclusion of the peal the Rev. J. S. Hilliard, M.A., met the company on descending the tower, and by his kindness they partook of a slight refreshment at the rectory. After receiving his congratulations the opportunity was taken to heartily thank him for his generous reception of the company.

## DEPTFORD, KENT.—ST. JAMES'S SOCIETY, LONDON.

On Easter Monday, April 6, 1885, in Two Hours and Forty-five Minutes,

AT ST. JOHN'S CHURCH,

## A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S 10-PART. Tenor 14 cwt.

ABRAHAM GEO. FREEMAN Treble.	THOMAS TAYLOR .. .. 5.
WILLIAM PEAD .. .. 2.	WILLIAM H. FREEMAN .. 6.
WILLIAM WEATHERSTONE .. 3.	FREDERICK WM. THORNTON 7.
WILLIAM H. BOWLES .. .. 4.	JOSEPH LAWS .. .. Tenor.

Conducted by WILLIAM WEATHERSTONE.

The above was rung in honour of the new Vicar, the Rev. Evelyn Hone, M.A., and eclipses the previous quickest peal on the bells by several minutes.

## The Provinces.

## HYDE, CHESHIRE.—THE ST. GEORGE'S SOCIETY.

On Tuesday, March 24, 1885, in Three Hours and One Minute,

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 FILDES* .. .. 5.
WALTER SLATER† .. .. 2.	†SAMUEL BRADLEY .. .. 6.
THOMAS BRADLEY† .. .. 3.	*THOMAS HATTERSLEY .. 7.
SAMUEL BENNETT†* .. .. 4.	†JAMES S. WILDE* .. .. Tenor.

Composed by W. HARRISON of Mottram, and Conducted by  
JAMES S. WILDE.

Thos. Hattersley hails from Sheffield. † Members of the United Counties' Association. \* Members of the Ancient Society of College Youths. On the 24th of March, 1853, the late W. Harrison took part in a 9600 of Grandsire Major, which was rung at the above church, and on that occasion the St. George's society took the opportunity of presenting him with an English silver watch and chain, as a slight token for instructing them in the art of change-ringing.

SPARE COPIES.—Mr. R. S. Story, 2, Victoria Avenue, Whitley, Northumberland, has two spare copies of "THE BELL NEWS," No. 49, vol. I, New Series, to give away in case this number is out of print.

## WHITFIELD, DERBYSHIRE.

## THE UNITED COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, April 4, 1885, in Two Hours and Fifty-six Minutes,

AT ST. JAMES'S CHURCH,

## A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5184 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.
JAMES S. WILDE .. .. 4.	THOMAS BRADDOCK .. .. Tenor.

Composed by the late WILLIAM HARRISON, of Mottram, and  
Conducted by JOHN SIDEBOTHAM.

Messrs. Wilde Brothers hail from Hyde, the rest are from Mottram.

## LEEDS, YORKSHIRE.—THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Easter Monday, April 6, 1885, in Three Hours and Thirty-nine Minutes,

AT ST. PETER'S CHURCH,

## A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERS, 5037 CHANGES;

Tenor 36 cwt. in C.

THOMAS WEST .. .. Treble.	HARRY HUBBARD .. .. 6.
WILLIAM PAWSON .. .. 2.	JOSEPH HUTCHINSON .. 7.
HARRY LOCKWOOD* .. .. 3.	TOM LOCKWOOD .. .. 8.
PETER SNOWDEN† .. .. 4.	ROBERT BINNS .. .. 9.
WILLIAM WALKER .. .. 5.	GEORGE FOTHERGILL .. Tenor.

Composed by JAMES LOCKWOOD, and Conducted by his son,  
TOM LOCKWOOD.

The first peal in this method by the whole of the company. \* First peal in any method. † In his 71st year of age. The only peal in this method rung since 1818 by a Leeds company.

## WEST MALLING, KENT.

## THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Easter Monday, April 6, 1885, in Three Hours and Six Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

## A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor 12½ cwt.

DAVID HALL .. .. Treble.	*CALEB BASSET .. .. 5.
EDWARD BALDOCK .. .. 2.	*CHARLES TAYLOR .. .. 6.
GEORGE PAWLEY .. .. 3.	*FREDERICK SHOORBRIDGE.. 7.
WILLIAM HARDEN .. .. 4.	JAMES W. LEONARD .. .. Tenor.

Conducted by JAMES W. LEONARD.

\* First peal in the method.

## SHEFFIELD.—THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Easter Monday, April 6, 1885, in Three Hours and Twenty Minutes,

AT ST. MARY'S CHURCH,

## A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 25 cwt.

JAMES ALFRED DIXON .. Treble.	CHARLES HY. HATTERSLEY 5.
JOSEPH MULLIGAN .. .. 2.	JOHN MULLIGAN .. .. 6.
GEORGE THORNTON .. .. 3.	THOMAS HATTERSLEY .. 7.
CHARLES BOWER .. .. 4.	JOHN HOWE .. .. Tenor.

Composed and conducted by CHARLES HENRY HATTERSLEY.

George Thornton hails from Birstal, and John Howe from Derby.

## BARLOW MOOR, LANCASHIRE.

On Easter Monday, April 6, 1885, in Three Hours and Ten Minutes,

AT CHRIST CHURCH,

## A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 18 cwt.

WILLIAM SMITH .. .. Treble.	JOSEPH MELLOR .. .. 5.
JOHN WOODS .. .. 2.	GEORGE LONGDEN .. .. 6.
THOMAS HEALD .. .. 3.	SAMUEL WOOD .. .. 7.
WILLIAM J. HARGREAVES .. 4.	JOHN THORP .. .. Tenor.

Composed and conducted by SAMUEL WOOD.

This is the first peal of Treble Bob on the bells of Barlow Moor, Heald, and Hargreaves belong to St. Paul's, Manchester, the rest belong to the Ashton-under-Lyne company.

WICKHAM MARKET, SUFFOLK.  
THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Easter Monday, April 6, 1885, in Three Hours,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

5040 CHANGES, IN SEVEN DIFFERENT METHODS  
ON SIX BELLS;

Being a 720 each of the following :

Cambridge Surprise; Oxford Bob; Kent Treble Bob; Double Court Bob;  
Oxford Treble Bob; College Single; and Bob Minor.

Tenor 15 cwt.

HORACE MATTIN .. .. Treble.	ALFRED S. WIGHTMAN .. 4.
EDWARD R. TODD .. .. 2.	JOHN T. HOWARD .. .. 5.
DAVID G. WIGHTMAN .. 3.	EDWARD SHERWOOD.. .. Tenor.

Composed by EDWARD SHERWOOD.

This peal is the first one rung upon the bells. The brothers Wightman hail from Cretingham, the rest belong to the Pettistree company.

CODDENHAM, SUFFOLK.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Easter Monday, April 6, 1884, in Three Hours and Six Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S 10-PART. Tenor 16½ cwt.

CHARLES MEE .. .. Treble.	ARTHUR S. BARRELL .. 5.
FREDERICK MEE.. .. 2.	JOHN OFFORD .. .. 6.
ALFRED ACFIELD, JUN. .. 3.	THOMAS STEWARD .. .. 7.
HAWKINS ENGLISH .. .. 4.	FREDERICK LEE.. .. Tenor.

Conducted by CHARLES MEE.

This is the first peal in the method by all except English and Barrell. Messrs. Actfield and Barrell hail from Ufford; C. Mee, F. Mee, and T. Stewart belong to the St. Mary-le-Tower Society, Ipswich; the rest are of the local company.

HYDE, CHESHIRE.

THE UNITED COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION, AND THE ST.  
GEORGE'S SOCIETY, HYDE.

On Tuesday, April 7, 1885, in Two Hours and Fifty-six Minutes,

AT ST. GEORGE'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 15½ cwt.

JAMES SHAW .. .. Treble.	JOHN A. FILDES .. .. 5.
ROBERT WOOLLEY .. .. 2.	SAMUEL BRADLEY .. .. 6.
THOMAS BRADLEY .. .. 3.	THOMAS WILDE .. .. 7.
WALTER SLATER .. .. 4.	JAMES S. WILDE .. .. Tenor.

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

This is Thomas Wilde's tooth peal of 5000 changes and upwards, he having rung his first peal at Holy Trinity church, Stafybridge, on February 5th, 1876.

NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Tuesday, April 7, 1885, in Three Hours and Thirty-three Minutes,

AT ST. JOHN'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 6144 CHANGES;

IN THE OXFORD VARIATION. Tenor 12½ cwt. in G.

EDWARD WALLIS* .. .. Treble,	FRANCIS LEES .. .. 5.
CHARLES L. ROUTLEDGE.. 2.	RICHARD W. WIGNAL .. 6.
WILLIAM STORY .. .. 3.	ROBERT SMITH .. .. 7.
JOEL HERN .. .. 4.	ROBERT S. STORY .. .. Tenor.

Composed by T. LOCKWOOD, and Conducted by ROBERT SMITH.

\*First peal of Major. This is the first peal the conductor has called, and is the first peal of Oxford by all the above. It is the first in the method, and also the longest length yet rung by this Association. It was rung at the first attempt without any previous practice. Messrs. Smith, Wignall, and Hern hail from North Shields; Wallis from St. Stephen's, Newcastle, and the rest from St. John's.

NOTICE OF PEAL.—We are requested to state that a band of the Norwich Diocesan Association will, if all is well, make an attempt to ring the late Mr. T. Day's long peal, 16,608 of Treble Bob Major, at St. Margaret's parish church, Leiston, on Saturday, April 18th.

LEISTON, SUFFOLK.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Tuesday, April 7, 1885, in Three Hours and Seven Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5184 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 22 cwt.

H. MATTIN .. .. Treble.	E. SHERWOOD .. .. 5.
A. S. BARRELL .. .. 2.	*C. WARD .. .. 6.
J. HOWARD .. .. 3.	A. WARD .. .. 7.
W. P. GARRETT .. .. 4.	*W. A. WARD .. .. Tenor.

Composed by J. J. BRIERLEY and Conducted by  
W. A. WARD.

\*College Youths. This is the first peal of Kent Treble Bob, and the second ever rang on the bells. Messrs. Sherwood, Howard and Mattin hail from Wickham Market; the Brothers Ward, Garrett, and Barrell from Ufford; and C. Ward from Melton.

Date Touches.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

JARROW.—On Sunday, April 5th, for Divine Service at St. Peter's church, a date touch of 1885 changes in the following methods; 720 of College Single, 720 of Oxford Bob Minor, and 445 of Plain Bob Minor, in 1 hr. 4 mins. W. Henderson, 1; A. English, 2; W. Holmes, 3; J. Chapman, 4; J. J. Campbell, 5; F. Harrison (conductor), 6. Tenor 8½ cwt.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

BRANDESTON (Suffolk).—On Wednesday evening, April 2nd, at All Saints' church, a date touch of 1885 changes in the following methods: 720 of Oxford Bob; 720 of Plain Bob; 445 of College Single, in 1 hr. 7 mins. Walter Bedingfield, 1; Samuel Meadows, 2; William Walpole, 3; Horace Bedingfield, 4; D. G. Wightman (conductor), 5; A. S. Wightman, 6. Tenor 9½ cwt.

THE WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

SOBERTON (Hants).—On Wednesday evening, March 18th, at St. Peter's church, a date touch of Grandsire Triples, 1885 changes, in 1 hr. 7 mins. A. Payne, 1; G. H. Child, 2; H. Mason, 3; R. Linter, 4; G. Grafham, 5; J. W. Whiting, 6; Geo. Williams (conductor), 7; Hy. Matthews, 8. Tenor 14½ cwt. in G.

Miscellaneous.

THE SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.

GLEMSFORD (Suffolk).—On Wednesday evening, April 1st, at St. Mary's church, a 720 of New London Pleasure, in 29 mins. Fred. Wells, 1; Chas. Honeybell, 2; Fredk. Paul Adams, 3; \*Percy Chas. S. Scott, 4; Samuel Slater, 5; Oliver Garwood (conductor), 6. Also another 720 in the same method in 29 mins. Fredk. Paul Adams, 1; Chas. Honeyball, 2; Fred. Wells, 3; \*James Bird, 4; Zach. Slater, 5; Saml. Slater (conductor), 6. \*First 720 in the method.

THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

BEDFORD.—On Sunday, April 5th, at St. Mary's church, a 720 of Bob Minor (nine bobs and six singles). W. Allan, 1; C. W. Clarke (conductor), 2; M. Warrick, 3; I. Hills, 4; S. Cullip, 5; J. Frossell, 6. Also a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob Minor (nine bobs). C. W. Clarke, 1; \*T. Foote, 2; \*M. Warrick, 3; J. Atkins, 4; S. Cullip, 5; I. Hills (conductor), 6. \*First 720 of Treble Bob with a bob bell. And on Monday, April 6th, a 720 of Bob Minor. W. Allan, 1; W. Hall, 2; T. Foote, 3; M. Warrick, 4; S. Cullip, 5; W. Biggs (conductor), 6. Also a 360 of Bob Minor. F. Keech, 1; C. W. Clarke (conductor), 2; C. Craddock, 3; J. Atkins, 4; S. Cullip, 5; Rev. W. W. C. Baker, 6. Tenor 8 cwt. in B.

THE BIRMINGHAM AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATION.

SEELY OAK (Worcestershire).—Recently, six members of the above Association rang St. Mary's church, four 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles, each called differently. G. Hale (conductor), 1; J. T. Perry, 2; C. Barnacle, 3; Thos. Lewis, 4; E. Bryan, 5; G. Dickenson, 6. Also a 720 of Grandsire Minor. G. Hales, 1; J. T. Perry, 2; C. Barnacle, 3; T. Boylen, 4; T. Lewis, 5; E. Bryan (conductor), 6. C. Barnacle and G. Dickenson hail from Moseley, J. T. Perry from Birmingham.



## ASSOCIATION FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.

TIPTON (Staffordshire).—On Sunday, April 5th, at St. Martin's church, eight members of the above attempted a 5040 of Grandsire Triples, but after ringing upwards of 1000 changes, it came to grief, owing to the treble wheel being out of repair the rope slipped. J. Jones, 1; W. R. Small, 2; W. Pardoe, 3; T. Horton, 4; J. Martin, 5; R. Hall, 6; J. Fullwood (conductor), 7; H. Wingfield, 8. And for Divine Service in the evening, six of the above rang a 720 of Grandsire Minor, on the back six, in 24 mins. J. Jones, 1; W. R. Small, 2; T. Horton, 3; R. Hall, 4; W. Pardoe, 5; J. Fullwood (conductor), 6. Tenor 12 cwt. Messrs. Small, Horton, Hall, and Fullwood hail from West Bromwich, the rest are local men.

## THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

BARKING (Essex).—On Monday, April 6th, at St. Margaret's Church, eight members of the above Association met to attempt Holt's Original peal of Grandsire Triples, but which unfortunately was not accomplished, owing to a "shift." Afterwards a 504 of Stedman Triples was rung. R. Sewell, 1; A. J. Perkins (conductor), 2; G. Pearl, 3; W. J. Aldridge, 4; A. Porter, 5; S. Hayes, 6; H. Randall, 7; A. Whight, 8.

## THE ST. JAMES'S SOCIETY, LONDON.

PINNER (Middlesex).—On Monday, April 6th, eight members of the above society attempted Holt's Original peal of Grandsire Triples, but after ringing 2 hrs. 25 mins. it came to grief owing to one of the bells going badly. \*W. H. Manning, 1; F. Bate, 2; J. Nelms (conductor), 3; H. Dains, 4; E. F. Cole, 5; J. Barry, 6; \*W. H. George, 7; D. Lovett, 8. Tenor 19½ cwt. \*Local men. This peal was attempted in honour of the wedding of two of Mr. George's sisters on that day.

## THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

LYMINGE (Kent).—On Easter Sunday, April 5th, at the parish church, for Divine Service in the afternoon, a 720 of Bob Minor (sixteen bobs and two singles), in 29 mins. Alfred Beer, 1; Richard Andrews, 2; Thomas Beer, 3; Thomas Hooker (Haslingleigh; conductor), 4; James Andrews, 5; Albert Tanton, 6. Tenor 18½ cwt. in F.

WROTHAM (Kent).—*Ringer's Funeral*.—On Saturday, March 28th, the funeral of John Taylor, a member of the Wrotham branch of the above Association, took place at the local cemetery. The remains were borne to the church by four ringers, and from thence to the place of interment by the choristers, of which body deceased was also a member. During the service the hymn, "Thy Will be done" was sang by the choir. At the close of the sad ceremony, the ringers rang a 720 of Bob Minor with the bells muffled, as a last mark of respect to their departed brother. W. Hall (West Malling), 1; E. Bonner (East Malling), 2; W. Leonard (West Malling), 3; C. Bassett (West Malling), 4; F. Shoobridge (Wrotham), 5; C. Taylor (conductor; Wrotham), 6. And six courses of Bob Major. G. Barham, 1; W. Hall, 2; G. A. Osborne, 3; E. Bonner, 4; C. Bassett, 5; W. Leonard, 6; R. Edge, 7; C. Taylor (conductor), 8. The deceased, whose age was 21 years, was greatly respected by all who knew him, and much regret is felt at his loss.

## THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

CHURCH KIRK (Lancashire).—On Good Friday, April 3rd, the local company rang at the Parish Church for evening service, a 720 of Oxford Bob Minor (eighteen bobs and two singles), in 27½ mins. Also on Easter Sunday, April 5th, for morning service, a 720 of Plain Bob Minor (sixteen bobs and two singles), in 28 mins. Also in the afternoon a 720 of Oxford Bob Minor (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.

ECCLES (Lancashire).—On Easter Sunday morning, April 5th, at the parish church, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor, was rung for the early communion. George Henry Johnson, 1; Thomas Yates, 2; James Barratt, 3; Richard Ashcroft, 4; Charles Cash, 5; Edward Cash (conductor), 6. Time 27½ mins. And at the Quarterly Meeting at Lytham, at St. John's church, a 720 in the same method, in 27 mins. Albert Edward Wreaks, 1; Thomas Yates, 2; James Barratt, 3; Richard Ashcroft, 4; Alfred Eggington, 5; George Henry Johnson (conductor), 6. A. E. Wreaks is from Manchester Cathedral; the rest belong to Eccles.

GORTON (Lancashire).—On Easter Monday, April 6th, six members of the St. Anne's Society, Haughton, paid a visit to Brookfield church, and rang on the back six a 720 of Plain Bob Minor (sixteen bobs and two singles), in 27 mins. James A. Thomas, 1; John Bardsley, 2; Wm. Wilde, 3; John S. Leech, 4; John Howard, 5; Peter Smith (conductor), 6. Tenor 14 cwt. And afterwards a visit was paid to St. Matthew's church, Hulme, and a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor (nine bobs), was rung in 26½ mins., standing as before. Tenor 11 cwt.

## THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

WORLINGWORTH (Suffolk).—On Sunday, March 29th, the local company rang a 720 of Plain Bob, and 720 of Oxford Treble Bob. D. G. Wightman (conductor), 1; S. Meadows, 2; William Walpole, 3; Horris Bedingfield, 4; Edgar Collins, 5; A. S. Wightman, 6.

## THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

BURFORD (Oxon).—On Sunday evening, April 5th, for Divine Service, a 720 of Grandsire Minor, with the tenor behind, in 27 mins. H. Smith, 1; J. Smith, 2; T. E. Glanville (conductor), 3; J. Field, 4; W. Large, 5; D. Francis, 6; W. Launchbury, 7. Grandsire Minor was resorted to on account of there not being sufficient for Triples. Mr. J. Field hails from Oxford, and is the chief instructor to the above Guild.

CAVERSHAM.—On Good Friday, for Divine Service in the morning, with the bells muffled, a 720 of College Single, in 30 mins. J. Hands, 1; J. Butler, 2; E. Menday, 3; Rev. G. F. Coleridge, 4; G. Essex, 5; T. Newman (conductor), 6. Also for the late evening service, touches of Treble Bob, and some 6-scores of Stedman and Grandsire; and on Easter morning, for the early celebration, Treble Bob, Stedman, and a 720 of Bob Minor; many touches of Oxford Bob and of the above methods were also rung throughout the day, both before and after the various services.

## THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

TONG (Yorkshire).—On Sunday, March 29th, for afternoon service at St. James church, a 240 of Cambridge Surprise. Geo. Carter, 1; \*Samuel Oddy, 2; Edward Webster, 3; Wm. Bolland, 4; Geo. Bolland (conductor), 5; Henry Oddy, 6. And a 720 of Duke of York. Geo. Carter, 1; Samuel Oddy, 2; Edward Webster, 3; Wm. Bolland (conductor), 4; Simeon Langstaff, 5; Geo. Bolland, 6. \*First attempt at Cambridge Surprise.

ACCRINGTON (Lancashire).—On Easter Sunday, April 5th, for the six o'clock celebration, the St. James's local company rang at that church their first 720 of Bob Minor (sixteen bobs and two singles), in 28 mins. Thos. Newall (conductor), 1; Wm. Duckworth, 2; Thos. Hodgson, 3; Wm. Preston, 4; Wm. Ashwood, 5; Wm. Gill, 6. Tenor 10 cwt.

ANSTON (Yorkshire).—On Easter Sunday, April 5th, at St. James's church, for morning service, the local company rang a 720 each of Duke of York, and Kent and Oxford Treble Bob Minor, in 1 hr. 15 mins. And for afternoon service, 240 of each of the same methods in 25 mins. Geo. Lidster, 1; Robt. S. Fox, 2; Josh. Bland, 3; Chas. F. Fowler, 4; Saml. Smith, 5; Thos. Silvester (conductor), 6. Tenor 12 cwt.

ASHCHURCH (Gloucestershire).—On Sunday, March 29th, the Deerhurst Society visited the above place and rang for Divine Service in the afternoon some 6-scores of Grandsire and Bob Doubles, and 120 of Bob Minor. And after service a 720 of Bob Minor, in 25 mins. C. W. Dyson, 1; C. Willis, 2; H. Roberts, 3; C. Roles, 4; G. Willis, 5; J. Bartlett (conductor), 6.

ASTON (Warwickshire).—On Easter Monday, April 6th, at the church of SS. Peter and Paul, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples, from (Brook's Variation), in 46 mins. T. J. Hemming, 1; W. Ansell, 2; A. J. Jones, 3; H. Bastable (conductor), 4; C. Stanbridge, 5; T. Reynolds, 6; H. Johnson, jun., 7; W. Kent, 8. And in the afternoon, another quarter-peal in the same method, from the same peal, in 47 mins. T. Reynolds, 1; H. Bastable (conductor), 2; J. Astbury, sen., 3; A. J. Jones, 4; C. Stanbridge, 5; T. Miller, 6; H. Johnson, 7; J. Quarterman, 8. Tenor 23 cwt. in D. J. Astbury hails from Walsall.

BALCOMBE (Sussex).—On Easter Sunday, April 5th, for morning service, the local company rang a 720 of College Single. R. Bourne, 1; C. Gasson, 2; J. Cheeseman, 3; E. Streeter, 4; H. Meads, 5; J. Gasson (conductor), 6. And for evening service, a 720 of Oxford Bob Minor. J. Richardson, 1; J. Kenward, 4; the others as before. After service a 720 in the same method. J. Richardson, 1; J. Gasson, 2; J. Cheeseman, 3; J. Kenward, 4; E. Streeter, 5; H. Meads (conductor), 6.

COLN ST. ALDWYN'S (Gloucestershire).—On Sunday, March 29th, at the parish church, a 720 of Plain Bob Minor, in 23 mins. W. Kibble, 1; J. Williams, 2; C. Bate, 3; R. Packer, 4; A. Tennant, 5; J. Kitchener (conductor), 6. Also a course of Oxford Treble Bob Minor. R. Packer, 1; R. Jefferies, 2; C. Bate, 3; J. Williams, 5; A. Tennant, 5; J. Kitchener, 6. And a 504 of Grandsire Triples. R. Packer, 1; J. Williams, 2; A. Tennant, 3; R. Jefferies, 4; C. Bate, 5; J. Kitchener (conductor), 6; J. Preater, 7; W. Kibble, 8. Tenor 8½ cwt. Mr. Tennant hails from Willesden, the others belong to the local company.

DITCHLING (Sussex).—On Easter Monday, April 6th, the Balcombe ringers paid a visit to this place, and by kind permission of the vicar, rang a 720 of Oxford Bob Minor. R. Bourne, 1; C. Gasson, 2; J.

Cheeseman, 3; H. Meads, 4; E. Streeter, 5; J. Gasson (conductor), 6. And a 720 of College Single. R. Bourne, 1; H. Meads, 2; C. Gasson, 3; J. Cheeseman, 4; J. Gasson, 5; E. Streeter (conductor), 6. And a 720 of Oxford Bob Minor. J. Richardson, 1; J. Cheeseman, 2; J. Gasson, 3; \*T. Leney, 4; \*E. Streeter, 5; H. Meads (conductor), 6. \*Members of the County Association. T. Leney hails from Hurstpierpoint. The ringers take this opportunity of thanking the vicar for the use of the bells, also Mr. Baker for his courtesy towards them.

EASTBOURNE (Sussex).—On Easter Sunday, April 5th, six members of the St. Mary's and two of Christ Church Societies, rang a half-peal of Grandsire Triples at St. Mary's church, in 1 hr. 28 mins. S. Hart, 1; H. P. Bennett, 2; Geo. Howes, 3; L. Huggett (conductor), 4; Thos. Hunnisett, 5; James Potter, 6; Thos. Willoughby, Jno. Rollison, 8. Tenor 16 cwt. 3 qrs.

FOLKESTONE (Kent).—On Easter Sunday, April 5th, for Divine Service in the evening, two 6-scores of Grandsire Minor, on the middle six, with the tenor behind. J. Croucher, 1; J. Fisher, 2; H. Croucher, 3; E. Potter, 4; J. Harrison (conductor), 5; F. Slingsby, 6; F. Finn, 7. Tenor 25 cwt. The party met with the intention of ringing a touch of Grandsire Triples, one of the volunteers to the Dover Review from Woolwich (a change-ringer) having written to say should like to have a pull, but he did not put in an appearance, so the party was obliged to ring Grandsire Minor.

HIGHAM (Suffolk).—*Muffled Peals*.—On Sunday, April 5th, was rung with the bells deeply muffled, three 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles, each called differently. J. Taylor, 1; J. Sergeant, 2; W. Smith, 3; H. Flanders, 4; W. Nevard (conductor), 5; J. Isom, 6. This was rung as a last token of respect to Mr. G. Smith, who had for some years past been parish clerk, and also a member of the Essex Association, who was interred at the parish church on Wednesday, April 1st. J. Taylor and W. Nevard hails from Great Bentley; J. Sergeant from Ardleigh; H. Flanders from Walthamstow; the rest are local men.

HIGHER SUTTON (Cheshire).—On Sunday, March 22nd, for Divine Service in the morning, a 720 of Grandsire Minor (thirty-four bobs and two singles), in 27 mins. Samuel Holland (first 720), 1; Alfred Lawton, 2; W. Ingham, 3; J. M. Davenport, 4; William Walmsley, 5; Thomas Mottershead, 6. Also for Divine Service in the afternoon a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor, in 26 mins., and another of the same after service, in 25 mins. Walter Ingham, 1; William Henshall, 2; Walter Henshall, 3; the others as above. William and Walter Henshall hail from Gawsorth. These were two differently-called 720's, conducted by Wm. Walmsley. Tenor 12 cwt. in G.

HINDLEY (Lancashire).—On Easter Sunday, April 5th, at St. Peter's church, the first half of Holt's ten-part peal of Grandsire Triples, 2520 changes, in 1 hr. 27 mins. Richard Calland, 1; Edward Prescott, 2; Edmund Brown, 3; William Chisnall, 4; Edward Kay, 5; Thomas Tickle, 6; Joseph Prescott (conductor), 7; George Lang, 8. Tenor 14 cwt. 1 qr.

HITCHIN (Herts).—On Easter Sunday, April 5th, the local company rang for Divine Service in the morning, three 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles each called differently, with 7, 6, 8 covering. J. Randall, 1; J. Hare, 2; H. Buckingham, 3; A. Squires, 4; W. A. Tyler (conductor), 5; G. Halsey, 6; S. Hare, 7; W. Kitchener, 8. Also for afternoon service, a 6-score of Grandsire Doubles on the back six. J. Randall, 1; H. Buckingham, 2; A. Squires, 3; J. Hare, 4; W. A. Tyler (conductor), 5; S. Hare, 6. And for evening service, a 360 of Plain Bob Minor, with 6, 8 covering. J. Randall, 1; J. Hare, 2; W. A. Tyler (conductor), 3; H. Buckingham, 4; A. Squires, 5; S. Hare, 6; W. A. Allen, 7; G. Halsey, 8. And a 168 of Grandsire Triples with W. Kitchener 8, the rest standing as before, conducted by W. Allen; tenor 28 cwt. in D. *Handbell Ringing*.—On Tuesday, April 7th, at the house of Mr. A. Squires, Union Road, on handbells, retained in hand, a 720 of Plain Bob Minor, with twenty-six singles in 22 mins. T. Dobbs, 1; J. Hare, 2; A. Squires, 3; \*J. Cawdell, 4; W. A. Tyler (conductor), 5-6. \*First 720 in the method. Also a 6-score of Grandsire, and a 6-score of Bob Doubles. A. Squires, 1; J. Hare, 2; J. Cawdell, 3; W. A. Tyler (conductor), 4-5.

LOW MOOR (Yorkshire).—On Tuesday, April 7th, six members of the local company rang at Holy Trinity church a 720 of Kent Treble Bob, in 26½ mins., to celebrate the re-election of churchwardens. T. Pickard, 1; J. Worsnop, 2; W. Tordoff, 3; A. Wilkinson, 4; J. W. Emmett, 5; C. Dracup (conductor), 6. Tenor 15 cwt.

MANCHESTER. —*Muffled Peals*.—On Tuesday, April 7th, at the Cathedral, the following rang two 504's of Grandsire Triples. Thomas G. Downs, Joseph Grimshaw, George and Henry Mee, James and Thomas Thorpe, George E. Turner, Joseph Withers, and Albert E. Wreaks. The above was rung with the bells half-muffled as a last token of respect to the wife of Mr. T. Ogden, an old Manchester ringer, who was interred that afternoon at Harpurhey cemetery.

NAVESTOCK (Essex).—On Sunday, March 27th, for Divine Service in the morning, four 120's of Grandsire Doubles, Dream, and Dream

Singles. J. Surridge, 1; A. Payne, 2; R. Woollands (conductor), 3; C. Sheldon, 4; C. Harriss, 5. Tenor 18½ cwt.

NUNEATON (Warwickshire).—On Sunday, March 22nd, for Divine Service in the morning, 480 of Grandsire Doubles, called differently, on the back six. \*C. Draper, 1; T. Lingard, 2; H. Bacon, 3; H. Horwood (conductor), 4; T. Bates, 5; J. Ballard, 6. Tenor 14½ cwt. \*First 480 with the treble bell.

PRESTBURY (Cheshire).—On Thursday, March 19th, a mixed company met to celebrate the 63rd birthday of Mr. Jas. Holt, a ringer at St. Michael's, Macclesfield, when a touch of Grandsire Major was rung. James Holt, 1; Edward Matthews, 2; Charles Bamford, 3; Walter Henshall, 4; Walter Ingham, 5; John M. Davenport, 6; Thomas Mottershead, 7; William Walmsley, 8. This touch contains 756 changes, being the number of months that Mr. Holt has been spared to live, and he is well and hearty now. W. Henshall hails from Gawsorth, this being his first touch of Major, the first three from Macclesfield, and the last four from Higher Sutton. Tenor 18½ cwt.

PRESTON (Suffolk).—On Wednesday, March 25th, at St. Mary's church, a 720 of Bob Minor (six singles and fifteen bobs), in 25 mins. A. Symonds (conductor), 1; Jas. Levitt, 2; A. Hollocks, 3; W. Hollocks, 4; H. Smith, 5; H. Symonds, 6. First 720 in the method by H. Smith. And on Sunday, March 29th, a 720 of Bob Minor (forty-two singles), in 26 mins. H. Symonds (conductor), 1; Wm. Hollocks, 2; A. Hollocks, 3; C. Parker, 4; A. Keeble, 5; R. Keeble, 6. Also another 720 in the same method (eight bobs and singles), in 25 mins. R. Keeble, 2; A. Symonds, 6; the rest as before. Messrs. R. Keeble, A. Keeble, and C. Parker, hail from Monkseleigh; A. Symonds and H. Smith from Lavenham, the rest are local men.

SALISBURY (Wilts).—On Easter Sunday, April 5th, for Divine in the morning and evening, at St. Martin's church, several 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles was rung by the following: \*J. Short, 1; \*C. A. Clements, 2; \*H. O. Dowling, 3; J. Wilton, 4; \*J. R. Ferram, 5; \*T. Blackburn, 6. \*Members of the Ancient Society of College Youths. H. O. Dowling hails from Basingstoke, and is a member of the Hants Guild.

STANSTEAD (Essex).—On Saturday, March 21st, at the church of St. Mary the Virgin, six of the local company rang a 720 of Double Oxford Bob Minor, in 26½ mins. J. Cavill, 1; J. Luckey, 2; H. Prior, jun., 3; G. Gray, 4; Isaac Cavill, 5; C. Prior (conductor), 6. This is the first 720 of Double Oxford Bob rung by a local company. And a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob Minor, in 27 mins. W. Prior (first 720 in the method), 1; the others standing as before. Tenor 13 cwt.

STRATFORD (Suffolk).—On Saturday, March 28th, at St. Mary's Church, a mixed company met and rang a 720 of Plain Bob in 25 mins. J. Taylor, 1; J. Scowen, 2; G. Scowen, 3; W. Bateman, 4; W. Smith (conductor), 5; W. Nevard, 6. Tenor 16 cwt. Also on handbells retained in hand, a 360 of Plain Bob. G. Scowen, 1; J. Scowen, 2; W. Nevard, 3-4; W. Smith, 5-6. Also short touches of Grandsire Triples. G. Scowen, 1-2; J. Scowen, 3-4; W. Smith, 5-6; W. Nevard, 7-8. W. Nevard hails from Great Bentley; J. Taylor from Great Bromley; W. Smith from Higham; J. Scowen, G. Scowen, and W. Bateman from Hadleigh.

ST. ALBANS (Herts).—On Tuesday, March 24th, on the occasion of the marriage of Lady Harriot Grimston with Major Poore at St. Albans Cathedral, at which H.R.H. the Duchess of Edinburgh was present, the Cathedral ringers rang during the day touches of Grandsire Triples, viz., two 504's, 377, 336, 168, conducted by N. N. Hills.

SOUTH WEALD (Essex).—On Friday evening, March 27th, three 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles, each called differently, and two of Old Doubles. G. Elliss, 1; A. Payne, 2; R. Woollands (conductor), 3; C. Sheldon, 4; C. Harriss, 5. Tenor 19½ cwt.

STISTED (Essex).—On Thursday, March 19th, for practice, 720 of Bob Minor (twenty-two singles), in 24 mins. C. Corder (first 720), 1; A. Chaplin, 2; A. Cutmore (first 720 with a bob bell), 3; F. Saunders, 4; E. Radley, 5; W. Radley (conductor), 6. And on Thursday, March 26th, a 720 in the same method (twenty-six singles), in 24 mins. C. Duncombe, 1; A. Chaplin, 2; W. Bearman (Bocking), 3; F. Saunders, 4; E. Radley, 5; W. Radley (conductor), 6. Also on Thursday, April 2nd, two 720s of Bob Minor, each taking 24 mins. (twenty-six singles each). A. Spurge (Bocking), 1; A. Chaplin, 2; Wm. Bearman (Bocking), 3; F. Saunders, 4; E. Radley, 5; Wm. Radley (conductor), 6. And on Easter Sunday, April 5th, two 720s of the same method. C. Duncomb, 1; H. E. Hammond, 2; A. Chaplin, 3; E. Radley, 4; F. Saunders, 5; S. Hammond (conductor), 6.

WICKHAM MARKET (Norfolk).—On Easter Sunday morning, April 5th, for service at 8.30 a.m., the local company rang a 720 of Bob Minor, in 28 mins. G. Brooks, 1; J. Reeve, 2; A. Reeve, 4; G. Reeve, 4; F. Reeve, 5; W. Reeve (conductor), 6. Tenor 15 cwt in G. This is the first 720 rung by the above company. J. and W. Reeve are members of the Norwich Association.



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Total Annual Income ... .. 343,271

Amount of Profits divided at the

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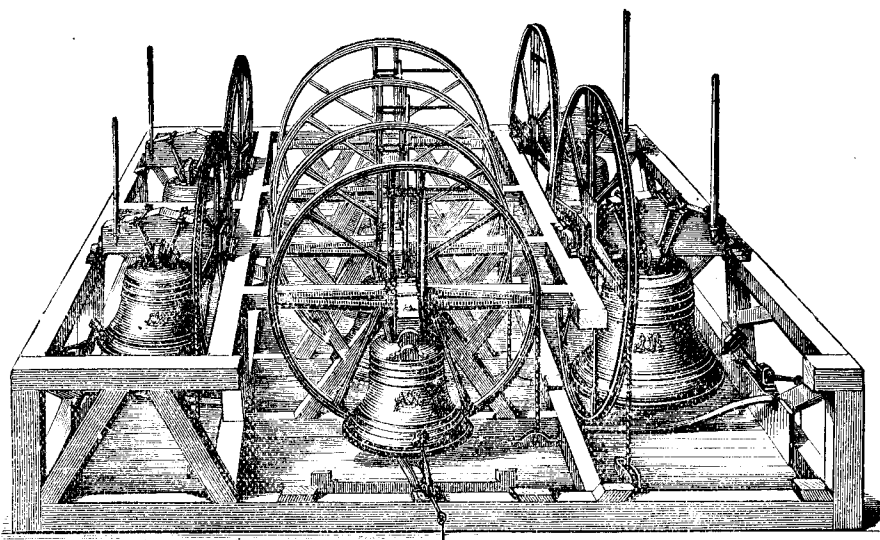
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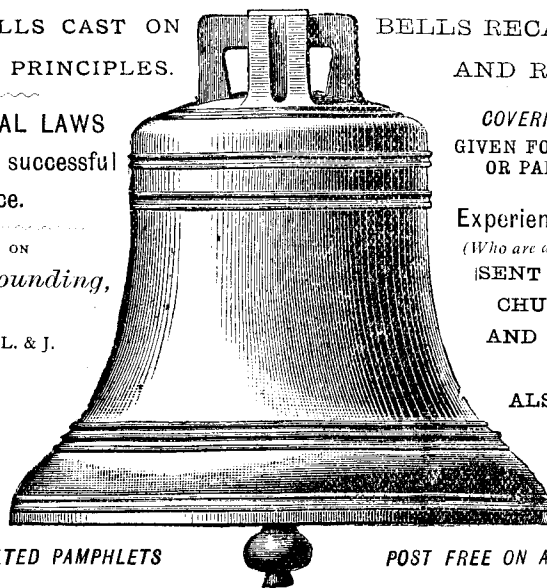
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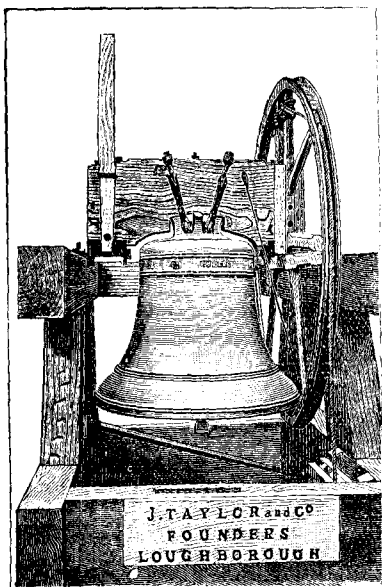
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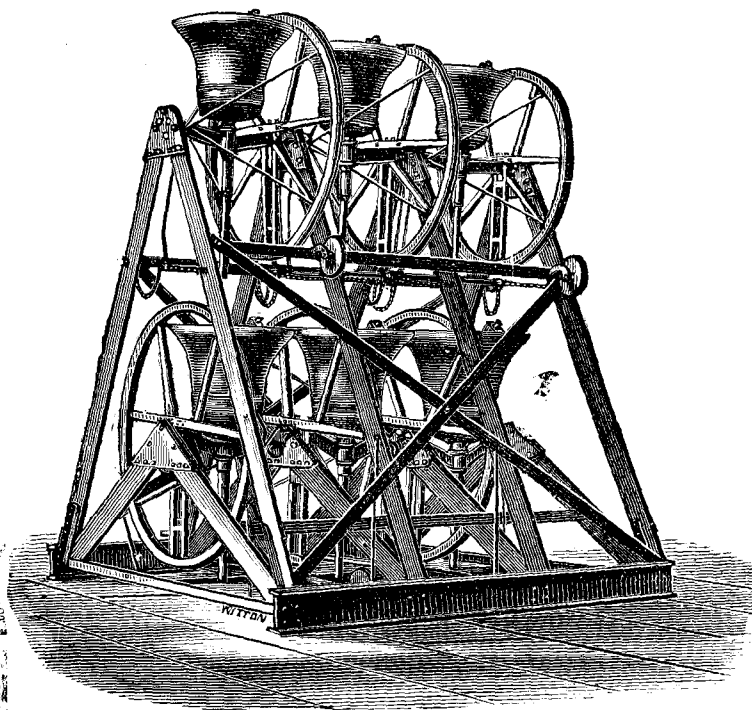
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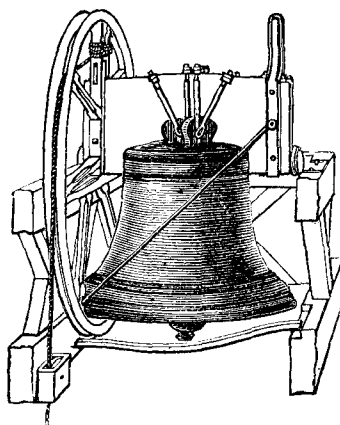
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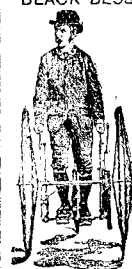
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## THE HISTORY OF STEDMAN'S PRINCIPLE.

BY JASPER W. SNOWDON.

In the year 1824, on February 2nd, a peal of Stedman's Triples, was rung at Richmond, Surrey, the record of which is given below:—

Tablet in the belfry at Richmond, Surrey.—"Monday, Febry 2nd, 1824, was rung in this tower a true and complete peal of Stedman's Triples, consisting of 5040 changes, composed by Mr. John Cooper of Birmingham, being the first ever rung in that system on these bells. Was well performed in 3 hours by the following men—

Edwd. Withall,	Treble.	Schs. Bamford,	Fourth.	Willm. Platt,	Sixth.
Rich. House,	Second.	Willm. Winson,	Fifth.	Geo. Cole,	Seventh.
Jonh. Bates,	Third.			Jno. House,	Tenor.

This intricate peal, consisting of 480 calls, known as parts and singles, was ably conducted by Mr. G. Cole."

If this peal is correctly described I am unable to indentify it with any known composition of Cooper's. The same conductor called a peal of Stedman's Triples, probably the same composition, which was rung by a band of College Youths, at St. Mary's, Whitechapel, on Tuesday, March 16th, in the same year.

On December 18th, 1828, a peal by Tebbs, of Leeds, was rung at Trinity Newington, by the Junior Society of College Youths, particulars of this peal are appended and the composition, I gave in my collection of peals. On referring to the calling it will be seen that the composition is very much on the same plan as Edwards' peal, the number of the calls being reduced to 622 and only two different kinds of calls, ordinary bobs and Holt's singles are used. I may add that these singles are only called "Holt's" because the four hindermost bells lie still as is the ten-part peal of Grandsire Triples and not from any know connection of Holt's name with the composition of Stedman's Triples.

Tablet in the Belfry of Trinity Newington.—"Society of College Youths. On Thursday, December 18th, 1828, was rung in this steeple by the undermentioned members of this Society a true and excellent peal in that intricate method of Triples on Stedman's Principal, containing 5040 changes, in 3 hours and 4 minutes. The above peal is the composition of Mr. J. Tebbs, of Leeds, Yorkshire, and contains 600 bobs and 22 singles, all of which were successively called, and is the greatest performance ever achieved in this tower.

Jos. Ladley,	treble.	Jas. Mash,	fourth.	Edwd. Lansdell,	sixth.
Jno. Merrin,	second.	Samuel Austin,	fifth.	Willm. Rice,	seventh.
Ed. Sawyer,	third.			Thos. Stuart,	tenor.

Conducted by J. Ladley."

In the year 1828 the late J. P. Powell, Esq., of Quex Park, published a folio of 20 pages, dated January 1st, giving the result of his researches in this method, his object having been to obtain a peal of Stedman Triples, on what he calls "Shipway's principal," by which I understand him to mean a peal in which not more than two calls or at the most three calls should be made at successive sixes. He makes the following preliminary observations:—

"Professors in the Scientific Art of Change-ringing have, for many years, been endeavouring to compose a whole peal of Stedman Triples, which might be considered the most perfect, by having the fewest numbers of bobs and singles.

Shipway's principle appears to me to be the best adapted for that purpose, but all attempts on his principle have failed, as yet. There is a very curious peal I have seen composed at Birmingham, which has the 7th bell at home at each course-end, and really is an extraordinary and ingenious production altogether. I have myself, as an amateur, been much interested towards the accomplishment of this peal, and, although having studied it for the last six or seven years, and having experienced a vast deal of difficulty and perplexity, have also failed. I have, however, been successful in a few touches, which I have great pleasure in sending forth for the gratification and amusement of all the above Societies."

After further remarks concerning the touches and the manner in which they were obtained, which remarks tend to show that Mr. Powell was only composing by experiment, and not on any scientific basis. He observes in conclusion:—

"Feeling, now, a conviction of having pursued every plan where I have entertained any idea or possibility of success, and having failed, I do not farther hesitate to pronounce this most harassing and perplexing peal of Stedman Triples is totally unattainable, on Shipway's principal, either in five parts, or if in ten, having a single at the end of the first half to turn it; and the same number of bobs and singles in the 2nd half, and in the same places as in the first half.

Before I close my observations, I will just say that I have had the first part-end by me for some time, of Mr. Tebbs' composition for the peal, and I have not lost sight of that, (that is,) attempting an improvement; and cannot help perceiving I have found a rule to go by, to obtain several other peals, on the same same principal."

Mr. Powell's peals are all mere variations of Tebbs' peal, in one of them the total number of calls is reduced by two. At the very time that Mr. Powell published these remarks a peal

on the principal on which he had been endeavouring to obtain one was in existence as in 1827, Mr. Thos. Day of Birmingham—whose name has since become so well known in connection with the production of the greatest lengths obtained in Treble Bob Major—had composed one with 420 bobs and 22 Holt's singles only, which was rung by the St. Martin's Society, Birmingham, on December 30th, 1830, on the light eight of their church. This peal was at the time very much superior to any other yet produced, as no two bells were kept dodging behind for more than eighteen consecutive changes. A copy of this composition has already been given; the following are particulars of the performance.

From the Society's records.—"On Dec. 30, 1830, the following members of St. Martin's Society rung an excellent peal of Triples (on Stedman's principle) at St. Martin's Church (on the small eight), containing 5040 changes, in 3 hours and 10 minutes:—

James Jarvis,	1.	Thomas Worrall,	4.	Joseph Powell,	6.
Thos. Chapman,	2.	Elijah Roberts,	5.	Henry Cooper,	7.
John Hopkins,	3.			Nathan Blunt,	tenor.

Composed by Mr. Thos. Day and conducted by Mr. Joseph Powell. This was the greatest improvement made up to this period, inasmuch as no two bells were kept dodging together behind more than eighteen changes."

About the years 1830, 31, or 32, so great had the improvements in composition been considered, Shipway published a broadsheet of peals. It contained Tebbs' peals, with 622 and 620 calls; Cooper's first peal, 582 calls and a second peal with 442 calls only. This latter, however, was merely Day's peal with different observation bells. Cooper, when he heard of Day's improvements, applied personally for the peal, altered the observation bells, rang it, and sent it to Shipway as his second peal. On the broadsheet Shipway remarks:—"Mr. Cooper's peals are both originals, and his last has been the principal groundwork from which the further improvements emanated." This was rather hard upon Mr. Day, who had done a great deal by opening out a new feature in the composition of Stedman Triples. Unfortunately, after this piece of treachery on Cooper's part, Mr. Day never again took up composition in this method, his only further connection with the system being that when Thurstans got his first good peal, he called it for him. Shipway also gave a peal by Mr. J. Clarke, of Kingston-on-Thames, also obtained by varying the observation bells in the Day-Cooper peal. The other peals given by Shipway were the work of himself and Mr. Powell, the best production of the latter being one with 382 calls. Shipway's best peal contained so few as 362 calls, of the same different descriptions as those used by Mr. Powell. In nearly all of these peals, three varieties of calls were almost invariably used. I may add that of the twelve peals given by Shipway, one is a reverse variation, one a very simple variation which reduces the 622 calls in Tebbs' original to 620, and that no less than four are mere variations by altering the observation-bells. These variations are effected by moving all the calls a few sixes further on, such variations as no one who pretended to any knowledge of the subject, would now-a-days think of presenting to the Exercise.

In my collection I have given all the peals that are of interest that are to be found on this sheet. Thus I have given Cooper's original peal, Day's peal which Cooper sent, Tebbs's original peal, Mr. Powell's peal with 382 calls, and Shipway's peal with 362 calls.

Perhaps it was owing to the flagrant examples of the art of variation that Shipway published on his broadsheet that, about this time, several peals were rung and claimed by men who we have not any evidence were equal to the task of composing an original peal in this method. As a few such peals (which are without interest) were rung, I shall now only mention those of which something is known of the composition.

Dr. King, the Bishop-Elect of Lincoln, has expressed his intention of selling, if possible, the Episcopal Palace of Rischolme, and building a suitable residence for himself and his successors on the site of the old Palace, under the shadow of the Cathedral.

## ANNUAL MEETING OF THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

THE Third Annual Meeting of the above Association was held at Derby on Easter Monday, April 6th, on which day the bells of All Saints', St. Andrews, St. Werburgh's, St. Luke's and St. Alkmund's churches were placed at the disposal of the members, by the kindness of their respective Vicars and Churchwardens. Ringing commenced about mid-day, and lasted with short intervals until nine p.m., the striking being considerably in advance of that generally heard when scratch teams meet together without any previous practice. The methods rung were, Kent Treble Bob Royal, Stedman and Grandsire Caters, Treble Bob and Double Norwich Court Bob Major, and Stedman and Grandsire Triples. At 2.15 p.m., a meeting of the Committee was held in All Saints' schoolroom, at which, in addition to other business, the following resolution respecting the proposed National Association, was unanimously carried: "That in the opinion of this meeting, the time has not yet arrived for attempting to establish a National Association of bellringers, and therefore that the consideration of the draft scheme referred to this committee be suspended." At 4 p.m., a short service was held in All Saints' Church, when an instructive and earnest address was given to the members by the Vicar, who, whilst acknowledging the great improvement which had taken place in the behaviour of ringers during the last few years, yet maintained that there was still much to be desired in the way of upholding the religious aspect of the duties of a ringer, and suggested that it would be well if it were made a rule in every belfry that no ringing of the bells should be commenced without previous prayer. At 5 p.m., about forty members sat down to tea in All Saints' schools, and after tea, the General Meeting was held, the Rev. James H. Fish, Vicar of St. Paul's, Burton-on-Trent, and President of the Association, in the chair. An unanimous vote of thanks was passed to the Vicars and Churchwardens for the use of their bells, and especially to the Rev. R. J. Knight, Vicar of All Saints', for his kindness in arranging for the afternoon service, and also for his very able address. On the motion of Mr. Hickman, seconded by Mr. Barrow, the third Annual Report of the Association together with the Hon. Treasurer's balances sheet, were unanimously adopted; and on the motion of Mr. S. Cooper, seconded by Mr. J. W. Taylor, jun., the following officers were elected for the ensuing year. President: The Rev. James H. Fish, Vicar of St. Paul's, Burton-on-Trent; Hon. Treasurer: Mr. W. Wakley, Burton-on-Trent; Hon. Secretary: Mr. Joseph Griffin, Burton-on-Trent. Mr. J. W. Taylor, jun., presented a very handsomely-bound peal-book to the Association, and a cordial vote of thanks to that gentleman was moved by Mr. A. Percival Heywood, seconded by the President, and unanimously carried. One honorary and sixteen ringing members were admitted. On the motion of Mr. Clark, seconded by the Hon. Secretary, it was unanimously resolved that the next Quarterly Meeting be held at Loughborough, on Saturday, June 20th. Owing to various circumstances, the attendance of members at this meeting was hardly up to the average, although many friends had come a considerable distance on purpose to be present. The heavy rain which fell during the afternoon was hardly sufficient excuse for the small proportion of members attending the service, and it is hoped that on future occasions it will be made a point of honour with every member of the Association to attend Divine Service when so arranged. It must however in justice be added, that several members were in ignorance of the arrangements, owing to Good Friday interfering with their receipt of "THE BELL NEWS," to which paper the programme of the day's proceedings had been entrusted.

## THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

THE Third annual gathering of the members of this Association took place at Bedford on Easter Monday last. An attempt was made at Cardington (a village near by), in early morning, to obtain John Holt's ten-part peal of Grandsire Triples, but failed after ringing upwards of two hours. The bells of SS. Mary and Paul, Bedford, were frequently rung during the day. At half-past one o'clock, the members to the number of thirty-seven, sat down to luncheon, provided at the "Swan Hotel." The chair was taken by the Rev. R. E. R. Watts, Vicar of St. Paul's, and the vice-chair by Thos. Gwyn E. Elger, Esq., of Kempston, formerly Mayor of Bedford. There were also present: the Rev. J. Copner (Vicar of Elstow), the Rev. W. W. C. Baker (late of Eversholt, but now of Nottingham), Mr. T. Bull, Churchwarden of St. Paul's, Mr. Edwin Ransom, Messrs. J. N. Frossell, I. Hills, F. A. Chasty, F. Foote, J. Spencer, S. J. Cullip, C. W. Clarke, W. Allen, W. Warwick, (each of Bedford), Mr. Wood and others of Biddenham; Mr. Biggs and company, of Bromham; W. Hall and J. Atkins, Elstow; Chas. Craddock, Biggleswade; W. Chibnall, Jas. Carwell-Cooke, and Mark Lane, Aspley Guise, and C. Herbert, Hon. Sec., W. E. Turney, A. Morrison, H. Turney and E. Keech, of Woburn, and others. Immediately following the luncheon, the annual business meeting was held, which included the election of officers, and the election of new

members. The Hon. Sec. read the report of the committee, and a resolution proposed by the Rev. W. W. C. Baker was unanimously agreed to.

At 6 p.m., a short special service was held at St. Paul's Church, and an appropriate address delivered by the Rev. W. W. C. Baker, an honorary and practical member of the Association, on "The need of Effort." The text was 2 Pet. i. 5—"Give all diligence." In the course of his remarks the rev. gentleman said:—

"Each review of the past will make clear the need of exertion in the future. Yes, my brothers, it does need effort—strong sustained effort—to hold out for that which you know to be the right course, against apathetic indifference, or open opposition. It does need effort to curb that enthusiasm for your art, when at times the fascination that it exercises would lead you to neglect or slur over more pressing duties. It does need effort to conquer that selfishness which is so strong in most of us, and forego the pleasure of taking part in a well struck touch in order that a younger and less experienced member may have an opportunity of sharing in your delight. It does need effort to keep your tongue, and help others to keep theirs when some cherished scheme has been spoilt by the careless blundering of another. It does need effort to appreciate generously the good points of others, and readily and without pressure to admit their superiority over ourselves. But though these seem hard, yet it is just in these points that the discipline of our Exercise is so useful; it is just by the use or the abandonment of such means of self-control and self-restraint, as I have tried to sketch out that we shall make or mar our Associations. \* \* \* It must be that sometimes the thought strikes us as we mark in our office the swift passage of time—now passing from the measured stroke which tells of the death of the old year to the lowered compass and swifter beat which ushers in the new—or one week pealing forth merrily the marriage bells, and another straining the ear to catch the sighing echo of the muffled notes which tell that another soul has gone from our midst, sometimes, I say, we must reflect that for each of us the day is coming, when the steady hand will lose its cunning, when the keen eye grows dim, and the strong memory will prove unfaithful, and the rope must be resigned to younger and abler hands; till one day the bells ring out in sobbing mournful cadence their last farewell."

The loud-sounding cymbals of S. Paul's were again put in motion till eight o'clock, the time fixed for a lecture near by, and so ended a very happy, pleasant and agreeable meeting of the Bedfordshire Association.

"Floreat in Aeternum Scientia Campanologie."

## SADDLEWORTH, CHESHIRE.

DEATH OF AN OLD RINGER.—During the week Saddleworth has lost one of its old ringers in the death of Mr. Thomas Whitehead, of Uppermill. Mr. Whitehead had been ailing for some time, but he managed to go about until a fortnight ago, when he took to his bed, and succumbed to his illness on Thursday, the 2nd instant. He was interred last Wednesday week, at Saddleworth Church, the Rev. Hugh Doig being the officiating clergyman. He was in his 53rd year. Most of the committee of the Uppermill Co-operative Society attended the funeral, as the deceased was one of the committee of that society. He was a strong co-operator. He had been a committeeman at the Uppermill Store for some time, and he was president during the time that the society was going through its difficulties a few years back. Representatives from the Branch of Friendship Lodge of Oddfellows were also present, the deceased being a past officer of the lodge, and a few months back he was elected as one of the Saddleworth representatives at the A.M.C., which will meet at Aberystwith, in Wales, in Whit-week. As a ringer the deceased was widely known, and had numerous friends all over the country, being greatly respected, and looked upon as an authority on ringing matters. He had attended a good many contests in his time, his first being at Holmfirth in 1857, and he also attended one at Northenden in the same year. He has attended the following contests, and assisted in bringing home the prizes; Batley, 4th prize; Barnsley, 3rd; Cawthorne, 3rd; Meltham, 1st; Batley Carr, 3rd; Sandal, 1st; Silkstone, 1st; Farnworth, 1st; Glossop, 2nd; Horbury, 4th; Middleton, 2nd, all of which were rung on six bells; and Almondbury, 4th, on eight bells. Besides attending as a ringer, he has also attended several contests as a judge, and his decisions have always given general satisfaction. He has assisted in ringing 5040 changes in seven different methods on six bells, and also assisted in ringing 5000 changes and upwards on eight bells at Ashton, Stalybridge, Garton, and Saddleworth. Ringers attended to pay their last respects to his memory from Wigan, Glossop, Hayfield, Almondbury, Kirkburton, Saddleworth, and other places.—*Oldham Chronicle*.

## THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

REPORT FOR THE WEEK ENDING APRIL 14TH, 1885: On Thursday, April 9th, by the Brighton branch, at Buxted parish church, on the occasion of the re-opening of the bells, three touches of Grandsire Triples during the service, after which an attempt was made to ring Holt's 10-part peal, which, however, failed after 3280 changes had been rung, in 1 hr. 50 mins. J. Searle, 1; C. Tyler, 2; H. Weston, 3; J. Jay, jun., 4; G. King, 5; G. F. Attree, 6; J. Jay, sen. (conductor), 7; H. Butler, 8. Tenor 16 cwt. And on Sunday, April 12th, at St. Peter's church, by the Brighton band, for afternoon service, a 504 of Grandsire Triples, in 18½ mins. A. Marshall, 1; J. Jay, sen., 2; H. Boniface, 3; J. Searle, 4; G. F. Attree, 5; H. Weston, 6; G. King, 7; W. Vernon, 8. Tenor 10½ cwt.

GEO. F. ATTREE, Hon. Sec.



## WORCESTER AND ADJOINING DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

ON Easter Monday, April 6th, a Quarterly Meeting of the above Association was held at Kidderminster, under the presidency of the Rev. T. L. Claughton, M.A., Vicar of St. Mary's, who was elected an hon. member of the above. The Chairman, in opening the proceedings, said it was with very great pleasure that he had come there to preside over such a hearty class of church workers, as he believed their work was done as officers of the Church, and to God's glory. He gave the Association an hearty welcome to his Church, as the sound from the ringing of the bells enlivened them up, and led them to understand that great strides were being made in bell-ringing generally. A few suggestions were thrown out by the secretary, Mr. Smith, in reference to the clergy who were willing (some of them in the diocese), to help with their donations, but the Association lacked their presence and their advice and counsel, which was greatly wished for and desired, and he hoped at the Annual Meeting in July something would be done so that they could approach the clergy, and get them to work as they did in other Associations. The Chairman, in responding, said it was the first meeting he had had the pleasure of being amongst them, but assured them that as far as himself was concerned, he should be willing to do as much as he possibly could for the good of the Association, and he said no doubt his brother clergy would be willing to do the same. The minutes of the meetings held at Chad-desley Corbett and Evesham being passed, several honorary and performing members were elected, and the other business of the Association gone through in a satisfactory manner, the members afterwards dispersing, some to the tower for ringing, and others to the "Sailor's Return" inn, where some good tunes were played by the Bromsgrove company upon their beautiful peal of handbells, and by mixed companies some Triples, Major, etc., were gone through, and a very pleasant day was spent by all present. The Church, which is a grand one in the interior, contains an oil painting of the late Rev. R. Baxter, supposed to be the only one in existence. Also an old oak chair, which is in good condition (and which he used), and contains the following on the back of it:

Rev. R. D. Baxter,  
Born nr. Shrewsbury,  
1615, and died at London,  
1691. Chaplain to King Charles  
2nd. Rev. Doolittle, M.A.,  
Sir H. Ashurst, Bt.  
Kidderminster,  
A. 1650. D.

The Church also contains in the chancel a fine marble reredos, representing the Last Supper, and a great many other relics of ancient time, and is always well worth a visit.

## THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

ON Easter Monday, April 6th, some forty members of the above Association paid a visit to Lytham, where they held their Quarterly Meeting. The party was made up of ringers from Manchester, Liverpool, Bolton, Walkden, Southport, Worsley, Eccles, etc. Unfortunately the weather was dull and wet for the visit. In the course of the day, the towers of the two churches, the Parish and St. John's, were visited, and touches of Kent and Oxford Treble Bob Major and Minor, and Stedman Doubles were rung. Tea was provided in the Hewitt Lecture-room of the Institute for the visitors, who afterwards adjourned to the Parish Church School, where the meeting took place, and nothing could have exceeded the unanimity which there prevailed. The president of the Association, the Rev. M. Turner, of Bury, had very great pleasure in introducing to them the Rev. H. B. Hawkins, Vicar of Lytham, who had kindly given them the free use of that room, and more than that he had been kind enough to come forward and take the chair.

The CHAIRMAN offered the Association a hearty welcome to Lytham. It was to be regretted the weather had not been so favourable as could have been desired, yet he hoped that meeting on Easter Monday, 1885, would rank as a good quarterly meeting. He might tell them that he had very great sympathy with their objects, the first of which was to improve the art of ringing, and he hoped the bells had given them some amusement as well as a hearty practice that day. They would have found six good bells at St. John's, and eight at his own church. But their Association had another object besides improving the art of ringing, and he guessed their principles were in favour rather of belfry reform. Speaking for himself and his brother clergy, they were wishful to see the ringers have their proper places in Church work. He trusted the Society might not only do much good as regarded bell-ringing, but also for the Church itself. He hoped some of the Lytham ringers might be induced to join the Society, which had his entire sympathy, of which he should be glad to be made an honorary member, so that he could give it some help. He would not further take up their time, but begged them to accept his practical sympathy in the form of a guinea.

The CHAIRMAN was appointed a life member of the Association, and a number of new members were elected, including Mr. Henry Gregson, of Lytham. On the motion of Mr. HILL, seconded by Mr. Grimshaw, it was unanimously decided that the next quarterly meeting of this Association be held at Southport.

Mr. HOLMES mentioned that some of the districts in the county had formed themselves into minor associations, and held meetings amongst themselves, for instance, Eccles, Worsley and Swinton. It had also been proposed to form one of such at Liverpool. This would save a good deal of expense, and would no doubt be beneficial, and was worth their consideration, as it might be brought up again at some future meeting.

Mr. FULLAGAR expressed his pleasure at being present at the meeting of that excellent Association. They should be very sorry to have the bell banished from their steeples and towers. It was desirable that bell-ringers should rise to the height of the office they held, for it was better to have no bells than to have their sweet tone coupled with the bad behaviour of those who ring them.

Mr. W. J. CHATTERTON, the late secretary to the Association, said their chief object in coming here was to make the Association widely known, and they would be glad of new members. Union only would give them strength. There were many abuses connected with bell-ringing in the past, but with that they had nothing to do, they had simply to take care of the present, without taking credit to individual members. The Association had done great good during the last three or four years, and would do more, he contended, in the future. The Association was not only helping its members, but assisting the clergy, who were likewise rendering assistance to the Association. His object in getting upon his legs was to move a vote of thanks to the chairman. He asked them to give the chairman their best thanks. They had had many chairmen, but they must confess that business that evening had been conducted in a most efficient and congenial manner, and more that, the chairman had shown his sympathy with them by joining their Association. He had extreme pleasure in proposing a vote of thanks to Mr. Hawkins. Mr. Hill (Southport) seconded. The chairman having suitably acknowledged the vote, the president proposed a vote of thanks to the Vicar and Churchwardens of the two churches for the use of the bells that day. He maintained that Associations would do great good in future as regarded belfry reform, and it was greatly developing. Major Molyneux replied for the churchwardens, and said they were only too glad to assist in any way an Association which he was quite sure was doing a great deal of good in the country. The meeting then terminated.

## THE EAST LINCOLNSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

ON Saturday, April 11th, the Quarterly Meeting of the above Association took place at Leake and Wrangle, when members attended from Boston, Skirbeck, Friskney, Wainfleet, Spilsby, Irby. The two parishes contains each a fine ring of six bells. Leake was the first to visit, and four 720's of Plain Bob and Grandsire Doubles were rung by T. Rogers, E. Mason, E. Parker, A. Barber, J. M. Rylatt (conductor), G. Goodwin, tenor. Upon the arrival of the Rev. H. J. Cheales, vicar of Friskney, and President of the Association, 180 of Bob Minor was rung by T. Rogers, Rev. H. J. Cheales, E. Parker, W. F. Harwood, E. Mason, J. M. Rylatt. After which the time arrived for the business, which was held at Wrangle at 2.0 p.m. Dinner was provided at "The Angel" Inn, in a very creditable manner, giving the greatest satisfaction to all present, and was partaken of by twenty-five ringers and friends, presided over by the Rev. H. J. Cheales, who was supported by the Rev. F. W. Wright and Rev. F. Besant. After dinner the minutes of the last meeting was read and confirmed, which also showed four honorary members and seven probationers had been admitted during the quarter—F. J. Mackenzie, Esq. (Sibsey), Rev. G. Hales, Vicar (Stickney), Rev. W. Stamper (Skendleby), Right Rev. Dr. King, Lord Bishop of Lincoln (Elect), and seven probationers. It was very gratifying to members present to know that the newly elected Bishop of the Diocese had taken the place of the late Lord Bishop, Dr. Wordsworth, who was also a member of the society. There was also four honorary, two skilled and nine probationers admitted at the meeting, making a total of eight honorary, two skilled, and sixteen probationers for the quarter. Wrangle bells was then visited and several 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles and Bob Doubles were rung by H. Smith, F. Smith, Rev. H. J. Cheales, J. M. Rylatt, A. Barber, E. Parker, T. Stephenson, G. Goodwin, W. F. Harwood, G. Woodthorp. Also 360 of Bob Minor. The day was brought to a close by several of the members taking tea with W. J. Wilson, of Wrangle, who is also a ringer of that place.

On Easter Monday, April 5th, by the kind invitation of the Rev. S. W. Sales, Rector of Halton Holeygate, six members of the Association visited this place, and rang two 720's of Plain Bob Minor, one in 26 mins., and one in 27 mins. T. Rogers, J. Mawer, W. F. Harwood, E. Parker, J. M. Rylatt, E. Mason (conductor). The Rector kindly entertained the ringers to dinner and tea at the Rectory.

"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.

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, APRIL 18, 1885.

### The Provinces.

WEST BROMWICH, STAFFORDSHIRE.  
 THE ASSOCIATION FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.

On Monday, April 6, 1885, in Two Hours and Fifty-eight Minutes,

AT ST. MARY'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;  
 HOLT'S ORIGINAL. Tenor 20 cwt.

HENRY HIPKISS .. .. Treble.	WILLIAM BEESON .. .. 5.
JOSEPH FULLWOOD .. .. 2.	SAMUEL REEVES .. .. 6.
WILLIAM R. SMALL .. .. 3.	*CHARLES PRICE .. .. 7.
THOMAS HORTON .. .. 4.	REUBEN HALL .. .. Tenor.

Conducted by SAMUEL REEVES.

\*First peal.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS AND  
 THE ST. SIDWELL'S SOCIETY, EXETER.

On Saturday, April 11, 1885, in Three Hours and Twelve Minutes,

AT ST. SIDWELL'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;  
 HOLT'S TEN-PART. Tenor 24 cwt. in D.

JAMES MOSS† .. .. Treble.	FRANCIS R. SHEPHERD .. .. 5.
FERRIS SHEPHERD .. .. 2.	ALFRED SHEPHERD .. .. 6.
HERBERT SWIFT .. .. 3.	EDWIN SHEPHERD .. .. 7.
WALTER G. GOSS .. .. 4.	*THOMAS J. LAKE .. .. Tenor.

Conducted by FERRIS SHEPHERD.

† First peal with treble. \* First peal.

ALDINGTON, KENT.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—ALDINGTON BRANCH.

Birthday Peal.

On Saturday, April 11, 1885, in Three Hours and Fourteen Minutes,

AT ST. MARTIN'S CHURCH,

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

Tenor 14 cwt. in G.

WILLIAM POST, JUN.* .. Treble.	PHILIP HODGKIN .. .. 4.
DAVID HODGKIN .. .. 2.	WILLIAM HYDER .. .. 5.
FRED. WANSTALL .. .. 3.	WILLIAM POST, SEN. .. Tenor.

Conducted by WILLIAM HYDER.

The above was rung in honour of 22nd birthday of Phillip Hodgkin, his brother ringers wishing him many happy returns of the day. The average age of the first four ringers is twenty years. \* First peal.

BRAMFORD, SUFFOLK.

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

On Saturday, April 11, 1885, in Three Hours and Thirteen Minutes,

AT ST. MARY'S CHURCH,

5040 CHANGES, IN SEVEN DIFFERENT METHODS  
 ON SIX BELLS;

Being a 720 each of the following:

Double Bob; College Single; Double Court Bob; Oxford Bob; Oxford Treble Bob; Kent Treble Bob; and Plain Bob Minor.

Tenor 14 cwt. in G.

ALFRED A. PRYKE .. .. Treble.	FREDERICK TILLET .. .. 4.
CHARLES MEE .. .. 2.	THOMAS STEWARD .. .. 5.
FREDERICK MEE .. .. 3.	JAMES MOTTS .. .. Tenor.

Conducted by JAMES MOTTS.

A. Pryke belongs to the local company, the rest belong to the St. Mary-le-Tower Society, Ipswich. It is sixty-eight years since a peal was rung on these bells. The ages of the above do not exceed 20 years each.

BURTON-ON-TRENT, STAFFORDSHIRE.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION AND THE  
 ST. PAUL'S SOCIETY, BURTON-ON-TRENT.

On Monday, April 13, 1885, 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.

JOHN JAGGAR .. .. Treble.	HARRY WAKLEY .. .. 5.
ARTHUR BERTRAM WARD .. 2.	HARRY CHAS. WOODWARD .. 6.
ARTHUR WAKLEY .. .. 3.	THOMAS HOLMES .. .. 7.
JOSEPH GRIFFIN .. .. 4.	WILLIAM WAKLEY .. .. Tenor.

Composed by J. S. WILDE, and Conducted by JOSEPH GRIFFIN.

This peal is a two-part peal, and contains the 6th twelve times wrong and twenty-four times right, with never two calls in one course; see Snowdon's "Double Norwich," page 37. It is now rung for the first time.

APPLETON, BERKS.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Tuesday, April 14, 1885, in Three Hours and One Minute,

AT ST. LAWRENCE'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;  
 HOLT'S ORIGINAL. Tenor 14½ cwt.

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

Conducted by the REV. F. E. ROBINSON, Master of the Guild.

SEDGLEY, STAFFORDSHIRE.

ASSOCIATION FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.

In Three Hours and Two Minutes (no date mentioned),

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;  
 Tenor 20 cwt.

J. JONES .. .. Treble.	J. FULLWOOD .. .. 5.
B. DALTON .. .. 2.	J. JONES .. .. 6.
R. HALL .. .. 3.	J. FOWLER .. .. 7.
B. SCHOFIELD .. .. 4.	T. ROBERT .. .. Tenor.

Composed by the late THOMAS DAY, of Birmingham, and  
 Conducted by J. JONES.

Messrs. Dalton, Jones, and Fowler hail from Tetterhall; Messrs. Jones and Fullwood from Tipton; B. Schofield from Sedgley; R. Hall from West Bromwich.

### Date Touches.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

BADGEWORTH (Gloucestershire).—On Sunday, April 5th, a date touch of Grandsire Doubles was rung by members of the above Association, in 1 hr. A. Humphris (Cheltenham), 1; W. Wintle (Newent), 2; H. Karn (Cheltenham; conductor), 3; T. R. Hooper (Cheltenham), 4; F. Musty (Cheltenham), 5; F. W. Crook (Badgeworth), 6. Tenor 16 cwt.



BURFORD (Oxon).—On Easter Monday, April 6th, a date touch of 1885 changes of Grandsire Triples, in 1 hr. 12 mins. H. Smith, 1; J. Smith, 2; T. E. Glanville (conductor), 3; T. Brown, 4; W. Large, 5; H. Bond, 6; D. Francis, 7; W. Launchbury, 8.

HIGHER SUTTON (Chester).—On Tuesday, March 31st, at St. James's church, a date touch, consisting of 1885 changes, in the following methods: a 720 of Kent Treble Bob (nine bobs), a 720 of Grandsire Minor (forty-four bobs and four singles), and a 445 of Bob Minor (eleven bobs and one single), in 1 hr. 8 mins. Walter Ingham, 1; James Simpson (Gawsworth), 2; William Henshall (Gawsworth), 3; J. M. Davenport, 4; William Walmsley (composer and conductor), 5; Walter Henshall (Gawsworth), 6. This 445 and the touch of Grandsire Major, rang at Prestbury (given in last week's issue), were both composed and conducted by Wm. Walmsley, and any readers of this paper can have the 445 of Bob Minor, by sending a stamped and addressed envelope to Wm. Walmsley, Gurnett, near Macclesfield. It contains all the 5-6's, and Queens and Tittums.

ISWICH (Suffolk).—On Tuesday, April 7th, at St. Clement's church, a date touch of 1885 changes in the following methods: 720 of Double Court Minor, 360 of Oxford Treble Bob, 360 of Kent Treble Bob, 445 of Plain Bob Minor. W. Motts, 1; E. Pemberton, 2; R. Hawes, 3; F. Tillett, 4; J. Motts (conductor), 5; W. Nevard, 6. Tenor 16 cwt. W. Nevard hails from Great Bentley, Essex, and is a member of the Essex Association.

TIVERTON (Devon).—On Easter Monday, April 6th, a date touch of Grandsire Triples, was rung at St. Peter's church, by the St. Peter's Society, in honour of the newly-elected churchwardens, one of whom this year, Mr. J. F. Ellerton, was one of the original members of the society when it was founded seventeen years ago. The striking was very regular and the leads well marked. J. Hosegood, 1; R. Grater, jun., 2; T. Harvey, 3; J. Grater, jun., 4; W. Clements, 5; Jas. Babbage (conductor), 6; J. Grater, 7; S. Hoare, 8. Tenor 29 cwt. Time 1 hr. 16 mins. The touch was composed by Mr. J. Carter, of Birmingham. The conductor's recent successes in this line, reflect great credit on the tuition of Mr. E. Munday, who was not present during the touch, while Messrs. Harvey and Clements were only beginners in October last. In the evening the society rang a touch of 500 Grandsire Triples, in commemoration of the first complete peal ever rung by Tiverton men on St. Peter's bells, last Easter Monday. The band in the evening included the Vice-President, Mr. L. Mackenzie, whom the society were glad to welcome again after his long absence through indisposition since November last.

### Miscellaneous.

#### THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

SALISBURY.—On Saturday, April 11th, at St. Martin's church, a 720 of Bob Minor, (forty-two singles), in 26½ mins. J. Short, 1; E. A. Foster, 2; T. Blackburn (conductor), 3; C. A. Clements, 4; W. W. Gifford, 5; J. R. Jerram, 6. Tenor 15 cwt.

PIMLICO (Middlesex).—On Sunday, April 12th, for Divine Service in the evening at St. John-the-Evangelist, Wilton Road, the following members of the above Society rang a quarter-peal of Kent Treble Bob Major, 1280 changes, in 49 mins. Martin Murphy, 1; Frederick T. Gover, 2; Frederick G. Newman, 3; Challis F. Winny, 3; Edward Rogers, 5; George T. McLaughlin, 6; John M. Hayes, 7; Francis E. Dawe (conductor), 8. Tenor 10½ cwt. in G.

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

BRAINTREE (Essex).—On Saturday, April 11th, for practice, a 720 Oxford Treble Bob. S. Hammond (conductor), 1; F. Calthorpe, 2; F. Bumpstead, 3; H. E. Hammond, 4; F. Thompson, 5; F. Rudkin, 6. Also a 720 of Bob Minor. S. Hammond (conductor), 1; F. Calthorpe, 2; F. Bumpstead, 3; A. Chaplin, 4; H. E. Hammond, 5; F. Thompson, 6. Also on Sunday, April 12th, for afternoon service, at Rayne church, three 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles, and three 6-scores of Bob Doubles. F. Calthorpe, 1; S. Hammond (conductor), 2; H. E. Hammond, 3; F. Rudkin, 4; F. Thompson, 5. Tenor about 10 cwt. F. Thompson hails from Kelsel, A. Chaplin from Stisted, the rest belong to Braintree.

#### THE ST. ALBAN'S CATHEDRAL SOCIETY.

ST. ALBAN'S (Herts).—On Easter Day, April 5th, the members of the above society met four times, and rang during the day over 2000 changes, including a 504 of Grandsire Triples. T. Grant, 1; R. T. Kent, 2; W. H. L. Buckingham, 3; E. Hulks, 4; G. W. Cartmel, 5; H. Lewis, 6; N. N. Hills (conductor), 7; W. Battle, 8. And on Monday, April 6th, with Mr. E. P. Debenham, of St. Peter's, a quarter-peal was attempted, but after ringing about 970 changes a breakdown occurred. On Sunday, April 12th, with Mr. Staples, of Hertford, who was on a visit to St. Albans, a 504 of Grandsire

Triples for Divine Service in the evening. T. Grant, 1; R. T. Kent, 2; W. H. L. Buckingham, 3; J. Staples, 4; G. W. Cartmel, 5; H. Lewis, 6; N. N. Hills (conductor), 7; W. Battle, 8. Tenor about 30 cwt. in Eb. *Handbell Ringing*.—On Wednesday, April 8th, a 720 of Grandsire Minor, in 22 mins. H. Lewis, 1-2; W. H. L. Buckingham (first 720 inside), 3; G. W. Cartmel, 4; N. N. Hills, 5-6. Messrs. Hills and Lewis first 720 in hand. On Friday, April 10th, touches of Grandsire Triples, 168 and 336. H. Lewis, 1-2; W. H. L. Buckingham, 3; R. T. Kent, 4; N. N. Hills (conductor), 5-6; G. W. Cartmel, 7-8.

#### DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

BARNARD CASTLE.—On Easter Monday, April 6th, a 1088 of Kent Treble Bob Major. J. Clarkson, 1; G. J. Clarkson (conductor), 2; T. Clark, 3; W. Stephenson, 4; T. W. Waller, 5; T. Burdon, 6; T. Stephenson, 7; W. Newton, 8. T. Clark hails from Kipon, the rest from Stockton-on-Tees.

STOCKTON-ON-TEES.—On Tuesday, April 7th, on the occasion of the wedding of Mr. T. W. Waller, a 720 of Woodbine. J. Clarkson, 1; G. J. Clarkson, 2; W. Stephenson, 3; W. Newton, 4; T. Stephenson (conductor), 5; T. Burdon, 6. And a 720 of Double Court Bob. T. Whitfield, 1; W. Newton, 2; J. Clarkson, 3; W. Stephenson, 4; T. Stephenson (conductor), 5; G. J. Clarkson, 6. Also a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob by the same band.

#### GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

TEWKESBURY ABBEY.—On Sunday evening, April 12th, for Divine Service, the Abbey society rang a 1008 of Bob Major, in 36 mins. W. Hampton, 1; R. H. Witherington, 2; F. J. Moore, 3; J. Hale, 4; S. Cleal, 5; T. Devereux, 6; Jno. Wathen, 7; Jos. Wathen (conductor), 8. Tenor 24 cwt.

#### THE ST. JAMES'S SOCIETY.—LONDON.

HORSLEYDOWN (Surrey).—On Saturday, April 11th, at the church of St. John the Evangelist, eight members of the above Society attempted Holt's original peal of Grandsire Triples, but after ringing 4340 changes, in 2 hrs. 32 mins., it unfortunately came to grief. M. Anson, 1; R. French (conductor), 2; J. Barry, 3; W. H. Fussell, 4; A. Hayward, 5; E. E. Vinen, 6; W. H. George, 7; D. Newton, 8. Tenor 20 cwt.

#### THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

ALDINGTON (Kent).—On Thursday, April 2nd, at St. Martin's, a 720 of Bob Minor (two bobs and twenty-two singles). Edward Ruck, sen. (Mersham), 1; Edward Ruck, jun. (Mersham), 2; Edward Hyder, 3; Philip Hodgkin, 4; William Hyder (conductor), 5; William William Post, sen., 6. And on Thursday, April 9th, a 720 of Bob Minor (eighteen singles and nine bobs). Charles Slingsby, 1; Thomas Post, 2; William Post, jun., 3; Philip Hodgkin, 4; William Hyder (conductor), 5; William Post, sen., 6. *Muffled Peal*.—And on Monday, April 13th, a 720 of Bob Minor (nine bobs and six singles), with the bells half-muffled as a last mark of respect to Mr. Henry Downe, of Hythe, who died March 31st, aged 80 years. C. Slingsby, 1; David Hodgkin, 2; Thomas Post, 3; Fred Wanstall, 4; E. Hyder (conductor), 5; P. Hodgkin, 6. Tenor 14 cwt. in G. During the year 1884 the Aldington branch have rung seventy-five 720's, forty-eight 360's, and eighteen 240's, making a total of 75,000 changes in two different methods: Oxford Treble Bob and Plain Bob Minor.

SITTINGBOURNE (Kent).—On Friday, April 10th, at St. Michael's church, the local company rang for practice the first half of Holt's 10-part peal of Grandsire Triples, in 1 hr. 37 mins. W. G. Gordelier, 1; Francis C. Mattison (conductor), 2; A. Moorcraft (West Malling), 3; Jno. Cooper, 4; E. J. Bottle, 5; S. Snelling, 6; W. H. Judd, 7; Wm. Saddleton, 8. Tenor 21 cwt.

#### THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION OF SIX-BELL RINGERS.

CHORLEY (Lancashire).—*Muffled Peal*.—On Saturday evening, April 11th, at St. Lawrence's church, a 720 of Bob Minor (sixteen bobs and two singles), with the bells deeply muffled, in 28½ mins. John H. Gartside (conductor), 1; William Creston, 2; John Marsden, 3; Alfred Whalley, 4; James Higson, 5; Joshua Worthington, 6. Tenor 11 cwt. The above assembled to show a mark of respect to the late Mr. J. Higson, of Blackrod, who died on April 5th, and was interred on the 8th, at Blackrod parish church. He had for some years past been secretary to the above Association. The deceased took great interest in ringing, both with the tower and handbells, and was greatly respected among his ringing friends. Higson and Creston hail from Blackrod, the others belong to Chorley.

#### THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

BANHAM (Norfolk).—On Easter morning, April 5th, six members of the above Association rang at St. Mary's church, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor, in 26 mins. J. Wade, 1; H. Eagling, 2; J. Woods, 3; C. Everett, 4; R. Patrick, 5; R. Hutton (conductor), 6. Also 480 of Plain Bob Minor. W. Nudds, jun., 1; H. Eagling, 2; J. Woods, 3; J. Wade, 4; R. Hutton (conductor), 5; W. Nudds, sen., 6.

KENNINGHALL (Norfolk).—On Easter Sunday, April 5th, at St. Mary's church, eight members of the above Association rang a 1600 of Kent Treble Bob Major. J. Wade, 1; R. Hutton, 2; Geo. Edwards, 3; H. Eagling, 4; C. Everett, 5; W. Nudds, 6; J. Woods, 7; J. Mordey, 8. And on Easter Monday, April 6th, an attempt was made to ring a peal of Kent Treble Bob Major, but after ringing 1120 changes it came to grief through the 5th rope breaking. J. Wade, 1; H. Eagling, 2; G. Edwards, 3; R. Hutton, 4; C. Everett, 5; W. Nudds, 6; J. Woods, 7; J. Mordey (conductor), 8. After mending the rope some of the company did not feel inclined to make another start, but rung a touch of Kent Treble Bob, 1408, by the same, only J. Woods, 4; and R. Hutton, 7. Afterwards at the meeting-house, some handbell ringing—a touch of Grandsire Triples. H. Eagling, 1-2; C. Everett, 3-4; R. Hutton, 5-6; J. Mordey, 7-8. And a course of Bob Major. Miss Kate Woods, 1-2; R. Hutton, 3-4; C. Everett, 5-6; J. Woods, 7-8.

#### THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

BURFORD (Oxon).—On Monday evening, April 13th, for practice, a 720 of Grandsire Minor, in 29 mins. H. Smith, 1; F. E. Ward (conductor), 2; J. Smith, 3; W. Large, 4; D. Francis, 5; H. Bond, jun., 6. Mr. F. E. Ward hails from Cheltenham and was formerly a member of the Burford company.

CAVERSHAM.—On Tuesday, April 7th, a 720 of Bob Minor, in 28 mins. H. Simmonds, 1; J. Butler, 2; E. Menday, 3; T. Newman, 4; Rev. G. F. Coleridge, 5; \*G. Essex (conductor), 6. Also on Sunday, April 12th, a 720 in the same method. J. Hands, 1; J. Butler, 2; E. Menday, 3; G. Essex, 4; E. Pottinger, 5; T. Newman (conductor), 6. And on the same evenings touches were rung in the following methods:—360 of Treble Bob, College Single, Oxford Bob, Double Oxford and Double Court, in which S. Paice, H. Smith, and F. Simmonds took part. Tenor 16½ cwt. \*First 720 as conductor.

#### THE ROCHDALE AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATION.

NEWCHURCH (Lancashire).—On Saturday, April 11th, at the intermediate meeting of the above Association, held at this place, the Todmorden company rang a 504 of Stedman Triples, being the first touch in the method ever rung on the bells. John A. Sutcliffe, 1; Jno. Mitten, 2; Wm. Sutcliffe, 3; J. Greenwood, 4; J. W. Greenwood (conductor), 5; Wm. Midgley, 6; Jno. Sutcliffe, 7; H. Kershaw, 8.

#### THE STOKE-ON-TRENT ARCHIDIACONAL ASSOCIATION.

STOKE-UPON-TRENT.—On Sunday, April 12th, for evening service, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor, in 28 mins. James Wood, 1; E. Glover, 2; J. Morton, 3; J. Baddeley, 4; J. W. Brough, 5; G. Walker (conductor), 6.

#### ASSOCIATION FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF SOUTH STAFFORD.

TETTENHALL (Staffordshire).—On Easter Sunday, April 5th, at the parish church, the local company, also members of the above Association, rang a 720 of Grandsire Minor, in 27 mins. W. Dyhouse, 1; B. Dalton, 2; T. Robert, 3; E. Nicholls, 4; J. Fowler, 5; J. Jones (conductor), 6. Tenor 12½ cwt.

#### THE WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

FAREHAM (Hants).—On Monday, April 13th, at St. Peter's Church, a 2520 of Grandsire Triples, being the first half of Taylor's bob-and-single variation, in 1 hr. 32 mins. W. J. Banting, 1; J. Staples, 2; G. Grafham, 3; J. Hewett, 4; C. Privett, 5; F. Hill (conductor), 6; J. W. Whiting, 7; J. Naylor, 8. Tenor 14 cwt. in F. J. Staples and J. Naylor hail from Havant, the rest are of the local company.

BATLEY CARR (Yorkshire).—*Handbell Ringing*.—On Monday, April 13th, a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob Minor (fifteen bobs), in 24 mins. Geo. H. Simon, 1-2; J. W. Simon, 3-4; Harry Blackburn (first 720), 5; Tom Hinchcliffe (conductor), 6.

CARSHALTON (Surrey).—On Monday, April 13th, the following members of the Beddington Society met at All Saints' church, for the first of a series of monthly practices, and rang a 860 of Kent Treble Bob Major. J. Harris, 1; E. Bennett, 2; J. Branch, 3; J. Plozman, 4; C. Bance, 5; J. Trappitt, 6; J. Cawley, 7; C. Gordon (conductor), 8. Touches of Stedman Triples and Plain Bob Major were afterwards rung. C. Martin ringing the tenor in the former and the treble in the latter. Tenor 12½ in Gg.

CAPEL (Surrey).—On Easter Sunday, April 5th, a 720 of College Pleasure, in 24½ mins. G. Moore, 1; R. Jordan, 2; A. D. Mills, 3; R. Worsfold, 4; E. Jordan, 5; D. Jordan (conductor), 6. Also 360 of Kent Treble Bob, with T. M. Stedman on the treble. And for Divine Service in the morning, a 360 and 240 of Oxford Bob. And for after-

noon service, a 360 and 72 of Oxford Treble Bob. And in the evening, a 720 of Violet Treble Bob, and 360 of College Exercise, in which Mark Jenkins took part.

ELTHAM (Kent).—On Easter Monday, April 6th, a 720 of College Pleasure. G. Moore, 1; R. Jordan, 2; A. D. Mills, 3; R. Worsfold, 4; E. Jordan, 5; D. Jordan (conductor), 6. Afterwards touches of Oxford, Kent, and Violet Treble Bob were rung in which the following took part—F. Fraser, Deal, Mash, Sheppard, and French. All the above belong to the Capel Society.

FARNHAM ROYAL (Bucks).—On Sunday, April 5th, a 720 of Oxford Bob Minor, in 27 mins. G. Basden, 1; J. Parker (conductor), 2; W. C. Porter, 3; J. Basden, 4; R. Flaxman, 5; C. Clarke, 6.

HORNSEY (Middlesex).—On Sunday, March 8th, for evening service, a 720 of Plain Bob Minor, in 27 mins. J. Waghorn, sen., 1; T. Glead, 2; W. H. Fussell, 3; G. B. Lucas, 4; T. Titchener, 5; W. Burkin (conductor), 6. Also a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor, in 27 mins. W. Griggs, 1; J. Waghorn, jun., 2; T. Titchener (conductor), 3; J. Nixon, 4; W. Burkin, 5; W. H. Fussell, 6. Tenor 17½ cwt.

HAVERSTOCK HILL (Middlesex).—On Sunday morning, April 12th, at St. Martin's Church, for Divine Service, a 720 of Plain Bob Minor, in 24 mins. T. Glead, 1; G. Thurlow, 2; W. Burkin, 3; J. Nixon, 4; G. B. Lucas, 5; J. Hannington (conductor), 6. Tenor 12½ cwt.

IPSWICH (Suffolk).—On Tuesday, April 7th, at St. Clement's, for the Easter Meeting, 720 of Oxford Treble Bob, 360 of Kent Treble Bob. W. Motts, 1; J. Motts, 2; R. Hawes, 3; F. Tillet, 4; H. Bowell, 5; E. Pemberton, 6. And a 360 of Plain Bob, G. Bowell, 1. And a 360 and 720 of Double Court. G. Bowell hails from Great Bromley, Essex, and is a member of the Essex Association. Tenor 16 cwt.

LEE (Kent).—On Easter Monday, April 6th, the Capel society visited this place and rang at the parish church a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob Minor, in 25 mins. G. Moore, 1; R. Jordan, 2; A. D. Mills, 3; E. Jordan, 4; R. Worsfold, 5; D. Jordan (conductor), 6. This is the first 720 of Oxford Treble Bob on the bells. And a 288 of Kent Treble Bob with T. M. Stedman at the treble.

LEYTONSTONE (Essex).—On Wednesday, April 8th, the following rang a 720 of Bob Minor, in 27 mins. A. H. Gardom, 1; Saml. Jarman, 2; E. Richards (Woolwich), 3; G. Cornell, 4; J. Marks, 5; G. Akers (conductor), 6.

LONG EATON (Derbyshire).—On Saturday, April 11th, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor, on the back six. R. Lane (conductor), 1; C. Smith, 2; G. Bradley, 3; W. Gilson, 4; W. T. Billingham, 5; W. Grice, 6. Tenor 11 cwt.

MANCHESTER.—*Muffled Peal*.—On Saturday, April 11th, several members of the Manchester Cathedral Society rang with the bells half-muffled, a few touches of Grandsire Triples, as a mark of respect to the late Mr. T. H. Drew, who was interred the same day at St. Luke's, Cheetham, Manchester. The deceased gentleman had been churchwarden at the Cathedral for several years, and took great interest in the welfare of the ringers. Mr. Drew was going to his place of business, on Tuesday, April 7th, when he fell down in the street, and was carried to the Royal Infirmary but died on the way there. Heart disease is thought to be the cause of his death.

OXFORD.—On Saturday evening, April 11th, at the Cathedral, a mixed band started for Holt's Original peal of Grandsire Triples, when after ringing 4480 changes, in 3 hrs. and 7 mins., it was brought to an untimely end through the 3rd wheel casting rope. W. Jeffery, 1; C. Hounslow (conductor), 2; F. Castle, 3; J. Howse, 4; W. Smith, 5; T. Payne, 6; W. Washbrook, 7; A. Strange, 8. Tenor 41 cwt.

ROCHESTER (Kent).—On Sunday, April 12th, at St. Margaret's church, for Divine Service in the evening, a 720 of Bob Minor, in 24 mins. J. Tullett, 1; J. Rayner (first 720), 2; H. Greaves, 3; E. Andrews (Royal Engineers' Band), 4; A. Osborne, 5; W. Baker (conductor), 6.

STAFFORD.—On Easter Monday, April 6th, at St. Mary's church, before service in the afternoon, a 504 of Grandsire Triples. E. Cashmore (West Bromwich), 1; W. Micklewright (Stafford), 2; W. R. Small (West Bromwich), 3; Rev. J. R. Keble (Lichfield), 4; W. Smith (Darlaston), 5; J. Fullwood (West Bromwich), 6; S. Reeves (conductor; West Bromwich), 7; J. Hall (West Bromwich), 8. And in the evening after service, 756 of Stedman Triples. W. Micklewright (Stafford), 1; G. Millar (Wolstanton), 2; R. Hall (West Bromwich), 3; W. R. Small (West Bromwich), 4; J. Fullwood (West Bromwich), 5; W. Millar (Wolstanton), 6; S. Reeves (conductor; West Bromwich), 7; W. Hall (Stafford), 8.

WALTON-ON-THE-HILL (Lancashire).—On Tuesday evening, March 24th, at St. Mary's parish church, 240 of Plain Bob Minor and 192 of Grandsire Minor. J. Hurst, 1; W. Booth, 2; T. R. Somerville, 3; T. Rushton, 4; R. Stockley, 5; C. E. Wilson (conductor), 6. And on Sunday evening, for Divine Service, a 360 of Plain Bob Minor and 60 of College Single. J. Hurst, 1; C. J. Rodgers, 2; T. R. Somerville, 3; T. Rushton, 4; R. Stockley, 5; C. E. Wilson (conductor), 6. And on Thursday evening, April 9th, a 720 of Grandsire

Minor, in 26½ mins. C. E. Wilson, 1; T. Elson, 2; J. Turton, 3; W. Hughes, 4; R. Stockley, 5; G. W. Hughes (conductor), 6. And a 360 of Plain Bob Minor. T. Elson, 1; C. E. Wilson, 2; T. Rushton, 3; W. Hughes, 4; R. Stockley, 5; G. W. Hughes (conductor), 6. Messrs. Elson and Turton hail from Childwall, the brothers Hughes from Halewood, the rest are local ringers. Tenor 10 cwt.

WOODCHURCH (Cheshire).—On Tuesday, April 7th, the company of St. Mary's parish church, Walton, paid a visit to the above place, and rang a 720 of Plain Bob Minor (nine bobs and six singles), in 26 mins. J. Hurst, 1; C. J. Rodgers, 2; T. R. Somerville, 3; T. Rushton, 4; R. Stockley, 5; C. E. Wilson (conductor), 6. The ringers were afterwards entertained to tea at the Rectory, and played on handbells a selection of various airs. This is the first 720 ever rung on the bells. Tenor 9½ cwt. 7 lbs.

WOODHOUSE (Leicestershire).—On Saturday, March 28th, a 720 of Bob Minor. E. D. Taylor, 1; A. Cresser, 2; C. Smith, 3; J. W. Taylor, sen., 4; W. T. Billingham, 5; R. Lane (conductor), 6. And on Wednesday, April 8th, a 720 each of Bob Minor, Grandsire Minor, and Kent Treble Bob Minor. E. D. Taylor, 1; R. Lane, 2; C. Smith, 3; J. W. Taylor, 4; W. T. Billingham, 5; J. W. Taylor, jun., (conductor), 6. Tenor 10½ cwt.

WOLVERLEY (Worcestershire).—On Monday, April 13th, for practice, a 6-score of Grandsire Doubles. Harry Williams (conductor), 1; Thomas Salter, 2; C. S. Rowland, 3; Frederick Geens, 4; Frederick Lee, 5; Thomas Pitt (aged 14), 6. Tenor 12½ cwt. This is the first 6-score by the local company. We hope within reasonable time to hear of greater things being done by them, and also that their efforts to improve may become contagious in the neighbourhood.

\* \* Several touches, for which we cannot find room, are unavoidably left over till our next issue.

#### CHRIST CHURCH SOCIETY, WEST BROMWICH.

ON Easter Monday, April 6th, the members of the above society had their annual outing, when they proceeded to Stafford by the L.N.W. Railway, arriving there at 9.45 a.m., and were met at the station by Mr. W. Micklewright, with whom previous arrangements had been made to attempt a peal, but after the usual shaking of hands had been got over, the party were quietly informed that the local party had made an attempt for a quarter-peal on the previous evening, and unfortunately a few changes from the finish, only seven bells could be heard, and on an examination being made up above, it was found that the tenor clapper had broken, but, however, early in the morning, through the exertions of some of the local party, the clapper was got out and repaired, and put in again, after which the bells were raised, the peal attempted, the success of which a report appears in another column of this paper. The remainder of the day was spent in visiting different parts of the town and ringing touches upon the tower bells, and several plain courses on the handbells, and the West Bromwich band take this opportunity of thanking the Vicar of Stafford for the use of the bells, and likewise the local friends for the kind manner in which they received them, and for the trouble they took in getting the clapper repaired so promptly.

#### ST. OSWALD'S, DURHAM.

THE second bell of this peal of six, which was cracked a few weeks ago, has been replaced by a new one, which is so like her ancient companions, that even an experienced ear would have had some difficulty in detecting which it was on the first day it was rung in peal. The old bells have been tuned so as to thoroughly harmonise the peal, the melody of which is now very pleasing, and quite different to what it has ever been before. On Friday, March 27th, the St. Oswald's company, assisted by Mr. Clarkson of Stockton, met at the tower and rang some 6-scores of Doubles with the tenor behind in order to test the effect of the new bell and the tuning.

#### THE NORTH LINCOLNSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

THE first general annual meeting of the members of this Association is fixed to take place at Lincoln on Saturday, April 25th. The meeting will (by the kindness of the vicar) be held in the St. Peter-at-Gowts schoolroom, where tea will also be provided. The Lincoln executive are making the best possible arrangements for the comfort and convenience of the members, who, it is hoped and expected, will be present in large numbers. Several of the church steeples will be open for ringing that day. The Association will be glad to see any brother ringers who can make it convenient to be present, and as the day of the meeting is fair Saturday, it is expected that other ringers will be visiting the town. Intending visitors are requested to write to the Rev. A. G. Musson, 22, Altham Terrace, Lincoln.

T. GIBBONS,  
Hon. Sec.

#### BUXTED, SUSSEX.

IN the centre of one of the most beautiful parts of the south of England, this parish church has for centuries stood, and in the steeple six sweet-toned bells have done duty in their various ways. For some years past, however, the question has often been asked—Why have they been so seldom rung? The answer always the same, namely: the bells being hung out of sight, were entirely forgotten when the church was restored. This applies to some forty or fifty churches in the county of Sussex. A short time since, however, through the energy of the Vicar, the Rev. R. P. Jell, and the kind help of many parishioners, the above stigma was removed from the parish of Buxted. Messrs. Warner, of the Cripplegate Foundry, were entrusted with the work, which comprised the addition of two trebles to complete the octave, quarter turning the old six, new fitting throughout, and rehanging, and never in their many ways of success have they given greater satisfaction than on the present occasion. The dedication and re-opening service was fixed for Thursday, April 9th, at 4 p.m., and attracted a good congregation. At the invitation of the Vicar a band of change ringers from Brighton attended, and after raising the bells in peal, rang for service a touch of Grandsire Triples, containing 504 changes. The service was that generally used on similar occasions, and was read by the Vicar. Immediately after the prayers a short touch of Grandsire Triples was rung, this being followed by a thoroughly practical sermon by the Rev. W. Scott, Curate of Maresfield, who explained the advantages to be derived from the proper use of bells, and offered useful advice to those by whom that portion of the Church work is performed. At the close of the service a collection, which defrayed the total debt on the bells, was made, and a third touch, containing 336 changes, brought a bright service to a close. During the evening the band of ringers attempted to ring a complete peal of Triples, but this, through a slight mistake on the part of the conductor, came to grief after about 3500 changes had been rung. The ringing throughout the day was good, and showed the bells to their best advantage.

#### THE WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

EASTER RINGING BY THE SOBORTON AND FAREHAM BANDS.—SOBORTON.—On Easter Sunday, April 5th, at 5.30 a.m., several short touches of Grandsire Triples, and for morning service, 336, and 168 of Grandsire Triples; and in the afternoon, eight members started for Holt's six-part peal of Grandsire Triples, but after ringing about 3800 changes in 2 hrs. 14 mins., it came to grief, owing to a change-course. A. Payne, 1; G. H. Child, 2; H. Mason, 3; F. Linter, 4; J. Hewett, 5; J. W. Whiting, 6; G. Williams (conductor), 7; H. Matthews, 8. Tenor 14½ cwt.

On Easter Monday, the same company met for a day's outing to Privett, Hants. Starting from Fareham at 7 a.m., picking up the rest of the party at Soberton, the first halt was made at Westmeon, where they obtained permission to have a pull on their peal of six, tenor 14 cwt. 3 qrs. 14 lbs., in F., but as the ropes and the circle were so bad here, nothing of note could be done. After partaking of refreshments, the party advanced for Privett, arriving there about 1 p.m., and were soon at work on their fine peal of eight bells, by Mears and Stainbank, of London. They were met here by Messrs. Barnett and Clapshaw from Farnham. After a short touch, just to try the go, length of rope, etc., Taylor's bob-and-single variation was started for, but unfortunately after 1 hr. 55 mins. excellent striking, one of the band was obliged to call "stand," being seized with a severe pain in the side. G. Grafham, 1; J. Hewett, 2; G. H. Child, 3; F. Hill, 4; G. H. Barnett, 5; G. Williams (conductor), 6; J. W. Whiting, 7; E. Clapshaw, 8. Tenor 12 cwt. in F. Afterwards, 168 of Grandsire Triples was rung with the Privett men, and several courses of Grandsire Major. The party after thanking the Privett men for their kindness, started homewards, halting again at Westmeon to partake of tea, provided by host Simpson, of the "White Horse Inn," after which the handbells were brought into use, and several courses of Grandsire Triples, Major, and Caters were rung by Messrs. Hewett, Williams, Whiting, Hill, and Grafham. This brought the day's ringing to a close; starting for Fareham, which place was reached about midnight, having all enjoyed a good day's outing.

#### THE DEVONSHIRE GUILD.

A band of ringers from Kenn (near Exeter) belonging to this Guild, visited on Easter Monday the parish of Charlton Horethorne, near Sherborne, and opened the new peal of bells there with several touches of Grandsire Doubles, struck in remarkably good time. The Vicar, the Rev. J. F. S. Phabayn, has lately replaced the old four bells by a ring of six, and the work, which has been carried out by Messrs. Warner has been done extremely well. The ringers from Kenn were most kindly received and entertained by the Vicar and Churchwardens, and their ringing was listened to with great interest, as being the first change-ringing ever heard in the neighbourhood.

## THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—BURFORD BRANCH.

ON Easter Monday, the members of the above had an outing to Chipping Norton, which is situate about twelve miles from Burford. A start was made from the rendezvous at 9 a.m. It was previously arranged to call at the two villages of Churchill and Kingham, where there are six bells in each tower. Churchill was reached shortly after ten, and after a rise, 120 of Grandsire Doubles was rung. T. E. Glanville (conductor), 1; J. Smith, 2; W. Large, 3; W. Smith, 4; D. Francis, 5; W. Launchbury, 6. It was decided to try for a 720 of Grandsire Minor, but unfortunately after ringing about 300 changes, the conductor had to call stand on account of the service which was to be held at 11 o'clock. After partaking of some refreshment at the village hostelry, the journey was continued to Kingham, which was reached about half-past eleven. Here the visitors were not prevented from ringing on account of the service, but an unsightly clock case, which was fixed in the ringing-chamber and which projected far enough into the centre to hide the man ringing the first bell from either the fifth or sixth, made it almost impossible to get good striking, however, with this obstacle, 120 of Grandsire Doubles was pulled through by W. Large, 1; W. Smith, 2; T. E. Glanville (conductor), 3; J. Smith, 4; H. Bond, 5; W. Launchbury, 6. It was utterly useless to try for a 720 of Minor, as ropesight was out of the question with the massive obstruction, so the company resolved to continue their route to Chipping Norton, the final destination. This picturesque town was reached rather later than was anticipated, for it had been decided to start for a date touch of Grandsire Triples (1885 changes), before dinner. The travellers however feeling the pangs of hunger, decided to partake of something substantial before the attempt. The bells were rose in peal so as to be ready when the inner man had been satisfied. After an excellent repast, and a hour's rest, the tower was again resorted to, and a well struck date touch (1885 changes) of Grandsire Triples was rung in 1 hr. 12 mins., particulars of which will be found in another column. After achieving this, the real object of their journey, walks were indulged in, when a start was made for home, which was reached about 11 o'clock, all being well pleased with the day's enjoyment.

## ANNIVERSARY OF THE ST. PETER MANCROFT SOCIETY.

THE first Anniversary of the present St. Peter Mancroft Society (Norwich) took place on Tuesday, the 7th instant. Though the inclement weather appeared to militate against the success of the meeting, a goodly number of ringers, from Diss and other country places, came to join their Norwich brethren; while Redenhall was represented by Captain Moore.

The St. Peter's Society met at the church at 9.0 a.m., and during the day rang touches of Grandsire Cinques, Stedman Caters, and Treble ten, the visitors also ringing at St. Giles's, St. Lawrence's, and St. Gregory's, permission being kindly allowed for the occasion.

At 2.0 p.m., upwards of thirty-seven sat down to an excellent dinner provided by host Spanton, of the "White Hart" hotel. After the repast, the observance of the usual loyal and patriotic toasts being accompanied by The National Anthem, played upon the handbells by the Albert Street handbell ringers, the toast of "The St. Peter's Society" was given by the Vicar, the Rev. F. Baggallay, who coupled with it the name of Mr. F. Knights, the Master of the company. The rev. gentleman expressed a wish that the society might flourish, and hoped soon to be able to ring himself. In responding, Mr. F. Knights said he trusted the society would be the means of binding the Vicar, the ringers, and churchwardens together more closely. He thanked the latter gentlemen—Mr. Alexander and Mr. Chamberlain—for the help they had accorded to the society.

In the evening a convivial meeting was held, presided over by Mr. Henry Roberts, when selections of music on the pianoforte were given by Mr. P. Sadler, and on the violin by Mr. T. Howard, and the handbell ringers played several popular airs. The day's proceedings were brought to an end by a vote of thanks to the host for his excellent catering.

## GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

A QUARTERLY DISTRICT MEETING of this Association was held at Old Swindon, on Thursday, April 9th. The Stroud St. Lawrence's band were sent to represent the Association. The members commenced, as is their custom, with a short service in church, the prayers being read by the Rev. Pitt Eykyn, Hon. Sec. to the Association, and a short address was delivered from the lectern by the Rev. F. J. Sloane, curate in charge of Old Swindon, who pointed out the likelihood of bells being a development of cymbals in the same manner as the pianoforte was undoubtedly a development of the "virginal" of Queen Elizabeth's time, or even of the harpsichord of David. The same gentleman occupied the chair at the dinner at "The King's Arms." Fresh members from Northleach and from Bristol were elected at this meeting.

## HANDBELLS IN CHURCH.

IT may be interesting to the readers of "THE BELL NEWS" to know that the handbells were again brought into use in the parish church of Hertfordingbury, near Hertford, on Easter Day. As the Christmas Hymn, "O come, all ye faithful," played on the handbells as a commencement to the morning service on that festival, was so successful, and appreciated by the Rector and congregation, it was decided to attempt the "Easter Hymn." At the first, the tune appeared to be difficult, especially the Alleluias! still they went to work with a will, and with the untiring exertions of their Captain, the company thoroughly mastered it. Easter Day at length arrived, the morning and evening services were commenced by the hymn "Jesus Christ is risen to day, Alleluia!" being played on the handbells in the belfry, (which is open to the church), by the following members of the parochial company: George Smith, Jasper G. Crawley, Frederick Cull, James Copps, Joseph Cull, Arthur Peet, Edward Taylor, Henry Cull. The tune was taken from "Hymns Ancient and Modern," and played three times, representing the three verses. The church was full at both services, several members of the congregation have expressed their satisfaction of the performance, and congratulated the ringers on their success; so great attention being given to the time, and the "piano" and "forte" parts of the hymn, which added much to the beauty of the harmony. But the principal feature was in the third verse, which the conductor arranged for the lines to be played in octaves, and the Alleluias in full harmony, which had a very good effect, the octaves bringing out the full tone of the larger bells. The company take this opportunity of tendering their best thanks to Mr. J. G. Crawley, the captain and conductor, for his trouble and kindness in instructing them on this and other occasions.

## Correspondence.

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

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

## REPLY TO COLLEGE YOUTH.

SIR,—In reply to a question asked by "A College Youth" in a recent issue, I beg to state that the weight of the tenor of St. Giles's, Reading, is about 18 cwt. The 720 of Bob Minor was rung on handbells and not on the tower bells, but being rung with the bells half muffled the printer naturally thought that it must have been tower bells.

GEORGE GIBBARD.

## ELECTION OF MEMBERS IN THE TOWER.

SIR,—I take it for granted that peal-books are provided for the purpose of entering peals rang by members of the particular society of which the book is the property. If the construction which Mr. Strange puts upon rule 7 of the St. James Society is a legal one, the peal-book has no right to contain peals that are rung by bands who only propose and second one of their number before starting, as no one can actually be a member before elected. With respect to the question of a meeting of the society, I should say that a band meeting in the tower to all intents and purposes would be deemed a meeting of the society, and fully qualified to vote upon the election of a member, if permitted according to the rules, which I fail to find makes any mention of a nomination. I cannot fall in with the view that Mr. Strange takes of this discussion, for I look upon it as one which ought to be thoroughly ventilated in your columns, in order to obtain a decision upon with a view of avoiding future disputes. Finally, I cannot but regard the point as one but of vital importance to many who, like myself, might have their services called into requisition for the purpose of taking part in a peal, and if only proposed and seconded an objection might be raised against its entry in the peal-book upon the grounds that such individual was not elected.

OUTSIDER.

P.S.—Bye-the-bye, we never heard the decision in respect of the Walthamstow peal; cannot Mr. Strange enlighten us upon the subject.

## THE SHIPWAY REPRINT.

SIR,—I should very much like to hear some more about the Shipway reprint in penny numbers. I am very anxious to obtain that book, and if it comes out in penny numbers, I promise you I will take them in, and I know several more ringers who would do so, including W. A. Tyler, and J. Hare, and I have no doubt some more of our ringing friends here would do so, as we think it is within the reach of every ringer to obtain it on so easy terms.

ALFRED SQUIRES.

Hitchin, Herts.

[We should like to know the measure of support such an undertaking as a penny weekly issue is likely to obtain. If we receive favourable replies from a sufficient number of our readers within the next fortnight we will attempt the publication of Shipway in this manner. Many of the subscribers to the work have intimated their agreement with the plan, while not one has objected.—ED.]

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Total Annual Income ... .. 343,271

Amount of Profits divided at the

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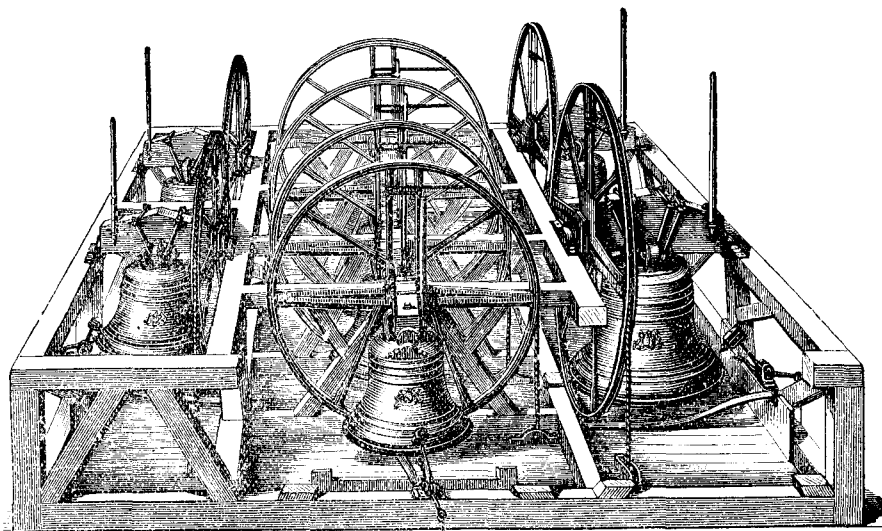
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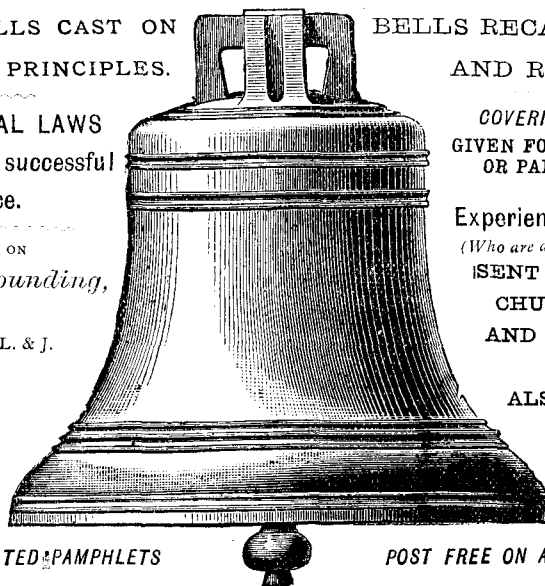
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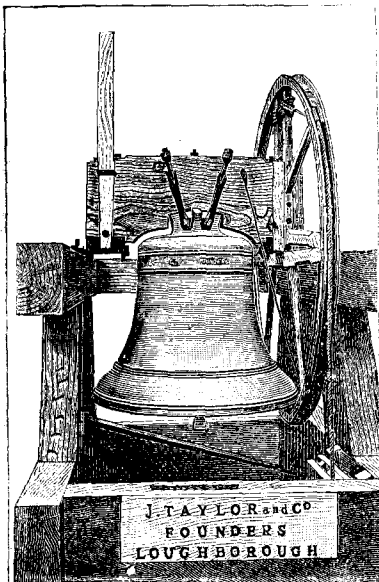
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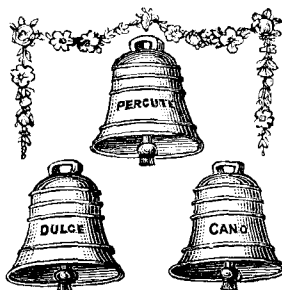
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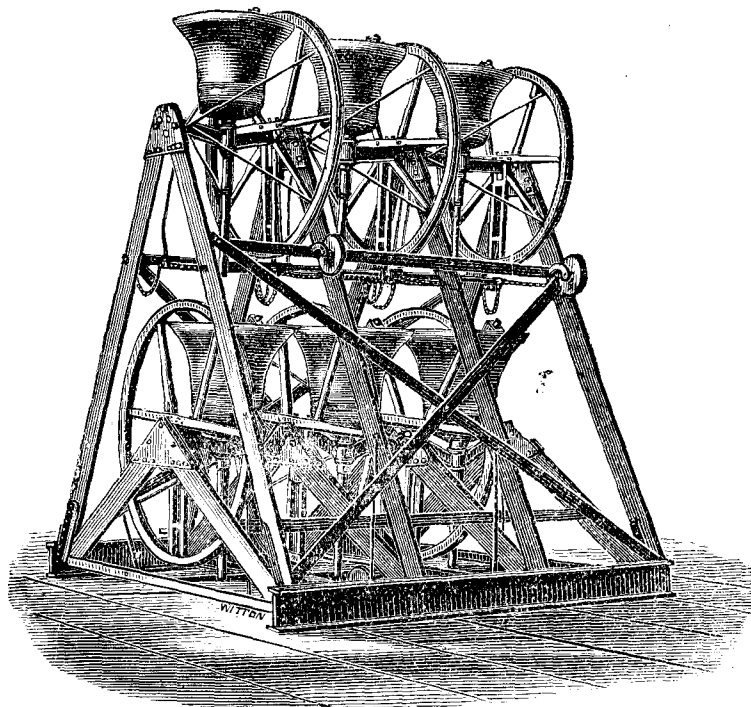
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No. 160. [NEW SERIES.]—VOL. IV.

SATURDAY, APRIL 25, 1885.

[ONE PENNY.]

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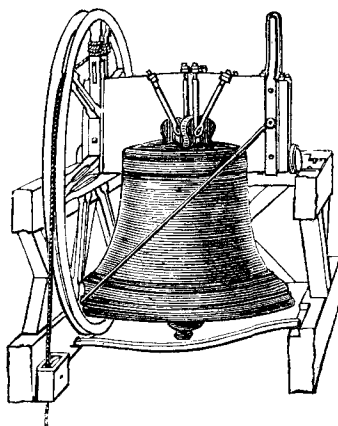
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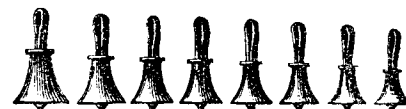
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## THE HISTORY OF STEDMAN'S PRINCIPLE.

By JASPER W. SNOWDON.

On January 11th, 1832, the Sussex Society rang one of Shipway's peals, 362 calls, at St. George's, Camberwell; and in the following year peals by Tebbs, Shipway, and Powell, probably from Shipway's sheet, were rung at St. Peter's, Walworth; St. James's, Clerkenwell; and St. John's, Manchester. About this time several clever men, especially in the Birmingham district, were hard at work, and the names of two of the ringers of the above-mentioned town—John Lates and Thomas Thurstans—began to be connected with the long-sought improvements in this system. W. Hudson, of Sheffield, who it is said had previously composed a peal in the method, also very considerably reduced the number of calls in his peal, as about this period he obtained one with 240 bobs and 22 Holt's singles. The peal by Hudson, which I gave in my collection, is the only one by that composer of which I have ever been able to find the composition. From this peal of Hudson's, Lates composed the one with 120 bobs, 120 singles in 3-4, and 22 doubles—(this peal I gave in my collection): and for a few years the only improved peals were those obtained by a reduction of the calls in Hudson's composition. The most decided of these improvements was a peal rung, for the first time, at Aston, on August 8th, 1842, by the Birmingham St. Martin's Society. This was the first peal ever rung with two Holt's singles only; besides these two calls, it also contained only 240 bobs. There was a good deal of controversy at this time as to whom the credit of this great improvement of Hudson's peal was due, as the removal of twenty out of the twenty-two singles made it incomparably superior to any of the previous compositions. This question was not satisfactorily settled even at that time, as the peal was entered in the record-book of the St. Martin's Society as the "joint composition" of Lates and Thurstans. The controversy came to such a pitch that eventually a circular, of which the following is a copy, was printed by the party who rang the peal. The calling of the peal is given in my collection:—

*Copy of circular:*—"On Monday, August 8th, 1842, eight members of St. Martin's Society, Birmingham, ascended the tower of Saints Peter and Paul, Aston, and rung in a masterly style a true and complete peal of Stedman's Triples, comprising 5040 changes, in three hours and ten minutes. Tenor 23 cwt. The band as stationed:—  
Mr. James Jarvis, *treble*. | Mr. Joseph Deer, *fourth*. | Mr. Tho. Thurstans, *sixth*.  
Mr. John Hopkins, *second*. | Mr. Thomas Gay, *fifth*. | Mr. Thomas Day, *seventh*.  
Mr. John James, *third*. | Mr. Jesse Cutler, *tenor*.

The peal was ably conducted by Mr. Thomas Day.

The above peal consists of 240 bobs and 2 singles only, which gives it a decided superiority over any peal yet produced, and is an improvement upon Mr. Hudson's peal, of Sheffield; having twenty singles taken away, which has been done by Mr. Thomas Thurstans, to whom great credit is due.

On February 9th, 1843, a company rang this same peal at Aston church, and Lates was credited with having composed the peal. In the same year some correspondence on this subject appeared in the *Era* (a paper which was then the authority on ringing performances, &c.), and as Hudson and Lates speak for themselves, I quote the different letters and paragraphs.

In "Answers to Correspondents" in the *Era* of December 10th, 1843, the following paragraph occurs:—

"A FRIEND. The progress of the improvements in triple changes on Stedman's principle is as follows.—The first peal in regular parts was the production of the late ingenious Mr. Joseph Tebbs, of Leeds, comprising the 5040 changes with 620 calls, and this was not accomplished until the year 1814. About fourteen years afterwards Mr. Thomas Day, of Birmingham, composed his celebrated peal, 112 calls only, with two bells never dodging together more than eighteen changes behind, at one time, throughout the 5040. This clever composition was succeeded by the peal of J. P. Powell, Esq., with 382 calls, and also by the peal of Mr. Shipway of London, with 362 calls. Mr. William Hudson, of Sheffield further reduced the calls to 262, but a great improvement was afterwards made by Mr. John Lates, of Birmingham, who succeeded in reducing the dodging behind to 12 changes only, and this peal was rung in the style by the Christleton change-ringers in 1840. The last great improvement was also by Mr. John Lates, and is produced by 240 bobs and only 2 singles, which has since been rung five times. Another generation may excel this, but the present will, in all probability, leave it as the *ne plus ultra* of composition in this much admired but intricate system."

A fortnight after, that is on December 24th, 1843, the following letter appeared in the *Era*:—

"CHANGE-RINGING.—Sir: In your answers to correspondents, on the 10th inst., headed 'A Friend,' respecting compositions of triple changes on Stedman's

principle, you are incorrect with respect to the first ten-part peal. 'Twas I who made the discovery in 1814, though I did not give the peal to Mr. Tebbs till the year 1818. Had it been the production of that gentleman, it would have appeared in Mr. Shipway's work on the Art of Bell Ringing. Your informant strangely allows me to be the first who reduced the peal to 262 calls, while he states that there have been compositions since superior to mine. Now of all the new peals none has appeared which has not been compiled from the course-ends of my originals. Mr. T. Thurstans, of Lates of Birmingham, first reduced the peal to 242 fair calls. These composers merely call their work an improvement on my peal. This, however, I will leave to the judicious professors of the Art. I am, sir, yours, William Hudson."

An editor's foot-note is added to this letter which runs thus:—

"We have also received a letter from Mr. Henry Cooper, of Birmingham, on this subject, which, in a great measure corroborates the foregoing." In the next issue of the *Era* (December 31st, 1843), the following letter appeared:—

"CHANGE-RINGING.—Sir, In justice to the memory of the late Mr. Joseph Tebbs, I hope you will insert the following. The peal of Stedman's Triples now claimed by your Sheffield correspondent was published in Mr. Tebbs's name by J. P. Powell, Esq. in his work on that system, and presented, gratis, by that gentleman to the *Exercise generally*; and with respect to the last peal, with 242 calls, I beg to say, that when I obtained it, I communicated the same to T. Thurstans, in the presence of witnesses, who heard him declare that the attainment of this most desirable object was quite impossible. I am, Sir, very respectfully yours, John Lates, Birmingham."

In the note-book of the late John Hopkins, of Birmingham, who rang in the first of the performances of this peal, which is claimed by both Thurstans and Lates, I find a note concerning the second of these peals, which runs thus:—

"Mr. John Lates, the author robber. This same peal (Stedman's Triples) was rung for the first time by the St. Martin's Company, Birmingham, at St. Peter's, Ashton, Aug 8th, 1842. It was an improvement upon Mr. Hudson's peal, of Sheffield, having 16 singles taken away, which has been done by Mr. Thomas Thurstans, to whom great credit is due, and four only by Mr. John Lates, both of Birmingham, and is the first ever rung with two singles."

With all these different statements before me, my readers will admit that it was hardly possible for me to form any opinion as to whom the credit for this improved peal was due. When I had the matter in hand (in 1875), I therefore wrote to my friend, Mr. Henry Johnson, of Birmingham, to whose kind assistance, both in the production of this account and collection of peals, I am greatly indebted, asking him if he could give me any definite and trustworthy information on this point. Under date September 24th, 1875, Mr. Johnson wrote that on the previous Tuesday evening he had seen Mr. Thomas Day, who had conducted the peal, who positively assured him that Lates was the real author of the peal; as, although about this time Thurstans made some improvement on Hudson's peal, by cutting some of the singles out, it was Lates who first reduced the number to two singles.

## THE HERTFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

A Quarterly Meeting of this Association was held at Hitchin, on Monday, April 20th. About thirty ringers were present from Baldock, Bennington, Bishops Stortford, Hertford, Sawbridgeworth, and St. Albans. The tower of St. Mary's (eight bells, tenor 28 cwt.), was placed at the disposal of the Association, and ringing commenced about 10 a.m. with touches of Grandsire Triples by Messrs. Hills, Godman, Buckingham, and Cartmel, of St. Albans, and Messrs. W. Allen, W. A. Tyler, J. Hare, and A. Squires, of the local company. L. Proctor, Esq. arrived about noon, with several of his Bennington band; also the Rev. W. Wigram and H. Baker, from Hertford, H. J. Tucker from Bishops Stortford, and G. Rochester from Sawbridgeworth. Touches of Stedman Triples and Double Norwich were then attempted, the latter however was not brought round. At 2 p.m. the company started for Baldock, and some good ringing ensued; 420 Stedman Triples, conducted by H. Baker, 575 Kent Treble Bob Major, conducted by H. J. Tucker, 336 Double Norwich Court conducted by S. Page, and 280 Grandsire Triples, conducted by N. N. Hills, were all brought round in fine style. The company having been joined by Messrs. Phillips, Rosslyn, and several others of the Baldock band, again returned to Hitchin, where a business meeting was held in the schoolroom at 5.30.

The Rev. W. Wigram, Hon. Sec., reported that since the last quarterly meeting two peals of Grandsire Triples had been rung, one at Hertford, being the first since the formation of the Association; the other at Harlow, Essex, which was the first on the bells. A very handsome peal-book had been purchased, which was exhibited at the meeting. Five new ringing members were elected, which now brings the total up to ninety. A vote of thanks to the Rev. Canon Hensley, and the Rev. Canon Kewley for the use of the bells, and also to the Rev. W. Wigram, for his valuable services as Secretary, brought the proceedings to a close. The next quarterly meeting will be held on Monday, July 13th, at Sawbridgeworth.

## THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

SOME of the enlightened inhabitants of the town of Romford, (a town containing a population of 10,000, situate just twelve miles from the metropolis), were evidently of a speculative turn on Saturday last, as to the cause of the arrival of various unique physical-looking visitors and the sudden outburst of St. Edward's bells, followed by the frequent ringing of the same. Generally speaking, the inhabitants are deemed to be possessed of a reasonable amount of loyalty, and probably such may be the fact, but evidently some of them are so interested in the history of the Royal Family that they have actually forgotten the day on which the birth of Her Most Gracious Majesty Queen Victoria was first announced to the world, for there were individuals who had sufficient credulity to declare that the ringing was in honour of the Queen's birthday. Others who had been believers that the horrors of war were looming in the future, declared at last that Mr. Gladstone had led us through the Afghan dispute safely, and that notwithstanding that our brave soldiers' swords had been sharpened, they would be returned to their sheaths unstained with human blood, and because we had thus escaped from the claws of the Russian bear the bells were ringing. Others desirous of showing their political views, declared it was "primrose day," and that the bells were ringing in order to remind all those within their sound of the death of one of England's noble statesmen. Such were among the absurd explanations that members of the Exercise actually listened to in Romford on Saturday last. Such theories, however, like the old traditional superstition that the parish church of Romford was once swallowed up by an earthquake, and that at midnight the bells can be heard ringing at "old church," found but few believers, as there were among the inhabitants individuals who hailed with pleasure the visit paid by the Essex Association, and who appreciated the ringing which took place during the day. Members of the Association put in an appearance from Walthamstow, West Ham, Barking, Bentley, Dedham, Ipswich, Little Heath, Rayleigh, Galleywood, Brentwood, etc., making altogether about forty present. Ringing was commenced shortly after one o'clock, at St. Edward's, where there is a ring of eight, tenor of the estimated weight of 17 cwt., and of which there are various opinions as to the quality of the metal and the go of the bells, some declaring them to be a fair ring, but require *ringing*, while others say they are unmusical and *noisy*. Whichever is right, some very creditable touches of Grandsire Triples were brought home—in fact such was the result of each attempt in the method during the afternoon. With the exception of a 434, conducted by A. Pye, and a touch conducted by the Editor of this journal, the touches were conducted by A. J. Perkins, the most successful of which were 448, 350, and 223, and also a 448 of Bob Major. In the evening, a course each of Stedman and a course of Kent Treble Bob Major were also rung. By the kind permission of the Vicar of Hornchurch, the tower of the church in connection with the Association was open to members, and a 720 of Bob Minor was rung by the Boreham company. An excellent knife and fork tea was provided in the National Schoolroom, and followed by the usual business meeting. Canon Hitchcock, Vicar of Romford, presided, supported by the Rev. H. A. Cockey, hon. sec. to the Association. Mr. Hennal, of Springfield, was elected an honorary member; Mr. T. Mott, Ipswich, a distinguished ringing member; Messrs. T. Piper and H. Shuttleworth (Widford), W. Pye (Little Heath), and E. F. Cole (Streatham), ringing members. Mr. B. Keeble (Romford), gave notice of moving at the Annual Meeting, that steps be taken for providing members' certificates, and that the question of the design be left in the hands of the hon. sec. Mr. Cockey having alluded to the loss sustained by the Association through the deaths of the late Archdeacon Carey, and the late Rev. J. Francis, of Waltham Abbey, since the last meeting, who had always given the Association such a hearty welcome, and showing such great hospitality to the members, Mr. Randall (West Ham), proposed that a vote of condolence be sent to the relatives of each of the lamented gentlemen, and such was unanimously agreed to. Mr. Perkins (Romford), asked if the hon. sec. knew anything as to the tenor bell at Chelmsford at the present time, as he considered it a farce to hold a meeting where there was a bell that went so bad as that one did at the time of the last Annual Meeting. Mr. Keeble asked if the hon. sec. could give any information as to the progress of the re-hanging of the two trebles in the same tower. Mr. Cockey replied that he was given to understand that the tenor bell was now in a fair condition he had not tried it himself, but understood that it could now be rung to a peal. As to the re-hanging of the two trebles, he could only say that the authorities secured a subscription from him, and he anticipated that they would make an application to the Association to contribute towards such; in fact he expected the application to have been made there that day, but no doubt it would be brought forward at the Annual Meeting. Mr. Randall did not consider the church authorities of Chelmsford had any right to expect the Association to contribute, but that the Chelmsford people ought to see the work carried out at their own expense. Mr. Davies (Barking) suggested that the hon. sec. should put himself in

communication with the authorities at Chelmsford, and request that the work might be completed. The Rev. H. A. Cockey pointed out that Chelmsford was not only the most central position of the county, but was well surrounded with towers, and was therefore the best place to hold a large gathering. He should be most happy to carry out any desire of the members present that would tend to make progress with the work. Mr. B. Keeble supported the suggestion made by Mr. Davies, and referred to the fact that it was through the energy of the late hon. sec. to the Association that the authorities at last moved and had improvements made in Chelmsford belfry, and pointed out that the two trebles were taken back through the happy thought and energy of the present hon. sec. He believed it only required a little gentle pressure, a little influence, and he considered the Association would be lacking in its duty if it did not come forward and support Mr. Cockey in securing these bells back to their former positions. He would propose that the hon. sec. apply for permission to hold the Annual Meeting at Chelmsford on Whit-Monday, and to express a hope that the two trebles would be rehung by that date. This was seconded by Mr. Davies, and unanimously agreed to. In acknowledging a vote of thanks, the chairman said he regarded ringers as churchworkers, just as much as Sunday School teachers or district visitors. They ought to be recognised as such, for they performed an important duty in calling the people to the House of God. When they had done their duty, they ought to remember that it was their place to attend the service, and if they were earnest in their work, they would be communicants. The fact that one of the objects of their Association was belfry reform made it worthy of support. In some places, even in the present day, the belfry was made a smoking and drinking place; where such existed, was owing to the fault of the clergy. In the diocese of Durham, where he resided before he came to Romford, he had no need to take an interest in ringing, for there were only two bells at the church, but he remembered that when instituted to the living, he had to toll one of them. All that he did was to make a little faint noise, and when he came out of the church, a parishioner standing outside, made the remark, "I hope he wont do the rest of his work as he has commenced." He observed the other day, that among those who took the oath of allegiance to the new Bishop of London were the cathedral ringers, showing at once that they were recognised as church workers. Since he had been at Romford, his labours had not permitted him to take a very great interest in ringers, but their meeting that day had been a success, and would no doubt lead him to take a still further interest with them. He wished the Association every success, and trusted they might on another occasion visit Romford, when they would receive a hearty welcome. A vote of thanks to the hon. sec. concluded the meeting. The East London Handbell Ringers were present during the afternoon, and in the evening gave a choice selection of music at the "Swan Hotel," upon their fine toned ring of seventy bells. One single touch of Grandsire Triples, was performed upon handbells by: H. Reeves, 1-2; B. Keeble, 3-4; A. J. Perkins (conductor), 5-6; A. Pye, 7-8.

## THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.—BURTON-ON-TRENT DISTRICT.

A General Meeting of the members of the Burton-on-Trent branch of the above Association was held in St. Paul's Institute, Burton-on-Trent, on Monday, April 20th, 1885, at 8 p.m. Present: The Rev. James H. Fish, Vicar of St. Paul's, and President of the Association; Mr. Wm. Wakley, Hon. Treasurer of the Association; Mr. J. Griffin, Hon. Secretary of the Association, and a fair muster of members from the District. The President took the chair. The minutes of the last meeting were read, and on the motion of Mr. W. Wakley, seconded by Mr. G. Robinson, were unanimously declared correct. The Chairman having explained that the chief object of the meeting was to elect district officers for the ensuing year, the following gentlemen were unanimously chosen: Local Hon. Secretary, Mr. J. Jaggard, 145, Shobnall Street, Burton-on-Trent; Members of Committee, Messrs. A. Wakley and G. Robinson. A letter was read from Mr. H. Dains, congratulating the district on its performances as contained in the Report for the past year, and a vote of thanks to the chairman terminated the proceedings. One ringing member was admitted.

## Obituary.

WE regret to announce the death of the Rev. C. L. Bode, an active member of The Salisbury Diocesan Guild, and captain of the St. Edmund's company. Mr. Bode preached at the evening service on Easter Day, and took part in the ringing afterwards. On the Thursday following he was taken seriously ill with pleurisy and congestion of the lungs, and died about noon on Saturday, the 18th inst. He was an active parochial worker, and will be very much missed and lamented in St. Edmund's parish.

## ALARMING ACCIDENT TO A RINGING PARTY.

It will be within the recollection of many of our readers, especially those who so eagerly scan the records of peals of 5000 changes and upwards, that a band of the Ancient Society of College Youths secured a peal of Grandsire Triples at St. George's, Camberwell, on Easter Monday last. The usual bare record of the ringing of this peal did not of course point to any other circumstance connected with it; and it is only within the last day or two that it has come to our knowledge that an unfortunate event occurred, which we are afraid is likely to cause a great deal of trouble to one, at least, of the parties concerned.

The day in question being of the holiday season, and the distance from the rendezvous to Camberwell between too great for walking, especially on such a day as Easter Monday, when the roads and streets of London are crowded with holiday-making folk, it was agreed by the party to have a conveyance to go by road, the several metropolitan railways being too greatly patronised on that day to be comfortable to an ordinary passenger. As we understand it, the services of Mr. Henry F. Wood (a member of the College Youths, and brother of Mr. Matthew Wood) were required to supply a vehicle for the purpose of conveying the party to the place of meeting. With his well-known willingness to please, Mr. H. Wood, who possesses a pair of horses for business purposes, provided the necessary equipage, and having a practical acquaintance with the equine race, it was considered best that he should accompany the party in the capacity of charioteer. The company arrived at their destination in safety, rang their peal, and after a very brief stay for a slight refreshment, returned towards home. On proceeding along the road, everything apparently all going well, some unaccountable freak of nature suddenly appeared to take possession of the horses drawing the vehicle, causing them to break away from all control, and seemed, as it were, to rush on destruction. The occupants of the vehicle became alarmed, and some of them, fearful of the coming danger, attempted to leave it, one or two of them succeeding, not before, however, they had received a good shaking. Mr. H. Wood manfully adhered to his post, hoping that the fury of the animals would soon exhaust itself, while those who remained, endeavoured by gesticulations of various kinds to prevent other vehicles crossing the path, and thus leaving the coast clear. Had this been effectually done, no great disaster would have happened. On coming near to the end of a road, a tramcar was seen approaching in the direction to which, if it could not be diverted, a collision was imminent. The driver was appealed to by signal to proceed on at a rapid pace to get clear, but his perception being dense, he did just the opposite, and brought his car to a stand. The result was that the animals of the vehicle containing the remnant of the ringing company dashed into the tramcar, and a dreadful collapse was the consequence, the horses—from underneath one of which Mr. H. Wood was rescued—being injured so dreadfully, that one of them had to be killed, and the damage done to the car and the vehicle combined being considerable. It is a great satisfaction to know that no one either in the tramcar or the other conveyance has received any material injury.

Now after such an unfortunate occurrence as this there comes the question—"who's to pay the piper?" We are sorry to hear that Mr. H. Wood has sustained a damage in the loss of his horse, and various breakages, to the tune of nearly £50. Mr. Wood is a hard-working, respectable man, a good ringer (we rung our first peal of Stedman with him), a brother, as we have stated, of the well-known Matthew Wood, and this great loss is a very serious matter to him, much more serious than any one not fully acquainted with his position can thoroughly understand. It is thought there may be among the readers of this paper some who will contribute, however small, to assist him in his loss arising from this unfortunate accident. We hope there may be a great many able and willing to help an old and worthy brother-string in his difficulty and trouble. The smallest contribution will be received and faithfully acknowledged by Mr. Matthew A. Wood, Church Row, Bethnal Green, London, E., or by Mr. James Monday, 12, Mount Street, Whitechapel, E.

## THE UNITED COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

THE Quarterly Committee Meeting of the above Association was held on Saturday, April 18th, at the house of Mr. William Middleton, "Black Bull's Head," Mottram, Cheshire. The business of the meeting was of a very ordinary character, and was well attended. Early in the afternoon eight members of the Association met to ring a 5024 of Kent Treble Bob Major, but after ringing a short time, the tenor rope broke, and some of the bells were found to go very bad, so it was decided to abandon the peal altogether. The state of the ropes and bells was explained to the Vicar, who happened to be in the churchyard, and had been listening to the bells. The rev. gentleman expressed himself very sorry and said that as soon as there was sufficient money for the object he would have them rehung. The company thanked the Vicar for the use of the bells, and hoped the necessary funds would soon be forthcoming.

## THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

LEISTON (Suffolk).—On Saturday, April 18th, eight members of the above Association, made the attempt (as published in "THE BELL NEWS" of April 11th), to ring the late Mr. T. Day's long peal of 16,608 changes, but after ringing over 10,800 changes, in 6 hours 25 minutes, it unfortunately came to grief owing to a mis-call. W. Ireland (conductor; Diss), 1; W. Motts, 2; C. Mee, 3; E. Pemberton, 4; J. Motts, 5; R. H. Brundle, 6; E. Collings (Worlingworth), 7; P. Meadows (Melton), 8. Messrs. J. and W. Motts, C. Mee, E. Pemberton, and R. H. Brundle hail from Ipswich. The method rung was in the Oxford Variation. Tenor 20 cwt. 2 qrs. 4 lbs. The ringers wish through this paper to tender their sincere thanks to the Vicar, the Rev. B. J. Raven, for the use of the bells, and his hearty welcome, to the Churchwarden, Mr. Borrett, of Leiston Hall, for his kind liberality in providing a dinner, etc.; and also to Mr. Button, Master of the Leiston company, for providing lodgings, and getting the bells ready. The peal of bells were recently increased to eight by Messrs. Taylor and Co., of Loughborough, and are well worth a visit by any company, the go of them are excellent. Another attempt will be made next month if all is well.

## ST. PETER'S, WALWORTH, SURREY.

ON Thursday evening, April 16th, the ringers of the above met and rang a touch on the bells, and then adjourned to the school room belonging to the church, where a supper was provided for them by the Rev. J. H. Hazell, M.A., rector of St. Peter's. Twelve sat down to supper, including the Rev. J. C. E. Kidson, B.A., curate, in the chair. After supper the rector presided. Mr. Felton, churchwarden, Mr. Redley, organist, Mr. Hazell, jun., and other guests were present. Some capital songs were sang, and the rector gave an eloquent speech respecting the ringers and the eloquent music displayed on the bells, and said he was very pleased to be present. Afterwards six of the company rang a touch on the handbells, and concluded the evening with musical honours. Mr. Goodchild, verger, catered for the supper, and it was served up in excellent style. The following are the names in the ringers who were present: Messrs. Warrick, Flower, Drury, French, Coxhead, Langdon, Wilkes, Jones, Groves, Summers, and Windley.

## EASTON CHURCH BELLS, WICKHAM MARKET, SUFFOLK.

THE peal of five bells in this parish having undergone extensive repairs, were opened on Saturday last, April 18th, by ringers from the following places: Eye, Brandeston, Pettistree, Wickham Market, etc., etc. The bells have all been entirely rehung upon a new, stout English oak frame, and all new fittings complete. The tenor-bell, weighing 10 cwt., has been recast, and is a clean casting, and fine tone, and bears the following inscription: "This bell was recast, and the peal rehung at the expense of the Duke of Hamilton and Brandon, 1885. The other bells have all been turned on the new stocks, and entirely re-tuned, and are now a very musical peal. Through the liberality of the Duke of Hamilton, the ringers were supplied with refreshments at the "White Horse" inn, where a pleasant evening was spent. The new bell is from the Cripplegate Foundry, London, and the work has been satisfactorily carried out by Messrs. George Day and Son, Church Bellhangers, of Eye, Suffolk.

## THE ROCHDALE AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATION.

AN Intermediate Meeting of this Association was held at St. Nicholas, Newchurch, on Saturday, April 11th. There were about fifty members present from the following districts: St. Chad's and St. Alban's, Rochdale; St. James', Milnrow; St. Thomas', New Hey; Unitarian Church, Todmorden; St. Peter's, Walsden; St. Luke's, Heywood, and several independent members. They were joined by the Newchurch, Waterfoot, Bacup, Heptonstall, and other ringers. This meeting was one of the best intermediate meetings the Society has had for some time, and it is hoped it may continue to be so, and that the Newchurch meeting may revive other intermediate meetings of the Association. The ringing commenced about 3.40 on the tower bells (a splendid peal by Messrs. Mears and Stainbank), several touches of various methods being rung by the different companies. The bells having to be silent during a funeral, the Committee held their meeting during the same time, after which the ringing was resumed in the tower, and also on the handbells. The Newchurch company provided a very substantial tea for all members requiring it. The Association take the present opportunity of thanking the Newchurch ringers for their kind reception, for everyone seemed to make himself at home. And they also wish to thank the Rector and Churchwardens of Newchurch for the use of the bells.

The next quarterly meeting will be held at St. Luke's, Heywood, on Saturday, May 2nd.

JAMES ADSHEAD, Hon. Sec.

"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.

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, APRIL 25, 1885.

It is refreshing to hear an incumbent of an important parish church, while deploring the irregularities which are said to exist in some belfries, confess that "the fault is with the clergy." According to the report of the meeting of the Essex Association, held at Romford last Saturday, and which is printed on another page, this is what the Vicar of Romford, the Rev Canon HITCHCOCK, said when presiding at the meeting. Evidently the rev. canon wished to convey the impression that it was through the want of interest by many of the clergy in their bells and ringers, that the evils he mentioned were allowed to exist. But the root of the evil lies deeper, we think. That the recognition of ringers as Church workers of a somewhat higher degree than the gravedigger is to be commended we all admit, and when the clergy come to place really good ringers upon an equality with the organist or choir, and regard their services quite as indispensable, we are led to think that a good time is coming. But there is one other important matter to be attended to before we can really believe in the lasting sincerity of such friendly declarations. And that is, the endeavour to make the arrangements of the belfry and the machinery of the bells in a condition so that they can be rung with some degree of comfort. A movement of this kind is really the most effective mode of preventing irregularities, and a sure incentive to earnestness among ringers.

We read sometimes of remarkable feats of chiming at Romford, which are certainly very clever, and reflect great credit upon the performers. And under the circumstances in which these gentlemen are placed, we must greatly commend their pluck in persevering with ringing under such unfavourable conditions as surround them. The church of Romford is situated among parishioners who apparently seethe in prosperity and affluence; it stands in a prominent position near the centre of the town, is a most comely-looking edifice, dedicated to St. Edward; such a one in fact as a ringer with the least spark of poetry in his soul would long to ring a peal

at, but, to quote the words of a ringer who took part in a touch there last Saturday—"the place is a slaughter-house." We have rung upon many peals in different parts of England, but our experience of Romford would lead us to regard it as the very last place we should select to ring at if we wished to enjoy the practice.

We would, with the utmost respect, though with emphasis, point out to the vicar of Romford that the most practical way of showing his sympathy with the objects of the Essex Association would be to take steps to have the bells rehung, and the belfry arrangements remodelled. Of course we do not mean to say that he should at once give an order to a bell-founder to do the necessary work, and commit himself to the expense. Such advice would be simply ridiculous. But subscriptions for such a praiseworthy purpose could be solicited, the co-operation of the churchwardens and influential residents secured, and the desired end, we believe, would be soon attained. But the Vicar is the right man to initiate such a movement. And the result, we feel convinced, would bring to him a sense of the most profound satisfaction in having attempted the undertaking, and would also earn for him the lasting gratitude of every ringer in the county.

### The Metropolis.

STRATFORD, BOW, MIDDLESEX.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

On Monday, April 20, 1885, in Two Hours and Fifty-two Minutes,

AT ST. MARY'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

THURSTANS' COMPOSITION. Tenor 14 cwt.

SAMUEL JOYCE*†	.. .. Treble.	*ARTHUR BERTRAM WARD	5.
CHARLES BEECH..	.. .. 2.	ISAAC G. SHADE	.. .. 6.
RICHARD TURNER	.. .. 3.	WILLIAM D. SMITH..	.. .. 7.
HENRY J. SHADE	.. .. 4.	ARTHUR HAYWARD	.. .. Tenor.

Conducted by ISAAC G. SHADE.

Arthur Bertram Ward hails from Derby; Messrs. Shade from Greenwich; the rest are London men. \* First peal in the method. † Aged 17 years.

### The Provinces.

OXFORD.

On Thursday, April 16, 1885, in Three Hours and Thirty Minutes,

AT THE CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF CHRIST,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S ORIGINAL. Tenor 41 cwt.

WILLIAM JEFFERY	.. .. Treble.	FREDK. WILLIAMSON	.. .. 5.
CHARLES HOUNSLOW..	.. .. 2.	THOMAS PAYNE..	.. .. 6.
SAMUEL HOUNSLOW	.. .. 3.	WILLIAM J. SMITH	.. .. 7.
JOB HOWSE	.. .. 4.	ANTHONY STRANGE	.. .. Tenor.

Conducted by CHARLES HOUNSLOW.

GLOSSOP, DERBYSHIRE.

THE GLOSSOP JUNIOR SOCIETY.

On Thursday, April 16, 1885, in Three Hours,

AT ALL SAINTS' CHURCH,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;

IN THE OXFORD VARIATION.

SAMUEL HARROP..	.. .. Treble.	CHARLES BROOKES	.. .. 5.
DANIEL JAMES	.. .. 2.	*THOMAS JAMES	.. .. 6.
WILLIAM HARROP	.. .. 3.	SAMUEL KNOTT..	.. .. 7.
HENRY COOPER	.. .. 4.	JOHN PYE, JUN.	.. .. Tenor.

Composed by J. J. BRIERLEY, of Saddleworth, and  
 Conducted by SAMUEL KNOTT.

\* College Youth.

## GARGRAVE, YORKSHIRE.

## THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—GARGRAVE BRANCH.

On Saturday, April 18, 1885, in Three Hours and Six Minutes,

AT ST. ANDREW'S CHURCH,

## A PEAL OF BOB TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S THREE-PART. Tenor 16 cwt.

WILLIAM CLARKE .. .. Treble.	CRISTOPHER LANGSTROTH .. 5.
WILLIAM WRAY .. .. 2.	HERBERT MIDDLEBROOK .. 6.
HARRY BIRTWHISTLE .. 3.	JOHN MCKELL .. .. 7.
WILLIAM WHITAKER .. 4.	JAMES MCGOUN .. .. Tenor.

Conducted by JOHN MCKELL.

The above peal is called without a single.

LEICESTER.—THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION,  
AND THE ST. MARGARET'S SOCIETY.

On Saturday, April 18, 1885, in Three Hours and Thirty Minutes,

AT ST. MARGARET'S CHURCH,

## A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS, 5003 CHANGES;

Tenor 30 cwt. in D.

JOHN BUTTERY .. .. Treble.	*J. W. TAYLOR, JUN., ESQ. .. 6.
JOHN W. WILSON .. .. 2.	SAMSON BURTON .. .. 7.
STEPHEN COOPER .. 3.	THOMAS WILSON .. .. 8.
GEORGE BURROWS .. 4.	JOHN MARLOW .. .. 9.
WILLIAM P. COOPER .. 5.	WILLIAM WALKER .. .. Tenor.

Composed by ROBERT WILLIAMS, of Liverpool, and  
Conducted by JOHN BUTTERY.

\*First peal of Caters.

This peal contains the 5th and 6th twenty-four times behind the 9th. This is the first peal of Caters rung by the Midland Counties' Association. Messrs. J. W. Wilson and S. Burton hail from Nottingham; and J. W. Taylor from Loughborough.

## HINDLEY, LANCASHIRE.

## Birthday Peal.

On Saturday, April 18, 1885, in Two Hours and Fifty-two Minutes,

AT ST. PETER'S CHURCH,

## A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S TEN-PART. Tenor 14½ cwt.

JOSEPH PRESCOTT .. .. Treble.	EDWARD KAY .. .. 5.
EDWARD PRESCOTT .. 2.	THOMAS TICKLE .. .. 6.
EDMUND BROWN .. 3.	JOSEPH W. HALL .. .. 7.
WILLIAM CHISNALL .. 4.	*GEORGE LANG .. .. Tenor.

Conducted by JOSEPH PRESCOTT.

The above was rung in honour of the 55th birthday of Richard Pennington, Esq., J.P., of Hindley Lodge and Muncaster Hall, Rainford. J. W. Hall hails from Wigan.  
\*First peal.

## HAVANT, HANTS.—THE WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Monday, April 20, 1885, in Three Hours and Five Minutes,

AT ST. FAITH'S CHURCH,

## A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

TAYLOR'S BOB-AND-SINGLE VARIATION. Tenor 18 cwt.

W. J. BANTING* .. .. Treble.	*C. PRIVETT .. .. 5.
J. HEWETT .. .. 2.	†F. HILL .. .. 6.
G. GRAFHAM .. .. 3.	J. W. WHITING .. .. 7.
J. STAPLES* .. .. 4.	*W. NAYLOR & *W. IRISH .. Tenor.

Conducted by FREDERICK HILL.

\*First peal. †First peal as conductor.

## Date Touch.

## THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

SPROUGHTON (Suffolk).—On Friday evening, April 17th, at All Saints' church, a date touch containing 1885 changes, in the following methods, viz.:—805 of Plain Doubles; 480 of Old Doubles; 600 of Grandsire Doubles. Charles Smith, 1; Alfred Pryke, 2; William Mee, 3; Thomas Steward, 4; Frederick Mee (conductor), 5. C. Smith and A. Pryke belong to Bramford, W. Mee to Sproughton, the rest belong to the St. Mary-le-Tower society, Ipswich. Tenor 10 cwt.

## Miscellaneous.

## THE SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.

SAFFRON WALDEN (Essex).—On Saturday evening, April 18th, the local company, also members of the above Society, rang a half-peal of Stedman Triples, 2520 changes, in 1 hr. 33 mins. John Freeman, 1; George Martin, 2; Ernest Pitstow, 3; Charles Freeman, 4; N. J. Pitstow, 5; J. F. Penning, 6; Fredk. Pitstow (conductor), 7; A. G. Coe, 8. This is the longest length in the method by the local band, and is the first half of Brook's variation of Thurstan's peal.

## THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

BEDFORD.—On Tuesday, April 14th, at St. Mary's church, for practice, a 720 of Bob Minor (eighteen bobs and two singles). F. Keech, 1; M. Warrick, 2; J. Atkins, 3; I. Hills, 4; S. Cullip, 5; C. W. Clarke (conductor), 6. Tenor 8 cwt. in B.

CARDINGTON (Beds).—On Wednesday, April 15th, at St. Mary's church, for practice, on the back six, a 720 of Bob Minor (eighteen bobs and two singles). T. Keep, 1; J. Hurst (first 720 inside), 2; M. Warrick, 3; T. Foote, 4; C. W. Clarke, 5; I. Hills (conductor), 6. Tenor 21 cwt. in E.

## DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

NORTH SHIELDS.—On Tuesday, April 14th, at Christ Church, three courses of Stedman Caters. W. Reed, Esq. (conductor), 1; J. Hern, 2; J. Rossiter, 3; H. Ross, 4; W. Story, 5; R. S. Story, 6; R. W. Wignall, 7; J. Gibson, 8; R. Smith, 9; S. Nott, 10. And on Sunday, April 19th, for Divine Service in the morning, a 504 of Stedman Triples. J. Hern, 1; R. W. Wignall, 2; J. Rossiter, 3; R. S. Story, 4; W. Story, 5; H. Ross, 6; R. Smith (conductor), 7; S. Nott, 8. Tenor 19 cwt.

## THE EASTERN COUNTIES' GUILD.

SPALDING (Lincolnshire).—On Easter Monday, April 5th, at the church of SS. Mary and Nicholas, at 7.0 a.m., four 120's of Grandsire Doubles. J. Brown, 1; J. Wilson, 2; J. S. Wright, 3; R. Mackman, 4; G. L. Richardson, 5; J. W. Jarvis, 6. And at 10 a.m., a 360 of Oxford Bob. And after evening service a 720 of Plain Bob. G. Harrison, 1; J. S. Wright, 2; G. L. Richardson, 3; R. Mackman, 4; J. Wilson, 5; J. Brown (conductor), 6. Muffled Peal.—And on Thursday, April 9th, a muffled peal was rung as a token of respect to the late Rev. M. Sison, who came to Spalding as curate in the year 1835, and since 1838 has been perpetual curate of Moulton Chapel—a 720 of Plain Bob. C. Neaverson, 1; G. Harrison, 2; G. L. Richardson, 3; J. Wilson, 4; R. Mackman, 5; J. S. Wright (conductor), 6. And on Sunday morning, April 12th, for Divine Service in the morning a 360 of Kent Treble Bob. C. Creasey, 1; the rest standing as before. And for Divine Service in the evening, a 720 of College Single. C. Neaverson, 1; J. Wilson, 2; G. L. Richardson, 3; J. S. Wright, 4; R. Mackman, 5; J. Brown (conductor), 6. And after evening service, six 120's of Grandsire Doubles. G. L. Richardson, 1; J. S. Wright, 2; R. Clark (Bourn), 3; R. Mackman, 4; J. Brown, 5; J. W. Jarvis, 6.

TERRINGTON (Norfolk).—On Saturday, April 18th, on the occasion of the funeral of James Walker, Esq., a great benefactor of the poor of the neighbourhood, 360 of Bob Minor was rung with the bells muffled, during the funeral procession, and the evening echo changes were rung; and afterwards, with the bells unmuffled, 720 Bob Minor in 29 mins. F. Easton, 1; R. Howling, 2; Jno. Green, 3; G. Barrett, 4; Jno. Herring, 5; Dr. Secombe (conductor), 6.

## THE HERTFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

HITCHIN (Herts).—On Monday, April 13th, at St. Mary's church, for practice, this branch of the above Association rang 728 and 224 of Grandsire Triples. J. Randall, 1; J. Hare, 2; H. Buckingham, 3; W. A. Tyler (conductor), 4; A. Squires, 5; S. Hare, 6; W. Allen, 7; J. Foster, 8. Tenor 28 cwt. in D.

## THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

MERSHAM (Kent).—On Saturday, April 11th, the following members of the above Association rang a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor. E. Ruck (conductor), 1; G. Finn, sen., 2; G. Finn, jun., 3; G. Paine, 4; F. Finn, 5; E. Finn, 6. Also on Saturday, April 18th, 1008 of Bob Major. E. Ruck, sen. (conductor), 1; G. Paine, 2; W. Jay, 3; D. Paine, 4; E. Ruck, jun., 5; P. Hodgkin, 6; F. Finn, 7; E. Finn, 8.

## THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

HAUGHTON (Lancashire).—On Saturday, April 11th, at St. Anne's church, a 720 of Plain Bob Minor (sixteen bobs and two singles), in 28 mins. Wm. Wilde, jun., 1; John Bardsley, 2; Wm. Wilde, sen., 3; James A. Thomas, 4; John Howard, 5; Peter Smith (conductor), 6. And on Sunday, April 11th, for Divine Service in the evening, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor, in 27 mins. James A. Thomas, 1;



John Bardsley, 2; Wm. Wilde, sen., 3; John S. Leach, 4; John Howard (conductor), 5; Peter Smith, 6. And on Tuesday evening, April 14th, for practice, another 720 of Kent Treble Bob, in 28 mins., standing as before, conducted by Wm. Wilde, sen., his first 720 as a conductor. And a 360 of Plain Bob Minor, in 14 mins. Wm. Wilde, jun., 1; James A. Thomas, 2; John Howard, 3; John Bardsley, 4; Wm. Wilde, sen., 5; Peter Smith, 6. Tenor 15 cwt.

#### ST. PETER MANCROFT SOCIETY OF NORWICH SCHOLARS.

On Thursday, April 9th, at St. Lawrence's Church, a 720 of Double Court Bob Minor was rung with some young members of the above Society. Benjamin Tungate, 1; William Bales, 2; John Fiddament, 3; John Smith, 4; Fredk. Knights, 5; George Smith (conductor), 6. And upon the handbells at the meeting-house, three courses of Double Norwich Court Bob Major. Benjamin Tungate, 1; Wm. Bales, 2; Geo. Smith, 3-4; John Smith, 5; John Fiddament, 6; Fredk. Knights, 7-8. And on Thursday, April 16th, at St. Lawrence's Church, a 720 of Bob Minor. Master Fredk. H. Knights, 1; Edward Ward, 2; John Fiddament, 3; Wm. Bales, 4; Fredk. Knights (conductor), 5; John Smith, 6. Tenor 18 cwt. in E. Master F. H. Knights first 720, aged 15 the day before, and commenced his ringing in last December.

#### THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

MELBOURNE (Derbyshire).—On Saturday, April 18th, the local company rang for practice, a 360 of Bob Minor. J. Wood, 1; G. A. Fish, 2; G. C. Tunnickliff, 3; F. W. Cook, 4; J. Vicars, 5; H. C. Woodward (conductor), 6. And a 180 of Bob Minor. J. Wood, 1; G. A. Fish, 2; H. C. Woodward, 3; F. W. Cook, 4; T. Hollingworth, 5; G. C. Tunnickliff (conductor), 6. And another 9-score in the same method, with J. Vicars, 2; F. W. Cook, 4. This is the first touch of Bob Minor by all the above except H. C. Woodward. Tenor 16 cwt.

#### THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

CAVERSHAM (Oxon).—On Tuesday, April 14th, a 720 of Oxford Bob, in 28 mins. H. Simmonds, 1; J. Butler, 2; E. Menday, 3; G. Essex, 4; E. Pottinger, 5; Rev. G. F. Coleridge (conductor), 6. And on Sunday, April 19th, for Divine Service in the morning, a 720 of Double Oxford Bob. J. Hands, 1; J. Butler, 2; G. Essex, 3; T. Newman, 4; E. Pottinger, 5; Rev. G. F. Coleridge (conductor), 6. And after evening service, 720 of College Single. H. Smith, 1; J. Butler, 2; E. Menday, 3; G. Essex, 4; E. Pottinger, 5; T. Newman (conductor), 6. Tenor 16½ cwt.

OXFORD.—On Sunday, April 19th, at St. Mary Magdalen's church, for Divine Service, a 720 of Grandsire Minor, with thirty-eight bobs and twenty-two singles, in 22 mins. C. S. Rowland, Esq. (St. John's), 1; W. Baston, 2; Job Howse, 3; C. Hester, 4; J. W. Washbrook, 5; \*A. F. M. Custance, Esq. (B.N.C., conductor), 6. \*First 720 as conductor.

FOY (Near Ross, Herefordshire).—*Handbell Ringing*.—On Saturday, April 18th, at the rectory, on handbells, retained in hand, three 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles, and other shorter touches in the same method. Miss M. M. Wilton, 1; A. F. M. Custance, Esq. (conductor), 2; H. Hardy, Esq., 3; Miss Mary Wilton, 4; Miss F. Wilton, 5; Miss Christine Wilton, 6.

#### STOKE-UPON-TRENT ARCHIDIACONAL ASSOCIATION.

BURSLEM.—On Saturday, April 18th, on the occasion of the fortnightly meeting, which was held at that place, a 720 of Bob Minor, in 27 mins. J. Wood, 1; J. Morton, 2; C. Hollier, 3; E. Glover, 4; Rev. A. H. Hitchcock, 5; J. Baddeley (conductor), 6. Messrs. Glover, Baddeley, Morton, and Wood are from Norton; Rev. A. H. Hitchcock from Golden Hill; and Hollier from Lawton.

#### THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

CROYDON (Surrey).—On Saturday, April 18th, at the church of St. John-the-Baptist, 2520 of Grandsire Triples, being the first half of Holt's ten-part peal, in 1 hr. 45 mins. J. Plowman, 1; A. B. Carpenter (conductor), 2; G. Russell, 3; J. Trappitt, 4; \*W. States, 5; A. Bruce, 6; U. Holman, 7; T. Verrall and S. Fisk, 8. Tenor 32 cwt. in Eb. \*First half-peal. The above was rung with the bells half-muffled, as a last token of respect to the late Lord Mayor. It was intended to ring the complete peal, but the attempt had to be abandoned, and the bells brought round at the half-way on account of the bad going of the 7th.

WIMBLEDON (Surrey).—On Tuesday, April 7th, at St. Mary's, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor, in 27 mins. G. Byde, 1; R. Moss, 2; C. Byde, 3; J. Parker, 4; A. Garratt, 5; S. Frost (conductor), 6. Also on Monday, April 8th, in honour of the marriage of Julius Berkeley Rolle, Esq. to Miss Edith Thornton, of Wimbledon, a 720 of Bob Minor. G. Byde, 1; R. Moss, 2; C. Byde, 3; J. Parker, 4; A.

Garratt, 5; J. Fayers (conductor), 6. And a 720 of Oxford Bob Minor and a 360 of Kent Treble Bob Minor. G. Byde, 1; R. Moss, 2; C. Byde, 3; J. Parker, 4; A. Garratt, 5; S. Frost (conductor), 6. And on Sunday, April 12th, for Divine Service in the morning, a 720 of Grandsire Minor, in 26 mins. G. Byde, 1; C. Byde, 2; J. Parker, 3; R. Moss, 4; A. Garratt, 5; S. Frost (conductor), 6.

#### THE WANSTEAD AMALGAMATED SOCIETY.

WANSTEAD (Essex).—On Sunday, April 12th, before evening service, a 720 of Bob Minor, in 27 mins. A. H. Gardom (conductor), 1; W. B. Manning, 2; G. Akers, 3; J. Nunn, 4; J. Wincey (first 720), 5; G. Cornell, 6. Also after service, a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob Minor, in 26 mins. H. Nunn, 1; W. B. Manning, 2; G. Akers, 3; J. Nunn, 4; A. H. Gardom, 5; H. Scarlett (conductor), 6.

APPLETON (Berks).—On Monday, April 20th, 660 of Superlative Surprise Major. J. Avery, 1; C. Hounslow, 2; B. Barrett, 3; J. W. Washbrook, 4; W. Bennett, 5; G. Holfield, 6; A. F. M. Custance, Esq., 7; Rev. F. E. Robinson (conductor), 8.

BEDDINGTON (Surrey).—On Sunday, April 12th, seven members of the local company, with Mr. Fussell, of London, rang a 640 of Kent Treble Bob Major, also short touches of Stedman and Grandsire Triples, for Divine Service. J. Harris, 1; E. Bennett, 2; J. Plowman, 3; W. H. Fussell, 4; J. Trappitt, 5; C. Bance, 6; J. Cawley, 7; C. Gordon (conductor), 8. Tenor 20½ in Eb.

BILDESTONE (Suffolk).—On Monday, April 13th, at the Parish Church, a 720 of Treble Bob. R. Keeble (conductor), 1; A. Keeble, 2; A. Long, 3; C. Parker, 4; W. Green, 5; R. Nudds, 6. Also a 216 of Plain Bob (six singles and nine bobs). R. Nudds, 1; J. Scowen, 2; R. Bedingfield, 3; J. Briggs, 4; W. Green (conductor), 5; J. Taylor, 6. Also a touch of Court Bob. A. Keeble, 1; T. Sewell, 2; A. Long, 3; C. Parker, 4; W. Green, 5; R. Nudds, 6. At the close of the evening the company rang on the handbells some Grandsire Triples, and Bob Major. It is now twenty years since a 720 of Treble Bob was rung in this tower, but on January 30th, 1844, was rung in the same place seven different 720's in the following methods, viz.:—Single Bob Minor, Treble Bob, New Treble Bob, Court Bob, New London Pleasure, Morning Exercise, and Cambridge Surprise, making a total of 5040 changes, in 3 hrs. 17 mins. G. Whittle, 1; J. Edwards, 2; W. Snell, 3; Ambrose Pilgrim, 4; J. Howe, 5; H. Hobart (conductor), 6. Tenor 18 cwt. R. and A. Keeble, C. Parker, W. Green and J. Briggs, hail from Monks Eleigh; J. Scowen from Hadleigh; T. Sewell from Hitcham; R. Nudds from Banham; the rest are local men.

BRADFORD (Yorks).—On Monday, April 20th, at St. James's, Bolton, the local company rang a 1496 of Bob Triples, in 55 mins. B. F. Lamb, 1; B. Sugden, 2; H. Raistrick, 3; G. Titterton, 4; J. Broadley, 5; B. T. Copley (conductor), 6; S. Palframan, 7; J. Mawson, 8. Tenor 15 cwt.

BLACKHILL (Durham).—On Easter Sunday, April 5th, at St. Mary's church, the local company rang their first 6-score of Grandsire Doubles. J. Kempson, 1; J. T. Dobson, 2; J. Moore, 3; E. J. Sloane, 4; A. Nichol (conductor), 5; R. Moore, 6. Tenor 22 cwt. Great credit is due to the above ringers, it being only six months since they commenced change-ringing.

BOOTLE (Lancashire).—On Thursday evening, April 16th, at Christ Church, a 720 of Plain Bob Minor (eighteen bobs and two singles), in 27 mins. E. Yates, 1; R. H. Barton, 2; W. Short, 3; W. Rushton, 4; T. E. Woodward, 5; J. Bradshaw (conductor), 6. Tenor 12 cwt. This is the first 720 in the above method by all the band.

BRISTOL.—On Tuesday, April 14th, eight members of the amalgamated societies of St. James's and St. Andrew's rang at Clifton parish church, a 1500 of Grandsire Triples. John Brain, 1; C. Waters, 2; C. Thomas, 3; R. Knill, 4; T. Salter (conductor), 5; A. Parrish, 6; T. Staddon, 7; E. P. O'Meara, 8. Other touches were also rung by Messrs. Bartrum, W. Thomas, C. Paradoe, A. Morgan, J. Bessell, A. Bendall.

CHESTER.—On Thursday, April 16th, six members of the local company rang eight 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles (in all 960 changes) at St. Mary's church, in 38 mins. E. Davies, 1; R. Mills, 2; G. Calwell, 3; J. Jonison, 4; T. J. Bethell, 5; S. Barton, 6. Tenor 23 cwt. The above was rung in honour of the 21st birthday of Richard Mills, his brother ringers wishing him many happy returns of the day. The above was conducted by T. J. Bethell, and each 6-score was called differently.

CRAWLEY (Sussex).—On Sunday, April 19th, for Divine Service in the morning, a 504 of Grandsire Triples (nine bobs), in 20 mins. P. Tullett, 1; J. Newnham, 2; W. Parsons, 3; W. Wady (Billingshurst), 4; W. Collison, 5; A. F. Hilier, 6; H. Burstow (conductor), 7; J.



Collison, 8. And on Sunday afternoon, the first part of Shipway's 6-part peal of Oxford Bob Triples, 2520 changes (fifty-seven bobs), in 32 mins. W. Parsons, 1; J. Newnham, 2; F. Wickings, 3; W. Wadey, 4; G. Holloway, 5; A. F. Hillier, 6; H. Burstow (conductor), 7; W. Collison, 8. And for Divine Service in the evening, 504 of Grandsire Triples (nine bobs), in 18 mins. W. Wadey, 1; F. Wickings, 2; M. Smith, 3; Lennard Huggett (Eastbourne), 4; W. Collison, 5; A. F. Hillier, 6; H. Burstow (conductor), 7; J. Rollison (Eastbourne), 8.

DUDLEY (Worcestershire).—On Monday evening, April 20th, at St. Thomas's Church, Dudley, a mixed band rang 896 changes of Grandsire Triples. J. Fellows, jun., 1; J. Mills, 2; G. Hughes, 3; A. Jones, 4; W. Pardoe, 5; W. Micklewright (conductor), 6; J. Goodman, 7; J. Timmins, 8. Also the same evening, 447 changes of Grandsire Triples. J. Mills, 1; W. Micklewright, 2; G. Hughes, 3; A. Jones, 4; W. Pardoe, 5; J. Goodman, 6; S. Spittle (conductor), 7; J. Bayliss, 8. G. Hughes hails from Ocker Hill. A. Jones from Aston, W. Pardoe from Tipton, the rest belong to the local band.

ECKINGTON (Derbyshire).—On Wednesday, March 8th, at the church of SS. Peter and Paul, the local company rang for practice, a 720 of Craven Delight, in 27 mins., the first 720 in the method by all. And 120 of Huddersfield Bob. And on Sunday, March 12th, for evening service, 720 each of Duke of York and Kent Treble Bob, in 35 mins. George Smith, 1; William Price, 2; Edwin James, 3; George Norman, 4; George Marsden (conductor), 5; Thomas Lunn, 6. Tenor 16 cwt. 14 lbs.

ELTHAM (Kent).—On Sunday, April 5th at the church of St. John the Baptist, for Divine Service, a 720 of Grandsire Minor (thirty-four bobs and two singles), and a 720 in the same method (thirty-four bobs and fourteen singles). R. Johnson, 1; J. King, 2; W. Gosling, 3; C. Mussett, 4; G. Sheppard (conductor), 5; F. Fraser, 6.

FOXEARH (Essex).—On Sunday, April 12th, for Divine Service in the afternoon, a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob. W. P. Gridley, 1; F. Wells, 2; J. Lee, 3; R. Mingay, 4; D. Ward, 5; O. Garwood (conductor), 6. And after service a 720 of Plain Bob Minor. S. Slater, 1; F. Wells, 2; O. Garwood, 3; P. C. S. Scott, 4; R. Ellams, 5; G. Hammond (conductor), 6. This was Shipway's 3-part bob and single 720, with nine bobs and six singles. And a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob (fifteen bobs). S. Slater, 1; W. P. Gridley, 2; F. Wells, 3; P. C. S. Scott, 4; G. Hammond, 5; O. Garwood (conductor), 6. Composed by John Marvin, of Copdock, in 1784. Those who rang in the last two touches, with the exception of R. Ellams, are members of the society of Royal Cumberland Youths.

GRAVESEND (Kent).—On Saturday, April 11th, at St. George's church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, 1260 changes, in 47 mins. H. Weeks, 1; G. Conyard, 2; W. Harper, 3; F. Hayes, 4; B. Spinner, 5; H. Davis, 6; F. French (conductor), 7; G. Hayes, 8. Tenor 18 cwt.

GREAT WALDINGFIELD (Essex).—On Sunday, April 19th, a 720 of Bob Minor, in 28 mins. G. Death, 1; H. Bowers, 2; J. Bird, 3; G. Maxim, 4; W. P. Gridley (conductor), 5; T. Death, 6. J. Bird hails from Long Melford, W. P. Gridley and G. Maxim from Foxearth, the rest are local men.

HACKNEY (Middlesex).—*Muffled Peal*.—On Good Friday, April 3rd, at St. John's church, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples, 1260 changes, with the bells half-muffled, in 53 mins. S. E. Joyce, 1; W. D. Smith, 2; A. Cutmore, 3; J. Pettit (conductor), 4; S. Burton (Nottingham), 5; W. B. Manning, 6; R. J. Turner, 7; J. Balaam, 8.

HARROGATE (Yorkshire).—On Thursday, April 16th, six of the local company rang at St. Mary's church, a 360 of Bob Minor, in 14 mins. W. Jackson, 1; A. Atkinson, 2; W. Stott, 3; J. Vicars, 4; J. Robnett, 5; W. Brown, 6. Tenor 14 cwt. This is the first 360 by Messrs. Jackson, Atkinson, Stott, and Brown, it being seventeen years since a 360 has been rung by Harrogate men.

LONG MELFORD (Suffolk).—On Saturday, March 28th, two 720's of Bob Minor. J. Ambrose, 1; S. Slater, 2; G. Hammond (conductor), 3; J. Bird, 4; P. Scott, 5; O. Garwood, 6. J. Ambrose, 1; P. Scott, 3; J. Bird, 3; G. Hammond, 4; O. Garwood, 5; S. Slater (conductor), 6. And on Easter Sunday, April 5th, for the two morning services, the local company rang a 441 of Bob Major, and two 336's of Bob Major. J. Ambrose, 1; Z. Slater, 2; G. Hammond, 3; S. Slater (conductor), 4; Owen Reed, 5; J. Bird, 6; J. Slater, 7; O. Garwood, 8. And after the afternoon service, 1008 of Bob Major. J. Slater, 1; Z. Slater, 2; G. Hammond, 3; S. Slater (conductor), 4; O. Reed, 5; Nelson Hawkins, 6; J. Bird, 7; O. Garwood, 8. Nelson Hawkins hails from Walter Belchamp. And for Divine Service in the evening, 336 of Bob Major. J. Ambrose, 1; Z. Slater, 2; G. Hammond (conductor), 3; S. Slater, 4; O. Reed, 5; J. Bird, 6; J. Slater, 7; O. Garwood, 8. And on Saturday, April 11th, a 720 of Bob Minor, in 28 mins. S. Slater, 1; O. Garwood, 2; P. C. S. Scott,

3; O. Reed, 4; G. Hammond (conductor), 5; J. Bird, 6. And on Wednesday, April 15th, the following band attempted a peal of Bob Major, consisting of 5040 changes, but after ringing 1 hr. 15 mins., it came to grief. F. Steed, 1; O. Garwood, 2; G. Hammond, 3; P. C. S. Scott, 4; O. Reed, 5; Nelson Hawkins, 6; J. Bird, 7; S. Slater (conductor), 8.

LOW MOOR (Yorkshire).—On Sunday, April 19th, at Holy Trinity Church, for Divine Service in the evening, the local company rang 2528 changes of Kent Treble Bob Major, in 1 hr. 29 mins. Thos. Pickard, 1; J. Worsnop, 2; A. Wilkinson, 3; Hy. Jones, 4; W. Tordoff, 5; J. Briggs, 6; J. W. Emmett, 7; C. Dracup (conductor), 8. Tenor 15 cwt.

MITCHAM (Surrey).—On Saturday, April 11th, the Wimbledon society rang at Christ church a 720 of Grandsire Minor, in 26 mins. J. Schneider, 1; C. Hyde, 2; R. Moss, 3; J. Parker, 4; A. Nicholson, 5; J. Fayers (conductor), 6. \*First 720. And a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob. G. Hyde, 1; R. Moss, 2; C. Hyde, 3; J. Fayers, 4; A. Garrett, 5; S. Frost (conductor), 6. Tenor 7½ cwt. This is the first 720 in the method on the bells. The ringers take this opportunity of thanking the vicar for permission to ring.

MONKS ELEIGH (Suffolk).—On Tuesday, April 14th, at the Parish Church, a 360 of Court Bob. R. Keeble, 1; W. Green, 2; A. Keeble, 3; T. Briggs, 4; C. Parker, 5; A. Long, 6. Also a 540 of Treble Bob. R. Keeble, 1; A. Keeble, 2; A. Long, 3; J. Taylor, 4; C. Parker, 5; R. Nudds, 6. And a 360 of Court Bob. R. Keeble, 1; W. Green, 2; A. Keeble, 3; J. Taylor, 4; C. Parker, 5; R. Nudds, 6.

ORMSKIRK (Lancashire).—On Tuesday, April 14th, at the parish church, the first half of Holt's 10-part peal of Grandsire Triples, 2520 changes, in 1 hr. 29 mins. John Aspinwall, 1; William Ellis, 2; William J. Taylor, 3; James Sholimar, 4; William Bentham (conductor), 5; Charles Sharples, 6; George Prescott, 7; William Lloyd, 8. Tenor 25 cwt. 2 qrs. 25 lbs. The above was rung in honour of Princess Beatrice's 28th birthday; the 27th birthday of the conductor; and the 48th birthday of the treble ringer.

PENZANCE (Cornwall).—On Thursday, April 16th, at St. Mary's, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, 1260 changes, in 47 mins. M. Hicks, 1; J. H. Hickens, 2; J. Boase, 3; C. Boase (conductor), 4; J. Symons, 5; T. Hicks, 6; J. Richards, 7; M. Bassett, 8. And on Sunday, April 19th, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, 1260 changes, in 48 mins. M. Hicks, 1; J. Symons, 2; T. Hicks, 3; J. Hodder (conductor), 4; C. Boase, 5; G. Sellers, 6; J. Richards, 7; M. Bassett, 8. These touches are very creditable to their conductors, in that it is the first 1260 with either, and was accomplished on the first attempt by C. Boase, a like success by J. Hodder being alone thwarted on a former attempt by the stranding of the 7th rope late in the touch. And on Sunday, for Divine Service in the evening, 182 of Grandsire Triples. J. Symons, 1; J. Hodder, 2; J. Boase, 3; J. Hickens, 4; C. Boase, 5; T. Hicks, 6; J. Richards, 7; Rev. A. B. Berry, 8.

READING (Berks).—*Muffled Peal*.—On Sunday, April 19th, the bells of St. Lawrence's were rung half-muffled for morning and evening service, out of respect to Dr. Wells, the late churchwarden, who died at Ventnor, Isle of Wight, on Monday, April 13th, after a short illness, at the age of 72 years. And after evensong, a muffled peal was rung, on the whole pull and stand system, in the following order:—

1. The age of the deceased in whole pulls.
2. " " " tolled out on tenor.
3. " " " two blows on tenor, and one whole pull on other bells, alternately, until the number be completed.
4. " " " fired.
5. " " " in whole pulls, to conclude with.

The following were the ringers: W. J. Williams (conductor), 1; F. W. Round, 2; H. M. Bawden, 3; E. Bishop, 4; W. Johnson, 5; G. Talbot, 6; W. H. Holloway, 7; W. Goseltine, 8; W. Newell, 9; J. E. Willshire, 10. This is the first time that a muffled peal of this description has ever known to have been rung in Reading, and it created quite an impression on the ringers and the public generally by its solemnity. The time occupied was 38 minutes.

SHARROW (Yorkshire).—On Monday evening, April 20th, three members of the local company (Messrs. Bains, Flower, and Wm. Strodder), with Messrs. Rumbold, T. Metcalf, and T. Clarke and sons, rung at St. John's church, for practice, a 720 of Bob Minor, in 27 mins. A. H. Clarke, 1; (second bell omitted), T. Metcalf, 3; T. Clarke (conductor), 4; Wm. Strodder, 5; Josh. Baines, 6; Jno. Flower, 7; W. S. Clarke, 8. This is the first 720 by Flower and Strodder. And a 336 of Bob Major in 13 mins. Wm. S. Clarke, 1; Wm. Strodder, 2; A. H. Clarke, 3; Jno. Flower, 4; T. Metcalf, 5; Josh. Baines, 6; T. Clarke (conductor), 7; — Rumbold, 8. Our correspondent adds:—The Sharrow society only consists of the captain and other five members, which is thought by a great many of the parishioners as a great discredit to the inhabitants, when they possess such a musical peal of eight bells, but I hear that the fault does not belong to the parishioners, but with the captain, whose abilities are not sufficient for the due performance of his office."

**SEELY OAK (Worcestershire).—Muffled Peal.**—On Thursday, April 16th, six of the local company rang at St. Mary's church a 360 of Grandsire Minor, and two 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles, with the bells half muffled, as a mark of respect to Mr. Daniel Smith, who died on the 10th of April, aged 52 years. George Hale (conductor), 1; John Nix, 2; Edward Boylin, 3; Thomas Lewis, 4; Alfred Cole, 5; Edward Bryant, 6. The deceased gentleman was father of one of the members of the above, and was much respected by all who knew him.

**WALTHAMSTOW (Essex).—Handbell Ringing.**—On Monday, April 20th, the following persons, comprising a portion of the staff of "THE BELL NEWS," rang at the office, during the dinner-hour interval, several 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles (different callings) and a course of Grandsire Minor. H. Martyn Reeves, 1; Herbert C. Wood, 2; Joseph Milner, 3; Harvey Reeves, 4-5; Charles H. Reeves, 6.

**WALTON-ON-THE-HILL (Lancashire).**—On Tuesday evening, April 14th, at St. Mary's church, a 720 Plain Bob Minor (eighteen bobs and two singles), in 25 mins. C. J. Rodgers, 1; W. Booth, 2; C. E. Wilson (conductor), 3; T. Rushton, 4; R. Stockley, 5; G. E. Fisher, 6. And on Sunday morning, for Divine service, a 720 of Plain Bob Minor (twenty-six singles), in 27 mins.; and in the evening a 360 of Grandsire Minor (eighteen bobs), in 13 mins. J. Hurst, 1; C. J. Rodgers, 2; T. R. Somerville, 3; T. Rushton, 4; R. Stockley, 5; C. E. Wilson (conductor), 6. Tenor 10 cwt.

**WORKSOP (Nottingham).**—On Wednesday evening, April 15th, the local society met and rang a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob, with the tenor covering, in 32 mins. F. Mackie, 1; S. Harwood, 2; W. Colton, 3; H. Watkinson, 4; J. Marshall, 5; T. Thorpe, 6; R. Beeston, 7. Tenor 12½ cwt. This is the first successful 720 by the Worksop ringers on their new ring of eight bells.

#### ANNUAL MEETING OF THE SOUTH LINCOLNSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, April 18th, the annual meeting of the above Association was held at St. Paul's, Fulney, Spalding. At 8.30, ringing friends began to arrive, and ringing commenced at once, and was kept up with enthusiasm. During the day some capital touches in the five and six bell methods were rung, also several touches of Grandsire Triples, W. J. Taylor, of Bourn, aged 79, taking part therein. At 12.30 the business of the Association was transacted in the vestry of the church, the president, the Rev. R. G. Ash, presiding. The minutes of the preceding meeting being confirmed, the re-election of officers and the initiation of new members, a vote of thanks was passed to the vicar, the Rev. R. G. Ash, for the use of the bells, also for the use of the vestry. At 2 p.m. a sumptuous dinner was served by host Cottam, of the "Anchor" inn, the president presiding, supported by Mr. Hodges and Mr. Taylor. The Hon. Sec., Mr. R. Creasey, was in the vice chair, supported by Mr. Warnes and Mr. Mason. It was decided to hold the next meeting at Grantham, when it is expected a large gathering of ringers will be there.

#### MERTON, DEVON.

William Dicker, of this parish, who met with a sad accident some weeks ago, has been presented with a small sum contributed at a friendly meeting held at Waterloo, London, on Saturday evening, April 11th, amongst the ringers and friends of the newly-established handbell society. The chair was occupied by Mr. W. B. Trickey (formerly a resident at Merton), who was supported on the left by John Day, Esq., of Devonport, and the vice-chair was occupied by Mr. George Padwick, secretary of the Association. The evening's amusement consisted of songs, handbell ringing, and ventriloquism. The new bells, supplied by Messrs. Warner, at a cost of over £11., were rung by G. Padwick, 1-2; W. B. Trickey, 3-4; W. Cure (Wareham, Dorset), 5-6; R. Evans, 7-8. Towards the close of the evening, the chairman described the nature of the accident, and appealed to all present to give what lay in their power towards such a charitable and deserving case. He also wished to thank them all for their attendance, and especially Mr. Day, who was always heart and soul in any good work which led to benefit his fellow creatures. Mr. Day's health was then proposed and drunk with musical honours, after which a most pleasant evening was brought to a close. The collection amounted to £2 6s.—*Local paper.*

**VOLUME OF "THE BELL NEWS" FOR SALE.**—Mr. Marwood, of Doncaster, writes: "Having met with a severe accident, I find I shall not be able to follow the science, so I have my 'BELL NEWS' from the first that was printed to dispose of, one volume bound, the highest offer accepted."—H. Marwood, No. 1, Earnshaws Yard, Sepulchre Gate, Doncaster.

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

THE following is the sixth annual report of the ringing done by the Braintree branch of the above Association, from Easter 1884 to Easter 1885:—

During the year 158 720s have been rung in twenty-one methods as follows: Double Bob Minor, 4; Grandsire Minor, 3; New London Pleasure, 10; Bob Minor, 20; Woodbine Treble Bob, 10; Kent Treble Bob, 8; Oxford Treble Bob, 13; Oxford Delight, 8; College Exercise, 15; London Scholars' Pleasure, 11; Imperial, 4; Violet Treble Bob, 6; Cambridge Surprise, 13; London Surprise, 9; Double Court Bob, 7; Superlative, 3; Morning Exercise, 3; Durham Surprise, 5; York Surprise, 2; Bristol Surprise, 1. The following are the various touches rung, and they are well represented in the above methods—one 600, two 504s, one 456, eleven 360s, twelve 240's, one 216, three 180's, nine 144's, thirty-three 120's, two 108s, two 96s, eleven 72s, four 60s, three 48s, one 24. Also thirteen 120s of Bob Doubles, and five 120s of Grandsire Doubles. Making a total of 132,444 changes that have been rung upon the tower bells during the year.

The following are the names of the company that have taken part in the above ringing:—Messrs. A. Huckson, S. Hammond, F. Rudkin, F. Calthorpe, F. Bumpstead, H. E. Hammond, W. H. Dyson.

Since the formation of this company in May, 1879, there has been rung 725 complete 720s, three of the original company still remaining.

#### DEATH OF AN OLD RINGER.

**GLEMSFORD (Suffolk).—Muffled Peal.**—On Thursday, April 9th, at St. Mary's church, a muffled peal was rung as a last mark of respect to Wm. Snell, late of Preston, but for many years a resident of Glemsford, who died on Good Friday, April 3rd, in his 75th year, and was interred at Glemsford churchyard on the above date. Deceased was in his day a very good ringer, and a cheerful companion, and was well known as having taken part in the following noted performances: January 30th, 1841, 5040 in seven different methods, in 3 hrs. 17 mins., at Bildeston, when he rung the 3rd bell, and is the last of the band; December 11th, 1847, Marvin's 6000 of Bob Major, in 3 hrs. 53 mins., at Hadleigh. Snell ringing the 7th bell, tenor 28 cwt; and on December 12th, 1853, 5600 of Oxford Treble Bob Major, in 3 hrs. 45 mins., at Lavenham, Snell again ringing the 7th, this being his last peal. Shortly after ringing this peal Snell removed to Glemsford, and rang occasionally with the local company, but through ill health was obliged almost to give up ringing. The muffled peal on Thursday consisted of 720 (deeply muffled), 240 (half-muffled), and 240 (open) of Oxford Treble Bob Minor. S. Slater, 1; C. Honeybell, 2; C. Adams, 3; F. Wells, 4; E. W. Downs, 5; O. Garwood (conductor), 6. John Slater rang in one of the touches of 240 instead of E. W. Downs.

#### FUNERAL OF THE LATE LORD MAYOR OF LONDON.

The funeral of Mr. Alderman Nottage, late Lord Mayor of London, took place at St. Paul's Cathedral, on Saturday last. The whole of Cheapside was closed for traffic, and the tradesmen on either side had placed black shutters in front of their windows. Every now and again the muffled bells of St. Mary-le-Bow and the Cathedral were rung. The former church is situate in the centre of the ward the late Lord Mayor represented in the court of Aldermen. It is estimated that nearly 100,000 persons assembled between the official residence of the Lord Mayor and the Cathedral to witness the procession. The members of the College Youths who rang upon this melancholy occasion at St. Paul's Cathedral were Messrs. Pettit, Haley, jun., Cooter, Haworth, Jameson, Mash, Dorrington, Tanner, Wood, Muskett, Hayes, Jones, Dwight, Horrex. At St. Mary-le-Bow we found the following also engaged taking their part in the obsequies: Messrs. Haley sen., Haley jun., Jameson, Cooter, Pettit, Mash, Dorrington, Dwight, Wood, Muskett, Horrex, Hayes.

#### CHRIST CHURCH, FRIEZLAND, SADDLEWORTH, YORKSHIRE.

The ringers of this church wish to inform their ringing friends that they will re-open their bells on Saturday, May 2nd, when there will be a dinner provided at the "Farriers' Arms," Shaw Hall. All ringing friends are invited to attend. The church is about five minutes' walk from Greenfield Station, on the London and North Western Railway. Anyone wishing to attend, will please write to John Thomas Dicken, Boarhurst, Uppermill, near Oldham. Tickets for the dinner 1s. 6d. each.

**A CORRECTION.**—The touch under the heading of Stoke-upon-Trent which appeared in our last week's issue, should have been under Norton. Our correspondent, who writes from Stoke, did not mention the name of any place.

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FINANCIAL INFORMATION, 1ST JUNE, 1884:—

Total Funds ... .. £3,148,166

Total Annual Income ... .. 343,271

Amount of Profits divided at the last Quinquennial Bonus ... 437,347

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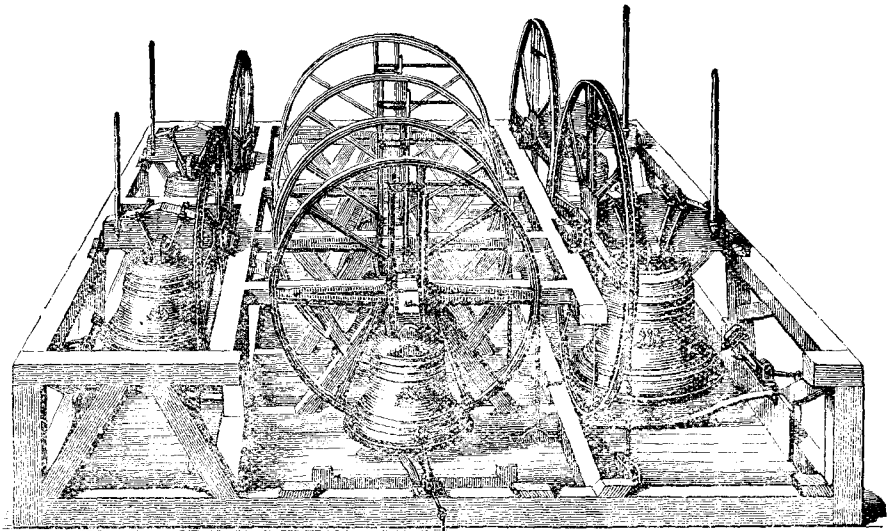
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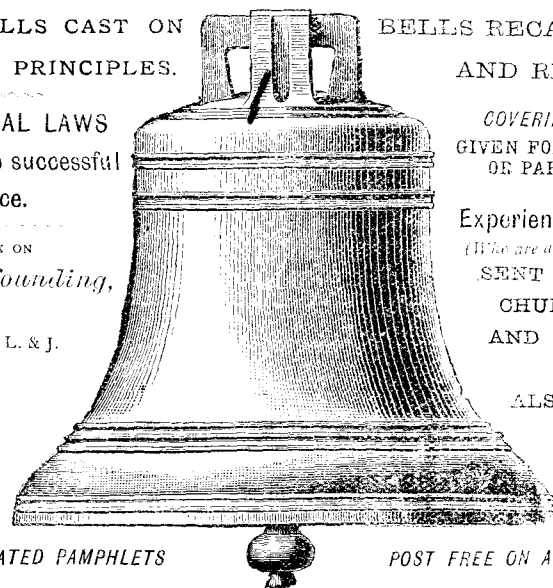
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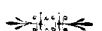
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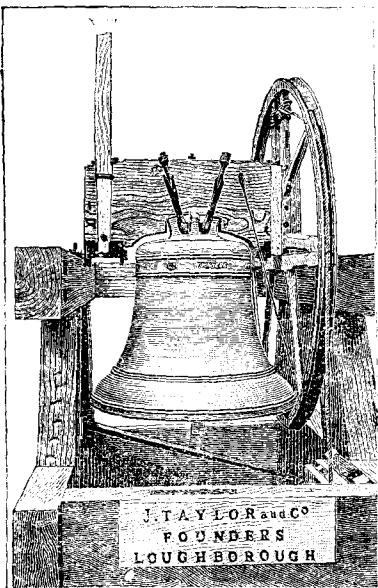
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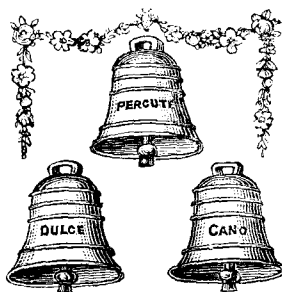
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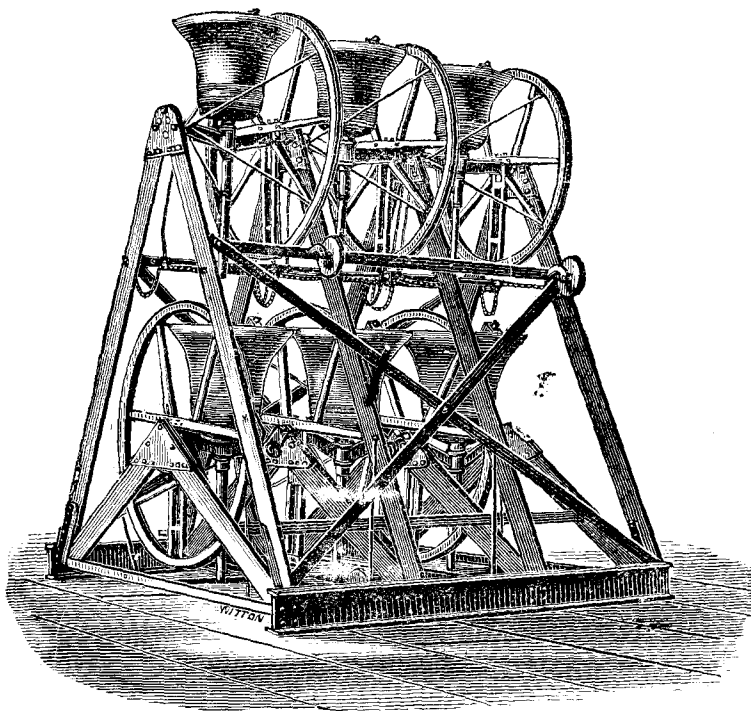
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SATURDAY, MAY 2, 1885.

[ONE PENNY.]

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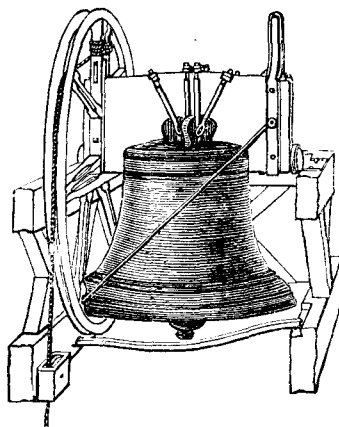
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## THE LONDON SOCIETIES.

It would be wrong to say that the question of re-organization affecting the Metropolitan ringing companies had occupied the minds of many people, perhaps, though the existing state of things in connection with them has been the subject of criticism by several writers in "THE BELL NEWS." It appears at the present day open to doubt whether the present aspect of ringing affairs in London is the best that could be devised to meet the growing requirements of the Exercise. One of the principal objects every ringer should have in view is the extension of scientific ringing to places where it is not only unrecognised, but actually tabooed, and we question whether, under existing arrangements, the metropolitan companies do not consider this as of secondary importance. This certainly should not be so. If London is to be taken as a species of head centre from which smaller organisations seek to obtain inspiration and guidance, it follows that those who claim to lead should endeavour to do so effectually. We are compelled to believe, and with sorrow, that singleness of purpose is not always foremost among the ringers of the metropolis. We may preach and rave about following ringing "for the love of the thing" as long as we like, but it must be confessed that there are those who have a stronger liking for its concomitants than for ringing itself. The "loaves and fishes" are a very important factor in the estimation of some, and if these *benefits* were dispensed with, the result, we are afraid, would be an exodus from the ranks of the science to a much greater extent than anyone can foresee. But this is not the chief evil to be deplored in connection with the ringers of London—though it is one which must be greatly taken into account when a survey is taken of the position the Exercise holds therein.

The various Diocesan Guilds and Associations may have not yet come up to the level, collectively, of the London Societies, in point of ringing ability, but to endeavour to blink the growing conviction that the time will soon arrive when they will do so is vain. This is owing to the fact that the objects they aim at are on a much broader and less exclusive basis, and the almost total absence of these petty jealousies, instances of which we too frequently become acquainted with. In London, as is well known, there are two distinct societies, said to be in friendly rivalry. No one can belong to both these organizations at one time; membership of one of them bars admittance to the other. Then we have a third society open to all comers, whether members of the ones we have just alluded to, or not. There is also a fourth organization whose objects we are not able to define accurately, but many old members of the societies first named consider the existence of the last one as totally unnecessary. Now let us see the alleged objects of the first three. The College Youths and Royal Cumberlands are said to maintain an attitude of friendly rivalry—and this friendly rivalry is supposed to act as a great incentive to progress and advancement. Unfortunately, this rivalry is not always of the most friendly nature. As under these conditions it would be impossible for a peal rung by a band composed of members of both these societies to be entered in the peal-book of either company, the establishment of the St. James Society is said to be established for the purpose of recording these hybrid performances. The fourth organization—the Waterloo Society—may be considered as a kind of supplement to the St. James's.

Now we have no reason to find fault with these specific objects, only that they are not sufficient for the present day. Alone they appear to indicate a narrow-mindedness, if we may use such a term. And what is too readily seen among many of the members is that the rivalry is far from friendly, even among the societies themselves. The harmony of both College Youths and Cumberland Societies are now and then embittered by feuds and jealousies among their own individual members, and there are to be found those who will not give a vestige of support to the St. James's—in our opinion the most important ringing society in the metropolis, were its intentions carried out and heartily promoted by the *rival* societies. The internal economy of these organizations need revision, many questions relating to their management require adjusting, and broader, more liberal-minded, and cosmopolitan views affecting ringing are now become necessary.

A NEW MAN.

## MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

On Monday evening, April 27th, a General Meeting of members of the Derby district of this Association was held in All Saints' Belfry, for the purpose of electing officers for the next twelve months.

On the motion of Mr. A. Taberer, seconded by Mr. G. Beeson, Mr. J. Beresford was called to the chair. The meeting then proceeded to elect a Local Secretary and Committee, and the following gentlemen were unanimously appointed:—Local Hon. Secretary, Mr. A. B. Ward; Committee, Messrs. A. P. Heywood and H. C. Woodward.

A vote of thanks to the retiring officers was then passed, and in reply Mr. H. C. Woodward said that, as regards himself, he had always endeavoured to attend every meeting of the Association, and had only once failed, though through no fault of his own; and as the members had thought fit to re-elect him, he should continue in the future, as he had done in the past, to do his utmost to forward the interests of the Association, particularly the Derby branch.

The Secretary informed the meeting that two Honorary Members and 23 Ringing Members had joined during the past twelve months, and expressed the hope that the Derby district would still go on increasing at the same rate in the future.

It was then stated by Mr. John Howe that A. P. Heywood, Esq., of Duffield Bank, intended to invite the Association to Duffield on the first Saturday in June, and desired to know if that date would suit the Derby district, and after a little conversation the opinion was expressed that that date would be most convenient to the members present.

A vote of thanks to the Chairman for presiding brought a most successful meeting to a close.

## THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

Diss (Norfolk).—On Monday, April 27th, eight members of the above Association attempted a peal of Oxford Treble Bob, but after ringing two courses it suddenly came to a stand, owing to the 6th bell casting her rope. After this was rectified, time would not permit of a second attempt, owing to service in the church, but a date touch of Oxford Treble Bob, in 1 hr. 15 mins. E. Francis, 1; F. Knights (conductor), 2; W. Ireland, 3; B. Francis, 4; T. Clarke, 5; J. Souter, 6; J. Skinner, 7; Captain Moore, 8. Tenor 24 cwt. F. Knights and J. Skinner belong to St. Peter's Mancroft Society, Norwich, and Captain Moore to the Redenhall company. Composed by B. Smith, of Plumstead. An interesting event of the day was the opening of a new peal of handbells, nineteen in number, D. No. 21, which were supplied by Messrs. Shaw and Co., of Bradford. After ringing different touches in Grandsire and Treble Bob methods on eight and ten, the company expressed themselves highly delighted with the tone and fittings of the bells. At five o'clock a shift was made to a capital knife and fork tea, at which Captain Moore presided. The ringers wish, through this paper, to thank the Rector for the use of the bells, and also the owner of the new handbells (Mr. J. Souter), for his kindness in providing refreshments. It is hoped that the visitors will be more fortunate next time they visit Diss for a peal.

## ROSTHERNE, CHESHIRE.

ROSTHERNE lies midway between Bowdon and Knutsford in mid-Cheshire, about two miles from Ashley station, Cheshire Lines Railway. The church is dedicated to St. Mary, and the memorials in this beautiful old edifice are particularly worthy of inspection. The present tower, it appears, was built in 1742, and, like a many other towers, it is kept rather untidy. On a beam in the clock room is—"1696 + R. S. + V. R. + T. A. + I. S. W. H." The bells are rung for service twice on Sundays at 10.30 and 3 o'clock. They bear the following inscriptions:—

Treble.—"The gift of Saul, Egerton, of Tatton Park, T.R. 1771."

2nd.—"Chas. and John Rudhall, Fecit, 1785."

3rd.—"Peace and Good Neighbourhood, A.R. 1717."

4th.—"A.L.L. GLORY. B.E. T.O. G.O.D. 1630."

5th.—"Thos. Rudhall, Gloucester, Founder, 1782."

Tenor.—"A.M.V.H.B.W.N. EGGBNON, NOBISDOMI, NI, NONNOR IS, S, ED, NOMI, NI, T, VO, DA. GLORIAM 1655. JC. WARDENS, GOLD. F. ELL. MADE MEE."

It was not an easy task to take the inscription on the tenor, on account of it being very cold in the tower. I am afraid I have made a little mistake; the diameter at mouth is about 48 inches. I shall be very glad if any readers of "THE BELL NEWS" can give me any information with reference to the inscription on this bell.

THOMAS WOOD.



## STAPLEHURST, KENT.

THE NEW PEAL OF BELLS.—On Saturday, St. Mark's Day, the new peal of eight bells, cast by Mears and Stainbank, of London, at a cost of £445 10s. 3d., was dedicated in the presence of a crowded congregation. The first service in the belfry was conducted by the Lord Bishop of Hereford, formerly Fellow of St. John's College, Cambridge, the Rectory of Staplehurst being in the patronage of that body. This consisted of a few prayers, and a formal admission of the members of the Staplehurst Ringers' Guild, 16 in number. The Bishop also gave a brief and practical address to the newly-admitted on the duties and responsibilities of their holy office. At 3 p.m. the belfry steps were again mounted, and the Bishop read the prayers, which formally dedicated the new peal, in the presence of the Rector, the Rev. G. F. Reyner, D.D., the Curate, the Rev. J. H. McGill, M.A., W. Hoare, Esq., Major Osborne, Messrs. Nunn and W. Wickings, Churchwardens; Messrs. Brooks, J. Harris, the Staplehurst Bell Ringers' Guild, and a band of the Ancient Society of College Youths, who had come down from London to ring the opening peal. Immediately after the prayers were concluded, the bells sounded forth, being rung with the greatest precision by the experts to whose hands the ropes were entrusted. At 3.30 the general service was commenced with the Old Hundredth Psalm, as a processional hymn. The Curate read shortened evensong, the 122nd and 150th being chanted as special psalms, while the Rector read two passages of Scripture, viz., Exodus xxviii. v. 30—v. 37, and Zechariah xiv. v. 20. After the Magnificat hymn 316 (Church Hymns) was sung, and after the 3rd collect, the anthem "Oh! how amiable." The prayers being ended, a short touch on the bells ensued, which was followed by a special hymn. The Bishop then preached a most suitable and earnest sermon from Exodus xxxix. v. 43, which was listened to with rapt attention. Hymn 509 was then sung, and an offertory to cover some expenses connected with preparing the tower for the reception of the bells, collected, which amounted to £20 2s. 7½d. The clergy present were the Archdeacon of Maidstone; Canon Carter, Rural Dean of Sutton, Canon Alcock, Canon Welldon, the Revs. T. W. Nowell, Rector of Poplar, T. A. Carr, Vicar of Marden, A. H. Harrison, Vicar of Cranbrook, J. S. Clarke, Vicar of Goudhurst, W. J. Kilpeck, Vicar of Sissinghurst, R. B. Knatchbull-Hugessen, late Rector of Mersham, T. D. Platt, Vicar of Holy Trinity, Portsea, D. Lamplugh, Vicar of Yalding, T. W. O. Hallward, Rector of Frittenden, R. S. Oldham, Rector of Little Chart, E. J. Selwyn, Rector of Pluckley, W. Peterson, Rector of Biddenham, J. S. Madden, Smeeth Hill, and J. MacLachlan, Rector of Sevington.

The weights of the bells are:—

cwt.	cwt.	cwt.	cwt.	cwt.	cwt.	cwt.	cwt.
21	15	12	9	8	7	6	6

The inscriptions are:—

- Treble.—"Praise to God the Eternal Father. G. F. Reyner S.T.P., Rector, 1885."  
 2nd.—"Praise to God the Eternal Son. J. H. C. McGill, M.A. Curate, 1885."  
 3rd.—"Praise to God the Eternal Spirit. J. Nunn, William Wickings, Churchwardens, 1885."  
 4th.—"This Bell is in place of one cast in 1748. God bless the church."  
 5th.—"This bell is in place of one cast in 1663. God bless the Queen."  
 6th.—"This Bell is in place of one cast in 1594. God bless Staplehurst."  
 7th.—"Joseph Hatch made me. Henry Turner, C.W., William Woolless, C.W. 1605 T.S."  
 Tenor.—"This Tenor, which is in place of one cast in 1659, and 6th, 5th, 4th, 3rd, 2nd, and Treble Bells were cast by Mears and Stainbank in 1885. Dona Dei Deo."

The College Youths who opened the bells were as follows:—Messrs. Pettit, Smith, Dorrington, Mash, Winny, Muskett, Horrex, and Hayes. They rang six courses of Stedman Triples before the service; a plain course of Stedman during the pause in the service, and at the conclusion two courses of Kent Treble Bob Major.

## THE WEST RIDING OF YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

ON Saturday last, April 25th, the half-yearly meeting of this Association was held at Low Moor, near Bradford, when the following companies were represented: Low Moor, Mirfield, Lightcliffe, Holey Hill, Halifax (late parish), Halifax parish, Birstall, Brighouse, Tong, Kirkheaton, Liversedge, and Drighlington. The welcome peal was rung by the Mirfield ringers. During the afternoon and evening short touches in various methods were rung by the different companies upon the tower bells. Short selections were also given in fair style upon the handbells. At 5 o'clock the ringers were most hospitably entertained to a good knife and fork tea, in the church schoolroom, by the following gentlemen: The Vicar, the Rev. T. H. Flynn, the Curate, the Rev. M. Thorman, Laurence Hardy, Esq., J.P., the Churchwardens, Messrs. James Ackroyd and Barri Briggs, the Sidesmen, Messrs. R. Edmondson and T. Clarkson, and the Chairman of the Local Board, Mr. Edwin Briggs; the Vicar presiding, supported by the above gentlemen. After tea the Vicar spoke a few well-chosen words of welcome, and mentioned the gradual improved tone generally now to be seen among ringers in reference to attending church service,

sobriety, etc., and contrasted it most favourably with that of previous years, when disputes between ringers and churchwardens, neglect of attendance at Divine Service, etc., were the order of the day. Laurence Hardy, Esq., addressed the ringers, and spoke of the pleasure it gave him to welcome the Association to Low Moor, and likewise the pleasure it was for him to hear the bells well rung. He also paid a most graceful tribute to the memory of the late Hon. Harold Hardy, and said that his ambition was to follow in his footsteps, in respect to supporting the church and its officers and officials in every capacity, both morally and materially. The Secretary briefly acknowledged on behalf of the Society the welcome given, and thanked the gentlemen for their remarks. Afterwards an adjournment was made to the "Chapel House" Inn, where a meeting was held, at which it was decided to hold the next meeting at Lightcliffe, in October next. A special vote of thanks to the Vicar and Mr. Hardy, and the other gentlemen for their kindness was passed, to be officially forwarded by the Secretary. Mr. Ackroyd addressed the meeting, endorsing the words of previous speakers, and promised on behalf of himself and co-warden to provide an official pew for the bell-ringers in the church if required. Mr. Edwin Briggs proposed in a very neat speech the toast of the evening—"Success to The West Riding of Yorkshire Association," which was seconded by the junior Warden, Mr. Barri Briggs. A vote of thanks to the host brought a most successful meeting to a close, after which ringing was resumed until a late hour.

## STOKE-UPON-TRENT ARCHIDIACONAL ASSOCIATION.

A COMMITTEE MEETING will be held in the Church Room, Stoke-upon-Trent, at Four p.m., on Saturday, May 9th. Business: election of new Clerical Secretary, arrangement of Annual Meeting, &c.

H. WALSHAM HOW, Hon. Sec.

BELL RINGERS' RULES IN RHYME.—The following curious rhyme was formerly to be seen on the south wall of the belfry of Hathersage church, Derby. Its date is thought to be about 1660:

"You Gentlemen that here wish to ring,  
 See that these laws you keep in every thing;  
 Or else be sure you must without delay.  
 The penalty thereof to the ringers pay.

First, when you do unto the bell-house come,  
 Look if the ringers have convenient room;  
 For if you do be an hindrance unto them,  
 Fourpence you forfeit unto these gentlemen.

Next, if you do here intend to ring,  
 With hat nor spur, do not touch a string;  
 For if you do, your forfeit is for that,  
 Just fourpence down to pay, lose your hat.

If you a bell turn over, without delay,  
 Fourpence unto the ringers you must pay,  
 Or if you strike, miscall, or so abuse,  
 You must pay fourpence for the ringers' use.

For every oath here sworn, ere you go hence,  
 Unto the poor then you must pay twelvepence;  
 And if that you desire to be enrolled  
 A ringer here, these words keep and hold!

But whoso these orders disobey,  
 Unto the stocks we will take him straightway;  
 There to remain until he be willing  
 To pay his forfeit and the clerk a shilling."

In the belfry at Tideswell church, a variation of the above was won to be found, up to a comparatively recent date. It is as follows:—

"All gentlemen that here intend to ring,  
 See that these laws you keep in everything;  
 When first that you into the belfry come,  
 See that the ringers have convenient room;  
 For if you be an hindrance unto them,  
 Fourpence you forfeit unto these gentlemen.  
 For every oath you swear ere you go hence,  
 You must immediately just pay sixpence.  
 For every bell turned o'er, without delay  
 Fourpence you must unto the present clerk pay;  
 Or if that you're desirous for to ring  
 With hats or spurs on, do not touch one string;  
 For if you do, your forfeit is for that  
 Fourpence pay down or else you lose your hat.  
 And if you have a mind to be enrolled  
 A ringer here, these orders you must hold."

## A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR.

9600.

By JOHN CARTER, *Birmingham.*

2 3 4 5 6 w 5th 4th H

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

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

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

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

Five times repeated. Bob for a single at the tenth course of the second and fifth parts, and contains the 120 course-ends.

## A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR.

5040.

By N. J. PITSTOW, *Saffron Walden.*

2 3 4 5 6 W M H

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

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

Twice repeated.

## TWO PEALS OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR.

By JOHN J. BRIERLEY, *Saddleworth.*

5760.

2 3 4 5 6 M B W H

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

Twice repeated.

5760.

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

Twice repeated.

## A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS.

15,120.

By W. WOOD, *Birmingham.*

2 3 4 5 6

4 3 6 5 2 9 7.  
 4 3 6 5 2 7th in & out at 3 with a double.  
 5 3 2 4 6 8th in two and a 7 8.  
 2 3 6 4 5 8 9.  
 6 3 5 4 2 8 9.  
 3 5 6 4 2 7 8.  
 4 5 2 3 6 8th in two and a 7 8.  
 2 5 6 3 4 8 9.  
 6 5 4 3 2 8 9.  
 3 5 2 6 4 8th in two and a 7 8.

Fourteen times repeated.

## A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR.

5088.

By JOHN THORP, *Ashton-under-Lyne.*

2 3 4 5 6 M B W H

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

Twice repeated.

Rung at Mottram, on Monday, February 9th, 1885.  
 Conducted by Robert Wright.

## A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR.

6720.

By GEORGE H. HARDY, *Earlsheaton.*

2 3 4 5 6 M B W H

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

Four times repeated.

## A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR.

5152.

A. KNIGHTS, *Chesterfield.*

2 3 4 5 4 W M H

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

Repeated. The 6th twelve times wrong and right.

## A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR.

5056

By CHARLES PRICE, *Eccleston.*

2 3 4 5 6 M B W H

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

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

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

3 5 4 2 6 2 - 2

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

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

## TWO PEALS OF TREBLE BOB ROYAL.

By DANIEL PRENTICE, *Ipswich.*

6000.

2 3 4 5 6 M W H

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

Twice repeated.

6000.

2 3 4 5 6 M W H

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

Twice repeated.

## A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR.

5088.

By HENRY DAINS, *Royal Cumberland Youths.*

2 3 4 5 6 M B W H

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

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

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

Rung for the first time at All Hallows, Tottenham, Middlesex, on January 31st, 1885, by the St. James's Society. Conducted by A. H. Gardom.

"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 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, MAY 2, 1885.

THOUGH it may be taken for granted that there are many unsuccessful attempts made for peals of 5000 and upwards which we never hear of, it must at the same time be conceded that instances occur in which these unsuccessful essays come to be recorded merely as touches rung under the usual ordinary conditions of practice. Without beating about the bush we may at once remark that the publication this week of a touch of 3500 of Grandsire Triples, stated as having been rung for practice merely, leads to the idea that it was an attempt for a peal. There may be, it is true, circumstances existing why such a lengthy touch could be rung for practice, and we do not deny such was the case. We are only pointing out an idea which has occurred to us, and which we think will present itself to many minds when reading the report of this performance.

To say, after an unsuccessful attempt for a peal has been made, that such ringing was "only for practice," is a very old and well-worn joke. When such facetiousness is indulged in by the company among themselves, no objection can be made. A little pleasantry of this character certainly does no harm, and perhaps tends to lighten the disappointment caused by failure. But it is a good plan not to use the words above quoted too often, because a constant repetition of a phrase, though apparently ridiculous at the onset, ultimately creates positive belief. Therefore it would be better that the assertion "only for practice," when made after an unsuccessful attempt, should be localised as much as possible, at any rate not allowed to find its way into print unless absolutely correct.

Those who critically peruse the reports of the various performances which week by week appear—those who, so to speak, read between the lines—now and then point out to us their peculiarities, commenting at the same time in

a similar strain to our present remarks. Some of these "touches," brought under our observation, glaringly appear to have been mere attempts at something else, and the object of our dealing with the matter is only to point out that such ambiguity in reporting these performances is open to discovery. We think it would be better in all instances where there is a failure to boldly admit it. "'Tis not in mortals to command success," but whoever is courageous enough when failure overtakes him to candidly admit it, and not shelter his want of success under an equivocal subterfuge, certainly deserves to prosper in every undertaking.

### The Provinces.

#### ORMSKIRK, LANCASHIRE.

On Tuesday, April 21, 1885, in Two Hours and Fifty-eight Minutes.

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

#### A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES.

Tenor 25½ cwt.

JOHN ASPINWALL .. .. Treble.	WILLIAM BENTHAM .. .. 5.
WILLIAM J. TAYLOR* .. .. 2.	CHARLES SHARPLES .. .. 6.
WILLIAM ELLIS* .. .. 3.	*GEORGE PRESCOTT .. .. 7.
JAMES SHOLICAR* .. .. 4.	*WILLIAM LLOYD .. .. Tenor.

Composed and Conducted by JOHN ASPINWALL.

\*First peal.

#### BURTON-ON-TRENT, STAFFORDSHIRE.

#### THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION AND THE ST. PAUL'S SOCIETY, BURTON-ON-TRENT.

On Thursday, April 23, 1885, in Three Hours and Twenty-six Minutes.

AT ST. PAUL'S CHURCH,

#### A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES.

Tenor 26 cwt.

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

Composed by JOHN CARTER and Conducted by JOSEPH GRIFFIN.

This peal is a two-part peal, and contains the 6th twenty-four times wrong and right; see Snowdon's "Double Norwich," page 37; and is now rang for the first time.

#### ECCLES, LANCASHIRE.

On Saturday, April 25, 1885, in Two Hours and Fifty-two Minutes.

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

#### A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

TAYLOR'S BOB-AND-SINGLE VARIATION. Tenor 13½ cwt.

WILLIAM CROSSLEY .. .. Treble.	CHARLES CASH .. .. 5.
JAMES COLLIER .. .. 2.	JOSEPH HIGSON .. .. 6.
RICHARD PEARCE .. .. 3.	EDWARD CASH .. .. 7.
JOHN WELSBY .. .. 4.	EDWARD OWEN .. .. Tenor.

Conducted by EDWARD CASH.

The above was rung as a complimentary peal to Mr. Higson (formerly a ringer at St. Peter's, Swinton), he having been in the United States over three years. He has only come over on a visit and will return in a few days. Messrs. Cash Brothers hail from Eccles; Welsby from Walkden; the rest are from Swinton.

#### SADDLEWORTH.—THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, April 25, 1885, in Three Hours.

AT ST. CHAD'S CHURCH,

#### A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;

IN THE OXFORD VARIATION. Tenor 12 cwt.

JOHN J. BRIERLEY .. .. Treble.	JOS. L. BUCKLEY .. .. 5.
JOSEPH RADCLIFFE .. .. 2.	EDGAR BUCKLEY .. .. 6.
JOHN HOLDEN .. .. 3.	EDWARD WOOD .. .. 7.
JAMES WRIGLEY .. .. 4.	JOSEPH WOOD .. .. Tenor.

Composed by JOHN J. BRIERLEY, and Conducted by JOHN HOLDEN.

TIPTON, STAFFORDSHIRE.  
ASSOCIATION FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.

On Saturday, April 25, 1885, in Three Hours and Eight Minutes,

At St. Martin's Church,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE MAJOR, 5152 CHANGES;

Tenor 12 cwt.

JOSEPH JONES* .. .. Treble.	*THOMAS HORTON .. .. 5.
WILLIAM ROCK SMALL .. .. 2.	REUBEN HALL .. .. 6.
JOHN TINSLEY .. .. 3.	WILLIAM SMITH .. .. 7.
WILLIAM PARDOE† .. .. 4.	JOSEPH FULLWOOD .. .. Tenor.

Composed and Conducted by JOSEPH FULLWOOD.

\*First peal of Major. †First peal.

Messrs. Small, Horton, Hall, and Fullwood hail from West Bromwich; Tinsley and Smith from Darlaston; and Jones and Pardoe belong to the local band.

MANCHESTER.—THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

*Birthday Peal.*

On Saturday, April 25, 1885, in Three Hours and Seventeen Minutes,

At the Cathedral,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS, 5057 CHANGES;

Tenor 25 cwt. in Eb.

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

Composed and Conducted by ALBERT E. WREAKS.

\*First peal; aged 14 years.

It was intended to have rung a peal of Bob Royal, but the conductor not putting in an appearance it was frustrated. A peal of Caters was therefore composed in the tower and attempted, with the above result. The above was rung to celebrate Mr. Turner's 23rd birthday, the ringers wishing him many happy returns of the day.

HILLINGDON, MIDDLESEX.

THE SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.

On Saturday, April 25, 1885, in Three Hours,

At St. Andrew's Church,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S TEN-PART.

W. BARON .. .. Treble.	*REV. C. T. MAYO .. .. 5.
H. A. HOPKINS .. .. 2.	G. NEWSON .. .. 6.
J. ROGERS .. .. 3.	W. WILDER .. .. 7.
C. T. HOPKINS .. .. 4.	J. PERRYMAN .. .. Tenor.

Conducted by W. BARON.

\*First peal.

IPSWICH, SUFFOLK.

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

On Saturday, April 25, 1885, in Three Hours and Thirty Minutes,

At St. Mary-le-Tower Church,

A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR,  
5040 CHANGES. Tenor 32 cwt.

WILLIAM MEADOWS* .. .. Treble.	WILLIAM MOTTS .. .. 5.
EDGAR PEMBERTON .. .. 2.	†ARTHUR R. ALDHAM .. .. 6.
ISAAC S. ALEXANDER .. .. 3.	JAMES MOTTS .. .. 7.
HENRY BOWELL* .. .. 4.	WILLIAM CATCHPOLE .. .. Tenor.

Composed by H. HUBBARD, and Conducted by JAMES MOTTS.

\*First peal in the method. †First peal with a bob bell.

The whole of the above belong to the St. Mary-le-Tower Company.

MEMORIAL WINDOW.—During the afternoon service at St. Mark's Church, Coburg Road, Old Kent Road, on Saturday—which was the dedication festival—a stained glass window, which has been erected to the memory of the late John Sutton Utterton, Canon of Winchester, Archdeacon of Surrey, and Bishop-Suffragan of Guildford, was unveiled in the presence of a large congregation. A sermon was afterwards delivered by the Rev. W. Chetwynd Stapylton, M.A., hon. canon of Rochester, and Vicar of Malden, Surrey.

SHEFFIELD, YORKSHIRE.

THE ST. PETER'S AMALGAMATED SOCIETY AND  
THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, April 27, 1885, in Three Hours and Seven Minutes,

At St. Marie's Church,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S 10-PART. Tenor 25 cwt.

WILLIAM MIDGLEY .. .. Treble.	CHAS. H. HATTERSEY .. .. 5.
JOHN GOACHER* .. .. 2.	THOMAS HATTERSLEY .. .. 6.
JOHN MULLIGAN† .. .. 3.	JAMES A. DIXON .. .. 7.
WILLIAM GARDINER .. .. 4.	*JAMES KEW .. .. Tenor.

Conducted by JOHN MULLIGAN.

†First peal as conductor. \*First peal.

BURTON-ON-TRENT, STAFFORDSHIRE.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION AND THE  
ST. PAUL'S SOCIETY, BURTON-ON-TRENT.

*Muffled Peal.*

On Wednesday, April 29, 1885, in Three Hours and Twenty-two Minutes,

At St. Paul's Church,

A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR,  
5008 CHANGES. Tenor 26 cwt.

REV. JAMES H. FISH .. .. Treble.	HARRY WAKLEY .. .. 5.
EDWARD ISAAC STONE .. .. 2.	JOHN JAGGAR .. .. 6.
ARTHUR WAKLEY .. .. 3.	THOMAS HOLMES .. .. 7.
JOSEPH GRIFFIN .. .. 4.	WILLIAM WAKLEY .. .. Tenor.

Composed by H. DAINS and Conducted by JOSEPH GRIFFIN.

This peal was rung with the bells half-muffled on the first Anniversary of the death of Michael Thomas Bass, Founder of St. Paul's and St. Margaret's churches, Burton-on-Trent, and donor of the bells.

It is a one-part peal, and contains the 6th twenty-four times wrong and right, see Snowden's "Double Norwich," page 38, being the original peal. And is now rung for the first time.

*Date Touch.*

CHESTERFIELD (Derbyshire).—On Tuesday, April 28th, at the parish church, the local company rang a date touch of 1885 changes of Grandsire Triples, in 1 hr. 6 mins. John Goodwin, 1; David Farthing, 2; George Toplis, 3; William Ellis, 4; John Ellis, 5; Harry Nuttall, jun., 6; Arthur Knights (conductor), 7; Thomas Mee, 8. Composed by Charles Jackson, of Hull, and taken from "THE BELL NEWS" of March 21st. Tenor 24½ cwt. in Eb.

*Miscellaneous.*

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

LAMBETH (Surrey).—On Saturday, April 25th, at St. Mary's church, 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor, in 26½ mins. E. F. Strange (conductor), 1; J. Waghorn, jun., 2; \*A. Tennant, 3; F. T. Gover, 4; \*E. Rogers, 5; \*M. Murphy, 6. Tenor 20 cwt. \*First 720 in the method.

THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

BROMHAM (Beds).—On Thursday, April 23rd, at St. Owen's church, for practice, a 720 of Bob Minor (eighteen bobs and two singles). I. Hills, 1; M. Warrick, 2; C. W. Clarke, 3; W. King, 4; W. Biggs (conductor), 5; H. King, 6.

BIDDENHAM (Beds).—On Friday, April 24th, at St. James's church, for practice, a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob Minor (nine bobs). W. Hall, 1; C. West, 2; C. W. Clarke (conductor), 3; M. Warrick, 4; I. Hills, 5; W. Biggs, 6. Tenor 14 cwt. in G.

CARDINGTON (Beds).—On Saturday, April 25th, eight members of the above Association attempted a peal of Grandsire Triples, Taylor's bob-and-single variation, but after ringing 3140 changes, in 1 hr. 55 mins., two bells shifted course, so the conductor brought the bells round. C. West, 1; W. Biggs, 2; S. Cullip, 3; W. Hall, 4; J. Atkins, 5; C. W. Clarke (conductor), 6; J. Frossell, 7; I. Hills, 8. Tenor 21 cwt. in E.

WOBURN (Beds).—On Thursday, April 23rd, the day of the marriage of F. T. Tanqueray, Esq. (a member of the Association), after ringing some touches of Bob Major, a 720 was rung on the front six bells, the tenors covering. G. Archer, 1; Walter Mynard (first 720 with a bob bell), 2; T. Foote (Bedford), 3; C. Herbert, 4; W. Chibnall (conductor), 5; J. C. Cooke, 6; A. Morrison, 7; E. Keech, 8.

## THE BIRMINGHAM AMALGAMATED SOCIETY.

BIRMINGHAM.—On Friday, April 24th, at St. John's, Deritend, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, 1260 changes, in 47 mins. William Baldwin, 1; Charles Carmell, 2; John Callaghan, 3; Charles Barnacle, 4; Richard Hackley, 5; John T. Perry (conductor), 6; Albert Hackley, 7; James E. King, 8. This quarter-peal was composed by the Editor of "THE BELL NEWS." All the above are members of the Birmingham and District Association.

## THE ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

SUDBURY (Suffolk).—On Saturday, April 25th, eight members of the above Association started for a 5000 of Treble Bob, at All Saints' church, by the kind permission of the Vicar, but after ringing the first part it was advisable to stop owing to the tenor going very badly, in consequence of the recent hot weather. Arthur Scott, 1; Alexander Hurst, 2; William Bacon, 3; Walter Griggs, 4; Harry Thompson, 5; William Howell, 6; Paul Adams, 7; Harry Harper, 8. Tenor 28 cwt in D.

## THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

ROMFORD (Essex).—Handbell Ringing.—On Saturday evening, April 25th, a 630 of Grandsire Triples. A. Pye, 1-2; B. Keeble, 3-4; A. J. Perkins, 5-6; W. Nash, 7-8.

SPRINGFIELD (Essex).—On Tuesday, April 28th, at All Saints', a 720 of Cambridge Surprise Minor, in 24 mins. W. Harvey, 1; J. Dains, 2; W. Rowland, 3; W. Hawkes, 4; T. Drake (conductor), 5; M. Rolfe, 6. Tenor about 11 cwt. Dains and Harvey hail from Widford, Drake and Rowland from Chelmsford, Hawkes and Rolfe belong to Springfield. This is the first 720 in the method on the bells.

## THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

CAVERSHAM (Oxon).—On Tuesday, April 21st, by the St. Peter's Society, a 720 of Yorkshire Court, in 28 mins. E. Menday, 1; J. Butler, 2; G. Essex, 3; T. Newman, 4; E. Pottinger, 5; Rev. G. F. Coleridge (conductor), 6. Tenor 16½ cwt.

## THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

TUNBRIDGE WELLS (Kent).—On Monday evening, April 27th, at St. Peter's church, a 720 of Grandsire Minor (thirty-eight bobs and twenty-two singles), from Troyte, in 25 mins. James Muggeridge, 1; Job Colthup, 2; Richard Sharville, 3; William Latter, 4; Henry Barefield (conductor), 5; George Kimber, 6. Tenor 14 cwt. 3 qrs. This is the first 720 by all except the conductor.

## THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

ECCLES (Lancashire).—On Monday evening, April 27th, six of the local company rang their first 120 of Stedman Doubles. Edward Cash, 1; Thomas Yates, 2; James Barratt, 3; Alfred Eggington, 4; George Henry Johnson (conductor), 5; Richard Ashcroft, 6.

WALKDEN (Lancashire).—On Easter Day, April 5th, at St. Paul's Church, for the 6 a.m. service, a 720 of Bob Minor, with sixteen bobs and two singles, in 26½ mins. J. Welsby, 1; J. Worthington, 2; S. Oakes, 3; J. Williamson, 4; J. Brookes, 5; W. Dennes (conductor), 6. Also on Monday evening, April 27th, for practice, a 720 of Bob Minor, with twenty-one bobs and twelve singles in 26 mins. J. Welsby, 1; J. Worthington, 2; S. Oakes, 3; J. Williamson, 4; W. Denner, 5; J. Brookes (conductor), 6. Also a 720 of Bob Minor, with nine bobs and six singles, in 26 mins. J. Welsby, 1; J. Worthington, 2; S. Oakes, 3; W. Denner, 4; J. Brookes, 5; R. Ridyard (conductor), 6. Tenor 13½ cwt. R. Ridyard hails from Worsley. These are their first 720's as conductors by both Messrs. Brookes and Ridyard.

## THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

LONG EATON (Derbyshire).—On Sunday, April 26th, for Divine Service in the morning, 252 Stedman Triples. William Grice, 1; George Bradley, 2; Samuel Clark, 3; John C. Dickens, 4; William Gilson, 5; Joseph Barrow (conductor), 6; John Ward, 7. And for service in the evening, 576 Kent Treble Bob Major. William Grice, 1; Richard Hickton, 2; George Bradley, 3; Samuel Clark, 4; John C. Dickens, 5; William Gilson, 6; Joseph Barrow, 7; John Ward (conductor), 8. Tenor 11 cwt.

## THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

HELMINGHAM (Suffolk).—On Saturday, April 25th, eight members of the above Association attempted a peal of Kent Treble Bob Major, but after ringing 2016 changes in 1 hr. 20 mins. it came to grief through a change-course. G. Birch, 1; G. Perry, 2; A. S. Barrell, 3; J. Howard, 4; W. P. Garrett, 5; S. Whitman, 6; A. Ward, 7; W. A. Ward (conductor), 8.

## STOKE-UPON-TRENT ARCHIDIACONAL ASSOCIATION.

NORTON (Staffordshire).—On Sunday, April 26th, for evening service, 720 Court Bob Minor, in 25 mins. W. Holdcroft, E. Glover, 2; J. Morton, 3; G. Walker, 4; J. W. Brough, 5; J. Baddeley (conductor), 6.

## THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

STREATHAM (Surrey).—On Monday, April 27th, for practice a 720 of Plain Bob Minor. H. Daniels, jun., 1; W. Sheppard, 1; J. Russel, 3; S. Greenwood, 4; O. Daddy (conductor), 5; G. Pell, 6. And two 6-scores, of Stedman Doubles.

## THE WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

SOBERTON (Hants).—On Saturday evening April 18th, for practice, 3500 Grandsire Triples, in 2 hrs. 4 mins. R. Linter, 1; F. Linter, 2; H. Mason, 3; G. H. Child, 4; G. Grafham, 5; J. Whiting, 6; G. Williams (conductor), 7; W. Belstone, 8. On Sunday, April 19th, for morning service, 840 Grandsire Triples. W. Emslie, 1; G. H. Child, 2; H. H. Emslie, 3; F. Linter, 4; H. Mathews, 5; H. Mason, 6; G. Williams (conductor), 7; H. Upton, 8. Tenor 14½ cwt.

ACCINGTON (Lancashire).—Muffled Peal.—On Sunday, April 26th, at St. James's parish church, the bells were muffled as a last token of respect to the late Mr. John Higson, Secretary of the Lancashire Association of six-bell ringers, various touches were also rung for Divine in the evening. A. Scholes, 1; Wm. Duckworth, 2; Thos. Newall, 3; John Hindle, 4; Wm. Ashworth, 5; C. D. Pierce, 6. And after service a muffled 720 (sixteen bobs and two singles). T. Newall (conductor), 1; Wm. Duckworth, 2; Tom Hodgson, 3; John Hindle, 4; Wm. Ashworth, 5; Wm. Gill, 6. Tenor 10 cwt.

BATLEY CARR (Yorkshire).—On Friday, April 24th, for practice, 724 College Pleasure, in 27 mins. Squire Mitchell (conductor), 1; J. W. Simon, 2; W. H. Stead, 3; John Blackburn, 4; Geo. H. Simon, 5; H. Senior, 6. Tenor 12 cwt. First 720 in the method by all.

BOLTON.—On Sunday, April 26th, at the Parish Church, being the Annual Sermons in behalf of the week day and Sunday schools connected with the parish church, seven of the local company, with Mr. John Curtis of Bolton, rang before service the first half of a peal of Grandsire Triples (Taylor's variation) consisting of 2520 changes, in 1 hr. and 27 mins. William Davies (conductor), 1; John E. Newton, 2; William L. Holden, 3; John Curtis, 4; Peter Nuttall, 5; James May, 6; John Whitehead, 7; James Thorpe, 6. Tenor 15½ cwt.

CHEPSTOW (Monmouthshire).—On Sunday, April 26th, the local company of St. Mary's Church, rang for Divine Service several plain courses of Bob Triples. J. Morley, 1; J. Evans, 2; W. Green, 3; C. James, 4; G. Watkins, 5; Wm. Woods, 6; Tom Rosser, 7; R. D. Morley (conductor), 8. This is the first Bob Triples ever rung by any local company on the bells. Tenor 21 cwt.

COPDOCK (Suffolk).—On Thursday, April 23rd, at St. Peter's church, a 6-score of Plain Doubles was rung. G. Bishop, 1; W. Brown, 2; W. L. Catchpole, 3; R. Grimwood, 4; A. R. Aldham, 5. And another 6-score. W. Brown, 1; G. Bishop, 2; W. L. Catchpole, 3; A. R. Aldham, 4; W. Bishop, 5; Aldham and Catchpole hail from Ipswich, the rest are local men.

DEERHURST (Gloucestershire).—On Sunday afternoon, April 26th, some members of the Tewkesbury Abbey Society visited Deerhurst, and rang a 720 of Bob Minor. R. H. Witherington, 1; J. Wathen, 2; F. J. Moore, 3; J. Hale, 4; G. Willis, 5; Jos. Wathen (conductor), 6. Some 120s of Stedman Doubles were rung, J. Bartlett, G. Willis, and C. Willis, of the Deerhurst Society, taking a bell each.

DERBY.—On Saturday, April 25th, for practice at St. Andrew's a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples was rung in 51 mins. W. Shardlow, 1; J. W. Thompson, 2; C. Hart, 3; W. Midgley, 4; W. H. Found, 5; Dr. Knipe, 6; A. E. Thompson (conductor), 7; T. Alton, 8. Tenor 20½ cwt. in Eb. Dr. Knipe hails from London, the rest are local ringers.

FAVERSHAM (Kent).—On Saturday, April 25th, by the local band, at the funeral of E. Crosoer, one of their members, who died April 21st, aged 23, deeply regretted by all the members of the band, a 720 of Plain Bob Minor with the bells half-muffled. J. Smith, 1; A. Biggs, 2; J. Barnard, 3; C. L. Graham, 4; C. Couchman, 5; W. Wood (conductor), 6; H. Hogben, tenor.

EDWARDSTONE (Suffolk).—On Sunday, April 26th, at St. Mary's Church, for Divine Service in the morning, a 720 of Plain Bob Minor, in 25 mins. G. Death, 1; J. Taylor, 2; J. Newman, 3; H. Bowers, 4; W. Smith, 5; W. Nevard (conductor), 6. Also a 216 of Plain Bob with fourteen singles. C. Ablitt, 1; G. Scowen, 2; J. Scowen, 3; H. Bowers, 4; J. Newman (conductor), 5; H. Diggins, 6. Also a 300 of Plain Bob. G. Scowen, 1; H. Bowers, 2; J. Scowen, 3; W. Smith, 4; J. Taylor (conductor), 5; W. Nevard, 6. And after service the following rang a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob in 27 mins. J. Taylor, 1; A. Keeble, 2; J. Newman, 3; C. Parker (conductor), 4; W. Smith, 5; W. Nevard, 6. This is the first 720 of this method that has been rung on these bells for the past twenty years. W. Nevard hails from Great Bentley; J. Taylor from Great Bromley; C. Ablitt and W.

Smith from Higham; J. and C. Scowen from Hadleigh; A. Keeble and C. Parker from Monks Leigh; H. Bowers and H. Diggins from Great Waldingfield; the rest are local men.

**LEISTON (Suffolk).**—On Saturday, April 25th, six members of the local company rang two 720's of Plain Bob Minor, in 56 mins., and two 360's of Plain Bob Minor in 28 mins. Also on Friday, April 24th, on handbells retained in hand, a 720 and 360 in the same method, each called differently. H. Button (aged 14), 1; E. Staulkey (aged 15), 2; G. Baxter (aged 16), 3; G. Morling (aged 17), 4; W. Button (19), 5; T. E. Shearing, aged 16 (conductor), 6. Tenor 20½ cwt. These are the first 720's rung by the above company, who have only been in practice for two months, and have had no instructor.

**MANCHESTER.**—On Friday, April 24th, at St. Philip's church, Hulme, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor, in 26 mins. Jas. Heald (first 720 in the method), 1; T. Collinge, 2; E. Ettock, 3; H. Wood, 4; A. Wood, 5; T. Heald (first 720 as conductor in this method), 6.

**NOTTINGHAM.**—*Muffled Peal.*—On Saturday, April 25th, at St. Peter's Church, the following members of the Midland Counties' Association, assisted by Mr. M. Tomlinson, of Holbeck, rang a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 50 mins., with the bells half-muffled, as a mark of respect to the late Mr. J. Lennard, an old Nottingham ringer, who died on Wednesday, April 22nd. S. Wilkinson, 1; M. Tomlinson, 2; H. Needham, 3; A. Archer, 4; A. R. Peet, 5; J. Hickman, 6; H. W. Abbott (conductor), 7; A. W. Sadler, 8. Tenor 21 cwt. H. Needham hails from Leicester.

**NUNEATON (Warwickshire).**—On Tuesday, April 28th, the Bishop of Worcester held a confirmation service at the parish church, at 11 a.m., when the local company rang his Lordship in with five 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles, called differently, with 7 6 8 behind. W. Adler, 1; T. Lingard, 2; H. Bacon, 3; H. Horwood (conductor), 4; T. Bates, 5; C. Draper, 6; G. E. Swain, 7; J. Ballar, 8. And after service several 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles, called differently, by the same band. Tenor 14 cwt. in E.

**SUTTON (Lincolnshire).**—On Sunday, April 26th, at St. Nicholas Church, after Divine Service in the morning, four 120's of Plain Bob Doubles called on the last four, and two 120's of Grandsire Doubles called on the fifth, in 25 mins. G. Stennett, 1; G. Watson, 2; J. W. Mawby, 3; J. Stennett, 4; W. Cunningham, 5.

**SALISBURY.**—On Saturday, April 25th, (St Mark's Day), at St. Martin's Church, a 720 of Bob Minor in 27 mins. J. Short, 1; C. A. Clements, 2; A. Anderson, 3; W. Gifford, 4; T. Blackburn (conductor), 5; J. R. Jerram, 6.

**SWANSCOMBE (Kent).**—On Sunday, April 26th, at the church of SS. Peter and Paul, a 720 of Bob Minor. \*J. Harding, 1; W. Harper, 2; W. Martin, 3; G. Hayes, 4; B. Spinner, 5; G. Martin (conductor), 6. \*First 720. First 720 as conductor. Also for evening service, a 720 of Grandsire Minor. J. Broom, 1; B. Spinner, 2; W. Martin, 3; G. Hayes, 3; G. Hayes, 4; G. Martin, 5; W. Harper (conductor), 6.

**TIBENHAM (Norfolk).**—On Sunday evening, April 26th, a 240 of Bob Minor, with Bob Minor, with the bells half-muffled, as a mark of respect to Mr. Joseph Coleman, who was for 30 years parish clerk. G. Manser (conductor), 1; T. Wick, 2; G. Manser, jun., 3; J. Hinchley, 4; R. Seager, 5; E. Wibsdale, 6. And a 360 of Oxford Treble Bob. G. Manser (conductor), 1; T. Wick, 2; G. Manser, jun., 3; J. Jackson, 4; J. Hinchley, 5; E. Wibsdale, 6. J. Hinchley hails from Bunwell, the rest are local men.

**WALTON-ON-THE-HILL (Lancashire).**—On Thursday evening, April 23rd, at St. Mary's parish church, a 360 of Kent Treble Bob Minor. E. Yates, 1; R. H. Barton, 2; W. Short, 3; W. Rushton, 4; C. E. Wilson, 5; J. Bradshaw (conductor), 6. All the above hail from Bootle, with the exception of C. E. Wilson. And on Sunday morning for Divine Service, a 576 of Grandsire Minor, with twenty-two bobs and two singles; and in the evening a 720 of Plain Bob Minor, with fifteen bobs and six singles, in 26 mins. J. Hurst, 1; C. J. Rodgers, T. R. Somerville, 3; T. Rushton, 4; R. Stockley, 5; C. E. Wilson (conductor), 6. The above peal is the composition of the Rev. C. D. P. Davies. Tenor 10 cwt.

**WILLESDEN (Middlesex).**—On Thursday, April 23rd, a 720 of Bob Minor, with eight bobs and six singles, in 24 mins. A. Kirby, 1; F. Weare, 2; R. Kilby, 3; M. Murphy, 4; A. Tennant, 5; A. Pillian (conductor), 6. Also on Sunday evening, a 360 of Bob Minor, with nineteen bobs. J. Tennant, 1; R. Kilby, 2; A. Tennant, 3; A. Pillian, 4; M. Murphy, 5; F. Weare (conductor), 6.

#### OXFORD UNIVERSITY SOCIETY.

OFFICERS FOR THE SUMMER TERM, 1885.

Master, J. R. VINCENT, ST. JOHN'S.

Secretary, C. W. H. GRIFFITH, Corpus Christi Coll.

#### NORTH LINCOLNSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

The first general Annual Meeting of the members of this Association was held at Lincoln on Saturday, April 25th, and was attended with the greatest possible success. Prior to the meeting, several touches were rung on the St. Peter-at-Gowts bells by mixed bands. By the kindness of the vicar of the parish, the meeting was held in the St. Peter-at-Gowts schoolroom, where at 4 o'clock in the afternoon a large number of members attended from Gainsboro', Market Rasen, Nocton, Dunston, the three Lincoln branches also being well represented. In addition to these, the Association was honoured with the presence of brethren from Spalding, Boston, Retford, Nottingham, Newark, and other places. In the absence of the president (F. A. Dorrington, Esq.), Mr. F. F. Linley, of Gainsboro', one of the vice-presidents, was voted to the chair. A number of letters were read from several gentlemen apologising for their absence, and amongst the correspondence was a communication from Sir Charles Anderson, expressing his willingness to become a subscriber. The accounts for the past year, which had been audited, were presented and passed, and showed a balance in hand of over £8. F. A. Dorrington, Esq., of Nettleton Lodge, Caistor, was unanimously re-elected president, and the Rev. A. G. Musson, of Lincoln, and F. F. Linley, of Gainsboro' vice-presidents. As Mr. T. Gibbons, of Market Rasen, had expressed a desire to relinquish the duties of secretary, Mr. W. Lunn, of Market Rasen, was unanimously chosen to fill the vacancy, and Mr. H. Gadd of Market Rasen was re-appointed treasurer. Over twenty new members were enrolled, as well as several honorary members. Before the meeting closed, votes of thanks were accorded to the Rev. A. G. Musson, and the Lincoln executive for the excellent arrangements made for this meeting of the Association; to the vicar of the parish for the use of the schoolroom, and to the chairman for presiding. A model of a bell hung in position for ringing was exhibited in the room, as well as some interesting relics. After the meeting, the members of the Association and the visiting ringers partook of an excellent tea together in an adjoining room, the cost being defrayed out of the Association funds. In the evening, many of the members visited four of the towers in the grand old city, and rang a variety of touches. Every part of the meeting was thoroughly harmonious in its character and augured well for the future success of the Association. Whilst the repast was being discussed, six of the Lincoln brethren played several tunes on their musical handbells, and they were followed with a course each of Grandsire Triples and Bob Major, double-handed, by four of their Market Rasen brethren. Before closing this report, the members of the Association wish to publicly thank the Rev. A. G. Musson, the Lincoln executive, and the rev. gentlemen concerned, for the manner in which they contributed towards the great success of this the first annual meeting of the Association.

#### THE WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Thursday, April 16th, a District Meeting was held at Guildford. The Committee met at 3 o'clock at the "White Lion" Hotel. Upwards of sixty new members were elected, the following bands having joined the Guild: Twyford, Basingstoke, Bagshot, Chobham, Shalford, and Walton-on-Thames. Two other bands are preparing to join. It was decided to hold the Annual Meeting at Bournemouth this year, from which place a pressing invitation has been received. The day of meeting has not yet been finally decided. Some very good ringing was done in the evening at St. Nicholas, Guildford, and at Shalford. Members were present from Leatherhead, Godalming, Bramley, Cranleigh, Alton, Farnham, and Weybridge.

#### THE ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.

On Saturday, April 25th, Messrs. Baron, Newson, Rogers, and H. A. and C. T. Hopkins, of London, and Messrs. Perryman and Wilder, of Slough, journeyed to Hillingdon, for the express purpose of accomplishing a peal of Grandsire Triples, with the Rev. C. T. Mayo, Vicar of St. Andrew's, which was successfully performed in 3 hrs., Messrs. C. E. Malin, H. S. and A. G. Thomas receiving an invitation to join the band at supper in the Vicarage. After ample justice had been done to the good things provided, the vicar promised to erect, and the band accepted, with many thanks, a tablet in the tower recording the peal.

THE ACCIDENT TO A RINGING PARTY.—Any contribution towards recouping the great loss sustained by Mr. H. F. Wood in this unfortunate affair will be gladly received and acknowledged by Mr. Matthew A. Wood, Church Row, Bethnal Green, or by Mr. James Monday, 4, Mount Street, New Road, Whitechapel, London, E. We shall be happy to answer any enquiries which may be thought necessary relative to an occurrence which we believe has led to more serious results than at first imagined.



## THE CLOCK AT EXETER CATHEDRAL.

It is generally accepted that the wonderful clock in the north transept of Exeter Cathedral was erected by Bishop Peter Courtenay, who was Bishop of Exeter from 1478 to 1485; but Briton and some other authorities are of opinion that it dates from Edward II's time (A.D. 1307 to 1327). There is a reference to a clock in the "Falni Rolls," A.D. 1376-77, and in A.D. 1424 one John Bunde was paid what must then have been the large sum of £3 13s. 4d. for painting it. Some historians, among whom I may mention Izacke (A.D. 1676), Vowell (A.D. 1765), content themselves by saying Bishop Courtenay gave the big bell in the tower over the clock, and upon which it strikes. Lytleton, in his "Exeter Cathedral" (A.D. 1784), illustrated by Carter, ascribes the clock to Courtenay, and so does Jenkins in his "History of Exeter" (A.D. 1806). Worth, in his "History of Exeter Cathedral," says—"The clock is generally regarded as the gift of Bishop Courtenay, but this is doubtful. The rude, though strong workmanship of the present clock, its general design, and the appearance of antiquity it possesses, seems more particularly to belong to the reign of Edward II. than to the more advanced period of Courtenay's time." An old guidebook to the Cathedral, published in Exeter by Woolmer, early in this century, says:—"The clock was erected by Bishop Courtenay in the year 1480, on the old principle of astronomy," &c., &c. The motto upon this clock is "Pereunt et Imputantur" (*i.e.*, The [the hours] pass, and are placed to our account.) The face of the venerable old dial is about 7 ft. in diameter. Upon it are two circles, one marked from 1 to 30 for the moon's age, the other figured from I. to XII. twice over for the hours. In the centre is a semi-globe, representing the earth, around which a smaller ball, the moon, painted half white and half black, revolves monthly, and, by turning on its axis, shows the varying phases of the luminary which it represents. Between the two circles is yet a third ball, representing the sun, with a fleur-de-lis, which points to the hours as it daily revolves around the earth. The minute-hand was not added until A.D. 1760. The clock is wound up daily, and the hours are struck on the great bell, which is known as Peter, in commemoration of its donor. Bishop Courtenay brought it from Llandaff; it weighs 125 cwt., has a diameter of 76 in., and is 56 in. high. The other eleven bells are in the opposite (*i.e.*, the south) tower, and are the heaviest peal in England. Unitedly they weigh (exclusive of Peter) 31,252 lbs. In consequence of the vibration in the ancient Norman tower, in which they hang (built by Bishop Warelwast, 1107-36), they are only rung four or five times a year. There is a popular idea that this vibration is so great that the joints between the old stones open wide enough between each swing of these bells that a person might push his coat-tail therein, and that the cloth would remain fast until the next roll of oscillation released it again. The first time I heard these bells ring in Exeter I tried to give verification to this legend by rushing up into the belfry, coat-tail in hand, ready to thrust it into any friendly open joint I could find; but, although I searched the tower thoroughly, and quite appreciated the tremor caused by the ringing, I realised that this remarkable gaping of the masonry is not actually a fact.

HARRY HEMS.

## THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Thursday, April 23rd, five of the Burford local company with their leader, Mr. T. Brown, visited the town of Northleach, for the purpose of trying the go of the bells. The town was reached shortly after five, and the belfry was resorted to at once. After a rise the following took part in a 720 of Grandsire Minor, rung in 30 mins. H. Smith, 1; T. Brown, 2; T. E. Glanville (conductor), 3; D. Francis, 4; J. Smith, 5; H. Bond, jun., 6. Several 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles followed, in which some of the local company joined. After lowering the bells a substantial repast was enjoyed at "The Wheatsheaf," when several of the inhabitants sat down with the visitors and the Northleach ringers. The remainder of the evening was spent in some touches of Grandsire Triples and Caters rung by the Burford company double-handed, interspersed with songs. The bells at Northleach are rather a heavy ring for six, the tenor being 21 cwt.

NEW CLOCK AT THE LAW COURTS.—An ornamental clock, which was designed by the late Mr. Street, R.A., is now being fixed over the northern balcony in the central hall of the Royal Courts of Justice. The clock is fitted with a white dial, with black hands and figures.

## REVIEWS.

THIRD ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—We have received a copy of this Report, which certainly compares favourably with either of its predecessors. Twenty-three peals have been rang by members of the Association during the year, and these comprise one peal of Double Norwich, and five of Superlative, all being performed by the St. Paul's Society of Burton-on-Trent. The energy of the Burton Company is too well known to need any allusion here, but on reading the reports of the peals rung by these gentlemen, we not only come into contact with the same names, but the order in which they stand shows little variation. Thus the conductor of a peal of Treble Bob of any kind is always at the tenor; or in a peal of Stedman, he takes the 7th, while another worthy member of the same band invariably rings the 4th bell, whether calling or not. There is nothing in this, of course. It is merely alluded to as an occurrence not always seen. The remainder of the performances are two peals of Stedman Triples, ten of Grandsire Triples, and five of Kent Treble Bob. These scarcely call for any comment. It is in the Midland Counties' Report that we read of a peal being called by a master bellfounder, Mr. John Taylor, jun., of Loughborough, having called a peal of Grandsire Triples, and this instance we should like to see generally imitated by the bellfounders of the present day. The Report of the Committee is, on the whole, creditable. A letter from the Rector of St. Peter's, Nottingham, is included in this Report, which we cannot refrain from giving in full. It is as follows:—

"S. Peter's Rectory, Nottingham.  
"DEAR SIR, I wish I could have found time to attend the meeting this afternoon. I have just been up in our belfry. The change since last I went up is great indeed. The present set of ringers are well-conducted men. They have papered and painted the belfry themselves, and are showing great interest in their work. These results I feel can fairly be attributed to the altered views as to what bell ringing should be, taught and inculcated by your Association.

Yours very sincerely,

"GEORGE EDGECOME, Rector of St. Peter's."

We should rejoice in seeing a similar letter in this annual document for next year from the Vicar of St. Mary's, in the same town. The Report contains the usual compliment to our journal.

THE ROYAL VISIT TO IRELAND.—The visit of their Royal Highnesses the Prince and Princess of Wales to Ireland has been made the happy occasion for Mr. Louis Collins, an Irish gentleman residing in London, and having Advertisement Offices at Wine Office Court, to pay a fitting tribute of Welcome of Royalty to Erin's shores. Taking "The Genius of the Irish Nation," an engraving in the form of a beautiful female figure, most poetically placed, and which adorned the *Hibernian Magazine* as far back as 1777, as its frontispiece, he has had it zincographed, and has placed this latter opposite the Irish Section of *The Advertiser's Guardian*, a book just written by him. The original picture, accompanied by a copy of *The Advertiser's Guardian*, a work of 312 pages, and literally stocked with poetic quotations from the old authors, Mr. Collins sent to the Prince of Wales, and both were very graciously accepted by his Royal Highness.

## MUFFLED PEALS AT SALISBURY.

The funeral of the late Rev. C. L. Bode, curate of St. Edmund's, and one of the committee of the Salisbury Diocesan Guild, took place on Wednesday, April 22nd, and was attended by a large number of persons. Muffled peals were rung as follows: at St. Edmund's a plain course of Grandsire Triples by Messrs. Harris, Anderson, Parsons, Foster, Rigden, Jerram, Blackburn, Gifford, Allett and Printz; tenor 30 cwt.; and at St. Martin's, 360 of Bob Minor by A. Anderson, 1; E. A. Foster, 2; C. A. Clements, 3; W. W. Gifford, 4; T. Blackburn (conductor), 5; J. R. Jerram, 6. After which the age of the deceased (32) was rung, whole pull and stand, and tenor a whole pull. Tenor 15 cwt.

## DEATH OF AN OLD RINGER.

On Sunday, April 19th, Mr. William Brittain, died at Wednesbury, Staffordshire in his 76th year. Deceased had been a good ringer in his day, having rung a good many peals of 5000 and upwards in the Grandsire method. He was buried in the family vault at Wednesbury Parish Church, on Friday, April 24th, when ringers from Dudley, West Bromwich, Tipton, and Wednesbury, rung muffled peals as a last tribute of respect to his memory. An attempt was made also to ring a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, but was not successful, owing to the bad condition of the bells. James Foster, 1; Edwin Fellows, 2; William Rock Small, 3; Thomas Foster, 4; Joseph Lawton, 5; Samuel Spittal (conductor), 6; James Foster, sen., 7; Joseph Fullwood, 8. Tenor 23 cwt.



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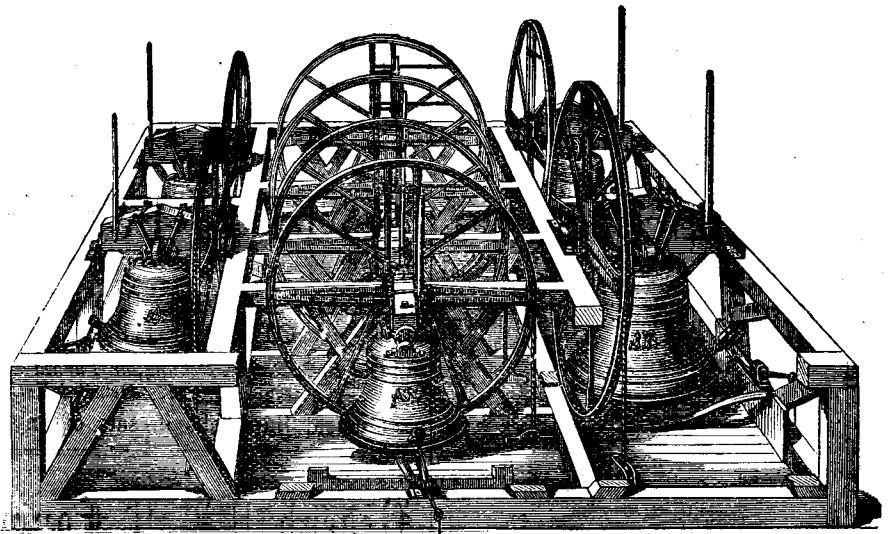
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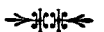
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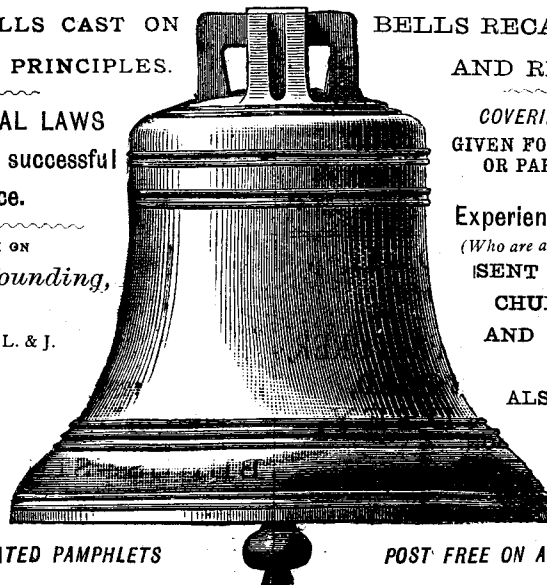
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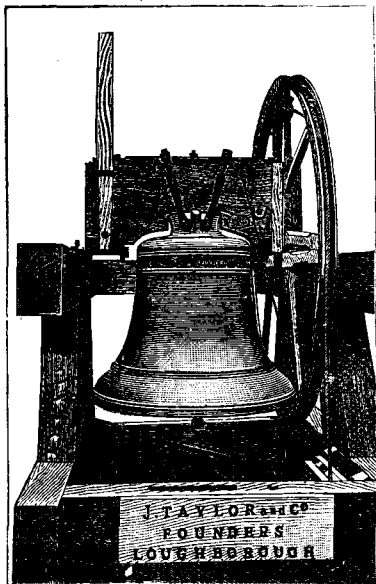
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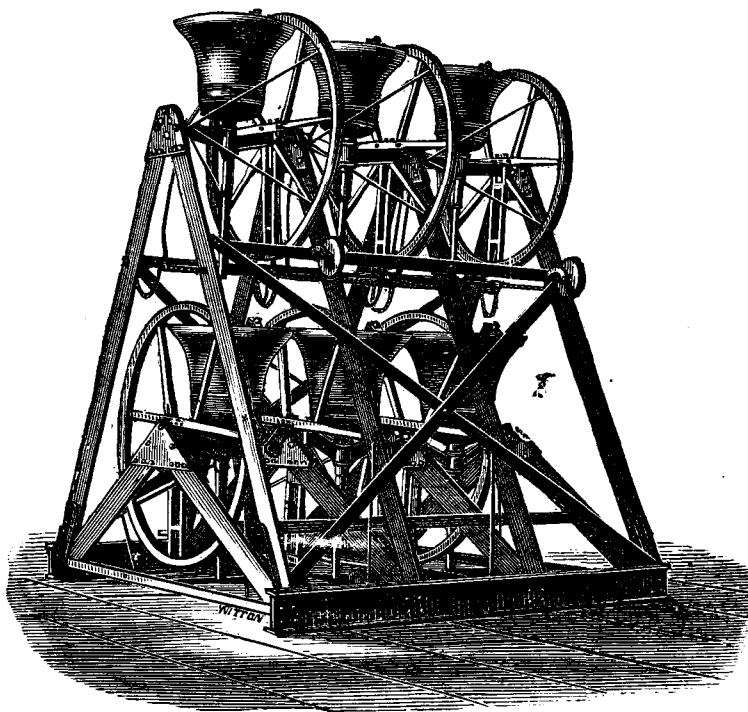
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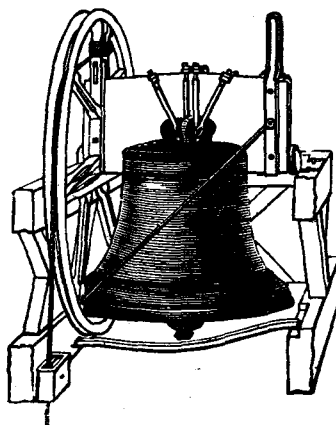
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# THE HISTORY OF STEDMAN'S PRINCIPLE.

By JASPER W. SNOWDON.

At the time I made the enquiries referred to in the last chapter, Mr. Johnson also informed me that in 1842 he received a peal from Thurstans on an entirely original plan, it being composed in parts of 252 changes.

This peal, which was not given in my collection, was founded on the following three courses :—

2	3	1	4	5	6	3	4	5	6	7	8	12	13
2	4	6	3	5	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
4	3	2	5	6	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
3	4	2	5	1	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

The above three courses are called continually throughout the peal, the only variation being the addition of a single in the fifth six in the fourth course in each of the four parts into which the peal is divided. The first quarter-peal is given below, and the fourth course in this part is annexed, so that the way of making the single may be seen. This peal is exactly the same as the one composed in 1846, the only exception being that four singles are used instead of the omitted and added calls and the two ordinary singles by which Thurstans afterwards obtained his improved peal.

5040		The third course-end.	
2 3 1 4 5 6		3 4 2 5 1 6 7	
2 4 6 3 5 1		4 5 3 6 2 7 1	
4 3 2 5 6 1		4 5 6 7 3 1 2	
3 4 2 5 1 6		- 5 7 4 3 6 1 2	six-ends.
		- 5 7 3 6 4 1 2	
4 5 6 2 3 1	s5.		
5 2 4 3 6 1		s { 7 5 6 3 1 4 2	
2 5 4 3 1 6		5 7 6 3 4 1 2	
		5 6 7 4 3 2 1	
2 3 6 5 1 4		6 5 7 3 4 1 2	
3 5 2 1 6 4		6 7 5 4 3 2 1	
5 3 2 1 4 6		7 6 5 3 4 1 2	
5 1 6 3 4 2		7 6 3 1 5 2 4	
1 3 5 4 6 2		- 6 1 7 5 3 2 4	
3 1 5 4 2 6		- 6 1 5 3 7 2 4	
		1 3 6 2 5 4 7	
3 4 6 1 2 5		1 3 2 4 6 7 5	six-ends.
4 1 3 2 6 5		3 4 1 7 2 5 6	
1 4 3 2 5 6		3 4 7 5 1 6 2	
		4 5 3 6 7 2 1	
Three times repeated.		4 5 6 2 3 1 7	
T. THURSTANS.			

The singles in the above peal are rather awkward to make, and thus, although true, the peal was never rung. This peal, which contained 240 bobs and 4 singles, and was the first peal produced on this three-course plan, was composed about the year 1839. On April 13th, 1846, a peal on the same plan was composed by William Hudson, who conducted it at Sheffield. It had only 232 bobs and 4 singles, but turned out to be false.

At this time there is little doubt but that the attention of every composer in Birmingham was turned towards Stedman's Triples, and it is probable that there has never yet, in one town, been so many men competent to do justice to the subject as the composers at that time to be found in Birmingham. Writing to me in 1882, Mr. John Day, the nephew of the composer, says, "It seems to me only yesterday when I could look on Thurstans, Cooper, Lates, Day, and Johnson all together, and hear them talk of the possible and 'on-possible,' as Thurstans used to call it, when the fight for the peal of Stedman Triples was going on, for fight it was."

The desired goal was at length, however reached, as on May, 18th, 1846, a peal by Thurstans, on his new plan, was accomplished by the Birmingham St. Martin's Society, at their church. It was produced with 240 bobs and 2 common singles only, and

is now so well known as to require no further comment, as it is generally allowed to be the most scientific composition yet produced. It was conducted on this, the first occasion of its performance, by Mr. H. Johnson, who, being in Mr. Thurstans' confidence, had received a copy of it from him some months before it was actually rung.

The following are the particulars concerning the first performance of this unique composition :—

From the peal-book of the Birmingham St. Martin's Youths.—"On May 18, 1846, was rung at the church of St. Martin's, Birmingham, by the society attached to that place, an excellent peal of Stedman's Triples, comprising 5040 changes, which was executed in 2 hours and 53 minutes :—

James Jarvis,	treble.	Joseph Spencer,	4.	Nathan Blunt,	6.
Emmanuel Stokes,	2.	John James,	5.	Henry Johnson,	7.
William Andrew,	3.			Henry Whitworth,	tenor.

The peal was ably conducted by Mr. Henry Johnson. The above peal is the original production of Mr. Thomas Thurstans, and was the greatest improvement up to the above date, inasmuch as it contains 240 bobs and 2 common singles only, and the first time of its being rung."

On June 8th, in the year 1846, only a few days after Thurstans' peal had been rung, a peal of Stedman Triples, the composition of James Lockwood, of Leeds, was rung at the parish church, Leeds. Particulars of this performance are given below. The composition has been given in the collection. This peal contains 240 bobs and 2 singles, and is a composition that would have taken a high rank amongst such peals, had not Thurstans produced his best peal. Mr. Lockwood also produced another peal in this method.

Since its production, although Thurstans' peal has, as explained, been varied in the arrangements of its calling by several persons, the calls have never been reduced, nor has any notable improvement been made in its composition, or in that of Stedman Triples generally. To those persons, however who consider that the use of singles should be fended off as long as possible, I may mention the peal given in my collection, in which one is not introduced until the 4956th change, in the 59th course, which was also composed by Thurstans. This peal also contains only 240 bobs, besides the two common singles. It was first rung by the St. Philip's Society, Birmingham, at their church, on March 25th, 1852, the following being the particulars of this performance."

From Bell's Life, March 28th, 1852.—"Change-ringing, Birmingham. On Tuesday last the St. Philip's Society of Change-ringers, succeeded in ringing, at St. Philip's Birmingham, Mr. T. Thurstans' original peal of Stedman Triples, consisting of 5040 changes, with 240 bobs and 2 common singles. The performers were :—

J. Perks,	treble.	J. Bannister,	4.	J. Robinson,	6.
J. Deer,	2.	J. Day,	5.	W. Chattell,	7.
C. Shaw,	3.			F. James,	tenor.

The peal was composed in one part or lesson, having 59 courses with bobs only, the two singles being in the last course. It was conducted by Mr. W. Chattell, and rung in 3 hours 10 minutes. Weight of tenor, 29 cwt."

Although I have, in my collection, given several peals which I have not mentioned in this account, it is because the peals were in several instances produced after better compositions had already been put before the Exercise. Peals, therefore, that might have found a recognised place in a description showing the progress of composition, had they been produced a few years earlier, have thus to be passed over in this account, although I gladly gave them a place in my collection whenever they were of such originality as to be of interest.

In concluding this account, as far as regards peals of Triples, I will draw the attention of my readers to the vast amount of perseverance that must have been exercised by these bygone composers to enable them to hand down such a number of compositions, and some of them of such excellence that it is extremely doubtful whether anything to surpass or even equal the best of them will ever be produced.

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

On Tuesday afternoon, April 28th, eight members of the Royal Cumberland Youths met in the belfry of St. Mary's Church, Battersea, to attempt a peal of Grandsire Triples (to show their respect for and commemorate the presentation of a testimonial to Mr. William Baron), and succeeded under the able guidance of Mr. G. Newson, in completing the task, particulars of which appear on another page. After leaving the tower, the band, who were joined by Mr. A. H. Gardom, of Wanstead, and Mr. Bright of Woolwich, received an invitation to proceed to Mr. Thomas's private residence, where an excellent tea was provided, and received ample justice at the hands of all present. The party being thus refreshed, then made their way to Green Lane School Room, a commodious place kindly placed at the disposal of the ringers by Canon Erskine Clarke, which under the skilful hands of the caretaker was turned to good account, and it was not until every one present was seated, that Mr. Baron was made aware, by perusal of the programme provided, of the very pleasant surprise which awaited him. The company numbered about sixty, all told, and represented nearly every district society in the suburbs of London, and those gentlemen who were through unforeseen circumstances prevented from attending, sent tributes of respect in the shape of flowers, etc., which added greatly to the charm of the meeting.

The programme was opened by a piano-forte solo, which was listened to with marked attention, after which the Rev. F. H. Fisher, Vicar of Fulham, took the chair. The rev. gentleman, in his opening remarks, apologised for his late arrival, which he said happened through the maze of 'buses and trams which surround the immediate neighbourhood, but at the same time wished it to be distinctly understood that he offered no excuse, as he, as a practical ringer, thought he ought to follow a good example and be punctual; however, he felt sure he should be pardoned for this offence, and would at once proceed to the business of the evening. The sad bereavement the Vicar of Battersea had sustained was the reason he occupied the position they now saw him in. Continuing, he said that when he first claimed acquaintance with a bell rope, he was locked in a tower by himself, and began to chime, but luckily for him, the bells had been lowered, or he should not have been standing there to tell the tale of this his first adventure, and furthermore the sexton congratulated him upon his safe arrival down stairs again. But ringing a bell, said the rev. gentleman, is one thing, and earning the system by which changes are produced is another, and how few there are who commence combine these two good qualities, but who might if they only had a good instructor, and paid attention to his teaching. He was happy to say he had a good instructor and an affectionate friend in Mr. William Baron, to whom he was about to present a very handsome testimonial on behalf of one hundred and twenty of his bell-ringing friends, as an expression of goodwill they desired to evince towards him, not only for his genial temper and good management in the belfry, but also for the very many personal qualities with which he is endowed, and he, Mr. Fisher, could only say how heartily he endorsed these sentiments in his own heart, which had matured after fourteen years uninterrupted true friendship. To no man would he yield in sincerity the words he had just uttered. Mr. Baron, said the chairman, had a happy knack of teaching, which some conductors did not possess, and could at first onset win a pupil's confidence by his quiet and unobtrusive manner, combining with it at the same time a firmness that could not be mistaken. He (the chairman) would endeavour, with the company's permission, to ask Mr. Baron in the same quiet manner to show his confidence, by handing over to him his watch; and then amid hearty cheers, the rev. gentleman handed back the watch, accompanied with a solid gold curved linked chain, with locket attached, and coloured bell cut in crystal, on the back of which was the following inscription:

"Presented to Mr. William Baron, by his bell-ringing friends, April 28th, 1885."

In conclusion, the chairman said he hoped Mr. Baron would be spared for many years to come, to wear this token of regard, which he felt honoured to present him with, and assured him he had the best wishes of all present for his future welfare, and hoped to enjoy his personal friendship for many years to come.

The proceedings were then enlivened by a course of Grandsire Caters on the handbells, by Messrs. Nelms, Newson, J. Rogers, Dains, and Swain, followed by a good patriotic song, when Mr. Baron rose to reply. In the course of his remarks, he said that he felt quite at a loss to express his gratitude to the gentlemen present for the very handsome acknowledgement of his humble services they had been pleased to present him with. He assured them that this evening would never be forgotten by him, which had so many pleasing reminiscences with it, reminiscences which carried him back to the day when he rang his first peal at Clerkenwell, under his old friend John Nelms, and also with other old faces whom he saw sitting before him. He further said he had been very lucky with his pupils, inasmuch that they paid diligent attention to his directions, and he on his part endeavoured to impart his knowledge to the best of his ability; it was also gratifying to him to see the number of clergymen who were now taking an

interest in ringing, which he thought was a good step in the right direction, and one which would give an impetus to campanology in the future. In concluding he said that he could only reciprocate the hearty expressions of goodwill which had been expressed for him, and sincerely hoped he might be associated with everybody present for very many years to come.

Harmony was again resorted to, when Mr. Gardom rose to propose a vote of thanks to Mr. H. S. Thomas, for his kindness in getting together the necessary funds for the testimonial, and said he was sure that it could not have been in better hands, as was well shewn by the handsome result, necessitating as it did a vast amount of energy and trouble, which could only be repaid by their appreciation in the form of a cordial vote of thanks.

Mr. Thomas said in reply that although it did entail a great deal of time and trouble to raise these testimonials, when he took a thing in hand, he believed in the old adage, it was worth doing well, and he had been well repaid by the cordial way in which his brother ringers had supported him in bringing this affair to such a successful issue, an issue which left in his mind no doubt as to the vast amount of respect which was entertained for Mr. Baron in the ringing world.

Mr. Thomas then read extracts from numerous letters he had received from persons unable to be present, among others being one from Mr. Cattle of Birmingham, and the Rev. J. H. Townsend, of Leominster, an old pupil in the science. He then thanked Mr. Gardom for the very kind remarks he had made concerning him, and fully assured the gentlemen present of the very great interest he still had in ringing generally, and should always be most happy to render any assistance where good results might be obtained. He had striven hard in Battersea for a great many years to forward science ringing in the belfry in conjunction with Mr. Baron, each in his own sphere, one in providing material and money, and the other in training the useful scion, and it was a proud moment for him when he said their end had been accomplished, and nothing but change-ringing was now thought of in St. Mary's belfry. He felt in starting this testimonial for Mr. Baron, he was only acting on the wish of his many friends, a fact that was clear by the very great number that had assembled together this evening to show him their respect. A vote of thanks was then heartily accorded to the Rev. F. H. Fisher for his able, eloquent, and amusing address, and for his kindly consenting to present the testimonial on behalf of his brother ringers.

Mr. Fisher, in reply, said he felt it his imperative duty to be present on this occasion, and thought that no thanks were needed, but be it as it might, he hoped to meet all present on many occasions, and whenever they sought permission to ring in his tower, they would be welcome to do so.

The chairman then vacated his post, and refreshments were handed round, when the Rev. Marmaduke Hare volunteered to relieve the monotony by a song, which was well received, as were also others by gentlemen present. The handbells were again brought into requisition, and touches of Treble Bob and Triples resounded round the room, when the West Ham Handbell Ringers, under Mr. Bradley, played some excellent selections, which were highly appreciated, and the local society take this opportunity of thanking them for the trouble they took in conveying their bells such a distance for their amusement.

Other votes of thanks were then passed, and responded to by individual members who added to the sociability of the evening by their musical efforts, or kindly acts, and it was not until a very late hour that this pleasant assembly broke up.

## BIRCHINGTON, KENT.

On Saturday evening, May 2nd, eight members of the local company, who are also members of the Royal Cumberland Society, visited the Waterloo Tower, Quex Park, and attempted a peal of Grandsire Triples, but unfortunately it came to grief after ringing 4500 changes in 2 hrs. 55 mins., and the conductor was obliged to call the bells round. C. Willshire, 1; L. Willshire (conductor), 2; P. A. Reed, 3; T. B. Reed, jun., 4; T. B. Reed, 5; J. J. Bristow, 6; G. Willshire, 7; S. Fulcher, 8. Tenor 15½ cwt. This the first peal attempted by the Quex band since the death of the late J. P. Powell, Esq., who built the tower, and was himself a good change-ringer, and composed the best half-peal of Stedman in his day. The band will make another attempt on Saturday, May 16th, when they hope to be successful.

## THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—ROTHWELL BRANCH.

The following is the ringing done by this branch, at Holy Trinity Church, during the month of April. April 5th: 360 Duke of York, 360 of Violet, 240 of Oxford Treble Bob, 360 of Arnold's Victory, 720 of Violet, 360 Duke of York. April 12th: 720 Duke of York, 720 New London Pleasure, 120 of Violet. April 19th: 360 Oxford Treble Bob, 240 Duke of York, 240 New London Pleasure, 240 of Arnold's Victory. April 26th: 720 Duke of York, 720 New London Pleasure, 120 of Violet.

A. CHAPMAN, Hon. Sec.



## A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS.

5039.

By JOHN CARTER, *Birmingham.*

2 3 4 5 6

5 3 4 2 6\*

6 2 3 5 4 8th in two.

4 5 2 6 3 8th in two.

2 6 5 4 3 8th in three, s.

3 4 6 2 5 8th in two.

5 2 4 3 6 8th in two.

6 3 2 5 4 8th in two.

3 5 2 6 4 8th in three.

5 6 2 3 4 8th in three.

4 3 6 5 2 8th in two.

2 5 3 4 6 8th in two.

6 4 5 2 3 8th in two.

3 2 4 6 5 8th in two.

2 6 4 3 5 8th in three.

5 3 6 2 4 8th in two.

4 2 3 5 6 8th in two.

6 5 2 4 3 8th in two.

3 4 5 6 2 8th in two.

The last fifteen courses twice repeated, bob instead of a single produce:—

4 2 5 6 3 9th in and out at two.

\* 7th in with a single and out at two with a double. The 6th in every place every five courses.

## A PEAL OF SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR.

5088.

By N. J. PITSTOW, *Saffron Walden.*

2 3 4 5 6 B M W H

6 5 4 3 2 - - -

4 6 5 3 2 - - -

4 6 3 2 5 - - -

3 4 6 2 5 - - -

6 3 4 2 5 - - -

5 2 4 3 6 - - -

4 5 2 3 6 - - -

3 4 2 5 6 - - -

Twice repeated.

The last three courses may be called thus:—

6 3 4 2 5 M W H

5 4 3 2 6 - - -

3 5 4 2 6 - - -

4 2 3 5 6 - - -

## A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR.

5024.

By W. R. SMITH, *College Youths.*

2 3 4 5 6 M B W H

5 2 3 6 4 - 2

2 4 3 6 5 I 2

4 5 3 6 2 2 - I 2

5 6 2 3 4 2 - -

3 4 6 2 5 2 - I 2

3 6 2 4 5 - I 2

4 2 6 3 5 I - 2

2 4 5 3 6 - I 2

2 5 3 4 6 I - 2 2

4 2 5 6 3 2 - 2 2

4 5 6 2 3 I 2

6 3 2 5 4 2 - 2 2

4 3 6 5 2 - I

5 4 3 2 6 - 2

2 3 4 5 6 2 2

The 6th extent in 5-6, and 5th extent in 6.

## A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR.

5184.

By J. J. BRIERLEY, *Saddleworth.*

2 3 4 5 6 M B W H

3 6 4 5 2 2 - I 2

3 4 5 6 2 I 2

5 4 6 3 2 2 I

6 2 3 4 5 I I 2

3 5 4 2 6 I I 2

Twice repeated.

## A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR.

5104.

By A. KNIGHTS, *Chesterfield.*

2 3 4 5 6 W B H

4 2 3 5 6 - -

3 5 4 2 6 - -

4 3 5 2 6 - -

5 4 3 2 6 - -

3 2 5 4 6 - -

5 3 2 4 6 - -

2 4 5 3 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 - -

3 4 6 2 5 - -

6 2 3 4 5 - -

The last nine courses three times repeated produce:—

4 3 6 5 2 M H

6 4 3 5 2 -

2 3 4 5 6 - -

## A PEAL OF VIOLET MAJOR.

5376.

By JOHN COLLINS.

2 3 4 5 6 W M H

4 5 2 3 6 - -

5 2 4 3 6 - -

2 5 6 3 4 - -

2 6 3 5 4 - -

4 3 2 6 5 - -

3 4 5 6 2 - -

3 5 6 4 2 - -

3 6 4 5 2 - -

Twice repeated.

## A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE MAJOR.

5040.

By MATTHEW PAILTHORPE, *Stalybridge.*

2 3 4 5 6

5 3 4 2 6 8th in three.

3 5 4 2 6 7th in three.

6 3 5 2 4 7th in two.

6 3 4 2 5 7th in two and I H.

5 6 3 2 4 7th in two.

6 5 3 2 4 7th in three.

5 3 6 2 4 I H.

3 6 5 2 4 I H.

4 3 6 2 5 7th in two.

4 3 5 2 6 7th in two and I H.

6 4 3 2 5 7th in two.

4 6 3 2 5 7th in three.

4 6 5 2 3 7th in two and I H.

3 4 6 2 5 7th in two.

Four times repeated.

## TWO PEALS OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR.

By GEORGE H. HARDY, *Earlsheaton.*

5440.

2 3 4 5 6 M B W H

3 6 4 5 2 2 - I 2

6 2 4 5 3 2 - I 2

4 2 5 6 3 2 I

Four times repeated.

5280.

2 3 4 5 6 M B W H

5 4 3 2 6 2 2

4 6 3 2 5 2 - I 2

4 5 6 2 3 2 I

Four times repeated.

## A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR.

5280.

By THOS. FARROW, *Pulham Market.*

2 3 4 5 6 M B W H

6 2 5 3 4 I 2 2

3 6 5 2 4 I I 2

4 2 5 6 3 2 I 2 I

3 4 6 2 5 I 2 2

2 3 6 4 5 I I 2

5 4 6 3 2 2 I 2 I

2 5 3 4 6 I 2 2

4 2 3 5 6 I I 2

6 5 3 2 4 2 I 2 I

4 6 2 5 3 I 2 2

5 4 2 6 3 I I 2

3 6 2 4 5 2 I 2 I

5 3 4 6 2 I 2 2

6 5 4 3 2 I I 2

2 3 4 5 6 2 I 2 I

## TWO PEALS OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR.

By BENJAMIN FRANCIS, *Diss.*

5600.

2 3 4 5 6 I 4 6

3 2 6 5 4 - -

5 2 4 3 6 - -

2 4 5 3 6 - -

4 5 2 3 6 - -

5 4 6 3 2 - -

4 6 5 3 2 - -

6 4 2 3 5 - -

4 2 6 3 5 - -

2 6 4 3 5 - -

5 6 2 3 4 - -

Four times repeated.

5600.

2 3 4 5 6 I 4 6

3 4 2 5 6 - -

4 3 6 5 2 - -

3 6 4 5 2 - -

6 4 3 5 2 - -

5 3 4 6 2 - -

3 4 5 6 2 - -

6 5 4 3 2 - -

5 4 6 3 2 - -

4 6 5 3 2 - -

3 5 6 4 2 - -

Four times repeated.

### THE SHIPWAY REPRINT.

We have yielded to the entreaties of many of the readers of this paper in connection with issuing the above in penny weekly numbers, and the first number will appear at an early date, which will be duly announced.

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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 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.

JOHN MCKELL.—Satisfactory, we hope.

## The Bell News & Ringers' Record.

SATURDAY, MAY 9, 1885.

THE ancient and important city of Bristol—the metropolis of the West—is said to possess a greater number of rings of bells than any other town of the same size in England. In the time of SHIPWAY, it had "ten peals of eight," and this number is at the present day considerably augmented. There is now one ring of twelve, and we believe, three of ten bells. Such an array of metal would lead any one to suppose that the facilities for ringing in Bristol were great: that among such a number of peals, certainly one-half of them "went" well. But our own experience, gained recently, did not substantiate such a hope, for we found that not only were the arrangements of several of the belfries we visited of a kind which we may call "third class," but it was obvious also that the relationship existing between the local ringers, as a whole, were not of a very harmonious character. This latter fact alone is sufficient to militate against ringing prospects in Bristol, though the facilities for practice would, from the number of peals, appear to be so great.

The "Exercise" in Bristol is divided into two sections, the St. Stephen's Society, and the St. James's Society—or to give them their well-known, but somewhat vulgar designation—"the rats" and "the mice." We are unacquainted with the origin of this unusual appellation. From what we hear, it seems that the members of one of these bodies are quietly working to extirpate the other—to make the race of their opponents extinct, as it were.

The one society is "being gradually ousted from their privileges," and in cases where they have been for years recognised as "the ringers," their expulsion seems to be regarded as a "foregone conclusion."

We have said enough, perhaps, to show what is the condition of ringing affairs in Bristol. We cannot help sympathising with the society which is being thrust out from steeples which they have hitherto regarded as their own peculiar freehold. But if they cannot maintain their position as they have in the past, their extinction becomes a certainty. A practical solution of the difficulty would be for the two societies to amalgamate, and thus form one compact body, doing away with the nice distinction of "rats" and "mice," quadrupeds which after all are but vermin. The idea of two or more companies in one city for the purpose of keeping up a friendly rivalry is exploded. Much better would it be for the science in Bristol if the most enlightened among the ringers of that city would take steps to effect a junction between the two societies. If such an arrangement were efficiently carried out, and the amalgamated body became willing to work for the general good, perhaps we should hear of some ringing being done there deserving of record in the peal-book.

### The Metropolis.

OLD BATTERSEA, SURREY.

THE SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.

On Tuesday, April 28, 1885, in Two Hours and Fifty-five Minutes,

AT ST. MARY'S CHURCH,

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

W. AMBROSE .. .. Treble.	G. BANKS .. .. 5.
J. ROGERS .. .. 2.	H. S. THOMAS .. .. 6.
J. NELMS .. .. 3.	G. NEWSON .. .. 7.
A. G. THOMAS .. .. 4.	*J. BALAAM .. .. Tenor.

Conducted by G. NEWSON.

\*First peal.

### The Provinces.

SOUTHPORT, LANCASHIRE.

On Friday, May 1, 1885, in Two Hours and Thirty-four Minutes,

AT CHRIST CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;  
 SHIPWAY'S VARIATION OF HOLT'S 10-PART.

F. BLUNDEL .. .. Treble.	R. HILL .. .. 5.
T. J. FIELDING .. .. 2.	H. SPENCER .. .. 6.
A. FIELDING .. .. 3.	G. R. HEYWOOD .. .. 7.
C. F. HEYWOOD .. .. 4.	C. WHYMARK .. .. Tenor.

Conducted by C. F. HEYWOOD.

C. Whymark hails from Darley Dale, Matlock, and it is his first peal; the rest are Southport men.

ECCLES, LANCASHIRE,

On Saturday, May 2, 1885, in Three Hours and Eight Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5184 CHANGES;  
 IN THE KENT VARIATION.

HENRY WOOD .. .. Treble.	*JAMES BARRATT .. .. 5.
CHARLES CASH* .. .. 2.	*EDWARD CASH .. .. 6.
THOMAS HEALD .. .. 3.	*ALFRED EGGINGTON .. .. 7.
JOHN F. WOODS .. .. 4.	ARTHUR WOOD .. .. Tenor.

Composed by WILLIAM SOTTANSTALL and Conducted by ARTHUR WOOD.

Those marked \* belong to the Eccles Society, the rest belong to the St. Philip's Society, Hulme.

EAST HAGBOURNE, BERKS.  
THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, May 2, 1885, in Three Hours and Three Minutes.

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

*Original* Holt's ~~Five~~ Tenor 23½ cwt.  
FRANK NAPPER\* .. .. Treble. FREDERICK A. CASTLE .. 5.  
HERBERT CASTLE .. .. 2. C. W. H. GRIFFITH, ESQ. .. 6.  
JAMES W. WASHBROOK .. 3. A. F. M. CUSTANCE, ESQ. .. 7.  
J. R. VINCENT, ESQ. .. 4. DENNIS NAPPER .. .. Tenor.

Conducted by JAMES WILLIAM WASHBROOK.

\*First peal. This is supposed to be the first peal rung on the bells.

BOLLINGTON, CHESHIRE.

On Saturday, May 2, 1885, in Three Hours and Fifteen Minutes.

AT ST. JOHN'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

Tenor 18 cwt. in F.

JAMES HOLT .. .. Treble. JOHN M. DAVENPORT .. 5.  
CHARLES BAMFORD .. .. 2. \*WALTER HENSHALL .. 6.  
WALTER INGHAM .. .. 3. WILLIAM WALMSLEY .. 7.  
WILLIAM HENSHALL\* .. 4. THOMAS MOTTERSHEAD .. Tenor.

Composed by J. CARTER, and Conducted by WM. WALMSLEY.

Messrs. Holt and Bamford hail from Macclesfield; William and Walter Henshall from Gawsorth, the rest from Higher Sutton. This is the first peal of Grandsire Major on the bells. \*First peal.

DEWSBURY, YORKSHIRE.

On Saturday, May 2, 1885, in Three Hours and Twenty Minutes.

AT ALL SAINTS' CHURCH,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5472 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 12 cwt.

JOHN GARFORTH .. .. Treble. NATHANIEL HEPWORTH .. 5.  
WILLIAM BROWN .. .. 2. GEORGE H. HARDY .. .. 6.  
GEORGE TONG .. .. 3. GARFORTH TAYLOR .. .. 7.  
ISAAC IDLE .. .. 4. CHARLES SENIOR .. .. Tenor.

Composed by GEO. H. HARDY, and Conducted by CHARLES SENIOR.

The above is the longest peal ever composed and rung in one course. Witness: Arthur Goodall.

HELMINGHAM, SUFFOLK.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, May 2, 1885, in Three Hours and Eight Minutes.

AT ST. MARY'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

IN THE OXFORD VARIATION. Tenor 19½ cwt. in E.

JAMES MOTTS .. .. Treble. WILLIAM DYE .. .. 5.  
ALFRED ACFIELD, JUN. .. 2. STEPHEN WIGHTMAN .. 6.  
JOHN FOSDIKE .. .. 3. ALFRED S. WIGHTMAN .. 7.  
DAVID G. WIGHTMAN .. 4. PETO MEADOWS .. .. Tenor.

Composed by the REV. H. EARLE BULWER, and Conducted by JAMES MOTTS.

Messrs. Motts hail from Ipswich; Acfield from Ufford; Fosdike from Woodbridge; and Meadows from Melton; the rest belong to the Helmingham company. This is the first peal in the Oxford variation on the bells.

SOBERTON, HANTS.

THE WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

*Birthday Peal.*

On Saturday, May 2, 1885, in Two Hours and Fifty-four Minutes.

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S SIX-PART. Tenor 14½ cwt.

A. PAYNE\* .. .. Treble. G. GRAHAM .. .. 5.  
F. LINTER .. .. 2. J. W. WHITING .. .. 6.  
H. MASON .. .. 3. G. WILLIAMS .. .. 7.  
G. H. CHILD .. .. 4. W. J. BELSTONE .. .. Tenor.

Conducted by G. WILLIAMS.

\*First peal; aged 15 years.

The above peal was rung to commemorate the 18th birthday of H. Mason, who after the peal most kindly entertained his brother ringers to a capital cold collation.

CARSHALTON, SURREY.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS AND THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, May 4, 1885, in Two Hours and Fifty-four Minutes.

AT ALL SAINTS' CHURCH,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;

Tenor 12½ cwt. in G.

JAMES HARRIS .. .. Treble. JOHN FLOWMAN .. .. 5.  
EDGAR BENNETT\* .. .. 2. \*CHARLES BANCE .. .. 6.  
JOHN BRANCH .. .. 3. JAMES CAWLEY .. .. 7.  
WILLIAM BURKIN\* .. .. 4. JAMES TRAPPITT .. .. Tenor.

Composed by T. BARKER (see *Rope-Sight*), and Conducted by EDGAR BENNETT.

\*First peal of Bob Major.

The above is the first peal of Bob Major ever rung on the bells, and it has the 6th twenty-two times wrong and right. W. Burkin hails from Nutfield; the rest belong to Beddington.

WOMBOURN, STAFFORDSHIRE.—ST. BENEDICT'S SOCIETY.

On Tuesday, May 5, 1885, in Three Hours and Six Minutes.

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

5040 CHANGES; IN TWO DIFFERENT METHODS ON SIX BELLS;

Being twelve 6-scores of Plain Bob Doubles; and thirty 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles.

Tenor about 12 cwt. in G.

GEORGE DEANS .. .. Treble. WILLIAM DEVEY .. .. 4.  
ALBERT LITTLE .. .. 2. ROWLAND CARTWRIGHT .. 5.  
JOSEPH EDWIN CLARIDGE .. 3. GEORGE LITTLE .. .. Tenor.

Conducted by ROWLAND CARTWRIGHT.

This was rung on the occasion of the marriage of Henry Hill, Esq., churchwarden, with Miss Banton, of Trysull, and is the first 5000 by all except the conductor, and the first on the bells.

*Date Touches.*

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

CHESTERFIELD (Derbyshire).—On Tuesday, May 5th, at the parish church, eight members of this branch of the above Association rang a date touch of 1885 changes of Grandsire Triples, in 1 hr. 7 mins. William G. Cook (Ilkley), 1; David Farthing, 2; George Topliss, 3; William Ellis, 4; John Ellis, 5; Harry Nuttall, jun., 6; Arthur Knights (conductor), 7; Thomas Mee, 8. Composed by Charles Jackson, of Hull, and appeared in "THE BELL NEWS" for March 21st. Tenor 24½ cwt.

HALIFAX (Yorkshire).—On Sunday, May 3rd, at All Souls church, the local company rang a date touch, 1885 changes, of Bob Triples, in 1 hr. 14 mins., in honour of Messrs. E. Halliday and J. B. Jennings being elected churchwardens. H. Reynolds, 1; T. Parker, 2; G. D. E. Mercer, 3; J. S. Ambler, 4; A. Parker, 5; G. Standeven, 6; S. W. Stewart (conductor), 7; C. E. Stewart, 8. Tenor 25 cwt. 1 qr. 1 lb. in D.

WHITEFIELD (Lancashire).—On Sunday, May 3rd, at the parish church, being the 29th anniversary of the opening of the bells, the local company rang a date touch of 1885 changes of Grandsire Triples, in 1 hr. 8 mins. W. Pendlebury, 1; W. Warburton (conductor), 2; H. Hilton, 3; W. Houghton, 4; J. Smith, 5; E. Bradshaw, 6; W. Hilton, 7; J. Bradshaw, 8. Tenor 21½ cwt.

*Miscellaneous.*

THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

BEDFORD.—On Tuesday, April 28th, at St. Mary's church, for practice, a 720 of Grandsire Minor (thirty four bobs and two singles), in 22½ mins. T. Foote, 1; J. Frossell, 2; S. Cullip, 3; J. Atkins, 4; C. W. Clarke, 5; I. Hills (conductor), 6. Tenor 8 cwt. in B.

THE BIRMINGHAM AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATION.

SELLY OAK (Worcestershire).—On Tuesday, April 21st, the local company rang at St. Mary's church, a 720 of Grandsire Minor, in 26 mins. G. Hale, 1; H. Smith, 2; A. Cole, 3; T. Lewis, 4; E. Bryant, 5; J. Nix (conductor), 6.

## ST. JAMES'S SOCIETY, LONDON.

CAMBERWELL (Surrey).—On Saturday evening, May 2nd, eight members of the above society attempted a peal of Stedman Triples, (Haley's variation), but after ringing 2832 changes in 1 hr. 36 mins., it was unfortunately lost. R. French, 1; W. Jones, 2; F. G. Newman, 3; H. J. Shade, 4; R. S. Story, 5; I. G. Shade (conductor), 6; A. Hayward, 7; D. Newton, 8. Tenor 14 cwt. Mr. R. S. Story hails from Newcastle-on-Tyne. The company take this opportunity of thanking the churchwardens, Messrs. Sugden and Baker, for the use of the bells on this occasion.

## THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

WALKDEN (Lancashire).—On Sunday, May 3rd, being the occasion of the School anniversary sermons at St. Paul's church, a 720 of Bob Minor was rung for Divine Service in the morning, by several of the Eccles and Swindon ringers, in 25 mins. E. Cash (conductor), 1; J. Worthington, 2; S. Oakes, 2; J. Williamson, 4; A. Potter, 5; W. Denner, 6. And for Divine Service in the evening a 720 of Bob Minor, in 25½ mins. W. Crossley, 1; C. Cash, 2; E. Cash, 3; J. Williamson, 4; W. Denner, 5; J. Brookes (conductor), 6. And on Monday, May 4th, for practice, by the local company, a 720 of Bob Minor, in 26 mins. W. Denner (conductor), 1; J. Welsby, 2; J. Worthington, 3; S. Oakes, 4; A. Potter, 5; J. Brookes, 6. Tenor 13½ cwt.

## THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

MELBOURNE (Derbyshire).—On Monday, April 27th, the local company rang a 720 of Bob Doubles. J. R. Wood, 1; G. A. Fisk, 2; G. C. Tunnichiff, 3; F. W. Cook, 4; T. Hollingworth (conductor), 5; Thos. Clarke, 6. And in the evening two 6-scores on the back five. J. R. Wood, 1; J. Vicars, 2; G. C. Tunnichiff, 3; F. W. Cook, 4; T. Hollingworth (conductor), 5. The above was rung to celebrate the third anniversary of the opening of this excellent ring of six. And Sunday, May 3rd, for Divine Service in the morning, 400 of Bob Doubles. G. A. Fisk, 1; J. Vicars, 2; G. C. Tunnichiff (conductor), 3; F. W. Cook, 4; T. Hollingworth, 5; J. R. Wood, 6. And for Divine Service in the evening a 360 in the same method. J. Vicars, 1; G. A. Fisk, 2; G. C. Tunnichiff, 3; F. W. Cook, 4; T. Hollingworth (conductor), 5; John Bartram, 6. Tenor 16 cwt.

## THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

BANHAM (Norfolk).—On Saturday, April 25th, at St. Mary's church, two 360's of Double Court Minor. J. Mordey, 1; W. Nudds, 2; C. Everett, 3; J. Woods, 4; H. Eagling, 5; R. Hutton (conductor), 6.

EAST HARLING (Norfolk).—On Sunday, April 26th, after the afternoon service at the parish church, 720 of Bob Minor, in 25 mins. W. Kerry, 1; J. Adams, 2; A. Hunt, 3; J. Woods, 4; H. Eagling, 5; R. Hutton (conductor), 6. And 480 Bob Minor. W. Kerry, 1; J. Adams, 2; R. Hutton (conductor), 3; H. Eagling, 4; G. Harbour, 5; J. Woods, 6.

## THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

CAVERSHAM (Oxon).—On Tuesday, April 28th, for practice, a 360 each of Double Oxford, Double Court, and Yorkshire Court. J. Hands, 1; E. Menday, 2; G. Essex, 3; T. Newman, 4; E. Pottinger, 5; Rev. G. F. Coleridge (conductor), 6. And on Sunday, May 3rd, after Divine Service in evening, a 720 of College Single, in 26 mins., with G. Gibbard of Reading in the place of E. Menday.

OXFORD.—On Sunday, April 26th, at St. Mary Magdalene's, a 720 Plain Bob Minor, in 23 mins. W. Burgess (first 720), 1; C. Hester, 2; Job Howse, 3; J. W. Washbrook (conductor), 4; F. A. Castle, 5; A. F. M. Custance, Esq., 6. On Sunday, May 3rd, for morning service, 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor, in 23 mins. J. W. Washbrook, 1; H. Castle (first attempt with a bob bell), 2; Job Howse, 3; W. Baston (conductor), 4; F. A. Castle, 5; A. F. M. Custance, Esq., 6. And for evening service a 720 of Plain Bob Minor, in 22 mins. W. Burgess, 1; A. F. M. Custance, Esq., 2; Job Howse, 3; W. Baston, 4; F. A. Castle, 5; J. W. Washbrook (conductor), 6.

## SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.

TETTENHALL.—On Sunday, May 3rd, for Divine Service in the evening, six members of the above Association rang a 720 of Grandsire Minor, with thirty-four bobs and two singles, in 26 mins. Thomas Roberts, 1; William R. Small, 2; Benjamin Dalton, 3; James Jones, 4; John Fowler, 5; Joseph Fullwood (conductor), 6. Tenor 12½ cwt. in G. Messrs. Small and Fullwood hail from West Bromwich, the rest belong to the local company.

WOMBOURN.—On Sunday, May 3rd, at 8 a.m., a 720 of Bob Minor, in 25 mins., with eighteen bobs and two singles. B. Dalton, 1; J. Jones, 2; J. Fullwood, 3; A. Little, 4; W. R. Small, 5; R. Cartwright (conductor), 6. Messrs. Dalton and Jones hail from Tettenhall; Fullwood and Small from West Bromwich. Tenor about 12 cwt.

BOOTLE (Lancashire).—On Thursday evening, April 30th, at Christ Church, 120 of Oxford Treble Bob Minor. E. Yeates, 1; R. H. Barton, 2; W. Short, 3; W. Rushton, 4; C. E. Wilson, 5; J. Bradshaw, 6. And a 360 of Plain Bob Minor (four bobs and two singles). E. Yeates, 1; C. E. Wilson (conductor), 2; Rev. A. T. Scott, 3; W. Rushton, 4; R. Stockley, 5; R. H. Barton, 6. Messrs. Wilson and Stockley hail from Walton. Tenor 12 cwt.

BRAMFORD (Suffolk).—On Saturday, April 25th, a 720 of Plain Bob Minor in 27 mins. \*William Read, 1; Thomas Steward, 2; Alfred Pryke, 3; Charles Smith, 4; Charles Mee, 5; Frederick Mee, 6. Tenor 16 cwt. in G. T. Steward and C. and F. Mee belong to the St. Mary-le-Tower society, Ipswich; C. Smith, A. Pryke, and W. Read, belong to the local company. \* First 720. † First 720 with a bob bell.

BRAY (Berks).—On Sunday evening, April 26th, after Divine Service in the morning, a 720 of Grandsire Minor, in 29½ mins. being the only one upon these bells. W. H. Fussell, 1; W. A. Garraway, (conductor), 2; Charles Porter, 3; W. Wilder, 4; A. C. Fussell, 5; George Newson, 6. Tenor about 36 cwt. Also before Divine Service in the evening, four parts of Troyte's 720, containing twenty-two singles and thirty-eight bobs. A. Fussell, 1; W. A. Garraway, 2; A. Andrews, 3; C. Porter, 4; W. H. Fussell, 5; George Newson, 6. Mr. F. King and J. Barker of Windsor, W. H. Baker of Slough, and ringers from Wooburn and Maidenhead were also present.

CAVENDISH (Suffolk).—On Monday, February 23rd, at St. Mary's church, a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob Minor. Fredk. Thompson, 1; H. Thompson, 2; P. O. Bixby, 3; Alf. Ives, 4; Geo. Maxim, 5; A. Hurst (conductor), 6. And on Monday, March 3rd, a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob Minor. Fredk. Thompson, 1; H. Thompson, 2; P. O. Bixby, 3; Alf. Ives, 4; Geo. Maxim, 5; A. Hurst (conductor), 6. And on Monday, March 9th, a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob Minor. A. Hurst (conductor), 1; H. Thompson, 2; P. O. Bixby, 3; Alf. Ives, 4; F. P. Adams, 5; Geo. Maxim, 6. And on Monday, April 6th, a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob Minor. Fred. Thompson, 1; H. Thompson, 2; P. O. Bixby, 3; Alf. Ives, 4; Geo. Maxim, 5; A. Hurst (conductor), 6. And a 720 of Bob Minor. Fredk. Thompson, 1; H. Thompson, 2; P. O. Bixby, 3; Alf. Ives, 4; Geo. Maxim, 5; A. Hurst (conductor), 6.

EDMONTON (Middlesex).—On Saturday, May 2nd, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 54 mins. G. Bower, 1; J. Waghorn, 2; J. Waghorn, jun., 3; H. Barnett (conductor), 4; R. Goodchild, 5; G. Lucas, 6; W. Pye-English, 7; W. Anderson, 8. Tenor 20 cwt. This is the first change-ringing done here since the removal of the gallery. The ringers now stand on the floor level and there is nearly forty feet draught of rope without guides of any description, and unless some change is made the tower is quite spoilt for ringing.

EDWARDSTONE (Suffolk).—On Sunday, April 26th, a 720 of Treble Bob, in 27 mins. J. Taylor (conductor), 1; A. Keeble, 2; J. Newman, 3; C. Parker, 4; W. Smith, 5; W. Nevard, 6.

FOLKESTONE (Kent).—On Tuesday evening, April 28th, at the parish church, a 1008 of Grandsire Triples, in 40 mins. E. Rolfe, 1; F. Finn, 2; J. Fisher, 3; F. Rolfe, 4; E. Potter, 5; S. Barker (conductor), 6; F. Slingsby, 7; W. Marsh, 8. Tenor 25 cwt. The above touch was rung to celebrate E. Potter's forty-second birthday, the ringers wishing him many happy returns of the day. E. and F. Rolfe hail from Cheriton. This is the longest touch rung by E. Rolfe; he only commenced ringing in February.

GREAT BENTLEY (Essex).—On Sunday, May 3rd, for Divine Service in the morning, several 6-scores of Stedman and Grandsire Doubles. Edgar Pemberton, 1; Isaac S. Alexander, 2; Henry Bowell (conductor), 3; Arthur R. Aldham, 4; William J. Nevard, 5. This is the first time Stedman has ever known to have been rung on the bells. E. Pemberton, I. S. Alexander, H. Bowell, A. R. Aldham, belong to the St. Mary-le-Tower society, Ipswich; W. J. Nevard belongs to Great Bentley.

GREAT BROMLEY (Essex).—On Sunday, May 3rd, in the afternoon, after Divine Service, by the kind permission of the Rev. A. E. Graham, a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob, in 26 mins. J. Taylor (conductor), 1; E. Pemberton, 2; I. S. Alexander, 3; H. Bowell, 4; A. R. Aldham, 5; W. J. Nevard, 6. Also a 720 of Kent Treble Bob in 26 mins. J. Taylor (conductor), 1; I. S. Alexander, 2; H. Bowell, 3; A. R. Aldham, 4; W. J. Nevard, 5; E. Pemberton, 6. And two 6-scores of Stedman Doubles. E. Pemberton, 1; I. S. Alexander, 2; H. Bowell (conductor), 3; A. R. Aldham, 4; W. J. Nevard, 5; J. Taylor, 6. Tenor 18 cwt. in F. These are the first 720's of Treble Bob rung on the bells since the new treble was added in 1881, also the first touches of Stedman ever known to have been rung. E. Pemberton, I. S. Alexander, H. Bowell, A. R. Aldham, belong to the St. Mary-le-Tower Society, Ipswich; W. J. Nevard to Great Bentley; J. Taylor to Great Bromley.

**KEMERTON** (Gloucestershire).—On Wednesday evening, April 29th, at St. Nicholas church, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor, in 25 mins. \*A. Devereux, 1; \*B. Baldwin, jun., 2; \*F. Potter, 3; E. Devereux (conductor), 4; C. Smith, 5; E. Wallace (Ashchurch), 6. Tenor 12 cwt. \*These only commenced ringing at Easter, 1884; and it is the first 720 in this method by the whole of the band, and the first on the bells.

**KENNINGHALL** (Norfolk).—*Handbell Ringing*.—On Saturday, May 2nd, at the meeting house, a course of Bob Royal. H. Eagling, 1-2; J. Mordey, 3-4; C. Everett, 5-6; R. Hutton, 7-8; J. Woods, 9-10. Also 480 of Oxford Treble Bob Major (ten bobs). J. Wade, 1; H. Eagling, 2; J. Mordey, 3; J. Woods, 4; C. Everett, 5-6; R. Hutton (conductor), 7-8.

**LIVERPOOL**.—On Tuesday evening, April 28th, for practice at St. Luke's church, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor, on the back six bells, in 26 mins. R. S. Mann, 1; W. James, 2; J. R. Pritchard, 3; J. Brown, 4; T. Hammond (conductor), 5; W. Davies, 6. Also 672 of Stedman Triples. T. Beacall (conductor), 1; R. S. Mann, 2; J. R. Pritchard, 3; W. James, 4; T. Hammond, 5; J. Brown, 6; W. Davies, 7; G. Fisher, 8. And a course of Kent Treble Bob Major, Fisher and Davies changing places. Tenor 16½ cwt. in F.

**PENZANCE** (Cornwall).—On Sunday, May 3rd, at St. Mary's church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 46 mins. M. Hicks, 1; J. Hodder, 2; J. H. Hichens, 3; T. Hicks (conductor), 4; C. Boase, 5; J. Symonds, 6; J. Richards, 7; M. Bassett, 8. Tenor 21 cwt. in E. This is the conductor's first attempt at calling Triples, and was very ably executed.

**PRESTON** (Suffolk).—On Friday, April 10th, a 720 of Bob Minor, with 18 bobs and 18 singles, in 25 mins. A. Symonds (conductor), 1; Wm. Hollocks, 2; A. W. Baldwin, 3; A. Hollocks, 4; H. Smith, 5; H. Symonds, 6. Also on April 29th, a 720 of Bob Minor, with 42 singles, in 25 mins. H. Symonds, 1; W. Hollocks, 2; A. Hollocks, 3; W. Snell, 4; H. Smith, 5; A. Symonds (conductor), 6. Composed by James Levitt. Symonds, Snell, and Smith hail from Lavenham, Baldwin from London; the rest are local men.

**RADCLIFFE** (Lancashire).—On Monday evening, May 4th, at the parish church, the local company rang for practice, 1500 of Grandsire Triples, in 51 mins. Fred. Rudman (conductor), 1; Jack Hardman, 2; Arthur Barrett, 3; John Morris, 4; James Rothwell, 5; John Hardman, 6; Fred. Morris, 7; William Fielding, 8. All the above are local men and members of the Lancashire Association, with the exception of J. Rothwell, who hails from Prestwich. Tenor 12 cwt. in F#.

**RINGSTEAD** (Northants).—On Saturday, April 25th, at St. Mary's Church, 2520 changes in the following methods: 720 Plain Bob, 720 Oxford Bob, 720 College Little, 360 London Single. G. Roberts, 1; E. Mayes, 2; R. Shipley, 3; J. Lawford, 4; W. J. Gilbert (conductor), 5; T. Roberts, 6. This is the longest touch yet accomplished by all except the conductor. Also on Tuesday, April 28th, for practice, a 720 of Plain Bob, with eighteen bobs and two singles. G. Roberts, 1; W. J. Gilbert, 2; E. Mayes, 3; J. Braybrook, 4; J. Sawford, 5; T. Roberts (conductor), 6. And a 360 of College Single, and 144 London Single. E. Mayes, 1; W. J. Gilbert (conductor), 2; R. Shipley, 3; J. Sawford, 4; J. Braybrook, 5; T. Roberts, 6.

**STANSTEAD** (Essex).—On Saturday, April 18th, at the church of St. Mary-the-Virgin, six of the local company rang a 720 of Double Court Cob Minor, in 27½ mins. J. Cavill, 1; J. Luckey, 2; H. Prior, jun., 3; G. Gray, 4; C. Prior, 5; H. Prior (conductor), 6. And on Saturday, April 25th, a 720 of Plain Bob Minor, in 27½ mins. G. Prior, 1; W. Prior (first 720 with a bob bell), 2; J. Luckey, 3; G. Gray, 4; H. Prior, jun., 5; C. Prior (conductor), 6. And on Sunday, May 3rd, for Divine Service in the morning, a 360 of Double Court Bob Minor and 144 of Oxford Treble Bob Minor. W. Prior, 1; H. Prior, 2; H. Prior, jun., 3; G. Gray, 4; Isaac Cavill, 5; H. J. Tucker (conductor), 6. And for Divine Service in the evening a 216 of Plain Bob Minor. A. Tucker, 1; J. Luckey, 2; H. Prior, jun., 3; G. Gray, 4; Isaac Cavill, 5; C. Prior (conductor), 6. And after evening service a 720 of Double Oxford Bob Minor (eighteen singles and three bobs). A. Tucker, 1; H. Prior, 2; H. Pryor, jun., 3; C. Pryor, 4; Isaac Cavill, 5; H. J. Tucker (composer and conductor), 6. And a 720 of Plain Bob Minor, in 27 mins. W. Prior, 1; J. Momford, 2; H. Prior, jun., 3; G. Gray, 4; C. Prior, jun., 5; C. Prior (conductor), 6. H. J. and A. Tucker are of Bishops Stortford. Tenor 13 cwt.

**STISTED** (Essex).—On Sunday, April 26th, at All Saints' church, three 720's and a 360 of Bob Minor, each called differently. C. Corder, 1; A. Chaplin, 2; W. Moore (Bocking), 3; F. Saunders, 4; E. Radley, 5; Wm. Radley (conductor), 6.

**SUDBURY** (Suffolk).—On Friday, April 24th, on the occasion of the visitation of the Lord Bishop of Ely to St. Gregory's Church, the following members rang touches of Bob Major, Grandsire Triples, and Kent Treble Bob Major. J. Tolliday, C. Sillitoe, W. Howell, H.

Harper, W. Cross, A. Scott, J. Campin, M. Silvester. Also on Tuesday evening, April 29th, at All Saints', for practice, a 504 of Grandsire Triples. Bailey Ransom, Esq., 1; C. Sillitoe, 2; G. Brown, 3; W. Silvester, 4; W. Bacon, 5; H. Harper, 6; A. Scott (conductor), 7; H. Brackett, 8. Tenor 28 cwt.

**TOTTENHAM** (Middlesex).—On Saturday, May 2nd, a 720 of Grandsire Minor, in 27 mins. J. Waghorn, jun., 1; J. Waghorn, 2; G. B. Lucas, 3; G. Bower, 4; W. Pye-English, 5; H. Barnett (conductor), 6. And on Sunday, May 3rd, for Divine Service in the morning, with Mr. Crane, of Kidderminster, 504 of Grandsire Triples. And for Divine Service in the evening, 1008 of Grandsire Triples, in 36 mins. J. Langran, 1; J. Waghorn, jun., 2; R. Bagnall, 3; J. Waghorn, 4; G. B. Lucas, 4; E. Bower, 6; H. Barnett (conductor), 7; W. Pye-English, 8.

**PETERBOROUGH**.—On Monday, May 4th, at St. John's church, a 720 of Bob Minor (7 8 covering), in 31 mins. — Holdich, 1; J. Barrow (Long Eaton), 2; H. Plowman, 3; J. Hancock, 4; G. Baker, 5; L. Read (conductor), 6; J. Binks, 7; G. Witton, 8. Tenor 28 cwt.

#### THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

THE ANNUAL MEETING will be held at Chelmsford, on Whit-Monday, May 25th. Divine Service in the parish church at 12.30. The Sermon will be preached by the Ven. Archdeacon Johnson. Dinner in the charity school at 1.30. Business Meeting immediately after the dinner.

Dinner tickets may be obtained from the Secretary at 1s. each up to May 18th; after that date at 2s. each. Return tickets at a single fare and a quarter will be issued by the G.E.R. to members of the Association, provided that they inform the Secretary *before* May 18th, from what station they intend to travel; and shew at the booking office their E.A.C.R. receipts for the present year.

The following belfries will be open to members from 9.30 to 11.30 a.m., and from 4 to 8 p.m. Galleywood (eight bells); Widford (six bells); Springfield (six bells). Writtle (eight bells) will be open from 4 to 8 p.m. The charity school will be open for handbell ringing throughout the day.

H. A. COCKEY,  
Rayleigh, S.O., Essex.

Hon. Sec.

#### MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.—NOTTINGHAM DISTRICT.

A GENERAL MEETING of this District will be held in All Saints' Parochial Room, on Saturday, May 9th, at five o'clock prompt. Business: to elect officers for the ensuing year; to receive outstanding subscriptions; and to transact any other business. The Rev. A. Pearson, M.A., Vicar of All Saints, will preside. The new peal-book of the Association, with fifty-six peals inserted, will be on the table for inspection.

#### THE BIRMINGHAM AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATION.

A QUARTERLY MEETING of the above Association will be held on Saturday, May 16th, at Sutton Coldfield tower, when all members are requested to attend. Any of our many ringing friends outside the Association will also receive a cordial greeting. Members are requested to attend in greater numbers than is usually the case, and thereby show their appreciation for those who have laboured for the success of the Association, and not let the same fall into that lethargy which latterly has been so apparent. JOHN WRIGHT, Hon. Sec.

#### DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

A General Meeting will be held on Monday, May 25th (Whit-Monday), at South Church. The bells of St. Andrew's Church, a peal of eight, tenor 11½ cwt., will be at the disposal of the ringers.

A Dinner will be provided in the School-room at two o'clock. Dinner Tickets 1s. to members, and 2s. 6d. to non-members, should be applied for not later than Monday, May 18th, to the Secretary.

A meeting of the Committee will be held at the School-house, at one o'clock.

Members whose subscriptions are still due are requested to forward the same to the Secretary.

C. J. CLARKSON, Hon. Sec.  
Post Office Chambers, Stockton-on-Tees.

THE ACCIDENT TO A RINGING PARTY.—Any contribution towards recouping the great loss sustained by Mr. H. F. Wood in this unfortunate affair will be gladly received and acknowledged by Mr. Matthew A. Wood, Church Row, Bethnal Green, or by Mr. James Monday, 4, Mount Street, New Road, Whitechapel, London, E.

## A YEAR'S SUMMARY.

THE total number of peals of 5000 changes and upwards recorded in the past volume of "THE BELL NEWS" is 405, in various methods. There were 181 peals of Triples rung; 147 of Major; 37 of Caters; 10 of Royal; 4 of Cinques; and 7 of Maximus. There were also eleven 5040s composed of 720s of Minor, and eight composed of 6-scores of Doubles. In the Grandsire method there were 155 peals of Triples; 8 of Major; 26 of Caters, and 1 of Royal. Of the peals of Grandsire Triples 44 were Holt's Original; 44 were Holt's ten-part; and 13 were bob-and-single peals. There were 36 peals of Stedman rung as follows: Triples, 22; Caters, 11; Cinques, 3. Of Plain Bob Major there were 23; 2 of Plain Bob Triples; 1 of Oxford Bob Triples; and 1 of Union Triples. Of Treble Bob there were 119 peals, thus: Major, 104; Royal, 8; Maximus, 7. There were also 4 peals of Double Norwich; 5 of Superlative Surprise; 2 of Violet; and 1 of Yorkshire Court. Of the total number recorded 62 were rung in the metropolis, while the provinces scored 343.

Of the 405 peals rung the principality of Wales contributed 1, the rest being rung in the following counties: Yorkshire 49, Lancashire 43, Middlesex 40, Surrey 32, Derbyshire 28, Kent 27, Staffordshire 26, Cheshire 25, Suffolk 22, Berkshire 15, Essex and Warwickshire 13 each, Hertfordshire and Norfolk 10 each, Devonshire 6, Oxfordshire, Northumberland and Sussex, 5 each, Gloucestershire, Leicestershire Lincolnshire, Worcestershire and Buckinghamshire 4 each, Herefordshire and Northamptonshire 2 each, Wiltshire, Hampshire, Nottinghamshire, Cambridgeshire, Bedfordshire and the county of Durham, one each. Altogether there have been forty-four more peals recorded than in the previous volume. To those that have the "summary" which I gave in vol. 3, No. 109, for May 3rd, 1883, it will be interesting to note the increase and decrease of peal-ringing in the different counties. Lancashire, which recorded the highest number in the last volume, has been this year eclipsed by Yorkshire. Kent has scored an increase of fifteen; Derbyshire an increase of twenty; Hertfordshire an increase of 7, while a few counties have a slight decrease. On the whole, however, it is satisfactory to those interested in the noble art to notice that change-ringing is making steady progress all over the country. There have only been five peals rung in hand as against ten last year, all of them being in the Grandsire method, Triples, Major and Caters, and rung chiefly at Birmingham.

N. N. HILLS.

St. Albans, Herts.

## THE LONDON ST. JAMES'S SOCIETY AT BRAY, BERKS.

A friendly meeting of a few members of the above society took place at Bray on Sunday afternoon, the 26th ult. This picturesque village, situated on the banks of the Thames, near Maidenhead, with its handsome old-church and tower, and its historical connections, has been dwelt upon in the columns of "THE BELL NEWS." Since the article referred to was published, the grand heavy peal of six has been renovated. Though no previous arrangements were made, the Vicar, the Rev. W. B. Hole, M.A., kindly allowed the visitors to ring for Divine Service. Mr. Warren, sexton, and the steeplekeeper, Mr. C. Chamberlain, were also very obliging. Four parts of a 720 of Grandsire Minor was rung, when two bells shifted and stand was called. Some Doubles were then rung, in which Mr. F. King, of Windsor, took part, to fill up the remainder of the ringing time previous to service.

After service the local ringers kindly gave up their ropes to the visitors, who were this time fortunate enough to ring a complete 720 of Grandsire Minor, in 29½ mins., being the first rang on the bells. A pleasant half-hour was spent together at the house of Mr. Warren, the company dispersing soon after nine o'clock, well pleased with their quiet visit to Bray.

## THE ST. SAVIOUR'S SOCIETY, WALTHAMSTOW.

A Meeting was held on Monday, April 20th, at St. Saviour's school-rooms, Walthamstow, presided over by the Rev. H. T. Maitland (Vicar), for the purpose of forming a Society as above. A set of rules which had been drafted out for the purpose were read by the Vicar, and met with general approval. The names of several present, willing to join, were given in, and the meeting adjourned.

The adjourned meeting took place on Saturday, May 2nd, the Vicar again presiding, supported by the Rev. H. C. Shaw, Curate. The rules were read and confirmed, and the meeting nights fixed for every alternate Thursday, at 8 o'clock, commencing on Thursday, May 7th. Officers for the year were elected as follows: Mr. T. A. Estall, Master; Mr. Thos. Watson, Treasurer; Mr. W. B. Manning, Secretary. A vote of thanks to the Vicar terminated the meeting.

Any communication relating to St. Saviour's belfry may be addressed to the Secretary, as above, Goldsmith's Road, Leyton, Essex, or to the Editor of this paper.

## EASTBOURNE, SUSSEX.

ON Monday, May 4th, some members of the St. Mary's and Christ Church Societies visited the belfry of All Saints' church, and rung a touch of 1512 Grandsire Triples; more would have been accomplished had it not been that the time at their disposal was limited. Charles Harfey, 1; F. Harding, 2; H. P. Bennett (conductor), 3; L. Huggett, 4; T. Hunnisset, 5; J. Potter, 6; T. Hart, 7; S. Lewis, 8. Tenor 18½ cwt. After the ringing was over a meeting was held of members of the three Societies, when the Rev. R. Salisbury Woodward, Incumbent of All Saints, on behalf of the ringers of Eastbourne, presented Mr. Harry P. Bennett with an illuminated address, expressive of their gratitude to him as the originator of change-ringing in Eastbourne, and for all the painstaking instruction he had in the past bestowed on them. The address was beautifully illuminated, at the foot being inscribed the names of the subscribers. Accompanying the address were a silver match-box, intended to hang on the watch-chain, and a silver-mounted ebony walking-stick, each of which had an inscription engraved upon it. Mr. L. Huggett, of St. Mary's Society, in a few words, expressed, on behalf of the ringers generally, their appreciation of Mr. Bennett's valuable assistance, and spoke of him as the father of Eastbourne ringers. In reply, Mr. Bennett, who was quite unprepared for the gift, said how gratified he was for this expression of their good will and appreciation of what he had been able to do for them. All throughout it had been a labour of love and real enjoyment to him, and he hoped that he might long be able to help on the cause of bell-ringing in Eastbourne.

## THE ST. JAMES'S SOCIETY, LONDON.

At a Meeting of the above Society on Monday last, May 4th, notice was given that at the next Meeting (the 18th inst.) a proposition would be made that a committee be appointed to revise the rules. It is hoped that a good attendance of Members may be secured for that date. The Society also desire to state that after a full investigation of all the circumstances of the case, it was unanimously decided that the peal of Treble Bob Major recently rung at Walthamstow, was a St. James's Society peal, and that the gentlemen whose election was called in question, were properly nominated in the tower in accordance with the rules.

EDWARD F. STRANGE, Hon. Sec.

## THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

A DISTRICT MEETING will be held at Wimbledon, by the kind permission of the Vicar, on Saturday, May 16th. The tower will be open during the afternoon and evening.

A. B. CARPENTER, Hon. Sec.

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

On Tuesday evening, April 28th, eight members of the above society rang a muffled peal, being the usual whole pull and stand. W. Ambrose, 1; O. G. Thomas, 2; G. Church, 3; H. W. Orchard, 4; H. Swain, 5; H. S. Thomas, 6; H. Dains, 7; H. Hopkins (conductor), 8. The above was rung as a last token of respect to the late Mr. Henry Collins, an old inhabitant of the parish, who passed away peacefully to eternal rest on the 20th ultimo, beloved and respected by all who knew him. His interment in the family grave, was numerously attended by his many friends, in spite of the inclemency of the weather.

## BELFRY RHYMES.

The following is a copy of a piece of poetry which meets the eye (or did some years ago), in the belfry of the Parish Church, Batley, Yorkshire.

You that in Ringing do delight,  
Read and observe your Rules aright;  
For from these orders if you stray,  
To Clerk and Ringers 6d. you pay.  
If rudely you come in this place,  
Use Oath, or Curse, or language Base,  
Or Ring disorderly, then know,  
Your forfeits due before you go.  
If Cloak, or Boots, or Spurs you wear,  
Or with your Hat on, enter here;  
Or in such sort, Toll, Chime, or Ring,  
You pay as sure as you touch string.  
Ye Bold intruders then beware,  
How you presume to enter here;  
For if Sett Ringers, Forfeits pay,  
Shall such as You go Free away.



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Total Funds	£3,148,166
Total Annual Income	343,271
Amount of Profits divided at the last Quinquennial Bonus	437,347

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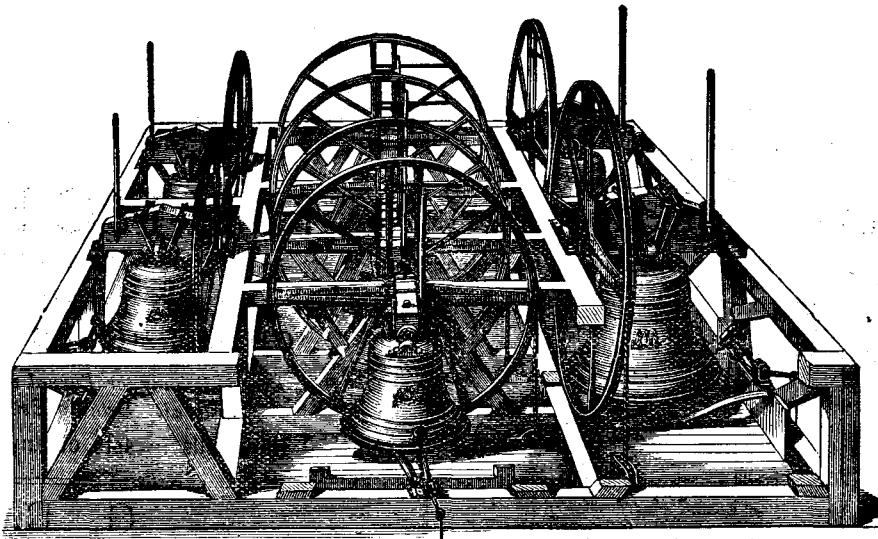
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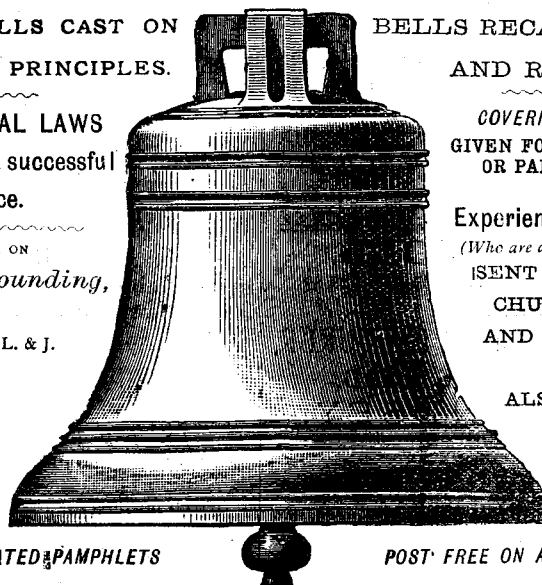
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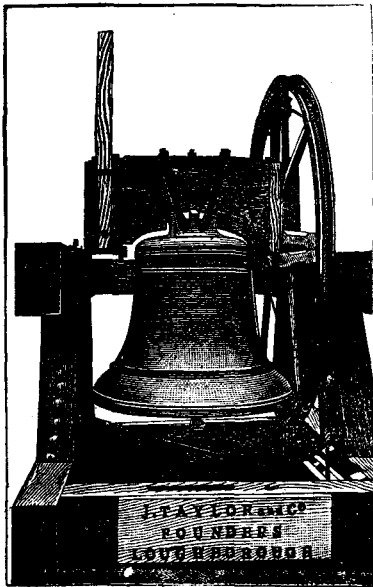
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SATURDAY, MAY 16, 1885.

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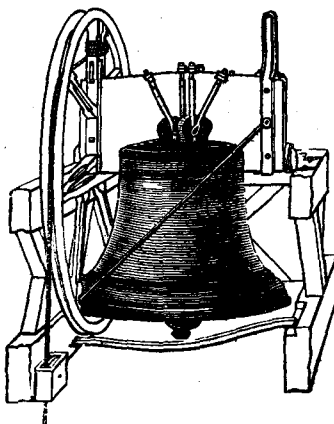
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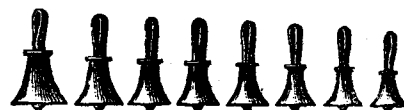
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## BELFRY REFORM.

[By the author of "Thumb-nail Sketches."]

WE are constantly hearing a great deal about Belfry Reform, more especially in connection with the work of the County Associations. Some real and lasting good I suppose they do, but very little compared with what yet remains. In a recent number a letter was quoted from a provincial clergyman to the effect that his ringers had themselves painted and papered their ringing-room. Why he himself had not done the work, he does not say; possibly the men were so eager to give evidence of their reformation that the vicar and churchwardens had no opportunity of setting that portion of their house in order. However this may be, it is something to be thankful for, that the ringers should have taken the law (or rather the application of it), into their own hands, and for this the Association concerned must be congratulated. I am afraid, however, that a long time must elapse before this good example is followed to any great extent so long as ringers, as is more especially the case in London, look on the belfry merely as a means of earning money; it can scarcely be expected that they will diminish their profits if they can help it. So long as they have no more important visitor to entertain than a chance ringer from the neighbouring and equally dirty steeple, they are not likely to take a pride in the cleanliness of their surroundings. All Rectors and Vicars, I believe, pay one visit to the belfry on the occasion of their installation; they gave a look round with a certain amount of curiosity, not unmixed, perhaps, with nervousness, and then, alas! most of them do the necessary tolling and turn their backs for ever on the most neglected and sometimes most interesting part of the building committed to their charge. One reads reports of peals and touches in different methods which indeed look well on paper. If any comment on the striking was attempted, I am afraid the effect on readers would often be considerably less; but suppose that after a peal we read something of this sort—"The floor of the ringing-chamber was covered with filth, and there were no hat-pegs. Light was obtained from a few guttering candles stuck in an old chandelier supported by string. The tropes were good but very dirty, and we were informed that the place has never been cleaned out since the bells were rehung, forty years ago; the steeple-keeper is paid for looking after the place, and his name is—Legion."

Of course we London ringers do not expect anything but dirt in our steeples. There are not in the whole metropolis more than half-a-dozen places fit for a decent person to enter for any purpose. The duties of that very peculiar individual, the steeplekeeper, aforementioned, are generally limited to greasing the bells once a month, or less often than that; and splicing a rope if it happens to break when he is in the belfry. We are, moreover, very conservative in our views, and would rather be up to our knees in dirt than spend sixpence on a broom, or use it when we had bought it. As a body, we never go to church after ringing for service, and if we do not take spirits, etc., into the belfry, it is only because our forefathers for some occult reason preferred not. We have a glorious past, and we occupy ourselves now in cherishing the fragments of it, even when we find them heaped up in dusty corners of the ringing-chamber, and clinging on the disused ropes of the eight, ten, and twelve-bell towers where we don't meet for practice.

THE ACCIDENT TO A RINGING PARTY.—Any contribution towards recouping the great loss sustained by Mr. H. F. Wood in this unfortunate affair will be gladly received and acknowledged by Mr. Matthew A. Wood, Church Row, Bethnal Green, or by Mr. James Monday, 4, Mount Street, New Road, Whitechapel, London, E.

## FATAL DISASTER AT SWALCLIFFE, NEAR BANBURY.

ON Wednesday evening, April 29th, an inquest was held on the body of Thomas Phillips, aged 17, the younger son of the late Mr. Richard Phillips, farmer, formerly of the Manor Farm, King's-end, Bicester. The body was identified by the brother of the deceased, who stated that he with the deceased were pupils of Mr. G. H. Hall, at the Rectory Farm, Swalcliffe. He was told that deceased had met with an accident amongst the bells in Swalcliffe church tower. John Green, a mason, on examination stated that he knew the deceased very well, and was in the belfry of Swalcliffe church to ring the bell for a death, at eleven o'clock on Tuesday morning. The deceased came up to the belfry, and said that he was going to the top of the tower. Deceased left and went up the steps, and he saw no more of him then. The bell stopped, and he found there was something the matter, and ran down to fetch his uncle, Joseph Green. They and several others went up into the belfry, and they found the deceased under the big bell which he had been ringing. He was alive, and had not been meddled with. He stood on the bell to push it on one side for his brothers to get the deceased out, which they did, and carried him down to the next landing, to which Mr. Routh, the doctor came in a few minutes. Mr. Richard Laycock Routh, surgeon, Sibford, deposed: Yesterday morning when called, I found the deceased as stated by the last witness just taken out of the belfry. I found him conscious. He bled a great deal from some cuts on his head, and he told me his arms and legs were broken. I examined the deceased at Mr. Hall's office. He was undressed. I carefully examined the body, but neither the legs nor arms were broken or injured beyond bruises, but all feeling in them was gone. In fact he was paralysed, and on examining deceased's back, I found that at least one of the vertebra was broken, and the paralysis was due to the pressure of the displaced bone on the spinal cord. There was no hope of the deceased's recovery when I first examined him. I saw him several times afterwards. The actual cause of death was paralysis, caused by the fracture of the spine. The deceased told me that he had slipped off one of the beams in the belfry. The jury, of whom Henry Norris, Esq., of Swalcliffe Park, was foreman, returned a verdict that deceased met his death from paralysis from fracture of the spine, caused by the deceased having accidentally fallen into the great bell in Swalcliffe church belfry, whilst it was rung on Tuesday, April 20th.

