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

No. 196. [NEW SERIES.]—VOL. IV.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 2, 1886.

[ONE PENNY.

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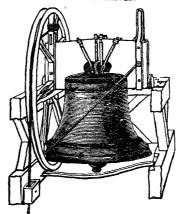
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DOWN IN THE SWAMPS; OR, FIVE DAYS IN A "KOONDA-BOAT."

What is a "koonda-boat?" It is a canoe "dug out" from the trunk of one of the great sal trees which grow in the vast forests between Bengal and Burmah. For a large koonda some 32 feet of trunk are needed. When the boat-builder has made up his mind which side shall form the bottom of the canoe, he cuts a thick long slice off the top, he then cuts away about 4 feet at stem and 4 feet at the stern on the underside of the trunk, leaving the top edges to form two strong square platforms, each about 4 feet square, and giving plenty of space for one boatman (or even for two, if necessary) to stand on each. The next task is to hollow out the portion of the trunk which lies between the two platforms, so as to form a trough some 24 feet long, 3\frac{3}{4} feet wide, and 2 feet deep. I do not know by what means this is done, but advantage is taken of the hardness of the wood to reduce the sides till they are quite thin at the top, they gradually increase in thickness and strength lower down. The ends under the platform are rounded off, and when the koonda is placed on the water she floats. Her stability depends to a great degree on her freight, when empty she is inclined to capsize, but when laden with grain or bricks she becomes very staunch. Of course the secret is to place the weight on the floor of the canoe.

There are wide tracts of country in eastern Bengal where these canoes are used to the exclusion of almost all other craft: they being the only boats which meet all requirements. Imagine a flat country about 160 miles long by 60 miles wide, such as (as far as area is concerned) would be cut off from the east and south of England, by drawing a line from Spalding in Lincolnshire to Portsmouth. In this tract there are but four or five roads raised above the flood-level, so few indeed as to be practically useless to the bulk of the population: the villages, which are generally some three miles apart, are built on land which has been raised a little; all the rest of this vast swamp is covered with water during the months of June, July, August, September, and October; in November, December, and May, the plain dries, but there are still a few inches of water in the narrow channels which intersect the champaign. There is also a fine river about the size of the Thames, with some permanent tributaries; these are called "twelve-month rivers" to distinguish them from lesserstreams which are dry from January to May.

I should mention that the whole inundated plain is covered every year with a magnificent verdant crop of rice, which grows in the water and ripens when the water dries up in December. In a country like this, if a man wants to go to market, or to his field, or to see a friend in the next village, he must have a boat, and the koonda-boat suits him best: it is built in all sizes up to about 40 feet; when moderately laden it draws only 4 or 5 inches of water and its narrow beam allows it to proceed through many channels where any other kind of boat would be of no use. During the rainy season the koonda-boat is taken from village to village across country as the crow flies: the green blades of the growing rice are separated by the stem of the canoe, and close up again astern, leaving no more trace than on a lake. When the water runs off the plain, the boatmen navigate the channels, and when these too become dry they are restricted to the "twelve-month" rivers.

The most usual modes of propelling these canoes are punting, paddling and sailing; the last method is rarely used, but if the boatman finds himself in a deep river with the stream against him, and a steady wind well aft, he rigs up a bamboo for a mast by sticking it in a hole in the front platform, and hoists a square sail, the position of the mast in the extreme front of the canoe, and the absence of all keel, renders it impossible to use a sail in a roonda boat unless the wind is almost directly aft. The paddle is used in deep water when the stream is in favour of the boatman; the handle of the paddle is brought up through a hole in the platform at the stern, and the paddle is worked like the tail of a fish or the screw of a steamer. But in shallow water, which is by far the most common, the koonda boat is is punted along with a bamboo. The skill of the boatman of eastern Bengal in the use of the punting-pole is surprising; they are also most indefatigable. The crew of the largest koonda boat consists of two men only; when all is favourable one man is able to punt, but if the channel is narrow, or the wind high, or the stream adverse, then both men have to work together. I threw the spider, young ones and all, out of the boat.

When one man can get along without help the other sets to work and cooks the dinner of currie and rice, and if time allows turns in for a little sleep on a mat on the bottom of the canoe, until it is his turn to take the punt-pole. Your two men will contrive to keep the boat going night and day for a week at a time, and although the pace is slow and probably will not average more than two and a half miles an hour, yet you will find that you have in a week gone over a very large tract.

During the portion of the year in which these canoes are most extensively used, the rain often falls in torrents; some contrivance is therefore required to protect passengers and cargo from the water. Each large koonda-boat has three semi-circular fixed awnings made of bamboo mats. These are each about 6 feet long. The first is quite in front; then comes an opening of about two feet; then comes another awning, then another opening, and then the hindermost awning. Moveable mat frames are provided to close the openings, when the state of the weather renders this desirable. There are also moveable covers for the front and stern of the canoe. When all these are closed (and this is done without interfering with the boatmen, who stand on the platforms outside), a long tunnel is formed, which is tolerably water-tight, except when the storms of rain are long-continued and driven by high wind; then the mat covering leaks like a sieve, and the passenger is reduced to a very uncomfortable state; for it must be remembered that the traveller in a khonda-boat cannot stand up, except in the two openings, and the heat of the sun between 7 a.m. and 5 p.m. renders such exposure unpleasant.

The experienced traveller spreads a mat under the front awning. On this he places a waterproof sheet, and then a mattrass with plenty of pillows. He has provided himself with books, and as soon as he enters the koonda-boat he retires to bed. At daybreak, 5 a.m., his servant (who accompanies him in a smaller boat of the same kind) gives him a cup of tea, and he stands up, or sits up, in an opening (weather permitting) till the heat of the sun drives him back to his bed and his book. Between 10 and 11 a.m. he will eat a substantial breakfast; and dinner, just before sunset, will carry him on till next day, when da capo. In the (comparatively) cool evening, when the thermometer has fallen below ninety degrees Fah., the traveller will be glad to stretch his legs, and stand up in an opening between the awnings, and enjoy the fragrant weed.

My duty requires that once a year I should visit and inspect the courts and offices of the native judges in my district; and as some of the courts are situated in the swampy tract just described, I saw that I could most conveniently reach them by means of the koonda boat: so, on Sunday, after church, when the sun was about to set, I embarked. We punted down a narrow channel for about a couple of miles, and then reached a small lake. By this time 't was nearly dark, but there was light enough to see that an enormous spider had emerged from a recess in the awning just over my head. Now, "you you gentlemen of England, that live at home at ease," have not an idea what an Indian spider runs to. His body is many times larger than that of the biggest spider you ever saw in the dear old country, and his great thick hairy legs are long enough to reach all round to the edge of a good-sized plate when the monster is in the middle of it. Moreover some kinds are poisonous. I myself, just ten years ago, in a careless moment, once touched the web of an Indian spider with the back of my hand, and in a few seconds a large blister rose as if I had been scalded. But to return to the koonda-boat. I lighted my lantern for the night, but the light was so dim, that I thought it prudent to postpone my fight with the spider till daylight. I soon fell asleep, and did not wake up till 2 a.m., when the old moon had risen, and I could see that we had reached the river Dacoitea, and were running nown stream by the help of the paddle. I looked round for the spider, but did not see her, so I turned round and again slept till daybreak, when I found her just over my head, with a big white bag like a young mushroom under her abdomen. Now I knew the meaning of this. The white bag was filled with hundreds of young spiders. I would have smashed the mother with the sole of my slipper; but her young ones would have fallen on me and my bed like a shower. I called my orderly (a Bengali), and asked him anxiously whether he could catch the old spider without allowing the young ones to fall. He thought he could, and by a mixture of luck and skill, he succeeded and

By the time the water was boiling in the kettle we had dropped down to a busy little town called Laksham, where an ambitious Bengali had commenced to build a large mansion on a beautiful site by the river-side. He had completed the ground floor and the walls of the upper story, he had even put in the costly beams which were to support the terraced roof, then his money came to an end. The mansion is a ruin, and the owner lives in a small mat house in the garden. The river here is about the size of the Thames at Abingdon, the scenery, although quite different from that of Berkshire, is lovely in its way. chief beauty is found in the graceful clumps of bamboo which line the banks. The bamboo, where it issues from the ground, is as big as a man can span with his two thumbs and two forefingers; it towers into the air, becoming more and more slender, until it reaches a height of 50 feet or more, and ends in a mere feather; it throws out twigs all the way up. A clump consists of twenty or twenty-five bamboos of various heights, and forms a group unsurpassed for elegance. The bamboo is remarkable for its rapid growth: a favorite device of the natives (before they were prevented by the English) was to cut down two young bamboos level with the ground and sharpen the points: they would then fix an unfortunate wretch in the evening with his two feet bound just over the two points, and next morning the vigorous young bamboos would have pierced both feet, and be growing above them.

Soon after passing Laksham it became necessary to leave the river and cut across the rice-fields. After eight hours of this work we again run into the river, which by this time had become as broad as the Thames at Richmond; soon comes dinner-time, and sunset, and another town called Hajigunge. Many of the villages are barely above the level of the water, their main street is a deep ditch full of water, about six or eight feet wide, and nearly all locomotion is effected in canoes. Twice a week the villager loads his boat with husked or unhusked rice, bananas, cocoa nuts, and other produce, and paddles off to market, often many miles away. He sells his cargo, buys what he wants (always including dried fish, half putrid, and with a smell strong enough to make your hair stand on end) and so home again in the gloaming. Again night comes on, and after the last pipe I turn in, but the wind has fallen, and the air is so hot and oppressive that it is almost impossible to sleep. Blood-thirsty musquitos, assisted by venomous sand-flies, have me at their mercy; swarms of ants creep all over the bed, and after a rest-

less night, dawn is truly welcome.

The river is now wider than ever; a strong tide running down shows that we are near the mighty river Megna, of which the Dacoitea is but a tiny tributary. The furthest point of my journey is attained, and after six hours of inspection I am again free to return home, and glad to avail myself of a flood tide which will help me for several miles on my way back. When the tide turns we leave the river, and again strike across country, the stream in the river being adverse, we keep as far

as we can to the open plains.

In a country like India where everything becomes putrid in a few hours after it has been deprived of life, it is truly providential that an ample host of natural scavengers is forthcoming. Here on a bit of high waste land outside a village is the bleached skeleton of a bullock, expressively called in the vernacular "the cage," for the ribs in truth resemble the wires of a cage from which the bird has fled. When I passed this spot less than fortyeight hours before, and amusing spectacle was being played out before my eyes. The body had at that time been newly flayed by the knackers of the village (men of the lowest and most despised caste), the ownerless curs were stuffing themselves with the flesh, while a host of obscene birds, adjutants, vultures, and ravens, stood round at a respectful distance waiting till the dogs had dined. If a vulture rendered rash by hunger approached too near, he would be driven back by some snarling cur, but when the dogs were satisfied, the birds soon stripped and polished the bones. A disgusting sight, forsooth, the vultures with their hideous bare necks plunging their strong beaks into the carcase and struggling for the tid-bits.

It is marvellous how soon these greedy birds detect carrion. When the dead beast is first flayed, not a sign of a vulture may be seen in the air, but within a few minutes first one, then another, then troops of vultures, will be seen approaching from all quarters of the heaven. There can be no doubt that these birds have a system of signals. When so high above earth as

to be invisible to human eyes, one vulture descries the body: he signals to others above and on all sides of himself, and then comes down in great circles which become smaller and smaller as he approaches the earth, till at last the rushing noise which

The same thing on a small scale goes on in my koonda boat;
I have killed a spider and the flattened body remains on the side of the boat undisturbed for about half an hour; then an enterprising ant comes across the body and after exploring it on all sides hurries off for his partners; the dead spider is many times bigger than the tiny ant, but the ants are in force and surround the body until it seems to have a complete fringe of active legs on all sides. Then with one accord the ants begin to pull and push, and the whole cavalcade or funeral procession moves slowly up the side of the boat. When the ants reach the top, the labour is less severe, and the defunct spider is soon hidden away in the ant's family larder.

The strength of these ants is something wonderful, having regard to their small size. Yesterday evening I was sitting out in the garden under the shade of a tree, I dropped on the ground a large crumb of cake about the size of a big pea; presently I saw the same moving about in the most violent and eccentric manner, it had been seized by two tiny ants not belonging to the same household, who therefore pulled in opposite directions. The cake was tossed about, but at last one of the tiny antagonists became somewhat exhausted and he and the cake were slowly and reluctantly dragged to the edge of the mat on which the cake had fallen. Here a terrific and final struggle took place; the weaker ant fixed his legs in the edge of the mat, and plunged his nippers into the cake; but his opponent was too strong for him, after a pull of perhaps one minute's duration he wrenched the cake from the grasp of his exhausted enemy, and rushed off with it in triumph over the, to him, very rough country of an Indian lawn.

But it is time to return to the koonda-boat; the enforced recumbent position is now becoming very wearisome, and although on the way home the canoe passes through most lovely bits of scenery, where for instance the narrow canal, after long creeping in the blazing sun-light, suddenly dives under an arch of bamboos and widens out into a quiet pool surrounded by trees, whose branches meet overhead and form as it were an emerald roof to the grotto through which only specks of sun-light can be in the surrounded by trees, whose branches meet overhead and form as it were an emerald roof to the grotto through which only specks of sun-light can be surrounded by the surrounded by the surrounded by trees, whose beginning the surrounded by trees, whose beginning the surrounded by trees, whose branches is the surrounded by trees, whose branches are the surrounded by trees, whose branches meet overhead and form as it were an emeral to be a surrounded by trees, whose branches meet overhead and form as it were an emeral to be a surrounded by trees, whose branches meet overhead and form as it were an emeral to be a surrounded by trees, whose branches meet overhead and form as it were an emeral to be a surrounded by trees, whose branches meet overhead and form as it were an emeral to be a surrounded by trees, whose branches meet overhead and form as it were an emeral to be a surrounded by trees, whose branches meet overhead and form as it were an emeral to be a surrounded by trees. force their way, where the superb oriole flashes like a flame of gold from tree to tree, and four sorts of kingfishers are plying their deadly craft, yet one longs for the end of the journey, and is glad indeed to see the landing place, and to drive off the F. W. J. REES. cramps by a brisk walk home.

FOURTEEN YEARS' RINGING AT ST. PETER'S CHURCH, ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE.

The bells of this church were consecrated by the late Bishop of Manchester, Dr. Fraser, on the evening of December 28th, 1872, and were opened by a band of ringers belonging to the parish church of the same town, who also rang the first peal (5040 Bob Major), on the 27th of January, 1873. Since the bells have been opened sixty-three peals have been rung on them, containing from 5008 to 10.464 changes in the Treble Bob, Plain Bob, Grandsire, and Stedman methods, namely: thirty-three Treble Bob Major, fourteen Plain Bob Major, eleven Grandsire Triples, three Grandsire Major, one of Bob Triples, and one of Stedman Triples. The peals were rung as follows: 1872, four; 1873, one; 1874, three; 1877, four; 1878, six; 1879, three; 1880, two; 1881, four; 1882, five; 1883, fifteen; 1884, twelve; 1885, six. Mr. J. Thorp's 8864 of Treble Bob Major, and the 10,464 of his in the Mr. J. Thorp's 8864 of freble Bob Major, and the 10,404 of his in the same method, were rung here, the latter as a preparation for the long peal at Mottram. The peal of Stedman Triples was the first in the method by all who rung in it. Eight members of the Ashton-under-Lyne Society rung a peal of Bob Major to commemorate the 14th anniversary of the bells being opened, a report of which appears in its proper place. All those who rang in it rang their first peal on the above bells.

John Hopwood, Hon. Sec.

NORTH LINCOLNSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

THE NEXT QUARTERLY MEETING of this Association will be held at Gainsborough, to-day Saturday, Jan. 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. communicate at once with

A DATE TOUCH OF GRANDSIRE

DATE TOUCH OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR.

A PEAL OF PLAIN BOB TRIPLES.

TRIPLES. 5040. 1886. By F. MARSH, West Bromwich. By HENRY JOHNSON, Birmingham. By JOHN CARTER, Birmingham. 12345678 23456 W M H 1234567 2 1 4 3 6 5 8 7 2 4 1 6 3 8 5 7 4 2 6 1 8 3 7 5 4 2 1 6 3 8 5 7 64235 -2 1 3 5 4 7 6 2 3 1 4 5 6 7 3 2 4 1 6 5 7 24635 4 2 6 3 5 6 3 4 2 5 4 6 3 2 5 3 4 2 6 1 7 5 4 3 6 2 1 5 7 4 6 3 1 2 7 5 6 4 1 3 7 2 5 23456 M W H 3 4 6 2 5 Four times repeated, with a single at the 23564 2 2 65324 2 2 24536 1 2 2 5th and 10th part-ends. 6147352 1674532 25346 2 A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR. 23456 1 2 5024. 1st treble lead. 2 3 7 5 4 6 2 3 7 2 5 4 6 4 6 5 3 4 7 2 1 7 2 6 3 4 5 2 6 4 7 2 5 3 8 3 2 6 5 4 7 1 5 2 3 7 6 4 5 By CHARLES PRICE, Eccleston. A PEAL OF ALBION MAJOR. 23456 M B W H 5152. By JOHN R. PRITCHARD, Liverpool. 3 2 6 5 4 2 36524 24653 52436 23456 W M H I 2 45236 -24536 2 54326 I - 2 2 2357644 2 3 5 7 0 4 2 6 4 2 5 7 3 2 3 5 6 7 4 2 1 4 2 3 6 7 5 2 7 5 4 3 6 2 2 25463 52436 43526 52364 5 2 3 0 4 2 2 4 3 6 5 2 - 2 6 5 4 4 6 2 1 5 4 6 3 2 1 - 6 2 3 4 5 6 2 2 3 4 5 6 54326 3 2 5 4 6 Т т 357246 5 53246 25346 34256 4637252 I 2 2543762 5423764 4253764 6347251 23456 62453 46253 24653 A PEAL OF SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE 256473² 452367⁵ 524367⁵ 2 4 0 5 3 3 6 4 5 2 4 3 6 5 2 2 6 3 5 4 3 2 6 5 4 6 3 2 5 4 MAJOR. 5088. By HENRY DAINS, London, 73562415273468 23456 B M W H 465732² 324576² 42356 23564 -56234 2435764 63425 4325764 7642532 3275641 5234765 46325 5 3 6 2 4 6 5 3 2 4 4 3 5 2 6 53462 45362 23456 2 3 5 4 7 6 4 7 6 2 5 4 3 3 3 5 7 4 6 2 1 4 5 3 2 7 6 5 54326 35426 Twice repeated. DATE TOUCH OF STEDMAN CATERS. 1886. This peal has the 4th and 6th the extent. 5342764 Rung for the first time at All Saints', Duffield, by the St. Paul's Society, Burton-on-Trent, on Monday, October 19th, 1885. Conducted by William Wakley. By WILLIAM LOMAS, Sheffield. 123456 5 16 625734^{1} 3465722 312564* 5432675 A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR. 213465 4 3 5 2 6 7 4 6 7 4 5 2 3 3 3 5 6 2 7 4 1 2 5 3 4 6 7 5 5184. 215364 512463 By SAMUEL WOOD, Ashton-under-Lyne. 513264 532467 4 6752432 23456 M B W H 514362 415263 - -54632 1 413562 3 2 6 4 7 5 ¹ 4 2 3 5 6 7 ⁵ 35426 23564 2 412563 2 2345674 2 3 6 4 5 3 4 2 5 6 214365 Contains twelve 4-6's and twenty-four 6-7's. 2 2 215463 512364 Twice repeated. 514263 A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR. 513462 A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB CATERS. 5184. 315264 314265 By GEORGE H. HARDY, Earlsheaton. 5076. By ROBERT WILLIAMS, Liverpool. The following bobs bring the bells home: 23456 M B W H 1 2 5 7 3 6 4 8 9 ² 2 7 1 6 5 4 3 8 9 ⁸ 5 6 2 8 9 4 1 7 3 ¹² 23456 M W H 6 2 5 3 4 2 5 2 3 6 4 6 4 2 3 5 I 4 5 2 3 6 I I 2 46532 1 1 2 45362 1 2 63542 2 2 12759384619 2 2 Round at one six and two changes. 34256 I - 2 52436 I I 2 * Produced by bobs at 1, 2, 6, 7, 8, 11, 14, Twice repeated 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.

All communications respecting advertisements must be addressed to the office of "The Bell News," Walthamstow, London.

The Bell Rews & Ringers' Record.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 2, 1886.

An enquiry into the reasons which have induced ringers, in the past as well as the present, to attach themselves to the art, would, if altogether unprofitable, be in some instances curious. Many of those whose names appear from time to time among our records, could not in all probability accurately describe the causes which led them to take to ringing, though no doubt there are others who could distinctly relate the occurrences which led to their connection with it. Perhaps these latter could tell the nature of the magnetism which played upon their tastes and inclinations, infatuating them, as we know, till they had gone too far, for their own peace, to retract. But it is the very first ideas held with regard to bells that interests us. The "experiences" of ringers in the direction to which we are alluding, will be found to vary. Some have been "brought up," born, so to speak, among bells; imbibed the taste and longing with their maternal sustenance, and who in after years appear totally out of their natural element when not in a belfry. Where a connection with bells has taken place only at manhood or those years verging on manhood, there must be some cause, some peculiar coincidence or accident, that have There is about Church led to the acquaintance. bells a kind of charm, a feeling in the minds of many akin to awe, which ultimately begets a longing to know more about them. This desire keeps increasing till, in fear and trembling, a visit is paid to the belfry, the result being that the individual comes away more mystified than before, and the spell or charm is felt more deeply than ever, gradually merging into delight as acquaintance progresses.

But we could go on and imagine reason after reason, cause after cause, which leads to an acquaintance with bells and ringers. This is a mental occupation, however, only fit for quiet moments, when nothing of greater consequence obtrudes itself upon the imagination; a conception which the pleasure of an easy chair, a quiet apartment; and a good honest fire in the grate is apt to create. This was the case, in fact, with ourselves on a

recent quiet evening. The most stirring of the Christmas annuals was got through as the day began to wear, and then watching the images in the fire after the manner of one of Dickens's well-known characters, our thoughts were directed to the time of our initiation into the science and to the various circumstances which has led others to become ringers. Yet there was one reason, one that ignorance is apt to credit ringers with—which never occurred to us, that of pecuniary gain. For we believe sincerely that not one ringer in a thousand has ever, upon his introduction to the art, thought for one moment of the emoluments it might bestow upon him, though the time may and unfortunately does come that the receiving of payment becomes so natural that the slightest disappointment in connection therewith often leads to an amount of selfishness, dissatisfaction and grumbling. It is hopeless to expect perfection, we know, in sub-lunary matters, but what a good thing it would be if the youthful infatuation and earnestness could, throughout the lives of ringers, be preserved in all their freshness. We are afraid that with bells, and also with the grand art of changeringing, the phrase "familiarity breeds contempt," may be seen exemplified in the conduct of some who flatter themselves that they are among its chief promoters.

The Metropolis.

WALTHAMSTOW, ESSEX.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS. On Thursday, December 24, 1885, in Two Hours and Fifty-five Minutes, AT THE PARISH CHURCH.

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES; Holt's Original. Tenor 103 cwt.

WILLIAM COAKHAM†	Treble.	ROBERT J. MAYNARD	5.
JOHN HUGH WILKINST	2.	*James Cullen	,, 6.
GEORGE GRIMWADE†	3.	†Fredk. G. Newman	•• 7.
THOMAS MAYNARD	4.	†William Crockford	Tenor.

Conducted by Fredk. G. Newman. *First peal. +Members of the Essex Association.

TWICKENHAM, SURREY.—THE WATERLOO SOCIETY. On Saturday, December 26, in Two Hours and Fifty-three Minutes. AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Hollis's 5-P	ART.	Tenor 21 cwt. in Eb.		
WM. H. MANNING	Treble.	ALFRED C. FUSSELL		5.
WM. J. WILLIAMS	2.	ARTHUR HAYWARD	٠.	õ.
WM. H. FUSSELL	. 3.	Wм. H. George		7.
IOSEPH BARRY	. 4:	RICHD. I. WILLIAMS .		Tenor.

Conducted by WILLIAM J. WILLIAMS.

Messrs. George and Manning hail from Pinner; Fussell Brothers from Slough; J. Williams from Reading; R. J. Williams from Richmond; Barry and Hayward from London.

BATTERSEA, SURREY.

THE SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS. On Tuesday, December 29, 1885, in Two Hours and Forty-five Minutes, AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

	FIOLT	SU	RIGINAL.	lenor 15 cwt.		
W. BARON			.Treble.	H. S. THOMAS	٠.	. 5.
A. G. THOMAS			. 2.	H. Swain		6.
W. COPPAGE			. 3.	C. W. Ludwig		7.
J. W. Mansfie	ED .		• 4.	W. Ambrose	٠.	Tenor.

Conducted by W. BARON.

	J /
LEWISHAM, KENT.—THE ST. JAMES'S SOCIETY, LONDON.	HALEWOOD, LANCASHIRE.
Birthdan Peal.	THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.
On Tuesday, December 29, 1885, in Two Hours and Fifty Minutes,	On Saeurday, December 19, in Two Hours and Fifty-eight Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,	At the Church of St. Nicholas,
A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;	A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
Holt's Original. Tenor 22½ cwt. in Eb.	HOLT'S 10-PART. Tenor 11 cwt.
FREDK. G. NEWMAN	S. Gough
Conducted by Frederick G. Newman.	Conducted by Walter Hughes.
This peal is the quickest on the bells, and was rung to celebrate the 48th birthday of Mr. Thomas Taylor; his brother ringers heartily wish him many happy returns.	*First peal. The company met to give W. Hughes a chance to conduct a peal before he turned twenty years old, which proved successful. Messrs. Gough and Allen hail from Garston; Large from Widnes; Hill from Southport; Davies from Liverpool
PUTNEY, SURREY.—THE ST. JAMES'S SOCIETY, LONDON.	Garston; Large from Widnes; Hill from Southport; Davies from Liverpool; Williamson from Runcorn; and the Brothers Hughes belong to Halewood.
On Wednesday, December 30, 1885, in Two Hours and Fifty Minutes,	
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY THE VIRGIN,	LEISTON, SUFFOLK.
A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES; HOLT'S ORIGINAL. Tenor 16‡ cwt.	THE ST. MARY-LE-TOWER SOCIETY, IPSWICH, AND THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.
WALTER BIDWELL* Treble CHARLES F. WINNY 5.	On Saturday, December 26, 1885, in Five Hours and Four Minutes,
Benjamin E. Battrum 2. *Allen Henry Taber 6.	At the Church of St. Margaret,
John Basden 3. FREDK. G. NEWMAN 7. CHARLES W. PORTER*	A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR, 8064 CHANGES. Tenor 20 cwt. in E.
Conducted by CHALLIS F. WINNY. *First peal. †First peal with a bob bell.	JAMES MOTTS Treble. EDGAR PEMBERTON 5.
	WILLIAM MOTTS 2. WM. L. CATCHPOLE 6. ROBT. H. BRUNDLE 7. ARTHUR R. ALDHAM 4. *EDWARD REEVE
The Provinces.	Composed and Conducted by JAMES MOTTS.
SITTINGBOURNE, KENTTHE SITTINGBOURNE SOCIETY.	*First peal in the method.
Wedding Peal.	This is the longest peal ever rung in the method, supplanting the 7200 rung by the
On Tuesday, December 22, 1885, in Three Hours and Ten Minutes,	This is the longest peal ever rung in the method, supplanting the 7200 rung by the St. Paul's (Burton-on-Trent) Society, at Beeston. The above are all members of the Norwich Diocesan and Essex Associations, and they heartily thank the viocar and churchwardens for the use of the bells. and Mr. Button, the steeplekeeper, for getting
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL,	churchwardens for the use of the bells, and Mr. Button, the steeplekeeper, for getting everything ready.
A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;	
HOLT'S ORIGINAL. Tenor 21 cwt. in E.	ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE, LANCASHIRE.
ERNEST GOWER*	Anuiversary Peal.
EDMUND WHITE* 3. WM. H. JUDD 7.	On Monday, December 28, 1885, in Three Hours and Four Minutes,
INO. M. COOPER 4. HARRY SUTTONTenor.	AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,
Conducted by WM. H. JUDD.	A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5040 CHANGES;
*First peal. †College Youths. The above was rung in honour of the wedding of F. Grayling, Esq. This is the	Tenor 20 cwt.
first peal by the local society. WHITFIELD, DERBYSHIRE.	JOHN LEIGH*
THE ST. JAMES'S SOCIETY, GLOSSOP.	JAMES WOOD 4. SAMUEL WOOD Tenor
On Tuesday, December 22, 1885 (no time mentioned),	Composed by George Longden (no conductor mentioned).
At the Church of St. James,	The above was rung on the 14th anniversary of the opening of the bells.
A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;	* First peal.
IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 124 cwt.	ECCLES, LANCASHIRE.
E. HAIGH Treble. S. WILKINSON 5.	On Monday, December 28, 1885, in Three Hours and Five Minutes.
J. HARROP 2. S. W. LENER 6.	AT THE PARISH CHURCH,
W. Marsden 3. J. Bredbury 7. E. Rostron 4. S. Stafford	A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5120 CHANGES;
E. Rostron 4. S. Stafford	IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 14 cwt.
E. HAIGH.	JAMES O'BRIEN
FAREHAM, HANTS. THE WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.	Edward Cash 4. John F. Woods Tenor
	Composed by Saml. Wood, of Ashton, and Conducted by
On Thursday, December 24, 1885, in Two Hours and Fifty-five Minutes,	JOHN F. WOODS. A. Eggington and the Brothers Cash hail from Eccles: the rest are members of the
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER, A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;	A. Eggington and the Brothers Cash hail from Eccles; the rest are members of the St. Phili, 's Hulme) Society. *Member of the Waterloo Society.
HOLT'S 10-PART. Tenor 14 cwt.	
acces o so a nat. action 14 CWG.	1

Conducted by George Williams.
*Cumberland Youths. G. H. Child and W. J. Belstone hail from Soberton; J. Staples from Havant; G. Williams from Reigate; the rest are of the local company.

Pate Touches.

BRAINTREE (Essex).—On Tuesday, December 22nd, on the occasion of the reopening of the bells after having been thoroughly overhauled by Mr. H. Bowell, of Ipswich, a date touch in five different methods, at the first attempt, in 1 hr. 10 mins. Also 49 Grandsire Doubles, 36 Bob Minor, 360 Double Court, 720 Oxford, and 720 Kent.

RIPON (Yorks).—On Tuesday evening, December 22nd, the local company rang a date touch, 1885 changes of Kent Treble Bob Major, in 1 hr. 13 mins. A. H. Clark, 1; J. Baines, 2; Jno. Strodder, jun., 3; Jno. Strodder, sen., 4; A. Ingleby, 5; G. Ingleby, 6; T. Clark (composer and conductor), 7; H. Rumbold, 8. Tenor 21 cwt. in E.

Miscellaneous.

ASSOCIATION FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.

LICHFIELD.—On Sunday, December 20th, at St. Michael's church, 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor, in 27 mins. E. Gallimore, 1; H. Meacham, 2; R. Anniss, 3; A. E. Greenwood, 4; F. J. Cope (conductor), 5; W. Fearneyhough, 6. Tenor 11 cwt. in A.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

UPTON ST. LEONARD'S (Gloucestershire).—On Saturday, December 26th, the following members of the above association visited this place for the purpose of attempting a peal of Stedman Triples, but it unfortunately came to grief after ringing six parts. F. E. Ward, Esq., 1; W. Morris, 2; Rev. C. D. P. Davies, 3; H. Karn, 4; A. F. M. Custance, Esq., 5; W.T. Pates (conductor), 6; G. H. Phillott, Esq., 7; A. W. Humphris, 8. Time not allowing for another start, two courses of Double Norwich Court Bob Major were rung before falling the bells. A. W. Humphris, 1; W. Morris, 2; Rev. C. D. P. Davies, 3; F. E. Ward, Esq., 4; A. F. M. Custance, Esq., 5; W. T. Pates, 6; H. Karn, 7; G. H. Phillott, Esq., 8.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION-

FRITTENDEN (Kent).—On Sunday, December 27th, after evening service, a 720 of Bob Minor, on the back six, in 25 mins. G. Pope, 1; *E. Taylor, 2; E. Potter, 3; T. Potter, 4; W. Brattle, 5; T. Daynes (conductor), 6. *First 720 with a bob bell.

WROTHAM (Kent).—On Wednesday, December 16th, six members of the local company rang a 720 of Bob Minor, for practice (eighteen bobs and two singles), in 26 mins.; and on Friday, December 18th, a 720 in the same method. F. Taylor, 1; G. Barham, 2; W. Taylor, 3; G. A. Osborne, 4; F. Shoobridge (conductor), 5; C. Taylor, 6. Tenor 21 cwt.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

SWINTON.—On Saturday, December 19th, at St. Peter's Church, an attempt was made by the local company to ring Holt's ten-part of Grandsire Triples, but after ringing 4580 changes in 2 hrs. 38 mins., it was found impossible to go any further through the unsatisfactory state of the sixth bell. W. Crosley, I; E. Cash (conductor), 2; R. Pearce, 3; D. Clarke, 4; C. Cash, 5; J. Urmston, 6; J. Edge, 7; E. Owen, 8.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

East Hagborne (Berks).—On Sunday evening, December 20th, for Divine Service, 336 of Grandsire Triples. J. Pether, 1; E. Pether, 2; F. Napper, 3; D. Napper, 4; J. Napper, 5; W. Napper (conductor), 6; C. Allen, 7; A. Woodley, 8. Also on Monday evening, December 21st, for practice, 840 of Grandsire Triples. J. Pether, 1; E. Napper, 2; F. Napper, 3; D. Napper, 4: J. W. Washbrook (conductor), 5; W. Napper, 6; C. Allen, 7; A. Woodley, 8. Tenor 23\(\frac{x}{2}\) cwt. Handbell Ringing.—Also a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, 1260 changes. E. Pether, 1; J. W. Washbrook (conductor), 2; F. Napper, 3; D, Napper, 4; J. Napper, 5; W. Napper, 6; C. Allen, 7: A. Woodley, 8.

Braintree (Essex).—Handbell Ringing.—On Saturday, December 12th, 720 Bob Minor. H. Bowell, 1-2; S. Hammond (conductor), 3-4; H. E. Hammond, 5-6. On Monday, December 21st, a course of Grandsire Caters. H. E. Hammond, 1-2; S. Hammond, 3-4; H. Bowell, 5-6; F. Rudkin, 7-8; A. Huckson, 9-10. Also a course of Grandsire Triples and Bob Major. H. E. Hammond, 1-2; H. Bowell, 3-4; F. Rudkin, 5-6; A. Huckson, 7-8. Also 216 Oxford Treble Bob, and 240 Bob Major. S. Hammond (conductor), 1-2; H. E. Hammond, 3-4; H. Bowell, 5-6; F. Rudkin, 7-8.

Bristol.—Muffled Peal.—On Tuesday, December 22nd, at the church of St. Mary Redcliff, 1007 of Grandsire Caters was rung as a mark of respect to the memory of C. F. Hare, Esq., J.P., a benefactor to the town, who died December 18th, aged thirty-four years. G. Stadon, 1; J. R. Jerram, 2; J. York, 3; C. A. Clements, 4; F. Price, 5; E. Duckham, 6; G. Morgan, 7; E. Beake, 8; J. Hinton (conductor), 9; J. Palser and G. Daltry, 10. Tenor 50 cwt.

HITCHIN (Herts).—On Monday, December 28th, 336 of Grandsire Triples. J. Randall, 1; A. Squires, 2; J. Hare, 3; H. Buckingham, 4; F. Furr, 5; S. Hare, 6; W. Allen (conductor), 7; W. Kitchener, 6. Tenor 28 cwt. in D.

LEEK (Staffordshire).—On Tuesday, December 22nd, at the parish church, eight members of the local company attempted a peal of Bob Triples, but after ringing 2520 changes it had to be abandoned, on account of the illness of the Vicar. A. J. Halton, 1; R. Gibson, 2; W. Wood, 3; F. P. Walwyn, 4; T. Turner, 5; W. A. Armitt (conductor), 6; E. Sharratt, 7; T. Rider, 8.

Lower Hardres (Kent).—Handbell Ringing.—On Saturday, December 26th, a 720 of Bob Minor. F. Brine (first 720), I; Miss Brine, 2; Miss M. Brine, 3; Miss E. Brine, 4; Miss L. Brine, 5; A. L. Brine (conductor), 6. And on Tuesday, December 29th, a 720 of Grandsire Minor. A. Brine (conductor), I-2; Miss E. Brine, 3; Miss M. Brine, 4; Miss Brine, 5; Miss L. Brine, 6.

MATHERN (Monmouthshire). On Monday, December 21st, six of the St. Mary's company of Chepstow, paid a friendly visit to St. Thuidrick's church, and rang several six-scores of Bob Doubles. J. Morley (conductor), 1; G. Watkins, 2; W. Green, 3; W. Woods, 4; T. Rosser, 5; T. Huntley, 6. Tenor 16 cwt. in G.

Oxford.—On Saturday, December 26th, at Christ Church Cathedral, 701 of Grandsire Caters. J. R. Jerram, 1; W. Smith, 2; C. A. Clements, 3; J. Howes, 4; C. Hounslow, 5; S. Hounslow, 6; W. Baston, 7; T. Payne, 8; J. W. Washbrook (conductor), 9; A. Barney, 10. Tenor 42 cwt. Also at St. Peter's in-the-East, a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob Minor. W. Finch, 1; C. Hounslow, 2; C. A. Clements, 3; J. R. Jerram, 4; J. W. Washbrook, 5; W. Baston (conductor), 6. And on Sunday, December 27th, at St. Cross, Holywell, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor. J. R. Jerram, 1; C. A. Clements, 2; W. Baston, 3; T. Payne, 4; S. Hounslow, 5; J. W. Washbrook (conductor), 6. Tenor 12 cwt. Also at St. Thomas the Martyr, 720 of Oxford Treble Bob Minor. W. Wakelin, 1; J. W. Washbrook, 2; J. R. Jerram, 3; C. A. Clements, 4; O. Thomas, 5; W. Baston, 6 Tenor 8 cwt.

PRESCOT (Lancashire).—On Sunday morning, December 27th, for Divine Service at St. Mary's church, a 518 of Holt's ten-part peal of Grandsire Triples, in 19 mins. J. Chesworth, 1; T. Byron, 2; J. Renshall, 3; J. Case, 4; J. Finney, 5; T. Abraham, 6; J. Cook, 7; *J. Moston (conductor), 8. *First time as conductor.

PRESTON (Suffolk).—On Wednesday, December 9th, at St. Mary's church, two 720s of Bob Minor; 1st with ten singles and thirty-four bobs, in 25 mins. H. Symonds, 1; Wm. Hollocks, 2; A. Hollocks, 3; H. Smith, 4; Wm. Snell, 5; A. Symonds (conductor), 6. 2nd, with two singles and eighteen bobs. H. Symonds (conductor), 1; Wm, Hollocks, 2; A. Hollocks, 3; Jno. Moore, 4; A. Symonds, 5; Jno. Levitt, 6. Also on Wednesday evening, December 16th, two 720s of Bob Minor: 1st, two singles and sixteen bobs. H. Symonds, 1; Wm. Hollocks, 2; A. Symonds (conductor), 3; A. Hollocks, 4; H. Smith, 5; Jno. Levitt, 6. 2nd, six singles and nine bobs. H. Symonds (conductor), 1; Wm. Hollocks, 2; A. Hollocks, 3; Jno. Moore, 4; H. Smith, 5; A. Symonds, 6.

SITTINGBOURNE (Kent).—On Tuesday, December 22nd, eight members of the St. Michael's society rang a touch of Grandsire Triples, followed by firing and rounds, in honour of the wedding of F. Grayling, Esq., who has been a liberal supporter of the society since its commencement. The Sittingbourne society take this opportunity of wishing the Doctor and his wife many years of happiness and prosperity, in which we beg to join. W. Saddleton, I; J. G. Elliott, 2; W. G. Gordelier, 3; J. M. Cooper, 4; E. J. Bottle, 5; S. Snelling, 6; W. H. Judd (conductor), 7; J. Greensted, 8.

SPALDING (Lincolnshire).—On Sunday, December 13th, for Evening Service, 420 of Grandsire Triples. And after service, a 1206 of Grandsire Triples. J. W. Jarvis, 1; R. Skeef, 2; J. S. Wright, 3; C. Neaverson, 4; G. L. Richardson, 5; R. Mackman, 6; J. Brown, 7; R. Jarvis, 8. And on Wednesday, December 16th, 350 of Grandsire Triples, stationed as above. Also on Thursday, December 17th, S.; of London Single, with the tenor behind. J. W. Jarvis, 1; J. S. Wright, 3; C. Neaverson, 4; G. L. Richardson, 5; R. Mackman, 6; J. Brown, 7; R. Jarvis, 8. And on Saturday, December 19th, 360 of of Bob Minor. Also 216 in the same method, with the fourth and tenor behind. J. W. Jarvis, 1; J. S. Wright, 2; C. Neaverson, 3; J. Prudence, 4; G. L. Richardson, 5; R. Skeef, 6; R. Mackman, 7; T. Quinton, 8. And on Monday, December 21st, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, 1260 changes, in 50 mins. J. W. Jarvis, 1; R. Mackman (conductor), 2; J. S. Wright, 3; C. Neaverson, 4; G. L. Richardson, 5; C. Creasey, 6; J. Brown, 7; R. Jarvis, 8. This is the longest length in the method on the bells. Also on Christmas Day for early celebration, six 120's of Grandsire Doubles. *R. Jarvis, 1; J. W. Jarvis, 2; G. L. Richardson, 3; R. Mackman, 4; J. S. Wright, 5; J. Prudence, 6. Also at 10 a.m., 360 of Bob Minor; at 2.30 480 of the same method; and at 6, 720 of London Single, with the fourth and tenor behind. J. W. Jarvis, 1; J. S. Wright, 2: C. Neaverson, 3; J. Prudence, 4; G. L. Richardson, 5; R. Mackman, 6; J. Brown, 7; R. Jarvis, 8.

RINGERS' OUTING.

On Saturday last, December 26th, part of the company of St. Thomas's church, Dudley, and part of the company of St. Andrew's, Netherton, journeyed by road to the "Lyttelton Arms," Hagley. After partaking of a little refreshment a start was made for St. John the Baptist church, which is situated in the beautiful park near the hall, the seat of the Lytteltons. A walk through the grand old park brought them to the rectory, were they were at once met by the Rev.. C. W. Gibbs, Rector of Hagley, who accompanied us to the church, the interior of which is beautiful, and especially at this season of the year, the decorations being of great taste, the font having had great care bestowed upon it.

Ascending the steps of the tower, and reaching the ringing-chamber, they found that this place was not like the majority of our belfries, but clean and very nicely fitted up, although rather small. An inspection was then made of the bells, which are placed there as a memorial to the late Lord Lyttelton, the work of which is complete, and reflects great credit on the firm of Messrs. Mears and Stainbank. With the kind permission of the rector the bells were raised, and a With the kind permission of the rector the bells were raised, and a start was made by a mixed company for a peal, but after ringing an hour a change course occurred, and the bells were brought round. The band was stationed as follows: F. Fellows (Dudley), 1; W. Micklewright, sen. (Stafford), 2; J. Mills (Dudley), 3; W. Pardoe (Coseley), 4; S. Spittle (Dudley), 5; W. Micklewright, jun. (conductor, Dudley), 6; J. Smith (Netherton), 7; M. J. Robinson (Netherton), 8. Several lengthy touches were afterwards rang by various members, and at the request of the Rev. K. Bache, the bells were fired (this being the first time) whilst the inhabitants listened with great eagerness, they being much pleased with the bells and are anyious to have them rung being much pleased with the bells, and are anxious to have them rung The go of the bells is very good, and are fit in every way for pealringing, except the noise, which is somewhat deafening; but this will soon be remedied. The ringing for the day being over on the tower bells, the visitors adjourned to the "Lyttelton Arms," where in a short time a sumptuous repast of roast beef, etc., was placed on the table, fhrough the hospitality of the Rev. K. Bache, of Hagley, who, with the Rector, takes great interest in the art of ringing and bell-ringers. Ample justice having been done by all present to the good things provided for the inner man, the cloth was removed. Mr. S. Spittle, Master of the Worcester Diocesan Association, was voted to the chair, and the members of the local company at this time arrived amongst them. The usual toasts were gone through, the toast of the evening being that of the "Health of the Rev. K. Bache," for his kindness towards them, but disappointment was felt at not seeing gentleman present, as the company wished to have some conversation with him upon bell ringing and ringers generally. Songs, recitations, tunes upon the handbells, and several courses upon the handbells having been greatly indulged in, the party wished the local company every success, and pressed upon them the necessity of becoming members of the Association, then parted for their journey home, which was reached quite safely after spending a very pleasant and enjoyable day's outing.

THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

On Boxing-day, eight members of the above Association paid a visit to Westerham, Kent, to attempt a peal of Bob Triples. Arriving at Oxted from East Croydon, by South Eastern Railway at 11.45, they started to walk the rest of the journey, about five miles. Passing Limpsfield on the way, they had the good fortune to meet the rector, the Rev. Edward Rhys Jones (formerly rector of Limehouse and Rural Dean of Stepney), who readily granted his permission to ring on the pretty peal of six. On the return journey, arriving at Westerham, they were most kindly received by the rector, the Rev. Henry Charles Bartlett, who was sorry that the visitors could not start at once on account of a funeral. Starting soon after 3 o'clock for T. Morris's six-part peal of Bob Triples. they rang 1834 changes, when through the stupidity of the conductor calling a bob a lead too soon, the attempt came to grief. J. Fayers, 1; J. Harris, 2; J. Branch, 3; E. F. Cole, 4; J. Cawley, 5; J. Trappitt (conductor), 6; C. Gordon, 7; J. Zealey, 8. There is work at Westerham for the Kent County Association; there is a fairly good peal of bells which might be made very good if one or two of the bells were put in tune, in good ringing order, and a rector who takes an interest in change-ringing, but is at a loss to know how to start a young band. Calling at St. Peter's, Limpsfield, Surrey, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor, 720 of Bob Minor, 240 of Oxford Treble Bob, 120 of Stedman Doubles, and 60 of Grandsire Doubles were rung, C. Gordon conducting the Treble Bob, and J. Fayers the Plain Bob. The party take this opportunity of thanking the rectors of both churches for the kindness in allowing the use of the bells, also to Mr. Stone, at Westerham, for having everything in readiness for them.

Much Ado About Nothing.—A correspondent writes to say that the second time Holt's Original was rung in Hants, was at Privett, on April 24th, 1878; the last peal was the fourth time.

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.

THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

A QUARTERLY MEETING will be held at Mitcham on Monday, January 11th. The tower of the parish church will be open from 4 o'clock, and also the tower of Christ Church (six bells). Tea will be served at 6 p.m., at the "Bull Inn," ringing members free; all others 1s. 6d. a head. It is particularly requested that all those who intend to be present at the tea will give in their names beforehand to their local secretaries, or to the Hon. Sec. not later than Wednesday, January 6th, in order that proper provision may be made. Members are reminded that their subscriptions for the year 1886 become due at this meeting.

ARTHUR B. CARPENTER, Hon. Sec.

34 Dingwall Road, Croydon.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

THE THIRD QUARTERLY MEETING will be held at Nottingham on Saturday, January 9th, 1886, and the following towers will be open to members: St. Peter's (eight bells), All Saints' (eight bells). The local committee will be in attendance at the St. Peter's schools, Broad Marsh, where strangers are requested to go, so that the bands may be formed. Committee Meeting in All Saints' school-room at 4 o'clock. Tea in the Arboretum refreshment rooms at 5 o'clock, tickets 18. 6d. each. General Meeting immediately after tea.

377 Rosliston Road, Burton-on-Trent. Joseph Griffin, Hon. Sec.

THE HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

Members are requested to take notice that the next Quarterly Meeting will be held at Bishops Stortford, on Monday, January 11th, 1886.

Arrangements as usual. Dinner tickets, 2s. each, to be had from the Local Secretaries. Certificates of membership to be shown at the

allways. Subscriptions for 1886 due on the 1st of January. St. Andrew's Rectory, Hertford. W. WIGRAM, General Sec.

SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.

THE NEXT QUARTERLY MEETING will be held at Perry Barr, on Saturday, January 9th, members to assemble at the Church at 2.30 p.m. The names of all who wish to attend should be sent as soon as possible to Mr. S. Reeves, 10, Bull Street, West Bromwich.

J. R. Keble, Hon. Sec.

THE WEST MIDDLESEX ASSOCIATION.

All members kindly attend the meeting on Saturday, January 9th, at 7.30, in the schoolroom adjoining the church, Isleworth. Ringing in the tower at 6.30, And oblige. Henry S. Thomas, Hon. Sec.

THE CROYDON SOCIETY.

This Society will hold their annual dinner at the "Crown Hotel," Croydon, on Tuesday, January 5th. C. A. Blogg, Hon. Sec. 54, Church Street, Croydon.

THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

A MEETING of members took place at Thames Ditton, on Thursday, December 24th, members attending from the following places: Croydon, Streatham, and Norwood, with E. F. Cole, Esq., of London, The meeting took place for the purpose of giving the young members a trial. After taking them through several 6-scores, a company was formed and rung a 720 of Kent Treble Bob in 27 mins. H. Laflin, 1; R. Moss, 2; C. Byde, 3; A. B. Carpenter, Esq., 4; D. Springall, 5; S. Greenwood (conductor), 6. Also 240 of Cambridge Surprise. H. Lafln, 1: R. Moss, 2; C. Byde, 3; J. Strutt, 4; E. F. Cole, Esq., 5; S. Frost (conductor), 6.

ALBION TREBLE BOB MAJOR.

Our comment upon this method, which appeared in a recent number, has induced some of our readers to give it their consideration. Below will be found the first lead, with an example of a bob; and on another page will be found a peal by Mr. Pritchard, of Liverpool, who, we suppose, has taken care that such composition is original. In Banister's work the method will be found, and three peals are therein given, but so far as we know, it was first printed by Sottanstall in his book.

ALBION TREBLE BOB MAJOR.

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In trying to investigate the method from the description we gave of it in our article, the Rev. H. Earle Bulwer-whose study of and researches into Treble Bob are nearly equal to those of the late Mr. Snowdon—has discovered a new method. When he has finished his investigation of it, we shall be able to show a lead of it to our readers.

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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."

THE COMPLAINT FROM SUSSEX.

SIR.—In your issue of the 12th of December you published a letter from Mr. John Rollison, alias "A Member of the Sussex County Association," complaining that on the only two occasions when new peals of bells have been opened in the county during the past year, that the ringing has been done by bands selected from the Brighton branch; and he has, without making any inquiry, arrived at the conclusion that "it is a most narrow and selfish way of doing business." Before the bells had been rehung at Buxted, as Honorary Secretary to the Brighton Parish Church Society of Amateur Change Ringers, and not as Secretary of the Sussex County Association, I received a letter from the Rector of Buxted, asking if eight ringers would come from Brighton to take part in the opening service, the invitation being distinctly given to eight Brighton men, and not eight men belonging to the County Association to be chosen from any of the various branches; therefore this was in no way connected with the Association, and was never mentioned to the Executive. Again, on the occasion of the opening of the new peal at Ringmer, W. L. Christie, Esq., the donor of the tower and bells, sent—through the Rev. Mr. Fisher—a similar invitation for eight of the Brighton ringers to dine with him, and then to attempt a peal. What, I will ask Mr. Rollison, would be think if he were to ask eight friends to dine with him, and when the time arrived only two or three of the invited guests were present, the others having transferred their invitations to persons unknown to him? Or again, supposing the boot were on the other leg, and the two requests had been sent through me for a band to be invited from Eastbourne, would Mr. Rollison consider that I had a perfect right to have selected ringers from Cuckfield, Crawley, or elsewhere, in the place of the band to which he belongs? If Mr. Rollison has attended any of the meetings held during the year, he must have noticed that the one point that I have insisted upon has been, the prevention of the chance of Brighton having more than its proper share of influence in Association matters. Only as recently as the 24th of October, at Uckfield, when it was proposed that the December District Meeting should be held at Brighton, I suggested that it would be better to hold it elsewhere, and proposed Chichester, which was eventually selected. Any further information upon this or any other question connected with the Association, I shall be happy to give to any member, but must decline to occupy any more space in "The Bell News" upon matters of purely local upon matters of purely local GEO. F. ATTREE, Hon. Sec. interest.

THE ESSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

THE ESSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

REPORT FOR THE WEEK ENDING DECEMBER 30TH, 1885.—On Christmas morning, before the eight o'clock celebration at St. Peter's church, Brighton, by the Brighton branch, a quarter peal of Grandsire Triples, in 48 mins. E. Marshall, 1; J. Searle, 2; C. Golds, 3; C. Tyler, 4; A. Marshall, 5; G. F. Attree (conductor), 6; A. W. L. Parkhouse (first quarter-peal), 7; N. Vernon, 8. On Saturday, 26th, at Crawley, by a mixed band, a 504 of Granssire Triples. W. Lanoway (Slinfold), 1; J. Newnham (Crawley), 2; W. Wadey, Warnham, 3; B. King, 4; F. Wickens (Crawley), 5; J. Cooper (Slinfold), 6; H. Burstow (Horsham conductor), 7; G. Holloway (Crawley) 8. Also a quarter-peal, 1260 changes, of Union Triples in 45 mins. B. King, 1; T. Smith (Crawley) 2; W. Wadey (Warnham), 3; J. Cooper (Slinfold), 4; F. Wickens (Crawley), 5; F. Hillier (Crawley), 6; H. Burstow (conductor, Horsham), 7; G. Holloway (Crawley), 8. Also a 720 of Bob' Minor, in 24 mins. A. Mills, 1; *R. Arnold, 2; *F. Arnold, 3; G. Holloway, 4; J. Jorden 5; F. Wickens (conductor), 6. And five courses of Oxford Treble Bob Major. The two first by W. Collison, 1; J. Newnham, 2; G. Holloway, 3; A. Mills, 4; R. Jordan, 5; F. Wickens, 6; A. F. Hillier, 7; H. Burstow, 8; and the three last courses.—G. Holloway, 1; W. Collison, 2; W. Wadey, 3; A. Mills, 4; R. Jordan, 5; F. Wickens, 6; A. F. Hillier, 7; D. Jordan, 8. (B. King rang the 2nd bell in the last course). This is believed to be the first attempt by members of the Association in this method. Also at Stevning by the Stevning branch a 2220 of Oxford Stevning by the Stevning branch a 2220 of Oxford Stevning by the Stevning branch a 2220 of Oxford believed to be the first attempt by members of the Association in this method. Also at Steyning, by the Steyning branch, a 720 of Oxford Single Bob Minor. G. Breach, 1; J. Searle, 2; G. Smart, 3; E. Brackley, 4; J. Wolgar, 5; G. Gatland (conductor), 6. * First 720s, G. F. ATTREE. Hon. Sec.

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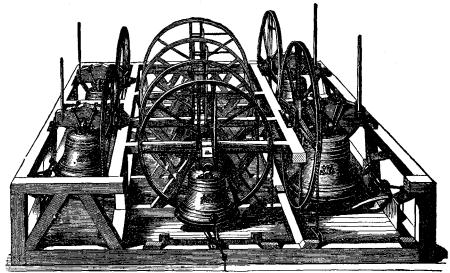
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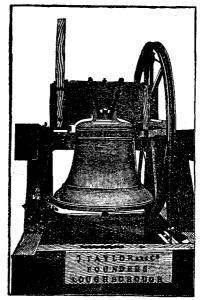
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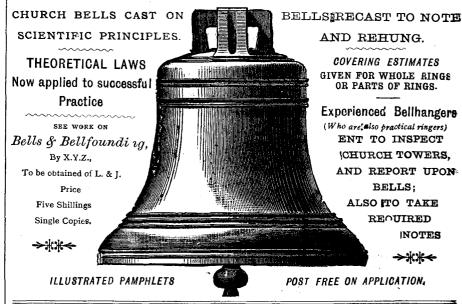
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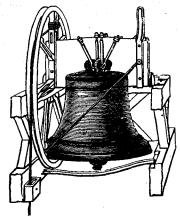
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THE NORTH LINCOLNSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

THE GENERAL QUARTERLY MEETING of this Association, which took place on Saturday last at Gainsborough, possessed the feature of a ringer's outing as well as a business gathering, and in every respect it was the most happy, interesting, and successful meeting the Asso-ciation has ever experienced. The Market Rasen contingent, consisting of Messrs. Gadd, Burkitt, and Lunn, travelled to Lincoln by the first train, and at the old city they were joined by brethren representing the Lincoln branches, and also by Mr. James Harris (College Youth) of the Surrey Association. The neat village of Lea was reached shortly after ten o'clock, and the six bells in the church tower were at once raised in peal, after which a 720 each of Grandsire and Bob Doubles were rung. About twelve o'clock the bells were lowered in peal, and the company had a pleasant walk of a couple of miles to Gainsborough, where after partaking of refreshment, they repaired to the fine old belfry of All Saints, where they met with a cordial reception from their Gainsborough brethren. The eight musical bells were raised in peal, and touches of Grandsire Triples were rung at intervals by mixed bands. At three o'clock, a company was dispatched by road to the pretty church at Corringham, whither the Association had been kindly invited by the Rev. W. F. W. Westbrooke, vicar of the parish. Here again the sweetly-toned new ring of five bells (by Taylor of Loughborough) were raised in peal, and several six-scores of Grandsire and Bob Doubles were rung, some of the local band, as at Lea, visiting the belfry during the ringing. It was the general opinion of the mem-bers that the Corringham bells are one of the most musical rings in the county; they are of fair weight, and the "go" is simply perfect; the only cause for regret being that there are not more of them in the tower. Provision has been made in the frame for another bell, which it is intended to add as soon as the necessary funds are forthcoming. The visitors afterwards adjourned at Mr. Westbrooke's request to the vicarage, where they partook of his kind liberality, and subsequently entertained their worthy host and his wife with some handbell ringing: a course each of Bob Minor, Grandsire Triples, and Bob Major, was rung, in which three of the Market Rasen ringers rang double-handed. Bidding their host and hostess farewell, the detachment returned posthaste to Gainsborough for the business meeting. During their absence the company at Gainsborough had been augmented by further arrivals from Lincoln and other places; they attended Divine Service at the parish church at five o'clock, at the conclusion of which they repaired to the Coffee Tavern, where they were provided with an excellent tea. The Vicar of Gainsborough took the chair, and was supported by that venerable and highly esteemed gentleman, Sir Charles H. J. Anderson, Bart., of Lea Hall, who takes great interest in ringing, as indeed in all church matters; the Rev. C. E. Cockin, rector of Lea, the Rev. A. W. M. Drew, of Gainsborough, the Rev. A. G. Musson, of St. Peter-at-

M. Drew, of Gainsborough, the Rev. A. G. Musson, of St. Peter-at-Gowts, Lincoln, the churchwardens of Gainsborough (Messrs. Dixon and Royle), and Mr. S. Beaumont.

The Vicar of Gainsborough (Canon Williams) said he was always pleased to welcome ringers, and to hear the bells, especially since they had been put in tune. He was sure that at all times the people of Gainsborough were much pleased to welcome Sir Charles Anderson. He also spoke of the improvements that had taken place in his belfry

since he had known it.

since he had known it.

SIR CHARLES ANDERSON, said that as all knew, he took great interest in bells, and he was pleased to be present. He spoke with regret of the breaking up of the "Lady Bell," which formerly hung in the "Lady" or "Rood Tower" of Lincoln Cathedral, which ring of bells was the sweetest he had known. They were rung by chorister boys, and the ropes were brought down to the floor of the nave, and there fastened to rings in the piers supporting the Rood Tower. These rings had ignorantly been described as those to which the horses of Cromwell's troops had been tied after the siege of Lincoln in 1644. Cromwell's troops had been tied after the siege of Lincoln in 1644. He also mentioned "Old Kate," a very handsome bell now hanging in the tower of St. Mark's, Lincoln, and also the disused chapel formerly called "Peal Altar" of the "ringers of the Guild of our Lady," in St. Hugh's Tower, and suggested its use as a centre for the ringers of the

The Rev. C. E. Cockin remarked that the interest taken by Sir Charles Anderson in bells was sufficiently shown by his having presented Lea Church with what was practically a new ring of six bells. He spoke of the influence exercised by bells, the memories of youth they awakened in after life, and he related a beautiful story he had

heard told by Canon Morse.

The Rev. A. G. Musson, on behalf of the Association, proposed a vote of thanks to the Vicar and Churchwardens for their kindness, and to Sir Charles Anderson and the Rev. C. E. Cockin, for the honour their presence had conferred upon the Association. He thought it was a grand thing to see the Clergy, Churchwardens, and Ringers mixed together to attain the same object. This was seconded by Mr. F. F. Linley, and carried with acclamation.

Mr. JOHN DIXON, on behalf of the churchwardens, gave expression to the pleasure it had given them to be present, and also to place the bells at the service of the Association.

The Rev. A. G. Musson (vice-president), then took the chair, and the business of the Association was transacted. After a number of letters had been read, and the minutes of the last meeting confirmed, it was resolved that the general annual meeting be held at the head-quarters (Lincoln), on the first of May, unless another date be selected by the Committee who should meet three weeks prior to that day. Mr. James Harris was unanimously elected a member of the Association, and his presence among the members was cordially acknowledged. It was further resolved that the accounts should be audited, and a balance sheet printed, to be presented to every member of the Association, honorary subscribers, and the clergy. The hour for separation arrived much too soon, and while the visiting brethren were wending their way to the railway station, the Gainsborough bells rang on. The Lincoln and Market Rasen brethren, with Mr. Harris, on their arrival at Lincoln, were enabled, through the kindness of the Rev. A. G. Musson, to ring a 720 of Plain Bob at St. Peter-at-Gowts, and then the bells were lowered in peal. Thus ended the happiest and best meeting ever recorded by this Association, the members of which desire to tender their sincere thanks to the clergy of Lea, Gainsborough, and Corringham, for permission to ring being accorded them.

KEYNSHAM, SOMERSET.

A praiseworthy effort is being made to restore the splendid ring of eight bells in this place. They are at present so badly hung that it is impossible to ring changes upon them, and it has been resolved to endeavour to get the needful funds to enable the Rector and churchwardens to commence the work of restoration. A band of amateur ringers has been formed, some of whom are also members of the church choir. On the evening of new year's day, a carol service was held at the church, and a collection made in aid of the fund required—about £40. The Rector (Rev. J. H. Gray, M.A.) made especial reference to the object of the collection, and in the course of his interesting address,

the object of the collection, and in the course of his interesting address, said:—

The church is unique in the neighbourhood for size, magnificence, and beauty, and is a legacy left by pious ancestors about the year 1120. This inheritance has been handed down as an heirloom through the three or four and twenty generations which have lived in the parish during the last seven and a half centuries. The church was partially destroyed by lightning more than two centuries ago, but immediately restored to its present external condition by the large-hearted generosity of our fellow-countrymen generally, at the instigation of Charles II., but without any aid from public funds, and twenty-four years ago it was internally restored, and put into its present condition by the bounty of some living and others deceased, at the cost of about £4500. Not only the church itself has thus been handed down to us, but also many treasures in and with it. There was an organ, often played upon by the celebrated Handel, and probably on it first was played the Messiah. There is a clock 150 years old, an almost perfect timekeeper; communion plate of last century still in use; and there are large invested funds of bygone times yielding £160 a year for the poor; and finally, there are nine bells. First, the old and disused Sanctus, a memorial of Romish days and Romish superstition, and that magnificent peal of eight bells, whose echoes linger upon our years as they rang out the old year and rang in the new one this m rning. These bells, as would appear from the dates upon them, ranging from 1602 to 1794, the heaviest of them being 32 cwt., were the gifts of individuals, and bear upon them inscriptions in Latin which indicate that they were given for the praise of God. These bells, whose collective cost must have been many hundreds of pounds, were in a dangerous condition till an expenditure made a few years ago made them temporarily safe. Even now, no proper changes can be rung upon them, until, according to estimate, about £35 more is expen

The amount collected was between £5 and £6, and a subscription is about to be set on foot to make up the balance, which it is hoped will shortly be forthcoming.

PREMEDITATED SUICIDE.

"Sir,—Jointly with myself and the rest of the ringers, we wish to give a month's notice from January 5th, 1886. As we cannot give satisfaction and owing to the dissatisfaction that we have had this Christmas, we wish to expire on February 5th.

"Signed......"

The above letter was recently received by the Vicar of a certain

parish not one hundred miles from Kidderminster. It presents a scene which would be sad were it not so amusing. In it, the writer, joined apparently to himself, together with the other ringers (one only excepted), shews us the terrible spectacle of five sturdy Britons ready to make away with themselves on February 5th because they do not give satisfaction. Such devotion is probably without a parallel in give satisfaction. Such devotion is probably without a parallel in history. The awkward part of this arrangement is that the parish gravedigger is among the number of intending suicides, so that he must either wait to "expire" until after he has buried his brother-ringers, or else collect the fees beforehand in order that a substitute may be provided. The misuse of words mnst be excused, as the writer is extremely youthful, C. S. R.

THE ST. SIDWELL'S SOCIETY, EXETER, AT SHERBORNE AND BEAMINSTER, DORSET.

Two old ringing friends (Messrs. R. French and J. W. Rowbotham) having arrived in Exeter from London, to spend their Christmas holidays, the members of the above Society determined to have a bit of ringing, so on Wednesday afternoon, December 23rd, six of them, with Messrs. French and Rowbotham, walked to Sowton, where they accomplished Holt's Original peal of Grandsire Triples, making the third peal on the bells. All ringing friends who know this village also know that nothing can be had for the inner man, as there is neither public house or coffee tavern in the place. Having finished the peal, shanks' pony came into use again, until Heavitree, a suburb of Exeter, was reached, where plenty of refreshment was to be had. Saturday morning, January 2nd, 7 o'clock found fourteen members assembled at Queen Street Station, who took train for Sherborne. Arriving at that place by 9 o'clock, an inspection was made of the grand old Minster, the Vicar kindly accompaning and shewing the objects of interest. The bells, eight in number, were opened a short time ago by the College Youths. On trying a course of Grandsire Triples, the 7th was found (as expected) to go rather hard, but however a touch in the same method was rung by the following: R. French (conductor), 1; E. Pitts, 2; W. Richardson, 3; F. R. Shepherd, 4; A Shepherd, 5; E. Shepherd, 6; F. Shepherd and W. Goss, 7: J. Moss and T. J. Lake, 8. Tenor about 48 cwt. The 12.15 down train for Crewkerne was afterwards caught, where a waggonette and pair was in readiness to take the band to Beaminster, six miles distant. On this route the main road passes through a tunnel, cut for the convenience of the public in the year 1831, before which the road used to run up over the hill, and it is said, used to take three horses to drag up an empty cart. Arriving at Beaminster, a good dinner was partaken of at the "White Hart Hotel," presided over by Mr. James Moss, and then a move was made to the tower, where hangs one of the most magnificent ringing order. The tenor weighs 28½ cwt

THE EAST LINCONSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday last, January 2nd, the half-yearly meeting of the above Association was held at All Saints, Friskney, when ringers attended from Boston, Sibsey, Spilsby, Skirbeck, Halton, Keal, Wainfleet, and Friskney. At 1 o'clock a short service was held in the above church and an address given by the Rev. J. W. Ladds, Vicar of West Keal. At 2 p.m. thirty-five ringers sat down to an excellent dinner, provided by Host Ward, of the "Anchor Hotel," Friskney, presided over by the Rev. H. J. Cheales, Vicar of Friskney, and President of the Association, the Rev. J. W. Ladds occupying the vice-chair. After dinner the president thanked the members for so good a number, and in doing so he gave them a hearty welcome. He also congratulated the members on the progress they were making with regard to six-bell work, and hoped they would continue to go on. The Secretary read the minutes of the last meeting and also the names of the Honorary Members that had joined during the quarter. They were three honorary, two skilled, and one probationer. It was proposed to hold the next meeting at Langton, a fine peal of six. The President kindly entertained the ringers to tea at the vicarage.

THE ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

By the kind invitation of the Vicar, this Association held a District Meeting at Mildenhall, Suffolk, on Friday, January 1st. Ringers from Ely, Cambridge, Newmarket, Swaffham, Bury St. Edmunds, and other places attended. and the pretty ring of six was never heard to better advantage. At a business meeting afterwards, several batches of members were elected, and it was agreed to hold the next meeting on Easter Monday, at Newmarket, to which the Association has been most heartily invited. The warmest thanks of the members are due to the Vicar for his address, and liberal hospitality. A most thoroughly enjoyable day was spent.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

A Quarterly Meeting of the Association will be held at Heywood, on Saturday, January 30th, 1886. The bells of St. Luke's church (eight), will be at the disposal of the members from 2.30 p.m. The business meeting will take place in the School-room connected with the church, under the presidency of the Rector, at 6 p.m. Friends of members will be welcome,

A. E. HOLME, Hon. Secs.

DEDICATION OF TWO NEW BELLS AT MOTTRAM-IN-LONGDENDALE.

On Friday morning (Christmas Day), the dedication of two new trebles took place at Mottram. Just previous to the ringers commencing to ring for morning service, the vicar (the rev. J. R. C. Miller), the curate (the Rev. W. H. White), Milner Gibson, Esq., Churchwarden, and the following gentlemen of the committee of the restoration and bell fund, Mr. Schofield, Mr. James Sidebotham, Mr. John Wagstaffe, Mr. E. Lyne, and Mr. H. Tinker, entered the belfry, when the Vicar, in a few suitable remarks, said a work had now been completed which had been wanting doing some time, the casting of two new trebles, and the rehanging of the back six, and he hoped the bells would hang in the tower for many years, and the ringers would be long spared to ring them; reminding them that they were church officers just the same as the choir or any one else who took part in the service of the church, and he hoped when they entered the belfry to ring people to church, they would feel that they were doing the work of God, and that they would do it with a good heart. After which he offered up the following prayer:—

Omost glorious Lord God, we acknowledge that we are not worthy to offer anything unto thee, yet we beseech thee of thy great goodness graciously to accept the dedication of these bells to thy service, and prosper thou the works of the hands of thy servants who shall ring them both for themselves and the benefit of the church of the parish; may the sound of these bells go forth over hill and dale to gather thy people together to thy house of prayer with joy and gladness and in this and all other work teach us to seek only thine honour and glory, through Jesus Christ our Lord and Saviour.—Amen.

and Saviour.—Amen.

The dedication service being over, a 576 of Kent Treble Bob was rung for service at the church by the following company. John Sidebotham, r; John Harrop, 2; Joshua Hadfield, 3; Robert Wright, 4; John Mallalien, 5; William Middleton, 6; Samuel Knott, 7; George Braddock, 8. The work of casting two new trebles and rehanging the back six has been carried out by Messrs, Mears and Stainbank, of London, and the work of rehanging has been executed by Mr. George Vincent, a workman of that firm, who has given every satisfaction, the "go" of the bells being all that can be desired.

BLETCHINGLEY, SURREY.

On Tuesday evening, December 29th, a mixed band of ringers from Beddington. Bletchingley, Nutfield, and Reigate, rang a peal of Grandsire Triples, conducted by J. Bashford, jun. His brother ringers congratulate him very much on the masterly manner in which he called the peal, it being his first peal of Grandsire Triples, also his first attempt to call a peal. It was rung on the 44th birthday of Mr. Luke Killick, Master of the St. Mary's Guild. He being called away on business the peal was rung without him, and his brother ringers wish him many happy returns of the day. It is to be very much regretted that since Mr. Bashford's success in calling his peal, he has had a very heavy loss in the death of his mother, who died the last day in the old year. Although Mrs. Bashford has been in a poor way for some time, her death was very sudden to her friends, as she was about the night before, and did not seem much worse than usual. The St. Mary's company very deeply sympathise with the friends of the deceased lady in their sad bereavement.

ANNUAL DINNER TO THE QUEX PARK BAND.

On New Year's Day this band was invited by H. H. Powell Cotton, Esq., to dine at the "Powell Arms." Ringing commenced at one o'clock with a well-struck 1500 of Grandsire Triples, conducted by P. A. Reed. The four light bells were then raised, and in accordance with the usual custom some good rounds were rung on the twelve, followed by another touch of 1500 of Grandsire Triples, conducted by Leon Willshire. At 5 o'clock the band adjourned to the "Powell Arms," where a good dinner was provided by Mr. E. Millgate, to which all did ample justice. The cloth being removed, the Chairman (Mr. T. B. Reed), proposed the toast of the evening, "Health and prosperity to Mr. Cotton and family," which was heartily responded to by all present. Mr. S. Fulcher then gave some pleasing selections on the handbells, interspersed by several good songs. At ten o'clock the National Anthem finished a very enjoyable evening. The band, through this medium, beg to tender their sincere thanks to Mr. Cotton for the use of the bells, and also for the dinner annually provided by him.

UNITED COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

THE ANNUAL DINNER and meeting of the above Association will take place on Saturday, January 16th, at the house of Mr. T. B. Frost, "Crown Inn," Whitfield, Glossop, to whom all those inteading being present at dinner are requested to communicate before Thursday, January 14th. Dinner on the table at half-past four. Members are requested to pay their annual subscriptions to the committee men representing the various towers, on or before January 16th, so as to facilitate the business of the meeting. James S. Wilde, Hon. Sec.

THREE DAYS' SUPERLATIVE WITH THE ST. PAUL'S SOCIETY, BURTON-ON-TRENT.

On Monday, December 28th, three of us left Oxford by an early train in the morning, arriving at Burton about mid-day. We were met by a contingent of the Burton men, and after hearty greetings and the first glass of "Bass" together, we proceeded on our way to and the first glass of "Bass" together, we proceeded on our way to Duffield, sundry of the party enjoying a very quiet "nap" on the way. On our arrival at Duffield we were joined by A. P. Heywood, Esq., and at once proceeded to All Saints' Church, and started for a peal of Superlative Surprise Major, which was well brought round after 3 hours' first-class striking. All Saints' is a grand place to ring at, the belfry being a model of what a ringing chamber should be, and the "go" of the bells all that can be desired. The ringers were hospitably entertained by Mr. Haywood at his private residence and after tably entertained by Mr. Heywood, at his private residence, and after justice had been done to the good things provided, the handbells were brought into use, the party being highly delighted at the way in which some leads of Superlative Major were rung by Mr. Heywood and three members of his family.

On Tuesday, in company with several of the Burton men, we paid a visit to Messrs. Taylor's Bell Foundry, at Loughborough, where everything of interest to change-ringers was shown by Mr. John Taylor, who kindly invited the ringers to dine with him, a "course" which them there are the respective to the course of the respective to the re

they thoroughly enjoyed. A musical 500 of Stedman Triples was afterwards rung at the parish church.

A start was then made for Derby, where the second peal of Superlative was well brought round in 3 hrs. 16 mins, at St. Andrew's—a peal of eight; tenor 24 cwt. The belfry is a model of neatness and confort, and great credit is due to the steeple-keeper for his courtesy and attention to the visitors.

Wednesday morning was devoted to inspecting "Bass's" brewery, permission for which was obtained through the influence of Mr. J. Griffin, who also kindly pegged a cask of Bass's No. 1 for the visitors to taste, which was highly appreciated and pronounced "Superlative." A full description of this, the largest brewery in the world would be out of place here, but a few facts may be of interest. Messrs. Bass are chief of 28 firms of Burton brewers, who represent one-tenth of the entire brewing trade of the United Kingdom. They employ over 2250 men and boys; the wages paid by the firm at Burton amounting to £2550 per week. The stock of casks necssary to carry on so large a trade reach a total of 543,869. Their premises stand upon 140 acres of ground. They use in one year bout 267,000 quarters of malt for

brewing purposes, and 36,000 cwt. of hops; the total brew for one year being 837,000 barrels of 36 gals. each.

It was arranged to go for a peal at St. Paul's in the evening, and after due consideration it was decided to again try our hands at Superlative, which proved a success, thus making three peals in this method in three days. St. Paul's, Burton-on-Trent, which is considered one of the finest modern buildings in the Midland Counties, was built and endowed by the late Mr. Michael Thomas Bass, together with an Institute, containing reading and other rooms, for the use of the working

tute, containing reading and other rooms, for the use of the working men of Burton, at a total estimated cost of £80,000

On Thursday another visit was paid to Mr. Griffin, and the last glass of Bass No. I was indulged in to "Auld Lang Syne," after which it was time to say "good-bye," which was done amid hearty congratulations on the success of the outing, and hopes expressed that we should all soon meet again. The visitors now wish to take this opportunity of thanking the St. Paul's Society, whom it would not be out of place to designate the "Princes of Superlative," for the admirable arrangements made on their health. I. E. lative," for the admirable arrangements made on their behalf. J. F.

WORCESTER AND ADJOINING DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

THE NEXT QUARTERLY MEETING of the above Association will be held on Saturday, January 16th, in St. Andrew's school, Netherton near the church, when the Rev. S. J. Marriott, M.A., Vicar, will preside. Business meeting at 5 o'clock, when all members are requested to attend, and to note that all subscriptions, honorary and performing, are due at this meeting. The tower of the above church will be open than the subscription of the subscriptions and the subscriptions. for ringing at 2 p.m, or earlier if required, by making application to the Secretary.

John Smith. the Secretary.

25 Simms Lane, Netherton, Dudley.

THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

A QUARTERLY MEETING will be held at Mitcham on Monday, A QUARTERLY MEETING WIll be held at Mitcham on Monday, January 11th. The tower of the parish church will be open from 4 o'clock, and also the tower of Christ Church (six bells). Tea will be served at 6 p.m., at the "Bull Inn," ringing members free; all others 1s. 6d. a head. It is particularly requested that all those who intend to be present at the tea will give in their names beforehand to their local secretaries, or to the Hon. Sec. not later than Wednesday, January 6th, in order that proper provision may be made. Members are reminded that their subscriptions for the year 1886 become due at this meeting.

ARTHUR B, CARPENTER, Hon. Sec.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION. On Bank Holiday, Saturday, 26th, seven members of this Association journeyed by rail to the Consett district of Durham, for a day's outing. After a little refreshment at the house of Mr. Sloane, of Blackouting. After a little refreshment at the house of Mr. Sloane, of Blackhill, a move was made to St. Mary's Roman Catholic Church in that village, where some six scores of Plain Bob and Grandsire Doubles were rung by Edward Sloane (Blackhill), 1; H. Ferguson, 2; C. L. Routledge (conductor), 3; R. S. Story, 4; S. Power, 5; E. Wallis, 6; which was followed by a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor, in 29 mins., by C. L. Routledge, 1; W. Reed (conductor), 2; R. S. Story, 3; W. Story, 4; S. Power, 5; E. Wallis, 6. This is the first 720 on the bells with the tenor single-handed. After partaking of the hospitality of the Rev. Father Wood, the visitors made for Consett, where a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob Minor was rung in 30 mins. H. Ferguson 1: of Oxford Treble Bob Minor was rung in 30 mins. H. Ferguson, 1; C. L. Routledge, 2; E. Wallis, 3; R. S. Story, 4; W. Reed, 5; W. Story (conductor), 6. Tenor 17 cwt. The pleasure of ringing on this beautiful peal of six would be considerably enhanced if something was done to prevent the noise of the metal monsters above making such a clang in the ringing room, which necessitates a large amount of bawling and yelling to put a slight mistake right. After this last performance the demands of the inner man were felt rather keenly, which caused a hasty visit to an eating house near at hand, where a hearty tea was a hasty visit to an eating house hear at the discussed. From Consett half-an-hour's walk brought them to the church of St. Cutbert, Shotley Bridge, where the new peal of six, opened the week before, was set going in a 720 of Plain Bob Minor. This peal was called with 22 singles, and rung in 25 mins., by S. Power, 1; E. Wallis, 2; R. S. Story, 3; W. Story, 4; C. L. Routledge, 5; W. Reed (conductor), 6. Tenor 13\frac{1}{2} cwt. Ringing was kept up here till eight o clock, Oxford Bob and Double Court Bob forming the rest of the programme. Before closing the account of this pleasant outing, the programme. Before closing the account of this pleasant outing, the above-mentioned ringers wish to thank the several vicars of the churches visited for the use of their bells, and for the uniform kindness with which they were treated.

HOLNE, DEVONSHIRE.

The five bells of the parish church, which were recast in 1743, have lately been rehung by Mr. Harry Stokes, of Woodbury, near Exeter. The vicar having invited Mr. W. Banister (a member of the Devonshire Guild, and author of "The Art and Science of change-ringing" to report on Mr. Stokes's work, Mr. Banister says that the terms of contract have been in every respect complied with, the materials being good and of sufficient dimensions, and the workmanship excellent, reflecting great credit on the contractor.

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.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL ASSOCIATION.
THE ANNIVERSARY MEETING will be held at Tewkesbury, on Monay, January 11th. All members who intend to go are earnestly day, January 11th. 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.

THE WATERLOO SOCIETY, LONDON.

The election of officers for the ensuing year will take place at the Society's head-quarters, on Wednesday, January 20th. Members' attendance requested.

Henry J. Davies, Secretary,

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

One copy, 12 months б

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.

ARTHUR SPURR.—There were so many, that it is very likely yours was lost sigh of. Nevertheless we are sorry for the omission.

W. E. G. wishes to be informed how many bells there are at Curry Rivell church

W. P. asks if any ringer can inform him if Richard Graham (better known to the Exercise as "Dick Graham"), of Preston, is still living.

The Bell Rews & Ringers' Record.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 9, 1886.

THE correspondence which is now appearing in our paper relative to the selection of a band for the opening festivity of a peal of bells possesses a feature which demands some brief notice. One of the disputants—a gentleman, by the way, who has done excellent work in the promotion of the art—appears to make a call upon us to lessen in some measure the freedom which we grant to our readers to ventilate their grievances—real or supposed—and opinions. No one is more impressed than ourselves with the fact that there have been occasions when this privilege has been abused, but not, we think, to any alarming extent. Epistolary combatants, like other rival forces, sometimes betray gusts of ill temper, and we have on one or two occasions felt it our duty to eliminate phrases that would certainly not look well in print. But when these slight checks have been exercised, each of the writers have at once abandoned their arguments, and poured forth their vials of wrath upon the would-be mediator. This display of such black ingratitude has confirmed us us in the belief that the course we pursued was the right one. With all due deference to the secretary of the Sussex Association, we must say that the safeguard we have always adopted is in our opinion sufficient, and we are not disposed to further curtail the freedom of correspondents in expressing their views. The manner and style of the writers is their own concern, we have nothing whatever to do with it; they, and they only, are amenable to public opinion, and unless something of especial interest is being dealt with, or language approaching to vituperation is indulged in, we, as a rule, forbear to say anything upon it. We assure our readers that to steer a middle course is not always a easy matter, and the control of the correspondence page is not the least difficulty we have to contend with in the conduct of this journal.

Our friend Mr. WREAKS wishes us to insist upon writers being compelled to publish their names with their correspondence. The idea is a most worthy one, but it would be impossible for us to concede to it. It would be better, no doubt, could those who love to indulge in criticism be courageous enough not to disguise their patronymic, but we believe there are various circumstances sometimes at work which render the use of a nom de plume absolutely expedient. The adoption of this latter course, however, should only be exercised when the attendant circumstances point it out as being quite necessary.

THE HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

Members are requested to take notice that the next Quarterly Meeting will be held at Bishops Stortford, on Monday, January 11th, 1886. Arrangements as usual. Dinner tickets, 2s. each, to be had from the Local Secretaries. Certificates of membership to be shown at the Railways. Subscriptions for 1886 due on the 1st of January.

St. Andrew's Rectory, Hertford.

W. WIGRAM, General Sec.

The Metropolis.

WALWORTH, SURREY.

THE ST. JAMES'S SOCIETY, LONDON.

On Monday, January 4, 1886, in Two Hours and Forty-three Minutes, AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER.

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES; HOLT'S ORIGINAL. Tenor 15\frac{2}{4} cwt.

Frederick W. Thornton Treble.	HENRY LANGDON		5.
FREDERICK G. NEWMAN 2.	THOMAS TAYLOR	• •	6.
JOHN BASDEN 3.	Joseph Barry	• •	7.
ARTHUR J. KEIT 4.	Daniel Newton		Tenor.

Conducted by Frederick G. Newman.

The Provinces.

DUFFIELD, DERBYSHIRE.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION AND THE DUFFIELD SOCIETY.

On Wednesday, December 23, 1885, in Three Hours and Eleven Minutes, At the Church of All Saints,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES; IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 17 cwt.

		•
GEORGE DAWSON	 Treble .	George Hingley 5.
SAMUEL JOHNSON		WILLIAM HICKLING 6.
JOHN HOWE	3.	Robert Johnson 7.
ALFRED ROBINSON	 4.	A. PERCIVAL HEYWOOD Tenor.

Composed by the late W. HARRISON, and Conducted by A. Percival Heywood, Esq.

This peal has this 6th the extent nineteen course-ends home.

SOWTON, DEVON.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS, AND THE DEVONSHIRE GUILD.

On Wednesday, December 23, 1885, in Two Hours and Forty-seven Minutes, AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S OR	HOLT'S ORIGINAL.			
JAMES MOSS	Treble.	ALFRED SHEPHERD		5.
RICHARD FRENCH	2.	Ferris Shepherd		., ő.
Fras. R. Shepherd		Edwin Shepherd		. 7.
INO. W. ROWBOTHAM		THOMAS J. LAKE		

Conducted by RICHARD FRENCH,

A PEAL OF SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR, G. H. ROBERTS*		
THE ST. PAUL'S SOCIETY, BURTON-ON-TRENT. On Saturday, December 26, 1885, in Two Hours and Fifty-state Minutes, A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5-940 CHANGES; HOLT'S ORIGINAL. Tenor 14 cwt. WILLIAM WERS	ACTIME A D. WHE CHEREN ACCOUNTION	DERBY.—THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION AND
On Tursday, December 29, 1885, in Three Hours and Streem Minutes, A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES; HOLL'S ORIGINAL. TROTH, 4 cwt. WILLIAM WERB		
A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES; HOLT'S ORIGINAL. TENOT 14 CWL. WILLIAM WERSS		
A PEAL OF SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR, WILLIAM WEBB		-
WILLIAM WERBS Trebit WILLIAM STATES 5. GRONG WELLING 2. ALFERD BROCG 7. 7867. ARTHUR B. CARPENTER 4. ALFERD BROCG 7. 7867. CONDUCTED by A. B. CARPENTER 4. ALFERD BROCG 7. 7867. CONDUCTED by A. B. CARPENTER 4. ALFERD BROCG 7. 7867. CONDUCTED by A. B. CARPENTER 4. WILLIAM WALKES 7. 7867. CONDUCTED by A. B. CARPENTER 4. WILLIAM WALKES 7. 7867. GRONG CHANGES 18 St. in Three Hours and Scene Minutes, AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY 18 GRONG CHANGES 18 St. DELLS; 120 of Falan Bob 4. 1. GRONG COOLING LITTLY; 200 of Cooling Single: 1720 of Coolings Little; 1720 of Coolings 1869; 1720 of Falan Bob 4. 1. GRONG COOLING CONTIES 1760. WIdnesday, December 38, 1888, in Two Hours and Forty-three Minutes, AT THE CHURCH by W. J. GLEBET 1760. R. SHIPLEY 2. 1. T. GRONG COOLING CONTIES 1760. R. SHIPLEY 2. 1. T. GRONG CONTIES 2. 1. T. GR	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	I '
WILLIAM WEBB	·	
Thomas Verenal. 7. Thomas Houses. 8. Thomas Houses. 7. Thomas Hous	1 ===	
ARTHUR B. CARPENTER . 4 ALFRED BRUCE		Edward Isaac Stone 2. Charles Hounslow 6.
Conducted by A. B. CARPENTER. First peal of Grandsire Triples called by the conductor. RINGSTEAD, NORTHAMPTONSHIRE. On Monday, Dezember 28, 1885, in There Hours and Seven Minutes, AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY. 5040 CHANGES: IN SIX DIFFERENT METHODS UPON ST. PAUL'S SOCIETY, BURTON-ON-TRENT. Two 720a cfoxford Bob. 1720 of Yorkshire Gourt Bob. 1720 of College Single; 720 of Folials Bob. G. H. ROBERTS* Treble. E. MAYES 2. W. J. Gilbert halls from Raunds. Conducted by W. J. Gilbert 5. R. SHIPLBY 3. T. ROBERTS Trenor. Conducted by W. J. Gilbert 5. R. SHIPLBY 3. J. T. ROBERTS Trenor. CON Wednesday, Dezember 28, 1885, in Twe Hours and Forty-three Minutes, AT THE PAISH CHURCH, A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES; IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 12 cwt. On Monday, Dezember 28, 1885, in Twe Hours and Forty-three Minutes, AT THE PAISH CHURCH, A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES; IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 12 cwt. On Monday, Dezember 28, 1885, in Twe Hours and Forty-three Minutes, AT THE PAISH CHURCH, A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES; IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 12 cwt. On Monday, Dezember 28, 1885, in Twe Hours and Forty-three Minutes, AT THE PAISH CHURCH, A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES; IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 12 cwt. On Monday, Dezember 28, 1885, in Twe Hours and Forty-three Minutes, AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS. A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES; IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 12 cwt. On Monday, Dezember 28, 1885, in Twe Hours and Forty-three Minutes, AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS. A PEAL OF SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5020 CHANGES; IN THE KENT VARIATION. TENOR. Composed by the late WILLIAM HARRISON, and Conducted by MILLIAM MIDILETON. 4. THORN MARIEY Theor. Composed by The Advanced Composed by MILLIAM MIDILETON. 4. THORN MINUTES, AND THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY. A PEAL OF SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5040 CHANGES; The above peal, which is a one-part composition, contains the 6th six course-onds experiment of the second pair the first occu		
First peal of Grandsire Triples called by the conductor. RINGSTEAD, NORTHAMPTONSHIRE. On Monday, Determber 28, 1885, in Three Hours and Seven Minutes, AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY. 5040 CHANGES: IN SIX DIFFERENT METHODS UPON SIX BELLS; Two 720s of Oxford Bob; 720 of Court Single; 720 of Plain Bob. G. H. ROBERTS* Trible. I SAWFORD 4 E. MAYES 2. W. J. GILBERT 5-6. C. Conducted by W. J. GILBERT 5-7. *First 5040. W. J. GILBERT 5-7. *GO OF Order Single; 720 of Plain Bob. On Monday, Determber 28, 1885, in Three Hours and Forty-three Minutes, AT THE PARISH CHURCH, A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 504 CHANGES; IN THE KERT VARIATION. Tenor 12 cwt. JOHN SIDEBOTHAM 7-10. JOHN SIDEBOTHAM 7-10. JOHN SIDEBOTHAM 5-10. *GOOGE BANDDOCK 7- *WILLIAM MIDDLETON 4. THOMAS BRADDOCK 7- *THOMAS MOLDOCK OF TRANS, "In Three Hours and Eighten Minutes, AT THE CHURCH G. THOMAS WILDE 5- *IN THE KERT VARIATION. Tenor 12 cwt. DUFFIELD, DERBYSHIRE. THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION AND THE STANDS WILLIAM SERVEY 17-01. The shove peal, which is a one-part composition, contains the 6th six course-ends each way in 5-6, and will be found in Sinowdon's Treatist, page 65. The bayes peal, which has never been previously performed, is published in Sonodonis will be shown in the first tim		
RINGSTEAD, NORTHAMPTONSHIRE. On Monday, December 28, 1885, in Three Hours and Seven Minutes, AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY. 5040 CHANGES: IN SIX DIFFERINT METHODS UPON SIX BELLS; TWO 7200 of Oxford Bob: 720 of Yorkshire Court Bob: 720 of College Single: 720 of Couleige S	•	,
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AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY. 5040 CHANGES: IN SIX DIFFERENT METHODS UPON SIX BELLS; TWO 720s of Oxford Bob; 720 of Yorkshire Court Bob; 720 of College Single; 720 of College Little; 720 of Court Single; 720 of Plain Bob. G. H. ROBERTS* Troble. G. H. ROBERTS* Troble. J. J. GILBERT 5. R. SHIPLEY 3. J. GILBERT 5. R. SHIPLEY 3. J. GILBERT 5. CONDUCTED by W. J. GILBERT Troble. COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION. MOTTRAM-IN-LONGDENDALE, CHESHIRE.—THE UNITED COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION. On Monday, December 28, 1885, in Two Hours and Forty-three Minutes, AT THE PARISH CHURCH, A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES; IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 12½ cwt. JOHN SIDEBOTHAM Troble. AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY. A PEAL OF SUPERLE HOURS and Eighten Minutes, AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY. A PEAL OF SUPERLE HOURS and Eighten Minutes, AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY. A PEAL OF SUPERLE HOURS and Eighten Minutes, AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY. A PEAL OF SUPERLE HOURS and Conducted by WILLIAM BURKEN Troble. ON Trible. JOHN SIDEBOTHAM Troble. JOHN S	RINGSTEAD, NORTHAMPTONSHIRE.	the original of the second peal in the third column.
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY. 5040 CHANGES: IN SIX DIFFERENT METHODS UPON SIX BELLS; TWO 720s of Oxford Bob; 720 of Yorkshire Court Bob; 720 of College Single; 720 of College Little; 720 of Court Single; 720 of Plain Bob. G. H. ROBERTS* Troble. G. H. ROBERTS* Troble. J. J. GILBERT 5. R. SHIPLEY 3. J. GILBERT 5. R. SHIPLEY 3. J. GILBERT 5. CONDUCTED by W. J. GILBERT Troble. COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION. MOTTRAM-IN-LONGDENDALE, CHESHIRE.—THE UNITED COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION. On Monday, December 28, 1885, in Two Hours and Forty-three Minutes, AT THE PARISH CHURCH, A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES; IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 12½ cwt. JOHN SIDEBOTHAM Troble. AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY. A PEAL OF SUPERLE HOURS and Eighten Minutes, AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY. A PEAL OF SUPERLE HOURS and Eighten Minutes, AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY. A PEAL OF SUPERLE HOURS and Eighten Minutes, AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY. A PEAL OF SUPERLE HOURS and Conducted by WILLIAM BURKEN Troble. ON Trible. JOHN SIDEBOTHAM Troble. JOHN S	On Monday, December 28, 1885, in Three Hours and Seven Minutes,	BURTON-ON-TRENT, STAFFORDSHIRE.
ST. PAUL'S SOCIETY, BURTON-ON-TRENT. On Withnesday, December 30, 1885, in Three Hours and Twenty-three Minutes, AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PAUL. APEAL OF SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR, COMMONDAY, December 28, 1885, in Two Hours and Forty-three Minutes, AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PAUL. APEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES; In Three Minutes, AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PAUL'S SOCIETY, BURTON-ON-TRENT. On Monday, December 28, 1885, in Two Hours and Forty-three Minutes, AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PAUL'S SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS. COMPOSED BY W. J. GILBERT. APEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES; In Three Minutes, AT THE PARISH CHURCH, COMPOSED BY M. J. FIRST SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS. COMPOSED BY M. J. FIRST SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS. COMPOSED BY M. J. FIRST SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS. COMPOSED BY M. J. FIRST SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS. COMPOSED BY M. J. FIRST SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS. COMPOSED BY M. J. FIRST SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS. COMPOSED BY M. J. FIRST SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS. COMPOSED BY M. J. FIRST SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS. COMPOSED BY M. J. GILBERT. THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION AND THE ST. PAUL'S SOCIETY. The above peal, which is a one-part composition, contains the 6th six course-ends each way in 75, and will be found in Showdon's *Treatists, page to 80, and will be found in Showdon's *Treatists, page to 80, and will be found in Showdon's *Treatists, page to 80, and will be found in Showdon's *Treatists, page to 80, and will be found in Showdon's *Treatists, page to 80, and will be found in Showdon's *Treatists, page to 80, and will be found in Showdon's *Treatists, page to 80, and will be found in Showdon's *Treatists, page to 80, and will be found in Showdon's *Treatists, page to 80, and will be found in Showdon's *Treatists, page to 80, and will be found in Showdon's *Treatists, page to 80, and will be found in Showdon's *Treatists, page to 80, and will be found in Showdon's *Treatists, page to 80, and will be found in Showdon's *Treatists, page to 80, and will be found in Showdon's *Treatists, page to		1
SIX BELLS; Two 720s of Oxford Bob: 720 of Yorkshinke Court Bob: 720 of College Single: 720 of College Little; 720 of Court Single; 720 of Plain Bob. G. H. ROBERTS**	5040 CHANGES: IN SIX DIFFERENT METHODS UPON	
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PAUL, A PEAL OF SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR, COMDUCTED HOME ST. TWO COUNTIES ASSOCIATION. ON Monday, December 28, 1885, in Two Hours and Forty-three Minutes, AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PAUL, A PEAL OF SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR, SOGG CHANGES. Tenor 2. ARTHUR WAKLEY 3. JOSEPH FIELD 2. ARTHUR WAKLEY 3. JOSEPH FIELD 2. ARTHUR WAKLEY 3. JOSEPH FIELD 2. ARTHUR WAKLEY 3. AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PAUL, A PEAL OF SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR, SOGCHANGES. Tenor 1.5 THOMAS HOLMSES 7. Thomas BRADDOCK 7. This peal, which has never been previously performed, is published in Snowdors in the first column there given. BEDDINGTON.—THE SURREY ASSOCIATION AND THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS. On Thursday, December 31, 1885, in Three Hours and Eighteen Minutes, AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PAUL, A PEAL OF SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR, SOGCHANGES. Tenor 2. JOSEPH FIELD 2. ARTHUR WAKLEY 3. JOSEPH FIELD 2. ARTHUR WAKLEY 3. JOSEPH GRIFFIN 4. COMPOSED BY N. J. PITSTOW and Conducted by WILLIAM MARKEY 7. This peal, which has never been previously performed, is published in Snowdors in the first column there given. BEDDINGTON.—THE SURREY ASSOCIATION AND THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS. On Thursday, December 31, 1885, in Three Hours and Eighteen Minutes, AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PAUL, A PEAL OF SUPERLATIVE A PEAL OF SUPERLATIVE A PEAL OF BUBMAJOR, 5040 CHANGES; The above is the first peal that has been rung on the belis since they have been relung. DUFFIELD, DERBYSHIRE. THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION AND THE ST. PAUL'S SOCIETY, BURTON-ON-TRENT. On Monday, December 28, 1885, in Three Hours and Three Minutes, A THE CHURCH OF ST. PAUL CHARGES, Tenor 12, cwt. CHAPLES MARTIN' 17-bit. JOHN SIDESOTHAM. A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5040 CHANGES; CHARLES BANCE 2. EDAGA BRANETT 3. A PEAL OF SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES. THE ARRY WAKLEY 2. A PEAL OF SUPERLATIVE MAKLEY 2. CHAPLES HELLON. A THE CHURCH OF ST		
G. H. ROBERTS*	Two 720s of Oxford Bob; 720 of Yorkshire Court Bob; 720 of College Single;	AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PAUL,
G. H. KOBERTS'		A PEAL OF SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR,
R. SHIPLEY		
Conducted by W. J. Gilbert. *First 5040. W. J. Gilbert. *First 5040. W. J. Gilbert hails from Rauuds. MOTTRAM-IN-LONGDENDALE, CHESHIRE.—THE UNITED COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION. On Monday, December 28, 1885, in Two Hows and Forty-three Minutes, AT THE PARISH CHURCH, A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES; In the Kent Variation. Tenor 12½ cwt. JOHN SIDEBOTHAM Treble. Thomas Wilde 5. JAMES NUTTALL 6. GEORGE BRADDOCK 7. Composed by the late William Marrison, and Conducted by William Middleton. 4. Thomas Braddock 7. The above peal, which is a one-part composition, contains the 6th six course-ends above its the first peal that has been rung on the bells since they have been been been been been been been be		HARRY WAKLEY Treble. CHARLES HOUNSLOW 5.
*First 5040. W. J. Gilbert hails from Rauuds. MOTTRAM-IN-LONGDENDALE, CHESHIRE.—THE UNITED COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION. On Monday, December 28, 1885, in Two Howrs and Forty-three Minutes, AT THE PARISH CHURCH, A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES; IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 12½ cwt. JOHN SIDEBOTHAM	·	JOSEPH FIELD 2. JAMES W. WASHBROOK 6.
Composed by N. J. Pitstow and Conducted by William Wakley. *COUNTIES** ASSOCIATION. On Monday, December 28, 1885, in Two Howrs and Forty-three Minutes, AT THE PARISH CHURCH, A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES; IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 12½ cwt. JOHN SIDEBOTHAM Treble. JOHN HARROP 2. COMPOSED BY HARROP 2. WILLIAM MIDDLETON 4. THOMAS BRADDOCK Tenor. COMPOSED BY HAIR SURDED CHANGES; The above peal, which is a one-part composition, contains the 6th six course-ends each way in 5.6, and will be found in Snowdon's Treatist, part ii, page 66. The above peal that has been rung on the bells since they have been rehung. DUFFIELD, DERBYSHIRE. THE MIDLAND COUNTIES* ASSOCIATION AND THE ST. PAUL'S SOCIETY, BURTON-ON-TRENT. On Monday, December 28, 1885, in Three Hours and Three Minutes, AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS, A PEAL OF SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR, 504 CHANGES; IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 1.2 cwt. JOHN JAGGAR Treble. JOSEPH FIELD 4. WILLIAM WAKLEY 5. A. PERCIVAL HEWWOOD 6. IN JAMES W. WASHBROOK 7. WILLIAM WAKLEY 7. 7. WILLIAM WAKLEY	• •	ARTHUR WAKLEY 3. THOMAS HOLMES 7. TOSEPH GRIFFIN
MOTTRAM-IN-LONGDENDALE, CHESHIRE.—THE UNITED COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION. On Monday, December 28, 1885, in Two Hours and Forty-three Minutes, AT THE PARISH CHURCH, A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES; IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 12½ cwt. JOHN SIDEBOTHAM	• •	
COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION. On Monday, December 28, 1885, in Two Hours and Forty-three Minutes, At the Parish Church, A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES; IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 12½ cwt. JOHN SIDEBOTHAM Treble JAMES NUTTALL 6. GROBERT WRIGHT	MOTTRAM-IN-LONGDENDALE, CHESHIRE.—THE UNITED	
On Monday, December 28, 1885, in Two Howrs and Forty-three Minutes, AT THE PARISH CHURCH, A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES; IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 12½ cwt. JOHN SIDEBOTHAM		"Surprise Methods" in "THE BELL NEWS," vol. IV., page 185, being the last peal
AT THE PARISH CHURCH, A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES; IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 12½ cwt. JOHN SIDEBOTHAM		in the first column there given.
A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES; IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 12½ cwt. JOHN SIDEBOTHAM	•	
IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 12½ cwt. JOHN SIDEBOTHAM	•	ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.
JOHN SIDEBOTHAM Treble. JAMES WILDE 5. JAMES NUTTALL 6. ROBERT WRIGHT 3. JAMES NUTTALL 6. GEORGE BRADDOCK 7. THOMAS BRADDOCK 7. THOM	• • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •	On Thursday, December 31, 1885, in Three Hours and Eighteen Minutes,
James Nuttall 6. George Braddock 7. George Braddock 7. George Braddock 7. Thomas Braddock 7	-	AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,
WILLIAM MIDDLETON . 4. THOMAS BRADDOCK	JOHN HARROP 2. JAMES NUTTALL 6.	A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Composed by the late William Harrison, and Conducted by John Sidebotham. The above peal, which is a one-part composition, contains the 6th six course-ends each way in 5-6, and will be found in Snowdon's Treatise, part ii., page 66. The above is the first peal that has been rung on the bells since they have been rung. DUFFIELD, DERBYSHIRE. THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION AND THE ST. PAUL'S SOCIETY, BURTON-ON-TRENT. On Monday, December 28, 1885, in Three Hours and Three Minutes, AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS, A PEAL OF SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES. Tenor 17 cwt. JOHN PLOWMAN		Tenor 20\frac{1}{2} cwt. in Eb.
JOHN SIDEBOTHAM. The above peal, which is a one-part composition, contains the 6th six course-ends each way in 5-6, and will be found in Snowdon's Treatise, part ii., page 66. The above is the first peal that has been rung on the bells since they have been rehung. DUFFIELD, DERBYSHIRE. THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION AND THE ST. PAUL'S SOCIETY, BURTON-ON-TRENT. On Monday, December 28, 1885, in Three Hours and Three Minutes, AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS, A PEAL OF SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES. Tenor 17 cwt. JOHN PLOWMAN	• •	
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THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION AND THE ST. PAUL'S SOCIETY, BURTON-ON-TRENT. On Monday, December 28, 1885, in Three Hours and Three Minutes, AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS, A PEAL OF SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES. Tenor 17 cwt. JOHN JAGGAR Treble. CHARLES HOUNSLOW 2. JOSEPH GRIFFIN 3. JAMES W. WASHBROOK		ARTHUR B. CARPENTER* 4. JOHN PLOWMAN
THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION AND THE ST. PAUL'S SOCIETY, BURTON-ON-TRENT. On Monday, December 28, 1885, in Three Hours and Three Minutes, AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS, A PEAL OF SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES. Tenor 17 cwt. JOHN JAGGAR Treble. CHARLES HOUNSLOW 2. JOSEPH GRIFFIN 3. JAMES W. WASHBROOK	each way in 5-6, and will be found in Snowdon's Treatise, part ii., page 66. The	· ·
THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION AND THE ST. PAUL'S SOCIETY, BURTON-ON-TRENT. On Monday, December 28, 1885, in Three Hours and Three Minutes, AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS, A PEAL OF SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES. Tenor 17 cwt. JOHN JAGGAR Treble. CHARLES HOUNSLOW 2. A. PERCIVAL HEYWOOD . 6. JAMES W. WASHBROOK 7. JOSEPH GRIFFIN	rehung.	
THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION AND THE ST. PAUL'S SOCIETY, BURTON-ON-TRENT. On Monday, December 28, 1885, in Three Hours and Three Minutes, AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS, A PEAL OF SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES. Tenor 17 cwt. JOHN JAGGAR Treble. CHARLES HOUNSLOW 2. JOSEPH GRIFFIN	DUFFIELD DEBRYCHIEF	*First peal of Bob Major.
ST. PAUL'S SOCIETY, BURTON-ON-TRENT. On Monday, December 28, 1885, in Three Hours and Three Minutes, AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS, A PEAL OF SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES. Tenor 17 cwt. JOHN JAGGAR Treble. CHARLES HOUNSLOW 2. JOSEPH GRIFFIN 3. JAMES W. WASHBROOK 7. JOSEPH FIELD 4. DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION. On Friday, January 1, 1886, in Three Hours and Eleven Minutes, AT CHRIST CHURCH, A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5248 CHANGES; IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 19 cwt. WM. Reed Treble. GEO. JAMES CLARKSON 2. ROBERT SMITH 6. RICHARD W. WIGNELL 3. ROBET. SPENCER STORY		NORTH CHIEFDS
On Monday, December 28, 1885, in Three Hours and Three Minutes, At the Church of All Saints, A PEAL OF SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES. Tenor 17 cwt. John Jaggar Treble. Harry Wakley 5. Charles Hounslow 2. Joseph Griffin		
At the Church of All Saints, A PEAL OF SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES. Tenor 17 cwt. John Jaggar		1
A PEAL OF SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES. Tenor 17 cwt. JOHN JAGGAR		,
5056 CHANGES. Tenor 17 cwt. JOHN JAGGAR Treble. HARRY WAKLEY 5. CHARLES HOUNSLOW 2. JOSEPH GRIFFIN 3. JAMES W. WASHBROOK 7. JOSEPH FIELD 4. WILLIAM WAKLEY Tenor. IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 19 cwt. WM. REED Treble. C. LINNÆUS ROUTLEDGE 5. GEO. JAMES CLARKSON 2. ROBERT SMITH 6. RICHARD W. WIGNELL 3. ROBET. SPENCER STORY 7. WM. STORY 4. JOEL HERN Tenor.		
JOHN JAGGAR		
Charles Hounslow 2. A. Percival Heywood . 6. Geo. James Clarkson . 2. Robert Smith 6. James W. Washbrook . 7. Richard W. Wignell . 3. Robt. Spencer Story . 7. Joseph Field 4. William Wakley		
JOSEPH GRIFFIN 3. JAMES W. WASHBROOK 7. RICHARD W. WIGNELL 3. ROBT. SPENCER STORY 7. JOSEPH FIELD 4. WILLIAM WAKLEY Tenor. WM. STORY 4. JOEL HERN Tenor.		GEO. IAMES CLARKSON 2. ROBERT SMITH 6
Joseph Field 4. William Wakley	JOSEPH GRIFFIN 3. JAMES W. WASHBROOK 7.	RICHARD W. WIGNELL 3. ROBT. SPENCER STORY 7.
	• •	WM. STORY 4. JOEL HERN Tenor.
Composed by N. J. PITSTOW and Conducted by WILLIAM WAKLEY. Composed by James Wood, sen., and Conducted by Groupe I. Clarkson.	Composed by N. J. Pitstow and Conducted by William Wakley.	Composed by James Wood, sen., and Conducted by

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 6th's place without the 2nd ever being there. It is published in Snowdon's "Surprise Methods" in "The Bell News," vol. Iv., page 225, being the first peal in the second column.

BLETCHINGLEY, SURREY. On Tuesday, December 29, 1885, in Two Hours and Fifty-eight Minutes,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Conducted by JOHN BASHFORD. Wm. Burkin belongs to the Beddington Society; J. Burkin to Nutfield; Wm. Argent to Reigate; the rest are local men.

Tenor 19 cwt.

HOLT'S 10-PART.

Composed by James Wood, sen., and Conducted by George J. Clarkson.

This peal, which is in one part of sixteen courses, contains the 6th its extent both ways, and the 5th its extent right, and was rung on the Anniversary of the first peal of Major on the bells.

Mr. Clarkson hails from Stockton-on-Tees; Messrs Routledge and Story Brothers from Newcastle-on-Tyne; the rest from North Shields.

ringing.

THE SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.

H. DAINS, Hon. Sec.

All members in town are respectfully requested to attend the Society's meeting-house, on Friday evening, January 15th, for dispatch of highly interesting business; there will also be the usual practice for

CHANGES OF ADDRESS.—Mr. John Carter, Birmingham has removed from Ford Street, Hockley, and his present address is "D house, 14 court, Bracebridge Street, Birmingham." The address of Mr. W. Tyler, formerly of Hitchin, is now New Molewood Road, Port Vale, Hertford.

BURTON-ON-TRENT, STAFFORDSHIRE.

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

Birthdan Peal.

On Saturday, January 2, 1886, in Three Hours and Twenty-five Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PAUL,

A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES. Tenor 26 cwt.

HARRY WAKLEY	 Treble.	JAMES W. WASHBROOK	5.
WILLIAM WAKLEY	 2.	Edward Isaac Stone	ő.
Henry Bastable	 ٠٠ 3٠	THOMAS HOLMES	
John Jaggar	 4.	ALFRED THOMAS	Tenor.

Composed and Conducted by John Jaggar.

This peal, which has never been previously performed, contains the 4th twenty-two times and the 6th twenty-four times in 6th's place, and is the first ever composed or rung with these properties in this number of changes. The peal is published, with two printer's errors in the calling, in "The Bell News," vol IV., page 299. The above was rung on the conductor's 25th birthday.

UFFORD, NEAR WOODBRIDGE, SUFFOLK.—THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

Wedding Peal.

On Saturday, January 2, 1886, in Three Hours and Seven Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

5040 CHANGES: IN SEVEN DIFFERENT METHODS UPON SIX BELLS;

Being 720 each of the following-

Yorkshire Court Bob, Double Court Bob, Oxford Bob, College Single Bob, Oxford Treble Bob, Kent Treble Bob, and Bob Minor.

Tenor 15 cwt. in G.

GEORGE BURCH	Trcble.	ALFRED E. ACFIELD	4.
EDWIN R. TODD			
ARTHUR S. BARRELL	3.	Edward Sherwood	Tenor
		-	

Conducted by Edward Sherwood.

This peal was rung to celebrate the marriage of the conductor of the local company, Mr. W. A. Ward. Messrs. Sherwood and Todd hail from Wickham Market; the rest are of the local company.

BRADFIELD.—THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

Muffled Peal.

On Saturday, January 2, 1886, in Two Hours and Fifty-eight Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. NICHOLAS,

5040 CHANGES: IN SEVEN DIFFERENT TREBLE BOB METHODS UPON SIX BELLS;

Arnold's Victory, Duke of York, College Pleasure, New London Pleasure, London Scholars' Pleasure, Violet, and Oxford.

Tenor 12 cwt.

SAML. HEMINGI	FIEL	D.,	7	rehle.	DAVID BREARLEY	•• 4.
Wm. Turton				2.	George H. Uttley	· · · 5.
GEORGE SHAW	• •			3⋅	ARTHUR BREARLEY	Tenor.

Conducted by George Shaw.

Messrs Hemingfield, Turton and Shaw hail from Ecclesfield, the rest from Bradfield. This peal was rang as a tribute of respect to the late Henry Gillott, who had been a ringer and sexton at the above church upwards of thirty years.

BIRMINGHAM.

THE BIRMINGHAM AMALGAMATED SOCIETY AND THE BIRMINGHAM AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATION.

Handbell Ringing.

Oa Tuesday, January 5, 1886, in Two Hours and Forty-two Minutes,
At the House of Mr. John Carter, Bracebridge Street,
on handbells, retained in hand.

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS, 5003 CHANGES; Tenor 14 size, in Eb.

THOMAS RUSSAM		1-2.	THOMAS	MILLER		5-6.
JOHN CARTER	*Іони Т	3-4. PERRY	Joseph	W. CATTLE	••	7-8.

Composed and Conducted by JOHN CARTER.

Referee: Mr. John Callaghan; who marked off every call and course-end as they were rung. Witnesses. J. Rogers and others.
This peal has the 6th twenty-four times each way, and the 5th twelve times right,
* First peal on handbells,

ALDINGTON, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—ALDINGTON BRANCH.
On Tuesday, January 5, 1886, in Three Hours and Seventeen Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARTIN,

5040 CHANGES ON SIX BELLS;

Being Seven different 720's of Oxford Treble Bob Minor.
Tenor 14 cwt in G.

Tenor 14 CWL III 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.

This is the first 5040 by the above branch, and the first by any of the above in this method.

Pate Touches.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

Manchester.—On New Year's Eve, at the Cathedral, a date tonch of Grandsire Caters, 1886 changes, in 1 hr. 13 mins. Samuel West, I; Thomas Thorpe, 2; John E. Pollit, 3; Thomas G. Downs, 4; George E. Turner, 5; James Thorpe, 6; A. Edward Wreaks (composer and conductor), 7; John Eachus, 8; John Withers, 9; James Parkinson, 10. Tenor 25 cwt. in Eb. The Rev. T. A. Turner, President of the Association, was present during the ringing of this date touch, at the conclusion of which he said a few collects and a short prayer for the good of the ringers during the year now entered on. This is the first time that a clergyman has visited the above ringers in the belfry, and which they hope will not be the last.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

LOUGHBOROUGH (Leicestershire).—On Tuesday, January 5th, 1886, at All Saints' church, a date touch of Grandsire Triples (1886 changes), the composition of Mr. John Carter, of Birmingham, and published in "THE BELL NEWS" of the 2nd inst. F. Farrow, 1; A. Cresser, 2; E. D. Taylor, Esq., 3; W. Burkinshaw, 4; C. Smith, 5; J. W. Taylor, jun., Esq. (conductor), 6; J. Hardy, 7; D. Wightman, 8.

OLNEY (Bucks).—On Tuesday, January 5th, at the church of SS. Peter and Paul, a date touch of Grandsire Doubles, 1886 changes, in 1 hr. 24 mins. G. Mynard, 1; W. Osborn (conductor), 2; J. Coles, 3; W. Freeman, 4; W. Jones, 5; B. Bransom, 6. Tenor 36 cwt.

Miscellaneous.

THE BIRMINGHAM AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATION.

Birmingham.—On Sunday, December 27th, at St. Chad's Cathedral, 1008 of Bob Mojor in 38 mins. W, Saniger, 1; J. Carter, 2; T. Russam, 3; J. Callaghan, 4; R. Hackley, 5; O. James (Bromsgrove), 6; A. Hackley, 7: T. Miller, 8. Conducted by John Carter.