## ROSTHERNE, CHESHIRE.

WITH the undermentioned alterations, your correspondent, Thomas Wood, has the inscriptions on the bells of this church as I myself read them. Treble: The word Esq., should follow Tatton Park. 4th: The date on this bell, I believe, is 1680, not 1630. T. W. has the inscription on the tenor all right, but he has misplaced the commas. It should read as follows:—

"AMVHBWNEGGB, NON, NOBIS, DOMINI, NON NOBIS, SED, NOMINI, TUO, DA, GLORIAM, 1655 (J.C. Wardens). Goldfield made mee."

W. R.

Another correspondent sends the following:—

The inscription on the tenor should evidently run in part thus:—

"NON NOBIS, DOMINE, NON NOBIS, SED NOMINI TVO, DA GLORIAM." i.e.—Ps. cxv. 1.—"Not unto us, O Lord, not unto us, but unto Thy name give the praise."

The rest of the inscription I can throw no light upon. W.W.C.B.

Another correspondent (Mr. Jerram) says:—

In answer to Mr. Thos. Wood, as to the inscription on the tenor at Rostherne, let me inform him that it should read thus: "Non nobis, Domine, non nobis; sed Nomini Tuo da gloriam." "G. Oldfield made mee." The other letters I presume are the initials of some of the parochial authorities, or the donors of the bell. Punctuation and grammar were not studied much in those days. Even the letters in one word were often divided by stops and ornaments. Possibly the letters copied by Mr. Wood as "E. G. G. B.," may be the word "ecce," as a prefix to the sentence.

## REDMARLEY, WORCESTERSHIRE.

ON Saturday afternoon, May 9th, six members of the Tewkesbury Abbey society paid a friendly visit to the Rev. C. D. P. Davies, who kindly met them at the above place and accompanied them to the parish church, where they rang Treble Bob, Plain Bob Minor, Stedman and Grandsire Doubles. After the ringing the party was accompanied by the Rector, the Rev. Mr. Niblett, to the residence of Mr. Davies, where a capital tea had been provided for them. After the cloth had been removed from the table some courses of Grandsire Caters and Triples were rung on handbells, also two courses of Stedman Triples. The ringers wish, through this paper, to thank the Rector for his kindness in allowing them to ring upon the bells, and also to the kind lady, Mr. Davies' mother, who, with Mr. Davies, did all that could be desired to add to their pleasure.

# THE TOWER AND BELLS AT ABBERLEY HALL, WORCESTERSHIRE.

IN April, 1883, Mr. John Joseph Jones commenced the building of a costly and elaborate clock tower in his grounds at Abberley Hall. On the 19th of July of the same year, the foundation stone was laid by Mrs. Jones. Last October the architect, Mr. J. P. St. Aubyn, placed on the capping-stone. On Monday afternoon, May 4th, the building was opened in the presence of a large gathering of ladies and gentlemen, among whom was our old friend, Mr. F. E. Dawe, being, with the exception of Messrs. Taylor, the only change-ringer present. It need scarcely be said that a building, which has cost, with the clock and carillon, many thousands of pounds, is a very imposing and noble erection. It may be remembered that in the account of our visit to Loughborough Foundry just a year ago, we mentioned that the large bells of this Abberley peal were then undergoing the process of tuning. The tenor then commended itself to us—in fact all the bells of this peal that were then completed—as being of splendid tone.

The tower stands on a mound about 300 yards from the principal entrance of the hall. It is in the Early English style, is 161 feet in height, 25 feet square, tapering to 23 feet above the plinth, which is 99 feet from the ground; the wall is of the local grey sandstone, quarried on the estate, relieved with Alveley red sandstone and yellow oolite from Ham Hill, near Yeovil. On the fourth of the nine stages, is an oriel chamber, from which a fine view of the country for many miles round is obtained. Over the entrance door is the family crest and motto, "*Deo Adjuvante*," on a shield, in Alveley stone. On the same side, above an oriel, is a sundial, under which are the words, "*Sol me vos umbra*." Near the entrance is a stone, upon which is carved, "This stone was laid by John Joseph Jones and his wife Sarah Amelia (Amy), May 4th, 1883." On the wall in the interior, facing the entrance door, is a plate bearing the inscription, "In memory of Joseph Jones, Esq., of Abberley Hall, born 18th October, 1816, died 15th October, 1880; this tower was erected by his cousin and heir, John Joseph Jones, of Abberley Hall, Esq., 1883-1885."

At a few minutes to twelve, the company proceeded to the tower. At the entrance, the Lord Bishop of Hereford, in his robes, said a few words of prayer and thanksgiving to Almighty God on the completion of the building. He prayed that wherever the sound of the bells were heard, men's hearts might be lifted to consider how short their time here, on earth was, how frail and uncertain their condition, and so number their days that they might apply their hearts seriously to holy and heavenly wisdom, and and so in the end be brought to life everlasting, through the merits of the Lord Jesus Christ. His Lordship then said the benediction; Mr. Jones set the clock, which struck twelve, and chimed "God save the Queen." A royal salute of twenty-one 4½-inch maroons was then fired from some mortars. The greater part of the company subsequently ascended the tower, and expressed much admiration of its fine interior, and the elaborate carillon and clock.

At a few minutes to two, the company numbering nearly 200, sat down to luncheon, provided by Mr. Mountford, of Worcester, in a large elegantly-draped temporarily saloon in front of the hall. At the conclusion of the repast,

THE LORD BISHOP OF HEREFORD said that having received Mrs. Jones's permission to say a few words, he should propose "The very good Health of the Host and Hostess." There were many reasons why they should drink their very good health, one of which he dare say was not known to all present, namely, that it was their host's birthday. They knew why they were met together. Their ears had heard, their eyes had seen, the reason that had brought them together, and he was sure there was not one in that room who did not earnestly hope that for years and years to come, Mr. and Mrs. Jones might be living within the sound of those bells, and might derive that satisfaction from them which they (the gathering), hoped and trusted they would. To that neighbourhood he supposed the clock and bells would be a very great advantage. At all events there would be no excuse for anybody in that part of the country being late for anything when they had such a timekeeper as that. He trusted also, in the words which he spoke just before the clock was set going, that those who lived within the sound of the bells might be reminded from time to time how fast time flew, and so be thinking of their latter end. They would occasionally hear hymn tunes from those bells, and he hoped they would bring to their recollection the thought that it was God who gave them all those good things, and so might they be reminded therefore to give Him themselves. They would be joyous bells if they stirred up these thoughts.

MR. JONES thanked his Lordship most sincerely for the kind manner in which he had proposed and the company had drank the health of Mrs. Jones and himself, and for wishing him many happy returns of the day. He hoped they would long live to hear those beautiful bells and show their friends the beautiful tower. He trusted it might be said that the clock would be instrumental in causing them all to be in time, not only for the railway, but for church on Sundays.

He must thank the gentlemen who had been the means of erecting the tower—Mr. J. P. St. Aubyn, the architect; Messrs. Taylor and Son, of Loughborough, who founded the beautifully-toned bells; and last, but not least, his friend Canon Cattley, who had been the mainspring of the whole work.

THE REV. CANON CATTLEY expressed his gratitude for the way in which his name had been mentioned and received. Whatever labour he had given to the work had been very charming and happy work from beginning to end. Mr. Jones had allowed him to do just what he liked.

THE REV. F. A. REISS (Rock), gave "The health of the Bishop of Hereford." His Lordship was always ready with a helping hand and kind word, and he (Mr. Reiss), felt the laity loved him as much as the clergy. If they did, they certainly loved him very much indeed.

The Bishop thanked Mr. Reiss for his kind utterances.

During the day, photographs were taken of the tower by Messrs. Bennett and Son, of Worcester. The Abberley Hall band played selections at a later period in the day.

On Tuesday, Mr. Jones gave a dinner to the tenant farmers on his Worcestershire estates, and subsequently there was a display of fireworks by Mr. C. T. Brock, the Crystal Palace pyrotechnist, the grounds being illuminated with Venetian lamps and Chinese lanterns.

On Wednesday evening Mr. and Mrs. Jones gave a ball to their friends.

The following are the weights of the bells:—

cwt.	qr.	lbs.		cwt.	qr.	lbs.	
3	0	23	G.	13	1	21	A flat.
3	2	21	F sharp.	14	3	11	G.
3	3	0	F.	17	2	7	F sharp.
4	2	26	E.	20	3	7	F.
5	1	4	E flat.	24	3	2	E.
5	2	22	D.	31	0	11	E flat.
7	1	12	C.	34	2	25	D.
8	3	11	B.	52	3	10	C.
10	3	4	B flat.	61	1	0	B.
11	1	7	A.	78	2	0	B flat.

## THE EAST LINCOLNSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

ON Saturday last, May 9th, by the kind invitation of the Vicar, several members of the above Association visited St. James's, Frieston, and rung several 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles, but owing to the bad go of the bells, nothing but Grandsire was attempted. Mr. A. Barker kindly entertained the ringers to tea, after which a visit was made to St. Andrew's, Butterwick, when twelve 6-scores were rung, consisting of Grandsire Doubles, Bob Doubles, and Hudibras, by A. Barber, G. Clark, E. Parker, E. Mason, W. F. Harwood. And several 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles, in which T. Routon Sharp took part. The company again called at Frieston on the way home, when two 6-scores were rung by the Frieston company. The Vicar gave the ringers a present, and promised to have the bells attended to.

## RINGERS' OUTING.

ON Saturday, April 25th, the Farnham Royal ringers, with their rector, the Rev. S. F. Marshall, visited Wraysbury, (Bucks), by invitation. The company arrived at Wraysbury soon after 4 o'clock, where an excellent tea was provided at the vicarage, by the Rev. J. H. Hindson, to which about twenty sat down, including the Wraysbury company. Tea over, the ringers made for the tower, and rang several touches in the following methods: Grandsire Doubles, Grandsire Minor, Oxford Bob (a 720), College Single, and Plain Bob, the Rev. J. H. Hindson and his ringers taking part in some of the ringing. The ringers separated about 8 o'clock, the Farnham company returning home well pleased with their outing. Their best thanks are due to the Rev. J. H. Hindson for his kindness. Messrs. Parker and the brothers Batten enlivened the party on the way home with their violins and concertina. The 720 of Oxford Bob was rung by G. Basden, 1; J. Parker (conductor), 2; J. Basden, 3; A. Batten, 4; R. Flaxman, 5; C. Clarke, 6. E. Batten, T. Brown, C. Chapman, F. Earl, and E. J. Robinson took part in some of the ringing. The Wraysbury party tapped off, in fine style, two 120's of Grandsire Doubles. On Sunday evening, April 12th, for Divine Service they rang in 26 mins. a 720 of Grandsire Doubles. G. Whatmore (conductor), 1; R. Shanks, 2; H. Shanks, 3; G. Turley, 4; R. Parker, 5; H. Clark, 6.

## RE-OPENING AT BERWICK ST. JOHN'S, WILTS.

These bells were re-opened on the 30th ult., after being rehung by H. Stokes, and a new treble added, and the 3rd recast by Warner and Sons. There was service at 3 p.m., at which Bishop Kelly preached. Afterwards some six-scores of Doubles were rung, and one or two abortive attempts at Bob Minor were made. J. Short, 1; E. A. Foster, 2; Rev. A. D. Hill, 3; C. A. Clements, 4; J. R. Jerram, 5; T. Blackburn, 6. Tenor to cwt.



**WORCESTER AND ADJOINING DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.  
MUFFLED PEAL FOR THE LATE EARL OF DUDLEY.**

On Thursday, the 7th inst., the ringers of St. Andrew's, Netherton, rang a 720 of Grandsire Minor, in 34 mins. And on Sunday morning, for early practice, three 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles, and for Divine Service in the morning, a 360 of Plain Bob, each in 15½ mins. And for Divine Service in the evening, a 720 of Plain Bob, in 31 mins., and after service a 720 of Grandsire Minor, in 28 mins. And on Tuesday evening, a 720 of Plain Bob, in 32 mins. All the above were rung with the bells half-muffled as a last tribute of respect to the late Earl of Dudley, who died in London on the 7th inst., and was interred at Witley, Worcestershire (the late Earl's seat), on Tuesday, the 12th inst. After the peal on Tuesday the bells were rung round on the open side, and struck on the muffled side altogether for sixty-eight times, the age of the deceased nobleman. He was much respected by all who knew him for his great and munificent liberality. His princely assistance towards the restoration of the Cathedral church of the diocese, and the aid which he gave to the restoration of the tower, and the new peal of twelve bells is well known. The following took part in the ringing: J. Robinson, J. Prestidge, J. Smith (conductor), F. Hotchkiss, J. Townsend, R. Round, T. Felton, W. Prestidge.

**THE REDENHALL SOCIETY, NORFOLK.**

On Saturday afternoon, May 9th, six members of the above society, met Mr. B. Francis, of Diss, to try and ring a peal with him, but one of the party arranged for did not appear, so after waiting from 3.30 till 5 o'clock, Mr. Charles Candler started off to Alburgh to try and pick up the veteran Sheldrake, which he succeeded in doing, but it was 7 o'clock before they got to the tower. It was then too late to start for the peal, as by the kindness of Mr. Charles Candler, there was a good piece of roast beef and plum pudding to be discussed after the ringing was over. But as a peal could not be concluded till after regulation hours according to Mr. Bull, they determined to try a date touch by Mr. Ben. Smith, which they accomplished in good style, with time for the good things provided by Mr. Candler, for which they return him their best thanks. The Redenhall company had tried four times before to ring this touch, but failed; twice at Alburgh, owing to ropes breaking, and twice at Redenhall. It was rung at Diss about a fortnight ago. The band on Saturday were stationed as follows: Edward Smith (conductor), 1; John Smith, 2; W. Sheldrake, 3; C. Candler, 4; Robert Whiting, 5; B. Francis, 6; Fred. Smith, 7; Captain Moore, 8.

**THE HERTFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.**

A friendly meeting of members of the above Association, composed of six from Baldock and four from Hitchin, was held at Arsley, (Bedfordshire), on Sunday, May 10th, and, by the kind permission of the vicar, the Rev. F. C. Scott, rang for Divine Service in the morning a 720 of Plain Bob Minor, and two 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles, and in the afternoon a 360 and a 216 of Bob Minor and several 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles; touches of Grandsire Triples and plain courses of Bob Major and Grandsire Triples on the handbells, the Triples being rung double-handed in the presence of several of the local company who, we are sorry to say, are not change-ringers. In the evening for Divine Service, an attempt was made for another 720 of Bob Minor, but was not successful, as a mishap occurred close to the finish. Time not permitting for another attempt, a 216 of Bob Minor was then rung, and then the local company lowered the bells in peal. Altogether, a very pleasant day was spent, and the visitors wish, through the medium of this paper, to thank the Vicar, the Rev. F. C. Scott, for the use of the bells.

**A FRIENDLY MEETING WITH THE COLLEGE YOUTHS.**

On Tuesday, May 5th, Messrs. F. Knights, J. Skinner, P. Sadler, and E. Freeman, of Norwich, paid a visit to the metropolis, and after an interview with Messrs. Mash, Horrex, Winny, and Hayes, arrangements were made to meet at six o'clock at St. Stephen's, Westminster. Time having arrived, the company were all present, and rang at the above church Treble Bob and a touch of Stedman, and the company then adjourned to St. Mary's, Lambeth. Time being limited, a short touch of Stedman was brought round in quick style. The party then proceeded to Waterloo Road, and rang in for service a musical touch of Stedman Triples. They then made their way to the last meeting house, St. Giles, Cripplegate, and were met by Messrs. Haley, Pettit, J. M. Routh, Esq., Rowbotham, and several others of the College Youths. A course of Treble Bob Maximus was brought round in capital style; the party then retired to refresh themselves. Time then being due for the visitors to depart, they did so, very pleased with the four hours' ring with the College Youths, and they take this opportunity of thanking Messrs. Mash, Horrex, Winny and Hayes, for the reception they gave them on this occasion.

**MELBOURNE, DERBYSHIRE.**

On Saturday, May 9th, the St. Michael's parish church company met for the purpose of presenting their esteemed instructor, Mr. H. C. Woodward, of Derby, with a small present, as a mark of respect and gratitude for the great perseverance and energy he has always shown on behalf of the above Society. After a hearty pull on the bells, which consisted of several 6-scores of Grandsire and Bob Doubles, an adjournment was made to the "Blue Bell," where all sat down to a splendid tea, provided by the hostess, Mrs. Wilcock, to which ample justice was done. After the cloth had been removed, the Vice-President of the Society, the Rev. W. Rice, rose on behalf of the ringers, and in a few well-chosen remarks, presented Mr. Woodward with a very handsome inkstand, with silver plate, the following being inscribed upon it: "Presented to H. C. Woodward by the Melbourne Society of change-ringers, as a mark of respect for his services as instructor to the above, April 27th, 1885; and a bell."

Mr. Woodward, on rising to thank the Society, said that the above proceedings had taken him quite by surprise; had he been prepared for such a thing he would have been better able to have expressed his feelings in thanking the Society for their kindness, and would always prize it. He said he hoped that the Society would pull together. The great drawbacks they had had to contend with in time gone by would never occur again, and they could always depend upon a helping hand from him. Again thanking them for their very handsome present, Mr. Woodward sat down amidst great applause.

Mr. Taber then rose on behalf of himself and Mr. Slack, both of Derby, to thank the Society for their hospitality and their hearty welcome to him and his friend. After enjoying half an hour's conversation, the local company, with Mr. Woodward, adjourned to the church, and rang a 360 of Bob Minor. J. R. Wood, 1; G. A. Fish, 2; G. C. Tunnicliffe, 3; J. Vicars, 4; T. Hollingworth, 5; H. C. Woodward (conductor), 6. All the above are members of the Midland Counties' Association.

**FESTIVITY AT SHEFFIELD.**

On Easter Monday, April 6th, an attempt was made for a peal of Grandsire Cinques. After ringing an hour and a half, it came to grief. A meeting took place afterwards at the "Brown Bear Inn," Norfolk Street, where a substantial supper was sat down to. After the cloth being drawn, a very pleasant evening was spent in handbell ringing, singing and toast making. Mr. William Booth, who presided, opened the proceedings with a very suitable speech. This assembly took place on the occasion of Mr. Charles H. Hattersley accomplishing his 100th peal, his first one being a peal of Stedman Caters, 5079 changes, at Chesterfield, on December 31st, 1862; the 100th being also a peal of Stedman Caters, 5079 changes, at St. Peter's, Sheffield, on March 3rd, 1885, composed and conducted by himself. The following are the particulars of the different systems which make up the 100 peals: One of miscellaneous methods; two of Bob Royal; twenty-eight of Grandsire; thirty-two of Treble Bob; thirty-seven of Stedman. Out of the above list he has composed twenty-six, and has conducted thirty-eight peals.

**THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.**

**REPORT FOR THE LAST THREE WEEKS.**—On Sunday, April 26th, by the Brighton branch, at St. Peter's Church, Brighton, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 47 mins. E. Marshall, 1; C. E. Golds, 2; J. Jay, jun., 3; J. Searle, 4; H. Weston, 5; G. F. Attree (conductor), 6; \*A. Marshall, 7; W. Vernon, 8. \*First quarter-peal with a bob bell. On Tuesday, May 5th, by the Crawley branch, an attempt for Taylor's peal of Grandsire Triples, but after ringing 4800 changes, it came to grief. F. Wickens, 1; Rev. J. B. Lennard, 2; T. Smith, Esq., 3; J. Newnham, 4; W. Collison, 5; H. Burstow (conductor), 6; A. Hillier, 7; —. Holloway, 8. Tenor 13½ cwt.

GEO. F. ATTREE, Hon. Sec.

**THE RESTORATION OF ST. MICHAEL'S, COVENTRY.**—A meeting of the General Committee for the restoration of St. Michael's, Coventry, has been held at St. Mary's Hall. Lord Leigh presided. A discussion took place concerning the disposal of the peal of bells, which, if retained, would require the erection of a second tower. The monetary question was the difficulty in the way, and Mr. Woodcock (who is a subscriber of £10,000 to the restoration fund) said, assuming that a good tower could be put up for £8000, he was prepared to give half of it. It was resolved, in order to ascertain the money which would be required, to invite tenders for the work from Mr. Thompson, of Peterborough, and a sub-committee was appointed to select the stone.

**A CORRECTION.**—The peal of Grandsire Triples rung at East Hagbourne, Berks, on Saturday, May 2nd, should have been recorded as Holt's Original, not Holt's 10-part.

### THE SHIPWAY REPRINT.

THE issue of this work in penny numbers will shortly be commenced. Our country friends, who have prevailed upon us to issue it in this form, can have copies from local newsagents at the same time they get their "BELL NEWS." Care must be taken in ordering, and local booksellers should be informed of the importance of attending to all orders for these weekly numbers, because a reprint is out of the question. We again give notice that whoever is negligent enough to miss this opportunity of getting SHIPWAY on such easy terms, will probably never again have the chance of doing so. We lay great stress upon this fact. There has always been a great demand for our Christmas numbers when it is too late, and after we have commenced this weekly re-issue we shall be very sorry to hear of any one being disappointed in this publication. The book will be printed in a popular style, upon good paper, and when finished will be found worthy of admittance into any library. We hope the efforts made to bring it out in this shape will meet with a commensurate support from all our friends, and perhaps we can rely upon those who have pressed upon us to publish it in this form; to urge their ringing acquaintance to become possessors of copies of every number. The various prefaces of the author will be issued when each part is complete.

Subscribers' complete copies will be ready about the time we have previously indicated.

"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 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.

"MAGNUM BONUM."—Your letter is too long. At the first opportunity we will possibly deal again with the subject. If you were to form one independent Society on an improved basis, no doubt you would soon enlist many other ringers who may be dissatisfied with the present state of affairs, and thus in time leaven the whole lump. But whatever Church you select as being the most advantageous for your operations, strive to gain the active co-operation of the Vicar.

## The Bell News & Ringers' Record.

SATURDAY, MAY 16, 1885.

THE restoration of the grand old parish church of St. Michael, Coventry, is under consideration, and as is usual when important ecclesiastical edifices are about to undergo this ordeal, many suggestions are offered by those who make such questions the hobby of their lives. In a movement of this character we could hardly expect to find that the noble steeple of St. Michael's would not be interfered with, and therefore it is not

amazing to hear, that the restoration of that part of the fabric will necessitate the removal of the bells. To many restorers, architects, and the like, the banishment of church bells to some hole or corner of the churchyard is not accompanied by any qualms of conscience, and in the case before us we have been painfully apprised that some of the quidnuncs of church restoration, in setting forth their opinions relating to the restoration of St. Michael's steeple, appear to have made their calculations upon the assumption that the bells could, without the least exhibition of regret, be handed over to the nearest dealer in marine-stores.

The bells of St. Michael, Coventry, are said, by those who are entitled to speak upon such a subject, to be the best peal of ten in England. They are regarded as such by nine-tenths of the ringing Exercise. To those who know this fact, the relegation of these bells to a place where they could never be rung would be a calamity. And our readers who in fear and trembling hoped that such an act of vandalism would never be perpetrated, will receive no small amount of gratification at the news contained in a small paragraph which appears in this number of our journal. To prevent the bells being silent in the future, it seems that it is necessary to have another tower, or campanile, erected purposely for them. Of course this would involve the spending of a large sum of money—£8000, we are told. But a liberal gentleman—a Mr. Woodcock, who is already a subscriber of £10,000 to the restoration fund, again comes nobly to the front, and with princely munificence offers to contribute one-half of this immense sum. Such bountiful generosity as this deserves to be recorded in an enduring manner. As long as the Church meets with such benefactors as this gentleman, it need not fear the assaults of its foes. Mr. Woodcock will have the thanks of the citizens of Coventry, who feel an honest pride in their bells; he will receive the warm and fervent commendation of every Churchman in the diocese; and we may also add that every ringer throughout the land will be grateful to him for the liberality he has shown, to assist in preserving the bells of St. Michael's from decay and ruin, and their continuance in the service of the Church.

### The Metropolis.

OSWESTRY, SHROPSHIRE.—THE WREXHAM SOCIETY, Centenary Peal.

On Wednesday, May 4, 1885, in Three Hours and Seven Minutes.

At St. Oswald's Church,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S 10-PART. Tenor 15 $\frac{1}{2}$  cwt. in F.

ROBERT JONES .. .. .	Treble.	EDWARD ROWLAND .. .. .	5.
RICHARD W. EVANS, Esq.* ..	2.	THOMAS NEWELL .. .. .	6.
FRANCIS E. DAWE* .. .. .	3.	EDWARD EVANS .. .. .	7.
CHARLES PRICE* .. .. .	4.	JAMES KENDRICK .. .. .	Tenor.

Conducted by FRANCIS EDWARD DAWE.

It is exactly 100 years since the last peal was rung on these bells, and an old tablet in the ringing room records the same, stating that "Holt's peal of Grandsire Triples" was accomplished there on the 3rd of March, 1785, by the "Apsacreotic Society," in 3 hrs. and 15 mins., and that Robert Salter called the bobs.

The above company wish to thank the Rev. Canon W. H. Evans for the use of the bells; the excellent "go" of them can scarcely be equalled elsewhere.  
\* College Youths. F. E. Dawe hails from London; C. Price from Eccleston; the rest from Wrexham.

## BIRMINGHAM.—THE ST. MARTIN'S SOCIETY.

On Thursday, May 7, 1885, in Three Hours and Eighteen Minutes,

AT SS. PETER AND PAUL, ASTON;

## A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERS; 5187 CHANGES;

Tenor 23 cwt. in D.

JOHN W. CARTWRIGHT .. Treble.	THOMAS REYNOLDS .. 6.
WILLIAM ROCK SMALL .. 2.	JOHN SAUNDERS .. 7.
HENRY BASTABLE .. 3.	HENRY JOHNSON, JUN. .. 8.
BERNARD WITCHELL .. 4.	JOHN BUFFERY .. 9.
CHARLES H. HATTERSLEY .. 5.	SAMUEL REEVES .. Tenor.

Composed and conducted by CHARLES H. HATTERSLEY, of Sheffield.

## DUFFIELD, DERBYSHIRE.

## THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION, AND THE ST. PAUL'S SOCIETY, BURTON-ON-TRENT.

On Thursday, May 7, 1885, in Three Hours,

AT ALL SAINTS' CHURCH;

## A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES. Tenor 16½ cwt.

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

Composed by H. DAINS and Conducted by JOSEPH GRIFFIN.

This peal, which is now rung for the first time, is a two-part peal, and contains the 6th twenty-four times wrong and right, see Snowden's "Double Norwich," page 34. It is the first peal in the method on the bells.

## CODDENHAM, SUFFOLK.

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

On Saturday, May 9, 1885, in Three Hours and Twenty-eight Minutes,

AT ST. MARY'S CHURCH;

## A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR; 6048 CHANGES; IN THE OXFORD VARIATION. Tenor 16½ cwt.

CHARLES MEE .. Treble.	FREDK. TILLET .. 5.
FREDK. MEE .. 2.	WILLIAM MOTTS .. 6.
ISAAC S. ALEXANDER .. 3.	JAMES MOTTS .. 7.
THOMAS STEWARD .. 4.	ROBT. H. BRUNDLE .. Tenor.

Composed by HENRY JOHNSON, sen., and Conducted by CHARLES MEE.

This is the longest peal on the bells. The above are all members of the St. Mary-le-Tower Society, Ipswich.

## SHEFFIELD.

## THE ST. PETER'S AMALGAMATED SOCIETY, AND THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, May 9, 1885, in Three Hours and Two Minutes,

AT ALL SAINTS' CHURCH,

## A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5949 CHANGES;

HOLT'S ORIGINAL. Tenor 15 cwt.

W. GARDINER .. Treble.	THOMAS HATTERSLEY .. 5.
S. SEED .. 2.	C. BOWER .. 6.
F. WILLEY .. 3.	*W. SMITHSON .. 7.
E. F. RIPPON .. 4.	J. REEV .. Tenor.

Conducted by THOMAS HATTERSLEY.

\* First peal with a bob bell.

## WALTON-ON-THAMES.—THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, May 11, 1885, in Three Hours and Five Minutes,

## A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S ORIGINAL. Tenor 27 cwt.

DANIEL SPRINGALL .. Treble.	GEORGE GRAY .. 5.
SAMUEL GREENWOOD .. 2.	JAMES STRUTT .. 6.
ALFRED CHALLIS .. 3.	JOHN WRIGHT .. 7.
GEORGE PELL .. 4.	ALFRED BRUCE .. Tenor.

Conducted by JAMES STRUTT.

This is the first peal on the bells, two new trebles being added by Messrs. Warner about twelve months ago.

## BURTON-ON-TRENT, STAFFORDSHIRE.

## THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION, AND THE ST. PAUL'S SOCIETY, BURTON-ON-TRENT.

On Tuesday, May 12, 1885, in Three Hours and Fifteen Minutes,

AT ST. PAUL'S CHURCH,

## A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR, 5008 CHANGES. Tenor 26 cwt.

REV. JAMES H. FISH .. Treble.	HARRY WAKLEY .. 5.
EDWARD ISAAC STONE .. 2.	JOHN JAGGAR .. 6.
ARTHUR WAKLEY .. 3.	THOMAS HOLMES .. 7.
JOSEPH GRIFFIN .. 4.	WILLIAM WAKLEY .. Tenor.

Composed by H. DAINS and Conducted by WILLIAM WAKLEY.

This peal, which is now rung for the first time, is a one-part peal, and contains the 6th twenty-four times wrong and right, see Snowden's "Double Norwich," page 38. It is the first variation there given.

## Date Touch.

BRADFORD (Yorks).—On Sunday, May 10th, for Divine Service in the evening at St. James's, Bolton, the local company rang a date touch of 1885 changes of Bob Major (forty-one bobs), in 1 hr. 6 mins. B. F. Lamb, 1; B. Sugden, 2; R. Tuke, Esq., 3; G. Titterton, 4; J. Broadley, 5; B. T. Copley (conductor), 6; S. Palframan, 7; W. Barraclough, 8. The above was rung on the occasion of the 35th birthday of the conductor, and his 14th anniversary as a ringer.

## Miscellaneous.

## THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

BIDDENHAM (Beds).—On Friday, May 8th, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor (nine bobs), in 25 mins. C. West, 1; W. Hall (first 720 in the method), 2; C. W. Clarke (conductor), 3; M. Warwick (first 720 in the method), 4; T. Foote (first 720 in the method), 5; I. Hills, 6. Also a 720 of Bob Minor (twenty-six singles), in 24½ mins. F. Keech, 1; C. West, 2; M. Warwick, 3; C. W. Clarke (conductor), 4; T. Foote, 5; I. Hills, 6. Tenor 14 cwt. in G.

CARDINGTON (Beds).—On Wednesday, May 6th, at St. Mary's church, on the back six, a 720 of Bob Minor (eight bobs and six singles), in 27½ mins. J. Hurst, 1; M. Warwick, 2; W. Mayes, 3; T. Foote, 4; C. W. Clarke (conductor), 5; I. Hills, 6. Tenor 21 cwt. in E.

## BIRMINGHAM AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATION.

BIRMINGHAM.—Handbell Ringing.—On Tuesday evening, May 12th, four members of the above Association, met at the house of Mr. John Carter, 33, Ford Street, Hockley, and rang upon handbells, retained in hand, the first half of Holt's ten-part peal, in 1 hr. 16 mins. J. T. Perry, 1-2; J. Carter (conductor), 3-4; T. Russam, 5-6; R. Hackley, 7-8. Referee, Mr. A. Hackley.

## THE ST. JAMES'S SOCIETY, LONDON.

WOOLWICH (Kent).—On Thursday evening, May 7th, 1885, the following members of the above Society made an unsuccessful attempt to ring Holt's ten-part peal of Grandsire Triples (reversed), at St. Mary Magdalene's church, the rope of the 7th bell breaking after 4640 changes had been rung, in 2 hrs. 37 mins. Henry Bright (Woolwich), 1; William Pead (Deptford), 2; William Weatherstone (Rotherhithe), 3; Thomas Taylor (Rotherhithe), 4; Frederick W. Thornton (Greenwich), 5; Edward Richards (Woolwich), 6; William H. Freeman (Lewisham), 7; Joseph Laws (St. John's), 8. Tenor 14 cwt. Conducted by William Weatherstone.

## DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.—On Monday, April 27th, at St. John's, a 1344 of Grandsire Triples, in 48 mins., taken from Holt's Original. C. L. Routledge (conductor), 1; R. Smith, 2; W. Reed, 3; F. Lees, 4; J. Simm, 5; W. Bowes, 6; W. Story, 7; H. Thompson, 8. And on Thursday, May 7th, a 720 of Grandsire Minor (thirty-eight bobs and twenty-two singles), in 21 mins. H. Fergusson, 1; C. L. Routledge, 2; F. Lees, 3; W. Bowes, 4; T. Denton (conductor), 5; W. Story, 6. This is the quickest 720 rung in the tower. And on Monday, April 11th, a 720 of Violet, in 24 mins. W. Bowes, 1; C. L. Routledge, 2; F. Lees, 3; W. G. Routledge, 4; W. Story, 5; R. S. Story (conductor), 6. Tenor 12½ cwt.

NORTH SHIELDS.—On Sunday evening, May 10th, for Divine Service, at Christ Church, 504 Grandsire Triples. S. Nott, 1; H. Ross, 2; J. Rossiter, 3; R. S. Story, 4; R. Wignall, 5; R. Smith (conductor), 6; Joel Hern, 7; C. Taylor (late of Knaresbrough), 8. Tenor 19 cwt.

## THE ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

SUDBURY (Suffolk).—On Friday, April 26th, at St. Gregory's church, a 5000 of Kent Treble Bob was attempted by the following company: P. O. Bixby, 1; Charles Sillitoe, 2; William Howell, 3; Maurice Silvester, 4; William Bacon, 5; Harry Harper, 6; Alexander Hurst (conductor), 7; Arthur Scott, 8. The ringing proceeded in capital style for 3600 changes, when a blunder occurred, which resulted in hopeless confusion, and "stand" was called.

## THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

BARKING.—On Saturday evening, May 9th, a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob, was rung at St. Margaret's Church, on the back six. R. Sewell, 1; J. Nunn, A. J. Perkins, 3; A. Pye, 4; A. Porter, 5; S. Hayes (conductor), 6. It was intended to attempt a peal, but met short of a treble man through illness.

ROMFORD.—*Handbell Ringing*.—On Monday evening, May 11th, four members of this Association rang (upon handbells retained in hand), a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, (1260 changes), in 40 mins. A. Pye, 1-2; B. Keeble, 3-4; A. J. Perkins (conductor), 5-6; W. Nash, 7-8. This musical quarter-peal is the composition of the Editor, and contains the twenty-four 6-7's all at back-stroke, and is now rung for the first time double-handed.

## THE HERTFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

ST. ALBANS.—On Tuesday, May 5th, for practice, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 50 mins. T. Grant, 1; R. T. Kent, 2; W. H. L. Buckingham, 3; H. Lewis, 4; G. W. Cartmel, 5; A. Godman, 6; N. N. Hills (conductor), 7; W. Battle, 8. Tenor 30 cwt. The above is the first quarter-peal by the treble, 2nd, 3rd, 5th, and 6th men, and the first the conductor has called. Also the longest length the above Society has accomplished, which was formed in January, 1884.

ARSLEY (Beds).—On Sunday, May 10th, at St. Peter's church, for Divine Service in the morning, a 720 of Plain Bob Minor (with eighteen bobs and two singles), in 25 mins. T. Webb, 1; J. Hare, 2; J. Phillips, 3; J. W. Roslyn, 4; A. Squires, 5; W. A. Tyler (conductor), 6. And a 6-score of Grandsire Doubles. And in the afternoon a 360 of Plain Bob Minor. T. Webb, 1; J. Smith, 2; W. A. Tyler (conductor), 3; J. Phillips, 4; J. Hare, 5; J. W. Roslyn, 6. And 180. T. Webb, 1; H. Buckingham, 2; J. Hare, 3; W. A. Tyler (conductor), 4; Richard Jackson, 5; J. W. Roslyn, 6. And several 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles, called differently. And for Divine Service in the evening an attempt was made for another 720 of Plain Bob Minor, (nine bobs and six singles), but a mishap occurred close to the finish. T. Webb, 1; H. Buckingham, 2; A. Squires, 3; W. A. Tyler, 4; J. Hare (conductor), 5; J. W. Roslyn, 6. Afterwards a 216, standing as before, conducted by W. A. Tyler. Tenor 12 cwt. in G. *Handbell Ringing*.—And in the afternoon, on handbells, a 335 of Grandsire Triples. W. Bignell, 1; H. Buckingham, 2; A. Squires, 3; J. Hare, 4; W. A. Tyler (conductor), 5; Richard Jackson, 6; J. Roslyn, 7; J. Phillips, 8. And 111 with some changing places, conducted by J. Hare. And a plain course of Bob Major. And a plain course of Grandsire Triples. A. Squires, 1-2; J. Hare, 3-4; W. A. Tyler, 5-6; J. W. Roslyn, 7-8.

BALDOCK (Herts).—On Sunday, May 3rd, at the church of St. Mary the Virgin, for Divine Service, in the morning, a 336 of Grandsire Triples. T. Webb, 1; J. Phillips (conductor), 2; J. Cawdell, 3; A. Squires, 4; Robert Jackson, 5; Richard Jackson, 6; J. Roslyn, 7; G. Gentle, 8. Also a 112 in the same method, with —. Smith, 4; and A. Squires, 6; the rest as before, and conducted by T. Webb. Tenor 28 cwt. in D.

HITCHIN (Herts).—On Wednesday, May 6th, at St. Mary's church, on the occasion of a wedding, 350, 224 and 168 of Grandsire Triples. J. Randall, 1; W. A. Tyler, 2; J. Hare, 3; H. Buckingham, 4; A. Squires, 5; S. Hare, 6; W. Allen (conductor), 7; W. Kitchener, 8. Tenor 28 cwt. in D.

## THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

TUNBRIDGE WELLS (Kent).—On Sunday, May 10th, for Divine Service in the evening, at St. Peter's, a 720 of Grandsire Minor, in 26 mins. J. Muggeridge, 1; J. Colthup, 2; R. Sharvill, 3; W. Latter, 4; H. Barefield (conductor), 5; G. Kember, 6. And on Monday evening, May 11th, a 720 in the same method, in 27 mins., in the same order. Tenor 14 cwt. 3 qrs.

## THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

RADCLIFFE (Lancashire).—On Monday evening, May 11th, eight members of the local company rang the first half of Holt's ten-part peal of Grandsire Triples, in 1 hr. 25 mins. F. Rudman (conductor), 1; J. Hardman, 2; A. Barrett, 3; J. Morris, 4; A. Hardman, 5; J. Hardman, 6; F. Morris, 7; W. Fielding, 8. Tenor 12 cwt. in F#. This is the longest length by all excepting A. Barrett. The above are chiefly a young band, and they rang in the presence of their instructor, Mr. W. Warburton, of Whitefield.

## THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

LONG EATON (Derbyshire).—On Sunday, May 10th, the St. Lawrence society rang for Divine Service in the evening, a 704 of Kent Treble Bob Major, in 27 mins. William Grice, 1; Arthur Widdowson, 2; George Bradley, 3; Samuel Clark, 4; Joseph North, 5; John Ward, 6; John Hickman, 7; Joseph Barrow (conductor), 8. John Hickman hails from Nottingham; J. North from Syston, Leicestershire. Tenor 11 cwt. in G.

SANDIACRE (Derbyshire).—On Sunday, May 10th, the St. Lawrence's society of Long Eaton paid a visit to this place, accompanied by Mr. Joseph North, of Syston, and Mr. John Hickman, Nottingham, and by the kind permission of the Vicar, succeeded in ringing a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor. Joseph Barrow, 1; George Bradley, 2; Richard Hickton, 3; Joseph North, 4; William Gilson, 5; John Ward (conductor), 6. And a 360 of Plain Bob Minor. Joseph Barrow, 1; Richard Hickton, 2; George Bradley, 3; John Ward, 4; William Gilson, 5; Samuel Clark (conductor), 6. Also 120 of Stedman Doubles. Joseph Barrow (conductor), 1; Samuel Clark, 2; Joseph North, 3; William Gilson, 4; John Ward, 5; Arthur Weatley (of the local company), 6. Tenor 17 cwt. in F.

## THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

CAVERSHAM (Oxon).—On Tuesday, May 5th, a 720 of Bob Minor, in 28 mins. H. Simmonds, 1; J. Hands (first 720 with a bob bell), 2; E. Menday, 3; Rev. G. F. Coleridge, 5; T. Newman (conductor), 6. And on Sunday, May 10th, for Divine Service in the morning, a 720 of Double Oxford Bob, in 27 mins., and for Divine Service in the evening, a 720 of Yorkshire Court, in 27 mins. J. Hands, 1; E. Menday, 2; G. Essex, 3; T. Newman, 4; E. Pottinger, 5; Rev. G. F. Coleridge (conductor), 6. And after Service, a 720 of Oxford Bob. H. Smith, 1; E. Menday, 2; G. Gibbard, 3; G. Essex, 4; E. Pottinger, 5; T. Newman (conductor), 6. Tenor 16½ cwt.

OXFORD.—On Tuesday, May 5th, at St. Mary Magdalene, a 720 of Grandsire Minor, in 23 mins. Job Howse, 1; F. A. Castle, 2; W. Cox, 3; J. W. Washbrook, 4; J. Franklin, 5; H. J. Castle (conductor), 6. First 720 called by the conductor.

## THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

WIMBLEDON (Surrey).—On Tuesday, May 5th, at St. Mary's, for practice, a 720 of Woodbine, in 26 mins. G. Hyde, 1; R. Moss, 2; C. Hyde, 3; J. Parker, 4; A. Garratt, 5; S. Frost (conductor), 6. And on Sunday, May 10th, for Divine Service in the morning, a 360 of Kent Treble Bob Minor, and 360 of Oxford Treble Bob Minor, standing as before.

CAERLEON (Monmouthshire).—On Sunday, evening May 10th, for Divine Service at St. Cadoc's church, 720 Plain Bob Minor (eighteen bobs and two singles), in 24 mins. \*L. Stafford, 1; \*F. W. Weston, 2; †L. Jones, 3; \*W. Rees, 4; †F. Green, 5; †E. Davies (conductor), 6. Tenor 7½ cwt. \*First 720. †First in the method.

CHILDWALL (Lancashire).—On Wednesday, May 6th, at All Saints' church, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor, in 25 mins. G. Meadows, 1; J. R. Pritchard, 2; H. Meadows, 3; T. Hammond, 4; W. Booth (conductor), 5; E. Booth, 6. And another 720 in the same method, in 27 mins. H. Meadows, 1; J. R. Pritchard, 2; W. Booth (conductor), 3; W. Meadows, 4; T. Hammond, 5; E. Booth, 6. These 720's are the first in the method the conductor has called. Tenor 15 cwt.

GARGRAVE (Yorkshire).—On Wednesday, May 6th, at St. Andrew's church, for practice, a 720 of Bob Minor, in 27½ mins. \*James. H. Bell, 1; \*Fred. Dodgson, 2; †Tom Burrow, 3; Chas. E. Bell, 4; C. Langstroth, 5; James McGoun (conductor), 6. \*First 720. †First 720 with a bob bell. Tenor 16 cwt.

HORNSEY (Middlesex).—On Friday, May 1st, at St. Mary's church, a 720 of Plain Bob Minor, in 26½ mins. J. Ward, 1; W. H. Fussell, 2; J. Waghorn, jun., 3; G. B. Lucas, 4; T. Titchener (conductor), 5; A. Jacob, 6. And on Sunday, May 10th, for evening service, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor (with fifteen bobs), in 26 mins. J. Waghorn, sen., 1; T. Titchener, 2; J. Waghorn, jun., 3; G. B. Lucas, 4; A. Jacob, 5; J. Hannington (conductor), 6. And after service, a 720 of Plain Bob Minor (twenty bobs and ten singles), in 26½ mins. J. Ward, 1; G. B. Lucas, 2; J. Waghorn, jun., 3; J. Waghorn, sen., 4; High Barnett, 5; J. Hannington (conductor), 6. Also a 720 of Cambridge Surprise Minor, in 27 mins. E. Chapman, 1; W. H. Fussell, 2; J. Hannington, 3; T. Titchener, 4; A. Jacob, 5; G. Newson (conductor), 6. Tenor 17½ cwt.

LIVERPOOL (Lancashire).—On Tuesday, May 5th, an attempt was made to ring Brook's variation of Stedman Triples, but after ringing 2016 changes, in 1 hr. 10 mins., it came to grief. R. S. Mann, 1; J. R. Pritchard, 2; J. H. Brown, 3; W. James, 4; G. Fisher, 5; W. Davies, 6; T. Hammond (conductor), 7; R. Gowans, 8.

**LEATHERHEAD (Surrey).—Muffled Peal.**—On Thursday afternoon, May 7th, the bells were rung deeply muffled as a token of respect to the late Mr. Thomas Gadd, a member of the local company, who was buried on that day, aged 75 years; and in the evening, a quarter-peal of Bob Triples, with the bells still muffled, by the following. W. Messam, 1; H. Wood, 2; H. Newnham, 3; J. Hewett, 4; W. Marks, 5; E. Hull, 6; S. Brooker (conductor), 7; J. Lisney, 8.

**NORTHENDEN (Cheshire).**—On Sunday, May 3rd, for Divine Service, the local company rung 360 Plain Bob; and on Monday, May 4th, the local company met to celebrate an old ringer's birthday, and rung a 720 Plain Bob (sixteen bobs and two singles). W. Brickell, jun., 1; T. Brickell, 2; P. Brickell (conductor), 3; J. Wild, 4; W. Brickell, sen. (age 79), 5; S. Brickell, 6. Tenor about 18 cwt. And another 720, standing as before, with the exception of Thomas Price, who rang the 5th.

**NORTON (Derbyshire).**—On Sunday, May 10th, six members of the local company rang a 720 Oxford Treble Bob Minor, for evening service (nine bobs), in 28 mins. \*W. Lee, 1; \*H. Ward, 2; W. Biggin, 3; J. Atkin, 4; \*J. Biggin, 5; J. Allen (conductor), 6. Tenor 11½ cwt. This is the first 720 of Oxford rung by this Society for a number of years. \*First 720 in the method.

**NOTTINGHAM.**—On Tuesday evening, May 12th, at St. Mary's church, a 504 Grandsire Triples, on the back eight. W. Lee, 1; F. Bannister, 2; H. Needham, 3; S. Wilkinson, 4; J. W. Wilson, 5; H. W. Abbott (conductor), 6; E. Aldis, 7; Rev. W. W. C. Baker, 8. Tenor 34½ cwt. This is the longest touch on these bells for several years.

**ORMSKIRK (Lancashire).—Handbell Ringing.**—On Sunday, May 10th, at the residence of Mr. John Prescott, a 720 of Bob Minor, on handbells retained in hand, in 20 mins. H. Ellis, 1; J. Aspinwall (conductor), 2; J. Sholicar, 3; C. Sharples, 4; G. Prescott, 5; W. Bentham, 6. First 720 in the method by all except the conductor.

**SHEFFIELD (Yorkshire).**—On Monday, May 4th, at the church of St. John-the-Evangelist, Ranmoor, on the occasion of the marriage of Mr. G. Plant, one of the local band, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, 1260 changes, taken from Holt's Original, in 47 mins. J. Broadhead, 1; J. Goacher, 2; T. Froggatt, 3; J. A. Dixon, 4; John Mulligan, 5; S. Hinde, 6; Thomas Hattersley (conductor), 7; R. Collier, 6. Tenor 15½ cwt.

**STEBBING (Essex).**—On Monday, May 11th, at St. Mary's church, seven 6-scores, two of St. Simon's, two of Stedman Slow Course, one of Grandsire, one of Antelope, and one of Plain Bob. W. Emery, 1; E. Claydon (conductor), 2; J. T. Barker, 3; E. Hynds, 4; W. Stocks, 5. Also a 6-score of New Doubles, one of St. Clement's, and one of St. Dunstan's. A. Barker, 1; H. Gowers, 2; E. Claydon (conductor), 3; E. Hynds, 4; J. T. Barker, 5. And one 6-score of St. Simon's, one of Stedman Slow Course, and one of Antelope. E. E. Claydon (conductor), 1; H. Gowers, 2; W. Stock, 3; E. Hynds, 4; J. T. Barker, 5.

**PEVENSEY (Sussex).**—On Saturday, May 2nd, several members of the Christ Church, All Saints' and St. Mary's societies, Eastbourne, visited this place with the intention of trying a 720 of Minor on their fine peal of six bells, tenor 9 cwt., but one of the members not putting in an appearance they rang four 6-scores of Doubles, each called differently. James Holter, 1; Charles Harfey, 2; Horace Colbran, 3; Thomas Willoughby (conductor), 4; Thomas Lewes, 5; Edward Willoughby, 6. Our correspondent adds:—"I am glad to say we found a band very anxious to learn and received us with a reception that, unfortunately, change-ringers do not very often meet with when they visit a tower where there is nothing but rounds practised."

**WALTON-ON-THE-HILL (Lancashire).**—On Tuesday evening, April 28th, at St. Mary's church, 120 College Single Minor (four bobs). On Saturday evening, May 2nd, 360 in the same method (nine bobs), and a 720 in the same method (eighteen bobs and two singles), in 25½ mins. On Sunday morning, for Divine Service, 720 Grandsire Minor (thirty-four bobs and two singles), in 26½ mins.; and in the evening a 720 of Plain Bob Minor (eighteen bobs and two singles), in 25 mins. J. Hurst, 1; C. J. Rodgers, 2; T. R. Somerville, 3; T. Rushton, 4; R. Stockley, 5; C. E. Wilson (conductor), 6. Tenor 10 cwt. This is the first 720 of College Single by all the band.

**WOMBURN (Staffordshire).**—On Sunday, May 3rd, for Divine Service in the morning, a 360 of Bob Minor (with nine bobs). A. Little, 1; J. Fullwood, 2; W. R. Small, 3; W. Devey, 4; R. Cartwright (conductor), 5; J. E. Claridge, 6. Tenor about 14 cwt.

**THE "JOHN NELMS" TESTIMONIAL FUND.**—This fund will be closed on May 23rd, and any donations intended to be sent should be forwarded on or before that date to Mr. D. Lovett, Hon. Sec. to the fund.

## DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

A General Meeting will be held on Monday, May 25th (Whit-Monday), at South Church. The bells of St. Andrew's Church, a peal of eight, tenor 11½ cwt., will be at the disposal of the ringers.

A Dinner will be provided in the School-room at two o'clock. Dinner Tickets 1s. to members, and 2s. 6d. to non-members, should be applied for not later than Monday, May 18th, to the Secretary.

A meeting of the Committee will be held at the School-house, at one o'clock.

Members whose subscriptions are still due are requested to forward the same to the Secretary.

C. J. CLARKSON, Hon. Sec.  
Post Office Chambers, Stockton-on-Tees.

## THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

THE ANNUAL MEETING will be held at Chelmsford, on Whit-Monday, May 25th. Divine Service in the parish church at 12.30. The Sermon will be preached by the Ven. Archdeacon Johnson. Dinner in the charity school at 1.30. Business Meeting immediately after the dinner.

Dinner tickets may be obtained from the Secretary at 1s. each up to May 18th; after that date at 2s. each. Return tickets at a single fare and a quarter will be issued by the G.E.R. to members of the Association, provided that they inform the Secretary before May 18th, from what station they intend to travel; and shew at the booking office their E.A.C.R. receipts for the present year.

The following belfries will be open to members from 9.30 to 11.30 a.m., and from 4 to 8 p.m. Galleywood (eight bells); Widford (six bells); Springfield (six bells). Writtle (eight bells) will be open from 4 to 8 p.m. The charity school will be open for handbell ringing throughout the day.

H. A. COCKEY,  
Rayleigh, S.O., Essex.

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 SURPRISE PEALS.

SIR.—About ten years ago I contributed to your contemporary, *Church Bells*, a series of articles on the different lengths of noteworthy peals known to have been rung in the various standard methods. Although I am much averse to wearying your readers by vain repetitions, it has been represented to me that the republication in your columns of the articles I then wrote on the Surprise peals would interest many ringers who have not seen the original articles, more especially as Superlative Surprise has recently received a good deal of attention. I purpose, therefore, should you be able to find room for the same, to revise the descriptions I then wrote, and also accompany the same with collections of peals in the Superlative, Cambridge, and London Surprise variations, and, if thought sufficiently interesting, also to reproduce the articles on the proof of these methods. I shall, therefore, be glad to receive copies of any original peals which any one may possess, so that they may be published in these collections.

Ivy Terrace, Wortley, Leeds.

JASPER W. SNOWDON.

## FIRST PEAL AT EAST HAGBORNE, BERKS.

SIR.—In your issue of May 9th, is reported a peal of Grandsire Triples rung at East Hagbourne, Berks, which is stated to be the first peal supposed to have been accomplished on the bells. At the request of several members of the Oxford Society of change-ringers, I herewith forward copy of peal from our peal-book rang in the year 1772:—"Oxford Society of Change Ringers. East Hagbourne, Berkshire. April 21st, 1772, a peal of Bob Major, containing 5040 changes, in 3 hrs. 20 mins. T. Chiddington, Treble; P. Smith, 2nd; Thomas Binks, 3rd; H. Geely, 4th; J. Curtis, 5th; J. Baker, 6th; J. Scarsbrook, 7; S. Walker, Tenor. Conducted by J. Baker."

## THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

NOTICE is hereby given that the first annual general meeting of the above Association, will be held on Thursday, May 21st, at Brighton. A special service will be held at St. Peter's, the parish church, and a short address delivered by the Ven. Archdeacon of Lewes, at 12 o'clock. High tea at Page's restaurant, St. James Street, at 4.30. Tickets half price, 9d. each, if secured previous to Tuesday, May 19th. Business meeting at the Royal Pavilion at 5.30. Ringing will commence at St. Peter's Church at 11 o'clock, and at St. Nicholas Church, immediately after the special service, about 1.15. GEO. F. ATTREE,

Hon. Sec.



## BELLS AND RINGERS IN 1885.

By F. W. J. REES.

## INTRODUCTION.

It is probable that there never was a body of men with a common object who were, until a few years ago, so thoroughly "decentralised" as ringers. Each local band was entirely engrossed with its own doings, or with the achievements of some neighbouring company with whom they had a rivalry, friendly or otherwise (generally otherwise). On instance is enough to prove this. The fact that the Norwich ringers had succeeded in ringing the first true and complete peal of Grandsire Triples as early as 1718, was not generally known to the Exercise until more than 160 years had elapsed.

Such a state of things led to constant disappointments. A company would practise for a "longest length," and after ringing the peal they had proposed to themselves, and putting up a peal-board to commemorate the event, would discover (or fail to discover) that another band had, a few months earlier, rung a peal exceeding the length of their own by one or two leads. Of course such a thing could not happen now-a-days, but the disadvantages of the old system still survive, inasmuch as no single person knows all that has been done in the way of change-ringing, and as there are no books from which complete knowledge on the subject can be acquired, the enquirer must compile his facts from old peal-boards and other local records.

It was in the hope of helping future enquirers that I drew up the "Chronology of Change-ringing," which appeared in "THE BELL NEWS" last year. No one was more thoroughly aware than myself how very incomplete it was; but I sent it as a beginning, and trusted (and still trust) that others, more favourably placed for such a task than I am, will supplement it by further contributions of a similar kind, until a fairly complete history of change-ringing has been compiled.

My present aim is much less ambitious. I wish to draw up (in as complete and accurate shape as possible), lists of the rings of six and upwards in each county, with brief notes of the present position of change-ringing appended to each list. Even this simple task I cannot do without assistance. In most cases my lists will be found to be incomplete: but I trust that, as each list appears, the secretaries of county Associations and other gentlemen with local knowledge will (as they are hereby earnestly requested to do), send to "THE BELL NEWS" the details necessary to make the lists complete. I can think of no other means by which such lists as I wish for can be compiled within a reasonable time.

My lists will be drawn up in five columns: in the first column will be given the name of the town and church; in the second, the number of bells; in the third, the weight of the tenor, when known; in the fourth, the methods practised by the local company. In this column the following abbreviations will be used: B for Plain Bob; T.B. for Treble Bob; G for Grandsire; and St. for Stedman. In the last column will be found remarks about some of the rings. These are of necessity very short. For instance, the word "Whitechapel" means that the ring came from the celebrated foundry so long located in Whitechapel.

## LIST OF RINGS IN THE COUNTY OF NORFOLK.

Norwich S. Peter ..	12 .. 41 ..	G. St. T.B...	Whitechapel, 1775.
Alysham .. .. .	10 .. 20 ..	B. T.B. ..	Made-up ring.
Norwich, S. Andrew ..	10 .. 18 ..		Made 10 in 1825.
Yarmouth .. .. .	10 .. 30 ..	G. ..	Whitechapel, 1833.
Alburgh .. .. .	8 .. 11 ..	G. B. T.B...	6 and 8 very old bells.
Diss .. .. .	8 .. 24 ..	Various. ..	Downham Foundry, 1832.
Downham .. .. .	8 .. 12 ..	B. ..	A made-up ring.
East Dereham .. ..	8 .. 24 ..	G. St. T.B...	Whitechapel, 1753.

Elmham .. .. .	8 .. 20 ..	B. T.B. ..	By Malloes, Dereham, 1757.
Fakenham .. .. .	8 .. 20 ..		A made-up ring.
Hilgay .. .. .	8 .. 17 ..		Downham Foundry.
Hingham .. .. .	8 .. 18 ..	B. ..	A made-up ring.
Kenninghall .. ..	8 .. 16 ..	G. St. T.B...	" "
Loddon .. .. .	8 .. 11 ..		" "
Lynn S. Margaret ..	8 .. 30 ..	B. T.B. ..	Whitechapel, 1766.
Lynn S. Nicholas ..	8 .. 20 ..	B. T.B. ..	
Marsham .. .. .	8 .. 7½ ..	T.B. ..	Trebles-added, 1842.
Norwich, S. Giles ..	8 .. 15 ..		Old tenor has been recast.
Norwich, S. Michael ..	8 .. 14 ..		5, 6, 7 & 8, old bells.
Northwold .. .. .	8 .. 16 ..		Made 8 about 1872.
Swaffham .. .. .	8 .. 18 ..	B. ..	3, 4, 6, 7, 8 by Miles Graye.
Stow-Bardolph .. ..	8 .. 11 ..		Trebles by Warner, 1873.
Thetford .. .. .	8 .. 19 ..		Downham Foundry, 1790.
Tofts (West) .. ..	8 .. 12 ..		Made eight by Revd. Augustus Sutton.
Tunstead .. .. .	8 .. 11 ..	B. T.B. ..	Made eight by the late Rev. G. Harris.
Redenhall .. .. .	8 .. 24 ..	Various. ..	A fine made-up ring.

A ring of eight at Wells, tenor 13 cwt., destroyed by fire in 1879.

(To be continued.)

## ROMFORD, ESSEX.

It is announced that Mrs. O. E. Coope, of Rochetts, Brentwood, has presented a munificent gift to the Rev. Canon Hitchcock for church work in St. Edward's parish, Romford. She has given a sum of £500 to be appropriated as under:—£300 for the Mission Chapel to be built at Collier Row, and £200 for the choir vestry to be added to the parish church. In connection with this benefaction, a meeting was held at Romford on Monday evening, and was fairly well attended. Canon Hitchcock, who presided, pointed out the necessity of erecting a choir vestry, and of making various improvements in the organ. The rev. gentleman suggested that a committee should be formed for carrying both out, and proceeded to remark that there was another important improvement required at the church, he referred to a complete restoration of the bells and belfry. Recently the tower was described as a "slaughter house," and upon inquiry, he found there really was something in it, for the bells had been neglected for a number of years, consequently everything now was in a dilapidated condition. If a committee were appointed to carry out the erection of the choir vestry, and the improvements in the organ, he thought they might also undertake the restoration of the belfry. After a short discussion, a committee was appointed to carry out the erection of the proposed choir vestry. One of the churchwardens suggested that the committee should also appeal for funds on behalf of the organ improvement fund, whereupon Canon Hitchcock suggested one fund should be opened for all three improvements, and that when the committee had completed the choir vestry and organ, they should turn their attention to the belfry. Upon a proposition by Mr. Landon, seconded by Mr. Phillips, this was agreed to. The chairman having stated that it was estimated that about £500 would be required to carry out all three improvements, in addition to the £200 given by Mrs. Coope, a subscription list was opened, the rev. chairman heading the same with £50. Several handsome sums were quickly forthcoming, and in about ten minutes the chairman announced the total amount was £215. We offer our hearty congratulations to the Rev. Canon Hitchcock, and to our friends at Romford, for having at last driven in the thin end of the wedge of belfry restoration so long needed. We would urge the rev. gentleman and those who are upon the committee to leave no stone unturned till the whole tower is thoroughly restored. Especially would we recommend them to carefully guard against any attempt of doing the work in a patchwork fashion, or by piece-meal. Having recently given our experience of ringing at Romford, it is unnecessary to repeat it, but we may safely affirm that the condition of the bells, and the whole of the appliances is such, that restoration would not prove satisfactory unless the bells pass through the hands of the founders, and the interior of the tower remodelled under the personal superintendence of an experienced professional bell-hanger. The instinct of the movement is no doubt due to the fact that the Essex Association recently held a district meeting at Romford. In such a town, with a population of 10,000, we look upon it as an impossibility to lack for want of funds, and if finally we have to report—which we trust we may have to do at no distant period—the reopening of the bells, the Essex Association will be enabled to mark an important epoch in its history.



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Total Funds	£3,148,166
Total Annual Income	343,271
Amount of Profits divided at the last Quinquennial Bonus	437,347

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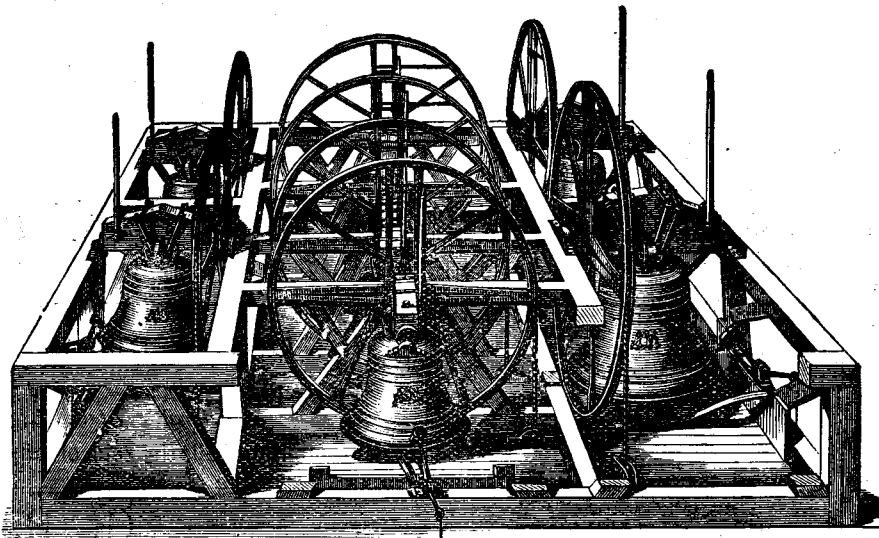
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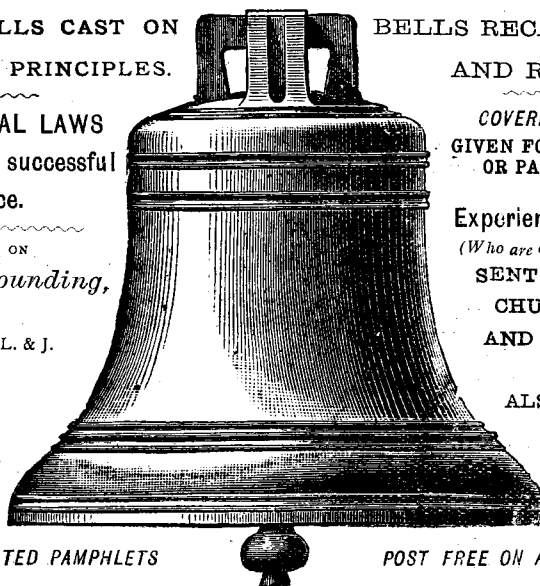
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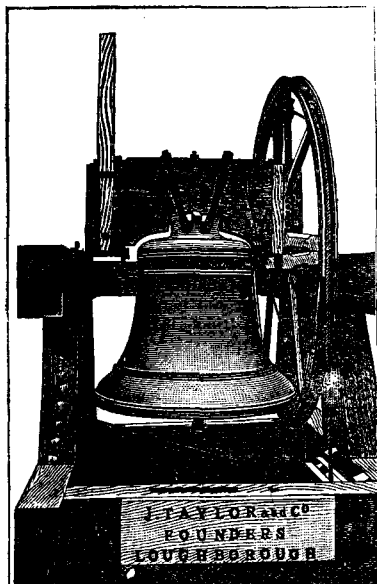
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SATURDAY, MAY 23, 1885.

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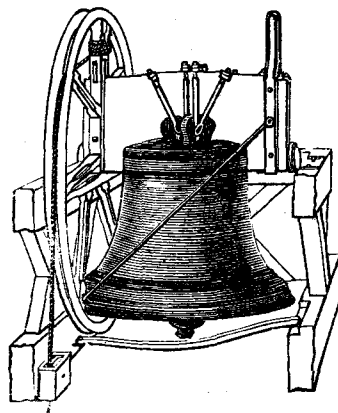
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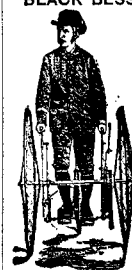
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## UP IN THE CLOUDS.

DARJEELING, the sanitarium of Bengal, is situated on a fine spur of one of the Lower Himalayan ranges. In 1828, the officers who at that time were settling the boundary between Nepal and Sikkim, observed how well suited the place was for a sanitarium; in 1835 the Rajah of Sikkim, in consideration of an annual payment, conveyed Darjeeling to the East India Company.

The highest point of the spur lies to the south, and here is the convalescent depot for soldiers at Jellapahar, about 8500 feet above the sea. Below this is St. Paul's school for boys, and the ridge then slopes down to the Mall, rises again towards the church, and making a bend to the west, terminates in Birch Hill. The whole length of this ridge is about five miles: its summit and western face is thickly dotted with pretty little houses standing in well-wooded grounds. The eastern face is almost a precipice, down into the Rungeet valley, several thousands of feet below.

The "bazaar," or market-place, occupies the centre of a basin on the west side of the spur, some 600 feet below the average height of the ridge.

The mode of reaching Darjeeling deserves a word of notice. The steam-tramway, with a gauge of only two feet, is probably the greatest marvel of engineering skill in the world. Leaving the plains at a place called Sukna, the little toy-like train winds like a snake up a zig-zag road on a kind of shelf, with a wall of rock on one side and a tremendous precipice on the other. The engines, although small, are very powerful, the gradient being sometimes as much as 1 in 17. After ascending for thirty-five miles the highest point is reached at Ghoom, which is nearly 8000 feet above the sea, and then the train descends gradually about 5000 feet in four miles, until the terminus is found in the Darjeeling bazaar.

The climate of Darjeeling is decidedly moist, the average annual rainfall being upwards of 115 inches, the station is often enveloped in clouds, and then the whole landscape is blotted out, and objects one yard distant become invisible. But after a heavy fall of rain the air will suddenly clear, and the most glorious panorama will be revealed of the grand snowy range. This begins in the north-west, and extends through north to nearly north-east, some of the most remarkable peaks are—1. Janu, in Nepal, 25,000 feet high, and forty-six miles from Darjeeling; 2. Kabru, 24,015 feet high and forty miles distant; 3. Kanchinjinga, 28,156 feet high and forty-five miles away; 4. Pandim, 22,017 feet high, and thirty-six miles distant; and Chomiamo, 23,300 feet high and seventy miles away. Further to the north-east are the snowy peaks of Bhootan. Between the mountains there is a continuous stretch of snow, and the whole scene is one which it is impossible to describe in words, nor can any painting do it justice. These gigantic peaks, really so far away, seem to be quite near, and they produce a feeling of awe towards their great Creator exceeding that caused by any sight I have ever seen. The whole arc of the snowy range is only seen under particularly favorable circumstances, but on most fine days, in the morning, the mighty peak of Kanchinjinga is visible. This is surpassed in height by Mount Everest only, the latter being more than 29,000 feet high. This supreme peak is eighty miles west of Darjeeling, and is concealed by some intermediate ranges. By going to Sinchul, some six miles off, and ascending "Tiger Hill" (about 10,000 feet above the sea), a view of Mount Everest is obtained.

The church of Darjeeling, dedicated to St. Andrew, is a plain building, which will accommodate some 400 worshippers. On the south side has lately been erected a handsome campanile, with a spire, in all about eighty-five feet high, presenting a general resemblance to the tower and spire of Penge church, Surrey. Ascending to the first floor of this edifice, I found a machine like an enormous coffee mill, by which changes are ground out of five very fine and strong-toned bells above. This part of the machinery has got somewhat out of order, and the chimes are not now quite satisfactory. They are a good imitation of very bad striking, and as the leads are no longer open, I was unable with my best attention to make out in what method the chimes were being rung.

On the second floor is a magnificent clock, and above, on the third floor, are the five bells. These are fixed, and are struck by outside hammers, and have no clappers. At first a ringer is

inclined to regret this arrangement, but he must admit that the extra cost of hanging five bells "on the sally" would have been money thrown away, for there is no chance that bells in Darjeeling would ever be "rung up."

And here I must notice a most peculiar effect, which I attribute to the position of the church, with a valley thousands of feet deep in front, and the observatory hill (for a vast sounding-board) at the back. The effect to which I allude is, that when there is a breeze (as is generally the case up here) the chiming of the bells sounds exactly as if they were being rung. If I had not known that the bells were fixed, I should have declared that some kind of change-ringing was practised at Darjeeling. The bells, which are of excellent quality, were, I believe, supplied by Messrs. Warner and Sons; the tenor is about 38 inches in diameter, and its note is G. The latest addition to the furniture of the church is a very sweet organ, by Willis, of London.

The chief industry of the district is tea-planting. Darjeeling is surrounded on all sides by tea-gardens, where the tea-plants are growing on the terraced slopes of the hills. The cultivation of cinchona and the manufacture of the alkaloid febrifuge is the other important industry of this part of the world.

The natives belong to various hill tribes, and in appearance and disposition are very different from the inhabitants of the plains, being broad-chested and muscular, and of a merry and jovial temperament; they are the dirtiest people you can find, and when they "come between the wind and your nobility" the result is anything but pleasant. They have the Mongolian type of features, and look as if their faces had been sat upon in early infancy.

F. W. J. REES.

## COGGESHALL, ESSEX.

THIS little Essex town, situate almost midway between Chelmsford and Colchester, is probably known to many of our readers in the Eastern Counties, owing chiefly to the witless faculties that its inhabitants were once credited with. In the present day, the church authorities has set a noble example which many towns containing far more wealthy inhabitants might do well to follow. The parish church is a fine building in the Perpendicular style, with chancel and chancel aisles, nave and aisles, and a tower containing eight bells. Some few years ago its sitting arrangements consisted of the old country huge sleeping boxes with massive galleries. During the incumbency of the late lamented vicar (the Rev. J. W. Dampier), the whole of the noble edifice assumed an entirely new aspect, and it is doubtful if the beauty of the interior does not exceed that of any other church in the county. We will not take the reader through the whole of the various improvements made, but it has been estimated that £15,000 has been spent upon its restoration within twenty years. For some years the tower had exhibited a flaw, but no danger was apprehended. The rev. gentleman referred to above had a desire for an octave ring in the place of the six which were then in the tower. Accordingly a notice was issued that the tower was unsafe, and ringing forbidden. Notwithstanding the large amount raised for church work in the parish, the inhabitants could not put up with the loss of the sound of the bells, and it was not long before subscriptions were forthcoming, and what with funds realized from concerts and such like, the tower was restored, the bells rehung, with provision for two trebles, which after a brief interval made their welcome appearance. Unfortunately, the earthquake (or whatever scientific men may choose to term it), which did so much damage in the Eastern Counties last year, seriously affected the tower, and to the regret of many members of the Exercise, ringing had again to be suspended in a tower which so far as the go of the bells and the condition of the appliances is concerned, is unsurpassed. It is satisfactory to learn however, that ringing will not much longer remain in abeyance. It will be seen from the following paragraph from one of the county papers, that the work of restoration is again going on. We congratulate members of the Exercise in the locality upon the fact that they will shortly have a opportunity of practising upon such a noble ring of eight, and would advise all who have the work of belfry restoration in hand to take a pattern from the tenacious zeal displayed by those who have undertaken church work at Coggeshall, a parish containing a population of 3000 and a vicarage of the yearly value of £240. "The work of restoration is now going forward with all dispatch. The parapet has been taken down, in order to be rebuilt in a more substantial manner. The tower itself has been strengthened by several courses of iron bands, which has been built into it, and all loose rubble has been taken out, and is being replaced. The face of the south-west buttress has been rebuilt. When all is completed, the tower will, we venture to say, be stronger than when its builders of the fifteenth century left it."

# RAUNDS, WELLINGBOROUGH, AND DISTRICT SOCIETY. MEETING AT FINEDON.

THE Annual Meeting of the above Society was held at the church of St. Mary, Finedon, on Monday, May 11th. There was a large gathering of ringers. Teams from Burton Latimer, Higham Ferrers, Ringstead, Rushden, and Raunds rang touches in various methods during the day. The local ringers, with Mr. Churchwarden Henson leading, raised the bells in the early morning, and fell them again at the close of the day. Through the exertions of the energetic Hon. Secretary, the Rev. Hugh Bryan, of Raunds, this Society is now exercising considerable influence in the district, and has done much to raise the tone of both ringers and ringing. A bright day, a beautiful well-ordered church, a musical peal of bells, and the privilege of strolling in the grounds of Finedon Hall, all tended to render the day a most pleasant one. The Rev. G. W. Paul, Vicar, made the visitors most welcome, and spent some little time in the belfry. The following were present during the day: the Rev. Canon Barker (Rushden), Rev. Newman (Burton Latimer), Rev. Sanford (Ringstead), Rev. Baker (Hargrave), Rev. Bryan (Raunds), Rev. Leadbitter (Finedon), Revs. Pooley and Hildebrand, and Mr. E. J. Dennes (Wellingboro'), also Messrs. Henson and Meadows, churchwardens. There was a bright, hearty service in the church in the morning, with an appropriate and practical sermon by Rev. G. W. Paul. Luncheon was provided at the Star Coffee House, to which sixty-three sat down. The spread gave every satisfaction. Next came the business meeting. Twenty new members were proposed and admitted. The society now numbers seventy performing members, and has a balance of £9 in hand. The Vicar of Finedon, in an interesting and instructive address, gave the ringers much good advice, spoke of his long connection with belfries and bells, alluding to ancestors of his who had been ringers in the earlier days of the art. He trusted that ringers would endeavour to be church workers as well as church officials, and suggested the advisability of drawing up a sample set of rules for use in all the belfries connected with the Association. The Rev. Dolben Paul (Secretary of the Oxford Diocesan Guild), wrote regretting his absence from the meeting, and desiring to be kindly remembered to Mr. Wallis, and other old ringing friends at Finedon, where he first learned to manage a bell. A committee was formed to consider the matter of uniform rules. The question of instructors was also discussed; the general feeling of the meeting being in favour of employing competent local ringers, in preference to men from a distance. It was decided that the next meeting be held at Higham Ferrers, providing the bells there were in ringable condition. Hearty votes of thanks were accorded to the Rev. G. W. Paul, for use of the church and bells; to Mrs. Mackworth Dolben, for so kindly opening her grounds; and to the hon. secretary.

There are six bells in the tower of Finedon Church. They were re-cast by Taylor in 1825; but the tenor (a bad bell), weighing 19 cwt., was again re-cast by the same founders in 1875. It now weighs 24 cwt., and is well known for its rich, mellow tone, though considered somewhat too powerful for the front bells. Why not add two trebles and make a bright, handy ring of eight? The idea was mooted among the members, and seemed to meet with general favour, though we should think that to add four more bells, making a nice handy ring of ten, would be still better.

## FESTIVITY AT READING.

On Monday evening last, May 18th, a very interesting meeting of ringers took place at the Wheatsheaf Hotel, where, by the kind invitation of Mr. W. Newell, about forty-six members of the art from the several towers in Reading and neighbourhood, sat down to a capital repast, provided by Host Gosling. Mr. Newell presided, and was supported by the Rev. W. Banting, curate of St. Lawrence. After the repast, Mr. Newell explained that the object of the invitation was to fulfil an old promise of his to the members of one or two of the towers in Reading, and he thought it would be a good idea to invite the whole of the ringers in Reading and the vicinity, and thereby encourage a more friendly spirit between the members of the various towers. Nearly all the members invited were present, and a most enjoyable evening was spent. Several capital songs and glees were sung, and the Royal Berks Handbell Ringers played several selections on their splendid set of bells in first-rate style. The meeting was brought to a close with a hearty vote of thanks to Mr. Newell for his kindness, proposed by Mr. Johnson, which was accorded with musical honours, and the company separated after singing the National Anthem.

## THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION OF SIX-BELL RINGERS.

THE ANNUAL MEETING of the above Association will be held at Accrington, on Whit-Saturday, May 30th, the bells of St. James's church, will be open for ringing from one o'clock, tea in St. James's school, at four o'clock. After which the General Meeting will be held.

JAMES HIGSON, Hon. Sec.

## ST. MICHAEL AND ALL ANGELS, WALTHAMSTOW.

ON Wednesday last, May 20th, Mrs. Gladstone, wife of the Premier, laid the foundation-stone of the Sunday Schools in connection with the church (now building) of St. Michael and All Angels, Walthamstow. Many of the congregation who are awaiting the completion of the church attended, and a company of the local rifle corps turned out as a guard of honour to the distinguished lady. The church of St. Michael, when completed, will owe its erection to the exertions of the Rev. Edmund Ibbotson, the Vicar-elect, who is working incessantly for the object of providing the much-wanted church accommodation in such a populous district as Walthamstow is rapidly becoming. The plan of the new church includes a tower and spire, and we hope at no very distant period to have the pleasure of informing our readers that the tower contains a ring of bells in good going order. Meanwhile contributions are urgently required for the completion of so good a work, and we respectfully invite every one of our readers to help, by any small or large donation, the work in hand. Subscriptions in aid of the church fund may be sent to the Rev. E. Ibbotson, Walthamstow.

## CHESHAM BOIS, BUCKS.

A large new clock has just been erected at Chesham Bois Church, Buckinghamshire, by John Smith and Sons, Midland Steam Clock Works, Derby. It is fitted with all the most recent improvements brought out by this well-known firm, and is guaranteed not to vary more than fifteen seconds a month. The same firm are making large clocks with chiming machinery for Beaconsfield Church, and for Winslow Church in the same county.

## ST. MARGARET'S SOCIETY, WESTMINSTER.

ON their practice night, Tuesday May 19th, the following members of the above Society rang at the parish church, a half-muffled peal, the usual whole pull and stand, as a tribute of respect to the memory of the late Mr. B. Heinemann, a well known and much respected parishioner. Mr. A. Heinemann, son of the above and a member of the society, attended expressly for the purpose of acknowledging for himself and for the family generally, this token of respect for the deceased gentleman. J. J. Scowen, 1; G. Genner, 2; E. Farrar, 3; E. Rushen, 4; F. Salter, 5; A. J. Rumbold, 6; R. Brealey, 7; A. Langdon, 8; W. Shapland, 9; S. Smith, 10.

## BIRMINGHAM AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATION.

ON Saturday, May 16th, the above Association held a Quarterly Meeting at Sutton Coldfield. Members were present from Birmingham, Aston, West Bromwich, Moseley, Sutton Coldfield, and Erdington, some travelling by Midland, others by London and North Western railways, whilst a few availing themselves of the beautiful weather, walked from Birmingham, some four or five miles through some of the pleasantest districts in the vicinity of Birmingham. It was late before ringing commenced, on the fine peal of eight bells, which were rehung last year by Messrs. Taylor of Loughborough, and which have given so much satisfaction, the go of the bells being all that could be desired, and the tone, too, is also rich and musical, reflecting not only great credit on the style of hanging, but also of the quality of the bells, some of which were recast by Messrs. Taylor. After several touches, including Grandsire Triples and Major, Stedman Triples, and Bob Major, the whole party adjourned to the club house and transacted the ordinary business, after which the handbells of the Sutton Branch were brought into requisition. Touches of Triples and Caters, interspersed with tunes, were rendered, where after a very half-day's outing, the various companies betook themselves to their trains, most of which returned to Birmingham by the 10.45, L.N.W., but not till having passed a hearty vote of thanks to the Vicar and churchwardens, and also to the Sutton ringers who gave up their practice night for the use of the Association. The next Annual Meeting will be held at Birmingham.

## DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

A General Meeting will be held on Monday, May 25th (Whit-Monday), at South Church. The bells of St. Andrew's Church, a peal of eight, tenor 11½ cwt., will be at the disposal of the ringers.

A Dinner will be provided in the School-room at two o'clock. Dinner Tickets 1s. to members, and 2s. 6d. to non-members, should be applied for not later than Monday, May 18th, to the Secretary.

A meeting of the Committee will be held at the School-house, at one o'clock.

Members whose subscriptions are still due are requested to forward the same to the Secretary.

C. J. CLARKSON, Hon. Sec.

Post Office Chambers, Stockton-on-Tees.



## A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE MAJOR.

5024.

By JOHN CARTER, *Birmingham.*

2 3 4 5 6	
4 5 3 2 6	8th in two.
5 4 3 2 6	7th in three.
4 3 5 2 6	H.
3 5 4 2 6	H.
5 3 4 2 6	7th in three.
3 4 5 2 6	H.
5 2 4 3 6	8th in two.
2 5 4 3 6	7th in three.
5 4 2 3 6	H.
4 2 5 3 6	H.
2 4 5 3 6	7th in three.
4 5 2 3 6	H.
2 3 5 4 6	8th in two.
3 2 5 4 6	7th in three.
2 5 3 4 6	H.
5 3 2 4 6	H.
3 5 2 4 6	7th in three.
5 2 3 4 6	H.
6 5 2 4 3	7th in two.
2 4 5 6 3	8th in two.
3 2 4 6 5	7th in two.
2 3 4 6 5	7th in three.
5 2 3 6 4	7th in two.
4 5 2 6 3	7th in two.
3 4 5 6 2	7th in two.
4 3 5 6 2	7th in three.
2 4 3 6 5	7th in two.
5 2 4 6 3	7th in two.
2 5 4 6 3	7th in three.
3 2 5 6 4	7th in two.
2 3 5 6 4	7th in three.
4 2 3 6 5	7th in two.
5 4 2 6 3	7th in two.
3 5 4 6 2	7th in two.
5 3 4 6 2	7th in three.
2 5 3 6 4	7th in two.
4 2 5 6 3	7th in two.
3 4 2 6 5	7th in two.
4 3 2 6 5	7th in three.
5 4 3 6 2	7th in two.
4 5 3 6 2	7th in three.
3 5 2 6 4	M.
5 3 2 6 4	7th in three.
2 6 3 5 4	8th in two.
6 2 3 5 4	7th in three.
3 2 4 5 6	M.
6 3 2 5 4	7th in two.
3 6 2 5 4	7th in three.
4 3 6 5 2	7th in two.
2 4 3 5 6	7th in two.
6 2 4 5 3	7th in two.
2 6 4 5 3	7th in three.
3 2 6 5 4	7th in two.
4 3 2 5 6	7th in two.
6 4 3 5 2	7th in two.
4 6 3 5 2	7th in three.
2 4 6 5 3	7th in two.
4 2 6 5 3	7th in three.
3 4 2 5 6	7th in two.
6 3 4 5 2	7th in two.
3 6 4 5 2	7th in three.
2 3 6 5 4	7th in two.
4 2 3 5 6	7th in two.
6 4 2 5 3	7th in two.
4 6 2 5 3	7th in three.
3 4 6 5 2	7th in two.
2 3 4 5 6	7th in two.

The above contains the 6th twenty-four times wrong and right, 5th twenty-four times right, with all the 8-5-7's, 8-6-7's, and 6-7-8's.

## A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR.

5216.

By A. KNIGHTS, *Chesterfield.*

2 3 4 5 6 W B M H

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

Repeated. The 5th and 6th twelve times wrong and right.

## A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR.

5024.

By JOHN J. BRIERLEY, *Saddleworth.*

2 3 4 5 6 B W H

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

Repeated, produces:-

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

## A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR.

5120.

By CHARLES PRICE, *Eccleston.*

2 3 4 5 6 M B W H

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

## A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR.

5120.

By THOMAS FARROW, *Pulham Market.*

2 3 4 5 6 M B W H

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

Five times repeated.

## A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR.

5120.

By W. R. SMITH, *College Youths.*

2 3 4 5 6 M B W H

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

## A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR.

6608.

By H. W. HALEY, *College Youths.*

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

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

This is the greatest number of changes ever produced in this method with the tenors together with bobs only.

The peal of Grandsire Major by Matthew Pailthorpe, of Stalybridge, published in our issue for May 2nd, is false.

The Bishop of Lincoln was enthroned in the Cathedral on Wednesday, May 20th. The Mayor and Corporation met the Bishop at the Sub-Deanery, and accompanied him to the Minster, passing through the 3rd battalion of the Lincolnshire regiment.

## THE SHIPWAY REPRINT.

THE issue of this work in penny numbers will shortly be commenced. Our country friends, who have prevailed upon us to issue it in this form, can have copies from local newsagents at the same time they get their "BELL NEWS." Care must be taken in ordering, and local booksellers should be informed of the importance of attending to all orders for these weekly numbers, because a reprint is out of the question. We again give notice that whoever is negligent enough to miss this opportunity of getting SHIPWAY on such easy terms, will probably never again have the chance of doing so. We lay great stress upon this fact. There has always been a great demand for our Christmas numbers when it is too late, and after we have commenced this weekly re-issue we shall be very sorry to hear of any one being disappointed in this publication. The book will be printed in a popular style, upon good paper, and when finished will be found worthy of admittance into any library. We hope the efforts made to bring it out in this shape will meet with a commensurate support from all our friends, and perhaps we can rely upon those who have pressed upon us to publish it in this form, to urge their ringing acquaintance to become possessors of copies of every number. The various prefaces of the author will be issued when each part is complete.

Subscribers' complete copies will be ready about the time we have previously indicated.

"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 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 &amp; Ringers' Record.

SATURDAY, MAY 23, 1885.

## The Provinces.

WEST MALLING, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Wednesday, May 13, 1885, in Three Hours and Fourteen Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S SIX-PART. Tenor 12½ cwt. in G.

DAVID HALL .. .. .	Treble.	GEORGE PAWLEY .. .. .	5.
CALEB PAYNE .. .. .	2.	†JAMES W. LEONARD .. .. .	6.
ALFRED H. WOOLLEY .. .. .	3.	*ALCHIN MOORCRAFT .. .. .	7.
EDWARD BALDOCK* .. .. .	4.	GEORGE J. MOORCRAFT .. .. .	Tenor.

Conducted by ALCHIN MOORCRAFT.

\*College Youths. †First peal of Triples with a bob bell.

## CHELTENHAM.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION AND THE CHELTENHAM SOCIETY.

On Thursday, May 14, 1885, in Three Hours and Twenty-Eight Minutes,

AT ST. MARY'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor 23 cwt.

JOHN BELCHER .. .. .	Treble.	T. HOOPER .. .. .	6.
G. H. PHILLIOTT, Esq. .. .. .	2.	F. MUSTY .. .. .	7.
H. HODGES .. .. .	3.	H. KARN .. .. .	8.
F. E. WARD, Esq. .. .. .	4.	G. ACOCKS .. .. .	9.
W. MORRIS (AGED 75) .. .. .	5.	A. HUMPHRIES (AGED 20) .. .. .	Tenor.

Conducted by JOHN BELCHER.

The above was rung on the occasion of the mustering of the Royal Gloucestershire Hussars for their annual drill. And is the longest length on the bells since the rehanging of the tenor by Messrs. Moore, Holmes, and Mackenzie.

LEEDS, KENT.—THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Sunday, May 15, 1885, in Three Hours and Fifty-five Minutes,

AT ST. NICHOLAS' CHURCH,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 6048 CHANGES;

Tenor 20 cwt.

R. SIMMONDS* .. .. .	Treble.	A. H. WOOLLEY .. .. .	5.
G. PAWLEY .. .. .	2.	*W. H. JUDD .. .. .	6.
A. MOORCRAFT* .. .. .	3.	*S. SNELLING .. .. .	7.
J. M. COOPER* .. .. .	4.	*H. PEARCE .. .. .	Tenor.

Conducted by H. PEARCE.

\*College Youths. Messrs. Cooper, Judd, and Snelling hail from Sittingbourne; the rest from Maidstone.

SHIPLEY.—THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, May 16, 1885, in Three Hours and Six Minutes,

AT ST. PAUL'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 15½ cwt.

JAMES ANGUS .. .. .	Treble.	SIMON LANGSTAFF .. .. .	5.
EZRA KEIGHLEY .. .. .	2.	*JOSEPH H. HARDCASTLE .. .. .	6.
BENJAMIN A. DODSON .. .. .	3.	GEORGE BOLLAND .. .. .	7.
WILLIAM BOLLAND .. .. .	4.	JOHN HALEY .. .. .	Tenor.

Composed by TOM HAIGH, of Huddersfield, and Conducted by JOSEPH HENRY HARDCASTLE.

DERBY.—THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, May 16, 1885, in Three Hours and Thirty-Eight Minutes,

AT ALL SAINTS' CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS, 5040 CHANGES;

TAKEN FROM THE "CLAVIS." Tenor 28 cwt in D.

FREDERICK WHITING* .. .. .	Treble.	J. W. TAYLOR, JUN., Esq. .. .. .	6.
JOHN HOWE .. .. .	2.	*RICHARD REDGATE .. .. .	7.
ARTHUR BERTRAM WARD* .. .. .	3.	*HARRY CHAS. WOODWARD .. .. .	8.
JOHN NEWBOLD* .. .. .	4.	*A. P. HEYWOOD, Esq. .. .. .	9.
SAMUEL PRICE .. .. .	5.	*GEORGE BEESON .. .. .	Tenor.

Conducted by HARRY CHARLES WOODWARD.

J. W. Taylor, jun., Esq., hails from Loughborough; A. Percival Heywood, Esq., from Duffield; the rest belong to Derby. \*First peal of Caters. It is over thirty years since a peal of Caters was rung in Derby.

## Date Touches.

SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.

SEDGLEY (Staffordshire).—On Saturday, May 16th, eight members of the above Association visited Sedgley parish church, and rang a date touch of 1885 Grandsire Triples containing the tittums and twenty-four 6-7's, in 1 hr. 5 mins. J. E. Claridge, 1; B. Dalton, 2; W. R. Small, 3; J. Tinsley, 4; R. Cartwright, 5; J. Fullwood (composer and conductor), 6; W. Smith, 7; J. Jones, 8. Tenor 19 cwt. 1 qr. in F.

MOORSIDE, OLDHAM (Lancashire).—On Sunday, May 17th, for Divine Service in the evening, a date touch of Grandsire Triples, in 1 hr. 7 mins. Adam Butterworth, 1; Saml. Stott (conductor), 2;

John Greenwood, 3; Thomas Egerton, 4; Jas. Bailey, 5; Fred. Crossland, 6; John Hilton, 7; Joshua Platt, 8. Composed by Mr. Charles Jackson, of Hull. Tenor 18½ cwt. A. Butterworth belongs to the local company, the rest hail from Leesfield.

**WALTON-ON-THE-HILL** (Lancashire).—On Thursday evening, May 14th, at St. Mary's church, the local company rang a date touch (1885 changes), in the following methods, viz.: 445 Grandsire Minor, composed by J. J. Parker, Farnham Royal, Bucks., 720 College Single Minor, and 720 Plain Bob Minor, in 1 hr. 6½ mins. J. Hurst, 1; C. J. Rodgers, 2; T. R. Somerville, 3; T. Rushton, 4; R. Stockley, 5; C. E. Wilson (conductor), 6. This is the greatest length ever rung by the above band, except the conductor. Tenor 10 cwt.

### Miscellaneous.

#### THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

**STRATFORD-LE-BOW** (Middlesex).—On Tuesday evening, May 19th, eight members of this Society rang a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples, at St. Mary's church, in 42 mins. J. Bonney, 1; A. Cutmore, 2; E. Wallage, 3; M. A. Wood, 4; R. Turner, 5; I. G. Shade (conductor), 6; York Green, 7; H. J. Shade, 8. This was intended for a peal of Treble Bob, but meeting one short, had to resort to the above. Tenor 14 cwt.

#### THE EASTERN COUNTIES' GUILD.

**SPALDING** (Lincolnshire).—On Sunday, May 3rd, at the church of SS. Mary and Nicholas, for Divine Service in the morning, a 360 of Oxford Bob. And after Divine Service in the evening a 720 of Plain Bob. C. Neversen, 1; G. Skeef, 2; R. Mackman, 3; W. Wyche, Esq. (Crowland), 4; G. L. Richardson, 5; J. S. Wright (conductor), 6. And on Tuesday, May 12th, a 712 of Plain Bob. G. Skeef, 1; J. S. Wright, 2; R. Mackman (conductor), 3; J. Burrows (Gosberton), 4; G. L. Richardson, 5; J. Brown, 6. And on Sunday, May 14th, Ascension Day, at 7 a.m., a 720 of Plain Bob. And at 10 a.m., a 480 of Oxford Bob. J. W. Jarvis (first 720), 1; J. S. Wright, 2; G. L. Richardson, 4; G. Skeef, 4; R. Mackman (conductor), 5; J. Brown, 6. And for evening service three 120's of Bob Doubles. J. W. Jarvis, 1; J. S. Wright, 2; G. Skeef, 3; R. Mackman, 4; G. L. Richardson, 5. And on Sunday, May 17th, for Divine Service in the evening, 480 of Plain Bob. J. W. Jarvis, 1; G. Skeef, 2; J. S. Wright, 3; R. Mackman, 4; G. L. Richardson, 5; J. Brown, 6.

#### THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

**ROMFORD** (Essex).—On Sunday morning, May 17th, a course of Stedman Triples. B. Keeble, 1-2; A. J. Perkins, 3-4-5-6; W. Nash, 7-8.

#### THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

**OXFORD**.—On Sunday, May 17th, at the church of St. Mary Magdalene, for Divine Service, a 720 of Double Stedman Slow Course Minor, with twenty-two singles, in 25 mins. F. A. Castle, 1; H. Castle, 2; W. Baston, 3; Job Howse, 4; A. F. M. Custance, Esq., 5; J. W. Washbrook (conductor), 6. This is the fourth 720 in this method ever known to have been rung by any company, and the first by the above Guild. And on Monday, May 18th, at St. Thomas' church, a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob Minor, in 23 mins. \*F. A. Castle, 1; \*Job Howse, 2; O. Thomas, 3; \*H. J. Castle, 4; J. W. Washbrook (conductor), 5; W. Baston, 6. \*First attempt in the method. Also a 720 of Grandsire Minor, in 24 mins. W. Baston, 1; O. Thomas, 2; \*W. Wood, 3; \*W. J. Burgess, 4; H. J. Castle, 5; J. W. Washbrook (conductor), 6. \*First 720 with a bob bell.

#### THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

**WROTHAM** (Kent).—On Friday, May 1st, at St. George's church, eight members of the Wrotham branch of the above Association, rang for practice 672 of Bob Major. G. Barham, 1; F. Taylor, 2; G. A. Osborne, 3; F. Shoobridge (conductor), 4; W. Taylor, 5; J. Rodgers, 6; R. Edge, 7; C. Taylor, 8. And on Wednesday, May 6th, a 720 of Bob Minor (eighteen bobs and two singles). F. Taylor, 1; F. Shoobridge, 2; W. Taylor, 3; G. A. Osborne, 5; R. Edge (first 720), 5; C. Taylor (conductor), 6. Tenor 21 cwt.

#### THE SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.

**BELCHAMP WALTER** (Essex).—On Sunday, May 10th, the following band visited Belchamp to pay their respects to their friend and brother ringer, Mr. N. Hawkins, of Belchamp, and attempted to ring a peal of Bob Major with him on the bells, but after ringing 4400 in 2 hrs. and 35 mins., the treble jumped out of her hangings, which brought the ringing to an end. Zachariah Slater, 1; Samuel Slater, 2; Frederick Paul Adams, 3; Wm. Howell, 4; W. J. Nevard, 5;

Nelson Hawkins, 6; James Bird, 7; N. J. Pitstow (composer and conductor), 8. Messrs. Slater hail from Glemsford; Howell from Sudbury; W. J. Nevard from Great Bentley; N. Hawkins from Belchamp; Bird from Long Melford; Pitstow from Saffron Walden.

**GLEMSFORD** (Suffolk).—On Thursday, May 7th, at St. Mary's Church, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor. John Slater, 1; George Hammond, 2; Charles Honeybell, 3; Oliver Garwood, 4; James Bird, 5; S. Slater, 6. Also the same evening, a 720 of Cambridge Surprise. John Slater, 1; F. P. Adams, 2; C. Honeybell, 3; F. Wells, 4; O. Garwood, 5; S. Slater, (conductor), 6.

**HAMPSTEAD** (Middlesex).—On Saturday, May 16th, at St. Stephen's Church, eight members of the above Society attempted a peal of Cambridge Surprise, but after ringing upwards of an hour it came to grief through the frequent slipping of the fourth rope, it being then too late to start for the peal, a touch containing 576 changes was rung in 25 mins. B. Foskett, 1; W. H. Fussell, 2; G. Newson (conductor), 3; J. Hannington, 4; T. Titchener, 5; A. Jacob, 6; E. Chapman, 7; J. Barrett, 8. Tenor 27 cwt.

**LONG MELFORD** (Suffolk).—On Saturday, May 2nd, six members of the above society, rang a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor, in 28 mins. Z. Slater, 1; P. C. S. Scott, 2; \*G. Hammond, 3; S. Slater, 4; \*J. Bird, 5; O. Garwood (conductor), 6. \*First 720 in the method.

#### THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

**ASPLEY GUISE NEAR WOBURN** (Beds).—On Tuesday, May 12th, a 720 Bob Minor (eighteen bobs and two singles), was rung by the local company, being their first without extraneous help, in 26 mins. Geo. Usher, 1; J. Carwell-Cooke, 2; J. W. Mynard, 3; Rev. J. C. Maltby (Rector), 4; Mark Lane (first 720 as conductor), 5; W. Chibnall, 6. Tenor 10 cwt.

#### SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.

**SEDGLEY** (Staffordshire).—On Saturday, May 16th, eight members of the above Association visited Sedgley parish church, with the intention of starting for Holt's ten-part peal of Grandsire Triples, but owing to funerals taking place at 5 p.m. and Divine Service at 7.30, the start was not made. After the funeral service a date touch was rung, an account of which will be found elsewhere. And a 320 Grandsire Major. J. E. Claridge, 1; B. Dalton, 2; J. Tinsley, 3; J. Jones, 4; R. Cartwright, 5; W. R. Small, 6; W. Smith, 7; J. Fullwood (conductor), 8. Tenor 19 cwt. 1 qr. in F. J. E. Claridge was elected a member of the Association previous to the bells being raised. Messrs. Cartwright and Claridge hail from Wombourn; Dalton and Jones from Tettenhall; Tinsley and Smith from Darlaston; Small and Fullwood from West Bromwich.

#### THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

**TONG** (Yorkshire).—On Sunday afternoon, May 17th, for Divine Service at St. James's church, six members of the above Association rang 240 of London Scholar's Pleasure, 240 Arnold's Victory, 240 of College Pleasure, and 360 of City Delight. George Carter, 1; Samuel Oddy, 2; Edward Webster, 3; William Bolland, 4; George Bolland (conductor), 5; Henry Oddy, 6. Tenor 12 cwt.

**BRISTOL**.—*Handbell Ringing*.—On Sunday morning, May 17th, a 504 of Grandsire Triples. Also a 320 of Grandsire Major. J. Brain, 1-2; J. Hinton, 3-4; G. Townsend, 5-6; A. Bendall, 7-8. Also in the evening, a 630 of Grandsire Triples by the above, conducted by J. Hinton.

**DERBY**.—On Wednesday evening, May 13th, for practice at St. Andrew's church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples. W. Shardlow, 1; J. W. Thompson, 2; C. Hart, 3; W. Midgley, 4; H. W. Found, 5; G. Mottashaw, 6; A. E. Thompson (conductor), 7; T. Alton, 8. Tenor 20½ cwt. in Eb. This is the first quarter-peal in which all were St. Andrew's ringers.

**GLEMSFORD** (Suffolk).—On Sunday, April 26th, at St. Mary's church a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob. S. Slater, 1; David Ward (Foxearth), 2; Walter Gridley (Foxearth), 3; F. Wells (Glemsford), 4; J. Lee (Foxearth), 5; O. Garwood (Glemsford), 6. Composed by the late John Marvin, of Copdock, and conducted by S. Slater, and contains fifteen bobs. Also on April 29th, a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob. S. Slater, 1; G. Hammond, 2; P. C. S. Scott, 3; J. Bird, 4; E. W. Downs, 5; O. Garwood (conductor), 6. And on Sunday, May 3rd, a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob. S. Slater, 1; James Chatters (Belchamp Walter), 2; C. Adams, 3; Frederick Hawkins (Belchamp Walter), 4; Nelson Hawkins (Belchamp Walter), 5; O. Garwood (conductor), 6. And on Wednesday, April 29th, a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob, in 29 mins. S. Slater, 1; G. Hammond, 2; P. C. S. Scott, 3; J. Bird, 4; E. Downs, 5; O. Garwood (conductor), 6. Also on Thursday, May 7th, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob. J. Slater, 1; G. Hammond, 2; C. Honeybell, 3;

O. Garwood, 4; J. Bird, 5; S. Slater (conductor), 6. Also on Saturday, May 16th, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob. \*F. Wells, 1; \*G. Hammond, 2; \*W. P. Gridley, 3; R. Mingay, 4; \*J. Bird, 5; \*S. Slater (conductor), 6. \*Cumberland Youths.

GRAVESEND (Kent).—On Sunday, May 17th, at St. George's church for Divine Service in the evening, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 46 mins. G. Hayes, 1; H. Weekes, 2; F. Hayes, 3; H. Davis, 4; B. Spunner, 5; J. Atkins, 6; W. Harper (conductor), 7; J. Atkins, jun., 8. Tenor 18 cwt.

HIGHER SUTTON (Cheshire).—On Sunday, April 3rd, a 720 of Bob Minor (twenty-six bobs and two singles), in 26 mins. Alfred Lawton, 1; William Henshall, 2; Walter Ingham, 3; J. M. Davenport, 4; William Walmsley, 5; Thomas Mottershead, 6. And on Wednesday, May 13th, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor, in 26 mins. William Walmsley, 1; James Simpson, 2; William Henshall, 3; J. M. Davenport, 4; Walter Ingham, 5; Walter Henshall, 6. And on Sunday, May 10th, a 720 of Bob Minor (nine bobs and six singles), with Walter Ingham, 2; William Henshall, 3; the rest as before. And on Sunday, May 17th, a 720 of Bob Minor (eighteen bobs and two singles), in 25 mins. And a 720 of Grandsire Minor (thirty-four bobs and twenty-six singles), in 22 mins. Alfred Lawton, 1; William Walmsley, 2; William Henshall, 3; J. M. Davenport, 4; Walter Ingham, 5; Thomas Mottershead, 6. This 720 is the quickest rung in this tower and was well struck. Conducted by W. Walmsley. Messrs. Henshalls and Simpson hail from Gawsorth. Tenor 12 cwt. in G.

LAWTON (Cheshire).—On Saturday, May 9th, the company of St. Mary's parish church, Sandbach, visited this place, and rang at All Saints' church, a 720 of Bob Minor, in 28 mins. John Davies, 1; Elijah Evans, 2; Samuel Dickinson, 3; John T. Elsyb, 4; Peter Mason, 5; Thomas Johnson (conductor), 6. Tenor 12 cwt. This is the first 720 in the method on the bells. The visitors take this opportunity of thanking the Rector and churchwardens for the use bells, which are in a splendid condition, and also the local company for the very cordial welcome given to them, who entertained them after the 720 with a quarter-peal on their handbells, and a few tunes in a very creditable manner.

LICHFIELD.—On Saturday, May 16th, after a Committee Meeting of the Archdeaconry of Stafford Association, the following rang touches of Grandsire Triples at St. Mary's church. G. Woods (Tamworth), W. A. Wood (Lichfield), Rev. J. R. Keble (Lichfield), E. Cashmore (West Bromwich), J. Fowler (Tettenhall), H. Meacham (Lichfield), A. Whitby (Lichfield), — Nicholls (Sedgeley), F. J. Cope (Lichfield), G. Robinson (Burton-on-Trent). And on Sunday, May 17th, at St. Michael's, Greenhill, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor, in 26 mins. \*E. Gallimore, 1; H. Meacham, 2; R. Anniss, 3; †W. Tredgold, 4; F. J. Cope (conductor), 4; \*A. Greenwood, 6. \*First 720 in the method. †First 720 with a bob bell.

LIVERPOOL.—On Tuesday evening, May 12th, at St. Luke's church, the following met to ring Brook's variation of Stedman Triples, but on arrival found that no gas was to be had, so had to be content with half a peal, 2520 changes, which was rung in 1 hr. 28 mins. R. S. Mann, 1; J. R. Pritchard, 2; J. H. Brown, 3; W. James, 4; G. Fisher, 5; W. Davies, 6; T. Hammond (conductor), 7; R. Gowans, 8.

LONDON.—On Saturday, May 16th, at St. Olave's church, a 720 of Grandsire Minor, in 26 mins. S. Joyce, 1; W. Weatherstone (conductor), 2; J. Barry, 3; W. Meadows, 4; E. E. Vinen, 5; W. H. Fussell, 6. Also some 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles, in which the steeplekeeper and others took part, conducted by W. H. George. Tenor about 16 cwt. On Sunday, May 17th, for Divine Service at St. Gabriel's, Pimlico, a 720 of Plain Bob Minor, in 24 mins. H. Alford, 1; W. C. Collins, 2; W. Hoverd, 3; M. Murphy, 4; E. Rogers, 5; J. M. Hayes (conductor), 6. On Monday, May 18th, the following rang at St. Botolph's, Bishopsgate, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, 1260 changes, in 48 mins. W. Cecil, 1; J. Bonney, 2; S. Joyce, 3; H. J. Shade (conductor), 4; E. Wallage, 5; I. G. Shade, 6; C. Lee, 7; W. Williamson (first quarter-peal), 8. Tenor 21 cwt.

LOUGHBOROUGH (Leicestershire).—On Tuesday, May 19th, the local band rang for practice at All Saints' church a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 40 mins. C. Smith, 1; T. Cooper, 2; A. Cresser, 3; J. W. Taylor, jun., 4; R. Lane, 5; E. D. Taylor, 6; S. Smith (conductor), 7; E. Wightman, 8. Tenor 24½ cwt. in D.

LYTHAM (Lancashire).—On Sunday, May 3rd, at St. John's Church, a 720 of Bob Minor (eighteen bobs and two singles), in 26 mins. W. Bamber, 1; Ben. Taylor, 2; Jno. Fell (conductor), 3; Jno. Salthouse, 4; Wm. Gregson, 5; Jno. Miller, 6. Also on Sunday, May 17th, a 720 in the above method (eighteen bobs and two singles), in 23½ mins. Wm. Bamber, 1; Jno. Fisher, 2; Jno. Salthouse, 3; Chas. H. Kerr, 4; Jno. Fell (conductor), 5; R. Whiteside, 6. Tenor 10½ cwt.

LONG MELFORD (Suffolk).—On Thursday, May 14th, after morning service, a 720 of Plain Bob Minor. J. Slater, 1; O. Garwood, 2; O. Read, 3; J. Bird, 4; G. Hammond, 5; S. Slater (conductor), 6. And in the afternoon, another 720 in the same method. J. Slater, 1; S. Slater, 2; O. Read, 3; G. Hammond, 4; J. Bird, 5; O. Garwood (conductor), 6. All the above with the exception of O. Read, belong to the Cumberland Youths.

MOORSIDE, OLDHAM (Lancashire).—On Sunday, May 17th, the St. Thomas's society, Leesfield, visited the above place, and rang 1344 changes of Grandsire Triples in 53 mins. for the afternoon service. J. W. Holme, 1; Samuel Stott (conductor), 2; John Greenwood, 3; Thomas Egerton, 4; James Bailey, 5; Fred. Crossland, 6; John Hilton, 7; Thos. B. Shaw, 8. And after evening service, this being anniversary day, 518 of Grandsire Triples in 18 mins. Adam Butterworth, 1; Fred. Crossland (conductor), 2; John Hilton, 3; James Taylor, 4; John Greenwood, 5; Samuel Stott, 6; Thomas Barrett, 7; Luke Hampson, 8. Tenor 18½ cwt. Messrs. Butterworth, Taylor, Barrett and Hampson, belong to the local company, Moorside; all the rest hail from Leesfield.

PORTHWICK (Cheshire).—On Monday, May 11th, a 720 of Plain Bob Minor was rung by the Witton company, in 30 mins. William Forster (conductor), 1; Samuel Foster, 2; John Houghton, 3; Thomas Foster, 4; Richard Chantler, 5; Thomas Moore, 6. Tenor 12½ cwt. This is the first 720 that John Houghton has rung with this company.

PRESTON (Suffolk).—On Wednesday, May 13th, at St. Mary's church, a 720 of Bob Minor (twenty-one bobs and twelve singles), in 27 mins. A. Symonds (conductor), 1; Wm. Hollocks, 2; A. Hollocks, 3; Wm. Snell, 4; H. Smith, 5; Jno. Levitt, 6. And another 720 in the same method (nine bobs and six singles), in 26½ mins. H. Symonds (conductor), 1; Wm. Snell, 2; A. Hollocks, 3; Wm. Hollocks, 4; H. Smith, 5; A. Symonds, 6. And on Sunday afternoon, May 17th, after Divine Service in the afternoon, a 720 of Bob Minor (fourteen bobs and two singles), in 25 mins. H. Symonds (conductor), 1; Jas. Levitt, 2; A. Hollocks, 3; Wm. Snell, 4; H. Smith, 5; A. Symonds, 6. Tenor 13½ cwt.

RAUNDS (Northamptonshire).—On Saturday, May 16th, at St. Peter's church, for practice, a 720 of Oxford Bob Minor (thirty-eight bobs and twenty-two singles). J. Willmott, 1; J. Stubbs, 2; W. Hall, 3; R. Pendered, 4; N. Martin, 5; H. Stubbs (conductor), 6. And on Sunday morning, May 17th, for service, it being the annual school sermons, a 720 of Plain Bob Minor (four bobs and fourteen singles). A. Coles, 1; H. Stubbs, 2; W. J. Gilbert, 3; W. Hall, 4; A. Martin, 5; F. Gilbert (conductor), 6. And 144 of London Single, G. Kirk, 1; the rest as before. And for evening service, a 360 of London Single, with nine bobs. A. Coles, 1; H. Stubbs, 2; R. Pendered, 3; G. Kirk, 4; F. Gilbert, 5; W. J. Gilbert (conductor), 6. And a 360 of Oxford Bob, with nine bobs. A. Coles, 1; J. Willmott, 2; H. Stubbs, 3; N. Martin, 4; W. J. Gilbert, 5; T. Roberts (conductor), 6. And a 240 of College Little (six bobs and two singles). G. Kirk, 1; F. Gilbert, 2; R. Pendered, 3; T. Stubbs, 4; J. Willmott, 5; W. Hall (conductor), 6. A. Martin hails from Higham Ferrers; and T. Roberts from Ringstead.

RIPPLE (Worcestershire).—On Sunday afternoon, May 17th, some members of the Tewkesbury Abbey Society visited the above place, and by kind permission of the rector (the Rev. — [Holmes]), they rang 730 of Kent Treble Bob Minor in 25 mins. [R. H. Witherington, 1; S. Cleal, 2; T. Devereux, 3; J. Hale, 4; J. Wathen, 5; Jos. Wathen (conductor), 6. Tenor 13 cwt. This is probably the first 720 in the above method upon the bells. The Ripple ringers rang some 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles. The visitors wish to thank the rector through the medium of "THE BELL NEWS," for allowing them to ring upon the bells; also the brothers George and Charles Hayling, who with other members of the Ripple Society, are always ready to meet their brother-strings.

STANSTEAD (Suffolk).—On Sunday, May 17th, after afternoon service, a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob, and a 720 of Plain Bob, in 52 mins. S. Slater (conductor), 1; W. P. Gridley, 2; O. Garwood, 3; G. Hammond, 4; J. Lee, 5; J. Bird, 6. Messrs. S. Slater and O. Garwood hail from Glemsford; G. Hammond and J. Bird from Long Melford; W. P. Gridley and J. Lee from Foxearth. All the above are members of the Cumberland Youths except J. Lee.

STAND, WHITEFIELD (Lancashire).—On Tuesday evening, May 12th, for practice, at All Saints' church, a 720 of Bob Minor, by a mixed band, in 28 mins. A. Barrett, 1; J. Hardman, 2; J. Rothwell, 3; W. Warburton (conductor), 4; E. Fitton, 5; W. Hilton, 6. W. Warburton and W. Hilton are local ringers, A. Barrett and J. Hardman, hail from Radcliffe; J. Rothwell and E. Fitton from Prestwich. Tenor 21½ cwt.

**WALTON-ON-THE-HILL (Lancashire).**—On Tuesday evening, May 5th, at St. Mary's parish church, a 720 of Plain Bob Minor (sixteen bobs and two singles), in 25½ mins. J. H. Moore, 1; C. J. Rodgers, 2; T. R. Somerville, 3; W. Sumner, 4; R. Stockley, 5; C. E. Wilson (conductor), 6. And a 360 of Grandsire Minor (eighteen bobs). J. Hurst, 1; C. J. Rodgers, 2; J. H. Moore, 3; T. Rushton, 4; R. Stockley, 5; C. E. Wilson (conductor), 6. And on Sunday morning May 10th, for Divine Service, three 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles. J. Hurst, 1; C. E. Wilson (conductor), 2; T. R. Somerville, 3; T. Rushton, 4; R. Stockley, 5; H. Spinks, 6. Also in the evening, a 720 College Single Minor (eighteen bobs and two singles), in 26 mins. And on Sunday evening, May 17th, for Divine Service, a 720 of Grandsire Minor (thirty-four bobs and two singles, 3rd the observation), in 25 mins. J. Hurst, 1; C. J. Rodgers, 2; T. R. Somerville, 3; T. Rushton, 4; R. Stockley, 5; C. E. Wilson (conductor), 6. J. H. Moore hails from Liverpool, W. Sumner from Croston, near Preston. Tenor 10 cwt.

**WEST MALLING (Kent).**—On Sunday, May 10th, for Divine Service, 1680 of Bob Major. S. Cole, 1; E. Baldock, 2; A. Moorcraft, 3; W. Harding, 4; J. M. Cooper, 5; D. Hall, 6; C. Payne, 7; J. W. Leonard (conductor), 8. J. M. Cooper hails from Sittingbourne.

**WITTON (Cheshire).**—On Monday, May 11th, six members of the local company rang a 720 of Plain Bob. Wm. Foster, 1; Samuel Foster, 2; J. Houghton (first 720), 3; T. Foster, 4; Richard Chantler, 5; T. Moore, 6.

### THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

THE ANNUAL MEETING will be held at Chelmsford, on Whit-Monday, May 25th. Divine Service in the parish church at 12.30. The Sermon will be preached by the Ven. Archdeacon Johnson. Dinner in the charity school at 1.30. Business Meeting immediately after the dinner.

Dinner tickets may be obtained from the Secretary at 1s. each up to May 18th; after that date at 2s. each. Return tickets at a single fare and a quarter will be issued by the G.E.R. to members of the Association, provided that they inform the Secretary *before* May 18th, from what station they intend to travel; and shew at the booking office their E.A.C.R. receipts for the present year.

The following belfries will be open to members from 9.30 to 11.30 a.m., and from 4 to 8 p.m. Galleywood (eight bells); Widford (six bells); Springfield (six bells). Writtle (eight bells) will be open from 4 to 8 p.m. The charity school will be open for handbell ringing throughout the day.

Rayleigh, S.O., Essex.

Hon. Sec.

### BELLS AND RINGERS IN 1885.—(Continued.)

BY F. W. J. REES.

LIST OF RINGS IN THE COUNTY OF NORFOLK.—(Continued from page 56.)

Ashill .. .. .	6 .. ..	..	..
Attleborough ..	6 .. ..	..	..
Banham .. .. .	6 .. 12 ..	B. T.B.	.. 3, 4, 5, 6 old bells.
Blofield .. .. .	6 .. ..	..	..
Brockdish .. ..	6 .. 11 ..	B. T.B.	..
Brooke .. .. .	6 .. ..	..	..
Buckenham, New..	6 .. 11 ..	..	Downham Foundry, 1814.
Buckenham, Old ..	6 .. ..	..	..
Bunwell .. .. .	6 .. 10 ..	..	Rehung, 1885.
Burgh-Apton .. .	6 .. 12 ..	..	..
Caston .. .. .	6 .. 9 ..	..	..
Cawston .. .. .	6 .. ..	..	..
Coltishall .. ..	6 .. 10 ..	..	..
Creake, North ..	6 .. 15 ..	..	..
Cromer .. .. .	6 .. ..	..	New in 1874.
Dersingham .. .	6 .. ..	..	..
Ditchingham .. .	6 .. ..	..	..
Felmingham .. .	6 .. 11 ..	..	Whitechapel, 1819.
Fincham .. .. .	6 .. 7 ..	B. T.B.	Whitechapel, 1844.
Foxley .. .. .	6 .. ..	..	..
Garboldisham ..	6 .. 12 ..	G. B. T.B.	..
Grimston .. .. .	6 .. 9 ..	..	Downham Foundry.
Halvergate .. .	6 .. CII ..	..	..
Harling, East ..	6 .. 12 ..	B.	..
Hedenham .. ..	6 .. 7 ..	..	Whitechapel, 1838.
Heydon .. .. .	6 .. 7 ..	..	..
Holme-Hale .. ..	6 .. ..	..	..
Horsham, S. Faith's	6 .. ..	..	New about 1873.
Lopham, South ..	6 .. 20 ..	..	..
Ludham .. .. .	6 .. ..	..	..
Marham .. .. .	6 .. 12 ..	..	Downham Foundry, 1802.

Martham .. .. .	6 .. ..	..	..
Mattishall .. ..	6 .. c24 ..	..	.. Grand old tenor 1584
Mendham .. .. .	6 .. 13 ..	..	..
Methwold .. .. .	6 .. 13½ ..	..	.. By J. Draper, 1630.
Necton .. .. .	6 .. 13 ..	..	.. Whitechapel, 1833.
Norwich, S. John ..	6 .. 12 ..	..	..
.. S. Lawrence ..	6 .. 15 ..	..	..
.. S. Gregory ..	6 .. 11 ..	..	..
.. S. Mary .. ..	6 .. 7 ..	..	..
Outwell .. .. .	6 .. 12 ..	..	.. Downham Foundry, 1778.
Pulham Market ..	6 .. 17 ..	T.B.	..
Pulham, S. Mary ..	6 .. 15 ..	T.B.	..
Rushford .. .. .	6 .. ..	..	.. By Taylor, 1855.
Saham-Toney .. .	6 .. 13 ..	..	..
Sall .. .. .	6 .. ?? ..	..	.. 5 very heavy bells in 1552.
Saxlingham .. ..	6 .. ..	..	..
Sheringham .. ..	6 .. 7 ..	..	.. Whitechapel, 1814.
Shipdham .. .. .	6 .. ..	..	..
Shouldham .. ..	6 .. CII ..	..	.. Made 6 in 1873.
Stratton-Strawless..	6 .. ..	..	..
Terrington, S. John.	6 .. 12 ..	..	.. Downham Foundry, 1784.
.. S. Clement ..	6 .. 14 ..	B.	..
Thetford, S. Mary ..	6 .. ..	..	.. This is in Suffolk.
Tibenhams .. ..	6 .. 20 ..	T.B.	.. Downham Foundry, 1787.
Tilney .. .. .	6 .. ..	..	..
Tottington .. ..	6 .. 9 ..	..	..
Upwell .. .. .	6 .. 15 ..	..	..
Walsoken .. .. .	6 .. 15 ..	..	.. Downham Foundry, 1795.
Walpole .. .. .	6 .. 12 ..	B.	..
Whitwell .. .. .	6 .. 9 ..	..	.. 4, 5, 6 are old bells.
Wiggenhall .. ..	6 .. 12 ..	..	.. Whitechapel, 1767.
Wilton .. .. .	6 .. 7 ..	..	..
Wiveton .. .. .	6 .. 12 ..	..	.. Downham Foundry, 1809.
Winterton .. ..	6 .. 8 ..	..	.. Redenhall Foundry, 1884.
Woodton .. .. .	6 .. 9 ..	B. T.B.	..
Worstead .. .. .	6 .. 22 ..	..	.. Reputed weight of tenor.
Wroxham .. .. .	6 .. 9 ..	..	.. Whitechapel. 1780. Treble added 1856.

Change-ringing is practised at many of the above towers by ringers who do not send reports of their peals. In such cases it is not possible to note the methods rung.

I trust that the above list will be found complete and tolerably accurate, but if any errors have crept in I hope some one will take pains to point them out and correct them.

### ROMFORD, ESSEX.

A heavy thunderstorm passed over this town shortly after 2 o'clock, on Sunday last. One or two flashes of lightning came in contact with the large belfry window at the parish church, and besides cutting a small hole through the leaden sashes, cut the gas pipe outside the window completely through, and set light to the gas. Mr. A. Pye, of Little Heath, who was sitting close to the window at the time (which was partly open), had a miraculous escape. Having observed signs of the storm approaching, he had hastened to the tower, and at the time of the occurrence was sitting in front of the window which was partly open. Not feeling any injury, he considered he had escaped, but upon retiring to rest at night he observed some bright spots upon his trousers, which upon searching were found to be pieces of lead, and it was further found that the trousers were singed in a number of places.

In connection with the paragraph that appeared in our last issue, respecting the movement to restore the above belfry, we have the pleasure to state that on Monday last an inspection was made of the tower by one of Messrs. Warner and Sons' employees, with a view of estimating for the necessary overhauling.

### THE EASTERN COUNTIES' GUILD.

THE ANNUAL MEETING of the above Guild will be held at Spalding, on Saturday, May 30th. Ringing to commence at 2.30. A knife and fork tea will be provided in the National Schoolroom at 5 o'clock, free of charge to all skilled members sending in their names to the Rev. B. Matthews, Hon. Sec., the Chantry, Spalding. All members can travel on the Midland, from Lynn, for a fare and a quarter for double journey on application to Dr. Seccombe, Terrington Lodge, Lynn.

## 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."

## FALSE PEALS IN MR. SNOWDON'S BOOKS.

SIR,—As it is now some time since my collection of Treble Bob peals was published, it is probable that some of the books may be in the hands of those who may not have noted the various false peals which have from time to time been pointed out. When I now send out any of my books in which false peals are known to exist, I mark the same, but I may add, copies obtained from my London publishers will not always be found to be so marked.

The following is a list of these false peals, and those who possess my books will do well to make a mark against the same:—

*Treatise on Treble Bob, Part II.*

Page 16.—5280 by H. Dains will prove false at the lead-ends.

" 17.—6336 by J. Lockwood " " "

" 61.—5024 by W. Sottanstill " " course-ends.

" 67.—5056 by W. Harrison " " "

" 67.—5056 by H. Dains " " "

(This is the peal underneath Harrison's false peal).

Page 97.—6000 by S. Marsh. (The uppermost 6000 by Marsh.)

" 114.—5088 by W. Harrison.

*Rope Sight. (Third edition).*

Page 106.—The 5448 by T. West is false.

*Double Norwich Court Bob Major.*

Page 28.—The 8448 by H. Dains is false.

" 30.— " 5024 by " " "

Should any one know of any other peals in these books which are false, I should be glad if they would point the same out to me or mention it in these columns.

JASPER W. SNOWDON.

Ivy Terrace, Wortley, Leeds.

## BELFRY REFORM.

SIR,—Of late we have been treated, almost periodically, with a letter on the above subject, into which there is occasionally scraped together matter which in my opinion has no more to do with the subject than the man in the moon.

Your readers will remember a few weeks ago a letter in reply to one on the subject by Mr. Jerram, in which the writer compared London ringers to a band of wandering minstrels, but he did not mention the inevitable accompaniment of passing the tin hat round, into which solicitations would be invited, but the fact of ringers strolling from church to church, has the same object in view, although not mentioned, but the writer apparently deplores the fact, "as do many persons, I believe," of there not being a qualified band ready to give a gratuitous peal both on Sundays or other days, as occasions require, at our very many London churches containing rings of bells.

In your issue of the 2nd instant appears a long letter upon "London Societies," in which your correspondent inveighs very heavily upon both societies and ringers. The ringers are most narrow-minded and exclusive in their ideas, they are very selfish, and look after the loaves and fishes more than ringing itself. I suppose your correspondent, "A New Man," knows, otherwise he draws heavily on his imagination. But, sir, he does not stop here. The rivalry between the two old societies is not friendly, and even among themselves there are petty jealousies, which apparently displeases "A New Man." The St. James's Society he holds up as one that should be looked upon as the principal society. How on earth can this be, when he himself says it is composed of rivals, and especially if this rivalry is of an unfriendly nature? Now sir, this society, as you know, was established to enable members of the rival societies to ring peals together, and the principal composition of such a band being half-and-half. But of the fourth society your correspondent fails to discover the object of its existence. Well, perhaps he does; "a new man" would! and perhaps he will think me presumptive, but, sir, in my opinion, "A New Man," and many others, owe their existence as ringers to this very society or its influence. This may seem strange, but I believe it indisputable, and if your correspondent will have a little chat with some of his friends, he will find it so.

In this week's issue you give another letter under the peculiar heading, Belfry Reform, by the author of "Thumbnail Sketches." I will just have a word about these celebrated sketches, as I really never knew the object they were intended to serve. But, Sir, it appears as follows, and should I be wrong I hope to get pardon for misconstruction. The author in his "Gulliver's Travels" appears to come in contact with several of the many disappointed ringers, who would be, perhaps, rather obtrusive with a pet grievance, or in their conversation. We know there are amongst us plenty of blighted

spirits, some who have been years vainly striving to get a peal, even at the tenor; another will just manage a treble through a peal and there stop; while another will ring Grandsire well, and never look at another method; others will ring any method on odd or even numbers of bells, but never call bobs, and some will call bobs and not look into the composition of the various peals; and again many good ringers never attempt to ring on handbells, and there are to be found quite a host whose capacity only goes as far as Churchyard Bob, and the author must, I imagine, have come in contact with several of these cases, and thus he terms them bores, nuisances, and characters to be met with caution, and, if possible, to be altogether avoided, if this could be conveniently accomplished.

But, Sir, belfry reform is the theme, which, however, develops itself into London ringing-chambers and ringers in this letter. London twelve-bell ringers do not appear to meet as often and regular as the author desires, and when they do it seems it is for the selfish purpose of earning money. Certainly a very deplorable state of things, if true, quite as bad as the unfriendliness which is said to exist between rival society members. But, Sir, these accusations are subject to grave doubt. I have been in twelve-bell and other towers scores of times where rival members meet, and never to my knowledge without seeing the solicitory compliment passed to have a pull. I therefore consider the assertion cut in halves, and the less we hear of it the better. As regards the pay, how often is a man expected to be out during a week for ringing, once or twice? the latter is quite enough in my opinion, and if placed as some of our London ringers are, bound to do two peals upon each Sunday, one other meeting is enough in a week, be it for pay or otherwise. But it seems, Sir, that your correspondents think that a ringer, after passing his majority in the science, has little else to do than rush off to each meeting place for the ostensible purpose of giving the young people practice, and all free and gratuitous. Why, my dear sir, the whole idea is monstrous. In what other art or science is it done, and where are we to look for example. In music? no; In drawing? no; nor in learning of any kind.

A good deal too has been said one time and another as to paid ringing, and all under the same familiar heading. Now for a ringing day a man gets from four to five shillings, and which sum is so very remunerative, that unless a man can do part before and after business hours, he certainly would be at a loss by the transaction. But Sir, upon State occasions, says our correspondent, one would have two and even three churches to ring at, and look at the amount he would make upon these occasions, ten to fifteen shillings, a great deal too much for a ringer, no wonder he does not care to come to practice. Well sir, I say the more the better, and wish the double or treble days came a little oftener, so that one could make up a good bonus at the end of the year. But Sir, your correspondents are not yet finished; they ingeniously argue that all ringing should be done free and gratuitous, and some of the clergy think this, and indeed there is some truth in such an argument. But until we see all church workers working for love only, with the principals setting the example, why should ringers, who it must be acknowledged, performs the most laborious task of all the staff?

LONDON RINGER.

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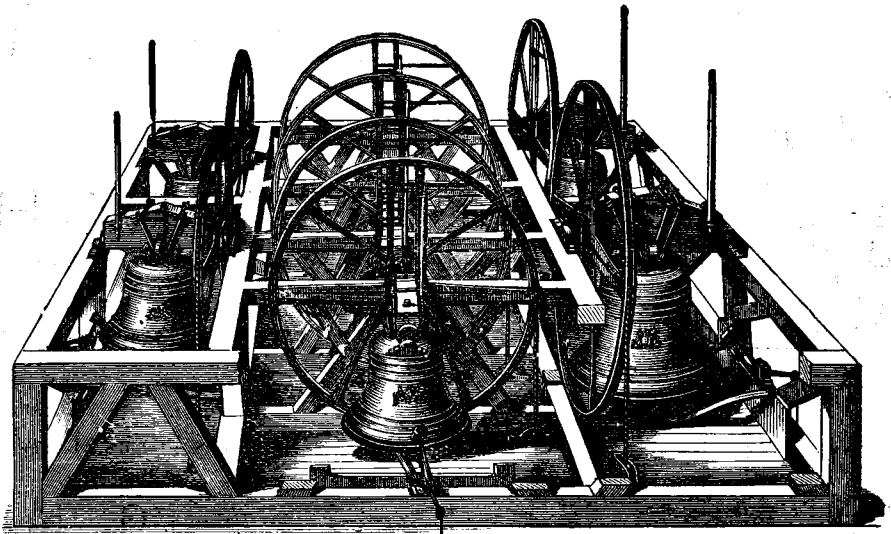
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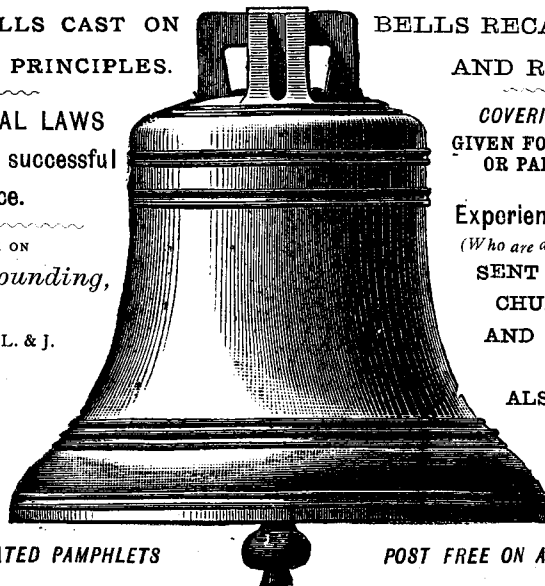
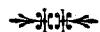
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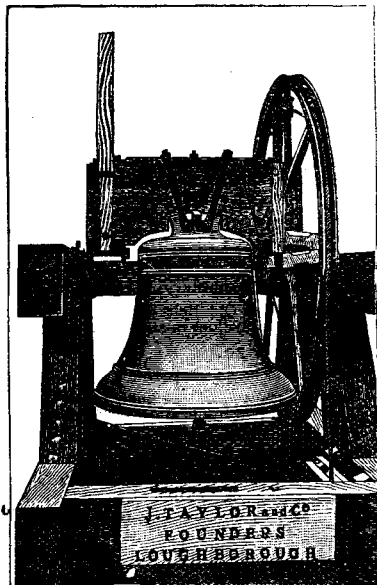
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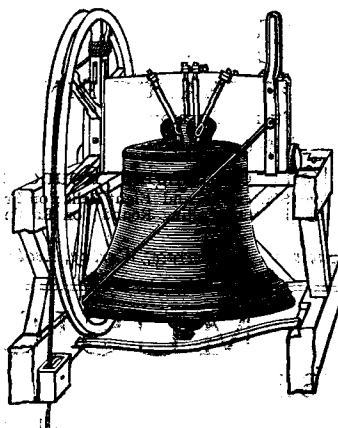
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MUSICAL HARD BELLS

CHURCH BELLSTANDWEIGHT

## BANK HOLIDAY AT PINNER, MIDDLESEX.

Considering the weather during this Whitsuntide, we may correctly transpose the words—"Wet Monday Blank Holiday," from their original significance for it was anything but favourable. Fortunately ringers have an advantage over most holiday people, when desirous of passing an enjoyable day, as their pursuits are chiefly confined to sheltered quarters. A new line of railway extending from Harrow to Pinner, was opened on Monday for the first time, the fares being very reasonable, a number of ringers took the opportunity to have a trip to the quiet old fashioned village of Pinner, which was only reached previously by a walk of some two or three miles. We can recommend Pinner now as the locality for a most pleasant day's outing, while the catering of host Pendry of the "Queen's Head," was everything that could be desired, combined with homeliness and substantiality. A company of the St. James Society made a successful attempt for a peal at the parish church, permission being kindly given by the Vicar, the Rev. Dr. Pinnock, LL.D., this being the only one on the bells excepting one by the Ancient Society of College Youths, December 4th, 1880. Other members arriving while the peal was progressing made the company rather numerous; at its conclusion, an adjournment was made to the "Queen's Head." From here a party of ten were driven in a waggonette to Ruislip, two and a half miles distant, and were joined there by Messrs. Perryman, Fussell and Wilder, of Slough. A band having been arranged, another attempt was made at the parish church of St. Martin's, the local ringers having courteously got the bells ready. The conductor was compelled to call the bells round, as two bells had shifted after ringing upwards of an hour and fifty minutes; at the time we might mention the bells go far from satisfactory for such an object. After an half an hour together at "The Swan," the visitors drove back to Pinner, excepting those who had the pleasure of a five mile across country walk in most "delightful" weather. Some of the company returned to London by the 9.30, having farther to go, the remainder spent another hour at "The Queen" where the day's ringing was concluded with the use of handbells, heedless of the inclement weather. The late arrival of Mr. J. Nelms was regretted, especially as business compelled him to return early. Messrs. Dunwell, James Wheeler, H. Langdon, and George, took part in the ringing at Ruislip. F.

## THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—ANNUAL MEETING.

THE above Association held its sixth anniversary meeting at Chelmsford on Monday, May 25th, which was largely attended, the members present reaching ninety. In addition to St. Mary's, Chelmsford, the towers of Writtle and Galleywood (eight bells), Widford, Springfield, Boreham, and Bloomfield (six bells), were open and visited during the morning and evening, ringing taking place at each. The usual service, followed by a short appropriate address by Archdeacon Johnson, took place at Chelmsford, followed by the Annual Dinner in the charity school room. At the business meeting, the hon. secretary read an elaborate report as to the work of the Association during the year, which report it was decided should be printed and circulated among the members. Five new hon. members and about thirty new ringing members were elected. In accordance with notice a resolution was moved and carried, requesting the hon. secretary to prepare a design for members' certificates to be issued during the coming year, and it was further resolved that members should pay sixpence each toward the cost of such. The hon. secretary stated that in reply to his communication respecting the rehanging of the two trebles at Chelmsford, Archdeacon Johnson had replied that although the work would not be completed by the time of the Annual Meeting (that day), they would be before long. A hearty vote of thanks to the hon. secretary concluded the proceedings. A detailed report will appear in our next.

## WELLINGBOROUGH, NORTHAMPTONSHIRE.

OUR SENIOR RINGER.—"On Wednesday last," writes a valued correspondent, "'John Harley,' the oldest of the parish church ringers, celebrated his eightieth birthday. He first entered the belfry in the year 1824, and for the past fifty-five years has rung the heavy tenor bell, and chimed the old fifth (the present seventh bell). Whether chiming or ringing, Harley invariably did it with precision, his steady, regular pull at the 'Big Bell,' being as apparent to the townsfolk as to the ringers. He is still a ringer and chimer, and a most punctual attendant at the belfry. His fellow-ringers, old and young, met on Wednesday evening and rang the bells in honour of his birthday. John Harley took the tenor in a short touch of 'Grandsire' on the old six bells, and afterwards rang the seventh in another turn on the full peal of eight. The ringers then adjourned to Mr. Harley's house, where, in company with other friends, a very pleasant time was spent, enlivened with songs and handbell music. The toast of the evening, 'John Harley, our old tenor man,' was drunk with musical honours."

## THE (BOLTON) LANCASHIRE SOCIETY.

HOLY TRINITY CHURCH—CHOIR AND RINGERS' TRIP.—On Saturday last, May 23rd, the members of the choir and the ringers, of the above church, proceeded for a day's outing to Blackpool, on the invitation of the Vicar and wardens. Through the kindness of the railway officials a special saloon carriage was attached to the 9.5 a.m. train from Bolton, for the accommodation of the party, who were accompanied by the Vicar, the Rev. Charles Lowe, the Rev. F. S. Williamson, Curate, Dr. Scowcroft, Messrs. Brown, Johnson, and Booth (wardens and sidesmen). On the arrival of the party at the "Brighton of the North," luncheon was provided at the County and Lane Ends Hotel through the generosity of Dr. Scowcroft. Afterwards, at the invitation of the same gentleman, the company enjoyed themselves on the North Pier, and also visited the Aquarium. The rest of the day was very enjoyably spent—some in pleasant games of bowls, others in strolling on the sands inhaling the splendid west breeze which was blowing. At four o'clock all wended their way to the County and Lane Ends Hotel, where a substantial dinner was provided, to which, we need hardly add, ample justice was done. On the removal of the cloth the chair was taken by the Vicar, the curate, the Rev. F. S. Williamson, occupying the vice-chair. The Vicar, in proposing the health of the choir and ringers, congratulated them on the very efficient manner in which they had discharged their several duties during the year, and hoped that the harmony and good feeling which existed might long be retained.—The toast was responded to by Mr. W. Allanson, and Mr. F. W. Pacey, Mus. Bac. (the organist), on behalf of the choir, and by Mr. Jackson, on behalf of the ringers. The other toast were—"The Vicar," "The wardens and sidesmen," "The Curate," "The Organist and Choirmaster," all of which were heartily responded to, glee singing, etc., filling up the remainder of the time. The company returned home by the 7.5 p.m. train, having thoroughly enjoyed themselves. During the afternoon the ringers ascended the tower of St. John's Church, and rang in capital style one part of Mr. Mr John Holt's ten-part peal, consisting of 504 changes. H. W. Jackson, 1; J. Lister, 2; J. Walsh, 3; T. E. Turner, 4; J. H. Jackson 5; W. Marsden, 6; W. Hamer, 7; R. Lindley, 8. Also a 530 of Grandsire Triples, bob-and-single variation, composed by H. W. Jackson. H. W. Jackson, 1; H. Bentley, 2; J. Redford, 3; T. E. Turner, 4; J. Walsh, 5; W. Marsden, 6; W. Hamer, 7; J. H. Jackson, 8. Tenor 15 cwt.

## VISIT OF THE WITTON SOCIETY TO WARBURTON, CHESHIRE.

On Monday, May 25th, ten of the above society visited this place, Arriving there about 3 p.m., having raised the bells in peal, and after ringing a few rounds and cross changes, a portion of the company then descended the tower and listened to a well struck 720 of Plain Bob Minor on the back six, by the following; William Forster (conductor), 1; Samuel Forster, 2; Richard Chantler, 3; Thomas Forster, 4; Joseph Bell, 5; Thomas Moore, 6. This 720 was rung in 30 mins. After which an adjournment was made and having partaken of refreshment the tower was again visited, and a 720 of Grandsire Minor was rung in 29 mins., the ringers being as follows: Samuel Forster (conductor), 1; William Forster, 2; Richard Chantler, 3; Joseph Bell, 4; Thomas Forster, 5; Thomas Moore, 6. A few more rounds and cross changes being rung, the bells were lowered in peal. These are the first 720's that have been recorded as having been rung on these bells. They are by Messrs. Taylor and Sons, of Loughboro', and are considered a grand peal, tenor 26 cwt. The visitors returned home well pleased with their first annual outing, and they 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 bells.

## THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, May 25th, several members of the St. Paul's company, Bedford, being also members of the above Association, paid a visit to Woburn, Bedfordshire, the home of their esteemed Hon. Sec., Mr. C. Herbert. Various touches were rung on the nice handy ring of eight, and a 720 of Bob Major by the following: M. Warrick, 1; S. Cullip, 2; C. West, 3; C. Herbert, 4; J. Atkin, 5; W. Chibnall, 6; I. Hills, 7; J. Frossell (conductor), 8. Tenor 13 cwt. A move was then made to Husborne Crawley, about two miles, in the pouring rain, where was rung a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob Minor, on, no doubt, the best ring of six in the county, lately rehung by Messrs. Taylor. C. West, 1; J. Atkin, 2; M. Warrick, 3; W. Chibnall, 4; I. Hills, 5; J. Frossell (conductor), 6. Time 28 mins. And a 720 of Bob Minor, in 27 mins. J. Atkin, 1; C. West, 2; M. Warrick, 3; S. Cullip, 4; J. Frossell, 5; I. Hills (conductor), 6. W. Chibnall hails from Aspley.

## THE EASTBOURNE SOCIETIES.

On Monday, May 25th, some members of St. Mary's, All Saints', and Christ Church Societies, Eastbourne, paid a visit to the village of Waldron, a distance of about 18 miles from Eastbourne Station. Having, after a short run by rail, arrived at Horeham Road Station about 10.45, there remained three miles to walk, through one of the most charming country scenes in Sussex, but it unfortunately came on rain as the visitors proceeded on their way; but, nothing daunted, they braved the elements, arriving at the picturesque village of Waldron dripping wet. "After refreshing the inner man at the village inn," says our correspondent, "we started for the church to have a pull at the ropes, the object of our visit being to try a peal of Grandsire Triples on this beautiful light peal of eight, which we found in splendid going order. Having divested ourselves of our upper garments, we started off into changes at ten minutes to one, but unfortunately, after having rang 2000 in 1 hr. and 10 mins., it being splendid tapping, a country yokel forced his body through the doorway (the door of which we thought was locked), making his way across the ringing chamber with as much noise as possible. This caused a collapse. On seeing the mischief his presence had caused, his name was 'Sloper,' taking with him the best wishes for his future welfare that the enraged band could give him, and there not being time for another try, we rang a thousand and then, in a driving rain, made a start for Easthoathly, a village three miles distant, possessing a church with a beautiful peal of six bells, where we rang a 720 of Grandsire Minor, conducted by Thomas Willoughby; and six 120's of Grandsire Doubles, conducted by L. Huggett, a friend from Uckfield taking part. The village club fete being held at the time, we enjoyed ourselves for a little while with the village lasses, and then procured a conveyance and drove to Hailsham, a distance of eight miles, taking the train from thence to Eastbourne, arriving home about eleven o'clock; and, though feeling rather damp, we had one of those most enjoyable days that Eastbourne ringers and friends always spend when they have an outing together." The following attempted the peal:—George Smith, treble; Frederick Harding (conductor), 2nd; George Howse, 3rd; Leonard Huggett, 4th; Thomas Willoughby, 5th; James Potter, 6th; Thomas Hart, 7th; Joseph Lewis, tenor.

## A VISIT TO THORSBEY, NOTTS.

On Whit Monday the Anston Society, with Mr. J. Dixon, of Sheffield, had a splendid drive through Sherwood Forest, by way of Major Oak, which is a splendid old tree, its girth five feet from the ground being 32 feet. They then drove on to Edwinstowe, and had refreshment at the Royal Oak Inn, and then they visited the pretty little church in Thorsbey Park, which is the seat of Earl Manvers, where, by his kind permission, they rang 2160 changes in the methods of Duke of York, Kent, and Oxford Treble Bob Minor, in 1 hr. 14 mins., by the following:—George Lidster, 1; Robert S. Fox, 2; Joseph Bland, 3; Chas. F. Fowler, 4; Samuel Smith, 5; Thomas Silvester (conductor), 6. Tenor 6½ cwt. These were the first 720 rang on the bells. Also rang several touches with Mr. Dixon and the local company, who are under his instruction. These bells are a sweet light peal, cast by Mears and Stainbank, are in capital ringing order, and well worthy of a visit. After the bells were ceased, tea was kindly provided by the local company, for which, and for their kindness in trying to make the outing as enjoyable as possible, the visitors desire, through the medium of this paper, to thank them; also the Vicar and Churchwardens for the use of the bells.

## THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS AND THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—BRAINTREE.

The following is an account of the ringing done by the Baintree company during the month of April:—

April 5th, 720 Oxford Treble Bob, 720 Woodbine Treble Bob; April 7th, 720 Cambridge Surprise; April 11th, 720 Oxford Treble Bob, 720 Bob Minor; April 12th, 720 Double Court Bob, 720 and 144 Kent Treble Bob, 144 Bob Minor, three 120's of Bob Doubles, and three 120's of Grandsire Doubles; April 14th, 720 College Exercise, 720 Woodbine Treble Bob; April 18th, 720 London Scholars' Pleasure, 360 Bob Minor; April 19th, 720 Kent Treble Bob, 720 New London Pleasure, 180 Court Single; April 21st, 720 Court Single, 720 Oxford Delight; April 25th, 720 Cambridge Surprise; April 26th, 720 Morning Exercise.

## THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

The members of this Association are invited by Mr. Percival Heywood to a garden party, at Duffield Bank, on Saturday, June 6th, from two to seven; tea at five o'clock. The bells of the parish church (8) will be at the disposal of the members from two o'clock for short touches only. The Midland Railway Company has kindly consented to issue pleasure party tickets at a single fare and a quarter for the double journey on this date, provided there be not less than ten third-class passengers.

JOSEPH GRIFFIN, Hon. Sec.

## THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

REPORT FOR FORTNIGHT ENDING MAY 26TH.—On Tuesday, May 12th, by the Crawley branch, a 720 of Bob Minor, in 25 mins., and a 720 of College Single Minor, in 23 mins. G. Wickings, 1; J. Newnham, 2; W. Collison, 3; M. Heffer, 4; A. F. Hillier, 5; F. Wickings (conductor), 6. On Saturday, May 16th, by the Eastbourne Branch, a 360 of Grandsire Minor. T. Lewis, 1; G. Smith, 2; C. Harfey, 3; T. Smith, 4; G. Howse, 5; F. Harding (conductor), 6. On Sunday, May 17th, by the Crawley and Balcombe branches, for Divine Service in the evening, a 420 of Oxford Bob Triples. W. Parsons, 1; J. Newnham, 2; G. Gasson (Balcombe), 3; W. Collison, 4; M. Heffer, 5; F. Wickings (conductor), 6; A. F. Hillier, 7; E. Streeter (Balcombe), 8. On Monday, May 18th, by the Crawley branch, a 720 of Warnham Court Bob Minor, in 25 mins. G. Wickens, 1; M. Heffer, 2; J. Newnham, 3; W. Collison, 4; A. F. Hillier, 5; F. Wickens (conductor), 6. And on Wednesday, May 20th, by the Eastbourne branch, with Mr. Wm. Bone, of Reigate, 1050 of Grandsire Triples, in 39½ mins. S. Hart, 1; H. P. Bennett, 2; W. Bone, 3; G. Howse, 4; L. Huggett, 5; J. Potter, 6; T. Hart, 7; T. Lewis, 8. On Thursday, May 21st, at St. Peter's, Brighton, on the occasion of the General Meeting, a 720 of Oxford Single Bob Minor, in 24 mins. E. C. Attree (Brighton), 1; C. Tyler (Brighton), 2; G. F. Attree (Brighton), 3; W. Chatfield, jun. (Billingshurst), 4; H. Burstow (Horsham), 5; G. Gatling (conductor), 6. And a 720 in the same method. J. Jay, sen. (Brighton), 1; F. Hillier (Crawley), 2; G. Holloway (Crawley), 3; T. Lenney (Hurst), 4; F. Wickings (Crawley), 5; W. Wadey (Warnham), 6. And at St. Nicholas', Brighton, a 1050 of Grandsire Triples. G. Smith, 1; G. Howse, 2; T. Smith, 3; L. Huggett, 4; R. Walters, 5; T. Hart, 6; A. Bennett, 7; J. Lewes, 8. No. 5 and 7 belong to the Cuckfield branch, the rest to the Eastbourne branch. And a 504 of Grandsire Triples. H. Chatfield (Fletching), 1; H. Boniface (Brighton), 2; A. Bennett (Cuckfield), 3; C. Baldock (Kent County Association), 4; R. Walters (Eastbourne), 5; L. Huggett (Eastbourne; conductor), 6; J. Hart (Eastbourne), 7; J. Lewis (Eastbourne), 8. Also a 336 of Grandsire Triples, by Messrs. Weeds, Tyler, King, Boniface, Weston, Searle, and Butler, and the Rev. R. F. Tompkins. Also a 518 of Grandsire Triples. W. Meades, 1; H. Boniface, 2; C. Tyler, 3; G. F. Attree, 4; J. Searle (conductor), 5; G. King, 6; J. Jay, jun., 7; W. Robinson, 8. And at St. Paul's, Brighton, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, 1260 changes, in 44½ mins. G. Smith, 1; H. P. Bennett, 2; G. Howse, 3; L. Huggett, 4; T. Hart, 5; G. F. Attree (conductor), 6; A. Bennett, 7; T. Lewis, 8. No. 6, Brighton branch, No. 7, Cuckfield, the rest Eastbourne. And on Sunday, May 24th, at Warnham, by the Warnham branch, a 720 of Warnham Court Bob Minor, conducted by H. Burstow, a 720 of Canterbury Pleasure, conducted by H. Wood, a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob Minor, conducted by H. Chantler, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor, conducted by H. Chantler, in which the following seven ringers took part: F. Garman, W. Short, W. Wadey, H. Wood, T. Andrews, H. Burstow, H. Chantler. And at St. Peter's, Brighton, by the St. Peter's, Brighton branch, a 504 of Grandsire Triples, in 18½ mins. E. Marshall, 1; H. Weston (conductor), 2; E. C. Attree, 3; G. F. Attree, 4; C. Golds, 5; J. Jay, sen. 6; O. St. John, 7; W. Vernon, 8. And at Billingshurst, by the Billingshurst branch, for service, ten 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles. P. Wood, 1; W. Chantler, 2; J. Voice, 3; W. Chantler, jun., 4; T. Chantler (conductor), 5; J. Balchin, 6. And two 720's of Oxford Bob Minor. P. Wood, 1; W. Chantler, 2; G. Mathews, 3; W. Chantler, jun., 4; J. Voice, 5; T. Chantler (conductor), 6. And at St. Andrew's, Steyning, by the Steyning branch, for Divine Service in the evening, a 720 of Oxford Bob Minor, in 26 mins. E. Brockley, 1; A. Rapley, 2; T. Searle, 3; C. Chambers, 4; C. Tyler (conductor), 5; J. Woolger, 6. And a 720 of College Single, in 26 mins. T. Searle, 1; A. Rapley, 2; J. Woolger, 3; C. Tyler, 4; J. Searle, 5; G. Gatland (conductor), 6. And on Monday, May 25th, at Worth, by members of the Worth, Warnham, and Horsham branches, a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob Minor, and a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor. F. Garman, 1; W. Short, 2; W. Wadey, 3; H. Wood, 4; J. Andrews, 5; H. Burstow (conductor), 6. Also a 720 of Plain Bob Minor, in which the above band took part, excepting H. Burstow, who was substituted by F. Rice, who conducted. Also a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob Minor. F. Garman, 1; J. Newnham, 2; W. Wadey, 3; H. Wood, 4; T. Andrews, 5; H. Burstow (conductor), 6. And at Crawley, two touches of Oxford Bob Triples, 420 and 840 changes, and a quarter-peal in the same method, 1260 changes, the first conducted by F. Wickings, and the others by H. Burstow, the following members taking part: Messrs. B. King, J. Newnham, E. Streeter, W. Wadey, T. Andrews, F. Wickings, W. Collison, F. Garman, W. Short, H. Burstow, F. Rice. And a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob. F. Wickings, 1; J. Newnham, 2; W. Wadey, 3; H. Wood, 4; T. Andrews, 5; F. Garman, 6; H. Burstow (conductor), 7; B. King, 8. Rung with the 6th and 8th covering.

GEO. F. ATTREE, Hon. Sec.



## THE VICAR OF MODBURY AND HIS RINGERS.

WE insert the following paragraph and correspondence, taken from the *Western Morning News* :—

"The Vicar of Modbury (Rev. G. C. Green) has demanded the key of the belfry from the foreman ringer (Mr. W. Burring), and informed him that since he and his companions refused to ring the bells for church on Sunday, although they were in the belfry and were requested to do so, their services will be no longer required. On Wednesday evening of last week the ringers waited upon Mr. Green and requested to be allowed to ring one peal in celebration of Mr. Mildmay's visit on the following day, promising to do the same when Mr. Lopes visited Modbury. Mr. Green refused to allow the bells to be rung for Mr. Mildmay on any terms, and to show their annoyance at this restriction the ringers only chimed the bells on Sunday, refusing to ring them. On Monday evening the men took away all their effects from the belfry and went to hand over the key to the vicar, as desired. They were much cheered as they passed through the town."

## "CHURCH BELLS AND POLITICS.

"Sir,—A paragraph having appeared in the *Western Morning News* with regard to the dismissal of the Modbury ringers which might give an erroneous impression by having stated only a part of the truth, I feel compelled to state exactly what I have done, and my motives in so doing. It is quite true that the ringers asked me on Wednesday last to be allowed to ring a peal the next day in honour of Mr. Mildmay's coming to Modbury, and that I refused their request; but I told them at the same time that I refused this because I considered that the church and the church bells ought never to take any part in any political demonstration, and that for the same reason I should not allow them to ring if Mr. Lopes came to Modbury. I added that if it had been for Mr. Mildmay's birthday or his wedding I should be very willing that they should ring, but that this demonstration could not be looked upon as other than a political one. When Lord Salisbury came to Plymouth last June, an offer was made that many of the bells of the Plymouth churches should be rung, but it was decided by the Conservative committee that no such offers should be accepted, because it was considered that church bells ought not to take part in any political demonstration. When the ringers on Sunday last refused to ring the bells for service, thereby offering an insult to the worship of God, and a slight to all the parishioners, because of their personal difference with me, I considered that they failed altogether to see the true purpose of church bell ringing, and were unfit to carry on such a high and sacred office any longer. I therefore wrote to them, as you have stated, and in so doing I know that I have the approbation of a great part of the most influential and thoughtful of my parishioners. Yours truly,

"G. C. GREEN, Vicar of Modbury.

"Modbury Vicarage, May 20th, 1885."

## "CHURCH BELLS AND POLITICS AT MODBURY.

"Sir,—Kindly allow us to reply to the Rev. G. C. Green. Mr. Green stated in his letter of yesterday's issue, 'I added if it had been Mr. Mildmay's birthday or his wedding I should have been very willing that they should ring.' Richard Shephard and myself were present, and we honestly declare that nothing of the kind ever escaped Mr. Green's lips when we were present; also that the ringers had not the slightest intention of insulting the parishioners or the Church, and above all the worship of God, as Mr. Green puts it. We chimed three times on Sunday, and once in the afternoon when a funeral took place. We are not supposed to ring the bells on Sundays; we are supposed to chime for service and ring them when we choose. Mr. Mildmay has been one of the largest contributors to our funds, and as such we thought our duty to give him a peal. We desire to be grateful for the kindness he had shewn us. Mr. Green states that he has got the majority of the inhabitants with him in the action he has taken. Let anyone visit Modbury and test that statement they will find that the Vicar is sadly mistaken. We did our duty on Sunday by chiming the bells, and the vicar paid us off with base coinage. We are willing to submit our action to any disinterested person. I, W. Burring, have been twenty-seven years connected with the belfry at Modbury, and I think Mr. Green must admit that the bellringers of Modbury have always tried to be obliging and courteous to him, but object to any tyrannical action.—Yours respectfully,

"W. BURING, } The Ringers that waited on  
"R. SHEPHEARD, } Mr. Green.

"Modbury, May 23rd."

\* \* \* Several touches, parts of meetings, and various other items are unavoidably left again until next issue.

## In Memoriam.

JOSEPH WIBBERLEY.

We deeply regret having to record the death of the above Nottingham ringer, which took place at his residence, 4, Curzon Street, Nottingham, on Sunday, the 17th inst., after a short but painful illness, at the age of 55 years, and who was interred at the Church Cemetery on Wednesday, the 20th instant. The deceased had been a ringer at All Saints' Church from the time the bells were opened, a period of about twenty years, and for a greater portion of that time he was the steeple-keeper. He had taken part in peals of Grandsire Triples, Caters, and Treble Bob Major, in several of the towns in the Midland Counties, and his death will be heard of with regret by all with whom he had come in contact. He was a prominent member of the Midland Counties' Association of Change Ringers, always willing to render assistance to any company at any time. At his funeral the solemn service was read by the Rev. A. Pearson, Vicar of All Saints', and around the graveside we noticed T. Gascoyne, Esq., and J. B. Nevill, Esq., the Churchwardens of All Saints', and F. Jackson, Esq., the retiring Churchwarden; also several members of the congregation, and most of the ringers of the town, and representatives of the Ancient Order of Foresters, of which Order the deceased had been Secretary of his Court, and also of the Nottingham Typographical Society, of which he had been a member. Mr. Wibberley was very much esteemed in Nottingham, and his death has caused a gap which it will be very difficult to fill. In the evening muffled peals were rung at All Saints' and Beeston churches; and at St. Peter's, Nottingham, a half-peal of Grandsire Triples was rung in 1 hr. and 37 mins., by the following:—S. Wilkins, treble; G. Ashworth, 2nd; S. G. Henson, 3rd; A. Archer, 4th; A. R. Peet, 5th; J. Hickman, 6th; S. Burton, 7th; A. W. Sadler, tenor. Conducted by J. Hickman.

## 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."

720'S OF DOUBLE STEDMAN SLOW COURSE MINOR.

SIR,—In your last issue of "THE BELL NEWS" your correspondent at Oxford reports a 720 in the above method at St. Mary Magdalene. He also states this to be the fourth 720 ever rang in the method by any company. How he makes this out I cannot understand, for if he refers to "THE BELL NEWS," Nos. 85, 97, and 112, he will see the reports of three 720's in this method, viz.: one at Hornsey and two at Haverstock Hill; and if he again refers to "THE BELL NEWS," No. 88, he will see two letters bearing on this subject, wherein three more 720's are spoken of, viz.: one mentioned in Shipway's work as having been rung about the year 1816; one rung at Hurworth-on-Tees, 23rd July, 1876, and one rung at St. John's, Darlington. This will therefore make the Oxford peal the seventh in the method instead of the fourth.

J. H.

## BELFRY RHYMES.

STONE TABLET IN THE BELFRY OF THE OLD CHURCH (ST. MICHAEL'S), MACCLESFIELD.

Gentlemen ringers Yt come here,  
you must ring true with Eye and Ear,  
you must keep Time and not go out,  
or else you Forfiet, out of doubt.  
Our Law is so concluded Here,  
For every Fault, A Pinte of Beer,  
And if a Bell you Overthrow,  
'Twill cost 4 pence before you go.  
Any yt ring with spur or Hat,  
six Pence in Ale must Pay for Yt,  
these Laws are Old, they are not New,  
Clerk and Sexton must have yer due.

Will Clayton, Ed. Blagg, Wardens.  
1701.

The above is an exact copy both of the spelling and the capital letters and figures. It is in excellent preservation, having been cleaned and black lettered within the last ten years, at the instance of the conductor, Mr. Matthews.

## THE SHIPWAY REPRINT.

THE issue of this work in penny numbers will shortly be commenced. Our country friends, who have prevailed upon us to issue it in this form, can have copies from local newsagents at the same time they get their "BELL NEWS." Care must be taken in ordering, and local booksellers should be informed of the importance of attending to all orders for these weekly numbers, because a reprint is out of the question. We again give notice that whoever is negligent enough to miss this opportunity of getting SHIPWAY on such easy terms, will probably never again have the chance of doing so. We lay great stress upon this fact. There has always been a great demand for our Christmas numbers when it is too late, and after we have commenced this weekly re-issue we shall be very sorry to hear of any one being disappointed in this publication. The book will be printed in a popular style, upon good paper, and when finished will be found worthy of admittance into any library. We hope the efforts made to bring it out in this shape will meet with a commensurate support from all our friends, and perhaps we can rely upon those who have pressed upon us to publish it in this form, to urge their ringing acquaintance to become possessors of copies of every number. The various prefaces of the author will be issued when each part is complete.

Subscribers' complete copies will be ready about the time we have previously indicated.

"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 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, MAY 30, 1885.

IN reading the accounts of peals rung by various parties of ringers in the Metropolis, our country cousins cannot fail to have remarked how very few churches there appears to be in London which are open for peal-ringing. On twelve, St. Saviour's, Southwark, St. Michael's, Cornhill, and St. Martin's-in-the-Fields divide the honours; and perhaps this is not a bad proportion of the total number. But on ten and eight bells there is a terrible falling off. St. Clement Danes, and All Saints' Fulham of the former; St. Giles-in-the-Fields, St. Mary-atte-Bow,

St. Paul's, Shadwell, St. Mary, Lambeth, and Battersea, of the latter may be said to include all the strictly metropolitan towers at which a peal can be attempted except on very unfrequent occasions.

There are several reasons why this is so. Some of the towers are in the hands of call-change ringers, who view with jealous eye an invasion of their scientific brethren. But while saying this, we should like to make it known that there are ringers of this class to be found who feel themselves honored by a visit from half-pull ringers. At some, neglect has rendered the bells unpealable, or their weight is so great as to have the same effect. And we are afraid that peal ringing is refused at several of our steeples because, on some past occasion, the conditions under which permission was granted were at one time or another disregarded. Rather than lose a peal, ringers have broken the stipulations under which access to the belfry was obtained, and when such breaches of regulations occur, one or two noisy, turbulent spirits are to be found whose assurance is on a par with their ignorance and obstinacy, who glory in such actions, and appear to luxuriate and revel in attempts for peals when some sort of clandestine proceeding is necessary. Now we wish strongly to urge upon all whom it may concern the short-sightedness, the bad policy, of behaviour like this. It is so inconsiderate, so selfish, that we can hardly think any one would be guilty of it with malice aforethought.

We think it not too much to expect that the London section should be able to impart a tone, generally, to the whole of the Exercise. Yet how far we are from such a state of things is seen by recent letters from two or three of our most valued contributors. Ringing matters in the metropolis seems just now to be a favorite topic for criticism. "A chiel's amang ye, takin' notes." Then it becomes us to set our house in order. In some quarters there appears to be a kind of boorish restlessness, a selfish desire, by persons of medium ability only, to overreach others better than themselves, and when success is reached under such conditions, the early training and subsequent associations of these unquiet people is easy of diagnosis. Their vaulting ambition must not be suffered to overleap itself, it should be nipped in the bud. Restraint is often advantageously exercised where passiveness would be injurious, and if the recognised leaders of the metropolitan companies were now and then to put the curb on some of their fellows whose blatant faculties need refining, a step in the right direction would be made.

## The Metropolis.

SHADWELL, MIDDLESEX.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

On Tuesday, May 26, 1885, in Two Hours and Fifty-three Minutes,

At ST. PAUL'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

BROOK'S VARIATION.

EDWIN HORREX .. .. Treble.	JOHN M. HAYES .. .. 5.
GEORGE MASH .. .. 2.	*A. PERCIVAL HEYWOOD, Esq. 6.
WILLIAM D. SMITH .. .. 3.	FREDERICK G. NEWMAN .. 7.
JAMES PETTIT .. .. 4.	GEORGE TANNER .. .. Tenor

Conducted by JAMES PETTIT.

\* First peal in the method.

**The Provinces.****HOLBECK, LEEDS.—THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.****Birthday Peal.***On Tuesday, May 19, 1885, in Two Hours and Fifty-nine Minutes,*

AT ST. MATTHEW'S CHURCH,

**A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5040 CHANGES;**

Tenor 16 cwt. in F.

HENRY HUBBARD .. .. Treble.	JOSHUA WOODHEAD .. .. 5.
HARRY TOMLINSON .. .. 2.	FRANCIS WOODHEAD .. .. 6.
HENRY MOSS .. .. 3.	MATTHEW TOMLINSON .. .. 7.
STEPHEN BASNETT .. .. 4.	DAVID YORK .. .. Tenor.

Composed by WILLIAM WALKER, of Leeds, and Conducted by HENRY MOSS.

The above peal has never been previously performed, and is the first peal the conductor has called. The above was rung to commemorate the 38th birthday of the conductor, and his brother ringers wish him many happy returns of the day.

QUEX PARK, ISLE OF THANET.

THE SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.

*On Friday, May 22, 1885, in Three Hours and Seven Minutes,*

AT WATERLOO TOWER,

**A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;**

HOLT'S 10-PART. Tenor 15½ cwt.

C. WILLSHIRE .. .. Treble.	T. B. REED .. .. 5.
L. WILLSHIRE .. .. 2.	J. J. BRISTOW .. .. 6.
P. A. REED .. .. 3.	G. WILLSHIRE .. .. 7.
T. B. REED, JUN. .. .. 4.	S. FULCHER .. .. Tenor.

Conducted by L. WILLSHIRE.

First peal by all except S. Fulcher.

QUEX PARK, ISLE OF THANET.

THE SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.

*On Saturday, May 23, 1885, in Two Hours and Fifty-nine Minutes,*

AT WATERLOO TOWER,

**A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;**

HOLT'S 10-PART. Tenor 15½ cwt.

C. WILLSHIRE .. .. Treble.	T. B. REED .. .. 5.
L. WILLSHIRE .. .. 2.	P. A. REED .. .. 6.
A. SAYER .. .. 3.	G. WILLSHIRE .. .. 7.
T. B. REED, JUN. .. .. 4.	E. GOLDER .. .. Tenor.

Conducted by L. WILLSHIRE.

These are the first peals rung by all residents in Birchington since the tower was completed in 1818.

WHITFIELD, DERBYSHIRE.—GLOSSOP SENIOR SOCIETY.

*On Saturday, May 23, 1885, in Three Hours and Two Minutes,*

AT ST. JAMES'S CHURCH,

**A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;**

IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 15 cwt.

JOHN LAWTON .. .. Treble.	SAMUEL KNOTT .. .. 5.
JOSEPH ROBINSON .. .. 2.	SAMUEL SHAW .. .. 6.
JOHN HARROP .. .. 3.	SAMUEL KNOTT, JUN. .. .. 7.
THOMAS JAMES .. .. 4.	JOHN PYE .. .. Tenor.

Composed by JOHN THORP, of Ashton, and Conducted by SAMUEL KNOTT, JUN.

This peal was rung in commemoration of the Queen's birthday. Samuel Shaw hails from Dinting.

FRITTENDEN, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

*On Monday, May 25, 1885, in Three Hours and Twenty-Five Minutes,*

AT ST. MARY'S CHURCH,

**A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 6048 CHANGES.**

Tenor 14 cwt. in G.

E. BALDOCK .. .. Treble.	W. H. JUDD .. .. 5.
S. SNELLING .. .. 2.	T. POTTER .. .. 6.
J. M. COOPER .. .. 3.	C. PAYNE .. .. 7.
A. MOORCRAFT .. .. 4.	T. DAYNES .. .. Tenor.

Conducted by C. PAYNE.

HARROW-ON-THE-HILL, MIDDLESEX.

THE ST. JAMES'S SOCIETY, LONDON.

*On Saturday, May 23, 1885, in Three Hours and Nineteen Minutes,*

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

**A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;**

HOLT'S ORIGINAL. Tenor 24 cwt. in Eb.

JAMES R. HAWORTH .. Treble.	WM. H. RUSSELL .. .. 5.
WILLIAM COPPAGE .. .. 2.	GEORGE R. BANKS .. .. 6.
JOHN W. MANSFIELD .. 3.	ARTHUR HAYWARD .. .. 7.
RICHARD FRENCH .. .. 4.	EDWARD ALBONE .. .. Tenor.

Conducted by RICHARD FRENCH.

This is the quickest peal, and the second on the bells rang during the past forty-eight years. The previous peal to the above was rung by the same band, who rang the same bells, in a similar peal on October 11th, 1884, after the bells had been renovated by Mr. Banks, of London.

BURTON-ON-TRENT, STAFFORDSHIRE.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION, AND THE ST. PAUL'S SOCIETY, BURTON-ON-TRENT.

**Muffled Peal.***On Saturday, May 23, 1885, in Three Hours and Twenty-one Minutes,*

AT ST. PAUL'S CHURCH,

**A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;**

Tenor 26 cwt.

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

Composed by JOHN CARTER and Conducted by

JOSEPH GRIFFIN.

This peal, which is now rung for the first time, is a two-part peal, and contains the 6th twenty-four times wrong and right, see Snowdon's "Double Norwich," page 32, being the first of the peals there given. It was rung with the bells half muffled as a token of respect to the memory of the late J. Wibberley, of Nottingham, a member of the above Association.

BLETCHINGLEY, SURREY.—THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

*On Whit-Sunday, May 24, 1885, in Three Hours and Two Minutes,*

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

**A PEAL OF BOB TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;**

Tenor 19 cwt.

ARTHUR WALLIS .. .. Treble.	GEORGE POTTER .. .. 5.
WILLIAM BURKIN .. .. 2.	LUKE KILLICK .. .. 6.
THOMAS BONIFACE .. .. 3.	WALTER HAWKINS .. .. 7.
JOHN BASHFORD, JUN. .. 4.	HENRY PETERS .. .. Tenor.

Composed by H. JOHNSON, SEN., and Conducted by

WALTER HAWKINS.

The above peal is in ten parts. Messrs. Burkin, Hawkins, and Peters hail from Nutfield, the rest belong to Bletchingley.

WOODSTOCK, OXON.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

*On Monday, May 25, 1885, in Two Hours and Fifty-five Minutes,*

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

**A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;**

THURSTANS' COMPOSITION. Tenor 15 cwt.

HERBERT J. CASTLE* .. Treble.	JAMES W. WASHBROOK .. 5.
OLIVER THOMAS .. .. 2.	WILLIAM C. BASTON .. 6.
REV. F. A. H. DU BOULAY .. 3.	A. F. M. CUSTANCE, Esq. 7.
FREDERICK A. CASTLE .. 4.	WILLIAM COX .. .. Tenor.

Conducted by JAMES WILLIAM WASHBROOK.

The above is a four-part peal, and has never been previously rung. First peal in the method on the bells. \*First peal. And walking from the station to Woodstock along the road, the following rang a 504 of Grandsire Triples, on the hand-bells. O. Thomas, 1-2; W. Baston, 3-4; J. W. Washbrook (conductor), 5-6; H. Castle, 7-8. And a 336 of Grandsire Triples.

SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.—The Annual Meeting will be held at Devizes, for Bishops Cannings and District, on Saturday, June 6th. Dinner Tickets to be had of the Secretary (Rev. F. Wright-Anderson), Warminster, price 2s. each.

## PINNER, MIDDLESEX.—THE ST. JAMES'S SOCIETY.

On Whit-Monday, May 25, 1885, in Three Hours and Two Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST,

## A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S ORIGINAL. Tenor 19½ cwt.

WILLIAM H. MANNING .. Treble.	WILLIAM H. FUSSELL .. 5.
ALBERT E. CHURCH* .. 2.	JOSEPH BARRY .. .. 6.
RICHARD R. FRENCH.. .. 3.	WILLIAM H. GEORGE .. 7.
HENRY LANGDON .. .. 4.	JAMES LEWIS .. .. Tenor.

Conducted by RICHARD FRENCH.

This is the second peal rang on these bells, which are an excellent ring from the Old Whitechapel Foundry, dated 1777. \*First peal with a bob bell.

## WORKSOP, NOTTS.—THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, May 25, 1885, in Three Hours and Five Minutes,

AT THE ABBEY CHURCH,

## A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 12 cwt.

WILLIAM HARRIS .. .. Treble.	CHARLES H. HATTERSLEY 5.
HENRY MOTTERSHALL .. 2.	WALTER WORTHINGTON.. 6.
ARTHUR KNIGHTS .. .. 3.	JAMES HUNT .. .. 7.
JOHN HARRIS .. .. 4.	HERBERT MADIN .. .. Tenor.

Composed and Conducted by HERBERT MADIN.

Messrs. Hattersley and Knights hail from Sheffield and Chesterfield respectively; the rest belong to Staveley. This is the first peal ever rung at the Abbey church, and the company wish to thank the vicar for the use of the bells.

## MAIDENHEAD, BERKS.

## THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

On Monday, May 25, 1885, in Three Hours and Ten-and-½ Minutes,

AT ALL SAINTS' CHURCH, BOYNE HILL,

## A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE MAJOR, 5040 CHANGES.

Tenor 17½ cwt.

ARTHUR TENNANT* .. Treble.	*GEORGE T. McLAUGHLIN 5.
EDWARD F. STRANGE .. 2.	*EDWARD ROGERS .. .. 6.
WILLIAM A. GARRAWAY*.. 3.	MARTIN MURPHY .. .. 7.
FREDERICK G. NEWMAN .. 4.	*JAMES W. WILKINS.. .. Tenor.

Composed by JOHN CARTER, and Conducted by EDWARD F. STRANGE.

This is the first peal of Major on the bells, and the first peal of Grandsire Major by all except the ringer of the 4th bell. \*First peal of Major.

## NOTTINGHAM.—THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

On Whit-Monday, May 25, 1885, in Three Hours and Seven Minutes,

AT ST. PETER'S CHURCH,

## A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

TAYLOR'S BOB-AND-SINGLE VARIATION. Tenor 21 cwt.

SAMUEL WILKINS .. .. Treble.	SAMUEL SIMKIN.. .. 5.
HORACE W. ABBOTT.. .. 2.	JOHN HICKMAN .. .. 6.
JOHN W. WILSON .. .. 3.	*ROBERT GEE .. .. 7.
ALFRED ARCHER.. .. 4.	ALBERT H. SADLER.. .. Tenor.

Conducted by JOHN HICKMAN.

\*First peal.

## CHELTENHAM.

## GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Tuesday, May 26, 1885, in Three Hours and Four Minutes,

## A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

THURSTAN'S COMPOSITION. Tenor 23 cwt.

H. KARN* .. .. Treble.	F. MUSTY .. .. 5.
W. MORRIS .. .. 2.	*W. T. PATES .. .. 6.
F. E. WARD, Esq.* .. 3.	G. H. PHILLOTT, Esq. .. 7.
J. E. HERN*.. .. 4.	*A. W. HUMPHRIS .. .. Tenor.

Conducted by W. T. PATES.

\*First peal of Stedman Triples. J. E. Hern hails from Newnham. The ringers desire to record their appreciation of the manner in which Messrs. Moore, Holmes, and Mackenzie have re-bung the tenor bell, which now goes splendidly.

BISHOPS CANNINGS (Wilts).—The peal of eight bells in Bishop's Cannings steeple, is being put into thorough repair by Mr. T. Blackburn, of Salisbury.

## DERBY.

## THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION AND THE ST. PAUL'S SOCIETY, BURTON-ON-TRENT.

On Tuesday, May 26, 1885, in Three Hours and Fifteen Minutes,

AT ST. ANDREW'S CHURCH, LITCHURCH,

## A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES; Tenor 20 cwt.

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

Composed by HENRY DAINS and Conducted by WILLIAM WAKLEY.

This peal, which is now rung for the first time, is in two parts, and contains the 5th and 6th each twenty-four times right. See Snowdon's "Double Norwich," page 33.

## DUFFIELD, DERBYSHIRE.

## THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION AND THE ST. PAUL'S SOCIETY, BURTON-ON-TRENT.

On Wednesday, May 27, 1885, in Three Hours and Seventeen Minutes,

AT ALL SAINTS' CHURCH,

## A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR, 5376 CHANGES. Tenor 16½ cwt.

REV. JAMES H. FISH .. Treble.	HARRY WAKLEY.. .. 5.
JOHN JAGGAR .. .. 2.	HENRY DAINS .. .. 6.
ARTHUR WAKLEY .. .. 3.	THOMAS HOLMES .. .. 7.
JOSEPH GRIFFIN .. .. 4.	WILLIAM WAKLEY .. .. Tenor.

Composed by HENRY JOHNSON, SEN., and Conducted by WILLIAM WAKLEY.

The above is a six-part peal and contains the 5th and 6th twenty-four times in 6th's place. It is taken from Snowdon's "Double Norwich," page 35, and has never been previously performed.

## Date Touches.

EYE (Suffolk).—On Monday, May 25th, eight members of the Eye Association rang a date touch of 1885 changes of Oxford Treble Bob, in 1 hr. 82 mins. F. Day (conductor), 1; G. Day, 2; W. Gooderham, 3; F. Wright, 4; K. Gibbs, 5; G. Ford, 6; J. Bumstead, 7; G. Murton, 8. Composed by the Rev. H. Earle Bulwer. Tenor 24 cwt.

ORMSKIRK (Lancashire).—On Sunday, May 24th, at the parish church, in honour of the Queen's Birthday, Miss E. C. Sharland's date touch of 1885 changes of Grandsire Triples, in 1 hr. 4 mins. John Prescott, 1; William J. Taylor, 2; William Ellis, 3; James Sholicar, 4; William Bentham (conductor), 5; Edward Bentham (Wigan), 6; George Prescott, 7; William Lloyd, 8. Tenor 25½ cwt.

SHEFFIELD (Yorkshire).—On Monday, May 25th, for Children's Service in the morning, a date touch of Gaandsire Triples, in 1 hr. 6 mins. Walter Hammond, 1; Edward F. Rippon, 2; Frank Willey (conductor), 3; Jos. Rowley, 4; Sam. Seed, 5; Herbert J. Thompson, 6; William Smithson, 7; James Rew, 8. Composed by C. Jackson, of Hull.

STEBBING (Essex).—On Monday, May 25th, at St. Mary's church a date touch of 1885 changes in the following methods: 360 of Stedman Slow Course, 360 of St. Simon's, 360 of Grandsire, 360 of Antelope, and 445 of Bob Doubles, in 1 hr. 7 mins. \*Henry Gowers, 1; \*Henry Claydon (conductor), 2; \*John T. Barker, 3; \*Edward Hynds, 4; William Stock, 5. Tenor 16 cwt. \*Members of the Essex Association.

WORTH (Sussex).—On Saturday evening, May 23rd, the local company rang a date touch of 1885 changes in the following methods: 445 of Oxford Bob, 720 of Warnham Court, and 720 of Plain Bob Minor, in 1 hr. 7 mins. T. Illman, 1; W. Denman, 2; B. Payne, 3; E. Streeter, 4; G. Illman, 5; F. Rice (conductor), 6. Tenor 8½ cwt.

## Miscellaneous.

## DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

HEIGHINGTON.—On Monday, May 25th, a few members of the above Association journeyed from Bishop Auckland (where a general meeting was being held), to the above pretty village, and rang at St. Michael's Church, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor. John Moffit, 1;

W. Story, 2; W. Reed (conductor), 3; H. Ross, 4; R. W. Wignell, 5; Joel Hern, 6. A 720 of Court Bob was then attempted, but came to grief at the half-way single; tenor 16 cwt. The ringers beg to thank the Vicar of Heighington for the kind reception he gave them.

NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.—On Thursday, May 21st, for practice at the church of St. John-the-Baptist, 896 of Grandsire Triples. H. Ferguson, 1; F. Lees, 2; W. Story, 3; R. S. Story, 4; J. Simm, 5; E. Wallis, 6; T. Denton (conductor), 7; J. Diboll, 8.

NORTH SHIELDS.—On Sunday, May 24th, being the Queen's birthday, a course of Grandsire Caters was rung at Christ Church, Mr. J. Comb, of Hampstead, taking part. An attempt was then made for a peal of Kent Treble Bob Royal, but unfortunately it came to grief before proceeding very far. W. Reed (conductor), 1; F. Lees, 2; J. Rossiter, 3; H. Ross, 4; W. Bowes, 5; R. S. Story, 6; R. W. Wignell, 7; T. Clark, 8; R. Smith, 9; J. Hern, 10. Tenor 19 cwt.

#### THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

ROMFORD.—*Chiming*.—On Whit Sunday, May 24th, being the Queens' birthday, for morning service, a silent 720 Double Court Bob Minor, also a 720 of Plain Bob Minor (composed by S. Hammond, of Braintree, twenty-one bobs and six singles), and a course of Double Bob Minor. A. J. Perkins, 1-2-3-4; B. Keeble, 5-6. In the afternoon three plain courses of Stedman Triples, and in the evening 223 of Grandsire Triples. B. Keeble, 1-2; A. J. Perkins, 3-4-5-6; W. Nash, 7-8. And 120 of Stedman Doubles. A. J. Perkins, 1-2-3-4; W. Nash, 5-6. And 120 of Grandsire Doubles. B. Keeble, 1-2-3-4; J. Keeble, 5-6. With some courses of Grandsire Triples, and touches brought home during the day, made a total of 2520 changes.

#### GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

PRESTBURY (Gloucestershire).—On Friday, May 15th, at the parish church, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor. \*T. Steele (Prestbury), 1; G. H. Phillott, 2; H. Karn, 3; F. Musty, 4; J. E. Hern (conductor), 5; W. T. Pates, 6. \*First attempt at the method. J. E. Hern hails from Newnham, the remainder with the exception of T. Steel, from Cheltenham.

TEWKESBURY.—On Sunday last, being Whit Sunday, the Abbey Society met about 6.0 a.m. and rang touches of Union Triples. And for evening service, 1008 of Union Triples in 36 mins. R. H. Witherington, 1; S. Cleal, 2; F. J. Moore, 3; J. Hale, 4; J. Wathen, 5; T. Devereux, 6; Jos. Wathen (conductor), 7; W. Haines, 8. Mr. C. W. Dyson rang the treble in the morning, and W. Hampton the tenor.

#### THE HERTFORD ASSOCIATION.

On Sunday, May 24th, in honour of the Queen's birthday, the Hertford branch of the above Association, rang at All Saints' Church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1260 changes), in 47 mins. J. Jauncey, 1; William L. Randall, 2; James Staples, 3; Joseph Cull, 4; Herbert Baker, 5; Stephen Knight, 6; Jasper G. Crawley, 7; Frederick George, 8. Tenor 22 cwt. Also for Divine Service at St. Andrew's, another quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples in 47 mins. (a variation of the above). J. Jauncey, 1; William L. Randall, 2; James Staples, 3; Frederick G. Crawley, 4; Joseph Cull, 5; Stephen Knight, 6; Herbert Baker (conductor), 7; Frederick George, 8. Tenor 16 cwt. Composed by H. J. Tucker of Bishops Stortford.

#### THE ST. JAMES'S SOCIETY, LONDON.

PIMLICO.—On Sunday evening, May 24th, for Divine Service at St. Gabriel's Church, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor, with twelve bobs, in 25 mins. Wm. Hoverd, 1; E. F. Strange (conductor), 2; E. Rogers, 3; G. T. McLaughlin, 4; M. Murphy, 5; C. F. Winny, 6. Tenor 17 cwt.

RUISLIP (Middlesex).—Recently at St. Martin's church, an attempt was made for Holt's Original peal of Grandsire Triples, but it unfortunately came to grief through the 5th and 6th shifting course, after ringing 3300 changes, in 1 hr. 53 mins., the conductor then called the bells round. W. H. Manning, 1; Richard French (conductor), 2; A. C. Fussell, 3; W. Wilder, 4; E. E. Vinen, 5; W. H. Fussell, 6; J. Barry, 7; Edward Elburn, 8. Tenor 16 cwt.

#### THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

HAUGHTON (Lancashire).—*Muffled Peal*.—On Sunday, May 24th, the bells of St. Anne's Church were deeply muffled, as a last tribute of respect to the memory of the late Miss Elizabeth Lee, a well known and much-respected parishioner of St. Anne's. Before morning service, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor, in 28 mins. James A. Thomas, 1; John Bardsley, 2; Wm. Wilde, (senior), 3; John S. Leech, 4; John Howard (conductor), 5; Peter Smith, 6. Also on Sunday afternoon, after service, a 720 of Plain Bob Minor in 28½ mins. Wm.

Wilde, junior, 1; John Bardsley, 2; Wm. Wilde, senior, 3; James A. Thomas, 4; John Howard, 5; Peter Smith (conductor), 6. Also before evening service, another 720 of Plain Bob Minor in 28 mins., with sixteen bobs and two singles. James A. Thomas, 1; John Bardsley, 2; Wm. Wilde, senior, 3; John Howard, 4; Peter Smith (conductor), 6. Tenor 15 cwt. in G. [A ringer's name omitted here.—ED.]

WALKDEN (Lancashire).—On Sunday evening, May 17th, at St. Paul's Church, for Divine Service, a 720 of Bob Minor in 26 mins. W. Denner (conductor), 1; P. Cook, 2; J. Worthington, 3; S. Oakes, 4; J. Williamson, 5; A. Potter, 6. Also on Monday evening, May 18th, for practice, a 720 of Bob Minor with thirty singles and six bobs was rung in 25½ mins. J. Welsby (conductor), 1; J. Worthington, 2; W. Denner, 3; J. Williamson, 4; A. Potter, 5; R. Ridyard, 6. And on Saturday, May 23rd, being the occasion of the annual walk of the Sunday School attendants, the bells were rung in Queens for a time, and afterwards a 720 of Bob Minor (eighteen bobs and two singles), in 25½ mins. J. Welsby, 1; J. Worthington, 2; J. Williamson, 3; S. Oakes, 4; A. Potter, 5; R. Ridyard (conductor), 6. Tenor 13½ cwt.

WORSLEY.—On Saturday, May 16th, eight members of the above Association met at St. Mark's Church, to attempt a peal of Grandsire Triples, but owing to the usual time of service having been changed, in order that a branch of the "Girls' Friendly Society" might attend, the peal had to be abandoned. Six of the ringers met after the service, and rang the first 720 of Plain Bob Minor that has been rung on the bells. J. Hy. Ridyard (conductor), 1; T. G. Downs, 2; Joseph Grimshaw, 3; Thomas Derbyshire, 4; Richard Ridyard, 5; Frederick Derbyshire, 6. Messrs. Downs and Grimshaw belong to the Manchester Cathedral society, the rest are the local company. The above was rung on the back six bells, in 29 mins, tenor 21 cwt.

#### THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

CAVERSHAM (Oxon).—On Tuesday, May 12th, being the confirmation and also the consecration of the new cemetery by the Bishop, a 720 of Double Oxford Bob was rung. And on Sunday, May 17th, for Divine Service in the morning, a 720 of Plain Bob, and for Divine Service in the evening, a 720 of Double Court. And on Saturday, May 23rd, a 720 of Double Oxford. And on Sunday, May 24th, for the early celebration at 6.30., a 720 of College Single, and two 6-scores of Stedman Doubles. And for Divine Service in the morning, a 720 of Yorkshire Court, and for Divine Service in the evening a 720 of Double Court, and after service in the evening a 720 of Oxford Bob. The following members of the St. Peter's society took part in the above. H. Simmons, J. Hands, J. Butler, E. Menday, E. Pottinger, and T. Newman, the Bob Minor being conducted by G. Essex, and the remainder by the Rev. G. F. Coleridge. This young society intend shortly to accomplish a peal in seven different methods.

ENGLEFIELD (Berks).—On Whit-Monday, being the day on which R. Benyon, Esq., entertained the members of the Berks Friendly Society to dinner in his grounds, to the number of about 500, the St. Peter's Society, Caversham, attempted a peal in seven methods, but unfortunately a shift course occurred at the half way, after having rung 720 Double Oxford Bob, 720 Double Court, and 720 of Yorkshire Court, in 1 hr. 20 mins. J. Hands, 1; J. Butler, 2; E. Menday, 3; T. Newman, 4; G. Essex, 5; Rev. G. F. Coleridge (conductor), 6. The Rector, the Rev. A. L. C. Heigham, kindly entertained the party to tea afterwards, for which they wish to return him their best thanks.

OXFORD.—On Whit-Sunday, May 24th, being the Queen's birthday, at the church of St. Mary Magdalene, a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob, in 23 mins. H. Castle, 1; Job Howse, 2; F. Castle, 3; A. F. M. Custance, Esq., 4; J. W. Washbrook, 5; W. Baston (conductor), 6. Also a 360 of Grandsire Minor. C. S. Rowland, Esq., 1; W. Woods, 2; Job Howse, 3; F. Castle, 4; J. W. Washbrook (conductor), 5; A. F. M. Custance, Esq., 6.

READING.—On Monday, May 25th, eight members of the above Guild attempted to ring Holt's ten-part peal of Grandsire Triples, at St. Mary's Church, but after ringing 1008 changes in 40 mins., it came to grief; after which the following rang a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples in 47 mins. W. J. Williams, 1; E. Bishop, 2; R. Swain, 3; G. Gibbard, 4; H. Egby, 5; W. Goseltine, 6; F. E. Dawe (conductor), W. Robbins, 8. Tenor 28 cwt. F. E. Dawe hails from London, and E. Bishop from Reading.

#### THE SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.

LONG MELFORD (Suffolk).—On Saturday, May 23rd, six members of the above society rang at the Parish church, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob, in 28 mins. John Slater, 1; Zachariah Slater, 2; James Bird, 3; George Hammond, 4; Oliver Garwood, 5; Samuel Slater (conductor), 6. It was intended to attempt a peal of Bob Major, but meeting one short the above was rung instead.

AUGHTON (Lancashire).—On Friday, May 15th, at Christ Church, for practice, a 720 of Grandsire Minor, in 25 mins., with 7-8 covering. William Bentham, 1; Charles Sharples, 2; James Sholicar, 3; William Ellis, 4; Robert Foster, 5; William Fairclough (conductor), 6; William Lloyd, 7; Thomas Gardner, 8.

BRADFIELD, NEAR SHEFFIELD (Yorkshire).—On Sunday, May 24th, two ringers from Ecclesfield paid a visit to this place, and rang with the local company in the afternoon at St. Nicholas' church, several short touches. And for Divine Service in the evening, a 720 each of New London Pleasure, Violet, and Oxford Treble Bob, in 1 hr. 16 mins. J. Gillott, 1; W. Turton (Ecclesfield), 2; G. Shaw (Ecclesfield: conductor), 3; F. Wilson, 4; G. Uttley, 5; A. Brearley, 6. Tenor 12 cwt.

BASINGSTOKE (Hants).—On Whit Sunday (Queen's Birthday), for and between Divine Service, several six-scores of Grandsire Doubles, with 6 7 8 covering. G. Capron, 1; J. Higgins, 2; W. Tiller, 3; W. Sugg, 4; H. White, 5; T. Higgins, 6; T. Wheeler, 7; W. Hatten, 8. Also on Whit Monday, three six-scores of Doubles, with 6 7 8, covering. G. Capron, 1; H. Southgate, 2; J. Higgins, 3; W. Sugg, 4; H. White, 5; T. Higgins, 6; T. Wheeler, 7; G. Holdaway, 8. Tenor 16½ cwt.

BREDON'S NORTON (Worcestershire).—On Monday morning, May 25th, the Kemerton company, with S. Cleal, of Tewkesbury, and E. Wallace, of Ashchurch, rang a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor, in 23 mins., being the first 720 on the bells. A. Devereux, 1; B. Baldwyn, jun., 2; F. Potter, 3; E. Devereux (conductor), 4; S. Cleal, 5; E. Wallace, 6. Tenor 6 cwt. These bells have recently been rehung and the treble added to the peal by Mears and Stainbank. The company take this opportunity of thanking the Rev. W. Knox, and the churchwarden, Mr. Price, for the use of the bells on this occasion.

CAVENDISH (Suffolk).—On Sunday, May 24th, being the birthday of our Most Gracious Queen, was rung at St. Mary's church, for evening service, a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob, in 24 mins. Frederick J. Thompson, 1; Frederick P. Adams, 1; Harry Thompson, 3; Albert Ives, 4; George Maxim, 5; Samuel Slater (conductor), 6. And for afternoon service, a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob, in 28 mins. F. J. Thompson, 1; Harry Thompson, 2; Frederick Wells, 3; Albert Ives, 4; George Maxim, 5; Oliver Garwood (conductor), 6.

DEWSBURY (Yorkshire).—On Sunday, May 24th, at the parish church, for Divine Service in the morning at the parish church, the local company rang a half-peal of Kent Treble Bob Major, 2566 changes, in 1 hr. 33 mins., in honour of the Queen's birthday. John Garforth, 1; William Brown, 2; George Tong, 3; I. Idle, 4; Nath. Hepworth, 5; George H. Hardy (composer and conductor), 6; Garforth Taylor, 7; John Buckley, 8. Tenor 14 cwt.

EASTBOURNE (Sussex).—On Saturday evening, May 23rd, at All Saints' Church, a few 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles on the first six, was rung by members of All Saints' and St. Mary's to celebrate the event of the wedding of a chorister of All Saints', the same being an ex-ringer. Alfred Lewis, 1; William Sigs, 2; Thos. Hart (conductor) 3; Edward Willoughby, 4; Samuel Deadman, 5; Thos. Lewis, 7, with 6, 8 behind.

EYE (Suffolk).—On Monday, May 25th, eight members of the Eye Association rang three courses of Stedman Triples. G. Murton (conductor), 1; G. Day, 2; R. Gibbs, 3; F. Day, 4; F. Wright, 5; G. Ford, 6; J. Bumstead, 7; H. Forble, 8. Tenor 24 cwt. in E.

FOXEARH (Essex).—On Sunday, May 24th, being the Queen's birthday, a 720 of Plain Bob Minor was rung. George Maxim, 1; Frederick Wells, 2; William Inch, 3; Robert Mingay (conductor), 4; Edward Elbems, 5; John Chinery, 6. Tenor 8 cwt.

GLEMSFORD (Suffolk).—On Sunday, May 24th, being the birthday of our Most Gracious Queen, was rung at St. Mary's church, a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob, in 30 mins. John Slater, 1; Joseph Slater, 2; Frederick Wells, 3; Zachariah Slater, 4; Samuel Slater, 5; Oliver Garwood (conductor), 6.

HIGHAM FERRERS (Northants).—On Thursday, May 21st, on the appointment of the new vicar, the Rev. — Hopkins, late of St. Mary's, Cornwall, the following 720's were rung: a 720 of Plain Bob Minor with eighteen bobs and two singles, in 30 mins. S. Parker, 1; W. Groome, 2; W. Parker, 3; A. Martin, 4; N. Lucas, 5; W. Hall, (conductor), 6. Also a 720 of London Single in 30 mins. S. Parker, 1; W. Hall, 2; T. Parker, 3; J. Thompson, 4; A. Martin, 5; W. Hall (conductor), 6. And a 360 of Plain Bob Minor. S. Parker, 1; J. Nutt, 2; W. Groome, 3; J. Thompson, 4; A. Martin, 5; W. Parker (conductor), 6. And another 360 in the same method. S. Parker, 1; J. Nutt, 2; T. Parker, 3; J. Thompson, 4; N. Lucas, 5; A. Martin (conductor), 6. Tenor 24 cwt. W. Hall hails from Raunds.

LYTHAM (Lancashire).—On Wednesday, May 20th, at the parish church, the local company rang a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor, in 26 mins., on the back six. Jno. Miller, 1; James Miller, 2; William Atkinson, 3; Jno. Fisher, 4; Henry Gregson, 5; Robt. Atkinson, 6. Tenor 14½ cwt. in Fb. And at St. John's, six of the local company rang at 6.30., in honour of the Queen's birthday, a 720 of Bob Minor (eighteen singles and three bobs), in 26 mins. Wm. Bamber, 1; Chas. H. Kerr, 2; Jno. Salthouse, 3; James Miller, 4; Jno. Fell (conductor), 5; Jno. Fisher, 6. Tenor 10½ cwt.

OXFORD.—On Whit-Sunday, May 24th, being the Queen's birthday, at Magdalen College, nine courses of Stedman Caters. J. Field (conductor), 1; F. Castle, 2; J. W. Washbrook, 3; W. Finch, 4; Job Howe, 5; S. Hounslow, 6; O. Thomas, 7; A. F. M. Custance, 8; C. Hounslow, 9; W. Jeffery, 10. And at the University church of St. Mary-the-Virgin, a 360 of Grandsire Minor, in 22 mins. W. Jeffery, 1; A. F. M. Custance, Esq., 2; S. Hounslow, 3; J. M. Hine, 4; W. J. Smith (conductor), 5; C. Hounslow, 6. Tenor 30 cwt. And on Monday, May 25th, at the Cathedral Church of Christ, a touch of Grandsire Triples from Holt's Original to the 1666th change (being the tittums), in 1 hr. 12 mins., from which the bells were called round. W. Jeffery, 1; S. Hounslow, 2; C. W. H. Griffith, Esq., 3; C. Hounslow (conductor), 4; G. R. Scott, Esq., 5; A. F. M. Custance, Esq., 6; W. Finch, 7; W. J. Smith, 8. Tenor 42 cwt.

RAUNDS (Northamptonshire).—On Sunday, May 24th, at St. Peter's church, early in the morning, a 720 of Plain Bob (eighteen bobs and two singles), non-conducted. J. Willmott, 1; W. J. Gilbert, 2; C. W. Clarke, 3; F. Gilbert, 4; H. Stubbs, 5; W. Hall, 6. This is the first 720 by all and believed to be the first in the above county non-conducted. Also a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob Minor (with nine bobs). A. Coles, 1; F. Gilbert, 2; W. J. Gilbert, 3; C. W. Clarke, 4; J. Willmott, 5; H. Stubbs (conductor), 6. And for service at 10.30 a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor (nine bobs). T. Stubbs, 1; F. Gilbert, 2; W. J. Gilbert, 3; W. Hall, 4; C. W. Clarke, 5; H. Stubbs (conductor), 6. C. W. Clarke hails from Bedford.

RINGSTEAD (Northamptonshire).—On Saturday, May 23rd, at St. Mary's church, a 720 of Yorkshire Court Bob Minor (with eighteen bobs and two singles). A. Groome, 1; W. J. Gilbert, 2; E. Mayes (first 720 in the method), 3; F. Gilbert, 4; W. Hall, 5; C. W. Clarke (first 720 in the method; conductor), 6. Also a 720 of London Single (with eighteen bobs and two singles). E. Mayes, 1; C. W. Clarke (first 720 in the method), 2; W. J. Gilbert, 3; A. Groom, 4; F. Gilbert (conductor), 5; T. Roberts, 6. C. W. Clarke hails from Bedford, A. Groom from Denford, W. J. and F. Gilbert, and W. Hall from Raunds.

SALISBURY (Wilts).—On Tuesday, May 12th, at St. Edmund's church, a 720 of Grandsire Minor (thirty-four bobs and two singles), in 29 mins., the second bell being omitted. \*J. Parsons, 1; \*A. Anderson, 3; E. A. Foster, 4; \*F. Rigden, 5; T. Blackburn, 6; W. W. Gifford (first 720 as conductor), 7; J. Hallett and W. Prince, 8. Tenor 28 cwt. in Cg. First 720 of Minor on the bells. \*First 720 in the method.

WAKEFIELD (Yorkshire).—On Monday evening, May 18th, on the front eight, for practice at the parish church, 1050 Grandsire Triples in 43 mins., being the first part of Hollis's five-part peal, and brought round at the plain course-end. W. Milnes, 1; G. Firth, 2; R. Wrigley, 3; T. Prince, 4; J. T. Hollis (conductor), 5; W. Firth, 6; T. Moorhouse, 7; J. Styles, 8.

WICKHAM MARKET (Suffolk).—On Wednesday, May 13th, at All Saints' church, the local company rang for practice, a 720 of Bob Minor (eighteen bobs and two singles), in 27 mins. G. Brooks, 1; F. Reeve, 2; A. Reeve, 3; G. Reeve, 4; W. Reeve, 5; J. Motts (conductor), 6. Tenor 15 cwt in G. *Handbell Ringing*.—And on handbells, retained in hand, a course of Bob Major. G. Brooks, 1; F. Reeve, 2; A. Reeve, 3; G. Reeve, 4; J. Motts, 5-6; W. Reeve, 7-8. J. Motts hails from Ipswich; the rest belong to the local band.

WILLESDEN (Middlesex).—On Thursday, April 17th, a 720 of Bob Minor (sixteen bobs and two singles). R. Kilby, 1; T. Scarlett, 2; J. Jackman, 3; A. Tennant (conductor), 4; F. Wear, 5; A. Pittam, 6. And a 280 in the same method, J. Tennant, 1. Tenor 9 cwt.

#### THE REDENHALL SOCIETY, NORFOLK.

On Monday, 24th May, the Redenhall ringers had a day's ringing, as usual. During the day Mr. James Barrett, of the Royal Cumberlands, came and had a pull with them, being on a visit from London to his native place, Alburgh. Mr. R. Huggins and Mr. William Gobbett, of Wingfield, also spent the day at Redenhall, and rang various touches of Oxford and Kent Treble Bob. The Redenhall ringers rang with Mr. Barrett touches of Grandsire and Stedman Triples, also a course of Superlative Surprise (his first in the method), and a course of Bob Major with Herbert Matthews, his first on eight bells. They all enjoyed themselves in spite of the wet weather, which spoiled all the out-door sport in the neighbourhood.



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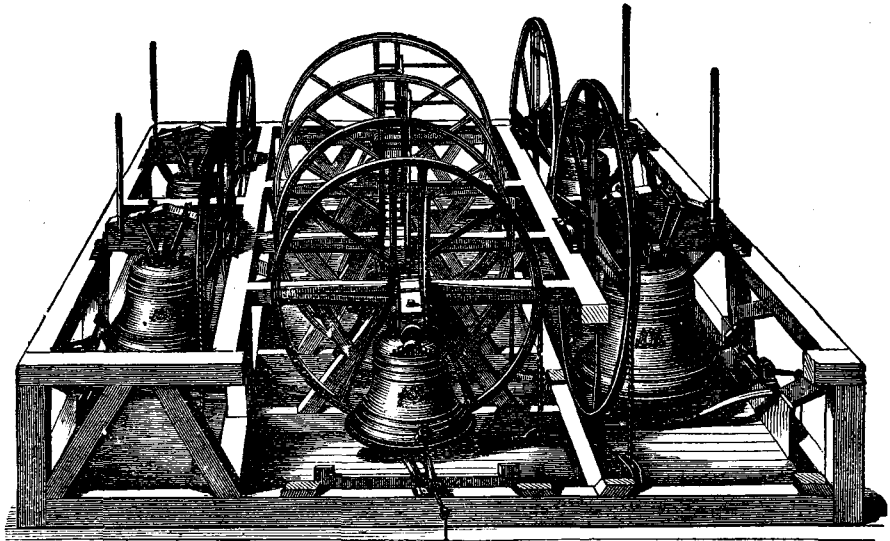
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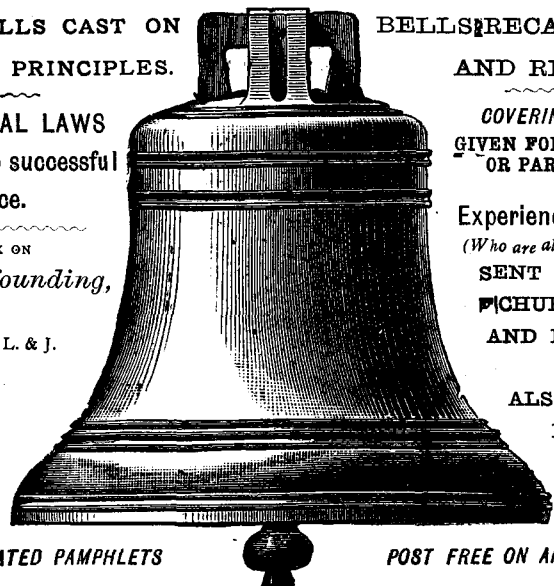
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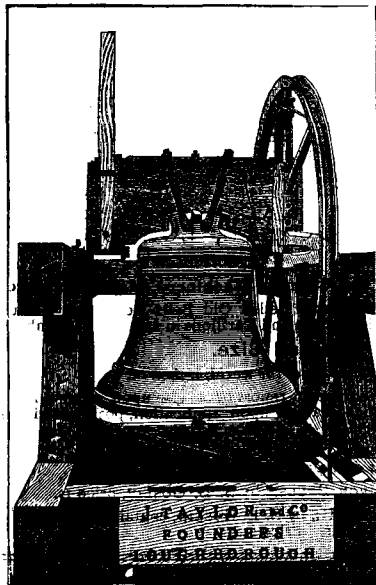
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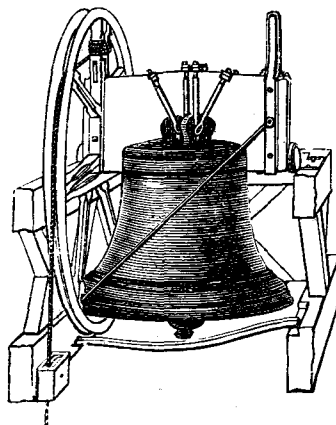
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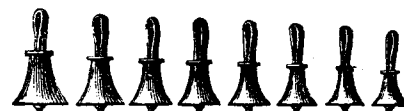
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## ANNUAL MEETING OF THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

THE most successful gathering of ringers that has taken place in the county of Essex within the memory of the oldest members of the Exercise, both as regards the number present and the various methods rung during the day, was that which took place upon the occasion of the Annual Meeting of the above Association, which was briefly noticed in our last as having been held at Chelmsford on Whit-Monday. Probably the large attendance was due to the special surrounding attractions, and the generosity of the Great Eastern Railway in again issuing return tickets at reduced fares. Beyond the question of a doubt, if the "go" of the Chelmsford tenor continues to improve as it has during the past twelve months, when the time comes for the tower to be replete with its reputable ring of ten, there will be no town in Essex that will offer such attractions or facilities for a large annual meeting of ringers as Chelmsford, where, and in its immediate neighbourhood, will be ample scope for members of all degrees to indulge themselves to their heart's content. Not only does Chelmsford enjoy the most central position in the county, accessible as it is from all parts, but in its vicinity there are to be found more rings of bells than in that of any other Essex town. By the judicious arrangements of the hon. sec.—the Rev. H. A. Cockey—and the kind permission of the several church authorities, the towers of Writtle and Galleywood (eight bells), and Widford and Springfield (six bells), were open, morning and evening, to members of the Association. In addition to these there is also a ring of eight at Baddow, recently rehung, but out of tune. The whole of these stand within a radius of three miles. Thus the advantages were manifold, and those who yearned for "a touch on eight" were enabled to gratify their longings, while others, who invariably shrink from entering an eight-bell tower, had an equal opportunity of displaying their skill in the labyrinth of Minor methods. Notwithstanding that old friends from the metropolis and members from the other portion of the county, with two or three exceptions, were conspicuous by their absence, the number present narrowly escaped reaching three figures. If among those who were absent are any waiting to hear that the two trebles are back in their places, from which they ought never to have been removed, the announcement made by the hon. sec. at the meeting that steps are to be taken to replace them will undoubtedly prove a welcome item of information; while if any stayed away because of the "go" of the Chelmsford tenor, they may content themselves with the fact that it has improved, and also that there is something in the theory advanced on Monday, when it was hinted that it is not every man who knows how to ring a "big" bell.

The proceedings of the day commenced at the Writtle tower, where by previous arrangements a band met—by permission of the Vicar—for the purpose of starting for a peal of Grandsire Triples (Taylor's variation of the original bob-and-single). Seven o'clock was the time agreed upon, which necessitated some of the band leaving home in the early hours of the morning, if not the night before. At Writtle, Mr. Steeplekeeper Fitch, with commendable forethought, had laid in a full stock of provisions, and gave his visitors a hearty welcome, thus adding another name to the list of ringers' benefactors. Having done ample justice to his hospitality, a move was made to the tower, and a start effected at eight o'clock, by the following mixed band: W. Chalk (Maldon), 1; C. Elliott (Colchester), 2; B. Keeble (Romford), 3; C. Waskett (Stock), 4; E. Scotcher (Galleywood), 5; J. Pye, 6; A. Pye (conductor), 7; A. Porter (Little Heath), 8. This band had not had the opportunity of ringing together since the Whit-Monday of last year, but after the first quarter-of-an-hour matters appeared to settle down comfortably, and every thing went pretty smoothly, when suddenly, as if by magic, the 6th rope became a fixture! Like the accidents that are said to happen in the best regulated families, this was an unexpected and unfortunate mishap. Upon opening the door, members of the Exercise were found outside, among whom were the Messrs. Mott, Mee, Reeve, Alexander, and other prominent members of the Norwich Diocesan Association, consequently there was an opportunity of something beyond the ordinary routine. Two courses of Double Norwich and a 672 of Oxford Treble Bob were struck in admirable style. The tower was visited again in the evening by seven of the Ipswich band, in company with Mr. A. Porter, with the view of ringing a peal of Treble Bob, but the attempt came to grief, and a short touch of Double Norwich was then rung. At Widford the bells were kept in full swing by numerous fixed bands. At Springfield the Braintree company rang a 720 of College Exercise, and had the misfortune to lose a 720 of London Surprise in the last lead; a 720 of Plain Bob was rung here by a mixed band, in addition to numerous touches in various methods. Mr. W. Nevard, of Great Bentley, called at Boreham on his way up, and with five of the local band rung a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob and 360 of Double Court. Mixed bands also visited Galleywood, and various touches were brought home. At Chelmsford the ringing opened in the morning with Bob Major, and during the day consisted of Grandsire and Stedman Triples, Double Norwich Court, and Oxford and Kent Treble Bob Major, concluding in the evening with a fair touch of 640 of Kent by A. J. Perkins (con-

ductor), 1; B. Keeble, 2; H. E. Hammond, 3; S. Hammond, 4; F. Rudkin, 5; J. B. Bradley, 6; H. Randall, 7; W. Doran, 8. The Association handbells were at the disposal of the members during the day in the schoolroom, the best ringing heard by our representative being a course of Bob Major by four of the Braintree company.

Divine Service was held in St. Mary's church at 12.30, consisting of matins, followed by an address from the Rector of Chelmsford—who has recently been appointed Archdeacon of Essex in the room of the late Archdeacon Carey. The discourse, though brief, was eminently practical, and founded upon the text—"I had rather be a door-keeper in the house of my God, than dwell in the tents of wickedness."

Dinner, which followed the service, was served in the charity school room. The company present numbered eighty-four, which would have been further increased had not our old friends the Withamites during a circuitous route to Bloomfield in search of their old hobby, Plain Bob, the misfortune to be compelled to seek for shelter from the drops that fell. The business meeting followed the dinner, at which the Rev. T. L. Papillon (Vicar of Writtle), in the unavoidable absence of the Ven. Archdeacon, presided, supported by the Rev. H. A. Cockey (Hon. Sec.), the Rev. J. D. Nairne, and Messrs. E. Durrant and J. C. Hennah (hon. members). The hon. sec. having read the minutes of the last District Meeting, announced that in accordance with the desire of the members he had communicated with Archdeacon Johnson, expressing a hope on behalf of the Association that the two trebles at St. Mary's, Chelmsford, would be rehung by the time of the Annual Meeting, and that he had received a reply stating that although the rehanging could not be done for the bells to be ready for use on the day of the Annual Meeting, yet he anticipated that they would shortly be rehung; an announcement which was received with applause.

The Rev. H. A. Cockey then read the Annual Report. As we are unable to give it in full, we prefer not to give mere garbled sentences from so excellent a compilation. It was adopted, and a resolution passed that it should be printed, and circulated among the members at the next district meeting. In connection with the withdrawal of members alluded to in the report, Mr. Cockey read a letter he had received from the secretary of the Wanstead Amalgamated Society, in which the writer stated that a resolution had been passed authorising individual members of the society to be members of the Association if they thought proper to do so. That communication was in answer to his (Mr. Cockey's) last application for the members' subscriptions, as he had informed the secretary of the Wanstead society, that the names would be removed from the books if the subscriptions were not paid by the Annual Meeting. Having only received Mr. John Nunn's subscription, he took it for granted that the remainder of the society had withdrawn. He regretted this, because among the members were some good ringers who had before now attended the annual meeting. The matter dropped without comment.

The following were elected members of the Association: *Honorary Members*: The Revs. T. L. Papillon (Writtle), E. D. Cleaver (Laindon Hills), J. T. Fowler (East Hanningfield), D. H. Francis (Great Bentley); and Major Ibbetson (Little Heath). *Ringers*: W. Cowell (Great Bentley), C. Tabor (Maldon), J. Mumford, W. J. Mumford, C. Marriott, J. J. Bird, W. Mead, W. M. Mears, B. Deal, S. Deal (Ilford), C. Corder, C. Duncombe, F. Saunders (Stisted), F. Searle (West Ham), A. Tarbun (Widford), E. Sewell (Galleywood), J. Freeman (Rettendon), Jno. Sadler, Jas. Sadler (Great Tey), W. Dyer (Coggeshall), Jno. Collins (Rayleigh). *Probationers*: A. S. Morris, Jas. Wood, A. Savill, J. Cox, S. Crabb, H. Andrews (Matchling), H. N. Crozier (Chelmsford), F. Brewer (Rayleigh). *Distinguished Ringers*: W. Mott, C. Mee, F. Mee, T. Steward, E. Reeve, Alexander (Ipswich); E. Horrex and R. French's election confirmed. Among the foregoing were some applying for re-election who had allowed their contribution to fall in arrears. As there is no rule to meet such cases the whole were re-elected, and it was resolved to pay attention to the question of re-election at the next meeting. The officers for last year were re-elected with two alterations: the Ven. H. F. Johnson, Archdeacon of Essex, was elected Vice-president in place of the late Archdeacon Carey; and the Rev. T. L. Papillon was elected on the Committee in place of Archdeacon Johnson.

Mr. B. KEEBLE (Romford) moved—"That at the next Annual Meeting members should be provided with certificates, the design of which should be left in the hands of the hon. sec." His opinion was that the possession of certificates would lead to an increase of members, and he advocated leaving the matter in the hands of the hon. sec. in order to curtail the expense. As the question was one which required some little attention, and although no doubt the work would be completed before next Annual Meeting, he thought it advisable to allow ample time to carry it out in a manner which he had no doubt the hon. sec. would be successful in doing.

Mr. S. HAMMOND (Braintree) seconded the resolution.

Mr. KEEBLE, in reply to the Rev. J. D. Nairne, considered the cost would be about one shilling per copy.

The Rev. J. D. NAIRNE advocated appealing to honorary members

for contributing towards the expense, expressing his willingness to do so. He further suggested that ringing members should contribute, as otherwise the amount would be a large item to draw from the funds of the Association.

The Rev. H. A. COCKEY suggested that as the funds had decreased during the year, the matter should be left in his hands, for him to prepare a design, and submit it to the meeting.

During the discussion which followed, an opinion was expressed by several speakers that members would be willing to contribute to such an object. Mr. Durrant having kindly promised to work out a design free of charge, the resolution was carried, and it was further agreed that members contribute sixpence each.

Mr. RANDALL (West Ham) moved—"That 'distinguished ringers'—those residing outside the county—should contribute one shilling each for a certificate." This gave rise to some discussion, during which Mr. Hammond (Braintree) and Mr. Doran (West Ham) pointed out that by the term "distinguished" it appeared that the county did not possess within it a distinguished ringer. The resolution was seconded, but when put to the vote was lost by a great majority.

Mr. HAMMOND gave notice of moving, at the next meeting, an alteration in the rule under which non-resident ringers are admitted as "distinguished."

A vote of thanks to the various church authorities who had granted the use of the towers, and a similar compliment to the Hon. Secretary, brought the proceedings to a close.

#### THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION AT SIBSEY.

ON Whit Monday, May 25th, seven members of the above Association from Wakefield, visited Sibsey, Lincolnshire, for the purpose of ringing Hollis's five-part peal of Grandsire Triples, with Mr. Mason of Boston. The party were met at Boston railway station by Mr. Mason and other Lincolnshire friends, and then proceeded by road to Sibsey, per conveyance, a ride which all enjoyed. The Yorkshire men were kindly received by the vicar (the Rev. Mr. Besant), and other Sibsey gentlemen. A start was then made for the peal, which, to the disappointment of all concerned, came to grief after ringing 4354 changes in 2 hrs. and 45 mins. R. Wrigley, 1; E. Mason, 2; W. Firth, 3; T. Prince, 4; J. T. Hollis (conductor), 5; T. Ormond, 6; T. Moorhouse, 7; J. Styles, 8. An adjournment was then made to the house of Mr. Mawer, where a substantial knife and fork tea had been provided, to which ample justice was done. After ringing a course of Caters in hand, and taking leave of their Sibsey friends, the party left by train to Boston, where they had been invited by the Boston ringers to have a pull on their bells at the "Stump." When the party alighted at the station, and on their way to the church, the Boston men were ringing a course of Grandsire Triples very well, but the Yorkshire men, after climbing the lofty pile, legs aching, puffing and panting, and seeing the arrangements in the ringing-chamber, oh! Some took fright altogether, others pulled off a bell, and were thankful to get it set again, and at length the following, with three Boston ringers, found courage to attempt, and succeeded in ringing, three courses of Grandsire Triples, the Boston men declaring it to be the greatest length strangers had at any time accomplished on the bells; J. Moorhouse, 1; R. Wrigley, 3; J. T. Hollis, 5; W. Firth, 6; T. Moorhouse, 7. Such is the state of things at Boston, that unless a radical change is made in the belfry arrangements, no great length will ever be accomplished there. It was now time to refresh and prepare for the homeward journey, and although disappointed at not getting the peal at Sibsey with Mr. Mason, who has hitherto been so unfortunate in his attempts at a 5000, a very pleasant day was spent, the Wakefield men arriving home about ten o'clock. They wish to thank the vicar of Sibsey and their Lincolnshire brother-strings for their kindness and hospitality on this occasion, and hope the time is not far distant when they may have the pleasure of meeting Mr. Mason for another and more successful attempt at Grandsire Triples.

#### FRIENDLY MEETING AT KENN, DEVONSHIRE.

A friendly meeting of the Kenn and St. Sidwell's (Exeter) societies, took place on Saturday, May 30th, at the village of Kenn. Grandsire and Stedman Doubles were rung on the nice peal of six, tenor 14 cwt., after which an enjoyable game of football was played on the rectory grounds; this seems to have created a thorough good appetite by the way in which the knife and fork tea that followed was done justice to. The rest of the day was spent in tower and handbell ringing, a few songs, and looking at the fine collection of photographs and drawings belonging to the Rector (the Rev. R. Porter), to whom the ringers are deeply indebted for his great kindness in arranging the meeting, and also for his kind hospitality.

#### ST. JOHN AT HACKNEY, MIDDLESEX.

In consequence of the bad state of the frame and bell-gear, there will be no ringing at the above church until further notice.

#### THE SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS AT BIRCHINGTON, KENT.

ON Saturday afternoon, May 23rd, a party of members of the above Society met at Victoria station for the purpose of once more visiting Birchington-on-Sea (their favourite resort) intending, had they met in sufficient strength, to accomplish a peal of Treble Ten, but they were unfortunately disappointed.

After a very pleasant journey, and a most enjoyable tea which was provided by the kindness of Host Fright, the London contingent had the very great pleasure of congratulating the local band upon the accomplishment of two peals of Grandsire Triples (particulars of which have already appeared in these columns), and then listened to a touch of Plain Bob, performed by Mr. Fulcher, who held four bells in hand, one on each foot and one on each elbow, which was succeeded by a well struck course of Treble Ten, by Messrs. Newson, Baron, J. Rogers, C. T. and H. A. Hopkins, and greatly appreciated by the company present.

After a refreshing sleep, succeeded by an invigorating walk on the sands, and a substantial breakfast, the party adjourned to Waterloo Tower, Quex Park, where several touches of Grandsire Triples and Caters were got through, some of the local band standing in, while others disported themselves among the surrounding shrubs, conversing about the latest ringing achievements of the day. Ringing being finished, the party returned to head-quarters, where ample justice was done to the good dinner provided, when Host Fright announced that his brake was in readiness to convey them to Canterbury, a distance of some twelve to fourteen miles, which was reached about 5 p.m., after a most enjoyable drive. This was further enhanced on arrival by the fine rich tones of the cathedral bells, which were pealing forth their joyous melody on the occasion of the Queen's birthday. A move was instantly made to the entrance of the belfry, but here the visitors were doomed to disappointment, as the ringers were locked in, and access was prevented. Consequently, they had to await their arrival downstairs, and remain satisfied with the fact of being within their sound, although altogether out of their reach.

Being joined by some of the cathedral ringers, a pleasant hour or so was spent in their company at the "Sun" Hotel, discussing a good tea and various other topics until the time arrived for departure, when with the good wishes of friends, and their promise to visit at Birchington the next day, the Cumberlands resigned themselves to their doom, and once more returned to quarters for the night.

On the way to the ringing chamber the next morning, they were much gratified to hear a 500 of Grandsire Triples well struck, accomplished by the local band, and opportunity was then taken of congratulating them upon the rapid progress they had made since last visit of their London friends.

Touches of Triples, Caters, and Treble Bob then resounded in the air, when Mr. Fairbrass and the Rev. Frederic Helmore, of Canterbury, made their appearance, and agreeably, with arrangements made the previous evening, started for a peal of Stedman Triples, which unfortunately came to grief after 55 minutes' sound ringing. W. Baron, G. Newson, H. A. and C. T. Hopkins, J. Rogers, Rev. F. Helmore, Mr. Fairbrass, and S. Fulcher. All these belong to the London St. James's Society.

After several other touches in different methods, the London contingent, supplemented by the Quex and Canterbury ringers, sat down to a capital dinner provided by the genial host, which, having been done justice to, the cloth was removed and the handbells brought into requisition, touches of Plain Bob, Treble Ten, Stedman Caters, and tune-playing helping to spend a most enjoyable afternoon amongst old friends, and cementing closer still that friendship, which has matured by long years, and succeeded in making Whitsuntide so pleasant for all concerned.

After rising from the table farewell greetings were exchanged on both sides, and the visitors wended their way to the train which was to convey them to London, which was reached without mishap, and they now take the opportunity of thanking Host Fright for his kindness and cordiality on this and past occasions.

#### THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

THE June meeting of this society takes place at Mirfield, to day, (Saturday). Companies who want to ring on the six bells at St. Paul's, Easthorpe (close to Mirfield Station), must give in their names at the "Wellington Inn," and those who wish to ring at the Parish Church (ten bells), must enter themselves on the list at the "Dusty Miller Inn," near the Church.

A LEGACY.—According to the *Daily Chronicle* of Monday, May 25th, the late Mrs. Richards, of Wood Green, has in addition to various legacies amounting to £6,800 left the sum of £700 for a ring of bells for St. Paul's Church, Wood Green, subject to the tower of the church being completed within five years.



FIRST ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE  
SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

THIS Association, which was formed as recently as the 24th of January, 1885, and is at the present time the fourth largest society of Church Bell ringers in the country, held its first General Meeting on Thursday, May 21st, at Brighton. The proceedings commenced shortly after eleven o'clock by mixed bands ringing short touches of Grandsire and Oxford Single Bob Triples, on the bells of the parish church (St. Peter's). At twelve o'clock, a special choral service was held in the church, at which in addition to the Ven. Archdeacon of Lewes, there were present, Canon Borrer, (rector of Hurst), Rev. K. F. Tompkins, (Vicar of Tortington), Rev. J. B. Lennard (rector of Crawley), Rev. T. W. Anderson, W. W. Kelly, and W. G. Deighton, and between forty and fifty ringers. The Ven. Archdeacon, at the close of the shortened form of prayer, gave his address.

At the conclusion of the service, the ringers adjourned to the belfries of St. Nicholas and St. Peter, where the bells were kept going for about three hours, and several touches of Grandsire and Oxford Bob Triples, and several 720's of Oxford Bob Minor and Grandsire Doubles were rung. At 4.30, a high tea at Page's restaurant again caused a large number of members to assemble, while at 5.30 the business meeting was held in the saloon of the Royal Pavilion. By this hour the number of members in the town must have been considerably over one hundred, most of whom were present. The Ven. Archdeacon took the chair and was supported by the Rev. — Thompson, Vicar of Arundel; Rev. J. B. Lennard, Rector of Crawley; Rev. J. B. Orme, Vicar of Angmering; Rev. K. F. Tompkins, Vicar of Tortington (Hon. Treasurer), and Mr. G. F. Attree, Hon. Sec.

The minutes of the last meeting having been read, the following were re-elected:—President, the Lord Bishop of Chichester, the large number of Vice-Presidents, the honorary members, the Committee, the honorary treasurer (the Rev. R. F. Tompkins), and the honorary secretary, (Mr. Geo. F. Attree). The Rev. J. B. Lennard, rector of Crawley, and Mr. Welsford Smithers, of Brighton, were elected as auditors. Branches of ringers were then elected as follows:—Amberley, 6; Wadhurst, 5; Bolney, 4; Slaugham, 5; Little Horsted, 3; Ringmer, 10; Steyning, 10; Ditchling (additional), 2; Bridge-water (additional), 1. The Rev. F. H. Fisher, curate of Ringmer, Charles Lynn, Esq., churchwarden of St. Nicholas, Brighton, and J. C. Powell, of Selsfield, East Grinstead, were then elected honorary members, and the Right Hon. the Earl of Winterton, the Hon. Lord Pelham, the Hon. R. Denman, and Sir P. H. de Bathe, were elected vice-presidents.

The Rev. J. B. LENNARD moved "That a sub-committee, consisting of three members of the Association, together with the hon. treasurer and hon. secretary, be appointed, and that the duties of such sub-committee shall be to make all arrangements for holding district and other meetings, and to transact any business at such times as the whole committee are not called together.

This was seconded and carried. It was then resolved further that the Annual Meeting of the whole committee, be held on the same day as the General Meeting, and "that at least one second meeting should be held in November." Provisions as to calling a meeting were also arranged, and the sub-committee was appointed.

A discussion then ensued respecting the railway fares of delegates attending committee meetings. It was generally expressed by those present, that third class railway fares should be paid from the Association funds.

Mr. ATTREE thought it was rather hard upon some members to be asked to give up their time, and at the same time put their hands in their own pockets and spend their own money.

Mr. H. BONIFACE then moved "That delegates attending committee meetings shall be allowed third class railway fares from the Association funds."

This was seconded and passed.

Mr. H. Burstow, of Horsham, and Mr. Harding, of Eastbourne, and J. Searle, of Brighton, were appointed instructors to the Association on the following terms:—Half-a-crown and the cost of the railway ticket to be paid for each lesson given by the Association, and half-a-crown to be paid by the branch receiving instruction, on each visit of the instructor.

Propositions as to the fixing of a date and place for holding the next district meeting were then made, and it was ultimately decided to hold the next district meeting at Horsham on the first Monday in August. A few remaining matters were then disposed of, and the hon. secretary made a statement as to the strength of the Association, which now consists of a President, seventeen Vice-Presidents, 101 Honorary Members, consisting chiefly of Vicars, Rectors, and Churchwardens; eleven life members and 351 ringing members. The number of bands in union exceeding forty. A hearty vote of thanks to the Venerable Chairman for presiding, brought the meeting to a close. Change ringing was then indulged in on the two peals of eight in the towers of St. Nicholas and St. Paul, at the latter of which a quarter-peal of Triples was obtained.

## PRIZE RINGING.

THAT the custom of prize ringing on church bells continues unabated in the westernmost counties, we are painfully reminded by the recent occurrence of two competitions in the eastern part of Cornwall, that at Fowey, on one of the best peals of eight in the county, taking place on May 14th, quickly followed by a second contest on Pennington's excellent ring of six at St. Stephen's, Launceston, on Whit-Monday. The following paragraphs are taken from local papers:—

FOWEY.—PRIZE RINGING.—On Whit-Monday, a prize-ringing match took place at Fowey church. Nine sets competed, viz.: Egloshayle, Lanreath, Golant, Lanhivery, Lanteglos-by-Fowey, St. Mabyn, St. Columb, Lanreath Juniors, and St. Martin's-by-Looe. The prizes were awarded in the following order: 1st, Egloshayle; 2nd, Lanreath; 3rd, Golant; 4th, Lanhivery; 5th, Lanteglos-by-Fowey. The umpires were Messrs. W. Wakeham, Hicks, and McLean. The proceedings passed off very satisfactorily.

RINGING MATCH AT ST. STEPHEN'S.—On Whit-Monday, a prize ringing match was held at St. Stephen's-by-Launceston. The day throughout was wet, which no doubt accounted for the small number of entries. Only nine sets entered this year, compared with twenty-six at the last campanology in 1878. The judges were Messrs. W. R. Crabb, Lifton; MacLean, St. Wenn; and Hoskin, Michaelstowe. The ringing was very creditable, and the prizes were awarded in the following order: High Bickington, £5 5s.; Milton Abbott, £4 4s.; St. Breward, £3 3s.; Lezant, £2 2s.; Stokeclimsland (A), £1 1s.; Lanreath, 15s.; Egloshayle, 12s. 6d.; Stokeclimsland (B), 10s.; St. Tudy, 7s. 6d. The arrangements were carried out by a committee, of which Mr. J. A. C. Rundle was the Treasurer, and Mr. H. Short the Hon. Secretary.

That we have always spoken in no uncertain terms against such misappropriation of Church property is well known to our readers; for many reasons it is desirable that all who possess any influence, should strive to the utmost in encouraging a discontinuance of such baneful practices, for not only is it to be considered tantamount to sacrilege to put to such usage the 'loud cymbals' which have been consecrated for Divine purposes only, but from the paragraphs we insert, it will be seen what an amount of meritorious work might be done in the way of restoring or augmenting old peals, instead of as we fear in the vast majority of such gatherings, the awards being subsequently invested in anything but a praiseworthy purpose. We trust that the time is not far distant when we shall witness a regenerating influence for the welfare of the science as a result of the 'tutorial system' introduced by the various Guilds and Societies. Although the progress towards perfection will inevitably be slow, yet we may hope it will none the less sure that in the future our belfries will be irreproachable, and the art of change-ringing universal; then, and not till then, shall we have heard the last of prize-ringing on church bells.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION  
AT BISHOP AUCKLAND.

ON Whit-Monday, May 25th, a general meeting of the above Association, was held at South Church, Bishop Auckland. A dinner took place in the schoolroom, the Rev. G. R. Eden presiding, Mr. R. S. Story, of Newcastle, president of the Association, being vice-chairman. In proposing the toast of "The Bishop and clergy of the diocese," the vice-chairman coupled the name of Mr. Eden. In responding, the Chairman, referring to the bell-ringing, said it was a most interesting and time-honoured art, and one which must be properly maintained, it being peculiarly adapted to the religion of God. As far as he was concerned, anything that could be done to forward bell-ringing should be supported by him. The good such an Association did was very marked indeed, for there was not only brotherly sympathy, but it stirred them to a proper emulation in order to have their bells kept in good order. He hoped the art would flourish, for it had been correctly described as the noblest of the arts connected with musical genius. He proposed—"Success to the Association." Mr. Story returned thanks. Mr. G. J. Clarkson, hon. secretary, stated that the next meeting would be held at Durham. The bells of St. Andrew's church were at the disposal of the ringers, and during the day they were manipulated to great advantage. Several new members were added to the membership of the Association.

The branches represented were those of Bishop Auckland, Darlington (St. John's); Durham (St. Oswald's); Heighington, Jarrow (St. Peter's); South Shields, Stockton, Newcastle (St. John's and St. Stephen), and North Shields. During the day touches of Grandsire and Stedman Triples, and Kent Treble Bob Major, were attempted, also some touches of Yorkshire Surprise, Oxford Bob and Bob Minor, in which the South Church ringers took part. In the morning a party of ringers visited Heighington and rang a 720 as already reported in "THE BELL NEWS." On Whit-Tuesday, Messrs Clarkson and W. Stephenson, proceeded by excursion train from Stockton to Newcastle, and were met by ringers from Newcastle and North Shields, at All Saints' church, where a peal of Kent Treble Bob was attempted, but after ringing above 1 hr. the tenor clapper fell out. The ringers were as follows: E. Wallis, 1; W. Stephenson, 2; J. Rossiter, 3; W. Bowes, 4; R. Wignell, 5; J. Hern, 6; R. Smith, 7; G. J. Clarkson (conductor), 8.

## THE SHIPWAY REPRINT.

THE issue of this work in penny numbers will shortly be commenced. Our country friends, who have prevailed upon us to issue it in this form, can have copies from local newsagents at the same time they get their "BELL NEWS." Care must be taken in ordering, and local booksellers should be informed of the importance of attending to all orders for these weekly numbers, because a reprint is out of the question. We again give notice that whoever is negligent enough to miss this opportunity of getting SHIPWAY on such easy terms, will probably never again have the chance of doing so. We lay great stress upon this fact. There has always been a great demand for our Christmas numbers when it is too late, and after we have commenced this weekly re-issue we shall be very sorry to hear of any one being disappointed in this publication. The book will be printed in a popular style, upon good paper, and when finished will be found worthy of admittance into any library. We hope the efforts made to bring it out in this shape will meet with a commensurate support from all our friends, and perhaps we can rely upon those who have pressed upon us to publish it in this form, to urge their ringing acquaintance to become possessors of copies of every number. The various prefaces of the author will be issued when each part is complete.

Subscribers' complete copies will be ready about the time we have previously indicated.

"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 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 &amp; Ringers' Record.

SATURDAY, JUNE 6, 1885.

THE Report of the Annual Meeting of the Essex Association, which appears in this week's number, is, with the exception of one or two matters, encouraging. It is always gratifying to learn that an Association is making steady progress, not only financially, but also in point of members. Although the Association in question cannot boast of having added to its exchequer during the past year, notwithstanding the withdrawal of a number of members in a body, its members may, through the energy of the Hon. Secretary in opening up a new part of the

county, point to an increase in its numbers. To take its financial position into consideration, the past year must be looked upon as an exception to what has hitherto been the result, the deficit being due to the Association having added to its furniture a set of handbells. This to some extent is to be expected, while the Association is providing itself with working material; when this is completed, there is no reason why its funds should not again swell. The withdrawal of a local society, in a body, is under any circumstances to be regretted, for members of the Exercise in any county where an Association exists, should be bound in unity from one extreme end to the other. There need not be any fear that it will prove any stumblingblock to progress, but it may, unexplained, tend to keep those outside the pale of the Association to remain there. Another feature in the report is that there is good prospect that the two trebles at Chelmsford will shortly be rehung. This is encouraging. From the day of its formation the influence of the Association has been, more or less, directed to Chelmsford. These two trebles, which so mysteriously found their way to a chapel-of-ease, have been brought back through the exertions of the Hon. Secretary to the Association. When placed in their old quarters it is to be hoped that the Association will be enabled to point to Chelmsford belfry as a model one, where it has achieved a result long desired—a result which will undoubtedly assist the Association in bringing its influence to bear in other quarters so much needed in too many Essex belfries.

The account of the First Annual Meeting of the Sussex Association, also reported in this number, creates great hopes that this young federation of ringers has an important part to play, and will perform it with zest and eagerness. This Association is certainly very fortunate in having such a hard-working secretary, a gentleman who has devoted himself with unremitting zeal to make the movement in Sussex a grand and complete success. We must congratulate our brethren of this Association on the result of their work, as exhibited by the proceedings of this meeting. There is no fear of "The Sussex" lapsing from want of interest.

## The Metropolis.

ROCHESTER ROW, WESTMINSTER.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

On Saturday, May 30, 1885, in Three Hours and Thirty-two Minutes,

AT ST. STEPHEN'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5184 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 24 cwt.

GEORGE MASH .. .. .Treble.	MARTIN MURPHY .. .. .5.
FREDERICK T. GOVER .. .. .2.	CHALLIS F. WINNY .. .. .6.
EDWARD F. STRANGE .. .. .3.	FREDERICK G. NEWMAN .. .. .7.
GEORGE T. McLAUGHLIN* .. .. .4.	JOHN MURRAY HAYES .. .. .Tenor

Composed by Wm. HARRISON, and Conducted by J. MURRAY HAYES

\*First peal in the method. The band wish to thank the vicar for his kindness in giving permission to ring, and the steeplekeeper, Mr. Lamb, for his courtesy in having everything in first-rate order for the peal.

SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.—The Annual Meeting will be held at Devizes, for Bishops Cannings and District, on Saturday, June 6th. Dinner Tickets to be had of the Secretary (Rev. F. Wright-Anderson), Warminster, price 2s. each.

**The Provinces.****WREXHAM, DENBIGHSHIRE.****THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.**

On Thursday, May 28, 1885, in Three Hours and Fifteen and a ½ Minutes,

**A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS, 5057 CHANGES;**

Tenor 28 cwt. in D.

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

Composed by ARTHUR KNIGHTS, of Chesterfield, Derbyshire, and Conducted by ALBERT E. WREAKS.

All the above hail from Manchester.

**HYDE, CHESHIRE.**

On Friday, May 29, 1885, in Three Hours and Eight Minutes,

AT ST. GEORGES'S CHURCH,

**A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5184 CHANGES;**

IN THE KENT VARIATION.

THOMAS MOSS .. .. .	Treble.	THOMAS WILDE .. .. .	5.
JAMES ADAMS .. .. .	2.	BENJAMIN BROADBENT .. .. .	6.
JAMES S. WILDE .. .. .	3.	SAMUEL WOOD .. .. .	7.
WALTER SLATER .. .. .	4.	GEORGE LONGDEN .. .. .	Tenor.

Composed and Conducted by SAMUEL WOOD.

**NOTTINGHAM.****THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.****Muffled Peal.**

On Saturday, May 30, 1885, in Three Hours and Twenty-two Minutes,

AT ALL SAINTS' CHURCH,

**A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;**

IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 17 cwt.

ALFRED ARCHER*	..	.. <i>Treble.</i>	JOHN W. TAYLOR, JUN., ESQ.	5.
HARRY C. WOODWARD	..	2.	*JOHN HICKMAN .. ..	6.
JOHN W. WILSON	..	3.	*GEORGE MIDDLETON .. ..	7.
HORACE W. ABBOTT*	..	4.	*SAMSON BURTON .. ..	<i>Tenor.</i>

Composed by the late WM. HARRISON, and Conducted by JOHN W. WILSON.

\*First peal of Treble Bob Major. Harry C. Woodward hails from Derby; J. W. Taylor, jun. from Loughborough, the rest belong to the local company. This peal was taken from Snowdon's "Treatise," part 2, first peal on page 16. This is the first peal of Treble Bob Major on the bells, and it is 49 years since one in the same method was rung in Nottingham.

The above was rung with the bells half-muffled, as a mark of respect to the late Mr. J. Wibberley, for nearly twenty years steeplekeeper at this church.

**BURTON-ON-TRENT, STAFFORDSHIRE.****THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION AND THE ST. PAUL'S SOCIETY, BURTON-ON-TRENT.****Wedding Peal.**

On Tuesday, June 2, 1885, in Three Hours and Sixteen Minutes,

AT ST. PAUL'S CHURCH,

**A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR, 5040 CHANGES. Tenor 26 cwt.**

HARRY WAKLEY .. .. .	<i>Treble.</i>	JOHN JAGGAR .. .. .	5.
ARTHUR WAKLEY .. .. .	2.	A. PERCIVAL HEYWOOD, ESQ.	6.
JOSEPH GRIFFIN .. .. .	3.	THOMAS HOLMES .. .. .	7.
EDWARD ISAAC STONE .. .. .	4.	WILLIAM WAKLEY .. .. .	<i>Tenor.</i>

Composed by N. J. PITSTOW, and Conducted by JOSEPH GRIFFIN.

This peal, which is now rung for the first time, is a three-part peal, see Snowdon's "Double Norwich," page 24, being the second of the peals there given. It was rung on the occasion of the marriage of Mr. Wm. Newton, Finchley, Middlesex, formerly a member of the St. Paul's Amateur Society, Burton-on-Trent, with Miss Moulsey, Burton-on-Trent.

**GORTON, LANCASHIRE.**

On Saturday, May 30, 1885, in Three Hours and Nine-and-a-½ Minutes,

AT BROOKFIELD UNITARIAN CHURCH,

**A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;**

IN THE OXFORD VARIATION.

THOMAS MOSS .. .. .	Treble.	SAMUEL WOOD .. .. .	5.
JAMES WOOD .. .. .	2.	BENJAMIN BROADBENT .. .. .	6.
RALPH ELLIS .. .. .	3.	THOMAS WILDE .. .. .	7.
JAMES S. WILDE .. .. .	4.	GEORGE LONGDEN .. .. .	Tenor.

Composed by HENRY JOHNSON, and Conducted by SAMUEL WOOD.

The above peal is taken from Snowdon's work, part ii., page 88.

**Date Touches.****THE BIRMINGHAM AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATION.**

BIRMINGHAM.—On Sunday, May 31st, at St. John's, Deritend, for Divine Service, the local company rang a date touch of 1885 changes of Grandsire Triples, composed by Miss E. Cruwys Sharland, in 1 hr. 13 mins. John Perry, 1; Charles Carmell (conductor), 2; Charles Barnacle, 3; Francis James, 4; Richard Hackley, 5; Albert Hackley, 6; \*Edward Bryant, 7; \*Edward Butler, 8. \*First date touch. And a few short touches of Grandsire Triples. F. Whitard, 1; J. Perry (conductor), 2; E. Boylin, 3; C. Carmell, 4; C. Barnacle, 5; F. James, 6; E. Bryant, 7; J. King, 8. E. Bryant and E. Boylin hail from Selly Oak, the rest belong to Birmingham.

**THE HERTFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.**

BISHOPS STORTFORD (Herts).—On Saturday, May 30th, eight members of this branch of the above Association rang, at St. Michael's church, a date touch of 1885 changes of Grandsire Triples, in 1 hr. 15 mins. T. Newman, 1; C. Martin, 2; A. Tucker, 3; H. J. Tucker, 4; G. Martin, 5; H. Champness, 6; H. N. Doughty, 7; J. Sampford, 8. Composed by John Carter, and conducted by H. J. Tucker. Tenor 20 cwt.

HALIFAX (Yorkshire).—On Sunday, May 31st, for Divine Service in the evening at All Souls' church, a date touch of 1885 changes of Bob Major, in 71½ mins. H. Reynolds, 1; T. Parker, 2; G. D. E. Mercer, 3; J. S. Ambler, 4; A. Parker, 5; G. Standeven, 6; S. W. Steward (conductor), 7; A. F. Nicholl, 8. Tenor 25½ cwt. in D. This is the longest length in the method by any of the company.

KELVEDON (Essex).—Recently, at St. Mary's church, a date touch of 1885 changes was rung in the following thirteen methods; Stedman, Grandsire, Plain, Oxford, Cambridge, Simon's, Nightingale, Dunstan's, Twilight, Hudibras, Dream, Antelope, Sunshine, in 1 hr. 23 mins. C. Elliott (conductor), 1; H. Evers, 2; W. T. Elliot, 3; J. Elliott, 4; H. Elliott, 5. Tenor 21 cwt. in E.

SALTAIRE (Yorks).—On Saturday, May 13th, at the Congregational church, the local company rang a date touch of 1885 changes, composed of 85 and three 6-scores of Bob Doubles, and two 720's of Bob Minor, all called differently, in 1 hr. 6 mins., in honour of the marriage of Mr. F. Moulson, a former member of the company. J. Baxter, 1; \*S. H. London, 2; \*A. Riley, 3; \*B. T. Copley (conductor), 4; A. Bulmer, 5; \*F. London, 6. Tenor 19½ cwt. \*Members of the Yorkshire Association.

**Miscellaneous.****DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.**

NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.—On Saturday, May 23rd, at the church of St. John the Baptist, an attempt was made for a peal of Treble Bob Major, 5120 changes, in the Kent Variation, but after ringing 2 hrs. and 58 mins., when the bells should have come into rounds, it was found that two bells had changed course. J. Simm, 1; T. Denton, 2; E. Wallis, 3; R. W. Wignell, 4; W. Bowes, 5; R. S. Story, 6; T. Clark (conductor), 7; W. Story, 8. Mr. T. Clark hails from Ripon and is an honorary member of the above Association. The ringers take this opportunity of thanking the vicar for permission to ring, also the vergers for their constant willingness to oblige the ringers. Tenor 12½ cwt.

**THE EASTERN COUNTIES' GUILD.**

SPALDING (Lincolnshire).—On Tuesday, May 19th, at SS. Mary and Nicolas, a 720 of College Single, and a 300 of London Single. J. W. Jarvis, 1; J. S. Wright, 2; G. L. Richardson, 3; G. Skeef (first

720 in the method), 4; R. Mackman, 5; J. Brown, 6. And on Whit-Sunday, May 24th, a 720 of Plain Bob (eight bobs and six singles), C. Neaverson, 1; G. Skeef, 2; G. L. Richardson, 3; R. Mackman, 4; J. S. Wright, 5; J. Brown, 6.

#### THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

ALDINGTON (Kent).—On Whit-Sunday, May 24th, 1885, for Divine Service in the afternoon at St. Martin's church, a 720 of Plain Bob Minor (nine bobs and six singles), in 28½ mins. Frank Wanstall, 1; David Hodgkin, 2; William Post, jun., 3; Fred Wanstall, 4; Philip Hodgkin (conductor), 5; William Post, sen., 6. And a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob (nine bobs), in 28 mins. Thomas Post, 1; D. Hodgkin, 2; F. Wanstall, 3; P. Hodgkin, 4; W. Hyder (conductor), 5; W. Post, sen., 6. And on Monday, May 25th, a 720 of Plain Bob Minor (fourteen singles and four bobs). Charles Slingsby, 1; Edward Hyder, 2; Wm. Post, jun., 3; F. Wanstall, 4; P. Hodgkin (conductor), 5; Wm. Post, sen., 6. Also a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob (fifteen bobs), in 28 mins. C. Slingsby, 1; E. Hyder, 2; F. Wanstall, 3; P. Hodgkin, 4; W. Hyder (conductor), 5; W. Post, sen., 6. Also on Saturday, May 30th, a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob (fifteen bobs), in 28 mins. W. Post (first 720 of Treble Bob), 1; D. Hodgkin, 2; E. Hyder, 3; F. Wanstall, 4; W. Hyder (conductor), 5; P. Hodgkin, 6. Tenor 14 cwt. in G.

LYMINGE (Kent).—On Sunday, May 14th, six members of the Aldington branch of the above Association visited this place, and rang at the church of SS. Mary and Eadburgh, for Divine Service in the afternoon, a 720 of Plain Bob Minor, in 29 mins. Frank Wanstall, 1; D. Hodgkin, 2; W. Post, jun., 3; Fred Wanstall, 4; P. Hodgkin (conductor), 5; W. Post, sen., 6. The above contains nine bobs and six singles. And another 720 in the same method (twenty-six singles), in 28 mins. Frank Wanstall, 1; Richard Andrews (Lyminge), 2; D. Hodgkin, 3; Albert Tanton (Lyminge), 4; James Andrews (Lyminge), 5; P. Hodgkin (conductor), 6. And after service, another 720 in the same method (twenty-two singles), in 29½ mins. W. Post, jun., 1; R. Andrews, 2; A. Tanton, 3; Fred Wanstall, 4; P. Hodgkin (conductor), 5; W. Post, sen., 6. Tenor 18½ cwt. in F.

#### THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

OXFORD.—Recently, at St. Thomas-ye-Martyr, a 720 of Grandsire Minor (thirty-four bobs and two singles), in 25 mins. C. S. Rowland (St. John's), 1; A. F. M. Culance (B.N.C.), 2; G. C. Joyce (first 720: B.N.C.), 3; J. R. Vincent (St. John's), 4; J. W. Washbrook, 5; C. W. H. Griffith (C.C.C.: conductor), 6. All the above except J. W. Washbrook, are also members of the Oxford University Society.

#### STOKE-ON-TRENT ARCHIDIACONAL ASSOCIATION.

NORTON (Staffordshire).—On Sunday, May 31st, for Divine Service in the evening, a 720 of Court Bob Minor, in 27 mins. W. Baddeley, 1; E. Glover, 2; J. Morton, 3; J. W. Brough, 4; G. Walker, 5; J. Baddeley (conductor), 6.

BALCOMBE (Sussex).—On Thursday, May 7th, a 720 of Plain Bob Minor. \*R. Bourne, 1; J. Gasson, 2; \*J. Cheeseman, 3; \*C. Gasson, 4; \*H. Meads, 5; †E. Streeter (conductor), 6. And on Wednesday, May 13th, a 720 of Plain Bob Minor, standing as before. And on Whit-Sunday morning, a 720 of Oxford Bob. J. Richardson, 1; R. Bourne, 2; J. Cheeseman, 3; C. Gasson, 4; H. Meads, 5; J. Gasson (conductor), 6. On Whit-Sunday evening, a 720 of Plain Bob Minor. R. Bourne, 1; E. Streeter, 2; J. Cheeseman, 3; F. Streeter, 4; H. Meads, 5; J. Gasson (conductor), 6. And on Sunday, May 31st, a 720 of Oxford Bob. R. Bourne, 1; C. Gasson, 2; E. Streeter, 3; J. Cheeseman, 4; J. Gasson, 5; H. Meads (conductor), 6. And a 720 of Warnham Court Bob. J. Cheeseman, 1; H. Meads, 2; F. Streeter, 3; G. Illman, 4; J. Gasson, 5; E. Streeter (conductor), 6. \*First 720 in the method. †Member of the Sussex County Association. Illman and the brothers Streeter belong to the Worth society, the rest belong to the local company.

BLACKBURN (Lancashire).—On Saturday evening, May 30th, at the parish church, a 720 of Grandsire Minor (thirty-four bobs and two singles), in 29 mins. \*E. J. Gorse, 1; \*H. Sagar, 2; R. Lund, 3; \*T. Sharples, 4; W. Clarke (first 720 as conductor), 5; S. Aldrich, 6. \*First 720. Tenor 16½ cwt.

BOOTLE (Lancashire).—On Thursday evening, May 28th, the ringers of Walton Parish Church, rang at Christ Church, a 720 of College Single Minor, in 27 mins. J. Hurst, 1; C. J. Rodgers, 2; T. R. Somerville, 3; T. Rushton, 4; R. Stockley, 5; C. E. Wilson (conductor), 6. Also a 720 of Plain Bob Minor (sixteen bobs and two singles). J. Hurst, 1; C. E. Wilson (conductor), 2; T. R. Somerville, 3; R. Stockley, 4; R. H. Barton, 5; J. Bradshaw, 6. And on Sunday morning, May 31st, for Divine Service, a 360 of Plain Bob Minor. E. Yates, 1; R. H. Barton, 2; W. Short, 3; W. Rushton, 4; T. E. Woodward, 5; J. Bradshaw (conductor), 6. The above 720 of College Single is the first ever rung on the bells. Tenor 12½ cwt.

BRADFORD (Yorks).—On Sunday, May 31st, at St. James's, Bolton, Winhill, for evening service, the local company rang a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor, in 27 mins. B. Sugden, 1; G. Titterton, 2; J. Broadley (first time as conductor), 3; B. T. Copley, 4; S. Palframan, 5; W. Barraclough, 6. Tenor 15 cwt.

BRAMFORD (Suffolk).—On Sunday, May 24th, two 6-scores of Plain Doubles. Walter Brown, 1; Charles Osbourne, 2; Charles Mee, 3; Charles Smith, 4; Alfred Pryke, 5; William Read, 6.

BURTON-ON-TRENT.—On Saturday, May 30th, at St. Mark's church, a 720 of Grandsire Minor, in 27 mins. F. Dimpleby, 1; \*J. Austin, 2; H. Wakley, 3; \*J. Ashmole, 4; G. Robinson, 5; J. Jaggar (conductor), 6. \*First 720.

CAPEL (Surrey).—On Whit-Sunday, May 24th, for afternoon service, a 288 of Oxford Treble Bob Minor. T. M. Stedman, 1; A. Tidy, 2; A. D. Mills, 3; R. Worsfold, 4; R. Jordan, 5; D. Jordan, 6. Also after service, 720 of College Pleasure, 360 of Kent Treble Bob and a 360 of College Exercise Minor. G. Moore, 1; A. Tidy, 2; A. D. Mills, 3; R. Worsfold, 4; R. Jordan, 5; D. Jordan (conductor), 6.

CHESTER.—On Tuesday, May 26th, at St. Mary's church, a 720 of Grandsire Minor, in 23½ mins. Edwin Davies, 1; George Caldwell, 2; Ralph Curry, 3; John Johnson, 4; Sidney Barton, 5; Thomas J. Bithell (conductor), 6. And on Thursday, May 28th, a 720 of Grandsire Minor, in 23 mins. E. Davis, 1; Richard Mills (first 720), 2; George Caldwell, 3; J. Johnson, 4; R. Curry, 5; T. J. Bithell (conductor), 6. Tenor 23 cwt. in D.

DALTON-IN-FURNESS (Durham).—On Saturday, May 24th, at the parish church, being the Queen's birthday, the local company met at 2.30 p.m., and rung six 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles. J. Burrows, 1; Wm. Robinson, 2; T. Watson, 3; J. Watson, 4; T. R. Jackson, 5; T. Satterthwaite (Ambleside), 6. Conducted by J. Burrows. And in the evening six 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles. J. Burrows, 1; Wm. Robinson, 2; T. Watson, 3; J. Watson, 4; T. R. Jackson, 5; M. Caddy, 6. Conducted by J. Burrows.

DUFFIELD (Derbyshire).—On Monday, June 1st, at the parish church, on the occasion of the marriage of Edmund Willmott, Esq., the local company rang a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 45 mins. G. Dawson, 1; S. Johnson, 2; E. Moreton, 3; W. Hickling, 4; J. Hingley, 5; A. Robinson, 6; A. P. Heywood (conductor), 7; J. Johnson, 8. And on Sunday, May 31st, Mr. John Howe, of Derby, paid a visit to Duffield, and assisted in ringing a 768 of Treble Bob Major for Divine service in the evening. G. Dawson, 1; E. Moreton, 2; G. Hingley, 3; A. Robinson, 4; W. Hickling, 5; J. Howe, 6; R. Johnson, 7; A. P. Heywood (conductor), 8.

HARWICH (Essex).—On Whit-Monday, May 25th, at the parish church, a 360 of Plain Bob minor, in 15 mins. W. Read, 1; A. Pryke, 2; W. Scowen, 3; T. Scowen, 4; J. Leverett, 5; C. Smith, 6. Tenor 16 cwt. in G. C. Smith, T. Pryke, and W. Read hail from Bramford, Suffolk; and T. Scowen, W. Scowen, and W. Leverett from Hadleigh, Suffolk.

HUDDERSFIELD (Yorkshire).—On Sunday, May 24th, being the Queen's birthday, at St. Peter's parish church, the local company honoured the occasion by ringing 66 treble leads of Kent Treble Bob, 2112 changes, for Divine Service in the evening, in 1 hr. 15 mins., being the same number of treble leads that Her Majesty is years of of age. Wm. Clay, 1; G. Clay, 2; R. Kitson, 3; Hy. Ellis, 4; J. Stead, 5; J. Barraclough, 6; T. Haigh, 7; Wm. Brogden, 8. Arranged and conducted by T. Haigh.

NETHERTON (Worcestershire).—On Thursday evening, May 21st, at St. Andrew's church, for practice, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob, in 28 mins. R. Round, 1; J. Prestidge, 2; J. Townsend, 3; M. J. Robinson, 4; W. Micklewright (Dudley; conductor), 5; J. Smith, 6. Tenor 12½ cwt.

NOTTINGHAM.—On Tuesday evening, May 19th, at St. Mary's church, for practice on the light six, a 120 of Grandsire Doubles. W. Lee, 1; \*W. Fox, 2; \*H. Denman, 3; \*A. Lambert, 4; Rev. W. W. C. Baker, 5; C. Wilkinson, 6. \*First 120 on the tower bells. And on Tuesday, May 24th, three 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles. W. Lee, 1; W. Fox, 2; H. Denman, 3; S. Wilkinson, 4; Rev. W. W. C. Baker, 5; C. Wilkinson, 6. And another 120 in the same method. C. Wilkinson, 1; W. Fox, 2; Rev. W. W. C. Baker, 3; M. Tomlinson (Holbeck, Leeds), 4; S. Wilkinson, 5; W. Lee, 6. And another 120. C. Wilkinson, 1; W. Fox, 2; W. Lee, 3; M. Tomlinson, 4; Rev. W. W. C. Baker, 5; S. Wilkinson, 6. Called in various ways by Rev. W. W. C. Baker.

OCKLEY (Surrey).—On Sunday, May 31st, some of the Capel society visited the Parish Church, and rang for morning service, a 720 of Oxford Bob Minor. T. M. Stedman, 1; G. Moore, 2; G. Cox, 3; R. Jordan, 4; E. Jordan, 5; D. Jordan (conductor), 6. Also 360 in the same method. T. M. Stedman, 1; A. D. Mills, 2; W. Bishop, 3; W. Mills, 4; D. Jordan, 5; E. Jordan (conductor), 6. Messrs. Bishop, Cox, and W. Mills are local men, the rest belong to Capel. Tenor 16 cwt.

**ORMSKIRK (Lancashire).**—On Tuesday evening, May 26th, for practice, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 40 mins. John Prescott, 1; J. Sholicar (conductor), 2; Henry Ellis, 3; William Bentham, 4; Charles Sharples, 5; William J. Taylor, 6; George Prescott, 7; William Lloyd, 8. Composed by T. Beacall, Liverpool.

**PONTEFRAC (Yorkshire).**—On Sunday, May 24th, at St. Giles's church, the local company rang a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, 1260 changes, in about 48 mins. J. Smithies, 1; C. Watts, 2; H. Spurr, 3; G. Booth, 4; R. Savill, 5; J. Carter, 6; W. Pearson (conductor), 7; E. Waterton, 8. And a 504 of Grandsire Triples, in 18 mins. A. Pearson, 1; J. Pollard, 2; G. Booth, 3; R. Brook, 4; R. Savill, 5; J. Carter, 6; C. Watts, 7; W. Pearson (conductor), 8. Also on Thursday evening, May 28th, at All Saints' church, a 720 of Violet Treble Bob. W. Wilcock, 1; J. Brook, 2; F. Moody, 3; R. Brook, 4; J. Carter, 5; W. Pearson (conductor), 6. Also a 360 of Double Court Bob. W. Wilcock, 1; J. Brook, 2; R. Brook, 3; J. Pollard, 4; J. Carter, 6; W. Pearson (conductor), 7. Also on Sunday morning, May 31st, a 360 in the same method, with F. Moody ringing the 3rd, the rest as before.

**RAUNDS (Northamptonshire).**—On Saturday, May 30th, at St. Peter's church, for practice a 720 of College Little (eighteen bobs and two singles). A. Coles, 1; J. Braybrook, 2; F. Gilbert, 3; N. Martin (first 720 in the method), 4; J. Willmott, 5; H. Stubbs (conductor), 6. Also a 108 of Plain Bob Minor. A. Coles, 1; J. Braybrook, 2; J. Willmott, 3; B. W. Allen (first 108 in this method), 4; F. Gilbert, 5; H. Stubbs (conductor), 6. Also a 120 of Plain Bob Doubles. B. W. Allen, 1; F. Gilbert, 2; R. Dunkley (first 120 in the method), 4; J. Braybrook, 4; H. Stubbs (conductor), 5; H. Twelvetree, 6. J. Braybrook hails from Ringstead; R. Dunkley from Bythorn; H. Twelvetree from Keystone.

**RINGSTEAD (Northamptonshire).**—On Monday, June 1st, at St. Mary's church, for practice a 720 of Oxford Bob Minor (twenty-six singles). G. Roberts, 1; J. Braybrook, 2; R. Shipley, 3; J. Sawford, 4; E. Mayes, 5; W. J. Gilbert (conductor), 6. Also 360 of College Single (nine bobs). G. Roberts, 1; W. J. Gilbert (conductor), 2; R. Shipley, 4; E. Mayes, 4; J. Braybrook, 5; T. Robert, 6.

**STANSTEAD (Essex).**—On Saturday, May 9th, at the church of St. Mary the Virgin, six of the local company rang a 720 of Double Court Bob Minor, in 27 mins. W. Prior, 1; C. Prior, 2; H. Prior, jun., 3; G. Gray, 4; Isaac Cavill, 5; H. Prior (conductor), 6. And on Saturday, May 17th, a 720 of Plain Bob Minor, in 27 mins., and 60 of College Single. J. Cavill, 1; W. Prior, 2; H. Prior, jun., 3; G. Gray, 4; Isaac Cavill, 5; C. Prior (conductor), 6. And on Saturday, May 30th, a 720 of Double Oxford Bob Minor (twenty-one bobs and twelve singles), in 26 mins. J. Cavill, 1; J. Luckey, 2; H. Prior, jun., 3; G. Gray, 4; Isaac Cavill, 5; C. Prior (conductor), 6. And 180 of College Single. J. Cavill, 1; W. Prior, 2; H. Prior, jun., 3; G. Gray, 4; Isaac Cavill, 5; C. Prior (conductor), 6. And 108 of Plain Bob Minor, with G. Prior 1; the rest as before. And 180 of Plain Bob Minor, with W. T. Prior (aged 13), 1; the rest as before. And 180 of Plain Bob Minor, with W. Prior, 1; W. Watts, 2; the rest as before. Tenor 13 cwt.

**TOTTENHAM (Middlesex).**—On Sunday, May 31st, for Divine Service in the evening, a 360 of Grandsire Minor, in 13 mins. — Grover, 1; J. Waghorn, jun., 2; G. B. Lucas, 3; J. Waghorn, 4; G. Bower, 5; H. Barnett (conductor), 6. And a 518 of Grandsire Triples, in 19 mins. — Grover, 1; J. Langran, 2; H. Barnett, 3; J. Waghorn, jun., (conductor), 4; G. B. Lucas, 5; J. Waghorn, 6; G. Bower, 7; — Arundel, 8.

**WALTON-ON-THE-HILL (Lancashire).**—On Sunday morning, May 24th, at 6.30 a.m., at St. Mary's parish church, on the occasion of Her Majesty's birthday, a 720 of Grandsire Minor (thirty-four bobs and two singles, 4th the observation, the singles occurring in the third and sixth parts), in 25½ mins. And for Divine Service in the evening, a 720 of College Single Minor in 25 mins. And on Friday evening, May 29th, (Royal Oak Day), a 720 of Plain Bob Minor (thirty-one bobs and twelve singles), in 25 mins. J. Hurst, 1; C. J. Rodgers, 2; T. R. Somerville, 3; T. Rushton, 4; R. Stockley, 5; C. E. Wilson (conductor), 6. Tenor 9 cwt.

#### THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

The members of this Association are invited by Mr. Percival Heywood to a garden party, at Duffield Bank, on Saturday, June 6th, from two to seven; tea at five o'clock. The bells of the parish church (8), will be at the disposal of the members from two o'clock for short touches only. The Midland Railway Company has kindly consented to issue pleasure party tickets at a single fare and a quarter for the double journey on this date, provided there be not less than ten third-class passengers.

JOSEPH GRIFFIN, Hon. Sec.

#### EASTERN COUNTIES' GUILD.

THE FIRST ANNUAL MEETING of the above Guild, was held at Spalding on Saturday, May 30th. The bells of the parish church were raised at 2.30, and 360 of London Single was rung by the Spalding company. By this time Dr. Seccombe and visitors arrived, and a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob was attempted by a mixed company, but came to grief in the last course. A 720 of Plain Bob was rung by a mixed company; W. Day, Esq., of Wisbeach, took part in this 720. Another short touch or two of Plain and Treble Bob, the time arrived for tea. The company then adjourned to the National School, where a substantial knife and fork tea was provided by Mr. Emerson, confectioner, in a creditable style. Tea was presided over by Canon Moore, supported by the Rev. B. Matthews. Dr. Seccombe, and H. Watkinson, Esqs. After tea, the business of the meeting was transacted, all officers re-elected; Rev. J. H. Spokes, a vice-president, and H. Watkinson, Esq., added to the committee. The accounts were gone through, and were found to be in a very satisfactory condition. It was proposed to hold the next meeting at Walpole St. Peter's. Ringing commenced again at seven. Several short touches were rung until 8.15, and this brought a very pleasant half-day's ringing to a close.

R. MACKMAN.

#### THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION OF SIX-BELL RINGERS.

THE ANNUAL MEETING of the above Association was held at St. James's, Accrington, on Saturday, May 30th, when upwards of forty members attended and partook of a substantial repast in St. James's school. After which the General Meeting was held (being opened with a short prayer by the Rev. J. Rogers, Vicar of St. James's, Accrington), with the usual election of officers for the ensuing year. During the day several 720's were rung by mixed bands, the meeting altogether being a great success, closing with a vote of thanks to the rev. gentleman for his presence at the meeting, also for the use of the bells and schoolroom on this occasion.

#### THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—ROTHWELL BRANCH.

The following is the ringing done by this branch of the above Association, at Holy Trinity Church, during the month of May. May 2nd, 360 Arnold's Victory, 720 Duke of York, 360 Violet; May 3rd, 720 New London Pleasure, 720 Duke of York; May 10th, 720 Duke of York, 360 of Violet, 120 of Oxford Treble Bob; May 17th, 720 Duke of York, 720 Oxford Treble Bob, 120 Arnold's Victory; May 24th, 360 of Oxford Treble Bob, 720 Duke of York, 720 of Violet, \*720 Arnold's Victory, 240 Oxford Treble Bob, 360 Arnold's Victory; May 31st, 720 Arnold's Victory, 240 New London Pleasure, 240 Violet, 240 Duke of York, by the following: J. Verity, 1; A. Chapman, 2; J. Harrison, 3; W. Abbishaw, 4; — Stacey, 5; J. M. Chadwick, 6. \*First 720 of Arnold's Victory since the year 1857 on these bells, and the first 720 by all except J. Haigh, who rang the 5th on this occasion — Stacey's first 720 in the method.

#### THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING is fixed to be held at Sittingbourne, on Monday, June 15th. Service at the parish church at 12. Dinner at the Town Hall, at 1.0. Members who wish application to be made for cheap railway fares, should write at once to the Hon. Sec., stating from what station they start, &c. The Rev. R. B. Knatchbull-Hugessen's address, until June 10th, will be Clamoor Hill, Haslemere, Surrey. The towers of Sittingbourne, Borden, Gillingham, and Faversham (8 bells), and of Bobbing, Hartlip, and Teynham (6 bells), will be open to the Association.

**HANDBELL CHANGE-RINGING CONTEST.**—The Bradford Society of change-ringers give notice that a Trial of Skill in the art of change-ringing upon handbells, will take place at the meeting house of the above society (Mr. Lewis Foulds, "Ring of Bells," Bolton Road, near the Parish Church, Bradford), on Saturday, July 11th, 1885, when the following prizes will be given. A ten-bell contest: For the best course of Grandsire Caters and Grandsire Royal, a new peal of fifteen handbells, in Eb, size 20, of first-class quality, value £6 7s. 6d., kindly presented by Messrs. James Shaw, Son and Co., Bell Founders, Leeds Road, Bradford. The eight-bell contest, for the best course of Grandsire Triples and Grandsire Major, the three following prizes: 1st, £2 0s. 0d.; 2nd, £1 0s. 0d.; third, 10s. Further particulars may be had of Mr. Jesse Naylor, Hon. Sec., 88 Lapage Street, Leeds Road, Bradford.

\* \* We wish it to be thoroughly understood that all communications unaccompanied by the name and address of the writer are not inserted.



## INTERNATIONAL INVENTIONS EXHIBITION.

In an Exhibition so comprehensive as the one now delighting thousands daily at South Kensington, it would be very strange if nothing relating to campanology were to be found. And yet we must confess to being somewhat disappointed at the paucity of exhibits in this connection. However, the most noteworthy of them, that shewn by Messrs. Warner and Sons, of the Cripplegate Foundry, seems to us so important as to merit a particular notice. It is situated in the grounds between the Chinese Restaurant and the Music Gallery, and consists of three large church bells hung in a substantial frame, with wheels and all necessary appliances for ringing. The bells, two of which are maidens, are excellent castings and very good tone. Each bears the founders' name with the date and appropriate inscriptions in 'beautifully-executed lettering on the waist. But although excellent specimens of the bell-founders' art, it is not in virtue of this that ringers will wish to pay particular attention to them. Not very long ago we published an account of the patent secured by Mr. S. B. Goslin, but we have now for the first time an opportunity of inspecting it in its actual application to bells, those at the exhibition being hung on his principle. Its main feature, as we may remind our readers, is a strong iron sole passing from side to side underneath the wooden stock, and which is bored to receive the gudgeons. The whole is securely bolted up, and this simple contrivance effectually prevents that warping of the stock which is so often the real cause of a bell going badly. Another innovation will be remarked in the fitting of the bearings, which instead of being sunk in the frame, are fitted in boxes firmly bolted on to its upper surface, thus avoiding the weakening caused by the old plan of cutting away the timber to receive the gudgeons. The entire arrangement seems to us to be an eminently practical one, and we can confidently recommend it to the notice of all interested in ringing matters.

Another object which will attract attention is the case containing a portion of the peal of bells used by the Royal Criterion handbell ringers. Mr. Harry Tipper, the talented manager of this company, exhibits three octaves of his bells (chromatic scale in G), with a large tenor in C, and a large model of "Great Tom" of Lincoln. We have had an opportunity of testing these bells (which are by the well-known founders, Messrs. Mears and Stainbank), and can therefore testify from experience to their wonderful melody and precision of tone, such qualities indeed being absolutely indispensable for the purpose to which they are put in the excellent and popular entertainments given by their possessors.

## NORTHENDEN, CHESHIRE.

THE following is the ringing done at Northenden, from May 6th to May 18th, 1885:—On Wednesday, May 6th, with the bells muffled, as a mark of respect to one of the oldest parishioners, Mrs. Sumner, who was in her 100th year, and was interred this day, a 360 of Bob Minor (nine bobs). W. A. Brickill, 1; T. Brickill, 2; P. Brickill, 3; J. Wilde, 4; T. Price, 5; S. Brickill, 6. And in the evening, with the bells muffled, a 720 of Plain Bob Minor (sixteen bobs and two singles). John Leigh, 1; A. Brickill, 2; P. Brickill, 3; J. Wilde, 4; J. Price, 5; S. Brickill, 6. John Leigh's first 720. And on Saturday, May 9th, a 720 of Bob Minor (sixteen bobs and two singles). J. Leigh, 1; T. Brickill, 2; P. Brickill, 3; J. Wilde, 4; T. Price, 5; S. Brickill, 6. And on Sunday, May 10th, for Divine Service, 180 of Bob Minor (three bobs). J. Leigh, 1; J. Brickill, 2; P. Brickill, 3; J. Wilde, 4; J. Price, 5; S. Brickill, 6. And on Wednesday, May 13th, a 360 of Bob Minor (nine bobs). W. A. Brickill, 1; T. Brickill, 2; J. Leigh, 3; J. Wilde, 4; J. Price, 5; P. Brickill, 6. And on Tuesday, May 14th, with the bells muffled, as a mark of respect to the late Thos. Willm. Tatton, Esq., of Wythenshaw Hall, who was interred at Northenden, a 720 of Bob Minor. W. A. Brickill, 1; J. Brickill, 2; P. Brickill, 3; J. Wilde, 4; J. Price, 5; G. Brickill, 6. And on Sunday, May 17th, with the bells muffled, at midday, a 720 standing as before. And on Sunday evening, May 17th, a 720, standing as before. And on Monday, May 18th, 1885, standing as before. The above were all conducted by Peter Brickill.

## 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."

## "LONDON SOCIETIES."

SIR,—Of late there has been a deal written upon this subject, and the strictures that have been passed are not all undeserved. It is time that the various societies of London, with their "high-falutin'" titles, should become useful, instead of being merely ornamental. I don't know whether they think it their province to adjudicate upon questions involving what I will call the ringing conduct of their members. The St. James' Society certainly did on a recent occasion expel a poor fellow from their ranks, through his having made a statement regarding a peal which he had not the courage to appear and substantiate before the awful tribunal appointed to judge him. After this, it would be curious to know what the "Ancient Society of College Youths" will have to say about one of their members taking a rope from a bell so that a peal should not be rung, thereby causing much disappointment to distinguished visitors from the country. Perhaps they will think this a matter of not so much importance. Well, we shall see. Meanwhile the distinguished visitors may hint to their London confreres the course which would be adopted towards these "dog-in-the-manger" individuals, if they played their fantastic tricks in their neighbourhood.

LOOKER-ON.

## VISIT OF THE ST. MARTIN'S SOCIETY, BIRMINGHAM, TO PERRY BAR.

ON Whit-Monday, May 25th, the following members of the above society, met at St. John's Church, Perry Bar, on the occasion of fixing a tablet to record two muffled peals rung in memory of the late vicar, the Rev. C. B. Snepp, and an attempt was made for a peal of Stedman Triples, but after ringing twenty-one courses, it came to grief, and "stand" was called. S. Reeves (conductor), 1; T. Reynolds, 2; H. Bastable, 3; W. Kent, 4; W. R. Small, 5; C. Stanbridge, 6; W. Hallsworth, 7; J. Buffery, 8; after which a touch 1056 Kent Treble Bob Major, was rung by the same band, conducted by Mr. Hallsworth. Through the kindness of Mrs. Snepp, the band was invited, along with the Perry Bar ringers, to the rectory, where a substantial dinner was laid out, and having done ample justice to the good things provided, the company numbering nineteen, were shown over the grounds and gardens by Mr. Sheppard, to whom they are much indebted for the explanation he gave of the different plants and other things connected with the place. Another visit being made to the tower, some touches of Grandsire Triples and Plain Bob Major were rung by mixed bands of the two companies, after which the party was supplied with tea, when the handbells were brought to the front, and some tunes and touches of Grandsire Triples and Caters rung upon them. A vote of thanks to Mrs. Snepp for her kindness in entertaining the ringers, was passed unanimously, and also one to the servants for the trouble they had been put to in making the necessary provisions, the party leaving for home much pleased with their outing.

## ST. HELEN'S, CLIFFE-AT-HOO, ROCHESTER, KENT.

AFTER nine evenings practice, (about one hour each time), the following persons succeeded in ringing a course of Grandsire Triples, five leads, seventy changes—with correct striking. E. Brenchley, 1; J. Osenton, 2; J. Price, 3; Abraham Daly, 4; A. Couchman, 5; J. Taylor, 6; J. Wilder, 7; T. Brenchley (jun.), 8. Mr. G. Osmotherly also rings the course. This performance is the first by a local party since the ring of eight bells (tenor 16 cwt.) was put into the tower by Messrs. Taylor of Loughborough, in 1860. On Thursday, May 28th, Mr. Stevens, a resident in the parish, presented the company with a handsome clock for the ringing-room, and a donation to the society's funds, promising another donation towards the completion of the fittings of the belfry, which is now in good order, with writing-desk, table, mats, floor cloth, etc. Mr. Haworth, of London, has been their instructor. The ringers are all members of the Kent County Association. Thanks are due to Mr. Churchwarden Osmotherly, Mr. Brenchley (captain) and the Rev. R. B. Knatchbull-Hugessen, who have been the means of introducing change-ringing into the village of Cliffe.

## STOKE-ON-TRENT ARCHIDIACONAL ASSOCIATION.

THE ANNUAL MEETING will be held at Stoke, on Saturday, June 20th. Further particulars will be announced shortly. Those towers who have not yet paid their subscriptions, are requested to do so as soon as possible.

H. WALSHAM HOW, Hon. Sec.



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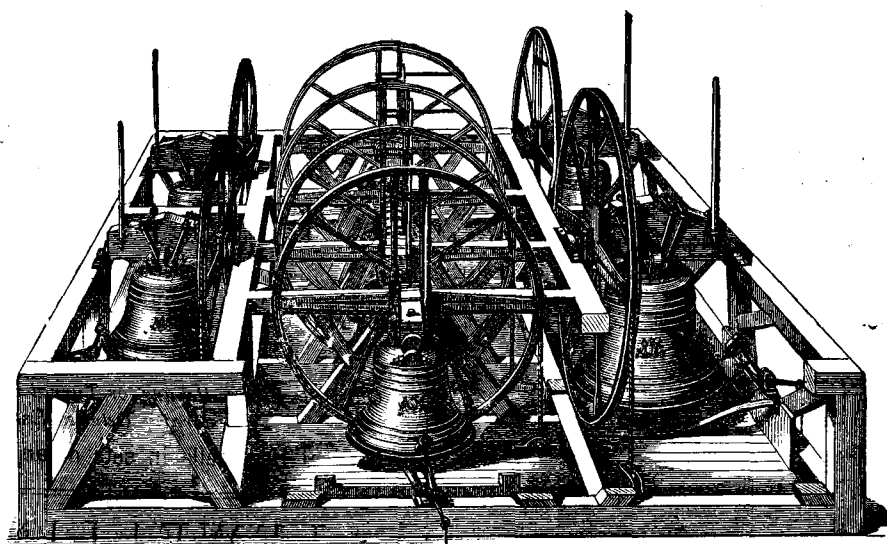
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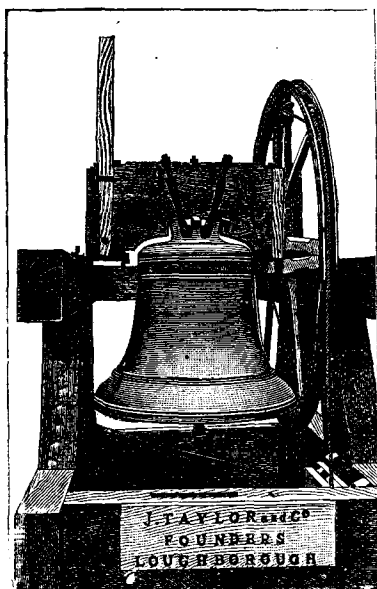
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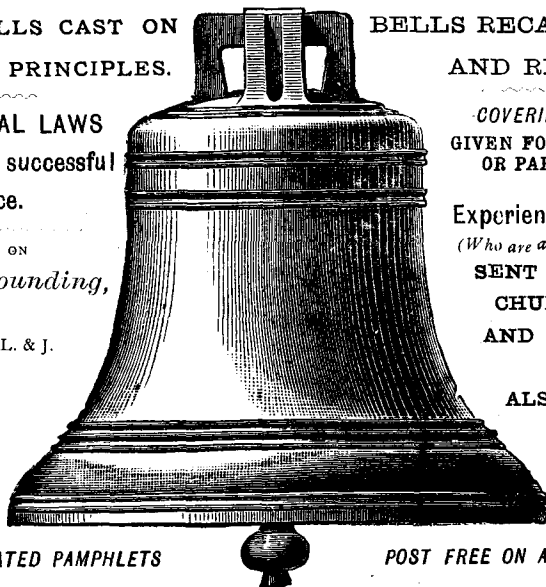
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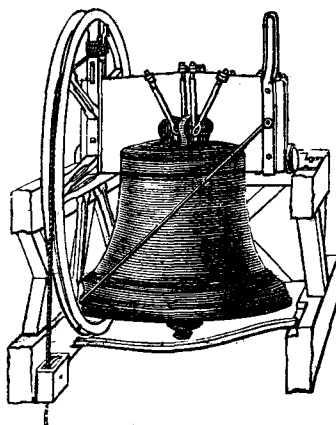
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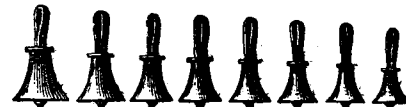
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## CATERS ON STEDMAN'S PRINCIPLE.

By JASPER W. SNOWDON.

THERE does not now seem to be any chance of obtaining any definite information as to the time when this principle was first practised on any higher number of bells than seven. In Annable's note-book, which is now in my possession, there are a few touches of Stedman Caters. Annable does not, however, seem to have given the method much attention, and as in these touches he shows the bob to be made in fifth's place, the touches are not in themselves of much interest. We may therefore consider that Stedman's principle on seven or eleven bells was not, even if rung occasionally, much practised during his lifetime. The occurrence of these touches shows, however, that the method had been considered in London at any rate before the year 1756, in which Annable died.

In connection with change-ringing, there are a large number of absurd legends, amongst which I place the one that it was not until the College Youths visited Norwich, in 1785, that they heard Stedman Cinques rung, and that they then left one of their members, T. Blakemore, to become acquainted with the method. It is possible that Stedman Cinques or Caters had not, previous to this visit, been rung in London, but it is more probable that it was occasionally practised, and this Norwich visit put the College Youths on their mettle to obtain the first peal of a method wherein no peal had yet been rung, but in which, however, they have subsequently accomplished many first-rate performances. I cannot, however, believe that they would have to leave a man behind them to become acquainted with the method.

Soon after the date of this visit to Norwich, the College Youths rang the first peal ever performed of Stedman Caters, viz., 5076 changes, which they accomplished on Monday, May 28th, 1787, at St. John's, Horsleydown.

The following is a copy of the tablet erected to commemorate this unique performance:—

*Tablet in the belfry of St. John's, Horsleydown.*—"Horsleydown. In honour to a most noble performance by the Ancient Society of College Youths, who on Monday, May 28th, 1787, did ring, in an excellent manner, the first complete peal of Caters upon Stedman's Principle, 5076 changes, in 3 hours and 27 mins. May this panel transmit their names to posterity with that of the ingenious Mr. W. Jones, on whose abilities his inimitable commentaries so happily concludes with, 'Here the Cynic and the Panegyrist stop,' and join in eulogiums to such distinguished merits.

John Reeves,	1.	John Inville,	4.	Christopher Wells,	8.
John Anderson,	2.	Thomas Heap,	5.	William Lowndes,	9.
Daniel Jenkins,	3.	Nathaniel Williamson,	6.	Paul Webb,	10.
		Allen Grant,	7.		

Composed and called by Mr. John Reeves."

On August 23rd, in the following year, the senior society of Cumberland Youths rang 5184 at St. Leonard's, Shoreditch; this peal, I may mention, was the first which William Shipway rang with this Society. The following are the particulars of this performance.

*From the Cumberland's peal-book.*—"St. Leonard's, Shoreditch. Sat. Aug. 23rd, 1788. The Society rang a true peal of 5184 Grandsire Caters on Stedman's principle in 3 hours 47 mins., being the second peal ever performed in that method. Composed and called by

John Reeves,	Treble.	Will. Shipway,	4.	Jas. Purser,	8.
Jno. Frazier,	2.	Will. Gibson,	5.	Wm. Stephens,	9.
Geo. Gross,	3.	Anthony Cavalier,	6.	Robt. Mann,	Tenor."
		Thos. Morriss,	7.		

In 1790 the first peal of Caters rung in this method out of London, was accomplished at Birmingham, since which time Birmingham has ever been considered the head-quarters of Stedman ringers and composers. The following is a more detailed account of this peal, which consisted of 5292 changes, and was the longest length ever rung in this method.

*Tablet in the belfry of St. Philip's, Birmingham.*—"On Monday, Oct. 25th, 1790, was rung by the St. Martin's Youths, a complete peal of Stedman Caters, comprising 5292 changes, in 3 hours 37 minutes, by the following persons.

Chas. Shuter,	Treble.	Willm. Bennett,	4.	Phineas Smith,	8.
Willm. Martin,	2.	Willm. Cotton,	5.	Saml. Lawrence,	9.
Josh. Littlewood,	3.	Daniel Veisey,	6.	Robt. Farmer,	Tenor."
		Alxr. Sanders,	7.		

Conducted by Charles Shuter."

The foregoing peal remained the longest length rung until the year 1797, when the Junior Cumberlands rang 6003 at Spitalfields. This peal, by J. Noonan, which is given in Shipway's book, is a false peal, but as it was considered a true one for many years, and took its place as the longest on record, I do not think it advisable to ignore it. The following gives a more particular account of the peal:—

*From the Junior Cumberlands' peal-book.*—"Christ Church, Spitalfields, Monday, 13 Novr. 1797. The Society rang in 4 hours and 15 minutes a true and complete peal of Grandsire Caters on Stedman's principle, containing 6003 changes, being the greatest number ever achieved in that method. Performed by

Jno. Noonan,	Treble.	Jno. Harris Boker,	4.	Wm. Trope,	8.
Hy. Symondson,	2.	Willm. Williams,	5.	Thos. Oredde,	9.
Josp. Ladley,	3.	Saml. Garrett,	6.	Wm. Fletcher,	Tenor."
		Wm. Tyler,	7.		

Composed and called by Mr. Jno. Noonan. This performance will remain a lasting honour to the Society, and an example worthy to be imitated by posterity."

The above length was not exceeded until 1805, when the Senior Society accomplished the following peal of 6129 changes on their favourite ring of ten at St. Leonard's, Shoreditch, the same company having, as I gather from an old ms. note-book, previously rung 5500 changes of this peal on February 18th, when the sixth clapper broke.

*Tablet in the belfry of St. Leonard's, Shoreditch.*—"Cumberland Youths. On Tuesday, 26 February, 1805, the above Society rung in this steeple a true and complete peal, consisting of 6129 changes of Stedman Caters, being the most ever rung in that intricate method, in 4 hours and 12 minutes. The performers were—

G. Gross,	Treble.	W. Bland,	4.	Jno. Hints,	8.
Willm. Shipway,	2.	Js. Stichebury,	5.	Anth. Cavalier,	9.
St. Cowling,	3.	P. Jones,	6.	P. Pilgrim,	Tenor."
		W. Richardson,	7.		

The above peal was composed and called by Mr. G. Gross."

The foregoing peal remained the longest length rung in this method for nearly forty years, as it was not until 1842 that it was beaten by a peal of 8105, which was rung at Painswick, particulars of which are appended:

*Tablet in the belfry of Painswick church, Gloucestershire.*—"This tablet was erected to commemorate a peal of Stedman Caters, containing 8105 changes, rung January 25th, 1842, in 5 hours and 10 minutes, by the following artists:—

Jas. Morris,	Treble.	Jermh. Birt,	4.	Wm. Estcourt,	8.
Olr. Estcourt,	2.	Wm. Smith,	5.	Jas. Savory,	9.
Jno. Wheeler,	3.	Hny. Wheeler,	6.	Jas. Hallowell,	Tenor."
		Jas. Chandler,	7.		

Composed and conducted by William Estcourt. James Andrews, Master."

Curiously enough this peal was also found to be false, and thus one false peal supplanted another, so far as the mere record of the longest length is concerned. Another curious incident may also be mentioned in connection with this 8105 of Stedman Caters rung at Painswick, that is a peal of 8081 of Grandsire Caters rung on the same day by the rival band of ringers at the neighbouring town of Stroud was afterwards found to be a false peal.

Of course a false peal cannot be said to supplant any true peal, but it appears to me that it is more interesting to follow the attempts to obtain the longest length than merely to record the particulars of the longest true peal. More especially when it appears probable that, in those days, so little was known as to which was the longest true peal that should we in this investigation now seek out other records to find which was then the longest true peal, we should probably place the honour of ringing such a peal to the credit of men who were quite unaware of the laurels they were then entitled to wear.

## GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

The ANNUAL Ringing Festival will be held at Gloucester on Monday, June 22nd. Short service at the Cathedral church at eleven o'clock. Dinner at the Spread Eagle at one o'clock, towards which each performing member will be allowed 1s. 6d. by the Association. The Hon. Sec. particularly requests to be informed before the 17th inst., of the intention of any member to be present. 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. Business meeting in the Chapter House after service. Address in the Cathedral by the Rev. Canon St. John, who will also preside at the dinner. Tea provided in the Crypt Schools from 5 to 7, through the liberality of the Rev. M. Trotter, free of charge.

## DUFFIELD BANK, NEAR DERBY.

On Saturday, June 6th, in response to an invitation issued by A. Percival Heywood, Esq., to the Midland Counties' Association, about eighty of its members attended a garden party at Duffield Bank, near Derby; Duffield Bank, that gentleman's charming residence, being situated on the Eastern slope of the Derwent valley, about five miles from Derby, and embracing in its grounds perhaps one of the finest views to be found in this proverbially picturesque county.

Mr. Heywood is well known in the neighbourhood as an active magistrate, and a kind-hearted and considerate squire amongst the people in the village, as well as an enthusiastic patron of bells and bellringing. Indeed his name will be already familiar to readers of "THE BELL NEWS," from having taken part in several capital performances recorded in its columns.

The majority of the visitors arrived by rail at Duffield Station about two o'clock in the afternoon, and walking leisurely through the village, which by the way boasts of sharing with Wath in Yorkshire the distinction of being the prettiest village in England, made their way to the church. All Saints' Church, of which the Rev. F. W. Moore is the Vicar, is a conspicuous object to travellers by the Midland Railway from Derby to the north, lying as it does in the valley between the line of railway on the one side, and the river Derwent on the other, neither of which is more than a stone's throw distant; in fact the railway is so near, that the noise of the passing trains is heard in the ringing-chamber, and necessitates the closing of the windows on that side of the tower during the ringing of a peal. Certainly this is the only point in connection with the tower and bells that a captious critic, a "stickler" for ventilation on a hot summer's day, could find fault with, for in every other respect the arrangements are of the most perfect description. Since the bells were first hung, Messrs. Taylor of Loughborough have added a deadening floor, together with a clever contrivance in the shape of a door, by the raising or lowering of which the volume of sound can be regulated according to the will of the ringers.

On arriving at the church, the bells, which had been raised in readiness, were at once set in motion, and touches of various methods, and also it must be added, of varying merit, were rung by different bands during the afternoon, several members of the Duffield company (an energetic and promising band), taking part. Without attempting to draw any invidious distinctions between the different performances, it may perhaps be said, that the accurate striking of a very musical touch of "common" Grandsire Triples gave much satisfaction; a veteran ringer who rang his first peal in 1821 declaring "it was as good a piece of striking as he had ever listened to."

Duffield Bank lies on the hillside about ten minutes walk from the church; here everyone met with a most hearty reception at the hands of Mr. and Mrs. Heywood and their friends, who were unremitting in their efforts to interest and amuse the company. Of course the miniature railway, one of the great features of Duffield Bank, which has been described already in this paper, met with its full share of patronage, and those who had now for the first time had the privilege of being travellers by it, were delighted with the novelty and the ingenuity displayed in its construction.

In the course of the afternoon, a new set of handbells, by Messrs. Taylor, was opened with a touch of Grandsire Cinques on the Lawn Tennis Ground; and subsequently Mr. Heywood and his three little daughters astonished the visitors with a display of double-handed ringing in Stedman and Grandsire, such as is seldom equalled. Tea was served at five o'clock at the "Lawn Tennis" station, where a refreshment room had been open during the whole of the afternoon, and had, needless to say, driven a thriving trade.

The remainder of the evening was spent in bowls and handbell ringing, and the company broke up soon after seven o'clock, with a cordial vote of thanks to Mr. Heywood, who in acknowledging the compliment, stated that it would be a great pleasure to him if the Association would allow him to introduce into its programme a day of this kind as an annual event.

## STOKE-UPON-TRENT ARCHIDIACONAL ASSOCIATION.

THE third Annual Meeting of this Association will be held at Stoke, on Saturday, June 20th, 1885, in the church-room; the President, the Ven. Sir L. C. Stamer, Bart., in the chair, at 4.15 p.m. punctually. Business: to receive Secretaries' report and Treasurer's statement; Election of officers, and other business. Arrangements for the afternoon: 3.0, belfry open for ringing; 4.15, Annual Meeting; 5.15, service in parish church, with address by Rev. N. Poyntz, rector of St. Michael's, Stone. 6.0, tea in Schoolroom at 7d. each. To be followed by ringing in church, and on handbells in the schoolroom. The following belfries will be open for ringing from 7 till 9 p.m.: Stoke, Hanley, Wolstanton, and Burslem. The attendance of all members is particularly requested. The tower representatives are requested to inform the Clerical Secretary as soon as possible how many will attend from their tower.

H. WALSHAM HOW, } Hon. Secs.  
ENDON GLOVER, }

## ANNUAL MEETING OF THE SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.

THE ANNUAL MEETING of this Guild took place at Devizes, for Bishop Cannings, Bromham, and Potterne, on Saturday, June 6th. Above a hundred members (chiefly round-ringers), were present. A meeting for the transaction of the business of the Society was held at noon. The affairs of the Guild appeared to be in a flourishing condition. Nearly all the old officers were re-elected. The Rev. M. Hankey, of Maiden Newton, was elected secretary for Dorset. This gentleman exhibited a "dumb practice" apparatus of his own invention. It is very simple and inexpensive. The principle of it is as follows: A bolt on the wheel catches a trigger as the bell swings round, which pulls a wire and strikes a gong, as in other apparatuses of the kind. This bolt can be shifted, and the apparent time of the stroke thus may be altered at pleasure. The apparatus can be thrown in or out of gear at a moment's notice without lowering the bell. The cost is said not to exceed 10s. per bell.

The dinner took place in the Town Hall at 1 p.m. H. E. Medlicott, Esq., presided, and was supported by the Rev. Dr. Burgess, and many of the neighbouring clergy and gentry. The usual toasts were proposed. The Hon. Secretary, the Rev. F. Wright Anderson, informed the members that since the last annual meeting a peal-book had been provided for the Guild, in which they could have their performances recorded for a fee of sixpence, on application to the custodian of the peal-book, Mr. J. R. Jerram, of Salisbury. Performances eligible to be not less than a 1000 of Triples, 720 of Minor, and (in the case of the first performance done entirely by a local company) 120 Doubles.

During the afternoon rounds and set-changes were rang at the various churches in and about Devizes. The bells of Bishop Cannings church (which have just been thoroughly repaired by Mr. T. Blackburn, of Salisbury) were reserved for change-ringing. Here was rung a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples. W. Alley, 1; C. A. Clements (Salisbury), 2; W. W. Gifford, 3; A. Hayward, 4; W. McCaffrey (Trowbridge, conductor), 5; E. Chapman (London), 6; T. Blackburn (Salisbury), 7; H. C. Flower, 8. Time 47 mins. Also 504 Grandsire Triples, by the same band, except Rev. A. D. Hill (Master of the Sarum Guild), who rang the 6th, and J. Cooper, 8. Tenor 18 cwt.; diameter 47 inches. There was service at St. John's church, Devizes, at 5.15 p.m., after which the company separated, causing the evening trains on the Great Western Railway to be somewhat inconveniently crowded, as the railway authorities had neglected to put on extra coaches for the occasion.

## ST. PAUL'S GUILD, BRIGHTON.

THIS young band having pre-arranged to go to Buxted, started from Brighton on Whit Sunday by the 8.12 train to Uckfield. On arriving at Uckfield, they soon found that the bells were to be got at, and after ringing off a few plain courses of Grandsire Triples, and a few call-changes, they started across the beautiful park to Buxted Church, which is about one and a half miles. Before arriving, they had the pleasure of hearing a few tunes played on the chiming apparatus, and all were very much pleased with the tone of the bells. Arriving at the church, they were informed by Mr. Wratten, the clerk, that the vicar was very pleased to grant them the use of the same for the day. After ringing some plain courses and call-changes, they retired for refreshments, thinking to have a nice stroll through the park, but as the rain began to fall too fast, they made their way back to the church, and contented themselves with ringing the rest of the afternoon; some of the Buxted ringers joining. Leaving Buxted about five o'clock for Uckfield after refreshing themselves, they started for home, arriving at Brighton about nine o'clock, very well satisfied with the day's outing.

## THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

As announced, the above Association meets at Sittingbourne, on Monday, June 15th. For the benefit of intending visitors, to whom this district is unknown, the distances, etc. are just mentioned. The towers put down in the programme are on the outer circle very wide, and probably Hartlip and Gillingham would not be found attractive. The county is the most fertile in England, and the scenery attractive from any elevated position, such as Borden tower, not quite two miles from Sittingbourne. Bobbing (six bells), have been entirely renewed by Messrs. Warner, and are very good. This place is also about the same distance, and can be taken with Borden, where every endeavour is being made to have this celebrated ring of eight in good order. Sittingbourne (eight bells), are getting well-known. The work of new fittings is however not yet quite complete, as Mr. S. Snelling, who has been charged with this work, is now engaged upon the ring of eight at Borden. The tenor is to be entirely rehung after the meeting; as it hangs, however, it will be remembered that two 5040's have been rung in the past eight months. It is hoped that members will muster strong at the Church service at 12 o'clock.

G.



### THE MANCHESHER CATHEDRAL COMPANY AT WREXHAM, DENBIGHSHIRE.

WHIT-week being a general holiday at Manchester, the cathedral ringers decided on having two day's outing at the above town. The party, consisting of thirteen members, started from Exchange Station on Whit-Thursdays, May 28th, at 6.10 a.m. and arrived at Wrexham at 8.30 a.m. Alighting from the train, the ringers made their way to the house of Mr. R. W. Evans, with whom arrangements had been made beforehand respecting the outing. Breakfast was served up at the house of Mrs. Roberts, and ample justice was done to it. This meal over, steps were then taken to the church, which is dedicated to St. Giles. The bells being raised in peal, a touch of about 800 Grandsire Caters was then rung as a preliminary. After the necessary arrangements had been gone through, a peal of Grandsire Caters (5057 changes), was attempted and brought round in fine style in 3 hrs. 15½ mins, the time being taken by Mr. R. W. Evans with a stop watch. At the conclusion of the peal, a 575 of Grandsire Caters and two courses of Bob Royal were rung with two or three of the Wrexham ringers, after which the bells were lowered, and all descended the tower. Tea had been ordered for 4.30 p.m., and after this had been settled with, the party then betook themselves to Mr. Evans' house again, and spent the rest of the day in handbell ringing and friendly conversation, etc., until bedtime, which ended the first day. The next morning (Friday), all were out by a little after 6 a.m., enjoying a beautiful walk in the fields. Breakfast was disposed of by 8.30 a.m. and arrangements having been made the night previous, Mr. E. Rowland, the conductor of the Wrexham ringers, and Mr. E. Evans, another of the ringers, very kindly piloted the party through the fields to the village of Gresford, to have a pull on the ring of eight, tenor 25 cwt., which the village church tower contains. About ten minutes' ringing was quite sufficient, as most of the bells run very bad. A visit was then paid to the top of the tower, where a splendid view of the surrounding scenery was obtained. Descending the tower, and a little refreshment being partaken of, the party then retraced their steps to Wrexham. The distance traversed from Wrexham to Gresford was about six miles, and the return journey, two and a half miles. The rest of the time was then spent in looking round the town of Wrexham until it was time to think of returning home. The Manchester ringers then wished their Wrexham friends good-bye, and then went to the railway station. The train made its appearance in about ten minutes, when all got in a compartment by themselves, where they had a happy time of it until the train arrived in Manchester at 10.45 p.m., when they separated, each to his own home, thus concluding the best and most enjoyable outing that the ringers ever had. The Manchester ringers here thank Mr. R. W. Evans and his brother-strings very heartily for their kindness and generosity, and also for the arrangements they had made for the comfort of their friends, hope that they will be able, at some future time, to repay them when they visit Manchester.

### VISIT OF THE RAUNDSON SOCIETY TO ALCONBURY, HUNTINGDONSHIRE.

On Whit-Monday, nine members of the St. Peter's local company of the above society, paid a visit to the above place, and by the kind permission of the Rev. R. Conway, rang at the church of SS. Peter and Paul, a 720 of London Single and a 720 of Bob Minor. After a few other short touches in other methods, a move was made to an Inn close by, where some refreshment was obtained, and the company present entertained with some touches rung on the handbells. As time was passing swiftly, and rain was falling heavily, a hasty return was made to the belfry, when ringing recommenced with a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob Minor. This was followed by several 6-scores of Bob Doubles, and Grandsire Doubles. Several other touches were also rung in the afternoon. In the evening, the Rector, the Rev. R. Conway, had kindly invited the band with some members of the Alconbury ringers, to a substantial knife and fork tea, at the rectory. The company, numbering twelve, sat down to a liberal spread, and having done ample justice to the good things provided, went into the hall, where in response to Mrs. and Miss Conway and a friend, the ringers entertained them with a touch on the handbells in different methods. Much sorrow was expressed at the absence of the Rev. R. Conway himself, who was unable to be present. A vote of thanks to Mrs. and Miss Conway, also to the Rev. R. Conway, although not present, for their hospitality, was unanimously accorded to them. Thanks were also expressed for the use of the church bells, the "go" of them being all that could be desired. These bells have lately been rehung by Mr. Eaton, of Tichmarsh, and four out of the six recast by Messrs. Taylor and Son, of Loughborough. Leaving the rectory, the company returned to the belfry, lowered the bells, and made a start for home, where they arrived after a long journey, about 11.30 p.m., much pleased with their outing.

[We should be gratified to hear that this visit had the effect of imparting a little more energy to the ringers of the county of Huntingdon.—Ed.]

### A PLEASANT RINGING TOUR.

ON Saturday, May 30th, Messrs. J. Bird and G. Hammond of Long Melford, and F. Wells of Glemsford, paid a visit to Mr. W. J. Nevard, who resides at Great Bentley, Essex. They were met at Colchester by Mr. Nevard, who first drove them to Stoke, a distance of eight miles, and put up at the "Crown." They then got the keys of the church and looked at the bells (tenor 28 cwt.), but being a man short could not ring there. Descending the tower they repaired to the "Crown," where several touches of Bob Doubles and Minor were rung on handbells belonging to Mr. Nevard. G. Hammond, 1-2; F. Wells, 3; J. Bird, 4; W. J. Nevard (conductor), 5-6. Leaving Stoke, a move was made to Higham, Suffolk, where Messrs. W. and W. J. Smith, of Higham, and J. Taylor, of Bromley, Essex, met their visitors. Having obtained permission to ring, the bells (tenor 10 cwt.) were raised, and a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob was rung in 25 minutes. After refreshing the inner man, Stratford St. Mary's (where there is a very musical peal of six, cast by Messrs. J. Taylor and Co., of Loughborough, tenor 16 cwt. 2 qrs.), was visited. These bells go rather heavy, but a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob, and a touch of Plain Bob, with one of the local company, was rung upon them. The next place was Dedham, Essex. Here there is a nice peal of eight, but the tenors are unringable, so a 720 of Bob Minor on the front six, in 25 mins., and a touch each of Oxford and Kent Treble Bob was rung. From the ringing-floor to the bells it is 65 feet, so they were rather difficult to pull along. On the way to Bentley, a distance of about nine miles, the beautiful church of Ardleigh, where there is a ring of six, was passed. These bells are not ringable, as a clock frame completely hides the rope of the 5th bell and the tenor. Bentley was reached about 9.45 p.m., after spending a very pleasant day's enjoyment.

On Sunday, for the morning service, the band rang six 6-scores of Plain Doubles, at Bentley church. These bells were rehung in 1884 by Mr. H. Bowell of Ipswich. The 2nd bell is a new one, being cast last year by Messrs. Mears and Stainbank of the Whitechapel Foundry. They are fitted with new wheels and frames, and the go of them is excellent. The tenor weighs 10 cwt. It is a great pity that there is not a treble added and so make a nice peal of six. After partaking of a good dinner, the visitors took leave of our hosts after thanking her for her kindness, and then *en route* for Bromley, Essex, where a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob was rung in capital style. The visitors wish to thank, through the medium of "THE BELL NEWS," all those who so kindly went with them from tower to tower, and especially Mr. W. J. Nevard, who is really a very enthusiastic ringer.

### FARNHAM ROYAL, BUCKS.

SOME of our brother-strings will be glad to hear that a movement is being made at Farnham Royal to raise a sufficient sum of money to augment the peal to eight, and to have the present treble and fifth bells recast. Entertainments have been given on various occasions, and the rector, the Rev. S. F. Marshall, has given one or two lectures on bells and bell-ringing, the last being at the Albert Institute, Windsor, on the 1st of May. The lectures were made interesting by glees, etc., and performances by the Royal Handbell Ringers, from Poland Street, London, with their splendid peal of 131 bells. The profits of these entertainments has been for the Bell Fund. It might be mentioned that the Rector had guaranteed the handbell ringers £10 on this last occasion, but when it was found that only a little over £7 had been taken, Mr. Miller and his party kindly agreed to take £5 only and their expenses. It will be seen therefore that the Bell Fund is not progressing very fast. The local company have now taken the matter in hand, and have formed themselves into a committee under the presidency of their rector, the Rev. S. F. Marshall, to consider what steps to take to obtain the necessary funds for the two new bells, and they have promised, with several of their friends, to make up £10, the rector, £10, and they also purpose to issue shortly an appeal to the parishioners for subscriptions. The committee will be glad to hear of any of our ringing friends wishing to contribute to the funds, when the smallest sum will be gladly received by the Hon. Secretary, Mr. J. J. Parker, Farnham Royal, Slough, Bucks.

### THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

REPORT FOR THE FORTNIGHT ENDING JUNE 9TH.—On Sunday, May 31st, by the Brighton branch, for afternoon service, a 518 of Grandsire Triples, in 18 mins. E. Marshall, 1; C. Golds, 2; H. Weston, 3; J. Searle, 4; G. F. Attree, 5; J. Jay, sen. (conductor), 6; A. Marshall, 7; G. A. Lihou, 8. On Monday, June 1st, at St. Peter's church, by the Brighton Branch, a 518 of Grandsire Triples, in 19 mins. E. Marshall, 1; H. Weston (conductor), 2; G. F. Attree, 3; A. Marshall, 4; J. Searle, 5; J. Jay, sen., 6; A. W. L. Parkhouse, 7; D. Ross, 8. On Saturday, June 6th, at Uckfield, Holt's 10-part peal of Grandsire Triples, in 2 hrs. 58 mins. (see peal column).

GEO. F. ATTREE, Hon. Sec.

## PEAL CARDS.

Since we began the issue of these cards many applications have been made to us to supply, in the same manner, records of peals that had been rung previous to the arrangement being made. We are authorised to state that these requests will in future be complied with. But in such cases, copies of the record must always be sent with the order, as searching the file for them would take up too much valuable time. Those gentlemen who have not received their cards ordered, must, therefore, send the copy of such record before they can be executed. These cards are issued solely for the convenience of our friends, so we must beg of them not to be impatient, the orders for them can only be executed when convenient, though efforts will always be made to secure promptness.

"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 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 &amp; Ringers' Record.

SATURDAY, JUNE 13, 1885.

MANY provincial newspapers nowadays seem to adopt the questionable system of devoting some part of their space to a few short paragraphs of what is known as "gossip" on various topics. Perhaps this is merely following in the wake of one or two metropolitan journals whose existence depends on the amount of piquancy they can put into this kind of thing. Dealing with matters in a kind of bantering fashion may in fact be found to pay. We can well imagine the appearance of a new hand upon the staff of a provincial weekly, burning to distinguish himself by offering to undertake the control of a column which shall be devoted to miscellaneous concoctions such as these. And permission having been given for this young aspirant to literary fame to so distinguish himself, he enters upon his task with no small amount of self-importance, and though his productions may be of a slipshod character, they will be almost sure to possess an attraction for some who only look into a newspaper for such "gossip."

Whether the individual who wrote the following sapient paragraph is one of these youthful scribes we are of

course unable to say. But our readers will see that the usual ignorance of bell concerns is displayed by a person who writes upon a subject he knows nothing at all about. Here is what this *skilful* paragraphist, who adopts the words "Alfred Quiz" as his *nom de plume*, says:—

"On Thursday we were again treated to one of those nonsensical entertainments on the church bells. What possible good is supposed to be derived by the five hours' incessant clang and din I don't know; and, further, I don't know why a party of bell-ringers should come all the way from Manchester to inflict such a row upon we poor unoffending Wrexhamites. I am told these bell-ringers consider they are accomplishing a very great feat. I should certainly think it was a great feat if, as I learn, they strip bare to the waist and mightily pull at the bells until they perspire to exhaustion. And to attain what?"

Does the writer of the above see anything inconsistent in an out-door exercise where, under a scorching sun, men use all their art to strike a ball as it is thrown to them, and then run to and fro like madmen? We do not despise the manly game of cricket, quite the contrary. But it is just as reasonable to talk in this way regarding it as to write such balderdash about ringing. Perhaps the report of a race-meeting, or that of a pedestrian competition, would be calculated to edify the readers of the paper which had the above paragraph more so than the report of a scientific performance upon church bells. We are afraid the individual who describes the peal rung by the Manchester gentlemen as a "nonsensical entertainment," would find, if he were to make enquiry, that it took more trouble to execute, and required considerably more mental training, than is needed for scribbling paragraphs of the description given above.

## The Provinces.

GLOSSOP, DERBYSHIRE.—GLOSSOP JUNIOR SOCIETY.

## Birthday Peal.

On Thursday, June 4, 1885, in Three Hours and Three and a ½ Minutes,

AT ALL SAINTS' CHURCH,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

IN THE OXFORD 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, JUN. .. .. .	Tenor.

Composed and conducted by SAMUEL KNOTT.

This peal was rung in commemoration of the composer's 21st birthday, which happened on the above date, and his brother-ringers take this opportunity of wishing him many happy returns of the day.

UCKFIELD, SUSSEX.

THE SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS  
AND THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, June 6, 1885, in Two Hours and Fifty-eight Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S 10-PART. Tenor 12½ cwt.

H. WESTON .. .. .	Treble.	J. JAY, JUN. .. .. .	5.
J. SEARLE .. .. .	2.	C. GOLDS .. .. .	6.
C. TYLER .. .. .	3.	J. JAY, SEN. .. .. .	7.
G. F. ATTREE .. .. .	4.	E. BUTLER .. .. .	Tenor.

Conducted by J. JAY, SEN.

The above band was formed to attempt a peal at Buxted, but owing to a funeral being fixed for the same day in Buxted churchyard, the visit had to be postponed for a week. The peal at Uckfield was arranged for Saturday, 13th inst., being the 100th anniversary of the first peal upon the bells.

WALTER BELCHAMP, ESSEX.  
THE SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.  
On Sunday, June 7, 1885, in Two Hours and Fifty-nine Minutes,  
A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR.

Tenor 11 cwt.			
ZACHARIAH SLATER .. .. .	Treble.	WILLIAM J. NEVARD .. .. .	5.
SAMUEL SLATER .. .. .	2.	NELSON H. HAWKINS .. .. .	6.
THOMAS O. GARWOOD .. .. .	3.	*JAMES BIRD .. .. .	7.
WILLIAM SMITH* .. .. .	4.	NATHAN J. PITSTOW .. .. .	Tenor.

Composed and conducted by N. J. PITSTOW.

\* First peal. This peal, which is now rung for the first time, contains the 6th twelve times wrong and right. William Smith hails from Higham, Suffolk; and William J. Nevard from Great Bentley, Essex.

[The number of changes rung left out of report.—Ed].

READING, BERKS.  
THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.  
On Monday, June 8, 1885, in Three Hours and Nine Minutes,  
At St. Mary's Church,  
A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;  
HOLT'S ORIGINAL. Tenor 28 cwt. in D.

WILLIAM GOSELTINE .. .. .	Treble.	HENRY EGBY .. .. .	5.
WILLIAM J. WILLIAMS .. .. .	2.	ERNEST BISHOP .. .. .	6.
RICHARD SWAIN .. .. .	3.	WILLIAM NEWELL .. .. .	7.
GEORGE GIBBARD .. .. .	4.	THOMAS HARVEY .. .. .	Tenor.

Conducted by HENRY EGBY.

### Date Touch.

TOTTENHAM (Middlesex).—On Saturday, June 6th, at All Hallows church, a date touch of 1885 changes of Grandsire Triples, in 1 hr. 8 mins. T. C. Grove, 1; J. Waghorn, jun., 2; E. F. Strange (conductor), 3; J. Waghorn, sen., 4; G. B. Lucas, 5; W. Pye-English, 6; M. Murphy, 7; G. Bower, 8. Tenor 20 cwt.

### Miscellaneous.

#### THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

BEDDINGTON (Surrey).—On Saturday, June 6th, eight members of this Society started for a peal of Plain Bob Triples, but after ringing about 1700 changes the conductor called stand, having omitted to call a bob. W. Burkin, 1; J. Harris, 2; Dr. A. B. Carpenter, 3; C. Bance, 4; J. Plowman, 5; J. Trappitt (conductor), 6; J. Cawley, 7; H. Shade, 8. The same band then rang 640 of Kent Treble Bob Major. J. Trappitt (conductor), 1; A. B. Carpenter, 2; J. Harris, 3; W. Burkin, 4; H. Shade, 5; C. Bance, 6; J. Plowman, 7; J. Cawley, 8. Messrs. Gordon and Bennett having arrived the evening was finished up with a 880 of Kent Treble Bob Royal. J. Harris, 1; E. Bennett (conductor), 2; J. Trappitt, 3; W. Burkin, 4; Dr. A. B. Carpenter, 5; J. Plowman, 6; H. Shade, 7; C. Bance, 8; J. Cawley, 9; C. Gordon, 10.

SOUTH HACKNEY.—On Sunday evening, June 7th, at the church of St. John of Jerusalem, eight members of the above society rang after service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, (1260 changes), in 46 mins. J. Sumpter, 1; S. Joyce, 2; L. Green, 3; H. J. Shade (conductor), 4; I. G. Shade, 5; R. Turner, 6; W. Prime, 7; C. Lee, 8. Tenor 20 cwt. This is a five-part composition by M. A. Wood.

#### ASSOCIATION FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.

TIPTON (Staffordshire).—On Sunday, June 6th, eight members of the above Association, rang for Divine Service in the evening, 840 of Grandsire Triples, being the first part of Mr. Taylor's peal. J. Jones, 1; J. Fullwood, 2; W. Pardoe, 3; G. Hughes, 4; J. Martin, 5; S. Jesson (conductor), 6; W. R. Small, 7; T. Bennett, 8. This is the first touch conducted by Samuel Jesson, who is under the tuition of Joseph Fullwood. W. R. Small hails from West Bromwich, the rest belong the local company.

#### DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

STOCKTON-ON-TEES.—On Saturday, June 6th, in celebration of the Queen's birthday, a 720 each of York Surprise, Woodbine, Durham Surprise, Evening Exercise, and a touch of Kent Treble Bob, by the following members of the Stockton company: G. J. Clarkson, T. Burdon, W. Newton, T. W. Waller, T. Stephenson, and W. Stephenson.

#### THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

BIDDENHAM (Beds).—On Sunday, May 31st, at St. James's Church, two 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles. W. West, 1; J. West, 2; J. West, 3; D. Green, 4; C. West (conductor), 5; H. Wood, 6.

#### THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

STISTED (Essex).—On Thursday, June 4th, for practice, a 720 of Bob Minor (eight bobs and six singles), in 24 mins. R. H. Witherington, 1; S. Cleal, 2; F. J. Moore, 3; J. Hale, 4; J. Wathen, 5; T. Devereux, 6; Jos. Wathen (conductor), 7; C. W. Dyson, 8.

#### GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

TWEEKSBURY ABBEY.—On Wednesday evening, June 3rd, the Abbey society rang 1008 of Stedman Triples, in 38 mins. R. H. Witherington, 1; S. Cleal, 2; F. J. Moore, 3; J. Hale, 4; J. Wathen, 5; T. Devereux, 6; Jos. Wathen (conductor), 7; C. W. Dyson, 8.

#### THE HERTFORD COLLEGE YOUTHS.

HERTFORD.—On Monday, June 8th, at All Saints' church, being the regular practice night, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, 1260 changes, in 46 mins. J. Jauncy, 1; William L. Randall, 2; James Staples, 3; Henry Phillips, 4; Stephen Knight, 5; Matthew Ellsmore, 6; Herbert Baker (conductor), 7; Frederick George, 8. Tenor 22 cwt.

#### THE HERTFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

ST. ALBANS (Herts).—On Confirmation Day, May 20th, several touches of Grandsire Triples were rung at the Cathedral, including a 504 by H. J. Tucker, of Bishops Stortford. And on Tuesday evening, June 2nd, the first part part of Taylor's bob and single peal, 840 changes, and a course to bring it round, making 896 changes, in 34 mins. W. H. L. Buckingham, 1; R. T. Kent, 2; H. Lewis, 3; E. P. Debenham, 4; G. W. Cartmel, 5; A. Godman, 6; N. N. Hills (conductor), 7; W. Battle, 8. And on Saturday, June 6th, six local members of the Association, with Mr. Dawe, of London, and Mr. Baker, of Hertford, met to attempt a peal of Grandsire Triples, but after ringing over 4000 changes, in 2 hrs. 45 mins., a mistake occurred and stand was called. W. H. L. Buckingham, 1; H. Lewis, 2; H. Baker, 3; N. N. Hills, 4; G. W. Cartmel, 5; A. Godman, 6; F. E. Dawe (conductor), 7; W. Battle, 8. Tenor 30 cwt. Messrs. Cartmel and Buckingham were elected College Youths, and Mr. E. Dawe a member of the Association before starting for the peal.

ELSTREE (Herts).—On Monday, June 8th, six members of the Association visited this village, and rang a 720 of Grandsire Minor, in 25 mins., and 180 and 360 of Bob Minor. W. Battle, 1; H. Lewis, 2; W. H. L. Buckingham, 3; G. W. Cartmel, 4; A. Godman, 5; N. N. Hills, 6. And a plain course of Stedman Doubles. N. N. Hills, 1; W. Battle, 6; the rest as before. And two 120's of Grandsire Doubles. The whole being conducted by N. N. Hills. Tenor 7 cwt. After the ringing, refreshments were kindly provided by the Rector, Rev. T. Bedford.

#### THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

DIDSBURY (Cheshire).—On Friday, May 29th, the St. Anne's Society, Haughton, paid a visit to St. James's church, and rang a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor (nine bobs), in 24½ mins. James A. Thomas, 1; John Bardsley, 2; Wm. Wilde, sen., 3; John S. Leech, 4; John Howard (conductor), 5; Peter Smith, 6. And a 720 Plain Bob Minor (sixteen bobs and two singles), in 25 mins. William Wilde jun., 1; John Bardsley, 2; J. S. Leech, 3; James A. Thomas, 4; John Howard, 5; Peter Smith, 6. Tenor 9 cwt. The above company wish to thank the Didsbury company for the kindness shown towards them in allowing them the use of the bells, also to the vicar and churchwardens.

DINTING (Derby).—On Sunday, May 3rd, five members of the St. Anne's Society, Haughton, Lancashire, paid a visit to this place, and with the assistance of Messrs. Shaw and Jones, rang a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor, at Holy Trinity church, in 27 mins. James A. Thomas, 1; Amarios Jones, 2; William Wilde, sen., 3; Samuel Shaw, 4; John Howard (conductor), 5; Peter Smith, 6. And 180 Plain Bob Minor. William Wilde, jun., 1; James A. Thomas, 2; W. Wilde, sen., 3; Samuel Shaw, 4; John Howard, 5; Peter Smith, 6. Tenor 12 cwt.

HAUGHTON (Lancashire).—Muffled Peal.—On Wednesday morning, June 3rd, at St. Anne's church, 720 Plain Bob Minor was rung as a last token of respect to the late J. Sidebottom, Esq., of Bowdon, the founder of the church, who died May 29th, and was interred at Bowdon parish church, on June 3rd, at 11.30. Wm. Wilde, jun., 1; John Bardsley, 2; Wm. Wilde, sen., 3; James A. Thomas, 4; John Howard, 5; Peter Smith (conductor), 6. And in the evening a 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor, in 30 mins. James A. Thomas, 1; John Bardsley, 2; Wm. Wilde, sen., 3; John S. Leech, 4; John Howard (conductor), 5; Peter Smith, 6. Afterwards the tenor was tolled sixty-two times, that being the age of the deceased gentleman.

## THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

**DERBY.**—On Monday, June 8th, at All Saints' church, a 720 of Grandsire Minor, on the front six, in 26 mins. G. Beeson, 1; S. Maskery, 2; A. B. Ward, 3; J. Howe, 4; S. Price, 5; H. C. Woodward (conductor), 6. Afterwards a 360 in the same method. S. Maskery, 1; J. Howe, 2; G. Beeson, 3; A. B. Ward, 4; S. Price, 5; H. C. Woodward (conductor), 6.

## THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

**OXFORD.**—On Sunday evening, May 31st, at the church of St. Mary Magdalene, for Divine Service, a 720 of Grandsire Minor. \*A. L. Brine (St. John's), 1; W. Wood, 2; Job Howse, 3; W. J. Burgess, 4; J. W. Washbrook (conductor), 5; F. A. Castle, 6. \*First 720. And on Wednesday, June 3rd, at the Cathedral Church of Christ, a 720 of Grandsire Minor, on the front six, in 28 mins. Rev. F. A. H. Du Boulay, 1; J. Field (conductor), 2; C. W. H. Griffith, Esq., 3; C. Hounslow, 4; G. R. Scott, 5; A. F. M. Custance, Esq., 6. And at the church of Mary Magdalene, a 720 of Double Stedman Slow Course Minor, in 24 mins. F. Castle, 1; H. Castle, 2; A. F. M. Custance, Esq., 3; Job Howse, 4; W. Baston, 5; J. W. Washbrook (conductor), 6. This is the 8th 720 in the method ever rung, and was well struck. And on Tuesday, June 9th, at the church of St. Thomas-y-Martyr, in 24 mins., and a 720 of Kent Treble Bob. W. Wakelin, 1; C. W. H. Griffith, Esq. (first 720 of Treble Bob), 2; F. A. Castle, 3; H. Castle, 4; J. W. Washbrook (conductor), 5; A. F. M. Custance, Esq., 6.

## THE SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.

**GLEMSFORD** (Suffolk).—On Friday, June 5th, at St. Mary's church, a 720 of Cambridge Surprise, in 29 mins. Samuel Slater, 1; Z. Slater, 2; Percy Chas. S. Scott, 3; Frederick Wells, 4; Frederick Paul Adams, 5; Oliver Garwood (conductor), 6.

## THE WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

**SOBERTON** (Hants).—On Sunday, June 7th, for Divine Service in the morning, 826 of Grandsire Triples, being the first part of Holt's six-part peal, in 28½ mins. A. Payne, 1; G. H. Child, 2; H. H. Emslie, 3; R. Linter, 4; J. L. Pitman, 5; H. Mason, 6; G. Williams (conductor), 7; H. Matthews, 8. Tenor 14½ cwt. in G. This is the longest touch done by the local band without assistance.

**BENTLEY** (Essex).—On Sunday, May 31st, for Divine Service in the morning, six 6-scores of Plain Doubles. G. W. Taylor (Bentley), 1; G. Hammond, 2; F. Wells, 3; J. Bird, 4; W. J. Nevard (conductor), 5. Tenor 10 cwt. This is the first time that G. Hammond, J. Bird, and F. Wells ever rung Doubles on tower bells.

**BLACKBURN** (Lancashire).—On Saturday evening, June 6th, at the parish church, a 720 of Grandsire Minor in 28 mins. \*C. H. Gomersall, 1; H. Sagar, 2; R. Lund, 3; T. Sharples, 4; W. Clark (conductor), 5; S. Aldrich, 6. \*First 720.

**BOOTLE** (Lancashire).—On Thursday evening, June 4th, at Christ Church, a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob Minor, in 26 mins. E. Yates, 1; R. H. Barton, 2; W. Short, 3; W. Rushton, 4; T. E. Woodward, 5; J. Bradshaw (conductor), 6. This is the first 720 in the above method by all the band, and also the first 720 in the method on the bells.

**BROMLEY** (Essex).—On Sunday, May 31st, for the afternoon service, a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob, in 25 mins. W. Smith (conductor), 1; G. Hammond, 2; F. Wells, 3; J. Bird, 4; J. Taylor, 5; W. J. Nevard, 6. This is the first 720 of Treble Bob conducted by W. Smith.

**BURES** (Suffolk).—On Sunday, June 7th, Messrs. J. Bird, G. G. Hammond, and P. C. S. Scott met W. J. Nevard (Bentley), and W. Smith (Higham), at the above place, to attempt a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob, but the wheel being off the treble they rang six 6-scores of Plain Doubles. P. C. S. Scott, 1; G. Hammond, 2; J. Bird, 3; W. Smith, 4; W. J. Nevard (conductor), 5. Tenor 22 cwt.

**KEMERTON** (Gloucestershire).—On Sunday, June 7th, after Divine Service in the evening at St. Nicholas' church, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Major, in 25 mins. A. Devereux, 1; B. Baldwin, jun., 2; F. Potter, 3; H. Payne, 4; E. Devereux, 5; E. Wallace (conductor), 6. Tenor 12 cwt.

**RAUNDS** (Northamptonshire).—On Saturday, June 6th, at St. Peter's church, for practice, a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob Minor (nine bobs). A. Coles, 1; H. Stubbs, 2; W. J. Gilbert, 3; J. Wilmott, 4; E. Mayes (first 720 in the method, and first attempt), 5; F. Gilbert (conductor), 6. And a 360 of College Single (nine bobs). J. Wilmott, 1; F. Gilbert, 2; R. Pendered, 3; E. Mayes (Ringstead), 4; T. Stubbs, 5; W. J. Gilbert (conductor), 6.

**SOUTH WEALD** (Essex).—On Friday evening, May 29th, four 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles, each called differently, and a 6-score of Old Doubles. J. Surridge, 1; A. Payne, 2; R. Wollands (conductor), 3; C. Sheldon, 4; C. Harriss, 5; H. Cornish, 6. Tenor 19½ cwt.

**SUDBURY** (Suffolk).—On Tuesday, June 2nd, the following members of the local company, with Mr. John Bonney, of the College Youths, London, who was on a visit to Sudbury, met at All Saints', and rang a 740 of Kent Treble Bob Major. Felix Tolliday, 1; Charles Sillitoe, 2; John Bonney, 3; Maurice Silvester, 4; William Bacon, 5; William Howell, 6; Arthur Scott (conductor), 7; Henry Harper, 8. Also a touch of Stedman Triples. Walter Cross, 1; Charles Sillitoe, 2; John Bonney (conductor), 3; Walter Griggs, 4; William Bacon, 5; William Howell, 6; Henry Harper, 7; Arthur Scott, 8. The same also rang a touch of Grandsire Triples. *Handbell Ringing.*—After the tower ringing was over, an adjournment was made to the "Bell Inn," and a course of Grandsire Cinques was rung by M. Silvester, 1-2; A. Scott, 3-4; Charles Sillitoe, 5-6; J. Bonney, 7-8; W. Howell, 9-10; H. Harper, 11-12. Also on Friday, June 5th, at the meeting-house, Gregory Street, a 352 of Bob Major. B. Ransom, Esq., 1-2; C. Sillitoe, 3-4; W. Howell, 5-6; A. Scott, 7-8. And 360 of Bob Royal. B. Ransom, Esq., 1-2; C. Sillitoe, 3-4; G. Brown, 5; H. Harper, 6; W. Howell, 7-8; A. Scott (conductor), 9-10.

**TOTTENHAM** (Middlesex).—On Sunday evening, June 7th, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 45 mins. A. Miles, 1; H. T. Scarlett, 2; J. Waghorn, jun., 3; J. Waghorn, 4; G. B. Lucas, 5; W. Pye-English, 6; H. Barnett (conductor), 7; J. Ward, 8.

**WESTHALL** (Suffolk).—On Thursday evening, May 28th, at St. Andrew's Church, 6 six-scores of Grandsire Doubles, in 28 mins. R. Spaldon, 1; F. Lambert, 2; J. Woolnough, 3; R. Lambert, 4; J. Howlett (conductor), 5. Also 120 in the same method, conducted by F. Lambert.

**WILLESDEN** (Middlesex).—On Thursday, June 4th, a 720 of Grandsire Minor, in 25 mins. \*A. Kirby, 1; E. Rogers, 2; \*A. Tennant, 3; \*A. Pittam, 4; M. Murphy (first 720 as conductor), 5; \*F. Weare, 6. \*First 720 in the method. Rung with thirty-eight bobs and twenty-two singles.

**WORTH** (Sussex).—On Sunday, June 7th, the Capel ringers paid a visit to this place, and rang a 360 of Oxford Treble Bob Minor. J. M. Stedman, 1; A. Tidy, 2; W. Wady (Billingshurst), 3; R. Jordan, 4; A. D. Mills, 5; E. Jordan (conductor), 6. And after service a 720 of Violet Treble Bob, in 23 mins. G. Moore, 1; R. Jordan, 2; A. D. Mills, 3; R. Worsfold, 4; E. Jordan, 5; D. Jordan (conductor), 6. Also 360 Kent Treble Bob Minor. J. M. Stedman, 1; E. Jordan, 2; W. Wady, 3; R. Jordan, 4; A. D. Mills, 5; D. Jordan (conductor), 6.

## BURFORD, OXON.

On Thursday, June 4th, the 5th bell, which has recently been recast by Messrs. Bond and Sons, Bellfounders, Burford, was formally opened. The vicar (Rev. W. A. Cass), and the curate (Rev. J. R. Pendlebury), with the ringers, met in the belfry at 8.30 p.m., and after the special prayers, etc., read by the vicar, the following rose the bells in peal:—T. Brown (Leader of the Burford Ringers), 1; T. E. Glanville, 2; J. Brunson, 3; H. Smith, 4; J. Cork, 5; W. Large, 6; D. Francis, 7; W. Launchbury, 8. Tenor 21 cwt. It had been previously arranged to attempt a date touch of 1885 changes, but owing to the lateness of the hour, it was deemed advisable to have a few rounds and one short touch. On Saturday the ringers decided to start for a peal of Grandsire Triples. Consequently at 6.30 on that evening, "go" was called, but unfortunately, after ringing 4928 changes, in 3 hrs. 13 mins., the 7th bell cast rope, and so brought the peal to an untimely end. It will be seen that the peal was complete with the exception of only 112 changes or eight leads. The following were the ringers: H. Smith, 1; F. E. Ward (conductor), 2; W. Large, 3; J. Smith, 4; H. Bond, jun., 5; T. E. Glanville, 6; D. Francis, 7; W. Launchbury, 8. Mr. Ward is a member of the Burford company, but for some time has been located at Cheltenham. The peal attempted was an original composition by the Rev. C. D. P. Davies (in five parts), with twenty-four bobs and two singles in each part. The ringers being disappointed this time, think of trying the same peal again in about a month, when they hope it will be brought to a successful termination. The 5th is the 2nd bell of the eight that has been re-cast by Messrs. Bond and Son, as the 2nd was recast by the same firm about twelve years ago. We may mention that the bell appears to give great satisfaction with regard to tone, tune, and go, and being substituted for the cracked one helps to make up a very musical ring which can vie with any other peal in the county. The old inscription has been retained on the new bell, which was as follows:—

"Joseph Carter, +  
Blessed be the name of the Lord + 1586 +"

To which has been added:—

"Recast in 1885 by H. Bond & Son, Burford, Oxon.  
"William Anthony Cass (vicar).  
John Jacobs,  
Thomas Brown, } Churchwardens."  
John Newman, }

The 6th bell has the date 1536.

## MR. HENRY JOHNSON.

WE have recently heard that this distinguished composer and ringer is about to retire into private life, and is anticipating spending the remainder of his days in his native city—Lichfield. Whether this latter statement be correct or not, it is certain that the former one has become an absolute necessity, through the advanced age of the veteran.

We allude to these particulars solely for the purpose of suggesting to the Exercise at large the propriety of considering, as Mr. Johnson has been for so many years such a universal favorite among them, whether a substantial testimonial, recognising his talents as a ringer and composer, and also his private worth, should not be presented to him. We lay this suggestion before our brother-ringers entirely on our own responsibility. Perhaps the orthodox manner of going to work in an affair of this description, is not the plan we are pursuing, but if the idea finds favour, it is certain that no time should be lost in discussing unnecessary preliminaries.

In submitting this matter to our readers, we have no desire even to hint at the form such a testimonial ought to take. This would be a matter for future consideration. It is our conviction that the proposal of a testimonial to such a man as Mr. Johnson will be eagerly embraced by the Exercise. And assuming such to be the case, we have only to urge immediate action on the part of leading members of local societies to take steps towards promoting the object. The formation of local committees, to be in correspondence with a central one in Birmingham, appears to us the most feasible, and we could in that case publish, week by week, the results of the work done by the central committee—in fact we should be delighted to help in any way possible. If our esteemed friend, Mr. Snowdon, will—as we have no doubt he will—throw his efforts and influence into the affair, there is no fear of the result.

Any of our younger readers who may not have heard much about the Birmingham veteran, should get one of their older friends to lend them a copy of the Christmas number (for the year 1882) of this paper, if our publisher cannot furnish them with one; and we shall also be glad to answer any questions addressed to us respecting the ringing career of our very old friend, Mr. Henry Johnson, sen.

## WALTHAM ABBEY, ESSEX.

ON the 4th and 5th of June, being the occasion of the Essex Agricultural Show being held here, the bells were rung at intervals during both days. Ringers from Hertford, Sawbridgeworth, Stanstead, Ware, Hunsdon, Chelmsford, Great Bentley, Bennington, and Saffron Walden put in an appearance. The local company with Mr. Wallege, succeeded in ringing a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples, in 43 mins. W. Dymoch, 1; J. Barker, 2; E. Wallege, 3; G. Thurgood, 4; D. Tarling, 5; W. A. Alps, 6; T. Powell (conductor), 7; T. Colverd, 8. Mr. Procter and party visited here on the second day when several methods were rung by them; Stedman, Grandsire and Treble Bob were rung by mixed bands. On Saturday, June 6th, the bells were rung three times during the day to commemorate Her Majesty's birthday. Altogether a very great amount of ringing was got through during the three days.

The bell presented by Mr. Gladstone to St. Seiriol's church, Penmaenmawr, was hung on Tuesday, June 9th, in the tower, the erection of which, at the cost of the parishioners the premier made a condition of his gift. It is hoped that Mr. Gladstone will be present at the consecration ceremony, which will take place towards the close of this month. This bell was cast by Messrs. Taylor, of Loughboro, and we have been favoured with a photograph of the same, taken in the foundry by Mr. John W. Taylor, jun.

CHANGE OF RESIDENCE.—John Hickman, local Hon. Sec. of the Midland Counties' Association, has removed to No. 124, Flewitt Street, Nottingham.

## BALDERSBY, NEAR THIRSK, YORKSHIRE.

THROUGH the philanthropy and indefatigable exertions of Messrs. T. Clarke and Sons, assisted by Messrs. Metcalf, Copt, Hewick, Baines, Strother, jun., Flowers, and Hutton Conyers, who hail, from Ripon, with the kind permission of the captain and with the approval of the Vicar, which has since been given (the Vicar being from home), rung on Tuesday evening, May 5th, being the members, rehearsal, on the melodious peal of eight bells, in St. James's church tower, Baldersby, a 360 of Bob Minor, in 15 mins. A. H. Clarke, 1; (2nd bell not rung), Baines, 3; Strother, jun., 4; T. Clarke, 5; T. Metcalf, 6; Flower, 7; W. S. Clarke, 8. Conducted by T. Clarke. And on Tuesday evening, May 19th, as previously arranged, that meeting being the members, next rehearsal, a full 720 of Bob Minor, in 30 mins., which contains six singles and nine bobs, conducted by T. Metcalf. Tenor 26 cwt. in C♯. W. S. Clarke, 2nd bell as treble; Baines, 3; A. H. Clarke, 4; T. Clarke, 5; T. Metcalf, 6; James Fowler (captain of Baldersby ringers), 7; tenor behind. Perhaps the adjective used in the beginning of this paragraph may appear to my fellow-readers to indicate more than the performances deserves, but I cannot do the performers justice without entering into details, for which I suppose I ought to apologize, but what I have to say may be interesting to a few of your readers of your highly esteemed paper. This church in question, which is dedicated to St. James, situate about 1½ mile from the village of Baldersby, midway between it and the village of Rainton, was erected and endowed through the munificence of the late Lord Downe by whom the first stone of the building was laid, May 22nd, 1856. The edifice, with the spacious churchyard attached thereto, was consecrated by the Archbishop of York on September 29th, 1857. The building is in the Early Decorated style, and consists of a nave with aisles, a chancel with an organ chamber on the side, and a tower and spire at the south side of west end, 160 feet high, which contains the peal of eight bells, the most melodious peal in the neighbourhood. The interior of the church is fitted up and finished in a very elegant and chaste manner. The chancel is lined with alabaster, and on the floor is a superb slab of white marble, inlaid with brass, in memory of the munificent founder. The organ chamber is separated from the chancel by an ornamental screen of metal, the gate of the chancel is painted and gilded, its roof is richly ornamented in gold and colours, and the floor consists of encaustic tiles, as also does the middle of the nave. The font is octagonal and elegant. The chancel arch is very fine. The aisles are divided from the nave by six pointed arches on the north side and five on the south side, these arches rest on five which freestone pillars. The windows are filled with brilliantly stained glass; the open seats or stalls and ecclesiastical chairs will accommodate about 500 persons. In the churchyard is a very tall sepulchral cross. Mr. W. Butterfield was the architect for the church. The only drawback in this church is the small space within the tower, the belfry being scarcely 10 feet square within the walls, necessitating the peal of eight powerful-toned bells to be hung in three tiers in an iron frame the treble bell on the top tier, the 2nd, 3rd, 4th and 5th on the middle and the 6th 7th and 8th bells the bottom tier. They were cast and hung by Taylor and Co., bellfounders, Loughborough, in 1857. No company has ever been able to accomplish more than 350 changes since their erection, however skilful they may be, and it has always been declared impossible to ring any length of changes on them, consequently the 720 of Bob Minor recorded here will commemorate the first peal upon them. I must give in a now detailed manner how this was accomplished. Mr. T. Clarke—whom I believe is captain of the band, has had great experience on bell matters, and is a good campanologist—has had several opportunities of ringing on these bells with the best ringers in the neighbourhood, which on every occasion has caused a great disappointment to all his brother-strings when they could not ring them, which was nearly always the case. His expressed opinions upon the matter, which had been deepened by daily experience, were to the effect that a great improvement could be brought about by incurring a very little expense. Having put himself into communication with the Vicar, a day was fixed for an interview, but by some unavoidable occurrence it never took place. In the end the leading ringer was applied to, and thus the much desired improvement became ultimately effected. It is, however, most desirable that the vicar and churchwardens should have the work permanently done, as at present it is only temporal, and a regular supervision should be made and carried out, which only would be a trifling expense. There is one great drawback to the melody of the peal, that is in having the treble removed from the top tier, and placed below the bottom tier underneath the three largest bells, which was done a few years ago, the reason why is that the sound of the treble is so confined within the tower that it scarcely can be heard. The cause for the removal was the unringable manner she was placed in. No doubt the treble is much better to ring below where she is at present than in her former elevated position, but the fault was in the top angle, the height being so short from the pulley-box that received the rope from the bell wheel to the next angle.

C. T.



## 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."

## ANNUAL MEETING OF THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

SIR,—In reading down the report of the Annual Meeting of the above Association, held at Chelmsford on Whit-Monday, I find there is a resolution moved by me, and after being seconded, that it was lost by a great majority. I wish to add a little more to the report in the way of the number of those that voted. At the dinner 84 sat down, and when the business meeting was held several more put in an appearance. When my resolution was put to the meeting twenty-three voted for and twenty-nine against it, only making a majority of six against it. I do not call that a "great" majority, when there was about thirty or forty who did not vote at all, and when asked which way they were going to vote they could not answer, but sat there neutral. I maintain now what I said at the meeting, that the resolution was not probably understood by a great many.

H. RANDALL.

West Ham.

## CHANGE-RINGING AT ST. ST. HELEN'S, CLIFFE-AT-HOO, ROCHESTER, KENT.

SIR,—In addition to what was stated in last week's number, we wish to add that Mr. Haworth was engaged for twelve evenings; that he was with us nine evenings (say about two hours' practice, instead of one hour); that we had been ringing for some time the first lead of the course repeated, not knowing anything about place-making, dodging, or hunting; and that now we ring the course. As we wish to be pleasant about the little affair, we can say that we have rung the course in nine evenings' practice, that nine men have done it, and that some of our friends want to make a "nine days' wonder" of it.

ONE OF THE RINGERS.

## DOUBLE NORWICH, AND RINGING IN THE MIDLANDS.

SIR,—It is my duty to apologise to the Exercise generally, and to Mr. J. W. Snowdon and the ringers of Burton-on-Trent in particular, as to false peals of mine in Mr. Snowdon's book on Double Norwich. I may say that I have twice written you on this subject, although the matter has not appeared in your paper.

In addition to what was published in your issue of the 23rd ultimo, I have to say that my second peal on page 38 is false, and the peal on page 39 is also incorrect. With a view, however, to correct, as far as possible, my blunders, I have arranged two new parts for those mentioned above, and a new 5024 for the false peal on page 30, all enclosed herewith. If I had by me all the copies of Mr. Snowdon's work, I would place therein these new parts I have given, with the new 5024 also. Probably those readers of this paper who are most interested will take the trouble to do so, and so put the book right.

I had for a very long time promised myself a visit to Burton-on-Trent, and the very energetic band of ringers there. But had I known when these arrangements were made, that the performance of a false peal would stare me in the face on my arrival, I really don't think I should have undertaken the journey just now. However, I have to say that I am more than pleased with the result of this visit, not only from the actual work done, but from the great kindness received both from the Vicar and all the ringers.

St. Paul's bells are not nice to ring on, either in peals or touches, and I hope the Vicar succeeds in getting a handy and good ring of ten, which is very much wanted in Burton, say with about a 20 cwt. tenor. I express this wish, although I hope these gentlemen will persevere with other methods, as there is Cambridge Surprise and London Surprise yet to be mastered, and especially as no great things have yet been accomplished in these methods. However, high compliments are already due to these men, both for performance and skill displayed. So thorough has been their training that they ring Double Norwich with the same ease and pleasure that an ordinary band would ring Grandsire. Upon the finish of the first peal, Mr. J. Griffin (conductor) kindly informed me of the fact of its being No. 1.

Mr. William Wakley escorted me round the town of Derby on Tuesday, prior to calling the peal there. The tower of All Saints' church (ten bells) is a beautiful specimen of architecture. It was a big day here, apparently every child, great and small, were going to the treat, and all kinds of conveyance were chartered for the purpose of transit. *Pater* and *Mater* had turned out, *en masse*, to witness the spectacle. Banners were flying, bands of music playing, bells were ringing, the very air was full of life which every one seemed to enjoy, the weather being beautiful in the extreme. We got the peal—a reminder of No. 2, and a pinch from T. Holmes's box of Superlative.

On Wednesday, we went to Duffield, a picturesque village prettily situated on the Midland Railway about sixteen miles from Burton. But the composition Mr. Wakley contemplated calling I thought too much even for the Burton band, containing, as it does, eighteen singles,

but we rang it, and found it to contain excellent music. The peal is, as described on page 35 of Mr. Snowdon's work on this method, the first eight courses five times repeated, and is the second peal given by Mr. H. Johnson. This completed No. 3, and the end of the programme and also my visit, otherwise I believe I should have rung peals every other night during the week.

I believe one good result has come of the mistakes in Double Norwich, as one of this band has commenced proving peals, and I really hope better luck will attend his efforts than mine.

## 5024.

2 3 4 5 6 1 2 5 6

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

5 3 4 6 2 - -

3 6 4 5 2 - -

6 5 4 3 2 - -

3 4 5 6 2 - -

4 6 5 3 2 - -

6 3 5 4 2 - -

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 - -

Repeated.

This peal should be added to Mr. Snowdon's Double Norwich, on page 30; it has the same qualities as there described.

## 5 3 4 6 2 1 4 5 6

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

## 3 4 5 2 6

This should be used as second division of second peal, page 38.

2 3 4 5 6 1 4 5 6

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

5 3 4 6 2 s -

This piece to be used in place of the one given on page 39.

HENRY DAINS.

## THE RECENT ACCIDENT TO A RINGING PARTY.

THE following sums have been received for the purpose of helping to defray the great loss sustained by Mr. H. F. Wood in this unfortunate affair:—

	s.	d.		s.	d.
Rev. E. S. ... ..	2	6	G. Dorrington ... ..	2	0
J. West ... ..	2	0	H. J. Shade ... ..	2	6
J. W. Snowdon, Esq. ... ..	10	0	G. Russell, Croydon ... ..	1	0
W. Banister ... ..	5	0	H. Pearce ... ..	2	0
Bedfordshire Association ... ..	5	0	F. Newman ... ..	2	0
St. Martin's, Salisbury ... ..	10	0	R. Turner ... ..	2	0
St. Peter's, Leeds, Yorks ... ..	5	0	T. Dupen ... ..	2	6
H. Edwards ... ..	2	6	W. Prime ... ..	2	0
J. Dwight ... ..	2	6	W. Cooter ... ..	2	6
I. Shade ... ..	5	0	J. Davidson ... ..	3	0
R. S. Story ... ..	5	0	Widford and Galleywood C.R. ... ..	5	0
E. Wallege ... ..	2	0	H. Lewis, St. Albans ... ..	5	0
J. Barrett ... ..	2	0	S. Joyce ... ..	2	0
J. Comb ... ..	5	0	J. H. Monday ... ..	5	0
Spalding, SS. Mary and Nicolas ... ..	3	0	M. A. Wood ... ..	10	0

Further donations, however small, are urgently solicited. Mr. Matthew Wood, 11 Church Row, Bethnal Green, London, will be happy to give any further information, and will thankfully acknowledge any sums forwarded to him.

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IF W. B. will communicate with W. S. he will hear of something to his advantage.

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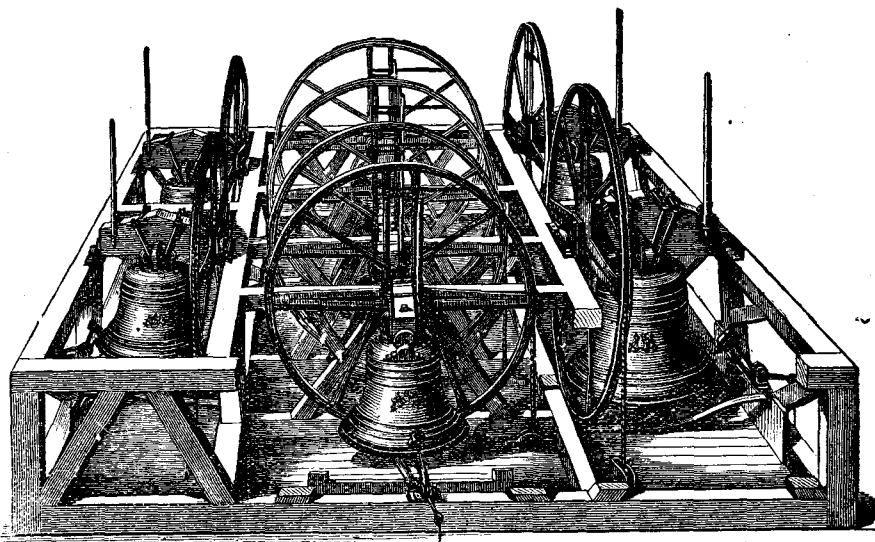
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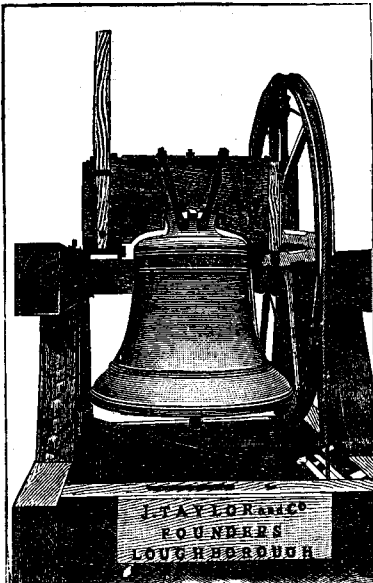
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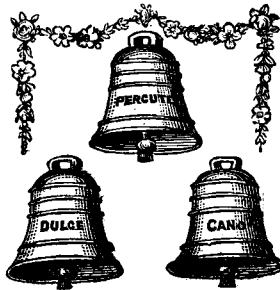
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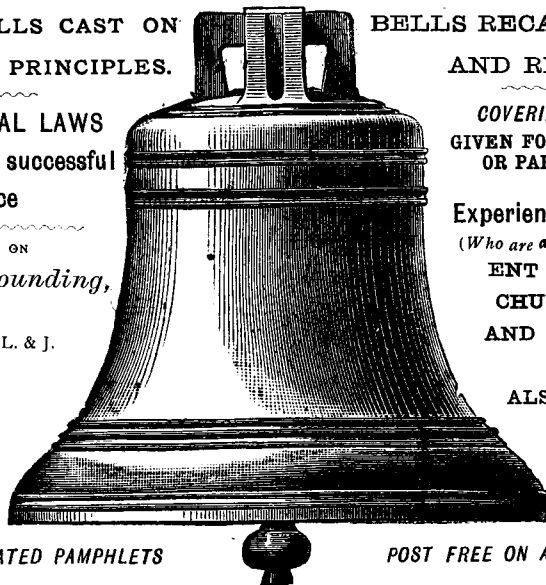
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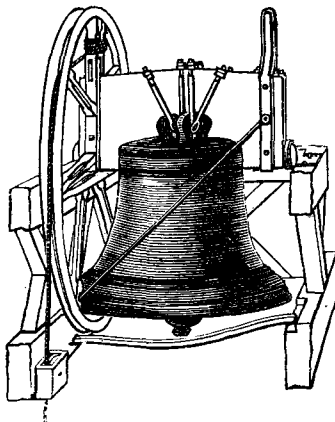
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If the Painswick peal is ignored I think that the 7025 of Stedman Caters rung at All Saints', Poplar, by the Cumberlands, in 1846, should be placed at the head of the list, but I consider that if this is done the peal will receive a position that was never claimed for it, or else it would seem very foolish of the Birmingham men, in 1854, to have rung a peal of 7020 changes of this method at Aston, or for another band of the Cumberlands to have rung 7023 changes at St. Clement Danes, in 1854.

In whatever way each of my readers may settle this matter of the longest length in his own mind there is no doubt that on March 5th, 1859, all previous lengths were cut by one of 10,027 changes accomplished by the Birmingham St. Martin's Society in 6 hrs. and 16 mins., at the parish church, Aston.

This peal, of which particulars are appended, brought the longest length rung in Stedman Caters into five figures.

From the records of the Birmingham St. Martin's Society.—"March 8th, 1859. The following extraordinary feat was performed by a miscellaneous company on the bells of the parish church, Aston. A peal of Caters on Stedman's principle, embracing 10,027 changes, which was completed in a masterly style in six hours and sixteen minutes by the following persons:—

John Perks,	Treble.	John Bannister,	4.	Robert Wright,	8.
Amos Cresser,	2.	Chas. Shaw,	5.	Joseph Spencer,	9.
Wm. Haywood,	3.	Thos. Macdonald,	6.	Jesse Cutler,	Tenor.
		Wm. Chattell,	7.		

The above peal was rung single-handed, and what eminently combines to enrich this performance is, it was rung at the first attempt, and is the greatest number of changes ever completed in this intricate system. Composed for this occasion by Henry Johnson, and ably conducted by John Perks."

On November 18th, 1883, the College Youths assayed to beat this length at Fulham, but got out after ringing nearly 10,000 changes in 6 hours and 8 minutes. A band of the same society was more fortunate on December 8th, 1883, as on that day they completed a peal of 11,111 changes in 7 hours and 11 minutes, which length is at the present time the longest length ever rung on Stedman's Principle on this or any other number of bells. The following is a detailed record of the particulars of this performance.

From "the Bell News."—"The Ancient Society of College Youths, Fulham, Middlesex. On Saturday, December 8th, 1883, in 7 hours and 12 minutes, at All Saints' church, a peal of Stedman Caters, 11,111 changes. Tenor 21 cwt.

James Pettit,	Treble.	John W. Rowbotham	4.	Edwin Horrex,	8.
Francis E. Dawe,	2.	Challis F. Winny,	5.	John M. Hayes,	9.
George Mash,	3.	Edwin Gibbs,	6.	Walter Prime,	Tenor.
		William Greenleaf,	7.		

Composed by Henry Johnson, sen., of Birmingham, and conducted by James Pettit.

## CINQUES ON STEDMAN'S PRINCIPLE.

In the year following that in which they rang the first peal of Stedman Caters, the College Youths added another "first performance on record" to the honours already gained by the Society by completing 6204 changes of Stedman Cinques at St. Martin's-in-the-fields, on October 6th, 1788. Probably this number was chosen because it would take a good deal of beating and to prevent the first peal being superseded by an ordinary peal, which, if only a few changes greater in extent, would, of necessity, take its place as the "longest on record."

Tablet in the belfry of St. Martin-in-the-Fields.—"The Society of College Youths did ring, on October 6th, 1788, a complete peal of 6204 Cinques, on Stedman's Principle, in 4 hours and 47 minutes; this great performance being the first in this method on two bells, is an instance of that unrivalled merit only to be equalled by a similar assiduity and perseverance. The performers were:

Thomas Blakemore	Treble.	James Worcester,	5.	William Lyford,	9.
Robert Pye Donkin	2.	John Inville,	6.	Samuel Lawrence	10.
John Povey	3.	James Hammett,	7.	Edwin Sylvester,	11.
Christopher Wells,	4.	Nathaniel Williamson,	8.	Philip Pilgrim,	Tenor.

Composed and Called by Thomas Blakemore.

On referring to the peals rung in Stedman Caters, it will be seen that it was not until fifty-five years after the first peal of Caters was rung that a peal of Caters, longer than the one of Cinques, given above, was rung. If the College Youths therefore selected this 6204 as their first peal, because it would not be so

easily supplanted, they were not altogether mistaken, as this peal stood at the head of the list until December 20th, 1806, nearly thirty years after, when the senior society of Cumberland Youths rang 6334 of Stedman Cinques at Christ Church, Spitalfields.

In a method like Stedman Cinques it is not likely that there would be many peals rung in those days, and thus between the first peal and the Cumberlands' peal, above mentioned, I do not think that more than two peals were accomplished. The first of these, viz.: 5088, was rung in 1792, by the College Youths, at St. Martin's-in-the-Fields, being the second known peal, and the latter of these two peals—the third known peal—was rung only a few days before the 6334 above mentioned by the Junior Society of Cumberlands. The Senior and Junior Cumberland Societies were evidently very busy at that time, as I learn from a note in the ms. book by Blease, which I have previously mentioned, that on December 13th, 1806, the same company who on the 20th of that month, accomplished the 6334, on that date rang at Spitalfields upwards of 5500 changes in attempting the peal and then got out. In the interim, on December 15th, the Junior Society accomplished a peal of 5886 at the same church. The inhabitants of Spitalfields must therefore during those seven days have averaged rather more than an allowance of two hours a day of Stedman Cinques. The following are further particulars of the 6334:—

From the Cumberland Society's Peal Book.—"Spitalfields, Saturday, December 20th, 1806. This Society rang a peal of 6334 Cinques upon Stedman's Principle in 4 hours and 55 minutes, being the most ever rung in that method. Composed and called by George Gross.

George Gross,	Treble.	James Stitchbury	5.	Thomas Freeth,	9.
James Purser,	2.	Edward Bartlett	6.	Anthony Cavalier,	10.
James Nash,	3.	William Shipway,	7.	William Stephens,	11.
Peter Jones,	4.	John Hints,	8.	Philip Pilgrim	Tenor."

I am sorry that I have not a few more particulars concerning these two peals by the Senior and Junior Cumberlands, as it seems to me probable that the 5886 was probably an intended longer length, brought round for convenience. In the absence of further information I will only name a fact which presents a curious study to those who are critical concerning the time which any given performance takes. Both these peals—the 5886 and the 6334—were rung on the same bells and within a space of five days, yet although one peal was 448 changes longer than the other, the time occupied in each case—viz.: 4 hrs. and 55 minutes—was the same.

In 1820 the St. Martin's Society, Birmingham, was in a very flourishing condition, not only having many excellent composers on its roll of members, but also a large force of first-class ringers who, after beating in April the longest length of Treble Bob Maximus, accomplished 6600 of Stedman Cinques on December 28th in the same year, which likewise took its place as the greatest extent performed. This peal, of which further particulars are given below, was also the first peal of Stedman Cinques ever rung at Birmingham:—

Tablet in the belfry of St. Martin's, Birmingham.—"1820, Dec. 28. Six thousand six hundred Stedman Cinques, in four hours thirty-five minutes, by the following persons. Conducted by Mr. Thomas Thurstans.

William Bennett,	Treble.	Joseph Powell,	5.	Charles Thurstans,	9.
James Jarvis,	2.	Henry Cooper,	6.	William Hassall,	10.
Thomas Chapman,	3.	Samuel Lawrence,	7.	Thomas Thurstans,	11.
Thomas Worrall,	4.	Joseph Riley,	8.	William Marsh,	Tenor."

## THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

REPORT FOR THE WEEK ENDING JUNE 16TH.—On Tuesday, June 9th, at St. Mary's Eastbourne, by the Eastbourne branch, an attempted peal of Grandsire Triples (Holt's 10-part), 4536 changes, rung in 2 hrs. 45 mins. S. Hart, 1; H. P. Bennett (conductor), 2; F. Harding, 3; L. Huggett, 4; T. Willoughby, 5; J. Potter, 6; T. Hart, 7; J. Rollison, 8. On Saturday, June 13th, at Buxted, by the Brighton branch, a peal of Grandsire Triples (see peal page). And on Sunday, June 14th, for afternoon service, at St. Peter's, Brighton, by the Brighton branch, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 47½ mins. C. Golds, 1; J. Searle, 2; H. Weston, 3; A. Marshall, 4; C. Tyler, 5; G. F. Attree (conductor), 6; G. King, 7; D. Ross, 8.

GEO. F. ATTREE, Hon. Sec.

## ANNUAL MEETING OF THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

THE FIFTH ANNUAL FESTIVAL of the members of this Guild was held at Bicester on Tuesday, June 9th. There were nearly 200 members present, all of whom received a free dinner ticket out of the funds of the Guild. The towers represented included—Bicester, Middleton Stoney, Somerton, Marsh Gibbon, Woodstock, Kidlington, Stoke Lyne, Amersham, Reading, Long Crendon, Weston-on-the-Green, Stony Stratford, Appleton; and St. Thomas, St. Peter's-in-the-East, and St. Mary Magdalen, Oxford.

At eleven o'clock the customary service was held at the church, where the members of the Guild assembled in large numbers. Amongst those present in the church were the Earl of Jersey, the Revs. F. E. Robinson (Master of the Guild), Dolben Paul (secretary and treasurer, Bearwood Rectory, Wokingham), C. D. P. Davies (Pembroke College, Oxford), J. C. Blomfield (rector of Lanton and rural dean), J. Blackburn-Kane and J. H. Moore (Bicester), Douglas-Hamilton (Winslow), W. Best (Dun's Tew), G. F. Coleridge (Caversham), A. Heigham (Bourton), W. B. Humphrey (Mollington), T. A. Houlton, E. M. Holmes (Marsh Gibbon), J. Mansel Price, G. E. Barnes (Somerton), A. J. Williams, J. F. Llewellyn (Wokingham), D. Gregory, H. de Romestin, A. Majendie (Woodstock), H. Jones (Weston-on-the-Green), J. L. Challis, E. R. Massey (Merton), &c. The service was commenced by the processional hymn "Onward, Christian Soldiers." The prayers were intoned by the Rev. J. H. Moore, the responses being heartily taken up by the choir and congregation. The special psalms were the 47th, 98th, and 150th. The first lesson, Numbers x, was read by the Rev. Dolben Paul, and the second, 1 Corinthians xiv., from verse 6, by the Rev. J. C. Bloomfield. The anthem, taken from Psalm xxxiv.—"O taste and see how gracious the Lord is," was very well rendered by the choir. The epistle, 1 St. John iv., from verse 7, was read by the Rev. H. C. Sturges, and the Gospel, St. Luke xvi., from verse 19, by the Rev. F. E. Robinson. The other hymns were 303 and 161. The sermon was preached by the Rev. C. D. P. Davies from the words, "To whom men have committed much, of him they will ask the more" (Luke xii., part of verse 48). In the course of his remarks the rev. gentleman said—

They would see, in the verse from which he had taken his text, their Lord talking of the responsibilities of Christians in general and especially those who were called to serve him in any office in the Church. "To whom men have committed much, of him they will ask the more." Well, then, let them see if they could not apply those words to themselves. First of all let them see if they were not applicable in some sense to their ringing itself. Now-a-days their surroundings were much better than they were a few years gone by. They had better belfries, their bells rehung, and their towers cared for and looked after. The fact was realised in a great majority of places that the belfry and tower was a part of the house of God, therefore in that sense they as ringers had much committed to them. That formed part of what God had given them. They had had much committed to them and therefore surely the more would be required from them. Applying those words to their ringing they had an incentive to go on and do as much as they could with the science and art they had taken up. Of course there were two objects for which a man might do that. First because he looked upon it as good exercise and it gave him something to do in the evening—in fact it was a pastime. But he need not say he did not suppose most of them looked upon it in that light. Their very presence that day in God's house showed they had a higher thought than that—they looked upon their ringing as something in which God's Holy Spirit and Christ had a share. Surely ringing itself was deserving of the utmost attention, not only on a week day at their practices, but especially when they summoned God's people to His house for service. Since they had so many advantages in the present day and so much committed to them by the restoration of belfries and the rehanging of their bells, it was for that reason they should learn change-ringing as much as they could. When the bells went badly and the belfries were dingy and uncomfortable there was not so much encouragement for them, but now that had been altered they should look upon their ringing as doing it for God's sake and for his honour and glory. Although the outside world did not know about the Grandsire and Stedman methods they could tell if the bells were striking evenly, and they should never forget this plain simple truth, that although the people in general did not know, God knew what they were doing, and God would reward them accordingly for the pains they took in their ringing. "To whom men had committed much, of him they will ask the more." The very fact that they were ringers—was not that committing much to them? Their holding office—no matter how subordinate—in the church encouraged them to lead more Christian lives. Perhaps before some of them were ringers they had not much to do with the church, and if it were a distance off they never went into it at all or very seldom took the communion of the body and blood of their Lord. Ringers by mixing up with Christ's ministers gave them greater means of grace. Being connected with the Church they must remember it was not only the means of improving themselves but the Church in general. Ringers were ministers in the Church, and of course not in so high a degree as those who had been ordained—the Bishops, Priests, Deacons—but still they were ministers of the Church, and surely they were called upon to behave themselves, and shine as lights in the world, and not be stumbling-blocks in the way of others. The words their Lord said just before the text applied to them in the present day. Let them see they understood them and took them to heart. It could not be said to them in these days "We know not our Lord's will." Fifty or sixty years ago there might have been some excuse. They might have said they were not taught their duty, but now, thank God, those things were put before them year by year as their festival came round. Their duty was set before them day by day—their rules proclaimed the Lord's will—therefore let them take care they did according to his will, and if they did, so much as had been committed to them would bring forth its fruit.

The Vicar then pronounced the benediction, and after singing of hymn 223 as the recessional, the company left the church.

The business meeting was held in St. Edburg's Hall, Bicester, after the service, when there was a goodly company present. The Secretary proposed that the Master should as usual take the chair, which was carried. The Secretary then proceeded to read over the minutes of the meeting held at Great Marlow, but it was decided they be taken as read. The Rev. F. E. Robinson, of Drayton Vicarage, Abingdon, was unanimously re-elected Master of the Guild, and the Rev. Dolben Paul, of Bearwood Rectory, Wokingham, Secretary and Treasurer. The following were also re-elected as the committee: Six elected members—Revs. A. Drummond, A. Majendie, J. F. Marshall, E. Barber, H. C. Sturges, R. Hart-Davies. Six change-ringing members—Captain J. E. Acland-Troyte, Messrs. W. Newell, E. Rogers, J. Field, C. A. Hounslow, F. White. Representatives of local branches—Rev. J. T. Brown for Sonning Deanery Branch, Rev. Canon Garry for Reading Branch, Mr. J. Parker for East Berks and South Bucks Branch, Mr. W. Hawley for Bradfield Deanery Branch, Mr. C. Swain for Newbury Branch. The Secretary said it was a half year or nearly so since the report was issued, and perhaps it might be interesting to those present to know how the Guild had been progressing. It was necessary, first of all, that candidates being members of the Church of England, whose qualifications have been vouched for according to the Guild's form, should be admitted change-ringing members by the Secretary, and that their election should be confirmed by the committee or next general meeting. There were a considerable number of new change-ringing members whose election had to be confirmed. He had admitted sixty-three change-ringing members from various parishes into the general Guild in the course of four or five months. It was not necessary to confirm the election of probationary members; but he might tell them they had added eighty-one new members to that list. He found that when men became probationary members, a great majority at once became interested in the work, and, in a very short time, they had to admit them as change-ringing members. Altogether the number of new members admitted during the past five or six months amounted to 150. He could not say to one or two; but he thought the total number of members in the Guild at that time was 800. He was not aware of any Guild, or similar Society, which had so large a number of members. The rev. gentleman then enumerated the towers which had recently joined the Guild, and which embraced the following: Bicester, Middleton Stoney, Somerton, Stoke Lyne, Dun's Tew, and Marsh Gibbon. He then spoke of the Guild's form of prayer and the certificate to be framed and hung up in the belfry, and the rural dean trying to get the branches in the deanery to join the Guild, after which he referred to the members not answering their notices until very late, which plan he deprecated. The Chairman said he wished to back up what the Secretary had said with regard to the notices. They should try and spare him as much trouble as they possibly could. When they remembered their Secretary's services were all gratuitous and that he had the care of a parish, it was their bounden duty to save him all the trouble they possibly could. The Chairman then dwelt on the advantages of the branches, remarking that they could meet together during the winter time. He had given notice of a motion which he wished to lay before them. The proposition was to the effect that members could be elected in the belfry provided they first obtained a certificate of fitness from the incumbent of the parish. Mr. Hounslow seconded. The Rev. H. C. Sturges could not help thinking if that course were adopted, the peals at the end of the book would be of less value in their eyes. The peals at the end of the book were supposed to be by members of the Guild, and it seemed to him if they admitted members on the spot from a London association, that would very much depreciate the report at the end of the book. The Secretary said he was very sorry to be in opposition to their Master, but his objection to his proposal was this. It was most essential that all their members should be permanent and fixed members. If a man were elected just to ring a peal he might pay his money, get his certificate, and they might never hear any more of him. The Chairman, after referring to what Mr. Sturges had said, remarked that he could see what the secretary meant—that there would be a difficulty of collecting the shilling, because the man would be gone away. He was prepared to alter his proposition and say that the person so elected should pay the life composition of 7s. 6d. He really thought the members of the Guild ought to be trusted as to what kind of men they introduced. The Secretary remarked that he should be satisfied if the man obtained the certificate from the incumbent, and paid the 7s. 6d., and was duly proposed and seconded. The Rev. E. M. Holmes asked whether the certificate was to be obtained from the incumbent of the parish where the candidate was admitted a member, or from the clergyman where he came from? The Chairman said the certificate must be obtained of the clergyman of the parish he came from. The Secretary here remarked that he wished some kind friend would make the Guild a present of a proper peal-book in the place of the one they used at that time, which was not a proper book. The Earl of Jersey intimated that he would give them the book asked for; which was received with loud applause. The best thanks of the



meeting was then accorded to Lord Jersey for his gift. The Secretary said the Guild was in a flourishing condition. Their funds had been drawn upon in one way during the year rather more than hitherto, and that was for the instruction of young men in the art of ringing, and as soon as that became more widely known the funds would be largely drawn upon for that purpose. That was an object so good they would never regret it, and, as other towers were constantly coming in to them, he did not think they need be afraid at present of any state of bankruptcy. He should think the balance would be about the same as it was at the beginning of the year. The Chairman said that was the proper place for them to consider their place of meeting next year. Last year it was in Bucks, this year in Oxon, and he thought next year it must be in Berks. The subject was left over for future consideration. The Secretary announced that the dinner could not be held there; but was arranged to take place at the Corn Exchange. The meeting then broke up.

The dinner took place in the Corn Exchange shortly after two o'clock. The Earl of Jersey presided, and was supported by a goodly number of the local clergy. About 200 members sat down to the excellent cold collation provided Mr. M. Rest, the proprietor of the Crown Hotel. The Vicar of Bicester said grace before and after the meal. Ample justice having been done to the good things provided,

The CHAIRMAN, who was received with loud cheers, said he felt quite sure they were all very anxious to get outside that room and exercise their own art, instead of listening to him. The first toast on those occasions was always that of "Church and Queen." It was a toast which appealed alike to their loyalty and affection—loyalty to their sovereign who set them so good an example during her long reign, and affection for their old parish churches. After some further remarks, his lordship gave them the toast of "Church and Queen," which was drunk very heartily.

The CHAIRMAN said the next toast was "Prosperity to their Guild." As he was going to call upon the Master and Secretary to respond, it would be hardly necessary for him to say much about the Guild, but still it would be quite an omission on his part, and he would not forgive himself if he did not express his great pleasure in seeing so many present that day. It showed how very strongly that Guild had flourished in this diocese. He was glad to notice so many strong supporters of their parish churches as those around him, for after all the ringers were of very great importance to what they would allow him to say the government of the Church. He held the office of churchwarden, but in his opinion the ringers did more for the Church than he did, and their duty was far more important, and he must humbly confess they carried out their duty better than he did. It was satisfactory to know, under the influence of guilds like that, bell-ringing had very much improved, and the rules, as they were now carried out, were conducive to order and good behaviour in their parish churches. That was one of the objects of that Guild, and the secretary and those who promoted it must feel gratified to see their work reaping so much good fruit. Bell ringing had had great influence on all history, and he believed bell-ringing would have a much more important influence on Church history in the future. The history of the bells had been of a mixed character in the past. Having spoken of the curfew, his lordship said the church bell had sounded to warn citizens in time of public danger, and it had often been the signal for scenes of a lamentable character, but he hoped for occasions like those, church bells would never ring again. His lordship then referred to the history of bells with regard to Dick Whittington and his cat, and said that reminded him of this—that no one could listen to church bells ringing, unless he was deaf to every sound, who did not feel something stirring within him which it was difficult to express, but they did create in persons a feeling which he believed was always of a better sort. As they listened every morning and evening, he was sure a man must be deaf indeed if he did not feel a responsive chord to the music of the of the church bells. He hoped the bells they rung would always have a good effect upon their hearers, for they might have a very great influence in making people happier, truer, and able to put aside that moment of depression and despair. He hoped that their parish churches would long exist, and he was sure of this, that they could do a deal to make them more popular, and bring about a happier recollection to those who lived in their villages; or whether it be from the churches of crowded towns or scattered villages, let the voice that sounded from them be always one that bade the people to be happy, cheerful, honest, and Christian. His lordship then gave them, "Prosperity to their Guild," coupling with the toast the names of the Master and Secretary.

The Rev. F. E. ROBINSON (Master), in responding, said he was happy to say their numbers were increasing, and they were now about 800 strong. The prosperity of the Guild did not depend upon increased members or the quantity of the peals, but on having the blessing of God upon themselves and all they did. They must keep the proper object of the Guild distinctly before them. The object and purpose for which they cultivated the art of ringing, was not merely to please themselves or gain reputation, but to impress on

their minds more and more that they had been solemnly dedicated to God, and all they did must be for His glory. If they all felt sure God's blessing rested upon them, they would be sure to prosper. The Guild was formed in 1881, and from the very first they had received encouragement from higher quarters, which was very gratifying. He spoke of the help the society had received at Christ Church, and afterwards said they had a nobleman there who had come forward to preside over their meeting on that occasion. They had received a few discouragements in some parts of the diocese. In conclusion, he asked them all to work hard for the object they had in view.

The Rev. DOLBEN PAUL remarked that after the address by the Master, who was one of the best masters they could find throughout England, and was one of the best ringers in England, he thought there was very little left for him to say. He urged all the members to work hard for the success of the Guild, by inducing members and towers to join. He then asked them to drink with great cordiality, the health of the Vicar of Bicester. It was a very great point with them to find that the clergymen of the town where they went, were not only anxious to welcome them, but gave them the best they could provide in the form of a church service. Although other places had welcomed them kindly, he never remembered being present at a more thorough and hearty service than that at Bicester that morning. The thanks of the Guild were due to the vicar, and all those who had been connected with the service that morning. He then gave "The Health of the Vicar of Bicester."

The Rev. J. BLACKBURN KANE, whose rising was the signal for cheering, after thanking them for the very cordial way they had received his name, said the success of the service was not due to him, but to his helpers. Before he sat down, he wished to propose the health of the preacher that day—The Rev. C. D. P. Davies—who had given them such an excellent sermon, and who was not only a good ringer, but the son of a distinguished man.

The Rev. C. D. P. DAVIES returned thanks, and expressed the great pleasure it gave him to be present there at their annual festival. He was admitted a member about a year and half ago, and that was the first meeting he could come to. He felt it a very great privilege to be called upon to address them. He had been to a great many in different parts of the country; but he never saw so large a meeting as that. After referring to the excellent management of the officers, he again said it had been a great pleasure for him to be with them that day.

The Rev. J. C. BLOMFIELD said he had the honour to propose a toast he was sure they were all longing to drink. It was a very bad thing to find fault with a man behind his back, and a still worse thing before him to eulogise his face. The toast he had to give them was the health of their noble Chairman that day. Lord Jersey had told them he was a churchwarden, and he had spoken disparagingly of himself, but he could say his lordship did not neglect any duties in that respect. Having spoken of the part his lordship had taken in the recasting and rehanging of the bells at Middleton Stoney, he said that if any of them felt disposed to go over to Middleton, they would not only find a delightful park to see, but a good peal of bells to ring. In conclusion he spoke of the respect and esteem in which his lordship was held by all his neighbours and remarked that he was always going about doing good.

The CHAIRMAN returned thanks, and on behalf of the Middleton people and himself, invited some of the ringers to go over and try their bells. With regard to the bells he said that Mr. Draper was not quite satisfied with them, and he thought the little he could do to put them right he should be glad to do; but the ringers and all the parishioners subscribed to the cost. It gave him very great pleasure to be with them that day, because he saw not only friends from Middleton, but Somerton, and when they came to join them at their annual festival, why should he not come when he was one of them? He congratulated them all upon the success of the Guild, and he hoped that success would attend them on every occasion.

The members then separated, and it was announced they could adjourn to Middleton, Marsh Gibbon, Launton, Ambrosden, and Bicester towers, and also to the Bicester cricket field to witness a cricket match which was being played that day.

At Bicester church several touches were rung during the afternoon and evening—two 360's of Stedman Triples. J. W. Washbrook, 1; F. A. Castle, 2; —Procter, 3; C. W. H. Griffith, 4; F. M. Custance, 5; Rev. C. D. P. Davies, 6; Rev. F. E. Robinson (conductor), 7; W. Cox, 8. A 6-score of Grandsire Doubles. T. Wakenell, 1; T. Shaw, 2; W. Burgess, 3; G. Warner, 4; F. A. Castle (conductor), 5; H. Holifield, 6. Another 6-score was rung, conducted by T. Wakenell. About twenty members were driven to Middleton Stoney, where they were under the conductorship of Mr. A. Cable, but owing to the mixed band a few changes only were rung. The company visited Lord Jersey's gardens, and afterwards were entertained at tea by the Rector. At Ambrosden the Stony Stratford men occupied the tower, but nothing of note was accomplished there.

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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.

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## The Bell News & Ringers' Record.

SATURDAY, JUNE 20, 1885.

### The Metropolis.

HORSLEYDOWN, MIDDLESEX.

THE (LONDON) ST. JAMES'S SOCIETY.

On Saturday, June 13, 1885, in Two Hours and Fifty-seven Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN THE EVANGELIST,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S ORIGINAL. Tenor 19 cwt. in E.

MAURICE I'ANSON* (aged 16) Treble.	JOSEPH BARRY .. .. 5.
WILLIAM PEAD .. .. 2.	*ERNEST E. VINEN .. .. 6.
RICHARD FRENCH .. .. 3.	WILLIAM H. GEORGE .. .. 7.
JOSEPH WAGHORN, JUN. .. 4.	JOSEPH JONES .. .. Tenor.

Conducted by RICHARD FRENCH.

\* First peal.

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

On Tuesday, June 16, 1885, in Three Hours and Five Minutes,

AT ST. MARY'S PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE MAJOR, 5151 CHANGES;

Tenor 23 cwt. in Eb.

EDWARD RICHARDS* .. Treble.	FREDERICK W. THORNTON .. 5.
WILLIAM PEAD .. .. 2.	THOMAS TAYLOR .. .. 6.
THOMAS G. DEAL .. .. 3.	WILLIAM H. FREEMAN .. 7.
WILLIAM WEATHERSTONE .. 4.	ABRAHAM G. FREEMAN .. Tenor.

Conducted by WILLIAM WEATHERSTONE.

This is the first peal of Grandsire Major by all the above, and the first peal of Grandsire Major on the bells. \* First peal. The Brothers Freeman belong to Lewisham; Messrs. Weatherstone and Taylor to Rotherhithe; F. W. Thornton to Greenwich; W. Pead to Deptford; T. G. Deal to Lee; and E. Richards to Woolwich.

### The Provinces.

WEST MALLING, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Tuesday, June 9, 1885, in Three Hours and Twenty-eight Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5600 CHANGES;

Tenor 12½ cwt.

EDWARD BONNER .. Treble.	ALCHIN MOORCRAFT .. .. 5.
EDWARD BALDOCK .. .. 2.	DAVID HALL .. .. 6.
ALFRED WOOLLEY .. .. 3.	CALEB PAYNE .. .. 7.
WILLIAM HARDEN .. .. 4.	JAMES W. LEONARD .. Tenor.

Conducted by JAMES W. LEONARD.

BIRMINGHAM, WARWICKSHIRE.

THE BIRMINGHAM AMALGAMATED SOCIETY AND  
 THE BIRMINGHAM AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATION.

On Wednesday, June 10, 1885, in Three Hours and Three Minutes,

AT ST. CHAD'S (R.C.) CATHEDRAL,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

TAYLOR'S BOB-AND-SINGLE VARIATION. Tenor 15 cwt. in F.

JOHN CARTER .. .. Treble.	RICHARD HACKLEY .. .. 5.
CHARLES CARMELL .. .. 2.	†JOHN T. PERRY .. .. 6.
JOHN CALLAGHAN .. .. 3.	ALBERT HACKLEY .. .. 7.
CHARLES BARNACLE .. .. 4.	*EBENEZER HICKMAN .. Tenor.

Conducted by JOHN T. PERRY.

\* First peal. † First peal as conductor.

DRAYTON, BERKS.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

On Thursday, June 11, 1885, in Three Hours and Two Minutes,

AT ST. PETER'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

THURSTANS' COMPOSITION. Tenor 9½ cwt.

FREDERICK WHITE .. Treble.	REV. F. E. ROBINSON .. 5.
CHARLES HOUNSLOW .. 2.	C. W. H. GRIFFITH, ESQ. 6.
JAMES W. WASHBROOK .. 3.	REV. C. D. P. DAVIES .. 7.
REV. WOOLMORE WIGRAM 4.	THOMAS BENNETT .. Tenor.

Conducted by JAMES WILLIAM WASHBROOK.

The Rev. W. Wigram is of Hertford; Rev. C. D. P. Davies of Chaceley; the rest are local ringers.

MANCHESTER.—THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, June 13, 1885, in Three Hours and Five Minutes,

AT THE CATHEDRAL CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS, 5003 CHANGES;

Tenor 25 cwt. in Eb.

THOMAS THORPE .. Treble.	GEORGE E. TURNER .. 6.
JOSEPH GRIMSHAW .. 2.	FREDERICK DERBYSHIRE .. 7.
THOMAS G. DOWNES .. 3.	GEORGE MEE .. .. 8.
JAMES HENRY RIDYARD† .. 4.	*ALBERT EDWARD WREAKS 9.
RICHARD RIDYARD† .. 5.	HENRY MEE .. .. Tenor.

Composed by JOHN THORP, of Ashton-under-Lyne, and Conducted by ALBERT EDWARD WREAKS.

\* College Youth. † Members of the United Counties' Association. The Brothers Ridyard and F. Derbyshire hail from Worsley, this being their first peal of Caters; the rest are the Cathedral company of Manchester.

WINCHESTER, HAMPSHIRE.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

On Saturday, June 13, 1885, in Three Hours and Twenty-seven Minutes,

AT THE CATHEDRAL OF HOLY TRINITY AND ST. SWITHIN,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S TEN-PART. Tenor 35 cwt. in C.

GEORGE GIBBARD .. Treble.	J. MARTIN ROUTH, ESQ. .. 5.
CHALLIS F. WINNY .. 2.	WILLIAM NEWELL .. .. 6.
JOSEPH E. WILLSHIRE .. 3.	FRANCIS E. DAWE .. .. 7.
ERNEST BISHOP .. .. 4.	JOHN M. HAYES .. .. Tenor.

Conducted by FRANCIS EDWARD DAWE.

It is rumoured that three hours' ringing was accomplished here by a Winchester band nearly 80 years ago, but as there is no authentic record whatever of names, time, or method rung, or even trace of there ever having been change-ringers in the town, it is extremely doubtful as to its performance; consequently this is believed to be the first true peal on the bells.

Messrs. Newell, Gibbard, Willshe and Bishop hail from Reading; the others belong to London.

The ringers take this opportunity of tendering their most sincere thanks to the Dean and Chapter for kindly allowing them the use of the Cathedral bells on this occasion.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

ESTABLISHED 1637.

THE Two Hundred and Forty-Eighth Anniversary of this Society will be held at the "Cherry Tree," Southgate, Middlesex, on Saturday, July 4th. Dinner on the table at 3.0 sharp. Those intending to be present are requested to notify the same on or before Tuesday, June 30th, to the Secretary, at the "King's Head," Winchester Street, Southwark.

## BUXTED, SUSSEX.

## THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, June 13, 1885, in Two Hours and Fifty-two Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

## A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S 10-PART. Tenor 16 cwt.

C. TYLER .. .. . Treble.	G. F. ATTREE .. .. . 5.
H. WESTON .. .. . 2.	J. JAY, JUN. .. .. . 6.
J. SEARLE .. .. . 3.	J. JAY, SEN. .. .. . 7.
G. KING* .. .. . 4.	E. BUTLER .. .. . Tenor.

Conducted by J. JAY, SEN.

\*First peal with a bob bell. All the above with the exception of G. King are members of the Royal Cumberland Youths.

## BORDEN, KENT.

## THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Sunday, June 14, 1885, in Three Hours and Seventeen Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

## A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S SIX-PART. Tenor 21½ cwt.

REUBEN SIMMONDS* .. .. . Treble.	ALFRED H. WOOLLEY .. .. . 5.
HARRY PEARCE* .. .. . 2.	*SAMUEL SNELLING .. .. . 6.
EDWARD BALDOCK* .. .. . 3.	*ALCHIN MOORCRAFT .. .. . 7.
JOHN M. COOPER* .. .. . 4.	JOSEPH G. GREENSTED .. Tenor.

Conducted by ALCHIN MOORCRAFT.

These bells have just been rehung and put in thorough repair by Mr. Snelling, of Sittingbourne.

The company wish through this paper to thank the Vicar and Churchwardens for the use of the bells.

\*College Youths.

## Miscellaneous.

## THE BIRMINGHAM AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATION.

BIRMINGHAM.—On Monday evening, June 15th, it being the birthday of Mr. Bradshaw, of Deritend, also the anniversary of the first peal of some of the members, an attempt was made for Holt's 10-part peal of Grandsire Triples, but after ringing upwards of 4000 changes it came to a untimely end owing to the 7th bell casting rope. Francis H. James, 1; Charles Carmell (conductor), 2; John Carter, 3; John Callaghan, 4; Charles Barnacle, 5; Richard Hackley, 6; John T. Perry, 7; James King, 8.

SELLY OAK (Worcestershire).—On Sunday, June 14th, for Divine Service at St. Mary's Church, a 720 of Grandsire Minor in 24 mins. Edward Bryant, 1; Charles Barnacle, 2; John T. Perry (conductor), 3; Edward Boylin, 4; Thomas Lewis, 5; Charles Carmell, 6. Messrs Carmell and Barnacle hail from Moseley; and John T. Perry from Birmingham.

## THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

BEDFORD.—On Tuesday, June 16th, for practice at St. Mary's church a 720 of College Single. S. Cullip, 1; J. Atkin, 2; \*M. Warrick, 3; \*I. Hills, 4; C. W. Clark, 5; \*J. Frossell, 6. \*First in the method. And a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor. S. Cullip, 1; J. Atkin, 2; M. Warrick, 3; J. Frossell, 4; C. W. Clark, 5; I. Hills, 6. Both conducted by C. W. Clark.

## THE EASTERN COUNTIES' GUILD.

SPALDING (Lincolnshire).—On Tuesday, June 2nd, at the church of SS. Mary and Nicolas, a 720 of Plain Bob. J. W. Jarvis, 1; C. Neaverson (first 720 with a bob bell), 2; G. L. Richardson, 3; J. S. Wright, 4; R. Mackman, 5; J. Brown, 6. And on Sunday, June 7th, for morning service, a 360 of Plain Bob, also after evening service, a 720 of London Single. J. W. Jarvis, 1; J. S. Wright, 2; G. L. Richardson, 3; G. Skeef, 4; R. Mackman, 5; J. Brown, 6.

## THE HERTFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

BALDOCK (Herts).—On Sunday, June 7th, for Divine Service in the morning, at the church of St. Mary-the-Virgin, 504 of Grandsire Triples. T. Webb, 1; Jno. Phillips (conductor), 2; J. Cawdell, 3; J. Smith, 4; Robert Jackson, 5; Richard Jackson, 6; J. W. Roslyn, 7; G. Gentle, 8. And on Thursday, June 11th, for practice, 518 of Grandsire Triples, being the first part of Holt's ten-part peal. T. Webb, 1; Jno. Phillips (conductor), 2; J. Cawdell, 3; J. Smith, 4; Robert Jackson, 5; Richard Jackson, 6; J. W. Roslyn, 7; G. Gentle, 8. Also 504 of Grandsire Triples, standing as before, conducted by J. Cawdell.

Tenor 28 cwt. in D. And on handbells retained in hand, 168 of Grandsire Triples. G. Spicer, 1; T. Webb, 2; J. Cawdell, 3; J. Smith, 4; Jno. Phillips (conductor), 5; Richard Jackson, 6; J. W. Roslyn, 7-8.

## THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

ABINGDON (Berks).—On Wednesday evening, June 10th, for practice, a 720 of Grandsire Minor, in 25 mins. J. Brown, 1; T. Short, 2; J. Higgs, 3; W. Sandell, 4; H. Sheard (conductor), 5; H. Holifield, 6.

## THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

WALKDEN (Lancashire).—On Sunday, June 14th, for Divine Service in the morning, a 720 of Bob Minor (forty-two singles), in 26 mins. J. Welsby (conductor), 1; J. Worthington, 2; S. Oakes, 3; J. Williamson, 4; J. Brookes, 5; W. Denner, 6. Tenor 13½ cwt.

## THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

WICKHAM MARKET (Suffolk).—On Saturday, June 13th, six members of the above Association rang a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor, and 1080 Oxford Treble Bob Minor. E. Sherwood, 1; E. Todd, 2; A. Acfield, jun., 3; A. Ward, 4; W. P. Garrett, 5; W. Ward (conductor), 6. And upon the handbells, retained in hand, a course of Grandsire Caters. A. Acfield, 1-2; E. Sherwood, 3-4; W. A. Ward, 5-6; W. P. Garrett, 7-8; A. Ward, 9-10. And a course of Grandsire Cinques, E. Todd taking 1-2. Also a course of Bob Royal. H. Mattin, 1-2; E. Sherwood, 3-4; W. P. Garrett, 5-6; E. Todd, 7-8; W. A. Ward, 9-10.

## DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.—On Thursday, June 11th, at St. John's church, 714 Grandsire Triples, in 28 mins. H. Ferguson, 1; C. L. Routledge, 2; W. Story, 3; F. Lees, 4; E. Wallis, 5; S. Power, 6; T. Denton (conductor), 7; G. W. Allen, 8. Tenor 12½ cwt.

ASHLEWORTH (Gloucestershire).—On Sunday, June 14th, the Deerpur Society visited this place and rang for service in the afternoon, a 720 of Bob Minor, in 25 mins. T. Everness, 1; C. Willis, 2; H. Roberts, 3; C. Roles, 4; G. Willis, 5; J. Bartlett (conductor), 6. And several 6-scores of Stedman Doubles. G. Willis, 1; C. Willis, 2; H. Roberts (conductor), 3; C. Roles, 4; J. Bartlett, 5; —. Wadley (Ashleworth), 6. Tenor 16 cwt. On the way home a halt was made at Tirley, where a 720 of Bob Minor was rung in 24½ mins., standing as before; also some 6-scores of Stedman and Grandsire Doubles, Mr. F. Roberts, of Ashleworth, taking part in the Grandsire.

APPLETON (Berks).—On Wednesday, June 10th, a touch of Stedman Triples, and 651 of Stedman Caters. J. W. Washbrook, 1; C. Hounslow, 2; L. Procter, Esq., 3; W. Bennett, 4; B. Barrett, 5; A. F. M. Custance, Esq., 6; G. Holifield, 7; Rev. C. D. P. Davies, 8; Rev. F. E. Robinson (conductor), 9; J. Avery, 10. And three courses of Grandsire Caters. F. White, 1; C. Hounslow, 2; E. Holifield, 3; Jno. Washbrook (conductor), 4; B. Barrett, 5; G. Holifield, 6; Rev. F. E. Robinson, 7; J. Avery, 8; A. F. M. Custance, Esq., 9; Henry Woodwards, 10. And three courses of Double Norwich. J. Avery, 1; C. Hounslow, 2; L. Procter, Esq., 3; W. Bennett, 4; J. W. Washbrook, 5; G. Holifield, 6; A. F. M. Custance, Esq., 7; Rev. F. E. Robinson (conductor), 8. And a course of Superlative Surprise Major. J. Avery, 1; C. Hounslow, 2; L. Procter, Esq., 3; J. W. Washbrook, 4; W. Bennett, 5; G. Holifield, 6; A. F. M. Custance, Esq., 7; Rev. F. E. Robinson, 8.

BARTON-ON-HUMBER (Lincolnshire).—On Saturday, June 6th, for the celebration of Her Majesty's Birthday, a 720 of Bob Minor, in 27 mins. J. Robinson, 1; A. Taylor, 2; H. Jenkins, 3; W. Southwick (conductor), 4; C. Bennett, 5; J. Dixey, 6. Tenor 12 cwt. J. Robinson belongs to Barton; the rest of the company hail from Hull.

BIDSTON (Cheshire).—On Saturday evening, June 13th, the ringers of the Walton Parish Church rang at the Parish Church, a 720 of Plain Bob Minor (eighteen bobs and eighteen singles), in 24 mins. And a 120 of College Single Minor (four bobs). J. Hurst, 1; C. J. Rodgers, 2; R. Somerville, 3; T. Rushton, 4; K. Stockley, 5; C. E. Wilson (conductor), 6. This is the first 720 in the above method ever rung on the bells. Tenor 6 cwt.

BIRMINGHAM.—On Whit-Monday, at St. John's, Deritend, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor. Henry Dains, 1; Thomas Miller, 2; Josiah Rogers, 3; Frank H. James (steepkeeper), 4; Thomas Holmes, 5; William Wakley (conductor), 6.

BOOTLE (Lancashire).—On Sunday evening, June 14th, at Christ Church, for Divine Service, a 360 of Plain Bob Minor (nine bobs). E. Yates, 1; R. H. Barton, 2; W. Short, 3; W. Rushton, 4; T. E. Woodward, 5; J. Bradshaw (conductor), 6. Tenor 12½ cwt.

BRISTOL.—Handbell Ringing.—On Tuesday, June 9th, a quarter-peal

of Grandsire Triples. J. Brain, 1-2; J. Hinton (conductor), 3-4; G. Townsend, 5-6; A. Bendall, 7-8. And on Sunday, June 14th, a 720 of Grandsire Major. J. Brain, 1-2; G. Townsend, 3-4; H. Porch, 5-6; J. Hinton (conductor), 7-8. And a 395 of Grandsire Caters, and a course of Grandsire Royal. J. Brain, 1-2; G. Townsend, 3-4; H. Porch, 5-6; J. Hinton, 7-8; A. Bendall, 9-10.

CAVENDISH (Suffolk).—On Tuesday, June 16th, a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob Minor, in 31 mins. E. Thompson, 1; \*G. Hammond (conductor), 2; J. Bird, 3; P. C. S. Scott, 4; F. Wells, 5; O. Garwood, 6. \*First 720 in the method as conductor. Also a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor in 28 mins. S. Slater (conductor), 1; O. Garwood, 2; P. Hammond, 3; F. Wells, 4; P. C. S. Scott, 5; G. Maxim, 6.

CRAWLEY (Sussex).—On Sunday afternoon, June 7th, the Capel ringers paid a visit to this place, and rang a 360 of Kent Treble Bob Minor. \*F. Wickings, 1; A. Tidy (Capel), 2; E. Jordan (Capel), 3; \*W. Collison, 4; W. Wady (Billinghurst), 5; \*G. Holloway, 6; D. Jordan (conductor; Capel), 7; A. D. Mills, 8. Rung with 6th and 8th covering. And a 360 of Oxford Treble Bob Minor. F. Wickings, 1; A. Tidy, 2; \*J. Newnham, 3; G. Holloway, 4; \*A. F. Hillier, 5; D. Jordan, 6; E. Jordan (conductor), 7; A. D. Mills, 8. \*Crawley ringers. Rung with 6th and 8th covering. And a 504 of Grandsire Triples (six bobs and eighteen singles). E. Jordan, 1; A. Tidy, 2; R. Jordan, 3; W. Wady, 4; G. Holloway, 5; F. Wickings, 6; A. F. Hillier (conductor), 7; W. Parsons, 8. Also a 720 of College Pleasure on the back six, in 25 mins. J. M. Stedman, 1; R. Jordan, 2; A. D. Mills, 3; R. Worsfold, 4; E. Jordan, 5; D. Jordan (conductor), 6.

CRICK (Derbyshire).—On Sunday, June 7th, at the parish church, the local company, with G. Marsden of Eckington, rang for afternoon service two 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles, and two 6-scores of Manchester. G. Brown (conductor), 1; G. Holmes, 2; J. Piggin, 3; T. Cowlshaw, 4; G. Marsden, 5.

DENFORD (Northamptonshire).—On Sunday, June 6th, at Holy Trinity Church, five 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles, each called differently. F. Starmore, 1; Jas. Groom, 2; A. Arnold, 3; F. Arnold, 4; A. Groom (conductor), 5. Also a 720 of Plain Bob Minor (eighteen bobs and two singles), and 360 of Oxford Bob Minor (nine bobs). F. Starmore, 1; A. Groom, 2; A. Arnold, 3; Jas. Groom, 4; T. Arnolds, 5; T. Roberts (conductor), 6. And on Sunday morning, June 7th, four 6-scores of Bob Doubles, and two 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles. F. Starmore, 1; A. Groom (conductor), 2; A. Arnolds, 3; F. Arnold, 4; Jesse Groom, 5. Also for evening service, a 720 of London Single (eighteen bobs and two singles). A. Groom, 1; W. J. Gilbert, 2; W. Hall, 3; H. Groom, 4; J. Stubbs, 5; H. Stubbs (conductor), 6. And a 360 of Plain Bob Minor (nine bobs). A. Groom, 1; W. J. Gilbert, 2; E. Mayes, 3; J. T. Allen, 4; F. Arnold, 5; T. Roberts (conductor), 6. After service a 720 of College Little. W. J. Gilbert, 1; E. Mayes, 2; J. Braybrook, 3; A. Arnold, 4; J. Sawford, 5; J. T. Allen (conductor), 6. Messrs. Gilbert, Hall, J. and H. Stubbs, hail from Raunds; Roberts, Mayes, Braybrook, and Sawford, from Ringstead, J. T. Allen from Titchmarsh.

DEDHAM (Essex).—On Saturday, May 30th, on the front six, a 720 of Plain Bob Minor, in 25 mins., and a touch of Kent and Oxford Treble Bob. J. Taylor, 1; J. Hammond, 2; J. Bird, 3; F. Wells, 4; W. Smith, 5; W. J. Nevard (conductor), 6.

DEERHURST (Gloucestershire).—On Tuesday evening, for practice, at the parish church, five 6-scores of Stedman Doubles. G. Willis, 1; C. Willis, 2; H. Roberts (conductor), 3; C. Roles, 4; J. Bartlett, 5; T. Everness, 6.

EAST HAGBOURNE (Berks).—On Monday evening, June 9th, eight members of the Hagbourne band rang 336 of Grandsire Triples, James Pether, 1; Ernest Napper, 2; Frank Napper, 3; Dennis Napper, 4; Joseph Napper, 5; William Napper (conductor), 6; Charles Allen, 7; Alfred Woodley, 8. W. Napper hails from Didcot. The rest belong to Hagbourne. This is the longest touch rung by the local band.

ELTHAM (Kent).—On Thursday, June 4th, at the church of St. John the Baptist, 720 Bob Minor (fifteen bobs and six singles), in 25 mins. F. Fraser, 1; G. Conyard, 2; W. Gosling, 3; C. Mussett, 4; G. Sheppard (conductor), 5; F. French, 6.

GEDNEY HILL (Lincolnshire).—On Tuesday, June 9th, being the Sunday School Festival, the Crowland Abbey ringers were invited by the Vicar, the Rev. G. Clark, to ring the bells and take part in the festivities, and with R. Mackman, of Spalding, twelve 120's of Grandsire Doubles were rung. R. Mackman, 1; W. Hale, 2; R. Wyche, Esq., 3; P. Wyche, Esq., 4; W. Ambrose, 5. Conducted by R. Wyche, Esq., and W. Ambrose, alternately.

HAMNER (Flintshire).—On Tuesday, June 16th, six members of the Whitchurch (Salop) society, visited this village, and rung eight 120's

of Grandsire Doubles, each called differently. C. Langford, 1; W. Hutchinson, 2; Geo. Wright, 3; T. Baron, 4; R. T. Holding, 5; F. Ryder, 6. These bells are rather difficult to ring, on account of the length of rope, the tower being open to the top, without guiding stays. Two of the above were called by Geo. Wright, the rest by R. T. Holding.

HEADINGTON (Oxford).—On Monday, June 15th, two 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles. \*George Tolley, 1; J. W. Washbrook, 2; H. Castle, 3; F. Castle, 4; Rev. F. A. H. Du Boulay, 5; \*G. Louch, 6. Also 120 in the same method, un-conducted. G. Tolley, 1; J. W. Washbrook, 2; Rev. F. A. H. Du Boulay, 3; F. Castle, 4; H. Castle, 5; \*G. Tolley, sen., 6. \*First 120. This is George Tolley's first attempt at change-ringing.

HIGHAM (Suffolk).—On Saturday, May 30th, a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob, in 25 mins. W. Smith, 1; W. J. Nevard, 2; J. Bird, 3; G. Hammond, 4; F. Wells, 5; W. J. Smith, 6. Conducted by W. J. Smith.

MONKS ELEIGH (Suffolk).—On Sunday, June 14th, after Divine Service in the afternoon, at the parish church, a 720 of Bob Minor, with twenty-two singles, in 28 mins. F. Fosker, 1; Jas. Levitt, 2; H. Smith, 3; Jno. Biggs, 4; A. Keeble, 5; A. Symonds (conductor), 6. Tenor 18 cwt. Messrs. Symonds and Smith hail from Lavenham. Levitt from Preston, the rest are local men.

OXFORD.—On Sunday, June 14th, at the Cathedral, various touches of Grandsire and Stedman Triples, by H. Judge, H. Holifield, F. Castle, C. W. H. Griffith, W. Finch, C. Hounslow, J. W. Washbrook (conductor), J. Howes, A. F. M. Custance, and W. Cox. H. Judge's first attempt at Triples; H. Holifield's first attempt at Stedman Triples.

STRATFORD ST. MARY (Suffolk).—On Saturday, May 30th, a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob, in 28 mins. J. Taylor (conductor), 1; F. Wells, 2; G. Hammond, 3; J. Bird, 4; W. Smith, 5; W. J. Nevard, 6. Tenor 10½ cwt.

READING (Berks).—*Muffled Peal*.—On Sunday, June 7th, after the evening at St. Giles's church, a 720 of Plain Bob Minor, with the bells half muffled, as a token of respect to the late Mrs. Floyde, late wife of Dr. Floyde. H. Smart, 1; G. Gibbard, 2; \*E. Bishop, 3; \*W. Goseltine, 4; \*J. Potter, 5; —. Williams (conductor), 6. Time 27½ mins. \*Members of the St. Lawrence's Society.

WALLASEY (Cheshire).—On Saturday evening, June 13th, the ringers of Walton Parish Church rang at this Parish Church, a 720 of College Single Minor (eighteen bobs and two singles, the singles occurring in the 2nd and 5th parts), in 26 mins. And a 360 of Plain Bob Minor, (four bobs and two singles). J. Hurst, 1; C. J. Rodgers, 2; T. R. Somerville, 3; T. Rushton, 4; R. Stockley, 5; C. E. Wilson (conductor), 6. This is the first 720 in the above method ever rung on the bells. Tenor 11½ cwt.

WALTON-ON-THE-HILL (Lancashire).—On Thursday evening, June 11th, at St. Mary's church, a 360 of College Single Minor (nine bobs and a 360 of Plain Bob Minor (four bobs and two singles), and 360 of Grandsire Minor (eighteen bobs). T. R. Somerville, 1; C. J. Rodgers, 2; C. E. Wilson (conductor), 3; T. Rushton, 4; R. Stockley, 5; W. Davies, 6. And a 120 of Yorkshire Court Bob Minor (four bobs). And on Sunday morning, June 14th, for Divine Service, a 360 of Yorkshire Court Bob Minor (nine bobs), in 12½ mins. And 120 of Grandsire Minor (four bobs and four singles). J. Hurst, 1; C. J. Rodgers, 2; T. R. Somerville, 3; T. Rushton, 4; R. Stockley, 5; C. E. Wilson (conductor), 6. And in the evening a 120 of Grandsire Doubles. T. R. Somerville, 1; J. Hurst, 2; C. E. Wilson (conductor), 3; T. Rushton, 4; R. Stockley, 5; H. Spinks, 6. W. Davies hails from Liverpool. Tenor 9 cwt.

WIMBLEDON (Surrey).—On Tuesday, May 26th, for practice at St. Mary's Church, a 720 of Woodbine, in 26 mins. G. Bye, 1; R. Moss, 2; C. Bye, 3; T. Parker, 4; A. Garratt, 5; S. Frost (conductor), 6. Also on Sunday, May 31st, for Divine Service, a 360 of Bob Minor, and 360 of Oxford Single Bob Minor. A. Roots, 1; R. Moss, 2; C. Bye, 3; T. Parker, 4; A. Garratt, 5; S. Frost (conductor), 6. And on Sunday, June 14th, for Divine Service, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor, in 27 mins. G. Bye, 1; C. Bye, 2; T. Parker, 3; R. Moss, 4; A. Garratt, 5; S. Frost (conductor), 6.

#### THE UNITED COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

THE half-yearly meeting of this Association will take place on Saturday, July 4th, 1885, at Northenden, Cheshire. Particulars as to dinner, and number of towers in the district open for ringing on the above date, will appear in this paper next week.

JAMES S. WILDE, *Hon. Sec.*

## THE RECENT ACCIDENT TO A RINGING PARTY.

THE following sums have been received for the purpose of helping to defray the great loss sustained by Mr. H. F. Wood in this unfortunate affair. The tramway company have entered an action against him claiming £25. This with his own loss makes it more serious than at first imagined.

	s.	d.		s.	d.
Rev. E. S. ... ..	2	6	G. Dorrington ... ..	2	0
J. West ... ..	2	0	H. J. Shade ... ..	2	6
J. W. Snowdon, Esq. ... ..	10	0	G. Russell, Croydon ... ..	1	0
W. Banister ... ..	5	0	H. Pearce ... ..	2	0
Bedfordshire Association ... ..	5	0	F. Newman ... ..	2	0
St. Martin's, Salisbury ... ..	10	0	R. Turner ... ..	2	0
St. Peter's, Leeds, Yorks ... ..	5	0	T. Dupen ... ..	2	6
H. Edwards ... ..	2	6	W. Prime ... ..	2	0
J. Dwight ... ..	2	6	W. Cooter ... ..	2	6
I. Shade ... ..	5	0	J. Davidson ... ..	3	0
R. S. Story ... ..	5	0	Widford and Galleywood C.R. ... ..	5	0
E. Wallege ... ..	2	0	H. Lewis, St. Albans ... ..	5	0
J. Barrett ... ..	2	0	S. Joyce ... ..	2	0
J. Comb ... ..	5	0	J. H. Monday ... ..	5	0
Spalding, SS. Mary and Nicolas ... ..	3	0	M. A. Wood ... ..	10	0
			Mr. Lewis Green ... ..	2	6

Further donations, however small, are urgently solicited. Mr. Matthew Wood, 11 Church Row, Bethnal Green, London, will be happy to give any further information, and will thankfully acknowledge any sums forwarded to him.

## BIRCHINGTON, KENT.

ON Saturday, June 13th, nine members of the Quex Park band, who are also members of the Royal Cumberland Society, assembled at the Birchington Station, and started by the 1.40 train for Faversham, with the intention of ringing a peal of Grandsire Triples. The day was delightfully fine, and the country looking so beautifully as it does at the present time, made the journey seem shorter than it really is. On arriving at Faversham, the band were met by the much respected veteran ringer, Captain Wood, who led the way, and to his credit and those connected with him, the go of the bells and cleanliness of the belfry is everything that could be desired. Time was delayed somewhat in adjusting ropes, which were quite new, and after a short touch, a start was made for the peal, and all was going well for about a rooo changes, when the tenor-man failed, partly owing to the heat and result of an accident received the day before by falling through some floor joists. Retiring for refreshments a few minutes, a start was then made for the first half of Holt's ten-part peal with a fresh tenor man. Time not allowing for a full peal, this half peal was successfully brought round in 1 hr. 33 mins. by the following. C. Willshire, 1; L. Willshire (conductor), 2; A. Sayer, 3; T. B. Reed, jun., 4; P. A. Reed, 5; J. J. Bristow, 6; G. Willshire, 7; T. B. Reed, 8. Tenor 19 cwt. The members wish to thank the Vicar and Captain Wood for the use of a peal of bells in such splendid order.

## EASTBOURNE, SUSSEX.

ON Tuesday, June 9th, an attempt was made at St. Mary's church to ring Holt's ten-part peal of Grandsire Triples, but unfortunately, after ringing 4536 changes in 2 hrs. 45 mins., a collapse occurred. S. Hart, 1; H. P. Bennett (conductor), 2; F. Harding, 3; L. Huggett, 4; Thomas Willoughby, 5; James Potter, 6; Thomas Hart, 7; Jno. Rollison, 8. The above attempted peal was in honour of Miss Pittman, daughter of the much-esteemed vicar of St. Mary's, Eastbourne, who by her own liberality has so completely altered the appearance of the ringing-chamber, much to the appreciation of the ringers, who take this opportunity of publicly thanking her for her great kindness in so largely adding to their comfort, and enabling them to shew their numerous friends and brother ringers a ringing-chamber worthy to be proud of, the improvements having made it one of the best. Also to the Vicar for his portrait, and Miss E. Pittman for the chairs. It having since been ascertained the forty-first birthday of one of the band, Mr. L. Huggett, fell on the same day, the ringers hope that he may live many years to take an active part in the advance of change-ringing as hitherto.

Messrs. Mears and Stainbank, of the Whitechapel Bell Foundry, have received an order for a ring of eight bells to be hung in the tower of Hagley Church, as a memorial of the late Canon Lyttleton, who was rector of Hagley from 1847 to 1884. The tenor will be 9 cwt. in G; and the cost of the ring is estimated (so says a local paper), at £388. The funds for the memorial have been subscribed by the parishioners of Hagley, and by a large number of Canon Lyttleton's friends, including the Bishop of Worcester, the Prime Minister, the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, and other distinguished persons.

## In Memoriam.

## JOHN PEARSON ROBINSON.

THIS gentleman, a highly-respected citizen of Carlisle, and who had been a prominent member of the St. Stephen's Society of voluntary ringers in that town for twelve years, died suddenly at his residence on May 4th. He was interred at Aikton, near Carlisle, four of his brother ringers bearing the coffin from the hearse to the chapel and grave, there lowering him to his last earthly resting-place. At St. Stephen's, Carlisle, at which church deceased was a sidesman, the bells were rung muffled on the Wednesday and Sunday following his death. Both the vicar (Rev. A. Hodges) and curate made touching remarks concerning the late Mr. Robinson in their sermons on the Sunday. The organist played the Dead March in *Saul*, as a voluntary after evening service. The deceased gentleman was also a member of the Durham and Newcastle Diocesan Association.

## JOHN GREEN, M.A.

ON Friday, June 12th, the members of the Woburn branch of the Bedfordshire Association rang muffled touches upon the bells at Woburn, concluding with the farewell echo peal, as a mark of great respect to the memory of the above deceased gentleman, who was from the commencement of the Society up to the time of his decease an Hon. Member, and who, a few days before his death, while *in extremis* thoughtfully forwarded his subscription for 1885, to the Hon. Sec. The deceased gentleman was in his 86th year, and was commissary and official of the Archdeaconry of Bedford, and a warm supporter of all that was right and true with respect to the church bells and the ringers of his county. Many in the vicinity of Woburn and Eversholt will miss his fine, erect, and manly form.

## PREBENDARY SUTTON.

ON Monday evening, June 15th, the company of ringers of St. Mary's, Ely, met and rang two muffled peals, as a last token of respect to their old friend the late Rev. Prebendary Sutton, who was that day interred at West Tofts, of which parish he was rector. Afterwards the age of the deceased was solemnly tolled on the tenor—sixty. Take him for all in all, we ringers of the Eastern Counties shall not look upon his like again. Kind, genial, hearty, religious, and a devoted lover of the Exercise. R.I.P. K. H. S.

## THE HERTFORDSHIRE COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

THE next Quarterly Meeting will be held at Sawbridgeworth, on Monday, July 13th. Members who intend to be present are requested to send their names to the local secretaries of their bands, who will be informed as soon as possible of the arrangements for dinner and railway fares. The following towers will be open for ringing, viz.: Sawbridgeworth, 8 bells; Bishops Stortford, 10; Harlow, 8.

W. WIGRAM, *General Secretary*.

## THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

THE QUARTERLY MEETING of this Association will be held at Christ Church, Southport, on Saturday, July 4th. Further particulars next week.

A. E. HOLME, } *Hon. Secs.*  
JOEL REDFORD, }

## SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.

THE ANNUAL MEETING of this Society will be held at Lichfield, on Saturday, June 27th, 1885. 2—5, ringing; 5, short service in the cathedral; 6, tea; 6.30, business meeting; 7, ringing. The tea will be provided free of charge to those only whose names are sent in before the 21st inst. The following steeples will be open to members of the Society during the afternoon: Cathedral, 10 bells; St. Mary's, 8 bells; St. Michael's, 6 bells.

N.B.—Subscriptions are now due, and will be received at the meeting. J. R. KEBLE, *Hon. Sec.*

## GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

THE Annual Ringing Festival will be held at Gloucester on Monday, June 22nd. Short service at the Cathedral church at eleven o'clock. Dinner at the Spread Eagle at one o'clock, towards which each performing member will be allowed 1s. 6d. by the Association. Business meeting in the Chapter House after service. Address in the Cathedral by the Rev. Canon St. John, who will also preside at the dinner. Tea provided in the Crypt Schools from 5 to 7, through the liberality of the Rev. M. Trotter, free of charge.

## THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING of this Association was held at Sittingbourne, on Monday, June 15th, when there was a considerable attendance of members, numbering over 100. Besides Sittingbourne, the following towers were available, and were extensively visited by the various bands: Borden, Gillingham, and Faversham (8); Bobbing, Hartlip, and Teynham (6). The fine peal of eight by Mears, at Borden, which for some time past has been practically unringable, has been rehung and put into excellent order by Mr. S. Snelling, of Sittingbourne. A deadening floor, which was very necessary, has also been inserted. To test the condition of the bells as rehung, Holt's six-part peal of Grandsire Triples, was rung on Sunday, June 14th, particulars of which will be found on another page. Various touches of Triples, and Bob Major, were rung on the following day.

The ringing at Sittingbourne on Monday opened with an excellently struck touch of 1500 Grandsire Triples. J. R. Haworth (conductor) 1; E. Baldock, 2; Jno. Cooper, 3; J. Horton, 4; E. J. Bottle, 5; A. H. Woolley, 6; W. H. Judd, 7; J. Greensted, 8. Tenor 21 cwt. J. R. Haworth hails from London; Messrs. Baldock, Horton and Woolley from Maidstone; Cooper, Bottle, Judd, and Greensted from Sittingbourne. The same party subsequently rang 700 in the same method. Numerous touches of Triples and Bob Major were rung by the numerous bands in the course of the day, as was also a 360 of College Single by the Hunton ringers. A long day's ringing was brought to a close by a well-struck plain course of Kent Treble Bob, Major. J. R. Haworth, 1; E. Baldock, 2; Rev. F. J. O. Helmore, 3; H. G. Fairbrass, 4; A. H. Woolley, 5; W. Leonard, 6; S. Snelling, 7; W. H. Judd, 8. Prior to the Annual General Business Meeting, Divine Service was held at noon at St. Michael's, when an address was given by the Vicar, the Rev. Hy. Venn. After service, the members adjourned to a capital dinner at the Town Hall, presided over by George Payne, Esq. At the conclusion of dinner, and after the usual toasts, the Hon. Sec., the Rev. R. B. Knatchbull-Hugessen, read the report and balance-sheet, which, on the motion of the Rev. Hy. Venn, were unanimously adopted. The following were re-elected vice-presidents: Viscount Cranbrook, Lord Harris, the Dean of Canterbury, Bishop Oxenden. The Rev. R. B. Knatchbull-Hugessen was, on the motion of Dr. F. Grayling, re-elected Hon. Secretary, while the Rev. F. S. Scott proposed the re-election of George Furley, Esq., as Treasurer. The Hon. Secretary, in proposing "Success to the Sittingbourne band," whose guests he said they were in a sense, spoke in very complimentary terms of the great progress they had made, and of the good example they set in respect of the excellent arrangements of their ringing-chamber. He coupled with the toast the health of Mr. F. C. Mattison, who briefly returned thanks. Prior to a concluding vote of thanks to the chairman, Mr. F. C. Mattison said that every one present was perfectly well aware that the success of the Association and its excellent prosperous condition were owing in a very great measure, if not entirely to the increasing exertions of Mr. Hugessen, and he was certain that he was only expressing their thoughts, when he said that they recognized and appreciated the services of Mr. Hugessen, and that they returned him their very best thanks.

At a Committee Meeting held subsequently, it was determined to hold the next District Meeting at Ashford and Aldington, on Monday, November 2nd. Mr. J. R. Haworth was added to the examining committee.

## KENNINGHALL, NORFOLK.

ON Saturday, June 13th, the St. Mary's company of the above place, met at their tower to celebrate the eighty-sixth birthday of the Earl of Albemarle. They began the day by ringing a touch of 1440 Kent Treble Bob Major, after which they fired the bells eighty-six times, being the age of his Lordship. J. Wade, 1; H. Eagling, 2; G. Edwards, 3; R. Hutton, 4; C. Everett, 5; W. Nudds, 6; J. Woods, 7; J. Mordey (conductor), 8. And during the day they rung the different methods, Stedman Triples, Kent and Oxford Treble Bob, Grandsire Triples, Bob Major, Double London Court Bob. At three o'clock, with ringers from Diss, Knettishall, Garboldisham, the company sat down to a substantial dinner provided by host and hostess Claxton, of the "Red Lion Hotel," in their usual good style. After ample justice had been done to the good things provided, the handbells were brought into use, and some touches of Bob Maximus, Treble Bob Royal, Stedman Triples, Grandsire Caters, Grandsire Triples, Bob Major, Kent and Oxford Treble Bob Major, Bob Royal, Double London Court Bob Major, were rung by Messrs. Mordey, Rudd, Hutton, Woods, Nudds, Everett, Eagling, Wade, Edwards, and the brothers Bennett. After a pleasant evening had been spent with their friends, the time arrived to part, which they did with many good wishes hoping to meet again at some future time. Great credit is due to Mr. and Mrs. Claxton for the way they provided for the comfort of all.

## BELLS AND RINGERS IN 1885.—(Continued.)

By F. W. J. REES.

## LIST OF RINGS IN THE COUNTY OF SUFFOLK.

Ipswich, St. Mary-	12	32	Various.	..	
le-Tower.					
Beccles .. ..	10	28	G. B.	..	Whitechapel.
Bury, S. James ..	10	30	G.	..	Downham Foundry.
Stonham-Aspal ..	10	24	..	..	Whitechapel.
Boxford .. ..	8	24	..	..	
Bungay .. ..	8	16	G.	..	
Bury, St. Mary ..	8	c26	..	..	A good made-up ring.
Clare .. ..	8	28	..	..	
Coddensham .. ..	8	15	G.	..	Whitechapel.
Debenham .. ..	8	20	..	..	
Eye .. ..	8	24	G. St. T.B.	..	A fine made-up ring.
Framlingham .. ..	8	18	..	..	
Framsden .. ..	8	16	G.	..	Whitechapel.
Fressingfield .. ..	8	18	..	..	
Hadleigh .. ..	8	28	..	..	
Halesworth .. ..	8	19	..	..	
Helmingham .. ..	8	19	G. B. T.B.	..	Whitechapel.
Horham .. ..	8	28	..	..	
Kelsale .. ..	8	16	G. B. T.B.	..	
Lavenham .. ..	8	23	B.	..	Grand tenor by M.
Leiston .. ..	8	20	..	..	
Long Melford .. ..	8	16	..	..	
Southwold .. ..	8	12	..	..	
Stowmarket .. ..	8	24	..	..	
Stradbroke .. ..	8	24	B.	..	Made 8 in 1878.
Sudbury, All Saints'	8	27	..	..	Tenor recast in 1875.
Sudbury, S. Peter ..	8	22	G. St. T.B.	..	
Sudbury, S. Gregory	8	16	" "	..	Whitechapel.
Woodbridge .. ..	8	27	" "	..	Downham Foundry.
Bildstone .. ..	6	18	..	..	
Bramford .. ..	6	..	..	..	
Brandeston .. ..	6	9	..	..	
Cavendish .. ..	6	12	Various.	..	
Clopton .. ..	6	15	G. B. T.B.	..	
Creetingham .. ..	6	..	..	..	
Edwardstone .. ..	6	13	..	..	
Earle-Soham .. ..	6	..	..	..	
Fornham .. ..	6	7	..	..	Whitechapel.
Gislingham .. ..	6	18	..	..	
Glemsford .. ..	6	16	Various.	..	Good bells & ringers.
Gorleston .. ..	6	10	B.	..	Whitechapel.
Great Waldingfield ..	6	14	B.	..	
Grundisborough .. ..	6	9	G. B. T.B.	..	
Higham .. ..	6	..	..	..	
Hitcham .. ..	6	18	..	..	
Horringer .. ..	6	10	..	..	Downham Foundry.
Hundon .. ..	6	19	..	..	
Ipswich S. Margaret	6	17	..	..	By Miles Graye.
Ipswich S. Clement.	6	..	..	..	
Ixworth .. ..	6	16	..	..	
Kersey .. ..	6	18	..	..	
Laxfield .. ..	6	18	..	..	
Mildenhall .. ..	6	..	B.	..	
Monks Eleigh .. ..	6	18	B. T.B.	..	
Nowton .. ..	6	7	..	..	Whitechapel.
Otley .. ..	6	11	G. B. T.B.	..	
Palgrave .. ..	6	9	T.B.	..	Diss men ring here.
Pettistree .. ..	6	c12	..	..	5th bigger than tenor
Polstead .. ..	6	10	..	..	Whitechapel.
Preston .. ..	6	11	B.	..	
Redgrave .. ..	6	92	..	..	
Rickinghall .. ..	6	12	B.	..	
Saxmundham .. ..	6	9	..	..	
Somerleyton .. ..	6	11	..	..	
Stoke-by-Clare .. ..	6	13	..	..	Downham Foundry.
Stoke-by-Nayland ..	6	28	..	..	Reputed: old bells.
Stratford S. Mary ..	6	104	..	..	
Thorndon .. ..	6	..	B.	..	
Thornham .. ..	6	12	B.	..	
Troston .. ..	6	6	..	..	
Ufford .. ..	6	14	..	..	Rehung in 1882.
Wenhaston .. ..	6	14	T.B.	..	
Weybread .. ..	6	9	..	..	Redenhall Fdy. 1879
Wickham Market ..	6	..	..	..	
Wilby .. ..	6	18	..	..	
Witnesham .. ..	6	14	G. T.B.	..	
Woodchester .. ..	6	..	..	..	
Worlingworth .. ..	6	13	..	..	
Yaxley .. ..	6	..	..	..	



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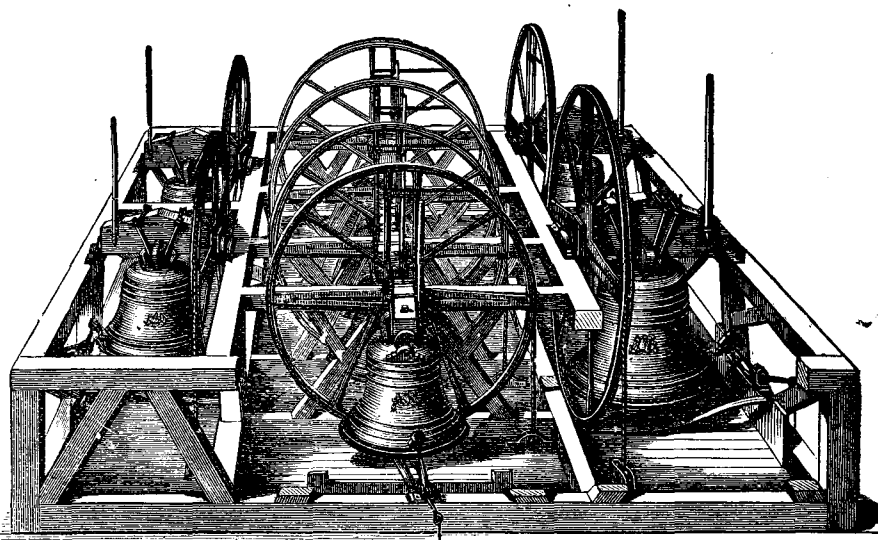
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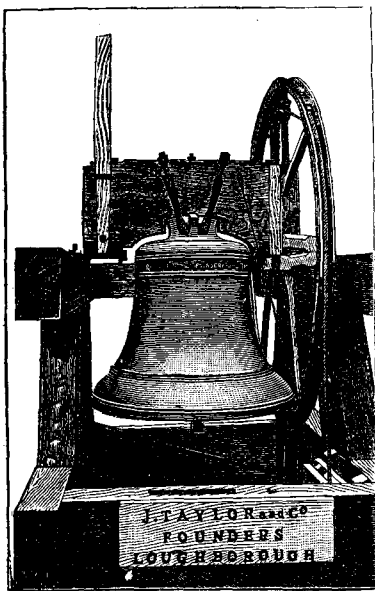
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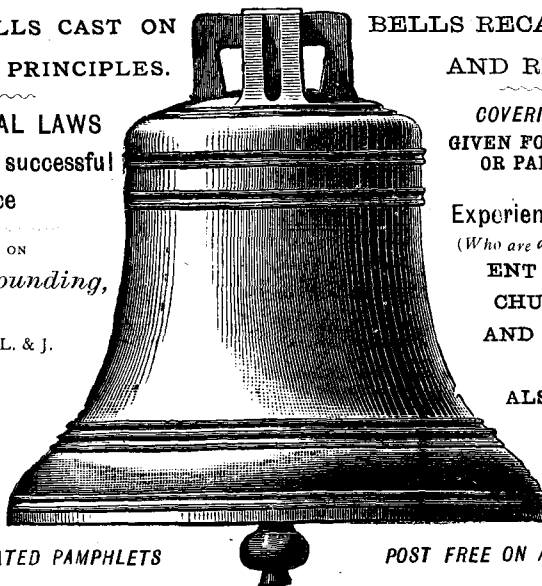
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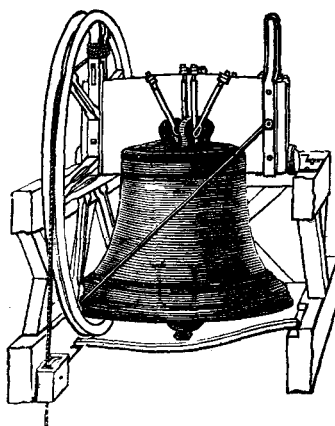
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## ST. LAWRENCE'S SOCIETY, READING.—ANNUAL TOUR.

For the last two years this Society has made a tour of the surrounding villages by the use of brakes, ringing at all the churches where possible. This year, however, the programme has been slightly altered, for on Thursday, June 18th, they met at the Great Western Railway Station, and on the roll being called, there were found to be twenty present, including the tower warden, the Rev. W. B. Banting. The captain (Mr. Johnson), having procured return tickets to Oxford, marched his company into the station, and on the arrival of the 5.30 train from Paddington, (which is timed to start from Reading at 6.30), seats were taken, and the day's festivities commenced. On referring to the programmes which had been previously issued to each member, it was found that a break in the journey had to be made at Culham; consequently, on arriving at that station, the campanologists alighted, and found two brakes awaiting their arrival. It occupied but a very short time to effect a change of carriage, although there was rather a rush for No. 1 brake, which was drawn by a fine pair of greys; brake No. 2, being drawn by a pair of chestnuts, not quite so fine. Having become seated, an advance was made, but owing to Mr. Newell leaving his bugle at home, the greys were compelled to step forward in silence without the trumpet's martial sound. The first village passed through was Sutton Courtenay, but owing to illness, the bells were not allowed to be rung. Continuing the journey, Drayton was reached by eight o'clock. The Vicar, the Rev. F. E. Robinson, Master of the Oxford Diocesan Guild, having previously granted permission to ring, the bells were raised in peal, and a 559 of Grandsire Triples (from Troyte), was rung in 20 mins. E. Bishop, 1; J. E. Willshire, 2; W. Johnson, 3; H. M. Bawden, 4; G. Talbot, 5; W. J. Williams, 6; W. Newell (conductor), 7; J. T. Waldron, 8. Also a 576 of Bob Major, in 21 mins. W. H. Holloway, 1; F. W. Round, 2; E. Bishop, 3; W. Johnson, 4; W. Newell, 5; W. Goseltine, 6; W. J. Williams (conductor), 7; J. E. Willshire, 8. Leaving Drayton at 9.30, the party pushed forward to the old county town of Abingdon, Berks, arriving there by ten o'clock. The first place visited was the grand old church of St. Helen's; here the company were very much interested. It is not many years ago since the church was restored, and now the tower and spire are undergoing restoration, consequently, the peal of eight have been taken away to the foundry, to be put in order and rehung on completion of the tower. The ringers were rather disappointed at not being able to ring, but the Vicar, the Rev. C. R. F. Griffith, gave them permission to ring at St. Nicholas, where there are a light peal of six. Here a start was made for a 720 of Bob Minor, which was completed in 26 mins. W. H. Holloway, 1; H. M. Bawden, 2; E. Bishop, 3; W. Goseltine, 4; J. E. Willshire, 5; W. J. Williams (conductor), 6. Also a 120 of Grandsire Doubles, conducted by W. Newell. As the clock struck eleven, "go" was called, and off started the steeds on their next stage, passing through the town, the recreation ground and public gardens hove in sight, which contain an old cannon, presumably taken from the south of Russia; also a memorial to the late Prince Consort, in the form of a statue. The country here is rather flat, although in the distance could be seen the long range of Berkshire hills. After nearly an hour's drive, the excursionists halted at the village of Appleton, a spot well known in the history of ringing. Here they were met by Mr. F. White, Church Bell Hanger, who kindly conducted the party to the tower. The belfry is very small, and yet (thanks to the mechanical skill of the White family), it can boast of a peal of ten, and to judge by the peal boards, which nearly cover the walls, some thorough good work has been done on them. Having raised the bells, several attempts were made for a touch of Grandsire Caters, but here they were unfortunate, for not a single touch was brought round. In wandering through the church-yard, a most perfect and appropriate memorial to a ringer was seen; it consisted of ten small gilt bells, surrounded by a rope, worked in iron, at the foot of which lay a clarinet, with the words.

"Praise Him upon the strings and pipe,  
Praise Him upon the loud cymbals."

This was in memory of Alfred White, who died at the age of seventy-two. On the other side, cut in brass and let into the stone, were two lines of the old tune, "Hanover," with the words,

"My soul praise the Lord.  
Speak good of His Name."

This was in memory of Henry White, who died at the age of forty.

Leaving the church, the party had some light refreshment, and Mr. F. White kindly shewed the ringers the new frame for Merton College, Oxford, which job he has now in hand. The peculiarity of this frame is that the bells have to be hung on the outer side, there being no bells in the centre, owing to their having to be rung in a gallery. The time had now arrived for proceeding on the road, so mounting the coaches, the ringers started off for the neighbouring village of Cumnor; here the bells are being rehung, so they had to be content with looking over the church, which possesses a chained Bible, and in the churchyard can be seen the remains of an ancient cross. Now comes the last stage, which was commenced at 2.30, the party being seated, the horses

turned their heads towards the great University. The scenery now became grand, for from Cumnor the road gradually declines into Oxford, so that it was easy to pick out the various towers and colleges, on which the sun was shining with magnificent splendour. Oxford was reached by three o'clock, and the company having dismissed their vehicles, sat down at Messrs. Hemmings, 4 Cornmarket Street, to a sumptuous repast. Considering the morning's ride in the fresh country air, ample justice was done to the good things provided, and which was served up in first-rate style. Dr. Coleman, organizing secretary of the Church of England Temperance Society, and late tower warden of St. Lawrence's, occupied the vice-chair. He remarked how pleased he was to meet his old friends again. After dinner, Mr. Banting kindly shewed the party round the various colleges; Keble College Chapel was admired, as was Exeter College Chapel, also the Sheldonian Theatre, from the top of which a splendid view of Oxford can be obtained. Meeting at Christ Church at a quarter to six, the company were enabled to have a pull on the peal of ten. Here they met Messrs. Field and Washbrook of the Oxford Diocesan Guild. Having raised the bells, Mr. Washbrook acted as conductor, and a 395 of Grandsire Caters was brought round. At a quarter to seven, an adjournment was made to Dr. Coleman's, who had kindly invited his old ringers to tea. Having partaken of the cup that cheers, and thanking the rev. gentleman for his kindness, a move was made towards New College, and soon the peal of ten were set swinging to a 500 of Grandsire Caters. There was now only time to make for the train, so wishing their Oxford friends good bye, the party had to make rather a hasty departure, however the station was reached just in time, and the train steamed out at 9.5 p.m., arriving at Reading by 9.50. Thus ended a most pleasant and enjoyable day, every member having thoroughly enjoyed himself, and expressing a wish that it may be continued year by year. St. Lawrence's ringers wish through the medium of this paper, to thank those gentlemen who so kindly gave or got permission for the use of the bells in the various towers they visited.

## THE HERTFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, June 22nd, Messrs. Buckingham, Cartmel, Battle, Godman (2), Hills, and Lewis, members of the St. Albans branch, paid a visit to the village of Hunton Bridge, Herts. Meeting about five p.m., they were conveyed by wagonette, through beautiful country, past Leavesden Lunatic Asylum, to the village, which was reached about 6.30 p.m., where they were met by the captain of the local ringers, Mr. J. Walker, and conducted to the church, which is dedicated to St. Paul. The tower contains a nice little ring of six bells, tenor about 9 cwt., which were put up about twenty years ago by Mears and Stainbank. The go of the bells is excellent, but change-ringing is rendered difficult owing to the noise of the bells, which however could easily be altered by adding a deadening floor, which is much to be desired. After a look round the church, which was much admired, the party set to work and accomplished a well-struck 720 of Grandsire Minor, particulars of which will be found in another column. The ringers were much gratified on being informed that it was the first 720 on the bells. Some Bob Minor, Grandsire, Bob and Stedman Doubles, were also rung. After some refreshments, and a course of Grandsire Triples by Messrs. Hills and Lewis, the visitors started for St. Albans, which was reached about eleven o'clock.

## A RINGERS' OUTING.

On Monday last, June 22nd, a mixed band journeyed to the above place in the morning, and there found Mr. Gordon, the professor of music, who promised to spend the day with them, as they were one short. In the forenoon Cheadle, in Cheshire, was visited, and after looking round the beautiful village, permission to ring was obtained, and pulling up the bells, a few short touches, and then a touch of about 1000 changes of Grandsire Triples was rung, conducted by Edward Matthews, and one short touch of Grandsire Major, which was conducted by William Walmsley. The next move was to Mr. Roberts' Church, Barlow Moor, Lancashire, and gaining permission to ring of that gentleman, the following attempted Taylor's Bob-and-Single peal of Grandsire Triples, but after ringing four out of the six parts, in 2 hrs. and 2 mins., one of the band was taken ill, and the bells were brought round. James Holt, 1; Charles Bamford, 2; William Gordon, 3; William Henshall, 4; John M. Davenport, 5; Edward Matthews (conductor), 6; Walter Ingham, 7; William Walmsley, 8. Tenor 18 cwt. in Ep. Messrs. Holt, Bamford, Matthews hail from Macclesfield, Henshall from Gawsorth, Messrs. Davenport, Ingham, and Walmsley from Higher Sutton, William Gordon from Stockport. Mr. Roberts was only a shoemaker in his young days, but having made a fortune in Manchester, has now retired to Barlow Moor, and has built the Church and tower in his own park, and given a peal of eight really melodious bells by Mears.

## STOKE-UPON-TRENT ARCHIDIACONAL ASSOCIATION.

The Third ANNUAL Meeting of the above Association was held in the Churchroom, Stoke, on Saturday, June 10th. The President, the Rev. Sir T. L. Stamer, Bart., occupied the chair, and was supported by the Rev. H. W. How (Stoke), Rev. A. H. Hitchcock (Goldenhill), Rev. B. Blakeway (Horton), and Rev. R. C. Farmer (Barlaston). There was a large attendance of ringers.

In his opening remarks the CHAIRMAN expressed pleasure in seeing so many members present, notwithstanding the counter attraction of an excursion taking place the same day. He believed the society was doing a good work, and all the towns that had joined the Union had benefited by it in many ways. Not only had better arrangements and decency of the towers been made, but the condition of the bells had been brought under notice, and where necessary improvements were effected. He instanced two towers in his own neighbourhood—Wolstanton—where great improvement had been done in the hanging of the bells and the addition of another bell, and also at their own, the Parish Church. He believed those who were conversant with what bells ought to be were very fond of villifying Stoke bells, saying they were very hard to ring and very unmusical when rung. Now, however the tower was in a very satisfactory state, and the bells had been tuned, for which their thanks are due to Mr. Page, the churchwardens, and the parishioners. After referring to the energetic work which the Rev. W. W. Bolton, who was formerly connected with the society, had rendered, he concluded by thanking the Rev. H. W. How, and Mr. E. Glover, who had worked so heartily in their positions as clerical and lay secretaries.

The Rev. H. W. How read the annual report. Although there had been no great events in connection with the Association to chronicle, the Association had been quietly carrying out the objects for which it was founded in 1883. The true position of ringers as church workers was now fully recognised. The clergy in those parishes in which the ringers are members of the Association were unanimous in expressing the opinion that the moral tone, the behaviour in the belfry, and the church-going of the ringers had been improved during the last three years. The fortnightly meetings of the Association were doing much to promote good feeling and friendship among the ringers, and been well attended. Next year it was proposed to arrange meetings at different towers on bank holidays, which it was thought would be more convenient than on Saturdays, as had been customary. The Association had been most successful in accomplishing a thorough reform in those belfries in the neighbourhood of which it had been able to influence. The state of all the towers in the Association was very good; they were tidy and clean, and free from many irreverent uses which formerly disgraced them. In the Archdeaconry there were eight peals of eight bells, six of which were in the Association. Of the six-bell peals, there were eight in the Association, while fourteen were not. Of peals of five and four bells, only two out of twelve were in the Association. During the year Wolstanton had rung three peals of Grandsire. Leek had rung a date touch of 1884 changes, and various touches of Plain Bob, Bob Major, and Treble Bob, there being nearly 26,000 changes rang since Christmas. At Stoke there had been various touches of Grandsire. Amongst towers with six bells, Norton was specially noticed, whose members now knew seven methods, viz.:—Kent Treble Bob, Oxford Treble Bob, Court Bob, Oxford Bob, Grandsire, Plain Bob Minor, and Stedman's Slow Course. The secretaries hoped that more of the towers would try to improve the art of change-ringing instead of remaining contented with call-changes. Amongst the improvements effected during the year were mentioned that the Norton belfry had been repainted and furnished with a peal of twelve handbells, the gift of Mr. E. Glover; and at Stoke and Wolstanton improvements had also been executed. The Association comprises sixteen towers, with eighteen hon. members, and 110 performing members.

The CHAIRMAN said the report was very satisfactory, and having been duly passed, it was ordered to be printed.

The statement of accounts for the year showed that the total receipts were £20 15s. 11d., expenditure £5 13s. 1d., leaving a balance in hand of £15 2s. 10d. The officers for the ensuing year were elected. The president, vice-president, members of committee were appointed, and the Rev. B. Blakeway was unanimously elected chairman of the committee. It was resolved that the Annual Meeting next year should be held at Leek. Votes of thanks to the secretaries having been passed and acknowledged, the meeting was brought to a close by a vote of thanks to the chairman.

The members afterwards attended Divine Service in the parish church, when an address was delivered by the Rev. N. Poyntz, rector of Stone. Tea was subsequently provided in the schoolroom which was followed by ringing on handbells. The belfries of Stoke, Hanley, Wolstanton, and Burslem were opened for ringing, and the members of the Association availed themselves of the opportunities thus afforded.

## REVIEWS.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—This pamphlet—a larger one than most of its predecessors—arrives somewhat late in consequence of the ill-health of the respected Hon. Secretary, the Rev. N. Bolingbroke. It shows that the science in the Eastern counties maintains its position, and that there is "no falling off in the practice of change-ringing. Between October 8th, 1883, and October 27th, 1884, thirty-one peals of 5000 changes and upwards were rung by members of the Association. Five peals were rung at St. Mary-le-tower, Ipswich, including Stedman Caters and Treble Bob Maximus. Two peals of Treble Bob Royal were rung at St. Peter Mancroft, Norwich. Four were rung at Redenhall, three at Alburgh, two each at Brandeston and Sproughton, and one each at Copdock, Coddensham, Diss, Eye, Helmingham, Hingham, Somerleyton, and Stonham Aspal." The six and five-bell ringers of the Association are also to the fore with their accomplishments in numerous methods. The area of two such counties as Norfolk and Suffolk, comprising the sphere of this Association's operations, has often appeared to us too great to be attended to by the individual exertions of one Secretary, and accordingly we find aid is required by that gentleman in the onerous duties appertaining to his office. The report says, "There can be no doubt that the duties of the Secretary are of such a nature that they cannot be properly performed by one person, unless he has exceptionally light professional or business ties. Such a person at present cannot be found, and we think it would be much better to appoint a Secretary for each of the three Archdeaconries, and to have a central Secretary and Treasurer at or near Norwich. The duties of the new Secretaries would lie in their respective districts; they would collect the subscriptions, visit towers, look after the ringers, and arrange District Meetings. The duties of the Central Secretary would be to keep the accounts, to record the performances of the members, and to issue the annual reports." Notwithstanding the work attached to his office of Secretary, and the drawback of a long illness, Mr. Bolingbroke has, if this bulky report is to be taken as any criterion, manfully stuck to his duties, and performed them with his usual thoroughness.

THE REPORT OF THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION is one of the most unique we have ever seen. Not only has it the usual properties of an Association Report, but it contains a great amount of useful and interesting information relative to the various churches in union with the Association; the methods rung; hours of practice; the names of the respective Vicars and Churchwardens; the ringing members, all arranged under appropriate heads. There is also a list of churches in the county having eight, six, and five bells. The list of hon. members comprise many influential personages, and a numerous array of clergy. The balance-sheet presents a very favourable state of affairs for so young a body, upwards of £27 being in hand.

THE REPORT OF THE SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD is a more unpretending one than either of the above-named. But though this is so, and the fact remains that this report shows no results so far as peal-ringing is concerned, there is reason to believe that this Guild is on the way to a good position among kindred bodies. The number of ringing members is 242—an increase of 22 since last year. Surely the time is not far distant when something will be done by the members worthy of record in the peal-book. We note with pleasure the appointment of the Rev. A. D. Hill as the master of the Guild.

## LAVENHAM, SUFFOLK.

THE ANNIVERSARY of the Lavenham ringers was held on Monday, June 22nd. The attendance of visitors was not large, but a very agreeable day was spent by those who were present. In the morning, the parochial company, with the assistance of Mr. Day, of Eye, rang a roo8 of Bob Major in about 45 mins. T. Bruce, 1; C. Fisk, 2; Rev. E. Symonds, 3; G. Day, 4; H. Smith, 5; A. Symonds, 6; J. Boby (conductor), 7; W. Moore, 8. Touches of Treble Bob Major, Grandsire Triples and Bob Major were rung during the day, by the visitors, among whom were, Mr. Sewell (Barking), Mr. Jackson (Cambridge), Mr. Day (Eye), Mr. Sadler (Norwich), Mr. Bradley (London), Mr. O. Laughlin (Bury St. Edmunds), and others. An excellent dinner was as usual provided by Mr. and Mrs. Miller, at the "Cock Inn."



## BELLS AND RINGERS IN 1885.—(Continued.)

By F. W. J. REES.

## LIST OF RINGS IN CAMBRIDGESHIRE.

Cambridge Great S.	12	30	G. ST.	Phelps, 1723. Tenor
Mary				recast, 1770.
Soham	10	21	B.	Back six, Downham
				Foundry.
Wisbeach	10	22		Downham Foundry.
C'mb'dge S. Andrew	8	9		
Ely, S. Mary	8	18	B.	Arnold, 1781. Re-
				hung lately.
Newmarket	8	11		
Whittlesea S. Mary	8	20		
Bourn	6	14		
Barrington	6	11		
Brinkley	6	15		
Cambridge S. Benet	6	13		
" S. Edward	6	9		
Cottenham	6			Briant, 1806.
Croxton	6			
Duxford, S. John	6	9		
Fordham	6			
Fulbourn	6	11		
Guilden-Morden	6	14		
Haddenham	6	16		
Histon	6	8		Warner, 1866.
Ickleton	6	18		
Leverington	6	17		Pack, 1752.
March	6	16		Downham Fy., 1802.
Newton	6	12		" " 1786.
Over	6	14		
Sawston	6	13		
Sutton	6	18		
Swaffham	6	11		Taylor, 1820.
Swaffham-Prior	6			Briant, 1791.
Swavesey	6	12		
Whittlesea S. Andw	6	22		

The above list, which is not far from complete, shows that Cambridgeshire is somewhat short of bells, and decidedly backward in change-ringing.

## LIST OF RINGS IN CORNWALL.

Bodmin	8	15		
Cambourne	8	14		Rudhall, 1767. 8 in
				1882.
Fowey	8	19		Augmented to 8, 1870
Kenwyn	8	13		Whitechapel.
Penzance	8	21	B. G.	By Taylor, 1865.
S. Austell	8	15		I. Rudhall, 1810.
S. Columb	8	14		Have these been re-
				duced to six?
Stoke-Climsland	8	18		I. Pennington & Co.
				1771.
Blisland	6	10		Penningtons, 1790.
Botus-Fleming	6	10		Penningtons, 1727.
Budock	6	9		Lately made six.
Callington	6	13		Penningtons, 1777.
Calstock	6	10		" 1773.
Crowan	6	12		A. Rudhall, 1729.
Duloe	6	8		
East Antony	6	10		Penningtons, 1764.
Endellon	6	8		A. Rudhall, 1734.
Gorram	6	10		Penningtons, 1772.
Gwennap	6	6		In a detached belfry
Gwinear	6	10		Penningtons, 1767.
Helston	6	10		From Hayle Fndry.
Illogan	6	8		
Kilkhampton	6	13		A. Rudhall, 1752.
Jacobstow	6	7		Penningtons, 1771.
Ladock	6	12		Made 6 in 1883.
Launceston S. Mary	6	12		By A. Rudhall, 1720.
" S. Stephen	6	14		Penningtons, 1779.
Landulph	6	12		" 1768.
Lanreath	6	8		" 1773.
Lanteglos	6	10		" 1783.
Launcells	6	10		A. Rudhall, 1751.
Lawhilton	6	9		Whitechapel, 1881.
Lelant	6	8		Taylor, 1836.
Lewannick	6	8		Penningtons, 1769.
Lezant	6	8		" 1722.
Linkinhorn	6	9		" 1805.

Liskeard	6	17		
Menenhiot	6	12		Made 6 in 1884.
Northill	6	9		Penningtons, 1794.
Padstow	6	11		I. Rudhall, 1798.
Probus	6	21		A. Rudhall, 1721.
Redruth	6	13		Lester, 1744.
Roche	6	8		I. Rudhall, 1819.
S. Budock	6	12		Whitechapel.
Stratton	6	10		Penningtons, 1778.
S. Agnes	6	7		Whitechapel, 1748.
S. Dominick	6	8		Penningtons, 1773.
S. Germans	6	11		Penningtons, 1775.
S. Gluvias	6	10		Whitechapel, 1808.
S. Kew	6	10		I. Rudhall, 1818.
S. Mabyn	6	8		Penningtons, 1787.
S. Stephen-in-bannel	6	10		A. Rudhall, 1730.
S. " near-Saltash	6	16		Pennington, 1760.
S. Veep	6	8		" 1770.
Tamerton	6	8		Taylor, 1831.
S. Merryn	6	8		I. Rudhall, 1797.
S. Neots	6	8		Penningtons, 1777.
Tywardreath	6	7		" 1774.
Whitchurch	6	16	G.	Is this in Cornwall?

The above list shows that Cornwall is well off for bells, but that it has very few change-ringers.

## WORCESTER AND ADJOINING DISTRICT ASSOCIATION

The next ANNUAL MEETING of the above Association will be held at Bromsgrove, on Monday, July 13th. The peal of ten bells will be open for ringing during the day. The business meeting will be held at 2 o'clock, in St. John the Baptist School Room, (close to the church), at which Lord Alwyne Compton, D.D., has promised (if able) to preside. Members, Hon. and performing, are requested to note that all contributions not yet paid, should be paid at this meeting.

[No. SMITH, } Hon. Secs.  
F. OWEN, }

## THE NORTH LINCOLNSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

THE GENERAL QUARTERLY MEETING of this Association will be held at Brigg, on Saturday, July 4th. Through the kindness of the Rector and Churchwardens, permission has been granted for the use of the bells (a ring of eight) to members of the Association that day. The meeting will be held in the schoolroom at three o'clock in the afternoon. Refreshments may be had at reasonable charges. The committee will be glad to see a good attendance of members, also any members of kindred societies.

W. LUNN, Hon. Sec.

## THE UNITED COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

THE HALF-YEARLY MEETING of this Association will take place on Saturday, June 4th, 1885, at Northenden, Cheshire. Dinner will be provided at the "Spread Eagle" Tavern, at Half-past Four p.m., tickets 1s. 6d. each, drinks extra. The following towers will be open for ringing during the day: Northenden, six bells; Didsbury, six bells; Barlow Moor, eight bells. Members and friends who intend being present at dinner are requested to send their names in not later than Wednesday, July 1st, addressed to Mr. Peter Brickell, Northenden.

JAMES S. WILDE, Hon. Sec.

HOSPITAL SUNDAY.—Down to Wednesday evening, June 24th, the London Hospital Sunday Fund had reached a total of £23,500. The following sums, omitting shillings and pence, are among the later contributions forwarded to the Mansion House:—Wimbleton Churches—St. Mary, St. John, Christ Church, St. Mark, £223; All Saints, Paddington, £52; Kensington Congregational Church, £68; Rosslyn Hill Unitarian Church, Hampstead, £69; Grosvenor Church, South Audley Street, £107; St. Stephen, South Kensington, £179; St. Mary, Bryanston-square, £118; St. Mark, North Audley Street, £220; St. Jude, East Brixton, £50; St. John, Paddington, £177; St. John, Blackheath, and Mission, £58.

We find it necessary to ask some of our friends to practise a little more care in sending their correspondence, reports, etc. The mode of addressing communications to the publisher is sure to cause delay; and to send without letting us know from whom the letter comes is rather uncourteous treatment. We have had to pay for deficient postage several times of late, and one of our readers in particular seems to enjoy the practical joke of neglecting to affix any stamp whatever upon the envelope which contains his letter. We hope it will not be considered out of place in drawing attention to these little irregularities.

## THE SHIPWAY REPRINT.

THE first number of the weekly issue of this work will appear

ON SATURDAY, JULY 11th,

The numbers can be obtained of all news agents in town and country. A good plan will be to order them with copies of "THE BELL NEWS," the same bookseller supplying both.

Orders should at once be given to local booksellers to prevent disappointment. As in this shape the number of copies printed will only be just enough to cover the demand, it is obvious that those who neglect to possess copies will not afterwards have the opportunity.

Each number will contain sixteen pages, size of page being the same as the original work, and will be published weekly till complete.

PRICE ONE PENNY.

PUBLISHED BY 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.

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 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 &amp; Ringers' Record.

SATURDAY, JUNE 27, 1885.

THE subject of regular attendance on the part of members of a society or band on practice nights was discussed in this paper a short time ago, with somewhat beneficial results. The subject we now propose to deal with is Sunday ringing.

Taking into account the fact that London possesses about one hundred peals, it may be said that there are not many churches where ringing takes place once on Sundays. Churches that, as the phrase goes, "ring twice," or *profess to ring twice*, can be counted on one's fingers. First and foremost comes of course the Metropolitan Basilica. The attendance at St. Paul's Cathedral is all that could be desired. Never since the time the bells were ordered to be rung for morning or afternoon

service has there been a short muster. Compare with this with the state of affairs at a certain tower within the twelve-mile radius of Charing Cross, containing ten bells, which are supposed to be rung regularly twice every Sunday by paid men. The number that muster is rarely ten, generally eight, sometimes six, occasionally four. Hot weather in summer, cold weather in winter, are favorite excuses here. Now no person will deny that this is a somewhat unsatisfactory state of affairs. About one in every four peals being put to their *legitimate use*, and in most cases very irregularly, the others serving no more or less than for simple "rendezvous" for ringers on week days. What would people say if a church organ were silent on Sunday, and used during the week for pupils to practice on? Yet it seems to have dawned on no one's mind that it is a precisely analogous case. So much for the disease, now a few suggestions for a remedy.

A good plan, which has been successfully adopted at one or two places, is to form a young band willing to give their services at least once, if not twice, on Sundays. And here it may be said without wishing to raise the subject again, that call-changes are sufficient in nine cases out of ten, provided they are well-struck. Surely this is not asking for very much. Where ringers are paid and there is a disposition to become irregular in their attendance, some such rule as the following should be adopted: "Every one of the eight or ten paid men to be present in the belfry at a stated time, or be fined some considerable sum unless he send a proper substitute, who will ring in his name." Thus, though there is a muster of twenty ringers, every one of the eight or ten paid men absent and unrepresented is fined. If the fine be somewhat heavy, it cannot be grumbled at, as the rule leaves the ringer perfectly free in one sense of the word, yet always secures a good muster. Of course there are a few places where Sunday ringing, from various causes, is an impossibility, just as there are a good many places where it is perfectly practicable, and could be set a-going with very little trouble.

## The Metropolis.

PUTNEY, SURREY.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

On Monday, June 22, 1885, in Two Hours and Fifty-two Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY THE VIRGIN,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S ORIGINAL. Tenor 16½ cwt.

ALFRED PITTAM* .. .. Treble.	†ARTHUR TENNANT .. .. 5.
FREDERICK WEARE .. .. 2.	EDWARD ROGERS .. .. 6.
JOSEPH JACKMAN .. .. 3.	CHALLIS F. WINNY .. .. 7.
MARTIN MURPHY .. .. 4.	BURTON J. JAMES .. .. Tenor.

Conducted by CHALLIS F. WINNY.

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

ACCIDENT AT ST. THOMAS', SALISBURY.—Whilst the bells of the above church were being rung on the afternoon of the 20th (Queen's Accession), the gudgeon of the tenor broke. Fortunately the broken piece became tightly wedged in between the brass and the end of the stock, which prevented the bell (weighing over 30 cwt.) from falling. The condition of these bells has been several times called attention to, both in "THE BELL NEWS" and other papers.

## The Provinces.

## COLEORTON, LEICESTERSHIRE.

On Saturday, June 20, 1885, in Three Hours and Fifteen Minutes,

AT ST. MARY'S CHURCH,

## A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

TAYLOR'S BOB-AND-SINGLE VARIATION. Tenor 13 cwt. in G.

AMOS CRESSER .. .. Treble.	THOS. HOLMES .. .. 5.
J. JAGGAR .. .. 2.	E. D. TAYLOR, Esq. .. 6.
W. BILLINGHURST .. .. 3.	J. W. TAYLOR, JUN., Esq. 7.
A. P. HEYWOOD, Esq. .. 4.	E. WIGHTMAN .. .. Tenor.

Conducted by JOHN W. TAYLOR, JUN., Esq.

Mr. Heywood hails from Duffield; Messrs. Jaggar and Holmes from Burton-on-Trent; the rest are from Loughborough.

This peal was rung on the anniversary of Her Majesty's Accession.

## STOWMARKET, SUFFOLK.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS AND  
THE ST. MARY-LE-TOWER SOCIETY, IPSWICH.

On Saturday, June 20, 1885, in Three Hours and Five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF SS. PETER AND MARY,

## A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S TEN-PART. Tenor 24 cwt.

CHARLES MEE .. .. Treble.	ARTHUR ALDHAM .. .. 5.
JAMES MOTTS .. .. 2.	WILLIAM MOTTS .. .. 6.
ISAAC S. ALEXANDER .. .. 3.	EDGAR PEMBERTON .. .. 7.
WILLIAM L. CATCHPOLE .. 4.	ROBERT H. BRUNDLE .. Tenor.

Conducted by CHARLES MEE.

The above are all members of the Norwich Diocesan Association.

## RINGSTEAD, NORTHAMPTONSHIRE.

On Saturday, June 20, 1885, in Three Hours and Eight Minutes,

AT ST. MARY'S CHURCH,

5040 CHANGES; IN FIVE DIFFERENT METHODS  
UPON SIX BELLS:

Two 720's of Plain Bob; two 720's of Oxford Bob; 720 of College Single; 720 of College Little; 720 of London Single.

W. J. GILBERT .. .. Treble.	J. SAWFORD .. .. 4.
J. BRAYBROOK .. .. 2.	E. MAYES .. .. 5.
R. SHIPLEY .. .. 3.	T. ROBERTS .. .. Tenor.

Conducted by W. J. GILBERT.

This is the first 5040 by all except the conductor. W. J. Gilbert hails from Raunds.

## WALTER BELCHAMP, ESSEX.

## THE SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.

## Birthday Peal.

On Sunday, June 21, 1885, in Two Hours and Fifty-two Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

## A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 11 cwt.

N. J. PITSTOW .. .. Treble.	ZACHARIAH SLATER .. .. 5.
SAMUEL SLATER .. .. 2.	HENRY HARPER .. .. 6.
THOS. O. GARWOOD .. .. 3.	PHILIP SADLER .. .. 7.
FREDERICK WELLS .. .. 4.	ERNEST PITSTOW .. .. Tenor.

Composed and conducted by NATHAN J. PITSTOW.

This peal contains the 5th and 6th their extent home at six course-ends each, without a bob before, and is now rung for the first time. It was arranged in consequence of Mr. Sadler's visit in the neighbourhood, and in commemoration of Mr. Samuel Slater's 35th birthday.

Mr. Sadler hails from Norwich; Bros. Pitstow from Saffron Walden; Mr. Harper from Sudbury; the rest from Glemsford.

## Date Touch.

## GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

LEEKHAMPTON.—On Sunday afternoon, June 14th, the following members of the above Association rang a date touch of 1885 Grandsire Doubles, in 1 hr. 4½ mins. A. Humphries, 1; G. H. Phillott, Esq., 2; T. Hooper, 3; W. T. Pates, 4; R. Brunsdon (conductor), 5; H. Karn, 6.

## Miscellaneous.

## DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

RIPON (Yorkshire).—On Saturday, June 20th, a party of ringers from Stockton visited this place, with the intention of ringing a peal of Kent Treble Bob Major, with Messrs. Clark and Strodder, at the Cathedral. After proceeding in good style for nearly half an hour the sixth rope broke, and the time being too short for a second attempt, a touch of 1088 was rung. J. Clarkson, 1; G. J. Clarkson (conductor), 2; J. Strodder, 3; W. Stephenson, 4; T. Burdon, 5; T. Clark, 6; T. Stephenson, 7; W. Newton, 8. Tenor 21 cwt.

## GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

GLOUCESTER.—On Monday, June 22nd, on the occasion of the above Association, a mixed band rang on the cathedral bells (tenor 28 cwt.), a touch of Kent Treble Bob Major, containing 960 changes. H. Gardner (Upton), 1; J. Yeates (Barnwood), 2; F. E. Ward, Esq. (Cheltenham), 3; H. Karn (Cheltenham), 4; D. J. Aston (Gloucester), 5; A. A. Waite (Barnwood), 6; J. E. Hern (Newnham-on-Severn), conductor, 7; Geo. H. Phillott, Esq. (Cheltenham), 8. This is believed to be the longest touch in the method on the bells for over 30 years. And at St. Michael's, the Barnwood band, assisted by Mr. Johnson E. Hern, Newnham, rang a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor, in 30 mins., being the first 720 in the method on the bells. H. Gardner, 1; J. Yeates, 2; A. A. Waite, 3; G. Miles, 4; J. E. Hern (conductor), 5; R. Barrett, 6. Tenor 21 cwt.

## THE HERTFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

HITCHIN (Herts).—On Monday, June 22nd, at St. Mary's church, for practice, a 336 and 168 of Grandsire Triples. J. Randall, 1; F. Furr, 2; J. Hare, 3; H. Buckingham, 4; A. Squires, 5; S. Hare, 6; W. Allen (conductor), 7; J. Foster, 8. Tenor 28 cwt. in D.

## THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

SITTINGBOURNE (Kent).—On Monday, June 22nd, at St. Michael's, for practice, a 720 of Bob Minor (nine bobs and six singles), with 6-8 behind, in 28 mins. Francis Grayling, 1; Francis C. Mattison, 2; \*Edmund White, 3; Samuel Snelling, 4; E. John Bottle, 5; Ernest Gower, 6; W. H. Judd (conductor), 7; W. G. Gordelier, 8. Tenor 21 cwt. \* First 720.

## THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

BRAMFORD (Suffolk).—On Sunday, June 21st, a 360 of Double Court Bob in 14 mins. Charles Smith, 1; Alfred Pryke, 2; Charles Mee, 3; Thomas Stewart, 4; James Motts (conductor), 5; Robert Brundle, 6. Tenor 16 cwt. in G. Messrs. C. Smith and A. Pryke belong to the local company; the rest belong to the St. Mary-le-Tower Society, Ipswich.

## THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

DRAYTON (Berks).—On Wednesday, June 24th, at the parish church, a 720 of Double Stedman Slow Course Minor, in 24 mins. T. Payne, 1; C. W. H. Griffith, Esq., 2; Rev. F. A. H. Du Boulay, 3; Rev. F. E. Robinson, 4; A. F. M. Custance, Esq., 5; J. W. Washbrook (conductor), 6. This is the 9th 720 ever rung in the method, and is a highly creditable performance, four of the party never having attempted the method before.

WANTAGE (Berks).—On Saturday, June 20th, for practice, three 6-scores of Stedman Doubles. G. Gregory, 1; J. Gardner, 2; F. May, 3; F. Money, 4; H. Smith, 5; A. Bunce, 6. And on Sunday, June 21st, for Divine Service in the morning, six 6-scores of Stedman Doubles, each called differently, in 28 mins. G. Gregory, 1; J. Gardner, 2; F. May, 3; A. Bunce, 4; A. Gregory, 5; T. Gregory, 6. And for Divine Service in the evening, 360 of Kent Treble Bob Minor, in 13½ mins. G. Gregory, 1; C. Page, 2; J. Gardner, 3; A. Bunce, 4; A. Gregory, 5; F. May (conductor), 6.

## ASSOCIATION FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.

TETTENHALL.—On Saturday, June 20th, the following members of the local company, with Mr. J. Fullwood, of Tipton, who paid a visit to Tettenhall, rang a 720 of Plain Bob Minor, in 26 mins. T. Roberts, 1; J. Jones, 2; B. Dalton, 3; E. Nicholls, 4; J. Fowler (conductor), 5; J. Fullwood, 6. And a 720 of Grandsire Minor. T. Roberts, 1; J. Fullwood, 2; B. Dalton, 3; E. Nicholls, 4; J. Fowler, 5; J. Jones (conductor), 6. Tenor 12½ cwt.

## THE UNITED COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

**HYDE (Cheshire).**—On Monday, June 22nd, eight members of the above Association rang at St. George's Church, on the occasion of the Bishop of Chester holding a confirmation service in that church, 880 changes of Bob Major, and 224 of Kent Treble Bob Major. James Shaw, 1; Robert Woolley, 2; Samuel Bennett, 3; Walter Slater, 4; John A. Fildes, 5; Samuel Bradley, 6; James S. Wilde (conductor), 7; David Leigh, 8.

**AYLSHAM (Norfolk).**—*Muffled Peal.*—On Tuesday evening, June 23rd, the Aylsham and Marsham compang rang at St. Michael's, a touch of Bob Major, with the bells half muffled, in memory of the lamented and much respected Rector of West Tofts, the Rev. A. Sutton. Some of the company who took part in the ringing were invited and kindly treated when the peal of six was opened at West Tofts, and also when it was made into eight, and were awarded prizes on both occasions.

**BEESTON (Nottingham).**—*Muffled Peal.*—On Sunday, June 21st, for Divine Service in the morning, a 532 of Grandsire Triples, with the bells muffled as a mark of respect to the late Vicar, being the farewell touch of S. G. Henson, who had been a ringer at the above church for upwards of eight years. William Towlson, 1; William F. Wells, 2; Robert Mellors, 3; Joseph Sprey, 4; John Ward, 5; Solomon G. Henson (conductor), 6; Samuel Mellors, 7; William Grice, 8. Messrs. Ward, Wells, and Grice hail from Long Eaton, and are members of the Midland Counties' Association, as also is S. G. Henson, who is joining All Saints' company, Nottingham.

**BILLINGSHURST (Sussex).**—On Sunday, June 21st, a mixed band of ringers visited this place, and rang a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob. G. Moore, 1; W. Short, 2; W. Wady, 3; F. Wickings, 4; D. Jordan, 5; H. Chandler (conductor), 6. And a 720 of Kent Treble Bob. D. Jordan, 1; F. Andrews, 2; W. Wady, 3; H. Wood, 4; W. Collison, 5; H. Chandler (conductor), 6. And a 720 of Oxford Single Bob. W. Collison, 1; J. Newnham, 2; G. Moore, 3; W. Short, 4; J. Voice, 5; W. Wady (conductor), 6. And a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob. W. Short, 1; J. Newnham, 2; W. Wady, 3; F. Wickings, 4; D. Jordan, 5; H. Chandler (conductor), 6. The visitors wish to return thanks to the vicar and churchwardens for the use of the bells. Messrs. Newnham, Collison and Wickings hail from Crawley; Chandler and Short from Warnham; and Jordan and Moore from Capel.

**LEISTON (Suffolk).**—On Tuesday, June 16th, 720 of Bob Major, in 26 mins. H. Button, 1; T. Staulkey, 2; G. Baxter, 3; C. Smith, 4; W. Button, 5; A. Barrell, 6; J. Button, 7; T. E. Shearing (conductor: aged 16), 8. Tenor 20 cwt. Messrs. Smith and Barrell hail from Aldboro and Ufford respectively. On Saturday, June 20th, being the anniversary of the Queen's Accession, the local company rang a quarter-peal of Bob Triples (1260 changes), in 46 mins. H. Button, 1; T. Staulkey, 2; G. Baxter, 3; G. Mosling, 4; W. Button, 5; J. Button, 6; T. E. Shearing (conductor); 7; H. Staulkey, 8. Also on handbells, retained in hand, the company rang their first course of Grandsire Triples. C. Smith, 1-2; T. E. Shearing, 7-8.

**LOUGHBOROUGH.**—*Muffled Peal.*—On Friday, June 19th, being the funeral day of the Ven. Archdeacon Fearon, late Rector of Loughboro, an attempt was made for a half peal of Grandsire Triples, with the bells half-muffled, but owing to a shift course, the bells came round after ringing nearly 1½ hr. W. Billingham, 1; Amos Cresser, 2; T. Cooper, 3; J. W. Taylor, sen., Esq., 4; C. Smith, 5; E. D. Taylor, Esq., 6; J. W. Taylor, jun., Esq. (conductor), 7; E. Wightman, 8.

**ORMSKIRK (Lancashire).**—On Tuesday evening, June 16th, for practice, a 720 of Grandsire Minor, with 7-8 covering, in 27 mins. John Prescott, 1; John Aspinwall, 2; \*Henry Ellis, 3; George Prescott 4; William Taylor, 5; †James Sholicar (conductor), 6; William Lloyd, 7; Peter Hanley, 8. \*1st 720. †First 720 as conductor.

**PRESCOT (Lancashire).**—*Muffled Peal.*—On Thursday morning, June 18th, at St. Mary's Church, 364 of Grandsire Triples, with the bells deeply muffled as a token of respect to the late Mrs. Sampson, widow of the Rev. L. W. Sampson, late vicar of the parish. James Cheshworth, 1; Jonathan Finney, 2; John Renshall, 3; Thomas Byron (conductor), 4; John Cook, 5; Thomas Abraham, 6; John Case, 7; John Moston, 8. This is the longest length by Thomas Abraham.

**PRESTBURY (Cheshire).**—On Saturday, June 13th, a mixed band, met at the above place and attempted Holt's 10-part peal of Grandsire Triples, but owing to a mishap occurring in the middle of the 4th part it came to grief. James Holt, 1; Edward Matthews, 2; Walter Henshall, 3; William Walmsley, 4; Henry Page (conductor), 5; J. M. Davenport, 6; Walter Henshall, 7; Walter Ingham, 8. Tenor 18½ cwt., in F. The ringers of the 1st and 2nd hail from Macclesfield,

brothers Henshall from Gawsworth, Messrs. Walmsley, Davenport, and Ingham from Higher Sutton, and the conductor from Stoke-upon-Trent. The striking was very good, but it was too late to make another attempt.

**ROCHESTER (Kent).**—On Sunday, May 21st, at St. Margaret's, a 720 of Plain Bob Minor, in 24 mins. O. Sullivan, 1; H. Greaves, 2; J. Tullett, 3; W. Baker, 4; A. Osborne, 5; E. Andrews, 6. Conducted by R. E. Bond. Tenor 16 cwt.

**SUDBURY (Suffolk).**—*Handbell Ringing.*—On Thursday, June 18th, four members of the local company rang a 1056 of Bob Major, in 33 mins. Bailey Ransom, Esq., 1-2; Charles Sillitoe, 3-4; William Howell, 5-6; Arthur Scott, 7-8. This touch was rung on the top of St. Gregory's tower, the heat indoors being unbearable. And on Saturday, June 20th, at St. Gregory's, the same touch was rung. Felix Tolliday, 1; Walter Griggs, 2; Charles Sillitoe, 3; Maurice Silvester, 4; Henry Harper, 5; Joseph Hume, 6; Walter Cross, 7; Arthur Scott, 8. Mr. J. Hume hails from Bures. Both touches were conducted by A. Scott.

## NEWTON POPPLEFORD, DEVON.

A new bell has been hung in the tower of St. Luke's church, cast by Warner and Sons, of London. The Hon. Mark Rolle very kindly gave the oak required for the frame, etc., and the bell was hung by the well known bell-hanger, Mr. Stokes, of Woodbury. Praise is due to Miss Honlock, who, without assistance, collected sufficient money to defray the whole cost.

## WRITTLE, ESSEX.

THE bells in this tower have been lately overhauled, and some defects in their gear remedied, by Messrs. Warner and Sons, of Cripplegate, E.C., and it may be hoped that such an accident as prevented the completion of a peal on Whit-Monday last, will not occur again. It is satisfactory to learn that ringing has taken a fresh start in this parish under the superintendence of the new vicar, the Rev. T. L. Papillon. A set of handbells has been procured by subscription among the resident gentry, and the ringers intend shortly to begin mastering the art of change-ringing, an art which ought never to have died out in a parish which possesses as fine a ring of bells as any in Essex.

## THE HERTFORDSHIRE COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

THE next Quarterly Meeting will be held at Sawbridgeworth, on Monday, July 13th. Members who intend to be present are requested to send their names to the local secretaries of their bands, who will be informed as soon as possible of the arrangements for dinner and railway fares. The following towers will be open for ringing, viz.; Sawbridgeworth, 8 bells; Bishops Stortford, 10; Harlow, 8.

W. WIGRAM, General Secretary.

## THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

A QUARTERLY MEETING of the above Association will be held at Christ Church, Southport, on Saturday, July 4th. Tea will be provided in Christ Church schools at five o'clock, tickets 1s. each. The meeting will be held at six o'clock, the Rev. Canon Clarke will preside. All members and friends intending to be present kindly communicate to the Secretaries, or Mr. Hill, Southport, not later than Wednesday next. Train leaves Victoria, Manchester (No. 5 platform) at 2 p.m. Return fare 2s. 6d.

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

## THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

THE QUARTERLY MEETING of this Association will be held at Long Eaton, on Saturday, July 4th, 1885. Members and friends will please take their tickets to Trent Junction on the Midland Railway, from which place Long Eaton is only fifteen minutes' walk.

377, Roskiston Road, Burton-on-Trent. JOSEPH GRIFFIN, Hon. Sec.

## THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

ESTABLISHED 1637.

THE Two Hundred and Forty-Eighth Anniversary of this Society will be held at the "Cherry Tree," Southgate, Middlesex, on Saturday, July 4th. Dinner on the table at 3.0 sharp. Those intending to be present are requested to notify the same on or before Tuesday, June 30th, to the Secretary, at the "King's Head," Winchester Street, Southwark.

## A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR.

5024.

By SAMUEL MARSH, *West Bromwich.*

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

## A PEAL OF SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR.

5088.

By N. J. PITSTOW, *Saffron Walden.*

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

Twice repeated.

## A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB ROYAL.

5080.

By JAMES S. WILDE, *Hyde, Cheshire.*

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

6th its extent in 5-6.

## A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR.

5040.

By SAMUEL SLATER, *Glensford.*

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

Twice repeated. This peal contains the 6th twelve times as home.

## A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR.

5280.

By BENJAMIN FRANCIS, *Diss.*

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

Four times repeated.

## A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR.

5184.

By A. SYKES, *Huddersfield.*

2 3 4 5 6	M	in	out	5th	H
5 6 3 4 2	I	I	2		
6 3 5 4 2	I	I	1		
4 2 3 5 6	I	I	2		
2 5 4 6 3	I				
5 6 2 3 4	I				
3 4 6 2 5	I	I	2		
4 6 3 2 5	I	I	1		
2 5 6 3 4	I	I	2		
5 3 2 4 6	I				
3 4 5 6 2	I				
6 2 4 5 3	I	I	2		
2 4 6 5 3	I	I	1		
5 3 4 6 2	I	I	2		
3 6 5 2 4	I				
6 2 3 4 5	I				

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

## A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR.

7008.

By A. KNIGHTS, *Chesterfield.*

2 3 4 5 6 7 8	5ths	4ths	M	H
6 4 5 2 3 7 8	-	-		
4 2 3 5 8 6 7	-	-	-	-
2 5 3 4	-	-	-	-
5 4 3 2	-	-	-	-
3 5 4 2	-	-	-	-
4 3 5 2	-	-	-	-
3 2 5 4	-	-	-	-
2 4 5 3	-	-	-	-
5 2 4 3	-	-	-	-
4 5 2 3	-	-	-	-
5 3 2 4	-	-	-	-
3 4 2 5	-	-	-	-
3 2 4 5	-	-	-	s
2 5 4 3	-	-	-	-
5 3 4 2	-	-	-	-
4 5 3 2	-	-	-	-
3 4 5 2	-	-	-	-
4 2 5 3	-	-	-	-
2 3 5 4	-	-	-	-
5 2 3 4	-	-	-	-
3 5 2 4	-	-	-	-
5 4 2 3	-	-	-	-
4 3 2 5	-	-	-	-
2 4 3 5	-	-	-	-
2 3 4 5 8 6 7	-	-	-	s

Twice repeated. This peal contains the twenty-four 8 6 7's, 7 8 6's, and 6 7 8's. By omitting the first three bobs in the 3rd and 4th courses in the second part the part-end is brought up at the 4th course-end, and the peal reduced to 5040, the peal will then contain the 6th twenty-four times wrong and right.

## A PEAL OF STEDMAN CINQUES.

5001.

By H. W. HALEY, *College Youths.*

Bobs at 1, 5, 6, 8, 10, 11, 13, 15, 16, produce:	4 1 2 5 3 6	5 6 1 9
	2 1 4 6 3 5	-
	2 1 5 4 3 6	-
	2 1 6 5 3 4	-
	6 1 2 4 3 5	-
	6 1 5 2 3 4	-
	5 1 6 4 3 2	-
	5 1 2 6 3 4	-
	5 1 4 2 3 6	-
	4 1 5 6 3 2	-
	3 1 5 2 4 6	-
	3 1 6 5 4 2	-
	3 1 2 6 4 5	-
	2 1 3 5 4 6	-
	2 1 6 3 4 5	-
	6 1 2 5 4 3	-
	6 1 3 2 4 5	-
	6 1 5 3 4 2	-
	5 1 6 2 4 3	-

The last nine courses twice repeated, with a bob at twenty-two in the thirty-seventh course produce 2 1 3 4 6 5 7 10 11 8 9, when bobs at 4, 8, 10, 12, 13, 17, 18, and 7 8 laying still coming round completes the peal.

The above was rung by the Ancient Society of College Youths at St. Michael's, Cornhill, March 14th, 1885. Conducted by H. W. Haley.

## A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE MAJOR.

6048.

By JOHN CARTER, *Birmingham.*

2 3 4 5 6	
2 3 6 5 4	7th in two and H.
3 6 2 5 4	H.
6 2 3 5 4	H.
5 2 3 6 4	8th in three.
2 5 3 6 4	7th in three.
4 2 5 6 3	7th in two.
4 2 3 6 5	7th in two and H.
6 2 3 4 5	8th in three.
2 6 3 4 5	7th in three.
3 4 6 2 5	8th in two.
3 4 5 2 6	7th in two and H.
4 5 3 2 6	H.
5 3 4 2 6	H.
4 2 3 5 6	8th in two.

Five times repeated. Single instead of a bob at 1st course of the 3rd and 6th parts. The above contains the 5th and 6th twenty-four times wrong and right.

## A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR.

6400.

By JOHN CARTER, *Birmingham.*

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

Seven times repeated. Bob for a single at end of 4th and 8th parts. Contains the 6th twenty-four times in 5-6, and only one call in each course throughout.

## 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."

## LIST OF RINGS IN THE COUNTY OF SUFFOLK.

SIR,—I think your correspondent, Mr. Rees, requested that any omission or error in his lists now appearing in "THE BELL NEWS" should be corrected. Thornham has only 5 bells, and Woodchester is not in Suffolk. Having compiled a list of the Suffolk rings some years ago from "White's Gazetteer," I supply the following twenty-nine rings of six omitted by Mr. Rees.

	No.	cwt.	
Bardwell.	6	12	Good tenor.
Gt. Barton.	6		
Benhall.	6		
Brandon.	6	9	
Cockfield.	6		
Cratfield.	6		Heavy, high repute.
Dennington.	6		
Drinkstone.	6		Two or three cracked
Felsham.	6		
Gazely.	6		
Hinderday.	6	11	Good peal.
Hopton.	6		
Ipswich S. Mary-at-Elms	6		
" S. Mary at Quay.	6		
" S. Peter.	6		
Mendham.	6		
Nayland.	6		
Playford.	6		
Stanstead.	6		
Thetford St. Mary.	6		
Tunstall.	6		
Gt. Waldingfield.	6		
Walsham-le-willows.	6	14	5th & tenor cracked.
West Stow.	6		
Wickham Sheath.	6	11	Good tenor.
Wingfield.	6		
Woolpit.	6	9	Made up out of old 5.
Worlingworth.	6		
Yoxford.	6		

Should this list be imperfect or at fault, I shall be glad to see some of your Suffolk correspondents supply corrections or omissions. I give the contents of a tablet hanging in the belfry at Gislingham recording a 10,080.

"18 + 22. On the 6th of April, 10,080 changes of Grandsire Bob, in 6 hrs. and 35 mins., by William Selsby, treble, James Munns, 2nd, James Warner, 3rd, Thomas Goldson, 4th, and completed the peal, William Munns, 5th, Thomas Selsby, tenor."

The tenor of this peal is an exceedingly fine bell, and will compare favourably with the Lavenham tenor. The whole ring surpasses anything I have ever heard in the way of six bell music.

Stockton-on-Tees.

G. J. CLARKSON.

## THE PEAL OF BOB MAJOR AT WEST MALLING, KENT.

SIR,—In your last issue you published a peal of 5600 Bob Major, rung in 3 hrs. 28 mins. Now Sir, it happened to be my good fortune to hear the whole of this said so-called peal, from beginning to end, and worse so-called peal-ringing I never heard before. After hauling the ropes for about one hour, there was complete firing for about three treble leads, and notwithstanding my utmost efforts to take off the course-ends, found it utterly impossible in consequence of the bad ringing, to do so. Now I should feel very much obliged if the conductor or any of the band would forward the composition of this peal to you to publish, as I have protested against this performance being booked in the Kent County Association's peal-book. I may add that I protested against the peal to the ringers at the meeting-house shortly after they came out of the tower.

F. G. NEWMAN,

Member of the Committee of Examiners of the Kent County Association.

## THE JOHNSON TESTIMONIAL.

SIR,—In perusing "THE BELL NEWS" of June 13th, I was glad to read your remarks on the above subject, and that your opinion of Mr. Johnson's services and abilities as a ringer ought not to pass by unrecognized. He has been a hard worker for over sixty years for the improvement of ringing, and has spent thousands of hours to advance the science to its present state of perfection. He is what we may term a good all-round man, as a ringer, conductor, and an excellent composer. During the last twelve months he has not been able to ring

very much, but nevertheless he attends very nearly all the meetings at St. Martin's, and occasionally adjourns with the company to their headquarters in Moor Street, where our veteran friend is always well received by the landlord, Mr. Redgate, with the welcome words, "How are you, dad." And there you may pass a comfortable hour away, listening to him give his advice, and tell his numerous anecdotes connected with ringing. It has been my privilege to be personally acquainted with our friend a good number of years, and I am glad of this opportunity in stating, through your journal, that the uniform courtesy that I have received at the hands of Mr. Johnson and other members of the St. Martin's company has been of such a nature that I shall always feel grateful. I don't wish to offer a decided opinion as to what the testimonial should consist of, but I have great authority in stating that Mr. Johnson would not care to accept of anything in a monetary sense. Talking the matter over the other day with some of my friends at Coventry, the idea suggested itself that a portrait of the worthy veteran would be acceptable, and no doubt would be gratifying to other members of his family. Should a portrait be decided upon, I venture to suggest that a number of smaller copies be taken from the original, and each subscriber be presented with one. I hope the movement will be taken up, which I don't doubt but what it will, and at the same time I should like to hear the opinion of others who may be interested in the object.

Snider Works, Sheffield.

C. H. HATTERSLEY.

## In Memoriam.

## URIAH WOODMAN.

WE regret to record the death of Mr. Uriah Woodman, of Trowbridge, who was, we believe, the only composer of which the county of Wilts could boast. Deceased had been confined to his bed during the past five years with paralysis, and died on Friday, the 19th inst, at the age of 66 years. He was interred in Holy Trinity churchyard, on Monday, June 22nd, amid a large concourse of people. After the funeral several muffled touches of Grandsire Triples were rung at St. James's church, by Messrs. Alley, Hayward, McCaffrey, and Cooper, of Trowbridge, and Messrs. Gifford, Blackburn, Jerram, and Clements, of Salisbury. The above company are the same who rang the late Mr. Woodman's 1960 for the first time last December. It was intended on this occasion to have rung a 1260 of the deceased's composition, but it unluckily came to grief through the treble rope breaking, and as the Salisbury men had to catch the train there was not time to start again. Until within a short time before his death, Mr. Woodman was accustomed to occupy his time in composing touches of Triples. Although confined to his bed he had the use of his hands, and was able to write to within a few weeks of his death.

## THE RECENT ACCIDENT TO A RINGING PARTY.

THE following sums have been received for the purpose of helping to defray the great loss sustained by Mr. H. F. Wood in this unfortunate affair.

	s.	d.		s.	d.
Rev. E. S. ...	2	6	G. Dorrington ...	2	0
J. West ...	2	0	H. J. Shade ...	2	6
J. W. Snowdon, Esq. ...	10	0	G. Russell, Croydon ...	1	0
W. Banister ...	5	0	H. Pearce ...	2	0
Bedfordshire Association ...	5	0	F. Newman ...	2	0
St. Martin's, Salisbury ...	10	0	R. Turner ...	2	0
St. Peter's, Leeds, Yorks ...	5	0	T. Dupen ...	2	6
H. Edwards ...	2	6	W. Prime ...	2	0
J. Dwight ...	2	6	W. Cooter ...	2	6
I. Shade ...	5	0	J. Davidson ...	3	0
R. S. Story ...	5	0	Widford and Galleywood C.R. ...	5	0
E. Wallege ...	2	0	H. Lewis, St. Albans ...	5	0
J. Barrett ...	2	0	S. Joyce ...	2	0
J. Comb ...	5	0	J. H. Monday ...	5	0
Spalding, SS. Mary and Nicolas ...	3	0	M. A. Wood ...	10	0
B. Newton ...	1	0	A. Hayward ...	2	6
J. Dupen ...	2	0	W. Cecil ...	2	6
C. Lee ...	1	0	A. B. Goody ...	5	0
			Mr. Lewis Green ...	2	6

Further donations, however small, are urgently solicited. Mr. Matthew Wood, 11 Church Row, Bethnal Green, London, will be happy to give any further information, and will thankfully acknowledge any sums forwarded to him.

GLoucester and Bristol Diocesan Association.—An account of the Annual Meeting of this Association will appear in our next number.

BELL NEWS to dispose of, from October 14th, 1882, to May 24th, 1884. Address, Wm. Story, 2, Winchester Terrace, Newcastle-on-Tyne.



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Rules and instructions for pricking and ringing the method, with lineal diagram of the plain course.

A collection of compositions and instructions for proving the same.

A history of all peals known to have been rung in the method, with full particulars of the same.

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FRANCIS RAVENSCROFT, Manager.

31st March, 1880.

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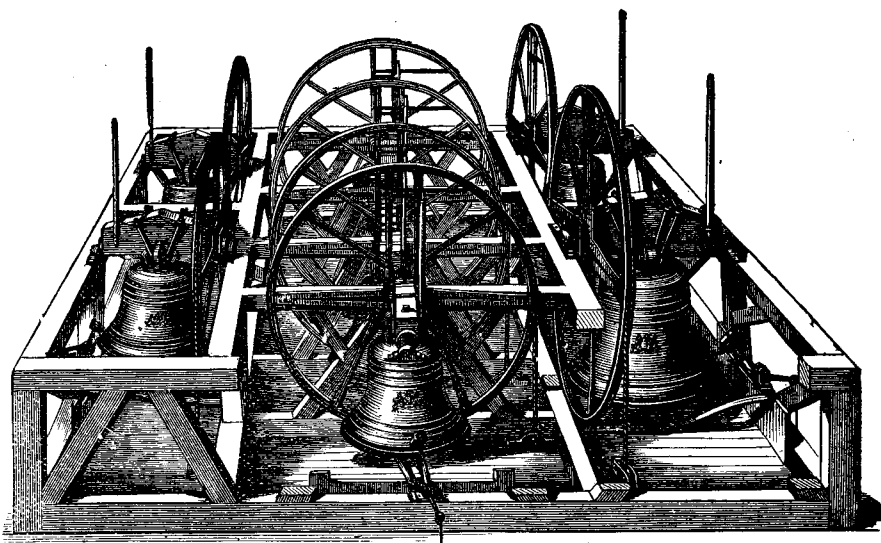
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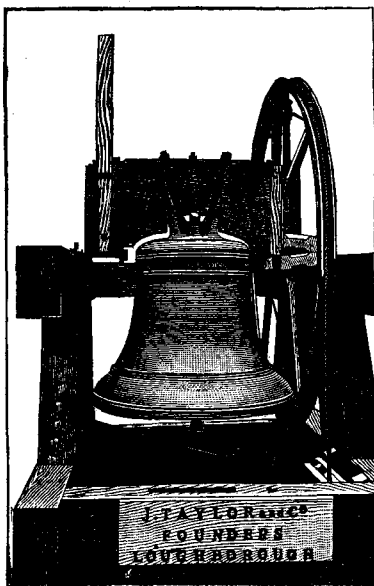
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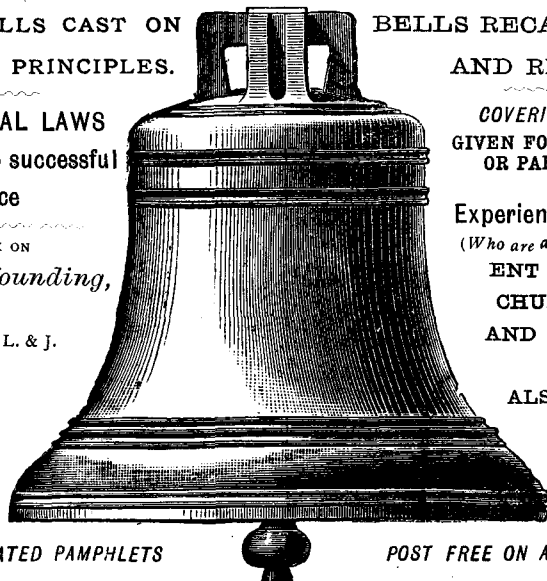
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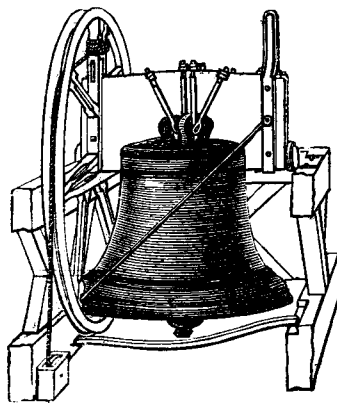
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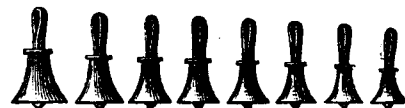
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## CINQUES ON STEDMAN'S PRINCIPLE.

BY JASPER W. SNOWDON.

At Norwich there seems to have been little luck in Stedman ringing until 1844, as in 1822 the Norwich Scholars rang twenty-two courses of Stedman Cinques when the clapper of the 11th broke. In 1831, on the last night of the year, they rang 4884 changes—a course short of a peal, owing to an error on the part of the conductor. In 1843 they attempted to beat the Birmingham length by ringing 6729, but unfortunately jumbled out after ringing 5800 changes. Had this not been the case, it is improbable that the full number would have been completed, as the next time the tenor was rung it fell down after ringing a few changes. The Norwich men were nevertheless undaunted, and thinking the number 6729 too near 7000 to ring without going into the next thousand, Henry Hubbard spliced a piece into the 6334 of G. Gross's, which was rung by the Cumberlands in 1806, and this new length—7126 changes—they accomplished on January 18th, 1844: and thus the only peal of Stedman Cinques ever rung on the Norwich twelve happens to have been, in its time, the longest on record. At the same time it should be mentioned that this peal, of which further particulars are appended, did not strictly conform to the recognised conditions of such performances, as the tenor was rung double-handed.

*Tablet in the belfry of St. Peter's, Mancroft, Norwich.*—"On Thursday, January 18th, 1844, was rung in this steeple that most intricate and ingenious peal called Stedman's Cinques, in 5 hours and 17 minutes, consisting of 7126 changes, without the misplacing of a bell or the repetition of a single change. The bold and regular striking attracted the notice of the public, and is allowed to exceed any other performance ever attempted in England upon Twelve Bells. The peal was conducted by James Truman and rung by the undermentioned persons. The Minister and Churchwardens, with a portion of the Inhabitants, have contributed to the erection of this tablet, the remainder being subscribed for by the company of Ringers.

Thomas Hurry, Treble.	William Gaul, 5.	James Truman, 9.
Robert Burrell, 2.	John Greenwood, 6.	Joshua Hurry, 10.
Elijah Mason, 3.	William Freeman, 7.	Henry Hubbard, 11.
Charles Middleton, 4.	George Watering, 8.	George Smith & Robert Palgrave, Tenor.

Perhaps there is no place where Stedman ringing has found so much favour as in Birmingham, as peal after peal of Caters is entered in the peal book of the St. Martin's Society. In 1848 the society proves to have been in great "form," as in that year they rang one peal of Kent Treble Bob Caters, one of Royal, and one of Maximus; also a peal of Grandsire Caters. They seem to have had "Stedman on the brain," besides, as they likewise rang five peals of Stedman Caters and three of Cinques in the same year. The dates of the three last peals are interesting:—Dec. 12th, 7392 Stedman Cinques; Dec. 19th, 5016 of Stedman Cinques; and December 31st, 5187 of Stedman Caters. This certainly was a good year's work, especially as by the 7392 they "cut" the Norwich peal of 7126, and thus Birmingham once again succeeded to the honour of holding the palm in Stedman Cinques. Particulars of this 7392 are given below:—

*Tablet in the belfry of St. Martin's, Birmingham.*—"1848, Dec. 12. was rung in this tower by the St. Martin's Society, a peal of Stedman Cinques comprising 7392 changes, which was completed in 4 hours 55 minutes, viz.:

John Hopkins, Treble.	John James, 5.	Robt. Yates, 9.
Thos. Powell, 2.	Joseph Mitchell, 6.	John Billingsley, 10.
Josh. Spencer, 3.	Hy. Johnson, 7.	Thos. Hobday, 11.
Willm. Haywood, 4.	Willm. Kitson, 8.	Edward Haywood, Tenor.

The above peal was the Longest Length in this method up to this date. Composed and conducted by Hy. Johnson."

The Birmingham length continued the longest on record until 1851, when, on January 6th, the College Youths accomplished 7524 at St. Giles's, Cripplegate. This peal, of which further details are given below, was not allowed to take its place at the head of Stedman's principle without an effort being made to overturn it. On January 21st, in the same year, the Cumberlands attempted 8184 at St. Michael's, Cornhill, but got out after ringing nearly 6000 changes. On May 5th, following they met with no better luck, as after ringing 7746 changes at the same church, in 6 hours and 2 minutes, they were too exhausted to finish their task, and thus the Cripplegate peal proved equal to its situation for some time,

*Tablet in the belfry of St. Giles's, Cripplegate.*—"College Youths. On Monday, Jan. 6th, 1851, the company achieved a true peal of 7524 Stedman Cinques in 5 hours and 24 minutes, being the greatest number ever rung. Performers:—

Jno. Cox, Treble.	Jas. Mash, 5.	Ed. Lansdell, 9.
Jno. Bradley, 2.	Mattw. A. Wood, 6.	H. Littlechild, 10.
Willm. Cooter, 3.	H. Haworth, 7.	Jas. Wright, 11.
Wm. Banister, 4.	Geo. E. Ferris, 8.	Jno. Austin, Tenor.

Composed and conducted by Mr. John Cox."

In 1858 the Painswick men—who, if not celebrated for their striking, have at least been well known for the will with which they went at a long length—completed 8448 changes on February 16th, and thus installed the following peal at the head of the list:—

*Tablet in the belfry of Painswick church.*—"8448 Stedman Cinques.

John Morris, Treble.	Jas. Estcourt, 5.	David Beard, 9.
Henry Morris, 2.	Robert Birt, 6.	Wm. Estcourt, 10.
Jeremh. Birt, 3.	Alfred Keen, 7.	Geo. Wright, 11.
Alfred Walker, 4.	Albert Estcourt, 8.	John Powell, Tenor.

Rung February 16th, 1858, in 5 hours and 52 minutes. Composed and conducted by William Estcourt. Oliver Estcourt, Master."

Although this peal was completed on a ring with a 28 cwt. tenor only, the College Youths actually attempted to beat it at St. Saviour's, Southwark, where the tenor weighs 52 cwt. I have but scanty particulars of this uncompleted performance, which, however, is of much interest, as being the greatest length to which so heavy a bell has been rung single-handed. I believe however, that more than 8000 changes, were rung in about six hours and a half, and that the ringing was brought to an end through confusion caused during the ignition of the lights in the belfry. The peal was, however, subsequently completed at St. Michael's, Cornhill, on April 27th, 1861, by the following company:—

*Tablet in the belfry of St. Michael's, Cornhill.*—"Ancient Society of College Youths, established A.D. 1637.—On Saturday, April 27th, 1861, twelve members of the above society rang on this noble peal of bells, a true and complete peal of Cinques, on Stedman's Principle, consisting of 8580 changes, in 6 hours and 41 minutes, being the greatest number of changes ever rung in that method on 12 bells. Performers:—

H. W. Haley, Treble.	William Green, 5.	Matthew A. Wood, 9.
Thomas Ray, 2.	George Stockham, 6.	Edward Lansdell, 10.
John Bradley, 3.	Robert Haworth, 7.	George Muskett, 11.
Robert Jameson, 4.	George E. Ferris, 8.	James Dwight, Tenor.

The above is the first peal in that method performed on the bells, and was composed and conducted by H. W. Haley."

A peal like the above takes a good deal of beating, and although from time to time there were rumours that an attempt would be made to beat the same, I do not believe that a *bona fide* attempt was made until 1881, when the Birmingham St. Martin's Youths announced their intention of going for a longer peal. This peal, 9238 changes, they accomplished on February 28th, 1881, on the seventy-second birthday of the composer, Mr. Henry Johnson, who himself took part in the peal, and who, after a life devoted to change-ringing may be said to have crowned his efforts by once more bringing back to Birmingham the credit of having surpassed all others in Stedman Cinques. This peal, now, for the third time, places the Birmingham Society at the top of the tree where it still remains, as although an attempt was made at St. Michael's, Cornhill, by the College Youths, on May 7th, 1881, to ring a peal of 10,000, the band got out after ringing little over three hours, and since this time no other attempt has been made to supersede the Birmingham peal, of which a detailed record is given below.

*From the peal-book of the St. Martin's Society.*—"St. Martin's Society of Change-Ringers, Birmingham. Established A.D. 1755. St. Martin's church. On Monday, February 28th, 1881 (being the 72nd birthday of the composer) the company achieved a true peal of Stedman Cinques, containing 9238 changes, in 6 hours and 48 minutes, being the longest peal ever rung in the above method. Weight of tenor 36 cwt. in C. Performers:—

Amos Cresser, Treble.	Samuel Reeves, 5.	John James, 9.
Job Joynes, 2.	H. Johnson, sen. 6.	Francis H. James, 10.
H. Johnson, jun. 3.	John Dunn, 7.	W. Hallsworth, 11.
C. H. Hattersley, 4.	John Buftery, 8.	T. Reynolds, Tenor.

Composed by H. Johnson, sen. Conducted by W. Hallsworth. Rev. W. Wilkinson, D.D., Rector. Mr. Walter Kendrick, Mr. George Hemming, Churchwardens."

## THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

A DISTRICT MEETING of this Association will be held at Clifton, near Biggleswade, Beds., on Saturday afternoon, July 11th. The Rev. H. H. Miles has kindly granted permission to ring the eight bells at Clifton church. The meeting to commence at 2 o'clock.

CHARLES HERBERT, Hon. Sec.

## ANNUAL MEETING OF THE GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

THE Annual Meeting of this Association was held at Gloucester, on Monday, June 22nd, and was preceded by the attendance of the members at the Cathedral, where morning service had been delayed for half an hour for their accommodation. The number present was over seventy. The service was Smart in F. The anthem was Purcell's "Rejoice in the Lord always," commonly known as the bell anthem, from the prelude. Canon St. John preached the sermon. He took his text from 14th St. Luke, and part of 23rd verse—"Compel them to come in that My house may be filled." The rev. Canon delivered an impressive discourse, which was listened to with great interest by the congregation. In concluding his sermon he said that the time was when the ringers, as soon as Divine Service commenced, quitted the belfry and left the church behind them, forsaking the worship of their God, and proceeding elsewhere. But those days were now gone by and only in a very benighted parish would such things be seen. People would now no more tolerate an ungodly ringer than they would an ungodly organist or chorister. At least they ought not. And gatherings like the present tended to promote that feeling, and to raise the office of the ringer. There was a time in Church History when we were told none but ordained ministers were allowed to handle the ropes of church bells. And then afterwards the office of a bell-ringer fell to low repute for a season. But now men were reminded once more that theirs was a religious office, and belonging to Divine Service of the Church. How careful, then, ought they to be in the discharge of their duties, and how watchful in their daily life. When they returned from that happy meeting in that grand old Cathedral to their country village, he prayed that they would carry with them this word of friendly advice. Let them go to their several homes with a resolve from henceforth to lend a helping hand to the good work of their pastor at home. Let them help to build up the Church of Christ in their neighbourhood, and might God grant them this blessing for Jesus Christ's sake—that while by their skill in handling bells they gladdened men's hearts, and invited them to the House of the Lord, by their good Christian example, and their words of loving persuasion they might "compel them to come in that My house may be filled."

The annual meeting was afterwards held in the Chapter House. Canon St. John occupied the chair, and there were also present Rev. Dr. Smithe, Rev. F. E. Broome Writts, Rev. Pitt Eykyn, Rev. C. D. Davies, Rev. T. Holbrow, Rev. J. P. A. Bowers, Rev. A. W. Ellis-Viner, Rev. A. Nash, Rev. R. Horton, and a large number of performing members. The proceedings were opened by the reading of a Collect. The CHAIRMAN said a letter had been received from Mr. John Drinkwater, of Sandhurst, stating that he felt quite unable to continue to discharge the duties of Master of the Association. He was in hopes as the warm weather came on that he might gain strength, but all such hopes must be abandoned, his progress towards recovery being so slow as to be imperceptible. He therefore urged the members to elect some one in his stead. He thanked them for the courtesy and kindness they had shown him in endeavouring to carry out the objects for which the Association was established, namely, belfry reform and the improvement of change-ringing. For improvement in the art he had not the slightest fear, but the reform of some of the belfries, or rather the men who frequented them, was not so easy a matter. Whoever might be his successor anything he could do to assist him he should feel proud in doing. The SECRETARY announced that Mr. Ackers, M.P., had consented to become a vice-president. The re-election of officers was then proceeded with, and the president and vice-presidents were re-elected. Mr. H. KARN proposed, and Mr. WANKLIN seconded, that Rev. C. D. P. Davies, curate of Redmarley, be elected Master. Rev. Mr. DAVIES said if Mr. Drinkwater's resignation was accepted, and if he were elected, he would do his best to discharge the duties of the office. The resignation was accepted and Mr. Davies was unanimously elected. Rev. F. E. BROOME WITTS proposed a vote of thanks to Mr. Drinkwater for his long services as Master, with an expression of regret that his failing health prevented him from continuing the office. Mr. BELCHER seconded the motion. Rev. T. HOLBROW bore testimony to the devotion with which Mr. Drinkwater had discharged the duties of the office and to the interest he took in the objects of the Association. The motion was cordially adopted. Mr. PHILLOTT urged the desirability of the Master not retaining office longer than two years; and on the suggestion of the new Master it was agreed that this should be an understanding in future. The treasurer (Rev. F. E. Broome Writts) was re-appointed, and read his report, which showed a balance in hand of £28 4s. 11½d. It was agreed that the financial year should terminate at Midsummer, and that the annual meeting should be held soon afterwards. It was proposed that the next quarterly meeting should be held at Coln St. Aldwyns. Mr. WINTLE suggested Dymock, and said that place could be easily reached after the new railway was opened on the 6th of July, the date which was announced for that event to take place. It was, however, agreed that the meeting should be held at Coln St. Aldwyns. The Secretary said the Rev. Mowbray Trotter had written stating that he was sorry that he could not attend

their meeting, but he placed the belfry of St. Mary de Crypt at the disposal of the Association, and also the use of the schoolroom, where tea would be provided between five and seven o'clock. He hoped the new bell ropes would work well, and that the work of the members would be generally approved.

The annual dinner took place at the "Spread Eagle Hotel," where between seventy and eighty sat down. Canon St. JOHN presided, and after the usual loyal toasts had been drunk, he gave "Prosperity to the Association," and connected the toast with the name of the new Master. The Rev. C. D. P. DAVIES, in responding, said ringing in the diocese seemed to be progressing very favourably. He was pleased the Association had decided on breaking new ground by going to Coln St. Aldwyns, as he doubted not good effects would result. He esteemed it a great honour to be elected Master, and would do his best to discharge the duties of the office during the period he should hold it. He proposed "The health of the Chairman." The Cathedral, of which he was the representative, was the fountain and centre of Church work in the diocese. Canon St. John had preached them an excellent sermon, and that and his presence at their dinner showed that the Cathedral, as the mother church of the diocese, was taking a part in the good work which was going on within the Bishop's jurisdiction.

The CHAIRMAN acknowledged the compliment paid him, and said he doubted not the Association would be always welcomed in the Cathedral Church of the Diocese. At their next meeting he hoped to give them a country welcome in another capacity. He hoped God's blessing would rest upon their work. Mr. HERN proposed the health of the honorary secretary. The Rev. PITT EYKYN acknowledged the toast, and said those who had not certificates of membership could obtain them that afternoon at the Crypt School of Dr. Smithe, who would insert their names in Old English characters. The health of the host, Mr. Grogan, brought the proceedings to a close.

During the afternoon and evening, the members gave several performances on the church bells of the city. At St. Mary-le-Crypt, where the bells have been furnished with new ropes, and the belfry improved, they rang several touches of Treble Bob, and Grandsire and Stedman Triples. At St. Michael's they rang 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor, and there was a similar performance at St. Nicholas. At the Cathedral also there was some ringing. Tea was generously provided by the Rev. Mowbray Trotter, at the Old Crypt School Room, during the afternoon and evening.

## SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.

THE THIRD ANNUAL MEETING of this society was held at Lichfield, on Saturday, June 27th, and was in every respect a success; it was a beautiful day, and there were a large number of members present than ever before. Ringing in the various steeples began about 3 p.m. and at 5 p.m. a Special Service was held for the ringers in the Lady Chapel of the Cathedral, at which prayer was read by the Ven. Archdeacon Ives, President of the above Society, and a short address given by the Rev. J. R. Keble. The service ended, some time was spent in going round the cathedral, and the Archdeacon kindly took a party over the library. All then assembled for a substantial tea in the Coffee House, at which more than sixty sat down, the Archdeacon occupying the chair. The business meeting was held immediately afterwards, and the report and treasurer's statement were read and approved. The Rev. J. J. Serjeantson, Rector of St. Michael's, Lichfield, was re-elected Hon. Treasurer, and the Rev. J. R. Keble, and Mr. S. Reeves of West Bromwich, were elected Hon. Secretaries for the ensuing year. It was determined that the Committee should recommend instructors in bell ringing, at a fixed charge, to any band anxious to improve themselves in the Art, and that a sub-Committee should be appointed of members qualified to report on bell-hanging, and the condition of church towers. The Secretary announced that five new Hon. Members, and twenty-two ringing members had just been elected by the Committee, and it was decided that the next Quarterly Meeting should be held at Harborne, on Saturday, September 26. The report for 1884-5 will be published in a few days.

CHEAP EXCURSIONS TO THE WEST OF ENGLAND.—The holiday season being now at its height, we propose to direct attention to the facilities afforded to the public for cheap travelling by the various railway and steamboat companies. This week we notice the South Western Railway Company's excursion arrangements, which are of a most complete kind. Cheap fast trains will run from London to all stations on their extensive system, every Saturday throughout the season, the tickets being available for return either on the following Monday week or Monday fortnight. There are also excursions at remarkably low fares to Portsmouth, Southampton, Salisbury, etc., leaving London at mid-day on Saturday, and returning on Tuesday night. These trains are sure to be well patronised by the public, as they are in every way suited to the convenience of holiday-makers, both for short or long periods.



## THE NORTH GOSCOTE (LEICESTERSHIRE) SOCIETY.

THE FOURTH ANNUAL MEETING of the above society was held at Wymeswold, on Monday, June 22nd, when ringers from the following parishes were present: Asfordby, Great Dalby, Syston, Thrussington, and Wymeswold. In all there were thirty-three ringers present, including Mr. J. W. Taylor, the well-known bellfounder of Loughborough, and his two sons. The following clergy were also present: Rev. Canon Cartmell (Asfordby); Rev. W. M. Croome (Syston); Rev. R. C. Green (Wymeswold); Rev. W. H. Marriot (Thrussington); Rev. C. S. Millard (Costock); Rev. W. Pearson (Syston); Rev. R. Copeman (St. George's, Leicester); Rev. R. H. Woodcock (Great Dalby). The Wymeswold company commenced at 9.15 by ringing some short touches of Bob Minor. These were followed by the Asfordby company, and then the Thrussington company, who each rang some six-scores of Grandsire Doubles. The Syston senior company with the assistance of Mr. J. W. Taylor, jun., then rang a 720 of Bob Minor in 25 mins. These were in their turn succeeded by the Great Dalby company, who rang some Grandsire Doubles, and were followed by the Syston junior company, who rang some Bob Minor. We would like once more to urge those of our companies who have only five bells in their towers, not to be satisfied with only ringing the Grandsire method; and we would remind all, that as the parish church where this society propose to meet next year contains only five bells, it is very desirable that each company should be thoroughly well up in two methods at least, if only to relieve the monotony of listening to a constant repetition of Grandsire changes.

At one o'clock, an excellent dinner was served in the village school-room, by the landlord of the "Three Crowns," to which ample justice was done. Dinner over, a business meeting was held. After a few kindly words of encouragement from the Rural Dean and Vice-President of the society (Canon Cartmell), the secretary (Rev. W. M. Croome), proceeded to read his report and statement of accounts, the latter having the satisfactory balance of £7. 8s. 4d. A vote of thanks was accorded to the Vicar and Churchwardens for their efforts to make the day a successful one, and also to the preacher. It was unanimously agreed to hold the next Annual Meeting at Thrussington, and also to invite the ringers of the other Goscote Deanery to join the society. The Vicarage garden was kindly thrown open by the Vicar, and quoits and bowls were provided for those who chose to use them.

At three p.m. there was a service in the church, when proper Psalms and Lessons were chosen, and a very appropriate sermon was preached by the Rev. C. S. Millard, from Psalm 84, verse 10. Ringing again commenced at 4.5, and continued until 5.45, when the various companies adjourned to tea. Meanwhile a mixed company rang a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor, and the bells were kept going until a late hour, the home team concluding by ringing their visitors out of the parish with a 720 of Bob Minor. The following is the account of the ringing performed. A 720 of Bob Minor, by the Syston senior company: J. Freeman, 1; J. North, 2; J. W. Taylor, jun., 3; J. Hall, 4; J. Pickard, 5; Rev. W. Pearson (conductor), 6. A 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor, by a mixed company. Rev. R. Copeman, 1; E. D. Taylor, 2; Rev. W. Pearson, 3; J. W. Taylor, sen., 4; J. North, 5; J. W. Taylor, jun., (conductor), 6. And a 720 of Bob Minor, by the Wymeswold company. E. D. Taylor, 1; J. Brooks, 2; Marshall Brown, 3; J. W. Taylor, sen., 4; R. W. Charles, 5; J. W. Taylor, jun., (conductor), 6.

## OPENING OF A PEAL OF BELLS AT ST. MARY'S, TAUNTON, SOMERSET, BY THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

ON Thursday, June 25th, ten members of this Guild visited Taunton for the express purpose of ringing a peal on this magnificent peal of ten, which has been made by the addition of two trebles by Messrs. Taylor and Co., of Loughborough, who have made a thorough good splice, and is now undoubtedly the grandest peal of bells in Somerset. In the morning a dedication service was held in the church, at which the Bishop of Bath and Wells was present, and several influential gentlemen of the Diocese. Before service ten members of the Guild rose the bells in peal, and rang nine courses of Stedman Caters in splendid style. J. Field, 1; W. Finch, 2; L. Proctor, Esq., 3; A. F. M. Custance, Esq., 4; S. Hounslow, 5; Rev. C. D. P. Davies, 6; Rev. F. E. Robinson, 7; C. Hounslow, 8; J. W. Washbrook, 9; W. Wakelin, 10. There is affixed to the bells a carrillon which plays twenty-one tunes, and which was set going after the dedication service by two ladies of Taunton, amidst great enthusiasm. A luncheon was afterwards held in the City Buildings, which was well attended, and thanks were acknowledged by many gentlemen for their bounteous support in the matter. After luncheon ten members of the Guild rang a peal of 5079 Stedman Caters, in 3 hrs. 22 mins., an account of which appears on another page.

ST. THOMAS'S, SALISBURY.—The tenor bell which broke down on June 20th, as recorded in our last issue, is being rehung by Mr. T. Blackburn, of Salisbury.

## THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

REPORT FOR THE FORTNIGHT ENDING JUNE 30TH, 1885.—On Friday, June 19th, at St. Mary's, Eastbourne, by the Eastbourne branch, a 532 of Grandsire Triples: T. West, 1; H. P. Bennett (conductor), 2; C. Harffey, 3; H. Colbran, 4; T. Willoughby, 5; T. Hart, 6; T. Lewis, 7; J. Lewis, 8. And a 560 in the same method. C. Harffey, 1; H. P. Bennett, 2; W. Bone (Reigate), 3; T. Willoughby, 4; W. Avan, 5; L. Huggett (conductor), 6; T. Hart, 7; T. Lewis, 8. On Monday, June 22nd, at All Saints', Eastbourne, by the Eastbourne branch, with Mr. F. Stacey, of London, a 532 of Grandsire Triples. F. Stacey, 1; H. P. Bennett, 2; J. West, 3; W. Siggs, 4; T. Willoughby, 5; F. Harding (conductor), 6; T. Lewis, 7; S. Lewis, 8. And 168 of Grandsire Triples by six of the above band, and Messrs. C. Harffey and H. Colbran. On Thursday, June 25th, at St. Mary's, Eastbourne, by the Eastbourne branch, Holt's 10-part peal of Grandsire Triples, 5040 changes, in 3 hrs. 4 mins. (see peal column), conducted by H. P. Bennett. On Saturday, June 27th, at Southover, Lewes, by the Fletching branch, several 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles, by the following members: G. Stevens, F. Newnham, N. Andrews, W. Chatfield, jun., H. Chatfield, sen., E. Burley and J. Burley. It is worthy of remark that six months ago, when this band of ringers joined the Sussex County Association, Mr. H. Chatfield was the only one of the above mentioned seven members who had the least knowledge of the art of change-ringing. On Sunday, June 28th, at Fletching, by the Fletching branch, for morning and evening service, four 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles. W. Chatfield, jun., 1; F. Newnham, 2; W. Andrews, 3; E. Burleigh, 4; G. Stevens (conductor), 5; J. Burley, 6. On Monday, June 29th (St. Peter's day), at St. Peter's church, Brighton, by the Brighton branch, a 504 of Grandsire Triples, in 18 mins. E. Marshall, 1; J. Jay, sen., 2; C. Golds, 3; A. Marshall, 4; G. F. Attree, 5; H. Weston (conductor), 6; J. Jay, jun., 7; W. Vernon, 8. And on Monday evening, a 504 of Grandsire Triples, with the bells half muffled as a mark of respect to the memory of the late Walter Searle, a member of the St. Nicholas', Brighton, Society, who was buried on that day at the Brighton Cemetery. E. Marshall, 1; J. Jay, sen., 2; H. Weston, 3; A. Marshall, 4; J. Jay, jun., 5; G. F. Attree (conductor), 6; G. King, 7; W. Vernon, 8. Also a 168, in which Mr. Parkhouse took part. The bells of St. Nicholas' church were also rung half-muffled. G. F. ATTREE, Hon. Sec.

## THE ST. NICHOLAS SOCIETY, BRIGHTON.

ON Monday, June 29th, the remains of Mr. Walter Searle, a member of the above society, was laid in their last resting place. Deceased, who had belonged to the society for six years, was previous to his coming to Brighton a member of the Steyning band, and rang the treble in the first 720 recorded by them. He also took part in several 720's of Oxford Bob Minor. At Brighton he was one of the band that made the first attempt at St. Peter's for a peal of Grandsire Triples, but failed after ringing 4790 changes. Shortly after that, his health began to give way, and for the last two years he has been gradually getting worse, until death put an end to his sufferings. He was followed to the grave by as many of his fellow members as could get away from business; and in the evening, the society met at St. Nicholas Church, and rang with the bells half-muffled, the usual whole pull and stand, according to the number of years of his age, 35, finishing with 240 of Grandsire Doubles, with 7,6,8, behind. Deceased, who was much respected by his fellow members, leaves a widow and two children to mourn his loss.

## THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

ON Saturday evening, June 27th, it being their club night, the Redenhall branch of the above Association met and rang a muffled peal in honour of the late Rev. Augustus Sutton, who had been a very good friend to them, as well as other ringers, and most kindly received and entertained them at his house, when they went to ring at his church some four years ago. They could not do much on Saturday, on account of the lateness of the hour at which they assembled, and having to muffle the bells, and being rather short-handed, some of the company being engaged in the hay harvest, and unable to be present in consequence.

## BEACONSFIELD, BUCKS.

A very large clock and chimes has been erected on the church here. The dial has been specially designed and is very bold and effective. It is nine feet in diameter; the clock plays the Cambridge chimes, strikes the hours upon a 21 cwt. bell, and is fitted with all the latest improvements. It has a pendulum of two cwt. The entire work has been carried out by John Smith and Sons, Midland Clock Works, Derby, in their usual effective manner.

## THE SHIPWAY REPRINT.

THE first number of the weekly issue of this work will appear

## ON SATURDAY NEXT, JULY 11th,

The numbers can be obtained of all news agents in town and country. A good plan will be to order them with copies of "THE BELL NEWS," the same bookseller supplying both.

Orders should at once be given to local booksellers to prevent disappointment. As in this shape the number of copies printed will only be just enough to cover the demand, it is obvious that those who neglect to obtain the numbers at once will not afterwards have the opportunity.

Each number will contain sixteen pages, size of page being the same as the original work, and having about the same quantity of matter per page. Mr. Snowdon will probably add a valuable contribution to the work in the shape of an appendix.

## PRICE ONE PENNY.

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"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.

A SUFFOLK MAN must not shield his identity by withholding his name.  
W. LOMAS.—Five shillings.  
H. BAREFIELD.—Too late. You had better have it in penny numbers.  
R. CARTWRIGHT.—Dale's clapper stay. See *Troyte's Guide to the Steeples of England*.  
J. W. WASHBROOK.—We will send your communication on to Mr. Snowdon.  
JAMES HEDDING.—In *Troyte's Guide to the Steeples of England* you will get the information you require.

## The Bell News &amp; Ringers' Record.

SATURDAY, JULY 4, 1885.

## The Provinces.

HOLBECK, LEEDS.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—HOLBECK BRANCH.

On Tuesday, June 23, 1885, in Three Hours and Two Minutes,

AT ST. MATTHEW'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

Tenor 16 cwt. in F.

THOMAS HARRISON .. .. .	.. Tryble.	JOSHUA WOODHEAD .. .. .	5.
HARRY TOMLINSON .. .. .	2.	FRANCIS WOODHEAD .. .. .	6.
HENRY MOSS .. .. .	3.	DAVID YORK .. .. .	7.
STEPHEN BASNETT .. .. .	4.	MATTHEW TOMLINSON .. .. .	Tenor.

Composed by WILLIAM WALKER, of Leeds, and Conducted by MATTHEW TOMLINSON.

The above peal, which has never been previously performed, makes the fiftieth peal on these bells by the above Association, out of which there has been thirty peals of Kent Treble Bob; eleven of Bob Major; five of Oxford Treble Bob; two of Grand-sire Triples; one of Bob Triples; and one of Yorkshire Court Bob. The bells, which are a fine ring of eight, was presented by J. E. Woodhouse, Esq., of Holbeck, in 1871, and cast by J. Warner and Sons, London.

## LIVERPOOL, LANCASHIRE.

On Tuesday, June 23, 1885, in Two Hours and Fifty Minutes,

AT ST. LUKE'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

BROOK'S VARIATION. Tenor 16½ cwt. in F.

RICHARD S. MANN .. .. .	.. Treble.	GEORGE FISHER .. .. .	5.
JOHN R. PRITCHARD .. .. .	2.	WILLIAM DAVIES .. .. .	6.
JOHN BROWN .. .. .	3.	THOMAS HAMMOND .. .. .	7.
WILLIAM JAMES .. .. .	4.	WILLIAM BROOKS .. .. .	Tenor.

Conducted by THOMAS HAMMOND.

This is the first peal in the method by all the above band.

## MAIDSTONE, KENT.

On Wednesday, June 24, 1885, in Three Hours and Eleven Minutes,

AT ALL SAINTS' CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S SIX-PART. Tenor 19 cwt.

JESSE CONSTABLE* .. .. .	.. Treble.	JABEZ HORTON .. .. .	5.
WILLIAM ELLIOTT .. .. .	2.	HARRY PEARCE .. .. .	6.
ALCHIN MOORCRAFT .. .. .	3.	GEORGE PAWLEY .. .. .	7.
REUBEN SIMMONDS .. .. .	4.	JAMES FERGUSON .. .. .	Tenor.

Conducted by GEORGE PAWLEY.

\* First Peal.

## BURTON-ON-TRENT, STAFFORDSHIRE.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION, AND THE ST. PAUL'S SOCIETY, BURTON-ON-TRENT.

On Thursday, June 25, 1885, in Three Hours and Nineteen Minutes,

AT ST. PAUL'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES. Tenor 26 cwt.

REV. JAMES H. FISH .. .. .	.. Treble.	HARRY WAKLEY .. .. .	5.
ARTHUR BERTRAM WARD .. .. .	2.	HARRY CHAS. WOODWARD .. .. .	6.
ARTHUR WAKLEY .. .. .	3.	A. P. HEYWOOD, Esq. .. .. .	7.
JOSEPH GRIFFIN .. .. .	4.	WILLIAM WAKLEY .. .. .	Tenor.

Composed by HENRY DAINS and Conducted by WILLIAM WAKLEY.

This peal, which is now rung for the first time, is a two-part peal, and contains the 6th twenty-four times wrong and right. See Snowdon's "Double Norwich," page 31, being the first of the peals there given.

## TAUNTON, SOMERSETSHIRE.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Thursday, June 25, 1885, in Three Hours and Twenty-two Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY MAGDALENE,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERS, 5079 CHANGES;

Tenor 32 cwt.

JOSEPH FIELD .. .. .	.. Treble.	CHARLES HOUNSLOW .. .. .	6.
THOMAS PAYNE .. .. .	2.	REV. F. E. ROBINSON .. .. .	7.
A. F. M. CUSTANCE, Esq. .. .. .	3.	REV. C. D. P. DAVIES .. .. .	8.
WILLIAM FINCH .. .. .	4.	JAMES W. WASHBROOK .. .. .	9.
SAMUEL HOUNSLOW .. .. .	5.	WILLIAM WAKELIN .. .. .	Tenor.

Composed by HENRY JOHNSON, SEN., and Conducted by REV. F. E. ROBINSON.

This is the first Peal of Caters rang in Somerset.

## EASTBOURNE, SUSSEX.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Thursday, June 25, 1885, in Three Hours and Four Minutes,

AT ST. MARY'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S TEN-PART. Tenor 16 cwt. 3 qrs.

G. HARRIS .. .. .	.. Treble.	T. WILLOUGHBY .. .. .	5.
H. P. BENNETT .. .. .	2.	J. POTTER .. .. .	6.
F. HARDING .. .. .	3.	T. HART .. .. .	7.
L. HUGGETT .. .. .	4.	J. LEWIS .. .. .	Tenor.

Conducted by H. P. BENNETT.

## ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE, LANCASHIRE.

On Saturday, June 27, 1885, in Three Hours and Eight Minutes,

AT ST. PETER'S CHURCH,

## A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES.

GEORGE R. HEYWOOD .. Treble.	SAMUEL HILL .. .. . 5.
THOMAS MOSS .. .. . 2.	JOHN THORP .. .. . 6.
BENJAMIN BROADBENT .. 3.	SAMUEL WOOD .. .. . 7.
EDMUND SCHOFIELD .. . 4.	GEORGE LONGDEN .. . Tenor.

Composed by JOHN CARTER, and Conducted by  
SAMUEL WOOD.

For the composition of this peal see "THE BELL NEWS," May 23rd, 1885.

## STALYBRIDGE, CHESHIRE.

On Tuesday, June 30, 1885, in Three Hours and Three Minutes,

AT HOLY TRINITY CHURCH,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;  
IN THE KENT VARIATION.

JOHN LAWTON .. .. . Treble.	BENJAMIN BROADBENT .. 5.
EDMUND SCHOFIELD .. . 2.	GEORGE LONGDEN .. . 6.
JAMES WOOD .. .. . 3.	GEORGE R. HEYWOOD .. 7.
SAMUEL WOOD .. .. . 4.	JOHN THORP .. .. . Tenor.

Composed by Conducted by SAMUEL WOOD.

This is the 100th peal by Samuel Wood and George Longden.

## HYDE, CHESHIRE.

On Monday, June 30, 1885, in Two Hours and Fifty-four Minutes,

AT ST. GEORGE'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;  
\* IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 15 cwt. 1 qr. 24 lbs.

JAMES SHAW .. .. . Treble.	ALBERT E. WREAKS .. . 5.
WALTER SLATER .. .. . 2.	JOHN EACHUS .. .. . 6.
ROBERT WOOLLEY .. .. . 3.	SAMUEL BENNETT .. . 7.
SAMUEL WEST .. .. . 4.	JAMES S. WILDE .. . Tenor.

Composed by TOM LOCKWOOD, of Leeds, and Conducted by  
JAMES S. WILDE.The peal, which is in two parts, will be found in Snowdon's *Treatise*, part ii, page 41. Messrs. West, Wreaks and Eachus belong to the Manchester Cathedral company; the rest belong to the local society.

## Date Touches.

DENFORD (Northamptonshire).—On Saturday evening, June 27th, a date touch of 1885 changes in the following methods, viz.:—445 of Bob Minor, 720 of Oxford Bob Minor, 720 of College Little, in 1 hr. and 10 mins. F. Starmore, 1; A. Arnold, 2; Jas. Groome, 3; H. Groom, 4; F. Arnold, 5; A. Groom (conductor), 6. This is the longest touch by all the above.

EYE (Suffolk).—On Monday evening, June 29th, at the church of SS. Peter and Paul, the local company rang a date touch of 1885 changes of Plain Bob Major, in 1 hr. 12 mins. C. Hawes, 1; F. Day (conductor), 2; W. Goodenham, 3; R. Carfir, 4; R. E. Gibbs, 5; G. Ford, 6; J. Bumpstead, 7; H. Torble, 8. Composed by E. Francis, of Diss.

## Miscellaneous.

## THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

SOUTH HACKNEY (Middlesex).—On Wednesday evening, June 24th, at the church of St. John of Jerusalem, eight members of the above society rang before Service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, 1260 changes, in 46 mins. J. Sumpter, 1; R. Turner (conductor), 2; H. J. Shade, 3; L. Green, 4; G. Marriott, 5; S. Joyce, 6; York Green, 7; E. Turner, 8. Tenor 20 cwt. This is a five-part composition by H. J. Shade, and was rung on the occasion of the induction of the new rector, the Rev. Canon Lester.

## ASSOCIATION FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.

LICHFIELD.—On Saturday, June 27th, six members of the above Association rang at St. Michael's church, Greenhill, a 720 of Bob Minor (eighteen bobs and two singles), in 26 mins. B. Dalton, 1; J. Fullwood, 2; W. Devey, 3; J. Jones, 4; J. E. Claridge, 5; R. Cartwright, 6. Tenor about 12 cwt. J. Fullwood hails from West Bromwich; Messrs. Dalton and Jones from Tettenhall; the rest from Wombourne.

## DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

JARROW.—On Tuesday, June 23rd, at St. Peter's church, in honour of the marriage of the Rev. F. N. Thicknesse, Lecturer at the parish church, Bolton, and formerly a curate of this church, four 720's of Minor, viz.: Grandsire, Plain Bob, Oxford Bob, and College Single. W. Baxter, 1; A. English, 2; R. Oliver, 3; W. Holmes, 4; J. Campbell, 5; F. Harrison (conductor), 6. First 720 in the method of Grandsire by all except W. Baxter, who rung the 2nd in this method. Tenor 8½ cwt. And at Christ church, a 720 of Oxford Bob and 480 of College Single, the men standing the same as before. Tenor 17 cwt.

## THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

ROMFORD.—*Handbell Ringing*.—On Saturday evening, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor. A. Pye, 1-2; A. J. Perkins (conductor), 3-4; B. Keeble, 5-6. This 720 contains fifteen bobs with the tenors right throughout, and was rung in the tower at 9.30 by moonlight.

## THE HERTFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

LANGLEYBURY (Herts).—On Monday, June 22nd, at St. Paul's church, the following members of the St. Alban's branch of the above Association rang a 720 of Grandsire Minor (thirty-four bobs and two singles), in 25 mins. W. Battle, 1; H. Lewis, 2; A. Godman, jun., 3; G. W. Cartmel, 4; A. Godman, sen., 5; N. N. Hills (conductor), 6. Tenor 9 cwt. This is the first 720 on the bells.

ST. ALBANS (Herts).—On Monday, June 29th, at St. Michael's Church, a 720 of Grandsire Minor (thirty-eight bobs and twenty-two singles), in 27 mins. W. Battle, 1; W. H. L. Buckingham, 2; A. Godman, jun., 3; G. W. Cartmel, 4; A. Godman, sen., 5; N. N. Hills (conductor), 6. Tenor 10 cwt. This is the first 720 known to have been rung on the bells. All the above are College Youths except A. Godman, jun.

## THE EASTERN COUNTIES' GUILD.

SPALDING (Lincolnshire).—On Tuesday, June 16th, at the church of SS. Mary and Nicolas, a 720 and a 216 of Plain Bob. J. W. Jarvis, 1; C. Neaverson, 2; G. L. Richardson, 3; J. Wright, 4; R. Mackman, 5; G. Skeef (conductor), 6. And on June 21st, for morning service, 360 of London Single. And for evening service, 480 of Plain Bob. On Tuesday, June 23rd, 720 of Oxford Treble Bob. G. Skeef, 1; J. S. Wright, 2; G. L. Richardson, 3; Dr. Seccombe (Torrington), 4; R. Mackman, 5; J. Brown, 6. Also on Sunday, June 28th, being Coronation Day, four 120s of Bob Doubles was rung at 7 a.m.; a 720 of Plain Bob (30 bobs and 2 singles) at 10 a.m.; and at 6.0 p.m., 720 of Plain Bob. After service a 720 of London Single. The following ringers took part: J. S. Wright, G. Richardson, R. Mackman, J. Brown, C. Neaverson, J. W. Jarvis, G. Skeef.

## GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

GLOUCESTER.—On Monday, June 22nd, in addition to performances recorded in last week's issue at the Cathedral and St. Michael's, a mixed company rang at St. Nicholas, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob, in 23 mins. W. Witherington (Tewkesbury), 1; W. Sevier (Barnwood), 2; F. E. Ward, Esq. (Cheltenham), 3; H. Karn (conductor; Cheltenham), 4; J. Wathen (Tewkesbury), 5; G. Phillott, Esq. (Cheltenham), 6. Tenor 17½ cwt.

## THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

FAVERSHAM (Kent).—On Sunday, June 28th, for morning service, by the local company, 720 of Plain Bob, with the treble leading and tenor covering, in 29 mins. J. Smith, 1; T. Gillett (first 720), 2; A. Biggs, 3; J. Barnard, 4; C. L. Graham, 5; W. Wood (conductor), 6; W. Arnold, 7; H. Hughes, 8.

## THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

HAUGHTON (Lancashire).—On Thursday, June 25th, at St. Anne's church, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor was rung in 28 mins. James A. Thomas, 1; John Bardsley, 2; Wm. Wilde, sen., 3; John S. Leech, 4; John Howard, 5; Peter Smith, 6. And on Tuesday, June 30th, another 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor, in 27½ mins., standing as before, both conducted by Wm. Wilde, sen. And a 360 of Plain Bob Minor, in 14 mins. Wm. Wilde, jun., 1; John Howard, 2; James A. Thomas, 3; Wm. Wilde, sen., 4; John S. Leech, 5; Peter Smith (conductor), 6. Tenor 15 cwt. in G.

PRESTWICH (Lancashire).—On Saturday, June 27th, eight members of the Manchester Cathedral branch of the above Association visited the above place and rang a 360 of Bob Minor, in 14 mins. Thomas G. Downs, 1; Samuel West, 2; Joseph Grimshaw, 3; James Thorpe, 4; Albert E. Wreaks, 5; John Withers, 6. Also a 720 in the same method (fourteen bobs and two singles), in 29 mins. standing as before. Also a 360 in the same method in 15 mins. Thomas Thorpe, 1; Thomas G. Downs, 2; James Thorpe, 3; Samuel West, 4; Joseph Grimshaw, 5; Albert E. Wreaks, 6. Tenor 15½ cwt. in E. All the above were conducted by Albert E. Wreaks.

WALKDEN (Lancashire).—On Monday, June 22nd, a 720 of Bob Minor (eighteen singles and eighteen bobs), for practice, in 25½ mins. J. Welsby (conductor), 1; J. Worthington, 2; S. Oakes, 3; J. Brookes, 4; A. Potter, 5; W. Denner, 6. And on Sunday, June 28th, the bells were half-muffled during the day, in respect of the many deceased men and boys that were so suddenly called away in the sad explosion at Clifton Hall Colliery, near Manchester. And for Divine Service in the evening, a 720 of Bob Minor in 27 mins. J. Welsby (conductor), 1; J. Worthington, 2; S. Oakes, 3; J. Williamson, 4; J. Brookes, 5; W. Denner, 6. Tenor 13½ cwt.

#### THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

LONG EATON (Derbyshire).—On Sunday, June 28th, the following members of St. Laurence Society, rang for Divine Service in the evening, 576 of Kent Treble Bob Major. William Grice, 1; Richard Hickton, 2; George Bradley, 3; Samuel Clarke, 4; John C. Dickens, 5; William Gilson, 6; John Ward, 7; Joseph Barrow (conductor), 8. After which the band walked to Sandiacre, a distance of 1½ miles, and succeeded in ringing a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor, with the bells muffled, as a mark of respect to the late Joseph Stevens, Esq., the donor of the bells. George Bradley, 1; Richard Hickton, 2; Samuel Clarke, 3; John C. Dickens, 4; William Grice, 5; John Ward (conductor), 6. Also 360 Plain Bob Minor. G. Bradley, 1; R. Hickton, 2; S. Clarke, 3; W. Gilson, 4; J. C. Dickens, 5; Joseph Barrow (conductor), 6. This handy ring of six bells are by Messrs. Taylor and Sons, of Loughborough. Tenor 17 cwt. in F. Had the above gentleman been spared a little longer, he would have added two trebles, which he would have done before now if the local company had been able to ring a 720.

#### THE NORTH LINCOLNSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

GAINSBOROUGH (Lincolnshire).—On Tuesday, June 30th, at All Saints church, a 720 of Grandsire Minor (thirty-four bobs and two singles, in 27 mins. T. Pattinson, 1; F. W. Atkinson, 2; J. C. Tinker, 4; W. Pattinson, 5; C. Brewin, 6; W. D. Tinker (conductor), 7; W. W. Bust (tenor covering), 8. Tenor 20 cwt. This is the first 720 in the method by any of the above. The reason of the 3rd not being rung was owing to the rope being broken while ringing Triples.

#### THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

OXFORD.—Handbell Ringing.—On Tuesday evening, May 23rd, at St. Mary Magdalen church, a 336 of Grandsire Triples. W. Wood, 1; W. Burgess, 2; W. Baston, 3-4; W. Washbrook (conductor), 5-6; H. J. Castle, 7-8. Also two courses of Grandsire Major. W. Wood, 1-2; H. J. Castle, 3-4; J. W. Washbrook, 5-6; W. Baston, 7-8.

#### STOKE-UPON-TRENT ARCHIDIACONAL ASSOCIATION.

NORTON (Staffordshire).—On Tuesday, June 23rd, a 720 of Stedman's Slow Course Minor, in 27 mins. H. Holdcroft, 1; E. Glover, 2; J. Morton, 3; J. Wood, 4; G. Walker, 5; J. Baddeley (conductor), 6.

BASINGSTOKE (Kent).—On Tuesday, June 30th, at St. Michael's church, on the occasion of the marriage of H. Stocker, one of the local ringers, several 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles, were rung with 7 6 8 covering. W. Sugg, 1; H. Southgate, 2; F. Bicknell, 3; G. Capron, 4; W. Tiller, 5; J. Higgins, 6; T. Higgins, 7; T. Wheeler, 8. Conducted by F. Bicknell and W. Tiller.

BILDESTON (Suffolk).—On Saturday evening, June 20th, several short touches of Plain Bob Minor was rung at the parish church. The company then adjourned to the house of Mr. A. Long, one of the local ringers, where some handbell ringing, and tune playing by Mr. J. Bradley, of West Ham. And on Monday, June 29th, at St. Mary's, a 720 of Plain Bob Minor, in 30 mins. A. Long, 1; J. Scowen, 2; G. Scowen, 3; R. Bedingfield, 4; W. Nevard (conductor), 5; T. Mann, 6. And a short touch of Oxford Treble Bob. T. Mann, 1; J. Scowen, 2; G. Scowen, 3; R. Bedingfield, 4; W. Nevard, 5; J. Taylor, 6. Tenor 18 cwt. Messrs. J. and G. Scowen and T. Mann hail from Hadleigh; W. Nevard from Great Bentley, the rest are local men.

BRAMFORD (Suffolk).—On Sunday morning, June 2nd, at the parish church, the local company rang two 6-scores of Plain Doubles. Charles Osborne, 1; Walter Brown, 2; William Read, 3; Alfred Pryke, 4; Charles Smith (conductor), 5. Tenor 16 cwt. in G. This is the first change-ringing done by a local company in Bramford for thirty years. C. Osborne and W. Brown having learnt since Christmas. C. Smith, A. Pryke and W. Read belong to the Norwich Diocesan Association.

CAVENDISH (Suffolk).—On Monday evening, June 22nd, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob. F. J. Thompson, 1; H. Thompson, 2; F. Wells, 3; A. Ives, 4; Philip Sadler (Norwich; conductor), 5; G. Maxim, 6. And a 720 of Double Court Bob. F. J. Thompson, 1; J. S. Page, 2; F. Wells, 3; O. Garwood, 4; P. Sadler, 5; S. Slater (conductor), 6.

CHESTER.—On Saturday, June 20th, at St. Mary's church, a 720 of Grandsire Minor, in 24 mins. \*William Joinson, 1; †Edwin Davis, 2; George Caldwell, 3; Ralph Curry, 4; Sydney Barton, 5; Thomas J. Bithell (conductor), 6. Tenor 23 cwt. \*First 720. †First 720 with a bob bell.

FOXEARH (Essex).—On Sunday, June 28th, for Divine Service in the afternoon, a touch of Bob Minor was rung in which Mr. Sadler (of Norwich) took part.

ECKINGTON (Derbyshire).—On Sunday, June 28th, at the parish church, for early morning service, the local company rang a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob Minor in 27 mins. F. Ancock, 1; G. Norman, 2; E. James, 3; J. Shaw, 4; W. Price, 5; G. Marsden (conductor), 6. And for Divine Service in the evening, the Staveley company, with J. Atkin, of Norton, rang a 720 of Violet Minor. W. Harris, 1; H. Mottershall, 2; J. Atkin, 3; W. Worthington, 4; J. Hunt, 5; H. Madin (conductor), 6. Also 360 of Oxford Treble Bob Minor. G. Smith, 1; H. Mottershall (conductor), 2; W. Biggin (Norton), 3; J. Atkin, 4; W. Worthington, 5; G. Marsden, 6.

GREAT WALDINGFIELD (Suffolk).—On Tuesday, June 23rd, a 720 of Bob Minor. F. R. Steed (Long Melford), 1; G. Hammond (Long Melford), 2; P. Sadler, 3; J. Bird, 4; P. C. S. Scott, 5; S. Slater (conductor), 6.

GLEMSFORD (Suffolk).—On Friday, June 26th, a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob. Z. Slater, 1; C. Honeybell, 2; F. Wells, 3; S. Slater, 4; Philip Sadler, 5; O. Garwood (conductor), 6.

HARTEST (Suffolk).—On Thursday, June 25th, two 6-scores of Bob Doubles. Z. Slater, 1; O. Garwood, 2; F. Wells, 3; P. Sadler, 4; S. Slater (conductor), 5. 2nd 120; S. Slater, 1; C. Honeybell, 2; Z. Slater, 3; O. Garwood, 4; P. Sadler (conductor), 5. Tenor 11 cwt.

HITCHAM (Suffolk).—On Sunday, June 21st, a 720 of Plain Bob and a 360 of Treble Bob was rung—720 Plain Bob: J. Bradley (West Ham), 1; R. Bedingfield (Bildeston), 2; J. Steed (Hitcham), 3; J. Taylor (Bildeston), 4; A. Long (Bildeston), 5; W. Green (Monkseleigh), 6. 360 of Treble Bob: J. Bradley, 1; R. Bedingfield, 2; A. Keeble (Monkseleigh), 3; J. Taylor, 4; A. Long, 5; W. Green (conductor), 6.

HUNDON (Suffolk).—On Thursday, June 25th, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob, in 28 mins. C. Honeybell, 1; Z. Slater, 2; F. Wells, 3; O. Garwood, 4; P. Sadler, 5; S. Slater (conductor), 6. Tenor 19 cwt.

LITTLE WALDINGFIELD (Suffolk).—On Tuesday evening, June 23rd, two 6-scores of Bob Doubles. P. C. S. Scott (first 120), 1; P. Sadler, 2; S. Slater, 3; J. Bird, 4; J. Newman (Edwardstone; conductor), 5. 2nd 6-score: G. Death, 1; S. Slater, 1; G. Hammond, 3; J. Bird, 4; J. Newman (conductor), 5.

LONG MELFORD (Suffolk).—On Saturday, June 20th, on the occasion of the visit of Mr. Philip Sadler, of Norwich, an attempt was made to ring the late Thomas Hurry's peal of Treble Bob Major, 5344 changes, when after ringing within fourteen treble leads of the finish of the peal, in 3 hrs. and 5 mins., it was brought to an unexpected end by an unforeseen accident. Philip Sadler (conductor), 1; Chas. Honeybell, 2; Geo. Hammond, 3; Zach. Slater, 4; Thos. O. Garwood, 5; Fredk. Wells, 6; Geo. Maxim, 7; Ernest Pitstow, 8.

NORTH WINGFIELD (Derbyshire).—Muffled Peal.—On Saturday afternoon, June 27th, at St. Lawrence's church, as a last token of respect for an old ringer, Samuel Ordish, immediately after funeral service six 6-scores of Bob Doubles was rung, each called differently, with the bells half muffled, in 30 mins. A. Bannister, 1; G. Beresford, 2; G. Tarlton, 3; T. Allibone, 4; T. Day, 5; W. Hopkinson, 6. Tenor 18½ cwt. in F.

NOTTINGHAM.—On Saturday, June 13th, at St. Mary's church, 1061 Grandsire Caters. J. Wilson, 1; T. Cooper, 2; H. W. Abbott, 3; W. Billingham, 4; J. Howe, 5; G. Ashworth, 6; J. W. Taylor, jun., Esq., 7; H. C. Woodward (conductor), 8; A. P. Heywood, Esq., 9; S. Wilkinson, 10. Followed by some short touches of Grandsire Caters, in which J. W. Taylor, sen., Esq., E. D. Taylor, Esq., Messrs. A. Cresser, T. Holmes, and Rev. W. W. C. Baker took part. Also some Stedman Caters (believed to be the first in Nottingham), concluding with a touch of Grandsire Caters. J. W. Wilson, 1; A. Cresser, 2; H. W. Abbott, 3; J. Howe, 4; T. Holmes, 5; A. P. Heywood, Esq., (conductor), 6; J. W. Taylor, sen., Esq., 7; H. C. Woodward, 8; J. W. Taylor, jun., Esq., 9; E. Wightman, 10. Tenor 34½ cwt. Mr. Heywood hails from Duffield; Messrs. Taylor, Cresser, Billingham, Cooper, and Wightman from Loughborough; Messrs. Howe and Woodward from Derby; Mr. T. Holmes from Burton-on-Trent; the rest are local men.

PASLINGFORD (Suffolk).—On Thursday morning, June 25th, 120 of Bob Doubles. Z. Slater, 1; C. Honeybell, 2; F. Wells, 3; P. Sadler (conductor), 4; S. Slater, 5. Tenor 11 cwt.

**SALISBURY (Wilts).—Muffled Peal.**—On Wednesday, June 24th, in memory of the late Uriah Woodman, of Trowbridge, whose death was recorded last week, a 720 of Bob Minor, in 27 mins. J. Short, 1; E. A. Foster, 2; C. A. Clements, 3; T. Blackburn, 4; W. W. Gifford, 5; J. R. Jerram, 6.

**SHIMPLING (Suffolk).**—On Thursday, June 25th, a 6-score of Bob Doubles. Z. Slater, 1; C. Honeybell, 2; O. Garwood, 3; F. Wells, 4; P. Sadler (conductor), 5. Tenor 9 cwt.

**STANSTEAD (Essex).**—On Saturday, June 6th, at St. Mary the Virgin, the local company rang a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob, in 25½ mins. J. Cavill, 1; J. Luckey, 2; H. Prior, jun., 3; G. Gray, 4; Isaac Cavill, 5; C. Prior (conductor), 6. Also on Sunday, June 7th, for morning service, a 360 of Plain Bob Minor. G. Prior, 1; W. Prior, 2; G. Gray, 3; H. Prior, jun., 4; Isaac Cavill, 5; J. Luckey (conductor), 6. And on Saturday, June 13th, a 720 Plain Bob Minor (forty-two singles), in 26 mins. W. Prior, 1; Isaac Cavill, 2; G. Gray, 3; H. Prior, jun., 4; J. Luckey, 5; C. Prior (conductor), 6. Also on Sunday, June 21st, for evening service, a 720 of Plain Bob Minor (eighteen bobs and eighteen singles), in 27 mins. G. Prior, 1; J. Luckey, 2; H. Prior, jun., 3; G. Gray, 4; Isaac Cavill, 5; C. Prior (conductor), 6. Also on Sunday, June 28th, for evening service, a 720 of College Single Minor, in 25 mins. W. Prior, 1; J. Luckey, 2; H. Prior, jun., 3; G. Gray, 5; Isaac Cavill, 5; C. Prior (conductor), 6. This is the first 720 in the method by all, also the first 720 in the method on these bells. Also on Sunday morning, June 28th, a touch of Kent Treble Bob was rung. P. Sadler, 1; G. Hammond, 2; Jas. Bird, 3; P. C. S. Scott, 4; E. Pitstow, 5; N. J. Pitstow (conductor), 6. Tenor 13 cwt.

**STRADISHALL (Suffolk).**—On Thursday, June 25th, a 6-score of Bob Doubles, the first on the bells for many years. Z. Slater, 1; O. Garwood, 2; F. Wells, 3; P. Sadler (conductor), 4; S. Slater, 5. Tenor 10 cwt.

**SWANSCOMBE (Kent).**—On Thursday, June 25th, at the church of SS. Peter and Paul, a 720 of Bob Minor. A. Conford (first 720), 1; F. Ring, 2; F. Hayes (conductor), 3; W. Martin, 4; W. Harper, 5; G. Martin, 6. And on Sunday, June 28th, for morning service a 720 of Grandsire Minor. J. Harding, 1; F. Ring, 2; W. Martin, 3; G. Martin, 4; G. Hayes, 5; W. Harper (conductor), 6. And for evening service, a 720 of Bob Minor. J. Broom, 1; F. Ring, 2; W. Martin, 3; G. Hayes, 4; G. Martin, 5; W. Harper (conductor), 6.

**TYLDESLEY (Lancashire).**—On Sunday, June 28th, being the occasion of the Sunday School Anniversary sermons at St. George's church, five of the Walkden company paid a visit in the afternoon, and with the assistance of Mr. James Aldred, one of the local company, a 720 of Bob Minor was rang in 24½ mins. J. Welsby (conductor), 1; J. Worthington, 2; S. Oakes, 3; James Aldred, 4; A. Potter, 5; W. Denner, 6. Tenor 12 cwt.

\* \* Several touches are unavoidably left over till our next issue.

#### THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Tuesday evening, June 23rd, the Folkestone company were treated to an outing to Staplehurst, by the churchwardens, Messrs. Chapman and Dunk, and were accompanied by Mr. E. Potter from Dover, Mr. F. Finn from Mersham, and were met on arrival by Mr. T. Potter from Frittenden, and Mr. Kemp from Maidstone. The ringing consisted of various touches of Grandsire Triples, in which the several parties mentioned took part. The bells are a nice musical peal, in fairly good going order, far beyond the expectation of the visitors, who had in remembrance the report given by some of the visiting ringers at the recent opening, and what added to their gratification, they were complimented on having rung some well struck changes. The ringing was kept up till near ten o'clock, leaving but bare time to get some necessary refreshments, and catch the train to convey the party to their respective homes.

They beg, through the medium of "THE BELL NEWS," to return their sincere thanks to Messrs. Chapman and Dunk for the outing, and to the Rev. G. F. Reyner, D.D., for the use of the bells, also to the churchwardens and local company for the welcome accorded them.

#### THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—CAVERSHAM BRANCH.

The following is the ringing done by the above branch during the month of June:—May 26th, 720 of Bob Minor; May 31st, 720 of Grandsire; June 6th, 720 of Grandsire and 720 of Double Oxford Bob; June 14th, 720 of Oxford Bob; June 21st, two 720s of Bob Minor; June 29th, 720 of Bob Minor. Seven 6-scores of Stedman have also been rung, in one of which E. Bishop of Reading scored his maiden peal in the method. H. Egby and J. Willshire also of Reading took part in the last 720. The Caversham band who rang in the others were H. Smith, E. Pottinger, G. Essex, E. Menday, H. Simmonds, J. Hands, T. Newman, and Rev. G. F. Coleridge; the conducting being shared between the two latter.

#### A RINGERS' RAMBLE.

BEING on a visit to Cheshire, and having seen Mr. W. Gordon, of Stockport, it was arranged through his kindness, that we should have a ramble on the following day, June 27th. After half-an-hour's run on the London and North Western Railway, and passing through the beautiful scenery of the Vale Royal of Cheshire, Macclesfield was reached at 8.50, and to make sure of a ring we went in search of a brother-string, whom we found in the person of Mr. W. Kenny. 10 a.m. found us in the belfry, which contains a peal of ten bells (tenor about 20 cwt.), and many old tablets containing peals cut in the stone, and some old rules after the style of "Ye Gentlemen that ringers are." Being short-handed for Caters, which was to be remedied the following evening by two clever young ringers from Sutton being made members, the back eight were raised in peal, and a 392 of Grandsire Triples rung by the following persons: John Farrish, 1; Joseph Burgess, 2; Charles Bamford, 3; William Kenny, 4; William Gordon (conductor), 5; Edward Matthews, 6; Frank Birtwhistle, 7; James Morlidge, 8. The next move was to the house of Mr. W. Hulme, to see the jugs belonging to the Macclesfield Society, the largest of which holds seventeen quarts, the next nine quarts, and the smallest one half-a-gallon, all of which have been presented to them, the last for ringing the first and only peal yet rung in the Potteries. No ringers visiting Macclesfield should return without seeing them.

12.45 found us on our way to Bollington, by the Midland Railway, and a walk of about 2½ miles brought us to the church. The vicar's kind permission having been given, the bells were raised in peal, and a 1470 of Grandsire Triples was rung in good style in 1 hr. by the following: John Farrish, 1; James Holt, 2; Joseph Burgess, 3; W. Kenny, 4; W. Gordon (conductor), 5; Ed. Matthews, 6; Frank Birtwhistle, 7; James Morlidge, 8. Tenor 18 cwt.

Prestbury was the next place to be visited, and the contention was that another wonder would be added if we were successful in getting a pull, but apart from that we must see Prestbury church, where there is another older structure still standing in the same yard. In the south porch there are stone seats and trough for Holy Water. There is also a stone coffin, and outside in a glass case a portion of an old stone cross supposed to have been put up the first time Christianity was preached there. Permission not being obtained to ring this melodious peal, we bade our Macclesfield friends good bye, and we take this opportunity of thanking them for their kindness in accompanying us on such a pleasant outing. F. BIRTWHISTLE.

#### THE UNITED COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

THE HALF-YEARLY MEETING of this Association will take place to-day, Saturday, July 4th, at Northenden, Cheshire. Dinner will be provided at the "Spread Eagle" Tavern, at half-past four p.m., tickets 1s. 6d. each, drinks extra. The following towers will be open for ringing during the day; Northenden, six bells; Didsbury, six bells; Barlow Moor, eight bells. J. S. WILDE, Hon. Sec.

#### THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

ESTABLISHED 1637.

The Two Hundred and Forty-Eighth Anniversary of this Society will be held at the "Cherry Tree," Southgate, Middlesex, to-day, Saturday, July 4th. Dinner on the table at 3.0 sharp.

#### WORCESTER AND ADJOINING DISTRICT ASSOCIATION.

The next ANNUAL MEETING of the above Association will be held at Bromsgrove, on Monday, July 13th. The peal of ten bells will be open for ringing during the day. The business meeting will be held at 2 o'clock, in St. John the Baptist School Room, (close to the church), at which Lord Alwyne Compton, D.D., has promised (if able) to preside. Members, Hon. and performing, are requested to note that all contributions not yet paid, should be paid at this meeting.

[NO. SMITH, } Hon. Secs.  
F. OWEN, }

#### THE HERTFORDSHIRE COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

The next Quarterly Meeting will be held at Sawbridgeworth, on Monday, July 13th. Members who intend to be present are requested to send their names to the local secretaries of their bands, who will be informed as soon as possible of the arrangements for dinner and railway fares. The following towers will be open for ringing, viz.: Sawbridgeworth, 8 bells; Bishops Stortford, 10; Harlow, 8.

W. WIGRAM, General Secretary.

A CORRECTION.—In the report of the peal rang at Pinner last Bank Holiday, John Lewis rang the tenor, not James, as our correspondent stated in error.



## 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 JOHNSON TESTIMONIAL.

SIR,—In reference to Mr. Hattersley's letter of last week, I can only say that I, for one, shall be glad to assist in the best way I can to promote the object in view. I do not suppose that any of my ringing friends can imagine how much I am indebted to Mr. Johnson for assistance when I have been for information connected with the history or science of change-ringing. I trust that some of our Birmingham friends will form themselves into a committee to carry this matter out. Should they find that the idea of a presentation portrait was approved, I do not think that the testimonial could take a more interesting form. If a portrait is decided on, let it however be a good one. I think that a really good and artistic enlarged permanent photograph would probably be the most satisfactory. In such a case ordinary small-sized reproductions of the same might be presented to all subscribers of a certain sum to the testimonial, and would form interesting mementoes of the occasion. I would also suggest that a handsome illuminated and framed address, setting forth the object of the testimonial, should at the same time be presented to Mr. Johnson.

Wortley, Leeds.

JASPER W. SNOWDON.

## A FALSE TOUCH.

SIR,—In reading the account of the outing of the St. Lawrence's Society, Reading, I notice a 559 of Grandsire Triples, at Drayton, conducted by W. Newell, taken from Troyte's book. Perhaps it would be as well that ringers were acquainted with the fact that this touch is false, as are also other touches given in the same work, namely, a 377 and a 420. There are plenty of good touches to be had which are true, containing all the 7-5-6's, and some in a less number of changes than this 559.

A. J. PERKINS.

## LIST OF RINGS IN THE COUNTY OF SUFFOLK.

SIR,—Seeing Mr. Clarkson's list of rings in Suffolk, and that he would be glad of any correction, I have taken the liberty to make a few remarks, namely: First he states that Thornham has only five bells, but if he refers to number 88 of "THE BELL NEWS," he will see a report of a 720 rung on the bells at that place, and supposed to be the first ever rung there. The Bardwell tenor should be 14 cwt. I visited Great Barton in 1869, and found only five bells then, and have not heard of any being added since. The tenor at Hinderclay is 12½ cwt. I also visited St. Mary-at-Elms, Ipswich, in 1878, and only found five bells there. I quite agree with Mr. Clarkson as to Gislingham being a fine peal, but Mr. J. Garnham, who was a noted ringer there for many years, always said that South Lopham bells was the best peal of six he ever heard.

W. DORAN.

West Ham.

SIR,—Mr. Clarkson has made some mistakes in his letter to you on the above subject, as there are only five bells at Great Barton, with a tenor 11 cwt.; and only five bells, with a tenor 10 cwt. at St. Mary-at-Elms, Ipswich. As I know, having rang there myself there are five bells at Dennington, tenor 21 cwt. Gazeley has only five bells with a tenor 10 cwt. No doubt there are several others. I had marked out a list like Mr. Clarkson's from "White's Gazetteer," but had found it to be very incomplete, so I never published it, only as far as rings of eight. I should be pleased to see a complete list got up.

Glensford, Suffolk.

SAMUEL SLATER.

## THE PEAL OF BOB MAJOR AT WEST MALLING, KENT.

SIR,—I was not surprised to see F. G. Newman's letter in "THE BELL NEWS," as he said on the Monday evening before the peal was rung that he intended to contradict it, and he also told us the same thing at our meeting-house after the peal was rung, only then he stated publicly that he had taken the course-ends off, and that the composition was false, but I suppose finding he could not properly carry out that charge, he shifted his ground. With regard to the striking, of which he speaks so strongly, I beg to state most emphatically that it was nothing like what anyone would infer from Mr. Newman's letter, nor do I think anyone would bear him out in it, if they spoke without prejudice or ill-will. I am quite ready to admit that the striking was not all it might be, but it may be some little excuse for us when we say that it was the first peal the 6th man had rung on an inside bell, while the treble-man had never rung more than a few hundreds of Major on any bell at any time, and I further wish to say that the part-ends came up true from beginning to end, and without any calls being omitted or extra ones made, or the bells being forced into position. I know of several peals in which the striking was far worse than in the one in question, which were published by Mr. Newman, only in those he was the con-

ductor, which fact, with those who know him, make all the difference. Now sir, Mr. Newman was in far too many public houses (vowing vengeance, in his characteristic manner) during the time the peal was being rung, to have heard but little of it, so that his statement of having heard the whole of it must be false.

JAMES W. LEONARD.

SIR,—Will you kindly allow me space in your paper concerning the recent peal of Bob Major rung at West Malling, Kent. I, like Mr. F. G. Newman, had the pleasure of hearing the above, and can fully endorse the remarks made by him in your last issue. I should also like to ask the conductor for the composition of the peal, through your medium, as I asked for it the same night it was rung, and it was refused me, but was told that it was a 5040 taken from the *Clavis* with 560 tacked on to it.

HARRY PEARCE.

## A FALSE PEAL.

SIR,—I am sorry to say that the peal of 5184 of Treble Bob Major, published in your last issue, by A. Sykes, Huddersfield, is false. The 6th lead in the 1st course, 7 6 4 8 5 2 3 repeats when the treble is dodging behind with the 2nd lead in 16th course, viz.: 2 4 6 5 8 3 7. It is also false in many other places.

TOM LOCKWOOD.

## THE BELLS OF CAMBRIDGESHIRE.

SIR,—In your issue of last week I note you give the rings of Cambridgeshire. Sawston appears in this list as having six bells, two trebles have just been added by Messrs. Lewis, of Brixton, making an octave. A chiming apparatus has also been put in by the same firm. I think it is quite true that Cambridgeshire is badly off for rings of six and upwards, and much behind the neighbouring counties in change-ringing. If the bells are rung at all it is for the most part by round ringers with call changes. They have been allowed to do as they pleased, and almost ignored instead of being treated as just as much a part of the church staff as the choir and organist. Not much can be done with these old ringers, but in most places there are plenty of young men who would be quite willing to learn to ring for the sake of doing something in church work; but who is to teach them?

JAMES HEDDING.

SIR,—I have with much interest, read for the past week or so the several lists of rings in the different counties, supplied by your correspondent, Mr. Rees. I should not for a moment think of attempting to dabble in Mr. Rees' good work, but I should like to ask one question, and that is, "Why the rings of five bells are not included in these lists." On looking at Kelly and Co's. Post Office Directory of Cambridgeshire for 1879, I find as many as forty rings of five mentioned in there. I have the pleasure of living in one the villages containing one of such rings, the particulars of which (as far as I am able), I give as follows: Doddington, 5 bells, tenor 8 cwt. in A. Back four (1736), treble (1737), cast by Tho. Gardener, Sudbury, Suffolk. My opinion is that the county containing so few rings of six and eight, is one great reason for its being so backward in the art change-ringing.

Doddington, Cambridgeshire.

R. WADE.

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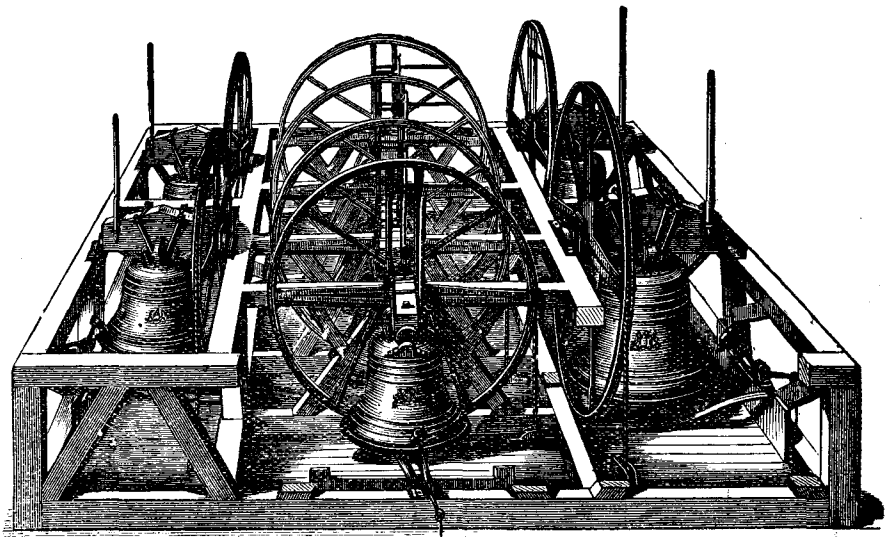
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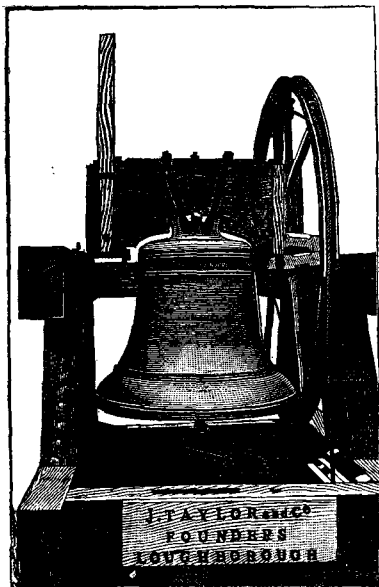
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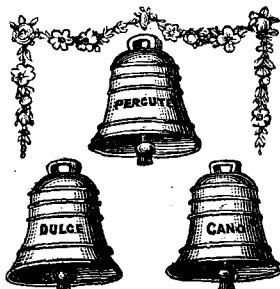
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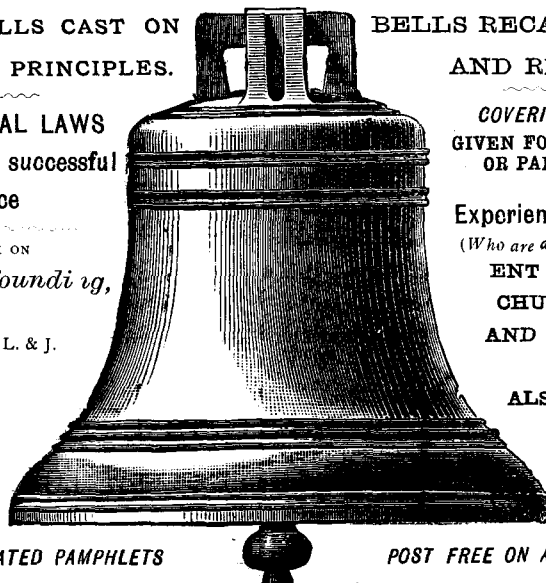
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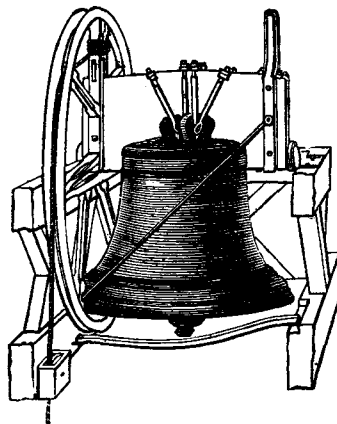
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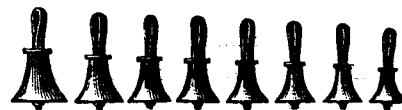
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## ELIJAH ROBERTS.

BY JASPER W. SNOWDON.

FROM time to time the names of men become connected with some particular branch of change-ringing either as composers, conductors, heavy-bell ringers, method ringers, or long length ringers, or in some way from their particular ability in some one direction, certain men are to be found whose names stand out beyond those of their fellows. In the future as well as the present, we shall most probably not have men as clever in their special branches as those who have preceded them; at the same time there is no doubt but that a man, as a composer, has not the scope for his abilities that there was at—say the beginning of the century. Against this, however, we must set the facilities that now exist for forming an acquaintance with, at least, the more rudimentary knowledge that is necessary in the branches of composing and proving. We may, therefore, expect that as the cleverest composers, provers, and conductors of the present day pass away, that others worthy to occupy their places will succeed them. In the same way it may be prognosticated that, at intervals at least, we shall have bands with the ability and perseverance necessary to accomplish peals in the most intricate methods, and that men of muscle and pluck will be forthcoming to ring the heavy bells in long peals, and others whose practice and attention will fit them for the accomplishment of the more mental efforts required in the performance of double-handed peal-ringing. It will, therefore, only be at long intervals of time that any man will be able to take up such a position amongst the members of the Exercise, that it is improbable that some one who can approach or perhaps excel him, may not in the course of time be expected to come forward. Such a man, however, the subject of our notice seems to have been.

Elijah Roberts, who was born in Birmingham on the 23rd of May, 1807, was a good practical ringer, and to some extent, at least, a composer; but his special ability was the tapping of changes on handbells. The bells were fixed in a horizontal position in a frame, being arranged in two rows, the mouths of the bells forming the different rows pointing towards each other. If we imagine the following spaces to represent the bells, they were arranged thus:—

17	15	13	11	9	7	5	3	1
18	16	14	12	10	8	6	4	2

The bells were struck with two small hammers held one in each hand. These hammers consisted of discs of wood covered with felt on the rims, and fitted with handles about seven inches long. With these Roberts used to tap the changes and follow each bell through its varying course during thousands of changes. Of course it may be said that with the heavy bells working in a certain regular relation to each other, the mental difficulty of ringing a long peal in such a method as Treble Bob does not increase in the same ratio as the number of bells increases. Granted; but when we consider that in 5040 of Treble Bob Maximus, 60,480 blows have to be struck, the task is one that, allowing for all this, is a very great undertaking.

At the age of twelve years Roberts began to study the art of change-ringing, at first by tapping, and then in the steeple. About the year 1821, he rang the second bell in a 5040 of Grandsire Triples at Aston. This peal is also of interest, as it was the first peal rung by the late Thomas Day, who also conducted the same. Unfortunately, any particular record of this peal is not in existence, but its performance still survives in the memory of those who have heard Mr. Day, as he was fond of doing, relate the details of his first successful peal.

Although it is probable that in the interval Roberts rang in other peals in the tower, the next record of such a performance in which his name appears, is to be found in the peal-book of the Birmingham St. Martin's Youths, as on December 13th, 1830, he took part with that Society in the first performance of Thos. Day's clever composition of Stedman Triples. After this, his name is to be found connected with the performances of this

society until the year 1835. On February 1st, 1832, he rang at St. Martin's in the first peal of Treble Bob Cinques (5104 changes), ever rung.

On September 23rd, 1833 he rang the seventh and conducted a 6000 of Kent Treble Bob Royal, his own composition, at St. Mary's, Cheltenham, which was the first peal on the bells; he also rang the ninth and conducted a 6282 of Grandsire, of his own composition, which was rung on July 6th, 1834, at Aston, near Birmingham. It has been stated that Roberts rang upwards of 100 peals on eight, ten, and twelve bells at various churches, but there does not seem to be the slightest evidence in support of this statement, nor is it probable that he ever rang in anything like this number of peals.

It is however with peals that he tapped on handbells, we are more particularly interested, these peals I shall therefore more particularly describe. The first of these performances consisted of 5186 changes, and was tapped at Birmingham in the year 1824, when he was in his seventeenth year. This peal which occupied 3 hrs. and 27 mins., consisted of a plain course in each of the following methods: Grandsire, Plain Bob, Stedman and Treble Bob Triples, Grandsire, Plain Bob and Treble Bob Major: Grandsire, Plain Bob, Stedman and Treble Bob Caters; Grandsire, Plain Bob and Treble Bob Royal; Grandsire, Plain Bob, Stedman and Treble Bob Cinques; Grandsire, Plain Bob, and Treble Bob Maximus. The 960 changes required to make up the number to 5186, consisted of a concluding course of Treble Bob rung on sixteen bells—Treble Bob Sixteen In—as it may be called.

On October 14th, 1827, Roberts tapped a peal of 5040 changes of Kent Treble Bob Maximus, in 3 hrs. and 22 mins., and on April 9th, 1830, he tapped another peal in the same method, which consisted of 7536 of Kent Maximus, in 4 hrs. and 51 mins., and was at time the longest length of Treble Bob Maximus ever rung.

On June 30th, 1833, he tapped a 5016 of Stedman Cinques in 3 hrs. and 24 mins. This peal was composed by himself, and conducted by Henry Cooper, the well-known composer of Stedman Triples. It was rung at Roberts' house—the Union Tavern, Jamaica Row, Birmingham. Roberts and Cooper were in an ante-room by themselves, and in the room adjoining was a large assemblage of ringers. Mr. Henry Johnson, of Birmingham, who is now the only one living of the many ringers who met on that very interesting occasion, heard every change of this peal tapped, and can vouch for the truth and accuracy of this unique performance.

About the year 1835—as I shall afterwards explain—Roberts left Birmingham, and on March 23rd, 1837, the next and last of the peals he is known to have tapped was accomplished. This peal, which was rung at the "Derby Arms," Liverpool, consisted of 19440 changes of Kent Treble Bob Maximus, a most extraordinary mental effort, when we consider that the time occupied in completing the peal was 13 hours and 43 mins. This peal was Reeves's composition of 13,800 Treble Bob Royal (Snowdon's *Treble Bob*, Part II, page 96), applied to twelve bells. It is not known whether there was any witness to this peal, but it is reported that the inhabitants of the adjoining houses said that they heard bells ringing all that day from morning until evening.

Thomas Day used to describe Roberts, as he remembered him in his youth, as a nice lad, with bright and keen blue eyes and of a very determined nature. He was by trade a brass founder, but was also a skilful mechanic, and very fond of constructing clocks. Three such specimens were objects of interest at his house, one of them being a long cased eight-day clock, which played seven tunes on twelve bells, one, as is usual, being played every third hour. Although Roberts was an accomplished tapper of tunes as well as changes, he was not in any way especially in advance of other ringers as a double-handed ringer. Nothing more than plain courses would probably be rung in those days, it is therefore unlikely his especial talents would have any chance of shewing themselves.

Although I cannot state at what time Roberts went into possession of the Union Tavern, of which house he was landlord when he rang the peal of Stedman Cinques in 1833, I understand that he gave up the house about the year 1834, when it was required for town improvements, and retired from that business. Roberts was an accomplished performer on the key-bugle, and as at that time there was a demand for musical guards to the stage

coaches, he obtained a situation after he left the Union Tavern as guard on the "Erin-go-Bragh" stagecoach, which ran from Birmingham to Liverpool, via Chester. In June, 1837, through the opening of railways, the Erin-go-Bragh ceased running, and Roberts having accumulated money, became owner of the stagecoach "Adelaide," which ran between Derby and Newcastle, in the potteries. This coach he drove for eight years without missing a single journey, and on it he is said to have travelled a distance of nearly 100,000 miles, or about four times round the world. This coaching business was ultimately bought by the Midland Railway, and the coach ceased running September 18th, 1848.

After leaving Birmingham, Roberts for some time held the "Duke of York" Inn at Eccles, near Manchester, and subsequently took the "Derby Arms," Whitechapel, Liverpool, at which place he rang the long peal of Maximus. It was at this house that his career was brought to an untimely end by his own hand, on January 26th, 1865, in the fifty-eighth year of his age.

A portrait of Elijah Roberts and a short account of the peals he rang on the handbells, appeared at page 301 of the *Penny Illustrated Paper*, of May 10th, 1863.

#### THE UNITED COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

The HALF-YEARLY MEETING of this Association took place on Saturday, July 4th, at Northenden, Cheshire. There were about one hundred persons present, including ringers from Hyde, Northenden, Staleybridge, Castletown, Chapel-en-le-Frith, Dinting, Glossop, Hayfield, Whitfield, Ashton-under-Lyne, Gorton, Stockport, Saddleworth, Manchester, Cheadle, Didsbury, Middleton, Northwich, etc. Various towers were visited during the day, including Disley (six bells), Norbury (six bells), Didsbury (six bells), Northenden (six bells), Barlow Moor (eight bells), Cheadle (eight bells.) Plain Bob, Oxford Treble Bob, New London, Violet, Kent Treble Bob, and Stedman were rung during the day. Dinner was provided at the "Spread Eagle" tavern, to which ample justice was done. After dinner, the president of the Association, John Holden, Esq., occupied the chair, and previous to business being commenced read a letter from the Rev. Edward L. Y. Deacle, rector of Northenden, stating that he regretted having to absent himself from the meeting through illness, and trusted the Association would accept a donation of 10s. to the funds, and concluding by wishing the Association prosperity. The donation was accepted with thanks, and the members present wishing him a speedy recovery. Eleven new members were elected, bringing the total strength up to ninety-four. The meeting was brought to a close after passing a vote of thanks to the host and hostess for the good things provided. During the evening some good course ringing was done on the handbells in the shape of Grandsire Triples, Major, Caters, and Treble Bob Major and Royal. The next annual meeting will be held at Whitfield, Glossop, on Saturday, January 2nd, 1886.

#### THE SAFFRON WALDEN SOCIETY.

[ESTABLISHED 1623.]

THE above Society celebrated its 262nd anniversary on Saturday, June 27th. Ringing commenced at 7 o'clock in the morning by a touch of Stedman Triples, followed by a touch of Kent Treble Bob Major. Ringers attended from London, Waltham Abbey, Sawbridge-worth, Bishops Stortford, Stanstead, Cambridge, Norwich, Long Melford, and Stebbing. Changes were rung during the day in five different methods, viz.: Grandsire Triples, Stedman Triples, Treble Bob Triples, Kent Treble Bob Major, and Double Norwich Court Bob Major. Dinner was served at 2 p.m. at the "King's Arms" inn, in the landlord's first-rate style. The customary Memorial Sermon (in accordance with the will of Thomas Turner) was preached to the ringers at a service held at the church by the vicar at 7.30 p.m.

#### THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

ON Saturday, June 4th, the Redenhall Branch of the above Association, being also members of the Royal Cumberland Society, rang a muffled peal to the memory of Mrs. Holmes, widow of the late W. Sanicroft Holmes, Esq., of Garvey Hall, and mother of J. Sanicroft Holmes, Esq., the present squire of the parish, who died in Norwich on Wednesday, June 24th, aged 66 years, beloved by all who knew her. The band rang various touches of Oxford Treble Bob during the evening, with the bells deeply muffled on one side. The following members took part in the ringing: Edward Smith, John Bentley, William Sheldrake, Charles Candler, Esq., John C. Allen, George Mobbs, Frederick Smith, William Roope, and Captain Moore.

#### ANNIVERSARY DINNER OF THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

THE Two Hundred and Forty-eighth Anniversary of this society was held at the "Cherry Tree" inn, Southgate, on Saturday last, July 4th. A few members, desirous of enjoying a ramble through this northern suburb of the metropolis, arrived at the spot in the morning, but the main body assembled just at the hour appointed for the dinner to be laid upon the table. The weather was fine, but excessively hot, and ringing upon the splendid peal of eight bells was therefore confined to touches of short duration in the three well-worn methods. About thirty sat down to a well-served repast under the presidency of the Master of the Society—Mr. J. Rowbotham—the courteous Hon. Secretary—Mr. G. Muskett—fulfilling the post of Vice-chairman in a satisfactory manner. Placed as we were in near contiguity to this latter gentleman, it was impossible not to admire the alacrity he displayed in attending to the requirements of those around him.

After dinner, the tower was visited by some of the party, though the majority refrained from any kind of exertion, and sought cool retreats which the bowling green at the back of the "Cherry Tree," or the green sward in front, afforded. Others became interested in a cricket match, which was going on in a field hard by the church, while one adventurous gentleman, for whom inquiries became general later on, was said to have sought pleasure in a siesta under the friendly shades of a quickset hedge, with his turban donned for the occasion. The game known as "skittles" was essayed by one or two visitors, but this sport was not very extensively patronised.

About 7 p.m. the company, which had become largely recruited by fresh arrivals from town, met again in the dining-room to spend the remainder of the evening in a sociable manner. The various toasts usual upon such occasions were drank. The Healths of the Master and the Hon. Secretary were accompanied with "musical honours," and these gentlemen fitly responded. The name of Mr. Pettit having been coupled in connection with a toast, that gentleman made a short but interesting speech relative chiefly to the present position of the Society.

Mr. PETTIT said that the society had maintained its ground, and its progress during the past year was on the whole favorable. There were one or two items of expense looming in the future which the members would soon have to devise some means of meeting. Their peal-book, which was generously presented to the Society by Colonel Troyte, was nearly full, not only would another have to be provided, but a new iron safe to contain it. He had no doubt that when these matters were brought before them they would receive due consideration, but still he ventured to mention them, so that they could weigh them in their minds. He thanked them for coupling his name so kindly with the toast.

In the course of the evening, Mr. GEORGE MASH, being called upon for a toast, said that upon this occasion they had with them a representative of "THE BELL NEWS" in the person of its Editor—Mr. Harvey Reeves, and he begged to propose his health, which was cordially drank. In responding—

Mr. REEVES said that he believed it to be the first time in the history of ringing that anyone had been called upon to reply to a toast of this description solely connected, as it was, with an organ devoted entirely to the science, and meeting with such a reception by a Society of which he had been an unworthy member for 23 years, had afforded him peculiar gratification. The little paper which had fallen to his lot to conduct, brought with it some anxiety and at times fear. Sometimes they were praised, at other times "called over the coals," but efforts were always made to act as impartially as it was possible for human nature to do.

Other toasts, including "The Host," followed, and the company separated about 10 o'clock. The little railway station near Southgate seemed quite alive, and the exertions of our friends Messrs. W. D. Smith and J. Davidson, to lighten the homeward journey, were eminently successful, the former gentleman exciting the risible faculties of every passenger by his daring ventriloquial efforts, the grave among them becoming gay, and the melancholy quite hilarious.

#### THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

A DISTRICT MEETING will be held at Harwich (8 bells), on Saturday, July 25th. Ringing to commence at twelve o'clock. A meat Tea will be provided at the Great Eastern Hotel, at four o'clock p.m. Tickets to be obtained from the Secretary at 6d. each, up to July 20th, after that date 1s. 6d. will be charged. The Business Meeting will be held immediately after the tea. Return tickets will be issued by the G.E.R. at a single fare and a quarter to members, providing that they shew their E.A.C.R. receipts for 1885-6 at the Booking Office, and inform the Sec., before July 20th, from what station they travel.

Rayleigh, S.O., Essex,

H. A. COCKEY, Hon. Sec.



# QUARTERLY MEETING OF THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION AT SOUTHPORT.

ON Saturday, July 4th, the above Society held their Quarterly Meeting at Southport. There was a fair attendance of the members on Saturday, ringers being present from Manchester Cathedral, Bolton, Eccles, Swinton, Liverpool, Southport, Leyland, Runcorn, Heywood, and Bradford in Yorkshire. The Association took up their quarters at Christ Church, and during the day mixed parties rang a number of touches of Grandsire Triples, Treble Bob Major, Plain Bob Major and Minor.

At five o'clock in the Christ Church schoolroom, the members sat down to an excellent tea, which, after the enjoyment and the exertions of the afternoon, they were quite prepared for. After partaking of a good meal, the tables were cleared, and the president of the Association, the Rev. T. A. Turner, of Pendleton, Manchester, took the chair.

The Rev. W. T. Jones, rector of Prestwich, was elected an honorary member, and Mr. Fletcher, of Southport, was elected a ringing member.

Mr. A. E. HOLME, the corresponding secretary, explained that the reason there was not so large an attendance of the members as usual, was on account of the annual meeting of the Northern Counties' Association being held on the same day. The two meetings had unfortunately clashed. He also wished the meeting to make suggestions to the committee as to the place where the annual meeting of their Association, which would take place next September, could be held. Bolton, Heywood, Manchester, and Liverpool were then suggested by different members as suitable and convenient places in which to hold the annual meeting.

The CHAIRMAN said that of course it was the duty of the committee to fix upon the place for the meeting, but due regard would be paid to the feeling of that gathering on the subject.

Mr. CHATTERTON then moved a cordial vote of thanks to the Rev. Canon Clarke and the Churchwardens of Christ Church for allowing the Society the use of the bells on that day, and also to the local company for the satisfactory way in which they had completed the local arrangements. The bells had rung very smoothly, which anyone would appreciate who had been accustomed to the ringing of heavier bells. Everything had passed off very well, and those who had not been with them that day, but had gone to the meeting of the Northern Counties' Association, would certainly not fare better. They had been to Southport frequently, and it seemed to him that each time their reception was heartier and better than it had been, if possible, in the past. The only point was that the committee should try in future to prevent the meeting clashing with any other. But the local ringers must not think that there was any lack of interest on the part of the majority of the association in the welfare of their brethren at Southport, as they would be always willing to pay them a friendly visit.

Mr. JACKSON, of Bolton, seconded the motion.

The CHAIRMAN, in putting the resolution, said he would be perhaps allowed to couple with it the name of Mr. Mason, who, of course, was not to be ignored. He might have left to younger hands the management and the arrangements of the meeting, but still he was present, and was taking his proper place that evening amongst them. He was one of the earliest promoters of the association, and was the first president of it. It gave him (the chairman) very great pleasure indeed to see Mr. Mason on that occasion, and the more so as that would be the last meeting at which he would have the pleasure of presiding, as his time of office was just expiring. Mr. Mason was now in his ninetieth year, and ringers were proverbial for their longevity, like country parsons. They would think of one who held the double office of a ringer and a parson, who was still living, at the age of ninety-six; he referred to the Rev. H. T. Ellacombe, and he dare say there were other ringers filling up the vacuum between ninety and ninety-six. At all events Mr. Mason had reached his four score and ten amongst them. The Rev. Canon Clarke had intended to be present at their meeting, but he had been detained in his study preparing for his duties of the morrow, and was therefore unable to attend.

The resolution was then carried unanimously.

The CHAIRMAN said he would not like that meeting to close without an allusion being made to Mr. Thomas Worrall, of Pendlebury, one of their ranks, who had occupied a prominent and honourable position at the recent terrible disaster at the Clifton Colliery, Manchester. Mr. Worrall was an overlooker in the Doe and Fivequarter mines, and had under him a large number of people at the time of the explosion, and it was considered that by his wonderful bravery and presence of mind, he saved fifty of the people that were in those mines. Mr. Worrall seemed to have known pretty well where the explosion occurred, and he at once collected all his men together in his own workings, and it need scarcely be said that he needed great coolness and presence of mind. He had nearly a hundred people in his workings, and the poor fellows appeared to have been many of them in a helpless condition

through terror. Some were shrieking for help, others crawling about not knowing whether they went, and one group seemed to have become quite delirious. Mr. Worrall told of a curious instance of the effect of fright in bringing out anything which was deeply impressed upon the mind—one poor lad was found repeating the alphabet in a loud voice. No doubt more than fifty of the lives would have been saved if the whole of the people in the mine had obeyed his instructions. But some of them had not nerve to do this, and lost their lives in consequence. No doubt Mr. Worrall would receive some acknowledgement from the country, perhaps the Albert medal, or the Victoria medal. There were two other members of the society down the mine at the time, William Cottrill and J. Briscoe, both of whom escaped with a slight scratching. He considered that Mr. Worrall as one of their members, had exhibited a bravery and a self-denying courage, that entitled him to special notice at the meeting, and in the next annual report. He was sure they were all very proud of having in their ranks such men. The same coolness and endurance which were required in ringing a peal of 5000 changes, had carried Mr. Worrall through that terrible disaster, and carried him through with joy.

Mr. HOLME proposed, and Mr. MASON seconded, the adjournment of the meeting, and the motion being carried, the proceedings terminated.

## THE ST. NICHOLAS SOCIETY, BRIGHTON.

ON Tuesday, July 7th, this Society had their annual outing at Bolney, a very old-fashioned village and church, situate in a very rural part of Sussex. The party, numbering seventeen, started from Brighton at 8 a.m. in a well-appointed wagonette, but had not gone more than ten miles when the cravings of nature made themselves known. Stand was called by the conductor, and in a few minutes the hamper was unpacked, and there was a picnic on the grass under the shady trees, the haymakers staring in amazement over the hedges, excepting one who came and sang "The Farmer's Boy." A course of Triples on the handbells, and the word was given to move on, arriving at Bolney about eleven, making at once for the tower of the church, which was built about the year 1512, and contains a musical peal of eight, reckoned to be one of the best in the county, with a tenor of 15 cwt. in F. The 6th bell is dated 1592, and has a crown encircled with three bells on the outside, with an inscription almost obliterated. The 7th, dated 1724, has on it "Ralf Hair, yt P D my cast; my donors praise i'll sing." 1 2 5 and 8 are dated 1740; the 3rd and 4th have no date. A start was made for a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, but two bells changing courses, they were brought home after ringing 1200 changes, in 40 mins. Several touches were rang during the day, finishing with a 500, and lowering in peal. A substantial dinner was provided at the "Eight Bells," where full justice was done, the afternoon being spent in rambles. At 6 o'clock the whole party were very kindly invited by the Vicar, the Rev. H. H. Wyatt, to a good tea at the Vicarage, the rev. gentleman presiding, and expressing his pleasure at seeing them, and afterwards taking them round the garden. After some handbell ringing on the lawn, the homeward journey was commenced. Song and sentiment whiled away the time and brought to a close a happy day.

## ST. MARTIN'S SOCIETY, BIRMINGHAM.

TUESDAY last, July 7th, being the Annual Meeting of the St. Martin's company, to elect officers for the ensuing year, and to pass the accounts, the following members were duly elected: President, Mr. H. Johnson, sen.; Treasurer, Mr. H. Johnson, jun.; Secretary, A. Thomas; Stewards, H. Bastable, H. Withers. A Meeting was afterwards held to consider what steps should be taken with regard to the "Johnson Testimonial," and a committee formed, particulars of which will appear in our next issue.

## THE WEST MIDDLESEX ASSOCIATION.

The MEETING arranged for St. Andrew's, Hillingdon, on Saturday, July 11th, is postponed to July 25th, at 7.30 p.m., and the Slough meeting takes place on Saturday, August 1st, at 7.30 p.m. The Annual Dinner will take place at the "King's Head," Harrow-on-the-Hill, on Saturday next, July 18th, at 5 o'clock. Ringing at 3.30. Members intending to be present must kindly decide by Wednesday, July 15th, to

71, Bridge Road West, Old Battersea, Surrey.

HENRY S. THOMAS,  
Hon. Sec.

## THE ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.

ALL members of this Society are hereby respectfully requested to attend the Society's head-quarters, the "Green Man," 54, St. Martin's Lane, W.C., on Friday evening, July 17th, 1885, when special and important business will be brought under notice. There will be the usual practice at St. Martin's church on this occasion. Ringing to commence at 8.15.

H. DAINS, Hon. Sec.

## THE SHIPWAY REPRINT.

THE first number of the weekly issue of this work is

## NOW READY,

And may be obtained of all news agents in town and country. As in this shape the number of copies printed will only be just enough to cover the demand, it is obvious that those who neglect to obtain the numbers at once will not afterwards have the opportunity.

Each number will contain sixteen pages, size of page being the same as the original work, and having about the same quantity of matter per page. Mr. Snowden will probably add a valuable contribution to the work in the shape of an appendix.

## PRICE ONE PENNY.

PUBLISHED BY E. W. ALLEN, AVE MARIA LANE, LONDON.

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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 &amp; Ringers' Record.

SATURDAY, JULY 11, 1885.

## The Provinces.

SOBERTON, HANTS.

THE WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sunday, June 28, 1885, in Three Hours,

AT ST. PETER'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S 6-PART. Tenor 14½ cwt.

A. VAYNE .. .. . Treble.	F. HILL .. .. . 5.
G. H. CHILD .. .. . 2.	J. W. WHITING .. .. . 6.
H. MASON .. .. . 3.	G. WILLIAMS .. .. . 7.
J. HEWETT .. .. . 4.	W. J. BELSTONE .. .. . Tenor.

Conducted by G. WILLIAMS.

The above was rung to commemorate the third anniversary of the opening of the parish church after complete renovation.

SHEFFIELD.—THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, July 4, 1885, in Three Hours and Fourteen Minutes,

AT ST. PETER'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 14 cwt.

GEORGE HOLMES .. .. . Treble.	WILLIAM LOMAS .. .. . 5.
WILLIAM TURTON .. .. . 2.	JOHN MULLIGAN .. .. . 6.
JOSEPH MULLIGAN .. .. . 3.	GEORGE SHAW .. .. . 7.
CHARLES BOWER .. .. . 4.	ARTHUR BREARLEY .. .. . Tenor.

Composed by HENRY W. HALEY, and Conducted by ARTHUR BREARLEY.

Messrs. Turton and Shaw hail from Ecclesfield, and this is their first peal.

FAREHAM, HANTS.

THE WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, July 4, 1885, in Two Hours and Fifty-two Minutes,

AT ST. PETER'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

TAYLOR'S BOB-AND-SINGLE VARIATION. Tenor 14 cwt. in Ft.

WILLIAM NAYLOR .. .. . Treble.	CHARLES PRIVETT .. .. . 5.
JOHN STAPLES .. .. . 2.	FREDERICK HILL .. .. . 6.
GEORGE WILLIAMS .. .. . 3.	JOHN WHITING .. .. . 7.
JAMES HEWETT .. .. . 4.	GEORGE GRAFHAM .. .. . Tenor.

Conducted by FREDERICK HILL.

William Naylor and John Staples hail from Havant; George Williams from Soberton; the rest belong to the local company.

HERTFORD.—THE HERTFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION AND THE HERTFORD COLLEGE YOUTHS.

Birthday Peal.

On Saturday, July 4, 1885, in Three Hours and One Minute,

AT ST. ANDREW'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S ORIGINAL. Tenor 16 cwt.

FREDERICK G. CRAWLEY .. Treble.	JOSEPH CULL .. .. . 5.
MATTHEW ELLSMORE .. .. . 2.	STEPHEN KNIGHT .. .. . 6.
HERBERT BAKER .. .. . 3.	WILLIAM A. ALPS .. .. . 7.
HENRY PHILLIPS .. .. . 4.	HENRY J. TUCKER .. .. . Tenor.

Conducted by HENRY J. TUCKER.

This is the second time of H. J. Tucker calling the Original from the tenor, and he is believed to be the only person who has done so more than once. This peal commemorates the 35th birthday of M. Ellsmore, with his brother-ringers' good wishes.

CRAWLEY, SUSSEX.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Sunday, July 5th, 1885, in Two Hours and Fifty-Eight Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

TAYLOR'S BOB-AND-SINGLE VARIATION. Tenor 13½ cwt.

W. PARSONS .. .. . Treble.	W. COLLISON .. .. . 5.
J. NEWNHAM .. .. . 2.	H. BURSTOW .. .. . 6.
T. SMITH, Esq. .. .. . 3.	A. F. HILLIER .. .. . 7.
F. WICKINGS .. .. . 4.	G. HOLLOWAY .. .. . Tenor.

Conducted by H. BURSTOW.

The above is the first 5040 by the present band of ringers at Crawley, and was rung on the anniversary of the re-opening of the Church after its restoration.

PRIVETT, HANTS.

THE WINCHESTER DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Tuesday, July 7, 1885, in Three Hours and Three Minutes,

AT HOLY TRINITY CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S ORIGINAL. Tenor 12 cwt.

G. SAYER .. .. . Treble.	G. H. BARNETT .. .. . 5.
C. BOXALL .. .. . 2.	REV. F. E. ROBINSON .. .. . 6.
G. H. CHILD .. .. . 3.	S. BROOKER .. .. . 7.
G. WILLIAMS .. .. . 4.	E. CLAPSHAW .. .. . Tenor.

Conducted by the REV. F. E. ROBINSON.

## Miscellaneous.

THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

ASPLEY GUISE (Beds).—On Tuesday evening, June 30th, for practice at the parish church, a 720 of Bob Minor (eighteen bobs and two singles), in 26 mins. George Usher, 1; Edward Lewin (first 720), 2; Walter Mynard, 3; Charles Herbert (Woburn), 4; Jas. Carwell-Cooke, 5; Mark Lane (conductor), 6. And on Sunday afternoon, July 5th, on the occasion and at the close of the Baptism of the first-born son of Major Downes, of the same parish, a 720 of Bob Minor, (eighteen bobs and two singles), in 25 mins. George Usher, 1; W. Chibnall (conductor), 2; W. Mynard, 3; Chas. Herbert (Woburn), J. Carwell-Cooke, 5; Mark Lane, 6.

## THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

PUTNEY (Surrey).—On Wednesday, July 1st, eight members of the above Society attempted Holt's peal of Grandsire Triples, but stand was called after ringing 2 hrs. 7 mins., owing to a shift course. H. Alford, 1; J. M. Routh, 2; E. Horrex, 3; C. F. Winny, 4; G. T. McLaughlin (conductor), 5; J. M. Hayes, 6; W. H. George, 7; F. G. Newman, 8. Tenor 16½ cwt.

## THE ST. JAMES'S SOCIETY.

WALTHAMSTOW (Essex).—On Saturday evening, July 4th, eight members of the above society rang at St. Mary's church, the first half of a peal of Grandsire Triples, 2520 changes (Reeves' Variation), in 1 hr. 28 mins. A. Keit, 1; A. J. Perkins (conductor), 2; R. Maynard, 3; J. Nunn, 4; G. B. Lucas, 5; H. A. Barnett, 6; T. Scarlett, 7; W. Crockford, 8. This was meant for a peal, but owing to the bad "go" of the tenor, the bells were brought round at the half-peal.

## THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

MELBOURNE (Derbyshire).—On Tuesday, June 30th, for practice, the local company rang 180 of Bob Minor. J. R. Wood, 1; G. A. Fish, 2; J. Vickers, 3; F. W. Cook, 4; T. Hollingworth, 5; G. C. Tunnick (conductor), 6. Tenor 16 cwt. This is the first time the above company has accomplished anything beyond a plain course of the above methods without assistance.

## THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

WANTAGE (Berks).—On Saturday evening, June 27th, for practice a 360 of Grandsire Minor. G. Gregory, 1; C. Page, 2; H. Smith, 3; J. Gardener, 4; A. Bunce, 5; F. May, 6. Also on Sunday, June 28th, for Matins, 360 of Kent Treble Bob Minor. G. Gregory, 1; C. Page, 2; J. Gardener, 3; A. Bunce, 4; A. Gregory, 5; F. May, 6. Also on Tuesday, June 30th, in the evening for the Anniversary of St. Mary's Home, a 360 of Kent Treble Bob Minor. F. Money, 1; C. Page, 2; J. Gardener, 3; A. Bunce, 4; A. Gregory, 5; F. May (conductor), 6.

## STOKE-ON-TRENT ARCHIDIACONAL ASSOCIATION.

NORTON (Staffordshire).—On Wednesday, June 17th, a 720 of Stedman Slow Course Minor, in 28 mins. W. Holdcroft, 1; E. Glover, 2; J. Baddeley, 3; J. Wood, 4; J. W. Brough, 5; G. Walker (conductor), 6. And on Sunday, June 21st, for Divine Service in the evening, a 720 of Grandsire Minor, in 27 mins. W. Baddeley, 1; E. Glover, 2; J. Morton, 3; J. Wood, 4; J. W. Brough, 5; J. Baddeley (conductor), 6.

## THE SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.

OLD BATTERSEA (Surrey).—On Tuesday, June 30th, at St. Mary's church, to oblige Messrs. Weston and Pitts from Dunster, Somerset, about 1400 changes from Holt's Original, in 53 mins. H. A. Hopkins (conductor), 1; G. Newson, 2; J. Pitts, 3; A. Jacobs, 4; W. Weston, 5; H. S. Thomas, 6; C. W. Ludwig, 7; W. Ambrose, 8.

## THE WORCESTERSHIRE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

KIDDERMINSTER.—On Thursday evening, June 25th, at the parish church of St. Mary, a 720 of Grandsire Minor in 29 mins. J. Bennett, 1; H. Sandells, 2; C. S. Rowland, 3; E. F. Strange (conductor), 4; R. E. Grove, 5; J. Crane, 6; T. Walters, 7. This is the first 720 by all the above except the conductor, and it was rung on the back seven, owing to the treble stay being broken. Tenor 29 cwt.

BENGEO (Herts).—Recently, at Holy Trinity church, a 720 of Grandsire Minor (forty-two bobs and twenty-two singles), in 27 mins. H. Phillips, 1; \*J. Pomfret, 2; †J. Channer, 3; M. Ellsmore, 4; H. Baker, 5; H. J. Tucker (conductor), 6. Also another 720 in the same method. J. Pomfret, 1; H. J. Tucker, 2; W. Odell (first 720), 3; H. Phillips, 4; M. Ellsmore, 5; H. Baker (conductor), 6. \*First 720 with a bob bell. †First 720. And on Sunday, July 5th, for Divine Service in the evening, six 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles, each called differently, in 25 mins. Thomas Barker, 1; Matthew Ellsmore (conductor), 2; James Channer, 3; Henry Phillips, 4; William Goodchild, 5; Henry Brown, 6. And another 120 in which George Powter took part. This is the first 720 of any kind rung by W. Goodchild, who with G. Powter, belongs to the Ware Society. They have only recently commenced to ring by method, and will in all probability become good ringers. Tenor 7½ cwt.

CAPEL (Surrey).—On Sunday, June 28th, being Coronation Day, the Capel society rang the following touches of Minor. A 720 of College Exercise. G. Moore, 1; A. Tidy, 2; A. Mills, 3; R. Jordan, 4; W.

Wadey, 5; D. Jordan (conductor), 6. And a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor. G. Holloway, 1; J. Newnham, 2; A. Mills, 3; R. Worsfold, 4; F. Wickens, 5; E. Jordan (conductor), 6. Also a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob Minor. G. Holloway, 1; J. Newnham, 2; A. Mills, 3; E. Jordan, 4; W. Collinson, 5; D. Jordan (conductor), 6. And a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob Minor. G. Moore, 1; R. Jordan, 2; W. Collinson, 3; F. Wickens, 4; A. Mills, 5; D. Jordan (conductor), 6. Also a 288 of Kent Treble Bob Minor. G. Moore, 1; J. Newnham, 2; A. Tidy, 3; F. Wickens, 4; W. Collinson, 5; D. Jordan (conductor), 6. And a 360 of Double Oxford. A. Mills, 1; A. Tidy, 2; R. Jordan, 3; E. Jordan, 4; R. Worsfold, 5; D. Jordan (conductor), 6. Also a 360 of College Pleasure. G. Moore, 1; A. Tidy, 2; A. Mills, 3; R. Worsfold, 4; M. Jenkins, 5; D. Jordan (conductor), 6. Some of the band also visited Ockley Church, and attempted a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob, but came to grief the fourth lead from home. T. Stedman, 1; G. Holloway, 2; W. Wadey, 3; F. Wickens, 4; W. Collinson, 5; D. Jordan (conductor), 6. W. Wadey hails from Billingshurst; Wickens and Holloway from Charlwood; Collinson and Newnham from Crawley; the rest are local men.

CAVENDISH (Suffolk).—On Sunday, June 28th, the following company rang for early morning service, 720 Oxford Treble Bob, in 26 mins.: at 9.30 a.m., 720 of the same method, in 26 mins.; at 2.30 p.m., 720 Kent Treble Bob, in 24 mins. F. J. Thompson, 1; J. S. Page, 2; H. Thompson, 3; A. Ives, 4; F. P. Adams, 5; G. Maxim, 6. F. P. Adams conducted the first and last 720's, and J. S. Page the intermediate one.

CHARLWOOD (Surrey).—*Muffled Peal*.—On Friday, July 3rd, being the funeral day of the lamented and much respected Marion Gibson, late wife of the Rev. E. M. Gibson, Rector of Charlwood, a 720 of Bob Minor with the bells half-muffled. S. Jordan, 1; G. Wickens, 2; B. King, 3; G. Holloway, 4; M. Heffer, 5; F. Wickens (conductor), 6.

DERBY.—On Sunday evening, July 5th, at St. Andrew's church, a 504 of Grandsire Triples, in 18½ mins. W. Shardlow, 1; T. Alton, 2; C. Hart, 3; W. Midgley, 4; W. Found, 5; J. W. Thompson, 6; A. E. Thompson (conductor), 7; W. Sidley, 8. Tenor 20½ cwt. in Eb.

GARGRAVE (Yorkshire).—On Monday evening, June 29th, at St. Andrew's church, for practice, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob, on the front six. J. McKell (conductor), 1; \*T. Burrow, 2; \*J. H. Bill, 3; \*F. Dodgson, 4; C. Langstroth, 5; \*C. E. Bill, 6. \*First 720 in the method. And on Sunday, July 5th, for Divine Service in the morning, on the back six, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob (fifteen bobs). J. H. Bell, 1; C. E. Bell, 2; W. Wray, 3; W. Whitaker, 4; C. Langstroth, 5; J. McKell (conductor), 6.

GREAT BROMLEY (Essex).—On Wednesday evening, July 1st, it was arranged to meet and ring to celebrate the 40th birthday of Mr. J. Starling, but one meeting short, three 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles were rung, each called differently. A. Bloice, 1; J. Starling, 2; J. Taylor, 3; S. Bloice, 4; W. J. Nevard (conductor), 5.

PULFORD, NEAR CHESTER.—On Saturday, June 27th, at the parish church, a 720 of Grandsire Minor, in 22½ mins. Edwin Davis, 1; Richard Mills, 2; George Caldwell, 3; Ralph Curry, 4; Sydney Barton, 5; Thomas Bithell, 6. Tenor 11 cwt. The above society wish, through this paper, to thank the Rector for granting them permission to ring.

RAUNDS (Northamptonshire).—On Monday, June 29th, it being the dedication of St. Peter's church, between five and six in the morning, a 720 of Oxford Bob (eighteen bobs and two singles). A. Coles, 1; F. Gilbert, 2; H. Stubbs, 3; N. Martin, 4; J. Willmott, 5; W. Hall (conductor), 6. And a 720 of Kent Treble Bob (nine bobs). G. Kirk, 1; W. Hall, 2; R. Pendered, 3; F. Gilbert, 4; H. Stubbs, 5; W. J. Gilbert (conductor), 6.

STISTED (Essex).—On Sunday, July 5th, for Divine Service in the afternoon (with twenty-two singles), a 720 of Plain Bob, in 21 mins. C. Duncomb, 1; H. E. Hammond, 2; F. Saunders, 3; A. Chaplin, 4; E. Radley, 5; W. Radley (conductor), 6.

SUDBURY (Suffolk).—On Tuesday evening, June 23rd, at All Saints' church, for practice, 640 of Kent Treble Bob. F. Tolladay, 1; M. Silvester, 2; G. S. Brown, 3; J. Campin, 4; W. Bacon, 5; H. Harper, 6; A. Hurst (Melford), 7; A. Scott (conductor), 8. Also a touch of Grandsire Triples. W. Cross, 1; F. Tolliday, 2; G. S. Brown, 3; M. Lambert (Gravesend), 4; W. Baker, 5; H. Harper, 6; A. Scott (conductor), 7; H. Brackett, 8. Tenor 28 cwt. in D. And on Thursday, June 26th, at St. Gregory's church, 640 of Kent Treble Bob. P. Sadler (Norwich; conductor), 1; W. Griggs, 2; G. S. Brown, 3; M. Silvester, 4; O. Garwood (Glemsford), 5; F. Wells (Glemsford), 6; W. Cross, 7; H. Harper, 8. The same touch was also rung at All Saints' church on the same day. S. Slater, 1; C. Sillitoe, 2; O. Garwood, 3; F. Wells, 4; J. Motts (Ipswich), 5; H. Harper, 6; S. Ward (Melton), 7; P. Sadler (conductor), 8. And on

Thursday evening, July 2nd, on handbells, a course of Bob Royal. C. Sillitoe, 1-2; W. B. Ransom, Esq., 3-4; J. Campin, 5-6; W. Howell, 7-8; A. Scott, 9-10. Also a course of Grandsire Cinques. W. B. Ransom, Esq., 1-2; A. Scott, 3-4; C. Sillitoe, 5-6; F. Tolladay, 7; W. Griggs, 8; W. Howell, 9-10; H. Harper, 11-12. And a course of Bob Maximus. W. B. Ransom, Esq., 1-2; C. Sillitoe, 3-4; M. Silvester, 5; W. Griggs, 6; F. Tolladay, 7; H. Harper, 8; W. Howell, 9-10; A. Scott, 11-12.

TOTTENHAM (Middlesex).—On Monday evening, June 22nd, at St. Ann's church, six 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles in 24 mins. J. Davidson, 1; G. B. Lucas, 2; H. Barnett (conductor), 3; G. Bower, 4; J. Waghorn, jun, 5; F. Clear, 6. And on Monday, June 29th, a 720 of Grandsire Minor, in 24 mins. J. Davidson, 1; J. Langram, 2; G. Bower, 3; J. Waghorn, 4; G. B. Lucas, 5; H. Barnett (conductor), 6. This is the first 720 of Minor on the bells since they were opened in 1865. On Sunday, June 5th, for Divine Service in the evening at the parish church, a 720 of Bob Minor, in 26 mins. T. Grove, 1; J. Waghorn, jun, 2; G. B. Lucas, 3; J. Waghorn, 4; W. Pye-English, 5; H. Barnett (conductor), 6.

WALTON-ON-THE-HILL (Lancashire).—On Tuesday evening, June 16th, at St. Mary's parish church, a 720 of Yorkshire Court Bob Minor (eighteen bobs and two singles), in 26 mins., and a 720 of Grandsire Minor (thirty-four bobs and twenty-six singles), in 24 mins. And on Thursday evening, June 18th, a 720 of Oxford Single Bob Minor (eighteen bobs and two singles), in 26 mins. J. Hurst, 1; C. J. Rogers, 2; T. R. Somerville, 3; T. Rushton, 4; R. Stockley, 5; C. E. Wilson (conductor), 6. These are the first 720's of Yorkshire Court and Oxford Single Bob by all the band. And on Sunday afternoon, June 21st, for Children's service, a 720 of Grandsire Minor, (thirty-four bobs and two singles, 3rd the observation, the singles occurring in the 3rd and 6th parts), in 27 mins. C. J. Rogers, 1; C. E. Wilson (conductor), 2; W. Short, 3; W. Rushton, 4; E. Yates, 5; J. Bradshaw, 6. And in the evening, for Divine Service, a 360 of Plain Bob Minor and a 360 of College Single Minor, in 23½ mins. J. Hurst, 1; C. J. Rogers, 2; T. R. Somerville, 3; T. Rushton, 4; R. Stockley, 5; C. E. Wilson (conductor), 6. And on Tuesday evening, June 23rd, a 720 of College Single Minor (eighteen bobs and two singles), 6th the observation, the singles occurring in the 3rd and 6th parts), in 24 mins. J. Hurst, 1; C. E. Wilson (conductor), 2; T. R. Somerville, 3; T. Rushton, 4; R. Stockley, 5; W. Booth, 6. This is the first 720 of College Single that W. Booth has rung. And on Thursday evening, June 25th, a 360 of Plain Bob Minor. E. Yates, 1; R. H. Barton, 2; W. Short, 3; T. Rushton, 3; R. Stockley, 5; C. E. Wilson (conductor), 6. And on Sunday, for Divine Service in the morning, three 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles, and for Divine Service in the evening, three 6-scores of Plain Bob Doubles. J. Hurst, 1; C. E. Wilson (conductor), 2; T. R. Somerville, 3; T. Rushton, 4; R. Stockley, 5; H. Spinks, 6. And after Divine Service, on the occasion of the anniversary of Her Majesty's Coronation, a 360 of Grandsire Minor (eighteen bobs). J. Hurst, 1; C. E. Wilson (conductor), 2; T. R. Somerville, 3; T. Rushton, 4; R. Stockley, 5; E. Yates, 6. Also on Tuesday evening, June 30th, a 720 of College Single Minor (sixteen bobs and two singles), in 25 mins. J. Hurst, 1; R. Stockley, 2; T. Rushton, 3; T. R. Somerville, 4; C. E. Wilson (conductor), 5; R. H. Barton (first 720 in the method), 6. Messrs. Yates, Bradshaw, Short, Barton, and W. Rushton hail from Bootle; W. Booth hails from Liverpool. Tenor 9 cwt.

WEST DERBY (Lancashire).—On Saturday evening, June 27th, at St. James's Church, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor (nine bobs), in 28 mins. E. Yates, 1; R. H. Barton, 2; W. Short, 3; W. Rushton, 4; C. E. Wilson, 5; J. Bradshaw (conductor), 9. C. E. Wilson hails from Walton, the rest from Bootle. Tenor 15 cwt.

\* \* Several touches, reports, etc., are unavoidably left over till our next issue.

#### THE REIGATE SOCIETY.

ON Monday, June 29th, the Reigate Society had their Annual outing, the place selected being Horsham, calls on the way being made at Newdigate and Rusper. Arriving at their destination about 12 o'clock, and after ringing about an hour and-a-half, the party sat down to dinner, and after the repast and a look round the town, the return journey was made by way of Crawley, and there was rung a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, and touches of Grandsire Doubles, Bob Minor, Plain Bob, and Union Triples. The visitors wish, through the medium of this paper, to thank each clergyman for granting permission to ring, also to those friends who so kindly added to their day's enjoyment, not forgetting the host and hostess who provided the substantial dinner. The party reached home between nine and ten o'clock, each one having thoroughly enjoyed himself.

#### BELLS AND RINGERS IN 1885.—(Continued.)

By F. W. J. REES.

##### LIST OF RINGS IN LEICESTERSHIRE.

Leicester S. Magart.	10	..	30	..	G. St. T.B.	..	Back 6, Watts, 1633.
" S. Martin	10	..	22	..	"	..	" " Arnold 1781
Ashby	..	..	8	..	18	..	Trebles, Briant 1814
Church Langton	..	..	8	..	20	..	"
Coleorton	..	..	8	..	14	..	Lately made eight.
Hinckley	..	..	8	..	19	..	5-6-7 by Watts, 1617
Kings Norton	..	..	8	..	17	..	"
Leicester, S. Mark	8	..	23	..	G. St. T.B.	..	By Taylor, 1872.
" S. Saviour	8	..	26	..	G.	..	"
" S. Mary	8	..	17	..	"	..	1-7 Mears, 8 Watts.
Loughborough	..	..	8	..	24	..	G. By Taylor, 1840.
Melton	..	..	8	..	35	..	Trebles by Briant, 1802.
Staunton Harold	..	..	8	..	..	..	"
Appleby	..	..	6	..	..	..	1-5 Pack, 1769, 6 by Watts.
Barwell	..	..	6	..	16	..	B. "
Bottesford	..	..	6	..	28	..	1st and 8th Briant.
Buckminster	..	..	6	..	12	..	"
Castle Donnington	..	..	6	..	17	..	By Taylor, 1880.
Galby	..	..	6	..	12	..	By T. Eayre, 1741.
Kegworth	..	..	6	..	18	..	"
Kibworth	..	..	6	..	..	..	"
Leicester, S. George	6	..	12	..	..	..	By Taylor, 1856.
Lutterworth	..	..	6	..	12	..	"
Market Harboro'	..	..	6	..	21	..	Mostly by Watts '613
Mount Sorrel	..	..	6	..	9	..	By Taylor, 1882.
Oakchurch	..	..	6	..	10	..	"
Narborough	..	..	6	..	21	..	Tenor by Taylor '882
Peckleton	..	..	6	..	9	..	"
Quorndon	..	..	6	..	10	..	By Arnold, 1773.
Sheephead	..	..	6	..	13	..	By Briant, 1805.
Stapleford	..	..	6	..	..	..	1-5 not hung for ringing.
Stoney Stanton	..	..	6	..	8	..	By Taylor, 1842.
Swithland	..	..	6	..	8	..	"
Syston	..	..	6	..	15	..	B. Back bells by Watts.
Wigston	..	..	6	..	..	..	"
Woodhouse	..	..	6	..	10	..	"
Wymeswold	..	..	6	..	13	..	Downham, 1795.
Wymondham	..	..	6	..	..	..	"

This list shows that there is little change-ringing in Leicestershire, except at Leicester and Loughborough.

#### THE RECENT ACCIDENT TO A RINGING PARTY.

THE following sums have been received for the purpose of helping to defray the great loss sustained by Mr. H. F. Wood in this unfortunate affair:—

	s.	d.		s.	d.
Rev. E. S. ...	2	6	G. Dorrington ...	2	0
J. West ...	2	0	H. J. Shade ...	2	6
J. W. Snowdon, Esq. ...	10	0	G. Russell, Croydon ...	1	0
W. Banister ...	5	0	H. Pearce ...	2	0
Bedfordshire Association ...	5	0	F. Newman ...	2	0
St. Martin's, Salisbury ...	10	0	R. Turner ...	2	0
St. Peter's, Leeds, Yorks ...	5	0	T. Dupen ...	2	6
H. Edwards ...	2	6	W. Prime ...	2	0
J. Dwight ...	2	6	W. Cooter ...	2	6
I. Shade ...	5	0	J. Davidson ...	3	0
R. S. Story ...	2	0	Widford and Galleywood C.R. ...	5	0
E. Wallage ...	2	0	H. Lewis, St. Albans ...	5	0
J. Barrett ...	2	0	S. Joyce ...	2	0
J. Comb ...	5	0	J. H. Monday ...	5	0
Spalding, SS. Mary and Nicolas ...	3	0	M. A. Wood ...	10	0
B. Newton ...	1	0	A. Hayward ...	2	6
J. Dupen ...	2	0	W. Cecil ...	2	6
C. Lee ...	1	0	A. B. Goody ...	5	0
C. Beech ...	1	0	Mr. Lewis Green ...	2	6
J. West (second donation) ...	3	0	St. Mary's society, Walthamstow ...	10	0
J. Barry ...	1	0	Thomas Clark, Sharow, Ripon ...	5	0

Further donations, however small, are urgently solicited. Mr. Matthew Wood, 11 Church Row, Bethnal Green, London, will be happy to give any further information, and will thankfully acknowledge any sums forwarded to him.

#### THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

A DISTRICT MEETING of this Association will be held at Clifton, near Biggleswade, Beds., this (Saturday) afternoon, July 11th. The Rev. H. H. Miles has kindly granted permission to ring the eight bells at Clifton church. The meeting to commence at 2 o'clock.

CHARLES HERBERT, Hon. Sec.

## THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

A QUARTERLY MEETING of members of the above Association was held at Long Eaton on Saturday, July 4th. It had been intended to hold this meeting at Loughborough in accordance with a resolution passed at the Annual Meeting held at Derby on April 6th, but owing to the illness and subsequent death of the rector (the Ven. Archdeacon Fearon), the committee decided almost at the last moment to change the place of meeting to Long Eaton. There was a fair number of representatives present from the four districts belonging to the Association, and the Vicars of Long Eaton and of the neighbouring village of Sandiacre very kindly placed their peals at the disposal of members during the day. A committee meeting was held in St. Lawrence's schools at 4 o'clock in the afternoon, at which, after the transaction of other business, it was explained that a peal of Grandsire Triples rung at Coleorton and published in "THE BELL NEWS" of June 27th, had not been placed to the credit of the Association, owing to an error on the part of the correspondent to that paper, all the persons taking part in that peal being members of the Association. Tea was served at five o'clock in St. Lawrence's Coffee House, and at the meeting which was held immediately afterwards, the chair was taken by the President of the Association, the Rev. James H. Fish, Vicar of St. Paul's, Burton-on-Trent. The chairman in his opening remarks stated that since the last meeting the following sixteen peals of 5000 changes and upwards had been rung by members: Grandsire Triples, 3; Bob Major, 1; Kent Treble Bob Major, 1; Double Norwich Court Bob Major, 9; Grandsire Caters, 2; two of the peals having been rung with muffled bells as a token of respect to the memory of the late J. Wibberley, of Nottingham, a much esteemed member of the Association.

On the motion of Mr. A. B. Ward (Derby), seconded by Mr. Barrow (Long Eaton), it was carried unanimously that the secretary be requested to write a letter of condolence to Mrs. Wibberley, expressing the great sympathy felt for her in her recent bereavement by the members present at this meeting.

On the motion of Mr. Wilson (Leicester), seconded by Mr. Hickman (Nottingham), it was resolved that the next Quarterly Meeting be held at Nottingham, on Saturday, October 10th. Touches of Stedman and Grandsire Triples, and Kent Treble Bob Major and Minor, were rung during the day, and seven ringing members joined the Association.

## RINGERS' FESTIVAL AT SUDBURY, SUFFOLK.

On Monday, June 29th, being St. Peter's Day, and the anniversary of the opening of St. Peter's and All Saints' church bells, the town was enlivened by alternate touches at the towers of All Saints and St. Gregory's. Unfortunately the bells of St. Peter's could not be rung owing to the unsafe condition of the bell-frame, but it is probable that ere long this will be remedied. The ringing commenced at half past seven in the morning, and was continued until about half past seven in the evening. Through the kindness of various friends interested in ringing, a good sum was collected, which enabled the Sudbury companies, numbering with their friends about twenty-two, to have an excellent dinner, which was provided at the "Bull Inn." The ringers invited the Incumbents of both parishes to join them, but the Rev. T. Lingard Green was unavoidably prevented from attending, and the chair was taken by the Rev. C. J. Stower, vicar of All Saints. After dinner the usual loyal toasts were proposed and responded to. The companies then gave a capital exhibition of handbell ringing, after which they adjourned to the various towers, and soon the town was again enlivened with the musical strains of the splendid Sudbury bells, of which all are so justly proud. In the evening they reassembled at the "Bull Inn," where they were met by Dr. W. J. Mason, and Bailey Ransom, Esq., both lovers of the art of change-ringing, and who kindly undertook to collect the money for this festival, both being ringing members, and a very pleasant evening was spent.

## BURFORD, OXON.

On Tuesday evening, June 30th, six of the local company, who are also members of the Oxford Diocesan Guild, paid a visit to the belfry of the village of Brize Norton for the purpose of ringing the bells. After rising the bells, 120 of Grandsire Doubles was rung, followed by a 720 of Grandsire Minor, in 29 mins. H. Smith, 1; D. Francis, 2; T. E. Glanville (conductor), 3; H. Bond, jun., 4; J. Smith, 5; W. Large, 6. This is the first 720 that has been rung in the tower, for until recently Brize Norton has possessed only five bells, but through the munificence of A. Hedley, Esq., a resident in the village, a treble bell has been added during the last twelvemonth, which completes a very fair ring of six. The above members wish, through the medium of this paper, to thank the Vicar, the Rev. — Ivens, A. Hedley, Esq., and J. Worling, Esq., for the kindness they received on the occasion of their visit.

## THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

ON Saturday, June 6th, the summer meeting of the above society was held at Mirfield, when there was a moderate attendance of members. During the afternoon the General Meeting was held in the National School, the President in the chair. An invitation from the Vicar, Churchwardens, and the ringers of Guiseley to hold the October meeting at Guiseley was then read. Mr. Hattersley, of Sheffield, invited the Society to hold the meeting in Sheffield, and Mr. Howard, of York, proffered an invitation from the Cathedral City. The different places being put to the meeting the chairman announced that a majority was in favour of the Sheffield invitation being accepted. Messrs. C. H. Hattersley and W. Lomas were appointed to act as Auditors and Returning Officers at the October Meeting. Votes of thanks to the Vicars, Churchwardens, and ringers of the Mirfield and Eastthorpe churches for the use of the bells during the day were passed. The Rev. W. Greensides, Vicar of Mirfield, responded to the vote of thanks, and expressed the pleasure he had in welcoming the Association to Mirfield. A vote of thanks to the chairman concluded the business of the meeting.

[Mr. Snowden, who forwards the above brief report of this last meeting of the Association, expresses his regret that it should not have been forwarded in due course, and explains that having attended to the reports for nearly ten years, arrangements were made at the February meeting that he should be relieved of this work in future. We trust that in the interest of those members who, not being present, look to our columns for such information, that the arrangement may work more successfully in future.—Ed].

## THE HERTFORD SOCIETY.

ON Wednesday, July 1st, this society celebrated their anniversary by a visit to Loughton and Waltham Abbey. Leaving Hertford at 9 a.m., and arriving at Waltham by 10.30., they called upon Mr. Powell, who accompanied them to Loughton, and had the pleasure of dining with them at the "Plume of Feathers" inn. Later on the party returned to Waltham, where they were met by those of the local society who found it convenient to attend, and after some ringing a substantial meat tea was provided at host Powell's, by the liberality of the Rev. S. B. Johnston, curate in charge of the Abbey, a gentleman who by the way is very much respected in the neighbourhood, having resided in the parish some years. After tea the handbells were brought into use, and various touches were rung. The party left about 9.20., arriving at Hertford at 10.55 p.m., having spent a pleasant day; the kind welcome, and the hospitality of the above named rev. gentleman adding greatly to their pleasure, for which they take this opportunity of returning him their sincere thanks. Among the party were the Rev. W. Wigram, Mr. Staples (Hon. Sec.), Mr. Baker, &c. During the day touches amounting to over 3000 changes were rung in the following methods: Stedman and Grandsire Triples, Treble Bob and Bob Major.

## ST. LAWRENCE, WINSLOW, BUCKS.

This church has recently been thoroughly restored, and we are glad to say that the bells have not been forgotten. They are six in number, the tenor cast by Pack and Chapman, weighing 19 cwt. in the key of E, three of the others bearing dates 1668 and 1670. The treble is supposed to have been made at Drayton Parslow, and is dated 1713. There is also an ancient Sanctus bell, twenty in. diameter, bearing this inscription; "Robert Atton made me 1611. W. Lounes, W. Giles, T. Tomlin, J. Gibburd, W. Titch, benefactors for casting this bell). The order for restoring the bells was entrusted to Messrs. Warner and Sons, of Cripplegate Foundry, and during the week ending June 27th, they have placed in the tower a massive English oak frame, constructed to carry eight bells, but the trebles are to be put in at some future time, the funds not allowing the octave to be completed at present. The bells have been quarter-turned with new stocks and fittings complete. On Saturday, June 27th, the hangers, with Messrs. Grace and Stevens, two of the local ringers, rang a half-muffled peal, as a last token of respect to Mr. John Grace, late churchwarden, who was buried that afternoon. W. Quick, 1; G. Stevens, 2; C. Gordon, 3; G. Giffen, 4; J. Grace, 5; C. Skinner, 6. The go of the bells being excellent, they are now a most musical ring, and we believe that they are to be formally re-opened about Thursday, July 23rd, by members of the Oxford Guild. The well known firm of Messrs. John Smith and Sons, of Derby, are also making a new o'clock for the tower, every thing being done to make the restoration as complete as possible.

## WORCESTER AND ADJOINING DISTRICT ASSOCIATION.

The next ANNUAL MEETING of the above Association will be held at Bromsgrove, on Monday, July 13th. The peal of ten bells will be open for ringing during the day. The business meeting will be held at 2 o'clock, in St. John the Baptist School Room, (close to the church), at which Lord Alwyne Compton, D.D., has promised (if able) to preside. Members, Hon. and performing, are requested to note that all contributions not yet paid, should be paid at this meeting.



## STEDMAN'S PRINCIPLE ON EVEN NUMBERS.

BY JASPER W. SNOWDON.

Stedman's Principle is not well adapted for ringing on even numbers of bells, and the only peals rung have therefore been rung merely as matters of curiosity and to secure the first of such performances. The Birmingham St. Martin's society have scored the first and the only peals on six, eight, and ten bells in this method. As only one peal of Stedman Minor has, to the best of my knowledge, ever been rung, it is worthy of mention: it was accomplished at St. Martin's, Birmingham, on September 16th, 1819, and the following are the particulars of this performance. These details, and those of other peals, are gathered from the Society's peal book.

*Stedman's Minor.*—December 16th, 1819. The Society rang at St. Martin's, Birmingham, 720 changes of Stedman Minor, in 25 mins., being the first peal ever rung in this method.

Henry Cooper,	Treble.	Wm. Bennett,	3.	James Jarvis,	5.
Wm. Hassell,	2.	Thos. Chapman,	4.	Thos. Thurstans,	Tenor.

The following is a detailed account of the only peal of Stedman Major rung, which was achieved by the St. Martin's Society. It was a peal of 5037 changes, rung on February 17th, 1856.

*Stedman's Major.*—On February 17th, 1856. The following members of the St. Martin's Society succeeded in ringing at the church of St. Peter and St. Paul, Aston, a peal of Stedman Major, comprising 5037 changes, which was completed in 3 hours and 7 minutes, the company being stationed as follows:—

Wm. Hayward,	Treble.	Jno. James, sen.,	4.	Robt. Yates,	6.
Thos. Macdonald,	2.	Jos. Spencer,	5.	Henry Johnson,	7.
Jno. Banister,	3.			Thos. Hobday,	Tenor.

The above was the first peal of Major ever completed in this intricate system. Composed and conducted by Mr. Henry Johnson.

Having accomplished the foregoing peals the Birmingham men in the course of time determined to score the "first on record" in Royal. This they did at Aston on October 21st, 1876. The following is a detailed account of this performance with which I bring to a close this account of the various noteworthy peals rung on Stedman's Principle:—

*Stedman's Royal.*—On Saturday, October 21st, 1876, the Society of St. Martin's Youths rang at Aston parish church, 5184 changes of Royal on Stedman's Principal, in 3 hours and 27 minutes, being the first peal of Royal ever rung.

A. Cresser,	Treble.	H. Bastable,	5.	J. Dunn,	7.
J. Joynes,	2.	H. Johnson,	6.	H. Johnson, jun.	8.
J. Banister,	3.			F. H. James,	9.
W. Kent,	4.			S. Jarman,	Tenor.

This peal, which is in 36 courses, with the fifth 12 times wrong and the sixth 24 times right, was composed and conducted by H. Johnson, senr.

## THE ROTHERHAM RINGERS IN NOTTINGHAMSHIRE.

ON Tuesday, June 30th, the Rotherham ringers, with a few of their friends, had a thorough good day in the country. An early start was decided upon, which enabled them to visit various places of interest. Punctually at seven o'clock, Mr. Charles Henry Hattersley, who was invited by the Rotherham men to accompany them, arrived from Sheffield, when the party at once took their seats and drove off. Being provided with four capital horses, a good run was made to Kiverton Park, where a short stay was thought advisable, and a small luncheon was partaken of. Leaving Kiverton Park by the way of Cresswell, which latter place is famous for its majestic crags and trout stream, Welbeck Abbey was reached, which is the country seat of his Grace the Duke of Portland. Permission, which had been previously obtained, for viewing this stately mansion, was then taken advantage of, and was of a very satisfactory kind. Here is to be seen the finest riding school and horse gallop in the kingdom. The next halt found the party at Worksop, where a substantial dinner was awaiting them at the house of Mr. Marshall. After doing justice to the good things provided, some of the company betook themselves to the Abbey Church, where some Stedman Triples and other methods were rung, whilst others amused themselves with playing at bobbing around, a game which the Rotherham people are very fond of. The homeward course was afterwards adopted, the journey being broken at the small, but picturesque village of Anston, where a few songs and a little dancing was indulged in. Rotherham was the next order, which reached by 10.30. Captain Ashley, of the last mentioned town, acted as pioneer, when the usual complimentary remarks to this worthy individual for his able management and liberality, brought a very enjoyable day to a close.

## 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."

## LIST OF RINGS IN CORNWALL.

SIR,—We ought all, as ringers, to be truly grateful to Mr. Rees for undertaking such a difficult task as that of compiling the different rings of six or more bells in our counties; only when he comes to our own county, wherever that may be, can we appreciate the many difficulties he has to encounter, and the amount of hunting and searching it entails. I may therefore congratulate him on the very good list he has presented you, of the number of peals in our westernmost province; at the same time I feel a deep sense of remorse that I am unable to correct him with an increased number of change-ringing towers. I will endeavour to supply him with the information required about the list as published, and make a few additions thereto. To the rings of eight Stratton must be added, a new treble and tenor having been supplied by Mears and Stainbank, in 1878. The S. Columb Major ring of eight has not been reduced to six. Thus Cornwall possesses nine rings of eight, all I believe in very good ringing condition. Though a vast majority of the six peals are in very good ringing condition, there are a few in the published list as well as in the following addenda, which cannot be rung, either owing to some of the peal having been broken (in some instances through excessive zeal at a wedding), or more frequently owing to the framework and bearings having been allowed to fall into a dilapidated condition. S. Budock and Budock is one and the same place, particulars of which peal has already been published in No. 78 of "THE BELL NEWS," page 309; tenor 9 cwt., by Taylor. Whitchurch is in Devonshire, being erroneously placed under Cornwall in Troyte's Guide.

Crantock	6	9	Pennington, 1767; and Rudhall (5-6), 1823.
Eglos-shayle	6	12	Rudhall, 1756. New treble.
Lanivet	6	14½	Pennington, 1808. Tenor by Taylor, 1869
Lanteglos-juxta-Fowey	6	12	Pennington, 1774.
Marhamchurch	6	8	? New treble in 1878.
Saltash	6	14	T. Bilbie, 1760.
S. Cleer	6	12	Pennington, 1789. 5 by Mears, 1845.
S. Michael s Mount	6	6	1, 4 and 5 are mediævals; floored.
S. Neots	6	8	Pennington, 1777.

The Lanteglos ring of six by Pennington, 1873, with a tenor of 10 cwt. is at Lanteglos-juxta-Camelford. The present ring of five at S. Breward is about to be augmented to six, through the exertions of the Vicar, the Rev. J. A. Kempe, the late esteemed Secretary of the Devonshire Guild. A peculiar epitaph may be seen in the belfry of Launcells church, and though it has no more interest to a ringer than its *situ*, may be worthy of mention.

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.

Penzance.

JOHN SYMONS.

## A FALSE TOUCH.

SIR,—Probably the St. Laurence's Society, Reading, like most other people, were aware the touches Mr. Perkins refers to are not true, so that his information was unnecessary. The 559 which appeared in the earlier editions of the work is cut from the 1875 edition, and if Mr. Perkins will refer to the latter he will find a foot note by the author as follows: "N.B.—This 377 and the following touch of 420 are not true; they however produce good music." I agree with Col. Troyte that for practice it is quite legitimate to ring musical touches even though they may not be true, especially where, as in this case, they afford prettier music to the listener, and exercise a little more skill on the part of the young conductor than the ordinary run of short touches.

HENRY TUCKER.

## THE PEAL OF BOB MAJOR AT WEST MALLING, KENT.

SIR,—Will you allow me a small space in your paper respecting a paragraph in your last issue relative to the peal of Bob Major at West Malling, Kent. Mr. Leonard says that Mr. Newman was in far too many public houses to hear the peal. Now I for one shall strongly contradict that statement, as during the whole of the time that we were there we visited one public house and were not there three minutes, so that if Mr. Leonard got his information from the publicans, the sooner they learn to speak the truth the more to their credit.

HARRY PEARCE.

SIR,—In reply to Mr. Leonard's letter in your last week's issue, I beg to inform him that I shall pass by his insulting remarks, and intend having the matter thoroughly sifted in another quarter. Also a peal of Bob Major, called by him last Easter Monday, April 6th, as I am given to understand it contained 46 courses, and shall insist upon his producing the composition of both peals.

F. G. NEWMAN.



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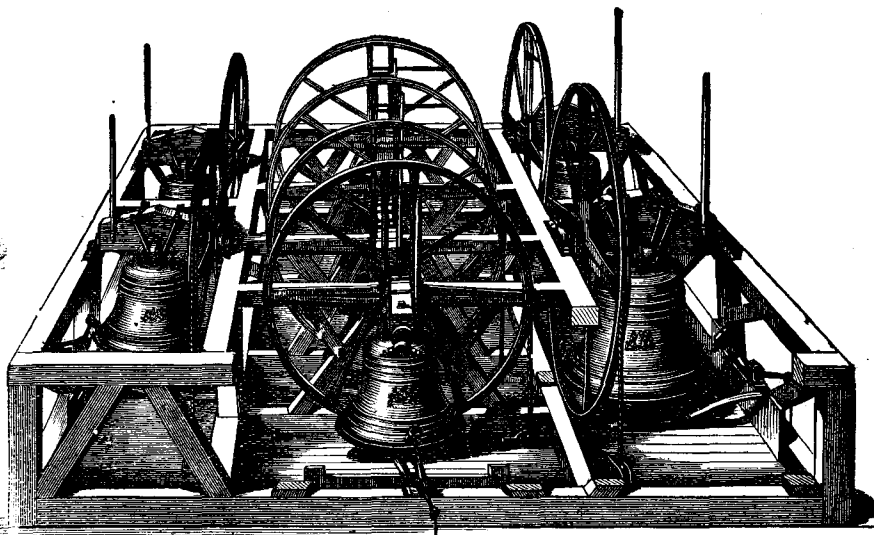
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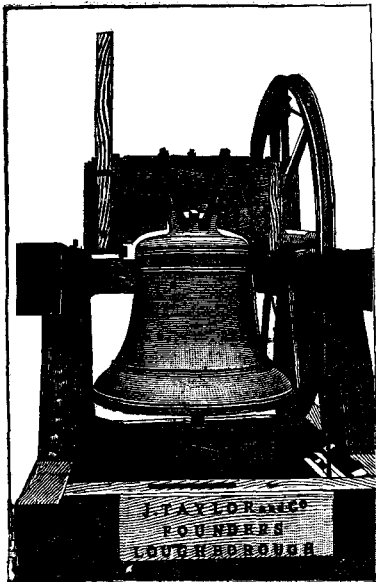
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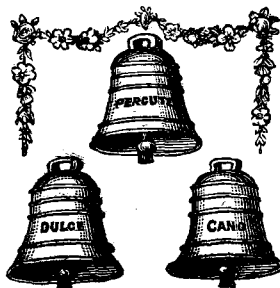
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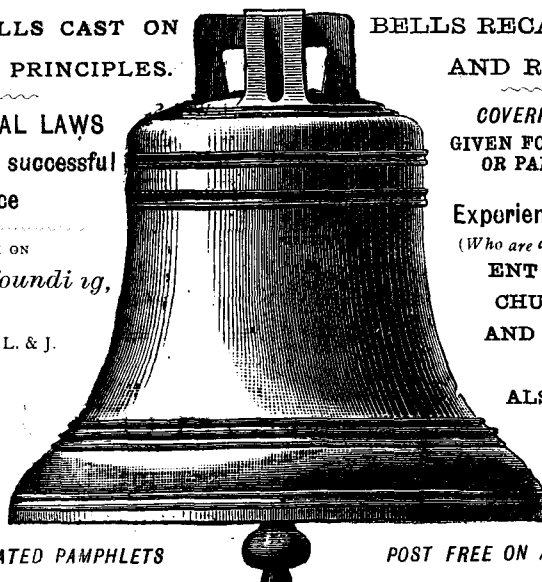
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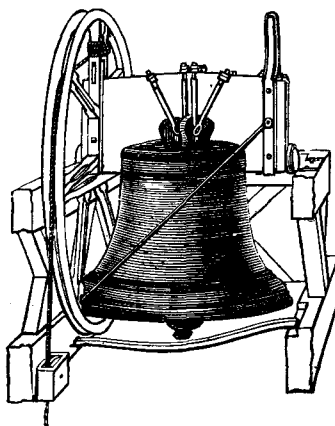
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## THE SURPRISE PEALS.

By JASPER W. SNOWDON.

WHEN some fifteen years ago I first turned my attention to change-ringing, I do not think that there was anything that interested me more than the footnotes in Hubbard's *Art of Ringing*, which gave the date and place of performance of some of the most interesting or complicated peals. As I gained a further acquaintance with the art, I was surprised to find that, with the exception of the information to be gained from these short notes, very little was known by the Exercise generally of such by-gone performances. One man, perhaps, knew something about what had been done in one particular method, but was entirely ignorant of the peals that had been rung in some other method. Finding that none of the authors of the different books on ringing had made any attempt to form any list of the highest class of performances, and knowing that, on account of the remote period at which some of these achievements were accomplished, every year would render the gathering together of these particulars more difficult, I began to collect all the information I could obtain on such points, and thus this history of the performances accomplished in the Surprise methods was first undertaken and eventually published in the early part of the year 1875.

Under the title of "The Surprise Peals," the Cambridge, London, and Superlative Surprise Variations of Treble Bob are generally classed. As these are the most intricate methods that have yet been practised by change-ringers, a short account of the limited number of peals that have been rung in them will be of interest, as, should they hereafter attain a more extensive practice, a full list of these performances for reference will then enable us at once to place any peal that may be rung in its proper numerical order in such records. As, on account of their intricacy, these peals have only been practised by the very best companies of ringers, the attention of composers has probably not been generally directed towards obtaining peals in them. This, coupled with the extreme precariousness of the method, may account for the fact that in Cambridge Surprise no greater length than 5600 has been composed or attempted, and that in Superlative and London Surprise no peals beyond the extent with the tenors together, 6720 changes, have yet been obtained or attempted. Knowing that while they are ignorant of what has hitherto been accomplished in these methods, many of our rising composers will have a little inclination to study them when all their trouble may be expended in reproducing some known peal, I hope to place before the readers of "THE BELL NEWS" a collection of the peals that have already been obtained. I also purpose giving an explanation of the different methods of proof required. As I propose to deal with these variations according to the order in which they were first practised, I shall place them before my readers in the order of Cambridge, Superlative, and London Surprise Major, and then proceed to Royal.

## CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR.

Although next to London Surprise, this is the most complicated of the three variations to ring, it is without doubt the most difficult system in which composition has yet been attempted, and consequently it is not surprising to find that only one of the peals rung has its truth undoubtedly established.

With a regard to a well-known law among change-ringers, no false peal can claim to be recorded. At the same time it should be remembered, that as the composer only can be held blamable for the falseness of his work, and it is at any time just as hard to ring correctly a false peal as a true one; that, as a performance the one is as much entitled to merit as the other, especially is this

the case if the composer of the true peal is not one of its ringers, as in that case the band is but practically performing the work of another person, the merits or demerits of whose compositions can hardly be said to affect the actual ringing. While making these remarks, I would not, however, wish to be understood in any way to detract from the general recognition of the law against false peals, as its enforcement must always tend to improve and encourage the science of composition, whereas its relaxation might retard the same.

So far as I am aware, the first mention of the method of Cambridge Surprise is to be found in the record of a 5040 on six bells, rung on April 16th, 1737, at St. Mary's, Whitechapel, when "Cambridge Surprise" was one of the seven Treble Bob methods of which the peal consisted. In Annable's ms. book, a lead of Major, and the mode of calling a 5120 on eight bells is given, but as the method differs from the one in which the only known peals have subsequently been rung, I have never investigated the truth of this peal. The first mention of this method being practised, appears in *Clavis Campanalogia*, where the Major method that has since been generally rung, is given. A peal of 5152 is also given, concerning which the following statement appears:—

"It was rung by the Ancient Society of College Youths (there were two societies of College Youths at that time) at St. Giles's-in-the-Fields, on Sunday, February 23, 1783, being the greatest performance ever achieved in the Campanian Art, as so intricate a method was never practised by any other set of men whatever; indeed the same people (except one) did ring a peal in this same method, and at the same place, on Sunday, January 30, 1780, they being then "London Youths;" but as this was rung with the tenors together, it proved false on the new discoveries, which happened about this time, and was the cause of their ringing another peal."

It therefore appears that these peals were the first ever rung in the method, and thus although, as I shall shortly shew, both of them were false, I think my readers will be glad to have copies of the peal-book records of these peals which are still in existence laid before them. In the original entry of the first of these records, which is preserved in the library of the British Museum, a very good sketch of St. Giles's Church, shaded in Indian ink, forms a conspicuous part of the design.

From the peal-book of the Society of London Youths:—"St. Giles's in the Fields. The Society rang on Sunday, January 30, 1780, a complete peal of 5088 Cambridge Surprise, in 3 hours and 26 minutes, being the first ever done since the art was invented.

Thomas Bulgin,	Treble,	1.	Thomas Blakemore,	4.	John Anderton,	6.
Richard Wilson,	2.	William West,	5.	John Reeves,	7.	
Robt. Pye Donkin,	3.			Allen Grant,	Tenor.	

The peal was composed and called by Mr. Jno. Reeves."

From the peal-book of the Ancient Society of College Youths:—"Saint Giles in the Fields. On Thursday, the 23rd day of February, this society rang a true peal, consisting of 5152 changes of Cambridge Surprise, in three hours and thirty minutes, as follows:—

Charles Purser,	Treble,	1.	Thos. Blakemore,	Fourth,	John Anderson,	Sixth,
Richd. Wilson,	Second,	2.	Thomas Bulkin,	Fifth,	John Reeves,	Seventh,
Robt. Pye Donkin,	Third,	3.			Allen Grant,	Tenor.

Composed and called by Mr. J. Reeves."

As I have previously stated, the calling of the latter of these two peals is given in the *Clavis*, but unfortunately for the band who rang the peal, it is also a false one, as certain changes which occur at 5-6 down in the second lead of the second course are repeated at 5-6 up in the fifth lead of the third course.

## THE JOHNSON TESTIMONIAL.

At a meeting of the local committee held on Tuesday last, it was decided that the above testimonial should take the form of a portrait and illuminated address. This form meets with the approval of Mr. Johnson, and the committee respectfully request that all who are interested in this "National Testimonial," will kindly forward donations to the Treasurer. Should sufficient funds be at the disposal of the Committee, a small reproduction of the presentation portrait will be forwarded to each donor, as suggested by Mr. Snowden in his letter of the 4th inst. The Committee will cause a list of donations to appear periodically in "THE BELL NEWS," and will also give notice through the same medium when the fund is to be closed. Mr. A. Thomas, 83, Wheeley's Road, Edgbaston, Birmingham, is the Hon. Secretary; and Mr. S. Reeves, 10, Bull Street, West Bromwich, is the Hon. Treasurer.

## EASTBOURNE, SUSSEX.

On Thursday, the 9th inst., an enjoyable afternoon's excursion was made by the Eastbourne members of the Royal Cumberland Youths Society, to Seaford, for the purpose of attempting a peal. Arrangements were made by Mr. Huggett, and the meeting time was fixed for 2.30 p.m., sharp, near the old parish church of St. Mary. Mr. Chapman, an old member of the St. Mary's company, was in readiness with a commodious waggonette and a serviceable pair of horses, the conveyance being fitted with a powerful brake invented by the driver, who has secured a patent for it. Under his careful conductorship the party safely returned to Eastbourne soon after 11.0 p.m., completing a delightful drive of about fifteen miles, along roads which presented at times very difficult and dangerous prospects usually to be found along our sea coasts.

The journey commenced with a continuous hill for about two miles, forming part of the South Downs. A fine view was obtained of the town of Eastbourne, and the whole of the locality, Pevensey Bay, and the coast along to Hastings, etc. As the journey continued on to Seaford, many interesting places were pointed out, that awakened further interest, so we enumerate them here as they appear in the "Guide." On reference to a map, the places will readily be seen.

**BEACHY HEAD**, which may be approached by a carriage road. To this noted promontory may be ascribed a considerable portion of Eastbourne's popularity; it is one of the lions of the place. The cliff forms a spur of the South Downs, and is about 575 feet in height, and commands extensive land and sea views. There is a coastguard station there, and the men have frequently rendered assistance to distressed vessels, and been of service in rescuing reckless visitors from perilous positions on the cliff. The grandeur of the rocky scenery is best viewed from below.

**BELLE TOUTE LIGHTHOUSE**, which supplemented a wooden structure in 1831, and has been of great service in the prevention of shipwrecks, is about two miles and a half to the west. It is open for the inspection of visitors from half-past nine till an hour before sunset, and is well worthy of a visit. The light is a revolving one, and can be seen in clear weather fourteen miles at sea.

**BIRLING GAP** is an opening from the cliffs, forming an easy descent to the beach. There is a coastguard station here, where rocket and line throwing apparatus are kept, and many smuggling adventures have taken place at this spot. A telegraph cable is submerged here, also extending to France, and inland to Battle, *via* Polegate and London.

**SEAFORD**.—One of the Cinque Ports, a telegraph station and quiet little bathing place, formerly the port where the river Ouse emptied itself into the sea; but ruined in the year 1570, when a storm diverted the course of the river. The Church is ancient. There is a Convalescent Hospital at Corsica Hall, under a part of the cliff, 290 feet above the sea. The Downs at this sea-side place are very beautiful and romantic.

On arriving at Seaford, Mr. John Jay, sen., of Brighton, and Mr. S. Deadman, of Eastbourne, also members of the Cumberlands, were awaiting, so a speedy entry into the tower was made, the sexton having everything in readiness, permission being kindly granted by the Vicar, the Rev. W. M. Buck, M.A. The church, dedicated to St. Leonard, is a very old building, and abounding with interest. A brass tablet was erected in 1879, in lower part of the tower, which runs:—

"In commemoration of recasting the five old bells and increasing the peal to eight bells

Erected in this Tower by public Subscription, A.D., 1811.

Collected as a labour of love by

Mr. John Catland, Church Warden.

Bell Founders, Messrs. Mears, London,

Bell Hanger, Mr. Markwick, Uckfield.

Total cost, £263 6s. 3d."

There is a tablet in the belfry recording the first peal on the bells, which was rung by ringers from Uckfield, Chale, and Waldron, on December 27th, 1811, in 3 hrs. 4 mins., conducted by Jno. Ranger. It was evidently Grandsire, as the peal is mentioned as "Holt's Tripples." The tenor was recast by Messrs. C. and G. Mears, of Whitechapel, in 1855, the former bell falling in halves while ringing on one occasion, after it had been cracked some time.

The visitors were not successful in their attempt for the peal, owing to the unpealable condition of the seventh. An adjournment was made to the "New Inn," where a thorough good tea was enjoyed, and a stroll along the sea parade, till the time of departure arrived.

As a more circuitous route was taken to afford a view of the country, the return journey was equally as interesting, a stop being made at Alfreton, where refreshments were obtained at a rare old picturesque half-timbered Inn, named "The Starr." Passing by Berwick, and on through Polegate, the old town of Eastbourne was duly reached, the words of parting and the hearty shake of hands, being evidence of the pleasure and enjoyment afforded to one and all by the outing, the unavoidable absence of Mr. S. Hart and T. Hunnisset being regretted, especially as the weather was so inviting.

W. H. F.

## RESTORATION OF ST. MICHAEL'S, COVENTRY.

THE interest manifested in this undertaking is a sufficient apology for inserting the following account from the *Birmingham Daily Post*:—"The concluding services in St. Michael's, Coventry, prior to closing for restoration, were held on June 29th, when special sermons were preached in aid of Catharine Bayley's Charity. The Mayor (Mr. J. Maycock), and Corporation attended the morning service, when there was a full congregation, and in the evening the church was crowded, the numbers present being estimated at about 3000. The services were choral, the veteran organist Mr. E. Simms, who is approaching ninety years of age, and has been organist between fifty and sixty years, presiding at the fine old instrument, on which it is said Handel, has played. The grand peal of bells, which are about to be removed for the purpose of restoring the internal portions of the tower and spire, were rung both morning and evening, instead of being chimed, and at the close of the evening service the choir sung the 'Hallelujah Chorus.' The work of preparing for the restoration has proceeded rapidly since the contracts were placed with Mr. John Thompson, of Peterborough, the restorer of Lichfield, Chester, Peterborough, and other Cathedrals. The scaffolding for the tower is constructed in sections on the ground, and then drawn up by ropes over pulleys fixed to a mast at the battlements, and will soon be 50 ft. in height, the total height of the tower being 130 ft., and of the spire 303 ft. In the churchyard brick offices are being built, and the extensive shedding, &c., give evidences of the long period over which this great work will extend. The removal of the clock and the bells will in all probability be proceeded with this week. Mr. George Worton, of Coventry, has removed the machinery of the chimes, and will himself remove the clock, which was erected by an ancestor of Mr. Worton's in the year 1778, though Mr. Worton has himself added some bells. The removal of the bells is included in the builder's contract. They were first hung in St. Michael's tower in 1429, and thirty-six years later (1465) the Mayor and Council granted forty-shillings annually for keeping the clock and chimes, and thirty-one years afterwards an order of leet was made for regulating the price of death peals. In 1577 the record reads: "Paid for timber and for making a new barrel for the chimes, five shillings." Eighty years later a sum of £3 was paid for putting the clock and chimes in order, and in 1674 the six bells were recast into eight. Six years later George Tagg was allowed £3 by the City Council "to make the chimes go on three tunes." In 1774 a new peal of ten bells was contracted for with Messrs Pack and Chapman, and the weight of the whole was nearly seven tons; the tenor, unfortunately, cracked in 1804, and was recast and made slightly heavier. It is possible that the bell, music, which is dear to every Coventry person, and noted far and wide, will no more be heard in St. Michael's tower. The bells will be stowed away for a considerable time during the restoration of the fabric, and a proposal has been made to erect a separate campanile for their reception, owing to the continual ringing being, in the opinion of all experts, dangerous to the spire. Before this is finally decided upon, however, there is likely to be a strong controversy, as a considerable feeling exists against the project, the prevailing sentiment being that the bells are wedded to the tower. Accommodation is proposed to be found for limited congregations in the Girdler's and Capper's chapels, but practically the church may be considered as closed. The contracts accepted, which do not include the whole of the work in prospect, amount to about £30,000. About £5000 more is needed to complete the subscription list."

## THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—ROTHWELL BRANCH.

The following is the ringing done by this branch of the above Association, at Holy Trinity Church, during the month of June:—  
 June 1st: 240 of Oxford Treble Bob, 240 Violet, 240 Duke of York, 240 New London Pleasure, 360 Arnold's Victory, 360 of Oxford Treble Bob. June 8th: 720 of Oxford Treble Bob, 360 of Oxford Treble Bob. June 14: 720 Duke of York, 360 of Oxford Treble Bob, 360 of Violet, 720 of Oxford Treble Bob. June 21st: 360 of Violet, 360 of New London Pleasure, 120 of Violet, 360 of New London Pleasure. June 29th: 720 of Oxford Treble Bob, 240 of Violet, 240 of Duke of York, 240 of Arnold's Victory.

## EAST HANNINGFIELD, ESSEX.

It will be remembered that the old church was burnt down on Sunday, December 30th, 1883. We are happy to say that the parish can now boast of having one of the neatest little country churches in Essex, with a neat little wood tower and spire, built with English oak timber, which is to contain five small bells. Although only the three largest have found their places, we hope shortly to hear of the other two being added. The frame and hanging the bells have been carried out by Mr. H. Bowell, of Ipswich. The church and tower were built by Mr. Wood, of Chelmsford, Essex. Mr. Stone, of London, being Architect.



## ST. MARY'S SOCIETY, BEDDINGTON, SURREY.

On Saturday, July 4th, the members of this society, accompanied by their wives and lady-loves, had their annual excursion, Guildford being the town selected for the purpose. Starting from Wallington Green at 7.30 a.m., a pleasant drive of eleven miles brought the party to Leatherhead, where they were met by that ever-courteous steeple-keeper, Mr. S. Brooker, who at once conducted them to the church, where a touch of about 500 Grandsire Caters was rung. Leaving the tower, and slightly refreshing the inner man, after bidding farewell to their friend Mr. Brooker, the party again betook themselves to the road, and a pleasant drive of eleven and a half miles brought them to their destination—Guildford, where they arrived about 12.20. They at once repaired to the church of St. Nicholas, where, as a kind of preliminary, they rang a touch of Grandsire Triples, and a course of Treble Bob Major. By this time dinner was ready at the "Cannon Inn," and the company—whose appetites had been whetted by the journey—assembled thither, and partook, with indomitable zest, of an excellent repast. At the end of this terrific onslaught on the good things provided, the tower was again visited, and touches of Grandsire and Stedman Triples, and Kent Treble Bob Major were rung. As it was hardly to be expected that the ladies present could go into raptures over the music from the practice of these methods, a change was adopted, and a four-oared schooner was engaged for their felicitous enjoyment, which, sailing majestically down the river, the fair occupants enjoyed to the full the delicious breezes wafted from the famed Downs of Surrey. Those of the company possessing tastes decidedly antiquarian, gratified themselves by an inspection of the old castle ruins; others betook themselves to the Hog's Back. Five o'clock having arrived, the roll was called, and thanking Mr. Eades, the steeple-keeper, for his courtesy, and host and hostess Williams, for their catering, the visitors started on their homeward journey. A drive of ten miles brought them to the "White Lion Hotel," Cobham, where a good tea had, with admirable forethought, been provided by the worthy host. A walk round the beautiful gardens attached to this hostelry, and a few tunes on the handbells on the lawn at the rear, hastened the hour of departure, and returning by way of Esher, Kingston, etc., the party reached home about the "witching hour," all having thoroughly enjoyed the day's outing.

The Beddington company take this opportunity of thanking the Vicar for allowing them to ring, the go of the bells being all that could be desired.

## ST. PETER'S AMALGAMATED SOCIETY, SHEFFIELD.

On Monday, July 6th, about thirty members of the above Society held their annual outing at Liverpool. On arrival they were met by Mr. Williams, sen., and Mr. Helsby, of Liverpool, who had previously arranged for ringing. After refreshing the inner man a visit was paid to St. Nicholas's tower, a ring of twelve, tenor 41 cwt. in C., where Grandsire Triples, Grandsire Caters, and Grandsire Cinques were rung. All having had a pull, a start was made for St. Peter's church, a ring of ten, tenor 25 cwt. This tower is undergoing repairs, a good portion of it being down; here Stedman Caters were rung. At the same time a band started for the Catholic church in Salisbury Street, a ring of eight, tenor about 16 cwt.; here Grandsire Triples were proceeding when Messrs. Williams appeared, and Stedman Triples were rung. The majority visited New Brighton, where a pleasant afternoon was spent in various ways, some patronising photography, etc., where an abundance of charming young ladies may be seen soliciting orders for refreshments in quite a novel manner. In the evening, at the meeting house of St. Peter's society, Liverpool, a pleasant hour was spent with some of the Liverpool ringers. During the evening a vote of thanks was passed to Mr. Williams, sen., who is a pretty good age, and who responded in a very suitable manner. It being time to return a move was made to the station, and every one arrived home well pleased with their day's outing. The members wish, through the medium of this paper, to thank the Vicars, churchwardens, and other gentlemen, for granting permission to ring, and other gentlemen who spent most of the day for their pleasure.

## THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

A DISTRICT MEETING will be held at Harwich (8 bells), on Saturday, July 25th. Ringing to commence at twelve o'clock. A meat Tea will be provided at the Great Eastern Hotel, at four o'clock p.m. Tickets to be obtained from the Secretary at 6d. each, up to July 20th, after that date 1s. 6d. will be charged. The Business Meeting will be held immediately after the tea. Return tickets will be issued by the G.E.R. at a single fare and a quarter to members, providing that they shew their E.A.C.R. receipts for 1885-6 at the Booking Office, and inform the Sec., before July 20th, from what station they travel.

Rayleigh, S.O., Essex.

H. A. COCKEY, Hon. Sec.

## BELLS AND RINGERS IN 1885.—(Continued.)

By F. W. J. REES.

## LIST OF RINGS IN NORTHAMPTONSHIRE.

Aynhoe .. .. .	8 .. 18 ..	..	Trebles by Warner, 1870.
Daventry .. .. .	8 .. 17 ..	..	.. By Eayre, 1738.
Kettering .. .. .	8 .. 25 ..	..	..
King's Sutton .. ..	8 .. ..	..	.. 1-2 by Briant, 1793.
North'mpt'n All Sts	8 .. 23 ..	G.	.. Whitechapel, 1719.
" S. Giles	8 .. 30 ..	..	..
" S. Peter	8 .. 14 ..	..	.. A. Rudhall, 1734.
" S. Edmund	8 .. 18 ..	..	.. Taylor, 1884.
Oundle .. .. .	8 .. 27 ..	..	.. 1, 2, 3, 8 recast, 1868
Peterboro' S. John	8 .. 28 ..	..	.. Fine ring D'wn'm'o8
Wellingboro' .. ..	8 .. 29 ..	..	.. Made eight in 1884.
Brampton Ash .. ..	6 .. 12 ..	..	..
Braunston .. .. .	6 .. 17 ..	..	.. Briant, 1811.
Brington .. .. .	6 .. 19 ..	..	.. A. Rudhall, 1723.
Carlton, East .. ..	6 .. 9 ..	..	.. Eayre, 1755.
Castor .. .. .	6 .. 10 ..	..	.. Bagley of Ecton 1700
Chacombe .. .. .	6 .. 15 ..	..	..
Cottesbrooke .. ..	6 .. 16 ..	..	.. Bagley, 1702.
Cransley .. .. .	6 .. 10 ..	..	.. Bagley, 1683.
Denford .. .. .	6 .. 6 ..	..	..
Dodford .. .. .	6 .. 14 ..	..	..
Earl's Barton .. ..	6 .. 13 ..	..	..
Easton Neston .. ..	6 .. 13 ..	..	..
Ecton .. .. .	6 .. 13 ..	..	.. [1825.
Finedon .. .. .	6 .. 24 ..	..	.. Recast by Taylor,
Flore .. .. .	6 .. 13 ..	..	..
Gayton .. .. .	6 .. 15 ..	..	..
Glington .. .. .	6 .. 16 ..	..	.. Downham, 1799.
Guildenburgh .. ..	6 .. 9 ..	..	.. Whitechapel, 1847.
Harleston .. .. .	6 .. 21 ..	..	..
Harrington .. .. .	6 .. 8 ..	..	.. Whitechapel, 1817.
Helmdon .. .. .	6 .. 10 ..	..	..
Higham Ferrers .. ..	6 .. 22 ..	..	..
Irthlingborough .. ..	6 .. 11 ..	B. T.B.	.. Whitechapel, 1829.
Kelmarsh .. .. .	6 .. 10 ..	..	.. Arnold, 1774.
Maxey .. .. .	6 .. 13 ..	B.	..
Middleton Cheney	6 .. 25 ..	..	..
Moulton .. .. .	6 .. 17 ..	..	.. Arnold, 1795.
Newnham .. .. .	6 .. ..	..	.. Hugh Watts, 1633.
Northampton, St.	6 .. 15 ..	..	..
Sepulchre	.. .. .	..	..
Raunds .. .. .	6 .. 18 ..	B. & C.	.. Penn, 1723.
Ringstead .. .. .	6 .. 13 ..	B. & C.	..
Rothwell .. .. .	6 .. 22 ..	..	..
Rushden .. .. .	6 .. 20 ..	..	.. Taylor, 1794.
Stamford .. .. .	6 .. 14 ..	..	.. Whitechapel, 1850.
Thorpe Malsor .. ..	6 .. 7 ..	..	..
Towcester .. .. .	6 .. 17 ..	..	..
Watford .. .. .	6 .. 15 ..	..	..
Weldon .. .. .	6 .. 11 ..	..	.. Penn, 1710.
Tichmarsh .. .. .	6 .. 21 ..	B. & C.	..
Wilton .. .. .	6 .. 12 ..	..	.. Whitechapel, 1777.
Wollaston .. .. .	6 .. 19 ..	..	.. Taylor, 1806.
Yardley Hastings ..	6 .. 14 ..	..	.. Penn, 1723.

Change-ringing is certainly spreading in Northamptonshire.

## CHRIST CHURCH, CONSETT, DURHAM.

A Meeting of the parishioners was held on Thursday, July 9th, to take immediate action to provide a peal of bells at the parish church at a cost of £400. A donation of £50 has been promised by the vicar and churchwardens, contingent upon the bells being obtained this year. The sum of £126 has already been subscribed, and on £300 being guaranteed, a peal of six will be procured forthwith.

## ST. MARY'S, BEDDINGTON, SURREY.

THE members of the above Society will hold their sixteenth anniversary on Bank Holiday, August 13th. Any ringers honoring the members with their company will receive a hearty welcome.

## THE ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

It is proposed to hold a District Meeting at Sudbury, on Monday, August 3rd, Bank Holiday. Full particulars will appear in next week's issue of "THE BELL NEWS." K. H. SMITH, Hon. Sec.  
July 13th, 1885.

## THE SHIPWAY REPRINT.

THE first and second numbers of the weekly issue of this work are

### NOW READY,

And may be obtained of all news agents in town and country. As in this shape the number of copies printed will only be just enough to cover the demand, it is obvious that those who neglect to obtain the numbers at once will not afterwards have the opportunity.

Each number contains sixteen pages, size of page being the same as the original work, and having about the same quantity of matter per page. Mr. Snowdon will probably add a valuable contribution to the work in the shape of an appendix.

The numbers are printed in a popular style, and on superior paper.

### PRICE ONE PENNY.

PUBLISHED BY 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 Bell News & Ringers' Record.

SATURDAY, JULY 18, 1885.

SEVERAL correspondents have during the week sent letters of a most flattering character for publication, relating to the weekly issue of the "Shipway" reprint. We have deemed it advisable not to publish these communications, but to refer to them generally through the medium of what has come to be regarded as our leading comment. And at first we may tell our friends that the determination to enter upon this weekly issue was not arrived at without grave consideration, and a fair review of the quality and quantity of the solicitations made to us to do so. First of all, those gentlemen who had subscribed towards the production of the work in its complete shape had to be consulted; and in fact this appeared to be the chief obstacle to bringing it out in a serial form. As is well known, their views and objections (if any), were solicited, with the result that while some of them had not the slightest reason for opposing such a mode of publication, many others expressed themselves pleased with the idea, and not one of them offered the least objection. One gentleman certainly did make a point of protesting, but his protest only came last week, after we had finally and positively announced what was going to be done, and thus it was too late to have any regard paid

to it. As the covenant with the subscribers will be faithfully kept, we must be allowed to say that we see no tangible reason for objection to such a mode of publication, as upon easy terms SHIPWAY's great work is thus brought within the reach of all.

In every book printed, there is necessarily a certain amount of introductory matter connected with it, and we could not eliminate a line of such matter from the book in question. Our object is to present the work exactly as the author himself produced it—with improvements in the style of printing. In our opinion, the prefaces—which will appear in due course—are as interesting, almost, as any other portion. This may be an answer to those of our friends who, having the first number, may see something which could have been dispensed with. In the second number published the methods begin, and this week our friends will no doubt be interested in seeing a method of which a peal of five thousand or more changes can be rung without one single dodge. The several appearance of the sheets as they are printed seems to us most satisfactory, so that we are enabled to fully endorse our publisher's notice at the commencement of this page, that they are "printed in a popular style," and upon really good paper. The probable addition to the work in the shape of an Appendix by Mr. SNOWDON, is sure to be hailed with a considerable degree of satisfaction, as the thorough manner in which he performs everything he undertakes, is ample warrant that such Appendix will be most valuable.

We do not want to dwell upon this subject too long, so that it may be thought we are unduly advertising the undertaking. Our remarks shall be concluded with expressing the belief that in this matter we are doing something, however little, to promote an interest in the art, coupled with a hope that the opportunity now offered of possessing a copy of the largest work on ringing, may not be thrown away by any of our brother-ringers.

### • The Metropolis.

FULHAM, MIDDLESEX.

THE ST. JAMES'S SOCIETY.

On Saturday, July 11, 1885, in Three Hours and Twenty-six Minutes,

AT ALL SAINTS' CHURCH,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB ROYAL, 5040 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 21 cwt.

RICHARD FRENCH .. .. . Treble.	ARTHUR JACOB .. .. . 6.
WILLIAM CECIL .. .. . 2.	WILLIAM BARON .. .. . 7.
GEORGE NEWSON .. .. . 3.	*J. MARTIN ROUTH, Esq. .. 8.
HENRY DAINS .. .. . 4.	*MARTIN MURPHY .. .. . 9.
JOHN CARTER* .. .. . 5.	FREDERICK G. NEWMAN .. Tenor.

Composed by H. DAINS and Conducted by F. G. NEWMAN.

J. Carter hails from Birmingham. \*First peal of Treble Bob Royal.

### THE WEST MIDDLESEX ASSOCIATION.

The MEETING arranged for St. Andrew's, Hillingdon, on Saturday, July 11th, is postponed to July 25th, at 7.30 p.m., and the Slough meeting takes place on Saturday, August 1st, at 7.30 p.m. The Annual Dinner will take place at the "King's Head," Harrow-on-the-Hill, to-day (Saturday, July 18th), at 5 o'clock. Ringing at 3.30. Members intending to be present must kindly decide by Wednesday, July 15th, to

71, Bridge Road West, Old Battersea, Surrey.

HENRY S. THOMAS,  
Hon. Sec.

**The Provinces.**

ECCLES, LANCASHIRE.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, July 6, 1885, in Two Hours and Fifty-four Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

**A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;**

THE ORIGINAL BOB-AND-SINGLE PEAL. Tenor 13½ cwt. in G.

CHARLES CASH .. .. Treble.	JAMES BARRATT .. .. 5.
SAMUEL WEST .. .. 2.	JOHN EACHUS .. .. 6.
ALBERT EDWARD WREAKS .. 3.	G. H. JOHNSON .. .. 7.
EDWARD CASH .. .. 4.	WILLIAM ASHCROFT .. Tenor.

Conducted by GEORGE HENRY JOHNSON.

\* Messrs. West, Wreaks and Eachus belong to the Manchester Cathedral Society; the rest belong to the Eccles company.

CARSHALTON, SURREY.

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

On Monday, July 13, 1884, in Two Hours and Forty-six Minutes,

AT ALL SAINTS' CHURCH,

**A PEAL OF UNION TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;**

IN ONE MAIN COURSE. Tenor 13 cwt. in Ab.

A. B. CARPENTER .. .. Treble.	J. TRAPPITT .. .. 5.
W. BURKIN .. .. 2.	C. BANCE .. .. 6.
J. HARRIS .. .. 3.	C. GORDON .. .. 7.
J. PLOWMAN .. .. 4.	J. CAWLEY .. .. Tenor.

Composed and conducted by A. B. CARPENTER.

This is the first peal of Union by any of the above except the ringer of the 2nd, and the first peal ever called by the conductor.

**Date Touches.**

WORCESTER AND ADJOINING DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

COLWALL (Hertfordshire).—On Sunday, July 12th, at the parish church, a date touch of 1885 changes of Grandsire Doubles, consisting of fifteen 6-scores, of which ten were called with Grandsire extremes, each called differently, and 85 extra changes, in 1 hr. E. J. Beatley, 1; J. T. Horton, 2; Rev. G. M. Custance, 3; C. W. H. Griffith, Esq., 4; A. F. M. Custance, Esq., 5; Chas. Pedlingham, 6. Tenor 12½ cwt. The whole was arranged and conducted by A. F. M. Custance.

LIVERSEDGE (Yorkshire).—On Thursday, July 9th, at Christ Church, the local company rang a date touch of 1885 changes of Kent Treble Bob Major, in 1 hr. 7½ mins., in honour of the 85th birthday of Mr. William Sottanall, of Sowerby, near Halifax, Yorkshire, by whom it was composed. J. Whitworth, 1; J. Illingworth, 2; W. Firth, 3; T. North, 4; G. Illingworth, 5; S. Goodall, 6; L. Illingworth, 7; Mosley Ramsden, 8. Conducted by T. North. Tenor 15 cwt.

RAUNDS (Northamptonshire).—On Saturday, July 11th, a date touch of 1885 changes was rung in 1 hr. 10 mins., in the following methods, viz.: 720 of Kent Treble Bob, 720 of Oxford Treble Bob, and 445 of Plain Bob. J. Willmott, 1; W. J. Gilbert, 2; W. Hall, 3; H. Stubbs, 4; C. W. Clarke, 5; F. Gilbert (conductor), 6. C. W. Clarke hails from Bedford.

WALTON-ON-THE-HILL (Lancashire).—On Tuesday evening, July 7th, at St. Mary's parish church, a date touch, 1885 changes, in the following methods, viz.: 445 Grandsire Minor (twenty-six bobs and one single), composed by J. J. Parker, Farnham Royal, Bucks, 720 College Single Minor (sixteen bobs and two singles), and 720 Plain Bob Minor (eighteen bobs and two singles), in 1 hr. 5 mins. J. Hurst, 1; R. H. Barton, 2; C. E. Wilson (conductor), 3; T. Rusaton, 4; R. Stockley, 5; W. Booth, 6. Tenor 9 cwt. R. H. Barton hails from Bootle, and this is the longest length he has rung. W. Booth hails from Liverpool.

**Miscellaneous.**

ASSOCIATION FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.

TIPTON (Staffordshire).—On Saturday, July 11th, eight members of the above Association, at St. Martin's church, attempted Holt's Ten-part peal of Grandsire Triples, but after ringing seven parts, or 3528

changes in 2 hrs. and 3 mins., it came to grief owing to a shift course. J. Jones, 1; Joseph Fullwood (conductor), 2; W. Pardoe, 3; G. Hughes, 4; J. Martin, 5; S. Jesson, 6; R. Schofield, 7; H. Winfield, 8. R. Schofield hails from Sedgely, the rest belong to the local company. Also on Sunday, July 12th, seven of the above, with Mr. Thomas Bennett, attempted Mr. E. Taylor's peal, but after ringing 2 hrs. and 10 mins., the treble rope broke. The same day for Divine Service in the evening, six of the above rang on the back six two 720's of Grandsire Minor, in 49 mins., the first containing thirty-eight bobs and two singles, the second thirty-eight bobs and twenty-two singles. T. Bennett, 1; G. Hughes, 2; W. Pardoe, 3; S. Jesson, 4; J. Martin, 5; J. Fullwood (conductor), 6. Tenor 12 cwt.

THE SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.

SEAFORD (Sussex).—On Thursday, July 9th, at St. Leonard's, after 1 hour's ringing, an attempt for Taylor's 6-part peal of Grandsire Triples was abandoned, the 7th not being ringable. Thomas Lewis, 1; W. H. Fussell, 2; F. W. Harding (conductor), 3; Leonard Huggett, 4; Thomas Willoughby, 5; John Jay, sen., 6; Thomas Hart, 7; John Rollison, 8. Tenor 12½ cwt. The above was arranged for Mr. Fussell, who was staying at Eastbourne.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

STOCKTON-ON-TEES.—On Tuesday, June 16th, Mr. E. Wallis of Newcastle visited this town for the purpose of exhibiting a dog which won the third prize. In the evening the Stockton ringers met him at the parish church, and rang a 720 of Kent Treble Bob. G. J. Clarkson, 1; W. Newton, 2; W. Stephenson, 3; T. W. Waller, 4; E. Wallis, 5; T. Stephenson (conductor), 6. Mr. Wallis then went outside and listened to a well-struck 720 of York Surprise. On Friday, July 3rd, Mr. R. S. Story, of Newcastle, visited Stockton, and a muster was made for a pull the same evening. After listening to a 720 of York Surprise, Mr. Story then rang his first 720 of Durham Surprise. G. J. Clarkson, 1; W. Stephenson, 2; R. S. Story, 3; T. W. Waller, 4; T. Stephenson (conductor), 5; W. Newton, 6. On Wednesday, July 8th, Mr. Waldron, of St. Andrew's, Bishops Auckland, attended the practice, coming up from Redcar on his bicycle for that purpose, and succeeded in ringing a 720 of Plain Bob Minor. J. Clarkson, 1; W. Stephenson, 2; A. J. B. Waldron, 3; T. W. Waller, 4; T. Stephenson, 5; G. J. Clarkson (conductor), 6.

DURHAM ST. OSWALD'S.—On Saturday, July 11th, the Stockton company visited Durham and rang for the first time in this city a 720 of Durham Surprise. W. Newton, 1; T. Burdon, 2; W. Stephenson, 3; T. W. Waller, 4; T. Stephenson, 5; G. J. Clarkson (conductor), 6.

NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.—On Thursday, June 18th, at St. John's church, a 720 of Grandsire Minor (thirty-eight bobs and twenty-two singles), in 28 mins. R. J. Robson, 1; F. Lees, 2; \*H. Ferguson, 3; C. L. Routledge, 4; W. Story, 5; T. Denton (conductor), 6. \*First in the method. Also on Monday, July 6th, a 720 of Bob Minor (fourteen singles and four bobs), in 29 mins. H. Ferguson, 1; R. J. Robson, 2; W. Eggleston, 3; C. L. Routledge, 4; F. Lees, 5; W. Story (conductor), 6. Also on Monday, July 13th, at All Saints' church, a 1008 of Grandsire Triples, with the bells muffled in respect to the late Robert Simm, jun., in 45 mins. J. Weddle, 1; T. Denton (conductor), 2; W. Story, 3; C. L. Routledge, 4; J. West, 5; S. Power, 6; E. Wallis, 7; J. Dyball, 8. Tenor 21 cwt.

NORTH SHIELDS.—On Wednesday, July 1st, an attempt was made for Holt's Original peal of Grandsire Triples, but owing to a mis-call the bells were brought round after 1764 changes had been rung in 1 hr. C. L. Routledge (conductor), 1; W. Reed, 2; Joel Hern, 3; W. Story, 4; R. W. Wignall, 5; S. Power, 6; T. Denton, 7; R. Smith, 8. Tenor 19 cwt.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

QUEDGLEY (Gloucestershire).—On Sunday, July 5th, at the parish church, six members of the above Association rang a 720 of Grandsire Minor, in 23 minutes. T. Brown, 1; W. Brown, 2; T. Mansfield, 3; Wm. Sevier, 4; H. Mitchell, 5; R. A. Barratt (conductor), 6. Also at the residence of Mr. W. Brown, several courses of Grandsire Triples, Major, and Caters were rung on the handbells.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

CHURCH KIRK (Lancashire).—On Sunday, July 12th, the local company rang for Divine Service in the morning, a 720 of College Single (eighteen bobs and two singles), in 28 mins. And for afternoon service, a 720 of Plain Bob Minor (sixteen bobs and two singles), in 28 mins. And for Divine Service in the evening, a 720 of Oxford Bob Minor (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.

PENDLEBURY (Lancashire).—On Monday, July 13th, eight members of this Association paid a visit to Christ Church, Pendlebury,

with the intention to ring a peal of Grandsire Triples, Taylor's Bob-and-Single Variation, with the bells deeply muffled as a token of respect to the victims of the late disaster at Clifton Hall colliery, but after ringing four parts two bells changed course, and the conductor called "stand" after ringing 2 hrs. William Crossley, 1; John E. Downs, 2; James Barratt, 3; Edward Cash (conductor), 4; Samuel West, 5; Charles Cash, 6; John Withers, 7; John Briscow, 8. Tenor 13 cwt. 3 qrs. Messrs. Downs, West, and Withers are of Manchester Cathedral; Crossley, St. Peter's, Swinton; Briscow from Pendlebury; Cash Brothers and Barratt from Eccles.

#### THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

BURFORD (Oxon).—On Sunday evening, for Divine Service, the following rang a 504 of Grandsire Triples, in 20 mins. H. Smith, 1; T. E. Glanville (conductor), 2; T. Brown, 3; W. Smith, 4; J. Smith, 5; D. Francis, 6; W. Large, 7; W. Launchbury, 8.

CAVERSHAM (Oxon).—On Sunday, July 5th, for Divine Service in the morning, a 720 of Plain Bob Minor, in 28 mins. J. Hands, 1; \*H. Simmonds, 2; E. Menday, 3; G. Essex, 4; T. Newman, 5; Rev. G. F. Coleridge (conductor), 6. And after Divine Service in the evening, another 720 of Bob Minor, in 27 mins. H. Simmonds, 1; J. Hands, 2; E. Menday, 3; W. Willshire (Reading), 4; T. Newman, 5; Rev. G. F. Coleridge (conductor), 6. And on Tuesday evening, July 7th, for practice, another 720 of Plain Bob Minor, in 28 mins. †F. Simmonds, 1; \*H. Smith, 2; E. Pottinger, 3; E. Menday, 4; J. Hands, 5; T. Newman (conductor), 6. And a 6-score of Grandsire Doubles, E. Young ringing the treble, being his first 120. †First 720 with treble. \*First 720 with a bob bell. Great credit is due to F. Simmonds for his good striking, considering his age and the very short time he has practised, having only rung two plain courses previous.

OXFORD.—On Monday, July 6th, six members of this Guild rang at St. Cross, Holywell, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor, in 25 mins. H. Castle, 1; W. Baston, 2; F. Castle, 3; S. Hounslow, 4; T. Payne, 5; J. W. Washbrook (conductor), 6. The above was rung on the occasion of the marriage of Mr. W. Payne.

#### THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

THAMES DITTON (Surrey).—On Sunday, July 5th, at St. Michael's church, after service, a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob in 28 mins. G. Hyde, 1; R. Moss, 2; C. Hyde, 3; J. Strutt, 4; A. Garratt, 5; S. Frost (conductor), 6. This is the first 720 of Oxford Treble Bob rung during the past fifty years on these bells, which are a musical peal, but go very bad. The ringers thank the Vicar for allowing them to ring after service.

KINGSTON-ON-THAMES.—On Thursday, July 9th, on the front six, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob, in 26 mins. G. Hyde, 1; R. Moss, 2; J. Strutt, 3; J. Parker, 4; A. Garratt, 5; S. Frost (conductor), 6.

WIMBLEDON (Surrey).—On Sunday, July 6th, for Divine Service, a 710 of Oxford Treble Bob, in 27 mins. G. Hyde, 1; C. Hyde, 2; R. Moss, 3; J. Parker, 4; A. Garratt, 5; S. Frost (conductor), 6. Also on Sunday, July 12th, for Divine Service, a 720 of Woodbine, in 26½ mins. G. Hyde, 1; R. Moss, 2; C. Hyde, 3; J. Parker, 4; A. Garratt 5; S. Frost (conductor), 6.

#### THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

WEST MALLING (Kent).—On Tuesday, July 14th, a 720 of Bob Minor, in 26 mins. John Worsley (first 720), 1; D. Hall, 2; E. Baldock, 3; G. A. Osborne, 4; F. Shoobridge, 5; J. W. Leonard (conductor), 6.

BIDDENHAM (Beds).—On Sunday, July 5th, for Divine Service in the afternoon, two 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles. W. West, 1; J. West, 2; C. West, 3; H. Buckingham, 4; A. Squires (conductor), 5; W. Frossell, 6. Also another 6-score, W. West, 1; J. West, 2; H. Buckingham, 3; A. Squires, 4; C. West (conductor), 5; H. Wood, 6. Tenor 14 cwt. in G. A. Squires and H. Buckingham hail from Hitchin, Herts.

BRAMFORD (Suffolk).—On Sunday morning, July 12th, at the parish church, six 6-scores of Plain Bob Doubles. Charles Osborne, 1; Walter Brown, 2; Alfred Pryke (conductor), 3; William Read, 4; Charles Smith, 5; William Garnham, 6. Tenor 16 cwt. in G. C. Smith, W. Read, and A. Pryke belong to the Norwich Diocesan Association.

CHEPSTOW (Monmouthshire).—On Tuesday, June 30th, six of the local company rang for practice at St. Mary's church, several 6-scores of Bob Doubles, on the back six, being the first ever rung on the bells. James Morley (conductor), 1; George Watkins, 2; William Green, 3; William Woods, 4; Tom Rosser, 5; Richard Morley, 6. Tenor 21 cwt. in E.

COLWALL (Herefordshire).—On Wednesday, July 8th, at the Parish Church, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor, in 26 mins. J. Perks, 1; G. Pacey (first 720), 2; F. Jelf (first 720 of Treble Bob), 3; C. W. H. Griffith, Esq., 4; J. T. Horton (first 720), 5; A. F. M. Custance, Esq. (conductor), 6. This is the first 720 ever known to have been rung on these bells.

COPDOCK (Suffolk).—On Saturday, July 11th, at the parish church, two 6-scores of Bob Doubles. Charles Osborne, 1; Walter Brown, 2; Charles Smith, 3; Alfred Pryke (conductor), 4; William Read, 5. And three 6-scores of Plain Bob Doubles. William Read, 1; Walter Brown, 2; William Mee, 3; Alfred Pryke, 4; Charles Smith (conductor), 5. Tenor 12 cwt.

EASTBOURNE (Sussex).—On Friday, July 10th, at the church of St. Mary, the last 700 of Holt's Original peal of Grandsire Triples. Henry P. Bennett, 1; F. W. Harding (conductor), 2; Wm. Bone 3; Thomas Hunnisset, 4; W. H. Fussell, 5; James Potter, 6; Thomas Hart, 7; John Rollison, 8. Mr. Bone belongs to the Reigate society; and Mr. Potter to the Eastbourne company.

EALING (Middlesex).—*Muffled Peal.*—On Monday, July 13th, being the day of the funeral of the late Mr. Charles Atlee, who had been steeple-keeper at Christ Church for 27 years, and many years a member of the Royal Cumberland's and St. James's Societies, London, five members of the Royal Cumberland's, with Mr. J. Basden (St. James's Society), and one of the local company, rang the usual whole pull and stand. After which a touch of Grandsire Triples. J. Mansfield, 1; G. Ilsley, 2; J. Basden, 3; W. Fenwick, 4; G. Trinder, 5; J. Taber, 6; J. Baldwin (conductor), 7; E. Gould, 8. The decease of Mr. Atlee will be deeply regretted by all who knew him.

GREAT WALDINGFIELD (Suffolk).—On Sunday, June 28th, at the parish church, after Divine Service in the evening, a 720 of Bob Minor was rung (six singles and fifteen bobs), in 28 mins. Geo. Death, 1; Wm. Hollocks, 2; H. Smith, 3; A. Hollocks, 4; Jas. Levitt, 5; A. Symonds (conductor), 6. This was rung on the occasion of the 47th anniversary of the coronation of Her Majesty. Also in the evening, for Divine Service, a start was made for a 720 in the same method (twenty-six singles), but after ringing 408 changes it came to grief through the breaking of the 3rd rope. H. Diggings, 1; Geo. Death, 2; Jas. Levitt, 3; A. Symonds, 4; H. Smith, 5; Jno. Newman (conductor), 6. Messrs. A. Hollocks, Wm. Hollocks, and Levitt hail from Preston; Symonds and Smith from Lavenham; Newman and Death from Edwardstone; Diggings belongs to Waldingfield. The ringers return many thanks to the vicar for granting permission to ring.

HAVERSTOCK HILL (Middlesex).—On Sunday, June 7th, after Divine Service, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor (fifteen bobs), in 25 mins. J. Barrett, 1; T. Gleed, 2; B. Foskett, 3; J. Hannington (conductor), 4; G. Newson, 5; T. Titchener, 6. Also on Sunday evening, July 5th, after Divine Service, a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob Minor, in 25½ mins. D. W. Greggs (1st 720 in the method), 1; T. Gleed, 2; J. Hannington (conductor), 3; T. Titchener, 4; Wingfield Meadows, 5; G. Newson, 6. Tenor 12½ cwt.

HORNSEY (Middlesex).—On Sunday evening, July 12th, a 720 of Plain Bob Minor (eighteen bobs and two singles), in 25 mins. J. Ward, 1; —, 2; J. Nunn, 3; J. Waghorn, sen., 4; H. A. Barnett, 5; G. B. Lucas (conductor), 6. Also 120 of Grandsire Doubles (no calls). —, Groves, 1; J. Waghorn, jun., 2; G. B. Lucas, 3; J. Waghorn, sen., 4; H. A. Barnett, 5; T. Ward, 6.

ORMSKIRK (Lancashire).—On Sunday, June 28th, for afternoon service, a 720 of Grandsire Minor, with 7-8 covering, in 26 mins. John Prescott, 1; James Sholicar (conductor), 2; Henry Ellis, 3; William Ellis, 4; George Prescott, 5; William J. Taylor, 6; William Lloyd, 6; James Pilkington, 8. And on Sunday, July 5th, for afternoon service, a 720 of Grandsire Minor, with 7-8 covering, in 26 mins. John Prescott, 1; William J. Taylor, 2; Henry Ellis, 3; George Prescott, 4; James Sholicar (conductor), 5; Edward Bentham (first 720), 6; William Lloyd, 7; James Pilkington, 8. E. Bentham hails from Wigan.

PRESTON (Suffolk).—On Thursday, June 25th, at St. Mary's church, a 720 of Bob Minor (four bobs and fourteen singles), in 25 mins. H. Symonds, 1; Wm. Hollocks, 2; H. Hollocks, 3; Jas. Levitt, 4; A. Symonds (conductor), 5; Jno. Levitt, 6. This was rung to celebrate the thirty-first birthday of H. Hollocks, the ringers wishing him many happy returns of the day.

RAUNDS (Northamptonshire).—On Sunday, July 5th, for early service, a 720 of Oxford Bob (eighteen bobs and two singles). A. Coles, 1; H. Stubbs, 2; F. Gilbert, 3; J. Stubbs, 4; J. Willmott, 5; W. Hall (conductor), 6. Also for service at 10.30 a.m., a 720 of London Single (eighteen bobs and two singles). A. Coles, 1; H. Stubbs, 2; W. Hall, 3; A. Martin, 4; J. Willmott, 5; F. Gilbert (conductor), 6. And on Tuesday, July 7th, a 720 of Plain

Bob (eighteen bobs and eighteen singles). G. Kirk, 1; H. Stubbs, 2; W. Hall, 3; R. Nevill, 4; J. Willmott, 5; W. J. Gilbert (conductor), 6. An attempt was made for a 5040 in seven different methods on six bells, but after ringing 1 hr. and 20 mins., "stand" had to be called. G. Kirk, 1; W. J. Gilbert, 2; R. Pendered, 3; H. Stubbs, 4; F. Gilbert, 5; W. Hall (conductor), 6. On Wednesday, July 8th, another attempt was made for the 5040, but after ringing 2 hrs. "stand" had to be called by being interrupted at the door. R. Nevill (aged 70), 1; H. Stubbs, 2; F. Gilbert, 3; T. Stubbs, 4; W. J. Gilbert, 5; W. Hall (conductor), 6. A. Martin hails from Higham Ferrers; and R. Nevill from Irthlingborough.

TOTTENHAM (Middlesex).—On Friday evening, July 3rd, being the 20th anniversary of the bells at St. Ann's church, a 720 of Plain Bob Minor (eighteen bobs and two singles), in 23 mins. J. Davidson, 1; J. W. Barr, 2; J. Waghorn, jun., 3; H. A. Barnett, 4; J. Waghorn, sen., 5; G. B. Lucas (conductor), 6. This is the first 720 of Bob Minor rung by local men.

TYLDESLEY (Lancashire).—On Sunday, July 12th, for Divine Service in the evening, a 720 of Bob Minor (sixteen bobs and two singles), in 23½ mins. Peter Oakes (conductor), 1; J. Worthington, 2; G. Heaton, 3; W. Gerrerd, 4; Charles Oakes, 5; Jas. Aldred, 6. Tenor 12 cwt. J. Worthington hails from Walkden, and is a member of the Lancashire Association; the rest are local ringers.

WALTON-ON-THE-HILL (Lancashire).—On Tuesday evening, July 7th, at St. Mary's parish church, a 720 of Grandsire Minor (thirty-four bobs and two singles), in 25 mins. J. Hurst, 1; R. H. Barton, 2; T. R. Somerville, 3; W. Booth, 4; R. Stockley, 5; C. E. Wilson (conductor), 6. And on Sunday morning, July 12th, for Divine Service, a 240 of Single Bob Minor, and in the evening a 720 in the same method was attempted, but when about eighty changes from home, the rope of the 3rd bell broke. J. Hurst, 1; C. J. Rodgers, 2; T. R. Somerville, 3; T. Rushton, 4; R. Stockley, 5; C. E. Wilson (conductor), 6. Tenor 9 cwt. R. H. Barton hails from Bootle; W. Booth from Liverpool.

#### A PEAL OF UNION TRIPLES.

IN ONE MAIN COURSE.

We have much pleasure in inserting the following original peal, composed by Dr. Carpenter. As will be seen from the usual weekly record, it has just been rung; conducted by its composer. In calling it Dr. Carpenter employed a series of mnemonics not unlike the plan laid down in Grey's *Memoria Technica*. Such a system demands, unfortunately, more space for explanation than we can afford. We may, however, have something to say about it in a future number.

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

P.S.—By transposing this peal so that the singles come at the end, there will be many more musical changes at the bobs. But in Union ringing this does not much matter, as there is double dodging behind at every lead.

A. B. CARPENTER, *Croydon*.

The smallest church in England is said to be that of Lullington, Sussex. It is about ten feet by twelve feet, and will not accommodate more than twenty-two people.

#### HANDBELL RINGING CONTEST.

ON Saturday, July 11th, a contest was held at the "Ring of Bells" Inn, Bradford, Yorks. The first competition was a course of Grandsire Caters and Royal, the prize for which being a splendid new peal of fifteen handbells, made and presented for the occasion by Messrs. James Shaw, Son, and Co., Bellfounders, Bradford, of the value of £6 10s. For the second competition three money prizes were offered; £2, £1, and 10s., the test of which was a course of Grandsire Triples and Royal. Four bands entered for the first contest: Almondbury, Batley Carr, Leeds, and Liversedge; and six for the second: Batley Carr, Leeds, Mirfield, Liversedge, Almondbury, and Birstall, all of whom put in an appearance, and competed. After the last company had rung, the judges requested the 3rd and 5th companies to ring over, which was done, and they gave their award as follows:

For the ten-bell prize—

Almondbury	.. .. .	123 faults.
Leeds	.. .. .	165 "
Liversedge	.. .. .	91 "
Batley Carr	.. .. .	98 "

The Liversedge Band thus became the winners of the bells. For the eight-bell prizes—

Batley Carr	.. .. .	53 faults.
Leeds	.. .. .	80 "
Mirfield	.. .. .	75 "
Liversedge	.. .. .	47 "
Almondbury	.. .. .	75 "
Birstall	.. .. .	93 "

On the Mirfield and Almondbury bands ringing off, the result was:

Mirfield	.. .. .	90 faults,
Almondbury	.. .. .	81 "

According to the rules of the contest, Liversedge having won the ten-bell prize, could not take another, so that the winning teams were:

First Prize	.. .. .	Batley Carr.
Second "	.. .. .	Almondbury.
Third "	.. .. .	Mirfield.

Messrs. Hanson Kitchen, and Stansfield Lord, of Elland, with J. H. Hardcastle and James Angus, of Bradford, acted as judges. Mr. Jesse Naylor officiated as chairman throughout the proceedings, and presented the prizes, after which the Liversedge men rang a course of Grandsire Royal, and some tunes on the new bells, the beautiful tone of which elicited unanimous praise. The attendance of ringers was very large.

[We have also the report of another contest in Bucks, sent to us by our friend Mr. Newell, which will appear next week.—Ed.]

#### THE NORTH LINCOLNSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

THE General Quarterly Meeting of this Association took place at Brigg, on Saturday, July 4th. Owing to the election which was pending in the Division, and other uncontrollable circumstances, the attendance of members was not so large as was anticipated, nevertheless the meeting was a satisfactory and encouraging one in all respects. Shortly after one o'clock the bells were raised in peal by the visitors, and during the afternoon touches were rung by mixed bands in the following methods: Grandsire Doubles, Grandsire Minor, Plain Bob, and Grandsire Triples. F. F. Linley, Esq., of Gainsboro', one of the vice-presidents of the Association, presided over the meeting. It was resolved that the next meeting should be held at Nocton, near Lincoln, on Saturday, October 3rd. The visiting ringers were kindly treated to refreshments by the conductor of the Brigg company, Mr. W. E. Rowbottom, who manifested the greatest possible interest in the proceedings. The rector of Brigg, the Rev. P. H. Brierley, visited the belfry in the course of the afternoon, and gave the Association a cordial welcome. Change-ringing appears to be at a very low ebb at Brigg, but there is every reason to believe that one good result of the Association meeting will be to stimulate the local brother strings to study and persevere in the art until they attain proficiency. The steeple at Brigg contains eight bells, six of which are of excellent tone; the two treble bells are of recent date, and scarcely harmonise with the remainder. The tenor weighs, we understand, about 9 cwt. All the bells are in good going order, and it is hoped the art of change-ringing will ere long have a home in this tower. The Association committee and members desire to tender their thanks to the Rev. P. H. Brierley for his kindness in granting them the use of the church bells, and also to Mr. W. E. Rowbottom, for his praiseworthy efforts in contributing to the enjoyment and success of the meeting.

The parish church of Welford has been re-opened. About six months ago, a fire broke out at this church, and the peal of bells and clock were destroyed.

## 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."

## SUNDAY RINGING.

SIR,—The leading article on this subject in your issue of the 27th June comes not a moment too soon. The idea of the church bells being un-rung on the day of all days, when their legitimate functions should be exercised, strikes a reflective person as being absurd; and perhaps you will allow a little space for the discussion of the matter. I think the true explanation of this state of things may be found in the fact of the majority of the ringing fraternity being drawn from what is called the working class—a very important branch of the community. From the nature of their employment very many of these are too tired to undertake the task of attending twice on their day of rest to perform another task, and the desire to spend as much time as possible, on the only available day, with wife and family, is most laudable, and except when there is some remuneration to be earned, it is unreasonable to expect ringing from those so placed. But why should ringers be so almost exclusively working men? The art is certainly as engaging as any other, and if the clergy were to make themselves as well acquainted with their bells and ringers as they are with their organs and choirs, it would not be long before they had a competent band of ringers drawn from the same class as their organists and choirs are drawn from, who would be glad to ring without any thought of payment: and what paid ringing there was might very well be left to the local scruffe—though I fancy very few of our best men are much better off for what they earn at the ropes' end. But if a young band of enthusiasts is formed, why should call-changes be deemed sufficient? Mr. Snowdon has made the acquisition of a scientific method possible to any who care to spend a few pence on a book, and you, Sir, are going to publish "Shipway's Work" in penny numbers. "Stoney" ringing—as the only sort of performance ever attempted in many places—has done a lot to keep ringers, as ringers, in the position they have so long occupied; whereas they should take their place, *ex officio*, with other artists. And now, Sir, let me ask what many of your readers may consider a very singular question, viz.: what are our four great London Societies doing to practically and systematically promote the art of change-ringing? I ask this in all sincerity and respect. They have been in existence for many years, and their members have rung very many excellent peals. But are they moving with the times? Are they doing anything to promote the art outside their own particular towers, or adding to the usefulness of themselves by opening up new and neglected fields of operation? I am afraid their visits are only too frequently those at which the object is the purely selfish one of getting a peal, and that they are more a lot of practice societies for a number of already accomplished ringers, than, as they should be, training schools for their successors. In short, have they any well-organised system of instruction, by which aspirants can be properly taught, instead of having to pick up bits here and there, at a deplorable expenditure of time? Our choral Societies furnish our churches and chapels with respectable and competent choristers, who give their services freely enough from love of their art, but do our Societies do much in that way? They number among their members many who would volunteer if the necessary arrangements were made, and very many worthy men would be happy to devote an hour occasionally to giving "young hands" a lift, and if a society did not see its way to pay instructors out of its funds, then learners might pay something extra on tuition nights; it is quite time that societies resolved to add to their peal competition departments one for the efficient and systematic education of those who are to follow after them. I purposely omit here any reference to ringers as Church workers, for the reason that the musical papers do not deal with patronising sermons to musicians; and our academies and our colleges educate their pupils and leave them to attach themselves to what denomination they please. I hope this letter may induce a little discussion on one or two important points.

ANSWER TO MR. T. LOCKWOOD.

SIR,—In answer to what Tom Lockwood said in your issue of the 4th of July, I beg to say there is no lead of 2 4 6 5 8 3 7 in the sixteenth course, so that Tom Lockwood must try once more in some other place.

ABRAHAM SYKES.

## FALSE TOUCHES.

SIR,—Allow me to inform Mr. Tucker that the work I have, which is one lent me by a friend, has the three touches spoken of, and no footnotes whatever. No doubt this is one of the "earlier editions," which has fallen into the hands of many besides myself. I know that some of these touches have been called, and the bob-caller entirely ignorant of their being false, so I think it is very likely that the band I spoke of, and many others, have done the same. I remember

ringing the 377 on hand-bells, because of its good music, and after it was finished I was informed the touch was false, and this led me to examine other touches in Mr. Troyte's work, with the same result. Mr. Tucker thinks that musical touches, such as these, although false, should be considered legitimate on account of their pretty musical effect, and as a test of the young conductor's skill. I do not wish to pass any adverse comments on Mr. Troyte's work, as it would ill become me to do so, but I maintain that anything in the shape of peals or touches, known to be false, should not be allowed to go forth to the ringing world. Why do anything by foul means when the same ends are to be attained by fair means? This is a new theory to set up amongst ringers, and one, I fully believe, that would be condemned by nineteen out of twenty who essays to call a touch of any kind, as there is something which sounds very obnoxious in the word "false."

A. J. PERKINS.

## THE PEAL AT WEST MALLING.

SIR,—As requested by Mr. H. Pearce in his letter of July 4th, I beg to enclose herewith the peal as rung. And in answer to his letter of July 11th, I beg to say that he is not in a position to contradict me as to F. G. Newman's whereabouts on the day in question, as he did not see him from the time the peal began (about 6.30) till he met him in a public house, as he was on his way (with a friend) to the station, to meet a train leaving Malling at 8.48. Neither can he endorse F. G. Newman's statement as to having heard the whole of the peal, as he (H. Pearce) did not arrive in Malling till about an hour after the peal commenced. The peal rung was the second peal of Bob Major in the *Clavis*, with a single at the end of third part instead of a bob, which produces:—

	3	2	4	5	6	W	M	H
	5	3	4	2	6	—	—	—
	2	5	4	3	6	—	—	—
	4	3	2	5	6	—	—	—
	2	4	3	5	6	—	—	—
	2	3	4	5	6	S	—	—

The above is the 560 tacked on.

JAMES W. LEONARD.

## THE RECENT ACCIDENT TO A RINGING PARTY.

THE following sums have been received for the purpose of helping to defray the great loss sustained by Mr. H. F. Wood in this unfortunate affair:—

	s.	d.		s.	d.
Rev. E. S. ...	2	6	G. Dorrington ...	2	0
J. West ...	2	0	H. J. Shade ...	2	6
W. Snowdon, Esq. ...	10	0	G. Russell, Croydon ...	1	0
W. Banister ...	5	0	H. Pearce ...	2	0
Bedfordshire Association ...	5	0	F. Newman ...	2	0
St. Martin's, Salisbury ...	10	0	R. Turner ...	2	0
St. Peter's, Leeds, Yorks ...	5	0	T. Dupen ...	2	6
H. Edwards ...	2	6	W. Prime ...	2	0
J. Dwight ...	2	6	W. Cooter ...	2	6
I. Shade ...	5	0	J. Davidson ...	3	0
R. S. Story ...	5	0	Widford and Galleywood C.R. ...	5	0
E. Wallege ...	2	0	H. Lewis, St. Albans ...	5	0
J. Barrett ...	2	0	S. Joyce ...	2	0
J. Comb ...	5	0	J. H. Monday ...	5	0
Spalding, SS. Mary and Nicolas ...	3	0	M. A. Wood ...	10	0
B. Newton ...	1	0	A. Hayward ...	2	6
J. Dupen ...	2	0	W. Cecil ...	2	6
C. Lee ...	1	0	A. B. Goody ...	5	0
C. Beech ...	1	0	Mr. Lewis Green ...	2	6
J. West (second donation) ...	3	0	St. Mary's society, Walthamstow ...	10	0
J. Barry ...	1	0	Thomas Clark, Sharow, Ripon ...	5	0
T. Powell, Waltham Abbey ...	2	6			

Further donations, however small, are urgently solicited. Mr. Matthew Wood, 11 Church Row, Bethnal Green, London, will be happy to give any further information, and will thankfully acknowledge any sums forwarded to him.

## In Memoriam.

ROBERT SIMM, JUN.

After a short and painful illness this gentleman departed this life on Thursday, July 9th, at his father's residence, in Shieldfield, Newcastle-on Tyne, at the early age of twenty-seven. Although still very young, he was respected and esteemed by all he came into contact with, his quiet unassuming manner making him a favourite with all. His abilities as a change-ringer were of no extraordinary character, but that which he had mastered was always rung with a steadiness rarely equalled. The funeral took place at All Saints' cemetery, on Sunday, July 12th, a large concourse of relatives, ringers and friends attending him to his last resting-place. On the Monday following, his fellow-members of the Newcastle Society rang the bells of All Saints', Newcastle, in a muffled touch of Grandsire Triples to his memory. The deceased was also a member of the Durham and Newcastle Diocesan Association and of the Newcastle handbell-ringers.



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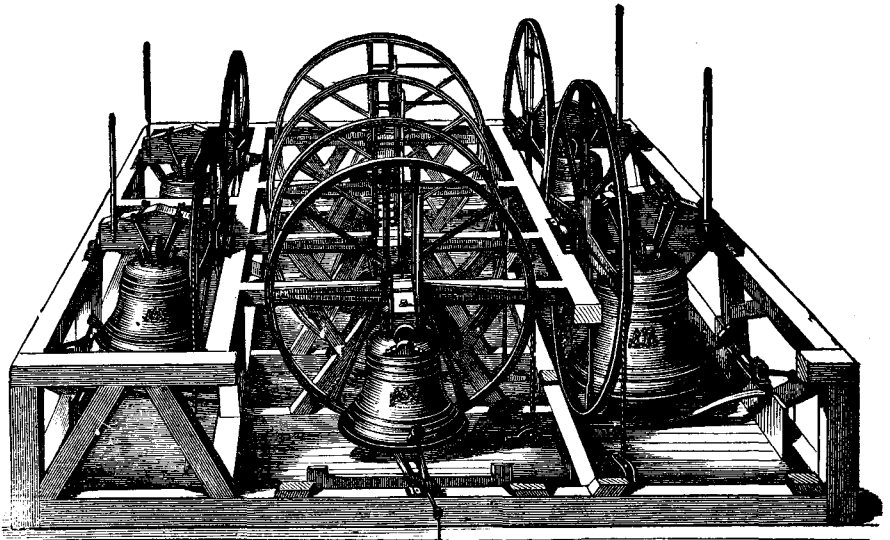
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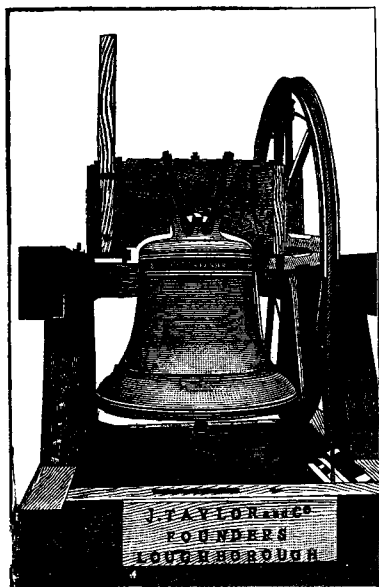
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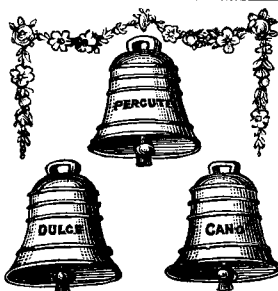
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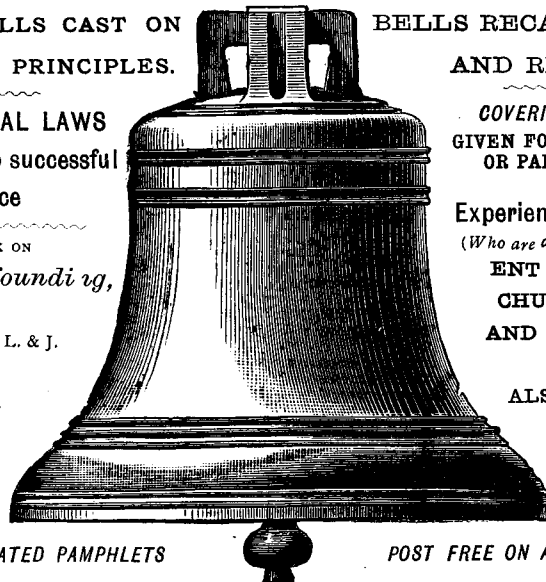
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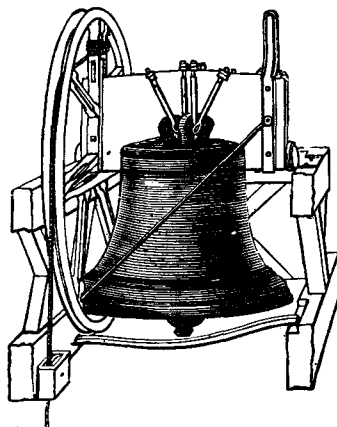
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## THE SURPRISE PEALS.

BY JASPER W. SNOWDON.

The next record of a peal of Cambridge Surprise is one existing on a tablet in the belfry of St. Peter's Church, Sheffield. This tablet commemorates a peal of 6048 changes, rung on November 5th, 1787, and states that it was the first peal of this method rung in the country.

Probably in stating that this peal was the first rung in the country, the ringers intended to recognize the fact that one had already been rung in London, and did not intend to claim it as the first ever rung in the method. As regards the Sheffield peal there is nothing known of its composition, and most probably it would not bear investigation. The only similar length I know of is one given in the *Art of Ringing*, by Thackrah, published in 1852; this peal is obtained without parting the tenors, by the use of fourth and sixth-place bobs at the course ends. As this peal is from the collection of a Yorkshireman—Thackrah lived at Dewsbury, near Leeds—it is just possible, though hardly probable, that it is the one rung at Sheffield; this peal, however is a false one, and as we have no record of any such length ever having been composed true, there is little, if any, probability that the Sheffield peal was a true one. The following is a copy of the tablet alluded to:—

*Tablet in the belfry of St. Peter's Church, Sheffield.*—"On Monday, the 5th of November, 1787, was rung on eight bells at this church a peal of 6048 changes, of that intricate method called Cambridge Surprise, in four hours and eighteen minutes, by the following persons, viz.:-

R. Owen,	Treble,	1.	W. Lee,	4.	John Hill,	6.
G. E. O. Wilde,	2.	Charles Fletcher,	5.	Samuel Dutton,	7.	
Samuel Willey,	3.			Thomas Babb,	8.	

The weight of the tenor, 33 cwt. The above is the first peal of this method ever rung in the country."

On August 18th, 1811, a peal of Cambridge Surprise was rung at Keighley, in Yorkshire, and a tablet, of which the following is a copy, erected to commemorate the performance:—

*Tablet in Belfry of Keighley Church, Yorkshire.*—"In this steeple was rung on the 18th August, 1811, by eight ringers of this town, 5376 changes of that most intricate peal, Cambridge Surprise, eight in (composed by Mr. Joseph Tebbs, of Leeds), being the first true peal in that method ever rung in the North of England. It was performed with great correctness in 3 hours and 8 minutes, by

Jeremiah Foulds,	Treble,	1.	David Smith,	4.	Thomas Iveson,	6.
George Hattersley,	2.	Joshua Cawood,	5.	Thomas Midgley,	7.	
James Baldwin,	3.			James Inman,	Tenor,	8.

The peal was conducted by Mr. David Smith. Weight of tenor, 14 cwt."

There is strong circumstantial evidence that this peal was not a true one. It will be seen that the composer was Joseph Tebbs, of Leeds. Now we know that after the time at which this peal was rung Tebbs was in communication with Shipway, as several of the compositions of the Yorkshireman appear in the work of the latter and the Keighley men, as mentioned by Shipway, rang a peal of one of his own Treble Bob methods. If this Keighley peal was a true one, it is only natural to suppose that Tebbs would be desirous that Shipway should introduce it in his book, especially as no true peal had then been placed before the public. Therefore, if Tebbs had not already found it false, we may conclude that he would submit it to Shipway, and after proof it would be rejected by the latter, who probably alluded to it amongst the false ones he mentions as having been rung. I may also mention that no record of the calling has, so far as I have been able to ascertain, been preserved in the district. In support of my conjecture that this peal was false, I give the following extract from Shipway, who, in speaking of this method in 1813, says:—

"It is very complex and extremely precarious in its composition, so that not one of the peals which have been rung proved true in its composition; nor is it probable that 5000 changes of it can be composed true."

In connection with the peal rung at Sheffield, I mentioned a book written by Thackrah, of Dewsbury, and from this book I give the following extract from his remarks on this method:—

*Thackrah's Art of Ringing.*—"Seven of St. Peter's Company, Huddersfield, and myself, rang at their parish church, on the 13th of February 1822, 6720 changes of Cambridge Surprise, with the tenors together, in 3 hours 51 mins. I composed and conducted the peal, and introduced singles when the treble was dodging in 3-4, to take away the false changes when liable."

Thackrah, however, does not give the calling of the peal in his book, and it is therefore impossible to say whether it was true or not. At the same time it seems to me, that this mode of dealing with the method was not one that should be allowed, and therefore the peal has not any claim to be classed with those rung in the recognized Cambridge Surprise method. Thackrah, I may add, was a first-class ringer, and, I believe, a fair composer, but his book is arranged in a very promiscuous fashion, about half of it is taken up by peals of Minor, composed with bobs, singles, and extremes. Many of the peals of Triples and Major, are given in such a way, that if is very difficult to make some of them out, and the omission of the 6720 above mentioned, supposing that the author had intended to insert it, is one that might be expected from the very haphazard way in which the work has been compiled. At the same time, while thankful for the information, such as the above, that I have gathered from the book, I should say that it is one that I feel sure does not do justice to the abilities of the author.\*

\* Thackrah—whose name I shall again have occasion to mention when describing Superlative Surprise—lived at Dewsbury, in Yorkshire, and was in the habit of walking over to Huddersfield from Dewsbury, which is about eight miles, to practice with the Huddersfield Parish Church ringers and then walking home again. In connection with these visits to Huddersfield there exists a story which is often related in that district to the effect that on one occasion after having walked to Huddersfield, taken part in a 5000 and walked back again it was an hour or two after midnight when he reached home. On gaining admission to his house he was greeted with the remark, "So you've come home, you idle devil," a remark that can scarcely be said to apply literally to a man who has just completed a 5000 and a sixteen miles walk.

Mr. Osborne in one of his ms. books mentions that in 1848, he heard three courses of Cambridge Surprise rung on the hand-bells at Norwich; he does not, however, say that it was double-handed ringing. The Norwich men, had, before this date, rung peals of Superlative and London Surprise. When I came across this information, I wrote and asked the late Henry Hubbard, if he knew anything about this matter. He replied, that having been absent from Norwich from 1844 until 1852, he did not know what had been done during those years, but he had heard that about the time I mentioned, 1848, they were practising with the intention of ringing C. Middleton's 5600 of Cambridge Surprise. He also added that they were unsuccessful, and finally relinquished the attempt, and he did not think that at any time they rang more than one of the five parts of which the peal was composed.

The only peal that is now left to be mentioned is one of 5600 changes, which was rung by the band of Leonard Proctor, Esq., of Bennington, Hertfordshire, on Tuesday, February 11th, 1873 and is, I believe, the last peal rung by that company. This peal, which appears to be the only true one yet accomplished, contains the greatest extent of changes which has yet been composed in the method. The following is a copy of the tablet erected to commemorate this peal, which also records one of London Surprise, which will hereafter mentioned:—

"BENNINGTON SOCIETY OF CHANGE-RINGERS.—This tablet is to record two of the greatest performances ever achieved by any society of change-ringers in England, by members all resident in this parish; and who rang in admirable style the greatest number of changes ever accomplished in the two undermentioned peals, of the most intricate and melodious methods known in the science of Change-ringing":—

Here follows the record of a peal of London Surprise rung in 1870, after which the tablet continues:

"On Tuesday, Feb. 11th, 1873, a peal of Cambridge Surprise Major was rung, consisting of 5600 changes, and containing 25 courses with 35 bobs, in three hours and twenty-five minutes.

Nathan Warner,	Treble,	1.	Leonard Chapman,	Fourth,	C. Hollingsworth,	Sixth,
Joseph Kitchener,	Second,	2.	Samuel Page,	Fifth,	C. Shambrook,	Seventh,
Leonard Proctor,	Third,	3.			Thomas Page,	Tenor,

The above peals were most ably conducted by Mr. Thos. Page, and are the composition of Mr. Jeremiah Miller, of the Cumberland Society of Change-ringers London.

Rev. John Ede Pryor, Rector.  
Leonard Proctor,  
Frederick Allwood, Churchwardens."

This peal rung at Bennington was, I may add, merely a variation of Middleton's 5600, the calling of which will be hereafter given. There is not the slightest reason for believing that it was ever composed by Miller.

## HANDBELL CONTEST AT COLD ASH.

THE man with a hobby is as a rule regarded as a crotchety opinionated individual, whose eccentricities makes him undesirable as a companion, and spoil him for anything approaching the *utile dulci*. Exceptions, however, prevail with every rule, and go indeed, as the adage says, to prove it. A notable exception indeed is to be met with at Cold Ash, where the Rev. J. M. Bacon, in the movements which he inaugurates from time to time, has always the main idea of effecting some improvement in taste or sentiment, or of affording rational recreation to those living around him. One of these wholesome "hobbies," which the rev. gentleman has ridden to a useful purpose, has been that of campanology; the object aimed at being to improve the methods of ringing, and at the same time to raise the status of the ringers, which in the past has not always been very creditable to themselves or salutary to others. To attain this end, Mr. Bacon has organised contests amongst ringers, the first of which, held in 1882, proved very successful. A similar contest took place on Tuesday afternoon, June 30th, in the grounds of Mr. Bacon's residence at Sunnyside. The weather was in every way favourable, and while adding to the enjoyment of the large number who attended, also tended to keep a larger number busy in the hayfields. The arrangements were made with a view to the comfort of the visitors. Seats and awning were provided around a roped arena, within which the contests took place. The teams competing were as follows:—

*Cold Ash*.—Rev. J. M. Bacon, R. Law, E. Shepherd, E. Mathews, W. Mathews, T. Stroud, and J. Prescott.

*Reading Temperance Handbell Ringers*.—C. H. Taylor (secretary), W. Allen (conductor), G. Noyes, G. Taylor, G. Tombs, and A. Taylor.

*Abingdon*.—E. Young, H. Sheard, J. Viner, A. Carter, E. Webb, and H. Bright.

*Highclere*.—C. Knapp (captain), E. Smith, J. Head, A. Knapp, F. Lawrence, and E. Hopkins.

*Hampstead Norris*.—T. Barlow, J. Pummle, J. Quelch, and T. Warman.

*Lambourn*.—J. Hillier (captain), T. Fowler, E. Hewitt, J. Pottinger, and J. Dudley.

The competition was divided into three classes, viz., (1), for tune playing on peals of more than twenty bells; (2), for tune-playing or called changes on smaller peals; (3), for scientific change-ringing. In class 1, the Reading Temperance Handbell Ringers were a long way ahead of the other competitors, Abingdon and Cold Ash. The Temperance Ringers may almost be regarded as a professional band, besides which, they possess a much larger number of bells. Although an open competition, the two other teams were thus heavily handicapped. However, Cold Ash made a very favourable impression, and under the leadership of the Rev. J. M. Bacon, played several tunes with precision and with much expression, which indeed was a marked feature of their performance. Abingdon, with 23 bells, also played very well, and elicited applause. In class 2, the competing teams were Lambourn, Highclere, and Hampstead Norris, and the spectators were treated to a different style of ringing, including simple airs and various peals. Only two teams competed in the class for change-ringing, Abingdon and Cold Ash. The former carried off the honours with a very creditable performance of 120 Grandsire Doubles, conducted by H. Sheard, the team being as follows:—G. Young, 1; H. Sheard, 2; J. Viner, 3; A. Carter, 4; E. Webb, 5; H. Bright, 6. Apart from the competition, the Reading handbell ringers, several of whom are natives of Newbury, played several tunes in capital style, and also a solo "The last rose of summer," by one of the band, was much appreciated.

At the close of the competitions, the Judge, Mr. W. Newell, addressed the ringers. First of all he gave his decisions. In the class for tune-playing, the Reading team were A1, and took the first prize of thirty shillings. Their playing was a great deal better than he anticipated, and if he might give them a suggestion, it would be that their pieces should be more fully harmonised. The second prize of £1 he awarded to Cold Ash, who manipulated their bells very well, evidencing the careful instruction given them by Mr. Bacon. Abingdon, to whom Mr. Newell awarded the third prize of ten shillings, he said took the first prize here two years ago, but there was not such a strong competition then. In class 2, the first prize of fifteen shillings was gained by Lambourn; second, ten shillings, Highclere; third, five shillings, Hampstead Norris. For change-ringing, the prize of ten shillings was awarded to Abingdon. Mr. Newell proceeded to give some practical advice to the ringers on change-ringing, and in conclusion suggested that longer notice should be given of any future contest, and that the competitors should each have to perform a certain class of music.

Mr. Newell's remarks, which were well received, were followed with an amusing speech by the Rev. J. M. Bacon, who alluded to an attempt made by a Caversham band to attend. He congratulated them on having drawn so many from so wide a field, competitors coming twenty miles one way, and twenty miles on the other hand. He wished that all meetings were on the same footing as theirs

They had come to enjoy a social gathering. Nobody would get anything out of it, for he had taken care that the prizes were not enough for that. They were met as friends, and if only a few, they were jolly good fellows. There could not be too many of this class of gatherings just now, when the country was mad with meetings of another kind. He could see they were all burning to know his political opinions, but he would tell them one thing, that he hated party spirit and party feeling. Party spirit had more to do with bad spirit than anything else, and the mistakes that were made at Westminster were greatly owing to party spirit. There was a party, but it was a united party. Her Majesty's House of Commons might take a leaf out of their book, for their measures would come out infinitely better if they had a good tug of war across Mr. Speaker's table, and instead of sitting up and talking all night, had a little fresh country air, it would be much better for the Constitution, and for all their constitutions.

At the request of his brother, the Rev. Maunsell J. Bacon, of Swallowfield, then addressed the company, remarking amid laughter, that whenever he came to Cold Ash to amuse himself, he was always brought forward to make a fool of himself by making a speech, one of the things he most detested. Still he never came to Cold Ash without enjoying himself extremely, for he always met a lot of pleasant company all in the best humour possible. He had usually come to a flower show, and was always prepared to say something about potatoes, cabbages, or things about which he was equally ignorant. Now it was a bell contest, and he had to say something about bells. The only thing he could think of was that a young lady was sometimes called a "belle," and was only waiting for somebody to "ring" her. But it was not all plain sailing, for he could tell young fellows that when they rung the bell they would find that bells had tongues. That tongue was not always conducive to pleasant harmony, and he was sorry to say that the tongue in domestic life was not always conducive to pleasant harmony. The tongue of the bell spoke the truth, but there were generally two opinions about it. When the muffin bell rang, if they had a sixpence in their pocket they were glad to hear its sound; but if they had not a penny they wished it further off. Then there was the station bell. If they had been patiently waiting for that bell they were glad to hear its sound; but if they were half a mile away on a hot day, they did not like the sound at all. There were some people who liked the sound of the church bell, but the man sitting at home comfortably smoking his pipe, would like to have a sack over his head to prevent him hearing the bell. So one might go on moralising, and they might learn a good deal from bells; one lesson at least being that they always told the truth, and that there was some good stuff in them. Whether at home or in politics, there was a good deal of discord. They got over discord and promoted harmony in ringing by means of practice. He was afraid it would take a great deal of practice to bring about harmony in the political world. Without encroaching upon politics, he hoped that now all had a vote, they would vote according to their conviction, and for the best party, whichever that might be. Whatever party they might favour, let them preserve that strong bond of union among themselves, and nothing was more likely to bring this about than these social gatherings, where they met together in friendly rivalry. He congratulated them on helping to carry out the arrangements of this agreeable day, and if he had to give them a toast it would be "To our next merry meeting."

Cheers were then given for the judge, and a most hearty round of cheers for Mr. Bacon, how many times repeated it would not be safe to say.

A number of sports were now organised, including a race of 100 yards for ringers, hurdle race, a blind race, and a tug of war. The blind race caused the greatest amusement, as the competitors having their heads enveloped in a linen bag, on the front of which was an owl's face, pursued a very erratic course, and in one instance a collision took place, in which a woman was prostrated upon Mother Earth in an unceremonious fashion, and did not recover from the fright for some time. Later in the evening, the Thatcham brass band put in an appearance, and so enabled many to indulge in dancing, which with other amusements was kept up till dusk, when the company separated, having spent a happy and profitable afternoon.

## COOKLEY, WORCESTERSHIRE.

ON Saturday, July 18th, the tower and handbell ringers of Holy Trinity church, Wordsley (Kingswinford), Staffordshire, held their annual outing at Cookley, where they were conveyed by breaks. After partaking of refreshments at the "Cookley Arms" inn (Mr. W. Green), the tower ringers (by kind permission of the vicar and local ringers), rang several touches and 720 of Grandsire Minor. T. Darby 1; W. H. Hughes, 2; E. G. Husselbee, 3; G. E. Jones, 4; W. Lawrence, 5; E. S. Chapman (conductor), 6. On return to the "Cookley Arms" some handbell ringing, tune-playing and singing concluded the enjoyment, when they returned home well pleased with their outing.



## WORCESTER AND ADJOINING DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, July 13th, the Annual Meeting of this society was held in the vestry of St. John the Baptist Church, Bromsgrove. The President, Lord Alwyne Compton, Dean of Worcester, took the chair, and was supported by the Rev. W. R. Carr (St. John's, Worcester), Revs. E. J. Hall and F. E. Jones (Bromsgrove). The President, in opening the proceedings, said he took it that all present were members of the church, and as such considered the meeting should be opened with prayer, which was accordingly done by him. The Secretary (Mr. J. Smith) then read the minutes of the last meeting, and explained that the peal-book, which it had been resolved at a former meeting should be provided, had not been procured in consequence of a question having arisen as to where the book should be kept, and who should make the entries of peals rang therein. After some discussion, the rev. chairman and the Rev. W. R. Carr pointed out that the record could be made as permanent and as useful if the entries were in a simple manner, as if they were done elaborately and expensively. The rev. chairman said that if they were done in manuscript, he thought that would be everything that was necessary, as the records of the Bishopric of Worcester had been handed down since the year 1370 in hand writing. It was then decided that a peal book be procured, and the entries in it made by the Hon. Sec. The Rev. W. R. Carr advocated the issuing of a yearly report by the Association, containing the names of the officers, honorary and performing, a record of all peals rung, and the rules and yearly balance-sheet. The balance-sheet showed the Association in a prosperous condition, the receipts for the year being £9 5s. od., against £7 1s. 6d. expenditure, showing a gain of £2 3s. 6d., leaving a balance of £13 9s. 11d. in the hands of the treasurer. Before the accounts were passed, a letter was read from the Rev. C. D. P. Davies, in which he pointed out an item of eight shillings for repairs to Evesham bells, which he said ought not to be, as he considered it incumbent upon the authorities themselves. He also pointed out that he had written to the Vicar of Evesham, informing him of what his subordinates were doing, and warns the Exercise in general of what may be expected at Evesham. The charge was made on account of some little repairs being done, owing to a visit being made by Mr. Dawe (London), who was to have attempted to call a peal in September last. A resolution was passed expressing surprise at the authorities charging the Association with the expense of "screwing up the bells" etc., preparatory to a visit by the Association. A letter was read from Mr. J. Perks, late Master of the Association, expressing his surprise at the Annual Meeting being held at Bromsgrove, instead of Worcester. His lordship, the Rev. W. R. Carr, and several members expressed the opinion that the Annual Meeting should be held at Worcester. The Secretary and Treasurer said that it was not the custom with other associations to hold their Annual Meetings in the Cathedral city, and cited as instances Oxford, Surrey, and Durham and Newcastle as having no fixed places mentioned as to where the Annual Meeting should be held. The Secretary remarked that members in the outlying districts of the county would be most happy to have the meeting held at Worcester (if the Worcester men would not treat the rest of the members in such a paltry way), for it was the capital of the county, and contained so many peals of bells.

The Rev. W. R. Carr pointed out that the rules of the Association did not provide for the maintenance of good behaviour, etc., in the belfry, and suggested that a rule to that effect be made. This and several other matters were left to the Committee.

The Rev. J. E. Hall (Bromsgrove) and the Rev. B. H. Sheppard (Leigh) were elected honorary members, and eight members of the Leigh company were elected performing members. The President, Vice-Presidents, lay Vice-Presidents, and Committee of Management were re-elected, and Mr. J. Spittle (of Dudley) was elected Master in the place of Mr. J. Perks. The whole of the business being concluded, the customary votes of thanks were passed, which brought one of the liveliest (although not the largest) meetings of the Association to a close.

During the day some well-struck Grandsire Caters were rung by the Bromsgrove company, assisted by Messrs. Hinton and Hobbs of Worcester. The first touch contained 1277 changes, rung in 51 mins. by E. Crump, 1; J. T. Perry, 2; T. Allbutt, 3; J. Hinton, 4; O. James, 5; G. Hayward (composer and conductor), 6; G. Morris, 7; W. Duffill, 8; W. Rea, 9; J. Parry, 10. The second touch contained 575 changes, rung by G. Morris, 1; R. Broomfield, 2; J. T. Perry, 3; J. Hinton, 4; O. James, 5; G. Hayward (conductor), 6; W. Rea, 7; W. Duffill, 8; G. Hobbs, 9; J. Parry, 10. And a touch of 395, rung by W. Broomfield (age 14 years; his first attempt), 1; R. Broomfield, 2; J. T. Perry, 3; O. James, 4; G. Hobbs, 5; G. Hayward (conductor), 6; W. Rea, 7; W. Duffill, 8; G. Morris, 9; J. Parry, 10.

## ST. MARY'S, BEDDINGTON, SURREY.

The members of the above Society will hold their sixteenth anniversary on Bank Holiday, August 13th. Any ringers honoring the members with their company will receive a hearty welcome.

## BELLS AND RINGERS IN 1885.—(Continued.)

By F. W. J. REES.

## LIST OF RINGS IN WILTSHIRE.

Aldbourne .. ..	8 .. 19 ..	.. A made-up ring.
Bishops Cannings ..	8 .. 17 ..	.. Most, J. Wallis Sar'm
Bishopstone .. ..	8 .. ..	..
Bradford .. ..	8 .. 32 ..	.. 8th recast & hung '83
Calne .. ..	8 .. ..	..
Chippenham .. ..	8 .. 20 ..	.. A. Rudhall, 1734.
Devizes, St. John ..	8 .. 23 ..	.. 1-2 by J. Burrough.
Erchfont .. ..	8 .. 19 ..	..
Marlboro' S. Peter ..	8 .. 13 ..	.. Whitechapel, 1831.
Swindon, Old .. ..	8 .. 13 ..	.. 3-8 by Rudhall, 1741
Salisbury S. Th'm's ..	8 .. 30 ..	.. R. Wells, Aldbourne
" S. Edmund .. ..	8 .. 28 ..	.. Purdue, made 8 1884
Trowbridge .. ..	8 .. 21 .. G.	.. J. Wells, 1800.
Warminster .. ..	8 .. 28 ..	.. Made eight in 1883.
Amesbury .. ..	6 .. 20 ..	..
Bedwyn Magna .. ..	6 .. 28 ..	.. 5 & 6 said to be grand
Bremhill .. ..	6 .. ..	.. 5 & 6 by A. Rudhall
Broadchalk .. ..	6 .. 15 ..	..
Broad Hinton .. ..	6 .. 9 ..	.. Purdues, 1664.
Bromham .. ..	6 .. 18 ..	.. 8th by J. Burrough.
Chilmark .. ..	6 .. ..	.. Lately made six.
Cliffe-Pipard .. ..	6 .. ..	..
Corsham .. ..	6 .. 25 ..	.. T. Bilbie, 1758.
Devizes, S. Mary ..	6 .. 19 ..	.. Purdues, 1663.
Dinton .. ..	6 .. 14 .. G.	..
East Knoyle .. ..	6 .. ..	.. Most by W. Cockey.
Edington .. ..	6 .. 23 ..	.. 8th, A. Rudhall, 1772
Everley .. ..	6 .. 14 ..	.. J. Wells, Aldb'ne '14
Heytesbury .. ..	6 .. 19 ..	..
Hindon .. ..	6 .. 9 ..	.. A. Rudhall, 1754.
Horningsham .. ..	6 .. 15 ..	.. W. Cockey, 1743.
Keevil .. ..	6 .. 19 ..	..
Kingston S. Michael ..	6 .. ..	.. A. Rudhall, 1726.
Kingston Deverill ..	6 .. 13 ..	.. W. Cockey, 1731.
Lavington, East ..	6 .. 15 ..	..
Lavington, West ..	6 .. 11 ..	.. J. Wells, 1810.
Longbridge Deveril ..	6 .. 14 ..	.. Treble by Warner.
Laycock .. ..	6 .. 12 ..	..
Marlboro' S. Mary ..	6 .. 12 ..	.. [1747.
Mere .. ..	6 .. 27 ..	.. 8th by W. Cockey,
Melksham .. ..	6 .. ..	.. A. Rudhall, 1703.
Milton Lislebonne ..	6 .. 10 ..	.. R. Wells, 1789.
Pewsey .. ..	6 .. 11 ..	..
Potterne .. ..	6 .. 17 ..	.. Treble, J. Wells, '20
Ramsbury .. ..	6 .. 16 ..	.. A. Rudhall, 1708.
Salisbury S. Martin ..	6 .. 13 .. G.	..
" S. Paul, .. ..	6 .. 13 .. G.	.. Whitechapel.
Fisherton .. ..	6 .. 18 ..	..
Seend .. ..	6 .. 26 ..	..
Semley .. ..	6 .. 20 ..	..
Steeple Ashton ..	6 .. ..	..
Stourton .. ..	6 .. ..	..
Sutton Veney .. ..	6 .. 11 ..	..
Westbury .. ..	6 .. 35 ..	.. 8th by Rudhall, 1714
Wilton .. ..	6 .. 8 ..	..
Wraxhall, South ..	6 .. 7 ..	.. Bilbie, 1769.
Zeals .. ..	6 .. 12 ..	..

A beginning has been made in change-ringing and there is every reason to hope that the practice of the art will spread rapidly.

There are probably some errors in the above list, I trust that Mr. Jerram will be so good as to look through it and correct it where necessary.

## THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

REPORT FOR THE FORTNIGHT ENDING JULY 13TH.—On Sunday, July 5th, at Crawley, by the Crawley Branch, a peal of Grandsire Triples, Taylor's Bob and Single, in 2 hours and 58 minutes, see peal column, page 116. On Saturday, July 7th, at Bolney, by the St. Nicholas (Brighton) branch, several touches of Grandsire Triples, including a 1200 and a 504. On Saturday, July 11th, at Billingham, a 720 of Oxford Single Bob Minor. P. Wood, 1; W. Chantler, 2; W. Charman, 3; W. Chantler, jun., 4; W. Streeter, 5; T. Chantler (conductor), 6. On Sunday, July 12th, at Billingham, a 720 of Warnham Court Bob Minor. P. Wood, 1; J. Voice, 2; W. Streeter, 3; W. Chantler, jun., 4; T. Chantler, 5; W. Charman (conductor), 6. And a 720 of Oxford Single Bob Minor by the above band, conducted by T. Chantler. And for Divine Service, six 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles, conducted by W. Charman and T. Chantler.

GEO. F. ATTREE, Hon. Sec.

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

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Everything for insertion in this Journal to be addressed "The Editor of THE BELL NEWS, Walthamstow, London." Letters forwarded for publication, 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.

F. W. BATCHELOR.—Thanks; the addition will be attended to.

C. L. ROUTLEDGE.—Title pages and prefaces will all appear.

H. J. SHADE.—We are afraid the authority for using the term in the shape you object to, is a much greater one on the subject than either of us. It is hardly the correct thing to say "first peal inside" in connection with one who has already rang a bell in a peal of Stedman Triples. Surely the treble is as much an "inside" bell as any other in Stedman.

H. W. NEEDHAM.—It will appear in the complete copies, of course.

TAIL END.—The irregularity is entirely the fault of the local bookseller, or his London agent. Give a hint that you will transfer your custom to a rival bookseller, and you will soon see an immediate change for the better in the delivery of your periodicals.

## The Bell News & Ringers' Record.

SATURDAY, JULY 25, 1885.

THE report of the Annual Meeting of the Worcester Association, to be found in this number, possesses a few original features worthy of note, one in particular having a deep signification. It appears, from what we can understand, that a visit to the old town of Evesham had been projected by a well-known London ringer, in order to attempt a peal in the bell-tower of the ancient Abbey. We cannot tell what influence was brought to bear upon "the powers that be" to have something done to the bells, but it appears that some clever local celebrity—and Evesham has never been without clever people—was instructed "to screw the bells up" for the occasion. Then, if we understand the account aright, the aforementioned powers have had the temerity to charge the Worcester Association with the cost of this "screwing," amounting to eight shillings. We can well understand the indignation of our friend—the Rev. C. D. P. DAVIES, on hearing that such a bill had been presented to the members of a ringing Association for them to liquidate. We have heard before now of country churchwardens,—men who were well versed in the ramifications of the cheese and butter trade, and similar mercantile pursuits—requesting a fee from a company of visiting ringers before they could enter the belfry, and in one instance demanding a moiety of the sum given to the local band for ringing at a wedding, but the attempt to put the "screw" upon ringers to pay for what it is the absolute duty of the person in charge of the bells to do, is certainly an innovation of a very strange kind.

From the nature of a little correspondence that we have on one or two occasions been the recipients of from a gentleman holding an important position in Evesham,

hopes were established that a new era, so far as bells and ringers were concerned, had begun therein, and that we should hear in time that a local band would be found to ring "half-pulls." Such an occurrence as we are commenting upon has, however, dashed these hopes to the ground, for it makes the fact too plain that the bells in the noble tower of CLEMENT LICHFIELD—who was Abbot of Evesham in the early part of the 16th century—are not fit for ringing. We read of this Abbey having at one time "its sixteen altars, and its 164 gilded pillars, its chapter-house, its cloisters, its library, refectory, dormitory, buttery, and treasury; its almonry, granary, and store-house; all the various buildings for the service of the church, and for the accommodating of eighty-nine religious inmates, and sixty-nine servants," but in these degenerate days it seems that visitors to the ancient fane are expected to pay for "screwing-up" the bells if they would like to ring upon them. What irony of fate!

### The Metropolis.

STRATFORD-LE-BOW, MIDDLESEX.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

On Tuesday, July 21, 1885, in Two Hours and Fifty-eight Minutes,

AT ST. MARY'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S ORIGINAL. Tenor 14 cwt.

MATTHEW A. WOOD .. .. Treble.	ISAAC G. SHADE .. .. 5.
SAMUEL JOYCE .. .. 2.	HENRY SPRINGHALL .. .. 6.
CHARLES SILLITOE* .. .. 3.	HENRY J. SHADE .. .. 7.
JOHN BONNEY .. .. 4.	JOSEPH WEST .. .. Tenor.

Conducted by HENRY J. SHADE.

Charles Sillitoe hails from Sudbury, Suffolk; Messrs. Shade from Greenwich; the rest are London men. \* First peal in the method.

### Date Touch.

ANSTON (Yorkshire).—On Sunday, July 19th, for Divine Service in the morning, a date touch of 1885 changes in the following methods: 445 Duke of York, and a 720 each of Kent and Oxford Treble Bob Minor, in 1 hr. 5 mins. Geo. Lidster, 1; Robt. S. Fox, 2; Josh. Bland, 3; Chas. F. Fowler, 4; Samuel Smith, 5; Thos. Silvester (composer and conductor), 6. Tenor 12 cwt. This is the first date touch by any of the above company.

### Miscellaneous.

THE ST. JAMES'S SOCIETY, LONDON.

LAMBETH.—*Muffled Peal*.—On Monday, July 20th, a funeral peal was rung in memory of the late Charles Atlee, Steeplekeeper of Christ Church, Ealing, and a member of this Society. E. F. Strange (conductor), 1; M. I'Anson, 2; H. J. Davies, 3; G. T. McLaughlin, 4; H. Langdon, 5; E. E. Vinen, 6; J. M. Routh, 7; D. Newton, 8. And a 560 of Grandsire Triples, conducted by G. T. McLaughlin.

ASSOCIATION FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.

LICHFIELD.—On Sunday, June 28th, at St. Michael's church, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor, in 27 mins. E. Gallimore, 1; H. Meacham, 2; R. Anniss, 3; W. Treadgold, 4; F. J. Cope (conductor), 5; A. Greenwood, 6. Tenor 11 cwt. in A.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

BISHOP AUCKLAND (Durham).—On Monday, July 20th, for practice at St. Andrew's, Auckland, a 6-score of Bob and a 6-score of Grandsire Doubles. J. Pallister, 1; J. Cleminson, 2; F. Castree, 3; F. Charlton, 4; E. Titt (conductor), 5.

NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.—On Monday, July 20th, at St John's church, a 1008 of Plain Bob Major, in 40 mins. G. Campbell, 1; C. L. Routledge, 2; \*H. Ferguson, 3; W. Eggleston, 4; F. Lees, 5; E. Wallis, 6; T. Denton, 7; W. Story (conductor), 8. \*First in the method with a bob bell. Tenor 12½ cwt.

**CHESTER-LE-STREET (Durham).**—On Tuesday, July 21st, four members from St. John's, Newcastle, with the assistance of Messrs. Curry and Huntley, of the local company, rang at St. Cuthbert's church, a 720 of Plain Bob Minor, in 30 mins. \*George Curry, 1; Robt. J. Robson, 2; Henry Ferguson, 3; Chas. L. Routledge, 4; \*John Huntley, 5; William Story (conductor), 6. \*First 720. This is the first 720 rung on the bells in which any of the Chester men have taken part. Tenor 21 cwt.

#### THE EASTERN COUNTIES' GUILD.

**SPALDING (Lincolnshire).**—On Sunday, July 5th, for morning service, a 360 of Plain Bob. And for evening service, a 600 of Plain Bob. After service, 720 of Oxford Bob, conducted by G. L. Richardson. And on Tuesday, July 7th, 720 of College Single, conducted by J. Brown. And on Sunday, July 12th, for morning service, 360 of Plain Bob. For evening service, 360 of College Single. And on Thursday, July 16th, two 720s and one 360 of Plain Bob, and a 720 of College Single. The following took part: J. S. Wright, G. L. Richardson, R. Mackman, J. Brown, J. W. Jarvis, C. Neaverson, G. Skeef.

#### THE ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

**SUDBURY (Suffolk).**—On Tuesday evening, July 7th, for practice at All Saints' church, the following members of the above Association rang a 504 of Grandsire Triples. W. Cross, 1; \*A. Hurst (Melford), 2; G. S. Brown, 3; F. Tolladay, 4; W. Bacon, 5; H. Harper, 6; A. Scott (conductor), 7; H. Brackett, 8. Tenor 28 cwt. in D. \*First touch in this method. Also a short touch of Bob Major. W. B. Ramson, Esq., 1; F. Tolladay, 2; G. S. Brown, 3; P. Scott (Melford), 4; W. Bacon, 5; H. Harper, 6; A. Hurst, 7; A. Scott (conductor), 8.

#### THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

**ILFORD (Essex).**—On Sunday, July 19th, four 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles, each called differently. W. J. Mumford, 1; B. Keeble, 2; A. J. Perkins, 3; A. Pye, 4; W. Mead, 5; W. M. Mears, 6.

#### THE HERTFORD COLLEGE YOUTHS.

**HERTFORD (Herts).**—On Wednesday, July 8th, on the occasion of the marriage of Mr. William Henry Cook, nephew of the late Charles Adams, Esq., J.P., with Miss Death, of the "Dimsdale Arms" Hotel, Hertford, the following touches were rung on the bells of All Saints' church by the local band: 504 Stedman Triples. M. Ellmore, 1; W. L. Randall, 2; J. Cull, 3; J. G. Crawley, 4; H. Baker (conductor), 5; S. Knight, 6; H. J. Tucker, 7; F. George, 8. 560 Bob Major: J. Jauncey, 1; W. L. Randall, 2; J. Cull, 3; J. G. Crawley, 4; M. Ellmore, 5; S. Knight, 6; H. Baker, 7; H. J. Tucker (conductor), 8. 504 Grandsire Triples: J. Jauncey, 1; F. G. Crawley, 2; J. Staples, 3; S. Knight, 4; J. Cull, 5; M. Ellmore, 6; H. J. Tucker (conductor), 7; H. Baker, 8. And on Monday, July 20th, to welcome home the bride and bridegroom, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples, 1260 changes, in 46 mins. M. Ellmore, 1; W. L. Randall, 2; J. Staples, 3; H. Phillips, 4; H. Baker, 5; S. Knight, 6; H. J. Tucker (conductor), 7; F. George, 8. And 321 Grandsire Triples. J. Jauncey, 1; W. L. Randall, 2; J. Staples, 3; W. Goodchild, 4; H. Baker (conductor), 5; M. Ellmore, 6; H. J. Tucker, 7; S. Knight, 8. Tenor 22 cwt. W. Goodchild hails from Ware. All members of the Hertfordshire Association.

#### THE HERTFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

**HITCHIN (Herts).**—On Monday, July 20th, at St. Mary's church, for practice, 350 of Grandsire Triples. J. Randall, 1; J. Hare, 2; H. Buckingham, 3; J. Phillips, 4; Robert Jackson, 5; A. Squires, 6; W. Allen (conductor), 7; J. Foster, 8. And 168 with A. Squires, 4; S. Hare, 6; the rest as before. Tenor 28 cwt. in D.

#### THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

**WALKDEN (Lancashire).**—On Sunday, July 19th, at St. Paul's, for Divine Service in the evening, a 360 of Bob Minor was rung by the following members of the local company. W. Denner, 1; J. Williamson, 2; S. Oakes, 3; J. Brooks, 4; A. Potter, 5; J. Welsby (conductor), 6. And on Monday evening, July 20th, for practice, a 720 of Bob Minor. J. Welsby, 1; W. Denner, 2; S. Oakes, 3; J. Williamson, 4; A. Potter, 5; J. Brooks (conductor), 6. Tenor 13½ cwt.

#### THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

**MAIDENHEAD (Berks).**—On Tuesday, July 20th, a 720 of Grandsire Minor, in 26 mins. \*Owen Jasey, 1; \*Frank Bissley, 2; H. Rogers, 3; W. A. Garraway (conductor), 4; R. Smith, 5; Edn. Rogers, 6. Tenor 17½ cwt. in C. \*First 720 of Minor.

#### STOKE-UPON-TRENT ARCHIDIACONAL ASSOCIATION.

**WOLSTANTON (Staffordshire).**—On Sunday, July 19th, at the dedication Festival commonly called the Wakes, also the annual Flower Service, for divine service in the morning, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1260 changes), in 46 mins. D. Amos, 1; L. Miller, 2; S. Walker, 3; F. Martin, 4; W. Preeceman, 5; S. Spencer (conductor), 6; W. Miller, 7; G. Hodgkins, 8. Also for evening service, 1022 changes from Holt's Original. D. Amos, 1; L. Miller, 2; A. Walker,

3; F. Martin, 4; F. Masefield, 5; S. Spencer, 6; W. Miller (conductor), 7; H. Kamister, 1. After service a 504 by the same company as in the previous touch, conducted by L. Miller. The company were highly complimented by several gentlemen for the excellent striking, one gentleman, a lover of music, remarking that the bells might have been going by machinery. The Vicar expressed his thanks and sent a handsome bouquet of roses to be distributed amongst the above members.

#### THE WORCESTER DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

**WORCESTER.**—On Thursday, July 9th, eight members of the above Association attempted a peal of Stedman Triples at St. Helen's church, but it came to grief after ringing 1 hr. 10 mins. F. E. Ward, 1; J. Perks, 2; C. W. H. Griffith, 3; A. F. M. Custance, 4; G. H. Phillott, 5; Rev. C. D. P. Davies (conductor), 6; G. Cleal, 7; T. Malim, 8. Tenor 19 cwt. in Eb.

#### THE WATERLOO SOCIETY, LONDON.

**LONDON.**—*Muffled Peal.*—On Wednesday, July 15th, at St. John's church, Waterloo Road, the following rung a muffled peal, with the usual whole pull and stand, as a last token of respect for the late Mr. C. Atlee, of Ealing, who was for some years a member of the above Society. A. E. Church, 1; H. Boast (Brighton), 2; H. J. Davies, 3; J. Rumsey, 4; J. Barry, 5; J. M. Routh, 6; C. Routh, 7; J. W. Mansfield (conductor), 8. Afterwards several touches of Grandsire Triples, conducted by J. M. Routh.

**ANSTON (Yorkshire).**—On Saturday evening, July 18th, for practice, a 240 of each of the following methods: Violet, Duke of York, Kent and Oxford Treble Bob Minor. Geo. Lister, 1; Robert S. Fox, 2; Josh. Bland, 3; Chas. F. Fowler, 4; Samuel Smith, 5; Thos. Silvester (conductor), 6. Also on Sunday, July 19th, a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob Minor, in 25 mins. Geo. Smith (Eckington), 1; Robt. Goacher (Worksop), 2; E. James (Eckington), 3; F. Mackie (Worksop), 4; H. Watkinson (Worksop; conductor), 5; J. Hargreaves (Shireoaks), 6. And a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob Minor, in 24 mins. and a 120 of Violet. Geo. Lister, 1; Thos. Silvester (conductor), 2; Josh. Bland, 3; Chas. F. Fowler, 4; Samuel Smith, 5; J. Hargreaves (Shireoaks), 6. Tenor 12 cwt.

**BATLEY CARR (Yorkshire).**—*Muffled Peal.*—On Sunday, July 19th, at Holy Trinity Church, a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob, with the bells deeply muffled as a tribute of respect for a late ringer of this church, Mr. Samuel Smithson. Jno. W. Simon, 1; Squire Mitchell (conductor), 2; Harry Mitchell, 3; John Blackburn, 4; Geo. H. Simon, 5; H. Senior, 6.

**BETHNAL GREEN (Middlesex).**—On Sunday, July 19th, at St. Matthew's church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 45 mins. Thomas Dupen, 1; Lewis Green, 2; Henry Edwards, 3; Samuel Joyce, 4; Matthew A. Wood (composer and conductor), 5; Arthur Hayward, 6; Joseph West, 7; John Dupen, 8.

**DUFFIELD (Derbyshire).**—The following touches of Treble Bob Major were rung for Divine Service: June 28th, 1120; July 5th, 640; July 12th, 640. And on Tuesday, July 14th, there being a short muster at practice, a 720 of Grandsire Minor, being the first attempt at this method by all the band, in 26 mins. And on Saturday, July 18th, to oblige Mr. Ward, of Derby, the following started for Holt's 10-part peal, but at the request of one of the party, the bells were brought round at the half-peal end, in 1 hr. 25 mins. E. Moreton, 1; A. B. Ward (conductor), 2; S. Johnson, 3; S. Price (Derby), 4; G. Hingley, 5; J. Howe (Derby), 6; A. P. Heywood, 7; J. Seal (Derby), 8. Tenor 16½ cwt.

**KERSEY (Suffolk).**—On Saturday, July 11th, at St. Mary's church, a 720 of Plain Bob, in 30 mins. G. Death, 1; G. Scowen, 2; J. Scowen, 3; A. Long, 4; J. Newman (conductor), 5; T. Mann, 6. G. Death and J. Newman hail from Edwardstone; A. Long from Bildestone; G. and J. Scowen and T. Mann from Hadleigh.

**WALTON-ON-THE-HILL (Lancashire).**—On Tuesday evening, July 14th, at St. Mary's parish church, a 720 of Grandsire Minor (thirty-four bobs and two singles), in 26½ mins. J. Hurst, 1; W. Booth, 2; C. E. Wilson (conductor), 3; T. Rushton, 4; R. Stockley, 5; E. Yates, 6. Also a 360 of Plain Bob Minor (nine bobs), and a 360 of College Single Minor (nine bobs), in 28 mins. J. Hurst, 1; R. H. Barton, 2; T. R. Somerville, 3; T. Rushton, 4; C. E. Wilson (conductor), 5; R. Stockley, 6. And on Sunday morning, for Divine Service, a 445 of Plain Bob Minor (eleven bobs and five singles), composed by Mr. C. E. Wilson, and in the evening, another 445 of Plain Bob Minor (ten bobs and one single), composed by Mr. J. J. Parker, of Farnham Royal, Bucks. J. Hurst, 1; C. J. Rodgers, 2; T. R. Somerville, 3; T. Rushton, 4; R. Stockley, 5; C. E. Wilson (conductor), 6. W. Booth hails from Liverpool; and E. Yates from Bootle. Tenor 9 cwt.

## GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

ON Sunday, July 19th, seven members of the Upton St. Leonard's combined Society, being members of the above Guild, paid a visit to the parish church of Minsterworth, and rang two touches of Treble Bob and Grandsire Doubles. H. G. Gardner, 1; A. Waite, 2; D. Aston, 3; W. Sevier, 4; G. Miles, 5; R. A. Burrett (conductor), 6. These are the first touches of Treble Bob rung upon these bells, which are a musical ring of six, tenor 9 cwt. Afterwards the company visited Churcham, and with the steeplekeeper, J. Gough, rung for Divine Service in the evening, after raising the bells in peal, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor, in 27 mins. H. G. Gardner, 1; G. Miles, 2; D. Aston, 3; W. Sevier, 4; A. Waite, 5; G. A. Barrett (conductor), 6. Afterwards, 720 of Plain Bob Minor, in 27 mins. G. Miles, 1; J. Yeates, 2; W. Sevier, 4; H. G. Gardner, 4; A. Waite, 5; A. Barrett, 6. Tenor 15 cwt. The Plain Bob Minor was composed by C. D. P. Davies, of Redmarley, Gloucester, and conducted by R. A. Barrett. These are the first two 720's in the above methods rung upon the bells. A 720 of Grandsire Minor would have been rung, only the time would not allow of it. The company returned home very pleased with the afternoon's proceedings.

## EASTBOURNE, SUSSEX.

A band of ringers from Bletchingley, Surrey, visited St. Mary's tower on Monday, July 20th, and rang several touches in the following methods: Grandsire Triples, Plain Bob Triples, Union Triples, Oxford Bob Triples, and Major. Later on Mr. Boniface, of the St. Nicholas Society, Brighton, making an appearance, a mixed band was formed, consisting of that gentlemen with two of the above band, the rest being members of the local band, and several touches of Grandsire Triples were rung. The striking throughout the day was all that could be desired, the members of the local band and other listeners expressing their appreciation of the masterly manner in which the ropes were handled by the visitors.

## THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

A DISTRICT MEETING will be held at Harwich (8 bells), on Saturday, July 25th. Ringing to commence at twelve o'clock. A meat Tea will be provided at the Great Eastern Hotel, at four o'clock p.m. Tickets to be obtained from the Secretary at 6d. each, up to July 20th, after that date 1s. 6d. will be charged. The Business Meeting will be held immediately after the tea. Return tickets will be issued by the G.E.R. at a single fare and a quarter to members, providing that they shew their E.A.C.R. receipts for 1885-6 at the Booking Office, and inform the Sec., before July 20th, from what station they travel.

Rayleigh, S.O., Essex.

H. A. COCKEY, Hon. Sec.

## THE ELY DIOCESAN GUILD.

There will be a District Meeting of the above Association at Sudbury on Monday, August 3rd, Bank Holiday. There will be a short service at St. Peter's at 12 o'clock. Ringing at St. Gregory's and All Saints'. Dinner at "The Oak Inn" at 1 p.m., tickets 2s. 3d. each. Business meeting afterwards. The Great Eastern Railway Company have kindly promised to issue return tickets at a fare and a quarter to members of the Association, on producing their membership cards. All members proposing to attend should at once write and inform the Hon. Sec. of their intentions, stating the station from which they propose to travel.

The Cambridge Road, Ely.

K. H. SMITH, Hon. Sec.

## THE WEST MIDDLESEX ASSOCIATION.

The MEETING arranged for St. Andrew's, Hillingdon, on Saturday, July 11th, is postponed to July 25th, at 7.30 p.m., and the Slough meeting takes place on Saturday, August 1st, at 7.30 p.m. The Annual Dinner will take place at the "King's Head," Harrow-on-the-Hill, to-day (Saturday, July 18th), at 5 o'clock. Ringing at 3.30. Members intending to be present must kindly decide by Wednesday, July 15th, to

71, Bridge Road West, Old Battersea, Surrey.

HENRY S. THOMAS, Hon. Sec.

## THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

THE ANNUAL MEETING will be held at Croydon, by the kind permission of the vicar, on Tuesday, July 28th. Tea and Business Meeting at 5.30 at the Victoria Coffee Tavern, Church Street. The Vicar will preside, and will also hold a short special service at 6.45. The tea will be free to ringing members of the Association, all others 1s. 6d. each. Any ringers will be welcome.

A. B. CARPENTER, Hon. Sec.

## TWO HOURS ON THE CORPORATION BELLS AT MANCHESTER TOWN HALL.

ON Saturday, July 18th, the Ashton-under-Lyne society visited the above place to have a pull on the peal of ten bells (tenor 52 cwt. in C), having obtained the requisite permission. Arriving at Exchange station at 3.15 p.m., they were met by the courteous janitor of the bells, who conducted them to the stately edifice erected by the council of Cottonopolis, in which to transact their business and which is, without doubt, one of the finest buildings in the provinces. Having entered the tower the first thing was to see the bells, and put a little grease on them, then raising them, three leads of Grandsire Caters were rung by J. Hopwood, 1; W. Smith, 2; J. Wood, 3; T. Moss, 4; J. Mellor, 5; S. Andrew, 6; B. Broadbent, 7; S. Wood, 8; J. Thorp, 9; G. Longden, 10. Satisfactory so far, a longer touch was attempted, but it came to an untimely end before two courses had been rung. Then a course of Treble Bob Royal was rung by T. Moss, 1; J. Hopwood, 2; J. Wood, 3; W. Smith, 4; S. Andrew, 5; J. Mellor, 6; B. Broadbent, 7; G. Longden, 8; J. Thorp, 9; S. Wood, 10. After that another course of Royal with J. Thorp at the tenor. Then the handbells were brought out and a course of Grandsire Caters was rung by J. Hopwood, 1-2; J. Wood, 3-4; W. Smith, 5-6; G. Longden, 7-8; J. Mellor, 9-10. Two courses of Stedman Caters were then rung upon the tower bells, W. Frith at the tenor, and after that a bit of "stoney" to oblige two young members, J. Mellor ringing the tenor. Time being nearly up, the tenors were "turned," and the following rang three good courses of Stedman Triples, and then "turned" the first eight bells in peal. G. Longden, 1; J. Hopwood, 2; J. Wood, 3; J. Mellor, 4; B. Broadbent, 5; J. Thorp, 6; S. Wood, 7; S. Andrew, 8. Having donned their apparel, another course of Caters on the handbells was determined on, which was rung by J. Mellor, 1-2; J. Thorp, 3-4; S. Wood, 5-6; G. Longden, 7-8; B. Broadbent, 9-10. The conducting was shared by Messrs. S. Wood and J. Thorp. The visitors wish through the medium of "THE BELL NEWS," to acknowledge the kindness of the authorities for the pleasant afternoon they spent.

## THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

NOTICE is hereby given that a District Meeting will be held at Horsham on Monday, August 3rd (Bank Holiday). All ringers are invited. The following are the arrangements for the day: 9.30 a.m.: ringing will commence at St. Mary's, the parish church of Horsham, (8 bells, tenor 24 cwt.). The towers of Crawley (8 bells, tenor 13½ cwt.); Billingshurst (6 bells, tenor 12½ cwt.), and Slinfold (6 bells, tenor 13 cwt.), will also be open for ringing during the day. 1 p.m. a cold luncheon will be provided, tickets 6d. each, if obtained prior to Friday, July 31st., after which date the charge will be 1s. 6d. each. Application for tickets to be made to me. 6 p.m., short service in the parish church (members are particularly requested to attend). 6.30 p.m., tea will be served. 7.15 p.m., an extraordinary general meeting for business purposes.

GEO. F. ATTREE, Hon. Sec.

GREAT EASTERN RAILWAY.—This company have just established a new and admirable train service, and made some especially good arrangements for the issue of Cheap Tourist and Excursion Tickets for the convenience of the public. Yarmouth, Lowestoft, Cromer, Hunstanton, &c., can now be reached in three hours, and tickets are issued enabling the holders to spend Friday till Tuesday at either of these truly excellent seaside resorts for the moderate charge of 10s. third class; 15s. second class; 20s. first class; while Fortnightly and Two-Monthly Tickets are likewise issued at a similar low rate. A Fast Express Train Service is also running between London and Doncaster, *via* Cambridge and the Cathedral cities of Ely and Lincoln, opening up a new and important route to Leeds, Bradford, Halifax, Manchester, Liverpool, Hull, York, Scarborough, Edinburgh, Glasgow, and all parts of Lancashire, Yorkshire, Scotland, &c., and Tourist Excursion Tickets are issued to all the favourite seaside and inland places of interest in these districts. The company have also very greatly improved the service between England and the Continent, *via* Harwich and Rotterdam, or Antwerp, this route being now the best, cheapest, and the most direct of all existing routes. An express day service between London and Antwerp will commence on the 25th inst., when the Great Eastern Railway Company will run a special Continental train from Liverpool-street Station, at 9 a.m. In connection with this train their fast steel paddle steamer Adelaide will leave Harwich (Parkeston Quay) at 11 a.m., arriving at Antwerp the same evening. The service will be run every Wednesday and Saturday, and there will be a corresponding morning service from Antwerp on Tuesdays and Fridays, reaching London the same night. The ordinary week-day service leaving Liverpool-street Station at 8 p.m. every evening, reaching Antwerp, and Rotterdam early the next morning, will be run in addition to the new day service.

ANNIVERSARY DINNER OF THE ST. MARTIN'S SOCIETY,  
BIRMINGHAM.

On Saturday, July 18th, upwards of twenty-five members of the above Society journeyed to Sutton, on the occasion of celebrating the 130th anniversary, when a capital dinner was served at the Museum Hotel. After dinner some of the party went to the tower, where they found everything in readiness, and some touches of Grandsire and Stedman Triples, and a plain course of Kent Treble Bob Major were rung. On reassembling at the Hotel about 7.30, the party was augmented by some of the local band and a few friends, and a very enjoyable evening was spent, under the presidency of Mr. H. Johnson, sen. The usual toasts having been proposed, the Chairman proposed "Success to the St. Martin's Society of Change-ringers," and congratulated the members on the satisfactory state of the Society, both financially and otherwise, at the same time expressing a hope that they would go on in the future as they had in the past, maintaining their position among the leading Societies of the day. Mr. Buffery proposed "The Health of the President," which was seconded by Mr. Bastable, and supported by Mr. S. Reeves, who expressed a desire to see him holding the position he now held, for many years to come. This toast was drunk with musical honours. A vote of thanks was next proposed by Mr. S. Reeves, seconded by Mr. Ward, to the Vicar, churchwardens, and ringers of Sutton, for their kindness in allowing the use of the bells, to which Mr. Matthews replied. Other toasts were proposed, including the "Host." Some tunes and a plain course of Grandsire Cinques on the handbells brought the afternoon's enjoyment to a close, everybody being very much pleased with their outing.

## SPALDING, LINCOLNSHIRE.—GOLDEN WEDDING.

An event of somewhat rare occurrence was celebrated at Spalding, on Wednesday, July 15th. Mr. and Mrs. Ashley Maples were married in the parish church, Spalding, by the late Vicar, Dr. Moore, in 1835. On Wednesday morning, at six o'clock, the ringers ushered in the day with a merry peal, and at eleven o'clock Mr. and Mrs. Maples and their ten surviving children attended service at the church, to return thanks for mercies vouchsafed. On their leaving the church the bells again pealed forth at intervals until nine o'clock at night. At this time the ringers and a few friends were entertained at a sumptuous supper, provided by Mrs. Palmer, at the "Lincoln Arms," presided over by C. Maples, Esq., the youngest member of the family. After supper they were joined by A. Maples, H. S. Maples, R. Maples, and G. Maples, Esqrs. After the cloth was removed, the next introduction being the punch bowl, the toasts of "The Queen and Royal Family" was proposed by C. Maples, Esq. The toast of the evening being the "Health of Mr. and Mrs. Maples, sen.," was proposed by R. Mackman, and drank with musical honours. H. S. Maples, Esq. responded in a very hearty manner, and he also announced it was the intention of the ten children to present the church with a treble bell to complete the octave, in commemoration of the fifty years. "The Clergy and Church officials" was then proposed by C. Maples, Esq., and responded to by J. S. Wright, Captain of the ringers, in a very enthusiastic manner. He said that during the forty years he had been connected with the belfry, the ringers had never experienced such hospitality as had been shown that day by the respected family. After a few songs were sung, concluding with "God Save the Queen," and three cheers for Lord Salisbury, the evening was brought to a close, which will not be forgotten for a long period.

REOPENING OF THE BELLS OF ST. LAWRENCE'S,  
WINSLOW, BUCKS.

On Thursday, July 16th, at the invitation of the Rev. D. Hamilton, the Master of the Oxford Diocesan Guild, with some of his brethren from Oxford, paid a visit to Winslow, to reopen the church bells which have lately been rehung by Messrs. Warner and Sons. A short service of rededication having been said by the Vicar in the belfry, the bells were raised in peal and 120 of Grandsire and Stedman were rung upon them. Then followed a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor. T. Payne, 1; F. Castle, 2; W. Finch, 3; J. Field, 4; Rev. F. E. Robinson, 5; J. W. Washbrooke (conductor), 6. Evensong was held at 7 o'clock, preceded by touches on the bells, including a 240 of Grandsire Minor. The sermon was preached by the Master of the Guild, and as the congregation dispersed after service the bells again sounded forth eighteen score of Grandsire Minor. The Rev. F. A. H. Du Boulay also took part in the ringing.

## THE ST. JAMES'S SOCIETY, LONDON.

THE ANNUAL MEETING of this society for the election of officers for the ensuing year, will take place at the "Crown," Essex Street, Strand, on Monday next, July 27th, at 10 p.m. E. F. STRANGE,  
Sec.

## THE HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

THIS Association held its Quarterly Meeting at Sawbridgeworth on Monday, July 13th, when above fifty members and friends assembled. The following bands were represented: Baldock, Benington, Bishop Stortford, Hertford, Hitchin, St. Alban's, Sawbridgeworth, besides individual ringers from Cambridge, Harlow, and Ware. In the morning a party of ten left the train at Harlow, and rang for about two hours in that tower, rejoining the main body at dinner-time. In the course of the day touches in the following methods were brought round successfully: Grandsire and Stedman Triples, Bob, Treble Bob, and Double Norwich Court. Ringing was kept up with spirit from noon till half-past eight o'clock, and the ringers who passed through Hertford rang touches on each of the towers there, with the assistance of those of the local band whose engagements had prevented them sharing further in the day's pleasure. The Business Meeting was held immediately after dinner, when various new members were admitted, and the resolution passed to hold the Annual Meeting at St. Alban's, on Monday, October 26th, and to request the archdeacon to allow a special service in either the choir or lady chapel of the cathedral. Among the features of a very enjoyable day, two of the most gratifying were the cordial welcome which the Association received from the Rev. H. A. Lipscomb, who invited the whole party to tea upon the Rectory lawn, and the great consideration with which all the other wants of the visitors were cared for by Mr. George Rochester.

## THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

A DISTRICT MEETING was held at Clifton, Beds., on Saturday, July 11th. There was a fair attendance. In consequence of the ringers of Aspley having made arrangements for a trip to London on the 14th inst. they did not attend the Clifton Meeting, the Hon. Sec., too, was unavoidably prevented attending. The practitioners were very kindly received by the Rector, the Rev. H. M. Miles, who went up in the belfry and took much interest in the proceedings. Owing to the want of an intermediary or deadening floor it was impossible to get good ringing, the noise being deafening; the ropes are very badly arranged and do not hang in order. Among the attendants were Messrs. J. Hill, Frossell, Cullip, Foote, W. Hall, Atkins, West, Biggs, Craddock (Biggleswade), and W. A. Tyler (Hitchin). A 240 of Grandsire Triples was rung, and a 720 of Bob Minor by Messrs. Cullip, Craddock, Atkins, Foote, Biggs, and Hills. Several other methods were rung, including Oxford Treble Bob Minor.

## THE ELY DIOCESAN GUILD.

SUDBURY.—On Thursday, July 16th, the local company met on the invitation of Dr. Mason, at his residence, to spend an hour or two in his garden and grounds, when a most enjoyable time was passed in handbell ringing, touches of Bob Major, Treble Bob, Grandsire, and a course of Bob Maximus being rung, in which Dr. Mason and W. B. Ransom, Esq. took part. After a hearty supper, tune-playing on the bells, and vocal harmony ushered in the small hours of Friday morning, when a vote of thanks was given to Dr. Mason, to which he suitably responded, and the pleasant meeting ended.

## THE RECENT ACCIDENT TO A RINGING PARTY.

THE following sums have been received for the purpose of helping to defray the great loss sustained by Mr. H. F. Wood in this unfortunate affair:—

	s.	d.		s.	d.
Rev. E. S. ....	2	6	G. Dorrington ...	2	0
J. West ...	2	0	H. J. Shade ...	2	6
J. W. Snowdon, Esq. ...	10	0	G. Russell, Croydon ...	1	0
W. Banister ...	5	0	H. Pearce ...	2	0
Bedfordshire Association ...	5	0	F. Newman ...	2	0
St. Martin's, Salisbury ...	10	0	R. Turner ...	2	0
St. Peter's, Leeds, Yorks ...	5	0	T. Dupen ...	2	6
H. Edwards ...	2	6	W. Prime ...	2	0
J. Dwight ...	2	6	W. Cooter ...	2	6
J. Shade ...	5	0	J. Davidson ...	3	0
R. S. Story ...	5	0	Widford and Galleywood C.R. ...	5	0
B. Wallege ...	2	0	H. Lewis, St. Albans ...	5	0
J. Barrett ...	2	0	S. Joyce ...	2	6
J. Comb ...	5	0	J. H. Monday ...	5	6
Spalding, SS. Mary and Nicolas ...	1	0	M. A. Wood ...	10	0
B. Newton ...	1	0	A. Hayward ...	2	0
J. Dupen ...	2	0	W. Cecil ...	2	0
C. Lee ...	1	0	A. B. Goody ...	5	6
C. Beech ...	1	0	Mr. Lewis Green ...	2	0
J. West (second donation) ...	3	0	St. Mary's society, Walthamstow ...	10	0
J. Barry ...	1	0	Thomas Clark, Sharow, Ripon ...	5	0
T. Powell, Waltham Abbey ...	2	6	I. S. ...	5	0
J. Baxter, Leamington, late of Devonport ...	5	0			

Further donations, however small, are urgently solicited. Mr. Matthew Wood, 11 Church Row, Bethnal Green, London, will be happy to give any further information, and will thankfully acknowledge any sums forwarded to him.



## 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."

## BELFRY REFORM.

SIR,—Letters and articles upon the above subject have frequently appeared in your justly valued paper, in which many existing scandals connected with change-ringing have been exposed, and remedies suggested which would, if carried out, have imparted a healthier tone to change-ringing in the localities for which these hits have been intended, and consequently have led to the elevation of the noble art of change-ringing, in the eyes of the great majority of the people who really have no idea what change-ringing is, and who are inclined to look upon it as a mere amusement for a few low public-house-frequenting men. Undoubtedly much good has resulted from the views which have been honestly and unreservedly expressed, when we contrast the status of the change-ringer generally with what it was a number of years ago. Then we must all admit the public had just cause for regarding the change-ringer in the light I have described. But have the articles and letters to which I refer been taken to heart by all ringers, and the good advice given therein followed out? I venture to answer this most emphatically in the negative, or disgrace to the Exercise, which came immediately under our notice, and which deserve the condemnation of every true-hearted ringer, would not exist. It is therefore, with the welfare of the Exercise at heart that I ask you to give publicity to the remarks I purpose making respecting Belfry Reform. I trust those who have previously written upon the subject will pardon me in my desire to give the nail they have driven home so well one more tap, in the hope that it may bring before ringers the desirability of conducting their affairs as church officials, and not merely for the sake of the many advantages for which I am afraid many are change-ringers in name only. Another apology I must put forward for touching upon this subject, is this. In my humble opinion, any ringer professing to have the welfare of the Exercise at heart, who is cognisant of the fact that any scandal or disgrace to the belfry exists in his locality should feel it his duty to expose such scandal or disgrace, or else he is unworthy of his name as a ringer. No doubt it is a very disagreeable subject to have to take in hand, but the apology I offer I think to be amply sufficient for my remarks respecting it. The real secret of existing evils I firmly believe to be the pecuniary advantages to be gained in some localities, from being a ringer. In country villages, fortunate enough to possess a peal of bells, we find ringers who are always ready to meet on the various ringing days during the year; whose method of dividing the spoil is questionable, and whose antipathy to the admission of probationers into their ranks is very marked. Where such a case exists—and I can, without fear of contradiction, give an example—who will say that it does not constitute a scandal? that the bells are used for purposes for which they were never intended. The reason that probationers are not admitted is obvious. There would, in the opinion of the money-loving section of the company, be too many applications for places on a ringing-day, and consequently ill-feeling engendered by the choice of one and the exclusion of another. Many are thus debarred from learning a beautiful art of which they have heard so much. Again, how absurd it is of one ringer to be annoyed and jealous at the success of some individual member of his company. Yet such a thing is, I am afraid, common, and the artifices resorted to in order to induce any member of a company who has by his ability and perseverance attained distinction as a change-ringer, to retire in disgust from that company, are many, and generally very discreditable to the parties who, through ignorance and jealousy, are unable to make themselves masters of the situation. Another evil, which is very detrimental to the Exercise, is that of ringers refusing to ring a peal with men who do not belong to some particular society of which they themselves are members. It is no doubt a good thing to have peals recorded by some society or other, but when, in a particular Diocese where a Diocesan Association exists, we hear of no Association peals being rung or attempted, but many under another heading, sufficient cause is given to draw forth an expression of regret that friendly ringing should be sacrificed merely for the sake of peals being inscribed in the book of a particular London Society, and embellished in an artistic manner in all the colours of the rainbow. Vanity is evidently the influence which predominates. Many discreditable evils I could enumerate; but I must not trespass too much upon your space. Let the foregoing examples, of which I have ample corroboration of cases in point, suffice, and let us rather consider their remedies, if we wish to see the ranks of the Exercise swelled by men without such mean and selfish ways. In my opinion ringers are left too much to themselves, to go on as they like. I know many places where our clergy know little or nothing about their belfries and ringers, as

though they did not belong to the church at all! Now I think the the clergy are to blame for this. They should exercise as much care as to who are admitted into the ringing company, as they do regarding their choirs. They should also attend occasionally the practice meetings of their ringers and satisfy themselves that things are carried on in a manner becoming the belfry. I feel confident that the desire of the clergy is to have everything connected with their churches conducted in a proper manner, and I am sure that if existing scandals were only brought under their notice, such scandals would rapidly cease to exist, and consequently the popularity of the Exercise increased. The very fact that incumbents go so little amongst their ringers, seems to me to be an incentive to ringers to use the bells just for their own interests; for I have often heard several of my clerical friends remark that rather than have a self-interested company (or one of the old stamp), they would have no ringing at all, and I venture to presume that this should be the opinion of every true-hearted ringer. A suggestion I might here throw out is, that ringers should do their utmost to encourage every Incumbent to take "THE BELL NEWS" regularly, where they would then see opinions on all subjects, especially the relations of clergy and ringers, expressed, and their duty pointed out in plain language. It is a distasteful matter to have to call the attention of any particular incumbent, to the proceedings of his ringing company, and I would appeal to the common sense of those ringers to whom these remarks may be more particularly appropriate, whether they would not be serving the interests of the Exercise better by changing their course and avoiding the necessity of our having recourse, in our endeavours to promote the true principles of change-ringing, to the inevitable measure of bringing their conduct under the notice of those who have authority over the seeming strongholds over which they exercise a false sway. It is monstrous to suppose that we ought to stand by and wink at anything which tends to lower the Exercise in the eyes of the people. It is our duty to expose it, however distasteful it may be, and provide a remedy. It would be idle to dispute the fact that change-ringing is steadily gaining favour in the eyes of the public, owing doubtless to the good work already effected by Associations and individual influence, and if we may take this as a criterion of the position of the Exercise in the future, provided Belfry Reform makes the necessary progress, it behoves us all the more to strain every nerve, each in his particular locality, to hunt out existing evils, regardless of the strong, but harmless abuse we should certainly bring down upon us.

Long Melford, Suffolk.

ALEXANDER HURST.

## AFFAIRS AT LONG MELFORD, SUFFOLK.

SIR,—Allow me through the medium of "THE BELL NEWS" to ask the clergy and churchwardens of Long Melford, first—Why it is that ringers are imported from a neighbouring village to ring the bells upon ringing days, while there are twelve ringers residing in their own parish who are anxious to ring them? Secondly—What are their reasons for not allowing Amor, Ambrose, and Henry Duce, to enter the belfry? Thirdly—Why is Mr. A. Hurst, formerly Master of the Cavendish Company, but who now resides at Melford, not allowed to ring on the parish bells? Fourthly—Is it their fault and neglect, or are they not aware, or is it the fault of the money-grabbing ringers who have got possession of the tower, that such a state of things exist?

Long Melford.

PHILIP O. BIXBY.

## THE PEAL AT WEST MALLING.

SIR,—Your correspondent, Mr. Leonard, appears to ignore my assertion regarding the performance of this peal, but delights in his statement that during the time it was being rung, I was continually in "public houses." Of course it is very easy to make an assertion of this sort, and difficult to substantiate a denial of it. But this is entirely beside the question. What I wish to maintain is that the peal was not rung—if the absence of something very little short of firing is to constitute a "true peal." Perhaps as Mr. Leonard's experience extends over a very limited area, he may possibly have never heard rung what practical ringers term a true peal. I would advise him to associate more with men whose experience has not been so limited, and he would soon learn that clashing and so forth is not considered ringing, even when there may be one or two young beginners in the peal. My only object is to prevent an unworthy performance being foisted upon the Exercise generally, in having a record of such a display entered in the peal-book of the Kent County Association.

F. G. NEWMAN.

Several letters are unavoidably left over until our next issue.

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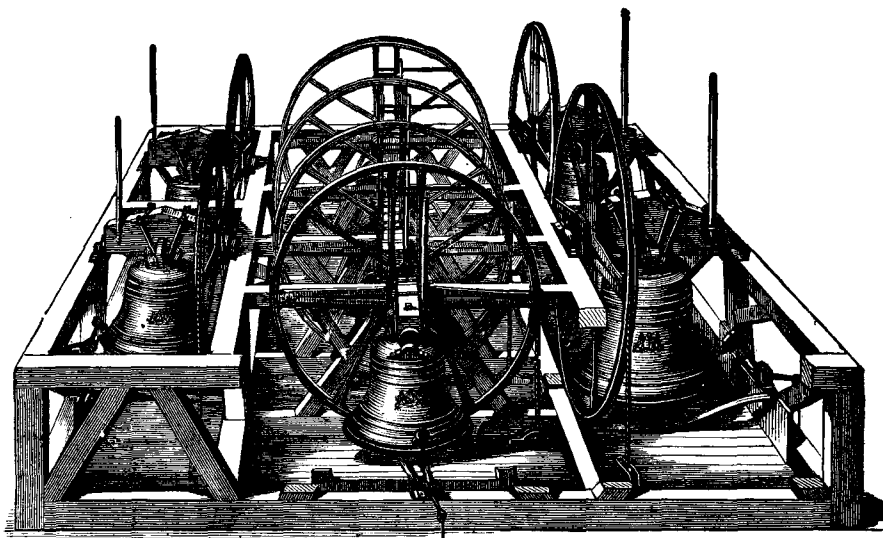
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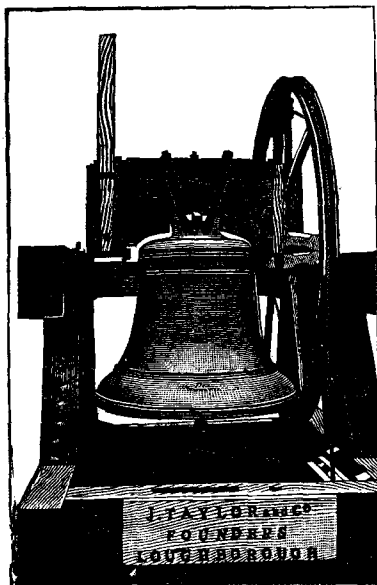
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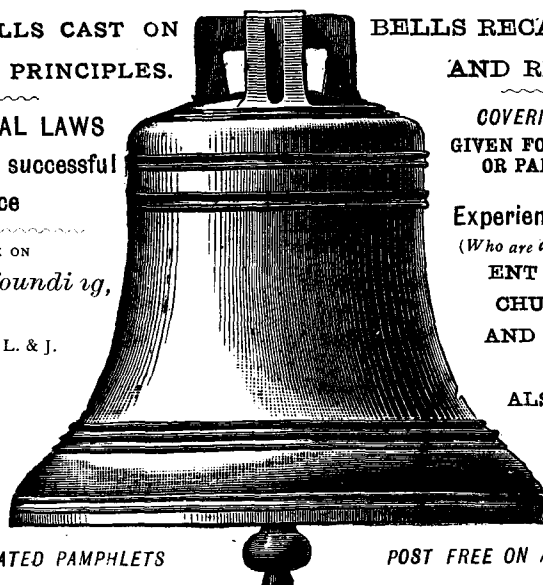
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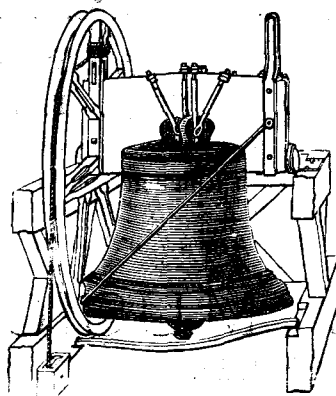
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5 7 3 8 2 6 4	5 7 3 8 2 6 4	4 2 6 3 8 5 7 M	4 2 6 3 8 5 7 M
8 6 7 4 5 2 3	- 7 8 6 4 5 2 3 B	6 4 8 2 7 3 5	6 4 8 2 7 3 5
4 2 6 3 8 5 7 M	4 2 8 3 7 5 6	8 6 7 4 5 2 3	- 7 8 6 4 5 2 3 B
3 5 2 7 4 8 6 W	3 5 2 6 4 7 8	7 8 5 6 3 4 2	6 7 5 8 3 4 2
7 8 5 6 3 4 2		5 7 3 8 2 6 4	5 6 3 7 2 8 4 W
6 4 8 2 7 3 5		3 5 2 7 4 8 6 W	3 5 2 6 4 7 8 H
2 3 4 5 6 7 8 H		2 3 4 5 6 7 8 H	

Ordinary bobs at the M. W. and H., do not increase the number of leads in the course as in the Kent or Oxford Treble Bob methods. The effect of a bob in the Surprise methods may be compared to that of one in Plain Bob, or any method in which the bells behind are not disturbed by the bob. From the foregoing lead-ends, a table of course-ends may be constructed. The table of course-ends for bobs at the M. W. and H., is the same as ordinary Treble Bob course-ends, when single bobs only are called. The second and third tables shew the calls that may be made in a course with a bob B.

TABLE OF COURSE-ENDS.

FOR ALL THREE METHODS.	CAMBRIDGE & SUPERLATIVE.	LONDON SURPRISE.
2 3 4 5 6 M W H	2 3 4 5 6 B H	2 3 4 5 6 M B W H
4 3 6 5 2 -	3 5 2 6 4 -	3 5 2 6 4 -
5 2 4 3 6 -	2 3 5 6 4 - -	3 5 4 2 6 - -
4 2 3 5 6 -		6 3 2 5 4 - -
5 4 6 3 2 - -		2 3 5 6 4 - -
6 4 3 5 2 - -		2 6 3 5 4 - -
6 5 4 3 2 - -		4 3 5 2 6 - -
4 5 2 3 6 - -		

The peals composed in these methods are not very numerous, and as the use of bobs B is the only way of obtaining reduced courses it is not so easy to compose peals containing various numbers of changes, as it is in other methods. Most of the peals already composed are in three or five parts, and the plan is frequently adopted of shortening some of these parts by two courses. The way of doing this, which also applies to many other plain methods, is as follows: when three bobs at H. are called without any intermediate bobs, as shewn in the annexed three courses, it is evident that if the first bob at H. is omitted, the third course-end will be brought up, and two courses altogether done away with. In this way 448 changes may be cut out of a peal and no new changes introduced. If the peal was true beforehand, it is evident it will be quite true in this abbreviated form.

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

There are various bobs which, in a three-part peal, can be either called or omitted. It is not my purpose to go thoroughly into such a matter in this place, but I would remind my readers, that in a three-part peal which has 5-6 at home at the part-end and a bob at the M. or W., as well as one at H., the bob H. can generally be omitted at the part-end.

## PEALS OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE.

Since I introduced this method into my book, *Standard Methods* I may say that I have somewhat modified the high opinion I then had of the method. When the historical description of this method is compared with those of Superlative and London Surprise, it will be seen that this was the first to receive consideration. As a good number of performances had been achieved in this intricate method, I was led to class it amongst those to which I applied the term "Standard." The only reason I have for modifying this opinion is that when I have, as now, to place before the Exercise the peals composed in this method, I am reminded of the fact that practically only one true peal, with the tenors together, has been composed. In former days when a crack band practised an intricate method, it was usually the custom to ring one peal in the method and then abandon it altogether. In these days, fortunately, the Burton-on-Trent society has set the praiseworthy example, when they have become acquainted with a method, of ringing all the best and musical peals to be had in the method. It is therefore a serious question whether it is worth while spending much time in learning a method in which, practically, only one peal is to be had.

The one peal, with the tenors together, that has been composed of Cambridge Surprise, is one in five parts, of 5600 changes. This peal was composed independently by Mr. Charles Middleton, of Norwich, and Mr. Henry Johnson, of Birmingham. It was however first published by Mr. Middleton in 1845, in Hubbard's first book, and thus I think that the peal, which is as follows, must be awarded to Mr. Middleton.

5600.

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

C. MIDDLETON.

First rung on February 11th, 1873, at St. Michael's, Benington, by the Benington Society. Conducted by Thomas Page. The calling was begun at the fourth course-end thus producing 3 4 5 6 2 at the first part-end.

This composition reverses to the same peal. By omitting the three consecutive bobs H. in any one-part, two courses will be cut out and the number reduced to 5152.

Mr. Johnson has cut the peal to 5056 changes, by introducing the course 1 B., 1 H., which brings up the third course-end 23564, and thus if this calling is used instead of the calling of the first three courses, as given above, the peal is reduced two courses, and a short course introduced instead of the long one. As Mr. Johnson was the first to obtain this length, I think, whenever this peal may be rung, that the 5056 may be fairly attributed to Mr. Johnson.

## THE ST. JAMES'S SOCIETY, LONDON.

At the Annual Meeting of this Society, on Monday, July 27th, the following were elected officers for the ensuing year. *Master*, Mr. G. T. McLaughlin; *Steward*, Mr. H. Langdon; *Treasurer*, Mr. E. Albone; *Secretary*, Mr. D. Newton. D. NEWTON, Sec.  
31, Bidborough St., Euston Road, W.C.

## COLLEGE YOUTHS AT CHICHESTER, SUSSEX.

On Saturday, July 18th, eight members of the Ancient Society of College Youths started from London, and having arrived at this old town, were conducted by Mr. Heather and Mr. Lambert (the kindly and obliging sacristan), to the Cathedral dedicated to St. Peter and the Holy Trinity. On reaching the belfry at 4.30, the order was at once given to "get to work," and after the preliminary rounds, Holt's ten-part peal of Grandsire Triples was achieved in excellent style, in 3 hrs. and 8 mins., (see peal column). This is the first true peal on the bells, many of which are over 300 years old. Every bell sounds very distinctly in the ringing-room, and all go well except the tenor. Before leaving, all signed the elaborate visitors' book in the order in which they had been standing, and a short account of what took place was written therein.

After a wash in the first chamber, all adjourned to the "Anchor Hotel," where the band were very liberally entertained at a most princely banquet, served in excellent style. The entire Guild sat down, and the party numbered between thirty and forty. The chair was taken by R. G. Raper, Esq., for the last nine years Mayor of Chichester, and President of the Ringers' Guild; and his hospitality on this occasion was certainly such as is rarely, if ever, met with—in fact to enumerate the *menu* would be almost impossible, as well as out of place.

In returning thanks, Mr. Routh, in a few excellent remarks, proposed the Mayor's very good health, which was seconded by Mr. Dawe, and responded to in a very kind and genial manner, at the same time handing a photo of the Cathedral and tower to each visitor. Mr. Mash next proposed "The Conductor," and in responding, Mr. Dawe spoke of the great pleasure it gave him at having the honour of calling the first peal on the Cathedral bells. Other toasts followed, such as "The Guild," etc., which were all suitably responded to. Messrs. Hayes, Horrex, and French, then left by the last train for London, after which, the entire Guild of ringers, seventeen in all, resolved to become members of the Ancient Society of College Youths. A short touch of Grandsire Triples was rung on the handbells, by J. M. Routh, Esq., 1-2; C. F. Winny, 3-4; F. E. Dawe (conductor), 5-6; J. R. Haworth, 7-8, and later on an excellent course of Stedman Triples. The remainder of the evening was well spent in the most convivial manner, and some excellent songs and speeches brought the very enjoyable evening to a close.

The next morning (after being complimented by the Dean and other authorities upon their excellent striking the previous night), the visitors spent in having a look round, and the following account will probably be of interest, viz.: the city was once a Roman settlement called "Regnum," then named "Cissas Camp," by a Saxon Prince, about the year 500 A.D. The Cathedral was commenced in the year 1100 by Bishop Ralph, and is chiefly Norman and Early Gothic styles. The cloisters are very good, built in the sixteenth century, with the Perpendicular style of the fourteenth century. The nave is Norman, with one aisle on each side, divided by a massive arcade of eight arches, and an additional aisle, in Early English outside, each of these was added about the time of Henry III., thus possessing a peculiarity unknown to any other. An old oak chest in the north aisle, as sound as ever, with curious old locks, is believed to be a thousand years old, as it originally came from Selsey Cathedral, a few miles south, the site of which now lies buried beneath the sea. The presbytery is famous for the stern solidity of the Norman work, gracefully combined with the lighter Gothic style. Tombs point out the frequent practice, in the twelfth and thirteenth centuries, of burying the heart separately from the body. In the Lady Chapel is seen the old Winchester and Oxford motto of William of Wykeham, "Manners makyth man." The old spire collapsed in 1861, and the new one was erected shortly afterwards at a cost of £50,000, and it reaches to a height of 277 feet.

The Bell Tower is purely a Campanile, built in the fourteenth century by Bishop Langton, and standing entirely by itself about thirty yards or so away from the main building. It is 120 feet in height, and is one of the most commodious towers possible to be found anywhere. On entering the massive doorway on the ground floor, the visitor immediately finds, a little to the right, six washing places, as many Turkey towels, with the same number of brushes and combs, and large looking-glasses. The most interesting feature of all however is the fact that this floor constitutes a Fire Brigade Station, the local ringers here being volunteer firemen, and the many important appliances too numerous for insertion here, being arranged in picturesque order, the glitter of the accoutrements being a credit to all, in fact like everything to do with fire brigades—"up to Dick."

On walking up a very good stone spiral staircase, with the assistance of a rope in the middle, so as to afford every safety and comfort, the next place reached is the ringing room, eighty feet from the ground, which is certainly unique in its way. Every visitor who enters here, is immediately struck with the excellent and cared for appearance of the place. It is 27 feet square, and is lighted by four gigantic windows, and has an excellent wooden floor, adorned with a large carpet in the

middle. The circle of ropes is also one of the best that can possibly be found. Texts in Old English, written in red, blue, and black, circulate the top of each window, also texts similarly executed, on the top of each of the beautiful groined arches, half way up in each corner, thus making the upper portion of the chamber octagonal. Handbells, speaking tubes, and electric bells, also ornament the walls. A chandelier is suspended from the centre, and a gas stove for the winter months, stands in the centre of the room. Book cases with choice works, writing table, photographs, drawings, etc., muffles, and other very interesting articles are most artistically arranged, and framed Latin mottoes, such as "Audi, Vide, Tace," convey to the mind that we are to keep our eyes and ears open, and mouth closed.

The next floor is octagonal, 30 feet square, with eight louvre board windows, and contains the principal occupants of the tower, viz., the bells, some of which are over 300 years old, clothed with excellent ornamental inscriptions. All hang on one level, on a sort of double frame, apparently one tier above the ground, with sawdust underneath to modify the sound. They have lately been rehung by Messrs. Taylor, and a large Bourdon hour bell by the same firm, weighing 73 cwt., in Bp, at one end in a separate frame, and this, with the Westminster chimes on the second, third, fourth, and seventh, marks the fleeting hours.

The next landing place is the roof, from which a fine view of the English Channel is obtained. I may add that the tower is now in the excellent charge of a Guild of ringers, who do not receive payment for their services. The customary fees are paid to them for ringing, and deposited in a fund, from which the necessary expenses are paid, in fact, the whole tower is a credit to the President, the Guild, and Mr. Falconer, the steeplekeeper, and the very best thanks of the visitors are due to them all for their kindness, and I now take this opportunity of putting it "in black and white."

In the afternoon, a delightful drive was enjoyed, the first object being Chichester Cross, built by Bishop Storey; it is 50 feet high, and one of the finest of its kind in the kingdom.

After going five or six miles, Bognor was reached, and after an hour or two's walk by the sea-side, the party drove back for tea, and having again thanked their kind friends for the very cordial manner in which they had been received, the remainder of the party returned to town, and to use the well-worn expression, "well pleased with their outing."

F. E. DAWE.

## ALL SOULS' SOCIETY, HALIFAX.

On Saturday last, July 25th, the above company had their Annual Excursion, Durham being the place chosen. Halifax was left at 10.13 p.m. on Friday, and Durham was reached at 6.0 on Saturday morning. After a slight luncheon the beautiful wooded banks of the river Wear was visited, boating was also indulged in, when an adjournment was made to "The Three Tuns" Hotel, the head-quarters for the day, where a good substantial breakfast was done justice too. The Castle was afterwards visited, and through the kindness of Mr. Hilton, who at one time resided at Birks Hall, the party were conducted through the interior, where the beautiful tapestry, wood carvings, &c. were much admired. Crossing the green to the cathedral, where, through the generosity of the Dean, and under the most able guidance of Mr. Liddell, senior verger, the ringers were shown through parts of the cathedral not open to an ordinary visitor: the beautiful marble floor of the chancel, and the stained glass windows, illustrating the life of Christ. The chapter house, lady chapel, and the old prison were much commented on. After a good dinner—the catering of "The Three Tuns" was excellent—Durham was left at 4.21 p.m., and Harrogate, reached at 6.35 p.m., where a pleasant two hours were spent in rambling about the town; Harrogate left at 8.30 p.m., and reaching Halifax shortly before midnight, all having thoroughly enjoyed themselves.

## THE SOUTHPORT SOCIETY, LANCASHIRE.

On Tuesday, July 21st, the members of the above Society had their annual outing to Llangollen. They enjoyed themselves on their handbells, and by admiring the beautiful scenery around in the early part of the day. In the afternoon they went to Wrexham, a distance of ten miles, where they were met by Messrs. Evans and Parry of the Wrexham company, and with the assistance of these very courteous gentlemen, rang a touch of Treble Bob Major on the back eight of the ring of ten at the parish church. Also a touch each of Grandsire Caters and Treble Bob Royal; tenor 28 cwt. The tone and the go of the bells are all that could be desired. The party arrived home again by train about 9.30 p.m., after having had a very pleasant time of it. The Christ Church society wish, through the medium of "THE BELL NEWS," to return their best thanks to the Vicar and churchwardens, and for the use of the bells, and also to Mr. R. Evans, for the very kind and courteous manner in which he received them.



## THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

ON Saturday, July 5th, a District Meeting of the above Association was held at Harwich, by kind permission of the vicar, when thirty-six members assembled. Ringing commenced on the bells of the parish church soon after one o'clock, and was carried on till four o'clock, at which hour tea was provided at the "Great Eastern Hotel." The Business Meeting was held immediately after the tea, the chair being taken by the Rev. G. W. Druce, Vicar of Harwich, who was supported by the Rev. H. A. Cockey, Hon. Sec., the Rev. C. Ironmonger, Mr. J. Durrant, and Mr. H. W. Parker. The minutes of the last meeting having been read, the following members were elected: Honorary: The Rev. Canon King (Leigh), the Rev. G. W. Druce (Harwich), Jas. Round, Esq., M.P., J. R. Franks, Esq., J.P., Dr. Evans, Dr. Hardwick, Mr. J. Durrant, and Mr. W. Groom. Ringing Members: Messrs. F. Tillet, R. H. Brundle, A. R. Aldham, E. Pemberton, W. L. Catchpole, and W. Meadows (Ipswich), J. Scowen, and G. S. Scowen (Hadleigh), as Distinguished Ringers. A. Nash (Dedham), J. Brewster, G. Knock, C. Ramplin, D. Huff, W. Easter, T. Aldis, A. Peachey, W. Green, and H. W. Parker (Harwich), as Probationers. The election of T. Scarlett, and A. P. Heywood, Esq., at Walthamstow, on the occasion of an attempted peal on Whit-Monday, was confirmed. Mr. H. W. Parker, leader of the Harwich band, spoke of the great pleasure it had given him to arrange for the reception of the Association at Harwich on the occasion of their first visit to the town, and expressed a wish that any members who might live near enough to do so, would come over now and then to help on the young band which had just become affiliated to the Association. He was sorry to say that at Harwich they were not able to invite ringers to their belfry as often as they could wish, owing to the great dislike which several of their townsmen had to hearing the bells rung oftener than was absolutely necessary, some of them complaining strongly even of their weekly practice. The Hon. Secretary, in proposing a vote of thanks to the Vicar and Churchwardens, and Mr. Parker, for their very kind reception of his fellow ringers, expressed a hope that those members who had that day met together at Harwich, would not forget to give the benefit of their knowledge of change-ringing to those who might be trying to become proficient in the art, being well-assured that sooner or later they would themselves reap some advantage from their labour in finding skilful ringers ready to join in a touch with them, where but for their own efforts, there would have been none. The Vicar and Mr. Durrant having responded, the meeting came to an end, and the bells were again set going for about a couple of hours; most of the ringers leaving Harwich by the 8.10 train. In the morning a few members of the Association paid a visit to Ramsey, on their way to Harwich. The bells there, a fine melodious ring of five, tenor about 16 cwt., were found to be in a very bad state as regards their fittings. But as the party included an experienced bell-hanger, they set to work, aided by the Vicar, and after an hour spent in splicing ropes, fitting stays and sliders, etc., were able to raise the five, but could only ring the twenty-four changes on the front four, and afterwards a few rounds on the five. An adjournment was then made to the Vicarage, where refreshments had been kindly provided, and after two courses of Grandsire Triples on the handbells, the journey to Harwich was continued. It is to be hoped that we shall soon hear of steps being taken to rehang this beautiful ring.

## THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

NOTICE is hereby given that a District Meeting will be held at Horsham on Monday, August 3rd (Bank Holiday). All ringers are invited. The following are the arrangements for the day: 9.30 a.m.: ringing will commence at St. Mary's, the parish church of Horsham, (8 bells, tenor 24 cwt.). The towers of Crawley (8 bells, tenor 13½ cwt.); Billingshurst (6 bells, tenor 12½ cwt.), and Slinfold (6 bells, tenor 13 cwt.), will also be open for ringing during the day. At 1 p.m. a cold luncheon will be provided, tickets 2s. each. Application for tickets to be made to me. At 6 p.m., short service in the parish church (members are particularly requested to attend). 6.30 p.m., tea will be served. At 7.15 p.m., an extraordinary general meeting for business purposes. GEO. F. ATTREE, Hon. Sec.

## SPALDING, LINCOLNSHIRE.

ON Monday, July 27th, Sergeant Bulmer, of Spalding, winner of the Queen's Prize, met with a magnificent reception. He was received at the station by the full band of the 2nd Lincoln Volunteers, and such a mass of people as was never witnessed in Spalding before, who paraded the principal streets of the town. The bells of the parish church gave him a hearty welcome by ringing a 720 of Bob Minor. J. W. Jarvis, 1; C. Neaverson, 2; G. L. Richardson, 3; R. Mackman, 4; J. S. Wright, 5; J. Brown, 6. At 6 o'clock, a sumptuous dinner was provided at the Corn Exchange by Mr. J. Harper, White Hart Hotel, to which upwards of 500 sat down, including the ringers, who were kindly invited by Lieut. Hobson.

## THE BIRMINGHAM AMALGAMATED SOCIETY AT WORCESTER.

ON Saturday last, July 25th, the members of this Society had their annual outing, the place selected for the visit being the diocesan city—Worcester. They left Birmingham as early as 8.25 a.m., arriving at their destination after about an hour's ride, and there they met with three of the members of the Holt Society, of Aston-juxta-Birmingham. The visitors were met at Worcester Station by Mr. James Hinton, sen., who as many of our readers are aware is totally deaf, not being able to hear the least sound; even if a gun was discharged close to his head he would be unable to hear it. He is, however, a good ringer, and is one of a family whose abilities in the art have always stood high in the estimation of local ringers. Previous arrangements having been made, Mr. Hinton conducted the visitors to the Royal Porcelain Works, where they witnessed the various operations necessary for the manufacture of that beautiful ware known as Worcester china—grinding, mixing, turning, painting, gilding, enamelling, etc. Through the kindness of the Rev. Canon Cattley, a good examination of the noble Cathedral and grand peal of bells was made, but owing to something being amiss with the huge frame-work supporting the bells, no ringing could be had. Leaving the sacred pile, a ramble was had through the principal streets of the "faithful city," and the various places of interest—generally of some worth in our ancient Cathedral cities—were seen. The Guildhall, a handsome structure, with its interesting relics, and the Museum was also visited. But as time wore on the party became sensible to the requirements of what is known as "the inner man," and a move was made to "The Shades" inn, where an excellent dinner was enjoyed with gusto. The church of All Saints, having a noble square tower towering above all the other ones in the city except the cathedral, with a very good ring of ten, was visited, and by the kindness of those in authority a touch of Grandsire Caters was rung. Then to St. Helen's church, a ring of eight, where some Grandsire and Stedman Triples were rung. A social hour was spent in the evening at the house of Mr. H. Baker, New Street—"The Greyhound." The handbells were here extensively patronised. The major part of the company returned to Birmingham by the 7.55 train, well pleased with their few hours' sojourn in such an interesting city as Worcester. Messrs. J. Carter and T. Horton remained behind, and were hospitably received by Mr. J. Hinton, sen., who entertained them also by tunes and courses on the handbells, which he tapped off, the bells being placed in a box similar to the plan of Elijah Roberts. The visitors were greatly surprised to see a ringer who is so afflicted with a deafness, now it is afraid, past removal, being able to tap handbells with such precision. But ringing skill is not confined to one member of the Hinton family. On the Sunday morning Mr. J. Hinton, jun., arrived from Bristol, and at St. Helen's church, for morning service, 503 of Grandsire Triples was rung. The whole of the visitors wish, through the medium of this paper, to thank the Rectors of All Saints and St. Helen's, the Rev. Canon Cattley, and their various brother-strings, for enhancing the pleasure of their visit.

## CAVENDISH, SUFFOLK.

ON Tuesday, July 21st, the nuptials of Miss Prentice, daughter of Mr. William Prentice, of the "White Horse," Cavendish, and Mr. J. S. Page, a member of the Cavendish Company, were celebrated at the parish church. In honour of the happy event his brother-ringers met at the church, and rang immediately after the ceremony a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob Minor, in 25½ mins., and a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor, in 25 mins. After a short interval for refreshment, a 720 of Plain Bob was rung in 23½ mins. An adjournment was then made to the "White Horse," where a capital spread had been prepared by the bride's father, to which ample justice was done. After the cloth had been removed, and the "port" handed round, the chairman (Mr. Alexander Hurst) requested the presence of the happy pair, and gave in suitable terms the toast of their health. After wishing them much happiness, he (the chairman) paid a graceful tribute to the interest which their brother-ringer had manifested in Cavendish ringing, which had enabled them to do so much in the art, and his earnest desire was that in the future their friend would find time to assist Cavendish ringing, and by his strict attention (for they all knew he had the ability) prove an ornament to it. Mr. Page responded in a few well-chosen sentences. After an enjoyable afternoon, another move was made for St. Mary's tower, and a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob rung in 26 mins. The rest of the evening was spent in the "White Horse" in a most enjoyable manner, the liberality of Mr. Prentice being most marked and bountiful. The following rang in the foregoing 720's. Fred. J. Thompson, 1; Fred. Paul Adams, 2; Chas. W. Hurst, 3; Albert Ives, 4; Harry Thompson, 5; Alexander Hurst (conductor), 6. Mr. J. T. Deeks also took part in 120 of Bob Doubles. Throughout the day the striking was really excellent, and drew forth many an expression of praise, everything attempted being brought home without a hitch.

## THE SHIPWAY REPRINT

May now be obtained of all news agents in town and country. As in this shape the number of copies printed will only be just enough to cover the demand, it is obvious that those who neglect to obtain the numbers at once will not afterwards have the opportunity.

Each number contains sixteen pages, size of page being the same as the original work, and having about the same quantity of matter per page. Mr. Snowdon will probably add a valuable contribution to the work in the shape of an appendix.

The numbers are printed in a popular style, and on superior paper.

## PRICE ONE PENNY.

PUBLISHED BY 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.

W. S.—Before the end of the year, at any rate.

B. FAKENHAM (of Woolwich) writes:—"Sir,—Permit me to express my gratification at the style and quality of the paper of the Shipway reprint for if it had been offered at two pence per copy instead of a penny I should have been glad to have taken it even then."

AUDITOR TANTUM.—Yes, please.

G. P. C.—Have a good try. You'll not be let off so easy next time.

## The Bell News &amp; Ringers' Record.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 1, 1885.

The correspondence which has recently occurred in our columns relative to the performance of a peal of Bob Major at the town of West Malling, in Kent, is sufficient to give rise to the opinion that many peals recorded as having been rung are not altogether what they should be. If it is agreed that this performance at the above-named Kentish town was just what its conductor ingenuously stated it to be—and we ourselves have no reason to think or believe otherwise—yet the correspondence upon the matter is apt to beget a conviction that in these quiet little places, the names of which do not figure upon the schoolboy's map of England, many of these ringing feats will not always bear the strictest inquiry, or sustain the closest examination.

It is not the first time that a performance recorded in our pages as a truthful one has been brought into question. Some time ago a similar instance to the one under consideration occurred, correspondence about which we thought ought to cease long before we stopped it. And here it may be said, that while anything in the way of irregular or incorrect ringing ought to be brought to

light, it is at all times to be wished that disputants should carry on their discussions not only in a gentlemanly manner, but in a brotherly spirit, each side, while exhibiting their wish for real fairness, having for their prime object only the establishment of truth.

The necessity for acquiring a little refinement both in character and language becomes every day more apparent. And to those who enter the lists of argument there is no advice more salutary than this. The illwill and division caused by heated language has been a stumbling-block to many, and has been productive of much evil in many ringing companies. It is still to be feared that when differences of opinion arise, singleness of purpose is not always shown in their debate.

## The Provinces.

CHICHESTER, SUSSEX.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

On Saturday, July 18, 1885, in Three Hours and Eight Minutes,

AT THE CATHEDRAL CAMPANILE,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S TEN-PART. Tenor 27 cwt. in Eb.

JAMES R. HAWORTH .. .. Treble.	J. MARTIN ROUTH, Esq. .. 5.
RICHARD FRENCH .. .. 2.	FRANCIS E. DAWE .. .. 6.
GEORGE MASH .. .. 3.	JOHN M. HAYES .. .. 7.
CHALLIS F. WINNY .. .. 4.	EDWIN HORREX .. .. Tenor.

Conducted by FRANCIS EDWARD DAWE.

This is the first peal on the bells, many of which are 300 years old. The ringers wish to tender their most sincere thanks to the Dean and Chapter for kindly allowing them the use of the Cathedral bells on this occasion.

All the above company hail from London. (For particulars see separate account.)

DUFFIELD, DERBYSHIRE.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

Wedding Peal.

On Thursday, July 23, 1885, in Two Hours and Forty-eight Minutes,

AT ALL SAINTS' CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S 10-PART. Tenor 16½ cwt.

GEORGE DAWSON .. .. Treble.	GEORGE HINGLEY .. .. 5.
ARTHUR BERTRAM WARD .. 2.	ROBERT JOHNSON .. .. 6.
EVAN MORETON .. .. 3.	JOHN HOWE .. .. 7.
WILLIAM HICKLING .. .. 4.	SAMUEL JOHNSON .. .. Tenor.

Conducted by ARTHUR BERTRAM WARD.

This peal was rung in honor of the marriage of H.R.H. Princess Beatrice with H.R.H. Prince Henry of Battenberg.

BURTON-ON-TRENT, STAFFORDSHIRE.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION AND THE ST. PAUL'S SOCIETY, BURTON-ON-TRENT.

Wedding Peal.

On Thursday, July 23, 1885, in Three Hours and Twenty Minutes,

AT ST. PAUL'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES; Tenor 26 cwt.

REV. JAMES H. FISH .. .. Treble.	A. PERCIVAL HEYWOOD .. 5.
HARRY WAKLEY .. .. 2.	JOHN JAGGAR .. .. 6.
ARTHUR WAKLEY .. .. 3.	THOMAS HOLMES .. .. 7.
JOSEPH GRIFFIN .. .. 4.	WILLIAM WAKLEY .. .. Tenor.

Composed and Conducted by JOHN JAGGAR.

This peal, which is now rung for the first time, is a two-part peal, and contains the 6th twenty-two times wrong and twenty-four times right. It is the 16th peal of Double Norwich rung by the above society, and the conductor's 50th peal, the 50 being made up as follows: Stedman Caters, 1; Superlative Surprise, 5; Double Norwich, 15; Stedman Triples, 7; Treble Bob, 14; Grandsire Triples, 8. The above was rung on the occasion of the marriage of Princess Beatrice. The figures of the peal will appear in a future number.

WORSLEY.—THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Thursday, July 23, 1885, in Two Hours and Fifty-five Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

REEVES'S VARIATION. Tenor 21 cwt.

FREDERICK DERBYSHIRE .. .. Treble.	RICHARD RIDYARD .. .. 5.
GEORGE LEE* .. .. 2.	THOMAS DERBYSHIRE .. .. 6.
JOHN WELSBY .. .. 3.	JOHN BAGULEY .. .. 7.
JAMES HENRY RIDYARD .. .. 4.	SAMUEL FRYER .. .. Tenor.

Conducted by JAMES HENRY RIDYARD.

\* First peal. J. Welsby hails from Walkden; the rest are the local company.

HULL, YORKSHIRE.—THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

Wedding Peal.

On Thursday, July 23, 1885, in Two Hours and Fifty-five Minutes,

AT HOLY TRINITY CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

REV. C. D. P. DAVIES' No. 4. Tenor 25 cwt.

ALGERNON TAYLOR .. .. Treble.	HARRY CUTTER .. .. 5.
CHARLES JACKSON .. .. 2.	JAMES DIXEY .. .. 6.
WILLIAM SOUTHWICK .. .. 3.	FRANK DRABBLE .. .. 7.
HENRY JENKINS .. .. 4.	CHARLES BENNETT .. .. Tenor.

Conducted by CHARLES JACKSON.

This peal will be found on p. 52<sup>r</sup> (vol. 2) of "THE BELL NEWS," and is now rung for the first time on the occasion of the marriage of H.R.H. Princess Beatrice.

ECCLES.—THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, July 25, 1885, in Three Hours and Six Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5040 CHANGES.

Tenor 13½ cwt.

EDWARD CASH .. .. Treble.	JAMES BARRATT .. .. 5.
JOHN WELSBY* .. .. 2.	JAMES WOOD .. .. 6.
ALFRED EGGINGTON .. .. 3.	SAMUEL WOOD .. .. 7.
WILLIAM JAMES* .. .. 4.	*WILLIAM DAVIES .. .. Tenor.

Composed and conducted by SAMUEL WOOD.

\* First peal in the method. Messrs. Wood Bros. hail from Ashton; Welsby from Walkden; James and Davies from Liverpool; the rest are the local company.

NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, July 27, 1885, in Two Hours and Fifty-one Minutes,

AT ST. JOHN'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

VICARS'S COMPOSITION. Tenor 12½ cwt.

ROBERT J. ROBSON* .. .. Treble.	†CHARLES L. ROUTLEDGE .. .. 5.
THOMAS DENTON .. .. 2.	EDWARD WALLIS .. .. 6.
HENRY FERGUSON* .. .. 3.	†WILLIAM STORY .. .. 7.
FRANCIS LEES .. .. 4.	*JOHN DIBOLL .. .. Tenor.

Conducted by EDWARD WALLIS.

\* First peal. † First peal of Triples. This is the first peal in this method on the bells. The 2nd, 6th, and tenor men belong to the Old Newcastle Society, and the rest to the St. John's Guild, Newcastle.

Date Touch.

THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

BEDFORD.—On Thursday, July 23rd, at St. Mary's church, date touch of 1885 changes in the following methods: 85 of Plain Bob, 360 College Single, and a 720 each of Kent and Oxford Treble Bob Minor, in 1 hr. 3 mins. S. Cullip, 1; J. Frossell, 2; T. Foote, 3; J. Atkins, 4; C. W. Clarke (conductor), 5; I. Hills, 6. Tenor 8 cwt. in B.

Miscellaneous.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

SUNDERLAND.—On Saturday, July 25th, at the parish church, 720 each of Oxford Bob and Plain Bob, and 480 of Grandsire Minor, with the tenor covering. W. Henderson, 1; R. Oliver, 2; T. Nanson,

3; J. Chapman, 4; J. Campbell, 5; F. Harrison (conductor), 6; J. Miller, 7. The above company hail from Jarlow with the exception of the third and seventh ringers. Tenor 14 cwt.

JARLOW.—On Sunday, July 26th, for Divine Service in the evening, a 720 of College Single, in 23 mins. W. Baxter, 1; A. English, 2; W. Henderson, 3; J. Chapman, 4; J. Campbell, 5; F. Harrison (conductor), 6. Tenor 8½ cwt.

THE ST. JAMES'S SOCIETY, LONDON.

LEWISHAM (Kent).—On Tuesday, July 28th, eight members of the above Society made an unsuccessful attempt to ring the Rev. C. D. P. Davies' five-part peal of Grandsire Triples, at St. Mary's church, the peal coming to grief after 2000 changes were completed, in 1 hr. 5 mins. Harry William Grout, 1; William Pead, 2; William Weatherstone, 3; William Henry Freeman, 3; Frederick William Thornton, 5; William Henry Bowles, 6; Abraham George Freeman, 7; Joseph Laws, 8. Conducted by William W. Thornton, and rung to celebrate the 20th birthday of Harry W. Grout, both of St. Alphege, Greenwich. Another lengthy touch of Grandsire Triples was also rung by the same band, with the exception of William Pead, whose place was taken by William G. Shade. Conducted by Abraham George Freeman. Tenor 23 cwt. in Eb.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION AND ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

BRAINTREE (Essex).—On Sunday, July 19th, for Divine Service, a 720 of Morning Exercise. F. Bumpstead, 1; F. Calthorpe, 2; S. Hammond (conductor), 3; H. E. Hammond, 4; F. Rudkin, 5; Ezra Carter, 6. On the occasion of the wedding of Prince Henry of Battenberg and Princess Beatrice, July 22nd, seven 720's in seven different methods was rung during the day, the methods and ringers as follows: 720 of Oxford Treble Bob at 6.0 a.m., 720 of New London at 11.0 a.m., 720 of London Scholars at 12 a.m., 720 of Cambridge Surprise, 720 of College Exercise, 720 of Woodbine at one standing at 5.0 p.m., 720 of Kent Treble Bob at 8.30 p.m. F. Bumpstead, 1; F. Calthorpe, 2; S. Hammond, 3; H. E. Hammond, 4; F. Rudkin (conductor), 5; A. Hucksion, 6.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

CHERITON (Kent).—On Sunday, July 26th, at the parish church, for Divine Service in the evening, a 720 of Bob Minor, in 27 mins. A. Beer (Lyminge), 1; R. Andrews (Lyminge), 2; W. Driscoll (Cheriton), 3; J. Andrews (Lyminge), 4; F. Rolfe (Cheriton), 5; A. Tanton (Lyminge; conductor), 6. Tenor 7½ cwt.

MEREWORTH (Kent).—On Sunday, July 19th, at St. Lawrence's church, a 720 of Bob Minor (eighteen bobs and two singles), in 25 mins. W. Bellingham, 1; G. Bishop, sen., 2; F. G. Newman, 3; G. Bishop, jun., 4; W. Eldridge, 5; H. Pearce (conductor), 6. Tenor about 12 cwt. These bells have lately been rehung by Messrs. Mears and Stainbank, of Whitechapel.

ALDINGTON (Kent).—On Thursday, July 23rd, at St. Martin's church, a 720 of Bob Minor (twenty-two singles and eight bobs), in 27 mins. Charles Slingsby, 1; David Hodgkin, 2; William Post, jun., 3; Fred Wanstall, 4; W. Hyder (conductor), 5; Philip Hodgkin, 6. Also a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob Minor (twelve bobs), in 27 mins. C. Slingsby, 1; D. Hodgkin, 2; Edward Hyder, 4; F. Wanstall, 4; W. Hyder (conductor), 5; P. Hodgkin, 6. The above was rung in honour of the marriage of Princess Beatrice to Prince Henry of Battenberg. Tenor 14 cwt in G.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

HAUGHTON (Lancashire).—*Birthday Peal.*—On Sunday, July 26th, for Divine Service in the morning at St. Anne's church, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor, in 28 mins. James A. Thomas, 1; John Bardsley, 2; Wm. Wilde (conductor), 3; John S. Leech, 4; John Howard, 5; Peter Smith, 6. And for Divine Service in the evening, a 720 of Plain Bob Minor, in 27 mins. John S. Leech, 1; John Bardsley, 2; Wm. Wilde, 3; James A. Thomas, 4; John Howard, 5; Peter Smith (conductor), 6. Tenor 15 cwt. in G. These were rung to commemorate the 21st birthday of Wm. Wilde, and his brother ringers wish him many happy returns of the day.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

BINFIELD (Berks).—On Saturday, July 25th, at the parish church of All Saints', a 720 of Grandsire Minor, in 27 mins. T. Woolford (first 720 of Minor), 1; F. Bissley, 2; H. Rogers, 3; W. A. Garraway (conductor), 4; R. Smith, 5; E. Rogers, 6. Tenor about 12 cwt. The above is the first 720 of Minor on the bells, which were augmented to six by the addition of a treble about 3 years ago by Messrs. Mears and Stainbank.

**BLACKBURN (Lancashire).**—On Wednesday, July 22nd, at the Parish Church, for practice, a 720 of Grandsire Minor, in 27 mins. E. J. Gorse, 1; H. Sagar, 2; R. Lund, 3; T. Sharples, 4; W. Clark (conductor), 5; S. Aldrich, 6.

**CAPEL (Surrey).**—On Sunday, July 26th, the Capel ringers, with some friends, rang a 720 of College Exercise Minor. G. Williams, 1; A. Tidy, 2; R. Jordan, 3; E. Jordan, 4; W. Wadey, 5; D. Jordan (conductor), 6. Also 240 in the same method. G. Moore, 1; A. Tidy, 2; R. Jordan, 3; H. Chantler, 4; W. Wadey, 5; D. Jordan, 6. Also a 720 of Kent Treble Bob. G. Moore, 1; A. Tidy, 2; G. Williams, 3; R. Jordan, 4; E. Jordan, 5; D. Jordan (conductor), 6. G. Williams hails from Reigate; W. Wadey from Billingshurst; H. Chantler from Warnham.

**EASTHAM (Cheshire).**—On Saturday, July 18th, at St. Mary's church a 720 of Plain Bob Minor (sixteen bobs and two singles), in 25½ mins. H. Coley, 1; C. E. Wilson (conductor), 2; T. R. Somerville, 3; T. Rushton, 4; R. Stockley, 5; J. Hughes, 6. Tenor 14 cwt. in A. H. Coley hails from Liverpool; Wilson, Somerville, Rushton, and Stockley from Walton; and J. Hughes belongs to the local company.

**HAMPSTEAD (Middlesex).**—On Tuesday, July 21st, the local company rang on St. Stephen's bells, a 1133 of Grandsire Caters. S. Clarke, 1; G. Newson (conductor), 2; B. Payne, 3; B. Foskett, 4; H. Tyler, 5; C. Deal, 6; W. Pryor, 7; N. Alderman, 8; E. Chapman, 9; W. Arcsott, 10. This was rung on the occasion of a double wedding at the Parish Church: the eldest surviving son and the third daughter of Mr. Bell, Churchwarden, of Bayford House, Rosslyn Park, were married—the former to Miss Mary Jessie M. Wahl, of Newwied, on the Rhine, the ceremony being performed by the Rev. M. G. Tracy, senior curate; and the latter to Mr. Arthur Swayne Underwood, son of Mr. Thomas Underwood, of Bedford Square, the service being read by the Rev. S. B. Burnaby, assisted by the Rev. John Swayne, vicar of Willingale Doe, Essex, and the Rev. Francis Key Underwood, curate of St. Andrews, Wells Street, and brother of the bridegroom.

**KIRK ELLA (Yorks).**—On Monday, July 27th, on the occasion of the opening of the Hull and Barnsley Railway for passenger traffic, the following company from Hull rang at the parish church, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor, in 28 mins. C. Bennett, 1; A. Taylor (conductor), 2; F. Drabble, 3; J. Dixey, 4; W. Southwick, 5; C. Jackson, 6. Tenor 20 cwt. The company afterwards spent a pleasant hour in ringing courses and tunes upon the handbells, songs and recitations, and returned to Hull by the new railway.

**LIVERSEDGE (Yorkshire).**—*Muffled Peal.*—On Thursday, July 23rd, at Christ Church, the local company rang 1248 of Kent Treble Bob Major, with the bells deeply muffled in memory of the late Mr. George Carter, of Tong, who was interred that day, and followed by a numerous party of ringers. He had been a ringing visitor at Liversedge for nearly 50 years, and was highly esteemed by his brother ringers. J. Whitworth, 1; J. Knott, 2; W. Firth, 3; L. Illingworth, 4; H. Brook, 5; M. Ramsden, 6; G. Illingworth, 7; W. Collins (conductor), 8.

**MELBOURNE (Derbyshire).**—On Sunday, July 26th, for morning service, the local company rang 240 of Bob Minor. J. R. Wood, 1; G. A. Fish, 2; J. Vickers, 3; F. W. Cook, 4; T. Hollingworth, 5; T. C. Tunicliff (conductor), 6. Also for evening service, a 180 of Bob Minor, the band standing as before, and a 6-score of Bob Doubles, conducted by T. Hollingworth. Tenor 16 cwt.

**OCKLEY (Surrey).**—On Sunday, July 26th, four of the Capel ringers, with W. Wadey, of Billingshurst, and H. Chantler of Warnham, rang at St. Margaret's church a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob Minor. G. Moore, 1; A. Mills, 2; W. Wadey, 3; R. Jordan, 4; D. Jordan, 5; H. Chantler (conductor), 6. Also a 360 of Kent Treble Bob. G. Moore, 1; R. Jordan, 2; W. Wadey, 3; A. Mills, 4; D. Jordan (conductor), 5; H. Chantler, 6.

**PRESTON (Suffolk).**—On Tuesday evening, July 21st, at St. Mary's Church, a 252 of Bob Minor (eight singles and three bobs). Hy. Symonds (conductor), 1; Wm. Hollocks, 2; A. Symonds, 3; H. Smith, 4; G. Hammond, 5; J. Bird, 6. The above was rung in honour of the twenty-first birthday of the 2nd ringer, being the number of months he has now lived, his brother ringers wishing him many happy returns of the day. Also a 720 in the same method (fourteen bobs and two singles), in 27 mins. Hy. Symonds, 1; Wm. Hollocks, 2; P. C. S. Scott (conductor), 3; A. Hollocks, 4; G. Hammond, 5; J. Bird, 6. Messrs. Scott, Hammond, and Bird hail from Long Melford, Symonds and Smith from Lavenham; the rest belong to the local company.

**WOMBURN (Staffordshire).**—On Sunday morning, July 26th, a 720 of Plain Bob Minor (eighteen bobs and two singles), in 26 mins. G. Deans, 1; \*A. Little, 2; H. Deans, 3; \*W. Devey, 4; \*R. Cartwright (conductor), 5; J. E. Claridge, 6. Tenor about 12 cwt. \*Midland Counties' Association.

#### ST. JOHN'S COMPANY, PIMLICO, MIDDLESEX.

On Saturday, July 11th, the young band of ringers from the above church enjoyed their annual outing. About 8.30 a.m. all assembled at St. John's, Wilton Road, and when all was ready, the first thing was to be photographed on the steps of the mission-house, which has since proved quite a success, as they were well arranged with the principals seated in front, holding a pair of handbells, and whilst all the others were standing on the steps holding one each, but as a few members could not possibly be there until later in the day, it was decided that Mr. Bailey, the photographer, should accompany the party for the purpose of taking further negatives. Shortly afterwards, an enormous arrangement with an *upstairs* and a *downstairs* hove in sight, and drove up with three horses, and the party having taken seat, started in a northern direction for Hertfordshire. Nothing of interest took place until a stoppage was made half-way, and here the feelings of all were damped at witnessing a most determined suicide only a few yards in front. Later on in the morning, four of them rung a touch of Grandsire Triples on the handbells whilst riding along, and at last the illustrious party arrived at the very picturesque village of Northaw, and having had a wash, the pretty church of St. Thomas a'Becket was first visited. The belfry contains six bells, tenor 10 cwt. in A natural, and all went so well, that it was very pleasant to handle them, even on such a hot day. The ringing-room is a well appointed apartment, the cleanliness and fittings of which does one's heart good to see, and is one of the nicest six bell towers possible to find. All having had a pull, a good dinner was the next on the programme, after which the party visited the hayfields, and then went boating on a very sequestered and most beautiful lake about thirty feet deep. Here the party enjoyed themselves among the trees round it, and on it, whilst a gallant few sought refuge in it, in order to be better acquainted therewith; and as St. John's can boast of having several prize winners at swimming, the spectacle was pleasing and interesting in the extreme.

After tea, the Rev. W. S. Kelly, and the Rev. O. P. Yerburch, made a few remarks, saying how glad they were to see so many present, and that everyone had so thoroughly enjoyed themselves. Mr. F. E. Dawe in returning thanks, said it was always a pleasure to be with such a promising and first class company, as he had originally learnt to ring at St. John's, and some excellent ringers had been turned out from there, and that many more promised to be quite as good, and he and Mr. Gover, as the leaders, could always depend on what support they required. A vote of thanks to the Rev. W. Bonsey, for the use of the bells, and his kindness to them, was then passed. Several 120's of Grandsire Doubles were then rung on the tower bells (which it may be remembered were opened by this company some thirteen months ago), and after the Rev. W. Bonsey had accomplished his first 120 with the treble, and the handbells had been rung on the vicarage lawn, two more photographs were taken of the party, which consisted of the Rev. W. S. Kelly, Rev. O. P. Yerburch, Messrs. F. E. Dawe, F. T. Gover, C. F. Winny, J. H. Martyn, J. Pullman, R. A. Sparkes, C. Teesdale, R. C. Hart, C. Simmonds, F. Gross, A. Woolley, W. C. Holden, A. Hart, H. Walsh, A. Ayres, W. Chew, H. Woodford, and E. Harris. About 8 o'clock, the party mounted their chariot and started for London. Songs, etc., were freely indulged in, and the vocal powers of Mr. Ayres and others were well brought to the front, and at about 10.30 the merry-hearted charioteers pulled up in Wilton Road, all agreeing that they had spent a most enjoyable day.

#### CHRIST CHURCH SOCIETY, MITCHAM, SURREY.

On Saturday, July 25th, six members of the above society paid a visit to Mr. and Mrs. Harris, of Gorrings Park, Mitcham, (who are the donors of the bells), it being the anniversary of Mr. Harris's birthday, and rang some Grandsire Doubles on their handbells, after which they were very kindly entertained by Mr. and Mrs. Harris. Having refreshed the inner man, some more Doubles were rang on the handbells, and an adjournment was made to the church, where several six-scores of Grandsire Doubles were rung on the church bells. Having thus spent an hour in ringing on the church bells, another adjournment was made to Mr. Churchwarden Nobes' house, where an excellent tea was provided. Having done justice to the good things provided, the handbells were then again brought out, and some more Doubles rang by some, while others enjoyed themselves at Lawn Tennis, which brought a very pleasant evening too soon to a close. The ringers wish to thank Mr. and Mrs. Harris, and Mr. and Mrs. Nobes for their kindness, and hope that they may long be spared to enjoy the blessing of God. The ringers were very sorry that their kind Vicar, the Rev. F. S. Legg, was prevented being with them. H. J. Schneider (conductor), 1; J. Kohler, 2; D. Burtenshaw, 3; R. Reynolds, 4; E. Burtenshaw, 5; C. Schneider, 6. Tenor 7½ cwt. in Eb. Mr. A. Nicholson also took part in some handbell ringing.

## A VISIT TO STANFORD-LE-HOPE, ESSEX.

Readers of this journal will remember the detailed description, which we gave twelve months ago, of the new ring of six which had just been put up under the personal supervision of Mr. Gervas Holmes, at St. Margaret's, Stanford-le-Hope, the opening of which was hailed with delight by the natives, and was well deserving of the special attention of the Exercise at large. Doubtless some may have watched for reports of the progress made in the art upon such a magnificent maiden ring, hung with the most modern inventions the science has suggested, and with mechanism that is faultless. The village at present, whatever its future may be, is partly agricultural, and partly a fruit-growing district, the produce of the latter consisting of enormous quantities of delicious strawberries, which in season are daily sent for the mouths of the hardworking cockneys. A local band has been started, and under the able tuition of Mr. W. Eve, is making progress, but unfortunately a majority of the rising generation, like those in most agricultural districts, is a moving one, hence the absence of an elaborate report of progress. With a view of stimulating the natives to seek a knowledge of the art, and in order to enjoy a pull in such a model belfry, the following band of the Essex Association visited the village on Sunday, July 26th. J. Nunn (Walthamstow), A. Pye (Little Heath), C. Waskett, E. Scotcher, and H. Braizer (Widford), A. J. Perkins and B. Keeble (Romford). The band not only secured permission to ring, but received a hearty welcome from the rector, Dr. Sedgwick, and Mrs. Sedgwick, who also kindly provided dinner and tea in a marquee in front of the rectory, an act of kindness which was highly appreciated and duly acknowledged. The visit of the band evidently created some little attention in the village, the inhabitants listening to the ringing with apparent delight. In acknowledging the thanks of the band, Mrs. Sedgwick expressed the pleasure listening to the ringing had afforded her, and remarked that she considered it a clergyman's duty to take an interest in the belfry of his church and not allow it to become like those that when she requested permission to visit, she was informed was not fit for a lady to enter. The "go" of the bells remains as satisfactory as ever, and during the day the band rang 720 each of Plain, Oxford Treble, and Grandsire Minor, besides touches. There is not a shadow of doubt but what the rector is the right man in the right place, and takes as much interest in the tower and its contents, which were erected through his exertions, as he does with any other portion of the church. His hospitality, his welcome to the band, the entire use of the tower for the whole of the afternoon (dispensing with a short service), were such as is seldom met with; under such guardianship there is no reason why, with a little coaching, there should not exist a talented company at St. Margaret's. Mr. W. Eve, who has the local company in hand, kindly met the band on Sunday, and besides taking part in some of the ringing, left no stone unturned in adding to the day's pleasure. During the day a visit was paid to the top of the tower, from which can be seen for miles the surrounding country, with its golden fields of corn, some of which had already fallen before the reaper.

## THE RECENT ACCIDENT TO A RINGING PARTY.

The following sums have been received for the purpose of helping to defray the great loss sustained by Mr. H. F. Wood in this unfortunate affair:—

	s.	d.		s.	d.
Rev. E. S. ... ..	2	6	G. Dorrington ... ..	2	0
J. West ... ..	2	0	H. J. Shade ... ..	2	6
J. W. Snowdon, Esq. ... ..	10	0	G. Russell, Croydon ... ..	1	0
W. Banister ... ..	5	0	H. Pearce ... ..	2	0
Bedfordshire Association ... ..	5	0	F. Newman ... ..	2	0
St. Martin's, Salisbury ... ..	10	0	R. Turner ... ..	2	0
St. Peter's, Leeds, Yorks ... ..	5	0	T. Dupen ... ..	2	6
H. Edwards ... ..	2	6	W. Prime ... ..	2	0
J. Dwight ... ..	2	6	W. Cooter ... ..	2	6
I. Shade ... ..	5	0	J. Davidson ... ..	3	0
R. S. Story ... ..	5	0	Widford and Gallewood C.R. ... ..	5	0
E. Wallege ... ..	2	0	H. Lewis, St. Albans ... ..	5	0
J. Barrett ... ..	2	0	S. Joyce ... ..	2	6
J. Comb ... ..	5	0	J. H. Monday ... ..	5	6
Spalding, SS. Mary and Nicolas ... ..	3	0	M. A. Wood ... ..	10	0
D. Newton ... ..	1	0	A. Hayward ... ..	2	0
J. Dupen ... ..	2	0	W. Cecil ... ..	2	0
C. Lee ... ..	1	0	A. B. Goody ... ..	5	6
C. Beech ... ..	1	0	Mr. Lewis Green ... ..	2	0
J. West (second donation) ... ..	3	0	St. Mary's society, Walthamstow ... ..	10	0
J. Barry ... ..	1	0	Thomas Clark, Sharow, Ripon ... ..	5	0
T. Powell, Waltham Abbey ... ..	2	6	I. S. ... ..	5	0
J. Baxter, Leamington, late of ... ..	5	0	H. Dains ... ..	2	0
Devonport ... ..	2	6	C. A. Clements, Salisbury ... ..	2	6
J. R. Jerram, Salisbury ... ..	2	6	W. Story, Newcastle-on-Tyne ... ..	2	6
S. Margaret's Society, Wolsanton, ... ..	5	0	G. Banks, Lower Kennington Lane ... ..	2	6
Staffordshire ... ..	5	0	D. Newton (second subscription) ... ..	1	0

Further donations, however small, are urgently solicited. Mr. Matthew Wood, 11 Church Row, Bethnal Green, London, will be happy to give any further information, and will thankfully acknowledge any sums forwarded to him.

## THE WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

THIS Guild held its annual festival at Bournemouth, on Tuesday, July 21st. Members from all parts of the diocese arrived safely at this distant corner by 11.30, just in time for the service which commenced at St. Peter's church, at 12 o'clock. A beautiful and impressive service was performed by the efficient choir of this grand church. The prayers were said and the lesson read by the vicar, the Rev. G. S. Ram, and an able and interesting address was given to the ringers by the Rev. N. J. Spicer, M.A., Rector of Wonston. The text was Dan. iii., v. 4, 5. In it allusion was made to the history of the use of bells for purposes of calling people to the House of God, and especially in England. He remarked upon the great improvement that had taken place in late years in the reverence paid to belfries as integral parts of the House of God, and he exhorted the men to remember the sacredness and importance of their office, and that they had as much to do with the musical portion of church worship as the choir and organist. Two special hymns, set to music by Cameron Brock, Esq. (a performing member of the Guild) were admirably rendered by the choir.

A capital dinner was served in the Town Hall, at which about 160 members were assembled under the presidency of the President of the Guild, W. W. Moore, Esq., of Bournemouth, supported by the Rev. G. S. Ram, Rev. P. Lory, Rev. A. du B. Hill, Rev. F. Whyley, Rev. N. J. Spicer, Rev. T. H. Bush, W. Scott Evans, Esq., Gerard Hall, Esq., and the Rev. H. A. Spyers. At the conclusion of the dinner, the president proposed the toast of "The Queen," and alluded to the marriage of Princess Beatrice, which was to take place two days later. After this came the election of officers: W. W. Moore, Esq. was re-elected President, and the Rev. H. A. Spyers, Treasurer and Secretary, and all the old members of committee were re-elected. Thanks were given to the vicar of Bournemouth for the use of his belfry and the cordial welcome given to the Guild by the local band.

The Guild now numbers 235 performing members. Ten new bands have joined the Guild, and ten complete peals have been rung and inserted in the new peal-book, so that both as regards numbers and efficiency, the Guild bids fair to rank as one of the leading Associations of change-ringers in the kingdom. In the afternoon excursions were made to Poole, Wimborne, Ringwood (eight bells), and to Lyndhurst and Eling (six bells). At Poole the Soberton, Fareham, and Havant bands rang two 504s of Grandsire Triples, the men standing as follows: First 504—W. Naylor, 1; C. Privett, 2; J. Staples, 3; F. Hill (conductor), 4; J. Hewett, 5; G. H. Child, 6; J. W. Whiting, 7; G. Grafham, 8. Second 504—A. Payne, 1; J. Hewett, 2; G. Grafham, 3; F. Hill (conductor), 4; J. Staples, 5; G. H. Child, 6; J. W. Whiting, 7; H. Matthews, 8. At Wimborne Minster, on a grand ring (tenor 32 cwt.), some first-rate ringing was done by the Leatherhead band, including a 504 of Grandsire Triples. It was remarked by one of the local ringers that such good ringing had not been heard in Wimborne for the last twenty-four years. At St. Peter's, Bournemouth, touches of Grandsire were rung by the Privett, Farnham, Godalming, and Weybridge bands, assisted by the Rev. A. du B. Hill (the former secretary and founder of the Guild). Good accounts have been received of the ringing at Lyndhurst, Ringwood, and Eling. All parties are agreed that this year's meeting has been one of the most successful that has ever been held by the Association. Altogether twenty-three bands sent representatives to the festival.

## SPALDING, LINCOLNSHIRE.

On Wednesday, July 22nd, a committee meeting, to provide two new bells for SS. Mary and Nicolas, was held in the Guild Room under the presidency of Canon Moore. A. Maples, Esq., attended, and said it was the wish of his brothers and sisters they should give the treble bell, which was accepted, and W. J. E. Hobson, Esq., Secretary, announced that sufficient funds was now raised to complete the object in view. A small committee, consisting of Canon Moore, W. J. E. Hobson, Esq., W. Wright, Esq., engineer, was selected to carry out the scheme. Mr. J. Wright, bellhanger, was called in, and orders were given him to proceed at once with the work, Warner and Son being selected to supply the bells.

## ST. MARY'S, BEDDINGTON, SURREY.

THE members of the above Society will hold their sixteenth anniversary on Bank Holiday, August 3rd. Any ringers honoring the members with their company will receive a hearty welcome.

**WANTED.**—Thoroughly experienced church bell hanger for permanency. One who can take notes of bells preferred. None need apply but competent steady men, to GILLET & Co., Croydon.



## 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."

ELIJAH ROBERTS.

SIR,—Mr. Snowden's article in "THE BELL NEWS" of July 11th, on Elijah Roberts, will no doubt be read by the Exercise with much interest and curiosity, especially by those who, like myself, have had some experience in tapping change-ringing. Besides some special ability which a person must necessarily possess to enable him to proceed far with change-ringing in this manner, I have always been of opinion that only those who are great admirers of the music which change-ringing produces could ever have the patience to make much progress, and no doubt Elijah Roberts was an admirer in the highest degree. I commenced tapping changes about the middle of my teens, and have tapped off all the best known methods on five and six bells, to the extent of the changes, but never attempted more than plain courses and touches on higher numbers, for the reason that, whilst I could tap off a 720 on six bells with ease, less than half the number on eight would cause the muscles to ache intensely, which was produced, as I imagined, by the increased action of the arms. Under these circumstances I was inclined to believe that to tap a 5000 would be an impossibility without rest, not having heard of the extraordinary feats achieved by Elijah Roberts. The degree of easiness with which tapping can be performed, no doubt depends in a great measure on the position of the bells. Roberts' frame, as described by Mr. Snowden, is the best I ever saw, the large bells on one hand and the small ones on the other, and cover the least possible space. My bells, fourteen in number, size 21, old Eb, are hung in two rows of seven each, mouths downwards, the small bells running from right to left and the large ones left to right, and consequently take up a large space. As I believe there are several in the present day who more or less practice the tapping of changes in their leisure time, it would be interesting to know what progress they have made in this branch of the science.

Wakefield.

JNO. T. HOLLIS.

## BELLS AND RINGERS IN 1885.

SIR,—Your correspondent, Mr. W. J. Rees, has set me a somewhat difficult task in correcting his list. I have only been about two and a half years in Wiltshire, and I cannot possibly tell whether he has omitted any rings. I may say, however, that the ring at Berwick St. John's has just been augmented to six, which he has not mentioned. As to weights of tenors, the present tenor at Trowbridge (cast by Blews) weighs 23 cwt. The old one (by Wells), was only 21 cwt. St. Martin's, Salisbury, is 15 cwt. (not 13 cwt.) The old ringers used to say 19 cwt. St. Thomas, Salisbury, is generally supposed to weigh 32 cwt. Old ringers would tell you 36 cwt. or perhaps more. Wilton tenor is  $8\frac{1}{2}$  cwt.

J. R. JERRAM.

## A QUERY.

SIR,—In the belfry of St. Mary's, Kidderminster, there is a peal-board with the following inscription: "On Monday, August 29th, 1765, in 3 hours 11 minutes, was rung a peal of Grandsire Triples. T. Webb, 1; F. Rook, 2; J. Preen, 3; W. Pugh, 4; T. Little, 5; A. Peak, 6; J. Bradley, 6; B. Stone and E. Lewis, Tenor." No conductor's name is given. I should be very glad if any of your readers could give me any information about the ringers mentioned.

34, Park Walk, Fulham Road, S.W.

E. F. STRANGE.

## BELFRY REFORM.

SIR,—Since my first letter on the above subject, several correspondents have given their ideas thereon, and have touched upon some points hitherto unnoticed. To sum the matter up, the reform needed seems to be fourfold, viz.: (1), Reform in the use of church bells; (2), Reform in the ringers themselves; (3), Reform in the belfry arrangements, as to keeping everything in proper repair; (4), Reform in the manner of ringing (*i.e.*, the cultivation of scientific change-ringing). Now when I say that reform in all these four points is needed, I do not mean to imply that there are not a great many belfries in which all these four matters are carefully attended to, and many more in which one or more are looked to. Taking them in the order in which I have placed them, the first thing to be observed seems to me to be the use of bells for church purposes; that is, to ensure ringing of some kind on the four great festivals of the church, viz.: Easter Day, Ascension Day, Whit-Sunday, and Christmas Day. Whether this ringing is to be only round-ringing, or change-ringing, or whether the ringers must be all strict churchmen or not, must be a secondary consideration. This having been provided for, other occasions may be looked to, such as the Queen's birthday, Coronation, Mayor's day, etc. Having provided for all this, the ringers themselves become the next consideration. Of course it is desirable as far as possible to employ those who are strict Churchmen, but this is a matter in which

it will not do to be too stiff, especially if you wish to cultivate change-ringing in a district where change-ringers are few and far between. Then comes the state of the bells and fittings, and the comfort and convenience of the ringers. Perhaps I ought to have put this first. I have not done so, because a well fitted belfry and bells in good order, although necessary for the practice of change-ringing, do not in all cases in themselves forward the art, or raise the moral tone of the ringers, as is supposed by some. Having settled these three points, we now come to the cultivation of change-ringing. This is really the most difficult of all, especially if you may not happen to be situated in a change-ringing district. I cannot here give any directions as to the best mode of teaching young ringers, as I am writing on the subject of Belfry Reform, and not on the art of change-ringing. Now just a word or two on some of the common mistakes often made by those in authority. Some think that if they can get a body of young men together to practice the art that they are necessarily promoting the proper use of church bells. Not at all. The young company may practice one or more evenings a week with varied success as to proficiency, and never attend at all to ring on such days as the bells ought to be rung upon. I grant that the formation of such a company may do good in one way, viz.: by providing something to interest the young men of the parish, and perhaps keeping some of them from mischief; but this is not the primary object. Again: the practice of scientific change-ringing, whether by an old or a young company, has not necessarily anything to do with the proper use of bells for church purposes, although it may be made subservient thereto. Anybody knows that with a great many the sole object is to meet at some place where the bells go well, and on some convenient day to go for some particular length in some particular method; nor can they be blamed for so doing. All honour to those who have achieved long peals in difficult methods; but it must be borne in mind that this has nothing to do with the Church, her festivals or services. When we can get all the above mentioned points combined, then—and not until then—shall we have arrived at anything like perfection in Belfry Reform.

J. R. JERRAM.

## ANSWER TO MR. SYKES.

SIR,—In answer to Mr. A. Sykes, of Huddersfield, I am sorry to see that he is so thin-skinned, as to take exception to my proving his peal, and finding it false I should not have troubled myself to have sent you word, but I thought a set of ringers might possibly ring it under the impression that it was a true peal. It is false in the following places:—

7 6 4 8 5 2 3	1st course.	8 5 3 4 7 6 2	8th course.
2 4 6 5 8 3 7	17th course.	2 3 5 7 4 8 6	17th course.
3 5 2 6 8 4 7	2nd course.	3 4 6 7 5 8 2	2nd course.
7 2 5 8 6 3 4	11th course.	8 6 4 5 7 2 3	18th course.
8 2 5 6 7 3 4	3rd course.	6 3 5 4 8 2 7	7th course.
4 5 2 7 6 8 3	12th course.	7 5 3 8 4 6 2	16th course.

The above are all the places I have had time to examine, but I think I have shown quite sufficient to prove what an excellent composition it is, and I should certainly advise Mr. Sykes before he again rushes into print with a false peal, to get some kind friend to prove it for him, or what would be far better to learn to prove peals before he begins to compose them.

TOM LOCKWOOD.

## THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

THE Annual Meeting was held at Croydon, by the kind permission of the Vicar, on Tuesday, July 28th. Proceedings began shortly before half-past four, with some Grandsire Triples on the church bells for the afternoon service at 5 o'clock. About twenty-seven members sat down to tea at the Victoria Coffee Tavern at 5.30, the Vicar taking the head of the table. After tea, the usual business meeting was held, at which the election of three members was ratified, viz.: Mr. Church, of Battersea, Mr. Brickwood, of Thames Ditton, and Mr. Schneider, of Mitcham, and three new members were elected, viz., Messrs. Down and Dudley, jun., of Croydon, and Mr. W. H. Fussell, of Slough. The committee and officers were then re-elected for the ensuing year. It was arranged that the next district meeting should be held at Epsom, on Saturday, September 5th, and the next Quarterly Meeting at St. James's, Bermondsey, on Monday, October 12th. After a vote of thanks to the chairman, the party adjourned to the church, where the Vicar held a short special service for the members of the Association, ending with an address on the "Ministry of bell ringing." He pointed out that on each of the various occasions when church bells are rung, the ringing is either an actual service in the worship of God, or is a preparation for such service; and ended by wishing God speed to the Association, and all its members. After the service, the bells were kept going until about nine o'clock, in various seven bell methods, for Major is an impossibility on account of the bad going of the tenor.

A. B. CARPENTER, Hon. Sec.



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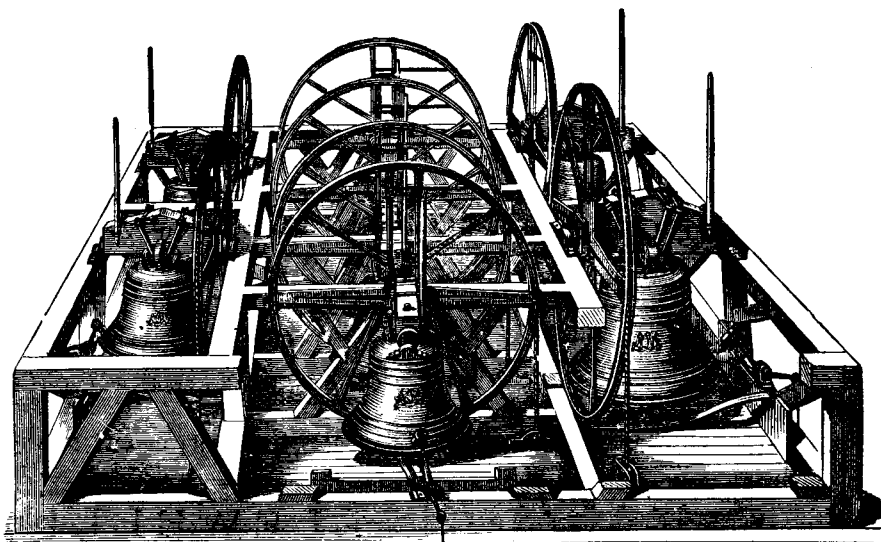
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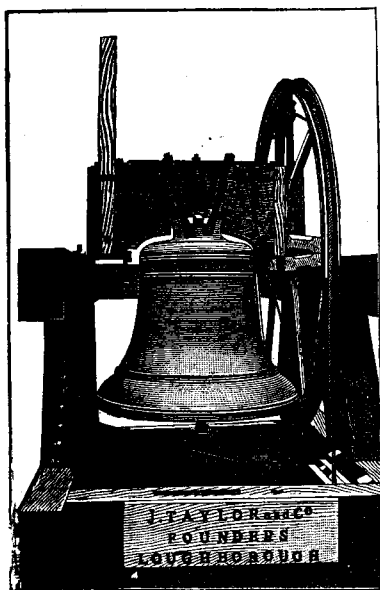
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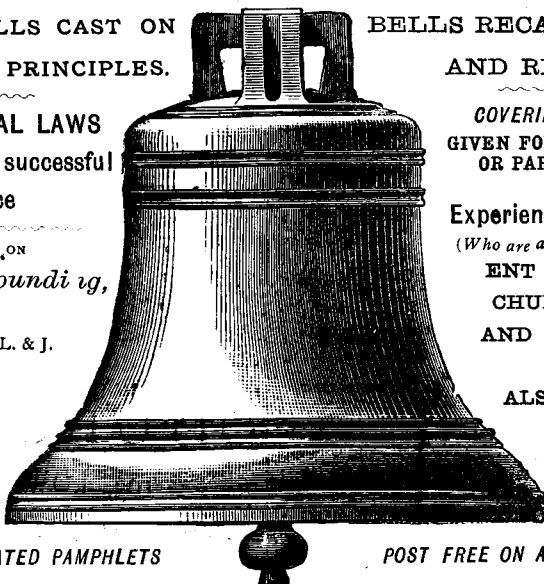
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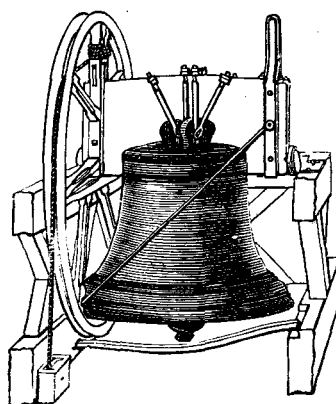
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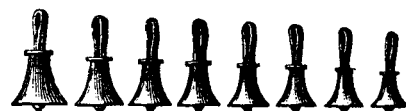
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## ENGLISH BELL FOUNDRIES.—IV.

MESSRS. JOHN WARNER AND SONS, THE CRESCENT FOUNDRY,  
CRIPPLEGATE, LONDON.

WE owe some kind of apology, perhaps, not only to our readers, but to the representatives of the remaining bellfoundries with whom in these chapters it is our province to deal, for the delay that has occurred between this and the previous notice of an English bell-foundry. If an apology be needed, however it must be required at the hands of the Editor of this journal, who will no doubt plead exigencies of space, etc., at his disposal. No one can have failed to notice the increasing interest which is now being taken in bells and ringing, not only by those immediately concerned, but by great numbers of the clergy, and influential churchmen, who have, as it were, suddenly become alive to the fact that a ring of bells form a most important ingredient in the accessories to public worship, and as one of the most costly parts of Church furniture, the idea that they require a much greater share of attention than were formerly given to them, happily gains ground. And this fact, no doubt, is one of the chief reasons why the pages of "THE BELL NEWS" are so taken up at the present time.

But this improvement in the recognition of the status of bells—and also ringers—i.e. the increased interest taken in them by those whose patronage must ere long have a most marked effect, gives an increased value to these short chapters on English Bell Foundries, so much so, that we have been persuaded to publish them, when complete, in book form, to serve as a kind of reference to any one who may be searching for information about bells and their founders. It has also been suggested that these articles may be extended to Church Clock Makers, and, in fact, to Church Furnishers of every description. Whether the publication of these chapters will fulfil the object prophesied for them, of course it is not for the writer of them to venture an opinion. But in yielding to the entreaties made, it is not out of place to give expression to the belief that in their present form these chapters have afforded some little interest, and will eventually do good, preventing in some measure, bells and their fittings being "tinkered" with by persons of very little or no experience, in other words, the advocacy of the employment of none but respectable firms. The continual demand for copies of this paper containing these chapters, gives reasonable grounds for such a belief.

But to the object before us—the establishment of Messrs. John Warner and Sons, the Crescent Foundry, Cripplegate, in London city. As we enter "the Crescent"—a thoroughfare befitting its name—we don't look for a large square block of building with as many windows as there are days in the year. Going our way quietly along the pavement, we are presently stopped by the announcement at the portals of the establishment that we have come to the place we are in quest of. A spacious passage, just what modern ideas have wisely suggested for the approaches to business premises, leads the way to the emporium not only of bells, but brass work of every description, for "Warner's" are not mere "bell-men," but brassfounders on as extensive a scale as any firm in the metropolis. We pass along the passage, but before going far our further progress is stayed by a Cerberus who demands the object of our visit. We whisper a word in his ear which seems to take effect, for the seemingly honest severity of his demeanour relaxes for an instant as he politely describes the route we are to take, and at length we find ourselves in the spacious counting-house of the firm, an apartment which evidently is the mainspring of all the extensive works which go on in the rear with the regularity and precision of clock-work.

We have just stated that Messrs. Warner and Sons' operations are not wholly devoted to bell-founding. The signs of activity in connection with the Crescent Foundry are plainly visible from a thoroughfare adjoining "The Crescent," informing the passer by that upon the extensive premises which he sees before him bounded by a high wall, all kinds of hydraulic machinery, centrifugal and other pumps, improved windmills, turbines, and other requirements of engineering skill are manufactured upon a very large scale, employing in their production some hundreds of hands. There is, in fact, nothing in the way of hydraulic machinery or brass work which is not manufactured at this establishment, and the influential connection enjoyed by the firm, being patronized by royalty, is a sufficient guarantee of the excellent quality of their products. They have also extensive works at Walton-on-the-Naze, in Essex, where are executed orders for which the somewhat limited range of premises in the City of London does not always give the greatest facilities.

But it is in their capacity of bellfounders that we have, primarily, to treat with the firm under consideration. And their success in this particular must not be placed, wholly, to the energy the management has shown in liberally announcing the business, in its various forms, through the usual and well-known channels of public information, but it is also owing to the excellence of their products, and their desire to excel in the art of bell-founding.

It is out of place here to particularise the principal of their works, though a fact might be mentioned regarding the first "Big Ben," which was cast by them, and was considered by most practical persons to be of excellent tone. The work of augmenting peals—that which is technically known as "splicing"—is carried out at the Crescent Foundry with almost uniform success, and good ringers, when talking upon this subject, invariably allude to the bells of St. Mary-le-Tower, Ipswich, as an example of one of the most successful "splices" within their knowledge. This was effected by Messrs. Warner and Sons, in the year 1868.

The manufacture of handbells is also an important feature of this foundry. Here we must mention the individual—well-known among the ringers of the United Kingdom—who controls the tuning arrangements of these pleasant instruments, Mr. H. W. Haley, a prominent member of the Ancient Society of College Youths. When it is known that he can with ease "take down" a peal while being outside the tower, and can tell, almost instantly, if a bob too many or one too little has been called, affecting the truth of the performance, it does not require any very great stretch of the imagination to see that the employment of such a man in determining the tone and tune of bells is a wise course. Mention has often been made in this paper of the celebrated peal of handbells in use by the West Ham tune-playing company; these bells are among the manufactures of this establishment.

A notice of this foundry would be practically incomplete without a reference to the ability and genius of its manager, Mr. S. B. Goslin. The mention of this gentleman's name brings with it thoughts of a series of inventions and discoveries having relation to the metals employed in the establishment under his control. We are not in a position to say whether his knowledge of such matters caused him to be unanimously elected a member of the Livery of Founders' Company of the City of London, though we have no doubt of it. His latest invention is an improvement upon the hanging of large bells. A full account of it has already appeared in "THE BELL NEWS," but a brief allusion here will not be improper. On this principle of Mr. Goslin's the firm have rehung a peal of bells at the church of Tenterden, in Kent.

Respecting this mode of hanging, many ringers, who have

visited Tenterden for the purpose, have expressed their warm admiration, and we can speak from experience when we state that the bells in question work easy and free from the slightest roughness. The advantages claimed for this invention are: "That with these improvements the bell cage timbers are not cut into and weakened for the insertion of the bell bearings; the axles are always true one with the other, cannot shift, and are not affected by the shrinkage or swelling of wood bell stocks, or by changes of weather; the bearings are firm, cannot sway, and are easy of access; large bells will ring by this method of hanging easier than with the old methods, and at all times alike." In addition to the creation of numerous inventions, and the mental and physical strain involved in the management of a large concern, Mr. Goslin has found time to enter the field of literature. The *A B C of Musical Handbell Ringing*—which has gone through two or three editions—*The First Steps to Bell Ringing upon Church Bells*, and *The Musical Handbell Ringers Instructor*, are all from his pen, and are really interesting and useful brochures, got up in a characteristic manner. We say useful publications, because we believe that their dissemination has caused many people to become interested in bells and ringing who, previously to their reading them, knew nothing and cared less about such subjects.

At the Inventions' Exhibition, Messrs. Warner are exhibitors of "Goslin's Patent Hangings" for very large bells. We have already noticed this exhibit, but there may also be found a grand carillon, not before alluded to, shewn by the same firm.

Any of the books on ringing, or those having any relation to bells and ringing, may always be had on application at the foundry.

#### THE ST. JOHN'S GUILD, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.

ON Monday, August 3rd (Bank Holiday), the members of this society held their annual excursion at their favorite place, Brancepeth in Durham. Arriving at the church, the bells were raised, after the usual amount of splicing ropes, oiling, etc., had been gone through. A start was made at once, and a 720 of Bob Minor was struck off in very good style. Some lunch was then partaken of on the roof of the church, the scenery from this point, and a lively flow of "chaff" etc., helping to digest the edibles. Lord Boyne and family being away, the visitors were enabled to see through his residence, Brancepeth Castle, where the splendid oil paintings and curiosities of all descriptions were admired. A 720 of Oxford Treble Bob was then rung to fill up the time before tea, the weather being too wet for outside games. An excellent tea was provided at the house of Mr. J. Bird, the head ringer, at four o'clock, the remarkably quick disappearance of the cakes, etc., testifying to their quality at once. Returning to the church, several attempts at a 720 of Double Court proved futile, although as far as 640 changes in that method were reached once. Several courses of Triples and Caters were rung during the day on the handbells at the church, station, castle, and in the train. At seven o'clock, all returned to the station to catch the last train home. Taking all in all, a very pleasant and successful day was spent, though it was considerably marred by a continuous but slight fall of rain. The members of the Guild wish through the medium of this paper, to tender their sincerest thanks to the rector, the Rev. A. D. Shafto, for the use of his handy peal of six, and also to Mr. Bird for his kind attention to the wants of the visitors, it being through his influence they were allowed to see the castle.

#### THE BIRMINGHAM AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATION.

THE Annual Meeting of the above Association will be held on Saturday, August 15th, when important business will be transacted, also the election of officers for the ensuing year. The Hon. Sec. begs to thank all those members who have worked so zealously for the art of change-ringing, and hopes that others may work with more will than has been the case in some of the districts, and as he is resigning the secretaryship, he would be glad if those members who have not paid their subscriptions, would kindly do so on or before the 15th, so that the books may be in fit order for his successor. The meeting for the transaction of business will be held at the "Swan Hotel," Edmund Street, Birmingham, subsequent to the ringing at the various towers, which are St. Philip's, ten bells, Bishop Ryders, St. Chads, and St. John's, each containing eight bells. The Secretary also hopes that any member having any motion to bring forward will be early; and that any item from other meetings which have been held in his absence, may be brought or forwarded to St. Philip's tower, on Sunday morning next.

J. WRIGHT, Hon. Sec.

#### ST. MARY'S SOCIETY, PENZANCE.

THE members of the above society, on the occasion of their annual excursion, visited the towers of Ladock and St. Austell, on Tuesday, July 28th, having previously had the bells placed at their disposal, through the kindness of the Rev. S. Raffles Flint, and the Rev. J. Hammond, Vicars, respectively.

Leaving home by the first train soon after six o'clock, Grampound Road was the first destination; from which station, a pleasant walk through open meadows and richly wooded lane, fragrant with hay and briar, soon brought the party to Ladock Church, a building of stone, in the Early English style, dedicated to S. Ladoca, and situated on the brow of a hill in a prettily-wooded yard. The bells, which are six in number, were cast by Messrs. Taylor, and hung by W. Aggett, of Chagford, replacing three old ones. The following are the inscriptions:—

J. Taylor and Co.; Bellfounders, Loughborough, 1883 (which occurs on all).

1. R. F. Wise, Rector, A.D., 1883.
2. S. R. Flint: 1883.
3. W. T. Michell, H. Benny, Churchwardens, 1883.
4. William Aggett, Bellhanger, Chagford, Devon, 1883.
5. Guademus cum Gandenbitus, Dolemus cum Dolentibus.
6. R. F. Wise, Rector, 1883.

Tenor 11 cwt. 2 qrs. 3 lbs. in G.

Thanks are due to the local captain, Mr. Hore, and the other ringers, for getting everything ready for their visitors' welfare, and no time was lost on arrival, in raising the excellent little ring. After some 120's of Grandsire Doubles, an attempt was made for a 720 of Minor in the same method, but owing to the false (wide) striking of the tenor, it was deemed advisable to bring the bells round at the half-way. For Doubles, the 'go' of the bells is excellent, and it is hoped the ringers here will before long be induced to study half-pull change-ringing.

Retracing steps towards the Cornwall line, in the face of a welcome breeze, it was about mid-day that St. Austell was arrived at, when the company were received by their genial friend, the station master, Mr. Brewer, who is also captain of the local ringers; here also they were soon joined by Messrs. W. Banister from Devonport, and F. J. Batchelor, from Plymouth. Thanks to Mr. Brewer, everything in the tower had been put in complete preparation for their visitors' comfort and convenience; a slight alteration in the drop of the two treble ropes having been very efficiently carried out.

The church of the Holy Trinity, situated in the centre of the town, is a structure of Pentewan stone, and furnishes an admirable specimen of the Gothic style of the fifteenth century, though the chancel is a century older, is a large fabric and ornamented on the exterior with fanciful sculpture. The tower, ninety-six feet in height, is a particularly handsome one, adorned with foliated pinnacles, angels, human effigies, and a numerous display of uncouth animals; the second story contains on its western front six richly sculptured niches, within which are statues representing God the Father, bearing on his knees the crucified Saviour, Joseph and Mary, and others; four niches on each of the other sides contain figures representing the twelve Apostles. The stone font supported with pillars, is Norman, and very curious. The bells, eight in number, date from early in the present century, and bear the following inscriptions, which being read together, form a verse of eight lines on music.

1. By music minds an equal temper know (border ornament) J. R. Fect 1810.
2. Nor swell too high nor sink too low (border ornament) J. R. Fect 1810.
3. Music the fiercest grief can charm (border ornament) J. R. Fect 1810.
4. And Fate's Severest Rage Disarm (border ornament) J. Rudhall, Gloucester, Ft. 1810.
5. Music can soften pain to ease (border ornament) J. Rudhall, Fect 1810 (border ornament).
6. And make Despair and Madness please (border ornament) J. Rudhall, Gloucester, Fect 1810.
7. Our joys below it can improve (border ornament) J. Rudhall, Fect 1810, (border ornament).
8. And Antidote The Bliss Above (border ornament) Edmd Hennah and G. Geach, Churchwardens, 1810 (border ornament), J. Rudhall, Gloucester, Fect 1810 (border ornament).

Weight of tenor is said to be 15 cwt., though it may more correctly be stated to be nearer 17 cwt., in E.

After a short touch of Grandsire Triples, an early breakfast and a long morning were none the less conducive to a hearty onslaught on a cold luncheon awaiting the party at the "General Wolfe" hostelry; this touch have been run through true without a miscall or change of course, the tower was again resorted to, where several short touches of Grandsire Triples were rung off, the remainder of the time being given to rounds by mixed bands, in which the ringers from the



western part of the county were very pleased to have a friendly pull with some of their brother strings from other parts of the western peninsula. Ringing takes place from the basement, consequently the long draught of rope militates against any touch of any length being comfortably effected on this peal. In the tower, against the north-west corner may be seen a curious tablet recording the following Ringers' Rules.

18 (Here is a sketch of eight bells set in frames). 16.  
England expects every man to do his duty.  
Ye lovers of the loud harmonious peal,  
Whose Music's wafted on the swelling gale,  
While sweet the shrill ton'd treble strikes the Ear,  
And thundering Tom comes rolling in the rear.  
Let us agree ourselves to order tie,  
And all who here shall ring must thus comply,  
That he who swears or cursing loudly brawls,  
And moved by passion names disgraceful calls,  
Shall sixpence pay so shall he as well,  
Who carelessly in ringing overturns his bell.  
He too who whilst he rings his hat shall wear,  
Or on his heel the spur the same shall fare  
But more shall he who in some angry mood,  
Shall strike or quarrel tho' he draws no blood  
One shilling he such conduct we despise  
And hope that in this place t'will ne'er arise  
This then we all with social hearts agree  
And if these rules we keep we keep in unity  
And that all fines within a box appear  
Nor its contents be known but once throughout the year.  
(Here follows a sketch in colours of eight ringers 'ready.'  
George Geach and Edmund Hennah, Churchwardens.

#### BOCKING, ESSEX.

ON Monday, August 3rd, a 720 of Bob Minor. F. Warren, 1; Wm. Moore, 2; Wm. Bearman, 3; S. Sargent, 4; J. Hayes, 5; C. Bearman (conductor), 6. The ringers of St. Mary's church, Harlow, also putting in an appearance, several touches, and a 720 of Bob Minor were rung. A. Spurge, 1; Wm. Bearman, 2; F. Warren, 3; Wm. Moore, 4; J. Hayes, 5; C. Bearman (conductor), 6. The two companies then adjourned to "The Black Boy" Inn, where by the liberality of William Walford, Esq., of Bocking, they sat down to a substantial hot dinner, served in excellent style by Host Lee. After dinner the handbells were brought out, and touches of Bob Minor, Oxford Treble Bob, and Court Single were rung by Thos. Grant (St. Albans) W. Moore, Wm. Bearman, F. Warren, J. Hayes, and C. Bearman. An adjournment was then made to the church, and a 720 of Bob Minor was rung. T. Grant (first 720), 1; W. Moore, 2; W. Bearman, 3; F. Warren, 4; J. Hayes, 5; C. Bearman (conductor), 6. Tenor 19 cwt.

#### THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

REPORT FOR THE FORTNIGHT ENDING AUGUST 5TH, 1885:—On Wednesday, July 22nd, at St. Peter's, Brighton, by the Brighton Branch, with the Rev. J. Mayo, vicar of Hillingdon, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, 1260 changes, in 49 mins. A. Marshall, 1; J. Searle, 2; G. F. Attree, 3; G. King, 4; Rev. J. Mayo, 5; H. Weston (conductor), 6; J. Jay, 7; D. Ross, 8. Tenor 10½ cwt. On Thursday, July 23rd, at St. Mary's, Eastbourne, by the Eastbourne branch, an attempted peal of Grandsire Triples, Holt's Original, upwards of 3500 changes were rung, when a miscall brought the peal to grief, in two hours and a quarter. T. Lewis, 1; H. P. Bennett, 2; W. Bone (Reigate), 3; L. Huggett, 4; F. Harding (conductor), 5; T. Willoughby, 6; T. Hart, 7; J. Rollison, 8. On Monday, August 3rd, District Meeting (business and ringing), full account next week.

GEO. F. ATTREE, Hon. Sec.

OF all sound of bells—bells, the music nighest bordering on Heaven—most solemn and touching, says Charles Lamb, is the peal which rings out the old year. I never heard it without a gathering up of my mind to a concentration of all the images that have been diffused over the past twelvemonth; all I have done or suffered, performed or neglected, in that regretted time. I begin to know its worth, as when a person dies. It takes a personal colour; nor was it a poetical flight in a contemporary, when he exclaimed "I saw the skirts of the departing year!" It is no more than what in sober sadness every one of us seems to be conscious of, in that awful leave-taking. I am none of those who "welcome the coming, speed the parting guest." I am naturally, beforehand, shy of novelties—new books, new faces, new years—from some mental twist which makes it difficult in me to face the prospective. The ringing out of the old year! The sound of those midnight chimes never failed to bring a train of pensive imagery into my fancy.

#### DEATH OF THE REV. HENRY T. ELLACOMBE.

It is with regret that we record the death of the Rev. Henry Thomas Ellacombe, Rector of Clyst St. George, which took place at the advanced age of 95 years, at the St. George's Rectory, on Thursday. The deceased was educated at Oriol College, Oxford, and took his degree of B.A. in 1812, and M.A. four years later. He was ordained Deacon in 1816 by the then Bishop of Exeter, and Priest in 1817 by the Bishop of Gloucester. From 1816-17 he was Curate of Cricklade, and upon leaving that parish he became Curate of Bitton until 1835, when he became Vicar of Bitton. In 1850 he was appointed to the living of Clyst St. George, which he held till his decease. Of the Manor of Bitton and the parish of Clyst St. George he published interesting histories. The rev. gentleman took a deep interest in campanology, and was the author of several works in this direction. In 1867 he published 'The Bells of Devonshire' and in 1871 a supplement thereto, with 'Practical Remarks on Belfries and Ringers.' 'The Bells of Exeter Cathedral' came under his notice in a most interesting edition in 1874. 'The Bells of Somersetshire' and the 'Voice of Church Bells' (a sermon) are the titles of other works by the rev. gentleman. The deceased was to have been an engineer, and for some time was a pupil of Brunel's, who thought highly of him. As will be seen by the works above enumerated, he was a great campanologist, and had ascended every tower in Devon and many in Somerset, taking inscriptions on bells, making notes of their size, &c., which he classified and published in the transactions of the 'Exeter Diocesan Architectural Society,' of which he was one of the earliest members. He was always accustomed to ring with his men up to within a few years of his death, and invariably rang out the old year. He was highly practical, and worked with his own hand in laying the tiles and in other renovations in his church at Clyst St. George. He was most enthusiastic on all architectural subjects. Within the past two months he had become a little tottering in his walk, but was still as clear as ever in his mind, and only recently superintended the introduction of some mural paintings in tiles into the splay of his windows. Deceased was held in high respect wherever he was known, and his death will be a great loss, not only to the parish in which he had so long and faithfully laboured, but also to many in Devonshire with whom he was closely associated in many good works.—*Exeter Daily Gazette*.

#### THE RECENT ACCIDENT TO A RINGING PARTY.

THE following sums have been received for the purpose of helping to defray the great loss sustained by Mr. H. F. Wood in this unfortunate affair:—

	s.	d.		s.	d.
Rev. E. S. ... ..	2	6	H. Lewis, St. Albans ... ..	5	0
J. West ... ..	2	0	S. Joyce ... ..	2	6
J. W. Snowdon, Esq. ... ..	10	0	J. H. Monday ... ..	5	6
W. Banister ... ..	5	0	M. A. Wood ... ..	10	0
Bedfordshire Association ... ..	5	0	A. Hayward ... ..	2	0
St. Martin's, Salisbury ... ..	10	0	W. Cecil ... ..	2	0
St. Peter's, Leeds, Yorks ... ..	5	0	A. B. Goody ... ..	5	6
H. Edwards ... ..	2	6	Mr. Lewis Green ... ..	2	0
J. Dwight ... ..	2	6	St. Mary's society, Walthamstow	10	0
I. Shade ... ..	5	0	Thomas Clark, Sharow, Ripon ...	5	0
R. S. Story ... ..	5	0	I. S. ... ..	5	0
E. Wallege ... ..	2	0	H. Dains ... ..	2	0
J. Barrett ... ..	2	0	C. A. Clements, Salisbury ...	2	6
J. Comb ... ..	5	0	W. Story, Newcastle-on-Tyne ...	2	6
Spalding, SS. Mary and Nicolas ...	3	0	G. Banks, Lower Kennington Lane	2	6
D. Newton ... ..	1	0	D. Newton (second subscription)	1	0
J. Dupen ... ..	2	0	Given by the following mem-		
C. Lee ... ..	1	0	of the St. Peter Mancroft		
C. Beecu ... ..	1	0	Society, Norwich—		
J. West (second donation) ... ..	3	0	F. Knights ... ..	5	0
J. Barry ... ..	1	0	H. Roberts ... ..	1	0
T. Powell, Waltham Abbey ... ..	2	6	F. H. Knights (Master) ...	1	0
J. Baxter, Leamington, late of			W. Bales ... ..	1	0
Devonport ... ..	5	0	G. Smith ... ..	1	0
J. R. Jerram, Salisbury ... ..	2	6	J. Skinner ... ..	1	0
S. Margaret's Society, Wolstanton,			B. Tungate ... ..	1	0
Staffordshire ... ..	5	0	J. Smith ... ..	1	0
G. Dorrington ... ..	2	0	G. Thurtall ... ..	1	0
H. J. Shade ... ..	2	6	R. Bacon ... ..	1	0
G. Russell, Croydon ... ..	1	0	E. Ward ... ..	1	0
H. Pearce ... ..	2	0	W. Cushing ... ..	1	0
F. Newman ... ..	2	0	J. Fiddament ... ..	1	0
R. Turner ... ..	2	0	P. Sadler ... ..	1	6
T. Dupen ... ..	2	6	W. H. Potter ... ..	1	0
W. Prime ... ..	2	0	Small sums ... ..	1	6
J. Davidson ... ..	3	0			
Widford and Galleywood C.R. ...	5	0			

Further donations, however small, are urgently solicited. Mr. Matthew Wood, 11 Church Row, Bethnal Green, London, will be happy to give any further information, and will thankfully acknowledge any sums forwarded to him.

## THE SHIPWAY REPRINT

May now be obtained of all news agents in town and country. As in this shape the number of copies printed will only be just enough to cover the demand, it is obvious that those who neglect to obtain the numbers at once will not afterwards have the opportunity.

Each number contains sixteen pages, size of page being the same as the original work, and having about the same quantity of matter per page. Mr. Snowdon will probably add a valuable contribution to the work in the shape of an appendix.

The numbers are printed in a popular style, and on superior paper and will form a handsome volume when complete worthy of any library.

PRICE ONE PENNY.

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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.

A CORRECTION.—In our last issue, the name of the conductor of some ringing at Lewisham, Kent, was given as William W. Thornton, this should have been Frederick W. Thornton.

## The Bell News & Ringers' Record.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 8, 1885.

In this number will be found an extract from a Devon paper recording the demise of the Rev. HENRY THOMAS ELLACOMBE, Rector of Clyst St. George. Death has at last laid his hand upon this venerable man, who lived far beyond the space allotted by the Psalmist as he duration of our pilgrimage here below. At the ripe age of 95, he has found the haven of rest which no doubt his soul yearned to enjoy. In the decease of Mr. ELLACOMBE, a prominent man has gone from among us—figuratively speaking, a Prince has fallen in Israel. And this phrase is not one whit out of place. If the deceased gentleman could not be said to be at any time of his life a "distinguished ringer," he was certainly a great man, a prince almost—in matters relating to bells and ringers. His name appeared to be a kind of established symbol which was indicative of an important pursuit of his life. Before ringing literature, in the shape of journalism, had any existence, and when many of those who are now famous in the art were yet unborn, Mr. ELLACOMBE was held to be the sole independent authority upon bell matters. It is our honest belief that

many of the so-called scientific notions of recent would-be arbiters upon such subjects did not win his conscientious approval.

Others will no doubt, ere long, record their tribute to the goodness of heart of the deceased. Here in this place, where we have the opportunity of giving vent to our own personal convictions, we say that the death of Mr. ELLACOMBE is a great loss to the ringing community. Those who have their minds absorbed in attempting to ring as many peals as a lifetime will afford, cannot, perhaps, see the consistency of the statement that the death of one who never took part in any ringing worthy of note should cause such a void. We may well answer that the grand revival of ringing, and its introduction among those who from various causes were enabled to do it justice, are mainly owing to his efforts. If we stopped here, enough would be said to entitle him to the gratitude of every ringer. Perhaps no man ever had the welfare and prospects of the science more at heart than he had. He was weary of well-doing in the cause, and never so much at home, we believe, as when replying to his correspondents of the ringing community, and they were many. We recollect in our earlier years applying to him for advice about a work on ringing, which led to a connection lasting for a long time.

From the first appearance of our contemporary, Mr. ELLACOMBE was the presiding genius of its bell-ringing column, and in this capacity it might be said he found a occupation very agreeable to himself. Having the well-known spirit of all conductors, he stuck tenaciously to his post, and was jealous of any supposed slight infringement of his prerogative as controller of that column.

## The Metropolis.

LONDON.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

Handbell Ringing.

On Friday, July 31, 1885, in Two Hours and Twenty-nine Minutes,

AT THE "GOOSE AND GRIDIRON," ST. PAUL'S CHURCHYARD,  
UPON HANDBELLS, RETAINED IN HAND,

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

GEORGE T. McLAUGHLIN .. 1-2.	FREDERICK T. GOVER .. 5-6.
CHALLIS F. WINNY .. 3-4.	*EDWARD ROGERS .. 7-8.

Conducted by CHALLIS F. WINNY.

Umpire: Mr. W. Baron, of the Royal Cumberland Society. H. A. Hopkins (Royal Cumberland), J. Martin Routh, Esq., and J. M. Hayes (College Youths), took down the peal as it was rung. The peal was rung at the first attempt. \*First peal on handbells.

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

On Monday, August 3, 1885, in Three Hours and Eight Minutes,

AT ALL HALLOWS' CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE MAJOR, 5151 CHANGES;  
Tenor 20 cwt.

GEORGE BOWER .. .. . Treble.	WILLIAM WEATHERSTONE 5.
WILLIAM B. MANNING .. 2.	ERNST E. VINEN .. 6.
JOSEPH WAGHORN, JUN. .. 3.	J. WAGHORN .. 7.
JOHN NUNN .. .. 4.	HENRY BARNETT .. Tenor.

Conducted by WILLIAM WEATHERSTONE.

This is the first peal of Grandsire Major on the bells, and the first also by all the band except the conductor.

## LONDON.

## THE SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.

On Monday, August 3, 1885, in Three Hours and Thirteen Minutes,

AT ST. ANDREW'S CHURCH, WELL STREET,

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

D. W. GRIGGS* .. .. Treble.	T. TITCHENER .. .. 5.
BENJAMIN FOSKETT .. .. 2.	GEORGE HARVEY .. .. 6.
N. J. PITSTOW .. .. 3.	EDWARD CHAPMAN .. .. 7.
ARTHUR JACOBS .. .. 4.	GEORGE NEWSON .. .. Tenor.

Composed by N. J. PITSTOW, and Conducted by GEORGE NEWSON.

\*First peal in the method. This composition, which has never been previously performed, contains the sixth the extent home at nine course-ends, the second never dodging with the tenor at the wrong throughout. The calling was given to the conductor a short time before starting for the peal. The ringers wish to tender their sincere thanks to the Vicar for kindly allowing them the use of the bells on this occasion.

## The Provinces.

## BRANDESTON, SUFFOLK.

## THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Wednesday, July 29, 1885, in Two Hours and Fifty-two Minutes,

AT ALL SAINTS' CHURCH,

5040 CHANGES: IN SEVEN DIFFERENT METHODS  
UPON SIX BELLS;

Being a 720 of each of the following—

Cambridge Surprise; Morning Exercise; New London Pleasure; Kent Treble Bob; Oxford Treble Bob; Double Court Bob; Bob Minor.  
Tenor 9 cwt. in A.

SAMUEL MEADOWS* .. .. Treble.	DAVID G. WIGHTMAN .. .. 4.
ALFRED S. WIGHTMAN .. .. 2.	PETO MEADOWS .. .. 5.
HORACE BEDINGFIELD .. .. 3.	STEPHEN WIGHTMAN .. .. Tenor.

Conducted by STEPHEN WIGHTMAN.

\*First peal on six bells.

## EYE, SUFFOLK.

## THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, August 3, 1885, in Three Hours and Fourteen Minutes,

AT SS. PETER AND PAUL'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;  
IN THE OXFORD VARIATION. Tenor 24 cwt. in E.

WILLIAM MOTTS .. .. Treble.	HENRY BOWELL .. .. 5.
GEO. DAY .. .. 2.	FREDERICK DAY .. .. 6.
ISAAC S. ALEXANDER .. .. 3.	EDWARD REEVE .. .. 7.
JAMES MOTTS .. .. 4.	EDGAR PEMBERTON .. .. Tenor.

Composed by H. HUBBARD, and Conducted by J. MOTTS.

Messrs. J. and W. Motts, Alexander, Pemberton, Reeve, and Bowell belong to the St. Mary-le-Tower Society, Ipswich; and G. and F. Day, to the Eye company. The above members of the St. Mary-le-Tower society wish to thank Messrs. Day and Son for their kind courtesy in meeting them, and they were very pleased to find the bells in such excellent going order.

## TONG, YORKSHIRE.—THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

## Muffled Peal.

On Tuesday, August 4, 1885, in Two Hours and Fifty-seven Minutes,

AT ST. JAMES'S CHURCH,

5040 CHANGES: IN SEVEN DIFFERENT METHODS  
UPON SIX BELLS;

Being a 720 of each of the following:

Arnold's Victory, City Delight, College Pleasure, Duke of York, New London Pleasure, Oxford, Violet.  
Tenor 12 cwt.

SIMEON LANGSTAFF .. .. Treble.	WILLIAM BOLLAND .. .. 4.
HENRY ODDY .. .. 2.	GEORGE BOLLAND .. .. 5.
EDWARD WEBSTER .. .. 3.	JOHN HALEY .. .. Tenor.

Conducted by GEORGE BOLLAND.

The above was rung as a tribute of respect to the memory of the late George Carter, of Tong, a ringer at the above church for sixty years, having begun at an early age. Simeon Langstaff hails from Pudsey.

## ARUNDEL, SUSSEX.

## THE SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.

On Monday, August 3, 1885, in Two Hours and Forty-eight Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;  
HOLT'S ORIGINAL. Tenor 14½ cwt. in F♯.

GEORGE WILLIAMS .. .. Treble.	FREDERICK HILL .. .. 5.
JOHN STAPLES .. .. 2.	HENRY DAINS .. .. 6.
GEORGE GRAFHAM .. .. 3.	JOHN WHITING .. .. 7.
JAMES HEWETT .. .. 4.	WILLIAM NAYLOR .. .. Tenor.

Conducted by GEORGE WILLIAMS.

G. Williams hails from Reigate; Messrs. Staples and Naylor from Havant; Whiting, Gratham, and Hill from Fareham; Hewitt from Gosport; and Dains from London. W. Naylor is just on 70 years of age, and rang the tenor well.

## ROSS, HEREFORDSHIRE.

## THE ST. MARTIN'S SOCIETY, BIRMINGHAM.

On Monday, August 3, 1885, in Three Hours and Ten Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;  
BROOK'S VARIATION. Tenor 25 cwt. in Eb.

THOMAS REYNOLDS .. .. Treble.	JOHN SAUNDERS .. .. 5.
HENRY BASTABLE .. .. 2.	CHARLES STANBRIDGE .. .. 6.
WILLIAM ROCK SMALL .. .. 3.	ALFRED THOMAS .. .. 7.
SAMUEL REEVES .. .. 4.	JOHN BUFFERY .. .. Tenor.

Conducted by HENRY BASTABLE.

This is the first peal of Stedman on the bells, and also in Herefordshire.

## FAVERSHAM, KENT.

THE SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS AND  
THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, August 3, 1885, in Three Hours and Eight Minutes,

AT ST. MARY'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;  
HOLT'S TEN-PART. Tenor 20 cwt.

C. WILLSHIRE .. .. Treble.	T. B. REED .. .. 5.
L. WILLSHIRE .. .. 2.	J. J. BRISTOW .. .. 6.
P. A. REED .. .. 3.	G. WILLSHIRE .. .. 7.
T. B. REED, JUN. .. .. 4.	S. FULCHER .. .. Tenor.

Conducted by LEON WILLSHIRE.

The band wish to tender their sincere thanks to the Vicar for the use of the bells on this occasion.

## GLOSSOP, DERBYSHIRE.

## THE ALL SAINTS' JUNIOR SOCIETY.

On Monday, August 3, 1885, in Three Hours and Ten Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

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

SAMUEL HARROP .. .. Treble.	WILLIAM J. HARGREAVES .. .. 5.
THOMAS HEALD .. .. 2.	ROBERT WINTERBOTTOM .. .. 6.
WILLIAM HARROP .. .. 3.	HENRY COOPER .. .. 7.
SAMUEL KNOTT, JUN. .. .. 4.	JOHN PYE, JUN. .. .. Tenor.

Composed by HENRY JOHNSON, SEN., and Conducted by SAMUEL KNOTT.

Messrs. Heald and Hargreaves hail from St. Philip's, Hulme, Manchester. This peal was taken from Snowdon's "Treble Bob," Part II., page 88.

## BEDFORD.—THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, August 3, 1885, in Three Hours and Fourteen and ½ Minutes,

AT ST. PAUL'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;  
TAYLOR'S BOB-AND-SINGLE VARIATION. Tenor 28 cwt. in D.

THOMAS FOOTE .. .. Treble.	JOHN ATKINS .. .. 5.
MORRIS WARWICK .. .. 2.	CHARLES WILLIAM CLARKE .. .. 6.
WILLIAM HALL .. .. 3.	ISAAC HILLS .. .. 7th and
SAMUEL J. CULLIP .. .. 4.	JAMES FROSSELL AND .. .. tenor
	FREDK. GILBERT .. .. in turns.

Conducted by CHARLES WILLIAM CLARKE.

This is the first peal of Grandsire Triples by all the company, and the first 5040 on the bells. The ringer of the 2nd bell is only 16 years of age, and the conductor has but very lately took to change-ringing, he is but 21 years of age, but has made rapid strides in the art. F. Gilbert hails from Raunds; the rest are of the local company.

**Miscellaneous.****ASSOCIATION FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.**

**WEST BROMWICH.—Muffled Peal.**—On Sunday, July 26th, after evening service, the following members of the above Association rung at Christ Church a muffled peal (the usual whole pull and stand), as a token of respect to the late Mr. William Beeson, who had been a ringer for upwards of twenty years. S. Reeves (conductor), 1; E. Cashmore, 2; C. Timms, 3; J. Hall, 4; R. Hall, 5; C. Price, 6; H. Hipkiss, 7; W. H. Wayte, 8. And on Thursday, July 30th, a touch of Grandsire Triples, 504 changes. H. Hipkiss, 1; R. Hall (conductor), 2; W. R. Small, 3; J. Hall, 4; T. Horton, 5; C. Price, 6; S. Reeves, 7; C. Timms, 8.

**THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.**

**ASPLEY GUISE.**—On Tuesday evening, July 28th, for practice at the parish church, a 720 of Bob Minor (thirty-two bobs and two singles), in 25 mins. G. Usher, 1; M. Lane, 2; W. Mynard, 3; J. Carwell-Cooke, 4; Rev. W. W. C. Baker (Nottingham; conductor), 5; W. Chibnall, 6. Also another 720 of Bob Minor (nine bobs and six singles), in 26 mins. G. Usher, 1; E. Lewin, 2; W. Mynard, 3; J. Carwell-Cooke, 4; W. Chibnall, 5; M. Lane (conductor), 6.

**BEDFORD.**—On Tuesday, July 28th, at St. Mary's church, a 720 of Bob Minor (four bobs and fourteen singles), in 23 mins. F. Keech, 1; M. Warwick, 2; T. Foote, 3; C. W. Clarke (conductor), 4; S. Cullip, 5; I. Hills, 6. And two 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles. F. Keech, 1; C. W. Clarke, 2; M. Warwick, 3; I. Hills, 4; S. Cullip, 5; T. Foote, 6. Tenor 8 cwt. in B. And on Thursday, July 30th, at St. Paul's church, 336 of Grandsire Triples. F. Keech, 1; M. Warwick, 2; S. Cullip, 3; T. Foote, 4; C. W. Clarke (conductor), 5; J. Atkins, 6; I. Hills, 7; J. Frossell, 8.

On Monday, August 3rd, at the same church, 336 of Bob Major. S. Cullip, 1; C. W. Clarke, 2; J. C. Cook, 3; T. Foote, 4; W. Hall, 5; W. Biggs, 6; I. Hills, 7; F. Gilbert (conductor), 8. And a 336 of Grandsire Triples. J. C. Cook, 1; M. Warwick, 2; C. W. Clarke, 3; T. Foote, 4; I. Hills, 5; F. Gilbert (conductor), 6; W. Biggs, 7; W. Hall, 8. Tenor 28 cwt. in D. And at St. Mary's church, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor, in 23½ mins. T. Foote, 1; J. Atkins, 2; C. W. Clarke, 3; I. Hills, 4; W. Biggs, 5; F. Gilbert (conductor), 6.

**THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.**

**SOUTH HACKNEY (Middlesex).**—On Monday, August 3rd, at the church of St. John of Jerusalem, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 48 mins., composed by M. A. Wood. J. Sumpter, 1; C. Lee (conductor), 2; W. Shade, 3; L. Green, 4; H. Springall, 5; Y. Green, 6; R. Turner, 7; D. Sutton, 8.

**DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.**

**BRANCEPETH (Durham).**—On Monday, August 3rd, a 720 of Bob Minor (fourteen bobs and two singles), in 24 mins. G. Campbell, 1; W. Eggleston, 2; W. G. Routledge, 3; C. L. Routledge, 4; W. Story (conductor), 5; F. Lees, 6. Also a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob Minor, in 25 mins. G. Campbell, 1; C. L. Routledge, 2; W. Eggleston, 3; F. Lees, 4; R. S. Story, 5; W. Story (conductor), 6. Tenor 9 cwt. in A.

**THE HERTFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.**

**BALDOCK (Herts).**—*Muffled Peal.*—On Sunday, August 2nd, at the church of St. Mary the Virgin, for Divine Service in the morning, two 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles, each called differently, with 7 6 8 covering. T. Webb (conductor), 1; J. Philips, 2; J. Cawdell, 3; Robert Jackson, 4; Richard Jackson, 5; W. Bidnell, 6; J. Roslyn, 7; G. Gentle, 8. Also in the evening, 448 of Triples. T. Webb, 1; J. Philips, 2; J. Cawdell, 3; A. Squires, 4; Robert Jackson, 5; Richard Jackson, 6; W. A. Tyler (conductor), 7; J. Roslyn, 8. Tenor 28 cwt. in D. The above was rung with the bells deeply muffled in memory of the late Rector, the Rev. Canon Kewley, who died on the previous Sunday.

**EXETER (Devon).**—*Muffled Peal.*—On Tuesday, August 4th, eight members of the St. Sidwell's society rang at their parish church, the first part of Hollis's 5-part peal of Grandsire Triples, 1050 changes, with the bells half-muffled, in memory of the late Rev. H. T. Ellacombe, the aged Rector of Clyst St. George, Devon, who was interred that day. J. Moss, 1; F. R. Shepherd, 2; W. G. Goss, 3; A. Shepherd, 4; W. Richardson, 5; E. Shepherd, 6; Ferris Shepherd (conductor), 7; T. J. Lake, 8. Tenor 24 cwt. in D.

**SEDGLEY (Staffordshire).**—*Muffled Peal.*—On Sunday, July 26th, the ringers of the Parish Church, rang a muffled peal consisting of 720 changes, with 7-8 covering, in 28 mins., in remembrance of Mr. H. Fowler, late of the Limes, Sedgley. John Goodman (Sedgley), 1; David Bruce (Sedgley), 2; Benjamin Johnson (Sedgley), 3; Samuel Bunn (Sedgley), 4; James Screen (Sedgley), 5; Robert Schofield (Sedgley; conductor), 6; George Harrison, 7; Joseph Sheldon, 8. Tenor 20 cwt. Composed by Henry Johnson, of Birmingham.

**WALTON-ON-THE-HILL (Lancashire).**—On Tuesday evening, July 21st, at St. Mary's parish church, a 720 of Plain Bob Minor, in 25½ mins. J. Hurst, 1; W. Booth, 2; W. Short, 3; T. Rushton, 4; R. Stockley, 5; C. E. Wilson (conductor), 6. And on Sunday, July 26th, for Divine Service in the morning, a plain course each of the following: Yorkshire Court, London Single, Grandsire, Oxford Single, Plain Bob and College Single. J. Hurst, 1; C. J. Rodgers, 2; T. R. Somerville, 3; T. Rushton, 4; R. Stockley, 5; C. E. Wilson (conductor), 6. W. Booth hails from Liverpool; and W. Short from Bootle. On Tuesday, July 28th, a 6-score of Plain Bob Doubles, and a 6-score of Grandsire Doubles, and a plain course of Yorkshire Court Bob Minor, and College Single Minor. J. Nightingale, 1; W. Booth, 2; T. R. Somerville, 3; T. Rushton, 4; C. E. Wilson (conductor), 5; R. Stockley, 6. And on Thursday evening, July 30th, several secular tunes were chimed on the bells by C. E. Wilson. On Sunday morning, August 2nd, for Divine Service, a 300 of Plain Bob Minor (six bobs), and in the evening a 720 in the same method (thirty singles and six bobs), the composition of Mr. N. J. Pittsow, in 23 mins. J. Hurst, 1; C. J. Rodgers, 2; T. R. Somerville, 3; T. Rushton, 4; R. Stockley, 5; C. E. Wilson (conductor), 6. Tenor 9 cwt.

**WILLESDEN (Middlesex).**—On Sunday, July 5th, a 720 of Bob Minor, sixteen bobs and two singles, in 25 mins. J. Tennant (first 720), 1; R. Kilby, 2; J. Jackman, 3; A. Pittam, 4; F. Weare, 5; A. Tennant (conductor), 6.

**VISIT TO ROSS, HEREFORDSHIRE.**

On Monday, August 3rd, being Bank Holiday a very enjoyable excursion was made by a portion of the members of the St. Martin's society, Birmingham, to the above place, starting from Snow Hill Station, G.W.R., at 5 a.m., and arriving at their destination early in the morning. After partaking of breakfast, the bells of the parish church were raised in peal and a start made for a peal of Stedman Triples (Brook's variation), which was accomplished in three hours and ten minutes, a report of which will be found on another page. The band then adjourned to a refreshment hotel, and having satisfied themselves with the good things placed at their disposal, again visited the tower, when a touch of Grandsire Triples with some of the local ringers, and a plain course of Kent Treble Bob Major brought the ringing to a close, and after having ceased the bells several of the band remarked on the very easy "go" of them, stating that they had never rung a peal with so much ease before. The bells, the tenor of which is 25 cwt. in Eb., were rehung in 1881. After a stroll through the town, the company mustered at the Station Hotel, where the remainder of the time was spent in songs and toasts, &c. The ringers of the St. Martin's Society wish to thank the vicar, churchwardens, and ringers of Ross for the kind way in which they allowed them the use of their bells, and they hope on some future occasion to renew their visit.

**In Memoriam.****GEORGE CARTER.**

This veteran ringer died very suddenly on his way home from Birstall, on Sunday evening, July 19th, after being unwell for a few weeks. He had been a visiting ringer at Liversedge and Birstall for about fifty years, and was highly respected in that locality. He had taken part in many peals of 5000 and upwards upon six and eight bells, and had also assisted in winning a few prizes upon both six and eight, including a first prize at Hyde, Cheshire, of £12, with a Liversedge company upon eight; and a second at All Souls' church, Haley Hill, Halifax, upon eight; and a first at Ilkley with a mixed company from Tong and Pudsey, and other smaller prizes. The old veteran was in his 75th year. It would be very difficult to find one who has walked so many miles as he had after ringing.

**EDWARD FOSTER.**

On Sunday afternoon, July 26th, at the age of thirty-six, Edward Foster died at his residence, Greenwood Terrace, West Derby Road, Liverpool. Deceased was a highly respected member of St. Peter's Society, and died suddenly in ten minutes from the bursting of a blood vessel, having two hours before the sad occurrence partaken of a hearty dinner. His remains were laid at rest in West Derby Cemetery on Wednesday, July 29th. In the evening the members of the society met in their tower, and rang two muffled touches of Grandsire Caters, 503 and 395 changes, as a tribute of respect to his memory. The members were, Henry Meadows, Richard Williams, Robert Williams, Charles Williams, Edwin Booth, William Booth, John Brown, Thomas Hammond, William Brooks, William Woodhead, William Bigham, George Fisher, John Pritchard, William Davies. Conducted by Henry Meadows and Robert Williams.

## ANNUAL MEETING OF THE EAST LINCOLNSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

ONE of the most successful gatherings of ringers that has taken place in the County of Lincolnshire, was that which took place at St. Margaret's Church, Sibsey, on Saturday, July 25th, being the first Annual Meeting of the above Society. Ringers begun to arrive by eight o'clock, and ringing was kept up very briskly until one o'clock, consisting of Grandsire Triples, Plain Bob, and Grandsire Doubles. Divine Service was held in the above church at one o'clock, the sermon being preached by the Lord Bishop of Lincoln, a member of the Association, who took his text from the words "A Golden Bell and a pomegranate, upon the hem of the robe around about."—Exodus 28th chapter, 34th verse. There was a very large attendance of clergy and gentry of the district. At 2.30 in the afternoon a public luncheon was provided in the schoolroom, at which 147 ladies and supporters of bell-ringing were present. The chair was occupied by the Rev. H. J. Cheales, Vicar of Friskney, and President of the Association, who was supported by the Lord Bishop of Lincoln, the Rev. Canon Disbrowe, R. D. Bennington, Rev. Canon Fisher, Hagworthingham, Rev. Canon Pattenden, LL.D., Boston, Rev. R. E. Roy, Rector of Skirbeck, Rev. S. Stafforth, Frieston, Rev. W. W. Layng, Spilsby, Rev. I. S. Ladds, West Keal, Rev. F. Besant, Sibsey, Major White, Boston, T. C. Garfit, Esq., Boston, (Treasurer), A. Mercer Adams, Esq., M.D., Boston, C. Yeatman, Esq., Boston, C. Marvis, Esq., Boston, Dr. Smith, Sibsey, E. Waite, Esq., Sibsey, E. Mason and T. Rogers.

The CHAIRMAN proposed "The Health of The Queen," and alluded to the marriage of the Princess Beatrice, observing that the happy event seemed to draw closer the bonds of affection between her Majesty and her people. He wished the Royal bride and bridegroom much happiness. The toast was drunk with enthusiasm.

Mr. WAITE proposed "The Health of the Lord Bishop of the Diocese," and after expressing the great pleasure he and the parishioners of Sibsey felt at seeing his lordship amongst them, he congratulated him upon his elevation to the See of Lincoln.

HIS LORDSHIP, on rising to respond, was received with loud and continued applause. He said no reward a Bishop could have was equal to the love and confidence of his people, and he thanked Mr. Waite for the kind manner in which he had proposed the toast and the company for the generosity with which they had received it. Gatherings of that sort might be, and were, if properly conducted, as he was sure that would be, made fruitful of good work. There was often a time and an opportunity for people, whose minds were beginning to turn towards the great problems of life, to reflect a little upon what they were doing, and a gathering such as they had had that day must bring before them the reflection—"What am I doing to promote the kingdom of God?" They who had given themselves to the ringing of Church bells were helping on God's work, and although ladies could not ring, they could assist in other ways, and he urged them all to reflect and think what they could do in order to take a more useful step in life, and in assisting in improving the moral, intellectual and Christian condition of the world. There was a peculiar kind of sweetness in that kind of labour—a peculiar kind of brotherhood seemed to spring up amongst such labourers, be they men or women, which he did not think could be attained by any amount of high wages or wordly honours paid for toil and labour in any other sphere. It was, therefore, a great pleasure to him to come amongst them, to do what little he could to promote their united labours for the highest possible end, and he accorded them his hearty thanks for their grave responsibility. To a casual observer a Bishop's life might appear a nice, pleasant, easy one, but it was not all mere festive work—there were some very hard and difficult parts in it, and nothing was so refreshing, and nothing enabled him to perform his duties so well, as the feeling that he had the hearty confidence and goodwill of his people. They were all working for the same Lord and Master, and it was gratifying to him to be able to feel when he was away that their hearts were together unceasingly, although they might not meet very frequently in the body.

THE CHAIRMAN proposed "The Health of the Vicar and Churchwardens of the parish of Sibsey," and thanked them for having so kindly placed their magnificent peal of bells at their disposal. He stated that he had invited the Hon. M. E. G. Finch-Hatton, M.P., who was a skilled ringer, to be present, but his parliamentary duties rendered it impossible for him to attend. He thanked the Bishop, not only for the encouragement he had given them by his subscription to the funds, but for the still greater and more valuable encouragement given them by his presence and advice that day. He explained that the objects of the Association were to raise the tone of belfry management, intelligence and knowledge, and he believed they were making great progress. In the district of the diocese comprising Boston, Alford and Spilsby, and intervening parishes, a district so rich in fine churches, they had no less than 25 towers with peals of from five to eight bells each. The aim of the Society was to promote the art and science of bell-ringing, and with this view they had instructors, who were ready and willing to visit the belfries in the district and instruct their brother ringers.

The Rev. F. BESANT, in responding to the toast, said that Sibsey was an old ringing village, and it afforded him and the churchwardens very great pleasure to welcome the members of that association there that day. His Lordship had stated that ladies could not ring bells, but for his information he begged to state that the ladies in that parish were very enthusiastic in the art of handbell ringing. An old man died in that village not many years ago who had been ringing for a century, and about ten years since there was living in Sibsey a man who rang the bells on every coronation day from the day on which William IV. was crowned.

Canon DISBROWE proposed "Success to the East Lincolnshire Change Ringers' Association," and expressed his approval of the work the Association was doing. What they did, he said, should not be for their own end or amusement, but as the eight bells seemed to say, to the glory of God. Listening to the bells he could imagine he heard them say, "Do all to the glory of God," and on Sunday morning he had fancied he could hear them proclaim, "This is the day the Lord hath made," and when the services were about to begin, they seemed to say, "Come let ussing unto the Lord."

MR. MASON, in responding, thanked the Rev. Canon Disbrowe for the very kind way in which he had spoken on behalf of the Society, and also himself. He said it needed very few words from him after the very able address which they had had the pleasure of listening to from his Lordship, and as their worthy President had explained the object of the Society, he would not trouble them further only by reading the first Annual Report and proceedings of the Association, showing the number of members to exceed 100, and the progress the Association had made in ringing, especially in six-bell work, an account of which would be found in the Society's peal-book. He also referred to the loss the Society had sustained in the removal from among them the Right Rev. Christopher Wordsworth, late Lord Bishop of the Diocese, and a member of the Association. He concluded his report by presenting the balance sheet, which proved to be very satisfactory; after meeting all the expenses of the year, they had carried £4 4s. over for next year's accounts.

THE BISHOP, after hearing the remarks of the Rev. F. Besant, tendered his apologies to the ladies of Sibsey, for having under-rated their abilities as bell-ringers. He hoped their bobs and singles would become more even, if among the single gentlemen the number of single bobs became less.

T. C. GARFIT, Esq. proposed "The Health of the Rev. H. J. Cheales," the President of the Society, and congratulated him upon the success the Society had achieved. Personally he was very pleased to be present at that gathering because he found that some of the young men connected with his Bible class were among the members of the Association. He found that for a great number of years the village of Sibsey had taken a deep interest in the art of bell-ringing. In 1553 the belfry possessed three great bells, but in 1566 all three bells took to themselves wings and flew away, and no one could make out where they had gone. In 1770 the tower contained five bells, and in 1814 it rejoiced in eight bells. He hoped that the example Sibsey and Friskney were setting would be followed by other parishes, and he also hoped that the clergy, churchwardens and ringers would continue to work together.

The meeting for transacting the business was afterwards held in the schoolroom. The whole of the officers were re-elected with the exception of a slight change in the committee. Spilsby was fixed for the next meeting, which contains a very fine ring of six. The Rev. F. Besant placed the Vicarage grounds at the disposal of the members, and also provided tea at the Vicarage. The Great Northern Railway company had made provision for the two late trains to stop at Sibsey at 8 and 8.30, and the day was brought to a close.

## NUNEATON, WARWICKSHIRE.

ON Monday, August 3rd, being the Annual Sunday School treat, and Bank Holiday, the ringers of St. Nicholas parish church assembled at 2.30 p.m. and rang six 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles (each called differently), with 7,6,8 behind, during the procession of the children through the town. W. Adler, 1; W. Swain, 2; H. Bacon, 3; H. Horwood (conductor), 4; T. Lingard, 5; T. Chapman, 6; C. Draper, 7; J. Ballard, 8. After a few rounds and a little firing the ringers, by the kind invitation of the vicar, the Rev. Canon Bellairs, partook of tea with the Sunday School Teachers and band, in the Vicarage grounds. After tea, a move was made to the belfry, where the ringers rang several 6-scores in the same method, standing as above. The bells were then ceased in peal, and the ringers then returned to the field and joined in the sports and pleasures of the evening, thoroughly happy in the enjoyment of their Bank Holiday. Our correspondent adds:—"Our old friend and brother ringer, H. Bacon, would accept this as a farewell touch and a hearty God speed. He is leaving us for brighter prospects in the neighbouring town of Leicester. We hope however to see him ever and anon in our belfry, where he will always find a hearty welcome."

## PEALS OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE.

BY JASPER W. SNOWDON.

In order to obtain a true peal of Cambridge Surprise to introduce into his work, Shipway had recourse to parting the tenors, by which means he obtained the following five-part peal. We have, therefore, only one peal with the tenors together, and one with them parted, to represent composition in this method.

5600.							
2 3 4 5 6 7 8	Continued.	Continued.					
5 7 3 8 2 6 4	7 4 2 8 6 3 5	- 4 7 3 8 6 2 5					
- 7 8 6 4 5 2 3	- 4 8 3 5 7 6 2	8 2 7 5 4 6 3					
- 8 4 2 3 7 5 6	5 6 8 2 4 7 3	- 2 5 6 3 8 4 7					
3 5 4 6 8 7 2	2 7 6 3 5 4 8	3 4 5 7 2 8 6					
- 5 6 7 2 3 8 4		7 8 4 6 3 2 5					
- 6 2 8 4 5 3 7	- 7 3 4 8 2 5 6	6 2 8 5 7 3 4					
4 3 2 7 6 5 8	8 5 3 6 7 2 4	5 3 2 4 6 7 8					
	- 5 6 2 4 8 7 3						
7 5 3 8 4 6 2	4 7 6 3 5 8 2	4 7 3 8 5 6 2					
8 6 5 2 7 4 3	3 8 7 2 4 5 6	- 7 8 6 2 4 5 3					
2 4 6 3 8 7 5	2 5 8 6 3 4 7	2 5 8 3 7 4 6					
- 4 3 7 5 2 8 6	6 4 5 7 2 3 8	3 4 5 6 2 7 8					
- 3 5 8 6 4 2 7							
6 2 5 7 3 4 8	W. SHIPWAY.						

## SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR.

In accordance with my promise to lay these different variations before my readers in the order in which they were first practised, I have now to draw their attention to Superlative Surprise.

This system is first given in *Clavis Campanologia*, followed by these remarks:—

"The above is an original composition of *our own* on purpose for this work, and has never yet been rung. The principle upon which it is founded will, we doubt not, give it credit with the amateurs of the art, for on inspection it will plainly appear the most even *Treble Bob* peal that has hitherto been discovered, and, if practised, will produce most excellent music."

Now, as the date of publication of the first edition of the *Clavis* is 1788, we can at once arrive at the time this variation has been before the public. Practice has proved the truth of the eulogy pronounced by the originators on their system. Not only is the work particularly even, and therefore easily acquired, but those who have heard this most musical of treble bob variations actually performed in the steeple, will most readily assent to its producing "most excellent music."

Although, as shewn above, this method was put before the Exercise in 1788, I was unable at first to find any earlier notice of a peal than 1821. In Thackrah's book he states that a peal of 5152 was rung at Huddersfield on November 5th, in that year. No tablet was erected to commemorate this performance, and although I have made many enquiries, I have been unable to gain any more information beyond that given in the book. When however, I first noticed this peal, and stated that it was the earliest record of a peal of Superlative, Mr. Haigh, of Huddersfield, kindly forwarded to me a printed notice of a peal of Superlative rung at Huddersfield on August 6th, 1821. This notice ran as follows:—

"Superior and unparalleled Change-ringing, August, 1821.—On Monday, the 6th instant, was rung at Huddersfield, by the Society of St. Peter's Youths, of that place, a complete peal of melodious changes on that grand peal called Superlative Surprise, consisting of 5600 changes, which was performed in 3 hrs. and 20 mins., with the fifth bell at home ten times, and the sixth twelve times, being the greatest performance ever achieved in the campanian art in so intricate a method. The Bob Changes were composed Mr. Benjamin Thackrah, who dexterously conducted the same, and was performed by the following persons:—

Treble.	1. Jonathan Womersley,	4. John Hanson,	6.
William Haigh,	John Womersley,	5. Benjamin Thackrah,	7.
William Clay,		Samuel Goodier,	Tenor.
John Thorpe,	3.		

Weight of the tenor, 18 cwt."

On the same printed circular, the course-ends of the peal were given, the peal being as follows:—

5600.							
2 3 4 5 6	M	W	H	Continued.	M	W	H
6 4 3 5 2	-	-	-	6 3 2 5 4	-	-	-
3 6 4 5 2	-	-	-	2 6 3 5 4	-	-	-
4 3 6 5 2	-	-	-	3 2 6 5 4	-	-	-
2 5 6 3 4	-	-	-	4 5 6 2 3	-	-	-
6 2 5 3 4	-	-	-	6 4 5 2 3	-	-	-
4 3 5 2 6	-	-	-	3 2 5 4 6	-	-	-
5 4 3 2 6	-	-	-	5 3 2 4 6	-	-	-
3 5 4 2 6	-	-	-	2 5 3 4 6	-	-	-
4 2 3 5 6	-	-	-	3 4 2 5 6	-	-	-

This peal, it will be seen, is a 6048 reduced in the third part. No mention of it is made in Thackrah's book, and thus, as soon as it was put into my hand, I was suspicious that there was something amiss with the peal. This I had not much difficulty in proving, as it is a false peal—a very false peal—as several of the lead-ends at the M. are false. Even when pricked as a 6048, the peal will not be true. It is a wonder that Mr. Thackrah ever allowed such a false peal to be published as his composition, as its falsity could, if suspected, so easily be proved even by the veriest tyro in the science of proving peals. The reason why this performance had almost sunk into oblivion, and no mention is made of it in Thackrah's work, is accounted for by the fact that its falsity must, at some future time, have been proved either by himself or some one skilled in such investigations.

Another curious fact in connection with the record of this false peal, is that on the reverse of the printed notice is the rough draft, barely decipherable, of a reply to a challenge from the Middleton (Lancashire) ringers to ring any whole set, or a picked set, of ringers in the county of Yorkshire, for 20 guineas, three treble peals—Oxford, College Pleasure, College Treble, and a fourth peal from the three, with "Crown Bobs." The reply goes on to state that they will not consider the matter, as if they (the Middleton ringers), do not know "that such a peal with Crown Bobs will be false, they had better further the study the art of ringing, as it shall never be said of them (the writers), that they ring false peals." This being written on the back of a false peal, is a most appropriate realisation of the fable in which the pan calls the kettle black.

As previously stated, the first peal, that is the first true peal of Superlative ever rung, is therefore the one mentioned in Thackrah's book on ringing, from which I extract the following paragraph. It will be seen that it was rung by the same company that rung the false peal two months previously;—

Thackrah's *Art of Ringing*.—"Treble bob triples: this peal was composed by the author in the year 1821, and was first rung by him and seven of the St. Peter's company of change-ringers at the parish church, Huddersfield, on the 5th of November the same year. Likewise 5152 changes of Superlative Surprise, at the first attempt, making a total of 10,192 changes in 5 hours and 56 minutes. Ringers: W. Haigh, Treble. 1. J. Womersley, 4. J. Hanson, 6. J. Clay, 2. J. Womersley, 5. B. Thackrah, 7. J. Thorpe, 3. S. Goodier, Tenor.

A peal of 5152 is given in Thackrah's book which is doubtless the peal in question. This peal is in three parts, and is one which shews more plainly than any description can do the "slip-shod" manner in which the book is written. The first part consists of seven courses, and Thackrah states:—"The following is the first part of 5152, which being twice repeated, completes the peal." Now the calling under these conditions will come round at the end of the 21st course, which is two courses short of a peal. When I saw this, I could hardly imagine that Thackrah would have let this escape his notice, and that he should have rung a peal two courses short of the required number. I therefore looked further into the matter, and have no doubt that Thackrah only forgot to say that three bobs at H. had to be called when 5-6 came home at the end of the peal, this, as will be shewn in the collection of peals, will bring the number up to 5152.

\* \* Several touches, reports, etc., are unavoidably left over till our next issue.



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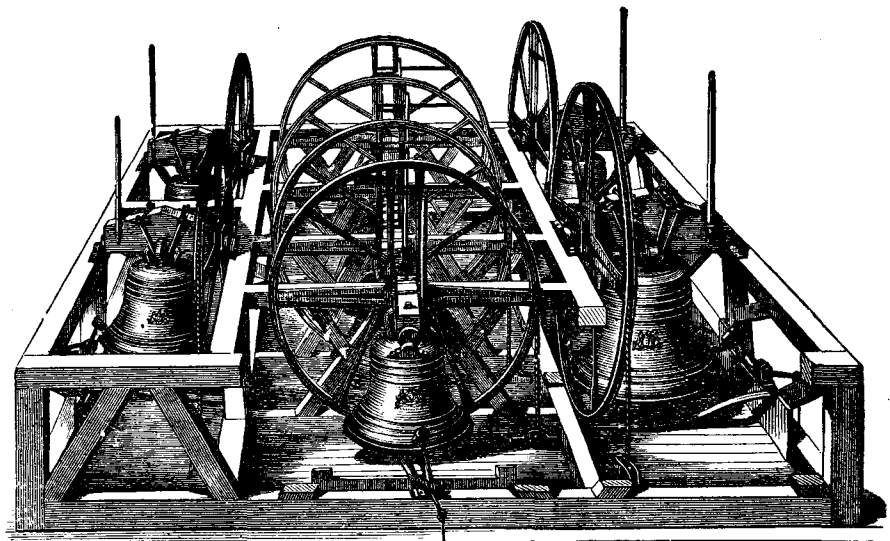
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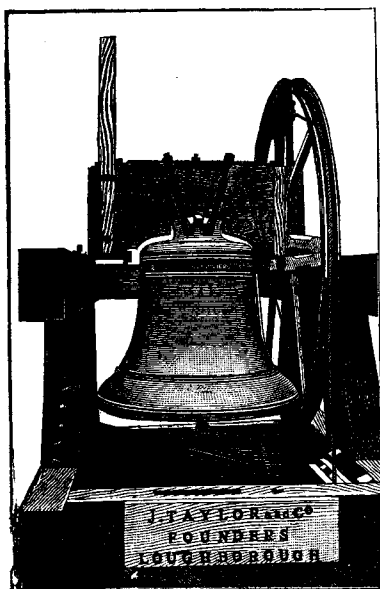
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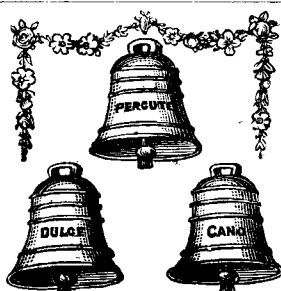
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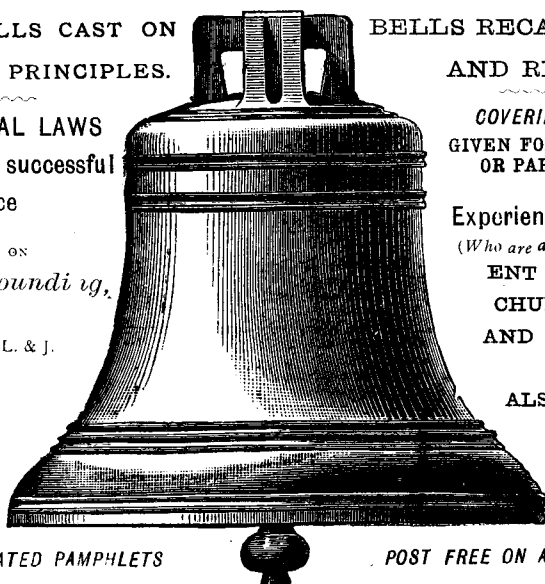
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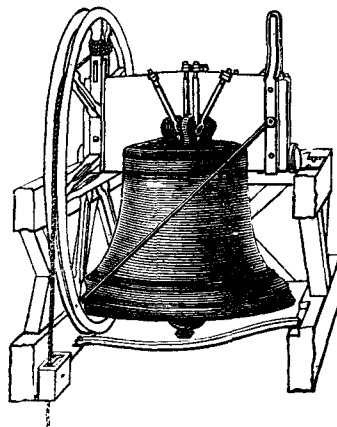
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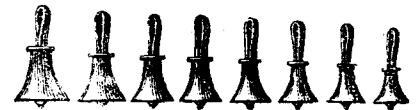
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## BELFRY REFORM.

BY THE AUTHOR OF "THUMBNAIL SKETCHES."

IN "THE BELL NEWS" of 18th July last, there appeared a letter from a correspondent, asking if the London Societies could not do something in the way of systematic instruction in change-ringing. I am afraid he will have to wait a long time for a satisfactory answer. The St. James's Society professes this as one of the articles of its faith, and has indeed done something towards it in the last year or two, and at one time the Waterloo Society was the means of bringing out a great number of young ringers. The senior societies, however, laugh at the very idea of appointing instructors, and the rash youth who brought such a proposition forward at any of their meetings, would most assuredly be sat upon. When the Society of College Youths makes a new member, the latter is usually informed that the company will be pleased to meet him whenever he can make it convenient to attend. As the company in question rarely condescends to ring anything but Stedman Cinques, at its unfrequent practices, this privilege is greatly appreciated by young seven-bell ringers, but it is doubtful whether any great advantage is conferred on them thereby. Probably the Society owes its present good position almost entirely to the untiring and disinterested efforts of one or two members, with a few friends at Spitalfields and the West End churches respectively. Certain it is that no one else troubles themselves much to teach young hands.

I believe none of the London Societies can, as at present organised, do much to increase the number of ringers. Their funds are small and their ideas smaller still. The accomplishment of a few peals, and the cutting of a record about once in ten years—their ambition carries them no farther. What is needed is a new Association, if possible a National one, which shall take in hand (among other things), the question of instruction throughout the kingdom, being subsidised for this purpose by the County Associations. The London Societies may and probably will exist for years, but they will never vary much from their present condition. We want a strong, united and influential body which can speak with authority to, and command the respect of the whole Exercise—which will be a centre of instruction, and whose decision shall be final in disputed cases. Such an Association has already been projected, and I take leave to think that the organising Committee which was appointed, has failed in its duty to the Exercise in allowing the matter to drop.

## PRIZE RINGING.

THE following letter has appeared in the *Exeter Daily Gazette*:—  
"RINGING MATCHES.—SIR,—I noticed in your paper this morning an account of a ringing match at Ipplepen. How long are these disgraceful ringing matches to be continued? Is it not shameful that the House of God should be desecrated by being used as an arena where men are allowed to contest for prizes of money? Is it not shameful that the bells, which are sacred instruments, and are devoted to the worship of Almighty God, should be used like skittles in a match for prizes? What would be said if organists were to meet at a church and play upon the organ for prizes; or if a number of choirs were to sing hymns in church for money? These prize ringing matches are a disgrace to the churches where they are held, and to the ringers who take part in them, and to our Diocese generally, and they ought not to be allowed to continue.

I am, yours faithfully,

JOHN S. NORTHCOTE,

Hon. Secretary to the Guild of Devonshire Ringers.

P.S.—Will not some member of the forthcoming Diocesan Conference bring this subject forward, that its evils may be exposed."

## SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.

ON Sunday, August 9th, the St. Martin's company of Tipton, paid a visit to Cosley. The bells, a ring of eight (tenor 19 cwt.), have recently been fitted with new ropes, but not accurately fixed, the sallies being considerably too low. After adjusting the ropes, and lubricating the gudgeons, the bells were raised in peal, and were all found to go fairly except the tenor, which was in very bad condition. A quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples was rung by J. Jones, 1; T. Bennett, 2; W. Pardoe, 3; S. Jesson, 4; J. Martin, 5; J. Fullwood (conductor), 6; W. R. Small, 7; H. Winfield, 8. The visitors heartily thank the Vicar for the use of the bells.

## AUGUST BANK HOLIDAY, 1885.

THROUGH the kindness of Mr. James Hewett, an old and much-respected member of the Royal Cumberland Society, arrangements were made to attempt a peal of Grandsire Triples at Fareham, Hampshire, on Saturday evening, August 1st. But as so many holiday makers elected to travel south, trains were so much delayed that Mr. H. Dains, who was of the party, did not arrive from town in time, and the peal was abandoned. Other arrangements had, however, been made at Arundel. Accordingly on Monday morning, the two Cumberlands booked from Portsmouth thither, and were joined at Havant by the remainder of the band, Hampshire men, and in due course arrived at the famous mentioned town. This is a town of great antiquity. It is the object of admiration of all thoughtful travellers upon the South Coast Railway, where it is seen to the greatest advantage. Its fine Church and grand old Castle are conspicuous, and boldly outlined features of the picture. It boasts of a most splendid park, and is the country seat of His Grace the Duke of Norfolk, whose reign is supreme in the locality. The ancient and sacred edifice—the parish church—is also noticeable in southern landscape. Mr. Charles Blackman, an enthusiastic ringer, makes the office of steeplekeeper here a labour of love. He is very attentive to his duties, self-imposed though they be, the bells go well, and the ropes and ringing-chamber are clean and in good order. Thanks must be given to this gentleman, who would have a touch of 350 previous to us starting for the peal, probably as a kind of steepleage. It was intended to elect the visitor a member of the Winchester Guild, in the tower, but a glance at Rule V. of the Guild, shows how such a proceeding is impossible. This rule, we think, requires revision, as every facility should be given to peal ringing. This obstacle was, however, soon overcome. As although seven members of the Guild could not elect one another, the Cumberland Secretary showed them by that Society's rules, the two members present could nominate, support, and make members of the remainder of the band, six in number. This business was duly performed, and a successful attempt made. No performance of the kind had taken place here for half a century, when the opening peal was rung in the year 1855. One or two young ladies standing in the church as the band were departing, enquired the number of bells and changes rung, and if more could be obtained. They had been listening to the musical changes resounding in their lovely neighbourhood. After partaking of tea at the "Red Lion," the ringers' house, with mutual greetings, six of the Hampshire men returned south. Mr. Williams, conductor of the performance, Holt's Original, his first essay at this peal, accompanied by H. Dains, visited Horsham on their way, the one to Reigate, and the other to London. Each accepted an invitation kindly given by G. F. Attree, Esq., and took tea with members of the Sussex Association, at the "King's Head," and afterwards, through the kindness of Mr. Steeplekeeper Bostock, visited St. Mary's church, which is said to be 1000 years old. Internally the church is splendour and elaboration itself, but externally of little note, except the lofty old spire, which we think must be a wooden structure. It is drawn south by the sun's rays, we presume quite twelve inches out of perpendicular. It is octagonal on plan, and the roof planes are very much twisted, but curiously enough, the reverse way to which the sun appears to travel. We were delighted to have a touch of Triples at this old church, with some of the Brighton contingent of The Royal Cumberlands, thanks to Mr. Henry Weston.

H. D.

## A VISIT TO SOUTHPORT, LANCASHIRE.

BY JOHN CARTER, BIRMINGHAM.

ON Saturday, August 1st, I took advantage of the opportunity, and paid a friendly visit to Southport (which by the way is a very nice place for an outing), and soon found my way among the ringers. We rang for Sunday morning service a well-struck 503 of Grandsire Triples. Making arrangements, we met for a peal on the following day (Monday), and started for a 5088 of Plain Bob Major, with J. R. Pritchard, of Liverpool, who is a good ringer, but after ringing 4600 changes in 1 hr. 25 mins., the tenor rope broke. T. J. Fielding, 1; J. Carter (conductor), 2; A. Fielding, 3; J. R. Pritchard (composer), 4; R. Hill, 5; H. Spencer, 6; G. R. Heywood, 7; J. Heald, 8. Not being disheartened, we met again the next day, and started again, this time for a 5024 of Kent Treble Bob Major, when misfortune again overtook us, after ringing about 3200 changes in 1 hr. 48 mins., a change-course occurred. T. J. Fielding, 1; J. Carter (conductor), 2; A. Fielding, 3; J. R. Pritchard (composer), 4; R. Hill, 5; H. Spencer, 6; G. R. Heywood, 7; C. Heywood, 8. The ringers, being all that anyone could desire, wanted to try again on the Wednesday, but not being able to stay longer we had to abandon it for some future time. I now take this opportunity of thanking the ringers and friends through the medium of "THE BELL NEWS," for their kindness to me, and for making my visit an enjoyable one, and I am sure if any of my brother-ringers turn their steps towards Southport, they may be certain of a hearty welcome.

## THE ROCHDALE AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATION.

THE following copy of the report of this Association, read by the Secretary at the Quarterly Meeting, is forwarded, accompanied with a special request that it may be inserted in full, and a hope that its publication may prove beneficial.

"I first deal with the Quarterly Meeting. At this meeting there were about twenty members present. The ringing commenced about 4 o'clock, Grandsire being the chief method rung up to the time of the meeting—5 o'clock. The ringing was resumed after the meeting until 9 o'clock. At this meeting thirteen members were added; two from Glodwick, and eleven from Oldham. It is scarcely worth mentioning the representation of each society, for it would make one feel a little ashamed to do so, because were I to deduct the new members it would leave a balance of nine present, the scanty few to represent our Association, of over 100 members.

"We could boast before this meeting of very good attendances, so far this year, but I am afraid you have forgotten yourselves. Again it seems to be left to an old few to steer the ship from the rocks, and had they not been persevering and determined, it would have sunk. As a rule we generally get to see some members once a year. It is very hard for some to toil, toil, toil, and others to keep pulling them back, some seem to be so deep in negligence that their consciences become dead; what makes me speak so strongly on this point, is because it appears to me that no notice seems to be taken of the many hints which I have had to throw out to you about these meetings. I am sorry to do it, but then I am obliged to tell you of your faults as well as to tell you of the affairs of the Society; hoping no offence, but that my words (and the desire of your President) may find those strayed consciences, and bring them back to cultivation.

"I will deal now with the intermediate meeting, which was held at St. Mary's parish church, Oldham, on Saturday, June 13th, when there were only nine representatives besides the Oldham ringers. It makes one feel vexed to witness such, and especially on this occasion, they being a new company of ringers who only joined our Association last quarter, giving them the first opportunity of an Intermediate Meeting. As a matter of respect and encouragement, behold nine turned up out of 100! one-tenth of what we may say good and sound members, who own their Association, and regularly pay their subscriptions, I am sorry to say could only produce such a scanty amount of members, but I am happy to say we pulled through once again with satisfaction, and would have been more so, if the bells had been in a better condition. Grandsire was the chief method.

"I will divide my opinion and remarks in two parts. The first is a case I wish to lay before you. There are some members who attend annual meetings and bring their propositions, which are discussed, perhaps take up an half-hour or an hour, and finally left unresolved, they don't turn up again until the next annual meeting, then they bring another half-dozen propositions, as if they wanted them passing there and then, until the thing becomes a regular confusion, and at the finish amounts to a waste of time for nothing. Now if any member or members have anything to bring forward, let them break it gently, one thing at a time, with a proper understanding, and give the members time for consideration, and let them attend the other meetings during the year (not once a year) to see that such a proposition is thoroughly dealt with, then things will work smoothly and in harmony. It does not do to be rash and headstrong in the matter, but give time for consideration and dealings accordingly. It wants discipline, and without it you cannot work.

"In the second place I ask you to help me in respect of what I desire in my reports. Think it over, and realise the things in your own minds, not leave it entirely to other members' opinions, but have an opinion of your own, because the man who is guided by other opinions, without considering the matter himself, generally comes to grief, which seems to be so in respect of our members. Now what I want is this: that each member (I am speaking particularly to those who are bands), that they may not let it all rest upon the shoulders of their committee men, to bring the matter forward. One might say Oh! I need not trouble myself about it, our committee man will bring it up.

"Well, you might say what is our committee man for but to bring our decisions to the meetings. That is right enough in your idea, and no doubt you think you have done your duty, as far as that goes, which I say you have, on the ground that our committee is placed, but you must bear in mind for consideration what power or authority as your committee man when he brings your decision? Why I say that he has none. You might as well never have a meeting in your belfrys, or any other place, because it can only be moved and seconded, it cannot be resolved. You don't give your committee such authority, so you see you get no benefit by it; you have to be there yourselves as a body before it can be resolved. That is the reason why I ask you not to let it rest on your committee-men altogether until you can place that confidence in them to pass resolutions. So let each member take the object of my reports home with

him, and don't let it be over when the meeting is, which I fear has been the case, but study them and cast your own opinions on such and such things as shall be proposed, and in respect of intermediate or ringing meeting, don't let them be loitering meetings, as if you did not seem to care whether you ring or not, but let every one have an active spirit in them and show your eagerness, that ever ringer should profit by such meetings. Then I think the scanty few will have more help to steer their ship, and know where all the rocks lie, so they may have a straight passage, without any fear of danger. You must amalgamate more, and have district ringing meetings, independent of the Association, which I think will act as your compass for steering.

"Hoping all the affairs of our Association may be thoughtfully and wisely acted upon in future. JAS. ADSHEAD, Secretary."

## THE ECKINGTON SOCIETY, DERBYSHIRE.

ON Saturday, August 8th, the members of the above society had their annual outing, the place selected for the visit being Sherwood Forest. They left Eckington with their friends, numbering about forty. A start was made at 6.30, the distance to travel being twenty miles by road, through a beautiful country. The first place of interest on the journey was Welbeck Abbey, the seat of the Duke of Portland. Here there are three miles of tunnels; the riding school is the finest in the world, it is 380 feet long, 112 feet wide, and 51 feet high: there are 7500 gas-lights in the building. Leaving the sights of Welbeck behind, the visitors passed through Budby, a clean little village, where the cottagers' trimly-kept gardens and roses was a pleasing sight. The forest was now seen, and by 10.30 the journey's end was reached at a village called Edwinstone. After partaking of refreshments, the ringers left their friends behind to enjoy themselves in the forest, and started for the Magor Oak, en route for Thorsby Hall. In the hollow of this celebrated oak twelve people can conveniently shelter. After a walk of three miles they arrived at Palethorpe Church, and was met by the South Anston company. The rector was away from home, but after a short delay, and through the kindness of Mr. Hawkins, Earl Manvers' house steward, his Lordship's kind consent was given for a touch on the bells. The Eckington company having the first pull, succeeded in ringing a 720 each of Oxford Treble Bob and Violet, in 48 mins. F. Hancock, 1; J. Shaw, 2; E. James, 3; G. Norman, 4; G. Marsden (conductor), 5; T. Lunn, 6. Tenor 6½ cwt. The Anston company next rang a 720 of Kent Treble Bob and 240 of Duke of York. G. Lidster, 1; Robt. S. Fox, 2; Josh. Bland, 3; Chas. F. Fowler, 4; Samuel Smith, 5; Thos. Silvester (conductor), 6. Time was now up, and a start was made for Clumber Park, the seat of the Duke of Newcastle, which contains 4000 acres. The mansion was built in 1770 on the north side of a lake which covers eighty-seven acres. After passing through the park, Worksop was reached, and the company wished to have a closing peal on the Abbey church bells, but the rector is no man for ringers, and refused them a pull, because it was Saturday. "This," says our correspondent, "is a poor excuse, but I don't think we shall ever trouble him again, and hope others will take the hint." An adjournment was made to the "French Horn Inn," where they had some tunes and changes on the handbells, and a start being soon made homeward, all being very well pleased with the day's outing.

By the furious storm of Lightning and Thunder at Daventry in July 1682, some of the Lead of one of the Windows of the South Isle of the Church was melted, and the Lead that cover'd the Tower was in several Places perforated by it, as if it had been struck through with the Tines of a Fork. And the greatest part of the Wires of the Chimes were burnt by it to such a Cinder as might be crumbled by the Hands. On March 20, 1692, the Wires of the Chimes in the Steeple of Kettering, were twisted by a Stroke of Lightning which struck in at one of the Windows; and it melted a little Hole in the outward Surface of one of the Bells. May 10, 1704, was yet a more terrible Stroke of Lightning upon the same Place. The Chime Wires were melted into many Pieces. The Pieces look'd black and burnt, and had Scales upon them like to those of the Iron that's newly burnt in a Smith's Fire. Upon the Ends of them were plain Marks of their having been melted. The Warning-Piece and the Iron stay, that belongs to it were melted in such a manner that they became welded together. Also a small Hole was found melted on the Surface of one of the Clock-Wheels. This was in the Clock-Loft. In the Chime-Loft the most remarkable Accident was this: A Part of the Iron belonging to the Frame of the Chimes, which had been melted off by the Lightning, was found upon and near the Frame in the Form of little round Balls very like to small Bird-shot: Several of these little Balls I pick'd up from the Floor and from the Frame soon after the Accident had happen'd, and have them now by me.—Morton's "Natural History of Northamptonshire," published in the year 1712.



## TWO PEALS OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR.

By JOHN JAGGAR, *Burton-on-Trent*.

5056.

2 3 4 5 6 I 4 5 6

5 3 6 2 4 - - -

3 6 5 2 4 - - -

6 3 4 2 5 - - -

2 4 3 6 5 - - -

4 3 2 6 5 - - -

2 3 5 6 4 - - -

3 5 2 6 4 - - -

2 5 4 6 3 - - -

4 5 3 6 2 - - -

5 4 2 6 3 - - -

4 3 5 6 3 - - -

5 2 3 6 4 - - -

3 5 4 2 6 - - -

5 2 4 3 6 - - -

3 4 2 5 6 - - -

4 5 2 3 6 - - -

3 2 5 4 6 - - -

2 4 5 3 6 - - -

4 3 5 2 6 - - -

2 5 3 4 6 - - -

5 4 3 2 6 - - -

4 2 3 5 6 - - -

5 3 2 4 6 - - -

3 2 4 5 6 - - -

Repeated. The above contains the 6th eighteen times wrong and twenty-four times right.

5024.

2 3 4 5 6 I 4 5 6

5 4 6 2 3 - s -

2 6 4 5 3 - - -

4 2 3 6 5 - - -

3 2 5 6 4 - - -

5 2 4 6 3 - - -

2 5 3 6 4 - - -

3 5 4 6 2 - - -

4 5 2 6 3 - - -

5 4 3 6 2 - - -

3 4 2 6 5 - - -

4 3 5 6 2 - - -

5 3 2 6 4 - - -

2 3 4 6 5 - - -

4 2 5 3 6 - - -

2 3 5 4 6 - - -

3 4 5 2 6 - - -

2 5 4 3 6 - - -

5 3 4 2 6 - - -

2 4 3 5 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 - - -

Repeated. The above contains the 6th twenty-two times wrong and twenty-four times right.

First rung at St. Paul's, Burton-on-Trent, on Thursday, July 23rd, 1885, by the St. Paul's society. Conducted by its composer.

## A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR.

5280.

By R. MACKMAN, *Spalding, Lincolnshire*.

2 3 4 5 6 M B W H

3 5 6 4 2 I 2

5 4 3 2 6 -

4 2 5 6 3 -

6 4 2 3 5 - 2

Four times repeated.

## A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR.

5056.

By SAMUEL KNOTT, JUN., *Glossop*.

2 3 4 5 6 M B W H

5 2 3 6 4 2 2 2

2 5 4 6 3 - I 2

5 3 4 6 2 2 - I 2

3 2 4 6 5 I 2

5 3 6 2 4 - 2 2

6 4 2 3 5 I I 2

5 6 3 4 2 - 2 2

6 2 3 4 5 2 - I 2

4 6 2 5 3 2 2 2

5 4 6 3 2 2 2 2

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 2

Rung for the first time on June 4th, 1885, at All Saints' church, Glossop. Conducted by its composer.

## A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR.

5088.

By JAMES S. WILDE, *Hyde, Cheshire*.

2 3 4 5 6 I 4 5 6

\* 3 5 2 6 4

5 2 3 6 4 - - -

2 4 3 6 5 - - -

4 2 5 6 3 - - -

4 3 5 2 6 - - -

3 5 4 2 6 - - -

5 2 4 3 6 - - -

3 4 2 5 6 - - -

Five times repeated, with a single at the end of the 3rd and 6th parts. \* Produced by calling bob at first; singles at second, third, fourth, and fifth bobs at sixth; and seventh leads.

The above is the first peal produced in this method having the 6th twenty four times right and wrong in forty-eight courses only.

## A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR.

5024.

By CHARLES PRICE, *Eccleston*.

2 3 4 5 6 M B W H

2 4 5 3 6 I - 2 2

3 2 4 6 4 2 2 2

2 3 5 6 4 2 2

3 4 5 6 2 2 - I 2

2 6 5 4 3 2 - 2 I

2 5 4 6 3 I - 2 2

6 3 5 4 2 2 - 2

4 6 3 2 5 2 2 2

2 5 6 3 4 I 2 2

3 2 5 4 6 2 2 2

3 5 4 2 6 I - 2 2

6 2 4 5 3 2 - 2 I

2 3 4 5 6 2 - I 2

## A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR.

5184.

By BENJAMIN FRANCIS, *Diss*.

2 3 4 5 6 M B W H

4 6 5 3 2 I I 2

4 5 3 6 2 I - 2 2

3 2 6 5 4 I I 2

6 4 5 2 3 I I 2

3 5 4 2 6 I I

Twice repeated.

## A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR.

5120.

By H. DAINS, *Royal Cumberland Youths*.

2 3 4 5 6 M B W H

5 2 3 6 4 - 2

6 3 2 5 4 - 2 2

4 6 5 3 2 - 2 2

2 4 3 6 5 - 2 2

4 5 3 6 2 2 - I 2

6 4 5 2 3 - 2

2 5 4 6 3 - 2 2

6 2 5 3 4 - 2

4 6 3 2 5 - 2 2

6 5 3 2 4 2 - I 2

5 4 3 2 6 I 2

4 2 3 5 6 I -

5 3 2 4 6 I - 2

3 4 2 5 6 I -

5 2 4 3 6 I - 2

2 3 4 5 6 I -

This peal has the 4th the extent in 6th place, and the 6th the extent in 5-6, in the latter portion at the last six course-ends.

## A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR.

5376.

By WILLIAM WALKER, *Leeds*.

2 3 4 5 6 W M H

6 4 2 3 5 - - -

5 2 6 4 3 - - -

3 6 5 2 4 - - -

5 2 3 6 4 - - -

3 5 4 2 6 - - -

6 4 3 5 2 - - -

2 3 6 4 5 - - -

5 6 2 3 4 - - -

2 3 5 6 4 - - -

5 2 4 3 6 - - -

6 4 5 2 3 - - -

5 4 3 2 6 - - -

6 3 5 4 2 - - -

2 5 6 3 4 - - -

4 6 2 5 3 - - -

2 5 4 6 3 - - -

4 2 3 5 6 - - -

6 3 4 2 5 - - -

5 4 6 3 2 - - -

2 6 5 4 3 - - -

5 4 2 6 3 - - -

2 5 3 4 6 - - -

6 3 2 5 4 - - -

2 4 3 5 6 - s

Repeated.

Rung at Holbeck, Leeds, by members of the Yorkshire Association, on Tuesday, June 23rd, 1885. Conducted by M. Tomlinson.

## A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAXIMUS.

5184.

By ROBERT WILLIAMS, *Liverpool*.

2 3 4 5 6 M W H

6 5 4 3 2 I I I

3 6 4 5 2 I I

2 4 6 5 3 I I

4 5 2 3 6 2 2

6 3 2 5 4 I I I

5 6 2 3 4 I I

4 2 6 3 5 I I

2 3 4 5 6 2 2

## THE SHIPWAY REPRINT

May now be obtained of all news agents in town and country. As in this shape the number of copies printed will only be just enough to cover the demand, it is obvious that those who neglect to obtain the numbers at once will not afterwards have the opportunity.

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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.

W. J. GILBERT.—You can have the cards by sending the copy.

RICHARD HILL.—We should say no "method" at all, as the word is understood by ringers.

JAMES MORRIS.—Apply to the founders.

LONG MELFORD.—Your first letter was not accompanied by any name. Be a little milder in your language, and then we will insert what you have to say on the matter.

## The Bell News & Ringers' Record.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 15, 1885.

Much has been said at various times about the indifference and lukewarmness shown by certain ringers upon questions which concerns the well-being and prosperity of the science. And we may repeat that such apathetic persons have only themselves to blame, if their object in having anything to do with ringing at all is stigmatised as unworthy. A report read by the secretary of the Rochdale Association, and which by his request we publish, attempts to deal with this unfortunate want of zeal exhibited by the members of this society. It certainly is very discouraging when all the machinery is brought into play for the purpose of ensuring a successful meeting, that only about one in ten of the members show themselves. Those who belong to an Association in name only, who never care to exert themselves in the least concerning it, who are callous as to its progress, or otherwise, should sever their connection with it at once, and only leave those behind who will strive to make headway in the concern.

There is another class of apathetic ringers who do not belong—and who never intend to belong—to any organization whatever, either local or general. Such as these meet when they think they will—to use a vulgar saying, "when the maggot bites." And upon such occasions the efforts of young ringers are decryed—those, who if opportunity were afforded them would doubtless in time become good ringers, are treated in such a manner that they prefer staying away altogether, and thus the interests of ringing become injured in every way, all through the apathy of old ringers. Has no one who reads this paper been told, in his early ringing days, that he was getting on too fast? that he was in fact becoming more proficient than the individual who was wont to proclaim with a loud voice that he had "learnt all they young men." And this "getting on too fast" is a great bugbear to many of the class of persons who are always indifferent about the welfare of ringing, except when a consideration for their valuable services looms in the distance.

This apathy, this lukewarmness, is certainly a great evil. We want in fact, just the opposite—indomitable zeal, ardour, earnestness. To effectually place ringing in its proper position, to get it valued at its right and proper estimate in the minds of sensible people, its own reputed followers must not take it in hand seemingly unconcerned, but with a fidelity and will about which no misconception can possibly arise.

### The Metropolis.

SHADWELL, MIDDLESEX.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

On Monday, August 10, 1885, in Two Hours and Fifty-Two Minutes,

AT ST. PAUL'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S ORIGINAL.

SAMUEL JOYCE .. .. .Treble.	FREDERICK G. NEWMAN.. 5.
LEWIS GREEN .. .. .2.	JAMES PETTIT .. .. .6.
C. A. CLEMENTS* .. .. .3.	†WALTER PRIME.. .. .7.
HENRY TORBLE*.. .. .4.	THOMAS BAKER.. .. .Tenor.

Conducted by JAMES PETTIT.

C. A. Clements hails from Salisbury; Henry Torble from Eye, Suffolk, the rest are of London. \* First peal. † First peal with a bob bell.

### The Provinces.

HINDLEY, LANCASHIRE.

On Monday, August 3, 1885, in Two Hours and Forty-Nine Minutes,

AT ST. PETER'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S TEN-PART. Tenor 14½ cwt.

JOSEPH PRESCOTT .. ..Treble.	JAMES SHOLICAR .. .. .5.
WILLIAM J. TAYLOR .. .. .2.	WILLIAM BENTHAM.. .. .6.
HENRY ELLIS* .. .. .3.	EDWARD BENTHAM .. .. .7.
WILLIAM ELLIS .. .. .4.	GEORGE PRESCOTT .. ..Tenor.

Conducted by JOSEPH PRESCOTT.

\*First peal. Joseph Prescott hails from Hindley; Edward Bentham from Wigan; the rest belong to the Ormskirk Society.

The band who rung the peal at Faversham, Kent, reported in our last, was the Quex Park band.

## IPSWICH, SUFFOLK.

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

On Thursday, August 6, 1885, in Three Hours and Forty-one Minutes,

AT ST. MARY-LE-TOWER CHURCH,

## A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB ROYAL, 5000 CHANGES;

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

JAMES MOTTS .. .. .	Treble.	THOMAS STEWARD .. .. .	6.
WILLIAM MOTTS .. .. .	2.	EDGAR PEMBERTON .. .. .	7.
ISAAC S. ALEXANDER .. .. .	3.	WILLIAM A. WARD .. .. .	8.
WILLIAM MEADOWS .. .. .	4.	CHARLES WARD .. .. .	9.
FREDK. TILLET .. .. .	5.	ROBT. H. BRUNDLE .. .. .	Tenor.

Composed by J. RILEY, and conducted by JAMES MOTTS.

C. Ward hails from Melton; W. A. Ward from Ufford; and the rest are members of the St. Mary-le-Tower Society. The above was rung in honour of Miss Adela Lucy Cobbold's marriage.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS, AND  
THE DEVONSHIRE GUILD.

## Muffled Peal.

On Monday, August 10, 1885, in Three Hours and Nine Minutes,

AT ST. SIDWELL'S CHURCH,

## A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S ORIGINAL. Tenor 24 cwt. in D.

JAMES MOSS .. .. .	Treble.	*WILLIAM RICHARDSON .. .. .	5.
ALFRED SHEPHERD .. .. .	2.	RICHARD FRENCH .. .. .	6.
SIDNEY HERBERT .. .. .	3.	FERRIS SHEPHERD .. .. .	7.
WALTER G. GOSS .. .. .	4.	THOMAS J. LAKE .. .. .	Tenor.

Conducted by RICHARD FRENCH.

The bells were rung half-muffled as a mark of respect to the late Rev. H. T. Ellacombe, Rector of Clyst St. George, Devon. \*First peal with a bob bell, having previously rung the tenor.

## Date Touches.

## THE HERTFORD COLLEGE YOUTHS.

HERTFORD.—On Monday, August 10th, for practice, a date touch, of Bob Major, 1885 changes, at All Saints' church, in 1 hr. 14 mins. J. Cull, 1; J. G. Crawley, 2; W. A. Tyler, 3; H. Philips, 4; M. Ellsmore, 5; S. Knight, 6; H. J. Tucker (conductor), 7; H. Baker, 8. Composed by John Hopwood, of Ashton-under-Lyne, and has the 6th at home at the last nine courses. Tenor 22 cwt.

## THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

TUNBRIDGE WELLS.—On Monday, August 3rd, a date touch of 1885 changes, composed of Grandsire Minor and Doubles, in 1 hr. 5 mins. J. Muggeridge, 1; J. Colthup, 2; R. Sharville, 3; W. Latter, 4; H. Barefield (conductor), 5; G. Kember, 6. Tenor 14 cwt. 3 qrs. This is the longest touch of Minor by any of the ringers.

MOTTRAM-IN-LONGDENDALE (Cheshire).—On Tuesday evening, August 11th, seven of the local company, assisted by R. Hill, of Southport, but formerly of Mottram, rung a date touch of 1885 Kent Treble Bob Major, in 1 hour 2 mins. John Sidebotham, 1; John Harrop, 2; Robert Wright, 3; George D. Hadfield, 4; Richard Hill, 5; William Middleton, 6; George Braddock, 7; Thomas Braddock, 8. Composed by J. R. Pritchard, of Liverpool, and conducted by J. Sidebotham.

## Miscellaneous.

## ASSOCIATION FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.

TIPTON (Staffordshire).—On Sunday, August 9th, for Divine service in the evening at St. Martin's church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 44 mins. J. Jones, 1; T. Bennett, 2; S. Jesson, 3; W. Pardoe, 4; J. Martin, 5; W. R. Small, 6; J. Fullwood (conductor), 7; H. Winfield, 8. Tenor 12 cwt.

## THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

BROMHAM.—On Sunday, August 9th, for Divine Service in the morning, a 720 of Plain Bob Minor, with eighteen bobs and two singles. \*J. Spenser, 1; T. Tysoe, 2; H. King, 3; W. King, 4; C. Stafferton, 5; W. Biggs (conductor), 6. \*First 720.

## THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

BRAINTREE.—On Sunday morning, August 2nd, at the parish church, a 720 of Double Court Bob Minor. T. Watson, 1; F. Calthorpe, 2; A. J. Perkins (conductor), 3; S. Hammond, 4; F. Rudkin, 5; A. Huckson, 6. And for evening service, a 720 of Cambridge Surprise Minor. A. J. Perkins, 1; F. Calthorpe, 2; S. Hammond (conductor), 3; H. E. Hammond, 4; F. Rudkin, 5; A. Huckson, 6. *Handbell Ringing*.—On the following Monday, August 3rd, at Mr. Huckson's residence, a 720 of Double Oxford Bob Minor, being the first in this method by the whole band. S. Hammond, 1-2; F. Calthorpe, 3; A. J. Perkins, 4; F. Rudkin (conductor), 5; A. Huckson, 6. Also a 720 of Bob Minor, double-handed. H. E. Hammond (first double-handed) 1-2; A. J. Perkins (conductor), 3-4; S. Hammond, 5-6, called with twenty-one bobs and six singles, composed by S. Hammond. Also several touches of Bob Minor, Double Court Bob, Grandsire Triples, and a course of Kent Treble Bob Major.

STIATED.—On Sunday, August 2nd, for the afternoon service, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor, with fifteen bobs. W. Radley, 1; F. Calthorpe, 2; H. E. Hammond, 3; S. Hammond, 4; F. Rudkin, 5; A. J. Perkins (conductor), 6. Tenor 10 cwt. This is a very musical ring of six by the Whitechapel firm, in good going order, and well worthy a visit from any ringer. A. J. Perkins, who was on a visit to Braintree and Maldon, begs to thank most heartily the Braintree company for their very great kindness to him in many ways, and also assures all ringers that should they ever visit Braintree, they will find a set of men to deal with who will leave no stone unturned to make everything in every respect (within their power), as pleasant as possible.

WIDFORD (Essex).—On Friday, July 31st, at St. Mary's church, a 720 of Bob Minor (twenty-six singles), in 25 mins. E. Dains, 1; J. Dains (conductor), 2; A. Shuttleworth, 3; W. Harvey, 4; E. Scotcher (Galleywood), 5; W. Piper, 6. And on Sunday morning, August 2nd, a 720 of Bob Minor, the ringers standing as before except A. Tarbun (first 720), 5; and E. Scotcher, 8. And on Thursday evening, August 6th, Mr. H. Gylham, of Northampton, formerly a member of the Widford band, but who has been away since 1872, paid a visit to this place, when a 720 of Bob Minor was rung, in about 25 mins., and some touches of Kent and Oxford Treble Bob. E. Dains, 1; H. Gylham, 2; J. Dains, 3; W. Harvey, 4; T. Drake (conductor), 5; M. Rolfe, 8.

## THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

LOUGHBOROUGH (Leicestershire).—On Tuesday, August 11th, for practice, 312 Stedman Triples. A. Cresser, 1; C. Smith, 2; W. Billingham, 3; J. W. Taylor, sen., 4; S. Smith, 5; E. D. Taylor, 6; J. W. Taylor, jun. (conductor), 7; E. Wightman, 8. Tenor 24 cwt. in D. This is the first touch of Stedman Triples by the Loughborough band, and it may be interesting to know that all the performers are regularly employed at the Loughborough bell foundry.

## THE NORTH LINCOLNSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

GAINSBOROUGH.—On Tuesday, August 4th, at the parish church, a 720 of Grandsire Minor, with the tenor covering, in 27 mins. T. Pattison, 2; W. W. Bust, 3; W. D. Tinker (conductor), 4; W. Pattison, 5; C. Brewin, 6; F. Atkinson, 7; T. Hollingsworth, 8. Tenor 20 cwt. This is the first 720 with a bob bell by W. W. Bust.

## THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

CODDENHAM (Suffolk).—On Monday, August 3rd, at St. Mary's church, eight members of the above Association met and attempted the first two parts of Mr. T. Day's 15,648 of Oxford Treble Bob, but after ringing 2196 changes in 2 hrs. 23 mins., it came to grief. C. Mee (conductor), 1; T. Mee, 2; A. Acfield, jun. (Ufford), 3; S. Wightman (Cretingham), 4; D. G. Wightman (Cretingham), 5; T. Steward, 6; A. S. Wightman (Cretingham), 7; P. Meadows (Melton), 8. The brothers Mee and Stewart belong to St. Mary-le-Tower, Ipswich.

FRAMSDEN (Suffolk).—On Monday evening, July 27th, at the monthly meeting of the Helmingham society, the following members of the above Association rang 1312 changes of Oxford Treble Bob, this being the first four courses of T. Day's 16,608, their being no more time to go any further, so stand was called. Geo. Perry, 1; D. G. Wightman, 2; H. Bedingfield, 3; A. S. Wightman, 4; C. Mee (Ipswich), 5; S. Wightman, 6; G. Sharman, 7; Peto Meadows (conductor), 8. This is the longest touch rang upon the bells for a great many years.

## THE ROCHDALE AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATION.

ROCHDALE.—On Monday, August 10th, at the parish church, a 1088 and a 576 of Kent Treble Bob (composed by S. Marsh), in 42 mins. J. T. Lucas, 1; J. Siddall, 2; J. Hoggard, 3; Geo. Hoyle, 4; W. Siddall, 5; A. Hirst, 6; F. Birtwistle (conductor), 7; J. Harrison, 8. J. Harrison hails from Heywood. In the 576 J. Millett, of Heywood rang the treble.

**TODMORDEN (Lancashire).**—On Wednesday, July 29th, the local company rang a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples, 1260 changes, in 45 mins. Jno. A. Sutcliffe, 1; Jno. Mitton, 2; Ben Midgley, 3; Y. Greenwood, 4; J. W. Greenwood (conductor), 5; Wm. Midgley, 6; Jas. Sutcliffe, 7; H. Kershaw, 8.

#### STOKE-ON-TRENT ARCHIDIACONAL ASSOCIATION.

**FAIRFIELD, NR. BUXTON.**—On Monday, August 10th, a 720 of Oxford Bob Minor, in 27 mins. W. Baddeley, 1; E. Glover, 2; J. Wood, 3; J. W. Brough, 4; J. Baddeley, 5; G. Walker (conductor), 6. Tenor 11 cwt.

**NORTON.**—On Sunday morning, August 2nd, a 720 of Court Bob Minor, in 26 mins. W. Baddeley, 1; E. Glover, 2; J. Morton, 3; J. Wood, 4; J. W. Brough, 5; G. Walker (conductor), 6. And on Sunday, August 9th, for service, 720 of Oxford Bob, in 25½ mins. W. Baddeley, 1; E. Glover, 2; G. Walker, 3; J. W. Brough, 4; J. Baddeley (conductor), 5; J. Wood, 6.

**STOKE.**—On Monday, August 10th, at the parish church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 48 mins. \*F. Masefield, 1; H. Bailey, 2; E. Montford, 3; \*F. Martin, 4; H. Page (conductor), 5; \*S. Spencer, 6; \*S. Walker, 7; H. Kamester, 8. \*Hail from Wolstanton.

#### THE WATERLOO SOCIETY.

**LONDON.**—On Friday evening, August 7th, at St. Margaret's church, Westminster, a touch of Grandsire Caters, 2466 changes, in 1 hr. 27 mins. Samuel Smith, 1; Albert E. Church, 2; Charles E. Malim, 3; Henry J. Davies, 4; William Baron (conductor), 5; John W. Mansfield, 6; William Jones, 7; Henry A. Hopkins, 8; William H. George, 9; Frederick G. Newman, 10. The above was rung in honour of the birthday of the Rev. Archdeacon Farrar, D.D. The ringers wish him "many happy returns," and also thank him through the medium of this paper, for having placed the bells at their disposal for the purpose of learning the art of change-ringing.

#### THE WORCESTERSHIRE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

**BROMSGROVE (Worcestershire).**—On Monday, July 27th, at the parish church of St. John's, a date touch of 1885 Grandsire Caters, in 1 hr. 13 mins. William Broomfield, 1; George Bourne, 2; Thomas Allbutt, 3; George Hayward, 4; Oliver James, 5; Elijah Crump, 6; Reuben Broomfield, 7; George Morris, 8; Walter Rea (conductor), 9; James Parry, 10. Composed by Mr. G. Hayward. This is the first touch W. Rea has conducted, and it was rang in honour of the treble ringer, who was fifteen years of age on that day.

**BENGEO (Herts).**—On Sunday, August 9th, at Holy Trinity Church, a 720 of Grandsire Minor (thirty-eight bobs and twenty-two singles), in 27 mins. T. Barker (first 720 of Minor), J. Pomfret, 2; J. Chaner, 3; C. W. Tyler, 4; M. Ellsmore, 5; H. J. Tucker (conductor), 6.

**BEIGHTON (Derbyshire).**—On Sunday, August 9th, the Eckington company visited the parish church, and rang for Divine Service, a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob. F. Hancock, 1; J. Shaw, 2; W. Price, 3; E. James, 4; H. Banks (Beighton), 5; G. Marsden (conductor), 6.

**BOOTLE (Lancashire).**—On Sunday evening, August 2nd, at Christ Church, a 360 of College Single Minor (nine bobs). E. Yeates, 1; R. H. Barton, 2; W. Short, 3; W. Rushton, 4; T. Woodward, 5; J. Bradshaw (conductor), 6. Tenor 12½ cwt.

**BOURNEMOUTH (Hants).**—On Thursday, August 6th, at St. Peter's church, the local company, assisted by one or two visitors rang their first 504 Grandsire Triples. A. Grist, 1; C. A. Clements (Salisbury), 2; C. Staden, 3; T. Green (conductor), 4; J. R. Jerram (Salisbury), 5; H. Merritt, 6; H. Romsey (London), 7; T. Belbin, 8. Tenor 20 cwt. Also on Sunday, August 9th, for morning and evening service two 504's of Grandsire Triples. T. Bennett, 1; J. Jerram, 2; T. Rumsey, 3; T. Green, 4; C. Clements, 5; H. Merritt, 6; H. Garrett, 7; T. Belbin, 8. And the same band in the evening, excepting C. Staden ringing the 3rd, and G. Colborn ringing the tenor.

**BRIGHTON (Sussex).**—On Tuesday, August 11th, at St. Nicholas' Church, by a mixed band, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 45 mins. James Neve, 1; Henry Lewis, 2; G. Cartmell, 3; W. R. Smith, 4; — Weston, 5; G. King, 6; J. Searle (conductor), 7; E. Butler, 8. Also 120 Stedman Doubles, with 6-7 behind. — Weston, 1; \*W. R. Smith, 2; H. Lewis, 3; J. Searle (conductor), 4; G. Cartmell, 5; W. Davey, 6; G. King, 7; W. Palmer, 8. H. Lewis and G. Cartmell hail from St. Albans; Weston from St. Peter's, Brighton; \*College Youth; the rest belong to the St. Nicholas company.

**BRISTOL.**—On Sunday evening, August 9th, at St. Nicholas Church, a touch of Grandsire Triples, with the bells muffled, as a tribute of

respect to the late Rev. H. T. Ellacombe. G. Staddon, 1; G. Morgan, 2; E. Duckham, 3; G. Townsend, 4; W. Emery, 5; J. Hinton (conductor), 6; E. Beake, 7; H. Whitelock, 8.

**BURTON-ON-TRENT.**—On Thursday, August 6th, at St. Paul's church a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 52 mins. J. Austin, 1; S. Grettton, 2; E. I. Stone, 3; F. Dimpleby, 4; G. Robinson, 5; Thos. Holmes, 6; John Jaggar (conductor), 7; W. Orme, 8. All members of the Midland Counties' Association except W. Orme.

**CARBROOKE (Norfolk).**—On Monday, August 3rd, at the church of SS. Peter and Paul, 120 of Old Doubles. G. Moy, 1; A. Neal, 1; P. Sadler (conductor), 3; M. Jarvis, 4; E. Eagling, 5. Tenor 10 cwt.

**COLN ST. ALDWYN'S (Gloucestershire).**—On Monday, August 3rd, at the parish church, a 350 of Oxford Treble Bob Minor. R. Packer, 1; E. Webb, 2; J. Williams, 3; R. Jeffries (conductor), 4; \*A. Tennant, 5; J. Kitchener, 6. \*First 350 in the method. Also a 504 of Grandsire Triples. E. Webb, 1; Rev. R. P. Davies (conductor), 2; J. Williams, 3; R. Jeffries, 4; A. Tennant, 5; J. Kitchener, 6; J. Preater, 7; R. Packer, 8. This is the first attempt of calling by the Rev. R. P. Davis.

**DUFFIELD (Derbyshire).**—On Tuesday, August 4th, being the day of the funeral of the Rev. H. T. Ellacombe, the local band rang the bells half-muffled, commencing with a plain course of Grandsire Major, (the deceased gentleman being in his 96th year), followed by some Grandsire Triples and Treble Bob Major. And on Sunday, August 9th, for Divine Service, two touches of Bob Major, and a 252 of Stedman Triples.

**EDINBURGH.—Muffled Peal.**—On Thursday, August 6th, at the Cathedral church of St. Mary, the local company rang a deeply muffled touch, as a tribute of respect to the memory of the Rev. H. T. Ellacombe, late Rector of Clyst St. George, Devon. \*J. Johnston, 1; \*W. R. Fyfe, 2; J. R. S. Ritchie, 3; \*J. C. Fyfe, 4; C. H. Green, 5; \*D. Taylor, 6; \*G. G. Cunningham, 7; \*H. White, 8; \*G. Hodgson, 9; A. Crosbie, 10. \*J. Rayner, sen., and \*W. C. S. Heathcote also rang 2 and 4 respectively, during part of the time. After the conclusion of the touch, which was conducted by Mr. G. Hodgson, the age of the deceased was rung in slow time on the tenor (42 cwt. in C), by Mr. J. Rayner, the muffles having been removed. \*Members of the Ancient Society of College Youths.

**FARNHAM ROYAL (Bucks).**—On Saturday, August 8th, at the parish church, a 720 of Grandsire Minor, in 27 mins. E. Batten, 1; J. Basden, 2; G. Basden, 3; J. Parker (composer and conductor), 4; R. Flaxman, 5; C. Clarke, 6. Also touches in Minor and Doubles in which the following took part: F. Earl, E. Robinson, H. Macro, and T. Brown.

**HOLME HALE (Norfolk).**—On Monday, August 3rd, at St. Andrew's church, a 720 of Bob Minor. J. Rudderham, 1; P. Sadler (conductor), 2; G. Moy, 3; M. Jarvis, 4; A. Neal, 5; E. Eagling, 6. Tenor 18 cwt.

**LIVERPOOL.**—On Sunday, July 26th, the members of St. Peter's pro-Cathedral Society rang for Divine Service in the evening, five courses of Stedman Caters. Richard Williams, 1; Henry Meadows, 2; John Brown, 3; William Rock Small, 4; John Moore, 5; John Pritchard, 6; Thomas Hammond, 7; William Booth, 8; Robert Williams (conductor), 9; William Bigham, 10. Mr. W. R. Small hails from West Bromwich, Staffordshire.

**NETHERTON (Worcestershire).**—On Sunday, August 2nd, a 720 of Grandsire Minor was rang to commemorate the fiftieth birthday of Mr. John Hayward, of Longton, Potteries, who was formerly a member of the Stourbridge society, and being out of the country for eighteen years, and finding no change ringers at the old tower, he and W. Lawrence found their way to St. Andrew's, Netherton, and with four members of the Worcester Association, rang the above 720. J. Hayward, 1; J. Townsend, 2; J. Smith (conductor), 3; J. Robinson, 4; W. Lawrence, 5; James Prestidge, 6. And on Monday, August 3rd, they visited Wollaston, and rang for the same occasion as above, a 720 of Grandsire Minor. J. Hayward, 1; W. H. Hughes, 2; J. Lewis, 3; H. Dakin, 4; W. Lawrence, 5; E. S. Chapman (conductor), 6.

**PRESTON (Suffolk).**—On Tuesday evening, August 4th, at St. Mary's Church, a 720 of Bob Minor, with eighteen bobs and two singles, in 25 mins. H. Symonds (conductor), 1; Wm. Hollocks, 2; A. Hollocks, 3; \*J. Moore, 4; H. Smith, 5; J. Levitt, 6. \*First 720 in the method. Also on Sunday, August 9th, after Divine Service in the afternoon, a 720 in the same method, with eighteen bobs and twelve singles, in 25 mins. H. Symonds, 1; Wm. Hollocks, 2; A. Hollocks, 3; H. Smith, 4; W. Snell, 5; A. Symonds (conductor), 6. Tenor 11 cwt. Messrs. Symonds, Smith, and Snell hail from Lavenham, the rest are local men.

**READING (Berks).**—On Monday, August 10th, at St. Laurence's Church (being St. Laurence's day), a 504 of Grandsire Triples, at 8.30 a.m., in 20 mins., taken from *Troyte*. A. E. Reeves, 1; R. T. Hibbert, 2; F. W. Round, 3; H. M. Bawden, 4; W. H. Holloway, 5; W. Goseltine, 6; W. J. Williams (conductor), 7; J. T. Waldron, 8. And in the evening, the fifth part of Holt's ten-part peal of Grandsire Triples, 518 changes, in 21 mins. A. E. Reeves, 1; R. Swain, 2; H. White (Basingstoke), 3; H. M. Bawden, 4; W. H. Holloway, 5; W. Goseltine, 6; W. J. Williams (conductor), 7; R. T. Hibbert, 8.

**REYMERSTONE (Norfolk).**—On Monday, August 3rd, at St. Peter's church, 120 of Old Doubles. G. Moy, 1; P. Sadler (conductor), 2; A. Neal, 3; M. Jarvis, 4; E. Eagling, 5. Tenor 9 cwt. Messrs. Eagling, Rudderham, add Jarvis hail from Hingham; Neal and Moy from Aylsham; Sadler from Norwich.

**RINGSTEAD (Northamptonshire).**—On Tuesday, July 21st, at St. Mary's church, a 720 of Yorkshire Court (eighteen bobs and two singles). G. Roberts, 1; W. J. Gilbert (conductor), 2; E. Mayes, 3; J. Sawford, 4; J. Braybrook, 5; T. Roberts, 6. This is the first 720 in this method by all except the second and third men. And on Tuesday, August 4th, a 720 of College Single (eighteen bobs and two singles). G. Roberts, 1; E. Mayes, 2; R. Shiply, 3; J. Braybrook, 4; W. J. Gilbert (conductor), 5; T. Roberts, 6. Also a 720 of College Little (eighteen bobs and two singles). G. Roberts, 1; J. Braybrook, 2; E. Mayes, 3; W. J. Gilbert, 4; J. Sawford, 5; T. Roberts (conductor), 6.

**SAHAM TONEY (Norfolk).**—On Monday, August 3rd, at St. George's church, three courses of Bob Minor. J. Rudderham, 1; G. Moy, 2; A. Neal, 3; E. Eagling, 4; M. Jarvis, 5; P. Sadler, 6. Tenor about 18 cwt.

**SALISBURY.**—*Muffled Peal.*—On Tuesday, August 11th, at St. Martin's church, a muffled peal, consisting of the usual whole pull and stand, in memory of the late Rev. H. T. Ellacombe, in 29 mins. Also six 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles, each called differently. J. Short, 1; E. A. Foster, 2; T. Blackburn (conductor), 3; J. Wilton, 4; W. W. Gifford, 5; J. Judd, 6.

**SHIPHAM (Norfolk).**—On Monday, August 3rd, at All Saints', 360 of Bob Minor. J. Rudderham, 1; G. Moy, 2; M. Jarvis, 3; A. Neal, 4; E. Eagling, 5; P. Sadler (conductor), 6.

**TWEEKSBURY ABBEY (Gloucestershire).**—On Monday, August 3rd, the Abbey society with some other ringing friends met at the Abbey, and rang touches of 504 of Stedman, Union, and Grandsire Triples, and a course of Kent Treble Bob Major. G. Cleal, 1; R. H. Witherington, 2; F. J. Moore, 3; J. Hale, 3; Jno. Wathen, 5; E. Wallis, 6; Jos. Wathen (conductor), 7; W. Haines, 8. In the 504 of Union Triples, J. Devereux rang the 6th bell, the other ringers as above. Later in the day was rung the first part of Reeves's variation of Holt's 10-part, by a mixed band of Worcester and Tewkesbury ringers: W. Blandford, H. Wilkes, F. Owen, and —. Malim taking part.

**TUNBRIDGE WELLS (Kent).**—On Sunday evening, August 9th, for Divine Service in the evening, a 720 of Grandsire Minor in 24 mins. J. Muggeridge, 1; J. Colthup, 2; R. Sharville, 3; W. Latter, 4; H. Barefield (conductor), 5; G. Kember, 6. Tenor 14 cwt. 3 qrs.

**WALTHAM ABBEY (Essex).**—On Sunday, August 2nd, for Divine Service in the evening, 504 Stedman Triples. Thomas Powell (conductor), 1; James Hinton (Worcester), 2; William B. Manning (Walthamstow), 3; Henry Johnson, jun. (Birmingham), 4; David Tarling, 5; Harvey Reeves (Walthamstow), 6; Alfred Estall (Walthamstow), 7; Thomas Watson (Walthamstow), 8. The ringer of the 2nd is totally deaf, and had to be tapped when each bob was called.

**WARE (Herts).**—On Tuesday, August 11th, a 504 of Grandsire Triples. J. Jauncey, 1; H. Phillips, 2; M. Ellsmore, 3; W. A. Tyler, 4; W. Goodchild, 5; H. Baker (conductor), 6; H. J. Tucker, 7; G. Powter, 8. Also 503 in the same method. J. Jauncey, 1; H. Phillips, 2; M. Ellsmore, 3; W. Goodchild, 4; H. Baker, 5; W. A. Tyler, 6; H. J. Tucker (conductor), 7; C. Halfhide, 8. Tenor 22½ cwt. Messrs. Goodchild, Powter, and Halfhide belong to the Ware Society.

**WOMBOURN (Staffs).**—On Wednesday, July 29th, Penning's 1-part 720 of Bob Minor, forty-two singles in 26 mins. G. Deans, 1; W. Devey, 2; J. G. Claridge, 3; H. Deans, 4; A. Little, 5; R. Cartwright (conductor), 6. Tenor about 12 cwt. And on Wednesday, August 5th, a 720 of Bob Minor, sixteen bobs and two singles, in 26 mins. G. Deans, 1; H. Deans, 2; A. Little, 3; W. Devey, 4; J. E. Claridge, 5; R. Cartwright (conductor), 6. Also on Sunday, August 9th, for evening service, three six-scores of St. Simon's Doubles. G. Deans, 1; J. E. Claridge, 2; A. Little, 3; W. Devey, 4; R. Cartwright (conductor), 5; G. Little, 6.

**WORTH (Sussex).**—On Sunday, August 2nd, the local company rung for morning service, 720 of Plain Bob Minor, and after service a

720 of Oxford Bob. W. Owden, 1; W. Denman, 2; T. Tullett, 3; G. Illman, 4; F. Rice, 5; E. Streeter (conductor), 6. Also for afternoon service, a 720 of Warnham Court Bob. T. Illman, 1; W. Denman, 2; F. Rice, 3; F. Streeter, 4; G. Illman, 5; E. Streeter (conductor), 6. Also after service in the evening, a 720 of Canterbury Pleasure. H. Meads (Balcombe), 1; W. Denman, 2; F. Streeter, 5; E. Streeter, 4; G. Illman, 5; F. Rice (conductor), 6. And 720 College Single. F. Rice, 1; W. Denman, 2; H. Meads, 3; F. Streeter, 4; G. Illman, 5; E. Streeter (conductor), 6. Also 360 of Warnham Court. W. Owden, 1; W. Denman, 2; F. Streeter, 3; G. Illman, 4; E. Streeter, 5; F. Rice (conductor), 6.

#### THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—ROTHWELL BRANCH.

The following is the ringing done by this branch of the above Association, at Holy Trinity church, during the month of July. July 5th, 360 of Violet, 360 Duke of York, 240 of New London Pleasure, 240 of Violet, 240 Duke of York, 360 Oxford Treble Bob. July 6th, 360 Oxford Treble Bob, 720 London Scholars; July 12th, 360 of Violet, 360 Duke of York, 720 of Arnold's Victory, 720 New London Pleasure; July 19th, 360 Oxford Treble Bob; July 20th, 384 Oxford Treble Bob, 360 London Scholars, 240 Violet, 240 Duke of York; July 26th, 240 Oxford Treble Bob, 360 Oxford Treble Bob, 240 Oxford Treble Bob; July 27th, 360 London Scholars, 240 Violet, 384 Oxford Treble Bob. The following are the ringers: J. Abbishaw, J. Harrison, \*J. Verity, \*A. Chapman, J. Haigh, \*W. Abbishaw, \*S. Stacey, \*J. M. Chadwick. \*First 360 of London Scholars excepting J. Haigh, who rang the third on this occasion. A. CHAPMAN.

#### THE RECENT ACCIDENT TO A RINGING PARTY.

The following sums have been received for the purpose of helping to defray the great loss sustained by Mr. H. F. Wood in this unfortunate affair:—

	s.	d.		s.	d.
Rev. E. S. ... ..	2	6	H. Lewis, St. Albans ... ..	5	0
J. West ... ..	2	0	S. Joyce ... ..	2	6
J. W. Snowdon, Esq. ... ..	10	0	J. H. Monday ... ..	5	6
W. Banister ... ..	5	0	M. A. Wood ... ..	10	0
Bedfordshire Association ... ..	5	0	A. Hayward ... ..	2	0
St. Martin's, Salisbury ... ..	10	0	W. Cecil ... ..	2	0
St. Peter's, Leeds, Yorks ... ..	5	0	A. B. Goody ... ..	5	6
H. Edwards ... ..	2	6	Mr. Lewis Green ... ..	2	0
J. Dwight ... ..	2	6	St. Mary's society, Walthamstow ... ..	10	0
I. Shade ... ..	5	0	Thomas Clark, Sharow, Ripon ... ..	5	0
R. S. Story ... ..	5	0	I. S. ... ..	5	0
E. Wallege ... ..	2	0	H. Dains ... ..	2	0
J. Barrett ... ..	2	0	C. A. Clements, Salisbury ... ..	2	6
J. Comb ... ..	5	0	W. Story, Newcastle-on-Tyne ... ..	2	6
Spalding, SS. Mary and Nicolas ... ..	3	0	G. Banks, Lower Kennington Lane ... ..	2	6
D. Newton ... ..	1	0	D. Newton (second subscription) ... ..	1	0
J. Dupen ... ..	2	0	Given by the following mem-		
C. Lee ... ..	1	0	of the St. Peter Mancroft		
C. Beech ... ..	1	0	Society, Norwich—		
J. West (second donation) ... ..	3	0	F. Knights ... ..	5	0
J. Barry ... ..	1	0	H. Roberts ... ..	1	0
T. Powell, Waltham Abbey ... ..	2	6	F. H. Knights (Master) ... ..	1	0
J. Baxter, Leamington, late of			W. Bales ... ..	1	0
Devonport ... ..	5	0	G. Smith ... ..	1	0
J. R. Jerram, Salisbury ... ..	2	6	J. Skinner ... ..	1	0
S. Margaret's Society, Wolstanton,			B. Tungate ... ..	1	0
Staffordshire ... ..	5	0	J. Smith ... ..	1	0
G. Dorington ... ..	2	0	G. Thurtall ... ..	1	0
H. J. Shade ... ..	2	6	R. Bacon ... ..	1	0
G. Russell, Croydon ... ..	1	0	E. Ward ... ..	1	0
H. Pearce ... ..	2	0	W. Cushing ... ..	1	0
F. Newman ... ..	2	0	J. Fiddament ... ..	1	0
R. Turner ... ..	2	0	P. Sadler ... ..	1	6
T. Dupen ... ..	2	6	W. H. Potter ... ..	1	0
W. Prime ... ..	2	0	Small sums ... ..	1	6
W. Cooter ... ..	2	6			
J. Davidson ... ..	3	0			
Widford and Galleywood C.R. ... ..	5	0			
			T. Hattersley, Sheffield ... ..	5	0
			John Nicoll, Church Bell Rope		
			Maker, Keetons Road, Ber-		
			mondsey ... ..	5	0

Further donations, however small, are urgently solicited. Mr. Matthew Wood, 11 Church Row, Bethnal Green, London, will be happy to give any further information, and will thankfully acknowledge any sums forwarded to him.

**THE BRITISH WORKMAN'S ASSURANCE COMPANY.**—The Nineteenth Annual General Meeting of this excellent corporation has just been held. The report is of a character which shows that the management devote the whole of their energies to its well-being and success. That this is a compliment well deserved is patent when it is seen that though the total amount paid in claims during the year was close upon £55,000, a dividend at the rate of 10 per cent. was declared upon the paid-up capital. We seem to doubt the accuracy of our vision when looking at the sum which represents the Annual Premiums paid during the year for new business alone—£53,273 17s. This fact certainly affords the most irrefragable evidence that in the British Workman's Assurance Company immense confidence is reposed by all classes. Notwithstanding such a great increase of business, the working expenses have been reduced by three per cent.

## 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 RINGS OF WILTS IN 1885.

SIR,—The list beneath will no doubt be of interest to Mr. Rees. In 1866 I made lists of bells in every county, and have corrected them from time to time. Of the counties of Beds, Bucks, Devon, Dorset, Essex, Gloucester, Herts, Middlesex, Rutland, Somerset, Stafford, and Wilts, I have the contents of every tower, about 500 of which I have personally inspected.

Church.	No. of bells.	Weight of tenor.	Note of tenor.	Ref.	Oldest bell.
Aldbourn ..	8	19	..	..	Mediaeval.
Bishops Cannings ..	8	17	..	*	1602. J. Wallis.
aBishopston, near Shrivensham ..	8	..	..	..	..
Bradford-on-Avon ..	8	32	Eb	..	1614. J. Wallis.
Calne ..	8	..	..	..	1658.
Chipp'gh'm S Andw ..	8	20	..	..	1734. A. Rudhall.
" S. Paul ..	8	..	..	..	..
Colerne ..	8	15	F	..	Mediaeval.
Devizes S John Bpt. ..	8	23	..	..	1610. J. Wallis.
Erchfont alias Urch' ..	8	19	..	..	1610. J. Wallis.
Highworth ..	8	..	..	..	..
Marlboro' S. Peter ..	8	13	..	..	1831. T. Mears.
Swindon, Christ's ..	8	14	G	..	1741. A. Rudhall.
Salisbury S. Th'm's ..	8	30	D	†	1716. Abraham Rudhall.
" S. Edmund ..	8	28	Eb	..	1656. W. Purdue.
Trowbridge ..	8	21	E	..	1800. J. Wells.
Worminster ..	8	28	..	..	Mediaeval.
Whitsbury ..	8	4	C	..	1619. J. Wallis.
Amesbury ..	6	20	..	..	1623. Salisbury Foundry
Bedwyn, Great ..	6	28	..	..	1767.
Berwick, St. John ..	6	..	Ab	..	1591.
Bradley, North ..	6	..	..	..	1865.
Bremhill ..	6	..	..	..	Mediaeval.
Broadchalke ..	6	15	F	..	1664. W. & R. Purdue.
Broad Hinton ..	6	9	..	..	Old ring 1658, W. Purdue. 1875, Warner's new ring.
Bromham ..	6	19	..	..	..
Castle Eaton ..	6	..	..	..	Mediaeval.
Chilmark ..	6	11	Bb	..	..
Christian Malford ..	6	..	..	..	..
Chute Forest ..	6	..	..	..	..
Cliffe Pipard ..	6	..	..	..	1604. J. Wallis.
Corsham ..	6	25	..	..	1757. T. Bilbie.
Corsley ..	6	..	..	..	..
Devizes, S. Mary ..	6	19	..	..	1663. W. & R. Purdue.
Dinton ..	6	14	F	..	Mediaeval.
Donhead S. Mary ..	6	10	..	..	1771. Wells.
Downton ..	6	21	..	..	Mediaeval.
Edington ..	6	23	..	..	1640. J. Lett.
Everley ..	6	14	..	..	1814. Jas. Wells.
Heytesbury ..	6	19	..	..	Mediaeval.
Hindon ..	6	9	A	..	1754. A. Rudhall.
Horningsham ..	6	14	..	..	1743. W. Cockey.
Keevil ..	6	19	..	..	1609. J. Wallis.
Kington S. Michael ..	6	..	..	..	1726. A. Rudhall.
Kingston Deverill ..	6	13	..	..	1731. W. Cockey.
Knole, East ..	6	14	F	..	W. Cockey.
Lavington, East ..	6	15	..	..	1611. J. Wallis.
Lavington, West ..	6	11	..	..	1810. J. Wells.
Laycock ..	6	12	..	..	1628.
Longbridge Deverill ..	6	13	..	..	1731. W. Cockey.
Marlboro' S. Mary ..	6	14	..	..	1653. W. Purdue.
Mere ..	6	27	..	..	Mediaeval.
Melksham ..	6	18	F	..	1703. A. Rudhall.
Milton Lilbourne ..	6	10	..	..	1789. Robt. Wells.
Newnton Long ..	6	..	..	..	..
Oaksey ..	6	..	..	..	Mediaeval.
Pewsey ..	6	11	..	..	Mediaeval.
Potterne ..	6	17	..	..	oldest bell in Wilts.
Ramsbury ..	6	16	..	..	1708. A. Rudhall.
Rowde ..	6	12	G	..	New ring by Taylor. 1639, the old ring of 5.
Salisbury S. Martin ..	6	13	G	..	1582. J. Wallis.
" S. Paul Fisher-ton Anger ..	6	12	F#	..	1609. J. Wallis.
Seend ..	6	14	..	..	1636.
Semley ..	6	26	Eb	..	Mediaeval.

Severnhampton ..	6	..	..	..	..
Steeple Ashton ..	6	20	..	..	1607. J. Wallis.
Stourton ..	6	..	..	..	1624.
Sutton Veney ..	6	11	..	..	1695. W. Cockey.
Tisbury ..	6	17	Eb	..	1700. Robt. Corr.
Westbury ..	6	35	..	..	1616. Heaviest tenor in Wilts.
Wilton ..	6	8	..	..	1831. Mears.
Wraxhall ..	6	7	..	..	1769. A. Rudhall.
Zeals ..	6	12	..	..	..

aNot Bishopston near Salisbury.

\*Have sanctus bells in addition to the ring.

†Has two small quarter jack-bells.

§Has two of the old bells still left in the tower; this is the lightest ring in Wilts.

¶Churches not mentioned by Mr. Rees.

Bells marked "mediaeval" are undated, but have inscriptions in Lombardic or Black Letter respectively. JNO. HARRIS, C.E.

6, Fir Park Terrace, Lacon Road, East Dulwich.

## THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, August 1st, ringers from Bedford, Raunds, Ringstead, and Irthlingborough, paid a visit to St. Edmund's church, Northampton, for the purpose of attempting a peal of Bob Triples, but on account of the bad go of the bells, no great length was rung, the longest length of Triples being a 252, and several touches of Oxford Treble Bob Minor, London Single, Double Court, and Plain Bob; and afterwards was rung a 720 of Bob Minor, with eighteen bobs and two singles, in 25 mins. H. Stubbs (Raunds), 1; C. West (Bedford) 2; J. Houghton (Irthlingborough), 3; J. Atkins (Bedford), 4; C. W. Clarke (conductor), (Bedford), 5; W. J. Gilbert (Raunds), 6. This is the first 720 rang on the bells, which are a new ring of eight by Messrs. Taylor and Co., only being put in the tower in March 1884, the tenor weighing 17 cwt. 3 qrs. 21 lbs. in F.

## THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

ON Tuesday evening, August 11th, eight members of the above Association met at Eccles parish church, for the purpose of attempting a peal of Kent Treble Major, with the bells half-muffled, as a token of respect to the late Rev. H. T. Ellacombe, a notice of whose death appeared in last week's "BELL NEWS," and after ringing about 1000 changes, two of the muffles came off, and the conductor called "stand." After these had been put right, a touch of 1152 Treble Bob was rung in 35 mins. James O'Brien, 1; John Eachus, 2; Edward Cash, 3; Samuel West, 4; James Barratt, 5; Charles Cash, 6; Thomas Heald, 7; George H. Johnson (conductor), 8. Tenor 13 cwt. 3 qrs. Messrs. Eachus and West belong to Manchester Cathedral; O'Brien and Heald to St. Philip's, Hulme; the rest belong to the local company.

## THE ST. JAMES'S COMPANY, TROWBRIDGE, WILTS.

THE above company had an outing to Bournemouth, on Wednesday, August 5th. Arriving there about 9 a.m. they proceeded by steamer to the Isle of Wight, and returning at 5 p.m., they were met by Messrs. Grist and Staden, of the St. Peter's Society, Bournemouth, Mr. Romsey, of London, and Messrs. Clements and Jerram of Salisbury, who were staying in the town. They rang 504 and 168 of Grandsire Triples, at St. Peter's church, in company with the above. They returned home about 8 p.m., well satisfied with their day's outing.

## ST. BOTOLPH'S CHURCH, GRIMSTON, NORFOLK.

THE bells of this church, formerly four in number, were recast into a light peal of six, tenor 10 cwt., by Dobson of Downham, in 1816, but of late had got into an unringable condition, the frame and fittings being entirely rotten. The order to rehang them was entrusted to Messrs. Warner and Sons, of the well-known Cripplegate Foundry, and they have placed in the tower a massive frame of English oak, with new fittings, and on Thursday, August 6th, on the completion of the work, the following members of the Lynn society rang a 720 of Bob Minor in 27 mins. H. Hollaud, 1; J. W. Taylor (conductor), 2; E. Lockwood, 3; M. True, 4; D. Greaves, 5; G. Holland, 6, the ringers expressing themselves very pleased at the excellent go of the bells and the alterations in the belfry arrangements.

A correspondent writes:—"What is the cost of Seage's Apparatus for Dumb Practice, to a peal of eight, with a space between the bells and ringing-chamber of about 15 ft.?" Perhaps some of our readers, who have had this apparatus fixed, can give the information required.



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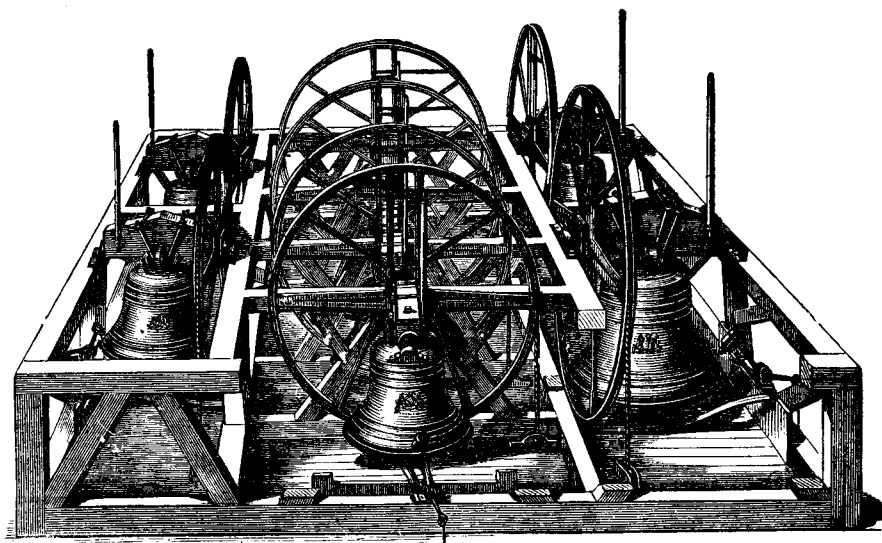
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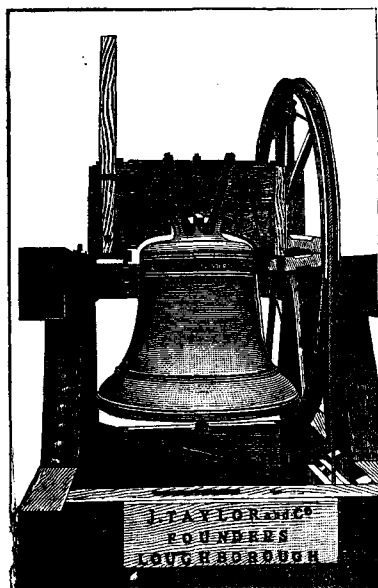


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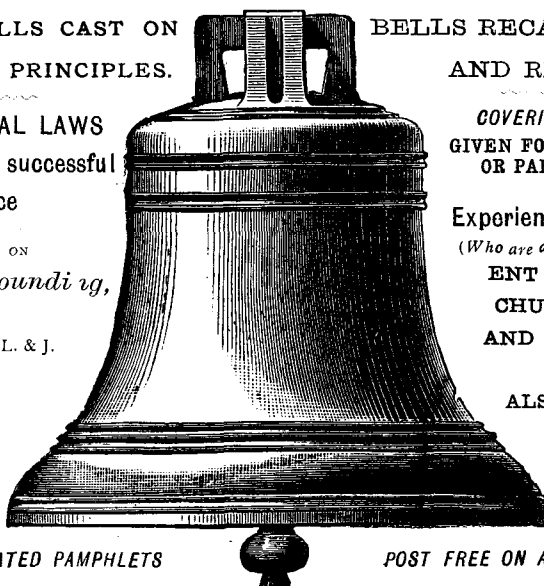
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SATURDAY, AUGUST 22, 1885.

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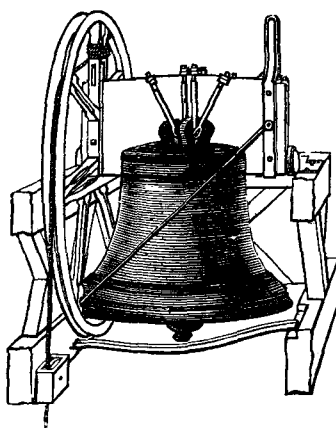
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## THE DUFFIELD SOCIETY, DERBYSHIRE.

On Saturday, August 15th, the members of the above society, accompanied by their conductor and churchwarden, Messrs. A. Percival Heywood and John Myring, had their annual outing. The party, numbering ten, left Duffield at nine o'clock a.m., the first halt being at St. Andrew's, Derby, where they were joined by Mr. John Howe (formerly their instructor), and a start was made for Treble Bob Major. When a 576 had been brought round, there was a rush for the 10.30 express to Burton-on-Trent, and in half-an-hour after the party presented themselves at the belfry door of St. Paul's church, where they were met by Messrs. Wakley and Holmes, the obliging master and steeplekeeper of the St. Paul's society. An hour and a half of ringing, including touches of Treble Bob Major and Grandsire Major, and an attempted 504 of Stedman, which unfortunately, owing to a change-course, did not come round, brought the proceedings in this "peal-honoured" tower to a conclusion. An adjournment was then made to the "Lamb Inn" for dinner, the party persuading Mr. Wakley and Mr. Holmes to accompany them. Another popular member of the St. Paul's band, Mr. Griffin, was picked up *en route*, and an excellent repast enjoyed by the whole company.

Dinner ended, Mr. Heywood proposed as the one toast that time would admit of, "Queen, Church, and State," pointing out how essential this unison was to the well-being of change-ringing. Mr. Myring then requested permission to say a few words, and in a most courteous and well-turned speech, presented Mr. Heywood with a very handsome silver mounted and inscribed pipe, in a Russian leather case, accompanied by a beautifully-illuminated framed address, in recognition of his work in promoting the well-being and advance of the Duffield Society. Mr. Heywood, who was completely taken by surprise, asked leave, owing to the shortness of the time at his disposal, to defer the expression of his thanks until tea time, and a move was made to catch the 2.30 train to Tamworth. At the station, after parting with Messrs. Wakley and Griffin, Mr. Jaggar, the local composer, turned up, and with Mr. Holmes, consented to accompany the party to their next destination.

At Tamworth church, the local ringers were in attendance to welcome the visitors, and after inspecting the fine old church, the party ascended the grand tower, and raised the bells, a fine peal, with new trebles and tenor, 22 cwt., by Taylor of Loughborough, the five middle bells being old ones. Touches of Grandsire and Bob Triples, Plain Bob and Treble Bob Major, were well brought round, the striking however being somewhat rough, owing to the bells being rather false. Two touches of Stedman Triples were rung to finish up the day's work, making six methods in which touches were accomplished; and an exhaustive inspection made of this unique tower. The ringing-chamber walls are double, and contains various passages and chambers, one of which latter is neatly fitted up as a lavatory. The most remarkable part, however, being the staircase, which is double, that is, two independent spirals turn on the same centre pillar, one leading direct from top to bottom of the tower without any intermediate exit, the others having all the entrance doors to the various stages. The party then moved off to the "Castle Inn" to tea, after which Mr. Heywood rose to express his deep gratitude for the handsome presentation the Duffield Society had made to him, concluding with the hope they might all be spared in strength and unity for many more annual excursions.

The handbells, which had already been in use during the journey, were brought into play, and a course of Grandsire Caters was rung, together with various other musical effects. The local band, who had in the meantime done some capital striking at the tower, in Grandsire Doubles, with 6,4,8 covering, came in to listen to the handbells. After which, time being up, the visitors bid adieu, with many thanks to their entertainers, and arrived at the station in time for the seven o'clock train for home. Some Stedman on the handbells wiled away the journey, and the party arrived safely, after a day which will long be remembered for the splendour of the weather, the beauty of the churches visited, the success of the ringing, and presentation; and lastly and chiefly, for the extreme courtesy and kindness of both authorities and ringers at the various towers, to whom the society tender their most hearty thanks.

## THE ST. JAMES SOCIETY, LONDON.

We are requested to announce that the tower of St. Clement Danes, Strand, will be open for practice on Monday next, at 8 p.m., the seventh and ninth bells having been rehung, and the frame generally repaired by Mr. George Banks, of Kennington Lane.

NEW PEAL-BOOK.—The Wanstead Amalgamated Society has just received a grand peal-book, made by Mr. Keeble, of Romford, which gives every satisfaction, and the members strongly advise other societies to employ Mr. Keeble, for his cheapness and good material.

## RINGERS' OUTING AT HALVERGATE, NORFOLK.

On Monday, August 10th, in response to an invitation from the Rev. H. Dallimore, rector of this parish, and late curate-in-charge of Hevingham, the ringers of the latter parish, with a few friends, met for a day's ringing. On their arrival they were received by the Rector, and conducted to the tower, which contains a good peal of six bells, which were soon put in motion, a few touches being rung. The company then adjourned for lunch, which was served in the rectory grounds. Ample justice having been done to the repast, they returned to the church and rang a 720 of Bob Minor, and touches of Double Norwich Court and Oxford Treble Bob. They then returned to the rectory, where they were joined by the parish ringers, and all partook of a substantial dinner. The rector complimented the visitors upon their ringing capabilities, and hoped that the ringers of this parish would endeavour to make themselves as efficient in the art of ringing as they were, and promised to do all in his power to encourage them. A few more touches on the bells, and courses of Grandsire Triples and Caters on the handbells, on the rectory grounds, brought this enjoyable outing to Halvergate to a termination. The following took part in the ringing: Messrs. W. Crane, J. Matthewson, H. Kidd, of Hevingham; T. Greenwood and J. Edridge, of Marsham; C. Clements and A. Neale of Aylsham. The above are all members of the Norwich Diocesan Association, and they wish to thank the rector for his kindness and hospitality. On their journey home they called at South Walsham, a peal of five, where they were met by the ringers of that parish, who hoped they would visit them again on some future occasion.

## CHRIST CHURCH SOCIETY, BACUP, LANCASHIRE.

On Saturday, August 8th, the members of this Society had their annual outing, the place selected being Wadington, Yorkshire. Starting from Bacup at 5.40, they arrived at Accrington about 7 o'clock, and having a little time to wait for the train, they began to hunt up some of the Accrington ringers, but could only find one. After a short chat, the ringers had to return to the station, *en route* for Blackburn, where breakfast was awaiting them. After doing justice to the good things provided, they then proceeded through the town to the park, where there are two cannons that were taken in the Crimean war. After leaving the park refreshments were again partaken of, and thence to the station, *en route* for Clitheroe, where more brother-strings were waiting for them. After gaining the Vicar's consent, they rung 360 of College Single. A. L. Hardman (conductor), 1; A. White, 2; N. Lord, 3; A. Chew, 4; J. Smith, 5; W. Smith, 6. After which 360 of Plain Bob was rung. A. L. Hardman (conductor), 1; W. Bell (Clitheroe), 2; N. Lord, 3; A. Chew, 4; J. Smith, 5; W. Smith, 6. After descending they were met by the Vicar, the Rev. E. A. Thomas, who is learning the art himself. After thanking him for the kind way in which he treated them, they made for their journey's end, which was reached about 7 o'clock. After tea they had a meeting of ringers and friends, and spent the evening in singing and reciting, until ten o'clock, when the time was come for bed. Being up early in the morning they had a good walk through the country, which put them in good condition for breakfast. The hungry ringers being satisfied, they ascended the tower of Wadington parish church, but owing to the bad state of the bells, which is not the fault of the local band, a peal could not be attempted. After dinner the ringers packed up for home arriving about 9 o'clock, all well pleased with their two days' outing.

NEW WORK ON CHURCH BELLS.—The late Mr. THOMAS NORTH, F.S.A., left behind him in manuscript a General History of Church Bells, entitled "English Bells and Bell Lore," in which he embodied a wide range of facts gathered from the fields over which his careful researches led him. The work is apparently unfinished. But it is so full of the lore which filled its author that it has been deemed expedient to offer it to the select section of the public for whom Mr. North's previous works were undertaken; and it is proposed in an appendix to add any additional fact of importance which Mr. North may have given in his published works, or in an unfinished paper of his which the editor has. The work will thus be a volume fairly memorial of its respected author, and will be edited by the Rev. WILLIAM BERESFORD, vicar of S. Luke's, Leek. It is proposed to publish this work (which will be in fcap. 4to., cloth, and will contain about 150 pages of letterpress, with about 50 illustrations) by subscription. It will be uniform in size with the Author's "Chronicle of the Church of S. Martin in Leicester," "The Church Bells of Leicestershire," "Northamptonshire," and "Rutland," and will be sold at seven shillings and sixpence to subscribers. Intending subscribers should make application for copies at once to the editor, the Rev. WILLIAM BERESFORD, S. Luke's Vicarage, Leek, Staffordshire, as only a small Edition will be printed, and that only if a sufficient number of subscribers be obtained to clear the cost of printing.

## THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

At Horsham, on Monday, August 3rd, was inaugurated the first of a series of useful and enjoyable meetings, which it is hoped will be long continued and often repeated. Shortly after nine o'clock the fine old Parish Church bells announced to the neighbourhood that ringers had arrived from various parts of the county, and during the day between fifty and sixty representatives were present from Brighton Eastbourne, Hurst, Crawley, Slinfold, Barcombe, Steyning, Arundel, Capel, Dorking, also a strong muster belonging to the local branch. The following touches were rung during the morning: a 504 Grandsire Triples, by E. Marshall, 1; F. Harding, 2; J. Gasson, 3; J. Searle, 4; H. Weston, 5; G. F. Attree (conductor), 6; J. Jay, sen., 7; E. Waller, 8. Time 20 mins. Also a 420 of Oxford Bob Triples, by C. Vaughan, 1; William Short, 2; J. Gasson, 3; F. Knight, 4; M. Heffer, 5; W. Collison, 6; H. Burstow (conductor), 7; F. Rogerson, 8. Time 16 mins. Also a 504 of Grandsire Triples, by E. Marshall, 1; J. Newnham, 2; F. Wickens, 3; F. Harding, 4; C. Tyler, 5; G. F. Attree (conductor), 6; S. Brooks, 7; E. Waller, 8. Time 20 mins. And a 420 of Oxford Bob Triples, by F. Harding, 1; J. Brown, 2; J. Newnham, 3; F. Wickens, 4; F. Knight, 5; C. Boxall, 6; H. Burstow (conductor), 7; C. Tyler, 8. Time 15 mins. An adjournment was then made to the "King's Head" hotel, where a cold luncheon was in readiness, at which the Vicar of Horsham presided, and expressed his pleasure in welcoming the members of the Sussex County Association to the town and parish church of Horsham. During the afternoon, Crawley and Slinfold Churches were visited, at the former of which eight members attempted to ring Holt's ten part peal of Grandsire Triples. All went well for exactly 1 hr., when the third rope (which had seen some years' service) broke, 1700 changes had been obtained.

At Slinfold, two 720's of Minor were rung, viz.: a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob, by F. Wickens, 1; J. Newnham, 2; E. Jordan, 3; W. Wadey, 4; W. Collinson, 5; S. Brooker (conductor), 6. And a 720 of Plain Bob, by J. Miles, 1; J. Newnham, 2; W. Muggeridge, 3; W. Wadey, 4; W. Lanaway, 5; F. Wickens (conductor), 6. Tenor 12½ cwt.

The Horsham bells were in the meantime kept ringing, a 720 of Oxford Bob Minor was rung by J. Searle, 1; A. Tidy, 2; R. Jordan, 3; F. Knight, 4; H. Burstow, 5; E. Walder (conductor), 6. Also several short touches of Grandsire Triples and 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles, in which the Rev. R. F. Tomkins, the Hon. Treasurer, and the members of the Hurst branch took part.

At six o'clock a service was held at the parish Church; at seven o'clock the members sat down to tea, and at 7.30 an extraordinary general meeting was held, the Rev. R. F. Tomkins in the chair. The following resolution was carried:—"That the Rev. A. B. Simpson (Vicar of Fettleworth), Rev. A. Hill (Rector of Parham), Rev. G. C. Walpole (Angmering), be elected hon. members, and that Messrs F. E. Dawe, A. Flint, G. Rapley, F. Rogerson, and D. Jordan, be elected ringing members."

On the motion of the Hon. Sec., seconded by Mr. BURSTOW (Horsham), it was decided that 700 certificates be printed, according to special design submitted at the general meeting, at a cost of £17, and that a copy of the same should be delivered to each member, active and honorary, and that the charge for same should be 6d.

On the motion of Mr. H. WESTON (Brighton), seconded by the CHAIRMAN, it was resolved "That in future one half the cost of providing marble peal tablets be paid from the funds of the Association."

On the motion of Mr. TYLER, seconded by Mr. E. BUTLER, it was agreed that the next district meeting be held at Uckfield during the month of October, and that application be made for the use of Uckfield, Buxted, and Waldron peals of eight bells each; also for two six-bell towers at Little Horsted, and Maresfield (if put in ringing order by that date).

Votes of thanks to the Chairman and to the Hon. Sec. brought the meeting to a close at 8.15.

It is worthy of record that since the formation of the County Association, marked improvement has been made in the condition of many belfries in the county, amongst which St. Mary's and Christ Church, Eastbourne, and Horsham, have been converted into patterns which might well be imitated by some of those which unfortunately remain as witnesses of the dark ages of the past.

## KINGSWINFORD, WORCESTERSHIRE.

The parish church here contains a very old ring of bells. The Rev. E. F. Collom coming to reside in the parish as Curate, and finding no change-ringers therein, immediately set to work among the young men, with the result that in seven months he has got a band together able to ring Grandsire and Stedman Doubles, being, it is believed, the first ever rung in the latter method upon the bells. The band are—the Rev. C. F. Collom (conductor), Messrs. W. Jones, T. Hillman, J. Hillman, W. Lawrence, and E. Bourne.

## THE BIRMINGHAM AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATION.

This Association held its annual meeting, on Saturday, August 15th, at Birmingham, when a goodly number of members attended. During the afternoon the bells of St. Phillip's church were kept well in motion by the various ringers present. Touches of Grandsire Caters, Stedman Caters, and Grandsire Royal, were rung, after which the members repaired to the Club House of the Birmingham contingent, the "White Swan Hotel," Edmund Street, where the business of the Association was transacted, when the Vice-President, Mr. W. Ellesmore, in the absence of the President, the Rev. Digby H. Cotes Preedy, Vicar of King's Norton, presided. It was, pending a deputation to wait on the Rev. Canon Bowlby, left open as to election of President, Mr. W. Ellesmore being again elected as Vice-President. Mr. J. Wright, who tendered his resignation, was again asked to allow his name to be brought forward again for election, if but for another year, as there were many things to be brought before the committee of which he was cognisant, and that if he would stand again for election, they, the members, would be thankful. On Mr. Wright saying he would again offer himself for election, his statement was received with applause. He said that he had always received every respect from all the members, and if all would do as they had promised—through a scheme which Mr. Thomas Russam was drawing up—he should never wish to desert them. Mr. John Carter was again elected as Treasurer, as were also the following gentlemen to serve on the committee: Mr. W. Duffill, Bromsgrove; Mr. T. Lewis, Selly Oak; Mr. J. Findon, Hampton-in-Arden; Mr. Farmer, Harborne; Mr. J. Bond, Northfield; Mr. W. Perkins, West Bromwich; Mr. C. Barnacle, Moseley; Mr. B. Stevens, Birmingham. Several new members having been elected (among them being the Editor of "THE BELL NEWS"), votes of thanks were accorded to the officers for their past services, also to the several incumbents and churchwardens for the use of their bells during the year. It was determined to hold the next meeting at Moseley, on November 14th. The remainder of the evening was spent in touches and tunes on the handbells.

## VISIT TO PORTBURY, GLOUCESTERSHIRE.

On Saturday, August 15th, several members of the St. Stephen's company of Bristol paid a visit to this place, and by the kind invitation of the Rector had a pull at the parish church. After a few 6-scores, a 720 of Grandsire Minor, in 32 mins., was rung by the following: George Morgan (conductor), 1; Alfred York, 2; James York, 3; Edmund Duckham, 4; Edward Beake, 5; William Emery, 6. Tenor 25 cwt. in D. This peal was formerly five bells only, but has been augmented to six by the addition of a new treble, cast by Messrs. Llewellins and James, of Bristol, which bell is of excellent tone. The same firm have rehung the whole peal, and they all go admirably. Taking refreshments at "The Priory" hotel, the visitors returned home after spending a very agreeable time.

## DEDICATION OF TWO NEW BELLS AT EBBESBORNE, WILTSHIRE.

The St. Edmund's ringers, Salisbury, were invited to open this peal on Thursday, August 6th, and rung at intervals in the afternoon, during which time they completed six 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles, each called differently. J. Short, 1; F. Rigden, 2; J. Parsons, 3; J. Wilton, 4; T. Blackburne (conductor), 5. The peal has been made into five by the addition of a new treble and tenor, the work being done by Messrs. Llewellins and James, of Bristol.

MR. SAMUEL HAYES.—We are very sorry to hear that this distinguished ringer has met with a severe accident in the shape of a broken leg. We are sure that those who know him will accord to him their sympathy in his misfortune. As, however, he has a large family dependant upon him, something more than bare commiseration is needful under the circumstances, and we find that an appeal is being made to his brother-strings for a little assistance. We can assure our benevolent readers that they will never have the opportunity of assisting a more worthy brother in the art than Samuel Hayes. He is a member of the College Youths and St. James's Societies, also of the Essex Association, and is one of those pleasant unobtrusive companions one likes to meet with. Various circumstances have prevented him from figuring among performances so conspicuously as his brother—John M. Hayes—but he is as skilled a ringer as we should wish to find, and very safe towards the finishing moments of a peal. We hope that our readers will afford some gratification to our friend in his misfortune, by sending their contributions to the Master of the College Youths, at "The King's Head," Great Winchester Street, Borough Market, S., or to Mr. George Mash, 20 Essex Street, Southwark, who will gladly acknowledge all sums received. This is indeed a case very worthy of help.



## A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR.

5472.

By GEO. H. HARDY, *Earlsheaton*.

2345678	258	834	785
	825	4863752	578
4263857	5872346	648	8547362
642	758	864	4835276
264	8735624	4876235	348
4286735	387	748	8324657
842	738	8724563	2863745
2874563	8763452	2857346	628
728	6847235	528	862
8752346	468	852	2876534
5837624	846	2835674	728
358	6824573	328	872
8365472	268	832	2857463
683	826	2863457	528
368	6852347	628	852
8346257	568	8642735	2845376
483	856	4876523	428
348	6835724	748	842
8324765	368	8754362	2834657
2873546	8376452	587	328
728	783	758	8362745
872	378	8735246	683
2857634	8347265	387	368
528	483	738	8376524
852	348	8723654	783
2865473	8324576	287	378
628	283	728	8357462
862	328	8762435	583
2846357	8352647	687	358
428	583	768	8345276
842	358	8746523	4823657
2834765	8365724	4857362	248
328	6873452	548	8264735
8372546	768	8534276	6872543
783	8746235	385	768
378	4827563	538	8756324
8357624	248	8523647	587
5863472	824	285	7538462
658	4852376	528	375
865	548	8562734	5347286
5846237	854	685	453
458	4835627	568	3425678
845	348	8576423	234
5824763			

## A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR.

6048.

By JOHN J. BRIERLEY, *Saddleworth*.

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

## A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE MAJOR.

5008.

By JOHN CARTER, *Birmingham*.

2 3 4 5 6	
4 5 3 2 6	8th in two.
5 4 3 2 6	7th in three.
4 3 5 2 6	H.
3 5 4 2 6	H.
5 3 4 2 6	7th in three.
3 4 5 2 6	H.
5 2 4 3 6	8th in two.
2 5 4 3 6	7th in three.
5 4 2 3 6	H.
4 2 5 3 6	H.
2 4 5 3 6	7th in three.
4 5 2 3 6	H.
2 3 5 4 6	8th in two.
3 2 5 4 6	7th in three.
2 5 3 4 6	H.
5 3 2 4 6	H.
3 5 2 4 6	7th in three.
5 2 3 4 6	H.
6 5 2 4 3	7th in two.
2 4 5 6 3	8th in two.
3 2 4 6 5	7th in two.
2 3 4 6 5	7th in three.
5 2 3 6 4	7th in two.
4 5 2 6 3	7th in two.
3 4 5 6 2	7th in two.
4 3 5 6 2	7th in three.
2 4 3 6 5	7th in two.
5 2 4 6 3	7th in two.
3 2 5 6 4	7th in two.
2 3 5 6 4	7th in three.
4 2 3 6 5	7th in two.
5 4 2 6 3	7th in two.
3 5 4 6 2	7th in two.
5 3 4 6 2	7th in three.
2 5 3 6 4	7th in two.
4 2 5 6 3	7th in two.
3 4 2 6 5	7th in two.
4 3 2 6 5	7th in three.
5 4 3 6 2	7th in two.
4 5 3 6 2	7th in three.
3 5 2 6 4	M.
5 3 2 6 4	7th in three.

2 6 3 5 4	8th in two.
3 6 4 5 2	M.
4 6 2 5 3	M.
6 4 2 5 3	7th in three.
2 4 3 5 6	M.
4 2 3 5 6	7th in three.
3 2 6 5 4	M.
2 3 6 5 4	7th in three.
6 3 4 5 2	M.
4 3 2 5 6	M.
3 4 2 5 6	7th in three.
2 4 6 5 3	M.
4 2 6 5 3	7th in three.
6 2 3 5 4	M.
3 2 4 5 6	M.
6 3 2 5 4	7th in two.
4 6 3 5 2	7th in two.
6 4 3 5 2	7th in three.
2 6 4 5 3	7th in two.
6 2 4 5 3	7th in three.
3 6 2 5 4	7th in two.
4 3 6 5 2	7th in two.
3 4 6 5 2	7th in three.
2 3 4 5 6	7th in two.

The above contains the 6th 24 times wrong and right, 5th 24 times right, with all the 8-5-7's, 8-6-7's and 6-7-8's.

First rung at Willenhall, February 20th, 1880. Conducted by its composer.

## A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR.

6720.

By PHILLIP O. BIXBY, *Long Melford*.

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

Four times repeated. This peal contains the 6th twelve times right and wrong.

## A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR.

5120.

By W. R. SMITH, *College Youths*.

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

## A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR.

5088.

By JOHN R. FRITCHARD, *Liverpool*.

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

Five times repeated. Single instead of bob at end of 3rd and 6th parts.

## A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAXIMUS.

5040.

By ROBERT WILLIAMS, *Liverpool*.

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

"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.

JOHN OSMER.—All right.

W. J. GILBERT.—All received. Touch too late for this number.

A. THOMAS.—Next week.

L. FRENCH.—If you will send a stamped addressed envelope, we will send you the information.

## The Bell News & Ringers' Record.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 22, 1885.

THE idea of a memorial of some kind to the late Rector of Clyst St. George seems to be gaining ground. It was first suggested by the Rector of Crawley that something should be done in the way of fixing a memento of the deceased gentleman in the church where his ministrations were so long carried on. This idea has, it would appear, found favor in the eyes of the inhabitants of the Devonshire village, and we print this week a letter from one of the local ringers, appealing for subscriptions to give practical effect to Mr. LENNARD's suggestions. Under ordinary circumstances, this mode of perpetuating the memory of the departed gentleman would appear the most regular and proper. But there is a special feature in connection with the question of this proposed memorial which is certainly out of the common. It ought thoroughly to perpetuate one of the dearest objects and pursuits of the deceased throughout his long and honored life. And the suggestion of the Rev. J. S. NORTHCOTE—embodied also in a letter which will be found upon another page—appears to be just the correct thing, and one which we doubt not would have been looked upon most favourably by Mr. ELLACOMBE, had the question of a testimonial to him been mooted in his lifetime. The full and complete restoration of that national monument—the bells of Exeter Cathedral; the grandest ring of bells in the whole universe, if we are to believe the evidence of such experts as Mr. HALEY and others—was one of the objects which was very dear indeed to Mr. ELLACOMBE. We speak advisedly when we reiterate that at one time he looked forward with no small degree of pleasure to the probability of hearing those bells rung well continually, and of their restoration being of such a character that they could be rung with comparative ease and comfort, if not with enjoyment.

This idea—that of the restoration of Exeter Cathedral bells—seems to us, therefore, the most fitting memorial that could be raised to the memory of the departed gentleman. We are not yet in a position to say what the *modus operandi* should be to carry such an important work into effect. If Deans and Chapters were not so dreadfully supine and callous about the condition of their bells, we might reasonably hope for the co-operation, in such a matter, of the caputular body of Exeter Cathedral. Whether they can be roused to initiate the movement, we know not. We hope, however, that our friends in Devon will not let the matter rest. There are Churchmen in the county who will see the utilitarian side of this proposal, men who will become awakened to the disgrace of allowing celebrated bells belonging to the chief temple of the diocese to remain any longer in their present ignominious condition; and there are no doubt other influential Churchmen who will see the wisdom of connecting their complete restoration with the name of a Christian gentleman who laboured so long almost within their sound. We hope such a movement as is here foreshadowed, may take rise, and be carried out with true Devonshire zeal; we invite our contemporaries in the fairest of the southern counties to advocate it with all their might. The bells of Exeter will then be able to be heard with some effect, and men of skill and the requisite training will not be wanting to properly ring them when they are made ringable. Only—and this a very important warning—let those be entrusted with such restoration who fully understand the nature of the work they are engaged upon.