Bromsgrove (Worcestershire).—On Saturday, January 2nd, at the parish church, an attempt was made to ring a 5003 of Grandsire Caters, but after ringing about 3000 changes, a change-course occurred which brought it to grief. W. Broomfield, 1; J. Haywood, 2; J. Carter (conductor), 3; T. Russam, 4; O. James, 5; W. Rea, 6; G. Morris, 7; G. Bourne, 8: T. Miller, 9; J. Parry, 10.

Worcester.—On Saturday, December 26th, at All Saints' Church, an attempt was made to ring a peal of Grandsire Caters, but after ringing 2600 changes, it came to grief. F. Owen, 1; N. Wale, 2; J. Carter (conductor), 3; H. Phesant, 4; G. Hinton, 5; W. Blandford, 6; F. T. Gover (London), 7; W. Page, 8; H. Lawton (Wednesbury), 9; T. Malin, 10.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

DARLINGTON.—On Sunday evening, January 3rd, for Divine Service, at St. John's Church, 720 of Grandsire Minor, in 27 mins. J. Bolton, 1; W. J. Blakiston, 2; W. Patton, 3; J. H. Whitfield, 4; R. Moncaster (conductor), 5; *W. Lancaster, 6. Tenor 10 cwt. in G. *First 720.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

HAUGHTON.—On Tuesday, December 29th, at St. Anne's Church, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor in 27 mins. *W. Wilde, jun, 1; J. S. Leech, 2; W. Wilde, sen.. 3; J. A. Thomas, 4; J. Howard, 5; Peter Smith (conductor), 6. Tenor 15 cwt. *First 720 in the method.

Manchester.—On New Year's Eve, the Manchester Cathedral branch of the above Association met, as is the usual custom, to ring

the old year and the new one in. A 546 of Grandsire Triples, and a 413 of Grandsire Caters were successfully brought round before the midnight hour. Twelve o'clock having been struck on the tenor, a little firing interspersed with the Queen's change followed, and then go was called for a date touch of Grandsire Caters, a report of which will be found on the previous page.

THE REIGATE SOCIETY.

REIGATE (Surrey).—On Christmas Day, at the parish church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 46 mins., to celebrate the fifth anniversary of the marriage of Captain Cox, at the above church. G aninversary of the marriage of Captain Cox, at the above church. G. Croucher, 1; F. Hoad (composer and conductor), 2; E. Moses, 3; T. Fuller, 4; T. Brown, 5; E. Kenward, 6; W. Argent, 7; J. Howard, 8. Also on New Year's Eve, at midnight, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, 1260 changes, in 46 mins. G. Croucher, 1; F. T. Hoad (composer and conductor), 2; W. Bone, 3; W. Argent, 4; G. Williams, 5; E. Moses, 6; E. Kenward, 7; J. Howard, 8.

STOKE-UPON-TRENT ARCHIDIACONAL ASSOCIATION.

Tunstall.—On Sunday morning, December 27th, five six-scores of Grandsire Doubles in 22 mins. G. Gee, jun., (conductor), 1: G. Gee, sen., 2; J. Gee, 3; W. Gee, 4; J. Nixon, 5; W. Mills, 6.

THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

STREATHAM (Surrey).—On Monday, January 4th, at Emmanuel Church, an attempt was made to ring a peal of Stedman Triples, but after ringing about 3780 changes in 2 hrs. 15 mins., it unfortunately came to grief. J. Russell, 1; D. Springall, 2; E. F. Cole, 3; G. Welling, 4; G. Pell, 5; J. Fayers, 6; S. Greenwood (conductor), 7: H. Pates, 8.

UNITED COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

MOTTRAM (Cheshire).—On Saturday, January 2nd, at St. Michael's Church, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor in 26 mins. W. Wilde, jun. 1; J. Bardsley, 2; J. S. Leech, 3; J. A. Thomas, 4; T. Brocklehurst, 5; P. Smith (conductor), 6. Tenor 12 cwt. This is the first 720 since the bells have been rehung

WORCESTER AND ADJOINING DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

WORCESTER AND ADJOINING DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

Netherton (Worcestershire).—On Wednesday, December 30th, four members of the local company, assisted by Messrs. W. Micklewright, sen. (Stafford), and W. Micklewright, jun. (Dudley), rang a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor in 29 mins. R. Round, I; W. Micklewright, sen., 2; J. Townsend, 3; M. J. Robinson, 4; W. Micklewright, jun. (conductor), 5; J. Smith, 6. Also a 720 of Plain Bob Minor in 26½ mins. J. Townsend, I; W. Micklewright, sen., 2; W. Micklewright, jun., 3; M. J. Robinson, 4; J. Prestidge, 5; J. Smith (conductor), 6. The above was rung with the bells half-muffled as a mark of respect to the late Mrs. Blanche Skidmore, the donor of the bells, it being the thirteenth anniversary of her death. Also on Thursday evening for midnight service, 360 of Plain Bob (no time taken). W. Prestidge, I; W. Micklewright, sen., 2; J. Townsend, 3; M. J. Robinson, 4; W. Micklewright, sen., 2; J. Townsend, 3. M. J. Robinson, 4; W. Micklewright, jun., (conductor), 5; R. Round, 6. And after Divine Service, at the commencement of the New Year, a 720 of Grandsire Minor in 25½ mins. J. Townsend, I; W. Micklewing, I; W. Micklewright, II. Townsend, I; W. Micklewing, I; W. Micklewright, II. Townsend, I; W. Micklewright, III. J. Townsend, II. W. Micklewright, III. J. Townsend, II. W a 720 of Grandsire Minor in 25½ mins. J. Townsend, I; W. Micklewright, sen., 2: W. Micklewright, jun., 3; M. J. Robinson, 4; J. Prestidge, 5; J. Smith (conductor), 6. Tenor 12½ cwt.

St. Albans (Herts).—On Sunday, January 3rd, at the Cathedral, for Divine Service in the evening, 504 of Grandsire Triples. T. Grant, 1; R. T. Kent, 2; R. Fowler, 3; E. A. Hulks, 4; W. H. L. Buckingham, 5; *G. W. Cartmel (conductor), 6; N. N. Hills, 7; H. L. Waddington, 8. *Longest length as conductor.

Bengeo (Herts).—On Sunday evening, January 3rd, for Divine Service at Holy Trinity Church, a 720 of Bob Minor, eighteen bobs and two singles, in 26 mins. W. Bennett, 1; W. Goodchild, 2; M. Ellsmore, 3; J. Pomfret, 4; J. Channer, 5; H. Phillips (conductor), 6. Tenor 72 cwt.

Bristol.—On Monday, December 21st (St. Thomas's Day), at St. John's church, 720 of Bob Minor. F. Price, 1; G. Morgan, 2; J. R. Jerram, 3; J. Hinton (conductor), 4; C. A. Clements, 5; J. Smith, 6. Tenor 12 cwt.

CAPEL (Surrey).—On Friday, November 27th, at the parish church, a 720 of Violet Treble Bob Minor. T. Stedman, r; E. Jordan, 2; A. Mills, 3; *G. Williams, 4; M. Jenkins, 5; D. Jordan (conductor), 6. Also on Friday, December 4th, a 720 of Oxford Bob Minor. *C. Weedon, r; R. Jordan, 2; A. Mills, 3; M. Jenkins, 4; E. Jordan, 5; D. Jordan (conductor), 6. And on Christmas Day, in the early moruing, 720 of Oxford Treble Bob. T. Stedman, r; R. Jordan, 2; A. Mills, 3; R. Worsfold, 4; E. Jordan, 5; D. Jordan (conductor), 6. Also for morning service, 720 Kent Treble Bob, G, Moore, r; R.

Jordan, 2; A. Mills, 3; R. Worsfold, 4; E. Jordan, 5; D. Jordan (conductor), 6. And in the afternoon, 720 of New London Pleasure, T. Stedman, 1; R. Jordan, 2; A. Mills, 3; *R. Worsfold, 4; E. Jordan, 5; D. Jordan (conductor), 6. And 720 of Violet. T. Stedman, 1; R. Jordan, 2; E. Jordan, 3; R. Worsfold, 4; A. Mills, 5; D. Jordan (conductor), 5. On New Year's Eve, a 720 of Oxford Bob. C. Weedon, 1; T. Stedman, 2; A. Mills, 3; R. Jordan, 4; E. Jordan, 5; D. Jordan (conductor), 6. And to ring the old year out and new one in, 360 Kent Treble Bob, and 360 Oxford Treble Bob. T. Stedman, 1; R. Jordan, 2; A. Mills, 3; R. Worsfold, 4; E. Jordan, 5; D. Jordan (conductor), 6. *First 720 in the method.

CIRENCESTER (Gloucestershire).—On Monday, December 28th, being

CIRENCESTER (Gloucestershire).—On Monday, December 28th, being Innocents' Day, and the annual festival of the Cirencester Society, they were visited by a few brother ringers from Stroud and Gloucester, they were visited by a few brother ringers from Stroud and Gloucester, and rang two muffled touches of Grandsire Triples, then returned to the "King's Arms Inn," and partook of the annual dinner under the presidency of Mr. W. Hinton. They afterwards rang a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, with the bells muffled, in 53 mins. J. Pouting, 1: H. G. Gardiner, 2; W. Hinton (conductor), 3; C. King, 4; J. Nash, 5; H. Hughes, 6; G. Davis, 7; H. Clutterbuck, 8.

Nash, 5; H. Hughes, 6; G. Davis, 7; H. Clutterbuck, 8.

CRAWLEY (Sussex).—On Sunday, January 3rd, at the church of St. John-the-Baptist, after morning service, several touches of Kent Treble Bob Major; and for Divine Service in the evening, 576 in the same method. G. Holloway, 1; R. Jordan, 2; A. Mills, 3; E. Moses, 4; E. Jordan, 5; H. Wickens, 6; D. Jordan, 7; G. Williams (conductor), 8. Tenor 14 cwt. This is the first attempt at Major (beyond a plain course), by all except Moses and Williams. The brothers Jordan and Mills hail from Capel, Moses and Williams from Reigate, Wickens and Holloway from Charlwood. They wish through the medium of "The Bell News," to thank the rector for the use of the bells.

Speldhurst (Kent).—On Thursday, December 24th, at midnight, SPELDHURST (Rent).—On Thursday, December 24th, at midnight, a 720 of Plain Bob Minor (twenty-two singles), in 23 mins. J. Maynard, 1; J. Baker, 2; F. Still, 3; C. Chapman, 4; F. Still, sen., 5; F. Still (conductor), 6. On Christmas Day, 720 Plain Bob Minor (eighteen bobs and two singles), in 27 mins. J. Maynard, 1; F. Still, 2; J. Baker, 3; E. Hopkins, 4; F. Still, sen., 5; C. Chapman (conductor), 6. Tenor 14\frac{3}{4} cwt.

(conductor), 6. Tenor 14\frac{2}{3} cwt.

STANSTEAD (Essex).—On Tuesday, December 15th, at the church of St. Mary-the-Virgin, six of the local company rang a 720 of College Single Bob Minor in 25\frac{1}{2} mins. J. Cavill, 1; J. Luckey, 2; H. Prior, jun., 3; G. Gray, 4; I. Cavill, 5; C. Prior (conductor), 6. And on December 25th, a 720 of Plain Bob Minor, fourteen singles and four bobs, in 26 mins. G. Prior, 1; W. Prior, 2; J. Luckey, 3; G. Gray, 4; H. Prior, jun., 5; C. Prior (conductor), 6. Also on New Year's Eve, a 720 of Plain Bob Minor in 26\frac{1}{2} mins., and 360 of Oxford Treble Bob Minor. W. Prior, 1; J. Luckey, 2; H. Prior, jun., 3; G. Gray, 4; I. Cavill, 5; C. Prior (conductor), 6. Tenor 13 cwt. The following is a summary of the complete 720's rang in 1885; Plain Bob, 11; Double Oxford, 6: Oxford Treble Bob, 5; Double Court, 4; Kent Treble Bob, 2; College Single, 2.

STISTED (Essex).—On Sunday, December 27th, for Divine Service

STISTED (Essex).—On Sunday, December 27th, for Divine Service in the afternoon, a 720 of Bob Minor, with twenty-two singles in 24 mins. C. Corder, 1; E. Chaplin, 2: F. Saunders, 3; A. Chaplin, 4; E. Radley, 5; W. Radley (conductor), 6.

E. Radley, 5; W. Kadley (conductor), 6.

Terrington (Norfolk).—On Tuesday, December 22nd, a 720 of Bob Minor with forty-two singles, in 28 mins. T. Mallett, 1; F. Easton, 2; Dr. Seccombe, 3; G. Barrett, 4; J. Herring, 5; J. Green (conductor), 6. And on Wednesday, December 23rd, 720 of Bob Minor with forty-two singles, was rung by the same company, except J. Green ringing third, and Dr. Seccombe (conductor), the sixth. Also on Christmas Day, at St. Clement's Church, at 7.15 a.m., before early service, a 720 of Bob Minor, with eighteen bobs and two singles. And on Sunday, December 27th, four 720's were rung; the first conducted by Dr. Seccombe at 10.15 a.m. before Morning Service; the rest were conducted by I. Green at 4 p.m. again at 6 p.m. before rest were conducted by J. Green, at 4 p.m, again at 6 p.m, before evening service, and at 8 p.m after service. On Tuesday, December 29th, another 720 was rung, conducted by Dr. Seccombe, being the twelfth during the Christmas season. The ringers taking part in these performances were T. Mallett, F. Easton, R. Howling, R. Howling, jun., G. Barrett, J. Herring, J. Green, and Dr. Seccombe.

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 RECENT PEAL AT ECCLES.

SIR,—I did not think, at the time I wrote my reply to "F. P's." letter on the above, that any more would have been said about the subject. It seems, however, that I was mistaken, as evidenced by the letters of the person who has written under the nom de plume of "J. S." What the object of those letters has been I am at a loss to understand, as one portion of his first letter did nothing more than criticise my explanation, and another portion made it appear as though he knew more about the so-called peal than I or anyone else did. "J. S's." second letter was, to my thinking, one of sheer sarcasm. With regard to the mystery how I could tell how many changes were rung, I think "J. S" ought to find that out himself, if he knows anything about conducting. Perhaps "J. S." counts every change that is rung. If he does, I pity his brains at the end of a 5000. With respect to the number of changes per minute, personally I always take the average of number of changes per minute, personally I always take the average of the touch or peal that I ring in, and not odd changss here and there, as "J. S." evidently does. In "J. S's" last letter, he states that he "does not know Mr. Wreaks, but should take it," etc. I conclude from that remark that "J. S." is neither a ringer nor knows anything about ringing, as I think that I am personally known to every ringer within about ten miles radius of Manchester. Eccles is only four miles out of the city. If "J. S." does not know where to find me, he had better come to the Manchester Cathedral on any Sunday, at 10 a.m., 3.0, and 6.30 p.m. I think, sir, it is a great pity that anyone writing annowmous letters to your valuable paper, on such matters as writing anonymous letters to your valuable paper, on such matters as the above, have neither the uprightness nor manliness to publish their names to their letters. I would suggest, Mr. Editor, that you refuse to insert such letters unless they do publish their names, as, personally, I think we have had enough of these anonymous letters. A notice to this effect would, I am sure, prove (in more ways than one) very beneficial to the Exercise at large.

A. Ed. Wreaks. beneficial to the Exercise at large.

11, Dover Street, Higher Crumpsall, Manchester.

THE COMPLAINT FROM SUSSEX.

SIR,-Notwithstanding the statement of Mr. Attree, Hon. Sec. of the Sussex County Association, that he declines to occupy any more space in "The Bell News" upon matters of purely local interest, with your kind permission I will answer his letter in your paper, as I consider it the proper channel for the complaint to be met, and in fact the only one by which members of the Association, as a whole, can become cognisant of the dissatisfaction felt. Mr. Attree says that without any inquiry, I complain the business of the Association is done in a narrow and selfish way. This I deny, and by his own letter I will convict him. When he wrote that letter he must have lost sight of, for the time, the fact, that he was the Hon. Sec. of the Sussex of, for the time, the fact, that he was the Hon. Sec. of the Sussex County Association, or why does he allude to the opening of the Buxted peal in the way he does? He states that he had an invitation from the Rector to himself, as Hon. Secretary to a parish church society; then I wish to know what right had Mr. Attree to publish the peal in "The Bell News;" as an Association peal, and have a tablet erected in Buxted church to the same effect. In reference to Ringmer, Mr. Attree admits the invitation was received by him as Hon. Sec. to the Association, but he says the band must be made up from Brighton ringers. If Mr. Attree had explained to the Rev. Mr. Fisher the constitution of the Association, I do not imagine he would have sent such an invidious invitation. I would suggest that the opening of the new bells at Coninvitation. I would suggest that the opening of the new bells at Consett, Durham, is the proper manner Association business should be carried out, and I refer Mr. Attree to the notice which appeared in "THE BELL News" of November 28th, 1885. JOHN ROLLISON.

THE FAILURE TO ESTABLISH THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, ETC.

SIR,—When, under the nom de plume of "Nil Desperandum," I brought forth a declaration of the decision of the Reading Conference Committee, I had but a slight hope that the question would so soon be revived. When I read the conditions of the recent experiment, I at once came to the conclusion that the result would prove a failure; consequently, what little hope I previously had, vanished. In making these remarks it is not my intention or desire to cast the slightest blame upon any of the gentlemen whose names were appended to the notice. Their knowledge must necessarily be far superior to my own, and undoubtedly, after a full and careful consideration, they adopted what was considered a fair and sufficient test.

Now, sir, while supporting the gist of your editorial comment upon the failure, I submit that there is but one practical way of bringing the question to a successful issue, and as yet it has not been thoroughly tested. As a body, ringers are like other human beings. There is no

kind of recreation indoors or out that individuals will interest themselves in—beyond a very small minority—unless there is an opportunity of their displaying their powers at their particular hobby, or witnessing some unique performances. So with ringers. In ninety-nine cases out of a hundred, men who have made their mark in the ringing world, look upon their performances as beyond the powers of any ordi-nary mortal, and before you can induce them to interest themselves in the art, you must bait them and show them that they will have the chance of a pull with their selected pets in some well-known locality, otherwise they will not move, What, I ask, brought the main body of the Reading Conference together? Did not St. Lawrence's magnifithe Reading Conference together? Did not St. Lawrence's magnificent ring, and the idea, to use a common phrase without offence, that there would be some "big guns" about, have something to do with it? If, at the close of the Conference, some one had adopted the old maxim of "striking while the iron was hot," and moved a resolution pledging those present to form a National Association, was there half a dozen out of the 200 present that would have declined to enrol themselves? Or, if as I maintain it was distinctly understood would be the case, there had been a meeting called during the following year to sift the scheme and form the Association, what would have been the result?

In bidding the question adieu, I would wish to express my thanks

to those who recently moved in the matter. If ever the question should again come to life, in my humble opinion it will be useless to invite ringers, in the midst of an excited election throughout the country, to send in their names within fourteen days. The only way to make a National Association become a reality, is a thoroughly well-announced meeting, such to take place in a popular (not in the metropolis) ringing locality.

Before concluding, sir, I should like to refer to the sad event which

befell the Exercise at the close of the year 1885. Many others, no doubt like myself, as the old year was rung out, could not help think-

ing of one who was recently
"Borne to that home from which no traveller returns. Hundreds in the country are indebted to the late lamented President of the Yorkshire Association for the foundation of their ringing knowledge. It even might not be a great difficulty to find those who have actually taken up the practice of the art through the inexhaustibleness of his able pen. At the Reading Conference the very mention of the name of Jasper Snowdon brought forth rounds of hearty genuine applause. Like others, I had not had the pleasure of grasping his hand, yet I had the ehonour of regarding him as a friend, not only through business transactions but also through advice always willingly and promptly given. As yet we have but one scheme advocated to perpetuate the memory of the greatest friend young ringers ever had. Are we not, I ask, to have a National Memorial of one so devoted to the science? Such a life a national memorial or one so devoted to the science? Such a life should not pass from our memory; it is worthy of the brightest record. Here is an instance of the need of some organisation. If we had such, immediate steps might be taken. Delay is dangerous. The longer the delay the more will the noble example pass from our memory, and whatever is done will only be taken up in a half-hearted manner. Who will move?

Romford.

COMPOSITION.

Sir,—Seeing a peal of Plain Bob Triples in last week's issue, by H. Johnson, and the same peal in Snowdon's Rope-Sight, page 91, by H. Hubbard, I should like to know which is the original composer.

[Several other applications of the same kind have been made respecting this peal.]

THE PAYMENT OF RINGERS.

SIR,-Your leading article in "THE BELL NEWS" of the 2nd instant, deals with the difficulty which comes up in some shape whenever a band of ringers is formed in a country village. Even if it were desirable it would seldom be possible to pay ringers in proportion to the work done by them. As you truly say, men are, and must be, ringers for the love of ringing, or they will not be good for much. But there is another side of the question. If men are expected to be in their places regularly to chime for Divine Service, it is only fair that they should be paid as well as the parson and clerk; and if the parishioners like to hear the old year rung out and the new year rung in, or to have a merry peal at Christmas and Harvest Thanksgiving, a suitable entertainment should be provided for the ringers, who will not grudge contributing their share to the festival when other people do as much in another way. The ringer who will not ring except for money can be spared; but when a working-man rings for other people's pleasure as well as his own, he is entitled to some material recognition of his services.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

THE NEXT DISTRICT MEETING will be held at Chichester on Saturday, January 22nd. Full particulars will be given in next week's GEO. F. ATTREE, Hon. Sec.

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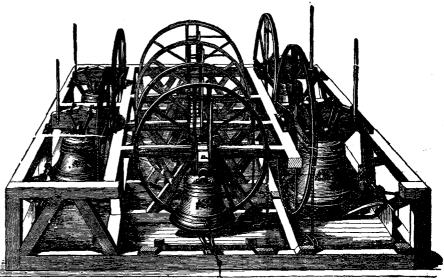
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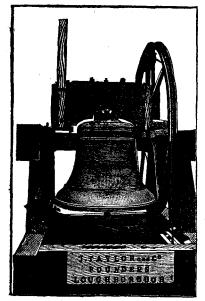
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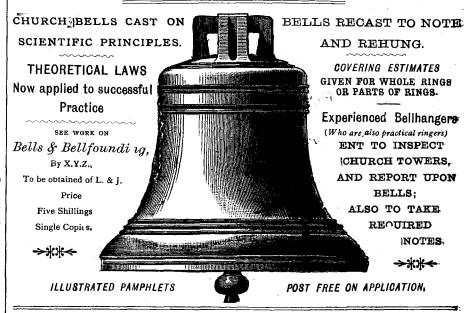
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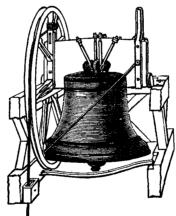
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The last chapter is devoted to a list of the names of Composers of the different peals, with various particulars, and in the cases of deceased Composers with the dates of death, age, etc.

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THE CROYDON SOCIETY.

THE CROYDON SOCIETY.

THE Annual Dinner of this Society was held at the "Crown" Hotel, on Tuesday evening, January 5th. The Vicar of Croydon, (Rev. J. M. Braithwaite), took the chair, and was supported by the Mayor, J. Cooper, Esq., F. T. Edridge, Esq., J. Thrift, Esq., J. Pelton, Esq., Dr. A. B. Carpenter, and over forty others. A liberal spread was provided, and after the cloth had been removed, the Chairman having proposed the usual loyal and patriotic toasts, Mr. Alderman Cooper proposed "The Clergy."

The Vicar in reply thended the company for the kind way in

The Vicar, in reply, thanked the company for the kind way in which they had received the toast concerning the clergy in general, and himself in particular. He gathered from the remarks made that he was regarded as rather a festive kind of individual, as Alderman Cooper spoke of him more in connection with dinners than anything He admitted he was always glad to meet his friend the Mayor, and he was glad to meet his friends the bellringers, and such gatherings cheered and helped them, but he claimed for the clergy in general that they did not forget their higher duties also. From the honourable position he held, he had very great responsibilities. It was his endeavour to see that in every department of the parish church there existed harmony, diligence and zeal. Amongst their church workers they had their little band of bellringers, and he was bound to say he felt as much interest in the belfry as he did in any other portion of his church, and as much interest in the bellringers as he did in any other band of their church workers. In former days the belfry was, as a rule, rather left out of mind, and the interests of the bellringers allowed to shift for themselves. This was one of these respects in which the church had been reforming, as it had been in very many other ways during the last fifty years; there had been, he was glad to say, not only great reform in the manner of bellringing, but also a general improvement in the management and tone of belfries and of those who frequented them; greater friendliness, harmony, reverence of demeanour, and greater earnestness and diligence amongst their ringers. He had been induced to make these few remarks because it led him to another duty he had to perform, and that was to propose the toast of the evening, and that was "The Ancient Society of Croydon Church Bellringers." The Society had had its days of difficulties; for one period they were altogether deprived of the opportunity of exercising their science; when their noble old church was gutted by fire, the ringers were for a long time without bells at all. Still, the Society had gone on, and he thought certainly during the last few years it had developed. Some of them might perhaps have a great deal to say upon the way in which the bells were swung. They would not say much about that at the present time; it might upset their digestion—especially those who had anything to do with the tenor, would probably experience a very unfavourable feeling. They had spent no less than £130 during the year in the endeavour to get the bells perfectly hung, but they were not yet quite right, and if they were not successful in their attempt they would have to see if they could not get the entire framework re-arranged some day. He would refer to the very gratifying enthusiasm shown by Dr. A. B. Carpenter, their Hon. Treasurer, with whose name he had hoped to couple the toast, but who had been forced to leave them, and he would therefore give them the toast of "The Ancient Society of Croydon Bellringers," coupled with the name of Mr. Blogg, their Hon. Sec.

Mr. Blogg said it gave him very great pleasure indeed, to see so many gentlemen present at that gathering. There was a very considerable amount of enthusiasm amongst the members of their Society, both old and young. Their friend Dr. Carpenter was a specially He was glad to say the attendance at their practices had improved, in fact it had been remarkably good, and he had a very small number of fines to record against members. As they were aware they had had difficulties to contend with, as the bells did not The Beddington ringers had paid them several visits, hang rightly. with their assistance they had been enabled to get through some very long touches, which they could not have done without their assistance. The progress of their society had been slow, it was true, but it certainly had been sure. He thanked them all for the assistance they had given him, and hoped they would always be ready to render

that assistance.

Mr. Ash proposed "The Health of the Surrey Association of

Change-ringers."

Mr. Trappitt responded, remarking that ringing kept young men out of occupation of a perhaps far less innocent kind, inasmuch as a young man who desired to be a change-ringer must not only only spend time in the belfry, but must also pass many hours at home. During the past year the Association had rung thirteen peals, in nine of which their Hon. Sec. took part.

Mr. Bennett also responded.

Harmony was sustained during the evening by Messrs. Oclee, Johnston, Trappitt, and others, Mr. Thomson kindly acting as accompanist, and the party broke up at midnight.

[We regret we were unable to accept the courteous invitation of the Honorary Secretary to be present on the above occasion.—Ep.]

THE BRIGHTON SOCIETY.

On Tuesday evening, January 5th, the annual dinner of the Brighton St. Nicholas Society, took place at the "Morning Star,' Church Street, Brighton, and was largely attended. The company sat down at half-past six to a substantial repast. Amongst those present were—the Rev. E. Riley (in the chair), Mr. W. Robinson (vice-chairman), Mr. H. Boniface (secretary), Mr. G. F. Attree (hon. secretary of the Sussex County Association), Mr. Lynn (churchwarden). At the conclusion of the dinner, the secretary read letters of apology from the Vicar of St. Nicholas (the Rev. J. J. Hannah), the senior churchwarden (Mr. Smithers), and said he knew the Vicar greatly regretted his inability to attend. After the usual toasts,

Mr. H. Boniface said it gave him great pleasure to propose "The Sussex County Association of Change-Ringers," for it was first spoken of in the room in which they were assembled at one of their annual meetings. They saw that other counties had their Associations, and did not see why Sussex should not have their Association as well. The matter was taken up warmly, and they thought that, at any rate, they might join the three Brighton societies and extend operations as things went on. They did not proceed very fast at first, but Mr. Attree ultimately said if they would leave the matter in his hands, he would form an association as best he could. Well, they left the matter in his hands, and he went to work with a will. The result of his labours was that an association was formed, of which all ringers in the county of Sussex had great reason to be proud. They had the Bishop as President, and the clergy and landed gentlemen had taken it up, and they now had a very good association indeed. A leader in "The Bell News" recently stated that the Sussex County Association, though the youngest, ranked as the fourth in the Kingdom in strength, and he (the speaker), knew this was greatly due to Mr. Attree.

Mr. G. F. Attree, in replying, remarked that during the past

twelve months] the science of campanology had progressed more in Sussex than it had from 1800 to the formation of the Association. He believed they were the third largest association now, and they could not get much higher. When they considered that some of the associations above them had been in existence for ten or twelve years, it might be thought ambitious when they expressed a hope to rise still further, but if the present unanimity continued and all members supported them as well as they had done in the past, he saw no reason why they should not be the largest association in the kingdom in the course of twelve months. They had plenty of scope in Sussex, for course of twelve months. They had plenty of scope in Sussex, for there were 100 peals of bells, and there was no reason why three-fourths of these should not be used in a proper way, and change-ringing exercised upon them. They could not expect change-ringing to proceed upon all at once, but they now had instructors teaching where change-ringing had not been heard for half-a-century, and with profitable results. In conclusion, he said he was alled to tall them that the profitable results. In conclusion, he said he was glad to tell them that at the end of the first year there was a balance in hand of nearly £50. Many associations failed in consequence of want of funds, and he therefore felt that they were in a good position. The expenses during the past year had been great, but a considerable sum of money had been spent upon printing, which was purely in connection with the formation of the society. Some might think the amount excessive, but he knew that without the expenditure they would not have succeeded as they had.

At this point, Mr. E. TEBBS, who should have taken the chair entered the room, and he was immediately called upon to propose "The Brighton Society of Change-Ringers," which he did in the most appropriate terms, coupled with the names of Mr. H. Boniface and Mr. Searle. Mr. H. Boniface first replied, and read records of different peals rung. He acknowledged with thanks the kindness which the Vicar extended to the society.

Mr. Searle, captain of the society, also spoke, and said he hoped to bring the society to a considerably higher state of proficiency. Amongst the remaining toasts were "Kindred Societies," "Visitors and the Press," the "Chairman and Vice-Chairman," and the "Host and Hostess." The proceedings throughout were of the most enjoyable character.

ANNIVERSARY OF ST. MARY'S BELLS, DISS, NORFOLK.

The 53rd anniversary of the above bells was held as usual, on Wednesday, January 6th, when ringers from Eye, Oakley, Horne, Wingfield, &c., put in an appearance, and were soon busy at work pulling the ropes. At half-past two o'clock the company sat down to an excellent dinner, provided by Host Reeve, of the "Dolphin" Inn, The Rev. A. A. Wilkinson, the esteemed Curate of Diss, in the chair. Dinner over, the "Health of Her Majesty the Queen" was proposed by the Chairman, and duly honoured. Mr. G. Day, of Eye, then moved a hearty vote of thanks to the rev. Chairman for coming amongst them that day, and also for the interest he took in the bells and ringers. During the day touches of Oxford Treble Bob, Grandsire, and Bob Major were rung in good style, and several courses on the handbells, interspersed with songs, concluded a most enjoyable day.

ST. JOHN'S, BRADFORD.

On Monday evening last, the company in connection with this church had their first tea together, at the East Parade Dining Rooms. After partaking of a very substantial meat tea, the Rev. A. J. G. Nash, M.A., Vicar of St. John's, presided, who was supported by the Rev. Wm. Leighton (Curate), Mr. Bell (late Churchwarden), Mr. Loft (Sidesman), and Mr. Robert Tuke. The Rev. Chairman read letters of apology from Mr. Wall and Mr. Fletcher (Churchwardens)—the former through indisposition, and the latter through Town Council -Mr. J. R. Cordingley (the donor of the bells), and Mr. Ib betson (who had a previous engagement). He then gave an address of a most interesting character, expressing the pleasure he felt at being present at the gathering. He related some of his experiences in Russia and other places on the continent, particularly with reference to bells and bell-ringing. In our own country, he said, the bells were the outward voice of the church, proclaiming in jubilant tones the seasons of joy and gladness, and in times of sadness and bereavement speaking out in their muffled notes of the sorrow which had befallen the He heartily wished the ringers success in their work, and assured them of the sympathy and willing help, which would always be accorded to them by himself and the churchwardens.

The Rev. Mr. Leighton congratulated the Company on the pro-

gress they had made during the short time they had been formed, and expressed the great pleasure he felt in the fact that all the ringers

were members of his Sunday Bible Class.

Mr. Bell and Mr. Loft spoke of the pleasure they felt at being able to be present, and gave words of sound advice and encouragement to the young Company.

Mr. Pellett (steeple keeper), in a brief speech, replied on behalf of the Company, and proposed the "Health of the respected Vicar," which was drunk heartily.

The Chairman, in responding, referred to past experiences of St. John's with regard to ringing, and expressed his satisfaction at the present state of affairs. He was sure that their tutor, Mr. Copley, would spare no pains in teaching them the art, and enable them to ring the bells with credit to themselves and satisfaction to the parishioners; and concluded by proposing his health.

Mr. Copley, in thanking the Vicar for his very kind remarks, gave

some reminiscences of his experienc as a ringer, contrasting the position of ringers of the present day with that of fifteen years ago, when

he first became a ringer.

During the evening selections were rung on the handbells, and songs and recitations given; a very enjoyable evening being spent by all.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

REPORT FOR THE FORTNIGHT ENDING JANUARY 12TH:—On Friday, January 1st, at Steyning, by the Steyning branch, a 720 of Oxford Single Bob Minor. F. Morris, 1; G. Smart, 2; E. Brackley, 3; T. Searle, 4; G. Gatland, 5; C. Tyler (conductor), 6. And a 720 of Plain Bob Minor, by the same band, and conductor G. Gatland. On Saturday, January 9th, at Billingshurst, by the Billingshurst branch, a 720 of Canterbury Pleasure. P. Wood, 1; W. Chantler, 2; G. Matthews, 3; W. Chantler, jun., 4; J. Voice, 5; T. Chantler (conductor), 6. And by the same band, a 720 of Oxford Single Bob Minor, conducted by T. Chantler. On Sunday, January 10th, by the same band, for Divine Service in the morning, a 720 of Oxford Single Bob Minor, conducted by T. Chantler. And for Divine Service in the afternoon, a 720 of Warnham Court Bob Minor, also conducted by T. Chantler. On Monday, January 11th, at St. Peter's, Brighton, by the Brighton branch, 120 of Stedman Doubles. H. Weston, 1; G. F. Attree, 2; C. Tyler, 3; J. Jay, 4; J. Searle, 5; A. Piper, 6. by the Brighton branch, 120 of Stedman Doubles. H. Weston, 1; G. F. Attree, 2; C. Tyler, 3; J. Jay, 4; J. Searle, 5; A. Piper, 6. On Tuesday, January 12th, at St. Nicholas', Brighton, a 504 of Grandsire Triples. Jesse Neves (first 504), 1; J. Searle, 2; G. King, 3; H. Boniface, 4; C. Tyler, 5; G. F. Attree (conductor), 6; H. Weston, 7; James Neves, 8. And 120 of Stedman Doubles, with three covers. J. Searle, 1; G. King, 2; C. Tyler, 3; H. Weston, 4; G. F. Attree, 5; A. Piper, 6; W. Palmer, 7; H. Boniface, 8.

GEO. F. ATTREE, Hon. Sec.

NEW YEAR'S EVE AT ST. ANDREW'S, BATH.—The members of St. Andrew's and Christ Church Company of Ringers met in St. Andrew's tower to ring out the old and ring in the new year. During a short interval previous to commencing ringing the Rev. S. Boyd read Tennyson's "Ring out wild bells," and between each verse the members rang a round upon the hand bells, finishing the last verse with a few changes, after which the Rev. S. Churchill gave an appropriate address to the ringers, pointing out the various lessons and duties to be learned from the bells, and after a short prayer and Benediction, a muffled peal was rung. At 11.15 a special service was held in the church, the hour of 12 being rung on the tenor bell. A hymn was sung and the new year rang in with a merry peal.

BALCOMBE, SUSSEX.

BALCOMBE, SUSSEX.

The following is the ringing done here during the month of December. On Thursday, December 12th, 360 of Plain Bob. A. Stoner, 1; R. Bourn, 2; J. Cheeseman, 3; *J. Kenward, 4; H. Meads, 5; E. Streeter (conductor), 6. And 720 in the same method. A. Stoner, 1; R. Bourn, 2; H. Meads, 3; J. Gasson, 4; J. Cheeseman, 5; E. Streeter (conductor), 6. On Thursday, January 17th, a 720 of Plain Bob. A. Stoner, 1; R. Bourn, 2; H. Meads, 3; J. Cheeseman, 4; J. Gasson, 5; E. Streeter (conductor), 6. And 360 of Oxford Bob. A. Stoner, 1; J. Cheeseman, 2; J. Gasson, 3; R. Bourn, 4; E. Streeter, 5; H. Meads (conductor), 6. On Boxing-Day, a 720 of Plain Bob. H. Meads, 1; R. Bourn, 2; J. Cheeseman, 3; J. Gasson, 4; G. Illman, 5; E. Streeter (conductor), 6. And a 720 of Oxford Bob. A. Stoner, 1; J. Gasson, 2; F. Streeter, 3; J. Cheeseman, 4; G. Illman, 5; H. Meads (conductor), 6. And a 720 of Plain Bob. J. Kenward, 1; E. Streeter, 2; F. Streeter, 3; H. Meads, 4; T. Leney (first attempt), 5; J. Gasson (conductor), 6. And 720 of Oxford Bob. R. Bourn, 1; H. Meads, 2; E. Streeter, 3; F. Streeter, 4; T. Leney, 5; J. Gasson (conductor), 6. And a 720 of College Single. A. Stoner, 1; F. Streeter, 2; J. Gasson, 3; H. Meads, 4; G. Illman, 5; E. Streeter (conductor), 6. And a 720 of College Single. A. Stoner, 1; F. Streeter, 2; J. Gasson, 3; H. Meads, 4; G. Illman, 5; E. Streeter (conductor), 6. And a 720 of Oxford Bob. Wm. Meads, 1; B. Paine, 2; J. Cheeseman, 3; E. Streeter, 4; H. Meads, 5; F. Rice (conductor), 6. On Sunday, December 27th, for Divine Service in the evening, a 720 of Plain Bob. A. Stoner, 1; R. Bourn, 2; J. Cheeseman, 3; H. Meads, 4; E. Streeter, 5; J. Gasson (conductor), 5. W. Meads hails from Cuckfield; T. Leney from Hurst Green; Rice, Illman, and the Brothers Streeter from Worth. * First attempt in the method. in the method.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—ROTHWELL BRANCH.

THE following is the ringing done by this branch at Holy Trinity church during the month of December: December 5th, 240 of City Delight, 240 of College Pleasure, 360 of New London Pleasure, 360 of Arnold's Victory, 360 of London Scholars' Pleasure; December 13th, 720 of College Pleasure, 360 of Arnold's Victory, 360 of City Delight; December 20th, 720 of London Scholars' Pleasure, 210 of Duke of York, 240 of Violet, 360 of City Delight, 360 of College Pleasure; December 22nd, 720 of Arnold's Victory, 720 of London Scholars' Pleasure; December 25th, 720 of College Pleasure, 360 of Violet, 360 of London Scholars' Pleasure, 360 of Violet, 3 of London Scholars' Pleasure, 360 of New London Pleasure; December 27th, 384 of Oxford Treble Bob, 96 of New London Pleasure, 360 of London Scholars' Pleasure, 360 of City Delight. The old year was rung out and the new one rung in with a 720 of College Pleasure and a 720 of Arnold's Victory. The following are the ringers: J. Verity, J. C. Abbishaw, A. Chapman, Wm. Abbishaw, S. Stacey, J. Chapman, J. M. Chadwick.

SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.

THE Winter Quarterly Meeting of this Society was held on Saturday, January 9th, at Perry Barr, the following bands being represented: Darlaston, Lichfield Cathedral, Lichfield St. Mary, Perry Barr, Sedgley, Tamworth, Tettenhall, West Bromwich (All Saints), West Bromwich (Christ Church). A short service was held in the church at 3 p.m., after which the afternoon was spent in ringing. Tea was 3 p.m., after which the afternoon was spent in ringing. Iea was served in the Coffee House at 6 p.m., after which some returned to the tower and some remained for handbell ringing. In addressing the members after tea, the Vicar, the Rev. J. R. Keble, spoke of the great loss which the Society had lately sustained by the death of its Treasurer, the Rev. J. J. Serjeantson, Rector of St. Michael's, Lichfield, and the following resolution was unanimously passed at the Committee Meeting: "That the members of this Society desire to record their deep regret at the loss which the Society has sustained by the death of its late respected and esteemed Treasurer the Rev. I. by the death of its late respected and esteemed Treasurer, the Rev. J. J. Serjeantson, and to express their sincere sympathy with his widow and family in their bereavement."

Mr. Serjeantson was one of the original members of the Society, and from the first acted as Hon. Treasurer, and took a great interest in all its work and progress. Tamworth, on May 1st. It is proposed to hold the next meeting at

WORTH, SUSSEX.

During the past year, 1885, the Worth Society has rung eighty-nine 720s of Minor, in the five following methods: twenty-seven of Plain Bob, twenty-five of Oxford Single Bob, seventeen of Warnham Court Bob, twelve of College Single, and eight of Canterbury Pleasure. This Society, which now consists of only eight in number, wish to return their most sincere thanks (through the medium of this paper), to their worthy rector, the Rev. G. W. Banks, who is at all times ready to grant them permission to ring.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Wednesday, December 30th, 1885, being the wedding day of Mr. W. A. Ward, of Ufford, Suffolk, member of the above Association and the Ancient Society of College Youths, and also the worthy conductor of the local company, the rest of the members, including G. Burch, A. S. Barrell, W. P. Garrett, with G. Bailey, E. R. Todd, and E. Sherwood, attempted a seven-method peal, but after ringing three 720's of the following, it unfortunately came to grief: 720 Yorkshire Court Bob, Oxford Bob, and College Single Bob But they met on the following Saturday and succeeded in ringing the peal, an account of which appeared in last week's issue. Ringing was continued throughout the day, after which the ringers were entertained at the schoolroom, and spent a most enjoyable evening. Several touches were rung on the handbells, including a course of Bob Major, Bob Royal, Grandsire Caters, and a course of Grandsire Cinques, G. Burch, 1-2; A. E. Acfield, 3-4; A. S. Barrell, 5-6; E. Sherwood, 7-8; W. P. Garrett, 9-10; A. Ward, 11-12. On Wednesday, December 30th, 1885, being the wedding day of Mr.

BISHOPS WALTHAM, HANTS, 1885-6.

Stedman and Grandsire Doubles have been the order of the day and night at the above town this Christmas and New Year. On Christmas morning, at 6.0 and 10.30, good striking was prevalent, and on New Year's Eve this branch of the Winchester Diocesan Guild rang a half-muffled peal, and welcomed the new year afterwards with "firing" and two well-struck Grandsires, the bells being taken in the various peals by E. N. Garnett, sen., 1; E. N. Garnett, jun. (conductor), 2; M. C. Brock, 3 (and tenor in another peal); T. Shorney, 2; — Shorney, 4; W. Cook, — Hale, W. Savage, treble, &c., and — Whiteman, tenor, &c. The ringers partook of the usual one o'clock breakfast in the Rectory kitchen, where cake and coffee were discussed, as well as tobacco, and future handbell quartet fixtures for the current year. Mr. Chapman and G. Reeves, jun., from Upham (5-bell ringer), were the guests.

SUBSCRIPTION LIST FOR THE JOHNSON TESTIMONIAL.

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As the Committee have been requested to allow this Fund to remain open for a short time, they here beg to inform their friends and brother ringers that they have decided to do so, but that the List must be Closed on Saturday, the 30th inst. A. Thomas, Hon. Secretary, 83, Wheeley's Road, Edgbaston, Birmingham; or Mr. S. Reeves, Hon. Treasurer, 10, Bull Street, West Bromwich.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

The February Meeting of the Yorkshire Association will be held at Rotherham, on Saturday 6th. The Rotherham branch will provide tea for all members who signify their intention of being present at the meeting, to Mr. John Hale, "Three Cranes" Inn, High Street, Rotherham, not later than February 1st. W. WHITAKER, Hon. Sec.

HENLOW, BEDFORDSHIRE.—A rather curious incident happened in Henlow, Bedfordshire.—A rather curious incident happened in the parish church on Christmas Day. The parishioners were assembled in the church for afternoon service, and the Vicar was about halfway through the prayers, when suddenly, much to the astonishment of everybody, one of the large bells in the tower began to ring out quite cheerily. Of course everyone was immediately on the alert, wondering what had happened. The Vicar quietly went on with the service, and one of the ringers went up into the tower to see what was the matter, thinking perhaps that one of his company had fallen asleep, and being left behind, and suddenly awaking, had thought it his duty to ring the bell. But when he come up he found nobody there; the bell being left behind, and suddenly awaking, had thought it his duty to ring the bell. But when he come up he found nobody there; the bell was steadily pealing away, and no human hand was near it. If bells could think and reason, perhaps it might have thought it was doing its duty and helping to keep the Christmas festival. The Vicar, at the close of his sermon, told the people there was no one found in the belfry, and that the bell was ringing of itself. The fact was the bell had been left raised, the stay which supported it had given way, and the bell thus liberated had rung out of its own accord.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

A Quarterly Meeting of the Association will be held at Heywood, on Saturday, January 30th, 1886. The bells of St. Luke's church (eight), will be at the disposal of the members from 2.30 p.m. The business meeting will take place in the School-room connected with the church, meeting will take place in the School-room connected with the charter, under the presidency of the Rector, at 6 p.m. Friends of members will be welcome. Tea can be obtained at a reasonable rate at the Heywood Coffee Tavern.

A. E. HOLME, Hon. Secs. J. Redford,

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

THE NEXT DISTRICT MEETING will be held at Chichester, on Saturday, January 23rd. The Campanile will be open for ringing at eleven o'clock; luncheon at two; meeting at three; service in the Cathedral at four. G. F. ATTREE, Hon. Sec.

THE WEST MIDDLESEX ASSOCIATION. MEETINGS ARRANGED.

	Act			ISLEWORTH.				
Thursday	, Jan.	21,	7.45 p.m.	Saturday,	Jan.	23,	7.15 p.m.	
,,	Feb.	4,	,,	11	Feb.	13,	,,	
,,	- ¿''	18,	,,	11		20,	"	
,,	Mar.	4,	,,	11	Mar.	6,	,,	
**	Apl.	29,	**	,,	, ,,	20,	"	
11	May	6,	,,	11	Apl.	3,	**	
11	- "	20,	,,	11	- 21	17,	**	
,,	June	3,	11	,,	May	Ι,	**	
**	13	17,	11	**	"	15,	**	
,,	17	24,	,,	1,	_ ''	29,	,,	
				1)	June		,,	
				11	,,	26,	11	

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

Brandeston (Suffolk).—On Sunday, January 3rd, six members of the above Association rang a 720 each of Cambridge Surprise and Woodbine Treble Bob, and 240 of Morning Exercise. S. Meadows, 1; H. Baldry, 2; H. Bedingfield, 3; A. S. Wightman, 5; D. G. Wightman, 5; S. Wightman, sen., 6. And a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob. A. S. Wightman, 1; *George Wightman, 2; Will. Walpole, 3; D. G. Wightman, 4; H. Bedingfield, 5; S. Wightman, sen., 6. *First 720 in the method. During the past year this branch has rang ninety-one complete 720s in eleven different methods, as follows: thirty-five of Oxford Treble Bob, seven of Kent Treble Bob, five of Cambridge Surprise, four of Morning Exercise, three of New London Pleasure, one of Woodbine Treble Bob, twenty-three of Plain Bob, five of Oxford Single Bob, four of College Single, three of Double Court, and one of Court Single.

In Memoriam.

JAMES JORDAN SERJEANTSON, M.A.

WE regret to record the death of the Rev. James Jordan Serjeantson, M.A., rector of St. Michael's, Lichfield, who died on January 1st, 1886, in his 50th year. Mr. Serjeantson matriculated at Trinity College, Cambridge. He was ordained deacon in 1859 and priest in 1860, and was one of the curates of Stoke-upon-Trent from 1859 to 1868, when he was preferred to the living of St. Michael's, Lichfield, where he laboured until his death. During the eighteen years he was rector, he effected many improvements both in the church and churchyard. By his untimely decease, the Association for the Archenthusiastic supporter. The rev. gentleman was a good ringer, and enthusiastic supporter. The rev. gentleman was a good ringer, and deaconry of Stafford, has lost their Treasurer as well as a most was the first to introduce scientific change-ringing into Lichfield, for before he took the subject in hand, very little of anything at all was known about method ringing in Lichfield. He set a good example by perfecting himself in five or six methods, and these too none of the easiest, as they included Stedman, Oxford and Kent Treble Bob, and College Exercise. He also took considerable interest in mechanics and other subjects, and was well versed in astronomy. Mr. Serieantand other subjects, and was well versed in astronomy. Mr. Serjeantand other subjects, and was well versed in astronomy. Mr. Serjeantson was a very able and earnest pastor, and the regret for his decease is both sincere and widespread. He delivered an address to the members of the Stoke Archidiaconal Association, at their second annual meeting, which was printed and published by request, under the title of "Belfry Parables." The bells of the various churches in the city have since his death been rung muffled, as a mark of the respect in which he was held; and on the Tuesday evening after the interment were rung half-muffled.

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

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

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

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.

B. T. C.-Where was the date touch rung?

The Bell Hews & Ringers' Record.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 16, 1886.

The movement which had for its object the presentation of a testimonial to one of the most prominent members of the Exercise the present century has produced, has, apparently, not met with that amount of encouragement and support which the Testimonial Committee may reasonably have expected. The first intimation of the propriety of showing in some manner the estimation in which the abilities of Mr. Henry Johnson was held by the Exercise, was made in a short article in this journal, which led to the idea being adopted by his local ringing brethren and townsmen, but we must confess to feeling some disappointment at the result of their appeal. Of course it would be quite improper for us to express an opinion how far a movement of this description should be supported, because those who are concerned are the best judges as to what extent they should assist or how far refrain from taking part in honoring worth among their fellows. Cynically-disposed people are to be found who carp and sneer at these things, but their jaundiced satire will never hinder such courtesies taking place. Surely when successful competitors in pursuits that are not to be named with ringing can receive the substantial gratifications of their colleagues, a similar recognition of the work of a life greatly spent in the elucidation of our science should not be considered by any means a novelty.

The announcement made in another column by the secretary to the Johnson Testimonial Fund has led us to call the attention of our readers to the question. It is well known that Mr. Johnson would refuse to accept any testimonial which took a pecuniary shape, so that it has been held that the most consistent mode of honoring the veteran is by means of a portrait, and we may be allowed to say that this manner of perpetuating his name and works is in full accord with our own ideas and has been so from the commencement.

our next issue. The compositions that have lately been sent for insertion will appear as soon as possible. We can only insert them when we have room for an entire page. To select one here and there would appear invidious, and by so doing we should provoke the wrath of many of our readers. We have again to complain that letters are continually being sent to our publisher. Our friends will see their reports much earlier if they send direct to our office. All correspondence should be written on one side of paper only. If these simple regulations are not attended to, then we must not be held to blame for any miscarriage.

PORTRAITS OF THE LATE MR. SNOWDON.

We are desired to state that a good number of these portraits are now ready, and may be had from Mr. R. Tuke, Manningham, Bradford; or Mr. W. Whitaker, Hilary Street, Leeds.

The Metropolis.

BETHNAL GREEN.—THE ST. JAMES'S SOCIETY, LONDON. On Saturday, January 9, 1886, in Two Hours and Fifty-eight Minutes, AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MATTHEW,

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

			011		101101 14 CW	٠.	
M. A. Wood		• •		reble.	J. Barry A. Hayward		 5.
I. G. SHADE				2.	A. HAYWARD		 · · 6.
J. Gовветт				3.	W. H. Doran	٠.	 7.
R. French	• •	• •	• •	4.	W. H. Doran J. H. Monday		 Tenor.
		Co	ndu	sted by	R. French.		

The Provinces.

DUFFIELD, DERBYSHIRE. THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

(DUFFIELD BRANCH).

Wedding Peal.

On Thursday, January 7, 1886, in Three Hours, AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES; IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 17 cwt.

George Dawson	7	reble.	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 H. Dains, and Conducted by A. PERCIVAL HEYWOOD, Esq.

This peal has this 6th the extent and nine course-ends home, and was rung on the occasion of the marriage of H. G. Heathfield, Esq., with Miss H. Carr.

BIRMINGHAM.

THE HOLT SOCIETY, ASTON-JUXTA-BIRMINGHAM. Handbell Ringing.

On Friday, January 8, 1886, in Two Hours and Fifty-three Minutes, AT THE HOUSE OF MR JOHN CARTER, BRACEBRIDGE STREET.

ON HANDBELLS, RETAINED IN HAND, A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS, 5021 CHANGES; Tenor 14 size, in Eb.

GEORGE W. TOWNSEND* 1-2. | †BERNARD WITCHELL .. 5-6.

JOHN CARTER 3-4. | *JAMES PLANT 7-8,

*MARTIN MURPHY 9-10. JOHN CARTER ..

Composed and Conducted by JOHN CARTER.

A number of touches, correspondence, and other matter, is through want of space unavoidably left over til,

LEATHERHEAD, SURREY.

THE WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Friday, January 8, 1886, in Four Hours and Four Minutes, AT THE CHURCH OF SS. MARY AND NICHOLAS,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS, 6048 CHANGES.

CEORGE SAYER*			2.	JOSEPH HEWETT WILLIAM MARKS		7.
HENRY WOOD"	• •	• •	3⋅	*Edward Hull	• •	8.
CHARLES WANT	• •	• •	4.	STEPHEN BROOKER	• •	9.
HENRY NEWNHAM	• •	••	5.	Joseph Lisney	• •	Tenor

Composed and Conducted by Stephen Brooker.

This peal comprises the 2nd, 3rd, 4th, 5th, and 6th each twelve courses behind the 9th consecutively. Mr. Sayer hails from Ashtead; the rest are members of the Leatherhead Society. *First peal of Caters.

MOORSIDE.

On Saturday, January 9, 1886, in Three Hours and One Minute, AT THE CHURCH OF ST. THOMAS,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES; Tenor 184 cwt.

A. Butterworth		Treble.	J. T. KERSHAW		5.
S. Stott	٠.	2.	Wm. Sutcliffe		· . 6.
J. Street	٠.	3.	T. BARRATT		7.
J. Street Wm. Mallodew		4.	L. Hampson	••,	Tenor
		-			

Composed by John Aspinwall, of Liverpool, and Conducted by SAMUEL STOTT.

Messrs Kershaw and Stott hail from Glodwick; the rest are of the local company.

TYLEHURST, BERKSHIRE.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD (READING BRANCH). On Monday, January 11, 1886, in Three Hours and Nine Minutes, AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL,

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

1100100	MIGINIE.	Tonor 19 ont. In 11.
MARTIN ROUTH, ESQ.	Treble.	HENRY EGBY 5.
GEORGE GIBBARD	2.	Rev. G. F. Coleridge 6.
WILLIAM I. WILLIAMS	3.	WILLIAM NEWELL 7.
Thomas Newman	4.	THOMAS HARVEY Tenor.

Conducted by Martin Routh, Esq.

This is the first peal on the bells, to which two trebles were added in 1885.

OXFORD.—THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Tuesday, January 12, 1886, in Three Hours and Twenty-one Minutes,

AT THE CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF CHRIST,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Thurstans' Compositio	N. Tenor 42 cwt. in C.
HERBERT. J. CASTLE Treble. FREDERICK A. CASTLE 2. SAMUEL HOUNSLOW 3.	WILLIAM FINCH 5.
Frederick A. Castle 2.	*Thomas Payne 6.
Samuel Hounslow 3.	James W. Washbrook 7.
Charles Hounslow 4.	JOHN BAKER Tenor.

Conducted by JAMES WILLIAM WASHBROOK. J. Baker hails from Kidlington.

ST. ALBANS, HERTS.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS AND THE HERTFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

Birthdan Peal.

On Tuesday, January 12, 1886, in Three Hours and Nine Minutes, AT THE CHURCH CATHEDRAL OF ST. ALBAN,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

THOMAS GRANT* GEORGE W. C. ARTHUR GODM. ARTHUR GODMAN, JUN.† 3. NEWMAN N. H. W. H. L. BUCKINGHAM 4. WALTER BATTI	N, SEN 6. LLS 7.	

Conducted by NEWMAN NORWOOD HILLS.

The above was rung to celebrate the birthday of the conductor, it being the first peal he has called. All the above are residents of St. Albans, and there is no record of a peal having been rung in the town by a local band since March 4th, 1810, a period of nearly 76 years. * First peal. † First peal with a bob bell.

Date Touches.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

DUFFIELD (Derbyshire).—On Sunday, January 3rd, for Divine Service in the evening, the following members of the Duffield Society rang a date touch of Bob Major, 1886 changes, in 1 hr. 7 mins G. Dawson, 1; S. Johnson, 2; J. Howe, 3; A. Robinson, 4; G. Hagley, 5; W. Hickling, 6; R. Johnson, 7; A. Percival Heywood (composer and conductor), 8. This touch has 6, 8 together throughout, and the 4th and 7th respectively ten and seven times in 7ths place. The number is got by the bells missing their dodge at the first lead end, the treble making seconds and going behind without leading thus the treble making seconds and going behind without leading, thus cutting out two changes

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

Brandeston (Suffolk).—On Saturday, January 9th, six members of the above Association, rang a date touch, 1886 changes, in the following methods: 720 each of Cambridge Surprise and Morning Exercise, 360 of Oxford Treble Bob, 36 of Plain Bob, and 50 of Grandsire Doubles, in 1 hr. 8 mins. William Walpole, 1; Henry Baldry, 2; Horace Bedingfield, 3; Alfred S. Wightman, 4; David G. Wightman, (conductor), 5; Stephen Wightman, 6. Tenor 9½ cwt.

CRETINGHAM (Suffolk).—On New Year's Eve, five members of this Association rang the old year out and the new year in with a date touch of 1886 changes of Plain and Old Doubles, in 1 hr. and 7 mins. S. Wightman, jun., 1; John Self, 2; G. Wightman, 3; D. G. Wightman (conductor), 4; S. Wightman, sen., 5. Tenor 11 cwt.

DEWSBURY (Yorkshire).—On Sunday evening, January 3rd, for Divine Service at All Saints' Church, a date touch of Kent Treble Bob Major, 1886 changes, in 1 hr. 7 mins. T. Pickles, 1; J. Garforth, 2; J. Idle, 3: H. Robinson, 4; N. Hepworth, 5: G. H. Hardy (composer and conductor), 6; G. Taylor, 7; J. Buckley, 8. Tenor 14 cwt.

EASTBOURNE (Sussex).—On Friday, January 1st, at St. Mary's Church, a date touch of Grandsire Triples, 1886 changes, in 1 hr. 4 mins. F. Harding, 1; C. Harffey, 2: H. P. Bennett (conductor), 3; L. Huggett, 4; T. Willoughby, 5: J. Potter, 6; T. Hart, 7; J. Rollison, 8. Tenor 16 cwt. 3 qrs.

OSSETT (Yorkshire).—On Sunday evening, Jannary 3rd, for Divine Service, the members of the Holy Trinity Society rang a date touch of Kent Treble Bob Major, 1886 changes, in 1 hr. 14 mins. F. Schofield, 1; M. Garforth, 2: A. Spurr, 3; G. Crawshaw, 4; J. A. Idle, 5; W. Dixon, 6; W. Byram, 7; D. Stephenson (conductor), 8. Tenor 26½ cwt. Composed by John Thorp.

SUDBURY (Suffolk).—On Tuesday, January 5th, the members of the local company met at All Saints' church, and rang a date touch of 1886 Kent Treble Bob Major, in 1 hr. 18 mins. W. Cross, 1; M. Silvester, 2; G. Brown, 3; C. Sillitoe (conductor), 4; W. Bacon, 5; W. Howell, 6; A. Scott, 7; H. Harper, 8. Tenor 28 cwt. in D.

Walton-on-the-Hill (Lancashire).—On Tuesday evening, December 29th, at St. Mary's Parish Church, a date touch, 1885 changes, in the following methods, viz., 720 of Grandsire Minor, 720 of College Single Minor, and 445 of Plain Bob Minor, in 1 hr. 8 mins. J. Nightingale, 1; R. H. Barton, 2: W. Short, 3; W. Rushton, 4; R. Stockley, 5; C. E. Wilson (composer and conductor), 6. This is the longest length that Messrs. Nightingale, Rushton, and Short have rung. Messrs. Barton, Short and Rushton, belong to Christ Church, Bootle, the rest to Walton. Tenor 9 cwt. Bootle, the rest to Walton. Tenor 9 cwt.

Miscellaneous.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

HITCHIN (Herts).—On Saturday, January 2nd, eight members of the above Society attempted a peal of Bob Major, which unfortunately came to grief after ringing 2 hrs. 30 mins. W. Allen, 1; J. R. Haworth, 2; N. N. Hills, 3; F. Furr, 4; H. Baker, 5; J. Pettit, 6; J. Hare, 7; F. G. Newman (conductor), 8. Previous to starting for the peal Messrs. Haworth, Pettit, and Newman were elected members of the Hertfurdshire Association. Tenor, 28 in D. the Hertfordshire Association. Tenor 28 in D.

THE ST. JAMES'S SOCIETY.

London.—On Sunday, January 10th, at the church of St. Matthew's, Bethnal Green, for morning service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, 1260 changes, in 44 mins. C. Beech, 1; J. Barry, 2; M. A. Wood (composer and conductor), 3; H. Langdon, 4; T. Dupen, 5; A. Hayward, 6; J. West, 7; J. Dupen, 8. Tenor 14 cwt.

THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

Bedford.—On Christmas Day, at St. Mary's Church, a 720 of Bob

Minor, eighteen bobs and two singles. F. Keech, 1; J. N. Frossell, 2; Minor, eighteen bobs and two singles. F. Keech, 1; J. N. Frossell, 2; T. Foote, 3; W. Allan, 4; S. J. Cullip, 5; I. Hills (conductor), 6, Also on Tuesday, December 22nd, 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor, with nine bobs. F. Keech, 1; I. Hills, 2; C. W. Clarke (conductor), 3; J. Atkins, 4; S. J. Cullip, 5; J. N. Frossell, 6. And on Thursday December 31st, 720 of Oxford Treble Bob Minor. W. Allan, 1; J. Atkins, 2; T. Foote, 3; I. Hills, 4; C. W. Clarke, 5; W. Hall (conductor), 6. Also a rease Reb. Minor sixteen belond two sixtless. ductor), 6. Also a 720 of Bob Minor, eighteen bobs and two singles. F. Keech, 1; *T. Foote (conductor), 2; I. Hills, 3; J. Atkins, 4; S. J. Cullip, 5; W. Allan, 6. And a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor, nine bobs, 3rd the observation. W. Allan, 1; I. Hills, 2; T. Foote, 3; J. Atkins, 4; S. J. Cullip, 5; C. W. Clarke (conductor), 6. *First 720 as conductor.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION. HEXHAM ABBEY (Northumberland). On Saturday, January 2nd, several ringers paid a visit to this now favourite resort, and attempted a three-part peal of Kent Treble Bob Major, but a miscall necessitated a stand, after two of the parts had been rung, in a little over two hours. R. Smith, 1; W. Reed, 2; J. Rossiter, 3; H. Ross, 4; R. S. Story, 5; R. W. Wignell, 6; J. Hern, 7; G. J. Clarkson (conductor), 8. Tenor 21 cwt.

NORTH SHIELDS.—On New Year's Day, ten members of the above Association attempted a 5040 of Treble Bob Royal, at Christ Church, but owing to a change-course it came round at 1600, after ringing 1 hr. 6 mins. F. Lees, 1; G. J. Clarkson, 2; C. L. Routledge, 3: R. W. Wignell, 4; R. S. Story, 5; W. Story, 6; W. Reed (conductor), 7; H. Ross, 8; R. Smith, 9; J. Hern, 10. After partaking of a substantial tea at the house of Mr. Reed, they met to attempt the same again, but turned up one short, and the idea was abandoned for a peal of Major, an account of which will be found in its proper place. And on Sunday evening, January 2nd, a touch of 1024 Treble Bob Major, at the same church, in 41 mins. S. Knott, 1; Joel Hern, 2; J. Rossiter, 3; G. J. Clarkson, 4; R. W. Wignell, 5; H. Ross, 6; R. S. Story (conductor), 7; R. Smith, 8. Tenor 19 cwt.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

RAYLEIGH.—On Saturday evening, the Rayleigh branch of the above Association rang a 720 of College Single, in 27½ mins., being the first in this method known to have been rung upon the bells, and the first by any of the band, and was rung to celebrate the birthday of the conductor. A. Wallace, 1; F. Haslam, 2; J. Johnson, 3; H. Deal, 4; W. Judd, 5; Rev. H. A. Cockey (conductor), 6. Tenor 14½ cwt.

THE HERTFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION AND THE HERTFORD COLLEGE YOUTHS.

HERTFORD.—On New Year's Eve, at All Saints' church, a quarterpeal of Grandsire Triples, in 50 mins. J. Jauncey, 1; W. A. Tyler (conductor), 2; J. Staples, 3; M. Ellsmore, 4; J. Cull, 5; S. Knight, 6; J. G. Crawley, 7; F. George, 8. Tenor 22 cwt. This quarter-peal was taken from the *Clavis*, and it will also be found in "Troyte."

THE HERTFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

HIE HERTFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

HITCHIN (Herts).—On New Years Eve, 224 and 336 Graddsire Triples. J. Randall, 1; H. Buckingham, 2; J. Hare, 3; F. Furr, 4; A. Squires, 5; S. Hare, 6; W. Allen (conductor), 7; J. Foster, 8. Also with the bells half-muffled, for the departure of the old year, 350 in the same method. J. Randall, 1; H. Buckingham, 2; F. Furr, 3; A. Squires, 4; J. Hare (conductor), 5; S. Hare, 6; W. Allen, 7; J. Foster, 8. And for the incoming year, with the bells open, several short touches, firing, and rounds, with W. Kitchener, 8, the rest as before. Tenor 28 cwt. in D.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

ALDINGTON (Kent).—On Thursday, December 3rd, at St. Martin's Church, with the bells muffled at handstroke, as a mark of respect to Jasper W. Snowdon, Esq., a 720 of Bob Minor, with thirty singles. W. Post, jun., 1; D. Hodgkin, 2; F. Wanstall, 3; E. Hyder, 4; W. Hyder (conductor), 5; P. Hodgkin, 6. Also 720 of Oxford Treble Bob in 28½ mins., with twelve bobs. W. Post, jun., 1; D. Hodgkin, 2; F. Wanstall, 3; P. Hodgkin, 4; W. Hyder, 5; W. Post, sen., 6, And on Tuesday, December 15th, 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor, with twelve bobs. W. Post, jun., 1; D. Hodgkin, 2; E. Hyder, 3; P. Hodgkin, 4; W. Hyder, 5; W. Post, sen., 6. And on Thursday, December 17th, 720 of Kent Treble Bob, with twelve bobs. W. Post, jun., 1; D. Hodgkin, 2; F. Wanstall, 3; P. Hodgkin, 4; W. Hyde, 5; W. Post, sen., 6. Jasper W. Snowdon, Esq., a 720 of Bob Minor, with thirty singles. W. Post, sen., 6.

MILTON-NEXT-GRAVESEND.—On Tuesday, December 22nd, at the church of SS. Peter and Paul, a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob Minor, in 26 mins. B. Spunner, 1; H. D. Davies, 2; F. Hayes, 3; J. W. Aitkin, 4: W. Martin, 5; W. Harper (conductor), 6.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

THEALE (Berks).—On Saturday, January 9th, six members of the above Guild rung a 720 of Bob Minor, in 25 mins. T. Sweetzer (first 720), 1; H. White, 2; A. E. Reeves, 3; Arthur J. Wright, 4; T.

Hilbert, 5; G. Gibbard (conductor), 6. H. White, who is a member of the Winchester Diocesan Guild, hails from Basingstoke, the rest from Reading.

STOKE-UPON-TRENT ARCHIDIACONAL ASSOCIATION.

Norton.—On Thursday, December 31st, at 11.30, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor, in 28 mins. W. Baddeley, 1; E. Glover, 2; J. Morton, 3; G. Walker, 4; J. W. Brough, 5; J. Baddeley (conductor), 6. Also on Friday, January 1st, at 12.30, a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob Minor in 26 mins., standing as before with J. Wood at the fourth,

THE SURREY ASSOCIATION

THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

MITCHAM (Surrey).—On Friday, January 8th, at Christ Church, a 720 of Bob Minor (eighteen bobs and two singles), in 25 mins. G. Welling, I; E. Burtenshaw, 2; D. Burtenshaw, 3; R. Reynolds, 4; J. Fayers (conductor), 5; H. J. Schneider, 6. And 648 of Grandsire Minor. J. Fayers, I; C. Burtenshaw, 2; D. Burtenshaw, 3; R. Reynolds, 4; H. J. Schneider, 5; G. Welling, 6. And a plain course of Grandsire Triples on the handbells. D. Burtenshaw, I-2; H. J. Schneider, 3; G. Welling, 4; R. Reynolds, 5; E. Burtenshaw, 6; J. Fayers, 7-8. And on Sunday, January 10th, for Divine Service in the morning, 600 of Grandsire Minor. W. Gallagher, 1; E. Burtenshaw, 2; D. Burtenshaw, 3; R. Reynolds, 4; H. J. Schneider, 5; A. Nicholson (conductor), 6. And for Divine Service in the evening, two 120's of Bob Doubles. W. Gallagher, 1; E. Burtenshaw, 2; D. Burtenshaw, 3; R. Reynolds, 4; F. J. Schneider (conductor), 5; C. Schneider, 6. And a 600 of Grandsire Minor. W. Gallagher, 1; E. Burtenshaw, 2; D. Burtenshaw, 3; R. Reynolds, 4; H. J. Schneider, 5; A. Nicholson (conductor), 6. Messrs. J. Fayers and G. Welling belong to SS. Peter and Paul, Mitcham; the rest are members of the Christ Church society. This is the first 720 of Bob Minor by all except J. Fayers and G. Welling. Minor by all except J. Fayers and G. Welling.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

Crawley (Sussex).—On Tuesday, January 5th, for practice, a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob Minor, in 25 mins. *W. Parsons, 1; J. Newnham, 2; W. Collison, 3; *B. King, 4; A. F. Hillier, 5; F. Wickens (conductor), 6. *First 720.

BRISTOL.—Muffled Peal.—On Sunday, January 3rd, at St. Thomas's nurch, a touch of Grandsire Triples. H. Schusler, 1; C. Waters, 2; Bristol.—Muffled Peal.—On Sunday, January 3rd, at St. Thomas's church, a touch of Grandsire Triples. H. Schusler, I; C. Waters, 2; J. Davis, 3; — Parish, 4; R. Knill, 5; T. Salter, 6; J. Hinton (conductor), 7; T. Colston, 8. And at Christ Church, a touch of Grandsire Caters. A. York, I; E. Duckham, 2; J. York, 3; A. Anderson (conductor), 4; J. Hinton (conductor), 5; H. Porch, 6: W. Parson, 7; E. Beake, 8; W. Emery, 9; G. Daltry, 10. The above was rung on the third anniversary of the death of the late W. Dowling. And on Tuesday, January 5th, at Christ Church, a touch of Grandsire Triples. G. Daltry, 1; E. Duckham, 2; J. Hinton (conductor), 3; H. Porch, 4; F. Price, 5; E. Beake, 6; W. Emery, 7; J. Palser, 8. This was rung as a tribute of respect to the late G. Hunt, who was interred that day. The bells of Temple parish church were also rung upon that day, the deceased being for many years steeple-keeper. years steeple-keeper.

years steepie-keeper.

BLYTH (Notts).—On Saturday, January 2nd, ringers from Tickhill, Worksop, and Anston, visited this place, and rang 720 of Primrose, and 720 of Oxford, also several touches of Violet and London Pleasure. The ringers who took part were F. Jenkinson, J. S. Jenkinson, C. Ainley, G. Gleadall, and T. Manerfield, who hail from Tickhill; F. Mackie and H. Watkinson, from Worksop; T. Silvester and G. Lidster, from Anston. The bells have recently been rehung and these are the first 200's first 720's.

COLN ST. ALDWYNS (Gloucestershire).—On Friday, January 1st, the local company started for a date touch of Grandsire Triples, 1885 changes, but after ringing 1554 changes in 55 mins, it came to grief. W. Fowls, 1; E. Webb, 2; J. Williams, 3; R. Jefferies, 4; A. Tennent, 5; R. Backer, 6; J. Kitchener (conductor), 7; W. Kibble, 8. And on Monday evening, January 4th, the same company excepting A. Tennent, rang 954 of Grandsire Triples, C. Bate ringing the fifth, and conducted by J. Kitchener.

Darley Dale (Derbyshire).—Recently, at the parish church, by the local company, 1885 changes of Grandsire Doubles, in 1 hr. and 2 mins. S. Groom, 1; W. Taylor, 2; C. Whymark, 3; J. Derbyshire, 4; E. Hallows (conductor), 5; T. Gill, 6. Tenor 15 cwt. in G.

Earls Barton (Northamptonshire).—On Monday, December 28th, EARLS BARTON (Northamptonshire).—On Monday, December 28th, five of the St. Peter's local company, Raunds, with J. Houghton, of Irthlingborough, paid a visit to the above place, and after obtaining permission of the Rev. R. Cobbold, and the churchwardens, a 720 of Bob Minor (eighteen bobs and two singles), was rung, in 26½ mins. G. Kirk, 1; J. Houghton, 2; F. Gilbert, 3; W. Hall, 4: J. Stubbs, 5; H. Stubbs (conductor), 6. Tenor about 12 cwt. This is believed to be the first 720 on the bells, which have lately been rehung by Messrs. J. W. Taylor and Co. of Loughborough. Eastham (Lancashire).—On Christmas Eve, at the parish church, two 720s of Grandsire Minor, one with thirty-four bobs and two singles, the other with thirty bobs and thirtysingles, in 52 mins. J. Hughes (conductor), I; C. Baxter, 2; W. Smith, 3; J. Parr, 4; J. Woodward, 5; J. Rowlands, 6. And on New Year's Eve, a 720 of Grandsire Minor, thirty-four bobs and twenty-six singles. J. Haspray blind) conductor, I; C. Baxter, 2; W. Smith, 3; J. Parr, 4; J. Rowlands, 5; J. Hughes, 6. Also a 360 of Plain Bob Minor. J. Haspray conductor), I; C. Baxter, 2; W. Smith, 3: J. Hughes, 4; J. Woodward, 5; J. Rowlands, 6.

EVERTON (Notts).—On Saturday evening, January 2nd, six members of the local company rang a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob Minor. James Holgate, 1; Charles Linley, 2; George Pearson, 3; John Swindin, 4; Frd. Durdy, 5; Geo. Brown (conductor), 6. This is the first 720 in the method by the above company. And another 720 in the same method was rung for Divine Service, on Sunday, January 10th. T. S. Philips, 1; C. Linley, 2; J. Holgate, 3; J. Swindin, 4; G. Stevenson, 5; G. Brown (conductor), 6.

Gravesend (Kent).—On Sunday, January 3rd, at St. George's, a 1316 of Grandsire Triples. W. Royston, 1; J. W. Aitkin, 2; H. D. Davis, 3; G. Hayes, 4; B. Spunner, 5; J. Martin, 6; W. Harper (conductor), 7; G. West, 8.

Higher Walton (Lancashire).—Muffled Peals.—On Friday and Saturday evenings, December 19th and 20th, at All Saints' church, muffled teaches are surgain mercury of Ed. Redgett. Esg. of Dayner.

HIGHER WALTON (Lancashire).—Muffled Peals.—On Friday and Saturday evenings, December 19th and 20th, at All Saints' church, muffled touches were rung in memory of Ed. Rodgett, Esq., of Darner Bank, who died on Friday, December 19th, the donor of the bells of All Saints' church. And on Sunday, December 21st, for morning service, 720 of Plain Bob Minor, in 27 mins. For afternoon service a 720 of College Single, in 28 mins. On Monday, December 22nd, a 720 of College Single, in 28 mins. And on Tuesday, December 23rd, a 720 of College Single, in 28 mins. On Wednesday morning, December 24th, during the funeral, the usual whole pull and stand was performed with due solemnity, and immediately after the burial, 360 of Plain Bob Minor, with the bells half-muffled. And on Saturday, December 27th, with the bells half muffled, a touch of 1920 changes, in 1 hr. 15½ mins., being a 480 of Plain Bob, 720 of College Single, and 720 of Bob Minor, in memory of his burial, it being the 23rd day of the 12th month of the year 1885. Geo. Thornley (conductor), 1; James Harwood, 2; Hy. Hunt, 3; Hy. Brewer, 4; John Eccles, 5; Jos. Mather, 6. Tenor 16 cwt, 3 qrs. 26 lbs. The above touch was attempted on Wednesday evening (the day of the burial) but the 5th. rope broke after ringing 500 changes.

HORNSEY (Middlesex).—On Sunday evening, January 10th, at St. Mary's Church, a 720 of Treble Bob Minor in 25 mins. J. Waghorn, jun., 1; J. Waghorn, sen., 2; *G. B. Lucas (conductor), 3; G. Griffin, 4; H. A. Barnett, 5; A. Jacob, 6. *First 720 as conductor. Also a touch of Bob Minor. J. Ward, 1; G. Thurow, 2; J. Waghorn, sen., 3; J. Waghorn, jun., 4; H. A. Barnett, 5; G. B. Lucas (conductor), 6. And a 120 of Stedman Doubles. G. B. Lucas, 1; J. Waghorn, sen., 2; G. Griffin, 3; J. Waghorn, jun., 4; A. Jacob (conductor), 5; E. King, 6. And another 120 of Stedman, G. Griffin taking the treble, and H. A. Barnett the fifth; conducted by J. Waghorn, jun.

HULME.—On Monday, January 4th, at St. Philip's Church, a 720 of Plain Bob Minor, in 26 mins. E. Ettock, 1; J. O'Brien, 2; J. F. Woods, 3; *J. Heald, 4; H. Wood, 5; T. Heald (conductor), 6 *First 720 with a bob bell.

LEEDS (Yorkshire).—On Sunday evening, January 3rd, for Divine Service, at St. Peter's church, 396 of Stedman Cinques. Henry Hubbard, 1; Tom Lockwood (conductor), 2; James Lockwood, 3; W, Pawson, 4; Harry Lockwood, 5; Peter Snowden, 6; William Walker, 7; Joshua Woodhead, 8; Joseph Hutchinson, 9; Thomas West, 10; Robert Binns, 11; George Fothergill, 12. Tenor 36 cwt. in C.

Leiston (Norfolk).—On Saturday, January 9th, at St. Margaret's Church, a 720 of Plain Bob Minor. *J. Flegg, 1; *H. Button, 2; T. Staulkey, 3; *R. Stannard, 4; †W. Button (conductor), 5; *J. Button, 6. Tenor 20 cwt. *First 720; †first 720 as conductor.

RAUNDS (Northamptonshire).—On Friday, December 25th, at St. Peter's church, a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob Minor (nine bobs). A. Coles, I; H. Stubbs, 2; R. Pendered, 3; F. Gilbert, 4; W. J. Gilbert, 5; W. Hall (conductor), 6. And on Tuesday, December 29th, a 720 of Double Court Bob Minor (eighteen bobs and two singles). J. Willmott, I; F. Gilbert, 2; W. J. Gilbert, 3; H. Stubbs, 4; J. Houghton, 5; J. W. Clarke (conductor), 6. And a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor (nine bobs). A. Coles, I; J. Stubbs, 2; R. Pendered, 3; F. Gilbert, 4; C. W. Clarke, 5; H. Stubbs (conductor), 6. And a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob Minor (nine bobs). H. Stubbs, I; W. J. Gilbert, 2; W. Hall, 3; C. W. Clarke, 4; J. Stubbs, 5; F. Gilbert (conductor), 6. And on Thursday, December 31st, the old year was rung out in the usual way with the bells muffled, when a 360 of Plain Bob Minor was rung (nine bobs). A. Coles, I; J. Willmott, 2; R. Pendered, 3; G. Kirk, 4; W. J. Gilbert, 5; W. Hall (conductor), 6. Change of Address.—Mr. W. I. Road, Amhurst Road, Hackney.

and two singles). A. Coles, 1; W. Hall, 2; R. Pendered, 3; J. Willmott, 4; W. J. Gilbert, 5; H. Stubbs (conductor), 6. And on Saturday, January 2nd, a 720 of Double Court Bob (eighteen bobs and two singles). A. Coles, 1; W. J. Gilbert, 2; R. Pendered, 3; H. Stubbs, 4; W. Hall, 5; F. Gilbert (conductor), 6. J. Houghton hails from Irthligorough; C. W. Clarke from Bedford.

RINGSTEAD (Northants).—On Monday, December 28th, 720 of Yorkshire Court Bob Minor, eighteen bobs and two singles. G. Roberts, 1; W. J. Gilbert, 2; E. Mayes, 3; J. Sawford, 4; C. W. Clarke (conductor), 5; T. Roberts, 6. Also a 720 of London Single, with eighteen bobs and two singles. F. Chapman, 1; T. Roberts, 2; F. Arnold, 3; E. Mayes, 4; W. J. Gilbert, 5; *C. W. Clarke (conductor), 6. *First 720 in the method as conductor. C, W. Clarke hails from Bedford, W. J. Gilbert from Raunds, F. Arnold from Denford, the rest belong to Ringstead.

RIPON (Yorkshire).—On New Year's Eve, the local company of the cathedral of this city rang a muffled touch of 480 changes of Kent Treble Bob Major, with twelve sixth's place bobs and three ordinary ones, in 21 mins., between 11.30 p.m. and midnight; when the clock struck twelve, the same touch was repeated with the bells open, which nshered in the New Year with joyful effect. A. H. Clark, I, J. Baines, 2; J. Strodder, jun., 3; J. Strodder, sen., 4; A. Ingleby, 5; T. Metcalf, 6; T. Clark (conductor), 7; H. Rumbold, 8. Tenor 21 cwt. in E.

SADDLEWORTH (Lancashire).—On Sunday, January 3rd, for afternoon service at St. Chad's Church, a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob Minor in 26 mins., to oblige one of the senior ringers who had not been in the tower for over two years. J. Holden (conductor), I; J. Radcliffe, 2; J. Wrigley, 3; Jas. Radcliffe, 4; J. H. Shaw, 5; J. Buckley, 6. Tenor 12 cwt.

Syston (Leicestershire).—On Tuesday, December 15th, the following members of the parish company rang a 720 of Bob Minor, eighteen bobs and two singles. J. Freeman, 1; G. Freeman, 2; G. Walton, 3; J. Hale, 4; J. North, 5; Rev. W. Pearson (conductor), 6. And on Friday, January 1st, the same company rang in the new year with a 720 of Bob Minor, nine bobs and six singles. Also on Saturday, January 2nd, 720 of Bob Minor, twenty-one bobs and twelve singles, in 26½ mins. J. Freeman, 1; J. North, 2; G. Walton, 3; J. Hale, 4; J. Pickard, 5; Rev. W. Pearson (conductor), 6. Tenor 15½ cwt. in F. This is the last peal on the bells as a ring of six, as two trebles are about to be added to complete the octave. The work is being carried out by Messrs. J. Taylor and Co., of Loughborough, and the opening day is fixed for the 21st of January.

WALPOLE (Norfolk).—On Christmas Eve, for practice, at St Peter's church, 720 Bob Minor (eighteen bobs and two singles), in 27 mins. R. Giddens, I; H. Allen, 2; H. Hill (conductor), 3; R. Grimes, 4; H. Merrishaw, 5; W. Wright, 6. Tenor 14½ cwt.

WALSOKEN (Norfolk).—On Thursday, December 17th, the Walpole company visited this place and rang a 720 of Bob Minor, in 30 mins. J. Hendry, 1; R. Grimes, 2; H. Hill (conductor), 3; H. Allen, 4: H. Merrishaw, 5; W. Wright, 6. Tenor 19½ cwt.

Merrishaw, 5; W. Wright, 6. Tenor 19½ cwt.

Walton-on-the-Hill (Lancashire).—On Christmas Day afternoon at St. Mary's parish church, a 720 of Grandsire Minor in 26½ mins. J. Nightingale, 1; C. J. Rodgers, 2; W. Short, 3; R. H. Barton, 4; R. Stockley, 5; C. E. Wilson (conductor), 6. And on Saturday, December 26th, 1440 changes, in two methods, viz., 720 of Grandsire Minor, and 720 of College Single Minor, in 50 mins. J. Nightingale, 1; C. J. Rodgers, 2; W. Short, 3; W. Rushton, 4; R. H. Barton, 5; C. E. Wilson (conductor), 6. Also on Sunday morning, December 27th, for Divine Service, a 120 of Grandsire Doubles. J. Nightingale, 1; T. R. Somerville, 2; C. J. Rodgers, 3; R. Stockley, 4; C. E. Wilson (conductor), 5. And on Sunday morning, January 3rd, for Divine Service, 240 of Plain Bob, and 240 of Grandsire Minor. J. Nightingale, 1; C. E. Wilson (conductor), 2; T. R. Somerville, 3; T. Rushton, 4; C. J. Rodgers, 5; R. Stockley, 6. Tenor 9 cwt. Messrs. Short, Barton, and W. Rushton, hail from Bootle.

WEST HAM (Essex).—Chiming.—On Sunday morning, January 10th, for Divine Service, 223 of Grandsire Triples. G. Pearl, 1-2; A. J. Perkins, 3-4-5-6; H. Randall, 7-8. Also in the afternoon, four members of the Cumberland Youths attempted a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples double-handed, when after ringing 1000 changes, the clapper flew out of the second bell. G. Pearl, 1-2; J. Gobbett, 3-4; A. J. Perkins (conductor), 5-6; W. Doran, 7-8.

Wimbledon (Surrey).—On Sunday morning, December 20th, for Divine Service, a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob Minor in 26 mins. C. Byde, 1; R. Moss, 2; G. Byde, 3; J. Parker, 4; A. Garratt, 5; S. Frost (conductor), 6. Also on Christmas morning for Divine Service a 720 of Cambridge Surprise in 26½ mins. And on Sunday morning, January 3rd, for Divine Service, a 720 of Woodbine Treble Bob in 26 mins., standing as before.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS.-Mr. W. D. Smith has removed to 44, Spurstowe Road, Amhurst Road, Hackney.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

A Quarterly Meeting of members of the above Association was held in Nottingham, on Saturday, 9th inst., the occasion being signalised by the opening of the belfry of the Parish Church to the members of the Association. The bells of All Saints' and St. Peter's churches have always been very generously placed at the disposal of the Committee whenever a meeting of the Association has been held at Nottingham; but the privilege of handling the fine peal of ten bells at the mother church has been reserved hitherto, owing to old standing difficulties of a local character. On this occasion, however, mainly through the exertions of the Rev. W. W. C. Baker, and the kindness of Mr. Lee, the bells of the parish church were open between the hours of three and five o'clock, and Touches of Grandsire Caters and Treble Bob Royal were brought round in capital style, recalling the traditions of nearly 100 years ago, when the ringers of Nottingam, under the leader-ship of Mr. W. Doubleday Crofts, made their names and their town famous.

A meeting of the Committee, at which the Rev. James H. Fish, Vicar of St. Paul's, Burton-on-Trent, presided, was held at four o'clock in the Parish Room belonging to All Saints' Church, the President being supported by Messrs. Griffin and W. Wakley, of Burtonsident being supported by Messrs. Griffin and W. Wakley, of Burtonon-Trent. the Hon. Treasurer and Secretary respectively, and the
following representatives from the four districts forming the Association,
viz.: Derby and District, Messrs, Heywood, Woodward. and Ward;
Nottingham and District, Messrs. Archer, Hanson, and Hickman;
Leicester and District, Messrs. J. W. Taylor, jun., and W. P. Cooper;
and Burton-on-Trent and District, Messrs. Jaggar and A. Wakley.

The Congral Mosting was held in the Arboretum Refreshment Room.

The General Meeting was held in the Arboretum Refreshment Room, at six o'clock, whither the members had adjourned an hour previously for a meat tea, the arrangements for which had been admirably made under the direction of the Hon. Sec. for the Nottingham District. The President, in his opening address, made feeling allusion to the great loss the Association, as well as the Exercise at large, had sustained through the death of Mr. Jasper W. Snowdon, which had taken place since their last meeting, Mr. Snowdon having been one of the original members of the Association, and one of its chief and best supporters In reviewing the performances of the past quarter, he stated that 24 peals had been rung in 8 different methods, and Mr. A. Percival Hey wood subsequently alluded in complimentary terms to a remarkable series of performances appearing in that day's "Bell News," which were destined to take a high place in the history of the Superlative Surprise method, viz.: the achievement of three peals in this method, in three consecutive days, by members of the Burton-on-Trent branch.

Two honorary and sixteen regular members were admitted, and, on the motion of Mr. A. B. Ward, seconded by Mr. H. C. Woodward, Messrs. Dawson and Mackery, of Derby, were appointed to audit the Hon. Treasurer's accounts. The Annual Meeting was fixed to be held in Derby, on Easter Monday, April 26th, an amendment, proposed by Mr. Griffin, and seconded by Mr. Ward, to the effect that the meeting should be held at Burton-on-Trent, being lost by a large majority.

A hearty vote of thanks to the Vicars and Churchwardens of the Nottingham Churches for the use of their bells, was proposed by Mr. Heywood, and acknowledged by the Rev. G. Edgecombe, Rector of St. Peter's, who spoke in eulogistic terms of the good influence exerted

by the Association upon the ringers of his own church.

The President (the Rev. James Fish) gave notice of his intention to resign his position as President of the Association, at Easter next, a post which he would then have held for a term of three years; and reminded the meeting of the Rule that nominations for any of the offices of the Association, as well as notices of alteration of or additions to the rules, must be given in writing to the Hon. Secretary one month previous to the Annual meeting.

The ringing during the afternoon and evening, at All Saints' and St Peter's churches, was mainly made up of touches of Stedman and Grandsire Triples and Kent Treble Bob Major. At All Saints', where the bells are a particularly musical peal, and pleasantly heard in the ringing chamber, a touch of Superlative Surprise Major was brought round, with Mr. W. Wakley as conductor.

MR. DAINS' PEAL OF SUPERLATIVE.—The reporter of my three part peal of Superlative Surprise Major, in your issue of the 2nd inst. was not probably aware of its capable variations, and in order to properly illustrate this, I give the peal in a varied form, and would point out that the bob at wrong in sight course may be omitted. in sixth course may be omitted.

H. DAINS.

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THE SURREY ASSOCIATION

A Quarterly Meeting was held at Mitcham, on Monday, January 11th, the tower of the parish church of SS. Peter and Paul being open for ringing, and also that of Christ Church. The meeting was well attended, ringers being present from Ashtead, Beddington, Croydon Epsom, Kingston, Leatherhead, Ashtead, Beddington, Croydon Epsom, Kingston, Leatherhead, London, Mitcham (two churches), Streatham, Sutton, Thames Ditton, and Wimbledon. During the afternoon, at the parish church, besides shorter touches, a quarter peal of Grandsire Triples was rung by G. Naish, 1; C. Slade, 2; J. Parslow, 3; A. Brockwell, 4; G. Gray, 5; A. Bruce, 6; J. Wright (conductor), 7; E. Milton, 8. While at Christ Church 360 of Plain Bob Minor, and 360 of Grandsire Minor were performed, and also a 720 of Treble Bob Minor, by the following: J. Hawkins, 1; T. Miles, 2; J. Strutt, 3; J. Parker, 4; A. Garrott, 5; S. Frost (conductor), 6. Tea was served at six o'clock, at the "Bull" Inn, where Mr. Tribe gave us an excellent spread. He deserves great praise for the manner in which he provided for all: deserves great praise for the manner in which he provided for all; seeing that although only 40 names were sent in, there were exactly 50 who sat down to tea. After tea the usual business meeting took place, E. F. Cole, Esq., in the chair. At this meeting 12 new ringing members were elected, and three new honorary members.

After the meeting was over, another visit was paid to the bells. At the parish church a touch of Kent Treble Bob Major, and some Grandsire Triples were rung; and at Christ church 360 of Cambridge Surprise Minor, by the following: G. Bide, 1; J. Strutt, 2; C. Bide, 3; J. Parker, 4; A. Garrott, 5; S. Frost (conductor), 6.

ARTHUR B. CARPENTER, Hon. Sce.

TICHMARSH, NORTHAMPTONSHIRE.

On Saturday, December 26th, 1885, a band of ringers from Raunds and Ringstead, in company with C. W. Clark, of Bedford, and J Houghton, of Irthlingborough, paid a visit to the church of St. Mary, at this village. Seven of the Raunds company, with the assistance of C. W. Clarke, made an attempt at a peal of Plain Bob Triples, but after ringing 2772 changes, in 1 hr. 58 mins. it was brought to grief by the stundity of the conductor in making a miscell. G. Kirk, W. W. the stupidity of the conductor in making a miscall. G. Kirk, 1; W. J. Gilbert, 2; J. Stubbs, 3; W. Hall, 4; H. Stubbs, 5; C. W. Clarke, 6; F. Gilbert (composer and conductor), 7; F. Slade, 8. After this, all the ringers were invited to a substantial dinner provided by Mr. G. Eaton, Bell Hanger, of Tichmarsh, at the "Dog and Partridge Inn." After doing justice to this excellent meal, a band set off to the tower again, and succeeded in ringing a quarter-peal of Plain Bob Triples, in 48 mins. J. Houghton, I; W. Hall, 2; R. Pendered, 3; H. Stubbs, 4; W. J. Gilbert, 5; J. Stubbs, 6; C. W. Clarke (conductor), 7; F. Gilbert, 8. This was composed by the late H. Hubbard, and contains eighteen 4-6's, six 7-4's, six 6-7's, and was the first quarter-peal in this method by all the above A 336 of Bob Major was then rung. G. Kirk, I; W. Hall, 2; R. Pendered, 3; W. J. Gilbert, 4; J. Stubbs, 5; C. W. Clarke, 6; F. Gilbert, 7; H. Stubbs (conductor), 8. Then followed a 720 of Oxford Bob Minor, on the back six, with thirty-four bobs and twenty-six singles. G. Jeffs, I; R. Pendered, 2; W. Hall, 3; J. Sawford, 4; E. Mayes, 5; C. W. Clarke (conductor), 6. The ringers wish to express their best thanks to the rector, the Rev. F. M. Stopford, for the use of the bells on that day, and to Mr. G. Eaton for After doing justice to this excellent meal, a band set off to the tower Stopford, for the use of the bells on that day, and to Mr. G. Eaton for his hospitality on the occasion. Two treble bells, the first 6 cwt. and the second 7 cwt., have just been added to the peal of six in this tower by the Rev. F. M. Stopford, the rector, in memory of the late Mrs. Florence Augusta Stopford, The bells were cast by the well-known firm of Taylor and Son, Loughborough, and the hanging has been very ably done. The memorial includes a clock for the tower, and Westminster chimes, which are to be fixed during the present month, by Messrs. Smith, of Derby.

SUDBURY, SUFFOLK,

SUDBURY, SUFFOLK,

ON New Year's Eve the members of the local company were invited to a supper at the "Anchor Hotel," given by a lady friend of Mr. B. Ransom, an hon. member of the company. A capital spread was put on the table by Host Nicholls, to which ample justice was done. The cloth being removed the handbells were brought into use, and a course of Treble Bob Major was rung by J. Campin, 1-2; C. Sillitoe, 3-4; W. Howell, 5-6; A. Scott, 7-8. Also a course of Grandsire Cinques. B. Ransom, Esq., 1-2; A. Scott, 3-4; C. Sillitoe, 5-6; F. Tolliday, 7; W. Griggs, 8; W. Howell, 9-10; J. Campin, 11-12. And a course of Stedman Triples, and a touch of Grandsire Triples and Bob Major. The company were visited during the evening by Dr. W. J. Mason, and G. L. Andrews, Esq. Songs were sung by Messrs. H. Harper and F. Tolliday, and a very pleasant evening was spent by all, the company Andrews, Esq. Songs were sung by Messrs. H. Harper and F. Tolliday, and a very pleasant evening was spent by all, the company breaking up about 11.30, when an adjournment was made to St. Gregory's church, where the old year was rung out and the new one in, with a 504 of Grandsire Triples. F. Tolliday, 1; W. Griggs, 2; J. Campin, 3; C. Sillitoe (conductor), 4; H. Harper, 5; A. Scott, 6; W. Howell, 7; H. Brackett, 8.

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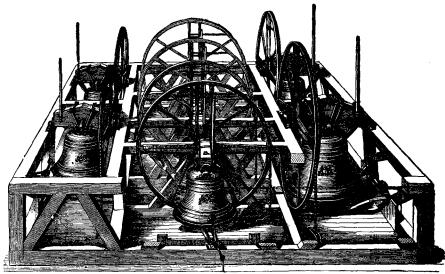
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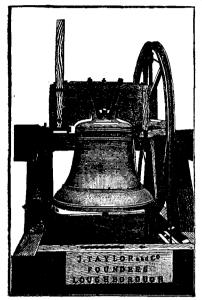
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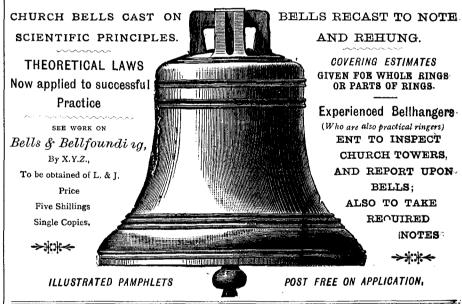
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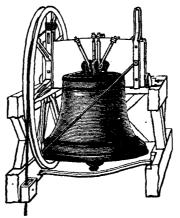
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WHICH IS THE MOST MUSICAL MAJOR METHOD? By A. PERCIVAL HEYWOOD.

OF all numbers of bells eight are the most perfect for producing changes of absolute mathematical correctness. Changes rung on ten and twelve bells have in many ways much greater attractions, from the richness and variety of the music, but strictly considered, the vibratory relations of a scale of ten or twelve, or indeed of any number except eight, are incorrect. It is unnecessary to enter further into the matter, but those who are acquainted with the scientific reasons for the positions of the semitones in a scale of eight will be able to verify this for themselves.

In regard to eight bells, the peculiar virtues of the octave are in no ay brought out in Triples, which bear about the same relation way brought out in Triples, which bear about the same relation to Major ringing as Godfrey's waltzes do to Bach's fugues. The beauty of the latter cannot be thoroughly appreciated except by those who have studied music scientifically as well as orally, and it is to such as have a keen sense, not only of the music of the individual changes, but also of the rhythmical beauty of Major ringing that this paper is addressed.

The chief attraction of Major ringing consists in the accuracy of the leads giving the impression that the hand and back strokes are one change of sixteen notes, rather than two changes of eight. These sixteen notes form, as it were, the "bars" of the music, and to perfect this impression it is of the first importance that each bell should at backstroke occupy, when possible, a different position to that in which it struck at hand-stroke, thus carrying out the first law of changeringing, that "every bell that can must change its place each stroke," or in other words, that there should be as little place-making as possible, in which term whole pulls in front and behind are included.

As then, the first and last halves of each "bar" should differ as

much as is feasible, it must next be considered how these "bars" be consecutively arranged to produce the best musical effect. In all music, sequence of idea is most important, therefore each "bar" should be in close relation to those adjoining. Now in a method in which the bells travel quick, such as Bob Major, this sequence is not carried on, for except at the treble leads, a musical change has no intimate connection with those near it. In the higher methods, however, this connection is obtained by a greater or less length of dodging, the effect of which is that a musical change is announced to the ear some time before it actually comes up, and as gradually dies away, in marked contradistinction to the baldness with which such a change will appear in the simpler methods; the limit to this retention of the music being the point at which the continuance of the position induces a sense of monotony. How then, can eight bell most nearly with these requirements? How then, can eight bells be changed so as to accord

Starting from rounds, all four pairs may be changed, in the next row not more than three pairs, then again four pairs, and so on; two bells Less place-making than this is The most perfect methods, then, lying still every alternate change. not possible; more is not necessary. The most perfect methods, then, will be those in which the changes are thus produced. It is curious to notice that were three pairs changed at the start instead of four, the changing of the whole four would come between hand and backstroke and thus the two halves of the "bar" would be absolutely free from repetition throughout the method, to the great improvement of the effect. The same result would be achieved by making the open lead of before the bandstroke. The latter is of source out of after instead of before the handstroke. The latter is of course out of the question, and as the former would upset the general principles of Major ringing by causing all the whole pulls to come at back and hand, as well as reverse the dodging, it is also impracticable, but the fact is, nevertheless, worthy of attention. It is true that in Kent Treble Bob, London Surprise, and some other methods, three pairs only are changed at the start, but as places are made at two consecutive changes immediately after, the same result is produced as in beginning, with four pairs changed. The basis on which the pairs of bells are changed having been considered, the location of the places made by the bells that lie still when only three pairs change, must be determined in such a manner as to obtain a "method;" that is, an arrangement by which the whole of the changes that are possible, without altering the coursing order of more than one bell (the treble) are produced. In doing this, the places made at any one change should not, if it can be avoided, adjoin one another, as the effect is in such cases more than doubly inharmonious. Now upon the position of these places depends also the musical value of the changes produced. If they consist chiefly in whole pulls in front and behind, the bells will travel quick, and the result will be a simple method like Bob Major, which, as above stated, will not be musically effective. And here the difference between the Plain and Treble Bob methods must be noticed. In a plain method the places may be arranged so as to produce the maximum length of dodging attainable, without interfering with the run of the treble, as in Double Oxford; but the effect, from the speed at which this bell travels, will not be so good as in a Treble Bob method, where its speed is only half as great: and although in Kent and Oxford the inside bells travel too quick to produce music as good as that of the

best plain methods, still the dodging hunt of the treble is an advantage which gives the best Treble Bob methods the palm over any

A further important consideration in constructing a method is that a course of it should produce the greatest number of the musical portions of 6-7-8, that is, that 6-7-8 should be together behind in as many of their six different orders as possible. Also keeping the tenors well together must not be lost sight of; for while a fine effect is had by parting them so far as to bring up 4-6-8 behind, the opposite will be the result if the parting be carried too far. In a plain method, however, the advantage of keeping 6-8 together and allowing the 7th to be for a time away, the 4th taking its place, is scarcely sufficiently appreciated as a means of varying the music. Another point requiring attention is bob making; some methods, as, for example, Double Norwich and Treble Bob, being much improved at a call, from the extra dodging and removal of the whole pull from behind. Lastly may be taken into account the facilities offered by a method for producing the largest variety of peals with the musical bells in good positions.

By a careful examination of any methods in the various points that have been alluded to, noting especially the objection to two bells lying still next one another, and the making of an unnecessary number of places, it will not be found difficult to arrive at an accurate estimate of their relative musical value; and the object of this paper will have been achieved if it induces any who are in the habit of judging on the authority of their ears alone, to examine a method scientifically before committing themselves to any definite opinion, in the same way that a first-rate musician will prefer to form his ideas by a close inspection of the composition of a piece of music rather than by hearing it performed, as thus he will detect every beauty or flaw with a certainty impossible of attainment by the most careful listener.

For the sake of illustration a few notes on the relative musical value

of some of the more generally known methods are appended, Grand-

sire being omitted as not properly an even bell system. Plain Bob.—Only the minimum number of places are made, but owing to the number of whole pulls in front and behind, the bells travel too quick to produce a good musical effect. The music at a bob is improved by fourth's place being made instead of second's. There are only two positions of 6 7 8 behind, owing to a bob before lengthening the course by a lead. This is not a very convenient method for

Yorkshire Court.—Only the minimum number of places are made, and as there are not so many whole pulls in front and behind, the music is rather better than in Plain Bob, which it otherwise resembles. There are again only two positions of 6-7-8 behind. A bob before shortens the course by three leads, giving a little more freedom in composition. Peals of Superlative Surprise will run true on this method, if a single is called at the half-way, and the calling repeated.

Double Norwich.—Constructionally the most perfect of all methods, no adjoining places being made except at a single, the sole objection being that a whole pull is laid behind while the treble leads; at a bob, however, this objection is removed by sixth's place being made instead. Such bells as lie still, do so for the most part away from lead and behind, causing slower travelling. The music is of a very high class throughout, and there are four positions of 6-7-8 behind. This is a good method for composition, as a bob at 5 shortens the course two leads by bringing the tenors home

(To be continued.)

THE ST. STEPHEN'S SOCIETY, BRISTOL.

On Monday, January 11th, the members of this ancient Society, which was established in 1620, sat down to dinner. Ringing commenced at six o'clock, at Christ Church, Broad Street, where the following ringers rang a well-struck 600 of Grandsire Royal:—A. York, 1; H. Porch, 2; J. York, 3; F. Price, 4; G. Morgan, 5; E. Duckham, 6: W. Parsons, 7; E. Beake, 8; W. Emery, 9; J. Hinton (conductor), 10. At sevven o'clock the band adjourned to their club-house, "The Prince of Wales," where an excellent spread was provided, to which ample justice was done. Mr. A. York (President of the Society), occupied the chair, and Mr. A. Anderson the vice-chair.

The cloth having been, removed, and the usual loyal toasts given, the Vice-chairman proposed the toast of the evening, "The St. Stephen's Society," which was heartily drank by all present. He congratulated the members on the progress made by the society, to which he was proud to belong, and he hoped it would continue to

prosper.
Mr. G. Morgan proposed "The Steeplekeepers," which was responded to by Mr. G. Staden.

During the evening selections on handbells, interspersed with songs and recitations, were given, and at a reasonable hour all started for home, each one having thoroughly enjoyed himself.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS.-Mr. H. Haley, jun., has removed to 2,

WORCESTER AND ADJOINING DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

A QUARTERLY MEETING of this Society was held, by the kind permission of the Vicar, the Rev. S. J. Marriott, who presided, in the St. Andrew's Infant School, Netherton, on Saturday last, January 16th. The Meeting was well attended by members from Bromsgrove, Brierley Hill, Dudley, Kidderminster, Netherton, Wollaston, Wolverley, Hagley, &c. Early in the afternoon members began to make their appearance, and the towers of St. Thomas's, Dudley, and St. Andrew's, Netherton, were occupied. Several touches of Grandsire Caters were rung at St. Thomas's, the last touch, containing upwards of 1000 changes, was rung by the following: W. Broomfield (Bromsgrove), 1; Jos. Fellows, jun. (Dudley), 2; W. Micklewright (Dudley), 3; Jos. Fellows, sen. (Dudley), 4; J. Hughes (with one arm; Tipton), 5; G. Hayward (Bromsgrove), 6; S. Spittle (conductor; Dudley), 7; R. Groves (Kidderminster), 8; G. Morris (Bromsgrove), 9; J. Timmins (Dudley), 10. Several touches of Grandsire Minor, and some 6-scores were rung by mixed bands at Netherton.

The meeting for business took place soon after five o'clock when

The meeting for business took place soon after five o'clock, when the Chairman (who was supported by one of the lay Vice-presidents, Mr. W. W. Frost), said it gave him very great pleasure to be there that evening amongst such a good number of ringers. He wished ringers generally, and especially the above society, every success, and in visiting his church and holding a meeting for the first time since the formation of the Association, he gave them a very hearty welcome, and hoped it would not be the last time they would visit Netherton, as he should be always willing to oblige them as far as he possibly could

should be always willing to oblige them as far as he possibly could. The minutes of the last meeting having been read by the Sec., J. Smith, some comments were made upon them and confirmed. The proposition of new members were gone through, and the Rev. W. C. Gibbs, Rector of Hagley, was made an hon. member, with eight performing members from the same place, and six others from different place, and six others from different places, making fifteen new members. It was decided to make the next meeting the Annual Meeting, and the same to take place at Worcester on Easter Monday. It was also decided to hold a ringing meeting on Saturday, February 13th, at Hagley.

A vote of thanks was, on the motion of Mr. S. SPITTLE, passed to the the Rev. S. J. Marriott for presided. Mr. Spittle said it gave him very great pleasure to do so, especially after the remarks the Vicar had made in reference to the Association, and the hearty welcome he had given to its members. He knew the rev. gentleman personally, and the more he knew of him the better he liked him, and he had no doubt each member in the room would say so as they came to know him

know him.

Mr. W. W. Frost, in seconding the motion, saide he could quite endorse the marks made by Mr. Spittle, as he had worked with him for nearly eight years as an officer of the church, and could safely say that whatever the rev. gentleman undertook to do he always gave it his hearty support.

The Chairman, in responding, said he was very much obliged to them for the vote of thanks they had just passed to him in such a hearty, manner and could repeat what he had said before, that at any time they should visit Netherton again they would receive his hearty approval. He wished to press upon those who had visited the tower of St. Andrew's to go away and try to follow the example of his own ringers, a body of men he was proud of, and who were heart and soul in their work in the belfry, both in belfry-reform and change-ringing. The meeting then terminated.

The ringers afterwards adjourned to the "Crown Inn," and after refreshing the inner man, the handbells were brought into use. Several courses of Grandsire Caters and Triples were rung, and several selections played, and some capital songs were rendered by several members. Altogether a very pleasant afternoon and evening was spent, and the members parted highly pleased with same.

FESTIVITY AT ILFORD, ESSEX.

The Ilford Ringers were entertained, with the choir, in the Infant School by the Vicar, the Rev. H. B. Barnes, and the Churchwardens, Messrs. J. W. F. Mumford and W. Ashmole, at a supper on Tuesday, January 19th. Altogether about fifty sat down to a very substantial meal which was heartily enjoyed by all present. Afterwards the time was spent in singing, etc., and the hand-bells being brought into action, were appreciated. The Vicar very heartily thanked the choir and ringers for the way in which they had all done their duty; it was probably through the self-denial often caused by attending the practices regularly, they had all got on so well. The Churchwardens also said they were pleased to meet such a number of church-workers, and it was always very pleasing to work under such a good Vicar and Curate as they had. The company parted just before eleven o'clock.

NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

The next District Meeting of this Association will be held at North Elmham, on Wednesday, February 3rd. N. Bolingeroke, Hon Sec.

THE SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS. PEAL-BOOK PRESENTATION.

On Friday evening, January 15th, the members, in response to the notice in this paper, attended in full force to settle the important business. Mr. Dains stated that at the annual dinner recently held at Enfield, it was mentioned (although not in the report), the society would soon require a new peal-book. Mr. Henry S. Thomas, who takes such a deep interest in St. Mary's belfry, Old Battersea, at once promised the required book, a promise which was cordially accepted by the members, and that gentleman, with his usual promptness, at once put the work in hand, the result of his kindness now lying on the table in front of them. In presenting the book (containing 300 leaves, and handsomely bound in olive green morocco, with clasp, and outer leather cover), Mr. Thomas said he desired to assist the society as far as possible, not only in the advancement of the favourite art, but in finance also, by saving the society's funds; and trusted the members who possessed the necessary ringing power, would all pull together in the future, and continue in the book the long, illustrious, and unique history of peal-ringing of which the company can boast. The Master received the gift with many expressions of good will, not only to the donor, but the society also, and Mr. George Marriott, thought to be the oldest member, proposed, with Mr. John Rogers seconding, a vote of thanks for the handsome present which Mr. Thomas had come forward with that evening, a proposition in which Mr. W. Baron, Mr. G. Newson, and other members heartily joined. In response, Mr. Thomas said he was well pleased with the reception, and trusted he might be spared to ring many peals with the society so as to forward the filling of the pages, and if completed during his life time, and in a position to do so and the society would accept, to place another in order to contain the members' deeds. In conclusion, Mr. Thomas said he was anxious to see the society's valuable records more secure in the future, although he well knew copy peal-books were kept, but sti

ST. PETER'S PRO-CATHEDRAL, LIVERPOOL.

On Thursday, Jan. 14th, ten members of the Liverpool Youths Society rang on these bells a peal of Kent Treble Bob Royal, containing 5000 changes, in 3 hrs. 30 mins. Richard Williams, 1; George George Helsby, 2; William Woodhead, 3; Charles Williams, 4; John Brown, 5: John R. Pritchard, 6; William Davies, 7; James Egerton, 8; Thomas Hammond, 9; Robert Williams (composer and conductor), 10. Tenor, 25 cwt. in D. The above band attempted the peal on November 26th, but after ringing 3120 changes in 2 hrs. 5 mins. the 4th rope broke, and this is the first start since. Perhaps it may interest some of our ringing friends in the county to know that the last previous peal of Treble Bob Royal was rung on Monday, August 19th, 1850, by a mixed company from Oldham, Ashton, and Mottram, the peal containing 5000 changes and rung in 3 hrs. 24 mins., composed by the late Mr. Joseph Tebbs, of Leeds, and conducted by his nephew, John Mayall; the band standing as follows: James Ogden (Ashton), 1; James Adams (Ashton), 2; James Wood (Ashton), 3; Thomas Shaw (Mottram), 4; John Whitaker (Oldham), 5; William Harrison (Mottram), [6; Luke Broadbent (Ashton), 7; John Mayall (Oldham), 8; Charles Shaw (Mottram), 9; Charles Lewis (Oldham), 10. After the completion of the peal, the visitors and Liverpool friends adjourned to the house of Mr. Bates, "Boar's Head," Drury Lane, and spent the rest of the day harmoniously together, hand-bell ringing, interspersed by singing songs and glees.

NEW CLOCK AT CALNE TOWN HALL, WILTS.

A large clock has just been erected here which strikes the hours, chimes the quarters, and shews time on one five feet dial. There is automatic apparatus to turn the gas up and down. It is fitted with all the latest improvements, and is a fine specimen of workmanship. The work was carried out by John Smith and Sons, Midland Clock Works, Derby, Mr. Baker, of Calne, acting as their agent.

ROYAL CUMBERLAND SOCIETY.

All members will kindly oblige the Master by attending St. Martin's ringing-chamber, at 7.45 p.m., sharp, on Friday, January 29th next, or at the meeting-room, at 8.30 precisely. Henry Dains, Hon. Sec.

BATH AND KEYNSHAM DEANERIES ASSOCIATION.

The usual monthly meeting of this Association took place at Christ Church, Bath, on Monday, January 4th. There was a fair muster of members, and some good change-ringing was done by the different towers represented at the meeting.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

The Quarterly Meeting of this Association, took place on Monday, January 11th, at Tewkesbury, when owing to the snowy weather, only some thirty members attended. Divine service was held in the Abbey Church at 10.30, when the Rev. Canon Robeson (the Vicar), gave a suitable address, after which the business meeting was held in the in the vestry, the Rev. C. D. P. Davies presiding. Before dinner 168 of Grandsire Triples, and some 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles were accomplished.

The dinner was at "The Bell, under the presidency of Canon Robeson, who was snpported by the Revs. C. D. P. Davies (Master of the Associatiou), F. E. Broome Witts (Hon. Treasurer), Pitt Eykyn (Hon. Sec.), F. Carbonnell (senior Curate of the Abbey), etc. The loyal toasts were duly honoured at the conclusion of the repast, and the healths of the various officers of the Association were then given, and received with much warmth. The master notified that the Duke of Beaufort had preferred their Secretary, Rev. Pitt Eykyn, to a better living beyond the limits of the Diocese, though within easy access of Bristol, and that the rev gentleman had spoken to him of resigning his connection with the Association on that account, but had, at his desire, signified his willingness to still carry on the work of Hon. Secretary.

An adjournment to the belfry was then made, where some excellent

attempts were made at Treble Bob Major and Stedman Triples, the latter splendid till within a few scores of the end. Afterwards a start for a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, and as our correspondent was wending his way homewards they were still going well, three quarters of an hour after the start. Members were present from Tewkesbury, Upton St. Leonards, Brockworth, Barnwood, Newnham-

on-Severn, Tredington, and Deerhurst.

Subscriptions for 1886 may be sent as usual to the Hon. Secretary, Rev. Pitt Eyknn, Ashton Gate, Bristol, who does not leave Bristol till Easter.

REDENHALL, NORFOLK.

The 150th anniversary of the fine peal of eight bells at St. Mary's, was celebrated on Wednesday, January 13th. After some excellent touches of Oxford Treble Bob Major, the local band with their friends sat down to a most substantial spread at the "Yew Tree" inn. In the absence of the Rector, Ven. Archdeacon Perowne, the chair was taken by the Rev. H. C. Fitch, who has recently been appointed Curate of the parish. Amongst those present were Captain A. P. Moore, the indefatigable leader of the Redenhall ringers, Mr. T. T. Perowne, the Rev. N. Bolingbroke, Hon. Sec. Norwich Diocesan Association of Ringers, Master Alban Bolingbroke, and Mr. C. H. Scriven, of Oakley. We are glad to find that some very promising young ringers have been practising with this band, and we hope ere long to see them once more taking the van of Norfolk ringers.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD AT MERTON COLLEGE.