### The Provinces.

BURFORD, OXON.—THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

#### Handbell Ringing.

On Wednesday, August 5, 1885, in Two Hours and Fifty Eight Minutes,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS, 5021 CHANGES.

JOSEPH FIELD .. .. 1-2.	JAMES W. WASHBROOK.. 5-6.
WILLIAM C. BASTON .. 3-4.	CHARLES HOUNSLOW .. 7-8.
SAMUEL HOUNSLOW.. .. 9-10.	

Composed by JOHN COX and Conducted by JAMES W. WASHBROOK.

The first peal rang double-handed by the above Guild. It was rung at a garden party held at Burford in aid of a fund for the recasting of the 5th bell at the parish church. The ringers were seated in a summer-house in one corner of the garden, so that the visitors could witness its performance, thus it may well be said to be the first peal rung in public.

### MANCHESTER.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

On Saturday, August 15, 1885, in Three Hours and Thirty-two Minutes,

AT THE CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF ST. JOHN,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB ROYAL, 5040 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 25½ cwt. in Eb.

THOMAS MOSS .. .. Treble.	THOMAS WILDE.. .. 6.
CHARLES CASH* .. .. 2.	*ISAAC G. SHADE .. .. 7.
ALBERT E. WREAKS .. .. 3.	SAMUEL WOOD .. .. 8.
GEORGE LONGDEN .. .. 4.	JOHN THORP .. .. 9.
EDWARD CASH .. .. 5.	FREDERICK G. NEWMAN.. Tenor.

Conducted by FREDERICK G. NEWMAN.

Previous to starting for the peal Messrs. Cash Bros. and Moss were elected members of the above Society. \* First peal of Royal.

Mr. Snowdon's chapters on the Surprise methods will be resumed next week.

WEST BROMWICH, STAFFORDSHIRE.  
THE ST. MARTIN'S SOCIETY, BIRMINGHAM.

On Saturday, August 15, 1885, in Three Hours,

AT ALL SAINTS' CHURCH,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;  
Tenor 14 cwt.

SAMUEL REEVES .. .. Treble.	ARTHUR JONES .. .. 5.
JOHN BUFFERY .. .. 2.	WILLIAM ROCK SMALL .. 6.
THOMAS REYNOLDS .. .. 3.	JOHN SAUNDERS .. .. 7.
HENRY BASTABLE .. .. 4.	HENRY HIPKISS .. .. Tenor.

Composed by J. J. B. LATES, and Conducted by SAMUEL REEVES.

The peal, which is now rung for the first time, has a single in the first and second course, and the course-ends will be found in "THE BELL NEWS," No. 151, page 559, among Mr. Snowdon's peals on Stedman's principle.

DEBENHAM, SUFFOLK.

THE ST. MARY-LE-TOWER SOCIETY, IPSWICH, AND  
THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

On Saturday, August 15, 1885, in Three Hours and One Minute,

AT ST. MARY'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;  
HOLT'S 10-PART. Tenor 20 cwt.

CHARLES MEE .. .. Treble.	ROBERT HAWES .. .. 5.
ARTHUR R. ALDHAM .. .. 2.	FREDERICK TILLET .. 6.
ISAAC S. ALEXANDER .. .. 3.	JAMES MOTTS .. .. 7.
EDGAR PEMBERTON .. .. 4.	WILLIAM MOTTS .. .. Tenor.

Conducted by CHARLES MEE.

This is the first peal in the method on the bells. The above are all members of the Norwich Diocesan Association.

GLODWICK, NEAR OLDHAM, LANCASHIRE.

On Sunday, August 16, 1885, in Two Hours and Fifty-One Minutes,

AT ST. MARK'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;  
THURSTANS' 5-PART BOB-AND-SINGLE. Tenor 8½ cwt.

RICHARD GUEST* .. .. Treble.	JAMES RILEY .. .. 5.
ALBERT CLEGG .. .. 2.	SAMUEL STOTT .. .. 6.
CLEMENT DRONSFIELD .. 3.	JAMES T. KERSHAW .. 7.
JOHN GREENWOOD .. .. 4.	WILLIAM RHODES .. .. Tenor.

Conducted by SAMUEL STOTT.

\*First peal. John Greenwood hails from Leesfield.

STALEYBRIDGE, CHESHIRE.

THE ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE SOCIETY.

On Monday, August 17, 1885, in Three Hours and Four Minutes,

AT HOLY TRINITY CHURCH, CASTLE HALL,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5184 CHANGES;  
IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 14½ cwt.

JOHN LAWTON .. .. Treble.	BENJAMIN BROADBENT .. 5.
THOMAS MOSS .. .. 2.	SAMUEL WOOD .. .. 6.
JAMES WOOD .. .. 3.	JOHN THORP .. .. 7.
WILLIAM FRITH .. .. 4.	FREDERICK G. NEWMAN .. Tenor.

Composed by SAMUEL WOOD, and Conducted by F. G. NEWMAN.

WEST MALLING, KENT.

On Tuesday, August 18, 1885, in Three Hours and One Minute,

AT ST. MARY'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;  
HOLT'S 10-PART. Tenor 12½ cwt. in G.

WILLIAM HARDEN .. .. Treble.	ALFRED H. WOOLLEY .. 5.
ALCHIN MOORCRAFT .. .. 2.	WILLIAM PYE ENGLISH .. 6.
EDWARD BALDOCK .. .. 3.	HARRY PEARCE .. .. 7.
REUBEN SIMMONDS .. .. 4.	WILLIAM J. LEONARD .. Tenor.

Conducted by HARRY PEARCE.

Messrs. Moorcraft, Simmonds, Woolley, and Pearce hail from Maidstone; English from London; the rest belong to the local band. Messrs. Moorcraft, Baldock, Simmonds, English, and Pearce are College Youths.

HYDE, CHESHIRE.

THE ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE SOCIETY.

On Tuesday, August 18, 1885, in Three Hours and Four Minutes,

AT ST. GEORGE'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;  
IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 15½ cwt.

ISAAC G. SHADE .. .. Treble.	THOMAS MOSS .. .. 5.
SAMUEL WOOD .. .. 2.	SAMUEL BENNETT .. .. 6.
JAMES WOOD .. .. 3.	JOHN THORP .. .. 7.
BENJAMIN BROADBENT .. 4.	FREDERICK G. NEWMAN .. Tenor.

Composed by T. HAIGH, and Conducted by ISAAC G. SHADE.

GLOSSOP, DERBYSHIRE.

THE ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE SOCIETY.

On Wednesday, August 19, 1885, in Three Hours and Five Minutes,

AT ALL SAINTS' CHURCH,

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

THOMAS MOSS .. .. Treble.	CHARLES BROOKS .. .. 5.
THOMAS JAMES .. .. 2.	BENJAMIN BROADBENT .. 6.
WILLIAM HARROP .. .. 3.	JOHN THORP .. .. 7.
SAMUEL WOOD .. .. 4.	FREDERICK G. NEWMAN .. Tenor.

Composed by SAMUEL WOOD, and Conducted by  
FREDERICK G. NEWMAN.

The above peal was rung by a picked band on the occasion of distinguished visitors visiting Glossop Hall, the seat of Lord Howard.

Date Touch.

HALEWOOD (Lancashire).—On Wednesday, August 12th, at St. Nicholas's church, the ringers of Garston, Grassendale, Farnworth, and Halewood rang a date touch of 1885 changes of Grandsire Triples, in 63 mins., in honour of the marriage of Miss Gough, daughter of the esteemed superintendent of Gaston tower, to Mr. H. Willcox, engineer of Liverpool. T. Morris, 1; J. Alexander, 2; C. Newton, 3; J. Large, 4; F. Turner, 5; W. Hughes, 6; Geo. W. Hughes (composer and conductor), 7; Wm. Weaver, 8. In the evening about thirty ringers and friends sat down to a very sumptuous repast at "The Derby" Hotel, when the time was spent in touches on the handbells, songs, speeches and toasts, the ringers wishing the bride and bridegroom every happiness and success.

Miscellaneous.

THE SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.

BIRCHINGTON (Kent).—On Saturday, August 15th, six members of Quex Park band, with Messrs. H. S. and A. W. Thomas, of London, rung at Waterloo Tower, Quex Park, the first half of Holt's 10-part peal of Grandsire Triples, in 1 hr. 32 mins. C. Willshire, 1; L. Willshire (conductor), 2; T. B. Reed, 3; A. W. Thomas, 4; H. S. Thomas, 5; J. J. Bristow, 6; G. Willshire, 7; S. Fulcher, 8. Tenor 15 cwt. This half-peal was rung as a mark of friendship to Messrs. Thomas, who are staying at Birchington, and have visited this locality for many years.

EDWARDSTONE (Suffolk).—On Sunday, June 21st, a 720 of Bob Minor. G. Maxim, 1; G. Hammond, 2; J. Bird, 3; P. C. S. Scott, 4; W. P. Gridley (conductor), 5; J. Lee, 6. Messrs. G. Hammond, J. Bird, P. C. S. Scott, hail from Long Melford, the rest belong to Foxearth.

STANSTEAD (Suffolk).—On Tuesday, June 30th, a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob Minor, in 25 mins. Z. Slater, 1; P. C. S. Scott, 2; O. Garwood, 3; J. Bird, 4; S. Slater, 5; G. Hammond (conductor), 6.

WALDINGFIELD (Suffolk).—On Sunday, June 21st, a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob Minor. G. Maxim, 1; G. Hammond, 2; P. C. S. Scott, 3; J. Bird, 4; W. P. Gridley (conductor), 5; J. Lee, 6. This is supposed to be the first 720 of Oxford ever rung on the bells.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

LONDON.—Muffled Peal.—On Friday evening, August 14th, at St. Mary-le-Bow, Cheapside, twelve members of the above Society rang a funeral peal with the bells half-muffled, and the usual whole pull and stand, as a last tribute of respect to the Rev. T. H. Ellacombe, late Rector of Clyst St. George, Devon. H. W. Haley (conductor),

1; J. W. Rowbotham, 2; J. Pettit, 3; G. A. Muskett, 4; J. R. Haworth, 5; G. Mash, 6; C. F. Winny, 7; W. D. Smith, 8; M. A. Wood, 9; E. Horrex, 10; F. E. Dawe, 11; J. M. Hayes, 12. Tenor 53 cwt. in C. Several ringers and friends stood in Cheapside, listening with interest to the deep-toned roll and fine and regular striking on the melodious and heavy ring of twelve at this church.

#### THE BIRMINGHAM AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATION.

**BIRMINGHAM.**—*Muffled Peal.*—On Sunday, August 16th, at Bishop Ryder's church, after Divine Service in the evening, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, 1260 changes, in 47 mins. Charles Barnacle, 1; Charles Carmell, 2; Thomas Miller, 3; Bennett Stevens, 4; John T. Perry, 5; Richard Hackley (conductor), 6; Albert Hackley, 7; John Hodson, 8. Tenor 12 cwt. in G. The above was rung with the bells half-muffled, in memory of the late Mr. John Banister, one of the celebrated Woolwich family of Banisters. He was tower-keeper at the above church, this being the 5th anniversary of his death; and also as a mark of respect to the late Mrs. Brown, wife of one of the churchwardens, who died August 10th, a very benevolent lady to the church, and her loss is much lamented.

#### THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

**ALDERLEY (Cheshire).**—On Tuesday, August 10th, at St. Mary's church, a 360 of Plain Bob Minor, in 13½ mins. James A. Thomas, 1; John Bardsley, 2; John S. Leech, 4; C. E. Bell, Esq., 5; Peter Smith (conductor), 6. And another 720 of Plain Bob Minor, in 28 mins. John Howard, 1; John Bardsley, 2; Wm. Wilde, 3; James A. Thomas, 4; C. E. Bell, 5; Peter Smith (conductor), 6. And a few courses of Kent Treble Bob Minor, C. E. Bell ringing the 2nd. Tenor 18½ cwt. The ringers wish, through this paper, to thank the churchwarden, Mr. Downs, and the Rector's son, Mr. C. E. Bell, for granting permission to ring.

**BOWDON (Lancashire).**—On Wednesday, August 10th, the St. Anne's Society paid a visit to St. Mary's church, and rang a 360 of Plain Bob Minor, in 15 mins. James A. Thomas, 1; John Bardsley, 2; Wm. Wilde, 3; John Leech (conductor), 4; John Howard, 5; Peter Smith, 6. And a 720 of Plain Bob Minor, conducted by J. S. Leech, and a 144 of Kent Treble Bob Minor, conducted by Wm. Wilde. The ringers wish to thank the vicar for granting permission to ring, and also the ringers of Bowden for their kindness shown.

**HAUGHTON (Lancashire).**—*Muffled Peal.*—On Monday, August 10th, at St. Anne's church, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor, in 28 mins. James A. Thomas, 1; John Bardsley, 2; Wm. Wilde, 3; John S. Leech, 4; John Howard (conductor), 5; Peter Smith, 6. This was rung as a token of respect to the late Rev. Henry Thomas Ellacombe.

**PRESTON (Lancashire).**—*Muffled Peal.*—On Monday, August 17th, at St. Mark's church, a 720 of Grandsire Minor (thirty-two bobs and two singles), in 29 mins., with the bells muffled as a mark of respect to the Rev. H. T. Ellacombe. Jos. Walker (conductor), 1; Thos. Ellison, 2; James Nightingale, 3; Thos. Hy. Brewer, 4; Thos. Bond, 5; William Bamber, 6. Tenor 15½ cwt.

#### THE NORTH LINCOLNSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Tuesday evening, August 18th, eight members of the Gainsboro' branch of the above Association rang at All Saints' Church, a quarter-peal (1260 changes), of Grandsire Triples, with the bells deeply muffled as a tribute of respect to the memory of the late Rev. H. T. Ellacombe. T. Pattison, 1; F. W. Atkinson, 2; M. W. Ashton, 3; J. C. Tinker, 4; W. Pattison, 5; C. Brewin, 6; W. D. Tinker (conductor), 7; T. Hollinsworth, 8. Tenor 20 cwt.

#### THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

**CAVERSHAM (Oxon).**—On Sunday, July 12th, the following members of the St. Peter's society, rang a 720 of Bob Minor, conducted by G. Essex: and on Sunday, July 28th, a 720 of Bob Minor, conducted by E. Pottinger. And on Sunday, August 9th, a 720 of Bob Minor. \*H. White (Basingstoke), 1; H. Smith, 2; G. Gibbard (Reading), 3; T. Newman, 4; J. Hands, 5; Rev. G. F. Coleridge (conductor), 6. Also 360 of Oxford Bob, conducted by T. Newman, in which W. Williams of St. Lawrence, Reading, and H. Egby, of St. Giles's, Reading, took part. And on Tuesday, August 11th, 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor. \*J. Hands, 1; E. Menday, 2; \*W. Williams, 3; H. Egby, 4; E. Pottinger, 5; Rev. G. F. Coleridge (conductor), 6. Also 120 Stedman Doubles. And on Sunday, August 16th, 720 College Single. H. Simmond, 1; \*J. Hands, 2; E. Menday, 3; G. Essex, 4; E. Pottinger, 5; T. Newman (conductor), 6. And a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor. J. Hands, 1; E. Menday, 2; G. Essex, 3; T. Newman, 4; E. Pottinger, 5; Rev. G. F. Coleridge (conductor), 6. Also a 360 Plain Bob Minor, conducted by G. Essex. \*First 720.

**DRAYTON (Berks).**—On Saturday, August 15th, a quarter-peal of Double Norwich Court Bob Major, in 43 mins. F. Williamson, 1;

W. Baston, 2; J. W. Washbrook, 3; C. Hounslow, 4; W. Smith, 5; J. Field, 6; A. Thomas, 7; Rev. F. E. Robinson (composer and conductor), 8.

**OXFORD.**—On Sunday, August 16th, for Divine Service, at St. Mary Magdalen, a 720 of Bob Minor. C. Hester, 1; W. Woods, 2; Job Howes, 3; H. Sheard (Abingdon), 4; J. W. Washbrook (conductor), 5; F. A. Castle, 6.

#### STOKE-ON-TRENT ARCHIDIACONAL ASSOCIATION.

**BIDDULPH (Staffordshire).**—On Saturday, August 15th, a 720 of Grandsire Minor, in 26½ mins. J. Moss, 1; C. Lawton, 2; A. Cotterall, 3; E. Glover, 4; J. W. Brough, 5; W. Carter (conductor), 6. And a 720 of Bob Minor, in 27 mins. W. Baddeley, 1; E. Glover, 1; J. W. Brough, 3; J. Wood, 4; W. Carter (conductor), 5; Rev. A. H. Hitchcock, 6. Messrs. Brough, Glover, and Baddeley hails from Norton, Rev. A. H. Hitchcock, Golden Hill, the rest from Biddulph.

#### WORCESTER AND ADJOINING DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

**BROMSGROVE (Worcestershire).**—On Tuesday, August 18th, eight members rang a muffled touch at St. John's, as a tribute of respect to the memory of the Rev. H. T. Ellacombe, M.A., late rector of Clyst St. George, Devon, consisting of 1260 changes of Grandsire Triples, taken from *Troyte*. William Broomfield, 1; Oliver James, 2; Thomas Albutt, 3; George Hayward, 4; Reuben Broomfield, 5; George Bourne, 6; George Morris (conductor), 7; James Parry, 8.

#### THE WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

**BOURNEMOUTH (Hants).**—On Thursday, August 13th, at St. Peter's Church, 336 of Grandsire Triples, by the following members of the Winchester Diocesan Guild. A. Grist, 1; Rev. H. A. Spyers, 2; C. Staden, 3; J. Bennett, 4; T. Green (conductor), 5; H. Merritt, 6; H. Garrett, 7; T. Belben, 8. Tenor 20 cwt. The above was rung on the occasion of the marriage of A. Arthur, Esq., of Edmondsham, Bournemouth.

**BOOTLE (Lancashire).**—On Thursday evening, August 13th, at Christ Church, a 720 of College Single Minor (eighteen bobs and two singles), in 26 mins. E. Yates, 1; R. H. Barton, 2; W. Short, 3; W. Rushton, 4; T. Woodward, 5; J. Bradshaw (conductor), 6. This is the first 720 in the above method by all the band except R. H. Barton.

**BOURNE (Lincolnshire).**—On Monday, August 17th, at the Abbey Church, 360 of London Single Bob. J. T. Ball, 1; J. T. Wooley, 2; T. Taylor (aged 79), 3; C. A. Clements (Salisbury), 4; F. W. Flatters (conductor), 5; J. R. Jerram, 6. Also a 216 Bob Minor. R. Sharpe, 6.

**GOSBERTON (Lincolnshire).**—On Saturday, August 15th, several 6-scores of Grandsire and Bob Doubles, by the following: J. Burrows, and G. Farr (Gosberton), J. S. Wright, R. Creasey and E. Quinton (Spalding), and C. A. Clements and J. R. Jerram (Salisbury). Tenor 20 cwt.

**GLEMSFORD (Suffolk).**—On Monday, July 27th, the local company rang a 720 of College Exercise Minor. John Slater, 1; O. Garwood, 2; Z. Slater, 3; F. Wells, 4; F. P. Adams, 5; S. Slater (conductor), 6. First in the method by all the above. Also the same evening a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob. John Slater, 1; C. Honeybell, 2; F. Wells, 3; S. Slater, 4; E. W. Downs, 5; O. Garwood (conductor), 6. Also on Tuesday, July 28th, being the occasion of a Horticultural Show in the Rectory grounds, the company rang the following, viz.: a 720 of Kent Treble Bob. C. Honeybell, 1; Joseph Slater, 2; F. Wells, 3; Z. Slater, 4; C. Adams, 5; O. Garwood (conductor), 6. Also a 720 of Cambridge Surprise. Jno. Slater, 1; Z. Slater, 2; C. Adams, 3; F. Wells, 4; S. Slater, 5; O. Garwood (conductor), 6. Also a 720 of Double Court Bob. Jno. Slater, 1; Jas. Slater, 2; C. Adams, 3; F. Wells, 4; O. Garwood, 5; S. Slater (conductor), 6. Also a 720 of New London Pleasure. C. Adams, 1; C. Honeybell, 2; Z. Slater, 3; F. Wells, 4; O. Garwood, 5; S. Slater (conductor), 6.

**GREAT YARMOUTH (Norfolk).**—*Muffled Peal.*—On Tuesday, August 18th, at St. Nicholas' church, on the back eight, the local company rang 1792 of Grandsire Triples, in 1 hr. 19 mins., as a mark of high esteem for the late Rev. H. T. Ellacombe, M.A., F.R.S., Rector of Clyst St. George, Devon. W. Lee (conductor), 1; W. T. Blyth, 2; T. Tooley, 3; W. Chaplin, 4; W. Secret, 5; W. Fletcher, 6; M. Long, 7; G. Crowe, 8. Tenor 30 cwt in D.

**HADLEY (Middlesex).**—On Saturday, August 15th, at the parish church, a mixed band rang a 720 of Plain Bob Minor, in 25 mins. \*F. Miller (local band), 1; \*J. Waghorn, sen., 2; \*H. Nunn, jun., 3; \*G. Lucas, 4; \*H. Barnett, 5; †H. Scarlett (conductor), 6. Also several touches of Kent Treble Bob Minor, assisted by \*J. Waghorn, jun., †H. Nunn, sen., and †J. King. And a 120 of Grandsire Doubles.

THE members and friends of the British Archaeological Association spent Tuesday morning last in excursions to various interesting places in the neighbourhood. In the evening, at a meeting held in the Royal Pavilion, Mr. E. P. Loftus Brock, F.S.A., read a paper on the peculiarity of Sussex churches. In the course of his remarks, he said he had had, not infrequently, to point out that the churches of almost every district of our country had certain peculiarities of designation and structure different from those of other localities. This was so in an unusual degree in Sussex. In that county, the old builders were guided by certain principles, to which they adhered with great fidelity. These were to work out the local requirements with the materials they found ready to their hands, or within easy reach, and to adopt their designs to harmonise with the local surroundings. Thus true economy was studied, and buildings were erected which seemed to grow out of the landscape, so to speak, and to be a portion of it. The churches of Sussex were numerous, and they were of all ages and dates. They were mostly of small size, and as they were built so they had, in many cases, remained to this day, with only such small alterations as the additions of new windows, doors, or the like. There were admirable specimens of the ancient carpentry which were deserving of careful attention. Warped and twisted some of them might be, like that at the parish church of Horsham, yet they stood firm and strong, although the storms of fully 500 years had beaten upon them. He then referred in detail to the construction of various churches in the county, and at the close of the paper was accorded a hearty vote of thanks.

## 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 PRACTICAL SUGGESTION.

SIR,—Would you allow me to suggest in your columns that a suitable memorial for the late Rev. H. T. Ellacombe would be the restoration of the Exeter Cathedral bells, in which he always took the greatest interest. As your readers are doubtless aware, this peal is one of the finest, if not the very finest peal in the world; the bells cannot be rung in peal as they are at present hung, but with a new cage and some other alterations we might be enabled to ring a peal worthy of the memory of the late patron of bell-ringing, and I am quite sure that no other memorial would be so much in accord with what was always his own most earnest desire.

JOHN S. NORTHCOTE.  
Hon. Sec. of the Devonshire Guild.

## THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF RINGERS.

SIR,—As one present at the Reading meeting in October, 1883, allow me to suggest one cause of the dormant state of the N.A.R. (see Mr. J. Acland-Troyte's letter in your issue of 21st of March last),—the committee is too exclusive. I proposed a well known Yorkshire ringer for the committee; this the promoters "poohed-poohed" down, as hailing "too far north." Later on, another gentleman proposed the same name; and another well-known name from north of the Trent was proposed; but neither of these were allowed to be put to the meeting. Indeed it was only after some pressure that a gentleman from remote Birmingham, was allowed on the Committee. The "Oxford authorities" are doing a right good work, and their Association is in a most flourishing condition, but they must remember that the despised north supplies the bone and sinew of operative ringers—a no mean order—and unless they be represented on committees, the Association cannot ever become "National."

THOS. ARCHER TURNER,  
President of the Lancashire Association.  
Manchester.

## THE LATE REV. HENRY THOMAS ELLACOMBE.

SIR,—Our patron and advocate with the people of England has ended his days on earth in a crown of glory, won after ninety-five years' sojourn here below. I refer to the Rev. Henry Thomas Ellacombe, M.A., the venerable and dear rector of Clyst St. George, Devon. No one has done more than he to advance the science of change-ringing, and to elevate ringers in the social scale. To his great energy and ability, more or less, directly, all the County and Diocesan Associations owe their birth. He has visited more towers than any other man in the land, and unearthed many an "Ancient Briton in the old church steeple." He has written more upon bells than any other man, and his great learning and courtesy were extended to any and every correspondent, however humble. He was the means of our earliest special organ, *Church Bells*, being started in 1870, and, despite his great age, has to the last edited its columns on "Bells and Bell-ringing." Comrades all! with permission of Vicar and churchwardens, sometime during this month, out of respect to this good man, let us ring a muffled peal, or date touch, or a plain course—or at the least let it be a round ring with the bells muffled, as a requiem.

THOS. ARCHER TURNER,  
President of the Lancashire Association.  
Manchester.  
[We think our correspondent in error somewhat, when he says the late Mr. Ellacombe was "the means of our earliest special organ being started."—ED.]

SIR,—In consequence of the suggestion of the Rev. Barrett Lennard, Rector of Crawley, Sussex, appearing in the papers that a memorial to the late Rev. H. T. Ellacombe be placed in the church at Clyst St. George, subscriptions are invited from all interested in campanology. When we remember how much Mr. Ellacombe has done towards the reform of perhaps the most neglected portion of our churches, doubtless there are many who will be glad to forward such a proposal. Subscriptions and suggestions may be sent to the Rev. C. R. Chope, who has kindly consented to act as Treasurer, *pro tem*.

Clyst St. George, Devon, August 18th, 1885. JOHN L. STEER.

## FALSE COMPOSITIONS.

SIR,—I am sorry to find, on looking over a 5280 of Treble Bob Major by Mr. Mackman, of Spalding, published in last week's "BELL NEWS," that it turns up false. The 5184 of Treble Bob Major, by Mr. Benjamin Francis, of Diss, published by the side of the above, is also false, in fact, false at sight, as repetition changes occur in the fourth course that have come up in the first. I trust both these gentlemen will pardon me for troubling you with this letter.

Saffron Walden. N. J. PITSTOW.

## AFFAIRS AT LONG MELFORD.

SIR,—In reply to your correspondent's, Philip O. Bixby's letter of a few weeks back, we, the ringers residing in Melford, should like to say a few words on the matter. If his words were true, viz., that the ringers are "money-grabbers," it would be a subject fit for discussion in such a widely-circulated paper as "THE BELL NEWS." But they are not true, as he has told the ringers living in Melford, that he did not mean them, and we are equally sure that the ringers from the neighbouring parish, who come once a week for practice as well as on ringing days, do not get more than their share on such days. Now if your correspondent had been "up to the mark," he would not have included those whom he did not mean, in that low insulting word, "money-grabbers." We all took it as a great insult, although he afterwards said that he did not mean us. Referring to his character in this neighbourhood as to truthfulness, it is very shaky, and will not bear much investigation. He is too fond of talking about the ringers behind their backs, as that we can prove by certain persons, whose names we shall not mention in this paper, but who are nevertheless quite willing to meet Philip O. Bixby. He has also served some of the ringers several unbecoming acts, which we shall not enumerate here, and if he has anything else to say on the matter, we are perfectly willing to meet him, and hear what he has to say.

THE RINGERS RESIDING IN MELFORD.

SIR,—Allow me space to reply to that uncalled for letter in "THE BELL NEWS" of the 25th of July, headed "Affairs at Long Melford, Suffolk;" being myself one of the so-called money-grabbing ringers that is imported from the neighbouring village. Firstly, in 1876, I was asked to fill the place of one of the ringers that was very ill at that time, and who died in 1877, so I was asked to continue my place and become a member, which I did, and shall do so till I am requested to leave by the Rector. This is how I became imported, and likewise my companions the same. Secondly, in regard to Duce and Ambrose, they were expelled from the company in 1868 or 9; this we had no hand in, as it was done by the late Rector and Churchwardens. I do not wonder at Bixby asking this question, as I should think it was before he had left off swaddling clothes. Thirdly, with regard to A. Hurst not being allowed to ring upon the parish church bells, I can say that he has not been refused by any one, and has never been asked, because the company found out that he was not according to their taste, and would rather have his room than his company. Fourthly, with regard to Bixby, whom we have taken a lot of trouble with, and has given special chances to, he has not of late attended our practices, for what reason I know not, unless he has been beguiled by the wolf in the lamb's skin—as I am inclined to think there is one in this vicinity—or he has considered that the spoil has not been divided fair and equal. If this is the case why he should have consulted first the Rector, according to rule, as it states that if any dispute arise it shall be reported to the Rector and churchwardens, and their decision in all cases shall be final. Now I know for a fact that Bixby has never spoken to the worthy Rector on the matter, if he had, he (the Rector) would have only been too pleased to make all wrongs right. Now comes the money-grabbing question. All I can say is that I and the rest of us when we had anything to ring for, have only had our share with the rest, as our steeplekeeper, Mr. Driver, who has held that post for at least fifty years, and is now nearly eighty years of age, has always divided the spoil equal and fair, so far as I know, therefore I do not consider myself and brother ringers at the tower at Long Melford in any way a money-grabbing lot. Sir, I am sorry to have to trouble you on such an unmanly affair, as the columns of "THE BELL NEWS" ought not to be wasted on such wretched stuff.

Glensford.

SAMUEL SLATER.

[We agree with the last sentence of our correspondent's letter.—ED.]

## STOKE-ON-TRENT ARCHIDIACONAL ASSOCIATION.

THE Fortnightly Meeting was held at Biddulph, on Saturday, August 15th. Ringers attending were Norton only, with the Rev. A. Hitchcock, Golden Hill. An excellent tea was provided by Mr. A. Cotteral at 9d. per head.

E. GLOVER, Hon. Sec.

THE SHIPWAY REPRINT.—The weekly issue has now reached the end of the first part of this undertaking. Whoever requires back numbers to complete the part, should seek to obtain them during the coming week. We again thank those many friends who send us such complimentary letters upon this reprint. We should have been pleased had such an easy mode of procuring copies of this extensive work on ringing been taken greater advantage of, because we believe that when the work is complete, and its publication has become a thing of the past, there will be found many who will regret missing the present opportunity of securing copies.



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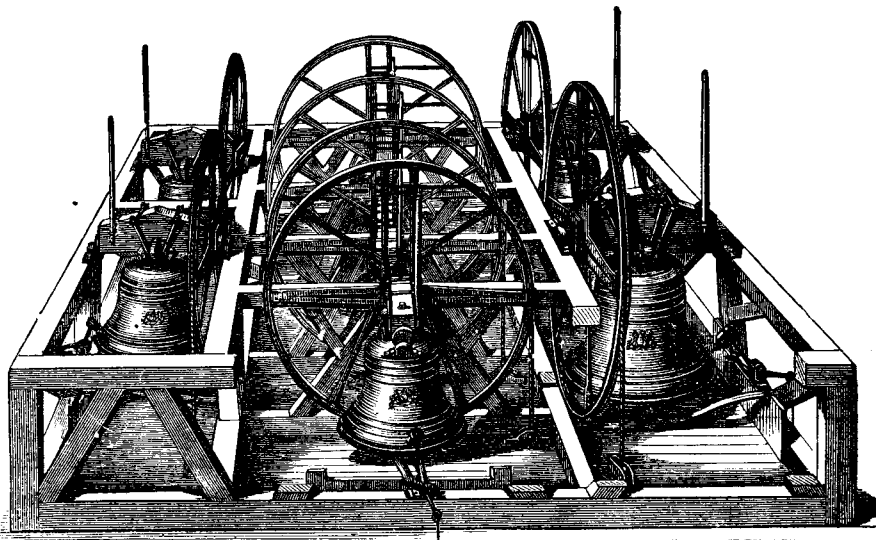
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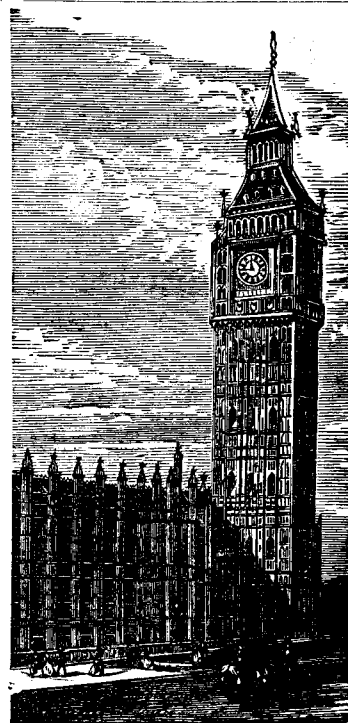
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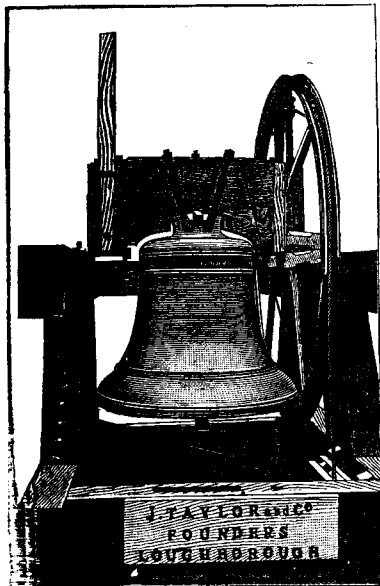
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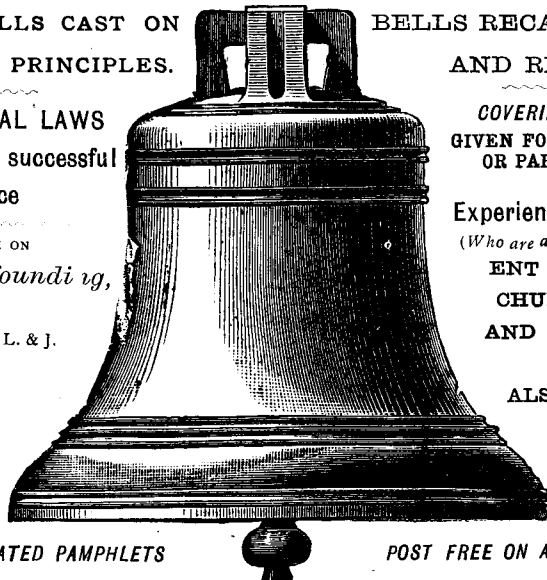
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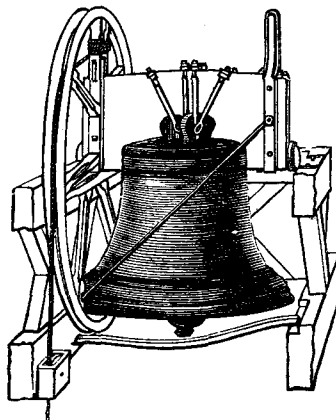
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Rules and instructions for pricking and ringing the method, with lineal diagram of the plain course.

A collection of compositions and instructions for proving the same.

A history of all peals known to have been rung in the method, with full particulars of the same.

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## PEALS OF SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE.

BY JASPER W. SNOWDON.

The next record of a peal of Superlative Surprise is to be found on a tablet erected in the belfry of St. Giles's, Norwich, which gives particulars of the performance of 5376 changes in this variation by the crack Norwich company, which was then in its prime. The same board also enumerates the peal of London Surprise, afterwards rung by the Norwich Scholars, and alludes to them both as the "first peals ever rung in the above variations."

Of course, in making this claim, so far as Superlative goes, the Norwich men were in the wrong, as the Huddersfield men had already rung both a false and a true peal. The following is the part of the Norwich tablet which relates to Superlative, the rest of the tablet will be given when we come to consider London Surprise.

*Tablet in the Belfry of St. Giles's, Norwich.*—"On February 6th, 1835, was rung in this steeple, 5376 of that intricate method, Superlative Surprise. This great achievement was perfectly completed (at the first attempt), in 3 hours and 16 minutes, and was rung by the following persons:—

Joshua Hurry, Treble.	Henry Hubbard,	4.	James Truman,	6.
Elijah Mason,	Robert Burrell,	5.	Chas. Payne,	7.
Fredk. Watering,			Samuel Thurston, Tenor.	

Following the Norwich peal, we have at a distance of about fourteen years, a 5376 rung at St. Mary's, Woolwich, by the clever company of ringers then gathered together under the leadership of Mr. William Banister. Further particulars of this peal may be gathered from the annexed copy of the tablet which records its performance.

*Tablet in the Belfry of St. Mary's, Woolwich.*—"On Monday, Feb. 10, 1849, the following members of the Ancient Society of College Youths rang on these bells a true and complete peal of Superlative Surprise Major, comprising 5376 changes, in 3 hours and 15 minutes, as follows:—

Henry Banister, sen., Treble.	Samuel Teasel,	4.	George Cleveland,	6.
Wm. Banister,	John Banister,	5.	George Banister,	7.
Francis H. Banister,			Edward West, Tenor.	

Composed and conducted by Mr. Wm. Banister."

In the year following, 1850, a joint company of College and Cumberland Youths was practising this method in London, and on February 9th, 1850, rang a peal of 5600 changes. The tablet erected at Bethnal Green in honour of this peal, was destroyed by a fire in December, 1859, which consumed the whole of the interior of the church, and also the tablets and bells then in the steeple.

*Approximate copy of a tablet erected in the belfry of St. Matthew's, Bethnal Green.*—"On Saturday, Feb. 9, 1850, the St. James's Society rang in 3 hours and 23 minutes, a peal of Superlative Surprise, containing 5600 changes:—

George Woolf, Treble.	George E. Ferris,	4.	Robert Jameson,	6.
Henry W. Haley,	William Cooter,	5.	James Dwight,	7.
Charles Evennett,			Matthew A. Wood, Tenor.	

Composed and conducted by H. W. Haley."

As the Huddersfield peal of 5600 changes was false, the Bethnal Green peal was therefore entitled to the honour of being the greatest length rung in this method. After holding this honour for a few years, the length was superseded by one rung at Benington, Hertfordshire, as on May 29th, 1855. Mr. Procter's able band rang their first peal, 5376 changes in this method, and then only ten days later, accomplished a peal of 6048 changes, which was therefore awarded the honour of being the longest length rung. Appended are further details of the Benington peals.

*Tablet in the belfry of St. Michael's, Benington, Herts.*—"On the 29th day of May, 1855, was rung a peal of Superlative Surprise Major, containing 5376 changes, in 3 hours and 15 minutes.

James Illott, Treble.	Thomas Page,	4.	C. Hollingsworth,	6.
Luke Carter,	John Aylott,	5.	Joseph Kitchener,	7.
Leonard Proctor,			George Warner, Tenor.	

On the 9th day of June, 1855, was rung a peal of Superlative Surprise Major, containing 6048 changes, in 3 hours and 44 mins.

James Illott, Treble.	James Collins,	4.	C. Hollingsworth,	6.
Thomas Page,	John Aylott,	5.	Joseph Kitchener,	7.
Jeremiah Miller,			George Warner, Tenor.	

The above peals were most ably conducted by Mr. Joseph Kitchener."

It was not until more than twenty-two years after the last of these two peals was rung, that another was accomplished. This peal was one of 5152 changes rung by the Redenhall branch of the Norwich Association, particulars of which are as follows:—

*Report of the Norwich Diocesan Association.*—"St. Mary's, Redenhall. On Tuesday, November 6th, 1877, eight members of the association rang 5152 changes of Superlative Surprise, in 3 hours and 27 minutes.

B. Smith, Redenhall,	1.	R. Whiting, Fulham,	4.	G. Holmes, Esq., J.P., 6.
G. Prime, Alburgh,	2.	E. Smith, Alburgh,	5.	(Redenhall),
Rev. N. Bolingbroke, (Brockdish)	3.			J. Smith, Fulham,
				Capt. Moore, Redenhall, 8.

Weight of tenor, 24 cwt., E flat.

This peal was composed by J. Cox, of London, and conducted by B. Smith."

The next peal rung in this method was not accomplished until nearly seven years after the Redenhall peal, but with this peal, which was one of 5120 changes, rung at St. Paul's, Burton-on-Trent, on May 5th, 1884, a new era in the method was begun.

It has been shewn that the method of Superlative Surprise is nearly 100 years old, during which time, that is up to 1884, only eight peals of Major, including the false one, had been rung. The Burton society is fortunately, not one that can only hang together until it has accomplished one peal in a method; on the contrary, when the members of this band take up a method, they stick to it until they have accomplished something worthy of the trouble that any company of ringers must necessarily expend in making themselves sufficiently acquainted with it to score one peal. When this characteristic mode of dealing with a method is remembered, it is not so surprising, in looking back on the matter, to find that during the year following this performance, the same society scored four more peals in the method. One of the peals rung on January 24th, 1885, consisting of 6720 changes, contained the extent with the tenors together, and is the longest length ever rung in the method. Four of these peals were actually rung in twenty-seven days. Thus, although it had taken 100 years to accomplish eight peals, the Burton society has accomplished five peals in less than twelve months. Appended are further particulars of these performances, which being the latest rung, will conclude my notice of this method on eight bells.

*Tablet in the belfry of St. Paul's, Burton-on-Trent.*—"On Monday, May 5th, 1884, H. Johnson's Five-part peal of 5120 Superlative Surprise Major, was rung in 3 hours and 40 minutes, by the following members of the St. Paul's Society of Change-Ringers.

H. Wakley, Treble.	J. Griffin,	4.	G. Appleby,	6.
E. I. Stone,	J. Jaggar,	5.	T. Holmes,	7.
A. Wakley,			W. Wakley, Tenor.	

Conducted by W. Wakley.

James H. Fish, Vicar; Reginald Churchill, Alfred Coxon, Churchwardens-elect. The above is the first muffled peal in the method, and the eighth hitherto achieved."

The foregoing peal was rung as a muffled peal on the day of the funeral, as a token of respect to the memory of Michael Thomas Bass, of Rangemore, Burton-on-Trent, the donor of the bells of St. Paul's Church, and was part of the great performance achieved at that time by the St. Paul's society, an account of which is given in my book on *Double Norwich Court Bob*, page 66. The particulars of the peals rung at Burton other than those for which tablets have been erected, are abstracted from the report of the Midland Counties' Association.

*St. Paul's, Burton-on-Trent.*—"On Friday, January 16th, 1885, by the Burton Branch, 5088 Superlative Surprise, in 3 hours and 23 minutes—

Harry Wakley,	1.	Joseph Griffin,	4.	John Jaggar,	6.
Ed. Isaac Stone,	2.	Rev. F. E. Robinson,	5.	Thomas Holmes,	7.
Arthur Wakley,	3.			William Wakley,	8.

Composed by N. J. Pitstow and conducted by William Wakley.

*Tablet in the belfry of St. Paul's, Burton-on-Trent.*—"On Saturday, January 24th, 1885, W. Shipway's five-part peal of 6720 Superlative Surprise Major was rung in 4 hours 34 minutes, by the following members of the St. Paul's Society of Change-Ringers.

J. H. Fish, Treble.	J. Griffin,	4.	J. Jaggar,	6.
E. I. Stone,	H. Wakley,	5.	T. Holmes,	7.
A. Wakley,			W. Wakley, Tenor.	

Conducted by W. Wakley.

James H. Fish, Vicar; R. Churchill, A. Coxon, Churchwardens.

This peal, which contains the extent with the tenors together, is the longest peal hitherto achieved in this method by any company, and supplants the peal of 6048 rung at Benington, Herts, on June 9th, 1855.

*St. Paul's, Burton-on-Trent.*—"On Wednesday, February 4th, 1885, by the Burton branch, 5056 Superlative Surprise, in 3 hours and 25 minutes.

Rev. Jas. H. Fish,	1.	Joseph Griffin,	4.	John Jaggar,	6.
Edward I. Stone,	2.	Harry Wakley,	5.	Thomas Holmes,	7.
Arthur Wakley,	3.			William Wakley,	8.

Composed by N. J. Pitstow and conducted by William Wakley."

*St. Andrew's, Litchurch, Derby.*—"On Thursday, February 12th, 1885, by the Burton-on-Trent branch, 5056 Superlative Surprise, in 3 hours and 21 minutes.

Rev. Jas. H. Fish,	1.	Joseph Griffin,	4.	John Jaggar,	6.
Edward I. Stone,	2.	Harry Wakley,	5.	Thomas Holmes,	7.
Arthur Wakley,	3.			William Wakley,	

Composed by N. J. Pitstow, and conducted by William Wakley."

## BELFRY REFORM.

"UNION makes strength." Such is the case in our belfries: and we may venture to say that the weakness, present in them, is principally owing to a disregard of this indisputable truth.

Belfry reform, to be thorough, must be the result of the united efforts of all concerned. Vicar, Churchwardens, and Ringers must, in their respective spheres, work together for the attainment of this object.

I.—The Vicar should encourage and support all measures conducive to the well-being of the belfry. He should, himself, inquire into their utility, and exercise a personal supervision more or less particular, as the case may require.

II.—To the Churchwardens belong all matters concerning the repair of the fabric of the tower, and the keeping of the belfry and bells in order as nearly approaching perfection as possible. The difference between good and bad order in a tower means just the difference between satisfaction and dissatisfaction; and dissatisfaction in a company of ringers means disunion. Assuming that the bells are in good ringing order, cleanliness is the first requisite of a belfry. You can scarcely expect clean men to go into a dirty place; and you certainly cannot expect them to come out clean. In a belfry, comfort is essential, luxury out of place, and lumber equally so. Difficulty of access is no excuse for laxity of personal supervision. An office once accepted, the difficulty of performing its functions cannot be pleaded as an excuse for non-performance.

III.—Ringers should be consistent in their behaviour, attentive to their duties, and observant of all concerning the condition of towers, bells, and belfry.

"Do as we say and not as we do," should never be the motto of ringers. The labour of calling others to Church, does not exempt ringers (who are Church officers) from attendance at the services of the Church, any more than the labour of preaching excuses the preacher for acting contrary to the truths he teaches. Whether the ringers are paid or not, they undertake to ring the bells at stated times. Regular and punctual attendance is essential to success. Nothing creates more unpleasantness, and places a greater stumbling-block in the way of progress, than irregular and unpunctual ringers, and nothing can withstand regularity, punctuality, and zeal.

Ringers are, as a rule, the only persons who understand bells and their fittings. Their frequent presence in the tower gives them opportunities of noticing defects; and a defect should at once be pointed out to the authorities, on whose shoulders the responsibility of finding and applying a remedy then falls.

In conclusion, the failure of either Vicar, Churchwarden, or Ringer, to perform his part, does not, one jot or one tittle, absolve the others from the rigid performance of theirs; but rather should it stir them to make fresh efforts to fill up the void, and to procure unity. L.

## RINGERS' OUTING AT ST. MARY'S LEWISHAM, KENT.

ON Saturday, August 22nd, the ringers of the above church had their first annual outing, the place selected being Westerham, Kent. After having a short touch on their own bells, a start was made for Westerham at 9.30 a.m., in a comfortable brake, being accompanied by the Rev. Payne Gallwey, the treasurer of St. Mary's society. Arriving at Bromley, the ringers were met by Mr. J. Golds, and conducted to the tower, where a few short touches were rung on a very fine peal of eight bells. After having thanked Mr. Golds for his kindness in meeting the ringers, a fresh start was made for Westerham, which was reached at one o'clock. On arriving, the ringers were met by Mr. Stone, the steeplekeeper, who conducted them to the tower, which contains a very fine ring of eight bells, which were soon put in motion. After having rung a few 120's, with 4, 6, 8, covering, the Rev. Bartlett, Vicar of Westerham, arrived and welcomed the ringers to Westerham. He was sorry to say that he could not boast of a band of ringers, but hoped that before long he should hear Westerham bells rung by a band of Westerham ringers. Having thanked the Vicar for his kindness in meeting the ringers, and for the use of the tower, the visitors adjourned to the Fountain Coffee Tavern, where arrangements had been made for dinner. After doing justice to the good things provided, the company scattered themselves about, some enjoying themselves at cricket, others going wood-nutting, along the country lanes. Getting back to the tower at 5.30 p.m., a few more touches were rung. After refreshing themselves with tea, a start was made for home at 7 p.m., which was duly reached at 10 p.m. Alighting at the "Bee Hive," the ringers were met by host Brown, who had provided them with a very nice supper, consisting of roast beef and boiled ham, which was greatly relished after their drive home through the country. After supper, the handbells were brought into use, and touches of Treble Bob, Bob Major and Grandsire Triples were rung, thus ending a very enjoyable day, which will long be remembered by the ringers. The ringers wish through the medium of this paper, to tender their sincerest thanks to the Vicar, the Rev. — Bartlett, for the use of the tower, and also to Mr. Stone for his kind attention to them during their visit to Westerham.

## ST. MARTIN'S SOCIETY, TIPTON, STAFFORDSHIRE.

ON Saturday, August 22nd, the above society met at the tower, and rang a touch of Grandsire Triples. T. Jones, 1; T. Bennett, 2; W. R. Small, 3; W. Pardoe, 4; J. Martin, 5; S. Jesson, 6; J. Fullwood (conductor), 7; H. Wilmfield, 8. Afterwards a 720 of Bob Minor, by six of the above band, when time was up for their annual out with the choir, churchwarden, Mr. John Bywater, and family, and the Rev. J. R. Toft, incumbent, in brake to Boscobel, famous in history as being the place of concealment of King Charles. Arriving at Boscobel House, the party inspected the interior with its curious old furniture, carving, etc., also the hole or small chamber where His Majesty was hid from Cromwell's troops in the grounds, and the old oak tree where it is said he was also hid, which is well fenced round with iron palisades. The party afterwards went to the "Cross Guns Hotel," where they sat down to an excellent dinner, which was provided for them by the incumbent and churchwarden, and to which ample justice was done. The chair was afterwards taken by the Rev. J. R. Toft, and the vice-chair by Mr. Churchwarden Bywater. The usual toast of the "Queen and Royal Family" was given, and drank with enthusiasm. A few kind words from the chairman and vice-chairman, to the singers and ringers, was also made. The party then left the room and went to the famous Chillington Pools, while some enjoyed themselves with boating, etc., and the ringers with handbells. The ringers afterwards took a quiet walk to the village of Codsall, where with permission of the vicar, the Rev. — Toth, they rang a 720 of Grandsire Minor, also several 120's of Grandsire Doubles. The bells are a peal of six, tenor about 14 cwt. The treble is a new bell, 1867, the other five date from 1617 to 1638. There is no change-ringing done here by the local company, the ropes come down to the floor, which is open to the church. The belfry is filled with fixed benches, so that the ringers have to stand, some on the floor, and others astride the benches. The village of Codsall is a place of great resort in summer time for the Black Country people. After partaking of some slight refreshment, the ringers waited for the remaining portion of the party to come up, then returned by the picturesque village of Tettenham, getting safe home in good time, well pleased with their day's outing and enjoyment.

## THE ALL SAINTS' COMPANY, FULHAM.

THE annual outing of the members of the above company, took place on Saturday, August 22nd, the place selected being Eastbourne. The party consisted of the Rev. F. H. Fisher, Vicar of Fulham, Messrs. F. Kelley, J. W. Kelley, J. Green, R. Nicholls, H. Gale, L. Davies, W. Driver, S. Eales, W. Weare, and W. How. Upon their arrival, they repaired to the old parish church of St. Mary's, where a few touches of Grandsire Triples were rung, conducted by the Rev. F. H. Fisher and J. W. Kelley. An excellent dinner was provided by mine host at "The Lamb," after which the party separated and sought pleasure in various ways. Tea-time found the members again assembled, with the exception of the Vicar, who had to leave for London by an earlier train. The 7.45 train from Eastbourne brought the remainder safely to Victoria, all thoroughly well pleased with the day's outing.

## SUBSCRIPTION LIST FOR THE JOHNSON TESTIMONIAL.

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The committee earnestly request that donations from ringers and friends interested in this "National Testimonial" be forwarded at an early date to one of the undersigned: A. Thomas, Hon. Secretary, 83, Wheeley's Road, Edgbaston, Birmingham; S. Reeves, Hon. Treasurer, 10, Bull Street, West Bromwich.

WE are very sorry to have received the following letter from the Honorary Secretary of the Ely Diocesan Association. We hope the deprivation mentioned will be of very short duration indeed:—

"Dear Sir,—I regret that owing to an accident which has temporarily deprived me of the use of my right hand, I have been unable to forward you a report of our District meeting at Sudbury, on the third of August, which was highly successful. This with a epitome of the admirable address of the vicar of St. Peter's and St. Gregory's, shall be forwarded as soon as possible. K. H. SMITH."



## A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR.

5216.

By JOHN J. BRIERLEY, *Saddleworth.*

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

First four courses four times repeated produce 6560.

## A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR.

5120.

By A. KNIGHTS, *Chesterfield.*

2 3 4 5 6	w	5ths	4ths	B	M	H
5 2 3 6 4	-	-	-	-	-	-
2 4 3 6 5	-	-	-	-	-	-
3 2 5 4 6	-	-	-	-	-	-
4 3 5 2 6	-	-	-	-	-	-
2 4 5 3 6	-	-	-	-	-	-
3 2 4 6 5	-	-	-	-	-	-
2 5 4 6 3	-	-	-	-	-	-
5 3 4 6 2	-	-	-	-	-	-
4 5 3 6 2	-	-	-	-	-	-
3 4 2 5 6	-	-	-	-	-	-
5 3 2 4 6	-	-	-	-	-	-
4 5 2 3 6	-	-	-	-	-	-

Three times repeated. Singles to be added at the 2nd and 4th part ends. This peal has the 6th twenty-four times wrong and right.

## A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR.

5024.

By N. J. PITSTOW, *Saffron Walden.*

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

Rung at Long Melford, Suffolk, November 15th, 1884.  
Conducted by F. P. Adams.

## A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAXIMUS.

6600.

By JAMES LINES, *Ipswich.*

2 3 4 5 6	I	7
3 5 2 6 4	-	-
4 5 3 6 2	-	-
5 6 4 2 3	-	-
3 6 5 2 4	-	-
4 6 3 2 5	-	-

Four times repeated.

## A PEAL OF STEDMAN CINQUES.

5014.

By JOHN R. PRITCHARD, *Liverpool.*

2 3 1 4 5 6	Bob on 9, 10, 11.
5 3 1 6 2 4	5 6 19
5 3 4 1 2 6	-
5 3 6 4 2 1	-
6 3 1 2 5 4	-
6 3 4 1 5 2	-
6 3 2 4 5 1	-
2 3 1 5 6 4	-
2 3 4 1 6 5	-
2 3 5 4 6 1	-

The above courses twice repeated, produce:

2 3 1 4 5 6	Bob on 11, 9, 10.
5 3 1 6 2 4	5 6 19
5 3 4 1 2 6	-
5 3 6 4 2 1	-
6 3 1 2 5 4	-
6 3 4 1 5 2	-
6 3 2 4 5 1	-
2 3 1 5 6 4	-
2 3 4 1 6 5	-
2 3 5 4 6 1	-

bob on 10, 11, 9.

Bobs at 5, 6, 7, 18; round at three sixes and two changes.

## A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB ROYAL.

5000.

By ROBERT WILLIAMS, *Liverpool.*

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

## A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAXIMUS.

5184.

By ROBERT WILLIAMS, *Liverpool.*

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

## A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS.

5003.

By JOHN CARTER, *Birmingham.*

2 3 4 5 6

6 3 5 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	8 9.

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	1st lead, s and 8 9.
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.
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5 2 4 6 3	1st lead, 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	1st lead, s and 8 9.
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.  
3 2 5 4 7 6 9th in with a single and out next lead. \*7th in with a single and out at two with a single. This peal contains the 6th twelve courses alternately wrong and right, being their extent in 5-6.

We have repeatedly stated that those who take advantage of this page must be responsible for the truth of their productions. Last week what was represented to be a peal of Double Norwich got inserted which could at once be seen was palpably false. However any one sending out such an abortion of a peal as this can claim to possess the slightest knowledge of practical composition, we are at a loss to conceive. It did not come under observation till in print, or it would never have appeared.

"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.

E. RUCK.—We have such a record.

S. MARSH.—Evidently got mislaid.

T. RUSSAM.—Next week.

## The Bell News & Ringers' Record.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 29, 1885.

THE state of "affairs at Long Melford," a little unimportant town in Suffolk, does not, at present, hold out very inviting prospects to anyone who contemplates paying the place a visit. The correspondence which has lately appeared, and which we have this week closed, shows too plainly that here and there the deportment of certain ringers towards their fellows is far from being perfect. Without alluding more pointedly to Long Melford, we may naturally ask the reason why it is that in many places where from the facilities afforded by the number of bells available for practice, and other well-known advantages, harmony may be expected, something similar to the affairs at Long Melford appears to be the rule. The homilies delivered from the pulpit to members of ringing Associations at the various annual festivals have not, apparently, been as yet productive of any great or lasting effect. If we were asked to select the next subject on which a reverend preacher should form his discourse at a ringers' gathering, it would be the subject of jealousy. For it cannot be denied that this green-eyed monster is one of the most fruitful causes of division among ringing communities.

It is not only envy of superior attainments which militates against the concord that should exist between the members of a ringing company. Some persons, aiming to be sole dictators among their ringing companions, are invariably troubled with a lurking fear that their dictatorship will at one time or other be assailed; especially does this suspicion thrive where there are one or two smart, active, young ringers, who early give promise of superior skill. And what petty and mean artifices do these people fly to in order to maintain their position. Whether the company of which they are such ornaments advance or not, is nothing to them. If they can have everything their own way, they are content. But woe to the unlucky wight who points out the folly of sitting down complacently under such a reign. He is sure, not only of his

ringing abilities being disparaged, but of attacks being made on his private character, not of course, openly, or in a manner so that he could be able to meet the traducer face to face.

Members of a company who enjoy a perfect immunity from these troubles which are set in motion by jealousy, are at a loss to account for such unpleasant episodes. In well-regulated societies of ringers, the members owe their allegiance only to the incumbent or churchwardens. And this is how it should be. No individual member should have the power to act in any way that would hinder the admission of a ringer to the steeple. Where cases now exist of control being in the wrong hands, every effort should be made to alter it. The domineering conduct of one man should be put an end to, whether he is jealous of his position as general dictator, or not. And where the will exists to do this, the way can easily be found.

### The Provinces.

BURTON-ON-TRENT, STAFFORDSHIRE.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION AND THE ST. PAUL'S SOCIETY, BURTON-ON-TRENT.

On Thursday, August 20, 1885, in Three Hours and Twenty-Nine Minutes,

AT ST. PAUL'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES. Tenor 26 cwt.

HARRY WAKLEY .. .. . Treble.	JOHN JAGGAR .. .. . 5.
EDWARD ISAAC STONE .. .. 2.	A. P. HEYWOOD, Esq. .. 6.
ARTHUR WAKLEY .. .. 3.	THOMAS HOLMES .. .. 7.
JOSEPH GRIFFIN .. .. 4.	WILLIAM WAKLEY .. .. Tenor.

Composed by N. J. PITSTOW and Conducted by J. GRIFFIN.

This peal (the figures of which appeared in "BELL NEWS" of May 9th, 1885) is now rung for the first time, and is the 50th peal rung by Messrs A. Wakley and J. Griffin. Mr. Griffin's list is made up as follows:—Grandsire Triples, 7; Stedman Triples, 7; Kent Treble Bob, 14; Double Norwich Court Bob, 16; Superlative Surprise, 6; Mr. Wakley's list being almost exactly similar.

LEES, NEAR OLDHAM, LANCASHIRE.

THE LEESFIELD SOCIETY.

On Thursday, August 20, 1885, in Two Hours and Fifty-nine Minutes,

AT ST. THOMAS'S CHURCH,

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

EDWIN B. SHAW .. .. . Treble.	JOHN GREENWOOD .. .. 5.
FRED CROSLAND .. .. 2.	WILLIAM HOLDEN .. .. 6.
GEO. HY. BEEVER .. .. 3.	JOHN HILTON .. .. 7.
JAMES PRIESTLEY .. .. 4.	JOSHUA PLATT .. .. Tenor.

Conducted by FRED CROSLAND.

This is the first peal the conductor has called.

DERBY.—THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

Muffled Peal.

On Saturday, August 22, 1885, in Three Hours and Five Minutes,

AT ST. WERBURGH'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF UNION TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES; HOLT'S 6-PART. Tenor 17 cwt. in E.

SAMUEL MASKREY* .. .. . Treble.	RICHARD REDGATE .. .. 5.
AUSTIN TABERER .. .. 2.	HARRY CHAS. WOODWARD .. 6.
SAMUEL PRICE .. .. 3.	ARTHUR BERTRAM WARD .. 7.
JOHN HOWE .. .. 4.	GEORGE SLACK .. .. Tenor.

Conducted by HARRY CHARLES WOODWARD.

\*First peal. First peal in the method by all the band, and the first peal of Union Triples by the Association. It was rung with the bells half-muffled, as a tribute of respect to the late Mayor of Derby (Henry Fowkes, Esq.), and also to the memory of the late Rev. H. T. Ellacombe, Rector of Clyst St. George, Devon.

WALTER BELCHAMP, ESSEX.  
THE SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.

On Sunday, August 23, 1885, in Two Hours and Fifty-five Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;  
IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 11 cwt.

N. J. PITSTOW .. .. .Treble.	ZACHARIAH SLATER .. .. .5.
SAMUEL SLATER .. .. .2.	THOS. OLIVER GARWOOD .. .6.
GEORGE HAMMOND* .. .. .3.	FREDK. PAUL ADAMS .. .. .7.
FREDERICK WELLS .. .. .4.	HENRY HARPER .. .. .Tenor.

Composed and Conducted by N. J. PITSTOW.

\* First peal. This composition contains the sixth the extent at home, at ten course-ends out of the last twelve; and also all the 8-6's.

CARSHALTON, SURREY.—THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

Birth-day Peal.

On Monday, August 24, 1885, in Two Hours and Fifty-two Minutes,

AT ALL SAINTS' CHURCH,

A PEAL OF PLAIN BOB TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;  
Tenor 12½ cwt. in G#.

CHARLES MARTIN .. .. .Treble.	JAMES HARRIS .. .. .5.
ARTHUR B. CARPENTER† .. .2.	JAMES TRAPPITT .. .. .6.
WILLIAM BURKIN .. .. .3.	JOHN PLOWMAN .. .. .7.
CHARLES BANCE .. .. .4.	*HENRY BROOKS .. .. .Tenor.

Composed by T. MORRIS, and Conducted by JAMES TRAPPITT.

\* First peal. † First peal in the Plain Bob method. This is a 6-part peal (see *Rope-Sight*, 3rd edition, page 91). It was rung to commemorate the 28th anniversary of the birthday of the conductor. H. Brooks was elected a member of the Surrey Association before starting for the peal.

ECCLES.—THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Tuesday, August 25, 1885, in Three Hours and Three Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;  
IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 13¾ cwt.

EDWARD CASH .. .. .Treble.	JAMES BARRATT .. .. .5.
ALFRED EGGINGTON .. .. .2.	WILLIAM J. HARGREAVES .. .6.
CHARLES CASH .. .. .3.	JOHN EACHUS .. .. .7.
THOMAS HEALD .. .. .4.	GEORGE H. JOHNSON .. .. .Tenor.

Composed by the late WILLIAM HARRISON, of Motteram, and Conducted by GEORGE H. JOHNSON.

Mr. Heald hails from St. Philip's, Hulme; Hargreaves from Holy Trinity Hulme; Eachus from Manchester Cathedral; the rest are of the Eccles company.

Date Touches.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

BEVERLEY (Yorks).—On Saturday, August 22nd, eight members of this Association rang at the Minster a date touch of Grandsire Triples, 1885 changes, containing the twenty-four 6-7's, in 1 hr. 7 mins. C. Jackson (composer and conductor), 1; A. Taylor, 2; C. Bennett, 3; J. Smelt, 4; D. Roberts, 5; W. Gill, 6; F. Drabble, 7; J. Witty, 8. Messrs. Smelt, Roberts, and Witty belong to the Minster company, and the rest belong to Hull. Tenor 30 cwt.

ORMSKIRK (Lancashire).—*Muffled Peal*.—On Tuesday, August 18th, a mixed company rang at the parish church, a date touch of 1885 changes of Grandsire Triples, in 1 hr. 9 mins., with the bells half-muffled, as a last tribute of respect to the memory of the late Rev. H. T. Ellacombe, Rector of Clyst St. George, Devonshire. Charles Sharples (Aughton), 1; H. Ellis (Ormskirk), 2; George Larkey (Aughton), 3; William J. Taylor (Ormskirk), 4; Robert Foster (Aughton), 5; William Bentham (conductor; Aughton), 6; George Prescott (Ormskirk), 7; William Lloyd (Ormskirk), 8. Tenor 25½ cwt. Composed by Miss E. C. Sharland, of Tiverton.

Miscellaneous.

ASSOCIATION FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.

CODSALL (Staffordshire).—On Saturday, August 22nd, at the parish church, a 720 of Grandsire Minor, in 24½ mins. Joseph Jones, 1; Thomas Bennett, 2; William Pardoe, 3; William Rock Small, 4; John Martin, 5; Joseph Fullwood (conductor), 6. Tenor 14 cwt.

TIPTON (Staffordshire).—On Saturday, August 22nd, at St. Martin's church, a 720 of Grandsire Minor, in 25 mins. Joseph Jones, 1; William Pardoe, 2; William Rock Small, 3; Samuel Jesson, 4; John Martin, 5; Joseph Fullwood (conductor), 6. Tenor 12 cwt.

THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

ASPLEY GUISE.—On Tuesday evening, August 18th, for practice, a 720 of Bob Minor (thirty-four singles), in 23½ mins. G. Usher, 1; E. Lewin, 2; J. Carwell Cook, 3; M. Lane, 4; Rev. W. W. C. Baker (Nottingham), 5; W. Chibnall (conductor), 6. Also on Friday evening, August 21st, a 720 of Bob Minor (eighteen bobs and two singles), in 25 mins., with the bells half-muffled, as a tribute of respect to the late Rev. H. T. Ellacombe, Rector of Clyst St. George, Devon. G. Usher, 1; E. Lewin, 2; W. Mynard, 3; J. Carwell Cook, 4; M. Lane (conductor), 5; W. Chibnall, 6.

BEDFORD.—On Tuesday, August 18th, at St. Paul's church, on the back six, a 720 of Plain Bob Minor, in 29 mins. I. Hills, 1; J. Atkins, 2; J. Frossell, 3; M. Warwick, 4; T. Foote, 5; C. W. Clarke (conductor), 6. Tenor 28 cwt. in D. And on Thursday, August 20th, at St. Mary's church, a 720 of Plain Bob Minor, in 24 mins. F. Keech, 1; I. Hills, 2; T. Foote, 2; C. W. Clarke, 4; S. J. Cullip, 5; M. Warwick (first 720 as conductor), 6. Also a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob Minor, in 24½ mins. M. Warwick, 1; C. W. Clarke (conductor), 2; T. Foote, 3; I. Hills, 4; S. J. Cullip, 5; J. Frossell, 6.

THE ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

SUDBURY (Suffolk).—*Muffled Peal*.—On Monday, August 24th, at All Saints' church, the following members of the above Association rang a 1008 of Grandsire Triples, in 48 mins., with the bells half-muffled as a mark of respect to the late Rev. H. T. Ellacombe. F. Tolladay, 2; M. Silvester, 2; G. S. Brown, 3; G. Griggs, 4; W. Bacon, 5; H. Harper, 6; A. Scott (conductor), 7; H. Brackett, 8. Tenor 28 cwt.

THE NORTH LINCOLNSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

GAINSBOROUGH.—On Tuesday, August 25th, at All Saints' church, eight members of the local company rang 1036 of Grandsire Triples, in 40 mins. W. W. Bust, 1; F. W. Atkinson, 2; W. D. Tinker (conductor), 3; J. C. Tinker, 4; W. Pattison, 5; C. Brewin, 6; \*F. F. Linley, 7; J. T. Hollingworth, 8. Tenor 20 cwt. \* First 1000 in the method.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

CAVERSHAM (Oxon).—On Sunday, August 23rd, at St. Peter's, the local company rang for Divine Service in the morning, a 720 of Oxford Bob Minor. H. Smith, 1; J. Hands, 3; E. Menday, 3; G. Essex, 4; E. Pottinger, 5; T. Newman (conductor), 6. And after evening service, a 360 of Double Oxford Bob Minor. J. Hands, 1; E. Menday, 2; G. Essex, 3; T. Newman, 4; E. Pottinger, 5; Rev. G. F. Coleridge (conductor), 6. On Tuesday, August 25th, with the bells muffled, a 720 of Oxford Bob, as a tribute of respect to the late Rev. H. T. Ellacombe, in 30 mins., followed by the usual whole pull and stand repeated 95 times, the age of the deceased. H. Smith, 1; E. Menday, 2; T. Hands, 3; G. Essex, 4; E. Pottinger, 5; Rev. G. F. Coleridge (conductor), 6. Tenor 17 cwt.

SHRIVENHAM (Berks).—On Saturday, August 22nd, the bells of this place were opened by six members of the above Guild, having been rehung by Messrs Bond, of Burford, was rang a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor, and a 720 of Grandsire Minor, as well as 120's of Stedman and Grandsire. W. Smith, 1; F. Castle, 2; C. Hounslow, 3; Rev. F. E. Robinson, 4; W. Finch, 5; J. W. Washbrook (conductor), 6. Tenor about 16 cwt. The bells were found to go and strike very well.

ASH (Kent).—On Saturday, August 22nd, the Gravesend, Milton, and Swanscombe ringers paid a visit to the above place, and rang a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor in 23½ mins., being the first upon the bells. G. Hayes, 1; J. W. Aitken, 2; W. Martin, 3; B. Spinner, 4; H. D. Davis, 5; W. Harper (conductor), 6. Also touches of Bob and Grandsire Minor and Grandsire Doubles by them and the local company.

CHEPSTOW (Monmouthshire).—*Muffled Peal*.—On Monday, August 24th, six of the local company rang at St. Mary's church, on the back six, several 6-scores of Bob Doubles, with the bells half-muffled as a last tribute of respect to the Rev. H. T. Ellacombe, late Rector of Clyst St. George, Devon. James Morley (conductor), 1; George Watkins, 2; William Green, 3; William Woods, 4; Tom Rosser, 5; Richard Morley, 6. Tenor 21 cwt. in E.

CHORLEY (Lancashire).—*Muffled Peal*.—On Tuesday, August 18th, at the parish church, a 720 of Plain Bob Minor, in 28 mins., in memory of the late Rev. Henry Thomas Ellacombe, M.A. John Henry Gartside (conductor), 1; William Heaps, 2; John Marsden, 3; Alfred Wally, 4; George Gartside, 5; Joshua Worthington, 6.

**CRAWLEY (Sussex).**—On Friday, August 21st, at the parish church, an attempt was made to ring Taylor's Bob-and-Single peal of Grandsire Triples, but after ringing about 800 changes, someone turned the gas off at the meter in the church, which put the ringers in darkness, time then not allowing for a whole peal a quarter-peal was rung in 45 mins. F. Rice, 1; W. Collison, 2; R. Simmonds, 3; M. Heffer, 4; F. Wickens, 5; A. F. Hillier, 6; H. Burstow (conductor), 7; J. Collison, 8. Tenor 13½ cwt. R. Simmonds wishes to tender his sincere thanks to H. Burstow, and other ringers for their kindness in so readily meeting him for a ring.

**DERBY.**—*Muffled Peal.*—On Thursday evening, August 20th, at St. Andrew's church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, 1260 changes, in 56 mins., with the bells half-muffled, for the late Mayor of Derby, a resident of the parish. T. Alton, 1; J. Thompson, 1; C. Hart, 3; W. Midgley, 4; W. H. Found, 5; G. Mottashaw, 6; A. E. Thompson (conductor), 7; W. Shardlow, 8. And on Tuesday evening, August 25th, the first half of Holt's 10-part peal of Grandsire Triples, in 1 hr. 43 mins., with the bells half-muffled as a last token of respect to the Mayor of Derby, who expired on Thursday, August 20th, in the 66th year of his age. Wm. Shardlow, 1; J. W. Thompson, 2; C. Hart, 3; W. Midgley, 4; W. H. Found, 5; G. Mottashaw, 6; A. E. Thompson (conductor), 7; T. Alton, 8. Tenor 20 cwt. 2qrs. 14 lbs.

**DARLEY DALE (Derbyshire).**—On Wednesday, August 19th, on the occasion of the marriage of Mr. H. Gregory, one of the local band, the following rang nine 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles, each called differently, in 40 mins. J. Derbyshire, 1; W. Taylor, 2; C. Gwatkin, 3; C. Whymark, 4; E. Hallows, 5; S. Groom, 6. The first five were conducted by E. Hallows, and the rest by C. Gwatkin. And on Sunday, August 23rd, for morning service, five 6-scores with T. Gill at the tenor.

**DEPTFORD (Kent).**—On Monday, August 24th, at St. Nicholas church (on the front six), 720 of Grandsire Minor, in 27 mins. John Rose, 1; William Pead, 2; William Weatherstone (conductor), 3; Frederick William Thornton, 4; Thomas Taylor, 5; William Henry Freeman, 6.

**FISHTOFT (Lincolnshire).**—On Saturday, August 22nd, several 6-scores of Grandsire and Bob Drubles. J. T. Routen, 1; G. Clark, 2; J. M. Rylatt, 3; C. A. Clements (Salisbury), 4; J. R. Jerram (conductor), 5. Tenor 11 cwt.

**HAUGHTON (Lancashire).**—On Sunday, August 23rd, Colin E. Bell, Esq., and Mr. Francis J. Downes, Esq., members of the St. Mary's society, Alderley, paid a visit to St. Anne's church, and rang with the local company, 180 of Plain Bob Minor in 8 mins. Wm. Wilde, jun., 1; \*J. Bardsley, 2; Francis James Downes, Esq., 3; \*John S. Leech (conductor), 4; \*John Howard, 5; Colin E. Bell, Esq., 6. Also a 720 of Plain Bob Minor in 30 mins. Wm. Wilde, jun., 1; \*John Bardsley, 2; \*Wm. Wilde, sen., 3; \*John S. Leech, 4; Colin E. Bell, Esq., 5; \*Peter Smith (conductor), 6. Also a 6-score of Plain Bob Doubles. Colin E. Bell, Esq., (conductor), 1; Francis James Downes, 2; \*Wm. Wilde, sen., 3; \*J. S. Leech, 4; \*John Howard, 5; \*James A. Thomas, 6. Tenor 15 cwt. in G. \*Members of the Lancashire Association.

**HEENE (Sussex).**—*Muffled Peal.*—On Sunday, August 16th, at St. Botolph's church, eight members of the local company rang a touch with the bells muffled in memory of the Rev. H. T. Ellacombe, late Rector of Clyst St George, Devonshire. A. Smith, 1; A. Standing, 2; W. Hill, 3; F. Standing, 4; M. Streeter, 5; E. Hart, 6; R. Newman, 7. J. Standing, 8.

**HOLBECK, LEEDS (Yorkshire).**—*Muffled Peal.*—On Tuesday, August 18th, at St. Matthew's church, a muffled touch of Bob Major, 1300 changes, in memory of the Rev. H. T. Ellacombe, late rector of Clyst St. George, Devon. Thomas Harrinson, 1; Harry Tomlinson, 2; Henry Moss, 3; Stephen Bassett, 4; Francis Woodhead, 5; Thomas West, 6; Matthew Tomlinson (conductor), 7; David York, 8. T. West belongs to Leeds; the rest are local men.

**HORSHAM (Sussex).**—On Saturday evening, August 22nd, several touches of Grandsire Triples and Oxford Bob Triples by the local company and ringers from Warnham and Crawley, and Mr. R. Simmonds from Maidstone, Kent.

**IPSWICH (Suffolk).**—*Muffled Peal.*—On Saturday evening, August 22nd, at St. Mary-le-Tower, the following members of this Society rang the undermentioned touches with the bells half-muffled as a tribute of respect to the late Mr. Robt. Naunton, formerly a member of this Society, who died July 16th last, at San Francisco, California, also to the late Rev. H. T. Ellacombe, Rector of Clyst St. George, Devon, who died July 30th last. I. S. Alexander, 1; R. H. Brundle, F. Tillet, A. Aldham, E. Pemberton, R. Hawes, W. Meadows, W. Motts, J. Motts, C. Mee, W. L. Catchpole. 480 of Oxford Treble Royal, 435 Stedman Caters, 180 Plain Bob Royal, and about 700 Grandsire Caters, which were conducted by J. Motts, C. Mee and W. L. Catchpole.

**LIVERPOOL.**—*Muffled Peal.*—On Tuesday evening, August 18th, being the practice night at St. Luke's church, the bells were rung muffled as a tribute of respect to the late Rev. H. T. Ellacombe, M.A., of Clyst St. George, Devon, when upwards of three parts of Reeves's 10-part peal was rung in 1 hr. 10 mins. R. S. Mann (conductor), 1; J. R. Pritchard, 2; J. Aspinwall, 3; F. W. Moore, 4; J. Brown, 5; W. James, 6; W. Davies, 7; T. Hammond, 8.

**MILNROW (Lancashire).**—*Muffled Peal.*—On Wednesday evening, August 19th, at St. James's church, the local company rang a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, with the bells half-muffled, as a token of respect to the late Rev. H. T. Ellacombe, Rector of Clyst St. George. W. Warburton, 1; S. Fielding, 2; J. T. Dearden, 3; J. F. Wild (conductor), 4; J. Fitton, 5; T. Platt, 6; A. Clegg, 7; S. Hart, 8. Tenor 20 cwt.

**MILTON NEAR GRAVESEND (Kent).**—On Tuesday, August 18th, at the church of SS. Peter and Paul, by a mixed company, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor, in 26½ mins. J. W. Aitkin, 1; F. Hayes, 2; W. Martin, 3; B. Spinner, 4; H. D. Davis, 5; W. Harper (conductor), 6. First in the method by all but the treble.

**READING (Berks).**—*Muffled Peal.*—On Tuesday, August 25th, an attempt was made at St. Laurence's for a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, with the bells half-muffled, for the Rev. H. T. Ellacombe, late Rector of Clyst St. George, Devon, but after ringing 826 changes in 35 mins., the tenor rope broke, thus bringing it to grief. A. E. Reeves, 1; W. Johnson, 2; H. M. Bawden, 3; W. J. Williams, 4; W. H. Holloway, 5; W. Goseltine, 6; W. Newell (conductor), 7; R. T. Hibbert, 8. After adjusting another rope, a 575 of Grandsire Caters was rung, in 26½ mins. A. E. Reeves, 1; F. W. Round, 2; H. M. Bawden, 3; J. Potter, 4; W. H. Holloway, 5; W. Johnson, 6; W. Goseltine, 7; W. J. Williams (conductor), 8; W. Newell, 9; R. T. Hibbert, 10.

**RAUNDS (Northamptonshire).**—*Muffled Peal.*—On Saturday, August 15th, at St. Peter's church, a 720 each of Oxford Bob Minor and London Single, in 57 mins. A. Coles, 1; F. Gilbert, 2; R. Pendered, 3; W. Hall, 4; J. Willmott, 5; H. Stubbs (conductor), 6. This was rung with the bells half-muffled as a mark of respect to the Rev. H. T. Ellacombe, late Rector of Clyst St. George, Devon. And on Sunday, August 23rd, it being Hospital Sunday, for Divine Service, a 720 of Court Single (eighteen bobs and two singles). A. Coles, 1; W. J. Gilbert, 2; R. Pendered, 3; J. Stubbs, 4; J. Willmott, 5; W. Hall (conductor), 6.

**RINGSTEAD (Northamptonshire).**—On Tuesday, August 18th, at St. Mary's church, a 720 of Oxford Bob Minor (with eighteen bobs and two singles). G. Roberts, 1; J. Braybrook, 2; R. Shipley, 3; J. Sawford, 4; E. Mayes, 5; T. Roberts (conductor), 6. And a 720 of College Single (eighteen bobs and two singles). G. Roberts, 1; E. Mayes, 2; R. Shipley, 3; J. Sawford, 4; W. J. Gilbert (conductor), 5; J. Braybrook, 6. This was rung with the bells muffled as a mark of respect to the late Rev. H. T. Ellacombe, Rector of Clyst St. George, Devon.

**SALISBURY (Wilts).**—On Wednesday, August 19th, the St. Martin's company had the pleasure of meeting their old friend, Mr. C. Staden, of Bournemouth, and rang six 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles with him. J. Short, 1; C. Staden, 2; T. Blackburn, 3; J. Wilton, 4; W. Gifford, 5; H. C. Flower, 6.

**SHEFFIELD (Yorkshire).**—On Tuesday, August 25th, at St. Peter's church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, 1260 changes, in 48 mins. W. Challinor, 1; Jos. Mulligan, 2; J. A. Dixon, 3; C. A. Clements (Salisbury), 4; Jno. Mulligan, 5; T. Hattersley (conductor), 6; J. R. Jerram (Salisbury), 7; G. Holmes, 8. Tenor 14 cwt. And at St. Marie's Roman Catholic church, 518 of Grandsire Triples. G. Holmes, 1; J. R. Jerram, 2; W. Booth, 3; C. A. Clements, 4; E. Woodward, 5; Jno. Mulligan, 6; J. A. Dixon, 7; Jos. Mulligan, 8. During their stay in Sheffield the visitors from Salisbury were shown over Messrs. Ward's cutlery establishment, Sir J. Brown's steel works, and Mr. H. Hattersley's gun factory. Tenor 25 cwt.

**SKIRBECK (Lincolnshire).**—On Saturday, August 22nd, several 6-scores of Grandsire and Bob Doubles. J. R. Jerram, 1; G. Clark, 2; C. A. Clements (Salisbury), 3; E. Mason (conductor), 4; J. M. Rylatt, 5. Tenor 17 cwt.

**SPELDHURST (Kent).**—On Sunday, August 21st, for Divine Service in the afternoon at the parish church, a 720 of Bob Minor was rung by local men and Mr. R. Simmonds, of Maidstone. R. Simmonds and two of the Speldhurst ringers then walked to Tunbridge, with the expectation of ringing for evening service, but had to be content with chiming on a peal of eight that require rehanging.

**SUTTON ST. NICHOLAS (Lincolnshire).**—*Muffled Peal.*—On Friday, August 21st, a muffled peal, consisting of whole pull round ninety-five times, as a mark of respect to the memory of the late Rev. H. T. Ellacombe. J. R. Jerram, 1; C. A. Clements, 2; H. Cunningham, 3; J. Jackson, 4; Rev. J. H. Spokes, 5. Tenor 5 cwt.

**STOWMARKET (Suffolk).—Muffled Peal.**—On Monday evening, August 24th, at the church of SS. Peter and Mary, eight members of the Stowmarket company of Youths rang a muffled peal, as a last tribute of respect to the Rev. H. T. Ellacombe, late Rector of Clyst St. George, Devon. C. Bedwell, 1; Wm. Bedwell, 2; J. Wright, 3; C. Hammond, 4; W. E. Tydeman, 5; A. Jordan, 6; R. F. Welham, 7; F. Brett, 8.

**TOTTENHAM (Middlesex).**—On Tuesday, August 18th, for practice, a 720 of Plain Bob Minor, in 27 minutes. — Hubbard, 1; George Bower, 2; Joseph Waghorn, jun. (conductor), 3; George Lucas, 4; Joseph Waghorn, sen., 5; Henry Barnett, 6.

**TYDD ST. MARY (Lincolnshire).**—On Thursday, August 20th, a 6-score each of Bob and Grandsire Doubles. E. Coulson, 1; C. A. Clements, 2; J. W. Mawby, 3; W. Cunningham, 4; J. R. Jerram, 5. Tenor 13 cwt.

**WALTON-ON-THE-HILL (Lancashire).**—On Saturday evening, August 15th, the Walton handbell ringers met in the belfry of the parish church, and practised on the handbells several selections of various airs, also the Gypsy Polka, and a selection of sacred airs. The members present were: C. E. Wilson (conductor); W. Millen, J. Nightingale, W. D. Rodgers, V. Barnes, F. Roberts, and G. Law. General practice night for tune-playing, Friday evenings at 7.30.

**WINGFIELD (Derbyshire).**—On Tuesday, July 14th, for practice at St. Laurence's Church, North Wingfield, twelve 6-scores of Bob Doubles, each called differently, four with bobs only, four with singles only, and four with bobs and singles, in 58 mins. W. Brown, 1; G. Brown, 2; J. Cook, 3; T. Allibone, 4; T. Day, 5; W. Hopkinson, 6. Also on Tuesday, August 18th, six 6-scores of Bob Doubles, in 28 mins. A. Bannister, 1; G. Beresford, 2; G. Tarlton, 3; T. Allibone, 4; T. Day, 5; W. Hopkinson, 6. Tenor 18½ cwt. in F.

**WIMBLEDON (Surrey).**—On Sunday morning, August 16th, for Divine Service, a 720 of Woodbine, in 26 mins. G. Hyde, 1; R. Moss, 2; C. Hyde, 3; J. Parker, 4; A. Garratt, 5; S. Frost (conductor), 6. On Tuesday, August 18th, for practice, a 720 of Grandsire Minor, in 27 mins. B. Battram (first 720), 1; C. Hyde, 2; R. Moss, 3; R. Reynolds (first 720), 4; A. Garratt, 5; S. Frost (conductor), 6. On Sunday, August 23rd, for Divine Service, a 720 of Oxford Bob Minor, in 26 mins. A. Roots, 1; R. Moss, 2; C. Hyde, 3; J. Parker, 4; A. Garratt, 5; S. Frost (conductor), 6. Battram hails from Putney; Reynolds from Mitcham. And on Tuesday, August 25th, for practice, 720 of Woodbine Treble Bob. J. Fayers, 1; E. F. Strange, 2; C. Hyde, 3; J. Parker, 4; A. Garratt, 5; S. Frost (conductor), 6. Also 360 of Oxford Treble Bob. G. Hyde, 1; R. Moss, 2; C. Hyde, 3; J. Parker, 4; E. F. Strange (conductor), 5; M. Murphy, 6. And a touch each of Grandsire and Kent Treble Bob Minor. Tenor 11 cwt.

#### CONSETT, DURHAM.

A contract has been entered into for a new peal of six bells for this church. The bells and frame are being supplied by Messrs. Taylor, the weight of the tenor, 15 cwt. The frame will be constructed for eight bells, so that two trebles may be added as soon as funds are forthcoming. The tower is twenty-two feet square inside, one of the largest bell-chambers in the north. The bells are expected to be ready for ringing about the end of November.

#### ST. MARY'S, OLD BATTERSEA, SURREY.

On Tuesday, August 25th, a handsome mahogany tablet was erected in the tower recording Holt's Original peal, rung on the 28th of April last, to commemorate the presentation of a testimonial to Mr. William Baron, many years instructor to the St. Mary's Society.

#### THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

THE ANNUAL MEETING of the above will take place on Saturday, September 26th, at the Cathedral, Manchester. There will be a service at 3.30 p.m., when the sermon will be preached by the Rev. Chas. Lowe, M.A., Vicar of Holy Trinity, Bolton. Tea will be provided in the schoolroom at five p.m., tickets 1s. each, business meeting at six p.m., when the officers for the ensuing year will be elected. All those who intend to be present at the tea are requested to send in their names to the secretaries, or to Mr. A. E. Wreaks, 11 Dover Street, Higher Crumpsall, Manchester, (from whom tickets can be obtained) not later than September 19th.

A. E. HOLME, } Hon. Secs.  
J. REDFORD, }

**FOR SALE.**—A set of 50 Handbells, four octaves, chromatic, from C to C. In good condition. Apply to F. LEES, 42, Snow Street, Newcastle-on-Tyne.

#### BELLS AND RINGERS IN 1885.—(Continued.)

By F. W. J. REES.

##### LIST OF RINGS IN BERKSHIRE.

Appleton	..	10	..	14	..	Various.	..	Lightest ring of 10.
Reading S. L'wr'nce	10	..	24	..	G.	..	R. Catlin, 1748.	
Abingdon, St. Helen	8	..	19	..	..	..	Whitechapel, 1764.	
Drayton	..	8	..	10	..	Various.	..	Augmented to 8, '80
Farringdon	..	8	..	16	..	..	..	
Hagborne	..	8	..	25	..	..	..	
Maidenhead, Boyne	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	
Hill	..	8	..	18	..	G.	..	
Reading, S. Mary	..	8	..	28	..	G.	..	
Sonning	..	8	..	22	..	G.	..	
Wallingford	..	8	..	20	..	..	..	
Windsor, Curfew	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	
Tower	..	8	..	36	..	..	..	
Windsor, Parish	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	
Church	..	8	..	20	..	..	..	
Wokingham S. Paul	..	8	..	19	..	G.	..	
Abingdon S. Nich'ls	..	6	..	7	..	..	..	
Arborefield	..	6	..	14	..	..	..	
Beenham	..	6	..	10	..	..	..	Whitechapel.
Binfield	..	6	..	10	..	..	..	Whitechapel.
Bray	..	6	..	30	..	..	..	Recently rehung.
Brightwell	..	6	..	11	..	..	..	Whitechapel.
Cholsey	..	6	..	14	..	..	..	
Compton	..	6	..	9	..	..	..	Whitechapel.
Cookham	..	6	..	16	..	..	..	
Cumnor	..	6	..	..	..	..	..	
Englefield	..	6	..	9	..	..	..	
Fulmere	..	6	..	7½	..	..	..	Augmented to 6, '84
Hungerford	..	6	..	14	..	..	..	
Hurst	..	6	..	17	..	..	..	
Kintbury	..	6	..	..	..	..	..	
Pangbourne	..	6	..	10	..	G.	..	Rudhall, 1720.
Reading S. Giles	..	6	..	15	..	G.	..	
Shinfield	..	6	..	..	..	..	..	
Speen	..	6	..	13	..	..	..	Whitechapel.
Sutton-Courtney	..	6	..	..	..	..	..	
Theale	..	6	..	13	..	..	..	Whitechapel.
Tilehurst	..	6	..	..	..	..	..	
Waltham--S. Law-	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	
rence	..	6	..	11	..	..	..	Whitechapel.
Wargrave	..	6	..	14	..	G.	..	
Wantage	..	6	..	23½	..	..	..	Reputed weight.
Whittemham	..	6	..	9	..	..	..	
White Waltham	..	6	..	13	..	..	..	Warner, 1869.
Windsor, S. John	..	6	..	21	..	G.	..	
Old Windsor, S P'tr	..	6	..	..	..	..	..	
Wokingham All S'ts	..	6	..	20	..	G.	..	

The above list is very incomplete; I hope Mr. Rogers and Mr. F. White will help to make it correct.

#### THE ACCIDENT TO A RINGING PARTY.

Amount already announced—	£	s.	d.
W. H. George	..	..	1 0
J. R. Haworth	..	..	2 6
Mr. Fosdike, Woodbridge, Suffolk	..	..	5 0
Blethingley Society of Change-Ringers	..	..	5 0

Further donations, however small, are urgently solicited. Mr. Matthew Wood, 11, Church Row, Bethnal Green, London, will be happy to give any further information, and will thankfully acknowledge any sums forwarded to him.

**ATTEMPTED SACRILEGE.**—At the end of last week a discovery was made that thieves had entered All Saints' Church, Worcester, and had searched for something valuable to carry away. It appears that one of the choristers, a lad, on going to the church, found the door near the schoolyard unfastened, and a key in the lock. The vestry was in disorder and papers lying about. The thieves had fetched a coal hammer from the yard and smashed in one of the cupboards in the vestry, and had endeavoured to force the iron safe containing the parish deeds and documents. They broke a corner off the iron door, but failed to open the safe. The door of the vestment chamber was forced, and the door of a small cupboard within the chamber smashed. There was a plated service kept in a small cupboard, but that was either deemed not of sufficient value to remove it, or escaped the attention of the thieves in their eagerness to become possessed of the costly antique plate, some of which is dated 1547, and includes a chalice and a paten presented to the church by the first Mayor of Worcester. A piece of candle was found in the vestry. The key found in the door of the church is similar to one lost a few years ago.

## Correspondence.

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

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

## BIRMINGHAM CELEBRITIES.

SIR,—Will you kindly allow me space in your next issue for a few remarks in reference to the memoir of Elijah Roberts, by Mr. J. W. Snowdon, which appeared in "THE BELL NEWS" of July 11th. I read the article with much interest, and it brought to mind many pleasant memories of the past, especially of those I had known, but are now passed away, who had associated with Roberts. One in particular, old Will Chattell, better known as "the old baker." Chattell came to Birmingham about 1832, and being on ringing bent, soon found his way to Roberts' house, the "Union Tavern," where the ringers most did congregate. But being only a six-bell ringer, Chattell had little chance, till Roberts' keen eye no doubt perceiving that he was made of the right material, took him under hand, and in July 1834, he assisted in the peal of 6282 Grandsire Caters rung at Aston, composed and conducted by Roberts. I have often heard Chattell speak of this, his first peal of any importance, and of the fear he had of not striking his bell (the sixth), to Roberts' mind. He used to say "Roberts' look was worse than words, his eye went through you." This peal was rung with the bells muffled, as the last tribute of respect to another worthy just then passed away, viz., Mr. Joseph Powell, who had been for many years a member of the St. Martin's society, and had assisted in many capital performances, closing his career by conducting peals of Stedman Triples and Caters. He also called the two peals of Treble Bob Maximus, 5040 and 7536, tapped by Roberts, of whom he was a personal friend. And now what I think will be of interest to many of your readers, the said Joseph Powell was sire of another noted ringer—Mr. Thomas Powell—the genial and worthy host of the "Three Tuns Inn," Waltham Abbey, whom to know is to esteem.

CAMPANILE.

## THE 6720 OF DOUBLE NORWICH BY P. O. BIXBY.

SIR,—I am very glad to be able to congratulate a young and almost unknown ringer, on the attainment of what has for some time been the goal towards which composers of Double Norwich peals have been striving, viz., the extent with bobs only. We London men foolishly thought Mr. H. W. Haley's peal of 6,608 was likely to hold the place of honour for some time, but now there will be waiving in the tents of the College Youths when it is heard that a stranger, by the simple but ingenious expedient of introducing about a thousand false changes, has succeeded in obtaining the magic number! Mr. Bixby's name will henceforth rank high on the list of the heroes of composition, fitting company for the famous nonentities who at one time or another have obtained peals of Grandsire Triples without singles, or even of that superlative genius who recently got a 22,000 of Kent Treble Bob Major (I forget whether the tenors were parted). The great beauty of Mr. Bixby's peal lies in the third and fourth, and the sixth and seventh courses of each part. Some ringers have an absurd idea that Double Norwich won't run true for more than seven leads without a call; but after the frank and manly way in which our Long Melford friend treats this prejudice, we have no alternative but to shake off the trammels of barbarism, and reform campanology from the root. Henceforth we will swear by Bixby, and peals shall multiply as the locusts.

THE AUTHOR OF THUMB-NAIL SKETCHES.

## AFFAIRS AT LONG MELFORD, SUFFOLK.

SIR,—It is a pity your correspondent, Samuel Slater, in his letter last week, did not adhere to his remarks with regard to the utilisation of the columns of "THE BELL NEWS," and himself refrain from using unnecessary language. I would go further, and express my regret at seeing your columns polluted by statements which bear not the impress of truth. This is the only construction I can put upon the statement he makes in connection with my name. I certainly am sorry to take up your space to reply to it, but I feel duty bound to refute what is a base and groundless statement. I should not have condescended to notice such a matter, and should have treated it with silent contempt, feeling sure that it would have received at the hands of all who know me the contempt it deserves, but for the fact that it has been made in a public paper, and therefore must not be allowed to pass unchallenged. S. Slater states that the reason I do not ring with the Melford company, is because "I have never been asked," that "they prefer my room to my company," that they "found out" (mark the phrase), I was not to their taste, and that they never refused to ring with me. This is incorrect of the majority of the Melford members of the company—I have been invited by different members of the company time after time, to come up and have a pull, but their kind invitations I have always declined with thanks, with one exception, viz., September 7th, 1884, when I acceded to their request, and rang on an important church festival with Melford men only. I was informed that this caused ill-feeling, through jealousy, and unpleasant remarks from certain visitors, and I therefore resolved

to have nothing further to do with the Melford tower, not through any disrespect to the Melford ringers, for I have always received from the majority of them a ringer's welcome, and have within the last few weeks, received, unasked, an assurance from their leader (John Driver), that he should be pleased with my company in the tower at any time, and that he had never done or said anything to prevent my coming amongst them. And with regard to the phrase "found out I was not to their taste," such was never the case. The Melford company never found out such a thing—they were educated up to it by false and cruel statements made by only one or perhaps two, who wished to annoy me and keep me out of the tower. Now having been asked up the tower at any time is a clear proof that they did not prefer my room to my company; therefore it is plain your correspondent is most unfortunate in his statements. With the exception of the foregoing instance they have never had the chance of refusing to ring with me. Such statements are made with a view to deceive the ringing public as to the true state of things, but they emanate from two or three people only—a puny minority—in this locality. They cannot by such remarks deceive local ringers, who know only too much about local matters, or I should not receive such courteous receptions from the great majority of local ringers whenever I have time to go amongst them. I am never treated with anything but the utmost respect by ringers, whom I can count in this locality by tens; those who have, for purposes known best to themselves, made enemies of me, I can count only by units. But the least said is the soonest mended, and as I have not written this in any vindictive spirit, or for the purpose of attacking your correspondents in any way, but simply in self-defence, I will wind up, having proved the falseness of the statements in question. My abusers may rest assured that I bear no ill-feeling towards them for the pains they have taken to prevent my ringing at Melford. I would counsel them to first inquire into the truth of statements which mischievous tongues invent through mere jealousy and ignorance, and prove such charges to be groundless, instead of taking the unmanly—nay cowardly, course of believing implicitly every idle story raised, from what source, no matter. I regret that my name has been mentioned at all under the above heading. It is certainly without my sanction, as Mr. P. O. Bixby had no authority from me to mention it in his letter. However I make no comment upon their affairs, it does not concern me personally, I merely mention the matter to remove an erroneous impression respecting my name appearing in my friend's letter. In conclusion, I trust I shall have no further cause to utilise your space for anything of no benefit to the Exercise, as it gives me great pain to have to write anything (in self-defence), reflecting upon the truthfulness of those with whom I have been accustomed to ring so much, and in justice to whom I am bound to say I owe something for the interest they took in me when young in the art of ringing. I hope the time will come when they will see clearly through the glass which is at present so dark to them, then they will find out that the ill-feeling they have engendered takes its rise from no true source, but from some mischief-loving tongue or other. Let them labour to promote the noble art of change-ringing, and so earn the admiration they would be entitled to, but before which they must cultivate peace and harmony in their ranks.

Classical School, Long Melford.

ALEXANDER HURST.

SIR,—I should like a word or two in answer to Mr. Slater's letter. His "firstly and secondly" I know nothing about. "Thirdly" I do, and to explain why Mr. Hurst is not asked to ring at Melford, I must give a little outline of his connections with Mr. Slater. When Mr. Hurst began to ring, he rang a good deal with the Glemsford company, (of whom Mr. Slater is, I believe, looked up to as master). His (Mr. Hurst's) progress was very rapid, in the course of about two months he rang Plain, Oxford, and Kent Treble Bob. Then he was in the eyes, and according to the tongue of Mr. Slater, little short of a wonder, but as Mr. Hurst steadily improved, and learnt other methods, and not only rang, but taught others to ring them, and entered more into the theory of the art, outrunning Mr. Slater's knowledge, then was the time he altered in the opinion of Mr. Slater, and was not according to his taste; then was his room preferred to his company. If not, why should he (Mr. Slater) go from one to the other running down Mr. Hurst, not only as regards his ringing abilities, but also his private affairs, as I am certain he did. And then when Mr. Hurst joined the College Youths, and Mr. Slater happened to be a Cumberland, that was the crowning piece, instead of being made a lot of, and invited to take part in this or that peal, as he had been before, he was shunned like poison, and the plain answer to the question why Mr. Hurst is not asked to ring at Long Melford, is, because of Mr. Slater's petty jealousy; jealousy, which such a champion of manliness as Mr. Slater professes to be, ought to be the very last to show. As to the other imputations in the letter, Mr. Hurst is too well known and too well respected for any notice to be given to them. J. S. PAGE.

Cavendish.

[Correspondence on this subject must now cease.—ED.]



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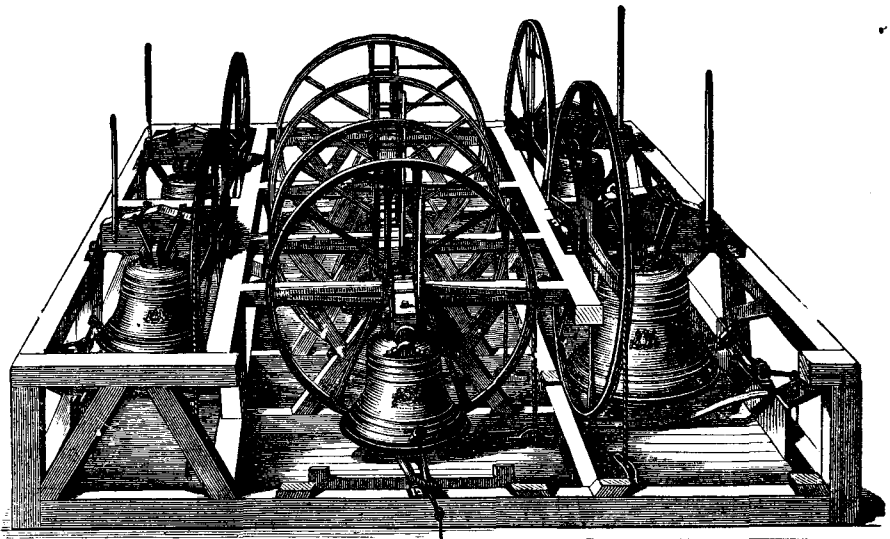
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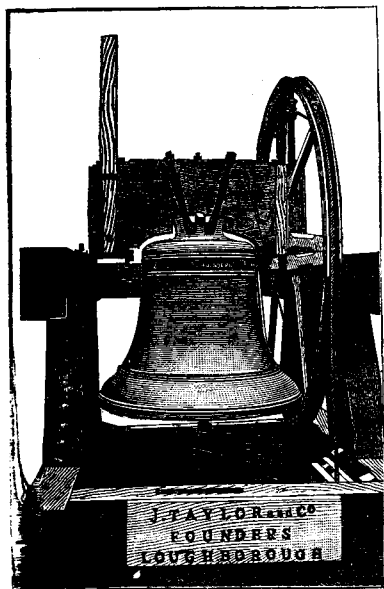
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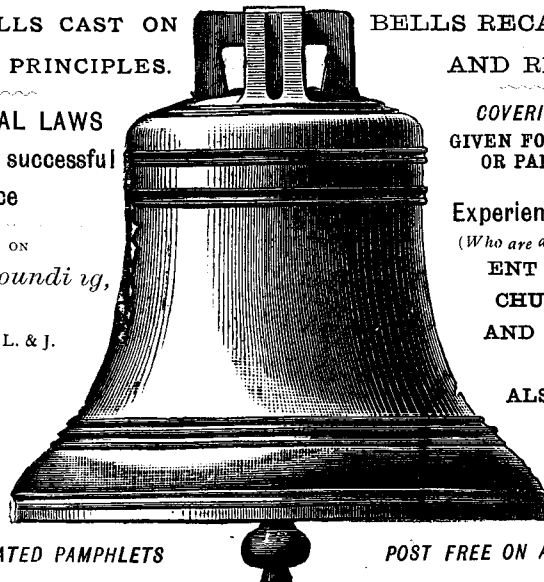
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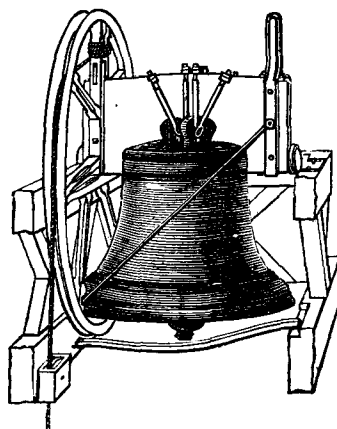
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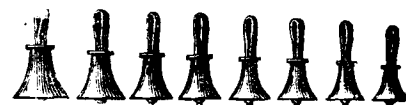
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No. 155.—Pamphlet of sixteen pages containing fifteen sacred and secular tunes for chiming on six steeple bells, with instructions (illustrated) how to fix a simple and inexpensive apparatus, price 9d.

No. 156, Swiss Melody, varied. No. 157, Galop from "Madame Angot." No. 158, Rousseau's Dream, varied. These three pieces for two octaves in C. with B flats and F sharps also. One Shilling each.

William Gordon, 64, Lower Hillgate, Stockport.

*Post Free, One Shilling, in stamps.*

# Double Norwich Court Bob.

By JASPER W. SNOWDON.

Rules and instructions for pricking and ringing the method, with lineal diagram of the plain course.

A collection of compositions and instructions for proving the same.

A history of all peals known to have been rung in the method, with full particulars of the same.

J. W. SNOWDON, Ivy Terrace, Wortley, Leeds.

**£20.**—TO TOBACCONISTS. — An Illustrated Guide (110 pages), How to Open Respectably from 20*l.* to 200*l.* Three stamps.—H. MYERS & Co., Cigar and Tobacco Merchants, Euston Road, London. Wholesale only. Telephone No. 7541.

## PEALS OF SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE.

By JASPER W. SNOWDON.

In this method, unlike Cambridge Surprise, a good number of peals can be obtained, so many indeed that there cannot be any objection taken to the method, on the score that a good band might soon ring all the peals that have been composed. Although, as is necessarily the case in a method in which the bobs do not augment the number of leads in a course, there is a great deal of similarity in peals on the same plan, there is nevertheless a fair number of different plans on each of which many peals may be obtained. When, in 1816, Shipway wrote with regard to the three Surprise and other variations of Treble Bob—"These complex variations of Treble Bob have, till now, baffled the skill of every composer," he was wrong with regard to the method of Superlative, as the peal of 5376 given in the *Clavis* is quite true, as might be expected since the proof of this method is remarkably simple.

In Superlative Surprise, as in any other method, the most musical bells should be brought behind at the course-ends as much as possible. Any of the three-part peals that follow can be varied so as to be presented in more or less favourable shape, although, to judge by the way in which some of the earliest compositions in this method have been placed before the Exercise, this fact seems to have been altogether ignored by certain composers. The most musical course-ends are undoubtedly those with the sixth and fourth in sixth's place, then come those with the sixth in fifth's place, and the fifth in fifth's place. As in ordinary Treble Bob, course-ends with the second in sixth's place are especially to be avoided. We cannot, in this method, obtain peals with such distinct musical qualities as those we are accustomed to notice in other methods. For instance, whenever we have a bell in sixth's place at one course-end in Superlative (as the bells behind at the false course-ends are as 65 is to 56), it follows that we cut off one course-end with that bell in fifth's place. If therefore, we have the sixth twelve times (that is the extent) at home, we cannot have it one course-end in fifth's place, and thus there is no possibility of obtaining a peal with the sixth twelve times wrong and right in 5-6.

In the following collection of peals, I have followed my usual plan of arranging the different compositions according to the number of parts into which they are divided.

## FIVE-PART PEALS.

An ordinary five-part peal in this method must consist of, at least 5600 changes, if composed in full courses. By means of a

bob B. in each part, Mr. Johnson has produced the following peal, which comprises the much more desirable length of 5120 changes. Mr. Pitstow has also produced a similar peal.

5120.

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

H. JOHNSON.

First rung on May 5th, 1884, at St. Paul's, Burton-on-Trent, by the St. Paul's Society. Conducted by William Wakley.

5120.

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

N. J. PITSTOW.

If the three courses annexed are called instead of any one part of the following 5600 the number will be reduced to 5152.

5600.

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

W. SOTTANSTALL.

The following peal by Shipway, consists of thirty full courses, and therefore comprises the extent with the tenors together.\* If the first three or last three bobs at H. are omitted in any three parts, the number is reduced to 5376.† Or if the first nine bobs at home are omitted, as shewn in the annexed three courses, the ninth course-end of the original peal will be brought up, and the number of changes also reduced to 5376 §.

6720.

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

W. SHIPWAY, 1816.

\*First rung (6720) on January 24th, 1885, at St. Paul's, Burton-on-Trent, by the St. Paul's Society. Conducted by William Wakley.

†First rung (5376) on February 6th, 1835, at St. Giles's, Norwich, by the Norwich Scholars. Conducted by Samuel Thurston.

§First rung (5376) on Feb. 10th, 1849, at St. Mary's, Woolwich, by the College Youths. Conducted by William Banister.

## THREE-PART PEALS.

By using a bob B. in each part, the following peals have been obtained with only 5088 changes therein.

5088.

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

J. THORP.

The reverse was first rung on January 16th, 1885, at St. Paul's, Burton-on-Trent, by the Burton Society. Conducted by William Wakley.

In the reverse variation of the following peal neither the second or third are ever in sixth's place.

5088.

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

N. J. PITSTOW.

5088.

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

J. F. MALLABY.

5376.

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

J. REEVES, 1788.

5376.

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

N. J. PITSTOW.

## THE ST. PETER'S SOCIETY, CAVERSHAM.

Saturday, August 22nd, being the first anniversary of a complete peal of 720 changes being rung in the parish by a band composed entirely of Caversham ringers, that day was fixed for the first annual meeting of the above society. The chair having been taken by the Vicar, the secretary, Mr. T. Newman, read the report, which stated that exactly twelve months had elapsed since the society was formed, at which time only two of the members had rung a 720 of Minor; since that time practice has been regularly carried on, except during the Lenten season, and at such times as members were prevented from attending. Since January 1st, upwards of 84,000 changes have been rung in the tower in nine different methods, viz.: thirty 720's of Bob Minor, eleven of College Single, ten of Oxford Bob, four of Double Court Bob, four of Yorkshire Court Bob, six of Double Oxford Bob, two of Grandsire Minor, and three of Kent Treble Bob Minor, and thirty-five 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles, also one Date Touch of 1885 changes, and various other touches, including fourteen 120's of Stedman Doubles. There are now eight members, each of whom has rung the amount of changes attainable on the bells; four out of the eight are also qualified conductors; several probationers are also coming on, who will be admitted to membership as soon as they have passed the examination required by the Diocesan Guild. The success of the society, the report states, is due principally to two things—first, to the Vicar for giving, and to E. Pottinger for fixing a new deadening floor, without which ringing was impossible; second, to the interest the clergy take in the ringing, doing all in their power to aid the society. The Vicar, in moving the adoption of the report, urged the ringers to be as punctual in their attendance at Divine Service as they were at the belfry, and hoped that the time would come when all the ringers would be in full communion with the church; such a state of things being much to be wished, though it must of necessity be gradual. He then went on to speak of his appreciation at the neatness and order of the belfry, a state of things which is due to the ringers themselves, who have hung their neatly-framed certificates of membership of the Diocesan Guild on the walls, and have at their own cost provided a neat lamp, mats for the ropes to fall on, and eight terra cotta shields commemorating the first 720 rung in the various methods. The thanks of the society are also due to H. Simmonds for his untiring efforts in keeping the belfry clean, he spending the greater part of his Saturday half-holiday in washing the floor and dusting the walls, so that every thing may be in order for Sunday morning. The subject of an annual excursion was then mooted by T. Newman, and eventually it was decided that the "Inventions Exhibition" should be visited, including, if possible, a touch on the bells of one or more of the London Churches. A vote of thanks to the Vicar terminated the proceedings.—*Caversham Parish Magazine.*

## THE ROCHDALE AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATION.

The intermediate or ringing meeting, and a special committee meeting, will be held on Saturday, September 12th, at Rochdale Parish Church; meeting in the Gank School at 4 o'clock. (Committee must understand that No. 4 rule will be adhered to). The lukewarmness of the members of this Association, apathy which the Editor of this paper has lately laid so much stress on in a leading article, ought to melt those hearts which have so long been stony. I myself am thankful to the Editor for such help, and earnestly hope that what has been said in these valuable pages in respect of our Association may find a place in the minds of our members, who may come to the meeting with determinations of amendment, for I shall not forget to place into the hands of the Editor the affairs and attendances of our meetings, and it will then be a matter of consideration whether our Association has made any change for the better or not.

I also ask a special request of those members who have not paid their subscription, that all such be paid on or before the next Quarterly Meeting, (which will be held at Manchester Cathedral on the first Saturday in November), so to meet the expenses of the society. And more so, that the books may be posted up, and the names carried forward, as those names only will be entered who have paid their subscriptions. The re-election of officers taking place at this Annual Meeting, the books should be placed into the hands of the appointed secretary, clear, and in working order. The financial year ends December 31st. All members are specially requested to attend this meeting, and also all ringers, society or non-society, will be heartily welcomed.

JAS. ADSHEAD, Secretary.

## THE ST. JAMES'S SOCIETY, LONDON.

The above Society have decided to hold their annual outing at Pinner, Middlesex, on Saturday, September 19th, 1885. Further particulars will be given in our issue of the 12th inst.

D. NEWTON, Hon. Sec.

## THE HOLT SOCIETY, ASTON-JUXTA-BIRMINGHAM.

On Saturday, August 29th, the members of the above society held their annual outing at Sutton Coldfield, Warwickshire. On their arrival, a start was made for the parish church, where there is a good peal of eight, tenor 24 cwt. in Eb, and rang a 720 of Grandsire Minor, and a 433 of Grandsire Triples, conducted by Mr. Henry Bastable. After this, the members adjourned to the "Museum Hotel," where they were met by their churchwarden, Mr. James Evans, and several friends, and when ample justice had been done to the splendid dinner provided, the chairman, Mr. Alfred Thomas, proposed, first, "Our Queen and Country;" secondly, "Church and State," coupling the name of Mr. Evans with the latter toast, and saying that it was the first time they had had the honour of having one of their churchwardens at their annual dinner. Mr. Evans, in reply, said it gave him much pleasure to be amongst them that evening, and he would do all in his power to further the interests of the society. He then proposed the toast of the evening, "Success to the Holt Society of Change-Ringers." In replying, Mr. Thomas said he hoped the society would continue in the same good way as in previous years, and that the members would help each other in the methods and art of change-ringing, and do all in their power to create true friendship with their brother ringers. Mr. J. Buffery then proposed "The Health of Mr. Kent, the Founder of the Society," to which that gentleman responded. Several other toasts followed, after which, the handbells were brought into requisition, and touches of Stedman Triples, Grandsire Triples, Double Norwich, Grandsire Caters, Grandsire Royal, and Grandsire Cinques, were rung by Messrs. A. Thomas, A. J. Jones, H. Bastable, T. J. Hemming, J. Buffery, C. Stanbridge, J. Plant, B. Witchell, and J. Sanders. Several songs, etc., brought a very enjoyable evening to a close, and every one returned well pleased with their half-day's trip.

## ST. MARY'S SOCIETY, CHESTER.

ON Thursday evening, August 27th, for practice, six members of this society succeeded in ringing a 360 of College Single with the bells half-muffled, as a tribute of respect to the late Rev. H. T. Ellacombe, Rector of Clyst St. George, Devon, which is the longest touch the members of this Society has ever rung in the method, the conductor having only just introduced it to the company. William Joinson, 1; Edwin Davies, 2; George Caldwell, 3; John Johnson, 4; Sydney Barton, 5; Thomas J. Bethell (conductor), 6. Tenor 23 cwt. in D. Also some well-struck touches of Grandsire Minor, and Oxford and Plain Bob were rung on this occasion.

On Saturday, August 29th, the society paid a visit to Eccleston, two miles and a half from Chester, and having obtained permission from the rector, the Rev. G. Robins, they rung a 720 of Grandsire Minor, in 25½ mins. William Joinson, 1; Richard Mills, 2; George Caldwell, 3; John Johnson, 4; Sydney Barton, 5; Thomas J. Bethell (conductor), 6. Also some well-struck College Single, Plain and Oxford Bob, in which Mr. Edwin Davies took part, ringing the 2nd, the others standing as before. The members of the above society, through the medium of "THE BELL NEWS," wish to thank the Rev. G. Robins for his kindness and use of the bells, which are one of the most musical peals of six in the county of Cheshire.

## THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—ROTHWELL BRANCH.

The following is the ringing done by this branch of the above Association at Holy Trinity church during the month of August:—August 2nd, 360 of Oxford Treble Bob; August 5th, 360 of Arnold's Victory, 720 of Violet, 240 of College Pleasure; August 9th, 720 of Arnold's Victory, 120 of Violet, 240 of Duke of York; August 10th, 360 of Oxford Treble Bob, 120 of London Scholars, 240 of New London Pleasure, 384 of Oxford Treble Bob, 240 of Duke of York, 120 of London Scholars; August 16th, 360 of Oxford Treble Bob, 360 of Arnold's Victory, 360 of New London Pleasure, 720 of Duke of York; August 23rd, 720 of Arnold's Victory, 360 of Duke of York, 240 of Violet, 720 of Arnold's Victory; August 31st, 240 of Oxford Treble Bob, 120 of Violet, 120 of Oxford Treble Bob.

## THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

THE ANNUAL MEETING of the above will take place on Saturday, September 26th, at the Cathedral, Manchester. There will be a service at 3.30 p.m., when the sermon will be preached by the Rev. Chas. Lowe, M.A., Vicar of Holy Trinity, Bolton. Tea will be provided in the schoolroom at five p.m. tickets 1s. each, business meeting at six p.m., when the officers for the ensuing year will be elected. All those who intend to be present at the tea are requested to send in their names to the secretaries, or to Mr. A. E. Wreaks, 11 Dover Street, Higher Crumpsall, Manchester, (from whom tickets can be obtained) not later than September 19th.

A. E. HOLME, } Hon. Secs.  
J. REDFORD, }



## THE ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS AT BRIGHTON.

On Monday, August 24th, the following members of this society visited Brighton: Mr. G. Newson, who acted as conductor throughout the day, E. Chapman, B. Foskett, H. Tyler, C. Deale, and S. Clarke, of Hampstead, and J. Page, T. Titchener, H. Driver, T. Gleed, and N. Alderman, of Highgate, accompanied by Mr. Coombes. The company left London Bridge at 8.30 a.m. and were joined at Croydon by W. H. Fussell, of Slough. On safely arriving at their destination, they were met by Mr. J. Searle, and H. Davis, the whole of the company then making way for "The Rising Sun" for refreshments, and to examine the day's programme, the lady portion of the excursionists making the best of the seaside attractions.

St. Peter's was the first tower visited, Mr. G. F. Attree here giving them a hearty welcome, where the following touches were rung: two of Grandsire Triples, one of Stedman, and one of Kent Treble Bob. After leaving this tower, the company got slightly dispersed, each one pleasing his own inclination. However, a good touch of Treble Bob was rung during the afternoon at St. Nicholas, and two touches of Grandsire Triples at St. Paul's; others again meeting at St. Nicholas and performing the last 700 of Holt's Original for Divine Service in the evening, concluding the ringing for the day. Returning by the seven o'clock train, the visitors experienced a most enjoyable time, the weather being remarkably fine, and it is through the medium of these columns that they wish to thank those rev. gentlemen who so kindly opened the several towers for ringing, while the courtesy of the steeplekeepers and other officials tended to increase the pleasure of the outing.

## THE TEWKESBURY ABBEY SOCIETY.

THE ANNUAL OUTING of this society took place on Monday, August 31st, the place selected this year being Bath. On the arrival of the train about 10.30, the ringers, ten in number, made their way to the church of St. Andrew's, where they were conducted to the tower by Mr. Goodman, who kindly threw all the chiming machinery out of gear. The bells being raised in peal, a 504 of Grandsire Triples was rung. The visitors then made their way to Christ Church, where they rang 504 of Union, and a short touch of Stedman Triples. Later in the day, they again visited St. Andrew's, and rung a 504 of Union Triples, also a 210 of Grandsire Triples, Mr. Kingman taking part in the latter; J. Hinton, jun., was also on a visit to Bath, and rang in some of the touches. The party from Tewkesbury were Messrs. Jos. Wathen, Jno. Wathen, J. Hale, F. J. Moore, T. Devereux, W. Haines, S. Cleal, R. H. Witherington, C. W. Dyson, W. Hampton, W. Niblett. The ringers wish, through the medium of "THE BELL NEWS," to tender their sincere thanks to the Rector, the Rev. Canon Bernard, for the use of his beautiful peal of bells. Also to Miss Bernard, for her kindness in providing them with such an excellent tea, which added very much to the enjoyment of the day's outing. They also wish to thank the ringers for the courteous way in which they met them.

## THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF ST. JAMES, BRISTOL.

On Monday, August 31st, the above society, all members of the Gloucester and Bristol Diocesan Association, accompanied by the Rev. Pitt Eykyn, Vicar of Ashton Gate, and Hon. Secretary, paid a visit to the town of Chippenham, Wilts, where the steeples of the parish church and St. Paul's district church, were kindly placed at their disposal by their respective incumbents. At the parish church some touches of Grandsire Triples were effected, and at St. Paul's, where the bells and belfry were all that could be desired, an excellent quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples was accomplished. The following took part in this latter performance: S. Jones, 1; C. Walters, 2; G. Davis, 3; R. Knill, 4; T. Salter (conductor), 5; — Parrish, 6; J. Brain, 7; J. Colston, 8. The company afterwards adjourned for some handbell ringing, and executed some Grandsire Caters and Major. A very pleasant day was spent, and the ringers were much gratified at the cordiality shown them by the Vicars of the two churches. Two new members were enrolled in the belfry as members of the Diocesan Association, who hailed from St. Andrew's, Clifton.

## THE ACCIDENT TO A RINGING PARTY.

	£	s.	d.
Amount already announced—	11	3	0
W. H. George	...	1	0
J. R. Haworth	...	2	6
Mr. Fosdike, Woodbridge, Suffolk	...	5	0
Bletchingley Society of Change-Ringers	...	5	0
Rev. F. E. Robinson	...	2	6

Further donations, however small, are urgently solicited. Mr. Matthew Wood, 11, Church Row, Bethnal Green, London, will be happy to give any further information, and will thankfully acknowledge any sums forwarded to him.

## DEATH OF MR. THOMAS MALLABY, OF MASHAM.

After seven months' illness, Mr. Mallaby, the well known bellhanger, succumbed on Wednesday morning, August 26th. Thus Masham loses a man who was always ready to do his best for every effort put forth for the improvement of the town. The church will also feel the loss, Mr. Mallaby having filled the office of churchwarden for about twenty-five years. He also was acting trustee for the Grammar School, leader of the bell-ringers for about forty years, and for some years was Managing Director of the Masham Gas Works. He likewise set on foot a charity from which many apprentice lads have received an annual benefit. As a bellhanger and ringer, he enjoyed a well-earned reputation. He had been a member of the Yorkshire Association from its commencement, and was also a life member of the Durham and Newcastle Association. He commenced to be a ringer at his own parish church, Masham, when a boy nine years of age, and soon became proficient, having rung two 5000s upon six bells before the peal was augmented to a peal of eight, which addition was brought about chiefly through his untiring exertions. His brother-ringers will find the great loss of his valuable assistance, which he was always so glad and able to give. The remains of the deceased were interred on Friday, August 28th. The cortege was joined in the market place by a large number of gentry, tradespeople and friends. The Rev. G. M. Gorham and the Rev. S. Crawley officiated. The churchwardens met the body at the church gate, and inside the church, hymn 163, "When our heads are bowed with woe" was sung. As the corpse left the church, the "Dead March in *Saul*" was played by Miss Theakston. Amongst those attending the funeral were Dr. Cockcroft, Dr. Horsfall, Messrs. Rd. Whitelock, H. Calvert, J. Dalgliesh, C. F. P. Edmondson, C. L. N. Maister, R. Blackburn, W. Stott, T. Buckle, R. J. R. Carter, etc. The body was encased in a polished oak coffin trimmed with black lace, and bore the inscription, "Thomas Mallaby, born 1st January, 1833; died 26th August, 1885." Previous to the funeral, a half-muffled peal was rung by ringers from Ripon, Masham, and East Witton, rounds and slow tolling with the tenor at intervals made up the ringing. Before and after the funeral, touches of Bob Major were rung, the longest being a 560. A. H. Clark (Ripon), 1; R. Broadley (Masham), 2; Jno. Hodder, sen., (Ripon), 3; Wm. Hall (Masham), 4; T. Metcalf (Ripon), 5; C. Buckton, 6; T. Clark (Ripon), 7; Jno. Pickersgill (Masham), 8. Tenor 14 cwt. in F#.

## ALDEBURGH-ON-SEA, SUFFOLK.

THE bells of this parish church have recently been augmented to six, by the addition of a new treble, and on Thursday, August 27th, the opening of the six bells took place. The 3rd bell has been recast by Warner and Sons, and with the new treble a good peal of six is the consequence, tenor F#. The bells were raised at 7.20 a.m., and the Aldeburgh company, with the Messrs. Day, of Eye, who have carried out the work, rang the first 720 of Minor upon them. During the day there was rung ten complete 720s and several touches of Plain Bob and Oxford and Kent Treble Bob. Ringers were present from Wickham Market, Eye, Kelsale, Rendham and Leiston. A dinner was provided in the old parish room, to which about thirty sat down. A service was held in the church at 7.30, and a sermon preached by the Rev. H. Thompson. The bells were ceased at 9.20.

## THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION OF SIX-BELL RINGERS.

THE USUAL QUARTERLY MEETING will be held at Eccleston on Saturday, September 12th. The bells will be open for ringing from one o'clock; business meeting at four o'clock in the schoolroom.

57, Chorley Road, Blackrod.

JAMES HIGSON, Sec.

PRESENTATION OF A NEW PEAL BOOK TO THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.—In our report a few weeks ago of the proceedings at the Annual Festival of this society, held at Southgate, we printed the remarks made by Mr. J. Pettit, to the effect that the peal-book of the society was nearly filled with records, and that the members would soon have to provide another volume of the kind. We are able to state that A. Percival Heywood, Esq., of Duffield Bank, Derby, has, with characteristic generosity, offered to present the company with a new one, and we need hardly say that this offer has been gladly accepted by the members. A rumour is current that since the acceptance of Mr. Heywood's present, the members have received the offer of a similar gift from another distinguished member of this society, who, we may mention, is one of the most valued contributors to this journal. Such munificence as this certainly shows that the work and influence of the College Youths is not held to be quite so spiritless as some people would have us believe.

"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.

A. SQUIRES.—Your two quarter-peals are devoid of the slightest merit; the first of them is false. Such productions as these can be got together by the bushel, and the fame of any composer would suffer who affixed his name to them.

## The Bell News & Ringers' Record.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 5, 1885.

OFTEN while enjoying a ringing tour, such as one or two of our friends are upon at the present time, it has been the fate of several of our readers to visit belfries, the state of which have very little to commend them on the ground of cleanliness. And the opinion has been expressed that in many of such instances, the ringers themselves cannot be held altogether blameless in allowing their ringing-chamber to become uncared for and neglected. If we contend that it is incumbent upon the ringers themselves to see that the belfry is kept in a proper condition, we shall no doubt be met by the rejoinder, expressed in some cases with no small amount of indignation, that it is no part of the ringers' duty to attend to such matters. We do not say it is; but when there is no one appointed to perform such a duty, how much better is it for their own comfort, to take it upon themselves.

Whoever is in the habit of ringing where the surroundings are not pleasant, and rather than take the trouble to bring about a remedy, however slight, would prefer to ring under such unfavourable conditions, to such persons we would point out the doings of the company at Caversham, a report of which will be found on another page. The Oxford Guild—to which the ringers of Caversham belong—certainly promotes by its action, order and regularity in the belfry, but the individual members of the little society in question would appear to be all actuated by the same impulse. The vicar of Caversham, so we read, appreciates the "neatness and order of the belfry, a state of things which is due to the ringers themselves." The efforts of that member of the company who spends the greater part of his Saturday half-holiday in getting the belfry clean for the Sabbath, points very clearly to the desire, on his part, for the proper and devout observance of that day.

Such care and attention as this certainly deserves a

little more than ordinary notice. We think we can discern in these regulations the hand of one gentleman whose name is not mentioned in the report we have alluded to, whose valued energy and influence among bells and ringers we trust to have for many years.

The enjoyment of ringing is greatly increased when it is carried on in a well-ordered belfry, where everything is as it should be—tidy, regular, and clean. Slovenliness—as applied to the belfry or to the ringers themselves—may not be any great drawback to the security of a peal, but it is repugnant to one's idea of pleasure and comfort. "Cleanliness is akin to godliness," we are told, and there is something in the adage. Where a ringing-chamber is neatly kept, it will generally be found that there is a regard for the sacred associations of the spot, and an absence of that species of behaviour and conversation which, if suitable anywhere, is only so in those places which have no claim to veneration and reverence.

### The Metropolis.

#### WALTHAMSTOW.—THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Thursday, August 27, 1885, in Two Hours and Fifty-Seven Minutes,

AT ST. MARY'S CHURCH,

#### A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S ORIGINAL. Tenor 19½ in Eb.

WILLIAM COAKHAM .. .. Treble.	ROBERT MAYNARD .. .. 5.
THOMAS MAYNARD .. .. 2.	JOHN H. WILKINS .. .. 6.
JOHN NUNN .. .. 3.	FREDERICK G. NEWMAN .. 7.
ARTHUR J. KEIT* .. .. 4.	WILLIAM CROCKFORD .. Tenor.

Conducted by FREDERICK G. NEWMAN.

The ringers beg to thank the Rev. T. Parry for his kindness in allowing them the use of the bells on this occasion. \*First peal. Previous to starting for the peal F. G. Newman was nominated a member of the above Association.

#### FULHAM, MIDDLESEX.—THE ST. JAMES'S SOCIETY.

On Saturday, August 29, 1885, in Three Hours and Fourteen Minutes,

AT ALL SAINTS' CHURCH,

#### A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS, 5021 CHANGES.

Tenor 21 cwt.

RICHARD FRENCH .. .. Treble.	EDWARD ROGERS .. .. 6.
GEORGE T. McLAUGHLIN .. 2.	FREDERICK G. NEWMAN .. 7.
HENRY LANGDON .. .. 3.	MARTIN MURPHY .. .. 8.
EDWARD F. STRANGE* .. 4.	GEORGE BANKS .. .. 9.
THOMAS MAYNARD* .. .. 5.	WILLIAM CROCKFORD .. Tenor.

Composed by the late JOHN COX and Conducted by F. G. NEWMAN.

\*First Peal of Caters.

### The Provinces.

#### STALEYBRIDGE, CHESHIRE.

On Tuesday, August 25, 1885, in Three Hours and Six Minutes,

AT HOLY TRINITY CHURCH, CASTLE HALL,

#### A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5184 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 14½ cwt.

THOMAS MOSS .. .. Treble.	THOMAS JAMES .. .. 5.
HUGH SHAW .. .. 2.	ROBERT WINTERBOTTOM .. 6.
WILLIAM HARROP .. .. 3.	SAMUEL WOOD .. .. 7.
SAMUEL KNOTT, JUN. .. 4.	JOHN PYE, JUN. .. .. Tenor.

Composed and Conducted by SAMUEL WOOD.

Messrs. Wood and Moss hail from Ashton-under-Lyne; Shaw from Staleybridge; the rest from Glossop. The above was rung in honour of the Golden Wedding of Mr. James Wood, sen., of Ashton-under-Lyne.

## OXFORD.—THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

**Handbell Ringing.**

On Saturday, August 29, 1885, in Two Hours and Thirty-three Minutes,  
AT THE RESIDENCE OF MR. C. HOUNSLOW, 2, IPFLEY ROAD,  
ON HANDBELLS, RETAINED IN HAND,

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

HERBERT CASTLE†..	1-2.	JAMES W. WASHBROOK..	5-6.
WILLIAM C. BASTON ..	3-4.	*WILLIAM WOODS ..	7-8.

Conducted by JAMES WILLIAM WASHBROOK.

\* First peal. † First peal on handbells. Umpire: Mr. C. Hounslow.

## AUGHTON, NEAR ORMSKIRK.—THE ORMSKIRK SOCIETY.

On Saturday, August 29, 1885, in Two Hours and Fifty-Three Minutes,

AT CHRIST CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;  
HOLT'S TEN-PART. Tenor 16 cwt.

CHARLES SHARPLES ..	Treble.	*ROBERT FOSTER ..	5.
HENRY ELLIS ..	2.	†WILLIAM BENTHAM..	6.
GEORGE LARKEY* ..	3.	GEORGE PRESCOTT ..	7.
WILLIAM J. TAYLOR ..	4.	WILLIAM LLOYD ..	Tenor.

Conducted by WILLIAM BENTHAM.

\* First Peal. † First Peal as conductor.

## ST. ALBANS.—THE HERTFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, August 29, 1885, in Three Hours and Eleven Minutes,

AT THE CATHEDRAL CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;  
HOLT'S ORIGINAL. Tenor 30 cwt. in Eb.

ARTHUR GODMAN, JUN.* ..	Treble.	*GEORGE CARTMEL ..	5.
W. H. L. BUCKINGHAM* ..	2.	*ARTHUR GODMAN, SEN. ..	6.
HENRY J. TUCKER ..	3.	THOMAS GATHARD ..	7.
NEWMAN N. HILLS ..	4.	WALTER BATTLE ..	Tenor.

Conducted by HENRY J. TUCKER.

\* First peal. H. J. Tucker hails from Hertford; T. Gathard (who formerly lived at St. Albans) from Hatfield; the rest are local men.

## ECCLES.—THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

**Birthday Peal.**

On Monday, August 31, 1885, in Three Hours and Thirty-nine Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 6048 CHANGES;  
Tenor 13½ cwt.

JOHN WELSBY ..	Treble.	*RICHARD RIDYARD ..	5.
CHARLES CASH ..	2.	ALBERT E. WREAKS ..	6.
THOMAS HEALD ..	3.	JOHN EACHUS ..	7.
EDWARD CASH ..	4.	SAMUEL WOOD ..	Tenor.

Composed by JOHN THORP, and Conducted by SAMUEL WOOD.

\* First peal in the method.

This peal has the fifth and sixth the extent wrong and right. Messrs. Heald, Wreaks, and Eachus hail from Manchester; Welsby from Walkden; Ridyard from Worsley; Wood from Ashton-under-Lyne; and the Brothers Cash belong to Eccles. Mr. Charles Cash attained the 25th year of his age on the above day; the ringers wish him many happy returns.

## DERITEND, BIRMINGHAM.—ST. MARTIN'S SOCIETY.

**Muffled Peal.**

On Monday, August 31, 1885, in Three Hours and Six Minutes.

AT ST. JOHN'S CHURCH.

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;  
BROOK'S VARIATION. Tenor 14 cwt.

HENRY BASTABLE ..	Treble.	SAMUEL REEVES ..	5.
THOMAS REYNOLDS ..	2.	JOHN SAUNDERS ..	6.
ALFRED THOMAS..	3.	HENRY JOHNSON, JUN. ..	7.
JOB JOYNES ..	4.	FRANCIS H. JAMES ..	Tenor.

Conducted by SAMUEL REEVES.

This peal was rung, by the kind permission of the Vicar and Churchwardens, with the bells half-muffled, as a tribute of respect to the late Rev. H. T. Ellacombe, Rector of Clyst St. George, Devon.

## DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

BISHOP AUCKLAND.—On Saturday, August 29th, at St. Andrew's parish church, 720 Bob Minor on the back six. J. Bolton (Darlington), 1; \*J. W. Cleminson (South Church), 2; A. J. B. Waldron (South Church), 3; G. J. Clarkson (conductor, Stockton), 4; R. Moncaster (Darlington), 5; \*E. J. Pitt (South Church), 6. This is the first 720 on the bells in which the local ringers have taken part. \*First 720.

JARROW.—On Sunday, August 30th, at Christ Church, for Divine Service in the morning, a 720 of Court Bob Minor, in 26 mins. A. English, 1; R. Oliver, 2; W. Holmes, 3; J. Chapman, 4; A. Sharpe, 5; F. Harrison (conductor), 6. First 720 in the method by all. Tenor 17 cwt. And on Monday evening, August 31st, at St. Peter's church, for practice, a 720 of Canterbury Pleasure in 26 mins. W. Henderson, 1; A. English, 2; W. Holmes, 3; J. Chapman, 4; W. Baxter, 5; F. Harrison, 6. First 720 in the method by all. Tenor 8½ cwt.

NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.—On Monday, August 31st, at St. John's, eight members of the above Association attempted a peal of Stedman Triples, but proved futile after ringing 2412 changes, in 1 hr. 20 mins. C. L. Routledge, 1; F. Lees, 2; R. S. Story, 3; E. Wallis, 4; W. Story, 5; S. Power, 6; T. Denton (conductor), 7; J. Diboll, 8. Tenor 12½ cwt.

WINLATON (Durham).—On Wednesday evening, August 26th, at St. Paul's church, four members of the St. John's Guild, Newcastle, with two of the local men rang a 720 of Plain Bob Minor (fourteen bobs and two singles), in 24 mins. C. L. Routledge (conductor), 1; W. Siddoway, 2; Hy. Ferguson, 3; Geo. Atkinson, 4; W. Story, 5; Francis Lees, 6. Composed by H. Hubbard. Tenor 10 cwt. The 2nd and 4th men belong to Winlaton.

## THE ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

SUDBURY (Suffolk).—On Tuesday, September 1st, at All Saints' church, for practice, the following members of the above Association rang a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, 1260 changes, in 55 mins. James Campin, 1; Charles Sillitoe (conductor), 2; William Howell, 3; Maurice Silvester, 4; William Bacon, 5; Harry Harper, 6; Arthur Scott, 7; Harry Brackett, 8. Composed by Henry J. Shade, of Greenwich. Tenor 28 cwt. in D.

## THE HERTFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

ARDELEY (Herts).—On Sunday, August 30th, at the church of St. Laurence, six 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles, each called differently. T. Webb, 1; J. Phillips, 2; J. Hare (conductor), 3; A. Squires, 4; J. Roslyn, 5; T. Smith, 6. And two 6-scores, called differently. T. Webb, 1; H. Buckingham, 2; J. Phillips (conductor), 3; A. Squires, 4; J. Hare, 5; J. Roslyn, 6. And another two 6-scores, called differently. T. Webb, 1; J. Phillips, 2; J. Hare, 3; H. Buckingham, 4; A. Squires (conductor), 5; T. Smith, 6. A. Squires, J. Hare, and H. Buckingham hail from Hitchin; the rest from Baldock.

BALDOCK (Herts).—On Thursday, August 20th, at the church of St. Mary the Virgin, for practice, 518 of Grandsire Triples. T. Webb, 1; J. Phillips (conductor), 2; A. Squires, 3; T. Smith, 4; Robert Jackson, 5; Richard Jackson, 6; J. Roslyn, 7; G. Gentle, 8. And on Thursday, August 27th, a 504 in the same method. T. Webb, 1; J. Phillips (conductor), 2; J. Cawdell, 3; T. Smith, 4; Robert Jackson, 5; Richard Jackson, 6; J. Roslyn, 7; G. Gentle, 8. And a 350. H. Buckingham, 1; A. Squires, 2; J. Cawdell, 3; T. Smith, 4; Robt. Jackson, 5; J. Phillips, 6; J. Hare (conductor), 7; G. Gentle, 8. And 112. T. Webb (conductor), 1; H. Buckingham, 2; A. Squires, 3; Jno. Phillips, 4; J. Cawdell, 5; J. Roslyn, 6; J. Hare, 7; G. Gentle, 8. A. Squires, J. Hare, and H. Buckingham hail from Hitchin.

HITCHIN (Herts).—*Muffled Peal.*—On Wednesday, August 26th, at St. Mary's church, a 630 of Grandsire Minor, with the bells half-muffled, as a mark of respect to the Rev. H. T. Ellacombe, late Rector of Clyst St. George, Devon. J. Randall, 1; F. Furr, 2; H. Buckingham, 3; A. Squires, 4; J. Hare (conductor), 5; S. Hare, 6; W. Allen, 7; J. Foster, 8. Tenor 28 cwt. in D.

WESTON (Herts).—On Sunday, August 30th, for Divine Service in the morning, two 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles, called differently. T. Webb, 1; Jno. Phillips, 2; A. Squires, 3; J. Hare (conductor), 4; J. Roslyn, 5. And another 6-score. H. Buckingham, 1; J. Phillips (conductor), 2; T. Smith, 3; J. Hare, 4; J. Roslyn, 5. A. Squires, J. Hare, and H. Buckingham hail from Hitchin; the rest from Baldock.

## THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

BOLTON (Lancashire).—*Muffled Peal.*—On Friday evening, August 28th, at Holy Trinity Church, by eight members of the local company, being also members of the above Association, 1800 of Grandsire Triples, with the bells half-muffled as a mark of respect to the late Rev. H. T. Ellacombe.

GARSTON (Lancashire).—On Monday, August 24th, at the parish church, for practice, six members of the above Association rang a 720 of Grandsire Minor, in 28 mins. Samuel Gough, 1; Walter Turner, 2; Walter Hughes, 3; William Weaver, 4; John Allen (first 720), 5; Frank Turner (conductor), 6. Tenor 12½ cwt.

#### THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

QUEX PARK (Kent).—On Sunday, August 22nd, eight members of the above Association attempted Holt's 10-part peal of Grandsire Triples, but after ringing 4500 changes, in 2 hrs. 45 mins., it suddenly came to grief. A. Bigg (Faversham), 1; L. Willshire (conductor; Quex Park), 2; T. B. Read, sen. (Quex Park), 3; T. B. Read, jun. (Quex Park), 4; J. M. Cooper (Sittingbourne), 5; Capt. Wood (Faversham), 6; Sam Snelling (Sittingbourne), 7; J. Jordan (Sittingbourne), 8.

#### THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

HORNINGLOW (Staffordshire).—On Monday, August 31st, at St. John's church, a 320 of Grandsire Minor, in 27 mins. S. Gretton, 1; G. Robinson, 2; F. Dimbleby, 3; Thos. Holmes, 4; H. Wakley, 5; J. Jagger (conductor), 6. Also several 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles, in which some of the local men took part.

#### THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

SPROUTON (Suffolk).—*Handbell Ringing*.—On Sunday, August 23rd, at the house of Mr. Scales, three courses of Grandsire Cinques, and leads of Bob Maximus, on ten different peals. T. Stewart, 1-2; S. Tillett, 3-4; C. Mee, 5-6; J. Motts, 7-8; W. Motts, 9-10; F. Mee, 11-12. And a course of Kent Treble Bob Major. T. Stewart, 1-2; C. Mee, 3-4; J. Motts, 5-6; W. Motts, 7-8. These are a beautiful peal of 29 bells, in G., and contain ten peals of twelve; thirteen of ten; and seventeen of eight.

#### THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

APPLETON (Berks).—On Friday, August 28th, three courses of Superlative Surprise Major. And on Monday, August 31st, 1248 changes of Superlative Surprise Major. J. Avery, 1; J. W. Washbrook, 2; B. Barret, 3; J. Field, 4; W. Bennett, 5; G. Holifield, 6; C. Hounsflow, 7; Rev. F. E. Robinson (conductor), 8.

MARBOURFIELD (Berks).—A visit was recently made to the parish church, by several members of the Guild, when a 720 of Bob Minor was rung in 29 mins. \*A. E. Reeves, 1; \*T. Hibbard, 3; J. Butler, 3; J. Hands, 4; \*W. J. Williams, 5; G. Gibbard (conductor), 6. Also 360 of Grandsire Minor. A. Evans, 1; H. Dibbley, 2; J. Butler, 3; H. White, 4; G. Gibbard, 5; W. J. Williams (conductor), 6. \*Members of St. Laurence's company.

MAIDENHEAD (Berks).—*Muffled Peal*.—On Monday, August 31st, at All Saints' church, Boyne Hill, a 840 of Grandsire Triples, with the bells half muffled to the memory of the late Rev. H. T. Ellacombe, in 30 mins. Owen Frasey, 1; J. W. Wilkins, 2; R. Flaxman, 3; F. Bissley, 4; R. Smith, 5; W. A. Garraway (conductor), 6; E. Rogers, 7; T. Woolford, 8. Tenor 17½ cwt.

#### THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

MITCHAM (Surrey).—On Saturday, August 29th, six members of the Wimbledon branch of the above Association paid a visit to Christ Church, and rang a 720 of Woodbine, in 24 mins. G. Bye, 1; R. Moss, 2; C. Bye, 3; J. Cooley, 4; A. Garrott, 5; S. Frost (conductor), 6. This is the first 720 in the method on the bells. Also a 360 of Kent Treble Bob. G. Bye, 1; R. Moss, 2; C. Bye, 3; J. Cooley, 4; A. Garrott (conductor), 5; J. Fayers, 6. Also 300 of Grandsire Minor. C. Bye, 1; E. Burtonshaw, 2; D. Burtonshaw, 3; H. Schmeister, 4; A. Garrott (conductor), 5; J. Fayers, 6. And a touch of Bob Minor. H. Schmeister, 1; R. Moss, 2; C. Bye, 3; J. Cooley, 4; A. Garrott, 5; J. Fayers, 6. H. Schmeister and Burtonshaws belongs to Mitcham.

#### SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.

LICHFIELD.—*Muffled Peal*.—On Sunday, August 23rd, at St. Mary's church, eight members of the above Association rang a touch of Grandsire Triples, with the bells muffled, as a token of respect to the late Rev. H. T. Ellacombe. E. Gallimore, 1; H. Kings, 2; A. Whitby, 3; J. King, 4; H. Meacham, 5; F. Cope (conductor), 6; A. Greenwood, 7; W. Gilbert, 8.

#### THE SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.

SOUTHGATE (Middlesex).—On Saturday, August 29th, eight members of the above society attempted a peal of Kent Treble Bob Major, but after ringing 2 hrs. and 15 mins., the third rope slipped wheel, and

stand had to be called. H. Dains (conductor), 1; G. Hammond, 2; J. Rogers, 3; W. Baron, 4; H. Hopkins, 5; A. Jacob, 6; W. Doran, 7; G. Newson, 8. The peal was made up for Mr. Hammond, of Long Melford, Suffolk, who was on a visit to London.

BALCOMBE (Sussex).—On Thursday, August 27th, the local company rang 360 of Oxford Bob Minor. J. Richardson, 1; R. Bourne, 2; J. Cheeseman, 3; C. Gasson, 4; H. Meads, 5; J. Gasson (conductor), 6. Also 720 in the same method. J. Richardson, 1; H. Meads, 2; J. Cheeseman, 3; C. Gasson, 4; E. Streeter, 5; J. Gasson (conductor), 6. On Sunday, August 30th, 720 Plain Bob Minor. H. Meads, 1; J. Gasson, 2; J. Cheeseman, 3; F. Streeter, 4; G. Illman, 5; E. Streeter (conductor), 6. And several 120's of Grandsire Doubles with A. Stoner ringing the tenor as cover, he being quite a young hand.

BATH (Somersetshire).—On Wednesday, August 26th, for practice, at St. Andrew's church, a mixed band rang 630 of Grandsire Triples, G. Kingman (Bath), 1; W. Chew (London), 2; H. Wootten (Twerton-on-Avon), 3; J. Hinton (conductor; Bristol), 4; J. Smith (Bath), 5; J. Wootten (Twerton-on-Avon), 6; J. Brain (Bristol), 7; J. Weeks (Bath), 8. A few 6-scores were also rung. The Bristol men came over to meet an old friend, Mr. W. Chew, of London, who was staying in Bath. *Muffled Peal*.—On Saturday, August 12th, at the same church, the St. Andrews' and Christ Church companies rang a muffled-peal in memory of the late Rev. H. T. Ellacombe, of Clyst St. George, Devon. We regret to note this was the only peal rung to his memory in Bath. Tenor 23½ cwt. in E.

BOCKING (Essex).—On Sunday, August 29th, for Divine Service in the afternoon, a 720 of Bob Minor (eight bobs and six singles). A. Spurge, 1; F. Saunders (Stisted), 2; Wm. Bearman, 3; S. Sargent, 4; E. Radley (Stisted), 5; Wm. Radley (Stisted, conductor), 6. Tenor 19 cwt.

COLWALL (Herefordshire).—*Muffled Peal*.—On Monday, August 31st, the local company rang, with the bells half-muffled, the usual whole pull and stand, and several 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles, as a last tribute of respect to the Rev. H. T. Ellacombe, late Rector of Clyst St. George, Devon. The following took part in the ringing; W. Knott (conductor), J. T. Horton, Rev. G. M. Custance, G. Evans, J. Field, E. J. Beatley, and W. Whiting.

CUDDINGTON (Bucks).—On Sunday, August 30th, before and after Service in the morning, at the church of St. Nicholas, several 120's of Grandsire Doubles, each in 4½ mins., the conducting being divided. J. Frost, sen., 1; H. Hawkins, 2; J. Frost, jun., 3; J. Blake, 4; J. Barry, 5; G. Warner, 6. And in the afternoon touches were rung with Amos Frost. Great praise is due to Mr. Geo. Warner, of Long Crendon, one of the instructors of the Oxford Diocesan Guild, for bringing this band on so far, after a few months' practice, the bells not having been in the tower twelve months. Tenor 8 cwt.

DENFORD (Northamptonshire).—*Muffled Peal*.—On Saturday, August 29th, at Holy Trinity church, a 720 of College Little (eighteen bobs and two singles), and 360 of Oxford, and 360 of Plain Bob Minor (each with nine bobs. A. Groom, 1; J. Groom, 2; A. Arnold, 3; E. Mayes, 4; F. Arnold, 5; T. Roberts (conductor), 6. This was rung with the bells half-muffled, as a mark of respect to the late Rev. H. T. Ellacombe, late Rector of Clyst St. George, Devon. E. Mayes and T. Roberts hail from Ringstead.

DUFFIELD (Derbyshire).—On Sunday, August 16th, the local band rang for service, 1152 of Bob Major. And on Tuesday, August 18th, for practice, 2032 of Bob Major, being the longest length that could be got into the time available. Both the above touches were conducted by Wm. Hickling. Also on Sunday, August 23rd, for service, 1568 of Bob Major, conducted by A. P. Heywood. And on Sunday, August 30th, for Service, 576 of Bob Major, and 504 of Stedman Triples, the latter conducted by W. D. Smith, of London, who paid a visit to the tower that afternoon.

FULMER (Bucks).—On Saturday, August 29th, at the parish church of St. James, 720 Grandsire Minor, in 22 mins. G. Basden, 1; T. Udell, 2; J. Parker (conductor), 3; A. Batten, 4; W. Wilder, 5; R. Flaxman, 6. Tenor 7 cwt. It is about twelve months since these bells were opened, and it is pleasing to see that the local party are making some progress in the art.

LEYLAND (Lancashire).—On Sunday, August 30th, for Divine Service, a 720 of Plain Bob Minor. O. Worden (conductor), 1; Thos. Bowling, 2; W. Bowling, 3; H. Greckson, 4; Thos. Baron, 5; J. Banister, 6. Tenor 18½ cwt. The same was repeated in the evening, with J. Bretherton, of St. James's. During the day 1860 changes were rung, it being the school sermons.

LOWER HARDRES (Kent).—*Handbell Ringing*.—On Thursday, August 27th, at the Rectory, 120 of Grandsire Doubles. \*Miss Brine, 1;

\*Miss Maud Brine, 2; \*Miss Edith Brine, 3; \*Miss Lucy Brine, 4; A. L. Brine, Esq. (conductor), 5. \*First 120. And on Friday, August 28th, six 120's in the same method, called in three ways. And on Saturday, August 29th, 120 of Plain Bob Doubles. \*Miss Brine, 1; \*Miss L. Brine, 2; \*Miss M. Brine, 3; \*Miss E. Brine, 4; A. L. Brine, Esq. (conductor) 5. \*First 120 of Bob Doubles. And another 6-score in the same method,

**MONKS ELEIGH (Suffolk).**—On Sunday, September 30th, after Divine Service at the parish church, a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob. R. Keeble (conductor), 1; R. Bedingfield, 2; C. Parker, 3; F. Biggs, 4; W. Green, 5; A. Long, 6. Tenor 18 cwt. Several other short touches in different methods. All are members of the Monkseleigh Company.

**OXFORD.**—On Tuesday, September 1st, at the Working Men's Club Room, St. Thomas's, the following rang on handbells, retained in hand, the first quarter of Thurstans' peal of Stedman Triples, in 40 mins. Jas. W. Washbrook, 1-2; Herbert Castle, 3-4; William C. Baston, 5-6; William Woods, 7-8. Conducted by J. W. Washbrook. The above is the longest length of Stedman ever rung in Oxford on handbells.

**PERRY BARR (Staffordshire).**—On Sunday morning, August 30th, for Divine Service, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples (Brooks' Variation), by the following members of the Holt Society, Aston, in 44 mins. H. Bastable, 1; T. Reynolds, 2; J. Sanders, 3; A. J. Jones, 4; J. Plant, 5; C. Stanbridge, 6; J. Buffery (conductor), 7; J. Quarterman, 8. Tenor 13½ cwt. in F#.

**PRESTWICH (Lancashire).**—On Sunday, August 30th, at the Parish Church, a 720 of Bob Minor (sixteen bobs and two singles), in 25 mins. Frank Emerson (conductor), 1; William Warburton, 2; Arthur Barrett, 3; Samuel West, 4; Albert E. Wreaks, 5; John Hardman, 6. Also another 720 in the same method (fourteen singles and four bobs), in 27 mins. Edward Bradshaw, 1; Samuel West, 2; William Warburton, 3; F. Morris, 4; Albert E. Wreaks (conductor), 5; William Hilton, 6. Messrs. Emerson, Warburton, Bradshaw, and Hilton hail from Whitefield; Barrett, Hardman and Morris from Ratcliffe; West and Wreaks from Manchester. Tenor 16 cwt. in F.

**RINGSTEAD (Northamptonshire).**—On Tuesday, August 25th, at St. Mary's church, for practice, a 720 of Yorkshire Court (with eighteen bobs and two singles). G. Roberts, 1; E. Mayes, 2; R. Shipley (first 720 in the method), 3; W. J. Gilbert, 4; J. Braybrook, 5; T. Roberts (conductor), 6. Also a 360 of Court Single (nine bobs). G. Roberts, 1; T. Roberts, 2; W. J. Gilbert, 3; E. Mayes, 4; A. Groom, 5; J. Braybrook (conductor), 6. And 180 of Bob Minor. W. J. Gilbert (conductor), 1; G. Roberts (first time with a bob bell), 2; R. Shipley, 3; J. Braybrook, 4; E. Mayes, 5; T. Roberts, 6. A Groom hails from Denford.

**STISTED (Essex).**—On Sunday, August 23rd, a 720 of Court Single. F. Saunders (first 720 in the method), 1; W. Moore, 2; W. Bearman, 3; W. Radley (first 720 in the method), 4; F. Calthorpe, 5; S. Hammond (conductor), 6.

**WALTON-ON-THAMES (Surrey).**—On Thursday evening, August 27th, at St. Mary's church, the local company, with the assistance of two members of the Surrey Association, rang their first 120. — Bromham, G. Power, B. Wickens, J. Sedgeley, J. Farr, F. Tingy, G. Woodiss, James Strutt, and G. Gray. The two latter hail from Kingston. On the same day the vicar and churchwardens placed in the tower a peal-board, recording the peal of Grandsire Triples rung on the 11th of May last, by eight members of the Surrey Association.

**WICKHAM MARKET (Suffolk).**—On Saturday, August 22nd, at All Saints' church, a 720 of College Single (eighteen bobs and two singles), in 27 mins. \*G. Brooks, 1; \*J. Reeve, 2; W. Reeve, 3; \*G. Reeve, 4; G. Bailey, 5, J. Howard (conductor), 6. Tenor 15 cwt. in G. \*First 720 in the method. J. and W. Reeve, J. Howard, and G. Bailey are members of the Norwich Diocesan Association, the two latter hail from Pettistree; the rest belong to the local company.

**WIMBLEDON (Surrey).**—On Sunday evening, August 30th, at St. Mary's church, 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor (fifteen bobs), in 26 mins. G. Hyde, 1; R. Moss, 2; C. Hyde, 3; J. Parker, 4; E. F. Strange (conductor), 5; S. Frost, 6. And 360 Bob Minor. B. Battam, 1; R. Moss, 2; C. Hyde, 3; J. Parker, 4; E. F. Strange, 5; S. Frost (conductor), 6. Tenor 11 cwt.

#### THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

A DISTRICT MEETING of this Association will be held at Epsom, by the kind permission of the Vicar, on Saturday, September 12th.

There will be a Committee Meeting at 4.30 p.m., to arrange the details of the next Quarterly Meeting. A. B. CARPENTER, Hon. Sec.

#### GREAT YARMOUTH RINGERS' OUTING.

On Saturday, August 29th, the St. Nicholas company of Great Yarmouth, left by the 6.15 train from Southtown Station, and rang at the following places during the day. At Pulham St. Mary:—a peal of six, tenor 15 cwt., in F, where, after ringing a short time, they were entertained by the rector, the Rev. W. H. Cleaver, to a substantial breakfast, and the rev. gentleman asked many questions respecting bells; Pulham Market,—a peal of six, tenor 16 cwt. in F; at Redenhall, a peal of eight, tenor 24 cwt. in E, where the visitors were joined by Captain Moore, of Syleham House, Scole, Norfolk, who also accompanied them to Alburgh, a peal of eight bells, tenor 11 cwt. in G. These towers are in Norfolk. Thence to Bungay, Suffolk, a peal of eight, tenor 16 cwt. in F, where the Captain left to return home. On to Beccles, also in Suffolk, a peal of ten, tenor 28 cwt. in D, from which place they returned home, arriving at Southtown Station by the 10.40 p.m. train, tired, but well pleased with their outing.

#### THE ALL SAINTS' SOCIETY, NORTHAMPTON.

THE members and friends of the All Saints' voluntary bell-ringers' Society held their annual picnic, on Thursday, August 27th. The lovely grounds of Castle Ashby, the country seat of the Marquis of Northampton, was selected as their trysting-place, and the company bled thither at an early hour in the morning, a 720 having been previously rung on the back six of their parish church. Dinner and tea were served in an admirable manner at the "Falcon Hotel," and in the evening a "sociable" was held. The party paid a visit to the gardens, and were conducted over the castle.

#### SEMLEY, WILTSHIRE.

THE St. Martin's (Salisbury) company of ringers, with Mr. H. C. Flower, of Codford, and Mr. C. Hibberd, of Berwick St. John's, spent a very pleasant afternoon at Semley on Saturday afternoon last, August 29th. They were kindly entertained at the Rectory, where they enjoyed a very nice tea. The ringing only consisted of Grandsire Doubles, six 6-scores being called differently. J. Short, 1; E. A. Foster, 2; T. Blackburn, 3; J. Wilton, 4; W. W. Gifford, 5; J. Judd, 6. Time 30 mins. Tenor 26 cwt. The go of the bells are all that one could wish, with the exception of the third, which requires a little speedy attention.

#### SUBSCRIPTION LIST FOR THE JOHNSON TESTIMONIAL.

Subscribed by the following		£ s. d.	S. Reeves		£ s. d.
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Company, Birmingham—			C. Stanbridge		3 6
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J. Dunn	2 6		B. Wittchell		2 6
H. Withers	2 6		A. Jones		2 6
T. Reynolds	2 6		A. Thomas		1 0
J. Ward	5 0		T. Powell, Waltham Abbey		5 0
J. W. Cartwright	3 0		J. W. Snowdon, Esq.		1 10
J. Sanders	2 6		H. Avery, Birmingham		5 0
F. Banks	5 0		C. H. Hattersley, Sheffield		5 0
W. Kent	5 0		Albert H. Wreaks, Manchester		3 0
H. Bastable	5 0		J. Lawton, Tipton		2 6
H. Johnson, jun.	10 6		Josh Johnson, Birmingham		2 6

The committee earnestly request that donations from ringers and friends interested in this "National Testimonial" be forwarded at an early date to one of the undersigned: A. Thomas, Hon. Secretary, 83, Wheeley's Road, Edgbaston, Birmingham; S. Reeves, Hon. Treasurer, 10, Bull Street, West Bromwich.

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\* \* Several touches, reports, etc., are unavoidably left over till our next issue.

## BELLS AND RINGERS IN 1885.—(Continued.)

By F. W. J. REES.

## LIST OF RINGS IN DEVON.

Exeter Cathedral..	10	67	..	..	The heaviest ring.
Plymouth S. A'd'w.	10	32	..	G. St.	.. Grand peal. Recently augmented to 10.
Alphington .. ..	8	..	..	..	..
Ashburton .. ..	8	22	..	..	.. Made 8 in 1880.
Aveton .. ..	8	..	..	..	.. Trebles, 1878.
Babbacombe.. ..	8	18	..	..	.. Warner, 1874.
Bideford.. ..	8	16	..	..	.. Back 6 Rudhall 1722
Chagford .. ..	8	..	..	..	.. Trebles, 1877.
Chittlehampton ..	8	14	..	G.	.. Made eight in 1880.
Crediton.. ..	8	30	..	..	..
Devonport .. ..	8	..	..	..	..
Exeter, S. Sidwell ..	8	24	..	G.	..
Hatherleigh .. ..	8	15	..	..	.. Made 8 about 1883.
Holdsworth.. ..	8	13	..	..	..
Honiton Clyst .. ..	8	19	..	..	..
Huntsham .. ..	8	13	..	G. St. T.B.	.. Made 8 in 1874.
Kingsbridge .. ..	8	..	..	..	.. Whitechapel, 1876.
Oakford .. ..	8	13	..	..	..
Pilton .. ..	8	..	..	..	..
Plymouth, Charles ..	8	23	..	G. St.	.. " Various dates. Good peal.
.. Dock Chapel ..	8	13	..	Do.	..
Plympton .. ..	8	33	..	..	.. Tenor, Purdue, 1614.
Sidmouth .. ..	8	15	..	..	..
South Molton .. ..	8	24	..	..	.. Whitechapel.
Sowton .. ..	8	9	..	..	.. " Rehung, '83
S. Mary Church ..	8	19	..	..	..
Teignmouth .. ..	8	..	..	..	.. Made 8 from 3, 1880.
Tiverton.. ..	8	28	..	..	.. Rehung in 1869.
Torrington .. ..	8	16	..	..	.. Made eight in 1884.
Torquay.. ..	8	..	..	..	.. Warner, 1877.
Totnes .. ..	8	28	..	..	.. 8th recast, Warner.
Ugborough .. ..	8	..	..	..	.. Rehung in 1882.
Atherington .. ..	6	14	..	..	..
Axminster .. ..	6	..	..	..	..
Bishops Teignton..	6	10	..	..	.. Whitechapel.
Bradninch .. ..	6	..	..	..	..
Bratton .. ..	6	15	..	..	.. Whitechapel.
Broad Clyst .. ..	6	20	..	G. St.	..
Budleigh .. ..	6	10	..	G.	..
Chardstock .. ..	6	14	..	..	.. Whitechapel.
Churchston .. ..	6	..	..	..	..
Coleridge .. ..	6	..	..	..	..
Coombe-in-Teig'h'd	6	..	..	..	..
Darlington .. ..	6	..	..	..	..
Dartington .. ..	6	15	..	..	..
Diptford.. ..	6	13	..	..	.. Whitechapel.
Ditisham .. ..	6	13	..	..	.. Whitechapel.
Drewe-Teignton ..	6	17	..	..	..
Egg-Buckland .. ..	6	..	..	G.	.. New in 1882.
Exemminster .. ..	6	..	..	..	..
Exeter, S. David ..	6	9	..	..	.. Whitechapel.
.. S. Petrock.. ..	6	5½	..	..	..
Georham .. ..	6	..	..	..	..
Halburton .. ..	6	16	..	..	.. Whitechapel.
High Bickington ..	6	8	..	..	..
Ide .. ..	6	..	..	..	..
Ilfracombe .. ..	6	14	..	G.	..
Kenn .. ..	6	14	..	..	.. Whitechapel.
Kenton .. ..	6	..	..	..	..
Lamerton .. ..	6	11	..	..	.. Warner, 1878.
Land Key .. ..	6	..	..	..	..
Loddiswell .. ..	6	..	..	..	..
Marlborough.. ..	6	12	..	..	..
Meavey .. ..	6	..	..	..	..
Merton .. ..	6	14	..	G. St.	..
Monkleigh .. ..	6	9	..	G.	..
Newton Abbot .. ..	6	8	..	..	.. Whitechapel.
Northam .. ..	6	..	..	..	..
Ottery .. ..	6	..	..	..	..
Paignton .. ..	6	..	..	..	..
Rackenfard .. ..	6	14½	..	..	..
Stoke Damerel .. ..	6	14	..	G. St.	..
S. George Clyst ..	6	13	..	G.	..
S. Giles-in-the-Wood	6	..	..	..	..
Swymbridge .. ..	6	..	..	..	..
Topsham .. ..	6	..	..	..	..
Uploman .. ..	6	10	..	G. St.	..

Upton Pyne .. ..	6	..	..	..
Wear Gifford .. ..	6	..	..	..
West Buckland ..	6	10	..	.. Rehung in 1885.
West Leigh .. ..	6	..	..	..
Winkleigh .. ..	6	20	..	.. Whitechapel.
Woodbury .. ..	6	13½	G.	..

Anyone who is so lucky as to possess a copy of the valuable work on the "Church Bells of Devon" by the late Rev. H. T. Ellacombe, can do much to render the above list complete.

## 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."

## SHALL WE HAVE A NATIONAL ASSOCIATION?

SIR,—Judging from the apathy of the provisional committee for the formation of the proposed National Association, the proposal, so far as that committee is concerned, has become dead. Evidently a different result was anticipated by a large majority of those that were present at the Reading Conference. Beyond a question of doubt, a large portion of the Exercise would hail with delight the formation of such an Association as projected. Will not some one of our influential members of the fraternity move in the matter by bringing about a meeting for the formation of such, during the forthcoming Church Congress, when there will be an opportunity afforded which should not be missed?

NIL DESPERANDUM.

## TO MR. WASHBROOK.

SIR,—In your issue of the 22nd, I noticed a peal of Grandsire Caters rung upon handbells by the Oxford Diocesan Guild. I should like to ask our worthy friend, Mr. J. W. Washbrook, the conductor, whether it is an omission not having a referee mentioned; if it is so, I should like to see it rectified, as down here in Birmingham, we (handbells ringers especially) have strong ideas respecting the referee.

Birmingham.

T. RUSSAM.

## INFORMATION WANTED.

SIR,—I should feel much obliged to any of my fellow-readers of our own invaluable organ, if they could inform me the best way to clean handbells—what is the best ingredient to use for polishing them, and how is it to be applied.

ANXIOUS.

## THE RETORT COURTEOUS.

SIR,—In your issue of the 15th inst., and again in last week's, there appear two letters by the "Author of Thumb-Nail Sketches." This gentleman seems to be a very particular person, for he don't please himself, and no one can please him; he is always finding fault with something or somebody, and he considers everyone wrong but himself. Who is he, where does he live, that he should dictate to the members of the different London Societies what they should do, or what they should not do? I can inform "Mr. Author," that Messrs. M. Wood, Cooter, Pettit, myself and others, have worked hard for the Society of College Youths to keep it in a flourishing position, and have spent many months in trying to teach young ringers the art, and perhaps after two years' hard work, you get a promising young party; all at once you are informed that Charley Sloper is going to America to get married, and Sam Black is going to get buried. So you have to find some one to fill up the gaps, and perhaps have to go all over the ground again, and now because you don't feel disposed to place yourself at their convenience whenever they want you, you are told you are narrow-minded, and men of small ideas, I can tell "Mr. Author" that his letters produce no good results; they don't tend to build that good feeling that ought to exist amongst ringers, they rather sow the seeds of discord, and my advice to Mr. "Author of Thumb-Nail Sketches" is to mind his own business and allow others to do the same.

G. MUSKETT.

## LIST OF RINGS IN DERBYSHIRE.

SIR,—I send you several rings of six bells, not included in Mr. Rees' list of rings in Derbyshire.

No. of bells. Wgt. of tenor. Note.

Belper	6		Steel.	Naylor and Vickers, Sheffield.
Bamford	6		Steel.	Naylor and Vickers, Sheffield.
Baslow	6			
Edensor	6	13	G.	
Fairfield	6	10	G#.	Taylor.
				G. MARSDEN.



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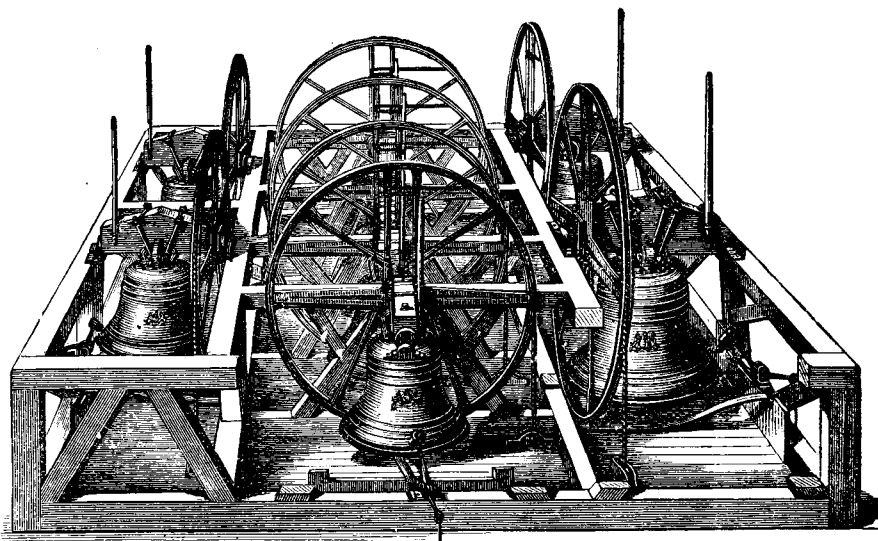
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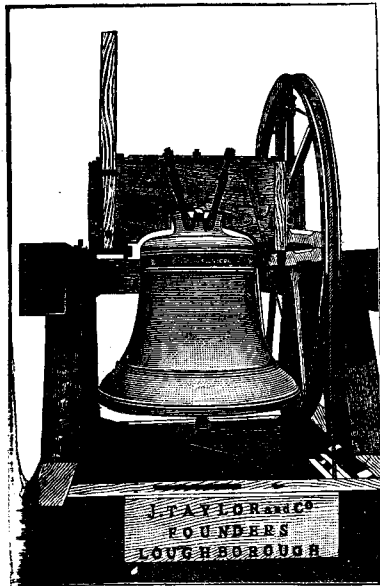
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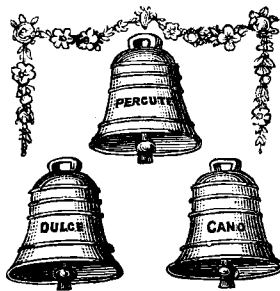
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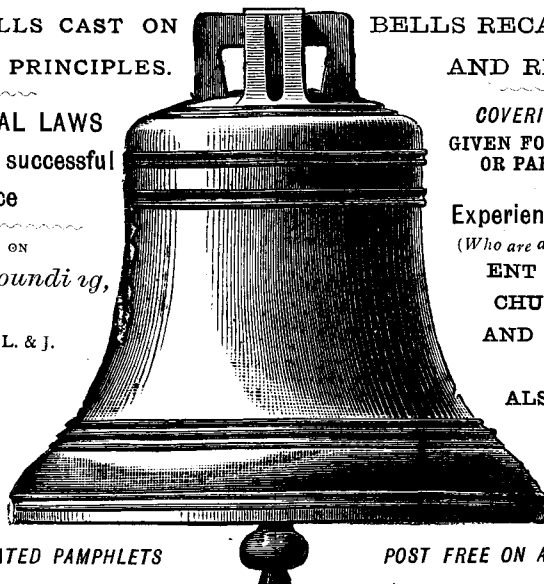
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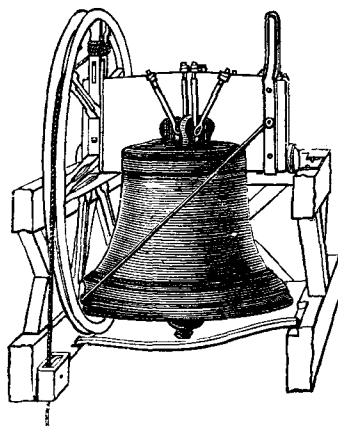
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## PEALS OF SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE.

BY JASPER W. SNOWDON.

The following 5376 is the same peal as the one of that number by Reeves, given in the last article, the bobs at the W. being omitted in the first and last courses. Instead of giving the reverse variation, I have given a variation of the first part which if called instead of that, or any other part, will reduce the peal to 5056 changes.

5376.								5056.								
2	3	4	5	6	M	W	H	2	3	4	5	6	B	M	W	H
6	4	3	5	2	-	-	-	2	3	5	6	4	-	-	-	-
3	6	4	5	2	-	-	-	5	6	2	3	4	-	-	-	-
4	3	6	5	2	-	-	-	2	5	6	3	4	-	-	-	-
2	5	6	3	4	-	-	-	6	2	5	3	4	-	-	-	-
6	2	5	3	4	-	-	-	4	3	5	2	6	-	-	-	-
4	3	5	2	6	-	-	-	5	4	3	2	6	-	-	-	-
5	4	3	2	6	-	-	-	3	5	4	2	6	-	-	-	-
3	5	4	2	6	-	-	-									

N. J. PITSTOW.

N. J. PITSTOW.

First rung (5056) on February 4th, 1885, at St. Paul's, Burton-on-Trent, by the Burton Society. Conducted by W. Wakley.

The following 5376, brought out by J. Miller, is really an "elegant extract" from Cox's 6048 which follows, and I do not see that it can be considered a new peal.

5376.															
2	3	4	5	6	M	W	H	2	3	4	5	6	M	W	H
6	4	3	5	2	-	-	-	6	5	4	3	2	-	-	-
3	6	4	5	2	-	-	-	4	6	5	3	2	-	-	-
4	3	6	5	2	-	-	-	5	4	6	3	2	-	-	-
2	6	3	5	4	-	-	-	6	3	5	4	2	-	-	-
3	2	6	5	4	-	-	-	5	6	3	4	2	-	-	-
6	3	2	5	4	-	-	-	3	5	6	4	2	-	-	-
4	5	2	3	6	-	-	-	6	4	3	5	2	-	-	-
2	4	5	3	6	-	-	-	3	6	4	5	2	-	-	-

J. COX.

First rung, May 29th, 1855, at St. Michael's, Benington. Conducted by Joseph Kitchener.

Mr. Pitstow has produced a musical 5056 from the same peal by using the following seven courses instead of the first part, and an ordinary variation of the "extract" for the last two parts of the peal.

5056.									Continued—								
2	3	4	5	6	B	M	W	H						M	W	H	
2	3	5	6	4	—	—				6	4	2	3	5	—	—	
5	6	2	3	4	—	—				2	6	4	3	5	—	—	
2	5	6	3	4	—	—				4	2	6	3	5	—	—	
6	2	5	3	4	—	—				5	3	6	2	4	—	—	
4	5	2	3	6	—	—				6	5	3	2	4	—	—	
2	4	5	3	6	—	—				4	3	5	2	6	—	—	
5	2	4	3	6	—	—				5	4	3	2	6	—	—	
					—	—				3	5	4	2	6	—	—	

This part repeated.

N. J. PITSTOW.

The foregoing peals each contain eight courses, when another course is added, the number runs to 6048 changes. The first peal of this length was composed by Jno. Cox, and is given below. Three consecutive bobs at H. can, of course, be omitted at any time, thus for instance, if the first six bobs at H. are omitted in the first part, the peal will be reduced to 5152 changes\*.

6048.

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

J. COX, 1854.

The reverse variation was first rung on June 9th, 1855, at St. Michael's, Benington, conducted by Joseph Kitchener.

\*This length, 5152, was first rung on November 6th, 1877, at St. Mary's, Redenhall, by the Norwich Association conducted by Benjamin Smith.

The foregoing is the greatest number of courses that can be obtained in a three-part peal with the tenors together. If several of the peals previously given are compared with this peal, it will be seen how very similar they are. For instance, if we take the reverse of this peal in three parts, the 6720 by Shipway in five parts, and the 5376 rung at Benington, we have three peals thus:—

6048.					6720.					5376.					
2	3	4	5	6	M	W	H		M	W	H		M	W	H
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	-	-	-		Five times				-	-	-
3	6	4	5	2	-	-	-		repeated.						-
4	3	6	5	2	-	-	-						Three times		
													repeated.		

Five times repeated.

Three times repeated.

I do not make these observations with the view of contending that these peals, except in the case of the 5376, were taken from each other, but merely to show my readers how a part-end may turn up before the end of the part in an original peal, and be utilised to produce a different number of changes. It will also be seen that these peals are the foundation upon which most of the peals in the same number of courses are composed.

The foregoing 6048 is on such an easy and obvious a plan, that any able composer who turns his attention to this method, can hardly miss obtaining this peal, or some variation of it. The variations that can be had consist principally in alterations of the calling in one of the sets of three courses into which it will be seen that the peal is divided. As, however, a peal containing 6048 changes is not one that is often required, I cannot see much necessity for presenting all the variations that have been obtained, in a complete form to my readers, and therefore annex the variations in the calling that may be introduced into the original peal. Most of these variations begin with the last three courses of the peal as

previously given. In most of them, 5-6 come home at the part ends; this quality is not contained in Cox's peal.

<u>6 4 2 3 5</u>	M	W	H		<u>6 4 2 3 5</u>	M	W	H
5 3 2 4 6	-	-	-		5 2 4 3 6	-	-	-
2 5 3 4 6	-	-	-		3 5 4 2 6	-	-	-
3 4 2 5 6	-	-	-		4 2 3 5 6	-	-	-
W. SOTTANSTALL.					W. SOTTANSTALL.			
<u>6 4 2 3 5</u>	M	W	H		<u>6 4 2 3 5</u>	M	W	H
5 2 4 3 6	-	-	-		5 2 4 3 6	-	-	-
4 5 2 3 6	-	-	-		4 5 2 3 6	-	-	-
3 4 2 5 6	-	-	-		2 4 5 3 6	-	-	-
J. THORP.					W. SOTTANSTALL.			
<u>2 3 4 5 6</u>	M	W	H		<u>2 3 4 5 6</u>	M	W	H
5 2 4 3 6	-	-	-		5 2 4 3 6	-	-	-
Last six courses.					First six courses.			
3 5 4 2 6	-	-	-		2 5 3 4 6	-	-	-
4 2 3 5 6	-	-	-		4 2 3 5 6	-	-	-
N. J. PITSTOW.					N. J. PITSTOW.			

As the two following peals differ in the calling of the four last courses, I therefore give them in full.

6048.

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

J. THORP.

6048.

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

N. J. PITSTOW.

By introducing two bobs B in each part, Mr. Thorpe has obtained the thirty course-ends in 6144 changes. The reverse of the following peal is shewn without the bob at H at the part-ends. This peal may also be varied by the addition of a bob W. at the eighth course-end of the original.

6144.

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

J. THORP.

## THE BELLS OF EXETER CATHEDRAL.

As there seems a likelihood of these celebrated bells becoming restored, a certain amount of interest concerning them is invoked. The following article, taken from the *Devon and Exeter Daily Gazette*, we think peculiarly appropriate for reproduction in our journal:—

THERE can be few Exeter people who do not take some interest in the bells of our Cathedral, and many of us may be credited with a stronger feeling. Whether it is Peter we hear telling us the hour, or the ten bells chiming for morning or evening service, there is something in the sound that swells our self-importance, and we take a proper pride in the persuasion that such grand bells are not to be heard away from home!

And just now, when attention has been specially drawn to the Cathedral bells by the proposal to re-hang them, and put their machinery in good order as a memorial to a Devonshire worthy lately passed away (the Rev. H. T. Ellacombe), it is thought that a slight sketch of their history, extracted from his books, may prove not unwelcome.

It is as indicated above, the woodwork by which the bells are suspended and rung that calls for renewal: the bells themselves are whole and sound, though in their time they have suffered crackings and crazings, meltings and recastings. Probably the actual weight of bell-metal now in the Cathedral towers is greater than it ever was in mediæval times, but the bells have varied in number; and one can imagine that some of the metal now suspended may have formed the bells which were rung to service on the day King Edward the Confessor and his Queen installed our first Bishop. When Leofric, A.D. 1050-1072, took possession of the Church of the Monastery of St. Mary and St. Peter, and made it his Cathedral, he found in it (so says a Saxon record) seven large bells, and when he died he left thirteen, having added six. Of Leofric's Cathedral, which stood on the site of our present Lady Chapel, no vestige remains; but we may well suppose that his bells, or their metal cast into new ones, were rehung in the towers built by Bishop Warelwast, 1107-1136, and remaining to this day with some change as to their roofs and windows.

The next point at which we can trace the bells is 1284, the date of a document in the Public Record Office, London; this is the record of the grant of a tenement at Paignton, by Bishop Quivil, to Roger de Ropforde, on condition of his making the bells for the Cathedral; and the Fabric Roll of the year 1285 (or 1286) contains items of payments made to him for work about various bells; *Walter*, named from its donor, Bishop Walter Bronescombe, *Bokerel Chauncel* (or *Chaunterel*), and *Germacyn*, perhaps the gift of Precentor Ralph Germacyn; in 1319, about *Jesus*, and in 1323, about *St. Mary* (many churches had a *Jesus* and a *Mary* Bell); in 1330 *Peter*, from Bishop Peter Quivil, was recast, and in 1351 was repaired. The year 1339 is the date of Bishop Grandisson's statutes for the Collegiate church of Ottery St. Mary, in which among other matters he does not forget the bells, but orders them to be hung; "four on the right side of the church, and four on the left, as at Exeter;" he gives precise directions as to the order in which they are to be sounded for the various services, and he forbids long ringings at funerals, "because sounding brass or tinkling cymbal nothing profits the souls (of the dead), and yet much injures the ears (of the living), and the fabric (of the church), and the bells."

In 1372-3, Bishop Brantingham employed in bell-casting and bell-hanging a man with the outlandish name of Thomas Karoun, and others who certainly were not foreigners—Drake, Slade, Cobleigh, Facy, and "Snell;" and he obtained fuel for the furnace from "Stokwode;" it was in his Episcopate, 1370-1394, probably, that the manuscript book, now in the cathedral library, was written containing most elaborate regulations "about the striking (or ringing) of the bells;" in it mention is made of two smaller, two middle-sized, two large, and two larger bells; also of the whole peal; but the names of individual bells are not given, though one of the small ones is called *Altisonum*—the treble, as we now say, and a larger one, *grossum*, the thick bell. In 1396 *Trinity*, *Grandison*, and three others were repaired, and *Bracton* in 1415: in 1484, Bishop Peter Courtenay sent five bells to Llandaff, receiving in exchange our present *Peter*; but as will afterwards be seen *Peter* was at that time of comparatively small size and weight.

Bishop Oldham's Statutes, 1511, contain directions to the Chantry Priests how to ring before the Canonical hours; they were to give sixty or more strokes on one bell, and then the full ringing with the others "in the accustomed manner;" and Mr. Ellacombe thought that these words show a very ancient origin for the present method of chiming to Matins and Evensong: Bishop Oldham allowed the *Clerica* to have the help of a man-servant in ringing, the first notice this of a layman being allowed to handle the bells; this Bishop also gave his name to one of the large bells, which, however, is not known by another sobriquet. Tradition says that Cardinal Wolsey, about 1513, being the Lord High Chancellor, and possessed of the revenues of the Bishopric of Tournay, sent over from that place five large bells, the smallest of which he gave to Sherborne, and another he gave to

Exeter; the Sherborne bell retains an inscription recording the gift but there is nothing of the sort here.

So far, to the eve of the Reformation, we find the bells fulfilling an important and almost hourly part in the Cathedral routine; their use was confined to Church purposes, unless *Ignitegium*, the Curfew, is to be reckoned an exception, and the ringing the appointed bell or bells for each service or portion of a service was as much the duty and work of the Cathedral staff as was the singing in choir; at the same time, there is no doubt the varied order of sounding them was useful to the citizens generally by marking the time of day, and there are records of fees paid by them for stated ringings, such as those quoted by Mr. R. Dymond in his "History of St. Petrock's, Exeter."

But with the reformation, in this matter, as in others, there came change; the church services were simplified, and the use of the bells followed suit; and there was danger of something more; we learn that on 6th May, 1552, during Edward the Sixth's short reign, a commission was issued to take an Inventory of Church Goods within the city of Exeter; and the Commission scheduled the Cathedral bells as follows:—(Their list is given in full for comparison with the table of present names and weights below).

"Thertenne belles ye (there) in ii towers. viii belles in one toewr, namelie yes (these):—

Bishop Grandisson's bell	...	1	xl. c. (cwt.)
Bishop Stafford's bell	...	2	xxx. c.
Trynitie bell	...	3	xxvii. c.
Magdalene bell	...	4	xxvii. c.
Domme bell	...	5	xxvi. c.
The sixte bell	...	6	xix. c.
The major bell	...	7	xvii. c.
The eight	...	8	x. c.

Summa xix. t (thousand) and vi. c. waight.

Item v. belles remayning in another towr.

The first called ye clock bell	...	1	xxxviii. c.
The second	...	2	viii. c.
The thirde	...	3	vi. c.
The fourth	...	4	v. c.
The fifth	...	5	iiii. c.

Summa to-lis (sum total) of all the whole waight of ye belles in ye too towrs. XXV. thousand and seven hundred waight.

Of yes (these) belles it is necessary yt (that) ye great or Grandisson's bell remayne to toll to ye sermon, itm. ye clock bell, and one to ring to dailie prayers."

Thus it seems that the Commissioners, while treating the use of a bell as a needful part of Church order, meant that by far the greater part of the cathedral bells should be removed as useless; their injunction, however, could never have been carried out, for Risdon, in his Survey of Devon, made before 1640, says that in the south tower of the cathedral, "there be eight bells serving for daily use, which were escheated with all the Church goods in the sixth year of Edward VI.;" having previously stated: "there was lately a cage of four broken bells in the North Tower, and also the clock bell, called Peter's Bell."

With the 17th century begins what may be called the popular use of bells: they now became the instruments of a fashionable pastime, one effect of which was in very many cases that old bells were melted down, and their metal made into a larger number of lighter weight, so as to form a complete ring of six or eight. A transmutation took place at our cathedral, only with additional metal, for *Peter* became more than thrice as heavy as before; his companions, the four small bells in the north tower, disappeared; and the eight in the south tower besides growing heavier, became eleven. The exact time of this change Mr. Ellacombe could not find, but, guided by Risdon's statement as above, and the date of Prince's "Worthies of Devon," 1697, who therein speaks of there being in the south tower, "a cage of ten very sweet and tuneable bells," he was inclined to fix it at 1676, when we know a good deal was done by Thomas Purdue, the bell-founder.

The Chapter Act Books contain many entries of work ordered to be done in the way of recasting, but nothing which speaks plainly of a rearrangement of the peal. In March, 1611, it was ordered "that the Peter Bell crazed 5th November last past should be new cast," and in April 1612, this order is repeated, with the further particulars that it should be new cast "by Mr. John Birdall \* \* \* \* with such addition of metal as shall be convenient." If the work was carried out, *Peter* must have before long been crazed again, for its recasting is mentioned in 1624, and the bell now bears the still later date of 1676. In June, 1612, the Chapter decreed the "ringe of eight bells in the South Tower to be made tuneable \* \* \* \* by the said John Birdall;" and on 6th April, 1616, they seem to repeat this order. How much Birdall really did we cannot now say, but we find his initials, with the date 1616, stamped on the second bell of the ring of ten. Other orders of Chapter came later for certain bells to be recast (some of them became crazed more than once), by Thomas Pennington, of Exeter, 1630; by John Pennington, 1658; by Thomas Purdue, of Clossworth, Somerset, 1676 and 1692; and lastly by William Evans, of Chepstowe, 1729.

And there is another alteration besides recasting we have to notice. The popular taste for ringing brought a desire to do more with the bells than had been done before in the way of change-ringing, and this led to a more convenient method of handling them; we can hardly



call it a new method of *hanging* them, for large bells had from early times been suspended, as they are to this day, by having the head-piece, technically *canons*, fastened to a short stout beam of wood, called the *stock*, from the ends of which iron axles, or *gudgeons*, project, and rest on metal sockets, or *bearings*, in the frame or *cage*. Up to the 17th century the stock had been swayed by having fixed at one end of it a half wheel, the leverage of which enabled the pull of the rope to overcome the weight of the bell, but at the cost of a great deal of hard labour. Now a whole wheel, or *sally*, came into use, and gave the ringer a much better control over his bell. At Sherborne Minster this easier method was not adopted until recently, and Mr. Ellacombe remembered that the *six* bells there required *twenty-one* men to ring them with half-wheels; now with whole wheels *seven* men suffice.

At Exeter the Chapter were soon alive to the improvement, and we find that in 1678 they paid £60 to Mr. Warren for hanging their bells "sallyway." Once more, in January, 1778, an agreement was made with Thomas Bilbie, of Cullumpton, to put the woodwork into complete order for the sum of forty guineas, and this seems to have been the last thorough repair of it. Trifling mendings, bracings, and tightenings, have been done since from time to time, but the strain of more than a hundred years' use has had its effect, and Mr. Ellacombe considered it was "not to be wondered at that the bells are not in that excellent order which is so necessary for ringing properly, so called."

Here our historical sketch may be said to come to an end, but those who have cared to read so far may like to have some account of the bells in their present state.

No.	Date.	Name.	Note.	Reputed weight.	Diameter in inches.
1	1676	Peter.	A.	125 cwt.	76
In the North Tower there is one bell.					
In the South Tower there are eleven bells.					
1	1729	—	D.	8 cwt. 3 qrs.	20 lbs. 33½
2	1616	—	C.	9	12 36
3	1658	—	B flat.	10	12 37½
4	1676	—	A.	12	2 40½
4*	1630	Pongamouth.	A flat.	11	0 18 41
5	1729	Fox.	G.	15	0 20 46
6	1693	Doom Bell.	F.	20	3 26 49
7	1676	Cobthorne.	E flat.	30	1 12 55
8	1729	Old nine o'clock.	D.	38	1 16 59
9	1676	Stafford.	C.	40	3 14 64½
10	1729	Grandisson.	B flat.	67	1 18 71½

*Peter*, named after Bishop Peter Courtenay, now hangs immovable, and has no clapper; it was, however, at one time swung like other bells, as is shown by its being crazed 5th November, 1610. Prince, quoting from Godwin, speaks of it being furnished with two wheels, so that the strength of a larger number of men might be employed in its ringing; while Brice, in his dictionary, 1759, says that at that date it had "not been rung out for many years past." It is now sounded by hammers, one worked by the clock for striking the hours, the other by a rope from the floor of the church for tolling. Every morning it is tolled ten minutes for the early service; beginning at 7.30 a.m. it sounds for five minutes, single strokes, at intervals of ten seconds, and for another five minutes it sounds double strokes; and then the treble bell in the south tower is rung for five minutes. Some years ago *Peter* used to be tolled for twenty-five minutes before early Matins, and there is a story that when the old bell-ringer of that day was ordered to curtail the tolling to ten minutes, he said "it could not be done in the time!" a curious instance of the force of habit. Immediately after 8 p.m. has struck, *Peter* tolls the Curfew, that is thirty or thirty-one strokes, according to the number of days in the current month, then a pause, and lastly eight more strokes. Its occasional use is to toll during the election of the Bishop in the Chapter House, and during the installation of the Bishop or any member of the Chapter; it is tolled also for an hour at the actual time of the burial of any of the Cathedral body, but it is *not*, as generally reported, tolled to announce *death*. *Peter* is the only one of the bells that bears a motto, and that, an imperfect one, "Plebs patriæ plaudit dum Petrum ple [nius audit]" a sort of jingle, "the people rejoice when they hear *Peter's* voice;" it has also the impression of a medal bearing the head of Archbishop Laud. There is in the north tower, but within the clock chamber, a very small bell on which the quarters are struck; it used to give out an extremely shrill and startling note, but has lately been muffled.

The first bell in the south tower has no name, but is famous amongst ringing men for the unrivalled clearness of its note as a treble or call bell. Besides its share in chiming and ringing with the rest, it has its special use twice in the day, being rung before early Matins, as "the five-minute bell," from 7.40 a.m. to 7.45, and again for the like space immediately after 9 a.m. The second bell is nameless; in its present state it is the senior of the peal by some years. The third and fourth bells are also nameless. The extra fourth, named probably from its donor, was thought by Mr. Ellacombe to be referred to in a Chapter order of 1625 as "The third thick bell of the peal," and if so it may also be the "*Signum grossum*" of Bishop Brantingham's rules; in its present form it affords an instance of an exceedingly clever variation introduced into the peal; its metal might have furnished two bells smaller than the present treble, and then we should

have had a regulation ring of twelve; but its present position is far more effective and pleasing, and its use will be further shown below. The fifth bell is named after Bishop Fox, 1487. The name of the 6th, Doom Bell, exercised Mr. Ellacombe a good deal; he thought it must at some time have been used as the Passing Bell, or Death Bell, but nothing could be discovered to confirm this view. The seventh is named after Dean Cobthorne, 1419; this bell came out imperfect from its last casting, and being deficient in the canons could not be fixed in the usual way, but holes were made through the crown by means of which it was bolted to the stock; this rough treatment did it no harm, for it is reckoned to possess an unusually fine tone. The name of the eighth Mr. Ellacombe thought could be accounted for in this way: there exists a memorandum of the fees and office of the Cathedral bellringer, drawn up in 1670, by Treasurer Baldwin Acland, in which occurs this sentence: "Hee is to tole the Oldham Bell a quarter of an hower after nine o'clock in ye morning, and a quarter after three a clock in the afternoon for service in the Quire;" and he thought the Oldham bell got nick-named Nine o'clock from the hour of its sounding, and when the treble took its place, continued to be known as old Nine O'clock. The ninth bell is named after Bishop Stafford, 1395; this is a noble bell, and thought to be the finest toned in the peal; it is used as the passing bell or death bell, being for that purpose rung out for an hour at the time fixed by the friends of the deceased. The tenth has its name from Bishop Grandisson, 1327, one of the most munificent of our prelates, and a most appropriate name it is for the largest and heaviest bell known to be rung anywhere in peal, and as we saw in the schedule of King Edward the Sixth's Commissioners, it was for long the great bell of the Cathedral.

For Matins and Evensong, ten of the bells, the extra fourth being omitted, are chimed by the bellringer as follows: at 10.15 a.m. and at 2.45 p.m. the 6th bell sounds single strokes for five minutes, at intervals of ten or twelve seconds, then it sounds more quickly for one minute, and is followed in a similar way by the seventh, eighth, ninth, and tenth, for one minute apiece, and finally for the last five minutes, the whole ten are sounded in succession. The old chime ropes used to come down through holes in the transept roof, and were brought together to the handles of a wooden box on the floor, and when in action used to sway about with a good deal of noise: by the present arrangement they are brought together in the bell-chamber, and come down in a neat row to their box, and can be worked noiselessly with far greater ease and quickness by the new method of pulling. The customary times for ringing the bells are the Queen's Birthday, Accession and Coronation days; the Prince of Wales's Birthday; the opening day of all Assizes (at the High Sheriff's expense); and since Dr. Cowie became Dean, Christmas Day and Easter Day have been added to the list; a muffled peal is also generally rung on the day of the funeral of a member of the Chapter, or anyone who has been long connected with the Cathedral. The full number of ringers required for the ten bells is sixteen; the first six can each be rung by one man; seventh, eighth, and ninth require two men each; whilst the tenth taxes the strength of four: no statement can better confirm the correctness of the view which has been taken as to the need that exists for a thorough renewal of the ringing gear.

Nothing, of course, but rounds can be attempted with the ring of ten, but some call changes are rung with six bells. Mr. Ellacombe has shown how that no less than seven rings can be produced, viz., one of ten, two of eight, and four of six bells; but beyond the full ring of ten, the ringers usually content themselves with two others, and these are the ring of six which ends on Cobthorne, and the ring of eight which ends on Stafford; each of these begins on the second bell and takes in Pongamouth, and it would be a thousand pities to destroy them by melting Pongamouth into two new trebles. The Cobthorne six is a most musical ring, and the Stafford eight, which is the one chosen for muffled peals, is, from its minor key, wonderfully suitable to that purpose. It is a most remarkable ring; there can hardly be its fellow anywhere.

With this little appeal for conservative restoration, our sketch may now find its close.

#### WORCESTER AND ADJOINING DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

A COMMITTEE MEETING of the above will be held at All Saints' school-room, Worcester, on Saturday, September 19th, at 4 o'clock, when the delegates of each company in union are earnestly invited to attend, as business of great importance (left from the Annual Meeting) must be transacted, and also a treasurer appointed, *pro tem.*, in the place of the late Mr. W. Duffill.

#### THE ST. JAMES'S SOCIETY, LONDON.

In consequence of unforeseen circumstances, the outing of the above society at Pinner, announced in the last issue of this paper, will not take place.

31, Bidborough Street, Euston Road.

D. NEWTON, Hon. Sec.

"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.

OLD SHEFF.—Next week.

A CORRECTION.—The touch of 330 rung at Hitchin, reported in last week's number, was Grandsire Triples, not Grandsire Minor.

## The Bell News & Ringers' Record.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 12, 1885.

WE have received the Tenth Annual Report of the Yorkshire Association, which again shews the great assistance which this Society has been in the promotion of change-ringing in Yorkshire. During the first ten years of its existence, members of the Society have scored no less than three hundred and thirty-one peals of five thousand changes and upwards. To obtain this result, it is improbable that any less number than one thousand attempts can have been made.

The Yorkshire Association differs from many of its kindred Societies in that it may be said never to have interfered with any matters which did not come immediately within the province of change-ringing, and thus the Society has had what may be termed a more lay than clerical interest. In the earlier days of the Society certain outsiders, and indeed some of its own members, were wont to consider that the Association should have taken a more active part in the discussion of such matters as belfry reform and prize-ringing. That these subjects should never have been discussed at any one of its meetings would have been surprising, were it not well-known to those who attended these meetings, that the President of the Association frequently stated that in the opinion of the committee, the immediate object for which the Society was formed was, by means of general meetings, to enable the large body of ringers in the county to become acquainted with one another, and also to unite in bands for the accomplishment of peals, and in these and other ways to bring the art of change-ringing more prominently before the public; and the committee were of opinion that in this way, any desired reformation would naturally be brought about. With regard to prize-ringing, the matter was curtly summed up in the Presidential statement that "until the vicars and churchwardens of the various churches at which such practices were permitted could agree with their clerical opponents as to whether prize-ringing was or was not a proper use of church bells, it

was not the wish of the Society to interfere with the individual opinion of its members on this subject, and that the Society had been formed to promote change-ringing, and not for the reformation of the clergy."

The Yorkshire Association may thus be said to have steered clear of all debatable questions, and probably the course was a wiser one than if the ringers of the county had in those days been cut up into two sections, one of each of which would have arranged themselves on either of the sides represented by the clergymen who recognise prize-ringing, and those others amongst the clergy who considered it an unmitigated evil. The result, at the end of ten years, is that there is scarcely a ringer of any standing in Yorkshire who does not belong to the Association, and the clergy now seem to be almost unanimously of opinion that the use of church bells for prize-ringing contests is inconsistent with the sacred uses which are the primary objects for which bells are placed in a tower.

Of course, although our columns are always open for the expression of individual opinion on this or any other subject, our readers must know that we have consistently advocated the abolition of prize-ringing contests on church bells. Unlike the clergy, we have had opportunities of judging this question from a layman's point of view, and would also add that from this point we consider there are grave objections which may be urged against prize-ringing, even if the practice was not to be condemned on mere religious grounds.

### The Provinces.

#### DUFFIELD, DERBYSHIRE.

#### THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

On Wednesday, September 2, 1885, in Three Hours and Twelve Minutes,

AT ALL SAINTS' CHURCH,

#### A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5392 CHANGES;

Tenor 16½ cwt.

GEORGE DAWSON .. .. Treble.	GEORGE HINGLEY .. .. 5.
SAMUEL JOHNSON .. .. 2.	ARTHUR B. WARD .. .. 6.
JOHN HOWE .. .. 3.	ROBERT JOHNSON .. .. 7.
WILLIAM D. SMITH .. .. 4.	A. PERCIVAL HEYWOOD .. Tenor.

Composed by T. Lockwood and Conducted by A. P. HEYWOOD, Esq.

This is a one part peal, having the 6th twenty-four times wrong and twenty-four times right, in forty-eight courses.

#### BURTON-ON-TRENT, STAFFORDSHIRE.

#### THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION, AND THE ST. PAUL'S SOCIETY, BURTON-ON-TRENT.

On Thursday, September 3, 1885, in Three Hours and Seven Minutes,

AT ST. PAUL'S CHURCH,

#### A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

THURSTANS' COMPOSITION. Tenor 26 cwt.

WILLIAM D. SMITH .. .. Treble.	HARRY WAKLEY .. .. 5.
ARTHUR WAKLEY .. .. 2.	JOHN JAGGAR .. .. 6.
ARTHUR B. WARD .. .. 3.	WILLIAM WAKLEY .. .. 7.
JOSEPH GRIFFIN .. .. 4.	THOMAS HOLMES .. .. Tenor.

Conducted by WILLIAM WAKLEY.

A Correspondent writes:—"Would you or some kind reader be good enough to give me a date touch of Bob Major, and the calling of Mr. H. Johnson's ten-part peal of Bob Triples, for the benefit of a young company of ringers, and oblige—T. Thompson."

## HULL.—THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Friday, September 4, 1885, in Three Hours.

AT ST. JAMES'S CHURCH,

## A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5104 CHANGES.

Tenor 15 cwt.

CHARLES JACKSON .. .. Treble.	HENRY JENKINS .. .. 5.
ROBERT CHAFFER .. .. 2.	JAMES DIXEY .. .. 6.
CHARLES BENNETT .. .. 3.	JOHN WM. STICKNEY .. 7.
FREDERICK MERRISON .. 4.	FRANK DRABBLE .. .. Tenor.

Composed by ARTHUR KNIGHTS, of Chesterfield, and  
Conducted by JOHN W. STICKNEY.

## AUGHTON, LANCASHIRE.

On Saturday, September 5, 1885, in Two Hours and Fifty-four Minutes,

AT CHRIST CHURCH,

## A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 16 cwt. in F.

JOHN R. PRITCHARD .. .. Treble.	RICHARD HILL .. .. 5.
THOS. J. FIELDING .. .. 2.	HARRY M. SPENCER .. 6.
ABEL FIELDING .. .. 3.	GEORGE R. HEYWOOD .. 7.
HARRY CHARLES WOODWARD 4.	JOHN ASPINWALL .. .. Tenor.

Composed and conducted by JOHN R. PRITCHARD.

The above is the first peal in the method by the conductor. Mr. Woodward hails from Derby; Messrs. Pritchard and Aspinwall from Liverpool; the remainder are members of the Southport Society.

## GLOSSOP, DERBYSHIRE.

## THE ALL SAINTS' JUNIOR SOCIETY.

On Saturday, September 5, 1885, in Three Hours and Thirty-two Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

## A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 6016 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 15 cwt.

SAMUEL HARROP .. .. Treble.	SAMUEL KNOTT, JUN. .. 5.
THOMAS JAMES .. .. 2.	ROBERT WINTERBOTTOM.. 6.
WILLIAM HARROP .. .. 3.	HENRY COOPER .. .. 7.
JOSEPH MALONEY .. .. 4.	JOHN PYE, JUN. .. .. Tenor.

Composed by W. SOTTANSTALL, and Conducted by SAMUEL KNOTT.

For the calling of this peal see Snowden's Treble Bob, Part II., page 55.

## DIDSBURY, LANCASHIRE.

## THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, September 5, 1885, in Three Hours and Fifteen Minutes,

AT CHRIST CHURCH, BARLOW MOOR,

## A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE MAJOR, 5008 CHANGES;

Tenor 18 cwt. in E.

THOMAS THORPE .. .. Treble.	JAMES THORPE .. .. 5.
JOSEPH GRIMSHAW .. .. 2.	THOMAS HEALD .. .. 6.
GEORGE E. TURNER .. .. 3.	ALBERT E. WREAKS .. 7.
SAMUEL WEST .. .. 4.	JOHN EACHUS .. .. Tenor.

Composed by JOHN CARTER, of Birmingham, and  
Conducted by ALBERT E. WREAKS.

This is the first peal in the method by all the above, also on the bells (see "THE BELL NEWS, No. 177), and by the Association. All the above belong to Manchester.

## SHENSTONE, STAFFORDSHIRE.

THE BIRMINGHAM AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATION, AND  
THE BIRMINGHAM AMALGAMATED SOCIETY.

On Saturday, September 5, 1885, in Three Hours and Nine Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

## A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE MAJOR, 5104 CHANGES.

Tenor 13 cwt.

JOHN WRIGHT .. .. Treble.	RICHARD HACKLEY .. .. 5.
JOHN CALLAGHAN .. .. 2.	JOHN T. PERRY .. .. 6.
THOMAS RUSSAM .. .. 3.	ALBERT HACKLEY .. .. 7.
CHARLES BARNICLE .. .. 4.	JOHN CARTER .. .. Tenor.

Composed and Conducted by JOHN CARTER.

This peal contains the 6th twenty-four times wrong and right, and the 5th twenty-four times right; with all the 8, 5, 7's; 8, 6, 7's; and 6, 7, 8's.

[A brief notice of this visit will be seen in another column.]

## CHELTENHAM, GLOUCESTERSHIRE.

## GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, September 7, 1885, in Three Hours,

AT ST. MARY'S CHURCH,

## A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

REV. C. D. P. DAVIES' FIVE-PART. Tenor 23 cwt.

A. W. HUMPHRIS .. .. Treble.	S. GREENWOOD .. .. 5.
F. E. WARD,* ESQ. .. .. 2.	W. T. PATES .. .. 6.
W. MORRIS .. .. 3.	H. KARN .. .. 7.
T. R. HOOPER .. .. 4.	F. MUSTY .. .. Tenor.

Conducted by F. E. WARD, ESQ.

\* First peal as conductor. The above was rung to oblige Mr. Greenwood, of London, who is on a visit to Cheltenham, and he was nominated a member of the above Association by the members present, in accordance with the rules.

## IPSWICH, SUFFOLK.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS AND  
THE ST. MARY-LE-TOWER SOCIETY, IPSWICH.

On Tuesday, September 8, 1885, in Three Hours and Forty-five Minutes,

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

## A PEAL OF STEDMAN CINQUES, 5002 CHANGES;

Tenor 32 cwt.

JAMES MOTTS .. .. Treble.	CHARLES SAUL .. .. 7.
EDGAR PEMBERTON .. .. 2.	HENRY BOWELL .. .. 8.
ISAAC S. ALEXANDE .. .. 3.	EDWARD REEVE .. .. 9.
WILLIAM L. CATCHPOLE .. 4.	SAMUEL TILLET .. .. 10.
CHARLES MEE .. .. 5.	ROBERT HAWES .. .. 11.
WILLIAM MOTTS .. .. 6.	ARTHUR R. ALDHAM .. Tenor.

Composed by WILLIAM L. CATCHPOLE, and Conducted by  
JAMES MOTTS.

This is the first peal of Stedman Cinques on the bells. The above are all members of the Norwich Diocesan Association. The figures of this peal will be found in "THE BELL NEWS" of March 28th, 1885.

## Miscellaneous.

## THE WATERLOO SOCIETY.

LONDON.—On Saturday, September 5th, at St. Giles's-in-the-Fields, eight members of the above Society rang a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, 1260 changes. W. Jones, 1; A. E. Church, 2; G. T. McLaughlin (conductor), 3; H. Davies, 4; H. Langdon, 5; W. H. George, 6; E. E. Vinen, 7; J. Wheeler, 8.

## THE EASTERN COUNTIES' GUILD.

SPALDING (Lincolnshire).—On Tuesday, September 1st, at the church of SS. Mary and Nicholas, a 720 of Plain Bob, (six bobs and twenty-two singles). And another 720 in the same method (thirty bobs and two singles). J. S. Wright, 1; C. Neaverson, 2; G. L. Richardson, 3; R. Mackman, 4; G. Skeef, 5; J. Brown, 6. And on Sunday, September 6th, for morning service, a 360 of Plain Bob, conducted by J. S. Wright. After evening service, 720 of College Single. J. W. Jarvis, 1; C. Neaverson, 2; G. L. Richardson, 3; R. Mackman, 4; J. S. Wright, 5; G. Skeef (conductor), 6.

## THE HERTFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

BALDOCK (Herts).—On Sunday, September 6th, at the church of St. Mary the Virgin, for Divine Service in the morning, 350 of Grandsire Triples. T. Webb, 1; Jno. Phillips (conductor), 2; J. Cawdell, 3; J. Smith, 4; Robt. Jackson, 5; A. Squires, 6; J. Roslyn, 7; G. Gentle, 8. Also for Divine Service in the evening, a 504 of Grandsire Triples, with A. Squires, 3; Richard Jackson, 6; the rest standing as before. Composed and conducted by Jno. Phillips. Tenor 28 cwt.

ST. ALBANS.—On Wednesday, September 2nd, at St. Stephen's Church, the following members of the above Association rang a 720 of Grandsire Minor in 27 mins. W. Battle, 1; G. W. Cartmel, 2; N. N. Hills (conductor), 3; W. H. L. Buckingham, 4; A. Godman, sen., 5; A. Godman, jun., 6. Tenor 10 cwt. Handbell Ringing.—On Monday, September 1st, at 3, St. Peter's Street, several touches of Grandsire Triples and a course of Grandsire Caters. G. W. Cartmel, 1-2; C. P. Debenham, 3-4; H. Lewis, 5-6; N. N. Hills, 7-8; W. H. L. Buckingham, 9-10.

## THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

GARSTON (Lancashire). On Monday, September 7th, at the parish church, for practice, six members of the above Association rang a 720 of Grandsire Minor, in 27½ mins. Samuel Gough, 1; Walter Hughes, 2; John Allen, 3; Charles Newton, 4; Samuel Carter (first 720 with a bob bell), 5; F. Turner (conductor), 6. Tenor 12½ cwt.

**WALKDEN.**—On Sunday, August 23rd, for Divine Service in the evening, a 720 of Bob Minor, eighteen bobs and two singles, in 26 mins. W. Denner (conductor), 1; J. Welsby, 2; S. Oakes, 3; E. Cash (Eccles), 4; A. Potter, 5; J. Brookes, 6. Also on Saturday, September 5th, the local company rang with the bells half-muffled, a 720 of Bob Minor, twenty-one bobs and twelve singles, in 29 mins., as a mark of respect to the late Rev. H. T. Ellacombe. J. Welsby, 1; J. Worthington, 2; S. Oakes, 3; J. Williamson, 4; A. Potter, 5; J. Brookes (conductor), 6. Tenor 13½ cwt.

#### THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

**BRAMFORD (Suffolk).**—On Sunday, September 6th, a 720 of Plain Bob Minor, in 28 mins. William Read, 1; William Mee, 2; Alfred A. Pryke, 3; Charles R. Smith, 4; Charles Mee, 5; Frederick Mee (conductor), 6. And three courses of Grandsire Minor, being the first in the method by all. William Read, 1; William Mee, 2; Alfred A. Pryke, 3; Charles R. Smith, 4; Fred Mee, 5; Charles Mee (conductor), 6. Also a course of Grandsire Triples on the handbells. William Mee, 1-2; Frederick Mee, 3-4; Charles Mee, 5-6; Alfred A. Pryke, 7; Charles R. Smith, 8.

#### THE SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.

**LONG MELFORD (Suffolk).**—On Saturday evening, September 5th, at Holy Trinity Church, a 720 of Bob Minor, (thirty singles), in 29 mins. Samuel Slater, 1; John Ambrose, 2; Zachariah Slater, 3; James Bird, 4; Percy Scott (composer and conductor), 5; Oliver Garwood, 6. Also in 29 mins. a 720 of Bob Minor, from Hubbard, (six singles and eight bobs), the least number of calls yet obtained. Samuel Slater, 1; Percy Scott (conductor), 2; Zachariah Slater, 3; John Ambrose, 4; Oliver Garwood, 5; James Bird, 6. The above were rung on the anniversary of the marriage of the Rector's second daughter with Arthur Lees, Esq.

**BOOTLE (Lancashire).**—On Monday evening, August 31st, at Christ Church, 1092 changes were rung in 41 mins., being a 720 of Grandsire Minor, and 372 of Plain Bob Minor. E. Yates, 1; C. E. Wilson, 2; W. Short, 3; W. Rushton, 4; R. H. Barton, 5; J. Bradshaw (conductor), 6. Tenor 12½ cwt. The above was rung to celebrate Mr. R. H. Barton's 21st birthday, and the number of changes corresponded with the number of months that he has lived. His brother-strings wish him many happy returns of the day.

**CALVERLEY (Yorkshire).**—*Muffled Peal.*—On Sunday, September 6th, for Divine Service in the evening, the local company rang 1664 of Kent Treble Bob Major, as a last tribute of respect to the late Joseph Dawson, who died August 30th, aged 71 years. He commenced to be a ringer when very young, and became proficient, having assisted in ringing upwards of thirty methods on six bells. Reuben Page, 1; Walter Child, 2; Ezra Keighley, 3; William Hollins, 4; John Cordingley, 5; James Ross, 6; Jarvis Davison, 7; William Davison (conductor), 8. Composed by the Rev. H. E. Bulwer. Tenor 10½ cwt.

**CHEPSTOW (Monmouthshire).**—*Muffled Peal.*—On Friday, September 4th, at St. Mary's church, six of the local company rang on the back six several 6-scores of Bob Doubles, as a mark of respect to their late Vicar, the Rev. H. Law. John Evans (conductor), 1; George Watkins, 2; William Green, 3; William Woods, 4; Tom Rosser, 5; James Morley, 6. Also several 6-scores in the same method, with 7 6 8 covering. James Morley (conductor), 1; John Evans, 2; William Green, 3; William Woods, 4; Tom Rosser, 5; George Watkins, 6; Richard Morley, 7; Thomas Jones, 8. Thomas Jones hails from Tidenham, Gloucestershire. And on Sunday, September 6th, for Divine Service in the morning, several 6-scores of Bob Doubles, with the bells still half-muffled. John Evans (conductor), 1; George Watkins, 2; William Green, 3; William Woods, 4; Tom Rosser, 5; Richard Morley, 6. And for Divine Service in the evening, several plain courses of Bob Triples. James Morley (conductor), 1; John Evans, 2; William Green, 3; Charles James, 4; George Watkins, 5; William Woods, 6; Tom Rosser, 7; Richard Morley, 8. Tenor 21 cwt. in E.

**EASTBOURNE (Sussex).**—On Friday evening, September 4th, at St. Mary's church, a mixed band of St. Mary's, All Saints', and Christ Church ringers rang a 560 of Grandsire Triples, in honour of the 40th anniversary of the birthday of Mr. Wm. Siggs, each treble lead (every 14th change) representing a year. J. West (All Saints'), 1; H. P. Bennett (conductor; St. Mary's), 2; Wm. Siggs (All Saints'), 3; C. Harfley (St. Mary's), 4; F. Harding (St. Mary's), 5; T. Willoughby (St. Mary's), 6; T. Hart (St. Mary's), 7; Isaac Hammond (All Saints'), 8. And a 504 in the same method, taken from *Troyte's Work*. H. Colbran (Christ Church), 1; H. P. Bennett, 2; W. Siggs, 3; C. Harfley, 4; F. Harding, 5; T. Willoughby (first touch as conductor), 6; T. Hart, 7; J. Lewis (St. Mary's), 8.

**EAST HAGBORNE (Berks).**—On Sunday, September 6th, for Divine Service in the evening, four 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles,

called three different ways, on the back six. J. Pether, 1; E. Napper, 2; E. Pether, 3; D. Napper, 4; W. Napper (conductor), 5; E. Hermon, 6. W. Napper hails from Didcot; and E. Hermon from South Stoke.

**GLEMSFORD (Suffolk).**—*Handbell Ringing.*—On Monday, September 7th, for practice, on handbells, retained in hand, a 720 of Bob Minor (twenty-eight bobs and eighteen singles), in 20 mins. F. P. Adams, 1-2; Percy Scott (conductor), 3; O. Garwood, 4; Samuel Slater, 5-6. Composed by Mr. Jno. F. Penning, and contains the greatest number of calls yet obtained in the method.

**IPSWICH (Suffolk).**—On Sunday, August 23rd, at the church of St. Mary-le-Tower, for Divine Service, a 480 of Bob Major. G. C. Scowen, 1; W. Nevard, 2; W. Motts, 3; J. Taylor, 4; W. Nevard, 5; W. L. Catchpole (conductor), 6; E. Reeves, 7; A. R. Aldham, 8. Tenor 32 cwt. G. C. Scowen hails from Hadleigh; J. Taylor from Great Bromley; W. Nevard from Great Bentley, the rest are members of the local company.

**KERSEY (Suffolk).**—On Sunday, September 6th, at St. Mary's church, after Divine Service, a 360 of Plain Bob. G. C. Scowen, 1; H. Everett, 2; J. Scowen, 3; W. Smith, 4; F. Tillet, 5; A. R. Aldham (conductor), 6. Also a 360 called different, the band standing as before with the exception of the 5th and 6th men changing places, conducted by W. Smith. G. C. and J. Scowen, and H. Everett hail from Hadleigh; W. Smith from Igham; and A. K. Aldham and F. Tillet from St. Mary-le-Tower, Ipswich, all being members of the Essex Association except H. Everett.

**ROCHESTER (Kent).**—On Wednesday, September 2nd, at St. Margaret's church, a 720 of Plain Bob was rung in 25 mins. C. Chantler, 1; J. Kidd, 2; H. Greaves, 3; E. Andrew (R.E. band), 3; J. Tulett (first 720 in the method; conductor), 5; W. Baker, 6. Tenor about 16 cwt. The above was rung to celebrate the wedding of Mr. O. Sullivan, he being a member of the local society.

**TAUNTON (Somerset).**—*Handbell Ringing.*—On Saturday, September 5th, in St. Mary's belfry, three 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles, each called differently. C. May, 1; R. Pearce, 2; C. H. Venning, 3; F. Evered, 4; T. Doble (conductor), 5-6. Also three 6-scores in the same method. E. Harbor, 1; R. Pearce, 2; T. Doble (conductor), 3; C. May, 4; C. H. Venning, 5; W. R. Newberry, 6.

**WALTON-ON-THE-HILL (Lancashire).**—On Tuesday evening, September 1st, at St. Mary's parish church, a 720 of Grandsire Minor. J. Hurst, 1; C. J. Rodgers, 2; T. R. Somerville, 3; W. Hunter, 4; W. Booth, 5; C. E. Wilson (conductor), 6. This is the first 720 by W. Hunter, who hails from Childwall; W. Booth hails from Liverpool. And on Thursday evening, a 360 of London Single Bob Minor, and on Sunday evening for Divine Service, a 720 in the same method, in 25 mins. J. Hurst, 1; C. J. Rodgers, 2; T. R. Somerville, 3; T. Rush-ton, 4; R. Stockley, 5; C. E. Wilson (conductor), 6. Tenor 9 cwt. This is the first 720 in the method by all the band.

**WORTH (Sussex).**—On Sunday, September 5th, for Divine Service in the morning, the local company rang a 720 of Oxford Bob. W. Owden, 1; B. Payne, 2; T. Tulett, 3; W. Denman, 4; G. Illman, 5; F. Rice (conductor), 6. Also a 360 in the same method, conducted by G. Illman. And after service a 720 of Plain Bob. T. Illman, 1; W. Denman, 2; J. Tulett, 3; B. Payne, 4; G. Illman, 5; F. Rice (conductor), 6. And in the evening a 720 of Warnham Court Bob. W. Owden, 1; B. Payne, 2; F. Streeter, 3; F. Rice, 4; W. Collison, 5; E. Streeter (conductor), 6.

#### LEISTON, SUFFOLK.

On Saturday, September 5th, eight members of the Norwich Diocesan Association, attempted a peal of Bob Major, 5040 changes, but after ringing 2240 changes, in 1 hr. 29 mins., it came to grief. A. S. Barrell, 1; E. Gorrod, 2; A. E. Acfield, 3; —, 4; J. Button, 5; T. Shearing, 6; A. Ward, 7; W. A. Ward (conductor), 8. The company then had some tea at the White Horse, and afterwards another start was made, but after ringing one part, 1680 changes, the conductor found two bells had shifted course, so he called stand. The brothers Ward, Acfield and Barrell hail from Ufford.

#### THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

THE ANNUAL GATHERING of the members of this Association will take place at Norwich, on Monday, September 28th. The service will be held at the church of St. Peter Mancroft, at 12.45; preacher, the Rev. H. Earle Bulwer, Rector of Stanhoe, Norfolk. Dinner at 1.30 in St. Andrew's Hall; the Mayor of Norwich in the chair. After dinner there will be the usual Business Meeting. The secretary would be glad to receive the names of those intending to be present, and the G.E.R. station from which they start, on or before Tuesday, September 22nd.

N. BOLINGBROKE, Hon. Sec.

Bracondale Terrace, Norwich.

## THE HERTFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

ON Monday, September 7th, some members of the St. Albans branch of this Association, paid a visit to the village of Wheathampstead, Herts, for the purpose of ringing the first peal on the new bells. The old bells having been in bad order for some years, efforts were successfully made to restore them, four of the ring of six being recast by Messrs. Warner and Sons, and the whole rehung with new fittings by the late Mr. Mallaby, of Masham, Yorkshire. They were re-opened by the village ringers at a special service on August 13th, when the Ven. Archdeacon Lawrance of St. Albans, delivered a suitable address. On Monday last, the ringers arrived at 6 p.m., being met by the rector, the Rev. Canon Davys, and Mr. W. Batcheler, the leader of the village company of ringers. After inspecting the bells, a 6-score of Doubles was rung by way of trying the bells, which being very satisfactory, a start was at once made for a 720 of Grandsire Minor, which was accomplished in 27½ mins., by the following members of the Ancient Society of College Youths (established 1637). W. Battle, 1; G. W. Cartmel, 2; W. H. L. Buckingham, 3; H. Lewis, 4; A. Godman, sen. 5; N. N. Hills (conductor), 6. Tenor 15 cwt. The above 720 contains thirty-eight bobs and twenty-two singles, and is the composition of Mr. C. Hammant, of Crayford, Kent. After some more touches of Minor and Doubles, in which A. Godman, jun., took part, the ringers adjourned to the rectory, having been kindly invited by the rector and Mrs. Davys to partake of supper, which having been done justice to, a start was made for home, St. Albans being reached about 11 p.m., the party having very much enjoyed themselves, and feeling very much indebted to the rector for granting permission to ring and so kindly entertaining them. The inhabitants of Wheathampstead are to be congratulated upon having such an excellent ring of bells, and it is to be hoped that some change-ringing may be done upon them in course of time by village ringers.

## THE BIRMINGHAM AMALGAMATED SOCIETY.

ON Saturday last, September 5th, a few of the members of this Society paid a visit to Shenstone, a pleasantly situated village about three miles from Lichfield. Journeying from New Street, Birmingham, by the 2.5 p.m. excursion train, reaching Shenstone at 3 o'clock, when after a survey of the village, repaired, through the kindness of the Vicar and churchwardens, to the tower of the parish church, were hung a pretty, light, well-going peal of eight, tenor 13 cwt. The belfry, too, is such a one that is seldom met with. The ringers' comfort is certainly looked after in a manner that does credit to all concerned. There are seats fit to sit on, hat and coat racks, and the walls are free from the whitewasher's brush, with the floor nicely with mats, and the steps to the belfry are also kept swept. It has the aspect of being visited by the church authorities, which in so many cases is so badly neglected by them. The bells having been raised, a start was made for a peal of Grandsire Major, which was successfully accomplished in 3 hrs. 9 mins., an account of which appears in another column. The Shenstone ringers, to make things more rosy, did all they possibly could to make their Birmingham friends' visit a happy one. The Birmingham ringers take this opportunity of thanking the Vicar and churchwardens for the use of their bells, and hope they may have the pleasure of paying such visits, which in all respects was a very pleasant one. Having an hour to wait, it was considered necessary to regale the inner man; and then the party returned, arriving home about 9 o'clock, very pleased with their visit.

## ROCHDALE AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATION.

ON Saturday, September 5th, the local society rang a muffled peal on the occasion of the death of Mrs. J. H. Lancashire, of Deepdish Hill, Rochdale, who was interred on that day in the Rochdale Cemetery. The ringing consisted of 1036 Grandsire Triples, Holt's ten-part, in 36 mins. W. H. Smith, 1; J. T. Lucas, 2; Jno. G. Holt, 3; B. Meadowcroft, 4; Jno. Hoggard, 5; Geo. Hoyle, 6; F. Birtwistle (conductor), 7; Albert Hurst, 8. On Sunday, touches of Grandsire Triples, the bells being half-muffled. On Monday evening, September 7th, a 768 of Kent Treble Bob, in 28 mins. J. Millett, 1; J. T. Lucas, 2; Jno. Hoggard, 3; B. Meadowcroft, 4; Geo. Hoyle, 5; Albert Hurst, 6; F. Birtwistle (conductor), 7; Jack Harrison, 8. Messrs. Millett and Harrison belong to the Heywood society.

## THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

The reports for the past year, 1884-5, are now ready. Report-warrants have been sent to all life members, or those who by payment of this year's subscription in advance are entitled to receive the same without payment of the subscription for the current year. Subscriptions are now due and may be paid to the secretary or president. If the reports are required to be sent by post, postage at the following rates must be forwarded with the subscriptions: one report, 1d., two, 1½d., three, 2d., four or five, 3d., six to ten, 6d., eleven to fifteen, 9d.

## WALTON-ON-THE-HILL, LANCASHIRE.

ON Thursday, August 20th, the ringers and choir of St. Mary's parish church, accompanied by the Rev. T. H. Bee (curate), and Messrs. J. E. Bennett and J. Wright (churchwardens), held their annual picnic 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 several merry touches, also a 180 of Plain Bob Minor. On arrival at Chester, the Cathedral was first visited, and an examination of the ancient structure was very interesting. A walk 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" Temperance 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 popular airs on the handbells. On arriving at Eccleston, the ringers walked to Pulford, accompanied by the Rev. T. H. Bee and Mr. J. E. Bennett, and rang on the bells of the parish church a 720 of Plain Bob Minor in 26 mins. J. Hurst, 1; C. E. Wilson (conductor), 2; T. R. Somerville, 3; T. Rushton, 4; C. J. Rodgers, 5; R. Stockley, 6. Tenor 11 cwt. Subsequently the party returned to Eccleston, where a splendid tea awaited them, which each and everyone enjoyed. It was now time for returning, so a move was made to the ferry, and then homewards, arriving in Liverpool at ten o'clock, and catching the 'bus, the party were all safely landed at the terminus at 10.30, after having spent a most enjoyable day. The ringers wish to thank the Rector of Pulford, and also Mr. Blezard, for kindly allowing them the use of the bells.

## THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

REPORT FOR THE FORTNIGHT ENDING SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 6TH:—On Sunday, August 24th, at St. Peter's, Brighton, by the Brighton branch, with Mr. H. C. Davis, of London, 1006 of Grandsire Triples, in 37 mins. E. Marshal, 1; J. Searle, 2; H. C. Davis, 3; A. Marshall, 4; G. F. Attree, 5; C. Golds, 6; H. Weston, 7; J. Jay, sen., 8. And at the same church, on Sunday, September 6th, for afternoon service, by the Brighton branch, with Mr. J. Shepherd, of Streatham, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, 1260 changes, in 46 mins. E. Marshal, 2; J. Jay, 2; J. Searle, 3; A. Marshall, 4; J. Shepherd, 5; G. F. Attree (conductor), 6; H. Weston, 7; E. Butler, 8. G. F. ATTREE, Hon. Sec.

## THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

THE ANNUAL MEETING of the above will take place on Saturday, September 26th, at the Cathedral, Manchester. There will be a service at 3.30 p.m., when the sermon will be preached by the Rev. Chas. Lowe, M.A., Vicar of Holy Trinity, Bolton. Tea will be provided in the schoolroom at five p.m., tickets 1s. each, business meeting at six p.m., when the officers for the ensuing year will be elected. All those who intend to be present at the tea are requested to send in their names to the secretaries, or to Mr. A. E. Wreaks, 11 Dover Street, Higher Crumpsall, Manchester, (from whom tickets can be obtained) not later than September 19th.

A. E. HOLME, } Hon. Secs.  
J. REDFORD, }

## SUBSCRIPTION LIST FOR THE JOHNSON TESTIMONIAL.

Subscribed by the following members of the St. Martin's Company, Birmingham—	£ s. d.	W. R. Small ... ..	£ s. d.
J. Joynes ... ..	5 0	B. Wittchell ... ..	2 6
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J. Ward ... ..	5 0	J. W. Snowden, Esq. ... ..	1 1 0
J. W. Cartwright ... ..	3 0	H. Avery, Birmingham ... ..	5 0
J. Sanders ... ..	2 6	C. H. Hattersley, Sheffield ...	5 0
F. Banks ... ..	5 0	Albert H. Wreaks, Manchester.	3 0
W. Kent ... ..	5 0	J. Lawton, Tipton ... ..	2 6
H. Bastable ... ..	5 0	Josh Johnson, Birmingham ...	2 6
H. Johnson, jun. ... ..	10 6	M. A. Wood, Bethnal Green, London ... ..	2 6
S. Reeves ... ..	5 0	W. W. Gifford, Salisbury ... ..	3 0
J. Buffery ... ..	3 6	J. Barwell, Birmingham ... ..	5 0
C. Stanbridge ... ..	3 0	F. H. James, St. John's, Deritend, Birmingham ... ..	2 6

The committee earnestly request that donations from ringers and friends interested in this "National Testimonial" be forwarded at an early date to one of the undersigned: A. Thomas, Hon. Secretary, 83, Wheelley's Road, Edgbaston, Birmingham; S. Reeves, Hon. Treasurer, 10, Bull Street, West Bromwich.

FOR SALE.—A set of 50 Handbells, four octaves, chromatic, from C to C. In good condition. Apply to F. LEES, 42, Snow Street, Newcastle-on-Tyne.



## 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 NATIONAL ASSOCIATION.

SIR,—I have read with some surprise the letter of "Nil Desperandum," in your last issue. Allow me to say in reply, that if apathy there is, it does not rest with the Provisional Committee for the formation of a National Association of bellringers, but with those to whom they addressed themselves. The committee, who were duly appointed at the Reading Conference of 1883, met and drew up a draft scheme, of which a copy was sent to the Secretaries of all the known County and Diocesan Associations, with a request that they would lay it before their respective Associations for consideration and emendation. This was what the resolution passed at the Conference pledged us to, and we fully carried out that pledge. But with what result? Several societies made no response at all, by some it was "damned with faint praise," and only a few entertained the proposal with cordiality. Still it was deemed advisable to publish the scheme in "THE BELL NEWS," in hopes that a discussion raised in your columns would guide the Committee to a right conclusion. This we were permitted to do in your number of October 4th, 1884. I scanned with care and expectation each succeeding number of your paper for several weeks, but in vain. "Nil Desperandum" at that time made no sign, not a single letter was elicited on the subject, and after consultation with Captain Troyte, a fellow-member of the committee, we came to the conclusion that the pear was not ripe, and that the matter had better be dropped for a time at least. I believe he wrote a letter to you to that effect, but till within the last week or two no further notice has been taken of the subject. I must therefore demur to your correspondent's statement that "beyond a question of doubt a large portion of the Exercise would hail with delight the formation of such an Association." Should, however, anyone be encouraged by the results of our experience to renew the question at the impending Church Congress at Portsmouth, I shall be happy to give him any assistance or information in my power.

DOLBEN PAUL,

Secretary of Provisional Committee for formation of National Association of Bellringers.

## THE LONDON SOCIETIES.

SIR,—In your issue of September 5th, I notice what is termed the "retort courteous" to the author of "Thumbnailed Sketches." I fail to see what Mr. Muskett can object to, unless he objects to plain truths. That the ringing in London is not up to the standard that it ought to be, is beyond dispute. And why? because the towers are kept closed month after month. There are plenty of young members in London that can ring Stedman Caters and Treble Ten, and would soon learn to ring Cinques and Maximus, if the bells and towers were only opened to them. Mr. Muskett says these sort of letters bear no good result; does he think that the good feeling that he talks about is bred outside the churches where eight or ten young members meet only to be told that they cannot go up because there is not enough to ring Stedman Cinques. If harmony and good fellowship is to be bred, it must be done by throwing open the towers on practice nights, when you will find plenty of young members that are better able but none more willing to learn than

LITTLE JIM.

## A CRITIQUE.

SIR,—It is proposed to collect subscriptions for a memorial to the Rev. H. T. Ellacombe. The memorial will probably take the form of a monument of some kind in the parish of Clyst St. George, of which Mr. Ellacombe was rector since 1850; and it is further desired to carry into effect a work which he had much at heart, the restoration of Exeter cathedral bells. This peal, perhaps the finest in the kingdom, consists of eleven bells, of which the tenor, weighing upwards of 67 cwt., is the heaviest bell rung in peal anywhere. There is a full ring of ten, and an extra fourth bell gives two beautiful peals of six and eight. The bells are all sound, but the framework has not been thoroughly repaired for more than a hundred years, and the work of the ringers under present circumstances is laborious and unsatisfactory. There has been a lively correspondence in the *Devon and Exeter Daily Gazette*, under the heading of Belfry Politics. Twelve years ago, the Guild of Devonshire ringers was founded for the purpose of encouraging the art of change-ringing and promoting belfry reform. It was then stated that scientific ringing had never travelled further west than Bristol. The Guild, of which the Bishop is patron, and a well-known authority on bell-ringing, Mr. C. A. W. Troyte, is President, has made some progress in introducing the practice of regular change-ringing. Still, it appears from their last report, that there are only twelve bands of ringers in union, and it seems unlikely that the Guild will make much way, so long as they refuse to recognise the local custom of ringing "call" changes, and condemn

the matches which take place between rival companies for prizes, as gambling and desecration of the churches. Whether they can afford to modify their principles for the sake of extending their influence is of course another question. A hostile critic of the policy of the Guild, contends that the object which they have in view might be more readily attained by accepting as much as possible of the ringing traditions of the county. "Call" changes, he maintains, if well rang, are not to be despised, and, any how, are an excellent foundation for the higher branches of the art. Competition is the best means available for the promotion of good ringing, and it is not fair to describe contests for trifling money prizes as gambling. Change ringing has always been rather an athletic sport than anything else. It is sufficient to utilise the skill of the ringers for the service of the church without attempting to give an exclusively religious character to an innocent pastime. If clergy and churchwardens will interest themselves in these ringing tournaments, there need be no scandals and no offence. The Secretary of the Guild writes in reply that the ringing matches have never done anything to encourage real change-ringing, and that in past time they have been attended by much that is objectionable to those who regard the belfry as a part of the church. The Guild desires to get rid of the old traditions, and to introduce a new and better system in their place.

C. P.

[We quite agree with the Secretary of the Guild. Perhaps the "hostile critic" would enjoy the spectacle of a contest between street organ-grinders.—Ed.]

## REPLY TO MR. RUSSAM.

SIR,—In your edition of September 5th, I saw our friend Mr. T. Russam did not quite agree with our ringing a peal on handbells without a referee. Well it seems to me a very stupid question to ask, when it was stated beneath the report of the peal, that it was rang in public. If this will not suit our friend, I will give him my opinion of it, or how to look at it. For instance, if you go and start for a peal in the steeple, it is the last thing thought of to have a referee to listen to it. The peal we rung was precisely the same as a peal in the tower, for surely it was quite as open to the public. For several times we had as many as a hundred persons listening, and there were also the Burford ringers, good Grandsire men, some of whom I know heard every lead of the peal. How could there be anything but good ringing in the face of people that understood it, perhaps, as much as I did myself? and I am sure it was a sound peal, which is a great thing to say, not knowing for a moment who was listening to it. I should say myself, if anyone else did or not, that there were a great deal too many referees on the job sometimes, and I am sure most people when they ring a handbell peal like a room to themselves away from everyone, not to first have one party and then another staring at you, so taking one thing with another, I think it was a performance not to be laughed at by any one, but if the above few remarks will not satisfy our friend, the only thing we can do is to invite him to Oxford to come and be referee to the same peal again, as it would be simply trash to make a Long Melford job of it.

Oxford.

J. W. WASHBROOK.

## THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

A DISTRICT MEETING of this Association will be held at Epsom, by the kind permission of the Vicar, on Saturday, September 12th.

There will be a Committee Meeting at 4.30 p.m., to arrange the details of the next Quarterly Meeting.

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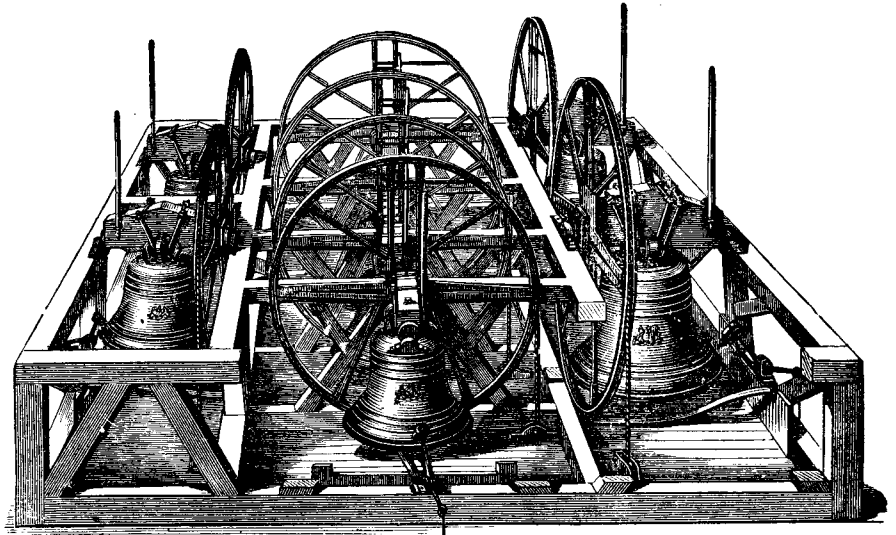
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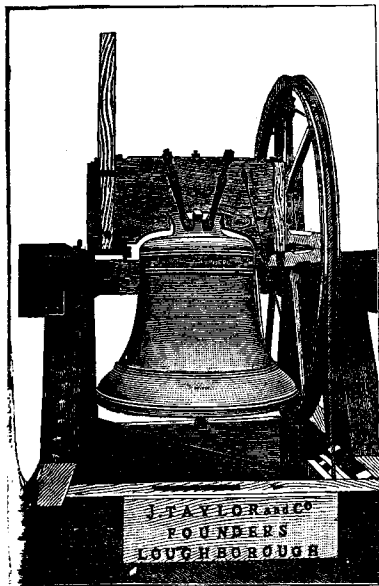
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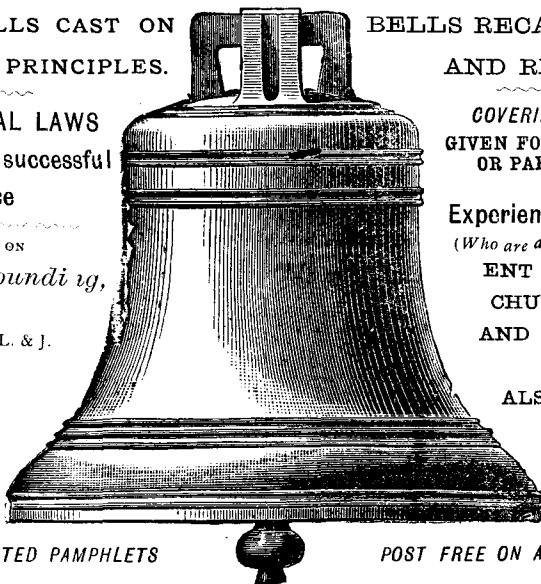
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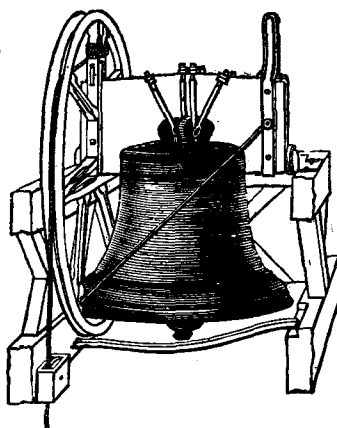
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After everyone had partaken fully of the good things provided, and the cloth had been removed, the Secretary announced that Messrs. Heywood and Redgate had found it impossible to attend, and the sincere regret of those present was expressed at the absence of those gentlemen. The election of Chairman was proceeded with, and Mr. W. D. Smith, of London, was voted to the post.

A vote of thanks to those gentlemen who had borne the expense of the supper, and especially to Mr. A. P. Heywood, for the promise of a peal-board, was then proposed, seconded, and carried unanimously, with musical honours. The thanks of the meeting was also accorded to Messrs. Beeson and Howe, for getting the tower open, and the bells in order, and to Mr. H. C. Woodward, for so ably conducting the peal. These resolutions were suitably responded to, and the opinion is expressed that although Leicester ringers snapped the first peal of Caters out of the hands of their Derby *confreeres*, they will have to look sharp if they mean to get the first peal of Treble Bob Royal, or Stedman Caters.

Mr. H. C. Woodward, in a fitting and neat little speech, proposed "Success to 'THE BELL NEWS,'" stating that it was a paper that deserved the full support of the whole ringing community, in itself, or in any venture which it might make in the interests of change-ringing, such as the Shipway reprint, etc. This was very fluently responded to by the worthy chairman.

The remainder of the evening was spent in handbell ringing, interspersed with a vote of thanks to the Host and Hostess, for the excellent manner in which the supper had been placed on the table, and to Mr. W. D. Smith, who as "O.P.Q.," is so very well-known in these parts, for presiding, everyone being agreed that he had carried out the duties which had devolved upon him as "Leader of the Band," both musical and oratorical, in a most efficient manner.

## KENN, DEVONSHIRE.

This society (all being members of the Devonshire Guild), had their annual outing on Wednesday, September 9th. A most enjoyable trip to Moreton, Chagford, and Drewsteignton had been arranged. On the previous evening several 6-scores of Stedman and Grandsire Doubles were well struck on the parish bells, and everything being arranged for the morning, 7 a.m. saw the party, including the worthy Rector, the Rev. R. Porter, driving through Lord Haldon's grounds, and lovely Devon lanes to Moreton, which was reached by about 10 a.m., stopping only long enough to ring a few six-scores on the ring of six, tenor about 18 cwt., and not in good order. Chagford was reached at noon; here some very fair six-scores were rung on the back six, tenor about 19 cwt. Although a local bell-hanger resides here, these bells do not go at all well. It is worthy of note that this bell-hanger hangs his bells especially to suit round-ringers, as he says there is more round than half-pull ringing in Devon. No doubt he will be recommended by the county Guild whenever a case of bell hanging comes before them. After ringing, the party sat down to a good dinner, and by the rapid disappearance of sirloin of beef and plum pudding, fresh air and ringing evidently produce keen appetites. Leaving Chagford at 4 p.m., Drewsteignton was reached an hour later. Here is a fine ring of six, tenor 28 cwt., but they want re-hanging, the cage being the only part of the gear that is good; nevertheless, the Kenn ringers, with their usual pluck, arranged to strike some very good 6-scores on them, but at the cost of blistered fingers. Afterwards a well spread tea was done justice to, and then a start was made for home, arriving at 9.30, quite safe, and without any accident. The party besides the rector consisted of A. Truman, W. Thorne, H. Skinner, W. Woolacott, E. Truman, G. Truman, T. Cleal (a young pupil at ringing), a visitor, and F. Shepherd (Exeter), their former instructor. An enjoyable day was spent; thanks to the kindness and liberality of the rector, whose equal in this respect at least is very rarely found.

**SUDDEN DEATH OF AN OLD RINGER.**—We regret to record the death of Mr. William Young, steeplekeeper, and for many years a member of the St. Thomas's company, Salisbury. On Saturday, September 12th, deceased went up to the belfry to toll the usual five o'clock prayer bell, and on coming down he went home and sat down in a chair, and died. A muffled peal was rung at St. Thomas's, on the day of the funeral (Wednesday). Deceased was 62 years of age.

WORCESTER AND ADJOINING DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.  
DEATH OF THE TREASURER.

It is with sincere regret that we have to record the death of our much respected friend, the late Mr. W. Duffill, who died on Friday, the 4th inst., at St. John's Street, Bromsgrove, from blood poisoning, after an illness of brief duration. Deceased was the oldest ringer in the town, and a member of a celebrated ringing family, which one may see by paying a visit to the tower of the church of St. John the Baptist, as his name and that of his ancestors figure conspicuously in many peals of various methods. He was in himself a tower of strength to the cause of change-ringing, and had handled the ropes from the age of twelve or thirteen, soon becoming proficient in the art and science of change-ringing, of which he had been fond all through his life. It is owing to his instrumentality that the present Bromsgrove band (which is a good one), have so far succeeded in the various methods of which they are master at the present time. It was also through him that the above Association came into existence, and for which he has worked heart and soul since its commencement. His great work was one of untiring zeal for the spread of change-ringing, for he neither spared time nor expense in going to different places, many miles away from home, to instruct those who were ignorant of the art. The local company, of which he was captain, and also the Association of which he was treasurer, have lost a long tried and valuable friend, and one of the best things that can be done, to be a lasting memorial to his memory, both by the company and the Association, is to endeavour to build up, and learn others the art and science which he has handed down to them. The Association not only loses its treasurer, but one who was looked up to as its head, and whose advice was always sought for on matters connected with it. In the latter part of last year, a peal was rang by his brother ringers to commemorate his fiftieth birthday, and a dinner held by them to celebrate the occasion, at which Canon Paget (the then Vicar), presided.

The funeral took place on Tuesday afternoon, and it is estimated that nearly two thousand people assembled in the cemetery belonging to the church, to witness the ceremony. The coffin was borne shoulder high from his residence to the church and grave, and on either side the coffin walked the members of the past fire brigade, over which deceased was for many years captain, and also the present fire brigade in full uniform. Following were the members of the family, his late brother-ringers, and several members of the Association, and also the members of the Loyal British Queen Lodge of Oddfellows, of which he was senior trustee, and many other friends. The Rev. A. Seymour, Vicar, conducted the funeral service at the parish church, which was well attended, and when the procession was leaving the church, Mr. Tirbutt, the organist, played the "Dead March in *Saul*." After the portion of the service at the grave, five of his late brother-ringers rang a course of Caters upon the handbells over the grave. After returning to the house, the ringers adjourned to a room at the "Golden Lion," where the loss of the deceased was spoken of, and a resolution proposed by Mr. S. Spittle (Master), seconded by Mr. G. Hayward, and supported by Messrs. Smith and Owen (secretaries), and several others, that a letter of condolence be forwarded to the widow and family of the deceased, expressing their deep sympathy with them in their irreparable loss they have sustained. The deceased was a very genial man, and one whom any brother-ringer could make himself at home with. His sudden departure from among us should be to us a lesson, and a warning to be prepared to meet him (not as we did in the tower below), but in the tower above, where there will be no change-course, but one true and complete peal.

On Saturday, the 5th inst., the ringers met at the parish church, and rang 1008 of Grandsire Triples, conducted by E. Crump. On Sunday, two touches of Grandsire Caters, containing 810 and 395 changes respectively, conducted by G. Hayward. On Monday, two 504's of Grandsire Caters, conducted by G. Morris. The above was rung with the bells half-muffled, as a tribute of respect to the late Mr. W. Duffill, and on Tuesday the bells were rang at intervals during the day with the bells muffled on both sides. The ringers were Messrs E. Crump, G. Hayward, W. Rea, O. James, G. Brown, G. Morris, J. Parry, W. Broomfield, R. Broomfield, T. Albutt, G. Hughes (Tipton), G. Moore (Hanbury).

And on Sunday morning, September 13th, for divine service, 1116 of Grandsire Caters, also with the bells deeply muffled. O. James, 1; R. Broomfield, 2; T. Albutt, 3; J. Hinton (Worcester), 4; E. Crump, 5; G. Hayward (conductor), 6; W. Rea, 7; G. Bourne, 8; G. Morris, 9; J. Parry, 10. At Worcester, muffled touches were also rung at All Saints', St. Helen's, and St. John's churches.

## SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.

The next Meeting will be held at Harborne, on Saturday, September 26th. Members to assemble at the parish church at 2.30 p.m. Members of committee are requested to send the names of all who will attend, as soon as possible, to the Rev. J. R. Keble, Perry Barr Vicarage, Birmingham.

## WALTON-ON-THE-HILL, LANCASHIRE.

ON Saturday afternoon, September 12th, the Walton handbell ringers held their first annual picnic at Eastham, Cheshire. The party proceeded by boat from Liverpool to Rock Ferry, and then walked to Eastham, a distance of about four miles. During the journey the ringers made a stop, and performed on the handbells the following tunes: "Carrie Lee," "Ding Dong," "Belle Mahone's Reply," and "When there's love at Home." On arriving at Eastham, tea was provided close to the ferry, to which ample justice was done. Tea being over, the handbells were again brought into requisition, when a selection of various airs, popular and sacred, were played, and judging from the applause of the visitors that were there, was highly appreciated. The party left Eastham by the 7.30 boat, arriving in Liverpool at 8.15, and catching the 8.20 tram-car, were safely landed at the terminus at 9 o'clock, having spent a most enjoyable day. The members present were: C. E. Wilson (conductor), W. S. Miller, J. Nightingale, W. D. Rodgers, V. O. Barnes, F. Roberts, and G. P. Law. The usual Friday evening rehearsal of September 25th will not take place, owing to an engagement.

## A CUMBERLAND'S VISIT TO LONDON.

ON Saturday, August 29th, I paid a visit to my ringing *confreres* in London, by whom I was courteously received, and more especially by Mr. George Newson, the celebrated conductor. A peal of Treble Bob Major was arranged at Christ Church, Southgate, which was unfortunately lost after ringing 2 hrs. and 14 mins., through the third rope missing wheel. An account of this appeared in due course in "BELL NEWS." This peal of bells is pronounced by nearly all ringers as an excellent peal, tenor 24 cwt. On Sunday morning, at Hampstead with the local company, I started for a 503 of Grandsire Caters, but the conductor was forced to call stand when within three leads of the end, as it was time for the service to commence. S. Clarke, 1; G. Hammond, 2; J. Pain, 3; J. Coomb, 4; H. Tyler, 5; C. Deal, 6; W. Prior, 7; N. Alderman, 8; G. Newson (conductor), 9; W. Arscott, 10. Also in the evening, at the same church, a 504 of Grandsire Triples. S. Clarke, 1; J. Coomb, 2; G. Hammond, 3; C. Deal, 4; W. Prior, 5; H. Tyler, 6; G. Newson (conductor), 7; W. Arscott, 8. On Tuesday evening I went again to Hampstead church, and rang a 503 of Grandsire Caters. S. Clarke, 1; G. Hammond, 2; B. Foskett, 3; T. Titchener, 4; D. W. Griggs, 5; C. Deal, 6; E. Chapman, 7; W. Hutt, 8; G. Newson (conductor), 9; W. Arscott, 10. On Friday evening, I visited St. Margaret's, Westminster, and rang the 2nd in a 377 of Grandsire Caters. Saturday evening again found a band of ringers at Southgate to attempt a 5024 of Kent Treble Bob, but which was lost after ringing 2 hrs. 22 mins. E. Chapman, 1; G. Hammond, 2; B. Foskett, 3; A. C. Fussell, 4; W. H. Fussell, 5; A. Jacobs, 6; G. Harvey, 7; G. Newson (conductor), 8. This peal was composed by N. J. Pittow. The Brothers Fussell hail from Slough. This attempt concluded a most interesting and enjoyable ringing tour, and after bidding my brother ringers farewell, I was soon on my homeward journey. I wish to thank through the medium of "THE BELL NEWS," all those ringers who so kindly met me at Southgate, not in any way omitting Mr. Newson, and also the Hampstead and St. Margaret's companies. G. HAMMOND.

Long Melford, Suffolk.

## WORCESTER AND ADJOINING DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

A COMMITTEE MEETING of the above will be held at All Saints school-room, Worcester, to-day (Saturday), at 4 o'clock, when the delegates of each company in union are earnestly invited to attend, as business of great importance (left from the Annual Meeting) must be transacted, and also a treasurer appointed, *pro tem.*, in the place of the late Mr. W. Duffill.

NEW SONG, "THE LAST FAREWELL."—London: Weekes & Co., 14, Hanover Street, W.—We have received from Messrs. Weekes & Co., a copy of this song for notice, and although we do not as a rule pretend to cater for the musical taste of our readers, we are inclined in this instance to make an exception. Our reason for so doing is that the song in question bears the names of two ringers who are not altogether unknown to the Exercise, the music having been composed by Mr. E. E. Vinen, and the words written by Mr. E. F. Strange. The song, which strikes us as being a very good one, is suitable for any soprano voice of ordinary compass, ranging as it does from D to G; and, while the words are somewhat above the average of the modern ballad, the air is simple and taking, and the accompaniment extremely good. On the whole we can conscientiously recommend it to our subscribers. It can be obtained from any music-seller, or will be sent post free on receipt of Postal Order for 2s. addressed to Mr. E. F. Strange, 34, Park Walk, Fulham Road, S.W.

## THE EAST LINCOLNSHIRE ASSOCIATION—ALL SAINTS, FRISKNEY.

THE bells of the above church have, through the exertions of the Rev. H. J. Cheales, Vicar of Friskney, and President of the above Association, been augmented to six by the addition of a new treble, supplied by the well-known firm of Messrs. Mears and Stainbank, Whitechapel, and given by F. H. Booth, Esq., a relative of the respected vicar, the work of rehanging has been entrusted to Mr. Timothy Rogers, of Boston, who has supplied a new iron frame and fittings, in place of an old oak one. The present five bells were cast by Henry Penn, of Peterboro', in the year 1619, tenor about 14 cwt. On Saturday, September 12th, six members of the above Association paid a visit, and expressed themselves highly satisfied in the way the work has been done, and also with the go of the bells; several touches of Bob Minor were rung, including a 300. T. Rogers, 1; Rev. H. J. Cheales, 2; E. Parker, 3; J. Mawer, 4; G. F. Smith, 5; E. Mason, 6. Also another 360. G. Clarke, 1; J. M. Rylatt, 2; E. Parker, 3; J. Mawer, 4; G. F. Smith, 5; E. Mason (conductor), 6. The ringers sat down to a knife and fork tea provided at "The Anchor" Inn.

## THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

THE ANNUAL MEETING of the above will take place on Saturday, September 26th, at the Cathedral, Manchester. There will be a service at 3.30 p.m., when the sermon will be preached by the Rev. Chas. Lowe, M.A., Vicar of Holy Trinity, Bolton. Tea will be provided in the schoolroom at five p.m., tickets 1s. each, business meeting at six p.m., when the officers for the ensuing year will be elected. All those who intend to be present at the tea are requested to send in their names to the secretaries, or to Mr. A. E. Wrecks, 11 Dover Street, Higher Crumpsall, Manchester, (from whom tickets can be obtained) not later than September 19th.

The towers of the Cathedral, St. John's, and the Town Hall, will be open for ringing after the meeting.

A. E. HOLME, } Hon. Secs.  
J. REDFORD, }

## THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

THE ANNUAL GATHERING of the members of this Association will take place at Norwich, on Monday, September 28th. The service will be held at the church of St. Peter Mancroft, at 12.45; preacher, the Rev. H. Earle Bulwer, Rector of Stanhoe, Norfolk. Dinner at 1.30 in St. Andrew's Hall; the Mayor of Norwich in the chair. After dinner there will be the usual Business Meeting. The secretary would be glad to receive the names of those intending to be present, and the G.E.R. station from which they start, on or before Tuesday, September 22nd. N. BOLINGBROKE, Hon. Sec.

Bracondale Terrace, Norwich.

## THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

ON Saturday, September 12th, the above Association held its District meeting, at Epsom, by the kind permission of the Vicar. The meeting was well attended, there being ringers present from Ashted, Beddington, Benhilton, Croydon, Leatherhead, Merton, Mitcham and Streatham, as well as the local party. The ringing began about 4.30 and was kept up until 9 o'clock. The following methods were practised:—Treble Bob and Grandsire Major: Stedman, Grandsire, Bob and Union Triples. A. B. CARPENTER, Hon. Sec.

## SUBSCRIPTION LIST FOR THE JOHNSON TESTIMONIAL.

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The committee earnestly request that donations from ringers and friends interested in this "National Testimonial" be forwarded at an early date to one of the undersigned: A. Thomas, Hon. Secretary, 83, Wheeley's Road, Edgbaston, Birmingham; S. Reeves, Hon. Treasurer, 10, Bull Street, West Bromwich.



## BELLS AND BELL-RINGING IN LANCASHIRE.

And I have been "where bells have knoll'd to Church."  
 Dear bells, how sweet the sound of village bells  
 When on the undulating air they swim,  
 Now loud as welcomes, faint, now, as farewells,  
 And trembling all about the breezy bells,  
 As fluttered by the wings of Cherubim.

*Ode to Rae Wilson.—Hood.*

Dr. Gregory, writing on the sanitary influence of bell-ringing and its melodies, says:—"I doubt if there be any physical exercise equal to bell-ringing for keeping the body in health; if there be, there are certainly not many. The mental effort to ring in order, and the harmony of the bell sounds, produce a beneficial effect both on the mind and body. To those who have an ear for music, the sound of bells has a cheerfully soothing effect, sometimes diverting thoughts from needless cares and anxieties to calm and tender moods and pleasant remembrances." Other eminent medical men in the past have written on this subject, and the general opinion seems to be that the mental and bodily exercise of change-ringing is in the highest degree conducive to cheerfulness, health, and longevity. Numerous instances could be quoted in which noted ringers have lived to a very advanced age, and continued in the enjoyable practice of their art to the last.

In the earlier years of this century (to give one instance), James Ogden, of Ashton-under-Lyne, a name still dear to Lancashire change-ringers, rang at the age of sixty-seven years in a peal of 5000 changes. He rang the tenor bell of 28 cwt., which bell he had rung for more than fifty years. He died at a ripe old age, and was carried to his grave by his fellow-ringers, who afterwards rang in his honour a date touch muffled. A more striking instance, however, of longevity in bell-ringers, is that of the venerable Jonathan Pavier, in whose honour a peal of Kent Treble Bob Major was rung at St. Matthew's Bethnal Green, on June 1st, 1878, he having then reached his 100th birthday. More recently there is the case of the Rev. H. T. Ellacombe, M.A., the well-known and respected Rector of Clyst St. George, in Devonshire, who has just died at the great age of ninety-five. He was at once the father of the University of Oxford, the best authority on bells, and an ardent bell-ringer almost to the last. In memory of him, many muffled peals have been rung in the west of England and in London, and proposals for a proper recognition of his services have been heard of in the district of which Manchester is the centre.

From an early date in the history of change-ringing, and down to the time when the Rudhalls of Gloucester were sending their rings of six and eight bells all over this part of England, Lancashire appears to have been well in front, and it is notorious that at the present day some of the best ringers of the day are literally to be heard of in the immediate neighbourhood of Manchester. Of the particular uses of church bells in Lancashire, which survive to the present day, may be cited the ringing of what is known as the sermon bell, usually rung at eight or nine o'clock on Sunday morning, in some places at both eight and nine o'clock. This custom obtains all over the country, and is a survival from pre-Reformation times of what was called canonical hours. Then there is the curfew, or last Angelus, which is still rung in many old parish churches in Lancashire at eight o'clock at night in the winter months. The ringing of a bell after Sunday morning service is also still kept up in some places. The custom of tolling for the dead is common to all parts of England, but that of some of the older parishes in this part of the country where there is a ring of bells, is on the occasion of a death to give two or three strokes on each bell in succession, according to the sex of the departed person, thrice repeated, from the treble to the tenor. It is said by North, that the old proverb "nine tailors make a man," arises from the thrice three tolls or "tellers" on the bells marking the death to be that of a man.

The practice of change-ringing for prizes, known formerly as prize-ringing, has probably now died out altogether, as it is everywhere very properly discouraged by both the clergy and churchwardens. Early in this century, however, and down to some thirty or forty years ago, this custom was very common, and many people can still recall the contests which then took place in some of the church towers which contained a ring of eight or even six bells. Foremost amongst these were Ashton, Bolton, Bury, Flixton, Liverpool, Manchester, Oldham, Preston, &c. It is noteworthy that Lancashire, together with some of the adjoining counties, differs from the rest of England in the practice of ringing for divine service on Sundays. In the southern and midland counties the custom of chiming or clapping the bells for service is all but universal. At Flixton, at the present day, the tower being unsafe, the bells cannot be rung; they are therefore chimed by hitching the ropes to the clappers, to the great danger of cracking the bells. This is to be deplored, as Rudhall's eight bells at St. Michael's, Flixton, are amongst the finest in the county.

On the custom of ringing for Divine Service, a Cantab. M.A., writing in the *Ecclesiologist* on "How matters are conducted in the northern counties," says:—"Many, even clergymen, are not aware of the generic distinction between chiming and ringing; but on this distinction turns

the animus of my present caution. The difference may be described by saying that in both chiming and ringing the motion of the bell is oscillatory; but whilst in chiming the arc of oscillation is small, in ringing it is 360 degrees. I, for my part, would quite as soon sanction football or cricket in the churchyard on Sunday, as ringing properly so called. Ringing is an intellectual and scientific enjoyment as much as chess or violin playing, and we know what view we should take of Sunday chess-players or Sunday concerts. Let me then, implore every clergyman to exercise his authority to put an extinguisher on all Sunday ringing." The poor ringers upon whom this writer is severe, though at the same time he is a little afraid of them, are not even to be allowed "intellectual or scientific enjoyment" on the Sunday, but are to be content with chiming for service, and on no account to carry the "arc of oscillation" to anything approaching 360 degrees. However, the Lancashire Association of change-ringers appear to have found out a more excellent way; with them it seems possible, according to their second rule, "to ring on the Lord's day as a special religious act." And certainly it is difficult to understand why it may not be as much so as playing upon the organ or singing in the choir. Right or wrong, the practice of ringing for service is undoubtedly old in the north of England, and that of chiming, tolling, or "knolling" (as in the line of Shakespeare above quoted by Hood) is certainly old in the south and Midlands.

While mentioning Shakspeare and church bells, it may be recorded here that the poets often describe the sound of bells as a "roar." On Henry Oldfield's (a Nottingham founder) tenor bells, the following couplet is often found—

My Roaringe sounde doth warning give  
 That men cannot heare always lye.

In Milton's "L'Allegro," speaking of the curfew, which was always rung up, he says—

Heard o'er some wide-watered shore,  
 Swinging slow with sullen roar.

And Eliza Cook, speaking of Christmas, says—

He comes with roar of city bells.

Other examples could be given where the older English poets so describe the sound of bells, but the above may suffice.

Of bell rarities, Lancashire, though not nearly so highly favoured as to fine churches or rings of bells as some other counties, has yet a goodly number of old and curious bells. First, there is the oldest known dated bell (1206) at Cloughton, near Lancaster, described in the note-book, vol. iv. There is also a very fine pre-Reformation bell, lying on the floor of the curious old tower of Bradshaw Chapel, near Bolton. It is quite perfect, and should be re-hung; the inscription on this bell, in a kind of Gothic Roman letter, is "Ave Maria Gracia Plena." There is a sort of tradition that this bell came from one of the dismantled Lancashire abbeys. Then there is the handsomely ornamented and fine-toned tenor bell at Ormskirk, which is said to have come from Burscough Priory. The list of interesting single bells in this county cannot be exhausted here, and it must suffice to mention the Sanctus bell of St. Mary's Church, Lancaster, now doing duty at a mill in the town; the bell at Turton Tower (cracked), and the curious old Corn Market bell by Rudhall, still to be seen hanging in the front of the Dog and Partridge, Fennel Street, Manchester. It is dated 1735. Of ringing peals, the county palatine has two rings of twelve bells, one at Liverpool, and the other at Oldham; three at least of ten bells, viz., at Ashton-under-Lyne, Manchester Cathedral, and Manchester Town Hall; and some very fine rings of six and eight bells by Rudhall, Lester and Pack, Mears, &c. In addition to these there is the Town Hall clock bell, weighing 8 tons 2 cwt.; it is by far the best clock bell in England, and the largest if we except Big Ben, which is, however, cracked and imperfect.

We will close this article with a recollection of a sad accident which occurred at St. Nicholas' Church, Liverpool, seventy-five years ago last February. While the ringers were engaged in ringing for morning service, a stone fell upon the fifth bell and stopt it in its course. The men had thus sufficient warning of what was to follow, and the belfry being on the ground floor they easily escaped; but the next moment the whole spire and the greater part of the tower fell with a crash upon the school children who were entering the church, and twenty-three persons were killed outright, sixteen of whom were girls under twelve years of age.—*Manchester Guardian*.

## NEW CLOCK AT WINSLOW, BUCKINGHAMSHIRE.

A very large new Church clock has been erected at Winslow, Buckinghamshire. It chimes the Cambridge quarters, strikes on a 20 cwt. bell, and shews time on three dials, each six feet across. It is also fitted with special machinery for playing a tune every three hours. It has a gravity escapement, and a 2 cwt. pendulum compensated for changes in the temperature. The whole has been carried out by the celebrated firm of John Smith and Sons, Midland Clock Works, Derby, who have also just erected a large stable clock at Ormerod House, near Burnley, and one at Messrs. Allsopp and Sons, Burton-on-Trent, which strikes the hours and has two illuminated dials.

"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.

W. HUGHES.—You must send a copy of the record of the performance.

JNO. FELL.—Yes; but you must send particulars.

JOHN McKELL.—The index is not yet published; but will appear in about a fortnight. For economical reasons we are compelled to work with a small staff, and the work of our office, which is not so little as it may seem, comes heavily upon those who are employed therein. Friends who visit us sometimes leave astonished at the quantity of work caused in the production of this paper alone.

S. MARSH.—You can get the numbers by ordering of your local bookseller. There are eleven numbers issued up to the present time.

J. W. R.—There are rules therein for bringing nearly every method round. The rule for the particular method you allude to is very plain and exhaustive. 2. We only want our efforts to be appreciated.

C. W. CLARKE.—At the first opportunity.

## The Bell News & Ringers' Record.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 19, 1885.

THE correspondence appearing in our pages just now relative to the scheme for the formation of a National Association of Ringers, may, it is to be hoped, lead to the resuscitation of the movement. It is just possible that when the question was previously brought before the various ringing Associations, several of these bodies failed to grasp the meaning and intent of the proposed organisation, and thus the suggestions put before them for entertainment were not accurately understood, the matter being in many cases received in silence, and therefore with ultimate rejection. As the idea of a National Association has, since its first abandonment, been allowed more consideration, it is thought that such a movement would now meet with a greater amount of attention than it did before. Members of ringing Associations have here and there been educated upon the question, and it seems more than probable that such a confederacy of ringers as was attempted some while ago to form, could be established if again brought within the region of practical discussion.

Those who are of the same opinion as ourselves on this subject, will receive the offer made in our last week's number by the Rev. DOLBEN PAUL, with feelings of satisfaction. We hope to hear of something being done at the approaching Portsmouth Congress, at any rate the matter may safely be left in the hands of MR. PAUL, to organise and bring to a successful issue. Should the question again take root, it will be a reflection upon the ringing community if it does not receive that consideration which its importance demands. Association members

to whom the phrase "National Association" is new, should enquire for themselves what is really meant by it, so that they can be prepared, when the question is brought before them, to adjudicate upon it. To remain passive when a subject of such importance is being introduced, and then to hold up hands *pro* or *con* according to the mandate or behest of any one who has more lungs than brains, is a game of follow-my-leader which greatly deteriorates the manhood of those who play at it.

### The Provinces.

#### TIVERTON, DEVON.—THE DEVONSHIRE GUILD.

On Wednesday, September 2, 1885, in Three Hours and Seven Minutes,

AT ST. PETER'S CHURCH,

#### A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S TEN-PART. Tenor 28 cwt. in D.

JOHN HOSEGOOD .. .. Treble.	LEWIS MACKENZIE, ESQ. .. 5.
ERNEST BISHOP .. .. 2.	JAMES BABBAGE .. .. 6.
JOHN GRATER, JUN. .. .. 3.	FRANCIS E. DAWE .. .. 7.
EDWIN MUNDAY .. .. 4.	TOM & WILLIAM HARVEY Tenor.

Conducted by FRANCIS EDWARD DAWE.

Great credit is due to those in authority here for the excellent improvements, and state of the belfry in general.

#### EXETER.

#### THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS AND THE DEVONSHIRE GUILD.

On Thursday, September 3, 1885, in Three Hours and Four Minutes,

AT ST. SIDWELL'S CHURCH,

#### A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S 10-PART. Tenor 23 cwt. 3 qrs. 2 lbs. in D.

JAMES MOSS .. .. Treble.	WILLIAM RICHARDSON .. 5.
FRANCIS R. SHEPHERD .. 2.	ALFRED SHEPHERD .. .. 6.
ERNEST BISHOP .. .. 3.	FERRIS SHEPHERD .. .. 7.
FRANCIS E. DAWE .. .. 4.	THOMAS J. LAKE .. .. Tenor.

Conducted by FRANCIS EDWARD DAWE.

#### GLODWICK, OLDHAM, LANCASHIRE.

#### THE UNITED COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION AND THE ST. GEORGE'S SOCIETY, HYDE.

On Saturday, September 12, 1885, in Two Hours and Fifty-four Minutes,

AT ST. MARK'S CHURCH,

#### A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 8½ cwt.

JAMES SHAW .. .. Treble.	JOHN A. FILDES .. .. 5.
ROBERT WOOLLEY .. .. 2.	SAMUEL BRADLEY .. .. 6.
THOMAS BRADLEY .. .. 3.	JAMES S. WILDE .. .. 7.
THOMAS WILDE .. .. 4.	SAMUEL BENNETT .. .. Tenor.

Composed by the late WILLIAM ROYLE, and Conducted by JAMES S. WILDE.

The above peal contains all the 6 7 8's and all the 8 6's.

#### HOLBECK, LEEDS.—THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, September 14, 1885, in Three Hours,

AT ST. MATTHEW'S CHURCH,

#### A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES.

Tenor 16 cwt.

THOMAS HARRISON .. .. Treble.	FRANCIS WOODHEAD .. 5.
R. S. STORY .. .. 2.	JOSHUA WOODHEAD .. 6.
HENRY MOSS .. .. 3.	MATTHEW TOMLINSON .. 7.
WILLIAM STORY .. .. 4.	DAVID YORK .. .. Tenor.

Composed by TOM LOCKWOOD, and Conducted by MATTHEW TOMLINSON.

The composition of this peal will be found in *Rope-Sight*. The Brothers Story hail from Newcastle-on-Tyne.

## MAIDSTONE, KENT.

## Birthday Peal.

On Monday, September 14, 1885, in Three Hours and Fourteen Minutes.

AT ALL SAINTS' CHURCH,

## A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S ORIGINAL. Tenor 31 cwt.

DAVID BETTS .. .. .	Treble.	EDWARD ANDREW .. .. .	5.
REUBEN SIMMONDS* .. .. .	2.	*ALCHIN MOORCRAFT .. .. .	6.
ALFRED H. WOOLLEY .. .. .	3.	*HARRY PEARCE .. .. .	7.
GEORGE PAWLEY .. .. .	4.	GEORGE J. MOORCRAFT .. .. .	Tenor.
		CHARLES RELF .. .. .	

Conducted by ALCHIN MOORCRAFT.

This peal was rung to commemorate the 36th anniversary of the birthday of Mr. R. Simmonds, and his brother ringers wish him many happy returns of the day.  
† First peal. \* College Youths. Mr. Andrew hails from Chatham.

## Date Touches.

## ASSOCIATION FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.

TIPTON (Staffordshire).—On Sunday, September 13th, for Divine Service in the evening, at St. Martin's, a date touch of 1885 changes of Grandsire Triples, containing the tittums and 24 6-7's, in 1 hr. 5 mins. J. Goodman, 1; D. Bruce, 2; S. Bunn, 3; G. Hughes, 4; S. Jesson, 5; J. Fullwood (composer and conductor), 6; R. Schofield, 7; W. Mills, 8. Messrs. Goodman, Bruce, Bunn, Schofield, and Mills hail from Sedgely; the rest from Tipton.

## WORCESTER AND ADJOINING DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

NETHERTON (Worcestershire).—*Muffled Peal*.—On Thursday evening, the 10th inst., five members of the above Association, with the assistance of Mr. W. Micklewright, of Dudley, rang a date touch, 1885 changes, in the following methods, with the bells half-muffled as a mark of respect to the late Mr. W. Duffill, of Bromsgrove: 720 Kent Treble Bob, 720 Plain Bob, and 445 Grandsire Minor, in 1 hr. 12 mins. R. Round, 1; J. Prestidge, 2; J. Townsend, 3; M. J. Robinson, 4; W. Micklewright (conductor), 5; J. Smith, 6. The above touch was attempted on Sunday, the 6th inst., but after ringing nearly 1300 changes, the rope of the fourth bell caught in the pulley under the wheel and brought the bell to a stand.

SHIPLEY (Yorkshire).—On Thursday evening, September 10th, at St. Paul's church, a date touch of Kent Treble Bob Major (consisting of 1885 changes). T. Lilley, 1; G. A. O. Nettleton, 2; W. Wilks, jun. 3; R. Tuke, Esq., 4; B. T. Copley, 5; W. Wilks, senr. (conductor), 6; J. Mountain, 7; J. S. Clark, 8. Time 1 hr. 10 mins. Tenor 15 cwt.

## Miscellaneous.

## THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

WOOLWICH (Kent).—On Sunday, September 13th, after evening service at St. Mary's church, eight members of the above Society, rang a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, 1260 changes, in 43 mins. W. G. Shade, 1; L. Green, 2; S. Joyce, 3; T. Banister, 4; H. J. Shade, 5; E. E. Richards (conductor), 6; W. Prime, 7; H. Bright, 8. This is a five-part composition by H. J. Shade, of Greenwich.

## THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

BEDFORD.—On Tuesday, August 18th, at St. Paul's church, for practice, the first part of Holt's ten-part peal of Grandsire Triples. S. J. Cullip, 1; C. W. Clarke (conductor), 2; M. Warwick, 3; T. Foote, 4; J. Atkins, 5; J. N. Frossell, 6; I. Hills, 7; W. Biggs, 8. Also on Tuesday, August 25th, a touch of 252 of Bob Triples. F. M. Smith, 1; M. Warwick, 2; C. West, 3; T. Foote, 4; S. J. Cullip, 5; C. W. Clarke (conductor), 6; I. Hills, 7; W. Hall, 8. Tenor 28 cwt. in D. And on Thursday, August 27th, at St. Mary's church, for practice, a 720 of Grandsire Minor (thirty-eight bobs and twenty-two singles), in 24 mins. C. W. Clarke (conductor), 1; S. J. Cullip, 2; M. Warwick, 3; I. Hills, 4; W. Hall, 5; T. Foote (first 720 in the method), 6. And on Thursday, September 3rd, a 720 of Oxford Bob Minor (eighteen bobs and two singles). F. Keech, 1; T. Foote (first 720 in the method), 2; I. Hills, 3; M. Warwick (first 720 in the method), 4; W. Hall (first 720 in the method), 5; C. W. Clarke (conductor), 6. Also on Thursday, September 10th, a 720 of Woodbine Treble Bob Minor (nine bobs). I. Hills, 1; S. J. Cullip (first 720 in the method), 2; F. M. Smith, 3; M. Warwick (first 720 in the method), 4; C. W. Clarke (conductor), 5; W. Hall, 6.

BROMHAM (Beds).—*Muffled Peal*.—On Saturday, September 5th, at St. Owen's church, with the bells deeply muffled, a 720 each of Woodbine and Kent Treble Bob Minor, as a mark of respect to the late Rev. H. T. Ellacombe, in 58 mins. C. West, 1; T. Foote, 2; F. M. Smith, 3; I. Hills, 4; C. W. Clarke (conductor), 5; J. N. Frossell, 6. First 720 of Woodbine Treble Bob by T. Foote.

## THE BIRMINGHAM AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATION.

SELBY OAK (Worcestershire).—On Tuesday, September 8th, six members of the above Association rang at St. Mary's Church, for practice, a 720 of Grandsire Minor. G. Hale, 1; E. Bush, 2; H. Smith, 3; E. Boylin, 4; E. Bryant, 5; J. Nix (conductor), 6.

## DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

STAINDROP.—On Saturday evening, September 12th, at St. Mary's church, a 720 of Bob Minor, in 29 mins. \*J. G. Pratt, 1; J. Cleminson, 2; W. H. Johnson, 3; D. Shipp (conductor), 4; \*F. Charlton, 5; J. Brown, 6. Also 300 in the same method. W. Mc Lean, 1; J. Cleminson, 2; A. J. B. Waldron, 3; F. W. Castree, 4; D. Shipp (conductor), 5; J. Brown, 6. Pratt, Cleminson, Charlton, Waldron, and Castree, were visitors from South Church, Bishop Auckland, who, after the ringing, were kindly entertained to supper by the conductor, Mr. D. Shipp. \*First 720 in the method.

## THE ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

SUDBURY (Suffolk).—On Saturday evening, at St. Gregory's church, the following members of the above Association rang the first half of Holt's 10-part peal of Grandsire Triples, in 1 hr. 38 mins. \*F. Tolladay, 1; C. Sillitoe, 2; \*G. S. Browne, 3; \*M. Silvester, 4; W. Howell, 5; H. Harper, 6; A. Scott, 7; \*H. Brackett, 8. \*Longest touch in the method. Tenor 16 cwt. in F.

## THE HERTFORD COLLEGE YOUTHS.

HERTFORD.—On Saturday, September 12th, at St. Andrew's church, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples (1260 changes) in 45 mins. Henry J. Tucker, 1; William L. Randall, 2; James Staples, 3; Henry Phillips, 4; William A. Alps, 5; Stephen Knight, 6; Herbert Baker (conductor), 7; Frederick George, 8. Tenor 16 cwt.

## THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

BIRCHINGTON (Kent).—On Saturday, September 12th, eight members of this Association, also members of the Quex Park band, attempted a peal of Grandsire Triples (Taylor's Bob-and-Single variation), at the Waterloo Tower, but after ringing 2700 changes, in 1 hr. 40 mins., the peal came to grief. C. Willshire, 1; L. Willshire, 2; A. Sayer, 3; T. B. Reed, jun., 4; T. B. Reed, 5; P. A. Reed (conductor), 6; G. Willshire, 7; S. Fulcher, 8.

ALDINGTON (Kent).—*Muffled Peal*.—On Thursday evening, September 3rd, at St. Martin's church, a 720 of Bob Minor (eight bobs and ten singles), in 27 mins., with the bells half-muffled as a last mark of respect to John Tapley, of Raune, Wisconsin, U.S.A., who died at Folkestone, August 22nd, aged 61 years, and the Rev. H. T. Ellacombe, late Rector of Clyst St. George, Devon. Charles Slingsby, 1; Edward Hyder, 2; William Post, jun., 3; Philip Hodgkin, 4; William Hyder (conductor), 5; William Post, sen., 6. Tenor 14 cwt. in G.

LYMINGE (Kent).—On Sunday, September 6th, six members of the Aldington branch visited this place, and rung for Divine Service in the afternoon at SS. Mary and Eadburgh's church, a 720 of Bob Minor, with thirty singles, in 28 mins. P. Hodgkin, 1; D. Hodgkin, 2; F. Wanstall, 3; Thomas Hooker (Hastingleigh), 4; W. Hyder (conductor), 5; W. Post, sen., 6. And after service, a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob Minor (fifteen bobs), in 29 mins., standing as before. And a 720 of Bob Minor (eighteen bobs and two singles), in 29 mins. James Prebble (Lyminge), 1; Richard Andrews (Lyminge), 2; Philip Hodgkin (Aldington), 3; Fred Wanstall (Aldington), 4; James Andrews (Lyminge; conductor), 5; Albert Tanton (Lyminge), 6. This is the first 720 the conductor has called. The above was rung to commemorate the 31st birthday of Albert Tanton (sexton) of Lyminge, his brother ringers wishing him many happy returns of the day. Tenor 18½ cwt. in F.

## THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

MELBOURNE (Derbyshire).—On Monday, September 14th, the local society rang 1440 changes of Bob Doubles, with the bells half-muffled as a token of respect to the memory of the late Mr. Thos. Horsley, son of Thos. Horsley, Esq., of Kings Newton, near Derby. G. A. Fish, 1; J. Vickers, 2; G. G. Tunnicliffe, 3; F. W. Cook, 4; T. Hollingworth (conductor), 5; T. Clarke, 6.

## THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

ABINGDON (Berks).—On Saturday, September 12th, 1885, at St.

Nicholas' church, the following members of the above Guild rang a 720 of Bob Minor, in 25 mins. A. Barratt, 1; T. Short, 2; J. Higg, 3; J. Brown, 4; H. Sheard (conductor), 5; H. Holifield, 6.

#### THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

ROMFORD.—*Handbell Ringing*.—This branch met for their winter handbell practice, on Monday evening, September 14th, and rang two 720s of Bob Minor, viz.: 1st, twenty-five bobs and ten singles; 2nd, twenty bobs and ten singles. J. Keeble, 1; W. Nash, 2; A. J. Perkins, 3-4; B. Keeble, 5-6. Also a course of Oxford Treble Bob.

#### THE WANSTED AMALGAMATED SOCIETY.

LOUGHTON (Essex).—On Thursday, September 10th, at St. John's church, the following members attempted a peal of Grandsire Triples Holt's ten-part, but after ringing six parts, 3000 changes, in 2 hrs. and 3 mins., the bells had to be called round, on account of the 7th and tenor going badly. W. Smith, 1; J. Priest, 2; G. Akers, 3; W. Lebbon, 4; J. Nunn, 5; E. Richards, 6; A. H. Gardom (conductor), 7; W. Truss and J. King, 8. Our correspondent adds: "These bells, I hope, will shortly be in a better condition for ringing peals."

#### STOKE-ON-TRENT ARCHIDIACONAL ASSOCIATION.

NORTON.—On Tuesday, September 8th, 720 of Stedman's Slow Course, in 27½ mins. W. Baddeley, 1; E. Glover, 2; J. Morton, 3; J. Wood, 4; J. W. Brough, 5; G. Walker (conductor), 6. And on Sunday, September 13th, a 720 of Oxford Bob Minor, in 27 mins. W. Baddeley, 1; E. Glover, 2; G. Walker, 3; J. Wood, 4; J. Baddeley (conductor), 5; J. W. Brough, 6.

#### THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

GARSTON (Lancashire).—On Friday, September 11th, at St. Michael's church, it being Harvest Festival, the local company rang after service a 360 of Grandsire Minor, in 15 mins., with the tenor covering. S. Gough, 1; S. Carter, 2; T. Morris, 3; W. Hughes (conductor), 4; J. Allan, 5; F. Turner, 6; P. Smith, 7. And on Sunday, September 13th, a touch of Grandsire Triples. S. Gough, 1; P. Barton, 2; J. Bacall, 3; J. Alexander, 4; W. Hughes, 5; F. Turner, 6; S. Atken, 7; J. Mills, 8. On Monday, September 13th, after service, a 720 of Grandsire Minor, in 26½ mins. S. Gough, 1; S. Carter, 2; W. Turner, 3; W. Hughes, 4; J. Allan, 5; F. Turner (conductor), 6. On Monday, September 14th, a mixed company rang for service, a 360 of Grandsire Minor, in 12 mins. S. Gough, 1; W. Hughes (conductor), 2; J. Allan, 3; J. Alexander, 4; W. Booth (Liverpool), 5; F. Turner, 6. Tenor 12½ cwt.

#### ASSOCIATION FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.

TIPTON (Staffordshire).—On Saturday, September 5th, at St. Martin's church, eight members of the above Association attempted a peal of Grandsire Major, 10,368 changes, but after ringing 4300 changes, in 2 hrs. 30 mins., it came to grief, owing to a shift-course. J. Jones, 1; B. Dalton, 2; W. R. Small, 3; W. Pardoe, 4; T. Horton, 5; James Jones, 6; W. Elesmore, 7; J. Fullwood (conductor), 8. The peal is composed by John Carter, of Birmingham, and contains the 120 course-ends, with the tenors together throughout. Another attempt will be made on Saturday, October 3rd, at 2.30 p.m. Messrs. James Jones and Dalton, hail from Tettenhall; Horton, Ellsmore, and Small from West Bromwich; Fullwood, J. Jones and Pardoe from Tipton.

BANGOR (Flintshire, North Wales).—On Friday, September 11th, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor, in 24 mins. Alfred Lea, 1; J. Williams, 2; John Ellis, 3; T. Newell, 4; Edw. Reyland, 5; Francis E. Dawe (conductor), 6. Tenor about 9 cwt. This is the first 720 of Treble Bob ever rung on these bells, which were hung about the middle of the last century. F. E. Dawe hails from London, the rest are from Wrexham.

BATLEY CARR (Yorkshire).—On Sunday morning, September 6th, for service, a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob, in 26 mins. John W. Simon, 1; John Blackburn, 2; Harry Mitchell, 3; Jas. A. Idle, 4; Squire Mitchell (conductor), 5; Geo. H. Simon, 6.

BATH (Somersetshire).—On Sunday, September 6th, at St. Andrew's church, for evening service, 741 Grandsire Triples. G. Kingman (Bath), 1; J. Norton (Bristol), 2; H. Wooton (Twerton), 3; J. Hinton (conductor; Bristol), 4; J. Smith (Twerton), 5; G. Townsend (Bristol), 6; H. Porch (Bristol), 7; H. Wyburn (Bath), 8. Also at St. Mary's, Bathwick, after service, touches of Grandsire Minor and Stedman Doubles, with Messrs Cox and Weeks, of Bath.

BRAINTREE (Essex).—On Saturday, September 12th, was rung a 720 of Cambridge Surprise. F. Bumpstead, 1; F. Calthorpe, 2; S. Hammond, 3; H. E. Hammond, 4; F. Rudkin, 5; A. Hucksion, 6. This 720 was rung without a bob being called or any sign given at any

lead throughout the peal, and was also rung in honour of Mr. A. Hucksion's 57th birthday. On Monday, September 14th, to oblige Mr. A. A. Pryke, who was on a visit to this town, a 720 of Bob Minor. F. Calthorpe, 1; A. A. Pryke, 2; H. E. Hammond (conductor), 3; F. Bumpstead, 4; S. Hammond, 5; A. Hucksion, 6. Also a 240 of College Exercise. A. A. Pryke, 1; F. Calthorpe, 2; the others as before.

BRIGHTON (Sussex).—On Monday, September 14th, at the church of St. Nicholas, the Brighton society rang with H. Weston, of St. Peter's church, a quarter peal of Grandsire Triples, in 45 mins. W. Harvey, 1; H. Boniface, 2; H. Weston, 3; James Neves, 4; C. Tyler, 5; G. King, 6; J. Searle (conductor), 7; W. Palmer, 8. Tenor 19 cwt. in F.

BRISTOL.—*Handbell Ringing*.—On Sunday, September 13th, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1260 changes). J. Brain, 1-2; G. Townsend, 3-4; J. Hinton (conductor), 5-6; J. Norton, 7-8.

DARTFORD (Kent).—On Sunday morning, September 13th, at St. Mary's Church, a quarter-peal (1260 changes), in 45 mins. A. Rose, 1; G. May, 2; E. Snowden, 3; J. Harman (Woolwich), 4; J. Blackman, 5; J. Saxby (conductor), 6; C. Everson, 7; H. Rose, 8.

DENFORD (Northamptonshire).—On Saturday, September 6th, at Holy Trinity Church, a 720 of Yorkshire Court Bob Minor (eighteen bobs and two singles), 720 of Oxford Bob Minor (eighteen bobs and two singles). A. Groome, 1; W. J. Gilbert (conductor), 2; J. Willmott, 3; E. Mayes, 4; H. Stubbs, 5; T. Roberts, 6. And a 720 of Plain Bob Minor (thirty-eight bobs and two singles). H. Stubbs and A. Groome changing places, the rest as before. And 360 of College Little (nine bobs), conducted by W. J. Gilbert. An attempt was made for a 5040, but after ringing 1 hr. it came to grief. Messrs. Gilbert, Stubbs, and Willmott hail from Raunds; E. Mayes and T. Roberts from Ringstead.

ECLESFIELD (Yorkshire).—On Sunday evening, September 13th, for Divine Service, a 720 of Duke of York, 720 of Violet (twenty-one bobs), and a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob, in 1 hr. 11 mins. Henry Stringer, 1; William Turton, 2; George Shaw (conductor), 3; Fred Turton, 4; Sam Hemingfield, 5; Joseph Sorby, 6. Tenor 18½ cwt.

ELSTREE (Herts).—On Monday, September 14th, six members of the Cumberland Youths, with Mr. Comb, of the St. James's Society, paid a visit to this charming village, and rang upon the bells of the Parish Church, a 720 of Plain Bob Minor. J. Combe, 1; J. Page, 2; T. Titchener, 3; J. Hannington (conductor), 4; E. Chapman, 5; H. Driver, 6. Also a 700 of Kent Treble Bob Minor, in 23 mins. J. Page, 1; E. Chapman, 2; J. Hannington (conductor), 3; T. Titchener, 3; N. Alderman, 5; H. Driver, 6. These are the first 720's ever rung upon the bells. Tenor 9 cwt.

ELTHAM (Kent).—*Muffled Peal*.—On Tuesday, September 1st, at the Church of St. John the Baptist, two 720s of Grandsire Minor, with the bells half-muffled as a mark of respect to the late Rev. A. L. P. Snow, for many years curate in charge of the above church. R. Hitches, 1; J. King, 2; W. Gosling, 3; C. Mussett, 4; G. Sheppard (conductor), 5; F. Fraser, 6. And on Sunday, September 6th, for Divine Service, a 720 of Grandsire Minor, in 25 mins., standing as before.

FOXEARH (Essex).—On Saturday, September 15th, at SS. Peter and Paul's, a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob Minor, in 25 mins. George Maxim, 1; D. Ward, 2; Walter Gridley, 3; R. Mingay, 4; James Bird, 5; Percy Scott (conductor), 6.

HAMPSTEAD (Middlesex).—On Sunday, September 13th, at St. Stephen's church, for Divine service in the morning, nine of the local company assisted by Mr. J. Combe, rang a 503 of Grandsire Caters. Also for Divine service in the evening, a 575 of Grandsire Caters. S. Clarke, 1; B. Foskett, 2; B. Paine, 3; J. Combe, 4; H. Tyler, 5; E. Chapman, 6; W. Pryor, 7; N. Alderman, 8; G. Newson (conductor), 9; W. Arscott, 10.

HANDSWORTH (Staffordshire).—On Sunday, September 13th, for evening service, a 720 of Grandsire Minor, in 27 mins. W. Cooper, 1; H. Bastable, 2; T. Reynolds, 3; G. Smith, 4; W. Verry, 5; J. Buffery (conductor), 6. Tenor 14 cwt. in F.

MEREWORTH (Kent).—On Sunday, September 6th, at St. Lawrence's church, for morning service, six 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles, in 25 mins. C. Bassett, 1; F. G. Newman (conductor), 2; G. Bell, 3; G. Newman, 4; T. Buss, 5; W. Crockford, 6. Tenor about 12 cwt.

PENZANCE (Cornwall).—On Thursday evening, September 10th, at St. Mary's church, four parts of Holt's 10-part peal of Grandsire Triples, which, with the coming round consists of 2080 changes, in 1 hr. 20 mins. M. Hicks, 1; J. Symonds (conductor), 2; J. Boase, 3; J. W. Hichens, 4; J. Hodder, 5; T. Hicks, 6; C. Boase, 7; H. Mitchell, 8. A new stock with gudgeons has been supplied to the seventh bell, also new clapper tops and crown staples to the whole eight by Messrs. Taylor, thus rendering the "go" and striking of the bells all that can be desired.

**PERRY BARR** (Staffordshire).—On Monday, September 14th, at St. John's church, eight members of the Holt Society of Aston-juxta-Birmingham, rang a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples, 1260 changes, in 44½ mins. H. Bastable, 1; T. Reynolds, 2; J. Carter (conductor), 3; W. Kent, 4; C. Stanbridge, 5; J. W. Cartwright, 6; B. Witchell, 7; J. Quarterman, 8. Tenor 13 cwt.

**RAUNDS** (Northamptonshire).—On Monday, September 7th, at St. Peter's church, for practice, a 720 of Plain Bob (eighteen bobs and two singles). A. Coles, 1; R. Pendered, 2; G. Kirk, 3; B. W. Allen (first 720 in the method), 4; W. J. Gilbert, 5; H. Stubbs (conductor), 6. And 120 of Oxford Treble Bob. A. Coles, 1; J. Willmott, 2; R. Pendered, 3; N. Martin (first 720 in the method), 4; W. J. Gilbert 5; H. Stubbs, 6.

**READING** (Berks).—On Sunday, September 6th, at St. Laurence's church, after evening service, a 800 of Bob Major, in 35 mins. H. M. Bawden, 1; J. Potter, 2; G. Gibbard, 3; W. Johnson, 4; J. E. Willshire, 5; W. Goseltine, 6; W. Newell, 7; W. J. Williams (conductor), 8. This touch was rung to commemorate the 34th anniversary of the captain's (Mr. W. Johnson) birthday. Also on Thursday, September 10th, at St. Giles' a 720 of Plain Bob Minor, in 30 mins. H. Smart, 8; A. E. Evans, 2; G. Gibbard, 3; A. J. Wright, 4; T. Hibbert, 5; H. Egby (conductor), 6. \*First 720.

**RINGSTEAD** (Northamptonshire).—On Tuesday, September 1st, at St. Mary's church, a 720 of Plain Bob Minor (eighteen bobs and two singles). E. Mayes, 1; G. Roberts (first 720 with a bob bell), 2; J. Braybrook, 3; J. Sawford, 4; W. J. Gilbert, 5; T. Roberts (conductor), 6. Also 360 of Yorkshire Court Bob Minor. W. J. Gilbert, 1; J. Braybrook, 2; R. Shipley, 3; J. Sawford, 4; E. Mayes, 5; T. Roberts (conductor), 6.

**ROTHWELL** (Yorkshire).—On Saturday, September 12th, at Holy Trinity church, a mixed band rang 1728 changes of Oxford Treble Bob Major. J. Haigh, (conductor), 1; W. Haigh, 2; J. Haigh, 3; A. Chapman, 4; J. M. Chadwick, 5; W. Abbshaw, 6; S. Stacey, 7; J. Chapman, 8. The three Haighs hail from Woodlesford, the rest belong to Rothwell.

**SAFFRON WALDEN** (Essex).—On Saturday evening, September 12th, at St. Mary's church, for practice, the local company rang a quarter-peal of Stedman Triplea, 1260 changes, in 48 mins. J. Freeman, 1; J. F. Penning, 2; E. Pitstow, 3; C. Freeman, 4; G. Martin, 5; N. J. Pitstow, 6; F. Pitstow (conductor), 7; A. G. Coe, 8.

**SHIPLEY** (Yorkshire).—On Sunday evening, September 13th, for the Harvest Festival service, the local company, with J. Cheethan and J. Wilson, rang a touch of 1376 of Kent Treble Bob Major. T. Lilley, 1; W. Wilks, senr., 2; Job A. Ross, 3; W. Wilks, jun., 4; J. S. Clark, 5; W. E. London, 6; J. Cheetham (conductor), 7; John Wilson, 8.

**SALISBURY** (Wilts).—On Thursday, September 3rd, a 720 of Bob Minor, eighteen bobs and two singles, in 28 mins. J. Short, 1; J. R. Jerram, 2; C. A. Clements, 3; E. Hull, 4; T. Blackburn (conductor), 5; W. W. Gifford, 6. Tenor 15 cwt. Mr. E. Hull hails from Leatherhead, and is a member of the Leatherhead branch of the Winchester Guild. And on Tuesday, September 15th, at St. Edmund's church, a 336 of Grandsire Triples. J. Parsons, 1; E. F. Cole (London), 2; C. A. Clements, 3; E. A. Foster, 4; F. Rigden, 5; J. R. Jerram, 6; W. W. Gifford, 7; J. Hallett and W. Prince, 8. A quarter-peal was attempted, which unfortunately came to grief after ringing for about half-an-hour. Tenor 30 cwt.

**WALTON-ON-THE-HILL** (Lancashire).—On Thursday evening, September 10th, at St. Mary's parish church, a 360 of Yorkshire Court Bob Minor, a 120 of Oxford Single Bob Minor, and a 120 of Grandsire Minor. And on Sunday morning, September 13th, for Divine Service, a 720 of Oxford Single Bob Minor (eighteen bobs and two singles), in 27 mins. J. Hurst, 1; C. J. Rodgers, 2; T. R. Somerville, 3; T. Rushton, 4; R. Stockley, 5; C. E. Wilson (conductor), 6. And for Divine Service in the evening, a 720 of Grandsire Minor (thirty-four bobs and two singles; the singles occurring in the 3rd and 6th parts), in 26 mins. Mr. T. Evans of Childwall, rang the 2nd, the rest standing as before. Tenor 9 cwt.

**WANSTEAD**.—On Sunday, September 6th, for evening service at Christ Church, a 720 of Bob Minor, in 26 mins. J. King, 1; W. Smith, 2; H. Nunn, sen., 3; J. Priest, 4; J. Marks, 5; G. Akers (conductor), 6. Also after service, a 720 of Treble Bob, in 27 mins. H. Nunn, sen., 1; H. Scarlett (conductor), 2; G. Akers, 3; W. Lebbon, 4; A. H. Gardom, 5; J. Priest, 6.

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## 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."

SHALL WE HAVE A NATIONAL ASSOCIATION?

SIR,—After a lapse of two years we now have it recorded that the work of the Reading Conference has fallen through. Why we should have waited so long for something definite from one of the committee, remains to be explained. Now, Sir, with all due respect to the Rev. gentleman who officiated as Secretary, unless he is prepared to dispute the accuracy of your report of the proceedings, I think he will admit that there is some misunderstanding as to what the committee were requested to undertake. I believe the instructions were, 1. To draw up a scheme for the formation of a National Association; 2. To publish the same in the ringing journal; 3. To forward a copy of the same to the Secretaries of the various Associations, and to request an opinion to be returned after the scheme had been submitted to a meeting of the members; 4. To call a meeting in the following year either for approval or disapproval of the scheme. Now, Sir, what could have been the object of the Committee in carrying out the third request before they took action upon the second. Unless they can show some feasible reason for doing so, I can come to no other conclusion but what such was an error, and one which prevented the scheme from obtaining more support. For instance, it was twelve months after the meeting before the scheme saw daylight in your pages, yet sometime previously the matter was brought before Association meetings; at some of these the scheme was read through at the tail-end of the meeting, with the result that most of the members being desirous of breaking up, declined to entertain the matter, and not having had the opportunity of a perusal of the scheme, which they would have done had it been inserted in your pages first. The whole question, so far as they were concerned, was allowed to fall through. With respect to the fourth instruction, I fail to see where the power of the Committee is to judge of the support that the scheme obtained if such should be the death or life of the Association. Where, I ask, would some of our County Associations have been at the present day if the promoters had waited for the pear to become ripe? I could point to those that have started in small numbers, but they have flourished. I remember the formation of one which originated from less than a baker's dozen, but at the end of two years had upon its roll over a baker's gross; but if the promoters had waited for the baker's gross or its present 250 members to have come forward and demanded the existence of an Association, such would never existed. Just the same with a National Association, if established upon a firm basis, even if started in a small way, it will expand itself and its roll rapidly increase. By its annual congress meetings it would demand the attention of the fourth estate of the realm—the daily press—and its promoters would leave for the future ringing generation that which would prove an inestimable benefit. By its moving from county to county, it would watch over our local associations, and by its influence stimulate them into action in carrying out Belfry Reform in their districts, and the day would come when it would be just as rare to find a tower out of order as it is now to find one in order.

NIL DESPERANDUM.

## LONDON SOCIETIES.

SIR,—Will you kindly find me a corner to endorse the sentiment of G. Muskett on the above heading. I was afraid Mr. Author was treading on delicate ground, hence the severe rebuke. But now the heavy gun has discharged such a deadly shot, sufficient not only to blow off the thumbnail, but to penetrate the heart and put a fatal stop to such mean and baneful correspondence that has appeared in our journal of late (*vide* Long Melford). I have had some years' experience in ringers, and am aware there always was and always will be petty jealousies creep in like a thief in the night, and needs no assistance from "Thumbnail" author to beget discord and contention, and hope his next sketches will be of a more conciliatory tone, and endeavour to heal the wound rather than make a bigger sore, for I am sure such names as G. M. has mentioned, and many others that I could name who have spent hundreds of hours in trying to promote the art, and it is no mean job having to contend with learners and those who are advanced a little, for in time some of them will begin to portray symptoms such as being whimsical, shifty, shuffling, and numbskulls, and you need have patience of Job to endure it, so, Mr. Editor, no wonder at the "Muskett" being shouldered to lower such ingratitude as the author of "Thumbnail Sketches."

OLD SHEFF.

## THE BELLS OF EXETER CATHEDRAL.

SIR,—I read with interest the article on the above subject last week, but should feel obliged if the author or anyone else will kindly point out how there are more than three rings of six to be had on the eleven bells, with the semitone in its usual place (in the middle). We are told there are four. Where are they?

DEVONIAN.



## THE ST. PETER'S AMALGAMATED SOCIETY, SHEFFIELD.

ON Saturday, September 5th, the members and friends of the above society met together and spent a very pleasant evening, the occasion being to celebrate the completion of the performance of 100 peals by Mr. Thomas Hattersley, the worthy Treasurer of the society. The meeting took place at the "Brown Bear," where host Whittaker had provided a very substantial supper, to which twenty-six sat down. "Go" being called, an onslaught was made on the good things provided, the course-ends coming up in proper form, and brought round about 7.30. The cloth being removed, Mr. William Booth was voted to the chair, with Mr. Frank Willey as vice-chairman, while Mr. C. H. Hattersley took the prominent position of "sidesman." The first toast of the evening, "The Queen," was drank in an appropriate manner. Mr. W. Booth, in proposing "The Health of Mr. Thomas Hattersley," spoke in very high praise of that gentleman, who is pretty well known among the ringing fraternity as a very free and willing member, always willing to show any young hand, or in fact do anything that will advance the science. The proposition was seconded by Mr. Joseph Mulligan, and drank with musical honours. Mr. Hattersley replied in a suitable manner, saying what he had done for the science in the past, he was willing to do in the future to the utmost of his ability. Mr. F. Willey proposed "Success to THE BELL NEWS" which was well received. The rest of the evening was devoted to harmony, viz.; handbell ringing and songs, which were well rendered, especially those of Mr. C. H. Hattersley, who sang "My Village Home" with much effect, as also did Mr. Hammond in "Ah, never deem," while Mr. C. Steer, in his humorous song "Four and Nine," brought down the house. Messrs. Allen and Atkin of Norton, added some amusement by singing "Dame Durden," and the "Three Jolly Boys," assisted by Joseph Mulligan. Other songs were also sung by Mr. T. Hattersley, F. Willey, and J. Rew, Mr. David Hammond making a very able accompanist. A vote of thanks to the chairman brought a most enjoyable evening to a close. Mr. Thomas Hattersley's 100 peals comprise: one peal of Treble Bob Maximus; three of Stedman Cinques; one of Grandsire Cinques; nine of Treble Bob Royal; five of Stedman Caters; eighteen of Grandsire Caters; two of Bob Royal; one of five methods; eight of Stedman Triples; twenty-eight of Grandsire Triples; and twenty-four of Treble Bob Major.

## DEDICATION AND OPENING OF TWO NEW BELLS AT ST. MARY'S CHURCH, SAWSTON, CAMBRIDGE.

Sawston, a thriving village on the borders of Cambridgeshire, presented quite an animated appearance on Sunday, September 13th, being the dedication and opening of two new trebles (also the Harvest Thanksgiving) lately added by Messrs. Lewis, and Co. of Brixton, London, the gift of a gentleman in the neighbourhood. The service of Dedication was performed by the Bishop of Ely, and the opening of the bells was entrusted to the Saffron Walden Society, also members of the Royal Cumberland Youths. The proceedings commenced by the ringers ringing a touch of Plain Bob on the old six, then the service of Dedication and Thanksgiving. This being concluded, the ropes were handed to the ringers, who rang touches in the following methods: Bob Major, Kent Treble Bob, Grandsire and Stedman Triples, the ringing being kept up until half-past nine. A great many people waited in the vicinity of the church to hear the new bells, the majority of whom went away disappointed. We cannot say either that the ringing was as satisfactory as one would wish, the 2nd and tenor going so bad that it was found impossible to ring them but for short touches only. There was also ringers from Cambridge, Stanstead, and Glensford, all of whom were of the opinion that something more must be done before any good ringing can be done at Sawston. The ringers from Saffron Walden included Messrs. N. J. Pitstow, G. Martin, J. F. Penning, C. Freeman, E. Pitstow, and F. Pitstow; Messrs. S. and J. Slater from Glensford; G. Taylor from Cambridge; H. and W. Prior, and J. Luckey, from Stanstead; the conducting of the ringing being divided between Messrs. N. J. and F. Pitstow. The Saffron Walden ringers wish, through the columns of this paper, to thank the Vicar and churchwardens for their kindness and liberality on this occasion, and to express a hope that before long something will be done to enable ringers to accomplish peals at Sawston worthy of record.

## THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION OF SIX-BELL RINGERS.

THE usual Quarterly Meeting was held on Saturday, September 12th, at Eccleston, but owing to the 5th bell being under repair for the occasion, which was a few hours short of being completed, the members had not the opportunity of ringing, but after the business meeting was over, it being well attended, the members departed for home.

## ALL SAINTS' SOCIETY, KINGSTON-ON-THAMES.

ON Monday, September 7th, the members of this society held their annual outing, Chelmsford being selected for the occasion. Part of visitors arrived on the previous Saturday about 5.30, and being met by some of the local ringers, at once made for the tower of St. Mary's, and rang a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 50 mins. G. Naish, 1; J. Dains (Widford), 2; W. Rowland (Chelmsford), 3; W. Hawkes (Springfield), 4; G. Gray, 5; J. Strutt, 6; J. Wright (conductor), 7; E. Milton, 8. The rest of the evening was spent with the handbells, a course of Grandsire Triples being rung by Messrs. Strutt, Wright, and Gray. On Sunday morning they journeyed to Widford, a very pleasant walk about a mile and a half, the local company starting for a 720 of Cambridge Surprise to oblige Mr. J. Strutt, who is an old Widford ringer, but this was unsuccessful, though some good ringing was accomplished. W. Harvey, 1; J. Dains, 2; W. Rowland, 3; W. Hawkes, 4; T. Drake (conductor), 5; J. Strutt, 6. After dinner a walk of about a mile and a half took them to Great Baddow, where having obtained permission of the Vicar and churchwardens, rung 1008 and several touches of Grandsire Triples, altogether about 2500 changes. W. Harvey, 1; J. Strutt (conductor), 2; W. Rowland, 3; W. Hawkes, 4; G. Gray, 5; J. Wright, 6; E. Scotcher (Galleywood), E. Milton, 8. On Monday they paid a visit to Writtle, about two miles, where they met the Vicar the Rev. — Papillon, and Mr. J. Field, of Oxford. Permission have already been obtained for a peal of Grandsire Triples, they at once proceeded to the tower where they found everything ready. The Vicar wishing them success, retired, and a start was made, but a mistake occurred in the fourth 500, and the bells were brought round half-way in 1 hr. 30 mins. G. Naish, 1; J. Field, 2; C. Slade, 3; W. Hawkes, 4; G. Gray, 5; J. Strutt (conductor), 6; J. Wright, 7; E. Milton, 8. After, a 1008 was rung with W. Piper at the treble, and three courses with the Vicar at the second. A course of Grandsire Triples on the handbells in the tower brought the ringing to a close. J. Wright, 1-2; J. Strutt, 3-4; J. Field, 5-6; G. Gray, 7-8. After thanking the Vicar for his kindness in allowing the use of the bells, the company wended their way back to Chelmsford, where several friends were waiting to bid them adieu. Starting at eight o'clock they reached Kingston at eleven, highly pleased with their outing, and wish to thank all those friends for their kindness and ready manner in which they met them and helped to make their visit a successful one.

## BRAINTREE, ESSEX.—THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS AND THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

THE following is an account of the ringing done by the Braintree branch during the month of August:—

August 2nd, 720 Double Court, 720 Kent Treble Bob, 720 of Cambridge Surprise; August 8th: 720 Kent Treble Bob; August 9th: 720 Cambridge Surprise, 120 Bob Minor, 720 of Bob Minor; August 11th: 720 Cambridge Surprise; August 16th: 720 Kent Treble Bob, 360 Oxford Treble Bob; August 18th: 720 Double Oxford Bob; August 23rd: 360 Double Court, 240 Cambridge Surprise; August 24th: 720 New London Pleasure; August 28th: 720 Double Court; August 29th, 360 Cambridge Surprise.

## THE ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

As I find the Rev. K. H. Smith, the Hon. Sec. of the Ely Diocesan Association is still unable to send you a report of the district meeting of the above at Sudbury (for which I am very sorry, and hope he will soon recover), and as no one else has written upon the subject, I think it would be as well to inform the members that were not present that it was decided to hold the next meeting at Cambridge on Monday, October 5th, and as the time is drawing near, I would recommend those members who have not already done so to pay their subscriptions and obtain their cards of membership, as it is very necessary they should, if they think of attending the meeting. A. H. OSBORNE.  
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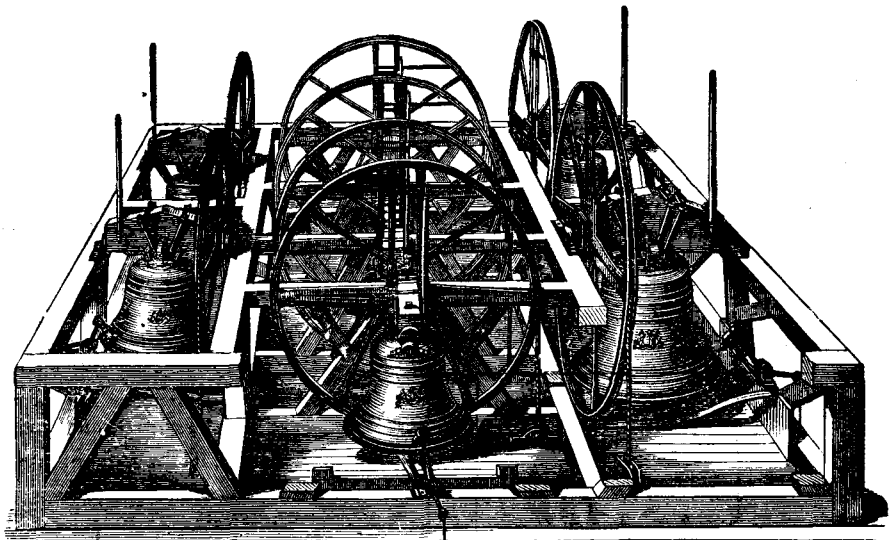
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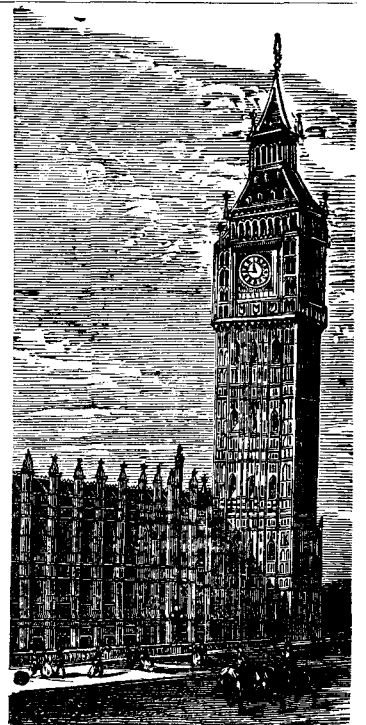
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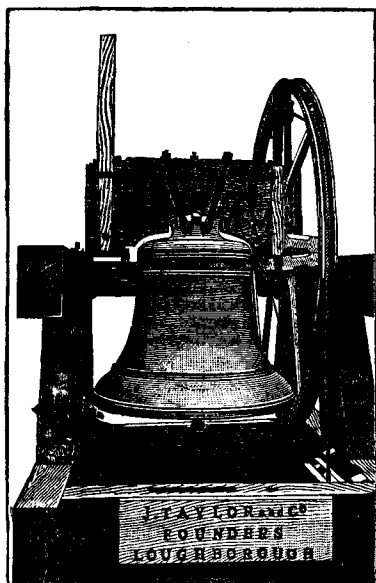
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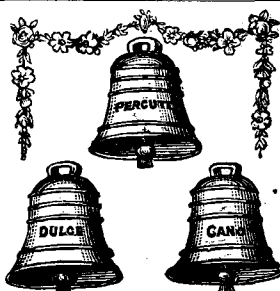
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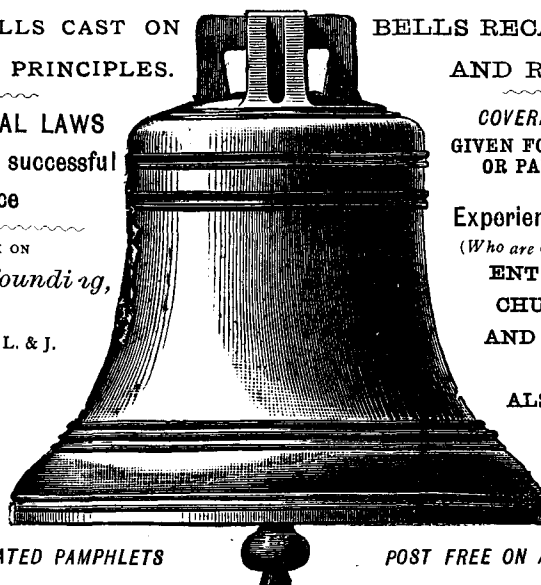
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No. 182. [NEW SERIES.]—VOL. IV. SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 26, 1885.

[ONE PENNY.]

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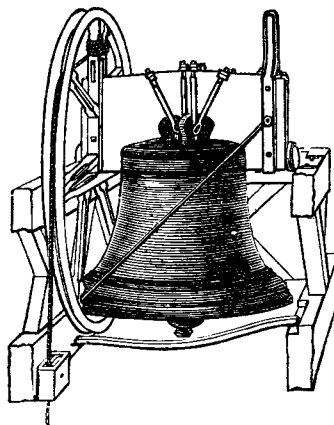
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## PEALS OF SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE.

BY JASPER W. SNOWDON.

## ONE-PART PEALS.

The first one-part peal obtained in this method was composed by Mr. John Thorp, and is as follows. It contains the fifth the extent in fifth's place, and the sixth the extent in sixth's. The reverse variation which I have annexed, also contains the same properties. As Mr. Thorp was the first to obtain these twelve courses, which have since been obtained by many other composers, I generally speak of them as "Thorp's twelve courses."

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

J. THORP.

Mr. Thorp has also composed a variation on this peal, another 5056, which consists in calling the first five 2 3 4 5 6 M W H courses as annexed, after which, the peal is the same as the original. This variation contains the fifth ten course-ends in fifth's place, and the sixth the extent in sixth's place. The reverse may also be pricked so as to contain the same qualities.

Mr. Sottanstill has produced two slight variations in the calling of the first part of the above peal, as is shewn in the annexed first parts. In the first one, the same qualities are to be found as in Mr. Thorp's peal. The second, although a symmetrical peal, as a bob at home is called in each course throughout the peal, does not contain the same qualities as Mr. Thorp's original peal. Mr. Pitstow has also obtained a peal with the same qualities as Mr. Thorp's peal.

Each of the three following peals concludes with Mr. Thorp's twelve courses.

5056.						5056.					
2	3	4	5	6	M W H	2	3	4	5	6	M W H
6	4	3	5	2	-	6	5	4	3	2	-
3	6	4	5	2	-	4	6	5	3	2	-
2	4	6	5	3	-	5	4	6	3	2	-
6	2	4	5	3	-	2	3	6	4	5	-
4	6	2	5	3	-	6	2	3	4	5	-
3	2	6	5	4	-	3	6	2	4	5	-
5	3	6	2	4	-	5	2	6	4	3	-
2	5	6	3	4	-	6	5	2	4	3	-
6	3	2	5	4	-	2	4	6	5	3	-
2	6	3	5	4	-	3	6	4	5	2	-
4	3	6	5	2	-	4	3	6	5	2	-

W. SOTTANSTALL.

5056.					
2	3	4	5	6	M W H
6	4	3	5	2	-
3	6	4	5	2	-
2	4	6	5	3	-
5	2	6	4	3	-
4	5	6	2	3	-
6	2	4	5	3	-
4	6	2	5	3	-
3	2	6	5	4	-
6	3	2	5	4	-
2	6	3	5	4	-
4	3	6	5	2	-

N. J. PITSTOW.

In each of the two following peals which are upon Mr. Thorp's plan, the fifth is the extent in fifth's place. In the first peal the sixth is nine times wrong and three time right, while in the second peal, the sixth is nine times right, and three times wrong.

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

W. SOTTANSTALL.

In the following peal by Mr. Pitstow, the fifth and sixth are each twelve times in their own places.

In Mr. Dains's peal, the 5th and 6th are each twelve times in 5-6.

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

N. J. PITSTOW.

H. DAINS.

The following 5056 by Mr. Pitstow is obtained from the first of his peals of 5376; the second part is one of the parts of the original peal and the first and last parts are shortened variations of the same calling. The peal has the fourth the extent in sixth's place. The second 5056 by Mr. Pitstow, shows how one of his peals of 6048 changes previously given, may be reduced to this length. In each case the calling of the last nine courses has to be repeated.

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

N. J. PITSTOW.

\*First rung on February 12th, 1885, at St. Andrew's, Litchurch, Derby, by the St. Paul's, Burton-on-Trent Society. Conducted by William Wakley.

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

ON Saturday, September 12th, the members and friends of the above Society journeyed to Richmond, to enjoy their annual autumn excursion, and were met at the station by Messrs. Williams, who had made every arrangement for their comfort, by affording them a good round of amusement during their brief stay. Arriving on Richmond Green punctually at 2.30, wickets were at once pitched, and a scratch match was commenced, which afforded a good deal of amusement to the numerous onlookers, amongst whom might have been recognised several prominent ringers of the day, who by their several personal efforts, both in applauding a good hit, and encouraging the weak side, made it very pleasing for all concerned, and further, it showed that ringers could be as nimble on their legs as they could be dexterous with their arms.

Cricket being over, a start was at once made to the ringing-chamber, where several touches of Grandsire and Stedman Triples were struck off, the members at the same time expressing their pleasure at the easy manner in which the bells "went." The arrangement of the programme not admitting of a longer stay among the ropes, the ringers proceeded to dinner, consisting of three courses, which was admirably served by the host of the "Greyhound Hotel," and done ample justice to by the famished band. The courses having been successfully and manfully got through, the intervals being enlivened by pleasing anecdotes by Mr. J. Mansfield, "stand" was called by the chairman, Mr. H. S. Thomas, and grace having been spoken by the vice-chairman, Mr. S. Spice, the cloth was cleared and harmony was resorted to. The first item performed was a course of well-struck Grandsire Cinques, by Messrs. Baron, Dains, J. Rogers, H. Hopkins, H. Swain, &c. which was loudly applauded, as was also a pianoforte solo by Mr. H. W. Dorten. The songs and other amusing incidents were then enlivened by some excellent tune-playing by Messrs. W. J. Williams, H. Hopkins, and H. Randall, greatly appreciated and encored by the company, only eclipsed later on by excellent tapping of the bells to various tunes by Messrs. Williams.

Silence having been enjoined by the vice-chairman, Mr. S. Spice, the senior member of the company present then proposed "The health of Mr. H. S. Thomas," the Hon. Sec., to whose exertions he said the Society owed its present prosperous condition, and one whom he hoped would lead it for many years to come.

Mr. THOMAS, in responding, ventured to say that he thought, for its size, St. Mary's Society was in as flourishing a condition as any Society he knew of, and that it would be through no fault of his if it did not continue so, but of course members must contribute their share to help him to carry his views into effect. Mr. Thomas then went into the merits of ringing, expressing a hope that he should become personally acquainted with more methods before long, and after thanking all present for their expressions of goodwill, concluded by proposing "The health of Mr. Baron," their instructor, in the usual way, which, being well received, was briefly responded to by that gentleman, whose long connection with the society has gained for him the respect and good wishes of all the members.

"The health of Mr. Dorte," the accompanist, having been proposed with musical honors, and the thanks of the company being tendered to him for his arduous task, and his reply well received, Mr. John Rogers gave a rendering, in his usual good style, of an old English ditty, which all heartily enjoyed. "The Visitors" were then toasted, and replied in suitable terms, and the hearty thanks of the members were then given to Messrs. Williams, who had by their thoughtfulness, so materially contributed to the happiness and success of the outing, which was so thoroughly enjoyed by everybody.

## CHEPSTOW, MONMOUTHSHIRE.

ON Tuesday, September 22nd, six of the St. Mary's company, Chepstow, paid a friendly visit to St. Thuidric, Mathern, near Chepstow, and rang several 6-scores of Bob Doubles, the first on the bells. James Morley (conductor), 2; George Watkins, 2; William Green, 3; William Woods, 4; Tom Rosser, 5; Richard Morley, 6. Tenor 14 cwt. in G. The "go" of the bells are all that can be wished, but there was some difficulty at first, as they hang the opposite way. These bells were cast by William Evans, of Chepstow, in 1765, and rehung three years ago by Lewellins and James, of Bristol. The ringers then made their way to the "Miller's Arms," and having refreshed the inner man, returned home well pleased with their evening's outing.

## DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

As the Meeting of the Church of England Temperance Society will be held in Durham, on Monday, October 26th, the Annual Meeting will be fixed for another date, probably Monday, November 2nd, by request of the Vicar of St. Oswald's. The arrangements will be made known by circulars and in "THE BELL NEWS."

Stockton-on-Tees, Sept. 21st.

G. J. CLARKSON, Hon. Sec.

## WORCESTER AND ADJOINING DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

A Committee Meeting of this Association was held in All Saints' schoolroom, Worcester, on Saturday last, under the presidency of the Master, Mr. S. Spittle. There were deputations from Worcester, Bromsgrove, Dudley, Netherton, Kidderminster, Brierly Hill, Leigh, etc. Before the transaction of any business, the Master spoke in very feeling terms of the loss of the late much-respected Treasurer—Mr. W. Duffill—and moved that the following address of condolence be sent to the widow and family of the deceased:—

That this Committee, representing the Worcestershire and adjoining districts Change-Ringing Association, desire, on behalf of the members, to express their deep regret at the loss sustained by the death of our late Treasurer, Mr. William Duffill. We feel the Association has lost a persevering member, a trustworthy officer, and a warm-hearted friend. We venture to suggest that the best tribute the Association can offer to the memory of our late brother is that each society endeavour to carry out to the fullest extent the wish of our late Treasurer, viz.: "In building-up and perfecting the Association in such a manner that it stand second to none in the kingdom." In presenting our condolence to the widow and children of our late brother, we trust it will in some measure assist in assuaging their grief for the loss they have sustained, knowing that sympathising friends feel for them in their affliction. We trust that the great ruler of our destinies will give them grace so to bear their loss that they may be able to say, with a full hope and confiding love—"Thy will be done."

The minutes of the last meeting, held at Bromsgrove, were read by the Secretary, and confirmed. The question of providing a peal-book was left in the hands of the Worcester ringers, as they were of opinion one might be presented, if the requisite steps to that end were taken. The question of the formation of rules for good conduct in the belfry, was left in the hands of the Rev. W. R. Carr (St. John's, Worcester).

The Rev. B. Arthure (All Saints, Worcester), the Rev. W. W. Douglas (Salwarpe), and Messrs. W. Roberts and Jos. Shipton were elected honorary members of the Association; and Mr. E. Crump, of Bromsgrove, was appointed Treasurer till the time of the Annual Meeting. It was then arranged to hold the next Quarterly Meeting at Bewdley. Votes of thanks having been passed to the Master for presiding, to the Rector of All Saints for the use of the schoolroom, and to the Secretaries for their services, the meeting terminated.

## THE SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.

ON Friday, September 12th, at the Society's meeting house, 54, St. Martin's Lane, W.C., the election of officers for the ensuing year took place, the result being that the Master, Treasurer and Secretary are retained in their respective offices; Mr. Harry Randall becoming senior steward; and Mr. Henry W. Davies being elected as junior steward.

The same evening, the ringing for practice consisted of a half-muffled peal. The usual whole pull and stand was accomplished with due solemnity, in memory of the late Mr. Robert Naunton, an old member of this society, who died in San Francisco, California, after expressing a wish for his old ringing friends to remember him. This desire of the deceased came through Mr. Sewell, the obliging steeple-keeper of Barking. It may be noticed the deceased rang the 4th in a peal of Treble Bob Major at St. John, Hackney, January 21st, 1842. "John Naunton rang the 6th bell."

Mr. Geo. Williams of Reigate, Surrey, was present upon this occasion. The above peal shows also the members' respect to the memory of the late Rev. Henry T. Ellacombe, so well known for his interest in ringing generally.

## THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF CAMBRIDGE YOUTHS.

ON Saturday, September 11th, the Cambridge Youths paid a visit to Newmarket, and rang touches of Stedman and Grandsire Triples and Treble Bob Major on the bells of All Saints', and Stedman and Grandsire Doubles on the five bells at St. Mary's. The bells of All Saints', a nice ring of eight, go well, but ringing is rendered next to impossible from the circumstance that there is only a thin floor between the ringing chamber and the bells, so that the noise overpowers everything, even the conductor's voice. It is to be hoped that this defect will soon be altered, and that Newmarket may be as well known for its ringers as its jockeys. The Cambridge Youths desire to thank the vicar and churchwardens for the use of the bells, and Mr. Feist for his hospitable entertainment.

AN OLD RECORD.—The following is taken from a Stroud newspaper, which the sender thinks may interest a few of the readers of "THE BELL NEWS."—"June 21, 1784. On the 29th of May, a peal of eight bells, cast by Messrs. Rudhall's, of Gloucester, was opened at Chaddesley Corbett, in Worcestershire, by the chapel youths of Stourbridge, with Holt's peal of Grandsire Triples, consisting of 5040 changes, which (by the bells remarkably good, and hung in a complete manner) they accomplished in three hours and two minutes. This is almost the first instance of so long a peal having been rung when bells were first tried."



## ST. MARY-LE-TOWER SOCIETY, IPSWICH.

ON Thursday, September 17th, nine members of the above society availed themselves of the opportunity given by the Great Eastern Railway company to visit the city of Norwich, the head-quarters of the Norwich Diocesan Association, for the purpose of attempting a peal upon the splendid bells of St. Peter Mancroft, which, with the assistance of Messrs. Knights, Sadler, and G. Smith, of the society of Norwich Scholars, was successfully accomplished in 3 hrs. 56 mins., the usual record of which will be found in its proper place. The Ipswich party left home amid a steady downfall of rain, enough to damp the ardour of any excursionists upon mere pleasure bent, but the object of the journey was sufficient to extinguish all speculations respecting weather, or in fact, anything else that intruded upon the imagination. Arriving at Norwich at 11.15, the visitors were met by several of their brother-strings, and after fortifying the inner man with the roast beef of old England, and the customary adjuncts, a move was made to the tower, where everything was in readiness for the attempt. The bells were called into changes at six minutes to one, and the conductor cried "This is all" at ten minutes to five, the band being convinced that they had rang a good peal, an opinion afterwards ratified by a competent authority. This peal is the first in the Kent variation, and the only one of Treble Bob Maximus on the bells for over 100 years, and raises the number of peals of Maximus rang upon them to five, which have all been in different methods, viz.: Grand-sire Cinques, Stedman Cinques, Norwich Court, Oxford Treble Bob, and the peal just accomplished. A course of Stedman Cinques was afterwards rung with Mr. J. Young, and the bells being ceased, the Ipswich visitors, after taking affectionate farewells of their Norwich friends, returned home, the journey thither being greatly enlivened by the vocal qualifications of a well-known member of the company. The visitors wish to thank their Norwich brethren for the hearty welcome and courteous reception accorded them, and they hope it will not be the last visit they will be able to pay there.

The Society of St. Mary-le-Tower have received a communication from the Hon. Secretary of the Association—the Rev. N. Bolingbroke—in which he congratulates them upon their achievement, the striking of which he speaks in terms of great praise.

## RINGERS' VISIT TO HERTFORD.

ON Sunday, September 20th, Messrs. H. Barnett, G. B. Lucas, J. Waghorn, sen, and J. Waghorn, jun., of the Tottenham society, paid a visit to Hertford, and made their way to All Saints' church, for the purpose of ringing on that fine peal of ten bells. On their arrival they were met by M. Ellsmore and W. Goodchild, when they were introduced to the members, and the Harvest Thanksgiving Services being held on that day, there was plenty of ringing going on. For morning service a 1151 of Grandsire Caters, and after service a 503 in this same method, both being conducted by H. J. Tucker. The visitors were then shewn round the town, when, after viewing the principal institutions, and the old-fashioned and quaint dwelling-houses, one of the party suddenly felt the sharp sting of hunger, in another moment the rest had caught the infection, so duly proceeded to find a remedy, which was soon found in the shape of a good dinner. After dinner, another look round the town, then time was up for afternoon service. A 560 of Bob Major was rung, conducted by Mr. H. Baker, and 224 of Bob Major, conducted by H. Tucker. Thence to the picturesque village of Bengoe, hoping to have a pull after service, but were disappointed to find that there had been no service held. Back to Hertford for tea, which was very refreshing after the walk. The tower was again visited for ringing at Evensong, and 521 of Grandsire Caters, and 209 of Grandsire Triples was rung, conducted by H. J. Tucker, making a total of 3168 changes during the day, which were rung by the following ringers: \*H. Barnett, †G. B. Lucas, \*H. Baker, \*W. A. Tyler, J. Waghorn, sen., \*J. Waghorn, jun., †M. Ellsmore, S. Knight, \*H. J. Tucker, F. George, and J. Jauncey. After the bells were lowered the visitors prepared for home, the glorious weather that prevailed during the day, and the genial reception given by the Hertford College Youths, added greatly to the pleasure of the visitors, for which they wish to thank them. \*College Youths. †Cumberland Youths.

## ANNUAL MEETING OF THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

THE Tenth Annual meeting will be held at Sheffield, on Saturday next, October 3rd. A special service will be held in the Parish church at 4.30, the preacher being the Rev. J. H. Fish, vicar of St. Paul's, Burton-on-Trent, late of Sheffield, President of the Midland Counties' Association. The Ven. Archdeacon Blakeney and the Rev. F. G. Sandford, members of the above Association, will also take part in the service. After service a tea will be provided by the Sheffield members in the Church Institute, at the conclusion of which the general meeting will be held. An excursion train will be run by the Midland Railway from Bradford, Keighley, Leeds, and other places, and a good meeting is anticipated. Friends from other county Associations will receive a hearty welcome.

## THE ST. MARY'S SOCIETY, EASTBOURNE, SUSSEX.

THE Annual outing of the members of the above Society took place on Monday, September 14th. The party, numbering about twenty, including one or two friends, accompanied by the Rev. H. P. Leaky, curate of St. Mary's, left Eastbourne by the 7.15 a.m. train, arriving at London Bridge at 9.25, where they were met by five of the members who left Eastbourne on Saturday, and Mr. W. H. Fussell, of the Royal Cumberland Youths, who kindly volunteered to act as guide. On leaving the station the party at once made their way to Mears and Stainbank's Bell Foundry, Whitechapel Road. Passing St. Saviour's, Southwark, Bow church, and St. Michael's, Cornhill, the foundry was reached at 11 o'clock, and the party were most courteously received by Mr. Hughes, the manager, who after supplying the whole of them with refreshments, kindly took them through the works, shewing and explaining everything connected with casting, tuning, etc., not the least interesting feature being a peal of eight bells from Abingdon, Berks, in progress of repair. Three of the bells had been recast, and two new ones were to be added to make a fine peal of ten, tenor weighing 21 cwt. The workmen sounded them by hand during the visit, and also a peal of handbells by tapping. Mr. Hughes had so arranged that a large bell, which had been recently cast, should be taken from the mould to enable the visitors to see and understand the process of casting. Heartily thanking that gentleman for his kindness, a move was made to St. Mary's tower, Whitechapel, and two touches of Grandsire Triples were rung, after which a visit was made to St. Paul's, where, through the exertions of the guide, an order was obtained enabling the visitors to see the bells. On reaching the ringing-chamber they found a commodious room, the twelve ropes hanging in a good circle. Again ascending, the pleasure of seeing the fine peal of bells was afforded, tenor 62 cwt. A visit to the clock-tower, to see Great Paul, and then a move by underground railway from Blackfriars to the Inventions Exhibition, arriving about 2.15, where an excellent dinner awaited them, for which the Rev. H. P. Leaky, who parted with the rest at London Bridge, had made all arrangements. Ample justice having been done to the good things provided, about four hours being agreeably passed in the Exhibition. The whole party met at Victoria Station at 7.30 p.m., where again taking train, they arrived at Eastbourne about 10.15, having spent a most enjoyable day. The ringers take this opportunity of tendering their hearty thanks to those who so kindly contributed towards their outing, also to the Rev. H. P. Leaky, for organising the same; to the firm of Messrs. Mears and Stainbank in allowing them to look over the foundry, to the steeplekeepers of the various churches visited, and to Mr. W. H. Fussell for acting as guide.

## A MEETING OF COLLEGE YOUTHS AT CHESTER.

ON Sunday, September 20th, at the house of Mr. James Moulton, a start was made for a 5024 of Treble Bob Major, on handbells, retained in hand, but after ringing about 1 hr. 32 mins., a change-course occurred, which brought the peal to a stand. This peal is in thirteen courses, and has the 6th its extent in 5-6, with all the 8-6-7's, and eleven of the 8-6's, and was published in "THE BELL NEWS" of August 15th. The mishap occurred between the bobs at m. in the eighth course, which brings the number to 2720. John Gipson, 1-2; Arthur Jones, 3-4; James Moulton (conductor), 5-6; Charles Price, 7-8. Witnessed by William Walton, member of the Cathedral Society. Afterwards, Mr. Moulton tapped on a musical box a course of Treble Bob Maximus, in 24 mins. Another attempt will be made on October 4th. Anyone wishing to witness it can do so with pleasure, at one o'clock, at Mr. John Gipson's, 32, Piplow Street, Bishop's Fields, Chester.

## THE ROCHDALE AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATION.

THE above Association held their Intermediate Meeting at Rochdale parish church, on Saturday, September 12th, about thirty members being present. The ringing was chiefly Grandsire Triples, and Major. The committee held their Meeting at the Gank School. At this meeting it was proposed and seconded that the committee have authority to pass resolutions which will be brought up at the Manchester Meeting. I am happy to say the hint from these pages has pierced the members in respect of attendance, and I hope it may continue so that we may overcome all difficulties, and be able to gather the roses that bloom without any fear of the thorns. I wish to remind the local secretaries, also independent ringers, to do their utmost that all subscriptions may be brought or sent to the next Quarterly Meeting at Manchester. J. ADSHEAD, Sec.

Members of the Norwich Association will not fail to observe that the Annual Meeting takes place next Monday, a notice of which will be found on another page.

SPARE COPIES OF "THE BELL NEWS"—Mr. John McKell, of Gargrave, Yorkshire, has the following numbers for disposal to anyone to whom they may be of use. Nos. 3 and 27, vol. 1; Nos. 72 and 90, vol. 2; Nos. 122 and 143, vol. 3.

"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 numbered, the earlier ones will have the preference.