On Saturday, January 16th, nine members of the above Guild succeeded, for the first time in the remembrance of any one living, in ringing a peal of Stedman Triples on this beautiful peal of bells. Now perhaps it would not be out of place to mention that these bells are rung from a gallery jutting out from the wall about 3 or 4 feet, with a railing of about 3 feet, and a temporary arrangement of gas piping about 3 feet higher, in all about 6 feet in height; and it being very spacious, it is very difficult to see one another by candle light, there being be about 60 feet, so altogether it is perhaps one of the most difficult places to be found anywhere to achieve a peal in. The bells all go pretty well, with the exception of the 7th and tenor, which never were satisfactory for peal ringing; but still, under all these difficulties, a splendidly-struck peal of Stedman Triples was accomplished in 3 hrs. 30 mins., without a hitch throughout, it being the first in the method, and the first in any since October 5th, 1817, when the following members of the Oxford Society achieved a peal of Grandsire Triples in 3 hrs. 20 mins., which is the only record of a peal there:—
J. Taylor, 1; G. Pavior, 2; W. Parker, 3; T. Godfrey, 4; F. Fagg (conductor), 5; T. Hanks, 6; A. Tyror, 7; H. Taylor, and A.

OXFORD UNIVERSITY SOCIETY. OFFICERS FOR THIS TERM :

Master.—C. W. H. GRIFFITH, C.C.C., Secretary.—A. F. M. CUSTANCE, B.N.C.

AN IMPORTANT CORRECTION -The peal rung by the Surrey Association at Carshalton, on Monday, December 21st, 1885, conducted by John Plowman, was Holt's Original, and not Holt's 10-part as reported.

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."

OLNEY TENOR.

SIR.—In your last week's issue the weight of the tenor of the peal of six at Olney (Bucks), is given as 36 cwt. Judging from the dimensions of the bell (diameter 52 ins., height rim to crown, 42 ins.), and quite moderate thickness at sound bow, I question if it weighs more than 27 or 28 cwt. It is undoubtedly a grand bell, but I think cannot weigh as much as stated. GRANDSIRE BOB.

THE COMPLAINT FROM SUSSEX.

SIR.—I beg to state that I am an honorary member of the Sussex County Association, and am perfectly aware of the constitution of that society. That I asked Mr. Attree to bring over a band of Brighton Ringers, as I believed the Brighton ringers to be among the best in the county, also on account of expense, I preferred to have ringers from that place which I believed to be the nearest.

Ringmer, 1886.

"PREMEDITATED SUICIDE."

Sir.—On looking through your issue of the week before last, I saw an account described "Premeditated Suicide." I should think the writer was thinking about that expression he used, "unparalelled in history," or he ought to go to an elementary school. He says "the grave-digger is one of those Sturdy Britons;" I say that is an untruth, and when he was told so, he said he did not know it. If he was sent to an elementary school he would be learned to look before he leaped. But is it not bringing ringing to a low level if a vicar cannot take a month's notice from his ringers without being scandalised by his restless son?

A STURDY BRITON.

WELLS SURPRISE.

SIR.—I think Mr. Clarkson is slightly in error with regard to the 720 of Well's Surprise rung by the Stockton-on-Tees Society on November 1st. He states "that it is the first 720 in the method ever known to have been rung." Now, I wish to point out to him that my old friend and brother Cumberland, Mr. John Gobbett, once called a 5040 in seven different methods, in the county of Norfolk (the name of the parish I forget just now). The methods were:—London Surprise; Cambridge Surprise; Well's Surprise; Chichester Surprise; Oxford Treble Bob; Court Bob; Bob Minor. [We should like to have further particulars of this performance.—Ed.]

TICHMARSH BELLS, NORTH HANTS.

SIR,-Being a Northamptonshire man and fond of bells and bell-ringing, I was pleased to see the report in last week'spaper of the two trebles being added to the ring of six in the tower by the Rev. F. M. Stopford, the rector, in memory of the late Mrs. F. M. Stopford. The hanging has been very ably done. I am sorry to say the back six are out of tune, and it was understood that they were finished when they were rung on Saturday, December 26th, 1885. It is to be hoped that when they get the new clock and Westminster chimes the Rector will see that the bells are tuned, and not have it said that Tichmarsh bells are the worst out of tune as any ring of eight in A LOVER OF BELLS. Northamptonshire.

FRESSINGFIELD, SUFFOLK.

Thursday, January 14th, according to a custom of many years' standing, was observed as the annual gathering of the Fressingfield ringers and their friends. During the morning the bells were kept going, some well-struck touches being accomplished. At 2.30 the party, numbering 35, adjourned to the large room of that interesting and ancient hostelry, the "Fox and Goose." The room has recently been much improved, indeed, to use the proper phrase, it has been "restored." Here the host, Mr. Powley, had placed on the tables a repast most creditable to his establishment. The chair was occupied by the Rev. Dr. I. I. Rayen, Vicar of the parish, and the vice-chair by by the Rev. Dr. J. J. Raven, Vicar of the parish, and the vice-chair by Mr. James Barber. Among those present were the Rev. N. Bolingbroke, Hon Sec. of the Norwich Diocesan Association, Captain A. P. Moore, Messrs, Saunders, Edwards, and H. T. Barber. Before dispersing, the Rev. Dr. Raven was elected a member of the Diocesan Association of Ringers, there being five members of the Committee present. The Rev. N. Bolingbroke presented him with his certificate of membership, and in a few words congratulated the Association on gaining a member who stood first in knowledge of the history of the bells of East Anglia. Further touches on the tower and handbells concluded a very pleasant meeting in spite of the inclement weather.

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

One copy, 12 months 6s. 6d.

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.

H. Weston.—1. You must apply to the publisher for the numbers you want, but we are afraid they are out of print. The singles are common ones. 2. Write to the composer, Mr. J. F. Penning, Saffron Walden. He will, we are sure, give you the information you require.

TAIL-END.—College Youths: Mr. George A. Muskett, "King's Head," Winchester treet, Southwark. Cumberlands: Mr. Henry Dains, 147, Barnsbury Road, slington, N. The entrance-fee to either is about the same, and there is no further

The Bell Hews & Ringers' Record.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 23, 1886.

In the preface to his epitome on the Art of Ringing, it will be remembered that the late HENRY HUBBARD particularly alludes to the labours of three worthies of the past— HOLT, Annable, and Reeves, as among the most celebrated of the "old school." Doubtless many ringers of the present day have, while mere "colts," eagerly relished all the various scraps of history regarding these people that was within their reach. They will have mar. velled at the unique compositions of Holt, the numerous and well-constructed productions of Reeves, and the improvements effected by Annable in the positions which heavy bells should occupy during a peal. These things at the present time often afford a theme for interesting conversation, which leads to the belief that these three very able men are still regarded as the fathers of the science.

The path so well trodden by these worthies having said to be fairly exhausted, it is very gratifying to read of work in somewhat different fields. The researches of the late Mr. Jasper W. Snowdon, the Rev. C. D. P. Davies, the Rev. H. Earle Bulwer, and others—all independent investigations—have now been supplemented by those of Mr. A. Percival Heywood, and the result of his discoveries he has put to paper, the first instalment of which appears in this number of our journal. We are sure these articles will be read with great interest by our readers. Mr. Heywood has certainly broken up entirely new ground in dealing in such an interesting manner with the relation between change-ringing and music. Perhaps the publication of his remarks may lead to the greater practice of the more harmonious methods. In whatever method a composer is occupied upon, he strives, if he knows his business, to produce the greatest harmony; it is only reasonable, then, that ringers should endeavour to become accomplished in those methods where in their practice similar agreeable results are produced.

The interest taken in these various researches by the above-named gentlemen affords another and very good illustration of the fact that ringing is not a mere plebeian amusement. Here we again see men of education, of refinement, not satisfied with its bare practice, but fathoming its problems to the very bottom, and enjoying immense interest therein. As we have often said, it is to such labours as these that we can look, ultimately, for a proper appreciation of ringing by those who we long to number amongst its most ardent patrons.

The Metropolis.

SOUTHGATE, MIDDLESEX.

THE SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS. On Thursday, January 14, 1886, in Three Hours and Eight Mînutes, AT CHRIST CHURCH,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES; Brooks' Variation. Tenor 24 cwt.

GEORGE NEWSON Treble	BENJAMIN FOSKETT	5.
HENRY DAINS 2.	ARTHUR JACOB	ő.
Edward F. Cole, Esq.† 3.	Frederic Pitstow	7
THOMAS TITCHENER 4.	*WILLIAM ARSCOTT	Tenor.

Conducted by FREDEEIC PITSTOW.

This is the quickest peal on the bells. *First peal. +First peal of Stedman

FULHAM, MIDDLESEX.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS. On Monday, January 18, 1886, in Three Hours and Fourteen Minutes, AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERS, 5079 CHANGES; Tenor 21 cwt. in Eb.

JAMES PETTIT	 Treble.	*HARVEY REEVES 6.
JOHN M. HAYES	 2.	JOHN W. TAYLOR, JUN., Esq. 7.
Edwin Horrex	 3.	HERBERT BAKER 8.
CHARLES BEECH*	 4.	CHALLIS F. WINNY 9.
Francis E. Dawe	 5.	*SAMUEL HOW Tenor.

Composed by HENRY JOHNSON, sen., and Conducted by FRANCIS EDWARD DAWE.

Mr. Taylor hails from Loughborough, and this is his first peal in the method. *First peal of Stedman Caters.

WALWORTH, SURREY.

THE ST. JAMES'S SOCIETY, LONDON.

On Tuesday, January 19, 1886, in Two Hours and Forty Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES; HOLT'S ORIGINAL. Tenor 15\frac{3}{4} cwt.

WILLIAM H. FUSSELL .. Treble. | HENRY LANGDON 2. H .. . 3. Frederick G. Newman.. 6. JOSEPH BARRY RICHARD FRENCH . . . 3. HENRY RANDALL .. WILLIAM JONES . . . 4. HENRY W. FLOWERS

Conducted by FREDERICK G. NEWMAN.

The Provinces.

SHEFFIELD.—THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION. On Saturday, January 16, 1886, in Two Hours and Fifty-eight Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES; HOLT'S ORIGINAL. Tenor 15 cwt.

THOMAS HATTERSLEY .. Treble. | SAMUEL STOTT .. CHAS. HENRY HATTERSLEY 6. WILLIAM GARDINER 2. WILLIAM SMITHSON.. Tenor.

Conducted by Thomas Hattersley. Samuel Stott hails from Oldham.

LIVERPOOL.—THE LIVERPOOL YOUTHS' SOCIETY. On Thursday, January 14, 1886, in Three Hours and Thirty Minutes,

AT ST. PETER'S PRO-CATHEDRAL,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB ROYAL, 5088 CHANGES;

IN THE	KENT	VARIATION.	Tenor 25 cwt. in D.

RICHARD WILLIAMS	Treble.	*John R. Pritchard	6.
GEORGE HELSBY	2.	*William Davies	7.
WILLIAM WOODHEAD	3.	AMES EGERTON	8.
CHARLES WILLIAMS*	4.	*THOMAS HAMMOND	9.
John Brown*	· · · 5.	*Robert Williams	Tenor

Composed and Conducted by Robert Williams.

*First peal of Royal. The above was rung as a compliment to the Churchwardens, Messrs. Laurence and Woodcock, and is the first peal of Royal on these bells for the last 35 years. Several attempts have been made but failed, owing to the bad go of the tenor, which has lately been rehung by Messrs. Taylor and Sons, of Loughborough.

DUFFIELD, DERBYSHIRE.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION. (DERBY BRANCH).

On Saturday, January 16, 1886, in Three Hours and Five Minutes, AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 17 cwt.

George Dawson Treble.	George Hingley 5.
SAMUEL JOHNSON 2.	
JOHN HOWE 3.	
ARTHUR BERTRAM WARD 4.	A. Percival Heywood Tenor

Composed by J. R. PRITCHARD, of Liverpool, and Conducted by HARRY CHARLES WOODWARD.

This peal has the 6th nine times each way in 5-6, and contains eleven 8-6's, and the 8, 5, 7's, and is the first time of its performance.

EAST HAGBOURNE, BERKS.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, January 16, 1886, in Three Hours and Ten Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S ORIGINAL. Tenor $23\frac{3}{4}$ cwt.

JAMES PETHER*		7	reble.	JAMES W. WASHBROOK		5.
ERNEST NAPPER*		• •				
FRANK NAPPERT				*Charles W. Allen		
DENNIS NAPPER†	• •	• •	4.	*ALFRED WOODLEY	7	Tenor.

Conducted by James William Washbrook.

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

WOODBRIDGE, SUFFOLK.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

Birthdan Peal.

On Saturday, January 16, 1886, in Three Hours and Twenty Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES; IN THE OXFORD VARIATION. Tenor 28 cwt.

CHARLES MEE .. : Treble. | FREDERICK MEE

THOMAS STEWARD .. . 6.
ROBERT H. BRUNDLE .. 7. ALFRED E. ACFIELD 2. EDWARD SHERWOOD . . . 3. ROBERT H. BRUNDLE WILLIAM R. GARRETT* . 4. PETO MEADOWS.. .

Composed by N. J. PITSTOW, and Conducted by Charles Mee.

*First peal in the method.

This peal, which is the first in the method ever rang upon the bells, was rung to celebrate the conductor's 22nd birthday, his brother-ringers wishing him many happy returns. Messrs. Acfield and Garrett hail from Ufford; Sherwood from Wickham Market; Meadows from Melton; the rest are of the St. Mary-le-Tower Society, Ipswich. It is sincerely hoped the good parishioners of St. Mary's will ere long, think of their harmonious bells, as they go exceedingly heavy.

RINGERS' FUNERAL AT BRISTOL.—On Tuesday, January 5th, the members of the Ancient St. James's Society attended the funeral of their late brother member, Mr. George Hunt, who was for many years steeple-keeper of Temple Holy Cross, Bristol. The funeral took place at Arno's Vale Cemetery, and in the evening the church bells were rung muffled as a token of respect.

CARSHALTON.—THE SURREY ASSOCIATION. Birthdan Peal.

On Monday, January 18, 1886, in Two Hours and Fifty-eight Minutes, AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES; IN THE KENT VARIATION

IN THE INENT	VARIATION.	Tenor 125 CWC. II	1 O#	•
ARTHUR B. CARPENTER	Treble.	JOHN PLOWMAN		5,
Edgar Bennett	2.	JOSEPH FAYERS		6.
JOHN BRANCH		CHARLES BANCE		
IAMES HARRIS	4.	WILLIAM BURKIN		Tenor.

Composed by the late H. HUBBARD, and Conducted by EDGAR BENNETT.

This peal contains the twenty-four 8,6,7's, 7,8,6's, and 6,7,8's, and was rung to commemorate the birthday of the conductor.

OXFORD.—THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, January 17, 1886, in Three Hours and Thirty Minutes, AT MERTON COLLEGE,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES; THURSTANS' COMPOSITION. Tenor 36 cwt. in D.

2.11011011111110	O 414.2		10101 30 0 111 15.
			FREDERICK A. CASTLE 5.
Herbert. J. Castle		2.	THOMAS PAYNE 6.
SAMUEL HOUNSLOW		3⋅	THOMAS PAYNE 6. JAMES W. WASHBROOK 7.
CHARLES HOUNSLOW		4.	JAMES FRANKLIN Tenor
			ALFRED BARNEY I LENOY

Conducted by JAMES WILLIAM WASHBROOK.

This is the first peal in the method on the bells, and is the conductor's second peal in one day, he having called Holt's Original in the morning (at Hagbourne) of the same day; both peals being rung within the space of eleven hours, and fourteen miles apart.

WHITFIELD, DERYSHIRE.

THE UNITED COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

On Tuesday, January 19, 1886, in Three Hours and Five Minutes, AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JAMES,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5184 CHANGES; In the Kent Variation. Tenor 121 cwt.

EDWARD HAIGH	Treble.	SAMUEL WILKINSON	5.
		SAMUEL W. LEVER	· . 6.
WILLIAM MARSDEN	3.	John Bradbury	7.
SAMUEL KNOTT, JUN.*	• • 4.	*John Pye, jun	Tenor.

Composed by H. JOHNSON, SEN., and Conducted by EDWARD HAIGH.

*College Youths. Messrs. Harrop, Knott, and Pye hail from Old Glossop, the rest belong to the local company.

CAPEL, SURREY.

THE WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Wednesday, January 20, 1886, in Two Hours and Forty Minutes, AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

5040 CHANGES: IN SEVEN DIFFERENT TREBLE BOB METHODS,

Being 720 each of the following-

New London Pleasure, Superlative Surprise, College Exercise, College Pleasure, Oxford, Kent, and Violet.

Tenor 7 cwt.

RICHARD	Worsf	OLD		T	reble.	GEORGE WILLIAMS		4.
						Edward Jordan		
ALFRED 1	Mills	• •	• •	••	3.	David Jordan	• •	Tenor.

Conducted by DAVID JORDAN.

First peal by all but G. Williams, and the first on six bells by the above Guild.

Pate Touches.

SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.

WEST BROMWICH (Staffordshire) .- On Thursday evening, January WEST BROMWICH (Statiordshire).—On Thursday evening, January 7th, at Christ Church, the following members of the above Association rang a date touch of Grandsire Triples, 1886 changes, in 1 hr. 7 mins. S. Reeves (conductor), 1; B. Hill, 2; T. Horton, 3; J. Hall, 4; R. Hall, 5; W. R. Small, 6; C. Price, 7; C. Timms, 8. Tenor 23 cwt. 3 qrs. The touch, which has the 6,7 together for more than 1600 changes, was composed by Mr. H. Johnson, sen.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION AND THE BRADFORD ${\tt AMALGAMATED}$ SOCIETY.

Bradford.—On Sunday, January 10th, for Divine Service in the evening, a date touch of Kent Treble Bob Royal, 1886 changes in 1 hr. 15 mins. A. Moulson, 1; J. Naylor, 2; H. Raistrick, 3; R. Tuke, 4; J. Broadley, 5; T. Pollitt, 6; *H. Needham, 7; J. H. Hardcastle (composer and conductor), 8; J. B. Jennings, 9; W. Darbey, 10. *First length of Treble Bob. Tenor 27 cwt.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION

SHIPLEY (Yorks).—On Sunday, January 10th, at St. Paul's church, the local company, with Messrs. Cheetham, Copley, and Wilson, of Bradford, rang a date touch of Kent Treble Bob Major for evening service, in 1 hr. 7 mins, T. Lilley, 1; W. Wilks, 2; J. A. Ross, 3; J. Wilson, 4; B. T. Copley, 5; W. E. London, 6; J. Cheetham (composer and conductor), 7; J. S. Clark, 8. Tenor 15 cwt.

BIRSTALL (Yorkshire).—On Sunday, January 10th, for evening service, a date touch of 1886 changes (no method mentioned), in 1 hr. 10 mins. Geo. Thornton, 1; J. W. Yates, 2; S. Crowther, 3; J. W. Lang, 4; W. Stainthorpe, 5; J. Clayton, 6: A. Briggs, 7; B. A. Dodson (conductor), 8. Composed by William Smith, of Compactall Varieties. Gomersall, Yorkshire.

Diss (Norfolk).—On Monday evening, January 11th, at St. Mary's Church, by the local company, a date touch of Bob Major, 1886 changes, in 1 hr, 17 mins. E. Hayward, 1; J. Rudd, 2; W. Matthews, 3; B. Francis (composer), 4; C. Webster, 5; W. Ireland, 6; A. Hart, 7; J. Soutar (conductor), 8. Tenor 24 cwt.

GLODWICK, NEAR OLDHAM (Lancashire).—On Sunday, January 10th at St. Mark's church, a date touch of Grandsire Triples, composed by Mr. John Carter, of Birmingham, and contains twelve 4.6's and twenty-four 6,7's, in 1 hr. 8 mins. R. Guest, 1; C. Dronsfield, 2; A. Clegg, 3; G. Riley, 4; S. Stott (conductor), 5; G. T. Kershaw, 6; F. Cocks, 7; G. H. Beever, 8. Tenor 8½ cwt.

Hull.—On Sunday, January 10th, for Divine Service at Holy Trinity church, a date touch of Grandsire Triples, 1886 changes, in I hr. 7 mins. C. Jackson (composer and conductor), I; W. Southwick, 2; T. Stockdale, 3; H. Jenkins, 4; C. Bennett, 5; H. Cutter, 6; F. Drabble, 7; W. H. Harrison, 8. Tenor 25 cwt.

Lancaster.—On Tuesday, January 12th, at St. Peter's Church, a date touch of Grandsire Triples, 1886 changes, in 1 hr. 5 mins. P. Mulligan (conductor), 1; R. Bibby, 2; W. Crook, 3; H. Smith, 4; C. Carney, 5; J. Lemon, 6; W. Wearing, 7; P. Finn, 8 The above are all members of the St. Peter's society. Composed by Mr. John Carter, of Birmingham.

STALEYBRIDGE (Cheshire).—On Thursday, January 7th, at Holy Trinity church, Castle Hall, the local society rang a date touch of Grandsire Major, 1886 changes, in 1 hr. 8 mins. Allen Marsden, 1; Hugh Shaw, 2; John Powpall, 3: Andrew Byron, 4; Samuel Hill, 5; Isaac Schofield, 6; Edmund Schofield, 7; Matthew Pailthorpe (composer and conductor), 8.

WORTH (Sussex).—On Wednesday evening, January 13th, the local company rang a date touch, 1886 changes, in two different methods; viz., 446 and 720 of Oxford Bob, and 720 of Plain Bob Minor, in 1 hr. 3½ mins. W. Denman, 1; B. Payne, 2; J. Tullett, 3; F. Rice, 4; G. Illman, 5; E. Streeter (conductor), 6. Tenor 8½ cwt.

Miscellaneous.

THE ST. JAMES'S SOCIETY.

London.—On Monday, January 18th, eight members of the above society attempted a peal of Bob Major at St. Botoiph's Church, Bishopsgate, but it came to grief after ringing 3696 changes in 2 hrs. 25 mins., through the 3rd rope slipping off the wheel. T. C. Grove, 1; J. Waghorn, jun., (conductor), 2; W. Weatherstone, 3; G. B. Lucas, 4; E. F. Strange, 5; J. Waghorn, 6; T. Taylor, 7; W. Pye-English, 8. Messrs. Taylor and Weatherstone hail from Rotherhithe, E. F. Strange from Fulham, the remainder from Tottenham.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

WALKDEN (Lancashire).—On Christmas Day, for Divine Service in the morning at St. Paul's church, a 720 of Bob Minor, with eighteen bobs and two singles, in 25½ mins. W. Denner (conductor), 1; S. Oakes, 2; J. Welsby, 3; J. Williamson, 4; *J. Potter, 5; J. Brooks, 6. *First 720. And on Sunday, December 27th, for Divine Service in the morning, a 360 of Bob Minor, with eleven singles. W. Denner (conuctor), 1; S. Oakes, 2; J. Welsby, 3; J. Williamson, 4; A. Potter, 1. Brooks, 6. J. Brooks, 6.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

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Long Eaton (Derbyshire).—On Friday evening, January 8th, seven members of the Long Eaton society, rang for practice, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples, 1260 changes, the treble being left out, as the tenor man did not turn up. R. Hickton, 2; G. Bradley, 3; J. C. Dicken, 4; J. Ward, 5; W. Gilson, 6; A. Widdowson, 7; J. Barrow, 8. And on Sunday merning, January 10th, for Divine Service, 480 of Kent Treble Bob Major; and on Sunday evening for Divine Service, 704 of Kent Treble Bob Major. G. Bradley, 1; J. C. Dicken, 2; R. Hickton, 3; S. Clarke, 4: J. Ward, 5: W. Gilson, 6; A. Widdowson, 7; J. Barrow (conductor), 8. Tenor 11 cwt. in G. Barrow (conductor), 8. Tenor 11 cwt. in G.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

STOWMARKET (Suffolk) -On Monday, January 11th, at SS. Peter and Mary's church, a 720 of Bob Minor in 27 mins. C. Mee (conductor), 1; *W. E. Tydeman, 2; *J. E. Wright, 3; E. Buckle, 4; *R. F. Welham, 5; *W. Bedwell, 6. *First 720. C. Mee hails from Ipswich, the rest belong to the local company.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

CHALFONT (Bucks).—On Saturday, December 19th, at St. Peter's church, a 720 of Grandsire Minor in 26 mins. W. Leader, 1; A. Fussell, 2; T. Udell, 3; W. Wilder, 4; R. Flaxman, 5; W. Fussell (conductor), 6. Tenor about 12 cwt,

Oxford.—On Tuesday, January 12th, at All Saints' church, a 720 of Grandsire Minor, in 22 mins. H. Castle, 1; T. Payne, 2; A. Browning, 3; A. Fox, 4; F. Castle, 5; J. W. Washbrook (conductor), 6. Also at St. Peter-in-the-East, a 720 of Grandsire Minor, in 23 mins. F. Castle, 1; T. Payne, 2; A. Fox, 3; A. Browning, 4; J. W. Washbrook 5: H. Castle (conductor), 6. Washbrook, 5; H. Castle (conductor), 6.

READING.—On Sunday, January 10th, before Divine Service in the evening, at St. Giles's, a 720 of Bob Minor in 27 mins. H. Smart, 1: A. J. Wright, 2; H. White, 3; W. Newell, 4; J. Potter, 5; H. Egby (conductor), 6. Tenor 18 cwt.

(conductor), 6. Tenor 18 cwt.

SLOUGH (Bucks).—On Monday, December 14th, at St. Mary's Church, a 720 of Grandsire Minor, in 24 mins. W. Leader, 1; R. Flaxman, 2; T. Udell, 3; A. Fussell (conductor), 4; W. Wilder, 5; W. Fussell, 6. Also on Thursday, December 24th, being Christmas Eve, a 720 of Plain Bob Minor in 26 mins. W. Leader, 1; W. Fussell, 2; A. Andrews, 3; W. Wilder, 4; R. Flaxman, 5; A. Fussell (conductor), 6. And on Monday, January 4th, a 720 of Grandsire Minor in 25 mins. W. Leader, 1; A. Fussell, 2; T. Udell, 3; W. Wilder, 4; W. Fussell, 5; R. Flaxman (conductor), 6. And a 360 of Plain Bob Minor. And on Friday, January 8th, being the hirthday of the eldest Minor. And on Friday, January 8th, being the birthday of the eldest son of H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, a 720 of Bob Minor in 25½ mins. W. Leader, 1; R. Flaxman, 2; A. Andrews, 3; W. Wilder, 4; A. Fussell (conductor), 5; W. Fussell, 6. Also on Monday, January 11th, a 720 of Bob Minor in 26 mins. W. Leader, 1; A. Fussell (conductor), 2; R. Flaxman, 3; W. Fussell, 4; A. Andrews, 5; W. Wilder, 6. Tenor 9 cwt.

WINDSOR (Berks).—On Christmas morning, at St. John's Church, WINDSOR (Berks).—On Christmas morning, at St. John's Church, for Divine Service, a false 720 of Grandsire Minor, on the front six, with 7,8 covering, R. Flaxman, 1; A. Fussell, 2; T. Udell, 3; A. Andrews, 4; W. Wilder, 5; W. Fussell, 6; H. King, 7; J. Perryman, 8. Also on Tuesday evening, January 5th, 360 of Bob Minor on the back six; also some Grandsire Doubles, with 4,6,8, behind. And on Tuesday evening, January 12th, a touch of Grandsire Triples. It was intended to ring a quarter-peal, but the tenor rope came untucked after ringing half an hour. Conducted by A. C. Fussell, T. Udell ringing the 2rd and I. Akery the tenor the 3rd, and J. Akery the tenor.

WOOBURN (Bucks).—On Saturday, January 9th, an attempt was made to ring Holt's Original at the parish church, but it came to grief after ringing 1 hr. 26 mins,, it came to grief. W. H. Fussell, 1; A. Andrews, 2; Rev. W. S. Willett, 3; A. Fussell, 4; W. Wilder, 5; A. Garraway, 6; G. Newson, 7; T. Woolford, 8. Tenor about 16½ cwt. The ringers wish to return thanks to the Rev. A. Woodin for kindly giving them permission to ring.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

BOLTON, BRADFORD (Yorks).—On Sunday afternoon, January 17th, at St. James's Church, eight members of the above Association rang a halfpeal of Kent Treble Bob Major, 2528 changes, with bells half-muffled, in 1 hr. 29 mins., as a token of respect to the late J. A. Jowett, the founder of the church. B. T. Copley, 1; W. Wilks, 2; R. Tuke, Esq., 3; J. Ross, 4; J. S. Clark, 5; W. E. London, 6; J. Cheetham (conductor), 7; F. London, 8. Tenor 15 cwt. Composed by the late W. Harrison.

ABINGDON (Berks).—On Sunday, January 10th, at St. Nicholas Church, a 720 of Grandsire Minor. A. Barrett, 1; J. Viner, 2; H. Fruin, 3; J. Brown, 4; H. Holifield, 5; H. Sheard (conductor), 6. Also a 720 of Plain Bob Minor, in 25 mins. *H. Bright, 1; *J. Viner, 2; *H. Fruin, 3; J. Brown, 4; H. Sheard, 5; H. Holifield (conduçtor), 6. First 720 in the method.

ASH (Kent).—On Saturday, January 16th, six members of the Swanscombe society visited the parish church and rang a 720 of Grandsire Minor in 26 mins., to celebrate the 86th birthday of Mr. George Elcombe, who is the oldest inhabitant in the parish, and was sexton for many years. A. Cornford, I; J. Brown, 2: W. Martin, 3; G. Hayes, 4; G. Martin, 5; W. Harper (conductor), 6. The company then adjourned to the "Swan Inn," where the health of Mr. Elcombe was proposed by Mr. Martin, and drunk with musical honours. The rest of the evening was spent in handbell ringing and singing until ten o'clock.

BETCHWORTH (Surrey).—On Tuesday, January 12th, at St. Michael's church by the local company, a 720 of Bob Minor in 26½ mins. F. Arnold, 1; R. Arnold, 2: Fr. Arnold, 3; G. Williams (conductor), 4; H. Trinder, 5; W. Sadler, 6. Tenor 13½ cwt. This is the first 720 by the local company.

CALVERLEY (Yorks).—On Sunday, January 10th, at the church of St. Wilfrid's, before evening service, 768 of London Treble Bob Major in 27 mins., composed by Mr. W. Sottanstall, of Sowerby, it being the longest length on the bells in the above method. R. Page, 1; W. Child, 2; E. Keighley, 3; W. Hollings, 4; J. Page, 5; J. Ross, 6; J. Cordingley (conductor), 7: W. Davison, 8.

EAST HAGBOURNE (Berks).—On Friday, January 8th, for practice at St, Andrew's church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 50 mins. James Pether, 1; James W. Washbrook (conductor), 2; Frank Napper, 3; Dennis Napper, 4; Joseph Napper, 5; William Napper, 6; Charles Allen, 7; Edward Pether, 8. Tenor 23\frac{3}{4} cwt. This is the longest

length ever rung by local men.

FARNHAM ROYAL (Bucks). -On Christmas morning, December 25th, two 720's of Grandsire Minor. E. Batten, 1; F. Fells, 2; G. Basden, 3; J. Parker (conductor), 4; J. Basden, 5; C. Clarke, 6.

HAMPSTEAD (Middlesex).—On Sunday, January 3rd, seven members of the local company with C. West, of the Bedfordshire Association, rang for morning service a 518 of Grandsire Triples, and for evening service 539 of Grandsire Caters. S. Clark, 1; B. Foskett, 2; C. West, 3; J. Coomb, 4; H. Tyler, 5; C. Deal, 6; W. Prior, 7; E. Chapman, 8; G. Newson (conductor), 9; W. Arscott, 10.

HITCHIN (Herts).—On Monday, January 4th, for practice at St. Mary's Church, a 504 of Grandsire Triples. J. Randall, 1; H. Buckingham, 2; J. Hare, 3; A. Squires, 4; F. Furr, 5; S. Hare, 6; W. Allen (conductor), 7; J. Foster, 8. And on Tuesday, January 12th, six 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles, each called differently, with 7,6,8, behind. J, Randall, r; H. Buckingham, 2; J. Hare (conductor), 3; A. Squires, 4; S. Hare, 5; T. Dobbs, 6; J. Foster, 7; G. Halsey, 8, Tenor 28 cwt. in D.

LIVERPOOL.—On Thursday, January 7th, at St. Peter's church, a 5024 of Kent Treble Bob Major was started for, but after ringing 4000 changes, in 2 hrs. 32 mins., it came to grief. Richard Williams, 1; George Helsby, 2; William Woodhead, 3; Charles Williams, 4; John R. Pritchard, 5; Thomas Hammond, 6; William Davies, 7; Robert Williams (conductor), 8.

LONDON.—On Wednesday, January 20th, at Christ Church, Spital-fields, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples (1260 changes), Thurstans' composition, in 49 mins. William Cecil, 1; George McLaughlin, 2; Rev. F. J. O. Helmore (Canterbury), 3; Edward Wallage, 4; Challis F. Winny, 5; William Greenleaf, 6; James Pettit (conductor), 7;

Samuel Joyce, 8.

SPALDING (Lincolnshire).—On Sunday evening, January 3rd, after Divine Service at SS. Mary and Nicholas, 1008 of Grandsire Triples, being the first two parts of Holt's ten-part peal. J. S. Wright, 1; R. being the first two parts of Holt's ten-part peal. J. S. Wright, I; R. Mackman, 2; J. R. Jerram, 3; C. Neaverson, 4; G. L. Richardson, 5; C. A. Clements, 6; J. Brown, 7; J. W. Jarvis, 8. And on Wednesday January 6th, an attempt was made to ring the first half of Holt's tenpart peal of Grandsire Triples, but after ringing 2506 changes in I hr. and 36 mins., the conductor called the last bob one lead too soon, and had to call "stand." R. Jarvis, I; R. Mackman, 2; J. S. Wright, 3; C. Neaverson, 4; G. L. Richardson, 5; C. A. Clements, 6; J. R. Jerram, 7; J. W. Jarvis, 8. Also on Sunday evening, January 10th, 504 of Grandsire Triples. R. Jarvis, I; G. Skeef, 2; J. S. Wright, 3; C. Neaverson, 4; G. L. Richardson, 5; R. Mackman (conductor), 6; J. Brown, 7; J. W. Jarvis, 8. R. Jarvis rang his first touch of Triples on December 27th. on December 27th.

STANSTEAD (Essex).—On Tuesday, January 5th, at the church of St. Mary the Virgin, six of the local company rang a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor in 26 mins. J. Cavill, 1; W. Prior, 2; I. Cavill, 3; Treble Bob Minor in 26 mins. J. Cavill, 1; W. Prior, 2; I. Cavill, 3; G. Gray, 4; H. Prior, 5; C. Prior (conductor), 6. And on Wednesday, January 13th, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor, in 26½ mins., with the bells muffled. J. Cavill, 1: W. Prior, 2; H. Prior, jun., 3; G. Gray, 4; I. Cavill, 5; H. J. Tucker (conductor), 6. Also on Sunday, January 17th, with the bells half-muffled, a 720 of Plain Bob Minor in 26 mins. G. Prior, 1; W. Prior, 2; H. Prior, jun. 3; G. Gray, 4; I. Cavill, 5; C. Prior (conductor), 6. And after the afternoon service, a 720 of Plain Bob Minor in 26½ mins. G. Prior, 1; W.

Prior, 2; H. Prior, jun., 3; G. Gray, 4; J. Luckey, 5; C. Prior (conductor), 6. This was rang as a last tribute of respect to the late Rev. Canon Luard, Vicar of this parish. Tenor 13 cwt.

TUE BROOK, NEAR LIVERPOOL.—On Saturday, January 16th, a band of ringers met for a peal of Bob Major at the church of St. John the Baptist, but meeting two short, a start was made for Brook's variation of Stedman Triples, which unfortunately came to grief after ringing 1884 changes in 1 hr. and 5 mins. J. R. Pritchard, 1; W. Booth, 2; G. Fisher, 3; J. Brown, 4; J. Aspinwall, 5; W. Davies, 6; T. Hammond (conductor), 7; R. Diggle, 8. The ringers tender their hearty thanks to the wardens for their kindness in placing the bells at their disposal, but regret that this fine peal is silent on Sundays, owing to deficiency of funds, a state of things which it is hoped will not last.

Woolwich (Kent).—On Sunday, January 3rd, for Divine Service in the evening, at St. Mary's church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, 1260 changes, in 44 mins. G. Hogg, 1; H Harman, 2; W. Watchorn, 3; C. Harvey, 4; E. Richard, 5; E. Wells, 6; H. Harvey (conductor), 7; H. Bright, 8.

Worcester.—On Wednesday, December 30th, at All Saints' church, an attempt was made to ring a peal of Grandsire Caters, but after ringing 4947 changes in 3 brs. 25 mins., it came to grief. F. Owen, 1; T. Gwyn, 2; E. F. Strange (conductor), 3; G. Cleal, 4; G. Hinton, 5; W. Blandford, 6; H. Gover, 7; W. Page, 8; H. Lawton, 9; W. Hales, 10. Tengras cwill. Hales, 10. Tenor 25 cwt.

Hales, 10. Tenor 25 cwt.

WORTH (Sussex).—On Sunday morning, January 3rd, a 720 of Oxford Bob Minor, in 23 mins. W. Owden, 1; W. Denman, 2; J. Tullett, 3; B. Payne, 4; G. Hilman, 5: F. Rice (conductor), 6. And in the afternoon a 720 of Plain Bob Minor in 24 mins. B. Payne, 1; F. Arnold, 2; W. Denman, 3; G. Hilman, 4; F. Rice, 5; W. Sadler (conductor), 6. Also a 360 of Oxford Bob Minor; W. Sadler, 1; B. Payne, 2; W. Denman, 3; E. Streeter, 4; G. Hillman, 5; F. Rice (conductor), 6. And a 360 of Plain Bob Minor. W. Owden, 1; F. Arnold, 2; W. Sadler, 3; W. Denman, 4; G. Hillman, 5; E. Streeter (conductor), 6. Messrs. Arnold and Sadler half from Betchworth. And on Wednesday evening January 13th a 220 of Oxford worth. And on Wednesday evening, January 13th, a 720 of Oxford Bob. E. Streeter, 1; B. Payne, 2; J. Tullett, 3; W. Denman, 4; G. Illman, 5; F. Rice (conductor), 6. Tenor 8\frac{3}{4} cwt.

DEATH OF A NOBLE BENEFACTOR.—By the death of the Rev. C. A. Belli, formerly vicar of South Weald, Essex, church work in the immediate neighbourhood has last a noble benefactor. The deceased was appointed vicar of the parish as far back as 1823, and held such was appointed vicar of the parish as far back as 1823, and held such for upwards of half a century, resigning through old age, but still resided at the Vicarage, where he expired on the 16th inst., after having reached his 95th year. During his lifetime it is estimated that he has given £50,000 to church work. Our readers will be interested in learning that, by the will of the deceased, considerable progress is to be made towards putting up a peal at the new church, Brentwood. As far back as 1877 it was found that the existing church did not afford sufficient accommodation, and further that it could not be adapted to sufficient accommodation, and further that it could not be adapted to the requirements of the parish. A committee having secured some land at the west end of the church, which, unexpected, came into the land at the west end of the church, which, unexpected, came into the market, the foundation-stone of the present magnificent building was laid in February, 1880, by O. E. Coope, Esq., M.P., who gave £2000 to the building fund. In the following September the work was stopped from the want of funds, but in the following April an anonymous gift of £6000 was forthcoming. The work again proceeded, and the church consecrated in 1883. The original scheme included the erection of a handsome tower and spire and a peal of bells. A massive foundation was put in for the tower and after carrying it up about 12 feet, the was put in for the tower, and after carrying it up about 12 feet, the work was stopped for the want of funds. Thus matters still remained. According to the Essex County Chronicle, a journal thoroughly reliable upon church matters, the rev. gentleman referred to above was the anonymous donor of the £6000, and has instructed his executors to complete the erection of tower and spire. It may not be out of place to mention that the doorstep of one of the hotels in Brentwood is said to be level with the cross of St. Paul's cathedral, consequently a peal of bells in a suitable tower would occupy the most prominent position of any in the county. As upwards of £12,000 has been spent upon the church, and the cost of the tower, according to the plans, is estimated at from £2,000 to £3,000, it is to be hoped that a sound and practical judgment will be exercised in its construction, so that, when the time comes for a peal to sound from its walls, the work may prove to be second to none in the kingdom.

An unexpected but rather serious accident happened to one of the Year's morning, directly after ringing the midnight peal. The bells had been left "up" for ringing later on during the morning, and it would seem he had forgotten this, for while holding the tenor sally the bell came off, and before the rope was taken from him by a brother ringer, he was drawn up and down several times and severely dashed on the floor. He was removed in a very precarious state, but is now doing fairly well, with surgical aid from the Windsor Royal Infirmary.

THE STOCKTON-ON-TEES SOCIETY.

On Friday, December 18th, after ringing a 720 of York Surprise at the tower, the members and probationers of this Society, with Mr. Story, of Newcastle, Mr. Blakiston, of Darlington, and other friends, held their annual supper at "The Regent" inn, to which a party of eighteen sat down. The chair was occupied by Mr. Clarkparty of eighteen sat down. The chair was occupied by Mr. Clark-son, and the vice-chair by Mr. Story. At the conclusion of the supper the Vicar joined the party for a short time, and later on in the evening Messrs. Dain and Prudames, Sidesmen of the parish church.

The CHAIRMAN having given the loyal toasts, which were heartily received, then gave "The Vicar and Churchwardens," and remarked that bells were now no longer looked upon as mere instruments of pleasure, but were also regarded in the more important light of being a powerful influence for good when rightly used, quoting the words of the Bishop of Durham, at the Consett opening, to show that this at least was the case in the Durham diocese.

The Vican in responding expressed the pleasure of being able to

The VICAR, in responding, expressed the pleasure of being able to meet his ringers for the first time, and his hearty appreciation of the bells of his church, and the efforts of his ringers to maintain their high standard of efficiency in their work. The music of bells was beautifully solemn, yet cheerful, and their effect was greatly increased when in the hands of good ringers. The Vicar, in the course of conversation, expressed himself in favour of the scheme to augment the present peal of six to ten, by the addition of four larger bells

The CHAIRMAN, in responding to his health, referred to this desirable improvement, and remarked that if the present bad state of trade compelled them to defer the undertaking for a time, the ringers, who had done so well in the past, would still turn the present six to good account by ringing another 5040, which should be in seven Surprise

A succession of toasts, interspersed with songs, recitations, and handbell ringing formed the programme of a very pleasant evening, which was only brought to a close at turning-out time.

The 720s of Minor rung on these bells during the past year are as follows:—21 of Woodbine, 19 of Kent Treble Bob, 15 of York Surprise, 11 of Evening Exercise, 9 of Oxford Treble Bob, 8 of Durham Surprise, 3 each of Wells Surprise, Oxford Bob, and Plain Bob, 1 each Violet, College Singles, Grandsire, Court Bob, Double Court Bob, St. Simon's, Stedman's Slow Course; of which 51 have been conducted by T. Stephenson, 32 by G. J. Clarkson, 13 by T. Burdon, 2 by W. Newton, and 1 by T. W. Waller.

RANMOOR, SHEFFIELD.

RANMOOR, SHEFFIELD.

On Thursday evening, January 7th, the ringers of St. John's church held their annual dinner at the "Bull's Head," Ranmoor. After dinner the company adjourned to the church tower, and rang a 518 of Grandsire Triples with the following band:—H. Cressey, 1; Joseph Mulligan, 2; J. Broadhead, 3; F. Allen, 4; John Mulligan, 5; S. Hinde, 6; G. Plant, 7; R. Collier, 8. Also two or three other short touches. The Company then returned to the "Bull's Head," and after transacting the business of the Society, the handbells were brought out, and several tunes were rung by the members of the company; also a course of Grandsire Triples. S. Hinde, 1-2; Joseph Mulligan, 3-4; John Mulligan, 5-6; G. Plant, 7-8. Songs and toasts were given during the evening. "Success to 'The Bell News'" was given by Mr. S. Hinde in a very appropriate speech. Mr. John Mulligan proposed "Success to the Ranmoor Society," which was well received. Mr. A. B. Slowe gave "The Fisherman's Daughter," in a very able manner. Other songs and toasts followed, and a very in a very able manner. Other songs and toasts followed, and a very enjoyable evening was brought to a close with a vote of thanks to the host and hostess, for the able and efficient manner in which the dinner had been provided.

SUBSCRIPTION LIST FOR THE JOHNSON TESTIMONIAL.

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Amount already a		•••	•••	***	•••	•••	16 I	0	
G. Smith, Perry				•••	•••		2	6	
W. Wakley, St.	Paul's, Burt	on-on-	Trent		•••		5	0	
E. I. Stone,	11	**		•••	•••	•••	2	0	
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J. Jaggar,	,,	,,			•-•	•••	2	0	
S. Gretton,	**	**		•••	•••	•••	2	0	
J. Griffin,	,,	71		•••	•••	•••	2	0	
J. Holden, Sado	lleworth	•••	•••	•••			2	6	
T. Blackbourn,	Salisbury	•••					r	О	
F. E. Dawe, Lo				•••	•••		5	0	
R. Knill, St. Jan	nes's Society	, Brist	ol	•••			2	6	
M. C. Potter, E	sq., Cambrid	ge Un	iversit	y		•••	5	0	
St. Mary's Soci					as		rš	0	

As the Committee have been requested to allow this Fund to remain open for a short time, they here beg to inform their friends and brother ringers that they have decided to do so, but that the List must be Closed on Saturday, the 30th inst. A. Thomas, Hon. Secretary, 83, Wheeley's Road, Edgbaston, Birmingham; or Mr. S. Reeves, Hon. Treasurer, 10, Bull Street, West Bromwich.

THE ST. MARY'S SOCIETY, BEDDINGTON.

On Saturday, January 16th, the members of this Society, with a few friends, sat down, through the kind indulgence of their Rector, the Rev Canon Bridges, to their Annual Supper at the "Red Lion Inn," Hackbridge, where the Host, J. Davies, had prepared a most excellent spread. Upon the removal of the cloth the usual loyal and patriotic toasts were proposed and drank with enthusiasm. The Chairman, Mr. J. Plowman, then proposed the "Health of the Rector," which was drunk with musical honours. The Vice-chairman, Mr. H. Shoebridge, then sang "The Brave Old Oak," following with the toast of "The Visitors," to which Mr. Greenwood, of Streatham, responded. The toast of "The Honorary Members" was next proposed. E. F. Cole, Esq. in responding said that to be an honorary member was not proper. Esq., in responding, said that to be an honorary member was an honour indeed; for they were asked to take part in everything in or out of the belfry; no one asked you for any subscription, and of all the belfries that he had entered, and they were many, he never had the opportunity of practising so many methods, for no sooner had he entered the belfry than he was asked to take which rope he liked, and told to stick to it. C. E. Malim, Esq., also responded. Mr. Burkin then proposed "The Health of the Conductor," Mr. Edgar Bennett, to whose untiring energy the society owed its present successful position. Mr. Bennett, in responding, said it gave him great pleasure to hold that position so long as he had such gentlemen as Dr. A. B. Carpenter (who was unavoidably absent) and the present company to back up his efforts. The rest of the evening was devoted to harmony. Mr. Cole recited in a most eloquent manner "The Dream of Eugene Aram." The party then sung (over a parting bowl of punch) "Auld Lang Syne," and the chairman declared the meeting closed.

FESTIVITY AT CROSTON.

The Society of St. Michael's church, Croston, met on Tuesday, January 5th, and rung a 720 of Bob Minor, in 25½ mins., to celebrate the birthday of J. Ashcroft, Esq., of the Lodge. Two ringers being the birthday of J. Ashcroft, Esq., of the Lodge. Two ringers being absent, a six-bell peal had to be rung. The ringing was considered absent, a six-bell peal had to be rung. The ringing was considered by the old parish ringers to be perfection. Arranged in the following order:—J. Pye, I; W. H. Kirkham, 2; T. Banister, 3; W. Sumner, 4; W. Spiby, 5; J. Asherroft, Esq., 6. Conducted by J. Pye. Weight of tenor 15 cwt. From the church they afterwards went to "The Lodge," to partake of a substantial supper, provided by Mrs. Asherroft, the worthy hostess, and served up in grand style. After ample justice had been done to the good things prepared for them, a most enjoyable evening was spent in songs, recitations, and handbell ringing, the worthy host of the evening singing in a masterly style, "Over the mountains.

FESTIVE GATHERING AT WORCESTER.

By the kind invitation of the Churchwardens of All Saints' church, the following members of the Society met at the house of Mr. Veel, on the 31st of December, and partook of the good things provided at Christmas-time. After supper the "Health of the Queen" was drunk, and the "Health of the Rector and Churchwardens" was also drunk with musical honours, and duly acknowledged by Mr. Veel, senior warden. After a few selections with the handbells, and song and sentiment, the ringers ascended the tower and rang the old year out and ihe new year in. We take the opportunity, through the "Bell Name" of the result of the results of the resu NEWS," of thanking the Rector and Churchwardens for their kind hospitality, and hope other rectors and churchwardens will revive the old Christmas-times among bell-ringers. Invitations were as follows:—F. Owen, G. Cleale, W. Hale, J. Hale, J. Hinton, W. Powell, W. Johnson, W. Rudge, W. Jenkins.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

The February Meeting of the Yorkshire Association will be held at Rotherham, on Saturday, February 6th. The Rotherham branch will provide tea for all members who signify their intention of being present at the meeting, to Mr. John Hale, "Three Cranes" Inn, High Street, Rotherham, not later than Feb. 1st. W. WHITAKER, Hon. Sec.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

A Quarterly Meeting of the Association will be held at Heywood, on Saturday, January 30th, 1886. The bells of St. Luke's church (eight), will be at the disposal of the members from 2.30 p.m. The business meeting will take place in the School-room connected with the church, meeting will take place in the School-room connected with the charten, under the presidency of the Rector, at 6 p.m. Friends of members will be welcome. Tea can be obtained at a reasonable rate at the Heywood Coffee Tavern.

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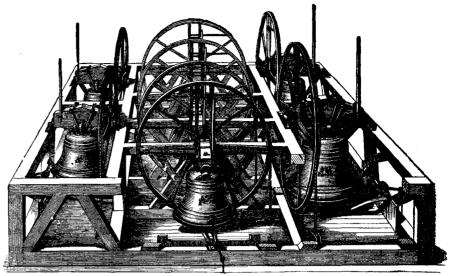
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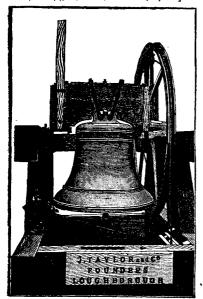
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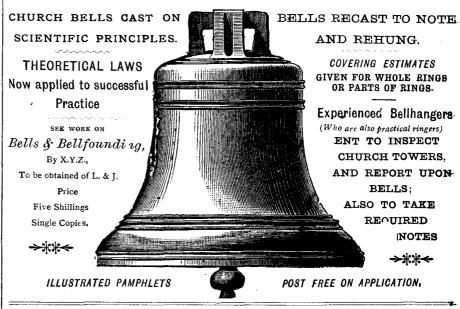
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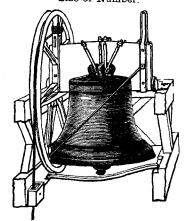
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WHICH IS THE MOST MUSICAL MAJOR METHOD? By A. Percival Heywood.

(Concluded from p. 337).

Double Oxford has very much the same qualities as the last method, from which it differs only in second's place being made instead of the whole pull behind when the treble leads, and seventh's instead of the whole pull at lead when the treble is behind. The making of second's and seventh's places are the chief objections to this method. Owing to the long dodging the music is very fine, but verges on monotony when the bells are not in a musical position. There are, as in Double Norwich, four positions of 6-7-8 behind. The method is also very convenient for composition, as a bob before shortens the course one lead.

Kent Treble Bob.—In this and the following methods, the treble having a dodging course, the music is always good, but in Kent it is marred by the continual making of second's place and the number of whole pulls at lead. Places are also occasionally made at consecutive changes, and an unpleasant effect is produced by the place-making in 3.4, while the treble is at lead; for not only do two bells lie still next one another, but again immediately lie still in reverse order, so that were it not for the dodging course of the treble, the method would not have much to recommend it. A bob improves the music by removing the whole pull from behind while the treble leads. There are only two positions of 6-7-8 behind. For composition it is unsurpassed in the variety of peals that can be had, owing to the power of calling double bobs.

Oxford Treble Bob.—What has been said of Kent is also true of this method, the only difference being that the place-making bells in 3-4 do not repeat their places reversed. This advantage to the music is, however, counterbalanced by the tenors, which in both these methods are at times widely parted, being still more so in the one under consideration.

Superlative Surprise.—A careful examination of this method will shew how well it deserves its name, and how far superior it is in its music to any other yet invented; although a century has elapsed since it was placed before the Exercise, it still remains Superlative par excellence. Constructionally it has but one flaw, the making of second's and seventh's places according as the treble is in front or behind; this sole weak point is, however, almost hidden by the innumerable remaining virtues. The minimum number of places are made, and these for the most part nicely hidden inside the changes, and never, except in the two cases above alluded to, adjoining one another. The whole six positions behind of 6-7-8 are brought up in a course, and the tenors, while kept well together, are in a few places parted just so far as to allow numerous 4-6-8s, and even 2-4-6s to come up; indeed the Queen's change is found about the middle of the Plain Course. The rhythmical beauty of the ringing, combined with the regularity of the seemingly intricate work, endue this method with an indescribable fascination to the performer. It is fairly well adapted for composition, but the extent of a bell each way in 5-6 is only half what is possible in Treble Bob, consequently the extent with the tenors together is limited, being only 6720, which does not leave a large margin for variety.

Cambridge Surprise.—As this method was invented before Reeves produced his Superlative, there are strong grounds for believing that he had Cambridge before him when at work on his new system, for not only are the lead-ends and bob-making the same, but the principle of the place-making is similar in both methods. At any rate the later method is in every respect such an improvement upon the one under consideration, that it is surprising any company should have been found to practice Cambridge at all; a spirit of rivalry being probably the only tangible reason for doing so. The place-making in this method is very crude, many unnecessary places being introduced. This is especially to be noticed where the treble is in 3-4 each way, for then four bells lie still at one change, a pretty near approach to the old Place-ringing, which has fortunately died a natural death. Owing to this freak on the part of the inventor, true peals in any quantity are scarcely possible. The number of whole pulls in front and behind cause the music to be indifferently sustained. There are only two positions of 6-7-8 behind. This and the following are single methods, and do not possess the regularity of Superlative, which is a double method, and are consequently more difficult to ring.

London Surprise.—This is without doubt the most difficult method to ring yet produced, but it certainly does not repay by its music the trouble bestowed in acquiring a knowledge of it. What has been said of Cambridge will apply also to this system, except that it is without the blot in the place-making with the treble in 3-4. There are again only two positions of 6-7-8 behind. A bob before shortens the course one lead, as in Double Oxford; in fact the lead ends are the same; but although this in itself would make the method a handy one for composition, there seems to be some difficulty in composing true peals, owing to the in and out of course arrangement of the changes. The practice of such a method is comparable to the wonderful one-

handed performances on the piano, very interesting as an exhibition of skill, but worthless from a musical point of view.

Albion Surprise.—This, although not a standard method, has lately attracted some notice, and its capabilities may therefore in conclusion be noticed. What might otherwise have been a really musical system is marred by continuous place-making of pairs of bells adjoining one another, the places being all made a second time, with the bells reversed. It may be pointed out that this is really a method derived from Bob Major, the changes which in the latter would be brought up after a half-way single being arranged close to those to which they most nearly correspond. Any plain method may be treated in a similar way, and such a one as Double Norwich on the Treble Bob system, would produce better music than the one under consideration. In favour of these derived methods, it may be said, as has been pointed out in "The Bell News" already, that compositions on the plain methods will run true on their derivatives, within certain limits. Albion contains all six positions of 6-7-8 behind, and the music in 6-7-8 is good, the amount of place-making, however, prevents it from comparing favourably, from a musical point of view, with the higher of the Standard Methods.

Correction.—In the notice of Plain Bob, on page 337, the last sentence should read: "There are only two positions of 6-7-8 behind. Owing to a bob before lengthening the course by a lead, this is not a very convenient method for composition."

SYSTON, LEICESTERSHIRE.

On Thursday, January 21st, the bells of the parish church were reopened after the addition of two trebles to complete the octave. Proceedings commenced with a special Service of Dedication at 11.30, the ceremony being performed by the Right Rev. J. Mitchinson, Assistant Bishop of the Diocese. After the processional hymn (297 A. & M.), the versicles at the commencement of Matins were intoned, followed by the chanting of Psalms 47, 81, and 150. The first lesson was Numbers x. to verse 11, followed by the Te Deum and the second lesson, I Cor. xiii. to xiv. 11. Jubilate Deo was next sung, then the Apostles' Creed, lesser Litany, Lord's Prayer, and the following versicles. The Bishop then intoned some special prayers, concluding with the dedicatory form, "God the Father, God the Son, God the Holy Ghost, accept, hallow, and bless these bells. The Lord with His favour graciously regard our work, and send down upon this house His Spiritual benediction and grace." He then proceeded, "I declare these bells to be now dedicated and consecrated to the service of Almighty God, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost.—Amen." A few rounds and cross-changes were then rung by the local company, immediately after which the special hymn beginning—

"Set between the earth and heaven, Now our bells are raised on high,"

Now our bells are raised on high,"
was sung. His lordship then preached from the text, Psalm 81, 1,
taking for his subject the effect of sound upon mankind. During the
offertory the choir sang, "When morning gilds the skies," (303, A. & M.)
The Bishop then gave the blessing, and the service concluded with the
recessional hymn, "Angel Voices."
Immediately after the service some plain course of Grandsire Triples

Immediately after the service some plain coures of Grandsire Triples were rung by the following members of the local company:—E. Hitchcox, r; G. Freeman, 2; J. North, 3; J. Pickard, 4; G. Walton, 5; J. Hall, 6; Rev. W. Pearson, 7; J. Freeman, 8. They then gave place to their more experienced ringing friends, who were by this beginning to assemble. Among the ringers present were A. Percival Heywood, Esq., of Duffield; Messrs. J. W. Taylor, sen., J. W. Taylor, jun., and E. D. Taylor, of Loughborough; Rev. R. Copeman (St. George's, Leicester), also members of the Loughborough, Long Eaton, and various Leicester companies. During the day several touches of Grandsire and Stedman Triples and Kent Treble Bob Major were brought round.

At 4.30 a public tea was provided at the Village Hall, to which more than 200 residents and their friends sat down, and we believe did ample justice. Afterwards some songs, handbell ringing, &c. served to pass away the time until Evensong, at 7.30. The sermon was preached by the Rev. D. W. Barrett, Vicar of Nassington, who took for his text Dan. iii. 25, and compared the trials of the Jewish Church at that period with the troubles that are overhanging the Church at the present time. The offertories, which during the day amounted to £8 2s. 1\frac{1}{4}d., were for the bell fund, a considerable deficiency having still to be made up.

The new work has been most satisfactorily carried out by Messrs. J. Taylor and Co., the trebles being much admired both for power and sweetness of tone by those who had the pleasure of hearing them.

On Monday, January 25th, the first peal—a 5056 of Kent Treble Bob Major—was rung on the above bells, particulars of which will be found in the peal column.

APPLICATION FOR PATENT.—16,002, A. W. L., 8, Hanover Crescent, Brighton, for "improving and making fuller the tone of church bells."— December 30th, 1885.

DEDICATION OF CHURCH BELLS AT HARPFORD, DEVON.

The little village of Harpford, situate one mile from Tipton St. John, and about four from Ottery St. Mary, was en fête recently on the occasion of the dedication of a peal of five bells hung in the tower of the parish church (St. Nicholas), and it will long be recognised as a "red-letter" day in the annals of Harpford. Formerly there were three bells in the tower, two of which were cracked; and the machinery was also in a very dilapidated condition. For a considerable time it has been the desire of the parishioners to have a respectable peal of bells, but no one cared to "set the ball a-rolling," or to bear the responsibility. In April of last pear the project was mooted by Mr. and Mrs. C. James and Mr. W. Channon, who yesterday saw the consummation of their indefatigable efforts. The promoters of the object appealed for subscriptions, which were liberally responded to. Among those who rendered pecuniary assistance were Sir John Kennaway, Bart., M.P., Lieut.-Colonel Walrond, M.P., the Bishop of London, Sir Henry Peek, Bart., W. R. Coleridge, Esq., H. H. Peppin, Esq. (Harpford), S. H. Peppin, Esq., (Exeter), and G. G. Peppin, Esq. (London). It was first of all contemplated to repair the three bells in the tower and add two more, but after reconsideration it was thought far more advisable to dispense with the old and have a new peal. The bells, which were cast by Messrs. John Warner and Sons, Cripplegate, London, weigh as follows:—treble, 5 cwt. 2 lbs., cast in E.; 2nd, 4 cwt. 3 qrs. 25 lbs., D.; 3rd, 5 cwt. 1 qr. 19 lbs. C‡.; 4th, 6 cwt. 8 lb., B.; tenor, 7 cwt. 1 qr. 27 lb., A. The contract, including the ordering of the bells and hanging them, construction of the cage, &c., was efficiently carried out by Mr. H. Stokes, of Woodbury. About noon six of the Honiton Clyst ringers, under Mr. Broughton, arrived in the village and gave the opening peal. S. Broom, 1; W. Reed, 2; G. Arscott, 3; T. Culley, 4; A. P. Broughton, 5. An adjournment was then made to Mr. James's house, where a large party partook of luncheon.

SITTINGBOURNE, KENT.

On Friday, January 22nd, the members of the St. Michael's Society met in the tower to open a peal-board erected to commemorate the peal rung on the occasion of the wedding of F. Grayling, Esq., and also to ring a farewell touch with Mr. Harry Sutton, who rang the tenor to the peal, and who shortly sails for New Zealand. The Vicar (Rev. Henry Venn), and Mr. and Mrs. Grayling were present, and a musical 336 was rung by the same band that rang in the peal; and 350, with F. Grayling, Esq., and Capt. Wood (Faversham), conducted by J. M. Cooper. Rounds and firing brought the ringing to a close.

A move was then made to the "Lion Hotel," where, after due atten-

A move was then made to the "Lion Hotel," where, after due attention had been paid to creature comforts, Mr. Judd, in proposing Mr. Harry Sutton's health, said he thought a special word of praise was due to him for the plucky manner in which he rang the tenor to the peal, not, perhaps, because of the weight of the bell, but because of its going so heavily, owing to the stock being broken. He should ask them, without further delay, to drink Mr. Sutton's health, and wish him a safe and pleasant voyage.

The toast was enthusiastically honoured, and Mr. Sutton thanked his brother-ringers, and hoped, it all was well, to come home again in about seven years, and the first place he should make for would be the belfry, when he hoped he should see many old faces and new pealboards. Mr. Cooper then proposed "Success and Happiness to Mr. and Mrs. Grayling," which was drank with great enthusiasm. The other toasts were "The Conductor and Secretary," which were duly honoured. Several capital songs were given, and the "National Anthem" brought a very pleasant evening to a close.

THE ST. MARY-LE-TOWER SOCIETY, IPSWICH.

On Tuesday evening, January 5th, the election of officers for the ensuing year took place. J. Motts, Master; S. Tillett, Deputy Master; W. L. Catchpole, Steward; E. Pemberton, Treasurer; J. S. Alexander, Hon. Sec., 73, Helen's Street, Ipswich; R. H. Brundle and T. Steward, Auditors,

THE ST. PAUL'S SOCIETY, SPALDING, LINCOLNSHIRE.

On New Year's Eve, December 31st, this company was entertained at supper at the Vicarage, by the kind invitation of the Vicar, the Rev R. G. Ash. The company met at the church at 8 p.m., and rang some touches of Grandsire Triples, afterwards adjourning to the Vicarage, where a most sumptuous supper was served, the Vicar presiding, the vice-chair being occupied by E. Leeds, Esq. After doing ample justice to the good things provided, an adjournment was made to the schoolroom, where a bountiful supply of oranges, nuts, tobacco, and different liquors were attacked. At 11.30 they ascended the tower and rang the old year out and the new one in, in the aforesaid method. After which the Vicar proposed the health of the ringers, wishing them a happy and prosperous new year, and complimenting them on their progress in the method and striking. The health of the Vicar and his lady was proposed by Mr. R. Creasey, and drank with musical honours. Several courses of Grandsire Triples were then rang on the handbells double-handed, and several good songs were given by different members of the company. After singing the National Anthem, the company separated at an early hour, much pleased with their night's entertainment, and expressing that the worthy Vicar may be spared many years to entertain the ringers.

many years to entertain the ringers.

On Wednesday evening, January 20th, the above company were invited by Mrs. Everard, of Fulney House, to supper at the workmen's institute, where the annual supper took place by the kind benevolence of this lady. The Rev. R. G. Ash presided, H. M. Proctor, Esq., occupying the vice-chair, and supported by several gentry of the town. After the usual toasts were gone through, the above company gave a course of Grandsire Caters on the handbells, which received a hearty encore. Time being limited, it could not be acceded to. The supper was a first class one, supplied by Mr. Shepherd, confectioner, and gave great satisfaction. About eighty sat down. Several songs were afterwards given by Messrs. Hodges, Creasey, Quinton, etc., the company breaking up about eleven o clock.

THE ST. GILES' SOCIETY, NORTHAMPTON.

The annual meeting of this Association was held on Monday evening, January 12th, in the vestry. In the absence of the vicar (the president), the chair was taken by Mr. W. Pitts (churchwarden), who was supported by Mr. William Smith, and a fair number of ringers. The minutes of the last meeting having been confirmed, the balance-sheet was read and adopted. The election of officers for the year was then proceeded with as follows:—Conductor, Mr. T. Wood; secretary and treasurer, Mr. S. Hall (re-elected); committee, Messrs. T. Roberts, H. Gilham and F. Clayson—the Vicar, Churchwardens and Sidesmen being ex-officio members. A vote of thanks was given to the officers for their services during the past year, on the motion of the Chairman, seconded by Mr. W. Smith; and a vote of thanks to the chairman closed the meeting. The ringers of St. Giles's are to be congratulated on the advance they have lately made in the art of change-ringing, and it is to be hoped that they, with the other local bodies of ringers, will not be content until they have placed Northampton in the position she formerly occupied in the ringing world. We hope to hear more of their performances at an early date.

FESTIVITY AT WIDFORD, ESSEX.

On Friday evening, January 15th, the ringers and members of the choir of St. Mary's Church, had their 23td annual supper, through the kindness of A. Pryor, Esq., of Hylands Park. Before supper some touches of Oxford Treble Bob was rang at the church. Then they retired to the "White Horse Inn," where a course in the Roast Beef of Old England method, consisting of all front snapping work, was well performed and brought into rounds at handstroke, without a hitch, ably conducted by the landlady, Mrs. Thorn, well known to many ringing friends who have at different times visited Widford. Afterwards a very pleasant evening was too quickly brought to a close with songs and touches and tunes on the handbells. The health of Mr. and Mrs. Pryor, and family, was heartily drunk, with musical honours, hopes being expressed that they might live many years to perform the same act of kindness. Our correspondent adds:—"I should like to see more frequent accounts of the practice of the above method by our brother-strings in different parts of the country."

THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

THE REPORT for the year 1885 will shortly be published, price 4d., containing the balance-sheet, list of members, and record of performances. Members are hereby requested to inform the Hon. Secretary through their representatives, whether they will require copies of the above.

ARTHUR B. CARPENTER, Hon. Sec.

34 Dingwall Road, Croydon,

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

The February Meeting of the Yorkshire Association will be held at Rotherham, on Saturday, February 6th. The Rotherham branch will provide tea for all members who signify their intention of being present at the meeting, to Mr. John Hale, "Three Cranes" Inn, High Street, Rotherham, not later than Feb. 1st. W. WHITAKER, Hon. Sec.

* * The Midland Railway will run a Special Train on the above day,

as follows:-

7110 110	•						P
From	Keighley				• •		 1.30
,,	Bingley						 1.38
,,	Bradford (M	idland	Station	n)			 1.35
,,	Manningham						 1.39
,,	Shipley			• •		• •	 1.43
,,	Apperley					• •	 1.51
1)	Kirkstall			• •			 1.59
* 1	Holbeck		• •	• •			 2. 4
11	Leeds (Wellin	ngton (Station)	• •	• •	 2.15
12	Hunslet						 2.21
11	Woodlesford			• •			 2.35
	Arrivir	g at S	heffield	l about	t 3.40 p	m.	

3

The Return Train will leave SHEFFIELD at 11 p.m., and MASBORO' at 11.10 p.m. the same day.

"BELLS AND BELL-RINGING."

On Thursday, January 21st, at a meeting of the St. Margaret's (Westminster) Debating Society, Mr. J. Scowen read a paper with the above title. He had been induced, he said, to write on the subject by the interest he felt in it as a practical ringer, and also by the fact of its being one concerning which little was known outside the ringing world, so that some remarks respecting it would possibly be new and interest-The essayist then gave particulars as to the history of bells, stating that they had been used in the most remote ages for various purposes, and giving details of the first-known peals of church bells in England. He then stated what he had been able to learn of the history of the bells in the parish church of St. Margaret's and at Westminster Abbey, giving the inscriptions upon them. He next proceeded to describe the process of casting and tuning, and explained the difference between ringing and chiming. It was not known when the system of change-ringing was first discovered, but the earliest record extant shows that Fabian Stedman, of Cambridge, devised a system in the 17th century, which is still extensively practised. As regards the parish church bells, the first peal of which any record remains was that rung in 1751, by the Society of Union Scholars, in the Grandsire method, composed and conducted by John Holt, known as "Holt's Original Neal" which is compressed that an eld board which has recombined Peal," which is commemorated by an old board which has recently been restored, and which hangs in the porch of St. Margaret's church. After the essay was finished, the following members of the Amateur Society of St. Margaret's rang on the handbells, as a practical illustration of change-ringing, a 120 of Grandsire Doubles:—Mr. E. Salter, 1; Mr. F. Salter, 2; Mr. A. Langdon, 3; Mr. A. J. Rumbold, 4; Mr. J. Scowen, 5-6.

VISIT TO THE EASTERN COUNTIES.

On Saturday, January 23rd, Mr. A. Thomas, of Birmingham, paid a visit to Ipswich, and with the local company attempted to ring 5004 of Stedman Cinques, which, after ringing upwards of 4850 changes in 3 hrs. 37 mins., it came to grief through a trip in the slow. On Sunday, January 24th, a touch of Stedman Triples, and a course of Double Norwich Court Bob Major was rung for Matins, and in the evening, two courses of Stedman Cinques, and one of Double Norwich Court Bob Royal. On the following day three of the Ipswich band, with Mr. Thomas, made a journey to Norwich, where they expected to start for Treble Twelve, but owing to a special service, an early start had to be made, and as the time was so limited, it was thought advisable to attempt Royal. The ringers wish through this medium, to thank the officiating clergy, who, on this occasion, so kindly allowed the peal to be finished during the early part of the service.

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 GUIDE TO THE RINGS IN THE COUNTRY.

SIR,-The time will soon be coming on for the different classes of society to be thinking of holiday keeping, amongst whom there will be a good number of ringers; and, as I take it for granted that if they go anywhere near where there any bells, they would like to have a pull, I think it would be a great benefit to us ringers to have a guide to the different churches in every county as to the number of bells, weight of tenor, their practice-nights, and name and address of steeplekeeper, so that if any ringer was on a tour, or a band of ringers wanted a day's ringing somewhere, they would only have to turn to

the guide for information which we cannot obtain now, unless after a deal of trouble (for I believe you can only obtain a list of rings in a few counties, and that not up to the last two or three years)

And if, sir, it would meet with your approval to publish a supplement to any one week's "Bell News," and charge for a double number same as Christmas, containing all the rings in the country, with the number of bells, &c., it would be a great boon to all ringers, I think; and if I can be of any help in preparing the same for the printers' hands, I will gladly do so, if all steeplekeepers, secretaries, or any ringer will forward me the following particulars, viz.:—Name of church, parish, and county; number of bells; weight of tenor, and key; name and address of steeplekeeper, and night and time of practice. I will arrange them in alphabetical order, and forward when

ready, to you for publication in any way you may think fit.

Briscoe Road, Merton, Surrey.

[We think that the Guide to the Steeples of England, by the Brothers Troyte, published by Wells Gardner, Darton, & Co., fully answers the purpose. It would take considerably more than one number of "The Bell News" to publish the contents of that book.—Ed.]

WELLS SURPRISE.

SIR,-If your correspondent, M. Ellesmore, is unable to understand my remarks about the Stockton society ringing Wells Surprise, he might at least have taken the trouble to correctly quote them. A six bell composition which was known to the Exercise in the days of the Clavis, is scarcely likely to be rung for the first time nearly a hundred years after.

SIR,-I beg to inform Mr. Clarkson that the peal of Wells Surprise Minor rung by the Stockton Company, on November 1st, was not the

Minor rung by the Stockton Company, on November 1st, was not the first, as I have the following records by me:—

"Bingley, Yorkshire.—The first to record is a peal that was rung in 1793, on the occasion of William Busfelld, Esq., of Myrtle Grove, attaining his majority. The Company on that day rung seven whole peals of 720 changes each, in all 5040 changes, on the most difficult of known methods: all Snappers, namely, Chester, London, Carlisle, Chelsea, Lincoln, Litchfield, Wells. The ringers were stationed as follows:—James Tillotson, treble; Isaac Rhodas, 2; Hezekiah Briggs, 3; William Moulding, 4; Henry Moulding, 5; Joseph Longbottom, 6. Tenor 11 cwt, 3 qrs. This will be acknowledged to be a most remarkable and uncommon feat, all the performers being members of the Bingley Company."
RICKENHALL, SUFFOLK.—On Christmas Day, 1840, the Company rang a peal of Wells Surprise Minor 720. [The names of the band I am unable to give, but I think the Mr. Gobbett mentioned by Mr. Ellsmore can supply them. The 5040 conducted by Mr. Gobbett, mentioned by Mr. Ellsmore, I think is the following, which I have copied from the beltry of Rickenhall, Suffolk.]
"RICKENHALL.—On April 15th, 1845, was rung in this tower 5040 changes on the following peals:—London Surprise, twice; Cambridge Surprise, twice; Court Bob, twice; and Oxford Treble Bob, once, by us, in 3 hrs. 3 mins. James Williams, 1; George Pearce, 2; Jonathan Morley, 3; Robert Driver, 4; Henry Morley, 5; John Gobbett, 6, and conducted the peals."

If this is not the peal, perhaps Mr. Gobbett will give particulars of the one mentioned by Mr. Ellsmore.

Saml. Slater.

Glemsford.

Glemsford.

"PREMEDITATED SUICIDE."

SIR,—It appears from last week's paper that "A Sturdy Briton" is trying to show that I have said what is not true.

I can only say that I wrote what I believe to be strictly true, and on inquiry from those in authority, I find that the gravedigger, after expressing to them his intention to retire, went away with the understanding that he was to think over his decision.

Personally, I think it high time for this correspondence to cease, as I

should be sorry to disturb the peace and quietness of the few days still left to the Britons before they expire. May they rest in peace!

C. S. R.

MR. JOHNSON'S PEAL OF BOB TRIPLES.

—In reply to "A Composer," I beg leave to state that the peal of Sir,—In reply to "A Composer," I beg leave to state that the peal of Bob Triples which appeared in your issue of the 2nd inst., was composed by me in the year 1852, and appeared in Sottanstall's work, published in 1867, on page 148. My idea at that time was to compose a peal with the fewest possible calls. I obtained the one in question, and the following with the same course-ends:

23456				•
	M	W	H	
64235	_	_	_	
26435				
24635			-	٤
62435			_	
46235			_	
42635			-	S
63425		-	-	
46325			_	
43625			_	S
64325			_	
36425			_	
34625			-	S

This four times repeated, will be 5040, with only seventy-five calls, and as far as I am aware the only peal in this method in five parts. Birmingham. H. JOHNSON.

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

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 Hews & Ringers' Record.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 30, 1886.

WE shall shortly issue another double number—twentyfour pages—which will contain a portrait of a distinguished ringer, with memoir. The issue of these double numbers at periodical intervals, will enable us to clear up all arrears, thus obliging our friends who are awaiting anxiously for the appearance of their various contributions.

LETTER FROM MR. WILLIAM SNOWDON.

Sir,-Will you allow me through your columns to thank my brotherringers for the part each one took in the many muffled peals which which were rung out of respect to my brother, Jasper Whitfield Snowdon.

To us as a family, this mournful tribute proved a consolation, such it would now be ungracious and unkind on our part not to as it would now be ungracious and unkind on our part not to refer to. The suddenness of the blow—the man strong in mind and body—the kind and loving brother—rapidly and unexpectedly laid low—made us perhaps more than usually open to the kind sympathy that was thus wafted from the towers of so many churches.

Along with records of peals, many of the greater societies have sent kind and sympathetic resolutions, to which, as far as then lay in my power, replies were sent; but I trust they will forgive me if I again include them amongst those to whom our thanks are due. would we forget those who in verse and prose have contributed in your columns to the memory of him we mourn. Lastly, Mr. Editor, not for your own words-at once brotherly, manly and true-must our thanks be withheld.

"Life's fitful fever o'er, he sleeps well" and no one more thoroughly earned his rest—idleness he hated—unrelaxed energy and industry he looked upon as the only passport

which would place him on ground worth standing upon.

In conclusion, may we not hope that, with many others who in this life have sounded the loud cymbals to the praise of our Creator, he, and we—man's unworthiness always in mind—may be chosen to take our part in the great peal of eternal praise which will then take up and more gloriously continue the dying echoes of our much loved bells below. Yours truly, WILLIAM SNOWDON. T.eeds.

BIRMINGHAM AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATION.

A GENERAL MEETING of the above Association will be held on Saturday next, February 6th, in the Moseley Church Schools. The chair will be taken by the Rev. Canon Bowlby, President of the Association. It is expected that several other clergymen will be present, representing the various districts of the Association. The meeting takes place at five o'clock; all members are respectfully requested to come early. A balance-sheet will be prepared with a report of all the doings of the Association since its formation three years ago. A draft of the new rules will be presented for approval. The tower of St. Mary's will be open for ringing in the evening.

JOHN WRIGHT, Hon. Sec.

The Metropolis.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS. On Saturday, January 23, 1886, in Three Hours and Eighteen Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. DUNSTAN-IN-THE-EAST,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES; Brook's Variation.

SAMUEL JOYCE	 Treble.	EDWIN E. CLARKE	5.
WILLIAM CECIL	 2.	JAMES PETTIT	ŏ.
HENRY SPRINGHALL	 3.	WILLIAM GREENLEAF	7.
		Joseph Jones	

Conducted by JAMES PETTIT.

CAMBERWELL, SURREY.

THE ST. JAMES'S SOCIETY, LONDON.

On Saturday, January 23, 1886, in Three Hours and Twenty-five Minutes, AT THE CHURCH OF ST. GILES,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS, 5147 CHANGES. Tenor 25 cwt. in Eb.

FREDERICK T. GOVER	Treble.	WILLIAM JONES 6.
RICHARD FRENCH	2.	Joseph Barry 7.
HENRY LANGDON	3.	George T. McLaughlin 8.
ERNEST SCOTT*		WILLIAM H. GEORGE q.
		HENRY W. FLOWER* Tenor.

Composed by Robert Williams, of Liverpool, and Conducted by Richard French.

* First peal of Caters. + First peal with a bob bell. Mr. Scott is a member of the Durham and And Newcastle Diocesan Association. The ringers wish to thank the Vicar and Churchwardens for giving them permission to ring.

FULHAM, MIDDLESEX.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS. On Tuesday, January 26, 1886, in Three Hours and One Minute, AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S OR	IGINAL.	Tenor 21 cwt. in Eb.	
FREDERIC W. KELLEY*	Treble.	*WILLIAM WEARE	 5.
John W. Kelley*	2.	*JAMES W. DRIVER	 ő.
BENJAMIN E. BATTRUM	3.	IOHN M. HAYES	 . 7.
CHALLIS F. WINNY	4.	SAMUEL HOW	 Tenor.

Conducted by CHALLIS F. WINNY.

* First peal. All the above with the exception of Messrs. Hayes and Winny, are members of the Fulham Voluntary Society.

The Provinces.

THE HOLT SOCIETY, ASTON-JUXTA-BIRMINGHAM. Handbell Kinging.

On Friday, January 22, 1886, in Two Hours and Twenty-nine Minutes,

AT THE HOUSE OF MR. W. KENT, 64, ASTON-LANE, ON HANDBELLS, RETAINED IN HAND.

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES: HOLT'S TEN-PART. Tenor 14 cwt. in Eb.

	_			2 0 10 1 14 0 W C. 111 2D.		
JOHN CARTER WILLIAM KENT		• •	1-2. 3-4.	BERNARD WITCHELL WILLIAM ANSELL	••	5-6. 7-8.
_			1. 1			

Conducted by Bernard Witchell. Referees: Mr. W. J. Cartwright and William Jones.

DERBY.-THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION. On Friday, January 22, 1886, in Two Hours and Fifty-seven Minutes, AT THE CHURCH OF ST. WERBURGH,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5008 CHANGES.

	-/
SAMUEL MASKREY Treble.	*George Mottashaw 5.
JOHN HOWE 2. ARTHUR BERTRAM WARD 3.	*HARRY FOUND 6.
ARTHUR BERTRAM WARD 3.	HARRY CHAS. WOODWARD 7.
	REUBEN BOSWORTH Tenor.

Composed by Wm. Harrison, and Conducted by HARRY CHARLES WOODWARD.

* First peal in the method.

PERRY BARR, STAFFORDSHIRE.

ASSOCIATION FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD. Muffled Peal.

On Saturday, January 23, 1886, in Two Hours and Fifty-four Minutes,

At the Church of St. John,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLTS	ORIGINAL.	. lenor 13 cwt.	
Samuel Reevest Reuben Hall	2.	†WILLIAM R. SMALL	ő.
Edwin Cashmore Thomas Haughton*	3.	THOMAS REYNOLDS	7.

Conducted by SAMUEL REEVES.

* First peal inside. + College Youths. This peal was rung with the bells half-muffied, as a last token of respect to the late Rev. J. J. Serjeantson, M.A., Rector of St. Michael's, Lichfield, and treasurer to the above Association from the commencement.

HULL.—THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

Birthdan Peal.

On Saturday, January 23, 1886, in Two Hours and Fifty-four Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JAMES,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES; Tenor 15 cwt.

GEORGE M. BROWNRIGG	Treble.	HENRY JENKINS	· · 5·
CHARLES JACKSON			
SAMUEL SLINGSBY			
Frederic Merrison	4.	RICHARD HAIRE	Tenor.

Composed by the Rev. C. D. P. Davies, and Conducted by Charles Jackson.

This peal has never been previously performed. It was rung to celebrate the 24th birthday of R. Haire, and was his first attempt at a peal.

CROYDON.—THE SURREY ASSOCIATION AND THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

On Monday, January 25, 1886, in Three Hours and Twenty-nine Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES; REEVES'S VARIATION. Tenor 32 cwt. in Eb.

			•	-		
WILLIAM BURKIN		Treble.	WILLIAM STATES		5.	
EDGAR BENNETT						
HENRY C. HALEY	• •	3.	THOMAS VERRALL		7.	
ADTILLE R CARDENT	T D	4 1	SAMILET FICE		Tana	4/

Conducted by ARTHUR B. CARPENTER.

This peal was rung with the tenor clogged, as it is unringable. First peal on the bells by the Surrey Association.

SYSTON, LEICESTERSHIRE.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, January 25, 1886, in Three Hours and Nine Minutes,

At the Church of St. Peter,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES; IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 16 cwt.

Amos Cresser Treble,	REV. W. W. BAKER	5.
J. W. Taylor, Jun., Esq 2.	John Ward	ő.
JOHN HOWE 3.	REV. W. C. PEARSON	7.
E. D. TAYLOR, ESO 4.	A. P. HEYWOOD, Eso	Tenov.

Composed by Henry Dains, and Conducted by A. Percival Heywood, Esq.

This peal contains the 6th the extent home at nine course-ends, also the 5th the extent home, and is now rung for the first time. It is the first peal on he bells, which were formerly only six in number, but were opened as a peal of eight on the previous Thursday.

THE WATERLOO SOCIETY, LONDON.

The election of officers for the ensuing year took place at Waterloo on Wednesday, January 20th. The Master, Treasurer, and Secretary, Messrs. Baron, Malim, and Davies, respectively, were re-elected, and Mr. Albert E. Church was elected as Steward.

The Annual Supper will take place on Friday evening, February 5th, at the "Black Horse," York Street, Westminster. Members and friends who desire to be present, are requested to send in their names at once to the Secretary, of whom any further particulars can be obtained.

HENRY J. DAVIES, Secretary.

NORWICH.

On Monday, January 25, 1886, in Three Hours and Forty-six Minutes,
At the Church of St. Peter Mancroft,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB ROYAL, 5000 CHANGES; IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 41 cwt.

[AMES MOTTS	Treble.	JOHN SMITH	6.
WILLIAM MOTTS	2.	Frederick Knights	7.
FREDERICK FIDDAMENT	3.	JAMES SKINNER	8.
PHILIP SADLER	4.	ALFRED THOMAS	9.
Edgar Pemberton	. 5.	CAPT. A. P. MOORE	Tenor
	Frederick Fiddament Philip Sadler	Frederick Fiddament 3. Philip Sadler 4.	JAMES MOTTS

Composed by J. MILLER, and Conducted by JAMES MOTTS.

Mr. Pemberton and the Bros. Motts hail from Ipswich; A. Thomas from Birmingham; Capt. Moore from Redenhall; the rest are local ringers.

This peal will be found in Snowdon's "Treble Bob," part 2, page 107.

BIRMINGHAM

THE BIRMINGHAM AMALGAMATED SOCIETY, **Bandbell Ringing.**

On Tuesday, January 26, 1886, in Two Hours and Twenty-Six Minutes,
At the house of Mr. John Carter, Bracebridge Street,
on handbells, retained in hand.

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES; HOLT'S TEN-PART. Tenor 14 size in Eb.

George W. Townsend* John Carter			
Conduc	cted by	JOHN CARTER.	

Referee: Mr. J. W. Cattle, who marked every call and part-end off as they were rung; and others as witnesses. * First peal of Triples in hand. All the above are members of the Birmingham and District Association.

Date Touches.

AUGHTON (Lancashire).—On Tuesday, January 19th, at Christ Church, a date touch of Grandsire Triples, 1886 changes, in 1 hr. 6 mins. H. Cave, 1; J. Taylor, 2; *C. Sharples, 3; W. Fairclough, 4; *G. Larkey, 5: *W. Bentham, 6; R. Foster (composer and conductor), 7; T. Gardiner, 8. *Members of the Ormskirk society.

CALVERLEY (Yorkshire).—On Saturday, January 16th, the local company rang a date touch of 1886 London Treble Bob Major, at St. Wilfrid's church, in 1 hr. 7 mins. Reuben Page, 1; Walter Child, 2; Ezra Keighley, 3; William Hollings, 4; Joseph Page, 5; James Ross, 6; John Cordingley (conductor), 7; William Davison, 8. Tenor 10½ cwt. This is the first date touch ever rung on the bells in this method also the first ever rung by this company.

CHESTER (On Sunday, January 17th, at St. Mary's church, a date touch of 1886 changes, in 1 hr. 14 mins., consisting of 720 changes of Plain Bob, 720 Grandsire Minor, 374 of College Single, and 72 Kent Treble Bob Minor. William Joinson, 1; Edwin Davis, 2; George Caldwell, 3; Ralph Curry, 4; Sydney Barton, 5; Thomas J. Bethell (conductor), and Richard Mills, 6. Tenor 23 cwt. in D.

Colwall (Herefordshire).—On Wednesday, January 6th, at the parish church, a date touch, 1886 changes, consisting of four 6-scores of Plain Bob, 8 of Extreme, 3 of Grandsire Doubles, and 86 extra changes. E. J. Beatley, 1; J. T. Horton, 2; Rev. G. M. Custance, 3; Rev. C. D. P. Davies, 4; A. F. M. Custance (conductor), 5; C. Pedlingham, 6. Tenor 13 cwt. Time 1 hr. 4 mins.

EYE (Suffolk).—On Monday evening, January 25th, eight members of the Eye company rang a date touch of Bob Major, 1886 changes, in 1 hr. 11 mins. C. Hawes, 1; G. Day, 2; W. Gooderham, 3; G. Murton, 4; F. Day (conductor), 5; G. Ford, 6; J. Bumpstead, 7; H. Torble, 8. Tenor 24 cwt. Composed by E. Francis, of Diss.

LANCASTER.—On Tuesday evening, January 12th, at St. Thomas's church, a date touch of 1886 changes, in 57 mins., in the following methods: 720 College Single, 720 Bob Minor, and 446 Bob Minor. B. A. Edmondson (conductor), 1; E. P. Middleton, 2; J. Winder, 3; H. Coope, 4; R. T. Edmondson, 5; J. Rawlinson, 6. Tenor 8 cwt.

RIPON (Yorks).—On Tuesday evening, January 19th, at the cathedral, being the weekly practice, a date touch of Kent Treble Bob Major, 1886 changes, in 1 hr. 15 mins. A. H. Clark, 1; J. Baines, 2; Jno. Strodder, Jun., 3; T. Metcalf, 4; A. Ingleby, 5; G. Ingleby, 6; T. Clark (composer and conductor), 7; H. Rumbold, 8. Tenor 21 cwt. in E.

Ormskirk (Lancashire).—On Wednesday, January 20th, at the parish church, a date touch of Grandsire Triples, 1886 changes, in \$

hr. 5 mins. C. Sharples, 1; J. Sholicar, 2: G. Larkey, 3; H. Ellis, 4; W. Ellis, 5; W. J. Taylor, 6; G. Prescott, 7; W. B. Lloyd, 8. Tenor 25\frac{3}{2} cwt. Composed by Mr. J. R. Pritchard, of Liverpool, and and conducted by J. Scholicar.

Miscellaneous.

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

Bocking (Essex).—On Friday evening, January 15th, a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob in 28 mins. *A. Spurge, 1: W. Moore, 2; W. Bearman, 3; S. Sargent, 4; F. Warren, 5; C. Bearman (conductor), 6. *First 720 in the method.

THE SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.

LONG MELFORD (Suffolk).—On Christmas Day, several touches LONG MELFORD (Sutfork)—On Christmas Day, several touches of Bob Major were rung for the services, finishing with a 720 of Kent Treble Bob by John Slater, 1; S. Slater (conductor), 2; Z. Slater, 3; J. Bird, 4; G. Hammond, 5; O. Garwood, 6. And on New Year's Eve, the old year was rung out and the new year in with a touch of Bob Major, 1008 changes. *John Ambrose, 1; P. C. S. Scott, 2; Z. Slater, 3; S. Slater, 4; J. Bird, 5; O. Garwood, 6; John Slater, 7; G. Hammond (conductor), 8. *First 1000.

THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

BEDFORD.—On Tuesday, January 5th, for practice at St. Paul's church, 560 of Bob Major. F. Keech, 1; S. J. Cullip, 2; W. Allen, 3; T. Foote, 4; W. Hall, 5; J. N. Frossell, 6; C. W. Clarke (conductor), 7; I. Hills, 8. Tenor 27 cwt. in D. And on Thursday, January 14th, 100 practice at St. Mary's church, a 720 of Oxford Bob Minor, eighteen bobs and two singles. F. Keech, 1; W. Hall, 2; T. Foote, 3; J. Atkins, 4; I. Hills, 5; C.W. Clarke (conductor), 6. Tenor 8 cwt. in B.

OLNEY (Bucks).—On Saturday, January 16th, by kind permission of the Vicar, the Rev. J. P. Langley, the six following members of the above Association paid a visit to this place to have a pull on the fine ring of six, and after raising the bells in peal, a start was made for a ring of six, and after raising the bells in peal, a start was made for a 120 of Gog Magog Doubles, which was brought round. M. Warwick, 1; S. J. Cullip, 2; C. W. Clarke (conductor), 3; I. Hills, 4; J. Atkins, 5; J. N. Frossell, 6. Also a 720 of Bob Minor, with eighteen bobs and two singles, in 33 mins. M. Warwick, 1; J. Atkins, 2; S. J. Cullip, 3; I. Hills, 4; C. W. Clarke (conductor), 5; J. N. Frossell, 6. This is believed to be the first 720 of Minor rung on the bells. Then followed a 120 of Kent Treble Bob Minor. S. J. Cullip, 1; M. Warwick, 2; J. N. Frossell, 3; J. Atkins, 4; I. Hills, 5; C. W. Clarke, 6. The local ringers call the tenor 36 cwt., the size of it is 41 inches deep, 523 across the mouth, and 32 the thickest part of the sound bow: note 52\frac{3}{4} across the mouth, and 3\frac{3}{4} the thickest part of the sound bow; note Eb. The visitors wish to express their best thanks to the Vicar for the use of the bells, and to the local ringers for their hospitality on this occasion.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

LYMINGE (Kent).—On Wednesday evening January 6th, at the parish church, a 720 of Bob Minor (tourteen singles and four bobs), in 29 mins. J. Prebble, I; R. Andrews, 2; A. Beer, 3; A. Tanton, 4; W. Fordred, 5; J. Andrews (conductor), 6. And on Wednesday, Y. Fordred, 5, J. Andrews (conductor), 6. And on Wednesday, January 13th, a 720 in the same method (twenty-two singles). And on Thursday evening, January 14th, another 720 in the same method (twenty-one bobs and twelve singles). Also on Wednesday evening, January 20th, another 720 in the same method (twenty-six singles). J. Andrews, 4; A. Tanton (conductor), 6; the others as before.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

DINTING (Derbyshire).—On Saturday, January 16th, at Holy Trinity Church, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor, in 26½ mins. W. Wilde, jun., 1; J. Bardsley, 2; W. Wilde, sen., 3; J. A. Thomas, 4; J. Howard, 5; P. Smith (conductor), 6. Tenor 12 cwt. All the above hail from Haughton, Lancashire.

HAUGHTON (Lancashire).—On Tuesday evening, January 19th, at St. Anne's Church, a 720 of Plain Bob Minor, in 28 mins. W. Wilde, sen., I; *W. Wilde, jun., 2; P. Smith, 3; J. Howard (conductor), 4; J. Bardsley, 5; J. A. Thomas, 6. Tenor 15 cwt. in C. *First 720 with

STOKE-UPON-TRENT ARCHIDIACONAL ASSOCIATION.

STOKE-UPON-TRENT ARCHIDIACONAL ASSOCIATION.
BIDDULPH (Staffordshire).—On Sunday, January 17th, 720 Plain
Bob Minor (forty singles), in 25 mins. M. Moss, 1; C. Lawton, 2;
A. Cottrell, 3; S. Mitchell, 4; S. Moore, 5; W. Carter (conductor),
6. On Monday, January 18th, a 360 Kent Treble Bob Minor, in 13
mins. J. Moss, 1; M. Moss, 2; A. Cottrell, 3; S. Mitchell, 4; S.
Moore, 5; W. Carter (conductor), 6. And on handbells a plain
course of Grandsire Triples. C. Lawton, 1-2; M. Moss, 3-4; W.
Carter, 5-6; S. Mitchell, 7-8. Also a course of Kent Treble Bob
Minor. J. Moss, 1; S. Moore, 2; M. Moss 3; S. Mitchell, 4; W.
Carter, 5-6. Carter, 5-6.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

Wantage (Berks).—On Sunday, January 17th, for evening service at SS. Peter and Paul, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor, in 30 mins. F. Money, 1; A. Bunce, 2; H. Smith, 3; A. Gregory, 4; C. Page, 5; F. May (conductor), 6.

THE WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

WEYBRIDGE (Surrey).—On Saturday, January 16th, at St. James's church, four clergymen and four laymen started for a peal of Grandsire Triples (Holt's Original), but after ringing about 800 changes, the peal was lost. As the time was limited, it was too late to make a fresh start, and on the principle that a quarter of a loaf is better than no bread at all, they had to content themselves with a quarter-peal (1260 changes), which was brought round in 47 mins. G. H. Barnett, 1; Rev. W. S. Willett, 2; Rev. F. E. Robinson, 3; Rev. A. du Boulay Hill, 4; Rev. H. A. Spyers, 5; G. Williams (conductor), 6; J. W. Whiting, 7; G. Carter, 8. Tenor 12\frac{3}{4} cwt.

Bengeo (Herts).—On Friday, January 15th, at Holy Trinity Church a plain course of Kent Treble Bob Minor. W. Childs, I; W. Bennet, 2; J, Pomfret, 3; J. Channer, 4; W. Odell, 5; H. Phillipps, 6. First in the method by all excepting H. Phillips. And on Sunday, January 17th, for Divine Service in the morning, a 720 of Grandsire Minor. thirty-four bobs and two singles. W. Childs, I; W. Odell, 2; J. Pomfret, 3; J. Channer, 4; W. Bennett, 5; H. Phillips (conductor), 6. Also for Divine Service in the evening, a 720 of Plain Bob Minor. W. Goodchild, I; W. Bennett, 2; J. Channer, 3; J. Pomfret, 4; W. Odell, 5; H. Phillip's (conductor), 6.

Betchworth (Surrey).—On Sunday, January 17th, at the parish church, for Divine Service in the morning, a 720 of Bob Minor, in 26 mins. F. Arnold, 1; *J. W. Whiting, 2; G. Williams (conductor), 3; †F. Bridger, 4; E. Moses, 5; W. Sadler, 6. *First 720 in the method; †first 720.

method; first 720.

BILLINGSHURST (Sussex).—On Monday, January 18th, this place was visited by four of the Warnham band and two of the Slinfold band, and with the assistance of Mr. Walter Wadey and Mr. Jesse Voice, rang a 720 of Warnham Court, with twenty-four singles. F. Garman, I; W. Short, 2; J. Voice, 3; W. Wadey, 4; W. Grinstead, 5; W. Lanaway (conductor), 6. Also a 720 of Canterbury Pleasure, with forty-two singles. W. Grinstead, I; W. Short, 2; W. Lanaway, 3; H. Wood, 4; W. Wadey, 5; H. Chandler (conductor), 6. And a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob. F. Garman, I; W. Short, 2; W. Lanaway, 3; H. Wood, 4; W. Wadey, 5; H. Chandler (conductor), 6. They take this opportunity of kindly thanking the Vicar for the use of the bells, and also Mr. Walter Wadey for the kind and hospitable manner which he has always shown to them when they have visited there.

Burton-on-Trent.—On Friday, January 15th, at the parish church, a 504, 336, and 157 of Grandsire Triples. W. J. Smith (first touch in the method), 1; J. Hickling, 2; J. Austin, 3; F. Bullock, 4; S. Gretton, 5; G. Robinson, 6; J. Jaggar (conductor), 7; W. Orme, 8.

Denford (Northamptonshire).—On Saturday, January 9th, at Holy Trinity church, 2520 changes, being a 720 each of Oxford Bob Minor, College Little, Court Single, and 360 of Bob Minor, in 1 hr. 28 mins. F. Starmore, 1; J. Groom, 2; A. Arnold, 3; H. Groom, 4; F. Arnold, 6; A. Groom (conductor), 6. And on Wednesday, January 13th, a 6; A. Groom (conductor), 6. And on Wednesday, January 13th, a 720 of Oxford Bob Minor (eighteen bobs and two singles). And 360 of College Little (nine bobs). *S. D. Warren, 1; F. Starmore, 2; A. Arnold, 3; J. Groom, 4; F. Arnold, 5; A. Groom (conductor), 6. *First 720. Also on Tuesday, January 19th, 720 of College Single, with eighteen bobs and two singles. F. Starmore, 1; J. Groom, 2; A. Arnold, 3; H. Groom, 4: F. Arnold, 5; A. Groom (conductor), 6. First 720 in the method by all except the third and sixth men.

DORKING (Surrey).—On Sunday evening, after service at St. Martin's Church, a quarter-peal of Oxford Bob Triples, in 47 mins. H. Wolgar, 1; H. Dobinson, 2; R. Jordan, 3; E. Jordan, 4; H. Boxall, jun., 5; C. Boxall, 6; S. Brooker (conductor), 7; C. Dudley,

EMBERTON (Bucks).—On Sunday, January 17th, for Divine Service. two 6-scores of Doubles, Dream and Honeysuckle. M. Warwick (Bedford), 1; G. Lett, 2; W. Wright, 3; W. Mynard, 4; C. Line, 5, Tenor 9 cwt. in G.

EWHURST (Surrey).—On Friday, January 22nd, the local company rang for practice, 1440 changes in the following methods: 720 of Warnham Court Bob, and 720 of Oxford Single Bob Minor, in 52 mins. W. Haynes, sen., I; F. Francis, 2: F. Francis, 3; W. Tidy, 4; A. Baker, 5; W. Haynes, jun. (conductor), 6. Also on Tuesday, January 19th, 720 of New London Bob. W. Haynes, sen., I; F. Francis, 2; F. Francis, 3; W. Tidy, 4; A. Baker, 5; W. Haynes, in 6. Haynes, jun., 6.

Gorleston (Suffolk).—On Monday evening, January 18th, six ringers from Yarmouth, rang at St. Andrew's Church, Holt's 720 of Bob Minor, without a third's place or single being made. Also a 720 of Oxford Bob, and after a touch of Kent Treble Bob, the bells were brought round. R. Christian, I; M. Long, 2; J. Bray, 3; A. Webber, 4; D. Hayward (conductor), 5; W. Fletcher, 6. Tenor 14 cwt.

Great Malvern (Worcestershire).—On Monday, January 18th, at the Priory Church, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob, in 27 mins. E. J. Beatley, 1; J. Perks, 2; A. F. M. Custance, 3; E. Sprague, 4; Rev. C. D. P. Davies (conductor), 5; G. H. Phillott, 6. Tenor about 17 This is the first 720 ever rang upon these bells.

HURSTPIERPOINT (Sussex).—On Thursday evening, January 14th, for practice at Holy Trinity Church, six 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles Called differently, with 7,6,8, covering, in 28 mins. A. Pierce, I; *T. Mansbridge, 2; *H. Reeves (conductor), 3; *W. Lander, 4; *T. Leney, 5; J. Ganden, 6; *A. Davey, 7; D. Davey, 8. Tenor 14 cwt, in G. *Members of the Sussex County Association. This is the first 720 that has ever been rung on these bells by a Hurst society.

HUTTON (Essex).—On Sunday evening, January 17th, six 6-scores were rung on these bells in the following methods:—Grandsire, Old Doubles, Dream, Gog, Magog, and Old Doubles Extremes. C. Sheldon, A. Payne, C. Harris, J. Surridge, E. Wood, G. Galley, W. J. Aldridge, and A. J. Perkins. Tenor 13 cwt. Messrs. J. Surridge hails from Bentley; E. Wood from Ingrave; G. Galley and W. J. Aldridge, room Bentley and A. J. Perkins from Bentley and W. J. Aldridge, from Brentwood: and A. J. Perkins from Romford;

LICHFIELD.—Muffled Peal.—On Wednesday, January 13th, at St. Michael's church, a 720 of Grandsire Minor, in 28 mins. E. Gallimore, 1; H. Meacham, 2; A. E. Greenwood, 3; A. Whitby, 4; F. J. Cope (conductor), 5; W. Fearneyhough, 6. The above was rung with the bells half-muffled as a mark of respect to the late Mr. Joseph Smith, who had been a ringer at St. Michael's for thirty-five years, and whose remains were interred on that day.

LYTHAM (Lancashire).—On Sunday evening, January 10th, at St. John's church, a 720 of Plain Bob Minor (eighteen bobs and two singles), in 26 mins. William Bamber, 1; Benjamin Taylor, 2; George Maries, 3; William Gregson, 4; Jno. Fell (conductor), 5; Robert Whitseide 6. Tenor 103 cut. Robert Whiteside, 6. Tenor 103 cwt.

SNAITH (Yorks).—On Tuesday evening, January 12th, at the parish church, the local company rang a 720 of Bob Minor, thirty bobs and six singles. Also another 720 in the same method with forty-two singles. And on Sunday, January 17th, for morning service, a 720 of Bob Minor, eighteen bobs and eighteen singles. H. Holmes, 1; J. Norton, 2; G. Holmes, 3; R. Holmes, 4; J. Bullock, 5; H. Dodds, (conductor), 6. The above is taken from Snowdon's Rope-Sight.

STEBBING (Essex).—On Monday evening, January 18th, at St. Mary's Church, 2520 changes in the seven following methods 3 of New Doubles, 3 of St. Clement's, 3 of St. Simon's, 3 of St. Dunstan's, 3 of Antelope, 3 of Grandsire, and 3 of Plain Bob, in 1 hr. 35 mins. A. Barker, 1; H. Gowers, 2; E. Claydon (conductor), 3; E. Hynds, 4; J. T. Barker, 5. Tenor 16 cwt. The above was rung with the bells deeply muffled as a last mark of respect to the late Mr. James Bayford, who for many years had been Churchwarden of this parish.

Bayford, wt. o for many years had been Churchwarden of this parish.

WORCESTER.—On Thursday, January 14th, for practice at St. Helen's Church, 532 of Stedman Triples. S. Cotton, 1; T. Gwynne, 2; W. Johnson, 3; W. Powell, 4; G. Hinton, 5; G. Cleal (conductor), 6; W. Page, 7; T. Malim, 8. Muffled Peals.—On Friday, January 15th, at St. Martin's church, the bells were rung muffled as a mark of respect to the late James Holding, who for upwards of thirty years rung the bell for service. The following rang several 6-scores of Stedman and Grandsire Doubles: Owen, Cotton, Powell, Page, Hales, jun., Hales, sen., Jenkins, G. Cleal (conductor). And on Sunday, January 17th, during the procession to the cemetery, the following rang a 720 17th, during the procession to the cemetery the following rang a 720 of Grandsire Minor. J. Clements, 1; W. Blandford, 2; G. Hinton, 3; W. Johnson, 4; H. Wilks, 5: G. Cleal (conductor), 6.

NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

The next District Meeting of this Association will be held at North Elmham, on Wednesday, February 3rd. N. Bolingbroke, Hon Sec.

ST. MARY'S, OLD BATTERSEA.—THE HENRYS' PEAL.

On Saturday, January 16th, the following Henrys met for a peal of Grandsire Triples, but after ringing for nearly two hours it came to grief. H. Bright, 1; H. Hopkins, 2; H. Langdon, 3; H. Davies, 4; H. Swain, 5; H. Thomas, 6; H. Tucker, 7; H. Dains, 8.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

The next District Meeting will be held at Staplehurst, on Monday, February 15th. Members wishing to attend are requested to communicate with the Hon, Sec. 30, Cadogan Terrace, S.W.

RE-OPENING OF THE BELLS OF CHESTER CATHEDRAL.

On Thursday evening, January 14th, to test the bells after being re-On Thursday evening, January 14th, to test the bells after being rehung, the cathedral society rang a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples in 47 mins. Samuel Hand, 1; Arthur Jones, 2; Joseph Griffiths, 3; Alexander White, 4; Freeman Ball (conductor), 5; Alfred Cross, 6; James Moulton, 7; William Ball, 8. On Sunday afternoon (before the service at which the Prince of Wales and suite attended), 910 of Grandsire Triples; after service, whilst the large congregation was leaving the sacred edifice, a 504 of Grandsire Triples was rung, and several touches for evening service. On Monday, January 25th, the Prince of Wales kindly consented to receive a loyal address from the Mayor on behalf of the citizens of Chester, on which occasion many Mayor on behalf of the citizens of Chester, on which occasion many musical touches were rung, in addition to a quarter-peal in 48 mins. The ringers were the same, excepting F. Ball rang the fourth, and William Walton the fifth; A. White did not ring. It is some time since the Cathedral bells were rang owing to the tenor going so badly, but thanks to importunities, the Chapter was persuaded to get them entirely rehung. The work was entrusted to Warner and Sons, Cripplegate, London, who carried it out in a very efficient manner. The bells have received all new gudgeons and all new bearings, all clappers refixed, with new fittings, etc., complete, one new clapper to the tenor; the old one broke while the curfew was being rung. The ringers are pleased to know that they have got the noble peal of bells in thorough ringing order.

THE SOUTH LINCOLNSHIRE ASSOCIATION

The next Quarterly Meeting of the above Association will be held at Wytham-on-the-Hill, on Saturday, February 6th. Skilled members who intend being present must send their names to me not later than January 30th, or the allowance of 2s. will not be granted them. Dinner will be provided at the "Black Dog" inn, at 2 p.m., tickets 2s. each.

R. CREASEY, Secretary.

THE SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.

AT the last St. Martin's meeting the bells were rung for practice half muffled as a token of deep respect to the memory of the late vicar, the Rev. W. G. Humphry, B.D., who departed this life after a brief illness, on Sunday, the roth instant, having held the benefice for about 30 years. The usual whole pull and stand was performed upon the twelve bells with solemnity befitting the occasion.

THE ST. PAUL'S SOCIETY, BRIGHTON.

THE ST. PAUL'S SOCIETY, BRIGHTON.

On Thursday, January 14th, at St. Paul's church, for practice, a 168 and 350 of Grandsire Triples, by the following: W. Nash, I; W. Allfrey, 2; G. Thwaites, 3; G. Biggerstaff, 4; G. Hill, 5; Jno. Reilly, 6; A. Bennett (conductor), 7; J. Knockett, 8. J. Salmon rang the 3rd in the 168. Also for Divine Service on Sunday, January 24th, another 360 was rung with McEves on the treble in the place of W. Nash. Also several 168s with G. Thwaites, 2; J. Salmon, 3; the rest as before. On Wednesday, January 18th, several members paid a friendly visit to Cuckfield, when a 168 and a 350 of Grandsire Triples was rung. W. Nash, 1; W. Allfrey, 2; G. Thwaites, 3; G. Biggerstaff, 4; F. Hounsell (Cuckfield), 5; Jno. Reilly, 6; A. Bennett (conductor), 7; B. Bleach (Cuckfield), 8. The visitors wish, through the medium of this paper, to thank their Cuckfield friends for the cordial welcome this paper, to thank their Cuckfield friends for the cordial welcome recived from them, and hope to have the pleasure of returning the compliment as soon as they can make it convenient.

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As the Committee have been requested to allow this Fund to remain open for a short time, they here beg to inform their friends and brother ringers that they have decided to do so, but that the List must be Closed on Saturday, the 30th inst. A. Thomas, Hon. Secretary, 83, Wheeley's Road, Edgbaston, Birmingham; or Mr. S. Reeves, Hon, Treasurer, 10, Bull Street, West Bromwich,

ANNUAL MEETING OF THE UNITED COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION AT GLOSSOP.

THE Annual Meeting of this Association, which embraces Castleton, Chapel-en-le-Frith, Hayfield, Glossop, Dinting, Hyde, Mottram, Ashton, Stalybridge, Saddleworth, and other places, was held at the "Crown Inn," Whitfield, on Saturday, January 6th. Notwithstanding the disagreeable weather there was a good attendance, the company being so numerous to dinner as to necessitate two sittings. The repast was a most substantial one, and was placed on the table in a manner which reflected great credit on the host and hostess. Although there were more present than had been anticipated, the resources of Mr. Frost's establishment were equal to the occasion, and he surprised some of his patrons by the excellent bill of fare which he provided for those who were unable to obtain accommodation at the first sitting. Representatives attended from the following places: Glossop, Whitfield, Dinting, Castleton, Chapel-en-le-Frith, Hayfield, Mottram, Ashton-under-Lyne, Hyde, Saddleworth, and Stalybridge.

After dinner the Rev. C. B. Ward, vicar of Whitfield, was unani-

mously appointed to take the chair. In opening the proceedings the

Lyne, Hyde, Saddleworth, and Stalybridge.

After dinner the Rev. C. B. Ward, vicar of Whitfield, was unanimously appointed to take the chair. In opening the proceedings the rev. gentleman said:—

"He was very happy to do what he could on rheir behalf. He felt himself rather strange amongst a company of integers, and if he should to astray he hoped they association was a very wise one—namely and briefly, the reformation of belfries, and everything he had heard and seen in connection with the Association was certainly deserving of the warm support and approval of any minister of a church. He saw that they went round to different churches in turn, and that they encouraged ringing in different parts of the several counties associated together, and that they head indifferent parts of the several counties associated together, and that they head indifferent parts of the several counties associated together, and that they head indifferent parts of the several counties associated together, and that they head indifferent parts of the several counties associated together, and that they head every pleased to confer upon him. It had been said before now that ringers had not done quite so well for the Church as they might have done—that they had been contented with ringing people to service and then slunk away and kept the belfries in a disreputable condition, and that their heart was not in the work; but a very great would find now that ringers who were heartily fond of ringing were good friends of the Church in every way. Of course he did not want to pry curiously into the question whether they went to church. No, he left that to their own consciences. Certainly their behaviour in the belfries had been improved, and ringing had taken a much any plant had no non-own und about it himps. He had to the question whether they went to the condition of the belfries had been improved, and ringing had taken a much any plant had no non-own und about it himps. He had to have a sound to the plant of the plant of the plant of the plant

MR JOHN HOLDEN, of Saddleworth, then read the first annual report

On the motion of Mr. E. Buckley, of Saddleworth, seconded by Mr. Woolley, of Hyde, the report and balance-sheet were passed

The old officers were re-elected with the exception of Mr. Ine old omcers were re-elected with the exception of Mr. J. S. Leech, whose place on the committee was taken by Mr. Wm. Wilde, sen., of Haughton. The names of the officers are as follows: President, John Holden, Hyde; Vice-President, Thos. Wilde, Hyde; Secretary, Jas. S. Wilde, Hyde; Treasurer, John Pye, sen., Glossop; Committee, Jas. Wrigley, Jno. Booth, Jos. Brocklehurst, Thos. Braddock, Geo. Longden, John A. Fildes, Hugh Shaw, George Ford, Wm. Wilde, sen., Jas Sellars, Peter Brickell, John Blakeley, Jas. Hall, and Samuel Stafford. Samuel Stafford.

Mr. FILDES said he had a little thing to bring before the members, and it was in regard to a peal-book. This Association numbered 100 members, and they had no book to register the peals. They had them in all other associations. [A Voice: No, they had none in Yorkshire.] Well, he always understood they had. He knew the majority of them had, and he thought it would only be wisdom on their part if they had one. They would find it convenient to refer back to them. Accordingly he should move a proposition to that effect. This was seconded and carried unanimously.

The President said that the places to be ballotted for were Castleton, Gorton, Glossop, Mottram, Stalybridge, and Saddleworth, and

after a desultory conversation, the latter place was agreed upon.

During the evening several courses of Grandsire Triples and Royal were given by some of the members on handbells. A short touch of Kent Treble Bob Major was also rung on the handbells in such a manmer as called forth great appliance; and some good touches were rang upon the bells of the neigbourbouring churches. The proceedings were highly enjoyable throughout, and at the close a hearty vote of thanks was passed to the Chairman and also to Mr. Frost for the excellent manner in which he had catered for the company.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

On Monday evening, January 18th, the St. Andrew's, Litchurch, society, Derby, met for their annual dinner at the Midland Hotel. There were present the clergy, the Rev. R. Hey, Rev. J. Allen, Messrs. G. Sutherland, T. P. Osborne, churchwardens, and Messrs. Barber, Greensmith, and Richardson, sidesmen, and Mr. Sheen, verger. After an excellent dinner, the chairman, the Rev. R. Hey, said they were glad on that occasion to express their appreciation of the voluntary services of the ringers during the past year. He had also to congratulate them on the progress they had made during that time in the art of change-ringing, and on their having accomplished beside many short quarter-peals and touches, a complete peal of 5040 Grandsire Triples in 3 hrs. 13 mins. He had no doubt that the St. Andrew's belfry would continue to be in all respects a model of what a church belfry, and the ringers what a church society of ringers should be. Mr. Allen, Mr. Sutherland, and Mr. Osborne, also gave suitable addresses. Mr. Shardlow, sexton, responded, after which, touches of Grandsire Triples and Bob Major were given upon the handbells, and appropriate songs and speeches brought a pleasant evening to a close.

LANCASTER.—THE PARISH CHURCH BELLS AND CLOCK.

We have great pleasure, says a local paper, in being able to confirm the report which has been widely circulated during the past week, that the High Sheriff (James Williamson Esq., of Ryelands) has intimated to the Vicar and Churchwardens his intention of providing the \pounds 1000 needed for the provision of a new peal of bells and clock for the parish church. The matter was first mentioned at a special vestry held in the autumn of 1883, when the Vicar of Lancaster, having spoken very disparagingly of the present peal, and finding that his opinion was not entirely shared in by all present, suggested that the best plan would be to invite some competent person to report upon them. This suggestion being approved by the Churchwardens, a member of the firm of Taylor and Co., of Loughborough, made a careful inspection of the bells a few weeks afterwards, and sent in a report to the Vicar and Churchwardens, which fully substantiated the Vicar's opinion.

Such princely liberality as that of the High Sheriff of Lancaster we

should like to see displayed more frequently.

THE ROCHDALE AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATION.

The above Association will hold its Annual Meeting at Rochdale parish church on Saturday, February 6th. The bells will be opened at two o'clock. All members are specially requested to send in their names not later than Monday, February 1st, as a substantial dinner will be provided at "The Royal Oak" (Church Stile), at 4.30, for 1s. 6d. each. All ringers are invited, and will be welcomed from any Asso-Meeting to commence about six o'clock, after which the ringing will be resumed. J. Adshead, Sec.

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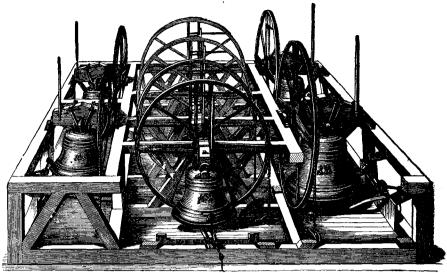
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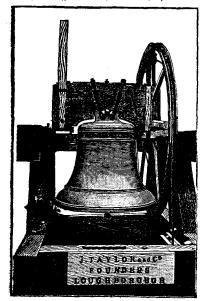
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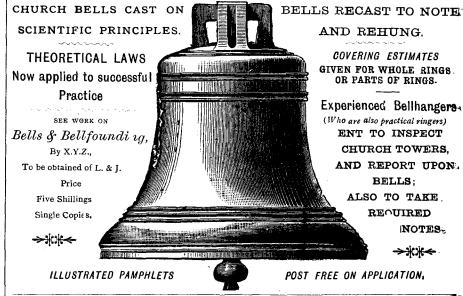
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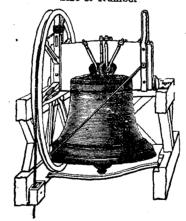
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THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

WHEN business and pleasure can be so combined that there be time for a sufficiency of both, a day is indeed well spent. And this is exactly what happened on Saturday, January 23rd, when members of the above Association, to the number of about 70, made an excursion to Chichester: This Association has been established barely a twelvemonth, and in that short time it has so prospered under the untiring efforts of Mr. G. F. Attree, the Honorary Secretary, who takes such a deep and earnest in the Society that he spares neither time nor care in studying the well-being of the members and their work, that it has become the third largest of its kind in the kingdom. The members residing in Brighton and the neighbourhood started by the first train residing in Brighton and the neighbourhood started by the first train for the town fixed upon for their day's excursion, and these were met by several others who were awaiting the arrival of the train at many of the stations up the line. Contingents from Angmering, Arundel, Brighton (St. Nicholas), Brighton (St. Peter's), Chichester, Crawley, Eastbourne, Goring, Hurst, Lewes, and Steyning put in an appearance, and an hour after their arrival at Chichester, that is to say at eleven o'clock, the members repaired to the campanile of the grand and Cothe o'clock, the members repaired to the campanile of the grand old Cathedral, when the eight bells were raised in peal. One of the finest belfries in England is to be found at this Cathedral, and every visitor to this town should make a point of visiting this portion of the Cathedral, as well as the interior of the main building itself. For three hours the members, in turn, rang several touches on the bells, including two 504 Grandsire Triples, and one 336 Grandsire Triples.

At two o'clock a cold luncheon was spread at the "Anchor" Inn. The Mayor of Arundel (Mr. C. Bartlett) presided, and he was supported by Mr. G. F. Attree; the Rev. R. Hay Hill, Rector of Parham; the Rev. H. Mitchell, Vicar of Bosham; the Rev. G. C. Walpole, of Amberley; the Rev. R. F. Tomkins, Vicar of Torrington, and the Rev. L. Playar Fedden, Curate of Arundel. It should be stated that the Mayor of Chichester was unavoidably prevented from attending

The repast concluded, the CHAIRMAN proposed "The Queen, Church, and State," and also "The Bishop of the Diocese—the President of the Association." Both toasts having been duly honoured, an ordinary District Meeting of the Association was held, at which Mr. BARTLETT again presided, and there were the same rev. gentlemen as named above, together with several members of the Association. Chairman mentioned that letters of regret at enforced absence had been received from the President of the Association (the Bishop of the Diocese) Mr. Raper, the Rev. Meads-Bucks, and the Rector of Slinfold. The first Wr. Raper, the Rev. Meads-Bucks, and the Rector of Similar. The first proposition before the meeting was the appointment of the Right Hon. W. T. Marriott, Q.C., M.P., as Vice-President of the Association. This proposition, which was made by the Chairman, was carried, The Revs. L. Player Fedden and R. Allen (Christ Church, Eastbourne), and Prebendary Bennett, were then unanimously elected

honorary members; whilst thirty-two new members from various parts of the county were proposed and elected.

The Chairman next informed the meeting that between twenty and thirty gentlemen had become life members of the Association, by sub-

scribing the sum of two guineas. This was very gratifying, as it showed they were possessed of considerable funds.

Mr. Searle moved "That the following clause be added to a resolution (passed at the Horsham District Meeting, which provided that, on all occasions when peals of 5000 changes were rung, a moiety of cost of erecting a marble tablet should be borne by the Association): 'That the Association should also pay the proportionate part due from any member, on his ringing his first peal."

Mr. Boniface seconded that motion. He thought that this would induce many persons to make a start, which otherwise they would not care to do. The motion was put to the meeting, and carried by

an overwhelming majority.

Mr. G. F. ATTREE submitted to the meeting a design for the certificates to be supplied to the members. At their meeting at Horsham, he reminded them this design was ordered to be lithographed, but since then there had been found a cheaper method, by which the work might be executed by means of the photo-printing process, and he asked one of the members to move that it might be executed by that process.

In compliance with this request, the Rev. R. F. TOMPKINS moved a

resolution to that effect.

Mr. SEARLE seconded, and the motion was unanimously agreed to. Mr. G. F. ATTREE said that the next matter to which he wished to refer was in connection with the cheap railway tickets. He had been to London and had talked the matter over with the Secretary of the Railway Company, and that gentleman had promised to do his utmost to enable them, when they went out on excursions like they had done that day, to procure return tickets at single fares from any station on the Brighton line, and that, moreover, would be regardless of the

number of members travelling.

The Rev. R. Hay Hill next proposed a vote of thanks to the Dean and Chapter of the Cathedral for the pleasant time they had been enabled to spend within the precincts of that sacred edifice, and for

their kindness in allowing them the use of the campanile,

The Rev. R. F. Tompkins seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously

A vote of thanks to the President and Members of the Chichester Amateur Guild for their kind assistance in arranging the details for the meeting, proposed by Mr. G. F. ATTREE and seconded by the Rev. G. C. Walfole, was cordially received. A vote of thanks to the G. C. WALPOLE, was cordially received. Chair brought the meeting to a termination.

A short but impressive service was then held in the Cathedral, the members attending in full force. This concluded, the members adjourned again to the campanile, and from five o'clock to nine o'clock further touches of Grandsire Triples were rung. Altogether an exceedingly pleasant day was spent, and the greater proportion of the members remained in Chichester till the last train.

FRESSINGFIELD, SUFFOLK.

On Friday evening, January 22nd, the Vicar of Fressingfield, the Rev. Dr. Raven, gave a lecture in the school-room on "Bells and Change-ringing," in aid of the funds of the Parish Reading Room. As might have been expected, from the Doctor's wide acquaintance with the subject, the lecture was of an interesting and highly instructive character. After summing up in a few words the history of the bell character. After summing up in a few words the history of the bell from the earliest times down to the middle ages, the lecturer entered more fully into the great development in the art of bellfounding which took place in the latter period, illustrating his remarks by diagrams of the shields of the most celebrated English founders, and by references to bells to be found in various neighbouring towers. The district, he said, was peculiarly rich in bells of high interest to the archæologist, and he gave as an instance of this his recent discovery of a bell in the tower of Cratfield church, cast by a Sussex founder, whose operations were not previously known to have extended into that part Passsing from bells to change-ringing, the Doctor emphasised the facts that the history of our Art dates no further back than the last two centuries, and that its practice is confined to England and a few of our colonies. He sketched briefly the progress of the Art, down to the present day, alluding to the work of those early masters, whose names are familiar to us now as household words, and to whose patient labors we ringers owe so much. Many men, he said, of the highest intellectual attainments, had found the noble art of changeringing worthy of their serious study, and had become proficient as practical ringers, among the best known of such names being Sir practical ringers, among the Dest known of such names being Sir Matthew Hale and John Bunyan. The lecture was illustrated by musical selections on the piano, and by several touches on the handbells, rung by three members of the Fressingfield company, with the assistance of Mr. Edward Smith, the conductor of the Redenhall company, and Captain A. P. Moore, of Weybread. A remarkable feature in the evening's entertainment was a complete course of Plain Bob Royal, tapped single-handed by Mr. Seymour Motts, of Fressingfield, a performance which well deserved the applause it gained. It is to be hoped that Dr. Raven will find leisure in his new home to complete his projected work on the bells of Suffolk, and thus supplement his valuable contribution to the campanology of the sister county.

ANNUAL DINNER OF RINGERS AT PRESTBURY, GLOUCESTERSHIRE

The Prestbury Society of Ringers held their annual dinner lately, at the "Bee-hive" Hotel, Prestbury, joining with the Charlton-Kings Society for this purpose, and a most successful DAY was the result. Ringers from Cheltenham and various places were present, owing to the kind hospitality of their Prestbury and Charlton friends, for which the visitors desire to return thanks. The Vicar of Prestbury, the Rev. A. Curpor and the Curpor the Rev. Scott with the two the Rev. A. Gurney, and the Curate, the Rev. — Scott, with the two Churchwardens, Messrs. T. Davies and — Parkinson, were present.

The cloth being removed, the VICAR, in a few words, expressed is great pleasure at being invited and being able to be present at such a gathering. Mention was made of the urgent need for restoring the Prestbury bells, which are a most musical ring of six, and it was pointed out that no time should be lost before any mishap should occur either to bells or ringers. It is intended to rehang the bells in a

new frame, and add two trebles to make a peal of eight.

After the usual loyal toasts had been duly honoured, the remainder of the evening was spent, as usual among ringers, in handbell ringing,

singing, etc.

NUNEATON, WARWICKSHIRE.
On Thursday, January 28th, a supper was provided at the National Schools for Railway servants and friends. After supper an entertainment was given by the Misses Bellairs, and several ladies and gentlemen of the town. The ringers of St. Nicholas parish church gave several tunes on the handbells, and 168 Grandsire Triples, with six singles, was lapped, concluding with "Hearts of Oak." The company wish to take this opportunity of thanking the Vicar for the use of the room, and also the ladies and friends who so kindly assisted in the entertainment.

THE SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.

THE usual fortnightly gathering of the members of the above Society took place at their meeting room, on Friday evening, January 29th, and in response to a notice requesting their presence on this occasion issued by the Secretary, and appearing in the last number of "The Bell News," the members were present in good force, passing the

muster roll by some units over forty.

The chair having been taken taken by the worthy Master, Mr. A. H. Gardom, silence was enjoined by him for Mr. H. S. Thomas, who was desirous of addressing the meeting relative to a presentation about was desirous of addressing the hierarchy relative to a presentation about to be made to the Society in a very substantial form. Mr. Thomas (who rose admidst applause) then said that following upon his presentation at the last meeting, and his subsequent remarks upon the safety of the Society's peal-books, records, etc., also the liberality of members then present, he was enabled, in the names of the members hereafter mentioned, to present the Society with a very solid iron safe, wherein their property might be placed without fear of the raging element of fire, so much as scorching them. As they all well knew extracts and copies might be obtained of old records and books, but when once the flames had devoured them, where was the power to

when once the flames had devoured them, where was the power to restore the originals, which were at all times a pride to the members? The safe, which is very ponderous and weighty, rests on a solid wooden stand, from which it receives a good support, and shews likewise the substantial weight and support the Society alike receive in possessing such a long wished for and much needed treasure. Mr. Thomas then proceeded to read the inscription, which

was nicely engraved on a brass plate, and runs as follows:

"This safe was presented to the Royal Cumberland Society of Change-Ringers, by Messrs. A. H. Gardom, C. E. Malim, R. A. Daniell, E. F. Cole, H. A. Hopkins, Henry S. and A. G. Thomas. January 29th, 1886. John Tann, Maker, Newgate Street, E.C."

The above named gentleman respectfully responded, agreeing in the main point that the Society had every reason to be proud of the presentation in the form which it had taken, more especially had they cause to be grateful, holding as they did the valuable records and peal-books, handed down from past generations, since the year 1745. pear-books, handed down hom past generations, since the year 1745. a lengthened and uninterrupted period of 141 years, without so much as having had the misfortune to loose a book and regain it many years after; and moreover it would show to the ringing world the vast amount of moral and iron support, which forms the vertebræ of this amount of moral and not support, which for mis the vertebra of this popular and well-known Society, which for organization and number is now well to the front. Now a place of safety for past records had been found, and there still being plenty of room for future ones, they hoped the members would redouble their efforts in the future, which had gained such distinction for them in the past; be unanimous in their one and every act for the good of general improvement in tower and bell management; and they may rest assured that the laurels won for them by their composers and conductors in the past, and further enhanced by the high intellectual powers possessed by those of the present day, will hold their sway throughout the country at this period, when all is for the advancement of campanology among enthusiasts in the art.

After a close and minute inspection of the safe by the company

present, a vote of thanks was cordially given to the donors, in proposing which, Mr. Dains remarked that it was a faithful and true saying, that if Mr. Henry S. Thomas took anything in hand, no matter whether it was for the good of the Society, or an individual member of it, he was sure to bring it to a successful termination, and that quickly, as he would remind them that it was only a fortnight ago the affair was mentioned, and now here is the safe before us. Now what could be more decisive than this, to show the very strong interests this Society has at stake? through the medium of this gentleman, not only at the present time but in the future; and in consequence of this presentation he was enabled to announce that all records and books in the Society's keeping were now safely

deposited.

Mr. Thorne then proposed (which was seconded by Mr. H. S. Thomas) that the Rev. J. Ulten Todd, M.A., of Dunster, Somerset, become a member, remarking that the rev. gentleman was deeply interested in ringing, and it was partly owing to his instrumentality that several bands had been started in the art. A few words having been said by the seconder, the Rev. U. Todd was made a member amidst said by the seconder, the Kev. U. Todd was made a member amidst cheers, and in response said that he must thank the members one and all for their unanimous decision. He thought he was rather backward at ringing, not having had the opportunity down in the country of the advantages which are offered in London, so that having heard a good deal about the Cumberland Society and their doings, he determined to join them, and he hoped that although the wise men came from the east, his friend Mr. Thorne would show them that the

men from the west were not such fools as they looked.

At this period of the evening, 10.10 p.m., a painful announcement from the chair was made to the effect that Mr. H. W. Haley, a wellknown ringer of world-wide reputation, thad, at 5.30 that morning

passed away, exactly pre-deceased by the late Mr. Cox one twelvemonth, a very peculiar coincidence, and which formed a theme for conversa-tion. Many expressions of sympathy for the bereaved relatives also found utterance.

Following close upon this painful surprise came another presentation made by the Society to Mr. Henry S. Thomas, in the shape of a life-size picture of himself, with gilt bells let in the mount, and suit-

able inscription at the bottom.

Mr. Dains, in presenting this on behalf of the members, asked Mr. Thomas' acceptance of the same, which he said was not for its intrinsic worth or merit, but to show the Society's deep respect and esteem in which they held him for his many good qualities and indomitable energy, which he had displayed at all times in working for the members good, individually or collectively, and in conclusion hoped that Mr. Thomas would be spared to be a member of the company for years to come, and that every happiness and success might attend him

through life.

Mr. Thomas, in accepting the gift at the Secretary's hands, said he hardly knew how to thank the members for the very handsome acknowledgement they had presented to him for services he had rendered the Society, but this he would say, he should prize it beyond estimation. Coming as it did from a company in whom his ringing interests were wrapt up in, and also at a moment when he felt such pride in having been instrumental in starting the project for giving the safe, which they had accepted in the early part of the evening, they might be certain of his support and energy in the future, and he should like to see a greater amount of energy about the members, as they had no excuse whatever now for shirking ringing, as there was a handsome book to enter their scientific labours, and a case of iron to enclose the same. He had no hesitation in saying that looking at the safe, with all its records within, that they had got the most fireproof enclosure of talent anywhere visible in London. Again assuring the members that they might count upon his support in everything they undertook, and urging them to work with a will in all that was put forward for the company's interest, Mr. Thomas resumed his seat amidst loud applause.

The minutes of the previous meeting having been read and confirmed, a reply was then read from Mrs. Humphry, widow of the late Vicar of St. Martin's, in answer to a letter of condolence sent by the Secretary on behalf of the Cumberland Society expressing their deepest sympathy with her in her irretrievable bereavement, to which she replied in suitable terms, enclosing a copy of the Vicar's last sermon for their benefit and use. After several other minor matters of business the books were declared closed, Mr. Gardom vacating the chair in favor of Mr. Baron, who having called Mr. Porter to preside at the piano, the rest of the evening was sociably passed, relieved by occasional bursts of harmony from Messrs. Porter, J. Rogers, J. occasional bursts of narmony from Messrs, Porter, J. Rogers, J. Barry, Titchener, H. S. Thomas, and Church, together with a capital recitation from Mr. Newton, which were all greatly appreciated, and thus ended an evening's meeting among the Cumberlands which should be marked with a red letter as the most successful, well-

organized gathering that has ever taken place.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

The Quarterly Meeting of this Association was held at St. Luke's church, Heywood, on Saturday, January 30th. The weather unfortunately was extremely inclement, violent gusts of wind, alternating with driving rain and sleet; on this account there was not so good an attendance as usual. Members were present from Bolton, Eccles, Heywood, Manchester Radcliffe, Rochdale, Walkden. Touches were rung by mixed bands in the afternoon and evening. An excellent tea had been provided at the Heywood Coffee Tavern for the visitors, and after partaking of it the members adjourned to St. Luke's Schoolroom for the business meeting. Here the chair was taken by the Rev. Mr. Pickup, who called on the Secretary to read the minutes of the last meeting. These having been passed, the Secretary proceeded to read a letter from Mr. William Snowdon, in answer to a vote of condolence sent by the Committe on the sad loss he had sustained in the death of his brother. The following gentlemen were then duly proposed and seconded as members, and unanimously elected: Messrs. F. Entwisle and G. Hoyle, of Rochdale, and J. W. Potter, of Walkden.

Mr. Pickup then briefly addressed the meeting. In the course of his remarks he called attention to the good the Association was doing in promoting a feeling of unity among the inhabitants of different

arishes, and in joining together the lovers of the art.

Mr. Holme then proposed a vote of thanks to the chairman for presiding, and Mr. Scott proposed that the best thanks of the meeting be conveyed to the Vicar and churchwardens for the use of the bells; and to the ringers of St. Luke's for the arrangements they had made for the comfort of the visitors. These proposals having been carried unanimously, the meeting adjourned.

HEXHAM ABBEY, NORTHUMBERLAND.

A meeting of the members of the Abbey Church Company was held in the Vestry, on Wednesday, January 20th, for the purpose of forming a Guild in connection with the Durham and Northumberland Association. The Rev. Canon Barker presided, and there was a good attendance.

Mr. W. J. Capper moved, and Mr. R. Hamilton seconded, the following resolution:—"That a society, having for its object the study and practice of the art and science of bell-ringing and the ringing of the bells of the Abbey Church of St. Andrew's, at Hexham, in the county of Northumberland, be established, and that the society be called 'The Hexham Abbey Guild of Ringers;' that the Guild consist of the Rector and Churchwardens of Hexham for the time being, and the following (here follow the names of the members), and of such other persons as shall from time to time be appointed in accordance with the rules of the Guild."

The resolution was carried unanimously.

The question of rules was discussed, and the meeting was adjourned till the 4th of February. All the members present signified their intention of joining the Guild. The company then adjourned to the "Old Grey Bull," where they were entertained by the Rector and Churchwardens. The Rev. Canon Barker occupied the chair, and Mr. W. J. Capper the vice-chair. An excellent repast was served up by the host and hostess, and after ample justice had been done to the good things provided,

The CHAIRMAN opened the proceedings by giving the toasts of "The Queen" and "The Royal Family." The Chairman then gave a toast, which, he said, was very often missed out; he meant the toast of "The Church of England." He would just ask them to express their feelings about the grand old Church to which they belonged. He trusted that God would greatly prosper it, and he hoped there would never be a time when there would not he a Church of England such as there is now. The toast was heartily drunk.

The Vice-Chairman then proposed the toast of "The Bishop and Clergy of the Diocese," coupled with the name of Canon Barker.

The Chairman, in responding, said he saw a good deal of the Bishop, and he had no hesitation in saying that he was the most hardworking-man that had ever been bishop of the diocese; not that his predecessors were not hard-working men, but Bishop Wilberforce was a young man, and as active an administrator of the diocese as it was possible to find. He always did his own work. If you wrote to him, you always got a reply in his own hand. The Bishop watched vigorously over all parts of the diocese, and he (the speaker) knew, in his capacity of rural dean, that nothing occurred but what it came under the cognizance of the Bishop, who took such steps as he thought necessary to meet the case. In regard to himself, he could only say he was not so hard-working as the Bishop; he was not such a young man, and he did not know whether he ever had such power of hard work in him. He trusted that so long as he was able to carry out what work fell to his share—assisted by able coadjutors, as it would always be his endeavour to find—that the time was far distant when he would have to give up the pleasure of being incumbent of this diocese. He trusted that he would never, as long as he lived, have to sever his connection with their noble Abbey Church, with their beautiful country, or with such very pleasant parishioners.

The Chairman then gave "The Health of the ex-officio Members of the Guild—the Churchwardens." He said they were always ready to help the clergy as far as they could, and he had much pleasure in coupling with the toast the name of Mr. W. J. Capper.

The VICE-CHAIRMAN returned thanks, and said they had done all they could for the grand old Abbey, and they would, as far as they were able, do all they could to help the clergy.

Mr. L. C. Lockhart then gave the toast of the evening, "Success to the Hexham Abbey Church Guild of Ringers." He said as they were drinking their own success, he was sure they would all enter heartily into that toast. He was involved in it on his own account, and he was sure he could heartily wish success to the future Guild. He trusted that at each successive annual gathering, there or elsewhere, the Hexham Abbey Guild would be found to be flourishing and attaining those ends for which it had been instituted, and which had been inaugurated under such happy circumstances. It was many years siace Hexham had its peal of bells in such perfect order, and he hoped those gentlemen who had enrolled themselves would feel the privilege they had in practising and performing on what were probably the finest peal of bells in the United Kingdom. It depended on themselves to go on and prosper. He trusted that good sense and feeling would animate every member of the Guild, and that pleasant feeling, unanimity, and accord would characteriss the Guild at all times, and that they would all put their shoulder to the wheel to carry the Guild on prosperously. The toast was heartily drunk.

A number of changes were rung by the members on the handbells, and a pleasant evening concluded with "Our next merry meeting."

DEATH OF MR. H. W. HALEY.

It is our painful duty to record the death of this celebrated ringer, which took place early on the morning of Friday, January 29th, after a few days' illness. This intelligence will no doubt be learnt with deep regret by many of Mr. Haley's old colleagues, and in the melancholy occurrence it will not be gainsaid that the Exercise has lost one of its most able followers. We shall refer next week to the ringing career of our deceased brother. The funeral takes place at Ilford (Essex) Cemetery, at four o'clock to-day (Saturday).

SUBSCRIPTION LIST FOR THE JOHNSON TESTIMONIAL.

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The Committee beg to give notice that this list is now closed, and that they have made arrangements to hold a meeting at St. Martin's Hotel, Birmingham, on the 27th inst., for the purpose of making the presentation, particulars of which will be announced in next week's "Bell News."

THE OXFORD UNIVERSITY SOCIETY.

The Oxford University Society Anniversary will be celebrated on Tuesday, February 9th, by a peal at Drayton, Berks. Dinner at the "Crown and Thistle," Abingdon, at 6.30.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

The next District Meeting will be held at Staplehurst, on Monday, February 15th. Members wishing to attend are requested to communicate with the Hon. Sec. 30, Cadogan Terrace, S.W.

Correspondence.

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

To the Editor of "The Bell News and Ringers' Record."

THE COX JUBILEE FUND.

SIR,—The Committee and all concerned in this movement desire to express their thanks to you for the use of "THE BELL NEWS," and for your efforts therein to augment the subscription-list. All payments have been made, vouchers examined, and accounts audited, and, with the balance, the receipt for the private grave has been handed to the widow in whose name the purchase was made.

widow, in whose name the purchase was made.

A good and substantial head and footstone, with kerbs, all of 4-inch York stone, has been erected to mark the last resting-place of the once celebrated ringer, in Nunhead cemetery. Upon the stone is a suitable inscription, accompanied by dates of birth, death, etc. Carved in the upper part of the stone is a bell, circumscribed by a moulding. The spandrails are inlaid with mosaic, of a chocolate tint, and outlined with similar material of a pale green colour. The arrangement is appropriate, and the bell is effectively brought out.

RECEIPTS.	EXPENDITURE.
Dr. £ s. d. By subscriptions already acknowledged in "Bell News"	Cr. f. s. d. By Payments to Mr. Cox
£72 4 7	Total £72 4 7

Audited and found correct, 18th December, 1885. { Hy. S. Thomas. Geo. R. Banks.

WM. BARON, Hon. Treasurer. Hy. Dains, Hon. Secretary.

356 The Bell New.	s and Ringers' Record.
"THE BELL NEWS AND RINGERS' RECORD" will be forwarded post free, on the following terms: One copy, 12 months	1
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.	Composed and Conducted by ROBERT WILLIAMS. This is the third peal of Treble Bob Caters ever rung, the last previous peal being rung at Aston-juxta-Birmingham, February 13th, 1848.
A CORRECTION.—The number of changes comprised in the peal of Treble Bob Royal rung at Liverpool on the 14th ult., was 5000, not 5088.	LONG EATON, DERBYSHIRE. THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION. On Friday, January 29, 1886, in Three Hours and Four Minutes,
The Bell Hews & Ringers' Record. SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 6, 1886.	AT THE CHURCH OF ST. LAWRENCE, A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES; IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 11 cwt. SAMUEL CLARKETreble. JOHN WARD5. WILLIAM BILLINGHURST2. WILLIAM GILSON6. CHARLES SMITH3. ARTHUR WIDDOWSON7. RICHARD LANE4. JOSEPH BARROWTenor. Composed by JAMES NICHOLLS, of Sowerby, Yorkshire, and Conducted by JOSEPH BARROW.
The Metropolis.	Messrs. Billinghurst, Lane, and Smith hail from Loughborough, the rest belong to the St. Lawrence's society.
BETHNAL GREEN, MIDDLESEX. THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS. On Saturday, January 30, 1886, in Two Hours and Fifty-six Minutes, AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MATTHEW, A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES; HOLT'S 10-PART. Tenor 14 cwt. JOHN BONNY	T. B. REED, JUN 4. E. GOLDER
The Provinces.	DORCHESTER, OXON.—THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD
MEREWORTH, KENT. THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.	On Saturday, January 30, 1886, in Three Hours and Nineteen Minutes, AT THE PARISH CHURCH,
On Monday, January 25, 1886, in Two Hours and Forty-seven Minutes,	A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. LAWRENCE, 5040 CHANGES: BEING SEVEN DIFFERENT 7208 OF BOB MINOR. Tenor 12 cwt. ARNOLD BROOKER	REV. F. A. H. Du BOULAY 2. HERBERT J. CASTLE 3. REV. F. E. ROBINSON 4. REV. G. F. COLERIDGE 6. JAMES W WASHBROOK 7. DENNIS NAPPER
Conducted by Frederick G. Newman.	First peal in the method on the bells. The composition has no bob on the 6t

Composed and Conducted by JAMES WILLIAM WASHBROOK.

First peal in the method on the bells. The composition has no bob on the 6th. throughout, and has never been previously performed.

SHENSTONE. STAFFORDSHIRE.

ASSOCIATION FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD. Muffled Beal.

On Saturday, January 30, 1886, in Three Hours and Five Minutes, AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Vicars's	6-Part.	Tenor 1	3 cwt.	in	G.
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EDWIN GALLIMORE* Treble.	RICHARD ANNISS 5.
HENRY MEACHAM 2.	
Joseph Кеу 3.	WILLIAM FEARNEYHOUGH 7.
ARTHUR E. GREENWOOD 4.	†CHARLES NORTH Tenor.

Conducted by F. J. COPE.

* First peal inside. † First peal. The above was rung with the bells half-muffled, as a last mark of respect to the late Rev. J. J. Serjeantson, Rector of St. Michael's, Lichfield, and Treasurer of the Association.

BIRMINGHAM, WARWICKSHIRE.

On Saturday, January 30, 1886, in Two Hours and Fifty-five Minutes, AT BISHOP RYDER'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES; HOLT'S TRY PART Tenor to out in C

110413	I BM-I AKI	I choi 13 cwt. In G.	
Francis H. James	Trel	ble. Joseph W. Cattle *James N. Frossell *Isaac Hills †James E. King	5.
CHARLES CARMELL	2	. *JAMES N. FROSSELL	Ğ.
John Wright	3	. SAAC HILLS	7.
CHARLES W. CLARKI	E 4.	. †James E. King	Tenor.
		_	

Conducted by Charles Wm. Clarke.

This is the conductor's first attempt at calling Holt's Ten-part. * First peal in the method. + First peal. Messrs James, Carmell, Wright, Cattle and King are members of the Birmingham and District Association. Messrs. Clarke, Frossell and Hills hail from Bedford; and are members of the Bedfordshire Association. The visitors wish to express their best thanks to Mr. John Carter for making arrangements, and to the rest of their brother-strings for making their visit a most happy and success ul one.

HARBORNE, STAFFORDSHIRE.

THE BIRMINGHAM AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATION. Birthdan Peal.

On Saturday, January 30, 1886, in Three Hours and Sixteen Minutes, AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE MAJOR, 5472 CHANGES;

	1 00001 11	V V 2 .		
George Hitchman*	Treble.	HARRY C. WOODWARD		5.
JAMES PLANT	2.	JOHN CARTER	٠.	6.

JOHN CALLAGHAN . . . 3. ALBERT HACKLEY . . . 7. THOMAS RUSSAM . . . 4. REUBEN BOSWORTH Tenor. Composed and Conducted by JOHN CARTER.

The peal contains the 4th, 5th, and 6th twenty-four times in 6th's place, with the tenors together every lead throughout. It was rung to commemorate Mr. H. C. Woodward's 28th birthday, and is the first peal of Grandsire Major upon the bells. † Hail from Derby. *First peal.

MOTTRAM-IN-LONGDENDALE, CHESHIRE. THE UNITED COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, January 30, 1886, in Two Hours and Fifty-eight Minutes, AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 12% cwt.

				_		
EDWARD HAIGH		7	reble.	SAMUEL WILKINSON		5.
WILLIAM HARROP			2.	SAMUEL LEVER	٠,٠	Ğ.
WILLIAM MARSDEN		٠.	3⋅	GEORGE BRADDOCK		7.
SAMUEL KNOTT, JUI	v.†	٠.	4.	HOHN PYE, JUN	7	lenor.

Composed by Tom Lockwood, and Conducted by Edward Haigh. †College You'hs. Messrs. Haigh, Marsden, Wilkinson, and Lever hail from Whitfield; Harrop, Knott, and Pye from Old Glossop; B addock bel.ngs to Mottram.

THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

THE REPORT for the year 1885 will shortly be published, price 4d., containing the balance-sheet, list of members, and record of performances. Members are hereby requested to inform the Hon. Secretary through their representatives, whether they will require copies of the ARTHUR B. CARPENTER, Hon. Sec. above.

Dingwall Road, Croydon.

EYE. SUFFOLK.

On Monday, February 1, 1886, in Three Hours and Twenty-three Minutes, AT THE CHURCH OF SS. PETER AND PAUL,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5280 CHANGES;

Tenor 24 cwt

F. DAY	 	Treble.	J. Bumstead	 	5.
G. DAY	 	2.	G. FORD	 	6.
W. Gooderham F. Wright	 	3.	G. Murton	 	·· 7·
F. Wright	 	3.	H Torble	 	Tenor

IN THE OXFORD VARIATION

Composed by J. Reeves and Conducted by F. DAY.

Messrs F. Day, G. Day, and J. Bumstead are members of the Cumberland Youths. G. Murton and H. Torble belong to the Ancient Society of College Youths.

WOLSTANTON, STAFFORDSHIRE.

STOKE-UPON-TRENT ARCHIDIACONAL ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, February 1, in Two Hours and Fifty-one Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARGARET,

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

LEVI MILLER			Treble.	H. PAGE		5.
W. MILLER			2.	S. SPENCER W. GREENLEAF		6.
S. WALKER			3.	W. GREENLEAF		•• 7-
F. MARTIN	• •	••	. 4.	H. KAMESTER	••	Tenor.
		_		II Dian		

Conducted by H. PAGE.

W. Greenleaf hails from London, H. Page from Stoke-on-Trent, both members of the Ancient Society of College Youths.

BURTON-ON-TRENT, STAFFORDSHIRE.

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

On Tuesday, February 2, 1886, in Three Hours and Eight Minutes, AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PAUL,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES; BROOK'S VARIATION

DR	JOK	VARIATIO	N. I CHOI 20 CWL.	
WILLIAM WAKLEY		Treble.	EDWARD ISAAC STONE	5.
SAMUEL GRETTON*	• •	2.	THOMAS HOLMES	6.
ARTHUR WAKLEY		3.	IOHN LAGGAR	7.
Joseph Griffin	••	. 4.	HARRY WAKLEY	Tenor.

Conducted by John Jaggar. * First peal in the method.

DUFFIELD, DERBYSHIRE.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION. (DUFFIELD BRANCH.)

On Tuesday, February 2, 1886, in Three Hours and One Minute, AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES: IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 17 cwt.

GEORGE DAWSON		Treble.	George Hingley 5.
SAMUEL JOHNSON		2.	WILLIAM HICKLING 6.
JOHN HOWE		3.	Robert Johnson 7.
ARTHUR B. WARD	٠.	4.	A. PERCIVAL HEYWOOD Tenor.

Composed by S. Marsh, and Conducted by A. PERCIVAL HEYWOOD, Esq. This is a one-part peal, with the 6th the extent in all positions.

ROCHDALE, YORKSHIRE.

THE ROCHDALE AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATION. On Tuesday, February 2, 1886, in Three Hours,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

CARTER'S 12-PART.

W. H. SMITH .			7	reble.	JNO. HOGGARD		5.
J. T. LUCAS		٠.		2.	ALBERT HURST		Ğ.
GEO. HOYLE	٠	• •	4 4	3.	F. BIRTWISTLE.	• •	···_7·
B. MEADOWCROFT		• •	• •	4.	JNO. HARRISON	• •	Tenor:

Conducted by F. BIRTWISTLE,

FARRINGDON, BERKS.—THE APPLETON SOCIETY.

On Tuesday, February 2, 1886, in Three Hours and Ten Minutes,

At the Parish Church,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES.

STEDMAN WHITE FREDERICK WHITE	••	•::	2. 3·	EDMUND HOLIFIELD GEORGE HOLIFIELD HENRY WOODWARD THOMAS BENNETT	6. 7.	
WILLIAM BENNETT 4. THOMAS BENNETT Tenor.						
Conducted by G. Hollfield.						

This is the first peal after the repairing of the bells, which has been done by Mr White, of Appleton.

BRADFORD.—THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION AND THE BRADFORD AMALGAMATED SOCIETY.

On Tuesday, February 2, 1886, in Three Hours and Twenty-two Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB ROYAL, 5000 CHANGES; IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 27 cwt.

A. Moulson	 	Treble.	TOM POLLITT	 6.
INO. FISHER	 	2.	Jas. Angus	 7.
Hy. RAISTRICK	 	3.	JAS. ANGUS J. H. HARDCASTLE	 ·• 8.
Ios. Broadley	 • •	•• 4.	J. B. JENNINGS	 9.
ROBERT TUKE	 • •	•• 5.	WM. DARBEY	 Tenor.

Composed by C. H. HATTERSLEY and Conducted by J. H. HARDGASTLE.

This peal has never been previously performed.

SYSTON, LEICESTERSHIRE.

On Wednesday, February 3, 1886, in Three Hours and Three Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES; HOLT'S TEN-PART. Tenor 15\(\frac{3}{4}\) cwt. in F.

A. MELLIS			Treble.	J. BUTTERY 5.
G Burrows			. 2.	*Rev. W. Pearson 6.
]. North		• •	3.	J. W. TAYLOR, JUN., Esq. 7. *J. Freeman
J. Pickard	• •	• •	•• 4.	*J. FREEMAN

Conducted by J. W. TAYLOR, JUN., Esq.

All the above, with the exception of J, Pickard and J. Freeman, are members of the Midland Counties' Association. Messrs. Mellis, Burrows, and Buttery hail from Leicester; and North, Pickard and the Rev. W. Pearson from Syston.

*First peal in the method.

Pate Touches.

THE HOLT SOCIETY, ASTON-JUXTA-BIRMINGHAM.

BIRMINGHAM.—Handbell Ringing.—On Wednesday evening, January 20th, at the residence of Mr. W. Kent, 64 Aston Lane, a date touch of Grandsire Triples, 1886, in 53 mins., and contains twenty-four courses of 6.7, with all the 4.6's. John William Cartwright, 1-2; William Kent, 3-4; Bernard Witchell (conductor), 5-6; Charles Stanbridge, 7-8. Tenor 14 size, in Eb. Composed by Mr. John Carter. The above was rung in the presence of Mr. W. Ansell.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

HAUGHLEY (Suffolk).—On Tuesday, January 19th, five members of the above Association rang a date touch (1886 changes), of Plain and Old Doubles, in 1 hr. 20 mins. W. Bedwell, 1; W. E. Tydeman. 2; E. Buckle, 3; C. Mee (conductor), 4; F. S. Plummer, 5. This is the longest touch ever rung upon the bells.

Halliwell (Lancashire).—On Saturday, January 23rd, at St. Peter's church, a date touch of Grandsire Triples, 1886 changes, in 1 hr. 6 mins. J. Gregory (composer and conductor), 1; W. Thornley, 3; J. Seddon, 3; T. Ridings, 4; Rd. Thornley, 5; A. Unsworth, 6; H. Sidey, 7; T. Morris, 8. Tenor 16½ cwt.

KEYSTON (Hunts).—On Saturday, January 23rd, at St. John the Baptist, a date touch, 1886 changes, being a twelve six-score of Bob Doubles, and 446 of Grandsire Doubles, each called differently, in 1 hr. 10 mins. F. Barwell, 1; J. Pettitt, 2; J. Twelvetree, 3; H. Chapman, 4; R. Dunkley (conductor), 5. Tenor 19 cwt. in E.

MEREWORTH (Kent).—On Sunday, January 24th, for morning service, a date touch of 1886 changes in 1 hr. 7 mins. A. Brooker, 1; W. Eldridge, 2; G. Bell, 3; G. Newman, 4; W. Bellingham, 5; F. G. Newman (conductor), 6. Tenor 12 cwt.

Mirfield (Yorks).—On Sunday evening, January 24th, for Divine Service at the parish church, the local company rang a date touch of 1886 Kent Treble Bob Royal, in 1 hr. 15 mins. J. Crowther, 1; J. Crawshaw, 2; G. Thornton, 3; S. Peacock, 4; R. Ellis, 5; W. Peacock, 6; D. Clarkson, 7; H. Hinchliffe, 8; B. Robinson, 9; J. Peacock (conductor), 10. Tenor 30 cwt. The above was composed by A. Sykes, of Huddersfield, and is in one course.

Miscellaneous.

THE ST. JAMES'S SOCIETY, LONDON.

MORTLAKE (Surrey).—On Saturday, January 23rd, eight members of this society attempted Holt's Original, but through the indisposition of one of the members the conductor brought them round after ringing 2870 changes, in 1 hr. 34 mins. W. Bidwell, 1; W. W. Thorne, 2; A. E. Church, 3; C. F. Winny (conductor), 4: J. Basden, 5; A. H. Taber, 9; C. Porter, 7; B. Battram, 8.

STOKE-UPON-TRENT ARCHIDIACONAL ASSOCIATION.

Norton (Staffordshire).—On Sunday, January 24th, a 720 of Bob Minor, in 27 mins. E. Glover, 1; J. W. Brough, 2; D. Bradbury, 3: F. Corbishley (first 720), 4; W. Baddeley, 5; J. Baddeley (conductor), 6. Messrs. Bradbury and Corbishley hail from Horton.

BIDDULPH (Staffordshire).—On Sunday, Jannary 24th, a 720 of Bob Minor, in 25 mins. (twenty singles and ten bobs); and a 720 of Grandsire Minor (thirty singles and thirty bobs), in 24 mins. J. Moss, I; C. Lawton, 2; A. Cotterell, 3; S. Mitchell, 4; S. Moore, 5; W. Carter (conductor), 6.

THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

MITCHAM (Surrey).—On Sunday, evening, January 24th, for Divine Service at Christ Church, a 720 of Grandsire Minor, in 23 mins. W. Gallagher, I; E. Burtenshaw, 2; D. Burtenshaw, 3; R. Reynolds, 4; H. J. Schneider, 5; A. Nicholson (conductor), 6. And on Monday, January 25th, for practice, a 120 of Kent Treble Bob. W. Gallagher, I; E. Burtenshaw, 2; D. Burtenshaw, 3; R. Reynolds, 4; A. Nicholson, 5; H. J. Schneider, 6. First 120 of Treble Bob by all the above. And a 360 of Grandsire Minor, in 12 mins. W. Gallagher, I; E. Burtenshaw, 2; D. Burtenshaw, 3; J. Fayers, 4; R. Reynolds, 5; H. J. Schneider (conductor), 6.

Bradninch (Devon).—On Friday, January 22nd, six 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles, for practice. Geo. Parsons, 1; Charles Saunders, 2; John Webb, 3; John Haydon, 4; John Heal (conductor), 5; F. Shepherd, 6. This society, which has recently been started for the purpose of learning change-ringing, is in connnection with the Devonshire Guild, and has been under the tuition of Mr. F. Shepherd for some few months.

CAVENDISH (Suffolk).—On Monday, January 18th, at St. Mary's church, a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob, in 28 mins. George Maxim (Foxearth), 1; S. Slater (conductor), 2; W. P. Gridley, 3; R. Mingay, 4; P. C. S. Scott, 5; J. Lee, 6. And a 720 of Bob Minor (eighteen bobs and two singles). F. J. Thompson (Cavendish), 1; R. Mingay (Foxearth), 2; W. P. Gridley (Foxearth), 3; S. Slater (Glemsford; conductor), 4; George Maxim (Foxearth), 5; George Maxim (Cavendish), 6.

Dudley (Worcestershire).—On Sunday morning, January 24th, before service at St. Thomas's church, 840 changes of Grandsire Triples. T. Hill, I; J. Fellows, jun., 2; J. Mills, 3; J. Fellows, sen., 4; E. Fellows, 5; W. Micklewright (conductor), 6: J. Goodman, 7; F. Fellows, 8.

F. Fellows, 6.

EAST PECKHAM (Kent).—On Thursday evening, January 21st, at St. Michael's church, a 720 of Bob Minor (forty-two singles), in 26 mins.

J. Rogers, 1; W. Eldridge, 2; G. Bell, 3; G. Newman, 4; W. Bellingham, 5; F. G. Newman (conductor), 6. And another 720 of Bob Minor (thirty-two bobs and two singles).

J. Rogers, 1; G. Bell, 2; G. Newman, 3; G. Bishop, 4; W. Eldridge, 5; F. G. Newman (conductor), 6. Tenor 16 cwt.

HALEWOOD (Lancashire).—On Saturday, January 23rd, the following attempted to ring Thurstans' peal of Stedman Triples at St. Michael's Church, but after ringing 3528 changes in 2 hrs. it came to grief. J. R. Pritchard, I; W. Booth, 2; W. James, 3: J. Aspinwall, 4; G. Fisher, 5; W. Davies, 6; T. Hammond (conductor), 7; R. Diggle, 8. Afterwards a 440 of Treble Bob Major, with Walter Hughes at the 6th, and William Davies at the tenor, the remainder standing as before.

KEYSTON (Hunts).—On Saturday, January 23rd, 6 six-scores of Bob Doubles, each called differently. H. Stubbs (conductor), 1; J. Pettit, 2; E. Chapman, 3; J. Martin, 4; H. Twelvetree, 5. Also three 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles, each called differently. F. Barwell, 1; J. Martin, 2; H. Chapman, 3; J. Morris, 4; H. Stubbs

(conductor), 5. Tenor 19 cwt. in E. H. Chapman, E. Chapman, R. Dunkley, hails from Bythorn, and H. Stubbs from Raunds; the

rest belong to the local company

LEISTON (Suffolk).-On Sunday evening, January 17th, for Divine Service in the evening, at the parish church, 1008 of Plain Bob Major, in 38 mins. J. Flegg, 1; H. Button, 2; J. Button, 3; T. Staulkey, 4; W. Button, 5; R. Stannard, 6; G. Baxter, 7; T. Shearing (conductor), Tenor 20 cwt. This is the longest length in this method by the 8. Tenor 20 cwt. This is the longest length in this method by the local company. Also on Tuesday evening for practice, 720 of Bob Minor in 28 mins. J. Flegg, I; *R. Rodwell, 2; H. Button, 3; †G. Baxter (conductor), 4; T. Staulkey, 5: W. Button, 6. *First 720; †first 720 as conductor. And on Sunday, January 24th, for Divine Service in the morning, 420 of Plain Bob Triples. J. Flegg, I; H. Button, 2: J. Button, 3; T. Staulkey, 4; W. Button, 5; R. Stannard, 6; G. Baxter (conductor), 7; H. Staulkey, 8.

LEVEND (Lancashire)—On Sunday, January 24th, 2t St. James's

LEYLAND (Lancashire).—On Sunday, January 24th, at St. James's church, for afternoon service, a 720 of London Single Bob (sixteen bobs and two singles), in 25 mins. Oliver Worden (conductor), 1; *John Miller, 2; Thomas Bowling, 3; James Bretherton, 4; *Thomas Bown, [5; *William Nelson, 6. *First 720 in the method. This is

the first 720 of London Single Bob rang at St. James's.

LIVERPOOL.—On Sunday, January 24th, for afternoon service at St. Peter's pro- Cathedral, upwards of 700 Treble Bob Caters, in 26 mins. Richard Williams, 1; William Booth, 2; Edwin Booth, 3; Charles Williams, 4; John Moore, 5; John Brown, 6; Thomas Hammond, 7; William Davies, 8; Robert Williams (conductor), 9; William Brooks, 10.

MEREWORTH (Kent).—On Friday evening, January 22nd, at St. Lawrence's church, a 720 of Bob Minor (twenty-two singles). And another 720 (eighteen bobs and two singles), each in 25 mins. 1; F. G. Newman, 2; G. Bell, 3; G. Newman, 3; A. Brooker, 5; W. Eldridge, 6. Tenor 12 cwt.

NORTHAMPTON.—Muffled Peal.—On Monday, January 25th, at St. Giles's church, nine members of the local company started for a 1540 of Grandsire Triples (with the bells deeply muffled in token of respect to the late Mr. H. Holding), but it came to grief after ringing 1300 changes. J. Wiseman, 1; J. Crooks, 2; H. Gilham, 3; W. Roberts, 4; F. Clayton, 5; W. Wood, 6; T. Wood (composer and conductor), 7; S. Hall and W. Furn, 8. Tenor about 30 cwt. in Eb. This is the longest length in the method by all the above, except J. Brooks.

MITCHAM (Surrey).—On Sunday, January 17th, for Divine Service at the Parish Church, by the local society, 602 of Grandsire Triples in 25 mins., and for Divine Service in the evening, 720 of the same method. C. Brockwell, 1; J. Drewett, 2; G. Foster, sen., 3; G. Foster, jun., 4: *A. Brockwell, 5; *G. Welling, 6; *J. Fayers, 7; J. Currell, 8. *Members of the Surrey Association.

PRESTBURY (Cheshire).—On Sunday, January 17th, at St. Peter's PRESTBURY (Chesnire).—On Sunday, January 17th, at St. Peter's church, for Divine Service in the afternoon, 756 changes of Grandsire Triples. James Holt, 1; Walter Ingham, 2; William Walmsley, 3; William McKenny, 4; John M. Davenport, 5; Edward Matthews (conductor), 6; James Morledge, 7; Henry W. Neelton, 8. Tenor 18\frac{3}{4} cwt. in F. H. W. Neelton belongs to Prestbury, and the rest hail from Macclesfield. This touch was rung on the occasion of the opening of a new chancel at the above church, by the Lord Bishop of Chaster, the Rishop of Rochester also taking part in the ceremony. Chester, the Bishop of Rochester also taking part in the ceremony.

Chester, the Bishop of Kochester also taking part in the ceremony.

PRESCOT (Lancasl.ire).—On Saturday, January 23rd, seven members of the St. Mary's Society, with Mr. Robert Williams of Liverpool started for a peal of Grandsire Triples, which was brought to a stand after ringing upwards of 1200 changes, by the incessant cannonade at the door by the clock winder. James Chesworth, 1; John Renshall, 2; Jonathan Finney, 3; Thomas Byron, 4; John Case, 5; Robert Williams (conductor), 6; John Cooke, 7; John Moston, 8.

Private (Northemptonshire) — Handbell Pipaina — On Sunday

RAUNDS (Northamptonshire). — Handbell Ringing.—On. Sunday, Jannary 24th, at the House of Mr. H. Stubbs, a 720 of Plain Bob Triples, in 25 mins. A. Coles, I; W. J. Gilbert, 2; R. Pendered, 3; G. Kirk, 4; W. Hall, 5; F. Gilbert (composer and conductor), 6; H. Stubbs, 7; J. Stubbs, 8. And on Monday, January 25th, at St. Peter's church, for practice, a 360 of Plain Bob. A. Coles, I; W. J. Gilbert, 2; F. Kirk (first 360 in the method), 3; R. Pendered, 4; G. Kirk, 5; W. J. Gilbert (conductor), 6. And 144 of Court Single. A. Coles, I; F. Gilbert, 2; R. Pendered, 3; N. Martin, 4; G. Kirk, 5; W. J. Gilbert (conductor), 6. Also three 6-scores of Bob Doubles. A. Coles, I: W. J. Gilbert, 2; R. Pendered, 3; G. Kirk, 4; F. Gilbert (conductor), 5; F. Kirk, 6. RAUNDS (Northamptonshire). - Handbell Ringing. - On Sunday, Gilbert (conductor), 5; F. Kirk, 6.

Gilbert (conductor), 5; F. Kirk, o.

RINGSTEAD (Northants).—On Saturday, January 23rd, at St. Mary's Church, 720 of Oxford Bob Minor, with eighteen bobs and two singles. F. H. Chapman. 1; G. H. Roberts, 2; R. Shipley, 3; J. Braybrook, 4; E. Mayes, 5; T. Roberts (conductor), 6. And a 720 of Plain Bob Minor, with eight bobs and six singles. F. H. Chapman, 1; G. H. Roberts, 2; R. Shipley, 3: E. Mayes, 4; T. Roberts, 5; J. Braybrook (conductor), 6. Also on Saturday, January 30th, for practice, 720 of Yorkshire Court, with eighteen bobs and two singles. G. H.

Roberts, 1; J. Braybrook, 2; R. Shipley, 3; J. Sawford, 4: E. Mayes, 5; T. Roberts (conductor), 6.

READING (Berks).—On Thursday, January 21st, at St. Giles's church, a 720 of Bob Minor, in 27 mins. H. Smart, 1; A. Evans, 2; G. Gibbard, 3; A. E. Reeves, 4; J. W. Williams, 5; H. Egby (con-And on Sunday, January 23rd, for evening service, a 720 of Plain Bob Minor in 26 mins. H. Smart, 1; A. Evans, 2; A. Wright, 3; A. E. Reeves, 4; T. Hibbard, 5; G. Gibbard (conductor), 6. Tenor 18 cwt.

ROMFORD (Essex).—Handbell Ringing.—On Tuesday, January 26th, a 504 of Grandsire Triples. B. Keeble, 1-2; J. Gobbett, 3-4; A. J. Perkins (conductor), 5-6; W. Nash, 7-8.

RUDGWICK (Sussex).—On Monday evening, January 18th, at the parish church, for practice, a 720 of Bob Minor (eighteen bobs and two singles). M. Stanford, 1; †W. Rovery, 2; J. Cooper, 3; G. Jenkins, 4; W. Tate, 5; *C. Boxall (conductor), 6. And another 720 in the same method (twenty-six singles). J. King, 3; J. Cooper (conductor), 6; the others as before. And on Friday evening, January 22nd, two 720s of Warnham Court Bob Minor, without a stand. M. Stanford, I; W. Rovery, 2; J. King, 3; C. Boxall, 1; W. Tate, 5; J. Cooper (conductor), 6. †First 720 in the method. *First 720 as

SEDGLEY (Staffordshire).—On Sunday, January 17th, a mixed band rang a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1260 changes). in 47 mins. J. Goodman, sen., 1; D. Bruce, 2; H. Williams, 3; R. Schofield, 4; W. Pardoe, 5; J. Goodman, jun. (conductor), 6; J. Fullwood, 7; W. Mills, 8. J. Goodman, jun., hails from Dudlev; J. Fullwood from West Bromwich: W. Pardoe from Tipton; H. Williams from Kidder-

minster; the rest belong to the local band.

minster; the rest belong to the local band.

SLINFOLD (Sussex).—On Sunday, January 17th, at the parish church, Mr. J. F. Penning's one-part 720 of Bob Minor, with forty-four singles. W. Rovery, 1: W. Muggeridge, 2; W. Lanaway, 3; C. Boxall, 4; W. Tate, 5; J. Cooper (conductor), 6. Also a 720 of Warnham Court Bob Minor. J. Garton, 1; W. Muggeridge, 2; W. Wadey, 3; J. Cooper, 4; W. Grinstead, 5; *W. Lanaway (conductor), 6. ad 360 in the same method. W. Tate, 1: W. Rovery, 1; W. Muggeridge, 3; C. Boxall, 4; J. Cooper, 5; W. Lanaway (conductor), 6. *First 720 as conductor. Messrs. Rovery, Tate, and Boxall, hail from Rudgwick, and W. Wadey from Billingshurst.

STISTED (Essex).—On Saturday, January 23rd, the Bocking company visited Stisted, and rang several touches of Plain Bob, Court Single, and Oxford Treble Bob. Several tunes were afterwards

played on the handbells.

SUDBURY (Suffolk).—On Saturday, January 23rd, the local company rang for practice at St. Gregory's church, a 1008 of Bob Major, in 45 mins. Felix Tolliday, 1; Walter Griggs, 2; Maurice Silvester, 3; 45 mins. Felix Tolliday, 1; Walter Griggs, 2; Maurice Silvester, 3; Arthur Scott, 4; *Bayley Ransom, Esq., 5; Charles Sillitoe (conductor), 6; Walter Cross, 7; Harry Harper, 8. Also on Sunday, January 24th, for afternoon service, a 704 of Kent Treble Bob Major. F. Tolliday, 1; William Howell, 2; Maurice Sylvester, 3: James Campin, 4; Arthur Scott, 5: Charles Sillitoe (conductor), 6; Walter Cross, 7; Harry Harper, 8. Tenor 16 cwt. in F. *First 1000.

SUTTON (Lincolnshire).—On Sunday morning, January 24th, for Divine Service at St. Nicholas' church, six 6-scores of Plain Bob Doubles, in 25 mins. J. Russell. 1; *G. Stennett, 2; W. Cunnington, 3; Jno. Stennett, 3; †J. W. M. Brown, 5. *First six 6-score on an inside bell. †First six 6-score. We are pleased to find that changeringing is taken up with a will in this village.

WALPOLE (Norfolk).—On Sunday, January 10th, for practice at St. Peter's Church, a 720 of Bob Minor, twenty-one bobs and twelve singles, in 27 mins. J. Hendry, 1; R. Grimes, 2; H. Hill (conductor) 3; H. Allen, 4; H. Merrishaw, 5; W. Wright, 6. Also on Thursday, January 14th, for practice, a 720 of Bob Minor with eighteen singles and three bobs, in 27 mins., with R. Grimes (conductor). Also on Thursday, January 21st, for practice, a 720 of Bob Minor, with twenty bobs and ten singles, in 27 mins. J. Hendry, 1; H. Allen, 2; H. Hill, 3; Dr. Seccombe, 4; H. Merrishaw, 5; Richard Grimes (conductor), 6.

WISBECH (Cambridgeshire).—On Tuesday, January 12th, the Walwarpole company paid a visit to the above town, and rang a 720 of Bob Minor, with 7.8, covering. J. Hendry, 1; R. Grimes, 2; H. Hill (conductor), 3; H. Allen, 4: H. Merrishaw, 5; W. Wright, 6; H. Davies, 7: J. Fergusson, 8. Tenor 21 cwt. They afterwards adjourned to the "Duke's Head" Inn, when host llett kindly let them have his spacious "Duke's Head." Inn, when host liett kindiy let them have his spacious Market Room. The remainder of the evening was spent in handbell ringing, tunes, etc., including a 360 of Bob Minor by the Wisbech company. D. Pope (conductor), 1; W. Howard, 2; A. Howard, 3; G. Booth, jun., 4; G. Booth, sen., 5; M. J. Clark, 6.

WITHAM-ON-THE-HILL (Lincolnshire).—On Sunday evening, January 17th, for Divine Service, a 720 of Bob Minor, eighteen bobs and two singles. N. Moxton, 1; C. Newham, 2; W. Hudson, 3; J. T. Wooley, 4; J. Hallam, 5; R. Sharp, 6.

FIVE DAYS' RAMBLE AMONG THE RINGERS OF LANCASHIRE.

Having done short time for several months, and stopping upwards of a fortnight for the Christmas holidays, Messrs. Butterworth, Barratt, and Hampson, from Moorside, and S. Stott from Glodwick, decided to have a ramble through Lancashire. They left the meeting-house, the "Bull's Head Inn," Moorside, at 9.30 a.m, on Monday, December 28th. Having been well received by Mrs. Dyson, the landlady, they wended their way through the ancient village of Sholver by Shawside to Shaw, there calling on two of their own company to bid them good-bye, and to refresh themselves, they then proceeded again on their journey, going through Crompton, leaving East Crompton to the right, where there is a peal of six bells. They then passed through Gravel Hole, out of the sound of the spinning jenny and loom, into the open country, by Tandle Hills to Castleton Print Works. Spending an hour or so in looking round, they at last made their way up the village to the Railway Inn to have dinner. Whilst dining, it commenced raining very heavily, so they were delayed about three hours, it clearing up in the meantime, they left Castleton, and walked down Chadwick old lane (commonly called Cherrick owd lane), to Heywood. Whilst there, they saw Messrs. Harrison, Pilkington, and Barrett, and stayed a few minutes at the Ship Inn, where the Heywood company have their meetings. At this stage of their journey, one of the party, L. Hampson, turned back. The others called on James Millett, sen., who entertained them at tea, and after a short consultation with their brother-ringers, they made their way to Bury, arriving there about seven in the evening, close by the parish church, where on enquiry, they found there was a peal of bells rung by carillon. Meeting with a friend, he shewed them the principal places of interest, afterwards taking them to his where they had supper, and then retired for the night. Getting up early on the Tuesday morning, December 29th, they breakfasted with their friends, and after the repast bid them good morning, and proceeded again through the town, across Bury Bridge, through Elton, up Bolton Road past the Militia and Army barracks, where they had a grand view across country of Stand Church, Whitefield. Turning down a lane to the left, they took a circuitous route across country to Bolton, leaving Ratcliffe to the left, and going through Little Lever to Farnworth, where there is a peal of six bells. They stayed at Farnworth to dinner, and spent about two hours in the Then they started off again on the road through Moses Gate, in a blinding snowstorm to Bolton, arriving there none the worse for the rough weather they had encountered. They then made their way to the Railway Inn, close by Trinity Church, where the ringers meet sometimes. After refreshing themselves, they went to see Messrs. Jackson and Hamer, and after many ups and downs found them, the latter entertaining them to tea, after which he showed them the way to the parish church, it being the practice night, Mr. Hamer was way to the parish church, it being the practice fight, Mr. Hamer was not at liberty to go with them in the tower, owing to an handbell rehearsal for the old folks' tea party, kindly given by the Mayor of Bolton. The night following, Dec. 3rd, they were received by the parish church ringers, and rang 1800 changes of Grandsire Triples, tenor about 16 cwt., on which there is a curious inscription, as follows:
"Henry Bagley Made Mee, 1699. I to the Church the living call, and to the grave do summon all." Leaving the tower, they went up the street to the meeting-house, where they spent a social hour, leaving them about ten o'clock, with the exception of Mr Davies, who accompanied them up the street a little way, when they met Mr. Hamer, who had been seeking them about the town after the handbell practice was over. He invited them to spend a few minutes with Mr. Jackson, and another brother ringer, Mr. Walter Marsden, landlord of the "Prince William" Hotel, Bradshaw Gate, who gave them a hearty welcome and requested them to make his house their home during their stay in Bolton. They acceded to his request, and after bidding Messrs. Hamer and Jackson good-night, they had a substantial supper placed before them by their worthy host and hostess, to which they did ample justice. They retired to rest shortly after, and spent a comfortable night. Rising somewhat rather late, they partook of a good breakfast, and went out for a walk, during which they came across Mr. Davies again, who had intended taking them through the town, but it coming on so wet they were obliged to stay in doors until it abated somewhat. It clearing up in the evening, Mr. Davies volunteered to take them to St. Saviour's Church, which was the very last church that the late lamented Bishop Fraser of Manchester consecrated. They found the ringers in the tower, it being their practice-night, and one or two touches of Grandsire Triples was rung by them and four of the local band, who they are glad to notice are getting on very well, considering they have not been ringing very long. Tenor 20½ cwt. After ringing they went to the "Gibraltar Rock," where the ringers meet and spent a very pleasant evening together, the landlord, Mr. W. Birch joining the party. They parted at last, as all friends must, and made their way to their hotel at Bradshawgate. Arriving there somewhat late, they repaired straightway to bed on account of their wet clothes. In the morning, December 31st, after breakfast, Mr. Davies called on us and showed us the principal places of interest in Square, London, W.C.

the town, including the monument of Mr Crompton, the famous Bolton barber, and the inventor of the spinning jenny. After a pleasant walk through the town, they had dinner together, when they bid the host and hostess good-bye as they was leaving the town, Mr Davies accompanying them on the road a little. After taking leave of him, they straightway made their way back to worth again, where they had tea, proceeding through Kersley Moor to Worsley under difficulties, owing to the roads being so muddy by the Shaw. At this stage of their journey they called at a wayside inn, to refresh themselves, and then making their way through Patricroft to Eccles, there calling on James Barratt, one of the local company, who took them to the meeting-house, the "Oddfellows Arms," where they spent a pleasant evening, and whilst there he made arrangements for the night. At half-past eleven they went in the tower to meet the whole company, who had met to ring the old year out and the new year in, After a hearty welcome from them and a invitation to ring with them, they rang a touch of Treble Bob Major for the old year, after which the sexton tolled the hour of twelve, denoting to them and the villagers that the year of 1885 was no more, and that they had commenced the year 1886, for which they rang a touch of Grandsire Triples. Wishing each other a happy and prosperous new year, the travellers made their way to the hostelry, where the landlord, Mr. Goodall Alcock, invited them to supper. Rising rather late in the morning they had a substantial breakfast placed before them by the worthy hostess, to which they did ample justice. Afterwards going through the churchyard where tombstones dating back centuries ago were noticed, they passed round the exterior of the church into the village, and wended their way back to the hostelry, where they met some of the ringers again. It being their annual dinner they were kindly invited to dine with them, and after partaking of an excellent repast the pleasant afternoon was spent in change-ringing and tune-playing on the handbells. About eight in the evening they took their leave and made their way to the station, going by the 8.20 train to Oldham, arriving there at 9.30. Having finished their ramble, and the relation of it, they beg through the medium of the "The Bell News," to thank all those who assisted them in making their journey a success.

FIVE HOURS IN NORWICH.

On Thursday, January 21st, three members of the Diss company took advantage of a cheap excursion to the cathedral city for the purpose of ringing at St. Peter's Mancroft, but on arrival they were met by Mr. P. Sadler, who informed them that they could not ring on account of a meeting being held near the church. However, a visit was paid to the church of St. Giles, where, after the usual preliminaries, a start was made for a peal of Oxford Treble Bob Major, but after 2 hrs. 56 mins. of capital ringing, it suddenly collapsed. P. Smith, 1; W. Matthews (Diss), 2; W. Bates, 3; W. Ireland (Diss), 4; F. Knighta, 5; G. Smith, 6; J. Skinner, 7; J. Soutar (connductor; Diss), 18. The visitors then bid their Norwich brethren a hasty good-night, expressing a wish that their next visit may be a more successful one. Through this journal they desire to thank the authorities of St. Giles's for permission to ring, and Mr. F. Knights, the Master of the St. Peter's company, for the arrangements he made.

THE WOBURN (BEDFORD) SOCIETY.

On Friday evening, January 29th, the practical members of this Society had their annual supper at the house of their Warner, Mr. C. Herbert. Through the liberality of F. T. Tanqueray, Esq., the company were supplied with creature comforts, and altogether a very enjoyable evening was spent. Mrs. Herbert kindly catered for the company, which numbered about sixteen. It is in contemplation to again shortly attempt a 5040 of Bob Major.

WORCESTER & ADJOINING DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

A ringing-meeting of the members of this Association will take place, by the kind permission of the Rector (the Rev. W. C. Gibbs), at Hagley, on Saturday, February 13th, at Four o'clock, at which all members who can make it convenient, are respectfully invited, and to meet at "The Lyttelton Arms," Hagley.

THE WEST MIDDLESEX ASSOCIATION.

Members are particularly requested to attend the meeting at Isleworth, on Saturday, February 13th. Ringing in the tower 6.30; School Room 7.45.

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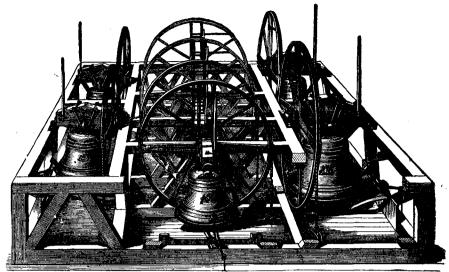
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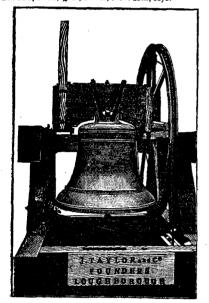
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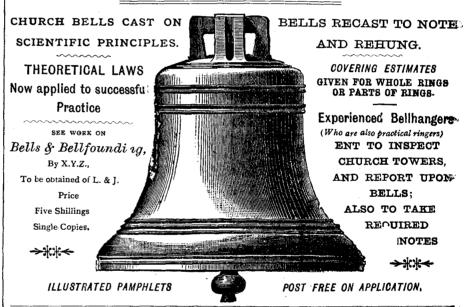
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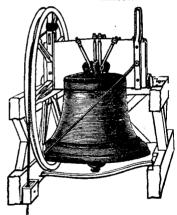
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THE OXFORD UNIVERSITY SOCIETY.

THE 14th Anniversary of this Society was celebrated on Tuesday, February 9th, at Drayton, Berks, by the kind permission of the Vicar. A strong body of peal ringers assembled, eight of whom rang an excellent peal of Stedman Triples, in 2 hrs. 56 mins., particulars of which will be found elsewhere. The band was then most hospitably entertained at luncheon by the Vicar, after which, miscellaneous ringing was the order of the day, several touches of Grandsire and Union Triples being brought round, in which Messrs. Griffith, Vincent, and Rowland took part. The Rev. G. M. Custance was also present. The bells were lowered at about 5 p.m. The company then proceeded to Abingdon for dinner, where they were met by the Rev. Dolben Paul and several other members from Oxford. Unfortunately Messrs. Routh and Du Boulay were unable to stay for dinner, but were obliged to return by earlier trains. The dinner was at 6.30, at the "Crown and Thistle," and gave every satisfaction. After dinner the cloth having Royal Family," which was drunk in right loyal style,

Mr. G. H. PHILLOTT then proposed "The Church," saying that in

these days, the various ringing guilds and societies were doing the most untold good in every way, and more especially such a society as the Oxford University Society. The more the clergy were able to take the lead in their own towers and disseminate among the ringers the true and proper spirit in which their services ought to be given, the more

the Church would be strengthened and confirmed.

The Rev. G. M. Custance replied, thoroughly endorsing all that Mr. Phillott had said, and pointed out that one of the greatest advantages accruing from the University Societies was that of young curates coming fresh from the University being able to give efficient help to their rectors in the belfry, who perhaps had not time or opportunity to take the practical lead there.

The Rev. G. F. Colerioge then proposed "the Army, Navy, and Reserve forces." As connected with ringing, the army and navy ununfortunately did not contribute many ringers, but a guardsman had lately performed the feat of raising St. Paul's tenor single-handed, while he (the speaker) had often been helped by a sailor in the matter of splicing broken ropes. It happened that several ringers present belonged (or had belonged) to the Reserve Forces.

Mr. A. F. M. Custance (secretary), responded.

The Rev. F. E. Robinson then proposed the toast of the evening,
"Success to the University Society," coupling with it "The Oxford
Diocesan Guild." He said it was very appropriate that the two societies should be spoken of together inasmuch as they went hand-in-hand. The University Society was a struggling society, and had many peculiar difficulties to surmount; but the very fact of its having existed for 14 years, and being in so healthy a state, showed that these difficulties could be surmounted. As to the Oxford Diocesan Guild, he need say little. He would only refer to the great progress made by the Reading branch during the residence of Mr. Coleridge at Caversham. That branch, which had been on the verge of dissolution when Mr. Coleridge went there from Oxford, had since that time increased till it now contained fifty-eight members, all being change-ringers.

The Rev. C. D. P. Davies responded for the University Society, saying that chief among the disadvantages which the society had to suffer was the absence of a light peal of eight bells in Oxford, which evil was exaggerated by the disinclination of the authorities at Magdalen and New College to allow their bells to be used. He strongly advo-cated a scheme for getting two treble bells added to the six at Holywell

The Rev. Dolben Paul, in responding for the Diocesan Guild, said it needed but a glance to shew what great good was being done by such Guilds, and he was extremely pleased to hear that the Rev. G. M. Custance was starting one for the diocese of Hereford. He said how pleased he was to hear such words as Mr. Phillott had used with regard to the Church, since support from laymen was what the church most needed in these days.

The Master then proposed the health of the Rev. F. E. Robinson, thanking him for his kindness in welcoming and entertaining the society at Drayton. He was one of the best friends the society

Mr. Robinson having responded, the handbells were brought out, touches of Grandsire Caters (double-handed), Stedman Caters, Grandsire and College Single Triples, and Treble Bob Major being accomplished, and the company broke up at about 10.30.

THE APPLETON SOCIETY, BERKS.

THE members of this society intend to hold their anniversary, as usual, on March 4th. A peal of Stedman Caters will be attempted at requested to communicate with Mr. G. Holifield, Appleton, Abingdon, Touches in various methods from 2 to 4 p.m. Dinner at the latter hour at the "Greyhound" inn, Besselsleigh.

THE BIRMINGHAM AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, February 6th, the above Association held a general meeting for the purpose of receiving the report of the committee as to the doings of the Association, and for the consideration of new rules which have been drawn up by a special committee. The meeting, which was convened by the Hon. Sec., Mr. J. Wright, was fixed for 5 o'clock in the Moseley church schools, and was well represented, there being upwards of forty members present. The President of the Association (the Rev. Canon Bowlby, Rector of St. Philip's, Birmingham), was unfortunately absent, but on the motion of Mr. Wright, the Rev. Mr. Colemore, Vicar of Moseley, presided.

The rev. gentleman, in his opening remarks, welcomed the Association to Moseley, and said it afforded him great pleasure in Association to Moseley, and said it another thin great pleasure in being there on that occasion, and that anything he could do for the ringers themselves to assist them in their work of love, he should do most heartily, as ringers were, in his opinion, very often "left out in the cold." Their work, which was an honorable calling, inasmuch as the bells were emblems of music, specially dedicated to the service of the church, and for the calling of God's people to prayer, seldom entered the minds of people as a holy and scientific

calling.

Several letters from clergymen in the district were read, expressing themselves favourably with the objects of the Association-namely, the promotion of change-ringing and belfry reform, and also promising their support and co-operation.

The minutes of the previous meeting having been duly read and

passed, the rev. president read the rules which the committee presented for approval, every one of which met with the sanction of every member present.

The report of the doings of the Association for the three years of its existence, was, on the motion of the President, passed as read, and

duly entered on the minute-book.

On the motion of the president, the Hon. Sec. was requested to write to all the clergy embraced by the Association asking them to

kindly become hon, members.

Members not residing in the district, i.e., within twenty miles of Birmingham, will now have the preference of becoming non-resident members, there being a rule specially provided for them, of which the Hon. Sec. will shortly write them. The new rules, together with report, &c. will be printed, and will be ready for members at the next quarterly meeting, which will be held on the third Saturday in April at Sedgley, Staffordshire. A resolution was passed to send out fortnightly, a competent change-ringer as instructor to the districts where such instructors are required. In addition to the Revs. Canon Bowlby and Colemore, it is expected at the next meeting all the clergy Bowlby and Colemore, it is expected at the next meeting all the ciergy in the district will become hon, members. Eight ringing members having been elected, a vote of thanks was accorded to the chairman for presiding, and he having suitably responded, the ringers repaired to the tower of St. Mary's, Moseley, and rang several touches of Grandsire, Stedman, and Bob Triples, and Grandsire Major, anything like a long touch being out of the question, as the "go" of the bells is very unsatisfactory. Several touches of Grandsire and Stedman Caters, and Bob Royal, interspersed with songs and tunes was rung on the handbells, at the "Prince of Wales" inn, the club-house of the Moseley branch of the Association, Mr. T. Russam in the chair, the members breaking up shortly afterwards. Several toasts were drunk during the evening, amongst them being "The Queen," "The Clergy," "Editor of 'THE BELL NEWS,'" "The Association," &c.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

The Annual Meeting of the East Berks and South Bucks Branch was held at Wooburn, on Saturday, January 23rd. As usual, the proceedings began with ringing at 2.30 p.m., which went on till half-past four, when the company adjourned to the School-room, which had been most kindly placed at the disposal of the Branch by the Vicar of Wooburn) the Rev. A. Woodin), and there discussed the tea which had been arranged The business of the meeting was then proceeded with. The officers of

The business of the heeting was then proceed with. The bindress of the Branch who served in 1885 were, without exception, re-elected. It was a matter of great regret to all present that the Master of the Guild (the Rev. F. E. Robinson), was prevented being present, for his genial presence and kindly words of advice and encouragement are always hailed with pleasure at this meeting. The hearty welcome accorded to the members by the Vicar of Wooburn augurs well for the interest that gentleman will take in bell-ringing and the work of the Guild, and to him the hearty thanks of the members were cordially voted and duly conveyed.

At Evensong, which was sung at six o'clock, the sermon was preached by the Rev. R. J. Rumsey (Vicar of Burnham), who forcibly and ably brought home to his hearers the value of church-work as a powerful

means of church defence.

During the past year the number of members has increased by 31, making the total on the books of the branch now 113.

A FEAT WORTHY OF RECORD.

THE work of taking down the tower of the parish church of St. Michael's, Ashton-under-Lyne, has been completed, and progress has also been made with the laying down of the foundation for the new erection. By the demolition of the old steeple there has for ever disappeared an object of much interest to the ringers of Ashton. Not for its architectural beauties, for it was possessed of none-possessed of nothing, in fact, which was likely to create a feeling of admiration in the breast of any native in the town; being a very plainly-built tower, without even that chiefest of all attributes to recommend it, strength. But, as I have said, it had an interest to Ashton campanologists for this reason, that within it was rung one of the most remarkable peals of our time, the particulars of which I will briefly relate. twenty years ago, it appears, the tower which has just been destroyed was deemed unsafe, and accordingly the bells were silenced. did not possess another peal of bells at that time, consequently the ringers were thrown upon their own resources for keeping themselves proficient in the art. Mr. James Wood, sen., of Ashton, was the conductor of the St. Michael's company at this period. His chief delight was in Kent Treble Bob, and I believe he has the honour of being the first Ashtonian who ever composed a peal in this method. powers of composition were not confined merely to Treble Bob. He also knew something about Grandsire Caters. Indeed, so perfect a knowledge had he of this beautiful method that he often expressed his belief that he was able to compose a peal during the progress of ringing. He was asked how he intended to go about the performance, and he He was asked how he intended to go about the performance, and he explained that some conductor—a stranger—should be appointed to call the bells into any position he pleased, and then to turn them over to him (Mr. Wood), who from that point would complete the peal. He was ready and willing to make the attempt, "but," said he, "it must be done in Ashton." Here was a drawback, as the bells were stopped apparently for an indefinite time. His brother-ringers repeatedly urged him to make the attempt elsewhere, but it was of no avail; it must be Ashton or nowhere. Time went on, however, and the long-wished for opportunity came at last. On the evening of the avail; it must be Ashton or nowhere. Time went on, however, and the long-wished for opportunity came at last. On the evening of the 9th of March, 1863, the order was given that the bells of the parish church were to be rung on the following day, in honour of the marriage of the Prince and Princess of Wales. The ringers received the news of the Prince and Princess of Wales. The ringers received the news with elated feelings, because it gave them a chance, and one not to be missed, as it was expected the bells would be again silenced after the event, of testing the abilities of their conductor, Someone was now wanted to undertake the preliminary business, and for this purpose a messenger was at once dispatched to Oldham for Mr. John Mayall. He came over to Ashton, fully believing he was wanted to make up a set, and was not a little astonished on being informed that he was not required to ring at all. "Then why have you sent for me?" he fiercely demanded, "was it to make a fool of me?" Nothing of the kind, Mayall," replied one of the company. "We have sent for you for a special purpose, and we hope you will oblige us." Mr. Mayall was then made acquainted with the object in view, and ultimately he consented to do as requested, and also, when he had done his part, to prick down the bob leads to the end of the peal. All being now in places and commenced. At this point I think it right to state that I have interrogated each of the four persons now living (exclusive of Mr. Wood) as to whether any arrangement was entered into between Messrs. Wood and Mayall, as to calling, and the answers I have received are substantially the same—that no agreement whatever was made between them, and that no one, with the exception of the ringers themselves, knew what was about to be attempted until Mayall came into the ringing room on that memorable 10th of March. The peals consisted of 5273 changes, and was rang in 3 hrs. 25 mins. The following were the band: Thos. Moss, 1; Joseph Barnes, 2; James Wood, 3; Samuel Farron, 4; Thomas Wroe, 5; Wm. Barber, 6; Joseph Gillott, 7; Luke Broadbent, 8; Peter Johnson (Wigan), 9; Samuel Hunt, 10. Of these Messrs. Wood, Wroe, Gillot, Broadbent, and Moss are still living. The Thomas Moss above mentioned happens to be the same gentleman who trebled through the now famous long peal at Mottram. It is almost needless to say that Mr. Wood was heartily congratulated on the accomplishment of this feat, he having thus made good his boast at the very first attempt. It is now nearly twenty-three years since this peal was rung, and nothing of the kind, so far as the writer is aware, has ever been attempted during all this time. We, as ringers, are to be congratulated on having a journal such as "The Bell News," for at the time this peal was completed there was no means of recording it such as we now possess, through whose columns, by the kindness of the worthy Editor, the writer desires to give honour to whom honour is due. only remains now to say that the bells were not stopped for twenty years after this event; not until 1883, when the tower was finally condemned.

ANNIVERSARY OF THE YORK MINSTER SOCIETY.

The members of the above society held their anniversary on Tuesday, February 2nd. In the afternoon they assembled at the Minster, and rang a touch on the bells. Afterwards an adjournment took place to Acomb, where, at six o'clock, they sat down to a splendid dinner, served in the best style, at the house of their conductor, Mr. G. Breed, the "Sun" Inn. After the cloth had been removed, Mr. W. H. Howard was voted to the chair, and Mr. T. Hague the vice-

The CHAIRMAN proposed "The Queen and Royal Family," and then submitted "The Donors," who, the Chairman said, had been most kind to the society on the present occasion; also "The Health of the Archbishop, Dean and Chapter, and the Clergy," who, the Chairman said, gave much encouragement to the society, and that they ought to said, gave much chord agent to the society, and that they obtain feel greatly honoured by having such a good and genial man at their head as the Dean of York, who was always willing to do anything in power for the ringers that would encourage them and promote the art of change-ringing. The next toast proposed was "Success to the Yorkshire Association of Change-Ringers."

Mr. T. Hodgson then proposed "Success to the 'Bell News and

RINGERS' RECORD.

Mr. J. Thompson proposed the health of "The Officers for the past ear," and the last toast proposed was "The Host and Hostess." During the evening several songs, recitations, and tunes on the

handbells were effectively rendered by the members.

INTWOOD, NEAR NORWICH.

OPENING OF A NEW RING OF BELLS .- Thursday, February 4th, was a red-letter day in the annals of this parish, the occasion being the dedication and opening of a new ring of four bells, the munificent gift of Mrs. Unthank, as a memorial of her husband, the late C. W. Unthank, Esq. At three o'clock the little church was filled to overflowing with parishioners of all classes, and friends from Norwich, &c. The order for evening prayer Was proceeded with. The service was read by the Rev. W. Barlee, curate-in-charge of the parish. The first lesson was read by the Rev. N. Bolingbroke, Vicar of St. Etheldreda, Norwich, and Secretary to the Diocesan Association; and the second by the Rev. W. R. Collett, Rector of Hetherset, and Rural Dean of Humbleyard. The musical portion of the service was very heartily rendered. The sermon was preached by the Ven. Archdeacon Pe rowne, based upon I Corinthians x. latter part of verse 31.—"Do all to the glory of God." Before and after the service the bells were rung by the following well-known ringers:—Treble, Mr. G. Day; 2nd, Rev. N. Bolingbroke; 3rd, Mr. F. Day; tenor, Captain A. Moore. The quality of the bells is excellent, being of a strong though sweet tone. The weight of the largest bell is 9½ cwt., in the key of A. Each bell bears the following inscription:—"To the glory of God, and in Memory of Clement William Unthank, Esq. Born October 24th, 1804; died July 13th, 1884.".

OPENING OF A PEAL OF HANDBELLS.

On Monday, January 18th, in the presence of about ninety friends, a party of the St. Peter Mancroft Society were engaged in opening a peal of thirty-three bells. As these bells are for tune-playing, they were opened with a selection, "The Blue Bells of Scotland" being performed by four members of the "Anchor Brewery" band of handbell ringers: Robert Pyle and John Feek, trebles; George Dunham, tenors; Walter Cushing, bass; after which a course of Grandsire Cinques was rung on the largest peal of twelve. Stedman and Treble Bob were rung upon the different peals out of the set, and gave great satisfaction to all present. These bells were formerly a peal of thirteen, and were augmented to a set of thirty-three, with all new clappers upon an improved principle, by Messrs. Shaw, Son and Co., Bradford. The twenty-one bells added to this set make a total number of 150 bells sent into Norwich from Messrs. Shaw's foundry in a little over twelve months, and are giving great satisfaction to the ringers and tune-players in Norfolk. F. Knights, master of the St. Peter's Society, is engaged to instruct the young band.

THE ST. PAUL'S SOCIETY, SPALDING, LINCOLNSHIRE.

On Tuesday evening, February 2nd, the members of the above society were entertained at supper at Fulney Hall, by the kind invitation of Mrs. Everard. After doing ample justice to the good things provided, the health of Mrs. Everard was proposed by Mr. R. Creasey, and drank with musical honours. During the evening several touches of Grandsire Triples, Caters, and Cinques, was rung upon the handbells. The ringers were congratulated by Mrs. Everard upon the masterful way in which they rang, when after making them a very handsome present, she wished them a happy and prosperous New New Year. Several songs were sung by the Quinton Brothers during the evening, and the company broke up at ten o'clock, having spent a very enjoyable time.

THE ORMSKIRK SOCIETY, LANCASHIRE.

On Saturday, January 30th, the above Society held their second miversary. Representatives from Liverpool, Southport, Aughton, anniversary. Representatives from Liverpool, Southport, Augnton, Wigan, and Hindley Societies were invited to the unveiling of a tablet erected in the tower, recording a peal of Grandsire Triples, rung by the above Society, and a date touch in the same method, rung in honour of the 21st birthday of Lord Skelmersdale. The Rev. Mr. Woodrow, Vicar of Ormskirk, at the request of the ringers, unveiled the tablet. The Doxology was sung by the company present, after which the Vicar offered up prayer and gave an address to the ringers. The tablet bears the following insciptions:-

The tablet bears the following insciptions:—
"On Tuesday, April 218t, 1885, there was rung on the bells of this church a true and complete peal of Grandsire Triples, consisting of 5040 changes in 2 hrs. and 58 mins., by the following ringers: Treble, John Aspinwall; 2nd, William J. Taylor; 3rd, William Ellis, 4th, James Sholicar; 5th, William Bentham; 6th, Charles Sharples; 7th, George Prescott; 8th, William B. Lloyd. Tenor 25\frac{3}{2} cwt. Conducted by Laba Aspinwall

by John Aspinwall.

"Also on Monday, October 26th, 1885 (being the occasion of the 21st birthday of Lord Skelmersdale), a true and complete date peal of Grandsire Triples, containing 1885 changes, in 1 hr. and 3 mins. Treble, John Prescott; 2nd, Henry Ellis; 3rd, George Larkey; 4th, George Prescott; 5th, William Ellis; 6th, William J. Taylor; 7th, James Sholicar; 8th, William B. Lloyd, Conducted by James Sholicar. Vicar, Rev. J. E. Woodrow; Curate, Rev. C. A. Watson; Churchwardens, Samuel Brighouse, Charles Marlow, Thomas Holcroft Lohn Kennedy." croft, John Kennedy.

Ringing commenced at 4.30 p.m, and was kept up until seven o'clock, several touches of Grandsire Triples and Major being rung in good style, after which an adjournment was made to the "White Lion Inn," where a capital dinner was provided, to which ample justice was done. After the cloth had been removed, Mr. Joseph Prescott of Hindley, was called to the chair, and Mr. J. W. Pritchard, of Liverpool, to the was called to the chair, and Mr. J. W. Fillchard, of Elverpool, to the vice-chair. The usual loyal toasts being drunk, the meeting was enlivened by tunes on the handbells, and courses of Grandsire Caters and Triples, and capital songs given by Messrs. J. Prescott, G. Prescott, Diggle, Larkey, Turner, Hill, Pritchard, Ellis, Bentham, and Aspinwall. A hearty vote of thanks to the hostess for the able manner in which she had catered, and to the chairman and vice-chairman, brought a very pleasant evening to a close. The National Anthem was sung before the company separated. The tablet was made by James Pilkington, one of the ringers, and painted by John Sumner, and was greatly admired, both for design and workmanship.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

A DISTRICT MEETING will be held at Barking, on Saturday, February 27th. The belfry will be open at noon, a six-bell tower will be secured if possible. Tea at 4.30. Business meeting immediately after tea. Members will be admitted to the tea at 6d. each, provided that they send in their names to the Secretary before Monday, February 22nd. Return tickets to Forest Gate will be issued by the G.E.R. at a single fare and a quarter, to all members who inform the Secretary before February 22nd, from what station they travel. Any ringers who wish to join the Association, will be welcomed.

Raleigh, S.O., Essex. Feb. 11, 1886.

H. A. COCKEY, Hon. Sec.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

The February Meeting will be held on Monday, February 22nd, at Staindrop, two miles from Winston, and four miles from Cockfield The bells at the disposal of the ringers will be a peal of six, tenor 13 cwt. A dinner will be provided at two o'clock at the "Queen's Head," at one shilling to members, two and sixpence to non-Dinner tickets should be applied for not later than Monday, Feb. 15th, to the secretary. A meeting of the committee will be held at the Inn at one o'clock. Subscriptions for the current year are now due and should be paid to the Secretary.

16, Finkle Street, Stockton-on-Tees.

G. J. CLARKSON, Hon. Sec.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

A COMMITTEE MEETING will be held at Staplehurst Rectory, on Monday, February 15th, at which besides the business already given notice of, the time and place of the Annual General Meeting will be R. K. HUGESSEN, Hon. Sec.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION OF SIX BELL RINGERS. THE USUAL QUARTERLY MEETING will be held on Saturday, February 13th, at St. Mark's, Preston. The bells will be open for ringing from two o'clock; business meeting at four o'clock in the schoolroom. JAMES HIGSON, Secretary.

57. Chorley Road, Blackrod,

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

REPORT FOR THE MONTH ENDING SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 7TH:-By the Steyning Branch, at Steyning :-

On Sunday, January 10th, in 26 mins., a 720 of Oxford Single Bob Minor. G. Breach, 1; G. Smart, 2; E. Brackley, 3; C. Chambers, 4; J. Woolger, 5; G. Gatland (conductor), 6. On Thursday, January 14th, a 360 of College Single Minor. G. Breach, 1; G. Smart, 2; E. Brackley, 3; C. Tyler, 4; J. Woolgar, 5; G. Gatland (conductor), 6. On Sunday, January 17th, in 28 mins., a 720 of Oxford Single Bob Minor. G. Breach, 1; T. Searle, 2; G. Smart, 3; G. Gatland, 4; J. Woolgar, 5; C. Tyler (conductor), 6. Also a 360 of Plain Bob Minor. G. Gatland, 1; T. Searle, 2; G. Smart, 3; C. Chambers, 4; J. Woolgar, 5; C. Tyler (conductor), 6. By the Billingshurst Branch, at Billinghurst: - On Saturday, January 16th, in 25 mins., a 720 of Canterbury Pleasure. P. Wood, 1: W. Chantler, 2; G. Matthews, 3; W. Chantler, 4; J. Voice, 5; T. Chantler (conductor), 6. On Saturday. January 30th, a 720 of Oxford Bob Minor, and a 720 of Warnham Court Bob Minor. P. Wood, 1; W. Chantler, 2; G. Mathews, 3; W. Chantler, jun., 4; J. Voice, 5; T. Chantler (conductor), 6.

By the Brighton Branch:—On Sunday, January 17th, at St. Peter's, Brighton, a 518 of Grandsire Triples, in 20 mins. On Monday, January 18th, a 742 of Grandsire Triples. A. Piper, I; G. F. Attree, 2; G. King, 3; A. W. L. Parkhouse, 4; H. Weston, 5; J. Searle (conductor), 6; J. Jay, 7; E. Marshall, 8. On Saturday, January 23rd, at Chichester, a 168 of Stedman Triples. G. F. Attree (conductor), I; G. King, 2; E. C. Attree, 3; C. Tyler, 4; A. Marshall, 5; J. Searle, 6; H. Weston, 7; W. Vernon, 8. On Sunday, January 24th, at St. Peter's, Brighton, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 45 mins. A. Piper, I; H. Weston, 2; J. Searle, 3; A. W. L. Parkhouse, 4; H. Boniface, 5; G. F. Attree (conductor), 6; G. King, 7; D. Ross, 8. On Tuesday, January 26th, at St. Nicholas, Brighton, a 504 of Grandsire Triples. W. Harvey, I; Jesse Neeves, 2; G. King, 3; W. Palmer, 4; H. Boniface, 5; A. Bennett, 6; H. Weston (conductor), 7; W. Davey, 8. On Sunday, January 31st, at St. Peter's, Brighton, a 560 of By the Brighton Branch: -On Sunday, January 17th, at St. Peter's, 8. On Sunday, January 31st, at St. Peter's, Brighton, a 560 of Grandsire Triples. A. Marshall, 1; H. Weston (conductor), 2; E. Grandsire Triples. A. Marshall, 1; H. Weston (conductor), 2; E. C. Attree, 3; J. Searle, 4; H. Boniface, 5; G. F. Attree (conductor), 6; G. King, 7; D. Ross, 8. On Tuesday, February 2nd, at St. Nicholas, a 966 of Grandsire Triples. Jesse Neeves, 1; W. Palmer, 2; C. Tyler, 3; James Neves, 4; H. Boniface, 5; G. King, 6; J. Searle (conductor), 7; W. Davey, 8. On Thursday, February 4th, at St. Peter's, a 504 of Stedman Triples, in 19 mins. G. F. Attree (conductor), 1; G. King, 2; E. C. Attree, 3: J. Searle, 4; A. Marshall, 5; J. Jay, 6; H. Weston, 7; W. Vernon, 8. First 500 in in the method by all but the 4th and 6th men, and the first by eight members of this Association.

But the Arwadel Branch:—On Saturday January and at Chichester 2.

By the Arundel Branch: On Saturday, January 23rd, at Chichester, a

eight members of this Association.

By the Arundel Branch:—On Saturday, January 23rd, at Chichester, a 336 of Grandsire Triples. A. Evershed, I; C. Blackman, 2; W. Chamber lain, 3; H. Haggett, 4; H. Boniface (conductor), 5; F. Luxford, 6; Rev. R. F. Tompkins, 7; G. Baker, 8. On Monday, February 1st, at Arundel, a 504 of Grandsire Triples, in 19 mins. F. Luxford, 1; Rev. R. F. Tompkins, 2; W. Chamberlain, 3; G. Balchin, 4; G. Baker, 8. On Sunday, February 7th, for Divine Service in the evening, a 504 in the same method, in 18 mins., by the same band excepting the 2nd being rung by W. Wilkinson, and the 8th by A. Peckham. And a 336 in the same method. O. Evershed, 1; C. Blackman, 2; G. Balchin, 3; H. Haggett, 4; G. Baker (conductor), 5; F. Luxford, 6; Rev. R. F. Tompkins, 7; W. Wilkinson, 8.

By members of the Billingshurst, Slinfold and Warnham Branches, at Billingshurst:—On Monday, January 18th, a 720 of Warnham Court Minor. F. Garman, 1; W. Short, 2; J. Voice, 3; W. Wadey, 4; W. Grinstead, 5; W. Lanaway (conductor), 6. And a 720 of Canterbury Pleasure. W. Grinstead, 1; W. Short, 2; W. Lanaway, 3; H. Wood, 4; W. Wadey, 5; H. Chandler (conductor), 6. And a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob. F. Garman, 1; W. Short, 2; W. Lanaway, 3; H. Wood, 4; W. Wadey, 5; H. Chandler (conductor), 6.

By mixed bands, at Chichester:—On Saturday, January 23rd, a 504 of Grandsire Tripies, in 18 mins. A. Piper, 1; H. Boniface, 2; C. Tyler, 3; A. W. L. Parkhouse, 3; Rev. H. A. Spyers, 5; T. Hart, 6; H. Weston (conductor), 4; C. Tyler, 5; H. Haggett, 6; H. Weston, 7; G. Gatland, 8. And a 336 in the same method, in 17 mins. T. Hart, 1; J. Newnham, 2; W. Wadey, 3; G. F. Attree (conductor), 4; C. Tyler, 5; H. Haggett, 6; H. Weston, 7; G. Gatland, 8. And a 336 in the same method, in 17 mins. T. Hart, 1; J. Newnham, 2; J. Searle (conductor), 7; W. Vernon, 8. And a 720 of Bob Minor, in 28 mins, A. Marshall, 1; J. Newnham, 2; J. Searle, 3; G. Gatland, 4; H. Weston, 5; C. Tyler (conductor), 6. Geo. F. Attree, 4; H. Weston, 5; C. Tyler (conductor), 6.

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

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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 net 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 Bell Rews & Ringers' Record.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 13, 1886.

NEXT week our paper will comprise an additional four pages. This temporary enlargement is rendered necessary by the amount of arrears we have on hand awaiting publication. We hope our readers will see in this our earnest desire to meet their requirements.

The Metropolis.

OLD BATTERSEA, SURREY.

Muffled Peal.

On Saturday, February 6, 1886, in Two Hours and Fifty-two Minutes, AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S ORIGINAL.

HENRY BRIGHT	 Treble.	HENRY SWAIN	5
HENRY A. HOPKINS	 2.	HENRY S. THOMAS	: 6.
		Henry J. Tucker	
HENRY J. DAVIES	 . 4.	HENRY DAINS	Tenor.

Conducted by HENRY J. TUCKER.

Rung with the bells half-muffled as a token of respect to the memory of Mr. Henry W. Haley.

The Provinces.

FOXEARTH, ESSEX.

On Saturday, January 9, 1886, in Three Hours and Ten Minutes, AT THE CHURCH OF SS. PETER AND PAUL,

5040 CHANGES: BEING DIFFERENT 7208 OF BOB MINOR.

		 	201101 02 0	
WILLIAM MAXIM				
CHARLES LEE WALTER P GRIDLE		 2.	*John Lee	 5.
WALTER P GRIDLE	v*	 3	*GEORGE MAXIM	 Tenor.

Conducted by ROBERT MINGAY.

Cumberland Youths. This is the first 5000 on the bells, which were augmented to

CALVERLEY, YORKSHIRE.—ST. WILFRID'S SOCIETY.

On Saturday, January 30, 1886, in Three Hours and Five Minutes, AT THE PARISH CHURCH OF ST. WILFRID,

A PEAL OF LONDON TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;

Sottanstall's Composition. Tenor 102 cwt. in G.

REUBEN PAGE	Treble.	Joseph Page	5.
WALTER CHILD	2.	AMES ROSS	,, 6.
Ezra Keighley*	· · 3.	OHN CORDINGLEY	7.
William Hollings*	4. [WILLIAM DAVISON	Tenor

Conducted by John Cordingley.

*Members of the Yorkshire Association. This is the first ever rung by the above company on the bells in this method, and was successfully brought round at the first attempt. It is upwards of thirty years since a peal was rung in this method in Yorkshire. Witnesses of the peal, Messrs. Bolland Bros., Tong.

HAYFIELD, DERBYSHIRE.

THE UNITED COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION AND THE ST. MATTHEW'S SOCIETY.

On Monday, February 1, 1886, in Three Hours and Five 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; Violet; New Pleasure: and Oxford

ricadire, and exists.						
JOHN VERNON	Treble.	ALFRED RANGELEY	4.			
Joseph Brocklehurst	2.	ABEL HADFIELD	5.			
THOMAS WHITEHEAD	3.	T. Brocklehurst, 1	Esq $Tenor$.			

Conducted by Thomas Whitehead.

HYDE, CHESHIRE.

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

On Monday, February 1, 1886, in Two Hours and Fifty-three Minutes, AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES; Brook's Variation.

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

Conducted by JAMES S. WILDE.

This is the first peal in the method by all the above, and the first in the method by members of the above Association.

BURTON-ON-TRENT, STAFFORDSHIRE.

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

On Thursday, February 4, 1886, in Three Hours and Thirteen Minutes, AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PAUL,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Brook's Variation. Tenor 26 cwt.

		EDWARD ISAAC STONE	
HARRY WAKLEY	2.	Thomas Holmes	6.
ARTHUR WAKLEY	3.	WILLIAM WAKLEY	7.
Joseph Griffin	4.	Rev. James H. Fish	Tenor.
2 1	. 11 7		

Conducted by Joseph Griffin.

LIVERPOOL.

THE LIVERPOOL YOUTHS' SOCIETY.

On Thursday, February 4, 1886, in Three Hours and Twenty-five Minutes, AT ST. PETER'S PRO-CATHEDRAL,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB ROYAL, 5040 CHANGES; IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 25 cwt. in D.

RICHARD WILLIAMS Treble			
JOHN R. PRITCHARD 2.	*George Fisher	• •	7.
RICHARD HILL* 3.	THOMAS HAMMOND		8.
CHARLES WILLIAMS 4.	WILLIAM DAVIES		9.
John Brown 5.	ROBERT WILLIAMS	• •	Tenor.

Composed by ROBERT WILLIAMS, and Conducted by THOMAS HAMMOND.

* First peal of Royal. Mr. Richard Hill belongs to the Christ Church Society, Southport

STALEYBRIDGE, CHESHIRE.

On Thursday, February 4, 1886, in Three Hours and Two Minutes, AT THE CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE MAJOR, 5040 CHANGES; Tenor 15 cwt. in F.

	-		
JOHN POWNALL	 Treble.	SAMUEL HILL	5.
Hugh Shaw	 2.	ISAAC SCHOFIELD	č.
EDMUND SCHOFIELD	 3.	JAMES BRADLEY	7.
SAMUEL STOTT	 4.	MATTHEW PAILTHORPE	Tenov.

Composed and Conducted by MATTHEW PAILTHORPE. S. Stott hails from Glodwick, the rest are of the local company.

WOOBURN, BUCKS.

THE ST. JAMES'S SOCIETY, LONDON.

On Saturday, February 6, 1886, in Three Hours and Seven Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH OF ST. PAUL,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES; HOLT'S ORIGINAL. Tenor 17 cwt.

			•			
			WM. WILDER			
A. C. Fussell	• •	2.	Joseph Barry			6.
W. H. Fussell		3.	W. H. George			7.
W. A. GARRAWAY			T. Woolford)		7	ranor
			J. Perryman	• •		chur,

Conducted by George Newson.

It is over forty years since a peal was rung on these bells, the last one being rung by members of the same society, and conducted by T. Tolliday, further particulars of which will appear in our next issue. Many thanks are due to the Rev. A. Woodin, vicar, for his encouragement to accomplish the peal, after so many failures.

STALEYBRIDGE, CHESHIRE.

On Saturday, February 6, 1886, in Four Hours and Thirty-two Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 7200 CHANGES; IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 15 cwt. in F.

WILLIAM SMITH		Treble.	BENJAMIN BROADBENT	5.
Hugh Shaw		2.	ISAAC SCHOFIELD	6.
EDMUND SCHOFIELD		3.	GEORGE LONGDEN	7.
Joseph Mellor		•• 4.	SAMUEL WOOD	Tenor
Composed by ROBERS	r W	TITTIAMS	of Staleybridge and Cond	Incted by

SAMUEL WOOD.

The above is the greatest length obtained in twenty courses in a five-part peal composed in 1864, and now rung for the first time. Messrs, Shaw and the Schofields belong to Staleybridge; the remainder hail from Ashton-under-Lyne.

READING, BERKS.—THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD. Handbell Ringing.

On Saturday, February 6, 1886, in Two Hours and Fifty-six Minutes,

IN ST. GILES'S BELFRY,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5040 CHANGES; HUBBARD'S 5-PART

	LLODDAIND	o jimki.	
ARTHUR J. WRIGHT	Treble.	ALBERT E. REEVES	5.
		William J. Williams	
		FREDERICK SWEETZER	
RICHARD T. HIBBERT	4.	George Gibbard	Tenor

Conducted by GEORGE GIBBARD. This is the first peal in the method by all but W. J. Williams, and the conductor's first attempt at calling Bob Major.

EAST HAGBOURNE, BERKS.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD. On Saturday, February 6, 1886, in Three Hours and Twenty Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ANDREW,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

VICARS BOB-A	ND-	SINGLE	VARIATION.	. enor 23≩ ¢v	vt.
Edward Pether* Ernest Napper		Treble	. *Joseph Nap	PER	5.
HERBERT J. CASTLE					
DENNIS NAPPER	• •	4.	JAMES W. V	Vashbrook	Tenor

Conducted by JAMES W. WASHBROOK.
* First peal.

RUISLIP, MIDDLESEX.

THE ST. JAMES'S SOCIETY, LONDON.

On Sunday, February 7, 1886, in Two Hours and Fifty-eight Minutes, AT ST. MARTIN'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

	Ho	LT'S	Or	IGINAL.	Tenor 16 cwt.		
W. H. MANNIN	G.		. 7	Treble.	Wm. W. Thorne		5.
A. C. Fussell				2.	Joseph Barry W. H. George		 6.
Geo. Newson		• •		3.	W. H. George		7.
WM. WILDER				4.	W. H. Fussell	• •	Tenor.

Conducted by George Newson.

The company beg to thank the Rev. T. M. Everett for the use of the bells. W. Vilder and the Fussell Brothers hail from Slough; W. Manning from Pinner; the test belong to London.

PERRY BARR, STAFFORDSHIRE.

THE HOLT SOCIETY, ASTON-JUXTA-BIRMINGHAM.

On Saturday, February 6, 1886, in Three Hours and Eight Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5120 CHANGES; IN THE KENT VARIATION Tenor 134 cwt in Eff

III THE ILLI	•	• /11/1		. I CHOL 132 CWL. III I #	•
JOHN W. CARTWRIGHT	*	7	reble.	*Bernard Witchell	. 5.
WILLIAM KENT			2.	MARTIN MURPHY	6.
HENRY BASTABLE .			3.	CHARLES STANBRIDGE	7.
James Plant*			4.	THOMAS REYNOLDS	Tenor.

Composed by the late Thos. DAY, and Conducted by HENRY BASTABLE.

This is a one-part peal, and contains the 5th and 6th their extent each way in consecutive courses, and may be found in Snowdon's Treatist for [Treble Bob, Part ii., page 52, 2 w 2 H being substituted for the sixth course to produce this number. *First peal in the method. Thos. Reynolds' 50th peal. First peal in the method by the Holt Society. This is only the second peal in the method on these bells, the first being on March 29th, 1869.

GLOSSOP, DERBYSHIRE. THE UNITED COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, February 8, 1886, in Three Hours and Four Minutes. AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

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

	 	cion. I choi 13 cwt.	
EDWARD HAIGH	 Treble.	SAMUEL WILKINSON	. 5.
JOHN HARROP	 2.	Joseph Maloney †John Pye, Jun	6.
WILLIAM MARSDEN	 3.	†John Pye, Jun	7.
WILLIAM HARROP	 4.	SAMUEL STAFFORD	Tenor

Composed by HENRY DAINS, and Conducted by EDWARD HAIGH. †College Youths. Messrs. Haigh, Marsden, Wilkinson, and Stafford hail from Whitfield; the rest belong to the local company.

SOUTHPORT, LANCASHIRE.

On Monday, February 8, 1886, in Two Hours and Thirty-two Minutes. AT CHRIST CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES; J. CARTER'S BOB-AND-SINGLE VARIATION. Tenor to cwt

3		· · · · ·		
WM. M. VARLEY*	Treble.	CHAS. F. HEYWOOD	. 5.	
Thos. J. Fielding	2.	HARRY SPENCER	č.	
ABEL FIELDING†	3.	George R. Heywood	7,	
JAMES H. HEYWOOD	· · 4·	FRED. BLUNDELL	Tenor	

Conducted by A. FIELDING.

*First peal. †First peal as conductor. This is the quickest peal by the above

ROCHDALE, LANCASHIRE.
THE ROCHDALE AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATION.

On Tuesday, February 9, 1885, in Three Hours,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. CHAD.

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Mr. R. Williams's 6-Par	T. Tenor 17\frac{2}{3} cwt. in Eb.
WILLIAM H. SMITH Treble.	*FRANK BIRTWISTLE 5.
JOHN T. LUCAS 2.	CHARLES J. BUTTERWORTH 6.
George Hoyle* 3.	
JOHN HOGGARD 4.	ALBERT HURST Tenor

Conducted by Charles J. Butterworth.

*Also members of the Lancashire Association. Mr. C. J. Butterworth is an old member of the St. Chad's company, now residing at West Hartlepool, and is a member of the Durham and Newcastle Association.

DRAYTON, BERKS .- OXFORD UNIVERSITY SOCIETY.

On Tuesday, Fibruary 9, 1886, in Two Hours and Fifty-six Minutes, AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES: Tenor of cwt

2 001	92 •
Kev. W. S. WILLETT 3.	G. H. PHILLOTT, Esq 5. J. MARTIN ROUTH, Esq 6. Rev. F. E. Robinson . 7. A. F. M. Custance, Esq Tenor.

Conducted by the REV. F. E. ROBINSON.

The Rev. G. F. Coleridge, and Rev. F. A. H. DuBoulay belong to Keble College; Rev. W. S. Willett, Oriel; Rev. C. D. P. Davies, Pembroke; G. H. Phillott, Ch. Ch. J. Martin Routh, New; Rev. F. E. Robinson, Exeter; A. F. M. Custance, B.N.C.

READING, BERKS.—THE ST. LAWRENCE'S SOCIETY. Birthdan Beal.

On Tuesday, February 9, 1886, in Three Hours and Eighteen Minutes, AT THE CHURCH OF ST. LAWRENCE,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Annable's Three-Part. Tenor 24 cwt.

		JAMES POTTER 5.
		WILLIAM J. WILLIAMS 6.
RICHARD T. HIBBERT*	3.	WILLIAM NEWELL 7.
WILLIAM GOSELTINE*	4.	* OSEPH E. WILLSHIRE Tenor.

Conducted by William J. Williams.

This peal was rung in honor of the 28th birthday of G. Talbot, and is the first in the method by the Society. *First peal of Major.

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

On Tuesday, February 9, 1886, in Three Hours and Ten Minutes, AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PAUL,

PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES; Brook's VARIATION. Tenor 26 cwt.

HARRY WAKLEY	 Treble.	WILLIAM WAKLEY	5.
IOHN HOWE	 2.	THOMAS HOLMES	· · 6.
ARTHUR WAKLEY	 3.	JOHN JAGGAR	7.
IOSEPH GRIFFIN	 . 4.	John Jaggar Rev. James H. Fish	Tenor.

Conducted by JOHN JAGGAR.

DISS, NORFOLK.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

In Three Hours and Twenty-seven Minutes (no date mentioned),

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY.

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES; IN THE OXFORD VARIATION.

ELLIS HAYWARD	7	reble.	WILLIAM IREL	AND			5.
GEORGE MURTON	• •.	2.	Јони Ѕмітн		• • . ,		6.
GEORGE MURTON WILLIAM MATTHEWS		3∙	*ABEL HURT				7.
Benjamin Francis	• •	4.	JOHN SOUTER	• •	• •	7	Tenor.

Composed by W. HARRISON and Conducted by J. SOUTER.

* First peal. G. Murton hails from Eye, and J. Smith from Pulham St. Mary, the rest are local men.

Date Touches.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

EHAGBOURNE (Berks).—On Friday, January 29th, the following members of the above rang at the parish church, a date touch of Grandsire Triples, 1886 changes, in 1 hr. 15 mins. E. Pether, 1; J. W. Washbrook (composer and conductor), 2; F. Napper, 3; D. Napper, 4; J. Napper, 5; W. Napper, 6; C. Allen, 7; A. Woodley, 8.

THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

CROYDON.—On Monday, February 8th, at the church of St. John the Baptist, a date touch of Union Triples, 1886 changes, in 1 hr. 20 mins, with the bells muffled, as a mark of respect to the late Mr. H. W. Haley. W. Burkin, 1; E. Bennett, 2; U. Holman, 3; A. B. Carpenter (composer and conductor), 4; W. States, 5; A. Bruce, 6; T. Verrall, 7; S. Fisk, 8. The tenor cannot be rung, and had to be clogged as usual.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION, AND THE BRADFORD AMALGAMATED SOCIETY.

Bradford.—On Saturday, January 16th, at St. John's Church, a date touch of Kent Treble Bob Major, 1886 changes, in 1 hr. 6 mins. A. Moulson, 1; J. Angus, 2; R. Tuke, 3; T. Pollitt, 4; H. Needham, 5; J. H. Hardcastle (composer and conductor), 6; J. B. Jennings, 7; W. Darbey, 8. Tenor 15½ cwt.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

HURSTPIERPOINT (Sussex).—On Thursday evening, January 28th, the Hurst branch of the above Association rang at the parish church, a date touch, 1886 changes, consisting of fifteen six-scores, and eighty-six of Grandsire Doubles, in 1 hr. 7 mins. A. Pierce, 1; T. W. Mansbridge, 2: H. Reeves (conductor), 3; T. W. Leney, 4; W. Lander, 5; H. Sayers, 6; W. Davey, 7; D. Davey, 8. Tenor 14 cwt. in G.

ARMITAGE (Yorkshire).—On Saturday, January 30th, at the parish church, a date touch, 1886 changes, consisting of 86 Duke of York, 600 of Violet, 600 of Oxford, and 600 of New London Pleasure, in t hr. 7 mins. G. Boys, 1; G. Clay, 2; A. Sykes (composer), 3; J. Barrow-clough, 4; G. H. Hirst, 5; W. Billcliffe, 6. Conducted by G. Clay. Tenor 10 cwt. Messrs. Clay, Sykes, and Billcliffe hail from Hudders-

BATLEY CARR (Yorks) .-- On Sunday, January 31st, for Divine Service in the evening, the local company rang a date touch, 1886 changes, in the following methods: Oxford, Violet, and Duke of York Treble Bob, in 1 hr. 8 mins. J. W. Simon, 1; H. Mitchell, 2; W. Duffy, 3; J. Blackburn, 4; S. Mitchell, 5; G. H. Simon (composer and conductor), 6. Tenor 12 cwt.

BOLTON (Lancashire).—On Thursday evening, January 28th, at Holy Trinity Church, the local company rang a date touch of Grandsire Triples, 1886 changes, in 1 hr. 5 mins. H. W. Jackson (conductor) 1; H. Bentley, 2; J. Walsh (composer), 3; T. E. Turner, 4; J. W. Critchley, 5; —. Russell, 6; W. Hamer, 7; R. Lindley, 8. Tenor 16 cwt. in F. Mr. Russell hails from Nottingham.

HIGHAM (Suffolk).—On Tuesday evening, January 26th, at the parish church, a date touch of Bob Minor, 1886 changes, in 1 hr. 5 mins. C. Ablitt, 1; W. Smith (conductor), 2; W. Ranson, 3: J, Levitt, 4; G. Ranson, 5; J. W. Smith, 6. First date touch by all except W. Smith and J. Levitt, Tenor 12 cwt. in G.

KIRBURTON (Yorkshire).—Or Sunday evening, January 31st, the local company rang at St. John's Church, a date touch of Kent Treble Bob Major, 1886 changes, in 1 hr. 7 mins. D. Copley, 1; H. Kay, 2; A. Armitage, 3; R. Hill, 4; J. Copley, 5; H. Pickering, 6; H. Show, 7; J. Pickering, 8. Tenor 13½ cwt.

MACCLESFIELD (Cheshire).—On Sunday, January 31st, for Divine Service in the evening at the parish church, a date touch of Grandsire Major, 1886 changes, in 1 hr. 15 mins. J. Holt, 1; W. Ingham, 2; C. Bamford, 3; W. McKenny, 4; W. Walmsley (composer and conductor), 5: E. Matthews, 6; J. Farrish, 7; J. Morledge, 8. Tenor 20 cwt. in E.

ROTHWELL (Yorkshire),—On Monday, February 1st, at the parish church, a date touch of 1886 changes, consisting of seven different methods, being as follows: 240 of College Pleasure, 240 of City Delight, 240 of College Exercise, 240 of Arnold's Victory, 240 of London Scholars' Pleasure, 240 of Violet, and 446 of Oxford Treble Bob, in 1 hr. 6 mins. J. Verity, 1; J. C. Abbishaw, 2; A. Chapman, 3; W. Abbishaw, 4; S. Stacey, 5; J. M. Chadwick (conductor), 6. Tenor

WALSALL (Staffordshire).—On Wednesday, January 27th, at St. Matthew's church, by the local company, a date touch of Stedman Triples, 1886 changes, in 1 hr. 7 mins., with 6,7, twenty-five times at home. T. Hallsworth, 1; J. Astbury, sen., 2; —. Walker, 3; J. Westley, 4; D. Westley, 5; J. Lawton, 6; W. Hallsworth (composer and conductor), 7; J. Astbury, jun., 8. Tenor 24 cwt. in Eb.

Miscellaneous.

THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

BEDFORD.—On Monday, January 25th, at St. Paul's Church, 168, 223, and 504 of Grandsire Triples, with Queen's and Tittums. F. Keech, 1; M. Warwick, 2; C. W. Clarke (conductor), 3; T. Foote, 4; S. J. Cullip, 5; I. Hills, 6; J. N. Frossell, 7; F. A. Chasty, 8. Tenor 27 cwt. in D. And on Thursday, January 28th, for practice at St. Mary's Church, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor, with nine bobs. F. Keech, 1; W. Hall, 2; T. Foote, 3; I. Hills, 4; J. N. Frossell, 5; C. W. Clarke (conductor), 6. Also a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob Minor, with nine bobs. F. Keech, 1; C. W. Clarke, 2; W. Warwick, 3: I. Hills, 4; S. J. Cullip, 5; J. N. Frossell (conductor), 6.

EASTERN-COUNTIES GUILD.

SPALDING (Lincolnshire).—On Thursday, January 21st, at S.S. Mary and Nicolas, 1008 of Grandsire Triples. R. Jarvis, 1; J. W. Jarvis, 2; J. S. Wright, 3; C. Neaverson, 4; G. L. Richardson, 5; R. Mackman (conductor), 6; J. Brown, 7; J. Prudence, 8. And on Monday, January 25th, 2520 Grandsire Triples, in 1 hr. 37 mins. R. Jarvis, 1; J. W. Jarvis, 2; J. S. Wright, 3; C. Neaverson, 4; G. L. Richardson, 5; R. Mackman (conductor), 6; J. Brown, 7; J. Prudence, 8. Also on Sunday, January 31st, 504 of Grandsire Triples; and for evening service, rod in the same method. evening service, 504 in the same method.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

COGGESHALL (Essex).—On Saturday evening. January 23rd, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 50 mins. W. Chalk, 1; C. Elliott, 2; B. Keeble, 3; C. Waskett, 4; S. Hammond, 5; A. J. Perkins (conductor), 6; E. Scotcher, 7; J. Sadler, 8. The above quarter-peal which contains the whole of the 5,6,7s, by the Editor of this journal, was rung after an unsuccessful attempt to obtain a peal, particulars of which will appear next week.

Kelvedon (Essex).—On Sunday morning, January 24th, two 120's of Stedman Doubles. A. J. Perkins, 1; B. Keeble, 2; C. Elliott, 3; J. Elliott, 4; W. Elliott, 5. Also two 120's of Grandsire Doubles, in which Messrs. Chalk, Brazier, Waskett, and Scotcher, took part.

Maldon (Essex).—On Sunday evening, January 24th, a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob Minor, fifteen bobs. A. J. Perkins (conductor), I; R. Hutson, 2; T. Mansfield, 3: G. Mansfield, 4; W. Chalk, 5; W.

WIDFORD (Essex).—On Tuesday evening, January 26th, at St. Mary's church, a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob, in 25 mins. E. Dains, 1; J. Dains (conductor), 2; A. Shuttleworth, 3; W. Harvey, 4; A. Tarbun, 5; W. Piper, 6. This is the first 720 of Treble Bob by all except the second and fourth men. Afterwards several touches of Grandsire Triples were rung on the handbells, with the assistance of E. Scotcher, of Galleywood, including two courses in the same method, in which two young men from Writtle, who have just began to learn o ring, took a part.

WITHAM (Essex).—On Sunday afternoon, January 24th, a 720 of Bob Minor, forty-six bobs. J. Butler, 1; A. Chalk, 2; A. J. Perkins (conductor), 3; E. Garnett, 4; W. Chalk, 5; H. Sayer, 6.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.
BARNWOOD (Gloucestershire).—On Sunday morning, January 3rd, prior to Divine Service, six members of the St. Laurence's company prior to Divine Service, six members of the St. Laurence's company rang 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor, nine bobs, in 28 mins. H. Barnes, I; G. Miles, 2; J. Yeates, 3; A. A. Waite, 4; H. Mitchell, 5; R. A. Barrett (conductor), 6. Also on Tuesday evening, February 2nd, four members of the above society, assisted by Mr. F. Hannis and Mr. H. Downham, of the St. George's society, Brockworth, rang for practice 720 of Plain Bob Minor, in 27½ mins., with eighteen bobs and two singles. *H. Downham, I; *F. Hannis, 2; J. Yeates, 3; A. A. Waite, 4; H. Mitchell (conductor), 5; G. Miles, 6. Tenor 14 cwt. in G. *First 720. *First 720.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

Bobbing (Kent).—On Sunday, February 7th, for afternoon service, three 6-scores of Bob Doubles. E. Bishop, sen., 1; E. Bishop, jun., 2; F. Bishop, 3; Rev. E. W. Carpenter, 4; E. Hall, 5; T. Bishop, 6. All the above belong to the local company, and it is the first 120 by all of them, who have been working hard at the Exercise since the bells were rehung a short time ago.

LEEDS (Kent).—Muffled Peal.—On Thursday, January 28th, by the local company, at the parish church, a 720 of Bob Minor on the back six, in 27 mins., as a mark of respect to the late Mr. W. Wickens, who had been a ringer a great many years, and who was buried that day. G. Tassell, 1; A. Knight, 2: H. Hollands, 3; W. Slowman (conductor), 4; F. Hollands, 5; F. Gibbons, sen., 6. Also on Sunday, January 31st, by permission, a half-peal of Grandsire Triples, 2520 changes, in 1 hr. 28 mins. P. Simms, 1; R. Simmonds, 2; J. M. Cooper, 3; E. J. Bottle, 4; H. Pearce (conductor), 5; A. H. Woolley, 6; S. Snelling, 7; A. Moorcraft, 8. Tenor 20 cwt. Messrs. Simms, Cooper, Bottle, and Snelling, hail from Sittingbourne, the rest are from Maidstone.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

HAUGHTON (Lancashire).—On Monday, February 1st, at St. Anne's Church, the local society rang a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob Minor, with nine bobs, in 27 mins. W. Wilde, jun., 1; John Bardsley, 2; W. Wilde, sen. (conductor), 3; James A. Thomas, 4; John Howard, 5; Peter Smith, 6. Tenor 15 cwt. This is the first 720 in the method by the St. Anne's society.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

WOODBRIDGE (Suffolk).—On Thursday, January 28th, for practice, 168 of Grandsire Triples. J. Fosdike, 1; *A. Acfield, jun., (conductor), 2; G. Woods, 3; W. Burch, 4; W. Ward, 5; W. Meadows, 6; G. Burch, 7; C. Cutting, 8. *First touch as conductor. Also a 720 of Bob Major, in 27 mins. G. Burch, 1; J. Fosdike, 2; G. Woods, 3; W. Burch, 4; W. Meadows, 5; A. Acfield, jun., 6; C. Ward, 7; W, Ward (conductor), 8.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION

Duffield.—On Saturday, January 30th, at All Saints' Church, Snowdon's variation of Hollis's five-part peal of Grandsire Triples was attempted, but after ringing about 1400 changes, it unfortunately came to grief. A quarter-peal in the same method was then rung by the following. W. Shardlow, r; J. Thompson, 2; T. Aulton, 3: G. Mottashaw, 4; A. B. Ward (conductor), 5; L. Lomas, 6; A. E. Thompson, 7; H. Found, 8. And on Sunday, February 7th, for Divine Service in the evening, a quarter-peal of Double Oxford Bob Major, 1296 changes, in 47 mins. G. Dawson, 1; S. Johnson, 2; J. Howe, 3; A. Robinson, 4; G. Hingley, 5; W. Hickling, 6; R. Johnson, 7; A. Percival Heywood (conductor), 8.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

CAVERSHAM (Oxon).—On Sunday, January 31st, Mr. H. Egby, and R. T. Hibbert, of Reading, visited this place, and with the assistance of some of the local company rang a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor in

26 mins. R. T. Hibbert, 1; J. Hands, 2; G. Essex. 3; H. Egby, 4; E. Pottinger, 5; T. Newman (conductor), 6. Tenor 17 cwt.

DRAYTON (Oxon).—On Thursday, January 28th, 720 of Oxford Treble Bob Minor, in 22 mins. J. W. Washbrook (conductor), 1; F. A. Castle, 2; F. Field, 3; F. Payne, 4; T. Fulker, 5; H. J. Castle, 6. Tenor 8 cwt.

HAGBOURNE (Berks).—On Friday, January 29th, 840 of Grandsire Triples. E. Pether, 1; J. W. Washbrook, 2; F. Napper, 5; D. Napper, 4; J. Napper, 5; W. Napper (conductor), 6; C. Allen, 7; A. Woodley, 8.

WANTAGE (Berks).—On Saturday evening, January 30th, for practice at SS. Peter and Paul, a 6-score of Grandsire Doubles. Rev. T. H. A. Houblon, I; C. Page, 2; F. May, 3; G. Gregory, 4; F. Money, 5; A. Bunce, 6. The Vicar has only just began changeringing, and this his first attempt at a six-score. And on Sunday, evening, January 31st, a 720 of Grandsire Minor, in 30 mins. G. Gregory, I; J. Gardner, 2; F. Money, 3; A. Bunce, 4; H. Smith, 5; F. May (conductor) 6. F. May (conductor), 6.

STOKE-UPON-TRENT ARCHIDIACONAL ASSOCIATION.

NORTON.—On Thursday, January 28th, a 720 of Grandsire Minor, in 27 mins. J. Wood, I; E. Glover, 2; J. Morton, 3; *W. Baddeley, 4; G. Walker (conductor), 5: J. W. Brough, 6. And on Sunday, January 31st, for Divine Service in the morning, 720 of Stedman's Slow Course, in 27 mins. W. Baddeley, I; E. Glover, 2; J. Morton, 3; G. Walker, 4; J. W. Brough, 5; J. Baddeley (conductor), 6. *First 720 in the method.

THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

PUTNEY (Surrey).—On Wednesday, February 3rd, after an unsuccessful attempt at a peal of Stedman Triples, a 1199 of Grandsire Major. J. Wright, 1; E. F. Cole, 2; A. B. Carpenter, 3; B. Battrum, 4; J. Trappitt, 5; J. Strutt, 6; E. F. Strange (conductor), 7; E. E. Vinen, 8. Tenor 17 cwt.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION. CHESTERFIELD (Derbyshire.—On Tuesday, February 2nd, at the parish church, a half-peal of Grandsire Triples, 2520 changes, in I hr. 30 mins. 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. Tenor 24\frac{3}{4} cwt. Composed by the Rev. C. D. P. Davies.

1. MICE, 8. 1 enor 24% cwt. Composed by the Rev. C. D. P. Davies. ROTHERHAM (Yorks).—On Monday, February 1st, at the parish church, ten members of the above Association attempted a 5000 of Kent Treble Bob Royal, with the bells half-muffled, as a mark of respect to the late Mr. H. Haley, of London, when after ringing over 1600 changes it came to grief. F. Coates, 1; C. H. Hattersley (conductor), 2; T. Hattersley, 3; J. Athey, 4; T. Whitworth, 5; J. Mulligan, 6; J. Hale, 7; W. Coates, 8; T. Lee, 9; A. Rodgers, 10.

Tong (Yorks).—On Sunday, January 31st, at St. James's Church, a 720 of City Delight, 720 of Arnold's Victory, and 360 of College Pleasure, in 1 hr. 4 mins. C. Salloway, 1; C. Farrow, 2; S. Oddy, 3; W. Bolland, 4; G. Bolland (conductor), 5; H. Oddy, 6. Tenor 12 cwt. The above touch was rung to celebrate the eighteenth birthday of C. Farrow, the company wishing him many happy returns.

BRISTOL.—Muffled Peal.—On Sunday, January 31st, at the church of Bristol.—Muffled Peal.—On Sunday, January 31st, at the church of St. Mary Redcliffe, a touch of Grandsire Triples. G. Stadon, 1; A. Anderson, 2; F. Price, 3; J. Hinton (conductor), 4; H. Porch, 5; E. Beake, 6; W. Emery, 7; D. Palser, and R. Watkins, 8. Tenor 52 cwt. The above was rung in commemoration of the anniversary of the death of, and as a tribute of respect to the late Mr. David Morgan, a member of the Ancient Society of St. Stephen's, by whom he was much esteemed. After ringing about 300 changes, the touch was prematurely brought to a conclusion, owing to the breaking of the tenor rope. Also at St. Thomas's Church, the members of the Ancient St. James's Society rang a touch of Grandsire Triples, as a tribute of respect to the above-named gentleman.

HIGHAM (Suffolk).—On Monday evening, January 18th, a 720 of Bob Minor. G. Winny, I; W. Smith, 2; W. Ranson, 3; C. Ablitt, 4; J. Levitt, 5; J. W. Smith (conductor), 6.

HULME.—On Friday, January 18th, at St. Philip's Church, a 720 of Plain Bob Minor, in 25 mins. J. Heald (first 720), 1: T. Collinge, 2; H. Wood, 3; J. F. Woods, 4; E. Ettock, 5; T. Heald (conductor),

WREXHAM (Denbighshire, North Wales).—On Monday evening, January 25th, at the parish church, eight members of the Wrexham Society rang a quarter-peal of Kent Treble Bob Major (1280 changes), in 49 mins. Alfred Lea, 1; R. W. Evans, 2; Robert Jones, 3; Joseph Williams, 4; John Ellis, 5; Thomas Newell, 6; Edward Evans, 7; Edward Rowland (conductor), 8. Teuor 28 cwt. in D.

WEST DERBY.—Recently at St. James's Church, a 720 of Grandsire Minor, in 28 mins. T. Orrett, 1; W. Leyland, 2; G. Acton, 3; W. Hargreaves, 4; G. Waring, 5; G. W. Hughes (conductor), 6. All the above hail from West Derby, except G. W. Hughes. Tenor 16 cwt.

In Memoriam.

HENRY WILLIAM HALEY.

In the death of this gentleman it must be conceded that the Exercise at large has lost one of its most prominent followers—a skilful bobcaller, a clever composer, and expert ringer in various methods. In one peculiar faculty, the gift of very sensitive aural powers, he certainly shone far above the general standard, and it may be doubted whether the Art has ever produced among its executants one who in this respect could excel Mr. Haley. For many years he was a member of the Cumberlands, and afterwards of the College Youths, and with the members of these companies, and the London St. James's society, he took part in some capital performances. The very first peal he rang was a 5079 of Stedman Caters, composed and conducted by himself at All Saints, Fulham, and the record of the subsequent performances is apt to evoke feelings of admiration on its perusal, including, as it does, several peals double-handed—Stedman Cinques, Caters, and Triples, and Holt's Original. He called the long peal of Stedman Cinques at St. Michael's, Cornhill, and the great length of Treble Bob Major at St. Matthew's, Bethnal Green—performances, now, however, superseded.

On Saturday last, February 6th, all that was mortal of the great composer were laid to rest at the city of London cemetery at Ilford. A great number of ringing friends and admirers of the deceased were presnt, filling the cemetery chapel to overflowing, and the firm (Messrs Warner and Sons), for which he so many years laboured were well represented. After the impressive service was over, the coffin was replaced in the hearse and conveyed to the grave—which is situated at the eastern extremity of the cemetery, and prior to the lowering of the coffin, a beautiful cross composed of primulas, narcissus, tulips, and other choice flowers was placed upon its lid by Mr. Joseph Davidson, and besides this there was a wreath and a device of a bell. When the coffin had been lowered, and the last rites of the funeral service rendered, Messrs. W. Cooter, J. Dwight, J. Pettit, J. R. Haworth, C. F. Winny, and J. Rowbotham, took their places around the grave, and amidst profound silence rang a plain course of Grandsire Cinques on handbells. A parting gaze on the coffin, and each one then wended his way.

It was arranged to have rung a 5000 of Stedman Cinques at St, Michael's, Cornbill, but on account of the late arrival back to town, this had to be abandoned for the usual whole pull and stand, after which three courses of Stedman Cinques was rung, the following members taking part: Messrs. Haworth, Pettitt, Hayes, Horrex, Dorrington, Cecil, Dawe, Winny, McLaughlin, and Prime. A 5000 will be attempted this (Saturday) evening at six o'clock.

On Sunday evening, at St. Dunstan's, Stepney, the following mem-

On Sunday evening, at St. Dunstan's, Stepney, the following members rang the usual whole pull and stand, after which a short touch of Grandsire Caters, by Messrs. Cooter, Pettit, Muskett, Cecil, Jones, Monday, W. D. Smith, Dorrington, Relton, and Springhall. On Tuesday, at St. Giles, Cripplegate, the usual whole pull and stand, with a plain course of Stedman Cinques, to the memory also of the late Daniel Newton.

On Saturday last, February 6th, a band of Henrys met at St. Mary's Church, Old Battersea, and rang with the bells half-muffled, a peal of Grandsire Triples, particulars of which will be found in the column set apart for that purpose in this paper. The rather sudden death of Mr. Halev, was the one theme and topic of conversation, which is the usual preliminary to a peal meeting, and many were the expressions of sympathy evoked, as on this day he was borne to his lastly earthly

resting place in Ilford cemetery.

It will, we think, be within memory of most of our readers, that the honour of calling this peal was offered to Mr. Haley, and although ill at the time, he cheerfully accepted the task, and at the first attempt, which took place last September, he called bobs for 1 hr. 20 mins., and if memory serves, this was his last attempt at conducting a peal. Many of the Henrys would have attended the funeral, but for this peal arrangement, and they feel sure friends will pardon any seeming neglect of duty on this score, as although absent in person, they in in mind were with other friends at the grave side. But all agree this peal was most appropriately arranged, as the time exactly marks the date of the late chief's interment, as also that of his old friend, John Cox, just twelve months ago, now both of departed memory. Honours upon this earth were divided between them, and let us hope they both share a similar fate in the next, and there with the heroes who have previously gone thither, they may join and ring the bells of heaven side by side, in the original method and composition.

bells of heaven side by side, in the original method and composition.

We are requested to state that at Waltham (Essex), on account of the dangerous illness of a lady residing near the Abbey, the local company have been prevented from paying their last mark of respect to their old friend, the late Mr. H. W. Haley.

A CORRECTION.—The name of the new member of the Lancashire Association, made at the Heywood meeting, should not have been "F. Entwistle," but "Frank Birtwistle."

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Wednesday, February 3rd, a district meeting of the Norwich Diocesan Association was held at North Elmham. At an early hour the bells of the noble and ancient church gave a merry peal. Ringing was kept up during the day by ringers from St. Peter Mancroft, Norwich, Aylsham, Dereham, Marsham, Hevingham, Tunstead, &c. At two o'clock the members, numbering thirty-four, adjourned to the "King's Head" Hotel, where a dinner was excellently served by Messrs. Kendall and Son, their catering giving great satisfaction. The chair was taken by the Vicar (the Rev. A. G. Legge), and the vice-chair by Captain A. P. Moore. Among those present were the Rev. H. Earle Bulwer, Rector of Stanhoe; H. J. Coleman, Rector of Westwick; and the Secretary, the Rev. N. Bolingbroke, Vicar of St. Etheldreda, Norwich.

The usual loyal toasts and "The Bishop and Clergy" having been duly honoured, the "Diocesan Association of Ringers" was next

In reply, the Secretary said he believed that useful work was being done by the Association. Instances were given of the increase of interest in our church bells, both by those who supported the Association by their subscriptions and sympathy, as well as those who actually handled the ropes, the excellent performances of the members showing that there was no lack of interest in change-ringing.

The business of the meeting was then transacted, a long list of new members being elected, besides several old members being re-admitted. The Secretary then encouraged all present to remain members of the Association, and suggested that they might there and then show in a practical way, that it was a good thing for ringers to be united in one body. One of their members, an excellent ringer, Mr. Peto Meadows, of Melton, Suffolk, had met with a very serious accident in the ordinary course of his work. His wife and children were suffering from his loss of work. Would the members present help them?

A collection was made, and the Secretary was able to forward the

The proceedings terminated with a hearty vote of thanks to the Vicar for presiding.

THE JOHNSON TESTIMONIAL.

As announced in your columns on the 6th inst., "A Meeting has been arranged to present Mr. Henry Johnson with his portrait and an illuminated address."

The address will be artistically written on vellum, and will be descriptive of Mr. Johmson's career as a ringer and a composer, and will be presented by Mr. C. H. Hattersley, of Sheffield, on the evening of the 27th inst

Some of the readers of "The Bell News" no doubt are aware that this is the eve of Mr. Johnson's birthday, he being 77 years' of age on the 28th inst., and it has been thought by the Committee that this would be the most fitting and appropriate time to make the presentation, thereby showing our appreciation of his long devoted zeal for, and earnest application of the art which has been so much improved, and so immensely benefitted, by his pen.

and so immensely benefitted, by his pen.

There will be a dinner at "St. Martin's Hotel," Bull Ring, Birmingham, on the 27th inst., at 6 p.m., and it is here asked that anyone wishing to attend same, will inform the Local Secretary, not later than the 23rd inst., from whom tickets, at 2s 6d. each, may be had on application, or by letter.

Touches will be rung at St. Martin's during the afternoon, the tower being open for that purpose at 3 p.m.

83, Wheeley's Road, Edgbaston, Birmingham.

A. THOMAS, Hon. Sec.

THE WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

Walton-on-the-Hill (Surrey).—On Friday, February 5th, the Godalming band visited St. Mary's Church, and rang several touches of Grandsire Triples, in which the Weybridge and Walton men took part, and six of the Godalming men rang a 720 of Bob Minor, with two covers in 28 mins. C. Barnett, 1; W. High, 2; W. Clissold, 3; J. Chantler, 4; A. High, 5; W. Debenham, 6; G. Mansfield (conductor), 7: G. Slater, 8. Tenor 25 cwt.

We regret to announce the death of our very old friend, Mr. J. Hinton, of Worcester, who died on the morning of the 10th instant. He had been ailing for about two months, but appeared to be improving; but a relapse took place at midnight on the 9th instant, and in a short time he breathed his last. We offer our sincere condolences to his family and relatives in their bereavement.

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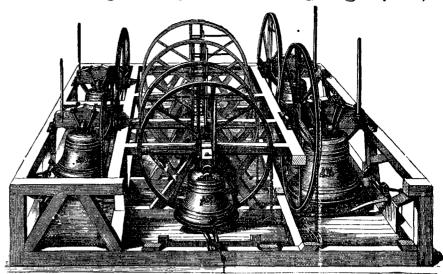
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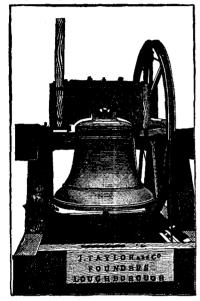
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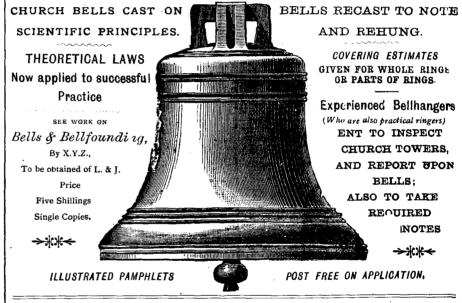
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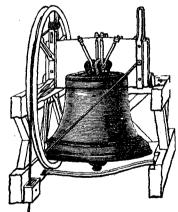
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SOCIAL GATHERING OF RINGERS

On Saturday last, a number of ringers from Liverpool, Bolton, and Ormskirk, met at Southport to celebrate the 90th birthday of Mr, Mason, of Gordon Street. Several short lengths were rung on the tower bells from three to five o'clock by the different companies. An adjournment was then made to Mr. Monk's Cocoa Rooms, in London street, where a very good tea was provided, and to which full justice was done. After the tables were cleared, Mr. W. M. Varley was appointed chairman of the meeting. The usual loyal toasts were duly honoured, and then Mr. R. Hill, the local secretary of the Lancashire Association, in a very neat speech, gave the toast of the evening "The Health of Mr. John Mason." He spoke of his long career as a ringer. Health of Mr. John Mason." He spoke of his long career as a ringer, and the efforts he had to made to promote belfry reform and to encourage the art of change-ringing in the county. In reply, Mr. Mason, who spoke under the influence of great emotion, said he could scarcely find words to express his gratitude and thanks to the kind friends who had provided the party in his honour, and to the ringers who had come such a distance to show their kind feelings towards one who had in his day done some little to elevate the art of change ringing.

The Chairman proposed "The Visitors," and said it was a pleasure

to have so many towers represented that evening, and as several of the officers of the Lancashire Association were present, he took the opportunity of advocating the formation of a district society, but in connection with the parent society, as a means by frequent meetings at neighbouring towers to encourage the local ringers to attempt new and more difficult methods. He then called upon Mr. Jackson, of Bolton, the treasurer of the Association, to reply on behalf of the visitors. Mr. Jackson said they were much pleased with their visit to South-

port, and the good fellowship of the ringers. He had known Mr. Mason many years, and was here on Mr. Mason's 80th birthday, and they had worked together in the formation of the society. He did not approve of branches being formed, but thought there would be more frequent meetings of the Association in this part of the county.

The CHAIRMAN gave "The Host and Hostess," and complimented them on the excellencee of their catering.

Mr. Mason proposed a vote of thanks to the Chairman, which was given with musical honours. The meeting concluded with the

National Anthem.

Mr. John Mason was born on February 13th, 1796, at Lancaster. His father was a ringer at St. Mary's Church in that town for a period of fifty years. He taught his son to ring a bell when he was ten years of age, and at the age of eleven years he rang his first 720 on six bells. From that time he has followed ringing for upwards of seventy years. He rang all day on the Jubilee, in September, 1809, when George III. entered the fiftieth year of his reign. He was also one of the ringers when peace was made at the end of the great French War in 1814, and also when the news arrived of the great victory of Waterloo in 1815. He rang his first peal on eight bells (5040 changes), at St. John's Church, Preston, in 1822. He then lived in Bnrnley, Colne, and Manchester, and at each place acted as a voluntary ringer, and for many years has lived in Southport, and was leading ringer at Christ Church for about eighteen years. He was president of the Lancashire Association in 1877, and held the office for three years. In 1881, at the annual meeting at Bolton, he met with a serious accident, and has been lame ever since. He has been a total abstainer for upwards of forty years.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—ROTHWELL BRANCH.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—ROTHWELL BRANCH.

The following is the ringing done by this branch at Holy Trinity Church during the month of January:—January 3rd, 240 of City Delight, 360 of New London Pleasure, 360 of Arnold's Victory, 720 of London Scholars' Pleasure. January 9th, 720 of City Delight, 240 of Violet, 240 of New London Pleasure, 240 of Duke of York. January 10th, 720 of Oxford Treble Bob. January 17th, 240 of College Exercise, 360 of Arnold's Victory, *720 of College Exercise, 240 of Violet. January 18th, 240 of London Scholars' Pleasure, 240 of New London Pleasure, 240 of Arnold's Victory. January 24th, 240 of City Delight, 240 of Arnold's Victory, 96 of New London Pleasure, 240 of College Exercise, 720 of Arnold's Victory. January 29th, 240 of College Exercise, 240 of Arnold's Victory, 240 of City Delight, 240 of College Pleasure, 240 of London Scholars' Pleasure. January 31st, 360 of Kent Treble Bob, 360 of Arnold's Victory, 120 of College Exercise, 240 of City Delight, 240 of College Exercise, 240 of City Delight, 240 of College Exercise, 240 of City Delight, 240 of College Exercise. The following Exercise, 240 of City Delight, 240 of College Exercise. The following are the ringers: J. Verity, J. C. Abbishaw, A. Chapman, W. Abbishaw, S. Stacey, J. M. Chadwick. *First 720 of College Exercise.

THE GLEMSFORD (SUFFOLK) SOCIETY.

During the year 1885 this company rang, at the parish church, Glemsford, forty-seven 720s in the following methods:—Bob Minor, 5; Oxford Treble Bob, 17; Kent Treble Bob, 6; Violet Treble Bob, 1; New London Pleasure, 8; Cambridge Surprise, 6; College Exercise, 1; Double Court Bob, 3. Total 47, in eight different methods.

THE ST. JAMES SOCIETY AT WOOBURN, BUCKS.

During the past year, news of numerous attempts made by various companies to achieve a peal at Wooburn came to our knowledge, each ending, however, fruitlessly until the 6th inst., when a most determined endeavour to accomplish Holt's Original peal of Grandsire Triples by members of the St. James Society, proved successful. The performance was duly reported in our last week's paper, further particulars we now give, as it reflects great credit to the ringers concerned, though it is much regretted that two of the original band, the Rev. W. S. Willett and Mr. A. Andrews, were unable to attend. Permission was readily granted by the Vicar, the Rev. Alfred Woodin, with the same kindness as on past occasions. Arrangements were made, and Messrs. Garraway and Woolford, of Maidenhead, Messrs. Wilder, Perryman, and the Fussell Brothers from Slough, Mr. G. Newson, of London, and Messrs. Barry and George, communicated with, the result being that on the Saturday afternoon, according to their several promises, a band of ringers alighted at Bourne End Station, by the o'clock train from Paddington, and they at once proceeded to Wooburn. The usual preliminary steps, such as refreshing the bodily energies, and oiling and overhauling the bells, were taken. The Sexton, Mr. S. Wood, and Mr. Howse, were in attendance, and with their help everything was in readiness for the attempt soon after 3.30 p.m. "Go" was called, and an hour and twenty-six mins. good ringing ensued, the men being as follows: G. Newson, A. C. Fussell, W. Fussell, Barry, Wilder, Garraway, George, and Woolford. Further progress was here interrupted, the third stay was broken through missing the sally, and consequently the bell made two revolutions, bringing the others to a stand. A second attempt was made as soon as the third rope was re-arranged, the bell pulled up, and the tenor greased at the bearings; this lasted 14 mins., when the treble slipped wheel. Once more the the tenor bearings was greased, and the treble rope was put right, and the tenor bearings was greased, and the treble rope was put right, and a third attempt was made, only for the sake of the old proverb, as many were inclined to give out. With a little persuasion the band started in the following order, and they had the pleasure of accomplishing the peal in 3 hrs. 7 mins., the bells coming home soon after nine o'clock. Mr. Woolford had to be relieved after ringing I hr. and 20 mins. G. Newson, A. Fussell, W. Fussell, Garraway, Wilder, Barry, George, Woolford, and Perryman. Mr. Wilder stuck to his bell in a very plucky manner, and the first tenor man also, while the third was rung without a stay and the treble with a piece out of the third was rung without a stay, and the treble with a piece out of the wheel. After being in the tower for five hours and a half, the company were very glad to get over to the old fashioned publiccompany were very glad to get over to the old fashioned publichouse opposite the church, hearty congratulations being given by the curate, the sexton, and the local ringers. Wooburn is not a convenient place to get to, being on a branch line. Very few trains are in service, the last one up leaving at 8.45, consequently most of the visitors had to walk. Messrs. Barry and George walked three and a half miles to Beaconsfield, where they slept overnight, and after visiting the church, they walked on to Ruislip in the morning. Messrs. Garraway and Woolford, walked six and a half miles to Boure Hill when on reaching home they had the settof flier. Messrs. Garraway and Woolford, walked six and a half miles to Boyne Hill, when on reaching home they had the satisfaction of enjoying a good sound sleep. Mr. Perryman, who is over sixty years of age, and W. Fussell, walked eight miles to Slough, a mile of which was up a steep incline (the well known Hedsor Hill), recently covered with large rough gravel from top to bottom. They reached home soon after twelve o'clock, and during the whole journey met one man. Messrs. Newson, Wilder, and A. Fussell made arrangements to sleep at Wooburn, and on Sunday morning they returned by train. It might be mentioned that these three gentlemen slept in one room, but early in the morning their slumbers were aroused by the church clock striking three on the tenor. Soon after the sounds of the bell had died away, one of them distinctly remembers seeing the form of the late Thomas Tolladay. Whether this is imagination or not, we

had died away, one of them distinctly remembers seeing the form of the late Thomas Tolladay. Whether this is imagination or not, we cannot say, it is certain that the last peal rang on these bells was conducted by that renowned ringer of the past, the details of which we give herewith, as entered in the St. James's peal book:—

"WOOBURN CHURCH (Buckinghamshire).—On Tuesday, Jure 6th, 1843, this society rang a true and complete peal of Grandsire Triples, consisting of 5040 changes, in 2 hrs. and 57 mins., being the first peal on these bells, performed by J. Rogers, 1; C. Clay, 2; G. Stockham, 3; R. Haworth, 4; T. Tolladay, 5; T. Burton, 6; W. Hill, 7; H. Wall, 8. Conducted by Mr. T. Tolladay." Mr. Tolladay called a peal at St. John's, Waterloo, after this, which was the last he rang in London, and died 18th October, 1843. Some time back, an account appeared in the columns of this journal respecting Wooburn and its bells, we beg therefore to refer our readers to pages 82, 266 and 274, volume I.

SPARE COPIES OF "THE BELL NEWS."-Mr. Robert Skeef, 13, Red Lion Street, Spalding, has for disposal Nos. 14 to 23, Vol. 1.; 129 to 145, Vol. 3; 153 to 159, Vols. 3 and 4, Anyone wishing for one or more copies can have them by sending their address.

OUT IN THE SNOW.

In adopting the above for a brief description of a visit to Coggeshall (Essex), to attempt a peal, and the subsequent proceedings of the band, there is no intentional infringement of the copyright of any title of any holiday tour that may have appeared in this journal. Before detailing the place-making, dodging, and the snaps that took place between the flakes, a word as to the difficulty in securing a conductor. In the autumn it was suggested that a peal should be attempted at the above outlandish but noted little town. First, the conductor found himself enveloped in the uniform of the Royal Horse Artillery. As he, through that circumstance, became located twenty miles nearer the trysting-place, and not—like the invisible blue in Essex—forbidden to practice the art, the 23rd ultimo was finally fixed upon for the attempt. In the meantime orders were issued for a march to Coventry, and thus our new recruit had to bid his Essex friends farewell. Late on the evening of the 22nd, a new sixpenny telegram announced that the promise made by another of the band had become like the proverbial pie-crust. With a third "yes" or "no" stood in the balance, where they remained for twelve hours, the reply depending upon the answer to the question if a certain "stony" band in possession of a certain tower would allow a certain birthday-peal to be rung. A negative reply at last came to hand; important services were, however, secured Travelling by the iron horse, upon arriving at Kelvedon Station, with those we had picked up by the way, we mustered half-a-dozen, and we at once took our seats in a comfortable conveyance. Upon reaching the noted "George and Dragon," kept by mine host David for the last twenty-three years, and known as "the halfway house," we picked up our old friend, and onward moved. Meeting the Vicar in the town, the rev. gentleman renewed the hearty welcome he had given by letter. Arriving at the church, true to his word, "I will be there," was the noted and obliging individual known programmed. The continuion of noted and obliging individual known prematurely (by centuries) as "old" Sam Hammond, of Braintree, who had been summoned by wire, and in tramping six miles had taken the wise precaution to bring with him his remarkable cat-squeaking gingham. After congratulations, and so forth, a start was made for Reeves's variation of Holt's ten-part peal, by the same band that afterwards rung the quarter-peal—particulars of which appeared last week—excepting that D. Elliot rang the tenor. It was not to be expected that success would be obtained by a band scraped together at the last moment from seven different parishes, and in a strange tower. The first attempt came to grief short of a rooo; the second took us just beyond, when the 7th and 4th decided upon changing places, hence a stand. Then we rung the quarter-peal, and another touch afterwards. The ring is a fair one, tenor 28 cwt. in F, probably owing to the use of oil the back bells go heavy. The draught is a long one, but there are capital guides, and if the bells could be heard a little more distinctly, everything would be satisfactory. There are some remarkable and quaint tombstones in the churchyard, while the church itself is a noble building, one of the finest in the county, and well worth a visit. It is dedicated to St. Peter, and affords accommodation for 1500 people. It is in the Perpendicular style, with chancel and chancel aisles, nave and aisles, and has several elegant stained windows. It has undergone a complete restoration, and it is estimated that £20,000 has been spent upon it.

Upon leaving the tower, the band were invited to the Temperance Hotel, where a first-class meat tea had been provided by the Vicar, who regretted that he was prevented, owing to parochial duties, from joining the company. Before leaving, votes of thanks to the rev. gentleman for his liberality, and to the local band for their preparations, were passed. Having bid adieu to the happy and honourable member for Braintree, and wishing him a speedy tramp home, we left for Kelvedon. Here the handbells were brought into requisition, and touches of Grandsire Triples, Double Court, and Oxford Treble Bob Major were rung, as were also Bob Minor and Stedman Doubles, four in hand, and these with tune-playing, soon brought up another course-The following morning, by arrangement, and by the kind permission of the Vicar, the grand old melodious ring of five at St. Mary's were in full swing. Those who had not previously heard these bells expressed their surprise, and acknowledged them to be the grandest bells they had ever listened to. A fund is in existence for providing another treble, which is estimated to cost £70; and in this matter it is to be hoped that the authorities will take the precaution to insist upon having a bell in tune without the slightest hampering of any of the

present ring.

Just as "the snow was falling fast," a start was made for Witham, and once upon the main road the flakes appeared to come larger and more frequent, so much so, that it was with difficulty that some of the band kept their places, one here and there slipping down to lead without dodging in 3-4. Thicker than ever down the flakes came, and just as the second course-end was coming up, those dodging behind became duck-hearted, and advocated branching off with a view of cutting down to lead. Finding they still had to dodge, and were again getting into the work behind, before the third course-end was reached, they suddenly decided to stop and make places in order to bring them home, and so cut out three leads. Leaving them comfortably at home,

two of us hunted on, completing the dodging, and making the whole of the bobs by ourselves, the course having been greatly lengthened by the extra snaps, place-making, etc., by those we had left behind. Reaching the tower, we had the satisfaction of finding that if we had keapt ourselves in the hunt, without noticing the dodging behind, we should have got down to lead with the treble in proper time for a 720, instead of having extended our peal by a couple of courses. Under the circumstances, and desiring to see the whole of the old faces, we stayed in the town, and again visited the tower in the afternoon, when Penning's one-part 720 of Bob Minor was tapped through as it should be. It was originally intended to call at Boreham, and afterwards be. It was originally intended to call at Boreham, and afterwards hunt up to Chelmsford, and as the flakes no longer came down, I decided to tramp it, my companion going on to Maldon. At Boreham I found a hearty welcome from the genial landlord of what was once the "Live and Let Live," with an invitation to stay and ring for evening service. As I had, however, another four miles to step, it was with regret I had to decline. On reaching Chelmsford I had the gratification of finding that that my anticipated opportunity of attempting to call a touch no longer existed, those who intended to be present not being able to travel through forgetting to have themselves roughed.

Before concluding, I will just refer to the fact that during my outing I met twenty-eight ringers, and out of that number only nine were subscribers to this journal. As each one will have an opportunity of reading this week's number, I trust, that in order to keep themselves acquainted with matters concerning the ringing world, they will resolve, each one, from this time, to become weekly subscribers.

THE "HENRY'S" PEAL.

In connection with this peal, Mr. Dains says the following: In the band, there was at the treble rather a celebrated Henry, one who may almost be termed the father of the once celebrated band of Bannisters, at Woolwich, who some twenty-five years ago achieved such excellent peals in Surprise methods, etc. Mr. Henry Bright, to whom we allude, was born in the same year as England's Prime Minister, the Right Hon. W. E. Gladstone-1809, and is therefore 77 years of age. Notwithstanding this, the veteran declared he could have rung another couple of hours rather than have missed the peal that night. Such was his vitality; and he seemed unusually cheerful, active, and healthy, parting with his friends amid hearty congratulations, who had the honour to escort the veteran to Waterloo station, on his return to Woolwich. Every possible particular and detail is now-a-days published in the way of peal arrangement. Sometimes we hear of what the James's have done, of what the John's intend doing, and a new combination is now being formed under the title of W. H., and all we can say is—more power. But there also are the Williams, who have done wonders, while the Georges seem for the time out of the hunt, but the Williams are declining. In saying this we do not wish to appear offensive, as there are some first class Williams, but they appear now only to ring Triples. An extract from the Royal Cumberlands' records show that in the year 1796, on November 12th, a peal of Caters was rung on the bells of St. Leonard, Shoreditch, and all the ringers were christened William, and as there were two to the tenor, there were eleven in the band—William Shipway, conductor. Time did not permit prior to the notice of the attempt to ring the Henry's peal, or no doubt Mr. Henry Johnson would have been asked for a composition for the occasion, and indeed this notice would be incomplete without the mention of such a celebrated Henry.

THE LONG MELFORD COMPANY.

On Boxing Day, December 26th, the above company met at their On Boxing Day, December 20th, the above company met at their meeting-house, "The Black Lion," and through the liberality of their esteemed rector, the Rev. C. J. Martyn, sat down to an excellent dinner served by Host Cant. Mr. F. R. Steed, parish clerk and sexton, occupied the chair, while the vice-chair was taken by Mr. J. Ambrose. After good justice had been done to the repast, Mr. Steed proposed "The Health of the Rector" in suitable terms, which was enthusiastically received with musical honours. Some of the company then adjourned to the rectory and rang several touches on the handbells, which were loudly applauded by the rector and his family. The ringers then adjourned to their meeting-house, and spent a most enjoyable evening.

enjoyable evening.

On New Year's Eve the company met in the steeple a little before midnight, and rang the old year out with a 1008 of Bob Major. J. Ambrose, I; P. C. S. Scott, 2; Z. Slater, 3; S. Slater, 4; J. Bird, 5; O. Garwood, 6; J. Slater, 7; G. Hammond (conductor), 8. The New Year was then rung in, and the bells fired, the ringers standing as before except F. Steed at the 7th. The ringers then proceeded to as before, except F. Steed at the 7th. The ringers then proceeded to the front of the rectory, and rang several touches on the handbells, to the appreciation of the rector, who wished them all "A Happy New Year." The company, in return, wish him "Long Life, and Health Year. The company, in return, wish him "Long Life, and Health and Happiness."

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."

TICHMARSH BELLS.

SIR,—With reference to the above bells, "A Lover of Bells" states in a recent number that the back six are out of tune. I should be glad if he would say which of the six is out of tune. Good musicians have often wrangled as to whether one particular bell is flat or sharp; and if your correspondent had known anything of the Westminster chimes, he would have known that the bell in question would not be heard at all in the quarters. As, however, he seems to be anxious to have the bells tuned, perhaps he will head a subscription for the purpose with a five-pound note, when I will be answerable for its being speedily covered by another, and the bells shall be tuned, though we villagers are very well satisfied with them, feeling sure that few villages, or even towns, in this county can boast such a noble ring of eight. Tichmarsh, February 1st, 1886. JAMES W. EATON.

"Which is the most Musical Major Method?"

SIR,—The line taken by Mr. Heywood in his article on the musical qualities of Major methods is a new one. With the tenour of your leading article in No. 199 I fully agree, and think that in drawing attention to this subject Mr. Heywood is doing a real and valuable service to the Exercise, for which we should be very grateful. The general drift of the writer's argument, and indeed almost the whole of what he says, is most excellent. I only wish I could enter more adequately into the musical question, in which Mr. Heywood is evidently at home.

On one point I should like to offer a little criticism. on one point I should like to offer a little criticism. Mr. Heywood seems to me to be somewhat too hard on the succession of sounds occasioned by simultaneously making places contiguous to each other. Of course with him I quite grant that a composition or method, be it in music or ringing, is best when it can stand the test of a rigorous investigation in black and white. So at least in theory. But in practice, after all, "the proof of the pudding is in the leading." If any given method produces the rows in a succession pleasing to the ear, surely that method is to all interests and purposes a musical method. Mr. Heywood says that according to musical rules there should be as far as possible a connection or sequence between consecutive rows. nowhere directly defines a "sequence." But he seems to imply But he seems to imply that nowhere directly defines a "sequence." But he seems to imply that the most perfect instance of it occurs when any row is produced by a quadruple change from that immediately preceding it, as 2 1 4 3 6 5 8 7 from rounds, that is to say, when the changes are made in 1-2, 3-4, 5-6, and 7-8, rather than in 2-3, 4-5, and 6-7. This I entirely accept, as also his statement almost immediately following, that, "in the highest methods this connection is obtained by a great or less higher methods this connection is obtained by a greater or less length of dodging, the effect of which is that a musical change is announced to the ear some time before it actually comes up, and as gradually dies away, in marked contradistinction to the baldness with which such a change will appear in the simpler methods."

Now dodging is caused by place-making. For place-making Mr. Heywood enunciates two canons. "Places made at any one change should not adjoin one another. The less place-making the better." These I would modify thus: "While not unduly multiplying instances of place-making, let them in no case occur, unless absolutely necessary, in the first two or last two places." It is in these positions that they are especially and objectionably noticeable; at least they actually are so when occurring in 1-2, and they would be if ever they did occur in 7-8. The two great points to be secured are frequent snapping leads and frequent dodging behind. When the place-making is stowed away in 3-4 or 5-6, it needs an ear of tolerable acuteness to To none but the extremely critical can it be offensive, even though the places made adjoin one another. At least it is not to me. If third's and fourth's, or fifth's and sixth's be simultaneously made, then surely in all the other places we have the very sequence which Mr. Heywood seems to admire. Whereas if such places as where is the sequence? I fail to see any except in 7-8 and 1-2 respectively.

Guiding ourselves on these lines, we shall be led to a partial modification of some of Mr. Heywood's conclusions. Take the musical values of Albion Major and Treble Bob. Mr. Heywood is scarcely so complimentary to the latter as has generally been the fashion. I am disposed to be even less so than he. Treble Bob consists almost wholly of second's place-making. And when the tenor gets into the slow all music is for the time utterly vanished, as indeed is the case while the tenors are parted—a period of no less than two leads' duration. But as regards Albion, the consideration urged above, if allowed their full weight, will assign it a position second to none in musical qualities. True it is that in this method there is frequent place-making, and that simultaneously in contiguous places. But, excepting only in one case, to be presently mentioned, these places are

always either 3-4 or 5-6. A triple change is thus left, the six bells not occupied in place-making effecting this triple change in the particular places which are most generally admired, with snapping in front and dodging behind. The one exception alluded to above is the full lead of the treble. But here, as also in the other cases, though in them not in so marked a manner, Mr. Heywood finds the most complete fulfilment of one of his chief points of argument. For at the treble's lead we have triple dodging, ensuring, on the occurrence of a musical change, its announcement to the ear some time before it actually comes up, and the equally gradual evanescence of its echo. Mr. Heywood fully attributes every other musical quality to this method. be evident that Albion is as well qualified to hold a foremost position among other methods with regard to its music, as it unquestionably does from the point of view, both of the ringer and the composer.

I should have been glad to have sent you this letter earlier, but various engagements have prevented my finishing it until now. CHARLES D. P. DAVIES.

A DOUBTFUL PERFORMANCE.

SIR,—Will you kindly grant me a small space in your next issue in reference to the recent St. Lawrence's peal of Bob Major, of Tuesday 9th? I am but a novice in the art of change-ringing, but I am always willing to learn anything. I was in the Reading Market-place when the bells went off at eight minuted by the past six for Bob Major, and they want off are represented. went off very well indeed. I did not stop to listen long, as I had just done work, so I went home to tea and afterwards went to St. Law-rence's tower, and the bells were striking bad in places at the treble Lawrence ringer and he exclaimed that it had been bad for some time, He said he had heard best part of the peal. I then left him, and gave my attention to the ringing. I came against another of their ringers, and he said that the ringing was very bad, and I said, "yes, it is." We walked along together, and when we stopped the bells came all of a heap, when there was a gap with the bells at lead, and the tenor snatched down to lead and led four blows. At lead the seventh took the tenor off all right, but there was a deal of clashing and the tenor struck two blows in second's place. After this they had two more fair clangs, and when the peal ought to have been rung out, at twenty-six minutes past nine, there was a fair scramble for home, and there was not a round struck until the treble has led four blows. I said to my brother ringer, "that is no true peal." The bells were anyhow when they scrambled for home. I can safely say that during the last three quarters of an hour there were not two treble leads in succession rung clean. All this was heard by several other ringers below the tower, and at Caver-When the tower was opened, I went up and began to dispute the peal, and one of the ringers said I was but a youngster, and knew nothing much about it. I did not say much more about it there, as I thought I had hurt the feelings of the band. They would not own what I said in the tower, but they owned about the tenor, at Mr. Newell's, after leaving the tower. I say that if peals of this description are recorded, I should like to hear what some of our professors say about it. I say there is not any art in change-ringing whatever, because, if the dodging is not done in the methods of change-ringing, there are repetitions constantly coming up each treble lead. If peals can be recorded as true peals, a band of novices can ring peals always, as long as the conductor keeps the bells from coming home, and when the time is up cry "that's all," and get into rounds. I will give them just as much credit. G. GIBBARD.

WELLS SURPRISE.

SIR,—Wells Surprise was rung at Horbury, near Wakefield, for the first time by the ringers of that place, on Tuesday, July 8th, 1884, and since that time the method has been commonly practised. I have been particular in getting the exact date of the first performance, thinking it might interest those who have been in correspondence on the subject in "The Bell News."

JNO. Hollis. Wakefield.

MEMORIAL TO THE LATE MR. JASPER W. SNOWDON.

Sir,-I am one of those who would be pleased to see a movement made by the ringers of Great Britain to place a piece of marble over the last resting-place of the mortal remains of the Great Expositor of Bell-ringing, and as his name is well known to us all in some of the many and various positions in which he figured, either as a practical ringer, a great teacher both of teachers and composers, or as writer and historian, I think the amount should be limited to 1s. each person. There are two propositions upon this subject before us; one by the Rev. Earle Bulwer, and one by Mr. Copley, but as we are told the former would be against the wishes of the deceased gentleman, I think we ought to go solid for the latter, and that without further delay.

H._DAINS.]

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, February 6th, the above Association held their meeting in St. George's Hall, Rotherham. A substantial tea was hospitably provided by the Rotherham branch of the Association, of which about 140 members partook, including the Vicar, the Rev. J. N. Quirk, hon. member. The General Meeting was presided over by W. Snowdon, Esq. brother of the late President. Mr. W. H. Howard, of York, read the minutes of the October meeting, and of the committee meetings held since that time. He stated that sixty-eight new members had been added to the roll since the commencement of the society's present year. He expressed the hope that the Association would spread more in the north, so as to include a large number of ringers who had not the opportunities which were possessed by some of the central towns. The President, on rising to address the meeting, expressed deep sorrow at the death of his brother, and thanked the Association on behalf of his family, for their kind expressions of his usefulness in the letter of condolence which they had sent. He alluded to the great interest taken by his brother in ringing, and stated that the manuscript of his last work on Grandsire Triples was complete, and would no doubt soon be published. It was decided that the next meeting should be held at Keighley. Mr. W. Whitaker, of Leeds, hon. secretary, proposed a vote of thanks to the Vicars and churchwardens of Rotherham and Rawmarsh for the use of their bells. The proposition was seconded by Mr. G. Bolland, of Tong, vice-president, and was carried unanimously. The Vicar gave the Association a hearty welcome to Rotherham in the name of the clergy and churchwardens. He trusted that if he could render the Association any help in the future, they would do him the honour of commanding his services. He referred to the reforms which had taken place in the belfry, and congratulated the society upon the strides which had been made in that direction. He trusted that more ringers would be found in the future beneath the pulpit at Divine Service, as well as in the belfry. Touches in various methods were rung during the day, both in the towers and on the handbells, and were listened to by many with great interest and pleasure.

ANNUAL TEA OF THE CHRIST CHURCH SOCIETY, MITCHAM, SURREY.

THE ANNUAL TEA of the Christ Church society was held in the Mission Room adjoining the church, on Tuesday e February 2nd, by the kind invitation of Mr. and Mrs. Nobes. Tuesday evening, February 2nd, by the kind invitation of Mr. and Mrs. Nobes. About thirty sat down to a very excellent tea, including Mr. and Mr. Nobes, the Rev. F. S. Legg (vicar), Messrs. J. Hunt, Turner, Nicholson, etc. The cloth being removed, Mr. Nobes in a few words expressed the great pleasure it gave Mrs. Nobes and himself to invite the ringers and all present there that evening. He said that the worthy Vicar and Churchwardens wished to thank the ringers very much for the manner in which they attended to their duties as ringers, for the way in which they rang showed how much time and patience they gave to learn to ring, and he was sure that all the parishioners must be very grateful to think that they had such a set of ringers, and all voluntary, grateful to think that they had such a set of ringers, and all voluntary, and he hoped that they would have many such evenings, and expressed a wish that they should try and do something for the ringers in the summer. Miss Gimms and Mr. C. Hutton, gave a selection upon the harmonium and violin, Miss Yaxley a song, Miss Nicholson a recitation, and the ringers gave several touches on the handbells; Miss Nicholson gave a song, and Mr. Reynolds a recitation, and the remainder of the evening was spent in various amusements, passing away much too soon. The ringers wish to thank Mr. and Mrs. Nobes for their kind hospitality on that occasion, and hope they may be spared for many years to come.

EXETER CATHEDRAL BELLS.

The President of the Devonshire Guild (Colonel Troyte) and the Hon. Sec. (Hon. and Rev. J. S. Northcote) send the following letter:

DEAR SIR,—The Guild of Devonshire Ringers have undertaken to assist the Dean and Chapter to collect subscriptions to re-hang the bells of Exeter Cathedral, in memory of the late Canon Ellacombe.

This peal is the finest in the world, and is at present so badly hung that it cannot

In the property rung.

About £800 will be required to put the bells in proper order, without making any alteration to the present peal, or adding to their number.

We venture to solicit the assistance of your readers for this important object. Subscriptions are payable to the Hon. and Rev. J. S. Northcote, or to the Cathedral Bells' Account at the Exeter Bank.

It may interest some of our readers to know that Messrs. Vinen and Strange (the composer and author of "The Last Farewell," which we Strange (the composer and author of "The Last Farewell," which we had the pleasure of reviewing some little time ago), are about to publish a new tenor song, "At Sunset Glow." As a preliminary, it was given at the Guildhall School of Music Concert, on the 27th ult., when the reception was most favourable, both composer and vocalist (Mr. Mullenhausen) being recalled.

ANALYSIS OF PEALS RUNG IN THE MONTH OF JANUARY, 1886.

- ·		PEALS.
The Ancient Society of College Youths		*6
The Midland Counties' Association	• •	5
The Oxford Diocesan Guild	• •	5 5 4
The St. James's Society, London	• •	. 4
The Society of Royal Cumberland Youths		†3
The Kent County Association	• •	2
The Holt Society	• •	2
The Winchester Diocesan Guild		2
The Liverpool Youths' Society	• •	2
The Yorkshire Association	• •	2
The Surrey Association	• •	2
The United Counties' Association		2
The Association for the Archdeaconry of Stafford	• •	2
The Durham and Newcastle Diocesan Association	• •	I
The Hertford Association		1
The Norwich Diocesan Association	• •	I
The Birmingham Amalgamated Society	• •	1
The Birmingham and District Association		1
Independent Societies	• •	6
		50
* Two of these also entered as the Hertford		
and Surrey 2	. •	
† One of these also entered as the Kent I	less	3
Total for the month	• •	47

The above peals were rung in the following methods:-

Treble Bob Royal, 2: Treble Bob Caters, 1; Treble Bob Major, 10; Stedman Caters, 1; Stedman Triples, 5; Grandsire Caters, 4; Grandsire Major, 1; Grandsire Triples, 19; Bob Major, 1. In seven methods on six bells, 3.

Greatest number of changes in one peal, 6048. Quickest 5040, 2 hrs.

and 40 mins. (on church bells).

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION OF SIX-BELL RINGERS.

On Saturday, February 13th, the Quarterly Meeting of this Association was held at St. Mark's, Preston, when the following companies were represented: St. Mark's, Preston, Accrington, Blackrod, Chorley, were represented: St. Mark's, Preston, Accrington, Biackrod, Chorley, Eccleston, Leyland parish church, Leyland St. James, and Standish. The welcome peal was rung by the St. Mark's company. During the afternoon and evening, several 7200 of Bob Minor, and other touches, were rung by mixed bands, a 720 of London Single Bob being rung by the Leyland Company, standing as follows: O. Worden (conductor), I; T. Bowling, 2; W. Bowling, 3; J. Bretherton, 4; T. Baron, 5; J. Banister, 6. About five o'clock the members adjourned to the schoolroom, where it was resolved that the Annual Meeting should be held at Chorley. Four new members having been enrolled, the meeting closed with a vote of thanks to the Vicar and Wardens for the use of the bells and schoolroom on this occasion.

THE ST. PETER'S SOCIETY, FAREHAM, HANTS.

On Wednesday, February 10th, a supper was given to the above society, which Mr. J. Whiting had promised if six of the local company could ring a 720 of Oxford Bob Minor, an account of which appeared in the Christmas number of "The Bell News." A capital spread was prepared for them, to which ten sat down and did ample justice. Afterwards the handbells were brought into use, and several touches of Oxford Bob Minor, Grandsire Triples and tunes were rung. The health of Mr. Whiting being drunk, in reply said he was very pleased to meet them, and promised when they could with their own party ring 5040 of Grandsire Triples, he would entertain them in a like manner. Thanking him for his kindness, the company separated, after having spent a most enjoyable evening.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

This Society had a District Meeting, at Staplehurst, on Monday, the 15th instant. Upwards of seventy ringers were present, and the churches of Chart, Sutton, Cranbrook, Headcorn, and Frittenden, besides Staplehurst, were visited. Service was held at 11 a.m. at Staplehurst, and at the committee meeting, which was held at the Rectory immediately afterwards, nine members of the local band were admitted to full membership, a result which reflects credit upon them-selves as well as their instructor, Mr. Daynes, of Frittenden, the period during which they have under his tuition being comparatively short. There were also over 20 new members elected to the Association. The Annual General Meeting was fixed to be held in Gravesend in June next.

THE WATERLOO SOCIETY.

On Friday evening, February 5th, about thirty members of this Society celebrated their Annual Dinner at "The Black Horse," York Street, Westminster, provided by the Host, Mr. T. Harris, which was duly appreciated and brought home in six courses.

W. BARON, Master, took the chair, while the vice-chair was occupied by E. F. Cole, Esq. We also noticed several other prominent members who were present, Mr. W. Coppage, Steeplekeeper of St. John's, Waterloo Road, Mr. A. G. Thomas, A. Thomas, W. H. D. Porter, of Battersea, Mr. C. E. Malin (treasurer), Mr. A. E. C. Church St. Margaret's, Westminster, H. Hopkins, W. H. George, and others.

The Chairman commenced by giving "Her Majesty the Queen and Royal Family," which was honoured by singing the "National

"The Rectors, Clergy, and Churchwardens of St. John's, Waterloo Road, and St. Margaret's, Westminster," was next given, and was duly acknowledged by Mr. W. Coppage and Mr. S. Smith, particularly mentioning the kindness of their rectors, Rev. J. Jephson and the Ven. Archdeacon Farrar for the use of the bells, and the interest they

took in ringing.
"The Waterloo Society of Change-ringers" was next proposed by Mr. Daniels, coupled with the name of Mr. A. G. Thomas, which was drunk most enthusiastically. Mr. W. Baron responded for the Society, saying that the Society had done great things in the past, and he felt sure that every member hoped it would do still greater things in the future. Mr. A. G. Thomas made a very pleasing acknowledgment on his own account, and also spoke of the brain power of the Society

The Vice-Chairman then gave the toast of the evening, that of "Mr. W. Baron, Master of the Waterloo Society." Mr. Cole gave a very amusing account of how he first introduced himself to Mr. Baron and to the society, and took this opportunity of thanking Mr. Baron for his kindness and perseverance in doing all he could in bringing on the younger members of the society, and what he knew of change-ringing was due to the energy of Mr. Baron. The toast was drunk with

Mr. Baron, in responding, said he thanked every one for the kind way they had drunk his health, and what he knew of change-ringing he way they had drunk his health, and what he knew of change-ringing he should always be pleased to help any member to fathom the mysteries of the noble art, and ever ready to impart his knowledge to further the interests of the society. The toast of "The Steeplekeepers" was duly drunk and honoured, and responded to by Mr. W. Coppage and Mr. S. Smith, and that of Treasurer by C. E. Malim, also Mr. Davies, the secretary, who was unfortunately absent, and Mr. Church, Steward. Other toasts followed, viz., A. Thomas, H. Hopkins, W. H. D. Porter, and Mr. Potts on behalf of "the Visitors," and "Host and Hostess." The following songs and recitations were given by several members during the evening, which contributed to bring a very pleasant and successful programme to a close. Mr. A. Thomas caused members during the evening, which contributed to bring a very pleasant and successful programme to a close. Mr. A. Thomas caused much amusement in his rendering "How Paddy stole the rope," "Mr. H. Hopkins, "The holes in the shutters," Mr. A. E. Church in "The Paris Exhib tion," Mr. J. Rumbold in "The Muddle-Puddle Porter," Mr. W. H. D. Porter in "Peggy of Yarmouth Town," Mr. W. Baron in "When we were Boys together." Other songs were effectively rendered by J. Barry, Mr. Malim, Mr. George, etc., while Mr. A. G. Thomas recited a humorous piece by the celebrated Tom Hood, and Mr. S. Smith also recited the sensational tale of the Natural Bridge of Virginia in a very dramatic siyle. Mr. Porter presided at the pianoforte, and the company were greatly indebted to him, and Mr. Baron in proposing his health said the success of the evening was in a great measure due to him. The evening was concluded by singing "Auld Language". Lang Syne.'

THE HEXHAM ABBEY GUILD.

An adjourned meeting was held at the vestry of the Abbey church, Hexham, on Thursday evening, February 4th, the Rev. Canon Barker, president of the Guild, presiding. The committee appointed at the last meeting submitted a code of rules for approval, which were discussed seriatim, and after some slight alteration adopted. Mr. Robert Robson was appointed Master, and Mr. H. F. Lockhart Secretary and By the rules, Thursday evenings were fixed as practicenights, and the special occasions on which the bells are to be rung (Queen's birthday, etc.) are also enumerated. A vote of thanks to the chairman closed the proceedings.

TRINITY CHIMES TO-MORROW NIGHT.-At 11.30 to-morrow night A. Meislahn, jun., will begin to ring the old year out at Trinity with the following programme:—Ringing the changes on eight bells; Evening bells; Kiss Me, Mother; Good Night; Old Dog Tray; Air by De Beriot; Parting Song; Midnight Hour on the Clock; Happy New Year to Thee; The Little Wanderer; Blue Bells of Scotland; O, Susanna; Maggie May; Old Folks at Home; Yankee Doodle; Home, Sweet Home.—New York Mail and Express.

In Memoriam.

JAMES HINTON.

We briefly recorded, in our last issue, the decease of this prominent member of the Worcester Society. He had from his youth been connected with bells, his father being considered in his day one of the most clever of the local band, both as a double-handed ringer and at the rope's end. In fact the Hintons may be said to be a ringing family, the sons of the deceased being promising followers of the art. About 25 years ago Mr. Hinton suffered from an optical affection, and for which he underwent a severe surgical operation, which, however, was the means of preventing the total loss of sight. Then a deafness supervened, which gradually increased till every vestige of hearing had departed, and he became insensible to even the most violent Under these circumstances it would readily be imagined that the pleasure of ringing would have been denied him, but with great perseverance he mastered in a great measure these physical disabilities, and was able to ring several methods in a manner which surprised many people. Being clever with handbells he used to be sought after at various parochial entertainments to play tunes, and upon his bells, which were fixed in a box, he could tap courses of Grandsire Triples On Sunday, January 14th, the funeral took y. The remains were borne and followed to and Caters very fairly. place at the local cemetery. The remains were borne and followed to the grave by members of the Worcester and Bromsgrove Societies. The funeral service was conducted by the Rev. W. R. Carr, vicar of St John's, who made some very appropriate and feeling remarks on the solemn cocasion, which were listened to with deep attention by those assembled to pay respect to the memory of one who had "rung his last change upon earth." A short touch on the handbells was rung over his grave by some of the members, and in the evening muffled touches were also rung upon the bells of All Saints' and St. John's churches.

JOHN DELPH.

On the 20th ult., John Delph, aged eighty years, an old ringer and parish clerk of Marsham, Norfolk, departed this life. For forty years he had filled the latter office, which had been connected with his family for upwards of 300 years. He also took great interest in ringing, and rang in some memorable peals as follows:—December 14th, 1837, at Marsham, 720 changes each of London Surprise, Cam-14th, 1837, at Marsham, 720 changes each of London Surprise, Cambridge Surprise, Kent and Oxford Treble Bob, Oxford Double Bob, Double Court Bob, and Stedman Slow Course, making a total of 5040, in 3 hrs. 3 mins. In 1842, the Marsham peal was increased from six to eight, and on July 23rd in that year, he took part in ringing the first eight-bell peal there, viz., 5280 of Oxford Treble Bob Major, in 2 hrs. 56 mins., and on the 25th of October following he rang the 7th in a peal of 6400 of Oxford Treble Bob Major, in 3 hrs. 43 mins; also 5376 of Bob Major at Marsham. On July 13th, 1884, he took part in the second peal of the day, viz., 10,080 of Oxford Treble Bob Major, in 5 hrs. 43 mins., and on April 7th, 1846, 5088 of Kent Treble Bob Ma'or. He also took part in 5200 of Bob Royal at Aylsham—5120 of Oxford Treble Bob, at North Elmham—5024 of Oxford Treble Bob Major at Marsham—5088 of Kent Treble Bob at West Tofts (where he was conductor), and 5088 of Oxford Treble Bob at Aylsham. His was conductor), and 5088 of Oxford Treble Bob at Aylsham. remains were borne to the grave in Marsham churchyard on Tuesday, the 26th ult., by the ringers. A muffled peal was rung directly after the funeral, and another at Aylsham in the evening.

ACROSTIC.

H is life, the life of many gone before, W hose aims ambition's rugged heights to soar, H ave left behind their indelible trace, H ave left behind their indended theo,

A nd unmistaken footprints of the race.

L ed on by compeers of their favourite art,

E ager each one fresh knowledge to impart;

W. D. SMITH.

Severin van Aerschodt is dead. He was a famous Belgian bellfounder, and a lineal descendant of the Van den Gheyns. The Van den Gheyns, Hemonez, De Clercq, De Haze, and a few others are responsible for those grand suites of from 30 to 60 bells from a few pounds to several tons in weight, which hang aloft in the ancient towers of Bruges, Ghent, Antwerp, Mechlin, and Louvain. These carillons, capable of being manipulated from huge keyboards so as to play even pianoforte scores of Bach and Handel, were chiefly cast in the classic panoforte scores of Bach and Handel, were chiefly cast in the classic age of bell-founding, from 1550 to 1750. Severin van Aerschodt (says the Rev. H. R. Haweis, in the Globe) fully inherited the art, and his bells are some of the finest now hanging in the old Belgian towers, for he was largely occupied in replacing cracked and worn out bells of the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries. We own two of his carillons in England—one ordered by the Duke of Westminster, for Eaton Hall, and another semanthal heavier hanging in Dorchester Church tower and another, somewhat heavier, hanging in Dorchester Church tower.

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

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All communications respecting advertisements must be addressed to the office of "The Bell News," Walthamstow, London.

The Bell Rews & Ringers' Record.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 20, 1886.

The Metropolis.

WALWORTH, SURREY.

THE ST. JAMES'S SOCIETY, LONDON.

Muffled Peal.

On Thursday, February 11, 1886, in Two Hours and Fifty-one Minutes, AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES; HOLT'S ORIGINAL Tenor is cwt in F

	,,,,				Tonor Tjone. In I.			
Wm. Jones			Tr	eble.	ARTHUR HAYWARD		5	
Hy. LANGDON	• •		• •	2.	Joseph Barry Wm. H. George		6	١.
WM. W. THORN	• •	••	• •	3. │	Wm. H. George	••	7	
Rd. French	• •	••	••	4∙	Henry Flower	••	Ten	lor.

Conducted by RICHARD FRENCH.

The above was rung with the bells half-muffled as a token of respect to Messrs' Henry W. Haley and Daniel Newton, late members of this society. Mr. D. Newton held the office of secretary at the time of his death, and took part in a peal at this church in January of this year, which was his last.

LAMBETH, SURREY.

THE SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.

On Thursday, February 11, 1886, in Three Hours and Three Minutes, AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES; Brook's Variation. Tenor 10 cwt.

	reble. Thomas Titchener 2. George Newson	
Benjamin Foskett	3. George R. Banks 4. John W. Mansfield	7.

Conducted by George Newson.

A tablet is to be erected in this belfry recording this peal and the one rung on the 23rd of February, 1885, with the bells muffled in memory of the late John Cox.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS. Muffled Veal.

On Saturday, February 13, 1886, in Four Hours and Twenty-two Minutes, AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL, CORNHILL, CITY,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CINQUES, 5001 CHANGES.

Tenor 41 cwt.

JAMES PETTIT	Treble.	George Dorrington	7.
WILLIAM CECIL			
FRANCIS E. DAWE	3.	RICHARD FRENCH .	9.
Walter Jones			
CHALLIS F. WINNY	5.	John M. Hayes .	II.
JOHN M. ROUTH	6.	Edwin Horrex	Tenor

Conducted by JAMES PETTIT.

Rung as a tribute of respect to the memory of the composer, Henry W. Haley.

BISHOPSGATE, LONDON.—THE ST. JAMES'S SOCIETY. On Monday, February 15, 1886, in Three Hours and Fifteen Minutes, AT THE CHURCH OF ST. BOTOLPH,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5040 CHANGES; Tenor 19 cwt.

	JOSEPH DAVIDSON Treble.	ERNEST E. VINEN 5.
ľ	JOSEPH WAGHORN, JUN 2.	Joseph Waghorn, sen 6.
	WILLIAM WEATHERSTONE 3.	THOMAS TAYLOR 7.
		WILLIAM PYE ENGLISH Tenor.
ı	GEORGE D. Beens 4.	Windlam I is Singlish (12000).

Composed by J. Holt and Conducted by Joseph Waghorn, Jun.

This is the first peal in the method by all the band, and the first in the method on the bells for a considerable number of years. The ringers take this opportunity of thanking the Vicar for his kindness in placing the bells at their disposal.

The Provinces.

MOTTRAM-IN-LONGDENDALE, CHESHIRE.

On Wednesday, February 10, 1886, in Two Hours and Fifty-one Minutes, AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5184 CHANGES; IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 121 cwt.

ı	ROBERT WRIGHT		Treble.	GEORGE BRADDOCK	5.
				WILLIAM MIDDLETON	
ı	JOHN SIDEBOTHAM		3.	THOMAS WILDE	7.
ı	Walter Slater	• •	. 4.	THOMAS BRADDOCK	Tenor.

Composed by the late WILLIAM HARRISON, and Conducted by THOMAS WILDE.

Messrs. Slater and Wilde hail from Hyde; the rest belong to the local society.

EPSOM.—THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, February 13, 1886, in Two Hours and Fifty-four Minutes, AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARTIN,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES; HOLT'S 6-PART. Tenor 16 cwt.

			-		
Edwin James*		Treble.	JAMES EASTON		5.
George Russell	• •	2.	GEORGE WELLING		6.
THOMAS MILES		•• 3.	†Joseph Fayers		7.
Jesse Hawkins	• •	•• 4.	JAMES HARRIS	• •	Tenor.

Conducted by Joseph Fayers.

*First peal. †First peal as conductor. Russell hails from Croydon; Harris from Beddington; Fayers and Welling from Mitcham; the rest belong to Epsom.

SONNING, BERKS.

THE ST. LAWRENCE'S SOCIETY, READING.

On Saturday, February 13, 1886, in Three Hours and Seven Minutes, AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ANDREW,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES; REV C. D. P. DAVIES' 5-PART

1054. O. D. 1. D.	11123 3-1	ARI. I CHOL 22 CWL. III LD.
ALBERT E. REEVES	Treble.	WILLIAM H. FUSSELL 5.
WILLIAM J. WILLIAMS	2.	Joseph E. Willshire 6.
HERBERT M. BAWDEN	•• 3.	REV. G. F. Coleridge 7.
HENRY WHITE	•• 4.	George Payne Tenor.

Conducted by WILLIAM J. WILLIAMS.

GRAVESEND, KENT.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS. On Saturday, February 13, 1886, in Two Hours and Fifty-eight Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. GEORGE,

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

WILLIAM I. REEVE		Treble.	Frederick French	5.
GEORGE CONYARD		2.	Benjamin Spunner	· · 6.
FREDERICK HAYES	• •	3.	WILLIAM HARPER	7.
GEORGE HAYEST		4.	GEORGE MARTIN*	Tenor.

Conducted by Frederick French.

*First peal. †First peal with a bob bell. W. I. Reeve hails from Bexley Heath; G. Conyard from Crayford; and F. French from Bexley. G. Martin was elected a member of the above society previous to starting for the peal.

DUFFIELD, DERBYSHIRE.—THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.—DUFFIELD BRANCH.

On Saturday, February 13, 1886, in Six Hours and One Minute

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS',

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 10,000 CHANGES; Tenor 17 cwt. in F.

GEORGE DAWSON	Treble.	GEORGE HINGLEY	. 5.
SAMUEL JOHNSON	2.	REUBEN Bosworth	. č.
		Robert Johnson	
HARRY C. WOODWARD	4.	A. Percival Heywood.	.Tenor.

Composed and Conducted by A. Percival Heywood, Esq.

This is a two-part peal with two singles, the calling being somewhat different in the second half. It contains the 6th twenty-four times wrong and right, the 4th twenty-four times in 6th's place, and the 5th twenty-three times right. It is the longest peal yet accomplished by the Association, and is believed to be the first exact 10,000 of Major on record.

WHITEFIELD, DERBYSHIRE.

THE UNITED COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, February 15, 1886, in Three Hours and Five Minutes,

At the Church of St. James,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5184 CHANGES; IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 12½ cwt.

				-		
EDWARD HAIGH		7	veble.	Samuel Wilkinson	٠.	5.
WILLIAM HARROP	• •		2.	Samuel Lever		6.
WILLIAM MARSDEN			3.	JOHN BRADBURY		7.
EDWARD ROSTRON			4.	SAMUEL STAFFORD	'	Tenor.

Composed by SAMUEL WOOD, of Ashton, and Conducted by EDWARD HAIGH.

LOUGHBOROUGH, LEICESTERSHIRE. THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

On Tuesday, February 16, 1886, in Three Hours and Twenty-five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES; IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 24 cwt. in D.

Amos Cresser	••	••	Treble.	SAMUEL SMITH* 5.
CHARLES SMITH	• •	• •	2.	Rev. W. C. Pearson 6.
RICHARD LANE		• •	. 3	W. Birkinshaw 7. J. W. Taylor, Jun., Esq. Tenor.
Jos. Hardy*	••	••	4.	J. W. TAYLOR, JUN., Esq. Tenor.

Composed by J. Lockwood, and Conducted by J. W. Taylor, Jun., Esq.

*First peal. †First peal as conductor in the method. The Rev. W. C. Pearson hails from Syston.

BRADFORD.—THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION AND THE BRADFORD AMALGAMATED SOCIETY.

On Tuesday, February 16, 1886, in Three Hours and Twenty Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB ROYAL, 5000 CHANGES; IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 27 cwt.

A Moulson	 Treble	TOM POLLITT	 6.	
		*HH. MEEDHAM		
		J. H. HARDCASTLE		
ROBERT TUKE, ESQ.	 4.	I. B. TENNINGS	 9.	
Ins BROADIEV	 	WM DARREY	 - Ten	01

Composed by J. RILEY and Conducted by J. H. HARDCASTLE. This peal has the sixth the extent wrong and right. * First peal in the method.

Pate Touches.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

CHELTENHAM.—On Tuesday, February 16th, at St. Mary's church, the following members rang a date touch of Grandsire Triples (containing 1886 changes), in 1 hr. 12 mins. A. W. Humphris, 1; G. Acocks, 2; H. Hodges, 3; T. Hooper, 4; F. E. Ward, Esq., 5; W. T. Pates (composer and conductor), 6; H. Karn, 7; G. H. Phillott, Esq., 8. The above contains twelve 4 6's and twelve 6 7's, queens and tittums. Tenor 23 cwt.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

S. Alexand
Woodbridge (Suffolk).—On Saturday, February 6th, at the parish
Brundle, 6.

church, a date touch of Bob Major, 1886 changes, in 1 hr. 18 mins. G. Burch, 1; J. Fosdike (composer), 2; E. Sherwood, 3; W. P. Garrett, 4; C. Ward, 5; A. Acfield, jun., 6; A. Ward, 7; W. Ward (conductor), 8.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

GARGRAVE (Yorks).—On Sunday, February 7th, being the sixth anniversary of the opening of the bells of St. Andrew's as a ring of eight, the following members of the local society rang for morning service and in commemmoration of the above event, a date touch of Kent Treble Bob Major, 1886 changes, in 1 hr. 10 mins. T. Burrows, 1; W. Clarke, 2; H. Birtwhistle, 3; W. Whitaker, 4; H. Birtwhistle, 5; C. Langstroth, 6; J. McGoun, 7; J. McKell (conductor), 8.

Guiseley (Yorks).—On Sunday, February 7th, for Divine Service in the morning at St. Oswald's Church, the local company rang a date touch of Oxford Treble Bob Major, 1886 changes, in 1 hr. 8 mins. O. Frankland, 1; W. Demaine, 2; F. W. Mallinson (composer), 3; S. Brown, 4; H. Demaine, 5; J. Yeadon, 6; J. Baldwin, 7; *D. E Rhodes (conductor), 8. Tenor 10½ cwt. *First date touch.

ST. Alban's (Herts).—On Tuesday, February 16th, eight members of the Cathedral Society rang at the Cathedral, Carter's date touch of Grandsire Triples (containing 1886 changes), in 1 hr. 9 mins. T. Grant, 1; W. H. Buckingham, 2; R. A. Fowler, 3; W. H. L. Buckingham, 4; G. W. Cartmel, 5; E. Hulks, 6; N. N. Hills (conductor), 7; H. L. Waddington, 8. Longest touch by the 2nd, 3rd, 6th, and tenor men, also the longest touch ever rung by the Society which was formed in January, 1884. Tenor 30 cwt. in Eb.

BROCKWORTH (Gloucestershire).—On Monday evening, February 1st, five members of the above Association, with Mr. G. Price, met for practice, and rang a date touch of Grandsire Doubles, 1886 changes, in 58 mins. W. Roberts, 1; F. Hannis, 2; G. Price, 3; H. Downham, 4; W. Gregory (conductor), 5; J. Brooks, 6. Tenor 13 cwt. in F.

CHEVINGTON, NEAR BURY ST. EDMUNDS (Suffolk).—On Thursday, January 21st, on the occasion of Miss White's marriage, the local company rang a date touch of 1886 changes in the following methods: Grandsire, St. Dunstans, London and Plain Bob Doubles, Morning Star and Dream, in 1 hr. 15 mins. Frank Newman, 1; Alfred Smith, 2; George Sparrow (conductor), 3; John Smith, 4; Eli Nunn, 5. And ten 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles, each called differently, by R. Smith, A. Smith, G. Sparrow, John Smith, and E. Nunn.

EYE (Suffolk).—On Monday, February 15th, at date touch of Oxford Treble Bob (containing 1886 changes), in 1 hr. 12 mins. C. Hawes, 1; G. Day, 2; F. Day (conductor), 3; F. Wright, 4; J. Bumpstead, 5; G. Ford, 6; J. Smith, 7; H. Torble, 8. Composed by Ben Smith, late of Redenhall. J. Smith hails from Pulham St. Mary.

HOLBECK (Leeds).—On Tuesday, February 2nd, at St. Matthew's Church, a date touch of Kent Treble Bob Major, 1886 changes, in 1 hr. 10 mins. T. Harrinson, 1; H. Tomlinson, 2; H. Moss, 3; S. Basnett, 4: T. West, 5; G. Barraclough, 6; M. Tomlinson (conductor), 7; D. York, 8. The above, which was composed by the Rev. H. Earle Bulwer, has the sixth the extent right, and was taken from "The Bell News" of December 9th, 1883.

LINDLEY (Yorkshire).—On Saturday, February 13th, the local company rang a date touch of 1886 changes, of Kent Treble Bob Major, in one main course, in 1 hr. 9 mins. H. Willenson, 1; A. Crosland, 2; E. Ellum, 3; C. W. Schofield, 4; A. Sykes, 5; J. Barrowclough, 6; B. Shum, 7; F. Schofield, 8. Composed by A. Sykes and conducted by F. Schofield. J. Barrowclough hails from Huddersfield. Tenor 18½ cwt.

MIRFIELD (Yorkshire).—On Sunday, February 14th, the local company rang at the Parish Church, a date touch of 1886 changes (no method mentioned), in 1 hr. 13 mins. Jesse Holt, 1; T. Crawshaw 2; C. Thornton, 3; S. Peacock, 4; R. Ellis, 5; W. Peacock, 6; D. Clarkson, 7; H. Hinchliffe, 8; B. Robinson, 9; J. Peacock, 10. Tenor 30 cwt. This was rung in honour of Mr. Jesse Holt's 80th birthday.

MOORSIDE (Lancashire).—On Monday evening, February 8th, at St. Thomas's Church, a date touch of Grandsire Triples, 1886 changes, by a mixed company, in 1 hr. 10 mins. A. Butterworth, 1; S. Stott (conductor), 2; J. Street, 3; J. T. Kershaw, 4; J. Taylor, 5; W. Sutcliffe, 6; T. Barratt, 7; L. Hampson, 8. Tenor 18\frac{3}{2} cwt. Messrs. Stott and Kershaw hail from Glodwick. Composed by C. Jackson, of Hull; contains the twenty-four 6-7's.

RUSHMERE (Suffolk).—On Sunday, February 14th, the following members of the St. Mary-le-Tower Society, Ipswich, rang a date touch of 1886 changes in the following methods: 720 of Oxford Treble Bob, 720 of Kent Treble Bob, 360 of Double Court, 48 Grandsire Minor, and 38 of Stedman, in 1 hr. 3 mins. H. Bowell, 1; W. Motts, 2; I. S. Alexander, 3; E. Pemberton, 4; J. Motts (conductor), 5; R. H. Brundle, 6.

Worsley (Lancashire).—On Thursday, February 4th, at the parish church, a date touch of Grandsire Triples, 1886 changes, in 1 hr. 11½ mins. H. Derbyshire, 1; J. Derbyshire, 2; J. Ridyard, 3; J. H. Ridyard (conductor), 4; R. Ridyard, 5; T. Derbyshire, 6; F. Derbyshire, 7; S. Fryer, 8. Tenor 21 cwt. Composed by Mr. John Carter.

Miscellaneous.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

BOCKING (Essex).—On Tuesday, February 9th, 720 of Bob Minor, eighteen bobs and two singles, with the bells half-muffled, as a tribute of respect to the late Mr. H. W. Haley. F. Warren, 1; W. Moore, 2; W. Bearman, 3; S. Sargent, 4; J. Hayes, 5: C. Bearman (conductor), 6.

Cumnor (Berks).—On Wednesday, February 10th, at the parish church, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob, in 25½ mins. F. Castle, 1; H. Castle, 2; Rev. G. M. Custance, 3; C. W. H. Griffith, 4; J. W. Washbrook, 5; A. F. M. Custance (conductor), 6. Tenor 16½ cwt. This is the quickest 720 ever rung on the bells.

London.—On Saturday, February 6th, at St. Mary Matfelon, Whitechapel, eight members of the above Society rang, with the bells muffled, the usual whole pull and stand, as a last mark of respect to the memory of the late H. W. Haley, this being the day of interment. J. Bonney, r; S. Joyce, 2; H. J. Shade, 3; H. Springall, 4; I. G. Shade, 5; E. Wallage, 6; Y. Green, 7; T. Baker, 8. After which several touches of Grandsire Triples were rung, both conducted by H. J. Shade.

STRATFORD, Bow (Middlesex).—On Sunday morning, February 14th, eight members of the above society rang before service a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, 1260 changes, in 40 mins. W. G. Shade, 1; H. Springhall, 2; I. G. Shade, 3; H. J. Shade, 4; L. Green, 5; A. B. Ward (Derby). 6; W. D. Smith, 7; S. Joyce, 8. Composed and conducted by H. J. Shade, of Greenwich, and rung on the anniversary of his birthday, his brother-ringers wishing him "many happy returns."

WALTHAMSTOW (Essex).—Muffled Peal.—On Saturday, February 13th, at St. Saviour's church, attempted with the bells half-muffled, as a mark of respect to the late H. W. Haley, and J. Hinton (Worcester), Holt's 10-part peal of Grandsire Triples, but on getting into the 7th part one of the bells took an earratic course which caused a "stand." R. Elliott, 1; J. Waghorn, jun., 2; H. Reeves (conductor), 3; A. Estall, 4; H. Nunn, jun., 5; J. Waghorn, sen., 6; E. Vinen, 7; T. Watson, 8.

THE SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.

Hampstead (Middlesex).—On Tuesday, February 2nd, 1886, the local company, being also members of the above Society, attempted a peal of Grandsire Caters, but after ringing 2 hrs. 24 mins., it came to an abrupt termination through the breaking of the 7th rope. Samuel Clarke, 1; Benjamin Foskett, 2; James Pain, 3; Edward Chapman, 4; Henry Tyler, 5: D. W. Greggs, 6; William Prior, 7; Newland Alderman, 8; George Newson (conductor), 9; William Arscott, 10.

THE ST. JAMES SOCIETY.

London.—On Monday, February 8th, at the church of St. Clement Danes, the usual whole pull and stand, with the bells half-muffled, as a last mark of respect to the late H. W. Haley, and D. Newton, late secretary of the above society. G. T. McLaughlin (conductor), 1; W. Chew, 2; J. Comb, 3; J. Basden, 4; H. Langdon, 5; W. George, 6; C. F. Winny, 7; H. Dains, 8; G. Banks, 9; J. M. Hayes, 10.

THE WATERLOO SOCIETY.

London.—On Wednesday, February 10th, at St. John's, Waterloo Road, a muffled peal, the usual whole pull and stand, as a last token of respect to the late Mr. H. W. Haley. W. Coppage (conductor), 1; W. W. Thorne, 2; H. J. Davies, 3; W. Tyack, 4; W. H. L. Buckingham, 5; A. Hayward, 6; W. H. George, 7; A. E. Church, 8.

THE BIRMINGHAM AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATION.

BIRMINGHAM.—On Sunday, January 24th, on handbells retained in hand, 1320 of Grandsire Royal, in 46 mins. T. Russam, 1-2; J. Carter (conductor), 3-4; G. W. Townsend, 5-6; J. W. Cattle, 7-8; J. T. Perry, 9-10.

HARBORNE.—On Saturday, January 23rd, at the parish church, it being Mr. Chaytor's birthday, eight members of the above rang at the parish church, 720 of Grandsire Minor, with 6,8, behind, in 26 mins. G. Farmer, 1; J. Carter (conductor), 2; J. Callaghan, 3: C. Barnacle, 4; C. Carmell, 5; T. Chaytor, 6; A. Hackley, 7; W. Nelson, 8.

THE BIRMINGHAM AMALGAMATED SOCIETY.

BIRMINGHAM.—On Saturday, February 13th, eight members of the above Society attempted a peal of Grandsire Triples (Mr. J. Carter's bob-and-single variation), at Bishop Ryders church, but owing to the indisposition of one of the ringers, the bells were brought round halfway, in 1 hr. 29 mins. G. Hitchman, 1; J.T. Perry, 2; T. Russam, (conductor), 3; J. Wright, 4; C. Barnacle, 5; C. Carmell, 6; A. Hackley, 7; C. Sparks, 8.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

Barking (Essex).—Muffled Peal.—On Saturday evening, February 13th, the usual whole pull and and stand, &c., with the bells half-muffled, was rung by members of the above Association to the memory of the late Mr. Henry Haley. S. Hayes (conductor), 1; W. Nash, 2; R. Ford, 3; R. Sewell, 4; A. Whight, 5; A. J. Perkins, 6; Y. Green, 7; E. A. Davies, 8. And with Mr. Gobbett, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, composed by the Editor of "The Bell News," in 50 mins. W. Nash, 1; J. Gobbett, 2; R. Ford, 3; R. Sewell, 4; S. Hayes, 5; A. J. Perkins (conductor), 6; Y. Green, 7; E. A. Davies, 8. By desire, a half-muffled 5000 was to have been rung, but through the unwarrantable and unjustifiable absence of some parties, especially on this occasion, who were to have been in the peal, this had to be abandoned. The steeple-keeper, and others at Barking deserve the thanks of their visitors for getting the bells so well muffled, and everything in such good order. There are two new peal-boards erected in this tower to record a 5056 of Kent Treble Bob, and a 5040 of Grandsire Triples recently rung, which does credit to those who have executed this work.

Gt. Bentley (Essex).—On Sunday, February 7th, at the house of Mr. W. J. Nevard, on handbells retained in hand, six 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles, each called differently, in 20 mins. J. Taylor, I-2; W. J. Nevard (conductor), 3-4; J. Starling, 5-6. This was rung to celebrate the birthday of the conductor.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

DEERHURST (Gloucestershire).—On Wednesday evening, February 3rd, the local company rang the Rev. C. D. P. Davies's 720 of Bob Minor, in 24½ mins. T. Everness, 1; C. Willis, 2; G. Willis, 3; C. Roles, 4: J. Bartlett, 5; H. Roberts (conductor), 6. Also three 6-scores of Stedman Doubles.

THE HERTFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

HITCHIN (Herts).—On Monday, February 15th, for practice at St. Mary's Church, 1008 of Grandsire Triples. J. Randall, 1; H. Buckingham, 2; J. Hare, 3; A. Squires, 4; F. Furr, 5; S. Hare, 6; W. Allen (conductor), 7; J. Foster, 8. Tenor 28 cwt. in D. This is longest length on record by an entirely local band for over a century.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

FAVERSHAM (Kent).—On Sunday, February 14th, for morning service, the local company rang a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, 1260 changes, in 46 mins. *T. G. Gillett, 1; A. Biggs, 2; J. Barnard, 3; C. Couchman, 4; C. L. Graham, 5; W. Wood (conductor), 6; W. Arnold, 7; H. Hogben, 8. *First quarter-peal.

SWANSCOMBE.—On Thursday, February 11th, for practice, a 720 of Grandsire Minor, in 26 mins. F. Cornford, 1; F. Ring, 2; Wm. Harper, 3; H. Davis, 4; Wm. Martin, 5; G. Hayes, 6. And on Sunday, February 14th, for Divine Service in the evening, a 720 of Grandsire Minor in 25 mins. L. Digweed, 1; J. Broom, 2; G. Hayes, 3; F. Ring, 4; F, Hayes, 5; Wm. Harper (conductor), 6.

WEST MALLING (Kent).—On Tuesday, February 9th, a 1008 of Bob Major. J. Worsley, 1; E. Bonner, 2; E. Baldock, 3; W. Harding, 4; C. Bassett, 5; D. Hall, 6; H. Kilney, 7; J. W. Leonard (con-

ductor), 6. And on Sunday, February 14th, for Divine Service, by the same party, a 784 of Bob Major. And on Tuesday, February 16th, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor. *J. Worsley, 1; D. Hall, 2; E. Baldock, 3; W. Harding, 4; *C. Bassett, 5; J. Leonard (conductor), * First 720 in the method.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

Eccles (Lancashire).—On Tuesday, February 9th, six of the local society rang at the parish church, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor, in 28 mins. William Walton, 1; Thomas Yates, 2; James Barratt, 3; Richard Ashcroft, 4; Charles Cash, 5; Edward Cash (conductor), 6. Tenor 13\frac{3}{4} cwt.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

DUFFIELD (Derbyshire).—On Sunday, February 14th, for Divine Service at All Saints' church, a 1008 of Double Oxford Bob Major, and a 576 of Kent Treble Bob. 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.

LEICESTER.—On Saturday, February 13th, the following members of the above Association attempted a peal of Grandsire Triples at St. Mark's Church, but after ringing nearly 4000 changes in 2 hrs. 30 mins., a change-course occurred, and the conductor called "stand." J. Lakin, 1; J. Jarvis, 2; G. Burrows (conductor), 3; W. A. Clayton, 4; J. Needham, 5; J. Walton, 6; J. Buttery, 7; C. Biddles, 8. Messrs. Clayton and Walton hail from Belgrave, the rest belong to Leicester.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

STOWMARKET (Suffolk).—On Monday, February 4th, at the church of SS. Peter and Mary, a 720 of Plain Bob Minor, nine bobs and six singles, in 27 mins. C. Bedwell, I; C. Mee, 2; J. E. Wright, 3; E. Buckle, 4; R. F. Welham, 5; *W. Bedwell (conductor), 6. *First 720 as conductor. And on Saturday, February 13th, eight members of the local company attempted a peal of Plain Bob Tob Triples, but affer ringing about 4268 changes. in 2 hrs. 50 mins, it unfortunately after ringing about 4368 changes, in 2 hrs. 50 mins. it unfortunately came to grief. C. Bedwell, 2; W. E. Tydeman, 2; W. Bedwell, 3; E. Buckle, 4; R. F. Welham, 5; C. Mee (conductor), 6; F. S. Plummer, 7; H. A. Mills, 8. Tenor 24 cwt. This is the first attempt at a peal by all the above except C. Mee and E. Buckle, the ringers being a young company who have worked hard at the Exercise, under the able instruction of Mr. C. Mee, who has lately joined them.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD

BURFORD (Oxon).—On Sunday morning, for practice at the parish church, a 504 of Grandsire Triples, in 21 mins. H. Smith, 1; D. Francis, 2; T. Brown, 3; W. Smith, 4; T. E. Glanville (conductor), 5; J. Smith, 6; W. Large, 7; W. Launchbury, 8. And on Sunday evening, February 7th, for Divine Service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1260 changes), in 47 mins. H. Smith, 1; D. Francis, 2; J. Smith, 3; W. Smith, 4; T. E. Glanville (conductor), 5; H. Bond, jun., 6; W. Large, 7; W. Launchbury, 8. Tenor 21 cwt.

CAVERSHAM (Berks).—On Tuesday, February 16th, a 720 of Bob Minor. C. Bush (first 720 of Minor), I; E. Menday, 2; H. Smith, 3; J. Hands, 4; E. Pottinger, 5; T. Newman (conductor), 6.

FINCHAMSTEAD (Berks). - On Saturday, February 13th, a 720 of Grandsire Minor, in 25½ mins., being the first peal on the bells. E. Houlton, I; W. Taylor, 2; T. Harvey, 3; T. Houlton, 4; C. Page, 5; W. Houlton (conductor), 6. And another 720 in the same method in 23½ mins. J. Heffer, I; H. Houlton, 2; W. Taylor, 3; T. Houlton, 4; C. Page, 5; William Houlton (conductor), 6. All the above hail from St. Paul's, Wokingham.

IVER (Bucks).—On Saturday, January 30th, at St. Peter's Church, a 720 of Plain Bob Minor, in 28 mins. W. Leader, I; W. H. Fussell, 2; Rev. W. S. Willett, 3; W. Wilder, 4; A. C. Fussell (conductor), 5; R. Flaxman, 6. Also a 720 of Grandsire Minor in 27 mins. W. Leader, 1; R. Flaxman, 2; Rev. W. S. Willett, 3; A. C. Fussell (conductor), 4; W. Wilder, 3; W. H. Fussell, 6. Tenor 19 cwt.

TYLEHURST (Berks) .-- On Sunday, February 14th, six members of the St. Peter's society (Caversham), also members of the above Guild rang a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob Minor on the back six at St. Michael's church, being the first 720 in the method by the society. J. Hands, 1; E. Menday, 2; G. Essex, 3; H. Egby, 4; E. Pottinger, 5; T. Newman (conductor), 6. Tenor 20 cwt.

WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

CAPEL (Surrey).—On Wednesday, Feb. 10th, at St. John's, a 720 of Grandsire Minor, in 25 mins. R. Worsfold, 1; R. Jordan, 2; E. Jordan, 3; Rev. H. A. Spyers, 4; G. Williams, 5; D. Jordan (conductor), 6. Tenor 7½ cwt.

ABINGDON (Berks).—On Saturday, February 6th, at St. Nicholas' church, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor. J. Viner, 1; T. Short, 2.

H. Castle (conductor; Oxford), 3; W. Sandell, 4; H. Sheard, 5; W. Washbrook (Oxford), 6. Also on Sunday, February 7th, for morning service, a 720 of Plain Bob Minor. H. Bright, 1; W. Sandell, 2; T. Short, 3; J. Viner, 4; H. Sheard (conductor), 5; H. Fruin, 6. And for evening service, a 720 of Grandsire Minor, and 720 of Plain Bob Minor, both in 25 mins. each. H. Bright, 1; H. Fruin, 2; T. Short, 3; J. Viner, 4; H. Sheard (conductor), 5; W. Sandell, 6.

ASHCHURCH (Gloucestershire).—On Sunday evening, January 31st, at St. Nicholas church, six 6-scores of Bob Doubles, in 25 mins. *D. Done, 1; C. Slatter, 2; *W. Wellon, 3; *W. Davis, 4; E. Wallis (conductor), 5; T. Taylor, 6. And on Tuesday, February 2nd, for practice, eight 6-scores in the same method, each called differently, in 35 mins., standing as before, except W. Bayliss, 6. The ringers marked thus * only began to learn ringing last Easter.

Bengeo (Herts).—On Sunday, February 14th, at Holy Trinity church, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor. W. Childs, 1; W. Bennett, 2; J. Pomfret, 3; H. Phillips (conductor), 4; J. Channer, 5; W. Odell, 6. First 720 on the bells by the local company, and first by all except the conductor.

BETCHWORTH (Surrey).—On Tuesday, February 2nd, at St. Michael's Church, for practice, a 720 of Grandsire Minor, in 27 mins.

*F. Arnold, 1; *R. Arnold, 2; *F. Arnold, 4; *F. Bridger, 4; W. Sadler, 5; G. Williams (conductor), 6. Also a 720 of Bob Minor in 26½ mins. F. Arnold, 1; E. Moses, 2; F. Arnold, 3; F. Bridger, 4; G. Williams, 5; W. Sadler (conductor), 6. And a six-score of Grandsire Doubles. F. Saunders, 1; R. Arnold, 2; F. Arnold, 3; E. Moses, 4; W. Sadler (conductor), 5; G. Barnes, 6. Tenor 12 cwt. in Ab.

*First 720 in the method. BETCHWORTH (Surrey).-On Tuesday, February 2nd, at St.

Bristol.—On Saturday evening, January 23rd, the St. Mary Redcliffe band rang a quarter-peal of Grandsire Caters, with the bells muffled, as a token of respect to the late Mr. John Warry, who was muffled, as a token of respect to the late Mr. John Warry, who was interred that day at Arno's Vale Cemetery. He was for forty years a much respected member of the Vestry, and also for many years treasurer of the Parent Society. G. Stadon, 1; E. Duckham, 2; W. Parsons, 3; J. York, 4; F. Price (steeplekeeper), 5; G. Morgan, 6 H. Porch, 7; E. Beake, 8; J. Hinton, 9; W. Emery and W. A. Dowling, 10. And on Monday, February 15th, the members of St. Stephen's Society rang, at All Saints' church, 1302 of Grandsire Triples, muffled as a mark of respect to the late Mr. J. Hinton. George Daltry, 1; Alfred York, 2; James York, 3; Edmond Duckham, 4; William Parsons, 5; George Morgan (conductor), 6; Francis Price, 7: James Palsar, 8. Price, 7; James Palsar, 8.

Bramford (Suffolk).—On Wednesday, February 10th, at the parish church, a 730 of Plain Bob Minor (eighteen bobs and two singles), in 27 mins. Charles Osborn, 1; Walter Brown (first 720 with a bob bell), 2; Charles Mee, 3; Charles R. Smith, 4; Alfred A. Pryke, 5; Frederick Mee (conductor), 6. Also on Wednesday, February 3rd, two 6-scores of Plain Doubles. Walter Brown, 1; William Yarnham, 2; William Read, 3; Charles Smith, 4; Alfred Pryke, 5; Harry Yarnham, 6. Messrs. C. Mee, C. Smith, A. Pryke and F. Mee belong to the Norwich Diocesan Association. Tenor 16 cwt. in G. Bramford (Suffolk).—On Wednesday, February 10th, at the parish to the Norwich Diocesan Association. Tenor 16 cwt. in G.

Darley Dale (Derbyshire).—On Tuesday, February 9th, at St. Helen's church, 230 changes of Grandsire and Plain Bob Doubles, in 1 hr. 20 mins., in commemoration of W. Taylor's 16th birthday. J. Derbyshire, 1; W. Taylor, 2; C. Gwatkin, 3; C. Whymark, 4; E. Hallows (conductor), 5; A. Marsh, 6.

DITCHLING (Sussex).—On Sunday, February 7th, four members of the Hurst society visited Ditchling, and with two of the local company rang six 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles in 27 mins. T. Baker, I; T. Mansbridge, 2; H. Reeves (conductor), 3 T. Leney, 3; W. Lander, 5; D. Baker, 6. Tenor 9 cwt.

ERITH (Kent).—On Saturday, February 6th, at the church of St. John the Baptist, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, 1260 changes, in 45 mins. G. Conyard, 1; W. I. Reeve, 2; G. Crook, 3; F. French (conductor), 4; F. Hayes, 5; W. Harper, 6; J. Garard, 7; G. Hayes, Tenor 19 cwt.

GRASSENDALE, NEAR LIVERPOOL (Lancashire).—On Thursday, January 4th, for practice, a 720 of Grandsire Minor, in 26 mins. F. Turner, 1; W. Hughes, 2; J. Allen, 3; W. Weaver, 4; P. Roberts, 5; C. Newton (conductor), 6. And on Sunday, February 7th, for Divine Service in the evening, a 720 of Plain Bob Minor, in 27½ mins. J. Turner, 1; C. Newton, 2; J. Alexander, 3; W. Weaver, 4; T. Morris, 5; F. Turner (conductor), 6. Tenor 11½ cwt.

HURSTPIERPOINT (Sussex).—Muffled Peal.—On Thursday, February 11th, at Holy Trinity Church, six 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles in 30 mins., with 7,6,8, behind. A. Pierce, 1; T. Mansbridge, 2; H. Reeves (conductor), 3; T. Leney, 4; W. Lander, 5; J. Gander, 6; W. Davey, 7; H. Sayers, 8. The above was rang as a tribute of respect to the late Bishop Hannington. Also two plain courses of Grandsire Triples on handbells retained in hand. *H. Sayers, 1; *W. B. Davey, 2; *T.

Leney, 3; *T. Mansbridge, 4; *A. Pierce, 5; *W. Lander, 6; *H. Reeves, 7; J. Gander, 8. *Members of the Sussex County Associa-Reeves, 7; J. Gander, 8.

IPSWICH (Suffolk) .- Muffled Peal. - On Tuesday, February 16th, at the church of St. Mary-le-Tower, the following members of the Society rang, with the bells fully muffled, 2016 changes of Kent Treble Bob Maximus, in 1 hr. 35 mins., as a mark of respect to the late Mr. H. W. Haley, after which the usual whole pull and stand was rung. R. H. Brundle, 1; J. Motts, 2; W. Motts, 3; I. S. Alexander, 4; R. Hawes, 5; E. Pemberton, 6; C. Saul, 7; H. Bowell, 8; T. Steward, 9; F. Tillett, 10; E. Reeve, 11; W. L. Catchpole (conductor), 12. It was intended to have rung a 5000, but owing to the time being limited, the idea had to be abandoned.

KIDDERMINSTER.—On Thursday, January 28th, at St. Mary's church, 350 of Grandsire Triples. J. Bennett, 1; H. Williams, 2; H. Sandalls (conductor), 3; R. E. Grove, 4; H. Rowlands, 5; H. Broad, 6; J. Crane, 7; T. Walters, 8. Also 518 in the same method, being the first part of Holt's ten-part peal, and one lead extra, standing as before, conducted by R. E. Grove. The above is supposed to be the longest touch that has been rung by a local band for nearly 100 years. The society may be said to owe its existence to the perseverance of Mr. J. Crane, who has instructed the members (with one exception). from their commencement. The members take this opportunity of acknowledging the assistance they have received from Mr. E. F. Strange, late of the Collège Youths, who when visiting Kidderminster, has done his utmost to assist them.

KEYTHORNE (Hants).—On Saturday, February 6th, at St. John the Baptist, three 6-score each of Bob and Grandsire Doubles, each called differently. J. Pettit, 1; J. Twelvetree, 2; J. Morris, 3; H. Chapman, 4; R. Dunkley (conductor), 5. Also on Saturday, February 13th, three 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles. F. Barwell, 1; J. Pettit, 2; J. Twelvetree, 3; R. Dunkley, 4; H. Twelvetree (conductor), 5. Also three 6-scores of Bob Doubles, R. Dunkley, conductor. Also a 120 of Place. Doubles. R. Dunkley, conductor. And three 6-scores. Place Doubles, R. Dunkley, conductor. And three 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles, each called differently. J. Twelvetree, 1; E. Chapman, 2; H. Chapman, 3; J. Martin, 4; R. Dunkley (conductor), 5.

LICHFIELD.—Muffled Peal.—On Sunday, January 31st, at St. Michael's Church, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor, in 27 mins. F. J. Cope (conductor), 1; H. Meacham, 2; R. Anniss, 3; J. Key, 4; A. E. Greenwood, 5: W. Fearneyhough, 6. The above was rung as a mark of respect to the late Mr. John Coxon, who died on Monday, January 25th, having been one of the churchwardens at St. Michael's upwards of 25 years.

Lincoln.—On Tuesday evening, February 9th, 720 of Grandsire Minor, with thirty-four bobs and two singles, in 25 mins. *T. Walker, 1; *F. Cotton, 2; *H. Palmer, 3; J. Cox, 4; P. Herrick, 5; W. Knowles (conductor), 6. *First 720 in the method. Also 360 of Bob Minor, with six singles and three bobs, in 14 mins. T. Walker, 1; F. Cotton, 2; H. Palmer, 3; J. Cox, 4; C. Forman, 5; W. Knowles, 6.

LINTON (Kent).—On Sunday, February 7th, six members of the All Saints' society, Maidstone, rang two 720's of Grandsire Minor, each in 26 mins. First 720: J. Constable, 1; R. Simmonds, 2; A. H. Woolley, 3; J. Fergusson, 4; A. Moorcraft, 5; H. Pearce (conductor), 6. Second 720: R. Simmonds, 1; J. Constable, 2; A. H. Woolley, 3; J. Fergusson, 4; A. Moorcraft, 5: H. Pearce (conductor), 6. Tever 17 cept 6. Tenor 17 cwt.

LONG MELFORD (Suffolk).—On Saturday, January 16th, for practice a 720 of Bob Minor (eight bobs and six singles), in 27 mins. Walter Gridley, 1; Percy Chas. S. Scott (conductor), 2; G. Hammond, 5; John Lee, 4; James Bird, 5; Geo. Maxim, 6. And on Saurday, January 30th, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor, in 26 mins. Percy January 30th, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor, in 26 mins. Percy Chas. Scott (conductor), 1; Samuel Slater, 2; Walter Gridley, 3; John Lee, 4; Geo. Hammond, 5; James Bird, 6. And on Saturday, February 13th, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob, in 27 mins. Percy Chas. Scott (conductor), 1; G. Hammond, 2; Fred. Wells, 3; Samuel Slater, 4; Zach. Slater, 5; James Bird, 6. And 1008 of Bob Major. G. Maxim, 1; S. Slater, 2; John Slater, 3; Jas. Bird, 4; Fred. Wells, 5; John Lee, 6; G. Hammond (conductor), 7; Z. Slater, 8.

OMBERSLEY (Worcestershire) —On Sunday, January 31st, five members from Worcester paid a visit to the parish church, and rang several 6-scores of Grandsire and Stedman Doubles, and a 720 of Grandsire Minor. *W. Davis, 1: W. Powell, 2; J. Cotton, 3; F. Owen, 4; H. Wilks (conductor), 5; G. Cleal, 6. *First 720 in the method.

Ormskirk (Lancashire).—On Tuesday, February 9th, for practice, a 720 of Grandsire Minor, in 26 mins. John Prescott, 1; James Pilkington (first 720), 2; James Sholicar, 3; William Ellis, 4; William Bentham (conductor), 5; William J. Taylor, 6.

Oxford.—On Monday, February 8th, at the Cathedral Church of Christ, 419 of Grandsire Caters. J. Field, 1; H. Castle, 2; Rev. J. R. Raunds local company paid a visit to St. Mary's Church, and rang a

Vincent (St. John's), 3; F. Castle, 4; C. W. H. Griffith, Esq. (C.C.C.), 5; S. Hounslow, 6; Rev. C. D. P. Davies (Pembroke), 7; T. Pain, 8; A. F. M. Custance, Esq. (B.N.C.), 9; J. W. Washbrook, 10. Also five courses of Stedman Caters. J. Field, 1; T. Pain, 2; J. W. Washbrook, 3; H. Castle, 4; A. F. M. Custance, Esq., 5; S. Hounslow, 6; C. W. H. Griffith, 7; Rev. F. E. Robinson, 8; Rev. C. D. P. Davies, 9; H. Strange, 10. And a course of Double Natural P. Davies, 9; H. Strange, 10. And a course of Double Norwich Court Bob Major. C. W. H. Griffith, Esq., 1; H. Castle, 2; Rev. C. D. P. Davies, 3; S. Hounslow, 4: J. Field, 5; A. F. M. Custance, Esq., 6; Rev. F. E. Robinson, 7; J. W. Washbrook, 8. Tenor 42

RANMOOR (Yorks).—On Thursday evening, January 28th, at St. John's Church, a quarter-peal, 1260 changes, in 45 mins. T. Hattersley, 1; W. Burgar, 2; F. Froggatt, 3; F. Allen, 4; J. Mulligan (conductor), 5; S. Hines, 6; G. Plant, 7; R. Collier, 8. It was intended to ring a date touch, but owing to the time being limited, the above was stated for. The touch was rung on the cognizer of Mr. Collier, and the conductor of the conductor of the conductor. was started for. The touch was rung on the occasion of Mr. Collier's birthday, he being the oldest member of the society. Tenor 15 cwt. Composed by W. A. Tyler.

Composed by W. A. Tyler.

RAUNDS (Northants).—On Monday, February 1st, at St. Peter's church, for practice, 360 of Oxford Bob Minor, with nine bobs. A. Coles, 1; W. J. Gilbert, 2; H. Stubbs, 3; G. Kirk, 4; J. Willmott, 5; J. Stubbs (conductor), 6. And a 360 of Plain Bob, with nine bobs. G. Kirk, 1; F. Gilbert, 2; W. J. Gilbert, 3; J. Stubbs, 4; H. Stubbs (conductor), 5; F. Slade, 6. And on Saturday, February 6th, for practice at the same church, a 720 of Grandsire Minor, thirty-eight bobs and twenty-two singles. G. Kirk, 1; F. Gilbert, 2; *R. Pendered, 3; W. J. Gilbert, 4; W. Hall, 5; *H. Stubbs (conductor), 6. *First 720 in the method. Also 120 of Grandsire Doubles. F. Kirk, 1; H. Stubbs, 2; W. J. Gilbert, 3; F. Gilbert, 4; W. Hall (conductor), 5. And on Monday, February 8th, 360 of Grandsire Minor, with eighteen bobs. A. Coles, 1; H. Stubbs, 2; R. Pendered, 3; W. J. Gilbert, 4; F. Gilbert (conductor), 5; *J. Stubbs, 6. *First 360 in the method. And 360 Court Single, with twelve singles. W. J. Gilbert, 1; J. Stubbs, 2; R. Pendered, 3; N. Martin, 4; F. Gilbert (conductor), 5; *F. Slade, 6. *First 360 in the method.

Salisbury (Wilts).—On Saturday, January 30th, at St. Martin's

SALISBURY (Wilts).—On Saturday, January 30th, at St. Martin's church, six 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles, each called differently, in 27 mins. *J. Judd, 1; *R. T. Tayler, 2; T. Blackbourn (conductor), 3; C. A. Clements, 4; W. W. Gifford, 5; *W. F. Fussell, 6. *First six-scores. And on Saturday, February 6th, at St. Martin's Church, a scores. And on Saturday, February 6th, at St. Martin's Church, a 720 of Bob Minor, in 26 mins., with the bells muffled, in memory of the late Mr. H. W. Haley. *J. Judd, 1; *R. T. Tayler, 2; J. R. Jerram, 3; W. W. Gifford, 4; T. Blackbourn (conductor), 5; C. A. Clements, 6. *First 720 of Minor. Also six 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles, each called differently, rung by some of the above, with W. Tryhorn covering with the tenor. Previous to raising the bells, 168 of Grandsire Triples was rung on handbells retained in hand by C. A. Clements, 1-2; T. Blackbourn, 3-4; W. W. Gifford, 5-6; R. T. Tayler, 7-8.

SOUTH HACKNEY—Muffled Peal.—On Thursday, February 11th, at the church of St. John of Jerusalem, the usual whole pull and stand, in memory of the late H. W. Haley, after which three courses of Grandsire Triples.

STRATFORD ST. MARY (Suffolk).—On Saturday, January 30th, two 720's of Bob Minor, the first with forty-two singles, W. Smith, conductor; the second with twenty-two singles. G. Winny, 1; J. Levitt, 2; W. Ranson, 3; W. Smith, 4; J. W. Smith (conductor), 5; C. Ablitt. Ablitt, 6: Tenor 161 cwt. in F.

SUDBURY (Suffolk).—On Saturday, January 30th, seven members of the local company met at St. Gregory's, with the intention of attempting a peal of Kent Treble Bob with Mr. S. Slater, of Glemsford, to commemorate the birthday of Mr. H. Harper, who attained his 48th year on that day, but owing to the very bad weather he did not appear. Touches of Bob Major, Grandsire and Stedman Triples, were rung by Messrs. Harper, Scott, Sillitoe (conductor), Silvester, Howell, B. Ranson, Esq., Bacon, Griggs, Campin, and N. W. Taylor. Also on Saturday, February 6th, the company met and rang a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 50 mins., as a birthday touch, with Mr. W. Cross, who attained his 63rd year on that day, and is the oldest member of the company. F. Tolliday, 1; W. Howell, 2; M. Silvester, 3; H. Harper, 4; W. Bacon, 5; C. Sillitoe (conductor), 6; W. Cross, 7; A. Scott, 8. Tenor 16 cwt. Composed by Mr. E. Barnett, of Monmouth.

THURMASTON (Leicestershire).—On Saturday, February 7th, at St. Michael's, for practice, six 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles, each called differently. J. Pole (conductor), 1; C. J. Hubbard, 2; H. Clayton, 3; B. Packer, Esq., 4; W. Bennett, 5. J. Pole, C. J. Hubbard, H. Clayton, and W. Bennett belong to St. Peter's, Belgrave.

490 of Bob Triples. A. Coles, 1; J. Stubbs, 2; R. Pendered, 3; F. Gilbert (conductor), 4; G. Kirk, 5; J. Willmott, 6; H. Stubbs, 7; F. Slade, 8. And a 336 in the same method. A. Coles, 1; H. Stubbs, 2; R. Pendered, 3; W. J. Gilbert, 4; F. Gilbert (conductor), 5; J. Willmott, 6; J. Stubbs, 7; G. Kirk, 8. Then several plain courses were rung in the same method, by N. Martin, from Raunds, and F. Morris, R. Billings, G. Jeffs, and H. Upchurch, of Titchmarsh. The local company wish to thank the Rev. F. M. Stopford for the use of the bells on that day. the bells on that day.

PENZANCE (Cornwall).-Recently at St. Mary's church, a quarterpeal (1260 changes) of Grandsire Triples, in 48 mins. Martin Hicks, 1; John Boase, 2; John Richards, 3; J. W. Hickens (conductor), 4; John Hodder, 5; Thomas Hicks, 6; Charles Boase, 7; Rev. A. B. Berry, 8. This is the first touch of any length conducted by J. W. Hickens, one of the most promising of the younger hands, and whom his brother-ringers are now sorry to lose, owing to his having adopted a seafaring occupation.

WICKHAM MARKET (Suffolk).—On Saturday evening, January 23rd, five members of the Norwich Diocesan Association, and Mr. W. Rowland, of Chelmsford, and who is a member of the Essex Association, being on a short visit to Wickham Market, met at All Saints' Church, peing on a short visit to Wickham Market, met at All Saints' Church, and rang a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob Minor in 28 mins. Also a 720 of Kent Treble Bob in 27½ mins. W. Reeve, 1; E. Todd, 2; W. Rowland, 3; G. Bailey, 4; H. Martin, 5; J. Howard (conductor), 6. And 120 of Cambridge Surprise, standing as before; and on Wednesday evening, January 27th, a 720 of Bob Minor in 28 mins. J. Howard (conductor), 1; J. Reeve, 2; W. Reeve, 3; G. Reeve, 4; F. Sawyer, 5; E. Todd, 6.

WIMBLEDON (Surrey),—On Tuesday, February 2nd, at St. Mary's Church, a 2880 in the following methods: 720 each of Cambridge Surprise, Woodbine, Oxford and Kent Treble Bob. G. Byde, 1; R. Moss, 2; C. Byde, 3; J. Parker, 4; A. Garratt, 5; S. Erost (conductor), 6. This was intended for a 5040, but was lost in the last method.