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

T. ROBERTS.—How would your friend like to be without his "BELL NEWS" now? It is at this period no breach of confidence to state the following fact:—When our late publisher failed, the promoters of this journal had to suffer some loss; and on that becoming known, fears were entertained among the then members of the Oxford University Society—in consequence of the paper arriving a day late in one week—that "THE BELL NEWS" had succumbed. One of these gentlemen at once communicated with us, stating that he and others of the society would make up the loss sustained, for they could not do without "THE BELL NEWS" now. This munificent offer, though gratefully declined, was very cheering. Perhaps your friend would similarly feel the loss of his copy.

## The Bell News & Ringers' Record.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 19, 1885.

WE are compelled, through pressure on our space, to postpone the publication of several reports and touches, which arrived at the last moment, till next week. From the same cause we are unable to have our usual editorial comment.

### The Metropolis.

SHADWELL, MIDDLESEX.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

On Monday, September 21, 1885, in Two Hours and Fifty-nine Minutes,

AT ST. PAUL'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;  
 BROOK'S VARIATION.

FRANCIS E. DAWE .. .. Treble.	HERBERT BAKER .. .. 5.
NEWMAN N. HILLS .. .. 2.	*HENRY GORDON FAIRBRASS 6.
EDWARD E. CLARKE .. .. 3.	JAMES PETTIT .. .. 7.
LEWIS GREEN* .. .. 4.	GEORGE TANNER .. .. Tenor.

Conducted by JAMES PETTIT.

H. G. Fairbrass hails from Canterbury; N. N. Hills from St. Albans; H. Baker from Hertford; the rest are of London.

\*First peal in the method.

### The Provinces.

TAMWORTH, STAFFORDSHIRE.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION AND THE

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

On Wednesday, September 16, 1885, in Three Hours and Seven Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

BROOK'S VARIATION. Tenor 22 cwt.

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

Conducted by WILLIAM WAKLEY.

The above is N. J. Pittstow's first peal in the method, also the first peal of Stedman rung on the bells.

WHITFIELD, GLOSSOP, DERBYSHIRE.

On Thursday, September 17, 1885, in Three Hours and Three Minutes,

AT ST. JAMES'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 12 cwt.

JOHN LAWTON .. .. Treble.	JAMES SELLARS .. .. 5.
JOHN HARROP .. .. 2.	R. S. STORY .. .. 6.
WILLIAM HARROP .. .. 3.	THOMAS JAMES .. .. 7.
WILLIAM STORY .. .. 4.	JOHN PYE, SEN. .. .. Tenor.

Composed by the late JAMES PLATT, and Conducted by JOHN LAWTON.

The Brothers Story hail from Newcastle-on-Tyne.

NORWICH, NORFOLK.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Thursday, September 17, 1885, in Three Hours and Fifty-six Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER MANCROFT,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAXIMUS, 5088 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 41 cwt.

WILLIAM L. CATCHPOLE .. Treble.	*PHILIP SADLER .. .. 7.
WILLIAM MOTTS .. .. 2.	*FREDERICK TILLET .. .. 8.
ISAAC S. ALEXANDER .. .. 3.	*FREDERICK KNIGHTS .. .. 9.
ARTHUR R. ALDHAM .. .. 4.	ROBT. HAWES .. .. 10.
JAMES MOTTS .. .. 5.	EDWD. REEVE .. .. 11.
EDGAR PEMBERTON .. .. 6.	*GEO. SMITH .. .. Tenor.

Composed by HENRY JOHNSON, SEN., and Conducted by WILLIAM L. CATCHPOLE.

This is the first peal in the Kent variation on the bells. Messrs. Sadler, Knights, and Smith belong to the St. Peter Mancroft Society, and the rest to St. Mary-le-Tower, Ipswich.

\*First peal of Maximus.

SADDLEWORTH.—THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

Birthday Peal.

On Friday, September 18, 1885, in Three Hours and a Half-Minute,

AT ST. CHAD'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 12 cwt. in G.

JOHN J. BRIERLEY .. .. Treble.	EDGAR BUCKLEY .. .. 5.
JOHN HOLDEN .. .. 2.	R. S. STORY .. .. 6.
WM. STORY .. .. 3.	JOSEPH WOOD .. .. 7.
JAMES WRIGLEY .. .. 4.	EDWARD WOOD .. .. Tenor.

Composed by HENRY DAINS, and Conducted by JOHN HOLDEN.

The Brothers Story hail from Newcastle-on-Tyne, and this day was the 27th birthday of R. S. Story.

SHENSTONE, STAFFORDSHIRE.

THE ST. MARTIN'S SOCIETY, BIRMINGHAM.

On Saturday, September 19, 1885, in Two Hours and Fifty-Six Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

BROOK'S VARIATION. Tenor 13 cwt. in G.

JOHN BUFFERY .. .. Treble.	HENRY BASTABLE .. .. 5.
SAMUEL REEVES .. .. 2.	HENRY JOHNSON, JUN. .. .. 6.
JOHN SANDERS .. .. 3.	THOMAS REYNOLDS .. .. 7.
WILLIAM ROCK SMALL .. .. 4.	CHARLES STANBRIDGE .. Tenor.

Conducted by HENRY BASTABLE.

This is the first peal of Stedman on the bells.

LEES, NEAR OLDHAM, LANCASHIRE.

On Saturday, September 19, 1885, in Two Hours and Fifty-four Minutes,

AT ST. THOMAS'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

REEVES'S VARIATION. Tenor 14 cwt.

GEO. HY. BEEVER .. .. Treble.	JAMES BAILEY .. .. 5.
FRED CROSLAND .. .. 2.	WILLIAM HOLDEN .. .. 6.
JAS. W. HOLME* .. .. 3.	JOHN HILTON .. .. 7.
JOHN GREENWOOD .. .. 4.	JOSHUA PLATT .. .. Tenor.

Conducted by FRED CROSLAND.

\*First peal with a bob bell.

PATTINGHAM, NEAR WOLVERHAMPTON.  
THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION, AND THE  
ST. PAUL'S SOCIETY, BURTON-ON-TRENT.

On Saturday, September 19, 1885, in Three Hours.

At ST. CHAD'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF SURPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR,  
5088 CHANGES. Tenor 14½ cwt.

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

Composed by N. J. PITSTOW and Conducted by JOSEPH GRIFFIN.

In the above peal, which is a three-part peal, and is now rung for the first time, neither the 2nd or 3rd bell is ever in 6th's place. Is published in Snowdon's Surprise methods in "THE BELL NEWS," vol. iv., p. 177, and is the seventh peal rung in the method by the St. Paul's Society, and the fourteenth peal on record.

BEESTON, NOTTINGHAMSHIRE.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, September 19, 1885, in Three Hours and Ten Minutes,

At ST. JOHN'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;  
IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 19 cwt.

AMOS CRESSER .. .. .Treble.	*E. DENISON TAYLOR, Esq. 5.
CHARLES SMITH* .. .. 2.	WILLIAM BILLINGHURST .. 6.
GEORGE BRADLEY .. .. 3.	J. W. TAYLOR, JUN., Esq. 7.
WILLIAM GILSON .. .. .4.	†JOHN WARD .. .. .Trnor.

Composed by W. HUDSON, and Conducted by JOHN WARD.

\*First peal in the method. †First peal as conductor.

Messrs. Ward, Bradley, and Gilson are of the St. Lawrence's society, Long Eaton; the rest hail from Loughborough.

CARSHALTON, SURREY.

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

On Monday, September 21, 1885, in Two Hours and Fifty-four Minutes,

At ALL SAINTS' CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;  
HOLT'S SIX-PART. Tenor 12½ cwt. in G#.

JAMES HARRIS .. .. .Treble.	JOHN PLOWMAN .. .. .5.
DR. A. B. CARPENTER .. 2.	WILLIAM BURKIN .. .. 6.
EDGAR BENNETT .. .. 3.	*URBAN HOLMAN .. .. 7.
WILLIAM STATES* .. .. 4.	THOMAS VERRALL .. ..Tenor.

Conducted by JOHN PLOWMAN.

\*First peal.

Date Touches.

THE BIRMINGHAM AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATION.

BIRMINGHAM.—On Monday, September 21st, at St. Phillip's church, ten members of the above Association, also members of the Birmingham Amalgamated Society, rang a date touch of Grandsire Caters, 1885 changes, in 1 hr. 14 mins. John Payne, 1; John Carter (composer and conductor), 2; John Callaghan, 3; Thomas Russam, 4; Charles Barnacle, 5; Charles Carmell, 6; John Wright, 7; John Perry, 8; Albert Hackley, 9; James King, 10. This touch contains the 6th nine times right and nine times behind the 9th. Tenor 29 cwt.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

TEWKESBURY ABBEY (Gloucestershire).—On Thursday evening, September 17th, eight members of the above society rang a date touch 1885 changes of Grandsire Triples, in 1 hr. and 10 mins. C. W. Dyson, 1; R. H. Witherington, 2; F. J. Moore, 3; S. Cleal, 4; J. Wathen, 5; J. Devereux, 6; Jos. Wathen (conductor), 7; W. Haines, 8. The above is the longest touch by C. W. Dyson.

GLOSSOP (Derbyshire).—On Thursday, September 17th, at All Saints' church, a date touch of Oxford Treble Bob Major. Samuel Harrop, 1; Daniel James, 2; W. Story, 3; Samuel Knott, jun. (composer and conductor), 4; Joseph Maloney, 5; R. S. Story, 6; Henry Cooper, 7; John Pye, jun., 8. Tenor 15 cwt.

LEICESTER.—On Saturday, September 19th, at St. Mary's church, a date touch of Grandsire Triples, containing 1885 changes, in 1 hr. 13 mins. J. J. Lakin, 1; W. A. Clation, 2; G. Burrows (conductor), 3; J. Jarvis, 4; W. Low, 5; A. Wilson, 6; J. Buttery, 7; C. Biddles, 8. Composed by Mr. Jackson, of Hull.

Miscellaneous.

THE SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.

BATTERSEA (Surrey).—On Saturday, September 19th, four members of this society from Brighton, with four London members, attempted Holt's 10-part peal of Grandsire Triples at St. Mary's church, but after ringing 4500 changes in 2 hrs. 35 mins., the peal came to grief. W. Ambrose, 1; A. E. Church, 2; C. E. Golds (Brighton), 3; H. J. Davies, 4; W. W. Thorne, 5; H. Weston (Brighton), 6; J. Jay (Brighton), 7; E. Butler (Brighton), 8. The visitors desire to express their hearty thanks to Mr. H. S. Thomas, for his kindly welcome, and the Vicar for granting permission to ring, and to Mr. H. Hopkins, for making the necessary arrangements.

LONG MELFORD (Suffolk).—On Saturday, September 19th, at Holy Trinity church, a quarter-peal of Bob Triples, in 50 mins. Samuel Slater, 1; Oliver Garwood, 2; Fred. Wells, 3; Zach. Slater, 4; James Bird, 5; Frederick Paul Adams, 6; Percy Chas. S. Scott (conductor), 7; G. Hammond, 8. First 1000 of Bob Triples, by all the above. And a 560 of Double Norwich Court Bob Major. James Bird, 1; Zach. Slater, 2; \*G. Hammond 3; \*Percy Scott, 4; S. Slater, 5; Fred Wells, 6; O. Garwood, 7; F. P. Adams (conductor), 8. \*First touch of Double Norwich. Also on Sunday, September 20th, on the occasion of the annual Harvest Thanksgiving, a quarter-peal of Bob Triples, in 45 mins. John Slater, 1; F. P. Adams, 2; Fred. Wells, 3; Zach. Slater, 4; Saml. Slater, 5; O. Garwood, 6; Percy Chas. S. Scott (conductor), 7; G. Hammond, 8. And a 560 of Kent Treble Bob Major. F. P. Adams (conductor), 1; Zach. Slater, 2; G. Hammond, 3; Percy Scott, 4; Saml. Slater, 5; Fred Wells, 6; O. Garwood, 7; Harry Harper, 8.

THE ST. JAMES'S SOCIETY, LONDON.

BATTERSEA (Surrey).—On Thursday, September 10th, the Rev. F. J. O. Helmore, of Canterbury, Kent, visited St. Mary's tower, Old Battersea, and started with the following band for Holt's Original peal of Grandsire Triples, but after ringing 2 hrs. and 20 mins., it unfortunately came to grief. W. Baron (conductor), 1; J. W. Mansfield, 2; Rev. F. J. O. Helmore, 3; H. J. Davis, 4; H. S. Thomas, 5; J. Rogers, 6; T. Taylor, 7; G. Chesterman, 8.

WINDSOR (Berks).—On Sunday, September 20th, at St. John's parish church, a 504 of Grandsire Triples. F. King, 1; Rev. W. S. Willett, 2; A. C. Fussell (conductor), 3; A. Andrews, 4; William Wilder, 5; Reuben Flaxman, 6; Wm. H. Fussell, 7; James Perryman, 8. Tenor 22 cwt. This touch was rung previous to Divine Service being held in this church, for the neighbouring friendly Societies to attend in full procession.

THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

BEDFORD.—On Thursday, September 17th, for practice at St. Mary's church, a 720 of College Single (eighteen bobs and two singles). F. M. Smith, 1; S. J. Cullip (first 720 in the method), 2; T. Foote (first 720 in the method), 3; M. Warwick, 4; C. H. Clarke (conductor), 5; I. Hills, 6. Also a 720 of Oxford Bob Minor (eighteen bobs and two singles). F. M. Smith, 1; S. J. Cullip, 2; T. Foote, 3; M. Warwick, 4; Ch. Clarke (conductor), 5; I. Hills, 6. And a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob Minor (nine bobs). I. Hills, 1; Ch. Clarke (conductor), 2; T. Foote, 3; M. Warwick, 4; S. J. Cullip, 5; F. M. Smith, 6. And on Sunday, September 20th, for Divine Service, a 720 of Plain Bob Minor (eighteen bobs and ten singles). F. Keech, 1; J. Frossell, 2; T. Foote, 3; M. Warwick, 4; I. Hills, 5; C. W. Clarke (conductor), 6. And a 360 of Oxford Bob Minor (four bobs and two singles). I. Hills, 1; C. W. Clarke (conductor), 2; T. Foote, 3; M. Warwick, 4; S. J. Cullip, 5; W. Hall, 6.

ASPLEY GUISE (Bedfordshire).—On Thursday evening, September 17th, at the Parish Church, a 720 of Bob Minor (thirty-two bobs and two singles), in 22 mins. G. Usher, 1; E. Lewin, 2; W. Mynard, 3; J. Carwell Cooke, 4; M. Lane, 5; W. Chibnall (conductor), 6. Tenor 10 cwt.

THE BIRMINGHAM AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATION.

BIRMINGHAM.—Muffled Peal.—On Saturday, September 12th, at Bishop Ryder's church, eight members of the above Association attempted Holt's 10-part peal of Grandsire Triples, with the bells muffled for the late R. Ellwell, and W. Duffill, of Bromsgrove, who were members of the above Association, but after ringing 1400 changes in

58 mins., a mishap occurred. J. Payne, 1; C. Carmell (conductor), 2; J. Callaghan, 3; F. H. James, 4; C. Barnacle, 5; J. Wright, 6; A. Hackley, 7; W. Saniger, 8. Tenor 13 cwt. And on Monday, September 14th, at St. Phillip's church, on the front six, a 720 of Grandsire Minor, in 27 mins. G. Hickman, 1; C. Barnacle, 2; J. Wright, 3; J. T. Perry, 4; A. Hackley, 5; C. Carmell (conductor), 6.

**HARBORNE.**—On Saturday, September 19th, at the parish church, a 720 of Grandsire Minor, in 24 mins. G. Farmer, 1; C. Barnacle, 2; J. Wright, 3; J. Carter, 4; A. Hackley, 5; J. T. Perry (conductor), 6. Tenor 12 cwt.

**SEELY OAK (Worcestershire).**—On Saturday, September 19th, at St. Mary's church, a 720 of New Grandsire Minor, in 24 mins. E. Boylin, 1; C. Barnacle, 2; J. Wright, 3; J. Carter (conductor), 4; E. Bryant, 5; J. T. Perry, 6. Tenor 11 cwt.

**WEST BROMWICH.**—On Saturday, September 12th, at All Saints' church, a 720 of Grandsire Minor, in 26 mins. E. J. Cashmore, 1; W. Elesmore, 2; J. Tinsley, 3; J. Carter (conductor), 4; W. Smith, 5; J. T. Perry, 6. Tenor 13 cwt.

#### DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

**STOCKTON-ON-TEES.**—On Thursday, September 10th, being the wedding of H. Faber, Esq., to Miss Giles, at Southampton, a 720 each of Kent Treble Bob and Evening Exercise. On Friday, September 11th, being the public institution of the Rev. H. Martin as Vicar of Stockton, before service a 720 of York Surprise was rung, and after service a 720 of Woodbine. On Sunday morning, September 13th, a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob. And on Saturday, September 19th, Messrs. Diboll and Wallis visited Stockton, when a 720 of Kent Treble Bob was rung. T. Burdon, 1; J. Clarkson, 2; E. Wallis, 3; T. W. Waller, 4; T. Stephenson, 5; G. J. Clarkson (conductor), 6.

#### THE EASTERN COUNTIES' GUILD.

**SPALDING (Lincolnshire).**—On Tuesday, September 16th, at the church of SS. Mary and Nicolas, a 720 of Bob Minor, and a 720 of College Single. J. W. Jarvis, 1; C. Neaverson, 2; G. L. Richardson, 3; R. Mackman, 4; J. S. Wright, 5; J. Brown, 6. This was an attempt for 2520, as a commemorative touch upon the six bells being augmented to eight, but it came to grief in the third 720.

#### THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

**ROMFORD.**—On Thursday evening, September 17th, a 720 of Bob Minor (eight bobs and six singles). G. Roughton, 1; A. J. Perkins, 2; W. Nash, 3; B. Keeble, 4; J. Pye, 5; A. Pye (conductor), 6. Also on Sunday evening, a 720 of Bob Minor (sixteen bobs and two singles). W. Keeble, 1; A. J. Perkins (conductor), 2; W. Nash, 3; B. Keeble, 4; G. Roughton, 5; A. Pye, 6.

#### THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

**MELBOURNE (Derbyshire).**—On Tuesday, September 15th, the local company rang a 360 of Bob Minor. J. R. Wood, 1; G. A. Fish, 2; J. Vickers, 3; F. W. Cook, 4; T. Hollingworth, 5; G. C. Tunncliffe (conductor), 6. The above was rung to celebrate the 20th birthday of F. W. Cook, the respected local Hon. Sec., his brother ringers take this opportunity of wishing him many happy returns of the day. And on Sunday, September 20th, on the occasion of the Harvest Thanksgiving, for Divine Service in the morning, 180 of Bob Minor, the band standing as above. And for Divine Service in the evening, a 360 of Bob Minor was attempted, but resulted in a failure after about 320 changes. After service, two 6-scores of Bob Doubles. J. R. Wood, 1; G. A. Fish, 2; J. Vickers, 3; F. W. Cook, 4; T. Hollingworth, 5; T. Clarke, 6. And 180 of Bob Minor, with G. C. Tunncliffe, 6. Tenor 16 cwt. in F#.

#### THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

**ABINGDON (Berks).**—On Sunday, September 20th, 1885, at St. Nicholas' church, a 720 of Bob Minor. in 23 mins. James Higgs, 1; William Sandall, 2; Thomas Short, 3; John Brown, 4; Henry Sheard, 5; Harry Holifield (conductor), 6.

**CAVERSHAM (Oxon).**—On Sunday, August 30th, the St. Peter's Society rang at St. Peter's church, a 720 of College Single; September 6th, a 720 of Double Oxford Bob, and a 360 of Plain Bob Minor; September 8th, 720 of College Single; September 13th, 720 of Double Court, and 720 of Yorkshire Court. Conducted by Messrs. Coleridge, Newman, Pottinger, and Essex. And on Tuesday, September 15th, 2520 changes, being a 360 of each of the following Minor methods: Grandsire, Double Oxford Bob, Double Court, Yorkshire Court, College Single, Oxford Bob, and Plain Bob, in 1 hr. 37 mins. J. Hands, 1; E. Menday, 2; G. Essex, 3; T. Newman, 4; E. Pottinger, 5; Rev. G. F. Coleridge (conductor), 6. This is the longest touch by the St. Peter's Society.

#### STOKE-ON-TRENT ARCHIDIACONAL ASSOCIATION.

**NORTON (Staffordshire).**—On Saturday, September 19th, a 720 of Bob Minor, in 25 mins. W. Baddeley, 1; E. Glover, 2; J. Woods, 3; J. Baddeley (conductor), 4; W. H. Armitt (Leek), 5; Rev. A. H. Hitchcock (Golden Hill), 6.

**ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE (Lancashire).**—On Monday evening, September 14th, at St. Peter's church, the local company met to attempt a peal with Mr. R. H. Brundle, of St. Mary-le-Tower Society, Ipswich, who was on a visit to Manchester, but time not permitting that length previous to starting of the train, the following touches were rung. 896 of Kent Treble Bob Major. Thomas Heald, 1; Thomas Moss, 2; Samuel Wood, 3; George Longden, 4; Albert E. Wreaks, 5; J. Eachus, 6; J. Thorp, 7; R. H. Brundle, 8. 504 changes of Stedman Triples. Thos. Moss, 1; W. Smith, 2; J. Wood, 3; S. Wood, 4; A. E. Wreaks, 5; J. Thorp, 6; R. H. Brundle, 7; George Longden, 8. And a course of Oxford Treble Bob. Joseph Bowcock, 1; Thos. Heald, 2; R. H. Brundle, 3; James Wood, 4; Benjamin Broadbent, 5; A. E. Wreaks, 6; J. Thorp, 7; S. Wood, 8. Tenor 20 cwt. Mr. R. Brundle wishes to return his sincere thanks to Mr. A. E. Wreaks, and J. Eachus, of the Manchester Cathedral society, and to the Ashton-under-Lyne Society, for their courtesy, and the pleasure of ringing with six of the long peal band.

**CHESTER.**—On Thursday, September 7th, at St. Mary's church, a 720 of Plain Bob Minor, in 24 mins. William Joinson, 1; Edwin Davis, 2; George Caldwell, 3; John Johnson, 4; Sydney Barton, 5; Thomas J. Bithell (conductor), 6. First 720 by all in the method except the conductor.

**EASTBOURNE (Sussex).**—On Tuesday, September 8th, at St. Mary's church, an attempt was made to ring Holt's Original peal of Grandsire Triples, but after ringing 3900 changes, in 2 hrs. 16 mins., "stand" had to be called owing to the conductor finding he had gone a lead too far before making a call. E. Harris, 1; H. P. Bennett, 2; S. Harffley, 3; L. Huggett, 4; F. Harding (conductor), 5; Thos. Willoughby, 6; Thos. Hart, 7; Jno. Rollinson, 8. Tenor 16 cwt. 3 qrs. Mr. Harding being a young conductor, the rest of the band congratulate him on the able manner in which he performed his part in this difficult peal up to the time of the collapse, and hope the next attempt will be successful.

**ELY (Cambridgeshire).**—On Thursday, September 17th, at St. Mary's church, a 720 of Plain Bob Minor, in 29 mins. J. E. Ellis, 1; J. Southerill, 2; W. King, 3; J. R. Vincent, 4; A. Pilgrim (conductor), 5; J. Daines, 6; J. Vail, 7.

**EWHRST (Surrey).**—On Monday, September 13th, at the parish church, for practice, the local company rang a 720 of Oxford Single Bob, in 30 mins. W. Haynes, sen., 1; Fred Francis, 2; F. Francis, 3; W. Tydy, 4; A. Baker, 5; W. Haynes, jun. (conductor), 6.

**FARNHAM ROYAL (Bucks).**—On Saturday, September 19th, a 720 of Bob Minor, in 24 mins. G. Basden, 1; R. Flaxman, 1; J. Basden, 3; W. Wilder, 4; J. Parker, 5; C. Clarke, 6. Also a 360 of Grandsire Minor, in which H. Macro took part. And a 360 of Oxford Bob. And on Sunday morning, September 20th, a 720 of Grandsire Minor in 26 mins. E. Batten, 1; J. Parker (conductor), 2; G. Basden, 3; J. Basden, 4; C. Clarke, 5; R. Flaxman, 6.

**FARNHAM (Essex).**—On Sunday afternoon, September 20th, six of the Stanstead ringers paid a visit to the above place, and rang for Service a 300 of Plain Bob Minor, and after service a 720 of Plain Bob Minor (nine bobs and six singles), in 26 mins. G. Prior, 1; W. Prior, 2; H. Prior, jun., 3; G. Gray, 4; J. Luckey, 5; C. Prior (conductor), 6. This is the second 720 ever rung on the bells. Tenor 11 cwt.

**GREAT BROMLEY (Essex).**—On Sunday, September 13th, for the Harvest Festival, before service in the afternoon, a 360 of Bob Minor, also after service a 720 of Bob Minor, and a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob. \*G. Howell, 1; W. Smith, 2; H. Howell, 3; J. Starling, 4; J. Taylor (conductor), 5; W. Nevard, 6. \*First 720 in the method. W. Smith hails from Higham; W. Nevard from Great Bentley; H. Howell from Ipswich, the rest are of the local company.

**GREENWICH (Kent).**—On Sunday morning, September 20th, after Harvest Thanksgiving Service, a 504 of Grandsire Triples, in 18 mins. Harry W. Grout (Greenwich), 1; William Pead (Deptford), 2; William G. Shade (Greenwich), 3; William Weatherstone (Rotherhithe), 4; Frederick W. Thornton (Greenwich), 5; William H. Freeman (Lewisham), 6; Abraham G. Freeman (Lewisham), 7; William Foreman (Greenwich), 8. Composed by the late John Cox, and conducted by F. W. Thornton. And on Monday, September 21st, 701 of Grandsire Caters, in 30 mins. John James Lamb, 1; William Weatherstone (conductor), 2; Abraham George Freeman, 3; William George Shade, 4; Joseph Waghorn, jun., 5; Thomas Taylor, 6; Frederick William Thornton, 7; Joseph Laws, 8; William Henry Freeman, 9; Harry William Grout, 10. Tenor 25½ cwt.

**HINDLEY (Lancashire).—Muffled Peal.**—On Monday, September 14th, at St. Peter's church, six members of the local company, with two from the parish church, Wigan, rang with the bells half muffled, the first half of Holt's ten-part peal of Grandsire Triples, 2520 changes, in 1 hr. 28 mins., as a mark of respect to the late Mrs. Unsworth, of the Balmoral brewery. Richard Calland, 1; Joseph Prescott (conductor), 2; Edmund Brown, 3; George Turner (Wigan), 4; George B. Walker (Wigan), 5; Thomas Tickle, 6; Giles Higson, 7; George Lang, 8. And on Saturday, September 19th, the first half of Reeves's variation of Holt's ten-part peal of Grandsire Triples, 2520 changes, on the occasion of the marriage of Mr. Noah Gregory, one of the members of the local society, in 1 hr. 26 mins. Joseph Prescott (conductor), 1; Richard Calland, 2; Edmund Brown, 3; George Turner (Wigan), 4; Giles Higson, 5; Thomas Tickle, 6; Jonathan Hall (Wigan), 7; George Lang, 8. Tenor 14 cwt. 1 qr.

**HITCHIN (Herts).**—On Monday, September 1st, at St. Mary's church, for practice, a 336 of Grandsire Triples. J. Randall, 1; H. Buckingham, 2; J. Hare, 3; A. Squires, 4; J. Foster, 5; S. Hare, 6; W. Allen (conductor), 7; G. Halsey, 8. Also a 360 of Plain Bob Minor. J. Randall, 1; H. Buckingham, 2; J. Hare (conductor), 3; A. Squires, 4; S. Hare, 5; W. Allen, 6; J. Foster, 7; A. Arnold, 8. The above was rung with 7-8 covering. Tenor 28 cwt. in D.

**KINVER (Staffordshire).**—At the parish church, September 20th, four 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles, and one of Bob Doubles. Abel Bennett (conductor), 1; John Brown, 2; Robt. Pursall, 3; John Richards, 4; Benjamin Smith, 5; John Hubball, 6. Rung on the occasion of the Harvest Festival.

**LEICESTER.**—On Monday, September 14th, at St. Mary's church, a 672 of Grandsire Triples. J. Wilson, 1; W. A. Clation, 2; J. Jarvis, 3; G. Burrows (conductor), 4; W. Low, 5; J. Walton, 6; J. Marlow, 7; C. Biddles, 8. J. Wilson hails from Spalding, Lincs.

**RIPON.**—On Sunday, September 20th, the Cathedral Society (whose services are not required in the morning) rang in the afternoon at the Cathedral, a 640 of Kent Treble Bob Major, in 24 mins. A. H. Clark, 1; Joseph Baines, 2; Jno. Strodder, jun., 3; T. Metcalf, 4; Anthony Ingleby, 5; George Ingleby, 6; T. Clark (conductor), 7; Heby Rumbold, 8. Tenor 21 cwt. in E.

**SHAROW (Yorkshire).**—On Sunday, September 20th by the kind permission of the vicar, the members of the Ripon Cathedral society rang 1120 changes of Kent Treble Bob Major, in 40 mins. A. H. Clark, 1; Joseph Baines, 2; Jno. Strodder, jun., 3; T. Metcalf, 4; Anthony Ingleby, 5; George Ingleby, 6; T. Clark (conductor), 7; Henry Rumbold, 8. Tenor 13 cwt. in G.

**SUDBURY (Suffolk).**—On Monday, September 14th, at All Saints' church, the following members of the local company, with Mr. C. Herbert, the Hon. Sec. of the Bedfordshire Association, who was on a visit to his native town, rang 672 of Grandsire Triples. W. Cross, 1; C. Herbert (College Youth), 2; M. Silvester, 3; C. Sillitoe (conductor; College Youth), 4; W. Bacon, 5; W. Griggs, 6; H. Harper (Cumberland Youth), 7; H. Brackett, 8. And on Wednesday, September 16th, at St. Gregory's, a 704 of Kent Treble Bob Major. F. Tolladay, 1; W. Griggs, 2; C. Herbert, 3; M. Silvester, 4; C. Sillitoe, 5; A. Scott (conductor), 6; W. Cross, 7; H. Harper, 8. Also on handbells, a course of Bob Royal. A. Scott, 1-2; C. Herbert, 3-4; C. Sillitoe, 5-6; W. Howell, 7-8; W. Cross, 9-10.

[The half-peal of Grandsire Triples rung at this place, reported in our last week's issue, was conducted by C. Sillitoe.]

**WALTON-ON-THE-HILL (Lancashire).**—On Tuesday, September 15th, at St. Mary's parish church, a 720 of Yorkshire Court Bob Minor, (eighteen bobs and two singles), in 25½ mins., and a 360 of London Single Bob, 120 College Single, a 120 of Oxford Single Bob, and 120 Plain Bob, in 26½ mins., and a 120 of Grandsire Minor. And on Sunday, September 20th, for Divine Service in the morning, a 240 of Yorkshire Court Bob, a 240 of Oxford Single Bob, and a 240 of Grandsire, in 25 mins. And for Divine Service in the evening, a 240 of Plain Bob. J. Hurst, 1; C. J. Rodgers, 2; T. R. Somerville, 3; T. Rushton, 4; R. Stockley, 5; C. E. Wilson (conductor), 6.

**WOMBOURN (Staffordshire).**—On Wednesday evening, September 9th, a 720 of Bob Minor, with sixteen bobs and two singles, in 26 mins. G. Deans, 1; A. Little, 2; J. E. Claridge, 3; W. Devey, 4; R. Cartwright (conductor), 5; H. Deans, 6. Also two 6-scores of Bob Doubles. J. Little (first 6-score), 1; J. E. Claridge, 2; H. Deans, 3; W. Devey, 4; R. Cartwright (conductor), 5; A. Little, 6. And on Wednesday evening, September 16th, a 720 of Bob Minor, with eighteen bobs and two singles, in 27 mins. H. Deans, 1; J. E. Claridge, 2; A. Little, 3; W. Devey, 4; Rev. Charles F. Collom, 5; R. Cartwright (conductor), 6. Mr. Collom hails from Kingswinford, and this is his first 720. Tenor about 12 cwt.

**WANSTEAD (Essex).**—On Sunday, September 20th, at Christ Church, after evening service, a 720 of Bob Minor, in 25 mins. C. Pilcher, 1; W. Smith, 2; J. Gobbett, 3; W. Lebbon, 4; J. Marks, 5; G. Akers (conductor), 6.

## RE-OPENING AT THORINGTON, ESSEX.

An excellent ring of five bells, lately rehung and put in working order, in the parish church, were re-opened on Sunday, September 13th. The bell-frame, which had not been in a fit condition for upwards of thirty years, has been recently renewed, and the proper hanging of the bells taken in hand by Mr. H. Bowell, of Ipswich, who has carried out the work in a thoroughly efficient and satisfactory manner. Three 6-scores of Graudsire Doubles, each called differently, were rung before morning service by the following members of The Essex Association, from Great Bentley, Great Bromley, Higham, and Ipswich: J. Taylor, 1; G. Starling, 2; W. Smith, 3; H. Bowell, 4; W. J. Nevard (conductor), 5. Tenor 16 cwt. Three more 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles were rung after service, H. Bowell and W. Smith conducting. A special sermon was preached by the Rev. John Kemp, from the words, "Blessed be the Name of the Lord," which are inscribed in Latin on the 4th bell. After speaking of the antiquity and history of church bells, the preacher dwelt upon the various messages they ring out, as they call church people together to worship, or are heard on special occasions of joy or sorrow, pointing out how appropriate the inscription on the bell was for all such times and seasons. In some of the larger churches, he said, the bells used once to be rung by the clergy, and lay ringers were required to be able to read, that they might say the responses in service-time. Ringers should consider themselves privileged to be church helpers, as choirmen are, and therefore bound to practise quietness, sobriety, and reverence in the belfry. On Tuesday, September 15th, after the Harvest Thanksgiving Services, the following six-scores were rung in 30 mins.: two Grandsire Doubles, each called differently, one Old Doubles, one Plain Doubles, and two of Nightingale. These are a maiden peal, and bear the following inscriptions:—

1 2 5.—Thos. Gardiner, Sudbury, Fecit., 1732.

3.—John Warner and Sons, London, 1860.

4.—Sit Nomen Domini Benedictum. Cast by J. Warner and Sons. No. 3 was recast in the year stated.

## BOOTLE, LANCASHIRE.

On Wednesday, September 16th, the ringers of Christ Church, accompanied by the Vicar, the Rev. A. T. Scott, held their fourth annual picnic at Eccleston, near Chester. On arriving at Chester, they wended their way down to the river Dee, and rowed to Eccleston. Here a splendid dinner awaited them, which was keenly relished, after the hard pulling against the stream. After dinner they proceeded as far as Eccleston parish church, and through the kindness of the Vicar (the Rev. E. Robins), the belfry was placed at their disposal for the day. A 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor was rung in 25 mins., and several touches in various methods, viz.: Oxford Treble Bob, Grandsire, Plain Bob, and College Single. E. Yates, 1; T. E. Woodward, 2; W. Short, 3; W. Rushton, 4; R. H. Barton, 5; J. Bradshaw (conductor), 6. The Rev. A. T. Scott also took part in a few touches. Tenor 13½ cwt. After a good substantial tea the journey homewards was commenced, which was reached about 10.45, after having spent a most enjoyable day. The ringers wish, through the medium of this paper, to thank the Vicar of Eccleston, and also the ringers, for kindly allowing them the use of the bells.

## THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

THE ANNUAL GATHERING of the members of this Association will take place at Norwich, on Monday next, September 28th. The service will be held at the church of St. Peter Mancroft, at 12.45; preacher, the Rev. H. Earle Bulwer, Rector of Stanhoe, Norfolk. Dinner at 1.30 in St. Andrew's Hall; the Mayor of Norwich in the chair. After dinner there will be the usual Business Meeting. The secretary would be glad to receive the names of those intending to be present, and the G.E.R. station from which they start, on or before Tuesday, September 22nd.

N. BOLINGBROKE, Hon. Sec.

Bracondale Terrace, Norwich.

## THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

THE SECOND QUARTERLY MEETING of this Association will be held at Leicester, on Saturday, October 10th. Full particulars of which will appear in our next issue.

JOSEPH GRIFFIN, Hon. Sec.

377, Rosliston Road, Burton-on-Trent.

**DEATH OF A RINGER.**—Mr. Thomas Ives died at his residence, Gateland House, Shipley, on Friday, September 18th. The deceased, who was in his 67th year, had been a ringer at St. Paul's nearly half a century, was a life member of the Yorkshire Association, and took a warm interest in its welfare. His remains were interred in St. Paul's churchyard on Monday, September 21st, the funeral being attended by a large number of ringers and friends from various parts, and muffled peals were rung during the day.



## EXCURSION TO GLOUCESTERSHIRE.

ON Saturday, September 12th, Messrs. S. Reeves, W. R. Small, T. Horton, H. Hipkiss, C. Price, J. Hall, R. Hall, and C. Timms, members of the Christ Church society, West Bromwich, with Mr. A. Thomas, of Birmingham, went on an excursion to Cheltenham. Arriving there about 4.30 p.m., they at once made their way to St. Mary's church, where previous arrangements had been made for a peal of Grandsire Triples in connection with the Association for the Archdeaconry of Stafford, but after ringing upwards of 1 hr. 20 mins. the bells were found to have changed course, and the conductor called out stand. In a very few minutes the party were invited by the local band to "The Eight Bells" Inn, where a first rate supper was provided, and after refreshing themselves the tables were cleared, and the remainder of the evening was spent in a very enjoyable manner, when some plain courses on the handbells and a few songs were indulged in. Time being called, Captain F. Musty gave the order to follow him, and a departure was made to the "Sidney Arms" hotel, where the visitors were to stay for the night. In the morning, as soon as breakfast was over, Mr. Pates, of the Cheltenham Society, was in waiting, and the party were soon on the way to Charlton Kings, where an attempt was made for a 720 of Grandsire Minor, but owing to the bad go of the bells this had to be abandoned, and some touches only were rung. A stroll back through the country, and an explanation of the different scenery by local friends as the visitors went along, brought them back to their hotel in time for dinner. In the afternoon G. H. Phillott, Esq., accompanied them to Prestbury, a beautiful village about two miles out, where a mixed band rang some touches of Grandsire, Stedman, and Kent Treble Bob Minor on the bells of the parish church before evening service, after which the party returned to Cheltenham, which was reached at an early hour. Monday morning proved to be a wet one, for the rain fell in torrents till about nine o'clock, and this appeared to put a damper on the enjoyment of the day, but breakfast being over, away they went to St. Mary's church, where a wedding was to take place at 10.0 a.m., after which the bells were raised in peal, and a 503 of Grandsire Caters was rung, conducted by S. Reeves. This being over it was decided to visit Painswick in the afternoon, so a break and pair was chartered, and the visitors were soon on their way thither; although the weather was rather dull and misty, the rain kept off, and the scenery along the road was something beautiful. On arriving at Painswick the bells were raised in peal, and a mixed band rang a 1151 of Grandsire Caters, and 504 of Stedman Triples, both being conducted by Mr. John Belcher, of Cheltenham. After refreshing the inner man, the horses were ordered to be put too, and the return journey commenced by a fresh route, so that a different view of the country to the one they had going was obtained, Cheltenham being reached about 7.15. On entering the "Eight Bells" Inn, and supper being quite ready, after the most beautiful drive, ample justice was done to the good things provided. The cloth being drawn, the chairman, Mr. J. Belcher, proposed "The health of the donors of the feast," which was drank with musical honors. A plain course of Grandsire Cinques was rung on the handbells, and some tunes were played by Mr. Pates, which gave very great pleasure to all, as they were so well-struck to time. The visitors wish to thank Mr. J. Belcher, and G. H. Phillott, Esq., and also the whole of the Cheltenham friends, for the very kind and hospitable manner in which they received them, assuring them that it will be a long time ere their visit to Gloucestershire will be forgotten.

## SUBSCRIPTION LIST FOR THE JOHNSON TESTIMONIAL.

Subscribed by the following members of the St. Martin's Company, Birmingham—	£ s. d.	J. W. Snowdon, Esq. ... ..	£ s. d.
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F. Sanders ... ..	2 6	W. W. Gifford, Salisbury ... ..	3 0
F. Banks ... ..	5 0	J. Barwell, Birmingham ... ..	5 0
W. Kent ... ..	5 0	F. H. James, St. John's, Deritend, Birmingham ... ..	2 6
H. Bastable ... ..	5 0	Rev. J. H. Fish, Burton ... ..	10 0
H. Johnson, jun. ... ..	10 6	J. Carter, Birmingham Amalgamated Society ... ..	6 0
S. Reeves ... ..	5 0	H. and C. Hopkins, London ...	2 0
J. Buffery ... ..	3 0	W. H. Godden, St. Martin's, Birmingham ... ..	5 0
C. Stanbridge ... ..	2 6	N. J. Pittow ... ..	2 6
W. R. Small ... ..	2 6	J. R. Haworth ... ..	2 6
B. Wittchell ... ..	2 6	John Day, Edgbaston, B'gham ...	5 0
A. Jones ... ..	1 0	C. Fluck, Perry Barr, B'gham ...	2 6
A. Thomas ... ..	5 0		
T. Powell, Waltham Abbey ...	5 0		

The committee earnestly request that donations from ringers and friends interested in this "National Testimonial" be forwarded at an early date to one of the undersigned: A. Thomas, Hon. Secretary, 83, Wheeley's Road, Edgbaston, Birmingham; S. Reeves, Hon. Treasurer, 10, Bull Street, West Bromwich.

## 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 NECESSARY EXPLANATION.

SIR,—I noticed in your issue of the 15th ultimo, a report of the Bedfordshire Association's visit to St. Edmund's, Northampton, for the purpose of attempting a peal of Bob Triples, but were unable to accomplish it through the bad "go" of the bells. Well, Sir, as a member of the S. E. V. B. R. Association, I think the fault did not lay with the bells, but rather with the persons who manipulated them, else how comes it that they could ring successfully a 720 of Bob Minor, and yet could get no farther than 252 changes in Triples? Probably the failure to accomplish the peal of Bob Triples was the want of practice for the Raunds section of the company, they being virtually six-bell ringers, and when we take into consideration that this was only the third opportunity that two of the Raunds section had on a ring of eight, the fact alone, I think, will explain the cause of failure. I trust, sir, in justice to Messrs. Taylor and Sons, of Loughborough, who founded and fitted up the peal at St. Edmund's, you will insert this in your next issue, as the bells of which the Bedfordshire Association complain, are pronounced by all ringers (young and old), to be the best they have handled in the County. JABEZ SMITH.

## "NATIONAL ASSOCIATION."

SIR,—If the formation of a National Association is attempted next month at the Portsmouth Church Congress, no doubt a new committee will be appointed to undertake the task, and perhaps they may be more fortunate than the Reading committee of 1883. Whoever may be selected, it will probably help them and the ringing public, if they have something definite before them from where to make a start. Could you then find space before the 6th of October, to print over again the despised scheme of the Reading Committee? K. O. R.

September 21st, 1885.

[We will endeavour to do so in our next number.—ED.]

## REPLY TO C. P.

SIR,—I was glad to see your note at the foot of C. P.'s letter in your issue of the 12th inst. It is hard knocking, but not too hard in my opinion, I think, though "hostile critic" is being made a donkey of to carry other people's burden. Why do not C. P. say that it is his opinion as well as that of "hostile critic?" but perhaps he has not the courage to express his opinion in "BELL NEWS," after the reply that F.S.R. gave him in the *Devon and Exeter Gazette*; he says there has been a lively correspondence in that local paper, but he does not say that he was a valuable contributor himself; there he signed his name, "C. Pearson." Perhaps if I were to suggest that he is Vicar of Whitestone, a village near Exeter, it would open some ringers' eyes. A clergyman who has expressed an opinion that half-pull ringing is above the capacity of average village ringers, surely cannot read "BELL NEWS," and still assert this. He need not go many miles from his church to hear a band of village half-pull ringers, Kenn to wit, and all working men. These strike their half-pull changes with as much precision as round ringers do call changes. I am not a village ringer myself, but I consider them the backbone of the Exercise, and an opinion of this kind seems an insult to them. I hope that the next time C. P. addresses the exercise through the medium of your paper, that he will have the courage to express his own opinion and not that of another. F. S. R.

## THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, September 19th, Mr. R. Haworth, of this Association, visited Swanscombe for the purpose of inspecting the bells and belfry previous to the Swanscombe Society joining the Association, and with five of the local company rang a 720 of Grandsire Minor. A. Cornfoot, 1; R. Haworth, 2; W. Harper, 3; G. Hayes, 4; G. Martin, 5; W. Martin (conductor), 6. Mr. Haworth expressed himself well pleased with the go of the bells, and the condition of the belfry, also with the striking. He partook of tea at the house of Mr. Harper, and then, with the Swanscombe ringers, proceeded to Milton-next-Gravesend, and having inspected the bells and tower, a 720 of Grandsire Minor was rung by—A. Cornfoot, 1; R. Haworth, 2; H. D. Davis, 3; B. Spinner, 4; F. Hayes, 5; W. Harper (conductor), 6. St. George's church was then visited, and after Mr. Haworth had inspected the bells, a touch of Grandsire Triples was attempted, but owing to a change-course, did not come round.

A scheme is being promoted by the Midland Railway Company, for the construction of a low water dock on the foreshore south of the new dock at Cardiff, belonging to Lord Bute, with a water area of 320 acres, designed almost especially for the Atlantic trade. The estimated cost is one and a half millions.



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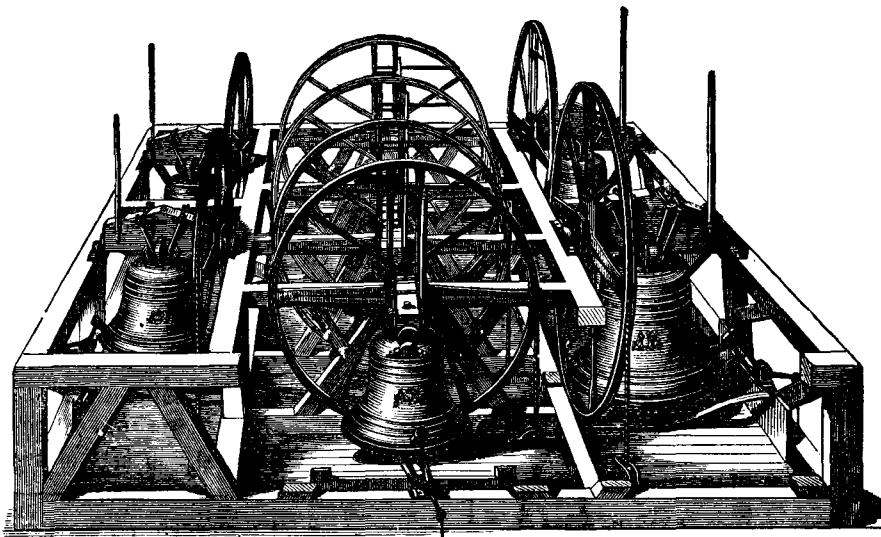
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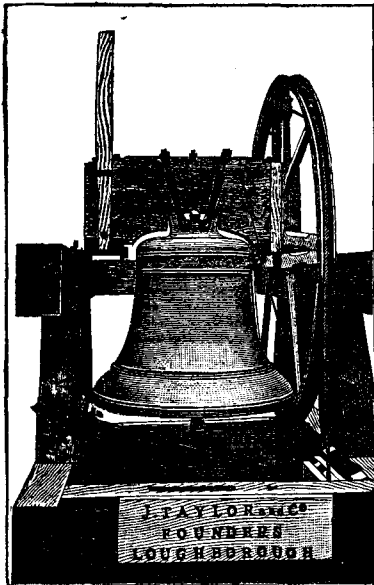
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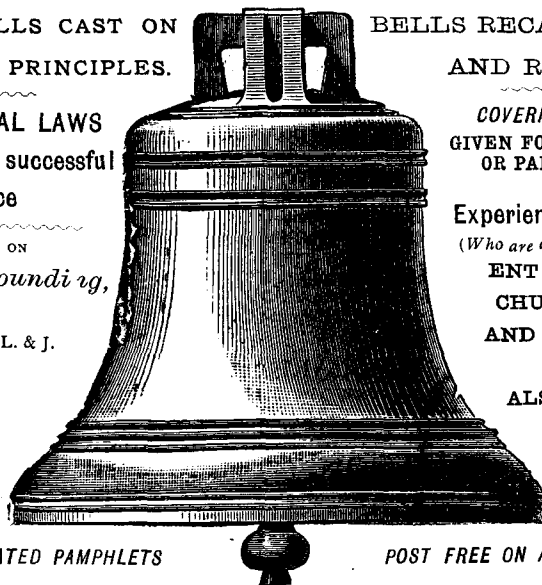
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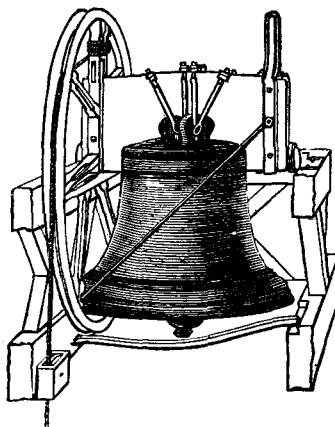
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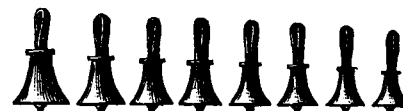
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Previous to 1875 the tower contained five of Pennington's bells, but the tenor being broken, was then exchanged for a new treble; now the ring has been increased to six, by the addition of a tenor from the foundry of Messrs. Warner and Sons, London.

These have been hung in new massive frames, with new flooring, by Harry Stokes, church bell hanger, of Woodbury, Devon, in a very commendable manner.

The opening ceremony took place on Wednesday afternoon, September the 23rd, on which occasion also the Harvest Festival was celebrated. For this purpose the members of the St. Mary's Society, Penzance, were up betimes in the morning to leave by the 6.25 train for Bodmin Road Station, where a brake and three horses was in waiting to convey them over rather more than a ten-mile drive through some of the most beautiful scenery in the county. Reaching their destination about eleven, a light breakfast soon warmed up their enthusiasm for a try at the bells; a few rounds only were sufficient to instil the ringers with confidence, and enable them to pronounce the ring a perfect one. Several six-scores of Grandsire Doubles were well struck off before lunch, which was a very welcome break after so long a drive at such an appetising altitude.

The special dedicatory service was held at 2.30 p.m., during a brief interval in which the ringers put them through one six-score of Grandsire Doubles. An eloquent and impressive sermon was delivered by the Rev. J. C. Kempe, of Tiverton, in which he invoked his hearers to ascribe unto the Lord the goodness of all things, subsequently enumerating the introduction and usages of bells from the earlier period down to the present day, soliciting all who may hear not to neglect the summons. Several 120's were then rung in the same method, in two of which the worthy Vicar took the treble. A large concourse of neighbouring ringers were present to hear the half-pull ringing, which was quite new to the vicinity, and it is earnestly hoped that many will be induced to emerge from their monotonous domain of round ringing and call-change ringing, and to study something of what they are pleased to call the scientific method, then we shall hear less of the objectionable practice of prize-ringing, which is so rife in this neighbourhood. After a hurried tea, the visitors were compelled to leave about 5 p.m., and herein wish to record their sincere thanks to the much respected vicar, the Rev. J. A. Kempe, and his wardens for their liberal hospitality and cordial welcome. The ringers were: J. H. Hitchens, 1; J. Hodder, 2; J. Richards, 3; C. Boase, 4; J. Symonds (conductor), 5; T. N. Hicks, 6.

## THE ST. LAURENCE SOCIETY, READING.

ON Saturday, September 19th, eight members of this Society paid a visit to Yateley, Hawley, and Sandhurst, the bells at the several churches having been kindly placed at their disposal by the respective clergy and ringers. Yateley was the first place reached, and a start was soon made for a 720 of Bob Minor, but unfortunately when a few leads from home it was found two bells had "shifted," therefore the attempt came to grief. The bells go fairly well, tenor about 16 cwt., but it is almost impossible to get good change-ringing, owing to two large cross beams which support the tower, dividing the ringing-chamber in two parts, making it very difficult to see all the ropes. A move was made from here to Hawley, where there is a capital ring of six, tenor about the same weight as Yateley. These bells are rung from the ground-floor, and go first rate. A start was made for a 720 of Bob Minor, which was successfully accomplished in 28½ mins. A. E. Reeves, 1; R. T. Hibbert, 2; W. Johnson, 3; W. Goseltine, 4; J. Potter, 5; W. J. Williams (conductor), 6. Another move was now made to Sandhurst, where there is a light ring of six, tenor 8½ cwt. These bells go well, and are a sweet little ring, but unfortunately nothing was accomplished here. Several starts were made for a 720 of Grandsire Minor, but none of them were successful. Ringing was now brought to a close, and the party adjourned to partake of refreshments, kindly provided by Mr. T. Smith, one of the local ringers, who also made all the arrangements for the ringing at Hawley, as well as Sandhurst. The party wish to express their thanks to the above gentleman for his kindness and hospitality, also to the respective clergy for the use of the bells, and for showing the party over the churches, which are well worth a visit at any time. The party reached Reading soon after midnight, well pleased with their afternoon's outing.

## ANNUAL OUTING OF THE CRAWLEY SOCIETY.

ON Tuesday, September 22nd, the members of the above society had their annual outing, the place selected being Eastbourne. A start was made from Crawley by the 6.54 a.m. train, arriving at Eastbourne at 8.30. They first paid a visit to St. Mary's church, and rang a quarter-peal of Union Triples, 1260 changes, in 43 mins. G. Holloway, 1; J. Newnham, 2; W. Wady, 3; F. Wickings, 4; M. Heffer, 5; H. Burstow (conductor), 6; A. F. Hillier, 7; W. Collison, 8. After strolling about the town they adjourned to the the "Lamb" Inn, where an excellent repast had been prepared by host Greenfield, and to which ample justice was done, the Rev. J. B. Lennard presiding. Dinner being disposed of, All Saints' church was visited, and a 360 of Grandsire Triples rung. G. Wickens, 1; J. Newnham, 2; Rev. J. B. Lennard (conductor), 3; F. Wickings, 4; G. Holloway, 5; A. F. Hillier, 6; H. Burstow, 7; J. Collison, 8. Also 420 of Oxford Bob Triples. J. Newnham, 1; W. Collison, 2; W. Wady, 3; F. Wickings, 4; G. Holloway, 5; A. F. Hillier, 6; H. Burstow (conductor), 7; T. Lewis (All Saints') 8. A visit was then paid to Christ Church, where a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob was rung, in 25 mins. G. Holloway, 1; J. Newnham, 2; W. Wady, 3; F. Wickings, 4; A. F. Hillier, 5; H. Burstow (conductor), 6. Also a 720 of Kent Treble Bob, in 24 mins. M. Heffer, 1; G. Holloway, 2; W. Wady, 3; F. Wickings, 4; W. Collison, 5; H. Burstow (conductor), 6. The ringers were very pleased with the go and tone of the bells. After a stroll back to the "Lamb" a first class tea was sat down to, and great praise given to the worthy host, for the excellent manner everything had been conducted. They again visited St. Mary's, and rang a few touches of Grandsire Triples with the St. Mary's ringers, and finished up with a 420 of Oxford Bob Triples. G. Wickings, 1; J. Newnham, 2; G. Holloway, 3; W. Collison, 4; F. Wickings, 5; A. F. Hillier, 6; H. Burstow (conductor), 7; T. Lewis, 8. Eastbourne was left at 9.30 p.m., after a most enjoyable day, to which the Eastbourne ringers contributed in no small degree. Crawley was reached safely at 11.20. The ringers wish to return thanks to the vicars and churchwardens for the use of the bells, also the steeple-keepers for having the ringing-chambers ready, and ringers for their hearty co-operation.

## MELBOURNE, DERBYSHIRE.—THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION AND THE ST. MICHAEL'S SOCIETY.

ON Saturday, September 19th, the members of the St. Michael's society had their first annual outing, the place selected being Sheepshed, Leicestershire, where there is an excellent peal of six by Bryant, of Hertford. Arriving at 3 p.m. they were met by one of the Sheepshed ringers, who conducted them to the tower. The bells were soon set in motion, and several 6-scores of Bob Doubles rang with the ringers as follows: J. R. Wood, 1; G. A. Fish, 2; J. Vickers, 3; F. W. Cook, 4; T. Hollingworth, 5; T. Clarke and Mr. Cooke (Sheepshed), 6; in turns. Tenor 13 cwt. And a 180 of Bob Minor, standing as before, except G. C. Tunnicliffe, who rang the tenor. A 360 was then tried for, but unfortunately came to grief when about twenty changes off the end. Five o'clock, the time arranged for tea, having arrived, an adjournment was made to the "Crown" inn, where there was an excellent repast, laid by hostess Cotton, full justice being done to it by all. The cloth being removed, the party was joined by some of the Sheepshed ringers, and at the request of them the handbells which had been brought from Melbourne, were called for, and several touches rang, which was enjoyed not only by the ringers, but by many outsiders. The local company are very backward in the art of change-ringing, which is to be deplored on account of their having access to such a splendid peal of bells. Several young hands are anxious to get masters of the art, but they meet with scant encouragement from the clergy and churchwardens, little interest being taken in either bells or ringers. A little time back there was an old band who did not pay any respect to belfry reform, therefore ringers have got into disgrace in the neighbourhood, but the Melbourne ringers were very pleased to see that "THE BELL NEWS" had found its way amongst the young hands, which has and no doubt will continue to urge them on to a better state of things. After a pleasant hour or two with the handbells, and a talk with them on forming a society, hearty thanks and invitations to go again, brought the evening to a close, and the return journey commenced with a pleasant drive in the moonlight, all arriving home about 10 p.m., having thoroughly enjoyed their first outing.

## THE NORTH LINCOLNSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

THE NEXT QUARTERLY MEETING of the above Association will take place at Nocton, near Lincoln, on Saturday, October 3rd. The vicar and churchwardens have kindly given permission for the use of the bells that day, and it is hoped and expected there will be a good attendance of ringers from various parts of the county. Intending visitors will please communicate at once with the Hon. Sec.,

Market Rasen.

W. LUNN.

## THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION SCHEME.

In accordance with a request, we reprint the following draft scheme of the Committee upon this question:—

**Name.**—The National Association of Bell-ringers.

**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 bellfries and belfry reform.

**Management.**—The management of the Association to be vested in a President, Master, Secretary (who shall also act as Treasurer), and Council.

**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.

**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.

**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.

## THE ROYAL CUMBERLANDS AT LEATHERHEAD, SURREY.

On Saturday, September 26th, several members of this Society, paid a visit to Leatherhead, by kind invitation of E. F. Cole, Esq., the intention being to ring a peal of Stedman Caters. Meeting at London Bridge, previous to starting the roll was called, when we were found to be one short, one of the men failing to turn up. As trains, like time, wait for no man, it was resolved to proceed on the journey, and trust to the chance of our missing member or another friend turning up. The journey down was enlivened by tales and anecdotes by the Royal Cumberlands' jester, and other innocent amusements by several well-known members. On arriving at Leatherhead we proceeded at once to the church of St. Mary and Nicholas, where we met Mr. Samuel Brooker, the Steeplekeeper, and on telling him the predicament we were in, he kindly consented to make one of the band, providing we made it a St. James's peal. This offer, we need hardly add, was accepted, and after refreshing the inner man a start was made, and the peal was successfully brought round in three hours nineteen mins. Previous to starting for the peal Messrs. Doran and Randall were proposed and made members of the St. James's Society. An adjournment was then made to the "Bull Inn," where a substantial spread was laid out by the liberality of E. F. Cole, Esq. After doing ample justice to the good things provided, a stand was called, and as time would not permit of speeches or thanks we take this opportunity of thanking Mr. Cole for his liberality, and the kindness and trouble he took to bring this outing to a successful issue. We also beg to thank the Vicar and churchwardens for the use of the bells, and also to compliment Mr. Brooker upon the go of the same. The train being due, a scamper was made to the station, and in a few minutes we were on our homeward journey, during which we were kept in continual merriment by our jester, and also by the antics of another member, with a piece of garden produce. On arriving at London Bridge, at 11.25 p.m., we all separated, each one having thoroughly enjoyed their outing to Leatherhead.

J. H.

## VISIT TO BENINGTON, HERTS.

On Wednesday, September 23rd, a party of ringers belonging to the Hertfordshire Association, consisting of Messrs. Baker and Tucker, of Hertford, Hills and Lewis, of St. Albans, and Mr. Fairbrass, who was on a visit from Canterbury, visited this well-known ringing village, their object being to attempt a peal of Stedman Triples. On their arrival they were kindly entertained at lunch by L. Procter, Esq., after which an adjournment was made to the tower, and having been joined by four of the local company, an attempt was made for Brooks' peal of Stedman Triples. All went well until after the half-way single, when a mistake occurred and the conductor called "stand." S. Page, 1; H. G. Fairbrass, 2; N. N. Hills, 3; L. Chapman, 4; H. J. Tucker, 5; C. Shambrook, 6; H. Baker (conductor), 7; C. J. Warner, 8. After a few minutes' interval a start was made for a peal of Grandsire Triples, which was brought round successfully, an account of which will be found in another column. It is twelve years since a peal had been rung on this excellent ring of bells, and the visitors take this opportunity of thanking L. Procter, Esq., likewise the Rev. G. V. Procter, for their kindness on this occasion, and hope to be more successful with a peal of Stedman on some future date.

## THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

**REPORT FOR THE FORTNIGHT ENDING SEPTEMBER 21ST:**—On Tuesday, September 8th, by the Crawley branch, at Crawley, a 504 of Grandsire Triples, in 19 mins. P. Tullett, 1; T. Newnham, 2; T. Smith, 3; W. Collison, 4; G. Holloway, 5; A. F. Hillier, 6; F. Wickings (conductor), 7; J. Pierce, 8. And a 504 of Union Triples by the same band, conducted by A. F. Hillier. And a 420 of Oxford Bob Triples, conducted by F. Wickings. At Fittleworth, on the occasion of the re-opening of the bells by the Billingham branch, eight 6-scores of Bob Doubles. P. Wood, 1; W. Chantler, 2; J. Voice, 3; W. Chantler, jun., 4; T. Chantler (conductor), 5; T. Matthews, 6. Also a 6-score in the same method, by the same band, excepting T. Baker, 3; Rev. R. F. Tompkins (conductor), 5. And a 720 of Oxford Single Bob Minor, in 24 mins. P. Wood, 1; W. Chantler, 2; T. Matthews, 3; W. Chantler, jun., 4; J. Voice, 5; T. Chantler (conductor), 6. Tenor 8½ cwt. By the Billingham branch, on Thursday, September 10th, at Billingham, a 720 of Warnham Court Bob Minor. P. Wood, 1; W. Chantler, 2; G. Matthews, 3; W. Chantler, 4; J. Voice, 5; T. Chantler (conductor), 6. On Sunday, September 13th, at Billingham, by the Billingham branch, a 720 of Oxford Single Bob Minor, with the members standing as on the 11th (see above). Also a 720 in the same method. P. Wood, 1; W. Chantler, 2; G. Matthews, 3; W. Chantler, 4; W. Charman, 5; T. Chantler (conductor), 6. On Sunday, September 13th, at Crawley, for Divine Service in the morning, by the Crawley branch, a 840 of Grandsire Triples (part of Shipway's 5-part peal), in 28 mins. P. Tullett, 1; J. Newnham, 2; T. Smith, 3; W. Wady, 4; W. Collison, 5; A. F. Hillier, 6; H. Burstow (conductor), 7; J. Collison, 8. And during the afternoon, a 700 of Grandsire Triples, in 26 mins. G. Holloway, 1; Rev. J. B. Lennard (conductor), 2; J. Newnham, 3; W. Wady, 4; F. Wickings, 5; A. F. Hillier, 6; H. Burstow, 7; W. Collison, 8. And a 504 of Union Triples, in 19 mins. P. Tullett, 1; J. Newnham, 2; W. Wady, 3; F. Wickings, 4; M. Heffer, 5; H. Burstow, 6; A. F. Hillier (conductor), 7; W. Collison, 8. And a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob Minor. M. Heffer, 1; J. Newnham, 2; W. Wady, 3; F. Wickings, 4; A. F. Hillier, 5; W. Collison, 6; H. Burstow (conductor), 7; P. Tullett, 8. And a 360 of Oxford Treble Bob, in 12 mins., the band standing as before, conducted by F. Wickings. On Monday, September 14th, at St. Nicholas, Brighton, by the Brighton branch, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, 1260 changes, in 45 mins. W. Harvey, 1; H. Boniface, 2; H. Weston, 3; J. Neeves, 4; C. Tyler, 5; G. King, 6; J. Searle (conductor), 7; W. Palmer, 8. And on Tuesday, September 15th, at Crawley, by the Crawley branch, a 420 of Oxford Bob Triples. P. Tullett, 1; J. J. Parker (Farnham Royal), 2; J. Newnham, 3; W. Collison, 4; M. Heffer, 5; F. Wickings (conductor), 6; A. F. Hillier, 7; J. Pierce, 8. On Saturday, September 19th, at Billingham, by the Billingham branch, a 720 of Warnham Court Bob Minor. W. Chantler, 1; W. Hayward, 2; G. Matthews, 3; W. Chantler, jun., 4; J. Voice, 5; T. Chantler (conductor), 6. On Sunday, September 20th, at St. Peter's, Brighton, by the Brighton Branch, a 952 of Grandsire Triples, in 32 mins. E. Marshall, 1; J. Jay, 2; J. Searle, 3; A. Marshall, 4; G. King, 5; G. F. Attree (conductor), 6; H. Weston, 7; D. Ross, 8. And on Tuesday, September 22nd, at St. Nicholas, Brighton, for practice, with Mr. Bone, of Reigate, a 504 of Grandsire Triples, in 18 mins. W. Harvey, 1; W. Bone, 2; G. F. Attree, 3; H. Weston, 4; H. Boniface, 5; G. King, 6; J. Searle (conductor), 7; James Neeves, 8. Also a 504 in the same method. W. F. Meads (Cuckfield), 1; W. Bone, 2; J. Searle, 3; G. King, 4; W. Bennett (Cuckfield), 5; G. F. Attree (conductor), 6; H. Weston, 7; J. Neeves, 8.

## DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

**SEDFIELD.**—On Saturday, September 26th, Messrs T. Burdon, G. J. Clarkson, J. Clarkson, W. Newton, T. Stephenson, and W. Stephenson, drove to Sedfield, and rang several six-scores of Stedman, Grandsire, April Day, and St. Simon's Doubles. During the ringing the rector, the Rev. Canon Falconer, late vicar of Stockton, entered the belfry and invited the ringers to the rectory, where they were entertained to a substantial supper. After ringing a course of Grandsire Caters in the rectory library an adjournment was again made to the tower and a final peal rung. Mr. Dain, sidesman, of Stockton parish church, accompanied the party, and shared with them in a nine miles' ride home, in a steady downpour.

## THE ACCIDENT TO A RINGING PARTY.

Amount already announced— ... .. 11 19 0  
H. Haley, sen. ... .. 2 6

Further donations, however small, are urgently solicited. Mr. Matthew Wood, 11, Church Row, Bethnal Green, London, will be happy to give any further information, and will thankfully acknowledge any sums forwarded to him.



## A BRIEF LOOK-OUT.

Seldom do any of the correspondents of our organ open such wide and important questions as "Organist" recently did, when he wrote upon "Sunday ringing." Undoubtedly his interesting communication deserved attention, but it is a peculiar feature that the only discussion it has provoked is that which has appeared respecting the London Societies, and that of such a nature that few could have anticipated. When "Organist's" letter appeared, it was my intention to have asked permission to have dwelt with the whole *seriatim*, week by week, circumstances however, having arisen that have prevented me from doing so, I now summarise a few of the points raised by him, while regretting that a more able pen than mine has not condescended to deal with a communication that indisputably deserved attention by all true advocates of belfry reform.

Although we may assume ringing to be the legitimate use of bells upon the Sabbath, there are many arguments that can be raised against the practice becoming universal. As yet we have too many belfries neglected to make ringing in them anything but a laborious task, in lieu of a pleasure. Regarding the Sabbath as a day of rest, is it right that such labour should be undertaken? Again, some towers, even modern ones, are so badly constructed that ringing to any extent cannot fail to be a source of annoyance to those who have to reside in the immediate neighbourhood. Generally speaking, in towns, these include the overworked tradespeople, who upon the Sabbath seek to be free from agitation or alarm, or it may be look upon the Sunday as a day when they can indulge themselves with a little home music, and thus enjoy themselves in an innocent manner. Where such is the case is it right that we should inflict a continual repetition of such an annoyance? To advocate the reform of these many neglected towers, the reconstruction of others, and to advise upon the construction of new ones, we stand in need of a National Association. True it is that a large portion of the ringing community belong to the working class. Now what is the cause? Is there not, even at the present day, among the upper and middle classes, an ignorant idea prevalent as to the labour required in the performance of the art, and the position that a ringer should occupy? Do not a portion of the clergy and church authorities, even if at certain times they do recognize ringers as church workers, and the belfry as a part of God's House, neglect to see that the latter is kept as such, and the former at all times placed on an equal footing with other church-workers? Is there not a general condemnation frequently outpoured by the uninitiated public upon those who are said to practice that which is considered by them a fitting occupation only for the frequenters of the village beershop? Does not this condemnation generally owe its origin to the practice of Sunday ringing, as demonstrated in your columns some twelve months since, in a sketch entitled "My Sunday off Duty," by "Reform." No doubt the author dealt in figurative language, but my experience tells me to believe that the gist of it was founded upon actual fact, and I would sooner support the idea that such is taking place weekly rather than dispute it. Where Sunday ringing takes place under such circumstances, it is a serious evil to the Exercise at large, for it causes the whole to be condemned. To remedy these evils, and to induce those above the working classes to take up ringing, we want some means of disseminating information, advocating reform, and showing the true position of a ringer among the clergy, church authorities, and public in general. To accomplish this we must wait for a National Association, which by adopting a persistent agitation might produce, if not a universal, a vast reform. As regards ringing literature everyone will admit that there are now greater facilities for progress in the art by young bands than ever was the case previously, yet there are societies that have stumbling blocks before them. In most bands there is a recognised head; of these there are two classes. One has not the patience to teach, and tells his pupils to go out and "pick it up," the other has a hobby for something fresh, for as often as he can secure a band, he introduces something new without waiting to lay a firm foundation all round. Both debar progress by bands in which there is often young blood that would become prominent in the Exercise, if scope was afforded for their energy. To prevent the breaking up of such bands, and to bring this young blood to the front, there must exist a National Association.

I cannot help thinking but what Mr. Muskett was under a slight misapprehension as to the reply given by "Mr. Author," as our critic is called. When I read the question asked by "Organist," although I considered it somewhat outside the scope of his subject, yet I came to the conclusion that it referred to the societies as a body. The same with the reply. Undoubtedly there are in the London Societies—a term which I should apply to two of them only—men who have done their best to promote the art, and therefore it would be folly to apply either the question or the answer to any single individual member of either Society. As to the promotion of the art by them as a body, having had some experience of both, I can echo our critic, for so far as my observation goes it is next to *nil*. It will of course be admitted that both have accomplished some grand performances, but of late years they have allowed, with two single

exceptions, the honour of the most unique and extraordinary performances to be achieved by provincial bands. This was the case with Stedman Cinques, Double Norwich, and Treble Bob Major, yet the superseding of all these, with others, have been talked about, and are still held as prospective. Apparently there is unity wanted among them.

O. K.

## A SECRETARY'S HOMILY.

There are certain ringers who have been society men, and have lost their way by a simple thought, and saying that they receive no benefit from such. Now I wish to speak as regards the Rochdale and District Association, as knowing what their subscriptions are, viz.: 1s. a year, which does not amount to a farthing a week! That they should desert an Association for so small an amount! Our own ideas teaches us there are two classes of men in respect of intellectual knowledge. The first are those who seem to grasp the art at once, and glory in it; the second are those who have an idea of the art, but still seem to have a kind of nervousness, which we know, whenever it so happens, checks the mind from its duty, therefore the man becomes disheartened, and falls away from the ringers and his Society. Let me advise these, if possible, to shun such a feeling, never caring about the mistakes they make, but say within themselves that in every trial they will endeavour to make amends. Don't say, because you cannot see it at once, you gain no benefit, or when you go to a meeting and don't get a ring, think the members seem to have no interest in you, this is a wrong idea on your part; because I am sure those who have conquered the art are willing to teach those whom they see are willing to learn.

It may be that when you don't get a ring the other ringers are so deep in their work, they cannot leave the ropes, and many a time this accounts for a learner being overlooked, but I say to you, learner, forgive them, for when you have grasped the art as they, it may be you will grasp the rope also. Many a time you will have a longing to ring elsewhere, and will travel for miles, and feel none the worse, because your heart and soul is in it. But there is another thing to look at in your travels. Suppose you are not a member of any Society, you will enter another tower with shame; your thoughts will be pondering as to whether they will have an interest in your welcome, as regards having a ring with them. Well, I don't think for a moment that any of the ringers would turn you away, because there is no one more welcome in a belfry than a ringer, but after all, your mind is uneasy to think you are not a member. Now I earnestly urge of all such persons to join our Association, so they may enter each others' towers, not as strangers, but as brother-ringers, as if they were entering their own tower at home. Don't let the simple thought of seeing no gain or benefit have a place in your minds, but return to your Society, pay your subscriptions for the benefit of amalgamation, and then, your benefit will come by and bye. Fight manfully under one banner, that your actions may be a stimulant to the rising generation of ringers, for which I hope they may have to give you credit.

J. ADSHEAD,

Hon. Sec. of the Rochdale and District Association.

## ASHBY-DE-LA-ZOUCH, LEICESTERSHIRE.

ON September 23rd, 24th, and 25th, a bazaar and fancy fair was held in the Bath Rooms (kindly lent for the occasion by the lord of the manor) for the object of raising the necessary funds for the completion of the restoration of the fine parish church of Ashby, a work which has been going on for some years past under the auspices of the energetic vicar, the Rev. John Denton, M.A. The sum of £11,795 has already been expended in the restoration and enlargement of the church, and previous to the bazaar being held, there was a sum of £125 in hand towards restoring the tower, and rehanging the peal of eight bells, and to raise the remaining sum required for this purpose the bazaar was held. The bells are to be taken out of the tower, and the whole of the frame and fittings removed, and a new frame of English oak provided, with new fittings, complete. The work has been entrusted to the well-known firm of Messrs. Taylor and Co., bell-founders, of Loughborough, and we hope, ere long, to have the pleasure of recording the events connected with the re-opening of this fine peal.

## THE ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

THE Meeting of the above Association, arranged to be held on Monday, October 5th, will on account of a University Examination be obliged to be postponed. The Senate House, where examinations are held, being quite close to Great St. Mary's tower, the authorities stop all bell-ringing during the hours of examination, and it would be very annoying to ringers who came to Cambridge, to find that Great St. Mary's bells could not be rung during several hours of the day. Under these circumstances it has been thought advisable to postpone the meeting.

"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, OCTOBER 3, 1885.

### The Metropolis.

BETHNAL GREEN, LONDON.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

On Saturday, September 26, 1885, in Three Hours,

AT ST. MATTHEW'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S ORIGINAL. Tenor 14 cwt.

MATTHEW A. WOOD .. .. Treble.	ISAAC G. SHADE .. .. 5.
LEWIS GREEN .. .. 2.	ARTHUR HAYWARD .. .. 6.
THOMAS G. DOWNS* .. .. 3.	JOSEPH WEST .. .. 7.
HENRY J. SHADE .. .. 4.	JAMES MONDAY .. .. Tenor.

Conducted by ISAAC G. SHADE.

\* First peal of Grandsire Triples. T. G. Downs hails from Manchester Cathedral, and wishes to return his sincere thanks to his brother-strings for their kind and courteous welcome on the occasion of his first visit to London.

PUTNEY, SURREY.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

On Monday, September 28, 1885, in Two Hours and Fifty-seven Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY THE VIRGIN,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S ORIGINAL.

BENJAMIN E. BATTRUM* .. Treble.	EDWIN HORREX.. .. 5.
WILLIAM W. GIFFORD* .. 2.	CHALLIS F. WINNY.. .. 6.
THOMAS BLACKBOURN .. 3.	MARTIN MURPHY .. .. 7.
HENRY LANGDON .. .. 4.	DANIEL NEWTON .. .. Tenor.

Conducted by C. F. WINNY.

\* First peal. Messrs. Gifford and Blackbourn hail from Salisbury.

### The Provinces.

DRAYTON, BERKS.—THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, September 19, 1885, in Three Hours and Three Minutes,

AT ST. PETER'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S ORIGINAL. Tenor 9½ cwt.

WALTER WARRICK .. .. Treble.	THOMAS FULKER .. .. 5.
GEORGE JONES .. .. 2.	H. D. BETTERIDGE, ESQ. 6.
FREDERICK FIELD .. .. 3.	JAMES W. WASHBROOK .. 7.
CHARLES FRINDER .. .. 4.	FREDERICK CLINCH .. .. Tenor.

Conducted by JAMES WILLIAM WASHBROOK.

All the above, with the exception of Mr. Washbrook, belong to Drayton, Oxon. It is a very creditable performance, as none of the Drayton men knew anything about change-ringing twelve months ago, and have had nothing but six-bell practice, thus shewing the good done by proper instruction, given by the above Association.

LEISTON, SUFFOLK.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

Birthday Peal.

On Saturday, September 19, 1885, in Three Hours and Nine Minutes,

AT ST. MARGARET'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5040 CHANGES.

Tenor 20½ cwt. in E.

CHARLES MEE .. .. Treble.	ALFRED ACFIELD, JUN. .. 5.
THOMAS STAULKEY* .. .. 2.	ARTHUR BARRELL .. .. 6.
GABRIEL BAXTER* .. .. 3.	*THOMAS E. SHEARING .. 7.
GEORGE MORLING* .. .. 4.	JAMES MOTTS .. .. Tenor.

Composed by the late H. HUBBARD, and Conducted by THOMAS E. SHEARING.

\* First peal. Average age of company 19 years. The above was the first peal in the method on the bells, and was rung on the anniversary of the conductor's 17th birthday. Messrs. Motts and Mee hail from Ipswich; Barrell and Acfield from Ufford.

GLOSSOP, DERBYSHIRE.

THE GLOSSOP JUNIOR SOCIETY.

On Tuesday, September 22, 1885, in Three Hours and Three Minutes,

AT ALL SAINTS' CHURCH,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;

IN THE OXFORD VARIATION. Tenor 15 cwt.

SAMUEL HARROP.. .. Treble.	CHARLES BROOKS .. .. 5.
DANIEL JAMES .. .. 2.	JOSEPH MALONEY .. .. 6.
WILLIAM STORY .. .. 3.	HENRY COOPER .. .. 7.
SAMUEL KNOTT, JUN. .. 4.	JOHN PYE, JUN. .. .. Tenor.

Composed and conducted by SAMUEL KNOTT, JUN.

The above is a one-part peal, and has not been previously performed. Wm. Story hails from Newcastle-on-Tyne.

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE, LANCASHIRE.

On Wednesday, September 23, 1885, in Three Hours and Eleven Minutes,

AT ST. PETER'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 20 cwt.

SAMUEL WOOD .. .. Treble.	JAMES SELLARS.. .. 5.
JOHN HOPWOOD .. .. 2.	WILLIAM FRITH .. .. 6.
WILLIAM STORY .. .. 3.	BENJAMIN BROADBENT .. 7.
JAMES WOOD .. .. 4.	JOHN THORP .. .. Tenor.

Composed and conducted by JOHN THORP.

William Story hails from Newcastle-on-Tyne, and James Sellars from Glossop.

BENINGTON, HERTS.

THE HERTFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Wednesday, September 23, 1885, in Two Hours and Fifty-eight Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S ORIGINAL. Tenor 14 cwt.

HENRY J. TUCKER .. .. Treble.	NEWMAN N. HILLS.. .. 5.
HENRY G. FAIRBRASS .. 2.	*CHARLES SHAMBOOK .. 6.
HENRY LEWIS .. .. 3.	HERBERT BAKER .. .. 7.
LEONARD CHAPMAN* .. 4.	†CHARLES J. WARNER .. Tenor.

Conducted by HENRY J. TUCKER.

\* First peal in the method. † First peal.

HERTFORD.—THE HERTFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Thursday, September 24, 1885, in Three Hours and Nine Minutes,

AT ALL SAINTS' CHURCH,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES.

Tenor 22 cwt. in E.

JOSEPH CULL .. .. Treble.	JASPER G. CRAWLEY .. 5.
HENRY G. FAIRBRASS .. 2.	STEPHEN KNIGHT .. .. 6.
NEWMAN N. HILLS .. .. 3.	HENRY J. TUCKER .. .. 7.
MATTHEW ELLSMORE .. 4.	HERBERT BAKER .. .. Tenor.

Composed by J. BARKER and Conducted by HENRY J. TUCKER.

This peal contains the 6th twenty-two times wrong and right. Rung for the first time at Holbeck, Leeds, and was taken from "THE BELL NEWS" of January 10th. It is the first peal in the method by the Association, and the first peal in the method by all the band except Messrs. Tucker and Fairbrass.

## STALEYBRIDGE, CHESHIRE.

On Thursday, September 24, 1885, in Three Hours and Five Minutes,

AT HOLY TRINITY CHURCH,

## A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5120 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 14 $\frac{3}{4}$  cwt. in F.

THOMAS MOSS .. .. .	Treble.	JAMES SELLARS .. .. .	5.
HUGH SHAW .. .. .	2.	JOSEPH MALONEY .. .. .	6.
WILLIAM STORY .. .. .	3.	SAMUEL WOOD .. .. .	7.
THOMAS JAMES .. .. .	4.	GEORGE LONGDEN .. .. .	Tenor.

Composed and Conducted by SAMUEL WOOD.

The above is a five-part peal, and has not been previously performed. W. Story hails from Newcastle-on-Tyne; Messrs. James, Sellars, and Maloney, from Glossop.

## HYDE, CHESHIRE.

## THE UNITED COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION AND THE ST. GEORGE'S SOCIETY, HYDE.

On Friday, September 25, 1885, in Two Hours and Fifty-six Minutes,

AT ST. GEORGE'S CHURCH,

## A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 15 $\frac{1}{2}$  cwt.

JAMES SHAW .. .. .	Treble.	WILLIAM STORY .. .. .	5.
ROBERT WOOLLEY .. .. .	2.	SAMUEL BRADLEY .. .. .	6.
JAMES S. WILDE .. .. .	3.	GEORGE LONGDEN .. .. .	7.
THOMAS WILDE .. .. .	4.	SAMUEL BENNETT .. .. .	Tenor.

Composed by JAMES S. WILDE and Conducted by GEORGE LONGDEN.

The above peal is a three part peal and has not been previously performed. W. Story hails from Newcastle-on-Tyne.

## ST. ALBANS, HERTFORDSHIRE.

## THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS AND THE HERTFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, September 26, 1885, in Three Hours and Ten Minutes,

AT ST. ALBANS CATHEDRAL,

## A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S 10-PART. Tenor 28 cwt. in D $\sharp$ .

HERBERT BAKER .. .. .	Treble.	HENRY G. FAIRBRASS .. .. .	5.
GEORGE W. CARTMEL .. .. .	2.	FRANCIS E. DAWE .. .. .	6.
NEWMAN N. HILLS .. .. .	3.	HENRY J. TUCKER .. .. .	7.
EDWARD P. DEBENHAM .. .. .	4.	WALTER BATTLE .. .. .	Tenor.

Conducted by FRANCIS EDWARD DAWE.

## TOTTENHAM, MIDDLESEX.

## THE ALL HALLOWS' (TOTTENHAM) SOCIETY.

On Saturday, September 26, 1885, in Two Hours and Fifty-six Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

## A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S 10-PART. Tenor 20 cwt.

JAMES LANGRAN* .. .. .	Treble.	GEORGE B. LUCAS .. .. .	5.
HENRY A. BARNETT .. .. .	2.	SAMUEL GEO. BOWER .. .. .	6.
JOSEPH WAGHORN, JUN. .. .. .	3.	JOSEPH WAGHORN .. .. .	7.
JOHN W. BARRS .. .. .	4.	W. PYE-ENGLISH .. .. .	Tenor.

Conducted by HENRY A. BARNETT.

\* First peal. † First peal with a bob bell. This is the first peal called by the conductor. This is the first peal by the above Society, and is also the first peal rung here by a band composed entirely of local men.

## LEATHERHEAD, SURREY.—THE ST. JAMES'S SOCIETY.

On Saturday, September 26, 1885, in Three Hours and Nineteen Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF SS. MARY AND NICHOLAS,

## A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERS, 5000 CHANGES.

Tenor 21 cwt.

GEORGE NEWSON .. .. .	Treble.	ARTHUR JACOBS .. .. .	6.
EDWARD F. COLE .. .. .	2.	WILLIAM H. DORAN .. .. .	7.
HARRY RANDALL .. .. .	3.	JOHN ROGERS .. .. .	8.
JAMES HANNINGTON .. .. .	4.	SAMUEL BROOKER .. .. .	9.
THOMAS TITCHENER .. .. .	5.	JOHN MANSFIELD .. .. .	Tenor.

Composed and Conducted by GEORGE NEWSON.

For figures of this peal see "THE BELL NEWS." This is the first peal of Stedman Caters upon the Bells, and also the first peal of Caters in the method by Messrs. Cole and Brooker.

## HANBURY, WORCESTERSHIRE.

## THE BIRMINGHAM AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATION.

On Sunday, September 27, 1885, in Three Hours and Ten Minutes,

AT ST. JOHN'S CHURCH,

## A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES.

Tenor 15 cwt.

GEORGE MORRIS .. .. .	Treble.	OLIVER JAMES .. .. .	5.
ELIJAH CRUMP .. .. .	2.	JAMES HINTON, JUN. .. .. .	6.
JOHN CARTER .. .. .	3.	WALTER REA .. .. .	7.
GEORGE HAYWARD .. .. .	4.	JOHN T. PERRY .. .. .	Tenor.

Composed and Conducted by JOHN CARTER.

Messrs. J. Carter and J. T. Perry hail from Birmingham; J. Hinton from Bristol; the rest from Bronisgrove. \* First peal of Grandsire Major on the bells.

## Miscellaneous.

## DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

AUCKLAND.—On Monday, September 21st, at St. Andrew's church, a 720 of Bob Minor (eighteen bobs and two singles), in 28 mins. J. Cleminson, 1; J. Pallister (first 720), 2; J. W. Shipp, 3; F. Castree (first 720), 4; D. Shipp (conductor), 5; E. J. Titt, 6. And a 360 of Bob Minor (nine bobs). J. W. Shipp, 1; F. Castree, 2; A. G. B. Waldron, 3; J. Cleminson, 4; F. Charlton, 5; D. Shipp (conductor), 6. Also a plain course of Bob Major on handbells. J. G. Pratt, 1; J. Pallister, 2; A. G. B. Waldron, 3; J. Cleminson, 4; D. Shipp, 5; F. Castree, 6; F. Charlton, 7; E. J. Titt, 8. Also a plain course of Bob Major, on the tower bells. J. G. Pratt, 1; J. Pallister, 2; J. W. Shipp, 3; J. Cleminson, 4; D. Shipp (conductor), 5; J. W. Castree, 6; F. Charlton, 7; E. J. Titt, 8. Tenor 11 cwt. And 120 of Bob Doubles on handbells. J. W. Shipp (conductor), 1-2; D. Shipp, 3-4; J. Cleminson, 5-6. D. and J. W. Shipp hail from Staindrop; the others are local ringers who are making good progress in the science.

JARROW-ON-TYNE.—On Thursday, September 24th, for practice at Christ Church, a 720 of Canterbury Pleasure, in 26 mins. F. G. Pattison (first 720), 1; \*W. Pawson, 2; W. Henderson, 3; W. Holmes, 4; \*A. Sharp, 5; F. Harrison (conductor), 6. \*First 720 in the method. And on Sunday, September 27th, for Divine Service in the morning, a 360 of Oxford Bob Minor. F. G. Pattison, 1; A. English, 2; W. Holmes, 3; W. Pawson, 4; A. Sharp, 5; F. Harrison (conductor), 6. Tenor 17 cwt.

## THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

LITTLE HEATH.—On Sunday evening, September 27th, after service, 120 of Grandsire Doubles, and two 120's of Old Doubles. R. Gillingham, 1; J. Pye, 2; A. Pye, 3; A. J. Perkins, 4; W. Nash, 5.

RETTENDON (Essex).—On Tuesday evening, September 22nd, after the Harvest Thanksgiving Service, the following members of the above Association rang a 720 of Bob Minor. A. Wallace (Rayleigh), 1; J. Turner (first 720), 2; W. Jay, 3; H. Deal (Rayleigh), 4; E. Moat, 5; Rev. H. A. Cockey, 6. Several 6-scores of Grandsire were rung before service.

ROMFORD.—Chiming.—On Saturday evening, September 26th, a 720 of Plain Bob Minor, in lieu of the usual handbell practice (fourteen singles and four bobs). A. J. Perkins, 1-2-3-4; A. Pye, 5-6.

## THE EAST LINCOLNSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

SKIRBECK (Lincolnshire).—Muffled Peal.—On Sunday morning, September 20th, at St. Nicholas church, five members of the above Association rang with the bells deeply muffled, two 120s of Grandsire Doubles, as a last tribute of respect to the late William Pearce, of Bourne, who died at the age of 61. And in the evening, six 120s of Grandsire and three of Plain Bob Doubles. \*T. Rogers, 1; G. Clark, 2; \*E. Mason, 3; \*W. F. Harwood, 4; J. M. Rylatt, 5. \*Also members of the South Lincolnshire Association.

## GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

TEWKESBURY (Gloucestershire).—On Thursday, September 24th, on the back six at the Abbey, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor, in 27 mins. W. Hampton, 1; R. H. Witherington, 2; S. Cleal, 3; T. Devereux, 4; Jno. Wathen, 5; Jos. Wathen (conductor), 6. This is probably the first 720 of Minor in the above method on the bells.

## THE HERTFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

ST. ALBANS (Herts).—On Sunday, September 20th, at St. Stephen's church, on the occasion of the Harvest Festival, a 720 of Grandsire Minor (thirty-four bobs and two singles), in 26 mins. W. Battle, 1; G. W. Cartmel, 2; E. P. Debenham (first 720), 3; W. H. L. Buckingham, 4; A. Godman, sen., 5; A. Godman, jun., 6. Tenor 10 cwt.

Conducted by N. N. Hills. On Sunday, September 27th, at St. Alban's cathedral, on the occasion of the Harvest Festival, a 504 of Grandsire Triples, for evening service. J. C. Mitchell (first 504), 1; R. T. Kent, 2; G. W. Cartmel, 3; H. G. Fairbrass, 4; W. H. L. Buckingham, 5; E. Hulks, 6; N. N. Hills (conductor), 7; W. H. L. Waddington, 8. *Handbell Ringing*.—On Tuesday, September 22nd, a 360 of Grandsire Minor. H. Lewis, 1-2; H. G. Fairbrass, 3-4; N. N. Hills (conductor), 5-6.

#### THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

SPELDHURST (Kent).—On Sunday, September 27th, at the Parish Church, a 720 of Plain Bob Minor (twenty-two singles), in 27 mins. J. Maynard, 1; J. Baker, 2; Fred Still, 3; J. Horton, 4; C. Chapman, 5; Frank Still (conductor), 6. J. Horton hails from Maidstone. Tenor 14 cwt.

#### THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

DERBY.—At St. Werburgh's, on Monday, September 28th, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1260 changes), in 50 mins. R. Bosworth, 1; S. Maskrey, 2; A. Taberer, 3; J. Howe, 4; A. B. Ward (conductor), 5; H. C. Woodward, 6; R. Redgate, 7; F. Whiting, 8. Tenor 17 cwt. The bells were half-muffled as a mark of respect to the late Mr. James Robins, proprietor of the "Queen's Vaults," Crompton Street (the meeting-house of the local ringers), who died on the 25th ult., after a lingering illness, at the age of 59. The deceased, in his younger days, took an active interest in bell-ringing, and was a staunch friend of the local company, six of whom, in accordance with his expressed wish, assisted to carry his remains to the grave, on the 28th ult., and in the evening took part in the above quarter-peal.

#### THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

OXFORD.—*Handbell Ringing*.—On Saturday, September 26th, the following members of the Guild attempted a peal of Stedman Triples, (Thurstans' composition) on handbells retained in hand, but after ringing twenty-seven courses (2252 changes), a "shift" occurred, which brought the peal to an end. James W. Washbrook (conductor), 1-2; Herbert Castle, 3-4; William Baston, 5-6; William Wood, 7-8. Referee. Mr. C. Hounslow. The peal will shortly be attempted again.

BALCOMBE (Sussex).—On Thursday, September 3rd, a 360 of Plain Bob Minor. J. Richardson (first 360 with a bob bell), 1; R. Bourne, 2; J. Cheeseman, 3; C. Gasson, 4; H. Meads, 5; E. Streeter (conductor), 6. Also a 720 of College Single. J. Richardson, 1; C. Gasson, 2; E. Streeter, 3; J. Cheeseman, 4; H. Meads, 5; J. Gasson (conductor), 6. And on Sunday, September 13th, being the Harvest Thanksgiving, before and after service a 720 of Plain Bob Minor was rung. R. Bourne, 1; H. Meads, 2; C. Gasson, 3; J. Cheeseman, 4; J. Gasson, 5; E. Streeter (conductor), 6. And a 720 of Oxford Bob Minor. J. Kenward, 1; H. Meads, 2; F. Streeter, 3; J. Cheeseman, 4; E. Streeter, 5; J. Gasson (conductor), 6. And a 360 in the same method. C. Gasson, 1; R. Bourne, 2; F. Streeter, 3; E. Streeter, 4; J. Gasson, 5; H. Meads (conductor), 6. And on Thursday, September 17th, 720 of Warnham Court Bob. J. Richardson, 1; H. Meads, 2; F. Streeter, 3; J. Cheeseman, 4; J. Gasson, 5; E. Streeter (conductor), 6. And on Thursday, September 24th, a 720 of Warnham Court Bob. R. Bourne, 1; C. Gasson (first 720 in the method with a bob bell), 2; H. Meads, 3; J. Cheeseman, 4; J. Gasson, 5; E. Streeter (conductor), 6. And several 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles. A. Stoner, 1; J. Richardson, 2; J. Kenward, 3; H. Mitchell (Cuckfield), 4; J. Gasson (conductor), 5; H. Meads, 6. *Muffled Peal*.—On Sunday, September 27th, a 720 of Plain Bob Minor was rung, with the bells half-muffled, in memory of the late William Steele, who served for 34 years as parish clerk. R. Bourne, 1; H. Meads, 2; C. Gasson, 3; J. Cheeseman, 4; J. Gasson, 5; E. Streeter (conductor), 6.

BENHILTON (Surrey).—On Thursday, September 24th, at All Saints' church, on the occasion of the Harvest Festival, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob, in 27 mins. W. Walker, 1; T. Gaiger, 2; J. Branch, 3; G. F. Scott, 4; G. Petrie, 6; John Trendell (conductor), 6. Tenor 19½ cwt.

BENGBO (Herts).—Recently, at Holy Trinity church, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor (fifteen bobs). \*J. Cull, 1; \*S. Knight, 2; W. A. Tyler, 3; \*H. Phillips, 4; H. Baker, 5; H. J. Tucker (conductor), 6. \*First 720 in the method. And on Friday, September 19th, a 720 of Grandsire Minor (thirty-four bobs and two singles), in 26 mins. H. Phillips, 1; W. Goodchild (first 720 of Minor), 2; J. Pomfret, 3; J. Channer, 4; W. Odell, 5; M. Ellsmore (conductor), 6. Tenor 7½ cwt.

BETCHWORTH (Surrey).—On Saturday, September 26th, several members of the Reigate Society paid a visit to this place, and rang at

the parish church a 720 of Bob Minor, in 25 mins. E. Moses, 1; W. Argent, 2; T. Fuller, 3; G. Williams, 4; E. Kenward, 5; W. Webb, (conductor), 6. And a 120 of Stedman Doubles. W. Webb, 1; F. Hoad, 2; W. Argent, 3; E. Kenward, 4; G. Williams, 5; J. Howard, 6. Touches of Grandsire and Plain Bob Minor were also rung, in which some of the Betchworth ringers took part. Tenor 13 cwt.

BROMSGROVE (Worcestershire).—On Saturday, September 26th, at St. John's church, an attempt was made to ring a peal of Grandsire Caters (5022 changes) with the bells muffled out of respect to the late W. Duffill, but after ringing 3834 changes, in 2 hrs. 35 mins., a change-course occurred, and "stand" was called. W. Broomfield, 1; J. T. Perry, 2; J. Carter, 3; R. Broomfield, 4; O. James, 5; W. Rea, 6; G. Hayward (composer and conductor), 7; G. Bourne, 8; G. Morris, 9; J. Parry, 10. And on the Sunday morning following, for Divine Service, a touch of Grandsire Caters, 1181 changes. W. Broomfield, 1; E. Crump, 2; T. Allbutt, 3; G. Hayward, 4; J. Carter (conductor), 5; J. T. Perry, 6; J. Hinton, 7; G. Bourne, 8; G. Morris, 9; J. Parry, 10.

CRAWLEY (Sussex).—On Saturday, September 26th, at the Parish Church, a 720 of Grandsire Minor, in 25 mins. J. Muggeridge, 1; J. Newnham, 2; W. Collinson, 3; W. Latter, 4; J. Horton, 5; A. F. Hillier (conductor), 6. Also a 720 of Plain Bob Minor (twenty-two singles), with 6 8 covering, in 29 mins. W. Latter, 1; J. Newnham, 2; W. Collinson, 3; J. Horton, 4; A. F. Hillier, 5; J. Muggeridge, 6; F. Wickings (conductor), 7; E. Pearce, 8. Messrs. Muggeridge and Latter hail from Tunbridge Wells, Horton from Maidstone.

CAPEL (Surrey).—On Friday evening, September 25th, being the Harvest Festival Service, the local company rang 288 of Oxford Treble Bob. A. Mills, 1; A. Tidy, 2; R. Jordan, 3; R. Worsfold, 4; E. Jordan, 5; D. Jordan (conductor), 6. And after service, a 360 in the same method. A. Tidy, 1; R. Jordan, 2; A. Mills, 3; R. Worsfold, 4; D. Jordan, 5; E. Jordan (conductor), 6. And on Sunday, September 27th, for Divine Service in the morning, 360 of Oxford Treble Bob. A. Mills, 1; A. Tidy, 2; R. Jordan, 3; R. Worsfold, 4; E. Jordan, 5; D. Jordan (conductor), 6. And for Divine Service in the afternoon, a 360 of Kent Treble Bob. T. Stedman, 1; A. Tidy, 2; R. Jordan, 3; R. Worsfold, 4; E. Jordan, 5; D. Jordan (conductor), 6. After service, 720 of Kent Treble Bob. R. Worsfold, 1; R. Jordan, 2; E. Jordan, 3; M. Heffer, 4; F. Wickens, 5; D. Jordan (conductor), 6. Also 720 of College Pleasure. F. Wickens, 1; R. Jordan, 2; E. Jordan, 3; R. Worsfold, 4; M. Jenkins, 5; D. Jordan (conductor), 6. Also 720 of Oxford Treble Bob. R. Worsfold, 1; A. Tidy, 2; R. Jordan, 3; M. Heffer, 4; M. Jenkins, 5; F. Wickens (conductor), 6. Wickens and Heffer are from Charlwood, the rest belong to Capel.

COLWALL (Herefordshire).—On Monday, September 28th, at the parish church of St. James the Great, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor, in 28 mins. E. J. Beatley (first 720), 1; E. Sprague, 2; Rev. G. M. Custance (first 720), 3; Rev. C. D. P. Davies, 4; J. T. Horton, 5; A. F. M. Custance, Esq. (conductor), 6. Tenor 14 cwt. in G.

DRIFHLINGTON (Yorkshire).—On Sunday, September 20th, seven members of the Birstall society, in company with William Burroughs, Esq. (a resident of Birstall for the present), a gentleman well known for his ringing abilities, and who devotes much of his time to the practice of the art, visited St. Paul's, Drifhlinton, on the occasion of the Harvest Festival, and rang three courses of Treble Bob Major, which were greatly admired by the inhabitants of that village. Wm. Burroughs, Esq., 1; T. Mortimer, 2; S. Crowther, 3; J. W. Lang, 4; W. Smith, 5; J. Clayton, 6; J. W. Yates, 7; B. A. Dodson, 8. Tenor 14 cwt.

GRASSENDAL (Lancashire).—On Sunday, September 27th, for Divine Service in the evening, a 350 of Grandsire Minor, in 13 mins. T. Morris, 1; J. Alexander, 2; J. Allen, 3; W. Weaver, 4; S. Atken, 5; F. Turner (conductor), 6. And on Monday evening, for practice, a 720 of the same method, in 23 mins. C. Newton, 1; T. Morris, 2; J. Alexander, 3; W. Weaver, 4; J. Allen, 5; F. Turner (conductor), 6. Tenor 12½ cwt.

HAWLEY (Hants).—On Saturday, September 20th, a 720 of Bob Minor, in 28½ mins. A. E. Reeves, 1; R. T. Hibbert, 2; W. Johnson, 3; W. Goselint, 4; J. Potter, 5; W. J. Williams (conductor), 6. The above are all members of the St. Lawrence's society, Reading, Berks.

LEYTONSTONE (Essex).—On Wednesday evening, September 23rd, at the church of St. John the Baptist, a 720 of Bob Minor, in 26 mins. J. King, 1; W. Smith, 2; G. Akers, 3; A. H. Gardom (conductor), 4; C. Pilcher, 5; J. Marks, 6.

LEYLAND (Lancashire).—On Sunday, September 27th, at St. James's church, for Divine Service in the afternoon, the parish church ringers rang a 720 of Plain Bob Minor. Oliver Worden (conductor), 1; Thos. Bowling, 2; Willm. Bowling, 3; Richard Bowling, 4; Thos. Baron, 5; Jas. Banister, 6. And for evening service at the parish church, the St. James's ringers rang another 720

in the same method. John Bowling (conductor), 1; John Miller, 2; Jas. Bretherton, 3; Rd. Bowling, 4; Thos. Baron, 5; Willm. Nelson, 6. Tenor 18½ cwt.

LIVERPOOL.—On Thursday evening, September 25th, the members of St. Peter's and St. Nicholas society, attempted a peal of Treble Bob Royal, 5000 changes, which unfortunately came to grief through the tenor rope slipping, after ringing 2000 changes, in 1 hr. 20 mins. Richard Williams, 1; George Helsby, 2; William Woodhead, 3; Thomas Hammond, 4; William Booth, 5; John Brown, 6; William Davis, 7; John W. Taylor, jun., Esq., 8; Robert Williams (composer and conductor), 9; James Egerton, 10. Afterwards three courses of Stedman Caters, conducted by T. Hammond. J. W. Taylor, jun., Esq., hails from Loughborough.

LIVERPOOL.—On Tuesday, September 22nd, at St. Luke's church, for practice, a 960 of Kent Treble Bob Major. J. R. Pritchard (conductor), 1; R. S. Mann, 2; W. James, 3; J. Aspinwall, 4; J. Brown, 5; G. Fisher, 6; W. Davies, 7; T. Hammond, 8. Also a 336 of Grandsire Triples. J. R. Pritchard (conductor), 1; R. Diggle, 2; W. James, 3; F. Powell, 4; J. Brown, 5; W. Davies, 6; G. Fisher, 7; R. Gowans, 8. Also a 480 of Stedman Triples. R. S. Mann (conductor), 1; J. R. Pritchard, 2; W. James, 3; F. W. Moore, 4; J. Brown, 5; G. Fisher, 6; T. Hammond, 7; W. Davies, 8. Also a 496 of Plain Bob Major. R. S. Mann (conductor), 1; J. R. Pritchard, 2; W. James, 3; J. Aspinwall, 4; J. Brown, 5; G. Fisher, 6; T. Hammond, 7; W. Davies, 8. And on Friday, September 25th, on the occasion of the Harvest Festival, a 504 of Grandsire Triples. R. S. Mann (conductor), 1; J. R. Pritchard, 2; W. James, 3; F. W. Moore, 4; J. Aspinwall, 5; J. Brown, 6; G. Fisher, 7; R. Gowans, 8.

LONDON.—Muffled Peal.—On Tuesday, September 18th, at the church of St. George's-in-the-East, the St. George's Society rang a touch with the bells deeply muffled as a mark of respect to Mr. John Ponler, late churchwarden of the above church, who died on September 8th, and also to Mr. Major, his friend, who died on September 11th, being the day Mr. Ponler was buried. W. Mole (conductor), 1; W. Smith, 2; W. Scholes, sen., 3; C. Barsham, 4; W. Norris, 5; W. Clow, 6; E. Wallage, 7; J. Scholes, jun., 8.

LOWER HARDRES (Kent).—Handbell Ringing.—On Saturday, September 26th, at the Rectory, a 108 of Grandsire Minor. Miss Brine, 1; Miss M. Brine, 2; W. Barrett, Esq., 3; Miss L. Brine, 4; Miss E. Brine, 5; A. Brine, Esq. (conductor), 6. Also on Tuesday, September 29th, a 120 of Stedman Doubles. \*Miss M. Brine, 1; W. Barrett, Esq., 2; \*Miss L. Brine, 3; \*Miss E. Brine, 4; A. Brine, Esq., 5-6. Also a 192 of Grandsire Minor. Miss Brine, 1; Miss M. Brine, 2; A. Brine (conductor), 3; Miss L. Brine, 4; Miss E. Brine, 5; W. C. Barrett, 6. \*First 6-score in the method.

MITCHAM (Surrey).—On Friday, September 18th, a friendly meeting of ringers was held at Christ Church, when a 720 of Grandsire Minor (thirty-four bobs and two singles) was rung. \*E. Burtenshaw, 1; \*H. J. Schneider, 2; \*D. Burtenshaw, 3; R. Reynolds, 4; J. Fayers, 5; \*G. Welling (conductor), 6. \*First 720. \*First 720 with a bob bell. \*First 720 as conductor. And a 240 of Bob Minor. W. Shephard, 1; H. Laffin, 2; S. Greenwood, 3; A. Nicholson, 4; D. Springall (conductor), 5; G. Pell, 6. Also touches of Stedman and Bob Doubles. Messrs. Shephard, Laffin, Greenwood, Springall and Pell hail from Streatham; Fayers and Welling from St. Peter's, Mitcham, the rest belong to the local company. Tenor 7½ cwt. in Eb.

NORTHENDEN (Cheshire).—On Tuesday, September 22nd, at St. Wilfred's church, a 720 of Plain Bob Minor (eighteen bobs and two singles). W. A. Brickell, 1; T. Brickell, 2; P. Brickell (conductor), 3; J. Wilde, 4; T. Price, 5; S. Brickell, 6. And on Sunday evening, September 27th, a 720 of Plain Bob Minor (fifteen bobs and six singles), taken from "THE BELL NEWS" of February 21, 1885. W. Wilde, 1; T. Brickell, 2; P. Brickell (conductor), 3; J. Wilde, 4; T. Price, 5; S. Brickell, 6. Tenor about 18 cwt.

OXFORD.—On Thursday, September 17th, at St. Cross, Holywell, on the occasion of the Harvest Festival, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor, in 26 mins. S. Hounslow, 1; W. Payne, 2; F. Castle, 3; N. Alderman (London), 4; T. Payne, 5; J. W. Washbrook (conductor), 6. And another 720 in the same method. W. Payne, 1; W. Baston, 2; J. W. Washbrook (conductor), 3; N. Alderman, 4; T. Payne, 5; S. Hounslow, 6. Also at St. Mary Magdalen, a 720 of Bob Minor. T. Kirby, 1; F. Castle, 2; T. Payne, 3; J. W. Washbrook, 4; N. Alderman (conductor), 5; W. Baston, 6.

READING (Berks).—On Sunday, September 20th, at St. Lawrence's church, on the occasion of the Harvest Festival, for morning service, a 575 of Grandsire Caters, in 24 mins. F. W. Round, 1; G. Gibbard, 2; W. Johnson, 3; J. E. Willshire, 4; W. H. Holloway, 5; G. Talbot, 6; W. Goseltine, 7; W. J. Williams (conductor), 8; W. Newell, 9; R. T. Hibbert, 10. And after evening service, 826 of Grandsire Triples, in 34 mins. A. E. Reeves, 1; R. T. Hibbert, 2; H. M. Bawden, 3; J. Potter, 4; W. H. Holloway, 5; W. Goseltine, 6; W. J. Williams (conductor), 7; J. T. Waldron, 8.

REIGATE (Surrey).—On Sunday, September 27th, at the parish church, on the occasion of the Harvest Festival, for Divine Service in the evening, a 448 of Grandsire Triples. J. Burkin, 1; T. Fuller, 2; E. Moses, 3; G. Williams, 4; T. Brown, 5; E. Kenward (conductor), 6; W. Argent, 7; J. Howard, 8. Also a 518 of Grandsire Triples (first part of Holt's ten-part peal), in 18 mins. E. Dewey, 1; T. Fuller, 2; E. Moses, 3; G. Williams (conductor), 4; J. Burkin, 5; E. Kenward, 6; W. Argent, 7; J. Steadman, 8. After service, a 532 of Plain Bob Triples. J. Burkin, 1; F. Hoad (conductor), 2; G. Williams, 3; T. Fuller, 4; E. Moses, 5; E. Kenward, 6; W. Argent, 7; J. Howard, 8. And on Monday evening, September 28th, for practice, 1456 of Plain Bob Triples, in 51 mins. J. Burkin, 1; F. Hoad (conductor), 2; E. Moses, 3; T. Fuller, 4; W. Argent, 5; G. Williams, 6; W. Webb, 7; J. Steadman, 8. Tenor 20 cwt.

STISTED (Essex).—On Sunday, September 27th, for Divine Service in the afternoon, a 720 of Plain Bob. C. Duncomb, 1; W. Moore (Bocking), 2; 2; F. Saunders, 3; A. Chaplin, 4; E. Radley, 5; W. Radley (conductor), 6.

TOTTENHAM (Middlesex).—On Tuesday evening, September 29th, for the Harvest Festival service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 45 mins., composed by Alfred Squires. G. Bower, 1; J. Waghorn, jun., 2; J. Waghorn, 3; J. Langran, 4; G. B. Lucas, 5; Wm. Pye English, 6; H. Barnett (conductor), 7; C. Jeffries, 8.

WOLLASTON (Staffordshire).—Muffled Peal.—On Wednesday evening, September 23rd, at St. James's church, a 720 of Grandsire Minor, with the bells muffled, in memory of the late Mr. W. Duffill, of the Worcester Diocesan Association, in 27 mins. E. Pugh, 1; H. Deakin, 2; J. Guest (conductor), 3; J. Lewis, 4; W. Lawrence, 5; E. S. Chapman, 6.

\* \* Several touches, reports, etc., are unavoidably left over till our next issue.

#### THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

A Quarterly Meeting of this Association will be held at St. James's, Bermondsey, by the kind permission of the Vicar, on Monday, October 12th. Tower open at four o'clock p.m. Any ringers, whether members of the Association or not, will be welcome. The tea will be held in the mission-room at six o'clock p.m. All who intend to be present at the tea are requested to send their names to the Hon. Sec. by Thursday, October 8th, in order that places may be provided for them. The meal, consisting of a plain tea, will be free to all ringing members who have paid their subscriptions for the current year, others one shilling a head. The business meeting will be held immediately after the tea.

ARTHUR B. CARPENTER,

34, Dingwall Road, Croydon.

Hon. Sec.

#### THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

The SECOND QUARTERLY MEETING will be held at Leicester, on Saturday, October 10th. Committee meeting in St. Margaret's school-room, at 4 o'clock. Tea in the Pavilion, Abbey Park, at 5 o'clock. Tickets 1s. 6d. each. General Meeting immediately after tea. The Local Committee will be glad if members and friends will proceed on arrival to St. George's schoolroom, Colton Street, so that bands may be made up to visit the various towers. JOSEPH GRIFFIN, Hon. Sec.

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The committee earnestly request that donations from ringers and friends interested in this "National Testimonial" be forwarded at an early date to one of the undersigned: A. Thomas, Hon. Secretary, 83, Wheelley's Road, Edgbaston, Birmingham; S. Reeves, Hon. Treasurer, 10, Bull Street, West Bromwich.



## 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 NATIONAL ASSOCIATION.

SIR,—Allow me to reply briefly to "Nil Desperandum's" second letter. I have not your report of the proceedings at the Reading Conference of ringers to refer to, but I have my own memoranda taken at the time, and I have consulted the report in the *Reading Mercury*. In neither of these can I find the detailed and numbered series of instructions which he makes the basis of his charge against the committee. The only resolution which was passed, and which I have in the chairman's handwriting, is this: "That a committee be appointed to frame a scheme for the formation of a National Association of Bell-ringers, and to send such scheme for the opinion of the various societies hitherto formed." The members of the committee were then chosen, and they were requested to discharge their duty during the next twelve months, which they did. Unless I am much mistaken, all further details were left to their judgment and discretion, and I still maintain that the failure of the scheme was not due to any apathy or neglect on their part. It may have been, as you remark in your article, that the various ringing association did not receive it with any cordiality because they failed to grasp its meaning and intent, but the fact remains that no interest whatever was excited in its development. If any such change as you seem to think probable has occurred in their sentiments on the subject, I would suggest that they give expression to it in your columns. But I cannot recognise in the letter of one anonymous correspondent sufficient evidence of such a general desire for the revival of the scheme as would warrant a renewal of the labour and expense which was borne two years ago by myself and a few friends.

DOLBEN PAUL.

## INFORMATION WANTED.

SIR,—Can you or any of your readers favour me with any information about the bells of Elstow church, Beds.? The church has lately undergone restoration, but the tower (which stands apart from the church) is still in the old state, I believe. I should much like to know the dates of the bells, their diameter, and any other matters of interest concerning them.

GRANDSIRE BOB.

## ST. EDMUND'S (NORTHAMPTON) BELLS.

SIR,—As a member of the Bedfordshire Association, and one of the band who visited Northampton recently, and attempted to ring a peal of Bob Triples at St. Edmund's church, I wish to state most emphatically, notwithstanding what Mr. Smith or anyone else says to the contrary, that the bells at St. Edmund's church did go very badly on that occasion. This is no reflection on Messrs. Taylor and Co., who cast and hung the bells, but is rather a matter for the consideration of those who are responsible for the management of the bells. A band of our Association, including myself, visited Northampton just before last Easter, and rang the same bells with the clappers lashed, and the go of them on that occasion was all that could be desired, hence the desire to attempt a peal on them, which however failed. Probably the failure of the attempt was due, not to the want of practice on the part of the Raunds section of the company, but the determination of certain local manipulators to defeat the object of the visitors.

JOHN ATKINS.

[We have several other letters on the same subject from correspondents, who state without disguise that the fault rests, certainly not with the bell-founders, but with those whose duty it is to keep the bells in order.—ED.]

## A CORRECTION.

SIR,—I notice in your issue of September 19th, a report of two 720's of Minor, rung at Elstree, Herts., by some members of the Cumberland Society, claiming them to be the first 720's on [the bells. I beg to say that a 720 of Grandsire Minor was rung there by six College Youths from St. Albans, on Monday, June 8th of this year, and duly recorded in "THE BELL NEWS," and which I believe was the first 720 on the bells.

N. N. HILLS.

## FROM C. P.

SIR,—The difference between the Guild of Devonshire Ringers and the old ringers of the county is not a personal question. If you think the point has any public interest, you will perhaps allow me to add a few lines by way of explanation. It is said that change-ringing proper never travelled further west than Bristol, until quite lately, although more than two hundred fine peals of bells, mostly dating from the last century, testify to a love of bell-ringing, which was formerly more general than it is now. I do not know why the old Devonshire ringers were content to ring only "call-changes," at a time when the art was held in higher honour than it is now. Perhaps for want of a penny-post and railroads, they had little opportunity of learning from the ringers of London and Bristol. Perhaps they preferred a simple

style in which success might be ensured, to more ambitious attempts with imperfect performances. Many years ago, when I lived in a country parish in another part of England, we used to ring peals of 120 changes. We knew nothing of "call-changes," but I do not think we should have considered ourselves any better than the Devonshire ringers. Each man learnt the course of his own bell, and the order in which he followed the others. Of course we picked up something of the true method, but without an instructor, or such hand-books as Troyte's and Snowdon's; "ringing by rule," as we termed it, was beyond our knowledge. One day a gentleman came into the belfry and showed us how we should ring by ear without looking at the ropes, but as he could not accomplish half-a-dozen changes, we were not much impressed. In some respects our system was better than that of "call-changes," but then a man could not take another ringers' bell on an emergency. I freely admit that proper change-ringing is a much higher art than what I have described, but where you cannot have science for want of good teaching, or leisure, or any other reason I think you should encourage a humbler style of ringing, which after all cannot be acquired without months of diligent practice. And I am sure that it is the business of a reformer to build upon old traditions rather than to discredit them, and try to break them down. As for prize-ringing, I have never been present at one of these matches. So far as I can ascertain they afford a good deal of innocent pleasure, and may be used as a lever, ready to hand for the encouragement of good ringing of every description. I am aware that the system may be abused, and that some persons, chiefly clergymen, have prejudices against it. Whether the same persons think it wrong for a clergyman to play whist for threepenny points, or for a schoolboy to compete for a Divinity prize, I do not know. The principle of the ringing-match appears to me to be nothing more than a question of taste. C. P.

## FRISKNEY BELLS.

SIR,—In your issue of September 19th, there is an account of the opening of the bells at Friskney, after being augmented to six by the addition of a new treble. In this account it states that the old bells were cast by Henry Penn, of Peterborough, in 1619. Now as Mr. Penn did not commence business till about the year 1700, I cannot see how this can be. Is it a misprint for 1719? The tenor measures 36½ inches in diameter, which would make it about 9 cwt., not 14 cwt.

PETERBURGENSIS.

## LONDON SOCIETIES.

SIR,—I fully concur with Mr. Musket in his remarks about young ringers being instructed in the art, and then learning. Years ago a youngster would creep cautiously into a belfry hardly knowing whether he would receive a welcome, or be kicked out. If admitted he would sit by and watch the ringing, it might be for some years, without so much as the chance of being asked to try and handle a bell, and if he ever became a ringer it was only by a slow process and by dint of great perseverance. Consequently he valued the art which had taken him so much trouble to acquire, and often became a change-ringer of some note. But nowadays boys are taken into the belfry and have ringing crammed into them whether they have any real taste for it, or not. They are dragged through a touch before they are hardly capable of ringing rounds, or handling a bell decently; of course the striking is execrable, but never mind, it counts as a touch. In about six months, it may be more or even less, they leave the place, or ringing becomes a stale amusement to them, and they take up some new hobby. Then the same trouble has to be gone through with others, with about the same results. As to London ringers thinking of nothing but Stedman Cinques and Treble Bob Twelve in, although I am seldom in London, when I have been up I have always found any company I have met have been most accommodating to me as a visitor, and others who have been up can testify the same.

J. R. JERRAM.

OBITUARY.—It is with deep regret that we have to record the death of Mr. William Pearce, of Bourn, Lincolnshire, who died on Saturday, night week, after a short but painful illness, at the age of 61 years. On the following Wednesday the remains of the deceased were interred in the Cemetery, attended by members of the Fire Brigade and others. The Rev. J. P. Sharpe, M.A., vicar of Edenham, conducted the service. The deceased was for thirty-eight years a leading ringer at the Abbey church, and by his genial manner he won the good will of his fellow members. He was also a prominent member of the South Lincolnshire Association, and throughout a most honourable life he has been an ardent lover of bell-ringing and did his utmost to further the science. Mr. Pearce was also a trustee of the Bourn United Provident Association, for which he worked arduously for some ten years. Furthermore he was a member of the Bourn Fire Brigade for eight-and-twenty years, ten of which he held the responsible position of sub-engineer. On Wednesday a muffled peal was rung; and we understand that at the several churches in the district of the Association muffled peals have also been rung.



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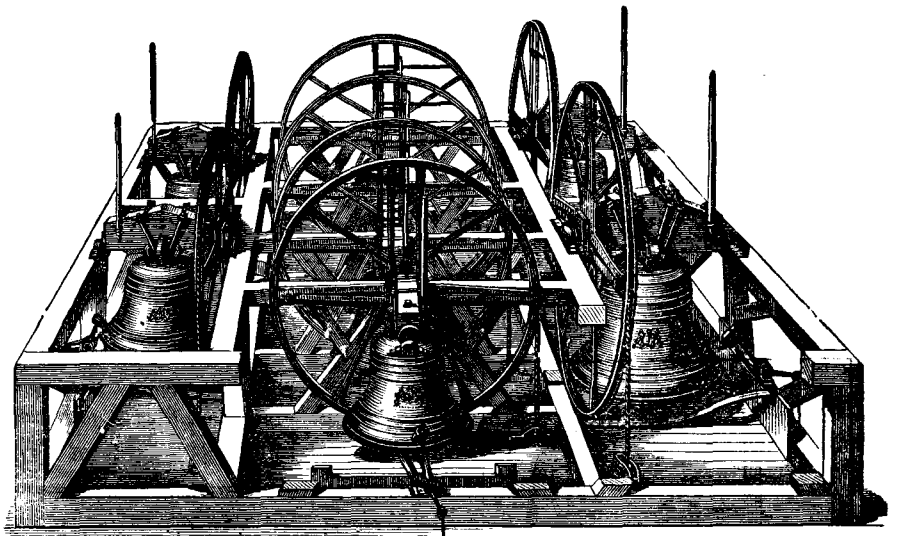
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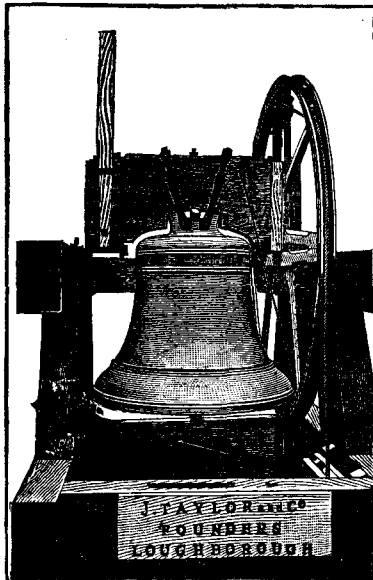
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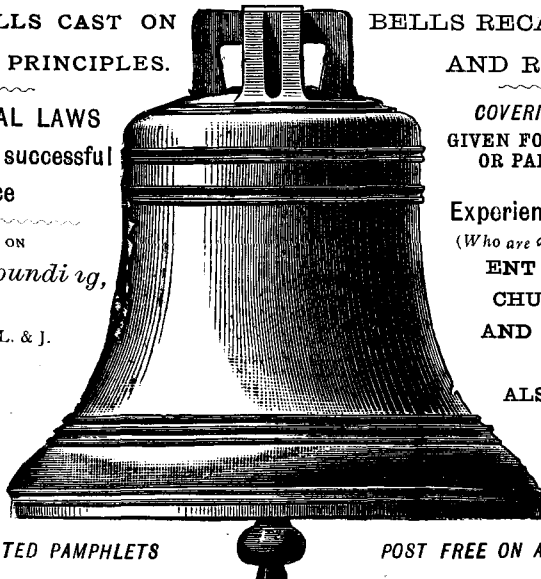
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SATURDAY, OCTOBER 10, 1885.

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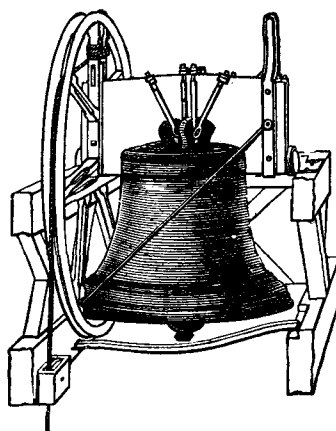
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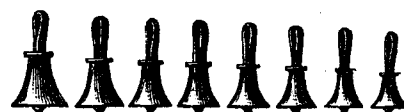
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ANNIVERSARY OF THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.  
PRESENTATION TO MR. SNOWDON.

[FROM OUR SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT.]

On Saturday, October 3rd, this Association held its tenth anniversary at Sheffield. Excursion trains were run from the principal towns in the county, and about 300 members attended. Several arrived on the previous evening, and others early on the Saturday morning. Throughout the day, the bells of the parish church, All Saints', and St. Marie's, were kept going by the visitors. Visitors were present from Birstall, Kirkburton, Leeds, Bridlington, Huddersfield, Wakefield, Rotherham, Sandal, Staveley, Chesterfield, Doncaster, Birmingham, Hull, Penistone, Dewsbury, Bradford, Ossett, Shipley, Guiseley, York, Saltair, Bingley, Holbeck, Keighley, Headingley, Tong, Hunslet, Long Eaton, Anston, London, Calverley, Ashton, &c. At half-past four, a special service was held in the parish church. Prayers were said by the Ven. Archdeacon Blakeney, the lesson was read by the Rev. F. G. Sandford, and the Rev. J. H. Fish, of Burton-on-Trent, delivered a most excellent address, taking as his text, Philippians iv. 5: "Let your moderation be known unto all men." He said:—

I must tell you at the outset, brethren, how very sensible I am of the honour you have done me in inviting me to address you this afternoon. I feel it to be an honour for two reasons. First of all, because I am here to-day by the invitation of your President; and from the distinguished position which he holds both as an author, and as a ringer amongst us, any man would feel proud to respond to his invitation. And secondly, I feel it to be an honour, because in addressing you to-day, I feel I am also addressing the representatives of a great and energetic Association. The Yorkshire Association, whose 10th anniversary we are met to celebrate, is not only one of the oldest and most powerful of our Associations of change-ringers, but it is also one which has contributed in a very marked degree to the establishment of similar Associations throughout the country. In the course of the ten years which have elapsed since your Society was first founded, many kindred Societies have sprung into existence. And I need hardly tell you that some of these have made no secret of following in your footsteps, of imitating your methods of procedure, of adopting your management, and of benefiting largely by your advice and experience. Indeed, I feel I should be falling short of my duty this afternoon, if I did not express, both on my own behalf, and I think I may say also on behalf of the Association with which I am more intimately connected, the great obligation we ourselves owe to you.

There is perhaps no one who has a better right than I have to speak on this matter, and therefore I most willingly and gladly testify to the great help I have always received at the hands of the officers of your Association; and I unhesitatingly commend their moderation, their freedom from feelings of personal pique and jealousy, and their readiness to render assistance and encouragement, to the imitation of all change-ringers here to-day.

Now, in looking for a text which should serve my purpose this afternoon, I was led to choose the words of St. Paul to his beloved Philippians, in which he exhorts them, almost as his very parting words to them, to "Let their moderation be known unto all men." For I believe that it is just this "moderation," using the word in its best sense, and the sense which I believe it holds in this passage, which is so very good and so very necessary for us.

It is necessary and it is good for us, first of all, because the Bible recommends it, and we know full well that whatever the Bible recommends is, of itself, so vital to our best interests, that no Society can ever get on without it.

But if you read this Epistle carefully, I think you will find that the key-note of it all, and the main purpose of it all, is St. Paul's desire for unity, which is so constantly advocated throughout it. St. Paul was above all things anxious that the Philippian Church should continue to be a united and compact body of Christians, free from every internal dispute and dissension, and unchecked by any obstacle which would break the steadiness of their ranks, or be a stumbling block in the way of their spiritual progress. And I ask you to notice that the Apostle insists on the fact that this unity of which he makes so much was to be obtained, not by individual outbursts of enthusiasm, or by individual and occasional examples of energy and activity, but it was to be brought about by each member so "moderating" his zeal that every other member should be able to keep step with, and to combine, and to co-operate with him. "Let your moderation," he says "be known unto all men."

Now, brethren, I venture to think that what we want in all our ringing Societies, and in all other Societies for that matter, is very much more attention to be paid to St. Paul's advice. None know better than we change-ringers do, that no progress worthy of the name can ever be made without there is unity and co-operation of the completest kind amongst us. You and I have learned by experience that the advance of a company is to be measured, not by one or two of its members always rushing to the front, but it is to be measured by the steady march and the close adherence, shoulder to shoulder, of the whole body. And what I venture to think our Societies stand in need of most, is not so much distinguished men, we have enough and to spare of them already, but steady men. Men, for example, who, if it is agreed to meet for a peal at six o'clock, are there at six, and not at seven. What we want is, that our very clever and enthusiastic friends should be more willing to combine with the main body of us, so as to produce a preponderance of moderate, and reasonable, and in the highest sense, Christian-minded men amongst us.

We want, in fact, men who are so devoted to the cause they profess to have at heart, that they are willing to make the final sacrifice of all in its behalf, the sacrifice of themselves, in order to wait for, if need be, and to hold together the otherwise isolated units of their company.

And I know no such way of doing this as the good old-fashioned way of living nearer our Bibles, every one of us; and by the practice of more moderation, more Christian moderation amongst us, moderation of temper, and moderation of tongue and moderation of prejudice, and moderation of jealousy, and moderation of personal ambition, and moderation of personal opinions, and personal asperities.

There are people to be found all England over, who seem to be naturally and constitutionally unreasonable. They want to have things all their own way. They are always ready to take, but are never willing to give. They are content to lead, but they cannot abide to follow. They want to conduct every peal, and will never take their turn at the tenor behind when their turn comes. They want their own letters published every week in the newspapers, and they would monopolise every column for themselves, to the exclusion of all other compositions and correspondence. And such conduct is the ruin of our craft, brethren. It is the ruin of ringers; it is the ruin of change-ringing; and it is the ruin of some of our oldest and most famous Societies.

Well, one of the chief aims of your Yorkshire Association, and indeed one of the chief aims of the much talked of National Association, would be, as I take it, to bring together the cleverest and most able ringers throughout the country, in the hope that by more frequent opportunities of intercourse, something might be done

towards a completer union than prevails amongst us at present. I need hardly tell you that with all such objects, I, as a Christian minister, have the sincerest sympathy. Whatever will help to bind people together rather than tear them asunder, will have my heartiest support, and I can answer for it, the support of my brother-clergy. It is the schisms which in too many instances have been the result of belfry disagreements, and the divisions, and the bitter words, and the bad behaviour of members towards each other, which have been so deplorable in times past, and have set those against you who ought to have been, and I believe still are, your best friends. I am sure the clergy in this town wish well to your Yorkshire Association, and congratulate you upon having exhibited from first to last a consistent example of Christian moderation and Christian charity; and their only desire is that the same spirit which has hitherto distinguished your executive, may animate and pervade every member and every company of your Society.

Standing on historic ground, as I do to-day, brethren, the ground where Hudson and Booth, and Gay, and Wilson, in days gone by have laboured for that very unity I have spoken of; addressing you change-ringers of the North Country in whose mouths the achievements of Ben. Thackeray, and Joseph Tebbis, and Henry Hubbard, and William Harrison, and a host of other giants of bye-gone times, to say nothing of more modern heroes, are familiar words, I bid you God speed with all my heart. The progress made during the ten years that are gone, whether we look to the composition of musical peals, or to the number and character of musical performances, or to the spread of information on ringing matters, or to the multiplication of ringers and ringing Societies and Associations, speaks volumes for the interest you have been instrumental in arousing throughout the country.

Yours is indeed a noble past; you may have even a nobler future, if by God's grace you will continue to temper your zeal with discretion, and cement your union with Christian moderation and respect one for another.

The address was listened to with the most marked attention, many of the congregation expressing the unalloyed pleasure it had been to them, and there is no doubt Mr. Fish's words will not readily fade from the memory of those who heard them. The hearty singing of the hymn commencing,

"Now thank we all our God,  
With heart and hand and voices."

brought the service to a close.

The members were then entertained to a substantial meat tea in the Church Institute. After tea, the business meeting was held in the same large room, Mr. J. W. Snowdon occupying the chair, supported on the platform by the Ven. Archdeacon Blakeney, Rev. J. H. Fish, Rev. F. G. Sandford, Mr. Collier and Mr. Uttley, churchwardens, the parish clerk of Sheffield, the organist of the parish church, Mr. R. Tuke, Mr. W. Whitaker, etc. The minutes of the last meeting were read and passed, and the officers' roll called, after which the president delivered a lengthy and interesting address on the progress and work of the Association since its formation. Mr. Snowdon commenced by narrating the circumstances attending the establishment of the society, how it had grown and consolidated itself, as it were, year by year, and spoke of the alterations which had been made in its rules and constitution from time to time. The original rules were in operation during the first three years, at the end of which they were thoroughly revised, and the third year was signalled by the formation of two classes of members—ringing and honorary. In the fourth year, another class of members was introduced—non-resident—which has in no small degree helped to create and cement a bond of union between it and kindred societies. In the sixth year, the funds of the Association had accumulated to such an extent that the attention of the committee was directed to the question of their disposal. A suggestion was made at this time that the Association should be converted into a sort of friendly society, giving sick or other benefits to its members, but this idea, after much consideration, was abandoned for the reason that most of the members belonged to properly-constituted friendly societies, and that it would be preferable to confine the Association to its legitimate work—the promotion of change-ringing. In the seventh year, an alteration was made in the rules, so that members could vote by proxy at any election of officers. In the ninth year the meetings were altered from quarterly to three in each year, the reason of this being that the January meeting coming so near the Christmas holidays, was inconvenient; and the April meeting generally occurring during the season of Lent, had to be constantly postponed to Easter week, which was also found to be an inconvenient time for the members to get together. The meetings were therefore altered so as to take place on the first Saturdays in February, June, and October, and this alteration has proved to work very satisfactorily. During the past year, the committee have found it necessary to supplement the rules by a number of regulations for the better working of the society; these regulations being to some extent of an experimental character, time will be required to prove their utility or otherwise. Since the Association was formed, 690 ringers have joined (including re-entries), and 220 left, leaving the number of members at the present time 470. The number of peals rung by the members is 331, the methods rung being: 179 Kent Treble Bob Major; six Royal, and one Maximus; Grandsire—forty-nine Triples, two Major, and five Caters; Plain Bob—six Triples and thirty-four Major; Oxford—twelve Major, and one Royal; Stedman—four Triples, eight Caters, two Cinques; Yorkshire Court Major—four; Woodbine Major—one; Violet Major one; Cater and Royal variations—one; fourteen peals on six bells, from seven peals of 720 each, to one of 6000 made up of 240 changes each, in twenty-five Treble Bob methods, and five peals on handbells. This record, Mr. Snowdon considered was a very creditable one, and the financial position of the Association was no less satisfactory. The

total income was £248 7s. 3d., and the expenditure £120, so that in round numbers, the society is now worth £130. Mr. Snowdon concluded his remarks by a vigorous appeal to the members to continue in the same unity and fraternal feeling one to another that had characterised them in the past, and asked for the forbearance and confidence of the members in their officers, who, while entrusted with such large powers, were always anxious to do everything to promote the welfare of the society.

The Ven. ARCHDEACON BLAKENEY having to leave in order to fulfil another engagement, then addressed a few words of welcome and encouragement to the members, assuring them of his warm interest in the welfare of the society, and he was greeted with hearty cheers.

The selection of the place for the February meeting was the next business. Invitations were received from Keighley and Rotherham. On being put to the vote, the latter place was carried, and it was resolved to meet there on the first Saturday in February next.

The Annual Report and balance sheet was then read. The income of the past year was £38 18s. 11d., and the expenditure £21 16s. 9d., leaving a balance to be carried forward of £17 2s. 2d. This having been passed,

Mr. W. WHITAKER proposed a vote of thanks to the Rev. J. H. Fish for his excellent address in church. He felt himself totally inadequate to express his feelings; he thought that if ringers would consider more that moderation which Mr. Fish spoke about, they would find it beneficial both to themselves personally, and to the work in which they were engaged. He had no doubt that the words they had heard that afternoon would be long remembered by all.

Mr. C. JACKSON seconded the motion, and in doing so, congratulated Mr. Fish on the excellent company of ringers with which he was now connected. The motion was carried amid loud cheers.

Mr. J. T. HOLLIS proposed a vote of thanks to the clergy and churchwardens of Sheffield for the use of their bells: and expressed the satisfaction he felt at seeing the increased interest which the clergy were now taking in their ringers.

Mr. G. BOLLAND seconded the motion, which was carried in a very hearty manner.

Mr. UTTLEY, in responding to the vote, said he was pleased to see the unity which was manifest among the members; he was also pleased to see that the clergy were interesting themselves more in the work of ringing, and thought that one cause of this improved state of affairs was that the ringers were making themselves more respected; he concluded by paying a high compliment to the Sheffield ringers for the manner in which they performed their duties.

Mr. W. H. HOWARD proposed, and Mr. J. CHEETHAM seconded a vote of thanks to the Sheffield ringers for their hospitality, which was carried amid loud applause.

The Rev. J. H. FISH then took the chair, and proposed a vote of thanks to the officers for the past year. He was sure the members were much to be congratulated on possessing such energetic officers, and any one could see from the report that they did their duty well.

Mr. J. MULLIGAN seconded the motion, and it was carried in a very hearty manner.

Mr. W. H. HOWARD responded to the vote, and then proceeded to make the presentation to Mr. Snowdon. He said—Rev. Sir, and brother ringers, it is with feelings of pride that I have the honour to be called upon to present this beautiful address and this most useful travelling bag to our esteemed President, who has during the past ten years conducted the business of the society in so able a manner as to justify us in this celebration to make a departure from our usual routine. The idea of this token of respect originated so far back as February last, and in June a committee was formed who laid the matter before the members, who at the same time resolved to keep the affair within our own ranks, and confine the subscription to members only. The result has been that the committee have been gratified with the hearty response, so that they have been able to place the effect before you, and I can assure you that the many expressions of regard made by the different correspondents shew how much our president is esteemed. When the committee held its first meeting in Bradford, there was gathered together one of the most widely represented and influential body of officers ever held since the formation of the Association, and the universal unanimity and good feeling shewn in the matter will be long remembered by those who were present. Our President is well worthy of all the respect in which he is held. He has always been ready when wanted to meet companies at the various towers in the different parts of the county, not only to shew his skill in handling a rope, but also his ability in conducting peals. We can also point with pride to the work of his pen in the cause of ringing, the books he has published not only for the "full blown ringer" but also for the learner, as for instance his "Standard Methods," and "Rope Sight," which are of themselves sufficient to stamp his name with popularity; and when we look in the pages of "THE BELL NEWS," we see his pen constantly at work for the benefit and instruction of ringers; there we find what a great amount of time he devotes, and

talent he displays in furtherance of the art of change-ringing. And, Rev. Sir, I ought not to omit a word of acknowledgement for the uniform kindness and good feeling he has shewn to all members at general and other meetings, the good fellowship whenever we meet him, and the tact and ability he shews upon all matters under discussion, while always endeavouring to cement all the members together in the bonds of the science. I should also state to the subscribers, that the two sides of the balance sheet agree, for the secretary assures me that everything—paper, printing, postage, the address, and bag—is paid for. I have now to ask you, Mr. President, to accept this address and travelling bag, as a small token of the esteem with which the members of the Yorkshire Association regard you, for the services you have rendered to the same, and the ringing fraternity generally, and that God will long grant you the blessings of health, and the use of this small gift, is the earnest desire of myself, the committee, and the subscribers.

Mr. B. T. COPLEY then read the address, which was as follows:—

To J. W. SNOWDON, Esq.

DEAR SIR,

We, the undersigned Officers of the Yorkshire Association of change-ringers, on behalf of the members, beg most respectfully to acknowledge the great services you have rendered to the Association since its formation ten years ago. Your unwearied labours in its behalf during the critical period of its formation; your never-failing response to the incessant calls upon your time and energy; as well as your uniform kindness of manner and integrity of purpose in dealing with the innumerable questions which have arisen, can never be fully recorded, or adequately recompensed.

The great success which has been achieved by the Association is mainly due to you; your natural abilities have assisted it in an unmeasurable degree, while the enthusiasm which you have, by your example, imparted to its members, has been the means of the Association attaining that high position in the ringing fraternity, which its first foremen in their most sanguine moments never anticipated.

We therefore tender to you the heartiest thanks of all the members, assuring you of their high appreciation of your many and invaluable services; at the same time earnestly trusting that you will be long spared to preside over the Association with that great ability which has hitherto characterised you, and which has raised you so high in the estimation, not only of our own members, but of all our brethren throughout the world.

We beg to subscribe ourselves,

Dear Sir,

Yours very sincerely,  
W. H. HOWARD, G. BOLLAND, *Vice-Presidents.* R. TUKE, *Hon. Treasurer.*  
W. WHITAKER, *Hon. Sec.* T. HATTERSLEY, B. T. COPLEY, *Stewards.*  
Committee.  
J. CHEETHAM, R. RUSHWORTH, J. B. JENNINGS, T. HAIGH,  
C. JACKSON, J. T. HOLLIS, J. H. HARDCASTLE, A. SPURR,  
C. H. HATTERSLEY.

October 3rd, 1885."

Mr. SNOWDON, on receiving the presentation, was greeted with vociferous cheering. In thanking the members, he said that while the value of a gift to a recipient was often very much in the manner of its giving, the present they had made him was in every way to his mind, it having come from his own society, and that fact alone enhanced its value. But while it was a flattering tribute, it must be remembered that much of the success of the Association was due to the fact that they had during the past ten years been favoured with good officers and a capital crew, so that they had a prosperous voyage. Referring to Mr. Howard's remarks about "THE BELL NEWS," he pointed out the great advantage of having such an excellent paper, and spoke of the many difficulties to be contended with in its management, and urged upon all ringers their duty to do all in their power to support it.

Mr. WHITAKER proposed and Mr. HOWARD seconded a vote of thanks to the presentation committee, which was carried.

Mr. R. TUKE, in replying, said that the work of the committee had been essentially a labour of love, and the result of their endeavours had fully repaid them for their work.

A cordial vote of thanks to the Rev. J. H. Fish for his services in the chair brought the meeting to a close, after which ringing was resumed until the time of departure.

[The address to Mr. Snowdon is a beautiful work of art. It was illuminated by Mr. W. Lister, of Bradford, and contains sketches in colours of Ilkley parish church, where Mr. Snowdon first learnt to ring, and of which church his father was vicar for many years, and Ilkley Vicarage, where he spent the greater portion of his life. The bag, which is of a large size, is well furnished with travelling requisites, on the front of which is a silver bell containing the inscription "Presented to J. W. Snowdon, Esq., by the Yorkshire Association of change-ringers, October 3rd, 1885."]

#### THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

A Quarterly Meeting of this Association will be held at St. James's, Bermondsey, by the kind permission of the Vicar, on Monday, October 12th. Tower open at four o'clock p.m. Any ringers, whether members of the Association or not, will be welcome. The tea will be held in the mission-room at six o'clock p.m. All who intend to be present at the tea are requested to send their names to the Hon. Sec. by Thursday, October 8th, in order that places may be provided for them. The meal, consisting of a plain tea, will be free to all ringing members who have paid their subscriptions for the current year, others one shilling a head. The business meeting will be held immediately after the tea.

ARTHUR B. CARPENTER,

34, Dingwall Road, Croydon.

Hon. Sec.



PRESENTATION TO MR. SNOWDON, AND OPENING  
OF A NEW PEAL BOARD AT LEEDS, YORKSHIRE.

ON Thursday, October 1st, the Leeds St. Peter's society held their Quarterly Meeting and dinner at their meeting-house, "The Old Nag's Head," opposite the church. There was a full company present, including a few friends from neighbouring churches, who did duty to several good methods in the meat variations provided by host Mitchell, whose compositions are so much admired by hungry ringers once a quarter in Leeds. Practice done, and handbells lowered, grace over, and while the cloth was drawn, a visit was made to the tower of St. Peter's parish church, to unveil the peal-board erected for a peal of Stedman Caters, rung by the above company on Easter Monday, April 6th, 1885. The board is of unusual design, and made of polished pitch pine wood, with black and illuminated lettering, with gilt bells as corbels to support the whole board against the wall. The workmanship has been entrusted to one of the company, and is of no mean order, acknowledged by all present, and good judges, to be of a most substantial and commanding appearance. An adjournment was then made to the old quarters, where the rest of the evening was spent in presenting Jasper W. Snowdon, Esq., with a splendid gold pencil case, the gift of the St. Peter's company. Mr. T. Lockwood, the president, in presenting it, expressed the extreme indebtedness of the Yorkshire Association for his valuable services. He also remarked there was a testimonial about to be presented to him by the whole of the Yorkshire Association. But the Leeds Company considered that owing to the many ringing adventures they had experienced in conjunction with him, the numerous peals and attempts at peals, they considered they could not do otherwise than express the esteem they held for him, for his unwearied exertions to advance the art of change-ringing. Mr. Snowdon, in accepting the gift, spoke feelingly of the pleasure it gave him to be assured by this gift, the friendship which still existed by his oldest ringing associates. Then followed the usual loyal toasts, songs, etc., and several touches and courses on the handbells, by rather different composers than host Mitchell; friendly intercourse, and the health of a few friends, "THE BELL NEWS," Mr. Tuke and others, being drunk and responded to, and votes of thanks to the chairman, brought eleven fine strokes on our tenor in the tower, whose hint we all took, bidding each other good night, and making arrangements for Sheffield on Saturday. R. B.

## ABINGDON, BERKS.

THE St. Helen's bells, a peal of eight, have been dumb for the last eight or ten years. A committee has been formed, and under their auspices the spire has been pulled down and re-built, the eight bells have been recast and two more added to make up a peal of ten, and the following members of the St. Helen's company, which society has held together all the time the bells have been silent, on Sunday evening, September 27th, met in St. Nicholas' belfry, and rang three 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles. 1st 6-score: H. Didcock, 1; J. Viner, 2; A. Keates, 3; A. W. Carter, 4; G. Young, 5; E. Bright, 6. 2nd 6-score: G. Young, 1; J. Viner, 2; A. Keates, 3; A. W. Carter, 4; E. Webb, 5; H. Didcock, 6. 3rd 6-score: G. Hosier, 1; J. Viner, 2; A. Keates, 3; A. W. Carter, 4; E. Webb, 5; J. Burgess, 6.

## SUBSCRIPTION LIST FOR THE JOHNSON TESTIMONIAL.

Subscribed by the following	£ s. d.	Subscribed by the following	£ s. d.
members of the St. Martin's		Josh Johnson, Birmingham ...	2 6
Company, Birmingham—		M. A. Wood, Bethnal Green,	
J. Joyner ... ..	5 0	London ... ..	2 6
J. Dunn ... ..	2 6	W. W. Gifford, Salisbury ...	3 0
H. Withers ... ..	2 6	J. Barwell, Birmingham ...	5 0
T. Reynolds ... ..	2 6	F. H. James, St. John's, Deri-	
J. Ward ... ..	5 0	tend, Birmingham ... ..	2 6
J. W. Cartwright ... ..	3 0	Rev. J. H. Fish, Burton ...	10 0
J. Sanders ... ..	2 6	J. Carter, Birmingham Amal-	
F. Banks ... ..	5 0	gamated Society ... ..	6 0
W. Kent ... ..	5 0	H. and C. Hopkins, London ...	2 0
H. Bastable ... ..	5 0	W. H. Godden, St. Martin's,	
H. Johnson, jun. ... ..	10 6	Birmingham ... ..	5 0
S. Reeves ... ..	5 0	N. J. Pitstow ... ..	2 6
J. Buffery ... ..	3 6	J. R. Haworth ... ..	2 6
C. Stanbridge ... ..	3 0	John Day, Edgbaston, B'ham	5 0
W. R. Small ... ..	2 6	C. Fluck, Perry Barr, B'ham...	2 6
B. Wittchell ... ..	2 6	C. J. Clews, "Bell inn," Harb'ne	2 6
A. Jones ... ..	2 6	J. Morris, Hagley Rd. Edgb'ton	2 6
A. Thomas ... ..	1 0	T. Hattersley, Sheffield ...	5 0
T. Powell, Waltham Abbey ...	5 0	N. J. Pitstow (2nd subscription)	2 6
J. W. Snowdon, Esq. ... ..	1 10	Ch. Ch. company, West B'm'ch	5 0
H. Avery, Birmingham ... ..	5 0	C. E. Malim, London ... ..	2 6
C. H. Hattersley, Sheffield ...	5 0	"Old Church ringers," Macclesf'd	5 0
Albert H. Wrecks, Manchester.	3 0	H. Tarver, Bilton, Rugby ...	2 0
J. Lawton, Tipton ... ..	2 6	W. Hinton, Cirencester ...	2 0
		Mr. Redgate, Birmingham...	5 0

The committee earnestly request that donations from ringers and friends interested in this "National Testimonial" be forwarded at an early date to one of the undersigned: A. Thomas, Hon. Secretary, 83, Wheelley's Road, Edgbaston, Birmingham; S. Reeves, Hon. Treasurer, 10, Bull Street, West Bromwich.

CHURCH CONSECRATION AT ALVERTON,  
GLOUCESTERSHIRE.

ON Thursday morning, September 25th, the Lord Bishop of the Diocese of Gloucester and Bristol consecrated the new church which has recently been erected at Alverton. The sacred building, which is dedicated to St. Helen, occupies a commanding position in the main road between Gloucester and Bristol, and is intended to replace the old church, which has done duty for some centuries, has fallen into decay, and become inadequate to meet the requirements of the increasing neighbourhood. The new church is a handsome 'stone building, with Bath stone dressings, the internal fittings are of pitch pine, and accommodation is provided for a congregation of some 270. The building was carried out by the firm of Stephens and Bastow, of Bristol, from designs submitted by Mr. Lloyd, of the same town, and numerous friends came forward with offers to help, among the foremost being Messrs. Thos. and Ed. Bush, who undertook the office of guarantors. It is estimated that the cost of the church, exclusive of fittings, will be about £3500. The tower is about 60 or 70 ft. high. Two of the three bells in the old tower were removed and hung in the new one, forming the 2nd and 3rd of the peal, with the new treble, 4th, 5th, and 6th, tenor 15 cwt. in F., by Llewellyn and James, Bristol. The bells are hung in a good substantial English oak frame, but they will not be allowed to be rung up for some time yet, owing to the new state of the tower. After the evening service the following members of the Thornbury local company, with A. York, of Bristol, bell hanger, chimed on the Ellacombe chiming apparatus, a 6-score of Grandsire Doubles. G. Hyles, 1; F. Symes, 2; A. York, 3; T. Alsop, 4; F. Howell, 5-6. Conducted by A. York. The new bells are the gift of Mr. Edward Bush.

## MIDDLESBOROUGH.

The peal of eight bells in St. Hilda's church, in this town, tenor 12 cwt. in G., was cast and erected by Messrs. Mears, in 1864, being presented, as appears from the inscriptions upon them, by the following donors:—

1. Thomas Vaughan.
2. The Clay Lane and South Bank Iron Works.
3. Messrs. Gilkes and Wilson.
4. Messrs. Cochrane and Company.
5. Messrs. Hopkins and Company.
6. Joseph Pease.
7. { Isaac Benson, Incumbent.  
Richard Bramley, Curate.  
John Shields Peacock,  
Beckwith John Hopper, } Churchwardens.
8. { Henry William Ferdinand Bolckow,  
and John Vaughan.

Seven of these bells are squeezed into a tower twelve feet square, the 2nd hanging above the rest. No 5000 has ever been rung on them, but touches of Treble Bob Major are occasionally rung by the Stockton society. The local company, never expert in change-ringing, have been retrograding for some years until the last stages of decrepitude were reached, and frequent complaints were made why the bells were never rung. On Tuesday evening, September 29th, a meeting convened by the churchwardens was held in the vestry, for the purpose of organising a change-ringing society. Mr. Churchwarden Manners presided, supported by his co-warden, Mr. Sharpe. Mr. Manners explained the object of the meeting, and expressed the dissatisfaction of the churchwardens and others connected with the church, at the present state of affairs, and then took down the names of several who were willing to learn change-ringing under the tuition of Mr. J. H. Blakiston, late of St. John's, Darlaston, who will be a member of the new company. A vote of thanks was passed to Mr. Clarkson, of Stockton, for the interest he had taken in promoting this object. The floor under the bells is being covered with turf to subdue the noise in the ringing-chamber, and it is probable that some of the bells which are false will be re-adjusted to their stocks.

RAISING THE TENOR BELL AT ST. PAUL'S CATHEDRAL.—The pulling up of St. Paul's tenor generally occupies four, five, or six men (sometimes more in hot weather), but on the last practice-night, Tuesday, October 6th, this feat was accomplished single-handed by Mr. Joseph Jones, a private in the Royal Horse Guards (blue), and a member of the Ancient Society of College Youths, in the presence of several well-known ringers and friends; the time occupied was a little over three minutes, and the tenor weighs 62 cwt. This is the first time she has been pulled up by one man alone.

"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, OCTOBER 10, 1885.

THE reports of the important Association meetings which appear in this week's number oblige us to defer the publication of a few touches, correspondence, and several other items, until next week. The attention of our friends is again directed to the notice at the head of this column relating to the time when all touches should arrive at our office. It happens sometimes, of course, that communications received early in the week have to be deferred, but every effort is constantly made to prevent that disappointment which the non-appearance of a paragraph is so apt to cause. We feel compelled to say that if more support was given by the Exercise to our journal, the number of its pages would be soon increased, and the necessity for postponement of any kind done away with. It is a painful fact to acknowledge, but it is true, nevertheless, that a paper brought into existence for one particular section of the community, is very far indeed from being wholly supported by those for whose convenience, specially, it is published, but principally by clergymen, and churchmen who know, technically speaking, little or nothing of the meaning of much of its contents. We appeal to our ringing brethren for a more liberal support. They should know that in the establishment of "THE BELL NEWS" great pecuniary benefit was never looked for by any one connected with it. It has been announced this week from the pulpit that there are about 50,000 ringers in England—Mr. ELLACOMBE placed the number somewhat higher—and surely it is not a great thing to expect that such a body, if they had any affection for their art, would be able to have an organ worthy of it. Strange as it may seem, there are very few ringers indeed who do not read our paper, but there are many, too many, unfortunately, who never think, after digesting its contents, that they might in future spare the trifling fee each week, so that they could have a number all to themselves. To those of our friends who discern this allusion, and who know as well as we do the faint support we obtain in certain districts, we appeal to bestir themselves in promoting the circulation of a journal exclusively their own. We yearn for encouragement sufficient to warrant the enlargement—and thereby the increased usefulness—of our paper. We shall not then have to apologise, week after week, for items being absent. "THE BELL NEWS" should be sixteen—aye, twenty-four—pages, every issue. The subjects to be dealt with are worthy of a greater number even. There are matters connected with our science well-nigh inexhaustible; with many of the surroundings of bells and ringing we have not yet been able to deal. We want our friends to make an effort, now, to assist us. If every one of our readers would secure but one new permanent subscriber, we should be able to move in the direction in which we so long have ardently desired to do.

We are informed that the collection of bell models and curiosities amassed by the late Rev. H. T. Ellacombe, has been bequeathed and accepted by the authorities of the South Kensington Museum. When the articles are arranged and exhibited, we shall be in a position to give a detailed account of this interesting collection.

## The Metropolis.

FULHAM, MIDDLESEX.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

On Wednesday, September 30, 1885, in Three Hours and Thirty Minutes,

AT ALL SAINTS' CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATER, 5112 CHANGES.

Tenor 21 cwt. in Eb.

EDWIN HORREX .. .. Treble.	MARTIN MURPHY .. .. 6.
RICHARD W. EVANS .. .. 2.	ISAAC G. SHADE .. .. 7.
NEWMAN N. HILLS .. .. 3.	WILLIAM D. SMITH .. .. 8.
HERBERT BAKER .. .. 4.	FRANCIS E. DAWE .. .. 9.
CHALLIS F. WINNY .. .. 5.	JAMES MASON .. .. Tenor.

Composed by the late JOHN HOLT and Conducted by FRANCIS EDWARD DAWE.

R. W. Evans hails from Wrexham; N. N. Hills from St. Albans; H. Baker from Hertford; and the remainder are of London.

LONDON.—THE ST. JAMES'S SOCIETY.

On Wednesday, October 7, 1885, in Three Hours and Twenty-one Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. CLEMENT DANES, STRAND,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATER, 5039 CHANGES.

Tenor 24 cwt. in D.

JAMES R. HAWORTH .. .. Treble.	FREDERICK MARGETSON .. 6.
HENRY LANGDON .. .. 2.	WILLIAM WEATHERSTONE .. 7.
RICHARD FRENCH .. .. 3.	GEORGE R. BANKS .. .. 8.
JOHN W. MANSFIELD .. .. 4.	FREDERICK G. NEWMAN .. 9.
CHALLIS F. WINNY .. .. 5.	EDWARD ALBONE .. .. Tenor.

Composed by H. HUBBARD and Conducted by R. FRENCH.

This peal was rung on the occasion of the Harvest Festival, being also the thirty-third anniversary of the Rector's (Rev. J. Lindsay) birthday.

## The Provinces.

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

On Friday, October 2, 1885, in Three Hours and Thirteen Minutes,

AT ST. PETER'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5120 CHANGES. Tenor 9½ cwt. in G.

JESSE AVERY .. .. Treble.	WILLIAM BENNETT .. .. 5.
JAMES W. WASHBROOK .. .. 2.	GEORGE HOLIFIELD .. .. 6.
BENJAMIN BARRETT .. .. 3.	CHARLES HOUNSLOW .. .. 7.
JOSEPH FIELD .. .. 4.	REV. F. E. ROBINSON .. Tenor.

Composed by HENRY JOHNSON, SEN., and Conducted by REV. F. E. ROBINSON, Master of the Guild.

This is the fifteenth peal in this method, and the first rung by each of the above band except the conductor.

IPSWICH, SUFFOLK.

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

On Saturday, October 3, 1885, in Three Hours and Fifty-one Minutes,

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

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAXIMUS, 5040 CHANGES; IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 32 cwt. in C♯.

WILLIAM MOTTS .. .. Treble.	ROBERT HAWES .. .. 7.
EDGAR PEMBERTON .. .. 2.	FREDERICK TILLET .. .. 8.
ISAAC S. ALEXANDER .. .. 3.	*THOMAS STEWARD .. .. 9.
JAMES MOTTS .. .. 4.	EDWIN HORREX .. .. 10.
WILLIAM L. CATCHPOLE .. 5.	ROBERT H. BRUNDLE .. 11.
ARTHUR R. ALDHAM .. .. 6.	*FREDERICK G. NEWMAN .. Tenor.

Composed by HENRY DAINS, and Conducted by F. G. NEWMAN.

The above peal was rung to commemorate Mr. A. R. Aldham's 18th birthday, his brother ringers wishing him many happy returns. Messrs Newman and Horrex, who hail from London, beg to take this opportunity of thanking their Ipswich friends for their kindness and hospitality towards them. \*First peal on twelve bells.

ANSTON (Yorkshire).—On Saturday, September 26th, the Eckington company paid a visit to the above place, and rang a 720 each of College Pleasure, Arnold's Victory, Oxford and Violet Treble Bob.

## BARKING, ESSEX.

## THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION AND ST. JAMES'S SOCIETY.

On Saturday, October 3, 1885, in Three Hours and Six Minutes,

At St. Margaret's Church,

## A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

REEVES'S VARIATION. Tenor 22½ cwt.

WILLIAM NASH* .. .. Treble.	GEORGE B. LUCAS .. .. 5.
ACLAND J. PERKINS .. .. 2.	ROBERT SEWELL .. .. 6.
JOHN NUNN .. .. 3.	HENRY A. BARNETT .. .. 7.
JOSEPH WAGHORN, JUN .. 4.	JOSEPH WAGHORN, SEN. .. Tenor.

Conducted by ACLAND J. PERKINS.

Messrs. Waghorns, Lucas and Barnett, of Tottenham, were made members of the Essex Association in the tower, at the first attempt for this peal. Messrs. Sewell of Barking, and Nash of Romford, were made members of the St. James's Society. J. Nunn hails from Walthamstow; A. J. Perkins from Romford.

## CRAYFORD, KENT.

## THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

On Saturday, October 3, 1885, in Three Hours,

At St. Paulinus' Church,

## A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

REV. C. D. P. DAVIES' FIVE-PART. Tenor 13 cwt.

WILLIAM I. REEVE .. .. Treble.	HENRY J. SHADE .. .. 5.
THOMAS DURLING .. .. 2.	ISAAC G. SHADE .. .. 6.
GEORGE CONYARD .. .. 3.	FREDERICK J. FRENCH .. 7.
CHARLES HAMMANT .. .. 4.	JOHN GARARD .. .. Tenor.

Conducted by HENRY J. SHADE.

## CHESTER.

## THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

## Handbell Ringing.

On Sunday, October 4, 1885, in Two Hours and Forty Minutes,

At the House of Mr. JAMES MOULTON,

UPON HANDBELLS, RETAINED IN HAND,

## A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES.

JOHN GIPSON .. .. 1-2.	JAMES MOULTON .. .. 5-6.
ARTHUR JONES .. .. 3-4.	CHARLES PRICE .. .. 7-8.

Composed by CHARLES PRICE and Conducted by JAMES MOULTON.

Umpire: William Walton, member of the Chester Cathedral Society.

## TIPTON, STAFFORDSHIRE.

## ASSOCIATION FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.

On Sunday, October 4, 1885, in Two Hours and Fifty-eight Minutes,

At St. Martin's Church,

## A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

TAYLOR'S BOB-AND-SINGLE VARIATION. Tenor 13 cwt.

J. JONES .. .. Treble.	*J. MARTIN .. .. 5.
T. BENNETT .. .. 2.	J. FULLWOOD .. .. 6.
S. JESSON* .. .. 3.	W. PARDOE .. .. 7.
G. HUGHES* .. .. 4.	H. WINFILD .. .. Tenor.

Conducted by J. FULLWOOD.

\*First peal. This is the first peal on the bells by a local company. The 4th man has but one arm, he rang his bell very well through.

## ECCLES, LANCASHIRE.

On Monday, October 5, 1885, in Two Hours and Fifty-two Minutes,

At the Parish Church,

## A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5184 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION.

JOHN M. DAVENPORT .. Treble.	CHARLES CASH .. .. 5.
SAMUEL WEST .. .. 2.	WALTER INGHAM .. .. 6.
JAMES BARRATT .. .. 3.	ALBERT E. WREAKS .. .. 7.
WILLIAM HENSHALL .. .. 4.	WILLIAM WALMSLEY .. Tenor.

Composed by J. J. BRIERLEY, of Saddleworth, and Conducted by WILLIAM WALMSLEY.

The reason of this peal being rung so quick was the late appearance of some of the band and the shortness of time. Messrs. Barratt and Cash belong to Eccles; West and Wreaks hail from Manchester Cathedral; the rest from Macclesfield, who wish to return their thanks, through the medium of this paper, for the use of the bells.

## SHEFFIELD.—THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, October 5, 1885, in Three Hours and Ten Minutes,

At St. Marie's Church, Norfolk Row,

## A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

BROOK'S VARIATION. Tenor 25 cwt. in D.

HENRY BASTABLE .. .. Treble.	JOSEPH MULLIGAN .. .. 5.
CHARLES H. HATTERSLEY .. 2.	GEORGE HOLMES .. .. 6.
THOMAS REYNOLDS .. .. 3.	THOMAS HATTERSLEY .. 7.
JOHN MULLIGAN .. .. 4.	WILLIAM MIDGLEY .. .. Tenor.

Conducted by HENRY BASTABLE.

Messrs. Reynolds and Bastable hail from Birmingham; the rest belong to Sheffield.

## BURTON-ON-TRENT, STAFFORDSHIRE.

## THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION, AND THE ST. PAUL'S SOCIETY, BURTON-ON-TRENT.

On Tuesday, October 6, 1885, in Three Hours and Twenty-three Minutes,

At St. Paul's Church,

## A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES. Tenor 26 cwt.

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

Composed by HENRY DAINS and Conducted by WILLIAM WAKLEY.

This peal, which is now rung for the first time, contains the 6th twenty four times wrong and right, and is published in Snowdon's *Double Norwich*, page 31. \*First peal in the method.

## Date Touch.

BOLTON (Lancashire).—On Thursday evening, September 24th, at Holy Trinity church, eight members of the local company rang a date touch of Grandsire Triples, 1885 changes, in 1 hr. 5 mins. H. W. Jackson (conductor), 1; H. Bentley, 3; John Walsh (composer), 3; Thos. E. Turner, 4; Wm. Critchley, 5; Walter Marsden, 6; Wm. Hamer, 7; Richard Lindley, 8. Tenor 16 cwt.

## Miscellaneous.

## THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

BEDFORD.—On Thursday, September 24th, at St. Mary's church, a 720 of Grandsire Minor (thirty-four bobs and two singles). F. Keech, 1; S. J. Cullip, 2; T. Foote, 3; I. Hills, 4; C. W. Clarke (conductor), 5; F. M. Smith (Bromham), 6. On Thursday, October 1st, for practice, a 720 of Yorkshire Court (eighteen bobs and two singles). F. Keech, 1; J. Atkins, 2; T. Foote, 3; M. Warwick, 4; C. W. Clarke, 5; W. Hall (conductor), 6. First 720 in the method by all except the 5th man, and the first in the method on the bells. And a 6-score of Stedman Doubles W. Hall (conductor), 1; J. Atkins, 2; I. Hills, 3; C. W. Clarke, 4; J. Frossell, 5; T. Foote, 6. First 6-score of Stedman on the bells.

## THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

LOUGHBOROUGH.—On Tuesday, September 29th, on the occasion of the induction of the Rev. Thomas Pitts, as rector to the parish of All Saints, the local company rang a 504 of Stedman Triples. A. Cresser, 1; C. Smith, 2; W. J. Billingham, 3; J. W. Taylor (sen.), 4; R. Lane, 5; E. D. Taylor, 6; J. W. Taylor, jun., (conductor), 7; E. Wightman, 8. Afterwards, a 576 of Treble Bob Major. A. Cresser, 1; T. Cooper, 2; R. Lane, 3; J. W. Taylor, (sen.), 4; J. Hardy, 5; W. J. Billingham, 6; W. Burkinshaw, 7; J. W. Taylor, jun., (conductor), 8.

## THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

APPLETON (Berks).—On Monday, September 28th, an attempt was made for Mr. H. Johnson's 5120 of Superlative Surprise, but after ringing ten courses a shift-course occurred, and "stand" had to be called. J. Avery, 1; J. W. Washbrook, 2; B. Barrett, 3; J. Field, 4; W. Bennett, 5; G. Holifield, 6; C. Hounslow, 7; Rev. F. E. Robinson (conductor), 8. The same band made another attempt at the peal on Wednesday, September 30th, which was also unsuccessful. Nothing daunted, they assembled at Drayton, on October 2nd, and after breaking down in the twelfth course, they started again, and rang in excellent style, the peal recorded in its proper place in this week's issue.

AYLESBURY.—On Wednesday, September 23rd, at the church of St. John the Baptist, Stone, the following members of the above Guild, with J. W. Washbrook, their instructor, rung a 720 of Bob Minor, in 27 mins. J. W. Washbrook (conductor), 1; M. Monk, 2; W. Turnham, 3; W. Daniels, 4; W. F. Beechey, 5; E. Carter, 6. This is the first 720 on the bells, also the first by all except the conductor. Tenor 12½ cwt.

CUDINGTON (Bucks).—On Thursday, September 24th, a 720 of Grandsire Minor, in 23 mins., by the following members of the Oxford Diocesan Guild. J. W. Washbrook (Oxford), 1; G. Warner (Long Crendon), 2; W. Turnham (Stone), 3; W. Daniels (Stone), 4; W. F. Beechey (Stone), 5; E. Carter (Stone), 6. Tenor 8½ cwt.

READING.—*Handbell Ringing*.—On Saturday, September 26th, for practice on handbells, at the "Crown" Inn, Caley Place, a Plain course of Bob Major. B. Coffee, 1; H. Coffee, 2; A. Wright, 3; F. Sweetzer, 3; A. E. Reeves, 5; J. Wiltshire, 6; G. Gibbard, 7-8. And 300 of Plain Bob Minor. F. Sweetzer, 1; A. Wright, 2; T. Hibbard, 3; A. Evans, 4; \*G. Gibbard, 5; \*J. Wiltshire (conductor), 6. And a 720 of Plain Bob Minor (forty-two singles), given in Snowdon's *Rope-Sight*. F. Sweetzer, 1; A. Wright, 2; T. Hibbard, 3; A. Evans, 4; J. Wiltshire, 5; G. Gibbard (conductor), 6. And a plain course of Grandsire Triples. F. Sweetzer, 1; A. Wright, 2; G. Gibbard, 3-4; T. Hibbard, 5; A. Evans, 5; J. Wiltshire, 7-8. And on Sunday, September 27th, at St. Giles's church, after Divine Service in the evening, a 720 of Plain Bob Minor (forty-two singles), in 29 mins. T. James, 1; A. Wright, 2; J. W. Williams, 3; \*W. Newell, 4; G. Gibbard (conductor), 5; \*H. Egby, 6. \*College Youths.

WANTAGE (Berks).—On Saturday, September 12th, for practice, a 360 of Kent Treble Bob. G. Gregory, 1; C. Page, 2; H. Smith, 3; A. Bunce, 4; A. Gregory, 5; F. May, 6. And on Sunday, September 13th, for Evensong, a 360 of Kent Treble Bob. G. Gregory, 1; C. Page, 2; J. Gardner, 3; A. Gregory, 4; A. Bunce, 5; F. May, 6. And on Sunday, September 20th, for Evensong, 288 of Kent Treble Bob. G. Gregory, 1; C. Page, 2; J. Gardner, 3; H. Smith, 4; A. Gregory, 5; F. May, 6. And on Tuesday evening, September 22nd, 360 of Kent Treble Bob. A. Bunce, 1; C. Page, 2; J. Gardner, 3; H. Smith, 4; A. Gregory, 5; F. May (conductor), 6. The last touch was rung on the return of Mr. W. J. Kent, of the firm of Kent and Son, Ironmongers, of this town, who has lately been married away from home.

#### SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.

TETTENHALL.—On Saturday, September 19th, six members of the above Association rang a 720 of Grandsire Minor in 25 mins. J. Jones, 1; B. Dalton, 2; T. Roberts, 3; E. Nicholls, 4; J. Fullwood, 5; James Jones (conductor), 6. Also a 360 of Bob Minor. W. Dyhouse, 1; J. Fullwood, 2; B. Dalton, 3; E. Nicholls, 4; J. Fowler (conductor), 5; James Jones, 6.

TIPTON.—On Thursday, September 24th, at St. Martin's Church, being Harvest Festival, for Divine Service in the evening, six members of the above Association rang a 720 of Grandsire Minor in 24½ mins. J. Jones, 1; G. Hughes, 2; S. Jesson, 3; W. Pardoe, 4; J. Martin, 5; J. Fullwood (conductor), 6. Composed by Mr. Henry Johnson, sen.

#### THE SOUTH LINCOLNSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

SPALDING (Lincolnshire).—*Muffled Peal*.—On Tuesday, September 22nd, at St. Paul's church, with the bells deeply muffled, as a last token of respect to Mr. W. Pearce, of Bourne, aged 61 years, who died after a short but serious illness. Deceased, on a committee of the above, was a hard working member, and his loss is deeply regretted by the members and friends of the Association. His age was first of all rung on eight bells, with the usual whole pull and stand, after two 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles. Chas. Quinton, 1; E. Quinton, 2; R. Creasey, 3; J. W. Creasey, 4; R. Skeef, 5; T. Quinton, 6. Conducted by R. Skeef and J. W. Creasey. And on Sunday, September 27th, after Divine Service in the evening, a 720 of Bob Minor (eighteen bobs and two singles), in 26 mins. C. Quinton (first 720), 1; E. Quinton, 2; R. Skeef, 3; A. W. Walker, 4; T. Quinton (first 720), 5; R. Creasey (conductor), 6.

#### STOKE-UPON-TRENT ARCHIDIACONAL ASSOCIATION.

WOLSTANTON (Staffordshire).—On Saturday, October 3rd, at St. Margaret's church, at a District Meeting of the above Association, a 658 of Grandsire Triples. H. Kamister, 1; E. Glover, 2; L. Miller, 3; W. Preece, 4; F. Masefield, 5; H. Page, 6; W. Miller (conductor), 7; P. Prinold, 8. And on Sunday, October 4th, for Divine Service in the morning, it being Harvest Festival, a 504 of Treble Bob Triples. F. Masefield, 1; S. Miller, 2; S. Walker, 3; F. Martin, 4; S. J. Wooton, 5; S. Spencer (conductor), 6; W. Miller, 7; H. Kamister, 8. And for Divine Service in the evening, a 504 of Treble Bob Triples, with W. Preece, and A. Walker in the places of L. Miller and S. Walker, the rest as above.

BARNWOOD (Gloucestershire).—On Tuesday evening, September 15th, five members of the Gloucester and Bristol Diocesan Association with J. Baldwin, of the Society of Royal Cumberland Youths, rang for practice a 720 of Plain Bob Minor (eighteen bobs and two singles), in 27 mins. J. Baldwin, 1; F. E. Ward, Esq., 2; J. Yeates, 3; W. Sevier, 4; H. Mitchell (conductor), 5; A. A. Waite, 6. Also 432 of Kent Treble Bob Minor. J. Baldwin, 1; F. E. Ward, 2; J. Yeates, 3; G. Miles, 4; H. Mitchell (conductor), 5; A. A. Waite, 6. Also a 120 of Stedman Doubles. J. Baldwin, 1; F. E. Ward (conductor), 2; J. Yeates, 3; W. Sevier, 4; H. Mitchell, 5; H. Barnes, 6. G. Miles and H. Barnes are also members of the Association.

BENTLEY, SOUTH WEALD (Essex).—On Thursday, September 24th, being the Harvest Thanksgiving service, three 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles were rung before service. And after service two 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles and two of Old Doubles, each called differently. And on Tuesday, September 29th, six 6-scores of Grandsire and Old Doubles. J. Surridge, 1; A. Payne, 2; R. Woollands (conductor), 3; C. Sheldon, 4; C. Harris, 5.

BOCKING (Essex).—On Tuesday evening, September 29th, for practice, a 720 of Court Single (eighteen bobs and two singles). A. Spurge, 1; \*W. Moore, 2; \*W. Bearman, 3; \*S. Sargent, 4; \*J. Hayes, 5; \*C. Bearman (conductor), 6. Tenor 19 cwt. \*College Youths. †Essex Association. Practice nights, Tuesdays and Fridays.

DISS (Norfolk).—On Saturday, September 26th, an attempt was made for a peal of Oxford Treble Bob, at St. Mary's Church, but after ringing 3850 changes in 2 hrs. 28 mins., a shift occurred, and stand was called. W. Ireland, 1; C. Webster, 2; W. Torble (Eye), 3; B. Francis, 4; G. Murton (Eye), 5; E. Batram, 6; J. Soutar, 7; P. Meadows (conductor), 8. Tenor 23 cwt.

DEERHURST (Gloucestershire).—On Wednesday evening, September 30th, the local company rang a 720 of Bob Minor, in 25 mins. T. Everness, 1; C. Willis, 2; H. Roberts (first 720 as conductor), 3; C. Roles, 4; G. Willis, 5; J. Bartlett, 6. And three 6-scores of Stedman Doubles. G. Willis, 1; C. Willis, 2; H. Roberts (conductor), 3; C. Roles, 4; J. Bartlett, 5; T. Everness, 6.

DUNSTER (Somerset).—On Tuesday, September 29th, for practice at St. George's parish church, a 720 of Bob Minor (nine bobs and six singles), in 29 mins. E. Hole, 1; J. Grabham, 2; R. Hole, 3; W. Thrush, 4; Rev. J. Ulten Todd, 5; C. B. Craze, 6; S. Willis, 7; J. Pain, 8; 7-8 covering. The above 720 was taken from the *Clavis*, and is the first 720 in the method by any of the band.

ECKINGTON (Derbyshire).—On Sunday, September 27th, at the parish church, for Divine Service, a 720 each of New London Pleasure, Kent Treble Bob, and 600 of Duke of York. George Smith, 1; William Price, 2; Edwin James, 3; George Norman, 4; George Marsden (conductor), 5; Thomas Lunn, 6.

GLEMSFORD (Suffolk).—On Thursday evening, September 10th, a 720 of New London Pleasure, in 29 mins. Joseph Slater, 1; Zachariah Slater, 2; Percy Scott, 3; Fred Wells, 4; Samuel Slater, 5; O. Garwood (conductor), 6. Also the same evening, a 720 of Bob Minor, in 28 mins. Joseph Slater, 1; Zachariah Slater, 2; Percy Scott (conductor), 3; Fred Wells, 4; Samuel Slater, 5; Frederick Paul Adams, 6. Also on Thursday, September 17th, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob with fifteen bobs, in 29 mins. John Slater, 1; Joseph Slater, 2; Samuel Slater, 3; Zachariah Slater, 4; Percy Scott, 5; Frederick Paul Adams (conductor), 6. Also on Tuesday, September 29th, a 720 of Double Court, in 29 mins. C. Honeybell, 1; Joseph Slater, 2; Percy Scott, 3; Fred Wells, 4; Zachariah Slater, 5; Samuel Slater (conductor), 6. Also a touch of Cambridge Surprise.

GREENWICH (Kent).—On Monday, October 5th, at the church of St. Alphege, 701 of Grandsire Caters, in 35 mins. Charles H. Withcombe, 1; William Weatherstone (conductor), 2; Thomas G. Deal, 3; William G. Shade, 5; Daniel Griggs, 5; William Henry Freeman, 6; Frederick W. Thornton, 7; Joseph Laws, 8; Abraham George Freeman, 9; George Thatcher, 10. Tenor 25½ cwt.

HAUGHTON (Lancashire).—On Thursday, October 1st, at St. Anne's church, a 720 of Plain Bob Minor, in 28½ mins. \*John S. Leech, 1; \*John Howard, 2; \*James A. Thomas, 3; James Johnson, 4; \*Wm. Wilde, sen., 5; \*Peter Smith (conductor), 6. Mr. Johnson, who is a well known ringer, has never rung a bell for ten years, he having been in America for six years, and only arrived in England on Saturday, September 26th. And on Sunday evening, October 4th, for Divine Service, another 720 in the same method, in 28½ mins. Wm. Wilde, junior, 1; James A. Thomas, 2; John Howard, 3; John Bardsley, 4; Wm. Wilde, sen., 5; Peter Smith (conductor), 6. \*Members of the Lancashire Association.

HAMBLEDON (Bucks).—On Saturday, September 26th, at the parish church, a 720 of Grandsire Minor, in 26 mins. T. Woolford, 1; J. W. Wilkins, 2; W. A. Garraway (conductor), 3; R. Smith, 4; E. Rogers, 5; R. Flaxman, 6. Tenor about 13 cwt. Another 720

G. J. CLARKSON, *Hon. Sec.*



## THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

THE above Association has during the twelve years of its existence done much good for church bells and bell-ringing in the districts embraced. By uniting into one important body the various companies of remote villages, who by the circumstance of their isolation felt but a languid interest in the art of change-ringing, public attention and support have been attracted to its practice and cultivation, the result of which is that life has been given to a movement for the restoration of the many fine peals of bells in the Diocese.

The bell-ringers of East Anglia had at one time a reputation which was not confined to their own parts. For a number of years, however, their art suffered from the torpidity which affected church matters generally; and now, coincident with the spiritual revival which is taking place, bell-ringing springs into life again, and with the restoration of the Church fabrics many fine rings are being rehung. There are few districts in the kingdom offering so favourable opportunities for the practice and cultivation of the art as this. Many of the best rings still need, however, re-hanging, and this work is progressing satisfactorily in the Diocese. With the restoration of those rings the present generation may hope to revive some part of that reputation which belonged to their predecessors.

The annual gathering of the members of the Association was held at Norwich on Monday, when companies from the following places were represented: Aldborough-on-Sea, Pettistree, Woodbridge, Woodton, Kenninghall, Banham, Somerleyton, Alburgh, Sproughton, Hevingham, Marsham, Aylsham, Halesworth, Ipswich, St. Peter Mancroft Norwich; Diss, Beccles, Haughley, Swaffham, Leiston, Pulham St. Mary, Rendham, Pulham Market, Dickleburgh, Hasketon, and Fressinfield. During the morning visits were made to the belfries of St. Peter Mancroft, St. Miles', St. Giles', St. Peter Mountergate, St. Mary's, St. Lawrence, St. John's Maddermarket, and St. Andrew's, and at a quarter to one a short service was held in St. Peter Mancroft church. An effective sermon was preached by the Rev. H. Earle Bulwer, Rector of Stanhoe, founded on I Cor. xii. 20, "There are many members, yet but one body." [It is our intention to give this excellent sermon next week if possible.] A dinner was subsequently provided by Mr. L. Browne, of the Shirehall tavern, in St. Andrew's, Hall, under the presidency of Mr. Alderman Newman, in the absence of the Mayor of Norwich. Among those present were the Rev. T. H. Marsh, Cawston; Mr. M. C. Potter, Cambridge; Rev. N. Bolingbroke, Rev. A. G. Blyth, Norwich; Rev. F. Baggallay, Norwich; Rev. W. Melville Pigot, Eaton; Captain Moore, Rev. G. Coleman, Westwick; Rev. A. F. Rivers, Norwich; Rev. W. C. Pearson, Rev. Barnard G. Smith, Swaffham; Rev. R. Copeman, Rev. C. J. Steward, Somerleyton; Dr. Bennett, Mr. E. Orams, Rev. W. K. Ormsby, Eaton; Mr. E. S. Steward, Mr. E. S. B. Steward, and the Rev. H. Earle Bulwer.

In giving the toast of "The Bishop and Clergy of the Diocese," the CHAIRMAN said the bell-ringing of the country was connected with the joys and sorrows of English life. The church bells were brought into requisition on all great occasions of festivity and mourning, and they told their tale most eloquently and beautifully.

The Rev. F. BAGGALLAY, who responded, said the clergy were anxious in every way in their power to mix with the laity, and by encouraging bell-ringing they would pull better together. He wished them much prosperity, and in proposing the toast of "The Association," he coupled with it the name of the energetic Secretary, the Rev. N. Bolingbroke.

The Rev. N. BOLINGBROKE, in responding, honestly confessed that it was with somewhat mingled feelings that he did so. He knew perfectly well that the Association had not perhaps been what it ought to have been for sometime past, and for that he was in a great measure responsible. No one but himself could possibly understand the position and condition in which he found the Association. It was rather different to what he expected to find it, and he had not found himself able to carry on the work as had his predecessor, who had time, means, and qualifications for the work which he did not possess. Then they knew that during last winter he was not at all well and he could not then attend to the duties. He apologised for the fact that there had been so few district meetings, but he thought that it was right that this should have been so. He saw that the funds would not permit of it. It was perfectly useless to go and squander money that he thought would be spent in a different way. There were disappointments which he had met with in his work. A good many members withdrew from the Association, because, as they said, they could not see what they got out of it. Those members paid a shilling a year. It would not be a very difficult arithmetical calculation to see that any man who rang the bells got an ample return for the shilling he paid. But in return for this subscription of a shilling, the members received a handsome certificate to hang up in their rooms, the annual report, which cost between 3d. and 4d., and at these annual meetings received assistance towards their expenses in a sum which amounted to their annual subscription; while those who had the pluck, patience, and perseverance to go in for peal ringing got their performances recorded in the Association's peal-book. The Association had, however, been

doing good work. His extensive correspondence with clergymen in the Diocese proved to him that there was need for such organisation. He hoped the ringers would work heartily in unison with the officers of the churches, and so make themselves useful churchworkers in the particular line of bell-ringing. If they all did this, then they need not have the slightest fear of the future success of their Association. Mr. Bolingbroke then read the Annual Report.

On the motion of Dr. MEADOWS (Ipswich), seconded by the Rev. T. H. MARSH, the report was adopted. The officers were re-elected.

Mr. E. ORAMS proposed the health of the preacher of the day, the Rev. H. Earle Bulwer, with thanks for his sermon.

The toast was heartily drunk.

THE REV. H. EARLE BULWER, in response, appealed to the ringers to rally round their clergy, and support the dear old Mother Church of England. He appealed to them to pay no heed to the clap-trap clamour and irresponsible twaddle talked to them by agitators and put before them in newspapers. Let them stick to the dear old Church of England, and they could not go wrong.

Votes of thanks having been given the Chairman for presiding, the proceedings terminated.

Subsequently two capital photographs of the party were taken by Messrs. Bond and Newman, Bank Plain, Norwich, outside the hall, and soon after the air was vibrating with the peals being rung out from many of the church belfries of the city.

## THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

The Annual Meeting of this Association took place on Saturday, September 26th, at Manchester. Upwards of 100 ringers were present from Ashton-under-Lyne, Bolton, Eccles, Garston, Heywood, Liverpool, Macclesfield, Pendlebury, Prestwich, Rusholme, Runcorn, Southport, Swinton, Walkden, and Whitefield. A full choral service was held in the Cathedral at 3.30, in which the Rev. Canons Woodard and Rev. T. A. Turner took part, and there were also present several other and Kelly, the Ven. Archdeacon Anson, the Rev. J. M. Elvy, and the clergymen of the district. The sermon was preached by the Rev. Charles Lowe, Vicar of Holy Trinity, Bolton, from Rev. ii. 17: "A new name." Upon these words the preacher founded an address very suitable indeed to the occasion, which we regret that the great demand on our space this week prevents us giving.

Service over, the members repaired to the Cathedral schoolroom, where tea had been provided for them. After a very pleasant repast, for the admirable arrangements of which all thanks are due to the Cathedral ringers and Sunday School teachers, the business meeting was held. In the absence of the Dean of Manchester, who arrived at a later period of the proceedings, the Rev. T. A. Turner took the chair. The Secretary read the report of the committee for the past year, which recorded an increase in the members of the Association, there being now 43 honorary and 208 ordinary members. There had been a great improvement as to the number and variety of the peals rung, the total having increased from fifty to seventy-five. Attention was called to the number of peals rung in each case by Association men, with the assistance of one, or at the most two, outsiders, which were perforce omitted from the list. After the reading of the Committee's report, that of the Treasurer, showing a balance in hand of £5 16s. 6½d. was read and passed. The election of officers was next proceeded with. The retiring officers, Rev. T. A. Turner, President; Mr. A. E. Holme, Hon. Secretary; and Messrs. J. Barratt (Eccles) and J. Harrison (Heywood), Committee, were unanimously re-elected; and in addition, Mr. R. Hill (Southport) was added to the Committee.

At this point the Dean arrived and took the chair. The following were then elected as honorary members: the Rev. Canon Kelly, the Rev. W. H. Brayshaw, and the Rev. R. G. Youngman. There were also seventeen performing members proposed and elected, bringing the numbers up to 46 and 225.

The DEAN then addressed the meeting. He had hoped to have been present at the service, but was unavoidably detained in London by private affairs till too late. Though not a change-ringer himself, he could not exactly say he had never pulled a bell, for on one occasion in the east end of London he had rung the bell, blown the organ and played it, read the service, and preached the sermon. He, however, took great interest in the work of the Association, and wished it every success. He added that at the ensuing Diocesan Conference an Association of Lay Helpers for the Diocese of Manchester was to be formed, and he urged them all to become members, and thus take their proper place as Church workers.

The Rev. T. A. TURNER thanked the meeting for his re-election, and proposed their best thanks be given to the Dean and Canon Woodard for allowing the service to be held in the Cathedral, and for the arrangements they had made for the comfort of the members. Votes of thanks were also carried to the Rev. Charles Lowe for his eloquent address, and to the Cathedral ringers for their excellent preparations.

After the meeting, mixed bands rang touches in various methods, thus bringing the day's proceedings to a close.



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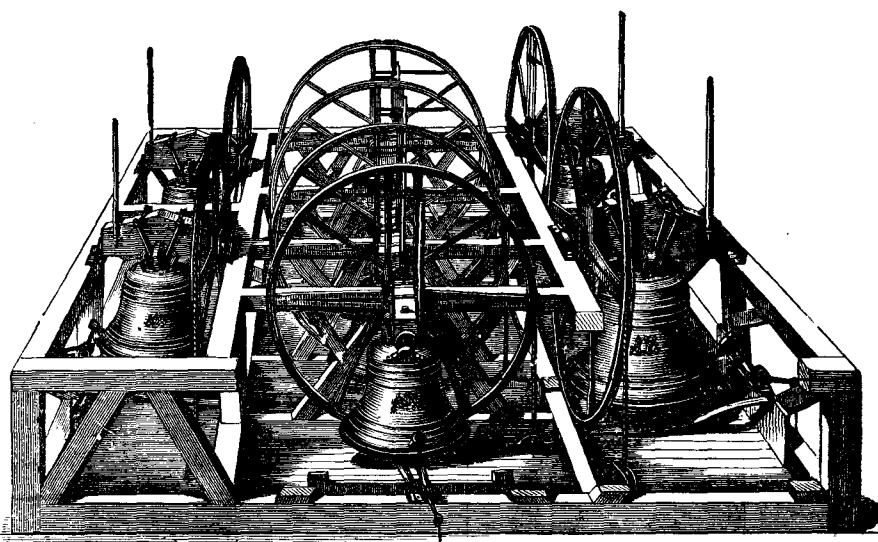
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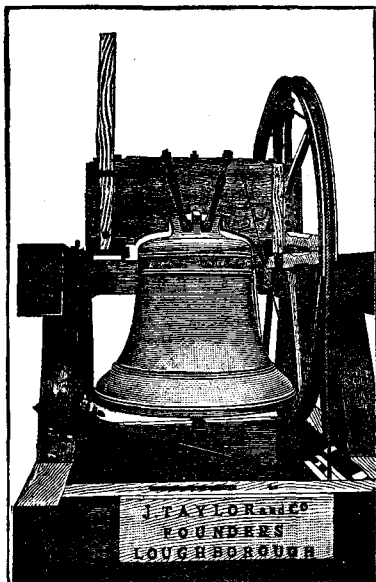
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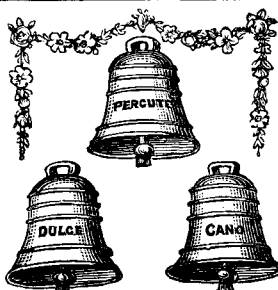
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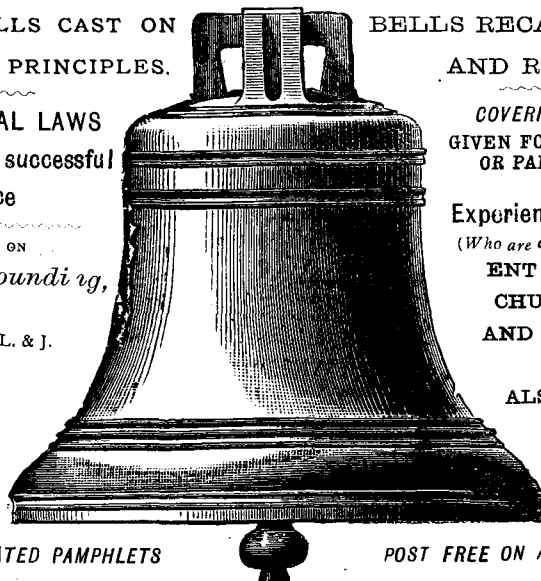
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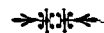
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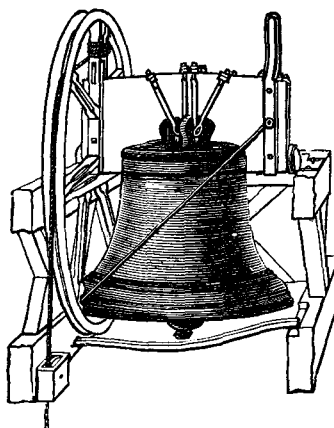
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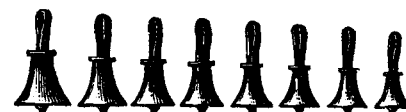
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	Ladies' ... ..	2/6				
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## PEALS OF SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE.

BY JASPER W. SNOWDON.

The following 5024 by Mr. N. J. Pitstow is the first peal composed in this method with this number of changes. It has the fifth and sixth bells the extent in their own positions. Mr. Dains's 5024 is really a peal of 5472 reduced to this number by omitting the three bobs at home in the second, third, and fourth courses in any one part.

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

N. J. PITSTOW.

H. DAINS.

Mr. Dains has produced the two following peals of 5056 changes with the 6th twelve times at home in the last twelve courses. In these courses, which are used for both peals, the arrangement is slightly different from that used by Mr. Thorp.

5056.					5056.				
2	3	4	5	6	M	W	H		
6	4	3	5	2	-	-	-	-	
3	6	4	5	2	-	-	-	-	
4	6	2	5	3	-	-	-	-	
3	2	6	5	4	-	-	-	-	
6	5	3	2	4	-	-	-	-	
3	6	5	2	4	-	-	-	-	
5	3	6	2	4	-	-	-	-	
5	3	6	2	4	-	-	-	-	
6	2	5	3	4	-	-	-	-	
5	6	2	3	4	-	-	-	-	
2	5	6	3	4	-	-	-	-	
4	3	6	5	2	-	-	-	-	
4	3	6	5	2	-	-	-	-	
4	3	5	2	6	-	-	-	-	
5	2	4	3	6	-	-	-	-	
5	2	4	3	6	-	-	-	-	
4	5	2	3	6	-	-	-	-	
2	4	5	3	6	-	-	-	-	
3	2	6	5	4	-	-	-	-	
3	2	6	5	4	-	-	-	-	
2	5	3	4	6	-	-	-	-	
2	5	3	4	6	-	-	-	-	
4	2	3	5	6	-	-	-	-	
6	3	2	5	4	-	-	-	-	
2	6	3	5	4	-	-	-	-	
3	2	6	5	4	-	-	-	-	
3	2	5	4	6	-	-	-	-	
5	3	2	4	6	-	-	-	-	
2	5	3	4	6	-	-	-	-	
3	4	2	5	6	-	-	-	-	
2	3	4	5	6	-	-	-	-	

H. DAINS.

As the most musical peals in this method seems to be those with the 4th and 6th behind, Mr. Pitstow has composed the two following peals, each of which has these bells the extent behind. In both cases the fourth is twelve, and the sixth nine course-ends in sixth's place, without the second ever being in that place.

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

N. J. PITSTOW.

N. J. PITSTOW.

Mr. Pitstow's 5120, Thackrah's 5152, and the 5248 and 5312, respectively by Messrs. Thorp and Sottanstill, are three-part touches lengthened to include the number of changes necessary for a peal.

5120.					5152.				
2	3	4	5	6	B	M	W	H	
6	4	3	5	2	-	-	-	-	
3	6	4	5	2	-	-	-	-	
3	6	5	2	4	-	-	-	-	
5	3	6	2	4	-	-	-	-	
6	5	2	4	3	-	-	-	-	
2	4	6	5	3	-	-	-	-	
2	4	5	3	6	-	-	-	-	
5	3	2	4	6	-	-	-	-	
2	5	3	4	6	-	-	-	-	
3	4	2	5	6	-	-	-	-	
6	2	4	5	3	-	-	-	-	
4	6	2	5	3	-	-	-	-	
3	2	6	5	4	-	-	-	-	
3	2	5	4	6	-	-	-	-	
5	4	3	2	6	-	-	-	-	
3	5	4	2	6	-	-	-	-	
4	2	3	5	6	-	-	-	-	
6	3	2	5	4	-	-	-	-	
2	6	3	5	4	-	-	-	-	
4	3	6	5	2	-	-	-	-	
4	3	5	2	6	-	-	-	-	
5	2	4	3	6	-	-	-	-	
4	3	5	2	6	-	-	-	-	
5	2	4	3	6	-	-	-	-	
2	3	4	5	6	-	-	-	-	

N. J. PITSTOW.

B. THACKRAH.  
First rung on November 5th, 1851, at St. Peter's, Huddersfield, being the first true peal of Superlative Surprise ever rung. It was conducted by its author.

5248.					5312.				
2	3	4	5	6	B	M	W	H	
6	4	3	5	2	-	-	-	-	
3	6	4	5	2	-	-	-	-	
3	6	5	2	4	-	-	-	-	
5	3	6	2	4	-	-	-	-	
6	5	3	2	4	-	-	-	-	
3	2	6	5	4	-	-	-	-	
3	2	5	4	6	-	-	-	-	
5	3	2	4	6	-	-	-	-	
2	5	3	4	6	-	-	-	-	
4	2	3	5	6	-	-	-	-	
6	3	2	5	4	-	-	-	-	
2	6	3	5	4	-	-	-	-	
6	5	2	4	3	-	-	-	-	
2	4	6	5	3	-	-	-	-	
2	4	5	3	6	-	-	-	-	
5	2	4	3	6	-	-	-	-	
4	5	2	3	6	-	-	-	-	
3	4	2	5	6	-	-	-	-	
6	2	4	5	3	-	-	-	-	
4	6	2	5	3	-	-	-	-	
6	5	4	3	2	-	-	-	-	
4	3	6	5	2	-	-	-	-	
4	3	5	2	6	-	-	-	-	
5	4	3	2	6	-	-	-	-	
3	5	4	2	6	-	-	-	-	
2	3	4	5	6	-	-	-	-	

J. THORP.

W. SOTTANSTALL.

## FIVE-PART PEAL.

The following should have been included amongst the five-part peals.

6240.					6240.				
2	3	4	5	6	B	M	W	H	
6	5	4	3	2	-	-	-	-	
4	6	5	3	2	-	-	-	-	
5	4	6	3	2	-	-	-	-	
6	3	5	4	2	-	-	-	-	
6	3	4	2	5	-	-	-	-	
4	6	3	2	5	-	-	-	-	

J. THORP.

## THE EASTERN COUNTIES' GUILD.

AN ordinary ringing meeting of the above Guild was held at Walpole on Saturday, October 3rd, when a goodly number were present. Ringing commenced at 1 o'clock with a 360 of Plain Bob by the Walpole band, followed by a 720 in the same method by a mixed team, and a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob, which Dr. Seccombe said he believed to be the first 720 of Treble Bob rung on the bells. Several other short touches were rung until 4 o'clock, when an adjournment was made to the "Plough Inn," where a substantial meat tea was provided by host Hill (himself being an old ringer, and said he should like to become a member of the Guild), being presided over by the Rev. J. Spokes, vicar of Sutton, supported by Dr. Seccombe (Terrington) and the Rev. B. Matthews (Spalding). After tea the business of the Guild was transacted, and ten new members were elected. Some of the company then paid a visit to St. Andrew's church, and rang some Grandsire and Bob Doubles, and some remained at the inn, where the Walpole ringers entertained them to some handbell ringing until 6 o'clock (the handbells being a splendid set, by Mears, of London). The vicar, the Rev. P. Bagge, gave the Spalding ringers a warm invitation to spend a day with him next summer.

## RINGERS' EXCURSION TO DERBY AND DUFFIELD.

ON Monday, September 28th, the Eccles company, accompanied by Mr. Albert Wreaks and T. Heald, of Manchester, went on an excursion to Derby and Duffield. Leaving Manchester at 7 a.m., passing through some of the prettiest scenery in Derbyshire, Derby was reached at 8.40 a.m.; steps were at once taken towards All Saints' Church, a noble tower containing a fine ring of ten bells, the back eight of which are really grand. On ascending the tower, operations were at once commenced. Having attained the assistance of the veteran, John Howe, a course of Grandsire Caters was rung in good style. It seemed rather strange to the ringers, as the bells are hung the wrong way about. The back eight were then set in motion by the visitors, and a touch of Kent Treble Bob Major was brought round, conducted by G. H. Johnson. Also 168 of Grandsire Triples; the go of the bells being most satisfactory. Having lowered the bells, a move was made to St. Alkmund's church; here a touch of 560 Kent Treble Bob, and a 504 of Grandsire Triples, was also obtained. The inner man was next to be satisfied, and the house of Mr. Frost, hard by, was adjourned to, when some tunes and a course of Grandsire Caters, and a double course of Grandsire Triples, that is, two sets ringing at the same time, was gone through, which was much appreciated by the company. Time being called, Nottingham Road Station was reached in time to catch the 1.35 p.m. train to Duffield. After leaving the train, a walk of about twenty minutes brought them to All Saints' Church, where A. Percival Heywood, Esq., had arranged to meet the company, giving each one a hearty hand-shake, and welcoming them to Duffield. The belfry was reached and a capital touch of Treble Bob Major, 672 changes, was rung. T. Heald, 1; A. Egginton, 2; J. Barratt, 3; C. Cash, 4; E. Cash, 5; A. E. Wreaks, 6; A. P. Heywood, Esq., 7; G. H. Johnson (conductor), 8. Bob Major, Grandsire, and Stedman Triples, brought the ringing to a close; Mr. Heywood then conducted the visitors through his gardens and grounds, and over the renowned railway, explaining and pointing out all objects of interest. The workshops were next visited, which are a credit to the gentleman to whom it belongs. The engines Ella and Effie, were deposited in the shop, the larger one undergoing repairs. After having had a thorough look round, tea was now ready at the house of Mr. Heywood, who sat down to a most substantial repast along with the company, and ample justice being done to the good things provided, a pleasant hour was spent in tunes and changes, a course of Caters, and a course of Cinques. W. Walton, 1-2; A. E. Wreaks, 3-4; E. Cash, 5-6; A. P. Heywood, 7-8; J. Green, 9-10; J. Barnett, 11-12. The company left pleased with their outing, and they wish to thank Mr. Heywood, through the medium of this paper, for his kindness, also their Derby friends.

## EAST LINCOLNSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

ON Saturday, October 3rd, the Quarterly Meeting of the above Association took place at St. James's, Spilsby, when thirty-five ringers attended from Boston, Skirbeck, Friskney, Sibsey, Leverton, Wainfleet, Halton, Spilsby. Some good ringing was done during the day, consisting of Plain Bob Minor, and Grandsire and Bob Doubles. At 11.30, Divine Service was held in the above church, the sermon being preached by the Rev. W. W. Layng, Vicar, and Vice-President of the Association, taking as his text, Exodus xxviii., verse 33. At two p.m., an excellent dinner was provided at the "White Hart Hotel," presided over by the Rev. H. J. Cheales, president of the Association. After dinner, the business of the Association was transacted. The President, in a very able address, explained the object of the Association, and in doing so said that if it was only for the pleasure of ringing he would not have not have anything to do with it, but he was glad to say it was for a higher motive. Belfry reform was the object of the Association, which he was glad to say was being carried out in that district, and hoped the words which had fell from their worthy Vicar, and had been listened to with marked attention, hoped would be long remembered. The minutes of the last meeting was read by the secretary, which showed that one life member, two honorary, and two probationer members had joined during the quarter. There was also two honorary, two skilled, and one probationer members proposed and admitted. The Rev. W. W. Layng, Vicar, proposed "Success to the Association." In doing so he gave them a hearty welcome, and hoped that the Association would continue to labour together in the future as it had done in the past. He said that although he was about removing from the district, he should take an interest in the Association. He concluded by giving the ringers a hearty welcome to the Vicarage gardens, where tea was provided. After tea, the belfry was again visited, and at six p.m., the ringers started for their homeward journey, having spent a very pleasant day.

The Snaith Parish Church ringers have purchased a new peal-book of Mr. B. Keeble, of Romford, Essex, and are very pleased with it, and can confidently recommend Mr. Keeble to any one requiring a peal-book.

## THE NORTH LINCOLNSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

THE GENERAL QUARTERLY MEETING of the above Association, which was held at Nocton, near Lincoln, on Saturday, October 3rd, brought together a good assembly of members from different branches in the county. Ringing began upon the excellent peal of six bells about two o'clock, and was continued at intervals by various companies. During the afternoon, the interior of the handsome church was inspected and much admired by the visitors—the otherwise beautiful sacred edifice being decorated for the harvest festival which was to take place shortly. While the ringing was going on, the Rev. H. Footman, Vicar of Nocton, visited the belfry, and gave the Association representatives a cordial welcome to his parish. A substantial tea was provided by the conductor of the Nocton company, to which upwards of twenty sat down, and shortly afterwards the business meeting took place, Mr. H. Gadd, of Market Rasen, presiding. Two new members were proposed and duly elected; Horncastle and Caister were named for the next meeting, but owing to the difficulty of visitors getting to and from these places during the winter season, it was resolved to consider their claims at a more opportune time, and to hold the next meeting jointly at Lea, near Gainsborough, and Gainsborough, on the first Saturday in January. Several suggestions were made in the interest of change-ringing, and the secretary was requested to bring before the next General Annual Meeting the question of the advisability of the three Lincolnshire Associations amalgamating, and forming one large Association for the whole county. A feeling in favour of this suggestion has been manifested in some quarters, and there is not the slightest doubt it would tend materially to the growth and development of the study and practice of change-ringing in this large county. When the shadows of night had gathered round, the ringers from Lincoln Cathedral entertained those present with a variety of selections on their musical handbells, which were much appreciated. A course of Grandsire Triples by four of the Market Rasen company also afforded pleasing entertainment. The meeting was in all respects a thoroughly harmonious and enjoyable one, and this comparatively young Association is bidding fair to answer a useful and commendable purpose. The thanks of the Association are publicly tendered to the Vicar and Churchwardens of Nocton for their kindness in granting the use of the church bells that day.

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

ON Saturday, October 10th, the Baintree branch of the above Association, paid a visit to Great Tey, and rung a 1008 of Bob Major. H. E. Hammond, 1; F. Calthorpe, 2; S. Hammond (conductor), 3; F. Bumpstead, 4; F. Rudkin, 5; A. Huckson, 6; E. Ladham, 7; W. Galley, 8. Tenor about 14 cwt. Afterwards a selection of tunes were played upon Mr. Huckson's fine toned handbells, by Mears and Stainbank, C22., and after refreshing the inner man, the party made their way to Earls Colne, and rang a 720 of Cambridge Surprise. T. Watson, 1; F. Calthorpe, 2; S. Hammond (conductor), 3; H. E. Hammond, 4; F. Rudkin, 5; A. Huckson, 6. Also a 720 of College Exercise. S. Hammond (conductor), 1; F. Calthorpe, 2; F. Bumpstead, 3; H. E. Hammond, 4; F. Rudkin, 5; A. Huckson, 6. Tenor 15½ cwt. Afterwards an adjournment was made to the Lion Inn, for refreshment, where a very pleasant evening was spent. A course of Bob Major, and a course of Grandsire Triples were rung. F. Calthorpe, 1-2; S. Hammond, 3-4; F. Rudkin, 5-6; H. E. Hammond, 7-8. And some touches by the local company and visitors, of Bob Minor, including a 300 of Oxford Treble Bob. A selection of tunes was played, giving great satisfaction to the company present. A course of Grandsire Caters was then rung by F. Calthorpe, 1-2; H. E. Hammond, 3-4; S. Hammond, 5-6; F. Rudkin, 7-8; A. Huckson, 9-10. This concluded a very pleasant day's outing.

## KINGSWINFOR, STAFFORDSHIRE.

ON Monday evening, October 5th, the St. Benedict's society of Wombourn, visited Kingswinford by invitation from the Rev. Charles Collom. Two of the company not being able to reach the church before 8.30, a start was made for a 720 of Bob Minor, with Messrs. Guest and Lawrence from Wordsley, which came to grief before half had been rung; other attempts were made, but proved unsuccessful. The other two members now putting in an appearance, another start was made for a 720 of Bob Minor, with fourteen bobs and two singles, and was accomplished in good style in 26 mins. G. Deans, 1; H. Deans, 2; A. Little, 2; W. Devey, 4; J. E. Claridge, 5; R. Cartwright (conductor), 6. Mr. Collom conducted the next touch to his rooms, where a substantial supper was provided, and was completed without any serious mishap, and thoroughly enjoyed by all. A few plain courses of Grandsire Triples, and attempts at touches, closed a very pleasant evening, for which the members wish to thank the rev. gentleman through the medium of "THE BELL NEWS."



## THE WANSTEAD AMALGAMATED SOCIETY.

On Saturday, October 10th, the above society held its annual outing, and as last year turned out such a success, the same place was chosen, namely, Chelmsford. The morning opened very wet, and at 9 a.m. at Stratford station were twenty members with rather long faces, thinking that before they returned they would get wet through as many times as changes they would ring, but on arriving at Chelmsford, things looked a little better, especially when they found themselves "at home" at host Mead's, "The Golden Fleece," sitting in his comfortable dining-room enjoying a good lunch. This over, the bells at Chelmsford were put mouth upwards, and a good touch of Treble Bob Major, with H. Scarlett on the tenor, opened the ball. Half the party now made their way to Great Baddow, about two miles from Chelmsford, to attempt a peal of Grandsire Triples, and after breaking down once, it was successfully got (particulars will be found in the proper place). The first trial lasted an hour and a half, and the peal 2 hrs. 54 mins., so the persevering eight were not sorry when they heard the Master call the first single. After the peal, there was only just time to refresh the inner man with a glass of extract of malt, when the carriage drove up, and in twenty minutes they were all seated round the table at the "Golden Fleece," receiving congratulations from those members who took care of home during the day. Mr. Rowland and Mr. Washbrook who were made honorary members before starting for the peal, were of course invited to the dinner, so the number now stood at twenty-two. Mr. Washbrook (of Oxford), who is instructing the ringers at Bloomfield, near Chelmsford, and who is, as everybody knows, as good a ringer as one wishes to meet with, and the Wanstead Amalgamated Society is proud to name such a member on their books. Dinner over, and the health of the host, also the worthy Master, being drank with unmusical honours, the tower of Chelmsford was again visited, where some good ringing took place, after which the usual concert was held, handbells, songs, recitations, etc. Eleven o'clock struck, and most of the ringing members were soon in the sheets. There must be something in the air in this part of the world, as the amount of breakfast that was put away on Sunday morning was more than can be imagined; a quarter-peal of Grandsire at the home tower was attempted before the 11 o'clock service, but owing to there not being sufficient time, the bells were called round after ringing about 700 changes. The ringers then took a walk round the town, and after a three-course peal had been rung at the "Golden Fleece," a visit was paid to Widford, where 480 changes of Kent Treble Bob Minor, was rung on the musical little peal of six. The signal was then given to march across country to Writtle, a favourite old place of this company, and here a peal of Bob Major was attempted, but after ringing 1600 changes in 47 mins., a shift course took place, and the conductor called stand. W. Smith, 1; J. Nunn, 2; G. Akers, 3; W. Lebbon, 4; W. Hawkes, 5; W. Manning, 6; H. Scarlett, 7; A. H. Gardom (conductor), 8. Other touches in different methods brought the ringing to a close, and now the unpleasant time was drawing nigh. After saying farewell to all ringing friends, and Mr. Mead, the eight o'clock train carried the wanderers to their destination, thus ending a most enjoyable holiday. They, one and all, wish to offer their best thanks to all the Vicars and steeplekeepers at the various churches, for such kind receptions, and last but not least, Mr. and Mrs. Mead, who did all in their power to make them comfortable. Why are all these beautiful peals of eight wasted and desolate for want of some method ringers? The following were the company present at this outing: Mr. A. H. Gardom, Master, Mr. W. Smith, Secretary, Mr. G. Cornell, Treasurer, Messrs. Scarlett, Akers, H. Nunn, J. Nunn, King, Priest, Manning, Wincey, Miles, Lebbon, Truss, A. Cornell, Murray, Venables, A. Snow, Esq., Messrs. Washbrook, Rowland, Hawkes, Hamilton.

## THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

THE Second Quarterly meeting of the year of the members of the above Association was held at Leicester, on Saturday, October 10th, when representatives attended from the various districts in connection with the Association. A Committee Meeting was held in St. Margaret's schools, at four o'clock in the afternoon, for the transaction of business, and a General Meeting was held after tea in the Pavilion, Abbey Park, the Rev. James H. Fish, the president, in the chair. The president, in the course of his address, reported that during the past quarter ten peals of 5000 changes and upwards had been rung by the Association, in seven different methods, viz.: two of Superlative Surprise Major; two of Double Norwich Court Bob Major; one of Kent Treble Bob Major; one of Bob Major; two of Stedman Triples; one of Union Triples; and one of Grandsire Triples. About fifty members sat down to tea, and six ringing members were admitted. The ringing during the day consisted chiefly of Grandsire and Stedman Triples and Caters, and Treble Bob Major, upon the bells of the various churches placed at the disposal of members by the kindness of their respective vicars and churchwardens. It was resolved to hold the next meeting at Nottingham, on the second Saturday in the New Year.

## ST. PETER'S SOCIETY, BRADFORD.

The members of this society had dinner together on Thursday evening, October 8th, at the meeting house, the "Ring of Bells Inn," to inaugurate the practice meetings for the winter season. A very substantial and well-cooked "feed" was placed before the members by the worthy host and hostess (Mr. and Mrs. Lewis Fowlds), which was done justice to. After the tables had been cleared, the chair was taken by R. Tuke, Esq., President of the Bradford Amalgamated Society, and the vice-chair by Mr. Jesse Naylor. The remainder of the evening was spent in a very enjoyable manner, songs, tunes and changes on the handbells forming the principal items. The health of the host and hostess was drunk, as was also the health of the respected president, Mr. Tuke, who in responding expressed the hope that he might have the pleasure of being with them on many "merry meetings" in the future. The singing of "Auld lang Syne" brought to a close an evening's entertainment which was thoroughly enjoyed by all.

## TUE BROOK, NEAR LIVERPOOL.

On Saturday, October 10th, the first half of Thurstans' peal of Stedman Triples, 2520 changes, was rung in 1 hr. 32 mins. Richard S. Mann, 1; John R. Pritchard, 2; John Brown, 3; William James, 4; George Fisher, 5; William Davies, 6; Thomas Hammond (conductor), 7; William Brooks, 8. This was intended for a full peal, but owing to the extremely bad go of the tenor, the bells were brought round at half way. It is a great pity that such a fine peal as this (which are by Warner, tenor 20 cwt.), should be marred by the tenor, as with that exception, the bells are all that could be desired. The ringers take this opportunity of thanking the wardens and the superintendent ringer (Mr Lovell), for the use of the bells, and trust they will soon have the tenor put in thorough going order. The above is the longest length in the method on the bells.

## THE "HENRY" MEET.

On Saturday evening, September 26th, at the invitation of Mr. Henry S. Thomas, on the occasion of the Harvest Festival, at the old church, St. Mary's, Battersea, a meet of Henrys took place, the object in view being to attempt a peal of Grandsire Triples, and all the ringers, which were selected from the different London Societies for this performance are known by the historic name of Henry. After sundry and several greetings and congratulations, a start was made, and for an hour and twenty minutes, Holt's Original seemed fair on its way of accomplishment, but the Henrys were doomed to failure, and stand was called. The ringing-room remains a model of arrangement and cleanliness, and upon this occasion was profusely decorated with choice fruits and flowers of the season. The band was Henry W. Haley (conductor), 1; Henry C. Haley, 2; Henry Langdon, 3; Henry J. Davies, 4; Henry Swain, 5; Henry S. Thomas, 6; Henry A. Hopkins, 7; Henry Dains, 8. Two other Henrys afterwards put in an appearance, both these gentlemen belonging to the St. Mary's society, Old Battersea.

## THE HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

Members are requested specially to attend the Annual meeting at St. Albans, on Monday, October 26th. The following towers will be open from 10.30: The Cathedral, eight bells; St. Peter's, ten bells; St. Stephen's, six bells. Service in the Lady Chapel of the Cathedral at 12.15, followed by dinner and business meeting. Return tickets issued at a fare and a quarter on production of certificate of membership. A motion will be proposed "that the offices of Secretary and Treasurer be combined." W. WIGRAM, General Secretary.

## GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

A Meeting of the Sub-Committee of the Association, for the insertion of performances in the peal-book will shortly be held. I shall therefore feel obliged if all masters or conductors of local companies will forward to me as soon as possible particulars of all peals and five thousands on five and six bells, that have been rung by members of the Association in their respective towers.

Redm.: Ly, Gloucester.

CHARLES D. P. DAVIES, Master.

STRIKE AMONG BELL RINGERS AT WORKSOP.—The ringers at the Priory Church, Worksop, are just now on strike. It appears that the Vicar of Worksop has recently interdicted the ringing of the bells of Priory Church, that is, so far as the ringing of changes on the bells go. He does not object to ordinary chiming, or the simple ringing of the bells. To this, however, the ringers have rebelled, and have "struck." To keep their hands in, the ringers on the following Sunday afternoon visited Shireoaks, and rang 1440 changes of Violet and Oxford Treble Bob in 50 mins. The ringers were Fred. Mackie, 1; J. Marshall, 2; H. Watkinson, 3; G. Barrowcliffe, 4; W. Hargreaves (conductor), 5; J. Hargreaves, 6.

"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.

AUDITOR TANTUM.—Received with thanks.

## The Bell News & Ringers' Record.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 17, 1885.

THERE is something connected with the approaching electoral conflict that will compel many, who may not commonly be known to have any political bias, to have their say regarding it. And we, who have on no occasion allowed the faintest expression to escape us which would indicate our political sympathies, are at last drawn into the arena, and compelled—upon this one particular subject only, it is true—to join in the fray, and throw into the scale the expression of our opinions relative to the meditated attack upon the Church of England.

It is unnecessary to go over the programme of that august body known as the Liberation Society, or to dwell upon the speeches of those statesmen who pray, if they pray at all, for the despoilment of the Church. Nor is it required that the arguments plainly put forth by the defenders of the Church be recapitulated here. We need only point out, briefly, what the position and prospects of bell-ringing and bell-ringers is likely to become if the combined forces of atheism and socialism, aided by rabid heterodoxy, have their way in their sacrilegious attempt at the spoliation of the Church of England.

If ever these much-talked of attacks upon the Church succeed, which we greatly doubt, and disendowment should accompany disestablishment, or follow in its wake, it is hard to believe that our church bells will receive the slightest consideration at the hands of the marauder. Let our readers imagine that the iconoclasts have had their wishes gratified to the full extent, and that some board of control has to decide what is to be done with the fabric of the Church of their parish. The despoilers make no secret of their intentions should they obtain the power. The church, with its adjacent burial ground, may be sold to the highest bidder, and used for a stable, workshop, manufactory, or any other object of supposed utility which the purchaser may think fit to apply it to, and in the course of a few years, maybe, the burial ground—the place of sepulture of the departed worthies of the neighbourhood—become "developed" into a "desirable building estate," and the church demolished so that its material may be utilised. Is it possible for one moment to fondly imagine that the bells will be left merely to be admired by future antiquarians as symbols of a superstition that belonged to a past age? No. Those who are laying the mine to sap the foundations of the Church will not, if they are victorious, spare a vestige of anything connected with it which can be turned into funds for secular uses, in fact, appearances go far to show that in the process of confiscation the church bells would be among the first to fall a prey. In vain would the sound of "the merry bells of England" be then listened for. They would be things of the past in many places where formerly they had been the delight and pride of the inhabitants, both young and old. And where by influence, or by the generous interposition of a wealthy inhabitant, the freehold of the fabric reverted to those to whom it rightly belonged, the fortunes of both bells and ringers would meet with a wrench, the severity of which would possibly take years to get over.

We have said nothing of the degradation which the absence of religious ministrations, by those who had been specially trained for the office, would bring about; the social interdict which would be the result of the abolition in every parish of a kind of rallying-point for Christianity; or the free scope which would be given, without any refining check, to those passions of human nature which sometimes fringe on savagery. We shrink from the task only for the reason that pens more able than ours are dealing with these phases of the subject. Ours is a plain duty,

requiring no eloquence or ornamentation of speech. Measures will be attempted which, if successful, will inevitably destroy the practice and enjoyment of our art. And what for? Does the general body of our countrymen demand it? Have we read of any extreme pressure from outside being brought to bear in order to induce our rulers to attack the Church? No. It is the restlessness of a few men who are striving for fame of some kind or other which is at the bottom of it all.

Perhaps what we have said upon this subject may lead some of our readers to pause before they commit themselves to support any one who would consent, from his place in the house of legislature, to this proposed robbery of the Church. Would any of our brother-ringers, at the steeple next practice-night, be prepared, upon receiving a mandate from the right honourable somebody, not only to forego their intention of ringing the church bells, but to deliver up their peal-tablets, handbells, and the whole of their ringing paraphernalia, to be disposed of for the benefit of some local secular object? We think not. Then to be consistent, their support at the polling-booth should not be given to those who without any compunction would despoil the Church of England, and all belonging to her.

### The Metropolis.

CAMBERWELL, SURREY.

THE ST. JAMES'S SOCIETY, LONDON.

On Saturday, October 10, 1885, in Two Hours and Forty-five Minutes,

AT ST. GEORGE'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S ORIGINAL. Tenor 14 cwt.

HENRY LANGDON .. .. Treble.	CHALLIS F. WINNY.. .. 5.
G. T. McLAUGHLIN .. .. 2.	WILLIAM JONES .. .. 6.
ALBERT E. CHURCH .. .. 3.	WILLIAM H. GEORGE .. 7.
HENRY J. DAVIES† .. .. 4.	*RICHARD T. WOODLEY .. Tenor.

Conducted by G. T. McLAUGHLIN.

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

### The Provinces.

LONG MELFORD, SUFFOLK.

THE SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS, AND THE LONG MELFORD COMPANY.

On Saturday, October 12, 1885, in Three Hours and Three Minutes,

AT HOLY TRINITY CHURCH,

A PEAL OF BOB TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES.

Tenor 16½ cwt.

SAMUEL SLATER .. .. Treble.	OLIVER GARWOOD .. .. 5.
FREDERICK PAUL ADAMS .. 2.	JAMES BIRD .. .. 6.
FREDERICK WELLS .. .. 3.	PERCY CHAS. S. SCOTT .. 7.
ZACHARIAH SLATER .. .. 4.	GEORGE HAMMOND .. .. Tenor.

Composed by HENRY HUBBARD, and Conducted by PERCY CHAS. S. SCOTT.

First peal of Bob Triples by all. This is the first peal in the method produced by bobs only rung in the eastern counties, and third in the method rung in the county of Suffolk. It is also the first peal called by a Melford ringer for 103 years.

STALEY, STALEYBRIDGE, CHESHIRE.

THE UNITED COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION AND THE ST. GEORGE'S SOCIETY, HYDE.

On Saturday, October 10, 1885, in Three Hours and Fifty Minutes,

AT ST. PAUL'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 6240 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 20 cwt.

JAMES SHAW .. .. Treble.	JOHN A. FILDES .. .. 5.
ROBERT WOOLLEY .. .. 2.	SAMUEL BRADLEY .. .. 6.
THOMAS BRADLEY .. .. 3.	SAMUEL BENNETT .. .. 7.
THOMAS WILDE .. .. 4.	JAMES S. WILDE .. .. Tenor.

Composed and Conducted by JAMES S. WILDE.

The above is the second peal of Treble Bob rung on the bells, and also the longest length; the first peal of Treble Bob having been rung so far back as March 8th, 1815. The band wish to tender their sincere thanks to the Rev. Canon Brown, the rector, for the use of the bells on this occasion.

## GREAT BADDOW, ESSEX.

## THE WANSTEAD AMALGAMATED SOCIETY.

On Saturday, October 10, 1885, in Two Hours and Fifty-four Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

## A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLLIS'S 5-PART.

H. NUNN .. .. .	Treble.	J. NUNN .. .. .	5.
A. H. GARDOM .. .. .	2.	W. MANNING .. .. .	6.
W. ROWLAND .. .. .	3.	J. WASHBROOK .. .. .	7.
W. LEBBON* .. .. .	4.	W. TRUSS .. .. .	Tenor.

Conducted by A. H. GARDOM.

\* First peal. This is the first peal in the method on the bells, and it is sixty-six years since a peal of any sort was rung on them.

## MAIDSTONE, KENT.

## THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

## Birthday Peal.

On Saturday, October 10, 1885, in Three Hours and Twenty-two Minutes,

AT ALL SAINTS' CHURCH,

## A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S SIX-PART. Tenor 31 cwt. in C.

R. SIMMONDS† .. .. .	Treble.	G. PAWLEY .. .. .	5.
H. PEARCE† .. .. .	2.	†S. SNELLING .. .. .	6.
A. MOORCRAFT† .. .. .	3.	†W. H. JUDD .. .. .	7.
A. H. WOOLLEY .. .. .	4.	G. J. MOORCRAFT .. .. .	Tenor.
		*J. A. JOHNSON .. .. .	

Conducted by W. H. JUDD.

\* First peal. † College Youths. The above was rung on Mr. G. J. Moorcraft's 34th birthday, his brother ringers wishing him many happy returns. This is the first peal the conductor has called, and he and S. Snelling, who hail from Sittingbourne, take this opportunity of thanking their Maidstone friends for their kindness and hospitality towards them.

## DEBENHAM, SUFFOLK.

## THE ST. MARY-LE-TOWER SOCIETY, IPSWICH, AND THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

On Saturday, October 10, 1885, in Four Hours and Fifteen Minutes,

AT ST. MARY'S CHURCH,

## A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR, 6608 CHANGES. Tenor 20 cwt.

WILLIAM MOTTS .. .. .	Treble.	ARTHUR R. ALDHAM .. .. .	5.
CHARLES MEE .. .. .	2.	WILLIAM L. CATCHPOLE .. .. .	6.
ISAAC S. ALEXANDER .. .. .	3.	JAMES MOTTS .. .. .	7.
EDGAR PEMBERTON .. .. .	4.	ROBERT H. BRUNDLE .. .. .	Tenor.

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

This is the first peal in the method on the bells, also the longest of the same ever rung in the county. The above are all members of the Norwich Diocesan and Essex Associations, and they wish to take this opportunity of thanking the Vicar and churchwardens for granting them permission to ring.

## LEESFIELD, NEAR OLDHAM, LANCASHIRE.

On Saturday, October 10, 1885, in Three Hours and Two Minutes,

AT ST. THOMAS'S CHURCH,

## A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5120 CHANGES,

IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 14 cwt.

JOHN LAWTON .. .. .	Treble.	EDGAR BUCKLEY .. .. .	5.
JOHN HOLDEN .. .. .	2.	E. SCHOFIELD .. .. .	6.
JOHN T. HOLDEN .. .. .	3.	JOSEPH WOOD .. .. .	7.
JAMES WRIGLEY .. .. .	4.	EDWARD WOOD .. .. .	Tenor.

Composed by J. REEVES and Conducted by JOHN HOLDEN.

Messrs. Lawton and Schofield hail from Staleybridge; all the rest belong to Saddleworth.

## DUFFIELD, DERBYSHIRE.

## THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.—DUFFIELD BRANCH.

On Monday, October 12, 1885, in Three Hours and Three Minutes,

AT ALL SAINTS' CHURCH,

## A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5040 CHANGES.

Tenor 17 cwt.

GEORGE DAWSON .. .. .	Treble.	GEORGE HINGLEY .. .. .	5.
SAMUEL JOHNSON .. .. .	2.	A. PERCIVAL HEYWOOD .. .. .	6.
JOHN HOWE .. .. .	3.	ROBERT JOHNSON .. .. .	7.
ALFRED ROBINSON .. .. .	4.	WILLIAM HICKLING .. .. .	Tenor.

Composed by B. ANNABLE and Conducted by WILLIAM HICKLING.

## HAMPSTEAD, MIDDLESEX.

## THE SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.

On Tuesday, October 13, 1885, in Three Hours and Fifteen and ½ Minutes,

AT ST. STEPHEN'S CHURCH,

## A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S ORIGINAL. Tenor 27 cwt. in D.

SAMUEL CLARKE .. .. .	Treble.	*WILLIAM PRYOR .. .. .	5.
BENJAMIN FOSKETT .. .. .	2.	NEWLAND ALDERMAN .. .. .	6.
HENRY TYLER .. .. .	3.	GEORGE NEWSON .. .. .	7.
CHARLES DEAL .. .. .	4.	EDWARD CHAPMAN .. .. .	Tenor.

Conducted by GEORGE NEWSON.

\* First peal. All the above are members of the St. Stephen's Society.

## OXFORD.—THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Tuesday, October 13, 1885, in Three Hours and Sixteen Minutes,

AT NEW COLLEGE,

## A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

THURSTANS' COMPOSITION. Tenor 23 cwt.

JOB HOWES .. .. .	Treble.	JAMES W. WASHBROOK .. .. .	5.
FREDERICK A. CASTLE .. .. .	2.	SAMUEL HOUNSLOW .. .. .	6.
HERBERT CASTLE .. .. .	3.	CHARLES HOUNSLOW .. .. .	7.
THOMAS PAYNE .. .. .	4.	WILLIAM JEFFERY .. .. .	Tenor.

Conducted by JAMES WILLIAM WASHBROOK.

It was originally arranged for Stedman Caters, but meeting one short, Triples had to be rung.

## BURTON-ON-TRENT, STAFFORDSHIRE.

## THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION AND THE ST. PAUL'S SOCIETY, BURTON-ON-TRENT.

## Wedding Peal.

On Wednesday, October 14, 1885, in Three Hours and Twenty-two Minutes,

AT ST. PAUL'S CHURCH,

## A PEAL OF SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES. Tenor 26 cwt.

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

Composed by JOHN THORP and Conducted by JOSEPH GRIFFIN.

This peal, which is now rung for the first time, is a one-part peal containing the 5th and 6th their extent at home. It is published in Snowdon's "Surprise methods" in "THE BELL NEWS," vol. iv., page 201, being the original peal there given.

The above was rung to celebrate the marriage of J. R. Walker, Esq., eldest son of Sir Andrew Walker, Bart., of the firm of A. B. Walker and Sons, Burton-on-Trent, with Miss K. H. Cartland, King's Heath House, Birmingham.

## Date Touches.

## THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

BRADFORD.—On Tuesday evening, October 6th, the local company rang at the parish church, a date touch of Kent Treble Bob Royal. in 1 hr. 15 mins. A. Moulson, 1; J. Naylor, 2; H. Raistrick, 3; R. Tuke, 4; J. Broadley, 5; T. Pollitt, 6; J. Fisher, 7; J. J. Hardcastle (composer and conductor), 8; J. B. Jennings, 9; J. Wilson, 10. Tenor 27 cwt.

ILKLEY.—On Sunday, October 4th, at All Saints' Church, a date touch of Bob Triples, 1885 changes, in 1 hr. 14 mins. W. Cooke, 1; S. Critchley, 2; F. Pell, 3; I. Dean, 4; J. Kendall, 5; A. Critchley, 6; J. Beaulands (conductor), 7; W. Beaulands, 8.

LANCASTER.—Recently, at St. Peter's church, a date touch of 1885 changes of Grandsire Triples, in 1 hr. 13 mins. P. Mulligan (conductor), 1; R. Bibby (first date touch), 2; W. Crook, 3; H. Smith, 4; C. Carney, 5; J. Lennon, 6; W. Wearing, 7; D. Magoun, 8. Composed by Miss E. C. Sharland, of Devonshire. The above was rung in honour of the anniversary of the dedication of the church.

## Miscellaneous.

## THE SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.

On Friday, October 9th, at the usual practice meeting at St. Martin's church, the bells where rang half muffled, the usual whole pull and stand being performed as a mark of respect to the memory of the late Richard Hill.

## THE ST. JAMES'S SOCIETY, LONDON.

PUTNEY (Surrey).—On Wednesday, October 7th, the following members of this Society attempted Holt's Original peal of Grandsire Triples, but after ringing 4150 changes, in 2 hrs. 22 mins., it came to grief in the confusion caused by the tucking of the tenor rope having come out. B. Battrum, 1; E. F. Strange (conductor), 2; A. Tennant, 3; J. Smith (Bath), 4; M. Murphy, 5; E. E. Vinen, 6; E. Rogers, 7; D. Newton, 8. Tenor 17 cwt.

LONDON.—On Sunday, September, 27th, at St. Clement Danes, for Divine Service in the evening, a 665 of Grandsire Caters. E. Albone, 1; W. Chew, 2; T. Blackburn (Salisbury), 3; W. W. Gifford (Salisbury), 4; H. Langdon, 5; G. T. McLaughlin, 6; E. Carter, 7; J. M. Hayes (conductor), 8; G. Banks, 9; R. Woodley, 10. *Muffled Peal*.—On Monday, October 5th, ten members of this Society rang a funeral peal (whole pull and stand), with the bells half-muffled, as a last mark of respect to Mr. Richard Hill, an old member of this Society. G. T. McLaughlin (conductor), 1; J. Mansfield, 2; J. Combe, 3; H. Davies, 4; R. Woodley, 5; J. Waghorn, sen., 6; G. Banks, 7; E. Rogers, 8; C. F. Winny, 9; J. Barry, 10.

## THE WATERLOO SOCIETY.

LONDON.—On Wednesday, September 30th, at St. John's church, Waterloo Road, a muffled peal was rung as a last token of respect for the late Mr. Richard Hill, who was a member of this society. William Baron (conductor), 1; Alfred Macey, 2; Henry J. Davies, 3; William Coppage, 4; Albert E. Church, 5; William Lally, 6; George Chesterman, 7; John W. Mansfield, 8. Afterwards several touches of Grandsire Triples were rung.

## DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

MIDDLESBOROUGH-ON-TEES.—On Thursday evening, October 8th, being the occasion of the Harvest Festival Service at St. Hilda's, before service, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor; and after service, a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob Minor on the back six. J. H. Blakiston, 1; R. Alcock, 2; J. Clarkson, 3; T. W. Waller, 4; G. J. Clarkson (conductor), 5; W. Newton, 6.

## GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

BRISTOL.—*Handbell Ringing*.—On Tuesday, October 6th, four members of the above Association attempted a peal of Grandsire Major, 5056 changes, but after ringing 3800 changes, in 1 hr. and 52 mins., it came to grief. J. Brain, 1-2; G. Townsend, 3-4; H. Porch, 5-6; J. Hinton (conductor), 7-8. It is intended to make another attempt shortly.

## THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

FARNWORTH (Lancashire).—On Thursday evening, October 1st, six of the Walkden company paid a visit to this place, and rang a 720 of Bob Minor (twenty-one bobs and twelve singles), in 25 mins., as a welcome peal to the new appointed vicar (Rev. G. T. Burgess), who put in his first appearance on that night. J. Welsby (conductor), 1; J. Worthington, 2; S. Oakes, 3; J. Williamson, 4; J. Brookes, 5; A. Potter, 6. Tenor 10 cwt. It is many years since a 720 was rung here as the bells are in bad order.

## STOKE-UPON-TRENT ARCHIDIACONAL ASSOCIATION.

NORTON (Staffordshire).—On Sunday, October 4th, a 720 of Bob Minor, in 26 mins. E. Glover, 2; J. Wood, 2; J. Morton, 3; W. Baddeley (first 720 with a bob bell), 4; J. W. Brough, 5; J. Baddeley (conductor), 6.

## THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

BEDDINGTON (Surrey).—On Thursday, October 1st, being the Harvest Festival, for evening service, ten members of the local company rang a 467 of Grandsire Caters, also after service, 395 in the same method. And on Sunday, October 4th, for Divine Service in the morning, 431 of Grandsire Caters, and for afternoon service, 420 of Union Triples, and for Divine Service in the evening, two courses of Stedman Caters and 440 of Kent Treble Bob Royal. C. Martin, 1; E. Bennett (conductor), 2; J. Branch, 3; Dr. A. B. Carpenter, 4; J. Burkin, 5; J. Trappitt, 6; J. Plowman, 7; C. Bance, 8; J. Cawley, 9; C. Gordon, 10. And after service, 216 of Stedman Triples.

## WORCESTER AND ADJOINING DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

KIDDERMINSTER (Worcestershire).—On Saturday, September 27th, at the church of St. Mary and All Saints, a 840 and two 448's of Grandsire Triples. J. Bennett, 1; J. Prestidge, 2; H. Sandalls, 3; S. Spittle, 4; J. Crane, 5; W. Micklewright (conductor), 6; J. Smith, 7; T. Walters, 8. C. S. Rowland rang the 4th in one 448. W. Micklewright, S. Spittle, J. Smith, and J. Prestidge hail from Dudley; the rest are local men.

ABINGDON (Berks).—On Sunday, October 4th, at St. Nicholas's Church, for Divine Service in the morning, a 720 of Grandsire Minor, in 25 mins. H. Fruin, 1; J. Viner, 2; W. Sandell, 3; J. Brown, 4; H. Sheard (conductor), 5; T. Short, 6. Also for Divine Service in the evening, a 720 of Bob Minor in 21 mins. J. Higgs, 1; W. Sandell, 2; T. Short, 3; J. Brown, 4; H. Sheard, 5; H. Holfield (conductor), 6.

BALDOCK (Herts).—On Wednesday, September 20th, on the occasion of the Harvest Festival, several touches of Grandsire Triples. T. Webb, 1; J. Phillips, 2; J. Cawdell, 3; J. Hare, 4; Robert Jackson, 5; R. Jackson, 6; W. Allen, 7; G. Gentle, 8. The conducting was shared between Messrs Webb, Phillips and Allen. Also after service, a 518 of Grandsire Triples, being the first part of Reeves' variation of Holt's ten-part peal. T. Webb, 1; Jno. Phillips, 2; J. Cawdell, 3; T. Smith, 4; J. Hare (conductor), 5; R. Jackson, 6; J. W. Roslyn, 7; G. Gentle, 8. Messrs Hare and Allen hail from Hitchin.

BENGEO (Herts).—On Sunday, October 11th, at Holy Trinity Church, for Divine Service in the evening, a 720 of Bob Minor, without a plain lead (thirty bobs and thirty singles), in 27 mins. Henry Phillips, 1; William Goodchild, 2; William Odell, 3; Joseph Pomfret, 3; James Channer, 5; Matthew Ellsmore (composer and conductor), 6. Tenor 7½ cwt.

BRAMFORD (Suffolk).—*Muffled Peal*.—On Thursday, October 1st, at the parish church, the local company rang eight 6-scores of Plain Bob Doubles, with the bells deeply muffled, as a mark of respect to Mr. Henry Palmer, of the above parish, who died September 28th, very suddenly. Charles Osborne, 1; Walter Brown, 2; Charles R. Smith (conductor), 3; William Read, 2; Alfred A. Pryke, 5; William Garnham, 6. And on Sunday, October 4th, three 6-scores of Plain Doubles, with the bells half-muffled. Charles Osborne, 1; Charles R. Smith, 2; Walter Brown, 2; William Read, 4; Alfred A. Pryke (conductor), 5; William Garnham, 6. C. R. Smith, A. A. Pryke, W. Read, and W. Brown belong to the Norwich Diocesan Association.

CHILDWALL (Lancashire).—On Wednesday, October 9th, at the parish church, a 720 of Grandsire Minor, in 27 mins. Thomas Elisom, 1; William Meadows, 2; William Hunter, 3; J. Blundell (first 720), 4; Walter Hughes (conductor), 5; Geo. W. Hughes, 6. Tenor 13 cwt.

CRAYFORD (Kent).—On Sunday, September 27th, for Divine Service in the morning, on the back six, a 720 of Bob Minor, in 27 mins. J. King, 1; J. Saxby, 2; G. Conyard (conductor), 3; E. Saxby, 4; F. M. Jacobs, 5; F. French, 6. And on Monday evening, September 28th, 720 of Bob Minor (fourteen bobs and two singles), in 28 mins. F. French, 1; W. J. Reeve, 2; G. Conyard (conductor), 3; W. Harper, 4; F. M. Jacobs, 5; G. Garard, 6. Tenor 12½ cwt.

DERBY.—On Thursday evening, October 1st, at St. Andrew's church, for practice, three courses of Bob Major. W. Shardlow, 1; T. Alton, 2; C. Hart, 3; G. Mottashaw, 4; W. Midley, 5; W. H. Found, 6; J. W. Thompson, 7; A. E. Thompson (conductor), 8. And on Sunday, October 4th, for Divine Service in the morning, a 720 of Bob Minor, in 30 mins., with 6 8 covering. W. Shardlow, 1; C. Hart, 2; G. Mottashaw, 2; W. H. Found, 4; J. W. Thompson, 5; T. Alton, 6; A. E. Thompson (conductor), 7; J. Gilbert, 8. And for Divine Service in the evening a 504 of Grandsire Triples, in 19 mins. W. Shardlow, 1; T. Alton, 2; C. Hart, 3; G. Mottashaw, 4; W. H. Found, 5; J. W. Thompson, 6; A. E. Thompson (conductor), 7; C. Sidley, 8.

ELTHAM (Kent).—On Sunday, October 4th, at the Church of St. John the Baptist, for Divine Service, a 720 of Plain Bob Minor (twenty-two singles), in 25 mins. R. Hitches, 1; J. King, 2; W. Gosling, 3; C. Mussett, 4; G. Sheppard (conductor), 5; F. Fraser, 6.

HAMPSTEAD (Middlesex).—On Wednesday, October 7th, at St. Stephen's church, seven of the local company, assisted by Mr. C. Porter, rang a 1302 of Grandsire Triples, in 52 mins. S. Clarke, 1; B. Paine, 2; H. Tyler, 3; C. Porter, 4; B. Fokett, 5; G. Newson (conductor), 6; E. Chapham, 7; W. Arcott, 8. This touch was rung on the occasion of the Harvest Festival.

HAVERSTOCK HILL (Middlesex).—On Sunday evening, October 5th, after Divine Service at St. Martin's church, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor (fifteen bobs), in 24 mins. \*C. W. Porter (Chiswick), 1; J. Hannington (conductor), 2; J. Nixon, 3; G. Griffin, 4; T. Titchener, 5; G. Newson, 6. \*First 720 in the method. Tenor 12½ cwt.

HORSHAM (Sussex).—On Sunday, October 11th, for Divine Service in the evening, the first part of Shipway's 6-part peal of Bob Triples, 840 changes, in 32 mins. W. Lanaway, 1; E. Knight, 2; H. Chandler, 3; G. Rapley, 4; \*D. J. Aston, 5; J. Cooper, 6; H. Burstow (conductor), 7; W. Grinstead, 8. Tenor 24 cwt. \*Member of the Gloucester and Bristol Diocesan Association. Lanaway, Knight, Cooper, and Grinstead hail from Slinfold; Chandler from Warnham; Burstow and Rapley from Horsham.

LANCASTER.—On Sunday, October 4th, at St. Peter's church, a 560 of Grandsire Triples, and the short parts of the Rev. C. D. P. Davies's peal of Grandsire Triples.

LOWER HARDRES (Kent).—*Handbell Ringing*.—On Monday, October 5th, three 120's each of Stedman and St. Simon's Doubles, and 120 each of Stedman Slow Course, Plain Bob and Grandsire Doubles, by Miss Brine (first 6-score of Stedman Doubles), Miss L. Brine, Miss E. Brine, Miss M. Brine, and A. Brine, Esq. (conductor).

MITCHAM (Surrey).—On Thursday, October 1st, at Christ Church, on the occasion of the Harvest Festival, 360 of Grandsire Minor (eighteen bobs), in 12 mins. H. J. Schneider, 1; E. Burtenshaw, 2; D. Burtenshaw, 3; R. Reynolds, 4; A. Nicholson, 5; J. Fayers (conductor), 6. Also several 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles, in which W. Gallagher and C. Schneider took part. On Monday, October 5th, several 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles, each called differently. H. J. Schneider (conductor), 1; E. Burtenshaw, 2; D. Burtenshaw, 3; R. Reynolds, 4; W. Gallagher (first 120 with a bob bell), 5; J. Fayers, 6. And 120 of Bob Doubles. H. J. Schneider, 1; E. Burtenshaw, 2; D. Burtenshaw, 3; R. Reynolds, 4; J. Fayers (conductor), 5; W. Gallagher (first 120 in the method), 6. Tenor 7½ cwt. in Eb.

NETHERTON (Worcestershire).—On Sunday, October 4th, for Divine Service in the evening, four of the local company, with two from Sedgely, rang a 720 of Grandsire Minor, in 26 mins. W. Prestidge (first 720), 1; A. Bruce (Sedgely), 2; J. Townsend, 3; M. J. Robinson, 4; R. Schofield (Sedgely), 5; J. Smith (conductor), 6. Tenor 12½ cwt.

NEWDIGATE (Surrey).—On Sunday, October 4th, at the parish church, after evening service, a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob in 24 mins. F. Linter, 1; A. Tidey, 2; R. Jordan, 3; G. Williams, 4; D. Jordan, 5; E. Jordan (conductor), 6. Also a 720 of Kent Treble Bob in 25 mins. J. M. Stedman, 1; \*F. Linter, 2; A. Tidey, 3; R. Jordan, 4; E. Jordan, 5; D. Jordan (conductor), 6. And a 720 of College Pleasure in 24 mins. J. M. Stedman, 1; A. Tidey, 2; R. Jordan, 3; \*G. Williams, 4; E. Jordan, 5; D. Jordan (conductor), 6. Tenor 8½ cwt. \*First 720 in the method. Messrs. Williams and Linter belong to the Reigate society, and are also members of the Winchester Diocesan Guild: the rest are from Capel.

PADDINGTON (Middlesex).—On Sunday, October 5th, for Divine Service in the morning at St. Luke's church, Nutford Place, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor (nine bobs), in 23 mins. D. G. Greggs, 1; T. Titchener, 2; W. Collings, 3; J. Nixon, 4; N. Alderman, 5; J. Hauntington (conductor), 6. Tenor 9 cwt.

SALTAIRE (Yorkshire).—On Sunday, October 4th, for evening service, a 720 of Bob Minor, in 26 mins. J. Baxter, 1; S. H. London, 2; A. Riley (conductor), 3; F. Stubbs, 4; A. Bulmer, 5; F. London, 6.

SOUTHWARK.—On Sunday, October 4th, at the church of St. George the Martyr, for Divine Service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, 1260 changes, in 46 mins. Wm. Jones, 1; Henry Langdon, 2; W. W. Gifford (Salisbury), 3; G. T. McLaughlin (conductor), 4; M. Murphy, 5; E. Rogers, 6; Walter Prime, 7; G. Woodage, 8. Tenor 18 cwt. *Handbell Ringing*.—And in the evening, on handbells, another quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 46 mins. G. T. McLaughlin, 1-2; Martin Murphy, 3-4; C. F. Winny (conductor), 5-6; W. W. Gifford, 7-8. Both the above quarter-peals were taken from Holt's Original.

TOTTENHAM (Middlesex).—On Sunday, October 3th, after Divine Service at All Hallows Church, a 960 of Grandsire Major, in 34 mins. T. C. Grove, 1; J. Langran, 2; G. Bower, 3; J. Waghorn, jun. (conductor), 4; G. B. Lucas, 5; J. Waghorn, 6; H. A. Barnett, 7; T. A. Estall, 8. And a 266 of Grandsire Triples. T. C. Grove, 1; J. Waghorn, jun., 2; G. Bower, 3; J. Langran, 4; T. A. Estall, 5; J. Waghorn, 6; H. A. Barnett (conductor), 7; W. Pinsent, 8.

ULVERSTON (Lancashire).—On Sunday afternoon, October 11th, the Dalton-in-Furness company rang, at the parish church, seven 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles. W. Robinson, 1; T. Townson, 2; T. Watson (conductor), 4; J. Watson, 4; T. R. Jackson, 5; M. Caddy, 6. And two 60's, a 30, and 20, of Grandsire Doubles, with J. Spencer, 1; the rest as before.

WEST BROMWICH (Staffordshire).—On Sunday evening, October 4th, after the Harvest Thanksgiving service, a 1008 of Grandsire Triples, in 35 mins. W. Cooper, 1; E. Cashmore, 2; H. Hill, 3; B. Hill, 4; C. Price, 5; S. Reeves (conductor), 6; W. R. Small, 7; G. Griffiths, 8. Messrs. C. Price and W. R. Small belong to the Christ Church society, the rest to the All Saints' society. *Muffled Peal*.—On Sunday, October 4th, the following members of the Christ Church Society rang with the bells half-muffled, the usual whole pull and stand, to the memory of the late Mrs. Farley, the beloved wife of Alderman R. Farley, J.P., and ex-Mayor of that town, who died on Friday, September 25th, and was buried at Christ Church on Thursday, October 1st. After which, a touch of Grandsire Triples. H.

Hipkiss, 1; W. R. Small, 2; S. Reeves (conductor), 3; J. Hall, 4; T. Horton, 5; R. Hall, 6; C. Price, 7; C. Timms, 8. Tenor 23 cwt. 3 qrs. in Eb.

WEST RETFORD (Nottinghamshire).—On Sunday, October 4th, at St. Michael's church, six members of the East and West Retford Amalgamated society rang a 720 of Grandsire Minor (thirty-four bobs and two singles), in 26 mins. J. Pearson, 1; S. Joynes, 2; W. Drake, 3; N. Hunt, 4; W. Kiplin (conductor), 5; J. Joynes, 6. Tenor 9 cwt. 9 lbs. This is the first 720 in the method on the bells.

WORCESTER.—On Monday, October 5th, at All Saints' Church, 1151 of Grandsire Caters, in 51 mins. J. Clements, 1; N. Wale, 2; H. Phesant, 3; J. Hinton, 4; G. Cleal, 5; W. Blandford, 6; H. Wilks (conductor), 7; J. Reynolds, 8; F. Owen, 9; T. Malim, 10. Also on Sunday, October 11th, at St. Helen's Church, the junior society rang several touches of Grandsire Triples, with the bells deeply muffled, as a mark of respect to the late Mr. Nash, for many years resident in the parish, and who was very much respected by all who knew him. William Powell, 1; Fredk. Owen, 2; George Hinton, 3; William Johnson, 4; Henry Wilks, 5; George Cleal (conductor), 6; William Page, 7; T. Malim, 8.

#### CHRIST CHURCH, MITCHAM, SURREY.

On Saturday, October 3rd, a 360 Grandsire Minor, in 12 mins., and a 720 of Grandsire Minor (thirty-four bobs and two singles), in 25 mins., with the bells half-muffled, as a last token of respect to the late Mr. W. Baker, who for many years was a ringer at St. Peter's, Mitcham, and for the last ten years verger at Christ Church. The deceased was buried at 2.20 p.m. the same afternoon at the parish church, when there was a great many of his old brother ringers, as well as younger ones (all who had learned to love and respect him), following his remains to the grave. He had been a great sufferer, and had been ill a long time, but he bore his illness with patience, and when death came it might well be said his end was peace. He will be long remembered by many as a kind and true friend, always ready to give a helping hand to anything for the good of his fellow-men. The following took part in the ringing: H. J. Schneider, 1; E. Burtenshaw, 2; D. Burtenshaw, 3; R. Reynolds, 4; A. Nicholson, 5; J. Fayers (conductor), 6. W. Gallagher, C. Schneider, W. Addaway, and J. Collins also took part.

#### GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

The next QUARTERLY MEETING will be held at Dymock, on Wednesday, October 21st. Divine Service at 11.30, on arrival of train from Gloucester. Dinner in parish room at 1 p.m. Representative company sent, but other members welcome on sending four days' notice to

Ashton Gate, Bristol.

REV. PITT EYKYN,  
Hon. Sec.

#### THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

A DISTRICT MEETING will be held at Harlow, on Saturday, October 24th. The belfry will be open at noon. Tea at 4.30. Business Meeting immediately after the tea. Members will be admitted to the tea without charge, through the kindness of the vicar, provided that they send in their names to the secretary before Monday, October 19th. Return tickets will be issued by the G.E.R. at a single fare and a quarter to all members who inform the Secretary before October 19th, from what station they travel. E.A.C.R. receipts for the year 1885-6 must be shewn at the booking office. Any ringers who wish to join the Association will be welcomed.

Rayleigh, S.O., Essex.  
October 10th, 1885.

H. A. COCKEY,  
Hon. Sec.

#### THE ELY DIOCESAN GUILD.

A Meeting of the above Association will be held at Cambridge on Monday, November 2nd. All ringers are invited, and those intending to be present are requested to communicate with

10, Brookside, Cambridge.

M. C. POTTER.

#### THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

A District meeting will be held at Uckfield, on Saturday, October 24th. Luncheon at 1 o'clock. Meeting at 2 o'clock. The following towers will be open: Uckfield, Buxted, Waldron, and Mansfield.

ST. ALBAN'S CATHEDRAL.—The nave of this historic edifice, which has been under restoration for seven years, will be opened for Divine Service on Wednesday next, at 11.30 a.m. The Archbishop of York will preach on the occasion. For the convenience of those visiting St. Alban's on that day, the Midland Railway Company will run a special train from St. Pancras at 10.15, returning at 3.30.

## 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 NATIONAL ASSOCIATION.

SIR,—The Rev. Dolben Paul's letter in a recent issue is a fine specimen of the art of throwing cold water. He suggests that those desirous of having a National Association should make use of your columns for the purpose of expressing their opinions. One cannot help thinking that your already limited space might be turned to better account; a series of letters ringing the changes on the theme "we want a National Ringing Association," would be neither amusing nor instructive: it is just possible that you, Sir, might find it a little monotonous. Would it be too great a labour or expense for the Committee to again circulate their scheme, with an urgent request for a reply of some sort? And if so, is there not a county or other Association which will, for the good of the Exercise generally, spend the few shillings needful for printing, &c. Very little information has hitherto been afforded us about the matter. Even now we don't know which societies were communicated with, and what replies, if any, were received therefrom. I would suggest that if the committee or any other body decide on reviving the scheme, they should in addition to their skeleton programme, make provision for the immediate reception of members, and so give the movement a start. If it is only set on foot in an energetic manner, I think it must succeed eventually, but no one could expect so conservative a body of ringers to accept any new proposal with enthusiasm; the project must have time to mature itself, but all the same, it must never be allowed to die out for want of a little judicious pushing.

EDWARD F. STRANGE.

## SHALL WE HAVE A NATIONAL ASSOCIATION.

SIR,—The above sentence is the cry of "Nil Desperandum," and no doubt the wish of a good many more; in the first place, who is "Nil Desperandum," and what part of the country does he come from, and pray what special proclivities has he to recommend him to the ringing public, that he should use such a tone of authority? I can inform "Nil Desperandum," and likewise "Little Jim," that the society of College Youths have been in existence a quarter of a thousand years, and it is in as good a position now for strength, both mentally and financially, as it was two hundred years ago. We can boast of some of the best ringers in the land, we transact our business in a consistent and proper manner, we do our duty without being found fault with, we ask nothing of any one, all our records and peals are intact from 1627, and we stick up for our character and rights, and in St. Paul's Cathedral tower on a Sunday morning stands a body of respectable ringers who are the freehold, the backbone, and the brain power of the College Youths' Society, who are willing and ready to oblige a country friend, or coach a youngster; and pray what more does "Nil Desperandum" want. I will tell him at once that we don't want a National Association, and what is more, we won't have one. The only advice I can offer to these good and pure people, who appear in print to be the very cream of benevolence, is they should join the Salvation Army. As for "Little Jim," we will roll him up in flannel and put him in the oven, and keep him warm.

G. MUSKETT.

## JOHN BUNYAN AND ELSTOW CHURCH.

SIR,—For the information of Grandsire Bob and others who may be interested in the author of *Pilgrim's Progress* as a bell-ringer, I beg to state that I happened to make an inspection of the bells in Elstow church tower a few months ago. There are five bells, all bearing dates between 1600 and 1650, and therefore the same bells which John Bunyan used to ring. They are in a deplorable state of dirt and neglect, and must, I should think, have always been a poor peal. At present they sound more like iron boilers than church bells, but this may possibly be due to the state of the clappers. I have observed elsewhere that some of the bells of this date, unlike the mediæval bells, are very defective in tone. The tenor must weigh from eight to ten cwt. The tower, which stands apart from the church, is a fine, solid building. It would carry a large and heavy peal of bells, and John Bunyan must have sinned more deeply than we can think possible of him, to bring it down upon his head.

C. P.

## THE LONDON SOCIETIES.

SIR,—In your issue of the 3rd, I see that Mr. Jerram states that he fully concurs with Mr. Muskett about young ringers. I think we must pity Mr. Jerram's ignorance of the affairs about which he tries to write. Mr. Jerram says that years ago youngsters crept cautiously into the belfry. If he thinks that is the state of affairs now he is sadly at fault, for the belfry is kept securely locked against the youngsters, as he called them, while the oldsters are recounting their deeds of days gone by, in the nearest meeting-house. Again he says that he is always accommodated whenever he is in London. I myself have

had the honour to ring with him, and have derived great pleasure from the touch of stoney that it has been our lot to ring together. Before Mr. Jerram writes again on this subject let him find out how many times there is practice on the ordinary practice-nights at the twelve-bell churches of London, and if he then agrees with Mr. Muskett I shall say that he is no lover of our noble art. It is a standing disgrace to any society with four or five twelve-bell peals at its command, to ring as seldom as they do. At one church in particular with a handy peal of twelve, there has been about two practices on the ordinary practice night in about as many years. Hoping that the oldsters will soon see the error of their ways and give the boys a chance to win their spurs.

LITTLE JIM.

## THE FIRST 720 AT ELSTREE.

SIR,—In reply to your correspondent, Mr. N. N. Hills, I was told most distinctly by at least two of the local band at Elstree, that there had not been a 720 rang upon the bells before, they said "the St. Albans men have been here, but they only rang some 120s." I had not noticed the account which appeared in your columns of the 720 of Grandsire Minor rang by the six College Youths, or I should have made my footnote read, the first 720s in the method upon the bells.

J. HANNINGTON.

## A QUESTIONABLE PERFORMANCE.

SIR,—I see in your issue of Saturday last, an account of a peal of Treble Bob Major, in the Kent variation, being rung at Eccles on the 5th inst., in 2 hrs. and 52 mins., conducted by W. Walmsley, which is not true. In the first place, the bells were not in changes more than 2 hrs. and 50 mins., and at no time were they going more than twenty-nine changes a minute, but very often at less than twenty-eight. I shall feel very much obliged to any readers of "BELL NEWS," that can enlighten me on this subject, and shew how 5184 changes can be rung in 2 hrs. and 50 mins. at the above rate; and at the same time I should be glad if the person that sent the report of this wonderful performance to "THE BELL NEWS," would say who conducted it, as I have been told there were two bob-callers.

F. P.

## THE SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.

ON Saturday, October 24th, this society's annual outing will take place at Enfield. Permission has been graciously given by the vicars and wardens of the new and old churches for the use of the bells upon the occasion. Dinner will be served at the "King's Head" at 6 p.m. sharp. Members are invited to meet at head quarters, 54, St. Martin's Lane, on the 23rd inst., when all further particulars may be obtained.

H. DAINS, Hon. Sec.

## DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

THE ANNUAL MEETING will be held at Durham, on Monday, November 2nd. Ringing at the Cathedral and St. Oswald's. Special service at St. Oswald's at 2 o'clock. Dinner at the "Three Tuns," at 3 o'clock. Particulars of arrangements by circular.

G. J. CLARKSON, Hon. Sec.

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The committee earnestly request that donations from ringers and friends interested in this "National Testimonial" be forwarded at an early date to one of the undersigned: A. Thomas, Hon. Secretary, 83, Wheelley's Road, Edgbaston, Birmingham; S. Reeves, Hon. Treasurer, 10, Bull Street, West Bromwich.



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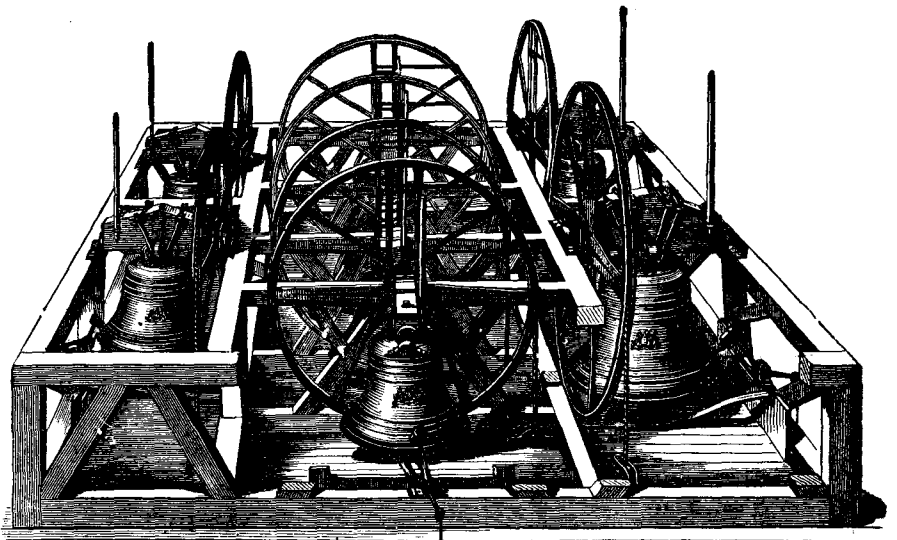
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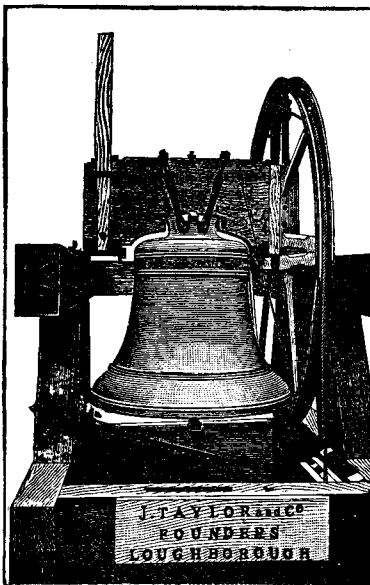
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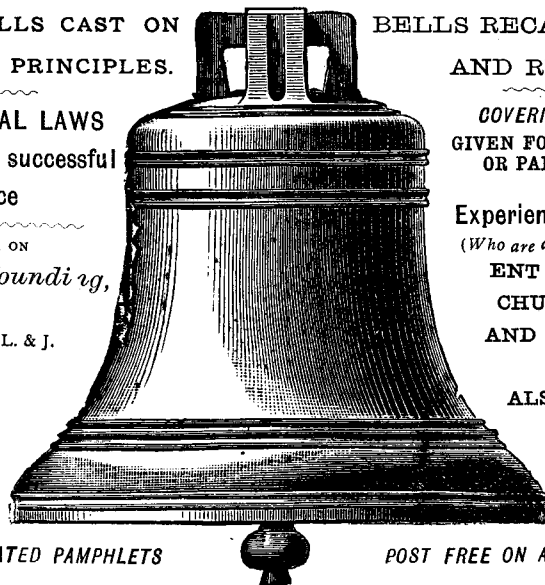
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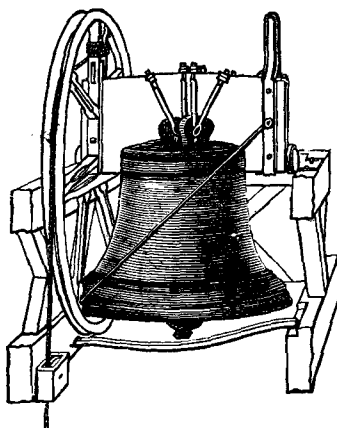
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## UNION TRIPLES.

By the REV. C. D. P. DAVIES.

IN Nos. 17, 94, 96, 97 (all in the new series) of "THE BELL NEWS" were published the peals and other results of some of my investigations into the composition of Grandsire Triples. In a letter in the correspondence column somewhat subsequently, I promised to lay before the Exercise the method on which the enquiry had been conducted. This promise I hope very shortly to redeem. My apology for not having done so already lies in the fact that I was very anxious to combine the treatment of Union Triples with that of Grandsire. Some little of this has been done, but the subject has proved far more tedious than I expected, and the time I have been able to devote to it has been so uncertain and scanty, that I have determined to publish what I have thus far discovered, leaving the rest for any one who may have more leisure for it.

As with Grandsire Triples so with Union, my efforts have been confined to five-part peals and touches having as part-ends the leads of the plain course, and to ten-part peals with these same part-ends in the one half, those of the other half being the leads of what may be termed the "reverse" course.

The difficulty to be overcome was the plan of the singles, which are given in full below. So far as I can see this is absolutely the only form into which they can be moulded, and had Holt hit upon it, he would doubtless have bequeathed to us a ten-part peal of Union Triples, as a companion to his famous Grandsire peal on that plan, just as he has given us a "six-part" in each of the two methods.

The following compositions are merely given as specimens, and are not in any way to be regarded as what Shipway terms the "*ne plus ultra*" in this method. They comprise the longest touch I have so far attained in five equal and similar parts, each containing a lead of the reverse course; two five-part peals of seventy-one leads in each part, with the reverse course introduced by singles and prefixed to the first part; and also one simple ten-part peal with singles midway and at the end. It will be evident that they are all tolerably simple for the conductor.

The five-part peals with twenty-one bobs in each part are very simply produced, and peals of this form are capable of very extensive variation. The ten-part peal is that to which I am desirous of calling special attention. The calling of it may of course be reversed, that is, the first half may be called on the plan of the latter half, and the latter on that of the first.

In the case of the singles the letters are prefixed to the change at which the call is made.

2 3 4 5 6 7	4270.	4 3 2 7 6 5
7 5 2 6 3 4		2 5 4 3 7 6
6 5 7 2 3 4		6 3 2 7 5 4
7 4 6 5 2 3		3 5 6 4 2 7
5 4 7 6 2 3		4 5 3 6 2 7
7 3 5 4 6 2		6 5 4 3 2 7
3 6 7 2 5 4		7 3 6 2 5 4
2 6 3 7 5 4		5 6 7 2 4 3
5 3 2 7 4 6		6 4 5 3 7 2
2 6 5 3 7 4		7 5 6 3 2 4
4 3 2 7 6 5		2 6 7 3 4 5

Four times repeated.

Singles for the two peals next following.

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

5040.

5040.

7 5 2 6 3 4	7 5 2 6 3 4
2 4 7 5 6 3	5 3 7 4 2 6
5 4 2 7 6 3	4 3 5 7 2 6
7 4 5 2 6 3	7 3 4 5 2 6
5 3 7 4 2 6	6 5 7 2 3 4
4 3 5 7 2 6	7 4 6 5 2 3
7 3 4 5 2 6	5 4 7 6 2 3
6 5 7 2 3 4	3 6 5 2 4 7
7 4 6 5 2 3	5 7 3 6 2 4
5 4 7 6 2 3	2 3 5 6 4 7
3 6 5 2 4 7	6 3 2 5 4 7
5 7 3 6 2 4	3 4 6 7 2 5
6 7 5 3 2 4	7 4 3 6 2 5
3 7 6 5 2 4	6 4 7 3 2 5
2 6 3 5 4 7	5 3 6 2 4 7
3 7 2 6 5 4	6 7 5 3 2 4
6 7 3 2 5 4	3 7 6 5 2 4
2 7 6 3 5 4	2 6 3 5 4 7
5 6 2 3 4 7	5 6 2 3 4 7
6 4 5 7 2 3	6 4 5 7 2 3
2 5 6 7 3 4	2 5 6 7 3 4

Either of the above four times repeated.

First six lead-ends of these peals.

2 3 4 5 6 7
S 2 5 4 3 7 6
2 3 7 6 5 4
2 6 5 4 3 7
2 4 3 7 6 5
2 7 6 5 4 3
S.B. 7 5 2 6 3 4

Singles for the ten-part peal.

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

5040.

2 3 4 5 6 7	2 4 3 7 6 5
7 5 2 6 3 4	5 7 2 6 4 3
2 4 7 5 6 3	4 2 5 6 3 7
5 4 2 7 6 3	7 6 4 3 2 5
7 4 5 2 6 3	6 2 7 5 4 3
5 3 7 4 2 6	3 5 6 4 2 7
4 3 5 7 2 6	4 5 3 6 2 7
7 3 4 5 2 6	6 5 4 3 2 7
6 5 7 2 3 4	7 3 6 2 5 4
7 4 6 5 2 3	5 6 7 2 4 3
4 2 7 3 6 5	2 6 5 7 4 3
5 3 4 6 2 7	7 6 2 5 4 3
2 4 5 6 7 3	2 3 7 6 5 4

First part.

Sixth part.

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS.

5003.

By JOHN CARTER, Birmingham.

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

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

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

3 6 4 5 2	-	-	-	S
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 24 times wrong and right, and the 5th twelve times right.

## THE HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

Members are specially requested to attend the Annual Meeting at St. Albans, on Monday, October 26th. Three towers containing ten, eight, and six bells will be open from 10.30. Service in the Lady chapel at 12.15, with sermon by the Rev. W. Wigram. Return tickets at a fare and a quarter on production of card of membership. Dinner tickets 2s. each.

W. WIGRAM, General Secretary.

A CORRECTION.—The 720 rung at Bengoe, on October 18th last, was Grandsire Minor, not Bob Minor.

## THE WREXHAM SOCIETY.

ON Monday, October 12th, the above Society held their annual outing, the place selected being Manchester. Starting from Wrexham by the 8.6 a.m. train, they arrived in Manchester by 10.15, and were met by Mr. Eachus, who conducted them to their rendezvous. After refreshing the inner man, a start was made for the Cathedral, where it was intended to ring a peal of Caters (the late John Cox's 5021), but after ringing for 2 hrs. and 8 mins., a change-course occurred, which brought the bells to a stand. These bells go magnificently, are a good ring of ten, and are kept in grand order by those in charge. Mr. Eachus then conducted them through the Town Hall, where an inspection of the clock and bells proved most instructive. Here some of the ringers went to Belle Vue Gardens, and saw the fireworks (the siege of Khartoum), whilst the remainder went to the headquarters of the Cathedral ringers in Shudehill, and spent a most enjoyable evening with the handbells, several courses of Grandsire Cinques and Caters, being struck with great precision, also Triples and Grandsire Major. Eleven o'clock p.m. brought the pleasant evening to a close, and after hearty hand shaking and good night all round, the party retired for the night. Early on Tuesday morning the ringers were up, and took a stroll through Shudehill Wholesale Market, the remainder of the day being spent in loitering around the city. In the evening, a start was made for Ashton-under-Lyne, where a peal of Treble Bob Major was attempted at St. Peter's with the Ashton ringers; here as in Manchester, disaster attended their efforts, for after ringing for 2 hrs. and 40 mins., they got out, and so ended the Wrexham men's first attempt at a peal of Treble Bob. S. Wood, 1; W. Smith, 2; J. Wood, 3; J. Thorp, 4; E. Rowland (Wrexham), 5; J. Newall (Wrexham), 6; E. Evans (Wrexham), 7; G. Longden, 8. The remainder of the evening was spent with the Ashton ringers at Mr. Tumilty's, and was enlivened by singing, some of the Ashton men being capital singers, their abilities as ringers being well known. The Wrexham ringers take this opportunity of thanking the Manchester and Ashton ringers for their kindness.

## LAVENHAM, SUFFOLK.

ON Saturday, October 3rd, the Sudbury company paid a visit to this place for the purpose of having a touch on the fine peal of bells. On arriving, a move was soon made to the tower, where through the exertions of Mr. W. Boby, everything was found in readiness. A 770 of Grandsire Triples by F. Tolliday, 1; C. Sillitoe (conductor), 2; G. Brown, 3; W. Griggs, 4; W. Bacon, 5; H. Harper, 6; A. Scott, 7; W. Howell, 8. Also a touch of Kent Treble Bob Major. F. Tolliday, 1; C. Sillitoe (conductor), 2; G. Brown, 3; W. Griggs, 4; W. Bacon, 5; W. Howell, 6; H. Harper, 7; A. Scott, 8. A touch of Bob Major was also started for with Messrs. Fisk, Symonds, and Moore, of the Lavenham company, but it unfortunately collapsed. Afterwards, an adjournment was made to the "Cock Inn," where Mr. Bruce had very kindly brought his handbells for use during the evening. A course of Grandsire Caters was rung by A. Symonds (Lavenham), 1-2; A. Scott, 3-4; C. Sillitoe, 5-6; W. Howell, 7-8; H. Harper, 9-10. Also a course of Grandsire Cinques. F. Tolliday, 1-2; A. Scott, 3-4; C. Sillitoe, 5-6; A. Symonds, 7; W. Griggs, 8; W. Howell, 9-10; H. Harper, 11-12. This is the first course of Caters and Cinques by A. Symonds. A course of Bob Major was rung to oblige some of the local company by C. Sillitoe, 1-2-3-4; W. Howell, 5-6; A. Scott, 7-8. Songs were also sung by Messrs. Fisk, Harper, Tolliday, Smith, etc., and a very pleasant evening was spent, the party reaching home about midnight, enlivened on the way with a political speech by Mr. F. Tolliday. The company desire, through the medium of "THE BELL NEWS," to return their sincere thanks to the Rev. — Symonds for the use of the bells, also to the local company for the very kind manner in which they met them.

## ECKINGTON, DERBYSHIRE.

ON Saturday, October 17th, the Anston company paid a friendly visit to the above place, with the intention of having an afternoon's ringing. Their outing was likely at first to meet with disappointment on account of two of their band not being able to come, but on arriving at Eckington, a band was soon made up by the local company, and after raising the bells in peal a 720 of Duke of York was rung, in 28 mins., and several touches of Oxford, Violet, and New London Pleasure, time not permitting any more, on account of service being held. G. Lidster, 1; C. F. Fowler, 2; E. James (Eckington), 3; J. Shaw (Eckington), 4; S. Smith, 5; T. Silvester (conductor), 6. Tenor 16 cwt. 14 lbs. An enjoyable hour-and-a-half was then spent with the handbells, the Anston men, assisted by T. Lunn, of Eckington, rang several airs in good style. Train time having now arrived, the visitors departed for home with the good wishes of the Eckington company. Our correspondent adds:—It may be mentioned that the Anston men are members of the Yorkshire Association, and are a young and promising company, all striving to master the art of change-ringing, which so many try and don't succeed, for want of unity.

## ST. MARY'S SOCIETY, OLD BATTERSEA, SURREY.

ON Saturday morning, October 10th, the members of this society assembled in their belfry, in accordance with instructions, to set the tuneful bells a-ringing to celebrate the marriage of Miss Emily Mildred Thornton, youngest daughter of the late Henry Sykes Thornton, of Battersea Rise, to Charles Guy Pym, son of the late Rev. W. Wollaston Pym, of Willian, Herts. The ringing was opened by a well-struck 500 of Grandsire Triples, succeeded by another short touch in the same method to hail the arrival of the bride, a lady whose benevolent and loving ways has won for her the respect of all the old parishioners of Battersea, having followed, we might say, in the footsteps of her worthy father since his lamented decease, which occurred a short time ago, to the sorrow of a large circle of friends, but whose charitable gifts still live green in their memory. The service, which was choral, was conducted by the Very Rev. H. M. Butler, Dean of Gloucester, assisted by the Vicar of Battersea, Canon Erskine Clarke, and the bride having been given away by her brother, the closing words of the marriage lines were pronounced by the Rev. Dean, who in an eloquent and feeling address (which was alike touching to the congregation as to the bridal party), besought the happy couple to think of the future, as well as the present, and also gave them an outline of the way they should live in this world from a godly point of view, and concluded by asking God's blessing upon them for ever. After a short prayer, the bride and bridegroom, followed by their ten bridesmaids, proceeded down the aisle to the strain of the popular Wedding March, and amid the music from the pipes and the firing of the bells, signed their names in the parish register, receiving on all sides the hearty congratulations which they so thoroughly deserved. The ringing continued on and off for some time after the wedding party had left the church, after which, owing to the generosity of the happy couple, the members who had performed active service in the belfry were entertained in their own room to a good substantial repast, which after the exertions of the Exercise, they greatly enjoyed, and now take this opportunity of thanking the bride and bridegroom for their liberality, and sincerely wish them health and happiness for the rest of their days. On Sunday evening, October 18th, the members assembled together in the belfry to meet the Rev. Woolmore Wigram, of St. Andrew's, Hertford, who after preaching in the parish church, expressed a desire to ring a touch on the bells, and accompanied by Canon Clarke, ascended the tower soon after the conclusion of the service, and rang a good touch of Grandsire Triples, conducted by W. Baron. He expressed his thanks to the members for meeting him, and his admiration of the way in which the steeple was kept, leaving the belfry well pleased with his short but enjoyable visit.

## INTERESTING EVENT AT CHRIST CHURCH, AUGHTON, LANCASHIRE.

ON Saturday, October 10th, by the kind permission of the Rector (the Rev. C. W. Markham), there was witnessed by the ringers of this locality, in the belfry of Christ Church, what is always a source of great pleasure to ringers, viz.: the unveiling of a memorial tablet. A short prayer having been said, Mr. Edward Bentham, of Wigan (in the unavoidable absence of Mr. Swindells, brother of the donor), after a few well-chosen words, unveiled the tablet, which bears the following inscription: "This tablet was presented by Miss Swindells, of Trafalgar House, in memory of her late sister, Mrs. Jones. On Saturday, August 29th, 1885, there was rung on the bells of this church, the late Mr. John Holt's ten-part peal of Grandsire Triples, consisting of 5040 changes, in two hours fifty-three minutes, by the following ringers: Treble, Charles Sharples; Second, Henry Ellis; Third, George Larkey; Fourth, William J. Taylor; Fifth, Robert Foster; Sixth, William Bentham; Seventh, George Prescott; Tenor, Wm. B. Lloyd, Conducted by William Bentham. This is the first peal on the bells of this church by a whole company of local ringers. Inscription of bells: Treble, Ecclesia Christi, semper floreat; Second, In memory of Richard and Jane Rawsthorne, Holborn House, A.D. 1878; Third, William Horshaw, Vine Cottage, A.D. 1878; Fourth, James Shawe, Asmal House, Scarisbrick, A.D., 1878; Fifth, Presented to Christ Church, Aughton, in memory of John Jones, Trafalgar House, who died January 23rd, 1870, by Ann, his wife, A.D. 1878; Sixth, Presented to Christ Church, Aughton, in memory of Daniel Williams, who died April 29th, 1876, by his affectionate wife, A.D. 1878; Seventh, Warner and Sons, Crescent Foundry, Cripplegate, London; Eighth, Rev. W. H. Boulton, Rector, Rev. F. Nelham, curate, James Rawsthorne and James Fletcher, churchwardens, A.D., 1878. Rev. C. W. Markham, Rector, Rev. E. C. Hipkins, Curate, Alfred Dickinson, and Craven Wilson, churchwardens; Henry Cave, Superintendent." A few short touches of Grandsire Triples and Major were afterwards rung on the church bells. The whole of the work was entrusted to Mr. Thomas Balshaw, of Ormskirk, and was greatly admired, both for design and workmanship.



## SERMON BY THE REV. H. EARLE BULWER.

THE following is the text of the Sermon preached at the Annual Meeting of the Norwich Diocesan Association, at the church of St. Peter Mancroft, by the Rev. H. Earle Bulwer, Rector of Stanhoe, Norfolk, a practical ringer, and a member of the Association. The text was 1 Corinthians, xii., 20: "But now are they many members, yet but one body."

He was speaking to his hearers as a body of Church-helpers and workers; for although one of the objects in view was scientific change-ringing, it was not the only object that the Association sought to accomplish. The Association was not forgetful of the first and most important use for which the bells of our churches were intended to be put, and for which they existed. One of its objects was to procure for ringers recognition as Church workers, for without their aid the church bells could not fulfil the general purpose they were meant to serve; and, further to encourage them to a real and efficient discharge of their duties as Church workers. He did not know to what extent the Association had succeeded in these two latter objects, but he had no doubt that good had resulted in that direction, and he felt sure those who were present, or those members who were absent, were devoted sons of the Church, ready to stand by her and help her in the hour of adversity, as they were to rejoice with her in her days of prosperity. Now, having regard to the circumstances of the times, there was one word which particularly expressed their need and our duty, and that word was union—union as members of the Association in pursuit of its objects, union as Church-workers in the discharge of their duties, union as sons of the Church in her support and defence. It was so well-known to all that union was strength, that there would be no need to enlarge upon such a truism, if it were not for the danger there might be in disregarding it. The nation, the Church, the Association, the family, was weak in proportion as it was disunited in politics, in religion, in action, in sentiment. St. Paul in this chapter employed as an illustration the healthy human body in order to describe the union that ought to exist in the body religious—the Church; and which must exist in it if it were to be strong and effective for the great purpose for which it was planted in the world by Christ. Nor was there any need to confine the illustration to the body religious. It might be applied with equal force to the body politic, to the national institutions, to the social community, to this Association, to their parishes, their families, and their homes. The Apostle's argument was this: "For as the body is one and hath many members, and all the members of that one body being many, are one body, so also is Christ. For the body is not one member but many. If the foot shall say because I am not the hand I am not the body, is it therefore not of the body? And if the ear shall say, because I am not the eye I am not of the body, is it therefore not of the body? If the whole body were an eye, where were the hearing? If the whole were hearing, where were the smelling? But now hath God set the members everyone of them in the body as it hath pleased him, and if they were all one member where were the body? But now are they many members yet but one body. That there should be no schism in the body, but that the members should have the same care one for another. And whether one member suffer all the members suffer with it; or one member be honoured all the members rejoice with it. Now ye are the body of Christ and members in particular." St. Paul laid stress on the oneness of the body, though it was composed of many members which had their special offices to fulfil in harmony with the rest. This oneness was the secret of the strength and effective action of the body in any work which it might have to do. That unity which existed among the several members of the body ensured their working harmoniously together, not independently of one another, not in antagonism, not in rivalry, but without division, and without disruption. The healthy human body, then, was a proper figure of what the spiritual body of the Church ought to be, and it was a figure, as he had said, that might be applied with advantage to other institutions as well. The secret of success in any undertaking in which the energies of the body or of the people were employed, was to be found in the unity and in the harmonious action of the several members, working together for the attainment of a given end. They who knew something of the mysteries of change-ringing were well aware of this, and conversely, that the secret of failure might often be traced to divided counsel and to the separate action of a few individuals taking their own course independently of and in antagonism to their fellow-workers. The efficiency of an engine or machine, as they knew very well, depended upon the several pieces of which it was composed being properly adapted to the work they had to perform, and of being accurately fitted together in their proper places, and all working smoothly together. Leave some pieces out or put them in their wrong places, or reverse their positions, and the machine would not work at all. Just so it was in human undertakings. If men all worked smoothly together as the parts of a machine, success would be achieved, but if they threw themselves out of gear, a successful result would be at once placed in jeopardy and most likely rendered impossible. In an Association such as this, consisting as it did of many separate companies of ringers, the principle of union, as described by St. Paul, should be all the more zealously followed out, for where such sub-divisions existed, the risk of losing cohesion was greatly increased. For this reason it was important that the quarterly meetings should be as largely attended as possible by the members, in order that the necessity of being united in a common object might be kept alive, and to encourage a feeling that though they were many members they were yet but one body. And he would venture to remind them also how much their union and success depended on forbearance, patience, and good temper on the part of each individual member. Small jealousies and heartburnings should be studiously avoided amongst them, as tending only to create the splits of which they so often heard, and which when they did occur were a source of weakness and discredit. In their several parishes and companies let them never forget that they were all members of one body and one Association; let them set the objects of the Association before them, and strive honestly to carry them out. Much also might be done by the various companies towards the extension of the work of the Association, by bringing other ringers and companies of ringers within its fold who had not yet joined, and thus the Association would be made a far more powerful and useful organization, and a more effectual handmaid of the Church in this diocese than even it had been hitherto. Let them remember also that it was on the church bells that they depended for the means of practising their beautiful art in its highest development. But change-ringing ought not to be all pastime, or all for the gratification of the taste, and it was not too much to ask them to take a higher and nobler view of it than that, and to bear in mind that the Church looked to them for the hearty discharge of their duties in return for the facilities and liberties she afforded them for the pursuit of their favourite science. Besides, an effective and united discharge of duty was urgently needed on the part of all office-bearers of the Church, more especially at this time, as an important element in Church defence. For the times were times of danger, almost every institution was under threat of extinction, and although it was humanly impossible to destroy the Church as the spiritual body of Christ, yet it was possible, and was in the thoughts of many so to cripple and impair her outward character as previously to hinder her in the transaction of her great and holy work. It therefore behoved every one who counted himself one of her sons to do her diligent and devoted service, and to support her honestly and loyally in the time of trial. While there were far higher and cogent reasons for doing this than any of a merely

selfish character, still there was the great question in which might be fairly put on an occasion such as this. Was it likely to be of benefit to their Association should those who sought to destroy the conditions under which the Church exists, be allowed to gain their object? Would not the occupation of this Association be gone, for was not its existence so bound up and dependant on the continued prosperity of our village churches, that should they be deprived of the material support and watchful care of the resident clergy, the means and opportunity of pursuing this work would be no more. For these reasons let him earnestly exhort them to put away from them everything which might tend to hinder that godly union and concord which ought to exist amongst them for Christ's sake. "Though many members, yet there be but one body." Therefore, with one heart and soul, with one undivided mind, let them dedicate themselves, their service, and their science, to the honour and glory of God.

## THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—ROTHWELL BRANCH.

The following is the ringing done by this branch at Holy Trinity church during the month of September: September 6th: 360 of Arnold's Victory, 240 of Duke of York, 240 of Oxford Treble Bob; September 7th: †720 of Violet, 120 of London Scholars, 360 of Oxford Treble Bob, 240 of London Scholars; September 13th: 360 of Oxford Treble Bob, 360 of Violet; September 20th: 360 of Violet, 360 of New London Pleasure, 240 of Oxford Treble Bob; September 21st: \*720 of London Scholars; September 27th: 360 of Arnold's Victory, 720 of London Scholars, 216 of Duke of York. The following are the ringers: J. Verity, A. Chapman, \*J. Harrison, †J. Abbishaw, Wm. Abbishaw, S. Stacey, J. M. Chadwick. †First 720 of Violet. \*First 720 of London Scholars.

## BRAINTREE, ESSEX.—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 September: September 12th: 720 of Cambridge Surprise, 144 of Bob Minor; September 13th: 720 of Bob Minor, 720 of London Surprise; September 14th: 720 of Bob Minor; September 19th: 720 of Oxford Treble Bob, 720 of Woodbine; September 20th: 720 of Oxford Delight, 720 of College Exercise, 240 of College Exercise, 96 of New London Pleasure; September 22nd, 720 London Surprise, 60 of Bob Minor; September 24th: 720 of Kent Treble Bob; September 27th: 720 of Bob Minor, 108 of Bob Minor.

## BROCKWORTH, GLOUCESTERSHIRE.

On Sunday, October 11th, five members of the Gloucester and Bristol Diocesan Association, assisted by Mr. J. Baldwin, member of the Royal Cumberland Youths, visited the above parish church, it being the Harvest Festival, and rang for evening service 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor (nine bobs), in 26 mins. J. Baldwin, 1; W. Sevier, 2; A. A. Waite, 3; H. G. Gardener, 4; H. Mitchell, 5; R. A. Barrett (conductor), 6. The company afterwards adjourned to the residence of Mr. J. Price, one of the local band, and rung several courses of Grandsire Triples on the handbells, likewise doing justice to the inner man, afterwards returning to their respective homes, very much pleased with the afternoon's outing. It is thirty-five years since a 720 of the above method was rung on these bells.

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The committee earnestly request that donations from ringers and friends interested in this "National Testimonial" be forwarded at an early date to one of the undersigned: A. Thomas, Hon. Secretary, 83, Wheeley's Road, Edgbaston, Birmingham; S. Reeves, Hon. Treasurer, 10, Bull Street, West Bromwich.

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

One copy, 12 months .. .. 6s. 6d.  
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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.

G.W.R.—The peal you ask about is produced by common bobs only. There is a three-part peal in the same method by the same composer; also a five-part peal by Shipway with bobs only.

M. ELLSMORE.—It is not good to be over-confident. You "distinctly wrote" Grand-sire Minor, so you say. Allow us to tell you you did not. You wrote "Minor" only, and our compositor not being so well versed as yourself in such intricacies of composition, concluded that Bob Minor was intended. A notice of the correction appears this week.

## The Bell News & Ringers' Record.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 24, 1885.

### The Provinces.

HERTFORD.—THE HERTFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION, AND THE HERTFORD COLLEGE YOUTHS.

On Thursday, October 15, 1885, in Three Hours and Nine Minutes,

AT ALL SAINTS' CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

REV. C. D. P. DAVIES' FIVE-PART. Tenor 22 cwt.

JAMES JAUNCEY .. .. Treble.	MATTHEW ELLSMORE .. 5.
HERBERT BAKER .. .. 2.	*WILLIAM GOODCHILD .. 6.
WILLIAM A. TYLER .. .. 3.	HENRY J. TUCKER .. .. 7.
JOSEPH CULL .. .. 4.	FREDERICK GEORGE .. .. Tenor.

Conducted by HERBERT BAKER.

\* First peal. W. Goodchild is also a member of the Ware Company.

GLODWICK, NEAR OLDHAM, LANCASHIRE.

On Thursday, October 15, 1885, in Two Hours and Fifty-Nine Minutes,

AT ST. MARK'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S TEN-PART. Tenor 8½ cwt.

RICHARD GUEST .. .. Treble.	GEORGE H. BEEVER .. .. 5.
ALBERT CLEGG* .. .. 2.	JAMES T. KERSHAW .. .. 6.
JOHN GREENWOOD .. .. 3.	JAMES RILEY .. .. 7.
SAMUEL STOTT .. .. 4.	WILLIAM RHODES .. .. Tenor.

Conducted by ALBERT CLEGG.

\* First peal as conductor. John Greenwood hails from Lees.

LEEK, STAFFORDSHIRE.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

*Birthday Peal.*

On Saturday, October 17, 1885, in Three Hours and Eighteen Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 18½ cwt.

THOMAS MOSS .. .. Treble.	BENJAMIN BROADBENT .. 5.
WM. SMITH .. .. 2.	JOSEPH MELLOR .. .. 6.
JAS. WOOD, JUN .. .. 3.	GEORGE LONGDEN .. .. 7.
S. WOOD .. .. 4.	JOHN THORP .. .. Tenor.

Composed and Conducted by JOHN THORP.

The above peal was rung in commemoration of the 70th birthday of Jas. Wood, sen., of Ashton-under-Lyne, and the ringers wish him many happy returns of the day. The ringers were stationed in their original positions of the long peal at Mottram, with the exception of Mr. Wm. Smith, who was in place of one of the ringers who has gone abroad.

WHITFIELD, DERBYSHIRE.

THE ALL SAINTS' SOCIETY, GLOSSOP.

On Saturday, October 17, 1885, in Three Hours and Two Minutes,

AT ST. JAMES'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 12½ cwt.

JOHN LAWTON .. .. Treble.	SAMUEL KNOTT, SEN. .. 5.
JOHN HARROP .. .. 2.	JOSEPH ROBINSON .. .. 6.
WILLIAM HARROP .. .. 3.	SAMUEL KNOTT, JUN. .. 7.
JOSEPH MALONEY .. .. 4.	JOHN PYE, SEN. .. .. Tenor.

Composed and Conducted by SAMUEL KNOTT, JUN.

BIRCHINGTON, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION, AND THE SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.

On Saturday, October 17, 1885, in Three Hours and Ten Minutes,

AT WATERLOO TOWER, QUEX PARK,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

TAYLOR'S BOB-AND-SINGLE VARIATION. Tenor 15½ cwt.

CHARLES WILLSHIRE .. Treble.	THOMAS B. REED .. .. 5.
LEON WILLSHIRE .. .. 2.	PERCY A. REED* .. .. 6.
ALBERT SAYER .. .. 3.	GEORGE WILLSHIRE .. .. 7.
THOMAS B. REED, JUN. .. 4.	SAMUEL FULCHER .. .. Tenor.

Conducted by PERCY A. REED.

\* First peal as conductor.

LONG EATON, DERBYSHIRE.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

On Tuesday, October 20, 1885, in Three Hours and Six Minutes,

AT ST. LAWRENCE'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5120 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 11 cwt. in G.

AMOS CRESSER .. .. Treble.	ARTHUR WIDDOWSON .. 5.
WILLIAM GRICE .. .. 2.	J. W. TAYLOR, JUN., Esq. 6.
RICHARD HICKTON .. .. 3.	E. DENISON TAYLOR, Esq. 7.
SAMUEL CLARKE .. .. 4.	JOHN WARD .. .. .. Tenor.

Composed by JOSEPH FLEMING and Conducted by JOHN WARD.

Amos Cresser and the brothers Taylor hail from Loughborough; the others are of the St. Lawrence society, Long Eaton.

### Date Touches.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

SHEFFIELD (Yorkshire).—On Sunday, October 18th, at All Saints' church, for Divine Service, the following members of the above Association, also members of the St. Peter's Amalgamated Society, rang a date touch of 1885 changes, in 1 hr. 6 mins. (no method given). W. Gardiner, 1; J. Rowley, 2; F. Willey (conductor), 3; E. F. Rippon, 3; S. Seed, 5; H. J. Thompson, 6; W. Smithson, 7; J. Lloyd, 8. Composed by C. Jackson, of Hull. Tenor 15 cwt.

PRESTON (Suffolk).—On Sunday, October 18th, at St. Mary's church, a date touch of Bob Minor, 1885 changes, containing 118 calls, viz.: seventy-two singles and forty-four bobs, in 1 hr. 8 mins. H. Symonds, 1; Arthur Keeble, 2; Percy Chas. S. Scott (conductor), 3; Alfred Hollocks, 4; Harry Smith, 5; Arthur Symonds, 6. Tenor 11 cwt. This is the longest length rung on the bells.

YORK.—On Saturday evening, October 17th, at York Minster, for practice, the local company rang a date touch of 1885 changes of Grandsire Triples, in 1 hr. 15 mins., on the front eight. R. Long, 1; Thos. Hodgson, 2; R. Thompson, 3; Jas. Thompson, 4; W. H. Howard (composer), 5; T. Haigh (conductor), 6; Albert Fernley, 7; Geo. Crampton, 8. Tenor about 18 cwt.

### Miscellaneous.

THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

ASPLEY GUISE.—On Tuesday, October 13th, at the parish church for practice, a 720 of Bob Minor (eighteen bobs and two singles), in 25 mins. G. Usher, 1; E. Lewin, 2; J. Carwell Cook, 3; M. Lane, 4; W. Chibnall, 5; W. E. Turney (Woburn; conductor), 6. And on

Sunday, October 18th, for Divine Service in the evening, a 720 of Bob Minor (thirty-two bobs and two singles), in 24½ mins. G. Usher, 1; E. Lewin, 2; W. Mynard, 3; J. Carwell Cook, 4; M. Lane, 5; W. Chibnall (conductor), 6.

BEDFORD.—On Thursday, October 8th, for practice, a 720 of College Little, eighteen bobs and two singles. F. Keech, 1; T. Foote, 2; J. Atkins, 3; M. Warwick, 4; C. W. Clarke (conductor), 5; I. Hills, 6. First 720 in the method by all except the fifth man, and the first on the bells. Also on Thursday, October 15th, the following six members attempted a 5040 in seven different methods, but after ringing a 720 each of the following.—Woodbine, Kent and Oxford Treble Bob Minor, Plain Bob, and 684 of Grandsire Minor, the fourth rope broke, which brought it to grief. S. J. Cullip, 1; C. W. Clarke (conductor), 2; T. Foote, 3; M. Warwick, 4; J. N. Frossell, 5; I. Hills, 6. Tenor 8 cwt. in B.

HUSBORNE CRAWLEY.—On Friday, October 16th, at the parish church, two 6-scores of Bob Doubles. 1st: W. Chibnall, 1; M. Lane (conductor), 2; W. Mynard, 3; J. Carwell Cook, 4; W. E. Turney, 5; J. Alley, 6. 2nd: J. Carwell Cook, 1; W. Mynard, 2; M. Lane, 3; W. E. Turney, 4; W. Chibnall (conductor), 5; G. Taylor, 6. Tenor 20 cwt.

#### THE BIRMINGHAM AMALGAMATED SOCIETY.

BIRMINGHAM.—On Friday, October 16th, being the anniversary of the 10,176 Grandsire Major rung by the above society on handbells, an attempt was made to ring a 5056 of Grandsire Major, at the house of Mr. J. Carter, Hockley, but after ringing 880, a mishap occurred. J. T. Perry, 1-2; J. Carter, 3-4; T. Russam, 5-6; R. Hackley, 7-8. And a 504 of Bob Triples, 224 of Stedman Triples, and 168 of New Grandsire Triples. On Saturday, October 17th, at St. Chad's cathedral, a 720 of Grandsire Minor, in 27 mins. A. Druce, 1; W. Saniger, 2; J. Callaghan, 3; T. Russam, 4; A. Hackley, 5; J. Carter (composer and conductor), 6. The above are all members of the Birmingham and District Association.

#### THE BIRMINGHAM AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATION.

BIRMINGHAM.—On Sunday morning, October 11th, after Divine Service, it being Harvest Thanksgiving at St. John's, Deritend, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, 1260 changes, in 45 mins. Francis H. James, 1; Charles Carmell, 2; Charles Barnacle, 3; Oliver James, 4; Richard Hackley, 5; John T. Perry (conductor), 6; Albert Hackley, 7; James Ekins, 8. And at St. Phillip's church, it being the Harvest Thanksgiving, about 900 of Grandsire Caters. Thomas Miller, 1; Charles Barnacle, 2; John Carter (conductor), 3; Richard Hackley, 4; Oliver James, 5; Charles Carmell, 6; Bennett Stevens, 7; John T. Perry, 8; Albert Hackley, 9; James Ekins, 10.

#### THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

BOCKING (Essex).—On Sunday, October 11th, for Divine Service in the afternoon, a 720 Bob Minor (nine bobs and six singles). W. Bearman, 1; W. Moore, 2; F. Saunders, 3; C. Bearman, 4; E. Radley, 5; W. Radley (conductor), 6. Also 360 in the same method (six bobs). W. Bearman, 1; H. E. Hammond, 2; F. Saunders, 3; C. Bearman, 4; E. Radley, 5; W. Radley (conductor), 6. And after service a 720 of Bob Minor (eight bobs and six singles). H. E. Hammond, 1; W. Bearman, 2; F. Saunders, 3; C. Bearman, 4; E. Radley, 5; W. Radley (conductor), 6.

ROMFORD (Essex).—On Saturday evening, October 10th, the Ilford band visited Romford, and rang several 120's of Grandsire Doubles. J. Mumford, 1; W. J. Mumford, 2; C. Marriott, 3; J. J. Bird, 4; W. Mead, 5; A. Porter, 6. Also on Monday evening, October 12th, the same band, assisted by Messrs. Mears, B. Deal, and S. Deal visited Little Heath, and several 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles were rang.

ROMFORD (Essex).—*Handbell Ringing*.—On Saturday evening, October 17th, a 720 Bob Minor (nine bobs and six singles). A. J. Perkins, 1-2-3-4; A. Pye, 5-6. Also a silent 720 Grandsire Minor (thirty-eight bobs and twenty-two singles). A. J. Perkins, 1-2; A. Pye, 3-4; B. Keeble, 5-6.

#### GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

BARNWOOD (Gloucestershire).—On Tuesday, October 6th, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor. G. Miles, 1; A. A. Wait (conductor), 2; J. Yates, 3; W. Sevier, 4; H. Mitchell, 5; R. A. Barrett, 6. And a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor (nine bobs, 2nd the observation), was rung by the St. Laurence's company, at the parish church, in 29 mins. G. Miles, 1; A. A. Waite (conductor), 2; J. Yeates, 3; W. Sevier, 4; H. Mitchell, 5; R. Barrett, 6. Tenor 14 cwt. in G. The above was rang on the occasion of Mr. H. Mitchell's fiftieth birthday, his brother-ringers and all the members of the Association wishing him many happy returns of the day.

#### THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

HALE (Lancashire).—On Sunday evening, October 18th, for the Harvest Festival, five members from Garston, assisted by J. Large, of

Widnes, rang a 720 of Grandsire Minor, in 26 mins. Samuel Gough, 1; Joshua Large (conductor), 2; James Alexander, 3; John Allen, 4; Walter Hughes, 5; F. Turner, 6. Tenor 10 cwt.

#### THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

HORNINGLOW, NEAR BURTON-ON-TRENT (Staffordshire).—On Thursday, October 15th, at St. John's church, a 720 of Bob Minor, in 27 mins., by the following members. S. Gretton, 1; J. Austin, 2; F. Dimpleby, 3; G. Robinson, 4; H. Wakley, 5; J. Jagger (conductor), 6. Tenor about 18 cwt. This is the first 720 in the method by all, also first in the method on the bells.

#### THE HERTFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

ST. ALBANS (Herts).—On Monday, October 19th, eight members of the St. Albans branch rang for practice the last 700 of Holt's Original peal of Grandsire Triples, in 28 mins. T. Grant, 1; A. Godman, jun., 2; E. Hulks, 3; W. H. L. Buckingham, 4; H. Lewis, 5; E. P. Debenham, 6; N. N. Hills (conductor), 7; W. Battle, 8. Tenor 30 cwt. in Eb.

#### THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

OXFORD.—*Handbell Ringing*.—On Wednesday, October 7th, on handbells, a 504 of Stedman Triples, in 17 mins. O. Thomas, 1-2; H. F. Castle, 3-4; W. C. Baston (conductor), 5-6; W. Woods, 7-8. On Sunday, October 11th, at the church of St. Thomas-ye-Martyr, being Harvest Thanksgiving, a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob, in 25 mins. W. Wood, 1; J. Howes, 2; F. Castle, 3; H. Castle, 4; O. Thomas, 5; W. C. Baston (conductor), 6. And for evening service, a 360 of Plain Bob, in 13 mins. W. Burgess, 1; W. Sandell, 2; F. Castle, 3; H. Sheard, 4; J. Howes, 5; W. C. Baston (conductor), 6. On Tuesday, October 13th, a 360 of Double Court Bob Minor and 120 of Oxford Treble Bob. F. Castle, 1; W. C. Baston, 2; Job Howes, 3; H. Castle, 4; Oliver Thomas, 5; J. W. Washbrook (conductor), 6. Also various touches of Stedman Triples and Caters on handbells, Oliver Thomas, 1-2; W. C. Baston, 3-4; J. W. Washbrook (conductor), 5-6; H. Castle, 7-8; W. Wakelin, 9-10. *Handbell Ringing*.—On Friday, October 16th, at St. Thomas' Working Men's Club Room, a 570 of Stedman Triples, on handbells, in 18 mins. J. W. Washbrook (conductor), 1-2; H. J. Castle, 3-4; W. C. Baston, 5-6; W. Wood, 7-8. Also on Sunday, October 18th, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor, in 20 mins. \*T. Kerbey (non-member), 1; \*W. Wood, 2; J. W. Washbrook (conductor), 3-4; H. J. Castle, 5-6. \*First in the method. †First attempt with two bells. And two courses of Double Court Bob Minor, standing as above.

#### THE WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

LEATHERHEAD (Surrey).—On Tuesday, October 20th, at the church of S.S. Mary and Nicholas, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 47 mins. W. Cook, 1; H. Newnham, 2; J. Hewett, 3; Rev. H. A. Spyers, 4; W. Marks, 5; E. Hull, 6; S. Brooker (conductor), 7; W. Brown, 8. Tenor 20 cwt. W. Cook hails from Ashted, and the Rev. H. A. Spyers from Weybridge: the rest are local men.

WEYBRIDGE (Surrey).—On Monday, October 12th, at St. James's church, 168 of Grandsire Triples. G. Rothwell, 1; C. Mitchell, 2; P. Beale, Esq., 3; G. Slater, 4; Rev. H. A. Spyers (conductor), 5; C. Morgan, 6; C. Keene, 7; W. C. Anstead, 8.

ABINGDON (Berks).—On Sunday, October 18th, at St. Nicholas Church, a 720 of Plain Bob Minor in 25 mins. H. Fruin, 1; W. Sandell, 2; J. Higgs, 3; F. Castle (Oxford), 4; H. Sheard (conductor), 5; H. Holifield, 6. Also 120 Stedman Doubles. H. Holifield, (conductor), 1; W. Sandell, 2; F. Castle, 3; J. Brown, 4; H. Sheard, 5; J. Burgess, 6.

BENGELO (Herts).—On Sunday evening, October 18th, a 720 of Bob Minor (twenty bobs and ten singles), in 26 mins. H. Phillips, 1; J. Channer, 2; M. Ellsmore, 3; H. J. Tucker (conductor), 4; J. Pomfret, 5; W. A. Tyler, 6. Tenor 7½ cwt.

BENHILTON (Surrey).—On Friday, October 16th, at the weekly practice, three members of the Benhilton Society, assisted by three members of the Beddington Society, rang at All Saints' Church, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor, with nine bobs, in 19 mins. J. Harris, 1; J. Branch, 2; —\*Russell, 3; G. Petrie, 4; J. Trendell, 5; John Trendell (conductor), 6. Tenor 19½ cwt. in C. \*First 720 in the method.

BRAMFORD (Suffolk).—On Thursday, October 8th, at St. Mary's church, a 720 of Plain Bob Minor (nine bobs and six singles), in 29 mins. Charles Osborne (first 720), 1; Charles Smith, 2; Alfred Pryke, 3; Charles Mee (conductor), 4; William Read (first 720 with a bob bell), 5; Frederick Mee, 6. All the above, except C. Osborne, belong to the Norwich Diocesan Association. Tenor 16 cwt. in G.

BROCKWORTH (Gloucestershire).—On Sunday, October 11th, for Divine Service in the evening, 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor, in 26 mins. T. Baldwin, 1; W. Sevier, 2; A. Waite, 3; H. G. Gardner, 4; H. Mitchell, 5; E. A. Barrett (conductor), 6. Tenor 13 cwt. in F.

**BROMLEY (Kent).**—On Saturday, October 10th, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, 1260 changes, in 46 mins. J. Jolds, 1; G. Shepherd, 2; G. F. French, 3; G. Conyard, 4; H. J. Shade, 5; T. Durling, 6; F. French (conductor), 7; T. Phillips, 8. Tenor 20 cwt. This quarter-peal was taken from the ms. of the late Mr. Eversfield, of Gravesend.

**CRAYFORD (Kent).**—*Muffled Peal.*—On Thursday evening, October 8th, a  $\frac{1}{2}$ -peal of Grandsire Triples (1260 changes), in 45 mins., with the bells muffled as a token of respect to the memory of the late Lord Shaftesbury, who was buried at Westminster Abbey on that day. \*J. King, 1; F. M. Jacobs (conductor), 2; \*C. Hamment, 3; G. Conyard, 4; J. Sloper, 5; F. French, 6; J. Garard, 7; \*J. Still, 8. \*First  $\frac{1}{2}$ -peal. Tenor 12 $\frac{1}{2}$  cwt.

**DORKING (Surrey).**—On Sunday, October 18th, at St. Martin's church, before evening service, touches of Grandsire and Plain Bob Triples, and after service 504 Stedman Triples, in 18 mins. \*G. Sayer (conductor), 1; \*C. Boxall, sen., 2; W. Webb, 3; \*G. Williams, 4; \*W. Marks, 5; E. Moses, 6; \*S. Brooker, 7; H. Dudley, 8. Tenor 25 cwt. in Eb. \*Members of the Winchester Diocesan Guild. Messrs. Webb, Williams, and Moses are of the Reigate Society.

**EAST HAGBOURNE (Berks).**—On Sunday evening, October 18th, four 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles, each called differently, with 4-6-8 behind. James Pether, 1; Frank Napper, 2; Dennis Napper, 3; E. Pether, 4; Ernest Napper, 5; J. H. Danbe, 6; Wm. Napper (conductor), 7; A. Woodley, 8.

**EXETER.**—On Sunday, October 11th, at St. Sidwell's church, 1050 Grandsire Triples, taken from Hollis's five-part peal. J. Moss, 1; E. Shepherd (conductor), 2; W. Pitts, 3; F. R. Shepherd, 4; W. Richardson, 5; A. Shepherd, 6; F. Shepherd, 7; W. Munday, 8. Tenor 24 cwt.

**EYNSFORD (Kent).**—On Sunday, October 18th, for Divine Service in the morning, three 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles, each called differently, and for Divine Service in the evening, three 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles, each called differently, in 15 mins. J. Eves, 1; E. N. Howard, 2; F. Wickenden, 3; F. Head, 4; W. Wash (conductor), 5; W. West, 6.

**FOXEARH (Essex).**—On Tuesday, September 15th, a 720 of Bob Minor in 24 mins. G. Maxim, 1; W. See, 2; W. Ince, 3; R. Mingay, (conductor), 4; R. Ellams, 5; G. Hammond, 9. This was rung on the occasion of the Harvest Festival.

**FULMER (Bucks).**—On Wednesday, October 14th, for practice, at the parish church, three 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles, each called differently. W. Burnham, 1; J. Spring, 2; E. Brown, 3; A. Jordan, 4; J. W. Udell (conductor), 5; C. Jeffrey and F. Stannett (alternately), 6. This is the first 120 by all except the conductor, who is a member of the Oxford Diocesan Guild. Tenor 7 $\frac{1}{2}$  cwt.

**GLEMSFORD (Suffolk).**—On Thursday, September 17th, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor (fifteen bobs), in 29 mins. John Slater, 1; Joseph Slater, 2; Samuel Slater, 3; Zach. Slater, 4; Percy Scott, 5; Fredk. Paul Adams (conductor), 6.

**HORNSEY (Middlesex).**—On Sunday, October 11th, at St. Mary's church, a 720 of Plain Bob Minor, in 25 mins. J. Ward, 1; G. Thorlow, 2; J. Waghorn, jun., 3; A. Jacob, 4; H. A. Barnett, 5; G. B. Lucas (conductor), 6.

**HORSHAM (Sussex).**—On Saturday, evening, October 17th, a mixed band attempted Shipway's six-part peal of Oxford Bob Triples, but after ringing 1 hr. and 46 mins., at the sixth treble lead after the middle single a shift course occurred, and the conductor called the bells round. W. Lanaway, 1; H. Chandler, 2; W. Wadey, 3; G. Rapley, 4; \*D. J. Aston, 5; J. Cooper, 6; H. Burstow (conductor), 7; H. Wood, 8. \*Member of the Gloucester and Bristol Diocesan Association.

**KINGSWINFORD (Worcestershire).**—On Monday, October 19th, at St. Mary's Church, on the occasion of the marriage of Mr. Alfred Pinson, one of the local company, the ringers, with the assistance of W. Lawrence, rang a few touches of Grandsire and Stedman Doubles, and 180 of Plain Bob Minor. Thomas Hillman, 1; William Jones, 2; John Hillman, 3; Joseph Hillman, 4; W. Lawrence (conductor), 5; Edward Bourne, 6. Also in another touch, W. Sackfield rang the second in a plain of Grandsire Doubles. Great credit is due to the whole party for the progress they have made in scientific change-ringing in so short a time.

**LEWISHAM (Kent).**—On Thursday evening, October 15th, after the Harvest Thanksgiving at St. Mary's Church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, 1260 changes, (selected from Taylor's six-part peal), in 41 mins. Harry W. Grout, 1; William Weatherstone, 2; Ernest E. Vinen, 3; William H. Freeman, 4; Frederick W. Thornton, 5; Joseph Laws (his first quarter-peal with a bob bell), 6; Abraham G. Freeman (conductor), 7; William Foreman, 8. Messrs. Grout,

Thornton, and Foreman, hails from Greenwich; W. H. Freeman and A. G. Freeman from Lewisham; W. Weatherstone from Rotherhithe; Ernest E. Vinen from Horsleydown; Joseph Laws from Deptford. Tenor 23 cwt. in Eb.

**MONEDWEN (Essex).**—On Sunday, October 18th, at St. Mary's church, after afternoon service, two of the local company, with Messrs. C. and H. Prior, and Isaac Cavill, of Stanstead, rang five 120s of Grandsire Doubles, each called differently, and a 120 of Antelope. I. Cavill, 1; A. Key, 2; G. Harvey, 3; H. Prior, jun., 4; C. Prior, 5. In the 120 of Antelope G. Harvey rang the treble, the rest as before. And 120 of Grandsire Doubles. G. Harvey, 1; A. Key, 2; C. Prior, 3; H. Prior, jun., 4; S. Ives, 5. Tenor 11 cwt. Conducted by Mr. A. Key.

**MITCHAM (Surrey).**—On Friday, October 16th, at Christ Church, being the anniversary of Mr. and Mrs. Harris's wedding day, 192 of Grandsire Minor. E. Burtenshaw, 1; H. J. Schneider, 2; D. Burtenshaw, 3; R. Reynolds, 4; A. Nicholson, 5; G. Welling (conductor), 6. Also six 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles, each called differently. H. J. Schneider (conductor), 1; E. Burtenshaw, 2; D. Burtenshaw, 3; R. Reynolds, 4; A. Nicholson, 5; W. Gallagher, 6. And touches of Bob Doubles, standing the same as above. Mr. and Mrs. Harris, of Gorringe Park, Mitcham, are the donors of the bells. Tenor 7 $\frac{1}{2}$  cwt. in Eb.

**RAUNDS (Northamptonshire).**—On Saturday, October 3rd, at St. Peter's church, for practice, a 720 of Double Court Bob Minor (eighteen bobs and two singles). G. Kirk, 1; W. J. Gilbert, 2; H. Stubbs, 3; J. Stubbs, 4; J. Houghton (Irthlingborough), 5; F. Gilbert (conductor), 6. Also a 360 of Oxford Treble Bob Minor. A. Coles, 1; W. J. Gilbert, 2; R. Pendered, 3; E. Mayes (Ringstead), 4; J. Willmott, 5; H. Stubbs (conductor), 6. And a 360 of Plain Bob. J. Pettit (Hargrave), 1; R. Pendered, 2; G. Kirk, 3; E. Mayes, 4; J. Chapman (Bythorn), 5; H. Stubbs (conductor), 6. Also on Monday, October 5th, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob (nine bobs). G. Kirk, 1; W. J. Gilbert, 2; R. Pendered, 3; J. Stubbs (first 720 in this method), 4; F. Gilbert, 5; H. Stubbs (conductor), 6. On Monday, October 12th, a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob (nine bobs). G. Kirk, 1; R. Pendered, 2; H. Stubbs (conductor), 3; J. Stubbs, 4; J. Willmott, 5; F. Gilbert, 6. And on Saturday, October 17th, a 720 of Plain Bob (twenty bobs and ten singles). W. Hall, 1; H. Stubbs, 2; J. Stubbs, 3; B. W. Allen, 4; J. Willmott, 5; F. Gilbert (conductor), 6.

**READING (Berks).**—*Handbell Ringing.*—On Friday, October 16th, for practice at the Reading Youths' Room, a 720 of Plain Bob Minor. \*B. Coffee, 1; \*H. Coffee, 2; F. Sweetzer, 3; A. Evans, 4; A. E. Reeves, 5; G. Gibbard (conductor), 6. Also another 720 of Plain Bob Minor. B. Coffee, 1; H. Coffee, 2; F. Sweetzer, 3; A. Evans, 4; G. Gibbard, 5; J. E. Willshire (conductor), 6. And a plain course of Stedman Doubles, in which J. F. Tarrant took part.

**RINGSTEAD (Northamptonshire).**—On Saturday, October 17th, at St. Mary's church, for practice, 720 College Single (eighteen bobs and two singles). G. Roberts, 1; W. J. Gilbert (conductor), 2; R. Shipley, 3; E. Mayes, 4; J. Sawford, 5; T. Roberts, 6.

**PONTEFRAC (Yorkshire).**—On Sunday, October 11th, being the occasion of the re-opening of All Saints' church, six members of the local company rung a touch of 2160 changes (being a 720 each of Violet, Oxford, and Kent Treble Bob Minor), in about 76 $\frac{1}{2}$  mins. W. Wilcock, 1; J. Brook, 2; F. Moody, 3; J. Pollard (conductor), 4; J. Carter, 5; W. Pearson, 6. This is the longest touch rung by any of the above company. Tenor 11 cwt. in F.

**SALISBURY (Wilts).**—On Wednesday, October 14th, at St. Edmund's Church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1260 changes), taken from the *Clavis*. J. R. Jerram, 1; C. A. Clements, 2; T. Blackburn, 3; \*E. A. Foster, 4; \*F. Rigden, 5; G. F. Attree (conductor), 6; W. W. Gifford, 7; \*J. Judd, 8. Tenor 28 cwt. in C#. The conductor, G. F. Attree, hails from Brighton, and is secretary of the Sussex County Association. This is the longest length ever rung in Salisbury, and was rung in honour of Mr. E. Foster's birthday, and who, his fellow-ringers regret to say, is leaving the neighbourhood. \*First quarter-peal. Also a 420 in the same method. J. Parsons, 1; E. A. Foster, 2; G. F. Attree (conductor), 3; J. R. Jerram, 4; C. A. Clements, 5; T. Blackburn, 6; W. W. Gifford, 7; J. Judd, 8.

**SHIREOAKS (Nottinghamshire).**—On Sunday, October 18th, the Anston company visited this place and rang 720 each of Duke of York and Kent Treble Bob Minor. G. Lidster, 1; R. S. Fox, 2; J. Bland, 3; C. F. Fowler, 4; S. Smith, 5; T. Silvester (conductor), 6. Also a 720 of Violet, and 240 of Oxford. J. Bland, 1; W. Hargreaves (conductor), 2; T. Silvester, 3; C. F. Fowler, 4; S. Smith, 5; J. Hargreaves, 6. The brothers Hargreaves hail from Shireoaks. This is the first 720 of Violet by any of the Anston company.

**SUDBURY (Suffolk).**—On Sunday, October 11th, at All Saints' church, for the Harvest Thanksgiving service in the morning, a 504 of Grandsire Triples. F. Toliday, 1; W. Howell, 2; G. Brown, 3;

C. Sillitoe (conductor), 4; W. Cross, 5; H. Harper, 6; A. Scott, 7; H. H. Brackett, 8. And after service in the evening 1008 Grandsire Triples. W. Cross, 1; C. Sillitoe (conductor), 2; G. Brown, 3; F. Tolliday, 4; H. Harper, 5; W. Howell, 6; A. Scott, 7; H. Brackett, 8. Tenor 28 cwt. in D. Also on Saturday, October 17th, at St. Gregory's church, for practice, 1064 of Grandsire Triples. F. Tolliday, 1; W. Griggs, 2; W. Howell, 3; H. Harper, 4; W. Bacon, 5; C. Sillitoe (conductor), 6; W. Cross, 7; A. Scott, 8. Tenor 16 cwt. in F. This touch was taken from "Shipway's Art of Ringing."

**SHEFFIELD (Yorkshire).—Muffled Peal.**—On Tuesday, October 13th, ten members of the St. Peter's society rang at St. Peter's Church, a half-muffled touch of Grandsire Caters, as a last tribute of respect to the late John Heald, who was found drowned on Sunday, October 11th, in the Sheffield Canal. Deceased had been a member of the St. Peter's company thirty-three years, and for many years steeple-keeper. He rang the tenor in twelve peals of Grandsire Triples, Caters, and Cinques, and Stedman Triples and Caters. He was fifty-four years of age.

**SWANSCOMBE (Kent).**—On Thursday, October 15th, a mixed company rung a 720 of Grandsire Minor, at the parish church, in 25 mins. L. Digweed, 1; J. Broom, 2; F. King, 3; F. Hayes, 4; B. Spuner, 5; W. Harper (conductor), 6. And on Sunday, October 18th, for Divine Service in the evening, a 720 of Grandsire Minor, in 25 mins. L. Digweed, 1; J. Brown, 2; F. King, 3; G. Martin, 4; W. Harper, 5; W. Martin (conductor), 6.

**THEALE (Berks).**—On Saturday, October 17th, at the parish church, two 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles. H. Stevens, 1; A. Wright, 2; H. Dibley, 3; A. E. Reeves, 4; J. E. Willshire (conductor), 5; T. Hibbert, 6. And 120 Grandsire Doubles. A. E. Reeves (first 120 as conductor). Also several courses of Minor and Doubles, in which H. Coffee and G. Sims took part.

**UPTON ST. LEONARDS (Gloucestershire).**—On Sunday morning, October 4th, for Divine Service, five members of the Gloucester and Bristol Diocesan Association, assisted by Mr. J. Baldwin, a member of the Royal Cumberland Youths, rung a 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor, on the back six (nine bobs), in 28½ mins. J. Baldwin, 1; A. A. Waite, 2; J. Yeates, 3; H. G. Gardener, 4; H. Mitchell, 5; R. A. Barrett (conductor), 6. Tenor 17½ cwt. in F.

**WALKDEN (Lancashire).**—On Sunday evening, October 18th, at St. Paul's church, on the occasion of the Harvest Festival, a 720 of Bob Minor, in 25½ mins. J. Welsby, 1; J. Worthington, 2; S. Oaks, 3; J. Williamson, 4; A. Potter, 5; J. Brooks (conductor), 6.

**WORCESTER.**—On Sunday, October 18th, the junior society of St. Helen's Parish church, rang for Divine Service in the morning, 168 Grandsire Triples. T. Brown, 1; H. Wilks (conductor), 2; W. Powell, 3; W. Johnson, 4; G. Hinton, 5; G. Cleal, 6; W. Page, 7; T. Malim, 8. Also 280 in the same method. F. Owen, 1; G. Cleal, 2; W. Powell, 3; W. Johnson, 4; G. Hinton, 5; H. Wilks (conductor), 6; W. Page, 7; T. Malim, 8. For evening service 807 Grandsire Triples. F. Owen, 1; T. Gwynn, 2; W. Powell, 3; W. Johnson, 4; G. Hinton, 5; H. Wilks (conductor), 6; W. Page, 7; J. Hale, 8. And after service 476 Grandsire Triples. F. Owen, 1; G. Cleal (conductor), 2; W. Powell, 3; W. Johnson, 4; G. Hinton, 5; H. Wilks, 6; W. Page, 7; J. Hale, 8. Several courses of Stedman Triples was also rung by the above. The above was rung on the occasion of the Harvest Festival.

#### THE BRADFORD AMALGAMATED SOCIETY.

THE ANNUAL MEETING of this Society was held on Tuesday evening, October 13th, R. Tuke, Esq., President, in the chair. The minutes of the previous meeting having been read and confirmed, a short paper on the position and work of the society was read by the secretary. After some discussion on the points raised in the paper, it was resolved to hold a special practice meeting at St. Peter's, on the first Tuesday evening in each month. The meeting was then adjourned until Saturday. On Saturday afternoon, October 27th, the members met at St. John's. The proceedings commenced with a half-peal of Kent Treble Bob Major (2528 changes), which was rung in 1 hr. 30 mins. A. Moulson, 1; J. Naylor, 2; H. Raistrick, 3; R. Tuke, 4; J. Fisher, 5; T. Pollitt, 6; J. B. Jennings, 7; J. H. Hardcastle (conductor), 8. After the touch, the adjourned meeting was held, when all the officers were re-elected: R. Tuke, President; J. H. Hardcastle, Chairman and Ringing Master; J. Angus, Vice-Chairman and Treasurer; B. T. Copley, Secretary. The rules of the Society were then read over and considered, with a view to their revision.

#### THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

A District Meeting of this Association will be held at Ashford, on Monday, November 2nd. Members must attend at 11 o'clock, at the Old Grammar School, when the Secretary will be present. The bells are all in good condition.

#### VISIT OF THE ASHTON RINGERS TO LEEK.

ON Saturday, October 17th, in response to an invitation, eleven members of the Ashton Society paid a visit to Leek, Staffordshire. The company left Guide Bridge by the 1.30 train, and arrived at Macclesfield about half-past two. Here it was found that there was no train going in the direction of Leek for nearly an hour, and the intervening time was spent in visiting an old ringer and acquaintance, W. Hulme, the parish clerk, who was agreeably surprised to see them, and begged that on their return they would if possible, call and have a pull. A short time was then devoted to an inspection of the interior of the Parish Church. Promising to return on the following night in time to ring for service, the party wished Mr. Hulme farewell, and at once made for the railway station, from whence shortly afterwards they proceeded along the "iron road" to their destination, which was reached shortly after four o'clock. Here they were met by one of the local company, and on reaching the church were received with a "welcome touch," consisting of a 756 of Bob Triples, conducted by Mr. Armitt. This over, and after a hearty hand-shake all round, the visitors took hold, and rang a short touch by way of practice. The inner man now claimed attention, and accordingly the visitors repaired to a hostelry conveniently near, where refreshments were provided for them by the Leek company. No time was wasted however, for in about fifteen minutes the visitors were again in possession of the tower, and immediately started for a peal, which was successfully accomplished. They then adjourned to the "Talbot Hotel," where a substantial dinner was partaken of. The rest of the evening was spent in a convivial manner, interspersed with courses on the handbells, and songs by Mr. Frith and others, which brought a pleasant and enjoyable evening to a close all too soon. The visitors were then escorted to their lodgings by the local company, and parted for the night. On the following morning (Sunday), after a pleasant stroll and breakfast, the visitors again ascended the tower, when touches of Bob Triples, Oxford and Kent Treble Bob, and Stedman Triples, were rung by mixed bands. Service ringing over, the Leek gentlemen took the visitors a walk round the outskirts of the town, which no doubt would have been doubly enjoyed had the atmosphere not been misty. The party returned to their lodgings at half-past twelve, where a substantial dinner awaited them, to which ample justice was done. It was now time to think of returning, and there being no train until late at night, a waggone was chartered to convey the party to Macclesfield. This was soon ready, and after good-byes had been said several times over, the visitors were soon bowling along the road in the homeward direction. Mr. Armitt, however, had determined to have the last word, and accordingly mounted the steps of the conveyance. When about a mile outside Leek, he said he thought he would like to go with them. No sooner said than done. He was promptly hauled into the vehicle, and the journey was made the more pleasant by his company. The drive from Leek to Macclesfield, fourteen miles, is a beautiful one, but it was considerably marred on this occasion, by the hazy weather. A strong desire was, however, manifested to revisit the place in the summer time. On arriving at the old church, Macclesfield, the party were very heartily received by a full company of ringers. The belfry was at once gained, and a course of Kent Treble Bob Royal was rung for service, with the assistance of Mr. Armitt, of Leek. An adjournment was afterwards made to the meeting-house of the Macclesfield company, where a pleasant two hours were spent with handbells and ringing friends. Leaving here at 8.40, the rambles arrived home at half-past nine, after a thoroughly enjoyable outing. The Ashton ringers tender to their Leek friends most hearty thanks for their great liberality in providing lodging, and every other requisite free of cost, and hope to return the compliment on some future occasion. They also desire to thank the Vicar for the use of the bells. For the unexpected generosity of the Macclesfield company, the Ashton ringers are deeply grateful, and hope to be able to again visit them in the near future.

#### DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

THE ANNUAL MEETING will be held at Durham, on Monday, November 2nd. Ringing at the Cathedral and St. Oswald's. Special service at St. Oswald's at 2 o'clock. Dinner at the "Three Tuns," at 3 o'clock. Particulars of arrangements by circular.

G. J. CLARKSON, Hon. Sec.

#### THE SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.

ON Saturday, October 24th, this society's annual outing will take place at Enfield. Permission has been graciously given by the vicars and wardens of the new and old churches for the use of the bells upon the occasion. Dinner will be served at the "King's Head" at 6 p.m. sharp. Members are invited to meet at head quarters, 54, St. Martin's Lane, on the 23rd inst., when all further particulars may be obtained.

H. DAINS, Hon. Sec.



## Correspondence.

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

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

## DISESTABLISHMENT.

SIR,—Your excellent leading article of this week, indicates very forcibly the probable effects of disestablishment upon the ringing fraternity. The experience of history teaches us still more. What was the effect of Puritan ascendancy under Cromwell in the seventeenth century? The bells were silenced throughout the country! Their joyful notes were entirely out of tune with the sour humour of Puritanism. There are extant amusing accounts of the delight with which the ringers returned to their duty in welcoming the accession of Charles II., and they are illustrated by a contemporary print, which however would not accord with our modern ideas of belfry reform. It is the descendants of these Puritans who now advocate disestablishment, for we must remember that the danger of that act of robbery being committed, arises almost entirely from the influence of the Dissenters.

CUMBERLAND YOUTH.

October 17th.

## LONDON SOCIETIES.

SIR,—In answer to "Little Jim," I still maintain that the leading members of the London Societies are always most kind and obliging in doing what they can for country members. Many of the noted twelve bell ringers are not above coming to assist a young hand through a peal of Triples or Major, as I, and many others can testify. I myself do not aspire to Stedman Cinques or Treble Bob Twelve in, but I have nearly always found a chance of getting a bit of Triples or Major, when I have been in London, and others will say the same. I do not pretend to say what chance there is for young seven and eight bell ringers residing in London, trying to attain to Cinques or Maximus, but the fact that some young men do manage to accomplish great lengths on nine, ten, eleven and twelve bells proves that it is not all done by what "Little Jim" calls "oldsters." As to he and I having rung a touch of "stone" together, I am sure I am proud of the honour of having rung with so distinguished a member, and I hope we may do another touch together in the same method some day. My remarks about the difficulty of young ringers learning anything in years gone by, and the way it is shoved into them now and the way in which many of them drop it for some other amusement in less than a twelvemonth, did not necessarily apply to London or to eleven and twelve-bell ringing in particular, but to change-ringing generally throughout the country; and I am sure that older ringers than I will bear me out in what I say. With regard to the unfrequent meetings for practice at twelve-bell steeples, "Little Jim" knows perfectly well, or he ought to know, that on an average there is a meeting once a week at some twelve-bell steeple among the College Youths alone, let alone other societies.

J. R. JERRAM.

## THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION.

SIR—I have repeatedly read the draft scheme issued by the committee of the proposed National Association, and I must say that I fail to see any grounds for rejecting it. No doubt it will require some amendment, and perhaps addition, but the general outline, as lately published, has, I think, much to recommend it. As for Mr. Muskett, I must remind him that he has not written one word which bears upon the subject at hand, his last letter being little more than a personal tirade, not to say how much is repeated from his former effusion. In his answer to "Nil Desperandum," and "Little Jim," he, with great candour, declares that we not only do not want a National Association, but won't have one. Well, Sir, I for one, say we do want a National Association, and what is more, we will have one. Sooner or later it must come. Does Mr. Muskett for one moment believe that the proposed scheme would in any way lower or take away the old "character or rights" of his pet society, which is always so willing and ready to coach a youngster? However that may be, when people will discuss the question upon its own merits, then, perhaps we may expect for the movement less opposition than at present prevails on the subject.

X. Y. LONDON.

## ELSTOW BELLS.

SIR,—I hope none of your readers will believe C. P.'s statement about Elstow bells being like iron boilers, because I am quite sure they are a fairly good ring of five. The Vicar of Elstow, the Rev. James Copner, intends making an effort to restore them, and if possible to augment them to a ring of eight. I hope all ringers will try to assist in restoring this interesting ring of bells, which John Bunyan used to ring. But unless the restoration of the bells is accompanied by a reformation of ringers, the work will do no good. Therefore I trust if anyone feels inclined to subscribe, they will do so, on the condition that the bells are to be used for change-ringing, and not merely for the benefit of the publicans and their patrons. Hitherto

it has been the custom to drink intoxicating drinks on the premises, and the authorities wink at their proceedings. They cannot be ignorant of facts which have been put before them, but still they suffer them. I visited Elstow Church the other Sunday, and in the belfry I saw about a dozen young men smoking, swearing, cracking nuts, and so forth. Surely here is a need for reformation.

JOHN ATKINS.

## CROYDON, SURREY.

This fine peal of eight, having been lately rehung by various eminent firms, is now in excellent condition. The tenor can be easily managed by one man—with a rope on the clapper—for of course she was never intended to be rung. The 7th also goes well, for a strong man can ring her right through a 500. On Tuesday, October 20th, for practice, a 504 of Grandsire Triples was rung. H. Dudley, 1; A. B. Carpenter (conductor), 2; H. C. Haley, 3; S. Fisk, 4; V. Holman, 5; W. States, 6; T. Verrall, 7; J. Barber, 8. Also a 504 of Union Triples. H. Dudley, 1; G. Russell, 2; T. Verrall, 3; A. B. Carpenter (conductor), 4; W. States, 5; A. Bruce, 6; V. Holman, 7; S. Fisk, 8. And a 504 of Grandsire Triples. H. Dudley, 1; G. Russell (conductor), 2; A. B. Carpenter, 3; V. Holman, 4; Rev. E. D. L. Harvey (first 500), 5; A. Bruce, 6; T. Verrall, 7; S. Fisk, 8.

## ST. MARY'S SOCIETY, EASTBOURNE, SUSSEX.

The members of the above Society held their first meeting for winter practice in St. Mary's tower, on Monday evening, October 5th, and rang 672 of Grandsire Triples, taken from Hubbard's work, in 22 mins. Tenor 16 cwt. 3 qrs. S. Hart, 1; H. P. Bennett, 2; C. Harfey, 3; L. Huggett, 4; F. Harding (conductor), 5; Thos. Willoughby, 6; Thos. Hart, 7; Jno. Rollison, 8. The practice evenings throughout the winter will be every Monday and Friday.

## THE CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY GUILD.

At a General Meeting of the above Society on Thursday, October 15th, for the election of officers, arranging times of practice and other business, the following officers were elected for the present term:—

President: Rev. A. H. F. BOUGHAY, Trinity.

Conductor: H. T. ELSEE, B.A., St. John's.

Secretary and Treasurer: E. L. HOLMES, St. John's.

Mondays at 6, and Tuesdays at 8.30 were times arranged for handbell practices, and Fridays at 2 o'clock, in the tower of Great St. Mary's church.

## THE OXFORD UNIVERSITY SOCIETY.

Officers for Michaelmas Term, 1885:—

Master: C. W. H. GRIFFITH, C.C.C.

Secretary: A. F. M. CUSTANCE, B.N.C.

## THE REIGATE SOCIETY.

Several members of this Society intend paying a visit to London, to-day, Saturday, October 24th. They would be pleased to meet any ringing friends at St. Clement Danes, at 3.30 p.m., or at St. Margaret's, Westminster, at 5 p.m., permission having been granted for the above churches.

WILLIAM ARGENT, Master.

## THE ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

A MEETING of the above Association will be held at Cambridge, on Monday, November 2nd. Divine Service at 12 (noon), lunch at one o'clock. The Great Eastern Railway will grant return tickets to Cambridge at a fare and a quarter. Ringers intending to be present are requested to communicate as soon as possible with

10, Brookside, Cambridge.

M. C. POTTER.

Further particulars next week.

## THE BELLS AT TUE BROOK, LIVERPOOL.

It was stated in our last number that the tenor of this ring of bells goes extremely bad. We have during the week received from a correspondent the information that they were hung in 1868 and 1869. It is therefore very probable that by this time, after 17 years' use, some attention is needed. It is only just to point this out, because it would almost appear that the bells were recently put up by Messrs. Warner, instead of, as is the fact, having been hung 17 years.



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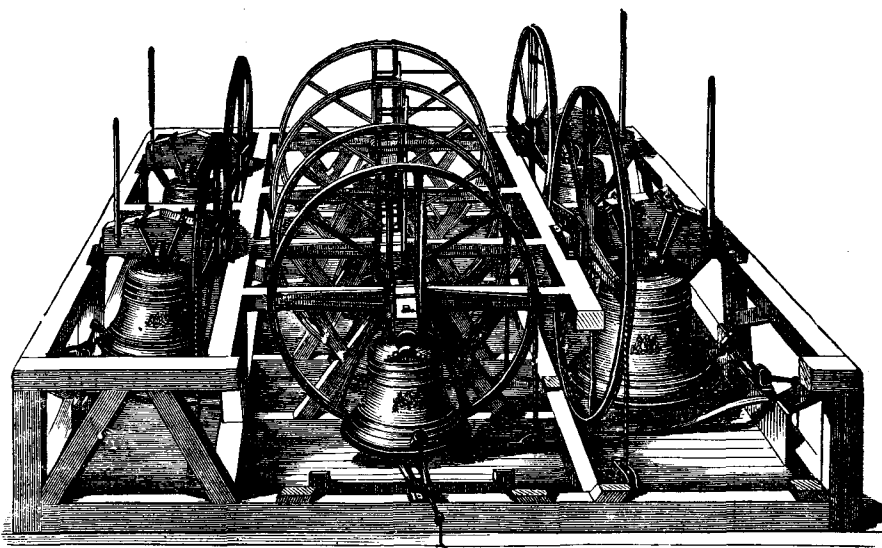
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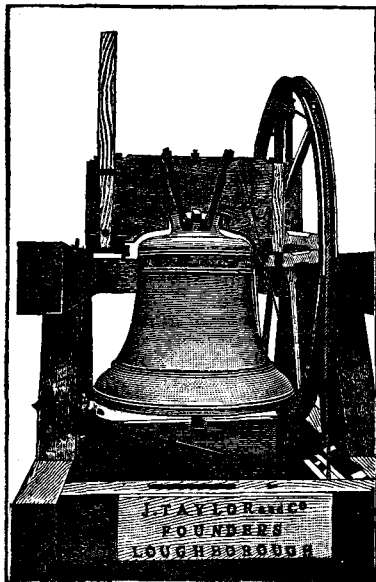
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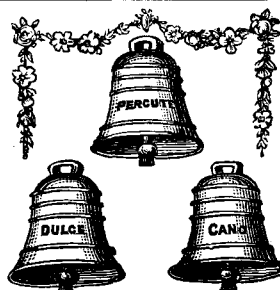
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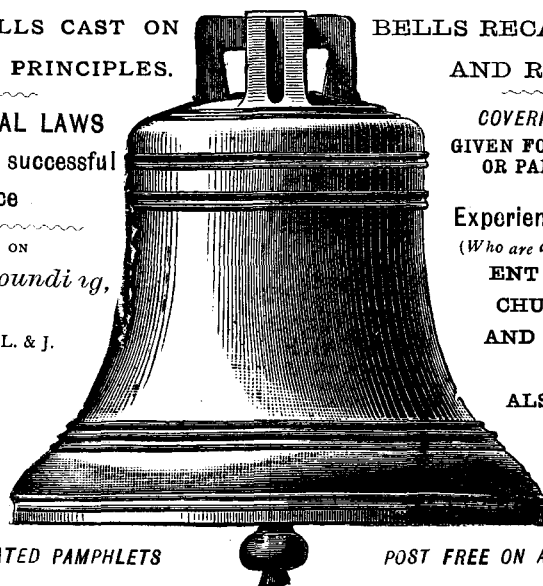
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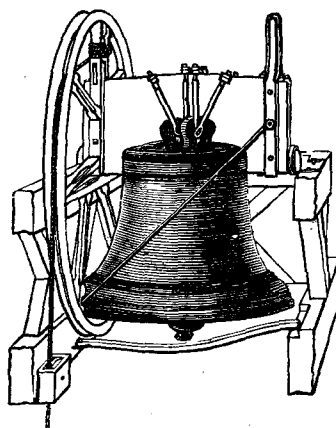
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## A HOLIDAY RINGING TOUR.