WOMBOURN (Staffordshire).—On Wednesday, February 3rd, the St. Benedict society rang a 720 of Plain Bob Minor, in 27 mins., eight bobs and six singles. G. Deans, 1; W. Jones, 2; H. Deans, 3; W. Devey, 4; Rev. C. F. Collom, 5; R. Cartwright, 6. Also on Sunday, February 7th, 720 of Plain Bob Minor, twenty-two singles, in 26 mins. *G. Little, 1; H. Deans, 2; W. Devey, 3; A. Little, 4; R. Cartwright (conductor), 5; J. E. Claridge, 6. The latter was rung as a birthday touch for J. E. Claridge. *First 720.

WALTON-ON-THE-HILL (Lancashire) .- On Sunday morning, Feb-WALTON-ON-THE-HILL (Lancashire).—On Sunday morning, February 7th, at the St. Mary's parish church, for Divine Service, two 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles. J. Nightengale, 1; C. E. Wilson (conductor), 2; T. R. Somerville, 3; T. Rushton, 4; R. Stockley, 5; W. D. Rodgers, 6. And on Sunday morning, February 14th, a 720 of London Single Bob Minor, in 24 mins. And in the evening, a 720 of Oxford Single Bob Minor, in 24 mins. J. Nightengale, 1; C. J. Rodgers, 2; T. R. Somerville, 3; T. Rushton, 4; R. Stockley, 5; C. E. Wilson (conductor), 6. Tenor 9 cwt.

WORCESTER.—On Sunday, February 7th, the following rang a 720 of Grandsire Minor, on the occasion of the new Rector, the Rev. G. Carroll, being inducted as rector of St. Martin's. Job Reynolds, I; H. Phesant, 2; G. Cleal, 3; F. Owen, 4; H. Wilks (conductor),

5; T. Gwynne, 6.
YARDLEY HASTINGS (Northampton).—On Sunday, February 14th, at the parish church of St. Andrew, for Divine Service in the evening three 6-scores of Grandsire and Bob Doubles, in 28 mins. W. Jones, 1; W. Berril, 2; C. Whitmee, 3; J. Frail, 4; W. Freeman, 5; J. Whitmee, 6. Tenor 17½ cwt. Messrs. W. Jones and W. Freeman 1; W. Berril, 2 Whitmee, 6. Thail from Olney.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

The February Meeting will be held on Monday, February 22nd, at Staindrop, two miles from Winston, and four miles from Cockfield station. The bells at the disposal of the ringers will be a peal of six, tenor 13 cwt. A dinner will be provided at two o'clock at the "Queen's Head," at one shilling to members, two and sixpence to nonmembers. Dinner tickets should be applied for not later than Monday, Feb. 15th, to the secretary. A meeting of the committee will be held at the Inn at one o'clock. Subscriptions for the current year are now due and should be paid to the Secretary.

16, Finkle Street, Stockton-on-Tees.

G. J. CLARKSON, Hon. Sec.

WANTED a copy of Clavis Campanalogia. Will any one who has VV a copy to dispose of, write, stating price, condition of book, and date of publication, to Rev. W. Pearson, Syston, Leicester.

HANDBELLS.—Peal required, second-hand. State number of bells and lowest price.—"H," 15, Compton Street, Regent Square, London, W.C.

FESTIVITY AT ECCLES.

On Saturday evening, February 13th, a gathering of change-ringers took place at Eccles, for the purpose of presenting Mr. Richard Ashcroft with a beautifully-illuminated address, in commemoration of his seventy-second birthday, fifty-four of which he has been a changeringer at the ancient parish church of Eccles. Before the presentatation, a peal of Grandsire Major was rung in honour of Mr. Ashcroft, consisting of 5040 changes, composed by E. Stokes, of Birmingham; the 6th twenty-four times wrong and twenty-four times right. It was rung in two hours and fifty-three minutes. The following took part:-Samuel West, 1; Thomas Heald, 2; *Thomas Yates, 3; Charles Cash *James Barratt, 5; *Richard Ashcroft, 6; Edward Cash, 7; Albert E. Wreaks (conductor), 8. Tenor 13 cwt. 3 qrs. Those marked (*) rang their first peal of Grandsire Major on the present occasion.

At the conclusion of the peal the ringers adjourned to the "Odd Fellows' Arms," where upwards of thirty ringers, representing Manchester, Eccles, Swinton, Worsley, Walkden, Bolton, &c., sat down to a substantial tea. Upon the removal of the cloth, the meeting took place, Mr. James Green occupying the chair. The Chairman said that no doubt all present knew what was about to take place, namely, to present their friend, Mr. Ashcroft, with a testimonial. He (the chairman) was glad to see so many ringing friends present, and he hoped that all would spend a pleasant evening. He then called upon Mr. William Walton to make the presentation.

William Walton to make the presentation.

Mr. Walton said: Dear friend, I take it as a great favour to have the honour conferred upon me to present you with this address, which has been got up by your fellow-ringers of Eccles, as a token of their respect and esteem towards you. I scarcely know how to address you, as it looks like a school-boy giving an address to his teacher; at the same time there is one thing very certain, that no other ringer of Eccles was ever held in the same estimation by his prother-ringers as you. Eccles was ever held in the same estimation by his brother-ringers as you are at the present time. I hope you will be spared for years to come; and when you look upon this address it will remind you of the respect your brother ringers had for you on Saturday, 13th February, 1886. And when you are taken from amongst us, I feel certain this address will be cherished by your children and grandchildren, and be handed down as an heirloom to further generations. There is another thing also worthy of notice, which I cannot pass over without a word of comment. On the anniversary of your birth you have taken a part in ringing a peal of Grandsire Major, which gives me very great pleasure in know that you have added another peal to your already numerous list, at the age of 72 years. In conclusion, I hope you will accept this tribute of respect from my hands on behalf of the ringers of Eccles parish church, who join me in wishing you many happy returns of the day. The address, of which the following is a copy, was then presented to Mr. Ashcroft :-

"The Society of Change-Ringers, Eccles:-We, the undersigned, members of the Eccles Church Ringers' Society, do hereby beg most respectfully to offer our most heartfelt congratulations on this the anniversary of your 72nd birthday. We cannot but feel an honest pride in being able to count amongst our numbers a gentleman of your advanced age, and one always willing to take his part and to give a helping hand to others, if required. We feel that seeing you have been connected with the bell-ringers of this ancient parish of Eccles for 54 years; that it is our duty-and a pleasant one too-to render some token of our feelings towards you, and we have therefore decided some token of our feelings towards you, and we have interestore decladed as the most fitting testimonial we can give, is to offer the present address. It will be the means of bringing to your mind scenes of long ago: those happy times of ripening manhood; it will remind you of friends who pulled the ropes in times gone by, but who have been called home: friends whose companionship was, no doubt, sweet and peaceful. It will also remind you of ourselves, who have been with you for many long years, and can always remember you with feelings of sincererespect and admiration for the uniform courtesy and good feeling displayed towards us. We hope you will enjoy health and comfort

sincererespect and admiration for the uniform courtesy and good feeling displayed towards us. We hope you will enjoy health and comfort for many long years to come, and remain respectfully yours,

(Signed)

John Barratt, Thomas Yates, William Walters,
James Barratt, Edward Cash, Charles
Cash, Alfred Eggington, William Ashcroft, James Green.

J. P. Pitcairn, M.A., Vicar.

C. W. Bayley, Esq.,
J. H. Butterworth, Esq.,

Mr. Asucroft, who was deeply affected, said that being taken en

Mr. Ashcroff, who was deeply affected, said that being taken entirely by surprise, hoped they would excuse him from making a long speech. He thanked them most heartily for this great mark of esteem they had shown him, and they might rest assured he would treasure the testimonial to the end of his life.

The rest of the evening was spent in handbell ringing, songs, recita-

tions, &c.

IVER. BUCKS.

This is a pretty little inland village town seventeen miles from London, through which the river Colne, a tributary of the Thames, conton, the rough which the river Coine, a tributary of the Thames, runs. It is very secluded, but has an antiquated interesting appearance, the nearest station being West Drayton on the Great Western Railway, Uxbridge standing about two and a half miles off in an easterly direction. The church is a large edifice dedicated to St. Peter, and consists of chancel, nave, aisles, and a solid square embattled tower, the general architectural character of the structure varies from Early Norman to Perpendicular, though considerably intermingled. In 1848 it was restored at a cost of £2,800. The interior contains some interesting brasses and Elizabethan entablatures and contains some interesting brasses, and Elizabethan entablatures, and a good organ, and the tower has a peal of six bells. At the expense of considerable inconvenience and trouble to the ringers and disfigureconsiderable inconvenience and trouble to the ringers and disfigure-ment to the belfry, a good clock was put up, and strikes on a small bell dated 1792. Until the end of last year, the bells gradually fell into an unringable condition, the fourth had been cracked for some years, while the fifth when being tolled on one occasion recently had a large piece knocked out of the lip quite fifteen inches long. This necessita-ted a restoration being undertaken, which, under the guidance of the ted a restoration being undertaken, which, under the guidance of the Vicar, who we regret to say has almost wholly lost his sight, and the exertions of the curate and local gentry, resulted in Messrs. Mears and Stainbank, of London, carrying out the repairs and recastings. This firm, we are able to state, have most satisfactorily carried out their work. The bells now go well, while a capital splice has been made in the tone and quality of the peal. As regards the antiquity of the town, a fair was granted to Lord Neville in 1351, and confirmed by the Dean and Canons of Windsor in 1461. There was also a market, but this has been long discontinued. Richings Park, in the vicinity, is the seat of Mrs. Meeking, being formerly Lord Bathurst's seat; the Duchess of Somerset resided here. The park was also the resort of Pope and other wits of his age, one of the walks now being resort of Pope and other wits of his age, one of the walks now being known as "Pope's Walk." With the exception of a 720 of Grandsire Minor, rung under great difficulty some two years ago by a band from Farnham, the peals reported in our last issue is the only known method ringing on the bells. The ringers beg to thank the clergyman and the sexton for the polite reception given them on their visit, which they hope to repeat. Before returning to Slough, a pleasant hour was spent at "The Swan," with the local ringers (the handbells being used), and the company of an old Yorkshire Treble Bob ringer.

MARRIAGE FESTIVITIES AT WORCESTER.

On Thursday, February 11th, at the village of Stoulton, near Worcester, was celebrated the marriage of the Rev. Charles Chaytor, Rector of St. Helen's, Worcester, with Miss Madeline Kingsford, second daughter of the Rev. Hamilton Kingsford, of Stoulton. During second daughter of the Rev. Hamilton Kingstord, of Stoulton. During the ceremony the Worcester society rang at St. Helen's a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples. F. Owen, 1; H. Powell, 2; S. Cotton, 3; W. Johnson, 4; G. Cleal, 5; H. Wilkes (conductor), 6; W. Page, 7; T. Malim, 8. In the evening, the same members, with Mr. N. Wale, rang touches of Grandsire Triples and Major.

By the invitation of the Rector, the above-named ringers, with the being and church officials particular parts of a most substantial support at the

choir, and church officials, partook of a most substantial supper at the rectory-house, the chair being taken by Mr. T. Brown, Churchwarden, and Treasurer of the Worcester Association; the vice-chair being filled by Mr. J. Presdee, Churchwarden. After the removal of the cloth, the by Mr. J. Presdee, Churchwarden. After the removal of the cloth, the following toasts were proposed by the chairman: "The Queen," "The newly-wedded Rector and wife," which was drank with musical honours, "The choir," responded to by Mr. Cotton, choirmaster, "The Ringers and Chimers," responded to by Mr. F. Owen, and "The Health of the Churchwardens," proposed and responded to by the chairman. Song and sentiment, with changes and tunes on the handbells, brought an evening to a close which will be long remembered by those present an evening to a close which will be long remembered by those present for a long time.

WORTH, SUSSEX.

THE following is an account of the ringing done by the Worth THE tollowing is an account of the ringing done by the Worth Society during the month of January: on January 3rd, a 720 of Oxford Bob Minor, 720 of Plain Bob, and a 360 of Oxford Bob. January 6th, 720 of Plain Bob, 720 of Oxford Bob, and a 720 of Canterbury Pleasure. January 13th, 720 of Oxford Bob, 720 of Plain Bob, and a 720 and 446 of Oxford Bob. January 20th, 720 of Canterbury Pleasure, 720 of Plain Bob, 480 of Warnham Court, 240 of Oxford Bob. January 27th, 720 of Oxford Bob, 720 of College Single, and 360 of Plain Bob.

THE ST. JAMES'S SOCIETY.

AT the next meeting of this society on Monday, February 22nd, the election of a new secretary and two members to serve on committee for revising rules will take place, when all members are requested to be G. T. McLaughlin, Master.

WORCESTER AND ADJOINING DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, February 13th, a ringing meeting of this Society was held (by the kind permission of the Rector, the Rev. W. C. Gibbs), at St. John the Baptist church, Hagley, when a good number of members were present from Dudley, Netherton, Kidderminster, Brierley Hill, Wollaston, Stourbridge, Bellbroughton, and the local company belonging to Hagley. The ringers were met (in the absence of the Rector) by his curate, soon after four o'clock, at the church, and were escorted by him to the belfry, and who was soon ready to be in the ringing. After the bells had been raised the rev. gentleman was anxious to ring the tenor in some Grandsire Triples, which we are pleased to say he accomplished very fairly, he being only a young The bells were kept going until eight o'clock, several touches of Grandsire Triples being rung by different mixed companies. The local company, who are making good progress, came in for a good practice, and are very anxious, now they begin to handle the bells, to get the art and science of change-ringing implanted in their minds. A quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples was rung by a mixed band, in 45½ mins., and conducted by Mr. S. Spittle, Master. *R. Perkins (Brierley Hill), 1; R. E. Groves (Kidderminster), 2; H. Williams (Kidderminster), 3; H. Martin (Bellbroughton), 4; W. Micklewright, 5; S. Spittle (Dudley), 6; J. Smith (Netherton), 7; *A. Whatmore (Brierley Hill), 8. *First attempt. We are pleased to state that the noise from the bells has been silenced, and are now in every way well adapted for peal ringing, the go of them being everything that can be desired. Any company wishing to visit the church, can obtain permission to ring by making application to the Rector. The above company take this opportunity of thanking him for his kindness in allowing them the use of the bells.

ROCHDALE AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATION.

The above Association met at Rochdale, on Saturday, February 6th, for their annual meeting, about forty members being present. Ringing commenced about 3.30, and continued about an hour, after which the meeting was held at the "Royal Oak." Business being done, an excellent dinner was served by the host, after which the ringing was resumed at St. Albans, and the parish church until about nine o'clock. The handbells brought a very pleasant day to a close about ten. At this meeting, Mr. J. Adshead resigned the secretaryship, Mr. J. Hoggard being appointed.

PROPOSED ASSOCIATION FOR THE DIOCESE OF HEREFORD.

The First Meeting will be held in the College Hall, Hereford, on Tuesday, March 2nd, at 2 p.m.. All ringing friends and others interested in the Exercise are invited to attend. For further particulars of the proposed Association apply to the Rev. G. M. Custance, Colwall Rectory, near Malvern.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

A DISTRICT MEETING will be held at Barking on Saturday, February 27th. The belfry will be open at noon. The towers of Ilford and Dagenham churches will be open to members from 11 a.m. to 3.30 p.m. Tea at 4.30. Business Meeting immediately after the tea. Members will be admitted to the tea at sixpence each, provided that they send in their names to the Secretary before Monday, Feb. 22nd.

Return Tickets to Forest Gate will be issued to members on shewing their E.A.C.R. receipts for 1885-6, at a single fare and a quarter, if they will inform the Secretary, before the 22nd, from what Station they travel.

H. A. Cockey,

Rayleigh, S.O., Essex.

Hon. Sec.

THE APPLETON SOCIETY, BERKS.

THE members of this society intend to hold their anniversary, as usual, on March 4th. A peal of Stedman Caters will be attempted at 10 a.m. Friends at a distance who wish to take part in it, are requested to communicate with Mr. G. Holifield, Appleton, Abingdon, Touches in various methods from 2 to 4 p.m. Dinner at the latter hour at the "Greyhound" inn, Besselsleigh.

Mr. Alfred Squires, of Hitchin, Herts, wishes Mr. Weaver to be kind enough to write to him again and send his address.

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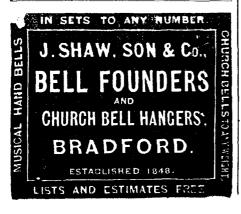
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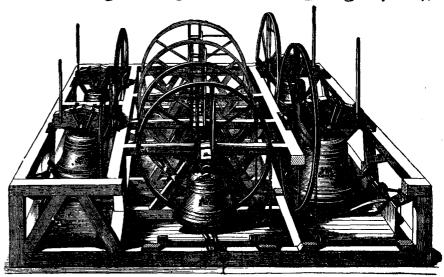
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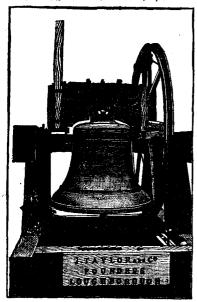
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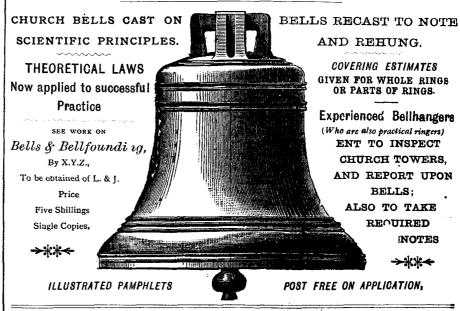
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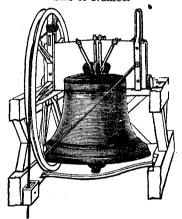
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BIGGEST THINGS ON EARTH.

Some very interesting facts and figures relating to "the biggest things on earth" have been recently collected by an American journalist, and some of the information given by him is at once curious and interesting. For instance, the largest theatre is the new Opera House interesting. For instance, the largest theatre is the new Opera House in Paris. It covers nearly three acres of ground; its cubic mass is 4,287,000 feet; it cost about 100,000,000fr. The largest suspension bridge is the one between New York City and Brooklyn; the length of the main span is 1,595ft. 6in.; the entire length of the bridge is 5,980ft. The loftiest active volcano is Popocatapeth—"smoking mounting the loftiest active vo tain "thirty-five miles south-west of Puebla, Mexico; it is 17,784ft. above the sea level, and has a crater three miles in circumference and 1000 feet deep. The longest span of wire in the world is used for a telegraph in India over the river Kistnah, between Bezorah and Sectynagrum. It is more than 6,000 feet in length, and is 1,200 feet high. The largest ship in the world is the Great Eastern. She is 680 feet long, 83 feet broad, and 60 feet deep, being 28,627 tons burden, 18,915 gross, and 13,344 net register. She was built at Millwall-on-the-Thames, and was launched January 31st, 1857. The largest body of fresh water on the globe is Lake Superior, 400 miles long, 160 wide at its greatest breadth, and having an area of 32,000 square miles. Its mean depth is 900 feet, and its greatest depth is said to be about 200 fathoms, Its surface is about 635 feet above the level of the sea. The biggest cavern is the Mammoth Cave, in Edmonson County, Kentucky. It is near Green River, about six miles from Cave City, and 28 from Bowling Green. The cave consists of a succession of irregular chambers, some of which are large, situated on different levels. Some of these are traversed by navigable branches of the subterranean Echo River. Blind fish are found in its waters. The longest tunnel in the world is that of the St. Gothard, on the line of railroad between Lucerne and Milan. summit of the tunnel is 900 feet below the surface at Andermatt, and 6,600 feet beneath the Peak of Kastelhorn, of the St. Gothard group. The tunnel is 261 feet wide, and is 18 feet 10 inches from the floor to the crown of the arched roof. It is $9\frac{1}{2}$ miles long, $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles longer than the Mont Cenis Tunnel. The biggest trees in the world are the mammoth trees of California. One of a grove in Tulare county, according to measurements made by the members of the State Geological Survey, was shown to be 276 feet in height, 108 feet at circumference at the base, and 76 feet at a point 12 feet above ground. Some of the trees are 376 feet high, and 34 feet in diameter. Some of the largest that have been felled indicate an age of from 2000 to 2500 years. The largest library is the Bibliotheque National, in Paris, founded by Louis XIV. I contains 1,400,000 volumes, 300,000 pamphlets, 175,000 manuscripts, 300,000 maps and charts, and 150,000 coins and medals. The collection of engravings exceeds 1,300,000, contained in some o,000 volumes. The portraits number about 100,000. The building which contains these treasures is situated on the Rue Richelieu. Its length is 540 feet, its breadth 130 feet. The largest library in New York is, in respect of separate works, the Astor. About 190,000 volumes are on its shelves. The largest desert is that of Sahara, a vost region of Northern Africa, extending from the Atlantic Ocean on the west, to the Valley of the Nile on the east. The length from east west is about 3,000 miles, its average breadth about 900 miles; its area 2,000,000 square miles. Rain falls in torrents in the Sahara at intervals of five, ten, and twenty years. In summer the heat during the vals of five, ten, and twenty years. In summer the neat during the day is excessive, but the nights are often cold. In the winter the temperature is sometimes below freezing point. The greatest pyramid is that of Cheops, one of the three pyramids forming the Memphis Group, situated on a plateau about 137 feet above the level of the highest rise of the Nile. Its dimensions have been reduced by the removal of the outer portions to furnish stone for the city of Cairo. Its masonry consisted originally of 89,028,000 cubic feet, and still amounts to 82,111,000 feet. The present vertical height is 450 feet, against 479 feet originally. The total weight of the stone is estimated at 6,216,000 tons. The greatest fortress from a strategical point of view. 6.316,000 tons. The greatest fortress, from a strategical point of view, is the famous stronghold of Gibraltar. It occupies a rocky peninsula jutting out into the sea, about three miles long, and three-quarters of a mile wide. One central rock rises to a height of 1,435 feet above the a mile wide. One central rock rises to a height of 1,435 feet above the sea level. Its northern face is almost perpendicular, while its east side is full of tremendous precipices. On the south it terminates in what is called Europa Point. The west side is less steep than the east, and between its base and the sea is the narrow, almost level, span, on which the town of Gibraltar is built. The fortress is considered impregnable to military assault. The regular garrison in time of peace numbers about 7,000. The largest inland sea is the Caspian, lying between Europe and Asia. Its greatest length is 760 miles, and its area 180,000 squre miles. Grat Salt Lake, in Utah, which may properly be termed an inland sea, is about 90 miles long, and has a varying breadth of from 20 to 25 miles. Its surface is 4,200 feet above the level of the sea, whereas the surface of the Caspian is 84 feet above the ocean. The highest monolith is the obelisk at Karnak, in Egypt. the ocean. The highest monolith is the obelisk at Karnak, in Egypt. Karnak is on the east bank of the Nile, near Luxor, and occupies a part of the site of ancient Thebes. The obelisk is ascribed to Hatasu, sister of Pharoah Thothmes III., who reigned about 1600 B.C. The

whole length is about 122 feet, and its weight 400 tons. Its height, without pedestal, is 108 feet 10 inches. The height of the obelisk in Central Park, without pedestal, is 68 feet 11 inches, its weight about 168 tons. The largest bell in the world is the great bell of Moscow, at the foot of the Kremlin. Its circumference at the bottom is nearly 68 feet, and its height more than 21 feet. In its stoutest part it is 23 inches thick, and its weight has been computed to be 443,722 lbs. It has never been hung, and was probably cast on the spot where it now stands. A piece of the bell is broken off. The fracture is supposed to have been occasioned by water having been thrown upon it when heated by the building erected over it being on fire.

BIRMINGHAM TOWN CLOCK.

In November last, Birmingham had a great addition made to her public buildings by an Art Gallery opened by the Prince of Wales, and worthy in every respect of the Great Midland Metropolis. This gallery has a fine square stone tower containing a clock, four quarter bells, and an hour bell, all of which were presented to the town by Mr. A. Follett Osler, F.R.S. The clock is very similar to those at the Manchester Town Hall and the Law Courts, London. It is expected to equal in all respects any clock in the kingdom. Many of the contrivances are unique and used for the first time in it. The dials are of the finches in diameter, their centres are 110 feet from the ground. The four dials are iron castings filled up with finest opal glass, and lit up by means of seven large gas jets, each with powerful reflectors. Another feature in the clock is that it turns the gas on and off at an ever-varying interval, by means of a new automatic arrangement, which was, we believe, thought of for the great Westminster Clock, but was abandoned. The hands move every half-minute by means of a "Remontovi Train." The frame for the working parts of the clock is a solid iron casting, 7 ft. 6 inches by 2 ft. 6 inches, and weighing 15 cwt., the large main wheels, 24 inches, are of fine steel, polished and electro-plated. The pendulum is 15 ft. long, is compensated, and has a 3 cwt. bob, and a two second beat. The motive power is supplied by weights, 35 cwt. in all, suspended by 700 feet of steel line. The clock has kept excellent time up to the present, and is expected to be as near as possible a perfectly unerring indicator of standard time. The bells are hung in the roof of the tower, the tiles of which have been specially constructed to allow the sound to escape. The weights are:

12 cwt. 3 qrs. note B.
16 cwt. 14 lbs. , A.
1 ton 3 cwt. 3 qrs. , G.
2 tons 4 cwt. 2qrs. , D.
3 tons 6 cwt. 2 qrs. , C. First quarter bell Second " Third " Fourth, Hour Bell

Hour Bell ,, 3 tons 6 cwt. 2 qrs. ,, C.
Total weight, 8 tons 3 cwt. 2 qrs, 14 lbs.
They are all clean, good castings, and the four quarter bells are very musical and good in tone. The hour bell is struck by a hammer weighing 180 lbs., and can be heard at a great distance in favourable weather about ten or twelve miles. The arrangement of the hammers is similar to that at the Westminster clock, and the blows are forcibly and well struck. As the tower stands on the highest ground in the town, the position is favourable for hearing the bells at a distance, and the clock will no doubt prove a great boon to a large commercial centre like Birmingham, where standard time is of so great importance.

BROMBOROUGH, CHESHIRE.

On Saturday, the 20th inst., a company of ringers from Liverpool visited the above village, and, by the kindness of the Rector (who placed the bells of the parish church at their disposal), succeeded in ringing a peal of Stedman Triples, which appears in our peal column. The bells are a splendid ring, by Messrs. Taylor; the only fault was that they were rather more noisy than the visitors had been

accustomed to.

The ringers desire, through the medium of "Bell News," to thank he Rector (the Rev. E. Dyer Green), for the use of the bells, and also Mr. E. Griffiths, for his trouble in getting the ropes and bells in ringing order for their visit.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

A RINGING MEETING of the above Association will be held on Saturday, March 6th, at St. James' Church, Birch, Rusholme, Manchester. The belfry (eight bells), will be opened from four o'clock. It is hoped that as many as possible will make it convenient to be A. E. HOLME, Hon. Secs. J. REDFORD,

THE ST. JAMES'S SOCIETY.-Mr. Joseph Barry, of 27, Arlington Street, N., has been appointed Secretary to the Society, in the room of the late Mr. Daniel Newton, deceased. All communications respecting the Society to be sent to his address, or to the meeting house, "The Crown Hotel," Essex Street, Strand, W.

RINGERS' DINNER AT AYLSHAM, NORFOLK.

RINGERS' DINNER AT AYLSHAM, NORFOLK.

On Friday evening, February 19th, the ringers and chimers connected with this parish church were entertained by the churchwardens at a dinner at the "Black Boys" Hotel, Host Stapleton catering in his usual very excellent style. Mr. R. J. W. Purdy presided, and amongst those present were the Rev. Robert Hake, Vicar, the Rev. Alfred Law, curate, Messrs. C. R. Dewhirst, R. J. Morton, W. Lemon, and R. Proudfoot. The loyal toasts were ably given by the chairman, and heartily responded to. "The Bishop and Clergy of the Diocese" brought an excellent response from the Vicar. The Rev. A Law gave the "Army, Navy, and Reserve Forces," to which Mr. C. R. Dewhirst ably responded. The Vicar proposed "Success to the Norwich Diocesan Association of Ringers," and Mr. Clements responded, and observed that handbills were circulated announcing a Lecture in the observed that handbills were circulated announcing a Lecture in the Town Hall, by Gervas Holmes, Esq., an able ringer, and one of the founders and supporters of the Diocesan Association. He had now founders and supporters of the Diocesan Association. He had now undertaken to raise a fund for the purpose of purchasing a life-boat, the proceeds of the lecture to be devoted to that object. The "Health of the Chairman" was drunk with musical honours, and "Better Success to the Aylsham ringers" was proposed by Mr. H. G. Wright, and responded to by Mr. G. Moy, one of the young ringers. A hope was expressed that others would join, and assist in making a good company for the peal of ten. Othor toasts followed. Touches of Grandsire Caters, double-handed, were given on the handbells, and some capital songs sung among them being a very appropriate one. Grandstre Caters, double-handed, were given on the handbens, and some capital songs sung, among them being a very appropriate one, "The Ancient Church Bells," by Mr. W. Wade. Before dinner commenced, eight of the company rang a touch of 688. A most enjoyable evening was spent, and the ringers heartily thank the churchwardens for this annual treat, which all present seemed heartily

ST. MARY'S SOCIETY, PENZANCE.

On Tuesday evening, February 9th, the members of the above society were invited by Mr. J. Symons, M.R.C.S., to supper at the "Union Hotel." The chair was occupied by Mr. Symons, the vice-chair by the Rev. A. B. Berry. Ample justice was done to the good things provided, and the remainder of the evening was very pleasantly spent in social harmony. Several touches of Grandsire were rung on handbells, interspersed with instrumental and vocal music, and recitations, Mr. N. H. Symons efficiently presiding at the piano. A hearty vote of thanks was accorded to the chairman for his hospitality, and for the continued interest which he takes in promoting piano. A hearty vote of thanks was accorded to the chairman ion may hospitality, and for the continued interest which he takes in promoting the welfare of the band of which he is an enthusiastic member. interesting feature of the evening was the presentation by the band of a handsome appendage with suitable inscription to Mr. M. Bassett, one of the oldest members.

THE WEST MIDDLESEX ASSOCIATION.

The meeting of the above society, that was announced for March 20th, is unavoidably postponed till March 27th, and will take place in the old Isleworth belfry.

WALTON-ON-THE-HILL, LANCASHIRE.

ON Thursday evening, February 18th, the Christ Church Temperance Handbell Ringers met in the belfry of St. Mary's parish church, and played on the handbells "Caller Herrin, The Blue Bells of Scotland," and the "Huntsman's chorus." The members present were: Messrs. Walker, Bowen, Cowie, Woodward, Holme and Ridyard. Afterwards the Walton Handbell Ringers played a selection of popular airs, "The Gypsy Polka," and a selection of sacred airs. The following members took part: C. E. Wilson (conductor), W. S. Miller, G. P. Law, W. D. Rodgers, F. Roberts, J. Nightingale, and V. O. Barnes. V. O. Barnes.

[The belfry of the Church was hardly the proper place for this kind of concert. We are afraid our friends will meet with a rebuff from somewhere for their forgetfulness.—Ep.]

THE APPLETON SOCIETY, BERKS.

THE members of this society intend to hold their anniversary, as usual, on March 4th. A peal of Stedman Caters will be attempted at 10 a.m. Friends at a distance who wish to take part in it, are requested to communicate with Mr. G. Holifield, Appleton, Abingdon, Touches in various methods from 2 to 4 p.m. Dinner at the latter hour at the "Greyhound" inn, Besselsleigh.

PROPOSED ASSOCIATION FOR THE DIOCESE OF HEREFORD.

The First Meeting will be held in the College Hall, Hereford, on Tuesday, March 2nd, at 2 p.m.. All ringing friends and others nterested in the Exercise are invited to attend. For further particulars of the proposed Association apply to the Rey, G. M. Custance, Colwall Rectory, near Malvern.

Correspondence.

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

"THE MOST MUSICAL MAJOR METHOD."

SIR,—In the letter published in your last issue under this heading, Mr. Davies puts his finger upon what is clearly an oversight in my paper on the above subject. In saying that for a method to rank high in musical value, there should be as little place-making as possible, and that adjoining places should especially be avoided, I ought to have added that the objection is in great part removed when the places are made at back and hand instead of at hand and back stroke. It must not be lost sight of that throughout my consideration of the question I treated the hand and backstroke together as one "bar" of the music, and what I emphasised was that each bell should as far as possible occupy a different position in the last (backstroke) half of the bar to that which it did in the first (handstroke) half; because if two bells, more especially when lying next one another, sound in the same place in both halves, the impression that the "bar" is one continuous change of sixteen notes is impaired. Further, I insisted that these "bars" should be as nearly alike as allowable, the bells changing their positions gradually, so as to give the musical "sequence" which is lost when they travel quickly into fresh places. It will now easily be seen that if the places are made at back and hand instead of hand and backstroke the positions of the place making bells will not repeat in backstroke, the positions of the place-making bells will not repeat in the two halves of the bar, but in the same half of consecutive bars, and will have somewhat the effect of the usual backstroke dodging, though scarcely in so attractive a manner.

A. Percival Heywood.

"HE THOUGHT HE KNEW ALL ABOUT IT."

SIR,-Some few years ago there was a curate who was a splendid musician. This curate could not for the life of him understand why ringers should have so much trouble in learning campanology. So one day he ascended the tower of the church, and by invitation, took one of the ropes. He gave a long pull, and a strong pull, and with such good effect that when he should have allowed for the upward tendency of the rope, he held on with might and main, the consequence being that he was lifted up to the ceiling and had his head "banged" most unmercifully. He let go the rope, and came down to terra firma with a resounding bump, where he lay gazing, with a sad and tearful expression upon his terrified countenance, at the astonished ringers. Suffice it to say, the curate quitted the tower, looking as though his conceit had been taken out of him, and no more was he heard to sneer at campanology. The same may apply to many who imagine that there is no art in ringing, but think that the ropes have only to be pulled to produce the harmony which is so delightful to the Christian on the Sabbath.

James Barratt.

THE TITCHMARSH BELLS.

SIR,—With reference to what Mr. J. W. Eaton may have to say about the above bells, I should have thought—being, as he is, a bellhanger and hung the bells—he would have known which bell it was that is out of tune, instead of asking that question. I should advise him, if he cannot find it out, to ask one of the choir boys, and then, if he cannot find it out, I will willingly answer him. As for the subscription he asks for, perhaps he received the money for the tuning of them, when he settled up for the hanging of them. Also, I should like to know how many villagers and ringers there are that are satisfied with the bells being in tune; or how is it they prefer ringing the middle six, because they are in better tune than the back six. I have rung on several rings of eight, but never knew before that the middle six were in tune. A LOVER OF BELLS.

MEMORIAL TO THE LATE MR. JASPER W. SNOWDON.

SIR,—Since seeing Mr. Dains' letter in your impression of last Saturday, I have been in communication with Mr. Wm. Snowdon and Mr. Wm. Whitaker, of Leeds. Mr. Snowdon informs me that he has personally drawn a special slab for Jasper's tomb, with bell outlines, and with an appropriate bell inscription; and this is being now made, and will be erected at the family's expense, in harmony with the other tablets on the vault of other members of the family.

From communications I have had with members of his family, I feel sure the most suitable memorial to Jasper's memory, and one which he would have preferred to any other, would be a stained-glass win-dow, to be erected in the old parish church of Ilkley close to the ringers' pew, where he and the rest of us were in the habit of attending service after we had concluded our duties as ringers.

Mr. Whitaker kindly suggests that, if a subscription list is com-menced towards the above or any other form the testimonial may take, it might be as well to do it through the organisation of the Yorkshire Association; but that is a matter for the consideration of intending subscribers.

Hoping the above suggestions will meet with the consideration of the Exercise, I remain, &c. ROBT. TUKE.

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS. By John Carter, Birmingham. 23456 I 2 3 4 5 6 65324 36524 56423 6452342563 - - -54263 35462 -2 3 5 6 4 5 2 3 6 4 35264 4 3 5 6 2 -24365 - -- -32465 43265 54362 25463 - -45326 S 5 2 3 4 6 3 4 2 5 6 2 5 4 3 6 5 3 4 2 6 32456 s 45236 2 3 5 4 6 3 4 5 2 6 42536 53246 24356 62453 -52463 s 4 5 2 6 3 3 4 5 6 2 2 3 4 6 5 _ _ 4 2 3 6 5 3 4 2 6 5 5 3 4 6 2 25364 3 2 5 6 4 5 3 2 6 4 4 5 3 6 2 2 4 5 6 3 54326 s 4 2 3 5 6 3 5 2 4 6 2 4 5 3 6 43526 3 2 5 4 6 5 4 2 3 6 23456 35426 52436 43256 25346 s 325476 s -This peal contains the 6th alternately wrong and right, being the full extent in that position.

Rung upon handbells on January 8th, 1886. Conducted by its composer.

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR.

7200.

By ROBERT WILLIAMS, Staleybridge.

2 3 4 5 6	M	,0	w	Н			
65432	2	-	2	I 2			
64352	1	_	2	1			
5 2 6 4 3	2	_	ī	2			
Four times repeated.							

Rung at Staleybridge, Cheshire, on Saturday, February th. Conducted by Samuel Wood.

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR. 5024.

By CHARLES HENRY HATTERSLEY, Sheffield. Prupper

ı	ORI	REVERSE.								
	23456	M	В	w	Η.	23456	M	В	W	Н
	5 2 3 6 4	2		2	2	36452	I			2
1	24365	2	_	I	2	63254		_	1	2
	23645			I	2	52364			2	2
	45362	I		2	2	25463		_	I	2
	54263				2	24653	I	-	2	2
	62453			2	2	32546	2		I	2
1	26354	2			2	35426	I	_	2	2
	64352	2	_	I	2	24536			2	2
	52436	1		2	2	42635	2			2
	26435	2	_	I	2	36245			2	2
ļ	34625	I	-		2	53462	2		I	2
	43526	2			2	32465	1			2
Ì	25346	1	_		2	34625	1	_	2	2
	23456			I	2	23456	2		2	2
ı	This pe	a1 1	hac	the	ceth	and 6th th	eir	evt	ent	in

This peal has the 5th and 6th their extent in 5-6, and is the second ever composed with 5-6, and is the second ever composed with these qualities as a 5024 in fourteen courses. The reverse peal has the greatest number of changes with the 6th and tenor together, but the first of the two is more preferable on account of the uniform working of the 5th and 6th.

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAXIMUS.

11,040.

By H. Dains, Royal Cumberland Youths.

23456	M	w	н	
35264	2	2		
54263	I		2	
46253		2		
52364	I	1		
24365	I		2	
46325		2		
23564	I	I		
34562	I		2	
5 4 6 3 2		2	I	
45236	2		2	
34256		I		
52643	I	I		
25346	2		2	
42356		I		
53624	1	I		
35426	2		2	
23456		1		

TWO PEALS OF ALBION TREBLE BOB MAJOR.

By John R. PRITCHARD, Liverpool.

5088. 23456 W B M H 45362 -3 4 5 6 2 2 5 4 6 3 46532 46325 53624

Twice repeated.

5 3 2 4 6

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES.

5040.

By the Rev. C. D. P. DAVIES.

The following reverse variation of Thurstans' peal may be found useful. It is based upon the three courses given immediately hereunder:

1234567	2	3	7	8	9	10	11	12
2137564					_			
- 3 / 3	-	_			_	_	_	-
2345167			_	-				_

The first course, 3 4 5 7 2 6 1, is produced by s at 1 and contains only two sixes. The first course in the second half, 3 2 1 7 5 6 4, is produced by 9, 10, s at 13, 21, 22, the last two bobs being similiar to 9, 10, and contains twenty-six sixes.

twenty six sixes.	
2314567	4351267
3 4 5 7 2 6 I	3217564
4 5 7 2 3 6 I	2175364
3 5 I 2 4 6 7	3145267
5 3 1 7 4 6 2	1 3 4 7 2 6 5
3 1 7 4 5 6 2	3 4 7 2 1 6 5
5 1 2 4 3 6 7	1 4 5 2 3 6 7
1 5 2 7 3 6 4	2 3 5 7 1 6 4 call 7-8.
5 2 7 3 1 6 4	3 5 7 1 2 6 4
1 2 4 3 5 6 7	2 5 4 1 3 6 7
2 I 4 7 5 6 3	5 2 4 7 3 6 I
I 4 7 5 2 6 3	2 4 7 3 5 6 I
2 4 3 5 I 6 7	5 4 I 3 2 6 7
4 2 3 7 1 6 5	4517263
2 3 7 1 4 6 5	5172463
2 1 5 3 4 6 7 omit 7-8.	4132567
1 2 5 7 4 6 3	1 4 3 7 5 6 2
2 5 7 4 1 6 3	4 3 7 5 1 6 2
1 5 3 4 2 6 7	1 3 2 5 4 6 7
5 1 3 7 2 6 4	3127465
1 3 7 2 5 6 4	1274365
5 3 4 2 1 6 7	3254167
3 5 4 7 1 6 2	4 1 5 7 3 6 2 call 7-8.
5 4 7 1 3 6 2	1 5 7 3 4 6 2
3 4 2 1 5 6 7	4 5 2 3 1 6 7
4 3 2 7 5 6 I	5 4 2 7 I 6 3
3 2 7 5 4 6 I	4 2 7 I 5 6 3
4 2 I 5 3 6 7	5 2 3 I 4 6 7
2 4 1 7 3 6 5	2 5 3 7 4 6 I
4 1 7 3 2 6 5	5 3 7 4 2 6 I
4 3 5 1 2 6 7 omit 7-8.	2 3 I 4 5 6 7

A DATE TOUCH OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR.

1886.

By WILLIAM SMITH, Gomersall, Yorkshire.

12345678				
21436587				
	M	В	w	н
62534	2		I	2
46325 54263	2		I	2
35642	2		ĭ	2
23456		I	2	2

The 5076 of Treble Bob Caters by Robert Williams, Liverpool, which appeared in our issue of January 2nd, is false.

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

One copy, 12 months 6s. 6d.

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 marging and the investigation. 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.

Corrections.—In the Peal of Royal rung on Feb. 16th, read "James" Angus instead of "Jos.;" and "H. Needham" instead of "Meedham," at the 7th.—In the Birthday Touch rang at Darley Dale, and published in last issue, the number of changes should have been "2306" instead of "230."

The Bell Rews & Ringers' Record.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 27, 1886.

Not very often have we read of a ringing performance for pleasure taking place on a Sunday, and the rarity of such a proceeding has been considered as an argument in favor of ringers. Recently, however, it must be said that this abstinence has been to some extent infringed upon, as it has been our duty to record a peal or two, and a visit or two of pleasure for the purpose of ringing upon the Sabbath. Now let us not be considered too puritanical in what we are about to say. The practice of ringing peals on the day in question solely for the purpose of pleasure, and not having the remotest connection with the Church Services, is one which will, sooner or later, prove detrimental to that popularity which we all desire our Art should enjoy.

There are many ringers who have the parrot-cry of "belfry reform" continually upon their tongue. And not only do we hear of belfry reform from such persons till we become nauseated, but the reform of the belfry occupants is a very great theme with them. Yet the idea that ringing for mere pleasure on Sundays is inconsistent with their preachments never seems to enter their minds. One case in particular comes to our remembrance where one of these worthies, who posed as a regenerator of his fellows, did not scruple to satisfy his cravings for pleasure by handbell ringing in a public house of entertainment on the Sabbath, and when remonstrated with thought it no more harm to do this than to chime the church bells for service. We do not claim the right to sermonize to our ringing brethren. But let us be somewhat consistent. In many instances we are allowed the free and uncontrolled use of the Church bells for our own benefit and pleasure. Should not we therefore endeavour to use them in a manner which they who allow us to do so would desire? Week by week, almost day by day, we are told that ringers are important Church officers. This position we should endeavour to hold in a manner equal to the clergy themselves. Whatever a few restless noisy spirits may say with reference to Sunday peal ringing, it is doomed. It may not be in our time, but that the period will arrive when the

Church bells will be reverently used on every occasion is certain. And mere pleasure-ringing on Sundays, no matter how we may kick against it, no matter what hard words may be said against those who look upon it with disfavour, will nevertheless, have, in the course of time, an extinguisher put upon it which will prove effectual.

The Metropolis.

THE SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS. On Saturday, February 20, 1886, in Three Hours and Fifty-four Minutes, AT THE CHURCH OF ST. STEPHEN, WESTMINSTER,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 6048 CHANGES: IN THE KENT VARIATION.

HENRY DAINS		7	reble.	ARTHUR JACOB		5.
ALFRED C. FUSSELL			2.	WM. H. FUSSELL		6
J. Nixon James Hannington	• •		3.	JAMES BARRETT	• •	•• 7.
JAMES HANNINGTON			4.	George Newson		Tenor.

Composed by HENRY DAINS and Conducted by G. NEWSON.

This peal, which has the 6th the exent in all positions, and at home at eight course-

The Provinces.

BROCKWORTH, GLOUCESTERSHIRE. GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION. Wedding Peal.

On Tuesday, February 16, 1886, in Two Hours and Forty Minutes. AT THE CHURCH OF ST. GEORGE,

FORTY-TWO 6-SCORES OF GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES.

	G. PRICE			.Treble.	E. SMART		••	4.
	F. Hannis H. Downham			2.	W. Gregory	• •	••	5.
	H. Downham	• •	• •	. 3.	W. Roberts	• •	••	Tenor.

Conducted by W. GREGORY.

This peal was rung to celebrate the Wedding of Mr. T. Theyer, son of Mr. J. Theyer, of the Parsonage Farm, Brockworth.

EASTBOURNE, SUSSEX.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Tuesday, February 16, 1886, in Two Hours and Fifty-four Minutes, AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES; REEVES'S VARIATION. Tenor 16 cwt. 3 grs.

SIMEON HART	• •	Treble.	THOS. WILLOUGHBY	5.
H. P. Bennett		2.	IAMES POTTER	6.
Chas. Harffey*		3.	Thos. Hart	•• 7.
LEONARD HUGGETT	• •	. 4	JNO. ROLLISON	Tenor.

Conducted by H. P. Bennett.

*First peal. This peal was rung to commemorate the 84th birthday of the venerable vicar, the Rev. Canon Pittman. This opportunity is taken by the ringers to shew their appreciation of his kindness and that of the Misses Pittman, in adding so much to their comfort, and the appearance of the ringing-chamber by the various improvements.

GLODWICK, OLDHAM, LANCASHIRE.

On Tuesday, February 16, 1886, in Two Hours and Forty-seven Minutes. AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARK,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE MAJOR, 5023 CHANGES. Tenor 81 cwt.

RICHARD GUEST	.Treble.	JAMES RILEY	5.
John Greenwood	. 2.	ALBERT CLEGG	· · 6.
George H. Beever	3.	SAMUEL STOTT	7.
JAMES T. KERSHAW	4.	CLEMENT DRONSFIELD	Tenor.

Composed by James Wilde, of Hyde, and Conducted by George H. Beever.

The peal is in four parts, and taken from Troyte's work.

MOTTRAM-IN-LONGDENDALE, CHESHIRE.—THE UNITED	DERBY.—THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.
COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.	Handbell Kinging.
On Wednesday, February 17, 1886, in Two Hours and Forty-seven Minutes,	On Saturday, February 20, 1886, in Two Hours and Forty Minutes,
AT THE PARISH CHURCH,	AT THE "QUEEN'S" HOTEL, CROMPTON STREET,
A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;	A PEAL OF PLAIN BOB TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES.
IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 12½ cwt. JOHN SIDEBOTHAM	WILLIAM SHARDLOWTreble. ALBERT E. THOMPSON 4. THOMAS ALTON 2. GEORGE MOTTASHAW 5. CHARLES HART 3. JOHN W. THOMASON 0. HARRY C. WOODWARD 7-8.
WALTER SLATER 4. THOMAS BRADDOCK Tenor.	Composed by H. Hubbard, and Conducted by H. C. Woodward.
Composed by William Sottanstall, and Conducted by John Sidebotham.	The band met with the intention of starting for a peal of Grandsire Triples at St Andrew's church, but were prevented on account of somebody being ill close to, consequently they adjourned to the above place.
Messrs. Slater and Wilde hail from Hyde; the rest belong to the local company.	
DUDGON ON TRENT CTATEORD CHIRE	SYSTON, LEICESTERSHIRE.
BURTON-ON-TRENT, STAFFORDSHIRE.	THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.
THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION, AND THE ST. PAUL'S SOCIETY, BURTON-ON-TRENT.	On Saturday, February 20, 1886, in Three Hours and Twenty Minutes,
On Thursday, February 18, 1886, in Three Hours and Seven Minutes,	AT THE CHURCH OF ST, PETER,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PAUL,	A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES; IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 153 cwt in F.
A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES; BROOK'S VARIATION. Tenor 26 cwt.	AMOS CRESSER
EDWARD ISAAC STONE	J. Buttery 4. J. W. Taylor, Jun., Esq. Tenor.
ARTHUR WAKLEY 3. JOHN JAGGAR 7.	Conducted by J. W. TAYLOR, JUN., Esq.
Joseph Griffin 4. Rev. James H. Fish Tenor.	Measrs. Millis and Buttery hail from Leicester; Rev. W. Pearson belongs to Syston; and the rest of the company hail from Loughborough.
Conducted by William Wakley.	Syston; and the rest of the company hail from Loughborough.
TONG, YORKSHIRE.—THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.	DUFFIELD, DERBYSHIRE.
On Thursday, February 18, 1886, in Two Hours and Fifty-six Minutes,	THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JAMES,	(DUFFIELD BRANCH.)
5040 CHANGES: IN SEVEN DIFFERENT METHODS	On Saturday, February 20, 1886, in Three Hours and Fourteen Minutes,
ON SIX BELLS;	At the Church of All Saints,
Being a 720 of each of the following:—	A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;
City Delight: Arnold's Victory; College Pleasure; New London Pleasure;	IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 17 cwt.
Duke of York; Violet; and Oxford. Tenor 12 cwt. in A.	GEORGE DAWSON Treble. GEORGE HINGLEY 5.
CHARLES J. SALLOWAY* Treble. WILLIAM BOLLAND 4. C. B. D. FARROW, Esq.*. 2. GEORGE BOLLAND 5.	SAMUEL JOHNSON 2. WILLIAM HICKLING 0. A. PERCIVAL HEYWOOD . 3. ROBERT JOHNSON 7. ALFRED ROBINSON 4. JOHN HOWE
Samuel Oddy 3. John Haley Tenor.	Composed by J. Reeves, and Conducted by
Conducted by George Bolland.	A. Percival Heywood, Esq.
*First peal.	
	LEES, NEAR OLDHAM, LANCASHIRE.
MILNROW, LANCASHIRE.	THE LEESFIELD SOCIETY.
On Thursday, February 18, 1886, in Three Hours and Three Minutes,	On Saturday, February 20, 1886, in Two Hours and Fifty-eight Minutes,
AT THE PARISH CHURCH,	AT THE CHURCH OF ST. THOMAS,
A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;	A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
Thurstans' Bob-and-Single. Tenor 20 cwt.	REV. C. D. P. DAVIES' PEAL. Tenor 14 cwt.
RICHARD GUEST	· '
STANLEY FIELDING* 6. JAMES T. DEARDEN*	FRED CROSLAND 2. JOHN GREENWOOD 6. EDWIN B. SHAW 3. JOHN HILTON 7.
Conducted by SAMUEL STOTT.	JAMES PRIESTLEY 4 JOSHUA M. PLATT Tenor.
The above was rung to commemorate the 34th birthday of William Sutcliffe, late of the Milnrow Company, but now of Moorside. Messrs. Kershaw, Guest, and Stott	Conducted by FRED CROSLAND.
the Milnrow Company, but now of Moorside. Messrs. Kershaw, Guest, and Stott hail from Glodwick; Sutcliffe and Street from Moorside; and the rest are of the local company. * First peal.	The above peal is taken from "THE BELL NEWS" of February 2nd, 1884.
	BROMBOROUGH, CHESHIRE.
DRAYTON, BERKS.—THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD,	THE LIVERPOOL (JUNIOR) YOUTHS SOCIETY.
On Friday, February 19, 1886, in Three Hours and Two Minutes,	On Saturday, February 20, 1886, in Three Hours and Five Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,	AT THE CHURCH OF ST. DAKNABAS,
A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;	A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
PENNING'S ONE-PART.	Brook's Variation. Tenor 24 cwt.
Heber Ernest Bright*	JOHN R. PRITCHARD
WILLIAM SANDELL 4. *ARTHUR BURGESS Tenor.	JOHN BROWN 4. WILLIAM BROOKS Tenor.
Conducted by James William Washbrook. *First peal.	Conducted by Thomas Hammond. The above is the first peal of Stedman on the bells. *First peal in the method.

BRADFORD.-THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION AND THE BRADFORD AMALGAMATED SOCIETY.

Muffled Peal.

On Saturday, February 20, 1886, in Three Houars and Two Minutes, AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB ROYAL, 5000 CHANGES; IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 27 cwt.

A. Moulson		Treble.	TOM POLLITT	6.
J. NAYLOR		2.	Jno. Fisher	7,
HENRY RAISTRICK		3.	J. H. HARDCASTLE	8.
Robt. Tuke, Esq.	• •	4.	J. B. Jennings	•• 9.
Jos. Broadley	• •	5	Wm. Darbey	Tenor.

Conducted by J. H. HARDCASTLE.

Mr. Tuke's 50th peal. This peal is a variation of Mr. C. H. Hattersley's (rung on February 2nd at Bradford) and is now rung for the first time. All the above are members of the Ancient Society of College Youths, except Wm. Darbey. The above was rung with the bells half-nuffled as a token of respect to the late H. W. Haley, a member of the Yorkshire Association.

SOWERBY, YORKSHIRE.

On Saturday, February 20, 1886, in Three Hours and Ten Minutes, AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5280 CHANGES; Tenor 16 cwt.

GEORGE THORNTON		7	reble.	HARRY BROOK	5.
				TOM GOODALL	
				LUKE ILLINGWORTH	
SIDNEY GOODALL	• •	••	4.	Mossley Ramsden	Tenor

Composed by William Sottanstall of Sowerby, and Conducted by LUKE ILLINGWORTH.

Owing to Mr. Sottanstall's great age as a composer, the Liversedge Society thought they would ring his peal at Sowerby. And after coming from the tower Mr. Sottanstall presented each one with a book of his work on Campanalogy; for which the society thank him very much. The above peal contains the 6th twelve times wrong, and turbule times right. society thank him very much. The above pear contains the off twelve t and ten times right; and the 5th ten times wrong, and twelve times right.

BIRMINGHAM.

BIRMINGHAM AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, February 20, 1886, in Two Hours and Fifty-eight Minutes, AT ST. CHAD'S (R.C.) CATHEDRAL,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES; HOLT'S 10-PART. Tenor 15 cwt. in F.

THOMAS RUSSAM IOHN CARTER	••	2.	Bennett Stevens Alfred Pye Albert Hackley	••	· 9.
THOMAS MILLER	••	4.	ANTHONY DRUCE	•••	Tenor

Conducted by THOMAS MILLER.

This peal was rung to celebrate three events, viz.: the enthronement of the present pope; the first peal on the bells. and the first peal of Messrs. Miller and Druce; all of which took place eight years ago at this date. Mr. Pye hails from Romford, Essex.

GLOSSOP, DERBYSHIRE.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS AND THE UNITED COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, February 20, 1886, in Three Hours and Eight Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5248 CHANGES; IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 15 cwt.

		SAML. KNOTT, JUN	
THOMAS JAMES	 2.	Joseph Maloney	., č.
			•• 7•
GEORGE LONGDEN	 4.	JOHN PYE, JUN	Tenor.

Composed by the late Wm. HARRISON of Mottram, and Conducted by SAMUEL KNOTT, JUN.

Messrs. Moss and Longden hail from Ashton under Lyne; J. and T. Wilde from Hyde; the rest belong to the local company. The above peal contains the sixth its extent home at ten course-ends, and will be found in Snowdon's Treatise on Treble Path part in 181 being the last real on that page. Bob, part ii., p. 81, being the last peal on that page.

We are requested to state that the Hull ringers while at Rotherham on the 7th inst., lost two handbells. Any one having found the same will oblige by communicating with C. Jackson, 75 English Street, Hull.

SADDLEWORTH, YORKSHIRE.—LEESFIELD SOCIETY. On Monday, February 22, 1886, in Two Hours and Fifty-six Minutes, AT THE CHURCH OF ST. CHAD,

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

1							
-	EDWIN B. SHAW		7	reble.	JAMES BAILEY		. 5.
	FRED CROSLAND			2.	JOHN GREENWOOD		. 6
į	JAMES PRIESTLEY	••	• •	3.	JOHN HILTON	••	⋯_7٠
	THOMAS EGERTON	• •	• •	4.	JOSHUA M. PLATT	••	Tenor.

(No conductor mentioned).

Tenor 12 cwt

This is the first peal of Grandsire Triples ever rung on these bells.

DORKING, SURREY.

THE WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Monday, February 22, 1886, in Three Hours and Nine Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARTIN,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES; HOLT'S TO-PART Tenor 25 cwt in Eh

11011	3 10	I AKI.	Tonor 25 Cwt. In 150.	
CHARLES BOXALL		Treble.	HENRY BOXALL, JUN.	5.
Horace Dobinson†	• •	2.	Edwin Jordan*	6.
ALFRED MILLS*	• •	3.	GEORGE WILLIAMS	•• 7•
Robert Jordan*	• •	• 4.	CHARLES DUDLEY	Tenor.

Conducted by George Williams.

*First peal of Triples. †First peal with a bob bell. Messrs. Jordan and Mills hail from Capel; Williams from Reigate; the rest are of the local band.

HULL.—THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION. Birthday Peal.

On Tuesday, February 23, 1886, in Three Hours and One Minute,

AT HOLY TRINITY CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

n	OLT S	ORIGINAL.	Tenor 25 cwt.	
HARRY CUTTER		Treble.	J. W. STICKNEY	5.
WM. SOUTHWICK		2.	JAMES DIXEY	6.
Tom Stockdale	• •	3.	Frank Drabble	•• 7.
HENRY JENKINS	• •	4.	CHARLES BENNETT	Tenor

Conducted by F. DRABBLE.

This peal was rung to celebrate the 31st birthday of the conductor, his brother-ringers, in wishing him many happy returns, congratulate him on the achievement.

Pate Touches.

EASTERN COUNTIES' GUILD.

SPALDING .- On Sunday evening, February 11st, after evening service, a date touch, 1886 changes, in 1 hr. 12 mins. J. S. Wright, 1; J. W. Jarvis, 2; G. Skeef, 3; C. Neaverson, 4; G. L. Richardson, 5; R. Mackman (conductor), 6; J. Brown, 7; R. Jarvis, 8. Composed by Mr. C. Jackson, of Huil.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

GREAT BENTLEY (Essex).—On Monday evening, February 22nd, a date touch was rung in three different methods, viz., 360 of Nightingale, 480 of Plain Bob Doubles, 1046 of Grandsire Doubles, in 1 hr. 8 mins. *G. W. Taylor, 1; *G. Bowell, 2; J. Starling, 3; J. Taylor, 4; W. J. Nevard (conductor), 5. Tenor 11 cwt. in A. This is the first date touch that has ever been rung on the bells. *First date touch. Messrs. G. Bowell, J. Starling, and G. Taylor, hail from Great Bromley, and G. W. Taylor and W. J. Nevard from Great Bentley.

THE HERTFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION

BISHOPS STORTFORD (Herts),-On Thursday, February 18th, eight members of the above Association rang at St. Michael's Church, a date touch of Grandsire Triples, 1886 changes, in 1 hr. 8 mins. W. H. Tucker, 1; G. Brand, 2; A. Tucker, 3; G. Martin, 4; H. Prior, jun., 5; H. J. Tucker (conductor), 6; H. N. Doughty, 7; J. Sampford, 8. Tenor 20 cwt. The above was taken from Holt's Original.

HOLBECK, LEEDS.—On Sunday, February 14th, at St. Matthew's Church, a date touch of Bob Major, 1886 changes, in 1 hr. 8 mins., with the bells deeply mussied, as a tribute of respect to the memory of the late Mr. H. W. Haley, of London. T. Harrinson, 1; W. Woodhead (aged 16), 2; H. Moss, 3: H. Tomlinson, 4; D. York, 5; S.

Basnett, 6; M. Tomlinson (conductor), 7; F. Woodhead, 8. This touch is taken from Snowdon's Rope-Sight, page 94, and is the first peal on that page. Composed by Mr. B. Annable.

RINGSTEAD (Northants) .-- On Tuesday, February 16th, at Mary's Church, a date touch, 1886 changes, being a 360 of Yorkshire Court, 360 of Oxford Bob, 360 of College Single, 360 of London Single, and 446 of Plain Bob, in 1 hr. 13 mins. G. H. Roberts, 1; J. Braybrook (composer), 2; R. Shipley, 3; E. Mayes, 4; W. J. Gilbert (conductor), 5; T. Roberts, 6.

WINTERTON (Norfolk).—On Saturday, February 20th, at the parish church, a party of ringers from Yarmouth rang a date touch, 1886 changes, in the following methods: College Single, Plain Bob, and Oxford Treble Bob Minor, in 57 mins. R. Christian, 1: J. F. Bray, 2: D. Hayward, 3; M. Long (composer), 4; A. Webber, 5; W. Fletcher, 6. An adjournment was then made to the "Fisherman's Return "Impere a substantial spread was laid through the liberality of Return, "Iwhere a substantial spread was laid through the liberality of Mr. M. Meux. After doing a good touch to this change, they again ascended the tower and rang a few touches of Plain Bob, in which Mr. W. J. Empson took the treble, and Mr. M. Brown, the fifth. The bells being lowered, a return visit was made to the "Fisherman" by the kindness of Mr. W. J. Empson, and the visitors take this opportunity of thanking Messrs. Empson and Meux for their unstinted This is the first date touch ever rung on these bells, and the first by any Yarmouth ringers since March 1st, 1862.

Miscellaneous.

ASSOCIATION FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD

On Saturday, February 6th, eight members of this Association met at Sedgley, near Wolverhampton, and started for a peal of Grandsire Triples, but the tenor going so bad they brought the bells round at the half-way. W. Jones (Tipton), 1: B. Dalton (Tettenhall), 2; E. Nicholls (Tettenhall), 3; J. Tinsley (Darlaston), 4; J. Jones (Tettenhall, conductor), 5; J. Fullwood (West Bromwich), 6; W. Smith (Darlaston), 7; T. Roberts (Tettenhall), 8. Tenor 20 cwt.

THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

BEDFORD.—On Thursday, February 4th, at St. Mary's church, a 720 of Grandsire Minor (with thirty-four bobs and two singles). C. Tass, 1; M. Warwick, 2; T. Foote, 3; C. W. Clarke, 4; J. N. Frossell, 5! I. Hills (conductor), 6. And on Thursday, February 11th, a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob Minor (nine bobs). I. Hills, 1; C. W. Clarke, 2; W. Hall, 3; M. Warrick, 4; S. J. Cullip, 5; T. Foote (conductor), 6. And on Thursday, February 18th, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor, W. Hall, 1; M. Warrick, 2; T. Foote, 3; C. West, 4; S. J. Cullip, 5; C. W. Clarke (conductor), 6. Handbell Ringing.—On Monday, Ianuary 18th, at St. Paul's church, for practice, a 720 of Violet Treble January 18th, at St. Paul's church, for practice, a 720 of Violet Treble Bob Minor (nine bobs). F. Keech, I; C. W. Clarke, 2; T. Foote, 3; J. N. Frossell, 4; W. Hall, 5; I. Hills (conductor), 6. First 720 in the method by all.

WOBURN (Beds).—On Saturday, February 13th, eight members of the above Association attempted a peal of Bob Major, 5088 changes, the above Association attempted a pear of Bool Major, 5000 changes, but after ringing I hr. and 10 mins, a mishap occurred which brought it to grief. C. Herbert, I; W. Mynard, 2; J. C. Cooke, 3; M. Lane, 4; A. Morrison, 5; W. Chibnall, 6; I. Hills, 7; C. W. Clarke (composer and conductor), 8. Afterwards finding it to late to attempt the 4; A. Morrison, 5; W. Chibhall, 6, 1. 11115, 7, C. W. Chibhall (below the poser and conductor), 8. Afterwards finding it to late to attempt the peal again, a 720 of Bob Major. C. Herbert, 1; W. Mynard, 2; J. C. Cooke, 3; M. Lane, 4; A. Morrison, 5; C. W. Clarke, 6; I. Hills, 7; W. Chibhall (conductor), 8. Tenor about 13 cwt. in G.

THE SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.

Long Melford (Suffolk).—On Saturday evening, February 13th, for practice, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob. P. C. S. Scott (conductor), 1; G. Hammond, 2; F. Wells, 3; S. Slater, 4; Z. Slater, 5; J. Bird, 6. Also a touch of 1008 Bob Major. G. Maxim (Foxearth), 1; S. Slater, 2; J. Slater, 3; J. Bird, 4; F. Wells, 5; J. Lee (Foxearth), 6; G. Hammond (conductor), 7; Z. Slater, 8. First 1000 by Messrs. Maxim and Lee

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

STAINDROP.—On Sunday, February 14th, at St. Mary's Church, for STAINDROP.—On Sunday, February 14th, at St. Mary's Church, tor Divine Service, 360 of College Minor, with nine bobs; and for evening service, 480 of Bob Minor, with twelve singles. On Wednesday, February 17th, an attempt was made for 720 of College Single, but owing to two bells changing places after ringing 648 changes, "stand" had to be called. Also on Saturday, February 20th, 720 College Single, with eighteen bobs and two singles. Also on Sunday, February 21st, 360 of College Minor, with nine bobs; and for evening service. 360 Bob Minor nine bobs and six singles. W. McLean, 1: ary 21st, 300 of Conege Minor, with time boos; and for evening service, 360 Bob Minor, nine bobs and six singles. W. McLean, 1; J. W. Shipp, 2; W. E. Johnson, 3; T. Leonard, 4; D. Shipp (conductor), 5; J. Brown, 6. Tenor 13 cwt. This is the first touch ever known to have been rung in the tower in this method.

EASTERN COUNTIES' GUILD.

SPALDING.—On Sunday, February 21st, at the church of SS. Mary and Nicolas, for morning service, 450 of Grandsire Triples. J. S. Wright, 1; J. W. Jarvis, 2; R. Mackman, 2; C. Neaverson, 4; G. L. Richardson, 5; G. Skeef, 6; J. Brown, 7; Hon. M. E. G. Finch-Hatton, M.P., 8.

THE HERTFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION AND THE HERTFORD COLLEGE YOUTHS.

HERTFORD COLLEGE YOUTHS.

HERTFORD.—Recently, at All Saints' Church for practice, 672 of Stedman Triples. J. Cull, I; —. Randall, 2; W. A. Tyler, 3; H. Phillips, 4; M. Ellsmore, 5; J. G. Crawley, 6; H. Baker (conductor), 7; F. George, 8. Also a 210 of Grandsire Triples. M. Ellsmore, 1; J. Jauncey, 2; J. Pomfret' 3; W. A. Tyler (conductor), 4; W. Goodchild, 5; H. Phillips, 6; H. Baker, 7; J. Cull, 8. And 464 of Bob Major. J. Jauncey, I; —. Randall, 2; M. Ellsmore, 3; W. A. Tyler, 4; J. Cull, 5; W. Goodchild, 6; H. Phillips, 7; H. Baker (conductor), 8. Also 224 of Kent Treble Bob Major. W. Goodchild, I; —. Randall, 2; J. Cull, 3; H. Phillips, 4; M. Ellsmore, 5; W. A. Tyler, 6; J. G. Crawley, 7; H. Baker (conductor), 8.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION AND THE BRADFORD AMALGAMATED SOCIETY.

Bradford.—On Saturday, February 20th, at St. Peter's Church, a 720 of Grandsire Caters, with the bells deeply muffled, as a token of respect to the late G. R. Mossman, for many years clerk to the magistrates in this town, who was interred that day in Calverley Churchyard. After the funeral, 1120 of Kent Treble Bob Royal, with the bells half-muffled, after which a start was made for a peal of Kent Treble Bob Royal, which was successfully brought round in 3 hrs. and 20 mins., particulars of which appear in its proper place.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

MELBOURNE (Derbyshire).—On Saturday, February 20th, the local society rang a 240 and a 360 of Bob Minor. Thomas Clarke, 1; G. A. Fish, 2; J. Vickers, 3; F. W. Cook, 4; T. Hollingworth, 5; G. C. Tunnicliff (conductor), 6. Also, on Sunday, 21st, for morning service, Tunnelli (conductor), 6. Also, oil sunday, 21st, for morning service, a 360 of Bob Minor; and for evening service, a touch of Bob Minor, and a six-score of Bob Doubles. J. R. Wood, 1; G. A. Fish, 2; J. Vickers, 3; F. W. Cook, 4; T. Hollingworth, 5; G. C. Tunnicliff (conductor), 6. Tenor 16 cwt. in F#.

NOTTINGHAM.—On Sunday, February 21st, for Divine Service in the evening at St. Peter's Church, eight members of the above Association rang a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, 1260 changes, in 46 mins. A. Archer, 1; A. Peet, 2; S. Wilkinson, 3; H. W. Needham, (conductor), 4; S. Simpkin, 5; J. Hickman, 6; R. Gee, 7; W. Sadler, 8.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

MARSHAM (Norfolk).—On Wednesday, February 17th, a 720 of Bob Minor (nine bobs and six singles) was rung. Thomas Greenwood (conductor), 1; J. M. Roberts, 2; A. J. Neale, 3; G. Moy, 4; P. Cushion, 5; J. Edridge, 6. Tenor 7 cwt. in A.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

WROTHAM (Kent).—On Monday, February 8th, six members of the above Association rang for practice at St. George's Church, a 720 of Bob Minor, with eighteen bobs and two singles, in 25 mins. F. Taylor, 1; G. Barham, 2; W. Taylor, 3; F. Shoobridge, 4; R. Edge, 5; C. Taylor (conductor), 6. Also on Friday, February 12th, a 720 in the same method, with the tenor covering. F. Taylor, 1; G. Barham, 2; W. Taylor, 3; G. A. Osborne, 4; F. Shoobridge (conductor), 5; C. Taylor, 6; J. Rodgers, 8. And on Monday, February 15th, a 720 with the tenor covering. T. Taylor, 1; G. Barham, 2; W. Taylor, 3; G. A. Osborne, 4; R. Edge, 5; C. Taylor (conductor), 6; F. Shoobridge, 8. Also on Friday, February 19th, two 720's, with the tenor covering. F. Taylor, 1; G. Barham, 2; W. Taylor, 3; G. A. Osborne, 4; F. Shoobridge (conductor), 5; C. Taylor, 6; J. Rodgers, 8. Tenor 21 cwt.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

CAVERSHAM (Oxon).—On Sunday, by the St. Peter's society, a 720 of College Single. H. Smith, 1; J. Hands, 2; E. Menday, 3; E. Pottinger, 4; G. Essex, 5; T. Newman (conductor), 6. Also on Tuesday, February 23rd, a six-score of Stedman. T. Newman, 1; E. Menday, 2; Rev. Canon Wigram, 3; G. Essex, 4; Rev. G. F. Coleridge, 5; J. Hands, 6. And a 720 of College Single. H. Smith, 1; Rev. G. F. Coleridge, 2; *Rev. Canon Wigram, 3; G. Essex, 4; E. Pottinger, 5; T. Newman (conductor), 6. *First in the method.

DRAYTON (Berks).—On Saturday, February 20th, the following members of the above Guild attempted a peal of Stedman Triples, which was lost after ringing 4500 changes, in 2 hrs. 40 mins. Harry Sheard, 1; *J. H. Viner, 2; Rev. F. E. Robinson, 3; Rev. Woolmore

Wigram, 4; *Thomas Short, 5; Harry Holifield, 6; J. W. Washbrook (conductor), 7; W. H. Smith, 8. *First attempt at a peal of Stedman.

THE ROCHDALE AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATION.

ROCHDALE (Lancashire).—On Monday evening, February 15th, at the parish church, for practice, 1540 of Grandsire Triples in 50 mins. W. Schofield, 1; G. Hoyle, 2; J. Hoggard, 3; B. Meadowcroft, 4; A. Hurst, 5; F. Birtwistle, 6; J. Harrison, 7; W. H. Smith, 8.

WORCESTER AND ADJOINING DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

DUDLEY.—On Saturday, February 20th, at St. Thomas's Church, the following members attempted Taylor's peal of Grandsire Triples, but after ringing 2842 changes in 1 hr. 40 mins., the clapper came out of the treble bell, which brought the peal to grief. F. Fellows, 1; W. Pardoe, 2; J. Mills, 3; J. Fellows, sen., 4; S. Spittle, 5; W. Micklewright (conductor), 6; J. Goodman, 7: J. Timmins, 8.

ALDEBURGH-ON-SEA Suffolk).—On Friday, February 12th, at the parish church, a 720 and 360 of Bob Minor, in 40 mins. A. Smith, 1; T. Staulkey, 2; F. Cooper, 3; C. Smith, 4; Even Cooper, 5; G. Baxter (conductor), 6. Also, on February 19th, a 720 of Bob Minor (forty-two singles), in 26 mins. A. Smith, 1; T. Staulkley, 2; C. Smith, 3; R. Stannard, 4; Evan Cooper, 5; G. Baxter (conductor), 6. And 360 of Oxford Treble Bob. C. Smith, 1; T. Staulkey, 2; Ernest Cooper, 3; R. Stannard, 4; Evan Cooper, 5; G. Baxter (conductor), 6. Tenor 12 cwt. G. Baxter, T. Staulkey, and Stannard hail from Leiston; the rest belong to the local company.

Bengeo (Herts).—Recently, at Holy Trinity Church for practice, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor in 28 mins. W. Childs, I; W. Odell, 2; W. Bennett, 3; J. Channer, 4; J. Pomfret, 5; H. Phillips (conductor), 6. Also on Sunday morning, February 20th, for Divine Service, 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor in 27 mins. W. A. Tyler, I; J. Pomfret, 2; W. Bennett, 3; J. Channer, 4; W. Odell, 5; H. Phillips (conductor), 6. And a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor. W. Childs, I; W. Bennett, 2; W. A. Tyler, 3; J. Pomfret, 4; H. Phillips (conductor), 5; J. Channer, 6.

BRIGHTON (Sussex).—On Sunday, February 7th, for morning service, a 448 of Grandsire Triples was rung by the following members of the St. Paul's Society:—H. Eves, I; W. Allfry, 2; G. Thwaites, 3; G. Biggerstaff, 4; G. Hill, 5; J. Riley, 6; A. Bennett (conductor), 7; J. Mockett, 8. Also, for evening service, a 350 and a 168, with Nash, I; Thwaites, 2; J. Salmon, 3; Allfry, 5; the others as before. Also, on Thursday, February 11th, for practice, a 448, with Nash at the treble, the others as before; and a 350 and a 168, the performers standing as for evening service. Also, on Sunday, February 14th, for evening service, a 448, with Nash, I; Thwaites, 2; Allfrey, 3; the others as before.

BOOTLE (Lancashire).—On Sunday evening, at Christ Church, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor, in 26 mins. E. Yates, 1; T. Woodward, 2; W. Short, 3; W. Rushton, 4; R. H. Barton (first 720 as conductor), 5: J. Bradshaw, 6. Tenor 12½ cwt.

BRIERLEY HILL (Staffordshire).—On Tuesday, February 9th, three of the Kingswinford society paid a visit to St. Michael's church, and assisted in ringing 720 of Single Bob Minor, nine bobs and six singles, in 26½ mins. W. Lawrence, I; W. Jones, 2; D. Garbett, 3; J. Hillman, 4; T. Allden, 5; A. Whatmore (conductor), 6.

BUCKLAND (Surrey).—On Friday, February 19th, at St. Mary's church, six 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles, each called differently. F. Sanders, 1; R. Arnold, 2; F. Arnold, 3; W. Sadler, 4; F. Bridger (conductor), 5.

EAST HAGBOURNE (Berks).—On Sunday, February 21st, for Divine Service at St. Andrew's Church, 840 of Grandsire Triples. E. Pether, 1; E. Napper, 2; F. Napper, 3; D. Napper, 4; J. Napper, 5; W. Napper (conductor), 6; C. Allen, 7; A. Woodley, 8.

GRASSENDALE NEAR LIVERPOOL (Lancashire).—On Sunday, February 14th, for morning service at St. Mary's church, 500 of Plain Bob Minor, in 18 mins. C. Newton, 1; T. Morris, 2; J. Alexander, 3; W. Weaver, 4; J. Allen, 5; F. Turner (conductor), 6. And on Monday, February 15th, 720 of Grandsire Minor, in 25½ mins. J. Turner, 1; C. Newton, 2; J. Allen, 3; W. Weaver, 4; T. Morris, 5; F. Turner (conductor), 6. Tenor 11½ cwt.

(conductor), 6. Tenor 11½ cwt.

GREAT BROMLEY (Essex).—On Friday evening, February 19th, a mixed company met and rang a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob, in 25 mins. *C. Ablitt, 1; J. Taylor, 2; J. Starling, 3; W. Smith, 4; W. J. Nevard, 5; J. W. Smith (conductor), 6. *First 720 in the method. Also 720 Bob Minor, in 25 mins. C. Ablitt, 1; W. J. Nevard, 2; J. Starling, 3; W. Smith, 4; J. Taylor, 5: J. W. Smith (conductor), 6. On handbells, retained in hand, a 720 of Bob Minor. W. Smith, 1-2; *W. J. Nevard, 3-4; J. W. Smith, 5-6. *First 720 on handbells. Also a course of Grandsire Triples, and 336 of Bob Major. J. Tay-

lor, 1; J. Starling, 2; W. J. Nevard, 3-4; W. Smith, 5-6; J. W. Smith (conductor), 7-8. Ablitt and Smith hail from Higham; Nevard from Great Bentley; the rest are of the local company. All the above are members of the Essex Association except W. J. Smith.

KIDDERMINSTER (Worcestershire).—On Wednesday evening. February 17th, at the parish church (St. Mary and All Saints) for practice, on the middle six, a quarter-peal (1260) of Grandsire Doubles, in 49 mins., being 10½ six-scores, each called differently. C. Bennett, 1; Harry Williams (conductor), 2; Harry Adams, 3; Harry Rowland, 4: Harry Sandell, 5; T. Walters, 6. It was intended to have rung this touch with all Harrys, but two failed to turn up, so it was done otherwise. H. Williams hails from Wolverley, H. Adams from Cookley; the rest belong to the local company.

Leiston (Suffolk).—On Saturday, February 13th, the local company rang for practice at St. Margaret's, 840 of Grandsire Triples. J. Flegg, 1; T. E. Shearing (conductor), 2; H. Button, 3; G. Baxter, 4; W. Button, 5; R. Stannard. 6; T. Staulkey, 7; H. Staulkey, 8. Also 752 of Bob Major. W. Taylor, 1; H. Button, 2; T. Staulkey, 3; *H. Rodwell, 4; G. Baxter (conductor), 5; R. Stannard, 6; W. Button, 7; J. Button, 8. Tenor 20 cwt. *First 700 in the method.

7; J. Button, 8. Tenor 20 cwt. *First 700 in the method.

Long Melford (Suffolk).—On Sunday, December 19th, a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob Minor, and a 720 of Kent Treble Bob. S. Slater 1; R. Slater, 2; W. P. Gridley, 3; J. Lee, 4: P. C. S. Scott, 5; G. Hammond (conductor), 6. Also on Christmas Day, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob. J. Slater, 1; S. Slater (conductor), 2; Z. Slater, 3; J. Bird, 4; G. Hammond, 5; O. Garwood, 6. On Saturday, January 16th, a 464 of Bob Major of Bob Major. G. Maxim, 1; Z. Slater, 2; W. Gridley, 3; S. Slater, 4; J. Bird, 5; J. Lee, 6; J. Slater, 7; G. Hammond (conductor), 8. And on Saturday, January 23rd, a 720 of Bob Minor, in 28 mins. W. P. Gridley, 1; P. Scott (conductor), 2; G. Hammond, 3; J. Lee, 4; J. Bird, 5; G. Maxim, 6. And on Saturday, February 13th, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob, in 28 mins. P. C. S. Scott (conductor), 1; G. Hammond, 2; S. Slater, 3; T. Wells, 4; Z. Slater, 5; J. Bird, 6.

Lower Hardres (Kent).—Handbell Ringing.—On Wednesday, February

Lower Hardres (Kent).—Handbell Ringing.—On Wednesday, February 17th, a 720 of Bob Minor. *Miss L. Brine, 1-2; Miss E. Brine, 3; Miss M. Brine, 4; *A. Brine, Esq., 5-6. *First 720 double-handed in the method. Also on Friday, February 19th, a 360 of Grandsire Minor, in the same order.

RAUNDS (Northamptonshire).—On Saturday, February 20th, at St. Peter's church, for practice, a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob (with nine bobs). G. Kirk, I; F. Gilbert, 2; R. Pendered, 3; J. Stubbs, 4; J. Willmott, 5; H. Stubbs (conductor), 6. And a 216 of Bob Minor. F. Kirk, I; H, Stubbs, 2; B. W. Allen, 3; J. Stubbs, 4; F. Gilbert (conductor), 5; F. Slade, 6. Also, 180 of Court Single. H. Stubbs I; J. Stubbs, 2; R. Pendered, 3; G. Kirk, 4; F. Gilbert (conductor), 5; F. Slade, 6. Handbell Ringing.—On Monday, February, 22nd, at the house of Mr. N. Martin, a 360 of Bob Minor was rung (with four bobs and two singles). W. J. Gilbert, 1-2; F. Gilbert, 3-4; H. Stubbs (conductor), 5-6: First 360 double-handed by W. J. and F. Gilbert. And a 240 of Bob Major; A. Coles, I; W. J. Gilbert, 2; R. Pendered, 3; G. Kirk, 4; J. Stubbs, 5; J. Willmott, 6; F. Gilbert (conductor), 7; H. Stubbs, 8. Then several plain courses of Bob Triples and Grandsire Triples were rung with N. Martin and F. Slade.

Reading (Berks)—On Thursday February 18th, 24 St. Giles'

READING (Berks).—On Thursday, February 18th, at St. Giles' church, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor, in 29 mins. J. E. Willshire, 1; A. Evans, 2; W. J. Williams, 3; A. J. Wright, 4; G. Gibbard, 5; H. Egby (conductor), 6. This is the first 720 in the method in Reading by a local band.

RINGSTEAD (Northants).—On Tuesday, February 9th, at St. Mary's church, a 720 of Oxford Bob (thirty-eight bobs and twenty-two singles), F. H. Chapman, I; G. H. Roberts, 2; W. J. Gilbert (conductor), 3; J. Braybrook, 4; T. Roberts, 5; E. Mayes, 6. And 240 of College Single, with six bobs and two singles. F. H. Chapman, I; G. H. Roberts, 2; W. J. Gilbert (conductor), 3; E. Mayes, 4; J. Braybrook, 5; T. Roberts, 6.

WILLESDEN (Middlesex).—On Tuesday, February 16th, at the parish church, the whole pull and stand was rung with the bells half-muffled, as a token of respect to the late W. H. Haley. R. Kilby, 1: F. Weare, 2; A. Kirby, 3; A. Pittam, 4; A. Tennant, 5; J. Jackman, 6. And afterwards a 720 Bob Minor, in 25 mins. J. Tennant, 1; F. Weare (conductor), 2; J. Jackman, 3; R. Kirby, 4; A. Pittam, 5; A. Tennant, 6. All the above are College Youths with the exception of J. Tennant and A. Kirby.

THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

A DISTRICT MEETING of this Association will be held at St. Mary's Battersea, on Saturday, March 6th. The tower will be open for ringing from five to eight o'clock.

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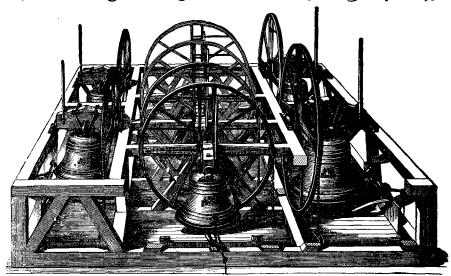
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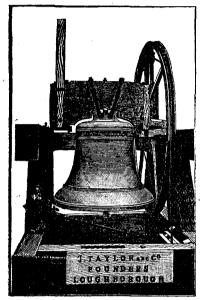
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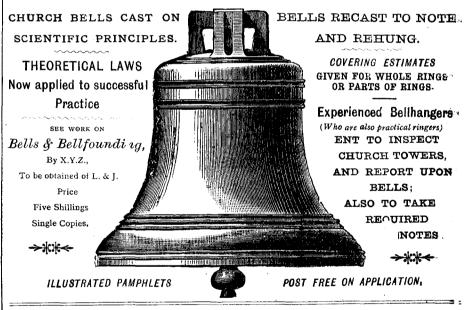
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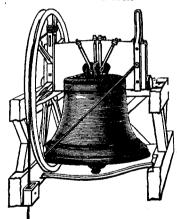
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THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—DISTRICT MEETING AT BARKING.

A successful District Meeting of the above Association was held on Saturday, February 27th. Representatives were present from Chelmsford, Galleywood, Great Bentley, Little Heath, Rayleigh, Romford, Springfield, Stanford-le-Hope, Walthamstow, West Ham, Widford, Woodford, Ipswich, London, and St. Albans, the total strength of the company mustering about fifty. In addition to the grand old ring of St. Margaret's, the towers of Dagenham and Ilford were open to members. Both towers were visited, and at the latter some 120's were rung, but the go of the bells in the former did not tempt a band to make a start. Ringing commenced at St. Margaret's shortly after one o'clock, and in the course of the afternoon various touches of Grandsire Triples, ranging from 200 to 700, touches of Stedman Triples, Kent and Oxford Treble Bob Major, were brought home. The whole of the appliances are in good ringing order, and the belfry, with its various peal boards, has an attractive appearance. The usual meat tea in connection with district meetings having taken place, the business proceedings were opened at the Town Hall, the Rev. J. Richardson presiding.

The usual office having being said, the rev. gentleman gave the Association a hearty welcome. Speaking of them as ringers, he greeted them as brethren doing their duty in promoting the service of God. There was a time when belfries presented a different view to what they did in the present day, but ringers had now been taught that the belfry and the bells were as much consecrated to the service of God as any other part of the church. He trusted they might always be found among the congregation; and the more often communicants, the better, for he regarded them as much a body of church workers as he did either the clergy, Suuday-school teachers, or the choir.

A letter was read from the Rev. H. A. Cockey, announcing that under the doctor's orders he was forbidden from attending that meeting, and

A letter was read from the Rev. H. A. Cockey, announcing that under the doctor's orders he was forbidden from attending that meeting, and that, as he was leaving the county, he should have to tender his resignation at the next annual meeting. Owing to the work of the Association, he required the assistance of some one to help him with the annual meeting, and trusted the meeting would appoint Mr. E. A. Davies, of Barking.

In reply to the Chairman, Mr. Davis expressed a doubt whether his engagements would permit him to assist. The names of Mr. Sewell, of Barking, and Mr. De Lisle, of Galleywood, having been suggested, but as neither gentlemen expressed their desire to undertake the duties, the matter was left for Mr. Davis to arrange with the Hon. Sec. Mr. Keeble moved, and Mr. Mumford seconded, "That this meeting express its sympathy with the Hon. Sec. in his illness, and trusted that his health might speedily be restored." The same was carried unanimously, and Mr. Davis was requested to convey the same to the rev. gentleman.

unanimously, and Mr. Davis was requested to convey the same to the rev. gentleman.

Mr. Davis proposed the Rev. J. Richardson as a hon. member; Mr. Keeble proposed the Rev. H. B. Barnes, Vicar of St. Mary's, Ilford, Messrs. W. Ashmole and J. W. F. Mumford (churchwardens), and Messrs. W. F. Mumford and W. Mears, ringing members, as hon. members, and the same were duly elected. The following ringing members were elected:—J. Cadman, Barking; J. W. Smith, Denham; W. Lebbon, Loughton; J. Gobbett, West Ham; G. Smith, Rayleigh; N. J. Pitstow, Saffron Walden; G. Hammond, Long Melford; T. Grant, J. C. Mitchell, and G. W. Cartmell, St. Albans; Easter, Aldis, Brewester, Green, Kinock, Peacher, Huff, and Kamplin, Harwich; Lewis, Cowell, Eves, Howell. Halls, and Land, Stanford-le-Hope, Probationers:—Brazier and Sturgwell, Stanford-le-Hope; and H. Smith, Rayleigh.

M. Davis said he had a list of unpaid subscriptions, which he would read to the meeting. The list was gone through, and although it comprised, to a certain extent, isolated members, yet there were some whose names are already in the peal book, and who became members of the Association through taking part in peals, and at the same time ihe list was not devoid of one or two well-known names. Those present, who probably had not previously attended a meeting during the year, standing in arrears, at once paid, and it is hoped that the remainder will promptly be forthcoming.

Mr. Doran gave notice of moving at the annual meeting that the term "distinguished ringer" be struck out of the rules; and Mr. Randall gave notice of moving that "non-resident" be inserted in lieu of the same.

Mr. Davis moved a vote of thanks to the Vicar and Churchwardens of Barking, Ilford, and Dagenham for the use of the respective towers, and to the Chairman for presiding. Referring to the opening remarks of the Chairman respecting the previous condition of the tower, Mr. Davies said he did not believe such was owing so much to the fault of the ringers as to the church authorities, and believed the clergy would find it advantageous, even in the present day, to make a more frequent visit to the belfry.

The Chairman replied, and the proceedings terminated.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION,

A meeting of this Association was held on Monday, the 22nd inst., at Staindrop. Considering the unfavourable weather, bad times, and the distance of many branches from Staindrop, the attendance was as good as could be expected, and included representatives from Darlington, Jarrow, Newton Hall, Staindrop, and Stockton. At two o'clock the members sat down to dinner at the "Queen's Head," the chair being occupied by the Rev. H. C. Lipscomb, vicar of Staindrop, and the vice-chair by Mr. Lisle, of Newton Hall.

In responding to the toast of "The Bishop and Clergy," the revechairman spoke at some length of the importance of having the bells well rung, and of the interesting associations entwined around them. The rev. gentleman afterwards proposed in complimentary terms "the health of the Secretary."

Mr. Clarkson, who in responding, stated that for the first time in the history of the Association he had been unable to issue the reports by the February Meeting, the General Election and other events had caused this, but he hoped to have them ready by Easter. Mr. Clarkson concluded by proposing at the request of the vicar, "the health of Mr. Shipp," to whose efforts it was entirely due that the Association had a change-ringing branch at Staindrop, and it was chiefly in reeognition of this that the Association had been anxious to hold a meeting there. This toast was duly honoured, and Mr. Shipp briefly responded. Forty new members were proposed, including the newly formed companies at Consett, Benfieldside, and Middlesborough. It has been arranged to have these bells properly tuned, and to otherwise re-adjust them so as to get a greater equality of tone. The ringing was greatly in advance of what is usually accomplished at the February Meetings, and comprised five peals of Minor, particulars of which appear in another column.

MENDHAM, SUFFOLK.

The village of Mendham has during the past year been the scene of a revival of ringing interests, which bids fair to produce good results in the immediate future. For many years past there had been a six-bell company in the parish, but it had for some time ceased to meet regularly, and the frame having gradually fallen into bad repair, the bells were seldom raised. In April last, however, energetic efforts were made to establish a new company; and several younger members were enrolled, and in spite of the unsatisfactory state of the frame, practices have been held under the guidance of two or three of the old hands, on an average three nights a week for the last ten months. Chiefly owing to the exertions of Mr. Henry Read, the master of the new company, the frame has lately been put into a better state of repair, and a fund is now being raised to defray the expenses of the work. The company has also purchased a set of handbells, which has given perfect satisfaction, and by diligent practice in the tower and in the club-room, the members have made themselves proficient in the three staple methods: Plain Bob, Oxford, and Grandsire. On Saturday, the 13th February, the first of a series of monthly meetings was held at Mendham, and there was a good attendance of six-bell ringers from the neighbouring parishes. Several touches were rung in the tower, and afterwards a pleasant hour was spent with the handbells in the club-room, at the "Lion" Inn. The Mendham ringers are to be congratulated on the progress they have made in their art in the face of many discouragements and difficulties.

SWANSCOMBE, KENT.

On Sunday, February 21st, the members of the Swanscombe society met at the parish church to ring a wedding peal for Mr. F. King, a member of the above society, who was married at eight o'clock that morning. The ringers met at 7.30., and welcomed the happy pair with a short touch of Grandsire Minor, and after witnessing the marriage ceremony, a half peal, (2520 changes), was attempted in the following methods; Grandsire and Plain Bob Minor, but after ringing about 1 hr. 10 mins., it came to grief in the last part of the third 720. A 720 of Bob Minor was then rung for morning service, and in the evening a 720 of Grandsire Minor for service. The ringers again met on Monday evening to welcome Mr. and Mrs. King home from their short visit to their friends, when after ringing a 720 of Grandsire Minor, the ringers at the invitation of Mr. King, adjourned to the 'Blue Anchor Inn,' where they partook of refreshments, they then proceeded to the house of Mr. King, and were regaled with an excellent supper, and after the cloth was removed, the health of the bride and bridegroom, proposed by Mr. Cornford, was very heartly drunk, the rest of the evening being spent in harmony. The company separated at an early hour on Tuesday morning. The following are the ringers who took part in the performances: W. Harper, G. Hayes, F. Hayes, A. Cornford, G. Martin, J. Broom, W. Martin,

THE ST. SIDWELL'S SOCIETY, EXETER.

On Saturday, February 20th, ten members of this Society took the 4.15 train at Queen Street Station, for Crediton, to try the bells of the parish church, called Holy Cross, which has a fine peal of eight, tenor about 30 cwt. On arriving there they found that the Crediton men were welcoming them with some ringing, which was greatly listened to by the visitors. On making their way to the belfry they found the by the visitors. On making their way to the bellry they found the bells up, and rang 1344 Grandsire Triples, in 48 mins. T. Townsend, I; W. G. Goss, 2; A. Shepherd, 3; W. Richardson, 4; E. Shepherd, 5; J. Moss, 6; F. Shepherd (conductor), 7; W. Mundy and T. J. Lake, 8. After a little more ringing was done by the Crediton band, they lowered the bells, and the whole party, twenty-five in number, adjourned to the "Ring of Bells Inn," where a substantial supper was provided, to which the party did ample justice. The chair was taken by Mr. H. C. Card, and the vice by Mr. J. W. Young. After supper, the usual loyal toasts was heartily drunk. A vote of thanks was tendered to the St. Sidwell's Society. by Mr. F. Jones, who was tendered to the St. Sidwell's Society, by Mr. F. Jones, who thanked the Exeter men on behalf of the Crediton ringers for the treat that they had given them during the afternoon. They had not the pleasure of listening to such music from their bells, except when they paid a visit. He hoped that they should soon again have the pleasure of welcoming them. Mr. Shepherd returned thanks, and assured his Crediton friends that it was a source of pleasure for them to come to Crediton, and as for another visit, that should take place at the first opportunity. The handbells were then brought into use, and the visit concluded.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

REPORT FOR THE THREE WEEKS ENDING FEBRUARY 28TH:—

By the Eastbourne Branch.—On Tuesday, February 16th, at St. Mary's,
Eastbourne, in 2 hrs. and 54 mins., a 5040 of Grandsire Triples
(Reeves' variation of Holt's 10 part). S. Hart, 1; H. P. Bennett
(conductor), 2; C. Harffey, 3; L. Huggett, 4; T. Willoughby, 5; J.
Potter, 6; T. Hart, 7; J. Rollison, 8. On Saturday, February 27th,
at St. Mary's, Eastbourne, in 2 hrs. and 54 mins., a 5040 of Grandsire
Triples (Holt's 10 part). S. Hart, 1; H. P. Bennett, 2; C. Harffey,
3; L. Huggett (conductor), 4; T. Willoughy, 5; J. Potter, 6; (no
ringer named), 7; J. Lewis, 8.

By the Brighton Branch, at Brighton.—On Saturday, February 13th,
a. St. Nicholas' church, an attempt for Hollis' 6-part peal of Grandsire Triples (about 1500 changes), rung in 56 mins. James Neeves, 1;

a. St. Nicholas Church, an attempt for Holls 6-part pear of Grandsire Triples (about 1500 changes), rung in 56 mins. James Neeves, 1; W. Palmer, 2; C. Tyler, 3; H. Boniface, 4; G. King, 5; H. Weston, 6; J. Searle (conductor), 7; C. Golds, 8. Also, on Tuesday, February 16th, at the same church, with the bells muffled as a mark of respect

W. Palmer, 2; C. Tyler, 3; H. Boniface, 4; G. King, 5; M. Weston, 6; J. Searle (conductor), 7; C. Golds, 8. Also, on Tuesday, February 16th, at the same church, with the bells muffled as a mark of respect to the late Mr. H. W. Haley, 840 of Grandsire Triples, in 33 mins, and a 500 in the same method in 19 mins, in which the following members took part:—J. Searle, W. Palmer, G. King, W. Davey, Jesse and James Neeves, Fox, H. Boniface, E. Ancock, M. Weston, and A. Piper. At St. Peter's, Brighton, on Sunday, February 21st, for afternoon service, in 19 mins., a 504 of Grandsire Triples. A. Piper, 1; J. Jay, 2; G. King, 3; A. Marshall, 4; — Bennett, 5; G. F. Attree (conductor), 6; G. Golds, 7; E. Butler, 8. On Sunday, February 28th, for afternoon service, a quarter peal of Grandsire Triples. E. Marshall, 1; J. Jay, 2; C. Golds, 3; H. Weston, 4; A. Marshall, 5; G. F. Attree (conductor), 6; A. W. L. Parkhouse, 7; D. Ross, 8. First quarterpeal by members of the St. Peter's band.

By the Billingshurst Branch, at Billingshurst.—On Saturday, February 6th, a 720 of Bob Minor. P. Wood, 1; W. Chantler, jun., 2; G. Matthews, 3; W. Chantler, 4; J. Voice, 5; T. Chantler, (conductor), 6. On Tuesday, February 9th, a 720 of Oxford Bob Minor. W. Chantler, 1; W. Alward, 2; W. Chantler, jun., 3; T. Chantler, 4; J. Voice, 5; T. Chantler, 4; G. Matthews, 3; W. Chantler, 2; G. Matthews, 3; T. Chantler (conductor), 6; and after service a 720 of Bob Minor. P. Wood, 1; W. Chantler, 4; F. Harding (instructor), 5; W. Hunt, 6. *The first by

REVIEWS.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.-The Third Annual Report of this Association evidently shows that progress is being made by its members. And the energy displayed could with advantage be copied by other bodies of more pretentious characteristics. We think the success attained is in a great measure owing to the interest taking in ringing matters by Dr. Arthur Carpenter, and the men of Surrey ought, we are sure, to feel proud of possessing such a valuable enthusiast as their Honorary Secretary is. In fact we know this to be so. Then we are sure his mild remonstrances upon matters of arrangement connected with the various meetings which are organised by him will be listened to. The number of peals rung is equal to the list of preceding reports, but the Hon. Sec. appears to bewail the fact that a peal of Stedman Triples has not yet been achieved by the members. We hardly know why this is so. Surely the talent for calling this blue ribbon of the ringing exercise is not absent. We hope that this faint allusion to the matter will lead to the peal being rung without delay, and as we have the honor of a place upon the name book of the Association, we should be pleased to take part in its performance. The times and days of practice at the towers in union have been revised, and afford very good information. We must compliment the Association upon their cohesion, and hope the next report will show a still further increase of good performances, in conjunction with a largely-augmented list of churches which have become affiliated to the Guild.

REPORT OF THE UNITED COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.—Hitherto we have been in the dark with reference to the locale, and also other matters, in connection with this body. The first report, however, which we have just received, gives us all the required information, and it appears that its influence extends to parts of Cheshire, Lancashire, and Derbyshire. This report appears to be framed upon the plan of that of the Yorkshire Association, and gives a very satisfactory resume of the doings of the body. Twenty-five peals are booked, the chief method being Treble Bob Major. These are tabulated in an appropriate manner at the end of the report. Evidently the United Counties' Association is doing much good in keeping up the interest which all good ringers should feel in the practice of their art, and we must hail them as prominent and hearty workers in the cause.

REPORT OF THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—The Fifth Annual Report of this Guild is of the usual progressive and satisfactory character. Seventeen peals have been rung in various methods, and the list includes five peals of Stedman Triples, one of Superlative Surprise Major; also three peals of Grandsire upon handbells. The number of members, honorary or otherwise, shows that the proceedings of the Guild does not lack interest among the upper strata of society, and it is satisfactory to read that out of the numerous array of names placed before us by the Rev. Dolben Paul, ninety-six have been recorded in one or more peals of 5000. The balance-sheet shows the usual satisfactory financial condition of the Guild, £58 being in hand at the end of the year. The meetings of the Guild-especially the Annual Festival, are characterised by an earnestness which bodes future prosperity, and with such officers as the genial Master, and the worthy Honorary Secretary, success in all the Guild undertakes is well-nigh a foregone conclusion.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

Notice is hereby given that a District Meeting of the above Association will be held to-day, March 6th, when it is particularly hoped that all members who are able will avail themselves of the opportunity to visit this town, and ring upon the three peals of bells in the towers of St. Mary's, All Saint's, and Christ Church. The following are the arrangements for the day:—at 10 a.m., St. Mary's tower (eight bells), will be open for ringing, and remain open till one o'clock; Christ Church belfry (six bells), will be open during the same hours. II a.m.—All Saints' tower (eight bells) open till 12 noon; I p.m.—Cold Luncheon at the "New Inn Hotel," South Street, tickets In Hotel."; 3 p.m.—St. Mary's and Christ Church towers reopened for ringing; 4 p.m.—All Saints' tower reopened till 5 p.m.; 7 p.m. Tea at the "New Inn Hotel." Tickets to members sixpence each. GEO. F. ATTREE, Hon. Sec.

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE MAJOR.

5104.

By JOHN CARTER, Birmingham.

```
23456
 5 3 4 2 6 8th in three.
 3 4 5 2 6
4 5 3 2 6
 54326
               7th in three.
 4 3 5 2 6
 23546
              8th in three.
 35246
 52346
                                н
               7th in three.
2 5 3 4 6
5 3 2 4 6
 32546
 54236
               8th in two.
4 5 2 3 6
5 2 4 3 6
               7th in three.
 24536
                                н
               7th in three.
 42536
 25436
 35426 8th in three.
\begin{smallmatrix} 6 & 3 & 5 & 2 & 4 \\ 5 & 2 & 3 & 6 & 4 \\ 2 & 5 & 3 & 6 & 4 \end{smallmatrix}
               7th in two.
8th in two.
               7th in three.
 4 2 5 6 3
3 4 2 6 5
5 3 4 6 2
                7th in two.
                7th in two.
               7th in two.
 35462
                7th in three.
                7th in two.
 23564
 42365
                7th in two.
                7th in two.
 4 5 2 6 3
3 4 5 6 2
                7th in two.
 23465
                7th in two.
 3 2 4 6 5
5 3 2 6 4
               7th in three.
               7th in two.
 35264
               7th in three.
 43562
                7th in two.
 24365
                7th in two.
 5 2 4 6 3
                7th in two.
 25463
                7th in three.
 32564
                7th in two.
 43265
               7th in two.
5 4 3 6 2
4 5 3 6 2
               7th in two.
               7th in three.
 24563
               7th in two.
56423 8th in two.
42653 8th in two.
24653 7th in three
32456 7th in two.
63254 7th in two.
64352 7th in two.
64352 7th in two.
32654 7th in two.
32654 7th in two.
34256 7th in two.
34256 7th in two.
3452 7th in two.
63452 7th in two.
63452 7th in two.
               7th in three.
               7th in three.
               7th in three.
20354
62354
46253
64253
36452
23654
42356
                7th in three.
               7th in two.
                7th in three.
                7th in two.
                7th in two.
               7th in two.
24356
62453
               7th in three.
                7th in two.
36254
43652
                7th in two.
               7th in two.
 34652
               7th in three.
```

First rung on Shenstone, Staffordshire, on Saturday, September 5th, 1885. Conducted by its composer.

7th in two.

23456

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A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE A PEAL OF SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE
            MAJOR.
```

5184.

By J. W. WASHBROOK, Oxford.

- , ,				,,
23456	В	M	w	H
43652		_		
56234		-	_	
23564			-	_
52364				-
2 . 2 . 6 .				
25463		-		
64352		-	_	
35642			_	-
54326	_			
25463 64352 35642 54326 23645		_	_	
56342 36245		_		
36245		_		
12563		_	_	
5 6 4 2 3 4 5 6 2 3 6 4 5 2 3 6 4 2 3 5			_	_
45623				_
64523				_
64235	_			_
26435				- - -
26435 42635				_
62534				
35426		_	_	
35426 42356			_	_
34256				_
23456				_
2 3 4 3 0				_

This is the first time this number of changes has been produced in this method.

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB ROYAL.

5000.

By CHARLES HENRY HATTERSLEY, Sheffield.

```
23456 M W H
2 4 5 3 6
2 4 3 6 5
2 3 6 4 5
         2
            2
4632552364
             2
         I
            I
25463
         2
             I
43652
32654
23456 2
```

First rung by the Bradford Amalgamated Society on February 2nd, 1886. Conducted by J. H. Hardcastle.

A PEAL OF ALBION TREBLE BOB MAJOR.

5088.

By J. J. BRIERLEY, Saddleworth. 23456 W B M H

```
52364 I
35426 I
                             1
23564 I -
52436 I I
43265 I - I
64235 I
34256 I - I
    Twice repeated.
```

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR.

5040.

By ROBERT WILLIAMS, Liverpool.

```
23456 M W H
2 3 5 6 4 2 2
4 5 3 6 2 I
2 4 6 5 3 2 I
2 5 3 4 6
5 4 3 2 6
              2
                  1
        Repeated.
```

MAJOR.

6048.

By H. Dains, Royal Cumberland Youths.

```
23456 W M H
6 4 3 5 2 - 3 6 4 5 2 4 3 6 5 2
56234
35264
63254
52436
  Twice repeated.
```

By calling a before in the first course in the first part, the fifth course-end is produced, and the peal curtailed to 5056 changes, and the 2nd never in 6th's place at course-ends.

A DATE TOUCH OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR.

1886.

By S. MARSH, West Bromwich.

The first four changes of the first treble lead cutting out two changes :-

Ξ			т	_	_		_		
2 4	42	i 6	6	3 8	8 3 8	8 5 7 5	7 5 7		
-		-	_	_	. :	M	В	W	H
2	3	5	6	4		2		2	1
6	5	3	2	4				2	2
2	4	5	3	6		I		2	2
		3				1	_	2	2
		4				I	_	2	2

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAXIMUS.

5328.

By SAMUEL KNOTT, JUN., Glossop.

```
23456 M W H
6 5 4 3 2
5 2 4 3 6
3 5 2 6 4
6 2 4 5 3
3 4 2 5 6
            1
             2 2
             1 1
32546
                     2
35426
23456
```

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

TWO PEALS OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR. By GEORGE H. HARDY, Earlsheaton.

5088. 23456 M B W 2 I 1 26354 53624 54326 1 2 2 2 2 42356 2 Twice repeated.

5088.										
23456	M	В	w	H						
35642	2	_								
42563	I		2	2						
64235	2		2	2						
54326	2	-		1						
42356			2							
Twice	ren	eat	ed.							

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

One copy, 12 months 6s. 6d. 3s. 3d. 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.

CORRECTION.—Mr. John Nivon Oxborrow rang the 3rd in the peal of Kent Treble Bob Major, at St. Stephen's, Westminster, on Saturday, February 13th ult., reported last Saturday.

The Bell Helvs & Ringers' Record.

SATURDAY, MARCH 6, 1886.

THE question of a memorial to the late JASPER W. Snowdon, which shall be expressive of the esteem in which he was held by all ringers throughout the whole world, is becoming a matter of ardent consideration. Several proposals have been put forth, all teeming with excellence, no doubt, and we dare say that various other propositions, in addition to those already in print, for the purpose of immortalizing our departed friend, are in many quarters under consideration. As we write, a communication on the question lies open before us, which if novel, has much to recommend it by way of appropriateness. The writer suggests that a new peal of bells should be cast and placed in some church whereat JASPER SNOWDON was wont to attend, or where he was best known. He calculates that upon our estimate of there being 50,000 ringers, that if all only subscribed one shilling, the sum collected would be sufficient for two peals even. Now we think this a very worthy notion, at any rate one worth consideration, but in a matter of this kind there is an important factor to be kept in view. A memorial of the description we are dealing with should commend itself, not only to those at whose cost and by whose instrumentality it is erected, but the known wishes of those who are to be so memorialized and their nearest and dearest friends should also be taken into consideration. Though we think well of this proposal of a peal of bells, as being peculiarly appropriate, there is another method, one which would, in our opinion, greatly commend itself to Mr. Snowdon's relatives. And this is the erection of a stained glass window in Ilkley Church, the idea, in fact, mentioned by Mr. Tuke in our last issue. There are special reasons why the proposed memorial should take this form, reasons which need not be fully explained here. It is sufficient to say that this manner of perpetuating our deceased friend's memory, will be the one more in accordance with the wishes of his relatives, who are better than any

one able to judge what would have been his own inclinations in regard thereto. As he was a faithful member of the Church, can we hesitate to believe that the most consistent way of recording our testimony for his great worth would be to place a monument of this description in the sacred edifice which was the scene of his father's ministrations, a monument at once an outward and visible sign of the loving respect accorded to him by the ringers of the world?

The question then remains, how is this matter to be taken up? We think, as has been suggested, that the officers of the Association which owes its existence to his untiring efforts, should take the initiative. We hope therefore, to be able to publish in our next issue, from the Secretary and Treasurer of that body, an announcement that a fund will forthwith be commenced for the

purpose.

The Metropolis.

ST. JAMES' SOCIETY AND THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION. Muffled Peal.

On Monday, March 1, 1886, in Three Hours and Thirty-two Minutes, AT THE CHURCH OF ST. CLEMENT DANES,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERS, 5079 CHANGES; Tenor 24 cwt. in D.

CHALLIS F. WINNY		Treble.	JOHN W. ROWBOTHAM 6.
HENRY DAINS		2.	*Ernest E. Vinen 7.
RICHARD FRENCH		3.	Francis E. Dawe 8.
Edwin Horrex	••	•• 4.	JOHN M. HAYES 9.
HENRY SWAIN	• •	•• 5.	J. MARTIN ROUTH, Esq Tenor.

Composed by the late H. W. HALEY, and Conducted by JOHN M. HAYES.

This was rung with the bells half-muffled as a last mark of respect to the late H. W. Haley, and the first peal he ever took part in was the above composition. *First peal in the method.

BATTERSEA, SURREY.

THE SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS. On Tuesday, March 2, 1886, in Two Hours and Forty-five Minutes, AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

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

W. BARON REV. J. ULTEN TODD		Treble.	ALF THOMAS. H. S. THOMAS	• •		·· 5·
E. F. Cole		3. │	H. Swain			7.
W. W. THORNE	• •	4. [W. Ambrose	• •	• •	Tenor.
_	_					

Conducted by W. BARON.

The Provinces.

ECCLES.-THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION. Birthday Peal.

On Saturday, February 13, 1886, in Two Hours and Fifty-three Minutes, AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE MAJOR, 5040 CHANGES: Tenor 13 cwt. 3 qrs.

SAMUEL WEST		Treble.	*James Barratt	5.
THOMAS HEALD		2.	*RICHARD ASHCROFT	· . 6.
THOMAS YATES*	• •	·• 3·	Edward Cash A. Edward Wreaks	7.
CHARLES CASH	••	•• 4.	A. Edward Wreaks	Tenor.

Composed by E. STOKES, of Birmingham, and Conducted by A. EDWARD WREAKS.

*First peal in the method. Messrs. West, Heald, and Wreaks hail from Manchester; the rest are of the local company, At the conclusion of the peal each ringer wished Mr. Ashcroft "many happy returns" he having attained the 72nd year of his age on the above day.

HERTFORD.—THE HERTFORD ASSOCIATION, AND	MACCLESFIELD, CHESHIRE.
THE HERTFORD COLLEGE YOUTHS. On Wednesday, February 24, 1886, in Three Hours and Seventeen Minutes,	On Saturday, February 27, 1886, in Three Hours and Nineteen Minutes,
At the Church of St. Andrew,	AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL,
A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5040 CHANGES.	A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
Tenor 16 cwt. in F.	HOLT'S ORIGINAL. Tenor 20 cwt. in E.
JOSEPH CULL	JAMES HOLT Treble. *JOHN M. DAVENPORT 5. JAMES MORLEDGE 6. *CHARLES BAMFORD 3. *WILLIAM WALMSLEY 7. *THOMAS MOTTERSHEAD Tenor. *Conducted by WILLIAM WALMSLEY.
Composed by HENRY HUBBARD, and Conducted by HERBERT BAKER.	
*First peal in the method.	This peal was rung in honour of the presentation to Mr. Henry Johnson, sen, and his birthday, he being 77 on the following day. ‡ First peal. * First peal of Triples. Witness to peal: Mr. Matthews, who was in the tower and marked off every call as it was rung. This is supposed to be the first time this peal has been rung in Cheshire.
SWINTON.—THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.	MANAGEMENT THE STATE OF THE STA
On Thursday, February 25, 1886, in Two Hours and Fifty-five Minutes, AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,	MANCHESTER.—THE ST. PHILIP'S (HULME) SOCIETY, AND THE ECCLES SOCIETY.
A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES; TAYLOR'S BOB-AND-SINGLE VARIATION.	On Saturday, February 27, 1886, in Three Hours and Twenty-two Minutes, AT CHRIST CHURCH, BARLOW MOOR,
WILLIAM CROSSLEY Treble. JAMES URMSTON 5.	A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5184 CHANGES;
CHARLES CASH 2. EDWARD CASH 6. RICHARD PEARCE 3. JOHN EDGE 7.	IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 18 cwt. Thomas Heald
DAVID CLARKE* 4. J. T. JONES	THOMAS HEALD
EASTBOURNE, SUSSEX.	Composed by the late W. HARRISON, and Conducted by
THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.	JOHN F. WOODS.
On Saturday, February 27, 1886, in Two Hours and Fifty-four Minutes,	
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,	DEWSBURY.—THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.
A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;	On Saturday, February 27, 1886, in Three Hours and Five Minutes,
Holt's 10-Part. Tenor 16 cwt. 3 qrs.	At the Church of All Saints',
SIMEON HART Treble. T. WILLOUGHBY 5.	A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;
H. P. BENNETT 2. JAS. POTTER 6.	IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 14 cwt.
Chas. Harffey 3. Thomas Hart 7. Leonard Huggett 4. Joseph Lewes	ARTHUR GOODALL
Conducted by Leonard Huggett.	GARFORTH TAYLOR 3. WALTER BYRAM 7.
The above was rung to commemorate the 42nd birthday of Simeon Hart, for	GODFREY MARSDEN 4. JOHN BUCKLEY
twenty-one years secretary to the St. Mary's Society.	Composed and Conducted by Geo. H. HARDY. Mr. Buckley is in his 62nd year.
DUFFIELD, DERBYSHIRE.	Mir. Buckley is in the outer year,
THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.	READING, BERKSTHE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.
(DUFFIELD BRANCH.)	On Saturday, February 27, 1886, in Three Hours and Ten Minutes,
On Saturday, February 27, 1886, in Three Hours and Two Minutes,	At the Church of St. Mary,
AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,	A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES; IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 17 cwt.	THURSTANS' COMPOSITION. Tenor 30 cwt.
George Dawson Treble. George Hingley 5.	J. W. WASHBROOK
Samuel Johnson 2. Arthur B. Ward 6.	H. EGBY* 3. Rev. G. F. Coleridge 7.
JOHN HOWE 3. HARRY C. WOODWARD 7. ALFRED ROBINSON 4. A. PERCIVAL HEYWOOD Tenor.	Rev. F. E. Robinson . 4. T. Harvey Tenor.
Composed and Conducted by A. Percival Heywood, Esq.	Conducted by J. W. WASHBROOK.
This peal, which is now rung for the first time, contains the 4th and 6th each the extent in 6th's place, and the 2nd never there. It was rung on the occasion of the	*First peal in the method, a peal of which has never previously been performed in Reading. Mr. Fussell hails from Slough; Rev. F. E. Robinson from Drayton; Messrs. Egby and Harvey from Reading; Washbrook and Hounslow from Oxford; T. Newman and Rev. G. F. Coleridge from Caversham.
birth of a son and heir to Granville Smith, Esq.	
LEES, NEAR OLDHAM, LANCASHIRE.	SHEFFIELD.—THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.
GLODWICK AND LEESFIELD SOCIETIES.	Muffled Peal.
On Saturday, February 27, 1886, in Three Hours and Forty-two Minutes,	On Saturday, February 27, 1886, in Three Hours and Three Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. THOMAS,	AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,
A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE MAJOR, 6000 CHANGES; Tenor 14 cwt.	A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
Proven Grand Tooks Form Cheer on	HOLT'S ORIGINAL. Tenor 14 cwt.
CLEMENT DRONSFIELD . 2. ALBERT CLEGG 3. George Hy. Beever . 4. JOHN GREENWOOD 7. JOHN HILTON	GEORGE HOLMES
Composed by JNO. CARTER, of Birmingham, and Conducted by	ROBERT TUKE 4. JOHN STYLES
GEO. HY. BEEVER.	
The first four ringers belong to St. Mark's, Glodwick, the rest belong to Leesfield. P.S.—The name of the conductor of the peal rung at Saddleworth on Monday, February 22nd, by the Leesfield Society, should have been Fred Crosland.	The above was rung with the bells half-mnffled, as a token of respect to the memory of the late H. W. Haley, a member of the Yorkshire Association. Messrs, Raistrick and Tuke hail from Bradford; Styles from Wakefield; Mason from Boston; the rest from Sheffield.

This peal is the greatest number possible to be produced in thirteen courses. Mr. 5mith belongs to Pulham; the rest are members of the Eye Association.

HOLBECK.—THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.	GLODWICK, OLDHAM, LANCASHIRE.
In Three Hours (no date mentioned),	On Monday, March 1, 1886, in Two Hours and Fifty-four Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MATTHEW,	AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARK,
A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;	A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE MAJOR, 5040 CHANGES,
IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 16 cwt.	Tenor 8½ cwt.
THOMAS WEST	RICHARD GUEST
This peal, which is now rung for the first time, contains the 6th the extent in 5-6	SAMUEL STOTT.
and five course-ends each way, and the 5th the extent home.	This peal was rung to commemorate the 29th birthday of the conductor, and contains the 6th twenty-four times wrong and right; the 5th twenty-four times right, and twenty-four 8-6's.
LEICESTERTHE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.	
On Saturday, February 27, 1886, in Three Hours and Six Minutes,	BURTON-ON-TRENT, STAFFORDSHIRE.
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARK,	THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION, AND THE
A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;	ST. PAUL'S SOCIETY, BURTON-ON-TRENT.
VARIATION OF HOLT'S 10-PART. Tenor 23 cwt. in Eb.	On Tuesday, March 2, 1886, in Three Hours and Thirteen Minutes,
JAMES J. LAKIN*	AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PAUL,
James Jarvis 2. John Walton* 6. George Burrows 3. John Buttery 7. William A. Clayton* 4. Charles Biddles	A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES; THURSTANS' COMPOSITION. Tenor 26 cwt.
Conducted by George Burrows.	EDWARD ISAAC STONE Treble. A. PERCIVAL HEYWOOD 5.
*First peal. Messrs. Clayton and Walton hail from Belgrave; the rest belong to Leicester.	ARTHUR WAKLEY 2. THOMAS HOLMES 6. JOHN JAGGAR 7. JOSEPH GRIFFIN 4. REV. JAMES H. FISH Tenor.
	Conducted by Joseph Griffin.
SUDBURY, SUFFOLK.	
On Saturday, February 27, 1886, in Three Hours and Fifteen Minutes,	MANCHESTER.—THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.
At the Church of St. Gregory,	On Tuesday, March 2, 1886, in Three Hours and Six Minutes,
A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5184 CHANGES;	AT THE CATHEDRAL,
IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 16 cwt.	A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES
JAMES CAMPIN*	TAYLOR'S BOB-AND-SINGLE VARIATION. Tenor 25 cwt. in Eb. THOMAS G. DOWNS
Composed by J. J. BRIERLEY, of Saddleworth, and Conducted by Chas. SILLITOE.	JAMES THORPE * 4. JAMES PARKINSON Tenor
; College Youth. +Cumberland Youths. *First peal in the method. This is the first peal in the method on the bells. Messrs. Hammond and Scott hail from Long Melford; S. Slater from Glemsford; the rest are local ringers.	Conducted by A. EDWARD WREAKS. *First peal in the method. +First peal with a bob bell. All the above are of the Cathedral company.
STALEYBRIDGE, CHESHIRE.	MILNROW, LANCASHIRE.
On Saturday, February 27, 1886, in Four Hours and Twenty-three Minutes,	THE ROCHDALE AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATION.
AT HOLY TRINITY CHURCH,	On Tuesday, March 2, 1886, in Three Hours and Three Minutes,
A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 7200 CHANGES;	AT THE PARISH CHURCH,
IN THE KENT VARIATION. GEORGE LONGDEN Treble. BENJAMIN BROADBENT 5.	A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES HOLT'S ORIGINAL. Tenor 20 cwt.
HUGH SHAW 2. ISAAC SCHOFIELD 6. EDMUND SCHOFIELD 3. JOHN THORP 7.	RICHARD WARBURTON
JOSEPH MELLOR 4. SAMUEL WOODTenor. Composed by Robert Williams, and Conducted by Samuel Wood.	JAMES F. WILDE 4. *SAMUEL HARTLEY
The above peal was rung again through the performance published on February 13th being false, the peal being called as was published in last week's paper which is	Conducted by JAMES F. WILDE. *First peal. †First peal as conductor.
wrong, the first course should be I M I W I H.	Some of Long with
	DRAYTON, BERKS.—THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.
EYE, SUFFOLK.	1
On Monday, March 1, 1886, in Three Hours and Twenty-two Minutes,	On Tuesday, March 3, 1886, in Four Hours,
AT THE CHURCH OF SS. PETER AND PAUL,	AT THE CHURCH OF ST. LEONARD, 7200 CHANGES: IN SEVEN DIFFERENT METHODS
A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5248 CHANGES;	ON SIX BELLS;
IN THE OXFORD VARIATION. Tenor 24 cwt. F. DAY Treble. J. Bumpstead 5.	Being two 720s each of Kent Trebie Bob, Plain Bob, and Grandsire; one eac of Double Court, Oxford Bob, College Single, and Oxford Trebie Bob.
G. MURTON 2. G. FORD 6.	Tenor 8 cwt.
W. GOODERHAM 3. J. SMITH 7. F. WRIGHT 4. H. TORBLE	F. W. WARWICK Treble. CHARLES TRINDER 4. H. D. BETTERIDGE, ESQ. 2. THOMAS FULKER 5. FREDERICK FIELD 3. JAMES W. WASHBROOK . Tenor
Composed by J. Reeves, and Conducted by F. Day. This need is the greatest number possible to be produced in thirteen courses. Mr.	Contract to Trace Trace

Conducted by JAMES WILLIAM WASHBROOK.

This is the longest length ever rung on six bells in the Diocese of Oxford,

EAST HAGBOURNE, BERKS .- OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD

On Tuesday, March 2, 1886, in Three Hours and Fifteen Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ANDREW,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES. TAYLOR'S BOB-AND-SINGLE VARIATION. Tenor 23\frac{3}{2} cwt,

Conducted by WILLIAM NAPPER.

This is the first peal the conductor has called, also the first peal rung on the bells by all local men.

Miscellaneous.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

Burford (Oxon).—On Sunday evening last, for Divine Service, the following rang a 720 of Grandsire Minor, with the tenor behind, viz.: H. Smith, 1; D. Francis, 2; W. Smith, 3; J. Smith, 4; W. Large, 5; T. E. Glanville (conductor), 6; W. Launchbury, 7.

STOKE-UPON-TRENT ARCHIDIACONAL ASSOCIATION.

STOKE.—On Tuesday, March 2nd, at the parish church, a quarterpeal of Grandsire Triples in 45 mins. A. Brindley, 1; H. Bailey, 2; A. Pennington, 3; E. Montford, 4; H. Page (conductor), 5; J. Austin, 6; J. Tiderton, 7; T. Rose, 8.

THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

PUTNEY (Surrey).—On Wednesday, February 24th, the following members of the above Association attempted a peal of Stedman Triples (Haley's Variation), but after ringing I hr. and 42 mins., a mistake in the work brought it to grief just before the 34th course-end. E. F. Strange (conductor), I; E. F. Cole, 2; A. B. Carpenter. 3; E. E. Vinen, 4; J. Wright, 5; J. Strutt, 6; J. Trappitt, 7; B. E. Battrum, 8. Followed by a course of Double Norwich.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

CRAWLEY (Sussex).—On Sunday evening, February 28th, for Divine Service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 43 mins. J. Collison, 1; J. Newnham, 2; T. Smith, Esq., 3; M. Heffer, 4; W. Collison, 5; F. Wickens, 6; A. F. Hillier (conductor), 7; E. Pierce, 8.

THE WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

HORLEY (Surrey).—On Sunday, February 21st, by the kind permission of the Vicar, the Capel branch of the above Guild visited the parish church to attempt a peal of Treble Bob Major, but after ringing two courses after the morning service, they found the bells did not go well enough for a peal, so a 768 and 576 of Treble Bob Major was rung. G. Holloway, I; R. Jordan, 2; A. Mills, 3; E. Moses, 4; E. Jordan, 5; F. Wickens, 6; D. Jordan, 7; G. Williams (conductor), 8. This is the first touches in the first method on the bells. And for Divine Service in the evening, 447 of Grandsire Triples, in which some of the local band took part. The above band wish through the medium of this paper to thank the Vicar for the use of the bells, hoping to ring a peal on them some future time.

BIRMINGHAM.—On Sunday, February 21st, for evening service at St. Chad's, a quarter-peal of Bob Triples, in 43 mins. W. Saniger, 1; T. Miller, 2; J. W. Townsend, 3; J. Carter (conductor), 4; R. Hackley, 5; A. Pye, 6: A. Hackley, 7; A. Druce, 8. Tenor 15 cwt. in F. A. Pye hails from Romford, Essex.

CALVERLEY (Yorkshire).—On Sunday evening, for Divine Service, at St. Wilfrid's church, 1024 changes of Prince Albert, in 28 mins., at the first attempt. R. Page, 1; W. Child, 2; E. Keighley, 3; W. Hollings, 4; J. Page, 5; J. Ross, 6; J. Cordingley (conductor), 7; W. Davison, 8. Tenor 10½ cwt.

Davison, 8. Tenor 10½ cwt.

CAPEL (Surrey).—On Tuesday, February 23rd, the local society rang 360 of Bob Minor. T. Stedman, 1; C. Weedon, 2; A. Mills, 3; R. Worsfold, 4; E. Jordan, 5; D. Jordan, 6. Also 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor. R. Worsfold, 1; R. Jordan, 2; T. Stedman, 3; A. Mills, 4; E. Jordan, 5; D. Jordan (conductor), 6. And on Friday, February 26th, 720 of Bob Minor. R. Worsfold, 1; C. Weedon, 2; T. Stedman, 3; A. Mills, 4; E. Jordan, 5; D. Jordan (conductor), 6. Also on Sunday, February 28th, for afternoon service, 360 Oxford Treble Bob. T. Stedman. 1; R. Jordan, 2; A. Mills, 3; R. Worsfold, 4; E. Jordan, 5; D. Jordan (conductor), 6. And after service, 360 Oxford Bob. C. Weedon, 1; R. Jordan, 2; T. Stedman, 3; R.

Worsfold, 4; M. Jenkins, 5; A. Mills (conductor), 6. Also 360 of Bob Minor. C. Weedon, 1; T. Stedman, 2; F. Francis, 3; R. Worsfold, 4; D. Jordan, 5; W. Haynes (conductor), 6. Messrs. Haynes and Francis hail from Ewhurst, the rest belong to Capel.

CHILDWELL (Lancashire).—On Wednesday, February 11th, at the parish church, a 720 of Grandsire Minor, in 27 mins. G. Meadows, 1; T. Elson, 2; W. Booth, 3; (4th ringer left out); W. Meadows, 5; Geo. W. Hughes (conductor), 6. Tenor 13 cwt.

CHURCH KIRK (Lancashire).—On Friday, February 26th, at the parish church, 720 of Plain Bob Minor, with sixteen bobs and two singles, in 28½ mins. J. Horrocks (conductor), 1; J. Bullock, 2; *J. Bentley, 3; H. Hayes, 4; J. Pickles, 5; W. Pattinson, 6. Tenor 15 cwt. *First 720.

DARLEY DALE (Derbyshire).—On Tuesday, February 23rd, the local company rang a 720 of Bob Minor, for practice, in 27 mins. S. Groom, 1; J. Derbyshire, 2; W. Taylor, 3; C. Whymark, 4; C. Gwatkin, 5; E. Hallows (conductor), 6. Tenor 15 cwt. in G. This is the first 720 by all, and the first 720 on the bells by a local band.

Denford (Northamptonshire).—On Wednesday, February 24th, at Holy Trinity church, on the occasion of a wedding, two 720's of College Little, two 720's and two 360's of Plain Bob Minor, a/720 and a 360 of Court Single, a 720 of Oxford Bob Minor, and a 360 of College Single. F. Starmore, 1; J. Groom, 2; E. Mayes, 3; H. Groom, 4; A. Groom, 5; T. Roberts, 6. H. Stubbs rang the 5th in one 720 of Plain Bob, and W. J. Gilbert rang the 2nd; H. Stubbs rang the 3rd in College single. On Thursday, February 25th, a 720 of Bob Minor (eighteen bobs and two singles). F. Starmore, 1; J. Groom, 2; A. Arnold, 3; E. Mayes, 4; A. Groom (conductor), 5; T. Roberts, 6.

Everge—On Sunday February 25th for Divine Service at St

Arnold, 3; E. Mayes, 4; A. Groom (conductor), 5; T. Roberts, 6.

EXETER.—On Sunday, February 21st, for Divine Service at St. Sidwell's Church, 504 of Grandsire Triples. T. Townsend, 1; E. Pitt, 2; A. Shepherd, 3; W. Richardson, 4; J. Moss, 5; E. Shepherd, 6; F. Shepherd (conductor), 7; W. Munday, 8. Also 350 of Grandsire Triples. W. Munday, 1; A. Shepherd, 2; F. Shepherd, 3; E. Shepherd, 4; E. Pitt (conductor), 5; J. Moss, 6; W. Richardson, 7; J. Luscombe, 8. And on Tuesday, February 23rd, for practice, 168 of Stedman Triples. J. Moss, 1; E. Pitt, 2; A. Shepherd, 3; W. Richardson, 4; W. G. Goss, 5; E. Shepherd, 6; F. Shepherd, 3; W. Richardson, 4; W. G. Goss, 5; E. Shepherd, 6; F. Shepherd, 4; A. Shepherd, 5; J. Moss, 6; E. Shepherd (conductor), 7; T. Townsend, 8. Also 168 of Grandsire Triples. T. Townsend, 1; E. Pitt, 2; W. Richardson, 3; F. Shepherd, 4; A. Shepherd, 5; J. Moss, 6; E. Shepherd (conductor), 7; T. J. Lake, 8. On Thursday, an attempt was made to ring Mr. J. Carter's date touch of Grandsire Triples, but after ringing about 1000 changes it suddenly came to grief. T. Townsend, 1; E. Pitt, 2; W. G. Goss, 3; W. Richardson, 4; J. Moss, 5; E. Shepherd (conductor), 6; A. Shepherd, 7; W. Mundy, 8. Tenor 24 cwt.

FOXEARTH (ESSEX).—On Monday evening, February 15th, at the church of SS. Peter and Paul, 720 Bob Minor (with 46 calls) in 25 mins. G. Maxim, sen., 1; Chas, Lee, 2; Percy Scott (conductor), 3; Robt. Mingay, 4; John Lee, 5; Geo. Maxim, jun., 6. The above 720 is the composition of Mr. Jno. F. Penning, of Saffron Walden. On Thursday, February 18th, 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor, in 26 mins. Geo. Maxim, 1; Saml. Slater, 2; John Lee, 3; Robt Mingay, 4; James Bird, 5; Percy Scott (conductor), 6.

GREENWICH (Kent).—Muffled Peal.—On Monday, March 1st, a deeply-muffled peal was rung at St. Alphege church, as a tribute of respect to the memory of the late Mr. Richard G. Brown, one of the local company, whose painfully sudden death occurred on the 23rd ult. After the usual muffled peal a few short touches of Grandsire Triples were rung. William G. Davis, I; W. Weatherstone, 2; John J. Lamb, 3; Frederick W. Thornton (conductor), 4; Harry W. Grout, 5; Edward E. Richards, 6; William H. Freeman, 7; William W. Foreman, 8.

HALIFAX (Yorks).—On Sunday, February 28th, for evening service at All Souls' Church, 784 of Plain Bob Major. H. Reynolds, 1; T. Parker, 2; G. D. E. Mercer, 3; J. S. Ambler, 4; A. Parker, 5; *C. E. Stewart, 6; W. Stewart (conductor), 7; A. F. Nicholl, 8. Tenor 25½ cwt. in D. *Longest touch in the method.

HATHEROP (Gloucestershire).—On Tuesday, February 23rd, at the parish church, a 720 of Plain Bob Minor, in 25 mins. T. Barnett, I; Rev. R. P. Davies (first 720), 2; C. Bate, 3; J. Kitchenor (conductor), 4; G. Smith, 5; T. Smith (first 720), 6.

(conductor), 4; G. Smith, 5; T. Smith (first 720), 6.

HAVERSTOCK HILL (Middlesex).—On Sunday evening, January 3rd, after Divine Service at St. Martin's Church, 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor, in 24 mins. G. Griffin, 1; G. Harvey, 2; J. Hannington (conductor), 3; N. Alderman, 4; J. Nixon, 5; T. Titchener, 6. And on Sunday evening, February 14th, 720 Plain Bob Minor, eighteen bobs and eighteen singles, in 25 mins. G. Thurlow, 1; T. Titchener, 2; J. Hannington (conductor), 3; T. Gleed, 4; J. Leach, 5; J. Nixon, 6. Also on Sunday, February 28th, 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor, in 25 mins. *G. Thurlow, 1; T. Gleed, 2; J. Nixon, 3; J. Hannington (conductor), 4: G. Harvey, 5; G. Griffin, 6. Tenor 12½ cwt. * First 720 in the method.

HURWORTH (Durham).—On Tuesday evening, February 23rd, at ll Saints' Church, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob, in 27 mins. *G. Eden, All Saints' Church, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob, in 27 mins. *G. Eden, 1; J. Simpson, 2; H. Kirby, 3; J. Gaines (conductor), 4; J. Temple, 5; G. Garbutt, 6. Tenor 17 cwt. *First 720 in the method.

LONG SUTTON (Lincolnshire).-On Saturday evening, February 20th, at St. Mary's church, in 27 mins., a 720 of Bob Minor (with eighteen bobs and two singles), by G. Watson, 1; Dr. Seccombe, 2; J. Mawby, 3; J. Stennett, 4; W. Cunnington, 5; J. W. M. Brown, Esq. (conductor), 6. Tenor 13 cwt. This was the first 720 by Mr. Brown, who, with Nos. 1, 4, and 5, hail from Lutton. This is the third company whose formation has been greatly promoted by the Eastern Counties' Guild. Other methods will soon be entered upon by the company.

MACCLESFIELD (Cheshire).—On Sunday February 21st, for Divine Service in the morning, a 420 of Stedman Triples. J. Farrish, 1; J. Burgess, 2; C. Bamford, 3; W. McKenny, 4; J. M. Davenport, 5; E. Matthews (conductor), 6; W. Walmsley, 7; J. Morledge, 8.

PONTEFRACT (Yorks).—On Thursday, February 25th, at All Saints' Church, a few six-scores of Stedman Doubles. F. Moody, 1; J. Brook, 2; R. Brook, 3; J. Pollard, 4; J. Carter, 5; W. Pearson (conductor), 6. And on Sunday evening, February 28th, 720 of Oxford Treble Bob, A. Pearson ringing the treble, the rest standing as

Preston (Suffolk).—On Wednesday, January 20th, for practice at St. Mary's Church, 720 of Bob Minor, eight bobs and six singles. H. Symonds (conductor), 1; W. Hollocks, 2; A. Hollocks, 3; H. Smith, 4; A. Symonds, 5; J. Levitt, 6. And on Saturday, January 23rd, it being the 28th birthday of Arthur Symonds, at his father's house, he tapped upon the handbells a course of Plain Bob Triples, a course of Conductor Triples, a course of Plain Bob Triples, a course of Pl tapped upon the handbells a course of Plain Bob Triples, a course of Grandsire Triples, and a course of Bob Major. Also on Wednesday, February 3rd, at the above church, 720 of Bob Minor, eight bobs and six singles, in 25 mins. H. Symonds (conductor), 1; W. Hollocks, 2; A. Hollocks, 3; J. Moore, 4; A. Symonds, 5; J. Levitt, 6. And on Thursday, February 11th, 720 of Bob Minor, nine bobs and six singles, in 25½ mins. H. Symonds, 1; W. Hollocks, 2; A. Hollocks, 3; H. Smith, 4; A. Symonds (conductor), 5; J. Levitt, 6. Also on Wednesday, February 24th, 720 of Bob Minor, six bobs and fourteen sixteen singles, with the tenors behind at the first and fourth parts. H. Symonds, 1; W. Hollocks, 2; A. Hollocks, 3; H. Smith, 4; W. H. Symonds, 1; W. Hollocks, 2; A. Hollocks, 3; H. Smith, 4; W. Snell, 5; A. Symonds (conductor), 6. Tenor 11 cwt. in F. Messrs. Smith and Symonds bail from Lavenham, the rest are local men.

RETFORD (Notts) -On Tuesday, February 23rd, eight members of RETFORD (Notts).—On Tuesday, February 23rd, eight members of the local company rang for practice, at the parish church a quarterpeal of Grandsire Triples, in 47 mins. †H. Wilson, I; S. Joynes (conductor), 2; J. Briggs, 3; W. Brake, 4; *N. Hunt, 5; G. Skelton, 6; S. Hunt, 7; J. Joynes, 8. Tenor 25 cwt. At St. Michael's church. West Retford, on Thursday, February 25th, for practice, two 720s of Grandsire Minor, in 25 and 24 mins. respectively. *H. Wilson, I; S. Joynes, 2; W. Brake, 3; N. Hunt, 4; J. Joynes, 5; †R. Potter, 6. Tenor 9 cwt. 9 lbs. The first 720 was conducted by W. Brake. Tenor 9 cwt. 9 lbs. The first 720 was conducted by W. Brake. the latter by S. Joynes, who changed with the 5th, the others as before. *First quarter-peal. †First 720.

ST. Albans (Herts).—On Sunday, February 28th, for Divine Service at the Cathedral, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 44 mins. J. C. Mitchell, 1; R. T. Kent, 2; R. Fowler, 3; W. F. L. Buckingham (conductor), 4; W. Battle, 5; G. W. Cartmel, 6; N. N. Hills, 7; E. A. Hulks, 8. This is the first quarter-peal by the first, third, and fifth men, and the longest touch called by the conductor.

SWANSCOMBE (Kent).—On Sunday, February 28th, for morning service, 720 of Plain Bob in 25 mins. L. Digweed, 1; G. Hayes, 2; F. Hayes, 3; F. J. Ring, 4; G. Martin, 5; W. Harper (conductor), 6. And for evening service, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob in 26 mins. G. Hayes, 1; F. J. Ring, 2; F. Hayes, 3; *G. Martin, 4; W. Martin, 5; W. Harper (conductor), 6. *First 720 in the method.

TROWBRIDGE (Wilts).—On Saturday, February 20th, a quarterpeal of Grandsire Triples. W. Alley, 1: C. A. Clements, 2; J. R. Jerram, 3; J. Hayward, 4; W. McCaffrey (conductor), 5; T. Blackbourn, 6; W. W. Gifford, 7; J. Cooper, 8. Tenor 23 cwt.

WALTON-ON-THE-HILL (Lancashire).—On Sunday morning, February 28th, at St. Mary's parish church, 1080 changes, being a 720 of Plain Bob, and a 360 of Oxford Single Bob, in 35 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.

West Derby (Lancashire).—On Tuesday, February 10th, at St. James's church, a 720 of Grandsire Minor, in 29 mins. T. Davies, 1; J. Leyland, 2; G. Acton, 3; Geo. W. Hughes, 4; G. Wearing, 5; W. Hargreaves (conductor), 6. First 720 conducted by W. Hargreaves. Tenor 15 cwt.

Wimbledon (Surrey).—On Tuesday, February 23rd, at St. Mary's Church, 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor, in 26 mins. G. Byde, 1; R. Moss, 2; C. Byde, 3; G. Welling, 4; B. Battrum, 5; S. Frost (conductor), 6.

Correspondence.

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

THE CATHEDRALS OF DUBLIN.

SIR,—For the information of your readers, I wish to ten thom the two Cathedrals in Dublin, one of which, Christ Church, has the finest reckoned peal of bells in Ireland. The bells are thirteen in number, and altogether weigh ten tons. The other Cathedral St. SIR,—For the information of your readers, I wish to tell them that of number, and altogether weigh ten tons. The other Cathedral, St. Patrick's, has a peal of eight bells. The Roman Catholic pro-Cathedral does not possess a peal of bells. In my next letter I purpose giving some account of the parish churches of Dublin possessing peals of The only two Roman Catholic Churches in Dublin having a peal of bells are the churches of SS. Augustine and John, John Street, and St. Paul's, Arran Quay. Both these churches possess a peal of eight bells. I am indebted for my information to the courtesy of the priests-in-charge. CAMPANOLOGIST.

TICHMARSH BELLS.

SIR,-Your scurrilous correspondent "A lover of Bells," does not deserve an answer, but as he has had the impudence to insinuate that I received money for tuning the bells, I will state that I never received any money for tuning the bells, nor even for hanging them, as I am not the bellhanger; and nobody connected with me had anything to with tuning the bells, and nobody in the world has been asked to tune I never asked any question of your correspondent, but said, "I should be glad if he would say which bell is out of tune," so as to prove to your readers that he knows. As to the other things he desires to know, he had better come and find them out for himself. Nobody here pretends to think the bells are all perfectly in tune, but those who are in any way concerned in or connected with them are perfectly well satisfied with them, and no outsiders need trouble themselves about them. I have not asked for any subscription at all.

JAMES W. EATON.

A Correction.

SIR,—In your issue of February 20th, page 372, it states that the number of peals rung by the Midland Counties Association was five, I beg to say, that the number of peals rung and recorded in this paper was six, viz: January 2nd, 5088 Double Norwich; January 7th, 5088 Kent Treble Bob; January 16th, 5056 Kent Treble Bob; January 25th, 5056 Kent Treble Bob; January 29th, 5088 Kent Treble Bob; January 20th, 5088 Ken that month was 52.

THE ART AT BICESTER.

SIR,-The Annual Report of the above Guild for 1885, having been distributed among the members, shows an increase in every respect, but looking down the list of change-ringers, I find ten members from Bicester all down as change-ringers. As I happened to visit that place a short time back I found the exercise was not practiced, so I thought a short time back I found the exercise was not practiced, so I thought they had made some progress, but making enquiries about them I find only two members, namely Cable and Wakenell, own certificates as Change-ringers, the rest are Probationary members. I merely wish to state this through the Bell News, that should any ringer visit there thinking of finding a band of Change-ringers he would be disappointed.

THE SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.

On Thursday, February 25th, seven members of the above society assembled in the tower of St. Mary's, Old Battersea, to meet the Rev. J. Ulten Todd, of Dunster, Somerset, who was desirous to accomplish, with them, his first peal in London, and also to commemorate the 35th with them, his first peal in London, and also to commemorate the 35th birthday of the Battersea Secretary (Mr. H. S. Thomas), but after ringing 2 hrs. and 2 mins. the attempt came to grief, and was adjourned accordingly till Tuesday evening, March 2nd, when the same members assembled and succeeded in ringing "Holt's Original" in good style, particulars of which will be found on another page. The rev. gentleman, at the conclusion of the ringing, graciously offered to place in the belfry a tablet to record the peal, which was readily accepted by all present; and after explaining to the members at their meeting room, the reason he had derived them of their

bers, at their meeting-room, the reason he had deprived them of their practice, in order that he might have the pleasure of ringing his first peal in London in their belfry, he took his leave for his native place amidst the good wishes of all present.

THE WEST MIDDLESEX ASSOCIATION.

The meeting of the above society, that was announced for March 20th, is unavoidably postponed till March 27th, and will take place in the old Isleworth belfry.

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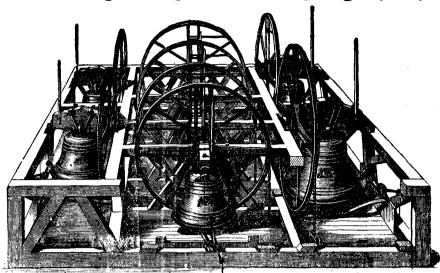
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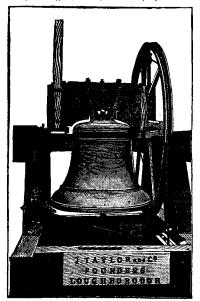
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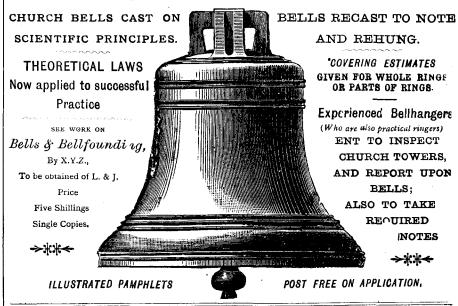
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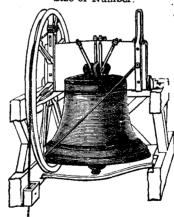
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BELLS AND NOTED MEN.

Lovers of bells take pleasure in associating them with well-known names; and the following facts, gleaned in leisure moments, will, we hope, afford our readers some pleasure. Our first name, though not that of a noted man, will be of interest to ringers, inasmuch as it shows that 600 years ago men of some standing were to be found, at times, among our ringers.

A Coroner's Roll, in the Bodleian Library, at Oxford, tells us that, in the New Year of 1301, one Robert de Honniton, clerk, a student or scholar at the University, while helping to ring the bells of St. Michael's church, fell through a hole in the bell tower, and was killed. This is probably one of the earliest recorded accidents of its kind.

De Brunne, a Gilbertine monk, wrote, at some time between 1327 and 1377, a metrical life of Grostête, Bishop of Lincoln, in which he ascribes to the Bishop words which, if they do not give us the true thoughts of Grostête, show us that De Brunne looked upon bells as a means of worshipping God. Grostête was a great lover of music, and when asked the reason, he said that the harp and its music reminded him to worship God to the best of his power, as did David—

"In cards in organs, and hells ringing."

In cords, in organs, and bells ringing, In all these worship the Heaven's King."

At the end of the 14th century, during the first open struggle between capital and labour, John Ball, a priest and leader of the people, though he, probably, could not actually ring the tocsin, made use of the bell in one of the rude rhymes then common.

"John Ball greeteth vou all, and doth for to understand he hath rung your bell."

Now right and might, will and skill, God speed every dele."

About 1584 we find ringing to be an Imperial pastime. Emperor of Russia, son of Ivan the Terrible, frequented the churches and amused himself by ringing the bells. He was, we are told, "a feeble and imbecile prince;" not, we hope, because of his ringing proclivities, but on account of his incapacity to govern his empire.

Bells do not seem to have been altogether forgotten in the "Augustan Age" of English literature.

Edmund Spenser, the author of the "Færie Queen," alludes, in his Epithalamion (1596) to the practice of ringing, in a way which shows that it must have been familiar to him.

"Ring ye the bells ye young men of the town, And leave your wonted labour for this day."

The "day" was the 21st June, the longest day, and, in the same poem, he gives us an "Use" for bells, which will be new to many.

Yet never days so long but late would pass, Ring ye the bells to make it wear away."

Shakespeare (1600) evidently clearly understood that it was impossible for a bell to be guilty of deceit, the earliest of human follies. "Much Ado about Nothing," he says,

"He hath a heart as sound as a bell, and his tongue is the clapper; for what his heart thinks his tongue speaks."

Cracks in bells have been filled with putty and painted over, but still the bells proclaimed their defects.

In the same play (v. 2) he alludes to the custom of ringing after a funeral.

John Bunyan, who lived in the 17th century, was a ringer. He gives us a vivid description of the effect produced by the fears of a guilty conscience awakening to the terrors of Divine punishment, and also of the power of fascination exercised by ringing. We cannot do

"Now you must know that, before this I had taken much delight in ringing, but my conscience beginning to be tender, I thought such practice was but vain, and therefore forced myself to leave it; yet my mind hankered: wherefore I would go to the steeplehouse, and look on, though I durst not ring: but I thought this did not become religion neither; yet I forced myself and would look on still: but quickly after, I began to think, how if one of the bells should fall? Then I chose to stand under a main beam, that lav over thwart the steeple, from side to side, thinking here I might stand sure; but then I thought again, should the bell fall with a swing, it might first hit whe wall, and then rebounding upon me, might kill me for all this beam. This made me stand in the steeple door: and now, thought I, I am sa'e enough: for if the bell should fall; I can slip out behind these thick walls, and so be preserved notwith-standing. So after this I would yet go and see them ring, but would not go any further than the steeple-door; but then it came into my head, how, if the steeple tiself should fall? And this thought (it might be for aught I know when I stood and looked on) did continually so shake my mind, that I durst not stand at the steeple-door any longer, but was forced to flee, for fear the steeple should fall upon my head."

Although, at this time of his life he seems to have looked.

Although, at this time of his life, he seems to have looked upon ringing as a "vain" practice, still, at a later period, he could not describe the triumphal entry of "Christian" and "Hopeful" into "the heavenly Jerusalem" without telling us that-

"Then I heard in my dream that all the bells in the city rang again for joy, and that it was said unto them,

'Enter ye into the joy of our Lord.'"

Charles Dickens, in a beautiful description of a New England "Sabbath." associates with the ringing of "the clear church bells," "a pleasant sabbath peacefulness," "which was good to feel," and, be it told to those who deprecate ringing, "a wholesome repose, and tranquility.

He again shows us, clearly, the influence of the sound of bells on the feelings, when, in speaking of a fire, he says, "What is this intolerable tolling of great bells?"

We will conclude with the words of Longfellow:

Say! how cans't thou mourn? How cans't thou rejoice? Thou art but metal dull! And yet all our sorrowings, And all our rejoicings, Thou dost feel them all!" "God hath wonders many, Which we cannot fathom, Placed within my form! When the heart is sinking, Thou alone can'st raise it, Trembling in the storm!"

Song of the Bell.

HEREFORD DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION OF CHURCH BELL RINGERS.

A MEETING, well attended by both clergy and ringers, those present numbering in all about eighty, was held in the College Hall, Hereford, on Tuesday, March 2nd, to establish a Guild of Ringers for the Diocese, the chair being taken by the Rev. Canon Musgrave, Canon in residence.

In opening the meeting, the chairman expressed the pleasure it gave him to preside, and said he thought that the proposed Association would be well deserving of hearty support. He then called upon the prime mover in the scheme, the Rev. G. M. Custance, to give an outline of the objects in view.

Mr. Custance, in a speech of some length, put clearly before the meeting the chief points which such an Association was calculated to promote. These were, first and foremost, the greater honour and glory of Almighty God. And secondly, a general improvement in the changeringing throughout the Diocese, accompanied by an elevation of the

ringers themselves in those places where there was need of it.

The next speaker was the Rev. F. E. Robinson, Master of the Oxford Diocesan Guild, who commenced by congratulating the Diocese of Hereford upon the goodly number that he saw there that day. The Oxford Diocesan Guild was founded at a meeting not more than one tenth the size of the present one, and it could now point to a muster roll of about 800 members, and much good work accomplished from a Church point of view, and to a fast-filling peal-book, and all this had been accomplished in the short space of five years. The Chairman then called upon the Rev. C. D. P. Davies, Master

of the Gloucester and Bristol Diocesan Association, who dwelt warmly upon the benefits resulting from the clergy being frequent visitors to their belfries at times of ringing, and above all from their learning the

their beliffies at times of ringing, and above all from their learning the art themselves if possible.

The next speaker, G. H. Phillott, Esq., spoke of the good that ringers as laymen and churchmen could do for the Church. They saw the clergyman often, and had other opportunities of seeing into Church work and its value. They were thus enabled to do good service in teaching truth about the Church, and counteracting in various ways the evil that her enemies were attempting to work against her ways the evil that her enemies were attempting to work against her

The Rev. Prebendary Phillott proposed the first resolution—"That an Association of Church Ringers be formed for the Diocese of Hereford." In so doing he dwelt upon the monotony of round-ringing, and the great superiority of scientific change-ringing

The Rev. D. Seaton seconded the resolution, which was carried

unanimously.

The Rev. J. G. Curtis then proposed that Prebendary Phillot, who had to leave to catch a train, be asked to request the Lord Bishop of the Diocese to become President of the Guild. This, having been seconded by the Rev. W. Hulme, was unanimously agreed to.

The Hon. and Rev. W. P. S. Stanhope then proposed that the following gentlemen be asked to form themselves into a Committee to

draw up rules for the Guild, and choose a Master, Secretary, and Treasurer: Rev. Canon Musgrave, Rev. G. M. Custance, Rev. C. T. Wilton, Prebendary Phillott, Hon. and Rev. W. P. S. Stanhope, Rev. A. F. A. Reiss, Rev. H. Parsons, Rev. P. Breat, G. H. Phillott, Esq., A. F. M. Custance, Esq., J. Buchanan, Esq., and Messrs. Beatley (Colwall), Davies (Hereford), Wall (Ross). This was seconded by the

(Colwall), Davies (Hereford), Wall (Ross). This was seconded by the Rev. C. T. Wilton, and carried mem con.

Rev. A. C. Lee moved, and Rev. J. F. Marillier seconded, a vote of thanks to Canon Musgrave for presiding, and to Mr. Robinson and Mr. Davies for having come to address the meeting.

Canon Musgrave, in responding, said it had given him great pleasure to be present, and added that he thought the especial thanks of all were due to Mr. Custance for having called them together, and for having undertaken so much trouble in the matter. These words were applicated and Mr. Custance briefly returned thanks. were applauded, and Mr. Custance briefly returned thanks.

THE WEST MIDDLESEX ASSOCIATION.

The meeting of the above society, that was announced for March 20th, is unavoidably postponed till March 27th, and will take place in the old Isleworth belfry,

ITEMS FROM ESSEX.

Brentwood.—It is with pleasure that we learn that a ring of bells has been promised by two beneficiaries under the will of the late Rev. C. Belli, for the new tower, so soon as completed, to be erected at St. Thomas', Brentwood. It will be remembered that we recently referred to the magnificent amount contributed to Church work by the late rev. gentleman, who not only contributed £6000 as an annonymous donor, but left instructions in his will for his executors to complete the unfinished tower and spire at Brentwood, which according to the original plans is estimated to cost from £2000 to £3000. Chelmsford.—When the Essex Association was inaugurated at

Chelmsford.—When the Essex Association was inaugurated at Writtle, in 1879, the condition of the Chelmsford tower was a cause of general expression of regret among those present, while another topic of conversation was the mysterious removal of the two trebles to Moulsham, some years ago. Having held a district meeting at Chelmsford, the Association decided upon an inspection of the tower, and laying the report before the authorities, the result of which was an overhaul. Sometime afterwards the Rev. H. A. Cockey, Hon. Sec. of the Essex Association, took advantage of the occasion, and by making arrangements between the authorities at Moulsham and Rettendon, the towers of which were under restoration, to secure the return of the two trebles to Chelmsford. Certain difficulties having cropped up, as regards the rehanging, the Association has held a couple of Annual Meetings, and "viewed" the two trebles just inside the church. We now learn, however, that at last they have ascended into the ringing-chamber, and that £40 out of £50 for rehanging is secured, and that so soon as the other £10 is forthcoming, the bells will go back into their original quarters, making once again the ring of ten complete.

Kelvedon.—As the chief occupation of the inhabitants of this

Kelvedon.—As the chief occupation of the inhabitants of this village is agricultural, it could not be expected that £70 required for the new trebles would quickly be forthcoming. As a means of swelling the fund, two or three entertainments have taken place during the winter months, and the inhabitants in general having a desire to do something "for the dear old church," the entertainments have secured large audiences, and the fund has swelled accordingly.

ORSETT—The fund for the restoration and augmentation of the present old five to six, is now making good progress. It is estimated that about £150 will be required, and as the fund now exceeds £100 it is anticipated that the work will shortly be put in hand.

ROMFORD.—We regret we cannot hold out a speedy prospect of restoration here. It will be remembered that shortly after our editorial comment upon the subject, a meeting was held for the purpose of considering the erection of a choir vestry, and suggested organ improvements. Attention having been called to what appeared in our columns, the committee who were appointed were requested to underall three objects. An appeal was issued stating that £470 for the choir vestry, £280 for the organ, and £200 for the bells were required. The new choir vestry, after a list of subscriptions amounting to £690 had been published, was opened on Christmas-day, since which time the matter has, so far as the public are acquainted, remained in camera.

the matter has, so far as the public are acquainted, remained in Miscellaneous.—During the week ending March 6th, churchmen were busy in Essex. Woodford Bridge church destroyed early in 1885 by fire, was re-opened on Monday. On Thursday, Marks Teychurch was re-opened after restoration; on the same day Little Wigborough church, which was so much damaged by the earthquake in 1884, was re-opened, and on the same day the new church of St. Chad's, Chadwell Heath, near Romford, was opened.

REOPENING OF THE PARISH CHURCH BELLS, RADCLIFFE, LANCASHIRE.

On Saturday, February 20th, the bells at the above parish church were opened after undergoing a thorough restoration of an entire new English frame and fittings complete, the work being entrusted to James Shaw Son and Co., of Bradford, Yorks, who have shown themselves to perfection so far as the hanging of these bells are concerned. The afternoon proceedings commenced with a touch of Grandsire Triples by the Holy Trinity Society, Bolton, conducted by Henry W. Jackson. Afterwards the local company rang a 504 of Grandsire Triples for the special service. F. Rudman (conductor), 1; J. Hardman, 2; F. Emerson, 3; J. Morris, 4; A. Hardman, 5; J. Hardman, 6; F. Morris, 7; W. Fielding, 8. The Rev. Charles Lowe, Vicar of Holy Trinity, Bolton, occupied the pulpit, and preached a most excellent sermon fitted for the occasion. There were also present the Rev. Henry A. Starkie, Rector of the parish, the Rev. J. Burns and the Rev. J. H. Lamburn, curates, and the Rev. Robert Fletcher, Vicar of St. Thomas's, Radcliffe. After service, the Holy Trinity Society rang the congregation out of church with a very good touch. An adjournment was then made to the school, where an excellent tea had been provided by the local ringers, representatives sitting down from Bolton, Southport, Manchester, Heywood, Whitefield, and Pendleton, to the amount of about seventy persons. Afterwards the evening being spent with the handbells and touches on the tower bells, bringing an enjoyable afternoon to a close.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

A District Meeting in connection with this Association was held at Eastbourne, on Saturday, March 6th, when there was a good attendance, those present comprising representatives from St. Mary's, Eastbourne; All Saints', Eastbourne; Christ Church, Eastbourne; Hurstpierpoint, Muntham, Battle, Rype, St. Nicholas. Brighton; and St. Peter's, Brighton. In the morning St. Mary's tower (eight bells), and Christ Christ belfry (six bells), were open for ringing from 10 a.m. to 10 o'clock, but the ringing during the morning does not call for any special mention. At one o'clock the party sat down to a cold collation, well served by Mr. Winchester, proprietor of the New Inn Hotel. The Rev. R. S. Woodward, incumbent of All Saints', presided, and there were also present Mr. George F. Attree. Hon. Sec.; the Rev. F. Puttick, Alfriston; Rev. O. L. Tudor (Christ Church), and the following ringers:—St. Mary's, Eastbourne, eight: All Saints', Eastbourne, seven: Christ Church, Eastbourne, ten; Hurstpierpoint, eight; Muntham, four; Rype, one; Brighton, seven; and several visitors. The repast having been done justice to, a business meeting was held.

The Hon. Secretary having read the minutes of the last meeting, which was held at Chichester, in January last, the names of the following gentlemen were added as Vice-presidents:—Mr. Alderman David Smith, M.P. for Brighton; W. L. Christie, Esq., of Glyndebourne Lewes

On the motion of the Rev. F. Puttick, seconded by Mr. T. Smith, eight additional active members were elected in connection with Christ Chrurch, Eastbourne; and a new branch, consisting of six members of the Kirdford band, was also elected.

The Hon. Secretary said he must trouble them with a few remarks affecting the coin. Members of Associations always liked to know how their money was being spent. The Association had arranged at the general meeting which was held last year, that a certain proportion—one-half the fee and the railway fare—should be paid to the instructors out of the funds of the Association. He was pleased to say that at present thay had a good many bands receiving instruction, but, of course, giving that instruction was a somewhat expensive matter. The branches which have had lessons, or have applied for the assistance of an instructor, being Battle, Buxted, Arundel, Lewes, East Hoathley, Westham, Ringmer, Ditchling, and Kirdford, the present expense in connexion with this part of the Association's work being about £2 per week.

The Chairman, in the course of a few remarks, regretted that he could not offer them the use of his belify for long. He expressed his gratification at meeting them that afternoon, and remarked that he considered it an honour to preside over the first meeting of the County Association held in Eastbourne. He experienced additional pleasure, as chairman, from the fact that he was closely associated with the two principal Associations in Eastbourne; and, without implying any slur upon Christ Church, he might say that he had eight bells, while Christ Church had six, and of course eight bells stood before six. He cordially welcomed the strangers who had come from a distance, and he hoped they would be satisfied with the bells, and the way they were hung, and the ringing. He knew that the Old Town bells rang right well, and regretted that, for reasons which he had indicated, the bells at All Saints' were not rung so frequently. He added that he was not speaking from personal experience of the ringing, and he had an idea that, if he attempted it, he should find himself very rapidly transported up to the ceiling, especially if the bell was a heavy one. (Laughter).

On the motion of the Rev. F. PUTTICK, a hearty vote of thanks was accorded to Canon Pitman, vicar of Eastbourne; the Rev. R. S. Woodward, incumbent of All Saints; and Rev. — Allen, incumbent of Christ Church, who had allowed the use of their belfries that day.

The Hon. Secretary proposed a vote of thanks to the Rev. R. S. Woodward for presiding, which was seconded by Mr. H. Wood, and carried unanimously.

carried unanimously.

It was decided that the Annual General Meeting of the Association should be held at Brighton, in May next.

During the afternoon and evening the following were amongst the touches rung at St. Mary's:—A peal of Grandsire Triples was attempted by a mixed band, and failed, but a 504 in the same method was brought round in 16½ mins. At All Saints' a 504 of Grandsire Triples, and several short touches, were rung; while at Christ Church a 720 of Bob Minor, also several touches in the same method, and Grandsire Minor, and 6-scores of Stedman and Grandsire Doubles were obtained. Ringing ceased at 9.30.

A large stable clock has just been fixed at Burton Hall, near Melton Mowbray. It has two dials, and strikes the hours and half-hours. It has all modern improvements to ensure it keeping perfectly accurate time. Messrs. John Smith and Sons, Midland Clock Works, Derby, carried out the work for Mr. Smith, Melton, who received the order.

ANALYSIS OF PEALS RUNG IN THE MONTHS OF JANUARY AND FEBRUARY, 1886.

•	T		Feb.	-	Cotal.
The Midland Counties' Association	Jan. 6		reb. I2	1	18
The Yorkshire Association	_	••	8	••	_
	3	••		• •	II
The Oxford Diocesan Guild	5	• •	5	• •	10
The Ancient Society of College Youths	6	• •	3	••	9
The United Counties' Association	2	• •	6	••	8
The St. James's Society, London	4	• •	3	• •	7
The Society of Royal Cumberland Youths	3	• •	2	• •	5
The Liverpool Youths' Society	2	• •	2	• •	4
The Birmingham District and Amalga-)	•		1		
mated Societies	3	••	1	• •	4
The Kent Association	3		0	٠.	3
The Winchester Diocesan Guild	2		1		3
The Holt Society	2		1		3
The Norwich Diocesan Society	2		I		3
The Surrey Association	2		I		3
The Hertford Association	Ī		Ī	••	2
The Association for Archdeaconry of Stafford	l 2		o	• •	2
The Rochdale and District Association	0		2	•••	2
The Sussex County Association	ŏ		2	••,	2
The Lancashire Association	ŏ	••	2	••	2
The Durham and Newcastle Diocesan)	٠	••	~	••	~
Association	I	• •	0	••	I
The Stoke-upon-Trent Archdeaconal)					
Association	ò		I	٠	I
The Gloucester and Bristol Diocesan)					
	0		I		I
Association	•				-6
Independent Societies	6	••	20	• •	26
	_			-	_
	55		75	1	130
Less peals entered under two Associations	3		I		4
	—		_	-	_
Total	52		74	. 1	126
	_			-	

The above Peals were rung in the following methods:—

Donble Norwich Court Bob Major, 1; Treble Bob Royal, 6; Treble Bob Caters, 1; Treble Bob Major, 30; Stedman Cinques, 1; Stedman Caters, 1; Stedman Triples, 14; Grandsire Caters, 5; Grandsire Major, 5; Grandsire Triples, 46; Grandsire Doubles, 1 (5040). Bob Major, 6; Bob Triples, 1. In seven methods on six bells, 8' Total, 126.

Greatest number of changes in one peal, 10,000. Quickest, 5040, 2 hours 32 minutes, on church bells.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—ROTHWELL BRANCH

The following is the ringing done by this branch, at Holy Trinity church, during the month of February:—February 7th, 720 of College Exercise, 240 of New London Pleasure; February 13th, 720 of College Exercise, 360 City Delight; February 14th, 360 of Arnold's Victory, 360 of Duke of York, 720 of London Scholars Pleasure; February 21st, 216 of Oxford Treble Bob; February 28th, 240 of London Scholars' Pleasure, 240 of College Exercise, 240 of Arnold's Victory, 240 of Violet, 360 of Kent, 360 of College Pleasure, 360 of Duke of York.

SECULAR MUSIC IN THE BELFRY.—It will be remembered that in our issue of February 27th, we gave an account of handbell performances in the tower, which comprised the playing of several popular tunes. A footnote was added by ourselves intending to convey the impression that the belfry, as part of the church, was hardly the proper place for secular music. This, however, has called forth the following protest from the parties concerned:—

"To the Editor of 'The Bell News.'—Sir,—In reference to your foot-note, which appeared in your last issue, regarding the Walton Hand-bell Ringers rehearsing in the belfty of the church, we, the undersigned, beg to intimate that we think your opinion is entirely wrong. We have had the clergy and churchwardens at our rehearsale, and they did not deem it out of place for us to practice in the belfry, and were very much gratified at the work that was going on. Perhaps if we had been in some bar-parlor, it would have escaped your observation, and your footnote would not have appeared." [Here follow the signatures of the local company.]

The innuendo about the bar-parlour is rather out of place. We have always been strongly opposed to public exhibitions of such a character.

A GENEROUS OFFER LOST.

A lady had intimated to the Vicar of Barnwood, Gloucestershire, her desire to place, as a memorial of her late husband, who was a generous donor to the church, two bells in the tower of that parish church, so as to make up a peal of eight, which Mr. Waller, architect, had reported the tower was capable of taking. A largely attended meeting of parishioners was held on Thursday, March 4th, to consider the generous proposal of the lady. Much disappointment however was occasioned, when at the outset of the meeting it was announced that the lady had withdrawn the offer, owing, as it transpired, to her finding that the proposal for bells was not acceptable to some persons in the parish. The Vicar had suggested to the lady that instead of bells a reredos in the church, or a parish room should be provided; but she naturally enough wished her expressed intention carried out.

THE WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD AT CRAWLEY, SUSSEX.

On Saturday, March 6th, by the kind permission of the Vicar, eight members of the above Guild, visited the parish church to attempt a peal of Treble Bob Major, which was successfully brought round in 3 hrs. 7 mins., particulars of which appear on another page. It would only be right to say that this indeed a model place to ring at, a good substantial tower, a good peal of bells, which go just as they should do for peal-ringing, the ringing-chamber, being fitted up with all that is required for the comfort of the ringers. This peal was rung at the third attempt, the band having only met twice before for Treble Bob Major, and they take this opportunity of thanking the Vicar for the use of the bells, also the steeple-keeper, Mr. J. Newnham, for getting everything in readiness for them.

WORTH, SUSSEX.

THE following is an account of the ringing done by the Worth Society during the month of February: February 3rd, 720 Oxford Bob Minor, 720 Plain Bob; February 6th, 720 Canterbury Pleasure, and two 720's of Plain Bob; February 7th, two 360's of Oxford, 720 of Warnham Court, 720 of Plain Bob, 720 of College Single, and 720 of Oxford, February 10th, 720 of Oxford, and a 720 of Plain Bob; February 13th, 720 of Warnham Court; February 17th, 720 Plain Bob, 720 Oxford, and 120 of Canterbury Pleasure; February 24th, 720 of Grandsire Minor.

PRINCESS CHRISTIAN AT STAMFORD HILL, LONDON, N

On Saturday, March 6th, at 3 p.m., Princess Christian, accompanied by Prince Christian, visited Stamford Hill, for the purpose of laying the memorial stone of St. John's church. The royal carriage halted at Manor House Tavern, Finsbury Park. Shortly after, the royal carriage, which was escorted by a detachment of cavalry, was sighted from the tower of St. Ann's church, Hanger Lane, and a royal salute was immediately fired on the bells of that church, accompained by a short touch. J. Davidson, 1; W. Spooner, sen., 2; H. M. Spooner, 3; F. Clear (conductor), 4; R. Banham, 5; W. P. Luscombe, 6.

A large church clock has just been erected at Tichmarsh, Northants, by John Smith and Sons, Midland Clock Works, Derby. It strikes the hours, and chimes the Cambridge quarters, and is fitted with all the modern improvements. All the wheels are machine-cut, so as to be perfectly accurate and smooth, and all the parts of the clock are got up in the most superior manner. It is guaranteed to keep time with great accuracy. The same firm have also just completed a large clock at Westbromwich. It strikes the hours, and shows time upon four large dials, which are illuminated at night. Special automatic apparatus is provided for turning the gas up and down.

The millions upon millions of figures committed to paper by the majority of our readers when composing peals, to an outsider would appear marvellous; and we have, in common with those who pursue this interesting branch of the Art, had our temper often sorely tried by the vagaries of a defective pen. Who among us has not suddenly lost a valuable idea, through the attention being drawn away from it by this little instrument neglecting its office! causing sore trials to temper and patience. Many of these articles we know are merely made to sell, and it is wonderful in these days how such goods find a market. To get a pen by which we could write with some facility and comfort, without having to stab the sheet of paper at every recurring upstroke, has been an object with us for some time, but we have at last found the correct article in those manufactured by the celebrated firm of Macniven and Cameron, of Edinburgh, who seem in their wonderful inventions to have consulted the difficulties encountered by writers of every degree. The pens of this firm are made for every kind of writing. There are those for fine writing, to suit the requirements of the most fantastic caligraphy, and others for the rough-and-ready transactions of the warehouse,

400 I he Bell Ivews and	i Kingers Record.
"THE BELL NEWS AND RINGERS' RECORD" will be forwarded post free, on the following terms:— One copy, 12 months	MOORSIDE, OLDHAM, LANCASHIRE. On Thursday, March 4, 1886, in Two Hours and Fifty-eight Minutes, AT THE CHURCH OF ST. THOMAS, A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES; REEVES'S VARIATION. TENOR 18\(^2\) CWt. ADAM BUTTERWORTH Treble. *JOSEPH TAYLOR 5. SAMUEL STOTT 2. WILLIAM SUTCLIFFE 6. JOSEPH STREET 3. THOMAS BARRATT 7. LUKE HAMPSON Tenor. Conducted by SAMUEL STOTT. S. Stott hails from Glodwick; the rest belong to the local company. *First peal. DRAYTON, BERKS.—THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD. On Thursday, March 4, 1886, in Two Hours and Fifty-six Minutes, AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER, A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES; THURSTANS' COMPOSITION. Tenor 9\(^1\) CWt. H. D. BETTERIDGE, ESQ Treble. HERBERT CASTLE 5. FREDERICK FIELD 3. CHARLES HOUNSLOW 7. JAMES W. WASHBROOK 4. SAMUEL HOUNSLOW Tenor. Conducted by JAMES WILLIAM WASHBROOK.
SATURDAY, MARCH 13, 1886.	Conducted by JAMES WILLIAM WASHBROOK. This peal was rung to commemorate the Appleton anniversary, which unfortunately could not be held at that place.
DENFORD, NORTHANTS. On Saturday, February 20, 1886, in Two Hours and Fifty-five Minutes, AT THE CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY, 5040 CHANGES: IN FIVE DIFFERENT METHODS UPON SIX BELLS; Being two 720s of Plain Bob, two 720s of Oxford Bob, 720 of College Little,	LONG EATON, DERBYSHIRE. THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION. On Friday, March 5, 1886, in Two Hours and Fifty-five Minutes, AT THE CHURCH OF ST. LAWRENCE, A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES; IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 102 cwt., in Ab. RICHARD LANE
720 of College Single, 720 of Court Single. ALFRED GROOM	WILLIAM BILLINGHURST . 2. REV. W. C. PEARSON . 6. J. WARD
BIRMINGHAM.—BIRMINGHAM AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATION. On Wednesday, March 3, 1886, in Two Hours and Fifty-nine Minutes, AT THE CATHEDRAL (R.C.) OF ST. CHAD, A PEAL OF BOB TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES; Tenor 15 cwt. IN F. WILLIAM SANIGERTreble. George W. Townsend 5. JOHN CALLAGHAN 2. JOHN T. PERRY 6. THOMAS MILLER 3. ALBERT HACKLEY 7.	CRAWLEY, SUSSEX. THE WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD. On Saturday, March 6, 1886, in Three Hours and Seven Minutes, At the Church of St. John-the-Baptist, A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES; In the Kent Variation. Tenor 14 cwt. George Holloway*Treble. Robert Jordan 5. *Frederick Wickens 6.
Composed and Conducted by John Carter. This is supposed to be the first peal of Bob Triples ever rung in Birmingham, and likewise by any of the above. All except W. Saniger are members of the Birmingham Amalgamated Society. The peal is in six parts, containing 88 bobs and 2 singles and this is the first time it has been rung. GLOSSOP, DERBYSHIRE.—THE UNITED COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.	ALFRED MILLS 3. *DAVID JORDAN
On Thursday, March 4, 1886, in Three Hours and Four Minutes, AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS, A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5184 CHANGES; IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 15 cwt. SAMUEL HARROP	FREDERICK CASTLE

LEE, KENT. THE SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS. On Saturday, March 6, 1886, in Three Hours, At the Parish Church, A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES; HOLT'S ORIGINAL. Tenor 15 cwt. in F.

110210	·	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·			
WILLIAM BARON		Treble.	JOHN W. MANSFIELD		5.
WILLIAM COPPAGE	••	2.	GEORGE R. BANKS		6.
THOMAS DEAL		3.	HENRY DAINS	••	7.
CHAS. E. MALIM, ES	SQ.	4.	EDWARD ALBONE		Cenor.

Conducted by WILLIAM BARON.

This is the first peal ever rung in Lee.

DEWSBURY, YORKSHIRE.

Birthdan Peal.

On Saturday, March 6, 1886, in Three Hours and Twenty-seven Minutes, AT ALL SAINTS' CHURCH,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5856 CHANGES; IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 14 cwt.

JOHN GARFORTH		7	reble.	NATHANIEL HEPWORTH		5.
GARFORTH TAYLOR*	• •	• •	2.	*George H. Hardy	• •	6.
ISAAC IDLE	• •	. • •	3⋅	†John H. Dixon *Benjamin A. Dodson	• •	7⋅
HARRY ROBINSON	• •	••	4.	*Benjamin A. Dodson	7	enor.

Composed and Conducted by George H. HARDY.

The above peal is the greatest length ever obtained in one main course, and was rung to commemorate the 26th birthday of Mr. Hardy. *Yorkshire Association. †College Youth. Mr. Dodson hails from Birstall; the others belong to the local company.

ROTHWELL.—THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, March 6, 1886, in Two Hours and Fifty-eight Minutes,

AT HOLY TRINITY CHURCH,

5040 CHANGES: IN SEVEN DIFFERENT METHODS ON SIX BELLS;

Being a 720 of each of the following:-

College Exercise, City Delight, College Pleasure, Arnold's Victory, London Scholars' Pleasure, Duke of York, and Violet.

Tenor 13 cwt.

J. VERITY*	bble. W. Abbisi 2. S. Stacey 3. J. M. Cha	ADWICK	 •• 4• •• 5• •• Tenor.
Conducted	by J. M. CHADW	ICK.	

It is 29 years since a local company rang a peal on these bells. *First 5040.

ASTON-JUXTA-BIRMINGHAM.—THE HOLT SOCIETY.

On Saturday, March 6, 1886, in Three Hours and Thirty-two Minutes,
At the Church of SS. Peter and Paul,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB ROYAL, 5160 CHANGES; IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 23 cwt. in D.

THOMAS J. HEMMING*	Treble.	CHARLES STANBRIDGE	6.
JOHN CARTER	2.	JAMES PLANT	
HENRY BASTABLE	3.		
BERNARD WITCHELL			
THOMAS REYNOLDS	5.	Henry Johnson, jun.	Tenor

Composed by Henry Johnson, and Conducted by Henry Bastable.

This peal, which is supposed to be the first rung upon this plan, contains the 6th the extent in all positions, and may be found in Snowdon's Treatise on Treble Bob, Part II., page 110. First peal of Royal by the Holt Society. *First peal in the method.

TYLEHURST, BERKS.

ST. LAURENCE'S SOCIETY, READING.

On Saturday, March 6, 1886, in Three Hours and Twelve Minutes,
At the Parish Church of St. Michael,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5040 CHANGES; Annable's 3-Part. Tenor 19 cwt.

RICHARD T. HIBBERT	Treble.	JOSEPH E. WILLSHIRE 5.
IAMES POTTER	2.	*Alfred Thomas 6.
ALFRED C. FUSSELL	3.	WILLIAM I. WILLIAMS 7.
WILLIAM H. FUSSELL	4.	*J. MARTIN ROUTH, Esq Tenor.

Conducted by WM. J. WILLIAMS.

*First peal in the Method. This is the first peal of Major on the balls.

MIRFIELD, YORKSHIRE.

On Saturday, March 6, 1886, in Three Hours and Ten Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB ROYAL, 5000 CHANGES; IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 30 cwt.

HERR VON COLLINSON Treble.	WALTER PRACOCK	6.
Tolson Crawshaw 2.		
	Luke Illingworth	
	BENJAMIN KOBINSON	
RALPH ELLIS 5.	OAH PEACOCK	Tenor.

Composed by Henry Johnson, and Conducted by Benjamin Robinson.

This peal will be found in Snowdon's Treatise on Treble Bob, Part II, page 107.

Messrs. Briggs and Illingworth hail from Liversedge; the rest belong to Mirfield.

Collinson is 17 years of age; Thourton 18; Sam Peacock is 16.

DUDLEY, WORCESTERSHIRE.

THE WORCESTERSHIRE AND ADJOINING DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, March 6, 1886, in Three Hours and Eight Minutes,
AT THE PARISH CHURCH OF ST. THOMAS,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES; TAYLOR'S BOB-AND-SINGLE VARIATION. Tenor 21% cwt.

FREDERICK FELLOWS	7	reble.	WILLIAM PARDOE 5.
JOSEPH FELLOWS, JUN.*	• •	2.	William Micklewright 6.
Edwin Fellows	• •	3⋅	John Goodman 7. *Joseph Timmins
Joseph Fellows, sen.	• •	4.	*Joseph Timmins Tenor

Conducted by Wm. MICKLEWRIGHT.

*First peal.

THE LIVERPOOL YOUTHS' SOCIETY.

Muffled Peal.

On Monday, March 8, 1886, in Three Hours and Thirty-Six Minutes,
AT St. Peter's pro-Cathedral, Liverpool,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS, 5040 CHANGES;

		• · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·		
RICHARD WILLIAMS*	Treble.	WILLIAM BOOTH	 	6.
GEORGE HELSBY*	. 2.	THOMAS HAMMOND	 	7.
WILLIAM WOODHEAD	3.	George Fisher	 	8.
CHARLES WILLIAMS*	4.	†WILLIAM DAVIES	 • •	9. \
ROBERT WILLIAMS*	5	WILLIAM BROOKS	7	FREIT

Composed by R. WILLIAMS and Conducted by T. HAMMOND.

This peal has the 6th and 5th twenty-four courses each behind the 9th, and rang as a token of respect to the late Mr. W. H. Haley and Mr. Isaac W. Robinson, late churchwarden. *College Youths. †First peal of Caters.

BIRMINGHAM.

THE BIRMINGHAM AMALGAMATED SOCIETY AND BIRMINGHAM AND DISTRICT ASSOCITAION.

Bandbell Binging.

On Tuesday, March 9, 1886, in Two Hours and Fifty-nine Minutes,

At the House of Mr. John Carter, Bracebridge Street,

on handbells, retained in hand.

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE ROYAL, 5080 CHANGES; Tenor 15 size, in Eb.

THOMAS RUSSAM ... I-2. | GEORGE W. TOWNSEND 5-6. JOHN CARTER ... 3-4. | JOSEPH W. CATTLE .. 7-8. JOHN T. PERRY ... 9-10.

Composed and Conducted by JOHN CARTER.

Referee: Mr. H. Gorman, and others as witnesses. This is the first peal of Grandsire Royal by any of the above, and is the first ever rung in the method on handbells.

IMPORTANT NOTICE.—It will be seen by our advertising columns that Part I. of Snowdon's Treble Bob will, in future, only be sold along with Part II. This is being done, we understand, in the interest of those members of the Exercise who may want to secure the two parts, as, owing to the very low price at which Part I. was issued, a second edition cannot be issued at the old price. Anyone having Part I. may get Part II. by itself, as usual.

READING, BERKS.

ST. LAURENCE'S SOCIETY, READING.

On Shrove-Tuesday, March 9, 1886, in Three Hours and Nineteen Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH OF ST. LAURENCE,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5040 CHANGES; Annable's 3-part. Tenor 24 cwt.

GEORGE TALBOT	7	reble.	JAMES POTTER	• •	5.
R. T. HIBBERT		3.	WILLIAM J. WILLIAMS WILLIAM NEWELL		7.
REV. G. F. COLERIDGE	• •	4.	Joseph E. Willshire	7	Tenor.

Conducted by Wm. J. WILLIAMS.

This peal was rung to commemorate the fourth anniversary of the re-opening of the bells.

SHEFFIELD.—THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Tuesday, March 9, 1886, in Four Hours and Forty-five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERS, 6591 CHANGES; Tenor 41 cwt.

THOMAS HATTERSLEY	. Treble.	GEORGE HOLMES	• •	·· 6.
Tom Lockwood	2.	William Morrell		7.
JOSEPH MULLIGAN	3.	George Breed		8.
CHARLES HY. HATTERSLI		ROBERT BINNS		
John Mulligan		ALFED RODGERS		

Composed and Conducted by CHARLES HENRY HATTERSLEY.

Messrs. Lockwood and Binns hails from Leeds; W. Morrell and G. Breed from York; A. Rodgers from Rotherham. This peal contains the sixty course-ends, and is the greatest number of changes ever rung in the county of York in this method.

Pate Touches.

STOKE-UPON-TRENT ARCHIDIACONAL ASSOCIATION.

NORTON.—On Thursday, March 4th, a date touch, 1886 changes, in the six following methods, in 1 hr. 7 mins: 360 Kent Treble Bob, 360 Oxford Kent Treble Bob, 360 Court Bob, 360 Oxford Bob, 360 Stedman's Slow Course, 86 Plain Course. J. Wood, 1; E. Glover, 2; J. Morton, 3; G. Walker, 4; J. W. Brough, 5; J. W. Baddeley (conductor), 6.

BRAINTREE (Essex).—Muffled Peal.—On Saturday, February 27th, a date touch of 1886 changes in the following methods: 30 Grandsire Doubles, 20 Bob Doubles, 36 Bob Minor, 720 Oxford Treble Bob, 720 Kent Treble Bob, and 360 Cambridge Surprise. *T. Watson, 1; F. Bumpstead, 2; H. E. Hammond, 3; S. Hammond, 4; F. Rudkin, 5; A. Huckson, 6. Arranged and conducted by S. Hammond. Time 1 hr. 15 mins. This touch was rung in respect to the memory of the late Mr. W. H. Haley.

BURNSALL (Yorks).—On Sunday, March 7th, the local company assisted by Mr. W. Whitaker, of Grassington, rang a date touch, 1886 changes, in the following methods, in 1 hr. 8 mins.: 86 of Plain Bob, 360 of Violet, 720 of Oxford, and 720 of Kent Treble Bob. J. T. Bin ns, 1; J. P. Birch (conductor), 2; W. Whitaker, 3; J. W. Binns, 4; S. Whiteley, 5; C. Inman, 6. Tenor 13 cwt. in A.

GLOUCESTER.—On Thursday, March 4th, at St. Nicholas' church, a date touch of Grandsire Doubles, 1886 changes, was rung. D. Dix, 1; G. Hearn, 2; P. Daniels, 3; A. Smart, 4; W. Sevier (conductor), 5; J. Merchant, 6. The above was rung on the occasion of the Annual Tea, held at the Corn Exchange.

HUDDERSFIELD (Yorks).—On Tuesday evening, February 23rd, a date touch of 1886 Kent Treble Bob Major, in eight courses, in r hr. 9 mins. W. Clay, r; G. Clay, 2; R. Kitson, 3; H. Ellis, 4; J. Stead, 5; J. Barrowclough, 6; T. Haigh, 7; W. Brogden, 8. Composed and conducted by T. Haigh.

LIVERSEDGE (Yorks).—On Sunday, February 28th, at the parish church, a date touch of Kent Treble Bob Major, 1886 changes, in 1 hr. 8 mins. J. Whitworth, 1; W. Goodall (composer and conductor), 2; W. Firth, 3; T. North, 4; S. Goodall, 5; T, Goodall, 6; L. Illingworth, 7; M. Ramsden, 8. Tenor 15 cwt. in F.

REIGATE (Surrey).—On Monday, March 8th, for practice a date touch of 1886 changes, taken from Dr. Carpenter's one-part peal of Union Triples, in 1 hr. 9 mins. J. Howard, 1; F. Hoad, 2; W. Bone, 3; T. Fuller, 4; G. Williams, 5; E. Moses, 6; W. Webb, 7; J. Stedman, 8. Conducted by F. Hoad.

RAWMARSH (Yorks).—On Friday, February 26th, eight members of the Rawmarsh Amalgamated Society rang at St. Mary's Church, a

date touch of Grandsire Triples, 1886 changes, in 1 hr. 12 mins. W. Whitworth, 1; S. Whitworth, 2; V. Hawkins, 3; J. Hawkins, 4; T. Wilde, 5; T. Whitworth (composer and conductor), 6; J. Farmer, 7; R. Whitworth, 8. Tenor 10 cwt.

OSSETT (Yorks).—On Sunday evening, February 28th, for Divine Service at Holy Trinity Church, a date touch of 1886 changes of Kent Treble Bob, in one continued course, in 1 hr. 14 mins. F. Scholefield, I; W. Garforth, 2; A. Spurr, 3; G. Crawshaw, 4; J. A. Idle, 5; W. Dixon, 6; W. Byram, 7; D. Stephenson (conductor), 8. Composed by G. H. Hardy.

Miscellaneous.

THE SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.

-Long Melford (Suffolk).—On Wednesday evening, February 24th, eight members of this Society attempted a peal of Kent Treble Bob Major, but after ringing 2 hrs. 50. mins. the 6th rope slipped wheel, and the attempt came to an abrupt termination. N. J. Pitstow (conductor), 1; Ernest A. Pitstow, 2; Percy C. S. Scott, 3; Saml. Slater, 4; G. Hammond, 5; Fred. Wells, 6; James Bird, 7; F. Pitstow, 8.

THE ST. JAMES' SOCIETY.

Walworth (Surrey).—On Thursday, March 4th, an attempt was made to ring Holt's Original peal of Grandsire Triples, but after ringing 4844 changes in 2 hrs. and 32 mins., "stand" was called. W. W. Thorne, I; R. French (conductor), 2; W. Jones, 3: H. Langdon, 4; A. Hayward, 5; J. Barry, 6; W. H. George, 7; H. W. Flower, 8. Tenor 15\frac{1}{2} cwt. The above was rung on the occasion of Mr. W. H. George's 34th birthday, the ringers wishing him many happy returns.

THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

BROMHAM (Beds).—On Sunday, March 7th, for Divine Service, a 720 of Bob Minor, nine bobs and six singles. T. Tysoe, 1; C. West, 2; W. Biggs, 3; I. Hills, 4; C. Stafferton, 5; M. Warwick (conductor), 6.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

DURHAM.—On Monday, February 22nd, at St. Oswald's Church, for practice by the local company, several 6-scores of Plain Bob Doubles. J. Wallis, 1; T. Wheatley, 2; L. Newton, jun. (conductor), 3; C. Wilson, 4; C. Bradford, 5; W. Prince, 6.

MIDDLESBROUGH.—On Friday evening, March 5th, four members of the local company, assisted by Messrs. Clarkson and Blakiston of Stockton-on-Tees, rang at St. Hilda's church their first 720 of Bob Minor, with 7-8 covering. R. Borrows, I; T. Walker, jun., 2; J. W. Wood, 3; W. J. Blakiston, 4; H. McAdams, 5; G. J. Clarkson (conductor), 6; J. H. Blakiston, 7; S. Walker, 8. Tenor 12 cwt.

(conductor), 6; J. H. Blakiston, 7; S. Walker, 8. Tenor 12 cwt.

STAINDROP (Durham).—On Monday, February 22nd, being the meeting of the Association, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob. J. W. Shipp, (Staindrop), 1; F. Harrison (Jarrow), 2; *T. Burdon, 3; *W. Stephenson, 4; *G. J. Clarkson (conductor), 5; *T. Stephenson, 6. *From Stockton. Also a 720 of Bob Minor. *W. McLean, 1; W. Patton (Darlington), 2; *W. Johnson, 3; *T. Leonard, 4; J. Campbell (Jarrow), 5; *D. Shipp (conductor), 6. *Of Staindrop. Also a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob. W. J. Blakiston (Darlington), 1; W. Patton, 2; W. Stephenson, 3; T. Burdon, 4; G. J. Clarkson, 5; T. Stephenson (conductor), 6. Also a three-part 720 of Bob Minor. J. Bolton (Darlington), 1; W. Patton, 2; W. Johnson, 3; D. Shipp (Staindrop), 4; R. Moncaster (Darlington, conductor), 5; J. W. Shipp, 6. And a 720 of Granusire Minor. J. Bolton, 1; W. Patton, 2; W. J. Johnson, 3; J. W. Shipp, 4; R. Moncaster (conductor), 5; D. Shipp, 6.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

ROMFORD.—Handbell Ringing —On Wednesday, February 17th, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples. B. Keeble, 1-2; J. Gobbett, 3-4; A. J. Perkins (conductor), 5-0; W. Nash, 7-8. The above quarter-peal is the original one, containing the twenty-four 6-7's, first composed by the Editor of "The Bell News." Also a course of Stedman Triples. Chiming.—On Sunday, March 7th, 391 of Grandsire Triples. B. Keeble, 1-2; A. J. Perkins, 3-4-5-6; W. Nash, 7-8.

EASTERN COUNTIES' GUILD.

WALPOLE (Norfolk).—Receitly at St. Peter's Church, for practice by the voluntary band, a 720 of Bob Minor, twenty-one bobs and twelve singles, in 27 mins. J. Herdry, I; R. Grimes, 2; H. Hill (conductor), 3; H. Allen, 4; H. Merrishaw, 5; W. Wright, 6. Also another 720 in the same metod, standing as before, with Richard Grimes, conductor. And a 36 in the same method, with twenty-two singles. J. Hendry, I; Dr. Secombe, 2; H. Hill (conductor), 3; H. Allen, 4; H. Merrishaw, 5; R. Grimes, 6. Also a 360 of Oxford Treble Bob, with R. Grimes (conductor).

SPALDING (Lincolnshire).—On Sunday, February 28th, for morning service, a 518 of Grandsire Triples. And for evening service, a 518 in Triples, in 1 hr. 1 min. R. Iarvis, 1; J. W. Jarvis, 2; J. S. Wright, 3; C. Neaverson, 4; G. L. Richardson, 5; R. Mackman (conductor), 6; J. Brown, 7; J. Prudence, 8. Also on Saturday, March, 6th, 1682 6; J. Brown, 7; J. Prudence, 8. Also on Saturday of Grandsire Triples, standing as before. The above were two of Grandsire Triples, standing as before. The above were two attempts for a 5040, but unfortunately came to grief. And on Monday, March 8th, a 720 of Plain Bob. R. Jarvis, I; J. S. Wright, 2; C. Neaverson, 3; G. L. Richardson, 4; R. Mackman, 5; G. Skeef (conductor), 6; J. Prudence, tenor covering. There will be no ringing here for practice during Lent.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

BARNWOOD (Gloucestershire).-On Tuesday, February 16th, a 720 BARNWOOD (Gloucestershire).—On Tuesday, February 16th, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor, in 27 mins. H. Barnes, 1; I. Yates, 2; G. Miles, 3; R. A. Barrett, 4; H. Mitchell (conductor), 5; A. A. Waite, 6. And on Sunday, February 21st, for afternoon service, a 720 of Plain Bob Minor. H. Barnes, 1; I Yates, 2; G. Miles 3; R. A. Barrett, 4; H. Mitchell (conductor), 5; A. A. Waite, 6. And some 6-scores of Stedman were rung. The 720 of Plain Bob was composed by T. Yates. Tenor 24 cwt. in G.

GLOUCESTER—On Wednesday, March 3rd, was rung a 240 of Kent Treble Bob Minor. 240 of Canterbury, Pleasure, 240 of Plain Bob.

GLOUCESTER—On Wednesday, March 3rd, was rung a 240 of Kent Treble Bob Minor, 240 of Canterbury Pleasure, 240 of Plain Bob, in 28 mins. H. Barnes, 1: J. Yates, 2: A. A. Waite, 3: G. Miles, 4: H. Mitchell, 5: R. A. Barrett (conductor), 6. And a 720 of Kent Treble Bob. W. Sevier, 1: the others as before, conducted by R. A. Barrett. Also several 6-scores of Grandsire and Stedman Doubles. Tenor 14 cwt. in G.

HEMPSTEAD (Gloucestershire).—On Thursday, February 25th, for practice, six 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles, in 24 mins. H. F. Gardner, I; Wm. Roberts, 2; A. Smart, 3; F. Hart, 4; W. Sevier. (conductor), 5: J. Wilkins. 6. Tenor 12½ cwt. in G.

QUEDGLEY (Gloncestershire) .- On Sunday, March 7th, after service ten 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles (1200 changes), in 38 mins. T. Brown (conductor), 1; R. A. Barrett, 2; W. Brown, 3; H. Mitchell, 4; Wm. Sevier, 5; R. J. Wilkins, 6. Tenor 11 cwt. in A.

4; Wm. Sevier, 5; R. J. Wilkins, 6. Tenor 11 cwt. in A.

Upton St. Leonards (Gloncestershire).—On Sunday, February
21st, eight members of this Association rang for morning service, a
504 of Grandsire Triples. J. Middlecote, 1; J. Yates, 2; H. Mitchel,
3; H. G. Gardner (conductor), 4; D. Aston, 5; Wm. Sevier, 6; R.
A. Barrett, 7; G. Miles, 8. And 168 in the same method, conducted
by H. Mitchel. And on Wednesday, February 24th, for Divine
Service, a 672 of Stedman Triples. A. A. Waite, 1; J. Yates, 2; H.
Mitchel, 3; G. Miles, 4; D. Aston, 5; Wm. Sevier, 6; R. A. Barrett
(conductor), 7; J. Middlecote, 8. And a 504 of Grandsire Triples. J.
Middlecote, 1; J. Yates, 2; H. Mitchel (conductor), 3; G. Miles, 4;
D. Aston, 5; W. J. Sevier, 6; R. A. Barrett, 7; A. A. Waite, 8.
And on Sunday, March 7th, for morning Service, a quarterpeal of Grandsire Triples, 1260 changes, in 46 mins. A. A. Waite, 1;
J. Yates, 2; H. Mitchell, 3; H. G. Gardner, 4; D. Aston, 5; W.
Sevier, 6; R. A. Barrett (conductor), 7; J. Mills, 8. Tenor 18\frac{3}{2} cwt.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

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TUNBRIDGE WELLS (Kent).—On Thursdav evening, February 18th, for practice, by this branch of the above Association, a 720 of Grandsire Minor, on seven bells, in 30 mins. J. Muggridge, I; H. Barefield, 2; J. Colthup, 3: R. Sharvill, 4; W. Latter, 5; G. Kember, 6; E. Manktelow, 7. Also a 360 in the same method on eight bells, with 6,8 behind, with H. Sharvill at the treble, and A. E. Ovenden at the tenor. This is the first 720 since the bells were increased to eight by the addition of two new trebles. the addition of two new trebles.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

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Walkden (Lancashire).—On Tuesday evening, March 2nd, at St. Paul's Church, for practice, a 720 of Bob Minor, fourteen bobs and two singles, in 25 mins. W. Denner, 1; S. Oakes, 2; J. Worthington, (conductor), 3; J. Brookes, 4; A. Potter, 5; J. Welsby, 6. Also a 720 of Bob Minor, with twenty-two singles, in 25 mins. W. Denner (conductor), 1; J. Welsby, 2; J. Worthington, 3; J. Williamson, 4; A. Potter, 5; J. Brooks, 6. And a 720 of Bob Minor (Penning's), with twenty-eight bobs and eighteen singles, in 25 mins., being the largest number of calls possible in a 720 of Bob Minor. J. Welsby (conductor), 1; J. Worthington, 2; S. Oakes, 3; J. Williamson, 4; A. Potter, 5; J. Brookes, 6. Tenor 13\(\frac{3}{4}\) cwt.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

LOUGHBOROUGH (Leicestershire).—On Friday, February 6th, at All LOUGHBOROUGH (Leicestershire).—On Friday, February 6th, at All Saints' church, the bellfoundry band, for evening service, on the occasion of the visit of the bishop of Peterboro' to open a United Mission in all the three parishes of the town, rang a 396, and after service a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples. Amos. Cresser, 1; Chas. Smith, 2; Rd. Lane, 3; J. W. Taylor, sen., Esq., 4; Sam. Smith, 5; Wm. Billinghurst, 6; J. W. Taylor, jun, Esq. (conductor), 7; E. Wightman, 8.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

STOWMARKET (S. ffolk).—On Wednesday, February 24th, at Stowmarket church, a 720 of Bob Minor, with 7-8 covering, in 27 mins.
C. Bedwell, 1; F. Plummer, 2; W. Tydeman, 3; E. Buckle, 4; R. Welham, 5; C. Mee (conductor), 6; H. Mills, 7; F. Brett, 8. Also a 360 of Bob Minor, with 6-8 covering, in 14 mins. C. Bedwell, 1; W. Tydeman, 2; C. Mee (conductor), 3; E. Buckle, 4; R. Welham, ; H. Mills, 6; F. Plummer, 7; F. Brett, 8. And on Tuesday, March 3rd, for practice, 86% of Plain Bob Triples, in 35 mins. C. Bedwell, 1: W. Tvdeman, 2: C. Mee (conductor), 3: E. Buckle, 4: R. Whelham, 5: F. Plummer, 6; *H. Mills, 7; F. Brett, 8. *First touch. Tenor 24 cwt

BANHAM (Norfolk).—On Wednesday, February 24th, at St. Mary's church, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor, in 27 mins. R. Hutton (conductor), I; C. Everett, 2; J. Woods, a; W. Nudes, 4; H. Eagling, 5: I. Mordey, 6. Also a 240 of Oxford Treble Bob Minor, standing as I. Mordey, 6. Also a 240 of Oxford Treble Bob Minor, standing as before Handbell Ringing.—At the Meeting House, on bells retained in hand, a course of Bob Major H. Eagling 1-2; I. Mordey, 3 4; R. Hutton, 5-6; I. Woods 7-8. Also a course of Rob Royal: H. Earling, 1-2: J. Mordev, 3-4: C. Everitt, 5-6: R. Hutton, 7-8: J. Woods 9-10. Also a course of Grandsire Triples: H. Eagling, 1-2; C. Everett, 3-4: R. Hutton, 5-6; J. Mordev, 7-8.

THE SUBREY ASSOCIATION.

MITCHAM (Surrey).—On Thurday, February 18th, a 720 of Bob Minor (eighteen bobs and two singles), in 24 mins, W. Gallacher, I; E. Burtenshaw, 2: D. Burtenshaw, 3: R. Revnolds, 4: A. Nicholson, 5: H. I. Schneider (conductor), 6. And a 120 of Kent Treble Bob Minor, standing as before. On Saturday, March 6th, a 720 of Bob Minor (eighteen bobs and two singles), in 25 mins. W. Gallacher, I; 5; H. I. Schneider (conductor), 6. And a 360 of Grandsire Minor, in ramins. W. Gallagher, 1; D. Burtenshaw, 2; E. Burtenshaw, 3; H. J. Schneider, 4: R. Reynolds, 5; A. Nicholson, (conductor), 6. And a 360 of Grandsire Minor, in ramins. W. Gallagher, 1; D. Burtenshaw, 2; E. Burtenshaw, 3; H. J. Schneider, 4: R. Reynolds, 5; A. Nicholson (conductor), 6. And on Sunday, March 7th, for evening service, a 360 of Grandsire Minor, in 12 mins W Gallagher, 1; E. Burtenshaw, 2; D. Burtenshaw, 3; R. Reynolds, 4; H. J. Schneider, 5; A. Nicholson (conductor), 6. Also two 120s of Kent Treble Bob Minor, A. Nicholson, 5; H. J. Schneider, 6: the rest as before.

PUTNEY.—On Wednesday, February 17th, Haley's quarter-peal of Stedman Triples, 1260 changes. E. F. Strange (conductor), 1; E. F. Cole, 2; A. B. Carpenter, 3; E. E. Vinen, 4; J. Wright, 5: J. Strutt, 6; J. Trappitt, 7; B. E. Battrum, 8.

BETCHWORTH (Surrey) .- On Sunday, February 7th, for evening service, a 360 of Bob Minor, in 121 mins. Also after service, a 720 in the same method, in 24 mins. Fred Arnold, 1; Ralph Arnold, 2; Frank Arnold, 3; Walter Sadler, 4: E. Moses, 5: George Williams (conductor), 6. And on Friday, February 12th, a 720 of Grandsire Minor, in 25 mins. F. Bridger, 4; W. Sadler, 5: the others as before. Also on Tuesday, February 16th, a 720 of Grandsire Minor, in 26 mins. G. Crougher (first 120 of Minor), F. F. T. Hood, a; W. Argent, a; F. C. Crougher (first 120 of Minor), F. F. T. Hood, a; W. Argent, a; F. Also on Tuesday, February toth, a 720 of Grandsire Minor, in 26 mins, G. Croucher (first 720 of Minor), 1; F. T. Hoad, 2; W. Argent, 3; F. Bridger, 4; W. Sadler, 5; G. Williams (conductor), 6. And on Tuesday, February 23rd, a 720 of Bob Minor, in 25 mins. F. Arnold, 1; Frank Arnold, 2; E. Moses, 3; W. Sadler, 4; F. Bridger, 5; Geo. Williams (conductor), 6. Also on Tuesday, March 2nd, a 720 of College Single, in 26 mins. F. Arnold, 1; R. Arnold, 2; F. Arnold, 3; F. Bridger, 4; W. Sadler, 5; G. Williams (conductor), 6. First 720 of College Single by all. Tenor 12 cwt.

DENFORD (Northants).—On Wednesday, March 3rd, at Holy Trinity Church, for practice, 720 of Bob Minor, with eighteen bobs and two singles, in 29 mins., and 360 of Oxford Bob, with nine bobs. S. D. Warren, 1; F. Starmore, 2; J. Groom, 3; H. Groom, 4; F. Arnold, 5; A. Arnold (conductor), 6. Also for service on Sunday, March 7th, 2), A. Attom (conductor), o. Also for service on Sunday, March 7th, 720 of Oxford Bob Minor, with eighteen bobs and two singles, in 26 mins., and 120 of Bob Minor, with four bobs. S. D. Warren, 1; F. Starmore, 2; J. Groom, 3; W. J. Gilbert (conductor), 4; F. Arnold, 5; A. Arnold, 6. W. J. Gilbert hails from Raunds.

ENGLEFIELD (Berks.)—On Saturday, February 27th, six members of the above Guild rang a 720 of Plain Bob, and a 720 of Oxford Bob: F. Sweetzer, 1; A. H. Evans, 2; A. E. Reeves, 3; A. J. Wright, 4; H. White, 5; G. Gibbard (conductor), 6. First 720 of Oxford Bob by all except the conductor. All the above hail from Reading, except H. White, who hails from Basingstoke. Tenor 10 cwt.

GISLINGHAM (Suffolk).—On Sunday morning, March 7th, for Divine Service, a 720 of Bob Minor, in 29 mins. G. Bird. 1; W. Ireland, 2; T. Selsby, 3; D. Knott,, 4; H. Ireland, 5; C. Elmer, 6. Also for afternoon service, 720 in the same method in 30 mins., H. Ireland ringing the third, and G. Vincent the fifth, the rest standing as before. Tenor 18 cwt.

MAIDSTONE (Kent).—On Thursday, February 4th, at All Saints' church, a 720 of Grandsire Minor, in 26 mins. G, Pawley (con-

ductor), 1; A. H., Woolley, 2; J. Horton, 3; R. Simmonds, 4; J. Fergusson, 5; D. Betts (first 720), 6, Also 360 Plain Bob Minor. D. Betts, 1; A. Woolley, 2; J. Horton, 3; R. Simmonds, 4; J. Fergusson, 5; G. Pawley (conductor), 6. And on Monday, February 8th, an attempt was made to ring 5040 of Bob Major, but after ringing about 700 changes it came to grief. R. Simmonds, 1; J. Fergusson, 2; E. Elliott, 3; J. Horton, 4; A. Moorcraft, 5; H. Pearce (conductor), 6; G. Pawley, 7; A. H. Woolley, 8. Also on Sunday, February 14th, for evening service, 700 of Grandsire Triples. J. Constable, 1; J. Fergusson, 2; G. Pawley (conductor), 3; R. Simmonds, 4; A. Moorcraft, 5; H. Pearce, 6; A. H. Woolley, 7; J. Johnson, 8. And on Sunday, February 21st, for evening service, 1050 Grandsire Triples. J. Constable, 1; J. Horton, 2; A. Woolley, 3; R. Simmonds, 4; G. Pawley, 5; A. Moorcraft, 6; H. Pearce (conductor), 7; J. Johnson, 8. Tenor 31 cwt.

OCKLEY (Surrey).—On Thursday, February 18th, the Capel society visited the parish church and rang 720 of Superlative Surprise Minor in 25 mins. M. Jenkins, 1; R. Jordan, 2; A. Mills, 3; R. Worsfold, 4; E. Jordan, 5; D. Jordan (conductor), 6. Tenor 16 cwt. This is supposed to be the first in the method on the bells.

Ormskirk (Lancashire).—On Tuesday, March 2nd, at the Parish Church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, 1260 changes, in 40 mins. J. Prescott, 1: J. Pilkington, 2: W. Bentham, 3: W. J. Taylor (conductor), 4: W. Ellis, 5: J. Sholicar (composer), 6; G. Prescott, 7: W. B. Lloyd, 8. Tenor 25% cwt.

B. Lloyd, 8. Tenor 25\(^2\) cwt.

RADCLIFFE (Lancashire).—On Sunday, February 21st, for Divine Service in the morning, 504 of Grandsire Triples. F. Rudman, 1; J. Hardman, 2; J. Gratrix, 3; J. Morris, 4; A. Hardman, 5; A. Barrett, (conductor), 6; F. Morris, 7; W. Fielding, 8. Also on Monday, February 22nd, for practice, 854 of Grandsire Triples. F. Rudman, 1; J. Hardman, 2; F. Emerson, 3; J. Morris, 4; A. Barrett (conductor), 5; J. Hardman, 6; F. Morris, 7; W. Fielding, 8. And on Friday, February 26th, for practice, a 360 of Bob Minor, seven singles and two bobs. F Rudman, 1; J. Morris, 2; J. Hardman, 3; J. Hardman, 4; A. Barrett (conductor), 5; W. Fielding, 6. Also on Sunday morning, February 28th, for morning service, 672 of Grandsire Triples. F. Rudman, 1; J. Hardman, 2; A. Barrett (conductor), 3; J. Morris, 4; A. Hardman, 5; J. Hardman, 6; F. Morris, 7; W. Bentley, 8. Tenor 12 cwt. in F\(\frac{\pi}{\pi}\).

Tenor 12 cwt. in F#.

RINGSTEAD (Northants).—On Saturday, February 27th, at St. Mary's Church, 720 of Yorkshire Court, with twenty bobs and ten singles. F. H. Chapman, 1; G. H. Roberts, 2; E. Mayes, 3; W. J. Gilbert (conductor), 4; J. Braybrook, 5; T. Roberts, 6. And 360 of Double Court, with nine bobs. F. H. Chapman, 1; J. Braybrook, 2; R. Shipley, 3; E. Mayes, 4; W. J. Gilbert (conductor), 5; T. Roberts, 6. This is the first 360 in the method by all except the 4th and 5th men. Also on Thursday, March 4th, before Service, on the occasion of the Rev. W. Leadbitter being inducted into the living, a 720 of Plain Bob, with eighteen bobs and two singles. H. Stubbs (conductor), 1; G. H. Roberts, 2; R. Shipley, 3; J. Sawford, 4; E. Mayes, 5; T. Roberts, 6. And 360 of Oxford Bob, with nine bobs. F. Chapman, 1; G. H. Roberts, 2; E. Mayes, 3; H. Stubbs, 4; J. Braybrook, 5; T. Roberts (conductor), 6. Also after service a 360 of Oxford Bob, with nine bobs. H. Stubbs, 1; G. H. Roberts, 2; R. Shipley, 3; J. Braybrook, 4; E. Mayes, 5; T. Roberts (conductor), 6.

SLOUGH (Bucks).—On Tuesday, February 9th, at St. Mary's church,

brook, 4; E. Mayes, 5; T. Roberts (conductor), 6.

SLOUGH (Bucks).—On Tuesday, February 9th, at St. Mary's church, a 720 of Grandsire Minor, in 25 mins. W. Leader, 1; A. C. Fussell, 2; T. W. Udell. 3; W. Wilder, 4; J. Pursey, 5; R. Flaxman (conductor), 6. Also a 720 of Bob Minor, in 26 mins.: W. Leader, 1; W. Fussell, 2; T. Udell, 3; W. Wilder, 4; A. Fussell (conductor), 5; R. Flaxman, 6. On Wednesday, February 17th, a 720 of Grandsire Minor, in 26 mins. W. Leader, 1; R. Flaxman, 2; W. Fussell, 3; W. Wilder, 4; J. Pursey, 5; A. Fussell (conductor), 6. Also, on Wednesday, February 24th, a 720 of Bob Minor (nine bobs and two singles), in 24½ mins. W. Leader, 1; W. Fussell, 2; T. Udell, 3; R. Flaxman, 4; W. Wilder, 5; A. Fussell (conductor), 6.

South Hackney (Middlesex)—On Thursday evening February

WICKHAM MARKET (Suffolk).—On Wednesday, evening, March 3rd, for practice at All Saints' Church, 240 of Bob Minor. J. Howard (conductor), 1; "G. Brooks, 2; G. Reeve, 3; F. Reeve, 4; E. Todd, 5; W. Reeve, 6. Also 720 of Oxford Treble Bob, with nine bobs, in 27 mins. J. Reeve, 1; J. Howard (conductor), 2; E. Todd, 3; W. Reeve, 4; H. Matten, 5; C. Ward, 6. And 240 of Kent Treble Bob. J. Howard (conductor), 1; W. Reeve, 2; F. Reeve, 3 G. Reeve, 4; E. Todd, 5; C. Ward, 6. "First time of ringing a bob bell. H. Matten hails from Botany, C. Ward from Melton, the rest are of the local company.

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 ART AT BICESTER.

SIR,—I am sorry that owing to an error of mine, "A Ringer" should have had a fruitless journey to the above town. He is quite correct in his statement that only two of the band are change-ringers, and I must apologise for the mistake. Perhaps some allowance may be made for for one who has to edit so bulky a book as the Oxford Diocesan Guild Report is now becoming. It is to be hoped that the Bicester band may take the hint and enable me with truth to omit the (P) for the future.

Dolben Paul, Secretary.

THE SNOWDON MEMORIAL

SIR,—Mr. Tuke, in his letter of last week, satisfactorily disposes of my suggestion of a marble tablet. This being so, I heartily fall in with his proposal of a stained window, not only because I believe that form of memento will be most acceptable to Mr. Snowdon's family, but also because of its special appropriateness in this case. There is a stained window in the church in memory of his father, who was for so many years Vicar of Ilkley, which was subscribed for by the congregation, and it seems to me peculiarly in accordance with the "fitness of things" that we ringers should put in a stained window immediately facing it to the memory of his son who has done so much for our art, and endeared himself to us all. I hope, therefore that no time will be lost in bringing Mr. Tuke's proposal to a successful issue.

B. T. COPLEY.

THE ST. MARY'S SOCIETY, CHESTER.

On Ssturday, March 6th, the members of this society paid a visit, through the kindness of the clergy and ringers, to Eastham. The bells, one of the finest peals of six in Cheshire, was placed at their disposal. Travelling by road in a hired conveyance through snow which had fallen during the night, it made it anything but pleasant, having occasionally to get off and give our horse a push up the hills, but with all our difficulty we arrived at our destination in time to have a good ring. Having put our horse in warm quarters, and seeing a good feed placed before him, and having ourselves partaken of refreshments at the nearest tavern, we raised the bells in peal, the going of them being all that could be desired, after which a start was made for a date touch of 1886 changes, in four methods on six bells, in 1 hr. 7 mins. William Joinson, 1; Edwin Davies, 2; George Caldwell, 3; Ralph Curry, 4; Sydney Barton, 5; Thomas J. Bethell, 6. After which they partook of a good substantial meal of bread and cheese, and nut brown to drink. The handbells being brought in, some lively tunes were rung for the enjoyment of the company, in which Messrs. Bethell, Curry, Davies, Barton, Joinson, Coldwell, and Mills took part, after which, with some members of the Eastham company, a 720 of Bob Minor, which was brought round in 25½ minutes. Richard Mills, 1; Charles Baxter, 2; George Caldwell, 3; John Hughes, 4; John Rowlands, 5; Thomas J. Bethell, 6. And a touch of Grandsire Minor, in which Mr. John Parr took part, he ringing the 4th. It being late in the evening the bells were "turned," and preparations being made for our journey home, where we arrived at eleven o'clock, after an outing which all present seemed heartily to enjoy. The day's ringing was under the conductorship of Mr. T. J. Bethell. We wish, through the medium of "The Bell News," to thank the Eastham company for their kindness in having every thing ready, and the way they received us.

THE SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.

On Saturday, March 6th, some members of the above society paid a visit to the village of Lee, in Kent, the ostensible purpose being for the purpose of opening a ring of eight bells, recently augmented from six to eight. The work was entrusted to the able hands of Mr. G. R. Banks, Church Bell Hanger, Kennington Lane, who has made an excellent splice in the form of a new treble and tenor, the latter being in the key of F., and weighs within a few pounds of 15 cwt. The work in other ways has been well executed, a good circle formed, and the bells made to go well. The church, which has a profusion of stained glass windows, is built in the Early English style, and stands upon the summit of a hill surrounded by pretty little and large villas, detached and otherwise, and there is plenty of good foliage to make the spot charming in the summer. But on the day in question, the air was bracing indeed, as nature had doffed her usual adornments, and although not for the specific occasion, she had rapt herself in a white shroud. The ringers gives the new ring a good name all round, and the local men who formed a critical audience outside the tower, stated that the effect while the well-tapped 5040 was being rung was beautiful indeed, a report of which appears in this week's issue.

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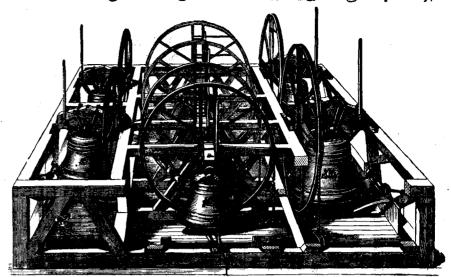
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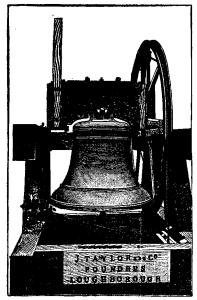
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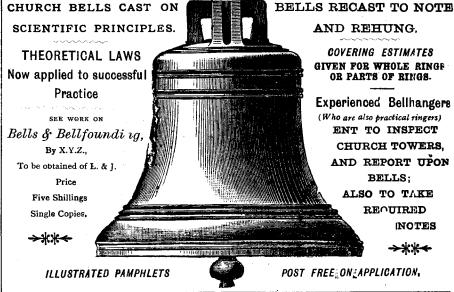
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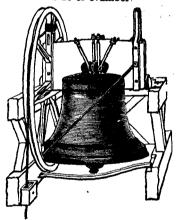
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PRESENTATION OF A TESTIMONIAL TO MR. HENRY JOHNSON, AT BIRMINGHAM.

On Saturday, the 27th ulto., being the eve of the 77th birthday of this distinguished veteran, a number of ringing and other friends assembled at St. Martin's Hotel, to give him a complimentary dinner, and to present to him his portrait, accompanied by a suitable address. A very select and distinguished company met to do honour to the occasion, which included visitors from London, Waltham Abbey, Cheltenham, Leamington, Kidderminster, West Bromwich, Tipton, Burton-on-Trent, Sheffield, etc. During the afternoon various touches at St. John's and St. Martin's were rung, the chief of which was a touch of 926 Stedman Cinques, by C. H. Hattersley (conductor), 1; W. Baron, 2; J. Joynes, 3; H. Bastable, 4; W. Kent, 5; W. Pates, 6; A. Wakley, 7; T. Reynolds, 8; G. H. Phillott, Esq., 9; W. Alps, 10; W. Wakley, 11; H. Johnson, jun., 12.

At half-past six o'clock, between fifty and sixty assembled at dinner under the presidency of the Rev. J. H. Fish, Vicar of St. Paul's, Burton-on-Trent. The cloth being drawn, the proceedings commenced by

the toast—"Queen and Country."

Mr. A. G. Thomas (St. Mary's, Battersea) gave the next toast—
"Church and State." He called the attention of the company to what was daily occurring in their midst, how some persons were using their influence, not only in trying to incite public opinion against, but also to sever the time-honoured connection of their old Church and State. It was his pleasure and privilege to couple with the toast the name of

their chairman, the Rev. James H. Fish.

A course of Grandsire Cinques was rung on handbells by Messrs.

J. Buffery, 1-2; J. Carter, 3-4; W. Alps, 5-6; W. Kent, 7-8; B. Witchell, 9-10; T. Russam, 11-12.

In responding to the toast of "The Church," the rev. chairman exhorted his brother-ringers to stand by their Church in these troublous and excited times.

A course of Stedman Caters was next rung on the handbells by Messrs. J. Joynes, 1-2; T. Powell, 3-4; W. Alps, 5-6; H. Bastable, 7-8; —. Hopkins, 9-10.

The Chairman next called upon the secretary to the testimonial

fund to give a statement of account.

Mr. Alfred Thomas (Birmingham) said he need hardly remind the company present of the purpose and object for which they had met that evening, because most of them, if not all, must have have read the announcement in "The Bell News." He then gave a brief resume of the work which had been going on since that article appeared in which the Editor suggested that a testimonial should be made to their honoured and respected friend, Mr. Henry Johnson. After explaining the fluctuations in the subscription-list, the amounts of which had periodically appeared, and submitting to the meeting a suggestion how the Committee may dispose of the small surplus cash after paying all expenses, he said it gave him great pleasure to call upon his friend Mr. Charles Henry Hattersley to make the presentation

Mr. Hattersley said—Rev. sir and gentlemen,—It gives me great pleasure to come among my Birmingham friends, and to meet the many gentlemen assembled here, but it is especially so this evening, when I am called upon to perform so pleasing a ceremony to one of my dearest and most esteemed friends. After alluding to the indisputable abilities of many of Birmingham's most prominent ringers in the past, and paying a high compliment to Mr. John Perks (who, as many of our readers are aware, called the long peal of Stedman Caters some years ago at Aston), and who was present on this occasion, Mr. Hattersiey turned to the guest of the evening, and addressing him, said—
"And now, my dear Mr. Johnson, on behalf of the subscribers, and on behalf of the Committee, and on behalf of the present company, I have spared to look upon the same as a token of the respect and esteem with which you are at all times held by the ringing community, and when it shall please the hand of a good Providence to take you from among us, we trust that this portrait will be kept by a member of your family with that same feeling of love and admiration which has prompted the with that same teering of love and admiration which has prompted the many subscribers, and those assembled here, to present you with the same, and may God bless you." The speaker at this point became visibly affected, and stepping forward, gave Mr. Johnson an hearty English grasp of the hand. Mr. Hattersley then removed the cover from the portrait, which elicited loud and continued applause

The portrait was executed at the studio of Messrs. A. and G. Taylor, of London, and reflects great credit upon the artistic resources of their establishment. It is about three-quarter life-size, and depicts Mr. Johnson standing, with one hand resting on a table, and looking up as if about to answer one of the many questions which are put to

him by ringers.

The Chairman next read the address, which was as follows:

"To Mr. HENRY JOHNSON, SEN.

"DEAR SIR,-In presenting you with this portrait on behalf of your friends,

admirers, and brother-ringers in Birmingham and throughout England, we feel we are making an inadequate acknowledgement of the invaluable time, immense labour, and unwearying devotion of a lifetime which has been given to furthering the noble art and science of change-ringing.

"Your skill as a practical ringer and conductor, accompanied by your earnest desire to cultivate a high standard of excellence and good taste for true and correct ringing has not only been appreciated by your associates, but is acknowledged throughout the Exercise.

"As a composer you have few compeers in the science whether in the past or present, your compositions being marked by an originality and special merit which will commend them to the admiration of posterity, and will secure to your name a lustre as endearing as the art you have so well loved and so immensely benefitted.

"Throughout an illustrious career, extending through more than half a century your urbanity of mauner and willingness to render the assistance so frequently asked for has won for you a deep and universal feeling of respect and esteem.

"That your declining years may be blessed with a well-earned repose, and be brightened by a sense of the appreciation which this presentation is intended to convey, is the sincere wish of the many subscribers on whose behalf we have the honour to address you. Signed,

Henry Bastable,

HENRY BASTABLE, JOHN BUFFERY, JOB JOYNES, WILLIAM R. SMALL, ALFRED THOMAS, Hon. Sec. SAMUEL REEVES, Hon. Treas."

Fcb. 28th. 1886.

The address was written and illuminated at the chambers of Mr. Newey, Artist, Paradise Street, Birmingham. It is on vellum, and in an English oak frame, the corners recording respectively the four chief performances of Mr. Johnson, viz., a peal each of Stedman Major and Royal, with two of Stedman Cinques. On a ribbon at the sides are words "Ring out the false, ring in the true."

During the evening, a congratulatory telegram was received from the Macclesfield company, announcing a complimentary peal, also a beautiful silk handkerchief from Mr. Matthews—his well-known

ringers' pattern-bestudded with bells and ringing mottoes.

Mr. Johnson, in briefly acknowledging the compliment paid to him, said he wished to thank them, one and all, for the valuable present which, by their united efforts they had been enabled to give him, and more especially did he thank all those gentlemen who had undertaken

the responsibility of getting up this Testimonial.

The Chairman next gave the toast of the evening, "The Health of Mr. Johnson," which was received with musical honours, and "three times three." .In the course of his remarks, after apologising for the absence of several prominent members of the Exercise, Mr. Fish said that their friend Mr. Johnson was one of the few remaining links between the old and the new state of things. Under the old order, the performances of a bye-gone generation of worthies like Day and Cooper, and Thurstans and Lates, to whose genius and labours not only their own immediate neighbourhood, but also the whole of England was deeply indebted, had to be content with seeking a precarious existence in the pages of some sporting newspaper, were they were hidden away in odd corners; amongst scraps of cockfighting news and similarly edifying matter. Whereas under the new regime, the Exercise was able to boast of a well-conducted and orderly journal, whose columns were exclusively devoted to the recognition of ringing interests. In the pages of that day's "Bell News" they would find, set out in the place of honour, in large bold characters, no less than twenty-one peals, which were the result of the previous week's ringing alone. This marvellous growth of interest and intelligence in their art had been no doubt in a great measure fostered by the unremitting labours of the late Mr. Jasper Whitfield Snowdon, whose writings had been so universally read, and whose premature death had been so widely deplored. But if Mr. Snowdon had been there that night, he would have been the first to confess the obligation he was under to the hero of the evening for much of the valuable information he had been instrumental in making public. In conclusion, the chairman hoped these meetings would become an annual institution, as in addition to being opportunities of honouring one whose name name deserved to be held in honour, they were also occasions of gathering together ringers from all parts of the country, and thereby supplying a want which had long been acknowledged. The chairman here had to leave in order to

catch an early train. A course of Grandsire Caters on the handbells was then rung by G. H. Phillott, Esq., 1-2; - Morris, 3-4; W. Baron, 5-6; W. Pates,

7-8; S. Reeves, 9-10.

Other toasts were suitably honoured, including "The Visitors," which was responded to by G. H. Phillott, Esq. (Cheltenham), the remainder of the evening being enlivened with songs from Messrs. Hattersley, Reeves, Hopkins, H. Thomas, and recitations from Messrs. Ward and A. G. Thomas.

On Sunday, the 28th ult., before morning service, the following and the coverse of Steddard Cinques.

On Sunday, the 28th uit, before morning service, the following rang three courses of Stedman Cinques. —. Hopkins, 1; J. Joynes, 2; T. Powell, 3; H. Johnson, jun., 4; W. R. Small, 5; W. Baron, 6; J. Buffery, 7; W. Kent, 8; W. Wakley, 9; W. Alps, 10; A. Thomas (conductor), 11; T. Reynolds, 12. And before evening service a 660 in the same method. H. Bastable (conductor), 1; —. Hopkins, 2; J. Joynes, 3; —. Haywood, 4; W. Baron, 5; T. Reynolds, 6; A. Thomas, 7; H. Johnson, jun., 8; C. Stanbridge, 9; W. Wakley, 10; J. Buffery, 11; H. Withers, 12.

BRADFORD AMALGAMATED SOCIETY.

On Monday evening, March 8th, the members of this Society were entertained at dinner by the president, R. Tuke, Esq., in celebration of his accomplishment of fifty peals as a member of the Yorkshire Association. The dinner was held at the headquarters of the Society, the "Ring of Bells" Inn, and was of a substantial character. After due justice had been done to the many tempting viands placed before them, the tables were cleared. Mr. Tuke occupied the chair, and Mr. Lesse Naylor the vice-chair

Jesse Naylor the vice-chair.

The chairman, after opening the convivial business of the evening, proposed the toast of "Church and State," remarking that it must be pleasing to Englishmen to see our Queen once more sharing in the enjoyments of the people. He was sure they would all be indignant at the conduct of those disloyal men who recently hissed at the name of the Queen. With regard to the Church, he thought that they, through their position, and not less for the treatment which they had now received, had special reasons for drinking that toast heartily. stated that on Saturday last the Society met at St. John's Church to attempt a peal of Kent Treble Bob, in honour of the stay of the Bishop of Ripon in Bradford; this attempt failed, however, after ringing about two hours and a half, through a mis-call. He wrote to the Bishop, informing him of their intention, and had received the following letter :-