On Saturday, September 12th, Messrs. R. S. and W. Story left Newcastle at 10 o'clock for Leeds, arriving there about 1.30, after a pleasant ride with a good view of the country through which they had passed. After dining near the Station, a start was made for Holbeck, where, through the kindness of Mr. Matt. Tomlinson, a peal had been arranged for, but, owing to the number of misdirections as to route, &c., it was considerably after the hour agreed upon when the two weary visitors reached the trysting-place. However, the band was soon pulled together, and an hour's good ringing at Bob Major was done, when a hitch occurred which brought the bells to a stand. As it was then too late to start again that night, the attempt was postponed till the following Monday, when, by a piece of great good luck, a band could easily be mustered, through Holbeck Feast being in full swing, and the most of the men being idle. The rest of the evening was pleasantly passed in the company of the Leeds Society, where some excellent double-handed change-ringing, and tune playing, by Messrs. Tom Lockwood, W. Walker, Binns, West, and Hubbard, was heard. Here R. S. rang his first touch of Grandsire Triples with bobs double-handed, and his first course of Bob Major.

On Sunday morning, for service at St. Peter's, a 639 of Stedman Caters was rung, in which R. S. took part, after which service was attended, at which the singing was much admired. After receiving the hospitality of Mrs. Tomlinson, a touch of Kent Treble Major was rung at Holbeck for evening service.

On Monday morning Mr. R. Binns kindly placed himself at the disposal of the visitors, beginning by giving them a complete inspection of the peal of 13 at St. Peter's, after which the handsome church, with its fine stained glass, was examined. The colours from the Crimea were also noticed, as well as some most interesting monuments and brasses. Mr. Binns then kindly led the way to some of the large printing and tailoring manufactories, and finally to the Free Library and Town Hall, the latter being greatly admired. As the hour arranged for attempting the peal was drawing near, our steps were turned in the direction of Holbeck, where, after ringing an hour with a break-down, a second attempt was made, which fortunately turned out more satisfactorily, a 5024 of Bob Major being performed in three hours.

We are greatly indebted to Mr. Tomlinson for arranging this peal, and also to Mr. Woodhead for the plucky way in which he rang the 5th, the bell going very badly all the time. After leaving the church, which adjoins the Moor where the feast was being held, the multiplicity of photographers suggested the notion of being photographed, and accordingly the whole band, which, with the exception of our two selves, was entirely made up of Holbeck ringers, entered one of the sanctums for the purpose, and a day or two after we had the pleasure of being in possession of a photograph which we shall always look upon with pleasant reminiscences. The evening was spent in hand-bell ringing, &c., and owing to the kind exertions of Mr. W. Walker and his friends, the time passed almost too quickly.

The next morning (Tuesday) we set off to walk to Huddersfield, being accompanied four or five miles by Messrs. Tomlinson and Woodhead. The weather was, fortunately, delightful, and we had some splendid views of the country through which we passed, churches whose names constantly appear in "BELL NEWS," being seen on every side. Passing through Birstall and Liversedge, Huddersfield was reached about four o'clock, and headquarters were fixed upon close to the church. Here we were glad to meet Mr. T. Haigh, to whom we had written the night before, and we were pleased to hear that a muster had kindly been arranged for a touch upon the bells. Accordingly, at eight o'clock, we had the pleasure of ringing a touch of 800 Kent Treble Bob Major, with the following band:—John Stead, 1; George Clay, 2; Richard Kidson, 3; W. Story, 4; H. Ellis, 5; J. Baraclough, 6; R. S. Story, 7; S. A. Haigh (conductor), 8. Tenor 18cwt. After the ringing a pleasant hour was spent with the handbells and in discussing various ringing matters.

The following morning a call was made upon a friend, the Rector of Lockwood, in the outskirts of Huddersfield, who kindly pointed out the best of the scenery in the neighbourhood, and also directed W. Story upon his way to Glossop, some 19 or 20 miles. R. S. Story preferring the train. Glossop was reached by the latter early in the afternoon, and after making the acquaintance of the genial host of the Bull's Head (Mr. Sellars), a party was made up to set out to meet the pedestrian, who was duly fallen in with not half-a-mile off, having done the distance in capital time, at the rate of 4 miles an hour throughout. Through the kindness of Mr. Sellars a band of the Senior Society was arranged to meet us that night to meet us at All Saints, Glossop, and accordingly, at seven o'clock, we struck off into the best piece of ringing which we consider we ever had the good luck to be in, and were congratulating ourselves on being sure of the peal, when it came to grief just one course short. This was a first-class one-part peal of Kent Treble Bob Major, composed by Mr. Sam. Knott, jun., who also conducted it. The band stood as follows:—Jos. Lawton, 1;

Thomas James, 2; W. Story, 3; Jos. Maloney, 4; R. S. Story, 5; Sam. Knott, sen., 6; Sam. Knott, jun., 7; J. Pye, sen., 8. Tenor 15 cwt.

After leaving the church we were very cordially received by the local ringers, who mustered very strong; and we could not help being struck with the difference, as regards the number of willing ringers, and the enthusiasm displayed, from what we are accustomed to at home, where change-ringing has not yet taken such deep root. The junior band of ringers here were anxious that we should ring a peal with them, and it was therefore arranged that the following evening the same peal should be attempted on the same bells. The next morning little was done before dinner, beyond a pleasant half-hour with Mr. Joe Woodhouse, an old standard ringer, and one who seems to delight in being of service to young ringers. His interesting collection of ferns was also admired, a specimen of which has now been transferred to Whitley, on the East coast, where it is hoped it may flourish as a memento of three very happy days at Glossop. In the afternoon, at two o'clock, a band mustered at St. James's church, Whitfield, Glossop, where a peal of 5008 Kent Treble Bob was accomplished in 3 hours and 3 minutes, being conducted by Mr. Jas. Lawton. Tenor 12 cwt. This allowed just comfortable time for tea before our evening engagement, in accordance with which we met the Junior Society at All Saints' church, and attempted the peal which had been lost the night before. The fates seemed, however, against us with regard to this peal, as it was again lost after 1 hour's ringing. We immediately, however, turned to and rang a date touch of Oxford Treble Major, the particulars of which have already appeared. The next morning Mr. Sellars and Mr. Sam. Knott, sen., arranged for us to visit one of the largest cotton mills (Messrs. Woods Brothers and Co., Limited), and here, under the guidance of the latter gentleman, we were shown some sights which opened our eyes. We were occupied here for an hour and a-half or so, in seeing the whole process of manufacture, beginning with the raw cotton, and a more interesting place we do not think we have ever seen. We were sorry to find that our stay in Glossop was almost at an end, and after dinner at the Bull's Head we set off to walk over to Saddleworth, determining to visit again the place where we had been so kindly entertained, and where we had spent two or three of the happiest days in our ringing experience. It gave us great pleasure, however, to be escorted on our way by Mr. John Pye, sen., Messrs. Harrop, and Mr. J. Sellars, who very kindly accompanied us for at least five miles, which was about half the way. After parting from them, we had about half an hour's walk over a delightful piece of high moorland. The grouse were rising in all directions, and the air was so exhilarating that we wished the road might continue the same all the way to Uppermill, where we were distressed to think Mr. John Holden would be waiting for us, our tardiness in leaving Glossop having thrown us somewhat late. However, after a scramble down the steep hills, and a longish walk up the valley, we had the pleasure of meeting Mr. Holden at his office door, and were glad to find that our lateness had not jeopardised the attempt for the peal which had kindly been arranged for us. After depositing our traps in the inn, we set off for Saddleworth church which, is half an hour's walk from Uppermill, and upon reaching the same we found that the ringers had disbanded for half an hour which fortunately gave us time for some tea at the inn near the church. This as may be imagined was very welcome to us after our walk and just previous to starting for a peal, and after ample justice had been done to it, we had the pleasure of inspecting several interesting tombstones in the churchyard, including "Bill o'Jacks," and the composer's, J. Platt. Mr. Holden also pointed out several of the graves of his own family, who seem all through to have been connected with the church, in a similar manner to himself, that is as energetic churchwardens, ringers, organists, or choristers. We then ascended the steeple, and had the pleasure of meeting ringers, well known to us by name, and after ringing three leads to see that all was right, we had the additional pleasure of ringing 5088 changes of Kent Treble Bob Major, in 3 hrs. and  $\frac{1}{2}$  minute, outsiders complimenting the band on the striking throughout. A very pleasant hour was then spent with the ringers, and some good handbell ringing listened to with pleasure.

(To be continued.)

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.  
ANNUAL MEETING.—SPECIAL NOTICE.

THE special service in St. Oswald's church will be at 2.30, and the dinner at the "Three Tuns" at 3.30. The meeting of the Committee will be held at the conclusion of the General Meeting, at 1.30, in the vestry of St. Oswald's church. Members are requested to proceed to the vestry, on their arrival in Durham, where companies will be made up for St. Oswald's and the Cathedral.

G. J. CLARKSON, Hon. Sec.

## THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

A most successful district meeting was held on Saturday, October 24th, at Harlow. In spite of the inclemency of the weather, there was a good number of ringing members, including representatives from such distant places as Dedham, Great Bentley, and Ipswich, though many of the towers in the neighbourhood of London, and well within reach of Harlow were unrepresented, in consequence, probably, of the meeting of the Royal Cumberlands at Enfield. At 4.30 a substantial meat tea was provided, at the expense of the Vicar, at the "Green Man," to which about forty sat down. On the removal of the cloth, the business meeting was held, the chair being taken by the Vicar. The minutes of the last meeting having been read by the secretary, the Rev. H. A. Cockey, and passed, the following gentlemen were elected members of the Association: Rev. W. Earle (Harlow College), Rev. H. Farrow (Harlow Vicarage), as honorary members; Messrs. F. Buck, D. Claydon, and F. Green (Earls Colne), T. Ellis, W. Pigram, and R. Tabor (Harlow), C. H. Howard (Braintree), C. Prior, H. Prior (sen.), H. Prior (jun.), G. Prior, W. Prior, and W. T. Prior (Stanstead), as ringing members; Messrs. G. Brand (Bishops Stortford), W. H. Buckingham, N. N. Hills, and H. Lewis (St. Albans), J. Tarling, and N. W. Tarling (Sawbridgeworth), and H. J. Tucker (Hertford), as distinguished ringers. The meeting was asked to confirm the election of four members in the Barking tower, on the occasion of a peal rung on October 3rd, but as an objection was lodged by Mr. B. Keeble, of Romford, it was decided that the question should be left over till the Annual Meeting. The Hon. Secretary gave notice of two motions to be brought forward at the Annual Meeting. 1. "That an Assistant Secretary shall be appointed at the Annual Meeting." 2. "That the Association shall, as far as its funds will permit, assist in providing for the instruction of companies who are willing to join the Association, as probationary members; and that members of the Association who are willing to act as instructors, be requested to send in their names to the Secretary at once, in order that a staff of eight or ten instructors may be appointed by the committee." A hearty vote of thanks to the Vicar for his kindness and hospitality, and to the Harlow ringers for their kind reception, was carried unanimously. Mr. Farrow replying, said that both he and his ringers had derived great pleasure from this visit of the Association, and he hoped that it would not be long before he might again welcome its members to Harlow, and entertain them in the same way. Speaking of the improvement of late years in Church choirs and among ringers, he hoped that the day might never come when such a work should be altogether stopped, and the whole machinery of the Church thrown out of gear by such a measure as the much talked of Disestablishment and Disendowment of the Church of England. Some very good ringing was done in the course of the afternoon and evening on the fine peal of eight (by Warner, tenor 21 cwt.), at the parish church; several touches of Oxford and Kent Treble Bob Major, and Grandsire Triples being brought home; also courses of Bob Major, Grandsire Triples, and Grandsire Caters, double-handed, on the handbells. The companies represented were: Great Bentley, Dedham, Galleywood, Hallingbury, Harlow, Rayleigh, Rettendon, Saffron Walden, and Stanstead, members also being present from Bishop Stortford, Cambridge, Hertford, Ipswich, and Sawbridgeworth.

## GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

THE Quarterly Meeting for this period of the year was held on October 21st, at Dymock, near Ledbury. The Brockworth company represented the Association with much credit. In this Association, it may be mentioned, that two meetings, January and Midsummer, are open meetings, and the other two have a representative company sent. Dymock is situated on the recently opened Gloucester and Ledbury line. Divine Service took place at 11.30. The service was choral, and the prayers, etc., were intoned by the Rev. Pitt Eykyn, Hon. Sec. The lessons were read by the Rev. H. Ravenhill, curate, and a suitable and earnest address was delivered by the Rev. R. Horton, Vicar. Dinner took place at the "Beauchamp Arms," when the Vicar presided, supported by the Rev. C. D. P. Davies, Master of the Association, in the Vice-chair, Rev. S. E. Bartleet, Vicar of Brockworth, Rev. H. Ravenhill, Curate of Dymock, and Rev. Pitt Eykyn, Hon. Sec., Vicar of Ashton Gate, Bristol, and the Dymock ringers. After dinner the Vicar gave "Success to the Association," coupled with the name of the Master, the Rev. C. D. P. Davies, who suitably responded. The Rev. Pitt Eykyn then proposed a cordial vote of thanks to the Vicar for his admirable address, and for the kind welcome the Society had received at Dymock. Several six-scores were creditably accomplished. The bells went well, but would be greatly improved by the addition of a couple of trebles as they are a heavy ring of six.

## THE SUSSEX ASSOCIATION.—DISTRICT MEETING.

THE SECOND DISTRICT MEETING of this newly-formed Association was held at Uckfield on Saturday last, October 24th, and was largely attended, about seventy members being present during the day from branches at Arundel, Brighton, Buxted, Chailey, Cuckfield, East Hoathly, Fletching, Henfield, Hurst, Newick, Ringmer, Uckfield, etc. Ringing was commenced at the parish church shortly after ten o'clock, and continued until one, when an adjournment was made to the "Maiden's Head Hotel," where a cold luncheon was in readiness, and to which about fifty or sixty members sat down, under the presidency of F. Maryon Wilson, Esq., Churchwarden of Uckfield (in the unavoidable absence of the Rector). The chairman was supported by the Revs. R. F. Tompkins (Vicar of Tortington), W. W. Kelly (St. Peter's, Brighton), and F. H. Fisher (Ringmer). At the close of the luncheon, the chairman in a few well chosen remarks, stated how pleasee he was to welcome the members of the Association to Uckfield, and added that at a time like the present when the horizon was obscured by dark clouds, he felt it a duty, as well as privilege, to propose one toast, viz., "The Queen, the Church, and State." This was received with applause, immediately followed by the singing of the National Anthem, in which all present joined. A business meeting was then held, the following gentlemen being duly elected honorary members. Revds. E. Sanderson (Rector of Uckfield), C. Powell (Rector of Newick), J. H. Masters (Rector of Slinfold), F. C. Norton (Vicar of Ditchling), W. W. Kelly (curate of Brighton); also J. M. Beard, Esq., churchwarden of Chailey, and Rashell Davidson, Esq., M.D., churchwarden of Battle. New branches were then formed for Westham and Burwash; fifteen members being elected for the former place, and one for the latter; also one additional member each for the Chailey and Goring branches. On the proposition of the Rev. R. F. Tompkins, seconded by Mr. J. Boniface, a hearty vote of thanks was accorded to the Rectors, Vicars, and churchwardens of Uckfield, Waldron, Buxted, and Maresfield, for kindly placing the bells of their churches in the hands of the Association for the occasions, and to the chairman for presiding. The selection of place for holding the next District Meeting in December was then discussed, Cuckfield and Brighton being proposed as suitable towns. The hon. secretary then suggested Chichester, the cathedral city, and remarked that he thought it was undesirable that either of the other places should be selected; Cuckfield, because the rural surroundings would be more enjoyed if a spring or summer meeting were decided upon; Brighton, because one meeting had already been held there during the present year, and as a County Association, it was only right that all the districts should be visited in turn. On the question being put to the vote, nearly all were in favour of Chichester. Two handsome marble tablets recording peals of Grandsire Triples were then formally handed over to the care of the authorities of Uckfield and Buxted churches for erection in the belfries. This terminated the business meeting; bands visited the churches above referred during the afternoon, and kept the bells in motion until a somewhat late hour.

## THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

A District Meeting of this Association will be held at Ashford, on Monday, November 2nd. Members must attend at 11 o'clock, at the Old Grammar School, when the Secretary will be present. The bells are all in good condition.

## 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."

## LONDON SOCIETIES.

SIR,—We have had lately some good additions to the "collection of curious campanological correspondence" which I have no doubt some enthusiastic ringer is compiling with a view to publication. The stinging notes of "Little Jim," in addition to the more weighty articles which have appeared under various *noms de plume*, appear to have at last aroused the dormant feelings even of the Ancient Society of College Youths, that Rip Van Winkle of the Exercise. We are told with a flourish that this society is the same as it was two hundred years ago—well, that is precisely what it is blamed for, it has made no advance, no improvement; its members ring so many peals, make so many members, tell so many yarns about their own bygone deeds and those of their predecessors—talk, talk, talk, but very little else. Anyone who has attended the College Youths' meetings knows perfectly well how rigid a supervision has to be exercised over the funds to keep the balance on the right side; and yet a boast is made of the Society's financial position. Will the Secretary say how it is that no report or balance sheet is ever printed if they are so wealthy? There is no necessity to repeat in this place the charges which have been made, not against individuals, but against the company's general policy, charges which, though clearly defined and stated, have been met by no denial or disproval; but only by



an attempt to set the matter in a false light by the introduction of personalities, and by a silly letter containing a storm of ridiculous and ungrammatical abuse from some anonymous nobody. But these matters are scarcely worthy of serious consideration—the question really is, how can the society be placed in the position deserved by the number and skill of its members. At present no one can vote who has not met the company twelve times during the previous year. This is an absurdity which should be done away with at once, as it places all the power in the hands of a dozen or so members, to the entire exclusion of the large provincial contingent. Another reform which appears desirable, is the substitution of an annual subscription in place of the present entrance fee, and collection of pence at the meetings; an expedient which is both clumsy and inefficient. This change would also relieve the Company from the state of poverty in which it undoubtedly is at the present time; and it would then be able to book all peals without the present worry and trouble collecting the sixpences, imposed by an arbitrary interpretation of the most incomplete and unsatisfactory rule in the book. Again, the appointment of an instructor is very necessary, and the institution of an eight or ten bell practice (under his supervision), for the education of beginners. Now I come to the state of the company's steeples. It is difficult to suggest any method of dealing with the scandalous state of many London belfries, without proposing a change in the constitution of the London societies, so radical that I am afraid it is at present hopeless, *i.e.* firstly, the introduction of a large number of the clergy (as honorary or performing members), who should by their presence and influence, raise the tone of the societies generally; and secondly, the amalgamation of the various societies of London into one united body, which would then be strong enough to bring such matters as these before the clergy in a manner which would at least command respectful attention. These are the remedies I venture to suggest; and in conclusion I have to ask that the readers of this article will be good enough to sink my personality, and consider the points raised on their own merits. Then I am not afraid of the issue.

EDWARD F. STRANGE,  
*Author of "Thumb-nail Sketches."*

SIR,—In answer to Mr. Muskett, I beg to inform him that I never asked for information respecting the age of the College Youths' Society; having my book of rules I could see for myself. He says they can boast some of the best ringers in the land, he should also have said and some of the laziest, for I fail to see what else it can be when practice night after practice night goes by without a bell being raised. He brags about the business being carried out in a proper manner, I could prove that some of the business is done in a very loose manner. I have been a member of the College Youths about eight years, and have never seen a balance-sheet in the whole time. He says that on Sunday mornings at St. Paul's Cathedral tower can be seen a body of respectable ringers; I do not think that the respectability of the ringers has been questioned. As for the brain power, they say that fish produce brain power, so I suppose that it is the loaves and fishes at the end of the ropes that draw them there, it cannot be the love of the ringing, or we should get more ringing on practice-nights, when there is nothing hanging to the ropes. As to obliging a country friend it depends entirely what position that country friend holds. Sir, I think it would be more becoming of Mr. Muskett, as Secretary of the College Youths, to use a little more argument and not so much abuse in his answers. I would also advise him to use the utmost care in putting me into the oven, that he does not burn his fingers, but if he should, to apply to me, I have a salve for every sore.

In answer to Mr. Jerram, I must ask him to confine himself to the subject of the London Societies, and not take us into the country. I must also ask him to apply to the secretary of the College Youths for a return of the practices of the last two years at the five twelve-bell steeples under their rule, then I should like to hear his opinion. When he said that on an average there is one practice a week, he should have said one a month, as that would have been more correct.

LITTLE JIM.

#### THE COLLEGE YOUTHS RECORDS.

SIR,—I notice a statement in "THE BELL NEWS" of the week before last, that the records and peal-books of the College Youths Society are intact from 1627. Now is this so? I have it on good authority, that no document of contemporary date exists, and that what purports to be original, is simply a copy purchased of a member of the Cumberland Society in the year 1841. I wish at the same time to say that I have no ill-feeling against this society or any one of its members, so the truth or falsity of this statement will not, I suppose, affect the future success of the society, but as the above statement is now in print, and I have given my version of this society's history in private conversation, I think, for the benefit of all parties concerned, the matter had better now be settled. However, in any way, I consider a National Association unnecessary, as I fail to see the purpose it would serve.

H. DAINS.

#### THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION QUESTION.

SIR,—We are sometimes reminded that it is dangerous for those people who live in glass houses to throw stones. Evidently Mr. Muskett found himself so closely pelted and placed in such a shady nook by Little Jim, that he was unable, notwithstanding his usual strong fragrance, to again perfume the air in defence of the London Societies, hence his attack upon the plea for a National Association. Now Sir, I trust Mr. Muskett will pardon me, but I submit that he has utterly failed to grasp the subject, for his chief point is that the formation of a National Association would be throwing cold water upon the College Youths, a Society which he would have us believe is infallible. Far be it from me to advocate the slightest obstacle to such a society as in ages past have won laurels unsurpassed, but which, like the rays of the sun, have not of late proved very brilliant. Probably this may be the cause of Mr. Muskett's striking afresh upon such delicate soil, from which in throwing off such imaginary perfumery, he has so ably taxed the risible faculties of the whole of the ringing community. Commencing by expressing that no doubt it is the wish of many to have a National Association, he concludes by declaring that there shall not be such formed. I maintain, Sir, like your correspondent last week, that it must come, and that as it becomes expanded, it will give a new impetus to ringing, exercise a powerful influence throughout the country in supporting our County and Diocesan Associations that are advocating belfry reform, and rally forth to their wonted vigour, our old societies. Let those, Sir, who drew up the draft scheme, act upon Mr. Strange's feasible suggestions, and decide upon calling a meeting next spring—say in Easter week, and let the Association become a reality. As to the outlay, I fail to see what is required. As to those that will enrol themselves, it must not be anticipated that in the meantime these will amount to any considerable number, but once established upon a firm footing with the scheme expanded, the Association will gradually spread throughout the country, and after its committees are permanently selected, there need be no fear of the work it will accomplish or lack of attendance at its Annual Congress Meetings. If the suggestion is acted upon we shall be able to test Mr. Muskett's proclamation, and prove if his presidency, with the power of dictating to the whole ringing community, is an assumed or legitimate one.

NIL DESPERANDUM.

SIR,—The "Muskett" has gone off again, it has discharged its fiery volley. "We won't have a National Association," says this "big gun," and now, Sir, that this self-constituted mouthpiece of the ringers of England has said "No," further agitation in the matter will be superfluous and unnecessary, and the few timorous souls who ventured to oppose the opinions of Mr. Muskett, may just retire and meditate upon the selfishness of mankind, as represented by ringers.

W. G. R.

#### THE PEAL AT ECCLES.

SIR,—In answer to F. P.'s letter concerning the above, I may say that the last course of the peal, *viz.* 1M, 1B, 2W, was omitted, as the bells came round at the end of the fourth course of the third part, the peal being a three part one. The only reason I can account for the bells coming round at that place is, that a bob w must have been called in the third course of the last part. The time occupied should have been stated as 2 hrs. 49½ mins., and not 2 hrs. 52 mins. Your correspondent F. P. is quite mistaken as to the number of changes per minute, as the number of changes rung was 4896, which makes the average speed at 28.88 per min., so that the bells must have been going at 29 oftener than under 28 per minute as stated by F. P. With respect to there being two bob-callers, I may say that W. Walmsley calls the bobs very late (just previous to the treble leading her whole pull), and that I called a few, thinking at the time he had forgotten to call. Hoping this explanation will be satisfactory to F. P. and to the Exercise.

A. E. WREAKS.

#### PERTINENT ENQUIRIES.

SIR,—Your valuable paper is entitled among other things, "a compendium of information for the clergy." I am a curate and a change-ringer; and the information I glean from your instructive columns sometimes leaves me, like Oliver Twist, "asking for more." For instance, with reference to an insertion in your issue of this date, one cannot help wondering what are the hours of Divine Service, or the length of sermons at Leek, which allow of "a stroll around the outskirts of the town," and a "return to lodgings" by half-past twelve; and again the same phenomenon is apparent at Macclesfield in the evening, where two hours can be spent at "headquarters" and yet a departure effected by 8.40. I say hours of service and length of sermons, for it is almost impossible to believe that those to whom the Exercise looks up with such admiration and esteem as the long peal men would ring for service, and leave without staying for the service. Such conduct is surely the unique prerogative of the "smoking, swearing, nut-cracking" patrons of "stoney," of whom another correspondent speaks. I hope someone will enlighten

CLERICUS.

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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.

W. MARTIN.—We would prefer it as hitherto.

## The Bell News & Ringers' Record.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 31, 1885.

OUR leading comment of a fortnight ago has brought us very many expressions of approval, in several instances from those who profess to belong to the "advanced" section of politicians, but who view with dismay the prospect of a bitter and vindictive onslaught upon such a time-honoured institution as the Church. We have also been favoured with an influx of correspondence from many others who welcomed our remarks in connection with disestablishment. Just as we are going to press the only reply of the other side has been received, and though we would not hesitate, under ordinary circumstances, to publish this, we are of opinion that such a subject deserves infinitely greater care in handling than our latest correspondent is able to employ. Random and irrelevant statements, which are used merely to trot out some fantastic hobby of the imagination, do not come within the region of pure discussion or argument. Our friend who sends this late effusion is afflicted with peculiarities of character which are well known. He belongs to one of the much-abused London Societies, and a stock argument of his is that there is no salvation for any ringer who continues, in spite of his exhortations, to remain outside the circle of that particular body. This is merely a specimen of the writer's idiosyncracies, and we mention it so that many of our readers will be able to discover the individuality of our correspondent. Great freedom is allowed to all our friends to express their opinions in our pages, but on such an important subject as Church Disestablishment it is as well to be somewhat near the mark, and to use a little care in keeping to the matters under treatment.

Though we cannot bring ourselves to believe that such a wholesale robbery of the Church as is preached by some people at the present time will come to pass, yet it is necessary to take note of the direction in which popular opinion has a tendency to flow. And we are glad to see that the most eloquent churchmen are equal to the occasion. They are doing their best to direct men's thoughts into the proper channel, for the impartial

consideration of this demand for disestablishment. The speeches of the Bishops of Peterborough and Durham lay bare the inflated oratory and arguments of the professional demagogue, and the words of truth and soberness from these distinguished prelates stand out in bold relief above the passionate shrieks of the enemy.

The point which seems to press itself upon us is that if pious endowments are to be set aside, where is such interference to stop? We suppose none of our readers believe for a moment that the Church receives a farthing from the revenue of the country; in other words, that she is supported by the State. Those who think so should learn the facts before they hastily form their opinion in favour of robbery.

### The Provinces.

#### HEYWOOD, LANCASHIRE.

On Saturday, October 10, 1885, in Three Hours and Fourteen Minutes,  
 AT ST. LUKE'S CHURCH,

#### A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

CARTER'S 12-PART BOB-AND-SINGLE. Tenor 22½ cwt. in E.

GEORGE CROSSLEY .. .. Treble.	JOHN HARRISON .. .. 5.
JAMES PILKINGTON .. .. 2.	EDWARD ISHERWOOD .. 6.
SAMUEL STOTT .. .. 3.	JOSEPH STRUTT .. .. 7.
JOHN GREENWOOD .. .. 4.	WILLIAM R. BARRATT .. Tenor.

Conducted by SAMUEL STOTT.

S. Stott hails from Glodwick; J. Greenwood from Leesfield; J. Strutt from Moor-side; E. Isherwood from Newhey; the rest belong to Heywood.

#### DUFFIELD, DERBYSHIRE.

#### THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION AND THE ST. PAUL'S SOCIETY, BURTON-ON-TRENT.

On Monday, October 19, 1885, in Three Hours and Ten Minutes,

AT ALL SAINTS' CHURCH,

#### A PEAL OF SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES. Tenor 16½ cwt.

JOHN JAGGAR .. .. Treble.	HARRY WAKLEY .. .. 5.
EDWARD ISAAC STONE .. 2.	A. PERCIVAL HEYWOOD .. 6.
ARTHUR WAKLEY .. .. 3.	*ROWLAND CARTWRIGHT .. 7.
JOSEPH GRIFFIN .. .. 4.	WILLIAM WAKLEY .. .. Tenor.

Composed by HENRY DAINS, and Conducted by WILLIAM WAKLEY.

This peal, which is now rung for the first time, is a three-part peal, and contains the 4th and 6th the extent in 5-6. \*First peal in the method.

#### LIVERSEDGE, YORKSHIRE.

On Tuesday, October 20, 1885, in Two Hours and Fifty-seven Minutes,

AT CHRIST CHURCH,

#### A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5038 CHANGES; Tenor 15 cwt.

HERR VON COLLINSON .. Treble.	RALPH ELLIS .. .. 5.
GEORGE THORNTON .. .. 2.	WALTER PEACOCK .. .. 6.
SAM PEACOCK .. .. 3.	BENJAMIN ROBINSON .. 7.
TOLSON CRAWSHAW .. .. 4.	JOAH PEACOCK .. .. Tenor.

Composed by JOHN THORP, of Ashton-under-Lyne, and Conducted by RALPH ELLIS.

This peal has the 6th the extent at nine different course-ends, and the fifth the extent at home. The ages of the treble, 2nd, and 3rd ringers are 17, 13, and 16 years respectively. All the above company belong to Mirfield.

BELL-HANGING OPERATIONS.—The bells at Ideford (Devon), have been hung by Mr. Harry Stokes, of Woodbury, Exeter, in new oak frame and all new fittings, and the Ellacombe chiming hammers have been fixed. The tower being small, they have been in two tiers—1st, 2nd, 4th, 6th in bottom frame, and 3rd and 5th hung in top frame. The 1st, 2nd, and 3rd are new bells, and the 4th and 5th, which were the old treble and 2nd, have been recast. The same bellhanger has also been employed in hanging a 19cwt. bell at St. John's, Torquay.

## GLOSSOP, DERBYSHIRE.

## THE ALL SAINTS' JUNIOR SOCIETY.

On Tuesday, October 20, 1885, in Three Hours and Seven Minutes,  
AT ALL SAINTS' CHURCH,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;  
IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 15 cwt.

SAMUEL HARROP .. .. Treble.	CHARLES BROOKE .. .. 5.
DANIEL JAMES .. .. 2.	JOSEPH MALONEY .. .. 6.
WILLIAM HARROP .. .. 3.	HENRY COOPER .. .. 7.
SAMUEL KNOTT, JUN.* .. 4.	*JOHN PYE, JUN. .. Tenor.

Composed by SAMUEL KNOTT, JUN., and Conducted by  
HENRY COOPER.

\*College Youths.

## DUFFIELD, DERBYSHIRE.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.  
(DUFFIELD BRANCH.)

On Wednesday, October 21, 1885, in Three Hours and Three Minutes,  
AT ALL SAINTS' CHURCH,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES.  
Tenor 17 cwt.

GEORGE DAWSON .. .. Treble.	GEORGE HINGLEY .. .. 5.
SAMUEL JOHNSON .. .. 2.	WILLIAM HICKLING .. .. 6.
JOHN HOWE .. .. 3.	ROBERT JOHNSON .. .. 7.
ALFRED ROBINSON .. .. 4.	A. PERCIVAL HEYWOOD .. Tenor.

Composed and Conducted by A. PERCIVAL HEYWOOD, ESQ.

This peal has the 4th and 6th respectively eighteen and twenty-four times in 6th's place.

## HAYFIELD, DERBYSHIRE.

## Birthday Peal.

THE UNITED COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION, AND THE  
ST. MATTHEW'S SOCIETY, HAYFIELD.

On Wednesday, October 21, 1885, in Three Hours and Two Minutes,  
5040 CHANGES: IN SEVEN DIFFERENT METHODS  
UPON SIX BELLS;

Being a 720 of each of the following:—

Duke of York; Yorkshire Delight; Merchant's Return; Kent Treble Bob;  
New London Pleasure; Violet; and Oxford.

Tenor about 9 cwt.

JOHN VERNON .. .. Tenor.	ALFRED RANGELEY .. .. 4.
JOSEPH BROCKLEHURST .. 2.	ABEL HADFIELD .. .. 5.
THOMAS WHITEHEAD .. .. 3.	THOMAS BROCKLEHURST .. Tenor.

Conducted by THOMAS WHITEHEAD.

The above was rung in honour of Mr. Joseph Brocklehurst's 24th birthday, he having attained it on the above date, and his ringing friends wish that he may live to see many more.

## BURTON-ON-TRENT, STAFFORDSHIRE.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION AND THE  
ST. PAUL'S SOCIETY, BURTON-ON-TRENT.

On Friday, October 23, 1885, in Three Hours and Three Minutes,  
AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;  
BROOK'S VARIATION. Tenor 22 cwt.

THOMAS MEREDITH .. .. Treble.	HARRY WAKLEY .. .. 5.
EDWARD ISAAC STONE .. 2.	JOHN JAGGAR .. .. 6.
ROWLAND CARTWRIGHT .. 3.	WILLIAM WAKLEY .. .. 7.
JOSEPH GRIFFIN .. .. 4.	THOMAS HOLMES .. .. Tenor.

Conducted by JOSEPH GRIFFIN.

## GUISELEY.—THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, October 24, 1885 (no time given),

AT ST. OSWALD'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;  
IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 10½ cwt.

DAVID E. RHODES .. .. Treble.	JAMES BALDWIN .. .. 5.
EZRA KEIGHLEY .. .. 2.	SIMEON LANGSTAFFE .. 6.
WILLIAM HOLLINGS .. .. 3.	GEORGE BOLLAND .. .. 7.
WILLIAM BOLLAND .. .. 4.	JOHN HALEY .. .. Tenor.

Composed by WILLIAM GOODALL and Conducted by G. BOLLAND.

## BURTON-ON-TRENT, STAFFORDSHIRE.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION AND THE  
ST. PAUL'S SOCIETY, BURTON-ON-TRENT.

On Saturday, October 24, 1885, 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.

JOHN JAGGAR .. .. Treble.	HARRY WAKLEY .. .. 5.
EDWARD ISAAC STONE .. 2.	*ALFRED THOMAS .. .. 6.
ARTHUR WAKLEY .. .. 3.	THOMAS HOLMES .. .. 7.
ROWLAND CARTWRIGHT .. 4.	WILLIAM WAKLEY .. .. Tenor.

Composed and Conducted by JOHN JAGGAR.

This peal, which has never been previously performed, is a two-part peal, and contains the 6th eighteen times wrong and twenty-four times right. It is Harry Wakley's 50th peal. \*First peal in the method.

## SUDBURY, SUFFOLK.

On Saturday, October 24, 1885, in Three Hours and Fifteen Minutes,  
AT ST. GREGORY'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;  
HOLT'S TEN-PART. Tenor 16 cwt.

ARTHUR SCOTT .. .. Treble.	WILLIAM BACON .. .. 5.
CHARLES SILLITOE* .. .. 2.	†HARRY HARPER .. .. 6.
GEORGE S. BROWN .. .. 3.	WALTER GRIGGS .. .. 7.
WILLIAM HOWELL .. .. 4.	†HARRY BRACKETT .. .. Tenor.

Conducted by CHARLES SILLITOE.

\*College Youth. †Cumberland Youth. ‡First peal.

This is the first peal in the method by all the above except the conductor, and also the first peal in the method on the bells, and rung at the first attempt. It is upwards of twenty years since a peal was rung on these bells, the last being a 6000 of Bob Major.

## THE HOLT SOCIETY, ASTON-JUXTA-BIRMINGHAM.

On Saturday, October 24, 1885, in Three Hours and Twelve Minutes,  
AT THE CHURCH OF SS. PETER AND PAUL,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERS, 5008 CHANGES.  
Tenor 23 cwt. in D.

ARTHUR JOHN JONES* .. Treble.	BERNARD WITCHELL .. 6.
HENRY BASTABLE .. .. 2.	*JAMES PLANT .. .. 7.
THOMAS JAMES HEMMING* 3.	WILLIAM KENT .. .. 8.
THOMAS REYNOLDS .. .. 4.	*CHARLES STANBRIDGE .. 9.
JOHN SANDERS .. .. 5.	*MARTIN MURPHY .. .. Tenor.

Composed by HENRY JOHNSON and Conducted by HY. BASTABLE.

\*First peal of Stedman Caters.

This peal contains the 6th, 5th, 3rd, and behind the 6th, and the treble a 2nd's place bell throughout, and has not been previously performed. It is the first peal of Stedman Caters rung by the Holt Society.

## LEEDS.—THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, October 24, 1885, in Three Hours and Thirty-three Minutes,  
AT ST. PETER'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB ROYAL, 5000 CHANGES.  
Tenor 36 cwt.

HENRY HUBBARD .. .. Treble.	JOSHUA WOODHEAD .. .. 6.
WILLIAM PAWSON .. .. 2.	WILLIAM FIRTH .. .. 7.
ROBERT TUKE, ESQ. .. .. 3.	TOM LOCKWOOD .. .. 8.
MATTHEW TOMLINSON .. 4.	THOMAS WEST .. .. 9.
WILLIAM WALKER .. .. 5.	ROBERT BINNS .. .. Tenor.

Composed by the late HENRY HUBBARD and Conducted by  
ROBERT BINNS.

This peal, which is in the titum position, and has never been previously performed was found amongst an old ms. of Mr. Hubbard's since his death, no doubt intended for publication, with many more peals in various methods and lengths.

## THE ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

A Meeting of the above Association will be held at Cambridge on Monday, November 2nd. The tower of St. Andrew's (eight bells), will be open at ten o'clock, and that of Great St. Mary's (twelve bells), after lunch. Divine Service in Great St. Mary's Church at 12.30, and lunch at "The Castle," Guildhall Street, immediately afterwards.  
10, Brookside, Cambridge.

M. C. POTTER.

UFFORD, SUFFOLK.  
THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

**Wedding Peal.**

On Saturday, October 24, 1885, in Three Hours and Eight Minutes,

AT ST. MARY'S CHURCH,

**5040 CHANGES: IN SEVEN DIFFERENT METHODS UPON SIX BELLS;**

Being a 720 of each of the following:—

Cambridge Surprise: Oxford Bob; Double Court Bob; Kent Treble Bob;  
College Single Bob; Oxford Treble Bob; Bob Minor.

Tenor 15 cwt. in G.

JOHN J. HOWARD .. .. Treble.	GEORGE BAILEY .. .. 4.
EDWIN R. TODD .. .. 2.	HORACE MATTIN .. .. 5.
WILLIAM P. GARRETT .. 3.	EDWARD SHERWOOD .. Tenor.

Conducted by EDWARD SHERWOOD.

This is the first peal ever known to have been rung on these bells, and was rung to celebrate the marriage of a member of the Ufford company, Mr. A. Ward. W. P. Garratt belongs to the local company, the rest hail from Pettistree.

MANCHESTER.—THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

**Muffled Peal.**

On Monday, October 26, 1885, in Three Hours and Thirty-three Minutes,

AT THE CATHEDRAL,

**A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB ROYAL, 5080 CHANGES;  
IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 25 cwt. in Eb.**

HENRY HEAP* .. .. Treble.	GEORGE H. JOHNSON .. 6.
THOMAS HEALD* .. .. 2.	*WILLIAM FRITH .. .. 7.
JAMES BARRATT* .. .. 3.	JOHN EACHUS .. .. 8.
SAMUEL WEST .. .. 4.	GEORGE LONGDEN .. .. 9.
A. EDWARD WREAKS .. 5.	SAMUEL WOOD .. .. Tenor.

Composed by JOHN THORP, and Conducted by GEORGE LONGDEN.

\*First peal in the method.

First peal in the method by the Association. T. Heald belongs to the St. Philip's Society, Hulme, Manchester; Messrs. Johnson and Barratt hail from Eccles; Heap, Frith, Longden and Wood from Ashton-under-Lyne; West, Wreaks and Eachus are of the Cathedral Company. The above peal was rung with the bells muffled in memory of the late Dr. Fraser, Bishop of Manchester.

LONG MELFORD, SUFFOLK.

THE SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS AND  
THE LONG MELFORD COMPANY.

On Tuesday, October 27, 1885, in Three Hours and Five Minutes,

AT HOLY TRINITY CHURCH,

**A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5040 CHANGES.**

FREDERICK STEED* .. Treble.	JAMES BIRD .. .. 5.
PERCY CHAS. S. SCOTT .. 2.	OLIVER GARWOOD .. 6.
FREDERICK WELLS .. .. 3.	†GEORGE HAMMOND .. 7.
ZACHARIAH SLATER .. 4.	SAMUEL SLATER .. Tenor.

Composed by JOHN HOLT and Conducted by GEORGE HAMMOND.

\*First peal. †First peal in the method, and also as conductor.

This peal contains the utmost number of bobs with the tenors together, viz., 123, and was first rung by the Union Scholars, in 1750. This is the second peal lately rung here, conducted by a Melford ringer. For 103 years, from 1782 to 1885, there was not a peal rang on the bells, with a man residing in the parish as conductor.

LEES, NEAR OLDHAM, LANCASHIRE.

THE LEESFIELD SOCIETY.

**Muffled Peal.**

On Tuesday, October 27, 1885, in Three Hours and Ten Minutes,

AT ST. THOMAS'S CHURCH,

**A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;  
HOLT'S TEN-PART REVERSED. Tenor 14 cwt.**

EDWIN B. SHAW .. .. Treble.	JAMES BAILEY .. .. 5.
FRED CROSLAND .. .. 2.	JNO. GREENWOOD .. 6.
JAMES PRIESTLEY .. .. 3.	JOHN HILTON .. .. 7.
THOMAS EGERTON .. .. 4.	JOSHUA M. PLATT .. Tenor.

Conducted by FRED CROSLAND.

The above peal was rung with the bells deeply muffled as a tribute of respect to the late Dr. Fraser, Bishop of Manchester.

**Date Touch.**

Ross (Herefordshire).—On Thursday evening, October 22nd, the Ross company rang a date touch of Grandsire Triples, (1885 changes), in 1 hr. 13 mins. J. Kings, 1; J. G. Wall, 2; J. Atkins, 3; G. Price, 4; A. Bird, 5; H. Bird, 6; C. Young (conductor), 7; R. Clarke, 8. This touch was composed by Mr. Henry Johnson, sen., of Birmingham. Tenor 25 cwt.

**Miscellaneous.**

THE ANCIENT ST. JAMES'S SOCIETY OF BRISTOL.

BRISTOL.—On Friday, October 23rd, on the occasion of the Musical Festival at Colston Hall, the bells having recently been rehung, a 720 of Grandsire Minor, in 25 mins. J. Hunt, 1; C. Waters, 2; J. Davis, 3; T. Salter (conductor), 4; R. Knill, 5; J. Brain, 6. And on Monday, October 26th, at Brislington parish church, by invitation, a 720 of Grandsire Minor. G. Hunt, 1; C. Walters, 2; J. Davis, 3; A. Parish, 4; R. Knill, 5; J. Brain, 6. Conducted by T. Salter, standing out.

THE ST. JAMES'S SOCIETY, LONDON.

LEWISHAM (Kent).—On Tuesday, October 27th, at St. Mary's church, eight members of the above Society attempted the Rev. Chas. D. P. Davies' five-part peal of Grandsire Triples, but after ringing 1750 changes, in exactly 1 hr. the rope of the 6th bell broke at the "Queen's" change. Harry W. Grout, 1; William Pead, 2; Thomas Taylor, 3; William Weatherstone, 4; Frederick W. Thornton (conductor); St. Alphege, Greenwich, 5; William H. Freeman, 6; Abraham G. Freeman, 7; William Foreman, 8. Tenor 23 cwt. in Eb.

THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

BEDFORD.—On Thursday, October 22nd, at St. Mary's Church, for practice, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor, with nine bobs. \*F. Keech, 1; C. West, 2; T. Foote, 3; M. Warwick, 4; C. W. Clarke (conductor), 5; I. Hills, 6. \*First 720 in the method. Also a 720 of College Single Minor, with eighteen bobs and two singles. S. J. Cullip, 1; C. West, 2; I. Hills, 3; M. Warwick, 4; J. Frossell, 5; C. W. Clarke (conductor), 6. And a 720 of Oxford Bob Minor, with eighteen bobs and two singles. F. Keech, 1; C. West, 2; C. W. Clarke (conductor), 3; M. Warwick, 4; J. Frossell, 5; T. Foote, 6.

WOBURN (Beds).—On Saturday, October 24th, Messrs. Hills, Frossell, Clarke, and Foote (Bedford), Chibnall, Carwell Cooke, and Mynard (Aspley Guise), and C. Herbert of Woburn, met at the tower for the purpose of ringing a peal of Bob Major, but unfortunately, after ringing two hours and ten minutes, the peal came to grief. It is intended shortly to again attempt the peal.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

ROMFORD.—On Sunday evening, for Divine Service, a 720 of Bob Minor (nine bobs and six singles). J. Mumford (Ilford; 1st 720), 1; W. Nash, 2; J. Porter, 3; B. Keeble, 4; A. J. Perkins, 5; A. Pye (conductor), 6. Also after service, a 720 of Bob Minor (Hammond's), conducted by A. J. Perkins.

THE HERTFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

ST. ALBANS (Herts).—On Monday, October 26th, eight members of the St. Albans branch of this Association rang at St. Peter's church, 1008 of Grandsire Triples, in 37 mins. A. Godman, sen., 1; A. Godman, jun., 2; W. H. L. Buckingham, 3; H. Lewis, 4; G. W. Cartmel, 5; N. N. Hills (conductor), 6; T. Waller, 7; W. Battle, 8. Tenor 23 cwt. in D.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

SITTINGBOURNE (Kent).—On Friday evening, October 23rd, for practice, a 504 of Grandsire Triples, in 19 mins. \*F. Grayling, Esq., 1; J. G. Elliott, 2; E. White, 3; J. M. Cooper, 4; J. Bottle, 5; S. Snelling, 6; W. H. Judd, 7; — Gower, 8. Also another 504 of Grandsire Triples. — Gower, 1; J. G. Elliott, 2; E. White, 3; S. Snelling, 4; E. J. Bottle, 5; J. M. Cooper, 6; W. H. Judd, 7; J. Grensted, 8. \*First 504. Tenor 21 cwt.

TUNBRIDGE WELLS (Kent).—On Sunday, October 25th, at St. Peter's church, for Divine Service in the evening, a 720 of Grandsire Minor, in 25 mins. J. Muggeridge, 1; J. Colthup, 2; H. Barefield (conductor), 3; R. Sharville, 4; W. Latter, 5; G. Kember, 6.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

WALKDEN (Lancashire).—*Muffled Peal.*—On Tuesday, October 27th, at St. Paul's church, a 720 of Bob Minor (thirty-two bobs and two singles), with the bells half-muffled, as a token of respect for the

late Bishop of Manchester, in 29½ mins. J. Welsby (conductor), 1; J. Worthington, 2; S. Oakes, 3; J. Williamson, 4; A. Potter, 4; W. Denner, 6. Tenor 13½ cwt.

MANCHESTER.—*Muffled Peal*.—On Tuesday evening, October 27th, at Holy Trinity church, Hulme, six members of the above Association rang a 720 of Bob Minor (twenty-four bobs and eighteen singles), with the bells deeply muffled, as a mark of respect, and in memory of the much beloved Rt. Rev. James Fraser, D.D., late Bishop of Manchester, in 33 mins. H. Wagstaff, 1; C. F. Woodward, 2; W. Diggles, 3; W. H. Lockett, 4; J. J. Mason, 5; W. Savage (conductor), 6. Tenor 15½ cwt.

#### THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

WICKHAM MARKET (Suffolk).—On Wednesday evening, October 21st, for practice at All Saints' Church, six members of the above Association rang a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob in 27 mins. \*F. Reeve, 1; A. Acfield, 2; W. Reeve, 3; H. Matten, 4; C. Potter, 5; J. Howard (conductor), 6. Tenor 15 cwt. in G. \*First 720 in the method. A. Acfield hails from Ufford; H. Matten, C. Potter, and J. Howard hail from Pettistree; the rest are members of the local company. Several touches in various methods were rung during the evening.

#### THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

NORTHMOOR (Oxon).—On Sunday, October 25th, a 720 of Grandsire Minor in 27 mins. Jesse Avery, 1; Frederick White, 2; Henry Woodward, 3; William Bennett, 4; Harry Holifield, 5; George Holifield (conductor), 6. H. Holifield hails from Abingdon, the rest from Appleton, Berks.

ABINGDON (Berks).—On Monday, October 26th, at the church of St. Nicholas, eight members of the St. Helen's company joined the above Guild by ringing three 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles, in the presence of the Rev. F. E. Robinson, vicar of Drayton, and Master of the Guild. H. Bright, J. Viner, G. Hosier, H. Didcock, E. Webb, A. Keates (conductor), A. W. Carter, G. Young.

#### STOKE-UPON-TRENT ARCHIDIACONAL ASSOCIATION.

NORTON (Staffordshire).—On Sunday, October 25th, at St. Ann's church, 720 Oxford Bob Minor, in 26 mins. W. Baddeley, 1; E. Glover, 2; G. Walker, 3; J. Wood, 4; J. W. Brough, 5; J. Baddeley (conductor), 6.

#### GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

BARNWOOD (Gloucestershire).—On Tuesday, October 20th, six members of the local company rang at the parish church 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor, in 25 mins. (nine bobs, 5th the observation). J. Baldwin, 1; J. Yates, 2; A. A. Waite, 3; W. Sevier, 4; H. Mitchell (conductor), 5; G. Miles, 6. A course of Oxford Treble Bob Minor was also rang: G. Miles, 3; A. A. Waite, 6; the others standing as before. Some Stedman and Grandsire Doubles were also rung. Tenor 14 cwt. in G. *Muffled Peal*.—On Friday, October 23rd, ten 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles were rung with the bells muffled, as a token of respect to the late Colonel Dowling, who was in his seventy-eighth year.

SANDHURST (Gloucestershire).—On Sunday, October 25th, six members of the Barnwood company paid a visit to this parish church, and with the kind permission of the Vicar (after twenty minutes' attention to the ropes), rose the bells in peal, and rang a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor (4th the observation), in 27 mins. J. Baldwin, 1; A. A. Waite, 2; Wm. Sevier, 3; H. G. Gardner, 4; H. Mitchell, 5; R. A. Barrett (conductor), 6. A six-score of Stedman was also rung.

QUEDGELEY (Gloucestershire).—On Sunday, October 18th, five members of the above, assisted by J. Baldwin, rang a 720 of Plain Bob Minor, in 25 mins. (sixteen bobs and two singles). T. Brown, 1; R. A. Barrett, 2; Wm. Sevier, 3; J. Baldwin, 4; H. Mitchell, 5; H. G. Gardner (conductor), 6. Tenor 11 cwt. in A. Afterwards the company adjourned to the residence of Mr. W. Brown, where a substantial tea was provided. After tea the handbells were brought into use, and courses of Grandsire Triples, Major, and Caters rung, Mr. Brown taking part in it. The company then returned home very much pleased with the afternoon's proceedings.

TWICKESBURY ABBEY.—On Wednesday evening, October 21st, a quarter-peal of Union Triples, 1260 changes, in 46 mins. W. Hampton, 1; F. J. Moore, 2; F. E. Ward, Esq. (Cheltenham), 3; J. Hale, 4; J. Wathen, 5; T. Devereux, 6; Jos. Wathen (conductor), 7; C. W. Dyson, 8. The above touch was rung in recognition of the Association having held their district meeting at Dymock that day.

BENGEO (Herts).—On Friday, October 23rd, at Holy Trinity church, a 720 of Bob Minor, in 26 mins. T. Barker, 1; H. J. Tucker, 2; W. Odell (first 720 in the method), 3; W. A. Tyler, 4; H. Baker,

5; H. Phillips (conductor), 6. And on Sunday, October 25th, a 720 of Grandsire Minor, in 26 mins. H. J. Tucker (conductor), 1; J. Channer, 2; H. Phillips, 3; J. Pomfret, 4; W. Odell, 5; W. A. Tyler, 6. And a 360 of Grandsire Minor. J. Channer, 1; W. Bennett, 2; W. Goodchild, 3; M. Ellesmore, 4; H. Phillips (conductor), 5; H. J. Tucker, 6.

BRAMFORD (Suffolk).—On Thursday, October 22nd, at St. Mary's church, a 360 of Plain Bob Minor, in 19 mins. Walter Brown, 1; William Mee, 2; Alfred A. Pryke, 3; Charles Smith, 4; William Read, 5; Frederick Mee (conductor), 6. And three 6-scores of Plain Bob Doubles. Charles Osborne, 1; Walter Brown, 2; Alfred A. Pryke, 3; William Read, 4; Charles R. Smith (conductor), 5; Harry Farnham, 6. And on Sunday, October 25th, at the parish church, four 6-scores of Plain Doubles, each called differently. Charles Osborne, 1; Walter Brown, 2; William Read, 3; Charles R. Smith, 4; Alfred A. Pryke (conductor), 5; Joseph Hardwicke, 6. Charles Smith, A. Pryke, W. Read, and F. Mee belong to the Norwich Diocesan Association.

ECKINGTON (Derbyshire).—On Monday, October 26th, at SS. Peter and Paul, for practice, 1680 changes in the following methods: Tulip, Primrose, College Trebles, Arnold's Victory, College Pleasure, Oxford and Violet, in 1 hr. and 4 mins. George Smith, 1; William Price, 2; Edwin James, 3; George Norman, 4; George Marsden (conductor), 5; Thomas Lunn, 6. Tenor 16 cwt. 14 lbs.

HALEWOOD (Lancashire).—On Sunday, October 25th, six members of the local company rang a 504 Grandsire Triples. Samuel Gough, 1; Thomas Morris, 2; Joshua Large, 3; Frank Turner, 4; G. W. Hughes, 5; C. Newton, 6; Walter Hughes (conductor), 7; J. Allen, 8. Tenor 11 cwt.

HAMPSTEAD (Middlesex).—On Sunday, October 24th, for Divine Service in the morning at St. Stephen's church, eight members of the local company, assisted by W. J. Nevard, of Great Bentley, and W. Smith, of Dedham, Essex, rang a 503 of Grandsire Caters. S. Clarke, 1; B. Foskett, 2; B. Payne, 3; \*W. J. Nevard, 4; H. Tyler, 5; \*W. Smith, 6; W. Pryor, 7; N. Alderman, 8; G. Newton (conductor), 9; W. Arscott, 10. \*First touch of Caters. And for Divine Service in the evening, the local company rang a 504 of Grandsire Triples, conducted by B. Foskett. The bells of St. Stephen are rung every Sunday from 10.30 to 11.0 a.m. and from 6.30 to 7.0 p.m. when any brother-string is welcome.

HAYFIELD (Derbyshire).—On Sunday, October 18th, at St. Matthew's church, for Divine Service in the morning, a 360 of Oxford Treble Bob. J. A. Thomas, 1; Joseph Brocklehurst, 2; William Wild, sen., 3; A. Rangeley, 4; Thomas Whitehead (conductor), 5; Thomas Brocklehurst, 6. And in the afternoon a 720 in the same method, standing as before. Messrs. Thomas and Wild hail from Haughton, Lancashire, and this is their first 360 of Oxford; the rest belong to the local company.

HIGHAM (Suffolk).—On Tuesday evening, October 20th, two 720's of Bob Minor. First: G. Winny, 1; J. Levitt, 2; W. Ranson (first 720), 3; W. Smith (conductor), 4; R. Parr, 5; C. Ablitt, 6. Second: C. Ablitt, 1; J. Isom, 2; J. Levitt, 3; W. Smith, 4; R. Parr, 5; J. W. Smith (conductor), 6. *Handbell Ringing*.—And on handbells, a course of Treble Bob Minor. R. Parr, 1; J. Levitt, 2; W. Smith, 3-4; J. W. Smith, 5-6. And a course of Bob Major. C. Ablitt, 1; R. Parr, 2; J. Levitt, 3-4; W. Smith, 5-6; J. W. Smith, 7-8. And 108 of Bob Minor. J. Levitt, 1-2; J. W. Smith, 3-4; W. Smith, 5-6. W. Ransom, G. Winny, R. Parr, and J. Levitt hail from Stratford; the brothers Smith, Isom, Ablitt, belong to Higham.

HIGHER WALTON (Lancashire).—*Muffled Peal*.—On Sunday, October 25th, for Divine Service in the afternoon at All Saints' Church, a 720 of College Single, in 26 mins., with the bells deeply muffled, as a tribute of respect to the late Bishop of Manchester. G. Thornley (conductor), 1; James Harwood, 2; Harry Hunt, 3; H. Brewer, 4; J. Eccles, 5; J. Mather, 6. Tenor 16 cwt. 3 qrs. 26 lbs.

MITCHAM (Surrey).—On Saturday, October 24th, at SS. Peter and Paul's church, an attempt was made to ring a peal of Grandsire Triples (Holt's Original) but after ringing about 1300 changes in 54 mins., a change-course occurred and "stand" was called. H. C. Haley (conductor), 1; H. Dudley, 2; S. Greenwood, 3; G. Pell, 4; G. Foster, 5; U. Holman, 6; G. Welling, 7; T. Verrall, 8. Also a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1260 changes), in 45 mins. G. Foster, 1; H. Dudley, 2; T. Verrall, 3; G. Pell, 4; S. Greenwood, 5; G. Welling (conductor), 6; H. C. Haley, 7; U. Holman, 8.

PENZANCE (Cornwall).—On Monday, October 26th, at St. Mary's church, 1554 of Grandsire Triples, in 60 mins., being three parts from the second half of Holt's 10-part peal. M. Hicks, 1; J. Hodder, 2; J. Boase, 3; J. Hichens, 4; C. Boase, 5; J. Symons (conductor), 6; J. Richards, 7; T. Hicks, 8.

**PEVENSEY (Sussex).**—On Saturday, October 7th, being the wedding day of Wm. Bone, of Reigate, a band of ringers from Eastbourne proceeded to this place, and rang a merry peal at Westham church, including a 6-score of Grandsire Doubles. Thos. Lewis, 1; H. Colbran, 2; S. Sinden, 3; E. Willoughby, 4; S. Deadman, 5; S. Lewis, 6. Mr. Bone has for several years past, as a visitor, taken part with the Eastbourne ringers in ringing, and the general feeling of esteem towards him is shared by all, which fact is testified by the band having comprised three members of All Saints', one of Christ Church, one of St. Mary's, and two past members of St. Mary's.

**RAUNDS (Northamptonshire).**—On Saturday, October 24th, at St. Peter's church, for practice, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor (nine bobs). G. Kirk, 1; W. J. Gilbert, 2; H. Stubbs, 3; J. Stubbs, 4; F. Gilbert, 5; W. Hall (conductor), 6. Also a 360 of Yorkshire Court Bob. A. Coles, 1; W. J. Gilbert, 2; W. Hall, 3; J. Stubbs, 4; F. Gilbert, 5; H. Stubbs (conductor), 6. *Handbell Ringing.*—At the house of Mr. H. Stubbs, a 336 of Bob Triples. A. Coles, 1; W. J. Gilbert, 2; R. Pendered, 3; G. Kirk, 4; W. Hall, 5; J. Willmott, 6; H. Stubbs (conductor), 7; F. Gilbert, 8. And a 476 in the same method. A. Coles, 1; W. J. Gilbert, 2; R. Pendered, 3; W. Hall, 4; H. Stubbs, 5; J. Willmott, 6; F. Gilbert (conductor), 7; G. Kirk, 8. And a plain course of Bob Major. A. Coles, 1; W. J. Gilbert, 2; R. Pendered, 3; G. Kirk, 4; W. Hall, 5; F. Gilbert, 6; J. Willmott, 7; H. Stubbs, 8. And a course of Bob Minor. W. J. Gilbert, 1-2; F. Gilbert, 3-4; H. Stubbs, 5-6. First course double-handed by W. J. and F. Gilbert. On Monday, October 26th, was rung a 720 of London Single (eighteen bobs and two singles). A. Coles, 1; R. Pendered, 2; H. Stubbs, 3; N. Martin, 4; W. J. Gilbert, 5; W. Hall (conductor), 6.

**RINGSTEAD (Northamptonshire).**—On Tuesday, October 20th, at St. Mary's church, a 720 of Oxford Bob (twenty-six singles). E. Mayes, 1; G. Roberts, 2; W. J. Gilbert (conductor), 3; J. Sawford, 4; J. Braybrook, 5; T. Roberts, 6. And a 360 of Yorkshire Court Bob (nine bobs). W. J. Gilbert (conductor), 1; J. Braybrook, 2; R. Shipley, 3; J. Sawford, 4; E. Mayes, 5; T. Roberts, 6.

**SADDLEWORTH (Yorkshire).**—*Muffled Peal.*—On Tuesday, October 27th, at St. Chad's church, a 960 of Kent Treble Bob Major, as a last tribute of respect to the late Bishop of Manchester. J. J. Brierley, 1; Joseph Radcliff, 2; Edgar Buckley, 3; James Wrigley, 4; Joseph L. Buckley, 5; James Radcliff, 6; James H. Shaw, 7; Joseph Wood (conductor), 8.

**SWANSCOMBE (Kent).**—On Saturday evening, October 24th, a mixed company rang a 720 of Grandsire Minor, in 26 mins. L. Digweed, 1; J. Broom, 2; F. Hayes (conductor), 3; G. Hayes, 4; B. Spinner, 5; G. Martin, 6. And on Sunday, October 25th, for morning service a 720 of Grandsire Minor, in 25 mins. A. Cornford, 1; J. Broom, 2; F. Ring, 3; G. Hayes, 4; W. Harper, 5; W. Martin (conductor), 6.

### UNION TRIPLES.

In connection with this subject, the Rev C. D. P. DAVIES writes as follows:—

With reference to my communication on Union Triples, in your last issue, kindly allow me to make an observation. The printer had not sufficient room for the words "four times repeated" to be placed below the figures at the foot of the first column. These words refer to the whole, viz., from 752634 to 267345 inclusive, and not merely, as might possibly be imagined, to the portion beginning with 432765.

It will be noted that in the two five-part peals, the observation-bell is called neither before nor behind. In the second of them there is a call every time she is in the "wrong." These twelve bobs together, with three times "in and out" and three times in the "middle," make up the whole twenty-one calls. In the ten-part peal the observation bell is never called behind.

And now that I am writing, will you kindly allow me to ask a question, though on a totally different subject?

What valid reason can be given for calling the bobs in the Treble Bob method, when the treble is making her snapping-lead?

### THE ROCHDALE AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATION.

A QUARTERLY MEETING of the above Association will be held at Manchester Cathedral, on Saturday, November 7th, when all members are earnestly requested to attend this meeting, so that all subscriptions may be paid up, according to the notice which was given a few weeks ago. The names of those will not be entered in the next year's list who have not paid. All meetings are held at 4 o'clock. Time as to the bells being ready, and place of meeting, will be posted to the members. I earnestly beg of all the members to let this meeting be a successful one, and let the old times of this Association appear once more, in respect of attendance. I give credit for the last two meetings, but still there might be amends yet. Ringers of any other Association will be quite welcome.

J. ADSHEAD, Secretary.

### THE SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.

On Saturday, October 24th, the members of this society with their friends, mustered at the "King's Head," Enfield, to the tune of about forty persons, and considering the late period of the season, the weather being all that was required to make one disagreeable and keep others away, the movement may be considered a decided success. The chair was occupied by Mr. A. H. Gardom, Master, whose breast was adorned by the Society's grand old medal, the vice-chair being ably filled by Mr. Henry S. Thomas, Hon. Secretary of the Battersea Amateur Society. Upon removal of the cloth, the toast of the evening was ably given and well received, being responded to by Mr. John Rogers, the oldest member present on the occasion, the room resounding with the words, "Success to the Royal Cumberland Society." The toast of "The Steeplekeepers" was next given and well received, regret being felt that steeplekeeper Lovatt was unable to attend. Mr. Mansfield responded, and in conclusion gave "The Society's Officers," which was responded to by the Master, Treasurer W. Baron, and Secretary H. Dains, the latter remarking that although the society's funds were in a good condition, there was a question looming in the future, and one requiring serious consideration, as when the large batch of peals remaining to be booked up was accomplished, the book would be full. However, continued the speaker, here was a problem easily solved by gentlemen of means and benevolence, whose names by well-directed generosity would be honoured by posterity. The toast of conductors was fittingly responded to by Mr. G. Newson. The health of the vice-chairman was well received and responded to in that gentleman's usual graceful manner. A vote of thanks to the Vicars and Churchwardens for the use of the bells of both the new and old churches, which notwithstanding the inclement weather, were set a-ringing in the various usual practised methods in good style, was proposed by W. Doran and we understood that Mr. John Baalham, who appeared the picture of good health and happiness, seconded. Mr. Steeplekeeper Boswell, who dined with, and became a member of this society, received many warm thanks for his kindness, and use of the handbells, which were put into use to the tune of Stedman Triples, by Messrs. Newson, Rogers, Hopkins, and Baron, W. Doran taking the place of Mr. Baron in a course of Treble Bob Major. The Master and Secretary assisted in a course of Cinques, and Mr. Davidson, a friend, was obliged with a course of Caters. Songs were rendered by Mr. W. Sally, and "The Rhine Wine" was well rendered by Mr. Durrant. Mr. George Harvey looked as well as has been the case for many a long day, as also did our great friend Barrett. Mr. Jacob, professor of Cambridge Surprise, received quite an ovation, coming in just too late for dinner, which was so well put upon the table. Mr. Nevard, of Great Bentley, with his friend Mr. Smith, was present, and rang at the old church. Thanks to the chairman and stewards concluded the proceedings, and members moved off for their respective destinations well satisfied with the treatment of mine host and hostess of the "King's Head."

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We, the Committee, feel that there are still many companies and individuals who wish to become subscribers to this "National Testimonial," and we would earnestly remind all such that it will be necessary soon to close the list. We therefore respectfully ask them to communicate at as early a date as convenient with A. Thomas, Hon. Secretary, 83, Wheelley's Road, Edgbaston, Birmingham.



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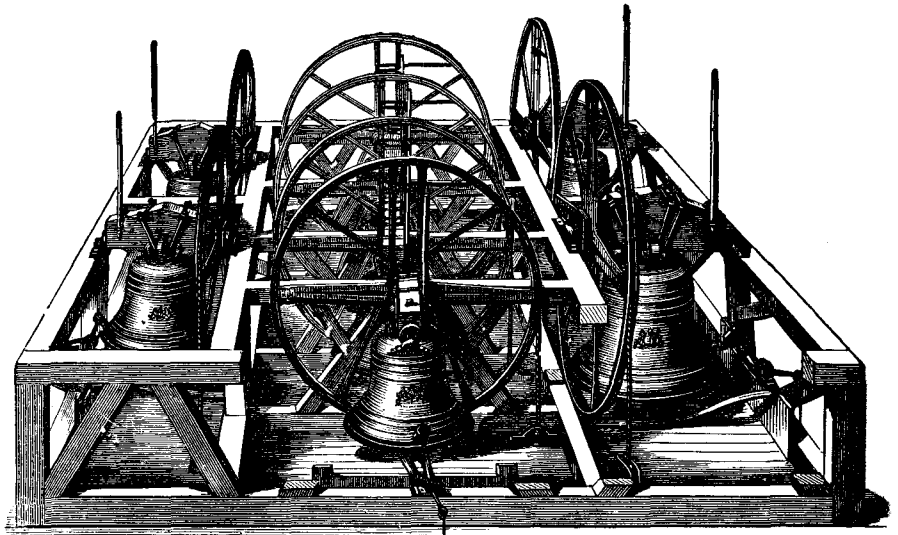
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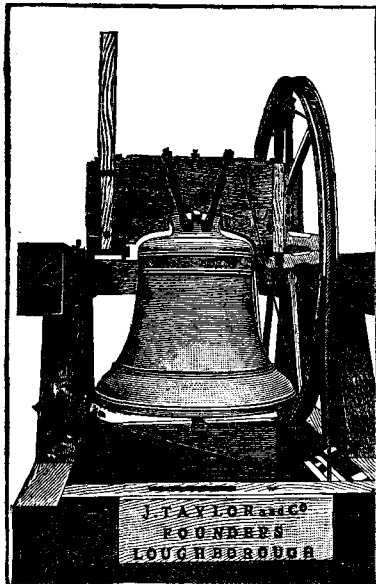
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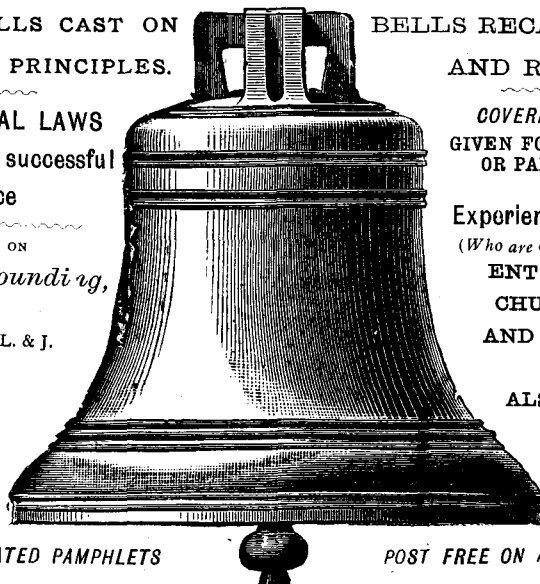
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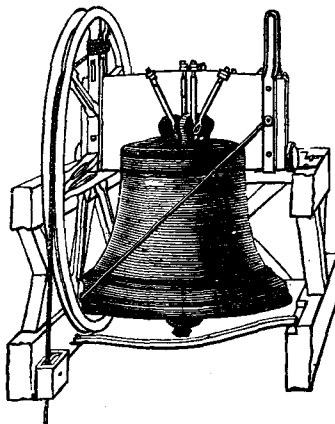
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## SPALDING, LINCOLNSHIRE.

Saturday last, the eve of All Saints, witnessed the dedication of two new bells in the parish church of Spalding. After the customary evensong, the clergy and those assembled adjourned to the belfry, where an appropriate service was held. The ringers, standing to their bells, which were raised, rang a few rounds, and the Vicar, the Rev. Canon Moore, delivered an interesting address on the parish church steeple and its bells. We give the substance of the Canon's address:

Bells have been used in religious services from the earliest periods of history. In the second book in the Bible, Exodus xxviii. 33-35, bells are ordered to be attached to the garment of the officiating priest "when he goeth into the holy place before the Lord, and when he cometh out"—more than three thousand years ago. These were small golden bells, worn as ornaments as well as for sacred use. For more than three thousand years then, we learn from inspired authority that the sound of bells has been connected with the solemn worship of God. Bells such as are now used in our churches in England, are historically known to have been used fifteen hundred years for the same purpose for which we use them now. From being first used about the year A.D. 400, in Campania, they were called "Campanæ"; the towers in which they hang are still called Campaniles, and the science of ringing is called Campanology. This art of ringing in changes or peals is peculiar to England. The accomplishment is rarely attempted on the continent, or in any foreign country. The first peal that was ever rung in England is said to have been rung in the grand central tower of Croyland Abbey; not in the present tower where the bells hang now, but in the tower one solitary chevron arch of which remains, spanning the width of the east end of the ruined nave. This peal was rung more than 1000 years ago. Whether it was then called by the venerable name of "Grandsire Bob" history does not record. It is well known, however, that each bell in the chamber had its own proper name, such as Guthlac, Bartholomew, Bettelin, Turketul, Tatwin, Pega, and Bega, historic names connected with the Abbey: Saints, Patrons, Abbots, and benefactors.

Passing on to the bells in our own tower, I think we must conclude that at one time connected with this church a heavier peal once hung in a more substantial tower than the present one. From very heavy foundations which I have seen exposed at the west end of the north aisle of the nave, I believe the original tower stood on that spot. When this church was first built, one of the conditions imposed by the Prior and convent (who undertook to remove the church from the market-place to its present site if the inhabitants would contribute £100 and the old material) was that the parish church should have only two bells, at a cost of not more than £20. These most probably would be in the gable over the west end of the nave. Why I believe there must have been a heavy peal in an Early English tower is that (1) the foundations of such a tower still exist; (2) that in the present tower, which is Perpendicular, that is of the date of 1420, there is an Early English string-course which belonged to an earlier tower worked into the base of this tower; (3) that the present tower was never constructed to carry a heavier peal than the present, and that (4) a heavier peal did once hang in a tower in this church; for at the latter end of the reign of Richard II., about 480 years ago, the inmates of the Abbey were so exercised by the ringing of the bells in this parish church, that proceedings at law were instituted by Prior John III. de Spalding to abate the annoyance by an injunction. Appeal was made both to the king and the Pope of Rome. The dispute was ultimately settled in 1401 by the arbitration of Henry de Beaufort, Bishop of Lincoln. As the Abbey stood on the other side of the Welland river, at the back of the houses now occupied by Mr. Waite and Mr. Asling, it could scarcely be supposed that the interruption of the services in the Abbey, and the repose of the monks at that distance, by bells of the calibre of the present peal, would be so intolerable as to evoke litigation.

Between 1401 and 1733, the date upon the 5th bell in our tower, it seems probable that the number of bells was reduced by the arbitration of Prior John to two, according to the arrangement concluded between the authorities in the abbey and the townsfolk in 1284, for only the 4th and the 7th bells bear dates earlier than 1733. The 4th bell bears the inscription: "Omnia fiant ad Gloriam Dei, 1629." The 7th: "James Wilsby and John Homan Ch. Wa. 1648." It is not improbable, however, that the accompaniments of the Reformation in 1534, or the consequences of the Rebellion in 1649 swept away the bells of the Church into the pockets of their respective promoters, or into the furnaces that were kindled by their followers. On the 5th bell is cast "Omnia fiant ad Gloriam Dei, Dei soli. Anno Dom. 1733." On the 6th bell, "Omnia fiant ad Gloriam Dei. Gloria Patri, Filio et Spiritui Sancto. A.D. 1744." On the 3rd bell is "Thomas Osborne, fecit, Downham, Norfolk 1801." And on the 8th bell is recorded, "Thomas Osborne, fecit, Maurice Johnson, D.D., Minister, Thos. Maples, Wm. Law, churchwardens." This bell was given by Dr. Johnson. Upwards of 80 years elapsed and the first bell of the present peal records "To God and the Church on the celebration of the Golden Wedding day of Ashley Maples and his wife Harriett, by their ten surviving children 15th July 1885," and the 1st bell bearing the coat of the present vicar, Canon Edwd. Moore, and his wife Elizabeth nee Stephenson: (Argent an engrailed chevron sable between 3 martlets proper, impaling gules, on a bend ermine, 3 leopards faces proper.) "B.M. Vicar. R.M. Sexton." The last two bells with their fittings cost more than £150.

The last named two bells are the most recent among the numerous and costly gifts to the Church in this town. In 1866, Spalding had only one church and six bells consecrated to the services of the Church of England; it has now four churches and 19 bells to announce to the inhabitants that Divine Service demands their attendance.

Within the recollection of middle-aged inhabitants the public Sunday Services of the Church of England in this parish were only two; they are now thirteen or more: SS. Mary and Nicholas, 4; St. Peter's, 2; St. John Baptist, 4; St. Paul, 3. The administration of Holy Communion monthly was only once; there are now eighteen or more administrations monthly: SS. Mary and Nicholas, 6; St. Peter's, 2; St. John Baptist, 8; St. Paul's, 2.

To all these calls and opportunities have we responded? The fast and festival are all the same to too many of us. The call to prayer and praise, to confession, repentance and thanksgiving we heed not. The passing bell and the funeral bell elicit neither prayer, reflection nor thought. Let us give heed to our ways. Let us use our privileges, and so let us draw in the wandering sheep who are enviously talking about disestablishment.

By the present addition the parish of Spalding possesses two peals of eight bells, the other being that of St. Paul. The following day, (Sunday), All Saints' Day, the bells were much appreciated by the parishioners. For Matins, 168 Grandsire Triples were rung. Both before and after Evensong several plain courses were rung.

## STOKE-UPON-TRENT ARCHIDIACONAL ASSOCIATION.

ON Monday, November 9th, being Martinmas, the Wolstanton company intend holding their Annual Outing at Leek, Staffordshire, and to make an attempt for a peal. Any member of the Association wishing to spend the day with them will be gladly welcome.

## A WORD MORE ABOUT "USES."

BY AUDITOR TANTUM.

The costliness of a ring of bells, and the greatness of the sum of money sunk in its purchase, are matters which, when once the bells have been paid for, pass entirely into oblivion. Even the village ring of six, with its tenor of 12 cwt., represents in round numbers some £450, while a ring of twelve, with tenor of 41 cwt., means an expenditure of say £2000. The annual interest on such sums at 4 per cent. is no trifling amount, and unless the bells are properly used, may be said to be wasted. It is a fact that as a rule the bells of a church cost far more than the organ. Now it is not generally known, but it is nevertheless the case, that by means of a pneumatic chiming apparatus, the bells can be brought under the control of the organist, and there is no reason why they should not be chimed by means of a little row of keys in the console (or keyboard) of the organ itself, and used in the very midst of the services of the church, either combined with the organ or alternately with that instrument. As the hammers used would be "outside hammers," they would not in any way interfere with the ringing of the bells, and the motive power for raising the hammers would be the compressed air supplied by the bellows of the organ. Many readers may think that this is a fanciful and utterly impracticable notion, but I have just been reading of a new cathedral in America on Long Island, New York, which has a chime of thirteen bells in the tower, all of which can be played on by the organist at his ordinary post. I am sure that if any parson (who desires, in this manner, to utilize the costly "loud cymbals" which hang in his steeple), will apply to my friend, Mr. T. C. Lewis, organ builder, Brixton, will very soon supply him with the requisite machinery.

## THE SOCIETY AT SOUTHOVER, LEWES, SUSSEX.

THE ANNUAL DINNER of this recently-established society was held on Wednesday evening last, at the "King's Head Inn," Southover, Lewes. The proceedings commenced with a peal on the bells, but unfortunately after they had proceeded a short time, the rope of one of the bells broke, and put an end to it. At the dinner, Mr. W. Gates, churchwarden, occupied the chair, and Mr. J. Burton, the vice-chair. There was a good attendance of members, and a first rate dinner was served by Mrs. Goldsmith, the hostess. After dinner had been attended to, the chairman gave the usual loyal toasts. He also proposed "Success to the Southover Society," and remarked that he was pleased to think that the society was at present in a very favourable position, and he hoped that it would continue to be so.

Mr. Richardson, the secretary, responded, and in reference to the subject of change-ringing, he said several of the younger members had arranged to commence it immediately, and they hoped to be successful.

Mr. J. Goldsmith, of Croydon, then proposed the health of the rector, (Rev. W. G. Richardson), and churchwardens, and he was sure they always did what they could to further the interests of the ringers. Being a native of Lewes, he took an interest in the society, and he hoped it would continue to be prosperous. Mr. Gates responded, and said that the Rector and Churchwardens never forgot ringers. In order to encourage change-ringing, he offered £2 to the society if they succeeded in getting through a peal of Grandsire Triples by two years from that date. The other toasts were, "The Secretary," "Mr. Burfield," "The Visitors," and "The Hostess." During the evening several songs were sung by the members, one greatly appreciated being given by Mr. Burfield, who is eighty-four years of age, and who has always shown the greatest interest in ringing.

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

ON Tuesday, October 27th, the above Society, accompanied by the Rev. S. Churchill, paid a visit to Wells. Leaving Bath by the Midland Railway at 9.10 a.m. for Masbury, they arrived at Wells about 11.15, after a breezy but very pleasant walk of about four miles over the Mendip Hills. They were met by some of the local ringers, who conducted them to the tower of St. Cuthbert's, and after an hour's ringing they adjourned for luncheon. The Rev. T. D. Bernard, M.A., Canon of Wells, and President of the Society, afterwards accompanied them over the old Cathedral, describing the various points of interest and antiquity. At 3 p.m. they attended the service in the Cathedral, after which they ascended to the belfry and rang for about an hour. At 5.30 p.m. they and the local company were entertained to an excellent tea, at the Red Lion Coffee House, which was very kindly provided by the Rev. President, who with his family sat down with them. Tea over, and the usual votes of thanks, etc., to the Rev. T. D. Bernard and local ringers, after a few hasty touches, and a six-score on the handbells, they had to hurry for their return walk to Masbury, arriving in Bath about 9 p.m., having had a very enjoyable outing.

## SOME RECENT CORRESPONDENCE.

READERS of "THE BELL NEWS" cannot fail to be interested in the correspondence which appears from time to time respecting various matters in connection with the Exercise, and no doubt occasionally wonder how it happens that various articles and letters dealing with real or imaginary evils are either allowed to remain unnoticed, or are replied to in a spirit only calculated to stifle enquiry and avoid discussion.

Many readers must have been pleased to see Mr. Muskett's reply to "Mr. Author of Thumb-nail Sketches," because it shows that prominent men really have got something to say in reply—tardy though that reply may be. But what does Mr. Muskett's reply amount to? Shortly this:—What business is it of yours? I and some friends, have tried to teach, but Charley Sloper went abroad, and Sam Black's funeral was coming on, so we don't mean to try again, and as "Mr. Author's letters do no good, let him mind his own business. Now perhaps "Mr. Author" considers that it is his business; and surely one good result of his sketches is Mr. Muskett's "retort courteous," unsatisfactory though it be. Possibly the teaching of Mr. Muskett and his friends was not carried on (from a business man's point of view) under the most efficient system—the ability of the teachers being unquestionable—otherwise the disappearance of Messrs. Sloper and Black would never have upset all their plans. The following week "Little Jim" quietly suggests that Mr. Muskett does not like to hear the plain truth. Then comes "Old Sheff," who indulges in some picturesque metaphor about deadly shots from great guns, blowing off thumb-nails and penetrating hearts, etc., but does not bring a single new idea to bear upon the matters complained of. Lastly appears Mr. J. R. Jerram's picture of what happened years ago, when "a youngster would creep cautiously into a belfry hardly knowing whether he would receive a welcome or be kicked out. If admitted, he would sit by and watch the ringing, it might be for some years, without so much as the chance of being asked to try and handle a bell, and if he ever became a ringer it was only by a slow process and by dint of great perseverance." See also Mr. Jerram's letter on page 629 of last volume. Not one word does he say in condemnation of such a disgraceful state of affairs, nor of approval of the efforts of more generous-minded people who desire to alter such contemptible ways; nor does he say whether he was one of the ringers who allowed a young man to sit in a tower, "it might be for some years, without so much as the chance of being asked to try," and took no step to prevent his time being so deplorably wasted; and does Mr. Jerram mean to tell the public and the Exercise that people who have no real taste for ringing ever submit to have it "crammed into them?" Mr. Jerram really seems to imply that what he describes is the correct thing, inasmuch as here and there young bands have attempted to run before they could walk, and that a very good way to test a young man's aptitude for ringing is to keep him looking on for a few years before allowing him to make a start. How much better would it have been if some of these correspondents had been in a position to flatly contradict "Mr. Author" on some of the points upon which he has written. For instance why does not one of your irate correspondents reply to the sketch of 22nd November, 1884, the last paragraph of sketch of 24th January, 1885, the first article of 2nd of May, the sketch of the 16th of May, the letter of "Looker-on" of the 6th June, and others. "London Ringer," on the 23rd of May does very temperately refer to the preceding week's sketch, and I think the latter half of his sixth paragraph and the whole of the last are the most sensible that appeared for some time. I opine if the instructors were to be properly paid, the learners would be too anxious to have their money's worth out of them, to dwindle away in the manner alluded to by several correspondents. Let teaching be as remunerative to an instructor as ringing. Those who are most anxious to learn will surely be willing to pay a fee, and save their time—such young men as those who have been kept looking on for a few years for instance.

On the 18th July some remarks of mine on Sunday Ringing, and also a query as to what the London Societies were doing to practically and systematically teach the art to beginners, or to promote it, appeared in this paper. That question was asked in all good faith but the only result of it has been to get poor unfortunate Mr. Strange's heart made a target for deadly shots from great guns. Now in "A Brief Look Out," "O. K." notices my letter, and suggests that as the subject of Sunday ringing is also one of Belfry Reform, it should be left for a National Association to deal with, and proceeds to give some arguments against it; but as he practically endorses my views, I do not further refer to his clear-sighted communication than to respectfully submit that his arguments are rather weak.

On March 7th, Mr. Jerram contributed a very practical and sensible article on the old theme of Belfry Reform, and on the 28th of the same month, Geo. F. Attree replies very forcibly to it. Of course we all understand how pleased a wandering band of ringers, who do all the paid work, would be to see a company attached to each church in their town, more especially if such attached band were composed of earnest and intelligent young men. On April 4th, Mr. Jerram replied

to Mr. Attree, but does not suggest anything new. "Churchman" the following week administers a rub to a good many. On July 25th, Alexander Hurst makes some common sense suggestions, the carrying out of which would indeed reform many places. Next week comes Mr. Jerram again to the front, stating four points on which reform is needed, viz., in the use of the bells, in the ringers, in the belfry arrangements, and in the manner of ringing; but on only one of those points does he make any suggestion, and that suggestion is—what? That arrangements should be made to have the bells rung upon seven occasions during the year (which occasions no doubt the wandering band would be on the look out for), two only of those being Sundays. A likely way to encourage the study of the art of change-ringing in a district.

I hope this well-meant review will not lay me open to the charge of dictating to any one. It is penned in the very reverse of a dictatorial spirit, the object of the writer being only to induce those who view with indifference the fact that what was good enough years ago is, in the opinion of many modern men, not suitable for the present day, to consider whether there are not many ways in which they might by a little energy, and organisation adapted to the requirements of the present day, make the acquisition of the art less toilsome to those who will give time and attention to its study. "Imparted knowledge doth not decrease from wisdom's store." There is no necessity to sit upon any writer who alludes to defective organisation. If wrong, he can be courteously corrected; and if right he ought to be complimented for calling attention to a state of affairs which is prejudicial to the interests of young earnest ringers. ORGANIST.

## HEMPSTEAD, GLOUCESTERSHIRE.

ON Thursday evening, October 29th, a meeting took place at the tower of the parish, the bells having been augmented from five to six, and all rehung in excellent style by Messrs. Mears and Stainbank, of London. The rev. the rector of the parish has had this augmentation carried out at his sole expense.

At 5.30 the bells were raised in peal by the Quedgeley company, and finding them to go well several 6-scores were rung in very good style. At 6.30, the members of the well-known St. Lawrence's society arrived, having been engaged by the rector to open the bells, and, they having rung, recorded their opinion of the satisfactory manner in which the alterations had been effected, and all being pleased with the musical peal after being tuned, they being sadly out of tune previously. H. Mitchell was called upon to conduct the first touch of Kent Treble Minor, 240 changes, and afterwards a 720 of Kent Treble Bob, in 30 mins. J. Baldwin, 1; J. Yeates, 2; A. A. Waite, 3; Wm. Sevier, 4; H. Mitchell, 5; R. A. Barratt (conductor), 6. And three 6-scores of Stedman. A. A. Waite (conductor), 3; J. Merchant (St. Nicholas), 6. A 720 of Bob Minor was then rung, in 27 mins. J. Baldwin, 1; J. Yeates, 2; Wm. Sevier, 3; R. A. Barrett, 4; H. Mitchell, 5; A. A. Waite (conductor), 6. Tenor 12 cwt. in G. The company then adjourned to the rectory, where, by the kindness of the rector, they were entertained to an excellent supper. The rector then made a few remarks upon change-ringing, and Mr. Barrett explained the principles of the art, and hoped within a short time to hear of the present musical peal being increased to eight. Hempstead Church being situate on a hill, the bells may be heard for many miles round, and they having for the last year and ten months stood idle, the parishioners are very delighted to hear them once again. The rector is doing all in his power to help the local company as much as possible. The Barnwood society thanked the Rev. — Dawson for his kindness during the evening, and then returned home very pleased with the proceedings.

## THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

A DISTRICT MEETING was held at Ashford on Monday, November 2nd. At the committee meeting, the bands of St. George's, Gravesend, Swanscombe, and Frindsbury, were admitted to the Association. Some good touches of Grandsire were rung at Ashford, Wye, and Mersham. Every preparation had been made to welcome the members to Aldington, than which no parish deserves better of the Society, on the score of good ringing as well as devotion to the cause, and it is much to be regretted that none of the bands found their way there, though the means of conveyance were provided.

## WORCESTER AND ADJOINING DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

The members of this Association are requested to note that the meeting arranged to take place at Bewdley, on Saturday, November 14th, will be postponed for a week, owing to unforeseen circumstances.

JOHN SMITH, Hon. Sec.



## A HOLIDAY RINGING TOUR.

*Continued from page 241.*

The next morning, Mr. Holden had arranged a treat for us, his partner, Mr. Wild, taking us over one of the most valuable and most interesting collections of old English furniture and antiquities of all sorts, that is gathered together in England. Some of the old armour and weapons were exceedingly interesting, and the prices that had been offered for some of the old presses, etc., astonished us greatly. Mr. Holden presented us with a copy of the bell fund balance sheet, which reflects great credit upon him as the leader in the movement to have the peal augmented to eight, and also upon the other ringers who appear to have loyally supported him. As no doubt it will be remembered, the cost of the two new bells was entirely defrayed by subscriptions and concerts, etc., carried on by the ringers. After making a call upon Mr. J. J. Brierley, and inspecting a photograph of William Harrison, and a model of his gravestone, it was time to make for the station, where several of our friends saw us off for Wakefield, at which place we had arranged to attempt a peal of Treble Bob Royal with some of our Leeds friends, and some of the local band. Having to change at Mirfield, we found we had an hour to spare, which we utilised to good purpose by fortifying the inner man against the attacks of hunger during the anticipated three hours and a half of "sweet Treble Bob." On arriving at Wakefield, we were met by Mr. West, of Leeds, who quickly conducted us to the rendezvous near the church, where we found the rest of the band waiting. No time was lost in ascending the noble tower, which struck us as being the finest by far which it had ever been our good fortune to see, and the fine peal of ten, tenor 30 cwt., was quickly raised. While the bells were being oiled, etc., we had a few minutes to examine the peal boards, which recorded one or two first class performances. The only peal we had previously practised Royal upon is the only peal of ten which we have in the two dioceses of Durham and Northumberland, namely, at North Shields, tenor 19 cwt., and owing to the scarcity of ringers in our neighbourhood, it is very seldom that the ten are all going. It was therefore with some little nervousness that we set to work, and we fear that for the first course or so, we somewhat interfered with the regularity of the striking for which Yorkshiremen are so justly renowned. We were not long however in setting to the collar, and went on all right for an hour and a half, when a miscall brought matters to a standstill. The following were the band who attempted the peal: H. Hubbard, 1; J. West, 2; W. Story, 3; R. S. Story, 4; M. Tomlinson, 5; John Hollis, 6; W. Firth, 7; T. Osmond, 8; T. Moorhouse, 9; R. Binns, 10. Tenor 32 cwt.; and we have to tender them our hearty thanks for so kindly meeting us. After ringing the bells down with the assistance of a new treble man, we adjourned to the adjacent meeting-house, and enjoyed some very good handbell ringing in the same room where Mr. Binns informed us Mr. Dawe vowed "he would never be happy again." After securing a photograph of the church, we took the next train for Leeds, where the evening was spent in the company of Mr. Tomlinson. Sunday morning saw us at the parish church, in good time to get a good practice at Stedman Caters, with a view to a date touch in the evening. However, a number of ringers turning up from Mirfield, an attempt was made at Treble Bob Maximus, which ended disastrously through the tenth being overturned. A short touch of Stedman Caters then followed, after which we attended the service, being fortunate in getting a good seat for hearing the singing, although the preacher was invisible as far as we were concerned. For evening service we met in good time to attempt the date touch which had been arranged for, and which had been composed by Mr. T. Lockwood since the morning, but unfortunately our inexperience in Stedman Caters on a heavy peal brought it to grief, and then there was only time before service for a touch of 1083. T. West, 1; W. Pawson, 2; W. Story, 3; M. Tomlinson, 4; W. Walker, 5; H. Hubbard, 6; R. S. Story, 7; T. Lockwood (conductor), 8; Joseph Hutchinson, 9; R. Binns, 10. Tenor 36 cwt. in C. The rest of the evening was spent in the society of the ringers, and it was with reluctant hearts that we bade them farewell and shook hands. We have to thank them one and all for the kind manner in which they received us, and for their exertions to make our visit pleasant, in which they completely succeeded.

On Monday morning, September 21st, my brother R. S. Story and I parted company at Leeds Station, he returning home by the nine o'clock express, and I proceeding to Manchester by the nine train. I had arranged with my friends at Glossop to meet them at the handbell contest at Belle Vue Gardens, Manchester, so on arrival at Manchester I proceeded to Belle Vue, and having made a thorough inspection of all the various exhibits to be seen in this wonderful place of entertainment, I duly met my friends in the large hall where the handbell contest was proceeding. This contest is well worth a visit, the marvellous precision with which difficult and classical pieces of music are performed is a great treat. After the contest was concluded, we went outside and saw the grand display of fireworks which takes

place on the picture island in the lake. The picture represents in a wonderful manner, Khartoum, and the fireworks produce the effect of the storming and repulsing at the siege. We shall also not forget soon our row on the lake in the afternoon. We were fortunate in getting ashore without any damage, although we had a few collisions. In the gardens we had the pleasure of meeting and being introduced to many ringers of note, including some long peal men. We returned by the last train to Glossop, where we arrived about midnight, after as merry a day as we have ever spent. The next morning after breakfast, our worthy friend, Mr. John Pye, senr., arrived to be our guide in a good stretch over some of the neighbouring hills, and we set off, a party of four, including Mr. James Sellars, and Mr. Russell, a relative of Mr. Pye. We proceeded past Whitfield Church, and up the opposite hill with some good views noticed *en passant*, and arrived at an old farmhouse, where we found an old farmer collecting bedding for cattle. Here we refreshed ourselves with a raw egg apiece, and those who were not members of the abstaining branch of the Church of England Temperance Society partook of some home-brewed ale, which was declared A1. We then continued our course to the top of the hill, and in crossing the moor on the top had the good fortune to pick up a very plump grouse just freshly shot. We had intended returning for dinner, but the exhilarating air and beautiful scenery seemed to have banished all such thoughts from our minds, and we went on till we were in sight of Marple Bridge, where there is a railway station, at which we expected we should get a train home, but on arrival we found we should have a long time to wait, so we set off and walked back to Glossop by the road round the foot of the hill over which we had come. We had just comfortable time for tea and a little rest ere we had to start for a peal of Oxford at Old Glossop Church (All Saints'), which was duly brought round in 3 hrs. and three mins., being the peal twice tried for the previous week. It is very pleasing to find such young men getting on so well in the art; we should think the average age of the ringers in this peal was not over twenty-one. The next day (Wednesday), we walked over to Ashton, Mr. John Pye, jun. having kindly made arrangements for a peal there. It was intended to ring Stedman Triples, but unfortunately, we assembled one short, one of the number not being able to get away from work in time. However we had the pleasure of ringing a peal of Treble Bob with some of those who have proved their prowess in this method by ringing the longest length. We need not say that we felt greatly honoured in ringing with these gentlemen, although at first we felt rather nervous in the presence of those whom from a distance we had so long admired.

On Thursday we drove to Staleybridge, where we had the pleasure of ringing a peal of Treble Bob. In returning we had an amusing reconte with a partially inebriated farmer, whom we left in a somewhat more sober condition, owing to the exertions to which we constrained him. On Friday afternoon, we walked across to Hyde, in not very pleasant weather, and proceeded to the "Cheshire Cheese," where Mr. Thomas Wilde looked in while we were having tea. After concluding our meal we proceeded with Mr. Wilde to St George's Church, where we had the pleasure of ringing our first peal as a member of the United Counties' Association, to which honour we were duly elected before starting the peal. Unfortunately we had not time after the peal was completed to stay and have the usual friendly chat with our new made friends, as our train departed too soon. We were indebted to one of the ringers who took part in the peal, for escorting us at a good pace to the station, at which we just arrived in time to catch the train had it been punctual. Of course as we had hurried, the train was quarter of an hour late, which we should have enjoyed spending with our friends at Hyde. On arrival at Glossop we found a telegram awaiting us requesting our attendance the following afternoon at business, so we had to give up the plan which had been arranged to ring a 7000 at Glossop on Saturday afternoon, and instead of doing so, we proceeded by morning train home, arriving at "canny" Newcastle at 4.30 p.m., to find that our position in life had been a little improved, owing to the promotion of one of our seniors. Although regretting missing the peal at Glossop, we were glad that the reason for coming home was no unfortunate one.

In conclusion, we must offer our heartfelt thanks to all ringers and others who have made our holiday such a pleasant and successful one. To the Leeds, and Holbeck, Huddersfield, Glossop (old and new), Saddleworth, Wakefield, Ashton, Staleybridge, and Hyde companies, we are indebted for their kindness in making up bands to ring peals, and to Mr. John Pye, senr., for his kindness in shewing us over some fine country. To Mr. James Sellars, for his kind attention and guidance in all our plans, and to Mr. John Pye, jun., for his kindness in arranging for a whole week's ringing. We can certainly recommend any ringer who wants a good enjoyable holiday, to visit these places where we have been, as we have everywhere been most cordially and pleasantly received. In conclusion, we beg to say, that if any of our friends find it convenient to visit us, we shall be only too glad to do our best so far as lies in our power, to reciprocate the kindness so freely received at their hands.

"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, NOVEMBER 7, 1885.

### The Metropolis.

HIGHGATE, MIDDLESEX.

THE SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.

On Tuesday, November 3, 1885, in Three Hours and Six Minutes,

At St. Ann's Church,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 14½ cwt.

GEORGE NEWSON .. .. Treble.	THOMAS TITCHENER .. .. 5.
JAMES PAGE .. .. 2.	JOHN WOODS .. .. 6.
BENJAMIN FOSKETT .. .. 3.	GEORGE HARVEY .. .. 7.
THOMAS GLEED .. .. 4.	EDWARD CHAPMAN .. .. Tenor.

Composed by HENRY JOHNSON and Conducted by GEORGE NEWSON.

The peal has the 6th the extent in all positions and home the last thirteen course-ends. See Snowdon's *Treatise*, part ii., p. 88. J. Woods hails from Kenninghall.

### The Provinces.

ECCLESFIELD, NEAR SHEFFIELD.

Birthday Peal.

On Tuesday, October 27, 1885, in Three Hours and Twenty-Three Minutes,

At St. Mary's Church,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5120 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 18½ cwt.

HENRY STRINGER .. .. Treble.	*TOM TURTON .. .. 5.
WILLIAM TURTON .. .. 2.	*FRED TURTON .. .. 6.
SAMUEL HEMMINGFIELD* .. 3.	GEORGE SHAW .. .. 7.
EDMUND HEMMINGFIELD .. 4.	*JOSEPH SORBY .. .. Tenor.

Conducted by GEORGE SHAW.

\* First peal. This peal was rung to commemorate the 60th birthday of William Smith, Esq., of Barnes Hall.

GLODWICK, NEAR OLDHAM, LANCASHIRE.

Muffled Peal.

On Tuesday, October 27, 1885, in Three Hours,

At St. Mark's Church,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE MAJOR, 5280 CHANGES;

Tenor 8½ cwt.

RICHARD GUEST .. .. Treble.	ALBERT CLEGG .. .. 5.
GEORGE DUNKERLEY .. .. 2.	JAMES T. KERSHAW .. .. 6.
GEORGE H. BEEVER .. .. 3.	SAMUEL STOTT .. .. 7.
JAMES RILEY .. .. 4.	CLEMENT DRONSFIELD .. .. Tenor.

Composed by the late WILLIAM EVERSFIELD, and Conducted by SAMUEL STOTT.

The above was rung out of respect to the late Lord Bishop of Manchester.

BURTON-ON-TRENT, STAFFORDSHIRE.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION AND THE ST. PAUL'S SOCIETY, BURTON-ON-TRENT.

On Thursday, October 29, 1885, in Three Hours and Twenty-seven Minutes,

At St. Paul's Church,

A PEAL OF SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES. Tenor 26 cwt.

REV. JAMES H. FISH .. .. Treble.	JOHN JAGGAR .. .. 5.
EDWARD ISAAC STONE .. .. 2.	HARRY WAKLEY .. .. 6.
ARTHUR WAKLEY .. .. 3.	THOMAS HOLMES .. .. 7.
JOSEPH GRIFFIN .. .. 4.	WILLIAM WAKLEY .. .. Tenor.

Composed by N. J. PITSTOW and Conducted by JOSEPH GRIFFIN.

This peal, which is now rung for the first time, is a one-part peal, with the 4th twelve and the 6th nine course-ends in sixth's place, without the 2nd ever being there. It is published in Snowdon's "Surprise Methods" in "THE BELL NEWS," vol. iv., p. 225, being the second peal in the second column.

DEBENHAM, SUFFOLK.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, October 31, 1885, in Three Hours and Twelve Minutes,

At St. Mary's Church,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S 10-PART. Tenor 20 cwt. in E.

GEORGE PERRY .. .. Treble.	*DAVID G. WIGHTMAN .. 5.
THOMAS STEWARD .. .. 2.	*ALFRED S. WIGHTMAN .. 6.
FREDERICK MEE .. .. 3.	*PETO MEADOWS .. .. 7.
CHARLES MEE .. .. 4.	†GEORGE ROWE .. .. Tenor.

Conducted by CHARLES MEE.

† First peal. \* First peal in the method. Messrs. Steward and C. Mee hail from Ipswich; Perry from Helmingham; D. G. and A. S. Wightman from Cretingham; Meadows from Brandeston; and G. Rowe belongs to Debenham. The above company take this opportunity of thanking the vicar and churchwardens for granting permission to ring.

TOTTENHAM, MIDDLESEX.

THE ALL HALLOWS' (TOTTENHAM) SOCIETY AND THE ST. JAMES'S SOCIETY.

Birthday Peal.

On Saturday, October 31, 1885, in Three Hours and Ten Minutes,

At THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE MAJOR, 5151 CHANGES;

Tenor 20 cwt.

THOMAS C. GROVE* .. .. Treble.	†GEORGE B. LUCAS .. .. 5.
JAMES LANGRAN† .. .. 2.	JOSEPH WAGHORN .. .. 6.
SAMUEL GEO. BOWER .. .. 3.	HENRY A. BARNETT .. .. 7.
JOSEPH WAGHORN, JUN. .. 4.	†WM. PYE-ENGLISH .. .. Tenor.

Conducted by JOSEPH WAGHORN, JUN.

\* First peal. † First peal with a bob bell. † First peal of Major. This is the first peal called by the conductor, and was rung on All Hallows' eve, being also the anniversary of the augmentation of the bells from six to eight, and being the 24th birthday of T. C. Grove, his fellow-ringers wish him many happy returns of the day.

HERTFORD.—THE HERTFORD ASSOCIATION AND THE HERTFORD COLLEGE YOUTHS.

Welcome Home & Birthday Peal.

On Saturday, October 31, 1885, in Three Hours and Six Minutes,

At St. Andrew's Church,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5120 CHANGES.

Tenor 16 cwt.

JOSEPH CULL .. .. Treble.	WILLIAM A. ALPS .. .. 5.
JASPER G. CRAWLEY .. .. 2.	STEPHEN KNIGHT .. .. 6.
MATTHEW ELLSMORE .. .. 3.	HERBERT BAKER .. .. 7.
WILLIAM A. TYLER* .. .. 4.	HENRY J. TUCKER .. .. Tenor.

Conducted by HERBERT BAKER.

The above peal was rung to welcome home Reginald A. Smith, Esq., of "Goldings," near Hertford. It was also rung on the 22nd birthday of the conductor, and is taken from the *Clavis*. \* First peal in the method.

SPARE COPIES WANTED.—Mr. F. E. Ward, of 438, High Street, Cheltenham, is anxious to become possessed of copies of "THE BELL NEWS" for the following dates: 29.7.82—19.1.84—2.2.84—9.2.84.

## HULME, LANCASHIRE.

## THE ST. PHILIP'S (HULME) AND ECCLES SOCIETIES.

On Saturday, October 31, 1885, in Two Hours and Fifty-four Minutes,

AT ST. PHILIP'S CHURCH,

## A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 12½ cwt.

JOHN F. WOODS .. .. Treble.	EDWIN ETTOCK .. .. 5.
THOMAS HEAL .. .. 2.	CHARLES CASH .. .. 6.
THOMAS COLLINGE .. .. 3.	ALFRED EGGINGTON .. .. 7.
EDWARD CASH .. .. 4.	ARTHUR WOOD .. .. Tenor.

Composed by W. HARRISON, and Conducted by ARTHUR WOOD.

The Messrs. Cash and Mr. Eggington are members of the Eccles Society; the remainder are of the St. Philip's Society.

## DRAYTON, BERKS.—THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, October 31, 1885, in Three Hours and Two Minutes,

AT ST. PETER'S CHURCH,

## A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

THURSTANS' COMPOSITION. Tenor 9½ cwt.

FREDERICK A. CASTLE .. Treble.	*HARRY HOLIFIELD .. .. 5.
REV. F. A. H. DU BOULAY .. 2.	*H. D. BETTINGER, Esq. .. 6.
FREDERICK FIELD* .. .. 3.	†HARRY SHEARD .. .. 7.
JAMES W. WASHBROOK .. 4.	†G. TOLLEY .. .. Tenor.

Conducted by JAMES W. WASHBROOK.

\*First peal of Stedman. †First peal in any method.

Mr. H. Sheard had never tried Stedman Triples before. Messrs. Castle and Washbrook hail from Oxford; Field and Bettinger belong to Drayton; Holifield and Sheard from Abingdon; Du Boulay and Tolley from Headington.

## WALTER BELCHAMP, ESSEX.

## THE SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.

On Sunday, November 1, 1885, in Two Hours and Fifty-eight Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

## A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5040 CHANGES.

Tenor 11 cwt.

SAMUEL SLATER .. .. Treble.	ARTHUR PORTER .. .. 5.
ZACHARIAH SLATER .. .. 2.	NELSON HAWKINS .. .. 6.
OLIVER GARWOOD .. .. 3.	JAMES BIRD .. .. 7.
PERCY CHAS. S. SCOTT .. 4.	ALFRED PYE .. .. Tenor.

Composed by J. REEVES, and Conducted by ALFRED PYE.

The above is a 5-part composition. Messrs. Pye and Porter hail from Little Heath, Essex; Nelson Hawkins from Bulmer; Percy Scott and James Bird from Long Melford; the rest from Glemsford.

## DUFFIELD, DERBYSHIRE.

## THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, November 2, 1885, in Two Hours and Fifty-six Minutes,

AT ALL SAINTS' CHURCH,

## A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES.

Tenor 17 cwt. in F.

ARTHUR B. WARD .. .. Treble.	GEORGE HINGLEY .. .. 5.
SAMUEL JOHNSON .. .. 2.	HARRY C. WOODWARD .. 6.
WILLIAM HICKLING .. .. 3.	ROBERT JOHNSON .. .. 7.
JOHN HOWE .. .. 4.	A. PERCIVAL HEYWOOD .. Tenor.

Composed and Conducted by A. PERCIVAL HEYWOOD, Esq.

This peal has the 6th at home throughout, and the 4th and 7th respectively twenty and twenty-two times in 7th's place.

## MANCHESTER.

On Tuesday, November 3, 1885, in Three Hours and Thirty Minutes,

AT THE CATHEDRAL,

## A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB ROYAL, 5120 CHANGES;

Tenor 25 cwt. in Eb.

HARRY HEAP .. .. Treble.	EDWARD CASH .. .. 6.
SAMUEL WEST .. .. 2.	THOMAS WILDE .. .. 7.
WILLIAM JAKEMAN* .. .. 3.	*A. PERCIVAL HEYWOOD .. 8.
CHARLES CASH .. .. 4.	JOHN EACHUS .. .. 9.
JAMES WOOD .. .. 5.	SAMUEL WOOD .. .. Tenor.

Composed and Conducted by SAMUEL WOOD.

\* First peal in the method. Messrs. Heap, Jakeman, J. and S. Wood hail from Ashton; the brothers Cash from Eccles; T. Wilde from Hyde; A. P. Heywood from Duffield. The rest belong to Manchester.

## SAFFRON WALDEN, ESSEX.

## THE SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS AND THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, November 2, 1885, in Three Hours and Eleven Minutes,

AT ST. MARY'S CHURCH,

## A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 24 cwt.

JOHN F. PENNING .. .. Treble.	NATHAN J. PITSTOW .. .. 5.
ARTHUR PORTER .. .. 2.	ERNEST PITSTOW .. .. 6.
CHARLES FREEMAN .. .. 3.	ALFRED PYE .. .. 7.
GEORGE MARTIN .. .. 4.	FREDERICK PITSTOW .. .. Tenor.

Composed by NATHAN J. PITSTOW, and Conducted by FREDERICK PITSTOW.

The peal, which has the 6th its extent six times each way in 5-6, has never been previously performed. Messrs. Pye and Porter hail from Romford, the rest are local men.

## NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.

## DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Tuesday, November 3, 1885, in Two Hours and Fifty-seven Minutes,

AT ST. JOHN'S CHURCH,

## A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 12½ cwt. in G.

EDWARD WALLIS .. .. Treble.	FRANCIS LEES .. .. 5.
ROBERT ALCOCK .. .. 2.	RICHARD W. WIGNELL .. 6.
ROBERT S. STORY .. .. 3.	THOMAS CLARK .. .. 7.
CHARLES L. ROUTLEDGE .. 4.	WILLIAM STORY .. .. Tenor.

Composed by J. J. B. LATES and Conducted by THOMAS CLARK.

Mr. Alcock belongs to the Stockton-on-Tees society, and this is his first peal. T. Clark hails from Ripon, Yorks; R. W. Wignell from North Shields; the rest belong to Newcastle.

## Date Touches.

## THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

ASPLEY GUISE.—On Thursday evening, October 29th, at the parish church, a date touch (1885 changes, was rung in 1 hr. 11 mins. G. Usher, 1; E. Lewin, 2; W. Mynard, 3; W. E. Turney, 4; M. Lane, 5; W. Chibnall (conductor), 6. The above was rung with the bells half-muffled as a tribute of respect to the late Bishop of Ely.

ORMSKIRK (Lancashire).—On Monday, October 26th, at the parish church, a date touch of Grandsire Triples (1885 changes), in 1 hr. 3 mins. John Prescott, 1; Henry Ellis, 2; George Larkey, 3; George Prescott, 4; William Ellis, 5; William J. Taylor, 6; James Sholicar, 7; William Lloyd, 8. Tenor 25½ cwt. Composed by J. R. Pritchard of Liverpool, and conducted by James Sholicar, and was rung in commemoration of the coming of age of Lord Skelmersdale.

## Miscellaneous.

## DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.—On Thursday, October 29th, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob (nine bobs), at St. John's Church, in 26 mins. F. Lees, 1; E. Wallis, 2; C. L. Routledge, 3; ———— 4; T. Denton, 5; W. Story (conductor), 6. And on Monday, November 2nd, after the Annual meeting at Durham, at the same church a 720 of Plain Bob Minor, in 25 mins. R. J. Robson, 1; C. L. Routledge (conductor), 2; H. Fergusson, 4; G. Atkinson (Winlaton), 4; W. Eggleston, 5; T. Denton, 6. Tenor 12½ cwt.

## THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION

RETTENDON.—On Tuesday evening, October 29th, a 720 of Bob Minor, in 23 mins. Rev. H. A. Cockey, 1; J. Turner, 2; J. Johnson (Rayleigh), 3; H. Deal (Rayleigh), 4; E. Moat, 5; W. Jay (conductor), 6.

STANFORD-LE-HOPE.—On Tuesday evening, November 3rd, the Rayleigh and Rettendon companies met at this place, and rang a 720 of Bob Minor, in 22½ mins. A. Wallace (Rayleigh), 1; J. Johnson (Rayleigh), 2; W. Jay (Rettendon), 3; H. Deal (Rayleigh), 4; E. Moat (Rettendon), 5; Rev. H. A. Cockey (conductor), 6. Tenor 8 cwt.

## GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

BARNWOOD (Gloucestershire).—On Tuesday evening, November 3rd, six members of the above Association rang a 720 of Oxford Treble

Bob Minor, in 27 mins. \*H. Barnes, 1; J. Yeates, 2; G. Miles, 3; Wm. Sevier, 4; H. Mitchell, 5; A. A. Waite (conductor), 6. \* First 720. And 192 of Grandsire Minor. H. Mitchell (conductor), 5; J. Baldwin, 6. Tenor 14 cwt.

#### THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

BRANDESTON (Suffolk).—On Sunday, October 25th, six members of this above Association rang a 720 of Woodbine Treble Bob. A. S. Wightman, 1; S. Meadows, 2; H. Bedingfield, 3; P. Meadows, 4; D. G. Wightman, 5; S. Wightman, 6. This is the first 720 in the method ever rung upon the bells. And a 720 of Morning Exercise. S. Meadows, 1; H. Baldry, 2; H. Bedingfield, 3; A. S. Wightman, 4; D. G. Wightman, 5; P. Meadows, 6. On Sunday, November 1st, 360 of Double Court and 360 of College Single. W. Bedingfield, 1; H. Baldry, 2; H. Bedingfield, 3; P. Meadows, 4; D. G. Wightman, 5; S. Wightman, 6. Also 240 of each of the following methods: New London Pleasure, Cambridge Surprise, Morning Exercise, Woodbine Treble Bob, Violet Treble Bob, Oxford Treble Bob and Kent Treble Bob. W. Walpole, 1; A. S. Wightman, 2; H. Bedingfield, 3; P. Meadows, 4; D. G. Wightman, 5; S. Wightman, 6. All the above were conducted by D. G. Wightman.

#### THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

HAUGHTON (Lancashire).—On Tuesday, November 3rd, at St. Anne's church, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor, in 28 mins. John S. Leech, 1; John Howard (conductor), 2; John Bardsley, 3; \*James A. Thomas, 4; Wm. Wilde, sen., 5; Peter Smith, 6. \* First 720 in the method with a bob bell. Tenor 15 cwt. in G.

#### THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

APPLETON (Berks).—On Friday, October 30th, two single courses, and on Monday, November 2nd, three consecutive courses (672 changes), of Cambridge Surprise Major. J. Avery, 1; E. Holifield, 2; B. Barrett, 3; J. W. Washbrook, 4; W. Bennett, 5; G. Holifield, 6; C. Hounslow, 7; Rev. F. E. Robinson (conductor), 8.

DORCHESTER (Oxon).—On Saturday, October 24th, five members of the above Guild visited Dorchester, and with three members of the Drayton company attempted a peal of Stedman Triples, but unfortunately after about 3780 changes had been rung in 2 hrs. 30 mins, a mishap occurred with the treble man, and stand had to be called. William Woods, 1; Rev. F. A. H. Du Boulay, 2; Fred Field, 3; H. Castle, 4; Fred Castle, 5; H. D. Betteridge, Esq., 6; J. W. Washbrook (conductor), 7; Fred Clinch, 8. Tenor 18 cwt. Three of the band had not handled a bell in Stedman before.

KIDLINGTON.—On Saturday, October 24th, a 720 of Grandsire Minor, being the first rung by the local company. J. W. Washbrook (conductor), 1; Henry Judge, 2; Frank Shirley, 3; William Cox, 4; James Franklin, 5; John Baker, 6. This is a very heavy peal of six, tenor considerably over 30 cwt., and it is awful hard work to ring Minor upon them. Time 35 mins.

OXFORD.—On Sunday, October 25th, at St. Mary Magdalen, 360 of Double Court Bob Minor, and for Divine Service in the evening, 360 of Double Court. F. Kirby, 1; F. Castle, 2; C. Hounslow, 3; A. F. M. Custance, 4; W. Baston, 5; J. W. Washbrook (conductor), 6. And on Sunday, November 1st, for Divine Service in the evening, a 720 of Bob Minor in 25 mins. T. Kirby, 1; W. Wood, 2; Job Howes, 3; W. C. Baston, 4; C. Hester, 5; J. W. Washbrook (conductor), 6. And on Monday, November 2nd, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor, in 24 mins. C. Hester, 1; J. Howes, 2; F. Castle, 3; G. H. Griffith, 4; H. Castle, 5; A. F. M. Custance, Esq. (conductor), 6.

#### THE WANSTEAD AMALGAMATED SOCIETY.

WOODFORD (Essex).—On Sunday, November 1st, the following members of this Association rang for morning service a 720 of Bob Minor, in 25 mins. H. Nunn, sen., 1; W. Smith, 2; H. Nunn, jun., 3; J. Nunn, 4; J. Wincey, 5; T. Scarlett (conductor), 6. And for evening service, a 720 of Grandsire Minor, G. Akers ringing the 2nd, H. Nunn, jun. conducting. And after evening service, a 720 of Bob Minor, T. Scarlett conducting.

#### WORCESTER AND ADJOINING DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

NETHERTON.—On Thursday evening, October 22nd, being the Annual Harvest Thanksgiving Service at St. Andrew's Church, the local company rang several touches of Grandsire Minor before and after service. The services were continued on the following Sunday, October 25th, when the company rang for Morning Service, a 720 of Plain Bob Minor in 26 mins. T. Felton, 1; R. Round, 2; J. Townsend, 3; M. J. Robinson, 4; J. Prestidge, 5; J. Smith (conductor), 6. And for evening service, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob, in 26 mins. R. Round, 1; J. Prestidge, 2; J. Townsend, 3; M. J. Robinson, 4; W. Micklewright (conductor), 5; J. Smith, 6. Also a 360 of Plain Bob Minor in 13 mins. R. Perkins, 1; A. Beddal, 2; A. Whatmore, 3; M.

J. Robinson, 4; W. Micklewright (conductor), 5; R. Round, 6. Also on Thursday evening, October 29th, a 720 of Plain Bob Minor in 26 mins. R. Perkins, 1; A. Beddal, 2; D. Garbett, 3; A. Whatmore, 4; W. Micklewright (conductor), 5; J. Smith, 6. Tenor 12½ cwt. Messrs. R. Perkins, A. Beddal, A. Whatmore, and D. Garbett, hail from St. Michael's, Brierley Hill, and Mr. W. Micklewright from St. Thomas's, Dudley.

ABINGDON (Berks).—On Saturday, October 31st, at St. Nicholas' church, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor, in 22 mins. W. Sandell, 1; T. Short, 2; F. Castle (Oxford), 3; W. Washbrook (Oxford, conductor), 4; H. Sheard, 5; H. Holifield, 6. This is the first 720 by all the Abingdon men. And on Sunday, November 1st, a 720 of Plain Bob Minor, in 24 mins. H. Fruin, 1; H. Holifield, 2; T. Short, 3; J. Brown, 4; H. Sheard (conductor), 5; W. Sandell, 6.

ASHCHURCH (Gloucester).—On Sunday, November 1st, five of the Kemerton local company, with the assistance of E. Wallace, of Ashchurch, rang 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor, in 25 mins. Arthur Devereux, 1; Edwin Devereux (conductor), 2; Frank Potter, 3; Henry Payne, 4; Charles Smith, 5; Elijah Wallace, 6. Tenor 12 cwt. This is the first 720 in the method on the bells.

BALDOCK (Herts).—On Thursday, October 15th, at the church of St. Mary the Virgin, for practice, a 630 of Grandsire Triples. T. Webb, 1; Jno. Phillips (conductor), 2; J. Smith, 3; Robert Jackson, 5; Richard Jackson, 6; J. Roslyn, 7; G. Gentle, 8. This is the longest touch by the Baldock company. And on Sunday, November 1st, for Divine Service in the morning, three 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles, each called differently (4-6-8 covering). T. Webb (conductor), 1; A. Squires, 2; J. Cawdell, 3; J. Smith, 4; Richard Jackson, 5; G. Spicer, 6; J. Roslyn, 7; G. Gentle, 8. And for Divine Service in the evening, an attempt was made for a 504 of Grandsire Triples, but it came to grief close to the finish. Afterwards a 112 of Grandsire Triples. T. Webb (conductor), 1; Jno. Phillips, 2; J. Cawdell, 3; J. Smith, 4; A. Squires, 5; Richard Jackson, 6; J. Roslyn, 7; G. Gentle, 8. Tenor 28 cwt. in D. A. Squires hails from Hitchin, Herts.

BATLEY CARR (Yorkshire).—*Handbell Ringing*.—On Saturday, October 31st, for practice, 720 Oxford Treble Bob Minor (12 bobs), and 240 Duke of York (4 bobs). John W. Simon, 1-2; Squire Mitchell, 3-4; George H. Simon (conductor), 5-6.

BENGEO (Herts).—On Friday, October 30th, a 720 of Grandsire Minor. Thomas Barker, 1; William Bennett (first 720), 2; Joseph Pomfret, 3; James Channer, 4; William Odell, 5; Henry Phillips (conductor), 6. This is the first 720 by the local company.

CAPEL (Surrey).—On Friday, October 16th, the Capel society rang for practice a 720 of Stedman's Slow Course Minor, in 25 mins. T. M. Stedman, 1; A. Tidy, 2; R. Jordan, 3; E. Jordan, 4; \*A. Mills, 5; D. Jordan (conductor), 6. And on Tuesday, October 20th, a 720 of College Exercise. T. M. Stedman, 1; A. Tidy, 2; A. Mills, 3; R. Jordan, 4; E. Jordan, 5; D. Jordan (conductor), 6. On Friday, October 23rd, a 720 of College Pleasure. M. Jenkins, 1; A. Tidy, 2; R. Jordan, 3; E. Jordan, 4; D. Jordan, 5; G. Williams (Reigate; conductor), 6. On Sunday, October 25th, for afternoon service, a 360 of Kent Treble Bob. A. Mills, 1; A. Tidy, 2; R. Jordan, 3; R. Worsfold, 4; E. Jordan, 5; D. Jordan (conductor), 6. After service a 720 of Double Oxford Bob. R. Worsfold, 1; A. Tidy, 2; R. Jordan, 3; E. Jordan, 4; \*A. Mills, 5; D. Jordan (conductor), 6. And a 720 of College Exercise. R. Worsfold, 1; A. Tidy, 2; R. Jordan, 3; A. Mills, 4; D. Jordan, 5; E. Jordan (conductor), 6. And 360 of College Pleasure. R. Worsfold, 1; A. Tidy, 2; E. Jordan (conductor), 3; D. Jordan, 4; R. Jordan, 5; A. Mills, 6. And on Tuesday, October 27th, 288 of Oxford Treble Bob. T. M. Stedman, 1; A. Tidy, 2; A. Mills, 3; R. Jordan, 4; G. Williams (Reigate), 5; E. Jordan (conductor), 6. Also two plain courses of Superlative Surprise. A. Tidy, 1; R. Jordan, 2; E. Jordan, 3; A. Mills, 4; G. Williams (Reigate), 5; D. Jordan, 6. And on Friday, October 30th, a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob. A. Mills, 1; A. Tidy, 2; \*T. M. Stedman, 3; R. Jordan, 4; E. Jordan, 5; D. Jordan (conductor), 6. And a 360 of Stedman's Slow Course. T. M. Stedman, 1; A. Tidy, 2; R. Jordan, 3; E. Jordan, 4; A. Mills, 5; D. Jordan (conductor), 6. \*First 720 in the method.

CHURCH (Lancashire).—*Muffled Peal*.—On Sunday, October 25th, for Divine Service in the evening at the parish church, a 720 of Plain Bob Minor, in 28 mins., with the bells deeply muffled as a mark of respect to the late Lord Bishop of Manchester. James Horrocks (conductor), 1; Thomas Doran, 2; Henry Hayes, 3; James Pickles, 4; William Pattison, 5; Thomas Horrocks, 6. Tenor 15 cwt.

DEERHURST (Gloucestershire).—On Wednesday evening, October 28th, the local company rang ten 6-scores of Stedman Doubles (each called differently), in 45 mins. G. Willis, 1; C. Willis, 2; H. Roberts (conductor), 3; C. Roles, 4; J. Bartlett, 5; T. Everness, 6. This is the longest length in the method by the above company.

**EASTBOURNE (Sussex).**—On Sunday, November 1st, at All Saints' church, for morning service, two 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles. T. Siggs, 1; William Siggs, 2; James West, 3; Edward Willoughby, 4; Frederick Harding (conductor), 5; Thomas Lewes, 6. For afternoon service, at Christ Church, 360 Grandsire Minor. Thomas Lewes, 1; Horace Colbran, 2; George Smith, 3; George Howes, 4; Thomas Smith, 5; Frederick Harding (conductor), 6. And for evening service, at All Saints' church, 560 Grandsire Triples. James West, 1; Harry P. Bennett, 2; Frederick W. Harding, 3; Leonard Huggett (conductor), 4; Thomas Willoughby, 5; James Potter, 6; Thomas Hart, 7; Thomas Lewes, 8.

**GREAT WALDINGFIELD (Suffolk).**—On Sunday, October 25th, at St. Lawrence's church, 720 of Bob Minor (twenty-six singles), in 28 mins. Harry Bowers, 1; Arthur Symonds (conductor), 2; Harry Diggins, 3; G. Hammond, 4; Percy Scott, 5; James Bird, 6. Tenor 14 cwt.

**LEEK (Staffordshire).**—On Tuesday, November 3rd, at the parish church for practice, a 720 of Bob Minor, in 28 mins., tenor 18½ cwt. in E. T. Rider, 1; W. Wood, 2; \*A. Halton, 3; T. P. Walwyn, 4; T. Turner, 5; W. H. Armitt (conductor), 6. \*First 720 with a bob bell.

**MINSTER-IN-SHEPPEY (Kent).**—On Sunday, November 1st, F. Grayling, Esq., and Messrs. Snelling, Saddleton, Cooper, Elliott, and Jordan, of the Sittingbourne Society, paid a visit to the abbey of SS. Mary and Sexburgha, and rang for evening service, with the bells half-muffled, as a mark of respect to the late Mr. Samuel Beal, who had been a constant ringer for the past two years and was much respected by a large circle of friends.

**PORTWICK (Cheshire).**—On Saturday, October 31st, the Witton society rang a 720 of Grandsire Minor (thirty-eight bobs and twenty-two singles), in 27 mins. Samuel Forster (conductor), 1; R. H. Barton (Christ Church, Bootle), 2; Richard Chantler, 3; Thomas Forster, 4; Joseph Bell, 5; Thomas Moore, 6. Tenor 12½ cwt.

**PRESCOT (Lancashire).**—On Sunday evening, November 1st, for Divine Service, a 518 Grandsire Triples, in 19 mins. James Chesworth, 1; Thos. Byron (conductor), 2; John Renshall, 3; John Case, 4; Jonathan Finney, 5; Thos. Abraham, 6; John Cook, 7; John Moston, 8.

**SEDGELEY (Staffordshire).**—On Sunday, November 1st, for Divine Service in the evening, at All Saints' church, being All Saints' day, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, 1260 changes, was rung by a mixed band, in 47 mins. John Goodman, sen., 1; David Bruce, 2; Robert Schofield, 3; Samuel Bunn, 4; James Screen, 5; Charles Carmell (conductor), 6; John Goodman, jun., 7; William Mills, 8. J. Goodman, sen., J. Goodman, jun., D. Bruce, R. Schofield, and C. Carmell are members of the Birmingham and District Association.

**SWANSCOMBE (Kent).**—On Thursday evening, October 29th, for practice, a 720 of Plain Bob Minor (twenty-two singles), in 26 mins. A. Cornford, 1; G. Martin, 2; F. Hayes, 3; F. Ring, 4; W. Martin, 5; W. Harper (conductor), 6. This 720 was taken from Shipway.

**WIMBLEDON (Surrey).**—On Tuesday, October 20th, at St. Mary's church, for practice, 192 of Cambridge Surprise. G. Byde, 1; E. F. Strange, 2; C. Byde, 3; J. Parker, 4; A. Garratt, 5; S. Frost, 6. And on Tuesday, October 27th, for practice, a 720 of Grandsire Minor (forty-four bobs and four singles), in 27 mins. J. Parker, 1; B. Battrum, 2; C. Byde, 3; R. Reynolds, 4; A. Nicholson, 5; S. Frost (conductor), 6. Also a 6-score of Grandsire Doubles, and a 6-score of Bob Doubles. W. Gallager, 1; C. Byde, 2; B. Battrum, 2; R. Reynolds, 4; A. Garratt (conductor), 5; W. Maye, 6. And on Sunday, November 1st, for Divine Service in the morning, a 720 of Woodbine Treble Bob, in 26 mins. E. Byde, 1; R. Moss, 2; C. Byde, 3; J. Parker, 4; A. Garratt, 5; S. Frost (conductor), 6.

#### PRESTON, SUFFOLK.

On Monday, October 26th, at St. Mary's church, 624 changes of Bob Minor (two singles and fourteen bobs), in 20 mins. H. Symonds, (composer and conductor), 1; Wm. Hollocks, 2; A. Hollocks, 3; Wm. Snell, 4; H. Smith, 5; A. Symonds, 6. This was rung to commemorate the 52nd birthday of the local conductor, being the number of months he has now lived. The band were then invited to the "Six Bells" inn, by Mr. H. Symonds, to partake of some refreshment, which they received, and drank to that gentleman's good health, and wished him a long life to hear and ring many a merry peal on the bells. And on Sunday, November 1st, it being All Saints' day, was rung for evening service, a 720 of Bob Minor (three bobs and eighteen singles), in 25 mins. A. Symonds (conductor), 1; Wm. Hollocks, 2; A. Hollocks, 3; H. Smith, 4; Wm. Snell, 5; Jno. Levitt, 6. After service, at the meeting-house of Mr. H. Symonds, on handbells, a 324 of Bob Minor (six singles and eight bobs). H. Symonds, 1; Wm. Hollocks, 2; A. Hollocks, 3; Jno. Moore, 4; H. Smith, 5; A. Symonds (composer and conductor), 6. This was rung to commemorate the 27th birthday of Mr. J. Moore, being the number of months he has now lived, his brother ringers wishing him many happy returns of the day, likewise success in the art.

#### A YEARS' RECORD OF THE ST. PAUL'S SOCIETY, BURTON-ON-TRENT.

THE above Society's year, which ends on the 20th of October, has been one of the most successful in the annals of the Society, and shews a considerable increase over last year both in the number and character of its performances. It is thought that the following statistics will be read with interest by many readers of "THE BELL NEWS." During the twelve months ending October 20th, 1885, this Society has rung and brought round 208,506 changes in the following methods: 8582 Grandsire Triples; 26,276 Stedman Triples, including three peals of 5040 each; 95,120 Double Norwich Court Bob Major, including eleven peals, viz.: one of 5008, five of 5024, one of 5040, three of 5056, and one of 5376 changes; 73,472 Superlative Surprise Major, including eight peals, viz.: three of 5056, four of 5088, and one of 6720 changes. Only the peals and touches which have been brought round are included in the above.

#### CREDITON, DEVON.

OUR readers will no doubt recollect the spirited correspondence which appeared in our paper some time ago relative to prize-ringing at this place. Probably this has been the cause of an awakening amongst the authorities, for an Exeter paper says:—

"The Guild ringers are making most rapid progress. Their practising has been going on almost every evening, and having secured two or three men who have been learners of some years' standing, they have decided to form the nucleus of the general body of ringers. They together were enabled on Sunday to ring several peals in a most creditable manner, to the agreeable surprise of a number of the inhabitants, who began to fear that with the resignation of the old body of ringers campanology was about to die out. It is understood, however, that the services of a professional belonging to the Devonshire Guild will be engaged shortly to come over from Exeter to teach the art of church bell ringing."

#### THE REIGATE SOCIETY.

ON Saturday, October 24th, several members of this Society paid a visit to London, the churches of St. Clement Danes and St. Margaret's, Westminster, being visited, and several touches in various methods were brought round. They were met at each church by several members of the St. James's Society. After visiting several places of interest the party left by the 9.30 train for Reigate, every one having thoroughly enjoyed himself. The Society beg through the medium of this paper to thank the vicars, steeplekeeper, etc., for the use of the bells at the churches visited. Those who took advantage of the trip were: Messrs. W. Argent, Master; Dewey, Hoad, Fuller, Moses, Howard, Brown, Kenward, Williams, and Webb.

#### THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—CAVERSHAM, OXON.

The following ringing has been done by the St. Peter's society during the last few weeks:—September 20th, 720 College Single, 720 Oxford Bob; September 22nd, 720 Yorkshire Court, 720 Plain Bob; September 26th, 720 Grandsire Minor; September 27th, 720 Plain Bob, 720 Kent Treble Bob, 120 Stedman Doubles; September 29th, 720 Plain Bob; October 4th, 360 Plain Bob; October 13th, 360 Oxford Bob, 720 Plain Bob; October 17th, 120 Stedman, 720 Grandsire; October 18th, 360 College Single, 720 Double Court; October 20th, 720 Bob Minor, 480 Grandsire Doubles; October 25th, 720 Oxford Bob; October 27th, 720 Plain Bob. The 720 of Bob Minor rung on October 20th, was rung without a bob being called, by the following: J. Hands, 1; E. Menday, 2; T. Newman, 3; Rev. G. F. Coleridge, 4; E. Pottinger, 5; G. Essex, 6. Tenor 17 cwt. In the other touches H. Simmonds, H. Smith, F. Simmonds, and E. Young also took part, the greater part of the conducting being done by T. Newman and Rev. G. F. Coleridge.

#### WALDRON, SUSSEX.

ON Saturday, October 17th, eight members of the St. Mary's Society, Eastbourne, attempted Holt's Original peal of Grandsire Triples, at the above church, but after ringing forty-two minutes it unfortunately came to grief. The same result attended a second attempt, in 37 mins. A touch of 518 with one of the local band was afterwards rung. The band take this opportunity of thanking the Vicar for his kindness in allowing them the use of the bells; also to the local company for their 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."

## REPLY TO MR. STRANGE.

SIR,—In your last week's issue appears a letter from E. F. Strange, complaining of the very loose way in which the business of the College Youths is carried on. In reply, I beg to inform that individual that a yearly balance-sheet is compiled by the two auditors appointed by the society, and entered in a ledger provided for that purpose, to enable any member to inspect the financial position of the company whenever he chooses to do so. E. F. Strange goes so far out of his way as to say what he must know to be an untruth, viz., that the society is in a state of poverty, which I beg to deny, and being one of the society's trustees, can assure the ringing world that now after all demands are paid, we have nearly £60 in hand. I wish to inform that gentleman that the company will know what to do under the tenth rule.

GEORGE MASH.

## THE PEAL OF TREBLE BOB AT ECCLES.

SIR,—I notice in "THE BELL NEWS" of Saturday last a statement by A. E. Wrecks, in reference to F. P.'s letter concerning what should have been a peal at Eccles, in which he says Mr. Walmsley calls his bobs very late, and he (Mr. Wrecks) called a few, thinking he had forgotten to call (very kind of him). Then he says "The only reason I can account for the bells coming round at that place is that a bob w must have been called." I should think there were a good deal of bobs called wrong. He then gives two hours forty-nine and a half mins., and not two hours fifty-two mins. as stated. He also gives the number of changes as 4896. It is a mystery how he could tell, as a great portion of the ringing sounded as if it was intended for the 24th of May or cutting of the first sod of the Manchester ship canal. He also says "Your correspondent F. P. is quite mistaken as to the number of changes per minute." I don't know who your correspondent F. P. is, but I can vouch for the time as stated by him being correct, as I counted them at 29, and several times below 28 changes per minute, when I could for blundering and bad striking. I like to see young ringers pushing on in the art, but when they condescend to publish false peals and false time knowingly, for the sake of their names appearing in "THE BELL NEWS," it is simply a disgrace to the Exercise, and time to call "stand."

J. S.

## A CORRECTION.

SIR,—In reading "THE BELL NEWS" of October 31st, I saw an account of a 720 of Bob Minor, rung at Holy Trinity church, Bengoe, Herts, on Friday, October 23rd, said to be conducted by H. Phillips. Now I wish to say that the single was called a lead previous to which it should have been, and would have been made had I not have said "No single, it is a plain lead." Also a 360 of Grandsire Minor was rung, conducted by H. Phillips. Now I wish to say that I had to call the 2nd, 3rd, 4th, and 6th bobs in the last part, so if H. Phillips was the conductor, I have done with conducting altogether.

H. J. TUCKER.

## LONDON SOCIETIES.

SIR,—Mr. Strange has very clearly enumerated the evils which now exist in our London Societies, more especially the Ancient Society of College Youths. These, in my opinion, are not one whit exaggerated. He has also suggested certain remedies, all more or less practicable. Now, in the first place, let me also advocate the introduction of an annual subscription, to the amount of say one shilling or eighteen pence. This has proved more than satisfactory in the case of our County and other large Associations; take for instance the Yorkshire, (I am in no way deteriorating from the merits of others), from the able management of whose officers, Mr. Muskett and his colleagues may very profitably take a lesson. While speaking on this head, let me give a word of advice to the members of this company in the approaching election of officers for the coming year. Choose men to conduct the society who have its welfare at heart, and who will use their best endeavours to raise it from its present low estate. And when there has been a good man elected as Master, I say, let him be kept in that position, for three, aye, five years, least of all should there be any silly custom of advancing the senior steward to the post of Master without any reference to his qualifications. Your correspondent also mentions another point. It is the introduction of honorary members not only in the College Youths, but in the coming National Association also, I trust special terms will be made for their admission, chiefly consisting of the clergy and the more influential of the laity. We may well look to them for help in overcoming, at least some of those evils which must be so plainly manifest to all. I have briefly touched upon a few of the points raised by Mr. Strange. All his suggestions are, I think, admirable, though, in the present state of affairs, not all practicable. We cannot expect any sudden change to take place in

the organisation of a society, amongst whose members, it seems to me, the first things to be overcome, are their own little jealousies and prejudices. But for all that, I trust the time is not far distant when the London Societies will be, as they should be, such as all ringers, in town or country, may be justly proud of.

X. Y. LONDON.

## KETTERING, NORTHANTS.

AT Kettering on Tuesday last, were borne to their last resting-place the remains of a much esteemed friend, Henry Starmer, who had attained the age of forty-nine, and who by reason of his knowledge of the campanological art and his intense love for it, was well known to the community of bell-ringers both in Kettering and the surrounding district. There probably is not a church tower for many miles round wherein Henry Starmer at sometime or other has not conducted a peal. His connection with the belfry at Kettering commenced in the year 1855, and in each Christmas eve peal since that time he has taken part. He also rang in the muffled peals for each of the eight ringers who in 1840 had achieved the feat of ringing upon the Kettering bells the famous peal of 5040 changes. At the time of his death and for some years past, he had occupied the post of conductor of the Kettering ringers, who will miss him sadly. When his remains were borne to the grave, they chimed the bells, and in the evening rang muffled peals as a last tribute of respect to their friend and leader.

## FESTIVITY AT WORCESTER.

ON Wednesday, October 28th, the St. Helen's Junior Society attempted a date touch of Grandsire Triples, to commemorate the 61st birthday of Mr Frederick Owen, but after ringing three quarters of an hour a change-course occurred, and the conductor called "stand." On Thursday, October 29th, the members of the above Society met at the house of Host Shifton, by the kind invitation of Mr. Owen, and sat down to an excellent leg of mutton supper. Mr. T. Brown, Churchwarden occupied the chair, and Mr. Walter Lawrence the vice-chair. After partaking of the good things provided, the handbells were brought into requisition, and with song and sentiment the evening was brought to a close, every one having thoroughly enjoyed themselves. And on Sunday morning, October 1st, at St. Helen's church, an attempt was made to ring a date touch of Grandsire Triples (the composition of Miss Cruwys Sharland, of Tiverton, Devon), but after ringing 1675 changes it unfortunately came to grief. Fredk. Owen, 1; George Cleal, 2; W. Powell, 3; William Johnson, 4; George Hinton, 5; H. Wilks (conductor), 6; W. Page, 7; T. Malim, 8.

## SUBSCRIPTION LIST FOR THE JOHNSON TESTIMONIAL.

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We, the Committee, feel that there are still many companies and individuals who wish to become subscribers to this "National Testimonial," and we would earnestly remind all such that it will be necessary soon to close the list. We therefore respectfully ask them to communicate at as early a date as convenient with A. Thomas, Hon. Secretary, 83, Wheelley's Road, Edgbaston, Birmingham; or to the Hon. Treasurer, Mr. S. Reeves, 10, Bull Street, West Bromwich.

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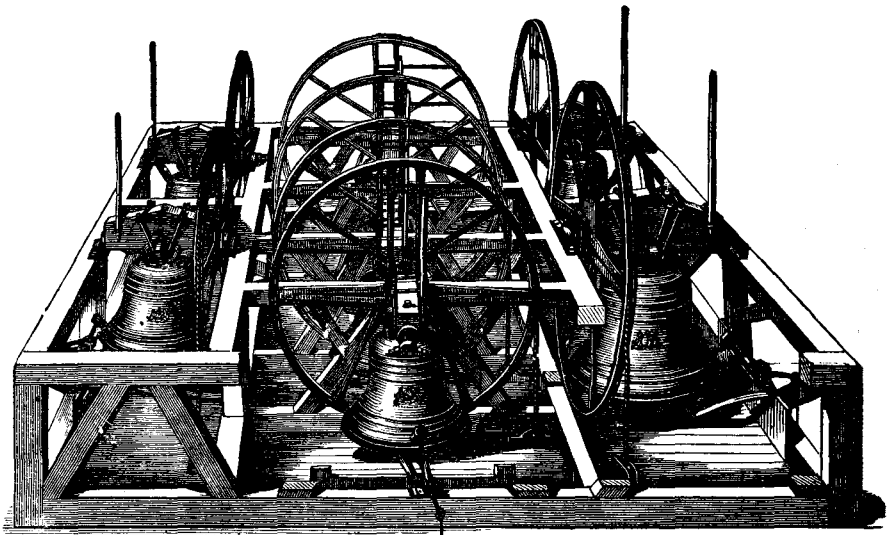
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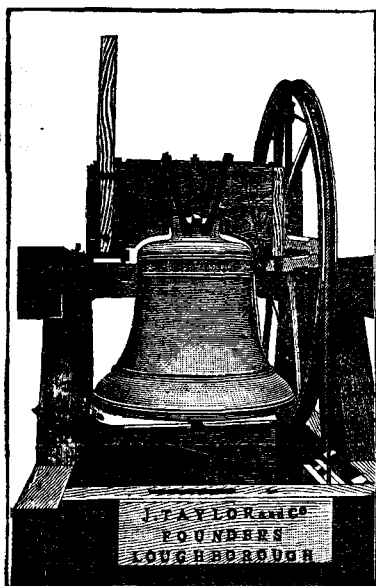
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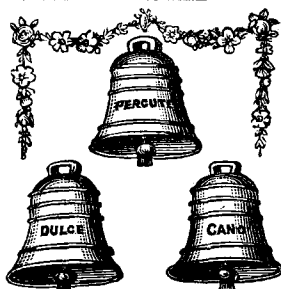
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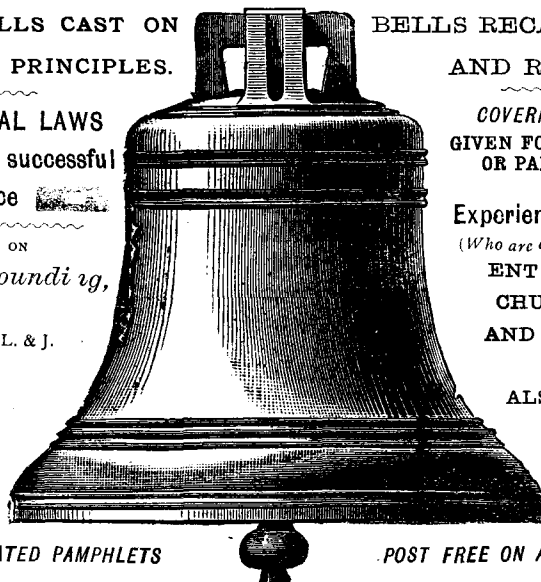
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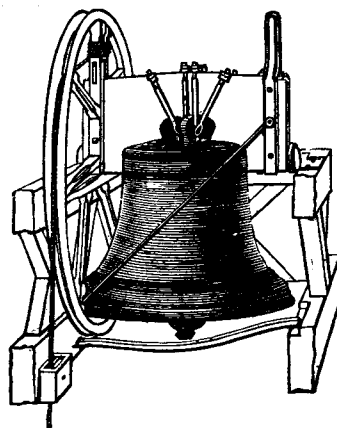
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## DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

THE eighth annual meeting of the members of the above Association was held at Durham, on Monday, November 9th, and the weather being fine, a very large number of members visited the old Cathedral city, the usual interest manifested by the members in the day's proceedings being enhanced by the fact that it was intended to present the esteemed Hon. Sec. (Mr. Clarkson, of Stockton), with a beautiful timepiece in recognition of the success which has attended his labours in the initiation and promotion of the Association. During the day parties of ringers ascended the towers of the Cathedral and St. Oswald's church, and gave the citizens a practical illustration of the science of change-ringing. In the afternoon Divine Service was held in St. Oswald's church, which was very largely attended by members, an admirable sermon being preached by the Rev. Canon Chester, M.A., rector of Ryton. Shortly before four o'clock the members sat down to dinner at Mrs. Brown's, "Three Tuns" Hotel. The Rev. A. W. Headlam occupied the chair, whilst the vice was taken by the President of the Association, Mr. R. S. Story, of Newcastle. On the removal of the cloth, the Chairman gave the toast of "Church and Queen," and in doing so said although he did not wish to see any of their lives shortened, yet he hoped none present would live to see these two, "Church and Queen," disunited. There were many symptoms that the storm was blowing over, and if they only all pulled well together he did not think there was anything to fear.

The Vice-Chairman submitted "The Bishops and Clergy of the Dioceses of Durham and Newcastle," to which the chairman responded.

MR. LEES proposed "The Honorary Members," which was suitably acknowledged by the Rev. F. Steggall, vicar of Consett, who said a peal of bells had just been placed in the tower of his church at Consett, and awaited public opening, which would probably be in about 3 weeks' time. He was at present making arrangements for the opening ceremony to be in accordance with the custom of the society, and therefore hoped to have the pleasure of welcoming a large number of those present to Consett. The Secretary then read his annual report, and though this is too lengthy for insertion, we cannot refrain from printing the last paragraph, viz.: "Before concluding this report I must refer to one matter which is now so prominently before the country, namely, the threatened attempt not only to deprive the Church of her position and close alliance with the State, but also to despoil her of the sources of revenue which she has so long enjoyed; in other words, the scheme for disestablishment and disendowment. This question deeply concerns all bell-ringers. Whatever may have been the faults or shortcomings of ringers, they cannot be accused of ever having been in feeling hostile to the Church to which they are officially connected and so closely associated, even in the darkest days of past neglect, and I trust that one important result of such an association as this has been to draw us all closer to the Church than before, and to her clergy, whose presence among us we always appreciate. When it is remembered that the estimated number of ringers in England is probably larger than the number of voters in any single constituency, our attitude in this matter at once assumes importance, and I cannot imagine the possibility of this and similar associations continuing to enjoy a useful and prosperous existence; in fact, it is difficult to imagine our continued existence as an association at all, with the Church of which we are an offshoot lying prostrate at the feet of her enemies, whose sole object is to cripple and despoil not only her influence, but her very means of existence."

The Chairman congratulated the members upon their report, and proposed that it be adopted.

MR. THOMPSON, of Chester-le-Street, seconded the proposition, which was carried unanimously.

The "Health of the President" having been duly pledged, the Chairman was obliged to vacate his post, which was taken by the Rev. F. Steggall.

The meeting then proceeded to the election of officers for the ensuing year. The President and Secretary were re-elected, and Mr. Clark, of Ripon, and Mr. Lees were appointed vice-presidents.

The Secretary intimated that it had been decided at the committee meeting to hold the February meeting at Staindrop, and the Whit-Monday meeting at Hexham.

## PRESENTATION TO THE SECRETARY.

The whole of the business having been transacted,

THE PRESIDENT of the Association said he had now the honour of performing one of the most gratifying and pleasing acts which had ever fallen to his lot to fulfil since he became connected with the Association. As everyone present was aware, their worthy Secretary had, since the inauguration of the Society, worked with great energy and with a determination to make the Society a success, hence he had ungrudgingly rendered very valuable services in the interests and for the promotion of the Society. He could not speak personally of the formation of the Association, but had an idea of what arduous labours Mr. Clarkson must have accomplished before he could launch such an association as theirs with such infinite success. The Association

appeared to have been started and principally carried on by Mr. Clarkson, although he had doubtless had some very able supporters in Mr. Reed, Mr. Lees, and one or two others, who had been the backbone of the Association; but still it was principally owing to Mr. Clarkson's indefatigable endeavours and perseverance that the Association had been attended with such great success that they were now but a very short way behind the principal Associations of ringers in the kingdom. They were making rapid progress, and in the future, as far as he could see, there would be some very heavy and hard work to accomplish, consequently he only hoped that Mr. Clarkson would be spared to help them through with it. In the name of the members of the Association he had now the greatest possible pleasure in presenting Mr. Clarkson with a beautiful timepiece, the case of which was in the shape of the great bell of Moscow, in recognition of their high appreciation of the eminent services he had rendered to the Association. Mr. Clarkson's health was then drunk with musical honours.

MR. CLARKSON, in returning thanks, said their president had been kind enough to refer to the great difficulties that he (Mr. Clarkson) must have encountered in launching the society with so much success, but he must certainly confess that at the present moment he was confronted with a greater difficulty than he had ever yet had to surmount, and that was to sufficiently thank them for their spontaneous good feeling towards him, and also for the very handsome present they had thought fit to make him. Judging from the president's remarks, it appeared that the whole credit of making the Association a success had been awarded to him, but he (Mr. Clarkson) knew that if it had not been for the manner in which the members had wished and had ardently striven for its success and attended the meetings, it would have been absolutely impossible for him to attempt what he had done. A man could not devote his whole energy to a work of any kind unless he received the sympathy of those who were supposed to derive benefit from it. This had been accorded him, and he had repeatedly recognised on previous occasions the sympathy, support, and good feelings of the members of the association towards himself as their secretary, but he did not know he held such a prominent place in their good feelings, as their present to him that day showed. The gift was all the more gratifying to him, because it appeared to be perfectly spontaneous, for he had never given the slightest intimation of wishing to be relieved from the position he held, although he would be perfectly willing to do so if a successor could be found who would be willing to fulfil the duties to the benefit of the association. Neither was there any reasonable ground of any prospect of his severing his connection with the society through leaving the neighbourhood or otherwise—and speaking from memory he would say he was not even going to get married (laughter and applause), although such a good start as their present was enough to inspire a man with the wish to complete the usual list of "home comforts" (renewed laughter and applause). He had had the example set him by their worthy president in this respect, and although his example was worthy of imitation in most things, yet he preferred to be a little behind him in this matter (hear, hear, and laughter). After paying a tribute of thanks to the president, to whose efforts must be due the success which had attended the presentation, Mr. Clarkson went on to say that it would always afford him the greatest possible pleasure to devote as much of the time and energy he could possibly spare for the benefit of the association, which apparently so well appreciated his efforts (applause). He was perfectly well aware, however, that a change in the secretaryship might, under the circumstances, be to the advantage of the Association (no, no). However, it was for them and not him to judge who should be their secretary; but he could only repeat what he had previously intimated, that as long as it was in his power to give them the benefit of his services as secretary, or in any other official capacity they might wish to assign to him, so long should those services ever be at the disposal of the association. He again begged to tender them his heartfelt thanks for their handsome present.

After the general meeting a party of ringers visited the deanery and rang a course of Grandsire Caters on the handbells, before the Dean and Mrs. Lake and a party of friends. This was followed by a course of Bob Major, which was afterwards repeated at the request of Mrs. Lake, who appeared deeply interested in the mysteries of change-ringing. The ringers, having partaken of refreshment, were kindly shown through the interesting portions of the deanery.

The following ringing was accomplished during the day: At St. Oswald's church, 720 of Bob Minor. W. Baxter, 1; W. J. Blakiston, 2; — Leighton, 3; J. Clarkson, 4; — Millar, 5; F. Harrison (conductor), 6. 720 of Woodbine Treble Bob Minor. J. Clarkson, 1; G. J. Clarkson (conductor), 2; T. Burdon, 3; J. W. Waller, 4; J. Stephenson, 5; W. Newton, 6. 720 of Oxford Treble Bob Minor. W. Newton, 1; John Moffitt, 2; R. S. Story, 3; R. Alcock, 4; R. W. Wignell, 5; G. J. Clarkson (conductor), 6. At the Cathedral, Grandsire Triples and Kent Treble Bob Major were rung, but beyond one or two short touches, very little was accomplished.

## WELLINGBOROUGH, NORTHAMPTONSHIRE.

ON Friday evening, October 23rd, the Sunday afternoon choir and chimers connected with the Parish Church, Wellingborough, met at the residence of Mr. F. A. Simonds (one of the sidesmen), to present Mr. G. H. Burnham (ex-churchwarden and the donor of the new second bell) with a small token of their respect. The gift took the shape of a solid silver tobacco vase, weighing 13 oz., the lid being surmounted by the figure of a greyhound. On the front is inscribed: "Presented to G. H. Burnham, Esq., by the afternoon choir and chimers of the Parish Church, Wellingborough." Mr. Simonds presented the vase, and the health of Mr. Burnham was drunk with musical honours. Mr. J. Barringer, who has long been a most useful and willing helper in connection with the afternoon service, begged Mr. Burnham's acceptance of the present, thanked him for the treat lately given to the choir and chimers at the Grange Farm, and for his kindness and consideration for all who assemble at the afternoon service, concluding by wishing him a long life, health, peace, and happiness. Mr. Burnham suitably acknowledged the gift. The remainder of the evening was spent in a social and pleasant manner.

Last year the bells at Wellingborough was increased to eight. After the usual difficulties and general upset consequent upon any reform or change in belfry arrangements, matters are now getting into proper trim. Perseverance and enthusiasm on the part of learners, patience and good feeling on that of the older ringers, and kind assistance and encouragement from the Vicar and Churchwardens, and townsfolk, have resulted in the formation of a steady, respectable set of ringers and chimers, seventeen in all. Most of the men are regular attendants at church, several of them being choirmen and church-workers in other ways. On Monday evening last, a clear well-struck touch of Grandsire Triples was rung by the following. E. J. Dennes, 1; G. Turnell, 2; W. Wood, 3; S. Randall, 4; W. H. Ette, 5; H. Clayson, 6; T. Coe, 7; T. Craddock, 8. Tenor 30 cwt.

## THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

THE members of the above Association having expressed a desire to hold a District Meeting at Leighton Buzzard, the Hon. Secretary communicated with the Vicar there, asking permission to ring the church bells—at the same time, the Vicar of Linslade, the adjoining parish, was also written to the like effect. In both cases, these clergymen decline to accede to the request of the Association. The Vicar of Leighton says—"I have waited a post to see my churchwardens, and they agree with me, that for many reasons (which I need not relate), it is not possible to accede to your request as to ringing our church bells on November 7th." The Vicar of Linslade writes—"Linslade not being in the Diocese of Ely, I hardly think it would be appropriate for the bell-ringers to ring here." It is difficult to account for the veto thus placed upon the action of the Association so far as their endeavours to open up a change-ringing field in Leighton is concerned. Surely there must be something in the background to cause these reverend gentlemen to refuse permission to the members of the Association. No such like application has anywhere in the county ever been hitherto denied. Unsatisfactory it is that the many reasons in the Vicar of Leighton's letter were not stated.

It is pleasing to record that Mr. Edwin Ransom, a member and earnest supporter of the work of the Association from its formation, was on Monday last elected to the dignified post of Mayor of Bedford.

## ST. LAURENCE'S SOCIETY, READING.—THE "WILLIAM" PEAL.

IT is becoming a custom when making arrangements for peals, to get ringers having the same Christian names, and if possible belonging to the same society, though this is rather more difficult. We read of the meet of the Henrys, the peals of the Williams, the Jameses, and the Johns; consequently having eight Williams in St. Laurence's society, a determination was made to attempt Holt's six-part peal of Grandsire Triples (the result will be seen in the peal column), on the birthday of Mr. William Newell, who has been instructor to the society since it was formed, and who may justly be called the father of change-ringing, in the town of Reading. There could not be found a more fitting occasion for the bells to be rung by the "Bills" to shew their respect to the instructor. It may be interesting to know that this is the first peal the tenor man has rung for nearly fifteen years, when he rang the tenor behind a 10,000 of Grandsire Caters at Appleton, Berks. After the peal, the ringers adjourned to the house of Mr. W. Newell, and having partaken of his hospitality in the shape of light refreshment, the Williams separated, each one feeling thoroughly satisfied with his evening's work. Some of the younger members, who have never rang a peal, talked of having their names changed for a few hours, so as to be able to take part. However they shewed their interest in the peal by following it through outside the tower.

## THE ST. JAMES SOCIETY, LONDON.

ON Friday evening, November 6th, through the kindness of Mr. Lovegrove, host of the "Crown," Essex Street, Strand, being the meeting house of the above Society, the undermentioned members were entertained to a tripe and onion supper, and to which ample justice was done, which showed that if some of the company present were deficient in ringing, they were not at all backward in the feeding department. After the cloth had been removed, Messrs. Mc Laughlin, Newman, Winny, Hayes (conductor), and George, rang a touch of Grandsire Caters on the handbells, and then in a suitable manner the Chairman proposed the health of the host, which was drank with musical honours, and to which he replied in appropriate terms. "Prosperity to the St. James Society," proposed by the Master, was received with applause. The usual toasts to the Chairman and Vice-chairman were given with musical honours, and during the evening, Messrs. Barry, Woodley, Lovegrove, McLaughlin, and George, sang several songs, while Messrs. Newton and Barry gave two recitations. Among the company present were Messrs. Albone (Chairman), G. T. McLaughlin (Master and Vice-chairman), Lovegrove, J. M. Hayes, C. F. Winny, R. French, R. T. Woodley, J. R. Haworth, E. Rogers, F. G. Newman, J. Comb, H. J. Davies, J. Battum, W. Bidwell, W. H. George, and H. Langdon (steward), and D. Newton (secretary).

## ALL SAINTS', LOUGHBOROUGH.

A short time ago the 5th bell in the peal at All Saints' church, Loughborough, cracked, and had to be recast. This has been done most successfully by Messrs. Taylor and Son, the well-known bell-founders. The new one, which is a heavier and better bell than the old one, was used for the first time on Sunday last, and a special service for its dedication was held in the afternoon. The form of service approved of by the ordinary was used. After the third collect, the clergy and choir walked, singing a processional hymn, to the tower, and when the special collects were said and the bell dedicated, the rector gave a short address, sketching the history of bells, and their various uses in the church. The diameter of the bell is 3 ft. 4½ ins., its note G., weight 12 cwt. 2 qrs. 23 lbs., and it forms a great acquisition to the peal. After the dedication, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples was rung by the following members of the Midland Counties' Association. C. Smith, 1; T. Cooper, 2; J. C. Dicken, 3; J. Ward, 4; S. Smith, 5; W. Birkinshaw, 6; J. W. Taylor, jun., (conductor), 7; E. Wightman, 8. And before evening service a touch of Kent Treble Bob Major, and after service 308 of Grandsire Triples.

## THE ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

THE ANNUAL MEETING of this Association was held at Cambridge, by adjournment, on Monday, November 2nd. The towers of Great St. Mary's and St. Andrew's the Great, by kind permission of the Vicars, were open, and at twelve, a short service was held at St. Mary's, when a short address was delivered by the Rev. A. H. F. Boughey, himself an enthusiastic ringer. Afterwards the ringers assembled at the club house of their Cambridge brethren, "The Castle," Pease Hill, and sat down to a plain cold dinner. Afterwards a business meeting was held, the accounts were passed and ordered to be printed together with the rules, which were then agreed to. Several batches of members were elected; votes of thanks to secretary and treasurer, the preacher, and the Vicars, were heartily recorded, and it was agreed to hold a District Meeting at Wisbech, if practicable, on New Year's Day, 1886. The attendance was small, but very easily accounted for by the general depression in the agricultural districts. The Association has a fair balance in hand, and is slowly but steadily making its way. The ringing during the day was good.

## WORCESTER AND ADJOINING DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

THE NEXT QUARTERLY MEETING of the above Association will be held at Bewdley, on Saturday, November 21st, in the Lax Lane schoolroom at five o'clock, prompt. The tower and bells of the parish church have been kindly lent by the Vicar, the Rev. W. O. Parker Ford, for the occasion. All members and friends are respectfully requested to be present, as the address to be presented to the widow and family of the late Mr. W. Duffill will be there for presentation. J. NO. SMITH, Hon. Sec.

## THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

ON Tuesday evening, November 9th, the election of officers for the ensuing year took place: J. Martin Routh, Esq., Master; G. T. McLaughlin and Samuel Joyce, Stewards; James Pettit, Treasurer; George Muskett, Hon. Secretary; Messrs. R. Woodley and W. Smith, Auditors.



## FESTIVITY AT SHEFFIELD.

On Saturday, October 31st, an assembly of ringers took place at the "Brown Bear," Norfolk Street, Sheffield, in connection with the late Yorkshire Association meeting held here, a good response being made to the invitation sent, to the number of thirty-two resident members. The first performance was a sit down to a substantial supper supplied by host Whitaker, of "The Bear," to which ample justice was done. The cloth being removed, and business of the evening began, Mr. Booth being previously elected to the chair, the vice-chair being occupied by Mr. Lomas. Mr. Booth on rising, gave the toast of "The Queen," which met with a good response. Mr. Thomas Hattersley here explained the reason of the meeting to night. The balance sheet was next produced, and accepted as read, and very satisfactory. The best thanks of the meeting was passed to the committee for the able manner in which they carried the arrangements out for the Yorkshire Association meeting on Saturday, October 4th, which was duly acknowledged. During the evening, Mr. Thomas Hattersley on behalf of the present company, presented to Mr. W. Booth an illuminated tablet recording a peal of Stedman Triples on February 21st, 1884, rung on the occasion of Mr. Booth attaining his 64th birthday, being also his farewell peal. The above tablet was neatly executed by Mr. David Brearley. Mr. Booth responded in an appropriate manner. Mr. S. Seed moved, seconded by Mr. T. Hattersley, "Success to 'THE BELL NEWS,'" and hoped that all young ringers would support it. This was heartily received. Mr. S. Seed moved, and Mr. F. Willey seconded, that the best thanks of the evening be given to the host and hostess for the substantial fare placed upon the tables, this was received unanimously. In course of the evening the famous old jug was brought into requisition as upon similar occasions. The jug was the property of the late Mr. W. Booth, of Sheffield, and is now in the possession of his grandson, Mr. Thomas Hattersley. On front of the jug is a large bell, the sides are filled up with a peal of Kent Treble Bob Royal, the ringers' names and the bells they rang, and the calling of the peal. The remainder of the evening was spent in some excellent singing and handbell ringing, which brought an enjoyable evening to a close. Mr. Hammond kindly obliged at the piano.

## HEXHAM ABBEY, NORTHUMBERLAND.

On Saturday, November 7th, eight members of the Durham and Newcastle Association, took advantage of an excursion train to visit the above beautiful Abbey, and were successful in bringing round a peal of Grandsire Triples (see peal column). This is the second peal on these bells, the first having been rung in the year 1848. Mr. Thomas Denton, the ringer of the third in Saturday's peal, also took part in the peal in 1848. The ringers beg to offer their best thanks to rector, Canon Barker, and the churchwardens, for allowing them the use of their melodious peal, also to Mr. F. G. Lockhart for his kindness in making arrangements, and to the local ringers for their kind reception.

## THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—ROTHWELL BRANCH.

The following is the ringing done by this branch at Holy Trinity church, during the month of October: October 4th, 240 of Violet; October 11th, 720 of Duke of York, 240 of Violet, 360 of Oxford Treble Bob; October 12th, \*720 of Duke of York, \*720 of New London Pleasure; October 18th, 360 of Duke of York, 360 of Violet, 240 of Oxford Treble Bob, 240 of Violet; October 24th, 720 of London Scholars' Pleasure, 720 of Arnold's Victory, 240 of Duke of York, 240 of College Pleasure; October 25th, 360 of London Scholars' Pleasure, 360 of Arnold's Victory, 240 of Violet, \*720 of Arnold's Victory; October 26th, 720 of Arnold's Victory, 240 of Oxford Treble Bob, 240 of New London Pleasure, 240 of Violet, 240 of Duke of York. The following are the ringers: J. Verity, A. Chapman, J. Chapman, J. Haigh, \*J. Abbishaw, Wm. Abbishaw, S. Stacey, J. M. Chadwick. \*First 720's in the methods.

## BRAINTREE.—THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION AND THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

The following is an account of the ringing done during the month of October by the above company. October 4th, 720 Durham Surprise, 720 New London, 72 Bob Minor; October 6th, 720 Cambridge Surprise, 360 Double Court; October 10th, 720 Cambridge, 720 College Exercise; October 11th, 720 Kent, 60 Bob Minor; October 18th, 720 Bob Minor; October 25th, 720 Cambridge Surprise, 60 Bob Minor; October 27th, 720 Duke of York. T. Watson, 1; F. Calthorpe, 2; F. Bumpstead, 3; H. E. Hammond, 4; F. Rudkin (conductor), 5; S. Hammond, 6. Tenor 14 cwt. This is the first 720 of Duke of York by any of the company.

## ERECTION OF A PEAL-BOARD AT DEPTFORD.

On Thursday, November 5th, 1885, a tablet, kindly presented by the churchwardens, was placed in the tower of St. John's church, Deptford, to record a peal of Grandsire Triples (Rev. C. D. P. Davies' five-part), rang on January 19th, 1884, by the society of Trinity Youths. To celebrate the event, the following members of the St. James's society and others, rang a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, 1260 changes, in 45 mins., the party standing as in the peal with one exception, Mr. Fred. W. Thornton occupying the place of Mr. William H. Bowles. John Rose, 1; William Pead, 2; William Weatherstone, 3; Thomas Taylor, 4; William H. Freeman, 5; Frederick W. Thornton, 6; Abraham G. Freeman (composer and conductor), 7; Joseph Laws, 8.

## RUSHMERE, SUFFOLK.

The church bells at this place, which has recently been augmented to a ring of six, and also rehung, the work having been satisfactorily carried out by Mr. H. Howell, of Ipswich, were opened on Sunday, November 1st, by the following members of the St. Mary-le-Tower society, Ipswich, with 720 of Oxford Treble Bob Minor. H. Howell, 1; J. Motts (conductor), 2; I. S. Alexander, 3; W. Motts, 4; E. Reeve, 5; E. Pemberton, 6. Also during the day, 720 of Double Court Bob, and 720 of Kent Treble Bob, and several touches of Oxford and Kent Treble Bob were rung by Messrs. Catchpole, Brundle, Aldham, Tillett, Saul, and Meadows, in addition to the above-mentioned, all being members of the above society. Also Messrs. Taylor, of Great Bromley, Essex, and Nevard, of Great Bentley, Essex, took part in the above.

## THE ROCHDALE AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATION.

This Society held its Quarterly Meeting at Manchester on Saturday last. There were about thirty members present from the following districts; Manchester, Rochdale, Newhey, Milnrow, Oldham, Moor-side, Heywood, and also some independent members. The ringing commenced about four o'clock, for about an hour, after which the meeting took place at the "Crown Hotel," Blackfriars. All business being gone through, the ringing was resumed on the handbells and tower bells for the remainder of the evening. The society appears to be growing in attendance once again, I have had no reason to complain of the last three meetings, and I hope this state of things may continue. J. ADSHEAD, Sec.

## DEATH OF A RINGER.

BRISTOL.—ON Saturday, November 7th, the remains of the late Mr. William Staddon were interred at Greenbank Cemetery, and the funeral was attended by a large number of Bristol ringers. After the body had been lowered in the grave, Messrs. J. Palser, D. Palser, E. Breake, C. Waters, and John Brain stood over the grave and rung a funeral peal on handbells. The deceased, who was greatly respected, was a member of the St. Stephen's ringers for 44 years, during that time he had rang many peals and held the office of steeplekeeper of St. Stephen's church. In the evening a muffled peal of Grandsire Triples was rung at St. Stephen's church. J. Palser, 1; J. Anderson, 2; C. Milliard, 3; E. Duckham, 4; G. Morgan (conductor), 5; W. Gifford, 6; E. Beake, 7; D. Palser, 8. Muffled Peals were also rung at Christ, St. John's and St. Phillip's churches.

## THE DUNSTER GUILD.

OLD CLEEVE (Somerset).—ON Thursday, October 15th, by invitation, some members of this guild met at the parish church to have a pull on the new bells lately hung by Messrs. Taylor, when several 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles, and touches of Bob and Grandsire Minor were rung. The bells are a fine ring of six, good in tone, and well in tune (tenor 18 cwt.) and go well.

TAUNTON (Somerset).—ON Tuesday, November 3rd, eight members of this guild made an excursion to Taunton to meet J. W. Taylor, jun., Esq. and to attempt a peal of Grandsire Triples at St. Mary's church. Unfortunately there was a service at 5 o'clock, which upset all ideas for the peal, however, a 840 of Grandsire Triples and a quarter-peal in the same method in 51 mins. was rung. E. Hole, 1; Rev. J. U. Todd, 2; J. Grabham, 3; J. Tudball, 4; R. Hole, 5; C. B. Craze, 6; J. W. Taylor, Esq. (conductor), 7; J. Payne, 8. W. Thrush rung the tenor in the 840.

\* Several touches, reports, etc., are unavoidably left over till our next issue.

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

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

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.

JAMES A. IDLE.—It is said to 198 tons.

R. KNILL.—Perhaps the omission does not really matter.

ADDRESS WANTED.—G. Brotherhood, Sheepshed.

## The Bell News & Ringers' Record.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 14, 1885.

### The Metropolis.

ST. JAMES'S SOCIETY, LONDON.

#### Muffled Peal.

On Friday, October 30, 1885, in Three Hours and Thirty-two Minutes,

AT ST. CLEMENT DANES, STRAND,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS, 5039 CHANGES;

Tenor 24 cwt.

J. R. HAWORTH .. .. . Treble.	F. MARGETSON .. .. . 6.
E. HORREX .. .. . 2.	W. WEATHERSTONE .. .. . 7.
C. F. WINNY .. .. . 3.	G. BANKS .. .. . 8.
J. W. MANSFIELD .. .. . 4.	J. M. ROUTH .. .. . 9.
RICHARD FRENCH .. .. . 5.	D. NEWTON .. .. . Tenor.

Composed by the late HENRY HUBBARD, and Conducted by RICHARD FRENCH.

This peal was rung with the bells half-muffled, as a mark of respect to the late churchwarden Parker, who was interred that day.

THE WATERLOO SOCIETY, LONDON.

On Tuesday, November 3, 1885, in Two Hours and Fifty-four Minutes,

AT ST. JOHN THE EVANGELIST, WATERLOO ROAD,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S ORIGINAL. Tenor 20 cwt. in F.

J. MARTIN ROUTH, ESQ. .. Treble.	FREDERICK G. NEWMAN .. 5.
HENRY LANGDON .. .. . 2.	THOMAS TAYLOR .. .. . 6.
HENRY J. DAVIES .. .. . 3.	WILLIAM H. GEORGE .. 7.
ALBERT E. CHURCH .. .. . 4.	JOSEPH JONES .. .. . Tenor.

Conducted by FREDERICK G. NEWMAN.

The above peal was rung to celebrate the 61st anniversary of the consecration of the church.

BETHNAL GREEN, MIDDLESEX.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

On Saturday, November 7, 1885, in Three Hours and Two Minutes,

AT ST. MATTHEW'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

BROOK'S VARIATION. Tenor 14 cwt.

JOHN BONNEY .. .. . Treble.	EDWARD CLARK .. .. . 5.
SAMUEL JOYCE .. .. . 2.	ISAAC G. SHADE .. .. . 6.
HENRY J. LEWIS .. .. . 3.	HENRY J. SHADE .. .. . 7.
MATTHEW A. WOOD .. .. . 4.	JOSEPH WEST .. .. . Tenor.

Conducted by ISAAC G. SHADE.

First peal in the method by Henry J. Lewis, who hails from St. Alban's.

WALTHAMSTOW, ESSEX.

THE LONDON ST. JAMES'S SOCIETY, AND THE ST. SAVIOUR'S COMPANY, WALTHAMSTOW.

On Saturday, November 7, 1885, in Two Hours and Fifty-five Minutes,

AT ST. SAVIOUR'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES.

Tenor 16 cwt.

HARVEY REEVES .. .. Treble.	*WILLIAM B. MANNING .. 5.
WILLIAM CECIL .. .. . 2.	*HUGH SCARLETT .. .. 6.
WILLIAM COOTER .. .. . 3.	*ALFRED ESTALL .. .. 7.
WILLIAM A. ALPS .. .. . 4.	*THOMAS WATSON .. .. Tenor.

Conducted by HARVEY REEVES.

This is the first peal in the method upon the bells; and is said to be the first peal of Stedman rang in the parish of Walthamstow. It is a variation (by the conductor) of Thurstans' well known composition.

\*First peal in the method.

### The Provinces.

BEACONSFIELD, BUCKS.

THE ST. JAMES'S SOCIETY, LONDON.

On Saturday, October 31, 1885, in Three Hours and Twelve Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY AND ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S ORIGINAL.

REV. W. S. WILLETT* .. Treble.	†A. C. FUSSELL .. .. . 5.
RICHARD FRENCH* .. .. . 2.	†GEORGE NEWSON .. .. 6.
WM. H. FUSSELL† .. .. . 3.	*REV. G. F. COLERIDGE .. 7.
JOSEPH BARRY† .. .. . 4.	*ARTHUR HAYWARD .. .. Tenor.

Conducted by RICHARD FRENCH.

\* College Youths. † Cumberland Youths. This is the first peal in the method on these bells, recently restored by Mears and Stainbank, of London, and the first time Holt's Original peal has been rung in the county of Bucks.

ECCLES.—THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, November 2, 1885, in Three Hours and Thirty Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE MAJOR, 6000 CHANGES.

Tenor 13½ cwt.

SAMUEL WEST .. .. . Treble.	*CHARLES CASH .. .. . 5.
ALFRED EGGINGTON* .. .. 2.	*EDWARD CASH .. .. . 6.
JOHN E. POLLITT* .. .. . 3.	ALBERT E. WREAKS .. .. 7.
JAMES THORPE .. .. . 4.	JOHN EACHUS .. .. . Tenor.

Composed by E. STOKES, of Birmingham, and Conducted by ALBERT EDWARD WREAKS.

\* First peal in the method. Messrs. Eggington and Brothers Cash are of the local company; the rest hail from Manchester.

ECCLES, LANCASHIRE.

On Thursday, November 5, 1885, in Three Hours,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 13½ cwt.

THOMAS HEALD .. .. . Treble.	CHARLES CASH .. .. . 5.
ALFRED EGGINGTON .. .. . 2.	W. J. HARGREAVES .. .. 6.
EDWARD CASH .. .. . 3.	SAMUEL WOOD .. .. . 7.
SAMUEL WEST .. .. . 4.	A. P. HEYWOOD .. .. . Tenor.

Composed by H. JOHNSON and Conducted by A. P. HEYWOOD, Esq.

A. P. Heywood, Esq., hails from Duffield.

ENTHRONEMENT OF THE BISHOP OF SALISBURY.—The new Bishop (Dr. Wordsworth), was enthroned with the usual attendant ceremonies on Wednesday, November 4th. The Mayor (G. Fullford, Esq.), and the Corporation, afterwards entertained his lordship to luncheon in the Council Chamber. The bells of St. Thomas, St. Edmund's, St. Paul's, and St. Martin's, were rung by the local ringers throughout the day.

# DUFFIELD, DERBYSHIRE. THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.—(DERBY BRANCH.)

On Saturday, November 7, 1885, in Two Hours and Fifty-nine Minutes,  
AT ALL SAINTS' CHURCH,

## A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5040 CHANGES.

Tenor 17 cwt. in F.

SAMUEL MASKREY .. .. Treble.	GEORGE HINGLEY .. .. 5.
JOHN HOWE .. .. 2.	ROBERT JOHNSON .. .. 6.
WILLIAM HICKLING .. .. 3.	*REUBEN BOSWORTH .. .. 7.
ARTHUR B. WARD .. .. 4.	HARRY C. WOODWARD .. Tenor.

Composed by J. REEVES, Conducted by HARRY CHARLES WOODWARD.

\* First peal in the method.

# SADDLEWORTH, YORKSHIRE.

On Saturday, November 7, 1885, in Three Hours and One Minute,  
AT ST. CHAD'S CHURCH,

## A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES; IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 12 cwt.

ROBERT WRIGHT .. .. Treble.	EDGAR BUCKLEY .. .. 5.
JOHN HARROP .. .. 2.	JAMES RADCLIFF .. .. 6.
JOHN SIDEBOTHAM .. .. 3.	GEORGE BRADDOCK .. .. 7.
JAMES WRIGLEY .. .. 4.	THOMAS BRADDOCK .. Tenor.

Composed by the late WILLIAM HARRISON, and Conducted by ROBERT WRIGHT.

Messrs. Braddock Brothers, Wright, Harrop, and Sidebotham hail from Mottram; the rest belong to the local company.

# HEXHAM, NORTHUMBERLAND.

## DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, November 7, 1885, in Two Hours and Fifty-five Minutes,  
AT THE ABBEY CHURCH OF ST. WILFRID,

## A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES; T. DAY'S 6-PART. Tenor 21 cwt.

WILLIAM REED .. .. Treble.	EDWARD WALLIS .. .. 5.
WILLIAM STORY .. .. 2.	SENJENT POWER .. .. 6.
THOMAS DENTON .. .. 3.	ROBERT S. STORY .. .. 7.
RICHARD W. WIGNELL .. 4.	*FREDERICK HARRISON .. Tenor.

Conducted by SENJENT POWER.

\* First peal. Messrs. Reed and Wignell hail from North Shields; Fred Harrison from Jarrow; the rest from Newcastle.

# PENDLETON, LANCASHIRE.

## Birthday Peal.

On Saturday, November 7, 1885, in Two Hours and Fifty-six Minutes,

AT ST. THOMAS'S CHURCH,

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

FRED RUDMAN* .. .. Treble.	WILLIAM WARBURTON .. 5.
WILLIAM PENDLEBURY .. 2.	*WILLIAM HILTON .. .. 6.
ARTHUR BARRETT* .. .. 3.	*FRED MORRISS .. .. 7.
JOHN MORRISS* .. .. 4.	*WILLIAM FIELDING .. Tenor.

Conducted by FRED RUDMAN.

\* First peal. The above was rung on the 39th birthday of A. Barrett. W. Warburton and W. Hilton hail from Whitefield; Pendlebury from Pendleton the rest from Radcliff.

# BISHOPS STORTFORD, HERTS.—THE HERTFORD ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, November 7, 1885, in Three Hours and Eleven Minutes,

AT ST. MICHAEL'S CHURCH,

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

THOMAS NEWMAN .. .. Treble.	JOSEPH CULL .. .. 5.
ALFRED TUCKER .. .. 2.	MATTHEW ELLSMORE .. 6.
HENRY JAMES TUCKER .. 3.	HERBERT BAKER .. .. 7.
FREDERICK SWORDER .. 4.	JOSEPH SAMPFORD .. Tenor.

Conducted by HENRY J. TUCKER.

The company wish to tender their sincere thanks to the Vicar (Rev. G. S. Bayne), for kindly allowing them the use of the bells.

# HORSHAM, SUSSEX.

On Saturday, November 7, 1885, in Three Hours and Three Minutes,

AT ST. MARY'S CHURCH,

## A PEAL OF OXFORD BOB TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES; SHIPWAY'S SIX-PART. Tenor 24 cwt.

WILLIAM LANAWAY .. .. Treble.	† J. D. ASTON .. .. 5.
HENRY CHANDLER .. .. 2.	*JOHN COOPER .. .. 6.
WALTER WADEY* .. .. 3.	HENRY BURSTOW .. .. 7.
GEORGE RAPLEY .. .. 4.	HENRY WOOD .. .. Tenor.

Conducted by HENRY BURSTOW.

\* First peal of Triples. † Member of the Gloucester and Bristol Diocesan Association.

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

On Monday, November 9, 1885, in Three Hours and Fifteen Minutes,

AT ALL SAINTS' CHURCH,

## A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5184 CHANGES; IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 12½ cwt. in G#.

JAMES TRAPPITT .. .. Treble.	*WILLIAM BURKIN .. .. 5.
EDGAR BENNETT .. .. 2.	JAMES HARRIS .. .. 6.
JOHN BRANCH .. .. 3.	JOHN PLOWMAN .. .. 7.
ARTHUR B. CARPENTER* .. 4.	JAMES CAWLEY .. .. Tenor.

Composed by W. HARRISON and Conducted by EDGAR BENNETT.

\* First peal in the method.

# REIGATE, SURREY.—THE REIGATE SOCIETY.

On Monday, November 9, 1885, in Three Hours and Six and a ½ Minutes,

AT ST. MARY'S CHURCH,

## A PEAL OF BOB TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES; HOLT'S 1-PART. Tenor 21 cwt. in Eb.

EDWARD DEWEY .. .. Treble.	EDGAR KENWARD .. .. 5.
FRANCIS T. HOAD .. .. 2.	EDWARD MOSES .. .. 6.
GEORGE WILLIAMS .. .. 3.	WILLIAM WEBB .. .. 7.
THOMAS FULLER .. .. 4.	WILLIAM ARGENT .. Tenor.

Conducted by FRANCIS T. HOAD.

# READING, BERKS.—THE ST. LAWRENCE'S SOCIETY.

## Birthday Peal.

On Monday, November 9, 1885, in Three Hours and Fifteen Minutes,

AT ST. LAWRENCE'S CHURCH,

## A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES; HOLT'S 6-PART. Tenor 24 cwt.

WILLIAM HOLLOWAY .. .. Treble.	WILLIAM JOHNSON .. .. 5.
WILLIAM POCOCK .. .. 2.	WILLIAM NEWELL .. .. 6.
WILLIAM FUSSELL .. .. 3.	WILLIAM WILLIAMS .. .. 7.
WILLIAM GOSELTINE .. .. 4.	WILLIAM ROBINS .. Tenor.

Conducted by WILLIAM WILLIAMS.

This peal was rung to commemorate the 44th anniversary of the birthday of H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, and also as a birthday peal for the worthy instructor of the Society, Mr. William Newell, who attained the age of 47 on November 8th.

# BLETCHINGLEY.—THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

## Birthday Peal.

On Monday, November 9, 1885, in Two Hours and Fifty-Five Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

## A PEAL OF OXFORD BOB TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES; A 12-PART PEAL. Tenor 19 cwt.

ARTHUR WALLIS .. .. Treble.	WALTER HAWKINS .. .. 5.
JOHN BASHFORD .. .. 2.	LUKE KILLICK .. .. 6.
FREDERICK SMITH .. .. 3.	THOMAS BONIFACE .. .. 7.
GEORGE POTTER .. .. 4.	HENRY PETTERS .. Tenor.

Composed by H. JOHNSON, and Conducted by W. HAWKINS.

The above was rung to commemorate the birthday of H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, also the 37th birthday of Mr. G. Potter, his brother ringers wishing him many happy returns. This is the first peal in the method by all the band, and the first by the Association.

## BURTON-ON-TRENT, STAFFORDSHIRE.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION AND THE  
ST. PAUL'S SOCIETY, BURTON-ON-TRENT.

On Monday, November 9, 1885, in Three Hours and Twenty-four Minutes,

At St. Paul's Church,

A PEAL OF SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR,  
5056 CHANGES. Tenor 26 cwt.

REV. JAMES H. FISH..	.. Treble.	JOHN JAGGAR ..	.. 5.
EDWARD ISAAC STONE ..	.. 2.	HARRY WAKLEY ..	.. 6.
ARTHUR WAKLEY ..	.. 3.	THOMAS HOLMES ..	.. 7.
JOSEPH GRIFFIN..	.. 4.	WILLIAM WAKLEY ..	.. Tenor.

Composed by HENRY DAINS, and Conducted by WILLIAM WAKLEY.

This peal, which is now rung for the first time, contains the 6th twelve times at home in the last twelve courses. It is published in Snowdon's "Superlative Surprise peals," in "THE BELL NEWS," vol. iv., p. 225, being the first peal of that number of changes in the first column. Thomas Holmes' 50th peal. Rung on the occasion of the election of Thos. B. Lowe, Esq. as Mayor of Burton-on-Trent for the second time.

## IPSWICH, SUFFOLK.

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

## Birthday Peal.

On Monday, November 9, 1885, in Three Hours and Forty-eight Minutes,

At the Church of St. Mary-le-Tower,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAXIMUS, 5040 CHANGES;  
IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 32 cwt.

ARTHUR ALDHAM ..	.. Treble.	WILLIAM MOTTS ..	.. 7.
CHARLES MEE ..	.. 2.	THOMAS STEWARD ..	.. 8.
JAMES MOTTS ..	.. 3.	FREDERICK TILLET ..	.. 9.
ROBERT HAWES ..	.. 4.	*PETO MEADOWS ..	.. 10.
ROBERT BRUNDLE ..	.. 5.	*CHARLES WARD ..	.. 11.
WILLIAM L. CATCHPOLE ..	.. 6.	E. PEMBERTON ..	.. Tenor.

Composed by the late J. Cox and Conducted by J. MOTTS.

\* First peal of Maximus. P. Meadows hails from Brandeston; and C. Ward from Melton. The above was rung in honor of the Prince of Wales's Birthday.

## Date Touch.

CHESTERFIELD (Derbyshire).—On Thursday, November 5th, at the parish church, a date touch of Grandsire Triples, 1885 changes, in 1 hr. 8 mins. J. Goodwin, 1; D. Farthing, 2; J. Toplis, 3; W. Ellis, 4; J. Ellis, 5; H. Nuttall (jun.), 6; A. Knights (conductor), 7; T. Mee, 8. Tenor 24½ cwt. This touch contains the twenty-four 6/7s, and was rung to celebrate the birthday of Mr. G. Toplis. Composed by Mr. C. Jackson, of Hull.

## Miscellaneous.

## THE ST. JAMES SOCIETY.

BEDFORD (Middlesex).—On Saturday, October 24th, at the parish church, a 720 of Grandsire Minor, (thirty-four bobs and two singles), in 27 mins. Rev. W. S. Willett, 1; A. Andrews, 2; R. Flaxman, 3; W. H. Fussell, 4; W. Wilder, 5; A. C. Fussell (conductor), 6. Also a 720 of Grandsire Minor in 25 mins. (Hammond's). A. Andrews, 1; W. Wilder, 2; Rev. W. Willett, 3; A. Fussell, 4; W. H. Fussell, 5; R. Flaxman (conductor), 6. And a 720 of Plain Bob Minor (eighteen bobs and two singles), in 26 mins. A. Andrews, 1; A. Fussell, 2; Rev. W. Willett, 3; W. Wilder, 4; R. Flaxman, 5; W. H. Fussell (conductor), 6. Also two 120's of Stedman Doubles by the Rev. W. S. Willett, A. Fussell, R. Flaxman, A. Andrews, A. Fussell, and W. Wilder; and two 120's of Grandsire Doubles with Messrs. Wicks and Hallett of Staines ringing the treble and the tenor. This is the first method ringing on this pretty little peal of six, tenor about 9½ cwt.

BRAY (Berks).—On Sunday, November 8th, after Divine Service, six 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles (various callings). W. H. Fussell, 1; A. Fussell, 2; A. Andrews (conductor), 3; W. Wilder, 4; R. Flaxman, 5.

RUISLIP (Middlesex).—On Sunday, November 1st, at St. Martin's parish church, the following members attempted to ring the late John

Holt's one-part peal of Grandsire Triples, but after ringing 1 hr. and 35 mins., two bells shifted, and "stand" was called. The fifth, sixth, and seventh, are in very bad going order. W. H. Manning, 1; W. H. Fussell, 2; A. C. Fussell, 3; R. French (conductor), 4; A. Hayward, 5; J. Barry, 6; W. H. George, 7; E. Elburn, 8. The company beg to thank the rector for his kind permission to ring, and would suggest that a few simple repairs be effected among the four last bells.

WINDSOR (Berks).—On Tuesday, November 3rd, for evening practice, a 720 of Grandsire Minor, in 29 mins., on the back six. W. H. Fussell, 1; A. Andrews, 2; Rev. W. S. Willett, 3; W. Wilder, 4; R. Flaxman, 5. A. C. Fussell (conductor), 6. Tenor 22 cwt.

## ASSOCIATION FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.

LICHFIELD (Staffordshire).—On Sunday evening, November 8th, at St. Michael's church, two 720s of Kent Treble Bob Minor. 1st 720: E. Gallimore, 1; H. Meacham, 2; R. Anniss, 3; W. Treadgold, 4; F. J. Cope (conductor), 5; A. E. Greenwood, 6. 2nd 720: J. Key, 4; the others as before. The above 720s were each called differently.

## THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

WOBURN.—Muffled Peal.—On Friday, October 30th, a muffled peal was rung on the eight bells of the old tower, as a mark of respect for the late Bishop of Ely, being the day of his burial. The deceased Bishop was the patron of the Association. On Monday evening, November 9th, being the Prince of Wales's Birthday, a 672 of Bob Major was rung by the local company, with the bells open.

## DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

JARROW-ON-TYNE.—On Monday, November 9th, at Christ Church, to celebrate the election of Mayor, 720 of Oxford Bob, 720 of College Single, 720 of Canterbury Pleasure, 720 of Grandsire Minor. F. G. Pattison, 1; G. R. Heron, 2; Wm. Holmes, 3; R. Oliver, 4; A. Sharpe, 5; F. Harrison (conductor), 6. Tenor 17 cwt.

STOCKTON-ON-TEES.—On Sunday morning, November 1st, a 720 of Wells Surprise. G. J. Clarkson (conductor), 1; T. Burdon, 2; W. Stephenson, 3; T. W. Waller, 4; T. Stephenson, 5; W. Newton, 6. And on Sunday morning, November 8th, a 720 of Wells Surprise, by the same company, standing as before, and T. Stephenson conducting. And on Wednesday, November 4th, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob. W. Newton, 1; W. J. Blakiston (first time with a bob bell), 2; W. Stephenson, 3; J. Clarkson, 4; T. Stephenson, 5; T. W. Waller (first 720 as conductor), 6. And on Monday, November 9th, for the Mayor, a 720 of Wells Surprise. J. Clarkson, 1; G. J. Clarkson (conductor), 2; W. Stephenson, 3; T. W. Waller, 4; T. Stephenson, 5; W. Newton, 6. And a 720 of York Surprise. J. Clarkson, 1; G. J. Clarkson, 2; W. Stephenson, 3; T. W. Waller, 4; T. Stephenson (conductor), 5; T. Burdon, 6. And a 720 of Durham Surprise. W. Newton, 1; T. Burdon, 2; W. Stephenson, 3; T. W. Waller, 4; T. Stephenson, 5; G. J. Clarkson (conductor), 6. And a 720 of Evening Exercise. J. Clarkson, 1; G. J. Clarkson (conductor), 2; T. Burdon, 3; T. W. Waller, 4; T. Stephenson, 5; W. Newton, 6. And a 720 of Woodbine Treble Bob. G. J. Clarkson, 1; W. Newton, 2; T. W. Waller, 3; W. Stephenson, 4; T. Stephenson, 5; T. Burdon (conductor), 6.

## THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

BARKING.—On Saturday evening, November 7th, eight members of the above Association attempted a peal of Kent Treble Bob Major, which unfortunately came to grief after ringing 4100 changes in 2 hrs. 45 mins. A. J. Perkins (conductor), 1; J. Nunn, 2; G. Pearl, 3; R. Sewell, 4; G. Hammond, 5; Y. Green, 6; H. Randall, 7; W. Doran, 8. The above was composed by one of the band. G. Hammond hails from Long Melford, Suffolk, and was elected a member before starting for the peal.

LITTLE HEATH.—On Sunday morning, November 8th, several six-scores were rung by A. Pye, J. Pye, A. Porter, J. Porter, and G. Hammond.

ROMFORD.—On Sunday afternoon, November 8th, meeting one short, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor. J. Pater, 1; G. Hammond, 2; A. J. Perkins (conductor), 3; B. Keeble, 4; A. Pye, 5; A. Patey, 6. Afterwards six courses of Grandsire Triples, Messrs. Nash and Roughton taking part.

## THE HERTFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

ST. ALBANS.—On Tuesday, November 3rd, eight members of the St. Albans branch of the above Association attempted Holt's ten-part peal of Grandsire Triples at the Cathedral, but after ringing four parts, the tenor went too badly to go any further, and the bells were

brought round after having rung 1 hr. 20 mins. E. P. Debenham, 1; N. N. Hills (conductor), 2; A. Godman (jun.), 3; H. Lewis, 4; G. W. Cartmel, 5; A. Godman, sen., 6; T. Waller, 7; W. Battle, 8. And on Monday, November 9th, on the occasion of the election of Mayor, in the morning, 1062 of Grandsire Triples, and in the afternoon, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples in 46 mins., composed by E. Barnett, of Monmouth, and in the evening a 546 and 210. T. Grant, 1; R. T. Kent, 2; E. Hulks, 3; H. Lewis, 4; G. W. Cartmel, 5; A. Godman, sen., 6; N. N. Hills (conductor), 7; H. L. Waddington, 8.

**BENGEO (Herts).**—Recently, at Holy Trinity Church, a 720 of Grandsire Minor (thirty-eight bobs and twenty-two singles), in 27 mins. W. Childs (first 720), 1; W. Bennett, 2; J. Pomfret, 3; H. Phillips (conductor), 4; F. Acres, 5; J. Channer, 6.

**BOOTLE (Lancashire).**—On Thursday evening, October 29th, at Christ Church, a 720 of Grandsire Minor in 25 mins. E. Yates, 1; J. Hart (first 720), W. Short, 3; W. Rushton, 4; R. H. Barton, 5; J. Bradshaw (conductor), 6. Tenor 12½ cwt.

**DARLINGTON (Durham).**—On Thursday evening, November 5th, at St. John's church, the local company, with Messrs. Eden and Simpson, of Hurworth-on-Tees, rang a 720 of Bob Minor, in 28 mins. J. Bolton, 1; Geo. Eden, 2; J. Simpson, 3; W. Patton, 4; R. Moncaster, 5; J. H. Whitfield, 6. Conducted by J. H. Whitfield, this being his maiden effort as conductor. Tenor 10 cwt. in G.

**DENFORD (Northamptonshire).**—On Wednesday, October 28th, at Holy Trinity church, for practice, a 720 of London Single (eighteen bobs and two singles). F. Starmore, 1; A. Arnold, 2; \*J. Groome, 3; H. Groome, 4; \*F. Arnold, 5; A. Groome (conductor), 6. \*First 720 in the method. Also a 360 of Bob Minor. J. Groome, 1; F. Starmore (first 360 in the method with a bob bell), 2; the rest as before. And on Wednesday, November 4th, a 360 of Oxford Bob Minor (nine bobs), 360 of College Little (nine bobs), and 360 of Plain Bob Minor (nine bobs). T. Ball, 1; F. Starmore, 2; A. Arnold, 3; J. Groom, 4; F. Arnold, 5; A. Groom (conductor), 6. And on Sunday, November 8th, for afternoon service, 360 of Bob Minor (nine bobs). A. Groom, 1; F. Starmore, 2; J. Groom, 3; H. Groom, 4; F. Arnold, 5; A. Arnold (conductor), 6. And 360 of London Single (nine bobs). F. Starmore, 1; A. Arnold, 2; A. Groome (conductor), 6; the rest standing as before.

**DUDLEY (Worcestershire).**—On Monday evening, November 9th, at St. Thomas's church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1260 changes), in 45 mins. F. Fellows, 1; J. Fellows, jun., 2; J. Mills, 3; J. Fellows, sen., 4; J. Goodman, 5; W. Micklewright (conductor), 6; J. Baylis, 7; \*T. Hill, 8. \*First quarter-peal. Tenor 21 cwt. 3 qrs.

**GARSTON (Lancashire).**—*Muffled Peal.*—On Thursday, November 5th, at St. Michael's church, the local company rang a 1008 of Grandsire Triples, with the bells half-muffled, in memory of the late Bishop of Manchester, in 43 mins. S. Gough, 1; T. Morris, 2; C. Newton, 3; J. Allen, 4; F. Turner, 5; Geo. W. Hughes, 6; W. Hughes (conductor), 7; P. Roberts, 8. Tenor 12½ cwt.

**LAMBETH (Surrey).**—On Saturday, November 7th, at St. Mary's parish church, an attempt was made for a peal of Stedman Triples, but after ringing 35 minutes, the clapper of the 5th bell came out, which brought the peal to grief. Geo. Newson (conductor), 1; William Baron, 2; John Nelms, 3; Arthur Jacob, 4; W. H. Fussell, 5; Jas. Hannington, 6; George Banks, 7; John Mansfield, 8. Numerous attempts have been made to ring this peal at the above church, each meeting, however, being attended with a mishap of some kind.

**LEE (Kent).**—*Wedding Peal.*—On Tuesday, November 10th, at St. Margaret's church, a 720 of Grandsire Minor, in 24 mins. Thomas Dixon, 1; Charles Mussett, 2; Richard Smith, 3; Francis Fraser, 4; Thomas G. Deal, 5; Abraham G. Freeman, 6. And a 360 of Plain Bob Minor, in 13 mins. Harry W. Grout, 1; Charles Mussett, 2; George Shepherd, 3; Frederick W. Thornton, 4; Thomas G. Deal, 5; Abraham G. Freeman, 6. Both conducted by Thomas G. Deal, and rung in honour of Mr. John Crowder's marriage, a ringer at this church, which took place on that day.

**LIVERPOOL.**—On Sunday evening, November 8th, at St. Francis Xavier's Church, 504 of Grandsire Triples. James Donnelly (conductor) 1; Wm. Bond, 2; A. Flynn, 3; Thos. Donnelly, 4; John Donnelly, 5; Wm. Kennedy, 6; Isaac Clarke, 7; Wm. Kelly, 8. Tenor 16 cwt. And on Tuesday, October 27th, at St. Luke's church, an attempt was made to ring a 5088 of Kent Treble Bob Major, but unfortunately came to grief after ringing 5072 changes, in 3 hrs. and 4 mins. John R. Pritchard (composer and conductor), 1; Richard S. Mann, 2; Wm. James, 4; John Aspinwall, 4; John Brown, 5; George Fisher, 6; W. Davies, 7; Thomas Hammond, 8. *Handbell Ringing.*—On Tuesday, November 3rd, a 504 of Grandsire Triples, on handbells retained in hand, in 15 mins., without a call being given. R. S. Mann, 1-2; J. Aspinwall, 3-4; W. James, 5-6; T. Hammond, 7-8.

**LONDON.**—On Sunday, November 8th, at St. Clement Danes, for Divine Service in the evening, 504 of Stedman Triples. H. Langdon, 1; E. Carter, 2; E. E. Vinen, 3; G. Woodhall, 4; G. Cooper, 5; J. M. Hayes (conductor), 6; F. E. Dawe, 7; R. Woodley, 8. Afterwards a course of Grandsire Caters on handbells, G. Woodhall taking 5-6. And on Monday, November 9th, being the occasion of the Prince of Wales' birthday, at the same church, a 395 of Grandsire Caters. J. R. Haworth (conductor), 1; H. Langdon, 2; W. Chew, 3; W. Weatherstone, 4; F. Margetson, 5; G. Woodhall, 6; G. Cooper, 7; G. Banks, 8; R. French, 9; E. Albone, 10. The same company afterwards proceeded to Westminster Abbey, dedicated to St. Peter and Edward the Confessor, and rang two 120's of Grandsire and Stedman Doubles, conducted by G. Woodhall. Mr. Woodhall afterwards rang at St. Lawrence, Jewry. St. Paul's Cathedral, St. Michael's, Cornhill, and other City Churches. Mr. Cooper hails from Sittingbourne, Kent, and Mr. Woodhall from Whitchurch, Salop.

**LYTHAM (Lancashire).**—On Tuesday evening, November 8th, at St. John's church, a 720 of Plain Bob (sixteen bobs and two singles), in 26 mins. W. Bamber (conductor), 1; B. Taylor, 2; Jno. Fell, 3; James Miller, 4; G. Maries (first 720 on tower bells), 5; R. White-side, 6. Tenor 10½ cwt.

**MIDDLETON (Yorkshire).**—On Sunday, November 8th, at St. Leonard's church, for Divine Service, a 720 of Bob Minor, in 27 mins. W. Taylor, 1; J. Ramsden, 2; J. Heywood, 3; T. Arrowsmith, sen. (conductor), 4; W. Schofield, 5; J. Arrowsmith, jun., 6. Tenor 13½ cwt.

**REIGATE (Surrey).**—On Wednesday, November 4th, at the parish church, on the occasion of the marriage of Mr. W. W. Read, the celebrated Surrey cricketer, son of Mr. Robert Read, of Holmesdale House, Reigate, to Florence, second daughter of Mr. Arthur Wells, of Mead Lodge, Reigate, the local society rang several touches in various methods, including 112 and 252 of Grandsire Triples. G. Croucher, 1; F. T. Hoad, 2; W. Webb, 3; E. Moses, 4; T. Fuller, 5; E. Kenward, 6; George Williams, 7; H. Gooch, 8. And a 1050 of Plain Bob Triples, in 38 mins. G. Williams, 1; F. T. Hoad (conductor), 2; E. Moses, 3; T. Fuller, 4; W. Argent, 5; E. Kenward, 6; W. Webb, 7; H. Gooch, 8. And a 224 of Union Triples. G. Croucher, 1; F. T. Hoad, 2; E. Moses, 3; T. Fuller, 4; W. Argent, 5; E. Kenward, 6; W. Webb, 7; H. Gooch, 8. Tenor 21 cwt. in Eb.

**SUDBURY (Suffolk).**—*Muffled Peal.*—On Friday, October 30th, the bells of St. Gregory's and All Saints' churches were rung muffled, as a mark of respect to the late Bishop of Ely. On Sunday, November 1st, for Divine Service in the morning, a 672 of Grandsire Triples was rung with the bells half-muffled. F. Tolladay, 1; W. Griggs, 2; G. Brown, 3; C. Sillitoe, 4; J. Campin, 5; A. Scott, 6; W. Cross, 7; W. Howell, 8. A 504 was also rung for afternoon service. And after evening service at All Saints', a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, 1260 changes, with the bells half-muffled. Felix Tolladay, 1; Charles Sillitoe (conductor), 2; George Brown, 3; J. Campin, 4; H. Harper, 5; W. Howell, 6; A. Scott, 7; H. Brackett, 8. Composed by Henry J. Shade, of Greenwich. St. Gregory's tenor 16 cwt. All Saints' 28 cwt.

**TUE BROOK, NEAR LIVERPOOL.**—On Saturday, November 7th, at St. John's Baptist's church, an attempt was made to ring Thurstans' peal of Stedman Triples, but unfortunately came to grief after ringing 4708 changes, in 2 hrs. 47 mins. Richard S. Mann, 1; John R. Pritchard, 2; John Brown, 3; William James, 4; George Fisher, 5; John Aspinwall, 6; Thomas Hammond (conductor), 7; Wm. Brooks, 8.

**WYMESWOLD (Leicestershire).**—On Wednesday, November 5th, being the eighty-second birthday of John Gutteridge, who has been over fifty years Parish Clerk, and a ringer, the following ringing took place:—After a very good rise, and a little round ringing, firing was done eighty-two times to mark the number of years, then some six-scores of Bob Doubles with the tenor behind, after which followed a 720 of Bob Minor. \*John Brooks, sen., 1; John Brooks, jun., 2; John Knifton, 3; John Gutteridge, 4; \*R. W. Charles, 5; \*Marshall Brown, 6. The venerable old gentleman rang his bell (the fourth), throughout remarkably well. \*Members of the Midland Counties' Association.

#### THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

A DISTRICT MEETING of this Association will be held at Mortlake, on Saturday, November 21st., ringing to begin at five p.m. The Hon. Secretary hopes to see the members of the Committee on this occasion, in order that a convenient day may be fixed for the next Committee Meeting.

A. B. CARPENTER, Hon. Sec.

34 Dingwall Road, Croydon.

## 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 NATIONAL ASSOCIATION.

SIR,—The correspondence in your columns on the subject of the National Association has apparently been confined to a very small number of ringers, which does not indicate any very strong feeling on the subject. Moreover the rather personal nature of some of the letters seems to make it desirable to come at once to some definite conclusion about the matter. The Committee originally appointed will gladly undertake to promote the scheme, as published in "THE BELL NEWS," if they have immediately a sufficient guarantee that it is the general wish of the Exercise, and will receive such support as will ensure its success. They would therefore ask every ringer who is anxious for the formation of a National Association on the lines proposed, and who will undertake to become a member, to send a post card at once to the address given below, giving his name, address, and the society to which he belongs, and stating briefly his wish to belong to the Association if it is formed. If by Saturday, November 28th, a sufficient number of cards are received, to make it advisable to proceed, the Committee will without delay take active steps to bring the matter to some practical issue.

F. E. ROBINSON, R. B. KNATCHBULL-HUGESSEN.  
J. E. ACLAND-TROYTE, GERVAS HOLMES.  
DOLBEN PAUL, CYRIL C. CHILD.

Post cards to be addressed—REV. C. C. CHILD,  
30, Nelson Road, Chatham.

## CONCERNING VARIOUS MATTERS.

SIR,—I write this in answer to several correspondents, who have criticised me and others in the last few issues of "THE BELL NEWS." First: with regard to "Organist," who wrote an article last week on the correspondence generally. He accuses me of saying that the mere plan of securing ringing by a paid company on certain festivals and other days in the year would advance the art of change-ringing. I said nothing that could possibly be construed in such a way. While advocating the proper use of the bells on such days, I distinctly said that plenty of facilities for practice should be given, and also opportunities for ringing long lengths when required. Then he speaks of a wandering band being on the look-out to do the ringing on these days. If by a wandering band he means a set of paid scruffe ringers, I must inform him that I have the honour to belong to such a wandering band, and am not ashamed to own it. I may further inform him, that so far from advancing change-ringing, we, the said band, rarely do anything but "stone" on ringing days, for the simple reason that there are not enough change ringers among us to do anything else. Nevertheless several of us who are change ringers, often enjoy a bit of change ringing with other companies when we get the chance. As regards the correspondence on London Societies, Mr. Strange seems to have spoken rather hastily about the way in which the business of the College Youths is carried on, and I have no doubt that if he had inquired more fully into matters he would have been made aware of what Mr. Mash has told us in last Saturday's issue. Then with regard to his suggestion and that of X. Y. London, as to an annual subscription, all I can say is, what a fearful thing to be secretary of such a society as the College Youths under such an arrangement, unless he were paid to collect the subscriptions and do nothing else, with a clerk or two to assist him in the correspondence! No, what I should suggest would be to increase the amount of the entrance fee, especially in the case of members who are not change-ringers. Of course no one would wish to place any unnecessary obstacle in the way of a really good change ringer (who might be a man in humble circumstances), joining a society. But there are many in both the London Societies who are not change-ringers, and never will be. A great many of these are men occupying a high position in life, who would not at all mind paying a guinea, or more, on joining. I think there should be some distinction between change-ringers and honorary members, and that a man should have to attain to a certain standard before joining as a change-ringing member. The test need not be too stiff (say he should have rung a 720 of Minor or even a six-score of Doubles), anything just to make sure that he knows something of what change-ringing is. As to what "Little Jim" says about the unfrequent practices at twelve bell towers, I am assured by a well-known twelve bell ringer who constantly meets the society, that his remarks are false. I think I have now touched upon all the subjects with which my name has been connected, and before concluding, I would suggest that correspondents should write always under the same assumed name, at least while on the same subject. I may be wrong, but I have strong reasons for believing that some of the letters, although signed by different assumed names, have emanated from the same parties.

J. R. JERRAM.

## MR. JASPER SNOWDON.

It is with deep regret that we have to announce the serious illness of our respected friend and truly valued contributor, Mr. JASPER SNOWDON. We understand that, although not feeling well, he attended church on the morning of the 1st instant, complaining of cold, and has since been confined to his bed from inflammation of the lungs. Unfortunately, further serious complications have arisen, and these have finally developed into typhoid fever.

In order to bring to bear on him medical and nursing skill of the highest order, his friends have had him removed to a private ward in the Leeds Fever Hospital, where he is under medical supervision day and night, seconded by the attention of well-trained and practical nurses acting under an experienced matron.

Under these circumstances, we hope to be able to give a more satisfactory account in next week's issue, by which time the crisis of the fever is expected to have been reached.

We know that this painful intelligence will be felt as acutely by every one of our readers as it is by ourselves. The case is, we fear, a serious one, though we may hope that Mr. Snowdon's vigorous constitution may be able to overcome the assault of such an enemy to mankind as typhus. Everything that can be, is being, and will be done. Just before going to press we have received a telegram from Mr. William Snowdon, pointing out the gravity of the case in non-ambiguous language. Doubtless there are many next sabbath-day who in their supplications for "all sick persons," will especially beseech the Almighty to prosper the efforts which are being made for the restoration of our dear friend to health.

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We, the Committee, feel that there are still many companies and individuals who wish to become subscribers to this "National Testimonial," and we would earnestly remind all such that it will be necessary soon to close the list. We therefore respectfully ask them to communicate at as early a date as convenient with A. Thomas, Hon. Secretary, 83, Wheeley's Road, Edgbaston, Birmingham; or to the Hon. Treasurer, Mr. S. Reeves, 10, Bull Street, West Bromwich.

## THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

A DISTRICT MEETING of this Association will be held at Cardington, near Bedford, on Saturday, November 21st. Further information next week.

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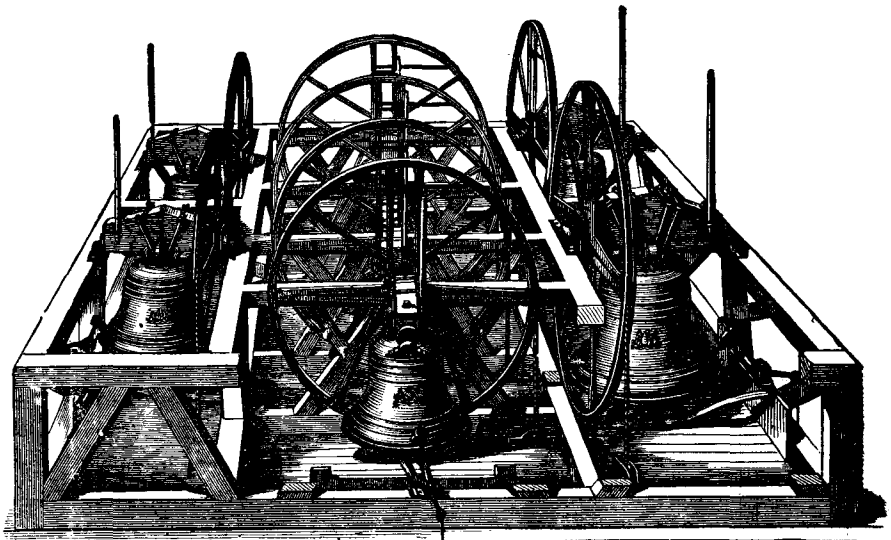
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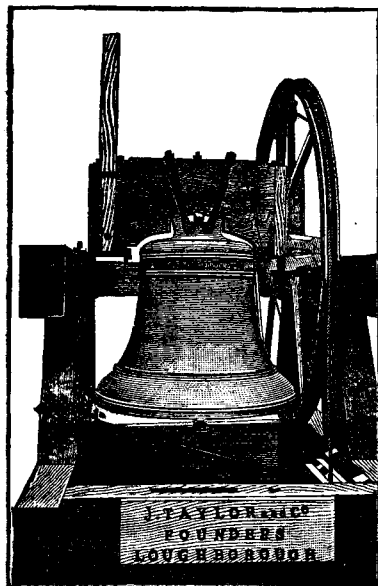
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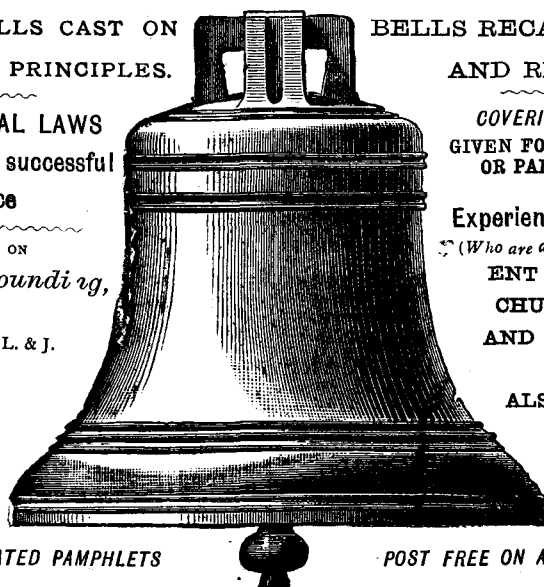
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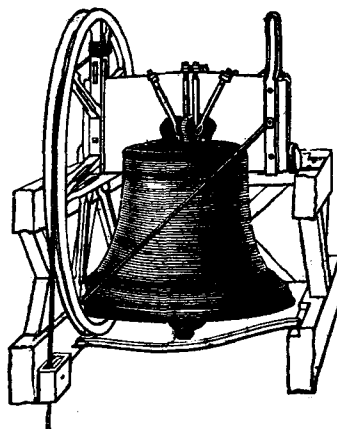
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JASPER WHITFIELD SNOWDON.

BORN 1844: DIED 1885.

THIS distinguished author of ringing literature, whose somewhat premature decease last Monday it is our melancholy duty to announce, was the second son of the Rev. JOHN SNOWDON, M.A., the late Vicar of Ilkley, near Leeds, Yorkshire. He was born at Ilkley Vicarage, on June 18th, 1844, and thus at his death was in his forty-second year.

It seems almost a superfluous work to attempt in this paper even the briefest memoir of one who was so remarkably well-known to all its readers. His pen was so constantly employed in the furtherance of the art of change-ringing, and in efforts to instruct and at the same interest his brother ringers wherever they could be found, that he had come to be looked upon as an indispensable adjunct to the Exercise. The ringing world without him would have been regarded as the play without the principal actor. Any prominent movement—any well-advised step from the old beaten track—any improvement—if it did not originate with him, required his skilful

pilotage to carry it to a successful issue. And now we have the bitterness of knowing that he has, while in the prime and vigour of manhood, been called away from us; called to his rest before the lamp of life had even begun to flicker. "His sun went down while it was yet noon."

Mr. SNOWDON turned his attention to ringing in the year 1871; and with his brother, Mr. William Snowdon, and Mr. Tuke, of Bradford, we believe, and other enthusiasts, he formed the Ilkley Society. His progress was rapid, as the course of events amply show. Not satisfied with being a silent ringer, he soon devoted his attention to the various intricacies which till his time shrouded the most interesting portions of the ringing art in mystery. His *Treatise on Treble Bob* and his *Standard Methods* are certainly the most useful text-books on ringing in existence, and all his other efforts in the same direction showed the energies of a very powerful mind. And yet amid all this, and the practice of his profession, he found time to ring upwards of one hundred

peals, most of which he conducted. These performances consisted, for the most part, of peals of Treble Bob, and he was invariably to be found at the heavy end. He took part in the longest peal of Double Norwich on record, rung at Beeston, Nottinghamshire, by the St. Paul's society, of Burton-on-Trent. His rooth peal, was, we believe, a peal of Bob Triples at his native home.

When the question of "THE BELL NEWS" came to be considered by a small body who under the circumstances of the time thought that a journal entirely devoted to the Exercise was needed, it was determined to take Mr. Snowdon's opinion upon the question, and either to carry it into effect or abandon it according to his approval or otherwise. His well-known subsequent connection with this paper renders it needless to say that he entered into the project warmly, and adhered to its fortunes till the last. Proofs of an article on "London Surprise" now in type, were forwarded to him just before his latest attack. The return of these proofs were not in accordance with his usual punctuality, to explain which he wrote on a post-card as well as he could the intelligence that he was ill in bed—but that he would return them directly he was better. This post-card was duly received, and it probably was the last thing he wrote.

Of the original founders of this paper, Mr. SNOWDON and the Editor were the only ones left. He adhered constantly to its fortunes, and spared no trouble in promoting its interests and furthering its usefulness in every possible way. In common with our readers we shall feel a terrible loss, for we conscientiously believe that of the very few among the Exercise who are able to deal trenchantly with such interesting objects as Mr. Snowdon delighted to revel in, there are none who will give them the time and attention which he devoted to them.

The subject of our memoir was a member of the principal County and Diocesan Associations and Guilds of the country. He also belonged to the Ancient Society of College Youths, and the St. James's and Waterloo Societies of London; the St. Martin's Society (Birmingham), the St. Paul's (Burton-on-Trent), and others. We shall not be far wrong in saying that the premier ringing federation of the country—the Yorkshire Association—owes its existence and continued prosperity to his efforts. He was its first president, and while fulfilling this office his work is well known, not only by his ringing brethren of that county, but by all who have watched ringing proceedings week by week. It is only a short time ago that the Yorkshire Association recorded their appreciation of his sterling worth, by presenting him with a testimonial and suitable address. The members of that body will greatly feel the loss of their President, and we apprehend that it will be a matter of some difficulty to fill the vacant chair.

Mr. SNOWDON was not married. The loving kindred he has left behind, overwhelmed with grief as they are, and afflicted by the loss of a dear brother, merit our most profound and heartfelt sympathy. The consolations which the Christian religion gives to those afflicted or distressed in mind, body, or estate, will, we doubt not, be given to them in abundance, so that they will be enabled with meek resignation to submit to the Divine will. Their loss is our departed brother's gain. Their bereavement is of the LORD, and lo! "HE doeth all things well."

#### REOPENING OF THE BELLS OF THE PARISH CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL AND ALL ANGELS, CUMNOR, BERKS.

These bells had been silent for some years. They had become dangerous, and have all had to be rehung, and the frame has had to be substantially repaired. The work has been satisfactorily done by Mr. F. White of Appleton, Berks. The tower was also found to be slightly cracked, and a heavy iron bar has been put in to effectually strengthen it. The tower arch has been thrown open, which was formerly filled in with brickwork, and the interior of the tower pointed, and the stonework repaired. A new west door of old oak, worked up out of the odd pieces taken out of the tower, has been erected, and a portion of the church has been re-seated. Some beautifully-carved old black oak stall ends, which were out of sight in one of the side chapels, have been utilized for making up the requisite stalls in the chancel. These are the chief items of a work which has restored the grand old church to somewhat of its ancient appearance. On Sunday last, November 15th, evening service was begun at 6.30 p.m., at which there was a crowded congregation. The Rev. F. E. Robinson, Master of the Oxford Diocesan Guild, was the special preacher. He selected as his text, 2 Chronicles, xxiv., verse 13; "So the workmen wrought, and

the house was perfected by them, and they set the house of God in his state and strengthened it." In the course of a very eloquent sermon, he pointed out how thankful we should be for all the temples of God which we have inherited from our fathers, on which they had spared no cost, but had rather built them much larger and more beautiful than they in their turn could ever have required; and thus our only privilege was to keep them in repair. For the law of decay applied to God's temple as well as to all nature, and thus our privilege becomes, like all privileges, a responsibility. We should then give our utmost, not grudgingly, but gladly, to set the house of God and its instruments of worship in their "state." But there were other temples of God which we must do our utmost to repair and perfect, which were even more important, and they are our own individual selves. The means are open to all in the Sacrament ordained by the Church, but they were too often neglected. Afterwards a special offertory prayer was said by the Vicar, the Rev. S. Y. N. Griffith, and the benediction was given. Then the six bells were raised, and most of the congregation remaining within the church, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor was rung by the following members of the Guild. F. White, 1; C. W. H. Griffith, C.C.C., 2; Rev. F. E. Robinson, 3; G. Holfield, 4; A. F. M. Custance, B.N.C., 5; J. W. Washbrook (conductor), 6. Tenor 16 cwt. in F. Afterwards a 720 of Grandsire Minor. Job Howse, 1; W. C. Baston, 2; W. Bennett, 3; J. Avery, 4; C. Hounslow (conductor), 5; C. W. H. Griffith, C.C.C., 6. The ropes all being new, made the pull more difficult than it would have been, but also considering the very long draught, the bells went fairly well.

#### REOPENING OF THE BELLS AT CHRISTCHURCH, HANTS.

This fine ring of eight bells has been recently rehung by Messrs. Taylor, of Loughborough, the third bell being recast. On Thursday last, November 12th, a select party of ringers made their way to Christchurch to take part in the ceremony of opening these splendid bells. They arrived early, and were met at the station by some of the local band, and went at once to the tower and inspected the bells and frame, which is very substantial, and finished in good style. The bells were raised, and a few touches struck, and the go of the bells was pronounced to be highly satisfactory, but the ringing-chamber is very noisy, though there is a second floor under the bells, a defect which a good layer of sawdust would soon remedy. The ringers adjourned to the coffee tavern for dinner, and having been joined by their brother-strings from Bournemouth, the belfry was again visited and a few rounds were rung before the dedication service, which took place at 3.15. This service was very fully attended by numbers of people from the neighbourhood, and from Bournemouth. The hymn commencing with "Now again our bells are raised," was sung, and at the conclusion of the service the Countess of Malmesbury formally opened the bells by striking a few blows by means of a string attached to one of the chiming hammers, and reaching to the floor of the church. At 4 o'clock, the band started to ring a bob-and-single peal, but after ringing in good style for twenty minutes, a mischievous boy got meddling with the string mentioned above, and brought the chiming hammer into collision with the tenor bell, causing it to drop, and the conductor was obliged to call stand. After ten minutes delay, the men started again for half a peal, but after ringing 1 hr. 15 mins., the 5th was found to have shifted course, and so the attempt had to be abandoned. However the striking up to this point was very good, and everyone seemed delighted with the working and the musical tone of the bells. It is intended some day to increase the ring to ten, and when this is done, the Christchurch bells will be one of the finest rings in the south of England. G. H. Barnett, 1; C. Privett, 2; J. Hewett, 3; J. Staples, 4; G. Grafham, 5; F. Hill (conductor), 6; J. Whiting, 7; J. Weaver, 8. Tenor 32 cwt.

#### THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

The District Meeting to be held at Cardington, near Bedford, will commence at 3 p.m. this day (Saturday). There is a fine ring of eight bells, tenor about a ton, the use of which has been very kindly placed at the services of the ringers by the Vicar, the Rev. E. J. Hillier.  
CHAS. HERBERT, Hon. Sec.

#### THE WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

A District Meeting of this Guild will be held at Dorking on Monday, December 7th. Tea and business meeting at 5 o'clock; ringing from 6 to 9 o'clock. Members intending to be present should communicate with the secretary through the representatives of bands before Tuesday, December 1st.  
H. A. SPYERS,  
Weybridge, Surrey.



## 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."

## LONDON SOCIETIES.

SIR,—Little did I think when I sent my last letter for publication, that it would create such a violent storm of indignation. Had I and "Little Jim" lived in the reign of Henry VIII., there's no doubt he would have had me hung, drawn, and quartered, for assuming so much. To read "Little Jim" and Mr. Strange's letters, every one would realize the fact, that the society of College Youths, of which they are members, was going to the dogs and in a perfectly rotten state, no money in its exchequer, no practice-nights, and when we do meet we only talk about what we have done. I am rather pleased with "Little Jim" and Mr. Strange's last letters, it will show the ringing public their vindictive and spiteful feeling towards their society. I can say, without the slightest hesitation and without going into details, that their statements are nothing more than a voluminous combination of thumping lies, and they try to rub them in. I think when people systematically make false statements, which is likely to injure the reputation of a society, it is time to cease correspondence on the subject, and allow those gentlemen to have everything their own way, it matters little what I say, I am sure to be contradicted. You generally find those pragmatical people who agitate and advocate such sweeping reforms, are always in hot water with some one, they upset peaceable members of society, they want to alter this and that, they get everything into confusion and disorder, and after they find they cannot have everything their own way, you lose them, and perhaps after a twelvemonth's time, you hear of them in South Africa playing at hop-scotch with the Hottentots. Why don't those gentlemen who have such extraordinary names attached to their letters, sign their proper names, so that we may know who they are. I really don't who I am answering, it might be a night policeman, or the proprietor of a baked-potato can. There is one remark I made in my last letter, to which "Little Jim" seems to object, *i.e.*, about obliging a country friend; he says that entirely depends upon what position that country friend holds, to a certain extent he is right. Some people ring in love, we don't: some people ring in lumps, we don't; some people cannot strike well because they have too much wax in one ear and not enough in the other, that is not the fault of the College Youths; we are not answerable for people's defective organisation. Now, Sir, with your permission, I will tell you how it is that we sometimes have such tame meetings. Some of our old and respected members are short of breath, others have tender feet, and when those with tender feet put in an appearance, those who are short of breath fail or *vice versa*. However allowing for these anomalies we should have a good company for Stedman Cinques or Treble Twelve, providing the young ones mustered in anything like force, but what is the consequence, two or three cannot come one practice night because they have an engagement at the theatre. Two more come once or twice a year, and the rest part of the year they stop away to look after the loaves and fishes, and lastly three or four won't come because they don't like three or four that do come, so pray, Mr. Editor, what are we to buy for these particular choice people? I will tell you Sir, I do not possess an abundance of brains, therefore it is highly improbable, and I may say impossible for me to enter the field and measure swords with many of those gentlemen who contribute so largely to your excellent-paper, but this I will tell them that if they interfere with my brother ringers' rights and privileges, or try to upset our equilibrium, we shall use the same unfair means that they have adopted.

G. MUSKETT.

SIR,—I must ask your readers to permit me to defer the continuation of my remarks on this subject for a short time, as a resolution 'under the tenth rule' will be brought before the College Youths on the 27th inst., and until that is disposed of, I am of course unable to continue any discussion in your columns. At the same time I wish it to be clearly understood that I have absolutely nothing to withdraw from what I have said.

EDWARD F. STRANGE.

## A HOPE DISAPPOINTED.

SIR,—In looking over Saturday's issue, I was extremely sorry to read of the serious illness of Mr. Snowden. I have not the pleasure of knowing that gentleman personally, but have on several occasions had some correspondence with him on ringing matters, and can say that he was always most ready and willing to give any information he possibly could on the subject of bells and bellringing; and I sincerely hope that he may by the help of God, have strength to get over the worst, and soon again be restored to his usual health. I shall be very anxious to receive next Saturday's issue, and hope to read that he has had a change for the better.

P. HAMBLETT.

## "RINGING SOCIETIES."

SIR,—As a deep thinker, one who tries to note cause and effect, I have often thought and many times remarked upon the preservation of bell ringing records. All circumstances considered, such as ebb and flow in number of members, the very slender means of support, the self-denial and even sacrifice of time necessary to persons ringing successfully, that the preservation of records seem miraculous. It is well known and now placed beyond doubt, that several very respectable societies have flourished, and become extinct, some whose documents remain, while others become, as it were, lost. And such records as remain are invaluable and of great interest to those who ponder over the doings of men departed hence, whose delight it was once to pose in this fascinating exercise. But Sir, there are supposed to be two very old societies, possessing some very highly documents and records, dating back for some generations, and it may be added very many of these achievements are not to be placed second to the best of modern performances. Yes Sir, and this, I believe, a matter of pride and satisfaction to many members. These societies' members are said to be friendly rivals, but if one may venture an opinion, it would seem by ancient rules and regulations, there existed a deal of the latter if not of the former. But things and circumstances are altered; a man may go and ring with the rival men during the practice of his own society, and without the infliction of a fine, so much for the improvement of society; yes, and we can now go further, we can actually ring peals together, another society having been formed to meet the requirements of those circumstances. Each of the above societies has, as is well known, rang peals from a date very early in the eighteenth century, and which have a pedigree that would well repay one looking into by all its members. I have given the above sketch with a view to show that these societies are too old and interesting to be amalgamated into one united body, as proposed by your correspondent, Mr. E. F. Strange, in your issue of the 31st ult., which I understand to mean amalgamated and united out of existence, or into a grand National Association, so that some of the originators may figure in peal No I., which means the same thing. I am well aware, I think, of the great ringing revival that has taken place all over the country, and the formation of the several influential Associations, and am pleased to see the art become so fashionable. But Sir, I cannot even venture a speculation as to which will be the largest and most influential in 150 years' time. I may just note one fact, however, as an illustration. The Norwich Association even now staggers at the loss of its late lamented leader, and suggest what may be anticipated, when similar circumstances arise with others. On the contrary, the old societies mentioned survives the loss of many great and heroic leaders, and are of so much value that their extinction must be very gravely considered.

H. DAINES.

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We, the Committee, feel that there are still many companies and individuals who wish to become subscribers to this "National Testimonial," and we would earnestly remind all such that it will be necessary soon to close the list. We therefore respectfully ask them to communicate at as early a date as convenient with A. Thomas, Hon. Secretary, 83, Wheeley's Road, Edgbaston, Birmingham; or to the Hon. Treasurer, Mr. S. Reeves, 10, Bull Street, West Bromwich.

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

One copy, 12 months .. .. 6s. 6d.  
 " 6 " .. .. 3s. 3d.  
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All 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.

Rev. W. Pearson, of Syston, Leicestershire, would like to know the address of Mr. Wingfield Meadows.  
 W. JOHNSON.—G. Brotherhood has a reply to your letter.

## The Bell News & Ringers' Record.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 21, 1885.

THE hand of death has this week appeared and dealt a blow, the effect of which will be sorrowfully regretted, not only in our ringing isle, but in many parts of both hemispheres. Our readers at home on hearing of the sad intelligence it is our melancholy task to record, will at the first be indisposed to credit its correctness. Our brethren in India, Australia, New Zealand, the United States, South America, and other parts of the earth, will no doubt be transfixed by the news. JASPER SNOWDON is dead! The suddenness of the blow eclipses for the moment its severity. He who so often and so recently interested us by his well-written articles on various topics, is laid low—his voice is hushed—and sharp and poignant though the reflection is, we shall neither see his face or hear him speak any more. Taken from among us so suddenly while in the full bloom of manhood, the loss seems very heavy to bear. Our ringing brethren of Yorkshire will mourn for their beloved JASPER—as they were wont to speak of him—with a very great mourning.

Without the least exaggeration, it may be said that the Exercise have met with their greatest bereavement. We can hardly venture to dissect our own feelings at his loss. He had become so woven in with our concerns, that the present effect of his decease defies description. The meanest employé in our own office regarded him as one entitled to the greatest reverence from them. Nor is his loss felt by us only in the way our readers will feel it. We shall miss him as a faithful counsellor and guide. Our pleasant relationship, severed by the king of terrors, was no ordinary one. Refraining always from assuming the leading position on this paper, which he was so fully able to do—he yet was glad and willing to help in what he was pleased to call "a secondary capacity." A lesson, by the way, to many of our brother-ringers.

But the task we have set ourselves in this column is too much for us. We are overcome while endeavouring to

fix our thoughts for the purpose of giving expression to them. The idea of never again receiving his manuscript, because the hand that wrote it is lifeless, is certainly one likely to affect the most stern-hearted. And how can we gauge the depth of the affliction of his bereaved relatives? Overwhelmed with bitter sorrow at their loss, what consolation can be found for them? One is "the sure and certain hope of his joyful resurrection unto eternal life."

### The Metropolis.

ROTHERHITHE, SURREY.

THE ST. JAMES'S SOCIETY, LONDON.

On Thursday, November 12, 1885, in Two Hours and Fifty-seven Minutes,  
 AT ST. MARY'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;  
 REV. C. D. P. DAVIES' 5-PART.

HARRY W. GROUT .. .. Treble.	FREDERICK W. THORNTON .. 5.
WILLIAM PEAD .. .. 2.	THOMAS TAYLOR .. .. 6.
WILLIAM WEATHERSTONE .. 3.	WILLIAM H. FREEMAN .. 7.
ABRAHAM G. FREEMAN .. 4.	WILLIAM FOREMAN .. .. Tenor.

Conducted by FREDERICK W. THORNTON.

This is the first peal the conductor has called. It was originally intended to attempt this peal on the following day, that being the conductor's 22nd birthday but in consequence of Divine Service the idea was abandoned. Messrs. Thornton, GROUT, and FOREMAN belong to St. Alphege, Greenwich; the Brothers FREEMAN to St. Mary's, Lewisham; the rest to Rotherhithe.

### The Provinces.

HYDE, CHESHIRE.

On Monday, November 9, 1885, in Two Hours and Fifty-nine Minutes,  
 AT ST. GEORGE'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;  
 IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 1½ cwt.

JAMES SHAW .. .. Treble.	A. EDWARD WREAKS .. .. 5.
ROBERT WOOLLEY .. .. 2.	SAMUEL BRADLEY .. .. 6.
THOMAS BRADLEY .. .. 3.	JOHN EACHUS .. .. 7.
WALTER SLATER .. .. 4.	JAMES S. WILDE .. .. Tenor.

Composed by the late OBADIAH LANG, and Conducted by JAMES S. WILDE.

This peal will be found in Snowdon's *Treatise*, Part 2, Page 18. Messrs. Wreaks and Eachus hail from Manchester; the rest belong to Hyde.

ECCLES.—THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

Birthday Peal.

On Thursday, November 12, 1885, in Two Hours and Fifty-one Minutes,  
 AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;  
 TAYLOR'S BOB-AND-SINGLE VARIATION. Tenor 12½ cwt.

CHARLES CASH .. .. Treble.	JAMES BARRATT .. .. 5.
EDWARD CASH .. .. 2.	RICHARD ASHCROFT .. .. 6.
THOMAS YATES .. .. 3.	GEORGE H. JOHNSON .. 7.
SAMUEL WOOD .. .. 4.	WILLIAM ASHCROFT .. .. Tenor.

(No conductor mentioned).

The above was rung on James Barrett's 30th birthday, he having rung his 30th peal of 5000 and upwards on the above date, his brother ringers wish him many happy returns. S. Wood hails from Ashton, the rest are of the Eccles company.

DRAYTON, BERKS.—THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, November 14, 1885, in Two Hours and Fifty-five Minutes,  
 AT ST. PETER'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;  
 Tenor 9½ cwt.

FREDERICK A. CASTLE .. Treble.	†HARRY SHEARD .. .. 5.
THOMAS SHORT† .. .. 2.	*WILLIAM NAPPER .. .. 6.
WILLIAM SANDELL* .. .. 3.	JAMES W. WASHBROOK .. 7.
HARRY HOLIFIELD .. .. 4.	DENNIS NAPPER .. .. Tenor.

Composed and conducted by JAMES WILLIAM WASHBROOK.

\*First peal. †First peal with a bob bell. This is a 5-part composition, and has not been previously rung.

## ROTHWELL.—THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

*Birthday Peal.*

On Friday, November 13, 1885, in Three Hours,

AT HOLY TRINITY CHURCH,

5040 CHANGES: IN SEVEN DIFFERENT METHODS  
UPON SIX BELLS;*Being a 720 each of the following:*COLLEGE PLEASURE; ARNOLD'S VICTORY; LONDON SCHOLARS'  
PLEASURE; DUKE OF YORK; NEW LONDON PLEASURE; VIOLET;  
AND OXFORD TREBLE BOB.

Tenor 13 cwt.

J. HAIGH, SEN., .. .. .	Treble.	*WILLIAM ABBISHAW.. .. .	4.
A. CHAPMAN* .. .. .	2.	J. CHAPMAN .. .. .	5.
J. HAIGH, JUN. .. .. .	3.	*J. M. CHADWICK .. .. .	Tenor.

Conducted by J. M. CHADWICK.

\* First peal. The above was rung in honor of the birthday of W. Abbishaw, he having attained his 38th year on the above date; his brother ringers wishing him many happy returns.

## SOUTH SHIELDS.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, November 14, 1885, in Three Hours and Five Minutes,

AT ST. HILDA'S CHURCH,

5040 CHANGES: IN SEVEN DIFFERENT METHODS,  
UPON SIX BELLS;*Being a 720 each of the following:*Oxford Treble Bob; Double Court; Kent Treble Bob; College Single;  
Plain Bob; Oxford Bob; and Canterbury Pleasure.

Tenor 10 cwt.

R. HOPPER .. .. .	Treble.	COLLIN WAWN .. .. .	4.
J. R. WHELDON .. .. .	2.	J. HOPPER .. .. .	5.
A. SCRAFTON .. .. .	3.	JOHN MOFFITT .. .. .	Tenor.

Conducted by JOHN MOFFITT.

This is the first 5040 rung at South Shields, and it is believed the second upon six bells within the district of the Association since its formation. The first was rung at Stockton-on-Tees, by the local band, on September 15th, 1883.

## TENTERDEN, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

*Birthday Peal.*

On Saturday, November 14, 1885, in Three Hours and Twenty-four Minutes,

AT ST. MILDRED'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;  
HOLT'S 10-PART. Tenor 31 cwt. in C#.

REUBEN SIMMONDS .. .. .	Treble.	SAMUEL SNELLING .. .. .	5.
GEORGE PAWLEY .. .. .	2.	HARRY PEARCE .. .. .	6.
ALCHIN MOORCRAFT .. .. .	3.	WILLIAM JUDD .. .. .	7.
ALFRED H. WOOLLEY .. .. .	4.	GEORGE J. MOORCRAFT .. .. .	Tenor.

Conducted by HARRY PEARCE.

This is the first peal on the bells since they have been rehung and four of them recast by Messrs. Warner and Sons. The three heavy bells are hung on Goslin's Patent, and gives great satisfaction.

The above peal was rung to commemorate the 23rd birthday of the conductor. His brother ringers wish him many happy returns of the day.

The company wish to tender their sincere thanks to the vicar and churchwardens for kindly allowing them the use of the bells.

## CAVERSHAM, OXON.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD AND THE ST. PETER'S  
SOCIETY, CAVERSHAM.

On Saturday, November 14, 1885, in Three Hours and Seven Minutes,

AT ST. PETER'S CHURCH,

5040 CHANGES: IN SEVEN DIFFERENT METHODS  
UPON SIX BELLS;*Being a 720 each of the following:*Grandsire; Double Oxford; Double Court; Yorkshire Court;  
College Single; Oxford Bob; and Plain Bob.

Tenor 17 cwt.

J. HANDS .. .. .	Treble.	T. NEWMAN .. .. .	4.
E. MENDAY .. .. .	2.	E. POTTINGER .. .. .	5.
G. ESSEX .. .. .	3.	REV. G. F. COLERIDGE .. .. .	Tenor.

Conducted by REV. G. F. COLERIDGE.

This is the first peal of the kind by the above Guild, by any of the above, and believed to be the first in the county.

## DERBY.—THE ST. ANDREW'S SOCIETY.

On Saturday, November 14, 1885, in Three Hours and Thirteen Minutes,

AT ST. ANDREW'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;  
SNOWDON'S VARIATION OF HOLLIS'S 5-PART. Tenor 20½ cwt. in Eb.

W. SHARDLOW* .. .. .	Treble.	*W. H. FOUND .. .. .	5.
J. W. THOMPSON† .. .. .	2.	*G. MOTTASHAW.. .. .	6.
C. HART* .. .. .	3.	A. E. THOMPSON .. .. .	7.
W. MIDGLEY* .. .. .	4.	*T. ALTON .. .. .	Tenor.

Conducted by A. E. THOMPSON.

\* First peal. † First peal with a bob bell. This peal begins with two singles and ends with four parts called alike, see vol. 3 of "THE BELL NEWS," page 15, and this is the first time of its performance in Derby, and is believed the second time on record.

## BEDDINGTON.—THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, November 14, 1885, in Three Hours and Fifteen Minutes,

AT ST. MARY'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS, 5021 CHANGES;

Tenor 20½ cwt. in Eb.

HENRY C. HALEY .. .. .	Treble.	JAMES TRAPPITT .. .. .	6.
WILLIAM BURKIN* .. .. .	2.	JOHN PLOWMAN.. .. .	7.
CHARLES E. MALIM .. .. .	3.	ALFRED BRUCE.. .. .	8.
GEORGE RUSSELL .. .. .	4.	†THOMAS VERRALL .. .. .	9.
ARTHUR B. CARPENTER .. .. .	5.	*URBAN HOLMAN.. .. .	Tenor.

Composed and conducted by H. C. HALEY.

\* First peal of Caters. † First peal of Caters with a bob bell.

## BASINGSTOKE, HANTS.

THE SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.

On Saturday, November 14, 1885, in Three Hours and One Minute,

AT ST. MICHAEL'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;  
HOLT'S ORIGINAL. Tenor 16 cwt.

T. W. UDELL* .. .. .	Treble.	WILLIAM WILDER .. .. .	5.
A. C. FUSSELL .. .. .	2.	W. H. FUSSELL .. .. .	6.
E. F. COLE, ESQ. .. .. .	3.	GEORGE NEWSON .. .. .	7.
A. ANDREWS.. .. .	4.	JAMES PERRYMAN .. .. .	Tenor.

Conducted by GEORGE NEWSON.

\* First peal. This is the first peal on the bells, and the first time Holt's Original has been rung in the county. G. Newson and E. F. Cole, Esq. hail from London; the rest from Slough.

## OLDHAM, LANCASHIRE.

On Saturday, November 14, 1885, in Three Hours and Thirteen Minutes,

AT ST. THOMAS'S CHURCH, MOORSIDE,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;  
HOLT'S 10-PART. Tenor 18½ cwt.

ADAM BUTTERWORTH* .. .. .	Treble.	JOHN HARRISON .. .. .	5.
SAMUEL STOTT .. .. .	2.	†WILLIAM SUTCLIFFE .. .. .	6.
WILLIAM R. BARRETT .. .. .	3.	*THOMAS BARRETT .. .. .	7.
JOSEPH STREET .. .. .	4.	*LUKE HAMPSON.. .. .	Tenor.

Conducted by SAMUEL STOTT.

\* First peal. † First peal with a bob bell. Messrs. Harrison and W. R. Barrett hail from Heywood; and S. Stott is from Glodwick; the rest are of the local company.

## DRIGHLINGTON.—THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

(BRADFORD AMALGAMATED SOCIETY BRANCH) AND  
THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

On Saturday, November 14, 1885, in Three Hours and Seven Minutes,

AT ST. PAUL'S CHURCH,

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

A. MOULSON.. .. .	Treble.	JNO. FISHER .. .. .	5.
HY. RAISTRICK .. .. .	2.	TOM POLLITT .. .. .	6.
ROBERT TUKE .. .. .	3.	J. B. JENNINGS.. .. .	7.
JOS. BROADLEY .. .. .	4.	J. H. HARDCASTLE .. .. .	Tenor.

Composed by the late WM. HARRISON, and Conducted by  
J. H. HARDCASTLE.

SUTTON COLDFIELD, WARWICKSHIRE.  
THE HOLT SOCIETY, ASTON, AND THE ST. MARTIN'S  
SOCIETY, BIRMINGHAM.

On Saturday, November 14, 1885, in Three Hours and Ten Minutes,  
AL HOLY TRINITY CHURCH,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

BROOK'S VARIATION. Tenor 24 cwt. in Eb.

THOMAS REYNOLDS .. .. Treble.	WILLIAM KENT.. .. 5.
ARTHUR J. JONES .. .. 2.	JOHN SANDERS.. .. 6.
BERNARD WITCHELL.. .. 3.	HENRY JOHNSON, JUN. .. 7.
HENRY BASTABLE .. .. 4.	JOHN BUFFERY .. .. Tenor.

Conducted by HENRY BASTABLE.

This is the first peal of Stedman on the bells. A great improvement might be made here by the addition of a deadening floor to moderate the sound of the bells, it being much too noisy for change-ringing.

WALTHAM ABBEY, ESSEX.

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

On Monday, November 16, 1885, in Three Hours and Fifty-nine Minutes,

AT THE ABBEY CHURCH OF ST. LAWRENCE,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 6016 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 19 cwt.

WILLIAM A. ALPS .. .. Treble.	REV. F. E. ROBINSON .. 5.
REV. G. F. COLERIDGE .. 2.	REV. C. D. P. DAVIES .. 6.
FREDK. SWORDER .. .. 3.	HERBERT BAKER .. .. 7.
WILLIAM A. TYLER .. .. 4.	HENRY J. TUCKER .. .. Tenor.

Composed by THOMAS DAY, and Conducted by  
HENRY JAMES TUCKER.

This is the first peal in the method by this Association and the longest peal on the bells.

ROTHERHAM.—THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, November 16, 1885, in Three Hours and Thirty Minutes,

AT ST. ANN'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERS, 5069 CHANGES.

Tenor 32 cwt.

GEO. BRIGGS .. .. Treble.	C. BOWER .. .. 6.
C. H. HATTERSLEY .. .. 2.	† J. HALE .. .. 7.
F. COATES .. .. 3.	W. COATES .. .. 8.
J. ATHEY .. .. 4.	A. ROGERS .. .. 9.
T. WHITWORTH† .. .. 5.	* W. HURST .. .. Tenor.

Composed and conducted by FRED COATES.

The figures of this peal will be found in "THE BELL NEWS" for Saturday, September 2nd, 1882. \* First peal. † First peal in the method. C. H. Hattersley and C. Bower hail from Sheffield.

HERTFORD.—THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE  
YOUTHS, THE HERTFORD COLLEGE YOUTHS, AND  
THE HERTFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Tuesday, November 17, 1885, in Three Hours and Two Minutes,

AT ST. ANDREW'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

BROOK'S VARIATION. Tenor 16 cwt.

HENRY J. TUCKER .. .. Treble.	REV. F. E. ROBINSON .. 5.
HERBERT BAKER.. .. 2.	REV. C. D. P. DAVIES .. 6.
REV. G. F. COLERIDGE .. 3.	WILLIAM A. ALPS .. .. 7.
REV. WOOLMORE WIGRAM 4.	FREDERICK GEORGE .. .. Tenor.

Conducted by WILLIAM A. ALPS.

This is the first peal in the method by members of the Hertfordshire Association.

DRAYTON, BERKS.—THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD AND  
THE DRAYTON SOCIETY.

On Tuesday, November 17, 1885, in Two Hours and Fifty-five Minutes,

AT ST. PETER'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

BROOK'S VARIATION. Tenor 19½ cwt.

F. W. WARRICK .. .. Treble.	THOMAS FULKER .. .. 5.
GEORGE JONES .. .. 2.	H. D. BETTERIDGE, ESQ. 6.
FREDERICK FIELD .. .. 3.	JAMES W. WASHBROOK .. 7.
CHARLES TRINDER .. .. 4.	FREDERICK CLINCH .. .. Tenor.

Conducted by JAMES WILLIAM WASHBROOK.

BENINGTON.—THE HERTFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Wednesday, November 18, 1885, in Three Hours,

AT ST. PETER'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR,

5040 CHANGES.

Tenor 14 cwt. in F#.

REV. G. F. COLERIDGE .. Treble.	REV. C. D. P. DAVIES .. 5.
HERBERT BAKER .. .. 2.	SAMUEL PAGE .. .. 6.
HENRY J. TUCKER .. .. 3.	CHARLES SHAMBOOK .. 7.
LEONARD CHAPMAN .. .. 4.	REV. F. E. ROBINSON .. Tenor.

Composed by the late H. HUBBARD, and Conducted by the REV. F. E. ROBINSON, Master of the Oxford Diocesan Guild.

The above is the first peal in the method by this Association, and first peal in the method by any of the band excepting Rev. F. E. Robinson and H. J. Tucker.

Date Touches.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

BURTON-ON-TRENT.—On Monday evening, November 9th, at St. Paul's Church, a date touch of Grandsire Triples (1885 changes), in 1 hr. 10 mins. J. Ashmole, 1; \*Samuel Gretton, 2; \*Frank Dimbleby, 3; \*John Austin, 4; G. Robinson, 5; H. Wakley, 6; John Jagger (conductor), 7; William Orme, 8. This touch was composed by Miss E. C. Sharland, and was rung to commemorate the 30th birthday of Mr. George Robinson. \*Longest length in the method.

THE SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.

STANSTEAD (Suffolk)—On Sunday, November 15th, a date touch, (1885 changes), in 1 hr. 5 mins., in the following methods: 720 Kent Treble Bob, 720 Oxford Treble Bob, 445 Bob Minor. Samuel Slater, 1; F. Wells, 2; Oliver Garwood, 3; G. Hammond, 4; James Bird, 5; Percy C. S. Scott (conductor), 6. Tenor 12 cwt.

THE ST. JAMES'S SOCIETY, LONDON.

WALWORTH (Surrey).—On Saturday, November 7th, at St. Peter's church, eight members of the above Society attempted Holt's Original peal of Grandsire Triples, but it came to grief after ringing 2 hrs. 2 mins. F. G. Newman (conductor), 1; H. J. Davies, 2; A. E. Church, 3; H. Langdon, 4; W. W. Thorne, 5; T. Taylor, 6; W. H. George, 7; T. Coxhead, 8.

THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

BEDFORD.—On Sunday, October 25th, at St. Mary's church, a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob Minor (nine bobs). S. J. Cullip, 1; C. W. Clarke (conductor), 2; T. Foote, 3; M. Warwick, 4; J. Frossell, 5; I. Hills, 6. And a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor (nine bobs). M. Warwick, 1; S. J. Cullip, 2; T. Foote, 3; I. Hills, 4; J. Frossell, 5; C. W. Clarke (conductor), 6. Also on Friday, October 30th, a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob Minor (nine bobs). F. Keech, 1; S. J. Cullip, 2; J. Frossell, 3; W. Hall, 4; C. W. Clarke, 5; \*M. Warwick (conductor), 6. The above was rung with the bells deeply muffled as a mark of respect to the Bishop of Ely, he being patron of the above Association. And on Monday, November 9th, on the election of the Mayor, Edwin Ranson, Esq., he being one of the committee of the Bedfordshire Association, a 720 of Grandsire Minor (thirty-four bobs and two singles). F. Keech, 1; J. Frossell, 2; T. Foote, 3; W. Hall, 4; S. J. Cullip, 5; C. W. Clarke (150th 720; conductor), 6. Also at St. Paul's church, a 503 of Grandsire Triples. F. Keech, 1; S. J. Cullip, 2; W. Hall, 3; T. Foote, 4; J. Frossell, 5; I. Hills, 6; C. W. Clarke (composer and conductor), 7; J. Spencer, 8. Tenor 28 cwt. in D. \*First 720 in the method as conductor.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

DARLINGTON.—On Tuesday evening, November 10th, for practice at St. John's church, 720 Bob Minor (nine bobs, six singles) in 27 mins. W. Lister (first 720), 1; J. Bolton, 2; R. Moncaster, 3; W. Patton, 3; J. H. Whitfield, 5; G. Overton (conductor), 6. Tenor 10 cwt. in G.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

WALTHAM ABBEY.—On Tuesday, November 3rd, eight members of this Association attempted a peal of Stedman Triples, but it came to grief after ringing eleven courses. A quarter-peal and four courses in the same method was afterwards rung, making in all 2520 changes. G. Thurgood, 1; W. A. Alps, 2; A. Pye, 3; Rev. Woolmore Wigram, 4; D. Tarling, 5; A. Porter, 6; H. Baker (conductor), 7; Thomas Colverd, 8.

THE HERTFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, November 16th, eight members of the St. Albans branch of the above Association, attempted Holt's ten-part peal at St. Alban's Cathedral, but after ringing about 4600 changes in 2 hrs. 50 mins., the peal came to grief. W. H. L. Buckingham, 1; A. Godman

(jun.), 2; E. P. Debenham, 3; H. Lewis, 4; G. W. Cartmel, 5; A. Godman (sen.), 6; N. N. Hills (conductor), 7; W. Battle, 8. Tenor 30 cwt.

#### THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

ALDINGTON (Kent).—On Monday, November 2nd, at St. Martin's church, a 720 of Bob Minor (fourteen singles and four bobs). Frank Wanstall, 1; D. Hodgkin, 2; W. Post, jun., 3; F. Wanstall, 4; P. Hodgkin (conductor), 5; W. Post, sen., 6. And another 720 of Bob Minor (eighteen singles and nine bobs). C. Slingsby, 1; Thomas Hodgkin, 2; Fred Wanstall, 3; Edward Hyder, 4; W. Hyder (conductor), 5; P. Hodgkin, 6. And on Thursday, November 5th, a 720 of Bob Minor (eight bobs and six singles). C. Slingsby, 1; D. Hodgkin, 2; W. Post, jun., 3; F. Wanstall, 4; P. Hodgkin (conductor), 5; W. Post, sen., 6. And on Thursday, November 12th, another 720 of Bob Minor (twenty-two singles). C. Slingsby, 1; D. Hodgkin, 2; W. Post, jun., 3; E. Hyder, 4; P. Hodgkin (conductor), 5; W. Post, sen., 6. Tenor 14 cwt. in G.

ASHFORD (Kent).—On Monday, November 2nd, at St. Mary's church, a 720 of Bob Minor (twenty-two singles and eight bobs), on the back six. W. Post, jun., 1; D. Hodgkin, 2; F. Wanstall, 3; P. Hodgkin, 4; W. Hyder (conductor), 5; W. Post, sen., 6. Tenor 24½ cwt. in Eb.

CHARING (Kent).—On Monday, November 2nd, the Aldington branch of this Association visited this place and rang at SS. Peter and Paul's church by kind permission of the vicar, the Rev. Augustine Starey, a 720 of Bob Minor (fifteen bobs and six singles), in 28½ mins. Frank Wanstall, 1; David Hodgkin, 2; Fred Wanstall, 3; Edward Hyder, 4; William Hyder (conductor), 5; William Post, sen., 6. And another 720 of Bob Minor, in 27½ mins. (eight bobs and ten singles). Charles Slingsby, 1; Thomas Hodgkin, 2; William Post, jun., 3; Thomas Hooker, 4; William Hyder (conductor), 5; Philip Hodgkin, 6. And a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob Minor (fifteen bobs), in 27½ mins. C. Slingsby, 1; D. Hodgkin, 2; F. Wanstall, 3; P. Hodgkin, 4; W. Hyder (conductor), 5; W. Post, sen., 6. Tenor 13 cwt. in G. This is the first 720 of Treble Bob ever rung on the bells.

FAVERSHAM.—On Monday, November 9th, the first half of Holt's ten-part peal of Grandsire Triples, (2520 changes), in 1 hr. 35 mins. A. Biggs, 1; J. G. Elliott, 2; G. Barnard, 3; C. Couchman, 4; J. Bottle, 5; W. Wood (conductor), 6; S. Snelling, 7; H. Sutton, 8. Tenor 20 cwt. in E.

WYE (Kent).—On Monday, November 2nd, at SS. Gregory and Martin's church, by the Aldington band, a 720 of Bob Minor (eighteen bobs and two singles), in 27 mins. Charles Slingsby, 1; David Hodgkin, 2; Thomas Post, 3; Thomas Hooker, 4; William Hyder (conductor), 5; Philip Hodgkin, 6. Tenor 24 cwt. in Eb.

#### THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

WICKHAM MARKET (Suffolk).—On Tuesday evening, November 10th, for practice, six members of the above Association. rang a 720 of Kent Treble Bob, with nine bobs, in 27 mins. \*J. Reeve, 1; E. Todd, 2; \*F. Reeve, 3; \*G. Reeve, 4; \*W. Reeve, 5; J. Howard (conductor), 6. Tenor 15 cwt. in G. \*First 720 in the method; E. Todd and J. Howard hail from Pettistree, the rest are of the local company.

#### THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

EAST HAGBOURNE (Berks).—*Handbell Ringing*.—On Sunday, November 8th, the following rang on handbells, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples in 40 mins. F. Napper, 1; E. Napper, 2; F. Castle, 3; D. Napper, 4; J. Napper, 5; W. Napper, 6; J. W. Washbrook (conductor), 7-8. Messrs. Washbrook and Castle hail from Oxford, the rest are local men. And on Tuesday, November 10th, on handbells, a 216 of Grandsire Minor. J. Pether, 1; C. Allen, 2; J. Napper, 3; D. Napper, 4; E. Napper, 5; W. Napper (conductor), 6.

READING (Berks).—On Sunday evening, November 15th, at St. Mary's church, a 784 Bob Major, in 33 mins. T. Hibbert, 1; A. Fussell, 2; T. Newman, 3; G. Gibbard, 4; E. Willshire, 5; W. H. Fussell, 6; H. Egby, 7; George Newson (conductor), 8. Also 504 of Grandsire Triples. G. Newson, 1; A. Fussell, 2; R. Swain, 3; H. Egby, 4; J. Potter, 5; W. Fussell, 6; W. Newell, 7; T. Newman, 8.

#### THE SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.

LONG MELFORD (Suffolk).—On Sunday, November 1st, eight members of the above Society attempted a peal of Bob Major, but came to grief after ringing 1 hr. 20 mins. S. Slater, 1; P. C. S. Scott, 2; J. Bird, 3; F. Wells, 4; A. Pye, 5; A. Porter, 6; G. Hammond (conductor), 7; O. Garwood, 8. On Saturday evening, November 14th, the following members of the above society attempted a peal of Double Norwich Court Bob Major, but after ringing 1568 changes in one hour, it came to grief. John Slater, 1; Samuel Slater, 2; Fred. Wells, 3; Zachariah Slater, 4; G. Hammond, 5; Percy C. S. Scott, 6; Oliver Garwood, 7; Fredk. Paul Adams (conductor), 8. This is the longest length and first attempt at a peal in the method by all the above.

#### WORCESTER AND ADJOINING DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

BRIERLEY HILL (Staffordshire).—On Tuesday, November 3rd, 720 of Bob Minor in 27½ mins. And on Sunday evening, for Divine Service, a 720 of Bob Minor in 25 mins. W. Beddall, 1; J. Guest (conductor), 2; J. Garbett, 3; R. Perkins, 4; T. Alden, 5; A. Whatmore, 6. Also on Wednesday, November 11th, a 720 of Bob Minor in 27 mins. H. Lloyd, 1; A. Beddall, 2; D. Garbett, 3; R. Perkins, 4; T. Alden, 5; A. Whatmore (conductor), 6. The above was taken from Snowdon's *Rope Sight*, and contains eighteen bobs and two singles.

CAPEL (Surrey).—On Tuesday, November 3rd, the Capel Society rang 720 of Oxford Treble Bob in 24½ mins. R. Jordan, 1; A. Tidy, 2; T. Stedman, 3; E. Jordan, 4; D. Jordan, 5; A. Mills (conductor), 6. Also on Friday, November 6th, 720 of Stedman's Slow Course. T. Stedman, 1; A. Tidy, 2; R. Jordan, 3; E. Jordan, 4; A. Mills, 5; D. Jordan (conductor), 6. And on Tuesday, November 10th, 720 College Pleasure. T. Stedman, 1; R. Jordan, 2; A. Mills, 3; R. Worsfold, 4; E. Jordan, 5; D. Jordan (conductor), 6. Also on Friday, November 13th, 720 of Superlative Surprise. \*M. Jenks, 1; R. Jordan, 2; \*A. Mills, 3; \*G. Williams, 4; E. Jordan, 5; D. Jordan (conductor), 6. \*First 720 in the method.

BROMSGROVE (Worcestershire).—On Tuesday, November 10th, the senior and junior companies of St. John the Baptist church, met for practice, and rang the following touches: 420 of Grandsire Triples: \*William Broomfield, 1; Joseph Crawford, 2; \*Elijah Crump, 3; \*G. Bourne, 4; \*G. Hayward, 5; \*O. James, 6; \*R. Broomfield, 7; \*James Parry, 8. And 392 of Grandsire Triples. Robert Bedford, 1; George Morris, 2; William Broomfield, 3; the others as before. And 636 of Grandsire Caters. Joseph Richard Crawford, 1; Elijah Crump, 2; William Broomfield, 3; \*Thomas Albutt, 4; Oliver James, 5; George Hayward, 6; George Morris, 7; George Bourne, 8; Reuben Broomfield, 9; James Parry, 10. Also 392 of Grandsire Triples. Albert Hobday, 1; George Hayward, 2; William James, 3; Oliver James, 4; George Morris, 5; George Bourne, 6; Reuben Broomfield, 7; James Parry, 8. This is the first attempt at a bob bell in Grandsire Caters by W. Broomfield, aged 15. All the above were conducted by Reuben Broomfield. \*Members of the Worcester and Adjoining Districts Association.

BIDDENHAM (Beds).—On Wednesday evening, November 11th, for practice, two 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles. W. Horpin, 1; J. West, 2; W. West, 3; J. West, 4; C. West (conductor), 5; J. Trueman, 6. Also another 6-score, with W. Frossell at the treble, the rest as before.

The pressure on our space this week being so great, we are again compelled to hold over several touches, correspondence, and other matters.

#### DANBURY, ESSEX.

On Friday evening, November 13th, the fine ring of five bells (tenor 13½ cwt.), at the parish church, were re-opened by a band of the Essex Association, selected by Mr. Bowell, of Ipswich, who had the contract for the repairs. The bells had not been rung for several years past, in consequence of the bad state into which the fittings had fallen. An inspection made some weeks ago by the Rev. H. A. Cockey, Secretary of the Association, shewed that the bearings and gudgeons of all the bells were much out of repair, and that some years ago the third and tenor bells had been fitted with clappers, the balls of which instead of being round, had sharp edges, which had dug pits half way through the sound-bow. The tone of these two bells has been seriously affected, and it is wonderful that they were not cracked. They have now been quarter-turned, and the whole ring fitted with new bearings, the gudgeons have been turned up, the wheels repaired, and new ropes supplied. The Rev. E. F. Hay, who was the prime mover in the work of restoration, hospitably entertained the following ringers at supper after the ringing: the Rev. H. A. Cockey, J. Johnson, and A. Wallace, (Rayleigh). Mr. E. Moat, and W. Jay (Rettendon), and Mr. H. Bowell. A large audience assembled in the belfry at 7 p.m. and a collect having been said by Mr. Hay, the bells were set going. After two six-scores of Grandsire Doubles had been rung, Mr. Hay gave an account of the work which had been done, and a short history of the bells, and invited all who wished to learn to ring to give in their names to him, in order that a company might be formed in conjunction with those of the old ringers who still remained in Danbury. He concluded with a vote of thanks to Mr. Cockey and the ringers whom he had brought with him. Mr. Cockey, in responding, alluded to the pleasure which all thorough ringers must feel at meeting on the occasion of the re-opening of a fine old peal of bells, and proceeded to give an account of the formation of the Essex Association, and of the good work which it had been the means of carrying out in the county, hoping that before long he might have the pleasure of enrolling the Danbury company. Ringing was then resumed, and carried on till nine o'clock; several six-scores of Grandsire and Bob Doubles being brought round.

## DEATH OF MR. JASPER SNOWDON.

THE melancholy forebodings which we gave utterance to in our issue of last week respecting Mr. Snowdon have been realized, and it is our very painful duty—which we enter upon with feelings of the most poignant grief and sorrow—to announce that his death took place on the morning of Monday last, the 16th instant. There had, from the time when the most dangerous form of the malady developed itself, been grave doubts in the minds of those about him whether he would rally from the attack. As early as Thursday, the 12th instant, we received a telegram that the worst results were feared by the physicians in consultation, though we did not go to this extent in announcing his condition. We were buoyed up by a hope that a favourable change might set in at any moment, and though we received—from one of Mr. Snowdon's dearest friends—repeated bulletins, indicating with cruel exactness that the disease was getting the upper hand, we did not relinquish all hope till, on the morning of Tuesday last, the telegram arrived with the words "Jasper died yesterday" written too plainly. And then, and even now in fact while we write, the terrible blow seems hardly capable of realization.

The funeral took place in the Ilkley parish churchyard—the spot so well known to him through life—on Wednesday last. The mournful cortege arrived at Ilkley (by road from Leeds), punctually at 3 o'clock, and was met by all the principal residents of the village, and by numerous friends who had come by train. The funeral service was conducted by the Rev. Wm. Danks, and the clergymen present were: Rev. E. V. Williams (late of Ilkley), vicar of St. Stephen's, Burmantofts; Rev. T. H. Taylor, curate of parish church, Ilkley; Rev. J. Prime, curate of St. Margaret's, Ilkley; Rev. J. H. Fish, vicar of St. Paul's, Burton-on-Trent. The service was fully choral, the choir of St. Margaret's, Ilkley, being in attendance. The following hymns were sung in church: "When our heads are bowed with woe;" and, "O God our help in ages past." The bearers were men in the employ of the Farnley Iron works, and in the procession were members of the Wortley Conservative Club (of which Mr. Snowdon was president) and many members of the Yorkshire Association (of which he was also president), including both vice-presidents (Messrs. W. H. Howard, of York, and Geo. Bolland, of Tong), the Hon. Secretary, Mr. Wm. Whitaker, of Leeds, the Hon. Treasurer, Mr. Robert Tuke, of Bradford, and representatives from Leeds, York, Gargrave, Guiseley, Bradford, Ottery, Bingley, &c.

The church was crowded, and was attended by all the leading magistrates and gentry of the neighbourhood, all classes in the district shewing their affection for himself and his family. Before the service the Ilkley branch of the Yorkshire Association rang a touch of Bob Triples with the bells deeply muffled (excepting the tenor) at backstroke. This has a very solemn effect, and was often adopted by the society when ringing for other funerals.

After the funeral the bells were half-muffled, and six courses of Bob Triples were rung in whole pull changes by the Ilkley branch of the above Association, assisted by Mr. Robt. Tuke of Bradford. Afterwards, touches of Kent Treble Bob were rung by members of the Association from distant parts.

Whilst the cortege was passing through the streets all the blinds were drawn and the shops were closed, and every mark of respect was shewn to one who had lived in Ilkley so long.

On Tuesday evening, November 17th, at the meeting of the College Youths at St. Giles's, Cripplegate, London, just as the bells were about to be raised, Mr. F. E. Dawe arrived with a letter he had received from Mr. Whitaker, of Leeds, conveying the sad intelligence of Mr. Snowdon's death. All idea of ringing was immediately abandoned, and at a meeting held shortly afterwards, it was unanimously agreed, that as Mr. Dawe was a personal friend of the deceased, he should be empowered to write a letter of condolence to the relatives on behalf of the company, conveying their heartfelt sympathy at the loss which they and the ringing world had sustained. We understand that independent of the usual funeral peal, a muffled 5000 will be rung by this society as a mark of respect to the memory of the deceased.

The sad intelligence has become known in several places, and the muffled peals already rung as a tribute of respect to his memory we have thought fit to place by themselves on the opposite column. In connection with the peal rung at Rotherham, one of the company writes to say they were not aware of the melancholy event, or the bells would have been buffed. And we have no doubt that the numerous performances we record this week would all have been rung muffled, had the news become known to the various ringers.

## ASTON, BIRMINGHAM.—THE ST. MARTIN'S SOCIETY.

*Muffled Peal.*

On Tuesday, November 17, 1885, in Three Hours and Forty-five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF SS. PETER AND PAUL,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB ROYAL, 5320 CHANGES;  
IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 23 cwt.

JOHN BUFFERY .. .. Treble.	THOMAS REYNOLDS .. .. 6.
HENRY BASTABLE .. .. 2.	ALFRED THOMAS .. .. 7.
WILLIAM R. SMALL .. .. 3.	WILLIAM KENT .. .. 8.
SAMUEL REEVES .. .. 4.	CHARLES STANBRIDGE .. .. 9.
CHAS. HY. HATTERSLEY .. 5.	HENRY JOHNSON, JUN. .. Tenor.

Composed and Conducted by CHARLES HENRY HATTERSLEY.

This peal has the 5th and 6th their extent in 6ths place at five consecutive course-ends each, and was rung with the bells half-muffled, as a token of respect to the late Jasper W. Snowdon, Esq. who died the day previous. The St. Martin's company take this opportunity of sympathising with the friends of the deceased gentleman under their sad bereavement.

## DUFFIELD, DERBYSHIRE. THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.—(DERBY BRANCH.)

*Muffled Peal.*

On Wednesday, November 18, 1885, in Three Hours and Four Minutes,

AT ALL SAINTS' CHURCH,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES.  
Tenor 17 cwt. in F.

GEORGE DAWSON .. .. Treble.	GEORGE HINGLEY .. .. 5.
SAMUEL JOHNSON .. .. 2.	WILLIAM HICKLING .. .. 6.
JOHN HOWE .. .. 3.	ROBERT JOHNSON .. .. 7.
HARRY C. WOODWARD .. 4.	A. PERCIVAL HEYWOOD .. Tenor.

Composed by TOM LOCKWOOD, and conducted by  
A. PERCIVAL HEYWOOD, Esq.

This peal was rung with the bells half-muffled, as a mark of respect to the late Jasper W. Snowdon, Esq. This peal contains the 6th twenty-two times right and twenty-four times wrong.

## BURTON-ON-TRENT, STAFFORDSHIRE.

## THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION AND THE ST. PAUL'S SOCIETY, BURTON-ON-TRENT.

*Muffled Peal.*

On Wednesday, November 18, 1885, in Three Hours and Forty-two Minutes,

AT ST. PAUL'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR,  
5408 CHANGES. Tenor 26 cwt.

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

Composed by JOHN JAGGAR, and Conducted by WILLIAM WAKLEY.

The peal, which is now rung for the first time, has the 4th twenty-two times and the 6th twenty-four times in 6th's place. Rung on the occasion of the funeral of the late Jasper W. Snowdon, Esq., President of the Yorkshire Association, and a member of the above Society, who was buried at Ilkley, near Leeds, on that day. The bells were half-muffled, and their solemn tones gave expression to the sad hearts of the performers, who, one and all, mourn for him as for a friend and a brother.

\* First peal.

## THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

HULL (Yorkshire).—*Muffled Peal.*—On Tuesday, November 17th, at Holy Trinity church, the following members of this Association rang a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor, with the bells half muffled as a tribute of respect to the memory of the late Jasper W. Snowdon, Esq., the much esteemed president of the Association. C. Bennett, 1; H. Jenkins, 2; W. Southwick, 3; H. Cutter, 4; F. Drabble, 5; C. Jackson (conductor), 6.

## HEMPSTED, GLOUCESTERSHIRE.

In our issue of a fortnight ago we gave an account of the re-opening of the ring of bells at this place. We ought to have mentioned that the new treble was the gift of the worthy Rector, the Rev. B. S. Dawson, and that the cost of tuning and rehanging the old five bells was defrayed by the Miss Crawleys of Hempsted. The bells have also been fitted with the Ellacombe chiming apparatus. The church is now under restoration, and will (D.V.) be re-opened on December 17th. By that time the local company hope to be in fair shape for the performance of scientific ringing.



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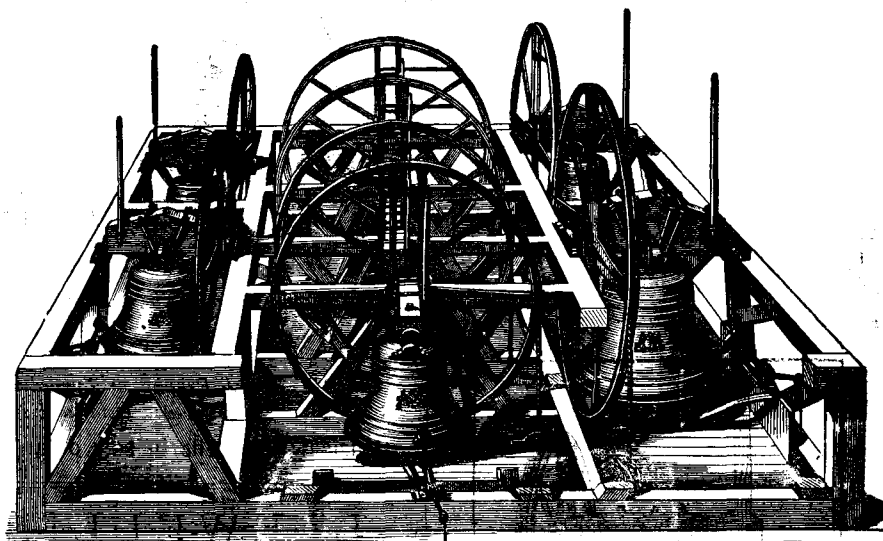
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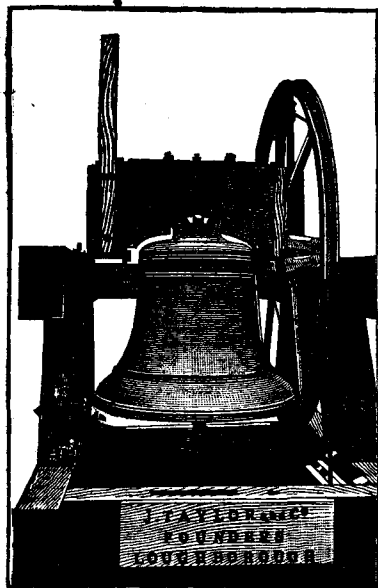
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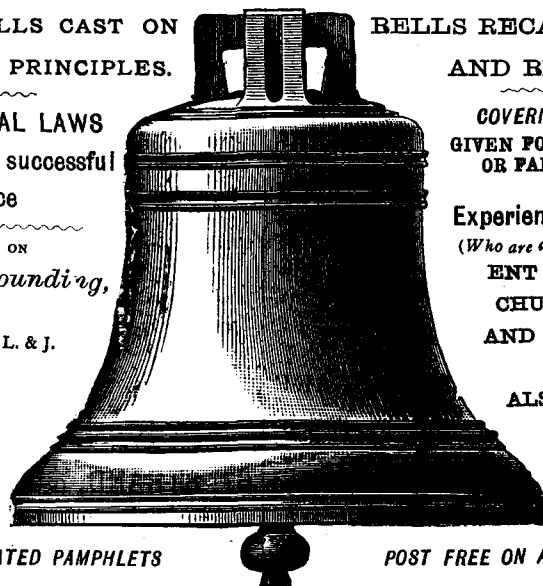
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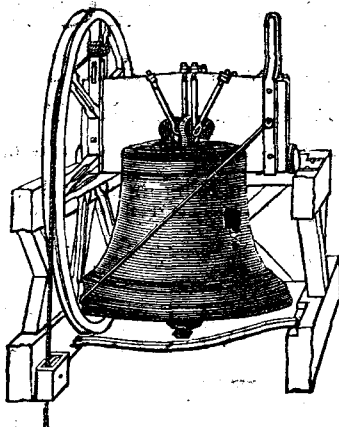
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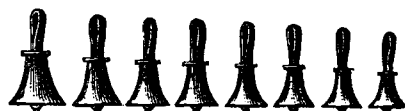
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## THE SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.

ON Saturday, November 21st, eight members of this Society assembled at Charing Cross Station, for the purpose of endeavouring to accomplish a peal on the beautiful ring of eight, at St. Barnabas church, Ranmore Common, near Dorking, Surrey, which, by the kind intercession of Canon Erskine Clarke, of Battersea, was opened to them by the clergyman in charge.

Starting from London at 1 o'clock, the party reached Dorking about 2.30, and after a survey of the surrounding scenery, and necessary refreshment to invigorate the body and the feelings, started off at a good pace for the church, about one mile and a half distant, the order in which the members took and made their places reminding us at once of Treble Bob, as the heavy weights went off to lead, and in spite of all remonstrances from the conductor, continued to do so, until the work began to tell about the middle of the course, when changing the method to Stedman, the light weights worked to the front, done slow and quick work alternately, leaving the ponderous metal dodging about behind, when the church was suddenly reached and a most hearty welcome was offered to the ringers by the worthy Vicar, the Rev. H. Waddington, who in a few words informed the party that it was quite a privilege for them to be allowed to ring in his church, as he made it a rule to refuse peal-ringers in general, but owing to his existing friendship with the vicar of Battersea, he could not deny them their request to ring in his tower. After looking round the beautiful church, which somewhat resembled a miniature cathedral, the party were conducted to the belfry by the vicar, and after expressing his good wishes for their success in the undertaking before them, bid them adieu for the present, and locked the door behind them. If the members had every reason to be pleased with their reception, what could be more genial to their feelings than to find a really tuneful peal of eight in good going order, and a commodious chamber wherein to try their luck.

After a few preliminary rounds, which fell melodiously upon the ear, "go" was called by the conductor, Mr. A. H. Gardom, and after three hours and seven minutes' ringing, in which the striking was superb, Hollis's five-part peal of Grandsire Triples was brought to a conclusion, and the pure air of the country was again sought. They were met at the door by the Vicar, who congratulated the band upon their success, and expressed himself highly pleased with the performance, which he thought of great merit, having been a listener best part of the time. Bidding the ringers a cordial farewell, and providing by his generosity a substantial repast later in the evening for their benefit, the hilly road was again sought, and once more might be seen this happy peal band, sometimes leading, dodging, or coming down together in high spirits, which might have been caused by their successful performance, the invigorating air, or the happy state of mind which sometimes pervades the system. After partaking of the refreshment before mentioned, steps were made to the station, and a comfortable journey to London ensued; and the members take this opportunity of thanking the Rev. H. Waddington for his cordial reception and generosity, and congratulate him upon possessing such a fine ring of bells, and keeping them in such good order.

## THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

A District Meeting of this Association was held at St. Mary's Church, Cardington, near Bedford, on Saturday, November 21st, which was fairly attended by members from Bedford, Biddenham, Bromham, Elstow and Kempston; and Messrs. Allen and Hare of the Hitchin Society. Ringing commenced on the ring of eight bells, tenor about 20 cwt., at 3 p.m., when the following touches were brought round: 350, 308, 168 of Grandsire Triples; 252 of Bob Triples; 210 Union Triples, 336 of Bob Major, and a course of Oxford Treble Bob Major. After falling the bells in peal, the ringers were kindly invited by the vicar, the Rev. E. J. Hillier, to the vicarage to tea, and after doing justice to the good things provided, they rang a touch of 168 of Grandsire Triples, on the handbells, which gave great satisfaction. And also thanking the vicar for the use of the bells, and the kind and courteous manner in which he always receives them.

## SUDDEN DEATH AT LOUGHBOROUGH.

WE regret to record the very sudden death of Mr. Thomas Cooper, of Loughborough, who suddenly died in his workshop on Saturday, November 14th. Mr. Cooper had been for many years a member of the Midland Counties' Association, and was a regular attendant at the practices at All Saints' church, Loughborough. On Tuesday, the day of the funeral, his brother ringers attempted a muffled peal of Grandsire Triples, which unfortunately came to grief after an hour, owing to one of the buffs becoming loose. A. Cresser, 1; W. T. Billinghurst, 2; C. Smith, 3; J. W. Taylor, sen., Esq., 4; S. Smith, 5; E. D. Taylor, Esq., 6; J. W. Taylor, jun., Esq. (conductor), 7; E. Wightman, 8. The above are all regular employed at the bellfoundry, where Mr. Cooper was well known, and a frequent visitor, having all the painting of the premises for many years entrusted to his hands.

## WORCESTER AND ADJOINING DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

ON Saturday, November 21st, a Quarterly Meeting of the above Association was held by kind permission of the Vicar, the Rev. W. O. Parker Ford, in the Lax Lane School, Bewdley, when the Master, Mr. S. Spittle, presided, and was supported by the Rev. —. Davies, curate, Bewdley, Messrs. E. Crump (treasurer), and Owen and Smith, secretaries. The chairman, in opening the proceedings, referred to the address which was to be handed over to Mrs. W. Duffill, widow of the late treasurer, remarking that the Association had lost in him the originator of the above society, and hoped that the family would accept the address as a mark of the respect in which he was held by all members of the Association. Mr. E. Crump, on receiving the same, thanked the society on behalf of the widow and family, for the same, and had it not been for unforeseen circumstances, some members of the family would have been there that day to have received it. The address was beautifully engrossed and mounted in an Oxford oak frame, and signed on behalf of the committee of the Association by the Master and Secretary. The minutes of the last meeting having been read and confirmed, a rule for good behaviour, etc., in the belfries, having been received by the secretary, Mr. J. Smith, from the Rev. W. R. Carr, Vicar of St. John's, Worcester, who was unavoidably prevented from attending, was taken into consideration, and it was thought advisable to let the matter lie over till the Annual Meeting, and that each society in union should present a copy of rules for their guidance and submit the same for consideration at that meeting. This being the whole of the business of importance, the chairman said, he could not go away from that meeting without saying a few words about the sad news which "THE BELL NEWS" of to day contained, viz., the death of Mr. Jasper W. Snowdon. In him who had been taken from us so suddenly, we had lost one of the brightest, if not the brightest light that ever shone in the ringing world. He whose name had become so well known to us, not only as a ringer and composer, but by his well written articles from time to time on so many questions belonging to the Exercise, was now no more, and the loss the ringing world had sustained by his death, was irreparable, both at home and abroad. His sudden decease in the prime of manhood was a warning to us, and brought home to all of us, that in the midst of life we are in death. In conclusion, he would move that the secretary be instructed to forward a letter of condolence from the Worcester Diocesan Association to the relatives of the deceased gentleman. The usual vote of thanks were passed to the chairman for presiding, also to the Rev. W. O. Parker Ford for the use of the bells and schoolroom, and the Rev. —. Davies for his presence at the meeting. The rev. gentleman, in the absence of the Vicar, thanked the members for the kind manner in which they had spoken of his Vicar and himself, and said that he would bring the matter and objects of the Association before his Vicar, Churchwardens, and sidesmen, and he had no doubt that the same would be taken into consideration and the ringers induced to join the Association. Owing to the late arrival of members, no ringing of any account was done, although there is a splendid peal of eight bells, but the go of the same is not what one would wish for. The next meeting will take place at Netherton on the third Saturday in January, 1886.

## THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD AND THE DRAYTON SOCIETY, OXFORDSHIRE.

ON Tuesday, November 17th, 1885, the above Society visited Drayton, Berks, with the express purpose of ringing a peal of Stedman Triples on the sweet little peal of eight in the church tower, which was completed in good style in 2 hrs. 55 mins. The striking throughout was remarkable for such a young band, for as everyone must admit there is nothing so hard to accomplish a peal in, on seven bells, as Triples on Stedman's Principle, at least very few methods on any number prove more difficult to achieve. Now perhaps it may be interesting to know that this band of ringers, with the exception of Mr. Washbrook and Mr. Betteridge, are all farm labourers working for Mr. Betteridge, neither of which could, twelve months ago, ring a bell at all, and if merit is to meet its due reward, it must be admitted a remarkable feat on the part of Mr. Betteridge and his men, and may be said to be the first peal rung by such a band in such little time. A record of this peal appeared in our last number.

## OPENING OF NEW BELLS AT CONSETT, DURHAM.

THE LORD BISHOP of Durham has fixed Wednesday, December 9th, for the dedication of the new ring of six bells in Consett Church. Members of the Durham and Newcastle Association and their friends who are competent six bell change-ringers are invited to attend, for whom a dinner will be provided at the "Queen's Head Hotel," at 1.30; service in the church at 3.30. Ringers intending to dine are requested to send in their names to the Rev. F. Steggall, Vicar of Consett, not later than Monday, December 7th.

**The Provinces.**

SOMERLEYTON, SUFFOLK.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Tuesday, November 17, 1885, in Two Hours and Fifty-eight Minutes,

AT ST. MARY'S CHURCH,

5040 CHANGES: IN SEVEN DIFFERENT METHODS  
ON SIX BELLS;

Being a 720 each of the following—

Grandsire Minor; Duke of York; New London Pleasure; Woodbine;  
Violet; Kent; and Oxford Treble Bob.

Tenor 12 cwt. in G.

ROBERT J. KITTLE .. .. Treble.	JAMES ORFORD .. .. 4.
GEORGE RUDD .. .. 2.	HENRY ORFORD .. .. 5.
JOHN ORFORD .. .. 3.	ROBERT WILSON .. .. Tenor.

Conducted by R. J. KITTLE.

APPLETON, BERKS.—THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Friday, November 19, 1885, in Three Hours,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF COLLEGE SINGLE TRIPLES,  
5040 CHANGES.

FREDERICK WEBB .. .. Treble.	EDMUND HOLIFIELD .. .. 5.
WILLIAM BENNETT .. .. 2.	GEORGE HOLIFIELD .. .. 6.
BENJAMIN BARRETT .. .. 3.	FREDERICK WHITE .. .. 7.
JESSE AVERY .. .. 4.	STEDMAN WHITE .. .. Tenor.

Composed and Conducted by GEORGE HOLIFIELD.

This peal contains 208 bobs and 2 singles, and is supposed to be the second peal ever rung in this method.

BISHOPS STORTFORD, HERTS.

THE HERTFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Thursday, November 19, 1885, in Three Hours and Twenty-nine Minutes,

AT ST. MICHAEL'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS, 5093 CHANGES;  
Tenor 20 cwt.

ALFRED TUCKER* .. .. Treble.	REV. F. E. ROBINSON .. .. 6.
JASPER G. CRAWLEY* .. .. 2.	HERBERT BAKER .. .. 7.
MATTHEW ELLSMORE* .. .. 3.	REV. G. F. COLERIDGE .. .. 8.
REV. C. D. P. DAVIES† .. .. 4.	HENRY J. TUCKER .. .. 9.
NEWMAN N. HILLS .. .. 5.	*JOSEPH SAMPFORD .. .. Tenor.

Composed by HENRY JOHNSON, sen., and Conducted by  
HENRY JAMES TUCKER.

This is the first peal rung on the ten since 1830, the last being 6156 of Grandsire Caters, by a Bishop Stortford band. † First peal of Grandsire Caters. \* First peal on ten bells.

RANMORE, DORKING, SURREY.

THE SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.

On Saturday, November 21, 1885, in Three Hours and Seven Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. BARNABAS,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;  
HOLLIS'S 5-PART. Tenor 21 cwt.

W. COPPAGE .. .. Treble.	H. S. THOMAS .. .. 5.
A. H. GARDOM .. .. 2.	W. BARON .. .. 6.
C. E. MALIM .. .. 3.	H. DAINS .. .. 7.
A. G. THOMAS .. .. 4.	J. MANSFIELD .. .. Tenor.

Conducted by A. H. GARDOM.

TUE BROOK (NEAR LIVERPOOL), LANCASHIRE.

On Saturday, November 21, 1885, in Two Hours and Fifty-Nine Minutes,

AT ST. JOHN-THE-BAPTIST'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;  
THURSTANS' COMPOSITION. Tenor 20 cwt. in G.

RICHARD S. MANN .. .. Treble.	GEORGE FISHER .. .. 5.
JOHN R. PRITCHARD .. .. 2.	WILLIAM DAVIES .. .. 6.
JOHN BROWN .. .. 3.	THOMAS HAMMOND .. .. 7.
WILLIAM JAMES .. .. 4.	WILLIAM BROOKS .. .. Tenor.

Conducted by THOMAS HAMMOND.

First peal in the method on the bells.

BARKING.—THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, November 21, 1885, in Three Hours and Twenty-two Minutes,

AT ST. MARGARET'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;  
IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 22½ cwt.

ACKLAND J. PERKINS .. .. Treble.	ALFRED PYE .. .. 5.
ARTHUR PORTER .. .. 2.	YORK GREEN .. .. 6.
GEORGE F. PEARL* .. .. 3.	HARRY RANDALL .. .. 7.
ROBERT SEWELL .. .. 4.	WILLIAM DORAN .. .. Tenor.

Composed by YORK GREEN, and Conducted by ACKLAND J. PERKINS.

\* First peal in the method. This is a 1-part peal in fifteen courses, and has the 6th eleven times wrong and right, and is now rung for the first time. Published in "THE BELL NEWS" of March 28th, 1885. Messrs. Randall, Pearl, Green, and Doran hail from West Ham; Messrs. Pye and Porter from Little Heath; A. J. Perkins from Romford; and R. Sewell belongs to Barking. The steeple-keeper of Barking was not aware of the death of Mr. Snowdon, or the bells would have been buffed. It is intended to erect two peal-boards to record the last two peals on these bells.

WHITEFIELD, LANCASHIRE.

On Sunday, November 22, 1885, in Three Hours and Five Minutes,

AT ALL SAINTS' CHURCH, STAND,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;  
HOLT'S 10-PART. Tenor 21½ cwt.

FRED RUDMAN .. .. Treble.	WILLIAM HILTON .. .. 5.
JAMES GRATRAX .. .. 2.	WILLIAM WARBURTON .. .. 6.
ARTHUR BARRETT .. .. 3.	FRED MORRIS .. .. 7.
JOHN MORRIS .. .. 4.	JOSEPH BRADSHAW .. .. Tenor.

Conducted by FRED RUDMAN.

J. Gratrix hails from Manchester; W. Wilton, W. Warburton and J. Bradshaw are of the local company; the rest hail from Radcliff.

**Miscellaneous.**

THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

BEDFORD.—On Thursday, November 12th, at St. Mary's Church, for practice, a 720 of Oxford Bob Minor (thirty-four bobs and twenty-six singles), in 26 mins. C. W. Clarke (conductor), 1; J. Atkins, 2; T. Foote, 3; I. Hills, 4; S. J. Cullip, 5; W. Hall, 6. Also a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor (nine bobs). C. W. Clarke, 1; C. West, 2; T. Foote, 3; I. Hills, 4; S. J. Cullip, 5; \*W. Hall (conductor), 6. Also 180 of Bob Minor (three bobs). C. Pass, 1; I. Hills, 2; C. West, 3; C. W. Clarke (conductor), 4; S. J. Cullip, 5; W. Hall, 6. *Hand-bell Ringing*.—On Monday, November 16th, for practice, a 120 of Violet Treble Bob Minor. S. J. Cullip, 1; C. West, 2; T. Foote, 3; C. W. Clarke, 4; I. Hills, 5; W. Hall, 6. First in the method by all. Also 210 of Union Triples. J. Spencer, 1; S. J. Cullip, 2; T. Foote, 3; W. Hall, 4; I. Hills, 5; J. Frossell, 6; C. W. Clarke (conductor), 7; F. Keech, 8. First touch in the method by all. \*First 720 in the method as conductor. Also on Thursday, November 19th, for practice, a 720 of Double Court Bob Minor (eighteen bobs and two singles), in 25½ mins. F. Keech, 1; C. W. Clarke (conductor), 2; J. Atkins, 3; I. Hills, 4; J. Frossell, 5; W. Hall, 6. This is the first 720 in the method on the bells by all except the conductor. Tenor 8 cwt.

THE NORWICH ASSOCIATION.

STONHAM ASPAL (Suffolk).—On Saturday evening, November 14th, eight members of the above Association attempted Holt's ten-part peal of Grandsire Triples, but after ringing two leads past the half-way single, in 1 hr. 40 mins., a shift-course occurred, and the conductor called "stand." A. S. Wightman, 1; W. Dye (conductor), 2; F. Knights, 3; R. Wright, 4; W. Whiting, 5; H. English, 6; G. Perry, 7; H. Pepper, 8. Tenor 24 cwt. R. Wright hails from Eye, and H. English from Coddensham.

WORCESTER AND ADJOINING DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

NETHERTON.—On Sunday, November 15th, before morning service, five members of St. Andrew's society, assisted by Mr. W. Micklewright, of Dudley, rang a date touch, 1885 changes, in the following methods: 720 Kent Treble Bob, 720 Plain Bob, and 445 Grandsire Minor, in 1 hr. 8 mins. R. Round, 1; J. Prestidge, 2; J. Townsend, 3; M. J. Robinson, 4; W. Micklewright (conductor), 5; J. Smith, 6. The above touch was rung on the occasion of His Worship the Mayor, Alderman W. E. Walker, and the Corporation, attending Divine Service, this being the first visit ever made by the Mayor and Corporation of Dudley to the above church. Tenor 12½ cwt.



**BRIGHOUSE (Yorkshire).**—*Muffled Peal.*—On Tuesday, November 3rd, six members of the West Riding of Yorkshire Association rang a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor (fifteen bobs), with the bells muffled, as a token of respect to the late Mr. J. Robnett, aged 39 years, who rang his farewell touch at Brighouse, August 14th, 1884, for Harrogate, in 28 mins. F. Crossley, 1; C. Nield, 2; W. F. Prince (conductor), 3; G. Lawton, 4; J. F. Pearson, 5; J. Cockroft, 8. Tenor 14½ cwt.

**BENGEO (Herts).**—On Sunday, November 15th, at Holy Trinity church, a 720 of Grandsire Minor. T. Barker, 1; W. Childs (first 720 on a bob bell), 2; W. Bennett, 3; J. Channer, 4; J. Pomfret, 5; H. Phillips (conductor), 6.

**BETCHWORTH (Surrey).**—On Saturday evening, November 21st, at the parish church, 360 Bob Minor, by the local band, and 720 Oxford Single Bob Minor, in 26 mins. \*B. Trendell, 1; R. Jordan, 2; G. Williams, 3; J. W. Whiting, 4; C. Jordan, 5; D. Jordan (conductor), 6. Also 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor, in 25 mins. \*J. W. Whiting, 1; R. Jordan, 2; E. Moses, 3; G. Williams, 4; E. Jordan, 5; D. Jordan (conductor), 6. \*First 720 in the method. The brothers Jordan hail from Capel; Messrs. Williams and Moses from Reigate; J. W. Whiting from Fareham; Trendell is of the local band. Tenor 13 cwt.

**DARESBUURY (Cheshire).**—On Tuesday evening, November 10th, the local company rang a 720 of Bob Minor (sixteen bobs and two singles), in about 27 mins. T. Houghton (conductor), 1; P. Johnson, 2; T. Ellison, 3; P. Hamblett, 4; E. de Prez, 5; T. Houghton, jun., 6. Tenor 12 cwt. in G.

**ENFIELD (Middlesex).**—On Saturday, November 7th, at the new church, a 720 of Grandsire Minor, in 26 mins. R. Goodchild, 1; G. Bower, 2; J. Waghorn, jun., 3; J. Waghorn, 4; G. B. Lucas, 5; H. A. Barnett (conductor), 6. And a 360 in the same method, at the old church, with Mr. Lucas at the tenor.

**HAMPSTEAD (Middlesex).**—On Sunday, November 8th, at St. Stephen's church, for Divine Service in the morning, seven members of the local company, assisted by Messrs. J. Coomb, G. Grey, and G. Griffin, rang a 504 of Grandsire Caters. S. Clarke, 1; B. Foskett, 2; E. Chapman, 3; J. Coomb, 4; G. Griffin, 5; C. Deal, 6; G. Gray, 7; N. Alderman, 8; G. Newson (conductor), 9; W. Arscott, 10. And for Divine Service in the evening the same touch was again rang, in which M. J. Wood, of Kenninghall rang the 8th; H. Tyler, 5; W. Pryor, 7; the others standing as before. On Tuesday evening, for practice, a quarter-peal (1259 changes) of Grandsire Caters, in 50 mins. S. Clarke, 1; B. Foskett, 2; B. Paine, 3; E. Chapman, 4; H. Tyler, 5; C. Deal, 6; W. Pryor, 7; N. Alderman, 8; G. Newson (composer and conductor), 9; W. Arscott, 10. This is the first quarter-peal of Caters by the above company.

**HIGHAM (Suffolk).**—On Saturday evening, November 14th, at the parish church, the local company rang a 720 of Plain Bob Minor, with nine bobs and six singles. G. Winny, 1; J. Levitt, 2; W. Ranson, 3; W. Smith (conductor), 4; J. W. Smith, 5; C. Ablitt, 6. In the course of the ringing a mixed company met outside, and afterwards rang a 360 College Single. G. C. Scowen, 1; W. Smith (conductor), 2; J. Stirling, 3; J. W. Smith, 4; J. Taylor, 5; W. J. Nevard, 6. A 720 of Oxford Treble Bob. W. Smith (conductor), 1; J. Levitt, 2; J. Stirling, 3; J. W. Smith, 4; J. Taylor, 5; W. J. Nevard, 6. A 360 of Oxford Treble Bob. W. Smith (conductor), 1; G. C. Scowen, 2; J. Scowen, 3; W. Nevard, 4; J. Taylor, 5; J. W. Smith, 6. A course of Double Norwich Court and a course of Grandsire Minor. G. C. Scowen, 1; W. Smith, 2; J. Stirling, 3; J. W. Smith, 4; J. Taylor, 5; W. J. Nevard, 6. The company afterwards returned to the meeting house, the "King's Head Inn," kept by the worthy host, Mr. S. Wynkle, and rang a course of Treble Bob Major, a course of Bob Major, and a course of Grandsire Triples, in which Messrs. W. Smith, J. Smith, J. Taylor, J. Stirling, W. J. Nevard, G. C. Scowen, and J. Scowen took part. There was also a quantity of tunes played by Messrs. Nevard and Smith. This being done, it was time to close, and the company parted to go home, everyone having thoroughly enjoyed himself. Messrs. G. C. and J. Scowen, J. Taylor, J. Stirling, W. J. Nevard, W. Smith, and C. Ablitt, belong to the Essex Association. G. C. and J. Scowen hail from Hadleigh, J. Taylor, J. Stirling, from Great Bromley, W. J. Nevard, from Great Bentley; the rest are local men.

**HITCHIN (Herts).**—On Monday, November 9th, for practice at St. Mary's Church, a 630 of Grandsire Triples. J. Randall, 1; H. Buckingham, 2; F. C. Moule, 3; A. Squires, 4; J. Hare (conductor), 5; S. Hare, 6; W. Allen, 7; J. Foster, 8. Also a 336 conducted by W. Allen, standing as before. Tenor 28 cwt. in D.

**LEICESTER.**—On Saturday, November 14th, at S. Saviour's, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1260 changes), in 52 mins. J. Buttery, 1; W. A. Clayton, 2; J. Wilson, 3; J. Walton, 4; J. Needham, 5; J. Marlow, 6; T. Wilson (conductor), 7; C. Biddles, 8. Tenor 27 cwt. in E. J. Wilson hails from Spalding, the rest are members of the Midland Counties' Association, Leicester Branch.

**LIGHTCLIFFE (Yorkshire).**—On Saturday, October 31st, six members of the West Riding of Yorkshire Association rang, at the Congregational church, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob (fifteen bobs), in 26 mins. F. Crossley, 1; J. Shuter, 2; C. Nield, 3; G. Lawton, 4; J. F. Pearson, 5; W. F. Prince (conductor), 6. Tenor 12½ cwt. Shuter belongs to Lightcliff, the rest hail from Brighouse.

**LIVERPOOL.**—On Thursday, November 19th, at St. Peter's Pro-Cathedral, an attempt was made to ring a peal of Kent Treble Bob Royal, but unfortunately after ringing 3120 changes, in 2 hrs. and 5 mins., it came to grief through the breaking of the fourth rope. Richard Williams, 1; John R. Pritchard, 2; William Woodhead, 3; Charles Williams, 4; John Brown, 5; William Brown, 6; William Davies, 7; James Egerton, 8; Thomas Hammond, 9; Robert Williams (composer and conductor), 10.

**LONDON.**—*Muffled Peal.*—On Saturday, November 14th, at St. Mary's, Stoke Newington, by the local ringers, as a mark of respect to the late Mr. James Fish, who held the position of steeplekeeper for thirty-seven years. T. Litten, 1; G. Kennedy (conductor), 2; W. C. Waterman, 3; H. May, 4; W. H. Spencer, 5; T. Muaro, 6. Tenor 7½ cwt.

**LOWER HARDRES (Kent).**—*Handbell Ringing.*—On Saturday, November 14th, two 360's of Grandsire Minor. A. Brine, Esq., (conductor), 1-2; Miss E. Brine, 3; Miss M. Brine, 4; Miss Brine, 5; Miss L. Brine, 6.

**MONKS ELEIGH (Suffolk).**—On Friday evening, November 6th, at the parish church, eighteen score of Plain Bob. R. Keeble (conductor), 1; R. Bedingfield, 2; J. Biggs, 3; J. Taylor, 4; C. Parker, 5; A. Long, 6. Also a 504 of Oxford Treble Bob. W. Green, 1; R. Bedingfield, 2; J. Biggs, 3; J. Taylor, 4; C. Parker, 5; A. Long, 6. And on Sunday evening, November 8th, after Divine Service, 1440 changes in 55 mins., in the following methods: 720 Oxford Treble Bob Minor, and 720 Plain Bob Minor. R. Keeble (conductor), 1; R. Bedingfield, 2; W. Green, 3; J. Biggs, 4; C. Parker, 5; A. Keeble, 6. Tenor 18 cwt. R. Bedingfield hails from Brandeston, the rest are local men.

**RHYL (Flint).** On Tuesday, November 10th, at St. Thomas's Church, the local company rang a 720 of Grandsire Minor, with the tenor behind. J. Jones, 1; F. Hordley, 2; J. P. Powell, 3; J. Vaughan, 4; F. Wallis, 5; F. J. Gamlin (conductor), 6; F. Holman, 7. This 720 contains two singles and thirty-four bobs, and is the first 720 rang by this society.

**RUDGWICK (Sussex).**—*Muffled Peal.*—On Sunday, November 15th, a 720 of Oxford Single Bob Minor, with eighteen bobs and two singles, in token of respect to the late Mr. James Taite. Michael Stanford, 1; William Short, 2; William Lanaway, 3; George Jenkins, 4; John Cooper, 5; John King (conductor), 6. Messrs. Cooper and Lanaway hail from Slinfold; Short from Wareham.

**SONNING (Berks).**—On Saturday, November 14th, the parochial ringers, with the assistance of Messrs. Willshire and Williams, of St. Laurence, Reading, rang a funeral peal, on the whole pull and stand principle, as a mark of respect to the late Mr. James Sadler, who died at the age of 70, and was buried in the afternoon, and who held the office of parish clerk for thirty-three years. W. J. Williams, 1; T. Russell, 2; G. Wright, 3; H. Belcher, 4; G. Payne, 5; F. Payne, 6; J. Ford, 7; J. E. Willshire, 8.

**TOTTENHAM (Middlesex).**—On Sunday, November 8th, for morning service at All Hallows church, a 447 of Grandsire Triples. T. C. Grove, 1; G. Bower, 2; J. Waghorn, jun., 3; J. Langran, 4; W. Pye English, 5; J. Waghorn, 6; H. A. Barnett (conductor), 7; A. native of Hadley, 8. And for evening service, a 560 of Bob Major. T. C. Grove, 1; J. Langran, 2; G. Bower, 3; J. Waghorn (conductor), 4; G. B. Lucas, 5; J. Waghorn, sen., 6; H. A. Barnett, 7; W. Pye English, 8. And a 448 of Grandsire Triples. H. Scarlett, 1; J. Hinton, 2; J. Waghorn, jun., 3; G. Bower, 4; W. Pye English, 5; J. Waghorn, 6; H. A. Barnett (conductor), 7; R. Elliott, 8. And after service, a 960 of Grandsire Major. G. Bower, 1; J. Hinton, 2; H. Scarlett, 3; J. Waghorn, jun., 4; G. B. Lucas, 5; J. Waghorn, 6; H. A. Barnett (conductor), 7; W. Pye English, 8. Mr. J. Hinton hails from Worcester; he is totally deaf, and it is astonishing how well he rings.

**WORTH (Sussex).**—On Saturday, November 21st, at the parish church, on the occasion of the marriage of Mr. Fredk. Rice, one of the local ringers, the following 720s of Minor were rung during the day: 720 Plain Bob, 720 Court Bob, 720 Canterbury Pleasure, 720 College Single Bob, 720 Oxford Bob, and 720 Plain Bob (forty-two singles). The ringers were: W. Denman, G. Illman, B. Paine, W. Short, F. Streeter, E. Streeter, and H. Burstow. H. Burstow rung the 6th, and conducted the Oxford and Court Bob; the others were conducted by Edward Streeter.

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

One copy, 12 months .. .. . 6s. 6d.

" " 6 " .. .. . 3s. 3d.

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All 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.

G. RUSSELL.—Thanks.

Received—AUDITOR TANTUM.

## The Bell News & Ringers' Record.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 28, 1885.

THE decease of Mr. JASPER SNOWDON has called forth a spontaneous effusion of grief, which is general among the whole ringing community. Almost every performance which we record this week—at any rate, those rung since the sad event became known—have the usual mournful accompaniment. The very bells themselves seem to tell us that by their subdued tones they mourn for the loved one departed. And as we write, fresh correspondence, teeming with expressions of grief, is coming to hand from all parts of the country.

The very kind sentiments sent to us by many of our kind readers, relative to the manner in which, in our last issue, we discharged our painful duty—a duty carried out under as distressing circumstances as it is our lot to remember—lead us to believe that our friends will need no apology from us if their communications should be delayed for a week or two longer. To publish the record of every tribute paid to the memory of our deceased friend, we should require this paper to be about four times its present size. Never have we received such a quantity of ringing news as we have this week. We therefore hope our kind readers will extend to us their continued forbearance. Everything shall appear in due course. As will be seen, we have again divided the performances, those following these lines being the muffled peals and touches, and those on a previous page being of the ordinary character. We think this arrangement will commend itself to our readers.

### In Memoriam.

#### JASPER WHITFIELD SNOWDON.

THE passing away of Mr. Jasper Snowdon, in the prime of life and manhood, has left a void which will be felt, and which it will be extremely difficult to fill, if it ever should be filled. A double share of sadness at his loss must needs be the lot of those who knew him well; but even with those who, like myself, had corresponded with him, but never grasped his hand, the sense of sorrow and regret at his decease is extreme. And, more than this, no ringer who has read Mr. Snowdon's books, will be insensible to the grief we feel; for such will be sure to realise with us that they have indeed lost a friend. In the ringing world he loved so much, Mr. Snowdon was "a tower of strength." Devoted as he was to the practice of the change-ringer's art, he was not satisfied with that, but threw himself with all his

energy and ability into the science thereof; and in a short space of time acquired such a knowledge and proficiency in those branches of the subject, which up to his time shrouded in a veil of obscurity, were the privilege of few, as to become an acknowledged master of the science. It was here that his strength lay; for not only was his own knowledge rapidly acquired, but he had a most happy knack of imparting it to others, his various works on the subject of change-ringing, being not only text-books possessing in the highest degree technical excellence, but being readable as well. These books have been of inestimable value to the Exercise; and it is not too much to say that most of those who during the past few years have taken up the study of change-ringing, owe the greater part of their present knowledge to Mr. Snowdon—knowledge which, but for his aid, save in few cases, they would not have had either leisure or patience to work out for themselves. Panegyric on Mr. Snowdon's character and social virtues, will doubtless not be wanting from those who had the happiness of his personal friendship. It is my object in writing this simply to place on record the high sense entertained by the Exercise at large, of the value of Mr. Snowdon himself and his work to the cause with, which during the last fifteen years of his life he had so thoroughly identified himself. All ringers will I am sure join me in the expression of deep condolence and heartfelt sympathy with his more intimate friends and relatives, in the sorrow that has befallen them—a sorrow which we all sincerely share. While we bow with Christian submission to the blow that has come upon us, we cannot repress the sigh of regret that a life so precious in our eyes, should, in the mysterious Providence of God, have been taken thus early from the earth. With thoughts of sadness at our loss will mingle in the minds of many of us reflections of the debt we owe to the memory of Jasper Snowdon. Many, I doubt not, will be the voices crying out for the raising up of some fitting memorial of one whom we can see and hear no more. And I would venture to suggest for the consideration of the Exercise, the organisation of a fund, to be called the "Jasper Snowdon Benevolent Fund," for the assistance and support of aged and infirm ringers throughout the country. Could anything be more fitting, better calculated to do honour to the memory of Jasper Snowdon, or more in harmony with what we may be sure would have been his own views were he still alive? After giving some thought to the subject, I cannot see any insuperable difficulty in the way of organising such a fund, provided it meets with general support. Very little more than a merely nominal contribution yearly from every ringer in the kingdom would place the fund on a strong foundation, and enable it to begin its benevolent work at once. If this suggestion should meet with approval, I shall be prepared in a future paper to submit a detailed sketch of the constitution of the fund, which would form a basis for discussion and action. It has also occurred to me as an idea worth consideration, whether such a benevolent fund might not furnish the means of accomplishing the National Association of which we have heard so much. The two, I think, might very well go together; for whether the National Association included the work of the Benevolent Fund, or the Benevolent Fund embodied the National Association, would be a matter of not great importance. The objects of both, it seems to me, would be capable of being concurrently pursued under one name. This, however, is only a suggestion thrown out. In any case I submit the Benevolent Fund as the most fitting, useful, and permanent means which the Exercise can adopt for commemorating the name and fame of Jasper Snowdon. H. EARLE BULWER.

#### THE SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.

I have to convey to the Exercise at large, the above society's deep sense of feeling in the loss sustained by the death of Jasper W. Snowdon, Esq., and to give notice to members that the bells of St. Martin's in-the-Fields will be rung for practice half-muffled, as a token of deep respect to the memory of the deceased gentleman. Personally, I cannot find words to express my feelings. I have been for some twelve years in a friendly correspondence, and upon a subject of such mutual interest, that by a discontinuance shall I realize my loss.

H. DAINS, Hon. Sec.

The Hon. Sec. of the Durham and Newcastle Association, Mr. G. J. Clarkson, has addressed the following letter to Wm. Snowdon, Esq.

"DEAR MR. SNOWDON,—It is in accordance with my own feelings, at the express wish of our President, and with the desire of our members, that I write to express our deep sense of the irreparable loss that ringers and the ringing science has sustained in the premature death of Mr. Jasper Snowdon. I yield to few in my devotion to the noble art of change-ringing, and may fairly claim to have given much time to further its interests, but I must confess I should shrink from the immense and persistent labour with which your late brother has worked up an enormous mass of records, mostly in manuscript, in a very chaotic condition, and not easily accessible, into pleasant and instructive reading. As a tribute to his memory, our bells will be rung muffled at the usual practice to night."

[The peals and touches following were all rung with the bells muffled as tributes of the respect and affection in which the late Mr. Snewood was held by the performers. We have therefore, in publishing them, not alluded to that fact, because we consider this notification sufficient. The continual repetition of the words "muffled peal" is therefore avoided, because it would become tiresome, and the plan we have adopted will save a deal of space. We might however, mention, that many of the following records were accompanied by language indicating the depth of sorrow felt by the death of Mr. Snewood.]

### The Metropolis.

STEPNEY, LONDON.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

On Wednesday, November 25, 1885, in Three Hours and Thirty-four Minutes,

AT ST. DUNSTAN'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERS, 5002 CHANGES;

Tenor 32 cwt. in Db.

JAMES PETTIT .. .. .	Treble.	J. MARTIN ROUTH, ESQ. . . . .	6.
EDGAR E. CLARK .. .. .	2.	FRANCIS E. DAWE .. .. .	7.
WILLIAM D. SMITH .. .. .	3.	A. P. HEYWOOD, ESQ. . . . .	8.
EDWIN HORREX .. .. .	4.	JOHN M. HAYES .. .. .	9.
JOHN W. ROWBOTHAM .. .. .	5.	WILLIAM H. GEORGE .. Tenor.	

Composed by HENRY W. HALEY, and Conducted by JAMES PETTIT.

The bells were rung deeply muffled on both sides. Mr. Heywood hails from Duffield, Derbyshire.

### The Provinces.

HERTFORD.—THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS AND THE HERTFORD ASSOCIATION.

On Friday, November 20, 1885, in Three Hours and Thirty-five Minutes,

AT ALL SAINTS' CHURCH,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERS, 5093 CHANGES.

Tenor 22 cwt.

REV. G. F. COLERIDGE .. .. .	Treble.	*HENRY J. TUCKER .. .. .	6.
CHALLIS F. WINNY .. .. .	2.	REV. C. D. P. DAVIES .. .. .	7.
J. MARTIN ROUTH .. .. .	3.	*JASPER G. CRAWLEY .. .. .	8.
NEWMAN N. HILLS* .. .. .	4.	HERBERT BAKER .. .. .	9.
REV. F. E. ROBINSON .. .. .	5.	†FREDERICK GEORGE .. Tenor.	

\*Composed by HENRY JOHNSON and Conducted by the REV. CHARLES D. P. DAVIES.

Besides members of the Hertfordshire Association Mr. Routh is Master of the Ancient Society of College Youths; Rev. F. E. Robinson of the Oxford Diocesan Guild; and the conductor of the Gloucester and Bristol Diocesan Association. \* First peal of Stedman Caters. † First peal on ten bells.

MAIDSTONE, KENT.—THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, November 21, 1885, in Three Hours and Thirty-two Minutes,

AT ALL SAINTS' CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S ORIGINAL. Tenor 31 cwt.

HARRY PEARCE* .. .. .	Treble.	EDWARD ELLIOTT .. .. .	5.
REUBEN SIMMONDS* .. .. .	2.	ALCHIN MOORCRAFT* .. .. .	6.
GEORGE PAWLEY .. .. .	3.	ALFRED H. WOOLLEY .. .. .	7.
JAMES FERGUSON .. .. .	4.	GEORGE J. MOORCRAFT .. Tenor.	

Conducted by ALCHIN MOORCRAFT.

\* College Youths.

TONG, YORKSHIRE.

On Saturday, November 21, in Two Hours and Fifty-six Minutes,

AT ST. JAMES'S CHURCH,

5040 CHANGES: IN SEVEN DIFFERENT METHODS UPON SIX BELLS;

Being a 720 of each of the following—

Arnold's Victory; City Delight; College Pleasure; New London Pleasure; Duke of York; Violet; Oxford Treble Bob.

Tenor 12 cwt.

S. LANGSTAFF .. .. .	Treble.	W. BOLLAND .. .. .	4.
S. ODDY .. .. .	2.	G. BOLLAND .. .. .	5.
H. ODDY .. .. .	3.	J. HALEY .. .. .	Tenor.

Conducted by G. BOLLAND.

Langstaff hails from Pudsey; the others are of the local company.

KIRKBURTON, NEAR HUDDERSFIELD.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, November 21, 1885, in Two Hours and Fifty-six Minutes,

AT ST. JOHN'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 14 cwt.

JAMES BARRACLOUGH .. .. .	Treble.	JOHN STEAD .. .. .	5.
GEO. CLAY .. .. .	2.	ALLEN WOMERSLEY .. .. .	6.
A. ARMITAGE .. .. .	3.	T. HAIGH .. .. .	7.
R. HILL .. .. .	4.	J. PICKERING .. .. .	Tenor.

Composed by W. GOODALL, of Liversedge, and Conducted by J. PICKERING.

Messrs. Barraclough, Clay, Stead, and Haigh hail from Huddersfield; Allen Womersley from Almondbury; the rest from Kirkburton.

DRAYTON, BERKS.—THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, November 21, 1885, in Three Hours and Three Minutes,

AT ST. PETER'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5040 CHANGES.

Tenor 9½ cwt.

REV. F. A. H. DU BOULAY Treble.	HARRY HOLIFIELD .. .. .	5.
THOMAS SHORT .. .. .	FREDERICK A. CASTLE .. .. .	6.
HARRY SHEARD .. .. .	WILLIAM SANDELL .. .. .	7.
HERBERT J. CASTLE .. .. .	JAMES W. WASHBROOK .. Tenor.	

Composed and Conducted by JAMES WILLIAM WASHBROOK.

The first peal in the method by all. Previous to starting the peal the whole pull and stand was rung.

BRADFORD.—THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION AND THE BRADFORD AMALGAMATED SOCIETY.

On Saturday, November 21, 1885, in Three Hours and Twenty Minutes,

AT ST. PETER'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB ROYAL, 5040 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 27 cwt.

A. MOULSON .. .. .	Treble.	TOM POLLITT .. .. .	6.
HY. RAISTRICK* .. .. .	2.	JAS. ANGUS .. .. .	7.
JNO. FISHER .. .. .	3.	J. H. HARDCASTLE .. .. .	8.
ROBERT TUKE .. .. .	4.	J. B. JENNINGS .. .. .	9.
JOS BROADLEY* .. .. .	5.	*WM. DARBY .. .. .	Tenor.

Composed by J. REEVES and Conducted by J. H. HARDCASTLE.

All the above are members of the Ancient Society of College Youths, excepting Wm. Darby, who was proposed as a member of the Yorkshire Association before commencing the peal. \* First peal on ten bells.

HARBORNE, STAFFORDSHIRE.

THE ST. MARTIN'S SOCIETY, BIRMINGHAM.

On Monday, November 23, 1885, in Three Hours and Fifteen Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5280 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION.

JOB JOYNES .. .. .	Treble.	SAMUEL REEVES .. .. .	5.
CHAS. HY. HATTERSLEY .. .. .	2.	JOHN SANDERS .. .. .	6.
WILLIAM R. SMALL .. .. .	3.	FRANK H. JAMES .. .. .	7.
THOMAS REYNOLDS .. .. .	4.	ALFRED THOMAS .. .. .	Tenor.

Composed and Conducted by CHARLES HENRY HATTERSLEY.

BIRMINGHAM, WARWICKSHIRE.

THE BIRMINGHAM AMALGAMATED SOCIETY AND THE BIRMINGHAM AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, November 23, 1885, in Three Hours and Twenty-three Minutes,

AT ST. PHILIP'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS, 5021 CHANGES;

Tenor 29 cwt. in G.

WILLIAM BROOK .. .. .	Treble.	*CHARLES CARMELL .. .. .	6.
JOHN CARTER .. .. .	2.	JOSEPH ROGERS .. .. .	7.
JOHN CALLAGHAN* .. .. .	3.	*BENNETT STEVENS .. .. .	8.
THOMAS RUSSAM .. .. .	4.	*ALBERT HACKLEY .. .. .	9.
CHARLES BARNACLE* .. .. .	5.	THOMAS MILLER .. .. .	Tenor.

Composed and Conducted by JOHN CARTER.

This peal contains the 6th twenty-four times wrong and right, and was rung in the inverted titum position. \* First peal of Caters. This is John Carter's 50th peal.

## DERBY.

## THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION AND THE ST. PAUL'S SOCIETY, BURTON-ON-TRENT.

On Monday, November 23, 1885, in Three Hours and Forty Minutes,  
AT ALL SAINTS' CHURCH,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB ROYAL, 5040 CHANGES;  
IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 28 cwt.

JOHN JAGGAR .. .. Treble.	JOHN W. TAYLOR, JUN. .. 6.
ARTHUR BERTRAM WARD.. 2.	A. PERCIVAL HEYWOOD .. 7.
ARTHUR WAKLEY .. .. 3.	JOHN HOWE .. .. 8.
HARRY C. WOODWARD .. 4.	THOMAS HOLMES .. .. 9.
HARRY WAKLEY .. .. 5.	WILLIAM WAKLEY .. .. Tenor.

Composed by H. JOHNSON, SEN., and Conducted by  
WILLIAM WAKLEY

This peal, which has never been previously performed, is in two parts, and contains the 6th six course-ends home, see Snowdon's "Treble Bob" part ii., p. 102. It was rung with the bells half-muffled by the kind permission of the Rev. Canon Knight, J. B. Storer and B. Brindley, Esquires, in memory of the late Jasper Whitfield Snowdon, Esq., who conducted the last peal of Treble Bob rung in this tower. This is the first peal of Royal on the bells, and the first peal of Royal by all the above with the exception of A. Percival Heywood, Esq.

## WOMBOURN, STAFFORDSHIRE.

## ASSOCIATION FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD AND THE ST. BENEDICT'S SOCIETY, WOMBOURN.

On Monday, November 23, 1885, in Three Hours and Twelve Minutes,  
AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

## 5040 CHANGES UPON SIX BELLS;

Being seven 720's of Plain Bob Minor, each called differently.  
Tenor about 12½ cwt.

GEORGE DEANS .. .. Treble.	WILLIAM DEVEY .. .. 4.
HENRY DEANS .. .. 2.	JOSEPH EDWIN CLARIDGE .. 5.
ALBERT LITTLE .. .. 3.	ROWLAND CARTWRIGHT .. Tenor.

Conducted by ROWLAND CARTWRIGHT.

## LICHFIELD, STAFFORDSHIRE.

## ASSOCIATION FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD AND THE LICHFIELD CATHEDRAL SOCIETY.

On Monday, November 23, 1885, in Three Hours and Eight Minutes,  
AT THE CATHEDRAL,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;  
HARRISON'S 6-PART. Tenor 29½ cwt. in D.

FREDERICK J. COPE .. Treble.	ARTHUR WHITBY .. .. 5.
HENRY MEACHAM .. .. 2.	RICHARD ANNIS .. .. 6.
ARTHUR E. GREENWOOD .. 3.	WILLIAM FEARNEYHOUGH .. 7.
JOSEPH KEY .. .. 4.	EDWIN GALLIMORE .. .. Tenor.

Conducted by FREDERICK J. COPE.

Previous to starting for the peal W. Fearnelyough was made a member of this Association, according to rule.

## LONG EATON, DERBYSHIRE.

## THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION AND THE LONG EATON SOCIETY.

On Monday, November 23, 1885, in Two Hours and Fifty-six Minutes,  
AT ST. LAWRENCE'S CHURCH,

## A PEAL OF BOB TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S SIX-PART. Tenor 11 cwt. in G.

GEORGE BRADLEY .. Treble.	JOHN WARD .. .. 4.
ARTHUR WIDDOWSON .. 2.	WILLIAM GILSON .. .. 5.
RICHARD HICKTON† .. 3.	JOSEPH BARROW .. .. 7.
JOHN C. DICKEN† .. 4.	WILLIAM HEXTER .. .. Tenor.

Conducted by JOSEPH BARROW.

This peal was taken from the late Mr. Snowdon's Book of the Union Scholars' p. 45, and was rung for the first time on August 8th, 1749 (conducted by its composer), on the eight smallest bells at St. Martin-in-the-fields. \* First peal. † Members of the Yorkshire Association.

The trebles required to make the present ring of six at Tunbridge Wells into a peal of eight, are likely to become an accomplished fact. A few weeks ago, the vicar wrote to the local papers inviting subscriptions for this object, which resulted in a lady promising one bell, and after several weeks, the Rev. H. G. Alington, a gentleman who is learning change-ringing, made another similar appeal, which resulted in another lady promising the other bell. All the bells at this church, with the clock, has been given by ladies.

## GLOSSOP, DERBYSHIRE.—THE ALL SAINTS' SOCIETY.

On Monday, November 23, 1885, in Three Hours and Fifteen Minutes,  
AT ALL SAINTS' CHURCH,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5184 CHANGES;  
IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 15 cwt.

SAMUEL HARROP .. Treble.	*JAMES SELLARS .. .. 5.
JOHN HARROP .. .. 2.	JOSEPH MALONEY .. .. 6.
WILLIAM HARROP .. .. 3.	*SAMUEL KNOTT, JUN. .. 7.
HENRY COOPER .. .. 4.	*JOHN PYE, JUN. .. .. Tenor.

Composed and Conducted by SAMUEL KNOTT, jun.

\* College Youths.

## WHITFIELD, DERBYSHIRE.

## THE ALL SAINTS' SOCIETY, GLOSSOP.

On Tuesday, November 24, 1885, in Three Hours and Two Minutes,  
AT ST. JAMES'S CHURCH.

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;  
IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 12½ cwt.

SAMUEL HARROP .. Treble.	JAMES SELLARS .. .. 5.
JOHN HARROP .. .. 2.	JOSEPH MALONEY .. .. 6.
WILLIAM HARROP .. .. 3.	SAMUEL KNOTT, JUN. .. 7.
HENRY COOPER .. .. 4.	JOHN PYE, JUN. .. .. Tenor.

Composed by the late WM. HARRISON, and Conducted by  
SAMUEL KNOTT, jun.

## Date Touches.

## THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

HULL.—On Wednesday, November 18th, eight members of this Association met at St. James's church and attempted a peal of Bob Major, but after ringing 1296 changes it unfortunately came to grief. G. Brownrigg, 1; T. Stockdale, 2; S. Slingsby, 3; H. Cutter, 4; H. Jenkins, 5; C. Jackson, 6; R. Chaffer, 7; J. W. Stickney (conductor), 8. It being too late to make another attempt at the peal, a start was made for a date touch of Grandsire Triples, which was rung in 1 hr. 17 mins. C. Jackson (composer and conductor), 1; S. Slingsby, 2; G. Brownrigg, 3; H. Cutter, 4; H. Jenkins, 5; T. Stockdale, 6; J. W. Stickney, 7; R. Haire, 8. Tenor 15 cwt.

SHIPLEY (Yorks).—On Sunday, November 22nd, for Morning Service at St. Paul's Church, the local company, with Messrs. Cheetham and Wilson, of Bradford, and John Haley, of Tong, rang a date touch of Kent Treble Bob Major, 1885 changes, in 1 hr. 7 mins. Thos. Lilley, 1; W. Wilks, sen., 2; Job A. Ross, 3; W. Wilks, jun., 4; J. S. Clark, 5; John Wilson, 6; J. Cheetham (conductor), 7; John Haley, 8.

BRADFELD (Near Sheffield, Yorks).—On Wednesday, November 18th, at St. Nicholas's church, 1885 changes in the following methods: 325 Woodbine, 360 New London Pleasure, and 600 each of Violet and Oxford, in 1 hr. 9 mins. T. Wilson, 1; H. Gillott, 2; G. Merryman, 3; J. Gillott, 4; G. H. Uttley, 5; A. Brearley (conductor), 6. Tenor 12 cwt.

## Miscellaneous.

## THE ST. JAMES SOCIETY, LONDON.

LEWISHAM (Kent).—On Tuesday, November 24th, eight members of the above society attempted a peal of Grandsire Major at St. Mary's Church, but the sudden illness of one of the ringers compelled the conductor to bring the bells round after about 1500 changes had been completed in 1 hr. and 10 mins. Harry W. Grount, 1; William Pead, 2; William Weatherstone, 3; Thomas G. Deal, 4; Frederick W. Thornton, 5; Thomas Taylor, 6; William H. Freeman, 7; Abraham G. Freeman (conductor), 8. Tenor 23 cwt. in Eb.

## DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

NORTH SHIELDS.—On Tuesday, November 17th, at Christ Church, an attempt was made to ring a peal of Kent Treble Bob Major, but after ringing 5280 changes, in 3 hrs. and 7 mins. it came to grief owing to a miscall. S. Knott, 1; F. Lees, 2; R. S. Story, 3; C. L. Routledge, 4; R. W. Wignell, 5; H. Ross, 6; R. Smith (conductor), 7; Joel Hern, 8. Tenor 19 cwt.

NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.—On Monday, November 21st, a meeting was arranged to attempt a 5000 of Treble Bob Major at St. John's church, but owing to a late muster, all such thoughts were abandoned

and a touch of over 1000 changes of Kent Treble Bob was rung. H. Fergusson, 1; C. L. Routledge, 2; W. Reed (North Shields), 3; E. Wallis, 4; W. Story, 5; R. W. Wignell (North Shields), 6; F. Lees, 7; R. S. Story (conductor), 8. And a 168 of Grandsire Triples was afterwards rung in whole pulls, and the tenor tolled several times.

#### THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

SITTINGBOURNE.—On Monday, November 23rd, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (taken from Holt's Original), in 50 mins. E. Gower, 1; J. G. Elliott, 2; E. White, 3; Jno. M. Cooper, 4; E. J. Bottle, 5; Sam. Snelling, 6; W. H. Judd (conductor), 7; H. Sutton, 8.

#### THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

CHESTERFIELD (Derbyshire).—On Monday evening, November 23rd, eight members of the above Association rang the first three parts of Reeves's 10-part peal of Grandsire Triples, 1540 changes. J. Goodwin, 1; I. Goodwin, 2; G. Toplis, 3; W. Ellis, 4; D. Farthing, 5; H. Nuttall, jun., 6; A. Knights (conductor), 7; T. Mee, 8.

ROTHWELL (Yorks).—On Sunday, November 22nd, at Holy Trinity Church, the following members of the above Association rang 1800 changes in the following methods: 720 Arnold's Victory, 720 Violet, and 360 Duke of York. J. Verity, 1; A. Chapman, 2; J. M. Chadwick (conductor), 3; W. Abbishaw, 4; S. Stacey, 5; J. Chapman, 6.

WAKEFIELD (Yorkshire).—On Wednesday, November 18th, being the day of the interment of the late Jasper W. Snowdon, Esq., ten members of the Wakefield branch of this Association, rang several touches of Grandsire Caters at the parish church. W. Milnes, 1; J. Firth, 2; R. Wrigley, 3; J. P. Healey, 4; W. Scott (conductor), 5; J. Hollis, 6; W. Firth, 7; T. Ormond, 8; T. Moorhouse, 9; J. Styles, 10.

#### THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

NOTTINGHAM.—On Wednesday, November 18th, at St. Peter's, the following members of this Association attempted to ring a 5040 of Grandsire Triples, but after ringing 1 hr. 10 mins., the 6th rope cast wheel, which brought the peal to an abrupt termination. H. W. Abbott, 1; S. Wilkinson, 2; Rev. W. W. C. Baker, 3; A. R. Peet, 4; H. Needham, 5; J. Hickman, 6; S. Burton, 7; A. W. Sadler, 8. And on Thursday, November 19th, another attempt was made for the peal, but after ringing 3360 changes, in 2 hrs. and 5 mins., a change-course occurred, and the bells were brought round. S. Wilkins, 1; S. Wilkinson, 2; Rev. W. W. C. Baker, 3; G. Middleton, 4; A. R. Peet, 5; J. Hickman, 6; H. W. Abbott, 7; A. W. Sadler, 8. The Nottingham ringers would have liked to have accomplished a muffled peal for so distinguished a ringer, but the facilities for peal-ringing in Nottingham are so limited, that after the two futile attempts they were obliged to abandon the idea.

BENGELO (Herts).—On Sunday, November 22nd, for service in the evening, a 720 of Plain Bob Minor. W. Goodchild, 1; H. Phillips, 2; J. Pomfret, 3; J. Channer, 4; W. Odell, 5; H. J. Tucker (conductor), 6. The above was also rung as a mark of respect to the late Mrs. Abel Smith.

ECKINGTON (Derbyshire).—On Monday, November 23rd, at SS. Peter and Paul's church, six of the local company rang a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob Minor, in 27½ mins. G. Smith, 1; W. Price, 2; E. James, 3; G. Norman, 4; G. Marsden (conductor), 5; T. Lunn, 6. Tenor 16 cwt. 14 lbs.

ELY (Cambridge).—On Monday, November 24th, at St. Mary's church, two 360s of Bob Minor: the first with the bells wholly muffled (except the tenor which was only half-muffled), and the other with the bells half-muffled. J. Ellis, 1; J. Southerill, 3; W. King, 3; J. R. Vincent, 4; A. Pilgrim (conductor), 5; J. Davies, 6; J. Vail, 7.

FREISTON (Lincolnshire).—On Monday, November 23rd, at St. James' church, six 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles, called differently. Joseph Thorp, 1; \*A. O. Barber (conductor), 2; W. Fletcher, 3; \*John Sharp, 4; \*S. Steeper, 5. Tenor 19 cwt. This is the longest length in different callings by a local company on the bells. \*East Lincolnshire Association.

GREAT BENTLEY (Essex).—On Sunday, November 22nd, the local company rang several touches with the bells half-muffled for the afternoon and evening services.

GREAT YARMOUTH.—On Monday, November 23rd, at St. Nicholas' church, 1652 of Grandsire Triples in 1 hr. 15 mins. W. Lee, 1; W. T. Blyth, 2; T. Tooley, 3; W. Secret, 4; M. Long (conductor), 5; D. Hayward, 6; W. Fletcher, 7; G. Crowe, 8. Tenor 30 cwt.

LINCOLN.—On Sunday, November 22nd, at St. Peter-at-Arches, after Divine Service in the evening, the usual whole pull and stand. J. Dixon (conductor), 1; C. Well, 2; W. T. Chapman, 3; W. Dixon, 4; J. Ellard, 5; W. Mitchelson, 6; G. Rushton, 7; E. Carmell, 8.

NUTFIELD (Surrey).—On Monday, November 23rd, at the parish church a 720 of Grandsire Minor in 26 mins. C. Cendall, 1; J.

Skinner, 2; E. Fuller, 3; J. Boniface, 4; J. Burkin, 5; N. Hawkins (conductor), 6. Also a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob, J. Bashford ringing the second; and a course of Kent Treble Bob, J. Skinner ringing the second, and J. Bashford the third, the rest as in the Grandsire Minor. Messrs. Fuller, Boniface, Burkin, Hawkins, and Bashford are members of the Surrey Association.

RIPON (Yorkshire).—On Sunday last, November 22nd, the bells of the Cathedral were deeply muffled, except the tenor, which was only muffled at backstroke, when a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor, with the tenor behind, was rung for morning service, and 704 Kent Treble Bob Major, for afternoon service, the latter touch with the bells muffled on the backstroke, were rung by the local company, the latter in 27 mins., and the former in 30 mins. The ringers in the afternoon were as follows: Jno. Strodder, sen., 1; Joseph Baines, 2; Jno. Strodder, jun., 3; T. Metcalf, 4; A. Ingleby, 5; Geo. Ingleby, 6; T. Clark (conductor), 7; H. Rumbold, 8. Tenor 21 cwt. in E.

READING (Berks).—On Tuesday, November 24th, an attempt was made by the St. Laurence's society to ring a date touch of Bob Major at St. Laurence's Church, but owing to the inability of some of the principal members to attend, it very soon came to grief; however after re-arranging the band, a 1064 of Grandsire Triples was rung, being the first part of Hollis' five part peal, in 43 mins. W. Goseltine, 1; W. J. Williams (conductor), 2; W. Pocock, 3; G. Talbot, 4; W. Holloway, 5; W. Johnson, 6; W. Newell, 7; R. T. Hibbert, 8.

REIGATE (Surrey).—On Monday evening, November 23rd, at St. Mary's church, 840 Grandsire Triples, in 35 mins. G. Croucher, 1; F. Linter, 2; T. Fuller, 3; E. Kenward, 4; E. Moses, 5; J. W. Whiting, 6; G. Williams (conductor), 7; W. Webb, 8. And 252 Stedman Triples. T. Fuller, 1; F. T. Hoad (conductor), 2; E. Moses, 3; G. Williams, 4; W. Argent, 5; E. Kenward, 6; W. Webb, 7; J. W. Whiting, 8. J. W. Whiting hails from Fareham, Hants.

SALISBURY (Wilts).—On Saturday, November 21st, at St. Martin's church, a muffled peal was rung thus: first, the age in whole pulls, then the same on the tenor alone, followed by several 6-scores of Doubles, by Messrs. Gifford, Ramshawe, Tayler, Judd, Short, Blackburn, Wilton, Jerram, and Clements. The two latter are members of the Yorkshire Association, of which deceased was President.

SPALDING (Lincolnshire).—On Sunday, November 22nd, after evening service at St. Paul's Church, the age was tolled with the whole pull and stand, after which, 910 of Grandsire Triples was rung. Geo. Barker, 1; R. Creasey (conductor), 2; \*C. Quinton, 3; E. Quinton, 4; \*T. Quinton, 5; J. W. Creasey, 6; J. A. Croxford, 7; Geo. Keal, 8. \*Their longest length. R. Creasey belongs to the Yorkshire Association.

UPTON ST. LEONARDS (Gloucestershire).—On Monday, November 23rd, eight members of the above Association attempted Holt's Original, but after ringing over 3000 changes, in 2 hrs. 2 mins. the peal came to grief through the fourth rope breaking. J. Middlecote, 1; J. Baldwin, 2; H. Mitchell, 3; H. G. Gardner (conductor), 4; F. Ward, Esq. (Cheltenham), 5; R. A. Barrett, 6; A. A. Wait, 7; H. Karn (Cheltenham), 8. Tenor 18 cwt. in F.

WALTON-ON-THE-HILL (Lancashire).—On Sunday evening, November 22nd, after Divine Service at St. Mary's parish church, a 720 of Grandsire Minor (thirty-four bobs and two singles), in 29½ mins. J. Hurst, 1; R. H. Barton, 2; W. Short, 3; T. Rushton, 4; R. Stockley 5; C. E. Wilson (conductor), 6. Tenor 9 cwt. Messrs. Short and Barton hail from Bootle.

WORCESTER.—On Thursday, November 19th, at St. Helen's Church an attempt was made to ring a peal of Grandsire Triples, but after ringing 2 hrs. 45 mins., a mishap occurred which brought it to grief. F. Owen, 1; N. Wale, 2; J. Hinton (sen.), 3; G. Hinton, 4; G. Cleal, 5; J. Hinton, jun. (conductor), 6; W. Page, 7; H. Wilks, 8.

#### THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

THE DISTRICT MEETING of this Association took place as arranged, at Mortlake, on Saturday, November 21st. The meeting was well attended; but the sad news of the death of Mr. Snowdon, which only became generally known on that day, shed a gloom over the gathering. Everyone present seemed to feel that he had lost a friend, as one might tell by the frequent mention of the name. The ringing began soon after five o'clock with a 500 of Grandsire Triples; four of the Wimbledon band with Mr. Strutt of Kingston, and Mr. E. F. Strange, rang some Cambridge Surprise Minor, with 7,8, covering. Afterwards some Grandsire Minor by the ringers of Christ Church, Mitcham, with Mr. Frost, of Wimbledon, a good touch of Stedman Triples by a mixed band, and some Bob and Treble Bob Major were successfully performed. The peal book of the Association was on view, having just been returned from Messrs. Butler, of Cursitor Street, and the well entered records of its thirty-three peals gave general satisfaction. The meeting terminated at about nine o'clock.

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## THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

ON Tuesday evening, November 24th, this society met A. Percival Heywood, Esq., of Duffield, who had signified his intention of presenting the company with a new peal-book, the old one being now full. The attendance was unusually large, and the business rather a heavy one, none of the items however needing comment, except a motion proposed and seconded by Messrs. Munday and Strange, that the balance sheet should be published in "THE BELL NEWS" and *Church Bells*. This was carried unanimously. At a somewhat late hour, Mr. Heywood rose to perform the ceremony of the evening: addressing the Master (J. M. Routh, Esq.), he reminded the company of the manner in which the subject was brought to his notice by reading in "THE BELL NEWS" the report of the Annual Dinner, at which Mr. Pettit had called attention to the urgent necessity of procuring a new book. He had only recently been elected a member of the society, but in return for the kindness he had experienced at the hands of its members, he had great pleasure in making them an offer (which he was glad to say had been accepted), to provide a peal book in which to continue the preservation of the company's valuable and interesting records. The book was of the same character and quality with the last one, and in presenting it, he hoped that the performances recorded therein would keep the name of the society to the front in the country, and that it would ever continue to rank foremost in the Exercise throughout England, or indeed the world. As a new comer among them he could not help remarking on the fact that their records extended over a period of more than two centuries, a longer time he believed than those of any society in London, except perhaps some of the City Guilds and Corporations. He hoped that the records might continue to be handed down to posterity, and that year by year the peals might be both increased and improved; and the book be passed on to future generations for many years to come. But at the present time he wished to call their attention to the absolute necessity of striving with might and main against those who would disestablish the Church, and take their towers from them. As lovers of that Church, they should do everything they could to oppose those who would bring it to ruin. He had great pleasure in presenting the peal-book to the society. The Master, in receiving the gift, said he had great pleasure on behalf of the society in thanking Mr. Heywood for his grand gift, coming as it did from one who was a country ringer, but who nevertheless had its best interests at heart. He complimented Mr. Heywood on the progress he had made in the art of ringing, and hoped that while continuing to progress in that branch, he would not fail to produce some valuable contributions to the science of campanology. He remarked on the care with which the records had hitherto been transmitted from hand to hand for so many years, and thanked Mr. Heywood for the generosity which enabled the company to continue so doing. The book would form another stone in the pile erected as a monument to the glory of those who had gone before, and those who were worthily following in their footsteps, and he begged most sincerely to thank Mr. Heywood for his gift. Mr. Heywood, in a particularly neat and humorous little speech, thanked the Master for the manner in which this gift had been received, and impressed on the society the importance of providing safe accommodation for their valuable and unique documents. The proceedings then terminated. The book is a very handsome one, very similar in most respects to its predecessor; the most important difference being that in accordance with a suggestion made by the donor, it will bear the names of the officers both at the date of its presentation, and the date of the first peal recorded in it.

## THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

REPORT FOR THE THREE WEEKS ENDING NOVEMBER 17TH, 1885:—On Wednesday, October 28th, at Cuckfield, by the Cuckfield and Balcombe branches, a 504 of Grandsire Triples, in 18 mins. \*E. Streeter, 1; W. Fox, 2; H. Mitchell, 3; F. Hounsell (composer and conductor), 4; R. Walters, 5; H. Bowell, 6; \*J. Gasson, 7; C. Cheeseman, 8. \*Members of the Balcombe Branch. On Saturday, November 7th, at the same place, by the Cuckfield branch, a 504 of Grandsire Triples, in 17 mins. W. Bennett, 1; W. Gibson, 2; F. Hounsell (conductor), 3; H. Mitchell, 4; R. Walters, 5; H. Bowell, 6; A. Bennett, 7; C. Cheeseman, 8. At Horsham, by the Horsham, Slinfold, and Warnham branches, with Mr. J. D. Aston, a peal of Oxford Bob Triples, 5040 changes, in 3 hrs and 3 mins. W. Lanaway, 1; H. Chandler, 2; W. Wadey, 3; G. Rapley, 4; J. D. Aston, 5; J. Cooper, 6; H. Burstow (conductor), 7; H. Wood, 8. Tenor 24 cwt. On Sunday, November 8th, at Cuckfield, by the Cuckfield branch, a 504 of Grandsire Triples, for Divine Service in the evening. W. Bennett, 1; W. Gibson, 2; W. Mitchell, 3; H. Mitchell, 4; R. Walters, 5; F. Hounsell (conductor), 6; A. Bennett, 7; C. Cheeseman, 8. On Saturday, November 14th, at Billingshurst, by the Billingshurst branch, a 720 of Canterbury Pleasure Minor, in 25 mins. P. Wood, 1; W. Chantler, 2; G. Matthews, 3; W. Chantler, jun., 4; J. Voice, 5; T. Chantler (conductor), 6. First 720 in the method.

## THE ROYAL CUMBERLANDS AT BASINGSTOKE AND READING.

In our records of peals last week will be found a peal rung at Basingstoke by members of the above society. The band was made up by Slough men, excepting the conductor and E. F. Cole, Esq., who joined their brother Cumberlands at Slough, and notwithstanding the very unfavourable weather, proceeded to their destination in the early afternoon. Arriving at Basingstoke, they were met by the steeple-keeper, and with the kind permission of the Rev. Canon Millard, D.D., were successful in bringing home a peal of Grandsire Triples at eleven minutes to seven, the hour of evening service, which necessitated an early attempt. The church, dedicated to St. Michael, is a very old handsome structure of large proportions, the tower being also broad and massive, capable of holding a much heavier ring. The belfry is a roomy compartment, well furnished and lighted, fair ropes, good draught, but the back bells do not run easily. The local party, who are steadily making progress in the art, expressed their congratulations to the visitors, this being the only peal on the bells, which had a new treble and third cast in 1878, and their fittings, etc., renewed by Messrs. Warner. At the "Rose Inn," an hour was pleasantly spent previous to returning home. Mr. White, who is acting as a sort of instructor amongst the local company, decided to join the Cumberland Society. Some handbell ringing was enjoyed, and good bye said, thus terminating the visit. Mr. Newson and the Fussell Brothers of Slough, having decided to visit Reading on the Sunday, parted with their companions at Reading Station, and at once visited the "Mitre Hotel," a well known centre of attraction to ringers for miles round. Early on Sunday morning, St. Laurence's tower was visited, and previous to ringing for the service, a simple and impressionable belfry service was said by the Rev. C. Banting. The weather was beautifully fine, and a long walk round the town was next decided upon. In the afternoon, Caversham was visited, and congratulations expressed to hear of the success of the peal only the previous evening. Attending the afternoon service, at which the Rev. G. F. Coleridge assisted, an excellent discourse by the Vicar was listened to, it being more particularly addressed to the numerous children assembled. Returning to Reading, St. Mary's Church was visited, and two good touches were rung for evening service, and an hour spent previous to saying farewell, and leaving with many thanks to their Reading friends.

## HANDBELL CONTEST.

MIRFIELD (Yorkshire).—On Saturday, November 7th, a change-ringing contest on handbells took place at the house of Mr. Frank Brook, "The Shepley Arms," when nine companies entered for the best two courses of Grandsire Triples and Grandsire Major, in which the following succeeded in gaining prizes:—

Liversedge,	1st prize,	£2 os.	35 faults.
Earlsheaton	2nd "	£1 os.	41 "
Lindley	3rd "	£0 10s.	58 "
Almondbury	4th "	£0 5s.	60 "

Six companies entered for the six-bell contest, 360 changes, when prizes were won by the following:—

Earlsheaton	1st prize	£1 os.	53 faults.
Birstall	2nd "	£0 5s.	64 faults.

An extra prize of 10s. for the best course on ten bells, three companies competed, and Liversedge won with 61 faults.

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We, the Committee, feel that there are still many companies and individuals who wish to become subscribers to this "National Testimonial," and we would earnestly remind all such that it will be necessary soon to close the list. We therefore respectfully ask them to communicate at as early a date as convenient with A. Thomas, Hon. Secretary, 83, Wheelley's Road, Edgbaston, Birmingham; or to the Hon. Treasurer, Mr. S. Reeves, 10, Bull Street, West Bromwich.

## THE WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

A District Meeting of this Guild will be held at Dorking on Monday, December 7th. Tea and business meeting at 5 o'clock; ringing from 6 to 9 o'clock. Members intending to be present should communicate with the secretary through the representatives of bands before Tuesday, December 1st.

H. A. SPYERS.

Weybridge, Surrey.

READING.—On Sunday morning, November 15th, for Divine Service, 503 of Grandsire Caters. A. Reeves, 1; E. Bawden, 2; J. Willshire, 3; A. Fussell, 4; W. H. Holloway, 5; W. H. Fussell, 6; G. Newson (conductor), 7; W. Williams, 8; W. Newell, 9; T. Hibbert, 10. Tenor 24 cwt.



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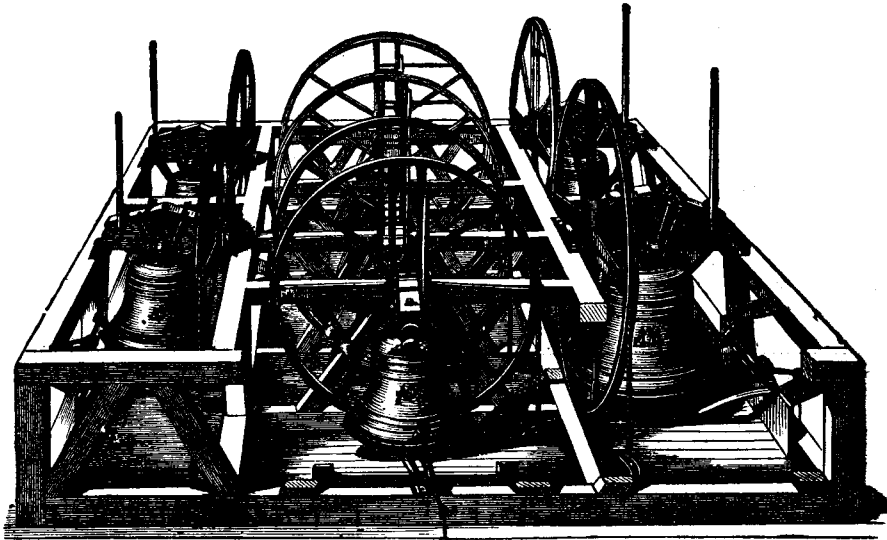
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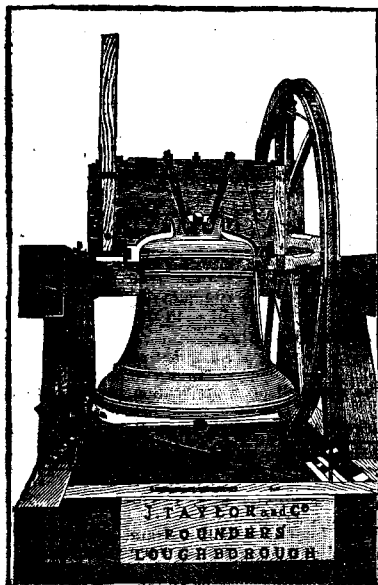
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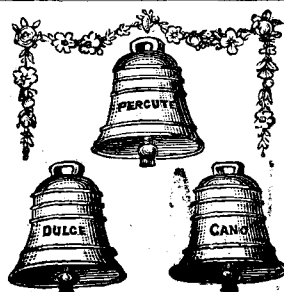
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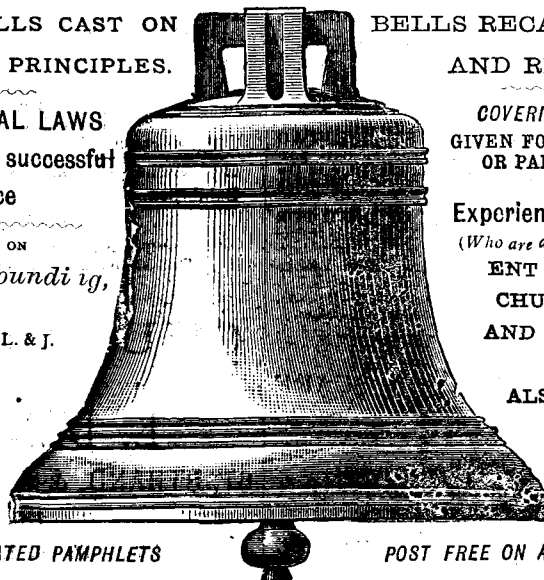
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## And Ringers' Record:

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

No. 192. [NEW SERIES.]—VOL. IV. SATURDAY, DECEMBER 5, 1885.

[ONE PENNY.]

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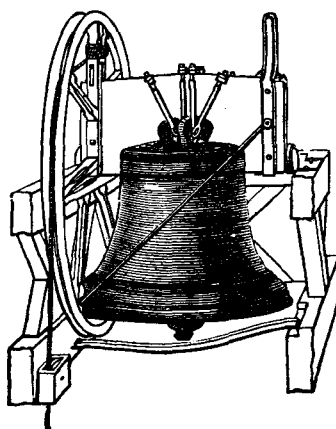
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## FIVE PEALS IN FIVE DAYS IN HERTFORDSHIRE.

ON Monday, November 16th, by the kind invitation of the Rev. Woolmore Wigram, Rector of St. Andrew's, and Rural Dean of Hertford, well known in change-ringing circles as the author of "Change-Ringing Disentangled," there journeyed to Hertford for a few days' ringing, three of his clerical brother ringers, viz., Rev. F. E. Robinson (Drayton, Berks., Master of the Oxford Diocesan Guild), Rev. C. D. P. Davies (Redmarley, Gloucester; Master of the Gloucester and Bristol Association), and Rev. G. F. Coleridge (Caversham, Oxon). These, with the assistance of Messrs. H. Baker and H. J. Tucker (of Hertford), and other members of the Hertfordshire Association, managed to score five good peals in as many days, records of which have appeared in this paper. Proceedings began at Waltham Abbey, where a 6016 of Treble Bob was rung in one minute under four hours. For three-and-a-quarter hours all went well, when suddenly a dull thud was heard overhead. "Never mind, it's only a stone," sang out the well-known local ringer, Mr. Alps; it proved, however, to be the clapper of the 3rd; but nothing daunted, we rang on, and brought our peal to a successful termination. On Tuesday, a visit was paid to St. Albans and the magnificent cathedral, and the building was inspected under the guidance of the Rev. W. Wigram, who is well versed in archaeological lore. The ringing-chamber was of course inspected, and the sight of that weird apartment, with its enormous beams, hiding one rope from another, was enough to give one "the creeps," especially as it has been said to be "haunted" by the "spirited" author of "seventeen days and a bit." In the evening a peal of Stedman Triples (which by the way it is said "any fool can ring") was accomplished at St. Andrew's, Hertford. Having had one clapper too few on the previous day, we were quite prepared to have one too many now; and so it turned out, for just previous to the half-way single, the dumb-practice apparatus somehow got detached, and the gong sounded at every back-stroke blow of the tenor; the only effect however, was, if possible, to improve the striking, there being such a nice clean blow to lead off from. Wednesday a visit was paid to "the Squire," at Benington, where with three of the local band a 5040 of Double Norwich Court Bob was essayed and brought round after three hours, being the first peal in the method by six of the band. The rest of the evening was spent in enjoying "the Squire's" hospitality, and in touches of Cambridge and Superlative Surprise, also three courses of Double Norwich Court, in which the Rev. Woolmore rang the fourth. On Thursday a peal of Grandsire Caters was accomplished at Bishops Stortford, resulting in a race against daylight, as "the shades of night were falling fast." It was doubtful whether we should get the peal; at the end of three hours it grew so dark that only a dim outline of the men near the three windows was visible; luckily all the men in the dark corners had got an extra good supply of clean linen about the arms, so that by dint of much straining of the eyesight, and careful picking of our way, we succeeded in bringing to a successful termination the first peal of Caters on the bells since 1820. On Friday, having determined not to part without paying a last tribute of respect to our dear friend Jasper Snowdon, the bells of All Saints', Hertford, were muffled, and on the arrival of J. Martin Routh, Master of the College Youths, and C. F. Winny, from London, we rang a capital peal of Stedman Caters in 3 hrs. 35 mins. On Saturday, it was contemplated to finish the week with a peal at Fulham, but owing to the funeral of Viscount Ranelagh, the idea had to be abandoned, so after a visit to the Whitechapel Foundry, where the peal of ten bells for Abingdon were examined, as well as a new set of eight hemispherical bells for the Lyceum Theatre, tenor about 15 cwt., the sonorous tones of which were much admired, the party broke up, and we separated to our various destinations, all the better for our holiday, and in good form for our Sunday duties, well pleased with our performance of five peals in five days, brought about by the energetic exertions of our host, the Rev. Woolmore Wigram. G. F.

## BINFIELD, BERKS.

The original five bells of All Saints' Church have recently been rehung by Mr. Rogers, of Maidenhead, and the ring of six was reopened on Saturday, November 21st. A 720 of Grandsire Minor was rung in 26 mins. T. Woolford, 1; F. Bissley, 2; H. Rogers, 3; R. Smith, 4; W. A. Garraway, 5; J. W. Wilkins, 6. Also another 720 with the bells half-muffled as a mark of respect to the memory of the late Jasper W. Snowdon, Esq., in 27 mins. H. Rogers, 1; F. Bissley, 2; W. A. Garraway (conductor), 3; J. W. Wilkins, 4; R. Smith, 5; E. Rogers, 6. Tenor 12 cwt. Several 120's of Doubles were also rung in which Messrs. Horn and Bolton, local ringers, took part. And by kind invitation of the Rev. Canon Savory, the ringers, in company with the Rev. A. H. Drummond, Vicar of Boyne Hill, took tea at the rectory, and having rang a few touches on the hand-bells, the company returned homeward well pleased with their afternoon's outing.

## DEDICATION OF A NEW RING OF EIGHT BELLS.

ON Saturday, November 28th, the new ring of eight bells, which has been hung in the tower of St. John the Baptist, Hagley, Stourbridge, as a memorial to the late Rector, the Rev. Canon Lyttleton, were dedicated to the service of God. The bells have been cast and hung by Messrs. Mears and Stainbank, of the Whitechapel Foundry, they are sweetly-toned, though very light, the tenor weighing about nine cwt. All being in readiness, evensong was said at three p.m. by the rev. W. C. Gibbs, the present rector. After the anthem, the clergy and choir proceeded to the tower, where an office of dedication was sung. While the procession was returning, a course of Grandsire Triples was rung by eight members of the St. Martin's society, Birmingham. An appropriate sermon was preached by the Rev. Canon Tinling, of Gloucester Cathedral. As the congregation were dispersing, two courses of Stedman Triples sounded forth from the tower, and then the peal which appears in its proper place in our columns was rung on the bells. The ringers were very well satisfied with the working of the bells, but they would suggest that something should be done to deaden their sound, as they are in close proximity to the ringing-room. They take this opportunity of tendering their best thanks to the rector for his kind hospitality on the occasion.

## THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

Balance Sheet for year ending November 10th, 1885.

Dr.	
Nov. 1884—	To balance in Treasurer's hands from 1883-4 account... .. 4 3 1 $\frac{1}{2}$
Nov. 10, 1885—	" Total amount of income from November 18, 1884, to November 10, 1885, per account No. 1. 26 3 9 $\frac{1}{2}$
	Total— £ 30 6 11
Cr.	
Nov. 10, 1884-5—	By total amount of expenditure from November 18, 1884, to November 10, 1885, per account No. 2. ... .. 8 10 6
" "	" Balance in Treasurer's hands ... .. 21 16 5
	Total— £ 30 6 11

## FINANCIAL POSITION OF SOCIETY.

Nov. 10, 1884-5—	To investment by Trustees in Post Office Savings Bank ... .. 31 19 3
"	Interest on same for 1884 ... .. 15 6
	—32 14 9
"	Balance of above account for 1884-5 in Treasurer's hands... .. 21 16 5
	Total value of Society's Funds—£54 11 2

Nov. 24, 1885—We hereby certify that we have examined the Society's Books and Accounts, and find above to be correct—

RICHARD T. WOODLEY, } Auditors.  
WILLIAM D. SMITH, }

## SUDBURY, SUFFOLK.

ON Saturday evening, November 21st, the members of the local society met at St. Gregory's church for the purpose of erecting a tablet recording a peal of Grandsire Triples rung on October 24th last. The tablet is the munificent gift of B. Ransom, Esq. an honorary member of the society, who, although he had promised the board, said, before starting for the peal, that he did not think the tree would want cutting down just yet, on which point, we are glad to add, he got disappointed. A touch of Bob Major was rung. F. Tolliday, 1; Charles Sillitoe, 2; W. Howell, 3; W. Bacon, 4; B. Ransom, Esq. 5; A. Scott (conductor), 6; W. Cross, 7; H. Harper, 8. And 864 of Kent Treble Bob Major. F. Tolliday, 1; W. Griggs, 2; W. Howell, 3; W. Bacon, 4; C. Sillitoe (conductor), 5; A. Scott, 6; W. Cross, 7; H. Harper, 8. The ringers afterwards adjourned to "The Compasses" Inn, where a course of Grandsire Cinques was rung by B. Ransom, Esq., 1-2; A. Scott, 3-4; C. Sillitoe, 5-6; F. Tolliday, 7; W. Griggs, 8; W. Howell, 9-10; H. Harper, 11-12. And a course of Treble Bob Royal and a course of Bob Royal.

## TUE BROOK, NEAR LIVERPOOL.

ON the 19th, 20th, and 21st of November, a bazaar was held in connection with St. John the Baptist's Church, for the purpose of raising funds for the erection of a mission-room. This was thought a fitting opportunity of inviting those ringers who attempted to ring a peal of Stedman Triples on the 7th inst., to renew their attempt. The band was accordingly got together on Saturday, the 21st inst., and were successful in ringing the peal in excellent style in 2 hrs. 59 mins. (see the record in peal column of our last number). The ringers here take this opportunity of thanking the Vicar and wardens for their kindness in putting the bells at their disposal.

[The peals and touches following were all rung with the bells muffled as tributes of respect and affection in which the late Mr. Snowdon was held by the performers.]

### The Provinces.

#### BISHOPS STORTFORD, HERTS. THE BISHOPS STORTFORD SOCIETY, AND THE HERTFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Thursday, November 26, 1885, in Three Hours and Fourteen Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL,

#### A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S ORIGINAL. Tenor 20 cwt.

THOMAS NEWMAN .. .. Treble.	*GEORGE BRAND .. .. 5.
CHARLES MARTIN .. .. 2.	HENRY J. TUCKER .. .. 6.
ALFRED TUCKER .. .. 3.	HENRY N. DOUGHTY .. .. 7.
WILLIAM H. TUCKER .. .. 4.	JOSEPH SAMPFORD .. .. Tenor.

Conducted by HENRY JAMES TUCKER.

Rung with the bells deeply muffled on both sides. \*First peal in the method.

#### HOLBECK.—THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Friday, November 27, 1885, in Three Hours and Eight Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MATTHEW,

#### A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5040 CHANGES.

Tenor 16 cwt. in F.

THOMAS HARRISON .. .. Treble.	HENRY HUBBARD .. .. 5.
HARRY TOMLINSON .. .. 2.	FRANCIS WOODHEAD .. .. 6.
HENRY MOSS .. .. 3.	MATTHEW TOMLINSON .. .. 7.
STEPHEN BASNETT .. .. 4.	DAVID YORK .. .. Tenor.

Composed and Conducted by MATTHEW TOMLINSON.

Mr. H. Hubbard hails from Leeds, and this is the 40th peal on the bells.

#### SHEFFIELD.

#### THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION, AND THE ST. PETER'S AMALGAMATED SOCIETY.

On Friday, November 27, 1885, in Three Hours and Eight Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARIE,

#### A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S ORIGINAL. Tenor 25 cwt.

JOHN MULLIGAN .. .. Treble.	THOMAS HATTERSLEY .. .. 5.
EDWARD WOODWARD .. .. 2.	JAMES A. DIXON .. .. 6.
JOSEPH TAYLOR .. .. 3.	ARTHUR BREARLEY .. .. 7.
JOHN GOUCHER .. .. 4.	WILLIAM MIDGLEY .. .. Tenor.

Conducted by THOMAS HATTERSLEY.

#### SADDLEWORTH.—THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, November 28, 1885, in Two Hours and Fifty-nine Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. CHAD.

#### A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 12 cwt.

JOHN HOLDEN .. .. Treble.	FRANKLIN BRIERLEY .. .. 5.
JOSEPH RADCLIFFE .. .. 2.	JOSEPH WOOD .. .. 6.
JOHN T. HOLDEN .. .. 3.	JOHN T. DICKEN .. .. 7.
JAMES H. SHAW .. .. 4.	EDWARD WOOD .. .. Tenor.

Composed by JOHN THORP and Conducted by JOHN HOLDEN.

#### WALTER BELCHAMP, ESSEX.

#### THE SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.

On Sunday, November 29, 1885, in Two Hours and Fifty-five Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

#### A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5040 CHANGES.

Tenor 11 cwt.

NATHAN J. PITSTOW .. .. Treble.	PERCY SCOTT .. .. 5.
SAMUEL SLATER .. .. 2.	JAMES BIRD .. .. 6.
PAUL ADAMS .. .. 3.	OLIVER GARWOOD .. .. 7.
ZACHARIAH SLATER .. .. 4.	JOHN F. PENNING .. .. Tenor.

Composed and Conducted by N. J. PITSTOW.

#### ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE, LANCASHIRE.

#### THE UNITED COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

On Tuesday, December 1, 1885, in Three Hours and Eight Minutes,

AT ST. PETER'S CHURCH,

#### A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 20 cwt.

JOHN SIDEBOTHAM .. .. Treble.	JAMES S. WILDE .. .. 5.
GEORGE LONGDEN .. .. 2.	THOMAS WILDE .. .. 6.
JAMES SHAW .. .. 3.	GEORGE BRADDOCK .. .. 7.
WILLIAM MIDDLETON .. .. 4.	THOMAS BRADDOCK .. .. Tenor.

Composed by the late WILLIAM HARRISON, and Conducted by JOHN SIDEBOTHAM.

Messrs. Braddock Brothers, Sidebotham and Middleton hail from Mottram; Wilde Brothers and Shaw from Hyde; George Longden belongs to the local company.

### Miscellaneous.

#### ASSOCIATION FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.

LICHFIELD.—On Sunday evening, November 22nd, at St. Michael's Church, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor, in 27 mins. E. Gallimore, 1; Henry Meacham, 2; R. Annis, 3; W. Treadgold, 4; F. J. Cope (conductor), 5; Arthur E. Greenwood, 6. Tenor 11 cwt. in A.

#### THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

STEBBING (Essex).—On Tuesday evening, November 24th, 2520 changes in seven different methods, viz., three of Stedman Slow Course, three of New Doubles, three of St. Simon, three of St. Dunstan's, three of Antelope, three of Grandsire, and three of Plain Doubles, in 1 hr. 10 mins. W. Emery, 1; H. Gowers, 2; E. Claydon, (conductor), 3; E. Hynds, 4; J. T. Barker, 5. Tenor 16 cwt. This is the longest length ever rung on these bells.

#### NORTH LINCOLNSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Sunday evening, November 22nd, after Divine Service in the evening, the members of the Market Rasen branch of the above Association, rang two 720's (Plain Bob and Oxford Bob), by the following members. H. Gadd, H. Burkitt, T. Gibbons, S. Marshall, W. Lunn, T. Scott, and J. Hackney. The former was conducted by H. Gadd, and the latter by H. Burkitt. The sentiments expressed in "THE BELL NEWS" concerning this prince of the Exercise, found a very warm echo in this tower, the members of which feel they have indeed lost a friend and a brother.

#### THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

DERBY.—On Thursday evening, November 19th, at St. Werburgh's Church, a start was made for a peal of Bob Major, but after ringing an hour it unfortunately came to grief. Afterwards 1008 in the same method was rung by the following members of the above Association. F. Whiting, 1; A. B. Ward, 2; A. Taberer, 3; S. Price, 4; A. E. Thompson, 5; R. Bosworth, 6; H. C. Woodward (conductor), 7; R. Redgate, 8.

#### THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

CUMNOR (Berks).—On Sunday, November 22nd, after the afternoon service, a 720 of Double Stedman Slow Course Minor in 25 mins. Job Howse, 1; W. Baston, 2; F. A. Castle, 3; C. W. H. Griffith, C.C.C., 4; A. F. M. Custance, B.N.C., 5; J. W. Washbrook (conductor), 6. In the evening, after the usual whole pull and stand, a 360 Cambridge Surprise Minor. C. W. H. Griffith (C.C.C.), 1; W. Woods, 2; F. A. Castle, 3; A. F. M. Custance (B.N.C.), 4; W. Baston, 5; J. W. Washbrook (conductor), 6. Tenor 16 cwt. in F. This is the tenth 720 of Double Stedman Slow Course ever rung.

#### THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

SHEFFIELD.—On Saturday, November 21st, twelve members of the St. Peter's Amalgamated Society, attempted a peal of Grandsire Cinques at the Parish Church, but after ringing 3 hrs. 10 mins, the 11th began to go very heavy and they were obliged to stop. C. H. Hattersley, 1; Joseph Mulligan, 2; William Lomas, 3; Charles Bower, 4; James Dixon, 5; John Mulligan, 6; Samuel Seed, 7; George Holmes, 8; Edward Woodward, 9; Arthur Brearley, 10; Thomas Hattersley (conductor), 11; William Midgley, 12. Tenor 41 cwt. Also on Monday, November 23rd, at St. Marie's, Norfolk Row,



a half-peal of Grandsire Triples in 1 hr. 40 mins. John Mulligan, 1; Joseph Mulligan, 2; Thomas Hattersley (conductor), 3; John Goucher, 4; James Dixon, 5; George Holmes, 6; Arthur Brearley, 7; William Midgley, 8. Tenor 25 cwt.

GUISELEY (Yorkshire).—On Friday evening, November 20th, the local company rang short touches of Kent, Oxford, Violet, and New London Treble Bob Minor. On Saturday, November 21st, a peal of Kent Treble Bob Major, 5088 changes, was attempted, but after ringing 1 hr. 33 mins. it came to grief. D. E. Rhodes, 1; S. Brown, 2; H. Demaine, 3; W. Clough, 4; W. Demaine, 5; J. Yeadon, 6; L. Cawood (conductor), 7; J. Baldwin, 8. Mr. Cawood expressed his desire to call a peal, as he had conducted the first peal in which Mr. Snowdon took part, a peal of Bob Major at Otley. On Sunday afternoon, November 22nd, with Mr. George Barraclough, of Armley, 832 of Kent Treble Bob Major. On Sunday, November 29th, for Divine Service, short touches of Kent, Oxford, Violet, New and London Treble Bob Minor. Tenor 10½ cwt.

LONDON.—On Tuesday evening, November 24th, at St. Saviour's, Southwark, the usual whole pull and stand. J. Pettitt (conductor), 1; J. W. Rowbotham, 2; G. A. Muskett, 3; G. T. McLaughlin, 4; J. M. Routh, Esq., 5; J. R. Haworth, 6; F. E. Dawe, 7; C. F. Winny, 8; G. Dorrington, 9; W. D. Smith, 10; E. Horrex, 11; J. M. Hayes, 12. Afterwards a course of Kent Treble Bob Maximus, and a course of Stedman Cinques, in which A. Percival Heywood, Esq., of Duffield, took part.

MAIDENHEAD (Berks).—On Sunday, November 22nd, previous to evening service, the last 700 of Holt's Original peal of Grandsire Triples, in 25 mins. O. Fasey, 1; H. Rogers, 2; W. A. Garraway (conductor), 3; F. Bissley, 4; R. Smith, 5; J. W. Wilkins, 6; E. Rogers, 7; T. Woolford, 8. Tenor 17½ cwt.

MATLOCK (Derbyshire).—Recently, the Darley Dale ringers visited the Parish Church, and rang fourteen 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles, in 56 mins. S. Groom, 1; W. Taylor, 2; C. Whatkin, 3; C. Whymark, 4; E. Hallows (conductor), 5; A. Marsh, 6. Tenor 12 cwt.

MELBOURNE (Derbyshire).—On Tuesday, November 24th, the local society rang twelve 6-scores of Bob Doubles. T. Clarke, 1; G. A. Fish, 2; G. C. Tunnicliffe, 3; F. W. Cook, 4; T. Hollingworth, 5; J. Bartram, 6. The above was conducted from the 2nd, 3rd, 4th, and 5th bells, and was also rung as a mark of respect to the late Thos. Harsley, Esq., of Kingsnewton, near Melbourne, whose remains was interred that day.

NORWICH.—On Saturday evening, November 28th, at St. Michael's church, Coslany, the local company, with the Rev. N. Bolingbroke, Secretary of the Norwich Diocesan Association, and Mr. J. W. Spratt, rang several touches of Bob Major. After the ringing a short address was given by the Rev. N. Bolingbroke, setting forth the valuable services the deceased had rendered to the exercise at large, and also giving some kindly reminiscences of his personal acquaintance with him.

PETERBOROUGH.—On Sunday, November 22nd, at St. John's Church, a 720 of Bob Minor, with 7,8 covering. C. W. Holdich, 1; Rev. W. H. Deane, 2; H. Plowman, 3; J. Hancock, 4; G. Baker, 5; E. F. Read (conductor), 6; J. Binks, 7; T. Allington, 8.

SUDBURY (Suffolk).—On Tuesday evening, November 22nd, at All Saints' church, a touch of Bob Major was rung, and 672 of Grandsire Triples. F. Tolliday, 1; J. Campin, 2; G. Brown, 3; C. Sillitoe (conductor), 4; W. Bacon, 5; H. Harper, 6; A. Scott, 7; H. Brackett, 8.

TERRINGTON (Norfolk).—On Saturday, November 21st, a 720 of Bob Minor (sixteen bobs and two singles), in 27 mins. Walter Mallett, 1; \*Fredk. Easton, 2; Robt. Howling, jun., 3; G. Barrett, 4; Jno. Herring, 5; Jno. Green (conductor), 6. And on Monday, November 23rd, after the usual whole pull and stand, a 720 of the same method in 29 mins. Walter Mallett, 1; Fredk. Easton, 2; †Robt. Howling, jun., 3; Jno. Green, 4; Jno. Herring, 5; Dr. Seccombe (conductor), 6. Tenor 14 cwt. \*First 720; †first 720 on an inside bell.

WALTHAMSTOW (Essex).—On Sunday evening, November 22nd, after Divine Service at St. Saviour's Church, the St. Saviour's company rang the usual whole pull and stand, and afterwards tolled the age of the deceased upon the tenor.

WANTAGE (Berks).—On Saturday evening, November 21st, at SS. Peter and Paul, for practice, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor in 29 mins. G. Gregory, 1; H. Smith, 2; C. Page, 3; A. Bunce, 4; A. Gregory, 5; F. May (conductor), 6. First 720 by all in the above method. And on Sunday, November 22nd, after evening service, an attempt was made to ring a 720 of Grandsire Minor, but after ringing 480 changes it came to grief. G. Gregory, 1; C. Page, 2; F. Money, 3; J. Gardner, 4; H. Smith, 5; F. May (conductor), 6.

WICKHAM MARKET (Suffolk).—On Wednesday evening, November 25th, at All Saints' Church, for practice, six members of the Norwich Diocesan Association, rang a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob in 28 mins. \*J. Reeve, 1; W. Reeve, 2; \*F. Reeve, 3; \*G. Reeve, 4; E. Todd, 5; J. Howard (conductor), 6. Tenor 15 cwt. in G. Also 240 of Kent Treble Bob standing as before; and 360 of Plain Bob. F. Reeve, 1; J. Reeve, 2; J. Howard (conductor), 3; G. Reeve, 4; †F. Sawyer, 5; W. Reeve, 6. \*First 720 in the method; †first 360 of Plain Bob. E. Todd and J. Howard hail from Pettistree, the rest belong to the local company.

\* \* Remainder of muffled peals and touches will be continued next week.

### NEW RINGING SOCIETY IN EXETER.

A meeting was held in St. David's boys' schoolroom, on Tuesday, November 17th, for the purpose of establishing a society of bellringers in St. David's parish for scientific change-ringing, the tower being well provided with a very fair ring of six bells. The attendance was very good, and a code of rules was drawn up and unanimously agreed to. A committee, with the Vicar as president, and Messrs. W. Barnes and R. B. West, and the wardens as vice-presidents, was elected. Mr. R. Junnar was appointed secretary, and Mr. F. Shepherd, of the Devonshire Guild, was selected as instructor. The society will be called the St. David's Society, and will be in connection with the Devonshire Guild, of which the Hon. and Rev. J. Northcote, rector of Upton Pyne, is the secretary. Recently there has been a movement in favour of belfry reform throughout the kingdom, Devonshire not being behind, and we believe there are good grounds for stating that the Dean and Chapter of Exeter Cathedral are about to take steps to have their bells rehung, when the citizens will have the pleasure of occasionally hearing the finest and most musical set of ten in the kingdom scientifically rung. The first practice of the St. David's Society took place on Saturday last, when two of the Cathedral and four of the St. Sidwell's company kindly attended to shew what could be done, and to render any assistance, a kindness which was much appreciated.—Communicated.

### SUBSCRIPTION LIST FOR THE JOHNSON TESTIMONIAL.

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	...	2	6

We, the Committee, thank all ringers and friends who have so kindly and liberally contributed to this "National Testimonial," and we wish to remind any who are thinking of becoming subscribers that it will be necessary to close the list with the present year. We therefore respectfully ask them to communicate at once with A. Thomas, Hon. Secretary, 83, Wheelley's Road, Edgbaston, Birmingham; or Mr. S. Reeves, Hon. Treasurer, 10, Bull Street, West Bromwich.

### BLYTH CHURCH, NOTTINGHAM.

THE fine ring of six bells have been rehung with new frames and fittings by T. Mallaby and Sons, of Masham, Yorkshire. The woodwork of the old frames had been in the tower for three centuries. The bells were recast in 1843 by Taylor and Co. The work of re-hanging has been carried out by the sons Mallaby, since the lamented death of their father in August last. They have given great satisfaction to all concerned. The peal was re-opened on Sunday, November 29th, by the Blyth company, who are to be congratulated on having now an opportunity of real good ringing.

### THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION OF SIX BELL RINGERS.

THE usual QUARTERLY MEETING will be held at the Parish Church, Leyland, on Saturday, December 12th. The bells will be open for ringing from 2 o'clock; business meeting at 4 o'clock in the schoolroom.

57 Chorley Road, Blackrod.

JAMES HIGSON, Secretary.

SADDLEWORTH CHURCH SCHOOL.—A concert was held in the schoolroom, Lee Street, Uppermill, on Saturday evening, November 21st. The chair was taken at seven o'clock by the Rev. Hugh Doig, Vicar. The following vocalists were present: Mrs. Walker, Mrs. Morrell, Mr. Sims Dyson, Mr. C. Dyson; Pianist, Mr. Albert Hudson. The Saddleworth handbell ringers also rendered selections of music. The proceeds, which amounted to £5, were devoted to repairs and improvements of the school.

## THE CHRISTMAS NUMBER

Of this journal will contain, among other interesting features, a sketch,  
entitled,

## "REMINISCENCES;"

And a story—

## "THUMPER'S DATE TOUCH."

There will also appear, A PORTRAIT of that distinguished ringer  
and composer,

MR. CHAS. HENRY HATTERSLEY,

OF SHEFFIELD; with memoir.

Orders should at once be given to local booksellers.

"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.

A CORRECTION—Mr. T. Newman, of Caversham, writes:—"I see by 'THE BELL  
NEWS' that Holt's Original was rung at Basingstoke, Hants, on November 14th,  
1885, by the Society of Royal Cumberland Youths, to which is added, 'the first time  
Holt's Original has been rung in the county.' I wish to inform your correspondent  
that Holt's Original was rung at Romsey, Hants, in 1872, by the Society of College  
Youths, conducted by James Pettit."

C. SILLITOE.—The cards were sent from here; our people imagined they had  
been ordered.

PERCY SCOTT.—Tell us the date of publication of the peal; it shall be attended to  
without delay.

W. HUGHES.—Mr. George A. Muskett, Church Row, Bethnal Green, London.

## The Bell News &amp; Ringers' Record.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 5, 1885.

## The Metropolis.

SOUTHWARK.—THE ST. JAMES'S SOCIETY, LONDON.

On Friday, November 27, 1885, in Two Hours and Fifty-seven Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. GEORGE-THE-MARTYR,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S ORIGINAL.

BENJAMIN E. BATTRUM .. .. Treble.	EDWARD F. STRANGE .. 5.
RICHARD FRENCH .. .. 2.	JOSEPH BARRY .. .. 6.
WILLIAM JONES .. .. 3.	WILLIAM H. GEORGE .. 7.
HENRY LANGDON .. .. 4.	GEORGE WOODAGE .. .. Tenor.

Conducted by RICHARD FRENCH.

This is the 167th year these bells have been open for ringing.

## The Provinces.

SAFFRON WALDEN.—THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

Birthday Peal.

On Tuesday, November 24, 1885, in Three Hours and Fourteen Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 24 cwt.

SAMUEL SLATER .. .. Treble.	HERBERT BAKER .. .. 5.
GEORGE MARTIN .. .. 2.	ERNEST PITSTOW .. .. 6.
FREDERICK SWORDER .. .. 3.	FREDERICK PITSTOW .. .. 7.
JOHN F. PENNING .. .. 4.	GEORGE TAYLOR .. .. Tenor.

Composed and Conducted by F. PITSTOW.

This peal contains the 6th the extent in all positions, and was published in "THE  
BELL NEWS" of June 3rd, 1882. Rung to commemorate the birthday of the  
composer.

## LIVERPOOL.

On Tuesday, November 24, 1885, in Three Hours and Seven Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. LUKE,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 16½ cwt. in F.

JOHN R. PRITCHARD .. .. Treble.	JOHN BROWN .. .. 5.
RICHARD S. MANN* .. .. 2.	GEORGE FISHER .. .. 6.
WILLIAM JAMES .. .. 3.	WILLIAM DAVIES .. .. 7.
JOHN ASPINWALL .. .. 4.	THOMAS HAMMOND .. .. Tenor.

Composed and Conducted by JOHN R. PRITCHARD.

The peal, which is now rung for the first time, is the first on the bells for fifteen years.

\*First peal in the method.

## WHITFIELD, GLOSSOP.

THE ST. JAMES'S SOCIETY, GLOSSOP.

On Friday, November 27, 1885, in Three Hours and Two Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JAMES,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 12½ cwt. in G.

E. HAGUE .. .. Treble.	S. WILKINSON .. .. 5.
J. HARROP .. .. 2.	S. W. LEVER .. .. 6.
W. MARSDEN .. .. 3.	J. BRADBURY .. .. 7.
E. ROSTRON .. .. 4.	S. STAFFORD .. .. Tenor.

Composed by S. KNOTT, JUN., of Glossop (no conductor mentioned).

This is the first peal that has been rung by the St. James's Society.

## STONHAM ASPAL, SUFFOLK.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, November 28, 1885, in Three Hours and Fifteen Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. LEBERT,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S TEN-PART. Tenor 24 cwt. in E.

ALFRED S. WIGHTMAN .. .. Treble.	WALTER WHITING .. .. 5.
WILLIAM DYE .. .. 2.	HAWKINS ENGLISH .. .. 6.
JOHN KNIGHTS .. .. 3.	GEORGE PERRY .. .. 7.
GEORGE THURLOW .. .. 4.	HARRY PEPPER* .. .. Tenor.

Conducted by WILLIAM DYE.

\*First peal. This is the first peal in the method on the bells. Messrs. Thurlow,  
and Perry hail from Framsdon; Whiting and Pepper from Otley; Wightman from  
Cretingham; Dye from Ash Bocking; Knights from Helmingham; H. English from  
Coddendam.

## HAGLEY, WORCESTERSHIRE.

THE ST. MARTIN'S SOCIETY, BIRMINGHAM.

On Saturday, November 28, 1885, in Two Hours and Fifty-five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN-THE-BAPTIST,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

THURSTANS' FIVE-PART. Tenor 9 cwt.

J. BUFFERY .. .. Treble.	W. R. SMALL .. .. 5.
S. REEVES .. .. 2.	A. THOMAS .. .. 6.
H. BASTABLE .. .. 3.	H. JOHNSON, JUN. .. .. 7.
T. KEYNOLDS .. .. 4.	F. H. JAMES .. .. Tenor.

Conducted by S. REEVES,

W. R. Small's 50th peal.

## DERBY.—THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

## DERBY BRANCH.

On Monday, November 30, 1885, in Three Hours and Three Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. WERBURGH,

## A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5040 CHANGES.

Tenor 17 cwt. in E.

FREDERICK WHITING* .. Treble.	WILLIAM HICKLING.. .. 5.
JOHN HOWE.. .. 2.	REUBEN BOSWORTH.. .. 6.
AUSTIN TABERER* .. .. 3.	HARRY CHAS. WOODWARD .. 7.
ARTHUR BERTRAM WARD.. 4.	*RICHARD REDGATE .. .. Tenor.

Composed by the late HENRY HUBBARD and Conducted by HARRY CHARLES WOODWARD.

\*First peal in the method.

## WEST MALLING.—THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

## Birthday Peal.

On Tuesday, December 1, 1885, in Two Hours and Fifty-five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

## A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5040 CHANGES.

Tenor 12½ cwt.

REUBEN SIMMONDS .. .. Treble.	ALCHIN MOORCRAFT.. .. 5.
HARRY PEARCE .. .. 2.	DAVID HALL .. .. 6.
EDWARD BALDOCK .. .. 3.	CALEB BASSETT.. .. 7.
WILLIAM HARDEN .. .. 4.	JAMES W. LEONARD .. .. Tenor.

Conducted by JAMES W. LEONARD.

This peal was rung to commemorate the 32nd birthday of the conductor, and his brother-ringers join in wishing him many happy returns of the day.

Messrs. Simmonds, Pearce, and Moorcraft hail from Maidstone; the rest belong to the local company.

## RINGMER, SUSSEX.—THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Tuesday, December 1, 1885, in Three Hours and Nine Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

## A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S 10-PART. Tenor 14 cwt. in F.

W. PALMER* .. .. Treble.	G. KING .. .. 5.
G. F. ATTREE .. .. 2.	C. TYLER .. .. 6.
J. SEARLE .. .. 3.	J. JAY, SEN. .. .. 7.
C. GOLDS .. .. 4.	E. BUTLER .. .. Tenor.

Conducted by J. JAY, SEN.

\*First peal. All except the treble man are members of the Royal Cumberland Youths. The above is the first peal on the bells, and was rung at the opening ceremony.

## Date Touches.

CHESTERFIELD (Derbyshire).—On Sunday evening, November 22nd, for Divine Service at the parish church, a date touch of Grandsire Caters, 1885 changes, by the local company, in 1 hr. 17 mins. J. Goodwin, 1; D. Farthing, 2; I. Goodwin, 3; H. Nuttall sen., 4; G. Toplis, 5; W. Ellis, 6; J. Ellis, 7; H. Nuttall jun., 8; A. Knights (composer and conductor), 9; T. Mee, 10. This touch was rung to commemorate the birthday of Mr. Henry Nuttall, sen. Tenor 24½ cwt.

LECKHAMPTON (Gloucestershire).—On Sunday evening, November 29th, five members of the Gloucester and Bristol Diocesan Association with Mr. G. Price, visited this place, and rang a date touch of 1885 of Grandsire Doubles, in 1 hr. 1 min. G. Price, 1; F. Hannis, 2; E. Smart, 3; H. Downham, 4; W. Gregory (conductor), 5; W. Roberts, 5. And two 6-scores of Plain Bob Doubles, called differently. Tenor about 10 cwt.

MONMOUTH.—On Tuesday, November 10th, at the parish church, a date touch of Grandsire Triples, 1885 changes, in 1 hr. 10 mins. W. Preece, 1; J. Ward, 2; W. Walters, 3; W. Honeyfield, 4; J. Priest, 5; T. H. Jones, 6; E. Barnett (conductor), 7; H. Brown, 8. The above touch contains the twenty-four 6,7's, and was composed by Mr. Henry Johnson. Tenor 20 cwt.

WEST BROMWICH (Staffordshire).—On Tuesday, November 12th, the following rang at Christ Church, a date touch of Grandsire

Triples, 1885 changes, in 1 hr. 7 mins. H. Hill, 1; T. Horton, 2; S. Reeves (conductor), 3; J. Hall, 4; R. Hall, 5; C. Price, 6; W. R. Small, 7; C. Timms, 8. Tenor 23 cwt. 3 qrs. in Eb. This touch, which has 6-7 together for more than 1600 changes, was composed by Mr. H. Johnson, sen.

## Miscellaneous.

## DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

BISHOP AUCKLAND.—On Sunday, November 15th, for evening service, an attempt for a 720 of Bob Minor failed after ringing 660 changes. On Monday evening, November 16th, for practice, another attempt was made by the same company, which was successfully brought round in 30 mins., with 6-8 covering. \*H. C. Mayne, 1; †J. G. Pratt, 2; J. Pallister, 3; F. W. Castrie, 4; F. Charlton, 5; J. W. Cleminson, 6; E. J. Titt (conductor), 7; A. J. B. Waldron, 8. \*First 720. †First 720 with a bob bell. This is the first 720, unaided, by the company, who began to practice change-ringing about twelve months ago. And a plain course of Grandsire Minor and a course of of Grandsire Triples. H. C. Mayne, 1; J. G. Pratt, 2; J. Pallister, 3; A. J. B. Waldron, 4; E. J. Titt, 5; F. Charlton, 6; J. Cleminson, 7; F. W. Castrie, 8. Tenor 11½ cwt.

## THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

WOODBIDGE (Suffolk).—On Thursday, November 19th, for practice, 630 of Grandsire Triples in 23 mins. W. Ward (conductor), 1; A. Acfield, jun., 2; P. Meadows, 3; J. Fosdike, 4; H. Burch, 5; W. P. Garrett, 6; C. Ward, 7; G. Burch, 8. Tenor 28 cwt.

## THE HERTFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

ST. ALBAN'S.—On Sunday, November 22nd, for Divine Service at the Cathedral, a 504 of Grandsire Triples. T. Grant, 1; W. H. Buckingham (first 504), 2; R. T. Kent, 3; H. Lewis, 4; W. H. L. Buckingham, 5; G. W. Cartmel, 6; N. N. Hills (conductor), 7; E. Hulks, 8. And on Monday, November 23rd, at St. Peter's church, on the front six, a 720 of Grandsire Minor, in 25 mins. W. Battle, 1; E. P. Debenham, 2; H. Lewis, 3; G. W. Cartmel, 4; W. H. L. Buckingham, 5; N. N. Hills (conductor), 6.

## THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

TUNBRIDGE WELLS (Kent).—On Sunday, November 22nd, for Divine Service at St. Peter's, a 720 of Grandsire Minor, in 25 mins. by the following members of the Tunbridge Wells branch of this Association. J. Muggeridge, 1; R. Sharville, 2; J. Colthup, 3; H. Barefield (conductor), 4; W. Latter, 5; G. Kember, 6. Tenor 14 cwt. 3 qrs. in F.

WEST MALLING (Kent).—On Sunday, November 29th, for Divine Service, a 560 of Bob Major. J. Worsley, 1; H. Pearce, 2; E. Baldock, 3; W. Harden, 4; C. Bassett, 5; A. Moorcraft, 6; E. Bonner, 7; J. W. Leonard (conductor), 8. Also after service a 720 of Bob Minor. J. Worsley, 1; E. Baldock, 2; D. Hall, 3; C. Bassett, 4; \*H. Kinney, 5; J. W. Leonard (conductor), 6. \*First 720 in the method.

## THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

LONG EATON (Derbyshire).—On Monday evening, November 16th, at St. Laurence's Church, on the back six, a 720 of Plain Bob Minor in 28 mins. \*W. Hexter, 1; S. Clark, 2; A. Widdowson, 3; W. Gilson, 4; J. C. Dicken, 5; J. Barrow (conductor), 6. Tenor 11 cwt. \*First 720.

MELBOURNE (Derbyshire).—On Saturday, November 28th, the local company rang a 720 of Bob Minor in 27 mins. J. R. Wood, 1; G. A. Fish, 2; J. Pickers, 3; H. C. Woodward (conductor), 4; T. Hollingworth, 5; G. C. Tunnicliff, 6. This is the first 720 by all the above except Mr. Woodward, of Derby, who has until the last few months been instructor to this band, and it was rung at the first attempt. Also on Sunday, November 29th, for Divine Service in the morning, a 360 of Bob Minor in 13 mins. J. R. Wood, 1; G. A. Fish, 2; J. Vickers, 3; F. W. Cooke, 4; T. Hollingworth, 5; G. C. Tunnicliff (conductor), 6. Tenor 16 cwt. in F.

WYMESWOLD (Leicestershire).—On Monday, November 16th, six members of the Loughborough company visited Wymeswold, and rang a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob Minor. C. Smith, 1; A. Cresser, 2; E. D. Taylor, Esq., 3; J. W. Taylor, sen., Esq., 4; S. Smith, 5; J. W. Taylor, jun., Esq. (conductor), 6. Also a 720 of Plain Bob Minor, Mr. Marshall Brown, of Wymeswold, ringing the 5th in the place of S. Smith. Afterwards a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor, standing as in the Oxford.

## THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

DRAYTON (Berks).—On Sunday, November 8th, 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor for Divine Service in the evening. F. W. Warwick, 1; G. Jones, 2; F. Field, 3; C. Trinder, 4; T. Fulker, 5; H. D. Betteridge, Esq., (conductor), 6.

## THE OXFORD UNIVERSITY SOCIETY.

CUMNOR (Berks).—On Sunday, November 29th, at the parish church of St. Michael and all Angels, at the invitation of the Rev. S. Y. N. Griffith, Vicar, for Divine Service in the evening a 720 of Grandsire Minor, with thirty-four bobs and two singles, in 27½ mins. \*C. W. Bassano (Balliol), 1; C. S. Rowland (St. John's), 2; G. C. Joyce (B.N.C.), 3; †C. W. Bennett (Worcester), 4; A. F. M. Custance (B.N.C.), 5; C. W. H. Griffith, C.C.C., (conductor), 6. Tenor 16 cwt. in F. This is the first 720 attained by the society for upwards of two years. \* First 720. † First 720 with a bob bell.

## STOKE-UPON-TRENT ARCHIDIACONAL ASSOCIATION.

NORTON (Staffordshire).—On Friday, November 27th, 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor, in 27 mins. W. Baddeley, 1; E. Glover, 2; J. Moreton, 3; J. Wood, 4; J. W. Brough, 5; J. Baddeley (conductor), 6.

CHEDDLETON (Staffordshire).—On Friday, November 27th, 720 Bob Minor (eighteen bobs and two singles), in 28 mins. H. James, 1; H. Birch, 2; J. Gilbert, 3; H. Rogers, 4; E. Spooner, 5; J. Ollerenshaw (conductor), 6. On Sunday, November 29th, 720 Bob Minor, (nine bobs and six singles), in 27 mins. H. James, 1; E. Spooner, 2; J. Gilbert, 3; H. Rogers, 4; F. Clowes (conductor), 5; J. Ollerenshaw, 6.

## THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

WIMBLEDON (Surrey).—On Tuesday, December 1st, at the parish church, a 720 of Cambridge Surprise Minor, in 26 mins. G. Byde, 1; R. Moss, 2; C. Byde, 3; J. Parker, 4; E. F. Strange, 5; S. Frost (conductor), 6. This is the first 720 in the method by the Association, the first by all the above, and the first on the bells. Tenor 10 cwt.

## THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

BRIGHTON.—On Sunday, November 15th, at St. Peter's church, by the Brighton branch, for afternoon service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 46½ mins. E. Marshall, 1; J. Jay, 2; C. E. Golds, 3; H. Weston, 4; G. King, 5; G. F. Attree, 6; J. Searle (conductor), 7; W. F. Vernon, 8. And on Monday, November 16th, at the same church, for practice, a 504 of Grandsire Triples, in 17 mins. F. Marshall, 1; W. Palmer, 2; J. Searle, 4; H. Boniface, 4; G. King, 5; J. Jay, 6; H. Weston (conductor), 7; W. F. Vernon, 8.

LEWES.—Muffled Peal.—On Tuesday, November 17th, at the parish church of Southover, by the Brighton branch, as a mark of respect to the memory of the late Mr. Alderman Thorne, the first mayor of the Borough, whose term of office expired only on November 9th, with the bells half-muffled, an attempt was made to ring Holt's 10-part peal of Grandsire Triples, which failed after ringing 55 mins. A 1036 was then rung in the same method, in 38 mins. W. Palmer, 1; G. F. Attree (conductor), 2; J. Jay, 3; H. Boniface, 4; G. King, 5; H. Weston, 6; J. Searle, 7; W. F. Vernon, 8.

ABINGDON (Berks).—Haudbell Ringing.—On Monday evening, November 16th, at St. Nicholas Church, a 720 of Grandsire Minor (thirty-four bobs and two singles), in 25 mins. \*H. Bright, 1; J. Jiner, 2; T. Short, 3; H. Fruin, 4; H. Sheard (conductor), 5; W. Sandell, 6. \*First 720.

ANSTON, ROTHERHAM (Yorks). On Sunday, November 22nd, for Divine Service in the afternoon, the local company rang 2880 changes, in the following methods; 720 of Violet Treble Bob Minor, 730 Duke of York, 720 Kent, and 720 of Oxford. G. Lidster, 1; R. S. Fox, 2; J. Bland, 3; C. F. Fowler, 4; S. Smith, 5; T. Silvester (conductor), 6. Tenor 12 cwt. This touch was rang for the last service in church before the restoration, which is to be started with at once at a cost of £1500.

BENGEO (Herts).—On Friday, November 27, at Holy Trinity Church, a 720 of Plain Bob Minor, in 27 mins. T. Barker, 1; J. Pomfret, 2; H. J. Tucker (conductor), 3; J. Channer, 4; W. Odell, 5; H. Phillips, 6. The above was rung to commemorate the birthday of J. Channer; his brother-ringers wish him many happy returns of the day. And on Sunday, November 29th, a 720 of Plain Bob Minor. T. Barker, 1; W. A. Tyler, 2; W. Bennett, 3; J. Pomfret, 4; J. Channer, 5; H. Phillips (conductor), 6.

BRAMFORD (Suffolk).—On Sunday, November 22nd, after morning service, two 720's of Plain Bob Minor. First: C. Ablitt, 1; J. Scowen, 2; G. C. Scowen, 3; A. R. Aldham, 4; W. Smith (conductor), 5; F. Tillett, 6. Second: C. Ablitt, 1; G. C. Scowen, 2; J. Scowen, 3; W. Smith, 4; C. Smith, 5; A. R. Aldham (conductor), 6. And after afternoon service, a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob Minor. W. Smith, 1; \*J. Scowen, 2; \*G. C. Scowen, 3; F. Tillett, 4; C. Mee, 5; A. R. Aldham (conductor), 6. Tenor 16 cwt. in G. \*First 720 in the method. G. C. and J. Scowen hail from Hadleigh; W. Smith and C. Ablitt from Higham; C. Mee, F. Tillett, A. R. Aldham from St. Mary-le-Tower Society, Ipswich.

BRIGHTON (Sussex).—On Sunday evening, November 15th, for Divine Service at St. Paul's church, the local company rang a 168 of Grandsire Triples. Herbert Eves, 1; W. Alfry, 2; J. Salmon, 3; G. Biggerstaff, 4; R. Hill, 5; —. Riley, 6; A. Bennett (conductor), 7; J. Markett, 8. This is the first 168 by the above band, which was rung at the first attempt with the bells open, and it is very creditable to themselves and their instructor. It is also the first 168 on the bells by this band.

BRISTOL.—Muffled Peal.—On Sunday, November 8th, at Christ Church, 719 of Grandsire Caters. G. Stadon, 1; E. Duckham, 2; J. York, 3; W. W. Gifford (Salisbury), 4; A. York, 5; H. Porch, 6; W. Parsons, 7; E. Beake, 8; J. Hinton (conductor), 9; R. Watkins, 10. The above was rung with the bells muffled as a mark of respect to the late W. Stadon, of Bristol.

DEDHAM (Essex).—On Tuesday, November 11th, a 720 of Bob Minor (nine bobs and six singles). C. Ablitt, 1; W. Smith, 2; J. Levitt, 3; J. Taylor, 4; W. J. Nevard, 5; J. W. Smith (conductor), 6. And on handbells, 336 of Bob Major. J. Taylor, 1; J. Levitt, 2; W. Nevard, 3-4; W. Smith, 5-6; J. W. Smith, 7-8. And several touches of Treble Bob Minor, W. Smith, 1-2; W. J. Nevard, 3-4; J. W. Smith, 5-6.

DENFORD (Northants).—On Wednesday, November 11th, for practice at Holy Trinity Church, 720 of College Little, with eighteen bobs and two singles, and 360 of Bob Minor, with nine bobs. Also on Thursday, November 12th, 720 each of Bob Minor and College Little, each with eighteen bobs and two singles, and two 360's of London Single, and 360 of Oxford Bob, each with nine bobs, and 360 of Bob Minor, with twelve singles. F. Starmore, 1; J. Groom, 2; A. Arnold, 3; H. Groom, 4; F. Arnold, 5; A. Groom (conductor), 6.

DUFFIELD (Derbyshire).—On Sunday, November 15th, for evening service, 1280 Treble Bob Major. And on Sunday, November 22nd, a 1344 in the same method. And for the morning services on the above days several short touches of Stedman Triples. G. Dawson, 1; S. Johnson, 2; J. Howe, 3; A. Robinson, 4; J. Hingley, 5; W. Hickling, 9; R. Johnson, 7; A. Percival Heywood (conductor), 8.

EXETER.—On Sunday, November 22nd, at St. Sidwell's Church, 1050 of Grandsire Triples, taken from Hollis's five-part peal. T. Townsend, 1; E. Shepherd (conductor), 2; E. Pitts, 3; W. Richardson, 4; A. Shepherd, 5; J. Moss, 6; F. Shepherd, 7; W. Mundy, 8.

FULHAM (Middlesex).—On Sunday evening, November 22nd, for Divine Service at All Saints' church, the local society, with the assistance of Mr. C. F. Winny, rang a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 44 mins. F. Kelley, 1; J. Green, 2; B. Battram, 3; W. Weare, 4; J. W. Kelley (conductor), 5; J. W. Driver, 6; C. F. Winny, 7; W. How, 8. Also on Thursday evening, November 26th, for practice, the local company rang 1008 of Grandsire Triples. W. Bidwell, 1; J. Green, 2; B. E. Battram, 3; W. Weare, 4; J. Kelly, 5; W. J. Driver, 6; C. F. Winny, 7; S. How, 8. Tenor 21 cwt. in E.

GARSTON (Lancashire).—On Monday, November 30th, at St. Michael's church, a 600 of Grandsire Triples. Samuel Gough, 1; Frank Turner, 2; John Allen, 3; Charles Newton, 4; James Alexander, 5; William Davies, 6; W. Hughes (conductor), 7; William Woods, 8. Tenor 12½ cwt. W. Davies hails from Liverpool; W. Woods from Hale.

GLEMSFORD (Suffolk).—On Sunday, November 22nd, after Divine Service in the afternoon at the parish church, a 720 of Bob Minor (eighteen bobs and two singles), in 30 mins. S. Slater (conductor), 1; O. Garwood, 2; W. Grigley, 3; H. Smith, 4; A. Symonds, 5; Jno. Lee, 6. And a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob Minor (nine bobs), in 30 mins. S. Slater (conductor), 1; C. Adams, 2; \*A. Symonds, 3; O. Garwood, 4; W. Gridley, 5; Jno. Lee, 6. \*First 720 in the method. Messrs. Gridley and Lee hail from Foxearth, Essex; Symonds and Smith from Lavenham, Suffolk; the rest are local men.

GRAVESEND (Kent).—On Monday, November 9th, at St. George's Church, 1260 of Grandsire Triples in 44 mins. G. Hayes, 1; F.

French, 2; H. D. Davies, 3; W. Martin, 4; F. Hayes, 5; J. W. Aitkin, 6; W. Harper (conductor), 7; B. Spinner, 8. Also on Saturday, November 21st, 720 of Bob Minor with 6,8 behind. — Royston, 1; B. Spinner, 2; W. Baker, 3; H. C. Davies, 4; E. Andrew (R.E. Band), 5; G. Martin, 6; J. W. Aitkin (conductor), 7; W. Louth, 8. And a 504 of Grandsire Triples. — Royston, 1; W. Harper (conductor), 2; B. Spinner, 3; W. Baker, 4; H. D. Davies, 5; E. Andrew, 6; J. Aitkin, 7; G. Martin, 8. W. Baker hails from Rochester, and G. Martin from Swanscombe. All the above except Royston and Martin are members of the Kent County Association.

**HAVERSTOCK HILL (Middlesex).**—On Sunday morning, November 22nd, at St. Martin's church, for Divine Service, a 720 of Plain Bob Minor, in 23 mins. J. Hannington (conductor), 1; G. Thurlow, 2; T. Gleed, 3; G. Griffin, 4; T. Titchener, 5; J. Nixon, 6. Also for Divine Service in the evening, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor, in 24 mins. T. Titchener, 1; G. Griffin, 2; G. Harvey, 3; J. Leach, 4; J. Nixon, 5; J. Hannington (conductor), 6. And on Sunday, November 29th, for Divine Service in the evening, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor, in 25 mins. J. Hannington (conductor), 1; T. Gleed, 2; J. Nixon, 3; J. Leach, 4; T. Titchener, 5; G. Griffin, 6. Tenor 12½ cwt.

**HIGHAM (Suffolk).**—*Handbell Ringing.*—On Monday evening, November 23rd, a 720 of Bob Minor. J. Levitt, 1-2; J. W. Smith, 3-4; W. Smith (conductor), 5-6. This is the first 720 double-handed by all the above.

**HIGHAM FERRERS (Northants).**—On Monday, November 16th, for practice, a 360 of Oxford Bob. S. Parker, 1; J. Nutt, 2; A. Martin, 3; R. Dunkley, 4; W. Parker, 5; W. Hall (conductor), 6. Also a 360 of London Single. S. Parker, 1; W. Hall, 2; T. Parker, 3; R. Dunkley, 4; A. Martin, 5; W. Parker (conductor), 6. And a 360 of College Little. S. Parker, 1; J. Nutt, 2; R. Dunkley, 3; G. Thompson, 4; A. Martin, 5; W. Hall (conductor), 6. W. Hall hails from Raunds; R. Dunkley from Bythorn.

**KINGSWINFORD (Staffordshire).**—On Sunday, November 15th, at St. Mary's church, by the kind permission of the Rev. C. F. Collom, a mixed company rang a 720 of Grandsire Minor. W. Lawrence, (Wordsley), 1; W. Jones (Kingswinford; first 720), 2; Geo. Howell (Wollaston; conductor), 3; W. Johnson (Darlaston), 4; R. Schofield (Sedgeley), 5; E. S. Chapman (Wordsley), 6. Afterwards five of the local company, with W. Johnson, rang 120 of Stedman's Principle. Rev. C. F. Collom, 1; W. Jones, 2; T. Hillman, 3; J. Hillman, 4; W. Johnson, 5; E. Bourne, 6. Several touches of Plain Bob Minor were also rung.

**LEISTON (Suffolk).**—On Saturday, November 21st, for practice, a 720 of Bob Major by the local company. \*J. Flegg, 1; \*F. Cooper, 2; T. E. Shearing, 3; C. Smith, 4; W. Button, 5; \*R. Stannard, 6; G. Baxter (conductor), 7; J. Button, 8. Tenor 20½ cwt. And on handbells, retained in hand, the company rang their first course of Oxford Treble Bob Major. And on Friday, on handbells retained in hand, three members of the company met to instruct two probationers, and rang 1056 Bob Minor in different touches with them. T. Staulkey, 1-2; C. Shearing, 3; A. Rodwell, 4; G. Baxter (conductor), 5-6. Also on Wednesday, November 18th, on handbells retained in hand, a 360 and three 180s of Bob Minor, a course of Grandsire Minor, 120 each of Grandsire, Plain and Old Doubles. T. Staulkey, 1-2; T. E. Shearing (conductor), 3-4; G. Baxter, 5-6. \*First 720 in the method.

**LINCOLN.**—On Tuesday evening, December 1st, at St. Peter's-at-Gowts, a 720 of Bob Minor (eighteen bobs and two singles), in 26 mins. T. Walker (first 720), 1; F. Cotton (first 720 with a bob bell), 2; H. Palmer (first 720 with a bob bell), 3; J. Cox, 4; P. Herrick, 5; W. Knowles (conductor), 6. Tenor 9 cwt.

**MILTON NEXT GRAVESEND (Kent).**—On Monday, November 9th, at the church of SS. Peter and Paul, a 720 of Bob Minor in 25 mins. F. French, 1; W. Martin, 2; B. Spinner, 3; G. Hayes, 4; G. Martin, 5; W. Harper (conductor), 6. And a 720 of Bob Minor in 25 mins. F. French, 1; W. Martin, 2; B. Spinner, 3; G. Hayes, 4; G. Martin, 5; W. Harper (conductor), 6.

**OXFORD.**—On Tuesday, November 10th, at St. Thomas-ye-Martyr, a 360 of Cambridge Surprise Minor. O. Thomas, 1; W. Wood, 2; F. A. Castle, 3; H. J. Castle, 4; W. C. Baston, 5; J. W. Washbrook (conductor), 6. And on Thursday, November 12th, 720 Double Court Bob Minor. F. Kirby, 1; W. Wood, 2; F. Castle, 3; Job Howes, 4; W. Baston, 5; J. W. Washbrook (conductor), 6. Also 120 Cambridge Surprise. Job Howes, 1; W. Wood, 2; F. Castle, 3; H. Castle, 4; W. Baston, 5; J. W. Washbrook (conductor), 6. And on Friday, November 20th, a muffled peal consisting of various touches of Cambridge and Double Court was rang. And on Sunday, November 22nd, for Divine Service in the morning, 720 Cambridge Surprise Minor, and 240 of Stedman's Slow Course, being the first 720 of Cambridge rung in

Oxford, and the first by the Guild. Job Howes, 1; W. Wood, 2; F. A. Castle, 3; H. J. Castle, 4; W. C. Baston, 5; J. W. Washbrook (conductor), 6. Also at St. Thomas-ye-Martyr club room, on handbells, retained in hand, on Friday evening, November 27th, 1008 of Stedman Triples. J. W. Washbrook (conductor), 1-2; H. J. Castle, 3-4; W. Baston, 5-6; W. Wood, 7-8.

**RAUNDS (Northamptonshire).**—On Saturday, November 14th, at St. Peter's church, for practice, a 720 of Bob Minor (eighteen bobs and two singles). \*A. Bush, 1; F. Gilbert, 2; \*R. Dunkley, 3; G. Kirk, 4; W. Hall, 5; H. Stubbs (conductor), 6. And two 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles. H. Stubbs, 1; R. Dunkley, 2; A. Bush, 3; B. W. Allen, 4; F. Gilbert (conductor), 5; S. Bailey, 6. And two 6-scores of Bob Doubles. A. Coles, 1; A. Bush (first 120's in the method), 2; R. Pendered, 3; W. Hall (conductor), 4; R. Dunkley, 5; F. Slede, 6. \*First 720. A. Bush hails from Northampton, and R. Dunkley from Bythorn, Hants.

**RINGSTEAD (Northamptonshire).**—On Saturday, November 14th, at St. Mary's church, a 720 of Oxford Bob (eighteen bobs and two singles). F. Chapman (first 720; aged 14), 1; W. J. Gilbert, 2; R. Shipley, 3; E. Mayes, 4; J. Stubbs, 5; T. Roberts (conductor), 6. And a 720 of College Single (eighteen bobs and two singles). E. Mayes, 1; W. J. Gilbert, 2; R. Shipley, 3; J. Sawford, 4; J. Braybrook, 5; J. Stubbs (conductor), 6.

**SLINFOLD (Sussex).**—On Tuesday evening, November 10th, a mixed band met at the Parish Church and rung a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob. \*F. Rice, 1; †W. Lanaway, 2; T. Andrews, 3; H. Wood, 4; J. Cooper, 5; H. Chantler (conductor), 6. Also three 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles. J. Garton, 1; J. Cooper, 2; F. Rice, 3; W. Lanaway, 4; H. Burstow (conductor), 5; T. Reed, 6. \*First 720 in the method; †first 720 with a bob bell. Messrs. Lanaway, Cooper and Garton, hail from Slinfold; Andrews, Wood, and Chantler, from Warnham; Rice from Worth; and Burstow from Horsham.

**STRATFORD (Suffolk).**—On Wednesday evening, November 18th, 720 of Bob Minor. G. Winny, 1; J. Levitt, 2; W. Ransom, 3; W. Smith, 4; J. W. Smith (conductor), 5; C. yblitt, 6.

**SPALDING (Lincolnshire).**—On Tuesday, November 10th, at the church of SS. Mary and Nicholas, six 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles. On Wednesday, November 11th, four 168's of Grandsire Triples. On November 15th, for afternoon service, three 120's of Grandsire Doubles. And for Divine Service in the evening, 360 of Plain Bob. 7th and eighth behind. After Service, five 168's of Grandsire Triples. The following took part in the ringing: The Hon. M. E. G. Finch-Hatton, J. S. Wright, G. L. Richardson, J. Brown, J. W. Jarvis, C. Neverson, G. Skeef, R. Skeef, J. Prudence, R. Jarvis.

**SUDBURY (Suffolk).**—On Saturday, November 28th, at St. Gregory's church, an attempt was made to ring a peal of Kent Treble Bob Major, 5088 changes, composed by John Thorp, but after ringing about 4800 changes, in 3 hrs., 5 mins., the bells got into hopeless confusion, and stand was called. J. Campin, 1; W. Griggs, 2; G. Brown, 3; W. Bacon, 4; C. Sillitoe (conductor), 5; A. Scott, 6; W. Howell, 7; H. Harper, 8. Tenor 16 cwt. in F.

**TOTTENHAM (Middlesex).**—On Sunday, November 22nd, for Divine Service in the evening, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 46 mins. Joseph Davidson, 1; Joseph Waghorn, jun., 2; Joseph Waghorn, 3; James Langran, 4; John Crane (Kidderminster), 5; W. Pye-English, 6; Henry Barnett (conductor), 7; Charles Davidson, 8. Tenor 20 cwt.

**WILLENHALL (Staffordshire).**—On Sunday, November 22nd, 2520 of Grandsire Triples, in 1 hr. 39 mins., with the bells muffled, as a mark of respect to the late William Pugh, of Stourbridge, who died in his fifty-fifth year. C. Trubshaw, 1; W. Lawrance, 2; S. Dace, 3; G. Howells, 4; H. Dakin, 5; W. Johnson (conductor), 6; E. S. Chapman, 7; J. Adams, 8. Messrs. Trubshaw, Dace, and Adams, hail from Willenhall, Lawrance and Chapman from Wordsley, Howells and Dakin from Wollaston, and W. Johnson, from Darlaston.

**WIMBLEDON (Surrey).**—On Sunday morning, November 8th, for Divine Service at St. Mary's church, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor, in 26 mins. G. Byde, 1; R. Moss, 2; C. Byde, 3; J. Parker, 4; A. Garratt, 5; S. Frost (conductor), 6. And on Sunday morning, November 16th, for Divine Service, a 360 of Cambridge Surprise, standing as before. And on Tuesday, November 17th, for practice, a 720 of Bob Minor, in 27 mins. A. Nicholson, 5; the rest as before.

**WOLVERLEY (Worcestershire).**—On Tuesday, November 24th, at the parish church, for practice, the local company rang six 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles in 28 mins., each called differently. Frederick Geens, 1; Thomas Salter, 2; Harry Williams (conductor), 3; Thomas Pitt, 4; Frederick Lee, 5; Henry Smith, 6. Tenor 12½ cwt.

\*. Several touches, reports, etc., are unavoidably left over till our next issue.

## Correspondence.

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

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

THE LATE MR. SNOWDON.

SIR,—On behalf of the officers and members of "The Yorkshire Association," may I tender our sincere thanks for the many expressions of deep sympathy which have been shewn to us in the great loss which we have sustained. The death of our beloved President has dealt us all a heavy blow, following as it has done so closely on the happy and successful 10th Annual Meeting of the Society, held at Sheffield on October 3rd, when he appeared to be in the height of manly vigour. His short illness and sudden death are deeply crushing, especially to us who have been so closely connected with him in his work. We shall sorely miss one who during the ten years our society has been in existence, has steered it so successfully, and so much to the satisfaction of its more than 400 members. Mr. Snowdon's great kindness of manner had a wonderful effect on all those with whom he came in contact, he always made the poorest and most illiterate—if they had only the taste and love for ringing—to be thoroughly at ease when in his company. His forgetfulness of self in furthering the interests of the ringing exercise was marvellous, no stone was left unturned from which information could be gathered, or which might in the slightest degree benefit or interest his fellow-ringers. It was my good fortune to have the pleasure of ringing with Mr. Snowdon for many years previous to the formation of "The Yorkshire Association," and since then I have been closely associated with him as Secretary during the last three years of which—my health having failed—he found time—in spite of his busy life—to render me most substantial assistance rather than accept my resignation, which I had felt obliged to send in. Time will not permit me, neither can I find words to express, with full justice, the character of him whom we all so deeply mourn, but may we not all try to carry out in our daily lives the many virtues—the manly straightforwardness—with which he was adorned, and endeavour to realize more and more that "he being dead yet speaketh?"

W. WHITAKER, *Hon. Sec.*

## MEMORIAL TO THE LATE MR. SNOWDON.

SIR,—It was pleasing to read the Rev. H. Earle Bulwer's tribute to the worth of our lamented chief in last Saturday's "BELL NEWS." It is particularly pleasing to us Yorkshiremen to see that the abilities, the unflagging perseverance, and the many good qualities of our late leader and brother are recognised and acknowledged throughout the country in such a heartfelt manner as is expressed by Mr. Bulwer. My immediate object, however, in writing to you, is with reference to his remarks about "the raising up of some fitting memorial of one whom we can see and hear no more." As to this object, there can be but one opinion. It would be a lasting disgrace to the Exercise if some fitting and permanent memorial were not raised to perpetuate the memory of Mr. Snowdon. Being so thoroughly in unison with Mr. Bulwer on this point, I feel compelled—though very reluctant—to join issue with him as to the form in which he proposes the memorial to take. And my reason for this is simple. A proposal for the establishment of a fund something similar to the one Mr. Bulwer suggests was made at a meeting of the Yorkshire Association about four years ago. This was strongly opposed by Mr. Snowdon on several grounds. One reason of his opposition was that ringers should confine themselves strictly to the work of ringing, both socially and scientifically; and another was the fact that most of our brothers were members of properly-constituted friendly societies established for that object, and he always maintained that by establishing any such fund, we should be going outside our own limits, and stepping on the ground of societies formed for that special purpose. Whatever may be the merits of Mr. Bulwer's suggestion—whatever may be advanced in its favour—the mere fact that our late chief was opposed to such a scheme impels me to speak against it. I trust Mr. Bulwer will not think for one moment that I would raise the shadow of a shade of opposition to a memorial of some kind to Mr. Snowdon. My simple objection to his proposal is the fact that Mr. Snowdon himself was opposed to it, and it would appear to me somewhat inconsistent in raising a testimonial to our late chief in a shape which would be strongly objected to by him if alive.

*En passant*, I also would make a suggestion, which I submit to the Exercise, namely, that a marble tablet should be placed in Ilkley church, recording Mr. Snowdon's worth, and the estimation in which he was held by his brethren. This suggestion I make without comment.

There is another matter, Mr. Editor, on which I feel constrained to write. We all of us know—no one, probably, better than yourself—

the great interest Mr. Snowdon took in the welfare of "THE BELL NEWS" from its commencement. We have looked week after week for the productions of his pen, as they have appeared in its pages. Those of us who had the pleasure of his more intimate acquaintance, know well how anxious he ever was for the success of the paper, and how that his great desire was to see it really and thoroughly the organ of the Exercise. I therefore beg to suggest to our brethren, as one memorial to Mr. Snowdon, that we—all of us—should make a special effort to spread and increase the circulation of "THE BELL NEWS" in every ringing company. I consider, sir—with all due deference to yourself—that "THE BELL NEWS" is in itself a great memorial to Mr. Snowdon, and I feel sure that by getting our paper well circulated we shall not only be benefitting the work of ringing, but we shall also be perpetuating one of the many good works which Mr. Snowdon laboured to promote. Mr. Bulwer says truly "a double share of sadness at his loss must needs be the lot of those who knew him well; but even with those, who, like myself, had corresponded with him, but never grasped his hand, the sense of sorrow and regret at his decease is extreme." We who have had the great pleasure to "know him well" and often to grasp his hand do indeed feel his loss; it is impossible quite to feel the full extent of our bereavement; and I trust Mr. Bulwer will not think my opposition to his suggestion comes from any objection to it in principle, but that I, in common with all of us who "knew him well," earnestly desire to continue the work as we know he would have us to do. I sincerely trust that no time will be lost in raising some memorial to Mr. Snowdon, which will shew to future generations that great and good work he accomplished in connection with our craft, and the esteem in which he was held by his brethren.

Bradford, Yorkshire.

B. T. COPLEY.

## THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION.

SIR,—It would appear that the feeling of the Exercise on the subject of the proposed National Association has been slightly exaggerated by those who have addressed you on the subject. It is only necessary to state that the number of names sent us in reply to our letter in your issue of the 14th, amounts to the astonishing total of fifteen to shew that the Exercise does not feel that a National Association is so greatly needed as some of your correspondents would make out. It is needless to add that we think that after such a response to our appeal the scheme may be allowed to die a natural death, at least for the present.

F. E. ROBINSON.

R. B. KNATCHBULL-HUGESSEN.

J. E. ACLAND-TROYTE. GERVAS HOLMES.

DOLBEN PAUL.

CYRIL C. CHILD.

## BEDDINGTON BELLS, SURREY.

SIR,—In the "Church Bells of Surrey," by Mr. J. C. L. Stahlschmidt, published last year, under the heading "Beddington" I find this note "A peal of ten bells by Mears, stated to be dated 1868.—Access to belfry refused." The inscriptions are not given consequently. How was this? Who refused admission? Was it the Vicar, the churchwardens, the steeplekeeper, or who? Why should admission have been refused here and nowhere else? I have by me nearly all the county bell histories that have ever been published, but have never seen such a note before.

J. R. JERRAM.

## GRATITUDE.

SIR,—Some time ago there appeared in "THE BELL NEWS" an appeal to the benevolent in my behalf. That appeal has been very liberally responded to both by members of the College Youths and the Royal Cumberlands, and many other ringing friends in the country not belonging to either of these Societies, and for which I now beg to return to all of them my sincere and heartfelt thanks. I feel that I owe a deep debt of gratitude to my ringing friends for their kind sympathy in my misfortune, the more so because it is unusual for an appeal to be made for such a purpose in these columns, and if the humble services that I have been able to render to the Exercise have produced so much kindness, all I can say is that I am very thankful for such an appreciation, and I trust to be able, at no very distant date, to meet my brother-strings again, as I am glad to say that I am so far recovered as to be able to resume my employment.

SAMUEL HAYES.

## STOKE-UPON-TRENT ARCHIDIACONAL ASSOCIATION.

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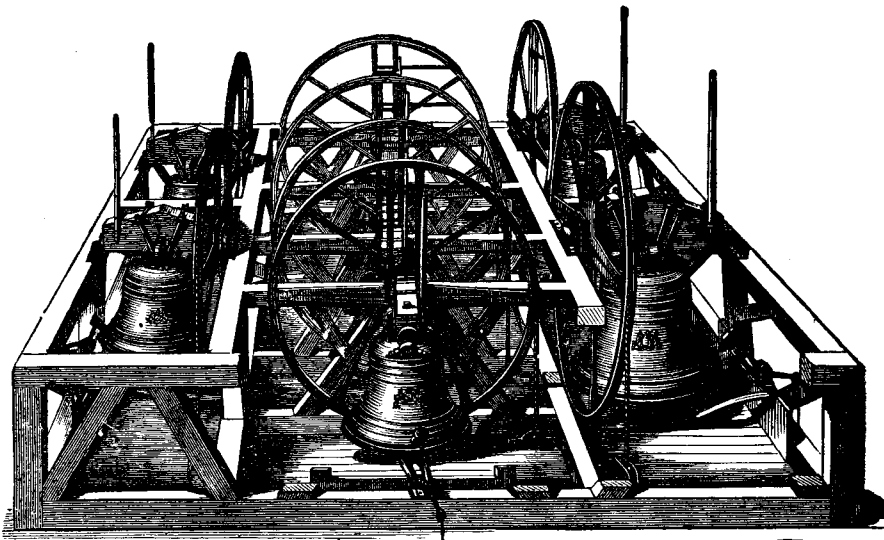
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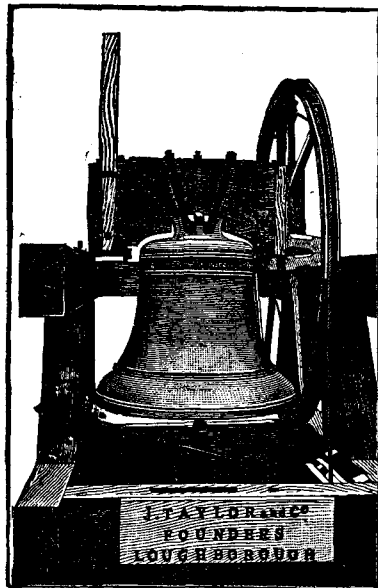
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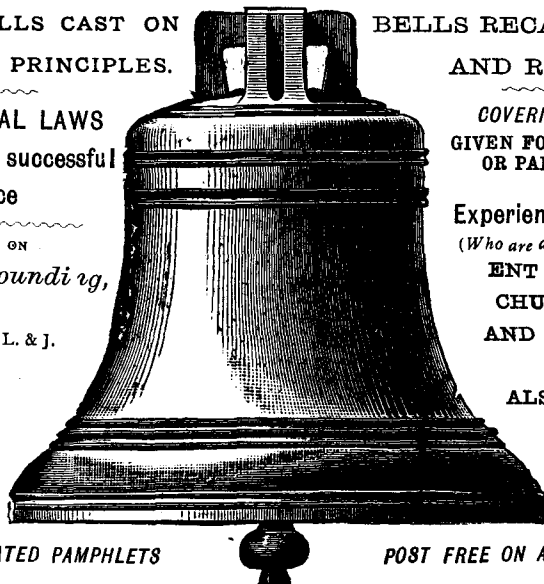
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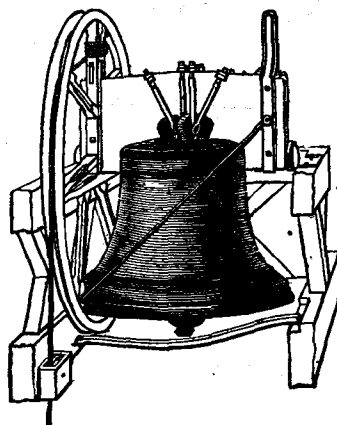
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## FOUR DAYS HOLIDAY, AND HOW WE SPENT IT.

On Saturday, Oct. 31st, we, A. Porter and A. Pye, of Little Heath, Essex, started on a visit to Long Melford, where it was arranged with S. Slater to start for a peal of Bob Major. Arriving at Sudbury at 10 a.m., we were met by Mr. C. Sillitoe, of the Sudbury company, and Mr. G. Hammond, of the Long Melford company, and conducted to the towers in the town, viz., St. Peter's, St. Gregory's, and All Saints', each tower containing a peal of eight. In the vestry of St. Gregory's in a hole in the wall is the skeleton of a man's head, with the following inscription on the door of the aperture. "The head of Simon Theobald: who was born in Sudbury, and thence called 'Simon of Sudbury.' He was sent when but a youth into foreign parts to study the civil law, whereof he was made doctor. He visited most of the universities of France, and was made chaplain to Pope Innocent, and Auditor or Roto or Judge of the Roman Court. By the interest of the 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, 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., and was at length barbarously beheaded at Tower Hill in London, by that rabble in Wat Tyler's rebellion in the reign of Richard the Second, 1382." From there we started off to Long Melford, and after refreshing the inner man, we went up into the belfry to get ready for the peal, when the churchwardens came up and informed us that the bells were not to be rung that evening. So the evening was spent in handbell ringing at the company's meeting-house, and touches in the following methods were rung: Bob Major, Grandsire and Bob Triples, Double Norwich Court Bob Major, by the following. Messrs. G. Hammond, J. Bird, P. C. S. Scott, S. Slater, F. Wells, O. Garwood, A. Porter, A. Pye. On the next morning, permission having been given on the Saturday, we started for a peal of Bob Major, 5040 changes, but after ringing 1 hr. 20 mins., it came to grief, particulars of which appeared in the usual column. In the afternoon we started for Belchamp Walter, stopping on the way at Foxearth to have a pull there, but we arrived too late, as it was time for service. We then proceeded on our way to Belchamp, and were joined by Mr. Nelson Hawkins. A start was soon made for a peal of 5040 Bob Major, which was finely brought round in 2 hrs. 58 mins. Descending the tower we were soon *en route* for Long Melford. On Monday morning we went to Glemsford, and rang a touch of Oxford Treble Bob Minor. This finished our visit to that locality, but before going on with my subject, I should like to call the attention of my brother ringers to the kindness and liberality which we received at the hands of the Long Melford company, not because I had the slightest hint from them, but because I feel it is my duty to remove the slur that was cast upon them in "THE BELL NEWS" of a few weeks back, and which was stated in the editorial comment, that Long Melford did not seem a very promising place for any one intending to pay a visit. I will just give a short sketch of how they treated us, both of us being complete strangers to all of them. On the Saturday night, S. Slater, F. Wells, and O. Garwood, walked three miles in the pouring rain to stand in the peal at Melford, but not able to ring, they arranged to be at Melford tower at six o'clock next morning, which promise they fulfilled, showing everything of interest to us. On the Monday morning, they stayed away from work, so that we should have a pull at their tower, and I am quite sure that if any ringer or ringers wish to pay Melford a visit, they will find a set of men who will do all in their power to make their visit a successful one. After ringing at Glemsford, we started for Saffron Walden, where it was arranged to ring Mr. N. J. Pitstow's peal of 5056 Kent Treble Bob Major. We arrived at 3 p.m., and having a touch on the handbells, we ascended the tower, and about 6.30, a start was made, and the peal rung in 3 hrs. 11 mins. Stopping there that night, we had a parting touch next morning on the handbells. We then started for Waltham Abbey, where Mr. Alps had kindly got a band. A start was there made for a peal of Stedman Triples, particulars of which appeared in the usual column. After which a 504 of Stedman Triples was rung on the handbells. T. Powell, 1-2; W. A. Alps (conductor), 3-4; D. Tarling, 5-6; H. Baker, 7-8. This finished our ringing, and we wish through the medium of "THE BELL NEWS," to thank all the ringers for meeting us, and the clergy for giving us permission to ring. We, after having made a good many new friends, which we hope to meet again some day, started for home, and arrived there about twelve o'clock on the Tuesday night, after having thoroughly enjoyed our holiday.

## STOKE-UPON-TRENT ARCHIDIACONAL ASSOCIATION.

A COMMITTEE MEETING will be held in the Church room, Stoke, on Saturday, December 19th, at 3 o'clock.

E. D. POLLOCK, } Hon. Secs.  
E. GLOVER, }

## THE ST. MARGARET'S SOCIETY, WESTMINSTER.

The first Annual Dinner of this society took place on Friday, the 4th instant, at "The Black Horse," York Street, Westminster, when about twenty-two members and friends sat down to a first-class spread, provided by Mr. Harris. Among the visitors was Mr. W. Baron, Master of the Waterloo Society; while Mr. M. G. Luck, late Captain of the St. Mary Abbot (Kensington) Society, who was expected to attend, owing to press of business and indisposition, was unfortunately obliged to deprive the assembly of the pleasure of his company. The evening was a complete success in every way, and the Committee congratulate themselves upon so gratifying a conclusion to an extraordinarily successful session.

After due justice had been rendered to the viands, the long programme of toasts and music was commenced, the first toast, of course, being "The Queen and Royal Family," proposed by the chairman, Mr. J. J. Scowen, and loyally honoured. In proposing the next toast, "The Health of the Rector, Clergy, and Churchwardens of St. Margaret's," Mr. S. Smith, the vice-chairman, spoke warmly in praise of each individual, and wished the Rector, Dr. Farrar, a safe journey home from America. "The St. Margaret's Society" followed; to which, and the various other toasts which came after, suitable replies were given.

The Chairman said he was glad to have an opportunity of publicly thanking Mr. Baron for all his efforts on his behalf in connection with half-pull ringing, it being mainly due to that distinguished ringer that he had been successful in ringing two peals in the Grandsire method.

In responding, Mr. Baron gave some of his early experiences while learning the art, and urged upon the members the necessity of "sticking to it," at the same time expressing his desire to assist them as much as possible.

The toasts were interspersed with songs, handbell ringing, and music, several lady friends volunteering their kind and effective assistance; and the members look forward with pleasurable anticipation to the next occasion when these ladies will grace the society's social gathering with their presence.

The opportunity was seized for the presentation to Mr. S. Smith, by six of the junior members of the society, of a testimonial, in recognition of his exertions on their behalf; and the proceedings closed with "Auld Lang Syne" and "God Save the Queen," accompanied by the handbells.

## A VISIT TO LONDON BY J. WOODS, KENNINGHALL.

Leaving Kenninghall on Monday, November 2nd, by the 4.30 a.m. train, I arrived at Liverpool Street Station, when after refreshing the inner man, I called upon my old and esteemed friend Mr. George Newson, who kindly made arrangements to start for a peal at St. Ann's church, Highgate, on Tuesday evening. This peal (particulars of which have appeared in "THE BELL NEWS," was successfully brought round in three hours and six minutes. On Wednesday I was invited to Christ Church, Southgate, to attempt a peal of Grandsire Triples (Holt's Original), but after ringing 1400 changes a shift-course occurred and the conductor called stand. S. Clark, 1; G. Hammond (Long Melford), 2; D. W. Griggs, 3; C. W. Porter, 4; T. Titchener, 5; J. Woods, 6; G. Newson, 7; W. Arscott, 8. On Friday I attended the Headquarters of the Royal Cumberlands, but did not ring as someone lay dead near the church. On Saturday I was invited to take part in an attempt at Stedman Triples, at Lambeth, but unfortunately did not get back in time from the Inventions Exhibition to take part in it. On Sunday morning I met at St. Stephen's, Hampstead, and rang a 504 of Grandsire Caters with the local band, and was afterwards invited to the house of Mr. Chapman, where, with the assistance of my daughter, Miss Katie Woods, Messrs. Newson, Chapman, and Comb, we rang upon the handbells several touches of Bob Minor and Grandsire Triples. On Monday, November 9th, after seeing the Lord Mayor's Show, I met at the Chapel-of-Ease, Holloway, for a peal of Treble Bob Major, but after ringing several courses this had to be abandoned, on account of one of the ringers being unwell. This drew my visit to a close, and I take this opportunity of tendering my sincere thanks to Mr. Geo. Newson and several other friends, who took great trouble to make this, my visit to London, a successful one.

## THE SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.

## In Respected Memory.

On Friday, December 4th, the bells of St. Martins-in-the-Fields, were rung for practice half-muffled, the usual whole pull and stand being performed with due solemnity, as a mark of great and deep respect to the memory of the late master of ringing, Mr. Jasper W. Snowdon. The deceased was not a member of this society, but was as highly respected and esteemed. Should his name momentarily vanish from memory, it is only to get a refreshing reminder from a beautiful picture by his hand, which adorns the walls of the society's meeting-room.

[The peals and touches following were all rung with the bells muffled as tributes of respect and affection in which the late Mr. Sneddon was held by the performers.]

### The Provinces.

#### STAVELEY, DERBYSHIRE.

##### THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, December 5, 1885, in Three Hours and Ten Minutes,

#### A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S 10-PART. Tenor 18 cwt.

JOHN HARRIS .. .. Treble.	HERBERT MADIN .. .. 5.
HENRY MOTTERSHALL .. 2.	WALTER WORTHINGTON .. 6.
ARTHUR KNIGHTS .. .. 3.	JAMES HUNT .. .. 7.
CHAS. HY. HATTERSLEY .. 4.	SAMUEL PALMER .. .. Tenor.

Conducted by CHARLES HENRY HATTERSLEY.

#### ECCLES.—THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, December 7, 1885, in Three Hours and Six Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

#### A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 13½ cwt.

THOMAS G. DOWNS .. .. Treble.	EDWARD CASH .. .. 5.
JOHN E. POLLITT* .. .. 2.	RICHARD ASHCROFT .. .. 6.
JAMES BARRATT .. .. 3.	A. EDWARD WREAKS .. .. 7.
CHARLES CASH .. .. 4.	JOHN EACHUS .. .. Tenor.

Composed by the late T. DAY, of Birmingham, and Conducted by A. EDWARD WREAKS.

First peal in the method as conductor. \* First peal in the method. The above was rung with the bells deeply muffled on both sides. Messrs Downs, Pollitt, Wreaks and Eachus hail from Manchester, the rest belong to the local company. The ringing of the 6th is 72 years of age.

### Date Touch.

#### THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

HULL.—On Wednesday, November 18th, eight members of the above Association attempted a peal of Bob Major at St. James's Church, but after ringing about an hour it unfortunately came to grief. After which, a date touch of Grandsire Triples was rung in 1 hr. 17 mins. C. Jackson (composer and conductor), 1; S. Slingsby, 2; G. M. Brownrigg, 3; H. Cutter, 4; H. Jenkins, 5; T. Stockdale, 6; J. W. Stickney, 7; R. Haire, 8. Tenor 15 cwt.

### Miscellaneous.

#### ASSOCIATION FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.

TETTENHALL (Staffordshire).—On Saturday, November 28th, at the parish church, the local company rang a 720 of Grandsire Minor, in 27 mins. T. Roberts, 1; W. Smith (Darlaston), 2; B. Dalton, 3; E. Nicholl, 4; J. Fowler, 5; J. Jones (composer and conductor), 6. Tenor 12½ cwt.

#### THE ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

CAMBRIDGE.—On Monday evening, December 7th, at the church of Great St. Mary, ten members of the society of Cambridge Youths, also members of the above Association rang 1000 of Grandsire Caters. J. Taylor, 1; W. Kempton, 2; G. Taylor (Cumberland Youth), 3; E. Andrews, 4; C. Elsee, Esq., 5; J. Holliday, 6; H. Mansfield, 7; J. Jackson (College Youth), 8; J. Rockett (conductor), 9; W. Mansfield, 10. Tenor 31 cwt.

#### GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

GLOUCESTER.—On Wednesday, November 25th, the following members of the above Association started for the Rev. C. D. P. Davies's five-part peal of Grandsire Triples, at the Church of St. Mary-de-Crypt, but after ringing for 2 hrs. and 57 mins., and being within eighteen leads of the finish, it came to grief. H. Gardner, 1; F. E. Ward, Esq. (conductor), 2; H. Mitchell, 3; G. Miles, 4; T. Belcher, 5; J. Baldwin, 6; A. Waite, 7; H. Barnes, 8. Tenor 15 cwt.

TWESKESBURY ABBEY.—On Wednesday evening, November 25th, the following members of the Abbey Society rang a quarter-peal of Union Triples in 46 mins. W. Hampton, 1; R. H. Witherington, 2; F. J. Moore, 3; S. Cleal, 4; Jno. Wathen, 5; Jno. Hale, 6; Josiah Wathen (conductor), 7; W. Haines, 8.

#### THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

REDENHALL (Norfolk).—On Monday, November 28th, being their monthly club night, the Redenhall branch of the above Association

rang several touches of Oxford Treble Bob during the evening, and at the finish, set the bells up one by one, and ended by tolling the number of years of Mr. Snowdon's life on the tenor. The following took part in the ringing: Edward Smith, John Bentley, William Sheldrake, Robert Whiting, Charles Candler, Esq., George Prime, Frederick Smith, George Mobbs, and Captain Moore.

WOODBIDGE (Suffolk).—On Thursday, December 3rd, the following members of the Woodbridge branch of the above Association rang at St. Mary's Church, several touches of Grandsire Triples, and 1360 of Bob Major. J. Fosdike, 1; W. Ward, 2; A. Acfield, 3; W. Burch, 4; W. M. Meadows, 5; W. P. Garratt, 6; C. Ward, 7; P. Meadows (conductor), 8.

#### THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

SWANSCOMBE (Kent).—On Monday evening, November 23rd, at the church of SS. Peter and Paul, a 720 of Plain Bob in 26 mins. L. Digweed, 1; F. Ring, 2; F. Hayes, 3; George Hayes, 4; W. Martin, 5; W. Harper (conductor), 6.

#### THE SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.

LONDON.—On Saturday evening, December 5th, at St. George's Church, Camberwell, eight members of the above society attempted a peal of 5120 Kent Treble Bob Major, but after ringing 1600 changes in 58 mins., the muffle of the second became loose and caused some confusion, and the ringing came to grief. H. Dains (composer and conductor), 1; J. Gobbett, 2; E. F. Cole, Esq., 3; E. Moses, 4; G. Williams, 5; H. Swain, 6; H. Randall, 7; W. Doran, 8.

#### THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

CAVERSHAM (Oxon).—On Sunday evening, November 29th, six members of the St. Peter's Society rang a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor in 27 mins. J. Hands, 1; E. Munday, 2; G. Essex, 3; Rev. G. F. Coleridge, 4; E. Pottinger, 5; T. Newman (conductor), 6. Also a 360 of Plain Bob Minor, H. Smith taking part. Tenor 17 cwt.

#### STOKE-ON-TRENT ARCHIDIACONAL ASSOCIATION.

NORTON.—On Tuesday, November 24th, 720 of Grandsire Minor in 25 mins. W. Baddeley, 1; E. Glover, 2; J. Moreton, 3; J. Wood, 4; J. W. Brough, 5; J. Baddeley (conductor), 6. Also on Sunday, November 22nd, 720 of Court Bob Minor in 27½ mins. H. Holdcroft, 1; E. Glover, 2; J. Moreton, 3; J. Wood, 4; J. W. Brough, 5; J. Baddeley (conductor), 6.

#### THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

CRAWLEY (Sussex).—The following members of the Crawley branch of the above Association rang a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, 1260 changes, in 45 mins. B. King, 1; J. Newnham, 2; J. Smith, Esq., 3; W. Parsons, 4; J. Collison, 5; F. Wickens, 6; A. F. Hillier (conductor), 7; J. Collison, 8.

#### THE WATERLOO SOCIETY.

LONDON.—On Wednesday, November 25th, at St. John's, Waterloo Road, the usual whole pull and stand was rung. William Baron (conductor), 1; Charles E. Malim, 2; Henry J. Davies, 3; Edward F. Strange, 4; Walter H. L. Buckingham, 5; Ernest E. Vinen, 6; Richard T. Woodley, 7; William Coppage, 8. Also on Friday, November 27th, at St. Margaret's, Westminster, several touches of Grandsire Triples and Caters were rung.

#### THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

SADDLEWORTH (Yorkshire).—On Sunday, November 29th, at St. Chad's church, the bells were rung deeply muffled, as a token of respect for the esteemed and valued president of the Association, Jasper W. Snowdon, Esq. The ringers of Saddleworth are filled with sorrow at the loss they and the Association have sustained, and mourn for him as for a friend and a brother.

BIRCHINGTON (Kent).—On Saturday, November 21st, eight members of the Quex Park band, and Royal Cumberland Society, met at the Waterloo Tower, Quex Park, for the purpose of ringing a peal of Grandsire Triples, Reeves's Variation, but after ringing 2350 changes, in 1 hr. 27 mins., it unfortunately came to grief. A. Pointer, 1; L. Willshire (conductor), 2; C. Willshire, 3; A. H. Sayer, 4; J. B. Reed, jun., 5; J. J. Bristow, 6; G. Willshire, 7; S. Fulcher, 8. Tenor 15½ cwt.

BLETCHINGLEY (Surrey).—On Thursday, November 26th, the local company rang several touches of Grandsire, Union, Plain Bob, and Oxford Bob Triples, and Bob Major. Also on Saturday, November 28th, a 504 of Grandsire Triples, as a mark of respect to the late Mr. William Lambert, who was formerly a ringer at the parish church, and who died at the age of eighty-three, and was buried on that day. Arthur Waller, 1; J. Bashford (conductor), 2; Frederick Smith, 3; Walter Hawkins, 4; George Potter, 5; Luke Killick, 6; Thomas Boniface, 7; William Mayne, 8.



**BURNSALL (Yorkshire).**—On Saturday, November 21st, the local company, assisted by Mr. J. S. Wilkinson, of Shipley, rang a 720 of Violet. J. T. Binns, 1; \*J. P. Birch, 2; W. Whitaker, 3; S. Whiteley, 4; \*J. S. Wilkinson, 5; \*C. Inman, 6. \*Members of the Yorkshire Association.

**CAPEL (Surrey).**—On Tuesday, November 24th, 1368 changes were rung in the following methods: 360 of College Exercise; 360 of College Pleasure; 360 of Kent Treble Bob; and 288 of Oxford Treble Bob, in 49 mins. T. Stedman, 1; R. Jordan, 2; A. Mills, 3; R. Worsfold, 4; E. Jordan, 5; D. Jordan (conductor), 6.

**DARESBUURY (Cheshire).**—On Tuesday evening, December 1st, the local company rang a 720 of Bob Minor. T. Houghton, 1; P. Johnson, 2; T. Ellison, 3; P. Hamblett, 4; E. de Prez, 5; T. Houghton, jun., 6.

**DEERHURST (Gloucestershire).**—On Sunday, November 29th, the local company rang a 720 of Bob Minor in 26 mins. T. Everness, 1; C. Willis, 2; H. Roberts, 3; C. Roles, 4; G. Willis, 5; J. Bartlett (conductor), 6.

**DERBY.**—On Saturday, November 28th, the St. Andrew's society rang at that church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, 1260 changes, in 54 mins. W. Shardlow, 1; T. Alton, 2; C. Hart, 3; W. Midgley, 4; W. H. Found, 5; G. Mottashaw, 6; A. E. Thompson (conductor), 7; J. W. Thompson, 8. Tenor 20½ cwt. in Eb.

**DISS (Norfolk).**—On Monday evening, November 30th, the local company attempted at St. Mary's Church, a peal of Bob Major, but after ringing 2 hrs. and 23 mins., a shift occurred, and "stand" was called. E. Francis (conductor), 1; J. Rudd, 2; W. Matthews, 3; E. Hayward, 4; C. Webster, 5; W. Ireland, 6; A. Hart, 7; J. Soutar, 8. Tenor 24 cwt.

**DUNSTER (Somerset).**—On Tuesday, November 24th, at the Parish Church, the usual whole pull and stand; after which a touch of Grandsire Triples was rung. R. Thorne, 1; E. Hole, 2; J. Grabham, 3; J. Tudball, 4; R. Hole, 5; W. Thrush, 6; C. B. Craze (conductor), 7; J. Payne, 8.

**GREAT HALLINGBURY (Essex).**—On Sunday, November 29th, after the afternoon service, 420 of Grandsire Doubles, containing 42 leads, corresponding to the age of the deceased. A. Prior, 1; R. A. Sworder, 2; R. S. Sworder, 3; H. R. Saunders, 3; F. Sworder (conductor), 5. The age was afterwards tolled.

**HAYFIELD (Derbyshire).**—On Saturday, November 21st, a 720 of New London Pleasure. John Vernon, 1; Joseph Brocklehurst, 2; Thomas Whitehead (conductor), 3; Alfred Rangeley, 4; Abel Hadfield, 5; Thomas Brocklehurst, 6.

**IPSWICH (Suffolk).**—On Tuesday, November 24th, the following members of the St. Mary-le-Tower society, attempted a peal of Stedman Cinques at the above church, but after ringing about 2000 changes it came to grief. R. H. Brundle, 1; J. Motts, 2; W. Motts, 3; E. Pemberton, 4; I. S. Alexander, 5; T. Steward, 6; A. R. Aldham, 7; F. Tillett, 8; E. Reeve, 9; S. Tillett, 10; W. L. Catchpole (conductor), 11; R. Hawes, 12.

**ISLINGTON (Middlesex).**—On Tuesday, December 1st, eight members of the Islington Society rang at St. Mary's Church, the usual whole pull and stand in 45 mins. W. Spicer, sen., (conductor), 1; C. Spicer, jun., 2; C. Spicer, sen., 3; F. Bennett, 4; F. Thomas, 5; W. Williams, 6; D. Living, 7; J. Tingey, 8.

**LONDON.**—On Tuesday, November 24th, at St. Giles-in-the-Fields, the usual whole pull and stand was rung. W. Williams (conductor), 1; F. Bennett, 2; W. Meyhrton, 3; J. Yeomanson, 4; F. Thomas, 5; W. Evans, 6; A. Scott, 7; J. Tingey, 8. Tenor 18 cwt.

**ORMSKIRK (Lancashire).**—On Tuesday, November 14th, at the parish church, a half peal of Grandsire Triples, 2520 changes, in 1 hr. 30 mins. John Prescott, 1; Henry Ellis, 2; Charles Sharples, 3; George Prescott, 4; James Sholicar (conductor), 5; William J. Taylor, 6; William Bentham, 7; William Lloyd, 8. Tenor 25½ cwt. Composed by J. R. Pritchard, of Liverpool.

**RAUNDS (Northamptonshire).**—On Monday, November 23rd, at St. Peter's church, was rung a 720 of Bob Minor (eighteen bobs and two singles). A. Coles, 1; J. Willmott, 2; H. Stubbs, 3; G. Kirk, 4; W. J. Gilbert, 5; F. Gilbert (conductor), 6. And a 360 of London Single (nine bobs). G. Kirk, 1; J. Willmott, 2; R. Pendered, 3; H. Stubbs, 4; W. J. Gilbert (conductor), 5; J. Stubbs, 6.

**RINGSTEAD (Northamptonshire).**—On Saturday, November 21st, at St. Mary's church, a 360 of Plain Bob (nine bobs). F. H. Chapman, 1; G. Roberts, 2; R. Shipley, 3; E. Mayes, 4; J. Sawford, 5; T. Roberts (conductor), 6. And a 360 of Oxford Bob. G. Roberts, 1; E. Mayes, 2; R. Shipley, 3; J. Braybrook, 4; J. Sawford, 5; T. Roberts (conductor), 6. And a 360 of College Little. F. H. Chapman, 1; E. Mayes, 2; R. Shipley, 3; J. Sawford, 4; T. Roberts, 5; J. Braybrook (conductor), 6.

**ROCHESTER (Kent).**—On Saturday, December 5th, at St. Margaret's Church, a 720 of Plain Bob Minor, in 27 mins. O. Sullivan, 1; J. Tullett, 2; G. Chantler, 3; A. Osborne, 4; Rev. C. Child, 5; W. Baker (conductor), 6. Tenor 16 cwt.

**SAFFRON WALDEN (Essex).**—On Monday, November 23rd, two touches of Grandsire Triples. J. Freeman, 1; A. G. Coe, 2; Ernest Pitstow, 3; J. F. Penning, 4; G. Martin, 5; C. Freeman, 6; F. Pitstow, 7; W. Marshall, 8. An attempt was made next day for a peal of Treble Bob Major by the Essex Association, but after ringing for upwards of an hour, the gas was accidentally turned out.

**SPALDING (Lincolnshire).**—On Tuesday, November 24th, at the church of SS. Mary and Nicolas, 350 of Grandsire Triples. J. W. Jarvis, 1; C. Neaverson, 2; R. Mackman, 3; G. Skeef, 4; G. L. Richardson, 5; J. S. Wright, 6; J. Brown, 7; R. Jarvis, 8. And on Monday, November 30th, after evening service, 168 of Grandsire Triples. R. Skeef, 1; C. Neaverson, 2; R. Mackman, 3; G. Skeef, 4; G. Richardson, 5; J. S. Wright, 6; J. Brown, 7; Hon. M. Finch-Hatton, 8.

**WALTHAM ABBEY (Essex).**—On Monday, November 23rd, the usual whole pull and stand, followed by a 504 of Stedman Triples, by Messrs. Powell (conductor), Cleverley, Dymock, Tarling, Thurgood, Mitchell, Alps, Barker, Colverd, and Holgate.

**WESTHALL (Suffolk).**—On Tuesday evening, December 1st, at St. Andrew's Church, the following company rang several six-scores of Grandsire Doubles. F. Lambert, 1; R. Spaldon, 2; J. Howlett, 3; R. Lambert, 4; J. Woolnough (conductor), 5. Tenor 18 cwt.

**WITHAM (Essex).**—On Thursday, November 26th, at St. Nicholas Church, a 720 of Bob Minor. J. Butler, 1; A. Chalk, 2; A. Fryatt, 3; W. G. Richards, 4; E. Garnett, 5; H. Sayer (conductor), 6.

### In Memoriam.

Let comrades muster round the old church tower,  
To tell the tidings sad, with 'bated breath;  
Then let the bells ring out in muffled power,  
Their plaintive requiem for untimely death.  
List to the mighty steeples of the North,  
Re-echoing their distress from shore to shore,  
Mark how each tenor chaunts her sorrow forth,  
The master-hand that changed her is no more.  
And we shall miss him sadly, one and all,  
E'en those who ne'er in friendship grasped his hand,  
Have each some kindly action to recall,  
Some point obscure he bade them understand.  
In search of truth, through unconnected lore,  
He traced arrangement with a ready pen,  
The veil from seeming mystery he tore,  
Bequeathing knowledge to his fellow-men.  
Chosen as ringers' leader thro' the land,  
Acknowledged arbiter for common weal,  
While crowning merit with unsparing hand,  
He crushed imposture with an iron heel.  
What though the deeds in which he played his part,  
Are not inscribed on England's roll of fame:  
As long as future ages prize our art,  
So long shall reverence be for SNOWDON's name.

J. M. ROUTH.

Is Snowdon dead? has the free faithful hand  
That once with magic power revealed the mysteries  
Of his beloved science, ceased to act?  
And will no more the ever-flowing pen  
Deal with the subjects he has loved so well?  
Will the loved friends who met his cheering smile,  
And felt the warmth of his dear company,  
No more with eager ear and steadfast gaze  
Behold him, listening to his welcome voice?  
Those distant friends whom letters had endeared,  
And lightened off an obscure path to fame,  
Will they no more receive the valued lines  
Which have been e'er their profit and delight?  
No, never more! that hand is lifeless laid,  
That heart is stilled; and our own bosoms feel  
A deadly void: that face so loved is gone—  
"Snowdon is dead!" We hardly realise  
That such can be; yet know it far too well.  
That robust form, in zenith of its powers,  
With faculties above the common gift,  
Has vanished from our gaze! so suddenly!  
One day was heard—"Our friend is taken ill!"  
Another day: and through the world is spread  
The melancholy words—"Snowdon is dead!"  
Yet though his earthly form does not remain,  
His deeds can never die; his name will stand  
With highest fame where'er the joyous sound  
Of the church bell is heard, and every tongue  
Will ever sing his praises, and lament  
That he has been so early called to rest.  
No enemy had Snowdon: one and all  
Did love him; and throughout the land  
No man will e'er be found who does not say  
With real heartfelt sorrow—"Snowdon is dead!"

Saffron Walden.

## THE CHRISTMAS NUMBER

Of this journal will contain, among other interesting features, a sketch,  
entitled,

## "REMINISCENCES;"

And two stories—

## "THE PARSON AND THE RINGERS;"

AND

## "THUMPER'S DATE TOUCH."

There will also appear, A PORTRAIT of that distinguished ringer  
and composer,

MR. CHAS. HENRY HATTERSLEY,

OF SHEFFIELD; with memoir.

Orders should at once be given to local booksellers.

"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.

W. H. T.—There is no peal of Grandsire Triples produced by common bobs only.  
Strictly speaking, no actual peal of Triples has yet been composed.

E. MOSES.—For very old and fondly-remembered acquaintance' sake, we should  
like to again ring a peal with you.

ADDRESS WANTED.—Mr. Squires, of Hitchin, would be glad to know the address  
of Mr. W. A. Tyler.

## The Bell News &amp; Ringers' Record.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 12, 1885.

THE revived proposals for the establishment of a National  
Association of Ringers have come to grief. The attempts  
which have been made to resuscitate the scheme have not  
been sufficient to float it, and we may therefore consider  
that all efforts in this direction are for the present hopeless.  
The criticisms which were passed upon the original  
committee in their management of this question, by  
various correspondents, have certainly not been justified  
by the course of events, and therefore, while regretting  
that their efforts were not crowned with success, the

members of the Exercise owe their thanks to those gentle-  
men who endeavoured to carry into effect a scheme which  
we have no hesitation in saying would have been of great  
advantage to the ringing community.

We still hesitate to believe that if the ringers of the  
country be polled—i.e., could their individual sentiments  
be obtained upon this project—their opinions would be  
adverse to it. Our experience convinces us that the absence  
of response to the invitation recently issued by the  
committee was owing principally to that neglect and  
apathy which unfortunately is so characteristic of ringers.  
In many well-known instances the better the performer  
the less interested is he, in any thing concerning the art,  
which is going on immediately around him. If a salutary  
change is mooted, and he should actually see the benefit  
of its adoption, not an ounce of effort does he display in  
its execution. If it goes well, then he smiles benignly  
when he reaps its advantages; if it succumbs, its pro-  
moters experience the force of his sarcasm. And we feel it is  
chiefly this kind of spirit, the feeling of apathy and neglect,  
mingled with a little selfishness, that has strangled the  
hopes of many worthy members of the art in relation to  
the question of a National Association.

If there be one thing to be said in favour of this  
proposed national confederation, it is the almost total  
absence of real opposition, for we can take Mr. MUSKETT's  
language on the subject as being simply jocular, while Mr.  
DAINS' objections could be met by the remark that the  
organisation of any existing society would remain un-  
touched. With all respect and due deference to these  
gentlemen, we cannot help saying that they have not fully  
grasped the subject. And very likely because the move-  
ment appeared to them utopian. Other prominent ringers  
consider it impracticable. We are not of that belief.  
A conviction that such a movement, if fully established  
upon a substantial basis, would do an incalculable amount  
of good, clings to us. Perhaps at no distant period we may  
hear of the subject being again mooted, to be taken up  
and carried to a successful termination. We hope so.  
Meanwhile those who are anxious for its realisation should  
do their best to "educate" their ringing brethren upon the  
subject, so that when the time again arrives for its con-  
sideration, it may be dealt with in a manner which will  
show that ringers are capable of comprehending the issues  
of any question which may be brought forward affecting  
themselves.

## The Provinces.

LICHFIELD, STAFFORDSHIRE.

ASSOCIATION FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.

On Thursday, December 3, 1885, in Three Hours and One Minute,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

THURSTANS' 5-PART. Tenor 19½ cwt. in E.

HENRY KING .. .. .	Treble.	ARTHUR WHITBY .. .. .	5.
ARTHUR E. GREENWOOD ..	2.	FREDERICK J. COPE .. ..	6.
JOSEPH KEY .. .. .	3.	WILLIAM FEARNEYHOUGH ..	7.
HENRY MEACHAM .. .. .	4.	EDWIN GALLIMORE .. ..	Tenor

Conducted by FREDERICK J. COPE.

LOUGHBOROUGH, LEICESTERSHIRE.  
THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

*Muffled Peal.*

On Friday, December 4, 1885, in Three Hours and Twenty-five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S 6-PART. Tenor 24 cwt. in D.

AMOS CRESSER .. .. .Treble.	SAMUEL SMITH .. .. .5.
CHARLES SMITH .. .. .2.	E. DENISON TAYLOR .. .. 6.
JOSEPH HARDY .. .. .3.	JOHN WILLIAM TAYLOR, JUN. 7.
JOHN WILLIAM TAYLOR, SEN. 4.	EDWARD WIGHTMAN .. ..Tenor.

Conducted by JOHN WILLIAM TAYLOR, JUN.

The above was rung with the bells half-muffled as a tribute of respect to the late John Cook, who died on the 1st inst., for fifteen years foreman for Messrs. John Taylor and Co., Bellfounders.

BASINGSTOKE, HANTS.

ST. LAURENCE'S SOCIETY, READING.

On Saturday, December 5, 1885, in Three Hours and Seven Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

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

ALBERT E. REEVES* .. ..Treble.	†WILLIAM H. HOLLOWAY .. 5.
HENRY WHITE* .. .. .2.	WILLIAM J. WILLIAMS .. 6.
RICHARD T. HIBBERT* .. 3.	WILLIAM GOSELTINE .. 7.
WILLIAM JOHNSON .. .. .4.	*JAMES KIRBY .. .. .Tenor.

Conducted by WILLIAM J. WILLIAMS.

\* First peal. † First peal in the method with a bob bell. H. White is also a member of the Basingstoke company. The ringer of the 3rd is only sixteen years old.

RAUNDS, NORTHAMPTONSHIRE.

On Saturday, December 5, 1885, in Three Hours and Thirteen Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

5040 CHANGES: IN SEVEN DIFFERENT METHODS UPON SIX BELLS;

Being a 720 of each of the following:

Kent and Oxford Treble Bob; Double Court; Oxford Bob; London Single; College Little; Plain Bob.

Tenor 20 cwt.

G. KIRK .. .. .Treble.	*J. STUBBS .. .. .4.
W. J. GILBERT .. .. .2.	F. GILBERT .. .. .5.
H. STUBBS .. .. .3.	W. HALL .. .. .Tenor.

Conducted by W. HALL.

\*First 5040.

TWICKENHAM, SURREY.

THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, December 5, 1885, in Three Hours and Three Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S ORIGINAL. Tenor 21 cwt.

GEORGE NAISH* .. .. .Treble.	GEORGE WELLING .. .. 5.
CHARLES E. MALIM .. .. 2.	JAMES STRUTT .. .. 6.
ARTHUR B. CARPENTER .. 3.	GEORGE GRAY .. .. 7.
EDWARD F. STRANGE .. .. 4.	JOHN WRIGHT .. .. .Tenor.

Conducted by EDWARD F. STRANGE.

\* First peal.

WEST MALLING.—THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Tuesday, December 8, 1885, in Three Hours and Sixteen Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S ORIGINAL. Tenor 12½ cwt.

HARRY PEARCE .. .. .Treble.	ALCHIN MOORCRAFT .. .. 5.
EDWARD BALDOCK .. .. .2.	JAMES W. LEONARD .. .. 6.
ALFRED H. WOOLLEY .. .. 3.	GEORGE PAWLEY .. .. 7.
REUBEN SIMMONDS .. .. .4.	GEORGE J. MOORCRAFT ..Tenor.

Conducted by GEORGE PAWLEY.

Messrs. Baldock and Leonard hail from Malling; the rest from Maidstone.

BURTON-ON-TRENT, STAFFORDSHIRE.  
THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

BURTON BRANCH,

On Saturday, December 5, 1885, in Three Hours and Twelve Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PAUL,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S TEN-PART. Tenor 26 cwt.

JOSEPH ASHMOLE .. .. .Treble.	GEORGE ROBINSON .. .. 5.
SAMUEL GRETTON† .. .. 2.	HARRY WAKLEY .. .. 6.
FRANK DIMBLEBY* .. .. 3.	JOHN JAGGAR .. .. 7.
JOHN AUSTIN* .. .. .4.	WILLIAM ORME .. .. .Tenor.

Conducted by JOHN JAGGAR.

\* First peal. † First peal in the method.

IPSWICH, SUFFOLK.

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

On Saturday, December 5, 1885, in Three Hours and Thirty-nine Minutes,

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

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CINQUES, 5007 CHANGES,

Tenor 32 cwt. in C♯.

WILLIAM L. CATCHPOLE Treble.	WILLIAM MOTTS .. .. 7.
JAMES MOTTS .. .. .2.	ROBERT H. BRUNDLE .. 8.
ISAAC S. ALEXANDER .. 3.	FREDERICK TILLET .. 9.
ARTHUR R. ALDHAM .. 4.	SAMUEL TILLET .. .. 10.
EDGAR PEMBERTON .. 5.	FREDERICK G. NEWMAN .. 11.
CHARLES MEE .. .. .6.	EDWARD REEVE .. .. .Tenor.

Composed and Conducted by WILLIAM L. CATCHPOLE.

F. G. Newman hails from London. The above is E. Pemberton's 50th peal.

PERRY BARR, STAFFORDSHIRE.

THE HOLT SOCIETY, ASTON-JUXTA-BIRMINGHAM.

On Saturday, December 5, 1885, in Two Hours and Fifty-four Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor 13 cwt. in F♯.

HENRY BASTABLE .. .. .Treble.	CHARLES STANBRIDGE .. 5.
THOMAS REYNOLDS .. .. 2.	*JAMES PLANT .. .. 6.
JOHN CARTER .. .. .3.	†MARTIN MURPHY .. .. 7.
WILLIAM KENT .. .. .4.	ARTHUR J. JONES .. ..Tenor.

Composed by T. Brook, and Conducted by JOHN CARTER.

\*1st peal in the method. †1st peal in the method away from the tenor.

MANCHESTER.—THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, December 5, 1885, in Three Hours and Nineteen Minutes,

AT THE CATHEDRAL,

A PEAL OF BOB ROYAL, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor 25 cwt. in Eb.

THOMAS THORPE .. .. .Treble.	JAMES THORPE .. .. 6.
THOMAS G. DOWNS .. .. 2.	CHARLES CASH .. .. 7.
JOHN E. POLLITT .. .. 3.	THOMAS HEALD .. .. 8.
GEORGE E. TURNER .. .. 4.	EDWARD CASH .. .. 9.
JAMES BARRATT .. .. .5.	A. EDWARD WREAKS ..Tenor.

Composed by the late HENRY HUBBARD, and Conducted by

ALBERT EDWARD WREAKS.

First peal in the method by all the above, and by the Association. The Brothers Cash and J. Barratt hail from Eccles; T. Heald is of the St. Philip's (Culme) company; the rest are of the Cathedral company.

*Miscellaneous.*

THE SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.

HIGHGATE (Middlesex).—On Tuesday, December 1st, the following members rang for practice at St. Anne's church, 1024 of Cambridge Surprise Major. J. Page, 1; B. Foskett, 2; G. Newson (conductor), 3; J. Hannington, 4; T. Titchener, 5; A. Jacob, 6; E. Chapman, 7; J. Barrett, 8. And on Saturday, December 5th, the same band met at St. Giles's-in-the-Fields, to attempt a peal in this method, but it was unfortunately lost after ringing fifteen courses in 2 hrs. 8 mins.

## THE BIRMINGHAM AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATION.

BIRMINGHAM.—On Sunday, December 5th, at St. Chad's cathedral, for Divine Service in the evening, 1260 changes of Bob Triples, in 44 mins. W. Saniger, 1; J. Callaghan, 2; J. Carter (conductor), 3; T. Russam, 4; R. Hackley, 5; T. Miller, 6; A. Hackley, 7; A. Druce, 8. Tenor 15 cwt. in F.

## THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

RAYLEIGH.—On Sunday, December 6th, for Divine Service in the evening, the following members of the local company, also members of the above Association, rang a 720 of Bob Minor (fifteen bobs and six singles), composed by the Rev. C. D. P. Davies, in 27 mins. A. Wallace, 1; F. Haslam, 2; J. Johnson, 3; H. Deal, 4; Rev. H. A. Cockey, 5; W. Judd, 6. Conducted by W. Judd, who was home for a few days from Sittingbourne. Tenor 14½ cwt.

## GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

BARNWOOD (Gloucestershire).—On Tuesday, December 1st, at St. Lawrence's church, the local company rang a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob Minor, in 26 mins. H. Barnes, 1; J. Yeates, 2; G. Miles, 3; Wm. Sevier, 4; H. Mitchel, 5; A. A. Waite (conductor), 6. Tenor 14 cwt. in G.

QUEDGLEY (Gloucestershire).—On Wednesday, November 18th, six members of the above Association rang a 720 of Grandsire Minor (thirty-four bobs and two singles), in 35 mins. A. Harris, 1; Wm. Brown, 2; T. Mansfield, 3; C. Lise, 4; Wm. Sevier, 5; T. Brown (conductor), 6.

## THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

MILTON-NEXT-GRAVESEND.—On Tuesday, December 1st, at the church of SS. Peter and Paul, a 720 of Bob Minor. W. Royston, 1; W. Harper, 2; F. Hayes (conductor), 3; G. Hayes, 4; H. D. Davis, 5; B. Spinner, 6.

SWANSCOMBE (Kent).—On Thursday evening, December 3rd, for practice at S.S. Peter and Paul, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor in 26 mins. B. Spinner, 1; F. J. Ring, 2; F. Hayes (conductor), 3; H. Davis, 4; W. Martin, 5; W. Harper, 6. Also on Sunday, December 6th, for Divine Service in the evening, a 720 of Grandsire Minor in 25 mins. L. Digweed, 1; J. Broom, 2; W. Harper (conductor), 3; F. J. Ring, 4; W. Martin, 5; G. Hayes, 6.

WEST MALLING (Kent).—On Sunday, December 6th, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor in 26 mins. D. Hall, 1; E. Baldock, 2; A. Moorcraft, 3; H. Pearce, 4; C. Paine, 5; J. W. Leonard (conductor), 6.

## THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

BURFORD (Oxon).—On Sunday, December 6th, for Divine Service in the evening, at the parish church, the local company, also members of the above Guild, rang 446 of Grandsire Triples. \*W. Hall, 1; D. Francis, 2; T. Brown, 3; J. Smith, 4; H. Bond, jun., 5; W. Large, 6; T. E. Glanville (conductor), 7; \*W. Shayler, 8. \*Longest touch.

## THE OXFORD UNIVERSITY SOCIETY.

OXFORD.—On Thursday, December 3rd, at the church of St. Thomas-ye-Martyr, a 720 of Grandsire Minor, in 27½ mins. C. W. Bennett (Worcester), 1; C. S. Rowlands (St. John's), 2; G. C. Joyce (B.N.C.), 3; J. R. Vincent (St. John's), 4; A. F. M. Custance (B.N.C.), 5; C. W. H. Griffith (C.C.C.; conductor), 6.

BOCKING (Essex).—On Sunday, December 6th, at the parish church, a 720 of Bob Minor (nine bobs and eighteen singles), in 28 mins. A. Spurge, 1; \*†W. Moore, 2; \*†W. Bearman, 3; \*S. Sargent, 4; \*†S. Hammond (composer and conductor), 5; \*†C. Bearman, 6. \*College Youths. †Essex Association. Tenor 19 cwt.

BENGEO (Herts).—Recently, at Holy Trinity church, a 720 of Plain Bob Minor (forty-two singles). T. Barker, 1; H. J. Tucker (conductor), 2; H. Phillips, 3; W. Odell, 4; W. Bennett, 5; J. Pomfret, 6. And on Sunday, December 6th, for evening service, a 720 of Plain Bob Minor (with eighteen singles and three bobs). W. Childs, 1; W. A. Tyler, 2; H. J. Tucker (composer and conductor), 3; J. Pomfret, 4; J. Channer, 5; H. Phillips, 6.

CAPEL (Surrey).—On Friday, November 20th, the local company rang for practice, 720 of Superlative Surprise, in 24 mins. M. Jenkins, 1; G. Williams, 2; E. Jordan, 3; R. Jordan, 4; A. Mills, 5; D. Jordan (conductor), 6. And on Sunday, November 22nd, for Divine Service in the afternoon, 288 of Oxford Treble Bob. R. Worsfold, 1; J. Newnham, 2; A. Mills, 3; R. Jordan, 4; E. Jordan, 5; D. Jordan (conductor), 6. And after service, a 720 of Superlative

Surprise. F. Wickings (first 720 in the method), 1; R. Jordan, 2; A. Mills, 3; G. Williams, 4; E. Jordan, 5; D. Jordan (conductor), 6. And 720 of Oxford Treble Bob. D. Jordan, 1; J. Newnham, 2; B. King (first 720 in the method), 3; R. Jordan, 4; A. Mills, 5; H. Chantler (conductor), 6. Also a 360 of College Exercise. J. Whiting, 1; R. Jordan, 2; A. Mills, 3; G. Williams, 4; E. Jordan, 5; D. Jordan (conductor), 6. And a 720 of Kent Treble Bob. J. Whiting, 1; A. Mills, 2; R. Worsfold, 3; G. Williams, 4; F. Wickens, 5; E. Jordan (conductor), 6. J. Newnham hails from Crawley; J. Whiting from Fareham, Hants; G. Williams from Reigate; H. Chantler from Warnham; Wickens and King from Charlwood; the rest are local men.

COLCHESTER.—Handbell Ringing.—On Tuesday evening, December 8th, at St. Peter's church, on handbells, retained in hand, a 720 Bob Minor (twelve singles and six bobs). W. Scott, 1; George Dent, 2; \*J. Kettle, 3-4; A. Pye, 5-6. Also 168 of Grandsire Triples, and 160 of Bob Major. First 720 rung on handbells in the tower for over 40 years. \*Totally blind.

DUFFIELD (Derbyshire).—On Sunday evening, December 6th, for Divine Service at the parish church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 48 mins. G. Dawson, 1; S. Johnson, 2; W. Hickling, 3; A. Robinson, 4; G. Hingley, 5; R. Bosworth (conductor), 6; R. Johnson, 7; J. Johnson, 8.

GRAVESEND (Kent).—On Tuesday, November 24th, at St. George's Church, the first half of Holt's ten-part peal of Grandsire Triples, 2520 changes, in 1 hr. 30 mins. W. J. Reeves (Bexley), 1; W. Harper (conductor), 2; H. D. Davis, 3; W. Martin, 4; F. Hayes, 5; B. Spinner, 6; J. W. Aitken, 7; G. Hayes, 8. All the above are members of the Kent County Association, except Mr. Reeves.

HADDENHAM (Cambs).—On Monday, December 8th, two 720s of Bob Minor, in 27 and 28 mins. respectively. J. Ellis, 1; W. King, 2; J. R. Vincent, 3; J. Dains, 4; A. Pilgrim (conductor), 5; J. Vail, 6. Tenor 18 cwt. The above all belong to St. Mary's, Ely.

HAVERSTOCK HILL (Middlesex). On Sunday morning, December 6th, for Divine Service at St. Martin's church, a 720 of Bob Minor (twenty bobs and ten singles), in 25 mins. T. Titchener, 1; G. Thurlow, 2; J. Hannington (conductor), 3; T. Glead, 4; J. Nixon, 5; G. Griffin, 6. For evening service, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor (fifteen bobs) in 24 mins. J. Hannington (conductor), 1; T. Glead, 2; T. Titchener, 3; J. Leach, 4; J. Nixon, 5; G. Griffin, 6. And after service a 720 of Cambridge Surprise Minor, in 23 mins. \*G. Griffin, 1; \*B. Foskett, 2; J. Hannington, 3; †E. Chapman, 4; T. Titchener, 5; G. Newson (conductor), 6. Tenor 12½ cwt. \*First 720 in the method. †First 720 in the method with a bob bell.

HELMINGHAM (Suffolk).—On Sunday evening, December 6th, seven members of the St. Mary-le-Tower (Ipswich) society, with F. G. Newman, of London, attempted a peal of Double Norwich Court Bob Major, but after ringing 1 hr. 42 mins., it unfortunately came to grief. J. Motts, 1; W. Motts, 2; I. S. Alexander, 3; H. Bowell, 4; E. Pemberton, 5; F. G. Newman, 6; S. Tillett, 7; R. H. Brundle, 8. Tenor 19½ cwt.

HITCHIN (Herts).—On Monday, December 7th, for practice, at St. Mary's church, the first part of Reeves's variation of Holt's ten-part peal of Grandsire Triples, 518 changes. J. Randall, 1; H. Buckingham, 2; J. Hare (conductor), 3; A. Squires, 4; G. F. Scott, 5; F. Furr, 6; W. Allen, 7; S. Hare, 8. Tenor 28 cwt. in D. All the above are members of the Hertfordshire Association with the exception of G. F. Scott, who hails from Sutton.

IPSWICH (Suffolk).—On Sunday, December 6th, for Divine Service in the morning at the church of St. Mary-le-Tower, a course of Double Norwich Court Bob Royal. W. L. Catchpole, 1; E. Pemberton, 2; I. S. Alexander, 3; A. R. Aldham, 4; C. Saul, 5; H. Bowell, 6; W. Motts, 7; F. Tillett, 8; J. Motts, 9; F. G. Newman, 10. And three courses of Stedman Caters. J. Motts, 1; E. Pemberton, 2; I. S. Alexander, 3; F. G. Newman, 4; C. Saul, 5; H. Bowell, 6; W. Motts, 7; W. L. Catchpole, 8; A. R. Aldham, 9; J. Miller, 10.

LIVERPOOL.—On Saturday, December 5th, at St. Francis Xavier's Church, an attempt was made to ring Holt's ten-part peal of Grandsire Triples, but after ringing 3980 changes in 2 hrs. 16 mins., it unfortunately came to grief when nearing the end of the eighth part. James Donnelly (conductor), 1; William Kennedy, 2; Andrew J. Flynn, 3; Thomas Donnelly, 4; John Donnelly, 5; John Aspinwall, 6; Isaac Clarke, 7; William Kelly, 8.

LONDON.—Muffled Peal.—On Sunday, November 29th, at St. Giles, Church, Camberwell, the usual whole pull and stand, as a mark of respect to the late Miss Ives, of Camberwell Grove, she being a member of the St. Giles' society. H. E. Gummer (conductor), 1; W. Bull, 2; E. Drury, 3; T. Windly, 4; R. Smith, 5; H. Flower, 6; R. Jones, 7; T. Langdon, 8; J. Summer, 9; T. Coxhead, 10.

LOUGHBOROUGH (Leicestershire).—On Tuesday, December 8th, the local company, assisted by the Rev. W. Pearson, of Syston, rang for practice a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples. A. Cresser, 1; E. D. Taylor, 2; C. Smith, 3; J. W. Taylor, sen., 4; S. Smith, 5; Rev. W. Pearson, 6; J. W. Taylor, jun. (conductor), 7; E. Wightman, 8. Tenor 24 cwt. in D.

PINNER (Middlesex).—*Muffled Peals*.—On Sunday, December 5th, at the church of St. John the Baptist, Grandsire Doubles, with 4, 6, 8, covering, were rung for the services, the bells being deeply muffled in memory of the late Vicar, Rev. Dr. Pinnock, LL.D., who was buried the day previous, aged 72 years. W. H. Manning, 1; A. Newman, 2; H. Lobb, 3; G. Dickens, 4; F. Johnson, 5; R. Greenfield, 6; W. H. George, 7; F. Bentley, 8. Tenor 19 cwt. Conducted by Messrs. Manning and George. J. Barry, of London, also assisted in the ringing.

STANSTEAD (Essex).—On Tuesday, November 24th, at the church of St. Mary-the-Virgin, six of the local company rang a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob Minor, in 26 mins. And on Tuesday, December 1st, a 720 of Double Oxford Bob Minor (twenty-one bobs and twelve singles), in 26 mins. \*W. Prior, 1; J. Luckey, 2; \*H. Prior, jun., 3; G. Gray, 4; Isaac Cavill, 5; \*C. Prior (conductor), 6. \*Members of the Essex Association. Tenor 13 cwt.

STISTED (Essex).—On Sunday afternoon, December 6th, a 720 of Bob Minor (nine bobs and six singles). C. Corder, 1; A. Chaplin, 2; E. Chaplin, 3; F. Saunders, 4; E. Radley, 5; Wm. Radley, conductor, 6.

WALSALL (Staffordshire).—On Sunday, December 6th, for Divine Service at St. Matthew's church, the local company, with several of the Birmingham St. Martin's Company, rang 863 changes of Stedman Caters. F. Hallsworth, 1; D. Westley, 2; H. Bastable, 3; W. Walker, 4; W. Cartwright, 5; W. Small, 6; J. Buffery (conductor), 7; J. Astbury, 8; W. Hallsworth, 9; C. Fluck, 10. And 1040 of Kent Treble Bob Royal. F. Hallsworth, 1; W. Walker, 2; J. Astbury, sen., 3; H. Bastable, 4; W. Cartwright, 5; J. Buffery, 6; J. Astbury, 7; W. Small, 8; D. Westley, 9; W. Hallsworth, 10. Tenor 24 cwt. in Eb. The treble, 3rd, and tenor have been recently rehung by Barwell, of Birmingham.

#### THE ST. ANDREW'S SOCIETY, DERBY.

On Friday evening, December 4th, 1885, this Society held their first peal supper at the "Locomotive" Inn, which was provided by the worthy sexton, Mr. W. Shardlow, along with two or three other kind friends, who for some time past have expressed their desire to assist in the celebrating of the first peal rung by the Society, in which they take such great interest. Everything being in readiness, the word "go" was called, at which the company commenced to do ample justice to the good things provided, which was done in fine style. They were at length brought round at the end of some four or five courses. That being all, the word "stand" was called, and readily and willingly obeyed by all present. The cloth being removed the company indulged in handbell ringing, which consisted of a few courses of Bob Major, etc., and afterwards a few songs. The first, given by Mr. Sidley, was a very laughable one, and several others, by Mr. Found, Mr. Thompson, Mr. Mottashaw, Mr. Gilbert, and several others were well rendered.

Mr. Shardlow, in a few closing remarks, said it had been his intention to make each one of the ringers a suitable present in remembrance of their first peal, but as he had been prevented on this occasion, not through any want on his own part, he hoped before long to have an opportunity of doing so.

A vote of thanks was afterwards accorded to Mr. Shardlow for his kindness and also to those friends who had taken so able an interest in the surroundings. The evening being now brought to a close, they dispersed, each one to their homes, with a hope that this would not be the last time they would meet together on a like occasion.

#### THE ST. BOTOLPH (BISHOPSGATE) SOCIETY.

On Friday, December 4th, the Rev. W. Rogers, M.A., rector, entertained the ringers to their annual supper (in memory of his birthday), at the "One Swan Hotel," Bishopsgate. Justice having been done to the excellent supper provided, and the cloth being removed, the toast of the evening, "The Rector's Health and Long Life," was proposed by Mr. W. S. Williamson, who expressed himself, in the name of his colleagues, heartily gratified with his kindness and liberality. "The Health of the Churchwardens" having been proposed by S. Scholes, and drank, the rest of the evening was spent in songs, etc., until the hour of departure drew nigh, when the company dispersed, having spent an enjoyable evening.

#### RINGMER, SUSSEX.

On Tuesday, December 1st, an event occurred that occasioned considerable interest to the residents of Ringmer and the surrounding district. Through the munificence of W. L. Christie, Esq., a gentleman well known in Sussex, the bells were heard from the parish church tower, for the first time for between two and three hundred years, during which period the sacred edifice has remained without a tower, the old one being destroyed by lightning about the year 1600. Early in the present year Mr. Christie instructed Mr. W. F. Martin, builder, of Ringmer, to erect a suitable tower, and the work has been exceedingly well executed. A peal of eight fine-toned bells, cast by Messrs. Mears and Stainbank, and exhibited by that firm at the last International Exhibition, was then secured, the weight of the tenor being 14 cwt., in the key of F, six being given by the donor of the tower, and the remaining two were contributed, one by the parishioners by subscription, and the other given by J. W. Mudge, Esq., December 1st, being Miss Christie's birthday, was selected for the opening ceremony. The Brighton branch of the Sussex County Association was invited to send a band of eight ringers to attempt a peal. On their arrival they were met by the Rev. F. H. Fisher and the Ringmer ringers, and by way of trial they rang a 504 of Grandsire Triples. An adjournment was then made to Mr. Fisher's residence, where about thirty ringers and others interested in bells sat down to dinner under the presidency of Mr. Christie. At five minutes to three a start was made for the peal, the ringers standing as follows: W. Palmer, 1; G. F. Attree, 2; J. Searle, 3; C. E. Golds, 4; G. King, 5; C. Tyler, 6; J. Jay (conductor), 7; E. Butler, 8; and at four minutes past six the peal was successfully accomplished, the time occupied being 3 hrs. and 9 mins. The bells were kept in motion by the local ringers until half-past seven. Before parting, the Rev. Mr. Fisher expressed a wish that those assembled should show their appreciation of the generous gift by drinking the health of Mr. and Miss Christie.

#### BALCOMBE, SUSSEX.

The following is the ringing done by the local company during the month of November:—November 12th, 720 of Oxford Bob. R. Bourne, 1; W. Comber, 2; E. Streeter, 3; J. Cheeseman, 4; J. Gasson, 5; H. Meads (conductor), 6. Also a 360 of Plain Bob. W. Comber, 1; R. Bourne, 2; E. Streeter, 3; J. Cheeseman, 4; H. Meads, 5; J. Gasson (conductor), 6. Thursday, November 26th, a 360 of Plain Bob. A. Stoner, 1; R. Bourne, 2; E. Streeter, 3; J. Cheeseman, 4; H. Meads, 5; J. Gasson (conductor), 6. Sunday, November 29th, 720 of Oxford Bob. A. Stoner, 1; R. Bourne, 2; J. Kenward, 3; J. Cheeseman, 4; H. Meads, 5; J. Gasson (conductor), 6. And 720 of Plain Bob. A. Stoner, 1; C. Gasson, 2; E. Streeter, 3; J. Cheeseman, 4; H. Meads, 5; J. Gasson (conductor), 6. Also a 360 of Plain Bob. A. Stoner, 1; R. Bourne, 2; J. Cheeseman, 3; H. Meads, 4; J. Gasson, 5; E. Streeter (conductor), 6. With Mr. E. Streeter, of Worth, the local band have made an attempt at Oxford Treble Bob, and on one occasion rang two 120's. R. Bourne, 1; C. Gasson, 2; J. Gasson, 3; J. Cheeseman, 4; H. Meads, 5; E. Streeter, 6.

#### THE SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.

A MEETING of special and more than general interest to all members of this society, will take place at the "Green Man," St. Martin's Lane, W.C., on Friday, December 19th. The usual ringing practice will take place at eight o'clock, at St. Martin's Church, previous to the business meeting. Members' attendance urgently requested.

H. DAINS, Hon. Sec.

#### SUBSCRIPTION LIST FOR THE JOHNSON TESTIMONIAL.

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We, the Committee, thank all ringers and friends who have so kindly and liberally contributed to this "National Testimonial," and we wish to remind any who are thinking of becoming subscribers that it will be necessary to close the list with the present year. We therefore respectfully ask them to communicate at once with A. Thomas, Hon. Secretary, 83, Wheeley's Road, Edgbaston, Birmingham; or Mr. S. Reeves, Hon. Treasurer, 10, Bull Street, West Bromwich.

## 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."

## LONDON SOCIETIES.

SIR,—In answer to Mr. Jerram, I challenge him or any other member of the College Youths, who questions the truth of my letters, to argue the point at the headquarters, the "King's Head," Winchester Street, Borough, before the Master, Martin Routh, Esq., who I am sure will pass an impartial judgement between us, providing that such member will let me know through "THE BELL NEWS," what night he will meet me.

J. W. TRAPPITT, alias "LITTLE JIM."

## A COMPLAINT.

SIR,—When the question of forming a County Association for Sussex came before the ringers of the county, it was taken up with energy by them, and a good start was made, as we thought, upon a good foundation, namely, for the furtherance of belfry reform, etc. Well, Sir, I take it, that to obtain that object, a unity of feeling should exist through the whole of the Association, and it should be the duty of the executive, as far as lies in their power, to encourage and foster that spirit of unity; should there be any favours to dispose of, they should be distributed through the whole, and not relegated to the few. Since the Sussex Association has been formed there have been two peals to be opened, namely, one at Buxted, and one at Ringmer, and in both cases the bands were selected from Brighton; so far as I know, no other member of the Association received an invitation to make one of either band. I think this a most narrow and selfish way of doing business, and I, as a member of the Association, strongly protest against it. There are ringers in other parts of the county quite as well up in change-ringing as those who reside in Brighton, who would, had they had the opportunity, gladly have assisted in the opening of either peal, and it is in justice to my brother-strings that I have taken the liberty to trouble you on this matter.

A MEMBER OF THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

## BEDDINGTON BELLS, SURREY.

SIR,—In answer to Mr. Jerram's letter, "Access to Belfry Refused," no doubt your readers are anxious to know who refused Mr. Stahlschmidt permission to the tower. I am at liberty to say had the Rev. Canon Bridges been asked he would at once have granted permission. I was surprised at seeing such a report in "THE BELL NEWS." I have been steeplekeeper for eight years, and had Mr. Stahlschmidt applied to me for permission I should have been pleased to have given it him, as I should be most happy to see our ring of ten published in his works, instead of being in the position they are. Who is he who refused permission? The churchwardens, nor the sexton, have not been asked to allow permission. It must have been some non-official that Mr. Stahlschmidt applied to for admission to the tower.

JOHN PLOWMAN, *Steeplekeeper*.

SIR,—In answer to Mr. Jerram, I can only tell him that had Mr. J. C. L. Stahlschmidt applied to the proper authority he would have obtained the required permission.

J. W. TRAPPITT.

## THE HERTFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

SIR,—The annual meeting of the above Association was held at St. Albans, on Monday, October 26th, and I have been looking for the report of the same, ever since that date, and it has never been published. I was unable to go there myself, so I know nothing what was passed there, and I think for the benefit of those who could not attend, a report of the same would be very convenient to be published in your valuable paper, and would be very eagerly sought for. I cannot make it out at all; the report of the quarterly meetings were published, but the annual one, the most important of all, is left out, and nothing said about it, which seems very strange to me.

A MEMBER OF THE ABOVE ASSOCIATION.

## THE RECENT PEAL AT ECCLES.

SIR,—Perhaps it is bold to rush into print against such a leviathan of bell knowledge as our friend J. S. evidently wishes us to think he is. But I cannot forbear making a few remarks on his letter, which appeared in a recent number. First, I may say that J. S. should learn to write letters without implying doubts as to the veracity of others. He will find it is considered better form in this country to do so. Mr. Wreaks, whom I have the honour to know, would not make an assertion without being able to vouch for its correctness. I can only say that he did call a few bobs. J. S. also says—"I should think there were a good deal of bobs called wrong." Why he should think so I know not, and should be very glad if he would give me a reason, unless he conducted the so-called peal, then I will allow his thoughts to rest unchallenged. Further, I must again verify Mr. Wreaks'

statement as to time. Two hours forty-nine and a half minutes is quite correct. The number of changes also is correct (4896). And it is not "a mystery how he could tell," as Mr. Wreaks is a conductor and a practical ringer. I assume, from J. S.'s rash assertions, that he is neither. Certainly for inuendoes J. S. has been unsurpassed in my experience. He evidently places great value on his own opinion, without taking into consideration that he may be asked for a reason. With regard to J. S.'s statement that the bells sounded as if they were intended for the 24th of May, I really confess myself at a loss for a reply to such unparalleled impudence, and, perhaps, comment is needless, for all who know will easily place the proper value on his statement. I am sure J. S. would be a valuable addition to any body of ringers, and I should recommend all young beginners to take his advice before going to the tower to ring a peal, and, above all, to see that he is not in the neighbourhood, if they are given to "blundering and bad striking." J. S.'s concluding remarks "knowingly publish false time, etc." are quite characteristic of the tone of his letter throughout, and utterly beneath my notice.

VICERSIMUS.

## THE ST. LAURENCE'S SOCIETY (READING) AT BASINGSTOKE.

On Saturday, December 5th, several members of the above Society visited Basingstoke, for the express purpose of ringing a peal of Grand-sire Triples. They left Reading by the 1.45 train, reaching their destination by 2.20. Here they were met by the worthy steeplekeeper, Mr. G. Capron, Mr. White, and another of the local company, who escorted them to the church. Everything was found in readiness, and after going through the usual preliminaries, the metal was set swinging by 3 o'clock, and which continued until seven minutes past six, the report of which will be found in the peal column. After the peal Mr. White kindly invited the ringers to tea, which was very acceptable after a three hours' ring, considering that four of the band had never rung a peal before. Thanking Mr. White for his hospitality, a move was made through the pouring rain to the station, from whence they soon started for Reading, which was reached by 9.15, each one having thoroughly enjoyed his trip, more particularly on account of their success. They wish to thank the vicar, the Rev. Canon Millard, for so readily granting them the use of the bells. This is the second peal rung on the bells, the first having been rung by the Cumberlands, on November 14th, conducted by Mr. George Newson.

## THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

REPORT FOR THE FORTNIGHT ENDING DECEMBER 6TH, 1885.—On Sunday, November 22nd, for Divine Service in the evening at the parish church, Steyning, by the Steyning branch, a 720 of Oxford Single Bob Minor, in 28 mins. G. Breach, 1; T. Searle, 2; G. Smart (first 720), 3; C. Tyler, 4; J. Woolger, 5; G. Gatland (conductor), 6. And on Tuesday, November 24th, at Christ Church, Eastbourne, by the Eastbourne Branch, with the bells half-muffled, as a token of respect to the memory of the late Jasper Snowdon, Esq., a 720 of Grandsire Minor. J. Lewis, 1; F. Harding (conductor), 2; H. Colbran, 3; G. Smith, 4; G. Howse, 5; T. Smith, 6. On Sunday, November 29th, at Steyning, by the Steyning branch, a 720 of Oxford Bob Minor, in 26 mins. E. Brackey, 1; T. Searle, 2; J. Woolger, 3; C. Chambers, 4; J. Searle, 5; G. Gatland (conductor), 6. And a 720 in the same method, by the same band, in 26½ mins. On Tuesday, December 1st, on the occasion of the opening of the new ring of eight bells by the Brighton branch, a 504 of Grandsire Triples, in 18½ mins. W. Palmer, 1; G. F. Attree, 2; J. Searle, 3; C. Golds, 4; C. Tyler, 5; G. King, 6; J. Jay, sen., 7; J. Neves, 8. Conducted by J. Searle. And Holt's 10 part peal of Grandsire Triples, in 3 hrs. 9 mins.; conducted by J. Jay, sen., and rung by the above band excepting the 8th, which was rang by E. Butler. G. F. ATTREE, *Hon. Sec.*

## Obituary.

We regret to have to announce the death of Mr. John Cooke, of Loughborough, which took place on Tuesday, the 1st inst. The deceased had been for fifteen years foreman for Messrs. John Taylor and Co., Bellfounders, and had superintended, amongst other large works, the fixing of the peal of twelve bells at St. Paul's Cathedral, London, being consequently well-known amongst ringers. The remains were interred at the cemetery on Friday, and as a mark of respect all the men who were at home followed the corpse to the grave. The funeral service was impressively read by the rector of All Saints, Loughborough, the Rev. Thos. Pitts, by whose kind permission after the ceremony, a peal of Grandsire Triples, which is duly recorded in its proper place amongst this week's performances, was rung in three hours and twenty-five minutes, with the bells half-muffled. All the ringers with the exception of Joseph Hardy are fellow workmen of the deceased. It is perhaps worthy of notice that this is the first peal rung by Loughborough ringers exclusively for forty-four years, when Mr. Taylor, sen., rang the 3rd.



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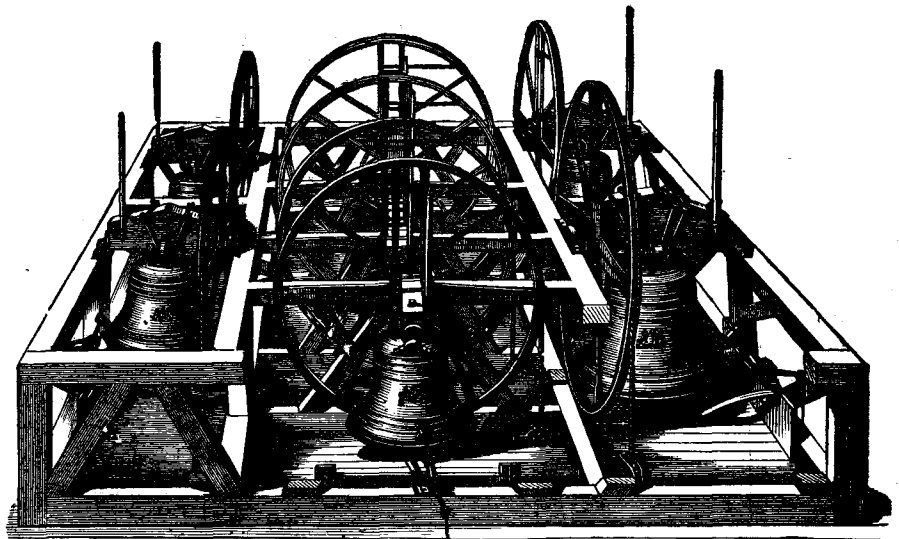
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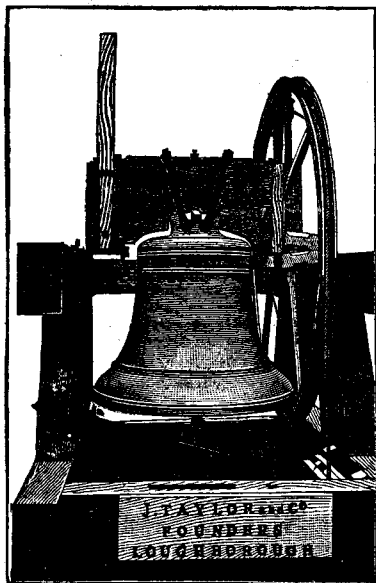
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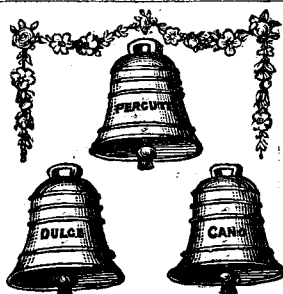
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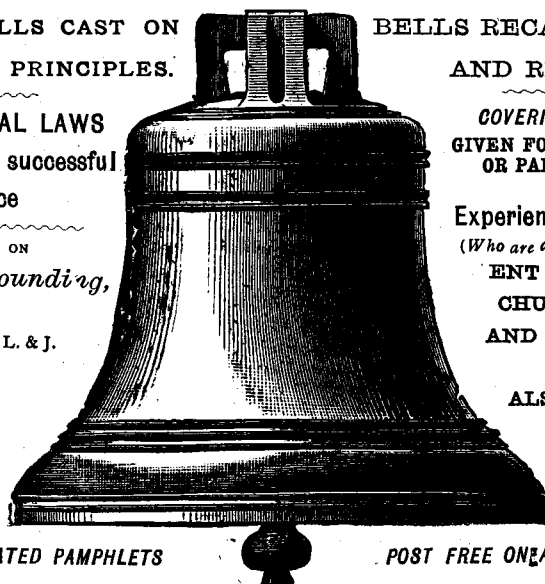
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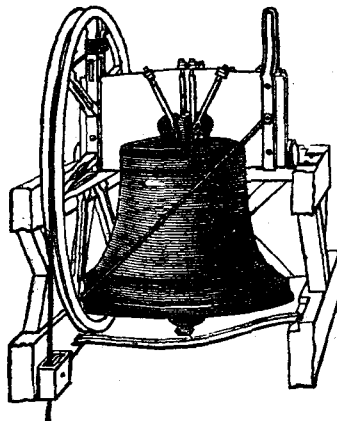
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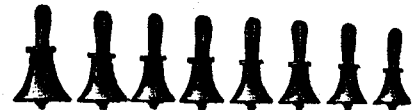
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## THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

At a Committee Meeting of the above Society, held at the Head Quarters, Bradford, on Thursday, December 3rd, which was attended by ten members of the Executive out of a possible fifteen, the following resolutions were passed unanimously:—

"That this Committee places on record the great and inestimable services rendered to the Yorkshire Association by their late President, JASPER WHITFIELD SNOWDON, Esq. It acknowledges with thankfulness Mr. Snowdon's indomitable zeal and energy in building up the Association, which will ever be a monument to his perseverance and abilities."

"That this Committee, while recording the incalculable loss it has suffered by the death of its devoted and beloved President, tenders to Mr. Snowdon's family its heartfelt sympathy with them in their bereavement, and trusts that it will in some measure tend to alleviate their sorrow by knowing how deeply he was esteemed by his brother-ringers, not only in our County Association, but throughout the whole country."

"That these resolutions be entered in the Minute-Book of the Association, and an engrossed copy be sent to Mr. Snowdon's family."

Also "That the Hon. Sec. (Mr. W. Whitaker), and the Hon. Treasurer (Mr. Robert Tuke), be requested to wait on William Snowdon, Esq., brother of the late President, asking him to take the office of President during the unexpired term of the office."

In accordance with the last resolution Messrs. Whitaker and Tuke waited on Mr. William Snowdon, on Friday, the 11th inst., and after a thorough consideration of the matter, and taking fully into account the responsibilities of the office, Mr. Wm. Snowdon accepted the Presidency for the remainder of his late brother's term, which expires on July 31st, 1887, expressing himself gratified at the unanimous manner in which the Committee had passed the resolution. He assured them that he would endeavour, to the best of his ability, to fulfil the duties of his office, and to continue the work on the same lines as his late brother would have desired.

## PHOTOGRAPHS OF THE LATE J. W. SNOWDON, ESQ.

THE COMMITTEE of the Yorkshire Association have made arrangements whereby they can supply photographs of their late President at the following rates: Large size, 12 inches by 10 inches, cut mounts on cardboard, ready for framing, to fit frame about 18 inches by 15 inches, 5s. each; cabinet size, 1s. 6d. each; carte de visite size, 1s. each. The photos are very good ones, and can be had from 'W. Whitaker, Hon. Secretary, 3 Hilary Street, Leeds, or Robert Tuke, Hon. Treasurer, Marlbro' Road, Manningham, Bradford.

## THE ST. ANDREW'S SOCIETY, DERBY.

At the first peal supper of this Society, held a few weeks ago, Mr. Shardlow, the sexton, expressed his desire to present the company with something in remembrance of their first peal, but being prevented that time by some unavoidable delay, he at last had the opportunity of fulfilling his promise on Sunday last, December 13th, being his 55th birthday. On several previous occasions he has marked the event by providing a supper, in the shape of a leg of mutton, but this time he has extended his usual generosity beyond that limit, by presenting each one with a silver scarf pin in the shape of a bell, and bearing their initials, and the first 5040 by the St. Andrew's Society. The Secretary, on rising said it was his duty, at the request of all the ringers present, to express their sincere thanks to their worthy and esteemed sexton, who had beyond doubt been the means of the first peal being rung, by the kind manner in which he has always endeavoured to draw them on. He should also like to congratulate him on the able manner in which he rang, notwithstanding his age and being his first peal, and he hoped that this, is only the first of many which they would ring together. Mr. Shardlow, in responding, said he had always taken great pleasure in what he had done and should continue to do for the Society, and whatever lay in his power to promote such an interesting art as change-ringing.

## SHERBORNE, DORSET.

On Wednesday morning, 9th instant, nine members of the Ancient Society of College Youths started at nine o'clock from Waterloo Station. The weather turned out extremely fine and frosty, and after a most delightful ride, arrived shortly after 12 o'clock at Sherborne. Through the kindness of the Churchwardens, E. G. Dorling, Esq., and F. Lucas, Esq., an excellent dinner was provided, and a walk about the town first indulged in. The grand old Abbey was next visited, the sight of which greatly interested a few of the party who are reported to be of an antiquarian turn of mind; the Early English and Gothic arches, stained glass windows, and an exceptionally good specimen of a groined roof—intersected lattice stonework, embossed at the joints with ornamental roses, painted different colours. The tower is massive and squatty, and the journey to the belfry may be what some people would call dangerous, it being necessary to make a circuit of the roof of the south transept. The top of the tower is reached by a circular iron staircase among the bells, and the ringing chamber is such as will not allow the slightest ray of daylight to penetrate. Service, which was very impressive was held, and after this was over and the many visitors had withdrawn from the tower, the following ringers started for Holt's Original, which resulted in excellent ringing, 1204 changes in 50 minutes, when the attempt had to be abandoned:—J. Pettit (conductor), 1: C. F. Winny, 2; R. French, 3; E. E. Clarke, 4; E. Gibbs, 5; F. E. Dawe, 6; J. M. Hayes, 7; E. Horrex and W. D. Smith, 8. This is a magnificent peal, the tenor weighing 48 cwt. in B flat. All appear to go very well, except the 7th (here called the "Lady Bell," which is not satisfactory, she being a long-waisted bell, and great credit is due to Mr. Hayes for the very manful manner in which he endeavoured to ring it for the peal. Some short touches were then accomplished, including six courses of Stedman Triples; and the tenor and sixth men having changed places, some "firing" took place, the openings being in "Queens," "Whittingtons," and "rounds," followed by three leads of Treble Bob Major as a finish. At tea Mr. Gifford, of Salisbury, joined the party, and afterwards all returned safely to London, except Mr. Dawe, who had started a little earlier for Devonshire. The ringers take this opportunity of tendering their most sincere thanks to the Churchwardens (Messrs. Dorling and Lucas) for their kindness and hospitality.

We have also received the following from another correspondent:—

The bells were opened on Wednesday by the College Youths. They have been rehung in a new frame by J. Warner and Sons, and the four largest bells are hung with Goslin's patent stocks and hangings, and the whole of the bells (eight in number) are mounted upon Goslin's bearings, which are not let into the woodwork, so that the frame is left to its full strength in the top rails. The tenor is 48 cwt., and is easily rung by two men. The "go" of the bells was good all round, excepting, to a small degree, the 7th, which is a very old and long bell, hardly suitable for scientific ringing. It is left intact, with its old cannons, which stand very high, necessitating a very deep stock, which militates against the sound being brought out, and the setting of the bell. The architect and the committee highly approve of the manner in which the work was carried out by Messrs. Warner and Sons, and of the system adopted for hanging. The frame stands entirely free from the tower, so that there is ample space for freely passing round the frame, between the frame and the walls. When all the bells were being rung, there did not appear to be the slightest vibration in the tower, and hardly any perceptible in the frame. It is strongly tied together by massive wrought ironwork, where the strain is thrown in ringing. The College Youths gave a variety of changes and touches during the day, and the local ringers rung in rounds for the service.

## THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—ROTHWELL BRANCH.

The following is the ringing done by this branch at Holy Trinity Church during the month of November: November 1st, 240 of Duke of York, 240 of New London Pleasure, 240 of Violet; November 7th, 720 of College Pleasure, 720 of Arnold's Victory; November 8th, 240 of Duke of York; 240 of Oxford Treble Bob, 240 of Arnold's Victory, 240 of New London Pleasure, 720 of Arnold's Victory, 384 of Oxford Treble Bob; November 10th, 720 of London Scholars' Pleasure, 360 of Duke of York; November 15th, 360 of New London Pleasure, 360 of Duke of York, 96 of New London Pleasure; November 22nd, 720 of Arnold's Victory, 720 of Violet, 360 of Duke of York, 720 of Arnold's Victory; November 23rd, 720 of College Pleasure, 720 of London Scholars' Pleasure; November 27th, 120 of City Delight, \*720 of City Delight; November 29th, 240 of College Pleasure, 720 of London Scholars' Pleasure. \*First 720 of City Delight by all.

Our correspondent who reported the attempt at a peal on the 5th inst., at St. George's, Camberwell, omitted to say the bells were rang half-muffled, in deep respect to the memory of the late Jasper W. Snowdon, Esq.

## WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

A DISTRICT MEETING was held on Monday, December 7th, at Dorking, which was fairly well attended. Tea was served at the Church room and a new band was elected, consisting of the Capej ringers, who will be a useful accession to the Guild, as they are proficient six-bell ringers. At six o'clock practice commenced in St. Martin's belfry, which was continued till nine o'clock. The bells and belfry are in excellent order, and the tone of this fine ring (tenor 25 cwt.) was much admired. During the evening touches of Grandsire, Oxford Treble Bob, and Plain Bob Triples were brought round in good style, including a 378 of Grandsire Triples, in 14 mins. C. Want, 1; H. Wood, 2; H. Newnham, 3; E. Jordan, 4; G. H. Barnett, 5; E. Hull, 6; S. Brooker, 7; G. Holden, 8. And a 518 in the same method, in 21 mins. H. Newnham, 1; G. H. Barnett, 2; E. Jordan, 3; H. Boxall, sen., 4; Rev. H. A. Spyers, 5; G. Williams, 6; S. Brooker, 7; J. Lisney, 8. During the practice, some considerable merriment was caused at the conclusion of one of the touches, by one of the ringers taking the bit between his teeth in the last six strides of the course in his eagerness to get into rounds, the result being that when the bells came round, he found himself at the wrong end of the stick. The Rev. E. A. Chichester, Vicar of Dorking, kindly looked in at the tea and in the belfry, and seemed much interested with what was going on. We hope when next the Guild visits Dorking to find him handling his rope. The Guild wish to thank the Dorking people for the kind welcome they received on Monday last.

## THE ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

Owing to the fact that it is inconvenient for the ringers of Wisbech, to meet their brethren on New Year's Day, the place of meeting is changed with the sanction of the committee, and by the kind invitation of the Vicar, will take place at Mildenhall, Suffolk, on January 1st, 1886. Members of the Association intending to be present, are requested to send in their names without delay to the Hon. Sec. *The Cambridge Road, Ely.* K. H. SMITH, Hon. Sec.

## SUBSCRIPTION LIST FOR THE JOHNSON TESTIMONIAL.

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Thomas Holmes, Burton-on-Trent	5	0	0

We, the Committee, thank all ringers and friends who have so kindly and liberally contributed to this "National Testimonial," and we wish to remind any who are thinking of becoming subscribers that it will be necessary to close the list with the present year. We therefore respectfully ask them to communicate at once with A. Thomas, Hon. Secretary, 83, Wheeléy's Road, Edgbaston, Birmingham; or Mr. S. Reeves, Hon. Treasurer, 10, Bull Street, West Bromwich.

A NOTICE on another column sets forth the fact that the next number of this paper will consist of twenty-four pages, being twice its ordinary size. To meet the additional expense of this temporary enlargement, it has, after mature deliberation, been decided to charge an extra penny per copy. Our readers will not, we are sure, begrudge this little addition to their weekly subscription. The proprietors of every other journal, of whatever nature, when their pages exceed the usual amount, invariably increase the charge per copy to their readers, who regard it as a matter of course. We hope, then, that the readers of "THE BELL NEWS" will estimate their journal in the same manner, and not demur to pay extra for a double number. Following the example of past years, we shall print an extra number of copies, and we shall confide in our friends so purchasing them, that we shall not suffer loss by having a quantity left on our hands. We may as well point out that we shall publish next week a day earlier than usual, and that we must receive everything intended for insertion not later than Wednesday morning next.

## In Memoriam.

JASPER WHITFIELD SNOWDON.

Join one and all, in prayerful bond of love,  
A form we all held dear is called away;  
Summoned to God's own presence up above,  
Parted from us, who fain would had him stay.  
Earth's course-ends o'er, no more of toil or strife,  
Rung are the changes of his peal of life.

What, tho' the world his loss may never feel,  
His memory dear to us will e'er remain;  
In him a master's lost, who could reveal  
The mysteries of our science, make them plain;  
From ancient gloom, he hidden treasures brought  
Into the light of modern day, to show  
Each one of us new beauties in the Art  
Loved so by him, he loved so to impart  
Direct to us, that we might perfect grow.

Shall we who say we loved him then give way?  
No! Let us follow in the path he trod.  
Oh brothers! let us strive more day by day,  
With help Divine, to live more near our God.  
Deeds let us do to raise our noble Art,  
Our motto be to emulate, and then,  
Never shall Snowdon be forgot of men.

Hull.

R. C.

O Death! O Death! what hast thou done,  
By thy tremendous power?  
Thou'st often from the bosom torn,  
The sweet, the much lov'd flower.

Some dreadful ravages thou'st made,  
Within the peaceful home,  
How soon the vigorous body laid  
Within the silent tomb.

O yes; when the command is given,  
Thou'lt quickly force thy way,  
Nor for one moment be forbidden,  
Till thou has grasped thy prey.

O, thou has robbed us of a friend,  
A brother-ringer dear,  
Thou soon his useful life did end,  
Our cries thou would'st not hear.

But now he's gone. O how he toiled;  
Alas! his pen is dry.  
And though his rope's for ever coiled  
May his labours never die.

We know thou has the body slain,  
And laid it in the dust;  
We hope in peace his soul may gain  
A place among the just.

Leeds.

W. WALKER.

## SHOTLEY BRIDGE, DURHAM.—OPENING OF A PEAL OF SIX, TENOR 14 CWT.

The Dedication Service has been fixed for Saturday, December 19th, (this day), at 6.30 p.m. Change-ringing Members of the Durham and Newcastle Diocesan Association and their friends are invited to this opening, and will be provided with meat tea at 5 o'clock.

G. J. CLARKSON.

BARRINGTON, LANCASHIRE.—An accident of an alarming character occurred on Friday last in the belfry. While the junior ringers were at practice under the superintendence of the Vicar, one of the ropes became twisted round his neck, when he was carried off his feet by the wing of the bell, finally falling insensible to the ground. A fatal result was at first apprehended, but this was by God's mercy averted, and the Vicar is recovering as rapidly as after so terrible a shock to the system could be expected.—*Local Paper.*



## A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR.

5248.

By HENRY DAINS.

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

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

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

## A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR.

5088.

By the late W. HARRISON, *Mottram*.

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

Twice repeated.

First rung by the Yorkshire Association, on Saturday, November 14th, 1885, at Drighlington, Yorks. Conducted by J. H. Hardcastle.

## A DATE TOUCH OF BOB MAJOR.

1885.

By JAMES HEWETT.

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8

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

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

4 3 6 5 2 W M H

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

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

These three courses three times repeated produce 4 6 2 5 3, then another course with a bob in the wrong and a bob in the middle, and the bells will come round at hand by 7 8 laying still.

## A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR.

5088.

By JOHN JAGGAR, *Burton-on-Trent*.

2 3 4 5 6 I 4 5 6

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

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

Repeated.

This peal contains the 4th twenty-two times, and the 6th twenty-four times in 6th's place, and is the first obtained with these properties in this number of changes.

## A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR.

6384.

By J. J. PARKER, *Farnham Royal*.

2 3 4 5 6 I 4 6

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

Twice repeated. This peal has the 5th and 6th twelve times each way in 5-6.

## A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR.

5088.

By GEORGE H. HARDY, *Earlsheaton*.

2 3 4 5 6 M B W H

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

Twice repeated.

## A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE MAJOR.

6000.

By JOHN CARTER, *Birmingham*.

2 3 4 5 6

6	2	3	5	4	7th in two.
5	2	3	6	4	8th in three.
3	6	2	5	4	8th in two.
2	5	6	3	4	8th in two.
6	3	5	2	4	8th in two.
2	3	5	6	4	8th in three.
5	6	3	2	4	8th in two.
3	2	6	5	4	8th in two.
5	2	6	3	4	8th in three.
6	3	2	5	4	8th in two.
5	3	2	6	4	8th in three.
2	6	3	5	4	8th in two.
3	5	6	2	4	8th in two.
6	2	5	3	4	8th in two.
3	2	5	6	4	8th in three.
5	6	2	3	4	8th in two.

Four times repeated. 8th in three instead of 8th in two in the fourth course of either part will reduce it to 5088.

The 5008 was rung at Hanbury, Worcestershire, September 27th, 1885, the second part being cut short. Conducted by its composer.

## A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR.

5056.

By H. JOHNSON, *Birmingham*.

2 3 4 5 6 M B W H

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

Repeated.

Rung on Thursday, November 6th, at the parish church, Eccles, Lancashire, conducted by A. Percival Heywood Esq., of Duffield.

## A DATE TOUCH OF UNION TRIPLES.

1885.

By JOSIAH WATHEN, *Tewkesbury*.

1 2 3 4 5 6 7

2	1	3	5	4	7	6
1	2	5	3	7	4	6
1	2	3	5	7	6	4
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3	2	1	4	7	6	5
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3	5	4	6	7	2	4
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3	6	7	5	4	2	1
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7	5	2	4	6	3	1
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The last part twice repeated.

## THE CHRISTMAS NUMBER

(PUBLISHED NEXT WEEK),

Of this journal will contain, among other interesting features, a sketch, entitled,

## "REMINISCENCES;"

And two stories—

## "THE PARSON AND THE RINGERS;"

AND

## "THUMPER'S DATE TOUCH."

There will also appear, A PORTRAIT of that distinguished ringer and composer,

MR. CHAS. HENRY HATTERSLEY,

OF SHEFFIELD; with memoir.

The number will consist of TWENTY-FOUR PAGES, being just double its usual size. The price will be TWOPENCE per copy.

Orders should at once be given to local booksellers.

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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.

A. SQUIRES.—Let us see it.

## The Bell News &amp; Ringers' Record.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 19, 1885.

WE are now passing through the period of short days and long evenings—a time when ringers can best afford leisure for the study and practice of their favourite amusement. And never, perhaps, was the ringing world more busy than at the present moment. From many quarters come sounds of Double Norwich, and even of Superlative Surprise. Nay more, in addition to these, which are still in all their freshness, there are whisperings of "Cambridge" in the air. But our present object is not with any of these. We are not thinking of anything so difficult. Our eye is fixed on a plain and easy, but most delightful method, and one that we would earnestly

recommend to the attention of the Exercise. It will well repay any attention that may be given it, and the only wonder is that it has so long been suffered to "waste its sweetness on the desert air." We allude to ALBION. We resolutely refuse to denominate it "Surprise," that is at least if "Surprise" be taken to denote a crank method. In the compass of this article we can only just mention one or two salient points in this really beautiful method, and our remarks will be chiefly applicable to Major. Albion is a Treble Bob method. The rule for pricking it is most simple. Fifth's and sixth's places are made while the treble is in 1-2 and 3-4; third's and fourth's when she is in 5-6 and 7-8. At her whole pull lead second's place is made, and fourth's instead of second's at a bob. There is no "slow hunt." All the bells work the whole way up and down in every treble lead. There are snapping leads all through, and three dodges at all the treble leads. The tenors are parted only for one lead in each course. The above points, it will be seen, ensure the best possible music throughout. The bells in 5-6 and 7-8 are not affected by bobs. Nor is this all. We have scarcely come to the best of this wonderful method yet. For ease and simplicity of composition, provided that the tenors be not separated or reversed, it is unsurpassed. If the tenors are kept together and the lead-ends are true, the whole is true. The lead-ends and bob-leads are identical with those of Plain Bob. Hence, with the tenors together, the whole composition and proof of Albion Major are identical with those of Plain Bob Major, with this difference only, that any composition in the latter becomes double the length when transformed into the former. It will thus be apparent that its capabilities are unrivalled. We are far from wishing to run down our dear old friend Kent Treble Bob, but when set side by side with Albion, we are driven to confess that it scarcely has a leg left to stand withal. We heartily commend Albion to the attention which it deserves.

WE have pleasure in drawing the attention of our readers to an announcement in another column that photographs of the late Mr. SNOWDON are now ready. The portrait is an excellent one, and the artist seems to have caught Mr. SNOWDON in one of his happiest moods. The pleasant smile curling about the mouth, and the searching gaze, which were so familiar to all who knew him, are here "to the life." For any one who had the good fortune of Mr. SNOWDON's acquaintance, to see this likeness, we are sure, will be an irresistible desire to become possessed of one. We have no doubt that the Committee of the Yorkshire Association—who deserve credit for their promptitude in this matter—will receive a large number of orders; and that ere long the walls of many a ringer's home, and many a resort, will be graced with this likeness of him whose name and features will be by this means made familiar to coming generations of ringers, who will thus learn to know and esteem him as one who did so great a work in connection with our noble Art.

**The Metropolis.**

FULHAM, MIDDLESEX.

THE SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.

On Saturday, December 12, 1885, in Three Hours and Ten Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS, 5003 CHANGES;

Tenor 21 cwt. in E.

WILLIAM BARON .. .. Treble.	*NEWLAND ALDERMAN .. 6.
CHARLES E. MALIM .. .. 2.	HENRY HOPKINS .. .. 7.
JOHN ROGERS .. .. 3.	HENRY S. THOMAS .. .. 8.
WILLIAM COPPAGE .. .. 4.	HENRY DAINS .. .. 9.
HENRY SWAIN .. .. 5.	JOHN MANSFIELD .. .. Tenor.

Composed by the late JOHN COX, and Conducted by W. BARON.

\* First peal of Caters.

WALWORTH, SURREY.

THE ST. JAMES'S SOCIETY, LONDON.

On Friday, December 11, 1885, in Two Hours and Forty-one Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S ORIGINAL. Tenor 15½ cwt. in F.

BENJAMIN E. BATTRUM .. Treble.	RICHARD FRENCH .. .. 5.
WILLIAM JONES .. .. 2.	ARTHUR HAYWARD .. .. 6.
JOSEPH BARRY .. .. 3.	WILLIAM H. GEORGE .. .. 7.
HENRY LANGDON .. .. 4.	*HENRY W. FLOWER .. .. Tenor.

Conducted by RICHARD FRENCH.

The above was rung as an introductory peal to the new Rector, the Rev. James H. Hazell, M.A. \* First peal.

**The Provinces.**

WOODBIDGE, SUFFOLK.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Thursday, December 10, 1885, in Three Hours and Fourteen Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5040 CHANGES.

Tenor 28 cwt.

JOHN FOSDIKE .. .. Treble.	EDWARD SHERWOOD .. .. 5.
WILLIAM WARD .. .. 2.	ALFRED ACFIELD, JUN. .. 6.
JAMES T. HOWARD .. .. 3.	CHARLES WARD .. .. 7.
W. P. GARRETT .. .. 4.	PETO MEADOWS .. .. Tenor.

Conducted by PETO MEADOWS.

E. Sherwood and J. T. Howard hail from Wickham Market; A. Acfield, W. P. Garrett, and W. Ward from Ufford; C. Ward and Peto Meadows from Melton.

MARGATE.—THE QUEX PARK BAND,  
THE SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS, AND  
THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, December 12, 1885, in Three Hours and Eight Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH OF ST. JOHN,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S 10-PART. Tenor 26 cwt.

C. WILLSHIRE .. .. Treble.	T. B. REED .. .. 5.
L. WILLSHIRE .. .. 2.	J. J. BRISTOW .. .. 6.
P. A. REED .. .. 3.	G. WILLSHIRE .. .. 7.
T. B. REED, JUN. .. .. 4.	F. CARROWAY .. .. Tenor.

Conducted by LEON WILLSHIRE.

This is the first peal rung on the bells since January, 1824, which was rung by a mixed band of Quex Park and College Youths. Great credit is due to F. Carroway for the plucky way in which he rung the tenor through single-handed, this being his first peal, and there is no record of the tenor being rung through a complete peal by one man before.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

NOTICE is hereby given that the next District Meeting will be held at Chichester during the month of January.

GEO. F. ATTREE, Hon. Sec.

ERITH, KENT.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

On Saturday, December 12, 1885, in Three Hours and Fifty-nine Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST.

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

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

GEORGE HAYES* .. .. Treble.	*BENJAMIN SPUNNER .. .. 5.
GEORGE CONYARD .. .. 2.	FREDERICK FRENCH .. .. 6.
WILLIAM MARTIN* .. .. 3.	*WILLIAM HARPER .. .. 7.
FREDERICK HAYES* .. .. 4.	JOHN GARARD .. .. Tenor.

Conducted by FREDERICK FRENCH.

G. Hayes, F. Hayes, and W. Martin were elected members of the College Youths before starting for the peal. G. Conyard hails from Crayford; F. French from Bexley; J. Garard belongs to Erith; the rest are members of St. George's, Gravesend. \* First peal.

GLOSSOP, DERBYSHIRE.

THE ALL SAINTS' JUNIOR SOCIETY.

On Saturday, December 12, 1885, in Six Hours and Thirteen Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 10,176 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 15 cwt.

SAMUEL HARROP .. .. Treble.	CHARLES BROOKE .. .. 5.
DANIEL JAMES .. .. 2.	JOSEPH MALONEY .. .. 6.
WILLIAM HARROP .. .. 3.	SAMUEL KNOTT, JUN. .. 7.
HENRY COOPER .. .. 4.	JOHN PYE, JUN. .. .. Tenor.

Composed by the late WILLIAM HARRISON, of Mottram, and  
Conducted by SAMUEL KNOTT, JUN.

This is the longest peal ever rung in Glossop. The average age of the above band is only twenty-two years.

MAIDENHEAD, BERKS.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—READING BRANCH.

On Saturday, December 12, 1885, in Three Hours and Seven Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS, BOYNE HILL,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5120 CHANGES.

Tenor 17½ cwt.

REV. G. F. COLERIDGE .. Treble.	†WM. J. WILLIAMS .. .. 5.
ALFD. C. FUSSELL .. .. 2.	†HENRY EGBY .. .. 6.
WM. H. FUSSELL .. .. 3.	†WILLIAM NEWELL .. .. 7.
JAMES POTTER* .. .. 4.	*GEORGE NEWSON .. .. Tenor.

Composed by WM. SHIPWAY, and Conducted by GEORGE NEWSON.

This is the longest peal on the bells, also the first in this method. This is the first peal in the method by all the band excepting those marked \*. † First peal of Major. The company wish to thank the Rev. A. H. Drummond for granting permission to ring.

ROTHERHAM.—THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, December 14, 1885, in Three Hours and Twenty-seven Minutes,

AT ST. ANN'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERS, 5105 CHANGES;

Tenor 32 cwt.

GEORGE BRIGGS .. .. Treble.	TOM LEE .. .. 6.
CHAS. HY. HATTERSLEY .. 2.	JOHN HALE .. .. 7.
F. COATES .. .. 3.	WALTER COATES .. .. 8.
JOB ATHEY .. .. 4.	ALFRED RODGERS .. .. 9.
THOMAS WHITWORTH .. 5.	WILLIAM HURST .. .. Tenor.

Composed and Conducted by FRED. COATES.

CHELTENHAM.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, December 14, 1885, in Three Hours and Sixteen Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 23 cwt.

J. BELCHER .. .. Treble.	H. KARN .. .. 5.
W. MORRIS .. .. 2.	W. T. PATES .. .. 6.
F. E. WARD, ESQ. .. .. 3.	F. MUSTY .. .. 7.
REV. C. D. P. DAVIES .. 4.	G. H. PHILLOTT, ESQ. .. Tenor.

Composed by the late WILLIAM ESTCOURT, of Painswick, and  
Conducted by J. BELCHER.

UPTON ST. LEONARD'S, GLOUCESTERSHIRE.  
GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION  
AND THE UPTON ST. LEONARD'S SOCIETY.

On Monday, December 14, 1885, in Three Hours and Five-and- $\frac{1}{4}$  Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. LEONARD,

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

H. G. GARDNER† .. .. Treble.	*WM. SEVIER .. .. 5.
J. YATES* .. .. 2.	†J. BALDWIN .. .. 6.
H. MITCHELL .. .. 3.	A. A. WAITE .. .. 7.
G. MILES* .. .. 4.	R. A. BARRETT .. .. Tenor.

Conducted by H. G. GARDNER.

†College Youth. †Cumberland Youth. \*First peal in the method. The above was rung to commemorate William Sevier's 21st birthday, his brother ringers wishing him many happy returns.

### Miscellaneous.

#### THE ST. JAMES'S SOCIETY, LONDON.

CAMBERWELL (Surrey).—On Saturday, December 12th, at St. George's church, an attempt was made to ring Holt's Original peal of Grandsire Triples, but it had to be abandoned after ringing about 4500 changes in 2 hrs. 28 mins. owing to illness near the church. F. G. Newman (conductor), 1; J. Barry, 2; A. E. Church, 3; H. J. Davies, 4; H. Langdon, 5; R. French, 6; W. H. George, 7; E. Rogers, 8. Tenor 14 cwt.

#### DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

CONSETT.—On Wednesday, December 9th, a 720 of Bob Minor. Z. Scott (Winlaton), 1; W. Siddoway (Winlaton), 2; W. Baxter (Jarrow), 3; J. Rossiter (North Shields), 4; R. W. Wignell (North Shields), 5; F. Lees (Newcastle), 6. And a 720 of Kent Treble Bob. F. Lees, 1; R. Alcock, 2; W. Stephenson, 3; G. J. Clarkson (conductor), 4; T. Stephenson, 5; W. Newton, 6. All of this latter band except F. Lees, hail from Stockton.

MIDDLESBROUGH.—On Monday, December 14th, at St. Hilda's church, 1344 of Kent Treble Bob Major. J. H. Blakiston, 1; R. Alcock, 2; G. J. Clarkson (conductor), 3; W. Stephenson, 4; T. Burdon, 5; T. W. Waller, 6; T. Stephenson, 7; W. Newton, 8.

STOCKTON-ON-TEES.—On Wednesday, November 25th, by members of the local company, a 720 of Court Bob. On Sunday, November 29th, a 720 of St. Simon's. On Wednesday, December 2nd, a 720 of Grandsire Minor. On Sunday, December 6th, a 720 of Woodbine. On Monday, December 7th, a 720 of Violet. On Sunday, December 13th, a 720 of York Surprise.

#### GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

BARNWOOD.—Recently, the St. Lawrence's Society rang 720 changes of Canterbury Pleasure Minor in 26 mins. H. Barnes, 1; J. Yates, 2; G. Miles, 3; Wm. Sevier, 3; H. Mitchell (composer and conductor), 5; A. A. Waite, 6. Tenor 14 cwt.

MAISMORE (Gloucestershire).—On Sunday, December 6th, 720 Plain Bob Minor, in 26 mins. Wm. Brunsdon (first 720 in the method), 1; J. Baldwin, 2; Wm. Sevier, 3; H. G. Gardner, 4; H. Mitchell, 5; R. A. Barrett (conductor), 6. Tenor 11 $\frac{1}{2}$  cwt. in G.

UPTON-ST.-LEONARD'S (Gloucestershire).—On Sunday, December 13th, six members of this Association rang a 720 Plain Bob Minor, in 27 mins. J. Midlecoate, 1; H. Mitchell (conductor), 2; Y. Yates, 3; J. Baldwin, 3; A. A. Waite, 5; H. G. Gardner, 6. Tenor 18 $\frac{1}{2}$  cwt. in F. This 720 was composed by Mrs. A. A. Waite.

#### THE HERTFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

HITCHIN (Herts).—On Monday, December 14th, at St. Mary's Church, for practice, 350 of Grandsire Triples. J. Randall, 1; H. Buckingham, 2; F. Furr, 3; A. Squires, 4; W. Allen (conductor), 5; S. Hare, 6; J. Hare, 7; W. Kitchener, 8. Tenor 28 cwt. in D.

#### THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

LYMINGE (Kent).—On Saturday evening, December 5th, at the parish church of S.S. Mary and Eadburgh, a 720 of Bob Minor, with eighteen bobs and two singles, in 29 mins. J. Prebble, 1; R. Andrews, 2; A. Beer, 3; A. Tanton, 4; William Fordred, 5; James Andrews (conductor), 6. And on Saturday evening, December 12th, a 720 of Bob Minor, with sixteen bobs and two singles, in 28 $\frac{1}{2}$  mins. J. Prebble, 1; R. Andrews, 2; A. Beer, 3; J. Andrews, 4; W. Fordred, 5; A. Tanton (conductor), 6. Tenor 18 $\frac{1}{2}$  cwt.

SPELDHURST (Kent).—On Thursday, December 10th, at the parish church of St. Mary, 720 Plain Bob (thirty-two bobs and two singles), in 26 mins. J. Maynard, 1; B. Winn, 2; J. Baker, 3; F. Still, 4; F. Still, sen., 5; F. Still, jun. (conductor), 6. Tenor 14 cwt. in G.

SWANSCOMBE (Kent).—On Thursday, December 10th, for practice at the parish church, a 720 of Plain Bob, in 26 mins. F. Cornford, 1; G. Hayes, 2; F. J. Ring, 3; F. Hayes, 4; W. Harper, 5; W. Martin (conductor), 6. And on Sunday, December 13th, for Divine Service in the morning, a 720 of Grandsire Minor, in 25 mins. L. Digweed, 1; John Broom, 2; W. Harper (conductor), 3; F. J. Ring, 4; W. Martin, 5; G. Hayes, 6.

#### THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

WALKDEN (Lancashire).—Muffled Peal.—On Saturday, December 12th, at the parish church, the usual whole pull and stand was rung as a mark of respect to the late Jasper W. Snowden, Esq. W. Denner (conductor), 1; J. Worthington, 2; S. Oakes, 3; A. Potter, 4; J. Welsby, 5; J. Brooks, 6. Tenor 13 cwt. 3 qrs.

#### THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

BRAY (Oxon).—On Thursday, December 10th, at St. Michael's parish church, a 720 of Grandsire Minor, in 30 mins. A. Andrews, 1; A. Fussell, 2; W. Garraway (conductor), 3; W. Wilder, 4; W. H. Fussell, 5; R. Flaxman, 6. Also a 720 of Grandsire Minor, in 29 mins. W. Garraway, 1; A. Andrews, 2; W. Wilder, 3; W. H. Fussell, 4; R. Flaxman, 5; A. C. Fussell (conductor), 6. And a six-score each of Stedman and Grandsire Doubles. A. Andrews, 1; A. Fussell, 2; W. Garraway, 3; R. Flaxman, 4; W. Fussell (conductor), 5; H. Barker, 6. Tenor 36 cwt.

CUPDINGTON (Bucks).—On Thursday, December 10th, the local members of the above Guild, rang a 720 of Grandsire Minor, in 27 mins. J. Frost, sen., 1; G. Warner (conductor), 2; J. Frost, jun., 3; J. Blake, 4; A. Frost, 5; A. Webb, 6. This was the first 720 by the above except the conductor. Tenor 9 cwt. in G. Great praise is due to this young band, they having rung their first 720 of Grandsire Minor in just one year and ten days from the placing of the bells in their tower, and ringing them for the first time, under the tuition of Mr. G. Warner, of Long Crendon.

OXFORD.—Muffled Peals.—On Wednesday, November 25th, at St. Thomas-ye-Martyr, a 720 of Cambridge Surprise Minor, in 25 mins. Job Howes, 1; W. H. Wood, 2; F. A. Castle, 3; H. J. Castle, 4; W. C. Baston, 5; J. W. Washbrook (conductor), 6. The above was rung with the bells deeply muffled as a mark of respect to the late J. W. Snowden, Esq. And on Monday, November 30th, at St. Mary Magdalene, touches of Treble Bob Minor, with the bells deeply muffled, as a mark of respect to the late J. W. Snowden, Esq., after the usual whole pull and stand. Job Howes, 1; W. H. Wood, 2; C. Hester, 3; F. A. Castle, 4; A. F. M. Custance, Esq., 5; H. J. Castle, 6. On Saturday, November 28th, at St. Thomas's church, a 720 of Oxford Bob, in 24 mins. W. Cox, 1; W. H. Wood, 2; C. Hounslow, 3; ———, 4; F. Castle, 5; W. J. Washbrook (conductor), 6. And on Tuesday, December 1st, at St. Mary Magdalene, a 720 of Cambridge Surprise Minor, in 25 mins. J. Howes, 1; W. H. Wood, 2; F. A. Castle, 3; J. W. Washbrook (conductor), 4; C. Hounslow, 5; W. C. Baston, 6. And on Wednesday, December 2nd, at St. Thomas's church, a 720 of Oxford Bob Minor, in 22 mins. ———, 1; W. H. Wood, 2; J. Howes, 3; J. W. Washbrook (conductor), 4; F. A. Castle, 5; W. C. Baston, 6. And on Sunday, December 14th, at St. Peter's in the East, a 720 of Oxford Bob, in 25 mins. A. Fox, 1; W. Wood, 2; S. Hounslow, 3; W. Baston, 4; F. A. Castle, 5; J. W. Washbrook (conductor), 6. And at All Saints', in the evening, a 720 of Oxford Bob, in 23 mins. A. Fox, 1; T. Payne, 2; F. A. Castle, 3; ———, 4; A. F. M. Custance, Esq., 5; J. W. Washbrook (conductor), 6.

SLOUGH (Bucks).—On Saturday, November 21st, at St. Mary's Parish Church, being the birthday of the Princess Royal, a 720 of Grandsire Minor in 24 mins. W. Leader, 1; A. Andrews, 2; A. Fussell, 3; W. Wilder, 4; W. Fussell, 5; R. Flaxman (conductor), 6. Muffled Peal.—Also on Wednesday, November 25th, a 720 of Grandsire Minor, in 27 $\frac{1}{2}$  mins. W. Leader, 1; W. Wilder, 2; T. Udell, 3; W. Fussell, 4; A. Fussell, 5; R. Flaxman, 6. This was rung as a token of respect to the late Jasper W. Snowden, Esq. And on Tuesday, December 8th, being the practice night, a 720 of Grandsire Minor (thirty-four bobs and two singles), in 24 $\frac{1}{2}$  mins. W. Leader, 1; A. Fussell, 2; T. Udell, 3; W. Wilder, 4; W. Fussell, 5; R. Flaxman, 6.

WANTAGE (Berks).—On Monday evening, November 30th, a 720 of Grandsire Minor, in 29 mins. G. Gregory, 1; C. Page, 2; F. Money, 3; A. Bunce, 4; H. Smith, 5; F. May (conductor), 6. And on Sunday, December 6th, for afternoon service, 360 of Kent Treble Bob Minor. G. Gregory, 1; H. Smith, 2; J. Gardner, 3; A. Gregory, 4; A. Bunce, 5; F. May, 6. Also on Sunday, December 13th, for Divine Service in the evening, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor, in 28 $\frac{1}{2}$  mins. G. Gregory, 1; J. Gardner, 2; F. Money, 3; A. Gregory, 4; A. Bunce, 5; F. May (conductor), 6.

## THE ROCHDALE AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATION.

On Monday evening, November 30th, the local company, with the assistance of two from Heywood, rang 1152 changes of Kent Treble Bob, at the parish church, in 44 mins. J. Millett (Heywood), 1; J. T. Lucas, 2; J. Hoggard, 3; B. Meadowcroft, 4; Geo. Hoyle, 5; A. Hurst, 6; F. Birtwistle, 7; J. Harrison (Heywood), 8. On Monday, December 14th, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor, in 27½ mins. J. Millett (Heywood), 1; B. Meadowcroft, 2; Jno. Hoggard, 3; Geo. Hoyle, 4; F. Birtwistle, 5; J. Harrison (Heywood), 6. The same evening a 360 of Kent Treble Bob was also rung, the ringers being stationed as above, with the exception that J. T. Lucas rang the treble and J. Millett the 4th. The above were all conducted by F. Birtwistle.

## STOKE-UPON-TRENT ARCHIDIACONAL ASSOCIATION.

NORTON (Staffordshire).—On Friday, December 11th, 720 Oxford Treble Bob Minor, in 26 mins. W. Baddeley, 1; E. Glover, 2; J. Morton, 3; J. Wood, 4; J. W. Brough, 5; J. Baddeley (conductor), 6.

BENGELO (Herts).—On Friday, December 11th, at Holy Trinity Church, a 720 of Plain Bob Minor (twenty-two bobs and two singles). T. Barker, 1; H. J. Tucker (conductor), 2; H. Phillips, 3; J. Promfret, 4; W. Bennett, 5; W. Odell, 6. And on Sunday, December 13th, a 720 of Plain Bob Minor (forty-two singles). T. Barker, 1; W. Odell, 2; H. Phillips, 3; W. Bennett, 4; J. Channer, 5; H. J. Tucker (conductor), 6. This is H. J. Tucker's 150th 720.

BOCKING (Essex).—On Sunday, December 13th, for Divine Service in the afternoon, at the parish church, 720 Bob Minor (eighteen bobs and two singles), in 28 mins. A. Spurge, 1; W. Moore, 2; J. Savil (Rayne), 3; S. Sargent, 4; W. Bearman, 5; C. Bearman (conductor), 6.

BRISTOL.—*Muffled Peal*.—On Thursday, December 3rd, at St. George's church, 1500 Grandsire Doubles, in 58 mins. M. Sparks (age 13), 1; F. Trout, 2; I. Lacey, 3; J. Brain (conductor), 4; H. Whitelock, 5; Samuel Russell, 6. The above was rung in memory of the late Jasper W. Snowdon.

CALVERLEY (Yorks).—On Sunday, December 13th, for Divine Service in the evening, the following members of the local company rang 544 of London Treble Bob Major in 20 mins, also a plain course in the same method. These are the first touches on the bells in this method. R. Page, 1; W. Child, 2; Ezra Keighley, 3; W. Hollings, 4; J. Page, 5; J. Ross, 6; J. Cordingley (conductor), 7; W. Davison, 8. Tenor 10½ cwt. Composed by Mr. William Sottan-stall, of Sowerby.

CHESTER.—On Saturday, December 12th, six members of the St. Mary's Society attempted a 5040 in seven different methods on six bells, but after ringing 1 hr., and 8 mins. it came to grief owing to a change-course. The following methods were rung: 720 Plain Bob, 720 Grandsire, and 450 College Single. William Joinson, 1; Edwin Davies, 2; George Caldwell, 3; John Johnson, 4; Sidney Barton, 5; Thomas J. Bethell (conductor), 6.

COLN ST. ALDWYNS (Gloucestershire).—On Monday, December 14th, at the parish church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, 1260 changes, in 44 mins. W. Foulles, 2; E. Webb, 2; J. Williams, 3; R. Jefferies, 4; C. Bate, 5; R. Packer, 6; J. Kitchener (conductor), 7; W. Kibble, 8.

DATCHWORTH (Herts).—On Saturday, December 12th, eight of the Bengelo company paid a visit to this place, and rang a 720 of Plain Bob Minor (eighteen bobs and two singles). W. Childs, 1; W. Bennett, 2; J. Pomfret, 3; W. Odell, 4; J. Channer, 5; H. Phillips (conductor), 6. The ringers wish to return thanks to the Rev. J. Wardale, for granting permission to ring, and kindly entertaining them to tea; and to Mr. Dennis for his courtesy towards them.

DISS (Norfolk).—On Tuesday evening, December 8th, the local company rang 1152 changes of Bob Major, in 47 mins. W. Ireland, 1; J. Rudd, 2; W. Matthews, 3; E. Bartrum, 4; C. Webster, 5; B. Francis, 6; A. Hart, 7; J. Soutar, 8. Tenor 24 cwt. Composed and conducted by B. Francis.

EXETER.—On Sunday, December 13th, at St. Sidwell's Church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, 1260 changes, in 45 mins. T. Townsend, 1; E. Pitts, 2; W. G. Goss, 3; A. Shepherd, 4; J. Moss, 5; E. Shepherd (conductor), 6; F. Shepherd, 7; W. Mundy, 8. Tenor 24 cwt.

EWHRST (Surrey).—On Wednesday, December 9th, for practice, the local company rang a 720 of New London Bob Minor, in 29 mins. William Haynes, sen., 1; Fredk. Francis, 2; F. Francis, 3; W. Tidy, 4; A. Baker (conductor), 5; W. Haynes, jun., 6. First 720 in the method by all the band. And on Friday, December 11th, for practice, 720 of Oxford Single Bob Minor in 28 mins. W. Haynes, sen., 1; F. Francis, 2; Frank Francis, 3; A. Baker, 4; W. Haynes, jnn., 5; A. Weale (conductor), 6.

GREAT TOTHAM (Essex).—On Friday evening, December 11th, five members of the All Saints' company, Maldon, assisted by Mr. C. Hounslow, of Oxford, visited the above church, and rang a 720 of Cambridge Surprise, in 26 mins. C. Tabor, 1; R. Hutson, 2; T. Mansfield, 3; C. Hounslow, 4; W. Chalk (conductor), 5; W. Mansfield, 6. Tenor 7½ cwt. The above is the first in the method on the bells.

HIGHAM (Suffolk).—On Monday evening, November 30th, for practice, a 720 of Bob Minor. G. Winny, 1; J. W. Smith, 2; W. Ranson, 3; W. Smith (conductor), 4; G. Ranson (first 720), 5; C. Ablitt, 6. And on Monday evening, December 7th, a 720 of Bob Minor. W. Smith, 1; C. Smith (first 720), 2; W. Ranson, 3; J. Levitt, 4; J. W. Smith (conductor), 5; C. Ablitt, 6. Also on handbells, retained in hand, a 720 of Bob Minor. J. Levitt, 1-2; W. Smith (conductor), 3-4; J. W. Smith, 5-6. And on Saturday evening, December 12th, two 720's of Bob Minor. G. Winny, 1; J. Levitt, 2; W. Smith, 3; A. Smith (first 720), 4; J. W. Smith (conductor), 5; C. Ablitt, 6. And in the second: G. Winny, 1; W. Smith, 2; W. Ranson, 3; J. Levitt, 4; J. W. Smith (conductor), 5; C. Ablitt, 6.

LINDLEY (Yorkshire).—*Muffled Peal*.—On Sunday evening, December 13th, the Lindley society rang 2154 of Kent Treble Bob Major, in 1 hr. 16 mins., as a mark of respect to the late Jasper W. Snowdon, Esq. H. Wilkinson, 1; A. Crosland, 2; E. Ellam, 3; G. W. Schofield, 4; A. Sykes, 5; B. Shaw, 6; C. W. Clegg (conductor), 7; F. Schofield, 8. Tenor 18½ cwt. Composed by A. Sykes. The number of this touch corresponded to the number of weeks the deceased had lived.

LOWER HARDRES (Kent).—*Handbell Ringing*.—On Saturday, December 12th, a 720 of Grandsire Minor. A. Brine, Esq. (conductor), 1-2; \*Miss L. Brine, 3; \*Miss M. Brine, 4; \*Miss Brine, 5; \*Miss E. Brine, 6. \*First 720. Also on Tuesday, December 15th, a 720 in the same method, standing as before.

MIDDLESBROUGH-ON-TEES.—On Friday evening, December 11th, at St. Hilda's church, the local band, assisted by Mr. G. J. Clarkson, of Stockton, rang for the first time, 120 of Bob Doubles, with 7,6,8 covering. R. Burrows, 1; H. McAdams, 2; G. J. Clarkson, 3; J. W. Wood, 4; S. Walker, jun., 5; T. Walker, 6; J. H. Blakiston, 7; S. Walker, sen., 8. This company has only been in existence since September 29th, and the above is the first 120 ever rung by a Middlesbrough company.

RAUNDS (Northants).—On Monday, December 14th, for practice at St. Peter's Church, a 720 of Bob Minor, with eighteen bobs and two singles. H. Stubbs, 1; J. Stubbs, 2; R. Pendered, 3; F. Gilbert, 4; W. J. Gilbert (conductor), 5; F. Slade, 6. This is the first 720 by F. Slade, he knowing nothing of change-ringing two months ago. Also a 360 of Bob Minor, with fifteen bobs and two singles. H. Stubbs, 1; F. Gilbert, 2; R. Pendered, 3; N. Martin, 4; B. W. Allen, 5; W. J. Gilbert (conductor), 6. And 120 of Bob Doubles. H. Stubbs, 1; F. Gilbert, 2; F. Kirk (first 120), 3; W. J. Gilbert (conductor), 4; B. W. Allen, 5; S. Bailey, 6.

RUNCORN (Cheshire).—On Tuesday, December 15th, at All Saints' Church, on the back six, a 720 of Grandsire Minor in 27 mins. S. Hoxworth, 1; J. Large, 2; \*J. Gatley, 3; W. Hughes (conductor), 4; J. Dykes, 5; G. W. Hughes, 6. First 720. Messrs. W. and G. W. Hughes hail from Garston; Hoxworth, Gatley, and Dykes, from Runcorn, and J. Large from Widnes. \*First 720.

SITTINGBOURNE (Kent).—On Saturday, December 13th, for Divine Service in the evening, 540 of Grandsire Triples. \*A. Bourguin, 1; E. Gower, 2; F. C. Mattison (conductor), 3; J. G. Elliott, 4; E. J. Bottle, 5; S. Snelling, 6; J. M. Cooper, 7; H. Sutton, 8. \*First attempt at Triples.

STRATFORD (Suffolk).—On Sunday, December 6th, after Divine Service in the evening, a 720 of Bob Minor. G. Winny, 1; W. Smith, 2; W. Ranson, 3; G. Ranson, 4; J. W. Smith (conductor), 5; C. Ablitt, 6.

THORNBURY (Gloucestershire).—On Tuesday evening, December 15th, for practice, six 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles, each called differently. W. Davis, 1; \*F. Symes, 2; G. Iles, 3; \*T. Alsopp, 4; F. Howell, 5; J. Phillips, 6. Conducted by G. Iles and F. Howell. \*Members of the Gloucester and Bristol Diocesan Association.

TONG (Yorkshire).—On Sunday, December 13th, for afternoon service at the parish church, 240 each of Oxford, Violet, New London Pleasure, and Duke of York. J. W. Simon, 2; W. H. Stead, 2; W. Bolland (conductor), 3; J. Blackburn, Esq., 4; G. H. Simon, 5; H. Senior, 6. Also 360 of London Scholars' Pleasure, standing as before except the 5th and 6th.

WALPOLE (Norfolk).—Recently at St. Peter's Church, a 720 of Bob Minor (twenty-one bobs and twelve singles), in 27 mins. J. Hendy, 1; R. Grimes, 2; H. Hill (conductor), 3; H. Allen, 4; H. Merishaw, 5; W. Wright, 6. Also a 720 in the same method with nine bobs and six singles, standing as before, R. Grimes, conductor. And a 360 in the same method, with twenty-two singles, Henry Hill, conductor.

## 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."

## LONDON SOCIETIES.

SIR,—In answer to Mr. Trappitt, *alias* "Little Jim," I am not quite certain from his letter as to what he challenges me to do or to prove. If he refers to what I have said denying his charge about unfrequent practices in twelve-bell towers, let him answer these questions:—Have not the society met once a month at St. Paul's? Have they not also as a rule met once a fortnight at St. Saviour's (although perhaps occasionally a practice may have been missed at the latter), and has there not generally been a practice at some other twelve-bell steeple during each month in the past year? I am seldom in London, and very rarely happen to be there on a meeting night at the "King's Head?" Otherwise I should be most happy to accept your correspondent's offer to meet him there. Sometimes when persons can meet and talk over any subject quietly, it saves a great deal of "paper warfare," and I am sure Mr. Routh would see everything fair in the matter. I hope that some London member will accept the challenge, and I shall be glad to hear the result. If on the other hand Mr. Trappitt challenges me for what I said about correspondents adopting various *noms de plume* (the writer being the same person all the time), I never said that he had done this, and I will just inform him and the readers of "THE BELL NEWS" generally, what reason I had for making this assertion. Some time ago when I was engaged in some correspondence on Belfry Reform and other matters, I received a letter from a well-known ringer informing me that he was certain that a great many of the letters signed with different *nom de plumes*, had emanated from the same person, among others he said that "Little Jim" was one of the names under which the person he mentioned wrote. A day or two afterwards he found out his mistake, and wrote informing me thereof, but still affirming that a great many other letters had come from the same person. I was also informed by a well-known London ringer, that "Little Jim" was not the person alluded to by the other, and with this I rested satisfied. So much for this matter. As to the refusal to the belfry at Beddington, I am very glad to find that it was not the Vicar, nor the Churchwardens, nor the steeplekeeper, nor anyone in charge of the bells. I am quite satisfied with the explanation given by Mr. Trappitt and Mr. Plowman, as I think all your readers must be. I conclude that the author of the "Church Bells of Surrey" must have applied to the wrong person.

J. R. JERRAM.

SIR,—At its last meeting, the Ancient Society of College Youths' after hearing my explanation, called upon me to withdraw what I have stated in your paper on the subject of its finances. This I of course refused to do, and I was consequently asked to resign my membership of that society. As my statements have also been challenged in your columns, I consider, however, that I have a right to place before your readers the facts on which I founded them, and leave the whole case in their hands for them to form whatever opinion they like on it. If your readers will turn to the society's balance sheet published in a recent issue, they will find that at the date of my letter the accounts shewed a balance of £36 odd (the savings of 250 years). Since then, the yearly audit has taken place, and as a result the sum of £18 additional may now be brought to account. I had no means of knowing that so large (comparatively) a sum would be saved on this year's expenditure, and I fancy a good many of your readers will agree that Mr. Mash's remark, that I must have known the funds to amount to nearly £60, was not justified by the facts. However, I am willing to take the £54, as it stands, and ask your readers if they consider it an adequate balance for a society like the College Youths, even if it were not a fact that the actual requirements of this society at the present moment are greatly in excess of this paltry sum. However, as I have now ceased to be a member, the subject has no further interest for me. I have, as I think, completely justified the only one of my assertions whose correctness was challenged, and it only remains for me to say in the most emphatic terms, that no ringing society in England shall prevent my saying what I believe to be the truth about any subject, and saying it moreover (with your permission), in that most open of all places, the columns of the press.

EDWARD F. STRANGE.

[Correspondence on this subject must now cease.—Ed.]

## THE COMPLAINT FROM SUSSEX.

SIR,—In the correspondence column of last week's issue of "THE BELL NEWS" there appeared a letter signed "A Member of the Sussex County Association." As Hon. Sec. of that Association I must decline to answer any anonymous communication, but if the writer of the above mentioned letter will either publish his name or send same by post to me, I will at once prove to him personally, and if he wishes, to

the bell-ringing world generally, through the medium of our paper, that nothing has been done by any branch of the Association that can, by an Englishman, be called "narrow or selfish." And now, Sir, while on this subject, perhaps you will allow me to express a regret, that in common with many of your readers, I have for some months past felt, that so large a proportion of the valuable space allotted to the Exercise should be occupied by correspondence either of a purely local character or by personal squabbles; surely in the interest of the science these petty matters might be settled by reference to the committee of a local association, and the space now wasted used for matters of a more instructive and edifying nature.

8, Hanover Crescent, Brighton.

GEO. F. ATTREE, Hon. Sec.

## INFORMATION WANTED.

SIR,—Will any of your readers kindly let me know, through the medium of your columns, which is the most universally adopted method of making a Stedman single on five bells, viz.: the method of the late Mr. Snowdon, or that of Mr. Troyte. By referring to Mr. Snowdon's "Standard Methods in the Art of Change-ringing," published in 1881, page 29, and to Mr. Troyte's book on "Change-ringing," 4th edition, page 43, a disparity will be observed by any gentleman who will trouble to confer a favour on

F. J. GAMLIN.

## A CORRECTION.

SIR,—The peal at Basingstoke, Hants., should have read "the third time the Original has been rung in the county," since the peal conducted by Mr. Pettitt was rung in 1872. The Rev. F. E. Robinson called it again at Privett on July 7th during the present year.

W. H. F.

## OPENING OF A NEW PEAL OF SIX AT CONSETT, DURHAM.

A special service for the purpose of consecrating the new peal of bells lately placed in the tower of Christ Church, Consett, took place on Wednesday, December 9th. The prime mover in the idea of procuring a peal of bells was Mr. J. T. Potts, formerly of Consett, who promised the Vicar £50 if the bells were hung before the forthcoming Christmas. This offer the Rev. F. Steggall at once accepted, and in a very short time raised a very considerable sum. Subsequently a commission was given to Messrs. Taylor and Sons, of Loughborough, who have supplied a peal of six bells, tenor 17½ cwt., forming a very fine peal. The bells are in excellent tune, and certainly go with incredible ease. Invitations issued to the change-ringing branches of the Durham and Newcastle Diocesan Association brought representatives from Newcastle, North Shields, Jarrow, Stockton, Darlington, and Winton, who with the local men made up a party of about twenty-two at the dinner, provided at the "Queen's Head," and presided over by the Rev. F. Steggall. At the conclusion of the dinner the Rev. Chairman addressed a few words to the company, heartily thanking them for their attendance. The Secretary of the Association, Mr. Clarkson replied, and expressed the thanks of members of the Association for the very hearty reception accorded to them, and suggested that as Consett was now a centre of a district of bells, that the thanks of the Association would take the practical form of rendering the Consett ringers all possible assistance in learning the art of change-ringing. The dedication service was held at 3.30, the Bishop of Durham performing the consecration ceremony in the presence of a large congregation. The Bishop, in the course of his sermon, referred to the bells then being dedicated, and said to those who heard them, they would teach many a lesson and preach many a sermon if they were only willing to learn. They would associate with all the most eventful movements in their lives—the bereaved heart would find expression in their solemn toll, whilst festal occasions would be gladdened by their merry peal. In life and in death they would respond to the truest emotions of the soul. During the offertory a course of Kent Treble Bob was rung. The interest in the bells was shown by the parishioners standing about in groups in the midst of a heavy snowstorm, listening to the ringing.

## THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION OF SIX-BELL RINGERS.

The usual quarterly meeting of this Association took place at Leyland, on Saturday, December 12th. The attendance of members was not quite so large as was anticipated, nevertheless the meeting was a satisfactory and encouraging one in all respects. Shortly after 2 o'clock the bells were raised by the Leyland company, and during the afternoon and evening there were several 720's of Bob Minor and other touches rung by mixed bands. At 5 o'clock the members adjourned to the schoolroom. The usual business being gone through, it was resolved that the next quarterly meeting should be held at St. Mark's, Preston. Six new members having been enrolled, the meeting closed with a vote of thanks to the vicar for the use of the bells and schoolroom on this occasion.



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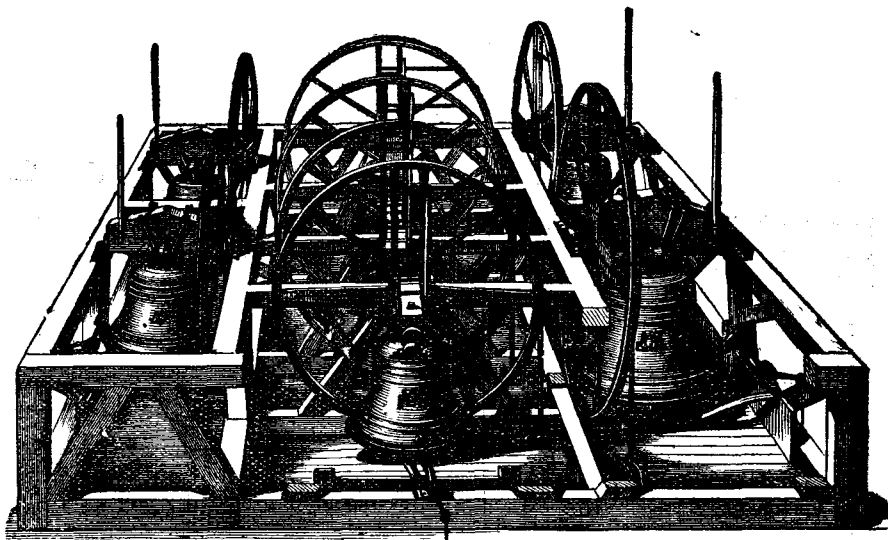
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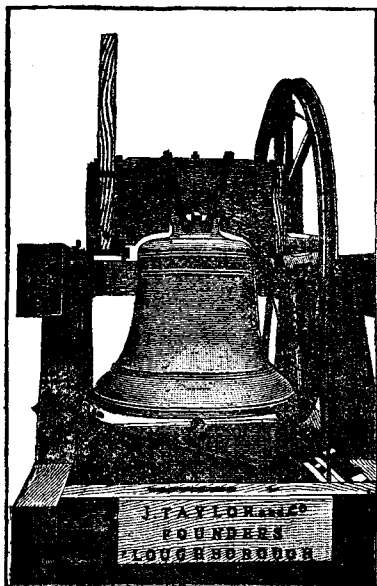
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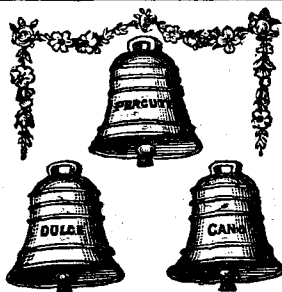
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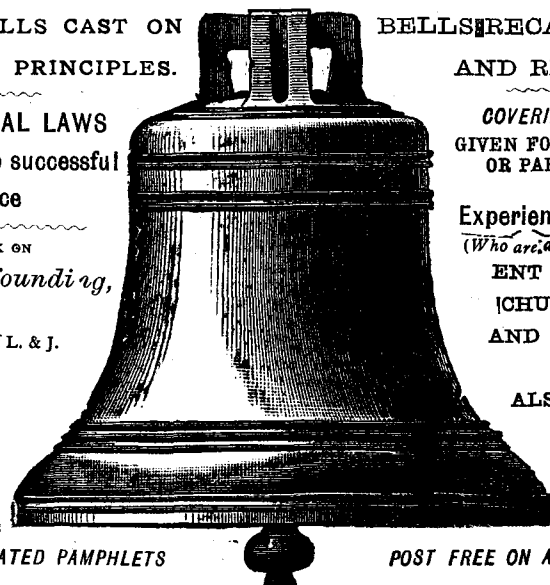
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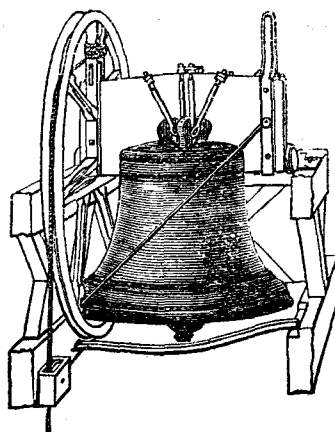
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The last chapter is devoted to a list of the names of Composers of the different peals, with various particulars, and in the cases of deceased Composers with the dates of death, age, etc.

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MR. CHARLES HENRY HATTERSLEY,  
*Of Sheffield.*

THE name of HATTERSLEY will no doubt convey to the minds of many of our readers an impression of some sterling quality which they who bear it possess. Mentally examining the rota of clever ringers of the present day, the subject of our brief memoir will be found entitled to take a very high place among his compeers. We may well consider him one of the foremost men of the North, at any rate, one of the most talented of them. If the nature of some of his performances is carefully examined, it will be seen that as a bob-caller (pure and simple), he has successfully accomplished the most difficult tasks which are embraced in this important branch of the science. As a ringer he is equally as well-known and appreciated. His deep aversion to any but really good striking has, we know, become proverbial. And no doubt his insistence in this very important particular has tended, in many cases, to secure for the performances in which he has taken part a character for truth and precision.

MR. CHARLES HENRY HATTERSLEY (known to his intimate colleagues as Harry Hattersley), was born at Sheffield on September 12th, 1844. When young, he attached himself to the Sheffield St. Peter's Society, and in 1862 rang his first

peal of Stedman Caters, and his first peal of Treble Bob Royal the following year. In these and subsequent performances the bands comprised many veterans half a century older than himself, who had made their mark in the Exercise, but Mr. HATTERSLEY, by his steadfastness in the pursuit of the science, his unrelenting efforts to excel, and his close and constant application to the art, soon came to be regarded by them as a "safe" ringer, and their full confidence in him as a clever executant was repeatedly made apparent. Visiting London in 1864, he rang his first peal of Stedman Triples in company with Messrs. Haley, Wood, Muskett, Pettit, and other well-known masters of the art, and on this visit he became a member of the Ancient Society of College Youths. In 1866 he called his first peal, and also composed and afterwards conducted a peal of Grandsire Caters. The business of a manufacturer of shooting equipments, entered into 1867 on his own account, necessitated periodical visits to the Midland metropolis, Birmingham, and it seems almost unnecessary to add that these journeys brought him into close connection with the St. Martin's Company of that town. As a member of that company, he rang in the long peal of Stedman Cinques which eclipsed the

"famous" one of the College Youths, and which performance has not yet been superseded. He has since taken part in many other peals by the same company.

Mr. HATTERSLEY did not join the Yorkshire Association till the fourth year of its history, but we find him in time to call the first peal of Stedman Triples, and to compose and call the first peals of Caters and Cinques upon the same much-admired principle ever rung by that Association. In the year that this body scored the greatest number of peals, we find him second on the list with sixteen peals, the late deplored President ringing twenty-three. This number, however, did not exhibit all his performances of the year, for he rung several unconnected with the Association, among which were two peals of Stedman Cinques at Birmingham, both of which he conducted. In one of these peals, Mr. Snowden, who made a special journey for the purpose, rang St. Martin's tenor. Mr. HATTERSLEY has up to the present time rung 108 peals; out of this number he has composed thirty, and conducted forty of them.

As a composer, the qualifications of the subject of our memoir must be regarded, at the present time, as of no common order. His productions are chiefly successful aims to secure those properties which we may term orthodox, and where a variation occurs from the strict line of concise symmetry, such deviations are well balanced by good redeeming features.

It is only been our lot to watch Mr. HATTERSLEY's career, not having up to the present the opportunity of enjoying his personal acquaintance. Those who know him well, give us warm testimony of his sociable and companionable nature, though prone to irritation should the careless ringing of one amongst a band neutralise the efforts of the others to strike well. No one appreciates ringing better than he does, when fairly performed. The distances he has at various times travelled in the pursuit of the art, is sufficient evidence of his willingness to oblige in any shape or form whenever called upon: and we may bring our sketch of this distinguished ringer to a close by expressing the wish that there were many more equal to him in ability—and private worth.

Mr. THOMAS HATTERSLEY (whom we hope to portray on some future occasion), is a brother of the subject of our memoir.

#### THE BELLS OF BEDFORDSHIRE.

We cull the following from an Hitchin newspaper:—"In the mediæval age the people evidently set some value upon the sweet sounding bells of their village steeples; but after the reformation was completed, one commission one after another was appointed to inquire into the alleged robbery of bells and lead which went on in many parishes, and imprisonment was threatened whenever the crime was traced. In later and safer times, however, or in the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries, certain parishes in Bedfordshire lost their bells to save the pockets of the ratepayers, and this fact originated the distich:—

Arlsey, Arslay, naughty people,  
Sold their bells to mend the steeple.

At different periods many old bells may have disappeared in the manner described, but the real reason why others have gone is that they were recast in the 17th century, when Stedman reduced change-ringing to an art and published *Tintinnalogia*. The old rings consisted usually of few bells and heavy ones, dignity and grandeur of tone being the chief things sought, now however a large number of bells, and those in musical sequence, was required by Stedman and his disciples. Thus a set of four would be increased to six or eight. The case of John Bunyan is quoted to show the great popularity of change-ringing in Bedfordshire. Even a century later this pastime of the people seems to have lost none of its charms, for in 1745, when the parishioners of St. Paul's, Bedford, increased their ring from five to eight, the Common Council paid six guineas to eight men from St. Nicholas, Cornhill, London, for ringing the opening peals. The total number of bells in Bedfordshire is 565, and while these are distributed among 135 churches, there is only one complete ring of ancient bells, that of three at Hochliffe. For many years in the eighteenth century, a foundry was kept open at Wootton by the Russells and Emertons, whose castings are still frequently to be met with."

#### OPENING OF A NEW RING OF BELLS AT BENFIELDSDIE, SHOTLEY BRIDGE, DURHAM.

On Saturday, December 19th, a new peal of bells was dedicated at St. Cuthbert's Church, Benfieldside, county of Durham, the Durham and Newcastle Diocesan Association being invited to open them. This church previously possessed a ring of five bells, tenor 10 cwt.; but, one being cracked, it was decided by the authorities, when carrying out extensive additions and restorations to the church, to send the old peal away, and have a new and first-class peal—one of six. The bells, which were dedicated on Saturday, the 19th, and came from the foundry of Messrs. Taylor, seem to fulfil all expectations, the tenor weighing about 13½ cwt., and the whole of the peal running very smooth and well, the only apparent fault being with the second bell, which has a tendency to throw her rope. This, however, is a small matter, and can be easily remedied. The bells sound very sweetly, but owing to the closeness of the louvres, the sound hangs rather too closely round the steeple. It is intended to remedy this, however, by fitting moveable wooden louvres, which can be opened and closed, at will, from the belfry: and when this is completed, the sound will be heard further through the beautiful Derwent valley, upon the side of which this pretty church is most picturesquely situated. Unfortunately, owing to the short notice given, very few members had heard of the opening, and consequently the attendance was limited to very few.

Mr. R. S. Story, the President of the Association, and some friends, arrived about four o'clock, when the bells were raised and several six scores of Grandsire Doubles were rung by the following: J. Wheldon, 1; R. S. Story, 2; E. Wallis (conductor), 3; W. Story, 4; A. Nickol, (Blackhill), 5; J. Whinny (Shotley Bridge), 6. The bells were then lowered and the hanging, &c., inspected, which was no easy affair, as the tower is very small for such a peal. The two tenors are hung in iron framework, with the four smaller bells above, hung in wood, and owing to the cramped position in which they are hung, some of the ropes have to be led a good deal out of the perpendicular. This did not, however, appear to interfere with the easy going of the bells on Saturday, and altogether the peal seems to be a most satisfactory one in every respect.

At five o'clock the ringers sat down to a meat tea, kindly provided by the authorities, Churchwardens Priestman and Collinson presiding. By the time justice had been done to the very excellent spread, and a little handbell ringing indulged in, it was time to return to the church, the dedication service taking place at 6.30. The same form of service was used as in the recent case of dedication of the new peal in the adjacent town of Consett, after which the Vicar, the Rev. Ross-Lewin, delivered a very admirable address, exceptionally applicable to ringers, which was listened to with marked attention. After the sermon the bells were rung while the offertory was being taken.

It is probable that the example of the Consett ringers will be followed, in forming a branch of the Durham and Newcastle Diocesan Association, and it is to be hoped that, with the assistance of the ringers of Blackhill, who are advancing in the art, they may soon be able to report 120 of Doubles.

#### AYLESFORD, KENT.—DEDICATION OF A RING OF EIGHT BELLS AT ST. PETER'S CHURCH.

On Saturday, December 19th, the bells of this church, which were originally five, have been augmented to eight, at the expense of H. A. Brassey, Esq., of Preston Hall. The work of recasting the 3rd and tenor, and the addition of three new trebles, with new frame and fitting, &c., has been carried out by Messrs. Gillett and Bland, of Croydon. The service was commenced at four o'clock with a processional hymn. Lesson, Exodus xxviii. 31-37. Psalm 122. Short prayers were then read by the Rev. C. Grant, the Vicar. At the interval before the sermon the following members of the Ancient Society of College Youths rang a course of Stedman Triples:—J. Pettitt, C. F. Winny, G. Mash, R. French, E. Gibbs, J. M. Hayes, F. G. Newman, and E. Horrex. The sermon was then preached by the Rev. Canon Jelf, of Rochester. After the sermon a touch of Kent Tteble Bob Major was rung and the bells fired. The Rev. C. Grant then kindly invited the ringers and choir to an excellent meat tea at the George Hotel. After partaking of the good things provided, the ringers were excused from the table and the tower again visited, when an excellent peal of Kent Treble Bob Major was rung in 3 hours, particulars of which will be found in its proper place.

TURVEY, BEDFORDSHIRE.—On Friday, December 4th, a peal, says a local paper, was rung in All Saints' belfry, which was rung by five brothers, Messrs. George (1), Harry (2), Charles (3), William (4), and Arthur Gardner (tenor), who reside in the following places, respectively: Lidlington, Turvey, Wolverton, Kettering, and Turvey, and who had met on the occasion of the wedding of one of them on the 3rd inst.



## BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION AT ROCHDALE, LANCASHIRE.

A mixed band met at Rochdale Parish Church on Saturday, December 19th, to ring a peal of Treble Bob in honour of the eighty-second birthday of Mr. Thomas Bamford, who has been a ringer over sixty years, and which event took place on the following day. The peal was brought to a successful termination in 3 hrs. 18 mins. Mr. Bamford is in full possession of his faculties, and rings very often for service, and has a remarkable memory and is very active for his years. After the peal, the ringers and a few friends adjourned to the house of Mr. Birtwistle, where another peal was gone through without the least difficulty; after which, a course of Caters was rung on the handbells, in which Mr. Bamford rang 5-6. On the following day for morning service, the following rang the first half of Reeves's peal of Grandsire Triples, 2520 changes, in 1 hr. 25 mins. F. Birtwistle, 1; J. T. Lucas, 2; T. Bamford (aged 82), 3; G. Hoyle, 4; J. Hoggard, 5; A. Hurst, 6; A. E. Wreaks (conductor), 7; J. Butterworth (aged 67), 8. Mr. Bamford was not fatigued with his exertions, and the ringers wished him many happy returns of the day. In the afternoon a visit was paid to St. James Church, Milarow, where the following rang a 500 of Grandsire Triples. W. Smith, 1; S. Fielding, 2; J. Dear-den, 3; J. Fitton, 4; G. Hoyle, 5; A. E. Wreaks (conductor), 6; T. Platt, 7; F. Birtwistle, 8.

## WELLS SURPRISE.

1 2 3 4 5 6

2 1 3 5 4 6

1 2 5 3 6 4

2 1 5 6 3 4

2 5 1 6 4 3

5 2 6 1 3 4

5 2 1 6 4 3

2 5 6 1 3 4

5 2 6 3 1 4

5 6 2 3 4 1

6 5 3 2 1 4

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4 5 3 1 6 2

5 4 1 3 2 6

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4 5 1 3 2 6

4 1 5 3 6 2

1 4 5 6 3 2

4 1 6 5 2 3

1 4 6 2 5 3

1 4 2 6 3 5

&amp;c.

720.

2 3 4 5 6

4 2 6 3 5

6 4 5 2 3

5 6 3 4 2

- 2 3 5 6 4

- 4 5 2 3 6

2 4 6 5 3

6 2 3 4 5

3 6 5 2 4

- 4 5 3 6 2

3 4 2 5 6

Twice repeated.

This is certainly one of the most intricate compositions ever rung, and was accomplished for the first time by the Stockton-on-Tees society on Sunday, November 1st. The musical effect of this peal is very peculiar, but will compare favourably even with York and Durham Surprise, to which methods it forms a pleasing variety. As this method is not to be found in modern works on ringing, a treble lead of it may be interesting to some of the readers of "THE BELL NEWS."

G. J. CLARKSON.

## MARTOCK, SOMERSET.

An entertainment promoted by the Church of England Temperance Society was given in the National Schoolroom on Tuesday evening, December 15th. In the absence of the Vicar, the Rev. T. Neve, of Yeovil, attended, and delivered an address on the value of such Societies; and the Rev. C. F. Luckman also gave a short address. The following programme was then very creditably rendered and evidently appreciated, nearly all the pieces meeting with hearty encores. The Martock handbell ringers (Messrs. A. Worner, W. I. Worner, H. Fitzjohn, E. P. Wheller, and W. Lye) attended and performed several pieces to the full satisfaction of the audience. We hope that this Society will hold together rather better than some of its sister musical societies have done in Martock. Programme: Glee, "Ring out the bells," glee party; pianoforte solo, Miss Hawley; "Home, Sweet Home," Handbell Ringers; "Sweet and Low," glee party; Pickwickian reading, "Mr. Winkle on Skates," Rev. Mr. Luckman; "Haymakers' Jig," Handbell Ringers; solo, "The Kissing Bridge," Miss Steer; Pianoforte solo, Miss F. Ware; Pickwickian reading, "Mr. Winkle with a gun," Rev. Mr. Luckman; "The Keel Row," Handbell Ringers; "Sweet Christmas Bells," glee party; concluding with another selection on the bells, and "God Save the Queen."

THE COLLEGE YOUTHS' NEW PEAL-BOOK.—We omitted to state that the new peal-book that was presented by A. Percival Heywood, Esq., to the Ancient Society of College Youths, was manufactured by Messrs. Roberts and Leete, of Tooley Street, and Lime Street, City. We may add that the book is elaborately bound in red morocco, and has given the greatest satisfaction to all the members that have seen it.

## 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 MR. GAMLIN.

SIR,—The answer to Mr. Gamlin's query as to the singles in Stedman Doubles lies in an historical view of the question. The original plan was to make the singles in front at the end of the first sixty changes as in Grandsire, thus:—13254—13245. But this was soon seen to be a wrong way of doing things, and is characterised by the authors of the *Clavis* as being both "an infringement on the method" and "a breach of uniformity," on the ground that it "tends to obstruct the bells in the slow work." And here of course they are perfectly in the right. In leaving the front bells unaffected and causing the single to be made on the dodging bells, it was only natural that the same row should be still employed for the single. Hence we get 13254—12354. The single is then made at the fourth row in the six. As it need not invariably be made when 4,5 come together behind it may be made in the corresponding row in any other six. This will of course necessitate the calling of it by the conductor at the second row in the six; according to the universal rule that a whole pull's notice be given of everything. There is an additional reason for the single being made in the fourth row, and that is that when a diagram of the work of the bells affected by the single is drawn, this work is symmetrical when the single is thus made, but appears all lop-sided when the single is made in any other way. With the sole exception of Mr. Troyte's book, all treatises on ringing with which I am acquainted are agreed that the proper place for making the single is in the fourth row of a six.

C. D. P. DAVIES.

## THE RECENT PEAL AT ECCLES.

SIR,—In answer to "Vicesimus" I shall pass over a portion of his remarks, as they are beneath my notice. The performance which your correspondent refers to was published in "THE BELL NEWS" of October 10th, and given as 5184 changes, time 2 hrs. 52 mins. In three weeks after Mr. Wreaks gave 4896 changes in 2 hrs. 49½ mins. as correct. In the same letter he also states that he did call a few bobs. Your correspondent "Vicesimus" gives the same number of changes and the same time as Mr. Wreaks as being correct, and he also states that a few bobs were called by Mr. Wreaks. Who will doubt the authority of the above talents, which plainly proves that the so-called peal was false, and the time incorrect, and that it did take two bob-callers to conduct part of a blundering peal? I should think, after the acknowledgment of two such worthies, all brother strings will be able to place the proper value on this wonderful achievement, which puts the Mottram long peal and the Ashton ringers into the background. Your correspondent says Mr. Wreaks is a conductor and a practical ringer. Who will deny this assertion, after Mr. Wreaks taking part in and assisting in conducting such a masterpiece of the Exercise, as all who have read the correspondence in "THE BELL NEWS" for the last few weeks will admit it to be. I don't know Mr. Wreaks, but I should take it as a great favour to make the acquaintance of such a distinguished ringer. As this is the part-end and all out of course, I shall call a bob wrong and try to get them round, and then call "stand." I don't intend to write again on this subject, so I will say good-bye to Messrs. Wreaks, "Vicesimus," & Co.

J. S.

## THE COMPLAINT FROM SUSSEX.

SIR,—In answer to G. F. Attree, Hon. Sec. of the Sussex County Association, I would say I am in no way ashamed of my name, or of the cause I have taken up; also that I would prefer the correspondence (with your permission), to be published in "THE BELL NEWS." I trust Mr. Attree's explanation may be such as no Englishman concerned can object to.

JOHN ROLLISON.

## LAVENHAM, SUFFOLK.

Mr. Samuel Boby, who was an old and respected ringer of this place for over half a century, died on Saturday, December 5th, 1885, at the age of 81 years. He was interred on Friday, December 11th, his bearers being ringers only, and other members of the company, as a mark of respect, followed his remains to the grave. Mr. H. Symonds, of Preston, who was one of the company in the early ringing days of the deceased, of which there are only three left, attended at the ceremony. After the funeral, at the church of SS. Peter and Paul, the local company rang a touch of Bob Major, with the bells deeply muffled, as a last mark of respect to their deceased friend. Thos. Bruce, 1; Chas. Fisk, 2; Wm. Bruce, 3; A. Symonds, 4; H. Smith, 5; Wm. Snell, 6; Jno. Smith (conductor), 7; William Moore, 8. And another course was rung to oblige Mr. H. Symonds, who rung the 5th, the rest as before.

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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.

LINDRUM.—Write to Mr. B. Keable, Waterloo Road, Romford, who has a practical ringer as well.

A YOUNG LEARNER must send us his name before his letter can be inserted.

DR. SECCOMBE.—We will insert a lead next week.

## *The Bell News & Ringers' Record.*

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 26, 1885.

BEFORE the next number of this paper is in the hands of our readers, the gay and festive season of Christmas will be over, and the latest progeny of Old Father Time—the young year 1886—will have appeared on the scene. The present occasion, therefore, is the only one on which we are able, without irregularity, to speak to our readers more particularly in language which denotes the approach of a brief respite from the trammels of care, and a few extra hours of rest and innocent enjoyment. By the time many of our friends are reading the contents of this number, we shall have relegated the consideration of many topics which have been brought us for explanation to a more convenient season. The proving of a host of 720s, imagined by their authors to be immaculate, cannot well be entered upon amid the advent of the renowned English Christmas Fare, nor will the consideration of the chances of "producing a peal without a single" be taken to be a preventative of dyspepsia at the post-prandial hour. Amid the romps of our young people, we shall be apt to forget the beauties of Albion, and much as we love Stedman over all methods, the snaps and half-turns which we shall make during our brief holiday will be of quite a different character to those movements introduced by our very old friend FABIAN.

The provision for extra creature comforts seems to be as extensive this year as formerly. The custom, in fact, of contributing to the enjoyment of one's friends by sending to them an addition to their Christmas fare seems to be on the increase. Such a custom appears to have a double agreeableness when these pleasant gifts are forwarded anonymously; and here we must be permitted to thank our unknown friend who has, each Christmas since the establishment of "THE BELL NEWS," caused to be sent to us an aristocratic liquor in which to toast his

health. Such seasonable compliments as these we hope many of our readers will experience. They are not great in themselves, it is the feeling which prompts them which gives to them their zest and pleasant satisfaction. Even the much-abused Christmas Card is a guarantee of the well-wishes of the sender, which should be a source of gratification to the recipient at this season. Our felicitations we have a good opportunity of expressing, and in the teeth of all adverse circumstances which may affect them—and notwithstanding the heavy cloud upon them which has not yet passed away, and which time can only heal, we wish our readers, in all sincerity and earnestness,

A MERRY CHRISTMAS, AND A HAPPY NEW YEAR.

### PORTRAITS OF THE LATE JASPER SNOWDON, ESQ.

ON account of the great demand for the above, and the slow supply of copies from the photographer (owing to the very dull weather of the last few weeks), Messrs. Whitaker and Tuke are unable to execute orders as quickly as they come in. They will be forwarded in the order in which they arrive as soon as possible.

### *The Metropolis.*

LONDON.—THE ST. JAMES'S SOCIETY, AND  
THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

#### *Muffled Peal.*

On Monday, December 21, 1885, in Three Hours and Thirty-four Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. CLEMENT DANES, STRAND,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB ROYAL, 5160 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 24 cwt.

JOHN ROWBOTHAM .. .. Treble.	GEORGE NEWSON .. .. 6.
FRANCIS E. DAWE .. .. 2.	RICHARD FRENCH .. .. 7.
CHALLIS WINNY .. .. 3.	HENRY SWAIN .. .. 8.
WILLIAM HOVERD .. .. 4.	HENRY DAINS .. .. 9.
WILLIAM BARON .. .. 5.	JOHN M. HAYES .. .. Tenor.

Composed by the late W. HARRISON, and Conducted by J. M. HAYES.

The band consists of five members from each of the old Societies. The attempt was first arranged to take place on the 4th inst, but fell through. Upon the next attempt to fix a date the 6th bell was found in the hands of Mr. G. R. Banks, bell-hanger, and it was not till the above date that this favourite ring of ten were available for the purpose of paying a tribute of respect and esteem to the memory of the late JASPER W. SNOWDON, Esq.

### *The Provinces.*

STALEYBRIDGE, CHESHIRE.  
THE UNITED COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

#### *Officers' Peal.*

On Thursday, December 16, 1885, in Three Hours and One Minute,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 14 cwt.

JOHN HOLDEN, Esq. .. .. Treble.	JAMES SELLARS .. .. 5.
HUGH SHAW .. .. 2.	GEORGE LONGEN .. .. 6.
JAMES S. WILDE .. .. 3.	THOMAS WILDE .. .. 7.
JAMES WRIGLEY .. .. 4.	JOHN PYE, sen. .. .. Tenor.

Composed by the late THOMAS DAY, of Birmingham, and  
Conducted by JOHN HOLDEN, Esq.

John Holden, Esq., President; Thomas Wilde, Vice-President; John Pye, sen., Hon. Treasurer; James S. Wilde, Hon. Secretary; Messrs. Shaw, Wrigley, Sellars and Longden, Committee.

Messrs. Holden and Wrigley hail from Saddleworth; Pye and Sellars from Glossop; T. and J. S. Wilde from Hyde; Longden from Ashton; and Shaw belongs to Staleybridge. For the figures of this peal see Snowdon's *Treatise on Treble Bob*, part ii., page 18.

# HERTFORD.—THE HERTFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION AND THE HERTFORD COLLEGE YOUTHS.

On Thursday, December 17, 1885, in Three Hours and Twenty-eight Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

## A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5120 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 21 cwt. 2qrs. 9lb.

JOSEPH CULL* .. .. .Treble.	*HENRY PHILLIPS .. .. .5.
JASPER G. CRAWLEY* .. .. 2.	*STEPHEN KNIGHT .. .. .6.
WILLIAM A. TYLER .. .. 3.	HERBERT BAKER .. .. .7.
MATTHEW ELLSMORE .. .. 4.	HENRY J. TUCKER .. ..Tenor.

Composed by the late THOMAS DAY, and Conducted by HENRY J. TUCKER.

The above was rung as a farewell peal to H. J. Tucker, who is leaving Hertford; and is the first peal in the method by the Hertford College Youths, since April 21st, 1783, also the first in the Kent Variation. \* First peal in the method.

# BRADFIELD.—THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION, AND THE ST. PETER'S AMALGAMATED SOCIETY, SHEFFIELD.

On Saturday, December 19, 1885, in Three Hours and One Minute,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. NICHOLAS,

## 5040 CHANGES: IN SEVEN DIFFERENT METHODS UPON SIX BELLS;

Being 720 each of the following—

New London Pleasure, Duke of York, Violet, Woodbine, Oxford Delight, and Kent and Oxford Treble Bob.

Tenor 12 cwt.

JOSEPH ATKIN* .. .. .Treble.	*JONATHAN GILLOTT .. .. 4.
JOSEPH MULLIGAN .. .. 2.	*GEORGE H. UTTLEY .. .. 5.
DAVID BREARLEY .. .. 3.	ARTHUR BREARLEY .. ..Tenor.

Conducted by ARTHUR BREARLEY.

\* First peal. This is the first 5040 upon six bells by all the company, and the first on the bells. J. Atkin hails from Norton; J. Mulligan from Sheffield; the rest belong to Bradfield.

# ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE.

On Saturday, December 19, 1885, in Three Hours and Six Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

## A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 20 cwt.

JOHN HOPWOOD .. .. .Treble.	THOMAS MOSS .. .. .5.
JOHN HARROP .. .. .2.	*ISAAC SCHOFIELD .. .. 6.
JOHN SIDEBOTHAM .. .. 3.	BENJAMIN BROADBENT .. .. 7.
WILLIAM SMITH .. .. 4.	GEORGE LONGDEN .. ..Tenor.

Composed by JOHN THORP and Conducted by JOHN SIDEBOTHAM.

\* First peal in the method. Messrs. Harrop and Sidebotham hail from Mottram; Schofield from Staleybridge; the rest belong to the local company.

# KEIGHLEY.—THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, December 19th, 1885, in Three Hours,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ANDREW,

## A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5120 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 14 cwt.

JAMES BRADLEY .. .. .Treble.	WILLIAM SMITH .. .. .5.
WILLIAM CLARKE .. .. 2.	JAMES MCGOUN .. .. .6.
MIDGELEY MOOR .. .. 3.	JOHN MCKELL .. .. .7.
ALBERT HARDCASTLE .. .. 4.	JAMES SCOTT .. .. .Tenor.

Composed by JOHN REEVES and Conducted by JAMES SCOTT.

# LIVERPOOL.

On Saturday, December 19, 1885, in Three Hours and Three Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. FRANCIS XAVIER,

## A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S TEN-PART. Tenor 16 cwt.

JAMES DONNELLY* .. .. .Treble.	†JOHN DONNELLY .. .. .5.
J. R. PRITCHARD .. .. 2.	JOHN ASPINWALL .. .. 6.
ANDREW J. FLYNN† .. .. 3.	ISAAC CLARKE .. .. .7.
THOMAS DONNELLY† .. .. 4.	†WM. KELLY .. .. .Tenor.

Conducted by JAMES DONNELLY.

\* First peal as conductor. † First peal.

This is the first peal rung on these bells since they were hung, which was in 1870, and Mr. James Donnelly, who became a ringer there when a boy, has had the honour of conducting it.

# AYLESFORD, KENT.

## THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

On Saturday, December 19, 1885, in Three Hours,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

## A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 16 cwt. in F.

JAMES PETTIT .. .. .Treble.	EDWIN GIBBS .. .. .5.
CHALLIS F. WINNY .. .. 2.	JOHN M. HAYES .. .. 6.
GEORGE MASH .. .. .3.	EDWIN HORREX .. .. 7.
RICHARD FRENCH .. .. 4.	FREDERICK G. NEWMAN ..Tenor.

Composed by SAMUEL WOOD and Conducted by FREDERICK G. NEWMAN.

The above was rung at the opening ceremony of the bells. See particulars on another page.

# ROCHDALE, LANCASHIRE.

## Birthday Peal.

On Saturday, December 19, 1885, in Three Hours and Eighteen Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

## A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5184 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 17½ cwt in Eb.

JOHN T. LUCAS* .. .. .Treble.	SAMUEL WOOD .. .. .5.
ALBERT E. WREAKS .. .. 2.	†ALBERT HURST .. .. 6.
JOHN HOGGARD† .. .. 3.	†FRANK BIRTWHISTLE .. 7.
GEORGE HOYLE† .. .. 4.	†JOHN HARRISON .. ..Tenor.

Composed and Conducted by SAMUEL WOOD.

\* First peal. † First peal in the method. First peal in the method on the bells. A. E. Wreaks hails from Manchester; Samuel Wood from Ashton-under-Lyne; John Harrison from Heywood; the rest belong to the local company.

# CHESTERFIELD, DERBYSHIRE.

## THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, December 19, 1885, in Three Hours and Nine Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY AND ALL SAINTS,

## A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor 24½ cwt.

WALTER WORTHING .. .. .Treble.	JOHN HARRIS .. .. .5.
DAVID FARTHING .. .. 2.	ARTHUR KNIGHTS .. .. 6.
GEORGE TOPLIS .. .. .3.	JAMES HUNT .. .. .7.
HERBERT MADIN .. .. 4.	HENRY MOTTERSHELL ..Tenor.

Composed by the REV. C. D. P. DAVIES and Conducted by ARTHUR KNIGHTS.

The above peal, which is now rung for the first time, was taken from "THE BELL NEWS," of February 2nd, 1884, being the first of the peals there given. Messrs. Farthing, Toplis and Knights belong to Chesterfield; the rest hail from Staveley.

# CARSHALTON.—THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, December 21, 1885, in Two Hours and Fifty-eight Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

## A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S 10-PART. Tenor 12½ cwt.

WILLIAM BURKIN .. .. .Treble.	JOHN PLOWMAN .. .. .5.
ARTHUR B. CARPENTER .. 2.	CHARLES MALIM .. .. 6.
EDGAR BENNETT .. .. 3.	JAMES HARRIS .. .. 7.
WILLIAM STATES .. .. 4.	JAMES CAWLEY .. .. .Tenor.

Conducted by JOHN PLOWMAN.

# LEWISHAM, KENT.

## THE ST. JAMES'S SOCIETY, LONDON.

## Birthday Peal.

On Tuesday, December 22, 1885, in Two Hours and Fifty-two Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

## A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

TAYLOR'S BOB-AND-SINGLE VARIATION. Tenor 22½ cwt. in Eb.

CHARLES E. FREEMAN* ..Treble.	THOMAS TAYLOR .. .. .5.
WILLIAM PEAD .. .. .2.	FREDERICK W. THORNTON 6.
WILLIAM WEATHERSTONE 3.	ABRAHAM G. FREEMAN .. 7.
WILLIAM H. FREEMAN .. 4.	SAMUEL GIBBS .. .. .Tenor.

Conducted by ABRAHAM G. FREEMAN.

\* First peal with the treble. Rung in honour of the conductor's 27th birthday.

## BEDFORD.—THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, December 19, 1885, in Two Hours and Fifty-five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

## 5040 CHANGES: IN SEVEN DIFFERENT METHODS UPON SIX BELLS;

Being a 720 of each of the following:

Woodbine; Kent; Oxford Treble Bob; College Single; Oxford Bob; Grandsire; and Bob Minor.

Tenor 8 cwt. in B.

SAMUEL J. CULLIP .. .. .	Treble.	JOHN ATKINS .. .. .	4.
JAMES N. FROSSELL .. .. .	2.	CHARLES WM. CLARKE .. .. .	5.
THOMAS FOOTE .. .. .	3.	ISAAC HILLS .. .. .	Tenor.

Conducted by CHARLES WILLIAM CLARKE.

The above was rung on the occasion of the first anniversary of the re-opening of the bells, also the first complete 720 in ten different methods rung on them. It is the first 5040 rung in seven different methods by the Association, also on the bells, and by all the above except the conductor.

## WOODBIDGE, SUFFOLK.

On Saturday, December 19, 1885, in Three Hours and Thirteen Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

## A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S ORIGINAL. Tenor 28 cwt.

CHAS. MEE .. .. .	Treble.	FREDK. MEE .. .. .	5.
ALFRED ACFIELD, JUN. .. .. .	2.	THOS. STEWART .. .. .	6.
FREDK. TILLET .. .. .	3.	PETO MEADOWS .. .. .	7.
JOHN FOSDIKE .. .. .	4.	GEORGE BURCH .. .. .	Tenor.

Conducted by CHARLES MEE.

The ringers of the 1st, 3rd, 5th, and 6th are members of the St. Mary-le-Tower society, Ipswich; the rest are members of the Woodbridge company.

## Date Touches.

## GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

TEWKESBURY ABBEY.—On Thursday evening, December 17th, the following members of the above society rang a date touch of Stedman Triples, 1885 changes, in 1 hr. 8 mins. R. H. Witherington, 1; S. Cleal, 2; F. J. Moore, 3; J. Hale, 4; J. Wathen, 5; T. Devereux, 6; Jos. Wathen (conductor), 7; W. Haines, 8.

## STOKE-UPON-TRENT ARCHIDIACONAL ASSOCIATION.

NORTON.—On Friday, December 18th, a date touch, 1885 changes, in four different methods, viz., 720 Oxford Bob, 720 Grandsire, 360 Court Bob, and 85 Plain Bob, in 1 hr. 5 mins. W. Baddeley, 1; E. Glover, 2; J. Morton, 3; G. Walker, 4; J. W. Brough, J. Baddeley (conductor), 6.

## Miscellaneous.

## THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

BROMHAM (Beds).—On Wednesday evening, December 6th, for practice, a 720 of Plain Bob Minor, eighteen bobs and two singles. W. Tysoe (first 720), 1; T. Tysoe, 2; H. King, 3; W. King, 4; C. Stafferton, 5; W. Biggs (conductor), 6.

## THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

THORNTON (Essex).—On Friday, December 18th, a mixed company met and rang six 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles, each called differently. G. W. Taylor, 1; J. Starling, 2; J. Taylor, 3; H. Howell, 4; W. J. Nevard (conductor), 5. Also a six-score each of Plain Doubles, Old Doubles, Dream, and Grandsire Doubles, standing as before, and conducted by Mr. H. Howell. J. Starling and J. Taylor hail from Great Bromley; G. W. Taylor and W. J. Nevard from Great Bentley; and H. Howell from Ipswich.

## THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

HAUGHTON (Lancashire).—On Sunday evening, December 13th, before service at St. Anne's Church, a 720 of Plain Bob Minor, in 28 mins. John Howard, 1; John Bardsley, 2; Peter Smith, 3; John S. Leech (conductor), 4; James A. Thomas, 5; Wm. Wilde, sen., 6. Also on Sunday evening, December 20th, another 720 in the same method, in 27 mins. Wm. Wilde, jun., 1; John Bardsley, 2; John Howard, 3; John S. Leech (conductor), 4; Wm. Wilde, sen., 5; James A. Thomas, 6. Tenor 15 cwt. in G. All members of the United Counties' Association

## THE HERTFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

BALDOCK (Herts).—On Thursday, December 17th, at the church of St. Mary-the-Virgin, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, 1260 changes. T. Webb, 1; Jno. Phillips (conductor), 2; Jno. Cawdell, 3; Jno. Smith, 4; Rob. Jackson, 5; R. Jackson, 6; Jno. Roslyn, 7; G. Gentle, 8. Composed by W. A. Tyler. This is the longest length by any of the above, and also on the bells, which were opened in 1882.

## THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

DUFFIELD (Derbyshire).—On Sunday, December 20th, for Divine Service in the evening, a 480 of Double Oxford Bob Major, being the first in this musical method by the Association. G. Dawson, 1; S. Johnson, 2; J. Howe, 3; A. Robinson, 4; G. Hingley, 5; W. Hickling, 6; R. Johnson, 7; A. P. Heywood (conductor), 8.

## THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

BRAMFORD (Suffolk).—On Thursday, December 17th, at the parish Church, a 720 of Plain Bob Minor, in 28 mins. W. Brown (first 720), 1; C. Mee, 2; A. Pryke, 3; W. Read, 4; F. Mee (conductor), 5; C. R. Smith, 6. Also on Thursday, November 19th, a 360 of Double Court Bob. C. Smith, 1; C. Mee, 2; F. Tillett, 3; F. Mee, 5; S. Meadows, 5; T. Steward, 6. And on Thursday, December 10th, three 6-scores of Plain Bob Doubles. C. Osborn, 1; W. Brown, 2; A. Pryke, 3; W. Read, 4; C. Smith (conductor), 5; H. Yarnham, 6. Tenor 16 cwt. in G.

UFFORD (Suffolk).—On Tuesday evening, December 15th, for practice, six members of the Ufford branch rang a 720 of Plain Bob Minor, in 23 mins. R. W. Acfield, 1; W. A. Ward, 2; W. P. Garrett, 3; A. Ward, 4; G. Bench, 5; A. Acfield, jun. (conductor), 6.

## STOKE-UPON-TRENT ARCHIDIACONAL ASSOCIATION.

STOKE.—On Saturday, December 19th, at the Parish Church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples in 46 mins. W. Baddeley, 1; E. J. Glover, 2; H. Page (conductor), 3; J. W. Brough, 4; J. Baddeley, 5; J. Austin, 6; E. Montford, 7; H. J. Kamester, 8. Messrs. J. and W. Baddeley, E. J. Glover, J. W. Brough, hail from Norton.

## THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

STREATHAM.—On Monday evening, December 21st, at the church of the Emmanuel, for practice, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples, in 46 mins. G. Russell, 1; W. Pell, 2; D. Springall, 3; G. Welling (first quarter-peal in the method), 4; E. F. Cole, 5; G. Pell, 6; S. Greenwood (conductor), 7; W. Shepherd, 8. Tenor 17½ cwt.

## THE WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

CAPEL (Surrey).—On Thursday, December 17th, at the parish church, 2880 changes were rung in the following methods: 720 of \*New London Pleasure; 720 of Superlative Surprise; 720 of College Exercise; 720 of College Pleasure, in 1 hr. 33 mins. Richard Worsfold, 1; Robert Jordan, 2; Alfred Mills, 3; George Williams, 4; Edward Jordan, 5; David Jordan (conductor), 6. This was an attempt for a peal of 5040 in seven different Treble Bob methods, but was lost at the starting of the fifth 720. \*First 720 in this method by all. Tenor 7½ cwt.

FAREHAM (Hants).—On Thursday, December 17th, at St. Peter's Church, the local company rang on the back six, a 720 of Oxford Bob Minor, with eighteen bobs and two singles, in 25 mins. \*W. G. Moss, 1; G. Grafton, 2; J. W. Whiting, 3; C. Privett, 4; \*G. Passingham, 5; F. Hill (conductor), 6. Tenor 14 cwt. \*First 720.

## THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

GARGRAVE (Yorkshire).—*Muffled Peals*.—On Sunday, December 20th, at St. Andrew's church, the bells were deeply muffled as a tribute of respect to the late Edward C. Yorke, Esq., who departed this life at his residence, Hutton Hall, near Marston, on December 14th, at the age of 43 years, he being son-in-law of the vicar of Gargrave, and an honorary member of the society. Arrangements were made for an attempt at a peal of Treble Bob Major, but as seven men only put in an appearance, the idea had to be abandoned. Short touches of Bob Major were however rung for Divine Service in the evening. J. Wane, 1; T. Burrow, 2; J. H. Bell, 3; F. Dodgson, 4; C. Bell, 5; W. Wray, 6; H. Birtwhistle, 7; J. McKell (conductor), 8. On Saturday, November 19th, an attempt was made to ring a muffled peal of 5440 of Kent Treble Bob Major, as a mark of respect and esteem for the beloved President of the Yorkshire Association, J. W. Snowden, Esq., which was unfortunately brought to grief by a miscall on the part of the conductor at the 14th course-end, when 4480 changes had been rung in 2 hrs. 40 mins. C. E. Bell, 1; W. Wray, 2; W. Clarke, 3; W. Whitaker, 4; W. Mallinson, 5; C. Langstroth, 6; J. McGoun, 7; J. McKell (conductor), 8.

**BATLEY CARR (Yorkshire).**—*Handbell Ringing.*—On Saturday, December 19th, on handbells, retained in hand, a 576 of Kent Treble Bob Major, in 19½ mins. Geo. H. Simon (conductor), 1-2; John W. Simon, 3-4; Wilson H. Stead, 5-6; Herbert Senior, 7-8. The above company attempted a date touch in the above method, which came to grief after ringing over 1000 changes.

**BASINGSTOKE (Hants).**—*Muffled Peal.*—On Saturday, December 19th, the members of the St. Michael's Guild rang several 6-scores of Doubles, with 6, 4, 8, covering, with the bells half-muffled as a token of respect to the late W. L. Sclater, Esq., who died at Hoddington, aged 97 years, for many years one of the chief Magistrates of the County, father of the Right Hon. G. Sclater-Booth, M.P., member for North Hants, and father-in-law of our respected vicar, Canon Millard. Thos. Higgins, 1; W. Teller, 2; W. Sugg, 3; H. Poland, jun., 4; G. Capron, 5; H. Stocker, 6; H. White (conductor), 7; T. Wheeler, 8.

**BEDFORD.**—On Tuesday, November 24th, for practice, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor, fifteen bobs, in 25 mins. W. Hall, 1; S. J. Cullip, 2; T. Foote, 3; C. W. Clarke (conductor), 4; J. N. Frossell, 5; I. Hills, 6. And on Thursday, December 3rd, a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob Minor (nine bobs), in 25 mins. F. Keech, 1; J. Atkins, 2; T. Foote, 3; J. Frossell, 4; W. Hall, 5; C. W. Clarke (conductor), 6. And a 720 of Bob Minor (twelve bobs and fourteen singles). C. Pass (first 720), 1; C. W. Clarke (conductor), 2; J. Frossell, 3; I. Hills, 4; S. J. Cullip, 5; W. Hall, 6. Also on Thursday, December 10th, a 720 of Woodbine Treble Bob (nine bobs). S. J. Cullip, 1; C. W. Clarke (conductor), 2; T. Foote, 3; J. Atkins, 4; W. Hall, 5; I. Hills, 6. And on Tuesday, December 15th, a 720 of College Single (eighteen bobs and two singles). F. Keech, 1; I. Hills, 2; T. Foote, 3; C. W. Clarke, 4; S. J. Cullip, 5; W. Hall (first 720 in the method; conductor), 6. And a 720 of Oxford Bob Minor (eighteen bobs and two singles), in 25 mins. C. Pass, 1; S. J. Cullip, 2; T. Foote, 3; J. N. Frossell, 4; C. W. Clarke (conductor), 5; I. Hills, 6.

**BENHILTON (Surrey).**—On Thursday evening, at All Saints' church, during the practice, a 720 of Grandsire Minor, with the bells half-muffled, as a token of respect to the late J. W. Snowdon, Esq. G. Heather, 1; W. Walker, 2; T. Jaiger, 3; S. Smithers, 4; H. Bryant, 5; J. Trendell (conductor), 6. Tenor 19½ cwt. in E.

**GRASSENDALE, NEAR LIVERPOOL.**—Recently, at St. Mary's Church, for evening service, a 720 of Grandsire Minor in 27 mins. F. Turner, 1; C. Newton (conductor), 2; J. Alexander, 3; W. Rushton, 4; T. Morris, 5; J. Allen, 6. Tenor 11 cwt. W. Rushton hails from Bootle.

**HAVERSTOCK HILL (Middlesex).**—On Sunday morning, December 13th, for Divine Service at St. Martin's Church, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor in 25 mins. J. Leach, 1; T. Gleed, 2; J. Hannington (conductor), 3; G. Harvey, 4; J. Nixon, 5; G. Griffin, 6. Tenor 12½ cwt.

**HORSHAM (Sussex).**—On Saturday evening, December 19th, for practice, 504 of Grandsire Triples. W. Wadey, 1; A. Mills, 2; J. Newnham, 3; R. Jorden, 4; E. Jorden, 5; D. Jorden, 6; H. Burstow (conductor), 7; H. Chandler, 8. Also 840 in the same method. W. Short, 1; A. Mills, 2; H. Chandler, 3; R. Jorden, 4; E. Jorden, 5; D. Jorden, 6; H. Burstow (conductor), 7; H. Wood, 8. Messrs. Jorden and A. Mills hail from Capel; Short, Wood, and Chandler, from Warnham; Newnham from Crawley; Wadey from Billingham; and Burstow belongs to Horsham.

**HULL.**—On Wednesday, December 16th, at St. James's Church, a 720 of Bob Minor in 28 mins. \*R. Hare, 1; J. W. Stickney (conductor), 2; G. M. Brownrigg, 3; T. Stockdale, 4; S. Slingsby, 5; E. Bennett, 6. Tenor 15 cwt. \*First 720.

**MEREWORTH (Kent).**—On Sunday, December 20th, for Divine Service in the morning, a 720 of Bob Minor, in 24 mins. W. Bellingham, 1; G. Bell, 2; C. F. Winny (first in the method), 3; W. Eldridge, 4; C. Newman, 5; F. G. Newman (conductor), 6. Tenor 12 cwt.

**NETHERTON (Worcestershire).**—On Thursday evening, December 17th, for practice, a plain course of Oxford Treble Bob Minor. R. Round, 1; J. Prestidge, 2; J. Townsend, 3; M. J. Robinson, 4; W. Micklewright (Dudley; conductor), 5; J. Smith, 6. Also a 720 of Plain Bob Minor, in 26 mins. B. Townsend, 1; W. Pardoe (Coseley; first 720 in the method with a bob bell), 2; W. Micklewright, 3; M. J. Robinson, 4; J. Prestidge, 5; J. Smith (conductor), 6.

**NORTHENDEN (Cheshire).**—Recently, at St. Wilfrid's Church, a 720 of Bob Minor, with eighteen singles and three bobs. W. A. Brickell, 1; T. Brickell, 2; G. Leigh, 3; J. Wilde, 4; T. Price, 5; P. Brickell (conductor), 6. Also a 720 with eighteen bobs and two singles. W. A. Brickell, 1; J. Wilde, 2; J. Leigh, 3; P. Brickell (conductor), 4; T. Price, 5; S. Brickell, 6.

**PALGRAVE (Suffolk).**—On Monday evening, December 21st, six members of the Diss company rung at St. Peter's Church, a 720 of

Oxford Treble Bob Minor in 28 mins. W. Ireland, 1; W. Matthews, 2; E. Francis, 3; E. Hayward, 4; B. Francis (conductor), 5; H. Hart, 6. The above was rung to celebrate the 23rd birthday of Mr. B. Francis, the ringers wishing him many happy returns.

**TERRINGTON (Norfolk).**—On Sunday, December 13th, at St. Clement's church, for Divine Service in the evening, a 720 of Bob Minor (sixteen bobs and two singles), in 27 mins. Farmer Mallett, 1; Fred Easton, 2; Jno. Green, 4; George Barrett, 4; Jno. Herring, 5; Dr. Seccombe (conductor), 6. And on Saturday, December 12th, a 720 was rung by the same company. And on Wednesday, December 16th, a 720. F. Mallett, 1; Rob. Howling, 2; Jno. Green, 3; F. Easton, 4; Jno. Herring, 5; Dr. Seccombe (conductor), 6.

**TOTTENHAM (Middlesex).**—On Sunday, December 20th, at the parish church, for Divine Service in the evening, 384 of Bob Major. T. Grove, 1; J. Langran, 2; G. Bower, 3; J. Nunn, 4; J. Waghorn, 5; J. Waghorn, jun. (conductor), 6; H. A. Barnett, 7; W. Pye-English, 8. And 420 of Plain Bob Triples. G. Bower, 1; J. Langran, 2; J. Waghorn, 3; J. Nunn, 4; W. Pye-English, 5; J. Waghorn, jun., 6; H. Barnett (conductor), 7; W. Crockford, 8. And after service a quarter-peal of Plain Bob Triples, in 44 mins. T. Grove, 1; J. Langran, 2; J. Waghorn, 3; J. Nunn, 4; W. Pye-English, 5; J. Waghorn, jun., 6; H. A. Barnett (conductor), 7; W. Crockford, 8. This is the longest touch in the method by all the band.

**WIMBLEDON (Surrey).**—On Sunday, December 30th, at St. Mary's church, for Divine Service, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor, in 26 mins. G. Hyde, 1; E. F. Cole, 2; C. Hyde, 3; B. Battrum (first 720 in the method), 4; A. Garratt, 5; S. Frost (conductor), 6.

**WOMBOURN (Staffordshire).**—On Wednesday, December 16th, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor, nine bobs, in 26 mins. J. Aston, 1; H. Deans, 2; A. Little, 3; W. Devey, 4; J. E. Claridge, 5; R. Cartwright (conductor), 6. Tenor about 12 cwt.

**WORCESTER.**—On Friday, December 17th, the junior members rang at St. Martin's church, a 720 of Grandsire Minor, in 20 mins. F. Owen, 1; H. Wilks, 2; \*W. Powell, 3; \*W. Page, 4; H. Lawton, 5; G. Cleal (conductor), 6. And on Monday, December 21st, the following rang at All Saints' church, a 305 of Grandsire Caters. \*S. Cotton, 1; \*G. Hinton, 2; \*W. Powell, 3; \*W. Johnson, 4; F. Owen, 5; G. Cleal, 6; H. Wilks (conductor), 7; W. Page, 8; H. Lawton (Wednesbury), 9; W. Hales, 10. \*First attempt.

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We, the Committee, thank all ringers and friends who have so kindly and liberally contributed to this "National Testimonial," and we wish to remind any who are thinking of becoming subscribers that it will be necessary to close the list with the present year. We therefore respectfully ask them to communicate at once with A. Thomas, Hon. Secretary, 83, Wheeley's Road, Edgbaston, Birmingham; or Mr. S. Reeves, Hon. Treasurer, 10, Bull Street, West Bromwich.

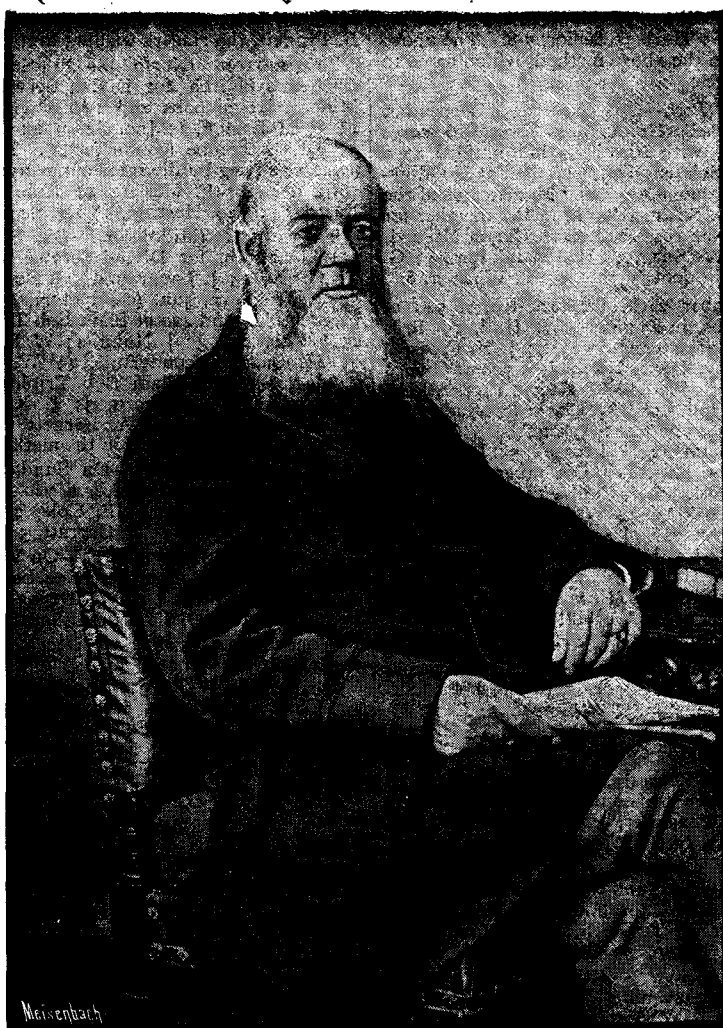
#### NORTH LINCOLNSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

THE NEXT QUARTERLY MEETING of this Association will be held at Gainsborough, on Saturday, January 2nd. Through the kindness of the clergy, the bells at Lea (six), Gainsborough (eight), and Corringham (five), will be at the disposal of members that day. All members and persons interested in ringing are earnestly invited to attend. Societies or individual ringers intending to be present, will please communicate at once with

W. LUNN, Hon. Sec.  
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#### GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL ASSOCIATION.

THE ANNIVERSARY MEETING will be held at Tewkesbury, on Monday, January 11th. All members who intend to go are earnestly invited to attend the short service at the Abbey, at 10.30 a.m. Dinner at the "Bell," at one o'clock. Chairman, the Rev. Canon Robeson. 2s. 6d. to non-members and hon. members; the usual reduction to performing members. Notice of intention to be present to be sent to the hon. Secretary, the Rev. Pitt Eykyn, Ashton Gate, Bristol, not later than the 6th inst. The members are requested to take notice that the entry of no peal will be guaranteed in the peal-book, the particulars of which do not reach the Master, the Rev. C. D. P. Davies, Redmarley, Gloucester, on or before this meeting, when a meeting of the Sub-Committee on this subject will be held.



HENRY PORT, ESQ.

*Manager of the British Workman's Assurance Company.*

THE subject of this sketch is Henry Port, Esq., Managing Director of the British Workman's Assurance Company, Limited, of Birmingham, one of the most progressive of our Industrial Life Companies. Mr. Port was born on the 4th of June, 1833, and is, therefore, fifty-two years of age. He began his insurance career as an agent for the British Protector Life Office. In the year 1865 he went to Birmingham to establish a business for the Sceptre Life Office, but his connection with that company was short, owing to a misunderstanding with the then secretary, but not through any fault of the present directors or management. At the request of some friends whom he had made in Birmingham, he now turned his attention to the subject of forming an industrial office, which would really meet the requirements of the working classes, upon the most liberal and just principles, as at that time industrial business was not held in very good repute. This resulted in the formation of the British Workman's Assurance Company. Some of its features, especially that of surrender value, were new, and it was supposed by many that he had thrown too much of the benevolence into the undertaking; at all events, he was anxious to get all the premiums he honestly could, giving the last penny possible for what he had received, his intention being not to accumulate larger funds than necessary out of the hard earnings of those who paid into the office. Mr. Port undertook the whole work of forming the company, and the office work as well for the first year, free of expense, in order that the thing might have a fair start, and that the paid-up capital might be as little as possible for the future advancement of the company, and it was here that his untiring energy and ceaseless effort

accomplished wonders. Hampered as he was by many obstacles, coupled with want of sufficient capital, he was obliged to work night and day, and it is now a wonder, even to himself, how he accomplished so much, and created so vigorous and strong an institution from such a humble beginning. It was an Herculean task, and could have only been accomplished by a man of such indomitable pluck and perseverance as Mr. Port, who may now regard with just pride as the result of his labours the British Workman's Assurance Company, which is a model institution, as well as its name being household words in the land. As showing how thorough and business-like are his methods, we have only to point to the fact that the British Workman's has always balanced its books every week, so that it really makes *fifty-two balance-sheets a year*. All the books and accounts are examined with every voucher, even if it is only for 2s. 6d., and is presented to the directors and gone through by them every week.

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Amid the commotion which has lately arisen in connection with Industrial Assurance, it is refreshing to find a corporation like the one we are dealing with, enjoy the utmost confidence. We offer, therefore, no apology to our readers for appearing to go out of our way in alluding to it. Certainly an Assurance Society that can be safely depended on is of as great importance to the readers of this paper as it is to any other section of the public.



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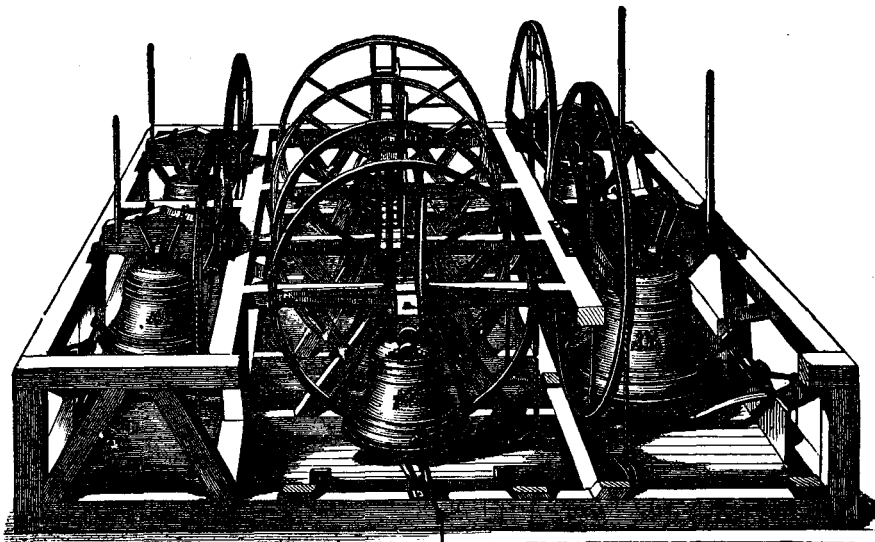
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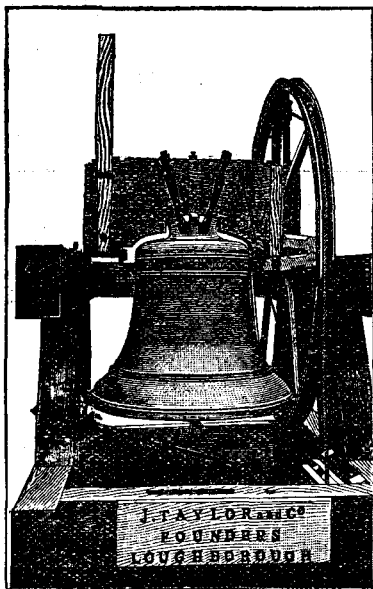
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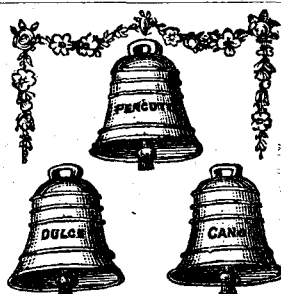
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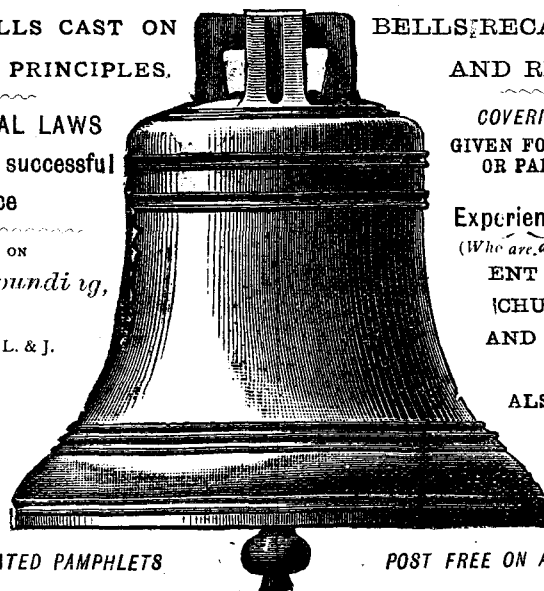
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Secretaries of Ringing Guilds and Associations, and all change-ringers, should labour to promote the circulation of this pamphlet among Clergymen and Churchwardens.

# CHRISTMAS SUPPLEMENT TO BELL NEWS & RINGERS' RECORD.

## THE PARSON AND THE RINGERS.

A few years ago, I devoted my usual autumn holiday to a bicycle tour in the Eastern Counties. I had a roving commission from the editor of the *Blankshire Herald* to interview all sorts and conditions of men, but somehow my escape from the desk had not been favorable to literary activity. One Saturday afternoon, I was sitting in the parlour of the inn at Newhamp-ton, lamenting the infertility of my brain, and rather hard up for a job, having been kept indoors all day by the rain. I had read all the newspapers and smoked as many pipes as were good for me, when at last I turned my attention to an unpromising library which occupied a portion of a single shelf. The only book which took my fancy was a novelette of the smallest size, entitled, \**"The Scudamore Chimes: a story for Church Bell Ringers."* It was of the tract and leaflet species, and the style of the narrative would not have recommended it to me, but I had been a bit of a bell-ringer myself years ago, and was glad to be reminded of a pursuit which I had once found very fascinating.

Before I proceed further I ought, perhaps, to apologise to the author of *"The Scudamore Chimes"* for writing a sequel to his story. If this were a romance I dare say I should be guilty of piracy, or plagiarism, or some other literary crime, but I think there cannot be much harm in continuing a real history which another writer brought down to date, and left unfinished.

Ten years before, I read, Scudamore, with its beautiful church and beautiful peal of eight bells, was cursed with an ungodly set of ringers. The old Vicar had been too good-natured to keep them in order, but he had lately made way for a successor who wielded a new broom.

The Rev. Cuthbert Elkington had "a look of great firmness on his face, and especially around the small, tightly-closed mouth." He was then "about thirty, but his black hair was already touched with grey, and worn thin over the high forehead from hard work." He had many virtues, and, one would have thought, might have reformed the old ringers. However, he adopted the easier method of getting rid of them, with the exception of one Abdiel, Ben Dawson, and put in their place a band of exemplary young men. "Mr. Elkington was not contented with having his ringers attend church, and nothing more. Very soon they became, one and all, regular communicants. . . . The bright early sun is lighting up the glorious east window of St. James's, Scudamore, on Easter morning. It is eight o'clock, and the Early Celebration is just over. Ben and the other young men are still kneeling in their places. Ben's head has sunk down on his folded hands, and a halo of many-coloured lights from the stained glass of the east window gleams on his hair, and strays down over his white surplice."

And there the story left them. What had come of it all? Had the old ringers gone to the dogs their own way, and had the new ones learnt to ring without ceasing to pray? Elkington I had known slightly at college, and alas! I had seen a notice of his death in the newspaper not many months since. Young men "with high foreheads and hair prematurely grey, and thin from hard work," do not wear well. A good man, and one who would improved had he lived to be a bishop, but with all his faults, one who would do more good in his time than most of us, if we live to be a hundred.

I was not long in ascertaining that Scudamore was within an hour's run by rail of the place where I was staying. So I deter-

mined to go and see the end of the story for myself, and as the rain had cleared off, I was soon bowling along on the road to the station. Before it was dark, I had delivered up my ticket, and was within sight and hearing of

the old church tower,  
Where bells, the poor man's only music, rang,  
From morn to evening, all the hot fair day.

The weather had been neither hot nor fair, but the bells had been ringing for some village festival all day, as I heard at the inn, and when I had despatched my frugal meal, I made my way to the church, and into the belfry. The ringers appeared to be practising some intricate method in which they were not very perfect, but otherwise they were fairly proficient in the management of the bells, and were a smart-looking set of young men. Each man wore, suspended from a button-hole, a little bronze medal, stamped with an Early English effigy of St. Cuthbert, the patron of their Guild, and some of them wore the blue ribbon of sobriety as well. The belfry was neatly, and even handsomely furnished in ecclesiastical style, and there were seats, and pegs for coats and hats. Soon after my arrival there was a pause in the ringing, and I introduced myself:

"I used to be a ringer myself some years ago, though I never got beyond Grindstone Bob, and I thought you would not mind my having a look at you. You seem to be ringing some difficult method; what is it?"

The conductor answered my question, an intelligent-looking man, about thirty years old, who, whatever his other qualities might be, was probably not deficient in self-assertion. "We are always pleased to see ringers—perhaps you would like to have a pull with us? We are learning Stedman, and some of the young hands find it harder than what they have been used to. Bob Triples we can manage pretty well."

I took a rope, and got through some rounds without much blundering. After complimenting me more than I deserved, the foreman directed my attention to a new peal-board, which he said had been put up that day. The board stated, in letters of gold on a black ground, that on the 1st of May, 188—, a true and complete peal, consisting of 5040 changes of Bob Triples, was rung by the St. Cuthbert's Guild of Ringers, in three hours and seven minutes: *Treble*—Benjamin Dawson (conductor); 2nd, William Lendrum; 3rd, 4th, 5th, 6th, 7th, John Jones, Peter Snell, etc. *Tenor*—Thomas Oliver.

"Dawson, Lendrum, Oliver! Why I have been reading about you all to-day, in *'The Scudamore Chimes!'*"

"Benjamin Dawson is my name, sir, at your service. Lendrum and Oliver belonged to the old set too, and the rest is young men who joined the Guild when the late Mr. Elkington established it, or since. Dear me! we have had a deal of changes since *"The Scudamore Chimes"* came out. Which made some talk in the parish, being supposed to have been wrote by the late Vicar's wife, under the pseudonym of Cuthbert Heriot; and was then Miss Poyson, and came to attend daily service from Mudway, where there was none except on Sundays. But whether she was the author or not was never rightly known. A very talented lady, sir, and played the organ in church, and now she resides again at Mudway, as a widow, with two young children."

"Well I am not surprised to see you here, though one can't count on finding any one at home at the end of ten years. But Oliver and Lendrum? I thought they were never coming into the church again."

"Well you see, sir, all the old ringers resigned, as is stated in

\* *"The Scudamore Chimes."* London: Society for Promoting Christian Knowledge.

the book, except me, sir, as was a steady young man, and never agreed with their ways from the first. A smoking, swearing, beer-drinking, nut-cracking, lot of round ringers—that is, in the belfry. I'm not one of them as sees any harm in a man taking his glass, and smoking a pipe, at home, or in a respectable house, especially on occasions of thanksgiving or loyalty. But as I was saying, the old lot resigned, and Mr. Elkington chose a band of respectable church-going young men, and some of them took the pledge too. And they, being all new together, did not get on with the ropes so fast as Mr. Elkington wished, being a man as was never satisfied short of perfection. And so you see, sir, when Lendrum took offence with the chapel, through not being allowed to preach whiles Jem Barker was allowed, and came to attend church regular, Mr. Elkington got him to ring again. A good ringer, sir, for a round ringer, and soon learnt the method after we had an instructor. But Oliver, he never could learn it, except to ring the tenor behind, and I will say there's no man can beat Oliver at that—as true as clockwork, sir!"

"Why Oliver was the man who swore he would never enter the church again till he was carried there! Did the Dissenters put his back up too?"

"No sir; Oliver was not given to religion any way—a straightforward man, but not one as was easy to change. But his son, as fine a young chap as you'd see any day, enlisted, and was killed at the Cape of Good Hope in the same engagement as Mr. Elkington's brother, being both in the same company, as I've heard; and the old man took on terribly about it, and the Vicar likewise being in trouble, there was no more bad blood between them, and so Oliver came to join us again too, but the rest never came back, except Ellaby and Croft for a time. Only to day is the Odd Fellows' annual dinner, and by their desire all the old ringers as could be collected have been ringing rounds and call-changes since morning. We have nothing to do with that, sir, but I gave them my permission for the use of the belfry without grudging. I said to them, says I, 'you can use the bells and the belfry at your pleasure till evening, but it is the Guild's practice-night, and after seven o'clock I must lock you out.'"

Presently Oliver came in to see his name on the peal-board.

"Hurrah! for the conquering hero!" cried of the young ringers. "Let's give him a fire!" With Ben Dawson's gracious permission several rounds were now rung, followed by triumphant volleys of discord.

Meanwhile being endowed with the miraculous ubiquity of the literary story-teller, I had not only taken my leave of the Scudamore ringers, but I had also transferred myself, in my astral and immaterial body, into the new Vicar's parlour. I need hardly say that it suited my purpose to remain invisible while so employed.

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The living of Scudamore was in the gift of the Master and Fellows of St. Boniface College, who were obliged to present alternately an ordinary and a Manx fellow. The Manx fellow was a native of the Isle of Man, who had graduated in honours. Although the founder of this fellowship had no doubt meant well, it is difficult to say what depth of ignorance might be below the reach of a wooden spoon at Oxbridge thirty years ago, and the men, as they were facetiously styled in college, had never been much appreciated by the dons at St. Boniface. To play a good hand at whist was the most that was expected from a Manx Fellow, and only one man on this foundation had been appointed to lecture, or hold any important office in the college. There was an unfair prejudice, no doubt, which only a man of more than average capacity could surmount, but the Rev. Douglas Ramsay, who had succeeded to the vicarage on the death of poor Elkington, had neither talent nor ambition to emerge from obscurity.

Ramsay was on the wrong side of fifty. Thirty years ago he had been elected Manx fellow of St. Boniface, and had lived a life of unlearned leisure ever since. He was always extremely regular in his habits. He had imbibed, perhaps a thousand times, a glass of sherry after soup, a stoup of ale with his cheese, three glasses of port after dinner, and a tumbler of toddy at bedtime. For many years these potations did him no harm, and he firmly believed that they did him much good. Latterly his health had been somewhat broken, and the doctor seriously advised him to take less alcohol. He did take less for a time, but found he did not get on so well, and resumed his old habit. The pity of

it was that without being aware of it he had now assumed something of the appearance of one who dined not wisely but too well, and his parishioners, who had learnt to revere an ascetic clergyman, were disposed to do him some injustice. For in truth, Ramsay was at bottom a right-minded, sensible, lovable man, and those who knew him best valued him most. When the time comes for him to make way for his successor, it is not improbable that he may be regretted as much as Mr. Elkington. It is possible, even, that he may live to do as much good in the parish.

But I must proceed with my story.

When I glided into the Vicar's dining room, Mr. Ramsay had just finished his third glass of port. He had not been able to write his sermon during the day because the bells disturbed him, and he thought he would have a quiet time after dinner. Unfortunately he had not been prepared for the practice-night of the Guild, and was now becoming very cross indeed. As he looked up the decanter the "fire" for Oliver greeted his ears.

"Confound those bells!" he muttered, "all day long they have been going, and no one has the grace to ask my leave even! I won't stand it." And he took his hat and walked rapidly to the church. The belfry was on the ground floor, and he had breath enough left to vent his indignation.

"What is the meaning of this? A positive nuisance. I desire that the bells may not be rung again without my permission. Who has charge of the belfry?"

Our friend Ben Dawson took upon himself to answer; he was strong in aspirates when the occasion demanded eloquence.

"Being Secretary of the St. Cuthbert's Guild of ringers, I thought it my duty to allow the Odd Fellows to have the use of the belfry on their anniversary, and it is also the practice-night of the Guild. The late Mr. Helkington, who was our President, always wished me to hact for him in his absence, and the office of President is still vacant. I am aware that the Minister, whether Incumbent or curate, can limit the time of ringing, but either or both of the churchwardens may also give permission to ring, provided that the minister do not interfere. That, Sir, is the law, I believe as, no doubt, you are well acquainted. Anyways, the Guild will always treat the wishes of the Vicar with the greatest respect."

"My good fellow," said Ramsay, "I don't want to go to law with you. I daresay it is all right, but you really should have some consideration for people with weak nerves. I am very fond of bells—in moderation—at a distance—but one can have too much of a good thing."

"Say no more, Sir, we shall fall the bells at once, and I shall do myself the honour of taking your horders with regard to the bells, at your leisure."

"Well, good night to you all," said Ramsay, and he returned to the Vicarage to make a second and more successful attempt at the delayed sermon.

As soon as the bells were down the ringers began to discuss the new Vicar.

"Not a bad-hearted chap," said Oliver. "Aye, I remember ten years gone, how Mr. Elkington, as was the new Vicar then, come into the belfry, and blamed us for having been there, and smoking and what not. We was not so particular then. This one may be a little irascible like, but bless ye, it's gone in a moment."

"Mr. Elkington was a right good man, and no mistake," said Peter Snell, but I will say this, he was old Harry himself if he couldnt get his own way. But, begging your pardon, Mr. Dawson, I doubt if you stated the law right, just now, to Mr. Ramsay. In my opinion the President of the Guild is master in the belfry, and no one else."

"You are mistaken, Peter, I have often discussed the question with Mr. Elkington, and you will find that the consent of both churchwardens against the Minister would not justify the ringers. That is Dr. Lushington's decision;" and Ben Dawson beamed with importance.

"Dr. Lushington be blow'd!"

"Tuppence for swearing," interrupted a sharp lad.

"Well I am!"

"Sixpence, for the second time," chimed in the persecutor.

Peter Snell suppressed the rising ejaculation, and resumed wrathfully.

"It is all very well for you to lay down the law, Benjamin

Dawson. You know on which side your bread is buttered, and that's just what poor old Dick Westwood did not know, as was turned off, and took to drink, through fretting, and you stepped into his shoes."

"Come, be gentlemanly," said Oliver, "no one has any call to speak ill of Ben Dawson, and Dick Westwood was pretty nigh done for before he was forced to resign."

"I should take no account of insinuations from any party," said Ben Dawson magniloquently, "much less from a young man without learning or experience, who joined the Guild less than a twelvemonth gone. I should like to see the man as would dare to say that I wouldn't speak up against the Minister when there is occasion to speak. The word minister is Latin, and means servant, and the Vicar is the servant of the congregation. Only the law is the law; no man can go further than that."

"Then why don't you speak up for the congregation when the Minister neglects his duty? There's been no Early Celebration since Mr. Ramsay came. John Jones, don't you miss that?"

This was the suggestion of the young fiend who had already pulled up Peter Snell for swearing.

"Well, I can't say I do," said John Jones. "A poor man with a family can't afford to quarrel with his bread and butter, and though Mr. Elkington would have made no difference to a man, not knowingly, leastways, his missis would; and the washing my wife used to do up at the Vicarage was a help to us with six small children. I say, live and let live, that's my maxim. Otherwise a man, as has been at work all the week has no call to get up for Early Celebration on Sunday, nor yet for any other kind of small and early."

"Now this is a case in point," said Ben Dawson. "If the congregation wished me to speak to the Vicar I would do it."

The fiend having winked at his friends, and secured their ready assent in prospect of a lark of some sort, began to pull the leg of the great man.

"I think, Mr. Dawson, the majority of the ringers present would feel obliged if you would go to Mr. Ramsay and request him that he will give them an opportunity of attending Early Celebration, as in the time of Mr. Elkington."

"With all the pleasure in life, if that is the wish of the Guild."

There was nothing which Ben Dawson enjoyed so much as being a deputation. He had forgotten how he was snubbed by Mr. Elkington ten years ago, when he went as spokesman of the old ringers.

By this time Mr. Ramsay was again at work upon the sermon. A tap at the door.

"Mr. Dawson, the clerk, Sir, wishes to speak to you, if you please."

He is admitted.

"Well, Dawson, what is it?"

"I am come to speak on behalf of the St. Cuthbert's Guild of Ringers, Sir. I am desired to say that the Ringers, that is to say the majority of them, would take it very kindly if you would give them an opportunity of attending hearily celebration on the third Sunday of each month, as in the time of the late Vicar."

And Ben cast down his eyes and smoothed his hat as he had done ten years before in the same place when on a different errand.

Mr. Ramsay was taken aback. He had no experience of parish work till he came to Scudamore, and he had several times been made to feel that the parish expected from him a higher standard than had been thought necessary at St. Boniface. But he was surprised to have such a demand from this quarter. He had heard something of belfry reform, but thought it was confined to the hopes of the clergy of the stricter sort. He was prepared to hear that his ringers were poachers, or public-house loafers; not to be reproved by them for deficient zeal.

"Well, Dawson," he said slowly, after thinking a good deal more than he thought fit to utter, "I shall hope to do my duty here so far as my health and strength may permit. But I am not so young as I was, and I find the Sunday services already quite as much as I can get through. Mr. Elkington did much good work in which I cannot attempt to follow him. But this early celebration—is there any occasion for it? The number of communicants has fallen off, I am sorry to say, since I came

here, but I do not find that the discontinuance of Early Celebration has anything to do with it. Why do the ringers want it?"

Ben Dawson had not thought of any reason, except that his vanity had been tickled by the description of himself in his white surplice in "The Scudamore Chimes." The flow of words, however, seldom deserted him.

"You see, Sir, the ringers have been accustomed to it in the time of the late Vicar, and to occupy the seats allotted to the Guild; and I think you will allow, Sir, that when a feeling of that sort exists it is the duty of a member of a congregation to speak to his minister on behalf of those who have confidence in him."

He wished to add something to the effect that minister was a Latin word, and that the minister was the servant of the congregation, but the vicar's eye cowed him, and he proceeded to smooth his hat in silence.

"Very well; you may tell your friends that I shall try to meet their wishes, if I can, when I understand them better than I do at present. Good night! I am busy."

Ben Dawson, on returning to the belfry, was disappointed to find that he had no good account to give of his mission. It was not that Mr. Ramsay had got the better of him in argument, but somehow he had been unable to say all he meant. He was relieved to find that "the majority" of the ringers seemed to care very little about the result of the deputation. They seemed to be taken up with some private joke among themselves.

And now it is time for me to resume my material body, and to make my own reflections while I smoke my last pipe before going to bed. Belfry reform is a good thing in its way, but like most other reforms, it may easily be carried to excess. The smoking, swearing, beer-drinking, nut-cracking ringers of the old school are often no worse than their neighbours. There is a black sheep in most flocks, but as a rule no one wishes to outrage public opinion when it is brought to bear upon him, and if there are abuses in a belfry, they may be corrected by a little timely care and attention as effectually and far more happily than by "getting rid of the old drunken lot," which is too often the parson's remedy when he wakes up to a sense of his duty. All that is wanted is sympathy; and so many clergymen are now ringers, as well as other persons of superior education, that we may look forward to a time when change-ringing will be held in as much honour as it was in the last century, without being discredited by a coarseness of manners which was then thought venial.

C. P.

## REMINISCENCES.

BY AUDITOR TANTUM.

"Hoc Olim Meminisse Juvabit."

A time will come when these memories will be delightful.

A quiet market-town, with an ancient cross in the market-place, beneath which the country people with their baskets of garden produce would take shelter in rainy weather. The market-place itself formed by the gradual widening and then narrowing of the main street of the whole town, which was lined by shops of divers sorts; the shops mostly sleepy institutions, each front door armed with a bell so arranged that when the door was opened, the bell should give warning to the owner of the shop, who ordinarily was bestowed away in some small lair in the back premises. Such is the subject of my earliest recollections.

Chiefly I remember the shop of Mrs. Black, the confectioner, famous for buns and barley-sugar; of Mr. Bydall, the baker of the best biscuits that I ever tasted; and of Mr. Luker, the barber who was appointed to shear my youthful locks and to provide me with the current mental pabulum of the day, such as Jack the Giant Killer, Cinderella, and Puss in Boots, at a penny apiece plain, and twopence coloured. Mr. "Luker's bear's grease" was renowned throughout the country side. He kept a bear in his back yard, and once a month placed in his shop window a placard with the (to me) terrific announcement "another bear killed;" the bear in the back yard however seemed none the worse.

Among other favourite shop windows was that of Mr. Jull, the watchmaker, where was displayed a choice collection of mighty



watches of gigantic proportions, backed up by a brilliant oil painting showing a sea piece with two "billy boys" in full sail, rocking (literally rocking), on the waves, while on the shore, two windmills with real and practicable sails were in full career. Next door was the tiny cell of the gunmaker, below the level of the street, and approached by means of a short flight of steps. Here one beheld a choice selection of ancient pistols (oh! Shake-speare!), with flint locks, probably far more dangerous to the gunner than to the mark, but for all very fascinating to my young eyes.

Beyond this was the more pretentious shop of the ironmonger where I bought my first pair of skates (but that was several years later than the time of which I have been writing), for half-a-crown. Quite opposite to the ironmonger's at the far end of marketplace stood the principal shop of the town, entitled, "Grocer" Turner [Draper," these words being placed over the door and windows. Inside an attempt was made to keep the groceries and the draperies apart, and this attempt met with a certain amount of success as regarded the extreme right and the extreme left of the shop; but about the centre, confusion reigned supreme while kind-hearted Mr. Turner bustled about serving his customers, and rarely allowed me to depart without pressing into my willing hand a small packet of pudding raisins, deftly rolled up in white paper in the shape of a cone. I must not forget to mention the "King's Arms," whence started on week-days (at 8.30 a.m.) the omnibus which ran to the county town, and whither the same "convenience" (as it was locally called), returned between six and seven p.m., producing twice in the day a brief semblance of life in the midst of the death-like repose of the old place.

All these week-day matters after more than forty years, are still clearly and sharply defined in the camera of my recollection, but clearer than all is the impression of my childish Sundays. The Church stood almost in the centre of the town, and from about the middle of the market-place, one passed down a shallow passage between two houses, and through the iron gates which led to the seclusion of the churchyard. The church itself was a plain edifice only remarkable for its size; but the tower was extraordinary. It stood as usual at the west end of the church, and had originally been square, spacious, and fully one hundred and fifty feet in height. Many years before I was born, a considerable portion of the tower had fallen down, to the great consternation of the townsfolk, and in my time only the eastern wall was in any wise whole, and of that much had either fallen or had been removed from the top for the greater safety of what remained. The western wall had entirely disappeared, but the north and south walls were nearly complete below; above much had fallen, and they both sloped away, becoming narrower as they approached the top of the eastern wall, and at last bulging out a little above they came to an end. In fact, the tower much resembled an old-fashioned settle or arm-chair, and I often imagined that Cormoran and Blunderbore had been in the habit of using the ruin as a chair before they fell victims to ruthless Jack.

But what most interested me in this edifice was the bells. All the other church towers with which I was acquainted jealously guarded their bells from view: of course I had seen churches without towers, with mere turrets containing bells which any passer-by could see; but these were always very small, and in my sight no better than the bell of the National School. My tower, however, favoured me with an entrancing view of its bells. High up on the eastern wall of the ruin had been built a kind of roofed shed, and in this two bells were placed. The two ropes of these could plainly be seen depending from above to within twenty feet of the ground, where they were caught by two beams which projected from the wall, and were thus guided through the wall and so led over pulleys into the interior of the church, where they ended in sallies of every colour of the rainbow. The sexton who used to allow me to catch hold of the end of the rope when he chimed the little bell, conferred on me a pleasure which I believe to have been one of the greatest which I have experienced in a (hitherto Benedicto Benedicatur) very pleasant life.

The smaller of the two bells hung on the right hand, and was a merry fellow, whose wheel was the visible cause of its swinging when the rope was pulled inside the church. The other bell was much larger and seemed to look down sullenly on the world below and on the gravestones with which God's-Acre was so thickly studded. As far as I could see, she never moved, even when

she gave out her solemn note at funerals: now it seemed to me that when the rope was pulled inside the church, it was the plain duty of the bell to respond by a visible movement, and the big bell's failure in this respect was in my eyes a sad business.

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I left the old market town when I was about five years old, and took up my abode in a village some seven mile away: and in that village I first became acquainted with the appearance of the interior of a church steeple. The old arch in the eastern wall between the tower and the nave of the church had been bricked up, and access to the steeple was obtained through a small lancet shaped door, painted yellow; as soon as this door was opened a gush of smell came forth, indescribable, yet never to be forgotten, composed of the odours of starlings' rotten nests and guano. The most conspicuous object inside was an enormous chest in which the parish registers were kept; the iron-bound lid was so heavy that it could not be opened in the ordinary way, so a sheaf of pulleys was suspended above, and even with this mechanical aid it was a hard task for the clerk, Edmund Carr, though a very strong man, to open the chest.

The tower was lighted by means of a fair-sized window in the western wall, beneath which was a narrow platform, to and from which were short flights of stairs leading to and from the singers' gallery at the west end of the nave of the church. In the north wall of the tower was a low doorway leading to the winding stone staircase which conducted to the upper regions those who desired to go above. Looking up from below one saw signs that there had formerly been two wooden floors between the base and the roof of the tower: of these the upper floor which had been placed immediately beneath the cage of the bells had entirely disappeared, and only two beams remained to indicate its position; while of the lower floor no more remained than the beams and a ragged fringe of rotten boards round the walls. The view from below was therefore almost uninterrupted, one could see beds for three bells, of which two were empty, while the third was occupied by a tenant who had been there for nearly five hundred years. One could also see a very shaky ladder planted on the top of the cage, and sloping up to a small square hole in the roof, through which the bright sunlight streamed.

Of this delicious domain I had the run, and it now seems to me to have been a rather perilous playground for a youngster of five or six summers: for instance, after ascending the winding staircase for some 35 feet one reached a small landing and doorway. One step through the latter would lead to the cruel stone pavement at the bottom of the tower, for there was nothing worthy of the name of a floor: through this doorway I loved to lean and to glance up at the big bell above. The next doorway, twelve or fifteen feet higher, was less dangerous, for it was partly blocked up by the worm-eaten bell-cage. I used to climb this and gaze at the old, old bell, and peep over and down in an awe-struck mood at the stone floor nearly fifty feet below. Higher than this I did not dare to go, for the ladder which was perched on the top of the cage had its foot in a mass of rotten wood, and was itself crazy to an extraordinary degree: several of its rounds were missing, and of those which remained many seemed to be in the last stage of dry rot.

One day when I was peeping over the cage and admiring the old bell, I was seized round the waist from behind by a strapping young agriculturist, who had always been most kind to me: he now insisted that I should go with him up the crazy ladder and through the lead-covered trap-door, and have the outline of my foot cut on the leads with my name and the date inscribed within. This notion was highly attractive to me, but the ladder and the horrible gulf below were too alarming, and I refused to go. The young giant, however, caught me in his arms, and in spite of my struggles began to ascend the ladder; I had the sense to lie still and shut my eyes tight, until I was placed on all fours on the leads, where I was glad to find myself protected from falling by a tall parapet towards which I eagerly crept, having a very lively dread of the trap-door and all that was below it.

The trap-door however was now closed by my companion, John Spink, who placed over it a massive lid, and I gradually gained sufficient courage and composure to admire the numerous "footings" cut in the lead, and even allowed John Spink to lift me up that I might enjoy the fine view which was to be seen by



those who were tall enough to look over the parapets. I was delighted to have my own small footing added to the collection and then my companion proposed that we should descend.

But here a difficulty arose; the hole in the roof was so small that a big man could hardly get through, hence it was necessary that my friend John Spink should first descend five or six steps of the ladder, and that I should creep backwards feet first and get on the ladder between his arms; but my horror of the hole and ladder was such that my courage was quite unable to overcome it, and had John Spink relied only on his powers of persuasion, I should probably have remained on the top of Weston church steeple for a very long period. After many useless efforts to induce me to approach the hole, he suddenly changed his plans, and by some means (was it by the promise to show me the works of his big round watch?) tempted me to come within the reach of his long arms, and so caught me and took me by force down the ladder. This adventure ended safely, but the memory of that descent remains to the present day, with the view of the stony floor sixty feet below, intersected by the timbers of the bell-cage, and with the scent of the starlings' musty nests; and this scene often forms a part of my dreams when I am feverish or under the influence of dyspepsia.

It must have been four or five years after this that I became witness of an affair which might be truly named "a narrow escape." Certain distant relations of mine lived in a village about eight miles from my home, and I was often invited to stay for a week or two with them at Thwaite Manor. Glad was I to accept, for the place was a Paradise for boys: the house was a rambling old building with a vast number of passages and low rooms, with old fashioned casements, through which peeped ivy and roses, and creepers trained up the old walls; in front there was a spacious flower garden, and beyond the garden, a wilderness with endless paths winding through a forest of lilacs and laburnums. At the back of the house was a large kitchen garden abounding with all kinds of delicious fruit, from the early strawberry to the late bullace plum, which ripens not without a touch of frost. Beyond the garden was the great farmyard, bounded on one side by the vast barn, which through the most part of the year resounded with the rhythmical thud of the alternative flail, while two sturdy threshers with their now almost forgotten instruments slowly extracted the golden grain from the ears of wheat, or barley, or oats. A quarter of a mile away was the brewery, with its huge vats and coppers; and about a mile beyond, a fine old water-mill, built all across a picturesque river, fringed with willows drooping over the deep cool pools below the lower mill-race; where the kingfisher would often plunge into the bright water and emerge, like a flash of ruby and sapphire, with a minnow struggling in his strong bill.

The mill provided a succession of sports only too delightful; did a waggon laden with sacks of corn draw up on the bridge in front of the mill and under the dormer window which projected above on the third story, I hurried up to help, and was allowed to pull the rope which (when the waggoner had fastened the bright shining slippery chain round the neck of the sack), caused the seventeen or eighteen stone of wheat to rise majestically through the air, up and up, till it had forced open the double trap-door at my feet; when the trap-door, raised by the sack, fell with a sharp clatter, I let go the rope and the sack would come down on the closed door and be swiftly wheeled away on a barrow. Was an order given to stop one or both of the mighty water wheels, I would beg to be allowed to do the needful, and a blow with a crow-bar, which I could hardly lift, would knock off the catch, and cause the great sluice gates to fall and cut off the stream which had been flowing under the floats of the enormous wheel. As a treat, the miller would sometimes open a mysterious door, and permit me to see the monster wheel in full career, with streams of water dripping from his floats and emitting an odour in its way as distinctive and as indescribable as that of an uncared-for belfry. Then we would have tandem races the whole length of the top floor of the mill, each team consisting of three boys and two sack barrows; the smallest boy would sit on the front barrow and had nothing to do save to fall cleverly in case of a capsize: a middle-sized boy sat on the hinder barrow and held the handles of the barrow in front, while the biggest boy ran and pushed the whole. Then when the day's work at the mill was done, there was the pleasant task of stopping the two water wheels, and

opening the sluice at the side of the mill, which prevented the river from overflowing its banks when the mill was not working.

Add to all the above the delights of boating and fishing and bathing, and (in the winter) skating, and say whether I have not justified my saying that Thwaite Manor was a Paradise for boys.

One of our favourite games was hide-and-seek, and the height of the ambition of each was to baffle the rest until after hours of unsuccessful search they fairly gave up. One winter's afternoon it seemed likely that Sam Glover would gain this triumph over us all, for immediately after our early dinner at one o'clock he had gone to hide, and although we had sought him high and low till nearly dusk, not a trace of him could we find. The mill was too far away, and it was understood that the brewery on one side, and the church on the other side were bounds, beyond which it was not allowed to hide. We had commenced with the brewery, and after searching every intermediate nook had just finished with the church. Churches in those days were not so well cared for as now, and it did not strike our elders (much less ourselves), that we were doing wrong in using God's House as our playground. The church was a fine building with one of those grand towers so common on the east coast, and in old days so useful to sailors and fishermen. This tower was of smaller dimensions than some, but it was fully 120 feet high, and being somewhat slender seemed higher than it really was. In one corner was a winding staircase which led to the top of the tower, and did not, as in most cases, come to an end at the belfry. The most striking feature of the church was a lofty and graceful arch between the tower and the nave, the height of which was quite unusual; there was a small gallery which sloped into the church from under the west window, and was raised only ten or twelve feet from the floor. The ropes of the four bells hung down in this gallery, and the "length of pull" was excessive: each rope, however, was steadied by being made to pass through a hole in a wooden frame fixed some twelve feet above the floor of the gallery. After looking into the three-decker and behind the fine oak stalls in the chancel, and even peeping through the magnificent tabernacle which hung over the font, we dashed up the tower stair: on reaching the very lofty floor which we had seen from below we found at a glance that it was quite empty, and we hurried to the next floor where the four bells hung in a row. Here a surprise awaited us, the three bells nearest to us were hanging as usual with their mouths downwards: but the fourth, the furthest away from us and the biggest of the four, was standing mouth uppermost and apparently likely to fall over if touched. We looked closely enough in the pits of the three bells nearest to us, but thought it prudent not to go near the raised bell. Lastly we went up to the roof above, and, finding no trace of Sam, descended again to terra firma. Here we met the Vicar who was near the font just in front of the great arch; he asked us if we were all down; on hearing that we were he called to the sexton who was busy with a brush and dustpan in the aisle: "Cease the bell, John Dow." John Dow mounted the steps into the gallery, and pulled at one of the ropes, rising on tip-toes to reach the loop, which hung above his head. As the rope came down, and before the bell spoke, a piercing scream from above caused John Dow to drop the rope, while we boys fled as the bell striking more and more rapidly at length became silent. Then the vicar and John Dow, and two others went up in fear and trembling, and after a while came down carrying Sam Glover senseless, and white as a sheet but apparently unhurt. The Vicar caused him to be laid at full length in the church-porch, and sharply dashed cold water in his pale face: and soon the boy recovered and told us what had occurred. It seems that in his eagerness to gain a hiding-place which we should fear to invade, he had been so incredibly reckless as to lie down on the floor below the old tenor bell which had been left "up" after having been knolled for a death in the early morning of the same day. His scheme was crowned with complete success, and he had the satisfaction of seeing us approach his lair without the courage to look in and discover him, but being unwilling to break cover until we had left the church, he lay still in his dangerous position. Before long he heard our footsteps on the stone floor below, and was eagerly thinking how soon he might withdraw when suddenly he heard the sonorous voice of the Vicar "Cease the bell, John Dow." For all he knew John Dow might have been close to the rope, and Sam saw

that if the bell were pulled off before he could climb out of the pit he must be killed. His only chance seemed to be to lie flat on his back, and hope that the bell might swing clear over his shrinking body; he judged that the lip of the bell would clear him by two or three inches, but he dreaded that the old fashioned clapper with its long flight would strike him in its swing. These thoughts had scarcely flitted through his excited brain when the rope was pulled, and with a groan the great bell began to roll over; the strain was too great for human endurance, and with the piercing scream which we all heard poor Sam fainted away, and was mercifully spared from further knowledge of his fearful situation. After this Sam would have nothing more to do with bells.

And now I will conclude with heartily wishing all the single, gentle, and simple

"A HAPPY CHRISTMAS AND PROSPEROUS NEW YEAR."

## THUMPER'S DATE TOUCH.

[A SEQUEL TO THE "LOST PEAL BOOK."]

MOST of the readers of "THE BELL NEWS" will remember the story of "The Lost Peal Book," in the Christmas number of 1884. We will now take another look at the Slowborough Abbey Society of change-ringers some few weeks later on.

It was the second of February (Candlemas Day). The festivities of Christmas were over; the company met for practice on the evening of that day. They had got the bells up and were resting for a short time. Mr. Snapper had just proposed that they should go for a date touch of 1868 Grandsire Triples, on some evening during the following week. The recovery of the lost peal book had so stimulated their energies, that they frequently rang touches of over a thousand now, both in Grandsire and Treble Bob; and they hoped to do a peal before the year ended.

"Talking of date touches, I suppose none of you recollect Andrew Thumper, do you?" said old Mr. Colt, who was still alive and thriving. None of the present company did remember that gentleman, although some had heard of him.

"Well, I remember him," said Colt, "He died in this very belfry on the last night in the old year, just before midnight. It was in the year 1826. This man composed two date touches, one for 1826 and one for 1868. He said he was not likely to live to ring the last one, and as it was he never rang the first; but if we could only find these touches, we might do the 1868 next week. As far as I can remember he never kept any record of them on paper, but merely wrote the course-ends down on the back of the door of the clock case, in the chamber above us."

"Well, I've never seen anything written on that door except the names of one or two men that have cleaned or repaired the clock at different times," said Mr. Trippels.

"Ah, that door was repaired and altered some years after Andrew's death," said Colt. "Yes, I remember, it was done when they put the quarter jacks on. The clock only used to strike the hour before."

"I say," said Moldsworth, "you said just now that the old chap died in the belfry; how did it happen? We should like to hear that story."

"Bother it, we've no time for stories now, let's get to work and do some ringing, and then I daresay Mr. Colt will oblige us with it over at the "Crown" when we've done," said Trippels.

"Hear, hear!" on all sides. The company then got to their bells and rang a touch of 960 Oxford Treble Bob.

"Well, I think we've done enough for to-night," said Trippels, as soon as they had finished. "We may as well fall the bells and adjourn; and then we can hear Mr. Colt's story."

They accordingly falled the bells in peal, and adjourned to their meeting room at the "Crown and Mitre."

Each of the company having lit his pipe, and got supplied with what he wanted in the shape of refreshment, Mr. Colt began as follows:—

"When I was a lad, gentlemen (it would be about the year 1815, I might be about nineteen or twenty at the time), a ringer came to live here named Andrew Thumper. He was a young man when he came (about five or six and twenty, may be). He came from somewhere in the south (I can't tell you where). He

was a good change-ringer, and a bit of a composer, but a very silent and reserved sort of man. When he first came he seemed to be in trouble about something. Some said he had been disappointed in love, others, that he had once been rich and had lost all his property. I don't think the last supposition was very likely, for he was, as I said only a young man, and could not have been in possession of much property for very long, and he appeared to be only a working man. Anyway we never knew what his trouble was, as he said very little to any of us. Being a good ringer, and fond of the art, he soon joined our company. He was a pattern-maker by trade, and worked at Bot and Skimmer's Foundry, that is now, and I've heard many of the old moulders say they never knew patterns to draw so well and leave the sand so easy as his. You know those four cast-iron brackets that hold up the gallery at the Town Hall? Well, he made the patterns for them, and old Dick Sleeker, that works at the foundry now, he moulded 'em and cast 'em. And those cast-iron columns at our theatre, they're some more of his work. But there, I am wandering from my story; you must forgive an old man's imperfections, gentlemen. Well, Thumper, when he'd been here some time, got appointed steeplekeeper, and used to do the service bells, the same as our friend, Mr. Trippels, here, does now. He was a crabby sort of chap, as I said, and he was never known to be on very intimate terms with anybody. He spent a lot of time over composing touches and I have no doubt that many of his compositions were false; but I believe the two date touches were all right, because we had two London men over here at the time, who were considered good authorities, and they proved them and said they were true. Now Andrew was anxious to call the 1826 on this very day forty-two years ago. Our party wasn't always very regular in their attendance at that time, so in the afternoon I made a point of going round and looking them up for the evening meeting. I got round soon after three o'clock, and all the men we wanted had promised to be there punctually at seven in the evening. I just turned into the foundry to see Andrew and tell him it was all right. He seemed more morose and gloomy than ever that afternoon, and when I got there he said he had done work for that day, and should soon be off to do the chiming for the four o'clock service. His governor was churchwarden then, and he always let him off when he was wanted at the church. We just went down into the foundry before we left, to see them cast a big fly-wheel for Jupp's mill, that was ready that afternoon. Now when we came in, Clinker, the cupola man, had just tapped out, and got the two-ton ladle full of metal. He was stopping the cupola, when his 'bot' missed, and he had to stick another on the rod before he could stop the metal. Andrew made some nasty remark about his awkwardness, and Clinker said something about 'pattern-makers thinking they knew more about foundry work than the moulders themselves.' This made Andrew savage, and he and I left the foundry at once and went to the Abbey steeple. It wanted twenty minutes to four when we got there. Now at that time we had a lad in the choristers school named Horace Littenhaugh, He was a lively young scamp, and often used to come up into the belfry when we were ringing, although 'twas against the rules of the school. Now just as we got into the belfry up comes young Master Horace, full of his fun as usual, and he takes and slaps Andrew on the back and says 'Now then, old Grandsire Stedman Treble Bob' (those were the words as near as I can recollect), what makes you look so glum this afternoon? Andrew looked daggers at him, and I, at that moment, was just off up to the bell-chamber to let down a rope that had run up a bit with the damp weather. I had hardly gone up a dozen steps when I heard something go bump on the floor, and on turning back I found Master Horace lying between the seventh and tenor boxes, with a gash in his head, from which the blood was flowing copiously. Andrew was bending over him, and when we two lifted him up he was as dead as this glass, here."

Here Colt held up his glass which was empty. "Come, fill the old man's glass, and then he'll get on with his yarn," said Trippels. This was done and Colt proceeded. "Well, you know, gentlemen, we none of us saw how it was done, and Andrew always said that the boy caught his foot against the tenor box, and fell and hit his head against the corner of the seventh box, and this story satisfied the coroner's jury at the inquest. Well, this affair seemed to throw a gloom over everything; we didn't ring at all that evening. I shall never forget

carrying the poor boy down, with the blood streaming all over his fair young face and his white collar. No, gentlemen, I hope I may never see such a sight again. But to return to my story. After that day Andrew was more surly and morose than ever, and hardly spoke to any of us. But for all his disagreeable ways he was determined to have that date touch before the year was out. So on the last night of the old year we met as usual soon after eleven, to ring the old year out and the new one in. We intended to do the eighteen twenty-six, although it would have lasted into the new year, from the time we started, had we accomplished it. I shall never forget that night. Andrew rang the seventh, and conducted, and I rang the sixth. We had not gone above four or five hundred, when Andrew drops his rope and calls out 'Oh! the boy, the boy! I killed him, I knocked him over. There he is staring at me! Don't you see him? There, there against the clock weights!' We all set our bells as soon as we could, and I ran and caught the seventh rope and pulled her up and set her in a few strokes. 'What on earth's the matter, Andrew,' said I as soon as I had set the bell. 'Oh, the boy, the boy!' says he. 'Don't you see him there? Now he's gone over against the fourth, in the other corner. O-oh! He's pointing at me now; Oh God, forgive me, O-oh!' And then Andrew fell down flat on the floor, and we looked up and could see nothing, so we went to Andrew and found him dead."

"What a horrible story," said Trippels, "Dash it, Colt, you'll make us all nervous directly."

"Ah, mind you don't go to far with some of those young cubs at the choir school, Trippels, you're precious fond of knocking them about," said Snapper.

It will be remembered that Mr. Trippels was employed as mathematical master at the choristers' school on certain days in each week, and was not a good manager of boys; and hence this remark.

"Look here," said Trippels, "when I don't know how to manage boys I'll ask our head master, Dr. Swishem; not you. The boys are nothing to me. I've seen plenty in and out of the school in my time. They come here fresh from the nursery at about nine or ten years old, and we have to break them in a bit. Dr. Swishem understands that sort of thing better than I, or you either, and we keep them here and start 'em with some means of getting a living when they're about fifteen, and what more can be done for them?"

"But look here," said Moldsworth, "to return to the subject of the Date Touch, do you think those course-ends for the eighteen-sixty-eight could be found?"

"I doubt it," said Trippels, "but all the same I'll have a good look round that clock-chamber before long."

The company then separated and went home for the night.

On the day following, shortly after two o'clock in the afternoon, several of the choristers were sauntering about the playground at the choir school, among whom were Montague Raye (the senior boy), Alec Langdale, and two young Greeks, named Xerxes and Alethes Hellenicos respectively. The latter two were the only boys in the school who did not stand in awe of Mr. Trippels. They seemed to have a sort of way of getting over him which none of the other boys could understand, and somehow he never seemed to be really angry with them.

At that moment Mr. Trippels was observed coming across the churchyard with a bunch of keys in his hand.

"He's going to wind up the clock, Montie, let's ask him to let us go up with him," said Alec.

"It would be no go, if we were to, he wouldn't let us," said Montague.

By this time Trippels had unlocked the door at the bottom of the stairs and gone inside. He soon came out again, however, and walked away, leaving the door open.

"He's forgotten the key of the clock case," said Xerxes, "let's go up while he's gone."

"I wouldn't have old Trip catch us up there for a trifle, and there wouldn't be time before he comes back," said Alec.

"What awful muffs you English fellows are, we don't care if he does catch us, come along," said Alethes.

"Well I shan't risk it," said Alec. "No more shall I," said Montague, "I wonder you fellows are n't afraid."

"Afraid, indeed! who ever saw a Greek in a funk, I should like to know, Eh Xerk?" said Alethes.

"Aye, I should like to know," said Xerxes. "Here, come

along, Leethie, and we'll leave those muffs behind." So saying the two young Greeks made their way to the tower and ascended to the clock-chamber. Their next move was to climb up on to the top of the clock-case, and they then proceeded to cut their names on the wall in neat Greek characters, among a lot of other names. They had not been there long before they heard Trippels coming upstairs. They squatted down on the top of the clock-case so that he could not see them. It wanted one minute to the half-hour when Trippels arrived, and not wishing to wind on the warning he waited till the clock struck. "Tang, ting, tung, tong; tung, tang, ting, tung" went the clock, and Trippels proceeded to wind up the three trains. He was just shutting the door of the case when Xerxes threw a little square piece of board down, which made him look up. "Now then, what are you boys doing up there? Come down immediately," said Trippels.

"Oh yes, likely thing; We're very comfortable where we are, thank you, Mr. Trippels," said Xerxes.

Now then, let's have no nonsense, come down at once," said Trippels angrily. "Why what on earth have you been doing? How dare you disfigure the wall like that, cutting your names on the stone!"

"Oh, there's plenty more up there, and I doubt whether they are any of them as artistic as ours," said Alethes, "Mural decorations you know, Mr. Trippels."

"Yes, I'll give you mural—," what Trippels was going to say we cannot tell; for just at that moment Xerxes slid down a rope behind him and jumping upon his back and flinging one arm round his neck and over his mouth he buried his smooth young face in Trippels' whiskers and checked further utterance. Meanwhile Alethes followed his brothers example and hung on to that gentleman on the other side.

"Oh, Trippels, old boy, what a nice man you do—be was," said Xerxes somewhat releasing his hold.

"Get off you cheeky young hounds," said Trippels, as soon as he could find breath.

"I say, Trippels, you shall carry us down stairs like this and into the Doctor's study, and tell him all about it if you like," said Alethes.

"Your young dogs, I can't be angry with you when I would," said Trippels to the boys who had now released him from their embraces. His eye now lighted upon the piece of board which one of the boys had thrown down. It had some figures on it and it seemed to him that this might be the missing date touch. Certainly it was only a small piece of wood about five or six inches square at most and looked almost too new to have formed part of the old clockcase door. Nevertheless Trippels pocketed it intending to examine it when he got home.

"Now then, youngsters, come on down with me, and don't let me catch you up here again, that's all," said he, and all three went down. The boys went to tell of their exploit to their schoolfellows, and Trippels went home.

When Trippels got home he examined the piece of board and found that it certainly bore the course ends of a date touch for 1868, and he had no doubt but what it was the one Colt mentioned as being Andrew Thumper's. So he planned a little surprise for the company. He intended to call this on the next meeting night as somebody else's, and then when it was done, to tell the rest of the men all about it. Accordingly on the following Thursday evening, when the company were assembled in the belfry, Trippels regretted that he had not had time to look for Thumper's touch, and announced his intention of calling another, comprising the same number of changes, which he said was composed by a friend of his in Yorkshire.

So they rung it, and it came out without a hitch.

When they had set their bells the door opened and in walked Mr. Haulemthrow, the conductor of the Didlington company, a first class ringer and composer. He was accompanied by Mr. Sluggidge, another of his company.

"Good evening, gentlemen," said the new comers.

"Where did you get that date touch you've just rung?" added Haulemthrow.

"It's a composition of a friend of Mr. Trippels," said Snapper.

"Then, I am afraid your friend has been so unlucky as to produce a false touch," said the former, turning to Trippels, who was smiling facetiously. "I don't think my ears have deceived me as to a repetition having occurred about the middle. Have you the course ends?" added he.

Trippels produced the piece of board and handed it to Haulemthrow, and then stood by smiling and rubbing his hands and waiting for the verdict.

Mr. Haulemthrow sat down and pulled out his pocket book, and after doing a bit of figuring he pronounced the touch to be false, and shewed the company where the repetition occurred.

"Pardon me for deceiving you, gentlemen, but that is Andrew Thumper's Date Touch, I found it in the clock-chamber yesterday," said Trippels.

"I thought you said you knew it was all right, old man," said several of the company, turning to Colt.

Before Colt could reply, a young ringer, named Fisher, stepped forward and said "I am sorry to have been the cause of so much trouble, gentlemen, but that is not Thumper's date touch at all. If Mr. Trippels had shewn me that piece of wood before, I could have told him all about it. The fact is a few weeks ago I tried to do a little bit of composing myself, and being up in the clock chamber one day, I pricked out what you see on that board. I had a good mind to shew it to some good authority, and then I thought it was almost sure to be false and I should only get laughed at, so I threw it up on to the top of the clock case out of the way, and Trippels, it appears, has fished it out, under the impression that it was Thumper's."

There was a general murmur of disapproval among the company against Trippels.

Trippels himself seemed rather ashamed, and he did not remain very long with the rest of the company at the "Crown and Mitre," that night. He just drank one glass of ale at the bar and went home.

The rest of the company discussed the matter over and they seemed to think that there was a possibility of finding the real touch yet.

Now it happened that one day during the following week, as the bells were ringing, the clapper of the sixth flew out and broke through the bell-chamber floor. The clapper was replaced next day, and the day following one of the ringers named Batten, who was a carpenter by trade, was employed to repair the hole in the floor. Now the floor was a double one, and as he was wrenching up some of the broken pieces of the board which had been smashed, he spied the end of a piece of seven-inch deal, which seemed to be lying loose between the floors. He pulled it out and found that it was about two feet long, and was covered with figures. He immediately thought of Thumper's date touch, and when he had done his job, he put the piece of board in his tool-bag and took it home, resolved to know more about it before he mentioned the matter to anyone else. It happened that on the next day Haulemthrow came over to Slowborough for the evening. There was no ringing on that night, and Batten met him in the street and confided to him all about what he had found. Mr. Haulemthrow accompanied Batten to his home and examined the board and pronounced it to be a true touch of 1868 changes, whether it was Andrew Thumper's composition or not. On turning the board over they found nothing whatever on the back, but on the same side as the figuring was the top half of the letters "A.T." The board had been sawn in two when the old door was demolished; but this left no doubt as to the composer.

Now Batten was rather annoyed at what had occurred before, and resolved, if possible, to get this touch rung without the aid of Trippels at all.

A favourable opportunity soon presented itself.

The season of Lent was now drawing near, and on the Thursday before Quinquagesima Sunday, Mr. Trippels went up to London on business for a couple of days. Some maliciously observed that he had gone on a kid-napping expedition to try and prevail upon some shabby-genteel parents to entrust their boys to the care of the Rev. Dr. Swishem, at the Slowborough choir school for a few years, which after all would not have been a bad thing for either boys or parents, if such was the case. But be that as it may, he was gone and not expected home until Saturday. So on the Thursday evening Batten got Haulemthrow to come over and call the date touch after a good deal of persuasion (the latter looking upon the matter more in the light of an intrusion than otherwise). Nevertheless the touch was rung, and the members of the company rather congratulated themselves upon having accomplished it without the aid of Mr. Trippels.

When Mr. Trippels arrived home about mid-day on Saturday (bringing with him two gentlemanly, but half-starved looking boys; one the orphan of a deceased organist, and the other the son of a poor curate, their admission to the school had been arranged some months previously, by the bye), he was rather astounded to hear of what had been done, but he took it all in good part, and said "A date touch was no'wt to make a fuss about after all."

#### A FEW MORE FACTS GENERALLY KNOWN.

The supposition that the Messrs. Day, bell-hangers, of Eye, are the principals in the firm of Day and Martin, is a long way from the mark.

When speaking of "The Shades," of Greenwich, the phrase should not be taken to mean the sign of a house of entertainment.

Mr. W. Cecil, of Bethnal Green, does not we, believe, claim the slightest relationship with the present Prime Minister.

The notice in this paper announcing the publication of two stories in the present number, was not a covert allusion, as has been erroneously supposed, to two distinguished members of the Durham and Newcastle Association.

The very best Carpenter in England is to be found at Croydon.

Recent criticisms on the "London Societies" have been brought to a close in a very Strange manner.

The relationship of Mr. W. D. Smith, of Hackney, to the Secretary of State for War, is of the most remote and illusory character.

Mr. May, of Wantage, has not any connection, so far as is known, with the firm of Bryant and May.

The College Youths have both French and English among their metropolitan members.

The Earl of Warwick does not belong to the Bedfordshire Association.

The contrast between Prussian Blue and York Green is, as may be supposed, very decided.

On the Death of the late Mr. JOHN GOOSE,  
Formerly Parish Clerk of Swaffham, who died on Sunday,  
the 23rd of August, 1795, aged 78 years.

Years sixty-five did honest John

His office fill with merit;

But now to realms above he's gone,

So peace be with his spirit!

To chant a stave, or chevy-chace,

To none scarce was he second;

Could make responses with a grace,

And was a toper reckon'd.

A holiday he thought divine,

A holy feast loved dearly;

Would oft partake of holy wine,

Of holy water, rarely.

Tho' rack'd and crippled to an inch,

And to the gout a martyr,

Ne'er from his bottle would he flinch,

Or ever cry for quarter.

Feast days he kept throughout the year

And even to his last day;

But Abstinence he deem'd severe,

Nor could endure a Fast-day.

The Liturgy he had by heart,

And could repeat the Psalter;

At Christ'nings too could play his part,

Nor e'er was known to faulter.

The merry peal he lov'd full well,

Bob Major was his glory;

But now the melancholy knell

Proclaims the mournful story!

Whatever faults were to his lot,

What boots it to reveal them?

No, rather let them be forgot,

Or Charity conceal them.

Let no rude jest profane his name;

'Twere impious,—not witty;

His age, our Reverence should claim;

His Sufferings, our Pity.

He moistened many a time his clay,

But from him Death the cup now dashes;

His courage out,—he drooped away,

And here in peace repose his ashes. G. W. L.