"The Palace, Ripon, March 6th, 1886.

"The Bishop of Ripon desires to thank the President and members of the Bradford Amalgamated Society of Change-Ringers for the compliment they have paid him in ringing a peal on the bells of St. John's Church, in honour of his visit to Bradford. He has been compelled to be absent during part of the atternoon, but has returned to Bradford in time to hear a good portion of the ringing, which he much admires, and for which he desires to express his hearty thanks."

The reading of the letter was greeted with applause, and the toast

was honoured in a loyal manner.

A course of Grandsire Royal was then rung on the handbells, after which Mr. Naylor, in a short but felicitous speech, proposed the health of Mr. Tuke, which was drunk very heartily, and Mr. Tuke replied, thanking them for their good wishes, and hoping they might

replied, thanking them for their good wishes, and noping they hight all be spared to have many such pleasant evenings together.

Mr. H. Raistrick then proposed "Success to the Art of Changeringing," to which Mr. J. H. Hardcastle responded.

After a song by Mr. Fisher, the toast of "The Bradford Amalgamated Society" was given by Mr. J. Angus, and responded to by Mr.

The Chairman then proposed the health of the visitors, to which Mr. Copley replied, concluding by asking all present to drink "Success to 'The Bell News.'" This toast was drunk very heartily, as was also that of "the Host and Hostess," proposed by Mr. A. Moulson, and responded to by the worthy host, Mr. Fowlds. During the evening Mr. Titterington gave a recitation, and courses of Grandsire, Treble Bob, and Plain Bob, were rung on the handbells, and the magistrates having granted an hour's extra license for the occasion, the company separated at twelve o'clock, having spent a most enjoyable evening.

EAST LINCOLNSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, March 6th, several members of the above Association visited All Saints' Church, Friskney, by the kind invitation of the Vicar, the Rev. H. J. Cheales, who is also President of the Association, in order to celebrate the 33rd burthday of one of its members. At 2 p.m., the company arrived at the Vicarage, and after the health of Mr. Mason, of Boston, had been drunk, the tower was visited, and two 720's of Bob Minor was rung. G. Clark, 1; Rev. H. J. Cheales, 2; W. F. Harwood, 3; J. Mawer, 4; S. G. F. Smith, 5; E. Mason (conductor), 6. A knite-and-fork tea was provided at the Vicarage by the Vicar. At 6 o'clock, the company returned to Boston and proceeded to St. Nicholas, Skirbeck, and rang 1886 changes of Grandsire Doubles, in 1 hr. 7 mins. T. Meads, 1; G. Clark, 2; E. Mason (conductor), 3; T. Routon, 4; W. F. Harwood, 5. After which they adjourned to the rectory, where the Rev. R. E. Roy had promised a supper. After the health of Mr. Mason had been drunk and a few remarks from the rector, the company separated, having spent a very pleasant day.

CHEPSTOW, MONMOUTHSHIRE.

On Monday evening, March 8th, five of the St. Mary's company, Chepstow, paid a friendly visit to Caldicot, Monmouthshire, and rang four six-scores of Bob Doubles, the first ever rang on the back six. J. Morley (conductor), 1; G. Watkins, 2; W. Green, 3; W. Woods, 4; T. Rosser, 5; T. Huntley, 6. Tenor 17 cwt. in D. T. Huntley halls 1. Rosser, 5; 1. Huntley, 6. Tenor 17 cwt. in D. T. Huntley halls from Mathern, Monmouthshire. There was some good call changes on the eight, joined by the local company. An adjournment was then made to the "Castle Inn," where the remaining part of the evening was spent in the company of their ringing friends, who were sorry to hear the landlord cry "stand." Then a start was made for home on "shanks" pony," where they arrived quite sate at 12.30 a.m., well pleased with their outing. A CLOCK OF CLOCKS.

An old friend sends us the following curious extract from a news-

paper:—
"THE famous clock of Strasburgh is put completely into the shade by the great World Clock, or the 10,000-year time-indicator. was constructed in Germany, during many years' labour, by Mr. Christian Martin, clockmaker. The clock marks the years and leapyears, and will run for a hundred centuries, when, as the bill frankly admits, its mechanic works will have to be changed. The face of the clock is about 10 ft. square, and a large number of dials and little niches where 122 little figures have their abiding place. These latter, niches where 122 little figures have their abiding place. These latter, as the ever-ready bill explains, are 'to allegorize human life.' Every minute a sorrowful-looking angel hits a bell with a sledge-hammer. When he has done this fifteen times another angel in a red robe strikes the first quarter. 'The Genius,' dressed in a Louis XIV. costume, turns a dial so that the figure is shown. At the same time the figure of a child appears at a lower door. At the second quarter a youth appears; at the third a middle-aged man with spectacles and a high hat, and at the fourth a decrepit old wreck with a white wig. While all this is going on below, Death, in the shape of a Comanche Indian with wings has been vainly endeavouring to hammer. Indian with wings, has been vainly endeavouring to hammer a bell in an upper niche, but an angel has headed him off in every case, and protected the human family 'by raising the right hand in an allegorical relation,' as per programme, until the fourth quarter. Then Death gets the better of the struggle, strikes the hour, and bundles the old man off into eternity. The twelve apostles are trotted out each hour. Above them is a figure of Christ, 'who blesses with both hands each apostle in passing,' as the bill states, with mathematical exactness. At morning, noon, and night a number of bellringers ring their respective bells with vindictive energy, and an old man drops upon his knees as if someone had kicked his legs out from under him. All these and many other wonders, exposing the family secrets of the Zodiac, the heathen gods, the seasons, the moon, and the globe, all run regularly. The whole structure is surmounted by a cock, which crows at six and twelve o'clock."

PRIZE-RINGING.

A friendly ringing match has taken place between six of the Aylsham, and six of the Marsham and Heveningham ringers. Aylsham, Marsham, and Heveningham being only a short distance apart, the above companies are all as one, and practice together. Mr. W. Crane, of Heveningham proposed that the Marsham and Heveningham Branch should ring a 720 of Bob Minor, against the Aylsham branch, for a dinner, which was accepted, and took place at Marsham, on Shrove Tuesday. Mr. F. Knights, Master of the St. Peter Mancroft Society, was chosen to act as judge. At the appointed time Messrs. Knights, Sadler, and E. Ward, from Norwich, arrived at Marsham, and met the ringers all in readiness. The two companies then entered the the ringers all in readiness. The two companies and accomplished a tower, and the Aylsham men were the first to ring, and accomplished a with ten marks against them. William Stackwood, 720 in 25 linis., with ten marks against them. William Stackwood, 1; J. M. Roberts, 2; A. J. Neale, 3; Charles Clements, 4; G. Moy, 5; R. Stackwood (conductor), 6. The Marsham and Freveningham company next accomplished a 720 in 29 mins.. with four marks against them, and were declared the winners. H. Kidd, 1; J. Matthewson, 2; Thos. Greenwood (conductor), 3; W. Crane, 4; P. Cushing, 5; J. Edridge, 6. Afterwards they adjourned to the meeting house, and prought the handbells into requisition, with a course of Grandsia. Edridge, 6. Afterwards they adjourned to the meeting house, and brought the handbells into requisition, with a course of Grandsire Cinques. John Edridge, 1-2; Charles Clements, 3-4; Philip Cushing, 5-6; F. Knights (Norwich), 7-8; Thomas Greenwood, 9-10; Robert Stackwood, 11-12. Touches of Treble Bob, songs by Mr. W. Stackwood, etc., and some tune-playing by F. Knights and F. H. Knights, brought a most enjoyable evening to a close.

MARTOCK, SOMERSET.

An exceedingly interesting and amusing evening was spent at the National Schoolroom, on Wednesday evening, M irch 3rd, with the All Saints' handbell ringers. This is the first entertainment given by this youthful society, but we venture to predict that it will not be the last, but rather that many pleasant hours will yet be spent in listening to their sweet-toned belis. The ringers were Messrs. A. Worner conductor), W. I. Worner, J. B. Passley, W. Lye, and P. Wheeler, and are to be congratulated on the improvement they have made since assisting at a Church of England Temperance Society entertainment a little while ago, and no doubt they will go on improving until a high state of efficiency is attained. Their vocal pieces were also well rendered, especially the "Village Chorister," and "Dame Durden." Mr. C. W. Drew, organist of All Saints Church, kindly played all the accompaniments except Miss Goodlands. Miss Ware very tastefully played her solos, shewing how familiar she must be with the piano, and was deservedly encored. Miss E. Goodland nicely sang her songs, being rewarded with an encore for her second song. The song "Sally in our Alley," by Mr. J. B. Passley, and "Umbrella Courtship," by Mr. A. Worner, was well received, and had to be repeated.

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 ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

Sir.—All members of the above Association will learn with regret of the approaching resignation of the Rev. H. A. Cockey, as hon. sec., and as he is about to leave the county, I would suggest that some recognition of his valuable services be made at the annual meeting at Whitsuntide. This would be the most convenient opportunity for such an event, as most members of the Association meet together out that occasion, and it may be some time before we again have the pleasure of meeting the rev. gentleman. I would suggest that a committee be formed to carry out the work, say the committee of the Association, with the assistance of the Rev. T. L. Papillon, Vicar of Writtle, who appears to take a deep interest in the art, as secretary, if this gentleman would kindly undertake the work. No doubt the leader of each company in connection with the Association would collect subscriptions and send them to him as early as possible, and if every member would subscribe about sixpence each, a small but suitable token of the esteem in which he is held, could be presented him. Every member is more or less indebted to the rev. gentleman for the energy and untiring efforts he has made in bringing the Association up to its present high standard, and something should be given him that would not only be pleasing to him, but would be handed down to generations to come, as a reminder of the good work done for the promotion of the art of change-ringing. Every one must rejoice when they look round the county and see the enormous amount of good the Association has done, and this principally due to the entusiasm of the Rev. H. A. Cockev.

the Rev. H. A. Cockey.

A Member.
P.S.—If the work is taken up by any gentlemen, will they kindly let us know through "The Bell News?"

DOUBTFUL PEAL RINGING.

Sir,—I noticed in your impression of February 13th last, the report of a peal rung at Southport, Lancashire. The peal, Carter's bob-and-single variation, is stated to have been rung in two hrs. and thirty-two mins., weight of tenor 10 cwt., and has the following footnote: "This is the quickest 'peal by the above company." This seems to me too good to be true, and I should like to ask any of the members who took part in it whether the whole peal was rung or a portion left out; and also whether there were any ringers outside listening and counted the changes per minute, we will save every half hour or so. This peal reminds me of the Treble Bob Major peal at Eccles, a few months previous. There is also another peal in your issue of February 27th, rung at Brockworth, Gloucestershire, on February 16th. This peal consisted of forty-two 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles. I presume that means that one certain 6-score was rung over and over again for forty-two times. Personally I do not consider this performance a peal on five bells, owing to its being rung in one method only. Only a fortnight ago I heard of a set of round-ringers ringing, a few days previous, rounds and the queen's change for two hours and a half without a rest. I should think that had these ringers gone on for another half-hour or so, they would have as much right to publish their performance as a 5000 of Tombstone Surprise, or some other such fancy name as our Brockworth friends have in publishing their performance. I do not wish any ringer to infer from my remarks that I am against five-bell performances being considered as peals, far from it. I would rather encourage them, where no higher number of bells can be had except by going to some other church a few miles distant, but I would have them done in different methods, and not in one method alone, this being my only objection to them.

HOLT'S ORIGINAL IN CHESHIRE.

SIR,—In your issue of March 6th, 1886, you record Holt's Original, as rung at Macclesfield, and the sender of the account says it is the first time it has been rung in Cheshire. Had he taken a little trouble to enquire before sending the account, no doubt he would have ascertained if it had been rung before in that county. Holt's Original was rung at Stalybridge on February 8th, 1877, in two hours and forty-nine minutes, so he will see the little error he has fallen into.

J. S. T.

THE PROPOSED SNOWDON MEMORIAL.

SIR,—I agree with the writer of the letter which appeared in last week's number of "The Bell News," that the most suitable tribute of respect to the late Jasper W. Snowdon would be an appropriate stained window to be placed in Ilkley parish church. After your excellent leader on the subject, I fully expected that the following week would have seen the draft of a scheme from some of the leading Yorkshire ringers, and as one anxious to see immediate steps taken in this matter I would urge the importance of striking while the iron is hot. It is a

subject upon which I may safely say most ringers feel very warmly, and the debt the ringing world owes Jasper Snowdon is a heavy one. At the present moment I have little doubt but this is fully appreciated by the great bulk of ringers, but if the matter is allowed to remain long in abeyance the general interest in it will naturally wane. Will not Mr. Tuke, or some other prominent ringer, open a subscription list, and suggest a committee to carry out the work? I feel sure that this is all that is needed and that subscriptions would rapidly flow in.

R. S. Story.

WELLINGBOROUGH, NORTHANTS.—SUPPER TO CHOIRS AND RINGERS.

Touches of Doubles and Triples, interspersed with some well-struck firing on the parish church bells, formed a fitting prelude to the third of these pleasant social gatherings, which took place on Friday evening, March 5th. Enjoyable as they have been in the past, this was certainly a success beyond all others, for the supper was hot and well served, the songs. &c., given by the choirmen were of the right sort and well rendered, whilst the ringers gained hearty applause by their excellent tune-plaving, &c., on handbells. The vicar, the Ven. Archdeacon Lightfoot, occupied the chair, being supported by W. Davis, Esq., and J. T. Parker, Esq., churchwardens, and several of the sidesmen. The Rev. L. T. Jones and J. D. Best were also present. The usual toasts were warmly and lovally received. The toast of "The Three Choirs" was proposed by Mr. Davis, who said that they owed much to their choirs. As churchwarden, he was well satisfied with the way in which they carried out their duties. Mr. Beeby, who has been connected with the choir for twenty-four years, responded. In giving the toast of "The Ringers," Mr. Jackson stated that their ringing and chiming was a credit to the town and county. Mr. Dennes (belfry sidesman), in replying for the ringers, said they were much gratified by the way in which the parishioners appreciated their services. They were proud of their grand peal of bells. Thanks to the care taken of them by their steeple-keeper, Mr. Turnell, they went the care taken of them by their steeple-keeper, Mr. Turnell, they went easy and well, despite their weight. The attendance of chimers during the past vear had been most punctual and regular. They had lately formed a local society. Dr. Clark kindly favoured the company with two comic songs, and Mr. J. T. Smith gave that well-known hunting song, "John Peel." The singing of the National Anthem brought this social gathering to a close shortly after midnight.

TWO DAYS OF KENT TREBLE BOB.

On Saturday last, March 15th, a party of two left Macclesfield by the 12 o'clock train, and arrived at Glossop, Derbyshire, by 1.35, where they were well received by the obliging ringers that Glossop possesses. During the afternoon a peal of Kent Treble Bob Major was successfully brought round, containing 7168 changes. This was their longest length, and was rung at the first attempt. Previous to starting they were made members of the United Counties' Association. On Sunday we rung in two touches of 576 and 704 in the same method for Divine Service. In the afternoon they visited Whitefield church, and there rang their first date touch of Kent, making a total of 10,334 of "sweet Treble Bob." Their short stay now came to an end, and at 7.40 they left their new made friends, and after "changing courses" twice arrived back to the place where they started from the day before. They now take this opportunity of thanking their Glossop friends for their kindness and liberality, hoping to meet them with the same success some future time.

MARTOCK, SOMERSET.—DEATH OF AN ALL SAINTS' RINGER.—We deeply regret having to record the death of Mr. T. W. Podger, which took place at his residence on Sunday, February 28th, after a short illness, at the age of 42 years. The deceased was a saddler, and a most useful townsman, being one of the M Company of Volunteers since its birth, aud was recently made sergeant. He has also been for many years connected with the Farmers' and Tradesmen's Club, a member of the Volunteer Fire Brigade, a regular Sunday School teacher, and one of the All Saints' ringers. He was laid to rest in the churchyard on Saturday afternoon, March 6th. A great many of the M Company, 2nd V.B.S.L.I., paid the last mark of respect to their departed comrade, Captain Blake and Lieutenant Walter both being present, the members of the Fire Brigade, his own class, and several Sunday School teachers. All the All Saints' ringers were present, and four of their number carried the corpse, the surpliced choir also joined in the procession. The Burial Service was impressively read by the Vicar, the Rev. Prebendary Salmon, assisted by the Rev. C. F. Luckman, the former of whom made feeling reference to the death of Mr. Podger in his sermon on Sunday evening. At the grave, the hymn "O God our help in ages past" was sung by the choir, and at the conclusion of the service, the ringers rang two muffled peals as a token of respect to their late member. The shops of the town were partly closed.

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

One copy, 12 months 3s. 3d. 6

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. F. HILLIER.-We regret that your communication was by accident overlooked last week.

W. Sevier.—It is impossible for us to insert reports correctly unless we have them forwarded tous in a clear manner. The report you allude to was a complete

The Bell Helvs & Ringers' Record.

SATURDAY, MARCH 20, 1886.

AT that most interesting reunion of ringers held in Birmingham on the 27th of last month, in honour of Mr. HENRY JOHNSON'S 77th birthday—an account of which appears on another page—a most suitable and practical suggestion fell from the lips of the chairman, the Rev. J. H. Fish, Vicar of St. Paul's, Burton, to wit, that these meetings should be made annual events.

We cordially endorse the Chairman's excellent advice on this subject, as we believe that an annual reunion of this character, held at such an important centre of ringing as Birmingham, would prove both acceptable and attractive to many members of the Exercise.

Perhaps there is no place out of London which is so easy of access by road or by rail, and no place where the ringers make their brethren of the craft, whether strangers or not, more heartily welcome. Certainly there is no man who better deserves to have the annual compliment of a dinner in his honour paid to him than our old friend, Mr. HENRY JOHNSON.

We are disposed to think that in past years the Exercise has been too chary of its honours, and too much in the habit of deferring the acknowledgement of its debts until the intended recipient has been beyond recall. In the face of the great and serious losses sustained by the Exercise of late, we commend this suggestion of an annual complimentary dinner to the support of our Birmingham friends, merely stipulating that in case it be decided upon, their Hon. Secretary will kindly give us timely notice so as to prevent us being occupied with previous engagements when the day arrives.

Now that the project of a National Association has fallen to the ground, the question naturally suggests itself as to whether a local habitation might be found for it elsewhere than in London, and whether the benefits

available under another form, and by another name. It seemed to us that the National Association, so often discussed and so often advocated in our columns, fell through, chiefly for lack of one of our older societies coming forward to stand sponsor for it, and to undertake to initiate it. The great London Societies turned the cold shoulder to it, one and all, apparently having enough to do to manage their own concerns. We would commend the consideration of the scheme to the ringers of Birmingham and the neighbouring district, and suggest to them that they have now an excellent opportunity in this annual dinner of collecting together the most notable exponents of the science, and thereby laying the foundation of an annual gathering which would gradually develope into the consummation desired.

"Forward" is the motto on their coat of arms at Birmingham; "Forward" has been their distinguishing characteristic in the past; and we feel sure it will continue to be "Forward" in the future.

THE report of the District Meeting of the Essex Association of change-ringers, which was fully given in our issue of the 7th inst., contained an unaccountable feature. It is one which we have before alluded to in these columns, not only in connection with the above, but also in connection with other Associations. We refer to members allowing their contributions to fall in arrear, or what might probably be termed, to lapse. The report in question distinctly states that among the defaulters are some who have secured the entry of their names in the peal-book, and although it does not directly, yet it indirectly intimates that there are among such-probably roving members of the Exercise—who have only contributed the insignificant sum of one shilling to the funds. If such is the case, it cannot be looked upon other than a mean and unpardonable action; that is, of course, if the annual subscriptions have lapsed without any intention of their forthcoming, unless the opportunity is open to take part in another peal. It is such unwarrantable actions that cause formalities of election in the tower to be open to suspicion. Some of the isolated members, no doubt, have not paid up chiefly through negligence; with the facilities, in the present day, for transmission through the post of small sums, there is, however, no reasonable excuse for any one that has a desire to be a bona fide member of any society to neglect to forward at the proper time his contribution.

Judging from the "items from Essex," printed in our last number, ringing matters are looking up, if not throughout the county, in a portion of it. The return of the two trebles to their old quarters in the Chelmsford tower, from which they ought never to have been removed; and the promise of a ring at Brentwood, are items of welcome information. It is to be regretted that the hon. sec. to the Association contemplates leaving the county. The restoration of the two trebles to Chelmsford is due to his tact, and it is to be hoped that the work may be completed before his final resignation takes place.

THE SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.

This Society's Annual Supper will take place at headquarters, the Green Man, 54, St. Martin's Lane, on Friday, the 26th inst. Members intending to be present will kindly signify their intention to the Secretary, H. Dains, 147, Barnsbury Road, N.
P.S.—Prior to leaving town for Dunster, Somersetshire, the Rev.

James Ulten Todd was pleased to present St. Martin's Belfry with a set of twelve new ringing mats, and I am requested by the members, accruing from such an organisation might not be through this medium, to thank the rev gentleman for his kindness.

The Metropolis.

BETHNAL GREEN.-THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

On Saturday, March 13, 1886, in Two Hours and Fifty-two Minutes, AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MATTHEW,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES: HALEY'S VARIATION. Tenor 14 cwt.

CHARLES BEECH		7	reble	HARRY I. SHADE	 5.
SAMUEL TOYCE			2.	ISAAC G. SHADE	 6
WILLIAM CECIL			3.	ARTHUR HAYWARD	 7.
MATTHEW A. WOOD.	•	• •	4.	Joseph West	 Tenor

Conducted by ISAAC G. SHADE.

This excellent peal was rung to celebrate the erection of the chandelier which was presented by a member of the College Youths, and was renovated by Mr. I senh West, who added some extra lights, which has made a marked improvement in this valuable little tower.

THE ST. JAMES'S SOCIETY.

On Wednesday, March 17, 1886, in Three Hours and Six Minutes, AT THE CHURCH OF ST. BOTOLPH, BISHOPSGATE.

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES; HOLT'S TEN-PART. Tenor 20 cwt. in E.

WILLIAM JONES		Treble	MATTHEW A. WOOD 5	۲.
HENRY LANGDON		2,	ARTHUR HAYWARD 6	5.
SAMUEL E. JOYCE	••	3.	WILLIAM H. GEORGE 7	٠.
JOSEPH BARRY		4.	*WALTER J. WILLIAMSON Ten	ior.

Conducted by MATTHEW A. WOOD. *First peal.

LEWISHAM, KENT.

THE ST. JAMES'S SOCIETY, LONDON.

On Tuesday, March 16, 1886, in Two Hours and Fifty-five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES; HOLT'S TEN-PART. Tenor 22% cwt. in Eb.

CHARLES E. FREEMAN Treb	e Frederick W. Thornton 5.
WILLIAM PEAD 2.	ABRAHAM G. FREEMAN 6.
THOMAS TAYLOR 3.	WILLIAM H. FREEMAN 7.
WILLIAM WEATHERSTONE 4.	

Conducted by ABRAHAM GEORGE FREEMAN.

*First peal.

The Provinces.

CRAWLEY, SUSSEX.—SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION. On Tuesday, March 9, 1886, in Two Hours and Fifty Minutes.

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF UNION TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES; Tenor 13\frac{3}{4} cwt.

W. PARSONS			7	reble.	F. WICKENS				5.
W. Collison		٠.		2.	A. F. HILLIER		٠.		6.
T. Smith, Esq.	• •	• •		3⋅	H. Burstow	• •	• •	• •	7.
M. Heffer*	• •	• •	• •	4.	J. Collison	• •	• •	T	enor.

Composed by HENRY JOHNSON, and Conducted by H. BURSTOW. First peal in the method by all the band. *First 5040. First peal rang on the bells.

MANCHESTER.-THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Thursday, March 11, 1886, in Three Hours and Eighteen Minutes, AT THE CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF ST. JOHN,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB ROYAL, 5000 CHANGES; In the Kent Variation. Tenor 25 cwt. in Eb.

		-	
THOMAS THORP*	Treble.	EDWARD CASH	6.
CHARLES CASH	. 2.	SAMUEL WEST	7
George E. Turner*	. 3.	*TAMES THORPE	Ś.
JOHN E. POLLITT!	. 4.	A. EDWARD WREAKS	. O.
JAMES BARRATT	5	JOHN EACHUS	Tenor.

Composed by the late JOSEPH RILEY, of Cheltenham, and Conducted by A. Ed. WREAKS.

*First peal in the Treble Bob method. †First peal of Treble Bob Royal. The Brothers Cash and J. Barratt hail from Eccles, the rest are of the Cathedral company. This peal will be found in Snowdon's Treatise, part 2, page 105.

MEREWORTH, KENT.-THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Friday, March 12, 1886, in Two Hours and Forty Minutes, AT THE CHURCH OF ST. LAWRENCE,

SEVEN 720's OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES; Each called differently. Tenor 12 cwt.

	F. G. NEWMAN		Treble	GEORGE BELL	•• 4.
1	GEORGE NEWMAN		2.	WILLIAM BELLINGHAM	. 5.
	WILLIAM ELDRIDGE	••	3.	HARRY PEARCE	Tenor.
		_			

Conducted by FRED. G. NEWMAN.

EAST PECKHAM, KENT.-THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, March 13. 1886, in Two Hours and Fifty Minutes, AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL,

SEVEN PEALS OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES; Each called differently. Tenor 161 cwt. in F.

WILLIAM BELL			
George Bell	2.	FRED. G. NEWMAN	. 5.
WILLIAM BELLINGHAM	3.	HENRY PEARCE	Tenor.

Conducted by FRED. G. NEWMAN.

This is the first 5040 on the bells.

STOWMARKET, SUFFOLK.-NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, March 13, 1886, in Three Hours and Eleven Minutes, AT THE CHURCH OF SS. PETER AND MARY,

A PEAL OF BOB TRIPLES, 5000 CHANGES; Tenor 24 cwt.

C. Bedwell	 	Treble.	R. WELHAM		 5.
W. Tydeman	 	2.	C. Mee	• •	 f.
F. Mee	 	3. 1	T. Steward		 7.
C. Buckle	 	. 4.	H. MILLS		 Tenor.

Composed by H. HUBBARD, and Conducted by C. MEE.

First peal by all except F. Mee, C. Mee and T. Steward who hall from Ipswich; the rest belong to the local company. The ringers have to thank C. Mee for the great trouble he has taken to get then on, as when he joined the company at Christmas very little change ringing was known at Stowmarket.

LONG MELFORD, SUFFOLK.

On Saturday, March 13, 1886, in Three Hours and Ten Minutes, AT THE CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5184 CHANGES; In the Oxford Variation. Tenor 163 cwt.

JOHN SLATER						
ZACHARIAH SLATER		2.	SAMUEL SLATER			6.
PERCY CHAS. S. SCOTT		3⋅	JAMES BIRD			7.
CHARLES SILLITOE	• •	4.	HARRY HARPER	• •	T	enor

Composed by J. J. BRIERLEY, and Conducted by PERCY C. S. SCOTT.

The above is a three-part peal and is now rung for the first time, it is also the first in the method by all the band. This is the second peal in the Oxford Variation rang on these bells, the first being a 5120 on September 26th, 1768, the first peal of Treble Bob Major rang in the county of Suffolk.

BIRCHINGTON, KENT.

THE ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS AND THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

Muffled Peal.

On Saturday, March 13, 1886, in Three Hours and Three Minutes, AT THE WATERLOO TOWER, QUEX PARK,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES; THE REV. C. D. P. DAVIES'S 5-PART. Tenor 151 cwt.

					_			_	~		
A.	POINTER		 7	reble.	T.	B.	REED				5.
	WILLSHIRE										
C.	WILLSHIRE	• •	 • •	3. ∫	G.	W	ILLSHIRE	, -			7.
Т.	B. REED, JUN		 ٠.	4.	E.	Go	LDER			7	renor

Conducted by Leon WILLSHIRE.

This peal was originally intended as a birthday-peal for the 27th birthday of Mr. B. Golder, but owin' to the death of the eldest daughter of Mr. I. J. Bristow (secretary to the band), the peal was runz with the bells deeply muffled, as a mark of sympathy towards the parents of the deceased. All the above belong to the Quex Park local band.

CROYDON.—THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

On Tuesday, March 9, 1886, in Three Hours and Thirty-two Minutes,
At the Church of St. John the Baptist,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES; HOLT'S ORIGINAL. Tenor 32 cwt. in Eb.

HENRY C. HALEY	Treble.	ARTHUR B. CARPENTE	R	5.
URBAN HOLMAN	2.	THOMAS VERRALL		б.
HENRY DUDLEY, SEN.	3.	Alfred Bruce		7.
SAMUEL FISK"	. 4.	George Rosier	• •	Tenor.

Conducted by HENRY C. HALEY.

*First Peal. Tenor had to be clogged as usual.

HAUGHTON.—THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, March 13, 1886, in Three Hours and Sixteen Minutes,
At the Church of St. Anne,

5040 CHANGES: IN THREE DIFFERENT METHODS UPON SIX BELLS;

Being Two 720's of Oxford Treble Bob, Three 720's of Kent Treble Bob, and Two 720's of Plain Bob Minor.

Tenor 15 cwt. in G.

TOHN BARDSLEY*	 2.	SAMUEL WOOD *WILLIAM WILDE, SEN. *PETER SMITH	. 5
•		SAMURI WOOD	

*First peal. This is the first 5040 on the bells. Samuel Wood hails from Ashton the rest are the local company.

WIMBLEDON, SURREY.—THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

On Tuesday, March 16, 1886, 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:-

Cambridge Surprise, Woodbine, Oxford and Kent Treble Bob, Oxford Single Bob, Bob Minor, and Grandsire Minor.

GEORGE BYDE			7	reble.	JAMES COOLEY		c .	
Robert Moss	• •			2.	ALBERT ARRATT	٠.	5.	
CHARLES BYDE				3⋅	SAMUEL FROST		Tenor.	
Conducted by SAMUEL FROST.								

This is the first 5040 by the above band, it is the first on the bells, and the first by the Association on six bells.

GLOSSOP, DERBYSHIRE.—THE UNITED COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, March 13, 1886, in Four Hours and Thirteen Minutes,
At the Church of All Saints,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 7168 CHANGES; IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 15 cwt.

SAMUEL HARROP		7	reble.	SAML. KNOTT, JUN	 5.
IOHN HARROP			2.	*WILLIAM WALMSLEY	 6.
WILLIAM HARROP			3.	HENRY COOPER	 7.
WALTER INGHAM	• •		4.	JOHN PYE, JUN	 Tenor.

Composed and Conducted by SAMUEL KNOTT, JUN.

*First peal with a bob bell in this method. This is the longest length by the ringers of the 2nd, 4th, and 6th bells, also the longest length by the above Association. Messrs. Ingham and Walmsley hail from Macclesfield, the rest belong to the local company.

Pate Touches.

ASSOCIATION FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.

West Browwich.—On Tuesday, March 2nd, the following members of the above Association rang at Christ Church, a date touch of Grandsire Triples, 1886 changes, in 1 hr. 5 mins. H. Hipkiss, 1; W. R. Small, 2; T. Horton, 3; J. Hall, 4; R. Hall, 5; S. Reeves (conductor), 6; C. Price, 7; C. Timms, 8. Composed by Mr. H. Johnson. The above was rung to celebrate the Rev. C. H. Johen's (Vicar) wedding, which took place on that day at St. Paul's Church, Kingston Hill, Surrey.

DARLASTON (Staffordshire).—On Sunday, March 14th, at the parish church, for Divine Service in the evening, a date touch of Grandsire Triples, 1886 changes, in 1 hr. 7 mins. Samuel Reeves, 1; Reuben Hall,

2: Thomas Horton, 3; William Rock Small, 4; John Tinsley, 5; Charles Price, 6; William Smith, 7; Thomas Small, 8. Tenor 20 cwt. The above is the musical composition of Mr. Henry Johnson, and conducted by Samuel Reeves. The ringers of the 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th, and 6th hail from West Bromwich, the rest belong to Darlaston.

EASTERN COUNTIES' GUILD.

LUTTON (Lincolnshire).—On Monday evening, March 8th, at St. Nicholas' Church, a date touch, 1886 changes, in 1 hr. 16 mins., in the following methods: 360 of Hudibras, 800 of Grandsire Doubles, called on the 3rd and 5th alternately five different ways, 720 of Plain Bob Doubles, called on four different bells, and six singles. J. Russell, 1: G. Stennett, 2: W. Cunnington, 3; J. Stennett, 4; J. W. M. Brown, 5. All the above are residents of the village, and this is the first date touch ever rang on the bells by five residents of the village.

THE WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

BASINGSTOKE (Hants).—On Tuesday, March oth, at St. Michael's church, by the local band, on the front six, a date touch of Grandsire Doubles, 1886 changes, in 1 hr. 5 mins. T. Higgens, 1; F. Bicknell, 2; W. Tiller, 3; G. Capron, 4; H. White (conductor), 5; T. Wheeler, 6. This is the longest touch by any of the band except the conductor.

Bramford (Suffolk).—On Saturday, March 13th, at the parish church, the local company rang a date touch of 1886 changes, in 1 hr. 10 mins.. in the following methods: 686 of Plain Doubles, 600 of Grandsire Doubles, 600 of Old Doubles. Charles Osborne, 1; Walter Brown, 2; Charles R. Smith, 3; William Read, 4; Alfred A. Pryke (conductor), 5; William Garnham, 6. Tenor 16 cwt. in G. C. Smith, A. Pryke, W. Read, and W. Brown belong to the Norwich Diocesan Association.

Low Moor (Yorks).—On Sunday, March 7th, at Holy Trinity Church, for Divine Service in the evening, a date touch of Kent Treble Bob Major, 1886 changes. T. Pickard, 1; J. Worsnop, 2; T. Simpson, 3; J. Briggs, 4: W. Tordoff, 5; A. Wilkinson, 6; J. W. Emmett, 7; C. Dracup (conductor), 8. Tenor 15 cwt.

READING (Berks).—On Sunday, March 7th, eight members of the St. Laurence's society rang at St. Laurence's church, for Divine Service in the evening, Mr. J. Carter's date touch of Grandsire Triples, 1886 changes, in 1 hr. 14 mins. A. E. Reeves, 1; W. H. Fussell, 2; R. T. Hibbert, 3; G. Talbot, 4; J. Potter, 5; W. Newell, 6; W. J. Williams (conductor), 7; W. R. Pocock, 8.

Miscellaneous.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

London.—On Tuesday, March 16th, 1886, at St. Saviour's, Southwark, a peal of Stedman Cinques was attempted by this society to commemorate the 24th birthday of Mr. Dawe, but unfortunately it had to be abandoned after ringing exactly 3 hours, through one of the ringers being unwell. J. R. Haworth, 1; W. Cecil, 2; C. F. Winny, 3; E. Horrex, 4; G. Mash, 5; W. Tanner, 6; J. M. Haves, 7; R. French, 8; J. M. Routh, Esq., 9; F. G. Newman, 10; W. Greenleaf, 11; F. E. Dawe (conductor), 12. Tenor 52 cwt. in Bb.

Woolwich (Kent).—On Saturday, March 6th, at St. Mary's Church, eight members of the above society attempted the late Mr. J. Cox's 5024 of Kent Treble Bob Major, but after ringing 3200 changes in hr. 54 mins., it came to grief. I. G. Shade, I; S. Joyce, 3; J. Bonney, 3; E. Wallage, 4; H. Springall, 5; H. J. Shade, 6; York Green, 7; H. Bright (aged 77), 8. It was arranged to attempt the peal again after the season of Lent.

THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

Bedford.—On Thursday, February 25th, for practice, at St. Mary's church, a 720 of Bob Minor (two bobs and twenty-two singles). W. Hall, I; M. Warwick, 2; I. Hills, 3; C. W. Clarke (conductor), 4; S. J. Cullip, 3; T. Foote, 6. And a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob Minor (nine bobs). F. Keech, I; M. Warwick, 2; T. Foote, 3; C. W. Clarke, 4; W. Hall, 5; I. Hills (conductor), 6. And on Thursday, March 4th, a 720 of Bob Minor. F. Keech, I; J. N. Frossell, 2; T. Foote, 3; C. W. Clarke, 4; S. J. Cullip, 5; W. Hall (conductor), 6. And a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor (nine bobs). F. Keech, I; J. N. Frossell, 2; T. Foote, 3; W. Hall, 4; S. J. Cullip, 5; C. W. Clarke (conductor), 6. And a 720 of Grandsire Minor (thirty-eight bobs and twenty-two singles). J. N. Frossell, I; M. Warwick, 2; T. Foote, 3; I. Hills, 4; S. J. Cullip, 5; C. W. Clarke (conductor), 6. And a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob Minor (fifteen bobs). C. W. Clarke (conductor), I; S. J. Cullip, 2; T. Foote, 3; M. Warwick, 4; J. N. Frossell, 5; I. Hills, 6. Handbell Ringing.—On Monday, March 8th, for practice, a course of Double Stedman Slow Course Minor. T. Foote, I; S. J. Cullip, 2; W. Hall, 3; C. W. Clarke, 4; M. Warwick, 5; I. Hills, 6. This is the first course in the method by all.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.-On Monday, March 8th, a peal of Treble Bob Major was attempted at St. John's church, but after ringing 3700 Bob Major was attempted at St. John's church, but after ringing 3700 changes, in 2 hrs. 15 mins., the breaking of the 2nd rope brought the attempt to a disastrous termination. H. Fergusson, 1; F. Lees, 2; R. W. Wignell, 3; E. Wallis, 4; C. L. Routledge, 5; T. J. des Forges, 6; W. Story, 7; R. S. Story (conductor), 8. And on the following Monday, the 15th inst., a touch of 1024 Kent Treble Bob Major, in 40 mins. H. Fergusson, 1; C. L. Routledge, 2; R. W. Wignell, 3; E. Wallis, 4; R. S. Story, 5; T. J. des Forges, 6; F. Lees, 7; Wm. Story (conductor), 8. Tenor 12½.

THE SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.

THE SOCIETY OF ROYAL COMBERLAND YOUTHS.
GLEMSFORD (Suffolk).—On Sunday, February 21st, 720 of Oxford
Treble Bob, with fifteen bobs. S. Slater, 1; F. P. Adams, 2; F.
Wells, 3; J. Bird, 4; C. Adams, 5; G. Hammond (conductor), 6.
And on Sunday, February 28th, 720 of Single Oxford Bob. S. Slater
(conductor), 1; F. P. Adams, 2; W. P. Gridley, 3; O. Garwood, 4;
Z. Slater, 5; J. Lee, 6. Also on Thursday, March 11th, 720 of Cambridge Surprise. J. Slater, 1; C. Honeybell, 2; F. Wells, 3; O.
Garwood, 4; Z. Slater, 5; S. Slater (conductor), 6.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

Barnwood, NEAR GLOUCESTER.—On Sunday, March 14th, six members of the above Association rang a 720 of Canterbury Pleasure Minor, in 27 mins. H. Barnes, 1; J. Yeates, 2; W. Sevier, 3; R. A. Barrett (first 720 in the method), 4; H. Mitchell, 5; A. A. Waite (conductor), 6. Tenor 14 cwt.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

WALKDEN (Lancashire).—On Monday, March 8th, for practice at the parish church, a 720 of Bob Minor, with thirty-two bobs and two singles, in 26 mins. J. Welsby, 1; J. Worthington, 2; A. Potter, 3; S. Oakes, 4; J. T. Potter, 5; J. Brooks (conductor), 6.

RADCLIFFE (Lancashire).—On Friday evening, March 12th, for practice at the parish church, a 720 of Bob Minor with eight bobs and sive singles in 26 mins. J. Hardman, 1; J. Morries 2; A. Barrett, 3.

six singles, in 26 mins. J. Hardman, 1; J. Morris, 2; A. Barrett, 3; J. Hardman, 4; F. Morris (conductor), 5; W. Fielding, 6.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

CUDDINGTON (Bucks).—On Sunday, March 14th, at the church of St. Nicholas, after Divine Service in the evening, a 720 of Grandsire Minor, in 24 mins. J. Frost, sen., 1; G. Warner (conductor), 2; J. Frost, jun., 3; J. Blake, 4; A. Frost, 5; W. Daniels (Stone), 6.

DORCHESTER (Oxon).-On Tuesday, March 10th, the following mnmbers of the above Association attempted Holt's Original peal of Grandsire Triples at the parish church, but after ringing 4300 changes in 2 hrs. 45 mins., the 4th rope broke and brought it to grief. J. Pether, 1; E. Napper, 2; J. W. Washbrook (conductor), 3; D. Napper, 4; J. Napper, 5; W. Napper, 6; C. W. Allen, 7; E. Pether, 8. This is the first time the Hagbourne men have attempted a peal from home, and the striking reflected the highest credit upon them, and undoubtedly they would have finished the peal if the ropes had been of the same metal as the men.

OXFORD.—On Monday, March 8th, at St. Mary Magdalen , 720 of Double Stedman's Slow Course Minor, in 24 mins. C. Hounslow, 1; F. Castle, 2; J. Howes, 3; H. Castle, 4; S, Hounslow, 5; W. Washbrook, 6. Also a 708 in the following methods on the following methods: Cambridge Surprise, Double Stedman, Oxford Bob, Double Court, College Single, Oxford and Kent Treble Bob, Plain Bob, and Grandsire. J. Howes, 1; A. F. M. Custance, Esq., 2; F. Castle, 3; H. Castle, 4; C. Hounslow, 5: W. Vashbrook (conductor), 6.

WANTAGE (Berks).—On Saturday evening, March 6th, for practice, 360 Bob Minor. C. Page, 1; H. Smith, 2; J. Gardner, 3; A. Bunce, 4; F. Money, 5; F. May, 6. And on Sunday, March 7th, for Morning Service, 360 Grandsire Minor. G. Gregory, 1; A. Bunce, 2; J. Gardner, 3; A. Gregory, 4; F. Money, 5; F. May, 6. Also for Evening Service, 360 of Kent Treble Bob Minor. G. Gregory, 1; H. Smith, 2; J. Gardner, 3; A. Gregory, 4; F. Money, 5; F. May (conductor), 6.

STOKE-UPON-TRENT ARCHIDIACONAL ASSOCIATION.

BIDDULPH.—On Friday, March 5th, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor in 27 mins. And on Sunday, March 7th, 720 of Treble Bob in 26 mins. J. Moss, 1; M. Moss, 2; A. Cottrell, 3; S. Mitchell, 4; S. Moore, 5; W. Carter (conductor), 6. First 720 in the method on the

NORTON.—On Monday, March 8th, 720 of Oxford Treble Bob Minor in 27½ mins. W. Baddeley, 1; J. W. Brough, 2; E. Glover, 3; *S. Mitchell, 4; W. Carter, 5: J. Baddeley (conductor), 6. Also 720 of Court Bob in 27 mins. S. Mitchell, 1; W. Carter, 2; W. Baddeley, 3; J. Wood, 4; G. Walker, 5; J. Baddeley (conductor), 6. Messrs. Carter and Mitchell hail from Biddulph. *First 720 with a bob bell.

ARCHDEACONRY OF SALOP ASSOCIATION

WHITCHURCH (Salop).—On Friday, February 26th, a 720 of Grandsire Minor in 28 mins. E. Langford. 1: W. Hutchinson, 2; G. Wright, 3; T. Barron, 4; R. Houlding, 5; G. Woodhall (conductor), 6. This is the first 720 of Minor rang by the Association.

THE WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

FAREHAM (Hants).—On Thursday, March 4th, at St. Peter's Church, 840 of Grandsire Triples. W. Naylor, 1; J. Staples, 2; G. Grafham, 3; Rev. H. Spyers, 4; C. Privett, 5; F. Hill (conductor), 6; J. W. Whiting, 7; H. Carter. 8. Also a 504 by the same with G. Passingham at the tenor.

WEYBRIDGE (Surrey).—On Tuesday, March 9th, at St. James's Church, 336 of Grandsire Triples. G. Rothwell, 1; C. Mitchell, 2; P. Beale, Esq., 3; G. Slater, 4; Rev. H. A. Spyers (conductor), 5; G. Morgan, 6; C. Keene, 7; W. C. Anstead, 8.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

HULL.—On Tuesday, March 9th, the following company started for a peal of Grandsire Triples, but after ringing 2 hrs. 35 mins., two bells changed course, which brought it to grief. C. Jackson, 1; T. Stockdale, 2; C. Bennett, 3; W. Gill, 4; H. Jenkins, 5: J. W. Stickney (conductor), 6; F. Drabble, 7; R. Haire, 8. Tenor 15 cwt.

Bengeo (Herts).—On Friday, February 5th, for practice at Holy Trinity Church, 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor. W. Childs, 1; W. Bennett, 2; *J. Staples, 3; H. Baker (conductor), 4; H. Phillips, 5; J. Pomfret, 6. Also a 720 of Plain Bob Minor. †H. Brown, 1; *W. Childs, 2; J. Staples, 3; J. Channer, 4; W. Odell, 5; H. Baker (conductor), 6. And on Sunday, February 7th, for Divine Service in the evening, a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob Minor. W. Childs, 1; W. Odell, 2; H. Phillips (conductor), 3; J. Pomfret, 4; W. Bennett, 5; J. Channer, 6. This last is the first 720 in the method on the bells, and first in the method by all. *First 720 in the method. †First 720.

Bennett 1: Print 1: Staffordshire).—On Tuesday, March oth, six 6-

BRIERLEY HILL (Staffordshire).—On Tuesday, March 9th, six 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles. H. Lloyd, I; J. Guest (conductor), 2; A. Whatmore, 3; R. Perkins, 4; A. Beddall, 5; W. Hartshorne, 6. Also a 720 of Plain Bob Minor. H. Lloyd, I; R. Perkins, 2: J. Guest (conductor), 3; A. Beddall, 4; J. Allden, 5; A. Whatmore, 6.

CRANLEIGH (Surrey)—On Sunday consists March 14.

CRANLEIGH (Surrey).—On Sunday evening, March 14th, for Divine Service at the parish church, 360 of London New Bob Minor. H. Henson, 1; W. Chaman, 2; W. Streeter, 3; J. Chaman, 4; G. Farnfield, jun., 5; J. Cooper (conductor), 6. Tenor 19 cwt. in F. Also a six-score of Grandsire Doubles. J. Cooper hails from Rudgwick.

DARLEY DALE (Derbyshire).—On Tuesday evening, March 9th, at Taylor, 3; C. Whymark, 4; C. Gwatkin, 5; E. Hallows (conductor), 6. Also on Sunday evening, March 14th, for Divine Service, a 720 of Grandsire Minor in 21 mins., standing as above.

EAST HAGBOURNE (Berks) .- On Sunday evening, March 14th, for Divine Service at the parish church, 1008 of Grandsire Triples. E. Pether, 1; E. Napper, 2; F. Napper, 3; D. Napper, 4; J. Napper, 5; W. Napper (conductor), 6; C. Allen, 7: A. Woodley, 8.

EWHURST (Surrey).—On Monday evening, March 2nd, at the parish church, the local company rang 720 of Warnham Court Bob. W. Haynes, sen., 1; F. Francis, 2; Frank Francis, 3; W. Tidy, 4; A. Baker, 5; W. Haynes, jun., (conductor), 6. Also on Tuesday, March 9th, a 720 of Warnham Court Bob standing as before. And a 720 of oth, a 720 of Warnam Court Bob standing as before. And a 720 of London New Bob, and 720 of Plain Bob Minor. W. Haynes, 1; F. Francis, 2; Frank Francis, 3; W. Tidy, 4; A. Baker, 5; W. Haynes, jun. (conductor), 6. A. Baker conducted the London New Bob, and W. Hayes conducted the Plain Bob, which were rung without a stand. W. Hayes conducted the Plain Bob, which were rung without a stand. Also 720 of College Single, and three 360's in the same method. W. Haynes, sen., 1; F. Francis, 2; F. Francis, 3; A. Baker, 4; W. Haynes, 5; W. Tidy (conductor), 6. And 720 of Oxford Single Bob. W. Haynes sen., 1; F. Francis, 2; W. Tidy, 3; F. Francis, 4; A. Baker, 5; W. Haynes (conductor), 6. Also on Saturday, March 13th, 720 of Oxford Single Bob. W. Haynes, sen., 1; W. Haynes, jun., 2; F. Francis, 3; W. Tidy, 4; F. Francis, 5; A. Baker (conductor), 6. Tenor 14 cwt.

GREENWICH (Kent) .- Muffled Peal .- On Monday, March 15th, a deeply muffled peal was rung at St. Alphege church, as a tribute of respect to the memory of the late Mr. William Burgess, a member of the Ancient Society of College Youths, and for many years a ringer at this church, whose death took place on March 8th, alter a short illness, being the second death within a fornight which has been occured among Greenwich ringers. William Weatherstone, 7; John J. Lamb, 2; John Foreman, 3; William Davis, jun., 4; Robert Shade, 5; George Thatcher, 6; William G. Davis (conductor), 7; Frederic W. Thornton, 8. Tenor 25% cwt.

HAUGHLEY (Suffolk).—On Sunday, March 14th, at the parish nurch, 120 of Plain Bob Doubles. Walter Brown, 1; Alfred Pryke, church, 120 of Plain Bob Doubles. Walter Brown, 1; Alfred Pryke, 2; Charles Smith, 3; William Tydeman, 4; John Jeffrey, 5. And 120 of Grandsire Doubles. William Jeffrey, 1; Walter Brown, 2; John Jeffrey, 3; C. James, 4; Charles Smith, 5. Tenor 20 cwt.

LEEDS (Yorks).—On Thursday evening, March 4th, at St. Peter's Church, a 720 of Bob Minor in 25 mins. G. Proceer, 1; H. Hubbard, 2; J. Lockwood, 3; J. Hutchinson, 4; W. Walker (conductor), 5; R. Binns, 6. Tenor 14 cwt. First 720 in any method by G. Procer.

LINCOLN.—On Thursday evening, March 11th, for practice at the Cathedral, a quarter-peal of Plain Bob Triples in 49 mins. W. Stiles, 1; H. Woodthorpe, 2; T. Keyworth, 3: G. Doughty, 4; T. Robinson, 5; J. Vickers (conductor), 6; T. Rose, 7; F. Stewart, 8.

LIVERPOOL.—On Thursday, March 11th, ten members of the Liverpool Youths Society started for a peal of Stedman Caters at St. Peter's pool Youths Society started for a peal of Stedman Caters at St. Peter's pro-Cathedral, but after ringing 4600 changes in 3 hrs. 5 mins., the peal was brought to grief through one of the band missing the sally, and not being able to recover it in time "stand" was called. Rd. Williams, 1; G. Helsby, 2; J. R. Pritchard, 3; C. Williams, 4; T. Hammond, 5; W. Booth, 6; R. Williams (conductor), 7; G. Fisher, 8; W. Davies, 9; W. Brooks, 10. Tenor 25 cwt. in D.

MEREWORTH (Kent).—On Tuesday evening. March 2nd, for practice, six members of the local company rang a 720 of Bob Minor, with eighteen bobs and two singles, in 22 mins. W. Bell, I; *G. Hook, 2; W. Eldridge, 3; G. Bell, 4; W. Bellingham, 5; †G. Newman (conductor), 6. *First 720 with a bob bell †First 720 as conductor.

NUNEATON (Warwickshire).—On Sunday evening, March 14th, for Divine Service at St. Nicholas' Church, several six-scores of Grandsire Doubles. C. Draper, 1; W. Swain, 2; N. Adler, 3; H. Horwood (conductor), 4; A. Pye, 5; T. Chapman, 6.

Conductor), 4; A. Fye, 5; 1. Chapman, 6.

Ormskirk (Lancashire).—On Tuesday, March 9th, at the parish church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, 1260 changes, in 44 mins. W. J. Taylor, 1; G. Larkey, 2; G. Prescott (conductor), 3; H. Ellis, 4; W. Ellis, 5; James Sholicar (composer), 6; C. Sharples, 7; W. B. Lloyd, 8. This is G. Prescott's first attempt at calling a touch.

Pulford (Cheshire).—On Monday evening, March 15th, six mem-PULFORD (Cheshire).—On Monday evening, March 15th, six members of the local company rang a 720 of Plain Bob Minor, in 27 mins. Joseph Saladine, 1; George Jones, 2; William Morgan, 3; M. Blezard, 4; Walter Thomas, 5; James Morgan (conductor), 6. Tenor 11 cwt. in G. This is the first complete 720 ever rung on these bells by a local company, and it is also the first 720 by any of the company except the ringers of the 5th and 6th. It may also be mentioned that the average age of the ringers is 18½ years.

the average age of the ringers is 18½ years.

RAUNDS (Northants).—On Saturday, March 6th, at St. Peter's Church for practice, a 720 of Double Court Bob, eighteen bobs and two singles. H. Stubbs, 1: W. J. Gilbert, 2; *R. Dunkley, 3; F. Gilbert, 4; J. Willmott, 5; W. Hall (conductor), 6. Handbell Ringing.—On Monday, March 8th, at the house of Mr. N. Martin, 840 of Bob Triples, in 33 mins. A. Coles, 1; H. Stubbs, 2; R. Pendered, 3; G. Kirk, 4: W. J. Gilbert, 5; J. Willmott, 6; F. Gilbert (conductor), 7-8. And two courses of Bob Minor. W. J. Gilbert, 1-2; F. Gilbert, 3-4; H. Stubbs (conductor), 5-6. *First 720.

ROCHESTER (Kent).—On Sunday, March 14th, at St. Margaret's, for Divine Service in the evening, a 720 of Plain Bob Minor, in 25 mins. J. Broom, 1; F. J. Ring, 2; G. Chantler, 3; G. Hayes, 4; G. Martin, 5; W. Baker (conductor), 6. Messrs. Broom, Martin, Hayes, and Ring hail from Swanscombe.

and Ring hail from Swanscombe.

SADDLEWORTH (Yorksbire).—Muffled Peal.—On Thursday, March 4th, a deeply muffled peal was rung at Christ Church, Freizland, as a tribute of respect to the memory of the late Mr. John Wood, one of the local of respect to the memory of the late Mr. John Wood, one of the local company, whose death occurred on February 28th. James Dicken, 1; Charles Carter, 2; Moses Bradbury, 3; Frederick Dicken, 4; John F. Carter, 5; John T. Dicken, 6. And on Sunday, March off, for morning and evening service, with the bells still muffled, morning service: James Dicken, 1; Charles Carter, 2; Moses Bradbury, 3; Samuel Dicken, 4; William Bradbury, 5; J. T. Dicken, 6. Evening Service: J. Dicken, 1; C. Carter, 2; J. L. Buckley, 3; Joe Wood, 4; W. Bradbury, 5; J. T. Dicken, 6. The late John Wood had been a ringer at this church over thirty years.

SALTERURY - Handbull Ringing - On Thosday, Moreh and in Davises.

SALISBURY.—Handbell Ringing.—On Tuesday, March 2nd, in Devizes Road, 360 of Bob Minor. C. A. Clements, 1-2; W. W. Gifford, 3-4; T. Blackbourn (conductor), 5-6. And on Thursday, March 4th, 360 of Bob Minor by the same except R. T. Tayler, 1-2. Also at St. Martin's Church on the same day, 720 of Bob Minor. J. Judd, 1; R. T. Tayler, 2; J. R. Jerram, 3; C. A. Clements, 4; T. Blackbourn (conductor), 5; W. W. Gifford, 6. Tenor 15 cwt.

SITTINGBOURNE (Kent).—On Friday, March 12th, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor, in 26 mins. *P. Boyles, 1; J. M. Cooper, 2; P. Simms, 3; J. G. Elliott, 4; S. Snelling, 5; W. H. Judd (conductor), 6. *First 720.

SUDBURY (Suffolk).—On Tuesday, March 2nd, for practice at All Saints' Church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples in 52 mins. *B. Ransom, Esq., 1; W. Howell, 2; G. Brown, 3; C. Sillitoe (conductor) 4; W. Bacon, 5; H. Harper, 6; A. Scott, 7; H. Brackett, 8. Composed by H. J. Shade, of Greenwich. *First quarter-peal. Also on Saturday, March 6th, at St. Gregory's Church, 468 of Stedman Triples. C. Sillitoe (conductor), 1; W. Griggs, 2; J. Campin, 3; W. Howell, 4; W. Bacon, 5; H. Harper, 6; A. Scott, 7; B. Ransom, Esq., 8. This was rung as a birthday touch with Mr. W. Howell, who attained his 40th year on that day. And on handbells, a course who attained his 40th year on that day. And on handbells, a course of Bob Royal. C. Sillitoe, 1,2,3,4; B. Ransom, Esq., 5-6; W. Howell, 7-8; A. Scott, 9-10.

SWANSCOMBE (Kent).—On Thursday, March 11th, for practice, a 720 of Grandsire Minor, in 25 mins. L. Digweed, 1; A. Cornford (first 720 with a bob bell), 2; F. Hayes, 3; W. Martin, 4; G. Martin, 5; W. Harper (conductor), 6.

TUNBRIDGE WELLS (Kent).—On Sunday evening; March 14th, for Divine Service at St. Peter's Church, a 720 of Grandsire Minor, with 6-8, behind. J. Muggeridge, 1; H. Barefield (conductor), 2; J. Colthup, 3; R. Sharville, 4; W. Latter, 5; E. Mankelow, 6; G. Kember, 7; A. Ovenden, 8. Tenor 14 cwt. 3 qrs.

Worcester.—On Thursday, March 11th, for practice, a quarterpeal of Grandsire Triples, 1260 changes, in 46 mins. W. Jenkins, 1; S. Cotton, 2; W. Powell, 3; F. Owen, 4; W. Page, 5; G. Cleal, 6; *T. Gwyne (conductor), 7; T. Malim, 8. *First time as conductor.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

The following is the ringing done by the Steyning branch of the above Association during the last week of January, and the month of February, 1886: January 28th, 720 of Plain Bob Minor (eighteen bobs and two singles), G. Breach, I; G. Smart, 2; H. Burstow (Horsham), 3; T. Searle, 4; C. Tyler, 5; G. Gatland (conductor), 6. On January 31st, a 720 of Oxford Single Bob (with nine bobs and six singles). George Breach, I; G. Gatland, 2; E. Brackley, 3; G. Smart, 4; J. Woolgar, 5; C. Tyler (conductor), 6. On January 31st, a 720 in the same method (with forty bobs and two singles). G. Breach, I; G. Smart, 2; E. Brackley, 3; C. Chambers, 4; J. Woolgar, 5; C. Tyler (conductor), 6. On January 31st, a 720 in the same method (twenty-six singles). F. Morris, I; G. Smart, 2; E. Brackley, 3; C. Chambers, 4; C. Tyler, 5; G. Gatland (conductor), 6. On February 4th, a 720 of Canterbury Pleasure (twenty-six singles). F. Morris, I; T. Searle, 2; J. Woolgar, 3; E. Brackley, 4; G. Smart, 5; G. Gatland (conductor), 6. On February 9th, a 720 in the same method. F. Morris, I; T. Searle, 2; G. Smart, 3; E. Brackley, 4; J. Woolgar, 5; C. Tyler (conductor), 6. On February 14th, a 720 of Oxford Single Bob (eighteen bobs and two singles). F. Morris, I; T. Searle, 2; E. Brackley, 3; C. Chambers, 4; G. Smart, 5; G. Gatland (conductor), 6. On February 16th, a 720 of Canterbury Pleasure (twenty-six singles). G. Breach, I; T. Searle, 2; G. Smart, 3; E. Brackley, 4; J. Woolgar, 5; C. Tyler (conductor), 6. On February 23rd, a 720 of Plain Bob (with eighteen bobs and two singles). G. Breach, I; T. Searle, 2; G. Gatland, 3; E. Brackley, 4; G. Smart, 5; C. Tyler (conductor), 6. On February 23rd, a 720 of Plain Bob (with eighteen bobs and two singles). G. Breach, I; T. Searle, 2; G. Gatland, 3; E. Brackley, 4; G. Smart, 5; C. Tyler (conductor), 6. On February 28th, a 720 in the same method (twenty-six singles). C. Chambers, I; T. Searle, 2; G. Gatland, 3; E. Brackley, 4; G. Smart, 5; C. Tyler (conductor), 6. On February Tyler (conductor), 6.

WATERINGBURY, KENT.

On Sunday morning, February 28th, the church of St. John-the-Baptist, was discovered just before the morning service, to be on fire. The Kent Fire Brigade from Maidstone was quickly on the spot, not-withstanding the unfavourable condition of the roads. It was then found that the steeple was well alight, caused, it is presumed, by over-heating the flue of the apparatus for warming the church. Fortunately there was a good supply of water at hand, and all danger was avoided, the fire being confined to the part of the church in which it broke out. The damage done to the steeple was rather serious, and one or two jo the bells (a peal of six, tenor nine cwt.), will have to be recast. A very serious accident happened to Mr. A. H. Woolley, a fireman of the above Brigade, also a member of the All Saints' company, Maidstone. He was standing on a beam in the steeple, endeavouring to remove some of the burning material, when the beam gave way, and he tell a distance of about twenty feet, amongst the bells. We are happy to say the injuries are not so serious as was at first anticipated, and we hope Mr. Woolley will soon be well enough to stand for another peal. The living is a Vicarage, value £820, with residence, and is now held by the Rev. Spencer W. Phillips, M.A.

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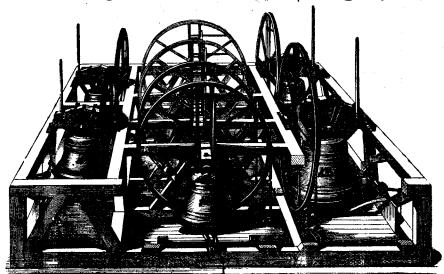
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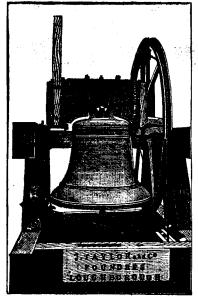
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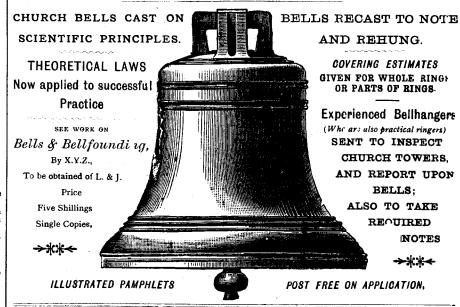
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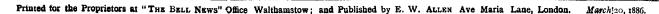
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No. 208. [NEW SERIES.]—VOL. IV.

SATURDAY, MARCH 27, 1886.

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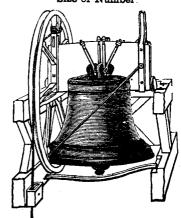
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THE TWO BIG BENS.

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Good Wm.

No other bell ever underwent such a career of misfortune as that which was intended for use in the new Houses of Parliament. From the time when that immense structure was commenced, it was resolved that both the clock and the hour bell should be the largest ever seen in this country; but it was not till 1844 that the late Sir Charles Barry solicited tenders for their construction. Through a course of wrangling, which it would be of little use to elucidate, fifteen years elapsed before the clock was finished and actually at work in its place; this was in 1859, and the clock is not only the largest, but one of the most accurate we possess. The ponderous weights hang down a shaft 160 feet deep, and require winding up only once a week. The pendulum, 15 feet long, weighs 680 lbs., and so delicate is its action, that a small weight of only one ounce placed on a particular part of the apparatus will alter the rate of the clock one second per week. On the four sides of the clock tower are dial rooms, each a large apartment, traversed by mechanism which communicates motion from the clock to the hands. Each of the four clock dials is 22½ feet in diameter, and the mere castiron frame work of each dial weighs no less than 4 tons. The itour figures are 2 feet high and 6 feet apart, and the minute marks are 14 inches apart. The outer point of the minute hand makes a sudden leap of 7 inches every half minute. The hands weigh more than 2 cwt. the pair; the minute hand being 16 feet long, and the hour hand 9 feet. In order to render the dials visible at night, each dial face is glazed with enamelled or opalised glass, with sixty gas jets behind it. Such is the magnificent clock, for which suitable bells were sought to be made. The original scheme was for a clock that would strike the hours on a bell of eight or ten tons, and chime the quarters upon eight smaller bells. It was afterwards decided that there should be only four bells for the chimes in addition to the great hour bell. In the four corners of the bell room these bells are placed; the first with a weight of $4\frac{1}{2}$ tons, and yielding the musical note of B; the second weighs 2 tons, note E sharp; the third weighs 11/2 tons, note F sharp; and the fourth, weighs 11 tons, in G sharp. By varying the order in which these are struck, they produce four chimes or partial melodies, at the four divisions of each hour, and at the run or complete hour, the whole sixteen sounds torin a simple and beautiful melody in the key of E major. These four bells were made and hung nearly in the manner first designed; but the fifth—the king of the beltry—that was to hang in the vacant place between them, has not been so fortunate. It was to have been about 9 feet in diameter, 9 inches thick at the sound-bow, and to weigh 14 tons—nearly three times the weight of the great bell of St. Paul's Cathedral; it was to be struck by a hammer of a ton weight, and was then to yield the note E, one octave lower than the E of the chimes, and forming a musical chord with the whole of them. The bell was designed by Mr. E. B. Denison, who, as an amateur, has displayed considerable skill in the theory of clock and bell-work. After much disputing between commisioners, architects, and others, it was cast in August 1856, at Stockton-on-Tees, in Yorkshire. The mould was six weeks in preparation, and the metal was melted in two furnaces, each containing ten tons. Eighteen out of the twenty tons of metal were poured into the mould, producing a bell about 8 feet high and 9½ in diameter at the mouth. When turned, trimmed, and finished, it weighed about 15 tons, a little more than had at first been intended. The ponderous mass was then carefully conveyed to London, and placed for a time at the foot of the clock tower where it was visited by multitudes of people. Every Saturday it was struck a certain number of blows, that the quality and loudness of the sound might be tested. On one occasion, the E was found to be a dull and uncertain sound; and this leading to a close scrutiny, it was found

that owing to a flaw in the metal, the bell was practically useless, and would ultimately be broken by the biows of the hammer. It was deemed a fortunate circumstance that the discovery was made before the bell had been raised to the tower. Officially, the bell was to have been named "St. Stephen," but a random sobriquet used in The Times, "Big Ben," caught the taste of the public; and in October 1857, it was known all over the country that Big Ben was cracked. There then ensued another series of disputations, accusations, and counter accusations. Another bell was cast by another bell founder, it was somewhat less in weight than the former, but was made to yield the same tone In October 1858, it was raised into its place, a task requiring very perfect appliances; for the weight, raised to a height of nearly 200 feet, was not less than 25 tons, or 56,000 lbs., including bell, cradle, chains, and tackle. Thus was Big Ben, the second, cast on April 10th, taken out of the mould on the 24th, sent to Westminster on May 31st, tried as to tone by Dr. Turle on June 18th, and finally raised to its destined place in October. During November Big Ben underwent a long series of blows with hammers weighing from four to seven cwt. each. The clock was put up in its place, and for some time the inhabitants of the metropolis heard the chime bells every quarter of an hour, and Big Ben every hour. But another misfortune arose; Ben the second cracked like Ben the first. Then ensued an accusation, a bitter controversy, and a lawsuit, and then fragments of Big Ben was analysed by Professor Tyndall and Dr. Percy, while Professor Airey tried to ascertain whether the bell might still be used, though cracked. The subject of Big Ben became almost ludicrous: not only was the deep E of the bell not to be heard, but the other four ones was silenced also, and the clock was stopped; insomuch that Earl Derby, in June, 1860, said in the House of Lords: "We all know the circumstances under which we have been deprived of the doubtful advantages of hearing the tones of the great bell, but when a clock ceases to address itself to the sense of hearing, that is no reason it should decline to present itself to the sense of sight. One of the hands had disappeared altogether, and the other stands at twelve, so that it has the merit of being right at least once in the twelve hours." The Earl spoke spoke of the doubtful advantage of hearing the bell. It appears that the tone when very slowly repeated had a melancholy and depressing effect on many persons, and was not much liked by those who were attending Parliament, or the courts in Westminster Hall.

Earl Grey, speaking after the Earl of Derby, rejoiced that the great bell had been cracked, and trusted no attempt would be made to make the clock speak to their ears again in the old tones. The two Big Bens cost the country nearly £4,000, all expenses included. One was broken and re-melted; the other was condemned on account of faults and fissures, and the lowest or deepest of the four chime or quarter-bells, was thenceforward used as the hour bell.—The Book of Days.

TUE BROOK, NEAR LIVERPOOL.

On Saturday, March 20th, an attempt to ring a peal of Bob Major proved unsuccessful after ringing 880 changes in 35 mms. Rd. Williams, 1; J. R. Pritchard (composer and conductor), 2; W. James, 3; J. Brown, 4; W. Booth, 5; K. Williams, 6; W. Davies, 7; T. Hammond, 8. It being then too late to start again, a touch of 768 changes in 30 mins. Rd. Williams, 1; J. R. Pritchard (conductor), 2; W. James, 3; J. Brown, 4; T. Hammond, 5; W. Booth, 6; W. Davies, 7; K. Williams, 8. Afterwards 1000 of Stedman Triples. T. Hammond, 1; W. James, 2; W. Booth, 3; J. Brown, 4; J. R. Pritchard, 5; W. Davies, 6; R. Williams (conductor), 7; R. Diggle, 8.

THE ST. JAMES'S SOCIETY, LONDON.

ALL members are requested to attend the meeting on Monday, April 5th, 1886, when the business will commence at half-past nine o'clock precisely, to receive the report of the Committee for the revision of of the rules, &c.

J. BARRY, Secretary.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

THE undermentioned peals and touches were rung on March 20th, as a mark of respect to the memory of the Right Hon. the Earl of Chichester, Lord Lieut. of Sussex, who died on March 9th, and was buried at Laughton, near Lewes, on Saturday, March 20th.

By the Arundel branch, at Arundel.—Several short touches of Grand-

sire Triples.

By the Billinghurst branch, at Billinghurst.—A 720 of Warnham Court Bob Minor. P. Wood, 1; W. Chantler, 2; G. Matthews, 3; W. Chantler, jun., 4; J. Voice, 5; T. Chantler (conductor), 6.

By the Brighton branch, at St. Peter's church.—In 2 hrs. and 56 mins., Holt's 10-part peal of Grandsire Triples (see peal column for particulars).

At St. Nicholas's church.—The usual whole pull and stand, followed by short touches of Grandsire Triples.

By the Chailey branch, at Chailey. — Two 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles. J. Reynolds, 1; A. Brown, 2; W. Pelling, 3; A. Gorringe, 4; O. Gatland (conductor), 5; W. Chatfield, 6. And seven 6-scores in the same method. J. Reynolds, 1; Heneage Cornwell, 2; A. Gorringe, 3; Horace Cornwell, 4; W. Pelling (conductor), 5; W. Chatfield, 6.

By the Crawley branch, at Crawley.—A quarter-peal of Oxford Bob Triples, 1260 changes, in 45 mins. G. Wickens, 1; J. Newnham, 2; T. Smith, 3; W. Collison, 4; B. King, 5; F. Wickens (conductor), 6; A. F. Hillier, 7; J. Collison, 8. By the Cuckfield branch, at Cuckfield.—A quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, 1260 changes. *R. Nash, 1; W. Gibson, 2; *W. Fox, 3; R. Walters, 4; H. Mitchell, 5; H. Bowell, 6; F. Hounsell (composer and conductor), 7; H. Cheeseman, 8. *Ist quarter-peal.

By the Ditchling branch, at Ditchling.—Several 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles.

By the St. Mary's branch, Eastbourne, at St. Mary's church.—A 1540 of Grandsire Triples, in 57 mins. S. Hart, 1; H. P. Bennett, 2; C. Harffey, 3; L. Huggett (conductor), 4; T. Willoughby, 5; J. Potter, 6; T. Hart, 7; J. Rollison, 8.

By the All Saints' branch, Eastbourne, at All Saints' church.—A 350 of Grandsire Triples, 168 in the same method, and two 6-scores of

Grandsire Doubles.

By the Christ Church branch, Eastbourne.—A 720 of Bob Minor and a 720 of Grandsire Minor, in 52 mins. H. Goddard, 1; T. Smith, 2; H. Colbran, 3; G. Smith, 4; G. Howse, 5; F. Harding (conductor), 6.

By the Goring branch, at Goring.—Six 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles, by H. Evans, W. Ford, F. Hayler, and three others.

By the Henfield branch, at Henfield.—Rounds, &c., were rung.

By the Hurst branch, at Hurst.—Six 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles, with three covers, in 28 mins. A. Pierce, 1; T. Mansbridge, 2; H. Reeves (conductor), 3; T. Leney, 4; W. Lander, 5; T. Gander, 6; W. B. Davey, 7; A. Davey, 8.

By the Itchingfield branch, at Itchingfield.—Six 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles. H. Killick, I; T. Killick, 2; J. Newman, 3; W. Newman, 4; T. Fairs (conductor), 5. And a 480 of Doubles. H. Killick, I; J. Newman, 2; F. Burdfield, 3; T. Fairs, 4; W. Newman (conductor), 5. By the Southover branch, at Southover, Lewes.—Rounds and call changes were rung.

By the Newick branch, at Newick.—Several 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles, by Edward Brooks (conductor), Ernest Brooks, Manfred Brooks, John Brooks, James Martin, and J. Roser.

By the Ringmer branch, at Ringmer.—Rounds and call changes were rung.

By the Rye branch, at Rye.—Rounds were rung.

By the Slinfold branch, at Slinfold.—Touches of Oxford Single Bob Minor, &c. were rung.

By the Steyning branch, at Steyning.—A: 720 of Canterbury Pleasure, F. Morris, 1; T. Searle, 2; G. Gatland, 3; G. Smart, 4; J. Woolgar, 5; C. Tyler (conductor), 6.

By the Westham branch, at Westham.—Rounds and call changes were rung.

A Generous Offer,—Mr. F. Charsley, of Slough, has intimated through the Rev. P. W. Phipps, that he will bear the expense of adding two new bells to the ring of six in the parish church of St. Mary's, so as to complete the octave. An inspection has been made, and the work entrusted to Messrs. Mears and Stainbank, of White-chapel, who we have no doubt will make a satisfactory finish to the undertaking. This is only one instance of Mr. F. Charsley's munificence, he having in various ways greatly assisted in many charitable works in the town, which are not immediately connected with interesting matter suitable to the general readers of this journal.

ST. ANNE'S, BAGSHOT, SURREY.

On Thursday evening, March 18th, for practice, six members of the local company rang their first 720 of Doubles, viz.—three 6-scores of Grandsire, and three 6-scores of Plain Bob in 28 mins. H. Stapleton, 1; H. Houlton, 2; E. Spooner, 3; T. Gould, 4; E. Lee (conductor), 5; R. Wicks, 6. Tenor 21 cwt. in F. This is a new Church, built in the Gothic Style, with red facings and Bath stone dressing, and the spire 120 feet high. The foundation stone was laid by H.R.H. the Duke of Connaught, in April 1883, and the church was opened by the Bishop of Winchester, on April 25th, 1884. The bells are a good ring by Messrs. Warner and Sons, of Cripplegate, and were given by the late Mrs. Eliza Waterer, in memory of her late husband, Michael Waterer, Esq., of Bagshot. The bells at times go very heavy, and the belfry being very small, only ten feet square—and some of the ropes only six inches from the wall makes it very awkward for ringing. The frames are made for two more trebles to be put up at some future time.

The members of this company are highly honoured in having H.R.H. the Duke of Connaught as their President, and who subscribes very liberally to their funds, and through whose instrumentality the church was built. He has lately put in a beautiful stained glass window in memory of his late brother, the Duke of Albany.

PRUDENTIAL ASSURANCE COMPANY.—The Annual Report of the Prudential Assurance Company states that the Assurance funds have increased during the year by £990,345, and that the total assets amount to £5,702,862. During the year, 17,353 new policies were issued, and the total premium income was £303,275, being an increase of £64,407 over the previous year. The expenditure, both in the Ordinary and Industrial branches, has been considerably reduced.

Miscellaneous Touches.

THE ASSOCIATION FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.

WOMBOURN (Staffordshire).—On Wednesday, March 17th, the St. Benedict Society, rang a 720 of Plain Bob Minor (with eighteen bobs and ten singles). G. Deans, 1; A. Little, 2; H, Deans, 3; J. E. Claridge, 4; W. Devey, 5; R. Cartwright (composer and conductor), 6. Also on Sunday, March 21st (St. Benedict's day), a 720 of Doubles being two 120's of St. Simons, two of Plain Bob, and two of Grandsire in 26 mins. G. Deans, 1; H. Deans, 2; A. Little, 3; W. Devey, 4; R. Cartwright (conductor), 5; G. Little, 6. This was rung as a wedding peal on the occasion of Mr. J. E. Claridge's (who is a member of the Society) marriage.

KINGSWINFORD (Staffordshire).—On Sunday, March 14th, a 720 of Bob Minor in 27 mins. T. Hillman, 1; W. Jones, 2; W. Lawrence, 3; J. Hillman, 4; E. Bourne, 5; Rev. C. F. Collom (conductor), 6. Also on Monday, March 8th, a 720 of Bob Minor, with W. Sackfield at the treble and J. Guest at the third. And on Saturday, March 13th, a 360 of Bob Minor, with T. Darby, 1; E. Husselbee, 3; and W. Lawrence, 5. And on Monday, March 15th, three quarters of a peal by the same band. And on Monday, March 22nd, a 720 of Bob Minor (nine bobs and six singles), in 27½ mins, T. Vaughn (first 720), 1; W. Jones, 2; W. Sackfield (first 720), 3; Joseph Hillman, 4; W. Lawrence, 5; Rev. C. F. Collom (conductor), 6.

Tamworth (Staffordshire).—On Monday evening, March 8th, at the parish church, nine six-scores of Grandsire Doubles, each called differently, with 4,6,8, behind, in 40 mins. J. Windridge, I; J. Wainwright, 2; H. Slaney, 3; W. Jennings, 4; F. Chapman, 5; J. Timms, 6; G. Woods (conductor), 7; J. H. Chatterton, 8. This is the first nine 6-scores the above company have rung called differently, and was rung on the occasion of the opening of the public Baths and Institute, presented to the town by the Vicar, the Rev. —. Macgregor, at a cost of £3,000.

WIDFORD (Essex),—On Friday evening, March 12th, Messrs. W. Hawkes (Springfield), W. Rowland, and J. Parmenter (Chelmsford), and E. Scotcher (Galleywood), paid a visit to St. Mary's Church, and rang 720 of Kent Treble Bob, in 24½ mins. W. Harvey, 1; J. Dains (conductor), 2; J. W. Rowland, 3; W. Hawkes, 4; A. Turban, 5; E' Scotcher, 6. And a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob in 25 mins. E. Dains, 1; W. Harvey, 2; E. Scotcher, 3; J. Parmenter, 4; T. Drake (conductor), 5; W. Piper, 6.

WIMBLEDON (Surrey).—On Sunday, March 14th, for Divine Service in the morning, a 720 of Oxford Single Bob (eighteen bobs and two singles). B. Battrum, 1; E. F. Cole, Esq., 2; C. Byde, 3; J. Parker, 4; A. Garratt, 5; S. Frost (conductor), 6.

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERS.

5040. 6591. By John Carter, Birmingham. By Chales Henry Hattersley, Sheffield. 23456 M W H 231456 4 5 16 43652 63254 56234 6 1 5 4 2 3* 5 1 6 3 2 4 5 1 4 6 2 3 5 1 3 4 2 6 3 1 5 6 2 4 43564 -45236 -314526 25634 65432 2 1 4 6 3 5 2 1 5 4 3 6 5 1 2 6 3 4 5 1 4 2 3 6 36452 45362 34256 Five times repeated. Single instead of a bob at the end of the 3rd and 6th part. 314652 312456 3 I 6 2 5 4 6 I 3 4 5 2 A DATE TOUCH OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR. 612354 614253 1886. By A. SYKES, Huddersfield. 4 I 2 6 5 3 4 I 3 2 5 6 12345678 2 1 4 3 6 5 8 7 2 4 1 6 3 8 5 7 B W 513642 512346 2 1 6 4 5 3 2 1 3 6 5 4 2 1 4 3 5 6 26354 2 36524 2 I 35264 43652 4 1 6 5 2 3 4 1 3 6 2 5 I 23456 415326 A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR. 5 I 6 2 4 3 6 I 5 3 4 2 5184. 612543 By YORK GREEN, Stratford. 613245 316542 23456 M B W H 3 1 2 6 4 5 3 1 5 2 4 6 3 2 6 5 4 2 2 56234 52364 516432 615234 3 4 6 2 5 2 2 2 6 1 4 5 3 2 4 1 6 2 3 5 36245 I 2 42635 2 415632 3 5 4 2 6 4 6 2 5 3 4 5 3 6 2 2 2 216345 2 1 215643 54263 2 213546 5 3 6 2 4 2 5 3 4 6 I 2 I 3 1 6 4 2 5 6 1 3 5 2 4 2 23456 I 2 314265 A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH 315462 COURT BOB MAJOR. 312564 6048. 612435 216534 By J. R. PRITCHARD, Liverpool. 23456 I 4 6 614325 5 3 6 2 4 -214563 36524 65324 56423 213465 215364 50423 64523 46325 63425 34625 513264 514362

A PEAL OF BOB TRIPLES.

1

43526

parts.

Five times repeated. Single instead of a

bob at 6 in the last course of the 3rd and 6th

Brought round by bobs at 2, 5, 9, 10, 16, 17 sixes, and contains the sixty course-ends.

415263 413562

Produced by bobs at 1, 3, 7, 10, 11, 13, 17, 18,

A PEAL OF ALBION TREBLE BOB MAJOR.

5088.

By John J. Brierley, Saddleworth.

23456	w	B	M	н	
53462	I	_	1		
24536			I	I	
34562		-	I		
53246			ľ		
43265	I	_	I		
64235					
34256	I	_	I		

Twice repeated.

A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR.

By H. DAINS, Royal Cumberland Youths.

23456	1	5	6
4 2 6 3 5		-	
26435			_
64325	_		8
23465	_		_
34265			_
42365			
63245	_		-
32645			_

Five times repeated, with a single at 6 of second half-peal.

If a bob at 4 is called in first course of any part, the peal is reduced to 5072 changes, with 4th, 5th, and 6th in 6th place at every course-

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB CATERS.

By ROBERT WILLIAMS, Liverpool.

2 3 4 5 0	IVI	W	п
46532	I	I	2
43265	2	I	r
62345		2	2
35426	I	I	2
Twice	rene	eate	d.

Rung at St. Peter's church, Liverpool, on January 28th, 1886. Conducted by its composer.

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR. 6144.

By N. J. Pitstow, Saffron Walden.

-				
23456	M	В	w	H
35264		_		
56342				
43265	2	-	2	
65324	2	_		2
32654	I	-	2	I
53246		_		2
21256	T	_		

This peal has the 6th placed twice each way in each part in 5-6.

We request our friends to refrain, for a while, sending any more compositions, unless they possess some very peculiar feature. We have a great number now on hand awaiting insertion, which we should like to clear off before we receive any more.

A CORRECTION.—In our composition column of March 6th, the 5040 of Treble Bob by Robert Williams, is Royal, not Major.

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

One copy, 12 months

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

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.

S. WOOTERTON.-Kindly send us another circular.

ADDRESSES WANTED .- Mr. George Breed; Messrs. R. S. & W. Story.

PEAL CARDS.—Cards on order will be sent to their respective destinations during he week. It is found impossible to execute these with the despatch wished.

The Bell News & Ringers' Record.

SATURDAY, MARCH 27, 1886.

WITH the present number of "THE BELL NEWS" the fourth volume is brought to a close, and the following number will, of course, be the first of volume v. Another stage of our journal's existence has thus been ended, and in accordance with our usual custom, we take advantage of a short comment on its position and prospects, accompanied by a brief retrospect of its history. Looking through the pages of previous volumes, from the first monthly number even, we are fain to believe, that, though conscious of many shortcomings, our publication is one worthy of credit, and this conviction, inspired by the knowledge of its present favorable position, begets a certain amount of pardonable pride. The first appearance of "THE BELL News" was, contrary to the opinions of many who were competent to express an opinion, received with open arms, so to speak, by the Exercise, and though we may, and do desire a larger measure of support from the ringing public, we are glad to be able to say that our first reception at its hands has received no check. While many other projects of a similar description appear, heralded by flaming announcements, backed by wealthy supporters, vanish all at once from our vision and memory, we think the continuation of our modest little paper, just entering, as it is, upon another course, is a feature not only creditable to ourselves, but to those of our brother-ringers who have consistently awarded it their support. Let us hope that this support may continue to increase, and that the usefulness of "THE BELL NEWS" may become exten-

In the first numbers of this paper, it was stated that suggestions from any of its readers as to its management should receive due consideration, and thus several schemes were propounded, which from various causes, it was impossible to carry into effect. There is one little matter which we think, however, worthy of attempting, and that is, to give notices each week of any important *First peal of Cinques. Samuel E. Joyce attained his 18th birthday the day previous. His brother ringers wish him many happy returns, and heartily congratulate him on his rapid advance in the art of change-ringing. A. P. Heywood, Esq., hails from Duffield, Derbyshire.

events about to happen in connection with the Exercise during the week ensuing. If this meets the views of our readers, and they will notify such events to us, we will gladly devote a space to the purpose. Some gentlemen, young practitioners, are complaining that "The Bell News" is only useful to ringers who are proficient, those who are just being initiated into the elements of the science not being interested in the doings of others who have far advanced in the Art. And with reference to this complaint, we are asked to devote a little space to amateurs, a few kindly hints, in fact, to assist them on their way. We feel that a little space taken up in this manner will not be begrudged by our more talented friends, and we will therefore attempt a series of short papers for those whom we will denominate "amateurs," the first of which shall appear in an early number.

We are obliged to be brief even in our comments. should have liked, at the end of a volume, to have said more on other matters affecting our paper. Perhaps we shall be able to point out other proposed changes by and-The fourth part of our performance will no doubt be found to be equal to the previous ones, and as the end of it is just appearing we find that our band is still in good ringing condition, though we have to deplore the absence

of him who was the "safest" of the company.

The Metropolis.

BETHNAL GREEN.-THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

On Saturday, March 20, 1886, in Two Hours and Fifty-five Minutes, AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MATTHEW,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES; HOLT'S TEN-PART.

John Bonny Henry A. Barnett	Treble.	SAMUEL G. BOWER., MATTHEW A. WOOD	· 5
William Cecil John Barrs	4.	IOSEPH WEST	7.

Conducted by H. A. BARNETT.

Messrs. Barnett, Bower, and Barrs hail from Tottenham, the rest belong to London.

WALTHAMSTOW, ESSEX.—THE ST. JAMES'S SOCIETY. On Saturday, March 20, 1886, in Three Hours and One Minute, AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES; HOLT'S TEN-PART (REVERSED). Tenor 19 cwt.

WILLIAM NASH	Treble.	ROBERT MAYNARD	•• 5.
ARTHUR J. KEIT	2.	Ackland J. Perkins	б.
GEORGE B. LUCAS	3.	SAMUEL HAYES	·· _ 7·
John Nunn	4	WILLIAM CROCKFORD	Tenor.

Conducted by Ackland J. Perkins.

G. B. Lucas, Tottenham; S. Hayes, Stratford; W. Nash and A. J. Perkins, Romford: the rest are local men

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS. On Monday, March 22, 1886, in Two Hours and Fifty-sveen Minutes, AT THE CHURCH OF ST. GILES, CRIPPLEGATE,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CINQUES, 5014 CHANGES.

ble. *Geo. T. MacLaughlin 7.
WILLIAM D. SMITH 8.
A. Percival Heywood 2.
FREDERICK G. NEWMAN 10.
. WILLIAM GREENLEAF II.
Edwin Horrex Tenor

Composed by the late HENRY W. HALEY, and Conducted by JAMES PETTIT.

The Provinces.

BIRMINGHAM.—BIRMINGHAM AMALGAMATED SOCIETY. Handbell Binging.

On Tuesday, March 16, 1886, in Three Hours and Four Minutes, AT THE HOUSE OF MR. J. CARTER, BRACEBRIDGE STREET, (ON HANDBELLS, RETAINED IN HAND),

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE MAJOR, 6064 CHANGES; Tenor 14 size in Eb.

JOHN CARTER 1-2. THOMAS RUSSAM .. . 5-6. GEORGE W. TOWNSEND* . 3-4. *RICHARD HACKLEY .. 7-8. IOHN CARTER Composed and Conducted by JOHN CARTER.

Referees: Messrs. J. W. Cattle. J. Callaghan, and H. Gorman. *First peal of Grandsire Major on handbells. All the above are members of the Birmingham and District Association.

BIRMINGHAM.—BIRMINGHAM AMALGAMATED SOCIETY. Dandbell Pinging.

On Wednesday, March 17, 1886, in Two Hours and Forty-four Minutes, AT THE HOUSE OF MR. J. CARTER, BRACEBRIDGE STREET, (ON HANDBELLS, RETAINED IN HAND),

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS, 5057 CHANGES; Tenor 14 size, in Eb.

THOMAS RUSSAM . . . 1-2. | THOMAS MILLER . . . 5-6. JOSEPH W. CATTLE . . 7-8. RICHARD HACKLEY . . . 9-10.

Composed by John Carter and Conducted by Thomas Miller.

Referees: Messrs. J. Callaghan and H. Gorman, who marked off every course as they were rung. This is Thomas Miller's 50th peal, and the first peal he has conducted upon handbells. All the above are members of the Birmingham and District

WHITFIELD, DERBYSHIRE.

THE UNITED COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, March 20, 1886, in Two Hours and Fifty-six Minutes, AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JAMES,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES; In the Kent Variation. Tenor 123 cwt.

EDWARD HAIGH Treble. | SAMUEL WILKINSON WILLIAM HARROP ... 6. JOHN HARROP 2.
WILLIAM MARSDEN ... 3.
EDWARD ROSTRON ... 4. IOHN HARROP

Composed by the late WILLIAM HARRISON, of Mottram, and Conducted by EDWARD HAIGH.

BEDDINGTON.—THE SURREY ASSOCIATION. On Saturday, March 20, 1886, in Three Hours and Eight Minutes. AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES; HOLT'S ORIGINAL. Tenor 201 cwt. in Eb.

JOHN BRANCH Treble | WILLIAM BURKIN ARTHUR B. CARPENTER .. 2.
EDGAR BENNETT .. 3.
JAMES HARRIS .. 4.

Conducted by A. B. CARPENTER.

LIVERSEDGE, YORKSHIRE.

On Monday, March 22, 1886, in Three Hours and Four Minutes, AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

GEORGE THORNTON	Treble.	HARRY BROOK	5.
IAMES NOTT	2	TOM COODATT	6
JOHN WILSON LANG	3.	LUKE ILLINGWORTH .	7
SIDNEY GOODALL	. 4. 1	Mossley Ramsden	Tenor

Composed by WILLIAM GOODALL, and Conducted by SIDNEY GOODALL.

This peal is rung for the first time. George Thornton hails from Birstall; the rest belong to the Liversedge Society.

MANCHESTER.—THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION. Birthdan Peal.

On Saturday, March 20, 1886, in Three Hours and Eight Minutes, AT THE CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF ST. JOHN,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES; IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 25 cwt. in Eb.

THOMAS THORPE......Treble. THOMAS HEALD ... 5.
THOMAS G. DOWNS ... 2. JAMES THORPE ... 6.
GEORGE E. TURNER ... 3.
JOHN E. POLLITT ... 4. JOHN EACHUS ... Tenor.

Composed by Charles Henry Hattersley, and Conducted by A. Ed. Wreaks.

This peal was rung to celebrate Mr. Downs attaining his 26th year, and is his first peal in the method with a bob bell. Thomas Heald belongs to St. Philip's church, (Hulme) Manchester, the rest are of the Cathedral company. This is the first peal of Treble Bob Major rung in the present tower. The figures of the peal will be found in "The Bell News" for Feb. 27th last.

BRIGHTON, SUSSEX.—SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION. Muffled Peal.

On Saturday, March 20, 1886, in Two Hours and Fifty-six Minutes, AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES; HOLT'S TEN-PART. Tenor 101 cwt. in G.

ALFRED MARSHALL* Treble. | Charles E. Golds. .. 5. GEORGE KING 6. George F. Attree*.. 2. JAMES SEARLE 3. JOHN JAY 7. ALFRED W. L. PARKHOUSE* 4. WILLIAM PALMER Tenor.

Conducted by GEO. F. ATTREE.

The above was rung with the bells half-muffled as a mark of respect to the memory of the third Earl of Chichester, the Lord Lieut, of the County, who was buried at Laughton on that day. *First peal.

DEWSBURY.—THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, March 20, 1886, in Three Hours and Three Minutes, AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES; In the Kent Variation. Tenor 14 cwt.

Tenor.

Composed and Conducted by GEO. H. HARDY.

Messrs. Bolland and Haley hail from Tong; Dodson and Stainthorpe from Birstall; the rest are of the local company.

Date Touches.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

HAUGHTON (Lancashire).—On Saturday, March 20th, at St. Anne's church, a date touch of 1886 changes, in 1 hr. 15 mins., in the three following methods: 446 of Plain Bob, 720 of Oxford Treble Bob, and a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor. Wm. Wild, jun., 1; John Bardsley, 2; Wm. Wilde, sen., 3; James A. Thomas, 4; John Howard, 5; Peter Smith (conductor), 6. Tenor 15 cwt.

BADGWORTH (Gloucestershire).-On Sunday, March 14th, by the kind permission of the Vicar, the Rev. — Viner, a mixed band rang at the parish church, a date touch of Grandsire Doubles, 1886 changes, in 1 hr. 15 mins. A. Humphries, 1; W. Dyer, 2; T. Hooper, 3; J. Midwinter (conductor), 4; W. James, 5; F. Musty, 6. Tenor 16 cwt. The ringers take this opportunity of thanking the Vicar for the use of the bells.

EXETER (Devon).—On Sunday evening, March 7th, at St. Sidwell's church, for Divine service, the St. Sidwell's society rang Mr. J. Carter's date touch of Grandsire Triples, 1886 changes, in 1 hr. 6 mins. T. Townsend, 1; E. Pitt, 2: W. G. Goss, 3; W. Richardson, 3; J. Moss, 5; E. Shepherd (conductor), 6; A. Shepherd, 7; W. Mundy, 8. Tenor 24 cwt.

GRASSENDALE (near Liverpool).-Recently. at St. Mary's church, a date touch of 1886 changes, in three different methods, being a 720 of Grandsire Minor, 720 of Plain Bob Minor, 446 of Oxford Bob, in 1 hr. 10 mins. T. Morris, 1; J. Alexander, 2; C. Newton, 3; W. Weaver, 4; J. Allen, 5; F. Turner (composer and conductor), 6. Tenor 112 cwt. This is the first date touch ever known to have been rung on these bells, also the first date touch by all the above on six bells.

LEEDS (Yorkshire).-On Sunday, March 14th, at St. Peter's church for Divine Service in the evening, a date touch of Kent Treble Bob Royal, 1886 changes, in 1 hr. 22 mins. W. Pawson, 1; T. West (conductor), 2; H. Lockwood, 3; M. Tomlinson, 4; W. Walker, 5; H. Hubbard, 6; R. Binns, 7; Tom Lockwood (composer), 8; J. Hutchinson, 9; G. Fothergill, 10. Tenor 36 cwt.

RADCLIFFE (Lancashire).-On Sunday, March 21st, at the parish church, for afternoon service, a date touch of 1886 changes of Grandsire Triples, in 1 hr. 5 mins. Fred Rudman, 1; J. Hardman, sen, 2; A. Barrett (conductor), 3; J. Morris, 4; A. Hardman, 5; J. Hardman, jun., 6: F. Morris, 7; W. Fielding, 8. Tenor 12 cwt. in Ft.

WHITFIELD (Derbyshire).—On Sunday, March 14th, at St. James's church, the All Saints' soclety, with Messrs. Ingham and Walmsley, of Macclesfield, rang a date touch of Kent Treble Bob Major, 1886 changes. J. Maloney, 1; Daniel James, 2; William Harrop, 3; Walter Ingham, 4; S. Wilkenson, 5; William Walmsley, 6; H. Cooper (conductor), 7; J. Pye, jun., 8. Composed by S. Knott.

Miscellaneous.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

London.—On Saturday, March 20th, at St. Michael's, Cornhill, 1318 changes taken from an original peal of the late Mr. John Cox, in 1 hr. 4 mins. James Pettit (conductor), 1; *Samuel E. Joyce, 2; George Mash. 3; Challis F. Winny, 4; Edwin Horrex, 5; John M. Routh, 6; *George T. McLaughlin, 7; *Willliam D. Smith, 8; *A. Percival Heywood, Esq., 9; John M. Hayes, 10; William Greenleaf, 11; Walter Prime, 12. *Longest length of Cinques.

ST. JAMES SOCIETY.

London.—On Saturday, March 20th, at St. Olave's Church, Hart Street, a 720 of Grandsire Minor, thirty-four bobs and two singles, in 28 mins. J, Barry, I; J. Waghorn, jun., (conductor), 2, H. J. Davies, 3: E. F. Cole, Esq., 4; W. H. George, 5; A. E. Church, 6. Also a 360 in the same method. E. F. Cole, Esq., 1; A. E. Church, 2; H. J. Davies, 3; J. Waghorn, jun., (conductor), 4; W. H. George, 5; J. Barry, 6. And several six-scores of Grandsire Duubles, in two of which, the steeplekeeper, Mr. A. Read, rung the treble and tenor respectively. Tenor 16 cwt. in F. respectively. Tenor 16 cwt. in F.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

MIDDLESBROUGH.—On Monday, March 22nd, and attempt was made for a date touch of Kent Treble Bob Major, given in "The Bell News" of January 2nd, composed by F. Marsh, on reaching the fourth course-end it was found that the scale of bobs as given is not correct, a bob before is evidently wanted in the fourth and last courses. J. H. Blakiston, 1; 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.

EASTERN COUNTIES' GUILD.

WALPOLE (Norfolk).-On Sunday evening, March 19th, for practice at St. Peter's Church, a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob Minor in 28 mins. J. Hendry, 1; R. Grimes (conductor), 2; H. Hill, 3; H. Allen, 4; H. Merrishaw, 5; W. Wright, 6. Also a 240 in the same method by the same company, with H. Hill, conductor. And on Sunday evening, March 21st, another 720 in the same method standing as before.

THE HERTFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

BISHOPS STORTFORD.—On Thursday, March 18th, eight members of the Bishops Stortford branch of the above Association rang at St. of the Bishops Stortford branch of the above Association rang at St. Michael's Church, a quarter-peal of Oxford Bob Triples, 1260 changes, in 43 mins. T. Newman, 1; G. Brand, 2; A. Tucker, 3; W. H. Tucker, 4; H. Prior, jun., 5; H. J. Tucker (conductor), 6; H. N. Doughty, 7; J. Sampford, 8. Composed by Mr. Henry Johnson, sen. This is the first quarter-peal in this method ever rang in the county of Hertfordshire. Also the same evening, a 448 of Grandsire Major. T. Newman, 1; G. Brand, 2; C. Martin, 3; A. Tucker, 4; H. Prior, jun. 5; W. H. Tucker, 6; H. N. Doughty, 7; H. J. Tucker (conductor), 8. Tenor 20 cwt. The above was rung to celebrate the erection of a peal board which is to record a peal of Grandsire Triples (Holt's Original). board which is to record a peal of Grandsire Triples (Holt's Original), which was rung at this church, with the bells deeply muffled, on November 26th, 1885, in memory of the late Jasper W. Snowdon, Esq.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

of Bob Minor, each containing eighteen bobs and two singles. F. Taylor, 1; F. Shoebridge, 2; W. Taylor, 3; G. A. Osborne, 4; R. Edge, 5; C. Taylor (conductor), 6.

SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.

TETTENHALL.—On Saturday, March 6th, some members of the above society with two friends from Darlaston, rang at the parish church, a 720 of Grandsire Minor, with thirty-eight bobs and twenty-two singles, in 27 mins. T. Roberts, r; W. Smith, 2; B. Dalton, 3; J. Tinsley, 4; J. Fowler, 5; J. Jones (conductor), 6. Tenor 12\frac{3}{4} cwt.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

Melbourne (Derbyshire).—On Saturday, March 13th, at the parish church, a 1440 Bob Doubles by the local company. T. Clark, I; G. A. Fish, 2; G. C. Tunnicliff, 3; F. W. Cook, 4; T. Hollingworth, 5; J. R. Wood, 6. The above was was called from the 2nd, worth, 5; J. R. Wood, 6. The above was was called from the 2nd, 3rd, 4th, and 5th, respectfully. Also in the evening with the assistance of Mr. H. C. Woodward, of Derby, a 720 of Bob Minor. J. R. Wood, I; G. A. Fish, 2; H. C. Woodward (conductor), 3; F. W. Cook, 4; T. Hollingworth, 5; G. C. Tunnicliff, 6. And 180 of Bob Minor. T. Clark, I; G. A. Fish, 2; J. R. Wood, 3; F. W. Cook, 4; T. Hollingworth, 5; H. C. Woodward (conductor), 6. And several short touches. The bells were rung half-muffled as a token of respect to the late Sir John Harper Crewe, Bart., whose remains were that day interested in the family result at Calle Church. interred in the family vault at Calke Church.

BURTON-ON-TRENT.—On Friday, March 14th, at the parish church, for practice, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 45 mins. F. Dimbleby, 8; J. Hickling. 2; T. Leach, 3; J. Austin, 4; G. Robinson, 5; H. Wakley (conductor), 6; J. Jaggar, 7; W. Orme, 8.

NORTH LINCOLNSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

GAINSBORO'.—On Sunday evening, March 16th, eight members of this branch of the above Association rang for practice at the parish church, the first half of Holt's ten-part peal of Grandsire Triples, in 1 hr. 36 mins. T. Pattison, 1; F. W. Atkinson, 2; W. W. Bust, 3; J. C. Tinker, 4; W. Pattison, 5; C. Brewin, 6; W. D. Tinker (conductor), 7; W. H. Wilson (aged 17), 8. Tenor 20 cwt. This is the first halfpeal by any of the above.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

KENNINGHALL (Norfolk).—On Sunday, March 14th, at the church of St. Mary, the young band rang some rounds with the Queens and of St. Mary, the young band rang some rounds with the Queens and tittums changes, for morning and afternoon service, and after service the afternoon, a 360 of Bob Minor was rung. W. Leader (first 360), 1: R. Hutton (conductor), 2: H. Eagling, 3: W. Nudds, sen., 4: J. Woods, 5: J. Morley, 6. And a 360 in the same method. H. Eagling, 1: R. Hutton, 2: J. Woods, 3: C. Everett, 4: W. Nudds, jun. (first 360 with a bob bell), 5. And a 240 of Kent Treble Bob Minor. H. Eagling, 1: R. Hutton, 2: C. Everett, 3: W. Nudds, sen. 4: J. Woods, 5: J. Mordey (conductor), 6. And 240 of Oxford Treble Bob Minor, by the same band. The above touches was rung on the anniversary of a peal of 10,176 of Oxford Treble Bob Major, rung in the year 1871, in 5 hrs. 20 mins., by the following: W. Oxer, 1: T. Oxer, 2: J. Murton, 3: J. Woods, 4: J. Rudd (Diss), 5: R. Hutton, 6: Geo. Edwards, 7: J. Mordey (conductor), 8. This is still the longest peal in the method in the county of Norfolk.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

FULMER (Bucks).—On Saturday, February 27th, at the parish church, 720 of Bob Minor, in 24 mins. W. Leader, 1; R. Flaxman, 2; T. Udell, 3; Rev. W. S. Willett, 4; W. Wilder, 5; A. C. Fussell, 6. Also a 720 of Grandsire Minor. †*E Brown, 1; R. Flaxman, 2; *T. Udell, 3; Rev. W. S. Willett, 4; *W. Wilder, 5; *A. C. Fussell (conductor), 6. *Cumberland Youths; †first 720, having only recently become charge ringing. began change-ringing.

READING.—On Sunday, March 7th, at St. Giles's, a 720 of Bob Minor.
H. Smart, 1; *F.Sweetzer, 2; G. Gibbard, 3; A. H. Evans, 4; A. J. Wright, 5; H. Egby (conductor), 6. *First 720 with a bob bell. Also on Sunday evening, March 21st, for Divine Service, a 720 of Oxford Bob Minor, in 25½ mins. H. Smart, 1; A. Evans, 2; G. Gibbard, 3; A. E. Reeves, 4; Å. Wright, 5; H. Egby (conductor), 6.

SLOUGH; On Wednesday, March 3rd, at St. Mary's Church, 720 of Grandsire Minor, in 25 mins. E. Brown, 1; W. Wilder, 2; T. Udell, 3; A. C. Fussell, 4; J. Pursey, 5; R. Flaxman (conductor), 6.

. THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

BEDDINGTON.—On Saturday, March 20th, it was intended to make the third attempt for a peal of Treble Bob Royal, and as the two first THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

Ash (Kent).—On Monday, March 8th, six members of the Wretham branch paid a visit to the above place, and rang two 720's ever, to disappointment, as one of the number had a pressing engagement which prevented his stopping for the peal; but it was agreed that a peal should not stop for him, so places were taken for Holt's Original, which was finished in 3 hrs. 8 mins:

THE ANCIENT ST. JAMES' SOCIETY, BRISTOL.

BEDMINSTER.—On Tuesday, March 16th, at St. Luke's Church, a 720 of Grandsire Minor in 25 mins. R. Knill, 1; C. Waller, 2; J. Davis, 3; T. Salter (conductor), 4; T. Staden, 5; *C. Boutflower, Esq. 6. *First 720.

THE REIGATE SOCIETY.

KINGSWOOD (Surrey).-On Saturday evening, March 20th, several members of the above society paid a friendly visit to the parish church members of the above society paid a friendly visit to the parish church and rang upon the splendid toned peal of six (by Mears and Stainbank) a 720 of Kent Treble Bob in 26½ mins. W. Bone, 1; J. Burkin, 2; W. Webb, 3; E. Moses, 4; G. Williams, 5; W. Hawkins (conductor), 6. And a 720 of Plain Bob Minor, in 26 mins. W. Wood, 1; F. Hoad, 2; W. Argent, 3; W. Sadler, 4; E. Kenward, 5; G. Williams (conductor), 6. Also a course of Oxford Treble Bob, and 120 Grandsire Doubles. This is supposed to be the first 720 of Kent Treble Bob rang on the bells. Tenor 17 cwt. 2 qrs. 18 lbs. in Ex. W. Wood belongs to the local company, and W. Hawkins hails from Nutfield, Sadler from Betchworth, the rest are all members of the above society, and they hope on their next visit that more of the local band will be able to take part, as they have just formed a new band of young able to take part, as they have just formed a new band of young ringers, and will undoubtedly, if they wish to learn the art, make good progress under their instructor, Mr. W. Webb.

ALDEBURG-ON-SEA (Suffolk).—On Sunday, March 14th, at the parish Church, 2520 of Bob Minor (three 720's and a 360), in r hr. 38 mins. T. E. Shearing (conductor), r; G. Baxter, 2; T. Staulkey, 3; F. Booper, 4; Eben. Cooper, 5; C. Smith, 6. Tenor 12 cwt. If was intended to have gone for a peal, but on account of shortness of time the idea had to be abandoned.

Battersea (Surrey).—On Sunday morning, March 21st, for Divine Service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples in 40 mins. *S. Baker, 1; W. Baron (conductor), 2; H. A. Hopkins, 3; A. G. Thomas, 4; W. W. Thorne, 5; H. S. Thomas, 6; C. W. Ludwig, 7; W. Ambrose, 8. *First quarter-peal.

BIRCHINGTON (Kent).—On [Friday, March 19th, eight members of Quex Park band attempted at the Waterloo Tower Holt's 10-part peal of Grandsire Triples, W. Day's (of Ashford) Variation, but after ringing 3000 changes, in 1 hr. 43 mins., it came to grief. P. A. Reed (conductor), 1; A. H. Sayer, 2; C. Willshire, 3; L. Willshire, 4; T. B. Reed, 5; J. J. Bristrow, 6; G. Willshire, 7; E. Golder, 8. The above attempt was rung to commemorate the 50th birthday of T. B. Read sen

CHORLEY (Lancashire).—On Sunday evening, March 7th, for Divine Service, at the parish church, a 720 of Bob Minor, nine bobs and six singles, in 26½ mins. J. H. Gartside (conductor), I; W. Heaps, 2; J. Marsden, 3; A. Whalley, 4; G. Gartside, 5; J. Worthington, 6. Tenor II cwt.

ton, 6. Tenor 11 cwt.

DINTING (Derbyshire).—Muffled Peal.—On Sunday, March 21st, for Divine Service, with the bells deeply muffled as a tribute of respect the memory of the late Mrs. Sheppard, wife of Mr. W. Sheppard, Churchwarden, 960 changes in four different methods, being a 240 of each of the following: Violet, Merchants' Return, New London Pleasure, and Oxford Delight, in 35 mins. A. Jones, 1; F. Hyde, 2; T. Beswick, (conductor), 3; S. Shaw, 4; J. Brierley, 5; J. E. Brierley, 6. And for evening service, a 720 in three different methods. being a 240 of each of the following: Oxford, Violet, and Kent Treble Bob, in 27 mins. J. W. Booth, 4; S. Shaw, 5; the others as before. Tenor 124 cwt. Tenor 121 cwt.

EPSOM (Surrey).—On Sunday evening, March 21st, for Divine Service at the parish church, six members of the local company rang a 720 of Grandsire Minor in 27 mins. *A. Bassett, 1; *H. Pedrick, 2; *H. Kenten, 3; J. Easton, 4; J. Hawkins, 5; †T. Miles (conductor), 6. *First 720; †first 720 as conductor as conductor.

EXETER.—On Sunday, February 28th, for Divine Service at St. Sidwell's Church, 504 of Grandsire Triples. W. Mundy, 1; A. Shepherd, 2; F. Shepherd, 3; W. Richardson, 4; E. Pitt (conductor), 5; J. Moss, 6; E. Shepherd, 7; J. Luscombe, 8. Also on Tuesday eening, March 2nd, for practice, 518 of Grandsire Triples. W. Mundy, 1; T. Townsend, 2; F. Shepherd (conductor), 3; A. Shepherd, 4; E. Pitt, 5; J. Moss, 6; B. Shepherd, 7; J. Luscombe, 8. Tenor 24 cwt. Tenor 24 cwt.

FOXEARTH (Essex).—On Saturday evening, March 13th, a 720 of Oxford Single Bob, in 25 mins. C. Lee, 1: J. Lee, 2; G. Maxim, 3; R. Mingay, 4; W. Gridley (conductor), 5; D. Ward, 6. This is the first 720 by the Foxearth band.

IPSWICH.—Muffled Peal.—On Saturday evening, March 13th, the following members of the St. Mary-le-Tower Society rang 480 of Kent Treble Bob Royal, as a last mark of respect to the late Mr. J. Miller, for many years a member of the society, and much respected by all. J. Motts (conductor), 1; E. Pemberton, 2; I. S. Alexander, 3; A. R. Aldham, 4; W. Motts, 5; H. Bowell, 6; E. Reeve, 7; W. L. Catchpole, 8; R. Hawes, 9: S. Tillett, 10. Also 216 of Stedman Caters, standing as before, with the exception of S. Tillett at the 8th, and F. Tillett at the 10th. After which the usual whole pull and stand was rung.

Leiston (Suffolk).—On Saturday, March 7th, at the parish church, for practice, 518 of Grandsire Triples. W. Watling, 1; T. E. Shearing (conductor), 2; T. Staulkey, 3; R. Wells, 4; W. Fisher, 5; G. Baxter, 6; W. Button, 7; J. Edmunds, 8. And 1120 of Bob Major. W. Watling, 1; T. E. Shearing (conductor), 2; T. Staulkey, 3; R. Wells, 3; W. Fisher, 5; G. Baxter, 6; J. Button, 7; J. Edmunds, 8. And a 420 of Bob Triples. W. Watling, 1; G. Baxter (conductor), 2; W. Fisher, 3; R. Wells, 4; F. Staulkey, 5; J. Button, 6; J. Edmunds, 7; J. Flegg, 8. Tenor 20 cwt. Messrs. Fisher, Wells, Edmunds, and Watling hail from Kelsale.

RINGSTEAD (Northants) .- On Sunday, March 7th, for Divine Ser-RINGSTEAD (Northants).—On Sunday, March 7th, for Divine Service at St. Mary's Church, 720 of Plain Bob, with eighteen bobs and two singles. J. Sawford, 1; G. H. Roberts, 2; R. Shipley, 3; J. Braybrook, 4; E. Mayes, 5; T. Roberts (conductor), 6. And on Tuesday, March 9th, for practice, a 360 of Yorkshire Court, with nine bobs. F. H. Chapman, 1; E. Mayes, 2; J. Sawford, 3; J. Braybrook, 4; W. J. Gilbert (conductor), 5; T. Roberts, 6. And a 324 of London Single, with twelve bobs, standing as before, and conducted by W. J. Gilbert. Also on Saturday, March 20th, for practice, a 720 of Plain Bob, with twenty-four bobs and two singles. F. H. Chapman, 1; J. Braybrook, 2; W. J. Gilbert (conductor), 3; J. Sawford, 4; E. Mayes, 5; T. Roberts, 6.

ROMFORD (Essex).—On Sunday afternoon, March 20th, being the Bishop of St. Albans' Ordination, a 720 of Bob Minor, sixteen bobs and two singles. G. Garnett, 1; A. J. Perkins, 2; W. Nash, 3; B. Reeble (conductor), 4; G. Roughton, 5; I. Dear, 6.

Other miscellaneous touches will be found on page 414.

Correspondence.

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

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

THE TREBLE BOB CATERS PEAL AT LIVERPOOL

SIR,—An impression has gone abroad that the peal of 5184 Treble Bob Caters rang at St. Peter's pro-Cathedral was false. I wish through the medium of "The Bell News," to inform the Exercise at large that this is not the case. The peal noted as false in the issue of February 27th, was 5076, the figures of which appeared on January 2nd. This peal the composer found was false, and he wrote to the Editor on January 13th, drawing his attention to the fact. The peal actually rung was 5184, the figures of which are already in the hands of the Editor for publication, who will no doubt publish the same when space permits. The peal from the same composer published March 6th, as Treble Bob Major, should read Treble Bob Royal. JOHN R. PRITCHARD.

THE PEAL AT SOUTHPORT.

SIR,—E. W. states that the time 2 hrs. 32 mins., was too good to be true. For my own part, I am certain the same company could ring a peal in 21 hours. He also asks if there were any ringers outside listening; there was a critic outside who timed the peal, and whose only complaint was that the speed was too great. There is no doubt only complaint was that the speed was too great. Indee is no door it was a true peal, and the other ringers would agree with me in my statement. I don't care to answer people who write under a nom de plune. If E. W. will write in his own name through "The Bell News," I shall have much pleasure in replying more fully.

W. M. VARLEY.

[A peal of Grandsire Triples has been rung in 2 hrs. 30 mins.—Ep.]

THE JASPER SNOWDON MEMORIAL FUND.

SIR,-I have pleasure in informing you, and through you the Exercise generally, that the preliminary arrangements have been made towards the erection of a suitable stained glass window in Ilkley Parish Church, to the memory of the late Mr. Snowdon, and I have received a letter from the vicar of the church this morning, offering to afford every

facility for our so doing, and expressing a wish to subscribe towards the fund, in case non-ringers are permitted to do so. Mr. W. Mitton, the manager of the Bradford Old Bank at Ilkley, and a personal friend of the late Mr. Snowdon, has expressed his willingness to act as Treasurer to the fund, so that all subscribers can send their subscriptions to him direct, and Mr. W. Whitaker, of Leeds, and myself will be very glad to do what we can to carry out the scheme, by acting as joint secretaries. We thought it would be unnecessary to ackowledge receipt of each subscription excepting through the columns of your valuable paper. I may say that action would have been taken earlier than the readers are the readers. in this matter, only we wished to hear suggestions from the readers of "The Bell News."

ROBERT TUKE.

Manningham, near Bradford.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

SIR,-As my name has been mentioned by the correspondent who writes to you respecting a testimonial to the Rev. H. A. Cockey, may Writes to you respecting a testimonial to the Rev. H. A. Cockey, may I inform him that a movement to this effect is already on foot, and that he had better communicate with Mr. B. Keeble, of Romford. I have already the honour to be a member of the Committee of the Association, and shall be prepared to take part in any work that may be assigned to that committee. But as I am just now exceptionally busy, I could not have undertaken (as your correspondent suggests that I

should), the duties of secretary in this matter, even had it not already been in competent hands. I trust that all lovers of ringing in Essex, will show their appreciation of Mr. Cockey's services, and that we may be able to find a worthy successor to him. Though much has been done to promote chauge-ringing in these parts, much yet remains to do. Writtle.

T. L. PAPILLON.

HOLT'S ORIGINAL IN CHESHIRE.

SIR,—I wish to thank J. S. T. for his letter, but if he will look he will find it says "This is supposed to be the first time." Will J. S. T., or some other friend kindly send me the names of the ringers and the conductor of the peal at Stalybridge. Also, if anyone has called Holt's Original before they were twenty years old, and if they do know, if they will send me the exact age when they called the peal, I shall be greatly obliged.

Convert many Maccleshild

Gurnett, near Macclesfield.

THE PARISH CHURCHES OF DUBLIN.

SIR,—For the information of your readers, I wish to state that the only two parish churches in Dublin (of the Church of Ireland) possessing peals of bells, are St. George's and St. Bartholomew's. Both these churches have a ring of eight bells.

CAMPANOLOGIST.

PRUDENTIAL ASSURANCE COMPANY, LIMITED, HOLBORN BARS, LONDON.

THIRTY-SEVENTH ANNUAL REPORT

For the Year Ending 31st December, 1885.

THE DIRECTORS have much pleasure in presenting their Report and Accounts for the year 1885.

The Assurance funds have been increased during the year by the sum of £990,345: namely, the Ordinary Branch £232,425, and the Industrial Branch £757,920. The total assets of the Company amount to £5,702,862.

ORDINARY BRANCH.

The number of policies issued during the year was 17,353, assuring the sum of £1,887,890, and producing a New Annual Premium Income of £85,374. The Premiums of the year were £303,275, being an increase of £64,407 over the year 1884. The total increase for the first four years of the Quinquennium is £162,018.

The claims of the year amounted to £108,777. The number of Deaths was 712, and 86 Endowment Assurances matured.

The rate of expenditure of the Branch was little more than Teu per cent. on the Premium Income. The number of Policies in force was 65,483.

INDUSTRIAL BRANCH.

The Premiums received during the year were £2,794,522, being an increase of £150,006. The Claims of the year amounted to £1,069,878 The number of Deaths was 129,846. The number of Policies in force, including 38,671 Free Policies, was 6,695,890.

The Directors are happy to report that the duration of policies in this Branch is still steadily increasing.

The average duration of all policies now in contractions are exceeded for water. The rate of expenditure of the Branch upon the Premium Income shows a further reduction of more than one-half per cent.

GENERAL BALANCE SHEET OF THE PRUDENTIAL ASSURANCE COMPANY, LIMITED, ON THE 31ST DECEMBER, 1885.

£ 8. ... 80,028 0 ... 1,445,697 8 ... 4,154,445 5 LIABILITIES. Shareholders' Capital ••• Ordinary Branch Funds . . Industrial Branch Funds... 22,691 12 Claims under Life Policies admitted ... £5,702,862 5 11

THOS. C. DEWEY, WILLIAM HUGHES, Managers. W. J. LANCASTER, Secretary.

± s. d. 888,082 9 10 British Government Securities, Consols and New 8 per Cents. Metropolitan Board of Works Stock and City of London 100,425 0 0
1,357,012 16 7
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154,886 4 0
581,500 2 8
20,411 1 1
482,391 13 8
44,774 19 10
21,500 0 0
809 6 3
149,379 9 5 Railway and other Debentures ... Railway and other Shares ••• Mortgages Loans on the Company's Policies Furniture and Fittings
Loans upon Personal Security ... 149,379 9 5 32,629 14 3 58,366 0 5 73,725 18 11

£5,702,862 5 11

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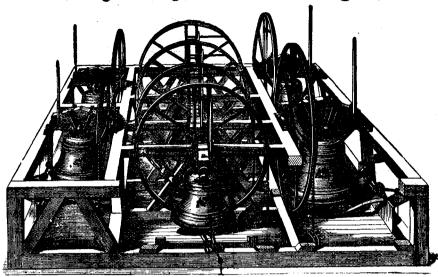
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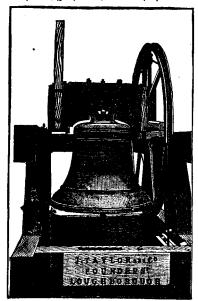
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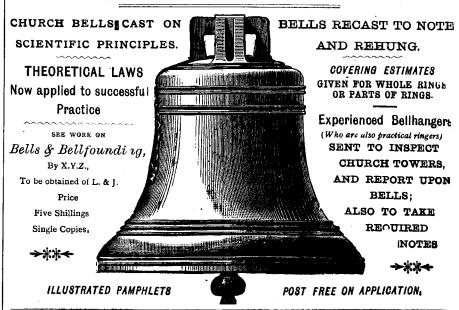
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